VICTIM SUPPORT UNIT 2023 FIRST QUARTER GBV DATA ANALYSIS

10,797 cases of Gender Based Violence were reported Countrywide in the First Quarter of 2023 compared with 6,915 GBV cases recorded in the first quarter of 2022 showing an increase by 3,882 cases translating to a 56.1% increase. Out of the 10,797 reports, 6,944 were Criminal cases while 3,853 were non-criminal reports translating to 64.3% and 35.7% respectively. A total of (35) Murder cases were recorded during the period under review. Lusaka Province recorded the highest GBV criminal cases with 1,413 cases.

The 2023 First quarter Gender Based Violence Disaggregated Data indicates that 2,674 child victims were abused countrywide representing 24.8% of all the victims of Gender Based Violence. Out of the 2,674 children, 1,924 were girls representing 72% while 750 were boys representing 28%. 6,271, women and 1,852 men were abused countrywide representing 58.1% and 17.1% respectively. In terms of gender vulnerability, a total of 8,195 females representing 75.9% and 2,602 males representing 24.1% were abused during the period under review countrywide.

The Zambia Police Act N0 14 of 1999 mandates VSU officers to provide professional counseling to victims of crime & to offenders. The 2023 First quarter statistical report indicates that a total number of 9,332 were counseled by Victim Support Unit officers countrywide. 5,561 or 59.6% counseled were under the criminal cases category whereas 3,771 or 40.4% were counseled under the non-criminal cases category. Out of the 5,561 counseled under the criminal cases category, 3,481 or 62.6% were victims comprising 549 or 15.8% men, 1,920 or 55.1% `women, 223 or 6.4% boys and 789 or 22.7% girls. 2,080 or 37.4% were offenders in which 322 or 15.5% were men, 1,162 or 55.9% women, 159 or 7.6% boys and 437 or 21% girls. Out of 3,771 counseled in the non-criminal case category, 2221 or 58.9% were women, 732 or 19.4% were men, 362 or 9.6% were boys and 456 or 12.1% were girls.

Under **forms** of abuse in the criminal case category, the highest reports filed were under **Physical abuse** totaling **4,025** translating to **58%** against **2,641** cases recorded in **2022** showing an increase by **1,384** cases or **52.4%** increase.

1,558 Economic abuse reports were recorded translating to 22.4% against 1,071 in 2022 showing an increase by 484 cases or 45.2% increase.

1,010 Sexual abuse translating to **14.5%** were recorded against **764** cases in **2022** showing an increase by **246** cases or **32.2%** increase. **350 Emotional Abuse** translating to **5%** were recorded against **259** cases in **2022** showing an increase by **91** cases or **35.1%** increase.

Lusaka Province recorded the highest GBV criminal cases with **1,413** cases translating to **20.3%**, followed by **Copper belt Province** with **1,143** cases translating to **16.5%**. **Tazara Division** recorded the lowest GBV criminal cases with **38** cases translating to **0.5%**.

GBV Criminal Statistics from the rest of the Provinces are as follows; Central Province 834 cases translating to 12%, Western Province 725 translating to 10.4%, Luapula Province 700 cases translating to 10.1%, Eastern Province 561 cases translating to 8.1%, Southern Province 547 cases translating to 8%, North-Western Province 443 cases translating to 6.4%, Muchinga Province 334 cases translating to 4.8%, Northern Province 162 cases translating to 2.3% and Airport Division 44 cases translating to 0.6%.

The 2023 GBV Criminal Report shows that 1,010 Sexual offenses were recorded representing 14.5% of all the reported cases against 764 cases reported in 2022 showing an increase by 246 cases translating to 32.2%. Out of these 1,010 cases, 750 victims were girls translating to 74.3%, 238 victims were women translating to 23.6%, 16 victims were boys translating to 1.6%, whilst 6 victims were men translating to 0.6%.

A total of 701 cases of Child defilement translating to 69.4% were recorded, of which 697 were girls representing 99.4% and 4 were boys representing 0.6% of all the reported cases.

Lusaka Province recorded the highest number of child defilement cases with 234 cases translating to 33.4% of all child defilement cases reported country wide. Central Province recorded 86 cases each translating to 12.3%, followed by Eastern Province with 81 cases translating to 11.6%.

Southern Province recorded 73 cases translating to 10.4%, North-Western recorded 71 cases translating to 10.1%, Luapula Province recorded 37 cases translating to 5.3%, Copper belt Province recorded 32 cases translating to 4.6%, Muchinga Provinces recorded 31 cases each translating to 4.4% of all the reported defilement cases, whereas Western province recorded 30 cases representing 4.3%, Northern Province recorded 19 translating to 2.7%. Airport recorded 7 cases translating to 1%.

Still under Sexual Offences; 146 rape cases of which all were women, 22 attempted rape cases were recorded during the period under review. The country also recorded 69 cases of indecent Assault out of which 49 victims were women, 19 girls and 1 boy. 14 cases of incest were recorded in which 4 victims were girls, 8 victims were women whereas men and boys recorded 1 each.

Under Physical Abuse, the country recorded 4,025 cases translating to 58% of the reported cases, 2,948 cases were women translating to 73.2%, 648 victims were men translating to 16.1%, cases 224 were boys translating to 5.6%, 205 were girls translating to 5.1% against 2,641 cases recorded in 2022 first Quarter Report showing an increase by 1,384 cases translating to 52.4% increase.

Out of **4,025 Physical Abuse** cases, **3,474** Assault OABH cases was recorded country wide representing **86.2%** of all the reported GBV cases. Out of the **3,474** Assault OABH cases, **2,861** translating to **82.4%** were women while **613** translating to **17.6%** were men.

17 cases of Grievously Bodily Harm (G.B.H) were also reported during the period under review by 1 man and 17 women, translating to 5.9% and 94.1% respectively.

35 Murder cases were recorded during the period under review translating to 0.9% compared to 19 cases in the 2022 First Quarter Statistical Report recorded showing an increase by 16 cases translating to 84.2% increase. Out of 35 cases of murder recorded country wide, 10 victims were men translating to 28.6%, 15 were women translating to 42.9%, 6 were boys recorded while 4 were girls translating to 17.1% and 11.4% respectively. No case of attempted murder were recorded during the period under review compared to 2 recorded in 2022 First Quarter Report showing a decrease by 2 cases translating to 100% decrease.

3,474 cases of Assault OABH cases were recorded during the period under review compared to **2,305** recorded in the First Quarter of **2022** in which **2,305** cases of Assault OABH were recorded showing an increase by **1,169** cases translating to **50.7%** increase.

Lusaka Province recorded 581 cases of Assault OABH country wide translating to 16.7%. Central Province 551 cases translating to 15.9%, Copper belt Province 441 cases translating to 12.7% and Southern Province recorded 374 cases representing 10.8%. Further, Western Province recorded 362 representing 10.4%, Eastern Province 324 translating to 9.3%, North-Western Province 254 cases representing 7.3% and Luapula Province 238 cases at 6.9%, Muchinga Province recorded 218 cases representing 6.3%., Northern Province recorded 94 cases translating to 2.7%, Finally, Tazara recorded 36 cases representing 1% whilst Airport recorded 1 case at 0.0% of all the reported Assault OABH cases.

Under Economic Abuse, 1,558 cases were recorded country wide translating to 22.4%. Out of these, 670 cases of Failing to Provide Necessaries of life and 653 cases of Neglecting to Provide Necessaries were recorded translating to 43% and 41.9% of all reported cases respectively.

Further, under **Emotional or Psychological abuse**, VSU recorded **350** cases translating to **5%**. **134** or **38.3%** cases of the use of Insulting language were recorded against **53** men and **81** women translating to **39.6%** and **60.4%** respectively. Further, a total of **57** or **16.3%** cases of threatening Violence were reported by **17** men and **40** women translating to **29.8%** and **70.1%** respectively. Finally, out of **6,944** GBV cases reported countrywide, **1,072** cases representing **15.4%** were taken to court resulting in **100** convictions translating to **9.3%**, 1 acquittal or **0.1%**, **54** withdrawals or **5%** and **917** or **85.5%** pending in various courts of law around the country. On the other hand, **4,074** cases are still pending under investigations while **1,798** cases were withdrawn at police stations translating to **69.4%** and **30.6%** respectively.

A comparison with the First Quarter of 2022 which recorded 4,740 cases against 6,944 cases recorded in 2023 showing an increase of 2,204 cases or 46.5%.

Table 1 Showing Criminal Statistical Data Disaggregated by sex according to forms of abuse.

PERIOD	FORMS OF ABUSE	MALES	WOMEN	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
	SEXUAL	6	238	16	750	1,010
2023	PHYSICAL	648	2,948	224	205	4,025
ANNUAL	ECONOMIC	211	672	152	523	1,558
GBV	EMOTIONAL	148	194	3	5	350
	UNCLASSFIED	0	0	0	1	1
	TOTAL	1,013	4,052	395	1,484	6,944

Table 2 Showing **Non-Criminal Statistical** Data Disaggregated by Sex according to Forms of Disputes.

	FORMS OF					
PERIOD	DISPUTES	MALES	WOMEN	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
	FAMILY					
		330	589	104	141	1,164
	MARITAL					
		363	1,021	0	0	1,384
2023	CHILD					
ANNUAL		0	0	56	106	162
GBV	ECONOMIC					
		112	488	167	171	938
	EMOTIONAL					
		34	121	27	23	205
	TOTAL	839	2,219	354	441	3,853