



# Violence Against Children and Youth Survey

Kingdom of Eswatini  
VACS 2022 FINAL REPORT



# VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND YOUTH SURVEY THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

## Eswatini VACS 2022 Final Report

Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini  
Deputy Prime Minister's Office  
Department of Social Welfare

### ESWATINI VACS 2022 COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS

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## FOREWORD

It is our mission as the Deputy Prime Minister's Office and as a nation to fight violence against children and youth in Eswatini. Sexual, emotional and physical violence against children has raised global and local concern. The gravity of these issues indicates the critical need to understand the magnitude and nature of violence against children in Eswatini, in order to develop effective prevention and response strategies. This 2022 VACS survey includes valuable information not only from adolescent girls and young women, but also from adolescent boys and young men and persons with disabilities. The inclusion of these different subpopulations is important because the data show that these groups experience violence differently and therefore require different types of responses.

As the second VACS in Eswatini, this 2022 Eswatini VACS is an important milestone for the country and provides an opportunity to assess progress since the first VACS in 2007. With data from both surveys, local and international stakeholders will now be able to make informed programmatic decisions around violence against children, and plan, implement, monitor and evaluate appropriate policies and programming on child protection. VACS data were collected to facilitate action; therefore, all stakeholders are encouraged to take action, including Ministries, communities and as individuals within our homes. We are encouraged to do what we can to institute policies, regulations, and guidelines that prevent violence and support care of those who have experienced it; do what we can to report violence and hold perpetrators accountable through our justice system; do what we can to eliminate stigmatization of those who have experienced violence.

We need more programs and initiatives to end violence against children in Eswatini. It is therefore essential that the experiences of children and youth represented in these data are translated into an action oriented multisectoral response which includes a strengthened legislative framework, prioritized policies, national plans, funding, and initiatives that help children and youth thrive in our society. With these new data, we know where the problems lie, and we must use this knowledge to inform better decisions for the protection of this and future generations of Eswatini.

On behalf of His Majesty's Government, I therefore call upon all sectors, agencies, policy makers, partners, and relevant stakeholders to use the information in this document fully to improve the health and well-being of the people of the Kingdom of Eswatini.

We can and must do more for the next generation.

**Honourable Themba Masuku**  
**His Excellency, Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Deputy Prime Minister's Office (DPMO) would like to acknowledge and congratulate all stakeholders and collaborators who were involved in VACS planning and implementation. A special thank you goes to the study participants and the communities where this survey was implemented. The DPMO acknowledges the contribution of the implementing institutions: DPMO Department of Social Welfare, CSO, MOH, PEPFAR, CDC Atlanta and Eswatini, and ICAP at Columbia University, Eswatini and New York.

Appreciation goes to the survey principal investigators: Poppy Marvis Sithole (DPMO), Choice Ginindza (CSO), Bonisile Nhlabatsi (MOH), Michelle Li (CDC-Eswatini), Marie-Kaye Soletchi Seya (CDC-DVP) and Dr. Harriet Nuwagaba-Biribonwoha (ICAP at Columbia University). Appreciation goes to the Core Leadership Group and to the Project Implementation Task Team. We also appreciate the support and collaboration received from the Royal Eswatini Police Department of Child Services, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, CDC/PEPFAR implementing partners, non-governmental organizations, other development partners and Eswatini Social Workers.

The contribution of each participating agency was critical to the successful implementation of the survey, and generation of these important data. We encourage all stakeholders to engage in the dissemination and widespread use of these data to address violence in the country, and to better the health and well-being of Emaswati.

Finally, we must acknowledge the pioneering leadership of those who led the first VACS in Eswatini, which was the first in the world. In 2007, a group of stakeholders had a vision to implement a prevalence survey on violence against children. The Ministry of Health in partnership with Linda Dahlberg and James Mercy from CDC and Jama Gulaid from UNICEF represented the core stakeholder group that led the 2007 VACS. The 2007 VACS galvanised concerted and evidence-informed action in Eswatini and launched a global effort to collect high-quality, country-led, population-level data to document the scope and impacts of violence against children and youth. This survey has catalysed global efforts to prevent and respond to this public health and human rights crisis, impacting the lives of countless children and youth for generations. This report is dedicated to these pioneers and champions for the mark they have made on Eswatini and on the world.

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>AGYW</b>	Adolescent Girls and Young Women
<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
<b>ART</b>	Antiretroviral Therapy
<b>CDC</b>	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>CI</b>	Confidence Interval
<b>CSO</b>	Central Statistical Office
<b>DPMO</b>	Deputy Prime Minister's Office
<b>DREAMS</b>	Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe
<b>GKOE</b>	Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>HTS</b>	HIV Testing Services
<b>LMIC</b>	Lower Middle-Income Country
<b>MOH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan
<b>PEPFAR</b>	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
<b>PITT</b>	Project Implementation Task Team
<b>PSU</b>	Primary Sampling Units
<b>RSE</b>	Relative Standard Error
<b>STI</b>	Sexually Transmitted Infection
<b>TfG</b>	Together for Girls
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>VACS</b>	Violence Against Children and Youth Survey
<b>VMMC</b>	Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

## SECTION A: KEY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

### VIOLENCE

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), violence is defined as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, or another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development or deprivation.”<sup>1</sup> This definition and the definitions of the specific types of violence below informed the development of the questions in VACS.

For the purpose of this report, the following information was used to produce prevalence estimates:

- **Lifetime violence:** violence ever experienced throughout the lifetime, among youth ages 13-24 years.
- **Childhood violence:** violence experienced before age 18, among youth ages 18-24 years.
- **Past-12-month violence:** violence experienced in the past 12 months, among youth ages 13-17 years, 18-24 years, and 13-24 years.

### 1. SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence encompasses a range of acts, including completed non-consensual sexual acts, attempted non-consensual sexual acts, non-physically pressured sexual acts, or unwanted sexual contact. The 2022 Eswatini VACS included questions about four types of sexual violence.

- **Unwanted Sexual Touching:** If anyone, male or female, ever touched the participant against their will in a sexual way, such as unwanted touching, kissing, grabbing, or fondling, but they did not try to force the participant to have sex.
- **Attempted Forced Sex:** If anyone ever tried to make the participant have sex<sup>2</sup> when they did not want to, but did not succeed.
- **Pressured Sex:** If anyone ever persuaded or pressured the participant to have sexual intercourse against their will. In other words, the participant gave into sex with someone because they felt overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.
- **Physically Forced Sex:** If anyone ever physically forced the participant to have sex against their will.

### 2. PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

Physical violence is defined as the intentional use of physical force with the potential to cause death, disability, injury or harm. Participants were asked about physical acts of violence perpetrated by four types of potential perpetrators.

- Current or previous **intimate partners**, including a romantic partner, a boyfriend/girlfriend, or a spouse.
- **Peers**, including people about the same age as the participant *not* including a boyfriend/girlfriend, spouse, or romantic partner and not including siblings. These are people the participant may have known or not known including, schoolmates, neighbours, or strangers.
- **Parents, adult caregivers**, or other adult relatives.
- **Adults in the community** or neighbourhood such as teachers, police, employers, religious or community leaders, neighbours, or adults the participant did not know.

<sup>1</sup> Krug E, Dahlberg L, Mercy J. et al World report on violence and health. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Sex or sexual intercourse: Includes vaginal, oral or anal sex.

For each perpetrator type, participants were asked about four measures of physical violence: whether an intimate partner, a peer, a parent, caregiver or other relative, or an adult in the community ever:

- Slapped, pushed, shoved, shook, or intentionally threw something at the participant to hurt them.
- Punched, kicked, whipped, or beat the participant with an object.
- Strangled, smothered, tried to drown, or burned the participant intentionally.
- Used or threatened the participant with a knife/bush knife, gun or other weapon.

### 3. EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

Emotional violence is defined as a pattern of verbal behaviour over time or an isolated incident that is not developmentally appropriate or supportive and that has a high probability of damaging a child's mental health or his/her physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development.

For the 2022 Eswatini VACS, the definition of emotional violence varied according to the perpetrators. For emotional violence perpetrated by **parents, adult caregivers** or other adult relatives, the definition included the experiences below.

- The participant was told that they were not loved or did not deserve to be loved.
- The participant was told they wished s/he had never been born or were dead.
- The participant was ridiculed or put down, for example told that they were stupid or useless, good for nothing or big-headed.

For emotional violence perpetrated by **intimate partners**, the definition included the participant being treated the following way by a romantic partner, boyfriend or spouse.

- Insulted, humiliated, or made fun of the participant in front of others.
- Kept the participant from having their own money.
- Tried to keep the participant from seeing or talking to their family or friends.
- Kept track of the participant by demanding to know where the participant was and what the participant was doing.
- Made threats to physically harm the participant.

Emotional violence by **peers** was defined to include the following done to the participant by a person the participant's own age.

- Made the participant get scared or feel really bad because they were calling the participant names, saying mean things to the participant, or saying they didn't want them around.
- Told lies or spread rumours about the participant or tried to make others dislike the participant.
- Kept the participant out of things on purpose, excluded the participant from their group of friends, or completely ignored the participant.

## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Kingdom of Eswatini, formerly known as Swaziland, is a landlocked southern African country between Mozambique and South Africa that is primarily rural and home to about 1,174,014 people<sup>3</sup>. The official languages are siSwati and English. The people are predominantly of the Swazi ethnic group and predominantly Christian. Eswatini is a lower-middle income country with marked health inequality, poverty and unemployment<sup>4</sup>. While HIV prevalence in Eswatini is high, the country has met its UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets ahead of the 2025 goal. There is a trend towards declining HIV incidence, but young women remain particularly vulnerable to new HIV infection<sup>5</sup>.

### 1.2. VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN ESWATINI

The first Eswatini VACS collected data on girls and young women in Eswatini in 2007<sup>6</sup>. The survey found that approximately one in three females experienced sexual violence in childhood, one in four females experienced physical violence in childhood, nearly three in ten females experienced emotional violence, and two in three females ages 18-24 years had experienced lifetime sexual violence. The data catalysed significant action in Eswatini through programmatic and policy change to address violence against children and youth. Following recommendations from the 2007 VACS, the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini enacted legislative interventions to mitigate violence against children, including the National Children's Policy 2009, the National Plan for Action for Children 2011-2015, the Child Protection and Welfare Act 2012<sup>7</sup>, and the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act, which was initiated in 2009 and signed into law in 2018<sup>8</sup>.

PEPFAR's DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe) partnership has focused on reducing rates of HIV infection among girls and young women. Eswatini has implemented DREAMS since 2015. The DREAMS approach delivers a comprehensive package of core interventions to address key factors that make adolescent girls and young women vulnerable to HIV, and a tailored set of secondary interventions based on AGYW's individual risks and needs. In addition to these individual-level interventions, DREAMS also aims to address structural inequities that increase girls' HIV risk, including gender-based violence, by working with AGYW's sex partners, families, and communities. DREAMS delivers innovative solutions to empower adolescent girls and young women to protect their health and advance their potential.

Fifteen years after the first survey, the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini committed to repeating VACS to document the burden and epidemiology of violence against children and youth and to assess changes since 2007.

### 1.3. LEADERSHIP AND KEY PARTNERS

The 2022 Eswatini VACS was led by the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini, DPMO in partnership with MOH and CSO. The survey was conducted with funding from PEPFAR and through technical assistance and partnership with CDC. The 2022 Eswatini VACS was implemented by ICAP at Columbia University in collaboration with Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini entities. In Eswatini, a Core Leadership Group that was composed of heads of stakeholder institutions provided policy guidance to the survey. The study was implemented under the support of a PITT, which is composed of mid-level and technical officials from the participating ministries and other partners. PITT members were engaged in regular meetings and

<sup>3</sup> Kingdom of Eswatini, 2017-2038 Population projections Report, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> CIA World Factbook- Eswatini. <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/eswatini/>

<sup>5</sup> Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini. Swaziland Incidence Measurement Survey 3 (SHIMS3) Summary Sheet, 2022. Mbabane: Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini

<sup>6</sup> Reza, A., et al., *Violence Against Children in Swaziland: Full Report*, 2009

<sup>7</sup> Children's Protection and Welfare Act, 2012 : Act. no. 6 of 2012

<sup>8</sup> The Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill: Act no. 10 of 2009

programmatic activities to provide cultural context for the adaptation of the study tools to Eswatini, to support the survey implementation, to provide problem-solving support, and to enhance ownership by government stakeholders and agencies that are integral to organizing action for survey results and recommendations. Data collection was conducted by ICAP as the implementing partner, with technical support and quality assurance monitoring from CDC. The response plan was implemented by DPMO with technical assistance from ICAP and Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation Eswatini.

The 2022 Eswatini VACS is based on the broader work that has been done by the Together for Girls (TfG) partnership which started in 2009. TfG is a global partnership among over 20 national governments, UN agencies, and private sector organizations, working at the intersection of violence against children and youth and violence against women. Through data, nationally led action, and advocacy, the partnership works to raise awareness, promote evidence-based solutions, and galvanize coordinated action across sectors to end violence against boys and girls, with a special focus on sexual violence against girls. In 2016, WHO and CDC co-led and released with ten key partners with a strong history of child protection *INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children*, a technical package that includes evidence-based strategies with demonstrated success in preventing and responding to violence in childhood<sup>9</sup>. The seven strategies that INSPIRE encompasses are: **Implementation and enforcement of laws**; **Norms and values**; **Safe environments**; **Parent and caregiver support**; **Income and economic strengthening**; **Response and support services**; and **Education and life skills**. Quality, population-level data matched with clear achievable goals and interventions has tremendous potential to inform appropriate strategic resource allocation, and public health strategies to prevent violence.

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<sup>9</sup> World Health Organization. (2016). *INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children*.

## SECTION 2: METHODS

The 2022 Eswatini VACS was a cross-sectional, nationally representative household-based survey of 13-24-year-old females and males. Data were collected April-August, 2022. The purpose of the 2022 Eswatini VACS was to estimate the prevalence of sexual, physical, and emotional violence. Indicators are provided for (1) childhood, defined as violence occurring prior to age 18 among 18-24-year-olds; (2) lifetime, defined as violence ever occurring among 13-24-year-olds; and (3) past year, defined as violence occurring in the 12 months prior to the survey among adolescents (ages 13-17), young adults (ages 18-24), and youth (ages 13-24).

### 2.1. STUDY DESIGN AND SAMPLING

The 2022 Eswatini VACS sampled 13-24-year-old females and males at the national level. Additionally, for females, representative samples were drawn for each region and the survey oversampled females in the DREAMS areas in each of the 4 regions: Hhohho, Lubombo, Manzini, and Shiselweni. The DREAMS areas are those communities implementing DREAMS HIV prevention programming for adolescent girls and young women. The regional female samples and oversampling of the DREAMS areas provided adequate sample size to allow the study to produce estimates of violence and HIV for each of the regions and DREAMS areas within each region in addition to national estimates.<sup>10</sup> This was done to provide subnational estimates to inform HIV and violence prevention programming in these regions. As a result of oversampling, there are more female participants in the survey than males. Additional details on the sampling methodology are included in Supplementary Appendix A: Sampling and Weighting Methods.

The sampling frame for the 2022 Eswatini VACS was stratified by sex, region, and DREAMS area. CSO compiled the original sampling frame based on PSUs and the geographical subdivisions obtained from the the 2017 Population and Household Census. The VACS Eswatini sampling frame file consists of 2,014 PSUs: 264,495 households and 1,065,534 persons. For the 2022 Eswatini VACS, separate samples were drawn for males and females based on required sample size and consideration of response rates using a three-stage cluster sample approach (See Supplementary Appendix A for detailed information about sampling).

In the first stage of selection, 353 PSUs (284 female PSUs and 69 male PSUs) were randomly selected by strata (PSU, region, and DREAMS status) out of a total 2,014 PSUs in the sample frame. The PSUs were allocated across all applicable strata proportional to the percentage of national households in each stratum. In the mapping and listing stage, households were pre-screened for eligible participants. From the pre-screened households, 30 households were selected during the first 12 weeks of data collection and 25 households during the last 4 weeks of data collection by equal probability systematic sampling among households with an eligible 13-24-year-old living within the household. The selection of 30 households per PSU was changed to 25 selected households during the last 4 weeks of data collection due to the response rates being higher than anticipated and to avoid exceeding the required sample size by a large margin. In the third stage, one eligible participant from each selected household was randomly selected from the list of all eligible participants.

For females, the household response rate was 95.0% and the individual response rate was 94.8%, resulting in an overall response rate of 90.1%, which was similar to the overall response rate of 96.3% for the 2007 survey. For males, the household response rate was 94.0% and the individual response rate was 90.1%, resulting in an overall response rate of 84.7%. Males were not sampled in 2007 so do not have response rates from 2007 to compare against. In the female sample, 7,665 households were included, and 6,318 females completed the individual interview. For the male sample, 1,874 household were included, and 1,402 males completed the individual interview (Supplementary Appendix B includes DREAMS region response rates and additional details

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<sup>10</sup> Saul, J. et al. *The DREAMS core package of interventions: A comprehensive approach to preventing HIV among adolescent girls and young women*. PlosONE, 2018. 13 (12): e0208167.



on how response rates were calculated). Based on eligibility criteria for HTS, 7,240 participants were eligible for testing. Of those eligible for testing, 6,454 consented to HTS. Among those who consented, 6,283 completed HTS.

## 2.2. QUESTIONNAIRE

VACS includes a core set of questionnaires: one questionnaire for the head of household and a separate questionnaire for the participants (both a male and a female version) that are adapted for each country implementation. The core VACS questionnaires were adapted for the 2022 Eswatini VACS through a consultative process of key stakeholders and partners, led by DPMO through the Project Implementation Task Team. The participant questionnaire included the following topics: demographics; parent-youth relationships; education; connectedness to family, friends and community; endorsement of traditional gender norms; perceptions of safety; witnessing violence in the home or community; sexual history and risk-taking behaviour; experiences of physical and sexual and emotional violence; violence perpetration; pregnancy; health outcomes and risk behaviour; violence disclosure, service-seeking and use of services; and HIV service history. The VACS questionnaire also includes questions designed to assess indicators of *INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children*. INSPIRE is a technical package of evidence-based interventions to prevent and respond to violence. The VACS questionnaire includes INSPIRE indicators to support countries' efforts in using data-driven approaches to informing violence prevention and response initiatives. The Core VACS Questionnaire was also compared to the original Eswatini 2007 VACS to maximize the ability to compare indicators over time where possible. In some cases, this meant using wording from the 2007 questionnaire rather than the most recent core VACS questionnaire to allow for these comparisons. The head of household and participant questionnaire contained modules specifically requested by Eswatini which included questions about COVID-19, disability, gender and violence norms, and knowledge of and participation in priority HIV prevention programs and clinical services.

The VACS participant questionnaire included programmed skip patterns to route the interviewer to the logical sequence of questions based on participant responses. Given the complexity of the skip patterns and logic sequencing, the VACS used electronic data collection to eliminate routing error, reduce training on skip pattern sequencing, and reduce data entry errors.

The Eswatini VACS questionnaire included questions related to the impact of COVID-19 on children and youth, including the impact on experiences of violence and other vulnerabilities in their households. Stakeholders were particularly interested to include questions on the pandemic since data collection occurred during April-August, 2022 when the pandemic was still a global public health emergency and because schools had re-opened in Eswatini in April, 2022 for the first time since their initial closure in March, 2020. The stakeholders reviewed questions from an NIH database of survey questions that were being utilized during COVID-19. Questions were reviewed and identified for VACS and adapted for the Eswatini context.

## 2.3. INCLUSION CRITERIA AND SELECTION OF HOUSEHOLDS AND PARTICIPANTS

To be included in the survey, a participant had to be living in a sampled household, be between the ages of 13-24 at the time of the interview, and be able to speak siSwati or English. Females and males who did not have the capacity to understand and/or respond to the questions due to a severe intellectual disability or due to a severe hearing impairment were excluded. Individuals with mild or moderate disabilities who were able to participate in the interviews without an interpreter present were included. Youth living or residing in institutions such as hospitals, prisons, nursing homes, and other similar institutions and street youth were not included because VACS is a household-based survey.

The study used the age range of 13-24 because children younger than 13 years old typically may not have the maturity, attention span or awareness to comprehend and respond to the interview questions. Furthermore, limiting the upper age range to 24 years helps to reduce potential recall bias for childhood experiences, or the inability to recall events in the past accurately.

The 2022 Eswatini VACS used a split sample approach, such that the survey for females was conducted in different PSUs than the survey for males. This approach helped protect the confidentiality of participants by eliminating the chance that opposite sex perpetrators would be interviewed in the same community, discover the purpose of the study, and possibly retaliate against participants.

During mapping and listing, every household in a PSU was pre-screened for an eligible 13-24-year-old participant. A household was considered eligible if they had a 13-24-year-old eligible participant, or when the household was determined to be occupied but no one was available during pre-screening; in this case the household was also considered eligible and still approached for data collection. Once pre-screening was completed, depending on the timing of the data collection as indicated above, 30 or 25 eligible households were randomly selected. In situations where the number of eligible households were less than the required number of households to be selected (30 or 25 depending on the timing of the data collection), all eligible households were selected. Upon entering a randomly selected household, the interviewers identified the head of the household, or the person acting as the head of household at the time, to introduce the study and determine household and individual eligibility to participate. In households with an eligible participant, interviewers invited the head of household to participate in a brief interview to assess the socio-economic conditions of the household as well as questions on vulnerability of children living in the household and questions about COVID-19. When there was more than one eligible participant, a participant was randomly selected using a program installed on the tablets used for data collection. If the selected participants were not available for an interview, interviewers made every effort to schedule return visits to the household at times when the selected participant would be available. If the selected participant was not available after three attempts, or if she or he declined to participate, the household was coded as a non-response regardless of whether another eligible participant existed in the household. In that case, neither the household nor the eligible participant were replaced.

## 2.4. DATA COLLECTION

Data collection was conducted electronically using Open Data Kit (ODK) installed on Android data collection tablets. Trained interviewers conducted face-to-face confidential interviews with selected eligible participants. The training for interviewers consisted of 2 weeks of virtual training-of-trainers led by CDC followed by four weeks of in-person training conducted by ICAP, DPMO, CSO, MOH, and supported by CDC. Training included modules on HIV testing, survey protocol, interview delivery, interviewing skills, response plan implementation, and use of the electronic data collection tool.<sup>11</sup> All interviewers were trained in HIV testing by the Eswatini MOH accredited institutions and were also trained and evaluated on the mapping and listing process, study protocols, and questionnaire tools to ensure high-quality implementation. The average interview length was about 45 minutes, not including the HIV testing portion. Data collection occurred between April and August 2022.

Interviewers took thorough precautions to ensure privacy during the interviews. The interviewers conducted the interview in a safe and private location at a safe distance from other inhabitants in the house, or in an appropriate place in the home or yard. If the interview was started but could not be completed while the interview team was in the selected community, the interview was coded as incomplete and not included in the analytic dataset. The initial visit record form of the survey tool included a section the interview team used to track incomplete interviews, as well as interviews that needed to be rescheduled.

Voluntary HIV testing was offered to all participants ages 13-24 who did not report a previous positive HIV test, following protocols consistent with MOH *Eswatini Integrated HIV Management Guidelines* 2018 and

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<sup>11</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Critical Elements of Interviewer Training for Engaging Children and Adolescents in Global Violence Research: Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Violence Against Children Survey*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/vacs/VACS-trainingwhitepaper.pdf>

WHO *Consolidated Guidelines*. Pre-test counselling was provided, and tests were performed using a rapid HIV testing kit with blood obtained using a finger prick according to the Eswatini national HIV rapid test algorithm. Participants were provided test results and post-test counselling, including active linkage to treatment for all HIV-positive participants and in accordance with Eswatini national standards. Interviewers obtained consent for HIV testing separately from consent for participation in the interview. Participants were encouraged to disclose their HIV status to a supportive individual in their life, but made the decision for themselves whether and to whom to disclose their HIV test results. Participants who self-reported a prior HIV positive test result were asked if they were currently on HIV treatment. Those who were not currently on HIV treatment were provided an active HIV linkage referral. Participants ages 16-24 years who declined a blood-based HIV rapid test were offered an oral fluids-based HIV self-test, with options of assistance from the interviewer in administration of the test and interpretation of the results. Participants who had a reactive self-test were offered confirmatory testing following the national HIV rapid testing algorithm. For those who declined assistance, they were left with up to two HIV self-test kits for self-administration and instructions to follow if screening results were reactive. In addition, a list of health facilities was provided to all participants to access required services at their convenient time.

## 2.5. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The 2022 Eswatini VACS adhered to WHO core recommendations on ethics and safety in studies of violence against women that have been adapted for VACS.<sup>12</sup> The study protocol was independently reviewed and approved by Institutional Review Boards for CDC, Columbia University, and the Eswatini Health and Human Research Review Board. Study protocols and training of interviewers followed detailed standards for maintaining the safety, privacy, and confidentiality of children and youth participating in a violence survey.

### 2.5.1. REFERRALS

During the interview, participants could have recalled frightening, humiliating, or painful experiences, which could elicit a strong emotional response. Participants could also have recently experienced violence and desired counselling or immediate assistance. Evidence suggests that adult women find that talking about their experiences of violence is beneficial and appreciate having the opportunity to have a conversation about those experiences.<sup>13,14</sup> In addition, there is evidence that adolescents and young adults are willing to talk about their experiences of violence within a compassionate structure.<sup>15,16</sup> In other words, social support can help to alleviate the stress of difficult emotions or experiences. Therefore, to respond to the needs of participants, multiple mechanisms were made available for interviewers to link participants to support as part of a comprehensive response plan.<sup>17</sup>

Interviewers offered free, direct referrals to those who 1) became upset during the interview, 2) felt unsafe in their current living situations, including in the home or community, 3) reported being in immediate danger, 4) experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence in the past 12 months, 5) ever attempted suicide, or 6) requested help for violence, regardless of what was disclosed in the interview. If the participant met any of

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<sup>12</sup> World Health Organization. *Putting Women First: Ethical and Safety Considerations for Research on Domestic Violence Against Women*. 2001.

<sup>13</sup> Zwane, A.P. et al. *Being surveyed can change later behavior and related parameter estimates*. PNAS, 2011. 108 (5): 1821-1826.

<sup>14</sup> Appollis, T.M. et al. *Adolescents' and adults' experiences of being surveyed about violence and abuse: A systematic review of harms, benefits, and regrets*. American Journal of Public Health, 2015. 105 (2): e31-e45.

<sup>15</sup> Arata, M. To tell or not to tell: current functioning of child sexual abuse survivors who disclose their victimization. *Child Maltreatment*, 3(1): 63-17.

<sup>16</sup> Elliott AN, Carnes CN. Reactions of nonoffending parents to the sexual abuse of their child: a review of the literature. *Child Maltreat*. 2001 Nov;6(4):314-31.

<sup>17</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Critical Elements of Interviewer Training for Engaging Children and Adolescents in Global Violence Research: Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Violence Against Children Survey*. Atlanta, GA: Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017.

these criteria, and consented to a referral, the interviewer recorded contact information separately from responses and provided a referral to services. Additionally, the interviewers provided all participants with a list of services, reflecting programs, services, and amenities currently offered in Eswatini, in case they wanted to seek services on their own.

An acute case was defined as any participant who identified as being in immediate danger or feeling unsafe in their living situation. If a participant indicated to the interviewer that she or he was in immediate danger or unsafe and wanted a referral, the interviewer activated the response plan for acute cases. The interviewer immediately alerted the field team leader with their referral information, who then followed up with the response plan coordinator and a plan was made to provide an intervention, thus ensuring triangulation of reporting to ensure that no cases for referral were lost at the time of the request. Field team leaders immediately informed the response plan coordinator so that a visit could be made to the participant as needed. Action plans for acute cases were activated on a case-by-case basis in order to best respond to the individual situation and ensure that the participant was not placed in any additional danger. For cases where the participant was in immediate danger, the service provider made every effort to reach the participant requiring referral within 48 to 72 hours. For non-acute cases, the service provider made every effort to reach the participant requesting referral within one week. A total of 236 cases were referred, 19 of which were acute cases.

A referral plan for HTS was developed to ensure appropriate and timely linkage to care in case of a positive HIV result. This plan was in line with the Eswatini national HIV referral guidelines. Additionally, participants who were determined to be HIV negative and engaging in certain risk behaviours (e.g., multiple sex partners, transactional sex, infrequent condom use) were offered referrals for HIV prevention services. Age-eligible females were offered referrals for PrEP and DREAMS and age-eligible males were offered referrals for PrEP and VMMC.

### **2.5.2. INFORMED CONSENT**

A graduated consent procedure began with consent for the head of household. For participants ages 13-17, the head of household consent for the household questionnaire was followed by permission from a parent or guardian and verbal agreement from participants. When seeking permission from the head of household and parent/caregiver, interviewers described the study as “a youth health survey that looks at wellness of children and young adults in the community, school, and at home.” This approach is consistent with WHO ethical and safety recommendations regarding obtaining informed consent for participation in surveys that contain questions on domestic violence<sup>18</sup>. This introduction helped to ensure the safety and confidentiality of both participants and interviewers. According to the WHO guidelines, it was important to define the study in terms other than violence. In Eswatini, the national guidelines allow for adolescents and youth ages 12 years and older to provide their own consent for HTS without consent from a parent or guardian. However, for the purpose of the survey, heads of household and parents or caregivers were informed of the intent to offer HIV testing to the participant and had the opportunity to decline HIV testing on behalf of the participant. If the head of household or parent declined HIV testing on behalf of the participant, the interviewer informed the participant of this outcome and provided information about HTS locations in the geographic area. Individuals who declined the interview but requested HTS were provided referrals to the nearest preferred clinic for HIV services.

Once the interviewer and participant were in private, a full consent (for participants ages 18 and older, emancipated minors, and married minors) or assent (for participants ages 13-17) was administered. The participant assent and consent informed the participants that information they provided in the interview was confidential and anonymous, identifying information would not be collected, and that their decision regarding

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<sup>18</sup> World Health Organization, *Putting Women First: Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Research on Domestic Violence Against Women*. Department of Gender and Women's Health, World Health Organization: Geneva, Switzerland, 2001.

participation was voluntary. The consent provided participants the information that if they chose to participate, they would be asked about their sexual activity, and their experiences with physical, sexual, and emotional violence. The consent assured participants that they could skip any questions or end participation at any time. Each participant provided assent or consent verbally, which the interviewer electronically documented in the tablets. After the interview was completed, interviewers conducted informed consent for HTS for participants who had not disclosed a prior HIV positive test result during the interview.

## 2.6. DATA ANALYSIS

Data analysis was conducted for the following age-defined groups: all youth ages 13-24, adolescents ages 13-17, and young adults ages 18-24. Data from 13-24-year-olds generated estimates of lifetime violence and other experiences, as well as in the 12 months prior to the survey. Data from 18-24-year-olds generated estimates of prevalence of violence experienced before age 18 (i.e., childhood violence) and in the 12 months prior to the survey among young adults. Data from 13-17-year-olds generated estimates of the prevalence of violence experienced in the 12 months prior to the survey among adolescents.<sup>19</sup> The estimates of the prevalence of violence in the past 12 months is included to provide information about recent experiences of adolescents and young adults. All VACS participants were asked the same questions, except questions about pregnancy, which only applied to females.

The statistical package SAS (version 9.4) was used for data management and analysis to produce weighted estimates. Taylor series linearization method was used to estimate the variances.

### 2.6.1. WEIGHTED PERCENTAGES

Sample weights were applied to all results to yield nationally and sub-nationally representative estimates (see Supplementary Appendix A). When calculating the estimates for most measures, missing values were excluded from the analysis. Sample weights were created and applied to each individual record to adjust for the unequal probability of selection, differential non-response, and calibration to the census population (see Supplementary Appendix A for additional detail). All analyses incorporated the sampling design information: weight, strata, and cluster. The weighting procedure accounted for oversampling of the four regions as well as the DREAMS areas in each region. Weights were applied to produce 1) nationally representative estimates for males and females, and 2) female representative estimates for each of the four regions, and 3) female representative estimates for DREAMS areas within each region.

### 2.6.2. DEFINITION OF UNSTABLE ESTIMATES

Standard errors for estimates were calculated using methods that take the complex survey design into account. Estimates were considered unstable based on the corresponding RSE, which is calculated by dividing the standard error by the point estimate and then multiplying by 100. As such, the RSE is affected by the magnitude of the estimate and the sample size. Because sample weights were computed in VACS, estimates are based on the weighted sample size.

Two RSE cuts offs were used to indicate degree of instability. Estimates with an RSE greater than 30% but not more than 50% were considered moderately unstable and marked with one asterisk, with the warning in the footnote that the result should be interpreted with caution. These results were included in the tables but not discussed in the results section. Estimates with an RSE greater than or equal to 50% were considered unstable and were suppressed. When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1 in the tables and should be interpreted with caution. We could not assume that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

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<sup>19</sup> Referred to throughout this report as “past 12 months”

### 2.6.3. TECHNICAL NOTE TO THE READER

The estimates in the 2022 Eswatini VACS are accompanied by a 95% CI. This is a statistical measure indicating the level of confidence in the point estimates, within a specified margin of error. CIs are calculated as the Z-score for a normal distribution containing 95% of the values (1.96) times the standard error of the prevalence estimate. Smaller CIs mean that the estimates are more precise, whereas wider CIs indicate more variation in the sample data. This range of 95% CI indicates that, for 95 out of 100 samples completed in the same way as the VACS, the true population prevalence of violence will be between the upper and lower CI values. For example, if the expected sexual violence prevalence in Eswatini is 30%, with a CI of 26%-34%, this means that if we could interview all youth in Eswatini, between 26% and 34% would have experienced sexual violence in 95 out of 100 times.

### 2.6.4. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ESTIMATES

To evaluate whether differences between any groups or subgroups were statistically significant and not due to random variation, 95% CIs were compared to determine whether they overlapped. The CI overlap method is a conservative method that determines statistical difference by comparing the CI for two estimates — if the CIs do not overlap, then the estimates are considered “statistically different (or significantly different)” and not due to random chance. For the purpose of this report, some results that are statistically significant are noted in the text. Where CIs overlap and estimates are not statistically significant, this is not explicitly noted in the results.

### 2.6.5. COMPARISON OF 2007 AND 2022 VACS

To maximize the ability to compare results from the 2007 and 2022 surveys, questions from the 2007 VACS were compared with the current core VACS questionnaire for indicators of interest. Question wording was adapted to the extent possible to allow comparison for priority indicators. For indicators that were consistently measured across the two surveys, statistical analysis was conducted to compare differences in estimates using Pearson  $\chi^2$  test, which is equivalent to the Z test for comparing two independent proportions. Weighted average and accompanying standard error of the two VACS subpopulation estimates were computed. The weights used were the proportion of the aggregated sample that belonged to a subpopulation. Differences were considered statistically significant if the two-sided p value associated with the Pearson  $\chi^2$  test was less than 0.05.

## SECTION 3: BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Background characteristics of adolescents ages 13-17 years

- More than nine out of ten females (92.0%) and males (92.6%) were currently enrolled in school.
- More than one out of five females (21.1%) and males (21.3%) were orphans (had lost one or both parents).
- More males (16.1%) than females (3.5%) worked for money or other payment in the past year.
- About one in eight females (14.5%) and males (12.8%) had a disability.

#### Background characteristics of young adults ages 18-24 years

- One in three females (33.6%) and males (32.3%) had lost one or both parents in childhood.
- More males (34.7%) than females (21.4%) worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months.
- More females (10.4%) than males (2.7%) were ever married or cohabited.
- Among females who were married, 46.8% had a first partner or spouse who was 5 or more years older.
- Among young adults, 13.7% of females and 10.4% of males had a disability.

#### Background characteristics of adolescents and youth ages 13-24 years

- More males (26.3%) than females (13.5%) worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months.
- More than half of females (59.6%) and males (55.2%) ever had an intimate partner.
- More females (6.0%) than males (1.6%) had ever been married or cohabited.
- More females (44.0%) than males (37.9%) had ever had sex, but among those who ever had sex, males had a younger age at first sex (16.6 years versus 17.6 years).

This section presents selected background characteristics of youth in Eswatini by age, sex, education, orphan status, work experience, marital status, and sexual activity. Orphanhood is defined as the loss of one (single orphan) or both (double orphan) parents before age 18. Married refers to those who were ever married or ever lived with someone as if married, otherwise known as cohabitation. Food insecurity was measured by asking whether the family had enough money for food in the past 12 months. Disability status was defined as a functional impairment in one or more of six domains: difficulty seeing; cognitive difficulties; physical impairments; impairments in self-care; mobility impairments; or difficulties communicating. To assess work participation, participants were asked whether they had worked in the past 12 months, if that work was for money or other payment, and the location of that work, if they answered yes.

### 3.1. CHARACTERISTICS OF 13-17-YEARS-OLDS

Among females, 27.7% had a primary education or less, compared to 39.4% of males, a statistically significant difference. Nearly three out of four females (72.3%) and three out of five males (60.6%) had completed some secondary school or more. School enrollment was high: 92.0% of females and 92.6% of males were currently enrolled in school. One out of five females (21.1%) and males (21.3%) had lost one or both parents. One out of three females (32.9%) and males (32.9%) had been negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic. About one in ten females (10.8%) and 8.9% of males had ever had sex. The prevalence of disability was 14.5% for females and 12.8% for males.

**Table 3.1.1. Background characteristics of 13-17-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Education Status</b>		
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	27.7 (25.4-29.9) (n=3127)	39.4 (33.6-45.3) (n=668)
Some secondary school or more	72.3 (70.1-74.6) (n=668)	60.6 (54.7-66.4) (n=668)
<b>Current school enrollment status</b>		
Currently enrolled in school [1]	92.0 (90.8-93.3) (n=3019)	92.6 (90.2-95.0) (n=663)
Left school during COVID-19 pandemic [2]	** (n=3106)	** (n=663)
<b>Orphan Status</b>		
Not an orphan	78.9 (77.1-80.8) (n=2961)	78.7 (74.9- 82.6) (n=629)
Lost one or both parents	21.1 (19.2-22.9) (n=2961)	21.3 (17.4-25.1) (n=629)
<b>Socioeconomic Conditions</b>		
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	3.5 (2.7-4.4) (n=3126)	16.1 (12.3-20.0) (n=669)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic	32.9 (30.2-35.6) (n=2982)	32.9 (27.3-38.4) (n=639)
<b>Relationship and sexual history</b>		
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	0.5 (0.1-0.9)* (n=3074)	** (n=665)
Ever had sex [2]	10.8 (9.3-12.3) (n=3124)	8.9 (6.0-11.8) (n=669)
<b>Disability [3]</b>		
No functional disability in any domain	85.5 (83.6-87.3) (n=3127)	87.2 (83.4-91.1) (n=669)
Functional disability in one or more domains	14.5 (12.7-16.4) (n=3127)	12.8 (8.9-16.6) (n=669)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Among those who ever attended school.

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Functional disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering, making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language (siSwati).

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### 3.2. CHARACTERISTICS OF 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among females ages 18-24 years, 9.6% had never attended school or completed primary school or less, 25.7% had completed secondary school, and 64.7% had attended higher than secondary school. Among males, 12.6% had never attended school or completed primary school, 28.2% had completed secondary school, and 59.2% had more than secondary school. One out of three females (33.6%) and males (32.3%) lost one or both parents



before age 18. About half of females (47.5%) and males (52.5%) were negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Females were significantly more likely than males to have ever been married or lived with someone as if married (females, 10.4%; males, 2.7%). The prevalence of child marriage was low: 1.3% of females were married or cohabitated before age 18. Among females who were ever married or lived with a partner, 46.8% had a first partner or spouse who was 5 or more years older. About seven out of ten females (70.7%) and three out of five males (62.1%) had ever had sex, a statistically significant difference. Among females, 13.7% had a functional disability in any domain, and among males, 10.4% had a functional disability in any domain.

One in five females (21.4%) and one in three males (34.7%) worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months. This difference was statistically significant.

<b>Table 3.2.1. Background characteristics of 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.</b>		
	<b>Females</b>	<b>Males</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Education Status</b>		
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	9.6 (8.3-10.9) (n=3188)	12.6 (9.3-15.9) (n=726)
Completed secondary school	25.7 (23.6-27.7) (n=3188)	28.2 (22.9-33.6) (n=726)
Completed higher than secondary school	64.7 (62.3-67.2) (n=3188)	59.2 (52.7-65.6) (n=726)
Did not attend/enroll in school due to school closing during COVID-19 [1] and never returned	0.7 (0.3-1.2)* (n=3091)	** (n=699)
<b>Orphan Status before age 18</b>		
Not an orphan before age 18	66.4 (64.2-68.7) (n=3027)	67.7 (63.4-71.9-50.6) (n=705)
Lost one or both parents before age 18	33.6 (31.3-35.8) (n=3027)	32.3 (28.1-36.6) (n=705)
<b>Socioeconomic conditions</b>		
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	21.4 (19.6-23.3) (n=3187)	34.7 (29.7-39.7) (n=733)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 [1] pandemic	47.5 (44.6-50.3) (n=3146)	52.5 (48.1-57.0) (n=725)
<b>Relationship status and sexual history</b>		
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	10.4 (9.0-11.7) (n=3185)	2.7 (1.5-3.9) (n=733)
Child marriage (married before age 18)	1.3 (0.8-1.8) (n=3185)	<0.1%*** (n=733)
Child marriage before the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	0.7 (0.3-1.0) (n=3176)	<0.1% (n=733)
Child marriage since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	0.4 (0.1-0.6)* (n=3176)	<0.1% (n=733)
First partner/spouse 5 or more years older [2]	46.8 (39.8-53.8) (n=338)	** (n=26)
Ever had sex [3]	70.7 (68.5-72.9) (n=3180)	62.1 (55.7-68.4) (n=731)
<b>Disability [4]</b>		

**Table 3.2.1. Background characteristics of 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Any functional disability	13.7 (11.9-15.4) (n=3191)	10.4 (7.3-13.5) (n=733)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Includes those who have ever been married or ever lived with a partner.

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### 3.3. CHARACTERISTICS OF 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Significantly fewer females ages 13-24 years were currently enrolled in school than males (females, 60.5%; males, 69.5%). Three out of five females (60.7%) and males (62.6%) experienced food insecurity. About two out of five females (41.1%) and males (43.8%) were negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic.

About three in five females (59.6%) and 55.2% of males had ever had an intimate partner. A statistically significantly higher proportion of females had ever been married or cohabitated (6.0%), compared with males (1.6%). Females were also significantly more likely to have ever had sex (44.0%) compared with males (37.9%). The mean age at first sex for females was 17.6 years, and for males was 16.6 years. Among females, 14.0% had a functional disability in any domain, and among males, 11.5% had a functional disability in any domain.

**Table 3.3. Background characteristics of 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Education Status</b>		
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	17.6 (16.3-19.0) (n=6315)	24.9 (21.4-28.3) (n=1394)
Attended or completed secondary school or more	82.4 (81.0-83.7) (n=6315)	75.1 (71.7-78.6) (n=1394)
Currently enrolled in school	60.5 (58.6-62.3) (n=6210)	69.5 (65.8-73.1) (n=1362)
Left school during COVID-19 pandemic [1]	0.4 (0.2-0.7)* (n=6197)	** (n=1362)
<b>Socioeconomic Conditions</b>		
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	13.5 (14.7-33.9) (n=6313)	26.3 (22.7-29.8) (n=1402)
Food insecurity	60.7 (58.5-62.9) (n=6181)	62.6 (58.5-66.7) (n=1369)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 [1] pandemic	41.1 (38.7-43.6) (n=6128)	43.8 (39.8-47.8) (n=1364)

**Table 3.3. Background characteristics of 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Relationship status</b>		
Ever had an intimate partner [2]	59.6 (57.7-61.5) (n=6318)	55.2 (50.4-60.1) (n=1402)
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	6.0 (5.2-6.8) (n=6260)	1.6 (0.86-2.32) (n=1398)
<b>Sexual History</b>		
Ever had sex [3]	44.0 (42.2-45.8) (n=6304)	37.9 (33.7-42.1) (n=1400)
Mean age at first sex (among those who ever had sex)	17.6 (17.5-17.7) (n=2609)	16.6 (16.1-17.0) (n=507)
<b>Functional disability [4]</b>		
Functional disability in one or more domains	14.0 (12.5-15.5) (n=6318)	11.5 (8.8-14.1) (n=1402)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### 3.4. YOUTH USE OF TECHNOLOGY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Youth in Eswatini indicated they were able to use technology to socialize with others during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among females, 55.3% used technology to socialize with family or friends, 26.3% used technology to socialize with church or religious groups, and 16.0% used technology to socialize with sports teams or other groups. Among males, 49.4% used technology to socialize with family or friends, 30.3% used technology to socialize with church or religious groups, and 24.0% used technology to socialize with sports teams or other groups.

**Table 3.4. Technology-facilitated socialization during the COVID-19 pandemic [1] among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

Using a computer, phone or other device, I was able to spend time...	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
With family or friends	55.3 (52.7-57.9) (n=6308)	49.4 (44.3-54.6) (n=1402)
Church or with religious groups	26.3 (24.3-28.3) (n=6302)	30.3 (26.7-33.8) (n=1400)
With sports teams or other groups	16.0 (14.1-18.0) (n=6287)	24.0 (20.3-27.7) (n=1399)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

## SECTION 4: SEXUAL VIOLENCE

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Sexual violence in childhood among 18-24-year-olds

- One in twenty females (5.5%) experienced sexual violence before age 18.

#### Lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-olds

- More females (8.1%) than males (3.3%) experienced lifetime sexual violence.
- One in six females (16.7%) experienced pressured or physically forced sex at sexual debut.
- Current or former intimate partners and family members were common perpetrators of the first incident of sexual violence against females.
- Classmates, schoolmates, and friends were common perpetrators of the first incident of sexual violence against males.
- Homes were common locations of the first incident of sexual violence for females and males.
- Two out of three female victims of sexual violence (66.3%) and one out of two male victims of sexual violence (48.4%) told someone about their experience.
- Only one in four female victims (25.7%) sought professional services for an experience of sexual violence.

This section describes the prevalence and context of sexual violence against children and youth in Eswatini. Four forms of sexual violence were included: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted physically forced sex, pressured sex, and physically forced sex. The section further describes the context in which sexual violence occurs as well as service knowledge and use for experiences of sexual violence.

For each form of sexual violence, the perpetrator, context, and location of the first lifetime incident is reported among 13-24-year-olds. If an individual experienced multiple forms of sexual violence, such as unwanted sexual touching and unwanted attempted forced sex, she or he was asked about the perpetrator of the first and most recent incident of each form of violence. Since a participant could have provided up to four perpetrators (one perpetrator for the first or most recent incident of each form of violence experienced), the total percentages of perpetrators may sum to more than 100%. In some cases, the number of incidents of sexual violence for females and males were too small to generate reliable estimates for certain indicators.

### 4.1. SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD AMONG 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

About one in twenty females (5.5%) experienced sexual violence before age 18. Among females, 2.7% experienced unwanted sexual touching, 2.8% experienced unwanted attempted sex, 0.9% experienced pressured sex, and 1.8% experienced physically forced sex in childhood. Among males, 2.0% experienced pressured or physically forced sex in childhood.

**Table 4.1.1. Prevalence of sexual violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Any type of sexual violence in childhood [1]	5.5 (4.5-6.5) (n=3189)	2.1 (0.7-3.4)* (n=733)
Unwanted sexual touching in childhood	2.7 (1.9-3.4) (n=3182)	0.9 (0.2-1.6)* (n=730)
Unwanted attempted sex in childhood	2.8 (2.0-3.6) (n=3187)	** (n=732)
Pressured sex in childhood [2]	0.9 (0.5-1.2) (n=3180)	** (n=730)

**Table 4.1.1. Prevalence of sexual violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physically forced sex in childhood	1.8 (1.3-2.3) (n=3182)	** (n=729)
Pressured or physically forced sex in childhood	2.0 (1.5-2.5) (n=3186)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## 4.2. LIFETIME SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 13-24-year-olds, significantly more females experienced lifetime sexual violence than males (females, 8.1%; males, 3.3%). Among females, 4.6% experienced unwanted sexual touching, 3.7% experienced unwanted attempted sex, 1.7% experienced pressured sex, and 2.2% experienced physically forced sex. Among males, 1.5% experienced unwanted sexual touching and 1.6% experienced unwanted attempted sex. Among females, 2.9% ever experienced pressured or physically forced sex. Among 13-24-year-olds who ever had sex, 16.7% of females and 1.3% of males had pressured or physically forced sex at first sexual debut.

**Table 4.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Unwanted sexual touching	4.6 (3.8-5.3) (n=6312)	1.5 (0.7-2.3) (n=1400)
Unwanted attempted sex	3.7 (3.0-4.2) (n=6312)	1.6 (0.7-2.5) (n=1400)
Pressured sex [2]	1.7 (1.2-2.1) (n=6308)	0.6 (0.1-1.0)* (n=1397)
Physically forced sex	2.2 (1.8-2.6) (n=6311)	** (n=1398)
Pressured or physically forced sex	2.9 (2.4-3.5) (n=6315)	0.6 (0.2-1.0)* (n=1401)
Pressured or physically forced sex at first sexual experience	16.7 (14.5-18.8) (n=2616)	1.3 (0.3-2.4) (n=517)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Among females who ever experienced sexual violence, 58.4% experienced sexual violence before the COVID-19 pandemic, and 56.9% experienced it during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among males who ever experienced sexual violence 60.1% experienced sexual violence before the COVID-19 pandemic and 60.9% experienced it during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Table 4.2.2. Experienced lifetime sexual violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, [2] among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experienced sexual violence [1] before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	58.4 (53.1-63.6) (n=484)	60.1 (44.3-75.8) (n=40)
Experienced sexual violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	56.9 (51.3-62.4) (n=476)	60.9 (42.3-79.5) (n=39)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

Among females who experienced each type of sexual violence, the first occurrence was during the COVID-19 pandemic for 59.4% of those who experienced unwanted sexual touching, 46.3% of those who experienced unwanted attempted sex, 27.4% of those who experienced pressured sex, and 28.0% of those who experienced physically forced sex.

**Table 4.2.3. Experience of first incident of sexual violence [1] was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-olds who have ever experienced sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Unwanted sexual touching</b>	(n=157)	(n=12)
First experience was before COVID-19	40.6 (31.0-50.2)	54.7 (24.9-84.4)
First experience was during COVID-19	59.4 (49.8-69.0)	45.3 (15.6-75.1)*
<b>Unwanted attempted sex</b>	(n=146)	(n=11)
First experience was before COVID-19	53.7 (42.5-65.0)	80.2 (54.8-100.0)
First experience was during COVID-19	46.3 (35.0-57.5)	**
<b>Pressured sex [3]</b>	(n=61)	(n=5)
First experience was before COVID-19	72.6 (58.9-86.2)	**
First experience was during COVID-19	27.4 (13.8-41.1)	**
<b>Physically forced sex</b>	(n=101)	(n=2)
First experience was before COVID-19	72.0 (62.6-81.3)	**
First experience was during COVID-19	28.0 (18.7-37.4)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[3] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

#### 4.2.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF VICTIMS OF LIFETIME SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among those who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, 28.6% of females experienced the first incident at ages 13 or younger, 18.3% at ages 14-15, 20.2% at ages 16-17, and 32.9% at ages 18-24. Among males, 31.8% experienced the first incident at ages 18-24. Among females who ever experienced pressured or physically forced sex, 32.7% experienced the first incident at ages 13 or younger, 15.8% at ages 14-15, 12.2%

at ages 16-17, and 39.3% at ages 18-24. Among youth who ever experienced any sexual violence, 56.9% of female victims and 50.6% of male victims experienced multiple incidents.

**Table 4.2.4. Characteristics of victims at the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-olds who experienced any lifetime sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Age at first experience of sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=478)	(n=40)
13 or younger	28.6 (23.1-34.2)	21.6 (1.8-41.3)*
14-15	18.3 (13.4-23.2)	26.7 (6.6-46.8)*
16-17	20.2 (15.6-24.8)	19.9 (2.1-37.7)*
18-24	32.9 (27.3-38.4)	31.8 (13.0-50.6)
<b>Age at first experience of pressured or physically forced sex [2]</b>	(n=181)	(n=10)
13 or younger	32.7 (23.8-41.6)	**
14-15	15.8 (9.5-22.2)	**
16-17	12.2 (6.8-17.7)	**
18-24	39.3 (29.8-48.7)	**
Experienced multiple incidents of sexual violence	56.9 (51.1-62.7) (n=482)	50.6 (35.3-66.0) (n=39)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through harassment or threats).

[2] Among those who experienced pressured or physically forced sex.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

#### 4.2.2. PERPETRATORS OF THE FIRST INCIDENTS OF LIFETIME SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among females, common perpetrators of the first incident of sexual violence were a family member (30.6%) and a current or former intimate partner (25.3%). For males, common perpetrators were a classmate, schoolmate, or friend (45.8%). Among females, common perpetrators of the first incident of pressured or physically forced sex were a current or former intimate partner (38.8%) and a family member (27.7%). Among those who ever experienced sexual violence, 64.2% of females indicated the perpetrator of the first incident was at least five years older, and 18.2% indicated there was more than one perpetrator at the first incident. Among females who ever experienced pressured or physically forced sex, 73.0% indicated the perpetrator of the first incident was at least five years older.

**Table 4.2.5. Characteristics of perpetrators of the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-olds who experienced any lifetime sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of any sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=478)	(n=39)
Current or ex intimate partner [2]	25.3 (20.0-30.6)	18.0 (2.7-33.3)*
Family member	30.6 (25.1-36.1)	**
Authority figure [3]	4.4 (2.1-6.6)	<0.1%***
Neighbour	13.6 (9.4-17.9)	**
Classmate/schoolmate/friend	12.7 (8.2-17.2)	45.8 (25.1-66.4)

**Table 4.2.5. Characteristics of perpetrators of the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-olds who experienced any lifetime sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Stranger	12.0 (8.6-15.4)	18.4 (8.4-28.4)
Other	7.6 (4.9-10.3)	**
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of pressured [4] or physically forced sex</b>	(n=184)	(n=10)
Current or ex intimate partner	38.8 (29.4-48.3)	**
Family member	27.7 (19.0-36.4)	**
Authority figure	5.1 (1.4-8.8)*	**
Neighbour	10.8 (5.6-15.9)	**
Classmate/schoolmate/friend	**	**
Stranger	10.1 (5.3-14.9)	**
Other	8.2 (3.1-13.2)*	**
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of sexual violence who were 5 or more years older than the victim</b>		
Perpetrator 5 or more years older at first incident of any sexual violence	64.2 (57.8-70.6) (n=452)	15.4 (0.7-30.2)* (n=39)
Perpetrator 5 or more years older at first incident of pressured or physically forced sex	73.0 (63.4-82.5) (n=175)	**
<b>Multiple perpetrators at first incident of sexual violence</b>		
More than one perpetrator at first incident of sexual violence	18.2 (13.8-22.7) (n=477)	14.2 (1.9-26.5)* (n=39)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

[3] Authority figure includes teacher, police/security person, employer, or neighbourhood/religious leader.

[4] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### 4.2.3. CONTEXTS OF THE FIRST INCIDENTS OF LIFETIME SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

The most common location of the first incident of sexual violence for females and males was at a home (females, 61.1%; males, 47.9%). Among females who ever experienced sexual violence, 43.0% of the first incidents occurred in the afternoon, 36.3% in the evening, 19.4% late at night, and 5.5% in the morning. For males, 40.2% of the first incidents occurred in the afternoon, and 37.8% late at night.

**Table 4.2.6. Location and time of day of first incident of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Location of first incident of sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=481)	(n=40)
Home [2]	61.1 (55.6-66.5)	47.9 (29.1-66.6)



**Table 4.2.6. Location and time of day of first incident of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
School	9.3 (6.2-12.4)	22.4 (4.4-40.4)*
Outside location [3]	25.4 (20.2-30.7)	14.2 (3.3-25.1)*
Other [4]	8.9 (5.5-12.3)	17.4 (4.7-30.0)*
<b>Time of day [5] of first incident of sexual violence</b>	(n=466)	(n=36)
Morning	5.5 (2.6-8.4)	**
Afternoon	43.0 (37.4-48.5)	40.2 (26.2-54.2)
Evening	36.3 (30.6-42.0)	19.2 (3.0-35.3)*
Late at night	19.4 (15.1-23.8)	37.8 (21.6-53.9)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have experienced multiple forms of sexual violence that may have occurred at different locations or at different time of the day.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Home includes the victim's home, perpetrator's home, or someone else's home.

[3] Outside location includes: On a road/street, market/shop, school, lake/river or other body of water, and field/other natural area.

[4] Other includes inside a car/bus, alcohol outlet (e.g., restaurant, bar, disco, club, etc), religious institutions, and office.

[5] Morning refers to sunrise-noon, afternoon refers to noon-sunset, evening refers to sunset-midnight, and late at night refers to midnight-sunrise.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### 4.3. DISCLOSURE, KNOWLEDGE OF SERVICES, AND RECEIPT OF SERVICES FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among those who ever experienced sexual violence, 66.3% of females and 48.4% of males told anybody about their experience. Only 50.5% of females and 59.3% of males who ever experienced sexual violence knew of a place to go for help. Among females, 25.7% who experienced sexual violence sought help for any experience of sexual violence, and 23.1% received help. Among females who ever experienced pressured or physically forced sex, 68.5% told someone about their experience, 64.5% knew of a place to go, 47.3% sought help, and 44.3% received help.

**Table 4.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking and receipt of services for any incident of lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced any sexual violence and pressured or physically forced sex—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for any incident of sexual violence [1]</b>		
Told someone about an experience of any sexual violence	66.3 (60.9-71.7) (n=487)	48.4 (32.9-63.8) (n=40)
Knew of a place to seek help for any experience of sexual violence	50.5 (45.2-55.8) (n=485)	59.3 (39.9-78.7) (n=40)
Sought professional services for any experience of sexual violence [2]	25.7 (20.8-30.6) (n=484)	**
Received professional services for any experience of sexual violence	23.1 (18.4-27.8) (n=484)	**

**Table 4.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking and receipt of services for any incident of lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced any sexual violence and pressured or physically forced sex—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for any incident of sexual violence, among those who ever experienced any pressured or physically forced sex</b>		
Told someone about experience of any sexual violence	68.5 (59.4-77.7) (n=186)	**
Knew of a place to seek help for an experience of any sexual violence	64.5 (55.8-73.3) (n=186)	**
Sought help for experience of any sexual violence	47.3 (38.8-55.8) (n=186)	**
Received help for experience of any sexual violence	44.3 (35.9-52.7) (n=184)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Professional services include hospital/clinic, police station, social welfare or legal office, religious leader, or community leader.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Females commonly told a relative (68.0%) or a friend or neighbour (21.8%). Among females who received help for any experience of sexual violence, 76.4% sought help from police or other security personnel and 69.6% sought help from a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker.

**Table 4.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of sexual violence and source of service receipt, among 13-24-year-olds who experienced any sexual violence and who told someone or received help—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Person the victim told about sexual violence, among those who told someone [1]</b>	(n=326)	(n=21)
Relative [2]	68.0 (60.9-75.1)	**
Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or partner	3.3 (0.6-6.0)*	<0.1%***
Friend or neighbour	21.8 (16.0-27.6)	54.0 (18.0-90.1)*
Service provider or authority figure [3]	12.1 (7.4-16.7)	<0.1%
Other	6.4 (1.8-11.0)*	<0.1%
<b>Source of service received for any incident of sexual violence, among those who received help</b>	(n=111)	(n=2)
Doctor, nurse, or other health care worker in a hospital or clinic	69.6 (58.0-81.3)	**
Police or other security personnel	76.4 (67.4-85.5)	**
Legal professional	15.6 (6.2-24.9)*	**
Social worker or counsellor	36.7 (25.8-47.6)	**
Community leader	20.5 (11.7-29.3)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Relative includes: mother, father, brother, sister, and other relatives.

[3] Service provider or authority figure includes: traditional healer, NGO worker, teacher, social worker, doctor/nurse/healthcare worker, employer, community leader, religious leader, children’s officer.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

Females who did not seek services for sexual violence indicated that common reasons for not seeking services were feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of the perpetrator (32.0%), relationship or interpersonal barriers (26.7%), or beliefs about their need for services (20.6%).

**Table 4.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for sexual violence, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced any sexual violence and did not seek services—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not seeking services for sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=128)	(n=17)
Structural barriers to accessing services [2]	5.9 (1.1-10.8)*	**
Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure [3]	26.7 (17.3-36.2)	**
Individual beliefs about need for services [4]	20.6 (11.1-30.0)	45.2 (15.9-74.6)*
Guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator [5]	32.0 (20.7-43.4)	**
Other	24.3 (15.2-33.3)	38.4 (6.0-70.8)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Structural barriers to accessing services includes: services too far away; could not afford services; services not high quality.

[3] Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure includes: did not know who to go to; afraid of getting in trouble; perpetrator told me not to tell anyone; dependent on perpetrator or someone else/fear of abandonment.

[4] Individual beliefs about need for services includes: did not think it was a problem; did not want/need to tell anyone.

[5] Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator includes: felt it was my fault; embarrassed for my family; afraid of perpetrator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

#### 4.4. SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS

The prevalence of sexual violence in the past 12 months overall and by type is presented in this section, for age groups 13-17 (adolescents), 18-24 (young adults), and 13-24 (adolescents and young adults). This section also includes information about characteristics of perpetrators of the most recent incident of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-olds.

In the past year, 2.7% of females ages 13-17 years experienced sexual violence, 3.8% of females ages 18-24 years experienced sexual violence, and 3.3% of females ages 13-24 years experienced sexual violence. Among males ages 13-24 years, 1.1% experienced sexual violence in the past year, which is statistically significantly less than 3.3% of females 13-24 years who experienced sexual violence in the past 12 month.

**Table 4.4.1. Prevalence of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>13-17-year-olds</b>		
Any sexual violence [1] in the past 12 months	2.7 (2.0-3.4) (n=3127)	1.3 (0.2-2.5)* (n=669)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	1.9 (1.3-2.5) (n=3125)	** (n=669)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	0.8 (0.5-1.2) (n=3124)	** (n=668)
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	0.3 (0.1-0.5)* (n=3121)	<0.1%*** (n=667)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	0.4 (0.2-0.6) (n=3124)	<0.1% (n=669)
<b>18-24-year-olds</b>		
Any sexual violence in the past 12 months	3.8 (2.9-4.7) (n=3189)	1.0 (0.2-1.7)* (n=733)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	2.3 (1.6-3.0) (n=3186)	0.6 (0.0-1.2)* (n=731)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	1.9 (1.3-2.5) (n=3188)	** (n=732)
Pressured sex in the past 12 months	0.7 (0.3-1.1) (n=3185)	** (n=730)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	0.5 (0.2-0.7) (n=3186)	<0.1% (n=729)
<b>13-24-year-olds</b>		
Any sexual violence in the past 12 months	3.3 (2.7-3.9) (n=6316)	1.1 (0.5-1.8) (n=1402)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	2.1 (1.6-2.6) (n=6311)	0.7 (0.2-1.2) * (n=1400)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	1.4 (1.0-1.8) (n=6312)	0.5 (0.0-0.9)* (n=1400)
Pressured sex in the past 12 months	0.5 (0.3-0.8) (n=6306)	** (n=1397)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	0.4 (0.3-0.6) (n=6310)	<0.1% (n=1398)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\*When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## SECTION 5: PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Physical violence in childhood among 18-24-year-olds

- More males (14.3%) than females (5.1%) experienced physical violence in childhood.
- One in ten males (10.7%) experienced peer physical violence in childhood, and one in twenty males (5.6%) experienced physical violence by a parent or other adult relative in childhood.

#### Lifetime physical violence among 13-24-year-olds

- One in ten females (10.5%) and nearly one in four males (23.2%) experienced lifetime physical violence.
- Among females, 5.8% experienced physical violence by an intimate partner, and 4.3% experienced physical violence by a parent or other adult relative.
- Among males, 18.4% experienced peer physical violence, and 7.9% experienced physical violence by a parent or other adult relative.
- More females than males experienced intimate partner physical violence, but more males than females experienced physical violence by parents or adult relatives, peers, and adults in the community.
- Two out of five female victims (40.3%) and three out of ten male victims (30.3%) of physical violence experienced an injury due to violence.

#### Witnessing physical violence

- Among youth ages 18-24, 8.8% of females and 14.6% of males witnessed violence at home in childhood.
- More males (21.9%) than females (13.8%) ages 18-24 witnessed community violence in childhood.

This section describes the prevalence and contexts of physical violence against children and youth in Eswatini. The prevalence of physical violence by perpetrator (intimate partners, parents or adult relatives, adults in the community and peers), injuries received, disclosure, and knowledge and use of services are also described.

### 5.1. PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD AMONG 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among youth ages 18-24 years, 5.1% of females and 14.3% of males experienced physical violence before age 18. This difference was statistically significant. Among females, 1.1% experienced childhood physical violence by an intimate partner, 2.9% experienced childhood physical violence by parent or adult relative, and 1.8% experienced childhood physical violence by a peer. Among males, 5.6% experienced childhood physical violence by a parent or other adult relative, and 10.7% experienced childhood physical violence by a peer. Significantly more males than females experienced peer physical violence in childhood.

**Table 5.1.1. Prevalence of physical violence before age 18, overall and by perpetrator type, among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence [1] in childhood, any perpetrator	5.1 (3.9-6.2) (n=3191)	14.3 (10.2-18.4) (n=733)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence in childhood	1.1 (0.6-1.5) (n=2726)	** (n=564)
Parent or adult relative physical violence in childhood	2.9 (2.1-3.8) (n=3185)	5.6 (3.2-8.1) (n=732)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood in childhood	0.5 (0.2-0.8)* (n=3191)	2.2 (0.8-3.7)* (n=731)

**Table 5.1.1. Prevalence of physical violence before age 18, overall and by perpetrator type, among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Peer physical violence in childhood	1.8 (1.2-2.3) (n=3189)	10.7 (7.1-14.3) (n=724)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% as youth may experience violence from more than one person.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

## 5.2. LIFETIME PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Significantly fewer females than males experienced lifetime physical violence (females, 10.5%; males, 23.2%). Among children and youth who ever had a partner, 5.8% of females and 1.8% of males experienced intimate partner physical violence, a statistically significant difference. Significantly fewer females than males experienced physical violence by a parent or adult relative (females, 4.3%; males, 7.9%). Significantly fewer females than males experienced physical violence by an adult in the community (females, 1.1%; males, 4.4%). Significantly fewer females than males experience peer physical violence (females, 3.8%; males, 18.4%).

One in two females (51.0%) who ever experienced physical violence had the first incident at ages 12-17 years, and one in three (33.5%) had the first incident at ages 18-24. For males who ever experienced physical violence, half (49.2%) had the first incident at ages 12-17 years and about one in three (31.2%) at ages 6-11 years.

**Table 5.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime physical violence and age of first experience of physical violence, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence [1], any perpetrator	10.5 (9.2-11.8) (n=6318)	23.2 (18.5-27.9) (n=1402)
<b>Prevalence of physical violence by perpetrator</b>		
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	5.8 (4.7-6.8) (n=3601)	1.8 (0.7-2.8) (n=752)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	4.3 (3.5-5.0) (n=6318)	7.9 (5.2-10.7) (n=1402)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	1.1 (0.7-1.4) (n=6318)	4.4 (2.9-6.0) (n=1402)
Peer physical violence	3.8 (3.1-4.5) (n=6317)	18.4 (14.0-22.8) (n=1402)
<b>Age of first experience of physical violence, among those who ever experienced physical violence</b>		
5 or younger	2.5 (1.0-4.1)*	**
6-11	13.0 (9.9-16.1)	31.2 (23.2-39.2)
12-17	51.0 (45.9-56.2)	49.2 (42.1-56.3)
18-24	33.5 (28.7-38.2)	18.8 (13.6-24.0)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

Among females who ever experienced physical violence, 53.1% experienced physical violence before the COVID-19 pandemic, and 65.2% experienced it during the pandemic. Among males who ever experienced physical violence, 74.0% experienced it before the pandemic, and 55.7% experienced it during the pandemic. Among females who ever experienced physical violence by each perpetrator type, the first occurrence was during the COVID-19 pandemic for 64.1% of those who experienced intimate partner physical violence, 55.5% of those who experienced peer physical violence, 50.4% of those who experienced physical violence by a parent or other adult caregiver, and 42.6% of those who experienced physical violence by an adult in the community or neighborhood. Among males who ever experienced physical violence by each perpetrator type, the first occurrence was during the COVID-19 pandemic for 65.2% of those who experienced intimate partner physical violence, 47.9% of those who experienced peer physical violence, 39.8% of those who experienced physical violence by a parent or other adult caregiver, and 48.4% of those who experienced physical violence by an adult in the community or neighborhood.

**Table 5.2.2. Experience of first incident of physical violence was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-olds who have ever experienced physical violence– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Physical violence [1] before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, among those who ever experienced physical violence</b>		
Experienced physical violence before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	53.1 (47.4-58.8) (n=653)	74.0 (67.4-80.7) (n=319)
Experienced physical violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	65.2 (59.7-70.6) (n=638)	55.7 (48.1-63.3) (n=313)
<b>Physical violence by intimate partner [3]</b>	(n=102)	(n=8)
First experience was before COVID-19	35.9 (23.7-48.2)	34.8 (1.0-68.7)*
First experience was during COVID-19	64.1 (51.8-76.3)	65.2 (31.3-99.0)
<b>Physical violence by peer</b>	(n=159)	(n=123)
First experience was before COVID-19	44.5 (33.5-55.5)	52.1 (43.5-60.8)
First experience was during COVID-19	55.5 (44.5-66.5)	47.9 (39.2-56.5)
<b>Physical violence by parents or other adult relatives</b>	(n=126)	(n=33)
First experience was before COVID-19	49.6 (38.7-60.5)	60.2 (39.7-80.6)
First experience was during COVID-19	50.4 (39.5-61.3)	39.8 (19.4-60.3)
<b>Physical violence by adults in the community or neighbourhood</b>	(n=50)	(n=43)
First experience was before COVID-19	57.4 (39.2-75.6)	51.6 (30.9-72.3)
First experience was during COVID-19	42.6 (24.4-60.8)	48.4 (27.7-69.1)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[3] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

Among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced physical violence, 40.3% of females and 30.3% of males experienced an injury as a result of physical violence.

**Table 5.2.3. Prevalence of experiencing physical harm or injury as a result of physical violence, among 13-24-year-olds who experienced physical violence, overall and by perpetrator—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experienced injury as a result of physical violence [1] by any perpetrator	40.3 (35.8-44.7) (n=661)	30.3 (23.9-36.7) (n=321)
Injured by intimate partner [2]	43.7 (35.6-51.9) (n=203)	** (n=17)
Injured by parent or other adult relative	43.4 (36.6-50.1) (n=287)	21.9 (8.3-35.5)* (n=106)
Injured by adult in the community or neighbourhood	24.2 (11.2-37.3) (n=70)	30.8 (21.1-40.6) (n=64)
Injured by peer	29.3 (22.3-36.2) (n=243)	30.3 (23.5-37.2) (n=250)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

### 5.3. DISCLOSURE, KNOWLEDGE OF SERVICES, AND SERVICE-SEEKING FOR PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced physical violence, 67.3% of females and 50.4% of males ever told anybody about their experience. About two out of three females (67.9%) and four out of five males (80.9%) knew of a place to go for help for physical violence. Only 31.4% of females and 24.1% of males sought help, and 18.1% of females and 17.7% of males received help.

**Table 5.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking and receipt for any incident of physical violence, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced physical violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Told someone about experience of any physical violence [1]	67.3 (62.6-71.9) (n=661)	50.4 (40.5-60.4) (n=322)
Knew of a place to seek help for any experience of physical violence	67.9 (62.5-73.4) (n=656)	80.9 (74.5-87.4) (n=322)
Sought professional services for any experience of physical violence [2]	31.4 (26.7-36.1) (n=656)	24.1 (17.6-30.7) (n=322)
Received professional services for any experience of physical violence	18.1 (14.6-21.6) (n=656)	17.7 (11.7-23.7) (n=322)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.



[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Professional services include hospital/clinic, police station, social welfare or legal office, religious leader, or community leader.

Among those who told someone, 67.4% of females and 62.0% of males told a relative, and 11.8% of females and 17.5% of males told a friend or neighbour. Among those who received help, 75.0% of females and 85.0% of males received help from a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker, and 50.6% of females and 31.6% of males received help from the police.

**Table 5.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of physical violence and source of service receipt, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced physical violence and who told someone and those who received help—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Person the victim told about physical violence [1]</b>	(n=458)	(n= 169)
Relative	67.4 (62.0-72.9)	62.0 (53.6-70.4)
Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner	2.0 (0.5-3.5)*	**
Friend/neighbour	11.8 (8.6-15.0)	17.5 (10.5-24.4)
Service provider or authority figure [2]	6.5 (3.9-9.2)	5.6 (2.1-9.2)*
Other	5.4 (3.0-7.8)	3.1 (0.2-6.0)*
<b>Source of service received for any incident of physical violence, among those who received help</b>	(n=135)	(n=54)
Doctor, nurse, or other health care worker in a hospital or clinic	75.0 (65.4-84.5)	85.0 (76.9-93.1)
Police or other security personnel	50.6 (41.9-59.4)	31.6 (13.7-49.5)
Legal professional	7.8 (1.7-13.9)*	<0.1***
Social worker or counsellor	18.9 (9.7-28.1)	**
Community or religious leader	21.5 (14.4-28.6)	28.3 (10.2-46.4)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have experienced physical violence multiple times and may have told multiple people.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Service provider or authority figure includes: traditional healer, Social Worker, Doctor/Nurse/Healthcare Worker, NGO worker, teacher, employer, community leader, religious leader.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

For females and males who did not seek services for physical violence, the most common reason for not seeking services was related to individual beliefs about not needing services (females, 21.4%; males, 56.6%).

**Table 5.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced physical violence and did not seek services—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence (1)</b>	(n= 433)	(n=246)
Structural barriers to accessing services [2]	2.1 (0.3-4.0)*	2.8 (0.7-4.8)*
Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure [3]	11.6 (7.6-15.7)	7.3 (2.3-12.4)*
Individual beliefs about need for services [4]	21.4 (15.9-26.8)	56.6 (45.3-67.9)

**Table 5.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence, among 13-24-year-olds who ever experienced physical violence and did not seek services—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator [5]	10.7 (7.2-14.3)	4.2 (0.9-7.5)*
Other	11.2 (6.6-15.9)	5.9 (2.8-9.1)

Note: CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Structural barriers to accessing services includes: services too far away; could not afford services; services not high quality.

[3] Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure includes: did not know who to go to; afraid of getting in trouble; perpetrator told me not to tell anyone; dependent on perpetrator or someone else/fear of abandonment.

[4] Individual beliefs about need for services includes: did not think it was a problem; did not want/need to tell anyone.

[5] Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator includes: felt it was my fault; embarrassed for my family; afraid of perpetrator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

#### 5.4. PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS

Among adolescents ages 13-17 years, 6.0% of females and 11.6% of males experienced physical violence in the past 12 months, a statistically significant difference. Among young adults ages 18-24 years, 5.2% of females and 8.1% of males experienced physical violence in the past 12 months. For young adult females, the prevalence of past-year physical violence was mostly attributable to violence by intimate partners (3.7% prevalence). For young adult males, the prevalence of past-year physical violence was mostly due to peer physical violence (5.5% prevalence). Significantly fewer females (5.6%) than males (9.7%) ages 13-24 years experienced past-year physical violence.

**Table 5.4.1. Prevalence of physical violence [1] in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>13-17-year-olds</b>		
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	6.0 (4.9-7.1) (n=3127)	11.6 (7.9-15.2) (n=669)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	0.6 (0.1-1.1) * (n=873)	<0.1*** (n=188)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	2.7 (2.1-3.4) (n=3127)	2.3 (0.9-3.7)* (n=669)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	0.5 (0.2-0.8)* (n=3127)	2.2 (0.4-4.0)* (n=669)
Peer physical violence	3.0 (2.2-3.9) (n=3127)	8.7 (5.9-11.5) (n=669)
<b>18-24-year-olds</b>		
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	5.2 (4.0-6.4) (n=3191)	8.1 (6.3-10.0) (n=733)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	3.7 (2.5-4.8) (n=2694)	1.1 (0.3-1.8)* 1.2 (n=562)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	1.2 (0.8-1.8) 1.3 (n=3191)	1.7 (0.5-2.9)* (n=733)

**Table 5.4.1. Prevalence of physical violence [1] in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	0.4 (0.1-0.7)* (n=3191)	1.7 (0.3-3.1)* (n=733)
Peer physical violence	1.0 (0.6-1.4) 2.0 (n=3190)	5.5 (3.5-7.5) (n=733)
<b>13-24-year-olds</b>		
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	5.6 (4.7-6.5) (n=6318)	9.7 (7.4-12.0) (n=1402)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	3.0 (2.1-3.9) (n=3567)	0.8 (0.2-1.4)* (n=750)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	1.9 (1.5-2.4) (n=6318)	2.0 (1.1-2.8) (n=1402)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	0.5 (0.2-0.7) (n=6318)	1.9 (0.4-3.4)* (n=1402)
Peer physical violence	1.9 (1.4-2.4) (n=6317)	7.0 (5.0-9.0) (n=1402)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## 5.5. WITNESSING PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

Witnessing physical violence in the home included witnessing domestic violence towards a mother or step-mother or physical violence by a parent towards a sibling in childhood. Data were not collected on witnessing domestic violence towards a father or stepfather. Witnessing physical violence in the community included seeing anyone outside of the home and family environment get attacked.

Among young adults ages 18-24 years, significantly more males than females witnessed violence in the home in childhood (females, 8.8%; males, 14.6%) and in the community (females, 13.8%; males, 21.9%). Among youth ages 13-24 years, 2.5% of females and 4.2% of males witnessed violence in the home in the past 12 months.

**Table 5.5.1. Prevalence of witnessing physical violence in the home and in the community, among 18-24-year-olds before age 18 and among 13-24-year-olds in the past 12 months—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Witnessed physical violence in childhood (among 18-24-year-olds)</b>		
In the home [1]	8.8 (7.4-10.1) (n=3190)	14.6 (10.4-18.9) (n=733)
In the community [2]	13.8 (12.0-15.6) (n=3175)	21.9 (17.4-26.4) (n=732)
<b>Witnessed physical violence in the past 12 months (among 13-24-year-olds)</b>		

**Table 5.5.1. Prevalence of witnessing physical violence in the home and in the community, among 18-24-year-olds before age 18 and among 13-24-year-olds in the past 12 months—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
In the home	2.5 (1.9-3.1) (n=5918)	4.2 (2.6-5.8) (n=1251)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Witnessing physical violence in the home includes: hearing or seeing your mother or step-mother being hit, punched, kicked, or beaten by your father or step-father; or hearing or seeing a parent punch, kick, or beat your brothers or sisters.

[2] Witnessing physical violence in the community includes: seeing someone get attacked outside of your home and family environment.

## SECTION 6: EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Emotional violence in childhood among 18-24-year-olds

- Nearly one in ten females (9.8%) and males (9.9%) experienced emotional violence in childhood.

#### Lifetime emotional violence among 13-24-year-olds

- More than one in six females (18.4%) and males (17.0%) experienced lifetime emotional violence.
- One in seven females (13.8%) and males (13.9%) experienced emotional violence by a peer.

This section describes childhood experiences of emotional violence perpetrated by parents, adult caregivers, or other adult relatives, by intimate partners, and by peers.

### 6.1. EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD AMONG 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 18-24-year-olds, 9.8% of females and 9.9% of males experienced emotional violence before age 18. Among females, 2.7% experienced childhood emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative, 1.8% experienced childhood emotional violence by an intimate partner, and 7.2% experienced childhood emotional violence by a peer. Among males, 2.0% experienced childhood emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative and 8.1% experienced childhood emotional violence by a peer.

**Table 6.1. Prevalence of first experience of emotional violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence in childhood, any perpetrator	9.8 (8.4-11.2) (n=3191)	9.9 (6.1-13.6) (n=733)
Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative in childhood [1]	2.7 (1.9-3.5) (n=3180)	2.0 (0.9-3.1) (n=730)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	1.8 (1.2-2.4) (n=2722)	1.5 (0.6-2.5)* (n=564)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	7.2 (5.9-8.4) (n=3178)	8.1 (4.9-11.4) (n=726)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult caregiver includes: being told that participant was unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished participant were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, or put down.

[2] Among those who ever had an intimate partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping participant from having their own money; tried to keep participant from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of participant by demanding to know where they were and what they were doing; made threats to physically harm participant.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer includes: made participant get scared or feel really bad because they were calling them names, saying mean things to participant, or saying they didn't want participant around; told lies or spread rumours about participant, or tried to make others dislike participant; kept participant out of things on purpose, excluded participant from their group of friends or completely ignored participant.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

### 6.2. LIFETIME EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among children and youth ages 13-24 years, 18.4% of females and 17.0% of males ever experienced any emotional violence. Among females, 4.6% ever experienced emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative, 7.7% experienced emotional violence by an intimate partner, and 13.8% experienced emotional

violence by a peer. Among males, 3.3% experienced emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative, 6.5% experienced emotional violence by an intimate partner, and 13.9% experienced emotional violence by a peer. Among females who ever experienced any emotional violence, 31.1% had a first experience at ages 18-24 years, 30.8% at ages 13 or younger, 20.4% at ages 14-15, and 17.7% at ages 16-17. Among males, 33.9% had a first experience at ages 13 or younger, 24.6% at ages 18-24, 21.3% at ages 14-15, and 20.1% at ages 16-17.

**Table 6.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime emotional violence and age of first experience of emotional violence, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence, any perpetrator	18.4 (16.6-20.2) (n=6318)	17.0 (13.5-20.5) (n=1402)
Emotional violence by a parent or adult relative [1]	4.6 (3.8-5.3) (n=6318)	3.3 (2.2-4.4) (n=1402)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	7.7 (6.5-9.0) (n=3601)	6.5 (4.3-8.8) (n=752)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	13.8 (12.2-15.4) (n=6317)	13.9 (10.5-17.2) (n=1401)
<b>Age at first experience of emotional violence</b>	(n= 1128)	(n= 215)
13 or younger	30.8 (27.3-34.3)	33.9 (26.8-41.0)
14-15	20.4 (17.5-23.3)	21.3 (15.7-26.9)
16-17	17.7 (15.1-20.3)	20.1 (14.2-26.1)
18-24	31.1 (27.6-34.5)	24.6 (16.9-32.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult caregiver includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, or put down.

[2] Among those who ever had an intimate partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm participant.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

Among females who ever experienced emotional violence, 56.9% experienced emotional violence before the COVID-19 pandemic, and 63.1% experienced it during the pandemic. Among males who ever experienced emotional violence, 64.9% experienced it before the pandemic, and 64.2% experienced it during the pandemic. Among females who ever experienced emotional violence by a parent or adult relative, 63.3% had a first occurrence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among those who experienced emotional violence by an intimate partner, 52.2% had a first occurrence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among those who experienced emotional violence by a peer, 52.9% had a first occurrence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among males who ever experienced emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative, 79.3% had a first occurrence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among those who experienced intimate partner emotional violence, 70.2% had a first occurrence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among those who experienced peer emotional violence, 48.8% had a first occurrence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Table 6.2.2. Experience of lifetime emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic [1] among 13-24-year-olds who have ever experienced emotional violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, among those who ever experienced emotional violence</b>		
Experienced emotional violence before the COVID-19 pandemic	56.9 (53.2-60.7) (n=1150)	64.9 (58.4-71.4) (n=237)
Experienced emotional violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	63.1 (58.9-67.3) (n=1149)	64.2 (57.2-71.3) (n=237)
<b>Emotional violence by parent or other adult relative [2]</b>	(n=68)	(n=8)
First experience was before COVID-19	36.7 (23.2-50.1)	**
First experience was during COVID-19	63.3 (49.9-76.8)	79.3 (58.6-99.9)
<b>Emotional violence by intimate partner [3]</b>	(n= 119)	(n=33)
First experience was before COVID-19	47.8 (36.1-59.4)	29.8 (12.8-46.8)
First experience was during COVID-19	52.2 (40.6-63.9)	70.2 (53.2-87.2)
<b>Emotional violence by peer [4]</b>	(n=457)	(n=95)
First experience was before COVID-19	47.1 (40.5-53.6)	51.2 (40.6-61.9)
First experience was during COVID-19	52.9 (46.4-59.5)	48.8 (38.1-59.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted.

[3] Among those who ever had a partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm participant.

[4] Emotional violence by a peer includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### 6.3. EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 13-24-year-olds, 10.4% of females and 9.4% of males experienced emotional violence in the past 12 months. Among females, 3.1% experienced emotional violence by a parent or adult relative in the past year, 4.4% experienced emotional violence by an intimate partner in the past year, and 6.9% experienced emotional violence by a peer in the past year. Among males, 2.7% experienced emotional violence by a parent or adult relative in the past year, 3.5% experienced emotional violence by an intimate partner in the past year, and 6.2% experienced emotional violence by a peer in the past year.

**Table 6.3. Prevalence of emotional violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence, any perpetrator	10.4 (9.0-11.7) (n=6318)	9.4 (7.1-11.8) (n=1402)
Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative [1]	3.1 (2.6-3.6) (n=6315)	2.7 (1.5-3.9) (n=1402)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	4.4 (3.5-5.3) (n=3600)	3.5 (1.8-5.2) (n=752)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	6.9 (5.8-8.0) (n=6308)	6.2 (4.3-8.1) (n=1399)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult relative includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted.

[2] Among those who ever had a partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer in the past 12 months includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.



## SECTION 7: INSPIRE INDICATORS

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-olds

- More males than females had positive relationships with mothers, including a close relationship (97.0% versus 91.6%) and good communication (85.7% versus 78.4%).
- About three out of five females (58.7%) and males (62.5%) experienced food insecurity.
- More males than females had strong peer social supports (73.0% versus 63.8%) and meaningful participation in their community (83.9% versus 68.2%), but more females than males had a caring relationship with an adult in the family (90.3% versus 78.3%).

#### INSPIRE Indicators among 18-24-year-olds

- More males than females endorsed norms supportive of corporal punishment and traditional gender norms.
- More males than females had early sexual debut (11.3% versus 4.7%).
- Binge drinking was higher among males (7.6%) than females (3.2%), as was smoking (12.7% versus 1.5%).

#### INSPIRE Indicators among 13-24-year-olds

- More males (78.8%) than females (64.3%) knew of a place to go to seek help for violence.
- More than one in 20 females (6.7%) had ever engaged in transactional sex.
- More females (9.4%) than males (4.9%) had ever thought of suicide.

*INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children*<sup>20</sup> is a technical package that includes evidence-based strategies with demonstrated success in preventing and responding to violence in childhood. INSPIRE reflects a collaboration of the World Health Organization, CDC, UNICEF, PEPFAR, USAID, and other partners as part of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (<https://www.end-violence.org/inspire>). There are seven strategies included in INSPIRE: Implementation and enforcement of laws; Norms and values; Safe environments; Parent and caregiver support; Income and economic strengthening, Response and support services; and Education and life skills. The 2022 Eswatini VACS covers indicators for six of the strategies- all except Implementation and enforcement of laws. Additionally, the indicators for Response and support services for victims of violence are included in the previous sections on disclosure, knowledge of services, and service access among victims of sexual violence (section 4) and physical violence (section 5) and not included in this section. Data on INSPIRE indicators capture key opportunities to inform evidence-based interventions and approaches.

### 7.1. INSPIRE INDICATORS AMONG 13-17-YEAR-OLDS

For 13-17-year-olds, indicators include data on Safe Environments, Parent and Caregiver Support, Income and Economic Strengthening, and Education and Life Skills. In the past 12 months, 7.8% of females and 8.1% of males missed school or did not leave home due to fear of violence or safety problems. Also, 6.8% of females and 7.4% of males witnessed violence in the community in the past 12 months. In the past 12 months, among females, 8.1% indicated their parents used positive parental discipline, and among males, 13.1% indicated their parents used positive parental discipline. Significantly more males than females had a close relationship with their mother (females, 91.6%; males, 97.0%). Significantly more males than females said it was easy to talk to their mothers (females, 78.4%; males, 85.7%). About 74.6% of females and 71.7% of males indicated

<sup>20</sup> World Health Organization. *INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children*. 2016. Geneva, Switzerland.

their parents used high parental monitoring and supervision. Among females, 17.7% had parents who used physical discipline or verbal aggression in the past 12 months, and 2.7% indicated their parents increased their use of negative behaviour since the COVID-19 pandemic started. Among males, 16.6% indicated their parents used physical discipline or verbal aggression in the past 12 months.

Food insecurity was high; 58.7% of females and 62.5% of males experienced food insecurity. School enrollment among adolescents was also high: 92.0% of females and 92.6% of males were currently enrolled in school. Among adolescents, binge drinking was low. Among females, 5.3% had been in a physical fight in the past 12 months, and 8.9% of males had been in a physical fight. Significantly more males than females indicated they had strong peer social supports (females, 63.8%; males, 73.0%). About one in two females (51.7%) and nearly three in five males (57.5%) had caring adult relationships in the community. Significantly more males than females indicated they had meaningful participation in the community (females, 68.2%; males, 83.9%). Significantly more females than males had caring adult relationships in their families (females, 90.3%; males, 78.3%). About one out of three females (33.8%) and males (35.6%) had been taught anger management in school. Furthermore, 44.0% of females and 47.2% of males had been taught how to avoid physical fights and violence in school, and 41.4% of females and 36.7% of males had been taught how to avoid bullying.

**Table 7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Safe Environments</b>		
Missing school or not leaving home due to fear of violence or safety problems in the past 12 months	7.8 (6.1-9.5) (n=3125)	8.1 (5.4-10.7) (n=669)
Witnessed violence in the community in the past 12 months [1]	6.8 (5.4-8.2) (n=3112)	7.4 (4.7-10.1) (n=668)
<b>Parent and Caregiver Support</b>		
Parents' use of positive parental discipline in the past 12 months	8.1 (6.3-10.0) (n=3119)	13.1 (8.6-17.6) (n= 668)
Close relationship with mother	91.6 (90.5-92.8) (n=2854)	97.0 (95.3-98.7) (n=618)
Close relationship with father	70.9 (68.2-73.6) (n=2403)	84.8 (81.2-88.4) (n=562)
Easy to talk to mother	78.4 (76.5-80.3) (n=3023)	85.7 (82.7-88.6) (n=650)
Easy to talk to father	46.1 (43.2-49.0) (n=2884)	65.2 (61.0-69.4) (n=626)
High parental monitoring and supervision	74.6 (71.6-77.6) (n=3123)	71.7 (65.9-77.4) (n=669)
Parents' use of physical discipline or verbal abuse in the past 12 months	17.7 (15.5-20.0) (n=3124)	16.6 (12.3-20.9) (n=669)
Increased negative behaviour by parent/caregiver since COVID-19 pandemic started [2]	2.7 (2.0-3.5) (n=3049)	1.7 (0.5-2.9)* (n=639)
<b>Income and Economic Strengthening</b>		
Experiencing food insecurity	58.7 (56.0-61.3) (n=3024)	62.5 (56.9-68.2) (n=645)
<b>Education and Life Skills</b>		

**Table 7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Currently enrolled in school	92.0 (90.8-93.3) (n=3109)	92.6 (90.2-95.0) (n=663)
Binge drinking in the past 30 days [3]	0.8 (0.3-1.2) (n=3054)	1.3 (0.1-2.5)* (n=615)
In a physical fight in the past 12 months	5.3 (4.3-6.4) (n=3124)	8.9 (6.3-11.5) (n=669)
Peer social supports [4]	63.8 (61.6-66.0) (n=3125)	73.0 (68.0-78.1) (n=669)
Caring adult relationships in community [5]	51.7 (48.7-54.8) (n=3119)	57.5 (52.3-62.7) (n=669)
Meaningful participation in community [6]	68.2 (65.6-70.7) (n=3127)	83.9 (80.1-87.7) (n=669)
Caring adult relationships in family [7]	90.3 (88.4-92.1) (n=3125)	78.3 (73.7-82.9) (n=667)
Taught anger management in school during the current school year	33.8 (31.3-36.3) (n=2887)	35.6 (31.0-40.3) (n=617)
Taught how to avoid physical fights and violence in school during school year	44.0 (41.5-46.5) (n=2872)	47.2 (41.5-52.9) (n=616)
Taught how to avoid bullying in school during school year	41.4 (38.7-44.1) (n=2874)	36.7 (31.4-41.9) (n=616)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Witnessing violence in the community includes seeing anyone get attacked outside of the home or family environment.

[2] Negative behaviour includes increased shouting, name calling, criticizing, hitting, or slapping.

[3] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

[4] Peer social supports includes: my friends really try to help me; I can count on my friends when things go wrong; I have friends with whom I can share my good times and bad times; I can talk about problems with my friends.

[5] Caring adult relationships in community includes one or more of the following: outside of my home and school, there is an adult who really cares about me; there is an adult whom I trust who notices when I am upset about something; there is an adult who tells me when I do a good job; there is an adult who always wants me to do my best.

[6] Meaningful participation in community includes one or more of the following: in my community, I am part of a club; I am part of a sports team; I am part of a church/temple/mosque; I am part of some other group.

[7] Caring adult relationships in family is defined as including your mother and father and any other family members, would you say that you have an adult family member who cares about you; who is willing to help you make decisions?

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## 7.2. INSPIRE INDICATORS AMONG 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

For young adults ages 18-24, INSPIRE indicators include data on Norms and Values, Income and Economic Strengthening, and Education and Life Skills. Significantly more males than females endorsed the necessity of corporal punishment by parents (females, 45.0%; males, 58.6%) and teachers (females, 38.3%; males, 58.7%). Similar proportions of females and males endorsed acceptance of domestic violence (females, 13.5%; males, 15.6%). Significantly more males than females endorsed traditional gender norms (females, 17.3%; males, 47.3%). Fewer than one in twenty females (4.1%) and 2.7% of males indicated increased negative behaviour by their partners since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Food insecurity was high among both females (62.3%) and males (62.7%). Significantly more males than females had early sexual debut (first sex at or before age 15; females, 4.7%; males, 11.3%). About one in seven females (15.1%) experienced early pregnancy. The prevalence of binge drinking in the past 30 days was significantly higher for males than females (females, 3.2%; males, 7.6%). Significantly more males than females were current smokers (females, 1.5%; males, 12.7%).

**Table 7.2. INSPIRE Indicators among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Norms and Values</b>		
Agreement with the necessity of corporal punishment by parents	45.0 (42.3-47.8) (n=3167)	58.6 (54.1-63.1) (n=727)
Agreement with the necessity of corporal punishment by teachers	38.3 (35.5-41.1) (n=3178)	58.7 (54.1-63.3) (n=728)
Acceptance of domestic violence [1]	13.5 (10.8-16.1) (n=3190)	15.6 (11.7-19.5) (n=732)
Endorsement of traditional gender norms [2]	17.3 (15.2-19.3) (n=3190)	47.3 (40.2-54.3) (n=733)
Increased negative behaviour by partner since COVID-19 pandemic started [3]	4.1 (3.2-5.1) (n=2675)	2.7 (1.3-4.0) (n=551)
<b>Income and Economic Strengthening</b>		
Experiencing food insecurity	62.3 (59.6-64.9) (n=3157)	62.7 (57.7-67.7) (n=724)
<b>Education and Life Skills</b>		
Early sexual debut: first sex at or before age 15	4.7 (3.8-5.7) (n=3180)	11.3 (8.7-13.9) (n=731)
Early pregnancy: pregnant before age 18	15.1 (13.3-16.9) (n=2289)	NA
Binge drinking in the past 30 days [4]	3.2 (2.3-4.0) (n=3095)	7.6 (5.2-10.0) (n=676)
Current smoker	1.5 (1.0-2.1) (n=3043)	12.7 (8.7-16.7) (n=726)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: it is acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she: goes out without telling him; neglects the children; argues with him; refuses to have sex with him; is suspected of having an affair.

[2] Includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: men decide when to have sex; men need more sex than women; men need other women; women who carry condoms are “loose;” women should tolerate violence to keep the family together.

[3] Among those who ever had a partner. Negative behaviour includes: increased shouting, name calling, criticizing, hitting, or slapping.

[4] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

### 7.3. INSPIRE INDICATORS AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

For youth ages 13-24, INSPIRE indicators include data on Response and Support Services and Education and Life Skills. Among all youth ages 13-24 (not just victims of violence), about 3 out of 5 females (64.3%) and males (78.8%) knew of a place in their community where one could go to get help for violence. The prevalence of lifetime transactional sex among females was 6.7%. Statistically significantly more females than males had ever thought about suicide (females, 9.4%; males, 4.9%).

**Table 7.3. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Response and support services</b>		
Knew of a place to go for help for violence [1]	64.3 (58.5-63.6) (n=6262)	78.8 (57.9-66.1) (n=1393)
<b>Education and Life Skills</b>		
Lifetime transactional sex [2]	6.7 (5.4-8.0) (n=2630)	NA
Suicidal ideation [3]	9.4 (8.1-10.7) (n=6309)	4.9 (3.4-6.3) (n=1401)
Suicide attempts, among those who ever thought of suicide	35.6 (30.9-40.3) (n=546)	27.7 (14.8-40.6) (n=73)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Knew place to seek service for physical or sexual violence.

[2] Among those who ever had sex. Transactional sex includes receiving money, gifts, food, or favours in exchange for sex. Data for males not available due to a programming error.

[3] Suicidal ideation includes ever having thought of suicide.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

NA=not applicable

## SECTION 8: OVERLAP AMONG SEXUAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

### SECTION SUMMARY

Prevalence of any violence and overlap of types of violence

- The prevalence of any childhood violence among 18-24-year-olds prior to age 18 was 15.8% for females and 21.0% for males.
- One out of four females 13-24-years (25.5%) and three out of ten males 13-24-years (31.7%) experienced any lifetime violence.

Although specific forms of violence have distinct contexts and epidemiology, different forms of violence are interconnected and often co-occur. Overlap among different forms of violence happens in two primary ways: (1) violence could occur simultaneously, such as when a youth is being emotionally and physically subjected to violence at the same time; and/or (2) violence could occur to the same youth, but at different points in time. The overlap of sexual, physical, and emotional violence experienced in childhood and lifetime are described here.

### 8.1. OVERLAP AMONG TYPES OF VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD AMONG 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 18-24-year-olds, 15.8% of females and 21.0% of males experienced any violence before age 18. Among females, 3.3% experienced sexual violence only, 2.4% experienced physical violence only, and 6.2% experienced emotional violence only in childhood. Among males, 0.8% experienced sexual violence only, 10.3% experienced physical violence only, and 5.7% experienced emotional violence only in childhood. Males were significantly more likely than females to experience physical violence only, and females were significantly more likely than males to experience sexual violence only. A similar proportion of females (3.3%) and males (3.3%) experienced two types of violence in childhood.

**Table 8.1. Prevalence and overlap of different types of violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Any violence</b>	(n= 3191)	(n= 733)
No childhood violence	84.2 (82.5-86.0)	79.0 (73.9-84.1)
Any childhood violence	15.8 (14.0-17.5)	21.0 (15.9-26.1)
<b>One type of violence only</b>	(n= 3191)	(n= 733)
Childhood sexual violence only [1]	3.3 (2.5-4.1)	0.8 (0.3-1.2)
Childhood physical violence only [2]	2.4 (1.7-3.2)	10.3 (6.5-14.1)
Childhood emotional violence only [3]	6.2 (5.1-7.3)	5.7 (2.7-8.7)
<b>Multiple types of violence</b>	(n= 3191)	(n= 733)
Two types of violence	3.3 (2.5-4.1)	3.3 (1.9-4.7)
Three types of violence	0.6 (0.3-0.9)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (threats, harassment, or tricking).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## 8.2. OVERLAP AMONG TYPES OF LIFETIME VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 13-24-year-olds, 25.5% of females and 31.7% of males ever experienced any violence. Among females, 2.8% experienced lifetime sexual violence only, 3.9% experienced lifetime physical violence only, and 9.8% experienced emotional violence only. Among males, 13.2% experienced physical violence only, and 7.1% experienced emotional violence only. The difference between males and females for physical violence only was statistically significant. Among females, 6.7% ever experienced two types of violence, and 2.4% ever experienced all three types. Among males, 9.3% ever experienced two types of violence, and 1.2% ever experienced all three types.

**Table 8.2. Prevalence and overlap of different types of lifetime violence among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Any violence</b>	(n= 6318)	(n= 1402)
No violence	74.5 (72.3-76.7)	68.3 (63.0-73.6)
Any violence	25.5 (23.3-27.7)	31.7 (26.4-37.0)
<b>One type of violence only</b>	(n= 6318)	(n= 1402)
Sexual violence only [1]	2.8 (2.3-3.4)	0.9 (0.3-1.6)*
Physical violence only [2]	3.9 (3.2-4.6)	13.2 (9.5-16.8)
Emotional violence only [3]	9.8 (8.6-11.0)	7.1 (4.7-9.4)
<b>Multiple types of violence</b>	(n= 6318)	(n= 1402)
Two types of violence	6.7 (5.7-7.7)	9.3 (7.2-11.5)
Three types of violence	2.4 (1.8-2.9)	1.2 (0.6-1.9)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (threats, harassment, or tricking).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative; insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you; made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; b) told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; c) kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 9: HEALTH CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### **Lifetime sexual, physical, and emotional violence and mental health and suicide among 13-24-year-olds**

- Among females, sexual violence, physical violence, and emotional violence were associated with significantly higher prevalence of mental distress, intentional self-harm, and suicidal ideation. Physical violence was also associated with suicide attempts.
- Among males, physical violence and emotional violence were associated with significantly higher prevalence of intentional self-harm and suicidal ideation.

#### **Lifetime sexual, physical, and emotional violence and substance use and STI history among 13-24-year-old females**

- Sexual violence, physical violence, and emotional violence were associated with higher prevalence of symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI.
- Physical violence was also associated with a higher prevalence of binge drinking.
- Emotional violence was also associated with higher prevalence of binge drinking and smoking.

#### **Lifetime sexual, physical, and emotional violence and substance use and STI history among 13-24-year-old males**

- Sexual violence, physical violence, and emotional violence were associated with higher prevalence of symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI.
- Sexual violence was also associated with higher prevalence of smoking.

This section describes the relationship between health outcomes in young adulthood among 13-24-year-olds and lifetime experiences of sexual, physical, or emotional violence. The health outcomes assessed include mental distress in the past 30 days; binge drinking in the past 30 days; cigarette smoking in the past 30 days; drug use in the past 30 days; self-harm behaviours, suicidal ideation, and suicide attempts; and symptoms or diagnosis of STIs. Health outcomes that do not specify “in the past 30 days” may have occurred at any time in the person’s life (ever). This section also describes pregnancy among females ages 13-24 as a result of pressured or physically forced sex or sex when a person was too drunk to say no, and prevalence of missing school after sexual violence.

### **9.1. MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS BY EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS**

Females ages 13-24 who ever experienced sexual violence were significantly more likely than those who did not experience sexual violence to have mental distress in the past 30 days (50.6% versus 31.8%), to have ever intentionally hurt themselves (13.2% versus 2.5%), and to have ever thought of suicide (36.2% versus 7.1%). Females who ever experienced physical violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have mental distress (50.7% versus 31.3%), to have ever intentionally hurt themselves (10.9% versus 2.5%), to have ever thought about suicide (27.1% versus 7.4%), and to have ever attempted suicide (47.4% versus 30.6%). Females who ever experienced emotional violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have mental distress (49.5% versus 29.7%), to have ever intentionally hurt themselves (11.3% versus 1.6%), and to have ever thought about suicide (27.1% versus 5.5%).



**Table 9.1.1. Mental health conditions by experience of sexual, physical, or emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old females—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Mental distress in the past 30 days	Intentional self-harm	Suicidal ideation	Ever attempted suicide [4]
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Sexual violence [1]</b>				
Experienced sexual violence	50.6 (44.9-56.4) (n=487)	13.2 (9.6-16.8) (n=487)	36.2 (31.2-41.2) (n=485)	39.8 (30.7-48.9) (n=163)
No sexual violence	31.8 (29.5-34.2) (n=5822)	2.5 (2.0-3.1) (n=5824)	7.1 (5.9-8.2) (n=5822)	33.7 (28.3-39.2) (n=383)
<b>Physical violence [2]</b>				
Experienced physical violence	50.7 (46.1-55.3) (n=661)	10.9 (8.2-13.7) (n=659)	27.1 (22.7-31.5) (n=658)	47.4 (38.4-56.4) (n=182)
No physical violence	31.3 (28.9-33.8) (n=5649)	2.5 (1.9-3.1) (n=5654)	7.4 (6.1-8.6) (n=5651)	30.6 (25.1-36.0) (n=364)
<b>Emotional violence [3]</b>				
Experienced emotional violence	49.5 (45.6-53.4) (n=1162)	11.3 (8.9-13.7) (n=1163)	27.1 (23.2-30.9) (n=1161)	40.8 (34.8-46.8) (n=290)
No emotional violence	29.7 (27.2-32.2) (n=5148)	1.6 (1.2-2.0) (n=5150)	5.5 (4.4-6.5) (n=5148)	29.8 (22.8-36.9) (n=256)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (threats, harassment, or tricking).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes any emotional violence by a parent or adult relative, intimate partner, or peer.

[4] Among those who ever had suicidal ideation.

Males who ever experienced physical violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have ever thought of suicide (10.9% versus 3.1%). Males who ever experienced emotional violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have ever thought of suicide (13.9% versus 3.1%).

**Table 9.1.2. Mental health conditions by experience of sexual, physical, or emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old males—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Mental distress in the past 30 days	Intentional self-harm	Suicidal ideation	Ever attempted suicide [4]
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Sexual violence [1]</b>				
Experienced sexual violence	57.1 (32.9-81.3) (n=40)	24.9 (5.6-44.2)* (n=40)	25.7 (5.7-45.7)* (n=39)	**
No sexual violence	39.2 (34.3-44.0) (n=1362)	2.1 (1.2-3.0) (n=1362)	4.2 (2.9-5.5) (n=1362)	27.6 (14.3-40.8) (n=64)
<b>Physical violence [2]</b>				
Experienced physical violence	45.2 (34.8-55.7) (n=322)	5.3 (1.8-8.8)* (n=1080)	10.9 (6.7-15.0) (n=322)	29.2 (10.8-47.6)* (n=35)
No physical violence	38.1 (33.2-42.9) (n=1080)	2.1 (1.1-3.0) (n=1080)	3.1 (1.8-4.3) (n=1079)	26.2 (8.4-43.9)* (n=38)

**Table 9.1.2. Mental health conditions by experience of sexual, physical, or emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old males—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

<b>Emotional violence [3]</b>				
Experienced emotional violence	41.3 (31.8-50.7) (n=238)	10.1 (4.0-16.3)* (n=238)	13.9 (9.7-18.1) (n=237)	42.8 (20.7-64.8) (n=33)
No emotional violence	39.4 (34.0-44.8) (n=1164)	7.5 (0.6-2.1) (n=1164)	3.1 (1.8-4.4) (n=1164)	14.0 (6.3-21.8) (n=40)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (threats, harassment, or tricking).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes any emotional violence by a parent or adult relative, intimate partner, or peer.

[4] Among those who experienced thoughts of suicide.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Among 13-24-year-olds, 65.3% of females and 62.3% of males indicated their mental and emotional health was worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, 40.1% of females and 43.4% of males indicated the COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact on their work or studies, their relationships, or their sleep.

**Table 9.1.3. Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on mental and emotional health, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	<b>Females</b>	<b>Males</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Mental and emotional health has been worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	65.3 (62.9-67.8) (n=6241)	62.3 (57.7-66.9) (n=1394)
COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on work/study, relationships, or sleep [2]	40.1 (37.4-42.9) (n=6293)	43.4 (39.2-47.6) (n=1402)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Includes ability to work or study, stress/worry, emotional health, relationship with friends, relationships with family, ability to sleep.

## 9.2. SUBSTANCE USE AND STI HISTORY BY EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE AMONG 13-24-YEAR-OLDS

Females who ever experienced sexual violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have ever had a symptom or a diagnosis of an STI (15.9% versus 6.3%). Females who ever experienced physical violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have engaged in binge drinking in the past 30 days (5.5% versus 1.7%) and to have ever had symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI (19.8% versus 5.6%). Females who ever experienced emotional violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have engaged in binge drinking in the past 30 days (3.8% versus 1.7%), to be a current smoker (3.1% versus 0.5%), and to have ever had symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI (14.6% versus 5.4%).

**Table 9.2.1. Substance use and STI history by experience of sexual, physical, or emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old females—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Binge drinking in the past 30 days [4]	Current smoker	Drug use in the past 30 days	Ever had symptoms or diagnosis of STI [5]
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Sexual violence [1]</b>				
Experienced sexual violence	3.9 (1.7-6.0) (n=475)	3.7 (1.0-6.4)* (n=467)	7.5 (0.1-2.7)* (n=487)	15.9 (12.1-19.6) (n=487)
No sexual violence	1.9 (1.4-2.5) (n=5672)	0.8 (0.5-1.0) (n=5553)	0.8 (0.5-1.1) (n=5816)	6.3 (5.2-7.3) (n=5829)
<b>Physical violence [2]</b>				
Experienced physical violence	5.5 (3.2-7.8) (n=637)	3.1 (0.9-5.2)* (n=633)	2.1 (0.8-3.4)* (n=659)	19.8 (15.8-23.8) (n=661)
No physical violence	1.7 (1.2-2.2) (n=5512)	0.8 (0.5-1.1) (n=5389)	0.7 (0.4-1.0) (n=5646)	5.6 (4.7-6.5) (n=5657)
<b>Emotional violence [3]</b>				
Experienced emotional violence	3.8 (2.4-5.2) (n=1124)	3.1 (1.6-4.5) (n=1119)	7.5 (0.6-1.8) (n=1158)	14.6 (12.1-17.1) (n=1164)
No emotional violence	1.7 (1.2-2.3) (n=5025)	0.5 (0.3-0.7) (n=4903)	0.8 (0.4-1.1) (n=5147)	5.4 (4.4-6.4) (n=5154)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (threats, harassment, or tricking) sex.

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes any emotional violence by a parent or adult relative, intimate partner, or peer.

[4] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

[5] STI includes ever testing positive for syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, herpes, genital warts, or any other sexually transmitted disease or infection besides HIV or having had STI symptoms including: unusual discharge or oozing from vagina/penis, unexplained sores or bumps on the vagina/penis, painful urination, other pain that may have been from a sexually transmitted disease or infection.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

Males who ever experienced sexual violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to be a current smoker (31.1% versus 7.8%) and to have ever had symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI (33.0% versus 6.3%). Males who ever experienced physical violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have ever had symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI (13.8% versus 5.2%). Males who ever experienced emotional violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to have ever had symptoms or a diagnosis of an STI (20.3% versus 4.5%).

**Table 9.2.2. Substance use and STI history by experience of sexual, physical, or emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old males—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Binge drinking in the past 30 days [4]	Current smoker	Drug use in the past 30 days	Ever had symptoms or diagnosis of STI [5]
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Sexual violence [1]</b>				
Experienced sexual violence	19.6 (2.1-37.0)* (n=38)	31.1 (13.4-48.7) (n=39)	22.9 (2.8 -43.0)* (n=40)	33.0 (14.1-51.8) (n=40)
No sexual violence	4.3 (2.9-5.6) (n=1253)	7.8 (5.1-10.4) (n=1353)	3.2 (1.6-4.7) (n=1355)	6.3 (4.2-8.4) (n=1362)
<b>Physical violence [2]</b>				
Experienced physical violence	6.9 (3.7-10.2) (n=293)	9.7 (5.2-14.1) (n=318)	5.9 (2.7-9.0) (n=320)	13.8 (7.7-20.0) (n=322)
No physical violence	4.2 (2.6-5.7) (n=998)	8.2 (4.7-11.7) (n=1074)	3.2 (1.1-5.3)* (n=1075)	5.2 (3.2-7.1) (n=1080)
<b>Emotional violence [3]</b>				
Experienced emotional violence	9.6 (5.0-14.1) (n=215)	13.6 (8.0-19.2) (n=234)	9.3 (4.2-14.4) (n=236)	20.3 (13.5-27.1) (n=238)
No emotional violence	3.8 (2.5-5.1) (n=1076)	7.5 (4.6-10.4) (n=1158)	2.7 (1.2-4.2) (n=1159)	4.5 (3.0-6.0) (n=1164)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (threats, harassment, or tricking) sex.

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes any emotional violence by a parent or adult relative, intimate partner, or peer.

[4] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

[5] STI includes ever testing positive for syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, herpes, genital warts, or any other sexually transmitted disease or infection besides HIV or having had STI symptoms including: unusual discharge or oozing from vagina/penis, unexplained sores or bumps on the vagina/penis, painful urination, other pain that may have been from a sexually transmitted disease or infection.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

### 9.3. PREGNANCY AND MISSING SCHOOL AS A RESULT OF VIOLENCE

Among females ages 13-24 who experienced pressured or physically forced sex or sex when they were unable to consent, 4.5% became pregnant as a result of an incident.

**Table 9.3.1. Pregnancy as a result of sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females who experienced sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females
	Weighted % (95% CI)
Pregnancy as a result of pressured sex [1], forced sex, sex when unable to consent, or to stop it because victim was too drunk	4.5 (2.0-7.0) (n= 341)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.  
[1] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

Among 13-24-year-old females, approximately one in ten (9.8%) ever missed school as a result of sexual violence, and 12.5% ever missed school as a result of physical violence. Among males, 9.1% ever missed school as a result of physical violence.

**Table 9.3.2. Missing school as a result of any sexual or physical violence among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Missed school due to any sexual violence [1]	9.8 (6.6-12.9) (n=477)	** (n=40)
Missed school due to any physical violence [2]	12.5 (9.1-15.9) (n=661)	9.1 (5.2-13.1) (n=322)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (threats, harassment, or tricking).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 10: SEXUAL RISK BEHAVIOURS AND HIV

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Sexual risk-taking behaviours in the past 12 months among 19-24-year-olds

- More males (30.1%) than females (7.7%) had two or more partners in the past 12 months.
- Nearly one out of two females (45.7%) and males (45.4%) had infrequent or no condom use in the past 12 months.
- Six percent (6.1%) of females engaged in transactional sex in the past 12 months.
- Females who experienced sexual violence in childhood had higher prevalence of transactional sex in the past 12 months than females who experienced no sexual violence.

#### HIV testing knowledge and behaviours among 13-24-year-olds

- About four out of five females (78.6%) and males (81.0%) were ever tested for HIV.
- Among those tested, 72.5% of females and 74.0% of males had a test within the last 6 months.
- Females and males who experienced sexual violence had higher prevalence of being tested for HIV than females and males who did not experience sexual violence.
- Females had higher knowledge of PrEP and PEP than males.
- More females (6.6%) than males (3.3%) were HIV positive.
- Among people living with HIV, 88.4% of females and 91.9% of males knew their HIV status.

This section examines the association between exposure to violence in childhood and HIV and sexual risk-taking behaviours, such as having multiple sexual partners, infrequent condom use, and transactional sex. Multiple sexual partners are defined as two or more sexual partners in the past 12 months. Infrequent condom use is defined as never or sometimes using condoms if not married or living together as if married. All of these risk behaviours are reported among those who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months. To explore the associations between exposure to violence during childhood and later risk-taking behaviours and knowledge and use of HIV testing services, analyses were restricted to participants ages 19-24.

### 10.1. SEXUAL RISK BEHAVIOURS AMONG 19-24-YEAR-OLDS

Among 19-24-year-olds who had sex in the past year, significantly more males than females had two or more sex partners in the past year (females, 7.7%; males, 30.1%). Among females, 45.7% had infrequent or no condom use, and 6.1% engaged in transactional sex in the past 12 months. Among males, 45.4% had infrequent or no condom use in the past 12 months.

**Table 10.1.1. Sexual risk behaviours among 19-24-year-olds who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Two or more sex partners in the past 12 months	7.7 (6.2-9.2) (n=1890)	30.1 (22.7-37.5) (n=364)
Infrequent condom use in the past 12 months [1]	45.7 (42.7-48.7) (n=1872)	45.4 (38.4-52.3) (n=362)
Transactional sex in the past 12 months [2]	6.1 (4.7-7.6) (n=1886)	NA

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Infrequent condom use: never or sometimes use condoms in the past 12 months. Married persons who had sex with only one partner in the past 12 months and who didn't use condom were included in the frequent condom user category.

[2] Transactional sex includes receiving money, gifts, food, or favours in exchange for sex; data for males not available due to a programming error.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

NA=Not applicable.

Females who experienced sexual violence in childhood had significantly higher prevalence of transactional sex in the past 12 months than those who did not (14.8% versus 5.6%). Females who experienced any violence in childhood had significantly higher prevalence of transactional sex than those who did not (11.2% versus 5.2%).

**Table 10.1.2. Sexual risk behaviours by experience of childhood sexual and any childhood violence, among 19-24-year-old females who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Multiple sex partners in the past 12 months	Infrequent condom use in the past 12 months	Transactional sex in the past 12 months
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Sexual violence in childhood [1]</b>			
Experienced sexual violence in childhood	12.2 (4.9-19.5)* (n=103)	52.8 (40.2-65.4) (n=100)	14.8 (7.5-22.1) (n=104)
No sexual violence in childhood	7.4 (5.8-8.9) (n=1786)	45.3 (42.2-48.3) (n=1771)	5.6 (4.2-7.1) (n=1781)
<b>Any violence in childhood [2]</b>			
Experienced any violence in childhood	13.2 (8.7-17.7) (n=293)	53.0 (46.0-60.0) (n=286)	11.2 (7.3-15.1) (n=293)
No violence in childhood	6.7 (5.0-8.3) (n=1597)	44.4 (41.2-47.5) (n=1586)	5.2 (3.7-6.7) (n=1593)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Childhood sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (threats, harassment, or tricking) sex before age 18.

[2] Any childhood violence includes sexual violence, physical violence, or emotional violence before age 18.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## 10.2. HIV TESTING KNOWLEDGE AND BEHAVIOUR

This section describes knowledge of HIV testing services and HIV testing behaviour among females and males overall and among those who experienced any sexual violence, compared to those who did not. Although unwanted sexual touching and unwanted attempted sexual intercourse are considered low risk for direct HIV transmission, those results are still presented, as all forms of sexual violence may increase the risk of HIV indirectly. Data are presented for the age range of 13-24 years, as the age of consent for HIV testing is 12 years old in Eswatini.

Knowledge of where to get an HIV test was high among 13-24-year-olds: 90.7% of females and 87.5% of males knew where to go for an HIV test, and 78.6% of females and 81.0% of males had ever been tested for HIV. Significantly more males than females knew about male circumcision to prevent HIV (females, 85.9%; males, 90.3%). More than four out of five females (84.9%) and males (81.6%) knew about antiretroviral therapy to prevent HIV. Among those who had ever been tested for HIV, 72.5% of females and 74.0% of males had an HIV test 6 months prior or less. Compared to females and males who never experienced sexual violence, respectively, significantly more females and males who experienced sexual violence had ever been tested for HIV (females, 87.7% versus 77.8%; males, 94.8% versus 80.6%).

**Table 10.2.1. HIV prevention, testing, treatment knowledge and behaviour among 13-24-year-olds—  
Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Know where to go for HIV test [1]	90.7 (89.5-91.8) (n=6316)	87.5 (84.7-90.4) (n=1402)
Ever tested for HIV	78.6 (77.1-80.1) (n=6299)	81.0 (78.4-83.7) (n=1395)
Knowledge of male circumcision for HIV prevention	85.9 (84.3-87.6) (n=5091)	90.3 (88.3-92.4) (n=1209)
Knowledge of ART for HIV prevention	84.9 (83.3-86.5) (n=5325)	81.6 (78.3-84.8) (n=1104)
<b>Timing of most recent viral load test [3]</b>		
Less than or equal to 6 months ago	72.5 (60.2-84.8) (n=237)	74.0 (69.0-79.1) (n=30)
More than 6 months ago	27.5 (15.2-39.8) (n=99)	26.0 (20.9-31.0) (n=12)
<b>Know where to go for an HIV test by experience of sexual violence</b>		
Experienced any lifetime sexual violence [2]	92.1 (89.1-95.0) (n=487)	88.2 (77.2-99.2) (n=40)
No lifetime sexual violence	90.6 (89.4-91.8) (n=5827)	87.5 (84.6-90.4) (n=1362)
<b>Ever tested for HIV by experience of sexual violence</b>		
Experienced any lifetime sexual violence	87.7 (83.5-91.9) (n=487)	94.8 (88.7-100.0) (n=40)
No lifetime sexual violence	77.8 (76.2-79.3) (n=5810)	80.6 (77.8-83.4) (n=1355)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Age of consent for HIV testing in Eswatini is 13.

[2] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (threats, harassment, or tricking) sex.

[3] Among those who have ever had viral load test. Timing is calculated by subtracting most recent viral load test date from the date survey was completed. Six months was defined by 180 days.

Among all youth ages 13-24 years, 61.1% of females and 62.0% of males knew of a place to go that offered services for violence. Among those who knew of a place, the proportion of females who knew of specific types of services ranged from 35.5% for a legal professional to 96.2% for police or other security personnel. The proportion of males ranged from 31.7% who knew of a legal professional to go to for help to 96.1% who knew of a doctor, nurse, or other healthcare worker.

Significantly more females than males had ever heard of PrEP to prevent HIV (females, 50.9%; males, 21.8%) and post-exposure prophylaxis for HIV (females, 40.4%; males, 18.4%). Among females who had ever had sex, 81.6% were willing to take PrEP, and 81.0% were willing to take PEP if exposed. Among males who had ever had sex, 78.2% were willing to take PrEP, and 76.3% were willing to take PEP if exposed. Among those who had ever heard of PEP, significantly more females than males knew that PEP must be taken within 72 hours of exposure (females, 68.9%; males, 49.3%). Among females who ever experienced forced or pressured sex, 59.0% had ever heard of PEP, 30.5% had ever taken PEP, and 68.1% had ever taken PrEP.



**Table 10.2.2. Service knowledge and PEP and PrEP awareness among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Among all 13-24-year-olds</b>		
Knowledge of place to seek services for violence	61.1 (58.5-63.6) (n=6262)	62.0 (57.9-66.1) (n=1393)
<b>Among those with current knowledge of a place for violence service</b>		
Knew of a doctor, nurse, or other healthcare worker in a hospital or clinic to go to for help with violence	96.1 (95.2-96.9) (n=3866)	96.1 (94.1-98.1) (n=879)
Knew of police or other security personnel to go to for help with violence	96.2 (95.3-97.1) (n=3867)	94.9 (92.9-96.8) (n=879)
Knew of a legal professional go to for help with violence	35.5 (32.9-38.2) (n=3765)	31.7 (27.0-36.3) (n=871)
Knew of a social worker or counsellor to go to for help with violence	56.6 (53.8-59.4) (n=3807)	43.9 (38.7-49.0) (n=873)
Knew of a community leader/religious leader to go to for help with violence	76.5 (74.3-78.7) (n=3746)	75.4 (69.4-81.4) (n=876)
<b>Among all 13-24-year-olds</b>		
Ever heard of PrEP for HIV	50.9 (48.5-53.3) (n=6291)	21.8 (19.0-24.6) (n=1384)
Ever heard of PEP for HIV	40.4 (38.0-42.9) (n=6296)	18.4 (15.6-21.3) (n=1382)
Willing to take PrEP among those who have ever had sex	81.6 (79.0-84.1) (n=2190)	78.2 (72.1-84.2) (n=450)
Willing to take PEP if exposed	81.0 (78.8-83.1) (n=5843)	76.3 (72.1-80.4) (n=1183)
<b>Among those who have heard of PEP</b>		
Know that PEP must be taken within 72 hours of exposure	68.9 (66.4-71.5) (n=2511)	49.3 (39.9-58.6) (n=250)
<b>Among those who experienced forced or pressured sex</b>		
Ever heard of PEP for HIV	59.0 (49.8-68.3) (n=184)	**
Ever taken PEP	30.5 (19.0-41.9) (n=109)	**
Ever heard of PrEP for HIV	68.1 (60.3-75.9) (n=184)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Among 16-24-year-olds who had ever taken PrEP, 76.9% of females and 79.6% of males were likely to take PrEP again. Among those who were unwilling to take PrEP again, common reasons for females were believing they were low risk for HIV exposure (43.7%) and not liking PrEP (42.0%). Among those who were unlikely to take PrEP again, common reasons for females were not liking the medicine (60.8%) and believing they were low risk for HIV exposure (29.6%). Common reasons for males were not liking the medicine (62.5%) and believing they were low risk for HIV exposure (25.8%).

**Table 10.2.3. Willingness to take PrEP and reasons for not taking PrEP among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Among 16-24-year-olds who have taken PrEP [1]</b>	(n=315)	(n=17)
Likely to take PrEP again [2]	76.9 (71.4-82.4)	79.6 (55.2-100.0)
Not likely to take PrEP again	23.1 (17.6-28.6)	**
<b>Reasons for not being willing to take PrEP again</b>	(n=55)	(n=4)
Low risk for HIV exposure	43.7 (26.8-60.5)	59.0 (5.0-100.0)*
Did not like the medicine	42.0 (26.2-57.9)	**
Worried about stigma/retaliation	<0.1***	<0.1
Too hard to get the medicine	14.3 (3.4-25.2)*	<0.1
Other	<0.1	<0.1
<b>Among 13-24-year-olds who have not taken PrEP</b>	(n=2190)	(n=450)
Would take PrEP to help prevent HIV	81.6 (79.0-84.1)	78.2 (72.1-84.2)
Would not take PrEP to help prevent HIV	18.4 (15.9-21.0)	21.8 (15.8-27.9)
<b>Reasons for not being willing to take PrEP</b>	(n=300)	(n=59)
Low risk for HIV exposure	29.6 (22.7-36.4)	25.8 (13.8-37.8)
Were not interested in the medicine	60.8 (53.2-68.4)	62.5 (48.3-76.6)
Worried about stigma/retaliation	6.9 (1.9-11.8)*	**
Too hard to get the medicine	2.8 (1.0-4.5)*	9.2 (1.5-16.8)*
Other	<0.1	<0.1

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Among those who have ever had sex.

[2] Includes those who are currently on PrEP.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

Among youth ages 13-24 years who ever had sex but were never tested for HIV, a common reason for females was not knowing about the HIV test (26.3%).

**Table 10.2.4. Reasons for not getting tested for HIV, among 13-24-year-olds who ever had sex but were never tested for HIV—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not testing for HIV</b>	(n=68)	(n=36)
No knowledge about HIV test	26.3 (10.8-41.7)	**
Don't know where to get HIV test	**	<0.1***
Transport to test site costs too much	6.1 (0.3-11.9)*	<0.1
Test site too far away	9.6 (1.5-17.6)*	**
Afraid husband/wife/partner will know about test/test results	<0.1	<0.1
Don't need test/low risk	29.1 (10.4-47.9)*	35.3 (8.6-62.0)*
Don't want to know if I have HIV	**	11.7 (2.1-21.2)*
Other	12.4 (3.6-21.2)*	24.3 (7.0-41.6)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### 10.3. HIV STATUS

Among 13-24-year-olds, significantly more females than males were HIV positive (females, 6.6%; males, 3.3%). Among those who were HIV positive, 88.4% of females and 91.9% of males knew their HIV status. Among those who were HIV positive and knew their status, 92.9% of females and 91.3% of males were on ART. Among those on ART, 56.9% of females and 67.3% of males self-reported that they were virally suppressed.

Table 10.3.1. HIV status among 13-24-year-olds and by experience of any lifetime violence and lifetime sexual violence—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Tested positive for HIV [1]	6.6 (5.8-7.4) (n=6118)	3.3 (2.5-4.2) (n=1342)
Knew HIV status, among those living with HIV	88.4 (83.8-93.1) (n=416)	91.9 (83.9-99.8) (n=49)
On ART among those who knew they were living with HIV	92.9 (89.7-96.1) (n=371)	91.3 (79.0-100.0) (n=44)
Self-reported virally suppressed, among those on ART [2]	56.9 (50.1-63.8) (n=308)	67.3 (47.9-86.6) (n=32)
<b>HIV status and any lifetime violence [3]</b>		
HIV positive among those who experienced any lifetime violence	7.4 (5.8-8.9) (n=1543)	3.4 (1.8-5.0) (n=407)
HIV positive among those who experienced no lifetime violence	6.4 (5.5- 7.2) (n=4575)	3.3 (2.2-4.4) (n=935)
<b>HIV status and sexual violence [4]</b>		
HIV positive among those who experienced lifetime sexual violence	9.2 (6.5-12.1) (n=476)	** (n=40)
HIV positive among those who experienced no lifetime sexual violence	6.4 (5.6-7.2) (n=5641)	3.4 (2.5-4.2) (n=1302)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] HIV status determined through HIV rapid test results or self-report of a prior positive HIV test. HIV rapid testing was offered to 13–24-year-old participants who did not report a prior HIV positive result, using the national rapid HIV testing algorithm and country counselling guidelines.

[2] Self-reported most recent viral load test; not laboratory verified.

[3] Any violence includes sexual violence, physical violence, or emotional violence.

[4] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Among youth ages 13-24 years who have ever had a partner, are HIV positive, and whose partner did not know their status, 23.4% of females and 75.3% of males were afraid something bad would happen if their partner found out their HIV status, a statistically significant difference. Among those who were HIV negative, 16.4% of females and 14.5% of males were afraid of a negative experience with their partner.

**Table 10.3.2. Fear of negative experiences related to disclosure to partner of their positive HIV status, among 13–24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Afraid of negative experience [1] from HIV disclosure to intimate partner, among those who are HIV positive, and partner does not know their status	23.4 (11.8-35.0) (n=51)	75.3 (45.1-100.0) (n=4)
Afraid of negative experience from HIV disclosure to intimate partner, among those who are HIV negative	16.4 (13.4-19.3) (n=1738)	14.5 (9.9-19.1) (n=356)

Note: CI=confidence interval

[1] Negative experience includes being afraid that anything bad will happen if the partner finds out about HIV status, such as partner hurting you physically or emotionally, neglecting you, leaving you, or publicly humiliating you.

## SECTION 11: VIOLENCE PERPETRATION

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Prevalence of violence perpetration

- More males (12.7%) than females (3.3%) ever perpetrated physical violence.
- Among females, experiencing sexual violence and physical violence were associated with higher prevalence of perpetrating physical violence.
- Among males, experiencing physical violence was associated with higher prevalence of perpetrating physical violence.

This section presents the prevalence of physical and sexual violence perpetration among 13-24-year-old females and males. Here, physical violence perpetration includes physical violence against any victim, defined as slapping, pushing, shoving, shaking, pulling hair, twisting arm, pinching, intentionally throwing something at to hurt, choking, smothering, trying to drown, burning intentionally, using or threatening the participant with a knife/bush knife, gun, or other weapon. This section also presents data on perpetration of violence by experiences of sexual and physical violence. Participants were asked if they had ever perpetrated these forms of violence, so it is not possible to determine when the perpetration happened in relation to timing of experiences of violence victimization.

### 11.1. PHYSICAL VIOLENCE PERPETRATION

Among 13-24-year-olds, significantly more males than females ever perpetrated physical violence (females, 3.3%; males, 12.7%), and perpetrated physical violence in the past 12 months (females, 1.1%; males, 3.0%). Females who experienced sexual violence were significantly more likely than those who did not experience sexual violence to have perpetrated physical violence (11.7% versus 2.5%). Females who experienced physical violence were significantly more likely than those who did not experience physical violence to have perpetrated physical violence (16.7% versus 1.7%). Males who experienced childhood physical violence were significantly more likely than those who did not to perpetrate physical violence (43.3% versus 3.4%).

**Table 11.1. Physical violence perpetration among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Ever perpetrated physical violence [1]	3.3 (2.6-3.9) (n=6314)	12.7 (9.1-16.3) (n=1402)
Perpetrated physical violence in the past 12 months	1.1 (0.8-1.4) (n=6314)	3.0 (1.8-4.2) (n=1402)
<b>Prevalence of lifetime physical violence perpetration by experience of sexual violence [2]</b>		
Experienced sexual violence	11.7 (8.1-15.4) (n=487)	17.3 (4.3-30.4)* (n=40)
No sexual violence	2.5 (2.0-3.0) (n=5825)	12.5 (8.8-16.2) (n=1362)
<b>Prevalence of lifetime physical violence perpetration by experience of physical violence [3]</b>		
Experienced physical violence	16.7 (13.1-20.3) (n=660)	43.3 (34.0-52.5) (n=322)
No physical violence	1.7 (1.3-2.1) (n=5655)	3.4 (2.1-4.7) (n=1080)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Violence perpetration includes: slapped, pushed, shoved, shook, or intentionally threw something at; punched, kicked, whipped, or beat with an object; choked, suffocated, tried to drown, or burned intentionally; threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

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[2] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (threats, harassment, or tricking) sex.

[3] Physical violence includes: punching, slapping, kicking, whipping, lashing, poking with an object, choking, smothering, trying to drown, burning intentionally, using or threatening to use a gun, knife, screwdriver, softball bat, knobkerrie, gun, or other weapon.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution

## SECTION 12: CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Characteristics associated with experiencing physical or sexual violence among 13-17-year-olds

- Both females and males who witnessed violence at home had higher prevalence of violence than females and males who did not witness violence at home.
- Females who had a disability had higher prevalence of violence than females who did not have a disability.
- Males who worked in the past 12 months had higher prevalence of violence than males who did not work.

#### Characteristics associated with experiencing physical or sexual violence among 18-24-year-olds

- Females who completed primary school or less had higher prevalence of violence than females who had more than a secondary school education.
- Females who witnessed violence at home had higher prevalence of violence than females who did not witness violence at home.
- Females who were married or cohabiting had higher prevalence of violence than females who were unmarried and not cohabiting.
- Males who were non-orphans had higher prevalence of violence than male orphans.
- Males who witnessed violence at home had higher prevalence of violence than males who did not witness violence at home.
- Males who had a disability had higher prevalence of violence than males who did not have a disability.

This section describes associations between demographic characteristics and experiences of physical or sexual violence in the past 12 months, among youth ages 13-17 and 18-24. Demographic characteristics included orphan status (losing one or both parents before age 18), school attendance or completion, working in the past 12 months, witnessing violence at home and in the community, food or material insecurity, and disability status.

### 12.1. CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE AMONG 13-17-YEAR-OLDS

Females who witnessed violence at home had higher prevalence of experiencing violence than those who did not witness violence at home (21.4% versus 6.5%). Females with a disability had higher prevalence of violence than females without a disability (17.3% versus 6.4%). Males who worked in the past year had higher prevalence of violence than males who did not work (26.6% versus 9.2%). Males who witnessed violence at home had significantly higher prevalence of violence than males who did not witness violence (29.3% versus 8.8%).

**Table 12.1.** Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by select characteristics among 13-17-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Violence and orphan status (lost one or both parents in childhood) [1]</b>		
Violence among orphans	8.2 (5.7-10.7) (n=615)	12.9 (4.8-20.9)* (n=114)
Violence among non-orphans	8.2 (6.6-9.7) (n=2346)	11.9 (7.5-16.3) (n=515)

**Table 12.1. Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by select characteristics among 13-17-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females	Males
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Violence and school attendance</b>		
Violence among those not attending school	12.1 (6.8-17.4) (n=224)	19.6 (5.7-33.5) (n=49)
Violence among those attending school	7.7 (6.4-8.9) (n=2885)	11.5 (7.7-15.3) (n=614)
<b>Violence and working for money or other payment in the past year</b>		
Violence among youth who worked	8.1 (2.9-13.2)* (n=104)	26.6 (16.4-36.9) (n=97)
Violence among youth who did not work	8.0 (6.7-9.2) (n=3022)	9.2 (5.3-13.1) (n=572)
<b>Violence and witnessing violence at home</b>		
Violence among youth who witnessed violence at home	21.4 (15.6-27.2) (n=335)	29.3 (19.5-39.0) (n=104)
Violence among youth who did not witness violence at home	6.5 (5.3-7.7) (n=2782)	8.8 (5.4-12.2) (n=562)
<b>Violence and food or material insecurity</b>		
Violence among youth who experienced food insecurity	9.1 (7.3-10.8) (n=1738)	14.9 (9.5-20.2) (n=398)
Violence among youth who did not experience food insecurity	6.6 (4.8-8.5) (n=1286)	7.6 (3.9-11.4) (n=247)
<b>Violence and disability</b>		
Violence among youth with a disability	17.3 (13.1-21.5) (n=437)	16.3 (6.2-26.4)* (n=79)
Violence among youth with no disability	6.4 (5.1-7.7) (n=2690)	11.4 (7.4-15.4) (n=590)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Violence includes sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## 12.2. CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE AMONG 18-24-YEAR-OLDS

Females who had a primary education or less had significantly higher prevalence of violence compared with females who completed more than secondary school (15.9% versus 6.6%). Females who witnessed violence at home had higher prevalence of violence than those who did not witness violence at home (22.9% versus 6.8%). Females who were married or cohabiting had significantly higher prevalence of violence than those who were unmarried (16.6% versus 7.3%). Among males, non-orphans had higher prevalence of violence than orphans (9.9% versus 6.5%). Males who witnessed violence at home had significantly higher prevalence of violence than those who did not witness violence (23.5% versus 6.3%).



**Table 12.2. Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by select characteristics among 18-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	<b>Females</b>	<b>Males</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Violence and orphan status (lost one or both parents in childhood) [1]</b>		
Violence among orphans	9.6 (7.2-12.0) (n=1048)	6.5 (2.8-10.1) (n=222)
Violence among non-orphans	7.7 (5.8-9.6) (n=1979)	9.9 (7.1-12.6) (n=483)
<b>Violence by level of education</b>		
Violence among youth who completed primary school or less	15.9 (9.9-21.9) (n=325)	9.4 (4.9-13.9) (n=91)
Violence among youth who completed secondary school	9.7 (6.9-12.5) (n=824)	14.0 (9.0-19.0) (n=196)
Violence among youth who completed more than secondary school	6.6 (5.1-8.0) (n=2039)	6.3 (3.7-9.0) (n=439)
<b>Violence and working for money or other payment in the 12 months</b>		
Violence among youth who worked	8.3 (5.8-10.8) (n=723)	13.0 (7.5-18.5) (n=270)
Violence among youth who did not work	8.2 (6.4-10.0) (n=2464)	6.6 (4.0-9.2) (n=463)
<b>Violence and witnessed violence at home</b>		
Violence among youth who witnessed violence at home	22.9 (15.5-30.4) (n=272)	23.5 (14.6-32.3) (n=105)
Violence among youth who did not witness violence at home	6.8 (5.6-8.1) (n=2918)	6.3 (4.3-8.3) (n=628)
<b>Violence and marriage or cohabitation</b>		
Violence among youth who have ever been married or cohabited	16.6 (11.8-21.4) (n=345)	19.9 (5.5-34.3)* (n=26)
Violence among youth who have never been married or cohabited	7.3 (5.7-8.8) (n=2841)	8.5 (6.4-10.6) (n=707)
<b>Violence and food insecurity</b>		
Violence among youth who experienced food insecurity	9.4 (7.4-11.5) (n=1918)	9.6 (6.7-12.5) (n=453)
Violence among youth who did not experience food insecurity	6.2 (4.4-8.0) (n=1239)	7.5 (3.7-11.4) (n=271)
<b>Violence and disability</b>		
Violence among youth with a disability	13.1 (8.5-17.6) (n=416)	20.0 (11.9-28.1) (n=85)
Violence among youth without a disability	7.5 (6.0-9.0) (n=2775)	7.5 (5.4-9.6) (n=648)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis

[1] Violence includes sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 13: HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMMING

### SECTION SUMMARY

- Among adolescent girls and young women who lived in DREAMS areas, knowledge of HIV prevention programming ranged from 7.9% for Stepping Stones to 25.4% for DREAMS on Wheels.
- About one in six females were current (9.9%) or former (5.2%) DREAMS participants or participants in other similar HIV prevention programming.
- Nearly three out of four males (73.4%) ages 15-24 years were circumcised.

Eswatini has observed a substantial decline in new HIV infections over the years due to the country's successful HIV policy and program response. However, adolescent girls and young women continue to acquire new HIV infection at an unacceptably high rate. In response, Eswatini optimizes community and clinical service platforms to reach adolescents and youth as a key demographic for HIV prevention services.

HIV prevention programs provide individuals with the tools they need to stay healthy, and to interrupt HIV transmission. Eswatini continues to evolve its programming to ensure that high-impact prevention interventions are adapted and targeted to priority populations. These interventions include DREAMS programming, VMMC, PrEP, and PEP, all of which are aimed at reducing risk of HIV acquisition.

### 13.1. KNOWLEDGE OF AND PARTICIPATION IN DREAMS OR OTHER HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMMING AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN

DREAMS is a partnership that focuses on reducing HIV among adolescent girls and young women. PEPFAR partners with government and civil society organizations to implement DREAMS by employing a layered approach of synergistic interventions that target the multiple spheres of risk that adolescent girls and young women face. The DREAMS core interventions include empowering adolescent girls and young women and reducing their HIV risk, strengthening the family and contributing to positive parenting, characterizing and addressing risks of sexual partners, and mobilizing the surrounding community to change norms and improve educational attainment for girls. In Eswatini, DREAMS works closely with other HIV prevention programs and services prioritizing adolescent girls and young women, such as Stepping Stones, to ensure complementarity and to optimize population reach.

Among females ages 13-24 years in DREAMS areas, 25.4% were familiar with DREAMS on Wheels, 15.2% were familiar with Likusasa Ngeletfu, and 11.4% were familiar with Insika ya Kusasa. Most (84.9%) had never participated in DREAMS nor any other similar AGYW HIV prevention programming, while 9.9% were current DREAMS participants and 5.2% were former participants. Among current and former DREAMS participants or other similar AGYW HIV prevention programming participants, 68.8% participated for 1 year or more.

**Table 13.1. Knowledge of and participation in AGYW HIV prevention programming among 13-24-year-old females in DREAMS areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Females
	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Knowledge of AGYW HIV prevention programming interventions</b>	
Insika ya Kusasa curriculum	11.4 (9.6-13.1) (n=6776)

**Table 13.1. Knowledge of and participation in AGYW HIV prevention programming among 13-24-year-old females in DREAMS areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	<b>Females</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Likusasa Ngeletfu	15.2 (13.6-16.8) (n=6256)
Phila Unotse	8.4 (7.2-9.5) (n=6260)
Stepping Stones	7.9 (6.7-9.0) (n=6262)
DREAMS on Wheels	25.4 (23.1-27.7) (n=6283)
<b>Participation in AGYW HIV prevention programming</b>	(n=6300)
Current participant in AGYW HIV prevention programming	9.9 (8.4-11.4)
Former participant in AGYW HIV prevention programming	5.2 (4.3-6.0)
Never a participant in AGYW HIV prevention programming	84.9 (83.1-86.8)
<b>Length of participation in AGYW HIV prevention programming [1]</b>	(n=817)
Less than 1 year	31.2 (26.1-36.4)
One year or more	68.8 (63.6-73.9)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Length of participation for those currently enrolled in the program was calculated using the date the interview was completed as the end date; among those who were current or former participants.

### 13.2. HISTORY OF CIRCUMCISION AMONG ADOLESCENT BOYS AND YOUNG MEN

VMMC significantly reduces the risk of HIV acquisition for men and is a cost-effective and impactful HIV prevention intervention. Programs such as PEPFAR, have shifted to focusing on supporting VMMC among males 15 years and older due to safety considerations for those younger than 15 years of age. Further programmatic prioritization of VMMC among the youth and young men 15-29 years has been done to accelerate the prevention-related impact of the intervention, as these males are often the source of transmission to AGYW. Among males ages 15-24 years, 73.4% were circumcised. Among those who were circumcised, 99.2% of circumcisions were done by a health care provider, and 41.3% were done by a traditional practitioner. Among circumcised males, 56.7% were circumcised at ages 10-14 years. Among uncircumcised males, 23.6% plan to get circumcised in the next 6 months.

**Table 13.2. Circumcision among 15-24-year-old males– Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	<b>Males</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Circumcised	73.4 (69.8-77.0) (n=1134)
<b>Circumcision provider [1,2]</b>	(n=838)
Circumcised by a traditional practitioner	41.3 (32.7-49.8)
Circumcised by a health care provider	99.2 (98.4-99.9)
<b>Age of circumcision [1]</b>	(n=838)
10 years or younger	4.1 (2.6-5.6)
11-14 years	56.7 (52.1-61.3)
15-19 years	36.1 (31.6-40.7)
20-24 years	3.1 (1.5-4.6)
Plan to get circumcised in the next 6 months [3]	23.6 (16.3-30.8) (n=285)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Among males who were circumcised.

[2] Circumcision by traditional practitioner and healthcare provider are not mutually exclusive due to how the questions were asked.

[3] Among males who were not circumcised.

## SECTION 14: COMPARISON OF 2007 ESWATINI VACS AND 2022 ESWATINI VACS RESULTS

### SECTION SUMMARY

#### Differences in prevalence of lifetime sexual violence among females from 2007 to 2022

- There were significant reductions in pressured or physically forced sex at sexual debut.
- There were significant reductions in prevalence of lifetime sexual violence, as well as prevalence of every type of sexual violence.

#### Differences in prevalence of childhood sexual violence among females from 2007 to 2022

- There were significant reductions in prevalence of childhood sexual violence, as well as prevalence of every type of sexual violence.

#### Differences in HIV testing and HIV status from 2007 to 2022

- There were significant increases in the proportion of females who were ever tested for HIV.

This section presents a comparison of prevalence estimates of sexual, physical, and emotional violence and other priority indicators obtained from the 2007 Eswatini VACS and the 2022 Eswatini VACS.

### 14.1. DIFFERENCES IN SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVALENCE AMONG FEMALES BETWEEN 2007 AND 2022

There was a significant decline in the prevalence of pressured or physically forced sex at sexual debut from 54.7% in 2007 to 16.7% in 2022 among females ages 13-24 years. There were also statistically significant declines in all forms of lifetime sexual violence, including any sexual violence (48.9% to 8.1%), unwanted sexual touching (24.3% to 4.6%), unwanted attempted sex (27.7% to 3.7%), pressured sex (18.0% to 1.7%), and physically forced sex (7.0% to 2.2%).

**Table 14.1.1. Differences in prevalence of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females—Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS) 2007 and 2022.**

	2007		2022		p-value
	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	
Pressured or physically forced sex [1] at first sexual experience	646	54.7 (47.1-62.4)	2616	16.7 (14.5-18.8)	<0.001
<b>Differences in prevalence of lifetime sexual violence [2]</b>					
Any sexual violence	1242	48.9 (44.7-53)	6316	8.1 (7-9.2)	<0.001
Unwanted sexual touching	1237	24.3 (21.0-27.7)	6312	4.6 (3.8-5.3)	<0.001
Unwanted attempted sex	1239	27.7 (24.3-31.1)	6312	3.7 (3.0-4.2)	<0.001
Pressured sex [3]	1238	18.0 (14.3-21.8)	6308	1.7 (1.2-2.1)	<0.001
Physically forced sex	1239	7.0 (5.4-8.6)	6311	2.2 (1.8-2.6)	<0.001

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Pressured or physically forced sex: in 2007 includes being persuaded, tricked, forced to have sex, or was raped; in 2022 includes being persuaded, pressured, or forced to have sex. Sexual intercourse in 2007 includes “vaginal or anal intercourse” and in 2022 includes “vaginal, oral, or anal sex or the insertion of hands, fingers, or other objects into your vagina or anus by someone else.”

[2] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[3] Pressured sex: in 2022 includes feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

The prevalence of childhood sexual violence also declined significantly among females ages 18-24 years, including any childhood sexual violence (37.7% to 5.5%), unwanted sexual touching (14.1% to 2.7%), unwanted attempted sex (20.8% to 2.8%), pressured sex (12.0% to 0.9%), and physically forced sex (7.4% to 1.8%).

**Table 14.1.2. Differences in prevalence of sexual violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females—Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS) 2007 and 2022.**

	2007		2022		p-value
	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	
Any childhood sexual violence [1]	669	37.7 (33.3-42.1)	3189	5.5 (4.5-6.5)	<0.001
Unwanted sexual touching	665	14.1 (11.2-17.1)	3182	2.7 (1.9-3.4)	<0.001
Unwanted attempted sex	668	20.8 (17.1-24.4)	3187	2.8 (2.0-3.6)	<0.001
Pressured sex [2]	667	12.0 (9.1-14.9)	3180	0.9 (0.5-1.2)	<0.001
Physically forced sex	668	7.4 (5.0-9.8)	3182	1.8 (1.3-2.3)	<0.001

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

Among 13-17-year-olds, there were significant declines in any sexual violence in the past 12 months (16.3% to 2.7%), unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months (7.5% to 1.9%), and unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months (7.9% to 0.8%).

**Table 14.1.3. Differences in prevalence of different types of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-17-year-old females—Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS) 2007 and 2022**

	2007		2022		p-value
	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	
Any sexual violence [1] in the past 12 months	573	16.3 (12.6-20.0)	3127	2.7 (2.0-3.4)	<0.001
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	570	7.5 (5.2-9.7)	3125	1.9 (1.3-2.5)	<0.001
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	570	7.9 (5.4-10.4)	3124	0.8 (0.5-1.2)	<0.001
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	571	3.4 (1.3-5.4)	3121	0.3 (0.1-0.5)	0.005
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	571	1.0 (0.2-1.8)	3124	0.4 (0.2-0.6)	0.143

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

## 14.2. DIFFERENCES IN PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE PREVALENCE AMONG FEMALES BETWEEN 2007 AND 2022

There were significant declines in the prevalence of physical violence by an adult from 2007 to 2022, including in lifetime physical violence among females ages 13-24 years (30.6% to 5.1%), and childhood physical violence among females ages 18-24 years (22.0% to 3.9%). There were also significant declines in the prevalence of emotional violence by an adult, including lifetime emotional violence among females ages 13-24 years (30.3%

to 4.6%), and childhood emotional violence among females ages 18-24 years (22.8% to 2.7%). Due to variation in question wording between 2007 and 2022, these differences should be interpreted with caution.

**Table 14.2. Differences in prevalence of physical and emotional violence by an adult, among 13-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children Survey (VACS) 2007 and 2022.**

	2007		2022		p-value
	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	
<b>Physical violence by an adult [1]</b>					
Lifetime physical violence by an adult, among 13-24-year-olds	1234	30.6 (27.0-34.3)	6318	5.1 (4.3-6.0)	<0.001
Childhood physical violence by an adult, among 18-24-year-olds	663	22.0 (17.9-26.1)	3191	3.9 (2.9-4.9)	<0.001
<b>Emotional violence by an adult [2]</b>					
Lifetime emotional violence by an adult, among 13-24-year-olds	1240	30.3 (27.1-33.6)	6318	4.6 (3.8-5.3)	<0.001
Childhood emotional violence by an adult, among 18-24-year-olds	668	22.8 (18.6-27.0)	3180	2.7 (1.9-3.5)	<0.001

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Differences between 2007 and 2022 physical violence question wording should be considered when drawing comparisons.

2007 Question: "Has any adult ever kicked, bitten, slapped, hit you with a fist, threatened you with a weapon, such as a knife, stick, or a gun, or thrown something at you?"

2022 Question: "Has a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative ever: A. slapped, pushed, shoved, shook, or intentionally threw something at you to hurt you? B. punched, kicked, whipped, or beat you with an object? C. choked, smothered, tried to drown you, or burned you intentionally? D. used or threatened you with a knife/bush knife, gun, or other weapon?"

[2] Differences between 2007 and 2022 emotional violence question wording should be considered when drawing comparisons.

2007 Question: "When you were growing up, did any adults scare you or make you feel really bad because they called you names, said mean things to you, or said they didn't want you?"

2022 Question: "Has a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative ever: told you that you were not loved, or did not deserve to be loved? Said they wished you had never been born or were dead? Ridiculed you or put you down, for example, said that you were stupid or useless, good for nothing, or big-headed?"

### 14.3. DIFFERENCES IN HIV TESTING AND HIV STATUS AMONG FEMALES BETWEEN 2007 AND 2022

From 2007 to 2022, there was a significant increase in the proportion of females ages 15-24 years who were ever tested for HIV, from 41.0% to 87.8%. These increases were significant for all female age groups. There was also a significant decline in being HIV positive, from 12.1% to 7.5%.

**Table 14.3.** Comparisons of HIV testing and self-reported HIV status among 15-24-year-olds—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2007 and 2022.

	2007 VACS		2022 VACS		p-value
	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	n	Weighted % (95% CI)	
<b>15-24-year-olds</b>					
Ever tested for HIV	968	41.0 (36.7-45.20)	4987	87.8 (86.5-89.0)	<0.001
Self-reported HIV positive	338	12.1 (7.8-16.43)	4330	7.5 (6.5-8.5)	0.0490
<b>15-19-year-olds</b>					
Ever tested for HIV	560	29.4 (24.3-34.5)	2833	80.2 (78.2-82.2)	<0.001
Self-reported HIV positive	134	8.4 (3.5-13.4)	2239	5.2 (4.2-6.2)	0.211
<b>20-24-year-olds</b>					
Ever tested for HIV	408	57.8 (52.1-63.5)	2154	96.5 (95.4-97.6)	<0.001
Self-reported HIV positive	204	14.6 (8.6-20.6)	2091	9.7 (8.2-11.2)	0.129

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.



## SECTION 15: HOUSEHOLD COVID-19 PANDEMIC INDICATORS

This section presents a summary of information about ways the COVID-19 pandemic affected households in Eswatini.

### 15.1. HOUSEHOLDS COVID-19-RELATED EXPERIENCES

About 61% of households with a 13–24-year-old in Eswatini experienced increased stress about food since the COVID-19 pandemic started. In nine out of 10 households and youth, adults were with children some, most, or all of the time when school closed due to the pandemic. Households experienced various economic and other stressors due to the COVID-19 pandemic; about 56.3% of households experienced food insecurity and 50.2% experienced decreased access to necessities. In addition, 10.5% of households had difficulty paying rent/mortgage, 14.2% had interruptions in childcare (in households with children) and 28.3% experienced job loss or change in employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. About one in five (19.9%) households said someone tested positive for COVID-19. Among households where someone tested positive for COVID-19, 26.0% said someone was hospitalized and in those households where someone was hospitalized due to COVID-19, death occurred in 19.3% in those households.

**Table 15.1. COVID-19-related [1] experiences Among Households with 13-24-year-olds– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Overall
	Weighted % (95% CI)
Head of household stress about food increased since COVID-19 pandemic started	61.1 (59.1-63.1) (n= 7697)
Adults were with children some, most, or all of the time the last time school closed due to COVID-19 pandemic	92.4 (91.1-93.8) (n= 7552)
<b>Person who supervised children during COVID-19 pandemic school closures</b>	(n= 4825)
Head of household (not parent)	66.4 (63.5-69.2)
Parent/guardian	47.8 (44.4-51.1)
Other [2]	15.3 (13.4-17.3)
<b>Economic and other stressors due to the COVID-19 pandemic</b>	
Experienced food insecurity	56.3 (53.7-58.8) (n=7702)
Decreased access to necessities	50.2 (47.7-52.7) (n= 7671)
Difficulty paying rent/mortgage	10.5 (8.8-12.1) (n=7661)
Evicted due to difficulty paying rent/mortgage	3.7 (3.0-4.4) (n=7653)
Interruption in childcare	14.2 (12.6-15.8) (n=6653)
Job loss or change	28.3 (26.3-30.2) (n=7701)
Marital separation or divorce	1.6 (1.3-1.9) (n=7707)
Separation from home for reasons such as sickness, quarantine, hospitalization, job search, or travel restrictions	8.0 (7.2-8.8) (n=7712)

**Table 15.1. COVID-19-related [1] experiences Among Households with 13-24-year-olds– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022.**

	Overall
	Weighted % (95% CI)
Positive COVID-19 test in household	19.9 (18.3-21.5) (n=7705)
<b>Household member who tested positive for COVID-19</b>	<b>(n=1495)</b>
Head of household	51.4 (47.7-55.1)
Parent	22.5 (19.3-25.8)
Youth him/herself	16.3 (13.8-18.8)
Other household members	41.8 (37.9-45.6)
Households with COVID-19 hospitalizations, among households with someone who tested positive for COVID-19	26.0 (22.8-29.1) (n=1494)
<b>Household member who was hospitalized due to COVID-19 [3]</b>	<b>(n=366)</b>
Head of household	51.2 (43.7-58.6)
Parent	20.9 (15.5-26.2)
Youth him/herself	5.0 (2.4-7.7)
Other household members	34.2 (26.7-41.6)
Household COVID-19 deaths, among households with someone who tested positive for COVID-19	5.6 (3.4 –7.3) (n=1495)
<b>Household member who died due to COVID-19 [3,4]</b>	<b>(n=91)</b>
Head of household	26.0 (12.0-39.9)
Parent	12.4 (5.7-19.0)
Other household members	61.5 (46.5-76.5)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Other includes: other adult household member; other non-adult (under age 18 household member or children self-supervised); adult friend, neighbour, relative (outside household; non-adult friend, neighbour, relative (outside household); day care center, and other.

[3] Among those who tested positive for COVID.

[4] Participants may select more than one person in household who may have died.

## SECTION 16: DISCUSSION

The 2022 Eswatini VACS provides the second nationally representative data on the prevalence and epidemiology of sexual, physical, and emotional violence among 13-24-year-old female since the 2007 Eswatini VACS and the first nationally representative data on male youth in Eswatini. This report describes the burden and contexts of, and health conditions associated with violence against children, adolescents, and young adults. It also explores the overlap between sexual, physical, and emotional violence and the services sought and utilized for incidents of sexual violence and physical violence. The wealth of information provided by the VACS can guide prevention and response efforts that are uniquely adapted to the context of Eswatini.

VACS results show that about one out of four (25.5%) females and nearly one out of three males (31.7%) experienced any violence in childhood. Physical violence in childhood is common: 14.3% of males and 5.1% of females experience it before age 18. One in eighteen young adult females (5.5%) experienced sexual violence in childhood. The health risks associated with violence include mental distress, intentional self-harm, suicidal ideation, binge drinking, smoking, and STI symptoms or diagnosis. These findings confirm what is already acknowledged in Eswatini, that violence is common among children and warrants attention in prevention and response strategies.

In comparison to the 2007 Eswatini VACS, there have been substantial improvements in reducing the prevalence of violence among females. There were statistically significant reductions in childhood and lifetime sexual violence, as well as every type of sexual violence in children, adolescents, and youth. There were also significant declines in prevalence of physical violence by an adult among females ages 13-24. The prevalence of emotional violence by an adult significantly declined, including lifetime emotional violence against females ages 13-24 years and childhood emotional violence among females ages 18-24 years. Additionally, HIV testing indicators more than doubled in females ages 13-24, from 33.0% to 76.3%, and females ages 13-17 years old were seven times more likely to test for HIV, from 8.2% to 57.7%. Though there is still opportunity for improvement, these findings show the progress Eswatini has made over the years.

Though VACS has shown decreased prevalence of sexual, physical, and emotional violence in children, adolescents, and youth over time, there is still additional work to be done. The VACS findings suggest that family-focused interventions-including those that strengthen parent and caregiver skills-have the potential to address risk factors for violence including family members as perpetrators and the home settings as common locations for violence. In addition, victims are most likely to disclose violence to family members. Males and females who witness violence in their home had higher prevalence of violence among ages 13-17, as well as 18-24 year-olds. This data will be further investigated as part of the data to action plan.

### 16.1. STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS

The VACS is Eswatini's second nationally representative data on the burden of sexual, physical, and emotional violence against children and youth. There are important strengths and limitations to consider when interpreting the data. The sampling strategy ensured the data are nationally representative. Random sampling using a stratified three-stage cluster design allowed for calculation of weighted estimates. Another strength of the survey is the level of detail obtained on the context of violence. The rich, contextualized data in the VACS can inform programmatic and policy strategies to address violence. Another strength of the VACS is that it relies on a core questionnaire that is consistent across countries. This allows for cross-country comparison and facilitates interpretation of findings as they can be assessed within a global context. Most importantly, the thorough engagement with the Eswatini government agencies, partners, and stakeholders throughout the process of planning the VACS can bolster country ownership of the data and results, encouraging efforts to use the data to prevent and respond to violence against children and youth in Eswatini.

There are also limitations that must be considered. Because the VACS is a household survey, some vulnerable populations have been excluded or missed, such as children residing in residential care and those living on the

street. Additionally, because VACS is interviewer-administered, certain types of disabilities disqualified participants from participation, such as being deaf. The findings from VACS are generalizable to the population of youth residing in households in Eswatini but not in other contexts. The implementation of the survey was timed during school holidays in order to reach children who were living in school hostels, however some children may have been missed. Children were also excluded from the study if they had a severe disability, or language barrier, that prevented them from understanding or responding to the interview questions, or from being interviewed in private. These children are known to be among the most vulnerable groups for violence. Future studies should address the burden of violence among these special populations.

An additional limitation is that the survey only collects contextual information on the first and most recent episodes of each type of violence, when individuals reported multiple instances of a form of violence. This potentially results in missing important contextual detail on certain violent events affecting participants. The VACS is also vulnerable to recall bias. The study does not include participants over the age of 24 years old to maximize the participants' ability to recall events from childhood. However, there is still a chance that participants do not accurately recall the details of their past victimization experiences.

Another possible limitation is that some participants may not have been comfortable disclosing personal and sensitive life experiences with strangers, thus providing an underestimate of certain experiences. The survey was only conducted if interviewers could ensure privacy to improve participants' feelings of safety. Interviewers underwent extensive training on how to maximize rapport with participants. Finally, the survey moved through sensitive questions in a graduated manner to help comfort participants and facilitate trust-building with their interviewer. These strategies were in place to facilitate disclosure.

## **16.2. CONCLUSIONS**

The 2022 Eswatini VACS provides powerful information that can be used to inform violence prevention and response efforts. The dedication of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and its stakeholders signifies a strong commitment to using the findings of the Eswatini VACS to make significant gains in the prevention of and response to violence against children. The results of the survey offer an opportunity for Eswatini to lead the way in addressing the problem of violence against children, by focusing on immediate and future prevention and response programs. Fostering partnerships among multisectoral government agencies, non-governmental organizations and international technical experts is critical in the development and implementation of the national response.

## SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX A: SAMPLING AND WEIGHTING METHODS

### A1. STUDY DESIGN AND SAMPLING

The master frame for the Eswatini VACS included 2,014 PSUs from the census data initially compiled by the CSO of Eswatini for the 2017 Population and Household Census. Among the female PSUs, 6,318 interviews were completed among 6,716 surveyed households. In male PSUs, 1,402 interviews were completed among 1,571 surveyed households.

**Table A1.1. Sample size by age and analytic subgroups—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022**

Domain	Ages 13-17	Ages 18-24	Total
<b>National</b>			
Males	669	733	1402
Females	3127	3191	6318
<b>Regional (Females only)</b>			
Hhohho	678	801	1479
Lubombo	906	827	1733
Manzini	827	726	1553
Shiselweni	716	837	1553
<b>DREAMS Areas</b>			
Hhohho	507	624	1131
Lubombo	627	566	1193
Manzini	546	683	1229
Shiselweni	495	466	961

The four regions, Hhohho, Lubombo, Manzini, and Shiselweni-oversampled females. DREAMS areas within each region also oversampled females to produce regional indicators for DREAMS areas within each region. Completed interviews for females totalled 1,479 in Hhohho, 1,733 in Lubombo, 1,553 in Manzini, and 1,553 in Shiselweni. In addition, 1,131 female interviews were completed in DREAMS areas within Hhohho, 1,193 in DREAMS areas within Lubombo, 1,229 in DREAMS areas within Manzini, and 961 in DREAMS areas within Shiselweni. Tables A1.1 and A1.2 reflects the sample size by age group and domain.

**Table A1.2: Allocation of the 353 PSUs by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.**

Region	Male PSUs			Female PSUs		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Hhohho DREAMS	6	11	17	20	35	55
Hhohho Non-DREAMS	0	4	4	0	14	14
Lubombo DREAMS	2	9	11	12	40	52
Lubombo Non-DREAMS	0	2	2	5	12	17
Manzini DREAMS	2	16	18	7	48	55
Manzini Non-DREAMS	0	4	4	1	13	14
Shiselweni DREAMS	1	7	8	7	37	44
Shiselweni Non-DREAMS	0	5	5	1	32	33
<b>Total (353)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>284</b>

### A2. RESPONSE RATES

Figures A2.1 and A2.2 show household and individual response rates for national samples. The household and individual disposition codes were used to compute the household-level and individual level response as per the below formulas.

$$\text{Household – Level Response Rate} = \frac{[1] + [2]}{[1] + [2] + [4] + [6]}$$

**Where:**

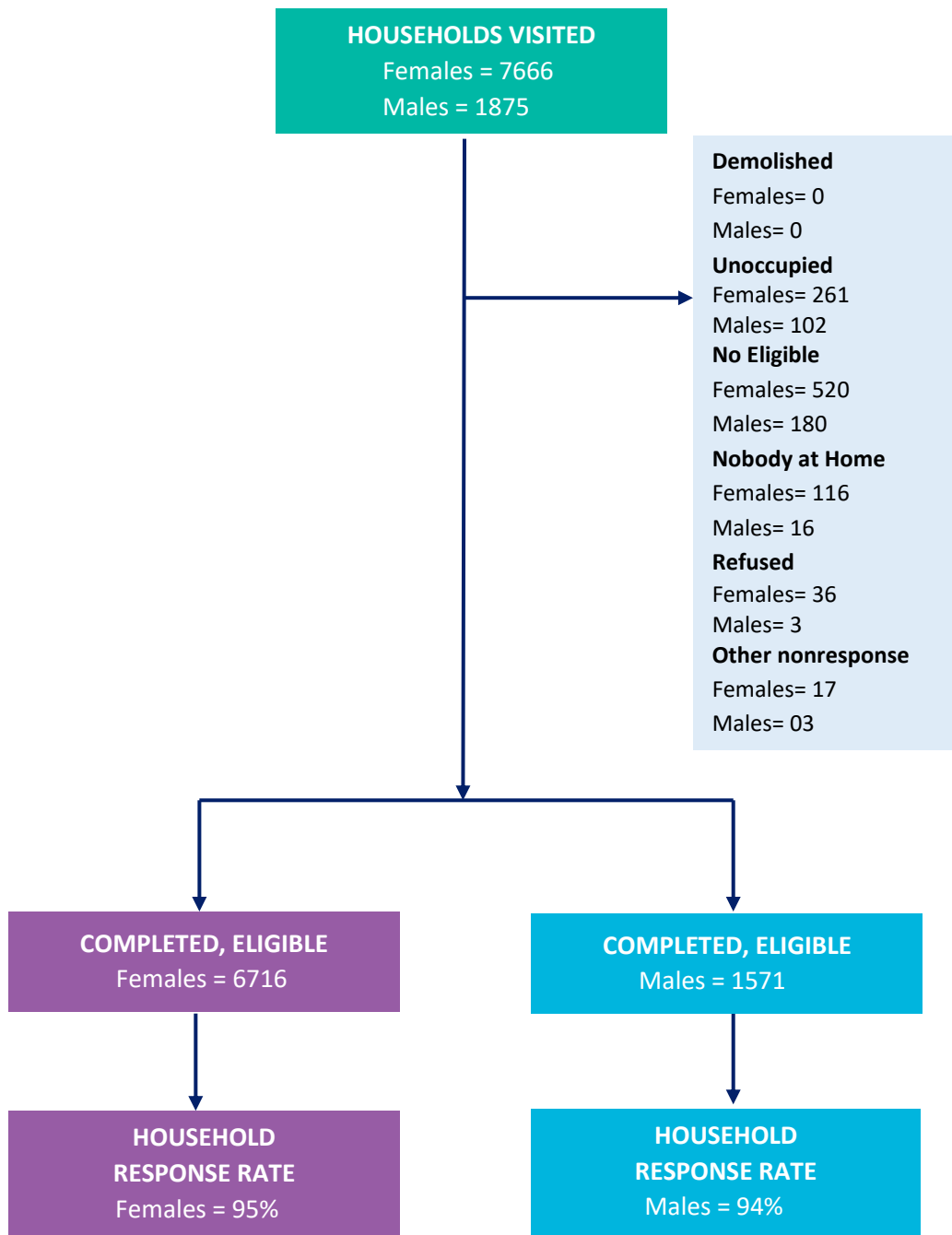
- [1] = Completed Household Survey, 1 person selected
- [2] = Completed Household Survey, no eligible in household
- [3] = Unoccupied/ Abandoned
- [4] = No one home
- [5] = Demolished
- [6] = Household Refusal

$$\text{Individual – Level Response Rate} = \frac{[1]}{[1] + [2] + [3] + [4]}$$

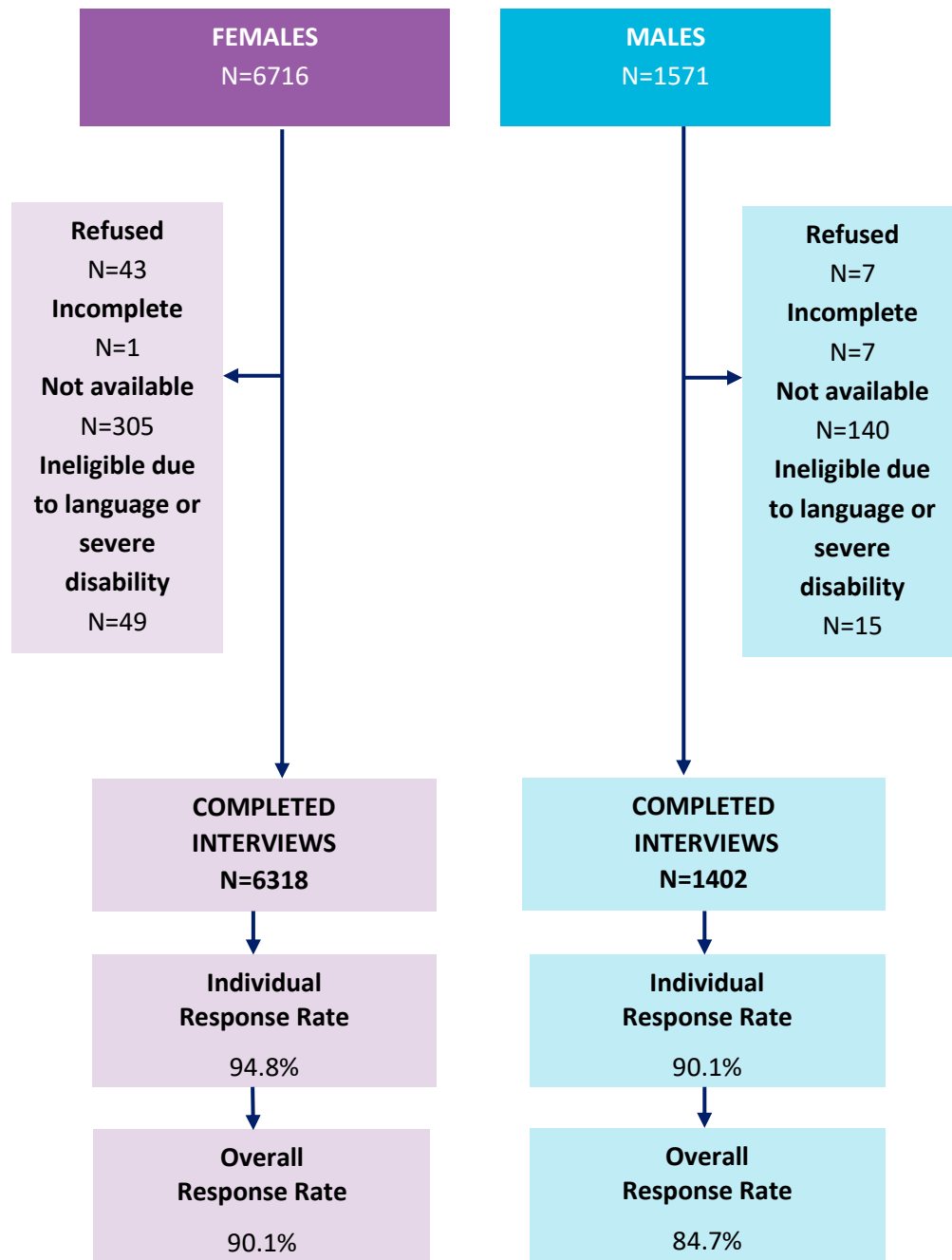
**Where:**

- [1] = Completed Individual Survey
- [2] = Selected Participant Refusal
- [3] = Incomplete
- [4] = Not available
- [5] = Does not speak study language/disability

Figure A2.1: Household response dispositions by sex—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.



**Figure A2.1: Individual response dispositions by sex—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.** [Overall Response Rate=Household Response Rate x Individual Response Rate]





The response rates for the regional and DREAMS area samples calculated separately for each weighting class ranged between 88% and 96% (Table A2.1).

**Table A2.1. Household and individual response rates by geographic areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.**

Region & DREAMS	Household Response Rate	Individual Response Rate	Overall Response Rate <sup>1</sup>
Hhohho Region	95.1%	95.8%	91.1%
Lubombo Region	95.3%	95.9%	91.4%
Manzini Region	95.0%	94.2%	89.5%
Shiselweni Region	94.8%	93.4%	88.6%
Hhohho DREAMS	95.5%	94.6%	90.4%
Lubombo DREAMS	95.6%	95.5%	91.3%
Manzini DREAMS	94.9%	94.2%	89.4%
Shiselweni DREAMS	93.7%	94.2%	88.3%

<sup>1</sup>Overall Response Rate=Household Response Rate X Individual Response Rate

### A3. WEIGHTING PROCEDURE

Weighting the sampled dataset is essential to obtain estimates that can accurately represent parameters in the total population. VACS used a three-step weighting procedure: (Step 1) computation of base weight for each sample participant; (Step 2) adjustment of the base weights for differential non-response in the sample; and (Step 3) post-stratification calibration adjustment of weights to known population totals.

#### A3.1 Base Weights

Base weights that were inversely proportional to the overall selection probabilities for each sample participant were calculated in Step 1. Calculations in this stage included probabilities of selection of PSUs, sex specification, PSU DREAMS status, selection of households, and selection of eligible individuals. PSU base weights incorporated probability of selection and adjusted for oversampling of the regions and DREAMS areas within each PSU.

**Table A3.1: Nonresponse adjustments for female enumeration areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.**

Gender	Region	Type	DREAMS	Age Group	Sample (N)	Base weights	Non Response Adjustments
Female	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	376	5699	1.06
Female	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	448	6393	1.09
Female	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	171	2894	1.09
Female	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	177	2783	1.09
Female	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	131	2305	1.18
Female	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	176	2772	1.14
Female	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	500	6732	1.07
Female	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	438	5853	1.10
Female	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	156	1830	1.06
Female	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	125	1453	1.05
Female	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	127	853	1.10
Female	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	128	807	1.13
Female	Lubombo	Urban	Non-DREAMS	13-17	44	207	1.19
Female	Lubombo	Urban	Non-DREAMS	18-24	35	155	1.14
Female	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	497	10179	1.07

Gender	Region	Type	DREAMS	Age Group	Sample (N)	Base weights	Non Response Adjustments
Female	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	601	10566	1.09
Female	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	155	4382	1.11
Female	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	148	4287	1.18
Female	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	49	1398	1.15
Female	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	82	2232	1.30
Female	Manzini	Urban	Non-DREAMS	13-17	15	188	1.00
Female	Manzini	Urban	Non-DREAMS	18-24	6	54	1.00
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	436	5289	1.07
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	393	4413	1.11
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	400	5081	1.10
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	358	4358	1.16
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	59	435	1.24
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	73	520	1.32
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	Non-DREAMS	13-17	11	49	1.08
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	Non-DREAMS	18-24	3	11	1.33

### A3.2 Base Weights

In Step 2, base weights were adjusted to compensate for the losses in the sample size due to non-response. In this step, non-response adjustments were made for households and participants. The adjustments were conducted using base-weighted data aggregated into weighting classes by location strata (National, regional, and DREAMS in each region) and sex. The non-response adjustments were calculated by dividing the sum of base weights for all participants by the total base weights of those who responded to the survey in the respective weighting classes. Tables A3.1 and A3.2 reflect the non-response adjustment factors for female and male EAs. The VACS sampling manual recommends setting the non-response adjustment component to 3.00. For the 2022 Eswatini VACS, there was no non-response weight larger than 3.0.

**Table A3.2: Nonresponse adjustments for male enumeration areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022**

Gender	Region	Type	DREAMS	Age Group	Sample (N)	Base weights	Non response Adjustments
Male	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	106	5347	1.14
Male	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	121	6311	1.21
Male	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	47	2975	1.06
Male	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	35	2284	1.18
Male	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	46	1866	1.23
Male	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	56	2716	1.17
Male	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	94	6955	1.09
Male	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	121	8259	1.11
Male	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	25	1918	1.16
Male	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	20	1426	1.32
Male	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	16	481	1.06
Male	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	13	367	1.06
Male	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	141	8512	1.15
Male	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	175	10596	1.23
Male	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	41	3351	1.17

Gender	Region	Type	DREAMS	Age Group	Sample (N)	Base weights	Non response Adjustments
Male	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	37	3093	1.19
Male	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	16	2388	1.26
Male	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	25	2639	1.39
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	77	5323	1.23
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	70	4889	1.39
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	48	3568	1.18
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	53	3787	1.28
Male	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	12	580	1.35
Male	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	7	419	1.33

### A3.3. POST-STRATIFICATION CALIBRATION ADJUSTMENT

In the final stage of the weighting process (Step 3), calibration adjustment adjusted weights to conform to the 2017 population census data distributed by location stratum and sex. These variables were used to form weighting classes.

**Table A3.3: Calibration adjustments for female enumeration areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.**

Gender	Region	Type	DREAMS	Age Group	Population	Post Stratification Adjustments	Sample weights
Female	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	9304	1.54	9304
Female	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	11326	1.62	11326
Female	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	4943	1.57	4943
Female	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	5567	1.84	5567
Female	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	3366	1.24	3366
Female	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	5747	1.82	5747
Female	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	8748	1.22	8748
Female	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	9482	1.47	9482
Female	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	2939	1.51	2939
Female	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	2963	1.94	2963
Female	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	888	0.95	888
Female	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	1224	1.34	1224
Female	Lubombo	Urban	Non-DREAMS	13-17	316	1.28	316
Female	Lubombo	Urban	Non-DREAMS	18-24	349	1.96	349
Female	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	11337	1.04	11337
Female	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	16368	1.42	16368
Female	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	4950	1.02	4950
Female	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	5431	1.07	5431
Female	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	2149	1.34	2149
Female	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	3945	1.36	3945
Female	Manzini	Urban	Non-DREAMS	13-17	167	0.89	167
Female	Manzini	Urban	Non-DREAMS	18-24	291	5.42	291
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	6444	1.14	6444
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	7613	1.55	7613
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	5384	0.96	5384
Female	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	5420	1.07	5420
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	486	0.90	486

Gender	Region	Type	DREAMS	Age Group	Population	Post Stratification Adjustments	Sample weights
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	1075	1.57	1075
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	Non-DREAMS	13-17	49	0.93	49
Female	Shiselweni	Urban	Non-DREAMS	18-24	63	4.19	63

**Table A3.4: Calibration adjustments for male enumeration areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey, 2022.**

Gender	Region	Type	Dreams	Age Group	Population	Post Stratification Adjustments	Sample weights
Male	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	9850	1.61	9850
Male	Hhohho	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	11829	1.54	11829
Male	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	5269	1.67	5269
Male	Hhohho	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	5914	2.19	5914
Male	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	3058	1.33	3058
Male	Hhohho	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	5103	1.61	5103
Male	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	8828	1.16	8828
Male	Lubombo	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	9259	1.01	9259
Male	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	2921	1.32	2921
Male	Lubombo	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	2831	1.50	2831
Male	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	1173	2.31	1173
Male	Lubombo	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	1621	4.19	1621
Male	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	11052	1.13	11052
Male	Manzini	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	15163	1.17	15163
Male	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	5292	1.35	5292
Male	Manzini	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	5845	1.59	5845
Male	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	2266	0.75	2266
Male	Manzini	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	3936	1.08	3936
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	13-17	6722	1.03	6722
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	DREAMS	18-24	7389	1.09	7389
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	13-17	5667	1.34	5667
Male	Shiselweni	Rural	Non-DREAMS	18-24	5627	1.16	5627
Male	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	13-17	578	0.74	578
Male	Shiselweni	Urban	DREAMS	18-24	858	1.54	858

The final sample weights assigned to each respondent came from the product of the base weights, the non-response adjustments, and post-stratification calibration adjustment factors. The final sample weights were used in all analyses to produce estimates of population parameters in SAS (version 9.4). The steps for calculating HIV weight were the same as the sample weight, but only those who consented to HIV testing or those who knew their HIV status before the survey were assigned HIV weight. HIV weight generates estimates for HIV status-related indicators. Similarly, household weights were calculated for respondents to the head of a household questionnaire.

## SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX B: REGIONAL TABLES

### SECTION 3: BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics of 13-17-year-old females

<b>Table B3.1.1. Background characteristics of 13-17-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022</b>				
	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Education Status</b>	(n=678)	(n=716)	(n=906)	(n= 827)
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	25.4 (21.1-29.8)	26.9 (21.8-32.0)	29.6 (26.3-32.9)	30.1 (26.1-34.1)
Secondary school or more	74.6 (70.2-78.9)	73.1 (68.0-78.2)	70.4 (67.1-73.7)	69.9 (65.9-73.9)
<b>Current school enrollment status</b>				
Currently enrolled in school	92.3 (90.0-94.7) (n=672)	90.3 (87.5-93.0) (n= 711)	95.2 (93.7-96.8) (n=903)	91.1 (88.2-93.9) (n=823)
<b>Orphan Status</b>	(n=659)	(n=679)	(n=840)	(n=783)
Lost one or both parents	20.2 (16.4-24.0)	20.2 (16.4-24.0)	22.1 (19.0-25.3)	22.5 (19.1-25.9)
Not an orphan	79.8 (76.0-83.6)	79.8 (76.0-83.6)	77.9 (74.7-81.0)	77.5 (74.1-80.9)
<b>Socioeconomic Conditions</b>				
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	3.5 (1.9-5.1) (n=677)	3.8 (1.9-5.7) (n=716)	3.2 (1.6-4.8) (n=906)	3.5 (2.0-4.9) (n=827)
Food insecurity	58.8 (53.8-63.7) (n=663)	54.5 (48.8-60.3) (n=699)	61.2 (57.0-65.4) (n=874)	62.2 (56.8-67.5) (n=788)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	30.7 (25.5-35.9) (n=667)	31.7 (26.4-36.9) (n=689)	36.3 (30.3-42.2) (n=854)	34.8 (29.7-39.9) (n=772)
<b>Relationship and sexual history</b>				
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	** (n=665)	** (n=708)	** (n=888)	** (n=813)
Ever had sex [2]	9.5 (6.0-13.1) (n=678)	10.3 (7.7-12.9) (n=715)	12.1 (9.7-14.6) (n=905)	11.9 (9.3-14.5) (n=826)
<b>Disability [3]</b>	(n=678)	(n=716)	(n=906)	(n=827)
No functional disability in any domain	87.0 (82.9-91.0)	83.6 (80.1-87.1)	82.6 (79.4-85.7)	89.0 (85.4-92.5)
Functional disability in one or more domains	13.0 (9.0-17.1)	16.4 (12.9-19.9)	17.4 (14.3-20.6)	11.0 (7.5-14.6)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[3] Functional disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language (siSwati).

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table B3.1.3. Location of work among 13-17-year-old females who have worked in the past 12 months, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	% (95% CI)	% (95% CI)	% (95% CI)	% (95% CI)
Family dwelling	64.7 (41.1-88.2) (n=15)	57.9 (39.6-76.3) (n=15)	63.9 (42.2-85.5) (n=19)	57.7 (37.0-78.5) (n=16)
Food/retail/hospitality [1]	17.3 (0.6-34.0)* (n=5)	30.0 (11.7-48.4)* (n=8)	14.7 (1.3-28.0)* (n=5)	** (n=1)
Factory/construction site [2]	** (n=1)	** (n=2)	** (n=1)	<0.1%*** (n=0)
Other [3]	** (n=3)	** (n=2)	** (n=5)	39.1 (16.2-62.0) (n=11)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Food/retail/hospitality includes restaurant, hotel, café, bar, shop, kiosk, fixed stall, street stall, and market stall.

[2] Factory/construction site includes factory, workshop, construction site, mine, and quarry.

[3] Other includes formal office, farm/garden/plantation, no fixed place of work, and “other”.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

#### Background characteristics of 18-24-year-old females

**Table B3.2.1. Background characteristics of 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Education status</b>	(n=801)	(n=836)	(n=827)	(n=724)
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	6.1 (4.2-8.1)	10.0 (7.3-12.7)	10.9 (8.6-13.3)	13.2 (10.7-15.8)
Completed secondary school	25.4 (21.7-29.0)	23.2 (19.0-27.4)	28.0 (24.4-31.7)	28.4 (24.5-32.3)
Higher than secondary school	68.5 (64.3-72.7)	66.8 (61.6-72.1)	61.1 (57.0-65.2)	58.4 (53.9-62.9)
Did not attend/enroll in school due to school closing during COVID-19 [1] and never returned	** (n=776)	1.6 (0.4-2.9)* (n=811)	** (n=792)	** (n=712)
<b>Orphan status before age 18</b>	(n=771)	(n=780)	(n=783)	(n=693)
Lost one or both parents before age 18	31.9 (27.8-36.0)	33.8 (29.2-38.4)	37.0 (32.9-41.1)	32.3 (28.8-35.8)
Not an orphan before age 18	68.1 (64.0-72.2)	66.2 (61.6-70.8)	63.0 (58.9-67.1)	67.7 (64.2-71.2)
<b>Socioeconomic conditions</b>				
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	20.4 (16.9-23.9) (n=801)	23.1 (19.6-26.6) (n=837)	18.7 (14.8-22.6) (n=823)	22.8 (19.4-26.1) (n=726)
Food insecurity	65.0 (60.2-69.7) (n=796)	58.5 (53.0-64.1) (n=831)	63.1 (58.7-67.5) (n=813)	64.0 (59.2-68.9) (n=717)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic	46.3 (40.3-52.3) (n=796)	49.8 (44.4-55.3) (n=832)	48.3 (43.0-53.6) (n=803)	44.2 (39.7-48.7) (n=715)
<b>Relationship status and sexual history</b>				

**Table B3.2.1. Background characteristics of 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Married or lived with someone as if married before age 18	9.6 (7.2-12.0) (n=801)	11.6 (9.0-14.3) (n=835)	8.3 (5.1-11.4) (n=825)	11.4 (9.0-13.8) (n=725)
Child marriage (married before age 18)	1.2 (0.4-1.9)* (n=801)	1.2 (0.2-2.2)* (n=834)	1.0 (0.3-1.8)* (n=825)	1.9 (0.8-3.1)* (n=725)
Child marriage before the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	0.4 (0.1-0.8)* (n=797)	** (n=832)	0.7 (0.1-1.4)* (n=824)	0.9 (0.1-1.7)* (n=723)
Child marriage since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	** (n=797)	** (n=832)	** (n=824)	0.8 (0.0-1.6)* (n=723)
First partner/spouse 5 or more years older [2]	39.6 (26.9-52.2) (n=79)	46.1 (33.5-58.8) (n=112)	47.9 (33.2-62.6) (n=71)	57.2 (43.6-70.8) (n=76)
Ever had sex [3]	70.7 (66.5-75.0) (n=797)	69.0 (64.4-73.6) (n=835)	75.0 (71.6-78.3) (n=823)	69.3 (65.4-73.2) (n=725)
<b>Disability [4]</b>				
Any Functional Disability	10.4 (7.7-13.2) (n=801)	15.7 (11.8-19.6) (n=837)	16.1 (13.1-19.0) (n=827)	12.7 (9.4-16.1) (n=726)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Includes those who have ever been married or ever lived with a partner.

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### Background characteristics of 13-24-year-old females

**Table B3.3.1. Background characteristics of 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Education status</b>				
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	14.6 (12.5-16.7) (n=1479)	17.0 (13.9-20.2) (n=1552)	19.6 (17.5-21.7) (n=1733)	21.3 (18.8-23.8) (n=1551)
Attended or completed secondary school or more	85.4 (83.3-87.5) (n=1479)	83.0 (79.8-86.1) (n=1552)	80.4 (78.3-82.5) (n=1733)	78.7 (76.2-81.2) (n=1551)
Currently enrolled in school	60.0 (56.2-63.8) (n=1450)	57.1 (53.6-60.6) (n=1525)	63.5 (60.3-66.7) (n=1700)	63.7 (59.9-67.4) (n=1535)
Left school during COVID-19 pandemic [1]	** (n=1448)	1.0 (0.2-1.7)* (n=1520)	** (n=1695)	** (n=1534)
<b>Socioeconomic conditions</b>				
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	13.0 (10.7-15.3) (n=1478)	15.1 (12.7-17.4) (n=1553)	11.5 (9.1-13.8) (n=1729)	13.5 (11.5-15.5) (n=1553)

**Table B3.3.1. Background characteristics of 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

Food insecurity	62.3 (58.3-66.3) (n=1459)	56.9 (52.3-61.5) (n=1530)	62.2 (58.7-65.8) (n=1687)	63.1 (58.9-67.3) (n=1505)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	39.5 (34.6-44.4) (n=1463)	42.4 (37.4-47.4) (n=1521)	42.8 (38.2-47.4) (n=1657)	39.8 (36.1-43.6) (n=1487)
<b>Relationship status</b>				
Ever had an intimate partner [2]	58.5 (54.8-62.2) (n=1479)	60.5 (56.5-64.5) (n=1553)	60.9 (57.7-64.2) (n=1733)	58.6 (55.2-62.0) (n=1553)
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	5.5 (4.0-7.0) (n=1466)	7.2 (5.6-8.9) (n=1543)	4.6 (2.9-6.4) (n=1713)	6.2 (4.8-7.6) (n=1538)
<b>Sexual history</b>				
Ever had sex [3]	43.8 (39.8-47.9) (n=1475)	44.5 (41.2-47.9) (n=1550)	45.6 (42.4-48.8) (n=1728)	41.8 (38.9-44.7) (n=1551)
Mean age at first sex (among those who ever had sex)	17.7 (17.6-17.9) (n=619)	17.6 (17.4-17.9) (n=677)	17.4 (17.2-17.6) (n=720)	17.4 (17.2-17.6) (n=593)
<b>Disability [4]</b>				
Any functional disability	11.6 (8.9-14.3) (n=1479)	16.0 (12.6-19.3) (n=1553)	16.7 (14.4-19.0) (n=1733)	11.9 (9.2-14.6) (n=1533)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[2] Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Disability includes any of the following: 1. Blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. Difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. Difficulty dressing or bathing 5. Difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 4: SEXUAL VIOLENCE

### Sexual violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table B4.1.1. Prevalence of sexual violence [1] before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Any type of sexual violence in childhood	3.1 (1.8-4.5) (n=800)	6.0 (3.9-8.0) (n=837)	7.1 (5.0-9.1) (n=827)	6.8 (4.5-9.1) (n=725)
Unwanted sexual touching in childhood	1.7 (0.6-2.9)* (n=800)	2.5 (1.1-4.0) (n=836)	3.7 (2.1-5.3) (n=824)	3.4 (1.7-5.1) (n=722)
Unwanted attempted sex in childhood	1.1 (0.2-2.0)* (n=800)	3.0 (1.3-4.7) (n=837)	4.0 (2.4-5.6) (n=826)	3.9 (2.2-5.6) (n=724)
Pressured sex in childhood [2]	** (n=799)	0.8 (0.2-1.4)* (n=834)	1.0 (0.2-1.8)* (n=822)	1.8 (0.6-3.0)* (n=725)
Physically forced sex in childhood	1.2 (0.4-2.1)* (n=800)	2.2 (1.2-3.2) (n=837)	2.0 (0.9-3.1) (n=822)	2.0 (0.7-3.3)* (n=723)
Pressured or physically forced sex in childhood	1.3 (0.5-2.2)* (n=800)	2.2 (1.2-3.2) (n=837)	2.4 (1.2-3.5) (n=824)	2.4 (1.0-3.9)* (n=725)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.



[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### Lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B4.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime sexual violence [1] among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Any sexual violence [1]	4.7 (3.2-6.2) (n=1478)	9.5 (7.0-12.0) (n=1553)	9.3 (7.5-11.1) (n=1733)	9.7 (7.3-12.2) (n=1552)
Unwanted sexual touching	3.2 (2.0-4.5) (n=1478)	4.7 (3.2-6.3) (n=1551)	4.4 (3.3-5.6) (n=1732)	6.4 (4.6-8.1) (n=1551)
Unwanted attempted sex	1.5 (0.8-2.1) (n=1478)	4.0 (2.6-5.4) (n=1551)	5.3 (3.9-6.6) (n=1732)	4.9 (3.2-6.6) (n=1551)
Pressured sex [2]	0.8 (0.3-1.3)* (n=1477)	2.3 (1.3-3.2) (n=1549)	1.7 (1.0-2.4) (n=1730)	1.8 (1.0-2.7) (n=1552)
Physically forced sex	1.6 (0.8-2.3) (n=1478)	2.4 (1.7-3.2) (n=1553)	2.3 (1.5-3.2) (n=1730)	2.5 (1.5-3.5) (n=1550)
Pressured or physically forced sex	2.0 (1.1-2.8) (n=1478)	3.5 (2.3-4.7) (n=1553)	3.2 (2.1-4.3) (n=1732)	3.2 (2.0-4.4) (n=1552)
Sex when victim was too drunk to say no	** (n=1478)	0.7 (0.2-1.2)* (n=1551)	0.5 (0.1-0.9)* (n=1728)	** (n=1550)
Pressured or physically forced sex at first sexual experience	14.3 (9.2-19.4) (n=619)	15.8 (12.6-19.0) (n=676)	23.1 (18.7-27.4) (n=726)	14.9 (10.5-19.3) (n=595)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B4.2.2. Experienced lifetime sexual violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Experienced sexual violence [1] before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	56.2 (44.8-67.6) (n=68)	58.9 (48.9-69.0) (n=123)	64.7 (56.3-73.0) (n=159)	53.1 (42.9-63.4) (n=134)
Experienced sexual violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	58.2 (44.7-71.7) (n=68)	57.4 (47.2-67.5) (n=120)	47.1 (37.9-56.4) (n=155)	64.0 (53.2-74.9) (n=133)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

**Table B4.2.3. Experience of first incident of sexual violence [1] was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Unwanted sexual touching</b>	(n=28)	(n=34)	(n=36)	(n= 59)
First experience was before COVID-19	32.7 (16.5-48.8)	37.7 (18.2-57.2)	66.9 (51.4-82.4)	37.9 (21.1-54.7)
First experience was during COVID-19	67.3 (51.2-83.5)	62.3 (42.8-81.8)	33.1 (17.6-48.6)	62.1 (45.3-78.9)
<b>Unwanted attempted sex</b>	(n= 15)	(n= 31)	(n=54)	(n= 46)
First experience was before COVID-19	55.0 (23.7-86.3)	58.4 (31.8-84.9)	54.8 (39.7-69.9)	46.5 (29.4-63.7)
First experience was during COVID-19	45.0 (13.7-76.3)*	41.6 (15.1-68.2)*	45.2 (30.1-60.3)	53.5 (36.3-70.6)
<b>Pressured sex [3]</b>	(n=9)	(n=17)	(n=17)	(n= 18)
First experience was before COVID-19	86.3 (60.5-100.0)	73.6 (50.6-96.6)	65.1 (39.7-90.6)	66.5 (42.3-90.8)
First experience was during COVID-19	**	26.4 (3.4-49.4)*	34.9 (9.4-60.3)*	33.5 (9.2-57.7)*
<b>Physically forced sex</b>	(n=16)	(n=27)	(n=30)	(n=28)
First experience was before COVID-19	63.3 (43.0-83.6)	77.2 (62.7-91.8)	68.6 (49.6-87.6)	73.2 (53.8-92.7)
First experience was during COVID-19	36.7 (16.4-57.0)	22.8 (8.2-37.3)*	31.4 (12.4-50.4)*	26.8 (7.3-46.2)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[3] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table B4.2.4. Characteristics of victims at the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Age at first experience of sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=69)	(n=123)	(n=155)	(n=131)
13 or younger	44.5 (26.6-62.3)	22.7 (13.6-31.9)	24.2 (16.0-32.4)	31.0 (22.2-39.8)
14-15	13.1 (4.5-21.7)*	21.0 (10.7-31.3)	19.9 (13.4-26.4)	16.1 (8.1-24.2)
16-17	10.8 (3.2-18.4)*	18.2 (9.5-26.8)	25.8 (18.0-33.7)	25.4 (15.8-35.0)
18-24	31.6 (17.3-45.8)	38.1 (28.3-47.9)	30.1 (20.6-39.6)	27.5 (18.6-36.4)
<b>Age at first experience of pressured or physically forced sex [2]</b>	(n=33)	(n=53)	(n=55)	(n=40)
13 or younger	40.3 (19.7-61.0)	28.2 (13.3-43.2)	26.5 (12.1-40.8)	40.7 (22.0-59.3)
14-15	18.8 (0.4-37.1)*	13.8 (4.9-22.7)*	19.8 (6.1-33.5)*	12.3 (2.0-22.5)*
16-17	**	9.6 (2.0-17.3)*	18.6 (7.9-29.2)	**
18-24	31.9 (14.5-49.3)	48.3 (31.6-65.0)	35.2 (18.9-51.5)	31.1 (14.8-47.4)
<b>Multiple incidents of sexual violence</b>	(n=69)	(n=122)	(n=159)	(n=132)
Experienced multiple incidents of sexual violence	55.2 (42.4-68.0)	57.5 (45.4-69.6)	54.7 (45.4-64.0)	59.2 (50.5-67.8)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Among those who experienced pressured or physically forced sex.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table B4.2.5. Characteristics of perpetrators of the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of any sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=66)	(n=122)	(n=156)	(n=134)
Current or ex intimate partner [2]	9.9 (3.6-16.1)*	32.8 (22.7-42.9)	28.6 (20.2-36.9)	20.8 (11.9-29.7)
Family member	25.4 (11.3-39.4)	33.3 (23.2-43.4)	26.1 (17.3-34.9)	34.2 (23.4-45.0)
Other [3]	64.1 (50.2-77.9)	35.2 (25.4-44.9)	46.7 (36.0-57.4)	44.9 (35.5-54.3)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of pressured or physically forced sex [4]</b>	(n=32)	(n=53)	(n=58)	(n=41)
Current or Ex Intimate Partner [2]	16.8 (2.8-30.8)*	51.5 (34.7-68.3)	45.4 (28.9-62.0)	28.5 (13.4-43.6)
Family Member	23.2 (5.3-41.1)*	27.0 (12.0-42.1)	16.6 (4.1-29.0)	43.8 (22.2-65.3)

**Table B4.2.5. Characteristics of perpetrators of the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
Other [3]	48.5 (27.9-69.0)	18.1 (7.4-28.8)*	37.4 (20.8-53.9)	31.1 (16.4-45.7)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of sexual violence who were 5 or more years older than the victim</b>				
Perpetrator 5 or more years older at first incident of any sexual violence	82.4 (72.7-92.2) (n=60)	55.2 (43.4-67.0) (n=116)	62.3 (52.1-72.4) (n=146)	68.1 (57.5-78.7) (n=130)
Perpetrator 5 or more years older at first incident of pressured or physically forced sex	75.0 (55.5-94.5) (n=30)	68.5 (48.9-88.0) (n=51)	68.9 (54.3-83.4) (n=54)	83.1 (70.9-95.4) (n=40)
<b>Multiple perpetrators at first incident of sexual violence</b>				
More than one perpetrator at first incident of sexual violence	22.8 (10.0-35.7) (n=69)	21.8 (13.0-30.6) (n=119)	18.7 (12.7-24.7) (n=156)	8.9 (3.8-14.1) (n=133)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

[3] Other includes teacher, police/security person, employer, or neighbourhood/religious leader, neighbour, classmate/schoolmate, friend, stranger, and other.

[4] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

**Table B4.2.6. Location and time of day of first incident of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Location of first incident of sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=67)	(n=122)	(n=158)	(n=134)
Home setting [2]	62.2 (47.9-76.4)	62.9 (53.3-72.4)	57.7 (46.2-69.3)	60.4 (50.4-70.4)
School	6.5 (0.2-12.8)*	7.5 (2.6-12.4)*	13.3 (6.1-20.5)	10.5 (4.2-16.7)*
Outside location [3]	16.9 (7.8-26.1)	26.2 (16.0-36.5)	28.2 (19.3-37.1)	27.5 (17.1-37.8)
Other [4]	18.5 (8.4-28.6)	8.5 (1.8-15.3)*	5.5 (1.7-9.3)*	6.0 (2.3-9.8)*
<b>Time of day [5] of first incident of sexual violence</b>	(n=68)	(n=122)	(n=159)	(n=134)
Morning	**	**	3.8 (0.8-6.7)*	7.4 (2.4-12.5)*
Afternoon	50.6 (34.6-66.5)	42.6 (32.4-52.7)	48.1 (39.5-56.6)	33.4 (24.9-41.9)
Evening	31.3 (16.4-46.2)	31.3 (20.9-41.6)	37.6 (28.7-46.5)	46.7 (36.6-56.8)
Late at night	22.0 (11.8-32.2)	21.9 (13.2-30.6)	14.3 (8.0-20.5)	18.4 (10.8-26.0)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have experienced multiple forms of sexual violence that may have occurred at different locations or at different time of the day.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Home setting includes the victim's home, perpetrator's home, or someone else's home.

[3] Outside location includes: On a road/street, market/shop, school, lake/river or other body of water, and field/other natural area.

[4] Other includes inside a car/bus, alcohol outlet (e.g., restaurant, bar, disco, club, etc), religious institutions, and office.

[5] Morning refers to sunrise-noon, afternoon refers to noon-sunset, evening refers to sunset-midnight, and late at night refers to midnight-sunrise.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B4.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for any incident of lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced any sexual violence and pressured or physically forced sex, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

<b>Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for any incident of sexual violence [1]</b>				
	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Told someone about an experience of any sexual violence	68.4 (55.5-81.2) (n=69)	65.6 (54.9-76.4) (n=123)	60.8 (52.8-68.9) (n=161)	71.0 (61.7-80.3) (n=134)
Knew of a place to seek help for any experience of sexual violence	49.3 (38.9-59.7) (n=69)	38.4 (31.3-45.5) (n=122)	56.6 (46.9-66.3) (n=161)	65.4 (53.3-77.5) (n=133)
Sought professional services for any experience of sexual violence [2]	30.3 (19.9-40.6) (n=69)	21.3 (13.1-29.5) (n=122)	23.9 (16.2-31.6) (n=160)	31.3 (20.2-42.4) (n=133)
Received professional services for any experience of sexual violence	30.3 (19.9-40.6) (n=69)	20.3 (12.3-28.3) (n=122)	19.8 (12.6-27.1) (n=160)	25.5 (14.4-36.7) (n=133)
<b>Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for any incident of sexual violence, among those who have experienced any pressured or physically forced sex</b>				
Told someone about experience of any sexual violence	66.0 (45.2-86.9) (n=33)	66.5 (48.8-84.1) (n=53)	59.7 (44.5-74.9) (n=59)	83.4 (68.2-98.5) (n=41)
Knew of a place to seek help for an experience of any sexual violence	58.0 (40.4-75.6) (n=33)	54.7 (39.6-69.8) (n=53)	68.0 (54.6-81.3) (n=59)	85.2 (69.7-100.0) (n=41)
Sought professional services for experience of any sexual violence	46.9 (28.1-65.7) (n=33)	41.1 (26.4-55.7) (n=53)	43.9 (29.2-58.5) (n=59)	62.7 (45.2-80.2) (n=41)
Received professional services for experience of any sexual violence	45.0 (25.3-64.8) (n=32)	38.4 (24.2-52.5) (n=53)	40.9 (26.2-55.7) (n=58)	57.9 (40.5-75.3) (n=41)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Professional services include hospital/clinic, police station, social welfare or legal office, religious leader, or community leader.

**Table B4.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of sexual violence and source of receipt, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any sexual violence and who told someone or received help, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Person the victim told about sexual violence, among those who told someone [1]</b>	(n=48)	(n=83)	(n=100)	(n=95)
Relative [2]	61.4 (40.4-82.5)	66.7 (53.5-79.9)	66.0 (55.6-76.5)	76.2 (66.3-86.1)

**Table B4.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of sexual violence and source of receipt, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any sexual violence and who told someone or received help, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or partner	**	<0.1%***	**	**
Friend or neighbour	19.4 (7.8-31.1)*	23.6 (12.8-34.4)	18.1 (8.2-27.9)	23.8 (11.9-35.8)
Service provider or authority figure [3]	10.4 (0.7-20.0)*	12.3 (4.0-20.6)*	8.1 (1.1-15.2)*	16.2 (5.7-26.8)*
Other	**	12.0 (1.0-23.0)*	3.3 (0.2-6.4)*	**
<b>Source of service received for any incident of sexual violence, among those who received help</b>	(n=21)	(n=29)	(n=33)	(n=28)
Doctor, nurse, or other health care worker in a hospital or clinic	69.8 (43.4-96.3)	56.7 (31.7-81.7)	77.3 (62.0-92.6)	80.5 (65.1-95.8)
Police or other security personnel	59.9 (34.5-85.3)	77.6 (61.4-93.7)	75.4 (59.9-90.9)	90.1 (79.1-100.0)
Legal professional	**	23.0 (1.8-44.3)*	**	**
Social worker or counsellor	35.2 (14.5-55.9)	41.2 (17.1-65.2)	32.7 (12.9- 52.5)*	35.3 (17.8-52.7)
Community leader	**	26.8 (8.1-45.5)*	18.9 (1.2-36.6)*	22.0 (5.3-38.7)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have received service from multiple providers.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Relative includes: mother, father, brother, sister, and other relatives.

[3] Service provider or authority figure includes: traditional healer, NGO worker, teacher, social worker, doctor/nurse/healthcare worker, employer, community leader, religious leader, children's officer.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

**Table B4.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced any sexual violence and did not seek services, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not seeking services [1]</b>	(n=13)	(n= 22)	(n=50)	(n=43)
Structural barriers to accessing services [2]	**	<0.1%***	12.4 (1.6-23.2)*	**
Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure [3]	42.3 (11.0-73.6)*	27.0 (9.9-44.1)*	12.4 (2.5-22.3)*	33.2 (13.4-52.9)*
Individual beliefs about need for services [4]	**	**	29.0 (13.3-44.6)	13.0 (3.2-22.8)*
Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator [5]	50.7 (19.6-81.9)*	**	20.9 (8.4-33.4)*	42.4 (20.8-64.1)
Other	<0.1%***	43.1 (21.0-65.1)	23.4 (9.2-37.7)*	19.5 (5.0-34.0)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Structural barriers to accessing services includes: services too far away; could not afford services; services not high quality.

[3] Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure includes: did not know who to go to; afraid of getting in trouble; perpetrator told me not to tell anyone; dependent on perpetrator or someone else/fear of abandonment.

[4] Individual beliefs about need for services includes: did not think it was a problem; did not want/need to tell anyone.

[5] Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator includes: felt it was my fault; embarrassed for my family; afraid of perpetrator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Sexual violence in the past 12 months among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B4.4.1. Prevalence of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>13-17-year-old females</b>				
Any sexual violence [1] in the past 12 months	1.1 (0.2-2.1)* (n=678)	2.8 (1.4-4.3) (n=716)	3.3 (2.1-4.5) (n=906)	4.0 (2.2-5.7) (n=827)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	0.9 (0.0-1.7)* (n=678)	2.2 (0.9-3.6)* (n=715)	1.4 (0.7-2.1) (n=905)	3.2 (1.5-4.9) (n=827)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	** (n=678)	** (n=714)	2.1 (1.1-3.2) (n=905)	1.1 (0.3-1.8)* (n=827)
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	** (n=677)	** (n=713)	** (n=905)	** (n=826)

**Table B4.4.1. Prevalence of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho</b>	<b>Manzini</b>	<b>Shiselweni</b>	<b>Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	** (n=678)	0.6 (0.1-1.1)* (n=716)	0.4 (0.1-0.8)* (n=904)	** (n=826)
<b>18-24-year-old females</b>				
Any sexual violence in the past 12 months	2.6 (1.3-3.9) (n=800)	4.0 (2.0-5.9) (n=837)	3.7 (2.3-5.1) (n=827)	5.4 (3.2-7.5) (n=725)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	2.0 (0.9-3.1) (n=800)	2.4 (1.0-3.8) (n=836)	1.4 (0.5-2.2)* (n=826)	3.6 (1.9-5.2) (n=724)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	1.1 (0.3-1.9)* (n=800)	1.9 (0.6-3.2)* (n=837)	2.2 (1.1-3.2) (n=827)	2.7 (1.2-4.2) (n=724)
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	** (n=800)	1.0 (0.1-2.0)* (n=836)	0.6 (0.0-1.1)* (n=824)	1.2 (0.2-2.3)* (n=725)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	** (n=800)	0.5 (0.0-0.9)* (n=837)	0.7 (0.2-1.3)* (n=825)	** (n=724)
<b>13-24-year-old females</b>				
Any sexual violence in the past 12 months	2.0 (1.1-2.8) (n=1478)	3.5 (2.2-4.9) (n=1553)	3.5 (2.5-4.6) (n=1733)	4.7 (3.2-6.2) (n=1552)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	1.5 (0.8-2.2) (n=1478)	2.3 (1.2-3.5) (n=1551)	1.4 (0.8-2.0) (n=1731)	3.4 (2.1-4.7) (n=1551)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	0.7 (0.2-1.1)* (n=1478)	1.3 (0.6-2.1) (n=1551)	2.2 (1.3-3.0) (n=1732)	1.9 (1.0-2.8) (n=1551)
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	** (n=1477)	0.8 (0.2-1.3)* (n=1549)	0.5 (0.1-0.8)* (n=1729)	0.7 (0.2-1.3)* (n=1551)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	0.3 (0.0-0.6)* (n=1478)	0.5 (0.2-0.8)* (n=1553)	0.6 (0.3-0.9) (n=1729)	0.2 (0.0-0.4)* (n=1550)



Note: CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 5: PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

### Physical violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old female

**Table B5.1.1. Prevalence of physical violence before age 18, overall and by perpetrator type, among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence [1] in childhood, any perpetrator	2.2 (0.7-3.6)* (n=801)	6.3 (3.6-8.9) (n=837)	6.8 (4.6-8.9) (n=827)	5.9 (3.3-8.4) (n=726)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence in childhood	0.5 (0.0-1.0)* (n=678)	1.2 (0.4-2.1)* (n=708)	1.5 (0.3-2.7)* (n=714)	1.1 (0.2-2.0)* (n=626)
Parent or adult relative physical violence in childhood	1.5 (0.3-2.7)* (n=800)	3.2 (1.5-4.9) (n=837)	3.3 (2.0-4.5) (n=825)	4.5 (2.0-7.0) (n=723)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood in childhood	<0.1%*** (n=801)	** (n=837)	1.3 (0.3-2.2)* (n=827)	** (n=726)
Peer physical violence in childhood	0.6 (0.0-1.2)* (n=801)	2.2 (1.0-3.4) (n=836)	3.1 (1.6-4.5) (n=826)	1.6 (0.5-2.6)* (n=726)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% as youth may experience violence from more than one person.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Lifetime physical violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B5.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime physical violence and age of first experience of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence [1], any perpetrator	5.7 (3.8-7.6) (n=1479)	12.2 (9.5-14.9) (n=1553)	13.5 (10.6-16.5) (n=1733)	11.6 (9.0-14.3) (n=1553)
<b>Prevalence of physical violence by perpetrator</b>				
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	3.8 (1.6-6.1) (n=839)	6.9 (4.8-9.1) (n=914)	6.0 (4.1-7.8) (n=991)	6.3 (4.4-8.3) (n=857)

**Table B5.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime physical violence and age of first experience of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	2.4 (1.4-3.3) (n=1479)	3.9 (2.7-5.1) (n=1553)	6.1 (4.4-7.9) (n=1733)	5.8 (3.7-7.9) (n=1553)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	0.7 (0.2-1.3)* (n=1479)	1.0 (0.3-1.7)* (n=1553)	1.9 (1.0-2.9) (n=1733)	0.7 (0.3-1.2)* (n=1553)
Peer physical violence	1.4 (0.7-2.1) (n=1479)	4.7 (2.9-6.4) (n=1552)	5.8 (4.4-7.1) (n=1733)	4.2 (2.6-5.8) (n=1553)
<b>Age of first experience of physical violence, among those who ever experienced physical violence</b>	(n=85)	(n=172)	(n=242)	(n=144)
5 or younger	**	3.6 (0.3-7.0)*	**	**
6-11	8.1 (1.9-14.3)*	8.9 (3.4-14.5)*	14.6 (10.0-19.2)	22.2 (15.5-29.0)
12-17	51.2 (39.4-63.1)	51.9 (42.0-61.8)	57.3 (50.1-64.6)	41.4 (31.0-51.8)
18-24	38.5 (27.3-49.7)	35.5 (26.2-44.8)	26.7 (20.1-33.3)	34.1 (24.7-43.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

**Table B5.2.2 Experience of first incident of physical violence was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced physical violence, by region— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Physical violence [1] before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, among those who ever experienced physical violence</b>				
Experienced physical violence before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	42.3 (30.9-53.8) (n=87)	54.0 (42.4-65.6) (n=177)	59.7 (52.0-67.3) (n=243)	51.9 (41.4-62.4) (n=146)

**Table B5.2.2 Experience of first incident of physical violence was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced physical violence, by region– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experienced physical violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	75.6 (63.0-88.2) (n=82)	61.1 (51.1-71.2) (n=173)	65.9 (58.0-73.8) (n=240)	64.2 (53.2-75.2) (n=143)
<b>Physical Violence by Intimate Partner [3]</b>	(n=16)	(n=31)	(n=31)	(n=24)
First experience was before COVID-19	28.2 (0.7-55.7)*	34.0 (10.5-57.5)*	26.2 (9.7-42.7)*	55.5 (32.8-78.3)
First experience was during COVID-19	71.8 (44.3-99.3)	66.0 (42.5-89.5)	73.8 (57.3-90.3)	44.5 (21.7-67.2)
<b>Physical Violence by Peer</b>	(n= 12)	(n=41)	(n=68)	(n=38)
First experience was before COVID-19	**	53.7 (32.2-75.2)	41.4 (27.6-55.1)	46.1 (29.7-62.5)
First experience was during COVID-19	85.5 (66.8-100.0)	46.3 (24.8-67.8)	58.6 (44.9-72.4)	53.9 (37.5-70.3)
<b>Physical Violence by Parents or Other Adult relatives</b>	(n=15)	(n=25)	(n=59)	(n=27)
First experience was before COVID-19	48.9 (14.0-83.8)*	42.6 (21.5-63.7)	59.7 (46.9-72.5)	42.0 (16.4-67.6)*
First experience was during COVID-19	51.1 (16.2-86.0)*	57.4 (36.3-78.5)	40.3 (27.5-53.1)	58.0 (32.4-83.6)
<b>Physical Violence by adults in the community /neighbourhood</b>	(n= 8)	(n= 9)	(n=25)	(n=8)
First experience was before COVID-19	39.0 (0.8-77.2)*	61.9 (23.9-99.8)*	67.3 (43.8-90.8)	66.7 (33.3-100.0)
First experience was during COVID-19	61.0 (22.8-99.2)*	**	32.7 (9.2-56.2)*	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[3] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

**Table B5.2.3. Prevalence of experiencing physical harm or injury as a result of physical violence [1], among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any physical violence, overall and by perpetrator, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experienced injury as a result of physical violence by any perpetrator	36.4 (24.3-48.6) (n=87)	39.9 (32.1-47.7) (n=178)	39.4 (31.6-47.1) (n=245)	44.8 (36.2-53.5) (n=151)
Injured by intimate partner [2]	33.3 (13.1-53.4)* (n=30)	55.8 (41.3-70.2) (n=64)	37.0 (23.5-50.6) (n=61)	37.1 (20.6-53.5) (n=48)
Injured by parent or caregiver or adult relative	43.3 (27.1-59.6) (n=41)	40.8 (26.9-54.7) (n=59)	35.6 (24.8-46.4) (n=110)	54.3 (42.5-66.1) (n=77)
Injured by adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=8)	** (n=14)	23.8 (7.2-40.5)* (n=37)	31.7 (2.3-61.1)* (n=11)
Injured by peer	36.1 (12.1-60.1)* (n=22)	26.4 (14.5-38.4) (n=66)	32.2 (21.5-42.9) (n=106)	27.1 (13.2-41.0) (n=49)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

#### Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for physical violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B5.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt for any incident of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced physical violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Told someone about experience of any physical violence [1]	61.4 (49.4-73.3) (n=87)	67.5 (59.0-75.9) (n=178)	70.5 (62.4-78.6) (n=245)	67.4 (58.4-76.5) (n=151)
Knew of a place to seek help for any experience of physical violence	66.0 (55.3-76.7) (n=87)	61.7 (49.4-73.9) (n=176)	72.0 (65.6-78.4) (n=242)	75.6 (68.2-82.9) (n=151)
Sought professional services for any experience of physical violence [2]	31.0 (20.7-41.3) (n=87)	27.8 (18.8-36.9) (n=176)	37.8 (29.4-46.2) (n=242)	30.7 (22.4-38.9) (n=151)
Received help for any experience of physical violence	21.6 (11.6-31.7) (n=87)	11.2 (7.2-15.2) (n=176)	24.1 (17.2-31.1) (n=242)	20.7 (12.8-28.5) (n=151)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Professional services include hospital/clinic, police station, social welfare or legal office, religious leader, or community leader.

**Table B5.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of physical violence and source of receipt, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced physical violence and who told someone and those who received help, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Person the victim told about physical violence [1]</b>	(n=55)	(n=127)	(n=178)	(n=98)
Relative	77.3 (62.7-91.8)	69.7 (60.0-79.5)	61.0 (53.2-68.7)	64.6 (53.3-75.8)
Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend or partner	**	**	**	**
Friend/neighbour	**	11.8 (6.7-16.9)	11.9 (6.4-17.5)	14.2 (6.4-22.0)
Service provider or authority figure [2]	**	5.6 (0.7-10.6)*	6.4 (2.4-10.3)*	9.7 (3.6-15.8)*
Other	**	3.5 (0.2-6.8)*	11.5 (5.5-17.5)	**
<b>Source of service received for any incident of physical violence, among those who received help</b>	(n=16)	(n=28)	(n=62)	(n=29)
Doctor, nurse, or other health care worker in a hospital or clinic	76.6 (51.9-100.0)	50.3 (30.0-70.6)	91.2 (85.6-96.7)	75.3 (56.2-94.5)
Police or other security personnel	42.0 (19.1-64.9)	52.9 (31.0-74.7)	50.9 (40.7-61.1)	54.7 (35.6-73.8)
Legal professional	<0.1%***	**	**	**
Social worker or counsellor	37.4 (13.8-61.0)*	**	13.1 (3.7-22.6)*	**
Community leader	**	21.2 (4.9-37.4)*	30.0 (18.7-41.3)	16.7 (5.0-28.4)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have experienced physical violence multiple times and may have told multiple people.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Service provider or authority figure includes: Traditional healer, Social Worker, Doctor/Nurse/Healthcare Worker, NGO worker, teacher, employer, community leader, religious leader.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

**Table B5.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced physical violence and did not seek services, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence [1]</b>	(n=62)	(n=122)	(n=144)	(n=105)
Structural barriers to accessing services [2]	<0.1%***	**	3.4 (0.5-6.3)*	**

Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure [3]	13.8 (3.2-24.4)*	10.2 (3.2-17.1)*	10.2 (3.6-16.7)*	14.1 (5.4-22.8)*
Individual beliefs about need for services [4]	18.9 (6.9-31.0)*	17.2 (6.9-27.4)*	19.5 (11.9-27.2)	32.5 (22.4-42.6)
Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator [5]	15.8 (5.4-26.1)*	4.0 (1.0-6.9)*	11.4 (5.2-17.5)	18.6 (8.4-28.8)
Other	4.8 (0.3-9.2)*	16.6 (6.7-26.5)*	14.4 (6.6-22.2)	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Structural barriers to accessing services includes: services too far away; could not afford services; services not high quality.

[3] Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure includes: did not know who to go to; afraid of getting in trouble; perpetrator told me not to tell anyone; dependent on perpetrator or someone else/fear of abandonment.

[4] Individual beliefs about need for services includes: did not think it was a problem; did not want/need to tell anyone.

[5] Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator includes: felt it was my fault; embarrassed for my family; afraid of perpetrator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Physical violence in the past 12 months among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B5.4.1. Prevalence of physical violence [1] in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho Weighted % (95% CI)	Manzini Weighted % (95% CI)	Shiselweni Weighted % (95% CI)	Lubombo Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>13-17-year-old females</b>				
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	4.1 (2.6-5.6) (n=678)	6.6 (4.1-9.0) (n=716)	8.2 (6.1-11.0) (n=906)	5.5 (3.3-7.6) (n=827)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	<0.1%*** (n=161)	** (n=206)	** (n=276)	** (n=230)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	2.3 (1.1-3.4) (n=678)	2.3 (0.9-3.8)* (n=716)	4.1 (2.7-5.6) (n=906)	2.7 (1.4-4.0) (n=827)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=678)	** (n=716)	** (n=906)	** (n=827)
Peer physical violence	1.8 (0.6-3.0)* (n=678)	3.7 (1.6-5.9) (n=716)	4.4 (2.9-5.9) (n=906)	2.4 (1.1-3.8) (n=827)
<b>18-24-year-old females</b>				
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	2.9 (1.0-4.8)* (n=801)	6.1 (3.4-8.8) (n=837)	6.1 (4.0-8.2) (n=827)	6.3 (3.5-9.1) (n=726)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	2.6 (0.7-4.4)* (n=674)	4.6 (1.9-7.2) (n=694)	4.0 (2.3-5.8) (n=707)	3.4 (1.7-5.1) (n=619)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	** (n=801)	1.5 (0.5-2.5)* (n=837)	1.6 (0.7-2.5) (n=827)	2.3 (0.7-3.9)* (n=726)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=801)	** (n=837)	0.8 (0.1-1.6)* (n=827)	** (n=726)
Peer physical violence	** (n=801)	1.0 (0.2-1.8)* (n=836)	1.9 (0.8-3.0) (n=827)	1.5 (0.1-2.9)* (n=726)
<b>13-24-year-old females</b>				

<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	3.4 (2.2-4.7) (n=1479)	6.3 (4.3-8.3) (n=1553)	7.2 (5.3-9.1) (n=1733)	5.9 (3.9-7.9) (n=1553)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	2.1 (0.6-3.6)* (n=835)	3.8 (1.7-5.9) (n=900)	3.4 (1.9-4.8) (n=983)	2.7 (1.4-4.1) (n=849)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	1.1 (0.6-1.7) (n=1479)	1.8 (1.0-2.7) (n=1553)	2.8 (1.8-3.7) (n=1733)	2.5 (1.2-3.7) (n=1553)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	0.5 (0.0-0.9)* (n=1479)	0.4 (0.0-0.8)* (n=1553)	0.8 (0.3-1.3)* (n=1733)	** (n=1553)
Peer physical violence	0.8 (0.3-1.3)* (n=1479)	2.2 (1.1-3.2) (n=1552)	3.1 (2.0-4.1) (n=1733)	1.9 (1.0-2.9) (n=1553)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## Witnessing physical violence

**Table B5.5.1. Prevalence of witnessing physical violence in the home and in the community, among 18-24-year-old females before age 18 and among 13-24-year-old females in the past 12 months, by region – Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Witnessed physical violence in childhood (among 18-24-year-old females)</b>				
In the home [1]	6.1 (4.0-8.3) (n=801)	9.1 (6.4-11.9) (n=837)	11.0 (8.4-13.6) (n=826)	10.1 (7.3-13.0) (n=726)
In the community [2]	10.3 (7.3-13.2) (n=799)	14.9 (11.1-18.7) (n=833)	19.4 (15.9-22.9) (n=822)	11.9 (8.2-15.5) (n=721)
<b>Witnessed physical violence in the past 12 months (among 13-24-year-old females)</b>				
In the home	1.9 (1.0-2.9) (n=1409)	1.5 (0.5-2.5)* (n=1456)	4.1 (2.6-5.6) (n=1602)	3.5 (2.2-4.9) (n=1451)
In the community	3.0 (1.6-4.3) (n=1389)	3.2 (1.7-4.6) (n=1407)	4.4 (3.2-5.5) (n=1558)	2.8 (1.4-4.2) (n=1462)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Witnessing physical violence in the home includes: hearing or seeing your mother or step-mother being hit, punched, kicked, or beaten by your father or step-father; or hearing or seeing a parent punch, kick, or beat your brothers or sisters.

[2] Witnessing physical violence in the community includes: seeing someone get attacked outside of your home and family environment.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 6: EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

### Emotional violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table B6.1. Prevalence of first experience of emotional violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence in childhood, any perpetrator	6.4 (4.1-8.6) (n=801)	10.9 (8.0-13.9) (n=837)	12.5 (10.0-15.1) (n=827)	10.2 (7.3-13.1) (n=726)
<b>Prevalence of emotional violence by perpetrator</b>				
Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative in childhood [1]	2.1 (0.9-3.3) (n=800)	2.7 (1.0-4.3)* (n=833)	2.9 (1.6-4.3) (n=823)	3.7 (1.6-5.7) (n=724)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	** (n=677)	2.0 (0.7-3.2)* (n=707)	3.8 (2.2-5.3) (n=712)	1.8 (0.6-3.1)* (n=626)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	5.1 (3.0-7.1) (n=800)	8.3 (5.5-11.1) (n=836)	8.7 (6.6-10.9) (n=822)	6.8 (4.3-9.3) (n=720)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult caregiver includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down.

[2] Among those who ever had an intimate partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### Lifetime emotional violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B6.2.1 Prevalence of lifetime experience of emotional violence and age of first experience of emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence, any perpetrator	12.5 (9.3-20.5) (n=1479)	20.2 (16.6-23.7) (n=1553)	23.6 (20.3-27.0) (n=1733)	19.0 (14.8-23.2) (n=1553)
<b>Prevalence of emotional violence by perpetrator</b>				
Emotional violence by a parent, caregiver, or adult relative [1]	3.3 (2.1-4.5) (n=1479)	4.5 (3.0-5.9) (n=1553)	6.0 (4.5-7.5) (n=1733)	5.1 (3.5-6.8) (n=1553)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	4.6 (2.9-6.4) (n=839)	8.9 (6.1-11.6) (n=914)	10.5 (7.7-13.3) (n=991)	7.5 (5.3-9.7) (n=857)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	9.4 (6.7-12.0) (n=1479)	15.5 (12.3-18.7) (n=1552)	17.1 (14.3-20.0) (n=1733)	14.2 (10.4-18.1) (n=1553)
<b>Age at first experience of emotional violence</b>	(n=186)	(n=290)	(n=401)	(n=251)



13 or younger	37.2 (29.0-45.4)	27.4 (20.7-34.1)	27.3 (22.6-32.1)	34.8 (27.3-42.4)
14-15	19.3 (12.8-25.8)	20.8 (15.3-26.4)	19.6 (15.1-24.0)	21.7 (15.2-28.1)
16-17	15.2 (9.4-20.9)	17.8 (12.8-22.7)	20.6 (16.6-24.6)	16.6 (10.5-22.8)
18-24	28.3 (19.4-37.3)	34.0 (27.7-40.3)	32.5 (26.3-38.7)	26.9 (21.2-32.5)

**Table B6.2.2. Experience of lifetime emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced emotional violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, among those who ever experienced emotional violence</b>				
<b>Experienced emotional violence before the COVID-19 pandemic [1]</b>	58.8 (51.6-66.0) (n= 187)	56.5 (48.8-64.1) (n= 294)	54.8 (48.2-61.5) (n=408)	58.5 (51.5-65.5) (n=261)
Experienced emotional violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	62.3 (55.2-69.5) (n= 186)	59.9 (50.6-69.1) (n= 293)	65.6 (59.7-71.6) (n=409)	66.5 (58.4-74.7) (n=261)
<b>Emotional violence by parent, or other adult relative [2]</b>	(n= 12)	(n=20)	(n=25)	(n=11)
First experience was before COVID-19	35.6 (8.1-63.2)*	27.4 (4.6-50.1)*	34.1 (11.1-57.2)*	65.1 (35.9-94.3)
First experience was during COVID-19	64.4 (36.8-91.9)	72.6 (49.9-95.4)	65.9 (42.8-88.9)	34.9 (5.7-64.1)*
<b>Emotional violence by intimate partner [3]</b>	(n= 15)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=23)
First experience was before COVID-19	54.4 (26.3-82.5)	48.6 (25.1-72.1)	48.4 (30.1-66.6)	38.1 (15.5-60.7)*
First experience was during COVID-19	45.6 (17.5-73.7)*	51.4 (27.9-74.9)	51.6 (33.4-69.9)	61.9 (39.3-84.5)
<b>Emotional violence by peer [4]</b>	(n=71)	(n=112)	(n=168)	(n=106)
First experience was before COVID-19	41.8 (30.8-52.7)	52.9 (39.3-66.5)	45.3 (34.9-55.7)	43.8 (32.6-55.1)
First experience was during COVID-19	58.2 (47.3-69.2)	47.1 (33.5-60.7)	54.7 (44.3-65.1)	56.2 (44.9-67.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[2] Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative includes; being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted.

[3] Among those who ever had a partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[4] Emotional violence by a peer includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

Emotional violence in the past 12 months among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B6.3. Prevalence of emotional violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)
Emotional violence, any perpetrator	7.6 (5.2-9.9) (n=1479)	10.3 (7.5-13.2) (n=1553)	13.1 (10.6-15.6) (n=1733)	12.0 (9.0-14.9) (n=1553)
Emotional violence by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative [1]	2.4 (1.4-3.4) (n=1478)	2.7 (1.7-3.6) (n=1553)	4.3 (3.1-5.5) (n=1732)	3.8 (2.5-5.1) (n=1552)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	2.4 (1.2-3.6) (n=839)	5.0 (3.1-6.9) (n=913)	5.6 (3.8-7.5) (n=991)	5.0 (2.9-7.1) (n=857)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	5.3 (3.3-7.3) (n=1478)	7.0 (4.8-9.1) (n=1551)	8.1 (6.2-10.0) (n=1727)	8.0 (5.7-10.2) (n=1552)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult relative includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted.

[2] Among those who ever had a partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer in the past 12 months includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

## SECTION 7: INSPIRE INDICATORS

### INSPIRE indicators among 13-17-year-old females

**Table B7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)	Weighted % (95% CI) (n)
<b>Safe Environments</b>				
Missing school or not leaving home due to fear of violence or safety problems in the past 12 months	8.4 (4.9-12.0) (n=678)	8.5 (4.9-12.2) (n=715)	7.5 (5.1-9.8) (n=905)	6.3 (3.6-9.1) (n=827)
Witnessed violence in the neighbourhood in the past 12 months [1]	6.4 (3.5-9.3) (n=677)	7.0 (4.0-10.0) (n=713)	8.4 (6.2-10.5) (n=899)	5.5 (2.9-8.1) (n=823)
<b>Parent and Caregiver Support</b>				
Parents' use of positive parental discipline in the past 12 months	5.7 (3.4-8.1) (n=678)	9.6 (4.9-14.4) (n=713)	11.9 (8.0-15.8) (n=901)	5.7 (3.5-7.8) (n=826)
Close relationship with mother	93.9 (91.7-96.0) (n=608)	92.2 (89.9-94.6) (n=660)	88.8 (85.9-91.8) (n=814)	90.5 (88.3-92.7) (n=772)

**Table B7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Easy to talk to mother	80.3 (76.4-84.2) (n=658)	79.9 (76.7-83.2) (n=694)	72.7 (68.8-76.6) (n=867)	78.9 (74.8-83.1) (n=804)
High parental monitoring and supervision	81.8 (76.1-87.5) (n=678)	69.1 (62.1-76.0) (n=716)	67.1 (60.9-73.2) (n=903)	80.0 (75.9-84.2) (n=826)
Parents' use of physical discipline or verbal aggression in the past 12 months	14.8 (10.0-19.6) (n=678)	19.0 (14.6-23.3) (n=715)	21.0 (16.5-25.6) (n=905)	16.7 (13.1-20.3) (n=826)
Increased negative behaviour by parent/ caregiver since COVID-19 pandemic started [2]	1.4 (0.5-2.4)* (n=654)	3.3 (1.4-5.2) (n=705)	3.7 (2.2-5.2) (n=895)	2.7 (1.7-3.8) (n=795)
<b>Income and Economic Strengthening</b>				
Experiencing food insecurity	58.8 (53.8-63.7) (n=663)	54.5 (48.8-60.3) (n=699)	61.2 (57.0-65.4) (n=874)	62.2 (56.8-67.5) (n=788)
<b>Education and Life Skills</b>				
Currently enrolled in school	92.3 (90.0-94.7) (n=672)	90.3 (87.5-93.0) (n=711)	95.2 (93.7-96.8) (n=903)	91.1 (88.2-93.9) (n=823)
Binge drinking in the past 30 days [3]	1.2 (0.2-2.1*) (n=665)	0.6 (0.0-1.3)** (n=705)	0.6 (0.0-1.8)** (n=870)	0.6 (0.0-1.5)** (n=814)
In a physical fight in the past 12 months	2.7 (1.6-3.8) (n=677)	7.0 (4.5-9.4) (n=715)	6.8 (4.7-8.9) (n=906)	5.1 (3.1-7.1) (n=826)
Peer social supports [4]	64.4 (59.5-69.2) (n=678)	64.0 (60.3-67.7) (n=715)	63.2 (58.7-67.8) (n=905)	63.4 (58.9-67.9) (n=827)
Caring adult relationships in community [5]	51.4 (45.5-57.2) (n=678)	45.9 (39.3-52.6) (n=711)	58.4 (52.6-64.2) (n=903)	54.3 (49.2-59.3) (n=827)
Meaningful participation in community [6]	74.3 (69.9-78.8) (n=678)	63.8 (58.3-69.2) (n=716)	68.2 (64.1-72.2) (n=906)	66.0 (61.1-71.0) (n=827)
Caring adult relationships in family [7]	91.8 (89.5-94.2) (n=676)	88.4 (83.6-93.1) (n=716)	88.5 (84.5-92.4) (n=906)	92.7 (90.3-95.1) (n=827)
Taught anger management in school during school year	39.7 (34.0-45.3) (n=620)	38.2 (33.0-43.5) (n=647)	22.2 (18.8-25.7) (n=855)	30.9 (26.6-35.1) (n=765)
Taught how to avoid physical fights and violence in school during school year	48.6 (43.2-54.0) (n=617)	42.4 (37.4-47.5) (n=644)	36.9 (32.8-41.1) (n=851)	47.0 (41.9-52.0) (n=760)
Taught how to avoid bullying in school during school year	41.9 (36.8-46.9) (n=618)	45.9 (40.0-51.7) (n=647)	36.2 (31.3-41.1) (n=852)	39.4 (34.9-44.0) (n=757)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Witnessing violence in the community includes seeing anyone get attacked outside of the home or family environment.

[2] Negative behaviour includes increased shouting, name calling, criticizing, hitting, or slapping.

[3] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

[4] Peer social supports includes: my friends really try to help me; I can count on my friends when things go wrong; I have friends with whom I can share my good times and bad times; I can talk about problems with my friends.

[5] Caring adult relationships in community includes: outside of my home and school, there is an adult who really cares about me; there is an adult whom I trust who notices when I am upset about something; there is an adult who tells me when I do a good job; there is an adult who always wants me to do my best.

[6] Meaningful participation in community includes: in my community, I am part of a club; I am part of a sports team; I am part of a church/temple/mosque; I am part of some other group.

**Table B7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)

[7] Caring adult relationships in family is defined as including your mother and father and any other family members, would you say that you have an adult family member who cares about you; who is willing to help you make decisions?

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed

### INSPIRE indicators among 18-24-year-old females

**Table B7.2. INSPIRE indicators among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Norms and values</b>				
Agreement with the necessity of corporal punishment by parents	43.2 (37.7-48.8) (n=792)	47.0 (41.8-52.2) (n=830)	47.6 (43.1-52.1) (n=822)	41.7 (36.1-47.3) (n=723)
Agreement with the necessity of corporal punishment by teachers	36.1 (29.8-42.3) (n=798)	37.3 (32.8-41.8) (n=834)	38.4 (33.7-43.1) (n=822)	43.8 (38.0-49.7) (n=724)
Acceptance of domestic violence [1]	18.1 (11.1-25.1) (n=801)	8.5 (4.8-12.2) (n=837)	13.4 (9.6-17.1) (n=826)	15.3 (11.6-19.0) (n=726)
Endorsement of traditional gender norms [2]	15.3 (11.5-19.1) (n=801)	16.3 (12.0-20.5) (n=836)	21.8 (18.4-25.2) (n=827)	17.9 (13.7-22.1) (n=726)
Increased negative behaviour by partner since COVID-19 pandemic started [3]	4.3 (2.3-6.4) (n=666)	3.4 (1.9-4.9) (n=691)	5.0 (3.0-7.0) (n=702)	4.2 (2.3-6.1) (n=616)
<b>Income and economic strengthening</b>				
Experiencing food insecurity	65.0 (60.2-69.7) (n=796)	58.5 (53.0-64.1) (n=831)	63.1 (58.7-67.5) (n=813)	64.0 (59.2-68.9) (n=717)
<b>Education and life skills</b>				
Early sexual debut: first sex at or before age 15	3.1 (1.5-4.8) (n=797)	4.5 (2.7-6.3) (n=835)	6.7 (4.6-8.9) (n=823)	5.8 (3.9-7.7) (n=725)
Early pregnancy: pregnant before age 18	15.0 (11.8-18.2) (n=558)	13.1 (9.6-16.5) (n=598)	17.3 (13.6-21.0) (n=624)	16.5 (12.6-20.4) (n=509)
Binge drinking in the past 30 days [4]	5.0 (2.9-7.0) (n=791)	2.9 (1.7-4.2) (n=816)	1.7 (0.6-2.8)* (n=772)	2.0 (1.1-2.9) (n=716)
Current smoker	1.7 (0.7-2.8)* (n=777)	2.1 (0.8-3.4)* (n=801)	** (n=778)	1.0 (0.2-1.8)* (n=687)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: it is acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she: goes out without telling him; neglects the children; argues with him; refuses to have sex with him; is suspected of having an affair.

[2] Includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: men decide when to have sex; men need more sex than women; men need other women; women who carry condoms are “loose;” women should tolerate violence to keep the family together.

[3] Among those who ever had a partner. Negative behaviour includes: for example, increased shouting, name calling, criticizing, hitting, or slapping.

[4] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## INSPIRE indicators among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B7.3. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Response and support services</b>				
Knew of a place to go for help for violence [1]	58.8 (53.8-63.9) (n=1475)	58.7 (53.3-64.0) (n=1544)	65.8 (61.6-69.9) (n=1700)	63.8 (59.1-68.4) (n=1543)
<b>Education and life skills</b>				
Lifetime transactional sex [2]	4.7 (2.5-7.0) (n=624)	6.3 (3.8-8.7) (n=681)	9.2 (6.8-11.5) (n=729)	8.0 (4.8-11.3) (n=596)
Suicidal ideation [3]	8.9 (5.9-11.9) (n=1478)	11.9 (9.3-14.5) (n=1547)	9.1 (7.4-10.9) (n=1731)	6.3 (4.5-8.1) (n=1553)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Knew place to seek service for physical or sexual violence.

[2] Among those who ever had sex. Transactional sex includes receiving money, gifts, food, or favours in exchange for sex.

[3] Suicidal ideation includes ever having thought of suicide.

## SECTION 8: OVERLAP AMONG SEXUAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

### Overlap among different forms of violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table B8.1. Prevalence and overlap of different types of violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Any violence</b>	(n=801)	(n=837)	(n=827)	(n=726)
No childhood violence	89.3 (85.9-92.6)	82.8 (79.3-86.2)	79.1 (75.5-82.7)	84.0 (80.5-87.5)
Any childhood violence	10.7 (7.4-14.1)	17.2 (13.8-20.7)	20.9 (17.3-24.5)	16.0 (12.5-19.5)
<b>One type of violence only</b>	(n=801)	(n=837)	(n=827)	(n=726)
Childhood sexual violence [1] only	2.5 (1.3-3.8)	3.5 (1.8-5.1)	4.3 (2.7-5.9)	3.0 (1.6-4.5)
Childhood physical violence only [2]	1.7 (0.3-3.1)*	2.4 (1.0-3.7)	3.7 (2.1-5.3)	2.4 (0.9-4.0)*

**Table B8.1. Prevalence and overlap of different types of violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Childhood emotional violence only [3]	5.6 (3.4-7.7)	6.1 (4.0-8.2)	8.3 (6.0-10.6)	5.1 (3.1-7.2)
<b>Multiple types of violence</b>	(n=801)	(n=837)	(n=827)	(n=726)
Two types of violence	0.9 (0.3-1.5)*	4.7 (2.9-6.5)	3.7 (2.3-5.0)	4.1 (2.0-6.3)
Three types of violence	**	0.6 (0.0-1.2)*	0.9 (0.2-1.6)*	1.3 (0.4-2.2)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative; insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you; made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; b) told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; c) kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

#### Overlap among different forms of lifetime violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B8.2. Prevalence and overlap of different types of lifetime violence among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Any violence</b>	(n=1479)	(n=1553)	(n=1733)	(n=1553)
No violence	82.7 (78.9-86.5)	72.6 (68.2-77.0)	66.9 (62.8-71.1)	72.7 (67.9-77.5)
Any violence	17.3 (13.5-21.1)	27.4 (23.0-31.8)	33.1 (28.9-37.2)	27.3 (22.5-32.1)
<b>One type of violence only</b>	(n=1479)	(n=1553)	(n=1733)	(n=1553)
Sexual violence only [1]	2.4 (1.4-3.3)	2.6 (1.4-3.7)	3.3 (2.4-4.2)	3.4 (2.1-4.8)
Physical violence only [2]	2.4 (1.3-3.6)	4.1 (2.7-5.5)	5.4 (3.8-7.0)	4.1 (2.7-5.6)
Emotional violence only [3]	8.0 (5.5-10.4)	9.3 (7.2-11.4)	13.6 (11.1-16.0)	9.6 (6.9-12.2)
<b>Multiple types of violence</b>	(n=1479)	(n=1553)	(n=1733)	(n=1553)
Two types of violence	3.5 (2.1-5.0)	8.3 (6.3-10.4)	8.1 (6.3-10.0)	7.3 (4.9-9.6)
Three types of violence	1.0 (0.5-1.5)	3.1 (1.7-4.4)	2.6 (1.6-3.7)	2.9 (1.7-4.1)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure). [2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative;

insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you; made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

## SECTION 9: HEALTH CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE

### Mental health conditions by experience of violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B9.1.3. Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on mental and emotional health, among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Mental and emotional health has been worsened [1] by the COVID-19 pandemic	57.1 (51.8-62.5) (n=1471)	67.6 (63.6-71.6) (n=1540)	66.0 (62.5-69.5) (n=1707)	59.1 (54.7-63.6) (n=1523)
COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on work/study, relationships, and sleep [2]	64.3 (58.7-69.9) (n=1479)	56.2 (51.0-61.4) (n=1548)	57.2 (52.4-62.0) (n=1718)	62.0 (56.4-67.7) (n=1548)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Mental/emotional health worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic slightly, moderately, or very.

[2] Includes ability to work or study, stress/worry, emotional health, relationship with friends, relationships with family, ability to sleep.

### Pregnancy and missing school as a result of violence

**Table B9.3.1. Pregnancy as a result of sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females who experienced sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Pregnancy as a result of pressured sex [1], forced sex, or sex when unable to consent	** (n=56)	** (n= 90)	4.7 (1.2-8.1)* (n=111)	6.4 (0.5-12.3)* (n=84)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure. Among females who ever experienced pressured sex, forced sex, or sex when victim was unable to consent or stop it because victim was too drunk to say no.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table B9.3.2. Missing school as a result of any sexual or physical violence among 13-24-year-old females, by region— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Missed school due to any childhood sexual violence [1]	9.7 (2.4-16.9)* (n=66)	13.4 (6.7-20.2) (n=119)	5.7 (1.6-9.8)* (n=160)	8.1 (3.1-13.0)* (n=132)

**Table B9.3.2. Missing school as a result of any sexual or physical violence among 13-24-year-old females, by region— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Missed school due to any childhood physical violence [2]	12.3 (3.1-21.6)* (n= 87)	13.1 (7.3-19.0) (n=178)	9.3 (5.3-13.2) (n=245)	15.3 (6.9-23.6) (n=151)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 10: SEXUAL RISK BEHAVIOURS AND HIV

### Sexual risk behaviours among 19-24-year-old females

**Table B10.1.1. Sexual risk behaviours among 19-24-year-old females who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Two or more sex partners in the past 12 months	9.9 (6.2-13.6) (n=466)	5.5 (3.5-7.4) (n=489)	7.1 (4.5-9.8) (n=499)	8.6 (5.5-11.7) (n=436)
Infrequent condom use in the past 12 months [1]	42.7 (36.4-49.0) (n=463)	41.3 (36.1-346.5) (n=482)	52.8 (47.6-58.0) (n=494)	50.8 (44.0-57.6) (n=433)
Transactional sex in the past 12 months [2]	4.3 (1.8-6.8) (n=466)	5.7 (3.2-8.2) (n=491)	6.9 (4.3-9.5) (n=498)	9.0 (5.0-13.0) (n=431)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Infrequent condom use: never or sometimes use condoms in the past 12 months. Married persons who had sex with only one partner in the past 12 months and who didn't use condom were included in the frequent condom user category.

[2] Transactional sex includes receiving money, gifts, food, or favours in exchange for sex.

[3] Sex with a partner who is 5 or more years older.

### HIV testing knowledge and behaviour among 13-24-year-old females

**Table B10.2.1. HIV prevention, testing, treatment knowledge and behaviour among 13-24-year-old females, by region— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Know where to go for HIV Test [1]	93.3 (91.7-95.0) (n=1479)	89.0 (86.3-91.8) (n=1552)	88.4 (86.0-90.7) (n=1732)	91.6 (89.9-93.3) (n=1553)
Ever tested for HIV	79.3 (76.8-81.7) (n=1474)	76.6 (73.2-80.0) (n=1546)	80.5 (77.8-83.1) (n=1727)	78.8 (76.1-81.6) (n=1552)
Knowledge of male circumcision for HIV prevention	87.8 (85.0-90.7) (n=1270)	85.2 (81.7-88.7) (n=1262)	85.4 (82.3-88.5) (n=1306)	84.6 (81.6-87.6) (n=1253)



**Table B10.2.1. HIV prevention, testing, treatment knowledge and behaviour among 13-24-year-old females, by region— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Knowledge of HIV treatment to prevent HIV transmission	84.5 (81.2-87.8) (n=1264)	84.5 (81.2-87.8) (n=1324)	83.7 (80.7-86.7) (n=1433)	87.2 (84.6-89.8) (n=1304)
<b>Timing of most recent viral load test [3]</b>				
Less than or equal to 6 months ago	70.1 (58.1-82.1) (n=72)	72.9 (63.6-82.2) (n=96)	80.2 (72.6-87.8) (n=95)	73.8 (64.0-83.6) (n=73)
More than 6 months ago	29.9 (17.9-41.9) (n=72)	27.1 (17.8-36.4) (n=96)	19.8 (12.2-27.4) (n=95)	26.2 (16.4-36.0) (n=73)
<b>Know where to go for an HIV test by experience of sexual violence</b>				
Experienced any sexual violence [2]	93.1 (86.6-99.7) (n=69)	89.4 (82.9-95.9) (n=123)	94.9 (91.0-98.9) (n=161)	93.0 (89.0-96.9) (n=134)
No lifetime sexual violence	93.3 (91.7-95.0) (n=1409)	89.0 (86.2-91.8) (n=1429)	87.7 (85.1-90.3) (n=1571)	91.7 (90.0-93.3) (n=1418)
<b>Ever tested for HIV by experience of sexual violence</b>				
Experienced any sexual violence	86.8 (75.7-97.8) (n=69)	87.0 (78.1-95.8) (n=123)	88.6 (82.5-94.8) (n=161)	88.5 (83.6-93.5) (n=134)
No lifetime sexual violence	78.9 (76.4-81.4) (n=1404)	75.5 (72.0-79.0) (n=1423)	79.6 (76.8-82.5) (n=1566)	78.0 (75.2-80.7) (n=1417)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Age of consent for HIV testing in Eswatini is 12.

[2] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (through continual arguments and pressure) sex.

[3] Among those who ever had viral load test. Timing is calculated by subtracting most recent viral load test date from the date survey was completed. Six months was defined by 180 days.

**Table B10.2.2. Service knowledge and PEP and PrEP awareness among 13-24-year-old females, by region— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Among all 13-24-year-old females</b>				
Knowledge of place to seek services for violence	58.8 (53.8-63.9) (n=1475)	58.7 (53.3-64.0) (n=1544)	65.8 (61.6-69.9) (n=1700)	63.8 (59.1-68.4) (n=1543)
<b>Among those with current knowledge of a place for violence service</b>				
Knew of a doctor, nurse, or other healthcare worker in a hospital or clinic	95.5 (93.9-97.1) (n=857)	94.9 (92.8-97.0) (n=913)	97.1 (95.7-98.4) (n=1123)	97.6 (96.7-98.5) (n=973)
Knew of police or other security personnel to go to for help with violence	97.2 (96.0-98.5) (n=857)	93.9 (91.5-96.4) (n=912)	96.7 (95.6-97.7) (n=1125)	97.6 (96.6-98.6) (n=973)
Knew of a legal professional go to for help with violence	34.1 (28.7-39.5) (n=836)	37.2 (32.3-42.1) (n=890)	36.5 (31.6-41.3) (n=1085)	33.9 (28.2-39.6) (n=954)

**Table B10.2.2. Service knowledge and PEP and PrEP awareness among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho</b>	<b>Manzini</b>	<b>Shiselweni</b>	<b>Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Among all 13-24-year-old females</b>				
Knew of a social worker or counsellor to go to for help with violence	59.5 (53.7-65.3) (n=846)	56.0 (51.2-60.8) (n=898)	55.3 (50.4-60.3) (n=1099)	55.0 (48.2-61.7) (n=964)
Knew of a community leader to go to for help with violence	77.1 (72.5-81.7) (n=855)	74.8 (70.4-79.2) (n=912)	80.0 (76.8-83.3) (n=1113)	74.8 (70.0-79.6) (n=966)
<b>Among all 13-24-year-old females</b>				
Ever heard of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV	52.6 (48.2-57.1) (n=1478)	51.2 (46.0-56.5) (n=1549)	47.3 (43.0-51.7) (n=1724)	51.4 (47.6-55.3) (n=1544)
Ever heard of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV	36.2 (32.2-40.3) (n=1479)	44.3 (39.0-49.6) (n=1545)	39.1 (34.9-43.2) (n=1728)	41.6 (36.9-46.3) (n=1544)
Willing to take PrEP among those who have ever had sex	80.0 (74.5-85.4) (n=511)	82.4 (77.7-87.1) (n=562)	83.6 (79.0-88.2) (n=621)	80.1 (75.3-84.9) (n=496)
Willing to take PrEP if exposed	76.6 (71.9-81.3) (n=1399)	85.1 (81.4-88.9) (n=1442)	83.2 (79.6-86.7) (n=1590)	78.5 (74.6-82.4) (n=1412)
<b>Among those who have heard of PEP</b>				
Know that PEP must be taken within 72 hours of exposure	71.5 (66.4-76.6) (n=550)	68.4 (63.3-73.4) (n=701)	65.3 (60.8-69.7) (n=645)	69.9 (65.5-74.3) (n=615)
<b>Among those who experienced forced or pressured sex</b>				
Ever heard of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV	61.6 (43.7-79.4) (n=33)	63.5 (45.3-81.8) (n=52)	51.4 (35.8-67.0) (n=58)	56.0 (39.8-72.3) (n=41)
Ever taken PEP	20.2 (2.9-37.5)* (n=22)	27.2 (7.6-46.8)* (n=33)	27.8 (11.8-43.9) (n=32)	49.7 (22.6-76.8) (n=22)
Ever heard of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV	78.6 (64.9-92.4) (n=33)	69.6 (55.5-83.7) (n=52)	66.1 (52.0-80.3) (n=58)	57.7 (39.9-75.6) (n=41)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

**Table B10.2.3. Willingness to take PrEP and reasons for not taking PrEP among 13-24-year-old females, by region– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Among 16-24-year-old females who have taken PrEP [1]</b>	n=83	n=92	n=73	n=67
Likely to take PrEP again [1]	69.2 (58.1-80.4)	77.6 (67.9-87.3)	84.1 (74.5-93.8)	83.5 (73.3-93.7)
Not likely to take PrEP again	30.8 (19.6-41.9)	22.4 (12.7-32.1)	15.9 (6.2-25.5)*	16.5 (6.3-26.7)*
<b>Reasons for not being willing to take PrEP again</b>	n=88	n=62	n=77	n=73
Low risk for HIV exposure	35.8 (24.1-47.5)	23.9 (11.0-36.7)	33.7 (19.1-48.2)	22.5 (10.2-34.7)
Did not like the medicine	55.9 (43.1-68.8)	61.0 (44.7-77.3)	60.5 (46.0-75.1)	70.1 (56.9-83.3)
Worried about stigma/retaliation	**	**	**	**
Too hard to get the medicine	**	**	**	6.9 (0.3-13.4)*
Other	<0.1***	<0.1***	<0.1***	<0.1***
<b>Among 13-24-year-old females who have not taken PrEP</b>	n=499	n=542	n=602	n=475
Would take PrEP to help prevent HIV	79.7 (74.3-85.2)	82.3 (77.4-87.2)	83.8 (79.2-88.4)	80.2 (75.3-85.1)
Would not take PrEP to help prevent HIV	20.0 (14.6-25.5)	17.6 (12.9-22.3)	16.4 (11.8-21.0)	19.9 (15.1-24.7)
<b>Reasons for not being willing to take PrEP again</b>	n=87	n=61	n=74	n=71
Low risk for HIV exposure	36.1 (24.1-48.2)	22.3 (9.9-34.6)	34.5 (19.9-49.1)	22.9 (10.5-35.3)
Did not like the medicine	56.4 (43.9-68.8)	62.3 (45.9-78.6)	60.1 (45.8-74.5)	69.5 (56.0-83.0)
Worried about stigma/retaliation	**	**	**	**
Too hard to get the medicine	**	**	**	7.0 (0.2-13.8)*
Other	<0.1***	<0.1***	<0.1***	<0.1***

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Among those who have ever had sex

[2] Includes those who are currently on PrEP

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

**Table B10.2.4. Reasons for not getting tested for HIV, among 13-24-year-old females who ever had sex but were never tested for HIV, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
	(n=21)	(n=17)	(n=19)	(n=11)
No knowledge about HIV test	31.4 (3.8-59.0)*	**	**	**
Don't know where to get HIV test	<0.1%***	**	**	<0.1%***
Transport to test site is too much	**	**	<0.1%***	**
Test site too far away	**	<0.1%***	**	**
Don't need test/low risk	38.4 (1.9-74.9)*	**	**	**
Don't want to know if I have HIV	**	<0.1%***	<0.1%***	<0.1%***
Other	**	**	**	22.5 (0.6-44.4)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## HIV status

**Table B10.3.1. HIV status among 13-24-year-old females and by experience of any lifetime violence and lifetime sexual violence, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Tested positive for HIV [1]	6.3 (4.9-7.6) (n=1435)	7.0 (5.4-8.6) (n=1503)	7.0 (5.4-8.6) (n=1666)	6.0 (4.6-7.3) (n=1514)
Knew HIV status, among those living with HIV	90.1 (83.1-97.1) (n=87)	85.9 (75.5-96.3) (n=115)	92.0 (86.8-97.2) (n=118)	87.1 (78.4-95.7) (n=96)
On antiretroviral treatment (ART) among those who knew they were living with HIV	85.7 (76.1-95.3) (n=78)	97.1 (92.9-100.0) (n=104)	94.9 (90.4-99.3) (n=106)	90.6 (83.9-97.3) (n=83)
Self-reported virally suppressed, among those on ART [2]	59.4 (43.0-75.9) (n=61)	56.5 (44.2-68.8) (n=93)	46.8 (35.9-57.7) (n=90)	70.5 (57.7-83.3) (n=64)
<b>HIV status and any lifetime violence [3]</b>				
HIV positive among those who experienced no lifetime violence	5.6 (4.4-6.8) (n=1194)	7.3 (5.4-9.1) (n=1117)	6.9 (4.8-9.0) (n=1113)	5.2 (3.9-6.5) (n=1151)
<b>HIV status and sexual violence [4]</b>				
HIV positive among those who experienced lifetime sexual violence	12.5 (3.6-21.4)* (n=66)	6.9 (2.6-11.3)* (n=120)	11.4 (5.7-17.0) (n=157)	9.3 (4.3-14.4) (n=133)
HIV positive among those who experienced no lifetime sexual violence	6.0 (4.7-7.3) (n=1368)	7.0 (5.4-8.5) (n=1383)	6.6 (4.9-8.3) (n=1509)	5.6 (4.3-6.9) (n=1381)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] HIV status determined through HIV rapid test results or self-report of a prior positive HIV test. HIV rapid testing was offered to 13–24-year-old participants who did not report a prior HIV positive result, using the national rapid HIV testing algorithm and country counselling guidelines.

[2] Self-reported most recent viral load test; not laboratory verified.

[3] Any violence includes sexual violence, physical violence, or emotional violence.

[4] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (through continual arguments and pressure) sex.

**Table B10.3.2. Negative experiences related to disclosure to partner of their positive HIV status, among 13–24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Afraid of negative experience from HIV disclosure to intimate partner, among those who are HIV positive, and partner does not know their status	** (n=10)	18.2 (0.5-35.9)* (n=16)	27.1 (2.8-51.3)* (n=13)	26.1 (8.4-43.8)* (n=12)
Afraid of negative experience from HIV disclosure to intimate partner, among those who are HIV negative	9.1 (4.9-13.2) (n=432)	18.9 (12.2-25.5) (n=441)	24.8 (19.1-30.5) (n=451)	18.4 (12.5-24.4) (n=414)

Note: CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 11: VIOLENCE PERPETRATION

### Physical violence perpetration

**Table B11.1. Physical violence perpetration among 13-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Ever perpetrated physical violence [1]	1.9 (1.1-2.6) (n=1479)	3.8 (2.5-5.1) (n=1551)	4.1 (2.9-5.4) (n=1732)	3.6 (2.1-5.1) (n=1552)
Perpetrated physical violence in the past 12 months	0.6 (0.2-1.1)* (n=1479)	1.2 (0.7-1.8) (n=1551)	1.4 (0.7-2.1) (n=1732)	1.2 (0.3-2.1)* (n=1552)
<b>Prevalence of lifetime physical violence by experience of sexual violence [2]</b>				
Experienced sexual violence	11.1 (3.2-19.0)* (n=69)	9.6 (3.6-15.6)* (n=123)	10.0 (4.8-15.2) (n=161)	17.2 (7.9-26.6) (n=134)
No sexual violence	1.4 (0.7-2.1) (n=1409)	3.2 (2.1-4.3) (n=1428)	3.5 (2.4-4.6) (n=1571)	2.2 (1.1-3.2) (n=1417)
<b>Prevalence of lifetime physical violence perpetration by experience of physical violence [3]</b>				
Experienced physical violence	13.3 (6.1-20.5) (n=87)	16.3 (9.4-23.1) (n=178)	17.6 (11.4-23.8) (n=244)	18.9 (11.9-26.0) (n=151)
No physical violence	1.2 (0.5-1.9)* (n=1392)	2.1 (1.1-3.0) (n=1373)	2.0 (1.3-2.8) (n=1488)	1.6 (0.6-2.6)* (n=1401)

Note: CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Violence perpetration includes: slapped, pushed, shoved, shook, or intentionally threw something at; punched, kicked, whipped, or beat with an object; choked, suffocated, tried to drown, or burned intentionally; threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[3] Physical violence includes: punching, slapping, kicking, whipping, lashing, poking with an object, choking, smothering, trying to drown, burning intentionally, using or threatening to use a gun, knife, screwdriver, softball bat, knobkerrie, gun, or other weapon  
\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 12: CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE

Characteristics associated with violence among 13-17-year-old females

**Table B12.1. Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by select characteristics among 13-17-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Violence and orphan status (lost one or both parents in childhood) [1]</b>				
Violence among orphans	6.9 (2.0-11.9)* (n=134)	8.1 (3.2-12.9)* (n=135)	7.9 (3.4-12.4) (n=181)	10.3 (5.0-15.5) (n=165)
Violence among non-orphans	5.1 (2.9-7.2) (n=525)	8.8 (5.4-12.3) (n=544)	11.4 (8.3-14.5) (n=659)	8.6 (5.3-11.8) (n=618)
<b>Violence and school attendance</b>				
Violence among those not attending school	10.5 (1.0-20.0)* (n=52)	10.9 (1.1-20.7)* (n=65)	19.8 (6.4-33.1)* (n=44)	11.9 (2.0-21.9)* (n=63)
Violence among those attending school	4.9 (3.0-6.7) (n=620)	8.1 (5.6-10.7) (n=646)	10.1 (7.6-12.6) (n=859)	8.4 (5.3-11.6) (n=760)
<b>Violence and working for money or other payment in the past year</b>				
Violence among youth who worked	** (n=24)	** (n=25)	** (n=28)	14.8 (1.7-27.9)* (n=27)
Violence among youth who did not work	5.3 (3.5-7.1) (n=653)	8.4 (5.8-10.9) (n=691)	10.6 (7.9-13.3) (n=878)	8.6 (5.5-11.6) (n=800)
<b>Violence and witnessing violence at home</b>				
Violence among youth who witnessed violence at home	13.3 (5.3-21.3)* (n=50)	21.7 (7.7-35.7)* (n=51)	21.3 (12.0-30.6) (n=139)	26.8 (14.2-39.4) (n=95)
Violence among youth who did not witness violence at home	4.4 (2.5-6.4) (n=624)	7.3 (4.8-9.9) (n=661)	8.6 (6.3-10.8) (n=765)	6.2 (3.8-8.6) (n=732)
<b>Violence and food or material insecurity</b>				
Violence among youth who experienced food insecurity	6.3 (3.5-9.1) (n=373)	8.1 (5.0-11.3) (n=367)	11.4 (7.6-15.2) (n=537)	11.6 (7.0-16.2) (n=461)
Violence among youth who did not experience food insecurity	3.7 (1.5-6.0)* (n=290)	9.1 (4.6-13.5) (n=332)	8.7 (5.6-11.8) (n=337)	4.7 (2.4-7.0) (n=327)
<b>Violence and disability</b>				
Violence among youth with a disability	18.8 (9.6-27.9) (n=77)	10.9 (4.3-17.5)* (n=113)	20.9 (13.6-28.1) (n=164)	23.2 (12.2-34.2) (n=83)
Violence among youth with no disability	3.2 (1.5-5.0) (n=601)	7.8 (4.7-11.0) (n=603)	8.3 (5.7-11.0) (n=742)	7.0 (4.4-9.6) (n=744)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Violence includes sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed

## Characteristics associated with violence among 18-24-year-old females

**Table B12.2. Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by select characteristics among 18-24-year-old females, by region—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth**

	Hhohho	Manzini	Shiselweni	Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Violence and orphan status (lost one or both parents in childhood) [1]</b>				
Violence among orphans	6.7 (3.4-10.0) (n=262)	11.2 (5.7-16.6) (n=290)	9.2 (5.1-13.4) (n=273)	11.7 (6.8-16.7) (n=223)
Violence among non-orphans	4.4 (1.0-7.7)* (n=509)	8.5 (4.7-12.2) (n=490)	8.6 (5.4-11.8) (n=510)	10.7 (6.5-14.9) (n=470)
<b>Violence by level of education</b>				
Violence among youth who completed primary school or less	12.9 (3.8-21.9)* (n=56)	16.7 (3.1-30.3)* (n=74)	14.4 (5.5-23.3)* (n=95)	18.1 (7.8-28.4) (n=100)
Violence among youth who completed secondary school	6.5 (2.2-10.8)* (n=206)	11.7 (5.5-18.0) (n=193)	10.7 (5.9-15.4) (n=229)	10.4 (4.2-16.7)* (n=196)
Violence among youth who completed more than secondary school	4.0 (1.8-6.3) (n=539)	6.9 (3.9-9.8) (n=569)	7.4 (4.8-10.0) (n=503)	9.8 (6.0-13.7) (n=428)
<b>Violence and working for money or other payment in the past 12 months</b>				
Violence among youth who worked	** (n=172)	8.6 (4.2-13.1) (n=219)	8.4 (3.5-13.4) (n=172)	13.4 (6.8-19.9) (n=160)
Violence among youth who did not work	5.5 (2.8-8.1) (n=629)	9.1 (5.0-13.1) (n=618)	9.1 (6.3-11.8) (n=651)	10.3 (6.6-14.0) (n=566)
<b>Violence and witnessed violence at home</b>				
Violence among youth who witnessed violence at home	** (n=50)	31.1 (16.8-45.4) (n=70)	17.7 (7.8-27.6) (n=85)	20.9 (10.3-31.4) (n=67)
Violence among youth who did not witness violence at home	4.4 (2.9-6.0) (n=751)	6.7 (4.0-9.5) (n=767)	8.0 (5.5-10.5) (n=741)	9.9 (6.5-13.3) (n=659)
<b>Violence and marriage or cohabitation</b>				
Violence among youth who are married or cohabiting	16.8 (6.3-27.3)* (n=82)	14.9 (7.2-22.6) (n=113)	14.5 (4.9-24.0)* (n=71)	21.2 (11.4-31.0) (n=79)
Violence among youth who are unmarried and not cohabiting	4.0 (2.0-5.9) (n=719)	8.2 (4.7-11.7) (n=722)	8.6 (6.1-11.1) (n=754)	9.6 (6.0-13.1) (n=646)
<b>Violence and food insecurity</b>				
Violence among youth who experienced food insecurity	5.6 (2.0-9.2)* (n=490)	10.8 (6.6-15.0) (n=485)	10.4 (6.8-14.1) (n=502)	12.4 (8.0-16.8) (n=441)
Violence among youth who did not experience food insecurity	3.8 (0.9-6.6)* (n=306)	6.3 (2.7-9.9) (n=346)	7.1 (3.9-10.3) (n=311)	8.9 (4.5-13.4) (n=276)
<b>Violence and disability</b>				
Violence among youth with a disability	10.4 (4.1-16.7)* (n=79)	14.2 (4.6-23.7)* (n=119)	14.0 (6.1-21.9) (n=135)	12.8 (4.3-21.4)* (n=83)
Violence among youth with no disability	4.6 (2.1-7.1) (n=722)	8.0 (4.9-11.1) (n=718)	8.1 (5.4-10.8) (n=692)	10.8 (7.0-14.5) (n=643)

Note: CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Violence includes sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX C: DREAMS TABLES

The 2022 Eswatini VACS provides representative national-level data on the prevalence of violence among children and young adults. Additionally, for females, representative samples were selected from each of the four regions and in each region, females were oversampled in DREAMS areas to give a more detailed understanding of the prevalence of violence and relationship between violence and HIV and HIV risk factors in these selected DREAMS areas within each region. The DREAMS areas are the areas where PEPFAR program were being implemented. DREAMS is a partnership that focuses on reducing HIV among adolescent girls and young women. PEPFAR partners with government and civil society organizations to implement DREAMS by employing a layered approach of synergistic interventions that target the multiple spheres of risk that adolescent girls and young women face. The DREAMS core interventions include empowering adolescent girls and young women and reducing their HIV risk, strengthening the family and contributing to positive parenting, characterizing and addressing risks of sexual partners, and mobilizing the surrounding community to change norms and improve educational attainment for girls. The regions selected for DREAMS programming are chosen based on data on HIV burden and feasibility of implementation of the DREAMS core package. Due to DREAMS' focus on adolescent girls and young women, oversampling in these regions was conducted only among females. The intention of this strategy was to collect subnational data among females to guide programming for DREAMS as well as other similar interventions. The data in this section provides results of key indicators among adolescent girls and young women oversampled in DREAMS areas in Hhohho, Manzini, Shiselweni, and Lubombo.

### SECTION 3: BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

#### Background characteristics of 13-17-year-old females

<b>Table C3.1.1. Background characteristics of 13-17-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022</b>				
	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Education status</b>				
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	25.2 (19.8-30.5) (n= 507)	24.4 (19.6-29.2) (n= 546)	27.9 (23.3-32.5) (n= 495)	27.8 (23.5-32.0) (n= 627)
Completed secondary school or more	74.8 (69.5-80.2) (n= 507)	75.6 (70.8-80.4) (n= 546)	72.1 (67.5-76.7) (n= 495)	72.2 (68.0-76.5) (n= 627)
<b>Current school enrollment</b>				
Currently enrolled in school	92.4 (89.5-95.2) (n= 503)	89.0 (85.5-92.5) (n= 541)	95.8 (93.7-97.9) (n= 493)	92.5 (90.1-94.8) (n= 624)
<b>Orphan status</b>				
Lost one or both parents	18.9 (14.5-23.4) (n= 490)	20.3 (17.2-23.4) (n= 517)	23.2 (18.8-27.5) (n= 461)	21.7 (17.6-25.8) (n= 592)
Not an orphan	81.1 (76.6-85.5) (n= 490)	79.7 (76.6-82.8) (n= 517)	76.8 (72.5-81.2) (n= 461)	78.3 (74.2-82.4) (n= 592)
<b>Socioeconomic conditions</b>				
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	3.0 (1.7-4.3) (n= 506)	2.9 (1.0-4.8)* (n= 546)	3.1 (0.8-5.3)* (n= 495)	3.7 (2.0-5.4) (n= 627)
Food insecurity	54.2 (47.9-60.5) (n= 497)	52.1 (45.3-58.9) (n= 535)	60.0 (54.0-66.0) (n= 478)	63.4 (57.6-69.2) (n= 601)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	30.1 (25.6-34.5) (n= 498)	33.3 (27.5-39.1) (n= 523)	36.9 (27.9-46.0) (n= 468)	39.7 (33.8-45.5) (n= 596)
<b>Relationship and sexual history</b>				
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	<0.1%*** (n=494)	** (n=540)	** (n=481)	** (n=613)



**Table C3.1.1. Background characteristics of 13-17-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Child marriage (married before age 18)	<0.1%*** (n=624)	** (n=680)	** (n=465)	** (n=566)
Child marriage before the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	0.5 (0.0-1.0)* (n=621)	** (n=678)	** (n=464)	** (n=564)
Child marriage since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	<0.1%*** (n=621)	** (n=621)	<0.1%*** (n=464)	** (n=564)
First partner/spouse 5 or more years older [2]	35.1 (21.7-48.5) (n=59)	51.4 (37.4-65.3) (n=96)	43.3 (22.9-63.6) (n=47)	51.9 (33.6-70.2) (n=51)
Ever had sex [3]	9.3 (6.1-12.4) (n= 507)	11.9 (8.6-15.1) (n= 545)	10.9 (7.6-14.1) (n= 494)	12.4 (9.3-15.4) (n= 626)
<b>Disability [4]</b>				
Any functional disability	13.4 (8.6-18.3) (n= 507)	15.8 (11.5-20.0) (n= 546)	20.8 (16.0-25.6) (n= 495)	10.0 (5.8-14.2) (n= 627)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Functional disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language (siSwati).

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Background characteristics of 18-24-year-old females

**Table C3.2.3 Background characteristics of 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Education status</b>	(n=624)	(n=682)	(n=466)	(n=564)
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	6.4 (4.0-8.7)	9.3 (6.4-12.1)	10.1 (6.8-13.4)	11.6 (8.9-14.4)
Completed secondary school	24.9 (20.7-29.2)	22.0 (17.1-26.9)	27.5 (22.9-32.1)	27.4 (22.8-31.9)
Completed higher than secondary school	68.7 (63.8-73.6)	68.8 (62.8-74.7)	62.4 (56.9-67.9)	61.0 (56.0-66.0)
<b>Orphan status before age 18</b>	(n= 602)	(n= 642)	(n= 436)	(n= 536)
Lost one or both parents before age 18	31.9 (27.5-36.2)	34.6 (29.3-39.9)	38.8 (33.4-44.3)	31.8 (28.4-35.2)
Not an orphan before age 18	68.1 (63.8-72.5)	65.4 (60.1-70.7)	61.2 (55.7-66.6)	68.2 (64.8-71.6)
<b>Socioeconomic conditions</b>				
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	22.8 (18.5-27.1) (n= 624)	23.6 (19.5-27.6) (n= 683)	20.8 (15.1-26.5) (n= 462)	22.4 (18.9-25.8) (n= 566)

**Table C3.2.3 Background characteristics of 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Food insecurity	60.6 (55.0-66.3) (n=619)	55.7 (49.3-62.1) (n=679)	63.7 (57.8-69.6) (n=456)	62.6 (57.3-68.0) (n=561)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic	46.8 (40.5-53.0) (n= 620)	52.7 (46.6-58.8) (n= 678)	50.9 (44.0-57.8) (n= 450)	45.3 (40.1-50.4) (n= 563)
<b>Relationship status and sexual history</b>				
Married or lived with someone as if married before age 18	9.1 (6.2-12.0) (n= 624)	11.9 (8.9-15.0) (n= 680)	8.7 (5.1-12.3) (n= 465)	10.0 (7.4-12.6) (n= 566)
Child marriage (married before age 18)	1.0 (0.2-1.9)* (n= 624)	1.2 (0.1-2.3)* (n= 680)	** (n= 465)	1.8 (0.5-3.1) (n= 566)*
Child marriage before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	0.5 (0.0-1.0)* (n=621)	** (n= 678)	** (n= 464)	** (n= 564)
Child marriage since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic	<0.1%*** (n=621)	** (n=678)	<0.1%*** (n=464)	** (n=564)
First partner/spouse 5 or more years older [3]	35.1 (21.7-48.5) (n=59)	51.4 (37.4-65.3) (n=96)	43.3 (22.9-63.6) (n=47)	51.9 (33.6-70.2) (n=51)
Ever had sex [4]	71.9 (67.3-76.5) (n=621)	68.3 (63.5-73.1) (n=681)	73.7 (69.4-78.0) (n=463)	69.6 (65.4-73.9) (n=565)
<b>Disability [5]</b>				
Any functional disability	11.6 (8.4-14.9) (n= 624)	13.8 (9.5-18.1) (n= 683)	16.0 (12.3-19.8) (n= 466)	13.1 (9.1-17.0) (n= 566)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Calculated from Eswatini poverty score card and converted to 100% household poverty level using score card guidelines.

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[3] Includes those who have ever been married or ever lived with a partner.

[4] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[5] Disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering, making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Background characteristics of 13-24-year-old females

**Table C3.3.1. Background characteristics of 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Education status</b>	(n= 1131)	(n= 1228)	(n= 961)	(n= 1191)

**Table C3.3.1. Background characteristics of 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Completed primary school or less (or never attended school)	14.4 (11.7-17.0)	15.3 (12.1-18.5)	18.0 (15.0-21.0)	19.3 (16.8-21.8)
Attended or completed secondary school or more	85.6 (83.0-88.3)	84.7 (81.5-87.9)	82.0 (79.0-85.0)	80.7 (78.2-83.2)
Currently enrolled in school	59.9 (55.2-64.6) (n=1106)	54.3 (50.5-58.2) (n=1208)	61.4 (57.2-65.6) (n=946)	65.2 (60.6-69.8) (n=1176)
Left school during COVID-19 pandemic [1]	** (n=1105)	1.2 (0.2-2.1)* (n=1203)	<0.1%*** (n=943)	** (n=1175)
<b>Socioeconomic Conditions</b>				
Worked for money or other payment in the past 12 months	14.4 (11.7-17.0) (n=1130)	15.3 (12.5-18.1) (n=1229)	12.9 (9.2-16.5) (n=957)	13.5 (11.5-15.5) (n=1193)
Food insecurity	57.9 (52.8-63.0) (n=1160)	54.3 (49.0-59.6) (n=1214)	62.1 (57.2-67.0) (n=934)	63.0 (58.4-67.6) (n=1162)
Negatively impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	39.7 (35.4-44.0) (n= 1118)	45.1 (39.6-50.6) (n= 1201)	44.8 (38.2-51.5) (n= 918)	42.7 (38.4-47.0) (n= 1159)
<b>Relationship status</b>				
Ever had an intimate partner [2]	61.5 (57.4-65.5) (n=1131)	62.0 (57.2-66.8) (n= 1229)	61.4 (56.7-66.1) (n= 961)	60.4 (56.5-64.4) (n= 1193)
Ever been married or lived with someone as if married	5.3 (3.5-7.1) (n=1118)	7.6 (5.7-9.7) (n=1221)	5.1 (3.0-7.1) (n=946)	5.5 (4.0-7.1) (n=1179)
<b>Sexual history</b>				
Ever had sex [3]	45.1 (40.8-49.4) (n=1128)	45.7 (42.2-49.3) (n=1226)	45.7 (41.3-50.1) (n=957)	42.5 (38.9-46.1) (n=1191)
<b>Disability [4]</b>				
Any functional disability	12.4 (9.1-15.7) (n=1131)	14.6 (10.7-18.4) (n=1129)	18.2 (14.8-21.5) (n=961)	11.6 (8.5-14.7) (n=1193)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[2] Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

[3] Sex includes vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.

[4] Disability includes any of the following: 1. blind or difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses 2. difficulty concentrating, remembering making decisions due to physical mental or emotional condition 3. serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs 4. difficulty dressing or bathing 5. difficulty doing errands alone due to physical, mental, or emotional condition 6. difficulty communicating using usual language.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## SECTION 4: SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table C4.1.1. Prevalence of sexual violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Any type of sexual violence [1] in childhood	3.5 (1.9-5.0) (n= 623)	5.2 (3.1-7.2) (n= 683)	6.5 (3.9-9.2) (n= 466)	6.3 (3.6-9.0) (n= 565)
Unwanted sexual touching in childhood	1.6 (0.3-2.9)* (n= 623)	2.1 (0.8-3.3) (n= 682)	3.3 (1.0-5.6)* (n= 464)	3.0 (1.0-5.0)* (n= 562)
Unwanted attempted sex in childhood	1.2 (0.1-2.4)* (n= 623)	1.9 (0.5-3.2)* (n= 683)	4.5 (2.1-6.8) (n= 466)	4.2 (2.2-6.2) (n= 564)
Pressured sex in childhood [2]	** (n= 622)	0.7 (0.1-1.2)* (n= 681)	1.2 (0.0-2.4)* (n= 463)	1.8 (0.4-3.3)* (n= 565)
Physically forced sex in childhood	1.4 (0.4-2.4)* (n= 623)	2.0 (1.0-3.1) (n= 683)	1.8 (0.5-3.1)* (n= 463)	1.7 (0.2-3.1)* (n= 563)
Pressured or physically forced sex in childhood	1.6 (0.5-2.6)* (n= 623)	2.0 (1.0-3.1) (n= 683)	2.4 (1.0-3.8)* (n= 465)	2.2 (0.5-3.9)* (n= 565)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

Lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C4.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Any sexual violence [1]	5.5 (3.7-7.4) (n=1130)	8.4 (5.4-11.3) (n=1229)	8.3 (6.1-10.5) (n=961)	10.0 (6.9-13.1) (n=1192)
Unwanted sexual touching	3.7 (2.3-5.2) (n=1130)	4.3 (2.5-6.1) (n=1227)	4.6 (2.9-6.2) (n=960)	6.7 (4.5-9.0) (n=1191)
Unwanted attempted sex	1.6 (0.7-2.4) (n=1130)	2.5 (1.3-3.7) (n=1227)	5.2 (3.4-7.1) (n=960)	5.3 (3.2-7.5) (n=1191)
Pressured sex [2]	0.9 (0.3-1.6)* (n=1129)	2.1 (1.0-3.2) (n=1225)	1.7 (0.6-2.7)* (n=959)	1.9 (0.9-2.9) (n=1192)
Physically forced sex	1.8 (0.9-2.7) (n=1130)	2.2 (1.4-2.9) (n=1229)	1.8 (0.9-2.7) (n=959)	2.5 (1.2-3.8) (n=1190)
Pressured or physically forced sex	2.3 (1.3-3.3) (n=1130)	3.3 (1.8-4.7) (n=1229)	2.8 (1.6-4.0) (n=961)	3.2 (1.7-4.8) (n=1192)
Pressured or physically forced sex at first sexual experience	12.0 (6.8-17.2) (n=487)	14.0 (10.5-17.5) (n=554)	22.1 (16.1-28.1) (n=395)	12.9 (7.9-18.0) (n=464)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

**Table C4.2.2. Experienced lifetime sexual violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, [2] among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced sexual violence, by DREAMS area– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experienced sexual violence [1] before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	54.8 (42.8-66.7) (n=60)	62.2 (52.5-71.9) (n=85)	65.6 (52.6-78.6) (n=75)	50.5 (39.2-61.9) (n=98)
Experienced sexual violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	61.8 (48.0-75.6) (n=60)	51.6 (38.3-64.9) (n=85)	46.5 (32.5-60.6) (n=75)	66.7 (55.0-78.9) (n=98)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

**Table C4.2.3. Experience of first incident of sexual violence [1] was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic [2], among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced sexual violence, by DREAMS area– Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Unwanted sexual touching</b>	(n=23)	(n=23)	(n=19)	(n= 46)
First experience was before COVID-19	22.8 (7.3-38.3)*	33.8 (14.1-53.5)	64.2 (41.8-86.6)	36.3 (17.9-54.8)
First experience was during COVID-19	77.2 (61.7-92.7)	66.2 (46.5-85.9)	35.8 (13.4-58.2)*	63.7 (45.2-82.1)
<b>Unwanted attempted sex</b>	(n= 13)	(n= 14)	(n=28)	(n= 35)
First experience was before COVID-19	55.7 (21.2-90.2)*	68.4 (40.9-96.0)	57.9 (36.9-78.9)	47.1 (28.7-65.5)
First experience was during COVID-19	44.3 (9.8-78.8)*	31.6 (4.0-59.1)*	42.1 (21.1-63.1)	52.9 (34.5-71.3)
<b>Pressured sex [3]</b>	(n=9)	(n=10)	(n=8)	(n= 14)
First experience was before COVID-19	86.3 (60.5-100.0)	72.1 (41.1-100.0)	68.0 (34.2-100.0)	70.9 (42.2-99.6)
First experience was during COVID-19	**	**	**	**
<b>Physically forced sex</b>	(n=15)	(n= 18)	(n=13)	(n= 22)
First experience was before COVID-19	69.7 (50.6-88.8)	77.2 (55.1-99.3)	71.4 (45.0-97.8)	68.0 (43.9-92.1)
First experience was during COVID-19	30.3 (11.2-49.4)*	22.8 (0.7-44.9)*	28.6 (2.2-55.0)*	32.0 (7.9-56.1)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[3] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table C4.2.4. Characteristics of victims at the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Age at first experience of sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=61)	(n=85)	(n=73)	(n=95)
13 or younger	44.5 (25.0-64.1)	22.6 (11.6-33.7)	22.4 (11.9-32.9)	32.6 (22.3-43.0)
14-15	10.8 (1.8-19.7)*	22.2 (8.0-36.4)*	15.7 (7.0-24.4)	16.1 (6.3-25.9)*
16-17	10.4 (2.3-18.6)*	15.7 (6.3-25.1)*	32.5 (19.6-45.3)	23.8 (12.7-35.0)
18-24	34.3 (19.1-49.5)	39.5 (26.1-52.8)	29.4 (16.2-42.7)	27.4 (17.3-37.5)
<b>Age at first experience of pressured or physically forced sex [2]</b>	(n=30)	(n=38)	(n=25)	(n=30)
13 or younger	39.0 (17.5-60.6)	22.1 (5.1-39.0)*	27.2 (5.1-49.4)*	43.0 (22.2-63.8)
14-15	**	15.1 (3.4-26.8)*	33.0 (9.9-56.2)*	**
16-17	**	9.2 (0.4-18.0)*	17.5 (3.7-31.2)*	**
18-24	36.5 (17.3-55.8)	53.6 (33.3-73.9)	22.3 (5.9-38.7)*	31.2 (11.8-50.5)*
Experienced multiple incidents of sexual violence	55.2 (41.0-69.5) (n=61)	51.4 (35.1-67.7) (n=84)	56.8 (42.9-70.6) (n=75)	60.6 (50.4-70.8) (n=96)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (through continual arguments and pressure) sex.

[2] Among those who experienced pressured or physically forced sex.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table C4.2.5. Characteristics of perpetrators of the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of any sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=58)	(n=84)	(n=74)	(n=98)
Current or Ex Intimate Partner [2]	11.4 (4.2-18.6)*	39.8 (27.3-52.3)	31.7 (19.6-43.8)	19.9 (9.2-30.6)
Family Member	21.2 (7.8-34.5)*	35.3 (22.9-47.8)	25.0 (13.5-36.5)	37.4 (25.0-49.9)
Other [3]	66.6 (53.2-80.0)	31.8 (21.0-42.7)	44.7 (32.2-57.2)	44.6 (33.9-55.3)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of pressured [4] or physically forced sex</b>	(n=29)	(n=38)	(n=26)	(n=31)
Current or Ex Intimate Partner	19.4 (3.3-35.4)*	61.1 (41.8-80.3)	47.0 (21.6-72.3)	31.8 (13.4-50.1)

**Table C4.2.5. Characteristics of perpetrators of the first experience of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any lifetime sexual violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Family Member	**	24.7 (7.4-42.0)*	11.4 (0.5-22.3)*	47.4 (21.7-73.0)
Other [3]	50.8 (29.2-72.4)	16.6 (3.3-29.9)*	40.5 (15.8-65.2)*	25.1 (10.5-39.8)
<b>Perpetrators of first incident of sexual violence who were 5 or more years older than the victim</b>	(n=53)	(n=82)	(n=72)	(n=95)
Perpetrator 5 or more years older at first incident of any sexual violence	80.9 (70.1-91.8)	53.6 (37.5-69.8)	53.0 (37.7-68.3)	65.7 (52.9-78.6)
Perpetrator 5 or more years older at first incident of pressured or physically forced sex	73.8 (52.2-95.4) (n=27)	62.9 (38.0-87.9) (n=37)	57.2 (33.1-81.3) (n=25)	87.0 (73.5-100.0) (n=30)
<b>Multiple perpetrators at first incident of sexual violence</b>	(n=61)	(n=81)	(n=74)	(n=97)
More than one perpetrator at first incident of sexual violence	25.2 (11.1-39.3)	20.4 (10.8-30.0)	14.3 (7.5-21.1)	9.2 (3.1-15.2)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

[3] [3] Other includes teacher, police/security person, employer, or neighbourhood/religious leader, neighbour, classmate/schoolmate, friend, stranger, and other.

[4] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

**Table C4.2.6. Location and time of day of first incident of sexual violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced sexual violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Location of first incident of sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=59)	(n=84)	(n=74)	(n=98)
Home [2]	60.2 (44.5-75.9)	65.4 (57.0-73.7)	63.0 (48.2-77.7)	60.0 (47.8-72.3)
School	7.5 (0.3-14.7)*	8.2 (1.5-15.0)*	11.5 (1.6-21.4)*	12.6 (4.8-20.5)*
Outside location [3]	15.7 (6.0-25.4)*	18.2 (11.1-25.4)	26.3 (13.4-39.1)	24.8 (13.2-36.3)
Other [4]	19.3 (8.0-30.5)	9.5 (0.8-18.1)*	4.0 (0.3-7.6)*	4.9 (1.2-8.7)*
<b>Time of day [5] of first incident of sexual violence</b>	(n=60)	(n=84)	(n=74)	(n=98)
Morning	**	**	**	7.5 (1.5-13.6)*
Afternoon	55.1 (38.2-72.0)	43.3 (30.3-56.4)	43.0 (30.5-55.5)	36.5 (27.1-45.9)
Evening	29.1 (13.1-45.2)	24.4 (13.8-35.0)	38.5 (24.2-52.8)	46.9 (35.1-58.8)
Late at night	18.2 (8.3-28.0)	29.5 (18.4-40.6)	20.0 (9.6-30.5)	15.5 (7.6-23.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have experienced multiple forms of sexual violence that may have occurred at different locations or at different time of the day.  
[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual pressure and arguments).

[2] Home setting includes the victim's home, perpetrator's home, or someone else's home.

[3] Outside location includes: On a road/street, market/shop, school, lake/river or other body of water, and field/other natural area.

[4] Other includes inside a car/bus, alcohol outlet (e.g., restaurant, bar, disco, club, etc), religious institutions, and office.

[5] Morning refers to sunrise-noon, afternoon refers to noon-sunset, evening refers to sunset-midnight, and late at night refers to midnight-sunrise.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C4.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking and receipt of services for any incident of lifetime sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced any sexual violence and pressured or physically forced sex, by DREAMS area— Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Among females who experienced any sexual violence</b>				
Told someone about an experience of any sexual violence [1]	65.4 (50.9-80.0) (n=61)	70.4 (58.9-81.9) (n=85)	62.2 (50.3-74.0) (n=76)	70.9 (59.5-82.2) (n=98)
Knew of a place to seek help for any experience of sexual violence	45.6 (34.3-56.9) (n=61)	43.2 (32.2-54.1) (n=84)	63.8 (50.7-76.8) (n=76)	68.7 (54.7-82.8) (n=97)
Sought professional services for any experience of sexual violence [2]	25.5 (14.4-36.6) (n=61)	26.2 (14.9-37.5) (n=84)	25.3 (13.6-37.0) (n=75)	29.0 (15.8-42.2) (n=97)
Received professional services for any experience of sexual violence	25.5 (14.4-36.6) (n=61)	24.7 (13.8-35.6) (n=84)	22.4 (11.3-33.5) (n=75)	24.1 (10.7-37.5) (n=97)
<b>Among females who experienced forced or pressured sex</b>				
Told someone about experience of any sexual violence	61.1 (37.9-84.3) (n=30)	64.6 (42.1-87.2) (n=38)	59.3 (37.1-81.5) (n=27)	78.4 (59.7-97.2) (n=31)
Knew of a place to seek help for an experience of any sexual violence	51.9 (33.5-70.3) (n=30)	60.2 (38.8-81.5) (n=38)	76.4 (59.3-93.6) (n=27)	80.9 (60.7-100.0) (n=31)
Sought professional services for any experience of sexual violence [2]	39.1 (19.9-58.3) (n=30)	44.8 (25.7-63.8) (n=38)	49.3 (24.4-74.1) (n=27)	53.6 (32.4-74.7) (n=31)
Received professional services for any experience of sexual violence	36.7 (16.5-56.9) (n=29)	40.9 (22.7-59.1) (n=38)	47.1 (21.6-72.7) (n=26)	51.6 (30.3-72.9) (n=31)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through threats, continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Professional services include hospital/clinic, police station, social welfare or legal office, religious leader, or community leader.



**Table C4.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of sexual violence and source of receipt, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any sexual violence and who told someone or received help, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Person the victim told about sexual violence, among those who told someone [1]</b>	(n=41)	(n=60)	(n=47)	(n=71)
Relative [2]	56.7 (33.6-79.8)	64.3 (48.4-80.1)	64.9 (49.2-80.5)	77.4 (66.2-88.6)
Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or partner	**	<0.1%***	**	**
Friend or neighbour	20.2 (7.2-33.2)*	29.1 (15.9-42.3)	15.7 (4.7-26.7)*	29.5 (15.0-44.0)
Service provider or authority figure [3]	**	16.6 (5.2-28.1)*	**	16.9 (4.5-29.4)*
Other	**	**	**	<0.1%***
<b>Source of service received for any incident of sexual violence, among those who received help</b>	(n=16)	(n=23)	(n=17)	(n=20)
Doctor, nurse, or other health care worker in a hospital or clinic	71.2 (38.6-100.0)	51.6 (22.4-80.7)	71.4 (47.8-95.1)	76.6 (58.4-94.8)
Police or other security personnel	53.0 (22.7-83.3)	82.3 (66.3-98.3)	74.8 (52.1-97.5)	86.4 (72.9-100.0)
Legal professional	**	28.6 (2.6-54.5)*	**	**
Social worker or counsellor	28.2 (7.3-49.2)*	45.8 (17.5-74.1)*	45.5 (15.4-75.7)*	32.7 (12.4-53.0)*
Community leader	**	28.0 (6.7-49.3)*	**	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Relative includes: mother, father, brother, sister, and other relatives.

[3] Service provider or authority figure includes: traditional healer, NGO worker, teacher, social worker, doctor/nurse/healthcare worker, employer, community leader, religious leader, children's officer.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

**Table C4.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for sexual violence among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced any sexual violence and did not seek services, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not seeking services for sexual violence [1]</b>	(n=12)	(n= 17)	(n=26)	(n=37)
Structural barriers to accessing services [2]	**	<0.1%***	**	**
Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure [3]	37.3 (4.4-70.2)*	31.8 (8.4-55.2)*	**	30.7 (9.7-51.6)*
Individual beliefs about need for services [4]	**	**	28.6 (10.6-46.6)*	12.4 (2.1-22.8)*
Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator [5]	55.1 (22.0-88.2)*	**	17.1 (1.4-32.7)*	45.1 (21.8-68.4)
Other	<0.1%***	40.7 (15.6-65.9)*	23.7 (3.6-43.8)*	21.8 (5.9-37.6)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Structural barriers to accessing services includes: services too far away; could not afford services; services not high quality.

[3] Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure includes: did not know who to go to; afraid of getting in trouble; perpetrator told me not to tell anyone; dependent on perpetrator or someone else/fear of abandonment.

[4] Individual beliefs about need for services includes: did not think it was a problem; did not want/need to tell anyone.

[5] Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator includes: felt it was my fault; embarrassed for my family; afraid of perpetrator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Sexual violence in the past 12 months among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C4.4.1. Prevalence of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>13-17-year-old females</b>				
Any sexual violence [1] in the past 12 months	1.5 (0.2-2.7)* (n=507)	2.6 (1.0-4.3)* (n=546)	3.0 (1.4-4.6) (n=495)	4.3 (2.1-6.6) (n=627)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	1.2 (0.0-2.4)* (n=507)	2.3 (0.7-3.9)* (n=545)	1.5 (0.5-2.5)* (n=494)	3.7 (1.5-5.9)* (n=627)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	** (=507)	** (n=544)	1.9 (0.6-3.2)* (n=494)	1.0 (0.2-1.9)* (n=627)

**Table C4.4.1. Prevalence of sexual violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	** (n=506)	** (n=543)	** (n=495)	** (n=626)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	** (n=507)	** (n=546)	** (n=494)	** (n=626)
<b>18-24-year-old females</b>				
Any sexual violence in the past 12 months	3.1 (1.4-4.7) (n=623)	3.5 (1.4-5.5)* (n=683)	3.2 (1.5-5.0) (n=46)	5.5 (2.8-8.1) (n=565)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	2.4 (1.0-3.8) (n=623)	2.5 (0.8-4.1)* (n=682)	2.5 (0.8-4.1)* (n=466)	3.8 (1.8-5.9) (n=564)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	1.3 (0.3-2.3)* (n=623)	0.8 (0.1-1.5)* (n=683)	2.1 (0.8-3.5)* (n=466)	2.6 (0.9-4.4)* (n=564)
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	** (n=623)	1.3 (0.1-2.5)* (n=682)	** (n=463)	1.4 (0.1-2.8)* (n=565)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	** (n=623)	0.6 (0.0-1.1)* (n=683)	0.6 (0.0-1.2)* (n=465)	** (n=564)
<b>13-24-year-old females</b>				
Any sexual violence in the past 12 months	2.4 (1.3-3.5) (n=1130)	3.1 (1.5-4.7) (n=1229)	3.1 (1.8-4.4) (n=961)	4.9 (3.0-6.8) (n=1192)
Unwanted sexual touching in the past 12 months	1.9 (1.0-2.8) (n=1130)	2.4 (1.0-3.7) (n=1227)	1.5 (0.6-2.4)* (n=960)	3.8 (2.1-5.4) (n=1191)
Unwanted attempted sex in the past 12 months	0.8 (0.2-1.4)* (n=1130)	0.5 (0.1-1.0)* (n=1227)	2.0 (0.9-3.1) (n=960)	1.9 (0.8-2.9) (n=1191)
Pressured sex [2] in the past 12 months	** (n=1129)	0.9 (0.1-1.6)* (n=1225)	0.3 (0.0-0.7)* (n=958)	0.8 (0.1-1.5)* (n=1191)
Physically forced sex in the past 12 months	** (n=1130)	0.5 (0.1-0.9)* (n=1229)	0.5 (0.1-0.9)* (n=959)	0.3 (0.0-0.6)* (n=1190)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Pressured sex includes: feeling overwhelmed by continual arguments and pressure.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 5: PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

### Physical violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table C5.1.1. Prevalence of physical violence before age 18, overall and by perpetrator type, among 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence [1] in childhood, any perpetrator	2.7 (0.9-4.6)* (n=624)	6.3 (3.2-9.4) (n=683)	6.6 (3.7-9.5) (n=466)	6.8 (3.6-9.9) (n=566)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence in childhood	0.7 (0.0 -1.3)* (n=539)	1.4 (0.4-2.4)* (n=579)	** (n=401)	1.4 (0.2-2.5)* (n=494)
Parent or adult relative physical violence in childhood	1.8 (0.2-3.4)* (n=623)	3.3 (1.4-5.3) (n=683)	2.9 (1.2-4.6) (n=466)	5.3 (2.2-8.4) (n=564)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood in childhood	<0.1%*** (n=624)	** (n=683)	1.5 (0.2-2.9)* (n=466)	** (n=566)
Peer physical violence in childhood	0.8 (0.0-1.5)* (n=624)	2.5 (0.9-4.0)* (n=683)	3.4 (1.3-5.5)* (n=466)	1.7 (0.4-3.0)* (n=566)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% as youth may experience violence from more than one person.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Lifetime physical violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C5.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime physical violence and age of first experience of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Physical violence [1], any perpetrator	6.4 (4.0-8.8) (n= 1131)	11.3 (8.3-14.4) (n= 1229)	12.1 (8.5-15.6) (n= 961)	12.1 (8.7-15.5) (n= 1193)
<b>Prevalence of physical violence by perpetrator</b>				
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	4.3 (1.5-7.1)* (n= 670)	7.1 (4.5-9.6) (n= 743)	5.4 (3.0-7.9) (n= 552)	6.4 (4.3-8.5) (n= 679)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	2.8 (1.6-4.0) (n= 1131)	3.4 (2.1-4.7) (n= 1229)	4.9 (2.9-6.9) (n= 961)	6.9 (4.2-9.6) (n= 1193)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	0.7 (0.1-1.3)* (n= 1131)	0.5 (0.1-0.9)* (n= 1229)	1.8 (0.7-2.8) (n= 961)	0.8 (0.3-1.3)* (n= 1193)
Peer physical violence	1.7 (0.8-2.6) (n=1131)	4.6 (2.5-6.7) (n=1229)	5.5 (3.8-7.2) (n=961)	3.8 (1.8-5.8) (n=1193)

**Table C5.2.1. Prevalence of lifetime physical violence and age of first experience of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Age of first experience of physical violence, among those who ever experienced physical violence</b>	(n=71)	(n=126)	(n=125)	(n=117)
5 or younger	**	**	**	**
6-11	8.2 (1.4-15.0)*	7.8 (2.6-13.0)*	14.5 (8.3-20.6)	26.3 (18.4-34.2)
12-17	51.7 (38.5-64.9)	51.9 (39.9-64.0)	56.2 (45.5-66.9)	42.0 (31.2-52.9)
18-24	37.5 (24.5-50.6)	36.4 (24.1-48.6)	26.9 (17.2-36.6)	28.7 (20.9-36.5)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

**Table C5.2.2. Experience of first incident of physical violence was before or during the COVID-19 pandemic, among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced physical violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Physical violence [1] before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, among those who ever experienced physical violence</b>				
Experienced physical violence before the COVID-19 pandemic [2]	44.6 (33.0-56.1) (n=73)	56.4 (43.5-69.3) (n=130)	57.0 (45.7-68.3) (n=124)	61.2 (49.3-73.1) (n=119)
Experienced physical violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	76.3 (62.7-90.0) (n=70)	58.0 (46.1-70.0) (n=128)	63.8 (51.9-75.6) (n=123)	57.1 (43.4-70.8) (n=116)
<b>Physical violence by intimate partner</b>	(n=13)	(n=26)	(n=17)	(n=21)
First experience was before COVID-19	**	29.9 (5.3-54.6)*	17.0 (0.5-33.5)*	70.1 (50.5-89.8)
First experience was during COVID-19	66.6 (33.5-99.6)	70.1 (45.4-94.7)	83.0 (66.5-99.5)	29.9 (10.2-49.5)*
<b>Physical violence by peer</b>	(n= 112)	(n=2941)	(n=3568)	(n=2938)
First experience was before COVID-19	**	65.3 (41.4-89.1)	41.7 (23.7-59.7)	64.0 (47.9-80.0)
First experience was during COVID-19	84.7 (64.9-100.0)	34.7 (10.9-58.6)*	58.3 (40.3-76.3)	36.0 (20.0-52.1)
<b>Physical violence by parents or other adults relative</b>	(n=115)	(n=1625)	(n=2859)	(n=2327)
First experience was before COVID-19	43.9 (3.4-84.4)*	38.9 (12.7-65.2)*	63.5 (45.2-81.8)	44.4 (15.8-73.1)*
First experience was during COVID-19	56.1 (15.6-96.6)*	61.1 (34.8-87.3)	36.5 (18.2-54.8)	55.6 (26.9-84.2)
<b>Physical violence by adults in the community or neighbourhood</b>	(n= 5)	(n= 5)	(n=15)	(n=7)
First experience was before COVID-19	**	87.6 (63.0-100.0)	71.2 (38.4-100.0)	74.5 (42.5-100.0)
First experience was during COVID-19	56.8 (8.0-100.0)*	**	**	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022.

[3] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

**Table C5.2.3. Prevalence of experiencing physical harm or injury as a result of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females who experienced any physical violence, overall and by perpetrator, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experienced injury as a result of physical violence [1] by any perpetrator	42.7 (28.2-57.2) (n=73)	37.1 (28.8-45.5) (n=131)	36.6 (26.3-46.9) (n=123)	43.7 (34.1-53.3) (n=151)
Injured by intimate partner [2]	38.1 (13.7-62.5)* (n=26)	51.6 (35.4-67.7) (n=52)	40.5 (21.4-59.6) (n=30)	34.9 (18.3-51.5) (n=40)
Injured by parent or other adult relative	47.7 (30.5-64.9) (n=36)	38.1 (20.4-55.9) (n=41)	30.8 (14.4-47.3) (n=50)	52.2 (40.4-64.0) (n=67)
Injured by adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=5)	48.0 (4.8-91.2)* (n=8)	** (n=21)	** (n=9)
Injured by peer	39.4 (13.7-65.0)* (n=20)	19.0 (5.4-32.7)* (n=49)	22.7 (10.8-34.6) (n=54)	22.6 (9.5-35.7) (n=35)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

#### Disclosure, service-seeking, and receipt of services for physical violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C5.3.1. Disclosure, service-seeking and receipt for any incident of physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced physical violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Told someone about experience of any physical violence [1]	62.3 (49.1-75.6) (n=73)	66.5 (55.6-77.4) (n=131)	69.0 (56.9-81.2) (n=125)	68.1 (59.9-76.3) (n=123)
Knew of a place to seek help for any experience of physical violence	64.7 (53.4-75.9) (n=73)	66.9 (51.0-82.9) (n=130)	65.9 (57.2-74.6) (n=123)	75.6 (67.4-83.9) (n=123)
Sought professional services for any experience of physical violence [2]	30.7 (19.5-42.0) (n=73)	34.0 (22.3-45.6) (n=130)	34.8 (23.9-45.7) (n=123)	28.5 (19.6-37.4) (n=123)
Received professional services for any experience of physical violence	22.5 (12.0-33.0) (n=73)	11.6 (6.8-16.4) (n=130)	18.2 (10.4-25.9) (n=123)	18.2 (9.5-26.8) (n=123)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beaten with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Professional services include hospital/clinic, police station, social welfare or legal office, religious leader, or community leader.

**Table C5.3.2. Relationship with the person the victim told about any incident of physical violence and source of service receipt, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced physical violence and who told someone and those who received help, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Person the victim told about physical violence [1]</b>	(n=47)	(n=94)	(n=89)	(n=78)
Relative	80.3 (66.3-94.3)	67.5 (55.7-79.3)	59.9 (48.8-71.0)	62.5 (50.2-74.8)
Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend/romantic partner	**	**	<0.1%***	**
Friend/neighbour	**	11.7 (5.5-18.0)	7.4 (2.1-12.7)*	15.4 (5.9-25.0)*
Service provider or authority figure [2]	**	4.0 (0.3-7.7)*	7.9 (1.2-14.6)*	9.9 (2.9-17.0)*
Other	**	**	12.7 (2.4-23.1)*	**
<b>Source of service received for any incident of physical violence, among those who received help</b>	(n=14)	(n=22)	(n=24)	(n=20)
Doctor, nurse, or other health care worker in a hospital or clinic	73.0 (46.6-99.3)	42.3 (17.2-67.4)*	88.6 (75.8-100.0)	81.9 (63.5-100.0)
Police or other security personnel	48.4 (25.7-71.1)	64.9 (36.9-92.8)	66.3 (50.6-82.0)	47.2 (24.8-69.5)
Legal professional	<0.1%***	**	<0.1%***	**
Social worker or counsellor	43.1 (19.3-66.9)	**	**	**
Community leader	**	**	35.9 (14.7-57.2)*	20.9 (6.0-35.8)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator. Percents may sum to >100% because some victims may have experienced physical violence multiple times and may have told multiple people.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Service provider or authority figure includes: traditional healer, social worker, doctor/nurse/healthcare worker, NGO worker, teacher, employer, community leader, religious leader.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.



**Table C5.3.3. Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence, among 13-24-year-old females who ever experienced physical violence and did not seek services, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Reasons for not seeking services for physical violence [1]</b>	(n=52)	(n=84)	(n=76)	(n=90)
Structural barriers to accessing services [2]	<0.1%***	**	**	**
Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure [3]	13.9 (1.8-26.0)*	9.9 (1.6-18.3)*	8.2 (1.0-15.4)*	14.7 (4.8-24.5)*
Individual beliefs about need for services [4]	13.7 (3.3-24.1)*	25.2 (10.3-40.2)*	12.7 (3.8-21.6)*	28.8 (18.3-39.3)
Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator [5]	18.8 (6.8-30.8)*	**	**	20.2 (8.6-31.9)
Other	5.7 (0.3-11.0)*	12.8 (1.4-24.2)*	16.9 (4.4-29.5)*	**

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally thrown something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, tried to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Structural barriers to accessing services includes: services too far away; could not afford services; services not high quality.

[3] Relationship/Interpersonal barriers to disclosure includes: did not know who to go to; afraid of getting in trouble; perpetrator told me not to tell anyone; dependent on perpetrator or someone else/fear of abandonment.

[4] Individual beliefs about need for services includes: did not think it was a problem; did not want/need to tell anyone.

[5] Feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or fear of perpetrator includes: felt it was my fault; embarrassed for my family; afraid of perpetrator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

### Physical violence in the past 12 months among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C5.4.1. Prevalence of physical violence [1] in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>13-17-year-old females</b>				
Any physical violence in the past 12 months	4.7 (2.9-6.5) (n=507)	4.4 (1.7-7.2)* (n=546)	6.6 (4.1-9.0) (n=495)	6.0 (3.3-8.7) (n=627)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	<0.1%*** (n=131)	** (n=164)	** (n=151)	** (n=185)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	2.9 (1.4-4.4) (n=507)	0.9 (0.2-1.6)* (n=546)	3.2 (1.5-5.0) (n=495)	3.5 (1.8-5.1) (n=627)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=507)	** (n=546)	** (n=495)	** (n=627)

**Table C5.4.1. Prevalence of physical violence [1] in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Peer physical violence	2.2 (0.6-3.7)* (n=507)	3.5 (0.7-6.3)* (n=546)	3.7 (1.9-5.6) (n=495)	2.1 (0.6-3.7)* (n=627)
<b>18-24-year-old females</b>				
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	3.5 (1.0-5.9)* (n=624)	6.4 (3.2-9.6) (n=683)	5.1 (2.9-7.4) (n=466)	5.6 (2.7-8.6) (n=566)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	3.0 (0.6-5.4)* (n=535)	5.0 (1.9-8.2)* (n=569)	2.9 (1.0-4.8)* (n=397)	2.6 (1.1-4.1) (n=487)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	** (n=624)	1.6 (0.4-2.8)* (n=683)	1.5 (0.2-2.7)* (n=466)	2.8 (0.7-4.9)* (n=566)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=624)	** (n=683)	** (n=466)	** (n=566)
Peer physical violence	** (n=624)	0.5 (0.0-1.0)* (n=683)	2.4 (0.7-4.1)* (n=466)	** (n=566)
<b>13-24-year-old females</b>				
<b>Any physical violence in the past 12 months</b>	4.0 (2.4-5.6) (n=1131)	5.6 (3.4-7.8) (n=1229)	5.8 (3.8-7.8) (n=961)	5.8 (3.4-8.2) (n=1193)
Intimate partner [2] physical violence	2.4 (0.5-4.4)* (n=666)	4.1 (1.6-6.6)* (n=733)	2.6 (1.0-4.1)* (n=548)	2.1 (1.0-3.3) (n=672)
Parent or adult relative physical violence	1.4 (0.7-2.1) (n=1131)	1.3 (0.5-2.1)* (n=1229)	2.3 (1.1-3.4) (n=961)	3.1 (1.5-4.7) (n=1193)
Physical violence by an adult in the community or neighbourhood	** (n=1131)	** (n=1229)	** (n=961)	** (n=1193)
Peer physical violence	0.9 (0.3-1.6)* (n=1131)	1.7 (0.5-2.9)* (n=1229)	3.0 (1.6-4.3) (n=961)	1.5 (0.5-2.4)* (n=1193)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Among those who have an intimate partner. Intimate partner includes current or previous spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or romantic partner.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## Witnessing physical violence

**Table C5.5.1. Prevalence of witnessing physical violence in the home and in the community, among 18-24-year-old females before age 18 and among 13-24-year-old females in the past 12 months, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Witnessed physical violence in childhood (among 18-24-year-old females)</b>				
In the home [1]	6.1 (3.5-8.7) (n=624)	9.8 (6.5-13.1) (n=683)	12.2 (8.6-15.9) (n=466)	11.2 (7.9-14.6) (n=566)

**Table C5.5.1. Prevalence of witnessing physical violence in the home and in the community, among 18-24-year-old females before age 18 and among 13-24-year-old females in the past 12 months, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
In the community [2]	11.5 (8.0-15.1) (n= 622)	16.4 (11.6-21.1) (n=680)	20.9 (16.7-25.1) (n=464)	11.3 (7.8-14.7) (n=562)
<b>Witnessed physical violence in the past 12 months (among 13-24-year-old females)</b>				
In the home [1]	1.5 (0.7-2.4) (n=1079)	1.4 (0.2-2.5)* (n=1145)	4.4 (2.3-6.4) (n=891)	3.5 (1.8-5.2) (n=1107)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Witnessing physical violence in the home includes: hearing or seeing a parent punch, kick or beat your other parent, their boyfriend or girlfriend, or your brothers or sisters.

[2] Witnessing physical violence in the community includes: seeing someone get attacked outside of your home and family environment.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 6: EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

### Emotional violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table C6.1. Prevalence of first experience of emotional violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence in childhood, any perpetrator	8.1 (5.2-10.9) (n=624)	11.8 (8.2-15.4) (n=683)	11.8 (8.4-15.1) (n=466)	10.6 (7.0-14.3) (n=566)
Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative in childhood [1]	2.8 (1.2-4.3) (n=623)	2.9 (0.9-4.9)* (n=681)	1.9 (0.6-3.2)* (n=465)	3.4 (1.0-5.8)* (n=564)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	** (n=538)	1.8 (0.5-3.1)* (n=578)	3.5 (1.2-5.8)* (n=399)	2.1 (0.6-3.6)* (n=494)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	6.3 (3.7-8.9) (n=623)	8.9 (5.4-12.3) (n=682)	8.5 (5.6-11.4) (n=465)	7.1 (4.0-10.1) (n=562)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult caregiver includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down.

[2] Among those who ever had an intimate partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer in the past 12 months includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Lifetime emotional violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C6.2.1** Prevalence of lifetime emotional violence and age of first experience of emotional violence, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence, any perpetrator	14.1 (10.1-18.1) (n=1131)	19.1 (14.9-23.4) (n=1229)	22.0 (18.2-25.7) (n=961)	20.5 (15.2-25.9) (n=1193)
Emotional violence by a parent or adult relative [1]	3.8 (2.3-5.2) (n=1131)	4.8 (3.1-6.6) (n=1229)	4.8 (3.1-6.6) (n=961)	5.5 (3.5-7.5) (n=1193)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	5.9 (3.7-8.0) (n=670)	7.8 (5.2-10.5) (n=743)	9.9 (6.8-12.9) (n=552)	7.9 (5.2-10.6) (n=679)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	10.4 (7.1-13.7) (n=1131)	14.2 (10.6-17.8) (n=1228)	15.8 (12.2-19.5) (n=961)	15.2 (10.2-20.2) (n=1193)
<b>Age at first experience of emotional violence</b>	(n=156)	(n=216)	(n=205)	(n=204)
13 or younger	36.1 (27.1-45.0)	29.2 (20.7-37.7)	26.4 (19.6-33.3)	34.6 (25.8-43.4)
14-15	19.0 (12.4-25.6)	19.6 (12.5-26.6)	19.8 (13.4-26.2)	19.4 (12.3-26.5)
16-17	17.4 (10.6-24.2)	19.3 (13.3-25.3)	21.5 (16.0-27.1)	18.1 (10.8-25.3)
18-24	27.5 (18.5-36.6)	31.9 (24.1-39.7)	32.2 (22.7-41.8)	27.9 (21.5-34.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult caregiver includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down.

[2] Among those who ever had an intimate partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer in the past 12 months includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

**Table C6.2.2.** Experience of lifetime emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced emotional violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, among those who ever experienced emotional violence</b>				
Experienced emotional violence before the COVID-19 pandemic [1]	59.2 (51.9-66.6) (n=157)	60.5 (51.8-69.2) (n=219)	56.9 (46.8-67.0) (n=213)	59.2 (51.3-67.0) (n=210)
Experienced emotional violence during the COVID-19 pandemic	62.3 (55.2-69.4) (n=156)	55.1 (45.3-65.0) (n=218)	60.5 (52.1-68.9) (n=213)	65.3 (56.2-74.4) (n=210)
<b>Emotional violence by parent or other adult relative [2]</b>	(n=10)	(n=16)	(n=14)	(n=9)

**Table C6.2.2. Experience of lifetime emotional violence before and during the COVID-19 pandemic among 13-24-year-old females who have ever experienced emotional violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
First experience was before COVID-19	47.9 (15.2-80.6)*	27.9 (2.0-53.8)*	**	78.1 (52.3-100.0)
First experience was during COVID-19	52.1 (19.4-84.8)*	72.1 (46.2-98.0)	70.4 (39.3-100.0)	**
<b>Emotional violence by intimate partner [3]</b>	(n= 15)	(n=22)	(n=31)	(n=18)
First experience was before COVID-19	54.4 (26.3-82.5)	47.5 (20.3-74.8)	59.3 (34.6-84.0)	41.4 (15.8-67.0)*
First experience was during COVID-19	45.6 (17.5-73.7)*	52.5 (25.2-79.7)	40.7 (16.0-65.4)*	58.6 (33.0-84.2)
<b>Emotional violence by peer [4]</b>	(n=55)	(n=74)	(n=89)	(n=92)
First experience was before COVID-19	43.9 (33.0-54.7)	62.9 (47.5-78.4)	50.9 (35.8-66.0)	44.7 (32.6-56.8)
First experience was during COVID-19	56.1 (45.3-67.0)	37.1 (21.6-52.5)	49.1 (34.0-64.2)	55.3 (43.2-67.4)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] COVID-19 pandemic timeframe includes March 2020 through August 2022

[2] Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted.

[3] Among those who ever had a partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[4] Emotional violence by a peer in the past 12 months includes: calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### Emotional violence in the past 12 months among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C6.3. Prevalence of emotional violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence, any perpetrator	8.5 (5.6-11.5) (n=1131)	9.0 (6.0-11.9) (n=1229)	10.7 (7.7-13.6) (n=961)	12.5 (8.9-16.2) (n=1193)
Emotional violence by a parent or other adult relative [1]	2.9 (1.7-4.1) (n=1130)	2.6 (1.5-3.8) (n=1229)	3.4 (2.0-4.7) (n=960)	3.8 (2.3-5.4) (n=1192)
Emotional violence by an intimate partner [2]	3.0 (1.5-4.4) (n=670)	4.5 (2.3-6.6) (n=742)	4.3 (2.2-6.4) (n=552)	5.1 (2.6-7.6) (n=679)

**Table C6.3. Prevalence of emotional violence in the past 12 months, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Emotional violence by a peer [3]	5.8 (3.4-8.2) (n=1130)	5.9 (3.7-8.0) (n=1227)	6.3 (4.0-8.6) (n=956)	8.2 (5.4-11.1) (n=1192)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Emotional violence by a parent or adult relative includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted.

[2] Among those who ever had a partner. Emotional violence by an intimate partner includes: being insulted, humiliated, or made fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; tried to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; made threats to physically harm you.

[3] Emotional violence by a peer in the past 12 months includes: made you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; told lies or spread rumours about you, or tried to make others dislike you; kept you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

## SECTION 7: INSPIRE INDICATORS

### INSPIRE indicators among 13-17-year-old females

**Table C7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-old females, by DREAMS areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Safe environments</b>				
Missing school or not leaving home due to fear of violence or safety problems in the past 12 months	8.1 (4.0-12.1) (n=507)	7.7 (3.9-11.7) (n=545)	8.2 (4.5-12.0) (n=494)	6.7 (3.2-10.3) (n=627)
Witnessed violence in the neighbourhood in the past 12 months	6.6 (3.0-10.3) (n=506)	7.7 (4.1-11.2) (n=543)	9.4 (6.2-12.5) (n=490)	6.1 (2.7-9.5) (n=623)
<b>Parent and caregiver support</b>				
Parents' use of positive parental discipline in the past 12 months	5.8 (3.3-8.3) (n=507)	8.6 (3.8-13.3) (n=544)	11.8 (5.9-17.8) (n=492)	4.6 (2.3-6.8) (n=626)
Close relationship with mother	92.9 (90.2-95.6) (n=454)	92.5 (89.9-95.0) (n=501)	87.3 (82.8-91.8) (n=451)	89.7 (87.1-92.2) (n=583)
Easy to talk to mother	76.8 (71.9-81.7) (n=496)	81.8 (78.5-85.2) (n=526)	72.2 (66.4-77.9) (n=475)	78.7 (73.5-83.8) (n=608)
High parental monitoring and supervision	80.8 (73.7-88.0) (n=507)	65.8 (56.9-74.8) (n=546)	64.3 (55.0-73.7) (n=493)	78.1 (73.3-82.9) (n=626)
Parents' use of physical discipline or verbal aggression in the past 12 months	15.0 (9.9-20.1) (n=507)	18.3 (13.1-23.6) (n=545)	20.1 (13.1-27.0) (n=494)	19.4 (15.0-23.8) (n=626)
Increased negative behaviour by parent/ caregiver since COVID-19 pandemic started [1]	2.0 (0.7-3.2)* (n=494)	3.4 (1.1-5.7)* (n=537)	3.0 (0.9-5.1)* (n=489)	3.3 (2.0-4.6) (n=612)
<b>Income and economic strengthening</b>				

**Table C7.1. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-17-year-old females, by DREAMS areas—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Experiencing food insecurity	54.2 (47.9-60.5) (n=497)	52.1 (45.3-58.9) (n=535)	60.0 (54.0-66.0) (n=478)	63.4 (57.6-69.2) (n=601)
<b>Education and life skills</b>				
Currently enrolled in school	92.4 (89.5-95.2) (n=503)	89.0 (85.5-92.5) (n=541)	95.8 (93.7-97.9) (n=493)	92.5 (90.1-94.8) (n=624)
Binge drinking [2] in the past 30 days	1.6 (0.3-3.0)* (n=494)	** (n=535)	** (n=471)	** (n=614)
In a physical fight in the past 12 months	3.7 (2.2-5.3) (n=506)	6.1 (3.2-9.0) (n=545)	6.4 (3.9-8.9) (n=495)	6.1 (3.5-8.8) (n=626)
Peer social supports [3]	65.9 (60.4-71.4) (n=507)	62.3 (58.2-66.4) (n=545)	62.1 (55.5-68.7) (n=494)	60.0 (54.7-65.4) (n=627)
Caring adult relationships in community [4]	52.0 (45.4-58.7) (n=507)	42.5 (33.7-51.2) (n=542)	55.8 (46.9-64.8) (n=493)	52.4 (46.5-58.2) (n=627)
Meaningful participation in community [5]	74.5 (68.9-80.1) (n=507)	63.9 (57.1-70.8) (n=546)	65.6 (60.2-70.9) (n=495)	67.2 (61.3-73.2) (n=627)
Caring adult relationships in family [6]	89.8 (86.8-92.8) (n=507)	85.9 (79.5-92.2) (n=546)	88.3 (82.1-94.5) (n=495)	91.7 (88.7-94.7) (n=627)
Taught anger management in school during school year	37.0 (30.7-43.3) (n=466)	40.9 (34.4-47.5) (n=486)	22.6 (17.6-27.6) (n=469)	32.2 (27.4-37.1) (n=584)
Taught how to avoid physical fights and violence in school during school year	45.5 (39.0-52.1) (n=463)	44.9 (38.5-51.4) (n=483)	38.7 (32.8-44.5) (n=466)	44.4 (38.1-50.7) (n=582)
Taught how to avoid bullying in school during school year	38.3 (32.6-44.1) (n=465)	48.0 (40.8-55.2) (n=486)	33.9 (27.8-39.9) (n=466)	36.5 (31.0-41.9) (n=575)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Negative behaviour includes: for example, increased shouting, name calling, criticizing, hitting, or slapping.

[2] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

[3] Peer social supports includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: my friends really try to help me; I can count on my friends when things go wrong; I have friends with whom I can share my good times and bad times; I can talk about problems with my friends.

[4] Caring adult relationships in community includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: outside of my home and school, there is an adult who really cares about me; there is an adult whom I trust who notices when I am upset about something; there is an adult who tells me when I do a good job; there is an adult who always wants me to do my best.

[5] Meaningful participation in community includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: In my community, I am part of a club; I am part of a sports team; I am part of a church/temple/mosque; I am part of some other group.

[6] Caring adult relationships in family includes affirmative responses to one or both of the following: including your mother and father and any other family members, would you say that you have an adult family member who cares about you; who is willing to help you make decisions?

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

INSPIRE indicators among 18-24-year-old females

<b>Table C7.2. INSPIRE Indicators among 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022</b>				
	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Norms and Values</b>				
Agreement with the necessity of corporal punishment by parents	45.9 (39.3-52.6) (n=616)	47.3 (41.1-53.4) (n=677)	44.6 (38.6-50.5) (n=464)	40.7 (34.9-46.6) (n=563)
Agreement with the necessity of corporal punishment by teachers	38.9 (32.0-45.9) (n=621)	37.2 (31.9-42.6) (n=681)	33.7 (27.9-39.5) (n=463)	46.1 (39.3-52.8) (n=565)
Acceptance of wife beating [1]	15.6 (9.2-22.0) (n=624)	8.5 (4.1-13.0) (n=683)	12.6 (7.4-17.8) (n=465)	13.0 (9.2-16.8) (n=566)
Endorsement of traditional norms and beliefs about gender, sexuality and violence [2]	15.4 (11.0-19.8) (n=624)	14.4 (9.6-19.3) (n=682)	21.8 (17.4-26.3) (n=466)	15.7 (11.8-19.5) (n=566)
Increased negative behaviour [3] by partner [4] since COVID-19 pandemic started	3.7 (1.8-5.6) (n=530)	3.6 (1.9-5.3) (n=564)	4.9 (2.4-7.5) (n=394)	3.9 (1.9-5.9) (n=486)
<b>Income and Economic Strengthening</b>				
Experiencing food insecurity	60.6 (55.0-66.3) (n=619)	55.7 (49.3-62.1) (n=679)	63.7 (57.8-69.6) (n=456)	62.6 (57.3-68.0) (n=561)
Married or cohabitating females who had some responsibility for how money was spent	99.3 (98.0-100.0) (n=143)	95.8 (91.9-99.7) (n=177)	96.8 (93.5-100.0) (n=106)	100.0 (100.0-100.0) (n=119)
<b>Education and Life Skills</b>				
Early sexual debut: first sex at or before age 15	2.6 (1.3-3.9) (n=621)	5.0 (2.8-7.2) (n=681)	7.7 (4.5-10.9) (n=463)	5.6 (3.6-7.6) (n=565)
Early pregnancy: pregnant before age 18	14.7 (11.4-18.1) (n=442)	13.3 (9.5-17.1) (n=488)	19.3 (13.5-25.2) (n=344)	14.9 (11.2-18.6) (n=398)
Binge drinking [4] in the past 30 days	6.4 (3.8-9.1) (n=614)	3.5 (1.9-5.2) (n=663)	1.8 (0.4-3.3)* (n=420)	2.4 (1.3-3.5) (n=556)
Current smoker	2.3 (0.9-3.8)* (n=600)	2.0 (0.4-3.7)* (n=651)	** (n=429)	1.2 (0.1-2.2)* (n=543)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: it is acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she: goes out without telling him; neglects the children; argues with him; refuses to have sex with him; is suspected of having an affair.

[2] Includes affirmative responses to one or more of the following: men decide when to have sex; men need more sex than women; men need other women; women who carry condoms are "loose;" women should tolerate violence to keep the family together.

[3] Among those who ever had a partner. Negative behaviour includes: for example, increased shouting, name calling, criticizing, hitting, or slapping.

[4] Binge drinking includes drinking 4 or more drinks in a row for females and 5 or more drinks in a row for males.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.



INSPIRE indicators among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C7.3. INSPIRE Indicators among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Response and support services</b>				
Knew of a place to go for help for violence [1]	56.4 (48.5-64.4) (n=118)	64.2 (52.4-75.9) (n=180)	66.0 (58.3-73.7) (n=172)	74.6 (65.8-83.4) (n=182)
<b>Education and Life Skills</b>				
Lifetime transactional sex among those who ever had sex [2]	5.8 (2.8-8.7) (n=491)	6.0 (3.1-8.9) (n=557)	10.0 (6.6-13.3) (n=396)	8.8 (4.7-12.9) (n=463)
Suicidal ideation [2]	10.4 (6.6-14.2) (n=1130)	11.6 (8.4-14.8) (n=1224)	9.5 (7.1-11.9) (n=961)	6.7 (4.5-8.9) (n=1193)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Knew place to seek service for physical or sexual violence among those who had experienced sexual or physical violence.

[2] Among those who ever had sex. Transactional sex includes receiving money, gifts, food, or favours in exchange for sex.

[3] Suicidal ideation includes ever having thought of suicide.

**SECTION 8: OVERLAP AMONG SEXUAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE**

Overlap among different forms of violence in childhood among 18-24-year-old females

**Table C8.1. Prevalence and overlap of different types of violence before age 18, among 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Any violence</b>	(n=624)	(n=683)	(n=466)	(n=566)
No childhood violence	86.8 (82.6-91.0)	82.5 (78.5-86.4)	79.6 (74.8-84.5)	83.5 (79.1-7.9)
Any childhood violence	13.2 (9.0-17.4)	17.5 (13.6-21.5)	20.4 (15.5-25.2)	16.5 (12.1-0.9)
<b>One type of violence only</b>	(n=624)	(n=683)	(n=466)	(n=566)
Childhood sexual violence [1] only	2.9 (1.4-4.3)	2.7 (1.1-4.4)*	4.7 (2.5-7.0)	2.6 (1.0-4.3)*
Childhood physical violence [2] only	2.2 (0.4-4.1)*	2.5 (0.8-4.2)*	3.6 (1.4-5.7)*	2.8 (0.8-4.7)*
Childhood emotional violence [3] only	7.0 (4.3-9.7)	7.1 (4.5-9.6)	8.5 (5.4-11.7)	5.4 (3.0-7.9)
<b>Multiple types of violence</b>	(n=624)	(n=683)	(n=466)	(n=566)
Two types of violence	1.0 (0.3-1.7)*	4.6 (2.4-6.8)	2.5 (1.1-4.0)	4.2 (1.7-6.6)
Three types of violence	**	**	1.0 (0.1-1.9)*	1.5 (0.4-2.6)*

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative;

insulting, humiliating, or making fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; trying to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; making threats to physically harm you; making you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; telling lies or spreading rumours about you, or trying to make others dislike you; keeping you out of things on purpose, excluding you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

### Overlap among different forms of lifetime violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C8.2. Prevalence and overlap of different types of lifetime violence among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Any violence</b>	(n=1131)	(n=1229)	(n=961)	(n=1193)
No violence	81.0 (76.3-85.7)	74.5 (69.4-79.7)	68.9 (64.2-73.6)	71.3 (65.2-77.3)
Any violence	19.0 (14.3-23.7)	25.5 (20.3-30.6)	31.1 (26.4-35.8)	28.7 (22.7-34.8)
<b>One type of violence only</b>	(n=1131)	(n=1229)	(n=961)	(n=1193)
Sexual violence only [1]	2.6 (1.4-3.8)	2.3 (1.0-3.5)	3.6 (2.3-4.9)	3.0 (1.4-4.7)
Physical violence only [2]	2.3 (1.0-3.7)	3.7 (2.2-5.2)	5.1 (2.9-7.2)	4.2 (2.5-5.9)
Emotional violence only [3]	8.3 (5.2-11.5)	9.1 (6.4-11.7)	13.2 (10.4-16.1)	10.7 (7.3-14.0)
<b>Multiple types of violence</b>	(n=1131)	(n=1229)	(n=961)	(n=1193)
Two types of violence	4.5 (2.6-6.4)	7.5 (5.2-9.8)	7.1 (5.0-9.2)	7.8 (4.8-10.7)
Three types of violence	1.3 (0.6-1.9)	2.9 (1.2-4.6)	2.1 (1.0-3.2)	3.0 (1.5-4.5)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (threats, harassment, or tricking).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon by intimate partner, parent/adult relative, adult in the community or neighbourhood or peer.

[3] Emotional violence includes: being told that you were unloved or did not deserve to be loved, being told that they wished you were dead or had never been born, or being ridiculed, put down, or insulted by a parent, adult caregiver, or other adult relative; insulting, humiliating, or making fun of in front of others; keeping you from having your own money; trying to keep you from seeing or talking to family or friends; keeping track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing; making threats to physically harm you; making you get scared or feel really bad because they were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around; telling lies or spread rumours about you, or trying to make others dislike you; keeping you out of things on purpose, excluded you from their group of friends or completely ignored you.

## SECTION 9: HEALTH CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE

Mental health conditions by experience of violence among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C9.1.3. Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on mental and emotional health, among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Mental and emotional health has been worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic	66.0 (60.3-71.7) (n=1123)	60.9 (56.2-65.6) (n=1217)	60.1 (54.0-66.2) (n=950)	68.5 (64.0-73.1) (n=1179)
COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on work/study, relationships, and sleep [1]	37.5 (31.0-44.4) (n=1123)	44.8 (33.3-51.2) (n=1217)	41.2 (34.7-47.6) (n=950)	50.2 (33.6-46.7) (n=1179)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Includes ability to work or study, stress/worry, emotional health, relationship with friends, relationships with family, and ability to sleep.

**Table C9.3.2. Missing school as a result of any sexual or physical violence among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Missed school due to any childhood sexual violence [1]	7.8 (1.9-13.7)* (n=59)	13.1 (5.8-20.4) (n=75)	** (n=75)	5.3 (1.3-9.3)* (n=96)
Missed school due to any childhood physical violence [2]	11.7 (1.4-21.9)* (n= 73)	11.2 (4.8-17.6) (n=131)	5.7 (1.9-9.5)* (n=125)	15.1 (6.4-23.8) (n=123)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[2] Physical violence includes: slapping, pushing, shoving, or intentionally throwing something at to hurt, punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, suffocating, trying to drown or burn intentionally, using or threatening with a knife, gun or other weapon.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 10: SEXUAL RISK BEHAVIOURS AND HIV

### Sexual risk behaviours among 19-24-year-old females

**Table C10.1.1. Sexual risk behaviours among 19-24-year-old females who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Two or more sex partners in the past 12 months	9.7 (5.9-13.6) (n= 373)	5.1 (3.1-7.1) (n= 400)	5.9 (2.7-9.1) (n= 282)	8.2 (4.8-11.5) (n= 342)
Infrequent condom use in the past 12 months [1]	45.6 (38.3-52.9) (n= 370)	40.7 (35.3-46.1) (n= 394)	54.0 (47.1-60.8) (n= 279)	51.9 (44.4-59.4) (n= 340)
Transactional sex in the past 12 months [2]	5.3 (2.1-8.4)* (n=374)	5.6 (2.6-8.5) (n=402)	7.5 (3.7-11.4) (n=283)	10.0 (5.1-14.8) (n=337)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Infrequent condom use: never or sometimes use condoms in the past 12 months. Married persons who had sex with only one partner in the past 12 months and who didn't use condom were included in the frequent condom user category.

[2] Transactional sex includes receiving money, gifts, food, or favours in exchange for sex.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

### HIV testing knowledge and behaviour among 13-24-year-old females

**Table C10.2.1. HIV prevention, testing, treatment knowledge and behaviour among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	Hhohho DREAMS	Manzini DREAMS	Shiselweni DREAMS	Lubombo DREAMS
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Know where to go for HIV test [1]	92.9 (91.0-94.7) (n=1131)	90.9 (88.9-93.0) (n=1228)	87.8 (84.7-91.0) (n=960)	91.8 (89.9-93.7) (n=1193)
Ever tested for HIV	80.1 (77.1-83.0) (n=1128)	78.2 (74.6-81.7) (n=1223)	81.7 (78.5-85.0) (n=958)	80.8 (77.9-83.8) (n=1192)
Knowledge of male circumcision for HIV prevention	86.9 (83.4-90.4) (n=960)	85.0 (80.8-89.1) (n=1013)	82.7 (77.6-87.8) (n=689)	84.4 (80.8-88.0) (n=964)
Knowledge of HIV treatment to prevent HIV transmission	85.1 (81.2-89.0) (n=958)	85.7 (81.9-89.6) (n=1069)	82.2 (77.8-86.7) (n=791)	89.0 (86.4-91.6) (n=1005)
<b>Timing of most recent viral load test [3]</b>				
Less than or equal to 6 months ago	62.2 (45.5-79.0) (n=51)	68.9 (59.1-78.8) (n=78)	72.4 (58.9-85.9) (n=48)	79.6 (69.4-89.8) (n=52)
More than 6 months ago	37.8 (21.0-54.5) (n=51)	31.1 (21.2-40.9) (n=78)	27.6 (14.1-41.1) (n=48)	20.4 (10.2-30.6) (n=52)
<b>Know where to go for an HIV test by experience of sexual violence</b>				
Experienced any lifetime sexual violence	92.1 (84.6- 99.6) (n=61)	89.7 (82.5-96.9) (n=85)	97.1 (93.100.0) (n=76)	92.1(87.2-96.9) (n=89)
No lifetime sexual violence	92.9 (91.0-94.8) (n= 1069)	91.0 (88.9-93.2) (n=1143)	87.0 (83.7-90.3) (n= 884)	92.0 (90.2-93.9) (n=1094)
<b>Ever tested for HIV by experience of sexual violence</b>				
Experienced any lifetime sexual violence	89.6 (80.4-98.8) (n=61)	88.6 (77.8-99.4) (n=85)	91.8 (84.0-99.6) (n=76)	90.6 (85.0-96.1) (n=98)
No lifetime sexual violence	79.5 (76.4-82.6) (n=1066)	77.2 (73.4-81.0) (n=1138)	80.8 (77.2-84.4) (n=882)	80.0 (77.1-82.9) (n=1093)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Age of consent for HIV testing in Eswatini is 13.

[3] Among those who have ever had viral load test. Timing is calculated by subtracting most recent viral load test date from the date survey was completed. Six months was defined by 180 days.

**Table C10.2.2. Service knowledge and PEP and PrEP awareness among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Among all 13-24-year-old females</b>				
Knowledge of place to seek services for violence	59.8 (53.9-65.6) (n=1129)	59.6 (53.6-65.6) (n=1224)	66.6 (61.1-72.0) (n=944)	64.6 (59.5-69.7) (n=1187)
<b>Among those with current knowledge of a place for violence service</b>				
Knew of a doctor, nurse, or other healthcare worker in a hospital or clinic	94.6 (92.6-96.6) (n=670)	95.6 (93.4-97.8) (n=737)	97.0 (95.0-98.9) (n=623)	97.8 (96.8-98.9) (n=758)
Knew of police or other security personnel to go to for help with violence	96.9 (95.4-98.5) (n=670)	93.4 (90.4-96.4) (n=736)	97.0 (95.7-98.4) (n=624)	97.5 (96.3-98.6) (n=758)
Knew of a legal professional to go to for help with violence	36.0 (29.8-42.2) (n=653)	37.4 (31.8-43.1) (n=716)	35.0 (28.7-41.4) (n=608)	32.0 (25.8-38.1) (n=742)
Knew of a social worker or counsellor to go to for help with violence	58.3 (51.2-65.3) (n=659)	58.3 (53.6-63.0) (n=722)	56.4 (50.3-62.5) (n=614)	53.1 (46.1-60.2) (n=749)
Knew of a community leader to go to for help with violence	74.3 (68.9-79.7) (n=668)	75.9 (71.5-80.4) (n=736)	78.5 (73.9-83.0) (n=620)	73.9 (68.5-79.2) (n=752)
<b>Among all 13-24-year-old females</b>				
Ever heard of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV	52.8 (48.1-57.6) (n=1130)	55.3 (48.8-61.7) (n=1228)	51.4 (45.2-57.6) (n=955)	52.7 (48.1-57.3) (n=1187)
Ever heard of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV	38.7 (34.1-43.2) (n=1131)	48.0 (41.5-54.5) (n=1227)	43.7 (38.4-49.1) (n=959)	43.4 (38.5-48.2) (n=1187)
Willing to take PrEP, among those who have ever had sex	77.5 (71.1-83.8) (n=399)	83.0 (77.5-88.5) (n=461)	86.8 (82.0-91.5) (n=341)	82.4 (76.7-88.1) (n=387)
Willing to take PEP if exposed	80.5 (76.1-85.0) (n=1071)	84.4 (79.7-89.1) (n=1143)	85.6 (82.8-88.5) (n=864)	81.0 (76.6-85.3) (n=1087)
<b>Among those who have heard of PEP</b>				
Know that PEP must be taken within 72 hours of exposure	70.9 (64.9-76.9) (n=438)	70.1 (65.0-75.2) (n=608)	63.8 (58.0-69.6) (n=402)	68.4 (63.5-73.3) (n=491)
<b>Among those who experienced forced or pressured sex</b>				
Ever heard of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV	68.1 (50.1-86.1) (n=30)	72.3 (53.4-91.3) (n=38)	45.2 (22.4-68.1) (n=27)	64.4 (47.7-81.1) (n= 31)
Ever taken PEP	17.2 (0.6-33.9)* (n=21)	33.6 (10.0-7.3)* (n=27)	30.0 (2.9-57.1)* (n=13)	51.2 (21.0-81.4) (n=19)
Ever heard of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV	85.2 (75.0-95.5) (n=30)	78.1 (63.9-92.3) (n=38)	67.1 (46.0-88.1) (n= 26)	66.6 (46.9-86.3) (n=31)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

**Table C10.2.3. Willingness to take PrEP and reasons for not taking PrEP among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Among 16-24-year-old females who have taken PrEP [1, 2]</b>	(n=66)	(n=76)	(n=32)	(n=50)
Not likely to take PrEP again	33.9 (20.8-47.0)	20.0 (9.5-30.5)	19.3 (2.7-36.0)*	15.0 (4.0-26.0)*
<b>Reasons for not being willing to take PrEP again</b>	(n=75)	(n=48)	(n=28)	(n=54)
Low risk for HIV exposure	35.6 (23.1-48.1)	26.4 (11.8-41.0)	53.5 (27.7-79.3)	21.2 (6.7-35.7)*
Did not like the medicine	56.1 (42.0-70.2)	63.5 (45.8-81.2)	36.2 (18.8-53.6)	75.2 (59.6-90.8)
Worried about stigma/retaliation	**	**	**	**
Too hard to get the medicine	**	**	<0.1%***	**
Other	<0.1%***	<0.1%***	<0.1%***	<0.1%***
<b>Among 13-24-year-old females who have not taken PrEP</b>	(n=390)	(n=447)	(n=329)	(n=372)
Would not take PrEP to help prevent HIV	22.7 (16.4-29.1)	17.5 (11.9-23.2)	13.1 (8.2-18.0)	17.8 (11.9-23.6)
<b>Reasons for not being willing to take PrEP again</b>	(n=74)	(n=48)	(n=28)	(n=53)
Low risk for HIV exposure	35.9 (23.0-48.9)	26.4 (11.8-41.0)	53.5 (27.7-79.3)	21.4 (6.8-36.0)*
Did not like the medicine	56.6 (42.9-70.2)	63.5 (45.8-81.2)	36.2 (18.8-53.6)	74.9 (59.3-90.6)
Worried about stigma/retaliation	**	**	**	**
Too hard to get the medicine	**	**	<0.1%***	**
Other	<0.1%***	<0.1%***	<0.1%***	<0.1%***

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] PrEP is only offered to those 16 years and older in Eswatini per national guidelines.

[2] Among those who have ever had sex.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

HIV status

**Table C10.3.1. HIV status among 13-24-year-old females and by experience of any lifetime violence and lifetime sexual violence, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>DREAMS Hhohho</b>	<b>DREAMS Manzini</b>	<b>DREAMS Shiselweni</b>	<b>DREAMS Lubombo</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
Tested positive for HIV [1]	5.7 (4.3-7.0) (n=1094)	6.4 (4.6-8.3) (n=1197)	6.8 (4.5-9.2) (n=915)	5.5 (4.0-7.0) (n=1161)
Knew HIV status, among those living with HIV	88.7 (79.2-98.3) (n=62)	92.7 (86.9-98.5) (n=90)	92.6 (84.3-100.0) (n=60)	88.3 (79.2-97.4) (n=69)
On antiretroviral treatment (ART) among those who knew they were living with HIV	85.8 (74.3-97.4) (n=56)	96.0 (90.3-100.0) (n=83)	93.1(85.2-100.0) (n=55)	88.4 (79.8-97.0) (n=60)
Self-reported virally suppressed, among those on ART	63.2 (44.1-82.3) (n=44)	56.0 (42.8-69.3) (n=75)	55.5 (41.3-9.7) (n=45)	66.2 (50.7-81.8) (n=47)
<b>HIV status and any lifetime violence [3]</b>				
HIV positive among those who experienced any lifetime violence	6.3 (3.0-9.5) (n=199)	6.6 (3.7-9.5) (n=287)	7.1 (3.4-10.8) (n=284)	7.7 (4.1-11.3) (n=286)
HIV positive among those who experienced no lifetime violence	5.6 (4.0-7.1) (n=895)	6.4 (4.4-8.3) (n=910)	6.7 (3.5-9.8) (n=631)	4.6 (3.1-6.1) (n=875)
<b>HIV status and sexual violence [4]</b>				
HIV positive among those who experienced lifetime sexual violence	10.8 (1.3-20.3)* (n=58)	7.6 (2.4-12.7)* (n=84)	11.0 (2.9-19.2)* (n=74)	7.6 (2.1-13.1)* (n=97)
HIV positive among those who experienced no lifetime sexual violence	5.4 (4.0-6.8) (n=1035)	6.3 (4.6-8.1) (n=1113)	6.5 (4.0-8.9) (n=841)	5.3(3.8-6.7) (n=1064)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] HIV status determined through HIV rapid test results or self-report of a prior positive HIV test. HIV rapid testing was offered to 13–24-year-old participants who did not report a prior HIV positive result, using the national rapid HIV testing algorithm and country counselling guidelines.

[2] Self-reported most recent viral load test; not laboratory verified.

[3] Any violence includes sexual violence, physical violence, or emotional violence.

[4] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

**Table C10.3.2. Negative experiences related to disclosure to partner of their positive HIV status, among 13–24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Afraid of negative experience from HIV disclosure to intimate partner, among those who are HIV positive, and partner does not know their status	** (n=9)	23.0 (1.7-44.3)* (n=15)	<0.1%*** (n=6)	22.5 (3.3-41.8)* (n=9)
Afraid of negative experience from HIV disclosure to intimate partner, among those who are HIV negative	10.0 (4.6-15.4) (n=325)	14.7 (7.3-22.1) (n=364)	23.5 (15.1-31.8) (n=240)	20.4 (13.4-27.4) (n=328)

Note: CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

\*\*\* When the prevalence of an indicator is zero percent (0.0%), those results are denoted as <0.1% and should be interpreted with caution. It cannot be assumed that the prevalence of the item in the entire population is an absolute zero.

## SECTION 11: VIOLENCE PERPETRATION

### Physical violence perpetration

**Table C11.1. Physical violence perpetration among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
Ever perpetrated physical violence [1]	2.4 (1.4-3.4) (n=1131)	3.6 (2.1-5.2) (n=1228)	3.8 (2.4-5.2) (n=960)	4.1 (2.2-6.0) n=1192)
Perpetrated physical violence in the past 12 months	0.9 (0.3-1.5)* (n=1131)	1.0 (0.3-1.6)* (n=1228)	0.8 (0.2-1.3)* (n=960)	1.0 (0.2-2.4)* n=1192)
<b>Prevalence of lifetime physical violence perpetration by experience of sexual violence [2]</b>				
Experienced sexual violence	12.7 (3.9-21.6)* (n=61)	10.3 (2.9-17.7)* (n=85)	8.1 (1.6-14.5)* (n=76)	18.6 (7.3-29.8)* (n=98)
No sexual violence	1.8 (0.9-2.6) (n=1069)	3.0 (1.7-4.4) (n=1143)	3.4 (2.2-4.7) (n=884)	2.5 (1.2-3.9) (n=1093)
<b>Prevalence of lifetime physical violence perpetration by experience of physical violence [3]</b>				
Experienced physical violence	14.5 (6.5-22.4) (n=73)	14.6 (6.4-22.9) (n=131)	15.0 (7.4-22.6) (n=124)	21.5 (13.1-29.9) (n=123)
No physical violence	1.5 (0.6-2.5)* (n=1058)	2.2 (1.1-3.4) (n=1097)	2.3 (1.3-3.3) (n=836)	1.7 (0.5-3.0)* (n=1069)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Violence perpetration includes: slapped, pushed, shoved, shook, or intentionally threw something at; punched, kicked, whipped, or beat with an object; choked, suffocated, tried to drown, or burned intentionally; threatened with a knife, gun or other weapon.

[2] Sexual violence includes: unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, physically forced sex, or pressured sex (through continual arguments and pressure).

[3] Physical violence includes: punching, slapping, kicking, whipping, lashing, poking with an object, choking, smothering, trying to drown, burning intentionally, using or threatening to use a gun, knife, screwdriver, softball bat, knobkerrie, gun, or other weapon.



\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

## SECTION 12: CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE

Characteristics associated with violence among 13-17-year-old females

**Table C12.1. Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by selected characteristics among 13-17-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Violence and orphan status (lost one or both parents in childhood) [1]</b>				
Violence among orphans	10.3 (3.2-17.5)* (n=97)	6.7 (0.8-2.6)* (n=104)	5.3 (0.7-9.9)* (n=99)	11.5 (4.5-8.5)* (n=118)
Violence among non-orphans	5.5 (2.8-8.2) (n=393)	6.2 (2.4-9.9)* (n=413)	9.7 (6.3-13.1) (n=362)	9.3 (5.2-13.4) (n=474)
<b>Violence and school attendance</b>				
Violence among those not attending school	** (n=37)	** (n=56)	13.3 (0.6-6.0)* (n=21)	14.6 (1.1-8.2)* (n=42)
Violence among those attending school	5.6 (3.3-7.9) (n=466)	6.3 (3.3-9.2) (n=485)	8.5 (5.8-11.2) (n=472)	9.0 (5.1-12.9) (n=582)
<b>Violence and working for money or other payment in the past year</b>				
Violence among youth who worked	** (n=18)	** (n=17)	** (n=14)	18.9 (2.4-5.3)* (n=23)
Violence among youth who did not work	6.1 (3.9-8.4) (n=488)	6.0 (3.3-8.6) (n=529)	8.9 (6.1-11.6) (n=481)	9.1 (5.2-13.0) (n=604)
<b>Violence and witnessing violence at home</b>				
Violence among youth who witnessed violence at home	17.8 (5.9-29.6)* (n=32)	20.3 (3.5-.2)* (n=44)	21.1 (12.2-0.1) (n=76)	31.4 (15.8-7.1) (n=71)
Violence among youth who did not witness violence at home	5.5 (3.1-8.0) (n=472)	5.0 (2.6-7.5) (n=498)	6.5 (4.1-9.0) (n=417)	6.2 (3.3-9.2) (n=556)
<b>Violence and food or material insecurity</b>				
Violence among youth who experienced food insecurity	7.7 (4.3-11.1) (n=255)	7.7 (4.2-11.1) (n=279)	8.6 (4.9-12.4) (n=287)	12.8 (7.0-18.6) (n=364)
Violence among youth who did not experience food insecurity	4.6 (1.8-7.5)* (n=242)	4.9 (1.0-8.8)* (n=256)	7.9 (3.6-12.3) (n=191)	4.3 (1.4-7.1)* (n=237)
<b>Violence and disability</b>				
Violence among youth with a disability	20.7 (9.8-31.7) (n=58)	9.7 (1.4-8.0)* (n=86)	16.3 (8.3-24.3) (n=105)	28.8 (16.9-0.7) (n=59)
Violence among youth with no disability	3.9 (1.7-6.1) (n=449)	5.6 (2.1-9.0)* (n=460)	6.6 (3.7-9.6) (n=390)	7.3 (4.0-10.6) (n=568)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Violence includes sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution.

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

Characteristics associated with violence among 18-24-year-old females

**Table C12.2. Prevalence of sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months by select characteristics among 18-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	DREAMS Hhohho	DREAMS Manzini	DREAMS Shiselweni	DREAMS Lubombo
	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)	Weighted % (95% CI)
<b>Violence and orphan status (lost one or both parents in childhood) [1]</b>				
Violence among orphans	8.6 (4.4-2.8) (n=203)	12.5 (6.2-18.8) (n=241)	7.3 (1.9-12.7)* (n=156)	11.0 (4.8-17.2) (n=170)
Violence among non-orphans	5.1 (0.8-9.4)* (n=399)	7.4 (3.2-11.6) (n=401)	8.2 (4.6-11.8) (n=280)	9.8 (5.1-14.4) (n=366)
<b>Violence by level of education</b>				
Violence among youth who completed primary school or less	13.3 (3.0-3.7)* (n=45)	20.0 (2.4-.6)* (n=54)	13.4 (1.8-5.0)* (n=48)	15.9 (5.2-6.6)* (n=68)
Violence among youth who completed secondary school	7.3 (1.7-12.9)* (n=155)	10.1 (5.1-5.1) (n=154)	9.5 (4.0-15.0) (n=128)	10.1 (3.4-6.8)* (n=147)
Violence among youth who completed more than secondary school	5.1 (2.2-7.9) (n=424)	7.1 (3.7-10.6) (n=474)	6.1 (3.2-9.0) (n=290)	9.3 (4.9-13.8) (n=349)
<b>Violence and working for money or other payment in the 12 months</b>				
Violence among youth who worked	4.9 (0.1-9.7)* (n=146)	6.9 (2.7-1.2)* (n=188)	5.4 (1.3-9.5)* (n=109)	9.9 (2.6-17.2)* (n=125)
Violence among youth who did not work	6.5 (3.0-10.0) (n=478)	9.6 (4.5-14.6) (n=495)	8.2 (4.8-11.6) (n=353)	10.3 (5.9-14.7) (n=441)
<b>Violence and witnessed violence at home</b>				
Violence among youth who witnessed violence at home	** (n=38)	35.9 (19.5-.3) (n=60)	17.3 (4.2-.5)* (n=50)	17.6 (7.7-27.5) (n=58)
Violence among youth who did not witness violence at home	5.1 (3.2-7.0) (n=586)	6.0 (2.9-9.1) (n=623)	6.4(3.7-9.2) (n=416)	9.3 (5.4-13.2) (n=508)
<b>Violence and marriage or cohabitation</b>				
Violence among youth who have ever been married or cohabiting	20.5 (6.9-4.1)* (n=62)	16.2 (7.4-5.1) (n=97)	11.9 (3.5-.3)* (n=47)	19.9 (7.1-2.7)* (n=52)
Violence among youth who are unmarried and not cohabiting	4.7 (2.2-7.2) (n=562)	8.0 (3.8-12.2) (n=584)	7.4 (4.6-10.2) (n=418)	9.2 (5.0-13.3) (n=514)
<b>Violence and food insecurity</b>				
Violence among youth who experienced food insecurity	6.8 (1.8-11.8)* (n=357)	10.5 (5.7-5.4) (n=382)	9.0 (4.9-13.1) (n=279)	10.6 (6.0-15.2) (n=338)
Violence among youth who did not experience food insecurity	4.4 (1.1-7.8)* (n=262)	6.7 (2.6-0.8)* (n=297)	6.0 (1.7-0.4)* (n=177)	9.8 (4.3-15.3) (n=223)
<b>Violence and disability</b>				
Violence among youth with a disability	12.3 (5.0-9.6)* (n=68)	13.1 (0.6-.7)* (n=90)	9.9 (1.4-8.4)* (n=76)	12.1 (2.7-1.4)* (n=67)
Violence among youth with no disability	5.3 (2.1-8.5)* (n=556)	8.3 (4.7-11.8) (n=593)	7.4 (4.3-10.4) (n=390)	9.9 (5.9-14.0) (n=499)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator of the subgroup for the analysis.

[1] Violence includes sexual or physical violence in the past 12 months.

\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than 30% but less than 50%), result should be interpreted with caution

\*\*Unstable estimate (RSE is greater than or equal to 50%), estimate is suppressed.

## SECTION 13: HIV Prevention Programming: DREAMS AND VMMC

**Table C13.1.1. Knowledge of and participation in DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention among 13-24-year-old females, by DREAMS area—Eswatini Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), 2022**

	<b>Hhohho DREAMS</b>	<b>Manzini DREAMS</b>	<b>Shiselweni DREAMS</b>	<b>Lubombo DREAMS</b>
	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Weighted % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Knowledge of DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention</b>				
Insika ya Kusasa	11.3 (6.8-15.8) (n=1128)	16.4 (11.5-21.3) (n=1220)	10.7 (7.9-13.5) (n=957)	13.8 (9.8-17.8) (n=1187)
Likusasa Ngeletfu	13.3 (8.9-17.7) (n=1122)	16.6 (12.6-20.5) (n=1222)	23.4 (19.3-27.6) (n=949)	11.9 (9.3-14.5) (n=1179)
Phila Unotse	9.1 (6.4-11.8) (n=1126)	11.1 (8.3-13.9) (n=1221)	9.2 (6.6-11.9) (n=950)	3.8 (2.5-5.2) (n=1180)
Stepping Stones	4.0 (2.1-5.8) (n=1125)	12.4 (9.0-15.7) (n=1220)	8.0 (5.5-10.5) (n=958)	6.5 (4.3-8.6) (n=1178)
DREAMS on Wheels	23.4 (18.5-28.3) (n=1128)	32.2 (25.4-39.1) (n=1224)	28.0 (23.3-32.7) (n=958)	31.6 (26.5-36.7) (n=1185)
<b>Participation in DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention</b>	(n= 1131)	(n= 1228)	(n= 961)	(n= 1187)
Current beneficiary of DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention	9.3 (6.6-12.0)	12.0 (8.2-15.8)	10.9 (7.5-14.4)	17.8 (12.6-23.0)
Former beneficiary of DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention	3.9 (2.1-5.7)	6.6 (4.5-8.8)	6.1 (3.9-8.2)	6.9 (4.5-9.3)
Never a beneficiary of DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention	86.7 (83.2-90.2)	81.4 (76.5-86.2)	83.0 (78.5-87.5)	75.3 (69.6-81.0)
<b>Length of participation in DREAMS or other AGYW HIV prevention [1]</b>	(n=146)	(n=190)	(n=128)	(n=217)
Less than 1 year	26.8 (18.9-34.6)	36.4 (23.3-49.4)	33.4 (23.4-43.5)	29.2 (21.4-37.1)
More than or equal to 1 year	73.2 (65.4-81.1)	63.6 (50.6-76.7)	66.6 (56.5-76.6)	70.8 (62.9-78.6)

**Note:** CI=confidence interval; n represents the denominator.

[1] Length of participation for those currently enrolled in the program was calculated using the date the interview was completed as the end date.

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