

Jordanian Women's Union Report on Women's Shelter

An Analysis of Cases Received During 2019 and 2020

1. Introduction and summary in figures.

Jordanian Women's Union provides herein an analytical report on cases of violence against women received by the Women's Shelter. This report does not cover violence cases dealt with by Union's various programs distributed in its branches throughout the Kingdom, but is only limited to women who were hosted in the Women's Shelter for the years 2019 and 2020. The report seeks to analyze cases of violence received by the Union, as an attempt to understand the conditions and types of violence that led women to resort to the shelter. The shelter was established in 1999 due to an urgent need to provide a safe place for women exposed to violence, who had no other place to go, or whose return to their homes would have put their lives at risk. This report comes to show the number of cases, the nature and various forms of violence, and the nature of services provided to women in the shelter. The report provides a comparison among the hosted women on the basis of women's nationality, it also attempts to compare between 2019 and 2020 in an effort to find out the changes that occurred based on the state of the epidemic and curfew. This report is not a study but a brief analysis of figures, the most significant of which are as follows:

- During 2019 and 2020, the Women's Shelter of the Jordanian Women's Union received four hundred and twelve (412) women.
- Jordanian women accounted for about 41% of all women hosted in the shelter, compared to 48% for women of foreign nationalities. The percentage of women of Arab nationalities was the lowest, accounting for about 11%.
- The report indicates that female domestic workers who experienced and reported various forms of violence in 2019 accounted for 67% compared to 33% in 2020. This means that the rate of reporting violence against domestic workers decreased, which could be attributed to several factors of which the curfew maybe was the most important.
- The percentage of Jordanian women and women working in the private sector increased from 5% in 2019 to 8.4% in 2020.
- In 2019, there were no female public sector workers in the shelter. In comparison, women working in the public sector made up 9% of women hosted in the shelter in 2020, maybe the curfew was a key factor in this rise.

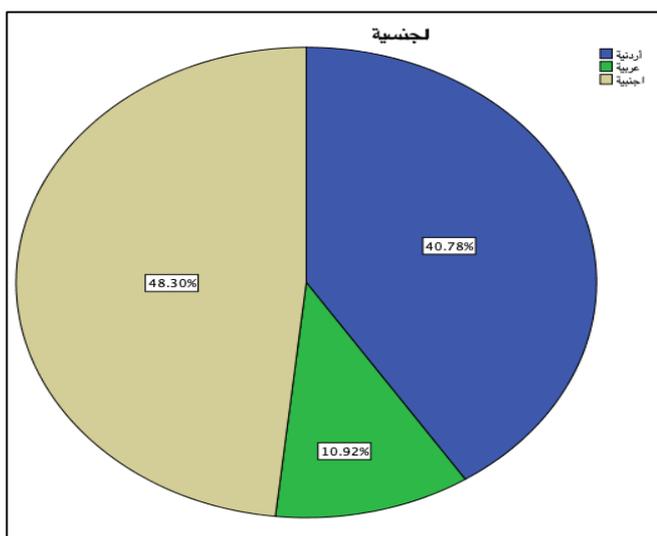
- Physical violence accounted for 42.5% of the total cases for the two years, and it is notable that there was a marked increase in physical violence in 2020 over 2019 by 20%.
- The data showed that the most common type of violence experienced by Jordanian and Arab women was physical violence (63.3%, 67.4%, of all women of each nationality respectively). In comparison, 50% of foreign women suffered resource deprivation violence.
- Sexual violence ranked second in terms of exposure rate, accounting for 16% among Jordanian women, 14% among women of Arab nationalities, and 6% among foreign women out of the total cases of sexual violence.
- There was an increase in the majority of other forms of violence, especially trafficking, which rose from 3% in 2019 to 15% in 2020.
- About 68.7% of all women who resided in the shelter in 2019 and 2020 had experienced more than one form of violence.
- The percentage of women who reported violence by their spouses increased from about 9% in 2019 to 22% in 2020, and the percentage of father violence increased by more than 13%, accounting for nearly 9% in 2019 compared to 21.5% in 2020.
- Men accounted for 91% of violence perpetrators, while women accounted for approximately 9%. The percentage of female violence perpetrators was distributed among mothers by approximately 6%, female employers by 3% (in the case of domestic workers), and sisters by 1%.
- The vast majority of case referrals from official bodies to the shelter were made by the Family Protection Department, 51% of the total number of referrals, followed by referrals through the Counter-Trafficking Unit (CTU) (14.6%), and then police stations (13%).
- The vast majority of women who were hosted in the shelter received legal counseling, as this service made up 54% of the total services provided. The legal aid service came second, accounting for about 36%.
- The Jordanian Women's Union provided multiple social, legal, and psychological services as well as accommodation services for all women who stayed in the shelter, regardless of the referral body.

BASIC INFORMATION

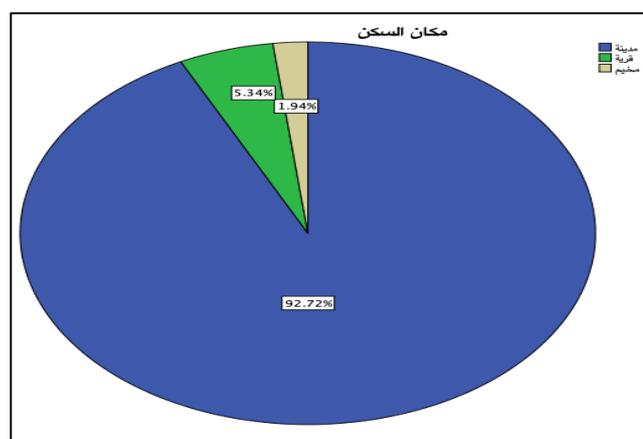
During 2019 and 2020, the Women's Shelter of the Jordanian Women's Union received four hundred and twelve (412) women. As can be seen from Table (1), the number of women hosted in 2020 (233 women) was 13% over the number of those hosted in 2019 (179 women). Maybe this increase was due to the COVID-19 crisis and the curfew period and the impact and contribution thereof to the increase in violence against women, which will be extensively addressed in this report.

Year of admission to the shelter (1)			
		Frequency	Valid percent
Valid	2019	179	43.4
	2020	233	56.6
	Total	412	100.0

As shown in figure (2), with regard to the nationality of hosted women, Jordanian nationality accounted for about 41% of women hosted in the shelter, compared to 48% for women of foreign nationalities, and the percentage of women of Arab nationalities was the lowest, accounting for about 11%. Arab nationalities included Palestinian, Iraqi, Syrian, Egyptian, Tunisian and Sudanese women. As for foreign nationalities, the Bengali nationality constituted half of the cases received by the shelter, these nationalities also included: Ugandans, Filipinos, Sri Lankans, and Ethiopians.

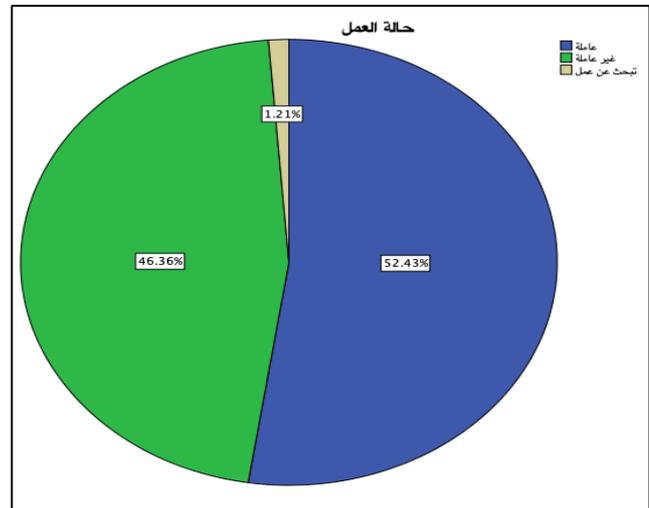


Regarding the place of residence, urban women made up the majority of the women who were hosted in the shelter. This does not indicate that women in camps or villages were not subjected to violence, but was probably due to reasons such as the fact that urban women had more access to, and were aware of the availability of, services. Maybe there were factors associated with the nature of the social fabric in villages and camps (recognizing the difference between the two) so



that the extended family, neighbors, and relatives had some kind of intervention, for example by hosting the woman until the issue was resolved. This fabric maybe sometimes constituted an obstacle to reporting violence as a result of trying not to inform the official authorities in order to protect the family/clan name. This is in addition to other reasons expressed by the women from these areas who contacted the Union in the past years.

For employment situation, figure (4) shows that more than half of women were employed (52%). Domestic workers made up the vast majority of working women who were admitted into the shelter at a percentage of 89% for the years 2019 and 2020. By comparing the figures for the two years, we found that female domestic workers who experienced and reported forms of violence in 2019 accounted for 67%

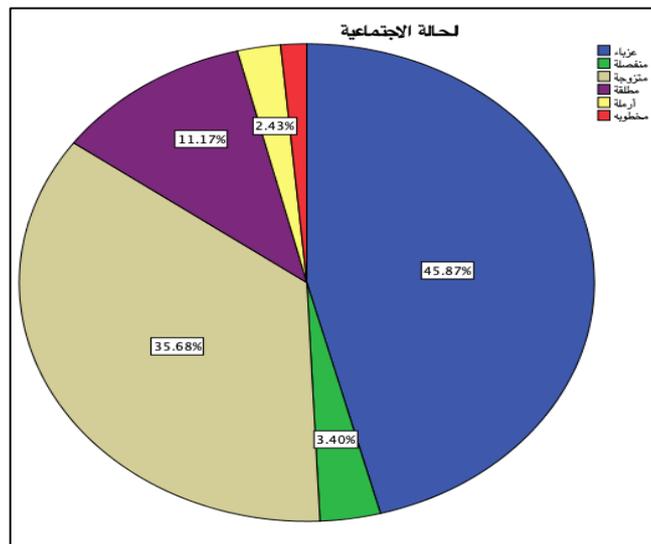


compared to 33% in 2020. Women working in the private sector ranked second with 8.9% of all female workers. Unlike domestic workers, the percentage of women working in the private sector increased from 5% in 2019 to 8.4% in 2020. There were no women working in the public sector in the shelter in 2019, while those made up 9% of women hosted in the shelter in 2020. The increase in Jordanian women workers` resort to the shelter may give an indication that they were affected by the crisis and the curfew, but it is also an indication that Jordanian women workers, although less than domestic workers, were able to report violence. On the other hand, the percentage of female domestic workers decreased, probably due to the curfew conditions that put them under greater observation or confinement, or prevented them from leaving the home.

Table (2)

Employment sector		Frequency	Valid percent
Valid	Public sector	2	.9
	Private sector	19	8.9
	Self-employed	2	.9
	Domestic work	191	89.3
	Total	214	100.0

The marital status of women resided in the shelter. Single women accounted for the largest percentage of about 46%, followed by married women with a percentage of approximately 36%, and divorced women with 11%. Widows and engaged women made up the lowest percentages (2.4% and 1.4%, respectively).



2. Information on violence against women hosted in the shelter.

With regard to the type of violence that had been practiced against women before they resorted to the shelter, we see that physical violence accounted for 42.5% of the total cases for the two years, and it is notable that there was a marked increase in physical violence in 2020 over 2019 by 20%. On the other hand, we can see that the second form of violence, resource deprivation, which for the two years accounted for 27.7%, decreased from 44% in 2019 to 15% in 2020. Maybe this was due to the fact that the majority of resource deprivation cases were related to forced renunciation of inheritance, deprivation from children, denial of family visits, and taking away of salary. Perhaps the situation during the curfew and the COVID-19 crisis reduced such forms of violence as a result of emergency conditions. However, as can be seen in Table (3), there was an increase in most other forms, especially trafficking which rose from 3% in 2019 to 15% in 2020.

Table (3)

Type of violence * Year of admission						
			Year of admission		Total	
			2019	2020		
Type of violence	Psychological	% within the year of admission	7.4%	8.1 %	7.8 %	
	Physical	% within the year of admission	30.7%	51.1 %	42.5 %	
	Sexual	% within the year of admission	13.5%	9.9 %	11.4 %	
	Early marriage	% within the year of admission	0.6%	0.4 %	0.5 %	
	Resource deprivation	% within the year of admission	44.8%	15.2 %	27.7 %	
	Trafficking	% within the year of admission	3.1%	15.2 %	10.1 %	
Total		% within the year of admission	100.0%	100.0 %	100.0 %	

The data showed that the most common type of violence experienced by Jordanian and Arab women was physical violence (63.3%, 67.4%, of all women of each nationality respectively). In comparison, 50% of foreign women suffered resource deprivation violence. Trafficking had the second highest percentage among foreign women, at 19% of their total. On the other hand, the percentage of trafficking was relatively low among Jordanian women and slightly higher among Arab women (1.8%, 2.3%, respectively). Sexual violence ranked second in terms of exposure rate, accounting for 16% among Jordanian women and 14% among women of Arab nationalities, out of the total of each nationality, according to Table (4).

Table (4)

Nationality * Type of violence									
			Type of violence						Total
			Psychological	Physical	Sexual	Early marriage	Resource deprivation	Trafficking	
Nationality	Jordanian women	% within the nationality	9.8%	63.2 %	16.0 %	0.6 %	8.6 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
	Arab women	% within the nationality	9.3%	67.4 %	14.0 %	2.3 %	4.7 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
	Foreign women	% within the nationality	5.6%	17.8 %	6.7 %	0.0 %	50.6 %	19.4 %	100.0 %
Total		% within the nationality	7.8%	42.5 %	11.4 %	0.5 %	27.7 %	10.1 %	100.0 %
			100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

As the shelter data showed, the majority of women who were received in the shelter had experienced more than one form of violence, about 68.7% of all women in the shelter for 2019 and 2020, compared to 31.3% for women who had experienced one of the violence forms mentioned in Table (4). A comparison of the figures for the two years showed that we had an increase for 2020, whereby the percentage of women who had experienced more than one type of violence reached 78% compared to 55% in 2019 of the total each year, according to Table (5).

Table (5)

Was there more than one type of violence? • Year of admission					
			Year of admission		Total
			2019	2020	
Is there more than one type of violence?	Yes	% within was there more than one type of violence?	34.3%	65.7 %	100.0 %
		% within the year of admission	55.8%	78.0 %	68.7 %
		% of Total	23.6%	45.1 %	68.7 %
	No	% within was there more than one type of violence?	59.5%	40.5 %	100.0 %
		% within the year of admission	44.2%	22.0 %	31.3 %
		% of Total	18.7%	12.7 %	31.3 %
Total	% within was there more than one type of violence?		42.2%	57.8 %	100.0 %
	% within the year of admission		100.0%	100.0 %	100.0 %
	% of Total		42.2%	57.8 %	100.0 %

As shown in the table on the period of violence, women generally did not report violence immediately. Almost 38% of the women who sought refuge in the shelter reported violence more than one year and less than three years later, followed by women who reported violence less than one year later, accounted for about 23%, then women who reported during the first month after violence by 3.7%, and finally those who reported violence within the first week by 9%. This generally indicates that women tried to resort to other means before reporting violence, such as mediating the family, trying to find ways of understanding with the abusers, resorting to family friends and relatives, and others, and that they left their homes after solutions had been exhausted. The table also shows that Jordanian women reported violence from the first week more than women of other nationalities (17% of all Jordanian women), compared to 3% for foreign women. This was due to the fact that the vast majority of foreign women were domestic workers and that the inability to report violence was related to language factors, lack of familiarity with the country and the services available therein, and the inability to leave the home without the accompaniment of a family member. So, as the data showed, nearly 50% of foreign women reported violence more than one year and less than three years later. Although Jordanian women reported violence at an early stage more than other women, the highest percentages of Jordanian women reported violence more than a year later (26.6%), followed by Jordanian women who reported violence more than three years later (23.9%). This means that more than 50% of Jordanian women reported violence after at least one year.

Table (6)

Period of violence * Nationality						
			Nationality			Total
			Jordanian women	Arab women	Foreign women	
Period of violence	Day - week	% within the nationality	17.4%	10.0 %	3.2 %	9.1 %
	2 weeks - month	% within the nationality	5.5%	6.7 %	1.9 %	3.7 %
	Two months - six months	% within the nationality	3.7%	6.7 %	21.7 %	13.5 %
	Less than a year	% within the nationality	22.9%	36.7 %	20.4 %	23.0 %
	1 year - 3 years	% within the nationality	26.6%	20.0 %	49.7 %	38.2 %
	More than 3 years	% within the nationality	23.9%	20.0 %	3.2 %	12.5 %
Total		% within the nationality	100.0%	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

As the "Place of violence" figure shows, the most violent place for women was the home with a percentage of 59%, followed by the workplace with a percentage of 36%. Considering the employment sector of women hosted in the shelter, domestic workers constituted the largest proportion. Thus, as the table on the relationship between the employment sector and the place of violence shows, 79% of female domestic workers experienced violence at home. If we added the percentage of female workers who identified the home as the workplace to the total percentage of the place of violence, this would raise the percentage for the home to more than 80%. Based on these findings, the home, whether the place of residence or the workplace, was the most violent place for women. Therefore, there was a need for procedures and laws to protect women from domestic violence either as family members or workers within the home.

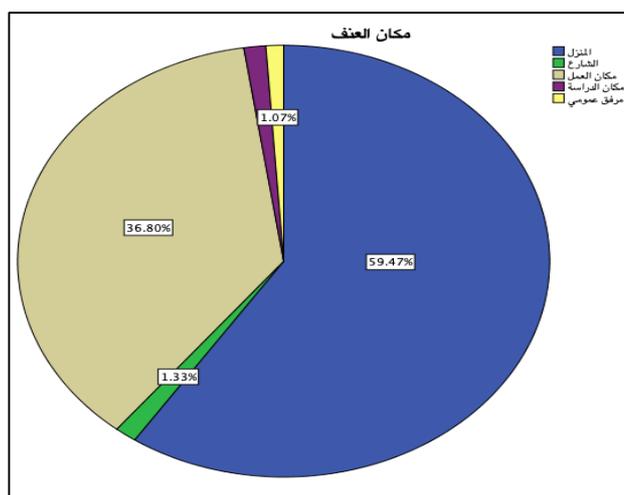


Table (7)

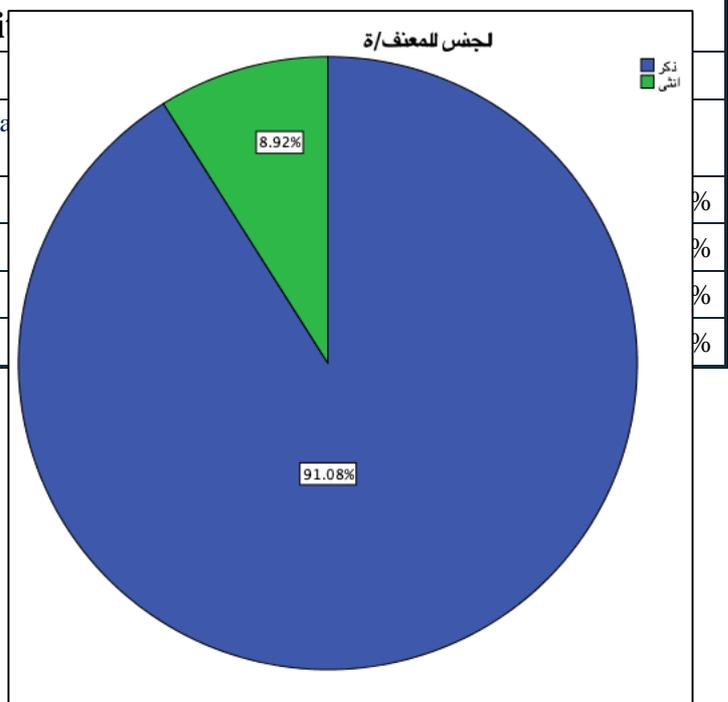
Employment sector * Place of violence			Place of violence				Total
		Home	Street	Workplace	Public facility		
Employment sector	Public sector		100.0%	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Private sector		94.7%	0.0 %	5.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Self-employed		50.0%	0.0 %	0.0 %	50.0 %	100.0 %
	Domestic work		19.2%	0.6 %	79.7 %	0.6 %	100.0 %

About comparing the relationship with the violence perpetrator with the year of admission to the shelter, "Year of admission - Relationship with the perpetrator Table", we found that there was a clear increase in the violence against women by spouses, fathers, and brothers. The percentage of women who reported violence by their spouses increased from about 9% in 2019 to 22% in 2020. The percentage of violence perpetrated by fathers increased by more than 13%, accounting for nearly 9% in 2019 compared to 21.5% in 2020. We could also see a rise in violence perpetrated by brothers, mothers, and sisters, but at lower rates (10.5%, 8.5%, and 1.5%, respectively). By contrast, we noted that there was a significant decrease in the number of reports of violence perpetrated by employers/ female employers, making up 72% of cases hosted in the shelter in 2019 compared to 24% of the cases in 2020. This was possibly directly

related to the epidemic and the closure so that many women did not engage in work during that year, in addition to reasons related to domestic work as the family's continued presence at home perhaps prevented domestic workers from, and limited their ability to, reporting violence and seeking protection.

Table (8)

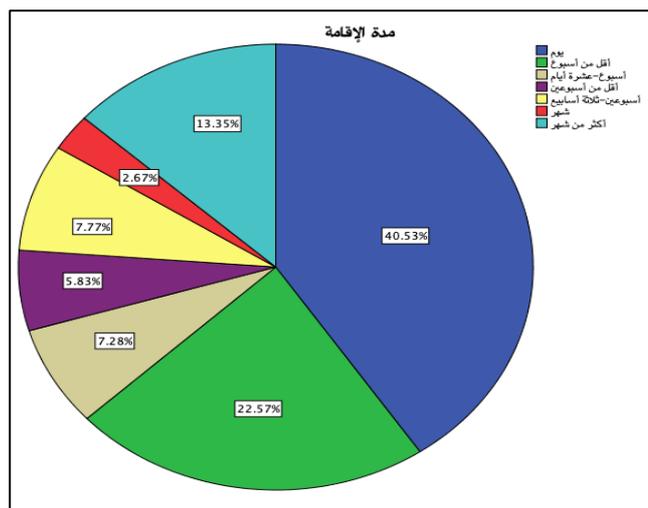
Year of admission	* Relationship with the perpetrator			
	Spouse	Brother	Father	Employer/ female employer
2019	8.8 %	1.9 %	6.9 %	72.3 %
2020	22.5 %	10.5 %	21.5 %	24.0 %
Total	100.0%	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
	16.4 %	6.7 %	15.0 %	45.4 %



As can be seen in the "Perpetrator gender" figure, 91% of the violence perpetrators were males, while females accounted for approximately 9%. The percentage of female violence perpetrators was distributed among mothers by approximately 6%, female employers by 3% in the case of domestic workers, and sisters by 1%. Although there were a percentage of women violence perpetrators, the most common situation was that of men perpetrating violence against women. The cases in which women perpetrated the violence were also related to the same male authority and mentality, or, as in the case of violence against domestic workers, to racial dimensions and a condescending attitude towards immigrant women and their work. This means that there was a convergence between a masculine and racist societal attitude towards domestic workers, which was one of the main determinants of violence against them.

3. Services provided to women and length of stay at the shelter.

As shown in the 'Length of stay' figure, the majority of women stayed in the shelter for a 'one day' period (40.5%). These cases were often referred by the Family Protection Department and police stations and needed temporary accommodation while travel procedures or admission procedures to another shelter or institution were being completed. This service was very important for this group of women as the procedures for access to government



centers required time, and in the absence of a place of accommodation, women would have been placed in the cells of security centers. The ease and possibility of hosting women in the shelter quickly thus solved this problem and protected women from being subjected to harsh experiences or other types of violence. In the second place came the period "less than a week", accounting for 22.5%, followed by "more than a month", which accounted for 13% of the total stay in the shelter. There were many reasons for a woman to stay in the shelter for more than a month. In some cases, it required an integrated process of family counseling for the various parties and ensuring that women were fully protected before leaving the shelter. Some other cases required lengthy travel procedures, especially in cases of trafficking, withdrawal of travel documents, and court cases.

In respect of the services provided, the vast majority of women who were hosted in the shelter received legal counseling, as this service made up 54% of the total services provided. The legal aid service came second, accounting for about 36%. Services also included health, listening, and family counseling services.

Table (9)

Actions taken during woman's stay in the shelter			
		Frequency	Valid percent
Valid	Family counseling and reconciliation	15	3.6
	Listening	16	3.9
	Legal counseling	224	54.4
	Health services	2	.5
	Legal aid	148	35.9
	More than one of the above	7	1.7
	Total	412	100.0

The referral bodies table shows that 87% of all cases referred to the shelter were from official bodies, these cases were referred directly from the Public Security Centers and the Family Protection Department. Cases referred from the Family Protection Department constituted the vast majority of referrals (51%), followed by referrals from the Counter-Trafficking Unit (14.6), then from police stations (13%). It can also be noted that the Union received 36 cases referred from civil society organizations, which made up 8.7% of all cases. The referral process from civil society organizations was either direct and coordinated jointly in the follow-up of necessary procedures, or indirect only by informing women of the existence of the shelter, in which case the union followed up on all procedures.

Table (10)

Referral body		Frequency	Valid percent
Valid	Criminal Investigation Department	20	4.9
	Police/ Security Center	54	13.1
	Another association	36	8.7
	Family Protection Department	211	51.2
	Government institution	15	3.6
	Counter-Trafficking Unit	60	14.6
	Embassy	4	1.0
	Self-referral	12	2.9
	Total	412	100.0

As shown in the table of other services, the Union provided multiple services to all women who resided in the shelter, regardless of the referral body, including social, psychological, legal, empowerment, and accommodation services. About 77% of women benefited from all services provided, while 22% benefited from social and psychological services, in addition to the hosting service.

Table (11)

Other services provided		Frequency	Valid percent
Valid	Social-psychological-health-legal-empowerment-accommodation	316	76.7
	Social-psychological-health-legal-empowerment-financial- accommodation	4	1.0
	Social-psychological-financial-accommodation	1	.2
	Social-psychological-accommodation	91	22.1
	Total	412	100.0