Intimate partner violence during Covid-19 in Finland, preliminary findings

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Data

• Offences reported to the police 2017-2020 January-June preliminary data
• Police doesn’t record relationship between victim and person suspected
• Police data is combined with Statistics Finland register data with marital and residential information
• IPV (Intimate partner violence): victim is married to the suspect, they are cohabiting parents, they have been married, they have cohabited together during previous year or they have a child together
Assault offences in private residences

• First half of 2020 total 7,300
  • The highest since 2012
• 10 per cent increase 2020q1 compared to 2019q1
• 3 per cent decrease 2020q2 compared to 2019q2
IPV: current partners

- 2020 January-June: total 2,280 reported offences
- 31 per cent increase compared to 2019
- However, the increase was 51 per cent in the first quarter and 16 per cent in second
- Higher increase before "lockdown"
- Between cohabiting partners 60 per cent increase
- Between married couples 10 per cent increase
IPV: former partners

- 600 offences in 2020, 47 per cent less than in 2019
- Number of offences will increase when the register data for 2020 is used
- Usually the share of former partners is over 30 per cent, now it was only 20 per cent

Statistics Finland
13 October 2020
IPV total trend

- No trend?
- 80% of victims are women
- Victims report to police more easily?
- The possibility that lockdown has increased IPV but less cases are reported to the police?

→ the growth in actual IPV could be even more than reported

IPV total trend by month 2017 to 6/2020
Thank you!

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