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ABSTRACT

Title	Monitoring gender based violence during the pandemic
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Session	Solutions to COVID-19 challenges
<p>ISTAT carried out periodical surveys but the lack of time between these surveys do not allow collect data and information especially during specific and dramatic periods as COVID19 pandemic period. With the social distancing measures and the instructions to stay at home provided by Italian government (March 2020) the risk of intimate partner violence might have risen, as shown by all international sources that have contributed on this issue (WHO - World Health Organization, COVID-19 and violence against women, 25 March 2020. UN WOMEN, COVID-19 and Ending Violence Against Women and Girls).</p> <p>In order to give information about the trend of the violence against women during COVID19 period, ISTAT used data set storage of national helpline 1522 (the toll-free number provided by the Department for equal opportunities of the Presidency of the Council to support and help victims of gender-based violence and stalking), adopting alternative sources of statistical information. The analysis carried out of the data contained in the data set of the helpline, between March and June 2020, shows that there was a sharp increase in the number of telephone calls. Following a suggestion provided at international level, the information collected by the Italian helpline promoted and managed by the Department of Equal Opportunity of Presidency of Council of Ministers against violence and stalking, can provide some evidence on the domestic violence's trend during the pandemic period. In the absence of an updated statistical study carried out in real time, in fact, the analysis of data from calls to 1522, especially if compared with the same period of previous years, can provide useful indications on the evolution of the phenomenon during the lockdown, especially on the trend of requests for help.</p>	