



ASSESSMENT OF WOMEN'S PERSONAL SAFETY

According to the research "Indicator of Risks of Violence against Women" ¹

Brot
für die Welt

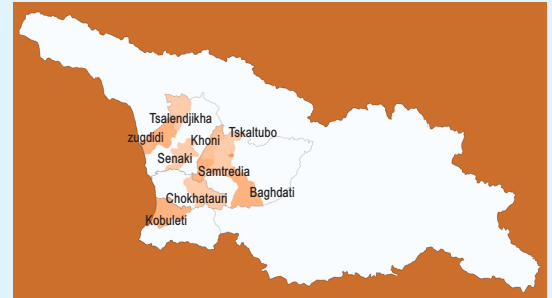
Executive Summary

The Women's Fund "Sukhumi" conducted research in 10 targeted municipalities, between March and May 2024, —Zugdidi, Tsalenjikha, Senaki, Tskaltubo, Khoni, Kutaisi, Baghdati, Chokhatauri, Samtredia, and Kobuleti—to study the "Indicator of Risks of Violence against Women." 1027 female respondents participated in the quantitative research interviews in total.

One of the primary focuses of the mentioned research was to assess the level of women's personal security and identify the risks contributing to their feelings of threat and insecurity.

Based on the quantitative research data, the main threats to personal safety reported by the interviewed women are mostly associated with economic and psychosocial factors, for instance: unemployment, poverty, and an increasing inclination to migrate; the problem of substance abuse; worsening criminogenic situation/intolerance in society, a high degree of discrimination, and lack of trust towards law enforcement and judicial systems.

These threats highlight the need for the government to implement a comprehensive and multifaceted policy to enhance and ensure women's security.



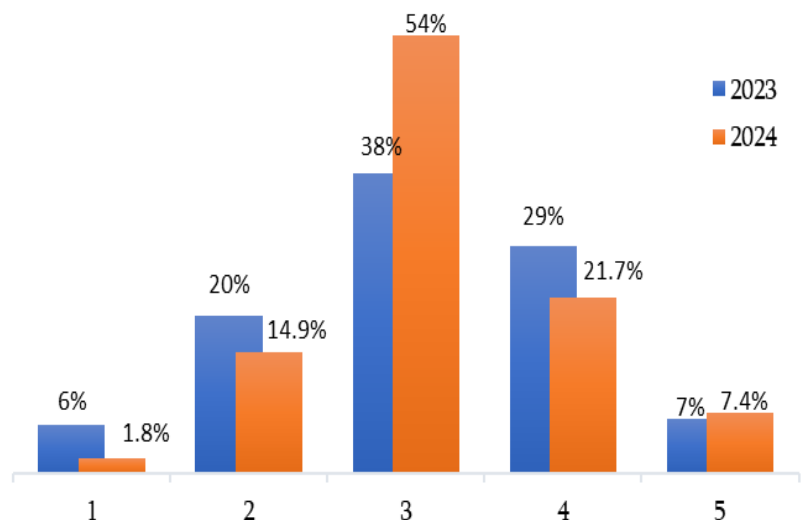
Findings



Quality of Personal Safety and Security for the Women

In 2024, when evaluating the quality of security on a five-point scale, the most frequently recorded response from respondents was '3' (54%), indicating a neutral point (see Diagram #1). A relatively high level of security (4 points) was reported by approximately 22% of women, and only 7% gave a '5' score. Compared to the data from a similar survey conducted in 2023, this indicates a decreasing trend in the feeling of security (see Diagram #1).

To what extent do you feel personally secure?



¹ <https://sosfsokhumi.ge/map>

Factors Contributing to the Insecurity in the Women

- An unequivocally identified threat to women’s personal security is associated with the issue of employment, with most people underscoring unemployment at 3.8 points on a 5-point scale. Almost a similar indicator was recorded in 2023, at "4" points;
- Threats to women are influenced by both economic and psycho-social factors. On a 5-point scale, these factors indicate a higher-than-average threat (varying from 3.01 to 3.3). Economic factors include poverty, unemployment, the threat of job loss, and an Increased inclination to migrate; Psycho-social factors encompass issues such as family members’ alcohol and substance abuse and domestic violence;
- In 2024, the inclination to migrate indicator has increased; compared to 2023. Particularly, in 2023, it was already above the average with a **Mode**, i.e. the indicator that determines which is the most frequently repeated data on the 5-point scale, corresponded to an average score of ‘3’. However, in 2024, the **Mode** shifted to a high score of ‘4.02’;
- In 2024, indicators related to the worsening criminogenic situation and intolerance and discrimination in society have increased compared to 2023. Notably, while the assessment in these areas on a 5-point scale indicated a below-average threat of 2.9 in 2023, it exceeded the average point with a score of 3.1 in 2024;
- The level of trust towards the law enforcement agencies (including police) and the judicial system is, on average, at the neutral point (3.02; 3.03).

Which of the following do you perceive as the main threat to your personal safety?	Mean	
	(2023)	(2024)
Unemployment	4.02	3.8
Poverty	3.3	3.25
Domestic Violence	3.2	3.29
Substance abuse of a family member	2.9	3.3
Alcohol and substance abuse by a family member	3.1	3.4
Intolerance/discrimination from society	2.9	3.19
Worsening criminogenic situation	2.9	3.19
The threat of job loss	3.07	3.13
Poor living conditions	3.01	3.1
Risk of dropping out of educational institutions due to high tuition fees, high rent, etc.	2.99	3.12
Increased inclination to migrate, feeling forced to do so	3.2	3.36
Lack of trust towards the law enforcement agencies	-	3.03
Lack of trust towards the justice system	-	3.02

Recommendations

Economic Security

- **Developing jobs:** Promoting local employment programs and enhancing women’s access to economic programs;
- **Cooperation with the private sector:** enhancing partnerships with private sector and the potential employers to increase employment opportunities for women;
- **Raising women’s financial awareness:** providing training on financial management and access to microfinance.

Psycho-Social Support to Women

- Actively conducting information campaigns on the dangers of substance abuse in society, schools, and universities;
- **Preventing domestic violence:** enhancing cooperation with referral mechanism actors to improve the identification and response to violence against women/domestic violence;
- **Mental health services:** Investing additional financial resources to enhance mental health and psychosocial rehabilitation services, and improving women’s access to them.

Improving Public Safety and Reducing Crime

- **Community-police cooperation:** Implementing regular meetings between the police and the community to develop joint strategies for crime prevention;
- **Safe neighborhood initiatives:** Implementing surveillance cameras and smart street lights in high-risk areas;
- Offering additional educational and mentoring programs for at-risk youth groups.

Combating Against Social Intolerance and Discrimination

- **Awareness-raising campaigns:** Creating active information campaigns that highlight the damaging impact of social intolerance; promoting dialogue and inclusivity among community members;
- **Promoting community leader engagement:** Encouraging active participation of leaders of all ages to enhance social and political dialogue within society;
- **Promoting anti-discrimination policies:** Encouraging and strengthening inclusive, participatory policies that promote equal opportunities for participation for all groups in society.