In Lao PDR, both girls and boys experience unacceptably high rates of sexual and physical violence:

- Percentage of females who experienced sexual or physical violence prior to age 18: 7% (Sexual Violence) and 15% (Physical Violence).
- Percentage of males who experienced sexual or physical violence prior to age 18: 12% (Sexual Violence) and 17% (Physical Violence).

For many youth, the first experience of sexual intercourse is physically forced or coerced:

- Among those who had sexual intercourse before age 18: 5% of females experienced sexual violence in childhood, and 2% of males experienced sexual violence in childhood.

Girls face particularly high risks of sexual violence, often with devastating consequences:

- Age of first incident of sexual violence among girls who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18:
  - PRIOR TO AGE 12: 25% (AGES 14-15), 22% (AGES 16-17), 53% (AGES 16-17).

Sexual violence is linked to negative health outcomes:

- Percentage of females and males who reported mental distress in the past 30 days:
  - Experienced sexual violence in childhood: 33%.
  - Did not experience sexual violence in childhood: 18%.
  - 22% of females and males who reported mental distress in the past 30 days.

In order to create a world where every child, adolescent and young person is safe, protected and thriving, we must first know the facts.
Perpetrators of sexual violence are often someone known to the child or adolescent

Most common perpetrators of first incident of sexual violence as reported by females and males who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

*Intimate partner is defined as spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend or romantic partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perpetrator Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTIMATE PARTNER*</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIEND/CLASSMATE</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEIGHBOR</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRANGER</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY MEMBER</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sexual violence often occurs in familiar locations

Location of first incident of sexual violence experienced by females and males prior to age 18

- **HOME**: 44% females, 51% males
- **SOMEONE ELSE’S HOME**: 26% females, 11% males
- **NIGHTLIFE VENUE OR RESTAURANT**: 20% females, 14% males
- **SCHOOL**: 6% females, 10% males

*Respondent’s and/or perpetrator’s home

Girls and boys who experience sexual violence are not getting the support and services they need

Females and males who told someone, sought and/or received services for sexual violence, among those who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

- **TOLD SOMEONE**: 14% females, 47% males
- **SOUGHT SERVICES**: 0% females, 33% males
- **RECEIVED SERVICES**: 0% females, 26% males

For more information visit togetherforgirls.org