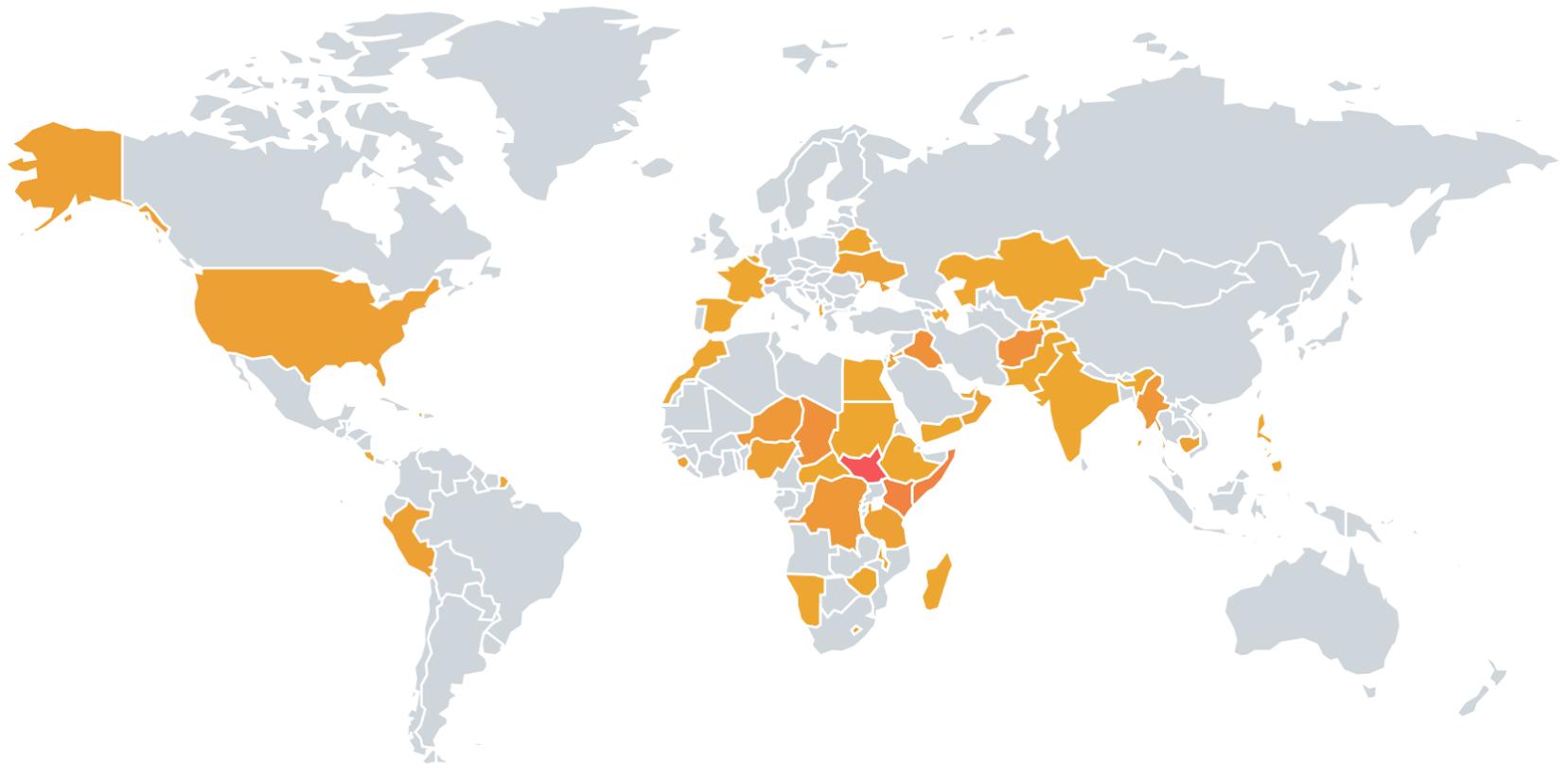


Where are humanitarian workers currently reporting they are experiencing sexual violence?



How does RTA address sexual violence against humanitarian aid workers?

1. Advocating for a global agenda to end sexual violence against humanitarian aid workers;
2. Developing and promoting survivor-centred organisational policies and mechanisms that tackle sexual violence and stigma against humanitarian aid workers; and
3. Becoming a trusted knowledge sharing hub for humanitarian survivors of sexual violence.

Sexual violence – in and out of conflict settings – is a global phenomena. Current data suggests that 1 in 3 women will experience sexual violence in their lifetime. These survivors include humanitarian aid workers, who are experiencing sexual violence in the course of their work.

Sexual violence in the humanitarian context is not an emergent issue, but for the first time ever survivors are feeling more empowered to speak and their voices are being recognised.

Report the Abuse (RTA) grew out of the developing strength of humanitarian aid workers speaking about their experiences with sexual violence. When the NGO began in August 2015, it opened the first platform for survivors to speak in a confidential and non-judgemental space about what they were experiencing in the course of their work.

Most male staff do not know that it happens to their female colleagues.

*- Anonymous Testimony
Report the Abuse Survey, 2017*



92% of perpetrators are male



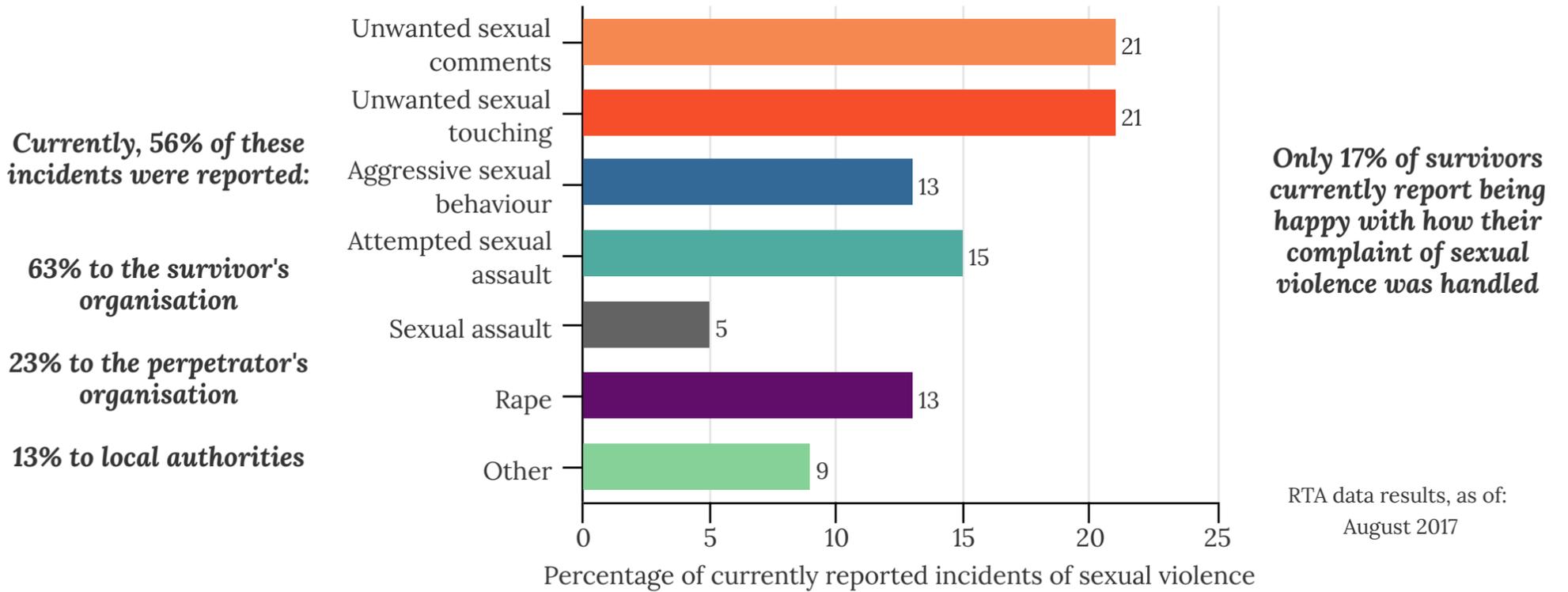
89% of survivors are female

This platform has not only provided survivors with a place to have their experiences with sexual violence counted, but also forms the base for RTA's data collection and statistics, the first detailed global statistics published on the issue.

All statistics noted in this document and on our webpage are derived from RTA's self-reporting data collection platform. RTA does not assert that it knows or presents the full landscape of how humanitarian aid workers are experiencing sexual violence in the course of their work.

As the first and still most comprehensive statistics available on the issue however, this is the starting place from which one can begin to analyse where and how sexual violence is occurring. This is the starting place for determining both individual and organisational risk.

65% of humanitarian aid workers currently report that they have changed their behaviour because of an experience with sexual violence



Currently, 56% of these incidents were reported:

63% to the survivor's organisation

23% to the perpetrator's organisation

13% to local authorities

Only 17% of survivors currently report being happy with how their complaint of sexual violence was handled

I struggle a lot with my work environment because I fear sexual harassment. I know how common it is and how seldom it is reported or dealt with appropriately. I approach work a lot more cautiously because of my experience, and I believe it has impacted the quality of my work and my engagement with coworkers.

- Anonymous Testimony
Report the Abuse Survey, 2017

38% of humanitarians currently report having had a training on sexual violence, as it applies to humanitarian aid workers
39% found this training helpful

Are humanitarian organisations equipped to address this issue? No.

Over a one year period, RTA researched 92 different humanitarian organisations to see whether they had response strategies, policies and procedures on the topic. The majority do not – in fact only 16% of the organisations had any form of strategy or documentation to address the problem.

This compounds the barriers facing survivors, with their organisations at times ill equipped to address what has happened to them.

Re-traumatisation in such a situation is reasonably foreseeable.

Good practices

In August 2017, before ceasing operations, RTA published a series of good practices tools

To learn more:

Website: reporttheabuse.org

How RTA did help humanitarian organisations lead on the issue?

Providing confidential analysis of internal prevention and response strategies, with critical analysis of gaps and areas of improvement.

Providing guidance on how to fill gaps and other areas in need of improvement.

Helping them to become a leading voice on the issue and an advocate for their employees.

Before ceasing operations on 20 August 2017, due to a lack of sustainable funding streams, RTA had established a reputation for developing solutions to this complex problem. Through advocacy and collaboration with existing networks, allies, and humanitarian organisations, RTA was leading the movement to prevent and respond to sexual violence in the humanitarian community.

We encourage others to hear our call to action, and to push for change on this issue.

On the last night before I left for R&R, a program manager from another organisation came into my tent while I was asleep, climbed into my bed naked and raped me. I was questioned as to why I hadn't reported it directly to the staff of the local agency (all men, some of who reported to the man who raped me) or tell my driver or programme officers (all male, and all my subordinates). They wanted to know why my tent hadn't been locked, why I didn't call and report it immediately as it happened, why I didn't fight back more.

- Anonymous Testimony
Report the Abuse Survey, 2017