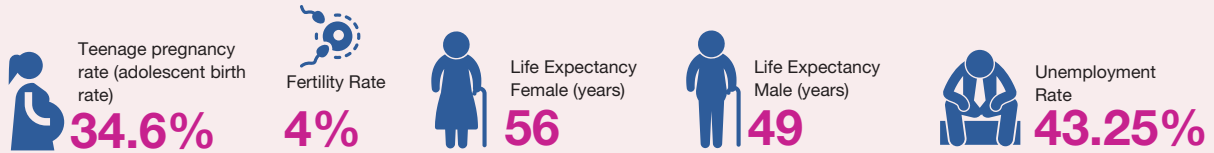
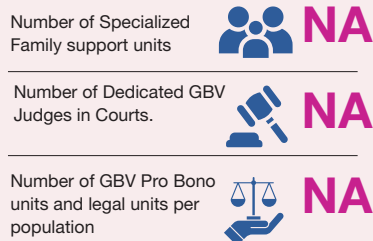


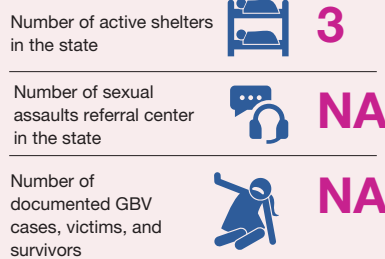
State Context



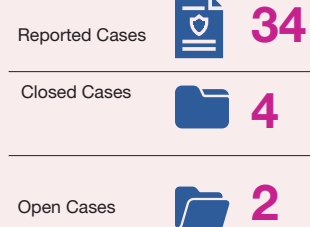
Access to Legal Justice



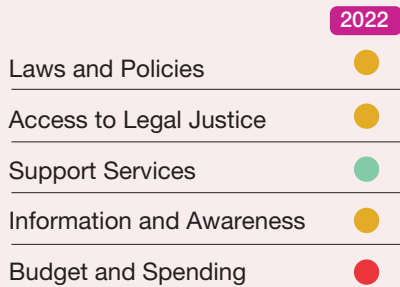
Support Services



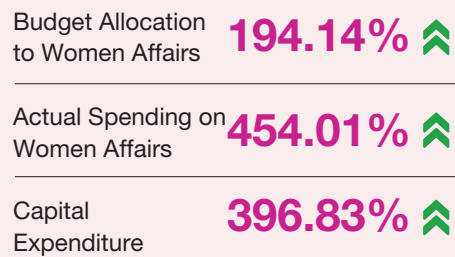
GBV Cases



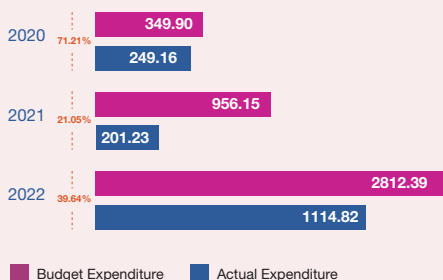
Womaniy Index (GBV) Ranking (out of 36 States)



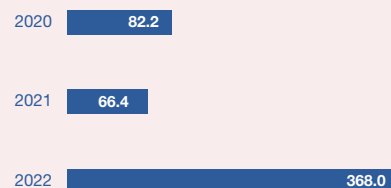
Year on Year Growth 2022







Total Allocation to Women Affairs (NGN'm)



Per Capita Analysis (NGN)



S/N	Indicators	Key Findings	Recommendations
1	 <p>Laws and Policies</p>	65% of the survey population do not know about the existence of the VAPP Law.	Government should increase sensitisation and awareness about the existence and role of the laws in providing justice to GBV victims and survivors.
		The prevalence of GBV is skyrocketing, yet the punishment of GBV perpetrators is not severe.	Government should ramp up the prosecution of GBV cases to serve as deterrent to potential perpetrators.
		People are reluctant to report cases because of stigma and other social pressures.	Educate the public, including rural dwellers, regularly on GBV-related laws and their legal rights.
2	 <p>Access to Legal Justice</p>	Absence of robust witness protection programs in the state.	Develop robust witness protection programs and educate the public about it.
		Absence of exclusive GBV Courts and dedicated GBV Judges.	Establish exclusive GBV Courts with dedicated GBV Judges and well-trained court personnel.
		Sexual violence perpetrators still enjoy impunity in some communities, which frequently thwarts efforts to hold them accountable for their actions.	Informal practices that perpetuate GBV by punishing the perpetrators with a slap on the wrist should be outlawed.
		Poor access to legal justice in the rural areas.	Different reporting systems should be setup in the rural areas.
3	 <p>Support Services</p>	The state government has two safehouses/shelters, but no SARC.	SARCs and more Shelters should be established, well-staffed, and equipped.
		NGOs are largely responsible for the support services available to victims and survivors.	For sustainability purposes, government needs to invest resources in building capacity to be the primary provider of support services to GBV victims and survivors.
		Upon return to their communities, girls and women formerly associated with non-state armed groups (NSAGs) face significant stigma and rejection due to community perceptions.	Government should improve support services to ensure that persons who have been prisoners of war are given adequate care and re-integrated back into society.
4	 <p>Information and Awareness</p>	Absence of PwDs-friendly GBV sensitization and awareness programs.	Make GBV sensitization and awareness programs inclusive, equally accessible, and generally PwDs-friendly.
		The radio jingles and television campaigns are mostly sponsored by NGOs.	Government should prioritize and sponsor more campaigns on GBV in different local dialects for effective communication.
		There is an ongoing SGBV-related program in junior and senior secondary school.	Comprehensive sex education should be extended to cover all levels of education, including primary level.



Laws and Policies

Are you aware of existing laws and/or policies that address gender-based violence (GBV) in the state?

35% Yes 65% No -- Not Sure

Do you agree that awareness of GBV laws and policies will prevent GBV?

19.7% Strongly Agree 56.4% Agree 13.7% Indifference 6.9% Disagree 3.4% Strongly Disagree

Do you think customary or religious laws and/or practices are sufficient in preventing and responding to GBV in the state?

24.8% Yes 60.7% No 14.5% Not Sure

GBV is one of the most notable social problems in Borno State, and the incidence rate is skyrocketing due to the insurgency. To address this problem, the government has put in place different laws, including VAPP and Child Protection Laws, to prosecute GBV perpetrators. These laws are also used to prosecute sexual harassment in the state's public and private institutions, but a full-fledged implementation will help to eliminate GBV in the state.

The Borno State VAPP Law has some state-specific provisions, such as section 27 which provides for violence perpetrated by non-state actors where the use of force or deceit is employed to abduct or kidnap a person for ransom or any other benefit. There is, however, need to review and update the VAPP Law to include, for instance, offences of offensive conduct, damage to property with intent to cause distress, and harmful widowhood practice. In addition, amend provisions such as s.3 to provide for a Sex Offenders' Register, s.28 which requires the written consent of the state's Attorney-General before proceedings on GBV cases can commence, s.29 which says actions will not commence by direct criminal complaint, and s.43 by specifying the government institution saddled with the responsibility of enforcing the VAPP Law.

65% of the respondents aren't aware of these laws, and 76.1% indicated that increased awareness about the laws would help improve GBV prevention and response in the state. The Governor assented to both laws in 2022; hence, they haven't been revisited, reviewed, or reformed. Furthermore, the customary laws of the state are formal and informal. 60.7% of the survey respondents confirmed that Sharia Law is not effective in preventing GBV in the state.

All GBV cases are reported to the Police. When a case is reported, the Police invite the

perpetrator and thoroughly investigate the incident. After the investigation, they file the case with the court that has the authority to handle it for prosecution of the perpetrator. Even though the state's witness protection program is ineffective, FIDA works with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Social Development to provide legal assistance to victims/survivors, irrespective of the form of the GBV. No wonder 91.5% of the survey participants prefer formal justice systems to informal ones. Though there are no dedicated GBV Judges and Courts in the state, there are functional FSUs and GBV Desks in Police Commands/Divisions. The state's traditional institutions and Sharia Laws are effective in handling cases of GBV, and this is supported by the submissions of 33.3% of the respondents, who indicated that the informal justice systems are effective in providing justice for victims/survivors.

The state has three Safe Houses/Shelters, which are located in Jere, Budum, and Gwoza. Two of the Safe Houses are owned by the government, and they accommodate and care for GBV victims/survivors. Also, the Safehouses provide medical, security, legal assistance, and economic empowerment/livelihood support to the victims/survivors. However, the government must still prioritise and improve budgetary allocation and investments to support services for better delivery. The informal support systems complement the formal support system in the state, and this was confirmed by 61.5% of the survey participants who submitted that the informal support systems effectively support GBV victims/survivors. The state designed GBV reporting and referral pathways with assistance from the state's GBV sub-sector working groups.

The state and stakeholders use different GBV-related sensitisation and awareness programs/materials, including radio jingles



Access to Legal Justice

Where would you seek justice if you, or anyone you know, experience GBV?

91.5% Formal justice system 7.7% Informal justice system 0.6% I will not seek justice

If you witness GBV, would you feel safe serving as a witness during the investigation and trial?

53% Yes 7.7% No 8.6% Not Sure 30.8% It Depends

Do you think the informal justice systems in the state are effective and sufficient in providing justice for victims/survivors of GBV?

33.3% Yes 53.9% No 12.8% Not Sure



Support Services

Do you know of, or have you visited, any active shelters and/or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) for GBV victims/survivors in the state?

35
Yes

65
No

Which GBV reporting and referral pathways are you aware of currently available in the state?

23.1%
Specialized medical healthcare pathway

52.1%
Psychosocial/mental health pathway

28.2%
Police/security pathway

7.7%
Legal pathway

23.1%
None of the above

Do you think informal support systems such as family, friends, religious centres, community groups, etc., are helpful to GBV victims/survivors?

61.5
Yes

30
No

7.7
Not Sure

and programs, television shows, campaigns, and stickers. Unfortunately, only 27.4% of the survey participants are aware of the available GBV information/education programs/materials in the state. Sensitisation and awareness programs/materials are partially PwD-friendly; however, only the visually impaired and a few other groups of the PwDs are included. Efforts of the state to expand the coverage of sex education are yielding results. There is an ongoing GBV-related program in junior and senior secondary schools introduced by the state with support from UNICEF to improve the students' knowledge of GBV.

The state increased the allocation to its Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development by 87.56% from N349.90 million in 2020 to N2.8 billion in 2022. For the three years, the actual budget implementation was N201.27 million in 2020, N249.16 million in 2022, and N1.1 billion in 2023. After Taraba, the state allocation for 2022 came in second. The state has given the ministry a commendable budgetary allocation, but its budget performance is still below par. In 2022, 2021, and 2020, the corresponding performance metrics are 39.64%, 21.05%, and 71.21%. The state ranked second in the region in 2020 at N82.2, third in 2021 at N66.4, and second in 2022 at N2022, when considering its 3 million female population and per capita. In 2020 and 2022, the state's performance was higher than the regional average of N58.0, N87.0, and N298.0, but it was lower in 2021.



Human Angle Story

Boko Haram abducted a girl at the age of 11 in her community. While in captivity, she suffered greatly at the hands of the group. She was enslaved, beaten, maltreated, raped, and married off twice to an unknown man, for whom she conceived and gave birth to twins. She attempted to escape from their camp twice when her husband died, but she was recaptured. During an attack by the Cameroonian soldiers on the insurgents in the forest, Habiba escaped from their captivity and ran back to the community. Her family was happy to see her even though her sister, abducted before her, was not yet released. Her parents later moved to the state capital when the community was no longer safe, and an International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO) supported the girl.



Information and Awareness

Do you know of any GBV information and/or education programs or materials in the state?

27.4%
Yes

18%
No

27.4%
Not Sure

How useful is/was the content of the GBV awareness material in educating you on GBV?

1.7%
Not at all useful

79.5%
A little bit useful

18.8%
Mostly useful

--
Completely useful

Which GBV information and education materials are you aware of for persons with disabilities?

3.4%
Audio/spoken content

1.7%
Braille printed content

2.6%
Visual content

0.9%
Screen subtitling

1.7%
Sign interpretation

3.4%
Picture-based messages

0.9%
Simplified messages

94.9%
None of the above

Index	Indicators	Result Justification
 <p>Laws and Policies</p>	Existence of State laws that criminalize the GBV	1.0
	Quality of State VAPP Laws	0.5
	Existence and usage of customary and religious laws and policies that criminalizes GBV	0.0
	Consistent, result-producing efforts at reforming and strengthening laws, policies, and customs on GBV prevention and response within an eight-year period	1.0
 <p>Access to Legal Justice</p>	Available system of GBV reporting, prosecution, and enforcement	0.5
	Availability and accessibility to legal aid services; with/or witness protection program	0.5
	Existence of functional specialized Family Support Units (FSUs), Human Rights Desks in Police Commands or Divisions, or dedicated GBV Judges	0.5
	Existence of informal justice system, with processes and outcomes that does not perpetuate or advance GBV in the courts	0.5
 <p>Support Services</p>	Availability of at least one active shelter in each local government in a state in the courts	0.5
	Availability of accessible and user-friendly GBV Reporting and Referral Pathway	1.0
	Existence of and access to holistic support systems for GBV victims and survivors	1.0
	Existence and usage of holistic informal support systems	0.5
 <p>Information and Awareness</p>	Availability and widely disseminated GBV IECs materials	0.5
	Existence and usage of comprehensive sex education curriculum in secondary schools	1.0
	Frequent sensitization and awareness programs on GBV across all local governments in the State	0.5
	Equally accessible GBV IEC materials especially for PWDs and those in remote or rural communities	0.5
 <p>Budget and Spending</p>	Women Affairs Ministry budget allocations and spending (85% and above execution rate)	0.0
	Women Affairs Ministry spending per capita	0.0