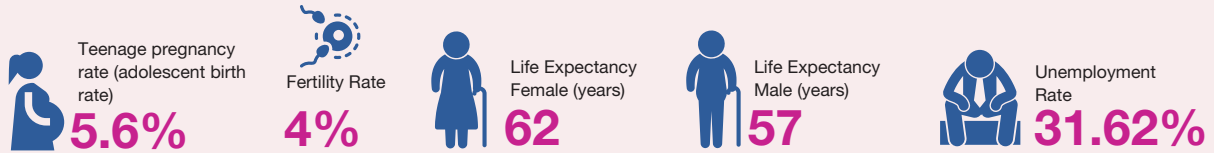
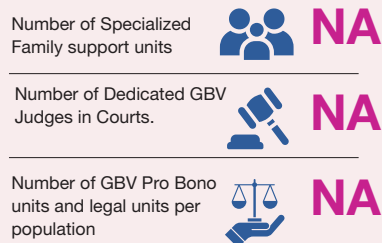


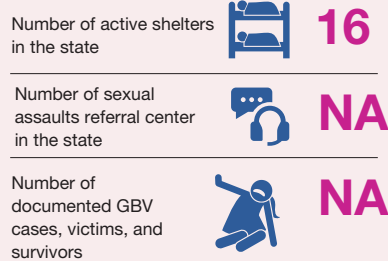
State Context



Access to Legal Justice



Support Services



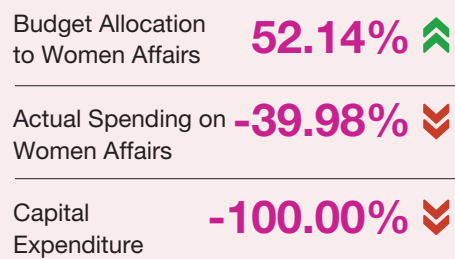
GBV Cases



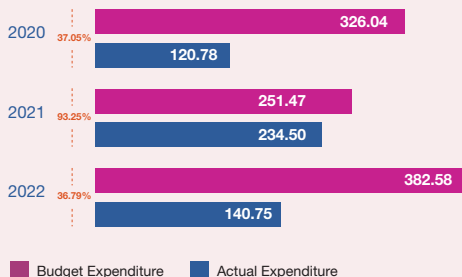
Index Ranking (out of 36 States)



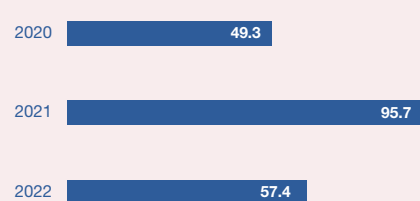
Year on Year Growth 2022







Total Allocation to Women Affairs (NGN'm)



Per Capita Analysis (NGN)



| S/N | Indicators | Key Findings | Recommendations |
|-----|--|---|---|
| 1 |  <p>Laws and Policies</p> | <p>Lack of awareness of existing laws and policies on GBV among the state population.</p> <p>Inadequacy of existing laws and policies to prevent and respond to GBV effectively.</p> <p>Low prosecution rates of GBV perpetrators under the existing laws.</p> <p>Majority unaware of government's efforts to reform GBV laws and policies.</p> | <p>Increase awareness of existing GBV laws and policies among the state's population.</p> <p>Reform and strengthen laws to improve GBV prevention and response.</p> <p>Improve prosecution rates of GBV perpetrators under the laws.</p> <p>Publicize government efforts to reform GBV laws and policies.</p> |
| 2 |  <p>Access to Legal Justice</p> | <p>Preference for informal over formal justice systems</p> <p>Knowledge gap on where to access legal justice for GBV.</p> <p>Low safety perception for witnesses during GBV investigations and trials.</p> <p>Lack of awareness of specialized GBV police desks and designated judges.</p> | <p>Sensitize the public on the importance of formal justice pathways for GBV.</p> <p>Create knowledge resources on accessing legal justice and publicize their availability.</p> <p>Improve safety for witnesses in GBV cases by having a robust witness protection program.</p> <p>Increase awareness about specialized GBV police and designated judges.</p> |
| 3 |  <p>Support Services</p> | <p>Low awareness of active shelters and SARCs</p> <p>Insufficient shelters and SARCs for the population.</p> <p>Inaccessibility of support services especially in rural areas</p> <p>Ineffectiveness of informal support systems</p> | <p>Create awareness about available support services, including the existence and location of the SARCs.</p> <p>Increase number and capacity of shelters and SARCs to at least one SARC and shelter per LGA.</p> <p>Increase number and capacity of shelters and SARCs to at least one SARC and shelter per LGA.</p> <p>Build capacity of informal support systems.</p> |
| 4 |  <p>Information and Awareness</p> | <p>Low awareness of GBV information and education programs</p> <p>Inadequate dissemination of GBV information materials</p> <p>Lack of inclusive GBV awareness content</p> <p>Reluctance to teach comprehensive sex education in schools</p> | <p>Improve awareness of GBV informational programs</p> <p>Increase dissemination of GBV informational materials</p> <p>Develop inclusive and accessible GBV awareness content</p> <p>Mainstream comprehensive sex education in schools</p> |



Laws and Policies

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

17.6% **Yes** 82.4% **No** -- **Not Sure**

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

33.57% **Yes** 52.14% **No** 14.29% **Not Sure**

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

12.86% **Strongly Agree** 50% **Agree** 27.14% **Indifference**
6.43% **Disagree** 3.57% **Strongly Disagree**

Laws in Enugu State that address gender-based violence includes, but not limited to, the Enugu State Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2019, the Enugu State Prohibition of Infringement of Widows and Widowers Fundamental Rights Law, 2001, and the Enugu State Marriage Causes Act. While the Enugu State VAPP Law has some unique provisions such as, in s.3 where it lowers the standard of proof in a rape case by adding 'no matter how slight' in the definition of the offence, and in not repeating the errors in the parent VAPP Act, there is, however, need to add and amend some sections. There is, however, need to review the Enugu State VAPP Law to include changing male pronouns to gender-neutral pronouns or third-party plural, and making provision for a Sex Offenders Register as in the VAPP Act. Though provided in the Criminal Code Law of Enugu State, the VAPP Law should be updated to include the offences of incest, political violence by state actors, frustrating investigations, wilfully making false statements depriving a person of his/her liberty, and damage to property with intent to cause distress.

The survey shows that most people are unaware of existing laws and policies addressing gender-based violence in the state. Only 19% believe these laws are adequate in prosecuting GBV cases. Customary laws are mainly informal, though some formalization exists. Efforts to reform GBV laws and policies over the past eight years are largely unknown. Abolishing damaging customs may strengthen state laws, but risks backlash without proper assessments. Reviews reveal customary laws reinforce norms allowing GBV. More engagement is needed to transform mindsets while upholding positive customs. Ultimately, awareness-raising, and proper implementation of comprehensive laws, whether state or customary, are key to prosecuting GBV and shifting attitudes.

The survey shows most people prefer informal over formal justice systems when seeking redress for gender-based violence. Knowledge gaps exist on where to access legal justice. Low safety is perceived for witnesses during investigations and trials, further hindered by limited awareness of specialized GBV police desks and judges. Cultural norms persisting in informal systems often perpetuate violence against women. Meanwhile, formal reporting systems and prosecution processes are underutilized, with limited legal aid services for victims. Courts rarely follow recommended timeframes from the VAPP Act. From case mention to judgement, the process drags on for months without prompt access to certified true copies of judgements. Very few specialized police units or judges handle GBV cases exclusively. To increase access to justice, personnel require training on GBV case handling while courts and police stations in rural areas need reinforcement. Robust witness protection programs are essential. Most importantly, education on legal rights and pathways must improve so victims can navigate both formal and informal systems safely.

The survey reveals limited awareness of active Shelters and SARCs in the state. Where they exist, facilities are often understaffed, undersupplied, and inaccessible, especially by rural dwellers. Support services are not sufficiently funded or prioritized. Reporting and referral pathways lack robustness and wide publicity. Informal support systems, like families, community groups, etc, are viewed as unhelpful by 34% of the respondents. However, SARCs and shelters, where functional, provide invaluable legal, medical, psychosocial, and economic support, including reintegration programs. Strong partnerships with medical units and forensic labs have aided evidence collection to prosecute GBV cases. But more investment is urgently needed to strengthen formal pathways. Adequate



Access to Legal Justice

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

41.43% **Formal justice system** 52.14% **Informal justice system** 6.43% **I will not seek justice**

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

39.29% **Yes** 34.29% **No** 15% **Not Sure**
11.43% **It Depends**

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

26.43% **Yes** 47.86% **No** 25.7% **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?

26.43% **73.57%**
Yes No

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

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| -- | -- | | |
| Specialized medical healthcare pathway | Police/security pathway | 91% | 6.43% |
| -- | -- | Legal pathway | None of the above |
| Psychosocial/mental health pathway | | | |

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

34.29% **43.57%** **20%**
Yes No Not Sure

budgetary allocation and staffing of support facilities must occur alongside capacity building of informal structures to provide appropriate care. Holistic support systems that integrate both formal and informal networks will give victims greater choice in seeking available services aligned with their needs and comfort levels.

The survey shows limited awareness of GBV educational programs among citizens. Few could identify sensitization materials they had encountered, like radio jingles or pamphlets. Sex education coverage in schools is inadequate. Disability-inclusive awareness materials are scarce. Major knowledge gaps exist, especially in rural areas. Efforts to disseminate information through mass media are hindered by insufficient funding and outdated channels. Reluctance toward comprehensive sex education further restricts GBV consciousness-raising among young people. To combat pervasive norms enabling GBV, regular multimedia campaigns tailored to various demographics are essential. Investing in modern communication channels and inclusive contents, alongside mandating comprehensive GBV/sex education in schools, will help transform mindsets. With greater awareness, victims can better access justice while society actively rejects gender-based violence.

Enugu State experienced a reduction in budgetary allocation to its Ministry of Women Affairs, dropping from N234.51mn in 2021 to N140.75mn in 2022. This decrease led to a decline in per capita funds from N95.7 to N57.4. The state, home to a 2.45 million female population, ranked fourth in per capita spending in 2022, vital for sustaining women-centric programs. However, the decline in budget performance from 93.3% in 2021 to 36.8% signals a pressing need for improved fiscal management. This highlights the necessity for Enugu State to optimize allocated

funds effectively, ensuring sustained progress and development of initiatives focused on women's welfare and empowerment.



Human Angle Story

Joan's story illustrates the constant threat of sexual violence faced by women. As a vulnerable 16-year-old domestic worker living with relatives, she endured repeated rape by neighbours. Fearful of speaking out, her suffering continued until her aunt discovered her pregnancy and reported the crime. Organizations like WACOL stepped in to pursue justice, utilizing new laws like the VAPP Law to charge the perpetrators. Joan's case highlights how poverty, age, and unequal power dynamics compound women's risk of gender-based violence. But it also demonstrates that with critical support services and legal recourse, survivors can heal. Ensuring adequate psychosocial, medical, and judicial resources for victims is imperative. No one should endure abuse in silence. Justice systems must protect society's most marginalized.



Information and Awareness

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



35.71% **41.43%**
Yes No
22.86%
Not Sure

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

6.43% **50.71%**
Not at all useful A little bit useful
-- **15.71%**
Mostly useful Completely useful

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

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Audio/spoken content | Braille printed content | Visual content | Screen subtiting |
| -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Sign interpretation | Picture-based messages | Simplified messages | None of the above |

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