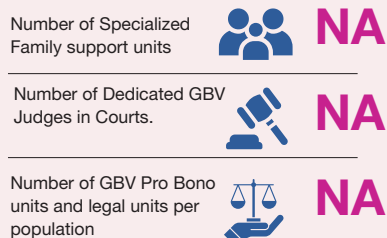


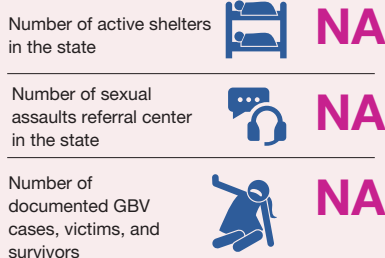
State Context



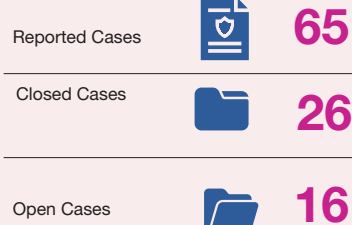
Access to Legal Justice



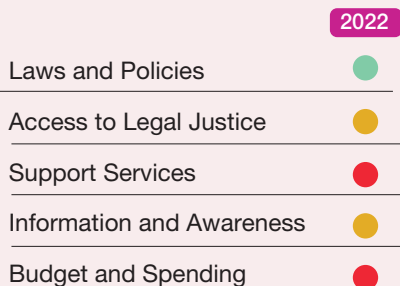
Support Services



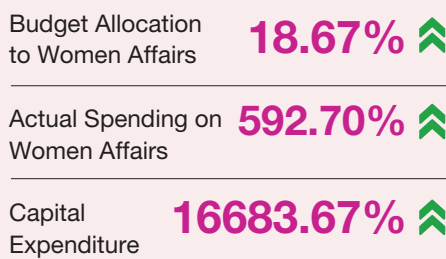
GBV Cases



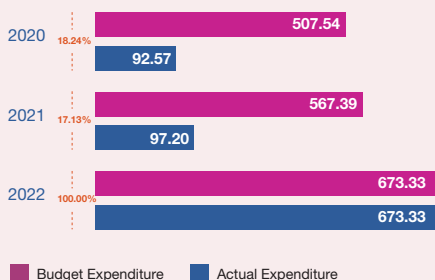
Index Ranking (out of 36 States)



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>	Limited implementation and enforcement of existing laws and policies on GBV.	Enhance implementation and enforcement of laws.
		Lack of awareness and understanding of existing laws among the public.	Increase public awareness through campaigns and education.
		Inadequate dissemination of laws and policies at the grassroots level.	Review and update legislation to address emerging forms of GBV.
2	 <p>Access to Legal Justice</p>	Delays in judicial processes.	Establish monitoring and evaluation of GBV response systems.
		Limited specialized training for legal professionals on GBV.	
		Insufficient legal infrastructure, training, and resources.	Enhance capacity of personnel of GBV units through regular training.
3	 <p>Support Services</p>	Inadequate availability of and accessibility to support services, particularly in rural areas.	Strengthen availability and accessibility of support services.
		Lack of effective coordination between relevant agencies.	Strengthen coordination among relevant agencies and support service providers.
		Limited funding and resources allocated to support services.	Ensure sustainable funding and resources for GBV support services.
4	 <p>Information and Awareness</p>	Low level of awareness on GBV in the state, especially among at-risk population in rural communities.	Develop comprehensive awareness campaigns on GBV, and ensure its wide and consistent publicity, especially among populations in rural communities.
		There is a culture of silence and stigma around GBV.	Utilize diverse communication channels and inclusive materials.
		Ineffective dissemination of information on GBV.	Promote comprehensive sex education in schools.



Laws and Policies

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

50.83% **Yes** 49.17% **No** -- **Not Sure**

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

35.00% **Yes** 45.00% **No** 20.00% **Not Sure**

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

50.00% **Strongly Agree** 45.83% **Agree** -- **Indifference**
-- **Disagree** -- **Strongly Disagree**

The Kogi State Penal Code Law and Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Law exist in the state to address GBV. The VAPP Law provides stiffer punishments for many of the offences. However, survey findings reveal limited awareness and use of these laws in prosecuting GBV cases. Survey respondents were divided on whether customary laws are sufficient to address GBV. Efforts have been made to review and strengthen laws during the past eight years through legislative amendments, new policies, and stakeholder collaboration. However, abolishing customary laws may negatively impact communities. Though some customary practices reinforce harmful norms, they provide culturally resonant justice and reconciliation. Assessments are needed to align customary laws with human rights standards. The survey highlights gaps in implementing formal laws and mixed perceptions of customary practices. More awareness, enforcement, and coordination among justice agencies is required to strengthen the legal framework against GBV.

GBV cases can be reported to police, NGOs, and government agencies; however, survey findings indicate limited awareness of reporting procedures. Prosecution is handled by the police and prosecutors, but delays and family interference were noted. Most survey respondents would seek justice through formal systems, though some prefer informal resolution. Legal aid is provided by groups like FIDA but is constrained by funding and capacity gaps. Shelters

and support services are inadequate, particularly in rural areas. Specialized units exist, like Family Support Units in police commands, but survey respondents display low awareness of these services. Informal justice utilizes community and religious leaders, viewed as culturally resonant but having potential biases. Courts face backlogs and delays in resolving GBV cases within mandated timeframes. Overall, while reporting and legal frameworks exist, strengthening coordination, speed, awareness, and access to justice is needed. Specialized units require more capacity building and resourcing. Formal and informal systems should collaborate to provide comprehensive, timely justice to survivors.

The state currently has no active shelters or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs). A shelter previously existed at the state rehab centre but is no longer operational. Survey findings reveal very low awareness and utilization of such facilities by respondents. Informal support systems like families, religious centres, and NGOs provide frontline assistance, though coordination gaps exist. Reporting pathways are inconsistent, with cases often referred informally between organizations. Most survey respondents believe informal networks are helpful for survivors but recognize their limitations. Investment in formal, comprehensive services is inadequate but efforts are underway to establish a shelter and SARC. Forensic evidence supports prosecution, yet accessing these services is challenging, especially in rural areas. Funding constraints hamper the quality



Access to Legal Justice

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

70.83% **Formal justice system** 24.17% **Informal justice system** 5.00% **I will not seek justice**

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

70.00% **Yes** 18.33% **No** 5.83% **Not Sure**
5.83% **It Depends**

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

31.67% **Yes** 48.33% **No** 20.00% **Not Sure**



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?

13.33% Yes
86.67% No

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

17.50% Specialized medical healthcare pathway	35.00% Police/security pathway
-- Psychosocial/mental health pathway	39.17% None of the above
-- Legal pathway	

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

75.00% Yes
22.50% No
2.50% Not Sure

and availability of support across the pathway from reporting to investigation, medical care, psychosocial support, shelters, and legal aid. A survivor-centred, coordinated, and adequately funded support system is essential to improve outcomes for those affected by GBV.

The state uses some IEC materials like radio jingles and pamphlets for GBV awareness, but lack of funding limits their reach and impact. Survey findings show most respondents are unaware of such programs or materials. Sex education in schools exists but lacks comprehensiveness, with concerns over content. Respondents overwhelmingly support introducing age-appropriate lessons on GBV and sexual consent in schools. Sensitization of religious and traditional leaders also occurs, but inconsistently. Inclusivity for disabled persons in awareness programs is limited, indicating a need for targeted, equally accessible outreaches. Overall, while efforts exist, implementing regular, widespread, and innovative campaigns across diverse media is vital to transform social norms and perceptions around GBV. Tailored messaging and platforms are needed to engage youth, rural citizens, and marginalized groups to spur collective action.

Kogi state with a female population of over 2.3 million sits at the second place in the north central region of Nigeria with regards to spending per capita of its Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development. It's Ministry of Women Affairs spent N299.6 per capita in 2022,

which was a huge leap of almost 600% from N43.3 in 2021 to N299.6 in 2022. This huge leap came as a result of an increase of funds disbursement to the ministry in 2021 and 2022 which stood at N97.21million and N673.3 million, respectively.



Human Angle Story

Maryam Usman's experience highlights the resilience of survivors and the need to improve support systems. As a female political aspirant, she was assaulted while campaigning but initially did not report it due to limited awareness of her rights. With police support, her case reached prosecution, but she faced community interference aiming to settle informally. Despite obstacles, Maryam persevered to obtain accountability and compensation while ensuring her safety. Her journey demonstrates gaps, like lack of awareness, that prevent justice. Maryam now advocates for survivors, spreads awareness, and partners with NGOs to empower women and girls. Her activism is transforming her community, reducing stigma and isolation of survivors. Maryam's story illustrates that with information, support, and solidarity, survivors can overcome barriers and become advocates for change.



Information and Awareness

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

31.67% Yes
61.67% No
6.67% Not Sure

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

20.83% Not at all useful
26.67% A little bit useful
54.17% 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 subtitling
-- Sign interpretation	-- Picture-based messages	-- Simplified messages	86.67% 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	1.0
	Existence and usage of customary and religious laws and policies that criminalizes GBV	0.5
	Consistent, result-producing efforts at reforming and strengthening laws, policies, and customs on GBV prevention and response within an eight-year period	0.5
 <p>Access to Legal Justice</p>	Available system of GBV reporting, prosecution, and enforcement	1.0
	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	0.0
	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
 <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	0.5
	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
	Women Affairs Ministry spending per capita	0