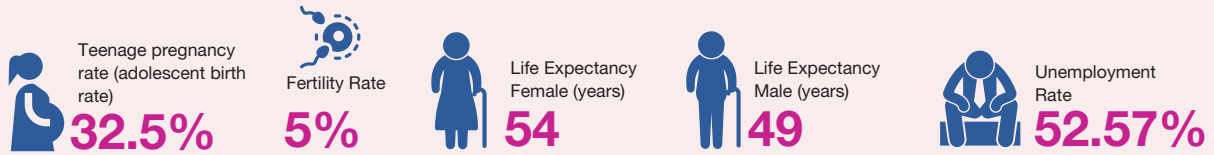


State Context



Access to Legal Justice

Number of Specialized Family support units



Number of Dedicated GBV Judges in Courts.



Number of GBV Pro Bono units and legal units per population



Support Services

Number of active shelters in the state



Number of sexual assaults referral center in the state



Number of documented GBV cases, victims, and survivors



GBV Cases

Reported Cases



Closed Cases



Open Cases



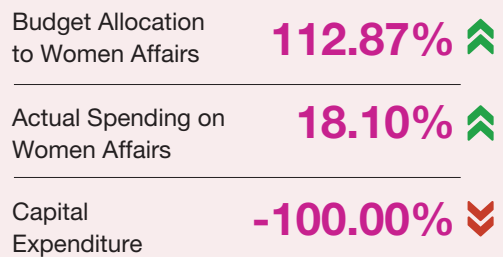
Index Ranking (out of 36 States)



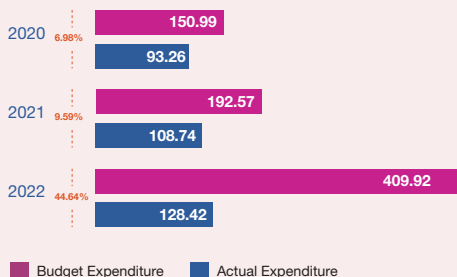
2022



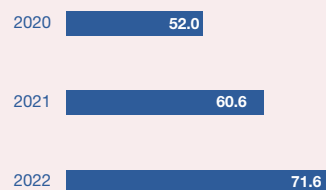
Year on Year Growth 2022







Total Allocation to Women Affairs (NGN'm)



Per Capita Analysis (NGN)



S/N	Indicators	Key Findings	Recommendations
1	 <p>Laws and Policies</p>	<p>The GBV-related laws are VAPP Law, Child Protection Law, and the Administration of Criminal Justice Law</p> <p>Poor funding limits the implementation and effectiveness of the GBV-related laws and policies.</p> <p>Awareness of GBV laws and policies is minimal, though it will prevent GBV in the state.</p>	<p>The GBV-related laws should be reformed and made more operational.</p> <p>Significant budget provision for the implementation of all GBV-related laws and policies.</p> <p>Educate the public regularly on GBV-related laws and policies.</p>
2	 <p>Access to Legal Justice</p>	<p>Wrong cultural and societal disposition to GBV hinder the success rate of addressing GBV issues.</p> <p>There is an effective GBV reporting, prosecution, and enforcement system in the state.</p> <p>Lack of financial support limits the victims/survivors' access to legal justice.</p>	<p>Develop new structures to address cultural context and sensitivity issues of GBV using religious institutions, local committee/ community leaders, and other bodies.</p> <p>The GBV reporting, prosecution, and enforcement systems should be further strengthened to increase prosecution rate.</p> <p>Provide funds to support GBV survivors, and more enlightenment programs on access to legal justice by GBV victims should be vigorously pursued.</p>
3	 <p>Support Services</p>	<p>There are six SARCs and three Shelters in the state but they lack necessary infrastructure, personnel, facilities, etc.</p> <p>Partners support services are discontinued after the project life cycle.</p> <p>Majority of the rural dwellers are not aware of the support services provided by Shelters and SARCs in the state.</p>	<p>The existing SARCs and Shelters should be made more effective by prioritizing and funding them.</p> <p>Strategic approach to sustain partners' support services and impact.</p> <p>Educate the people on the availability, location, and operations of the Shelters and SARC as well as the reporting pathways.</p>
4	 <p>Information and Awareness</p>	<p>There are different GBV-related sensitisation and awareness programs in the state, and they are PwDs-friendly.</p> <p>Comprehensive sex education is not taught in secondary schools and tertiary institutions.</p> <p>Low level of allocation to GBV information dissemination sector.</p>	<p>Ensure GBV-related sensitisation and awareness programs are available in local context using localized approaches.</p> <p>Comprehensive sex-related topics should be incorporated in the secondary school and tertiary institutions' curriculum.</p> <p>Fund GBV-related sensitisation and awareness programs.</p>



Laws and Policies

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

89% **Yes** 11% **No** -- **Not Sure**

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

-- **Strongly Agree** 100% **Agree** -- **Indifferent**
-- **Disagree** -- **Strongly Disagree**

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

11% **Yes** 47% **No** 42% **Not Sure**

The massive increase in GBV in the state can be attributed to the displacement caused by insurgency in the country's north-east region. To address this social problem, the state government introduced and regularly used the Administration of Criminal Justice Law, the Child Protection Law, and the VAPP Law to prosecute GBV-related cases. These laws have gained huge popularity in the state, as 89% of the respondents are aware of their existence. These laws have not been revisited and reformed because they are still new. The VAPP law, specifically, is widely used to prosecute sexual harassment in the state's public and private institutions. The VAPP Law, however, needs to be amended to add more violence-related offences as provided for in the VAPP Act (such as incest, political violence, violence by state actors, harmful substance attack, intimidation, indecent exposure, frustrating investigation, depriving a person of his/her liberty, wilfully making false statement, wilfully placing a person in fear of physical injury, inflicting physical injury, damage to property with intent to cause distress), as well as the offence of "trafficking" beyond its definition. There is also a need to specify the government Ministry that will appoint protection officers and enforce the law as stated in s.35 and s.36, respectively.

The abolition of customary laws strengthens the State laws as 100% of the survey respondents agree that the formal laws prevent GBV in the state, as against 11%, who indicated that customary or religious laws and/or practices are sufficient in preventing and responding to GBV in the state.

To report GBV-related cases in the state, the first point of contact is the Police Force or Security and Civil Defence Corps. These law enforcement agencies invite the perpetrator and the victim to conduct a thorough investigation and examine the available evidence. Law enforcement agents work

closely with the State Ministry of Health to conduct medical tests, when necessary. After the investigation, the case is transferred to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution, and a dedicated GBV Judge promptly handles the case, irrespective of the victim's background. The Ministry also has witness protection programs enabling victims and witnesses to participate in the court process safely. This explains why 100% of survey participants prefer the formal justice system. Besides the dedicated Judge, the state has functional Family Support Units and GBV desks in the divisional headquarters. The state's informal justice system, including the Sharia, is weak. This finding is supported by the 60% who indicated that the informal justice system cannot effectively handle GBV in the state.

Yobe State has six functional SARC and three Shelters spread across the state, and the SARC provide free medical, psychosocial, security, and legal justice support services to GBV victims and survivors. In addition to the services offered by SARC, the Shelter accommodates and provides livelihood support to the GBV victims and survivors to enable them to earn a safe and sustainable living. The government has a special budget for the SARC and Shelters to improve the welfare of the victims. The reporting and referral pathways in the state start with the security system. When a case is reported to the Police by the victim or NGOs, they will escort the victim to the hospital for medical tests and refer the case to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution. Though the informal justice system is weak, the evidence obtained from the survey revealed that the informal support systems are effective, as 100% of the survey participants indicated that support systems are helpful to GBV victims/survivors.

The GBV-related sensitisation and awareness programs used by the state include banners, shirts, hijabs, and stickers. Also, the state



Access to Legal Justice

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

100% **Formal justice system** -- **Informal justice system** -- **I will not seek justice**

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

99% **Yes** 1% **No** -- **Not Sure**
-- **It Depends**

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

10% **Yes** 60% **No** 30% **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?

92% Yes
8% No

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

7% Specialized medical healthcare pathway
18% Police/security pathway
53% Psychosocial/mental health pathway
21% Legal pathway
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?

100% Yes
-- No
-- Not Sure

frequently uses radio jingles to disseminate information and sensitise the public on GBV, and 89% of the survey participants attested to the use of GBV-related sensitisation and awareness programs in the state. The IEC materials used by the state are PwD-friendly, and they are also included in the state's sensitisation and awareness programs to improve their knowledge of GBV. Unfortunately, the coverage of sex education in the state falls below expectations as the state still struggles to incorporate comprehensive sex-related topics in the education curriculum of secondary school and tertiary institutions.

The Ministry of Women, Children Affairs and Social Welfare's budget increased from N151 million in 2020 to N192.57 million in 2021 and then to N409.92 million in 2022, but the performance rate declined from 61.76% through 56.47% to 31.33% in the respective year. Though the Ministry disbursed over 55% of the budget in 2020 and 2021. The Ministry specifically spent N86.2 million, N84.35 million and N82.52 million on personnel in 2020, 2021, and 2022, respectively. Also, the overhead expenses increased from N7 million in 2020 to N12.56 million in 2021 to N45.9 million in 2022. Capital expenditure, however, gulped only N6.83 million in 2021.



Human Angle Story

A girl was raped by a young man, her neighbour. She decided to confide in a close friend about the assault two days later. This friend, recognising the seriousness of the situation, strongly encouraged the survivor and her mother to report the case to the Police. When the case was reported to the Police, they conducted a comprehensive investigation. The Police took the victim to the hospital for medical examination and gathered all the relevant evidence to build a strong case. Subsequently, the Police presented the case in court, where the perpetrator was ultimately sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, ensuring that justice was served.



Information and Awareness

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

89% Yes
10% No
1% Not Sure

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

10% Not at all useful
1% A little bit useful
5% Mostly useful
84% Completely useful

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

-- Audio/spoken content
-- Braille printed content
29% Visual content
-- Screen subtitling
9% Sign interpretation
47% Picture-based messages
2% Simplified messages
13% 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	0.0
	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	0.5
 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	0.5
	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	1.0
	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	0.5
	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