



Bauchi State

Womaniy
INDEX
2024 Edition

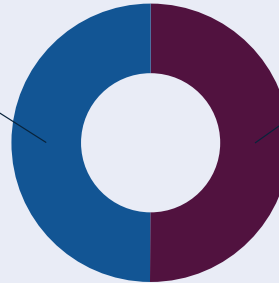
invictus
AFRICA





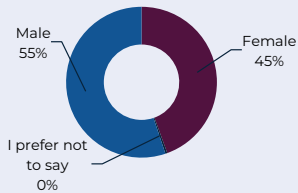
Total Population
8,596,139

Male
4,292,010
50%

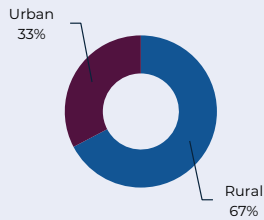


Female
4,304,129
50%

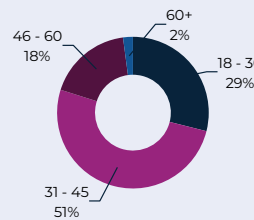
Respondents: 477



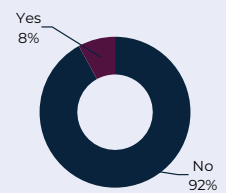
Location



Age Group



Disability Status



GBV Context



No. of GBV cases **1621**



No. of active Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) **N/A**



No. of active shelters **6**



No. of Family Support Units (FSUs) **1**



Index Grades

Laws and Policies ●

Access to Legal Justice ●

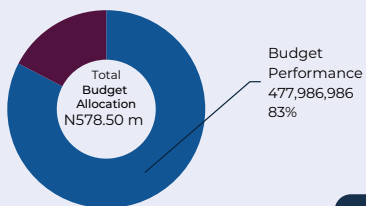
Support Services ●

Information and Awareness ●

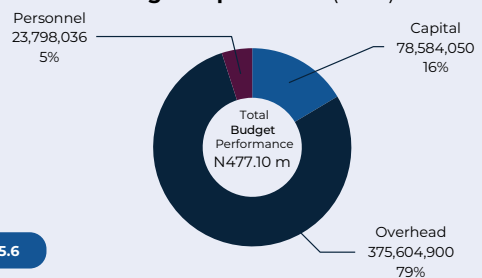
Budget and Spending ●

Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

Budget Performance (2023)

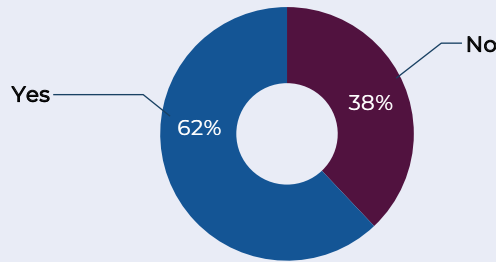


Budget Expenditure (2023)



Per Capita Spending **N55.6**

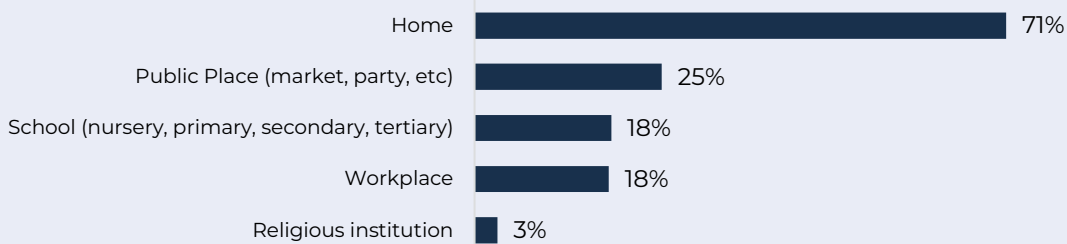
Have you or anyone you know experienced any form of gender-based violence (GBV) in the last five years?



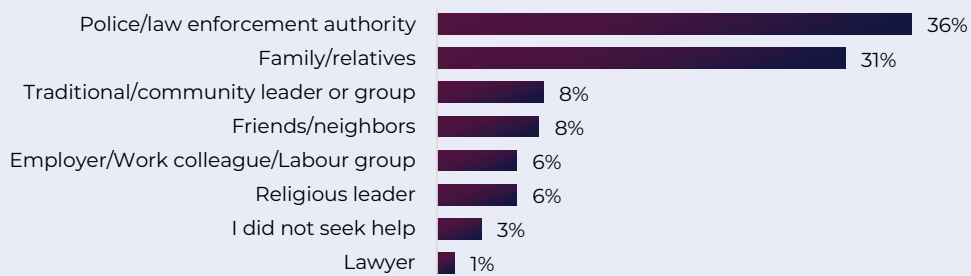
What form of GBV did you or the person experience?



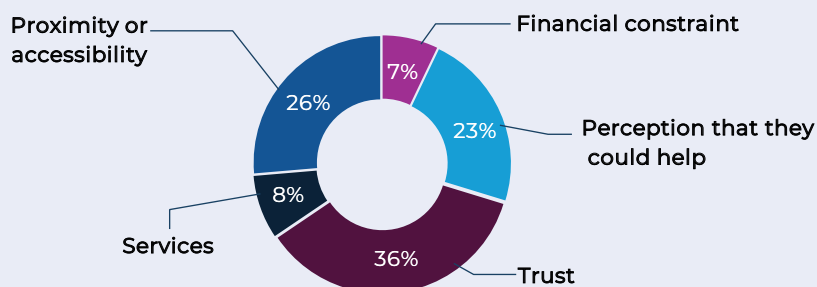
Where did you or the person experience the GBV?



Where did you or the person first seek help?

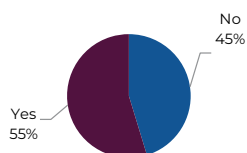


Why did you or the person choose where to seek help?

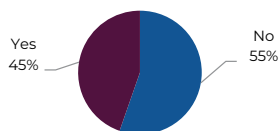


Laws and Policies

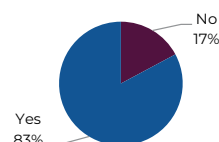
Are you aware of existing laws and/or policies that address gender-based violence (GBV) in the state?



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

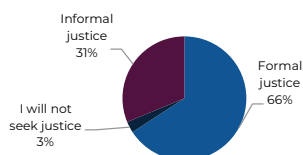


Do you know of anyone who has been convicted for GBV-related offenses?

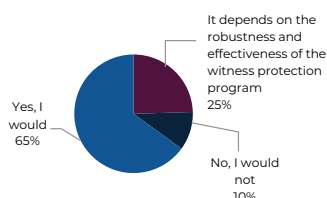


Access to Legal Justice

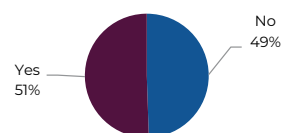
Where would you seek justice if you, or anyone you know, experience GBV?



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

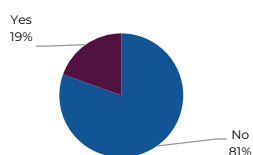


Are you aware of legal assistance and services provided by the State to GBV victims/survivors?

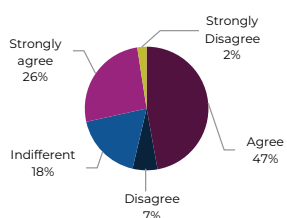


Support Services

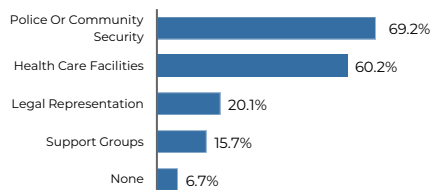
Do you know of, or have you visited, any active shelters and/or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) for GBV victims/survivors in the state?



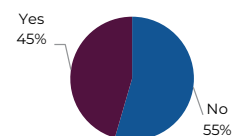
Do you believe that these shelters and/or SARCs are effectively functional, adequately equipped, properly maintained, and sustainable over time?



Which of these processes and procedures for reporting GBV-related incidents are you aware of? (Referral Pathways)

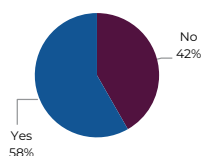


Do you think informal support systems such as family, friends, religious centres, community groups, etc., are helpful to GBV victims/survivors?

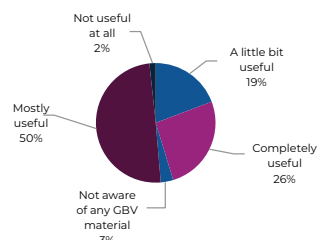


Information and Awareness

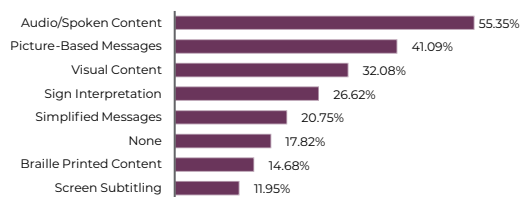
Do you know of any GBV information and/or education programs or materials in the state?



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



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



Key Insights

Laws and Policies

Gender-based violence (GBV) in Bauchi State manifests in various forms, including physical, sexual, and psychological violence. It occurs within diverse settings, such as homes, communities, and institutions, and can be perpetrated by intimate partners, family members, strangers, or even authority figures. Factors contributing to the prevalence of GBV in the state include deeply ingrained social norms that perpetuate gender inequality, limited awareness and education, poverty, harmful cultural practices, and inadequate legal and social support systems.

Bauchi State has enacted several laws to address gender-based violence (GBV), including the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law (2022), the Penal Code, the Administration of Criminal Justice Law, the Child Rights Act and the Anti-Kidnapping Law. The VAPP Law requires several amendments to enhance its effectiveness. Firstly, Section 1(2)(a) should be amended to explicitly recognize spousal rape in cases involving non-consensual sexual intercourse and/or the use of force and violence. Secondly, the numbering and cross-referencing within the law need to be corrected, particularly in Sections 19(2), 19(3)(b), 20(2)(a), and 20(6). Additionally, the specific state government agency responsible for submitting the annual report mentioned in Section 31 should be identified. While 54.2% of respondents are aware of these laws, 72.4% perceive them as effective. However, the relatively low awareness of conviction rates (45.8%) suggests a gap in enforcement and public awareness. Alongside formal legal frameworks, customary and religious practices play a significant role in addressing GBV in the state. 62% of respondents are familiar with these practices, and 83% believe they are effective in prevention and response. This highlights the importance of both legal and cultural mechanisms in ensuring safety and justice for survivors of GBV.

Access to Legal Justice

GBV cases are typically reported to the police, who then refer victims to healthcare providers and initiate legal proceedings. However, some victims may first seek help from traditional or community leaders, who may then involve the police. With support from the IHP, the state has developed a referral pathway to streamline reporting and responding to GBV cases. The prosecution system involves the Ministry of Justice and the Police, while the police are primarily responsible for enforcement. The Ministry of Justice, Women Affairs, and the First Lady's office collaborate to provide legal assistance to victims/survivors. 65.6% prefer formal justice systems, such as the police and courts, while 2.7% would not seek justice at all.

31.7% would rely on informal justice systems, like traditional or religious leaders. Approximately 50.6% of respondents are aware of legal assistance and services provided by the state government to GBV victims/survivors. The state currently lacks a robust witness protection program. While 65.4% of respondents expressed willingness to serve as witnesses, 24.4% indicated their willingness is contingent on the effectiveness of a witness protection program. A significant 10.3% are unwilling to serve as witnesses, highlighting the need for stronger protective measures. Despite the establishment of a 10-man committee to coordinate GBV prevention and response efforts, the employment of vigilante groups, and the creation of GBV desk officers at the Ministry for Women Affairs (MoWA), the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, and in all the LGA secretariat, the state still lacks dedicated family support units and GBV-dedicated judges.

Support Services

Bauchi State has limited GBV support services. There is no SARC, however, there is a government-run shelter, and five NGO-operated shelters (FOMWAN, ASH foundation, and Child is Gold foundation). While these facilities provide essential services, including medical care and safe housing, their capacity is limited, and they are concentrated in the state capital. Expanding access to these services to other regions is crucial to ensure comprehensive support for survivors of GBV.

Information and Awareness

Bauchi State collaborates with partners like UNICEF to create and disseminate GBV awareness materials through various channels, including radio, television, and community outreach programs. These materials are often distributed in collaboration with the Information and Public Enlightenment (IPE) and National Orientation Agency (NOA) to reach diverse communities across the state. While GBV-related topics are integrated into subjects like Biology, Health Education, Integrated Science, and Civic Education, a comprehensive, standardized curriculum on GBV still needs to be developed. Efforts to make GBV information accessible to people with disabilities should be enhanced. The use of sign language interpreters, pictorial messages, audio content, and Braille materials demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity. However, awareness of and utilization of these specialized materials still needs to be improved. 98.5% of the respondents find GBV awareness materials informative and valuable, and 75.4% support the integration of GBV and child sexual abuse education into school curriculum at all levels.

Budget and Spending

In 2023, the Bauchi State Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development achieved a budget performance rate of 83%. Of its allocated budget of N578.47 million, N477.99 million was utilized, making Bauchi one of the 12 states with a budget utilization rate above 60%. Most of the expenditure, 78.6% (N456.60 million), was directed towards overhead costs, while personnel costs accounted for 5% (N23.80 million). Capital expenditure, vital for GBV prevention and response infrastructure, comprised only 16.4% (N94.58 million) of the actual spending. With a population of 8,596,139, the state's per capita spending on the ministry was just N55.6, indicating limited service reach in addressing social and human development needs. The relatively low capital expenditure and the budget execution rate underscore the need for increased budgetary allocation and disbursement to its Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development.

Human Angle Story



“The husband no longer communicates with his wife, refuses to eat her food, and always sleeps in the sitting room. This behaviour is a change from how things were when they first got married. He has started ignoring her, even when it comes to important family decisions; instead, he prefers to discuss these matters with others outside their home. Despite his behaviour, he does not physically harm her. Over time, this situation began to affect the woman psychologically.” The case described above was reported to a community-based organization, Child is Gold, which took it up. Eventually, the woman was referred to Bauchi State Teaching Hospital through the Sexual Assault Referral Center (SARC), and she is currently receiving care at the Psychiatric Unit.

Bauchi State

Indicators	Key Findings	Recommendations
Laws and Policies 	Witnesses are often unfamiliar with court proceedings and face financial constraints when attending pretrial hearings, which can negatively impact their psychological well-being and willingness to participate in the legal process.	Witnesses should be provided with adequate financial, psychological and security support to enable them to aid the administration of justice for GBV victims and survivors.
	Some traditional leaders often downplay GBV cases within their communities, discouraging survivors from seeking help. They may attempt to resolve issues internally, even when perpetrators are related to victims, to avoid public scrutiny and potential social disruption.	Intensify oversight over cultural practices that perpetuate GBV and mandate that gatekeepers and traditional and religious leaders align with extant laws.
	Lack of awareness by the public on the existence of laws and policies regarding GBV.	Increase sensitization and awareness of GBV-related laws in the state.
Access to Legal Justice 	The lack of a robust witness protection system makes it difficult for people to testify.	Establish a robust witness protection program to encourage victims and witnesses to come forward and participate in legal proceedings without fear of retaliation.
	People are not very familiar with the reporting and referral pathway.	Democratize access to the reporting and referral pathway by enhancing its publicity.
Support Services 	There are no family support units within the state.	Establish family support units.
	The shelters are not in a safe space, and they lack privacy.	Enhance the safety of the current shelters and SARCs by deploying additional security agents to man the centres. Also, establish more shelters and SARCs in safe and secure locations.
	While some traditional or religious leaders provide temporary shelter for victims and survivors in some communities, the number of state-owned and NGO-operated Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARCs) and shelters is insufficient for the population.	
Information and Awareness 	Respondents have a moderate level of awareness regarding GBV information and educational materials.	Increase sensitization and awareness efforts by expanding the communication mediums used to cater to the population, including PWDs. Additionally, increase the frequency of sensitization and awareness campaigns.
	The frequency of GBV awareness campaigns, such as radio and television jingles, is inconsistent. The distribution of GBV information materials primarily focuses on healthcare centres, limiting their reach to a wider audience.	
	No guide or curriculum on GBV and child sexual assault in schools.	Develop and deploy a guide to help schools educate children on GBV and sexual abuse.
Budget and Spending 	Bauchi State's Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development recorded a relatively commendable budget execution rate of 83% in 2023.	Towards the credibility of the budget of the Ministry, ensure timely and adequate fund disbursements to enable the Ministry to implement its GBV prevention and response programs and projects.
	Despite a fairly good budget execution rate, the spending per capita of the Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Development was below par at N55.6.	Significantly increase the budget allocation and releases to the Ministry to empower it to sufficiently cater to the GBV needs of the population.

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER
2023 Policy Recommendations
Bauchi State

S/No.	Recommendations	Implementation Status	Remarks
Laws and Policies			
1	Devise strategies to enforce and implement the laws in the state.	Not Implemented	Generally, the laws are effective but enforcing and implementing it is the challenge.
2	There should be provision for specific budgetary allocation to GBV and relevant ministries in the law.	Not Implemented	Nothing done yet on that
3	Educate the public regularly on GBV-related laws and policies and publish the contents.	Partially Implemented	The state makes efforts through the Ministry of women affairs to disseminate information about existing laws though not sufficient.
Access to Legal Justice			
4	Establish exclusive GBV Courts with dedicated GBV Judges.	Not Implemented	There are two Judges in the state one in the high court and one in the magistrate that most GBV cases are referred too. But there are no dedicated GBV courts and judges.
5	Create and implement a robust witness protection program.	Not Implemented	
6	The public should be educated on how to seek legal assistance free-of-charge.	Not Implemented	
Support Services			
7	Build shelters in safe environments across the state. The privacy of the survivors should be upheld. SARCs be equipped and adequately staffed with trained personnel.	Partially Implemented	There is one SARC in the whole state though adequately equipped but is not sufficient and there no plan yet on ground for additional shelters by the state. however there are other temporary shelters owned by CBOs and NGOs
8	Establish FSUs and ensure all the support services are accessible to all.	Not Implemented	
9	Create a database to keep records of all reported cases in the state.	Not Implemented	
10	The support service should be enhanced and made available and accessible to victims and survivors of GBV.	Partially Implemented	
Information and Awareness			
11	Educate the teachers and parents on the needs for incorporating sex education at all levels of education in the state.	Not Implemented	
12	Create more awareness among religious groups.	Not Implemented	
13	Increase investment in the production and dissemination of IEC materials.	Not Implemented	



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