



Enugu State

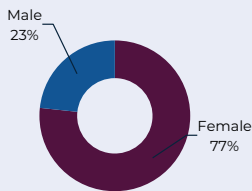




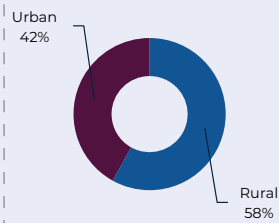
Total Population
4,832,887



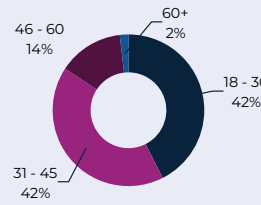
Respondents: 489



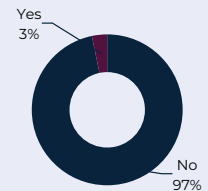
Location



Age Group



Disability Status



GBV Context



No. of GBV cases **112**



No. of active Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC)s **2**



No. of active shelters **5**



No. of Family Support Units (FSUs) **N/A**

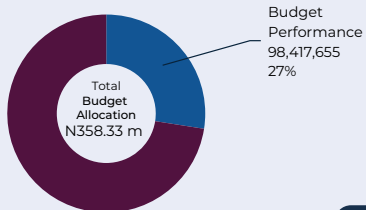


Index Grades

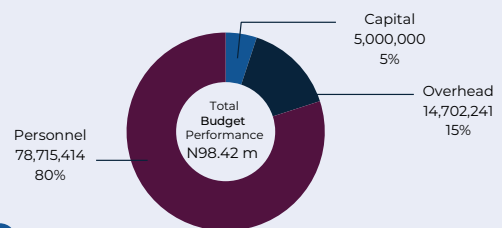
Laws and Policies	●
Access to Legal Justice	●
Support Services	●
Information and Awareness	●
Budget and Spending	●

Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

Budget Performance (2023)

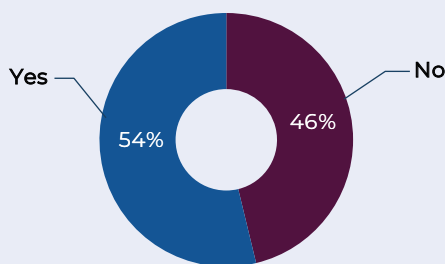


Budget Expenditure (2023)



Per Capita Spending **N20.4**

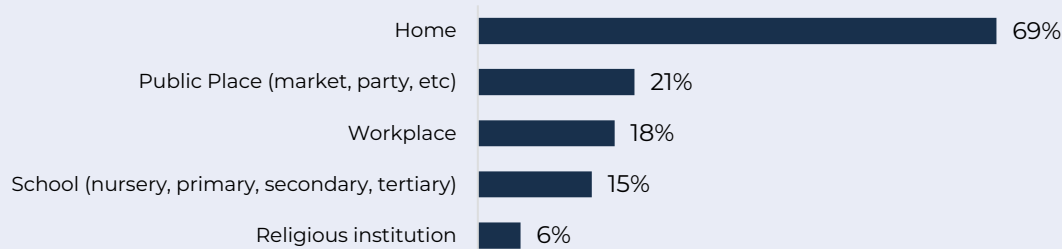
Have you or anyone you know experienced any form of gender-based violence (GBV) in the last five years?



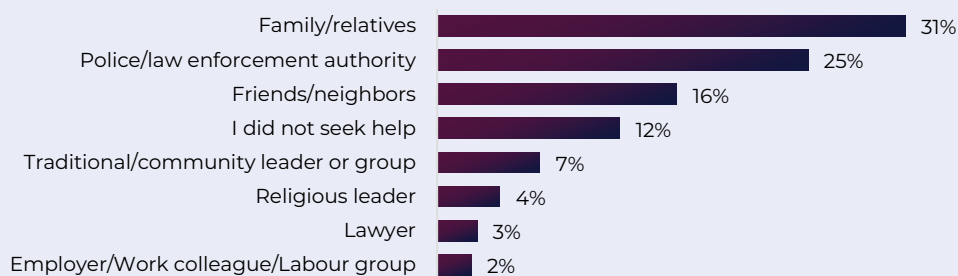
What form of GBV did you or the person experience?



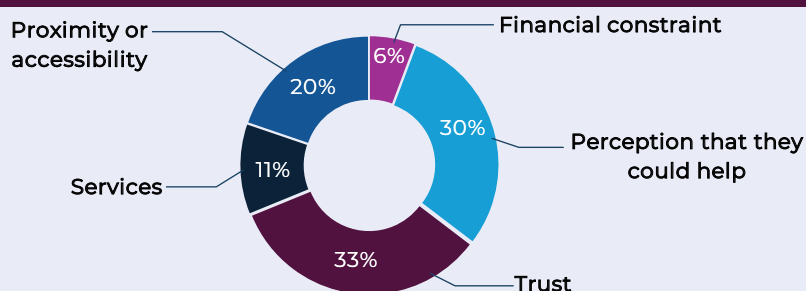
Where did you or the person experience the GBV?



Where did you or the person first seek help?

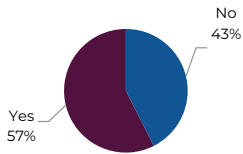


Why did you or the person choose where to seek help?

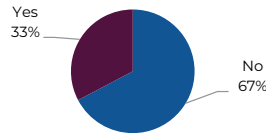


Laws and Policies

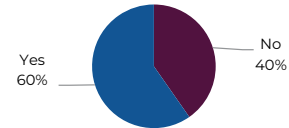
Are you aware of existing laws and/or policies that address gender-based violence (GBV) in the state?



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

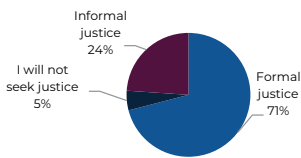


Do you know of anyone who has been convicted for GBV-related offenses?

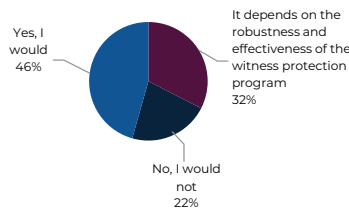


Access to Legal Justice

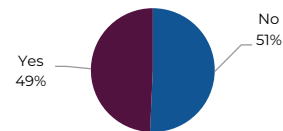
Where would you seek justice if you, or anyone you know, experience GBV?



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

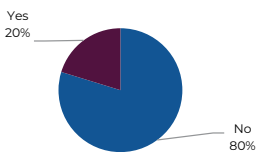


Are you aware of legal assistance and services provided by the State to GBV victims/survivors?

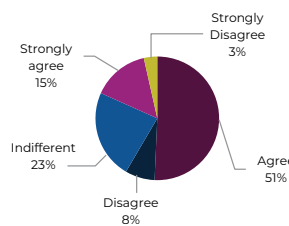


Support Services

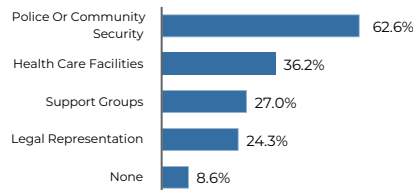
Do you know of, or have you visited, any active shelters and/or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) for GBV victims/survivors in the state?



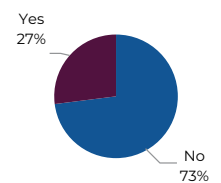
Do you believe that these shelters and/or SARCs are effectively functional, adequately equipped, properly maintained, and sustainable over time?



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

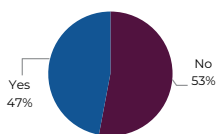


Do you think informal support systems such as family, friends, religious centres, community groups, etc., are helpful to GBV victims/survivors?

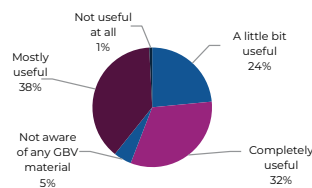


Information and Awareness

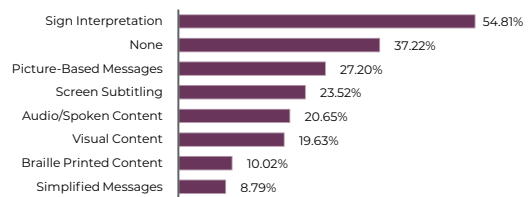
Do you know of any GBV information and/or education programs or materials in the state?



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

Enugu State has implemented laws to address GBV, notably the VAPPL 2019, the Marriage Law (Amendment) Law 2016, and the Prohibition of Infringement of Widows and Widowers Fundamental Rights Law 2001. These laws target physical, sexual, and economic violence, harmful traditional practices, and psychological abuse. Despite their potential, the prosecution of GBV cases remains low, with only 6 cases prosecuted using the VAPP between June 2023 and June 2024 despite receiving over 3000 in that time frame. The laws lack critical provisions for false accusations, state-actor violence, and sex offenders register as stated in the VAPP law.

Public awareness of these laws is limited; 57% of survey respondents are unaware of their existence or details, although a 26-man committee on using the VAPP law led by the governor's wife carries sensitisation outreaches on GBV. No articulated customary and religious laws addressing GBV. Religious and customary laws differ in accordance with communities and religions. 60% of the respondents believe that these customary or religious laws help prevent and respond to GBV. State laws have not been reviewed regularly. Many customary laws impact the state laws and policies negatively and need to be changed or improved upon.

Access to Legal Justice

Enugu State has a GBV reporting system, the Protocol, supported by civil society organisations (CSOs) such as Tamar SARC. Despite this system, gaps persist; the SARC hotline is always unreachable, making it inefficient, and the prosecution process is riddled with delays and low conviction rates. Law enforcement's nonchalance and corruption undermine accountability in the system, while the lack of specialized judges and effective family units hinders progress and smooth litigation process. Despite these bottlenecks, 71% of respondents expressed a preference for formal justice systems over informal ones, but the state's inadequate structures discourage their use.

Legal aid services are nearly non-existent as there is no evidence of pro bono legal assistance or even a witness protection program in the state. Victims often face threats and are silenced due to the absence of safety guarantees. While specialized police and human rights desks exist, their inefficiency further impedes justice delivery for GBV victims. Furthermore, cases often exceed the timeframes outlined in the VAPP, ultimately frustrating the process and sometimes leading to cash withdrawals. The informal justice system in Enugu is deeply rooted in harmful cultural norms that often perpetuate GBV. Communities rely on traditional leaders and groups like Nze na Ozos and Umu Adas, whose practices often disregard victims' rights.

Support Services

Enugu State has only two government-owned SARCs called WACOL Tamar SARC and Enugu State Government Tamar SARC, currently located within the Ministry of Gender Affairs due to renovations at its permanent site on FSP Medical Centre Abakaliki Road. Knowledge of the support service is low, as 20% of the respondents are aware of the existence of the SARC. The center provides medical, counselling, financial, administrative, and legal services but is understaffed and under-resourced. Informal shelters and CSOs such as WACOL, Heroine Women Foundation, and Ihuoma Girls complement these efforts by providing counselling, medical support, skills acquisition, and legal services. Tamar SARC is currently non-functional, delaying access to medical tests, counselling, and legal services.

The state's GBV reporting and referral pathways are ineffective, with no standardized protocol or systematic documentation. Informal support systems, including family, friends, and religious canters, often assist victims but sometimes compromise justice due to cultural biases. Medical units and forensic labs in the state are severely constrained. With only one pathologist for child abuse cases, medical and legal delays

hinder justice. The state lacks sufficient budgetary allocation for GBV services, with no clear funding for shelters, awareness campaigns, or SARC upgrades.

Information and Awareness

The state uses information, education, and communication (IEC) materials distributed at irregular intervals. Dissemination of GBV information materials is usually activity driven. For example, on World Activism Day. Radio jingles, seminars, and radio/TV shows also sensitize the public on GBV. This happens on commemorative occasions. Such sensitization programs occur in schools, marketplaces, churches, and other public gatherings with government agencies assisted by NGOs. While relevant MDAs and CSOs visit schools irregularly to sensitize the students on GBV issues, such subject matter has not been incorporated into the study curriculum. Sadly, there is also a low capacity for developing inclusive GBV awareness content. GBV awareness content does not include PWDs and is developed by CSOs.

Budget and Spending

In 2023, the Enugu State Ministry of Gender Affairs and Social Development allocated N358.3 million to gender-related programs, with an actual performance of N98.4 million, representing a budget performance of 27%. Spending was disaggregated into N78.7 million for personnel costs, N14.7 million for overhead, and N5 million for capital expenditure. This indicates minimal investment in infrastructure or program development to address gender-based violence (GBV). Based on a population of 20.4 million, per capita spending for Enugu State stands at N20.40, reflecting insufficient financial prioritization for GBV prevention and response services. The absence of a dedicated GBV budget line and low capital expenditure further highlight the lack of robust institutional support to combat GBV effectively.

Human Angle Story



Ngozi (pseudo name), married for a decade with children, experienced domestic violence when her husband began physically abusing her due to unfounded infidelity accusations. The abuse escalated, leading to neglect of their children. After the husband moved out, Ngozi failed to secure child support. She sought help from the National Human Rights Commission, but her husband's refusal to cooperate hindered progress. Despite eventual mediation efforts, the husband has yet to fulfil his obligations. Ngozi continues to struggle with the consequences of the abuse, feeling helpless and disheartened.

Enugu State

Index	Key Findings	Recommendations
Laws and Policies 	The VAPPL, 2019, did not have provisions for wilfully making false statements, unwillingness to testify, witness protection, political violence, or violence by State actors.	Review of the VAPPL to prescribe penalties for making false statements and unwillingness to testify and provide protection for witnesses. The law should accommodate political violence and violence by State actors.
	VAPP Law has not been adequately distributed in Enugu State. Only a photocopy of the VAPP was available.	The state government should ensure that it prints several copies of the laws and further simplify them. This should be distributed widely and to the police and other law enforcement agencies
	The implementation agency is not fully functional in ensuring effective law implementation.	The established VAPP implementation committee (a 26-man committee) should ensure full implementation of the VAPP law and establish a trust fund for the award of remedies and compensation for victims.
Access to Legal Justice 	The Tamar SARC in Enugu is understaffed and lacks lawyers and medical personnel, such as laboratory scientists and sufficient forensic experts. Only one pathologist handles child abuse cases across the state, causing significant delays in the medical and legal process.	Recruit and train more legal practitioners, forensic experts, and medical personnel to ensure timely and effective support for survivors.
	There is no established referral protocol for GBV cases in Enugu. Cases are poorly documented, and data on interventions and outcomes are not systematically tracked.	Develop a state-wide referral protocol with clear guidelines for documenting, reporting, and following up on GBV cases. Digitize the reporting process to improve data tracking and accountability.
	The state provides inadequate funding for GBV-related interventions. With only 27% budget performance in 2023 and limited resources for legal and support services, survivors face significant barriers to accessing justice and holistic care.	Allocate specific budget lines for GBV interventions, including legal aid, forensic services, and survivor support. Ensure timely disbursement and implementation to maximize impact. Advocate for increased funding through NGO collaboration and donor support.
Support Services 	The existing SARC suffers from an inadequate number of personnel. This center is underfunded and not widespread enough to meet the population's needs.	Funding should be available so SARC can be adequately staffed and properly trained. The state should prioritize funding to establish shelters and more SARCs, at least three in the senatorial zones.
	Inadequate economic support for victims and survivors.	There is a need for a GBV-specific budgetary provision to fuel all plans and activities, including a Reintegration/ rehabilitation program targeted at all survivors.
Information and Awareness 	Awareness of GBV-related laws and services is low, with many citizens, especially in rural areas, unaware of the legal protections available to them.	Sustained awareness and sensitization programs that are widely disseminated should be championed by the state.
	Unavailability of brailled IEC materials, even the various laws.	There is a need to produce and distribute IEC materials, including disability-sensitive ones, regularly.
	Non-effective and functional GBV hotlines.	Make functional the GBV hotlines.
	Lack of funding: Every activity needs funding, and every department is complaining of its shortage and non-availability, including funding for an awareness program.	GBV campaign needs huge funding, and the government should accept the reality and fund the campaign properly.

Index

Key Findings

Recommendations

Budget and Spending



Insufficient funding is allocated for implementing GBV laws, services, and awareness campaigns. The lack of dedicated budget lines for GBV-related activities hampers the full realization of the goals set out in the legal frameworks, resulting in limited resources for law enforcement, victim support services, and public education campaigns.

Enugu should prioritize increasing budget allocations for GBV programs, including establishing specific budget codes for GBV-related activities. This should be complemented by efforts to secure additional funding from development partners, NGOs, and international organizations to support GBV prevention and response.

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER
2023 Policy Recommendations
Enugu State

S/No.	Recommendations	Implementation Status	Remarks
Laws and Policies			
1	Increase awareness of existing GBV laws and policies among the state's population.	Partially Implemented	A Committee was set up by the wife of the former Governor . The committee was engaged in massive awareness creation on gender-based violence across the State. The members of the Committee as well as the wives of the State chairmen and communities leaders were trained on the VAPP law and gender violence.
2	Reform and strengthen laws to improve GBV prevention and response.	Partially Implemented	A 26-man Committee on use of the VAPP law in prosecution of GBV cases was created. The Ccommittee comprised the Ministries of Gender Affairs, Justice, Education and Health, the Commissioner of Police and four civil society representatives, the National Human Right Commission and Tamar SARC. The VAPP law was gazetted during the last regime and all the Wives of the 17 Local Government Council Chairmen in the State were mandated to strengthen and support gender desks.
3	Improve prosecution rates of GBV perpetrators under the laws.	Not Implemented	The Nigeria Police who have the mandate of prosecution of GBV perpetrators have not been willing in using the VAPP Law in their prosecution such that only six cases have been prosecuted using the VAPP Law. Three out of the six occurred in Enugu State.
4	Publicize government efforts to reform GBV laws and policies.	Partially Implemented	The committee on GBV led by the wife of the governor carries sensitization outreaches on GBV.
Access to Legal Justice			
5	Sensitize the public on the importance of formal justice pathways for GBV.	Not Implemented	The public have not been sensitized on formal justice pathways for GBV.
6	Create knowledge resources on accessing legal justice and publicize their availability.	Not Implemented	
7	Improve safety for witnesses in GBV cases by having a robust witness protection program.	Not Implemented	There is no state level safety protection for witnesses in GBV cases.
8	Increase awareness about specialized GBV police and designated judges.	Not Implemented	There is no specialized GBV police and designated judges.
Support Services			
9	Create awareness about available support services, including the existence and location of the SARCs.	Not Implemented	
10	Increase number and capacity of shelters and SARCs to at least one SARC and shelter per LGA.	Not Implemented	

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER 2023 Policy Recommendations Enugu State			
12	Build capacity of informal support systems.	Not Implemented	Poorly developed capacity among the informal support systems, and funding issues
Information and Awareness			
13	Improve awareness of GBV informational programs.	Partially Implemented	GBV informational programs mostly celebrated during international days;
14	Increase dissemination of GBV informational materials.	Partially Implemented	Dissemination of GBV information materials is usually activity driven. For example on World activism day.
15	Develop inclusive and accessible GBV awareness content.	Partially Implemented	Low capacity in developing inclusive GBV awareness content. GBV awareness content are not inclusive of PWDs and are developed by CSOs.
16	Mainstream comprehensive sex education in schools.	Partially Implemented	The CSOs lead school GBV awareness campaigns. Relevant ministries and agencies yet to adopt a harmonised comprehensive sex education agenda in schools





WomaniTY
INDEX
2024 Edition

invictus
AFRICA

www.invictusafrica.org