

Jigawa State

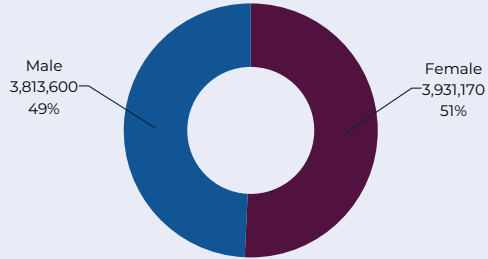
Womaniy
INDEX
2024 Edition

invictus
AFRICA

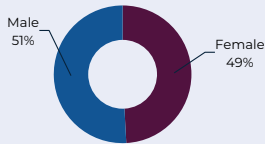




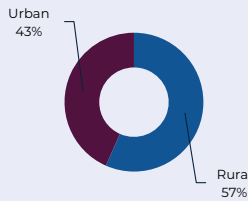
Total Population
7,744,770



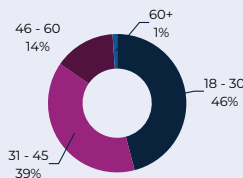
Respondents: 468



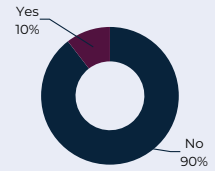
Location



Age Group



Disability Status



GBV Context



No. of GBV cases **108**



No. of active Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC)s **1**



No. of active shelters **N/A**



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

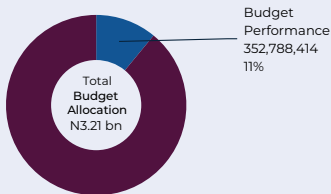


Index Grades

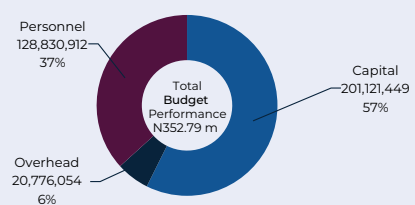
- Laws and Policies ●
- Access to Legal Justice ●
- Support Services ●
- Information and Awareness ●
- Budget and Spending ●

Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

Budget Performance (2023)

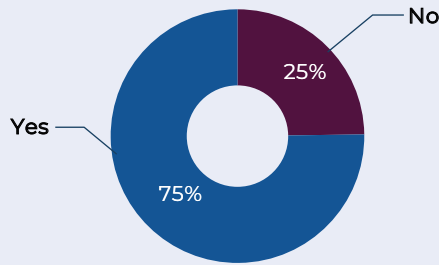


Budget Expenditure (2023)



Per Capita Spending **N45.6**

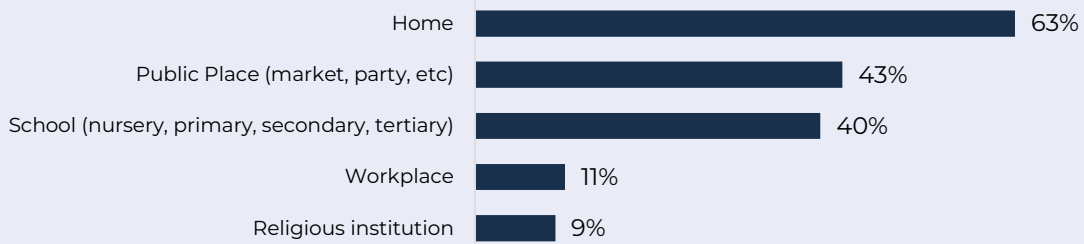
Have you or anyone you know experienced any form of gender-based violence (GBV) in the last five years?



What form of GBV did you or the person experience?



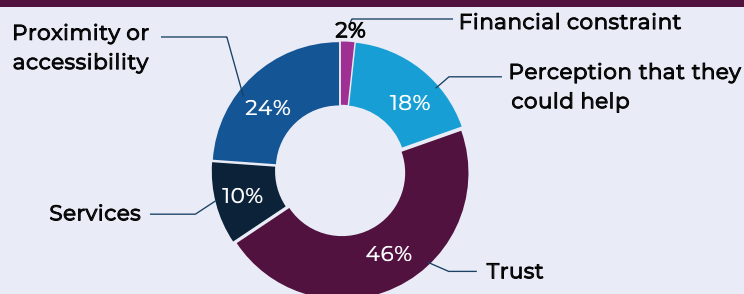
Where did you or the person experience the GBV?



Where did you or the person first seek help?

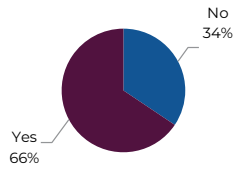


Why did you or the person choose where to seek help?

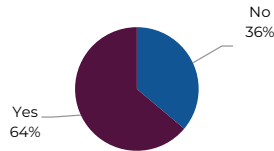


Laws and Policies

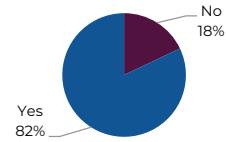
Are you aware of existing laws and/or policies that address gender-based violence (GBV) in the state?



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

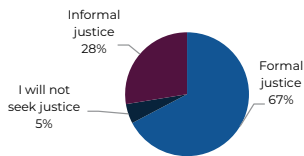


Do you know of anyone who has been convicted for GBV-related offenses?

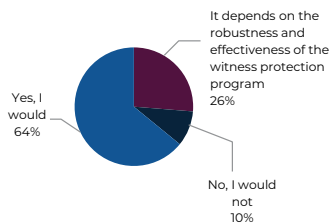


Access to Legal Justice

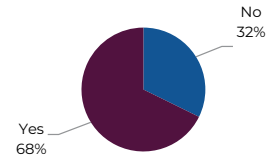
Where would you seek justice if you, or anyone you know, experience GBV?



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

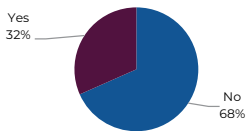


Are you aware of legal assistance and services provided by the State to GBV victims/survivors?

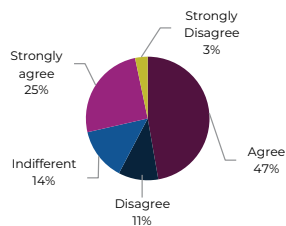


Support Services

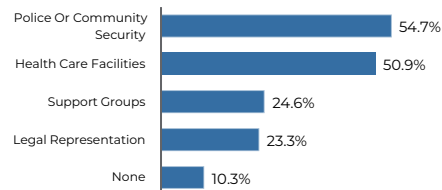
Do you know of, or have you visited, any active shelters and/or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) for GBV victims/survivors in the state?



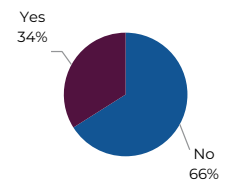
Do you believe that these shelters and/or SARCs are effectively functional, adequately equipped, properly maintained, and sustainable over time?



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

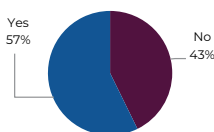


Do you think informal support systems such as family, friends, religious centres, community groups, etc., are helpful to GBV victims/survivors?

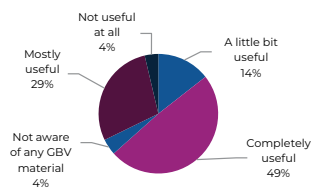


Information and Awareness

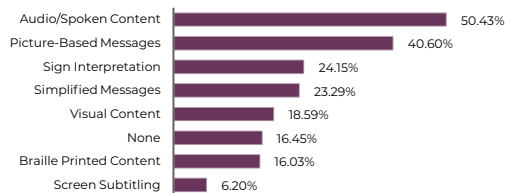
Do you know of any GBV information and/or education programs or materials in the state?



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

Jigawa State addresses GBV through the VAPP Law, 2021; Penal Code, Child Rights Protection Law, 2022; Administration of Criminal Justice Law, 2019; Social Protection Law; and religious frameworks like the Shariah Penal Code and HISBAH guidelines. Awareness of these laws is significant, with 65% of respondents informed, though gaps in dissemination hinder broader understanding. Key legal gaps include overly broad definitions in the VAPP Law, such as equating minor acts with rape, and complicating prosecution. The Penal Code permits consent at 14, conflicting with constitutional protections. Inconsistencies between laws, such as conflicting bail provisions for rape cases, also weaken enforcement. Stakeholders advocate for regular reforms, with recent efforts focused on reviewing the VAPP Law. In 2023, 108 GBV cases were handled by the Ministry of Justice, 27 convictions were secured, 291 cases were reported at Sexual Assault Referral Centers, and 120 were recorded by police, with 100 in court. Customary and religious laws, deemed effective by 81% of respondents, often complement formal frameworks.

Access to Legal Justice

GBV cases are reported through diverse channels, including the police, NSCDC, Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARC), the Ministry of Women Affairs, traditional rulers, religious institutions like HISBAH, and CSOs. Women Development Officers in all 27 LGAs aid victims in accessing reporting systems. The prosecution process involves initial reporting at outposts, escalation to divisional and state CID levels for investigations, and medical examinations at SARCs. The Commissioner of Police and DPP review case files before proceeding to trial at the High Court. However, systemic delays and financial constraints hinder adherence to VAPP Act timeframes. State counsel, the Legal Aid Council, FIDA, NGOs, and CSOs offer free legal aid. However, inadequate witness protection makes many reluctant to testify. Traditional justice systems, including HISBAH and the “Zauren Sulhu” mechanism, address domestic violence and mediate disputes, referring severe cases to formal systems. These are considered effective by 77% of respondents. Specialized Gender and Family Support Units in the police and NSCDC, led by senior female officers, further strengthen GBV response. 67% of respondents prefer formal institutions, though informal systems also play a significant role.

Support Services

Jigawa State lacks formal active shelters for GBV victims. However, in some instances, local NGOs and CSOs offer informal temporary shelters during case examinations and prosecutions. The state has one functional Sexual Assault Referral Center (SARC), which provides medical examination services, counseling services, and referrals to specialized hospitals when necessary. The SARC aids prosecution by conducting medical tests to confirm penetration and lab analyses for evidence, which are crucial for legal proceedings. GBV cases are reported to community leaders, religious leaders, CBOs, NGOs, CSOs, police, civil defence, and the Ministry of Women Affairs. Referrals may flow from traditional or religious institutions to the police or civil defence; from the Ministry of Women Affairs to the police; from the CSOs to the Ministry of Women Affairs; or from the police to the SARC for examination and then to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution. Only 31.8% of respondents view informal systems, such as family or religious centres, as effective compared to formal support mechanisms. Most (68.20%) prefer structured support from SARCs and formal institutions.

Information and Awareness

Institutions, including CSOs, NGOs, and FBOs, employ IEC materials like banners, fliers, T-shirts, and radio/TV programs to raise GBV awareness. The Ministry of Women Affairs partners with the Ministry of Information and other stakeholders to periodically organize sensitization programs, including radio phone-in shows. One prominent activity is the 16 Days of Activism, held bi-annually, featuring rallies, awareness campaigns, radio and TV programs, lectures, workshops, advocacy visits, and entertainment. During these events, IEC materials are distributed to the general public and specific groups, such as girls and persons with disabilities. Survey results indicate that 59% of respondents know such programs and materials. CSOs have established the Jigawa Child-Women Rights Advocates forum to educate the public

on GBV dangers. However, GBV or sex education is not explicitly taught in secondary or tertiary curricula, although aspects are integrated into Civic Education. The state prioritizes inclusivity by involving persons with disabilities (PWDs) in planning and implementing GBV campaigns and ensuring these programs are accessible to them.

Budget and Spending

The 2023 budgetary performance for the Jigawa State Ministry of Women Affairs highlights significant challenges in fund utilization and allocation for gender-based violence (GBV) initiatives. Out of a ₦3.21 billion budget, only 11% (₦352.79 million) was spent, leaving 89% of funds unspent. Personnel expenditure accounted for 36.5% of actual spending (₦128.83 million), while overheads comprised 5.9% (₦20.78 million). Capital expenditure dominated the budget utilization at 57% (₦201.12 million), reflecting a focus on infrastructure. Per capita spending for Jigawa's population of 7.14 million was a mere ₦45.60, underscoring the limited impact of these allocations on addressing GBV and advancing women's welfare. The low expenditure levels highlight the need for improved budgetary implementation, prioritization of GBV programs, and enhanced accountability to ensure effective resource use in the future.



Human Angle Story






The reporting system in the state is highly effective, largely due to the active involvement of CSOs. A notable case of rape demonstrates this effectiveness in Kazaure involving the Chairman of a certain political party in Yankwashi LGA. Although politicians initially attempted to suppress the case at the community level, CSOs swiftly mobilized to escalate the matter to the High Court. As a result, the chairman was detained in a correctional facility, and the case remains ongoing. However, not all cases receive similar outcomes. Victims often face challenges in accessing legal justice, including exploitation by private lawyers. One case involved a victim of rape who was exploited by a lawyer who offered free legal aid. Having promised her that he would help her pursue justice, he started to exploit her trust by making inappropriate advances. This incident highlights the need for safeguards to protect victims from secondary victimization.

Jigawa State

Indicators	Key Findings	Recommendations
Laws and Policies 	Limited sensitization and awareness about the VAPP law remain a challenge in the state.	The government should collaborate with NGOs, CSOs, and community leaders to launch media campaigns, distribute simplified versions of the law in local languages, and organize community outreach programs in rural areas to educate the public on their rights.
	The VAPP law's classification of minor offenses as rape complicates case investigation and prosecution.	The VAPP law should be comprehensively reviewed to address ambiguities and gaps, with a multi-stakeholder technical committee established to ensure a thorough and inclusive process
	Conflicting provisions between the VAPP law, the constitution, and the penal code hinder effective implementation.	
	Customary and religious laws and practices contribute to the perpetuation of gender-based violence.	Religious and customary laws and practices should be reviewed to eliminate those that promote GBV.
	Existing GBV laws and policies lack adequate implementation frameworks.	The government should allocate sufficient funds to enforce GBV laws and policies, establish guidelines through the Ministry of Justice for appointing specialized judges to handle GBV cases and amend the VAPP law to impose stricter penalties on individuals who obstruct legal proceedings.
Access to Legal Justice 	Lack of administrative and logistical support funds hampers case supervision and follow-up by relevant institutions.	Adequate funding should be allocated to provide administrative and logistical support, including transportation and resources, to enhance case supervision and follow-up by relevant institutions.
	Bureaucratic hurdles and an overburdened court system lead to significant delays in prosecuting and adjudicating GBV cases.	Establishing specialized GBV courts or appointing dedicated GBV judges while implementing strict measures to prevent interference should improve the legal justice system.
	Limited awareness of witness roles and the availability of state-sponsored and pro-bono legal aid services discourages witnesses and prevents victims from seeking justice.	The government should enhance grassroots awareness campaigns on existing laws and available legal aid services.
	Traditional and religious leaders lack proper training in modern conflict resolution techniques, affecting their ability to address GBV effectively.	Government should partner with NGOs and CSOs to train religious and traditional leaders in GBV prevention and response.
Support Services 	Insufficient GBV support facilities. The state's only SARC faces challenges, including inadequate facilities, limited office space, staff shortages, and insufficient funding.	The state should collaborate with development partners to rehabilitate the existing SARCs and set up shelters and more advanced SARCs with fully functional forensic laboratories staffed with experts and supported by adequate funding and resources.
	Comprehensive training and sensitization of all GBV response service providers on modern approaches to addressing GBV are needed.	The government should organize regular capacity-building programs on GBV response to equip service providers and response teams with modern approaches to preventing and effectively addressing GBV.
	Lack of a dedicated mechanism to coordinate, fund, and implement comprehensive GBV initiatives across the state, resulting in fragmented efforts and inefficiencies in addressing GBV issues.	The government should establish a dedicated unit within the Ministry of Women Affairs to coordinate GBV-related issues in the state. This unit should be well-funded, empowered, and structured to facilitate the organization, coordination, funding, and implementation of GBV initiatives statewide.

Indicators	Key Findings	Recommendations
<p>Information and Awareness</p> 	<p>Insufficient funding hampers the sustainability of key sensitization programs, such as weekly radio broadcasts.</p> <p>Cultural and religious barriers impede the introduction of GBV and sex education in secondary schools.</p>	<p>The government should allocate dedicated funds to the Ministry for Women Affairs for sensitization programs sensitive to PWD and explore partnerships with NGOs and media for additional support.</p> <p>The government should engage traditional and religious leaders to support GBV and sex education in secondary schools, introducing pilot programs that respect local values.</p>
<p>Budget and Spending</p> 	<p>The budget performance of the Ministry of Women Affairs was extremely low at 11%</p> <p>N45.6 per capita spent by Ministry of Woman Affairs per capita is grossly insufficient</p>	<p>The government should prioritize full and timely budgetary disbursement to the Ministry</p> <p>The government should increase the allocation and disbursement to the Ministry to enable it to provide the right infrastructure and services sufficient for the population.</p>

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER
2023 Policy Recommendations
Jigawa State

S/No.	Recommendations	Implementation Status	Remarks
Laws and Policies			
1	The VAPP Law should be updated to make provision for the establishment of a State SARC.	Partially Implemented	The state has one SARC already established and fully functioning, though every inadequate. However, budgetary provision was made to establish four more SARCs across the state
2		Partially Implemented	Certain provision was made in the budget but it is grossly inadequate
3		Not Implemented	
4		Not Implemented	The VAPP Law was domesticated 2021 and put into use. However, no effort on ground to translate the provision into local language for dissemination into rural and peri-urban areas.
Access to Legal Justice			
5		Partially Implemented	This has been in practice in the state, as state-owned radio station has given free airtime for program on GBV awareness creation.
6		Partially Implemented	This is very limited to only some city centers and major towns and schools
7		Not Implemented	This is not implemented as the state has neither established specialized GBV courts nor Judges dedicated to GBV cases.
Support Services			
8		Not Implemented	This not addressed in the state, though budgetary provision was made to establish four additional SARCs
9		Partially Implemented	Some few trainings organized by the Ministry of Women Affairs were conducted but with very limited coverage and participants
Information and Awareness			
10	Government to make annual budgetary allocations for the implementation of comprehensive GBV awareness campaigns and programs that are sensitive to PwD in the state.	Not Implemented	No special vote allocated to GBV awareness campaigns aimed at targeting the PwDs in the state. B

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER
2023 Policy Recommendations
Jigawa State

11



Government to partner with NGOs and CSOs to enlighten religious leaders, traditional leaders, and community leaders on the importance of endorsing the campaign to prevent GBV in the state.

Partially Implemented

A network of key stakeholders for awareness creation was formed by the Ministry of Women Affairs which encompasses members from traditional and religious institutions, CSOs and NGOs



Womaniity
INDEX
2024 Edition | **invictus**
AFRICA

www.invictusafrica.org