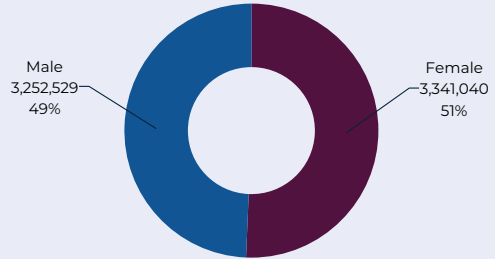


Ogun State

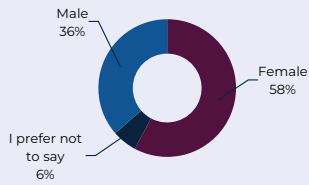




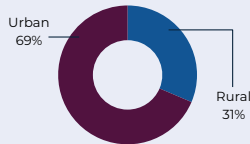
Total Population
6,593,569



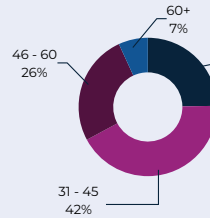
Respondents: 481



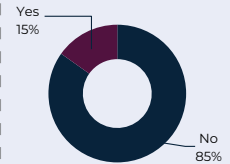
Location



Age Group



Disability Status



GBV Context



No. of GBV cases **32**



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



No. of active shelters **5**



No. of Family Support Units (FSUs) **2**



Index Grades

Laws and Policies ●

Access to Legal Justice ●

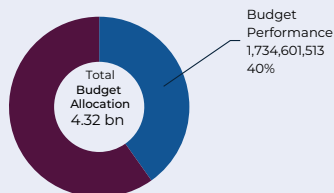
Support Services ●

Information and Awareness ●

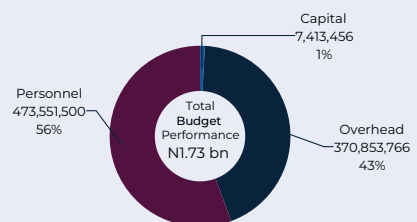
Budget and Spending ●

Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

Budget Performance (2023)

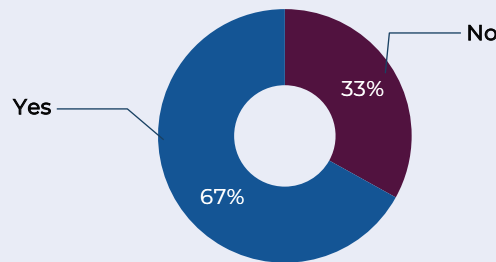


Budget Expenditure (2023)



Per Capita Spending **N263.1**

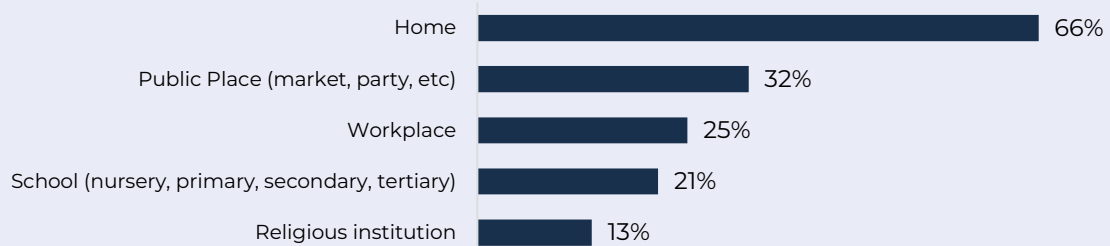
Have you or anyone you know experienced any form of gender-based violence (GBV) in the last five years?



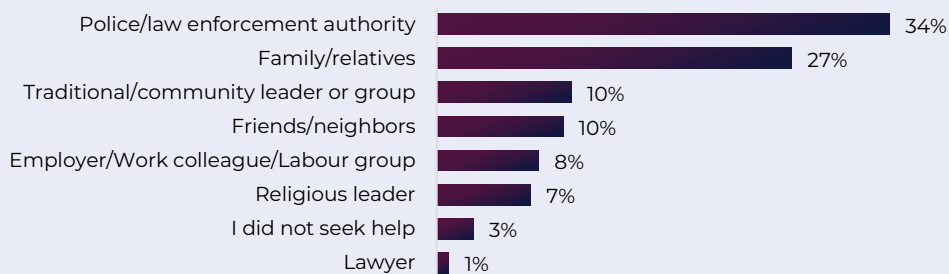
What form of GBV did you or the person experience?



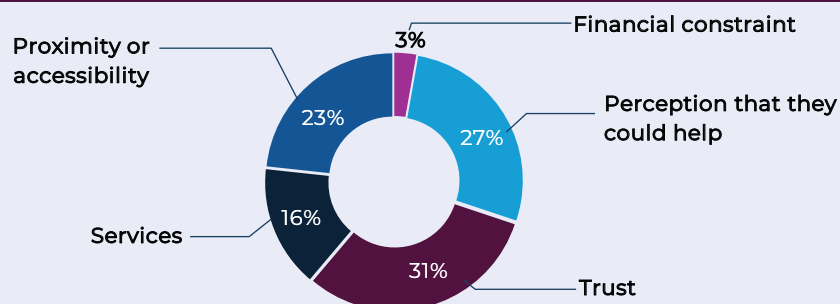
Where did you or the person experience the GBV?



Where did you or the person first seek help?

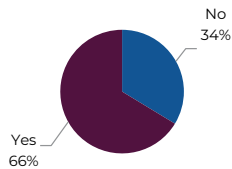


Why did you or the person choose where to seek help?

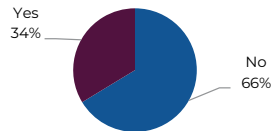


Laws and Policies

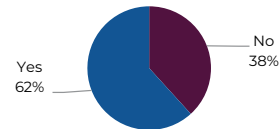
Are you aware of existing laws and/or policies that address gender-based violence (GBV) in the state?



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

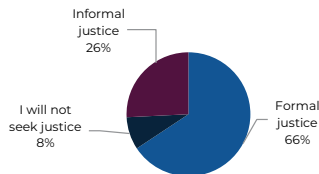


Do you know of anyone who has been convicted for GBV-related offenses?

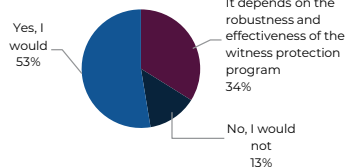


Access to Legal Justice

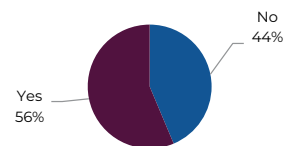
Where would you seek justice if you, or anyone you know, experience GBV?



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

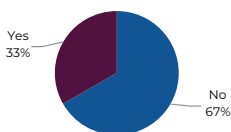


Are you aware of legal assistance and services provided by the State to GBV victims/survivors?

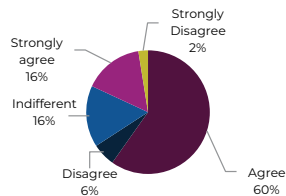


Support Services

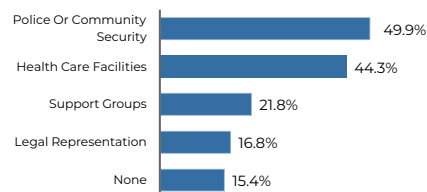
Do you know of, or have you visited, any active shelters and/or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) for GBV victims/survivors in the state?



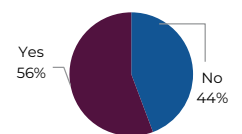
Do you believe that these shelters and/or SARCs are effectively functional, adequately equipped, properly maintained, and sustainable over time?



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

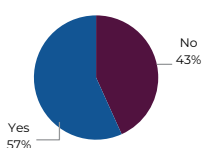


Do you think informal support systems such as family, friends, religious centres, community groups, etc., are helpful to GBV victims/survivors?

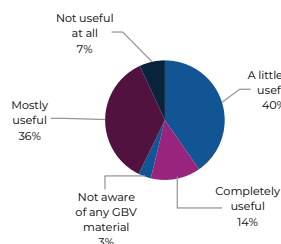


Information and Awareness

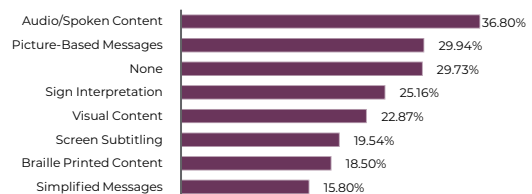
Do you know of any GBV information and/or education programs or materials in the state?



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

Ministries of Women Affairs, Justice, Health, and Education: Ogun State has implemented several key laws and policies, such as Child Rights Law (2007, Amended 2015) for child protection, Criminal Code Law (2006, Amended 2011), Administration of Criminal Justice Law (2017), and Violence Against Person Prohibition (VAPP) Law (2017), protecting vulnerable groups against all forms of violence, Persons with Disabilities Law (2017) establishes protections against discrimination. No efforts have been made to review or update the law to address evolving gaps identified by both civil society organizations and government stakeholders. Despite these frameworks, their usage in prosecuting GBV-related cases remains limited. Only 32 GBV cases were reported last year, with just 6 proceeding to court and none resulting in prosecution. These statistics reflect challenges in enforcement and access to justice. A positive 66% of respondents were aware of state laws addressing GBV. However, 35.71% were unaware, indicating room for improved public education on GBV-related policies. During the 2023 16 Days of Activism, Ogun state advocated directly to the governor to leverage social capital in mobilizing resources for the GBV Trust Fund to support the VAPP Law. However, implementation remains limited, with only CSOs like WARDC, JDPC Ijebu-Ode, and CEWHIN securing international funding through proposals to partially advance the law's objectives.

Access to Legal Justice

Ogun State has a structured GBV reporting, prosecution, and enforcement system that operates through four main referral pathways: Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARCs), law enforcement agencies, health facilities, and GBV Service providers (NGOs registered in the State). These pathways ensure a coordinated response to GBV cases and prioritize victims' support. SARCs, now located across four zones in Ogun State, serve as one-stop centers where victims are encouraged to initiate their journey through the referral system. Legal assistance is available through initiatives like the Public Interest Law Partnership and Police Duty Solicitor Scheme, which provide free legal services to indigent residents. However, the state lacks a formal witness protection program, although NGOs such as JDPC Ijebu-Ode and WARDC offer temporary safety measures. Specialized Family Support Units (FSUs) and GBV desks at police divisions provide targeted assistance to victims. While 66% of survey respondents stated they would seek formal justice, barriers such as prolonged court processes, stigma, and lack of trust in the system persist. The establishment of specialized courts for the prosecution of GBV cases has not yet been implemented, despite advocacy efforts to the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice. Additionally, informal justice mechanisms, though accessible, lack standardization and legal enforcement, limiting their effectiveness. Ogun State's justice system requires strengthened funding, capacity building, and survivor-centered approaches.

Support Services

The state has five active shelters comprising four government-owned facilities one operated by a non-governmental organization and two functional Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARCs), Although only 33% of the studied population are aware of the existence or have visited these facilities. The government Sexual Assault Referral Centers has a temporary accommodation that can admit 20 clients at a time. They are strategically located in the four zones of the state: Abeokuta, Ijebu-Ode, Ota, and Sagamu. These initiatives have been supported by the World Bank's OGSTEP Project and UNFPA. More efforts to provide support services in the state are reflected in the 2023 budget with a commitment of N57.05mn for the rehabilitation of 1 No. of Juvenile Correctional Home building Asero as Assault Referral Centre (Gender unit). The GBV reporting and referral pathways in the state include five key components: the Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARC)/MoWA, Secondary Health Facilities, Family Support Units (FSUs)/ MoJ, local Police Stations/ Civil Defence, and Registered Service providers (NGOs). Victims are encouraged to begin their journey at the SARC, which offers a one-stop service for documenting evidence and accessing support. FSUs and police stations facilitate immediate assistance and protection for victims, while Health institutions provide essential medical care and treatment

Information and Awareness

Ogun State actively uses information, education, and communication (IEC) materials to raise GBV awareness, including posters, radio jingles, and TV programs. The Ministry of Women Affairs produces and distributes these materials widely across communities, focusing on prevention, rights awareness, and available support services. However, more efforts are required to ensure more awareness for citizens, as only 56% of respondents have come across an IEC material or awareness program. School-based initiatives under the OGSTEP World Bank Project have introduced GBV education in public schools. Additionally, CSOs like WOPEGEE and JDPC, IPAS, WOPEGEE support these efforts by disseminating simplified VAPP Law content and conducting sensitization campaigns. These combined efforts aim to improve public understanding and engagement in GBV prevention and response.

In Ogun State, comprehensive sex education is included in the curriculum for secondary schools and tertiary institutions, covering topics such as sexual health, consent, and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention. This initiative, supported by the Ministry of Education, aims to equip students with the knowledge to make informed decisions, respect boundaries, and understand the consequences of risky behaviors. Partner organizations and NGOs collaborate with schools to provide resources and workshops, reinforcing these lessons. Ogun State's GBV awareness programs and IEC materials incorporate some inclusive elements for persons with disabilities, including audio content, Braille, and sign interpretation. These adaptations, aimed at enhancing accessibility, are primarily distributed through partnerships with CSOs and specialized organizations. Despite these efforts, gaps remain, as not all disability needs—especially in rural areas—are consistently addressed. Visual aids and simplified messages help improve accessibility, but expanded resources and wider distribution are needed to fully ensure inclusivity across all disability groups.

Budget and Spending

In 2023, Ogun State allocated N4.32 billion to the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, with actual spending amounting to N1.34 billion. A significant share of this expenditure (N473.55 million) was directed towards personnel costs, while overheads accounted for N370.85 million. Capital expenditure, which is crucial for infrastructure like shelters and SARCs, received a minimal allocation of N7.41 million. Additionally, the per capita spending was N263.10, and N57.05 million was invested in the rehabilitation of a juvenile correctional home building in Asero, serving as an assault referral center (Gender unit). To improve budget efficiency and effectiveness, Ogun State should focus on enhancing the utilization of allocated funds. Increasing capital expenditure for essential infrastructure will ensure better support for vulnerable populations. Furthermore, bolstering investments in GBV prevention and support initiatives will enhance the services available to those affected.

Human Angle Story



Aminat, a 29-year-old woman living with disability, has endured unimaginable horrors and a system that struggles to give her justice. Crippled from birth, Aminat lives alone in an unfinished building on Ayetoro Road in Abeokuta. Her life changed forever one evening at around 7 p.m. when a man attacked her, taking advantage of her vulnerable state. He not only raped her but also attempted to mutilate her, trying to harvest parts of her body in a brutal assault. Her piercing cries echoed through the night until passersby heard her and came to her rescue just in time.

The attacker was arrested, and Aminat thought justice would come quickly, but her ordeal was far from over. Since the arrest, the court hearings have been adjourned five times. Each adjournment has forced her to revisit the trauma, recounting the events over and over as if the crime were happening all over again. Each time she tells her story, the familiar knot of fear, humiliation, and frustration grows. Her attacker, meanwhile, remains in the system, awaiting a conviction that seems further away with each delay. The court's excuses range from needing more evidence to issues with witness scheduling, dragging the case out over months with no end in sight. For Aminat, this process feels like a punishment, as though the system itself




questions her truth and humanity. Every adjournment leaves her feeling unheard, wondering if anyone cares enough to bring her justice.


Aminat's story highlights why Ogun State urgently needs a specialized court for gender-based violence cases. A dedicated court could prioritize victims like Aminat, providing a safe space where they won't have to relive their trauma repeatedly. Specialized courts would streamline evidence collection and prosecution, ensuring justice is served swiftly and compassionately. Aminat's case stands as a painful reminder that when justice is delayed, it's not just a case that's left in limbo—it's a life, a person who deserves closure and healing.


Ogun State

Indexes	Key Findings	Recommendations
Laws and Policies 	Although Ogun State has adopted the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Law and established referral pathways for GBV victims, enforcement and awareness of these laws remain weak.	Fully implement the VAPP Law and other GBV-related laws, ensuring adequate enforcement. Increase penalties for GBV offenses to enhance deterrence.
	Many citizens are unaware of their legal rights or the existence of free legal services, such as the Public Interest Law Partnership	Conduct state-wide awareness campaigns to educate the public about GBV laws, referral pathways, and free legal services.
	Law enforcement agencies like the police and civil defense often fail to submit monthly reports to the Ministry of Women Affairs (MoWA), affecting monitoring and evaluation efforts.	Create a centralized reporting mechanism for MoWA to collect data from CSOs, FBOs, and other demand-side actors.
Access to Legal Justice 	Victims face delays due to repeated court adjournments, lack of any witness protection in the state, and high logistics costs, causing many to abandon cases midway	Reduce court delays by establishing GBV-specialized courts, provide consistent witness protection, and compensate victims for early recovery.
	Lack of GBV-dedicated judges and courts, resulting in prolonged litigation cases.	Expedite efforts for the establishment of specialized courts for the prosecution of GBV cases.
	Inadequacy in the legal aid service offered as well as inadequate provision of a robust witness protection program	Funding should be prioritized for the recruitment and capacity building of more lawyers as well as make provisions for a suitable robust witness protection program for victims and witnesses
Support Services 	Two SARC centers are still very small for the growing population in Ogun State, especially satellite towns like Mowe, Ibafo, Sango, Ota, Ogunmakin. Resource constraints hinder free medical care, shelter, and counseling services, especially in rural and suburban areas where services are sparse or inaccessible.	Increase funding for SARCs/shelters, free medical care, and counseling, and expand service availability in rural areas through mobile support units. Earmarked funding for service providers.
	Low awareness of the existing support services in the state	Expand the reach of IEC materials on the available support services in the state, particularly in rural areas, by increasing funding and partnering with local organizations.
	Inadequate staff capacity to provide holistic services for victims	Intensive capacity building and training be conducted for staff frequently and proper onboarding to new staff to ensure that their knowledge and skill in dealing with victims are top-notch.
Information and Awareness 	Awareness programs often lack inclusivity for persons with disabilities and are unevenly distributed, leaving rural and suburban communities. minimal GBV education and resources	Enhance disability-inclusive awareness programs and expand outreach in rural and suburban areas.
	There is minimal GBV education and resources in Schools in the state.	Integrate GBV education into schools and community centers for broader impact.
	Existence of GBV/ sex education in school curriculums.	Ensuring a sex education guide or GBV manual is made available.
Budget and Spending	Insufficient budget allocation and spending to GBV prevention and response efforts in the state.	Increase allocation and release to GBV prevention and response activities, including having specific budget lines to address GBV in relevant Ministry's budgets.

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER
2023 Policy Recommendations
Ogun State

S/No.	Recommendations	Implementation Status	Remarks
Laws and Policies			
1	Increased engagements to secure more funding allocation for the implementation of these laws, as well as collaboration with NGOs and international organizations to mobilize resources.	Partially Implemented	During the 2023 16 Days of Activism, we advocated directly to the governor to leverage social capital in mobilizing resources for the GBV Trust Fund to support the VAPP Law. However, implementation remains limited, with only CSO like WARDC, JDPC Ijebu-Ode, CEWHIN securing international funding through proposals to partially advance the law's objectives.
2	 Advocate for funding of training programs as well as collaborate with academic institutions, CSOs, and training centres to provide capacity strengthening for relevant duty bearers - government personnel.	Partially Implemented	There has been significant progress through ongoing capacity-building initiatives from and The World Bank OGSTEP project, along with various CSOs in the state, has been actively engaging stakeholders, across Ogun State. Although these efforts indicate partial implementation, continued coordination and funding from these sources are critical to achieving the full impact of the program.
3	Implement comprehensive awareness campaigns to educate the public about existing GBV laws and policies.	Partially Implemented	While a number of CSOs have made significant strides in raising awareness, particularly in tertiary institutions, secondary schools, and rural communities prone to GBV incidents, these efforts have been ongoing. However, while progress has been made, the comprehensive public education campaign remains partially implemented and requires further expansion across all targeted areas.
Access to Legal Justice			
4	Establish clear timelines for the prosecution of GBV cases as well as streamline the legal process to reduce delays.	Not Implemented	The establishment of specialized courts for the prosecution of GBV cases has not yet been implemented, despite advocacy efforts to the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice.
5	 Provide adequate funding and training for these specialized units to improve their capacity, resultantly, their effectiveness.	Not Implemented	The judicial system in the state includes regular training and capacity building as part of its work plan and budget, but there is insufficient funding to effectively support these initiatives. As a result, while training is planned, the lack of adequate funding hinders the capacity and effectiveness of specialized units.
6	Provide training for judges and legal professionals on handling GBV cases and then create positions and offices for these trained personnel to serve in that capacity.	Not Implemented	Training for judges and legal professionals on handling GBV cases, along with are not in place. However, establishing specialized court will be part of the framework to strengthen capacity across board.
Support Services			
7	 Advocate for increased funding to enhance the capacity of the SARCS and shelters to serve the population of Ogun State.	Partially Implemented	in 2023, Ogun state had only one SARC center, but through successful advocacy by civil society and support from the World Bank OGSTEP project, this has increased to four centers, These four refurbished shelters now each have at least 20 beds and are strategically spread across the zones in Ogun state, significantly enhancing their capacity to serve the population.

WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER 2023 Policy Recommendations Ogun State				
8		Enhance advocacy efforts to secure improved and adequate funding for state actors to effectively serve in this capacity.	Partially Implemented	Advocacy efforts to the governor and first lady have pushed for establishing a GBV Trust Fund, enabling stakeholders and service providers to strengthen prevention and response efforts in Ogun State.
9		Encourage partnerships between government agencies, NGOs, and healthcare institutions to establish and strengthen more robust referral systems to ensure victims have access to quality services.	Partially Implemented	In October 2024, the Ministry of Women's Affairs, with support from an international partner and the World Bank, held a validation meeting to strengthen Ogun State's referral pathways. Key inputs were provided, and documents were validated; the next step is to distribute the finalized policy to all stakeholders for effective implementation.

Information and Awareness				
10		Explore various channels, including social media, to disseminate GBV Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials.	Fully Implemented	The Ministry of Women Affairs, has significantly expanded GBV information dissemination over the past year, with inclusive materials for people with disabilities and two hotlines supported by UNFPA. NGOs like WOPEGEE, JDPC, WARDC, and CEHWIN have also contributed to IEC efforts, creating a robust awareness network across Ogun State.
11		Collaborate with influencers and online platforms to reach a wider audience.	Fully Implemented	For International Day of the Girl Child, 16 Days of Activism, and International Women's Day, the First Lady has engaged influencers like Olympic athlete Tobi Amusan, Singer and songwriter Teniola Apata, and Nollywood star Aishat Lawal to amplify GBV awareness in Ogun State.
12		Collaborate with organizations specializing in accessibility to ensure inclusivity for PwDs, particularly the visually impaired.	Fully Implemented	Partnerships with accessibility organizations like CEHWIN and WOPEGEE have enhanced inclusivity for people with disabilities, including tailored resources for the visually impaired, ensuring broader access to GBV support and information.
13		Also, translate and produce IEC materials in local languages to cater to the linguistic diversity of the population.	Partially Implemented	Significant progress has been made in translating IEC materials into Yoruba, Egun, and English, led by organizations like IPAS, JDPC, WARDC, and WOPEGEE, with distribution across all 20 local governments to reach diverse communities.



Womaniity
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