



DJIBOUTI

**Scorecard on
Gender-based violence**

Population

846,687



Urban population

77.3%

of total population

21.54%

Percentage of population aged 15-24 years

Employment rate



40%

Overall employment
rate

Maternal mortality rate

229 PER
100,000

live births

Fertility rate

2.35

children per woman

Prevalence of child marriage among women 15 - 49 years old

2%

Married by 15 years old

5%

Married by 18 years old

Prevalence of female genital mutilation/ cutting (FGM/C)

Prevalence of FGM/C among women 15 to 49 years old

78.4%

By age:

18.9%

among girls aged 0-5 yrs

79.6%

among girls aged 10-19 yrs

97.6%

among women aged 40-49 yrs

A difference in the FGM/C prevalence exists according to the regions. The highest prevalence is in Obock

94,7% of women having undergone FGM/C



Gender based violence response

- A GBV protocol including FGM response was developed with the support of UNFPA.
- A referral system is being created with the support of UNFPA.
- FGM/C is criminalized by the Penal Code (1995) with a sentence of five years imprisonment and a fine of one million DJF. The law also establishes up to one-year imprisonment and a fine of up to 100,000 DJF for anyone failing to report a case of completed or planned FGM/C to the authorities.
- Different cases related to women's rights violations, like sexual violence, are often regulated by traditional justice methods, through payments of indemnities to the survivor's family, without asking the survivor's consent.
- The article 7 of the Family Code states that the marriage is not valid without the consent of both, the husband and wife. Nevertheless, **the girl's legal guardian can give the consent to the marriage on her behalf.**
- The article 13 of the Family Code establishes the minimum age of marriage at 18 years. Nevertheless, the article 14 states that **"the marriage below 18 is subject to the consent of the husband and wife's legal guardians".**
- The article 31 of the Family Code states that **the man is the head of the family and his wife must respect him and obey his requests, in the interest of the family.**

UNFPA programmes

Advocacy:

UNFPA is working with the first lady to operationalize the response to gender-based violence including female genital mutilation (FGM) through the creation of a national

coalition, as part of an institutional and inter-sectoral response mechanism.

Technical support to national partners:

UNFPA provides support to Ministry of Women, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Muslim Affairs, judicial authorities (officers of the judicial police - police and gendarmerie, magistrates, lawyers,

the Supreme Court) and the National Union of Djiboutian Women (UNFD) to provide quality services to the survivors of violence, including survivors from FGM.

Services:

UNFPA supported the creation of a case management center for survivors of violence.

The centre has addressed more than 8,000 cases of GBV.



