Scorecard on Gender-based violence
Population

846,687

Urban population 77.3% of total population

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

Percentage of population aged 15-24 years
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

97.6% among women aged 40-49 yrs

79.6% among girls aged 10-19 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.