

## Population

**12,316,895**



**Female population**  
**6,072,130**



**Male population**  
**6,244,765**



## Representation in politics

**38** Female

**237** Male

## Literacy rate

**40%**  
Literacy rate

**36.2%**  
Female

**43.8%**  
Male

## Employment rate

**38.1%**  
Overall employment rate

**27.3%**  
Female

**48.8%**  
Male



# SOMALIA

## Scorecard on Gender-based violence

## Maternal mortality rate

**732** PER **1,000** live births

## Total fertility rate

**6.7** children per woman

## Prevalence of female genital mutilation (FGM)

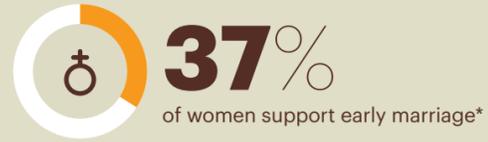
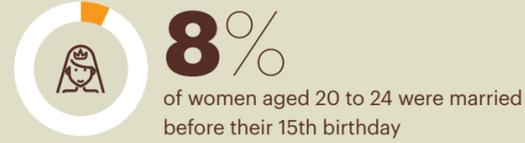
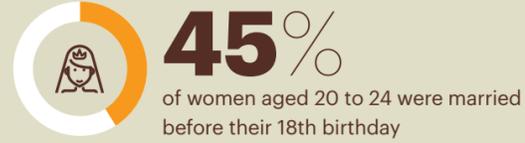
**98%** of women belonging to 15 to 49 years of age.

Article 15 of the Provisional 2012 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia states "Female circumcision is a cruel and degrading customary practice, and is tantamount to torture. The circumcision of girls is prohibited." Somalia's *National Gender Policy (2013)* includes

strategies to eradicate harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C and child marriage and to improve services for the management of GBV cases. Puntland has a zero tolerance FGM policy.



## Prevalence of child marriage



\* Somalia GBV survey 2016, conducted by UNFPA, UNICEF, World Bank and John Hopkins University

The Family Code sets the minimum age for marriage at 18 for males and females. However, females between the ages of 16 and 18 can marry with their guardian's

consent. If the guardian refuses consent, a judge may grant permission for girls to marry without the guardian's consent in exceptional circumstances.

## GBV laws

Somalia has signed but not ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).

Most domestic violence and sexual violence cases are dealt with through the customary and Sharia legal systems. Domestic violence is usually addressed within the family according to custom and tradition. The customary system emphasizes consensus, compromise and reduction of social shame. It is administered exclusively by men and relies on the strength of clans for its enforcement.

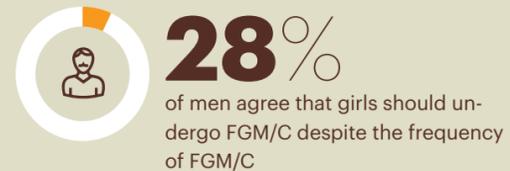
According to Sharia and the local traditions of blood compensation, anyone found guilty of the death of a woman pays to the victim's family only half the amount required for a man's death.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women has noted that some survivors of rape are forced to marry their perpetrators, which is a remedial practice in Somalia's customary justice system.

Somalia has not ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).



## Existing data of GBV\*\*



\*\* Somalia GBV survey 2016, conducted by UNFPA, UNICEF, World Bank and John Hopkins University

### With respect to intimate partner violence

Men report the following experience of violence since the age of 15 years:

- **34%** of women currently or previously in a marriage/intimate relationship reported at least one form of controlling behavior by a husband or male partner.
- **25%** reported experiencing emotional abuse by their husband or male partner.
- **28%** reported physical violence by their husband or male partner.
- **25%** reported sexual violence by their husband or male partner.
- **15%** percent reported violence by a husband or male partner during at least one pregnancy.
- Over **29%** of men have experienced non-partner physical violence since the age of 15 with **1.44%** reporting being raped.
- **1.4%** reported non-partner rape/forced sex.
- **2.3%** reported exchanging sex for food, clothing, money or other item of value.
- Overall, **31%** of the male sample experienced some form of violence since the age of 15 years.

## Existing UNFPA programmes against GBV

### Advocacy/policy dialogue:

UNFPA is advocating for the ratification of the CEDAW.

### Technical support to national partners:

- UNFPA and UNDP support the Ministry of Security to implement a community police initiative, deploying six female community police to handle cases of GBV. These female police are trained to work sensitively with survivors, recording and reporting incidents of violence, providing initial psychological support, and offering referrals for clinical management and legal redress.
- UNFPA, UNDP, civil society organizations (CSO) support the gender related ministries and Ministry of Justice across the country to enact the Sexual Offences Bills.
- UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF, and in partnership with the Clinical Management of Rape Task Force, the Reproductive Health Working Group, Ministries of Health, Justice and Women from South Central, Puntland and Somaliland supported the development of a comprehensive Clinical Management of Rape Protocol.
- UNFPA supported the Federal Government of Somalia in drafting the FGM Bill and the FGM Policy.

### Services:

- **2,608** women, **555** girls, **83** boys and **63** men received the dignity kits.
- **30** units of stand-alone poles of solar lights were installed in the internally displaced person (IDP) settlements to mitigate further risks of GBV cases and enhance the protection of displaced people.
- **4,459** women survivors of GBV benefited of UNFPA services in 2015.
- **47,979** People were reached by UNFPA GBV awareness campaigns in 2015.

## UNFPA will work on:

- Policy and legislative reforms to ensure accountability on gender and GBV.
- Quality and comprehensive service provision.
- Social norm and behavior change.
- UNFPA will continue to play a leading coordination role for GBV prevention and response in Somalia.
- Capacity and system strengthening.