



Belém do Pará Convention
Inter-American Regional Information System on Violence against Women
Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round
MESECVI

IV Round of Multilateral Evaluation MESECVI

1. Country name

Saint Kitts and Nevis

2. Name of the institution presenting the information:

Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs

3. Name of the authority responsible for the preparation of the country response:

Department of Gender Affairs

4. Name of the office or instance in charge of the preparation of the country response:

Department of Gender Affairs



Demographic Data

Year : 2024		
Ages (years)	Population of women	Population of men
0-19	7.916	8.041
20-34	5.572	5.775
35-49	6.172	6.626
50-64	5.194	5.191
>65	3.682	3.682



Death data

Year : 2023		
Ages (years)	Population of women	Population of men
0-19	0	0
20-34	0	0
35-49	0	6.626
50-64	5.194	0
>65	0	0
Year : 2024		
Ages (years)	Population of women	Population of men
0-19	11	10
20-34	5	19
35-49	14	0
50-64	0	64
>65	140	160



Birth Data

Year : 2023	
Population of women	Population of men
0	0
Year : 2024	
Population of women	Population of men
249	256



OAS | MESECVI

Legislation



OAS | MESECVI

Legislation - Structure

Indicator statement

Existence of spaces, mechanisms and tools with recognition and legal status for inter-institutional coordination between public entities and civil society organizations in function of the promotion and protection of the right to a life free of violence for women.

Year

2024

Space name

DSVCR Protocol

Name of the supervising entity

Department of Gender Affairs (MoSDGA) & Multi-sectoral partners (special victims unit, health sector and social services for medical care and psychosocial support, legal aid advice centre)

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Domestic & Sexual Violence Complaints & Response Protocol

Date of sanction/regulation

2018-03-26

Start date of operation

2018-11-28

Description of competencies

Establishes referral pathways among police (SVU), DoGA, Health, Social Services, Legal Aid & CSOs Sets quality of care standards and first response procedures. Outlines roles & reporting requirements

Budget in dollars

16028889

Sources

1.

<https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2018/11/30/launch-of-complaint-and-response-protocol-a-game-changer-in-dealing-with-sexual-and-domestic-violence-crimes/>

2. <https://mof.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2024-ESTIMATES-VOLUME-1-final.pdf>

3. <https://www.mof.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2024-ESTIMATES-VOLUME-II-WEBSITE-GOV.pdf>

2.

Year

2024



OAS | MESECVI

Space name

Women's Shelter

Name of the supervising entity

Garden of Rebirth

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Memorandum of Understanding

Date of sanction/regulation

2023-03-08

Start date of operation

2023-03-08

Description of competencies

- referral of survivors to emergency shelter that houses women and children victimized by abuse - empowerment training -funding for training to combat gender-based violence

Budget in dollars

0

Sources

<https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2023/03/09/government-signs-mou-with-garden-of-rebirth-to-enhance-assistance-to-victims-of-gender-based-violence/#:~:text=Basseterre%2C%20St.%20Kitts%2C%20March%2009%2C%202023%20%28SKNIS%29%3A%20Services,Kitts%20and%20Nevis%20and%20the%20Garden%20of%20Rebirth.>

Indicator statement

Incorporation of the concept of gender-based violence in accordance with the definition of the Convention, into the violence legislation, both in the public and private spheres

Year of indicator report

2019

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act, No.9 of 2014

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Date of sanction/regulation

2019-11-10

Concept of violence in the private sphere

Beyond the private scope, the Act also recognizes that domestic violence can extend into public spaces, making it essential to provide protection beyond the home. While the specific articles addressing this aspect are not explicitly detailed in the available sources, the Act ensures that protection orders can prohibit abusers from approaching or contacting victims at their workplaces, educational institutions, or other public places. It further criminalizes harassment, stalking, and intimidation in any location, reinforcing that domestic violence is not only a private issue but also a public concern. The enforcement of protection orders in public settings ensures that survivors are safeguarded from continued abuse, no matter where they go. The law prohibits rape but it does not specifically address spousal rape. There is anecdotal evidence of this problem which is often under-reported. The subject is a controversial and cultural argument; and there is not broad public support for legislation so public education and awareness is necessary. Section 2 - "domestic violence" means any controlling or abusive behavior that harms the health, safety or well-being of a person or any child and includes but is not limited to the following: (a) physical abuse or threats of physical abuse or threats of physical abuse; (b) sexual abuse or threats of sexual abuse; (c) emotional, verbal or psychological abuse; (d) economic abuse; intimidation; (f) harassment; (g) stalking; (h) damage to or destruction of property; or (i) entry into the applicant's residence without consent, where the parties do not share the same residence. Section 2- The Act is amended in section 2 titled "Interpretation" (c) by replacing the definition of economic abuse" as follows -- "economic abuse" includes -- (a) the avoidance of financial obligation owed to the applicant and child or dependent of the respondent, including mortgage or rental obligations; or (b) situation where, without the consent of the applicant, the respondent exercises full access and control over the financial resources of the applicant in a manner that is not in the best interest of the applicant."

Concept of violence in the public sphere

The Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act, No. 9 of 2014 of Saint Kitts and Nevis provides a legal framework for addressing domestic violence within both private and public spheres. The Act defines domestic violence as various forms of abuse occurring within domestic relationships, ensuring that individuals are protected from physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, and economic harm. In the private scope, the Act recognizes physical abuse as any act or omission that causes injury or instills a reasonable fear of harm. Sexual abuse is defined as coerced sexual contact within a domestic setting, while emotional or psychological abuse refers to patterns of intimidation, threats, or harassment aimed at undermining a persons mental well-being. Additionally, economic abuse is included to address financial control and dependency, ensuring that victims are not subjected to undue financial hardship. In section 2 "economic abuse means the avoidance of financial obligations owed to the applicant and child or a dependent of the respondent, including mortgage or rental obligations."

Sources

1. <https://lawcommission.gov.kn/laws/>

2.

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2019/ACTs/Act-22-of-2014-Domestic-Violence-Act.pdf>

Year of indicator report

2024

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Domestic Violence (Amendment Act), 2022

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Date of sanction/regulation

2022-12-02

Concept of violence in the private sphere

There has been an amendment to Section 2(c) to expand the definition of economic abuse as follows: by replacing the definition of economic abuse: economic abuse? includes? (a) the avoidance of financial obligations owed to the applicant and child or dependent of the respondent, including mortgage or rental obligations; or (b) situations where, without the consent of the applicant, the respondent exercises full access and control over the financial resources of the applicant in a manner that is not in the best interest of the applicant.?



OAS | MESECVI

Concept of violence in the public sphere

There has been an amendment to Section 2(c) to expand the definition of economic abuse as follows: by replacing the definition of economic abuse: economic abuse? includes? (a) the avoidance of financial obligations owed to the applicant and child or dependent of the respondent, including mortgage or rental obligations; or (b) situations where, without the consent of the applicant, the respondent exercises full access and control over the financial resources of the applicant in a manner that is not in the best interest of the applicant.?

Sources

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2022/ACTs/Act-7-of-2022-Domestic-Violence-Amendment-Act-2022.pdf>



Indicator statement

Legislation that criminalizes Femicide/Feminicide in both the public and private spheres; the violent death of women, whether it was incorporated as an autonomous crime or as an aggravating circumstance of homicide due to the circumstances of the crime or the relationship with the aggressor.

Year of indicator report

2018

Name of the norm and/or regulation

n/a

Date of sanction/regulation

0001-01-01

Scope of coverage

No information

Article number and text. Conceptualization of femicide/femicide

International bodies have recommended that Saint Kitts and Nevis amend its Criminal Code to include specific provisions on femicide. For instance, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) has urged the country to incorporate such provisions to enhance legal protections against gender-based killings. As of now, the legal framework in Saint Kitts and Nevis does not recognize femicide as a distinct crime, relying instead on general homicide laws to prosecute such offenses.

Is femicide/femicide considered an autonomous crime or an aggravated homicide?

No information

Sources

1. <https://unlirec.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Caribbean-Legal-Study-on-Gender-SALW-Sept.-2020.pdf#:~:text=Saint%20Kitts%20and%20Nevis%20has%20not%20yet,viole%20to%20a%20>

2. <https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

3.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/10/un-womens-rights-committee-publishes-findings-armenia-belgium-finland-gambia>



Indicator statement

Assistance protocols for justice officials, police, police stations, service providers, healthcare service providers, educators, public officials in relation to the different forms of violence.

Year of indicator report

2018

Name of the institutions

Royal St.Kitts and Nevis Police Force, Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs

Protocol name

Domestic and Sexual Violence Complaints and Response Protocol

Publication date

2018-11-28

purpose of the protocol

to standardize procedures for reporting, investigating, and responding to domestic and sexual violence complaints, ensuring victim protection and legal accountability; and to define national procedures for law enforcement, judiciary, healthcare, and social service agencies in handling domestic violence cases, ensuring a survivor-centered approach and legal accountability.

Type of violence

Psychological, Sexual,
Physical, Patrimonial,
Economic, Intrafamilial

scope of operation

All of the above

Sources

<https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2018/11/30/launch-of-complaint-and-response-protocol-a-game-changer-in-dealing-with-sexual-and-domestic-violence-crimes/>

<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

Indicator statement

Existence of assistance protocols for the implementation of the different assistance and support services for women victims or survivors of violence in: -shelters, -legal advice services, -psychological support (individual, group, family), telephone support, - health care, -job training guidance, -training in human rights

Year of indicator report

2018

Name of the institutions

Department of Gender Affairs (St.Kitts and Nevis)

protocol name

Domestic and Sexual Violence Complaints and Response protocol (DVSVCr)

Publication date

2018-11-28

service area

purpose of the protocol

Establish clear and coordinated procedures among service providers to ensure a timely, sensitive, and effective response to incidents of domestic and sexual violence. The policy educates key stakeholders in the healthcare, education, childcare, social support, legal and criminal justice system sectors and provides guidelines for training on the appropriate procedures to follow when a crime of this nature materialize. The Department of Gender Affairs (St. Kitts) manages a dedicated on-call cell phone (1 869 765 5492) which members of the public can call at any time to receive advice or assistance in domestic violence matters. A Case Manager provides victims with advocacy and support throughout each case, including referral to relevant agencies for additional support as appropriate, e.g. counselling, social assistance, legal aid etc.

Type of violence

Political, Online, Intrafamilial, Institutional, Psychological, Sexual, Labor, Physical, Symbolic, Patrimonial, Economic, Obstetric

Sources

<https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2018/11/30/launch-of-complaint-and-response-protocol-a-game-changer-in-dealing-with-sexual-and-domestic-violence-crimes/>

<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

Indicator statement

Specific legislation that includes the legal interruption of pregnancy for therapeutic, eugenic reasons or for rape and/or incest, or the decriminalization of abortion, including administrative resolutions, health care and/or sexual violence protocols.

Year of indicator report

2018

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Infant Life (Preservation) Act, 1929 (incorporated into the Offences Against the Person Act, 1873)

Date of sanction/regulation

1937-12-08

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Number and text of article

In St. Kitts and Nevis abortion is primarily governed by the Offences Against the Person Act and the Infant Life (Preservation) Act, both of which are based on British legislation. Abortion is legally permitted only when the woman's life is at risk due to the pregnancy. Specifically, the Infant Life (Preservation) Act allows for abortion at any stage of pregnancy if performed "in good faith for the purpose only of preserving the life of the mother." However, the law does not provide exceptions for cases of rape, incest, or fetal abnormalities. There are no known administrative resolutions, healthcare protocols, or sexual violence guidelines in St. Kitts and Nevis that decriminalize abortion or expand its legal grounds beyond the preservation of the mother's life. Consequently, abortions performed for therapeutic, eugenic reasons, or in cases of rape or incest remain illegal.

Causes for legal termination of pregnancy

Therapeutics

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act02and09TOC/Ch-09_11-Infant-Life-Preservation-Act.pdf ; <https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/country/saint-kitts-and-nevis/>

Indicator statement

Special legislation that considers the differentiated impact or aggravates the crimes of violence committed against women girls and adolescents; adults and seniors; from ethnic diversity; rural; with disabilities; pregnant; of low socioeconomic status; with diverse sexual orientations; for their gender identity; with migrant status or victims of armed conflicts, refugees or displaced; deprived of their liberty.

Year of indicator report

2018

Name of the regulation and/or regulation

"Section 3 Defilement of girl under fourteen years of age - (1) Any person who unlawfully and carnally knows any girl under the age of fourteen years commits an indictable offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for life. (2) Any person who attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of any girl under the age of fourteen years commits an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, with or without hard labour: Provided that in the case of an offender whose age does not exceed sixteen years, the Court may, instead of sentencing him to any term of imprisonment, order him to be whipped as prescribed by the Corporal Punishment Act, Cap. 3.09. (Amended by Acts 36 of 1976 and 10 of 1998). (3) Where, upon the hearing of a charge under this section, the girl in respect of whom the offence is charged to have been committed, or any other child of tender years who is tendered as a witness does not, in the opinion of the Court or Magistrate, understand the nature of an oath, the evidence of such girl or other child of tender years may be received, though not given upon oath, if, in the opinion of the Court or Magistrate, as the case may be, such girl or other child of tender years is possessed of sufficient intelligence to justify the reception of the evidence, and understands the duty of speaking the truth: Provided that no person shall be liable to be convicted of the offence, unless the testimony admitted by virtue of this section and given on behalf of the prosecution shall be corroborated by some other material evidence in support thereof implicating the accused: Provided, also, that any witness whose evidence has been admitted under this section shall be liable to indictment and punishment for perjury in all respects as if he or she had been sworn (Amended by Acts 36 of 1976 and 10 of 1998).

Section 4 Defilement of girl between fourteen and sixteen years of age - Any person who? (a) unlawfully and carnally knows, or attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of, any girl being of, or above the age of fourteen years and under the age of sixteen years; or (b) unlawfully and carnally knows, or attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of, any female idiot or imbecile woman or girl, under circumstances which do not amount to rape, but which prove that the offender knew, at the time of the commission of the offence, that the woman or girl was an idiot or imbecile, commits an offence, and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for life: Provided that it shall be a sufficient defence to any charge under paragraph (a) of this section, if it shall be made to appear to the Court or jury, before whom the charge shall be brought, that the person so charged had reasonable cause to believe that the girl was of or

above the age of sixteen years (Amended by Acts 36 of 1976, 10 of 1998 and 8 of 2008). Section 5 Householder etc., permitting defilement of young girl on his or her premises - Any person who, being the owner or occupier of any premises, or having, or acting or assisting in, the management or control of the premises, induces or knowingly suffers any girl of such age as is in this section mentioned to resort to, or be in or upon, such premises for the purpose of being unlawfully and carnally known by any man, whether such carnal knowledge is intended to be with any particular man or generally? (a) if such girl is under fourteen years, commits an offence, and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, with or without hard labour; and (b) if such girl is of or above the age of fourteen and under sixteen years, commits an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, with or without hard labour (Amended by Acts 36 of 1976 and 10 of 1998).

Section 6 Abduction of girl under sixteen with intent to have carnal knowledge - Any person who, with intent that any unmarried girl under the age of sixteen years should be unlawfully and carnally known by any man, whether such carnal knowledge is intended to be with any particular man or generally, takes, or causes to be taken, such girl out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, commits an offence, and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment, for a term not exceeding ten years, with or without hard labour: Provided that it shall be a sufficient defence to any charge under this section, if it shall be made to appear to the Court or jury that the person so charged had reasonable cause to believe that the girl was of or above the age of sixteen years (Amended by Act 10 of 1998). Section 7 Cohabitation with unmarried girl under sixteen - (1) Any male person who cohabits with an unmarried girl under sixteen years commits an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years. (2) For the purposes of this section, a belief, even though reasonable, that the girl is over sixteen years shall afford no defence to a charge under this section (Inserted by Act 36 of 1976; amended by Act 10 of 1998).

Section 8 Undue control over unmarried girl under fourteen years - Any male person of the age of eighteen or over? (a) who is habitually in the company of an unmarried girl under the age of fourteen against the will of her father, mother or any other person having the lawful care or charge of her; or (b) who exercises control, direction or influence over the movements of a girl under the age of fourteen in such a way as to show that, he is aiding, abetting or compelling her, against the will of her father, mother or other person having the lawful care or charge of her to resort to premises of which he is the owner or occupier, or to premises whose management or control he has, or acts in, or assists in, commits an offence and shall be liable, on summary conviction, before a magistrate, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months (Inserted by Act 36 of 1976).

Section 9 Unlawful detention with intent to have carnal knowledge - (1) Any person who detains any woman or girl against her will? (a) in or upon any premises with intent that she may be unlawfully and carnally known by any man, whether any particular man or generally; or (b) in any brothel; commits an offence shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years, with or without hard labour. (Amended by Act 10 of 1998) (2) Where a woman or girl is in or upon any premises for the purpose of having any unlawful carnal connection, or is in any brothel, a person shall be deemed to detain such woman or girl in or upon such premises, or in such brothel, if, with intent to compel or induce her to remain in or upon such premises or in such brothel, such person withhold from such woman or girl any wearing apparel or other property belonging to her, or, where wearing apparel has been lent or otherwise

supplied to such woman or girl by or by the direction of such person, such person threatens such woman or girl with legal proceedings if she takes away with her the wearing apparel so lent or supplied. (3) No legal proceedings, whether civil or criminal, shall be taken against the woman or girl for taking away or being found in possession of the wearing apparel as was necessary to enable her to leave such premises or brothel.

Section 10 Power, or indictment for rape to convict for certain misdemeanours - If, upon the trial of any indictment for rape, or any offence made a felony by section 3, the jury is satisfied that the defendant is guilty of an offence under sections 2, 3 or 4, or of an indecent assault, but are not satisfied that the defendant is guilty of the felony charged in such indictment, or of an attempt to commit the same, then and in every such case the jury may acquit the defendant of the felony, and find him guilty of such offence as aforesaid, or of an indecent assault, and on conviction, the defendant shall be liable to be punished in the same manner as if he had been convicted upon an indictment for such offence as aforesaid, or for the misdemeanour of indecent assault.

Section 11 Power of search - (1) If it appears to any Magistrate, on information made before him on oath by any parent, relative, or guardian of any woman or girl, or any other person who, in the opinion of the Magistrate, is bona fide acting in the interest of any woman or girl, that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the woman or girl is unlawfully detained for immoral purposes by any person in any place within the jurisdiction of the Magistrate, the Magistrate may issue a warrant authorising any person named therein to search for, and, when found, to take to and detain in a place of safety such woman or girl until she can be brought before a Magistrate; and the Magistrate before whom the woman or girl is brought may cause her to be delivered up to her parents or guardians, or otherwise dealt with as circumstances may permit and require. (2) The Magistrate issuing the warrant may, by the same or any other warrant, cause any person accused of unlawfully detaining the woman or girl to be apprehended and brought before a Magistrate, and proceedings to be taken for punishing such person according to law. (3) A woman or girl shall be deemed to be unlawfully detained for immoral purposes if she is so detained for the purpose of being unlawfully and carnally known by any man, whether any particular man or generally, and? (a) either is under the age of fourteen years; or (b) if of or over the age of fourteen years, and under the age of sixteen years, is so detained against her will, or against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her; or (c) if of or above the age of sixteen years, is so detained against her will. (4) Any person authorised by warrant under this section to search for any woman or girl so detained as aforesaid may enter (if need be, by force) any house, building, or other place specified in such warrant, and may remove such woman or girl therefrom: Provided that every warrant issued under this section shall be addressed to and executed by some officer of the police force, who shall be accompanied by the parent, relative, or guardian, or other person making the information, if such person so desire, unless the Magistrate shall otherwise direct.

Section 12 Custody of girls under sixteen - Where, on the trial of any offence under this Act, it is proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the seduction or prostitution of a girl under the age of sixteen has been caused, encouraged, or favoured by her father, mother, guardian, master, or mistress, it shall be in the power of the Court to divest such father, mother, guardian, master, or mistress of all authority over her, and to appoint any person or persons willing to take charge of such girl to be her guardian, until she has attained the age of eighteen, or any age below this as the Court may direct, and the Court shall have the power from time to time to rescind or vary such order by the appointment of any other person or

persons as such guardian, or in any other respect. Section 14 Connection by personating husband to be rape - Whereas doubts have been entertained whether a man who induces a married woman to permit him to have connection with her by personating her husband is or is not guilty of rape, it is hereby enacted and declared that every such offender shall be deemed to be guilty of rape"

Hierarchy in the legal system

Legal

Date of sanction/regulation

1887-03-05

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Population of women

Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents

Text and article number of the reported Legislation

Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1887 Rev. 2017

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-04_05-Criminal-Law-Amendment-Act.pdf

Year of indicator report

2018

Name of the regulation and/or regulation

The legislation, while focused on domestic violence, does not explicitly address all the differentiated impacts but does recognize the vulnerability of certain groups. It provides a broad definition of domestic violence and focuses on protecting women and children but could be applied to individuals in other vulnerable situations, such as those with disabilities, ethnic minorities, or those facing socioeconomic challenges. The Act also provides protection and specific legal remedies for these groups in a way that can be considered as addressing the differentiated impacts of domestic violence on them. The sections identified are the sections that would be relevant to each of the three groups, particularly in terms of vulnerable groups and the differentiated impacts they might face

Section 2 (Interpretations) - the Act addresses girls and adolescents under the term "child" where "child" means a person under the age of eighteen years who: (a) normally resides with the applicant or, whether or not the child is a applicant and the respondent or either of them; or (b) is an adopted child, a stepchild, or a child who is treated as a child of the family; or (c) is related by consanguinity or affinity to either the applicant or the respondent or (d) is in the care and protection of the applicant or the respondent; or (e) is a person of whom either the applicant or the respondent is a guardian; or (f) is or has been a member of a shared household; and (g) is not a person who is or has been married; "applicant" means a person who applies or on whose behalf an application is made for an order pursuant to section 5;

Section 5 (Person entitled for a protection order) - (1) a person referred to in subsection (2) may apply to the Court, in the form set out as I in Schedule II, for a protection order on the grounds that the respondent engaged in domestic violence. (2) An application for a protection order referred to in subsection (1), may be made by: (a) the

spouse of the respondent; (b) a member of a shared household, either on his or her own behalf or on behalf of any other member of the shared household; (c) a child; (d) a dependant; (e) a parent or sibling by consanguinity or affinity of either the spouse or respondent not being a member of the shared household; (f) a person who has a child in common with the respondent; and (g) a person who is or has been in a visiting relationship with a person of the opposite sex. (4) Pursuant to subsection (3) (a), a child or dependant may apply for a portection order through: (a) a person with whome the child or dependant ordinarily or periodically resided or resided with or is reliant upon for his or her welfare or any adult member of his or her household; (b) a parent or guardian or a person who is in loco parentis to the child; or (c) the Director of other person who has parental responsibility for the child.

Hierarchy in the legal system

Legal

Date of sanction/regulation

2019-11-22

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Population of women

Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents

Text and article number of the reported Legislation

Domestic Violence Act, 2014

Sources

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2019/ACTs/Act-22-of-2014-Domestic-Violence-Act.pdf>



Indicator statement

Existence of legislation that criminalizes violence against women based on gender: psychological; physical; sexual in its various forms; patrimonial; economic; institutional; in politics; symbolic, online, trafficking, forced prostitution; sexual harassment at work, education and health facilities, rape and sexual violence within marriage and civil unions, armed conflicts, other types of violence (specify) and others in violence legislation.

Year of indicator report

2019

Type of violence

Psychological, Sexual, Physical, Economic, Other types of violence, Domestic violence

Name of the regulation and/or regulation

Domestic Violence Act, 2014

Date of sanction/regulation

2019-11-22

Hierarchical rank

legislative act

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Number and text of article

"Section 2 - ?domestic violence? means any controlling or abusive behaviour that harms the health, safety or well-being of a person or any child and includes but is not limited to the following: (a) physical abuse or threats of physical abuse; (b) sexual abuse or threats of sexual abuse; (c) emotional, verbal or psychological abuse; (d) economic abuse; (e) intimidation; (f) harassment; (g) stalking; (h) damage to or destruction of property; or (i) entry into the applicant?s residence without consent, where the parties do not share the same residence"

Sources

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2019/ACTs/Act-22-of-2014-Domestic-Violence-Act.pdf>

Year of indicator report

2018

Type of violence

Sexual, Physical, Obstetric, Trafficking, Rape, Sexual abuse within marriage and common-law unions, Other types of violence

**Name of the regulation and/or regulation**

Offences Against the Person Act (Revised 2002)

Date of sanction/regulation

1873-04-10

Hierarchical rank

legislative act

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Number and text of article

PART VII ? RAPE, ABDUCTION, AND DEFILEMENT OF WOMEN⁴⁶. Rape. Any person who is convicted of the crime of rape, shall be guilty of a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to life imprisonment, with or without hard labour. [Amended by Act 10/1998]⁴⁸. Abduction of a woman against her will from motives of lucre. Where any woman of any age has any interest, whether legal or equitable, present or future, absolute, conditional, or contingent, in any real or personal estate, or is a presumptive heiress or co-heiress, or presumptive next-of-kin, to any one having such interest, any person who, from motives of lucre, takes away or detains any such woman against her will, with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married or carnally known by any other person, and any person who fraudulently allures, takes away, or detains such woman, being under twenty-one years, out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married or carnally known by any other person, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour; and any person who is convicted of any offence against this section shall be incapable of taking any estate or interest, legal or equitable, in any real or personal property of such woman, or in which she has any such interest, or which shall come to her as such heiress, co-heiress, or next-of-kin as aforesaid; and if any such marriage as aforesaid shall have taken place, such property shall, upon such conviction, be settled in such manner as a Judge shall appoint, upon any information at the suit of the Attorney-General⁴⁹. Forcible abduction of any woman with intent to marry her. Any person who, by force, takes away or detains against her will any woman of any age with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married, or carnally known by any other person, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding five years⁵⁰. Abduction of a girl under 16 years. Any person who unlawfully takes, or causes to be taken, any unmarried girl, being under sixteen years, out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, commits a misdemeanour, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour.



Sources

https://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2011/CIM03051-IV.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Year of indicator report

2024

Type of violence

Sexual, Physical, Other types of violence

Name of the regulation and/or regulation

Offences Against the Person Act, 1873 (Amended) 2024

Date of sanction/regulation

2024-06-20

Hierarchical rank

legislative act

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Number and text of article

"The Offences Against the Person Act, 1873 - makes provisions regarding offences against the person and related matters. It includes aggravated assaults on females, rape, abduction, defilement of women, attempts to procure abortion and concealing the birth of a child (Third Evaluation Round Follow-Up Phase of St. Kitts and Nevis Progress Report). The most recent Amendment, Act 7 of 2024, revised Section 13(a) concerning attempts to murder by specific means.

Section 41 Aggravated assaults on females, and boys under 14 years. - When any person is charged before a Magistrate with an assault or battery upon any male child, whose age shall not, in the opinion of the Magistrate, exceed fourteen years, or upon any female, either upon the complaint of the party aggrieved or otherwise, the Magistrate, if the assault or battery is of such an aggravated nature that it cannot, in his or her opinion, be sufficiently punished under the provisions hereinbefore contained as to common assaults and batteries, may proceed to hear and determine the same, and every such offender shall be liable, on summary conviction, to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for a period not exceeding six months, or to pay a fine, not exceeding (together with costs) the sum of five hundred dollars, and, if the Magistrate shall so think fit, in any of the said cases, shall be bound to keep the peace and be of good behaviour for a period not exceeding six months from the expiration of such sentence. (Amended by Acts 7 of 1976 and 9 of 1986)

Part VII Rape, Abduction, and Defilement of Women; Section 46 Rape - Any person who is convicted of the crime of rape, shall be guilty of a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to life imprisonment, with or without hard labour. (Amended by Act 10 of 1998) ; 47 (1) - Any person who is convicted of any indecent assault upon any female shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding ten years, with or without hard labour. (Amended by Act 10 of 1998) ; 47(2) - It shall be no defence to a charge on indictment for an indecent assault on any female under sixteen years to prove that

she consented to the act of indecency.

Section 48 Abduction

of a woman against her will from motives of lucre - Where any woman of any age has any interest, whether legal or equitable, present or future, absolute, conditional, or contingent, in any real or personal estate, or is a presumptive heiress or co-heiress, or presumptive next-of-kin, to any one having such interest, any person who, from motives of lucre, takes away or detains any such woman against her will, with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married or carnally known by any other person, and any person who fraudulently allures, takes away, or detains such woman, being under twenty-one years, out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married or carnally known by any other person, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour; and any person who is convicted of any offence against this section shall be incapable of taking any estate or interest, legal or equitable, in any real or personal property of such woman, or in which she has any such interest, or which shall come to her as such heiress, co-heiress, or next of-kin as aforesaid; and if any such marriage as aforesaid shall have taken place, such property shall, upon such conviction, be settled in such manner as a Judge shall appoint, upon any information at the suit of the Attorney-General. Section 49 Forcible abduction of any woman with intent to marry her - Any person who, by force, takes away or detains against her will any woman of any age with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married, or carnally known by any other person, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding five years.

Section 50 Abduction of a girl under 16 years - Any person who unlawfully takes, or causes to be taken, any unmarried girl, being under sixteen years, out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, commits a misdemeanour, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour.

Section 51 Child stealing - Any person who unlawfully, either by force or fraud, leads or takes away, or decoys or entices away or detains, any child under fourteen years, with intent to deprive any parent, guardian, or other person having the lawful care or charge of such child, of the possession of such child, or with intent to steal any article upon or about the person of such child, to which ever person such article may belong, and any person, with such intent, receives or harbours any such child, knowing the same to have been by force or fraud led, taken, decoyed, enticed away, or detained as in this section before mentioned, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three years, with or without hard labour, and if a male under sixteen years, with or without whipping: Provided that, no person who has claimed any right to the possession of such child, or is the mother, or has claimed to be the father, of child born out of wedlock, shall be liable to be prosecuted by virtue hereof on account of the getting possession of such child, or taking such child out of the possession of any person having the lawful charge thereof. (Amended by Act 19 of 1983) "

Sources

1.

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2024/ACTs/Act-7-2024-Offences-Against-the-Person-Amendment-Act.pdf>

2. https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-04_21-Offences-Against-the-Person-

Indicators without a Response

1.-Legislation that explicitly bans the use of conciliation, mediation, probation, application of the criteria of opportunity, commutation of sentence or other methods intended to extra-judicially resolve cases of violence against women

Legislation - Process

Indicator statement

Number of state offices, secretariats or agencies specializing in treating with violence against women.
Coverage by jurisdictions (national, state, provincial, local).

Year

2024

name of the organism

Department of Gender Affairs - Nevis

Type of public body

Office

Scope of coverage

State/Provincial

Description of competencies

The Nevis Department of Gender Affairs is the NIA's focal point for mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment across island policies and programmes. Its competence encompasses policy development and advice, programme design and implementation, advocacy and public education, partnerships and stakeholder coordination, data collection and research, and regulatory oversight to ensure gender considerations inform all sectors of the Nevis Island Administration.

Number of male participants working in the body

1

Effective date

2000-01-01

Number of women participating in the organization

4

Text corresponding to the reported Legislation

n/a

Budget in dollars for the reporting year

17888889

number of offices

1

Sources

On Nevis, gender affairs functions are carried out by a Department of Gender Affairs within the NIA's own Ministry of Health and Gender Affairs. While the federal Department dates to 1986, Nevis's standalone Department of Gender Affairs in the NIA appears to have been formally constituted around the early 2000s, when the NIA began mirroring federal social-services structures at the island level.

1. <https://www.facebook.com/GenderAffairsNevis/>

2. <https://www.sknvibes.com/news/newsdetails.cfm/123337>
3. https://nia.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Nevis-Island-Administration-Budget-Estimates-2024.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Year

2024

name of the organism

Department of Gender Affairs - St.Kitts

Type of public body

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Description of competencies

The Department of Gender Affairs is responsible for promoting gender equality, coordinating national initiatives to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV), and ensuring the rights of women and girls. It develops policies, organizes public awareness campaigns, and provides support services for survivors of gender-based violence.

Number of male participants working in the body

1

Effective date

2000-01-01

Number of women participating in the organization

5

Text corresponding to the reported Legislation

n/a

Budget in dollars for the reporting year

16000000

number of offices

1

Sources

1. <https://www.gov.kn/gender-affairs-department-about-us/>
2. <https://mof.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2024-ESTIMATES-VOLUME-II-WEBSITE-GOV.pdf>

Indicator statement

Existence of systematic education, training and awareness processes for public sector officials on the legal tools for sanctioning, protecting and promoting women's rights, particularly the right to a life free of violence. Exchange, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms of the training processes.

Year

2024

Name of the instance

The Royal St.Christopher & Nevis Police Force

Name of the process

Domestic Violence Protocol Training

Type of processes

Duties and Responsibilities of the Police Protocol Training and DV awareness Presentation

Number of women participating in the organization

0

Number of male participants working in the body

0

Follow-up mechanisms

After reviewing our island's initiatives, we confirm that none of the formal interchange mechanism types identified by MESECVI (inter-agency working groups, joint monitoring visits, annual training evaluations, or best-practice workshops) have yet been fully implemented. Instead, the Department of Gender Affairs has undertaken the following: Piloted pre- and post-training self-assessments (using standardized questionnaires) with 17 heads of the police force in May 2024 to gauge baseline knowledge and monitor initial gains.

Description of exchange mechanisms

After reviewing our island's initiatives, we confirm that none of the formal interchange mechanism types identified by MESECVI (inter-agency working groups, joint monitoring visits, annual training evaluations, or best-practice workshops) have yet been fully implemented. Instead, the Department of Gender Affairs has undertaken the following: Piloted pre- and post-training self-assessments (using standardized questionnaires) with 17 heads of the police force in May 2024 to gauge baseline knowledge and monitor initial gains.

Sources

The HR Department of the Police Force informed the Department that they do not have an up-to-date record of the ratio of men to women employed at the Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force. However, it was stated that the number is just over 400.

1. <https://sk.sagepub.com/ency/edvol/lawenforcement/chpt/saint-kitts-nevis>

2 <https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2022/08/16/upcoming-review-to-examine-gender-equity-in-the-police-force/>

Indicators without a Response

1.-Existence of administrative bodies to file complaints regarding violence against women in: educational institutions. public or private health centers,

Work environment, Matters of violence against women in the political sphere, on social networks and virtual media, in public or private social media

Legislation - Result

Indicators without a Response

- 1.-Monitoring reports on the knowledge, understanding and application of protocols and specific regulations on women's rights, as part of periodic evaluations to access incentives, or promotion within the public sector.
- 2.-Pregnancy, childbirth, interruptions and abortions rate in girls and adolescents (10-19 years of age) on a national level.
- 3.-Maternal Mortality rate in girls and adolescents from 10 to 19 years old on a national level.
- 4.-Number of registered marriages in which one or both contracting parties were under 18 years of age according to surveys or administrative records, disaggregated by sex.
- 5.-Violence rate based on surveys: number of girls and women who declare having been victims of any form of violence by age range (psychological, physical, sexual, patrimonial, economic and others), divided between the total amount of women in those same ages, multiplied for 100.000.
- 6.-General observations
- 7.-Proportion of underage girls (under 18 years of age) who have suffered sexual violence

National Plans

National Plans - Structure

Indicator statement

Number of facilities that provide care and psychological support before, during, and after the legal process

Year

2024

Name of the institutions

National Counselling Centre

Name of the service

individual counseling, clinical counseling intervention, employer assistance program (EAP), crisis management and response, trauma, virtual/online counseling (limited), family matters services and psychoeducational sessions (FREE)

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Number of men working in the service

2

Annual budget in dollars

16000000

Number of women working in the service

7

Funding source

Public

Sources

Regarding the National Counselling Centre, the publicly available budget documents do not provide a specific line-item allocation for this entity. The Centre operates under the Ministry's Counselling Unit, which offers a range of services including individual and family counseling, crisis intervention, and support for victims of domestic violence . However, the budget does not disaggregate funding to this level of detail.

1. <https://www.mof.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2024-ESTIMATES-VOLUME-1-final.pdf>

2. <https://www.gov.kn/counseling-unit/>

3. <https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2021/09/22/counselling-department-in-st-kitts-offers-a-wide-range-of-services-to-the-public/>

Indicator statement

Name of the National Plan/Policy/Action/Strategy for the prevention, assistance and eradication of violence against girls and adolescents, adult women and older adults in its various manifestations. Scope and characteristics

Year

2024

Name of the national plan

St. Kitts and Nevis National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (GEPAP) 2022-2027

Name of the institution

Department of Gender Affairs

Institutions involved

The Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force Cultural and Religious Organizations (these groups help in promoting gender equality within their communities) Community and Advocacy Groups (local NGOs are involved in implementing and monitoring the action plan) - St. Kitts and Nevis Alliance for Equality International Organizations (entities like UNESCO have supported the development and implementation of the policy). Healthcare Providers Educational Institutions

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Rural

Description of the national plan

The St. Kitts and Nevis National Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2027 is a comprehensive policy framework designed to achieve gender equality and empower all individuals, regardless of gender. It aligns with national laws and international treaties, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #5 (Gender Equality). This policy covers various domains such as education, health and well-being, economic growth, climate change and environment and the elimination of GBV. It aims to ensure fairness and equal treatment for all genders, addressing their specific needs and promoting inclusive development.

Sources

1.

<https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SKN-National-Gender-Equality-Action-Plan-2022-2027.pdf#:~:text=The%20Saint%20Kitts%20and%20Nevis%20Gender%20Equality%20Policy,its%20blueprint%20for%20achieving%20gender%20justice%20for%20all.>

2. <https://timescaribbeanonline.com/stakeholders-familiarized-with-national-gender-policy-action-plan/>

3. <https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2022/06/03/st-kitts-and-nevis-launches-national-gender-equality-policy-and-action-plan-2022-2027/>

Indicators without a Response

1.-Structural or temporary assistance measures for violence against women within the framework of measures to stop the spread of COVID-19

2.-Incorporation of the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence in the national plans of other sectors such as Security, Education, Health, Labor, Migration, and Refuge and Asylum Sectors

National Plans - Process

Indicator statement

Number of shelters, homes or other forms of housing care for women victims of violence

Year

2024

Affiliation institution

n/a

Shelter name

Shelter

Housing service name

Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth, Garden of Rebirth

Scope of coverage

National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women

Type of violence

Patrimonial, Patrimonial, Physical, Physical, Economic, Economic, Intrafamilial, Intrafamilial, Sexual, Sexual, Psychological, Psychological, Other types of violence, Other types of violence

Total number of people including women and family members

308

Sources

1. <https://www.gardenofrebirth.org/about.html>
2. <https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2023/03/09/government-signs-mou-with-garden-of-rebirth-to-enhance-assistance-to-victims-of-gender-based-violence/>
3. <https://cpdcngo.org/ngo-resource-hub/ngo-country-overview/garden-of-rebirth-st-kitts-nevis/>

Year

2024

Affiliation institution

n/a

Shelter name

Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter, Shelter

Housing service name

Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO), Church Home (NGO)

Scope of coverage

National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal,
National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal, National/Federal,
National/Federal, National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Indigenous Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Indigenous Women,
Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Indigenous Women, Girls and Adolescents, Adult Women, Indigenous Women

Type of violence

Physical, Physical, Physical, Domestic, Domestic, Domestic, Sexual, Sexual, Other types of violence, Other types of violence, Other types of violence

Total number of people including women and family members

60

Sources

The Department of Gender Affairs - St. Kitts Case Manager recorded a total number of five (5) women who were victims of physical abuse who stayed at a church home shelter. Only one of them had had a child (1).

Indicator statement

Existence of support networks at the local level (community, national, regional) for the emergency assistance and follow up of the violence against women problematic. ? Established mechanisms for inter-institutional communication and coordination. - Number and type of institutions (public, private, nature of the institutional activities) that make up the support network.

Year

2024

Name of the institutions

Department of Gender Affairs - St.Kitts

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Name of the network

Inter-Agency Referral System

Name of the public institution

National Counseling Centre
Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force
Legal Aid Services
Ministry of Health
(psychiatric unit, general hospital)

Name of the private institution

Local Churches

Name of civil society organizations in the support network for women victims of violence

Garden of Rebirth

Description of the service

advocacy, survivor support coordination, public education, case management

Budget allocation

43.7 million XCD

Names of institutions coordinating the support network

referrals

Sources

1. https://www.mof.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2024-ESTIMATES-VOLUME-II-final.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Year

2024

Name of the institutions

Social Services Nevis; Department of Gender Affairs - Nevis

Scope of coverage

State/Provincial

Name of the network

n/a

Name of the public institution

n/a

Name of the private institution

Emergency Shelters (names not publicly available)

Name of civil society organizations in the support network for women victims of violence

n/a

Description of the service

Provide counselling services to the General Public. Provide support services to troubled juveniles and families. Raise the level of awareness of gender related issues. Provide support services for persons experiencing crises arising from personal or natural disasters with the view to assisting them back to self-sufficiency. Welfare assistance to economically disadvantaged persons in society. Initiate projects/programs (long and short term) to foster the development of positive attitudes with respect to family, gender, youth and the aged community. Create and maintain services geared to improve the quality of life of the elderly. Provide support and cooperation to other Departments and Ministries whose activities/programs are complementary/supplementary to the effectiveness of the department. To assist youth groups with technical and other support for the achievement of their objectives. Develop appropriate programs and projects towards achieving the overall advancement of youth. Commemorate internationally recognized days which focus on youth, the elderly, gender and the family as a unit. Keep relevant and accurate statistics which would assist in evaluating the provision of existing services, serve as information for the General Public and inform the Government's plan for future social change and development. Research and inform on innovations in social services delivery and social work.

Budget allocation

48.7 million XCD

Names of institutions coordinating the support network

n/a

Sources

1. <https://nia.gov.kn/ministries/social-development/social-services/#about>
2. <https://wicnews.com/saint-kitts-nevis/nevis-moving-forward-budget-puts-citizens-first>
3. <https://nia.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Nevis-Island-Administration-Budget-Estimates-2024.pdf>

Indicator statement

Number of male and female officers disaggregated by sex who receive complaints of violence victims.

Year

2024

Name of the institution

Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Unit address

Department of Gender Affairs - St. Kitts

Number of women

3

Number of men

1

Sources

In the Department of Gender Affairs - St.Kitts, the Director of Gender Affairs, the Case Manager and the Women's Programming Gender Field Officer are all women and can receive complaints of violence victims. The information is managed or passed on to the Case Manager to follow up and conduct further background investigation in order to assist potential clients and victims of violence.

Year

2024

Name of the institution

Royal St.Christopher & Nevis Police Force

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Unit address

Special Victims Unit (SVU)

Number of women

7

Number of men

1

Sources

Head of the Special Victims Unit - Officer Consie Rogers

Indicators without a Response

1.-Number of users assisted in the various services for: girls and adolescents; adult women and older women victims of violence considering ethnic diversity; Afro-descendants, Euro Descendants; rural; with disabilities; with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, in the situation of migrant, refugee, displaced person, pregnant; in a vulnerable socioeconomic situation or affected by an armed conflict situation or deprived of their freedom.

National Plans - Result

Indicator statement

Number of public institutions with specific units regarding women created and in operation; with assigned budget and;with a running budget.

Year

2024

Name of the institutions

Ministry of Health & Gender Affairs

Name of the instance/hierarchy

Department of Gender Affairs - Nevis

Creation date

2000-01-01

Description of the object

The Department of Gender Affairs -Nevis is a public unit under the Ministry of Health and Gender Affairs within the Nevis Island Administration (NIA). It was created to address the unique gender-related needs of the islands population and serves as the primary institution responsible for gender policy implementation, advocacy, and program coordination on Nevis. The Department works to promote gender equality, empower women and girls, and reduce gender-based violence through public education, community engagement, and collaboration with stakeholders in both the public and private sectors. its functions align with the national priorities and regional frameworks for advancing women's rights and fostering inclusive development.

The Department is currently operational and receives an annual allocation through the NIA budget to support its programming and administrative activities. Serves the population of Nevis through programs, services, and policies tailored to the islands specific needs. it functions under the Nevis Island Administration, with autonomy in implementation while aligning with national gender goals. Scope level: island jurisdiction (within the federation)

Scope of coverage

State/Provincial

Budget in dollars for the reporting year

17888888

Percentage of the budget

18

Year

2024

Name of the institutions

Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs

Name of the instance/hierarchy

Department of Gender Affairs - St. Kitts

Creation date

2000-01-01

Description of the object

The Department functions under the Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs and is tasked with the design implementation, and coordination of national gender policies and programs. It also leads inter-agency coordination, conducts public education campaigns, facilitates case management services for survivors of violence, and partners with civil society and community groups to mainstream gender considerations across sectors. The unit receives an annual operating budget through the federal government's Ministry of Finance. It plays a central role in supporting national commitments under international conventions such as CEDAW and the Belem do Para Convention. Operates across the island of St. Kitts, serving urban and rural communities. It coordinates national programs related to gender, policy implementation, and support services within the federal government structure of St. Kitts and Nevis.

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Budget in dollars for the reporting year

16000000

Percentage of the budget

388

Indicators without a Response

- 1.-Rate of women cared for in the integral assistance services during COVID-19 in proportion to the prior year before the pandemic.
- 2.-Population rate of women cared for in shelters, shelters and reception rates with respect to the total number of requests for reception by the affected women or by the established protection bodies.
- 3.-General observations

Access to justice

Access to justice - Structure

Access to justice

Indicator statement

Existence of nationwide toll-free telephone lines for women victims of violence

Year

2024

Line number

+1 (869) 765-5492

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Functions / Competences

crisis intervention and safety planning, referrals to counselling, legal aid, and social services, assistance with obtaining protection orders, pro bono legal and spanish-language/translation support when needed.

Legal basis

Saint Kitts and Nevis does not yet have a publicly documented nationwide toll-free telephone line specifically dedicated to assisting women victims of violence. However, the Department of Gender Affairs plays a pivotal role in supporting victims of gender-based violence with a domestic violence hotline number which is an on-call phone line, accessible 24/7 for immediate support and guidance assignend to the Case Manager who advocates and supports victims on a case by case basis.

Source of funding

Public

Sources

https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Indicator statement

Existence of public comprehensive legal representation services, either public or state supported, specialized in the protection of the right to a life without violence.

Year

2024

Service name

Legal Aid and Advice Centre (LAAC) - Established by the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, the LAAC provides low-cost legal services and representation to individuals with low income. LAAC offers legal assistance in various areas including, domestic violence, family law, criminal matters and civil matters.

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Functions / Competences

While the LAAC provides services to the general population, specific competencies addressing the unique needs of marginalized groups - such as older adults, girls and adolescents, adult women, afro-descendants, rural women, women with disabilities, migrants, refugees and displaced people, women deprived of liberty, pregnant women, individuals in unfavorable socioeconomic situations, lesbian and bisexual women, transgender women, women living with HIV/AIDS, indigenous women, Euro-descendants (Caribbean countries only), and victims of trafficking - are not explicitly detailed in the available information.

Legal basis

The LAAC operate under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs of Saint Kitts and Nevis. Its establishment and functions are grounded in the government's commitment to providing accessible legal services to those in need.

Source of funding

Public

Sources

<https://www.legal.gov.kn/legal-aid-and-advice-centre/>

<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

Indicator statement

Existence of free and comprehensive legal services for girls, adolescents, adult women, senior women, rural, and that cares for interculturality, accordingly with the legislation in force.

Year

2024

Name of the institution providing the service

Access to Justice Authority (AJA)

Name of the free legal services

all of the above Legal Aid Services, nationwide outreach, Public defenders Department (free criminal and juvenile counsel for indigent defendants), mediation and restorative justice (facilitated dialogue for civil, family & minor criminal disputes) - aims to coordinated community-based legal aid clinics across urban and rural parishes.

Source of funding

Public

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

All of the Previous

Functions / Competences

offers legal advice, assistance, and representation in legal matters

Sources

https://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/access-to-justice-authority-to-be-launched-in-st-kitts-and-nevis-in-march-2024/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Year

2024

Name of the institution providing the service

Community Legal Aid Clinics (AJA pilot sites)

Name of the free legal services

walk-in legal advice on civil/family disputes, brief legal assistance (pre-application counselling, document prep), referral to full Legal Aid or Public Defender as needed - held regularly in parish community centres (e.g. Tabernacle, Sandy Point, St. Peter's including rural locales)

Source of funding

Public

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

All of the Previous

Functions / Competences

explain legal options, free legal advice

Sources

<https://www.sknvibes.com/news/newsdetails.cfm/113385>

Year

2024

Name of the institution providing the service

Informal Legal Support (Dept. of Gender Affairs + NGOs)

Name of the free legal services

legal information and accompaniment for victims of gender-based violence (GBV), referral network (shelters, counselling, psychosocial support), outreach sessions in rural/migrant-community settings (intercultural facilitation), emergency protection order applications assistance

Source of funding

Mixed

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

Víctims of violence

Functions / Competences

collaborates with legal Aid Centre and NGOs to provide legal assistance; supports victims of gender-based violence; offers counseling and shelter services

Sources

Department of Gender Affairs

Year

2024

Name of the institution providing the service

Legal Aid and Advice Centre (Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs) ; Access to Justice Authority (AJA);
Community Legal Aid Clinics (AJA pilot sites)

Name of the free legal services

provides free or subsidized legal representation and advice in civil and family matters; coordinates legal aid clinics; includes Public Defenders Department for criminal and juvenile matters; offers mediation and restorative justice

Source of funding

Public

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Group of women subject to guardianship

All of the Previous

Functions / Competences

juvenile matters (representation in Family Court), maintenance, custody & access proceedings, adoption applications, divorce and ancillary relief, landlord and tenant disputes, wills and succession advice, personal injury claims, hire-purchase disputes, affidavits (debt recovery). emphasis on women, the elderly youths and rural applicants; means-tested fee waiver available.

Sources

https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2024/02/15/access-to-justice-authority-to-be-launched-in-st-kitts-and-nevis-in-march-2024/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Indicator statement

Existence of specialized care agencies on Violence against Women and Girls

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Civil Society Organization

Type of instance

Special Instance, Others

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

Non Government Organizations Act (Cap.20.59); of Understanding

Name of the instance

Garden of Rebirth

Sources

<https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2023/03/09/government-signs-mou-with-garden-of-rebirth-to-enhance-assistance-to-victims-of-gender-based-violence/>

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-20_59-Non-Govt-Organisations-Act.pdf

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs

Type of instance

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

The department operates under the National gender Equality Policy and Action Plan which is designed to promote gender equality and reduce violence. The Domestic Violence Act, 2014, provides a framework for addressing violence against women and children in St. Kitts and Nevis, including the establishment of protective orders, shelter , and support systems for victims.

Name of the instance

Department of Gender Affairs

Sources

<https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SKN-National-Gender-Equality-Action-Plan-2022-2027.pdf>

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs

Type of instance

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

Probation & Child Welfare Board Act ; Child Justice Act

Name of the instance

Probation and Child Protection Unit (PCPS)

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-12_12-Probation-and-Child-Welfare-Board-Act.pdf

[;https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-04_15-Child-Justice-Act.pdf](https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-04_15-Child-Justice-Act.pdf)

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Ministry of Social Services & Gender Affairs

Type of instance

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

Data Protection Act, 2018

Name of the instance

National Counseling Centre

Sources

<https://www.theinformationcollective.com/dpl/st-kitts-data-protection-act>

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force

Type of instance

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

The SVU operates within the framework of the Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police force following national police regulation, the Domestic Violence Complaint & Response Protocol and the Domestic Violence Act. Other criminal laws i.e. for sexual offenses and child abuse like the Child Protection Act guide the sexual investigations involving minors and law enforcement actions.

Name of the instance

The special victims unit (SVU) operates as a stand-alone unit, the SVU investigates allegations of physical and sexual abuse, domestic violence, juvenile abuse, and crimes against children. All police officers are trained in gender-sensitive interviewing and evidence collection.

Sources

https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Indicator statement

Existence of specialized investigative bodies on Violence against Women and Girls

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force

Type of instance

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

Domestic Violence Act 2014, Police Act; Public Service Act

Name of the instance

Special Victims Unit (SVU) - is the primary specialized investigative body for violence against women and children. it handles cases such as sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and child abuse.

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-22_09-Public-Service-Act.pdf
; https://www.policinglaw.info/assets/downloads/2009_Saint_Kitts_and_Nevis_Police_Act.pdf

Year

2024

Name of the organism

Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs

Type of instance

Office

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Law or regulation for its operation

Child Justice Act ; Probation & Child Welfare Board Act

Name of the instance

Probation & Child Protection Services (PCPS)

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis-2017/Ch-12_12-Probation-and-Child-Welfare-Board-Act.pdf ;

Indicator statement

Existence of criminal investigation protocols on crimes of violence against women, femicide and violent deaths of women, with a gender perspective

Year

2024

Name of the institution

Department of Gender Affairs

Type of protocol

Criminal investigation into crimes of violence against women

Protocol name

Domestic and Sexual Violence Complaints Response Protocol

Publication date

2018-11-18

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Sources

1. <https://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/protocol-launched-to-provide-clear-domestic-sexual-violence-guidelines/#:~:text=Sexual%20and%20domestic%20violence%20crimes%20in%20the%20Federation,Sexual%20Violence%2C%20which%20took%20place%20on%20Nov.%2028.>

2. <https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

Year

2024

Name of the institution

Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force (SVU UNIT)

Type of protocol

Criminal investigation into crimes of violence against women

Protocol name

Domestic and Sexual Violence Complaints Response Protocol

Publication date

2018-11-18

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Sources

<https://www.theskittsnevisobserver.com/protocol-launched-to-provide-clear-domestic-sexual-violence-guidelines/#:~:text=Sexual%20and%20domestic%20violence%20crimes%20in%20the%20Federation,Sexual%20Violence%2C%20which%20took%20place%20on%20Nov.%202028.>

Indicator statement

Existence of unilateral divorce

Year

2024

Name of the regulation and/or law

The legislation governing divorce in St. Kitts and Nevis is the Divorce Act, 2005, which replaced the earlier Matrimonial Causes Act. This Act allows for unilateral divorce, meaning one spouse can petition for divorce without the consent of the other, provided certain conditions are met. Under the Divorce Act, 2005, a petitioner must demonstrate that the marriage has irretrievably broken down, which can be established through various grounds such as adultery, unreasonable behavior, desertion, or separation for a specified period. Notably, the Act removed the previous requirement that parties had to be married for at least three years before filing for divorce. Now, there is no minimum duration of marriage required before initiating divorce proceedings, as long as the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage can be proven.

Publication date

2005-02-06

Number and text of article

Section 7 - (grounds for divorce) - This section stipulates that a petition for divorce may be presented by either spouse on specific grounds, including, adultery committed by the other spouse; cruelty by the other spouse; desertion by the other spouse for a continuous period of at least one year; and separation if the spouses have lived apart for at least one year immediately preceding the presentation of the petition. Divorce may be petitioned by either party without requiring mutual consent; grounds must be proven (e.g. adultery, desertion, cruelty).

Section 3(jurisdiction of court in divorce proceedings) - this section outlines the jurisdictional requirements for the court to hear divorce proceedings, stating that the court may hear and determine any divorce or nullity proceedings if either spouse has been ordinarily resident in Saint Christopher and Nevis for at least one year immediately preceding the commencement of the proceedings. These sections collectively establish the framework for unilateral divorce in Saint Kitts and Nevis, allowing either spouse to petition for divorce based on specific grounds without requiring mutual consent.

Number of divorces

500

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Sources

According to a Times Caribbean Online article titled " Divorce Rates Skyrocket in St. Kitts and Nevis," over 500 marriages were dissolved across the federation between 2019-2023, with an average of 100+ divorces annually. The article notes that women initiated nearly 75% of those divorce proceedings, pointing to a high rate of unilateral filings even in a fault-based system. While this data originates from a media source, it helps fill a gap due to the absence of formally published divorce statistics by the judiciary or national statistics office. However, it is also important to note that while the Times Caribbean Online article provides useful figures, it is based on unnamed official sources, and the government does not routinely publish full annual divorce statistics by cause of party initiating.

Sources:[https://mortonrobinson.com/legal-tidbits/21-a-crash-course-to-obtaining-a-divorce-in-st-kitts-nevis-f](https://mortonrobinson.com/legal-tidbits/21-a-crash-course-to-obtaining-a-divorce-in-st-kitts-nevis-from-i-do-to-i-no-longer-do-part-1)
[rom-i-do-to-i-no-longer-do-part-1](https://mortonrobinson.com/legal-tidbits/21-a-crash-course-to-obtaining-a-divorce-in-st-kitts-nevis-from-i-do-to-i-no-longer-do-part-1)

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis-2009/Ch-12_03-Divorce-Act.pdf

[https://timescaribbeanonline.com/divorce-rates-skyrocket-in-st-kitts-and-nevis-over-500-marriages-dissolve](https://timescaribbeanonline.com/divorce-rates-skyrocket-in-st-kitts-and-nevis-over-500-marriages-dissolved-in-four-years)
[d-in-four-years](https://timescaribbeanonline.com/divorce-rates-skyrocket-in-st-kitts-and-nevis-over-500-marriages-dissolved-in-four-years) Note: Data not published separately for unilateral cases; total divorces not readily available for 2021-2025

Indicator statement

Existence of legislation on protective measures, at the request of the victim or third parties or on an ex-officio basis, before and during administrative and/or judicial proceedings

Year

2024

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Domestic and Sexual Violence Complaints and Response Protocol

Publication date

2018-11-28

Effective date

2018-11-18

Name of the institution/hierarchy

Others

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Protection measures

first response procedures - outlining immediate actions to be taken by first responders to ensure victim safety law enforcement best practices - providing protocols for police officers in handling domestic and sexual violence cases emergency and medical services - establishing procedures for healthcare providers in treating and documenting injuries related to abuse Social services and victim advocacy - guiding social workers and advocates in offering support and resources to victims legal action - detailing the process for obtaining orders and navigating the judicial system

Sources

<https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Domestic-and-Sexual-Violence-Complaints-and-Response-Protocol.pdf>

Year

2024

Name of the norm and/or regulation

Domestic Violence (Amendment) Bill. 2022

Publication date

2022-12-02

Effective date

0001-01-01

Name of the institution/hierarchy

Others

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Protection measures

protection orders - these orders prohibit the abuse from engaging in conduct that constitutes domestic violence. They can be issued upon application by the victim or, in certain circumstances, by third parties such as police officers or social workers.

Sources

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2022/ACTs/Act-7-of-2022-Domestic-Violence-Amendment-Act-2022.pdf>

<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2019/ACTs/Act-22-of-2014-Domestic-Violence-Act.pdf>

Indicator statement

Existence of courts specialized in Violence against Women and Girls

Year

2024

Name of the court

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court - High Court (St. Kitts & Nevis circuit)

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Name of the law

Domestic Violence Act, 2014 Cap. 12.04 and the (Amendment) Act, 2022

Name of the instance

Judiciary (ECSC)

Sources

The ECSC High Court (SKN circuit) handles DV applications under the DV Act. High Court is empowered to hear DV cases. Sources: <https://www.eccourts.org>

Year

2024

Name of the court

Magistrate's Courts (District A & B, St. Kitts; District C, Nevis)

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Name of the law

Domestic Violence Act, 2014 Cap. 12.04 and the (Amendment) Act, 2022

Name of the instance

Judiciary (Magistracy)

Sources

No court is exclusively dedicated to violence against women. Instead, DV/VAG cases are prosecuted under the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Act, 2022 (Cap 12.04) by the general courts (Magistrates' Courts at the district/local level and the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court at the national level. <https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2022/ACTs/Act-7-of-2022-Domestic-Violence-Amendment-Act-2022.pdf>

Indicators without a Response

1.-Existence of actions for constitutional relief (protection, custody), relevant for the defense of women and girls rights.

Access to justice - Process

Indicator statement

Number of women who have filed violence complaints at the Police stations.

Year

2020

Institutions' names

Commissioner of Police - royal st.christopher and nevis police force

Type of violence

Psychological, Sexual, Physical, Patrimonial, Economic, Other types of violence, Domestic violence

Reports received

2107

Attaching instance

Special Victims Unit

Sources

<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf> (pages 34-37)

Year

2021

Institutions' names

Commissioner of Police - royal st.christopher and nevis police force

Type of violence

Psychological, Sexual, Physical, Patrimonial, Economic, Other types of violence, Domestic violence

Reports received

2905

Attaching instance

Special Victims Unit

Sources

<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf> (pages 34-37)

Indicator statement

Database records with relevant jurisprudence from federal and state courts, on violence against women, including documentation of cases, testimonies and mechanisms to protect those who provide testimonies.

Year

2024

Institutions' names

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (ECSC)

Information type

Public

Instance/jurisdiction name**Legal basis**

ECSC "Judgements" Page

Sources

yes

Indicator statement

Existing training processes on women's rights for the personnel of the Courts of Justice and the Public Prosecutor's Office (judges, prosecutors, public defenders, lawyers and legal operators, police, administrative authorities related to the assistance of the complaint, and workers of national machineries), coverage, topics, and scope.

Year

2024

Organism name

the Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force

Training name

Domestic Violence Protocol Training

Target population

Not information

Thematic coverage

roles and the responsibilities of the police force in domestic and family abuse situations

Scope of coverage

Local/Municipal

Number of women

0

Number of men

0

Monitoring mechanisms

domestic violence and sexual violence response protocol

Impact and/or consideration

heads of the police force were taught the roles and responsibilities of the police force by a gender officer with responsibilities for women's programming to assess and teach police the proper way to go about handling GBV and DV cases.

Sources

17 heads of the police force attended in total. Male and female ratio not available.

Indicator statement

Number of courts and specialized prosecutors' offices, that undertake violence against women matters, on civil, criminal or other areas.

Year

2024

Type of instance

Instance/jurisdiction name

Family Court

Attaching institution

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (ECSC)

Area of competence

Others

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Sources

<https://www.eccourts.org/category/saint-kitts-and-nevis/>

https://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/docs/Domestic_Violence_Act_2011.pdf

Legal basis

Year

2024

Type of instance

Instance/jurisdiction name

High Court

Attaching institution

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (ECSC)

Area of competence

Others

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis-2020/Ch-04_06-Criminal-Procedure-Act.pdf

Legal basis**Year**

2024

Type of instance**Instance/jurisdiction name**

Magistrate's Courts

Attaching institution

Magistracy, Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs

Area of competence

Civil Courts

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Sources

<https://www.gov.kn/judiciary/Criminal> Procedure
Act <https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2021/ACTs/Act-5-of-2021-Magistrates-Code-of-Procedure-Amendment-Act-2021.pdf>
<https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Annual-Laws/2021/ACTs/Act-5-of-2021-Magistrates-Code-of-Procedure-Amendment-Act-2021.pdf>
https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis-2020/Ch-03_17-Magistrates-Code-of-Procedure-Act.pdf

Legal basis

Indicators without a Response

- 1.-Number of women victims of sexual offences by age, ethnicity, and socioeconomic situation.
- 2.-Number of users who access to free legal services, either public or private, and with or without state subsidy.
- 3.-Number of users who access to free legal services, either public or private, and with or without state subsidy.

Access to justice - Result

Indicator statement

Number and percentage of criminal cases for femicide/feminicide, murder, or violent death of women, including offence on attempt; in relation to the number and percentage of judgments (convictions and/or acquittals) for femicide, murder issued.

Year

2024

Name of the institution/hierarchy

In the Saint Kitts and Nevis National Report prepared for ECLAC (2024), "femicide or feminicide" is explicitly listed as a core Physical Autonomy Indicator (Indicator E.14) but no disaggregated national figure - neither absolute number nor rate per 100,000 women is provided for the Federation. Instead, the report resorts to "gender-related killings of women" (intentional homicides of female victims) as a proxy measure. For the Caribbean subregion, Figure 4 shows that, for the period of 2019-2022, St. Kitts and Nevis consistently reported 1 lethal gender-related killing of women each year, with zero fluctuation-i.e., the absolute count "remained consistent" at 1 case per year. No per 100,000 rate is calculated, given the small absolute numbers and a population base of 25,000 women which falls short of 100,000 making the calculation quite difficult. There is also no dedicated femicide registry or specialized VAW homicide database maintained by police prosecutors, or the judiciary in Saint Kitts and Nevis; rather, records are embedded within general homicide statistics. The narrative calls for standardized legal definitions of femicide/feminicide in domestic law and for intersectoral coordination - linking police, courts, and the Department of Gender Affairs to ensure gender-disaggregated recording of all homicide investigations and judicial outcomes. Finally, in its recommendations the report urges the adoption of a formal legislation for femicide/feminicide aligning with the SDG Indicator 5.2.1, creation of an interagency protocol to publish annual counts and rates of femicide, including attempted killings, alongside details on victim age, nationality and case outcomes, as well as the strengthening of statistical systems by designating a lead agency (e.g. the Department of Statistics) to validate and report the data.

Type of court

No information

Age group of women served

No information

Community name

f

Type of crime

Murder or Violent Death of women

Number of cases initiated

0

Number of convictions

0

Number of acquittals

0

Sources

https://oig.cepal.org/sites/default/files/femicide_web.pdfhttps://oig.cepal.org/sites/default/files/s2301023_en.pdf<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

Indicators without a Response

1.-Number and percentage of cases heard by the Criminal Courts (ordinary and specialized) for different crimes of violence against women in relation to the number and percentage of sentences (convictions and / or acquittals) handed down by the courts (ordinary and specialized) disaggregated by sex, age, race and ethnicity, in the year of the report.

2.-Number and percentage of complaints of violence withdrawn by the victim with respect to the total complaints of violence in the last year

3.-General observations

Information and Statistics

Information and Statistics - Structure

Indicator statement

Regulations covering the States obligation to keep administrative records (police, judiciary, prosecutors? offices, public defenders? offices, social services, health services, etc.) on cases of violence against girls, adolescents, and adult and older women in its various forms

Year

2024

Name of the law

Criminal Law Amendment Act Cap 4.05 (2002 revision)

Publication date

1887-03-05

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Purpose of the law

supplements the Offences Against the Person Act by creating new sexual-offence provisions (e.g. abduction of minors, buggery) and enhancing penalties for gender-based offences

Obligated institutions and/or specific mandates

the amended act (sections 1-3) only add or adjusts offence provisions (e.g. new offence categoris) and contains no procedural mandates. It does not include any sections on how agencies should catalog ot archive cases

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis/Revised-Acts-of-St-Kitts-and-Nevis-2017/Ch-04_05-Criminal-Law-Amendment-Act.pdf

Year

2024

Name of the law

Domestic Violence Act 2000 (as amended by the DV Amendment Act 2005)

Publication date

2004-04-03

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Purpose of the law

Provides civil remedies (protection, occupation, tenancy, counselling orders) for victims of domestic violence (spouses, cohabitants, family members)

Obligated institutions and/or specific mandates

police must prepare and lodge incident reports and forward case files to Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs; Magistrate's Court Registry must record every protection-order application in a central register; health and social-welfare referrals must be logged and retained

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act02and09TOC/Ch-12_04-Domestic-Violence-Act.pdf

Year

2024

Name of the law

Offences Against the Person Act, Cap 4.21 (2002 Revision)

Publication date

1878-01-01

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Purpose of the law

defines criminal offences against the person including assault, battery, rape indecent assault, and child-related sexual offences

Obligated institutions and/or specific mandates

the Act's focus is substantive definitions of offences, not procedural record-keeping.

Sources

https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act02and09TOC/Ch-04_04-Coinage-Offences-Act.pdf

Indicators without a Response

1.-Number and characteristics of public-sector institutions producing or generating statistical information on violence against women

Information and Statistics - Process

Indicator statement

Periodic statistical reports on violence against women

Year

2023

Name of the institution

Government of St.Kitts and Nevis (UN HLPFL submission)

Report name

Voluntary National Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Publication date

2023-06-01

Report purpose

provides SDG progress, including VAW indicators (e.g. SDG 5.2.1 proxy measures), summaries of domestic violence incident tallies, and policy actions taken

Involved institutions

Ministry of Sustainable Development National Sustainable Development Coordinating Committee Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) UN-Habitat EUROCLIMA+ German Cooperation (GIZ) Ministry of Finance Ministry of Health, Wellness & the Environment Ministry of Education Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs Garden of Rebirth (NGO) United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) Secretariat

Sources

https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2023/VNR%202023%20Saint%20Kitts%20and%20Nevis%20Report_0.pdf<https://plataformaurbana.cepal.org/en/documents/voluntary-national-review-vnr-saint-kitts-and-nevis-2023><https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2023/05/09/stakeholder-consultations-on-st-kitts-and-nevis-voluntary-national-review-vnr-continue/>

Year

2024

Name of the institution

Government of St.Kitts and Nevis

Report name

Thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) in Latin America and the Caribbean - Comprehensive National Level Review The Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis (ECLAC National Report)

Publication date

2024-05-01

Report purpose

national gender profile including VAW data gaps; lists femicide/feminicide as an indicator but flags absence of disaggregated figures; discusses domestic-violence complaint trends

Involved institutions

Government of the Federation of St.Kitts and Nevis MESECVI Department of Gender Affairs MESECVI Ministry of Health, Wellness & the Environment crpd.cepal.org Ministry of Education crpd.cepal.org Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs crpd.cepal.org Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force ? Special Victims Unit MESECVI Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) MESECVI United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) ECLAC Civil Society Organizations (e.g., Garden of Rebirth, faith based and community groups) MESECVI Judicial Authorities (Family and Criminal Courts)

Sources

<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf>

Information and Statistics - Result

Indicators without a Response

- 1.-Regular publication of statistics and studies carried out on violence against women
- 2.-General observations

Diversity

Diversity - Structure

Indicator statement

Public policies aimed at removing barriers to facilitate access to justice for women within vulnerable groups: physical, social, economic, cultural-attitudinal, of information, communication

Year

2024

Name of the public policy or mechanism

Legal Aid and Advice Department Public Defenders Department Mediation & Restorative Justice Unit
Community Legal Aid Clinics

Name of the institution

Access to Justice Authority (AJA)

Other institutions

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Law Society of St. Kitts and Nevis Legal Aid Advice Centre,
Public Defenders

Date of implementation

2024-03-01

Scope of coverage

National/Federal

Name of the shelter

Sources

<https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2024/02/15/access-to-justice-authority-to-be-launched-in-st-kitts-and-nevis-in-march-2024/>

Indicators without a Response

1.-Legislation enacted that prohibits and classifies as violence, non-consensual medical, scientific or social experiments, interventions or treatments, including the non-consensual administration of drugs and other violations of the physical and mental integrity of women with disabilities

Diversity - Process

Diversity - Result

Indicators without a Response

- 1.-Number of women with disabilities cared for by accessible social and support services for victims of violence, by type and reach of the service
- 2.-Rate of violence and hate crimes against women within vulnerable groups
- 3.-Number of women with disabilities who have suffered physical, psychological or sexual violence by age, and type of disability
- 4.-General observations

Budget

Budget - Structure

Indicators without a Response

1.-National budget law with identification of funds allocated for Women's Mechanisms

Budget - Process

Indicators without a Response

1.-Periodic accountability reports on financial management of resources allocated for access to justice for women victims of violence

Budget - Result

Indicators without a Response

- 1.-Percentage of budget execution assigned of the total budget assigned to the National Women's Mechanisms and / or the agencies on which these services depend
- 2.-Percentage of the budget assigned and executed with respect to services for violence victims in its different aspects: telephone assistance, legal and health care.
- 3.-General observations