

# WHAT WOMEN WANT!

*Demands for Quality  
Reproductive and Maternal  
Healthcare from Women and Girls*

Water, sanitation, and hygiene. Respectful and dignified care. Increased, qualified, better-supported female providers. Closer, fully functioning health facilities. Medicines and supplies. Labor and delivery information, personnel, services and supplies. Free, affordable or insured healthcare. Ethical, lawful, non-abusive and secure care. Family planning information, personnel, services and supplies. Counseling and awareness on maternal, reproductive and general health and services.

**LISTEN AND ACT ON THE DEMANDS OF  
NIGERIA'S WOMEN AND GIRLS!**



## What Women Want

### Demands for Quality Healthcare from Nigeria's Women & Girls

Approximately 300,000 women and girls die during pregnancy and childbirth every year, 15 percent of these deaths occurring in Nigeria alone. Changing this picture begins with women and girls. When women and girls are involved in identifying the barriers and solutions to healthcare, progress accelerates. As quality has a huge impact on whether a woman or girl will seek care, the heart of the *What Women Want* campaign is about understanding quality from women's and girls' perspectives.

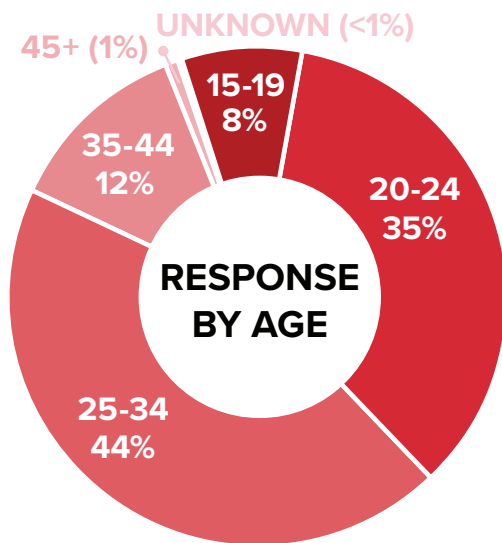
Beginning on 11 April 2018, International Maternal Health and Rights Days, and continuing for one year, 359 partners asked nearly 1.2 million women and adolescent girls in 114 countries: **what is your top demand for your maternal and reproductive healthcare?** Led by White Ribbon Alliance Nigeria, nearly 80,000 of these demands were gathered in Nigeria alone through the tireless efforts of 'citizen journalists' asking about and amplifying the needs of women in their communities and schools.

The *What Women Want* campaign is unique in that it asked women and girls in Nigeria to set the agenda, as opposed to beginning with a premise of what is important or asking them to decide among a set of options. For example, at Dutse Alhaji Primary Health Center, a large, busy clinic in Abuja, women described how they often chose to stay home rather than queue for hours for what amounted to a rushed and unsatisfying antenatal care visit. They recommend massive recruitment of midwives in order to provide adequate care and attention to women during pregnancy and childbirth. Theirs' are voices and concerns often lost, but which are vital to providing services which women want and use.

A resounding call for better quality health services as defined by women and girls, this brief provides the top ten demands of those who participated in the *What Women Want* campaign from Nigeria. If the hope and expectation is for women and girls to visit health centres, adhere to recommended advice, and collectively pursue better health outcomes, it follows their agenda must become everyone's agenda.

**Women and girls  
have spoken,  
now it's time to listen.**

# 78,066 DEMANDS



## TOP TEN DEMANDS

1. Water, sanitation and hygiene: **21.16%**
  - Clean maternity wards\*
  - Clean toilets in rural facilities
2. Respectful and dignified care: **19.68%**
  - Courteous and friendly health workers
3. Increased, qualified, closer and better-supported female providers: **11.95%**
4. Closer, fully functioning health facilities: **10.96%**
5. Medicines and supplies: **8.11%**
  - Availability of blood and blood tests
  - Availability of quality drugs
6. Labor and deliver information, personnel, services and supplies: **7.42%**
7. Free, affordable or insured healthcare: **6.36%**
8. Ethical, lawful, non-abusive and secure care: **5.82%**
  - No abuse in facilities
9. Family planning information, personnel, services and supplies: **4.32%**
10. Counseling and awareness on maternal, reproductive and general health and services: **4.22%**

\* Represent top sub-categories of demands

To learn more about the methodology and analysis of these results, visit: [whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant](http://whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant) to download the complete summary report.

# LISTENACT

Listening to women is a radical act.

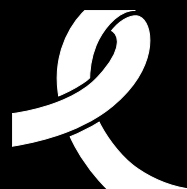
But acting on what we hear is revolutionary.



Tell us how you are listening and acting on women's and girls' demands:

[whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant](http://whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant)

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**WHAT  
WOMEN  
WANT!**

DEMANDS FOR QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR WOMEN & GIRLS