

Women, Sanitation, and Security Nigeria

Report of Findings

November 2012

For more information, contact:

Sam Mountford, Director, Global Insights

Robin Gilbert-Jones, Research Analyst

GlobeScan Incorporated

1 Westminster Bridge Road,
London SE1 7XW

United Kingdom

Tel: + 44 (0)20 8144 8708

Sam.Mountford@GlobeScan.com

Robin.GilbertJones@GlobeScan.com

www.GlobeScan.com

The survey questions and results reported herein are provided on a confidential basis to Water Aid. Water Aid is free to use the findings in whatever manner it chooses, including releasing them to the public or media.

GlobeScan Incorporated subscribes to the standards of the World Association of Opinion and Marketing Research Professionals (ESOMAR). ESOMAR sets minimum disclosure standards for studies that are released to the public or the media. The purpose is to maintain the integrity of market research by avoiding misleading interpretations. If you are considering the dissemination of the findings, please consult with us regarding the form and content of publication. ESOMAR standards require us to correct any misinterpretation.

Project: 2521, GlobeScan®



- GlobeScan is a mission-driven research consultancy with extensive experience in surveying marginalised populations in the developing world on behalf of NGOs on issues of concern, committed to delivering global insights in pursuit of a more equitable and sustainable world.
- WaterAid commissioned GlobeScan to conduct a survey of women in Nigeria relating to access to sanitation and levels of concern around violence and intimidation towards women in this context, in order to inform WaterAid's media outreach and campaigning work around World Toilet Day 2012.

- The poll was conducted between the 18th and 22nd of October 2012, using purposive sampling among a sample of 500 female adults (18-54)
- Face-to-face interviews were conducted in the urban slums of Ajegunle, Ijora Badia, Oko Agbon, and Otto-Oyingbo, in and around Lagos.
- In order to ensure the respondents felt at ease, given the sensitivity of the topic, the interviewers ensured them of the confidentiality of their responses and the protection of their anonymity.
- Respondents were also provided with the details of local community organisations with whom they could, if needed, discuss their experiences further and seek support.

Women in Nigeria are most concerned about unemployment, security and poverty

- According to GlobeScan's Radar research unemployment is the greatest top-of-mind concern for women in Nigeria. Poverty and homelessness as well as poverty are also serious concerns.

Informal facilities are by far the most commonly used

- Informal and outside toilets are the most commonly used facilities by the women interviewed (40 percent), although around one-third reported using a toilet in their own home most frequently.
- The regular use of neighbours' toilets, public toilets, and toilets in the workplace were a comparative rarity, with only small minorities of women reporting that they use them most frequently.

Women generally feel unsafe using communal facilities

- Although the most commonly used, majorities of women consider public facilities to be the least safe; 77 percent report feeling unsafe, in contrast to toilets in their homes where only 19 percent felt unsafe.
- At local markets and on public transport, 50 and 48 percent respectively reported feeling unsafe.

Minorities of women reported cases of actual harassment

- Despite not feeling secure when using public facilities, fewer than one in ten women report incidents of actual harassment and abuse.
- In cases where harassment is reported, the majority consists of verbal abusive statements.
- Non-physical abuse is the second most common form of harassment. When asked to comment on this, some women reported incidents of having their privacy violated by men.
- Eight percent reported physical abuse, but few of these chose to comment on their experiences.

The cost of using public facilities is the main problem for respondents

- Although hygiene is an important issue for women when it comes to using public facilities, cost is seen as a bigger issue, with 68 percent agreeing that cost is a problem .
- Sixty-one percent agree that public facilities are unhygienic, and over half (56%) say they avoid using such facilities to mitigate risk to themselves.
- Over one-third of women (36%) report having experienced ill health as a result of the toilet facilities they have used.

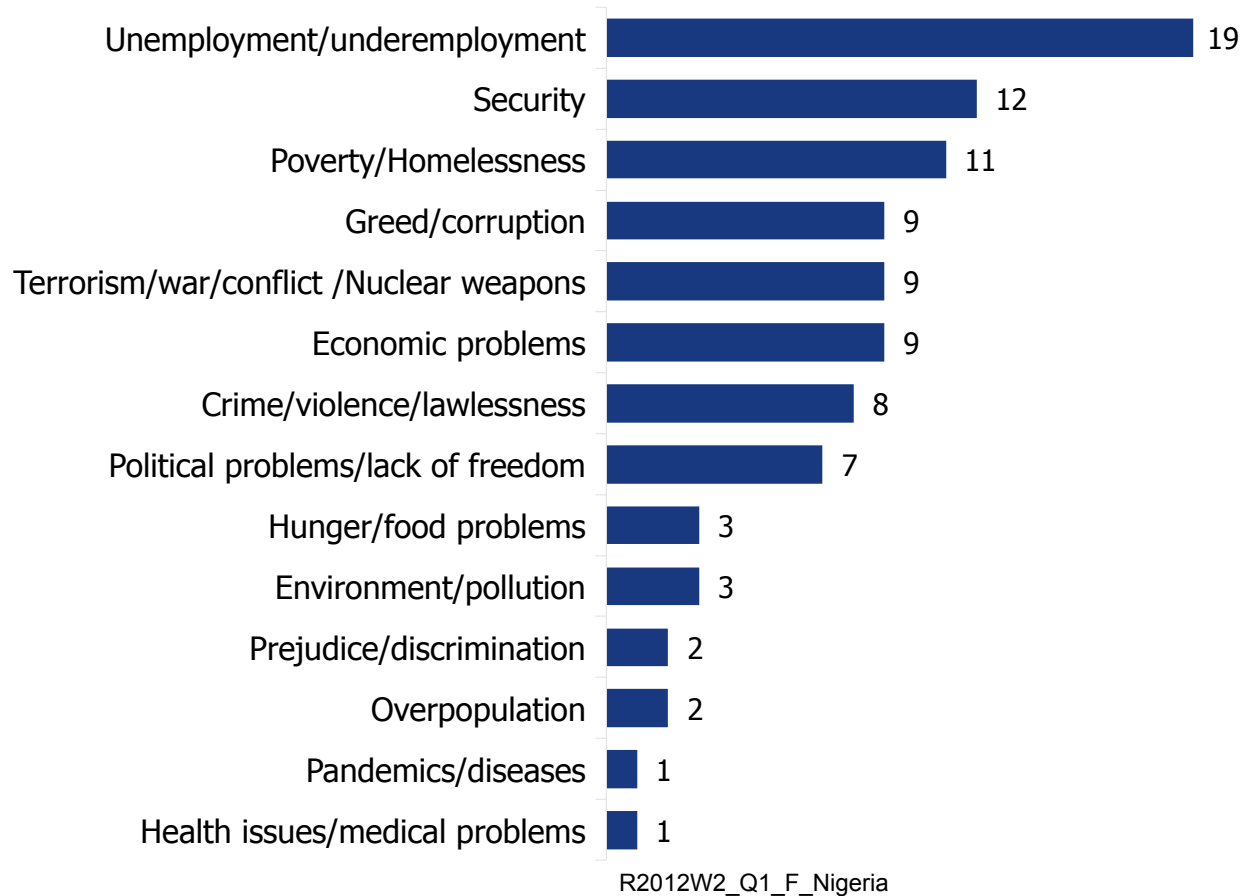
There is great demand for government investment in sanitation

- When asked how important government investment in sanitation is to them, an overwhelming majority (89%) responded that it is “very important.”
- Only 2 percent of the whole sample did not see improved sanitation as a priority.

The context: joblessness, security and poverty are the dominant concerns for women generally in Nigeria



Most Important Problem Facing Nation Today
Nigerian Women, 2012

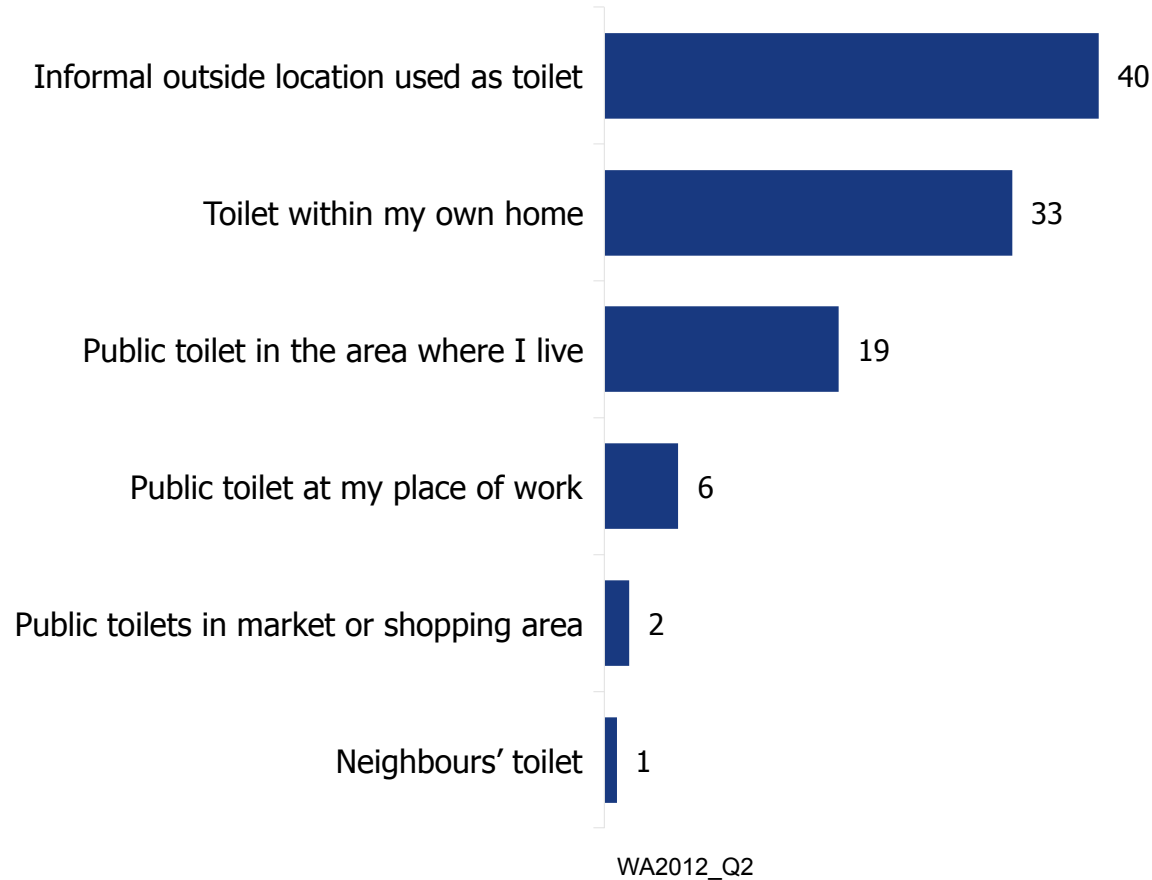


Use and Safety of Facilities



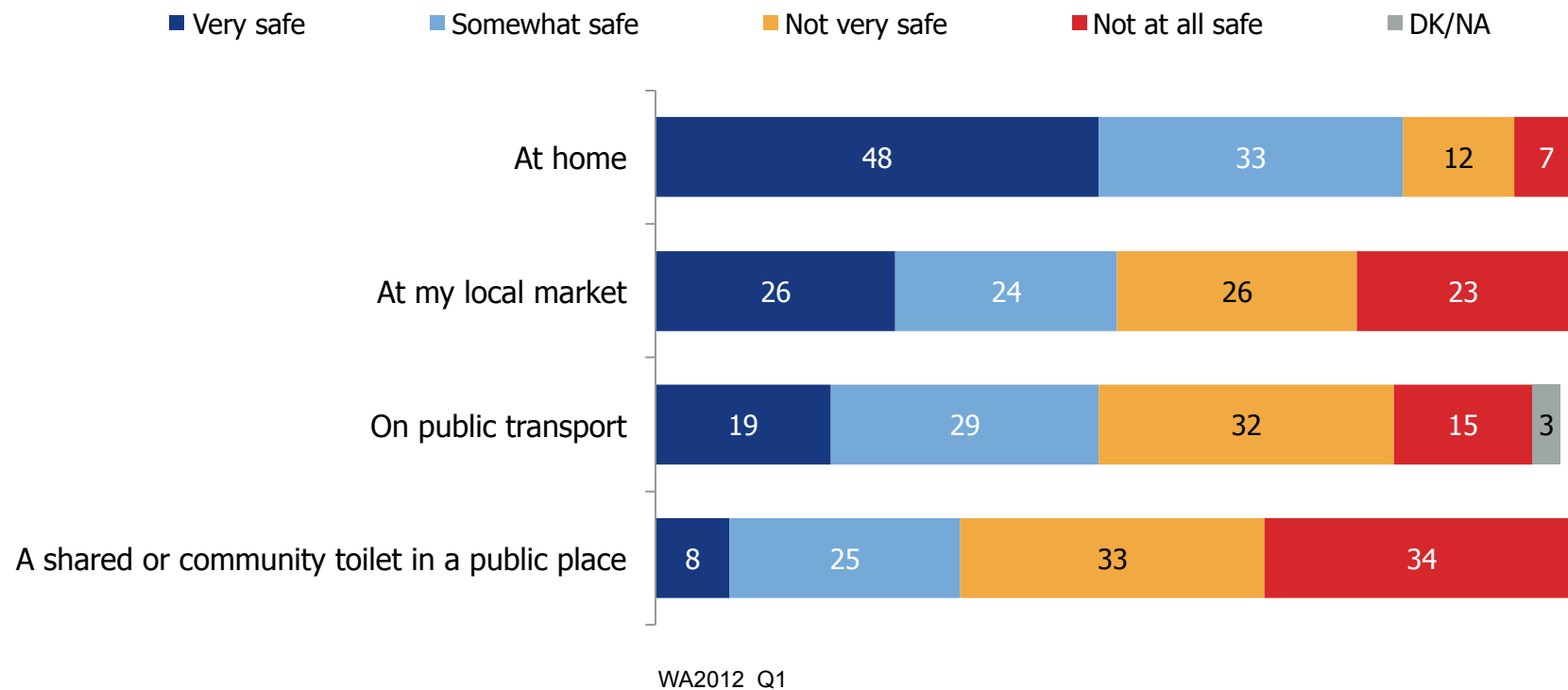
Informal outside locations are by far the most commonly used facilities

2012



Public facilities are considered significantly less safe than those at local markets or on public transport

2012



Q1. Thinking about your own experience, how safe or unsafe would you say you feel in the following situations?

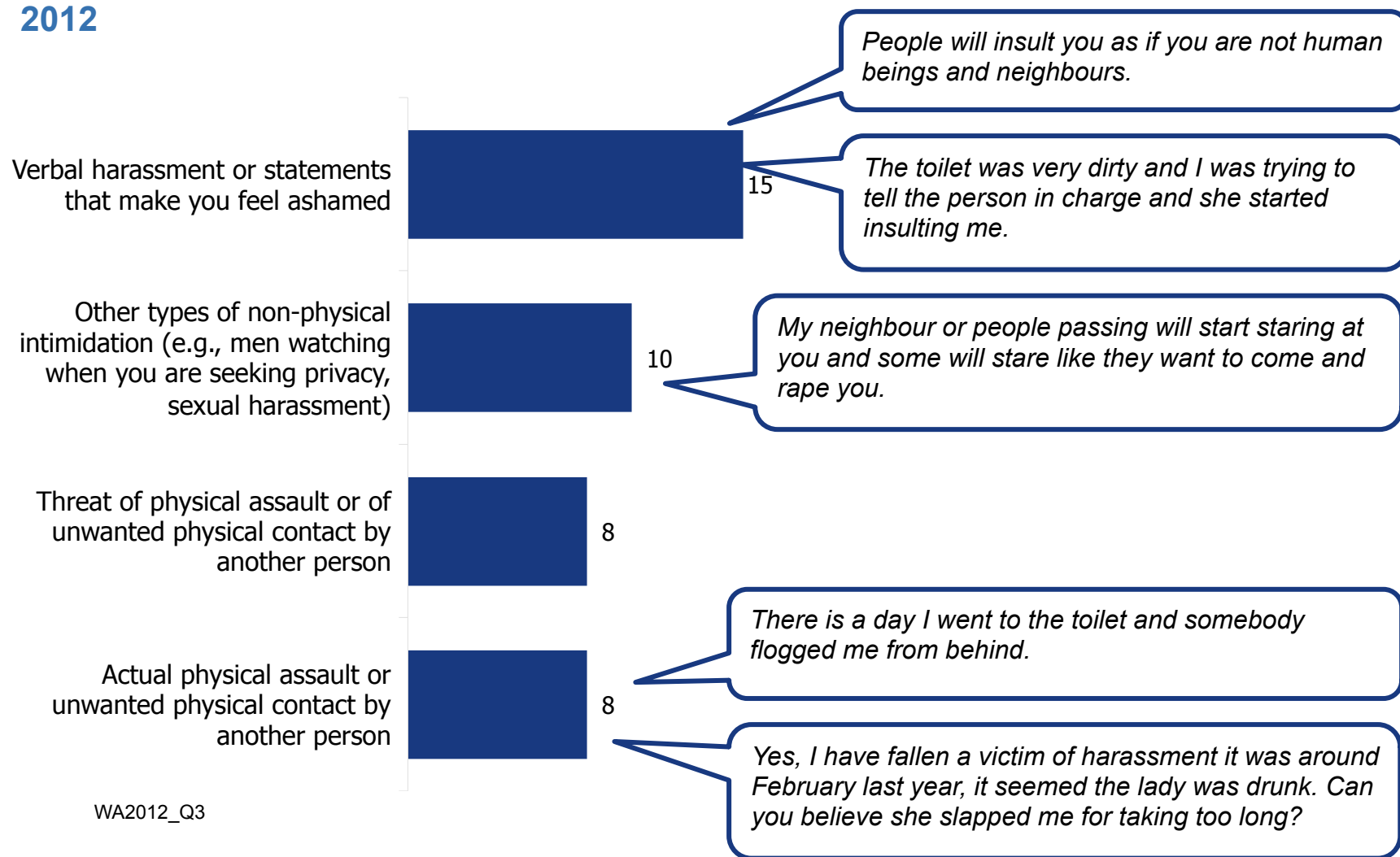
When using...

Personal Security



While minorities of women experience harassment, verbal abuse is the most commonly reported

2012



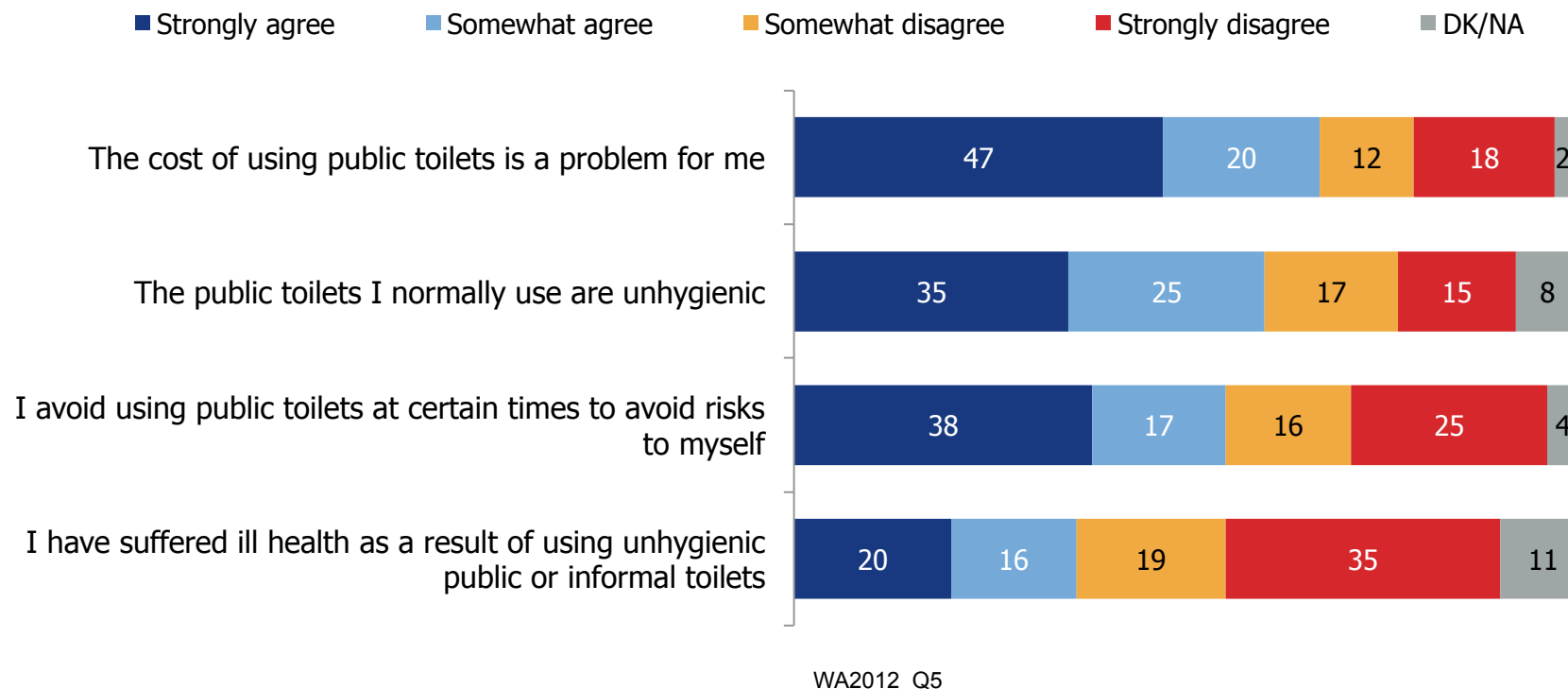
3. Which, if any, of the following have you or a friend personally experienced while using either a public toilet or informal toilet facilities like these over the past year?

Use of Public Facilities



Both cost of public facilities and hygiene present a serious problem for women in Lagos

2012



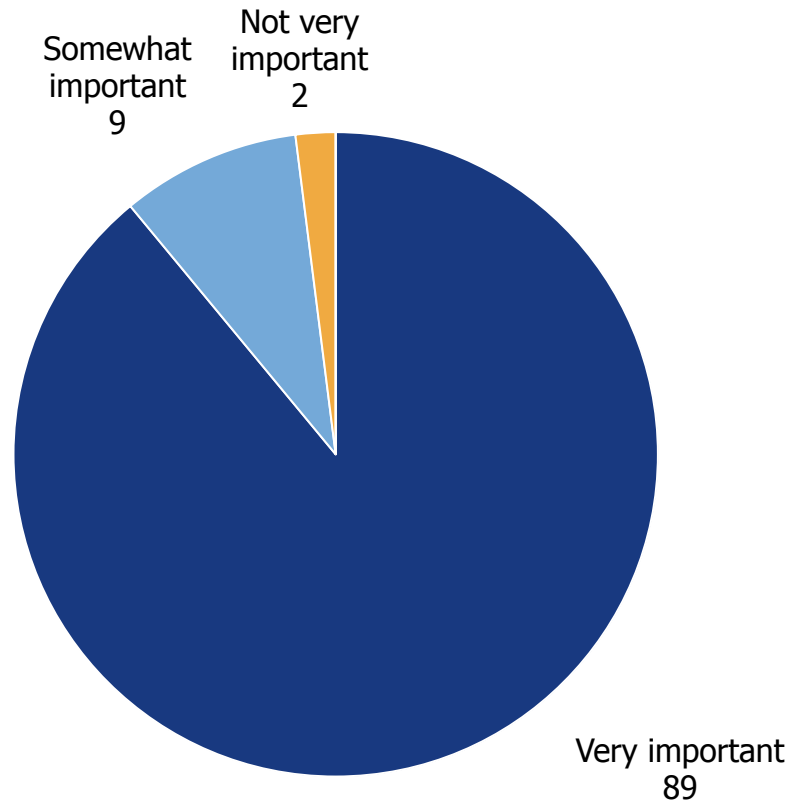
Q5. Some people have suggested that having to use unhygienic or unsafe toilet facilities can cause problems for people in other areas of their daily lives. To what extent would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Importance of Government Investment in Sanitation



There is overwhelming support for greater government investment in sanitation

2012



WA2012_Q6

6. Compared to other priorities such as spending on education or transport infrastructure, how important do you think it is for the Nigerian government to invest in sanitation as a way to improve your health, safety, and livelihood?



For twenty-five years, GlobeScan has helped clients measure and build value-generating relationships with their stakeholders, and to work collaboratively in delivering a sustainable and equitable future.

Uniquely placed at the nexus of reputation, brand and sustainability, GlobeScan partners with clients to build trust, drive engagement and inspire innovation within, around and beyond their organisations.

www.GlobeScan.com