



# COVID-19 Situation Analysis: North East Nigeria MAY 2020



## INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 Situation Analysis is based on assessment of knowledge, impact and practice of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and impacted populations in the six conflict-affected states of northeastern Nigeria. Conducted alongside Round 32 Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) assessment by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the report covers the period 16 April to 6 May 2020 and reflects trends from the six states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe.

In this first such assessment, 86,657 respondents -- or 4 per cent of all identified IDPs as per DTM Round 32 -- were interviewed for a range of COVID-19 related indicators. Key informant interviews and focus group discussions were the primary methods used for the assessment and the findings were corroborated with physical on-ground observations.

The information collated and analysed in this report includes awareness about COVID-19 among IDPs, means of getting information, level of awareness (in camps and in host communities, respectively), exposure to communication on risks associated with COVID-19, primary means of obtaining information about risks, mitigation measures taken (in camps and among host communities, respectively), health center's COVID-19 readiness, any increase in threats of evictions, any disruption of services due to COVID-19, access to services (in camps and in host communities, respectively), access to soap for the purpose of handwashing, and proximity to a health center.

COVID-19 threatens to deepen the humanitarian crisis in northeastern Nigeria which has been besieged with escalation of violence between all parties for nearly a decade resulting in mass displacement and deprivation. To better understand the scope of displacement and assess the needs of affected populations, IOM has been implementing the DTM programme since September 2014, in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and relevant State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs). In its most recent Round 32 assessment, enumerators posed COVID-19 related questions as well to respondents, which are represented here.

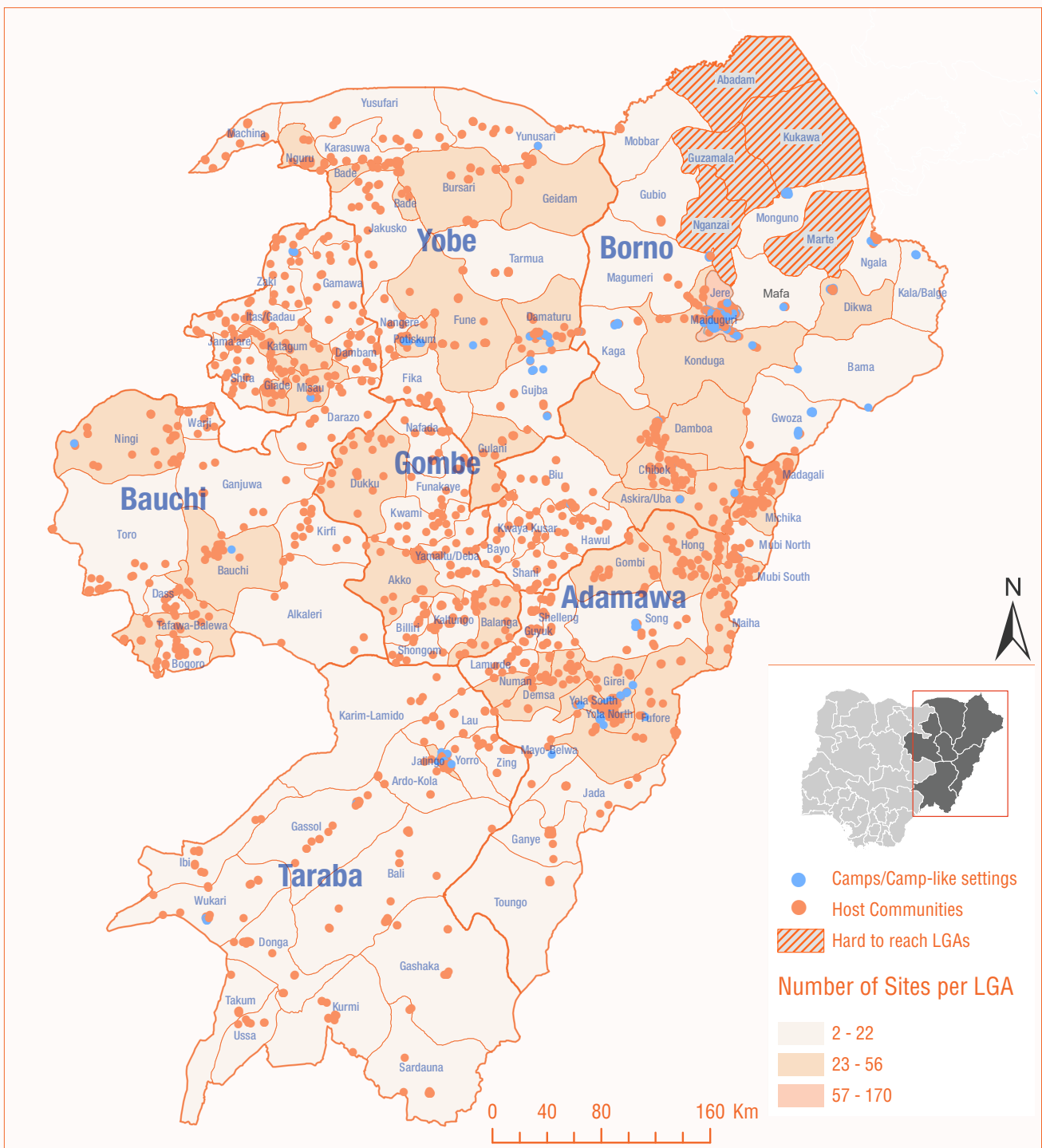
It is hoped that the findings of this assessment will help achieve the main objective of continuing to support the Federal Republic of Nigeria and humanitarian partners.

## ASSESSMENT COVERAGE

The assessment was conducted in 2,387 locations. These sites included 293 camps and camp-like settings and 2,094 locations where IDPs were residing with host communities.

As in other similar assessments, staff from IOM, NEMA, SEMAs and the Nigerian Red Cross Society collated the data in the field, including baseline information at Local Government Areas (LGAs) and ward-levels, by carrying out detailed assessments in displacement sites, such as camps and collective centers, as well as in sites where communities were hosting IDPs.

Map 1: Sites distribution by LGA

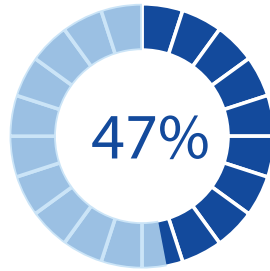


## KEY FINDINGS

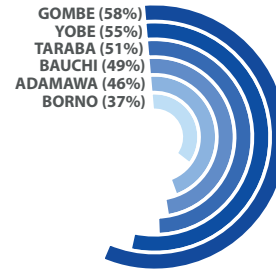
### AWARENESS

**99.7%**

of all assessed IDPs in the six northeastern states knew about the **disease**.



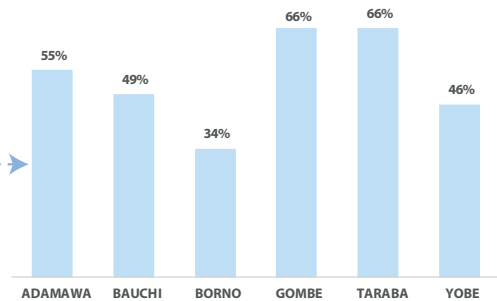
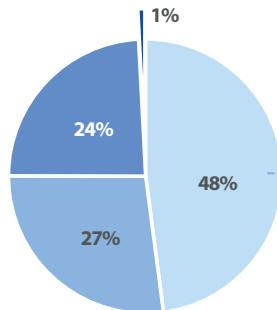
of respondents felt that most people in their communities were aware of the **disease**.



Out of the 47 per cent of respondents who felt most people knew about the disease, lowest percentage (37%) were from the most conflict-affected State of Borno, followed by Adamawa with 46 per cent, and Gombe recording the highest at 58 per cent.

### MEANS OF GETTING INFORMATION

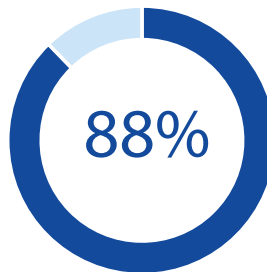
News was the most common means of getting information on **COVID-19** at **48** per cent (Taraba and Gombe were the highest at 66%, followed by Adamawa at 55%, Bauchi at 49%, Yobe at 46% and Borno was lowest at 34%) followed by awareness campaign at **27** per cent, word of mouth at **24** per cent, and other means at **1** per cent.



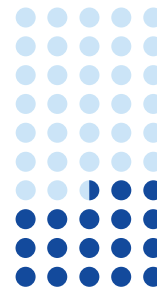
### MITIGATION MEASURES

**74%**

of respondents said they were not taking any mitigation measures to prevent infection by the highly contagious COVID-19



of respondents in Taraba were not taking mitigation measures.

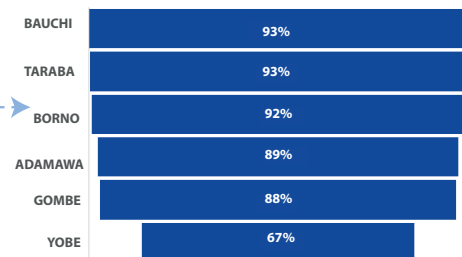
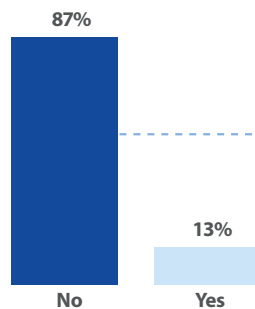


**35%**

of respondents in Yobe which represents the highest among the six states, were taking mitigation measures.

### PREPAREDNESS

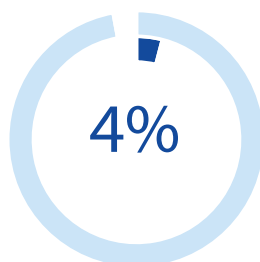
87 per cent of respondents felt that health centers were not prepared for handling the threat of COVID-19. Bauchi and Taraba (93%) had the highest percentage of respondents who felt health centers were not ready, closely followed by Borno at 92 per cent.



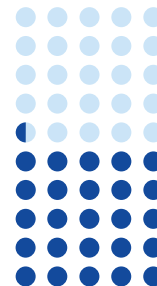
### EVICTIION THREATS/ SERVICE DISRUPTION

**98%**

of respondents said there have been no threats of evictions. Taraba had the highest percentage of respondents (4%) who had received threats of evictions.



received eviction threats in Taraba.



**51%**

of respondents said that services including Food Markets, WASH, Health, Education, Protection, Water trucking etc., were not affected by the pandemic.

## COVID-19 AWARENESS

From the assessment that was done in the six northeastern states of Nigeria, it was observed that almost all the internally displaced persons (IDPs) knew about a new disease called COVID-19.

News was the most common means of getting information on COVID-19 at 48 per cent (Taraba and Gombe were the highest at 66%, followed by Adamawa at 55%, Bauchi at 49%, Yobe at 46% and Borno was lowest at 34%). Awareness campaigns at 27 per cent were the next common means of getting information on COVID-19, given the high concentration of humanitarian agencies in Borno, most respondents in the state attributed information about the disease to awareness campaigns (43%). Word of mouth was next main source of information at 24 per cent, with radio, religious leaders and local committees not providing any information about the disease.

When asked about level of awareness about the disease among their community, 47 per cent of respondents felt that most people knew about it, (this figure was lowest in the most conflict-affected State of Borno at 37% and highest in Gombe at 58%); 34 per cent of respondents felt that everyone knows about the disease, 13 per cent of respondents felt that half the people knew about it and a further 6 per cent felt a few people knew about COVID-19.

Above findings are elaborated in Figures 1 to 4 below:

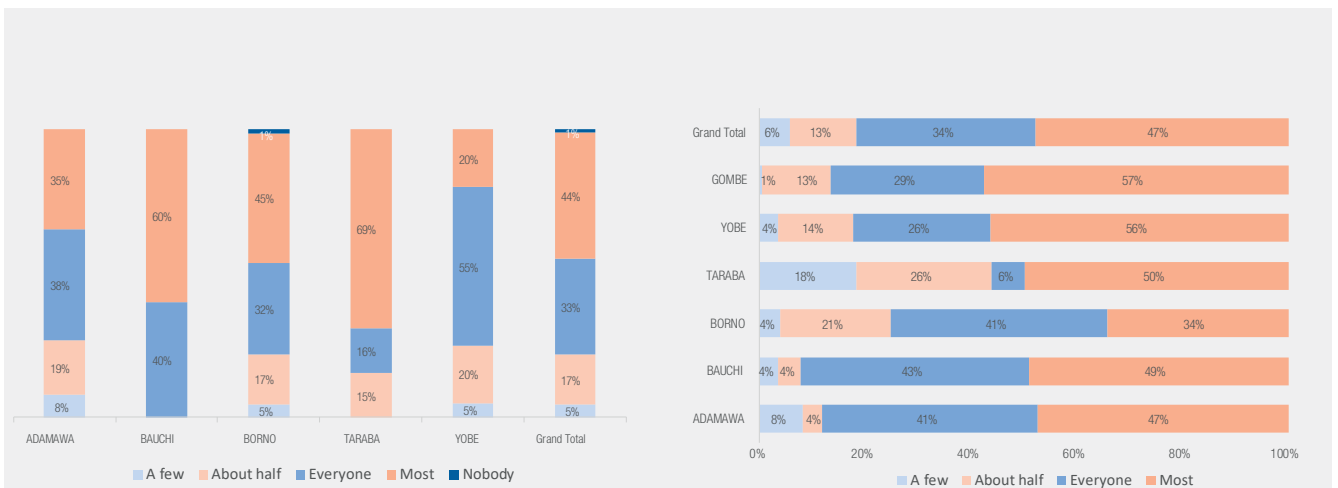


Fig 1: Awareness level in camps & camp-like settings

Fig 2: Awareness level in host communities

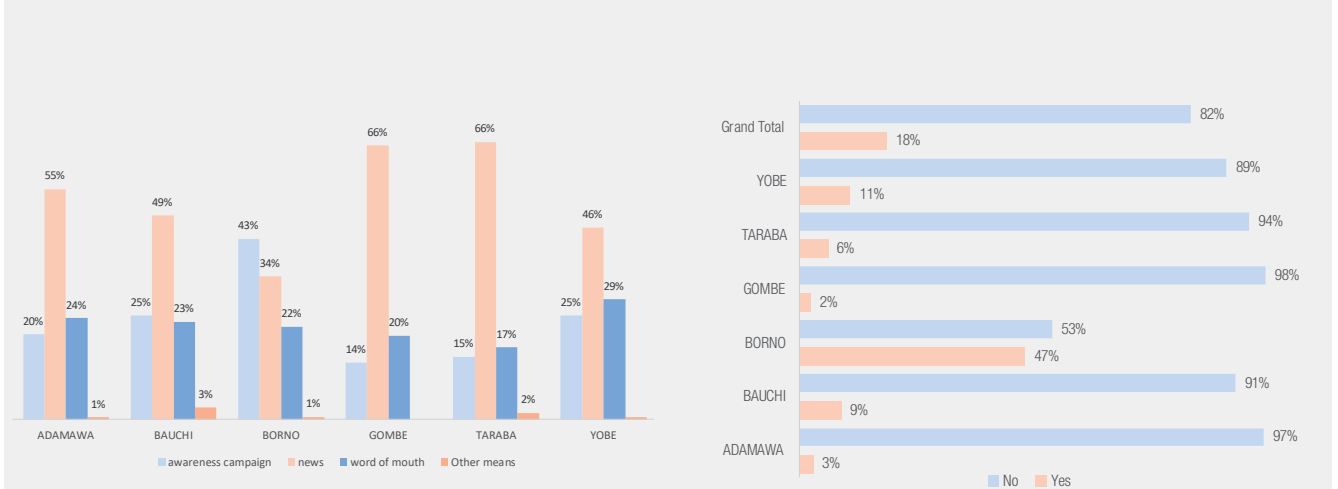


Fig 3: Means of getting information in all assessed sites

Fig 4: Routine communication on COVID-19 risk in all assessed sites

## MITIGATION MEASURES & PREPAREDNESS

A high of 74 per cent of respondents said they were not taking any mitigation measures to prevent infection by the highly contagious COVID-19, (88% of respondents in Taraba said they were not taking any mitigation measures); 26 per cent of respondents said they were taking mitigation measures, Yobe had the highest number of respondents (35%) taking mitigation measures.

Given that living conditions are cramped and mitigation measures to COVID-19 are all the more necessary, a high of 65 per cent of respondents living in camps and camps-like settings were not taking mitigation measures to COVID-19.

Out of 888,441 people living in camps and camp-like settings, 450,002 were not taking mitigation measures, the remaining 438,439 people living in camps and camp-like settings were taking mitigation measures. In host communities where IDPs are residing, an even higher percentage of 76 per cent were not taking mitigation measures. Out of 1.2 million IDPs living in host communities, 905,857 people are not practicing any mitigation measures to COVID-19, while 293,826 IDPs are following mitigation measures.

A high of 87 per cent respondents felt that the health centers are not prepared for handling the threat of COVID-19, while 13 per cent of respondents felt that the health centers are prepared. Bauchi and Taraba had the highest percentage of respondents who felt that health centers are not ready (93%), Borno state is next at 92 per cent.

The above findings are illustrated in Figures 6 to 9:





## EVICTION THREATS/ACCESS TO SERVICES

98 per cent of respondents said there have been no threats of evictions. Taraba state had the highest number of respondents who said they had received threats of evictions.

51 per cent of respondents said that COVID-19 had not disrupted services like food distribution, markets, WASH, health, education, protection, water trucking, etc. Among the respondents who said that services have been affected, 27 per cent said the interrupted services were onsite and 22 per cent said they were offsite.

The findings are elaborated in Figures 10 to 13 below:

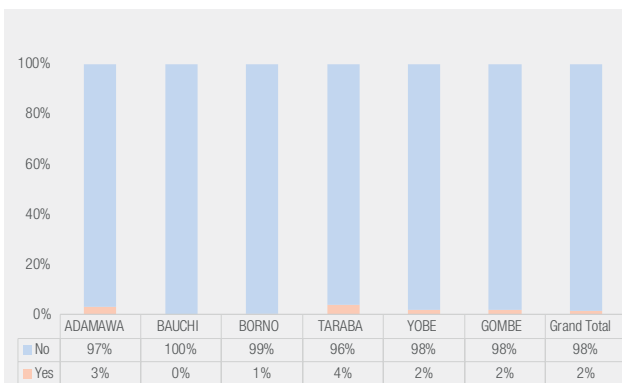


Fig10: Increase in evictions or eviction threats from sites occupied by IDPs

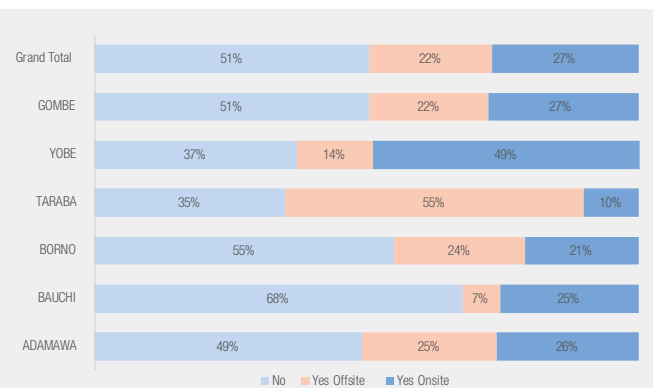


Fig11: Disruption of services due to COVID-19

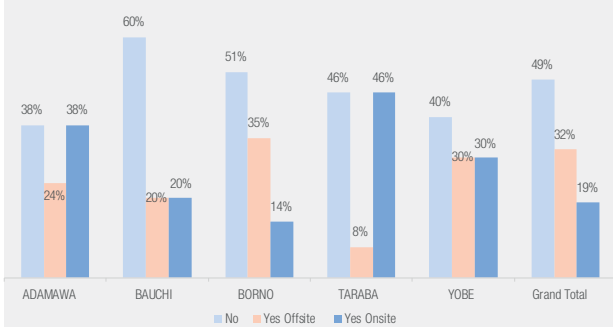


Fig12: Access to services in camps & camp-like settings

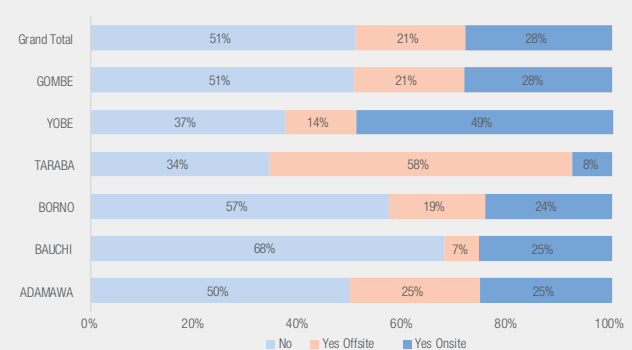


Fig13: Access to services in host communities

## ACCESS TO HANDWASHING STATIONS

Most sites reportedly had access to soap, an important sign of whether communities will be able to wash hands in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 disease.

Most IDPs in 42 per cent of sites had access to soap, half the people in 21 per cent of sites had access to soap, only a few people in 17 per cent of sites had access to soap, everyone in 17 per cent of sites had access to soap, with 3 per cent of sites saying no one had access to soap.

Among IDPs living in camps and camp-like settings, most sites reportedly had access to soap at (32%), in 23 per cent of sites a few people had access to soap with 21 per cent of sites stating that half of the people had access.

The above findings are illustrated in Figures 14 to 16:



## LIMITATIONS

The security situation in some wards of the northeastern zone remains unstable and as a result accessibility was limited.

The data used for this analysis are estimates obtained through key informant interviews, personal observation and focus group discussions. Thus, in order to ensure the reliability of these estimates, data collection was performed at the lowest administrative level: the site or the host community.



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