

# COVID-19 Situation Analysis 2: North East Nigeria

**AUGUST 2020**



## INTRODUCTION

The second round of the COVID-19 Situation Analysis is based on the assessment of knowledge, practice and impact of the pandemic on internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-affected communities of north-eastern Nigeria. Conducted by the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) unit of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the report covers the period 27 July to 15 August 2020 and reflects trends from north-eastern states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe.

The [first assessment](#) was conducted in May 2020 two months after the index case was reported in Nigeria. In this Round 2, 85,047 respondents – or 4 per cent of all identified IDPs as per DTM Round 33 -- 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 analyzed in this report includes COVID-19 awareness among IDPs, communication medium used to receive information, level of awareness (in camps and in host communities, respectively), exposure to communication on risks associated with COVID-19, mitigation measures taken (in camps and among host communities, respectively), health center's preparedness in managing confirmed cases of COVID-19, effect of the pandemic on day-to-day activities (in camps and in host communities, respectively) and access to infection and prevention control facilities.

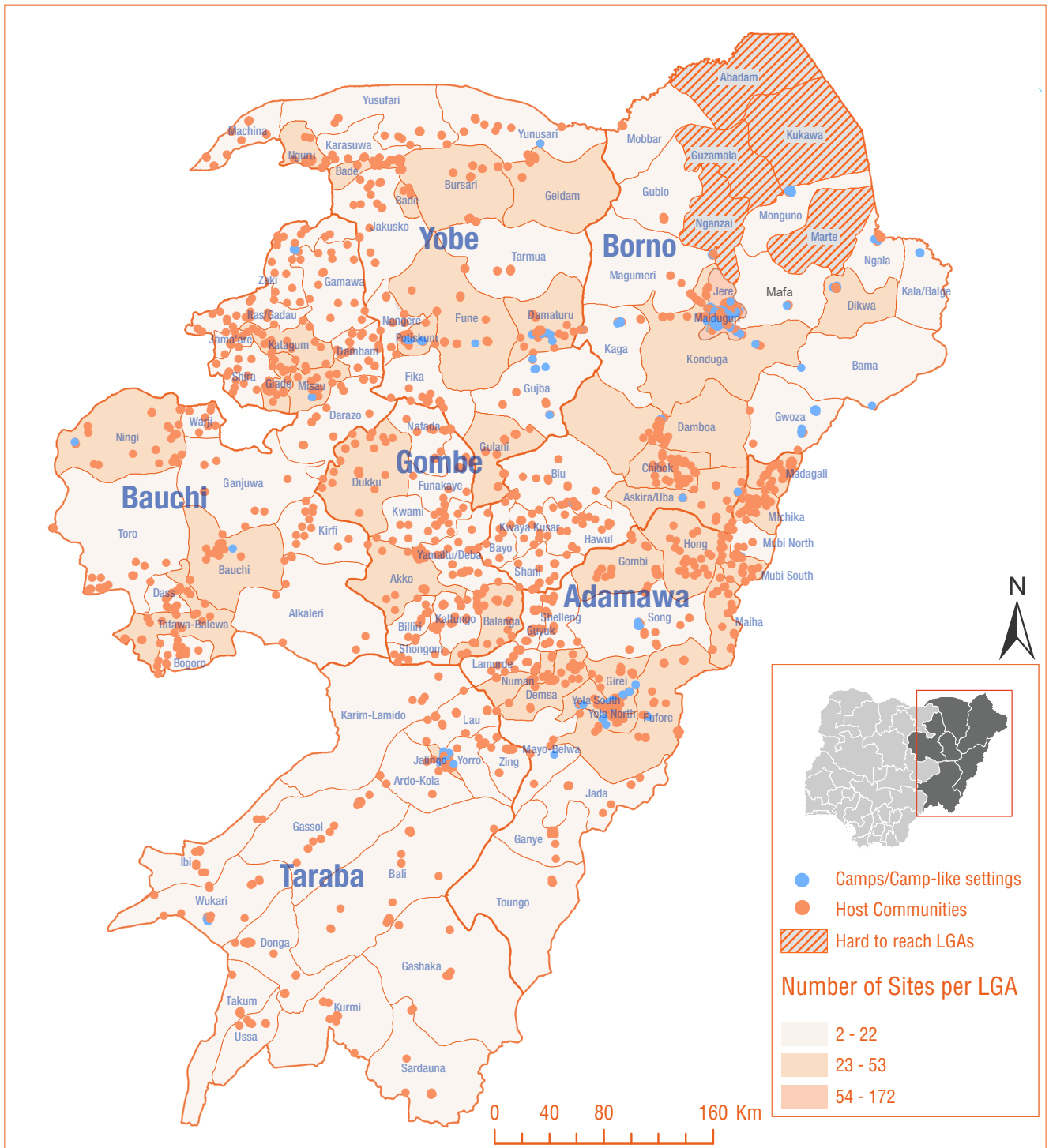
COVID-19 threatens to deepen the humanitarian crisis in north-eastern Nigeria which has been besieged with escalation of violence between Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) and the Government for nearly a decade, resulting in mass displacement and deprivation. To better understand the scope of displacement 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).

It is hoped that the findings of this assessment will help achieve the main objective of supporting the Government and humanitarian partners in providing better response to needs of displaced communities.

## ASSESSMENT COVERAGE

The assessment was conducted in 2,388 locations – marginally more than the 2,387 sites assessed in the first round of assessment. These sites included 300 camps and camp-like settings and 2,088 locations where IDPs were residing with host communities. As expected, the most affected State of Borno had the highest number of sites at 694 (18%). These included both camps and camp-like settings as well as host communities. Gombe had the least number of sites at 202.

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 Area and ward-levels.



Map 1: Sites distribution by LGA

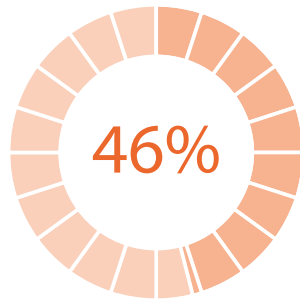
## KEY FINDINGS

### AWARENESS



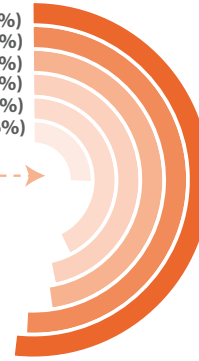
**99.7%**

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**.

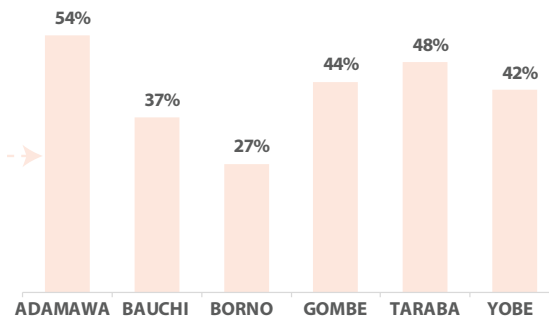
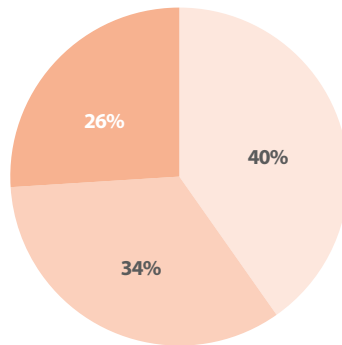
**BAUCHI (52%)**  
**ADAMAWA (51%)**  
**GOMBE (48%)**  
**BORNO (47%)**  
**YOBE (43%)**  
**TARABA (26%)**



Out of the **46** per cent of respondents who felt most people knew about the disease, lowest percentage (**26%**) were from Taraba State, followed by Yobe with **43** per cent. Bauchi and Adamawa recorded the highest at **52** and **51** per cent respectively.

### MEANS OF GETTING INFORMATION

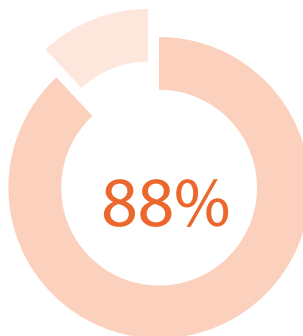
News remained the most common means of getting information on **COVID-19**, followed by awareness campaign and words of mouth.



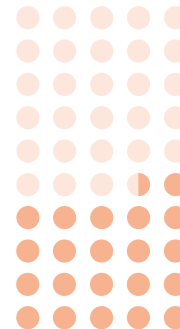
### MITIGATION MEASURES

**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. This represents the highest among the six states.

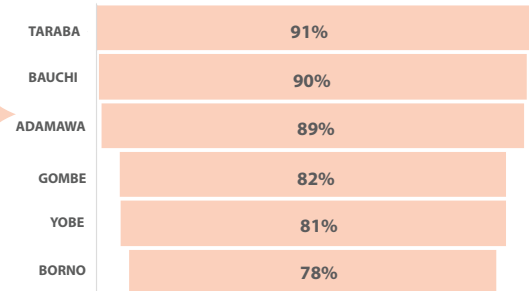
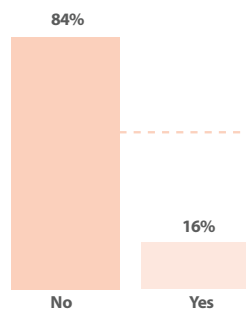


**43%**

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

### PREPAREDNESS

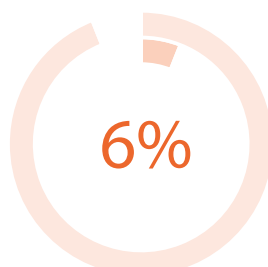
Due to the concentrated population of displaced persons (in camps, camp-like settings and host communities), the level of preparedness of health facilities in managing COVID-19 cases is of utmost importance in tackling the pandemic.



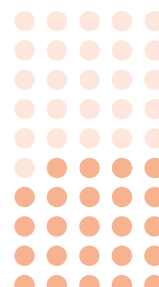
### EVICTIION THREATS/ SERVICE DISRUPTION

**96%**

of respondents said there have been no threats of evictions.



of respondents in Adamawa received threats of evictions. This represents the highest among the six northeastern states.



**48%**

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



## AWARENESS/SOURCE OF INFORMATION

It was observed that almost all Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) knew about a new disease called COVID-19.

News remained the most common means of getting information on COVID-19 at 40 per cent (down from 48% due to increase in awareness campaigns) in the last round of assessment, (Adamawa was the highest at 54%, followed by Taraba at 48%, Gombe at 44%, Yobe at 42%, Bauchi at 37%, and Borno was lowest at 27%).

Awareness campaigns at 34 per cent (up from 27%) were the next common means of getting information on COVID-19, followed by word of mouth at 26 per cent. Due to the large presence of humanitarian agencies disseminating information about COVID-19 in Borno, most of the respondents (55%) in the state attributed source of getting information about the virus to awareness campaigns.

When asked about the level of awareness regarding the disease among their community residing in camps and camp-like settings, 50 per cent of respondents (up from 44% in the last round of assessment) felt that most people knew about it, this figure was highest in the most conflict-affected state of Borno at 54% and lowest in Taraba at 29%); 34 per cent (down from 33%) of respondents felt that everyone knows about COVID-19. The perception that everyone knows about COVID-19 was highest in Adamawa at 41 per cent (up from 38%) and lowest in Taraba at 14 per cent. Thirteen 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.

Respondents residing with host communities also felt that most people (46%) knew about COVID-19, 31 per cent (down from 34%) felt that everyone knew about the disease, 16 per cent (up from 13%) felt half the people knew and a further 7 per cent (up from 6%) felt that a few people knew about the disease.

Given that awareness campaign have increased, routine information on COVID-19 risk, disease transmission, and preventive measures such as proper and frequent hand washing, parts of the face area to avoid touching, and physical distancing were disseminated. Seventy-seven per cent of respondents said routine information on COVID-19 was available, while 23 per cent said it was unavailable. Gombe had the highest number of respondents who found that information on COVID-19 was routinely available at 96 per cent, this figure was lowest in Taraba at 55 per cent.

The findings are elaborated in figures 1 to 4 below:

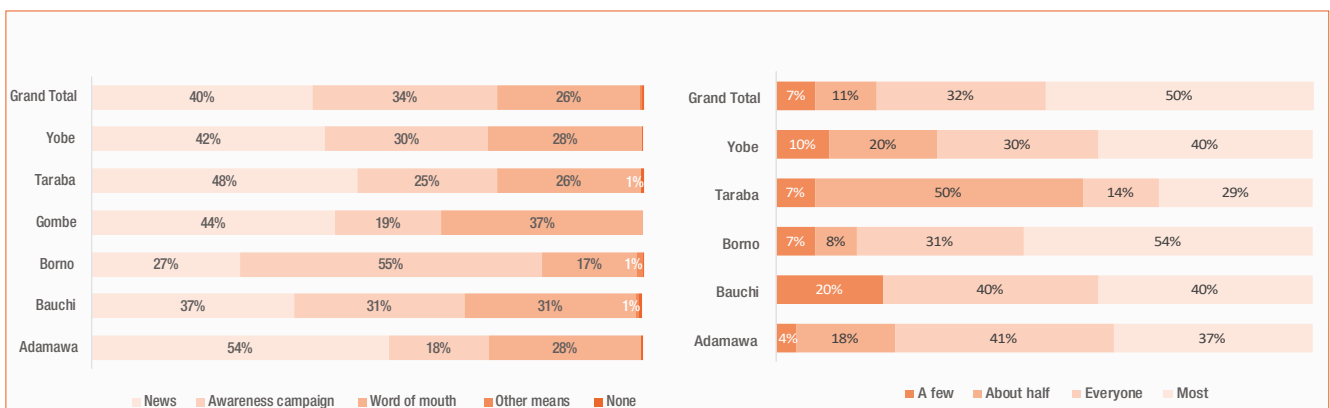


Fig 1: Means of getting information in all assessed sites

Fig 2: Awareness level in camps & camp-like settings

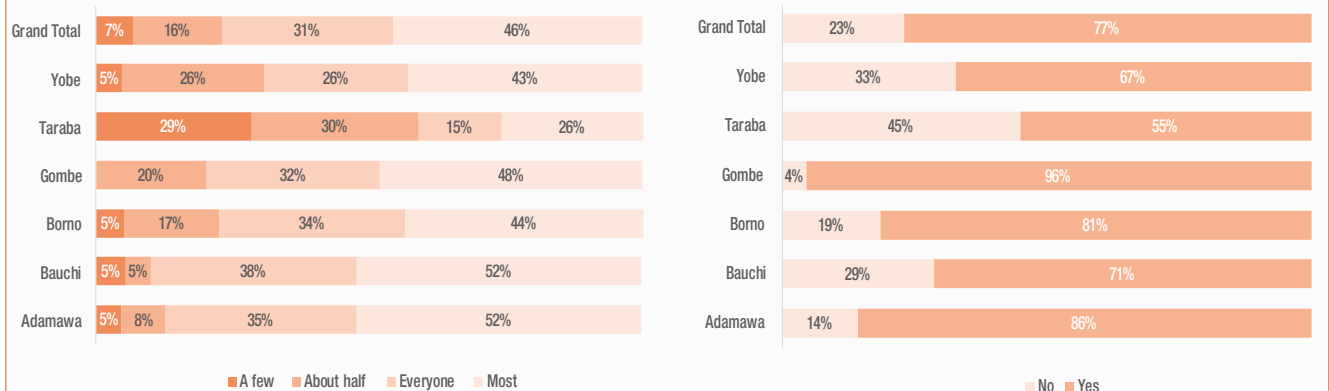


Fig 3: Awareness level in host communities

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

## MITIGATION MEASURES/PREPAREDNESS

Given that living conditions are cramped and mitigation measures to COVID-19 are all the more necessary, 63 per cent (marginally less than 65% recorded in last round of assessment) of IDPs in the camps, and camp-like settings said that mitigation measures to prevent infection were not set up; 60 per cent of respondents in Borno and 100 per cent of IDPs in both Bauchi and Yobe state all said mitigation measures to prevent contracting the highly contagious COVID-19 disease were not in place. Thirty-seven per cent (up from 35% in previous assessment) of IDPs in camps and camp-like settings said there were mitigation measures in place to prevent contracting COVID-19 disease, with 44 per cent of respondents from Adamawa representing the highest among the north-eastern states.

Similarly to what is obtainable in the displacement settings, 76 per cent (same as the previous round of assessment) of respondents residing with host communities said no mitigation measures were put in place to prevent contracting the COVID-19 virus, with only 24 per cent (no change from last round) having mitigation measures in place. A high of 90 per cent of IDPs residing with host communities in Taraba said no mitigation measures were put in place to prevent contracting COVID-19, followed by Bauchi and Yobe at 84 and 80 per cent respectively. Forty-three per cent of IDPs residing with host communities in Gombe said that mitigation measures were put in place, followed by Borno and Adamawa at 31 and 27 per cent respectively.

A 3 per cent decrement was noted in the perception that health centers were not prepared for handling the threat of COVID-19 when the figures from the latest round of assessment are compared with the last round of assessment. Eighty-four per cent of respondents felt that health centers were not prepared for handling the threat of COVID-19, signifying a decrease from the 87 per cent who had said that the health centers were not prepared during the last round of assessment, while 16 per cent of respondents said that health centers were prepared to handle the threat of COVID-19. Taraba had the highest (91%) percentage of respondents who felt health centers were not prepared to handle the threat of COVID 19, followed by Bauchi and Adamawa with 90 and 89 per cent respectively; Borno, Gombe and Yobe had percentages greater than 65 per cent. Among the 16 per cent of respondents who feel otherwise, 22 per cent were from Borno, 19 per cent from Yobe and 18 per cent from Gombe.

The findings are elaborated in figures 5 to 8 below:

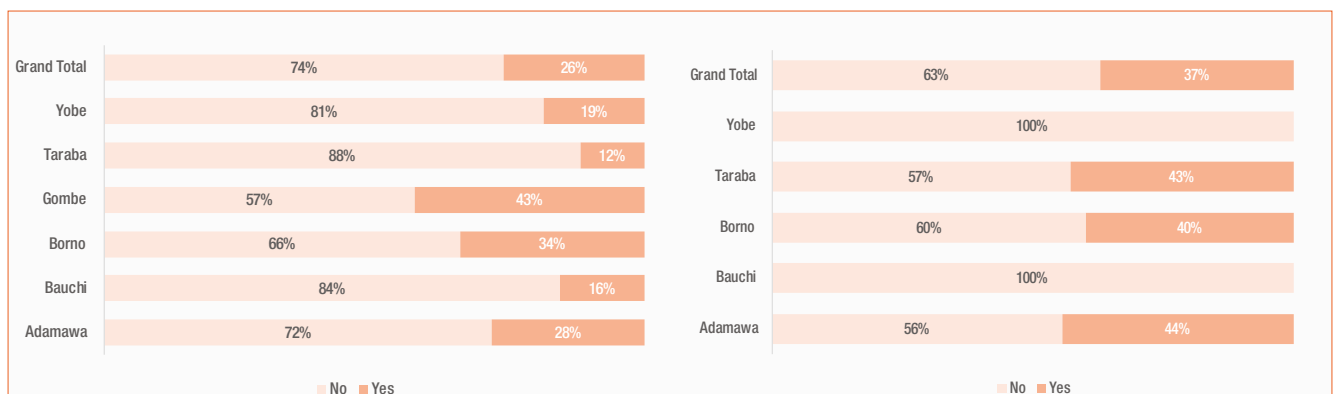


Fig 5: Mitigation measures percentage in all assessed sites

Fig 6: Mitigation measures percentage in camps & camp-like settings

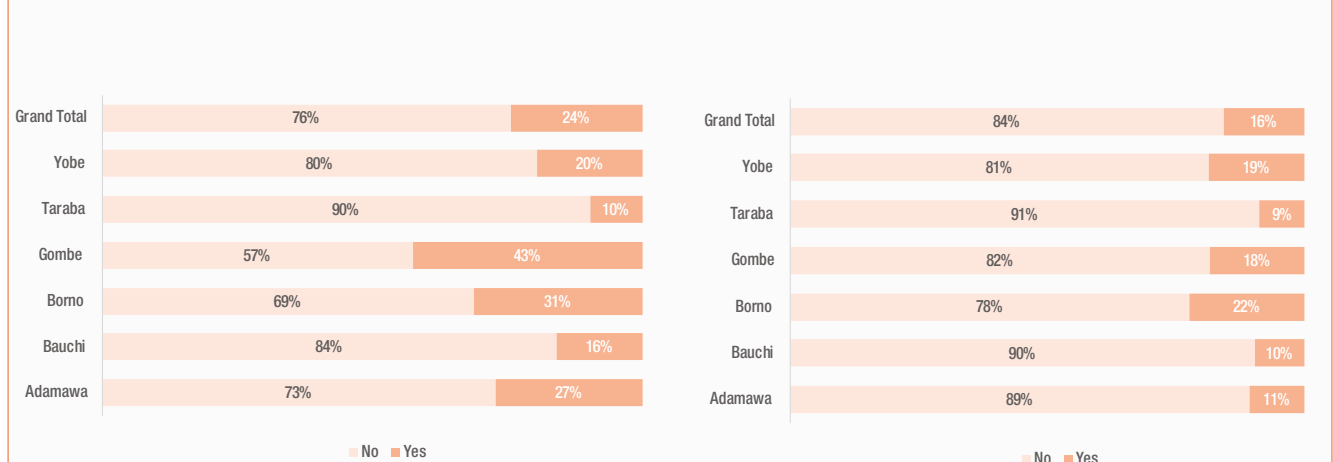


Fig 7: Percentage of mitigation measures in host communities

Fig 8: Health centers preparedness to handle COVID-19 cases in all sites assessed

## EVICTION THREATS/SERVICE DISRUPTION

Ninety-six per cent (up from 94%) of respondents said there have been no threats of evictions and 4 per cent said they had encountered threats of eviction. The highest per cent of respondents (6%) who said they have received threats of evictions were in Adamawa, followed by Gombe with 5 per cent, with Taraba and Yobe accounting for 4 per cent each.

Forty-eight per cent (down from 51%) of respondents said that COVID-19 had not impacted services including distribution of food, markets, WASH, health, education, protection, water trucking, etc. Fifty-two per cent of respondents said that the pandemic had impacted services out of which majority (28%) were onsite and 24 per cent were offsite. Among the respondents who said that services were affected, Gombe had the highest number of respondents at 63 per cent, out of which 57 per cent were offsite and 6 per cent were onsite, Bauchi had the least number of respondents who said that services were impacted at 30 per cent (24% onsite and 6% offsite). In the most conflict-affected State of Borno, 60 per cent of respondents said that COVID-19 had impacted their services. Of these, 32 per cent were onsite and 28 per cent were offsite.

In camps and camp-like settings, 43 per cent (down from 49%) of respondents said that there was no disruption of services. Fifty-seven per cent of respondents said services were disrupted, out of which 32 per cent were offsite and 25 per cent were onsite. In the most conflict-affected State of Borno, 58 per cent (33% offsite and 25% onsite) of respondents said there was no disruption of services while 42 per cent said services were disrupted.

In host communities where IDPs are residing, 49 per cent (down from 51%) of respondents said there was no disruption of services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fifty-one per cent of respondents in host communities said that services were disrupted, out of which 28 per cent were onsite and 23 per cent were offsite. In Borno State, 39 per cent of respondents said the pandemic had not caused any disruptions but 61 per cent said it had impacted adversely (36% onsite and 25% offsite).

The findings are elaborated in figures 9 to 12 below:

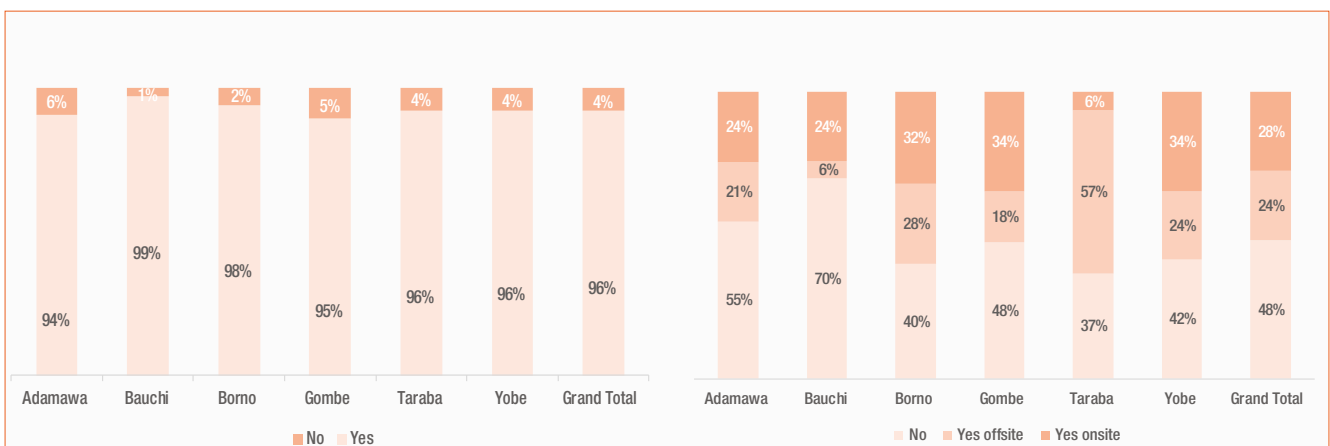


Fig 9: Increase in eviction threats from sites occupied by IDPs

Fig 10: Service disruption in all assessed sites due to COVID-19

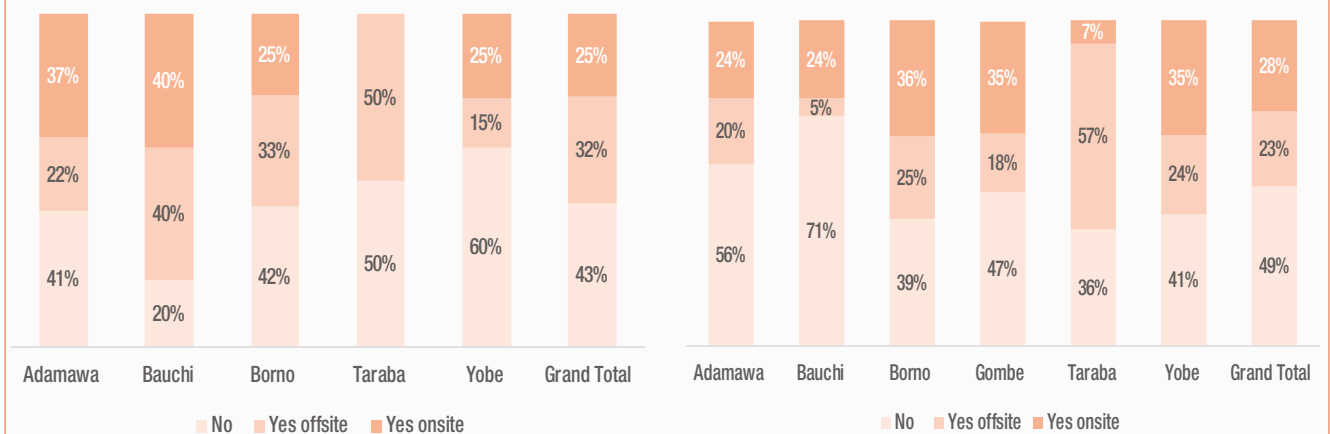


Fig 11: Service disruption in camps & camp-like settings due to COVID-19

Fig 12: Service disruption in host communities due to COVID-19

## ACCESS TO HANDWASHING STATIONS

Most sites had access to soap and water, albeit lesser than the last round of assessment, 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 36 per cent (down from 42%) of sites had access to soap and water, half the people in 26 per cent (up from 21%) of sites had access to soap and water. Everyone in 19 per cent (up from 17%) of sites have access to soap and water, with only a few people at 15 per cent (down from 17%) of sites with access to soap and water. At the same time, in 4 per cent (up from 3%) of sites, no one has access to soap and water.

Among IDPs living in camps and camp-like settings, most sites reportedly had access to soap and water at 34 per cent (up from 32%). A few respondents had access to soap and water in 22 per cent (down from 23%) of sites. In 16 per cent (down from 21%) of sites, half the residents had access to soap and water, everyone in 15 per cent (up from 13%) of sites reportedly have access to soap and water, and nobody in 13 per cent (up from 11%) of sites have access.

In 36 per cent (down from 43%) of sites where IDPs are residing with host communities, most people have access to soap and water, about half the people in 27 per cent (up from 21%) of sites had access. Everyone in 20 per cent (up from 17%) of sites have access to soap and water, a few people in 15 per cent (down from 16%) of sites have access to soap and water, and no IDP residing in 2 per cent (down from 3%) of host communities with access.

The findings are elaborated in figures 13 to 17 below:

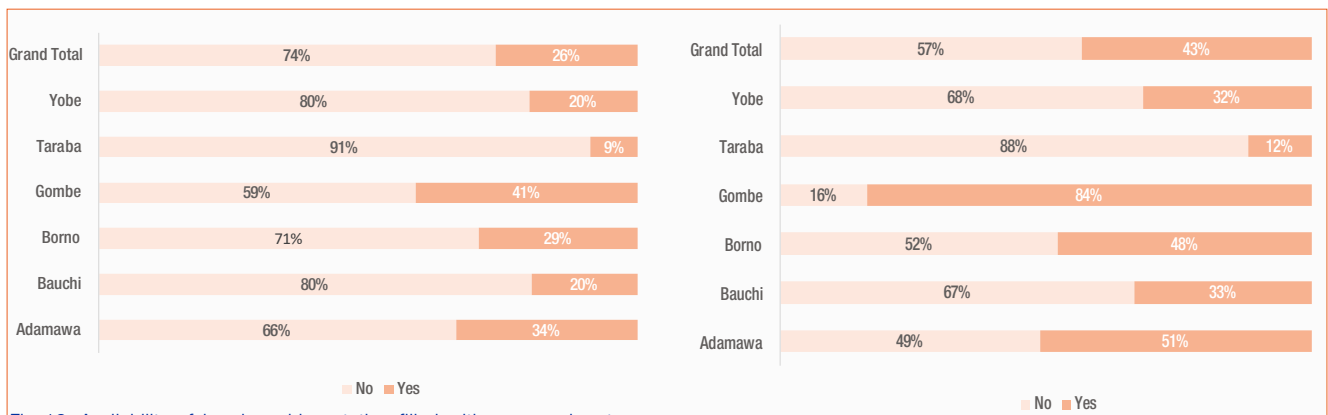


Fig 13: Availability of hand washing station filled with soap and water onsite

Fig 14: Evidence of hand washing practice

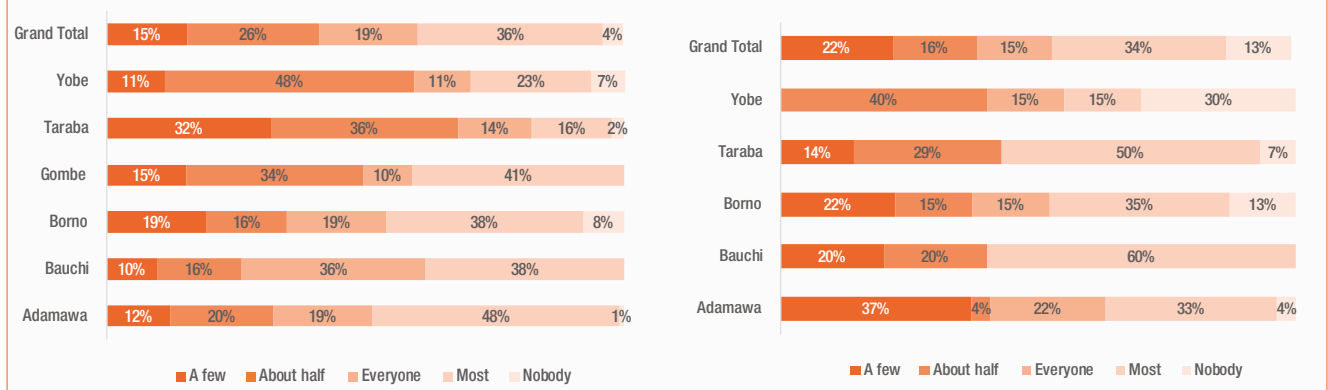


Fig 15: Access to soap and water in all assessed sites

Fig 16: Access to soap and water in camps and camp-like settings

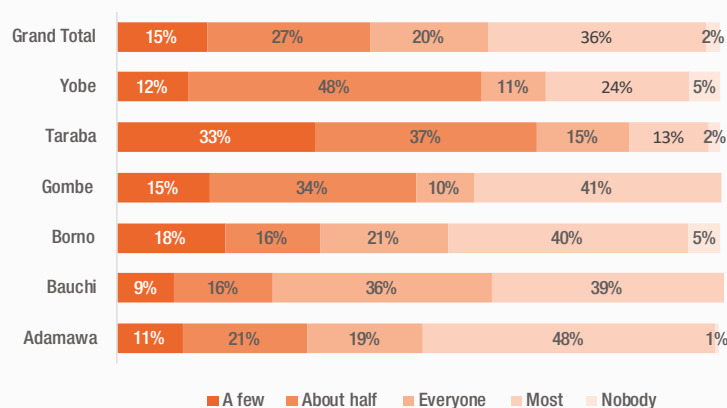


Fig 17: Access to soap and water in host communities



## LIMITATIONS

- The security situation in some wards of the northeast 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.

The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

“When quoting, paraphrasing, or in any other way using the information mentioned in this report, the source needs to be stated appropriately as follows: “Source: Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), August 2020.”

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