

COVID-19 Situation Analysis 3: North East Nigeria

SEPTEMBER 2020



DTM
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TRACKING MATRIX

INTRODUCTION

Round 3 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 21 September to 10 October 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. The [second assessment](#) was published in August 2020. In this Round 3, 116,018 respondents — or 5 per cent of all identified IDPs as per DTM Round 34 — 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.

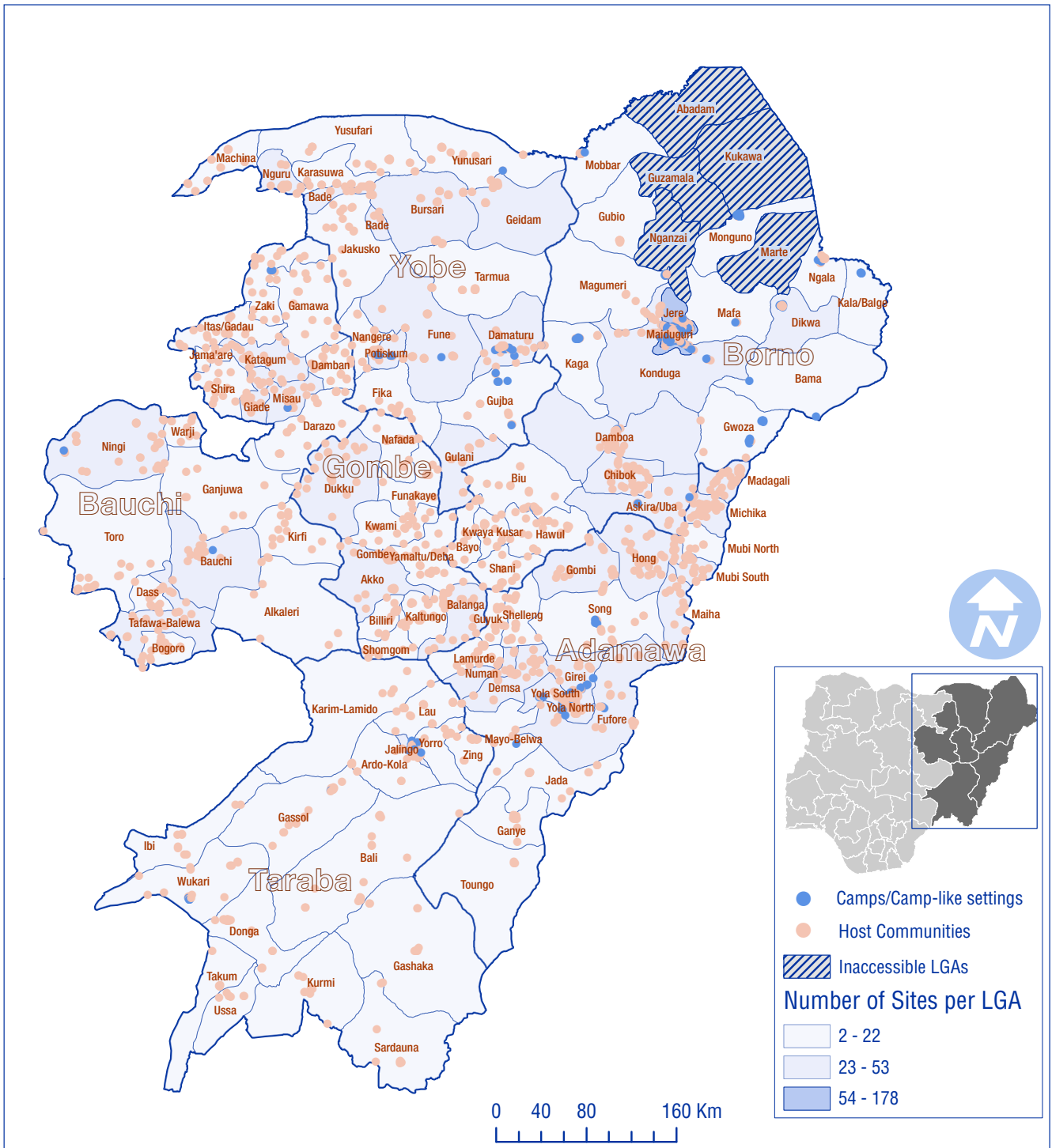
COVID-19 threatens to deepen the humanitarian crisis in north-eastern Nigeria which has been besieged with escalation of violence between Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) and the Government for nearly a decade, resulting in mass displacement and deprivation. To better understand the scope of displacement 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 2,392 locations – marginally more than the 2,388 sites assessed in the last round of assessment. These sites included 307 camps and camp-like settings and 2,085 locations where IDPs were residing with host communities. As expected, the most affected State of Borno had the highest number of sites at 700 (29%). 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 the Local Government Area (LGA) and ward-levels.



Map 1: Sites distribution by LGA

KEY FINDINGS

AWARENESS ABOUT COVID-19

99% of respondents are aware of the pandemic

1% of respondents are not aware of the pandemic

41% per cent of respondents felt that most people in their communities were aware of the disease.

ADAMAWA	46%
BAUCHI	44%
BORNO	43%
YOBE	40%
GOMBE	40%
TARABA	24%

Out of the **41** per cent of respondents who felt that most people knew about the disease, lowest percentage (**24%**) were from Taraba State, followed by Gombe and Yobe with **40** per cent, respectively. Adamawa and Bauchi recorded the highest at **46** and **44** per cent, respectively.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON COVID-19

- News was the source of getting information for 38 per cent of respondents
- Awareness campaign was the source of getting information for 35 per cent of respondents
- Word of mouth was the source of getting information for 25 per cent of respondents
- 1% of respondents got information on COVID-19 through other means
- 1% of respondents had no means of getting information on COVID-19

88% of displaced populations received information on how to protect themselves from COVID-19 infection, mainly from Government officials, Friends & families, and Community leaders.

12% of IDPs did not receive information on how to protect themselves from COVID-19 infection

Government Officials	26%
Friends & Family	17%
Community Leaders	15%
Religious Leaders	11%
Medical Personnel	6%
Camp Management	6%

MITIGATION MEASURES PREPAREDNESS DISTANCE TO OPERATIONAL HEALTH CENTRE

30% of IDPs had mitigation measures set-up in their localities

70% of displaced populations had no mitigation measures set-up in their localities

20% of respondents felt that health centres are well prepared to handle the threat of the disease

80% of respondents felt that health centres are not prepared for handling the threat of the disease

For **24%** of respondents, it takes 5 minutes to get to the closest operational health centers, less than 30 minutes for **48%**, less than 60 minutes for **16%** and greater than 60 minutes for **12%** of respondents respectively.

EVICION THREATS SERVICE DISRUPTION SANITATION AND HYGIENE

96% of respondents said there have been no threats of evictions while **4%** said they are facing eviction threats from the sites they occupied.

14% of sites occupied by respondents in Gombe have received eviction threats, followed by Adamawa and Taraba States at **6%** respectively.

56% of respondents have had services such as Food, Markets, WASH, Health, Education, Protection, Water Trucking etc., affected by the pandemic. **31%** of services affected were onsite while **25%** were offsite. Borno at **62%** was the most affected, followed by Taraba at **60%** and Yobe at **55%**.

41% of the IDPs had evidence of handwashing practices

26% of the IDPs had hand washing stations filled with water and soap on sites

57% of the displaced population have changed their hygiene and sanitation habit due to COVID-19 pandemic

For **47%** of respondents, it takes 5 minutes to get to the closest non-drinking water source, less than 30 minutes for **40%**, less than 60 minutes for **9%** and greater than 60 minutes for **4%** of respondents respectively.

AWARENESS/SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Awareness about COVID-19 remained high at 99 per cent amongst all IDPs assessed during the COVID-19 Situation Analysis Round 3 across the conflict-affected north-eastern region of Nigeria.

News remained the most common means of getting information on COVID-19 though it slipped once again to settle at 38 per cent (was 40% in the previous round of assessment and was 48% in the first round of assessment conducted in May 2020).

Awareness campaigns were the next main source of information at 35 per cent. Borno, which has a very high concentration of humanitarian actors, 53 per cent of respondents cited awareness campaigns as the main source of information. In the last round of assessment, 55 per cent of respondents in Borno had cited awareness campaigns as the main source of information. Yobe was next at 35 per cent, followed by Bauchi at 34 per cent.

When asked about the level of awareness regarding the disease among their community residing in camps and camp-like settings, 40 per cent of respondents (down from 50% in Round 2 and 44% in Round 1) felt that most people knew about it. This figure was highest in the most conflict-affected state of Borno at 43 per cent (down from 55% recorded in the last round of assessment) and lowest in Yobe at 19 per cent.

An increase was noted in the percentage of people who said that everyone knew about COVID-19 with the value going up to 38 per cent from 32 per cent. The perception that everyone knows about COVID-19 was highest in Bauchi at 80 per cent and lowest in Taraba where it was zero. Thirteen per cent of respondents felt that half the people knew about it and a further 9 per cent (down by 2%) felt few people knew about COVID-19.

Given that awareness campaigns have increased, routine information on COVID-19 risks, transmission, and preventive measures such as proper and frequent hand washing, 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. These findings were unchanged since the last round of assessment. Once again, Gombe had the highest number of respondents who found that information on COVID-19 was routinely available at 93 per cent (down from 96%) while this figure was lowest in Taraba at 60 per cent (up from 55%).

The findings are elaborated in figures 1 to 4 below:

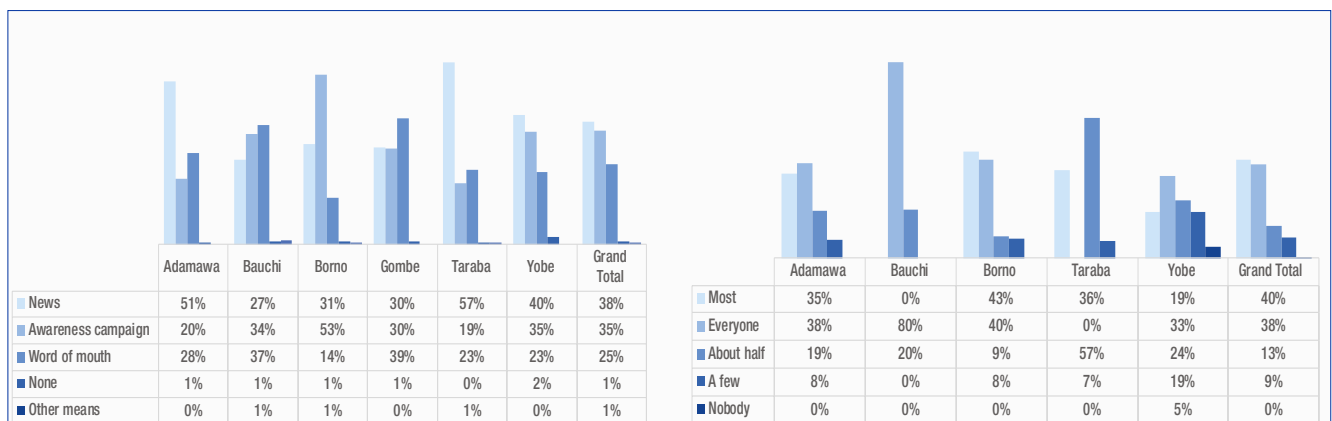


Fig 1: Means of getting information in all assessed sites

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

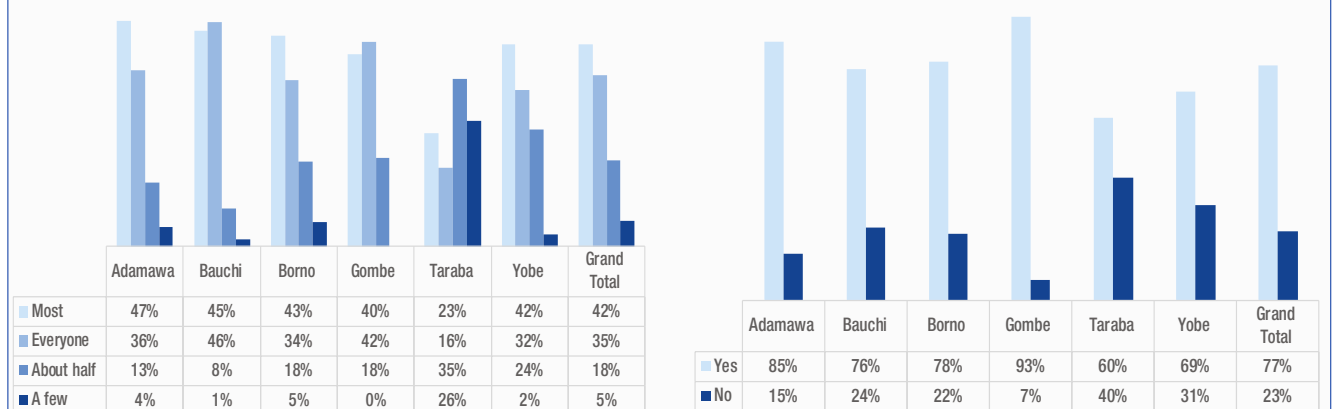


Fig 3: Awareness level in host communities

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, 58 per cent (less than 63% recorded in last round of assessment and 65% noted in the first assessment) of IDPs in the camps, and camp-like settings said that mitigation measures to prevent infection were not set up.

Surprisingly, Adamawa topped the list of states that reportedly had mitigation measures put in place to prevent the spread of the highly contagious SARS-CoV2 virus that causes COVID-19 disease. Fifty-eight per cent of respondents residing in camp and camp-like settings in Adamawa reported that COVID-19 mitigation measures had been set-up in the locality/sites. This figure was 44 per cent in the last round of assessment.

Borno came in next at 44 per cent although it has the highest levels of awareness campaigns and concentration of aid agencies given that it is the most conflict-affected north-eastern state. The corresponding figure for Borno in the last round of assessment was 40 per cent.

Yobe was the state with the lowest levels of mitigation measures at 5 per cent though it is a slight improvement over the zero-level recorded in the last round of assessment.

With respect to mitigation measures put in place in locations where IDPs were residing with host communities, 71 per cent (down from 76%) of respondents residing with host communities said no mitigation measures were put in place to prevent contracting SARS-CoV2 virus. Taraba state had the highest percentage of respondents (88%) stating that no mitigation measures had been put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Bauchi followed at 77 per cent and then Yobe at 70 per cent.

Of the remaining 29 per cent that said mitigation measures were put in place, Gombe had the highest percentage at 38 per cent, followed by Adamawa at 34 per cent and then Borno at 32 per cent.

On the upside, an increase of 4 per cent was noted in the perception that health centers were prepared for handling the threat of COVID-19 when comparing the findings of this Round 3 assessment with the previous assessment. Twenty per cent of respondents said that health centers were prepared in Round 3 as against 80 per cent who felt that health centers were not.

Once again, Gombe had the highest affirmative response of 27 per cent, followed by Borno at 25 per cent and Yobe at 22 per cent. Among the states that stood out for citing lack of preparedness in health centers, Adamawa topped at 88 per cent, followed by Taraba at 86 per cent and Bauchi at 82 per cent.

The findings are elaborated in figures 5 to 8 below:

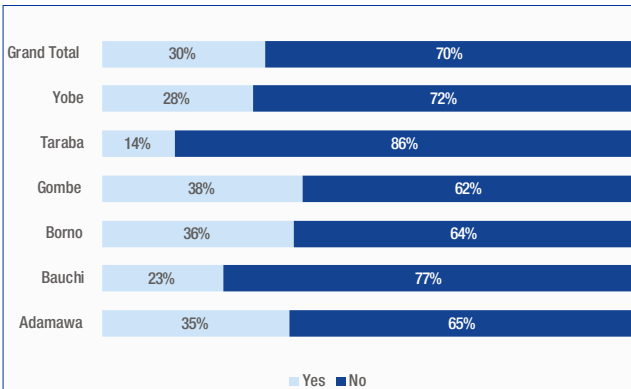


Fig 5: Mitigation measures percentage in all assessed sites

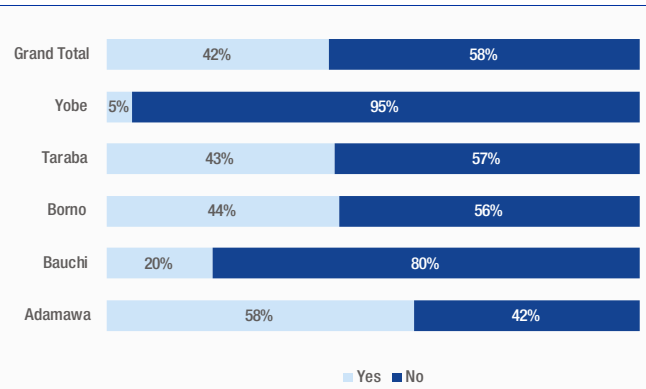


Fig 6: Mitigation measures percentage in camps & camp-like settings

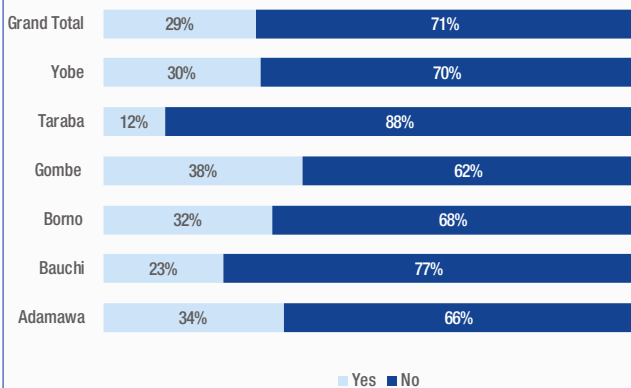


Fig 7: Percentage of mitigation measures in host communities

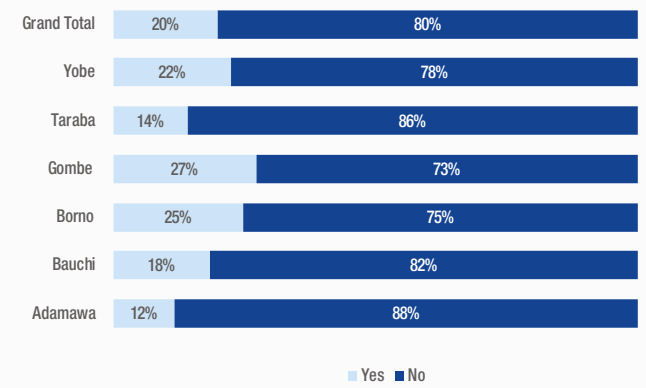


Fig 8: Health centers preparedness to handle COVID-19 cases in all sites assessed

EVICTIION THREATS/SERVICE DISRUPTION

Ninety-six per cent (no change since the last round of assessment) 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 who said they have received threats of evictions were in Gombe at 14 per cent (up from 5% in the last round of assessment), Adamawa (6%) and Taraba at 6 per cent too.

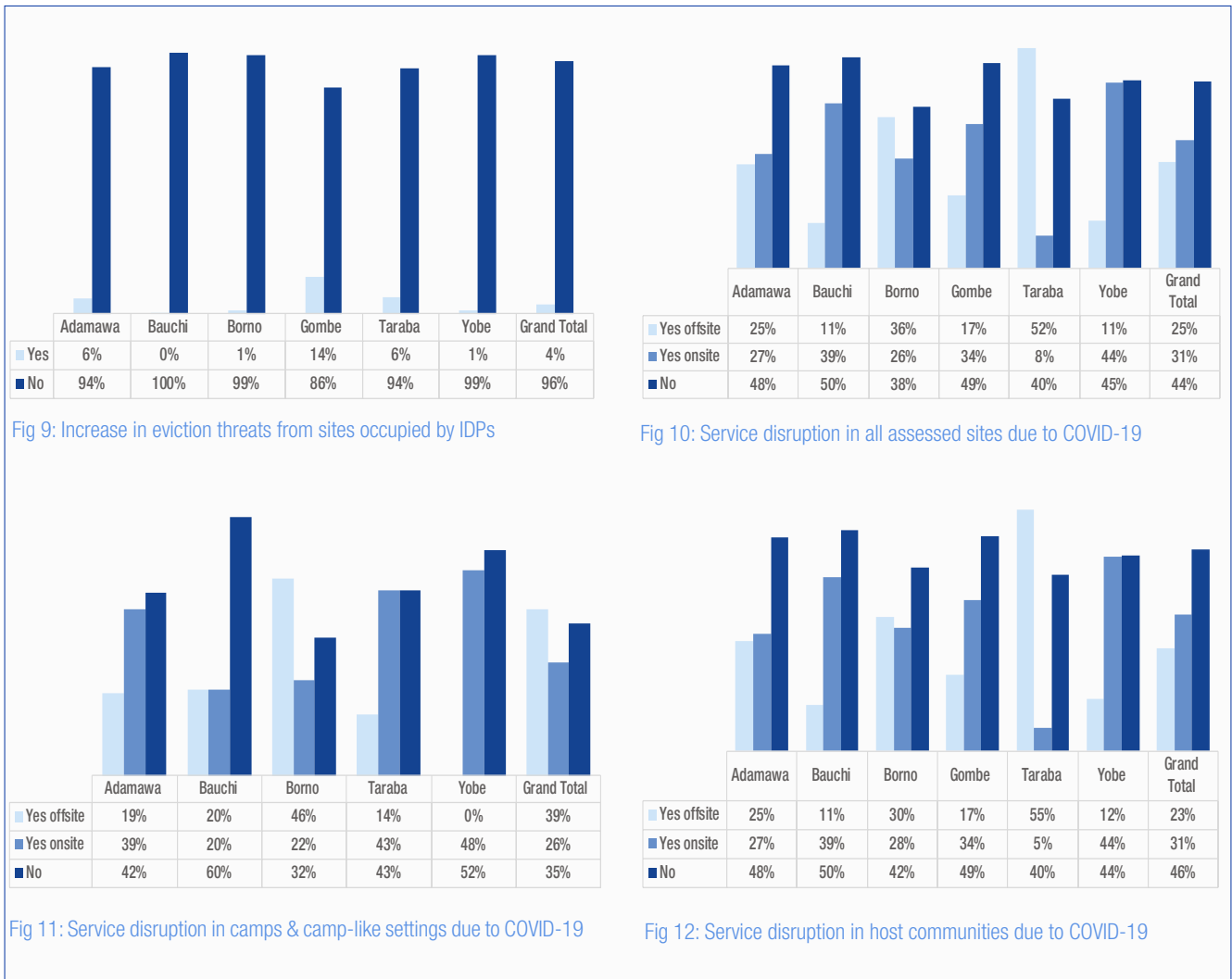
With respect to access to services including distribution of food, markets, WASH, health, education, protection, water trucking, etc., for IDPs residing in camps and camp-like settings, 65 per cent of respondents said that services were disrupted either on-site or off-site. This figure was 57 per cent in the last round of assessment.

More services were impacted by the pandemic off-site (39%) than on-site (26%). The state with the highest percentage of services disrupted off-site was the most affected state of Borno at 46 per cent, followed by Bauchi at 20 per cent and Adamawa at 19 per cent. In terms of on-site services affected by the pandemic, Yobe had the highest at 48 per cent, followed by Taraba at 43 per cent and Adamawa at 39 per cent.

But for 35 per cent of displaced persons, no services were disrupted. Bauchi had the highest percentage of respondents stating that no services were available at 60 per cent, followed by Yobe at 52 per cent and Taraba at 43 per cent.

In communities hosting IDPs, 54 per cent of respondents said services were impacted by the pandemic either on-site (31%) or off-site (23%). Yobe had the highest percentage of services impacted by the pandemic on-site at 44 per cent, followed by Bauchi at 39 per cent and Gombe at 34 per cent. In Borno, services were disrupted on-site in 28 per cent of sites assessed. Among host communities that had off-site services impacted by the pandemic, Taraba topped at 55 per cent, followed by Borno at 30 per cent and Adamawa at 25 per cent.

The findings are elaborated in figures 9 to 12 below:



ACCESS TO HANDWASHING STATIONS

Access to handwashing stations is an important determinant of whether communities would be able to wash hands in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 disease. Most sites continued to have access to soap and water, albeit lesser than the figure noted in the first round of assessment which was conducted in May 2020.

In Round 3, most IDPs in 39 per cent (up from 36% since Round 2 but still lesser than 42% noted in Round 1) of sites had access to soap and water. About half the people in 24 per cent (down from 26%) of sites had access to soap and water. Everyone in 18 per cent (down by 1%) of sites had access to soap and water, with only a few people at 15 per cent (no change since the last round of assessment) of sites had access to soap and water. At the same time, in 4 per cent (no change since the last round of assessment) of sites, no one had access to soap and water.

Among IDPs living in camps and camp-like settings, most sites reportedly had access to soap and water at 39 per cent (up from 34%). In a sign of improvement, about half the people had access to soap and water in 18 per cent of sites (up from 16%), a few respondents had access to soap and water in 17 per cent (down from 22%) of sites. Everyone in 14 per cent (down from 15%) of sites reportedly had access to soap and water, and nobody in 12 per cent (down from 13%) of sites had access.

In 39 per cent (up from 36%) of sites where IDPs are residing with host communities, most people had access to soap and water, about half the people in 25 per cent (down from 27%) of sites had access. Everyone in 19 per cent (down by 1%) of sites had access to soap and water, a few people in 15 per cent (no change since the last round of assessment) of sites had access to soap and water, and no IDP residing in 2 per cent of host communities had access.

The findings are elaborated in figures 13 to 17 below:

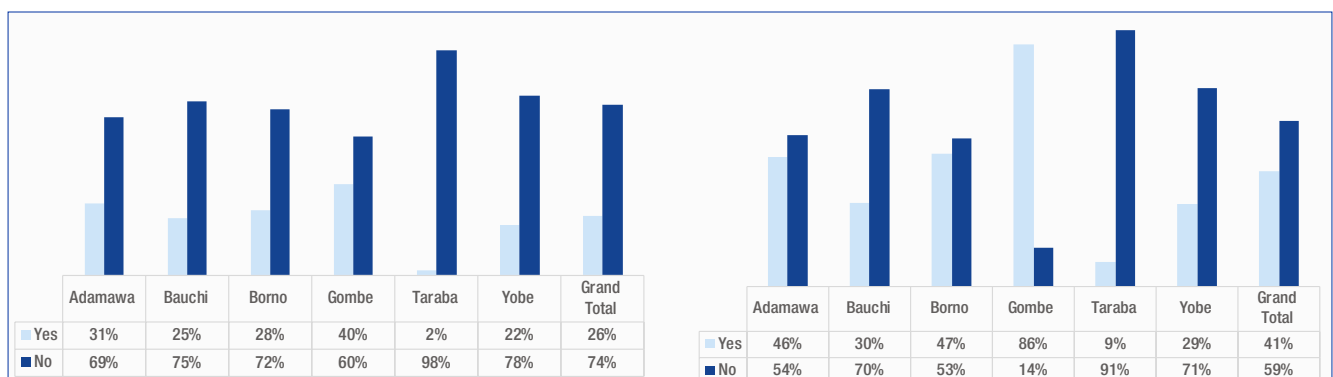


Fig 13: Availability of hand washing station filled with soap and water onsite

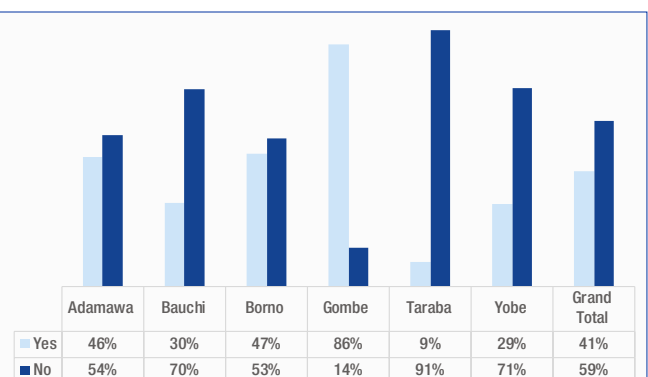


Fig 14: Evidence of hand washing practice

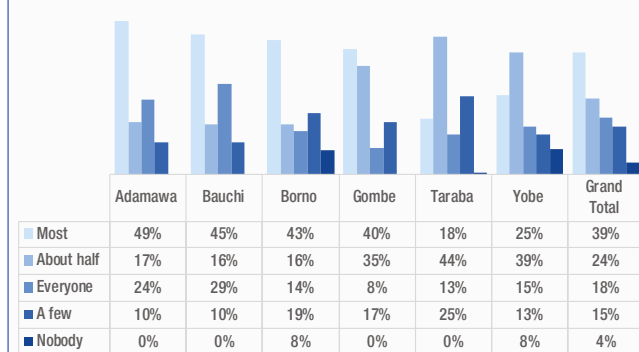


Fig 15: Access to soap and water in all assessed sites

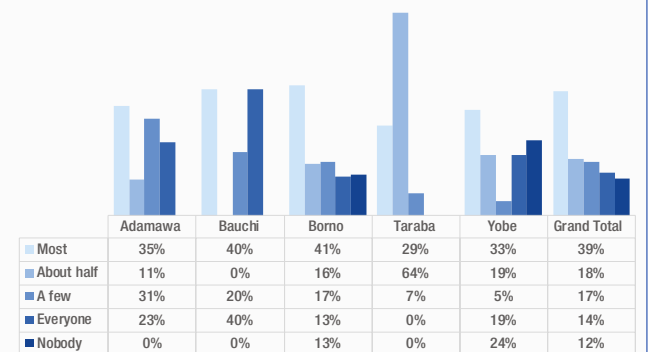


Fig 16: Access to soap and water in camps and camp-like settings

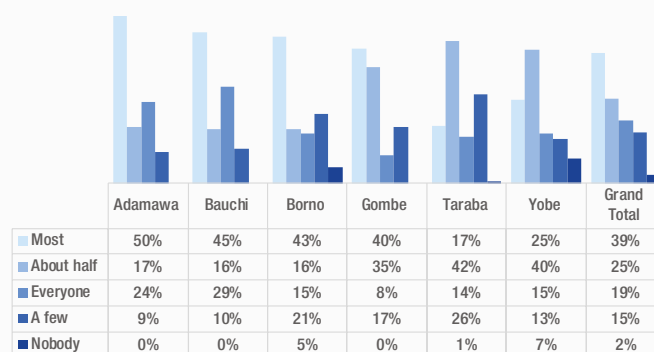


Fig 17: Access to soap and water in host communities

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), September 2020.”

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