



# IOM NIGERIA COVID-19 SITUATION ANALYSIS 2 NORTH CENTRAL AND NORTH WEST ZONES JANUARY 2021



## INTRODUCTION

This Round 2 of the COVID-19 Situation Analysis is based on an assessment of knowledge, practice and impact of the pandemic on internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-affected communities in the geopolitical zones North West and North Central in Nigeria. Conducted by the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) unit of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the report covers the period 19 November to 6 December 2020 and reflects trends from the states Benue, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Nasarawa, Plateau, Sokoto and Zamfara.

The [first assessment](#) was conducted in July 2020, 4 months after the first case of Covid-19 was reported in Nigeria. During this second round, 1,488 locations were assessed comprising 78 camps/camp-like settings and 1,410 locations where IDPs were hosted among host communities. The highest number of locations assessed was in Katsina State with a total of 252 locations, followed by Plateau with 235 locations and Kaduna with 231 locations.

Respondents were interviewed on 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.

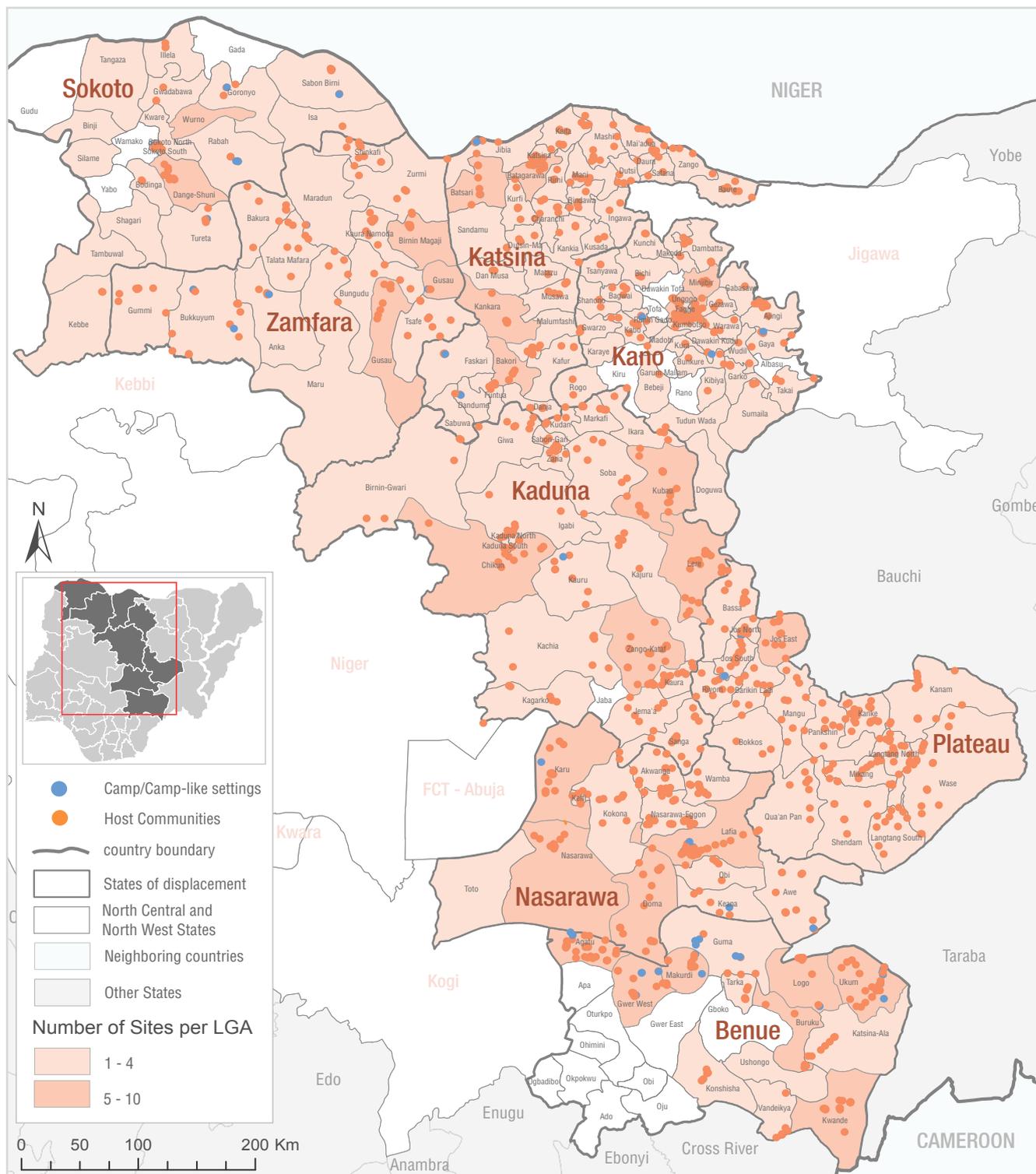
The information collated and analyzed in this report includes awareness about COVID-19 among IDPs, means of getting information on the virus, level of awareness, exposure to communication on the risks associated with COVID-19, the means of obtaining information about the risks, mitigation measures taken, health centre's preparedness in managing confirmed cases, potential threats of evictions related to COVID-19, any disruption of services due to COVID-19 and access to infection and control facilities. All information in this report was assessed for both IDPs living in camps/camp-like settings and IDPs living among host communities.

COVID-19 threatens to deepen the humanitarian crisis in North West and North Central Nigeria, zones that are afflicted with multidimensional crises, rooted in historic ethno-social cleavages, and exasperated by recent large scale displacements due to a range of reasons including crime. 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).

## ASSESSMENT COVERAGE

The assessment was conducted in 1,488 locations where IDPs were residing. These included 78 camps and camp-like settings and 1,488 locations where IDPs were residing among host communities. Katsina state had the highest number of locations assessed with a total of 252 sites (17%), followed by Plateau with 235 sites (16%) and Kaduna with 231 sites (16%). including both sites that are categorized as camps and camp-like settings as well as host communities. Sokoto was the state where the least number of locations were assessed with 82 sites (6%).

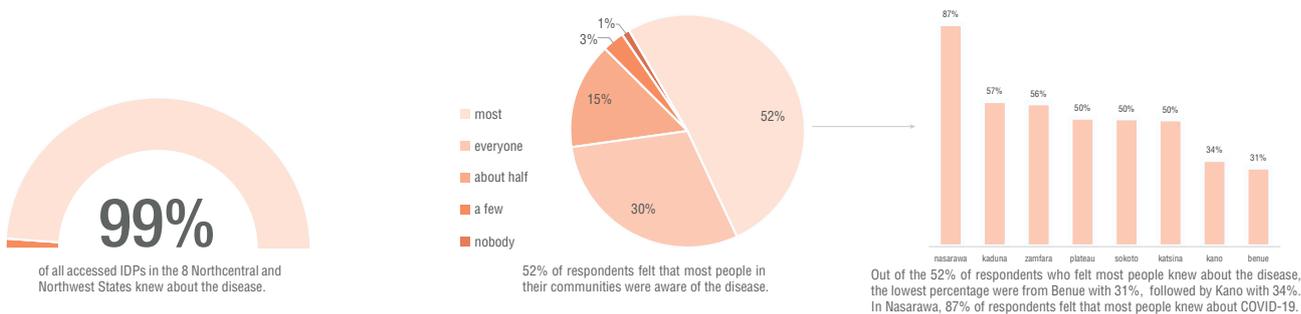
As in other similar assessments, staff from IOM, NEMA, SEMAs and the Nigerian Red Cross Society collated the data in the field, including baseline information at Local Government Area and ward-levels.



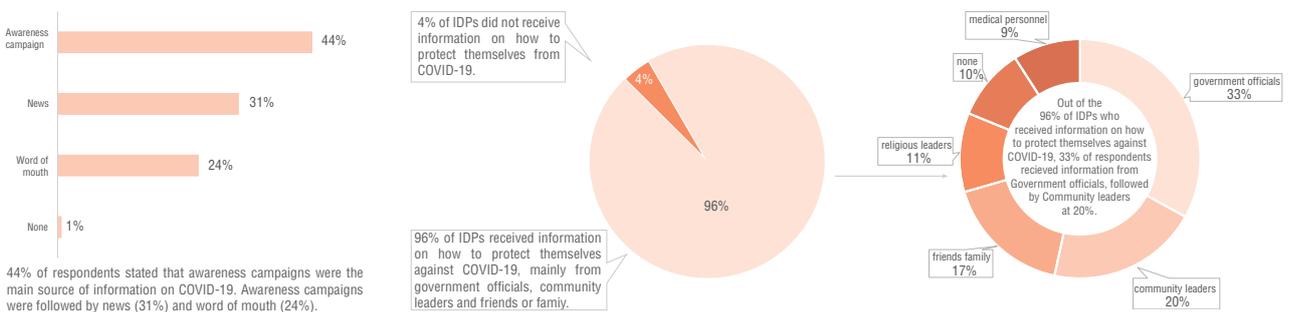
Map 1: Sites distribution by LGA

# KEY FINDINGS

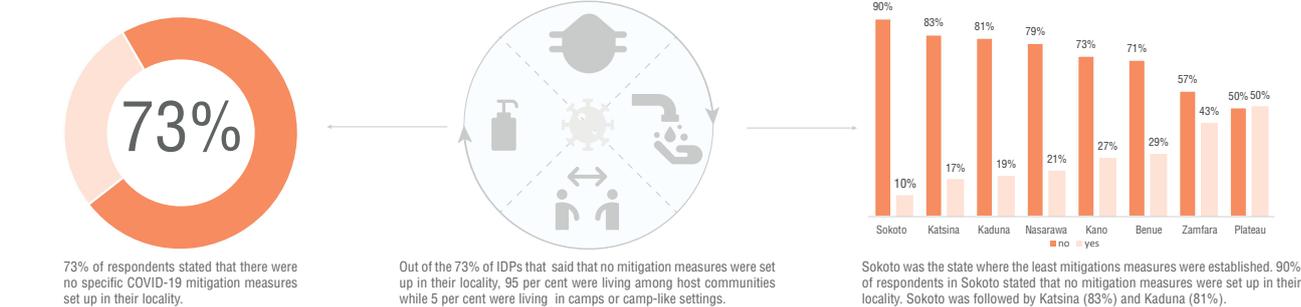
## COVID-19 AWARENESS



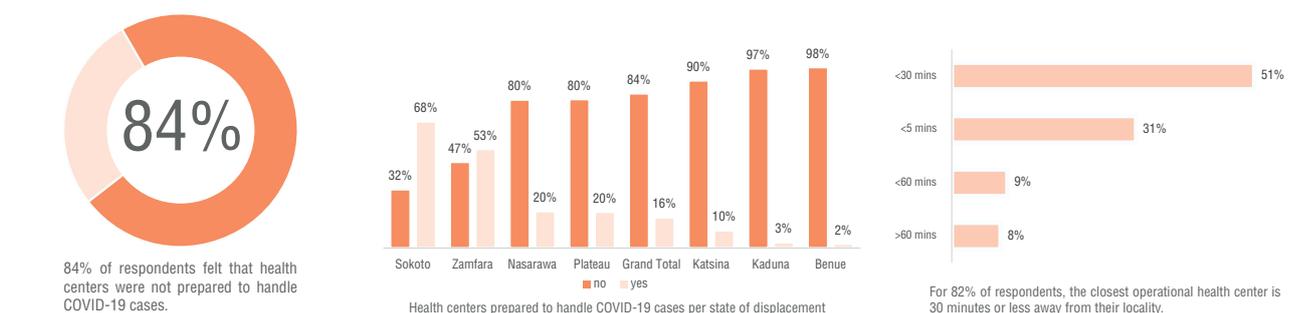
## MEANS OF GETTING INFORMATION



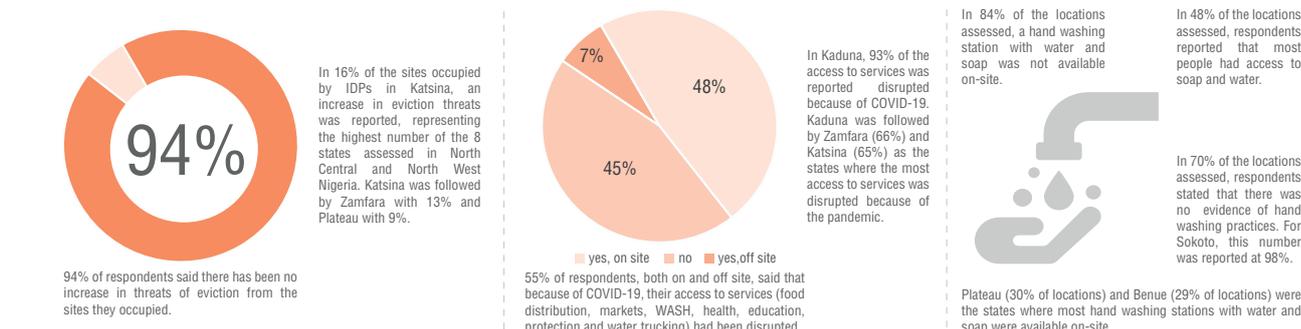
## MITIGATION MEASURES



## PREPAREDNESS



## EVICTIION THREATS / ACCESS TO SERVICE



## COVID-19 AWARENESS

During the second round of the COVID-19 Situation Analysis in Nigeria’s North Central and North West Zones, it was reported that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) were aware of the ongoing pandemic in 99 per cent of locations assessed. This number remained unchanged compared to the first round of assessment published in July 2020.

Similar to the first round of assessment, awareness campaigns were reported as the most common source of information on COVID-19 (in 44% of locations - up from 35% in Round 1). Awareness campaigns were followed by news outlets in 31 per cent of locations (down from 34%) and word of mouth in 24 per cent of locations (down from 29%). When comparing the reach of awareness campaigns per state, they have been proven the most effective in the states Zamfara and Plateau where they were reported as the most common mean of information in respectively 71 per cent and 69 per cent of locations. However, in the state of Kaduna, awareness campaigns were reported as the most common source of information in only 9 per cent of the locations assessed, behind word of mouth (52%) and news outlets (39%).

When considering levels of COVID-19 awareness in camps and camp-like settings specifically, it was reported that in 33 per cent (down from 38%) of the camps/camp-like settings assessed, everyone was aware of the pandemic. In 31 per cent (down from 33%) of camps/camp-like settings, most people were aware of the pandemic and in 23 per cent of the camps/camp-like settings, about half of the population was aware of the pandemic. In the states Kaduna and Zamfara, none of the respondents in camps/camp-like settings reported that everyone knew about the pandemic. Furthermore, 80 per cent of the respondents in the camps/camp-like settings in Kano felt that everyone knew about the pandemic.

In locations where IDPs were living among host communities, respondents in 30 per cent (down from 38%) of the locations assessed felt that everyone knew about the pandemic. In 53 per cent of the locations (up from 48%), it was perceived that most inhabitants knew about COVID-19, and in 14 per cent of the locations, about half of the population was aware of the pandemic. In the state Nasarawa, which borders the capital city of Abuja, the perception that most inhabitants knew about the coronavirus pandemic was the highest at 88 per cent, followed by Zamfara and Kaduna, both at 57 per cent. The perception that everyone knew about the pandemic was highest in Kano with 65 per cent of the locations assessed.

The findings are elaborated in figures 1 to 4 below

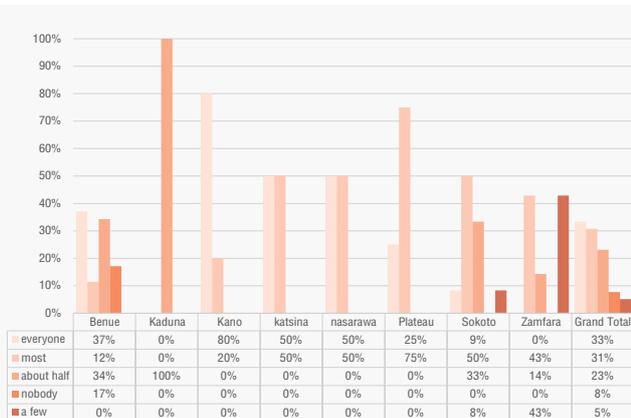


Fig 1: Awareness level in camps & camp-like settings

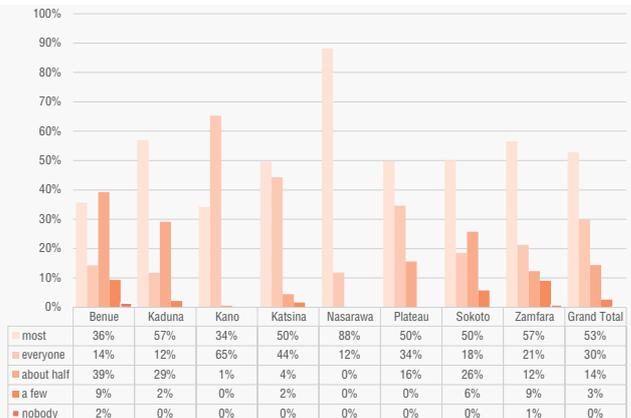


Fig 2: Awareness level in host communities

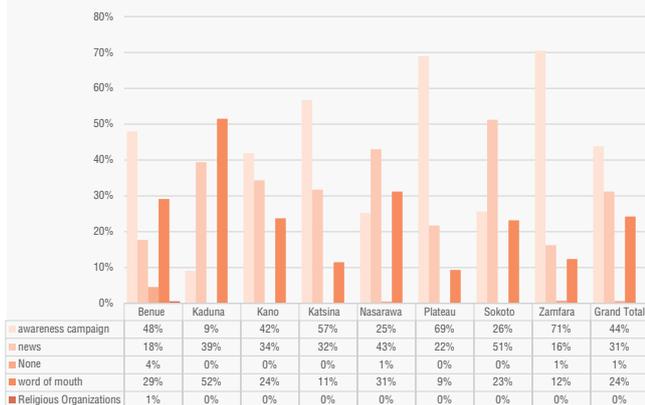


Fig 3: Means of getting information in all assessed sites

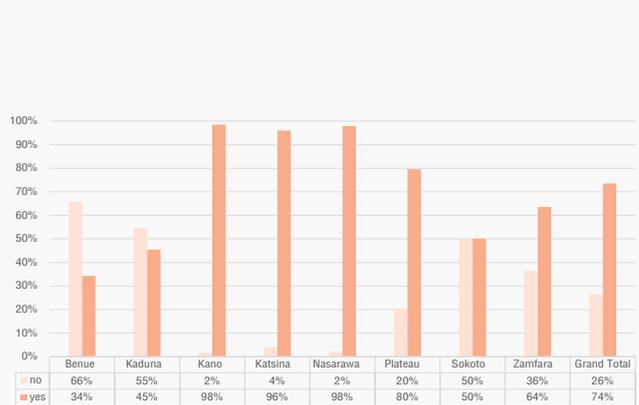


Fig 4: Routine communication on COVID-19 risk in all assessed sites

## MITIGATION MEASURES AND PREPAREDNESS

Given that living conditions in locations of displacement are often cramped, mitigation measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are highly necessary. However, in 73 per cent (up from 65% in Round 1) of the locations assessed in both camps/camp-like settings and host communities combined, respondents reported that no specific mitigation measures have been put in place. Plateau, Zamfara and Benue were the states best protected against the virus with mitigation measures set up in respectively in 50 per cent, 43 per cent and 29 per cent of the locations assessed. In Sokoto, mitigation measures were established in only 10 per cent of locations (up from 0% in Round 1).

When considering camps and camp-like setting specifically, the establishment of mitigation measures was reported in 35 per cent (up from 29% in Round 1) of the sites. Camps and camp-like settings in the states Plateau, Benue and Kano were best prepared to handle the pandemic with mitigation measures installed in respectively 50 per cent, 46 per cent and 40 per cent of the sites. Remarkably, in none of the camps/camp-like settings in Kaduna and in only 8 per cent of the sites in Sokoto, specific mitigation measures to handle the pandemic were put in place.

Camps and camp-like settings were generally slightly better equipped against the spread of the virus compared to locations where IDPs were living among host communities. In 73 per cent of the locations where respondents were residing with host communities, no specific mitigation measures were put in place. In the state Sokoto, this number surged at 90 per cent of the locations, followed by Katsina and Kaduna with respectively 83 per cent and 81 per cent. Plateau, Zamfara and Kano were the states best protected against the virus with mitigation measures set up in respectively in 50 per cent, 43 per cent and 26 per cent of the locations assessed.

Furthermore, 84 per cent of respondents (down from 88%) felt that the health centres were not prepared to handle the threat of COVID-19. The states where most respondents felt that health centres were insufficiently prepared were Kano, Kaduna and Benue with respectively 99 per cent, 98 per cent and 97 per cent. The health centres in the states Sokoto and Zamfara scored the best as respectively 68 per cent and 53 per cent of respondents felt that they were well prepared to handle the coronavirus pandemic.

The findings are elaborated in figures 5 to 8 below

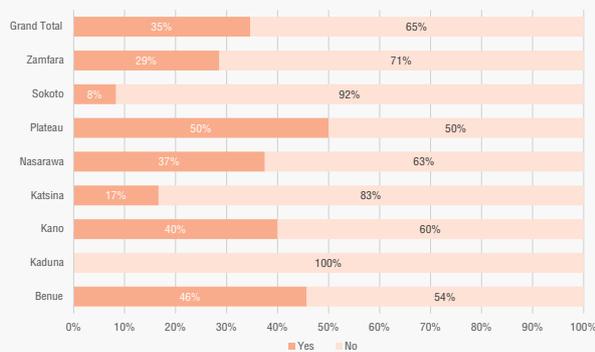


Fig 5: Mitigation measures percentage in camps & camp-like settings

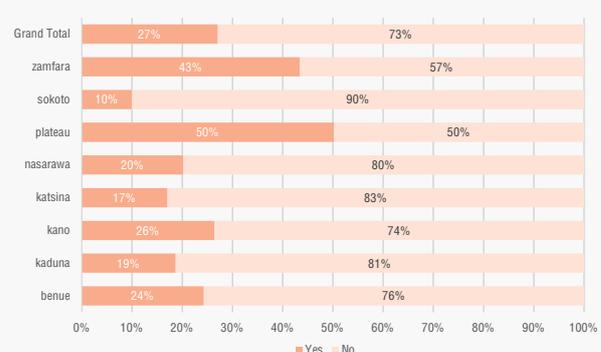


Fig 6: Mitigation measures percentage in host communities

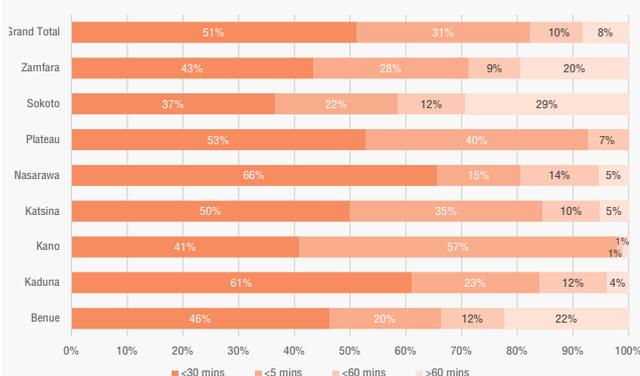


Fig 7: Distance to the closest operational health centers in all sites assessed

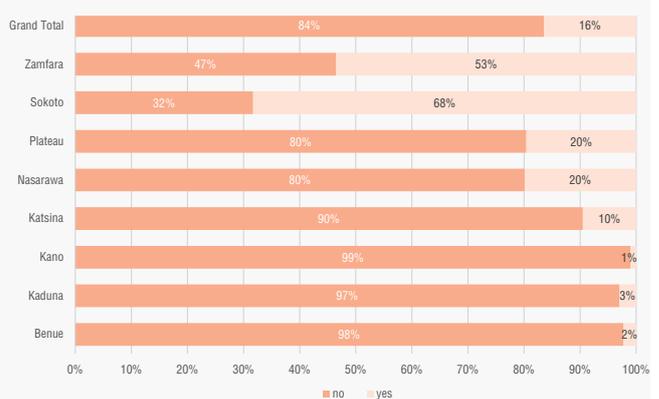


Fig 8: Health centers preparedness to handle COVID-19 cases in all sites assessed

## EVICTION THREATS /ACCESS TO SERVICE

A small minority or 6 per cent of respondents reported an increase in evictions or eviction threats since March 2020. Ninety-four per cent of respondents did not experience an increase of evictions or suchlike threats. These figures did not change compared to the first round of assessment. In the state of Nasarawa, no eviction threats were reported at all while in Katsina, 16 per cent of respondents reported an increase in evictions or eviction threats, being the highest of all 8 states in Nigeria’s North Central and North West Zones.

Fifty-five per cent of respondents (down from 63% in the first round of assessment) reported that access to services (including food, markets, WASH, health, education, protection, water trucking, etc.) was disrupted because of the pandemic. From the 55 per cent of affected services, 48 per cent were located on the site of assessment while 7 per cent were located off the site of assessment.

When comparing the disruption of access to services between respondents living in camps/camp-like settings and respondent living in host communities, IDPs living in camps/camp-like settings were considerably more affected by the consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak. Sixty-seven per cent (up from 49%) of respondents in camps and camp-like settings reported their access to services disrupted due to the pandemic against 55 per cent (down from 64%) of respondents living among host communities.

States where access to services was least affected by the pandemic were Sokoto, Kano and Plateau where respondents in respectively 76 per cent, 62 per cent and 61 per cent of the locations stated that no access to services had been disrupted due to the COVID-19 outbreak. To the contrary, Kaduna had the highest number of respondents reporting that access to services had been affected by the pandemic at 93 per cent, followed by Zamfara at 66 per cent and Katsina at 65 per cent.

The findings are elaborated in figures 9 to 12 below

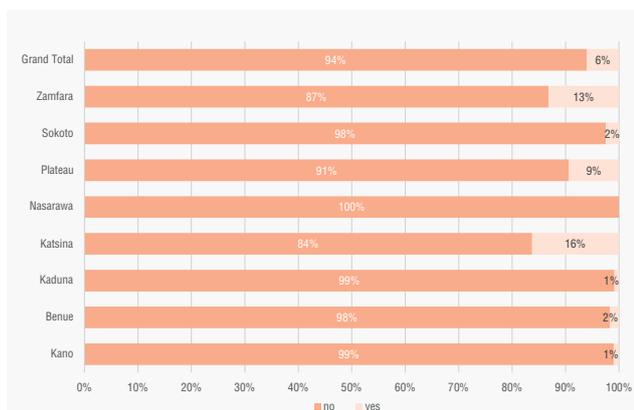


Fig 9 Increase in evictions or eviction threats from sites occupied by IDPs

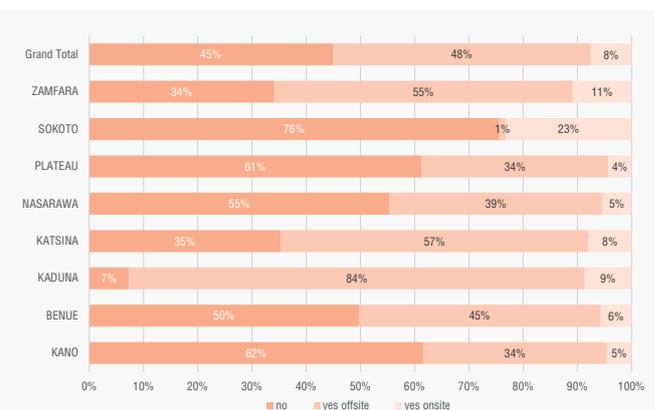


Fig 10: Percentage of respondents in both camps and host communities stating that access to services was disrupted due to COVID-19

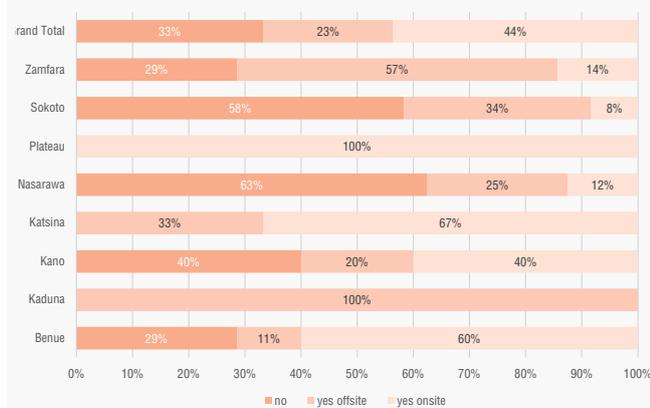


Fig 11: Percentage of respondents in camps and camp-like settings stating that access to services was disrupted due to COVID-19

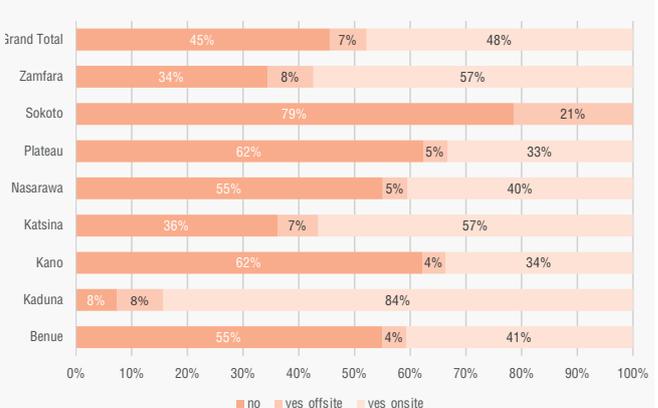


Fig 12: Percentage of respondents in host communities stating that access to services was disrupted due to COVID-19

## ACCESS TO HANDWASHING STATIONS

Access to handwashing stations is an important determinant of whether communities are equipped with basic hygienic facilities to prevent the spread of COVID-19. During the second round of assessment, most locations continued to have access to soap and water, albeit the locations where respondents stated that everyone in their community had access to soap and water decreased from 24 per cent in Round 1 to 16 per cent in Round 2.

In 48 per cent of the locations assessed (both camps/camp-like settings and host communities), most people had access to handwashing stations with soap and water (up from 44%) while in 22 per cent of locations, about half of the people had access to handwashing stations filled with water and soap (up from 17%). In 13 per cent of the locations, only a few people had access (up from 12%) and in 16 per cent of the locations, everyone had access to handwashing stations filled with water and soap (down from 24%). Only in 1 per cent of the locations assessed, respondents stated that nobody in their community had access to water and soap.

In Kano, a remarkable 68 per cent of respondents reported that everyone in their location had access to handwashing stations filled with water and soap. Also in Nasarawa this percentage was notably high as 90 per cent of respondents reported that most of the population in their community had access to handwashing stations filled with water and soap.

The findings are elaborated in figures 13 to 16 below

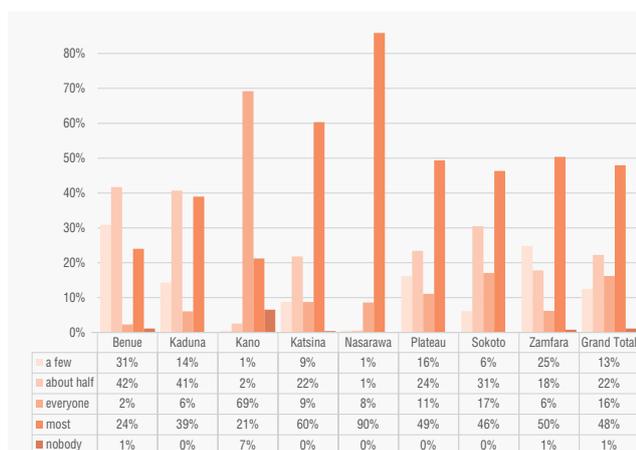


Fig 13: Access to soap/ water by IDPs in all States accessed

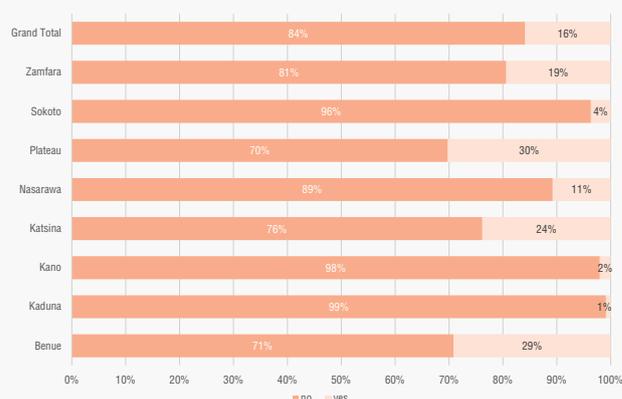


Fig 14: Availability of hand washing stations filled with soap and water in all States accessed

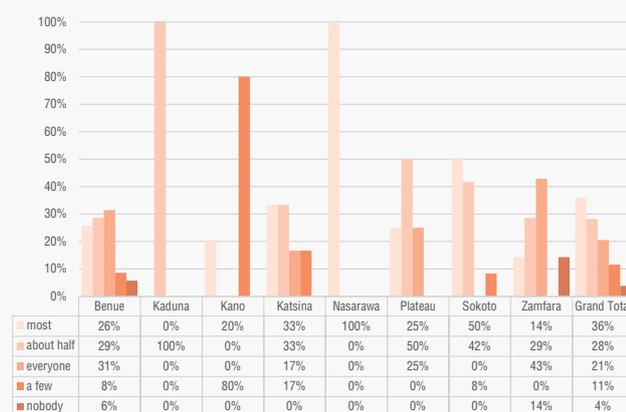


Fig 15: Access to soap in camps & camp-like settings

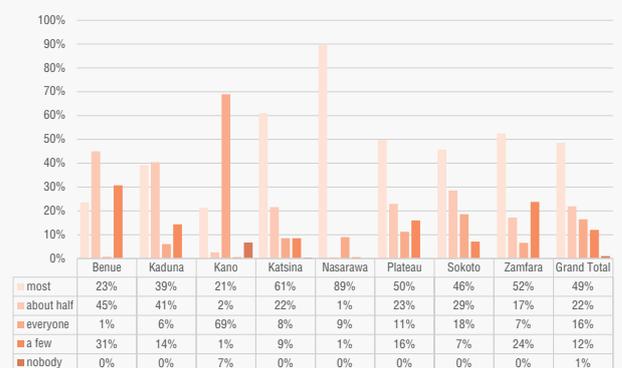


Fig 16: Access to soap in host communities

## 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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<http://nigeria.iom.int/dtm>

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