




# NORTH-EAST NIGERIA PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT MAY - JUNE 2021.





## List of commonly used acronyms

AAP	Accountability to the Affected Population	NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution	NSAG	Non-state Armed Group
ADSEMA	Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency	OHCT	Operational Humanitarian Country Team
		PAG	Protection Action Group
AoR	Area of Responsibility	PLWD	People Living with Disability
BAY	Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States (used in the context of the emergency response in the Northeast)	POC	Person of Concern to UNHCR (Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Returnees, Stateless and IDPs)
CAFAAG	Children Associated with Armed Fighters and Armed Groups	PSN	Person with Specific Need
CCCM	Camp Coordination, Camp Management	PSNE	Protection Sector North East
CIMCOORD	Civil-Military Coordination	PSWG	Protection Sector Working Group
CMDR	Community Mechanism for Dispute Resolution		
CJTF	Civilian Joint Task Force		
CLASS	Cause List Aligned Smart Steps		
CFRN	Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria		
CoA	Country of Asylum		
CoO	Country of Origin		
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019		
CP	Child Protection		
DRC	Danish Refugee Council	ROHI	Restoration of Hope Initiative
EHH	Elderly head of Household	SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
ERW	Explosive remnants of War	SEMA	State Emergency Management
ETT	Emergency Tracking Tool	SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based violence
FGD	Focus Group Discussion	SOM	Sub-Office Maiduguri
FGM	Female Genital mutilation	UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
FHH	Female Heads of Household	UNDP	United Nation's Development Programme
FTR	Family Tracing and Reunification	UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
HAI	Heartland Alliance International	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team	UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
HH	Household	UNSC	United Nations Security Council
HLP	Housing Land and Property	UXO	Unexploded Ordnances
<i>ibid</i>	<i>ibidem</i> (in the same place. Used to denote documents already cited)	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
ICLA	Information Counselling and Legal Assistance	WGSS	Women and Girls Safe Space
ICT	Information and Communication Technology	WHO	World health Organisation
IDP	Internally Displaced Person	WRD	World Refugee Day
IED	Improvised explosive device		
iMMAP	Information Management and Mine Action Programs		
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation		
IOM	International Organisation for Migration (United Nations)		
ISWAP	Islamic State's West Africa Province		
JAS	Jamā'at Ahl as-Sunnah		
KII	Key Informant Interview		
LGA	Local Government Area		
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support		
MMC	Maiduguri Metropolis Council		
MRRR	Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation.		
MWASD	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development		
NBA	Nigerian Bar Association		
NCFRMI	National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and IDPs		
NEDC	North East Development Commission		
NFI	Non-Food items		
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation		
NHF	Nigeria Humanitarian Fund		
NPC	National Population Commission		

**I. OPERATIONAL CONTEXT**

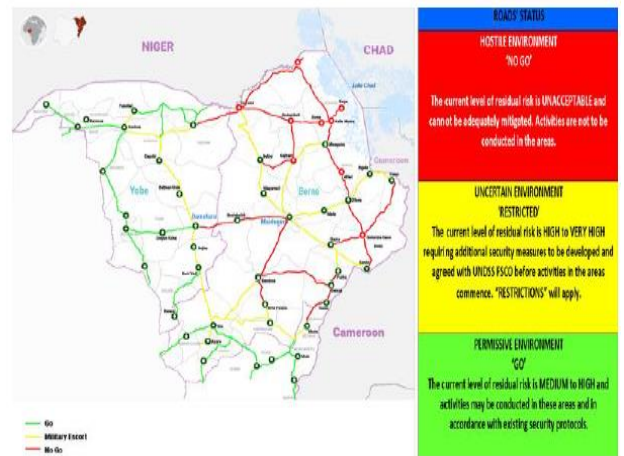
 **2, 184, 254**  
941,551 in camps  
(Source IOM DTM)

 **2, 625 HH**  
**7, 640 Ind**  
(Jan-June source UNHCR) 2021.

 **241 HH**  
**1,324 Ind**  
(source NCFRMI)

**Table 1: Population of concern as of end of June 2021**

The NE area and the Lake Chad Basin witnessed many events in May that impacted on security, politics, and humanitarian response. As reported in the previous months, members of the NSAG continued their terror campaign, launching audacious attacks on military formations, targeting humanitarian infrastructure and personnel, killing civilians, and causing widespread damage to property and critical national infrastructure such as the national grid and telecom installations. The report of the killing of Abubakar Shekau, the JAS factional leader by the ISWAP leaning Albarnawy and the capturing of the JAS leaders loyal to the former operating in the southern part of Borno State, has been predicted to potent more violence in the communities. The impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt with the economy taking the toll. Prices of items have almost doubled compared to pre COVID-19 period. The administration of COVID-19 vaccine commenced in Nigeria including in the BAY States since March 2021<sup>1</sup>. The National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) had disclosed that 1,945, 273 eligible Nigerians had so far taken the first dose of the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine as of the end of May 2021<sup>2</sup>.



**Fig. 1. Situation of main supply routes in the NE as of**

In **Borno State**, as reported in the previous months, to overrun towns and villages, NSAG attacked Rann, Marte, Dikwa and Bama towns causing widespread destructions and generalized violence which led to the displacement of civilians to various towns in the state and in neighboring countries. In General, 93 Security incidents comprising of Armed Attacks (65), PIEB/IED (3) crime (15) Illegal Vehicle Checkpoint (IVCP - 6) and Hazard (9) affected no fewer than 100 civilians in the BAY states, who either sustained injuries or were killed in the process. As a result, the Humanitarian Country Team temporarily suspended Humanitarian activities in Gujba and Yusufari in Yobe State in addition to Dikwa and Damasak which had been suspended earlier, pending an improvement in the security situation in the affected areas. The Main Supply Routes of Maiduguri-Damaturu, Maiduguri-Mungono and Maiduguri Gajiram remained extremely volatile to ply due to illegal vehicle Check points, causing significant delays in the delivery of Humanitarian assistance to the affected communities.

In **Adamawa State**, the security situation was characterized by NSAG attacks recorded in various communities of Hong, Gombi, Madagali and Michika. Kidnapping and other criminal activities were also reported across different parts of the state. The escalation of criminal activities by the "Shilla boys" in the State State Capital Yola, has led to the imposition of curfew hours to 2200hrs by the Adamawa State Government. In **Yobe State**, NSAG continued to target the triad LGAs of Geidam, Gujba and Yusufari targeting both military formations and civilians including government facilities such as clinics and schools in flagrant violation of the UN Security Council Resolution 2286 (2016) which seeks to protect schools and clinics during war and other international Conventions.

<sup>1</sup> <https://covid19.ncdc.gov.ng/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://guardian.ng/news/buhari-receives-second-dose-of-covid-19-vaccine>

154

SGBV  
Incidents  
reported

132,197

Reached  
through  
protection by  
presence

4, 080

Kills conducted

In the positive, Boko Haram/ISWAP freed 10 civilian captives<sup>3</sup> abducted at various places in Borno State in late 2020 and early 2021. These include humanitarian workers. The military authorities in Munguno granted IDPs access to their farmlands. Also, a daily patrol that escort civilians in and out of Munguno, humanitarian cargo movement to Munguno and areas around, will significantly improve access to humanitarian assistance and freedom of movement.

## PROTECTION BY PRESENCE, PROTECTION MONITORING

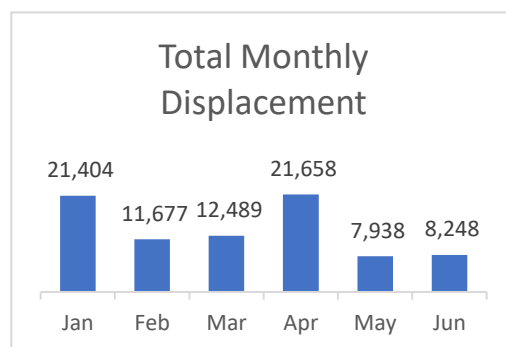
Table 2. Number of individuals reached through Protection Monitoring					
Sessions	Men	WOMEN	Boys	Girls	Total
1, 925	32, 381	45, 962	23, 801	30, 053	132, 197

**Presence:** Despite the continuing insecurity and uncertainties over the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR and Partners have maintained presence and delivery of **life-saving humanitarian assistance** and **protection services** to affected communities in concerted efforts, to reduce risks and address immediate needs.

## II. POPULATION MOVEMENTS

Population movements, including internal, cross border as well as government induced returns, continue to be recorded in the BAY States. In the period under review, the following return patterns were recorded:

- Internal Displacement: 16,186<sup>4</sup>** new arrivals were recorded in **Borno and Adamawa States<sup>5</sup>**. The situation this reporting period is a significant improvement from the 34,147 reported in March and April. Movement triggers reported include conflict and attacks, fear of attacks, poor living conditions and inter location transfers, and the feeling of improved security. In the same period, some departures were recorded in Askira/Uba, Hawul and Kala/Balge LGA of Borno, and Demsa, Fufore, Gombi, Lamurde, Madagali, Maiha, Mubi North, Mubi South, Numan, Yola North and Yola South LGAs of Adamawa. The movement triggers according to the individuals include attacks, feeling of improved security, poor living conditions and voluntary relocation. Other reasons include fears of attack, military operations, escalation of hostilities and confrontations between the Nigerian Security Forces and NSAG, involuntary relocation, and the ongoing conflict.



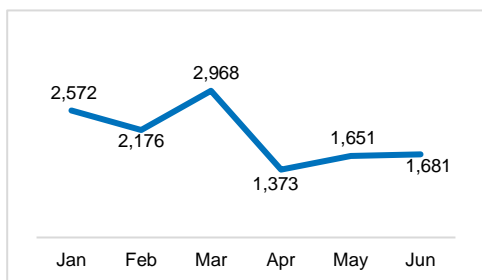
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/ten-captives-freed-by-islamist-militants-northeast-nigeria-sources-2021-06-15/>

<sup>4</sup> Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) consolidated data as of 27th June 2021.

<sup>5</sup> Arrivals were recorded at locations in Askira/Uba, Bama, Gwoza, Hawul and Monguno Local Government Areas (LGAs) of the most conflict-affected state of Borno and in Demsa, Fufore, Girei, Gombi, Hong, Lamurde, Maiha, Michika, Mubi North, Mubi South, Numan, Song, Yola North and Yola South LGAs of Adamawa (ETT Report No. 228).

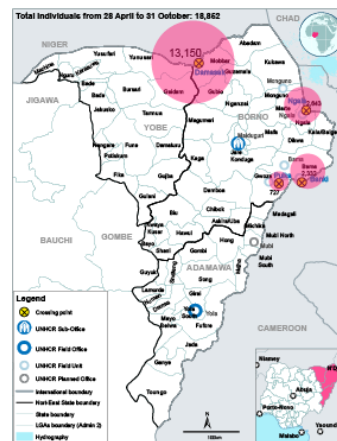


■ **Cross Border Movements: 1,122 HHs of 3, 332 individuals** moved cross border



in 04 Official entry points (Banki, Damasak, Ngala and Pulka) in Borno State, in the period under review. Despite the ongoing international effort to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic which include the closure of official land entry points by the various governments. The figures reported this period is 1, 009 short of the figures reported in March/April during which

time the voluntary repatriation in Borno State took place. Banki (63%) recorded the most movements followed by Damasak (22%), Ngala (8%) and Pulka (7%). As reported in the previous months, the high movements recorded in Banki can be alluded to the recently concluded first phase of the government led repatriation to Bama and Banki which would have triggered spontaneous movement via this route in addition, economic reasons, and the relaxation of movements at the entry points are some of the triggers for the movements recorded. In Damasak, the series of NSAG attacks caused pendular movements between Damasak and neighbouring villages in Niger Republic.

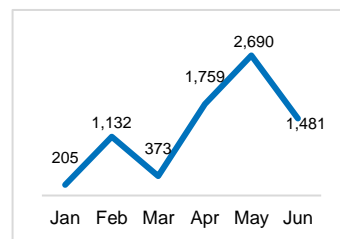


**Figure 3. Entry Points in Borno**

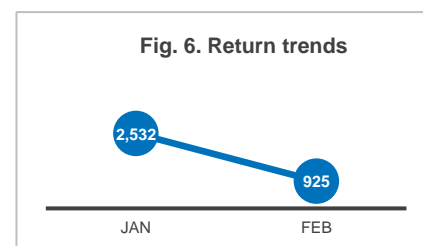
Nigerians constituted most of the movements (77%) followed by Cameroonians (23%). The movement triggers include Family visits (40%) forced movements due to insecurity (10%), return to Country of Origin (10%), and seasonal job opportunities (12%). 31% of the families reported that they do not have any form of legal documentation. Persons with Specific Needs include children at risk (4%), elderly at risk and serious medical condition (1% each). No significant protection concerns were reported during the movement. No refoulement was recorded at the border. All the individuals accessed COVID-19 services such as awareness, hygiene facilities and temperature screening at the entry Points. Border monitors and nurses coordinated with government health workers and other UN Agencies such as WHO and IOM to address identified gaps in response.

■ **Refugee returnees: Spontaneous Refugee returnees continue to be observed. 1, 243 Refugee Returnee households** comprising of **4, 171 individuals** who returned through the official and unofficial entry points were captured by the Nigeria Immigration Services (NIS) in partnership with UNHCR in **Borno State**.

In this period under review, the number of spontaneous returnees more than doubled the number (2,039) reported in March/April. 59% of the returnees were from Cameroon while 40% and 1% were from Niger and Chad respectively. At the same time, **Adamawa State** continues to receive spontaneous refugee returnees from Cameroon in Wuro Bokki, Wuro Alhaji, Gurin and Sahuda communities located at the borders with Cameroon. As of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021, the total estimated number of the spontaneous refugee returnees from Cameroon to Adamawa State stood at 11,027. This population has yet to be profiled by UNHCR in the same way it has been conducted in Borno State. Movement triggers include the news of improved security in the country of origin.



■ **Government-led returns:** The Borno State Government closed the NYSC and MOGCOLIS camps on 31st May 2021<sup>6</sup>. The camps had a combined population of **2,060 HH/ 8,296 IDPs**<sup>7</sup>, ostensibly to re-open the school (MOGOLIS) and for NYSC orientation centre to resume. The government gave the IDPs a couple of options, the distribution of an unspecified amount of cash for rent and start-up money for livelihood. This was given by the government to IDPs willing to stay in any of the host communities in Maiduguri. Secondly, those willing to return to their villages were also given some unspecified amount of money for livelihood support and to purchase basic services, food and NFIs. The Borno State Government also undertook to facilitate the IDPs who chose to stay in other camps in MMC and the absorption of IDPs in the available camps, The NYSC camp was



<sup>6</sup> <https://www.sunnewsonline.com/orno-closes-idps-camps-in-maiduguri/>

<sup>7</sup> IOM DTM round 36 dataset of site assessment.

predominantly occupied by IDPs from Konduga, Bama, Gwoza and Damboa. Those in MOGCOLIS Camp are from Mobbar and Abadam LGAs. The conditions in all the mentioned LGAs remain largely un conducive for sustainable returns. No further available details of the number of people who chose to relocate to their villages or remained in Maiduguri has been made available yet by the government. Regarding the **Government-led voluntary repatriation** of Nigerian refugees from Minawao Cameroun to Bama and Banki, no convoys were organised during this period.

**Consequences of population movement:** The ongoing IDP returns organized by the Borno State government continues with returnees either returning to unfavourable conditions in the communities or to displacements into the camp. These multiple displacements overstretch the existing humanitarian resources and calls into question the sustainability of the ongoing government-led returns. This disturbing trend has been witnessed in the past government-initiated returns. Humanitarian actors have not been included in the return process and have been relegated to receiving information only provided after the returns have taken place. Humanitarian actors continue to monitor the situation of the returned IDPs. Movements triggered by family reunification, prolonged displacement, insecurity, and the feeling of return of peace continue to take place despite the protection risks involved. In Borno State for instance, the resurgence of attacks by NSAG in the northern axis has caused extensive displacement of populations and risks of further attacks. Regarding Spontaneous refugee returns in Borno State, in most cases, the returnees end up in the camps and collection centres because their houses remain destroyed and the security conditions outside the garrison towns remain volatile with villages deserted.

Upon arrival, the returnees continue to face challenges accessing food assistance caused by delays attributed to getting enrolled for food assistance due to slow ETT profiling by IOM, a condition that will fasten access to other assistances as reported in Banki and Bama. Family separation and maltreatment, physical violence, and harassment by mostly CJTF have also been reported. Other impacts of population movements include the risk of killings and abductions by NSAG who continue to launch ambushes and mounting Illegal Vehicle Checkpoints on the main supply routes. The presence of landmines on the main supply routes on the other hand underpins the risk the affected population continue to face when traveling on the affected roads. Protection Actors will continue with advocacy for a principled return in line with the Borno State Return Strategy and the International best Practice. The ongoing risk reduction activities and risk mitigation measures at the field level will continue to sensitize the affected population.

### III. INCIDENTS REPORTING

In May and June, a total of **4,080** protection concerns were reported through Key Informants' Interviews (KII). At the same time, **77 incidents** affecting an estimated 1, 845 individuals were captured and analysed using the protection monitoring tool across the LGAs in the BAY States. This compared to 3, 627 KIIs and 96 incidents reported during the previous report of March/April, signifying an increase of Key informants' interviews conducted and less incidents reported. SGBV incidents accounted for 50% of the incidents reported. Abduction of civilians (6%), attacks by NSAG (8%), physical assault (13%), looting (7%) and communal clashes (3%) were also recorded. Overcrowding, witchcraft and flood have also been recorded. The prevailing incidents in **Borno State** is SGBV and security while in **Adamawa State**, communal clash, and destruction of property. In **Yobe State**, insecurity (Gujba and Geidam) and SGBV incidents were recorded.

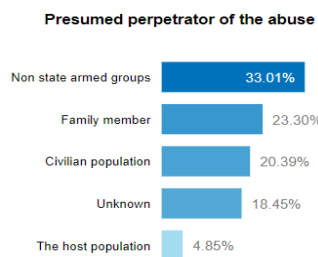


Figure 7. Alleged Perpetrators.

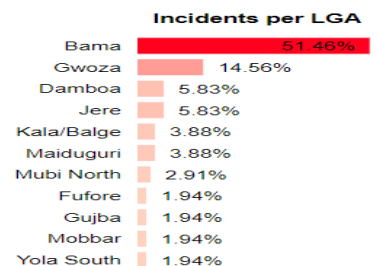


Figure 8. Incidents per LGA

Most of the **alleged perpetrators** were never charged and have not been held accountable. The breakdown of perpetrators is as follows: NSAG accounted for 33%, while family members (23%), civilian population (20%) unknown (18%) and host population (5%) in the reported incidents. Humanitarian actors including UNHCR, and its partners have continued to engage stakeholders in a bid to protect those most at risk, and to restore the rule of law, the restoration of justice as well as provide support to survivors and their families, ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice through access to legal assistance for the survivors.

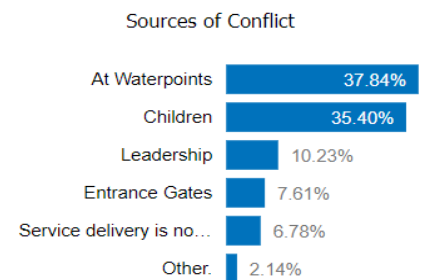
**Most affected LGAs:** In **Borno State**, Bama recorded the highest incidents with 51%, Gwoza 15% and Damboa 6%, were the locations with most reported incidents. In **Adamawa State**, incidents were also reported in Mubi North 3 %, Yola South 2% and Fufore (2%). In **Yobe State**, incidents were reported in Gujba 2%.

**Impact of incidents on civilian populations:** The 12 years conflict in the Northeast has been reported to cause the death of an estimated 350, 000<sup>8</sup> people directly or indirectly and shows no signs of abating. As reported by UN Development Programme (UNDP) in a new study on the war and its effect on livelihoods, more than “3.2 million individuals are displaced, with 5.3 million food-insecure people at crisis and emergency levels<sup>9</sup>”. The situation according to the report is worse in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, where 13.1 million people live in areas affected by the ongoing conflict<sup>10</sup>. NSAG attacks have continued, targeting civilians during their daily activities, causing fear and apprehension and pervasive challenges on durable solutions caused by continuous displacements which severely curtails freedom of movement. The mounting of illegal vehicle checkpoints on the main supply routes, especially Maiduguri-Damaturu<sup>11</sup> continues to cause delays in the movement of humanitarian assistance such as food and NFIs. The destruction of humanitarian cargo, as witnessed along Mungono-Ngala MSR denies the affected population from accessing humanitarian aid in time thereby increasing human suffering.

Fire outbreak recorded in various camps in Mungono, and flood and severe windstorms recorded in Bama, Gwoza, Ngala and Dikwa continue to defy all the measures put in place by the humanitarian actors with each occurrence causing the loss of food and NFIs including livestock. The occurrence of SGBV incidents such as domestic violence, sexual assault, denial of resources and emotional abuse chronically affects the rights to a quality life for women and girls who are the most affected. While the humanitarian actors continue to organize risk reduction activities such as sensitization campaigns on safety and security, peaceful coexistence and SGBV risk mitigations, and deliver lifesaving assistances, the absence of civilian authorities, in the deep field locations, continues to undermine these efforts. It is hoped that with the full restoration of security in the general area by the government, durable solutions will be more sustainable.

#### IV. PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND SOCIAL COHESION

Generally, relationship between IDPs/Returnees and host communities was described as “**good**” according to **77%** the Key Informants in the BAY States. **14%** of them further described the relationship as “**excellent**”. Similarly, the relationship between the IDPs/Returnees in the camps or sites was described as “**good**” by **76%** Key informants interviewed, and “**excellent**” according to **16%**. While it is commendable that the affected population perceived and reported their coexistence to be good or excellent, a **minority** section of the key informants (**1%**) reported that the relationship between the IDPs/Returnees and the host community and the relationship between the IDPs/Returnees living together in the camps/sites is **bad**, a situation worth considering. The findings in this reporting period is consistent with the findings of the two previous reports in January/February and March/April. **Sources of conflicts** in the communities were also identified by the Key informants to include **Water points (38%)**, over **children (35%)**, **leadership (10%)**, **Entrance gates (8%)** and **Service delivery (7%)**. These sources of conflict can easily be addressed by organizations making access to services more equitable and sufficient. Tensions over leadership (mostly reported along ethnic lines) can be addressed by all stakeholders being more inclusive in the selection of committee members.



As reported in the previous months regarding the government’s reintegration of persons associated with NSAG through deradicalization process in **Borno State** to reconsider their approach to the entire process as instances of rejection by the community members, social stigma and ostracization of persons formerly associated with militants continue to be recorded. Women, who are key in the reintegration programme have on the other hand decried their continued non-involvement in the entire process<sup>12</sup>. In addition, the governments drive to return PoCs to their communities requires that adequate measure are put in place to reduce potentials for conflict triggers. In **Adamawa States**, hostilities continue to fester between

**Figure 9. Sources of Conflict in camps and**

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/24/northeast-nigeria-conflict-killed-more-than-300000-children-un> sighted on 27th June 2021 at 10:45am.

<sup>9</sup> *ibid*

<sup>10</sup> *ibid*

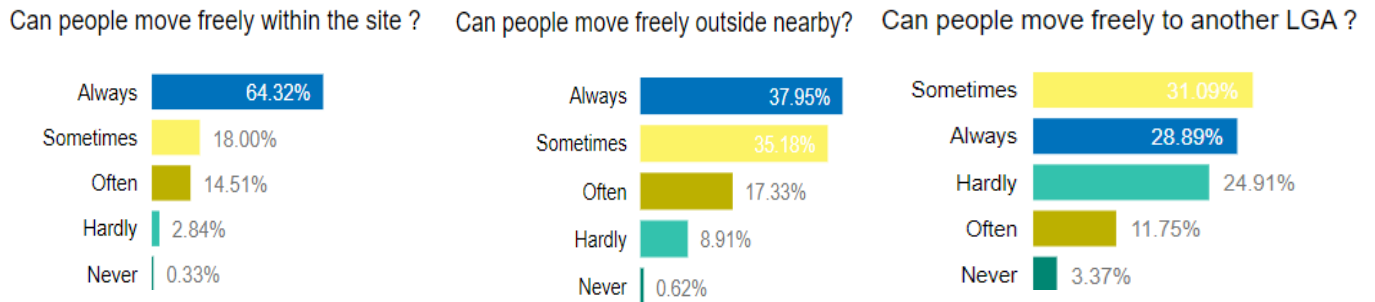
<sup>11</sup> <https://www.channelstv.com/2021/05/26/boko-haram-terrorists-reportedly-abduct-travellers-along-damaturu-maiduguri-road/> sighted on 27th June 2021 at 10:00am

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.voanews.com/africa/nigerian-women-lead-reintegration-ex-boko-haram-militants> sighted on Friday, 2nd June 2021 at 12:49pm.

communities in Fufore and Michika with the likelihood of perpetuating another cycle of displacements, it is critical that the government and stakeholders put in place mitigating measures to contain this explosive issue.

## V. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT:

In all the States, the Key informants reported that movement “within sites” is mostly “Always” free (64%), “Sometimes” (18%) or “often” (15%) free. 3% reported that movement within sites is “hardly”. Movement “outside or nearby” was reported by 38% as “always” free. 35% reported that it is “sometimes” free and 17% reported that it is “often” free. 9% reported that it is “hardly”. Movement to “other LGAs” was reported by 31% as “always” free, 29% as “sometimes” free and 12% as “often” free. 25% however reported that it is “hardly” free while 3% reported that it is “never” free. The barriers to free movement “within sites” were curfew in place (47%) or security (46%) and need for documents (6%) were reported. Regarding movements to “outside or nearby” Security (77%) curfew (15%), need for documents (8%) were the most reported barriers. On movement to other LGAs on the other hand, Security (70%), curfew (18%) and need for documents (10%) were the most challenges reported. Unlike it was reported in January/February where the situations were remarkably different in each of the states, in May/June, like March/April, the patterns remained the same in the BAY states due largely to the everchanging security landscape in the region.



Figs.10, 11, & 12. Pattern of free movement.

**Impact of Freedom of movement restrictions on the population:** The renewed presence of insurgency on the Main Supply routes often launching illegal vehicle checkpoints to loot, abduct and kill civilians remain one of the major impediments to freedom of movement. In addition, presence of roadside planted IEDs remains a major impediment to free movements. For instance, during the reporting period, a commercial vehicle commuting between Pulka and Gwoza activated an IED planted by the roadside which destroyed the vehicle. Free movement and associated rights of civilians can be guaranteed through the improvement of security in the region. Additionally, efforts to provide legal documents that will guarantee the free movement of the civilians in the region should be augmented. The military authorities in Mungono granted IDPs access to their farmlands from Charlie 6, Maiduguri Road, and Charlie 4 Kekenu axis with tokens given to the farmers to infiltration by NSAG. Also, the daily patrol that escort civilians in and out of the Monguno, humanitarian cargo movement to Mungono and areas around will significantly improve access to humanitarian assistance and freedom of movement.

## VI. LEGAL AND CIVIL DOCUMENTATION

In the BAY States, the continuous absence of the civil registrars in the LGAs impacting on the affected populations’ unimpeded access to the civil register office to obtain legal documentation. 16% of the Key Informants reported that they do not have any form of legal documentation available. Majority of the key informants also informed that the major barriers to accessing legal documentations to include having no knowledge of how to get one (17%), Distance (16%), and difficulty accessing the registrar’s office (16%). On the positive however, the Key informants reported that they or members of their families are in possession of at least one form of legal documentation with birth certificate (36%) being the most common form of legal documents

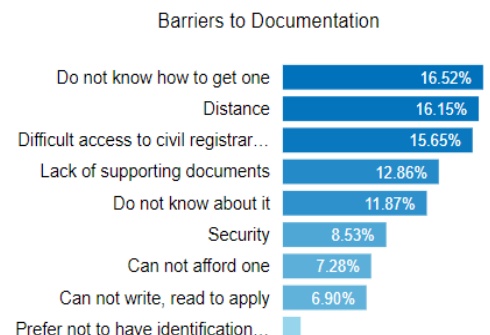


Figure 13. Barriers to civil documentation



available in their possession followed by voter's card (16%), National ID (13%) Indigene certificate (11%), Marriage Certificates (6%) and death certificates (2%). This positive report can be attributed to the awareness activities and the support by humanitarian actors to government agencies to issue the documents at the field level. This finding remains consistent in both the camps and host community settings where the key informants were interviewed. UNHCR, in the period under review supported the issuance of 20, 000 birth certificates and 12, 000 indigene certificates in Borno State as its contribution to bridge the legal documentation gap. Other partners and response organizations in liaison with the government agencies continue to issue birth and indigene certificates in the BAY states to complement the government's effort in addressing the gap, enable more access to other rights and to reduce statelessness.

## VII. COMPLAINT AND FEEDBACK MECHANISMS

**28%** of the Key informants reported that the **community structures** are their most preferred channels to report protection concerns followed closely by the **Protection Desk (22%)**. This view remained the same amongst the key informants in each of the BAY States. The consistency of this finding so far further strengthens UNHCR's Community-Based protection approach, and the deployment of Protection Desks close to the affected population to make it more accessible for all PoCs. Protection Action Group (PAG) Members spread all over the Northeast, in collaboration with community leaders, continue to address, in the absence of the civil authorities, minor non-criminal disputes through the existing Community Mechanism for Dispute Resolution. The Protection Desk on the other hand no doubt, continue to play significant role in serving as a place for lodging complaints confidentially, and is being recognized by the affected population and the relevant stakeholders. UNHCR has constructed **28 Protection Desks** and are operated by GISCOR and NHRC which during this reporting period **2, 474 households of 11, 946** IDPs, Refugee and IDP returnees and Host community members, compared to 1, 104 HHs of 4, 453 reported in March/April to report complaints such as access to Services, SGBV, and minor disputes or to access vulnerability screening and PSS services. In addition, the protection Desk is availed to other stakeholders in Damasak, Dikwa, Monguno, Damboa, Bama, Ngala, Gwoza, MMC, and Jere LGAs in Borno State. There is however the need to additionally deploy more Protection Desks in additional areas in the BAY States so as the affected population will have more alternative avenues to channel the protection concerns. Also, in UNHCR's Out of camp CCCM operationalisation, 3 Information Communication and Coordination Centres have been planned for construction in Yola, Mubi and Michika to increase access to information, improved coordination, and improved feedback to the affected population.



**Figure 14. Complaints mechanisms.**

## VIII. GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE



**154 GBV incidents**

were reported to UNHCR GBV partner in May/June 2021

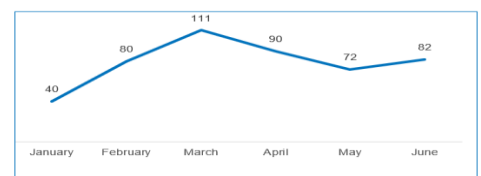


**95%** of reported incidents were perpetrated against **Female**



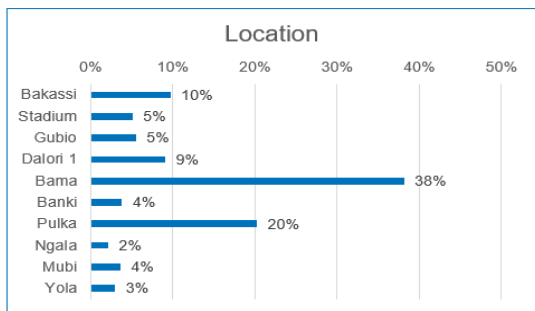
**12%** of reported incidents were perpetrated against **Children**

In 2021, UNHCR and its Partner, the Borno Women Development Initiatives (BOWDI), continue to operate GBV programme across 5 LGAs in Borno and 2 LGAs in Adamawa states. The implementation locations are Maiduguri (Bakassi and Stadium IDP camp), Konduga



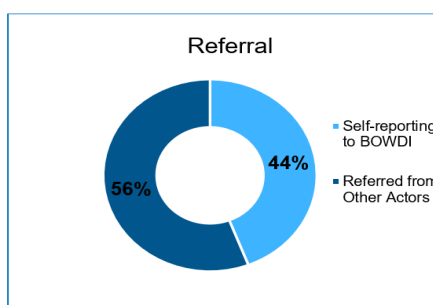
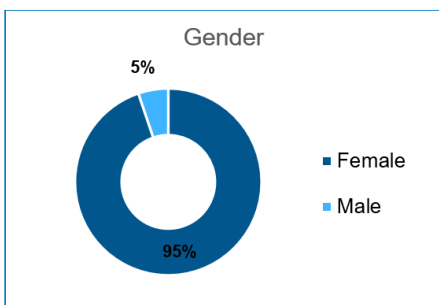
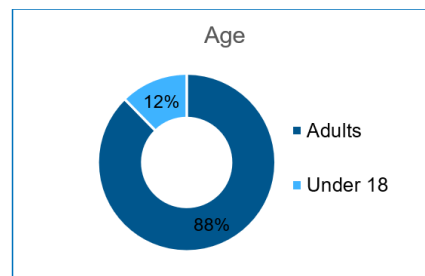
(Gubio and Dalori 1 IDP camp), Ngala, Bama, Banki, Pulka in Borno, and Yola and Mubi in Adamawa.

From May to June 2021, a total of 154 GBV incidents were reported to UNHCR and BOWDI through self-reporting (44%) and referrals from other actors (56%) largely from UNHCR Protection partners, with 23% decrease from the last two reporting months. This brings the total of reported incidents from January to June 2021 to 475.



Looking at distribution by locations, Bama continued to receive the highest number of incidents (38%) followed by Pulka (20%). Acknowledging that Banki (4%) and Ngala (2%) have received a smaller number of incidents in the past several months, UNHCR and BOWDI has planned a focus group discussion (FGD) to assess possible

barriers for reporting and access to services in those areas. In Mubi and Yola, it was reported during the GBV refresher training that some humanitarian actors were not aware of the referral pathways for GBV cases. UNHCR aims to continue the rollout of the refresher training in all locations involving Protection actors to reinforce the referral pathways and multi-sectoral GBV response.

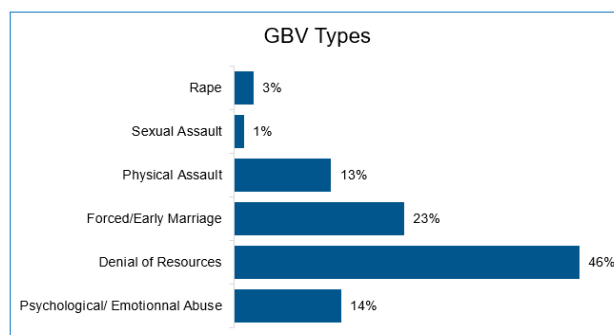


95% of the reported cases were perpetrated against females while 5% were males. There was 4 points increase of male survivors compared to the previous two months. Women and girls continued to bear the brunt of the conflict, pre-existing gender inequalities and deep-rooted harmful gender/religious norms. These have been

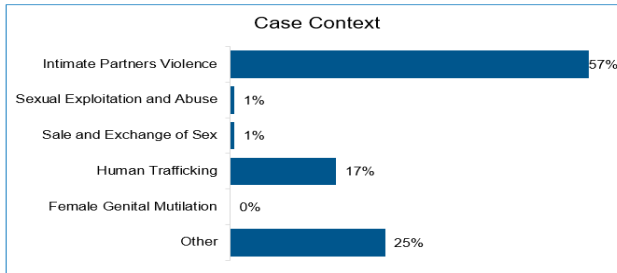
exacerbated by COVID-19 pandemic that increased vulnerability of women and girls and risks of GBV. Despite a fewer incident against men reported, it is assumed that they remain underreported due to barriers associated with stigma, taboos, and lack of entry point for reporting by men. It is worth noting that 25% of cases pertaining to male were reported in Bakassi IDP camp where the pilot Male and Boys Safe Space launched in February.

There were 12% of the reported cases involving child survivors under 18 years which rose by 5 points from March and April. All reported child survivors were girls.

In reference to GBV type in line with GBVIMS (GBV Information Management System), 46% of reported cases were classified as Denial of Resources, Opportunities and Services as highest among 6 GBV types with a rise of 14 points from the last reporting months. Many were inflicted by unfair sharing of food, cash and other assistance among family. The second highest was Forced/ Early Marriage (23%) which were perpetrated by family members of survivors or non-state armed groups (NSAG) while in captivity. It was followed by Psychological/ Emotional Abuse (14%), Rape (3%) and Sexual Assault (1%).



Among the reported cases, a majority occurred between Intimate Partners amounting to 57%. 17% were classified as human trafficking, which in our regional context refers to kidnapping and abduction by NSAG.



Almost every month, some women and girls who escaped captivity return to their community with/without support of the military. They are eventually referred to the GBV partner for necessary support including psychosocial support. There was 1% of reported cases relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse as well as Sale and Exchange of Sex. No Female Genital Mutilation was reported.

## IX. CHILD PROTECTION

**540 of the 4, 983** vulnerable individuals screened in the period under review were children. This compares to 337 reported in the arch/April report. Orphans (81%) remained the highest percentage of children at risk. Pre-existing children vulnerabilities continue to be exacerbated by the over decade long conflict. General protection actors continued to refer all the reported child protection concerns to child protection agencies and the government agencies with child protection mandates for solutions, but the persisting gap remains the insufficient actors in the field to adequately respond. Funding reductions have forced some of the Child protection NGOs to scale down their activities in most parts of the BAY states. A significant gap exists in activities to mitigate risk for children in general. For instance, out of school children continues to increase despite efforts to enrol children to schools.<sup>13</sup> UNHCR, the government and the responsive organisations in the field continue to collaborate to respond to children protection needs despite the shrinking humanitarian resources. The vulnerabilities however require that more humanitarian resources are deployed to adequately address these gaps.

### Children with Specific Needs

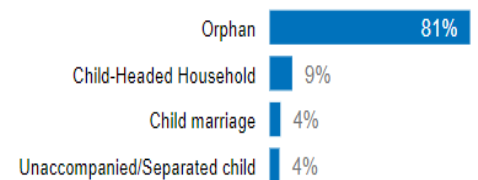


Figure 20. Children with Specific Needs

## X. PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

UNHCR through its partners (GISCOR - in Borno State, and Caritas - in Adamawa and Yobe States) continued to conduct vulnerability screening and profiling of persons with specific needs. In the period under review **4, 468 displaced** households comprising of **27, 280** were reached in total out of which **4, 983 representing 18%** of the screened individuals were screened as vulnerable. The vulnerability screening covers 11 LGAs in Borno State (Bama, Gwoza, Monguno, Gamboru Ngala, Dikwa, Kalabalge, Konduga, Damboa, Mobbar, Jere and MMC), 6 LGAs in Adamawa State (Madagali, Michika, Mubi South, Mubi North, Fufore and Yola North) and 2 LGAs in Yobe State (Damaturu and Gujba).

**2, 983 Out of the 4, 983** vulnerable individuals screened in 29 locations in the BAY States were women out of which 46% were female heads of households, 38% lactating and 16% pregnant (Fig. 22).

### Women with Specific Needs

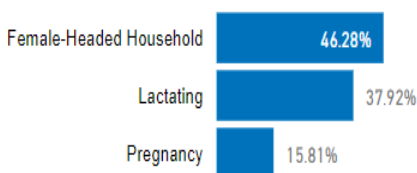


Figure 22. Women Specific Needs

While the pregnant and lactating mothers continue to freely access services such as antenatal care provided by the Primary Healthcare Development Agency and other NGOS, blanket and targeted supplementary feeding from many agencies, the same does not apply to female heads of households, a group that remains without any dedicated programmes to increase their protection and

### Elderly with Specific Needs

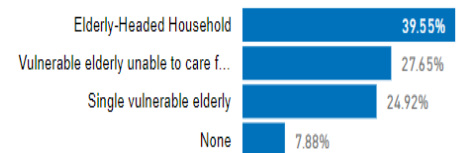


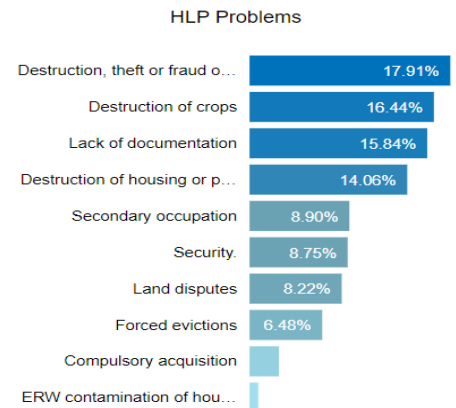
Figure 21. Elderly Specific Needs

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/07/out-of-school-children-the-burden-of-a-nation/> sighted on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 at 12:56pm

livelihood. Access to livelihood remains limited due to insufficient response organisations providing such opportunity in the deep field. With regards to the **1, 039 vulnerable** elderly with specific needs screened, 40% were elderly heads of households, 28% were vulnerable elderly who cannot take care of themselves and 25% were single vulnerable elderly. As reported previously, a persistent gap remains for the elderly due to the absence of specialised geriatric institutions in the deep field locations. In the absence of the government institutions, protection actors continue to rely on pre-existing family and community safety nets and the community-based protection structures to deliver various responses to the needs of the elderly such as home visits and referrals for services.

## XI. HOUSING LAND AND PROPERTY, CAMP CONGESTION AND ASSOCIATED PROTECTION RISKS

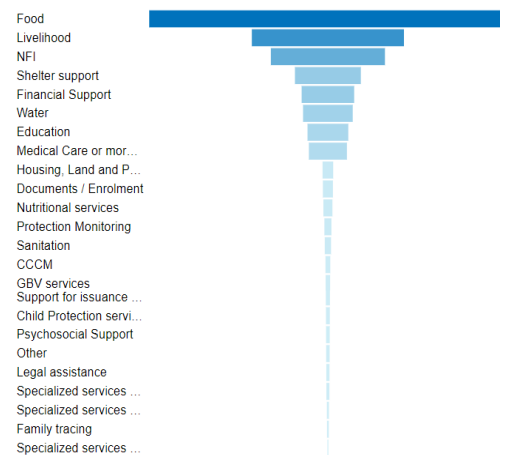
The major HLP issues reported by the Key informants across the states include destruction of property, theft, and fraud (18%) destruction of crops (16) lack of documentation (16%) and destruction of housing or property (14%). In **Borno State** however, the major HLP issues reported were destruction and theft of property (22%), destruction of houses and property (19%) destruction of crops (14%) and Secondary Occupation (13%). In **Yobe State**, destruction of crops (29%), destruction, theft, and fraud (25%) destruction of houses or property (15%) and lack of documentation (14%) were reported. In **Adamawa State**, lack of documentation (20%), destruction of crops (17%) destruction or fraud or theft (13%), and land disputes (12%) were reported. The nuances in each state are the true reflection of the recovery stage of each state. For instance, Adamawa and Yobe States are both more stabilised than Borno State which remains in the emergency stage with displacements still being recorded hence the issue of destruction of property and secondary occupation persist. Whereas in Yobe and Adamawa State, growing tension between the returnee farmers and community members continue to cause disputes. The Government and the response organisations are therefore called upon to look at the issues and make concerted efforts to address them to avert any forms of disruption of the existing peaceful coexistence in the communities.



**Figure 23. HLP problems**

## XII. PERSISTENT GAPS AND PRIORITY NEEDS

Food, access to livelihood, NFIs, Shelter and financial assistance remain the 5 topmost priority needs expressed by the Key Informants in the BAY States. In Borno State, access to food remains insufficient despite the response organisations efforts to address the food need in the camps and communities. Most of the communities remains garrisoned due to insecurity therefore making it difficult for the affected population to engage in crop production which has hitherto been their main source of livelihood, hence their continued dependence on humanitarian aid. Delays in profiling the returning PoCs by the ETT team for a speedy access to especially food has been alluded to be one of the challenges of acing food assistance by the affected population. As reported previously, Mounting of Illegal vehicle check points and looting of property including humanitarian cargo reported on most supply routes linking to Maiduguri have continued to affect the timely delivery of food rations by the Food actors to the deep field locations in Borno State. Shrinking funds on the other hand, and logistics challenges have most of the time resulted in the delay or insufficient access to NFIs for the most vulnerable in the deep field locations.



**Figure 25. Persistent needs and Gaps**

## XIII. COVID- 19 PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

In continuation with the COVID-19 risk mitigation measures and responses, protection partners enhanced risk communication and community engagement for PoCs to influence behavioural change while ensuring compliance with preventive measures advanced by the Government and WHO. The implementation of preventive non pharmaceutical measures such as wearing of masks, increased hygiene behaviours and social distancing continued by humanitarian actors to curb the spread of COVID-19 amidst scepticism of its existence by IDPs, returnees and host community members. To this end, UNHCR, partners and other humanitarian actors continued to engage stakeholders on COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) including border monitoring, temperature screening and other preventive measures. The first phase of COVID-19 vaccine targeting mostly frontline actors such as humanitarian



actors, military and health workers commenced in various locations in the deep field. While the PoCs, in principle, were not denied access to the vaccine, apathy due to misinformation and the lack of knowledge of where to get the vaccines were some of the challenges for the PoCs to access same. While getting the vaccines remains voluntary, the commencement of the second phase in June is anticipated that the willing PoCs will have unrestricted access to the vaccines.

#### XIV. COORDINATION

UNHCR and Partners at the field level continued to organise, chair, and participate in protection coordination meetings despite the challenges of COVID-19 and insecurity. At the State levels, Protection Coordination meetings such as the General Protection Working Group, Protection Sector meetings and Inter-Sector Working Group Meetings were held. Cross border meetings were also held with UNHCR Office in Tchad to address the challenges facing refugee returns in the region. In furtherance to the collaboration between UNHCR and WFP and to mitigate risks associated with access to food, meetings were held between the UNHCR and WFP protection staff.

#### XV. GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

S/N	Challenges	Recommendations	Affected areas	Responsible stakeholders	Urgency
1	Temporary suspension of Humanitarian Actors presence,	Review of the current situation and adapt other majors to further prevent loss of lives	Dikwa, Damasak, Rann Yobe	Government, SEMA/NEMA, OHCT	Urgent
2	Limited livelihood programs. IDPs and host communities continue dependence mostly on food aid provided by humanitarian organizations.	Increase livelihood opportunities in the deep field locations to promote self-reliance.	All Locations	Government, OHCT	Long term
3	The Humanitarian-Development (Peace) nexus is lacking.	Operationalize the Humanitarian Development nexus to respond to acute socio-economic needs.	Return areas in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe.	HCT, Government	Urgent
4	HLP Concerns	Address the HLP concerns arising in Banki after the continuous returns of PoCs	Banki	PSNE, HLP Sub Working Group, SEMA.	Urgent
5	Overcrowded classrooms in the camp Schools which are impediments for Girls attending schools and deploy more teachers.	Advocate for the decongestion of the camp schools and deploy more teacher.	Bama, Banki.	PSNE, UNICEF, SUBEB.	Urgent
6	Insecurity preventing Humanitarian actors accessing the communities.	Overall general improvement of the security condition in the general area	All Locations	Government	Urgent/ long-term
7	Risk of incidents related to windstorm, floods	Increase risk mitigation activities on flood and windstorm during the onset of the rainy season and beyond.	All locations	PSNE, CCCM	Urgent

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