



Volume 1

Violence Track

More common than you think

#GBV Monitoring During COVID-19 Lockdown

Violence Track is a citizen led violence tracking initiative by Kimpact Development Initiative (KDI) using a scientific approach (in-depth research) through data gathering by trained and deployed citizens to quantify violence most especially Electoral Violence and Gender-based Violence.

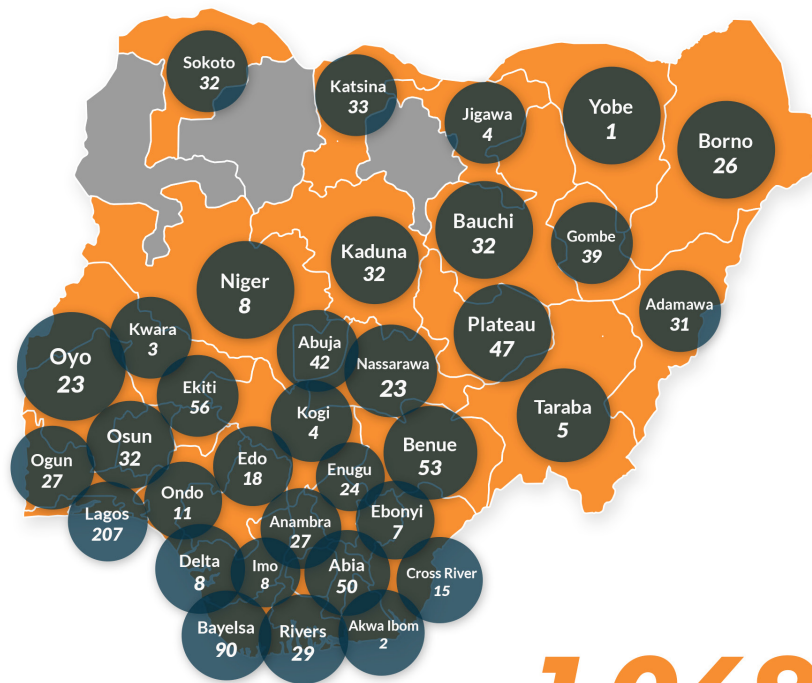
This is aimed at providing impartial voice on electoral violence and #GBV through citizen observation with the ultimate goal of ending the culture of impunity by documenting and publishing disaggregated data. Therefore, informing relevant stakeholder in numbers why security of lives and properties matters.

Contributors

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REPORTED CASES OF ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE

March 30, 2020- May 31, 2020



1,049

Total cases reported

“From March 30th to May 31st, 2020, a total of 1049 incidents of violence have been documented and reported out of which 947 cases were against women.”

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely disrupted normal functioning of the world population and has posed a great threat to human security as a result of stay at home safety measures which has led to an increase in the number of gender based and domestic vio-

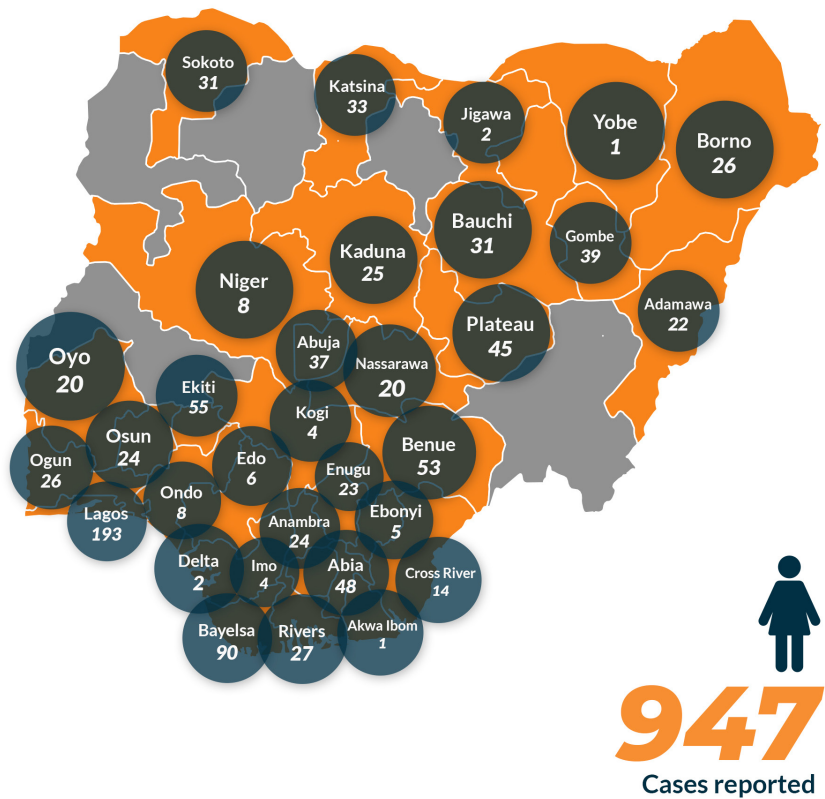
lence and human rights violations.

Violence is the intentional use of force, power, or threats to injure, abuse, damage, destroy or cause psychological harm and even death. It can be targeted toward both the male and the female gender. It threatens human security

and has adverse effect on the victims and the community at large. Abuse and violence take different forms which include physical such as murder and battery. It could also be sexual; an example of this is rape and harassment. Other forms are psychological, and economic. gender-based violence amongst others. Kimpact Development Initiative (KDI), is monitoring and documenting such acts of violence in order to proffer solutions and recommendations on how to

curb the increase of violence during Covid-19 pandemic period. KDI recruited 37 monitors across the 36 states and FCT Abuja to monitor and document any form of violence in their states most especially gender-based violence. The KDI project team worked with CSO partners and the media to collate data from relevant government agencies in different states for verification. A monitoring checklist was developed and made into a Google form for documentation.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
 March 30, 2020 - May 31, 2020



Violence against women took 92.5% of all forms of violence recorded during the COVID-19 lockdown.

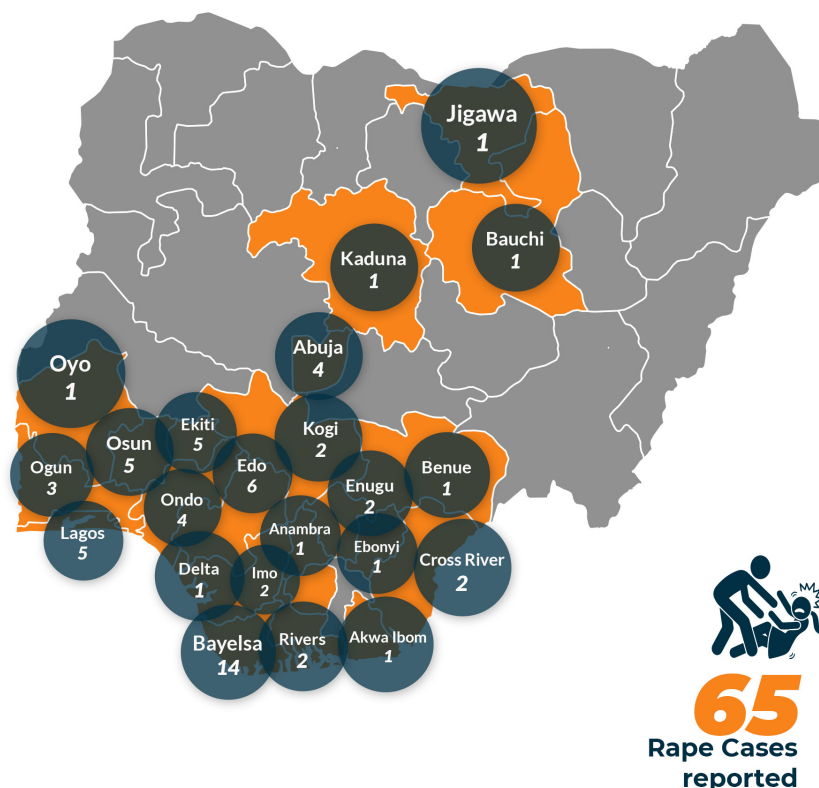
Most of the cases are not being reported to the security and other relevant agencies, and there is no structured reporting structure that will guarantee the safety of the victim.

Violence in Nigeria has been on the increase yearly, and the COVID 19 pandemic lockdown period is not left out. The pandemic is a health crisis that has severely disrupted the normal functioning of populations around the world and continues to proliferate indiscriminately. It threatens the health and security of all, most especially women and girls due to the very low measures taken to protect populations and keep health systems afloat which leave women and girls vulnerable to violence¹. Gender-based violence (GBV) increases during every type of emergency whether economic crises, conflict or disease outbreaks because the vulnerable populace most especially women are forced to stay with their abusers for longer periods in compliance with the lockdown measures during crises. Pre-existing toxic social

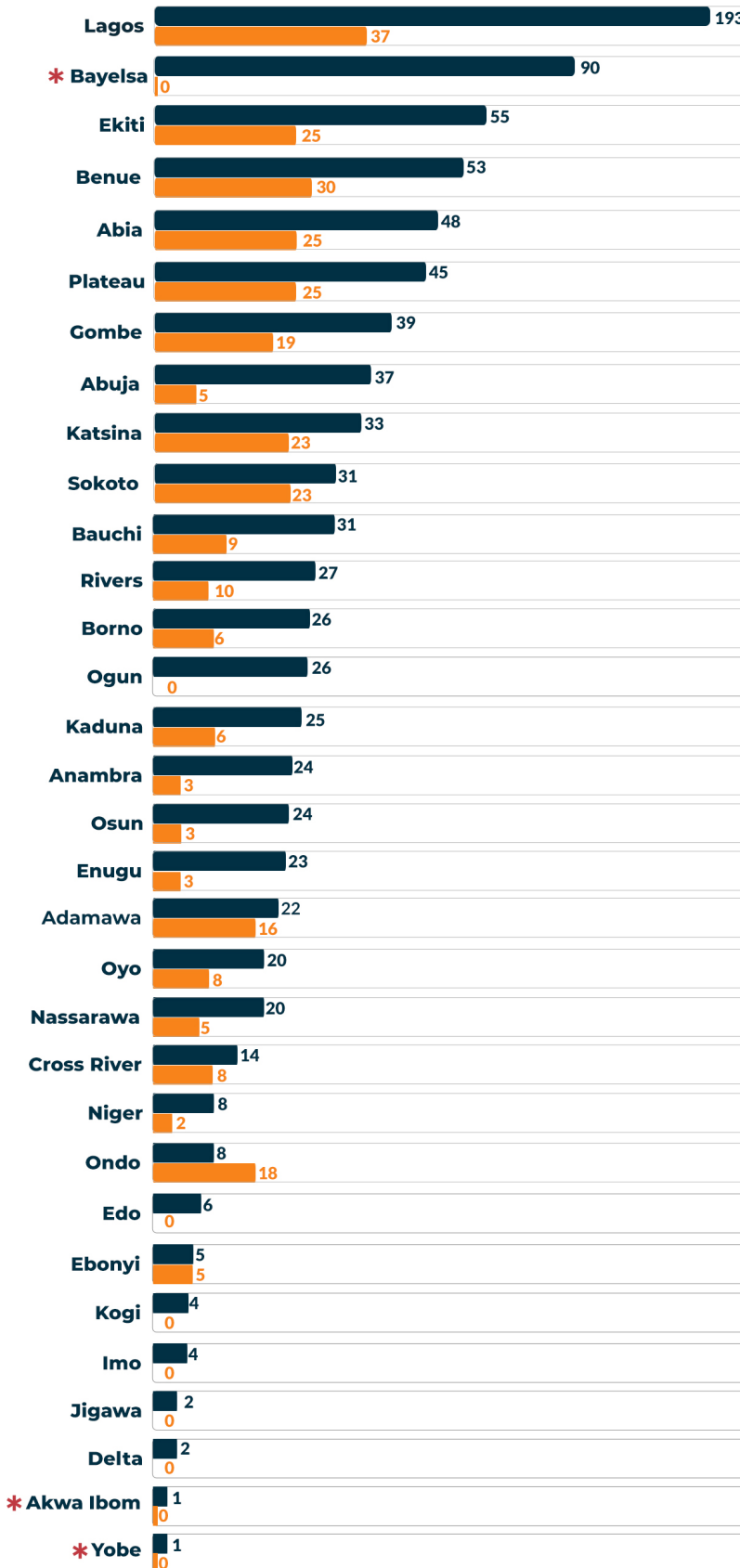
There has been a record of monthly increase of 149% in reports of gender-based violence following the introduction of lockdowns at the end of March.

norms and gender inequalities, economic and social stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with restricted movement and social isolation measures, have led to an exponential increase in GBV². According to International Growth Center, Nigeria has long been facing a gender-based violence crisis, with 30% of women and girls aged 15-49 having experienced sexual abuse. Since various versions of lockdown were put in place across the country on 30 March, reported cases of gender-based violence have substantially risen. There have been record of monthly increase of 149% in reports of gender-based violence following the introduction of lockdowns at the end of March³.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (RAPE)
March 30, 2020 - May 31, 2020



Comparison of the GBV reported before lockdown and during lockdown



Cases as of
May 31st, 2020

947 

Cases during lockdown

314 

Cases in March before Lockdown

Note:
The monitoring team could not access the data on violence before lockdown for states with asterisk(*).

REPORTED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

March 30, 2020 - May 31, 2020



Intimidation



Attempted murder



Human Trafficking



Domestic Violence



Economic Violence



Cyber Bullying



Kidnap



Murder



Rape

Incidents of Gender-based violence and all forms of violence

Backdated to March 30, 2020 when the COVID 19 lock down began, KDI monitors with partners collated data from the field, relevant government agencies and media reports. Data was equally sourced from credible organizations like United Nations Nigeria Gender-based Violence reports. The records show 1049 cases as at May, 31st, 2020 with 947 cases of violence against

women reported. The violence cut across 34 states of the federation including FCT Abuja. The state includes Abia, Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bauchi, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, Ekiti, Enugu, Imo, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, Oyo, Plateau, Rivers, Taraba, Nassarawa, FCT Abuja, Sokoto, Kebbi, Kastina, Benue, Borno, Bayelsa, Yobe and Gombe states.

Recommendations

- KDI strongly recommends that the COVID 19 task force set up by government should be expanded to include persons responsible for monitoring issues of gender based and domestic violence, by ensuring all reported cases are addressed by relevant agencies
- The task force needs to set up a hotline for reporting incidents of gender-based violence and callers should be guaranteed anonymity.
- Care centers should be set up, where survivors of gender based and domestic violence can seek medical help and counselling, and also refuge where needed.
- Perpetrators of such actions need to be prosecuted to serve as deterrence to other offenders.
- Stigmatization of victims by the society needs to be discouraged to encourage them to speak up and break the culture of silence.

Reference

1. <https://theconversation.com/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-during-covid-19-lessons-from-ebola-137541>
2. United Nations Development Program, 2020. Gender-based violence and COVID-19 - [https://nigeria.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-05/Gender%20](https://nigeria.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-05/Gender%20Based%20Violence%20in%20Nigeria%20During%20COVID%2019%20Crisis_The%20Shadow%20Pandemic.pdf)
3. <https://www.theigc.org/blog/the-shadow-pandemic-gender-based-violence-and-covid-19/>

About Kimpact

Kimpact Development Initiative (KDI) is a youth-focused nonprofit, nonpartisan, non-governmental organization that advances good governance, democratic rights, public policy, public engagement and sustainable economy. We do this by building informed and active citizens through capacity development, advancing public policies, data driven advocacy and reforms that gives a more supportive environment for citizen-led development. Since March 2014, KDI has worked hand-in-hand with both Local and International bodies to promote peaceful election, active citizen engagement in democratic processes, reforms

and sustainable economy. We hinge our advocacy, reforms, policy advancement and democratic supports on the principle of social cohesion. KDI has administrative structures and partners in all the 36 states of Nigeria.

Our Mission: *To inspire citizen-led democratic and economic development that is fixed firmly on the principles of participation, data-driven advocacy, strong democratic institutions and public policies.*

Design and layout: KDI Communication Department

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