Introduction

The continuation of conflict in Northeast Nigeria has created a complex humanitarian crisis, rendering sections of Borno and Adamawa states as hard to reach. To address information gaps facing the humanitarian response and inform humanitarian actors on the demographics of households in hard-to-reach areas of Northeast Nigeria, as well as to identify their needs, access to services and movement intentions, REACH has been conducting monthly assessments of hard-to-reach areas in Northeast Nigeria since November 2018.

Proportion of settlements assessed, March 2021

# of key informant interviews: **575**
# of assessed settlements: **317**
# of assessed LGAs: **20**
# of assessed LGAs with sufficient coverage[1]: **17**
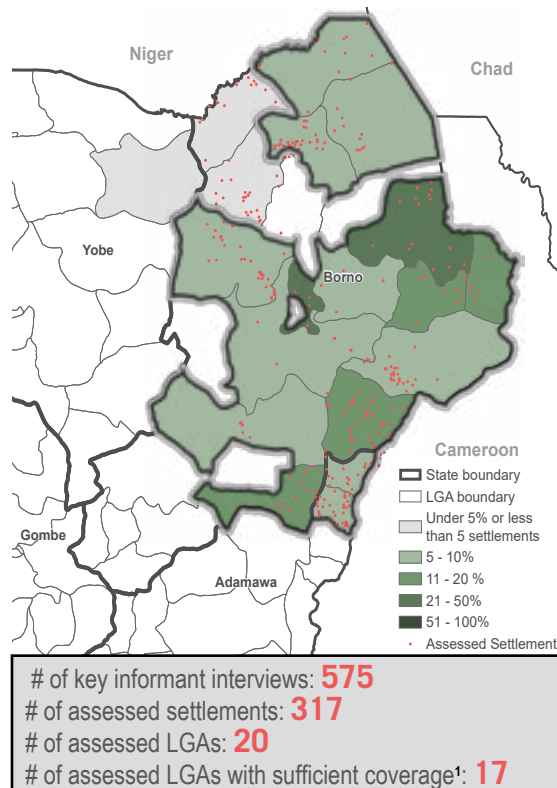
Methodology

Using the Area of Knowledge (AoK) methodology, REACH remotely monitors the situation in hard-to-reach areas through monthly multi-sector interviews in accessible Local Government Area (LGA) capitals with key informants (KIs) who are either (1) newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month or (2) KIs who have had contact with someone living or having been in a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.).

If not stated otherwise, the recall period for each question is set to one month prior to the last information the KI has had from the hard-to-reach area. Selected KIs are purposively sampled and are interviewed on settlement-wide circumstances in hard-to-reach areas, rather than their individual experiences. Responses from KIs reporting on the same settlement are then aggregated to the settlement level. The most common response provided by the greatest number of KIs is reported for each settlement. When no most common response could be identified, the response is considered as 'no consensus'. While included in the calculations, the percentage of settlements for which no consensus was reached is not displayed in the results below.

Results presented in this factsheet, unless otherwise specified, represent the proportion of settlements assessed within an LGA. Findings are only reported on LGAs where at least 5% of populated settlements and at least 5 settlements in the respective LGA have been assessed. **The findings presented are indicative of broader trends in assessed settlements in March 2021, and are not statistically generalisable[2].** Due to precautions related to the COVID-19 outbreak, data was collected remotely through phone based interviews with assistance from local stakeholders. Data collection took place from March 2nd to March 31st

🍲 Access to food

Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that some people have access to enough food:
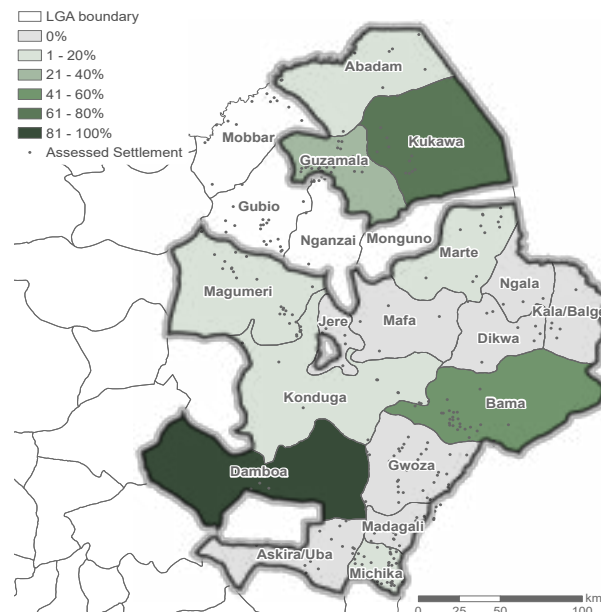
Of the assessed settlements where it was reported that at least some people did not have enough access to food (78%), the main reason reported for not having access to enough food:

Destroyed by conflict	22%
Small land to farm on	20%
Unsafe access to farm land	16%
Natural causes	15%
Destroyed by criminals	10%

🌾 Food source

Most commonly reported main means of accessing food, by % of assessed settlements:

Cultivated	84%
Foraged for wild foods	13%

[1] The most recent dataset on grid3.gov.ng/datasets has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations, and adjusted to account for deserted villages based on information shared by OCHA
[2] Due to changes in migration patterns, the specific settlements assessed within each LGA vary each month. Changes in results reported in this factsheet, compared to previous factsheets, may therefore be due to variations in the assessed settlements instead of changes over time.
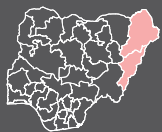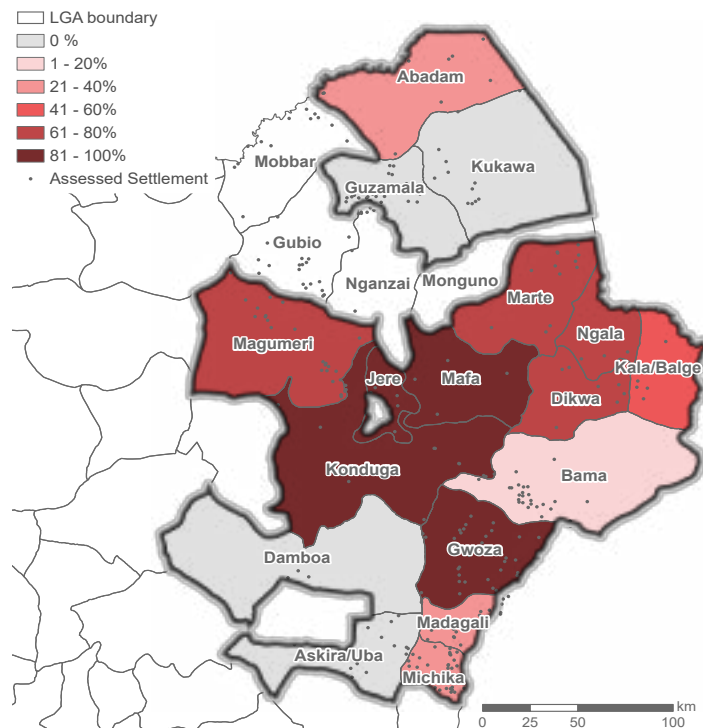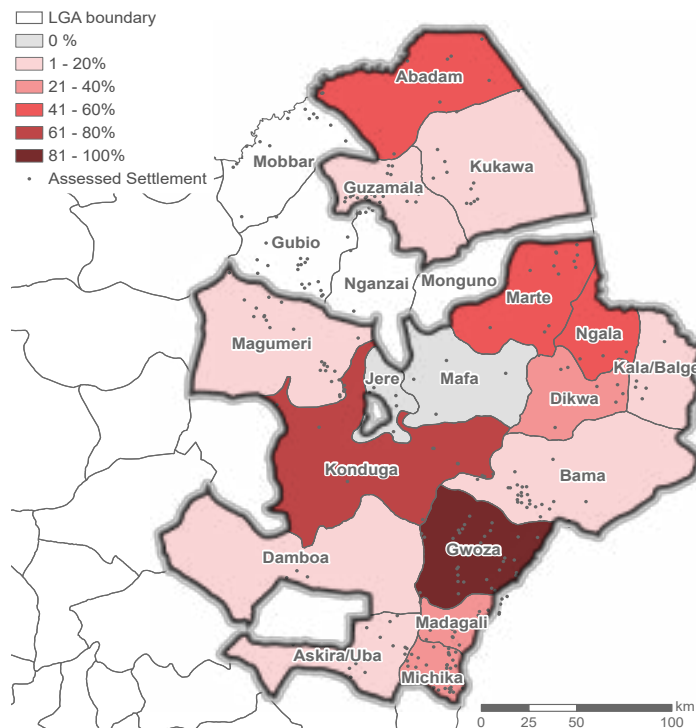
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🍽 Access to food

Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that people eat wild foods that are not part of their usual diet:

Legend:
- ☐ LGA boundary
- ☐ 0 %
- 1 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- • Assessed Settlement

🍚 Coping strategy

Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that most people go an entire day without eating as a coping strategy:

Legend:
- ☐ LGA boundary
- ☐ 0 %
- 1 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- • Assessed Settlement

Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that some people eat on average one meal per day or less:

Legend:
- ☐ LGA boundary
- ☐ 0 %
- 1 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- • Assessed Settlement
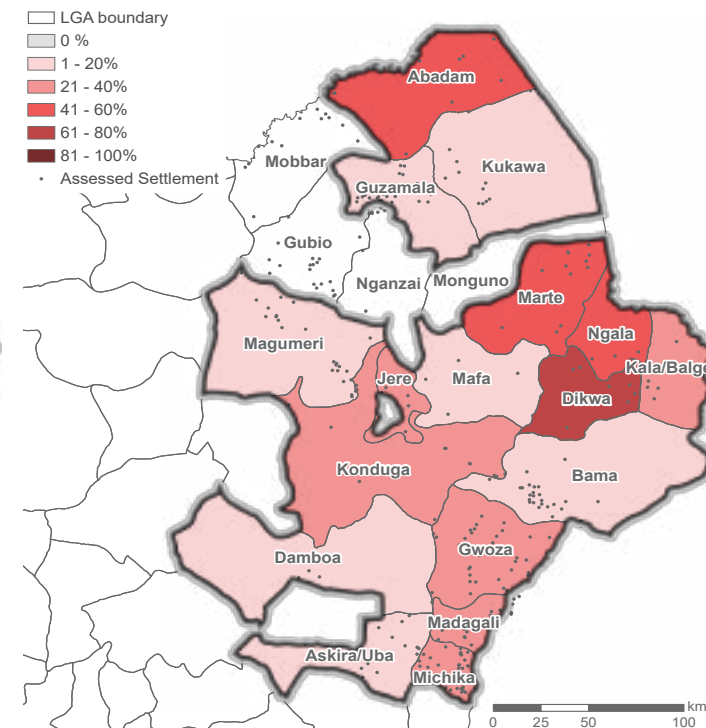
🛏 Food shock: Severe hunger

Top five LGAs with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported hunger was severe for MOST people because they were not able to access enough food:

LGA	%	
Abadam	80%	
Gwoza	79%	
Magumeri	66%	
Konduga	64%	
Kala Balge	57%	

🛏 Food shock: Health

Top five LGAs with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that perceived health problems impacted access to food:

LGA	%	
Askira / Uba	75%	
Ngala	56%	
Michika	54%	
Madagali	45%	
Marte	36%	

✳ Food shock: Conflict and looting

Top five LGAs with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that conflict related incidents and looting impacted access to food:

| LGA	%	
Askira / Uba	100%	
Mafa	100%	
Gwoza	93%	
Magumeri	91%	
Abadam	90%	

Access to livelihood
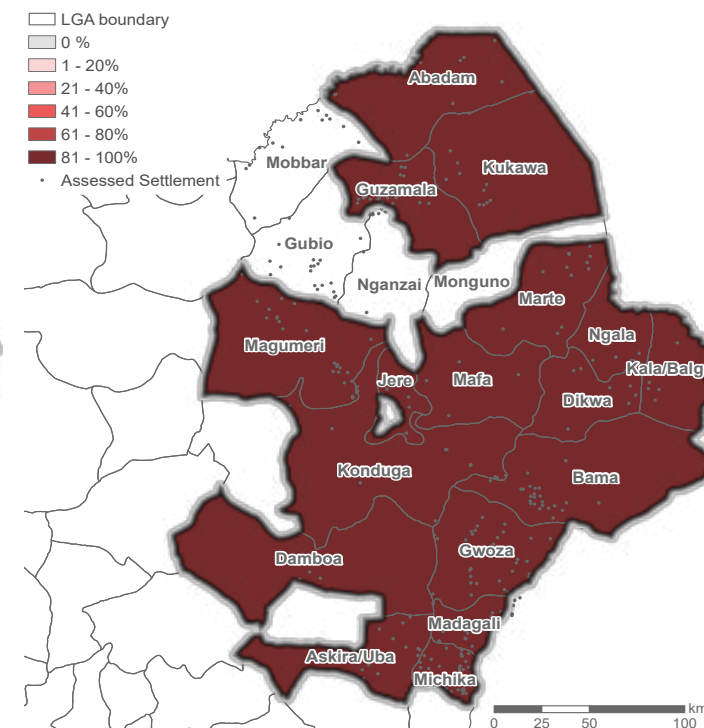
Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that people have access to a functional market within walking distance:

Legend:
- LGA boundary
- 0%
- 1 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- Assessed Settlement
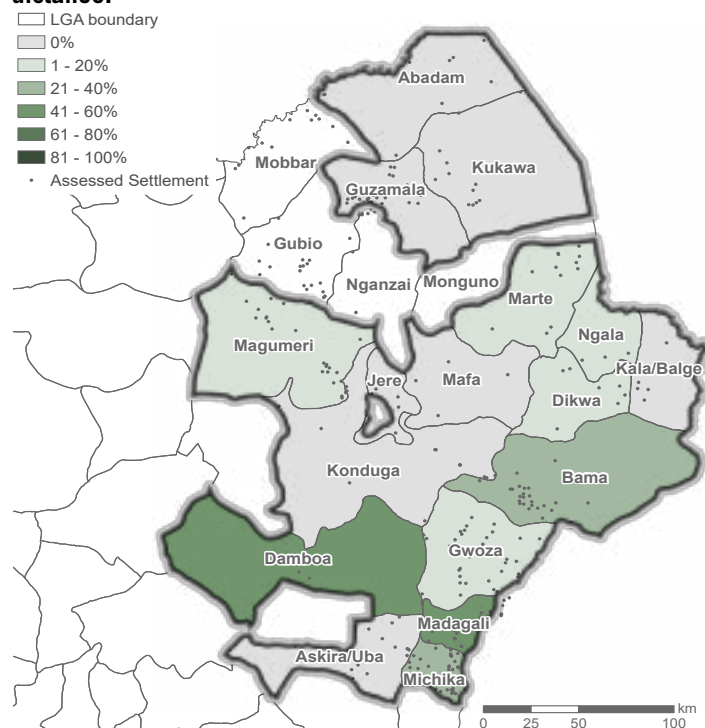
Proportion of assessed settlements where people reportedly owned livestock:

Legend:
- LGA boundary
- 0%
- 1 - 20%
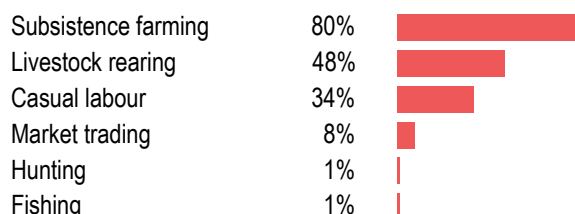- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- Assessed Settlement
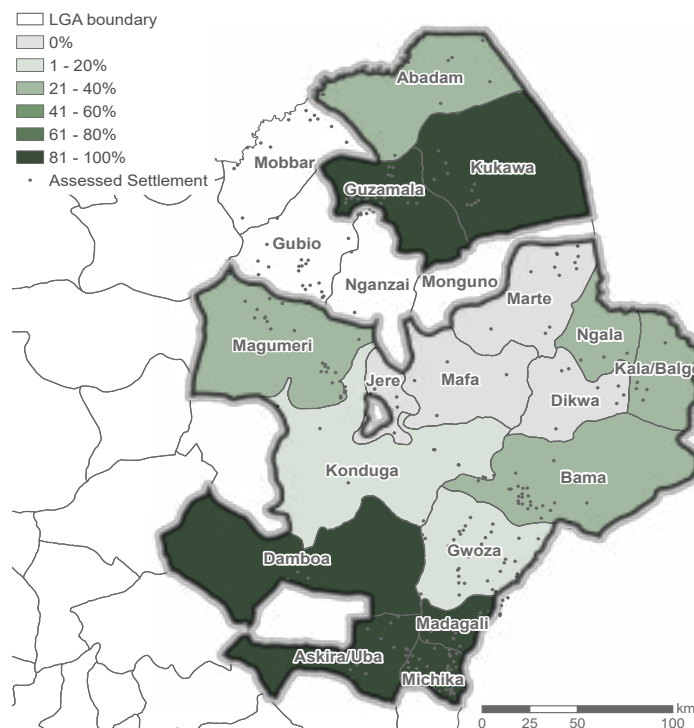
Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that people were NOT able to engage in their usual livelihood activity:

Legend:
- LGA boundary
- 0 %
- 1 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- Assessed Settlement

Livelihood activities

Most common livelihoods activities practiced in the settlement, by % of assessed settlements:

| Activity	%
Subsistence farming	80%
Livestock rearing	48%
Casual labour	34%
Market trading	8%
Hunting	1%
Fishing	1%

Access to land

Top five LGAs with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where people reportedly have less land available for cultivation compared to the same time last year:

LGA	%
Askira / Uba	100%
Konduga	100%
Mafa	100%
Madagali	91%
Michika	90%
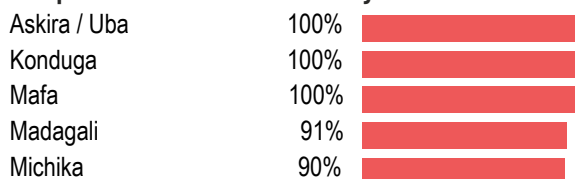
Planting/harvest

Top five LGAs with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where people had reportedly planted and harvested in the previous rainy season[3]:

LGA	%
Madagali	100%
Michika	100%
Abadam	100%
Askira / Uba	100%
Damboa	100%
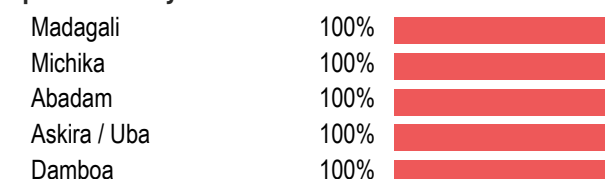
[3] LGAs with 100% of assessed settlements where people had reportedly planted and harvested in the previous rainy season also include Dikwa, Guzamala, Kala Balge, Konduga, Kukawa, Mafa and Magumeri