RAPID GENDER ASSESSMENT

ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

TECHNICAL REPORT - NIGERIA SURVEY FIELDWORK

AUGUST- SEPTEMBER 2021

UN WOMEN | WOMEN COUNT

1 Introduction

Prompted by strong concern that the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the risk of different forms of violence against women and girls, particularly intimate partner/domestic violence, and realizing the need to collect reliable data that are in line with methodological, safety and ethical standards, UN Women commissioned Ipsos to conduct a study on the impact of COVID-19 on women's well-being and safety in 13 countries across several regions all over the world. The participating countries were Albania, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Columbia, Côte d'Ivoire, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Nigeria, Paraguay, Thailand and Ukraine.

The **core objectives** of the study were to:
- collect data on the impacts of COVID-19 on violence against women in low- and middle-income countries.

- strengthen measurement and methodologies for violence against women data collection and use.

- strengthen available knowledge on all forms of violence against women and improve capacities to collect, analyse and use data on violence against women in accordance with globally agreed methodological, safety and ethical standards.

- inform where the policy and programmatic response of UN Women should focus and support UN system-wide efforts to scale up actions to address violence against women in the context of COVID-19.

The following groups contributed to the **project's management and execution**:
1. the UN Women project team, comprising statisticians, researchers and policy specialists;

2. the Technical Advisory Group – an external reference group established by UN Women to provide independent technical advice and expertise to the project;

3. the Ipsos project team involved in the set-up and delivery of the study; and

4. national fieldwork partners.

Methodology of the study	
Target group	Women aged 18 +
Timing	• Two-phased approach: Phase I (four countries) took place May–June 2021; Phase II (nine countries) took place August–September 2021
Data collection method	Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI)
Sampling approach	• Random probability sampling with monitoring of quota on age and region • Random-digit dialling to mobile sample frames
Sample Size	• 1,200 women aged 18+ per country
Questionnaire length and type	• Target duration of max. 20 minutes • No open-ended answers • Informed consent asked to each participant at the beginning of the interview • Awareness of safety, privacy and confidentiality of women respondents • Guided by the "do no harm" principle applicable to the women respondents and the interviewers/research team • The questionnaire was adapted in each country by localizing characters' names and cultural references (i.e., popular food, music, sports).
Scripting	Central scripting in software applications - iField and Dimensions
Language	At least one main language per country

The country chapters provide information on the set-up of the data collection process (obtaining of ethical clearance, sampling and translation), description of the fieldwork, main characteristics of the achieved sample by several indicators (age group, region, area type, educational attainment), technical information (interview duration, contact outcomes, screen-outs, temporary interview suspension at safety questions, survey dropouts, use of safety word, and item non-response), key field observations and relevant lessons and recommendations.

2 Country information

2.1 Nigeria

2.1.1 Obtaining ethical clearance

UN Women sought general support or tacit approval for the study from the National Bureau of Statistics of Nigeria. A 'no objection' was granted on 15 March 2021 in support of the project.

2.1.2 Sampling plan

A single-frame cell-phone random-digit dialling (RDD) survey design was used to reach a nationally representative sample of women aged 18+. The sample mirrored the telephone database distribution (frame size) by provider.[1] The gross (unscreened) sample included numbers for each of the providers in the country to the same proportions as in the frame size. In 2019, 99% of the population had a mobile subscription.[2]

Of the 322,000,000 numbers available in the sample frame, 204,228,678[3] (63%) were expected to be working numbers (based on cell subscriptions in 2020). The sample was pulsed, meaning that a signal was sent to the randomly generated phone numbers to verify if the numbers existed (i.e., if connection could be achieved). The upfront pulsing of the gross sample closely reflected the market shares of the different operators (in terms of subscriptions). The sample was also screened against business registers so as to exclude numbers that were used by companies. Further details on the sampling frame are provided in section 2.4.1 of the main technical report.

To ensure a representative sample, quotas were set on age (18–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60+) and region (first-level administrative division), using the following statistical sources:

- Age: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019)[4]

- Region: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Projected population statistics (2020).[5]

2.1.3 Translation

The questionnaire was translated into Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa. The translation procedure is explained in more detail in section 2.5.3 of the main technical report.

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[1] Mobile   50,000,000; AIRTEL 90,000,000; Globacom 60,000,000; MTN 112,000,000; Smile 10,000,000.
[2] Calculations made using 2020 World Bank data.
[3] World Bank Data. 2020. https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.CEL.SETS?end=2020&locations=NG&start=2020
[4] World Population Prospects 2019, Online Edition. Rev. 1.: File INT/3-3: Women population by single age, region, subregion and country, annually for 1950-2100. https://population.un.org/wpp/Publications/Files/WPP2019_Volume-I_Comprehensive-Tables.pdf
[5] https://data.humdata.org/dataset/nigeria-2016-population-data

No issues related to equivalence (conceptual equivalence, semantic equivalence, etc.) were encountered during translation.

The questionnaire required localization for several items in the text of the questions and answers, including widely known, yet neutral in meaning, male and female names, which were used in the vignettes in the Safety Section of the survey. In Nigeria, for Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa languages the male name used was *Lagbaja* and the female, *Arewa.*

2.1.4 Fieldwork period

Fieldwork took place between 17 August and 27 September 2021. The end date was two weeks later than originally planned due to slower than expected progress in the fieldwork. The local team faced a lot of refusals because women seemed not to be interested in taking part in the survey. Additionally, the team faced significant technical issues during the second and third week of the fieldwork when heavy rainfall in multiple regions in the country heavily impacted the communications network. In order to offset these challenges, the team reconfigured its calling plan, dividing the calling hours of the interviewers into shifts so that more hours of the day could be covered. They also assigned an increased number of interviewers to the project. To further assist the process, after a careful review and with official permission from the UN Women team, the Nigerian field team supplemented the RDD sample with leads from a pre-existing contact database compiled from previous surveys conducted in the country. The database consisted entirely of mobile phone numbers, and the selection of these numbers was performed at random in order to match the original design of the study. The combination of these measures was successful in enabling the team to reach the target number of completes (1,200 interviews), but subsequent quality checks revealed that the age profile of the achieved sample was skewed towards younger respondents and there was a significant shortfall in the numbers of interviews achieved among older groups. In an attempt to address this, fieldwork was reopened in Nigeria and after five additional days the team managed to increase the number of interviews with women in the older age groups and complete the fieldwork.

2.1.5 Achieved sample

In total, 1,482 valid interviews were completed in Nigeria. The distribution of the sample across the 18–29 and 30–39 age groups was in line with the targets. In the rest of the age groups, the number of completed interviews was below the set targets – by 4 percentage points in the case of the 40–49 age group, 2 percentage points in the case of the 50–59 group and 2 percentage points among the 60+ age group.

Table 1: Achieved sample, by age group (Nigeria)

Age group	Target	Target %	Completed (unweighted)	Completed % (unweighted)	Weighted %[6]	Difference unweighted % vs. target %[7]	Difference weighted % vs. target %[8]
18 – 29	479	40%	612	41%	40%	1%	0%
30 – 39	282	23%	453	31%	24%	7%	0%
40 – 49	198	17%	187	13%	16%	-4%	0%
50 – 59	127	11%	121	8%	11%	-2%	0%
60+	114	10%	109	7%	10%	-2%	0%

The targets in half of the regions were generally met, notwithstanding a few small shortfalls in the following regions – North Central (1 percentage point below target), South West (2 percentage points below target) and South South (4 percentage points below target).

Table 2: Achieved sample, by region (Nigeria)

Region	Target	Target %	Completed (unweighted)	Completed % (unweighted)	Weighted %	Difference unweighted % vs. target %[9]	Difference weighted % vs. target %
North Central	173	14%	194	13%	14%	-1%	0%
North East	145	12%	185	13%	12%	1%	0%
North West	263	22%	355	24%	22%	2%	0%
South West	276	23%	302	21%	23%	-2%	0%
South East	151	13%	243	16%	12%	4%	0%
South	192	16%	179	12%	16%	-4%	0%

The distribution across rural (14,4%) and urban (85,6%) areas (as self-reported by respondents) was lower than estimates based on World Bank data indicating a rural population of 50%[10] in Nigeria. It is important to note the use of a mobile RDD sample here, however. Other research on mobile phone penetration shows that although the population in Nigeria is equally split between urban and rural regions, the subscriber penetration in rural areas is much lower than that in urban areas.[11]

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[6] Weighting procedures are discussed in more detail in section 4.4.2 of the main technical report.

[7] The figures in this column reflect the actual difference of the unweighted and target percentages. Any variations are caused by the rounding up of the percentages in the table.

[8] The figures in this column reflect the actual difference of the unweighted and target percentages. Any variations are caused by the rounding up of the percentages in the table.

[9] The figures in this column reflect the actual difference of the unweighted and target percentages. Any variations are caused by the rounding up of the percentages in the table.

[10] https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS?end=2020&locations=NG&start=2020&year_high_desc=true

[11] GSMA. 2014. Country overview: Nigeria.
https://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Country_Overview_Nigeria.pdf

Table 3: Achieved sample, by area type (Nigeria)

Area	Completed (unweighted)	Completed % (unweighted)	Weighted %
Urban	1269	85.6%	85.2%
Rural	213	14.4%	14.8%

Fewer than 1 in 10 respondents had completed primary school or had no formal education, while a little over half had completed secondary school or attended technical or vocational training. Forty-three per cent of the respondents had attended a tertiary education programme.

Table 4: Achieved sample, by educational attainment (Nigeria)

Education level	Completed (unweighted)	Completed % (unweighted)	Weighted %
No formal education	34	2.3%	2.7%
Completed primary school	51	3.4%	3.8%
Completed secondary school	569	38.4%	38.3%
Technical & vocational training	190	12.8%	12.6%
Completed university/college	564	38.1%	37.7%
Completed post-graduate	73	4.9%	4.9%
Don't know	0	0.0%	0.0%
Refused	1	0.1%	0.1%

2.1.6 Quality control and data processing

Fifty-one interviews were removed from the sample in Nigeria because they did not meet the quality criteria in terms of length, straight-lining and/or item non-response. (Section 4.4 of the main technical report provides a detailed description of the implemented quality control procedures and how data were processed).

2.1.7 Technical information

The interview duration was longer than the envisaged length of 20 minutes, at 32.28 minutes on average (compared with a mean of 23 minutes across the nine countries in Phase II). This was mainly due to the fact that the interviewers had to reread some questions and give additional explanations to the respondents. The local team confirmed that the longer average duration of the interviews was not caused by issues with the translation of the questionnaire in the different languages used for the survey in Nigeria.

Table 5: Interview duration (Nigeria)

Mean	Median	Standard deviation
32.28	27.39	45.61

The **response rate in Nigeria was 40.25%**, calculated by using the first American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) definition of response rate – that is, the number of complete interviews divided by the number of interviews (complete plus partial) plus the number of non-interviews (refusal and break-off plus non-contacts plus others) plus all cases of unknown eligibility (unknown if housing unit, plus unknown, other).[12]

The table below shows the incidence of each outcome code.

Table 6: Contact outcomes (Nigeria)

Contact outcomes	Count	% of all outcomes
Fixed appointment	0	0
Soft appointment	0	0
Incomplete interview with call-back to resume later	0	0
Telephone answering device / voicemail / message service	0	0
Busy / engaged	0	0
No answer	0	0
Complete	1506	30%
Screen-out	0	0
Incomplete interview with no call-back (terminated)	0	0
Immediate refusal (before eligibility of respondent has been confirmed)	1006	20%
Refusal by eligible respondent (after eligibility of respondent has been confirmed, but before the actual interview started)	350	7%
Respondent never available for appointment	65	1%
Deceased respondent	0	0
Respondent physically or mentally unable / incompetent	381	8%

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[12] AAPOR. 2015. Standard Definitions. https://www.aapor.org/AAPOR_Main/media/MainSiteFiles/Standard-Definitions2015_8thEd.pdf

Respondent or household language problem	79	2%
Call blocking / barring / do not call list	815	16%
Fax / data line / modem / pager		
Non-working / disconnected / dead / bad number	669	13%
Non-residential number (business, government office, other organization)	181	4%
Technical issue / CATI system error	0	0

The table below provides an overview of specific call outcomes (completed interview, partial interview, and refusals) by the time of the day (morning, afternoon, evening) and the day of the week. The figures should be interpreted with caution as they do not reflect the percentage out of all contact attempts performed during this time/on that day, but the split of these specific outcomes across the time of the day/day of the week. Feedback from the field team on the best time and the best day to obtain an interview is provided in section 2.1.8.

Table 7: Call outcome, by time of the day and day of the week (Nigeria)

		Completed interviews		Partial interviews		Refusals	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Sunday	Morning	14	1%	0	0%	0	0%
	Afternoon	47	3%	1	1%	0	0%
	Evening	32	2%	2	3%	0	0%
Monday	Morning	21	1%	1	1%	3	17%
	Afternoon	64	4%	5	7%	2	11%
	Evening	62	4%	3	4%	0	0%
Tuesday	Morning	52	3%	1	1%	0	0%
	Afternoon	146	10%	5	7%	0	0%
	Evening	69	5%	3	4%	3	17%
Wednesday	Morning	53	3%	4	6%	0	0%
	Afternoon	154	10%	12	17%	2	11%
	Evening	64	4%	4	6%	0	0%
Thursday	Morning	59	4%	3	4%	0	0%
	Afternoon	144	9%	4	6%	1	6%
	Evening	72	5%	2	3%	1	6%
Friday	Morning	80	5%	4	6%	0	0%

	Afternoon	176	11%	6	9%	0	0%
	Evening	72	5%	2	3%	3	17%
Saturday	Morning	24	2%	1	1%	1	6%
	Afternoon	81	5%	3	4%	2	11%
	Evening	46	3%	4	6%	0	0%

Sixty per cent of the sample called were men and so screened out at the very beginning of the survey. This result was similar to the share of screened out men in Ukraine and Ivory Coast. It is important to note that there exists a certain gender gap in mobile phone ownership in Nigeria, where 83% of women own mobile phones compared to 89% of men.[13]

Only 0.2% of the respondents were screened out because they were younger than 18 years old, while 1% were screened out because they did not want to participate, 0.2% because they did not understand the purpose of the survey and 0.1% because the respondent said she did not understand the confidentiality measures.

Table 8: Screen-outs (Nigeria)

Question	Answer	Count	% of total answered
S3	Sex: Male	2,757	59.6%
S4_1+S4_2	Age: Below 18 years	3	0.2%
S1	Willing to participate: No	18	1%
S6	Understand purpose: No	3	0.2%
S7	Understand confidentiality: No	1	0.1%

The interview was temporarily discontinued in 95 cases because the respondent answered "no" to one of the four 'safety' questions (listed in Table 9 below). This number means that Nigeria had the second-highest number of temporary interview suspensions among all 13 countries where the fieldwork was conducted, behind only Paraguay (126). It is important to point out that a safety question at C27 was removed for all countries in Phase II in order to reduce the number of reminders on the safety protocols, the large number of which caused annoyance and suspicion among respondents.

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[13] GSMA. 2020. The Mobile Gender Gap Report 2020. https://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GSMA-The-Mobile-Gender-Gap-Report-2020.pdf

Temporary interview suspension due to responses at safety questions (Nigeria)

Question	Answer	Count	% of total answered
S2	Can you let me know if the speaker phone is off? No	36	2.1%
S5	Can you confirm if now is a good time? No	6	0.4%
B01	Can you confirm that there is no one around you over the age of two that can overhear our conversation? No	21	1.3%
C18	Alternatively, if someone over two is listening to our call or is nearby that can hear, please say no. No	32	2.0%

Seventy respondents dropped out of the survey. The table below shows the questions at which the dropouts occurred. The largest numbers of dropouts were at A01 (17), A12 (17), and S11 (9).

Table 10: Survey dropouts, by question (Nigeria)

Question	Question text	No. of participants dropped out	% of total dropouts
S11	Great. If you don't have any further questions we can proceed. Now we	9	12.7%
A01	What is your marital status?	17	25.4%
A06	How many people including yourself, live in your household?	3	4.2%
A02	What is the highest level of education that you completed?	2	2.8%
A03	Which of the following best describes what you mainly do each day...?	2	2.8%
A05	Do you have difficulty doing any of the following – walking, seeing (even when wearing glasses), hearing (even with hearing assistance), remembering or concentrating, self-caring, or communicating?	2	2.8%
A12	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household...	17	23.9%
B02	I would now like to ask you some questions about your thoughts and feelings since the onset of the COVID-19 situation. How often have you been bothered by the following problems since the onset of the COVID-	2	2.8%
B04	Overall, would you say your own mental or emotional health (e.g., stress, anxiety, confidence, etc.) has been affected AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 SITUATION?	2	2.8%
C03	To what extent, if at all, do you feel safe when walking alone at night in the area where you live?	1	1.4%
C04	How, if at all, has your feeling of safety while walking alone at night changed SINCE THE ONSET OF COVID-19?	1	1.4%

Question	Question text	No. of participants dropped out	% of total dropouts
C10	How common do you think this type of situation is for women in the area where you live?	3	4.2%
C12	Do you think [Scripter: insert Female name] would seek help for this situation?	2	2.8%
C13	Who would [Scripter: insert Female name] most likely seek help from?	1	1.4%
C15	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made things better, worse or the same for [Scripter: insert Female name] from this story in terms of her feelings of safety?	1	1.4%
C20	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made conflict between adults in your household more frequent, less frequent or about the same?	1	1.4%
C21	In the last six months, did you ever feel unsafe in your home?	1	1.4%
C30	Now I'm going to ask you about some situations that you or any other women you know may have experienced. For each situation, please tell if you or any other women you know have experienced this only before the start of COVID-19, only since the start of COVID-19, both before and since the start of COVID-19, or not at all. Please listen carefully and just answer "yes" or "no" for each question I ask.	1	1.4%
S12	And as a final question, I would like to know if you have another mobile phone number besides the one I am calling you on? IF YES: How many other mobile phone numbers do you have?	2	2.8%
	Total	70	

As previously explained, and as part of the safety protocols, respondents were given a safe word, a specific popular local food (PLF), that they could use if they were disturbed by a third party or otherwise felt unsafe at any point during the interview. In Nigeria, the food used was "pounded yam" which was translated into "Utara ji" (Igbo), "Iyan" (Yoruba), and "Tuwo doya" (Hausa). This word was used 35 times during the course of fieldwork. The table below shows the questions at which this occurred.

Question	Question text	PLF mentioned
S11	Great. If you don't have any further questions we can proceed. Now we just need a bit more information about you. Would you consider the area you live in to be urban or rural?	6
S6	What region in [COUNTRY] do you live in?	1
A05	Do you have difficulty doing any of the following – walking, seeing (even when wearing glasses), hearing (even with hearing assistance), remembering or concentrating, self-caring, or communicating?	1
A12	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household…	1
B02	I would now like to ask you some questions about your thoughts and feelings since the onset of the COVID-19 situation. How often have you been bothered by the following problems since the onset of the COVID-19 situation? Please answer with: not at all, several days, more than half the days, or nearly every day.	2
C02	To what extent, if at all, do you feel safe when walking alone during the day in the area where you live?	3
C10	How common do you think this type of situation is for women in the area where you live?	2
C14	How common do you think this type of situation is for women in the area where you live?	1
C20	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made conflict between adults in your household more frequent, less frequent or about the same?	1
C21	In the last six months, did you ever feel unsafe in your home?	1
C22	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made things better, worse or the same in terms of how safe you feel in your home?	1
C23	Why do you feel unsafe in your home?	2
C24	How often, if at all, did you go out of your house by yourself in the last month?	1
C28A_ASK	Please tell me how many of the following statements you regard as true: 1. I prefer [LOCAL FOOD ONE] to [LOCAL FOOD TWO] 2. I like [NAME OF WELL-KNOWN LOCAL MUSICIAN, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES] 3. I have been slapped or hit by my husband or partner BEFORE THE ONSET OF COVID-19 4. Women in my family enjoy watching [POPULAR LOCAL SPORT].	5
C28B_ASK	Please tell me how many of the following statements you regard as true: 1. People in my family have played [POPULAR LOCAL SPORT]. 2. I have been slapped or hit by my husband or partner AFTER THE ONSET OF COVID-19 3. I like [NAME OF WELL-KNOWN TV SHOW, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES] 4. I prefer [LOCAL FOOD THREE] to [LOCAL FOOD FOUR]	1

Question	Question text	PLF mentioned
C29A	Please tell me how many of the following statements you regard as true: 1. I prefer [LOCAL FOOD ONE] to [LOCAL FOOD TWO] 2. I like [NAME OF WELL-KNOWN LOCAL MUSICIAN, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES] 3. Women in my family enjoy watching [POPULAR LOCAL SPORT]. 98. Don't know 99. Refused	2
C29B_ASK	Please tell me how many of the following statements you regard as true: 1. People in my family have played [POPULAR LOCAL SPORT]. 2. I like [NAME OF WELL-KNOWN TV SHOW, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES] 3. I prefer [LOCAL FOOD THREE] to [LOCAL FOOD FOUR] 98. Don't know 99. Refused	2
C31	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community?	1
S12	And as a final question, I would like to know if you have another mobile phone number besides the one I am calling you on? IF YES: How many other mobile phone numbers do you have?	1
	Total	35

In terms of item non-response (INR), this varied across the survey but was highest at A01 (38.30%). The local team shared observations that in Nigeria the high INR at A01 was partly due to the specific local culture and partly due to personal reasons with separated and divorced women in Nigeria not feeling comfortable to share their marital status. In addition to this, unmarried women of a certain age are also not comfortable indicating that they are single. A high item non-response on this question was observed among many of the countries in Phase II of the survey, although not during Phase I (the average INR for all four Phase I countries at A01 was less than 5%). This difference may in part reflect the fact that the answer options in the question were adjusted for Phase II (discussed in detail in section 2.5.2 of the main technical report), with the original 'Married' option split into two different options: 'Married, spouse partner is residing with you' and 'Married, spouse/partner is residing elsewhere'. It is possible that the new version raised some sensitivities for women – for example, they may have been reluctant to report that their husband did not live with them – and thus contributed to high item non-response at this question.

Other questions with high INR were C31_4 (6.80%) and C31_5 (5.70%). This may reflect a lack of knowledge among respondents of services available for women in their communities.

Table 12: Item non-response (Nigeria)

Question	Question text	Item non-response
A01	What is your marital status?	38.30%
A07	How many of the people living in your household are aged 0–17?	0.10%
A08	How many of the people living in your household are men aged 18 or over?	0.20%
A02	What is the highest level of education that you completed?	0.10%

A03	Which of the following best describes what you mainly do each day…?	0.10%
A04	In addition to this, do you do any activity that generates an income, even if only for a few hours a week?	0.10%
A04_1	Would you say that the money that you earn is…	1.60%
A05	Do you have difficulty doing any of the following – walking, seeing (even when wearing glasses), hearing (even with hearing assistance), remembering or concentrating, self-caring or communicating?	1.30%
A11	Has your household's income changed at all since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic?	1.00%
A12_1	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 1. were worried you would not have enough food to eat?	0.50%
A12_2	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 2. were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food?	0.80%
A12_3	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 3. ate only a few kinds of food?	1.30%
A12_4	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 4. had to skip a meal?	0.90%
A12_5	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 5. ate less than you thought you should?	1.70%
A12_6	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 6. ran out of food?	0.80%
A12_7	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 7. were hungry but did not eat?	0.70%
A12_8	During the last month, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources, you or others in your household… 8. went without eating for a whole day?	0.50%
B02_1	I would now like to ask you some questions about your thoughts and feelings since the onset of the COVID-19 situation. How often have you been bothered by the following problems since the onset of the COVID-19 situation? Please answer with: not at all, several days, more than half the days, or nearly every day. 1. Not being able to stop or control worrying	0.70%
B02_2	I would now like to ask you some questions about your thoughts and feelings since the onset of the COVID-19 situation. How often have you been bothered by the following problems since the onset of the COVID-19 situation? Please answer with: not at all, several days, more than half the days, or nearly every day. 2. Having little interest or pleasure in doing things	0.60%

B02_3	I would now like to ask you some questions about your thoughts and feelings since the onset of the COVID-19 situation. How often have you been bothered by the following problems since the onset of the COVID-19 situation? Please answer with: not at all, several days, more than half the days, or nearly every day. 3. Feeling down, depressed or hopeless	0.80%
B04	Overall, would you say your own mental or emotional health (e.g., stress, anxiety, confidence, etc.) has been affected AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 SITUATION?	0.40%
C02	To what extent, if at all, do you feel safe when walking alone during the day in the area where you live?	0.10%
C03	To what extent, if at all, do you feel safe when walking alone at night in the area where you live?	1.80%
C04	How, if at all, has your feeling of safety while walking alone at night changed SINCE THE ONSET OF COVID-19?	2.30%
C07	To what extent do you think that physical harm, abuse, or harassment of women is a problem in the area where you live?	1.50%
C08	How, if at all, do you think physical harm, abuse, or harassment of women in the area where you live have changed SINCE COVID-19?	4.50%
C10	How common do you think this type of situation is for women in the area where you live?	2.10%
C11	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made things better, worse or the same for [Scripter: insert Female name] from this story?	1.40%
C12	Do you think [Scripter: insert Female name] would seek help for this situation?	3.70%
C13	Who would [Scripter: insert Female name] most likely seek help from?	1.50%
C14	How common do you think this type of situation is for women in the area where you live?	2.20%
C15	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made things better, worse or the same for [Scripter: insert Female name] from this story in terms of her feelings of safety?	2.50%
C16	Do you think [Scripter: insert Female name] would seek help for this situation?	4.30%
C17	Who would [Scripter: insert Female name] most likely seek help from?	0.70%
C19	When people live together in the same household, they usually share both good and bad moments. And it is normal for people who live together to have arguments. How often in the last six months would you say that adults in your household have argued or have had some sort of conflict among themselves?	1.60%
C20	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made conflict between adults in your household more frequent, less frequent or about the same?	2.30%
C21	In the last six months, did you ever feel unsafe in your home?	0.30%
C22	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has made things better, worse or the same in terms of how safe you feel in your home?	0.80%
C23_1	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 1. I have a serious medical condition or disability and feel vulnerable	0.30%

C23_2	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 2. My shelter is insecure from external threats (e.g., there are no locks on my front door)	0.30%
C23_3	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 3. I am unable to communicate/reach out for help	0.50%
C23_4	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 4. I am living with people I cannot trust	0.70%
C23_5	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 5. There is substance abuse (e.g., alcohol or drugs) in the household	0.60%
C23_6	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 6. There is physical violence or threats of physical violence in my home	0.50%
C23_7	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 7. There is verbal abuse in my home	0.30%
C23_8	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 8. Other adults in the household have hurt me	0.50%
C23_9	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 9. Other women in the household have been hurt	0.50%
C23_10	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 10. Children in the household have been hurt	0.40%
C23_11	Why do you feel unsafe in your home? 11. Something else	1.10%
C24	How often, if at all, did you go out of your house by yourself in the last month?	0.30%
C25	Would you say the situation of COVID-19 has limited your interactions with your friends and social groups, such as seeing or speaking to them?	0.30%
C30_1	Now I'm going to ask you about some situations that you or any other women you know may have experienced. For each situation, please tell if you or any other women you know have experienced this only before the start of COVID-19, only since the start of COVID-19, both before and since the start of COVID-19, or not at all. Please listen carefully and just answer "yes" or "no" for each question I ask. 1. Been slapped, hit, kicked, had things thrown at them, or other physical harm	2.30%
C30_2	Now I'm going to ask you about some situations that you or any other women you know may have experienced. For each situation, please tell if you or any other women you know have experienced this only before the start of COVID-19, only since the start of COVID-19, both before and since the start of COVID-19, or not at all. Please listen carefully and just answer "yes" or "no" for each question I ask. 2. Been yelled at, called names, humiliated	1.60%
C30_3	Now I'm going to ask you about some situations that you or any other women you know may have experienced. For each situation, please tell if you or any other women you know have experienced this only before the start of COVID-19, only since the start of COVID-19, both before and since the start of COVID-19, or not at all. Please listen carefully and just answer "yes" or "no" for each question I ask. 3. Had resources (like health care) or basic needs (like money, food, water, shelter) denied	1.20%
C30_4	Now I'm going to ask you about some situations that you or any other women you know may have experienced. For each situation, please tell if you or any other women you know have experienced this only before the start of COVID-19, only	1.40%

	since the start of COVID-19, both before and since the start of COVID-19, or not at all. Please listen carefully and just answer "yes" or "no" for each question I ask. 4. Been forced to stay alone for long period of time or denied communication with other people	
C30_5	Now I'm going to ask you about some situations that you or any other women you know may have experienced. For each situation, please tell if you or any other women you know have experienced this only before the start of COVID-19, only since the start of COVID-19, both before and since the start of COVID-19, or not at all. Please listen carefully and just answer "yes" or "no" for each question I ask. 5. Been the subject of inappropriate jokes, suggestive comments, leering, or unwelcome touch/kisses	1.70%
C31_1	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community? 1. Information about security/crime prevention	4.40%
C31_2	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community? 2. Access to basic needs such as shelter, food, clothing	4.20%
C31_3	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community? 3. Medical support	4.20%
C31_4	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community? 4. Someone to talk to like professional mental health experts	6.80%
C31_5	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community? 5. Legal support or help in reporting the incident or dealing with police	5.70%
C31_6	Are any of the following support services available for women in your community? 6. Financial support	4.40%
S12	And as a final question, I would like to know if you have another mobile phone number besides the one I am calling you on? IF YES: How many other mobile phone numbers do you have?	1.00%

2.1.8 Field observations

This section describes the observations made by the field managers and interviewers in the course of fieldwork. The observations relate to the most productive days for fieldwork; the main reasons for refusal to take part in the survey; challenges reaching certain age groups; and the clarity of terms, concepts and questions, among other topics. The observations effectively complement the fieldwork statistics included in the previous section, providing a more nuanced picture of the fieldwork experience.

- According to the field team, the only **day of the week** that was less productive for interviewing was Sunday, when a lot of people (including interviewers) are engaged in religious activities. As far as the most suitable **time of the day** to reach respondents was concerned, the interviewers observed that the later part of the afternoon after 4 pm and evenings were especially productive.

- The **main reasons for refusals to take part in the survey** were a lack of interest in the study, fear of phone fraud and discomfort with answering sensitive questions. The fear of phone fraud is a typical observation in Nigeria where many scam calls are being conducted and as a result respondents are wary when called by strangers.

- In Nigeria the 40–49, 50–59 and the 60+ age groups **were less represented** in the RDD sample frame. The field team also observed that older respondents (over 60) were more likely to get tired in the middle of the interview, which necessitated the setting of follow-up appointments. Respondents from this age group also commonly expressed displeasure at being disturbed by a phone call. Towards the end of the fieldwork, the local team observed that the use of the RDD sample alone would not be sufficient to meet the 50–59 and 60+ age groups quota despite the extension of the fieldwork. Therefore, with the permission of the UN Women team and after careful review, the team in Nigeria supplemented the RDD sample with leads from a contact database compiled from previous surveys conducted in the country. The database consisted entirely of mobile phone numbers, and the selection of these numbers was performed at random in order to match the original design of the study.

- Given the circumstances at the time of conducting the survey (unstable public health situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic), the (telephone) **data-collection method** was perceived as appropriate. However, given the high concern among prospective respondents about possible phone fraud, and the very high incidence of such crime in Nigeria, which causes many respondents to refuse to take part in the survey, a face-to-face approach may ultimately be better for fieldwork in Nigeria, should the public health conditions allow it.

In terms of observations relating to the survey questionnaire:

- Regarding **specific questions**, the field team reported that questions that had multiple answer options (such as A12 and C23) were more difficult for respondents and that the interviewers needed to read them more than one time so that respondents could comprehend them properly.

- Married women in Nigeria, and especially those over the age of 50, at times appeared uncomfortable answering some of the **more sensitive questions** covering indirect experiences of violence against women, particularly those that asked about their home situation ("Have adults in your home argued?" or "Do you feel unsafe in your home?"). They often lowered their voice when responding to these questions or took longer than normal to respond.

- The respondents who used the **popular local food** sometimes did so as a polite way to quit the survey before the end of the interview, rather than as a way to indicate that their privacy or safety has been compromised.

2.1.9 Lessons learned and recommendations

This section draws upon the fieldwork statistics and observations outlined in the previous sections to provide recommendations for future surveys on violence against women in Nigeria. Specifically, whether remote data collection can be considered as an appropriate approach to develop an evidence base on perceptions and incidence.

- **CATI** and the **single-frame cell phone RDD design** enabled the target number of interviews to be achieved, so the method could be considered for future surveys. However, certain age groups (40–49, 50–59, and 60+) and those living in certain regions (North Central, South West and South) were more difficult to reach than other groups with the RDD sample. This should be reflected in the time dedicated to active data collection in future surveys with age- and region-based quotas. At the same time, given the high rates of refusals to participate in the survey caused by concerns about possible phone fraud, a face-to-face approach may ultimately be better for fieldwork in Nigeria, should the public health conditions allow it. This method would also be helpful to achieve a better reach of the population in rural areas, where mobile phone penetration is lower than that in urban areas, In the case of a face-to-face approach, a longer fieldwork period would be absolutely necessary owing to the extra time required for physical visits to prospective respondents' homes.

- As already indicated in the previous recommendation, a longer fieldwork period should be allowed for future **mobile phone surveys**. This would also help to address the fact that despite the high rate of mobile subscriptions in Nigeria, the number of unique subscribers (i.e., people who own a mobile phone) is lower. It is commonplace for people to own a SIM card which is not constantly inserted in a mobile device, thus leading to a lot of numbers who remain unanswered over several calling attempts. Conducting more call attempts (over the minimum of three required for the study) was needed to reach respondents in the RDD sample in Nigeria.

- Given the field team's observations that **Sundays** were relatively unproductive for fieldwork, the researchers recommend that more of the interviewing efforts be concentrated during weekdays. Additionally, given that the **early evening hours** proved to be a good time to reach respondents, distributing the calling times of the interviewers into shifts is advisable so that more hours of the day can be covered, while at the same time remaining mindful of the need to avoid skewing the sample by interviewing only the most easy-to-reach women.

- More than 38% of the respondents did not answer the **question asking about their marital status** (A01). The issue was also evident to varying degrees across most of the other Phase II countries. As mentioned previously, the wording of the answer options to A01 was adjusted in Phase II of the study and this may in part have contributed to the higher item non-response rate observed. This point notwithstanding, it is generally advisable to place potentially sensitive sociodemographic questions like marital status towards the end of a survey (rather than at the beginning as was the case in the Rapid Gender Assessment Survey), by which point some rapport will have been built between the interviewer and the respondent, making it easier for the interviewer to obtain an answer to the question. Including it at the end will also help to ensure that it does not cause dropouts early on in the survey.

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