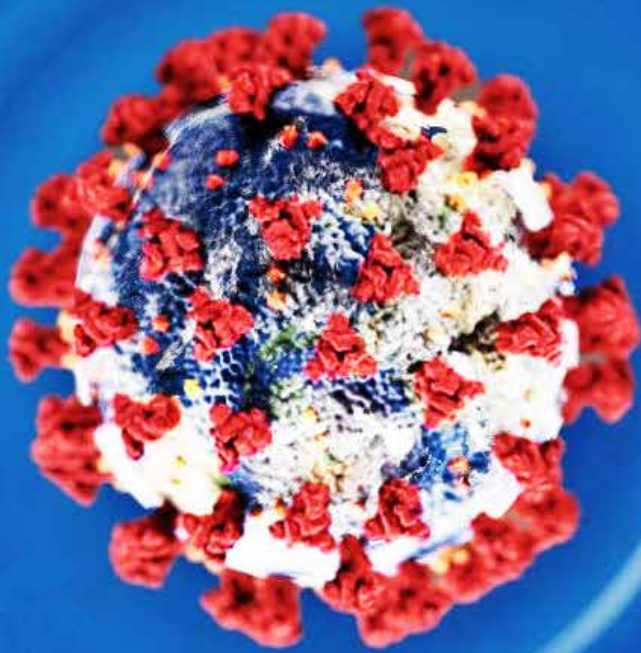




COVID IN NIGERIA THE SECOND WAVE





DISCLAIMER

The data contained in this report is only up-to-date as at Monday, 18 January 2021. Some of it is subject to change during the natural course of events. SB Morgen cannot accept liability in respect of any errors or omissions that may follow such events that may invalidate data contained herein.

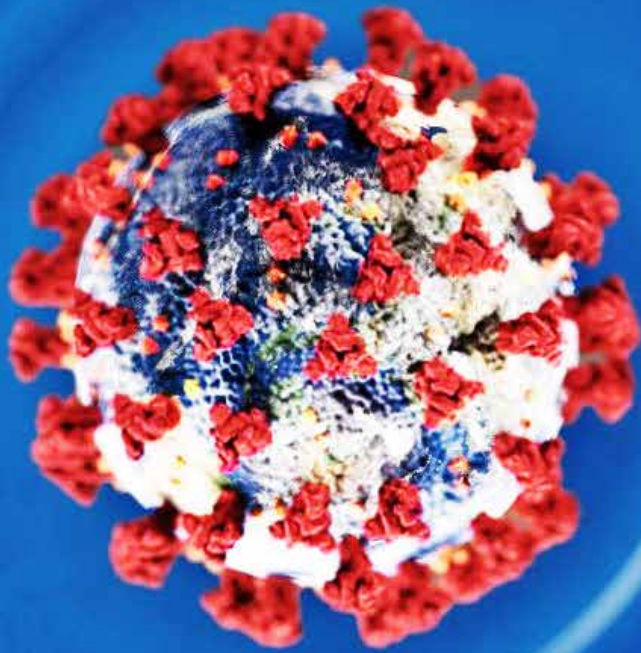
Our researchers employed methods such as one-on-one interviews, desk research and polling to collate the available data. Our editors sifted through the data and prepared the report, using various proprietary tools to fact-check and copy edit the information gathered.

Our publicly released reports are formatted for easy and quick reading, and may not necessarily contain all the data that SB Morgen gathered during a given survey. Complete datasets can be made available on request.

All forecasts were built using data from a variety of sources. A baseline of accurate and comprehensive historic data is collected from respondents and publicly-available information, including from regulators, trade associations, research partners, newspapers and government agencies.

 [Sbmintel.com](https://sbmintel.com)
 info@sbmintel.com
 [@sbmintelligence](https://twitter.com/sbmintelligence)
 Facebook.com/sbmintel

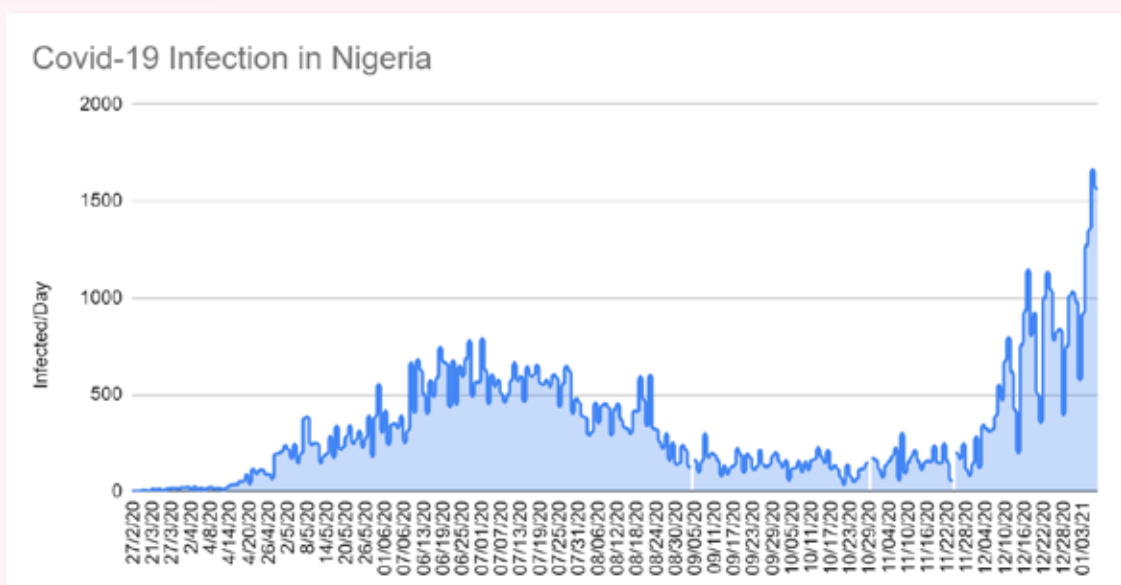


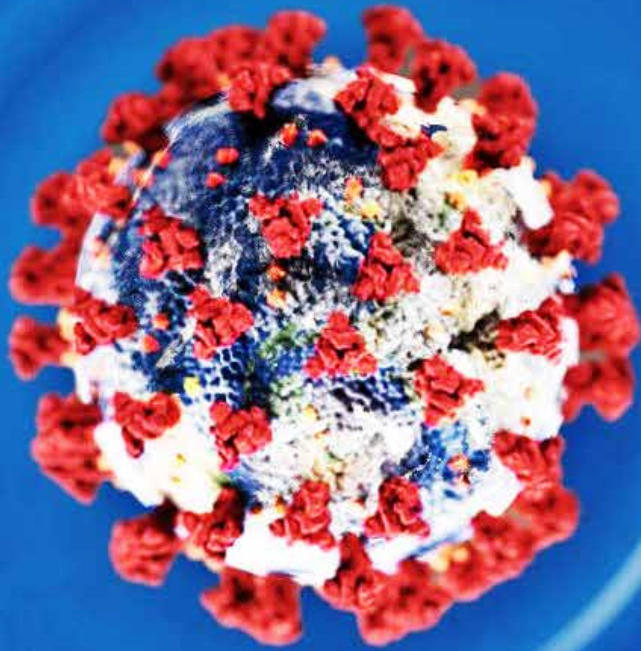


INTRODUCTION

The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) recorded 1,145 new cases of COVID-19 cases on 17 December 2020, marking the first time the country recorded more than 1,000 cases in a day. The numbers are increasing rapidly, as at 7 January 2021 with 1565 new confirmed cases and six deaths recorded taking the total number of confirmed cases and deaths to 95,934 and 1,330 respectively.

This second wave presents great threats as most people have relaxed their observance of the precautionary measures - wearing masks, social distancing, fumigations, and the enforcement has largely stalled. From our researchers' observations, seating arrangements adopted in public transport, public restaurants, and social gatherings to promote social distancing have been abandoned presenting an increased risk of infection.

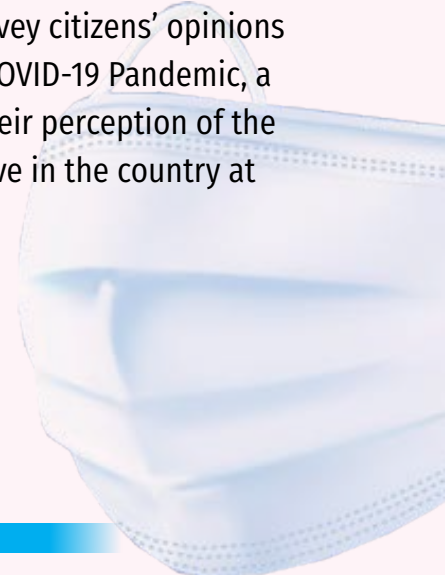


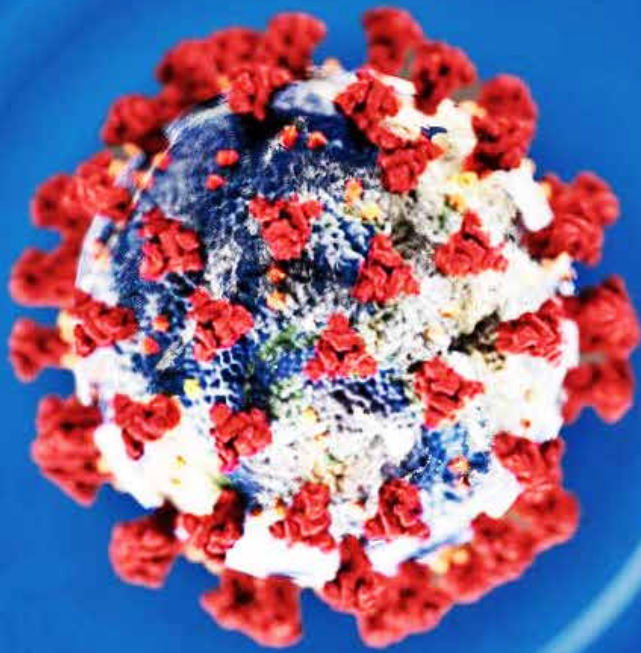


The chart shows the incidence of COVID-19 infection from February 27 when Nigeria recorded its first Corona-Virus case to present. The number of cases increased gradually from february, peaked between June and July and declined significantly in September and October. The second wave began in November and the cases have been rising rapidly which raises great concerns as enforcement of precautionary measures has been relaxed because of the steady decline.

In an earlier report, SBM Intelligence monitored the range of health, economic and social impact of the pandemic and the measures adopted by the government to fight against it. The Health Preparedness Index, Jollof Index, police brutality tracker and citizen's pulse surveys which we conducted in 2020 could be combined to present a holistic picture of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, in the opening week of January, we conducted a survey covering the 36 states of Nigeria and Abuja to survey citizens' opinions on the second wave of COVID-19 Pandemic, a second lockdown and their perception of the Vaccine expected to arrive in the country at the end of January 2021.

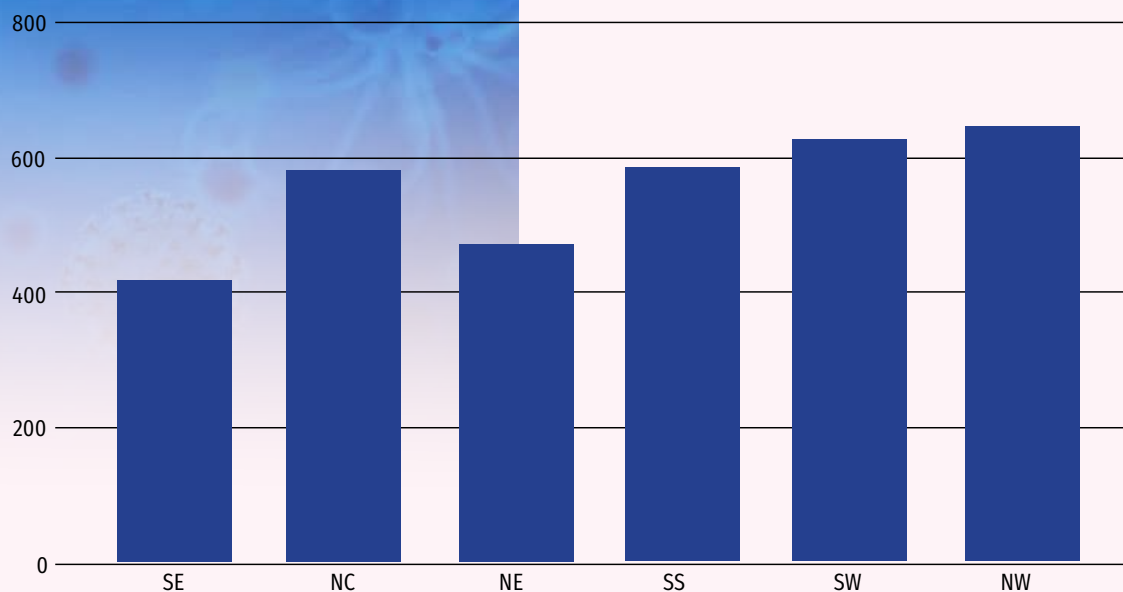




Geopolitical zones

DEMOGRAPHICS

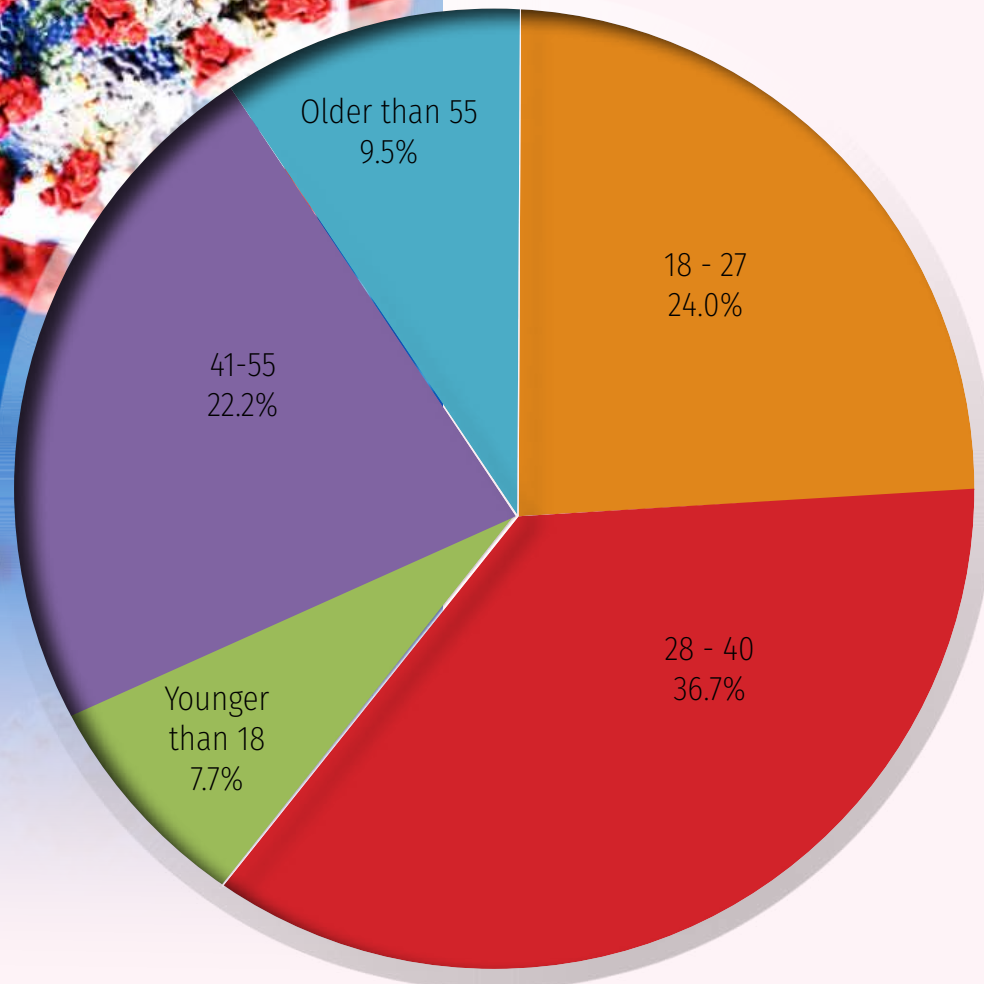
Our researchers visited all 36 states of the country and the Federal Capital Territory to capture the varying effects that the pandemic has on each of the states. This is important because of the varying incident loads, response measures, and resources available to the various states, and the main economic ventures of residents in different states.



For a regional outlook, the survey covered the six geopolitical zones of the country

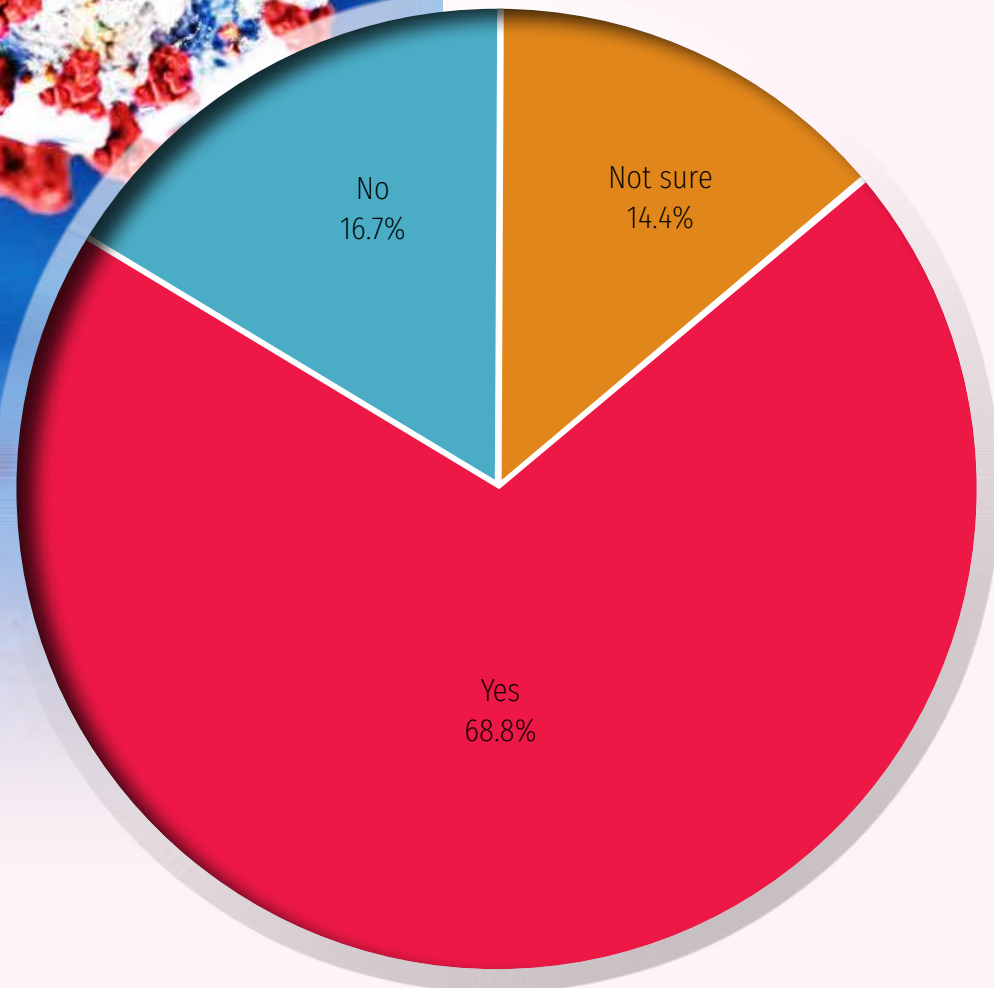


Age



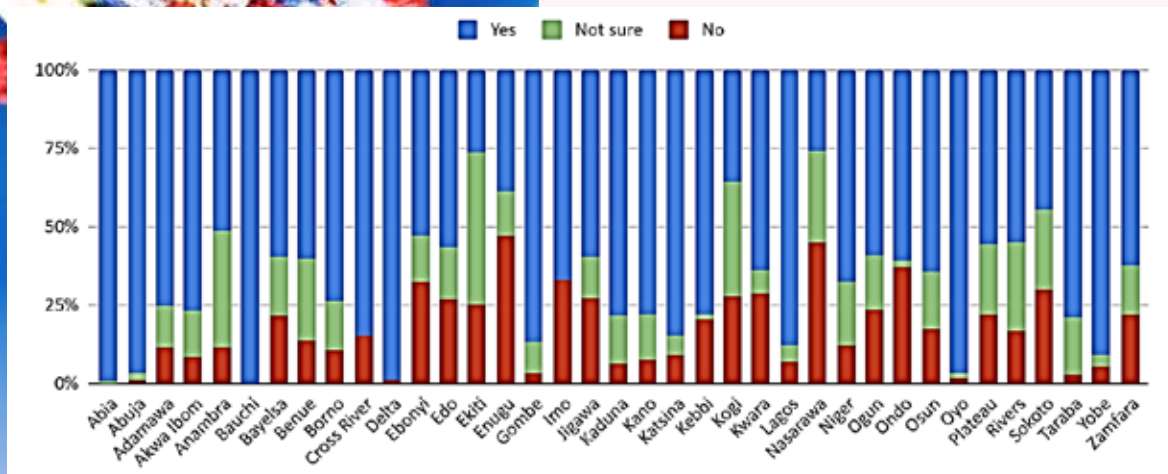
To obtain the views of different age categories, the survey respondents were chosen across a broad age category, majority of the respondents were between 28-40 years (36.7%) followed by those between 18-27 years (24.0%), then 41-55 years (22.2%) which represents the active (working) population. 9.5% of the respondents were older than 55 years, and a smaller percentage, 7.7% were younger than 18 years.

Do you believe that COVID-19 is real?



A majority (68.8%), of our respondents believe that COVID-19 is real, while 14.4% are still unsure of the existence of the virus. On the other hand, 16.7% believe that the coronavirus disease is not real.

Do you believe that COVID-19 is real?

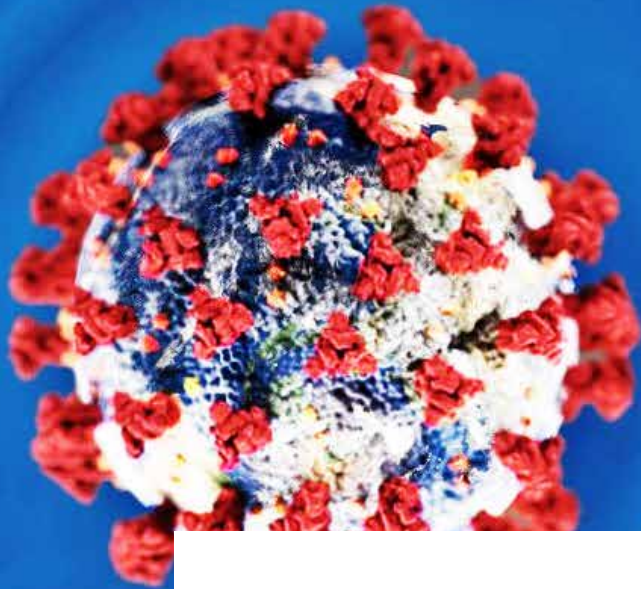


Across the states, a majority of the respondent's believe that the virus is real.

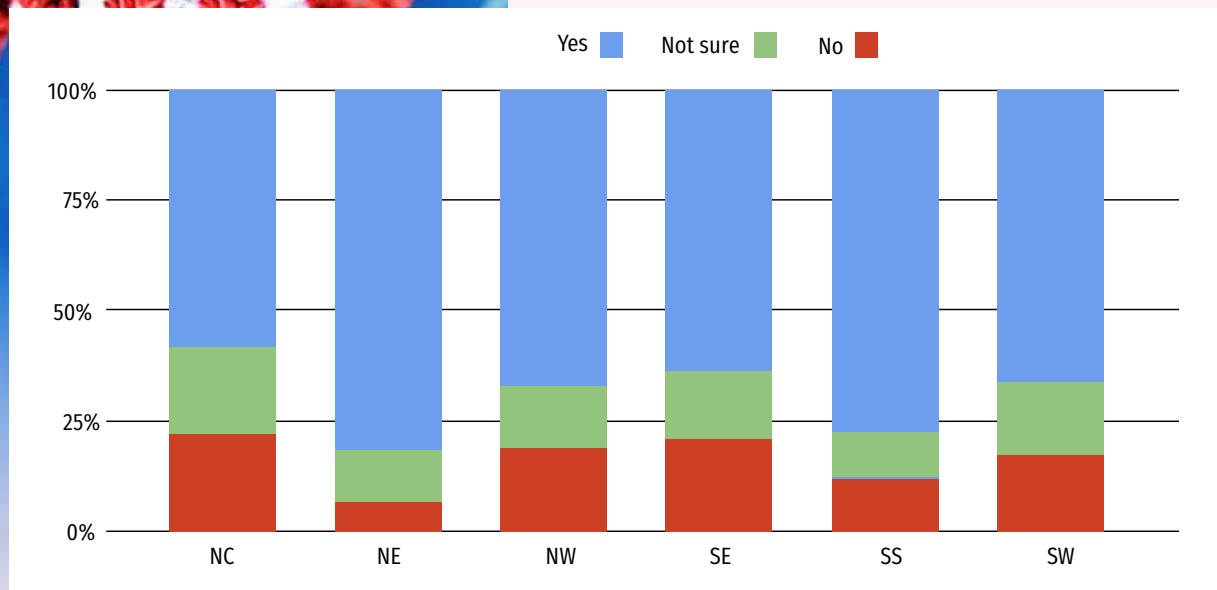
However, Ekiti, Enugu, Kogi, Nasarawa and Sokoto states had less than 50% of their respondents who felt that the virus is real. These states have relatively low official death rates, Ekiti (7), Enugu (21), Kogi (2), Nasarawa (13) and Sokoto (20) compared to states with high death rates as Lagos (250), the FCT (106) and Edo (117).

Our interviews revealed that sceptics cite the low death rate as their reason for their lack of belief.

One of the interviewees mentioned that she believes that "the virus is real, but does not believe that it is present in Nigeria because people are not dying and they are not observing most of the precautions."



Do you believe that COVID-19 is real by geopolitical zones?

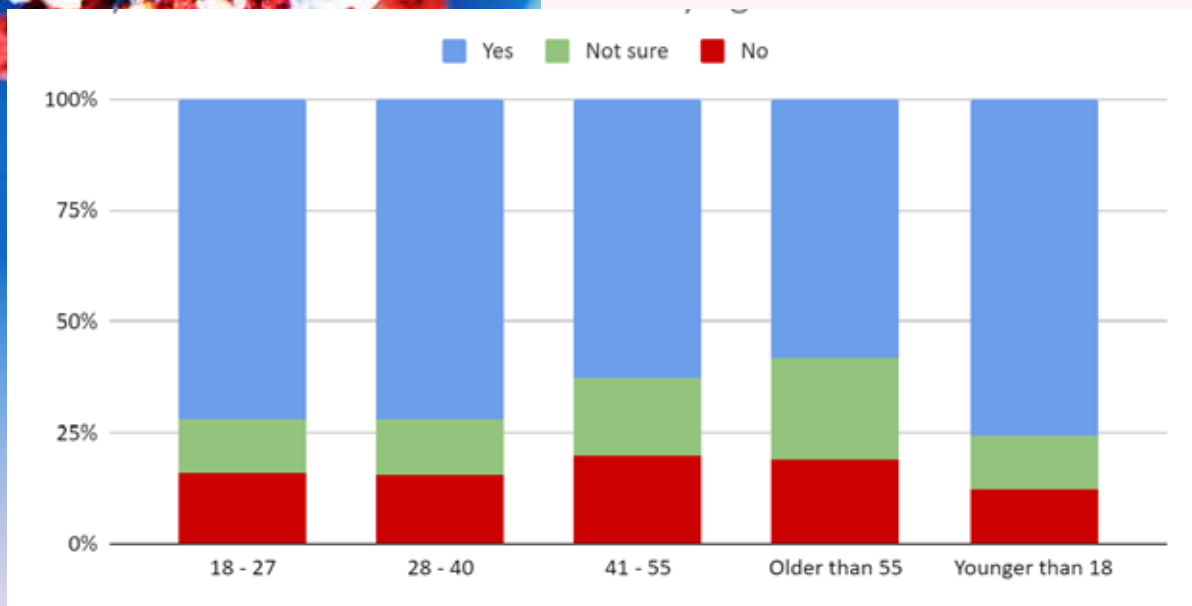


Another factor limiting belief is the perception that the disease mainly affects the rich, and is nothing to worry about for the poor, a belief supported by cases of high profile infection. The perception of the virus as unreal and other conspiracy theories that support the belief have the effect of increasing non-compliance to precautionary measures.

A regional outlook shows that although majority of respondents in each of the geographical zones believe that the virus is real, More people in the North East and South South region affirm the existence of this virus than any other region

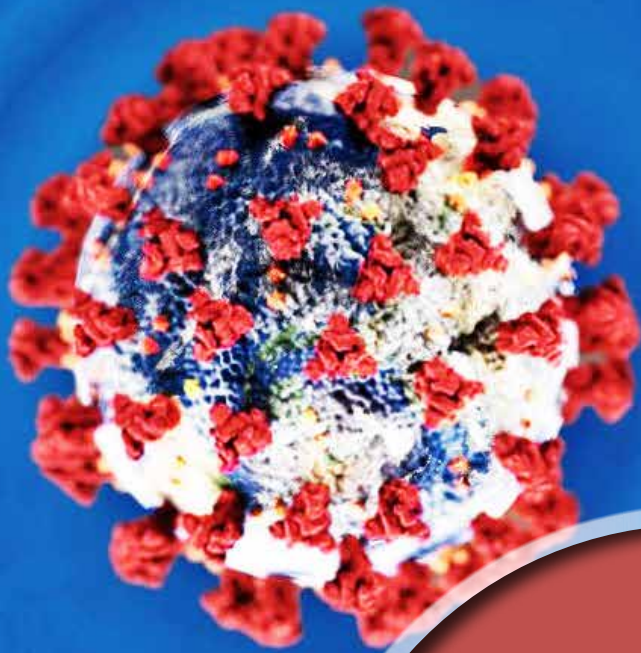


Do you believe that COVID-19 is real by age?

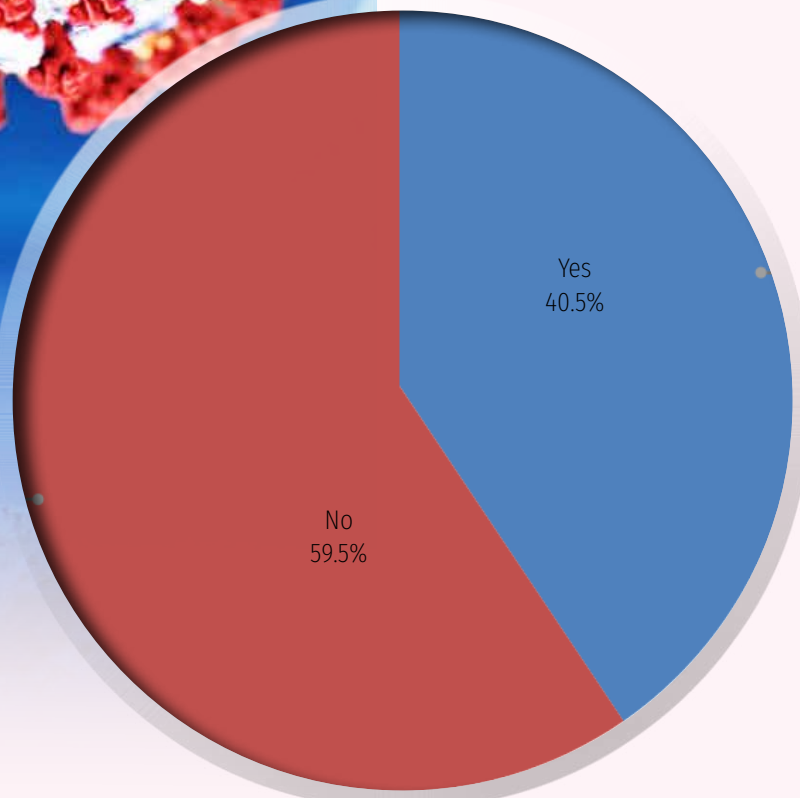


Most respondents in all the age categories believe that COVID-19 is real. However, people who are older than 55 years have the highest percentage of respondents who are unsure of the existence of coronavirus - this may be due to their reduced social interactions and smaller circles which keeps them away from contact with infected persons and the centre of the incident, hence, the scepticism.

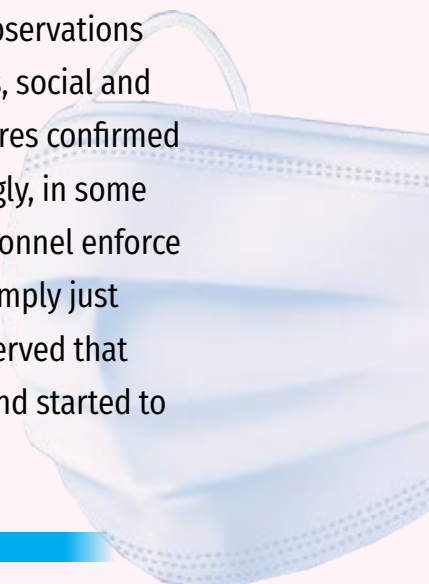




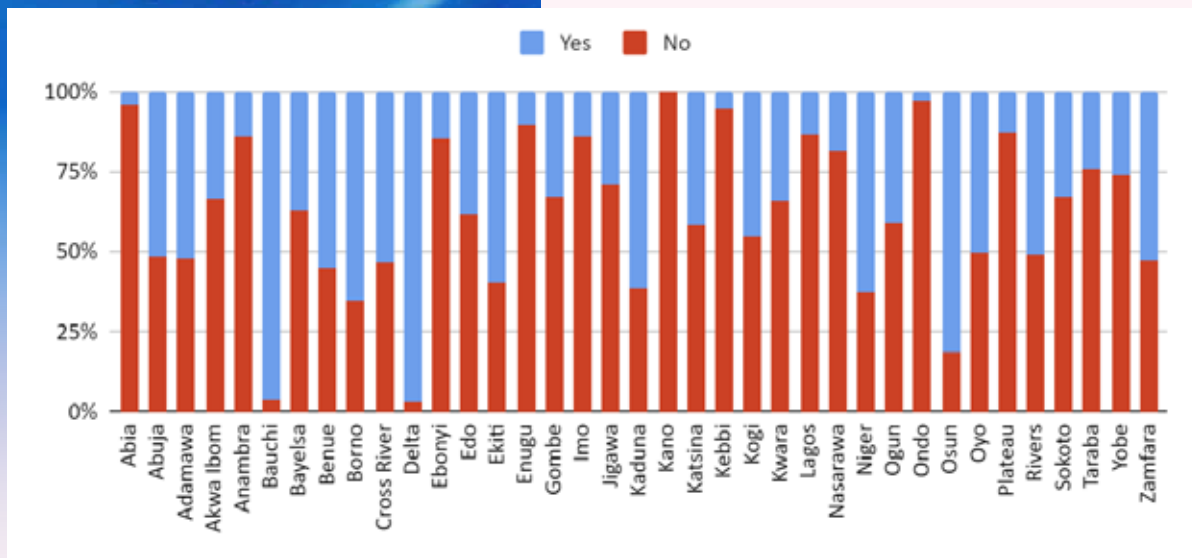
Do you think people are taking the right measure to prevent against COVID-19?



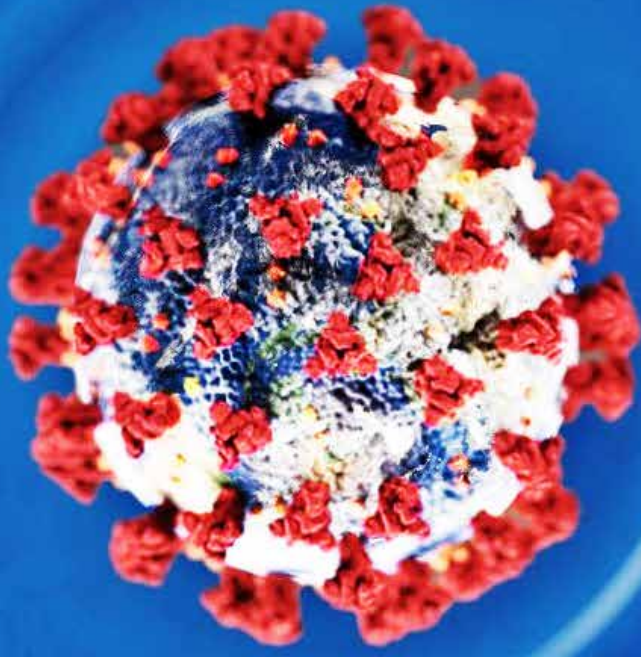
59.5% of the respondents representing a majority of the respondents do not think that people are taking the right measures to prevent COVID-19. This is despite the fact that over 68% of the respondents believe that the virus is real. Observations from our field researchers who visited public places such as bus stops, social and religious gatherings to observe compliance with precautionary measures confirmed people's non-compliance to precautionary measures. More interestingly, in some public institutions like banks and eateries where private security personnel enforce compliance with mask wearing and hand sanitising, people tend to comply just because such enforcement serves as an entry ticket. Researchers observed that once many people got into such premises, they took off their masks and started to flout other precautionary measures.



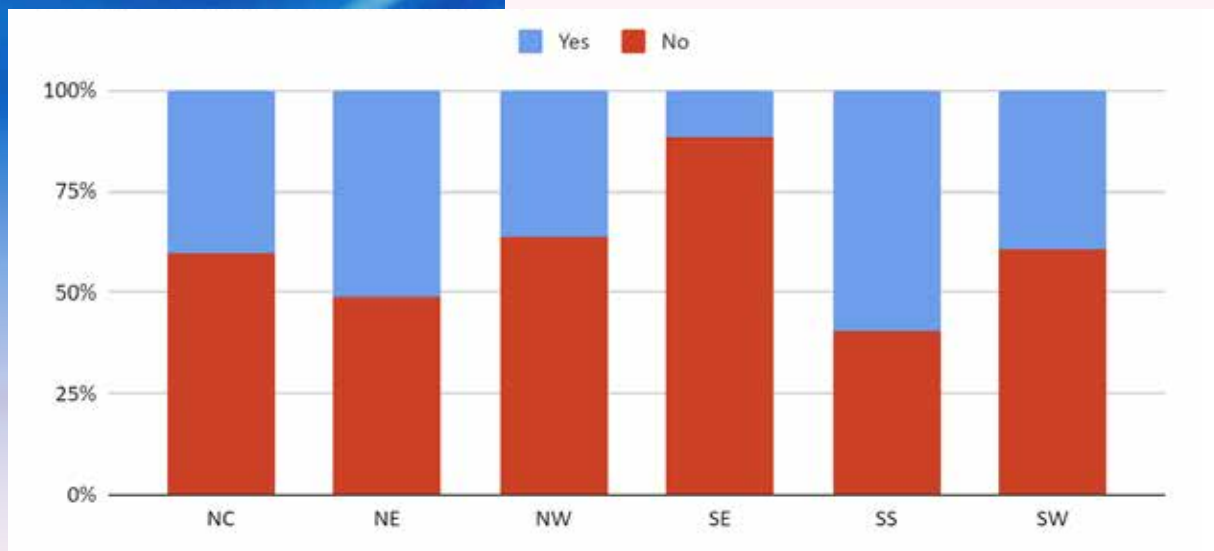
Do you think people are taking the right measures to prevent against COVID-19 by States?



In most of the states (23), a large majority of the respondents do not think that people are taking the right measures to prevent COVID-19 in their states, However, Bauchi, Delta and Osun reverse the trend. In Abuja, Adamawa, Benue, Cross-River, Oyo, Rivers and Zamfara states, a near equal percentage, slightly lower than a majority of respondents believe that people are not taking the right measures to prevent COVID-19 in their states.

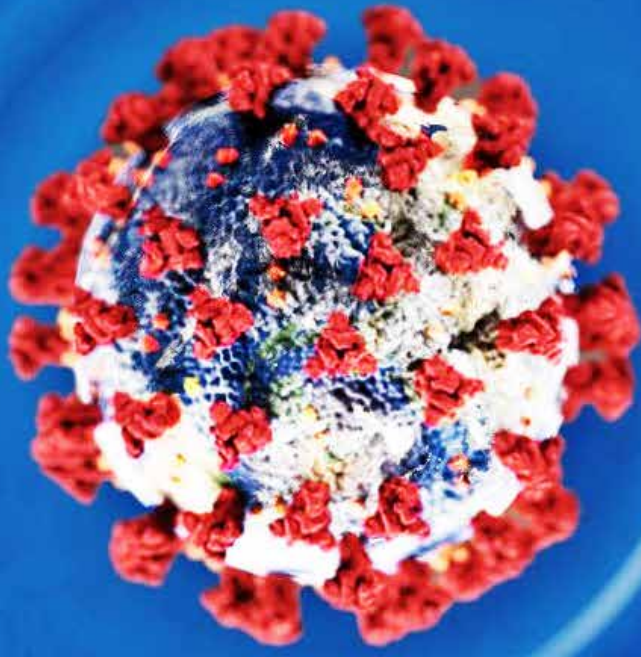


Do you think people are taking the right measures to prevent against COVID-19 by geopolitical zone?

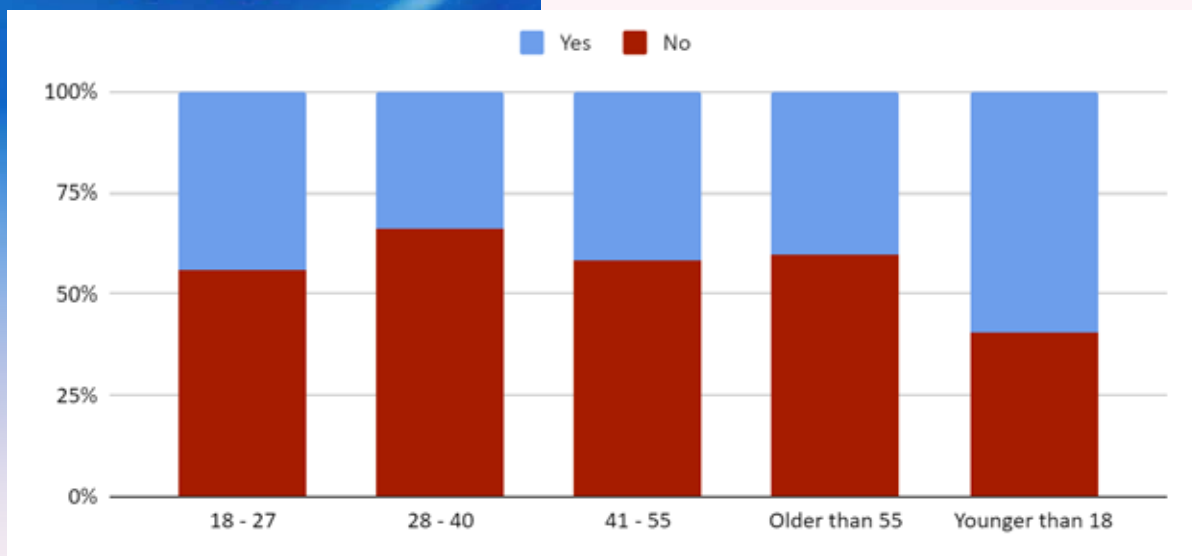


Across the geopolitical zones, the majority of respondents believe that people are not taking the right measures to prevent COVID-19, with exceptions in the South South and North Central zones where a slim majority believe that people are taking the measures to prevent the pandemic.



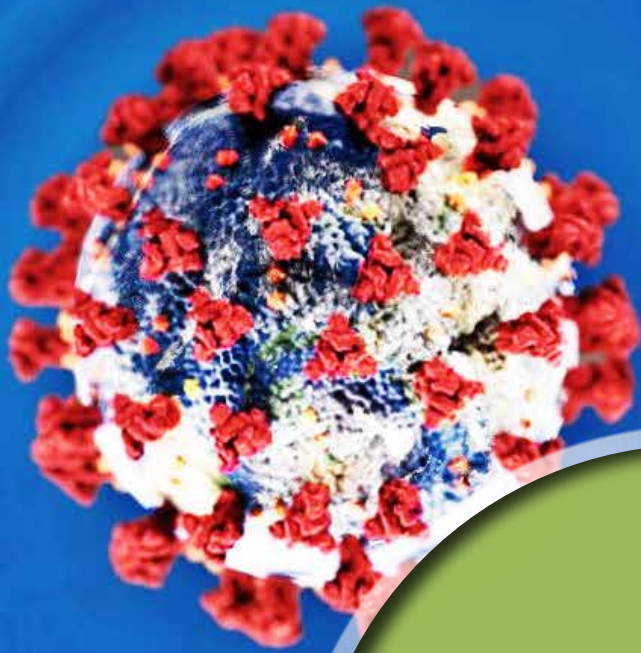


Do you think people are taking the right measures to prevent against COVID-19 by Age?

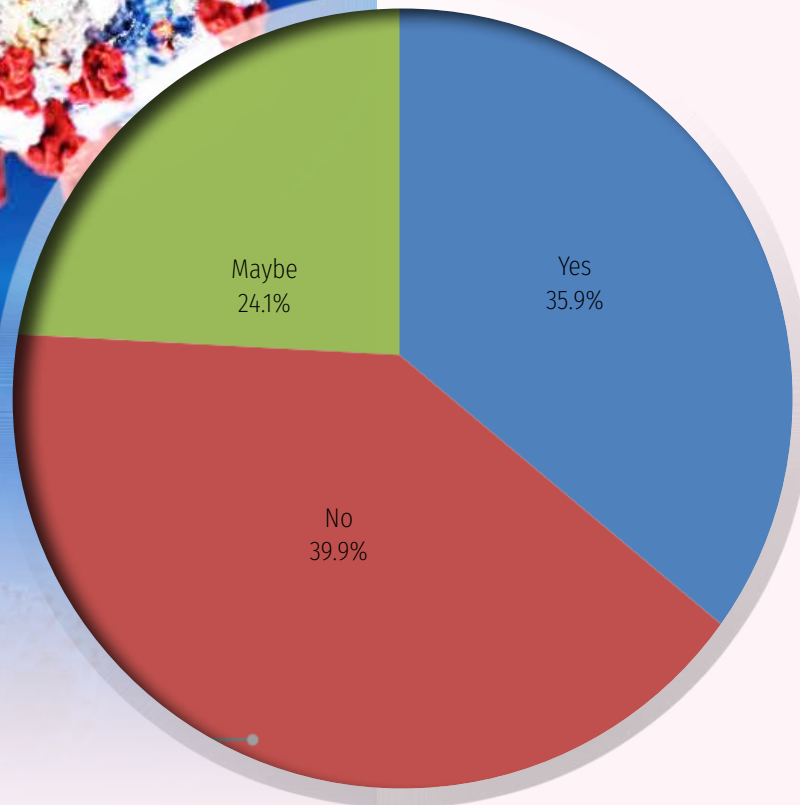


Across all age categories, except for those younger than 18, a majority of respondents agree that people are not taking the right measures to prevent COVID-19. This may be due to the fact that this age category contains a lot of students and strict compliance to the guidelines are enforced in schools, as adherence to these were central to schools reopening.



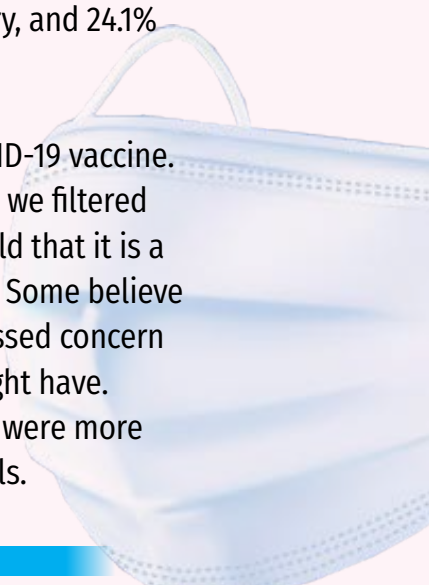


Would you take a vaccine against COVID-19?

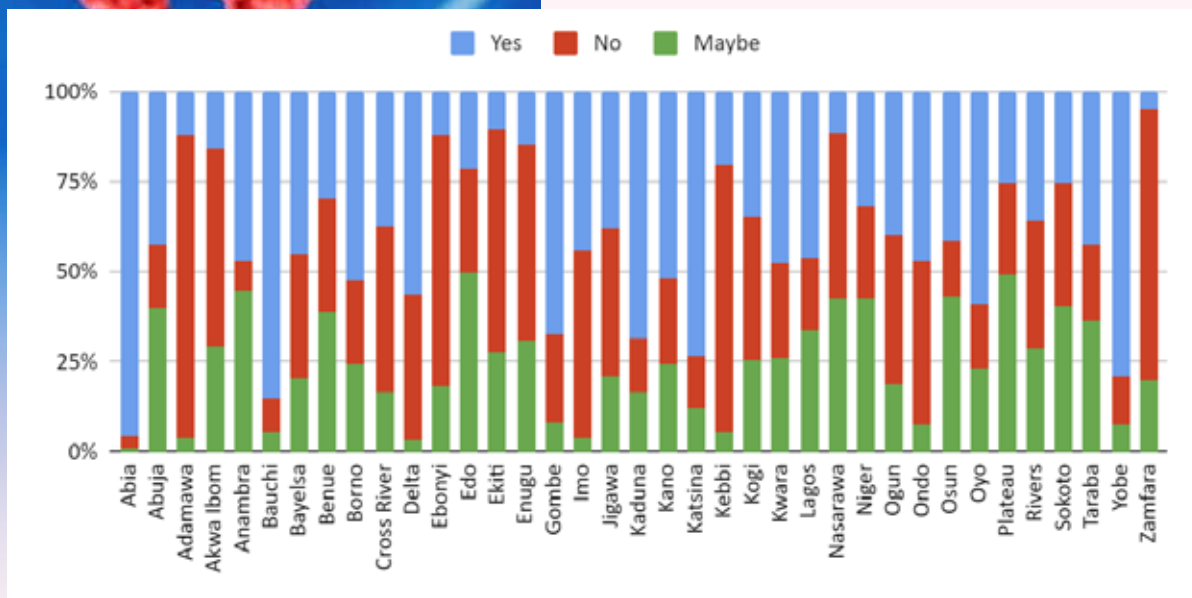


Citizens' perception on the vaccine against the COVID-19 pandemic is fragmented. Only 39.9% of the respondents said they will take the vaccine. An almost equal proportion of respondents (35.9 %) said they will not take the vaccine which the government announced is to arrive in the country at the end of January, and 24.1% are unsure of their position at the moment.

Like other vaccines, there are mistrust issues associated with the COVID-19 vaccine. In interviews with some respondents who are opposed to the vaccine, we filtered a number of misconceptions about the vaccine. Some respondents held that it is a religious war to contaminate the children of God with evil substances. Some believe that the vaccines are a tool to depopulate Nigeria, while others expressed concern about the effectiveness ratio and the side-effects that the vaccine might have. Some other persons were not completely opposed to the vaccine, but were more concerned with the thoughts of being used as guineapigs for drug trials.

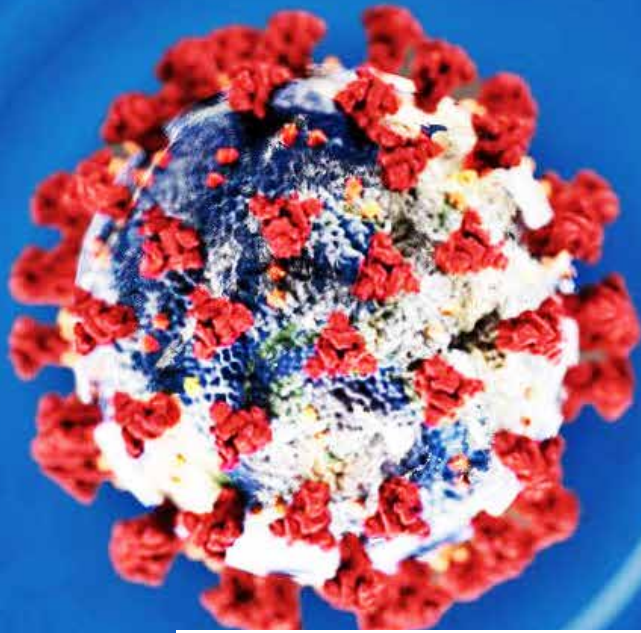


Would you take a vaccine against COVID-19 by state?

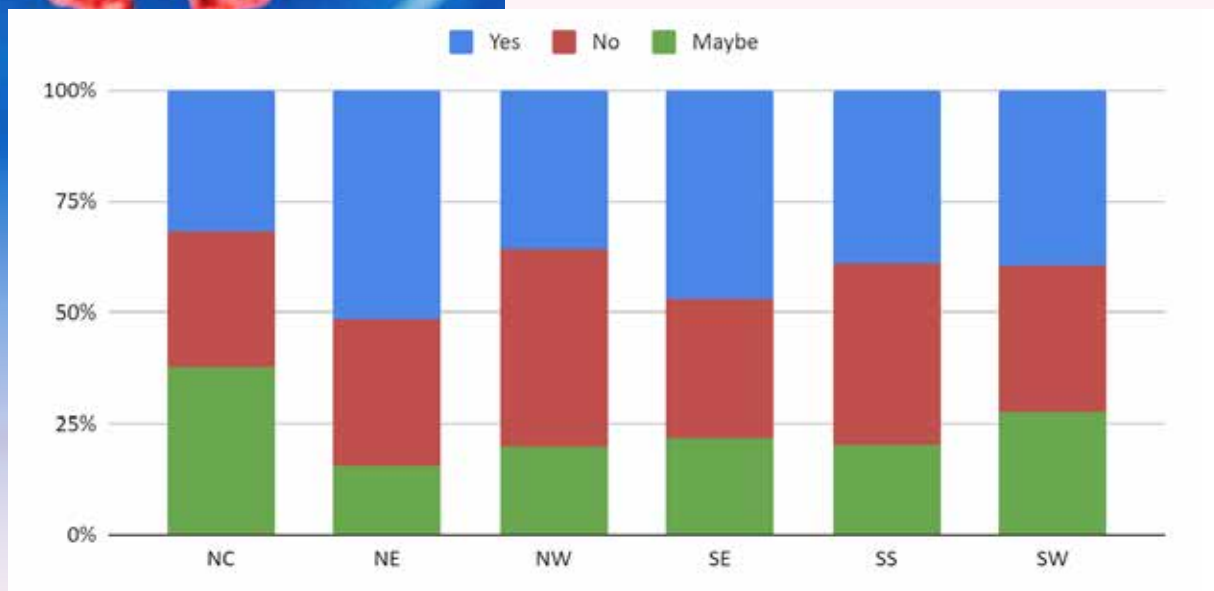


In most states, majority of the respondents are either unsure or strictly opposed to taking the vaccine, however in Abia, Bauchi, Borno, Delta, Gombe, Kaduna, Katsina, Oyo and Yobe states, majority of the respondents are willing to take the vaccine when it is available.





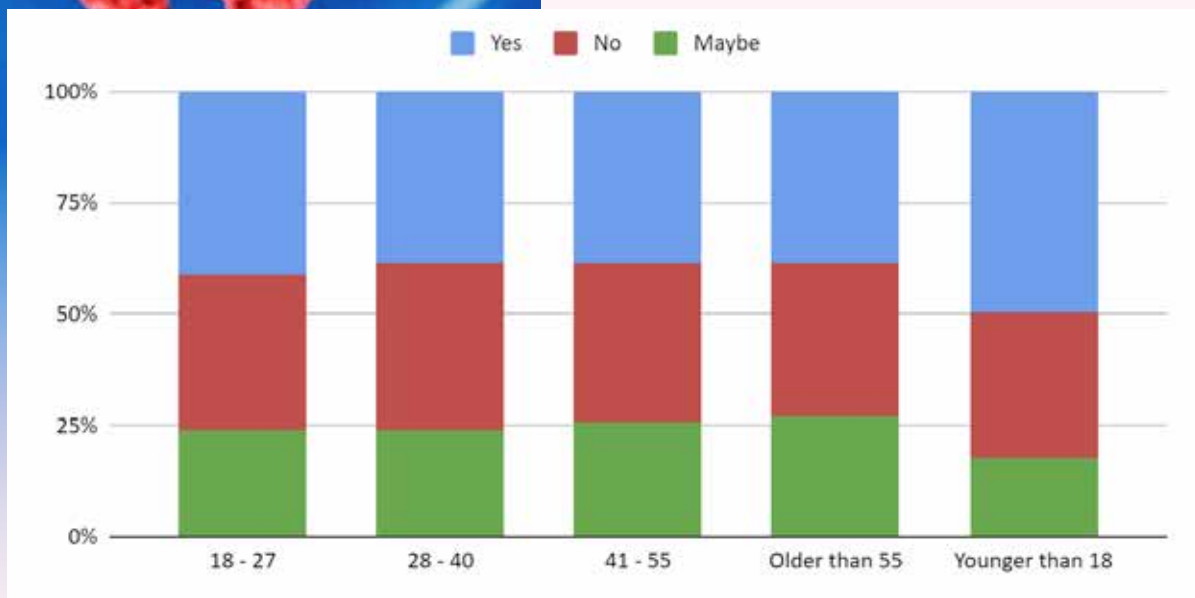
Would you take a vaccine against COVID-19 by geopolitical zones?



The North-East is the only region where a majority of respondents said they will take the vaccine against the Coronavirus Disease when it is available. In other zones, most respondents were either unsure or opposed to taking the vaccine.



Would you take a vaccine against COVID-19 by age?

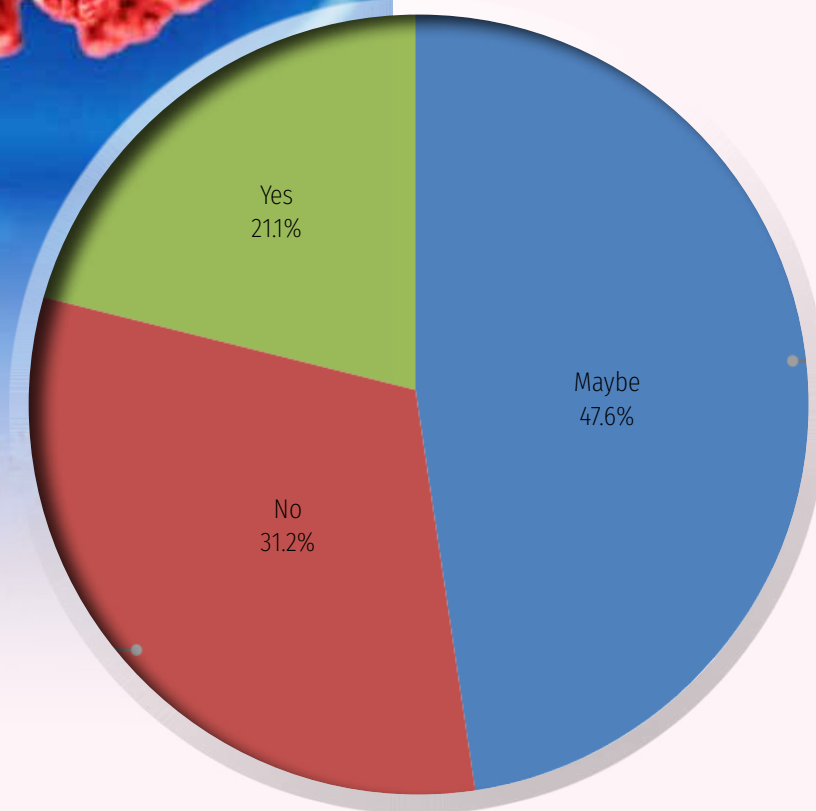


Across the age groups, those who said they would not take a vaccine against COVID-19 were in their minority except for those younger than 18 years where about 50% said they will be willing to take the vaccine.

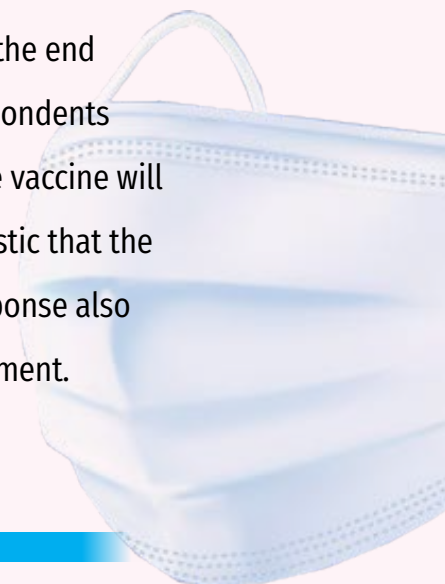


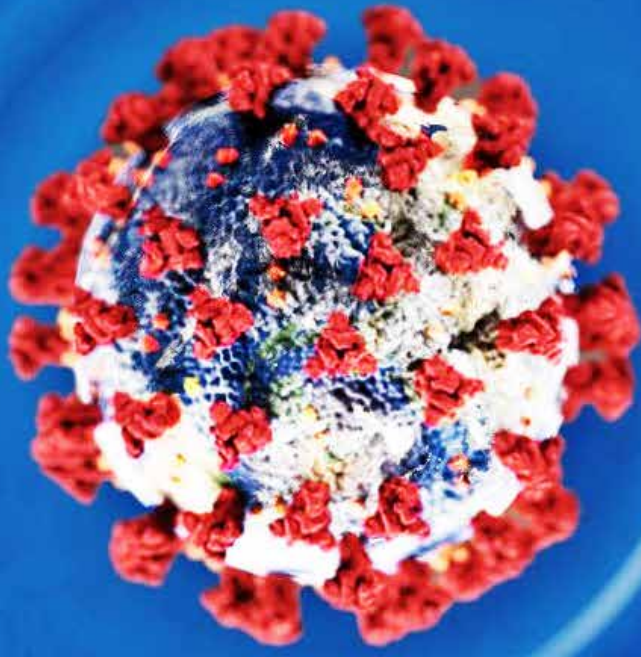


The FG has said they expect vaccines will arrive by month-end. Do you think they will arrive?

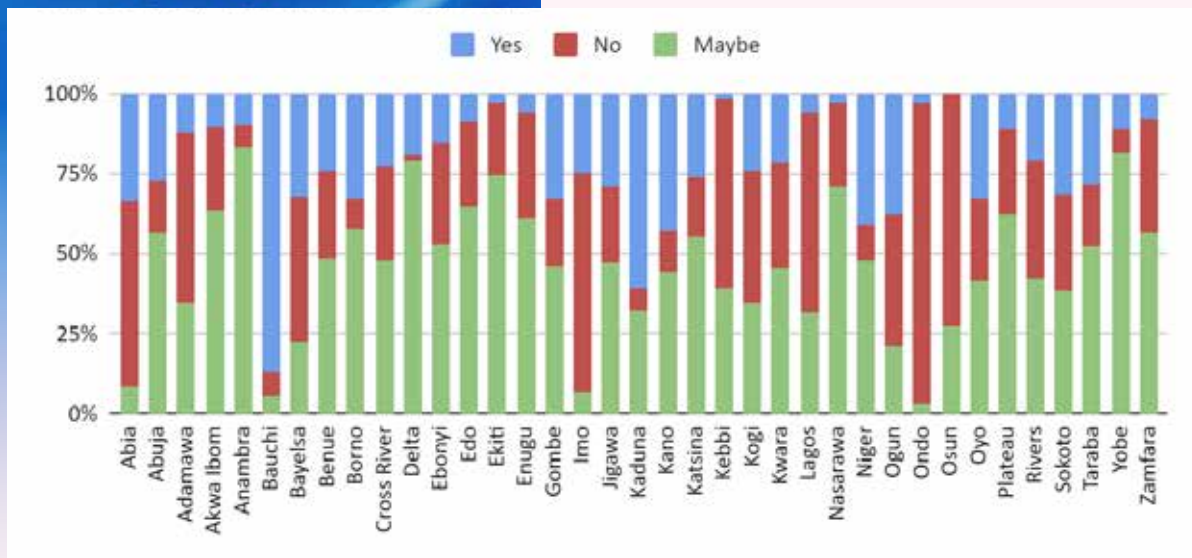


Nigerians are uncertain about the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine by the end of January as promised by the Federal Government. 47.6% of the respondents expressed this uncertainty, while 31.2% of respondents think that the vaccine will not arrive at the said time. Only 21.2% of the respondents are optimistic that the vaccine will arrive at the time promised by the government. This response also points to the low level of trust that the citizens have for their government.



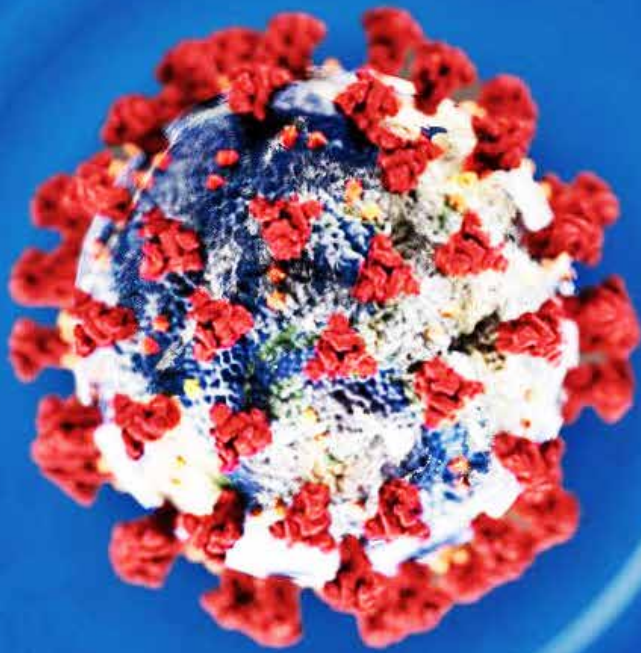


The FG has said they expect vaccines will arrive by month-end. Do you think they will arrive? - by State

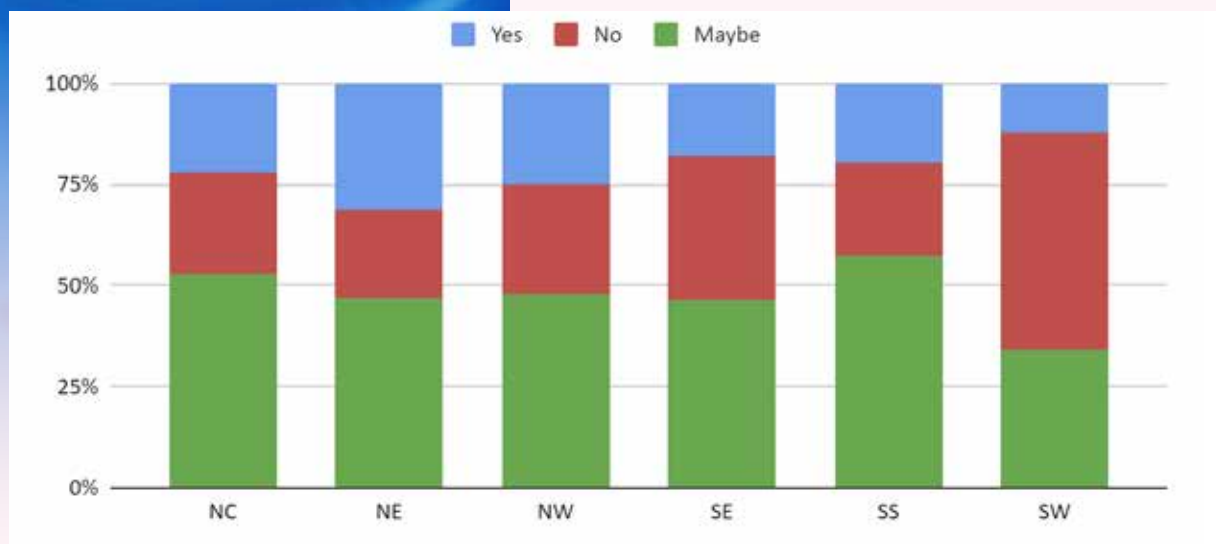


In most states, a majority of respondents are uncertain about the arrival of the vaccine at the end of January. In Abia, Anambra, Imo, Kebbi, Lagos, Ondo and Oyo, most respondents said the vaccine will not arrive at the specified time frame and it was only Bauchi and Kaduna that had a majority of respondents who were optimistic about the arrival of the vaccine.





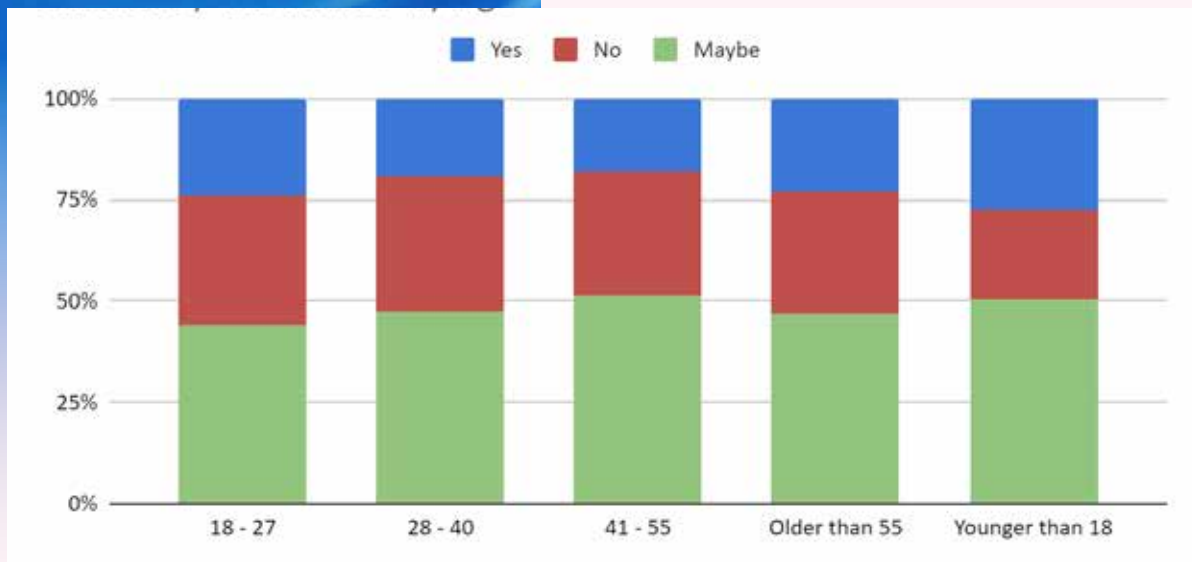
The FG has said they expect vaccines will arrive by month-end. Do you think they will arrive? - by geopolitical zones



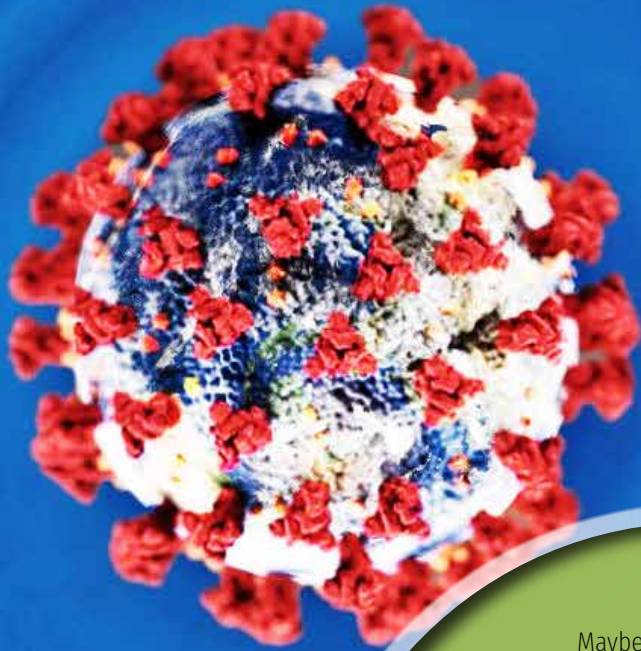
In all the geopolitical zones, the majority of the respondents are unsure that the vaccine will arrive on the scheduled time frame. The South-West has the highest number of respondents who said the vaccine would not arrive on time while the North-East had the lowest.



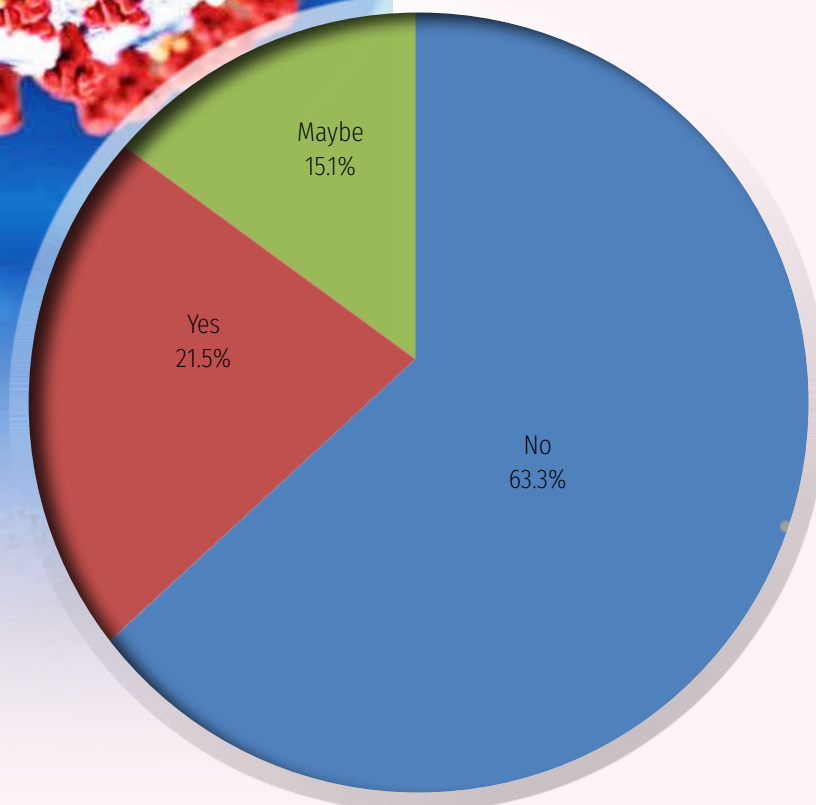
The FG has said they expect vaccines will arrive by month-end. Do you think they will arrive? - by Age



There is no significant variation in the respondents opinion across age categories. Respondents are mostly uncertain, followed by those who said the vaccine is not arriving on time. However, in the younger than 18 years age group, while majority were uncertain, the next majority believed the arrival date followed by those are sure the Vaccine is not arriving at the said time

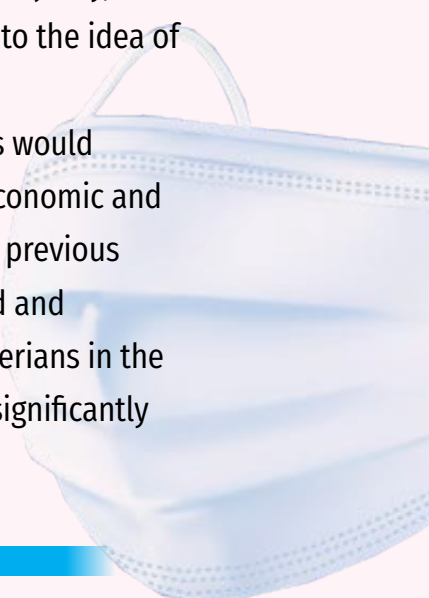


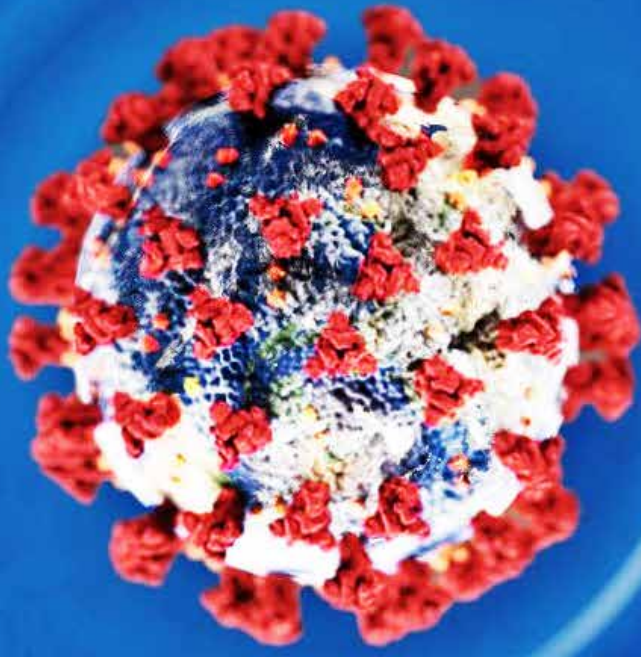
Will you support another lockdown if cases of COVID-19 rise?



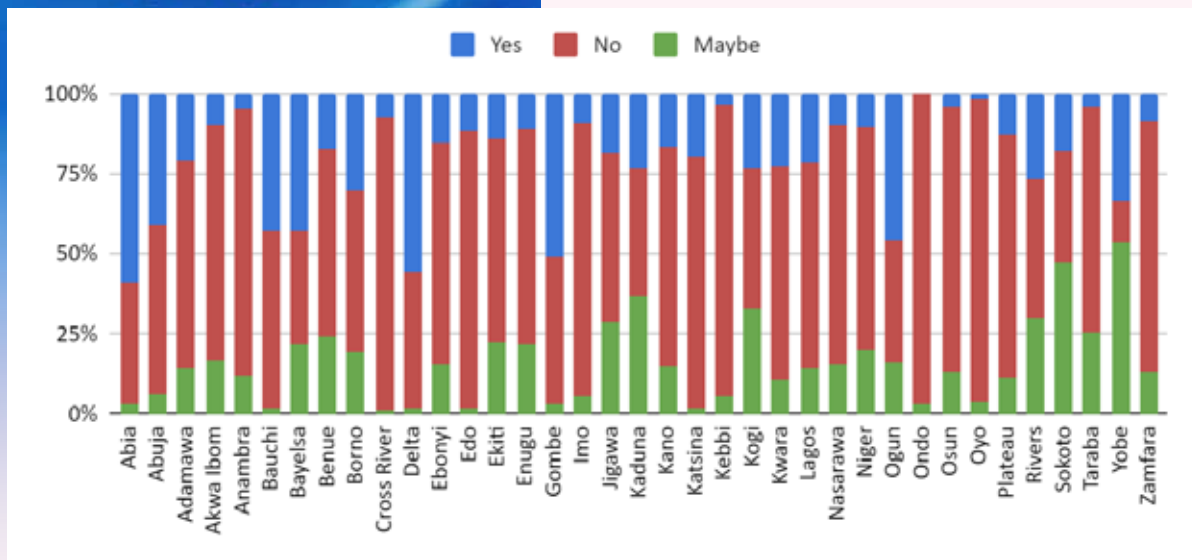
63.3% of Nigerians are opposed to another lockdown, although still a majority, it is a lower percentage from our last survey where 90.24% were opposed to the idea of another lockdown.

15.1% are on the fence on this issue and only 21.6% of the respondents would support another lockdown. The opposition is largely because of the economic and security impacts that accompanied the previous lockdown. During the previous lockdown, the Nigerian economy contracted, unemployment increased and sustaining a reasonable livelihood became more difficult for most Nigerians in the informal sector who live on daily earnings. Also, insecurity increased significantly within this period especially in cities like Lagos.



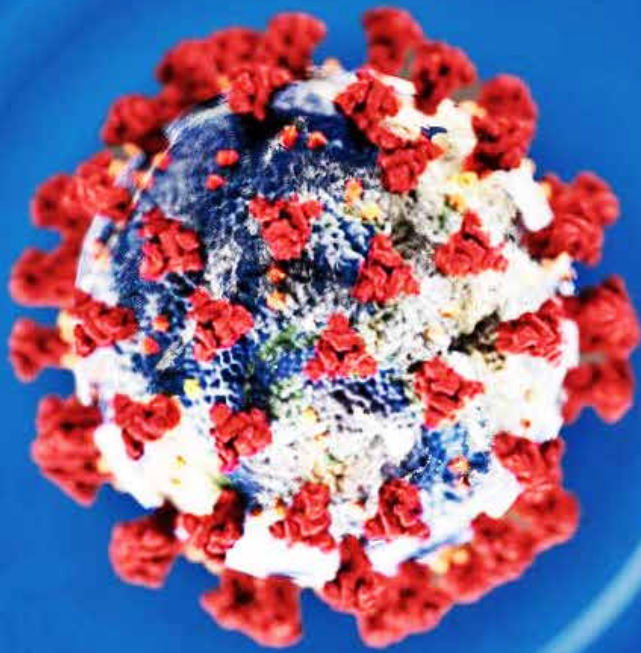


Will you support another lockdown if cases of COVID-19 rise? - by State

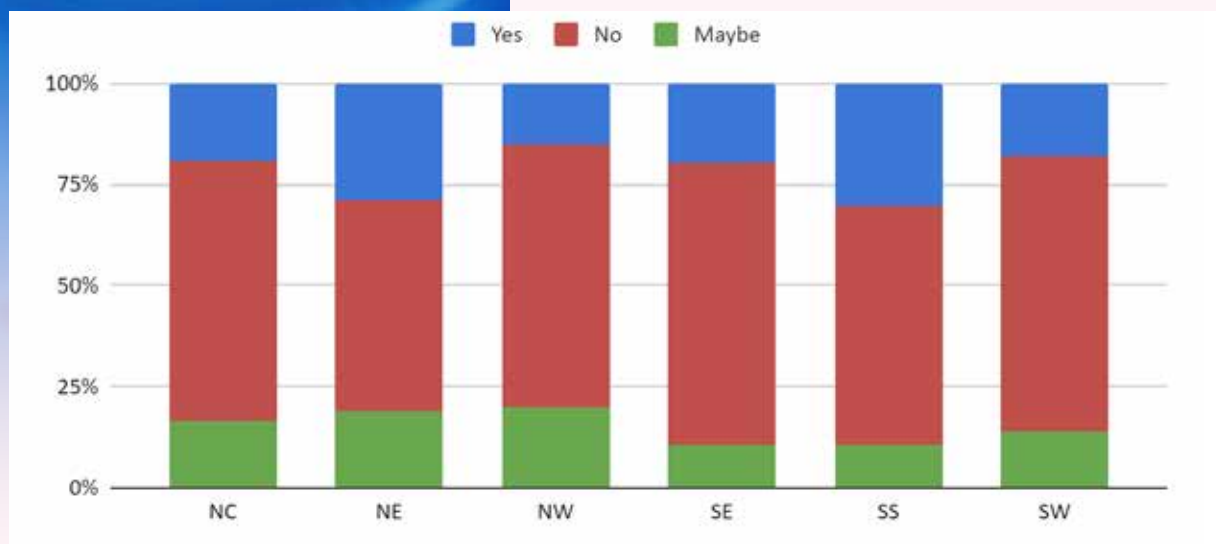


In almost all the states, a majority of respondents are opposed to another lockdown except for Abia and Gombe where a slim majority agree that another lockdown would be necessary if the cases continue to rise.





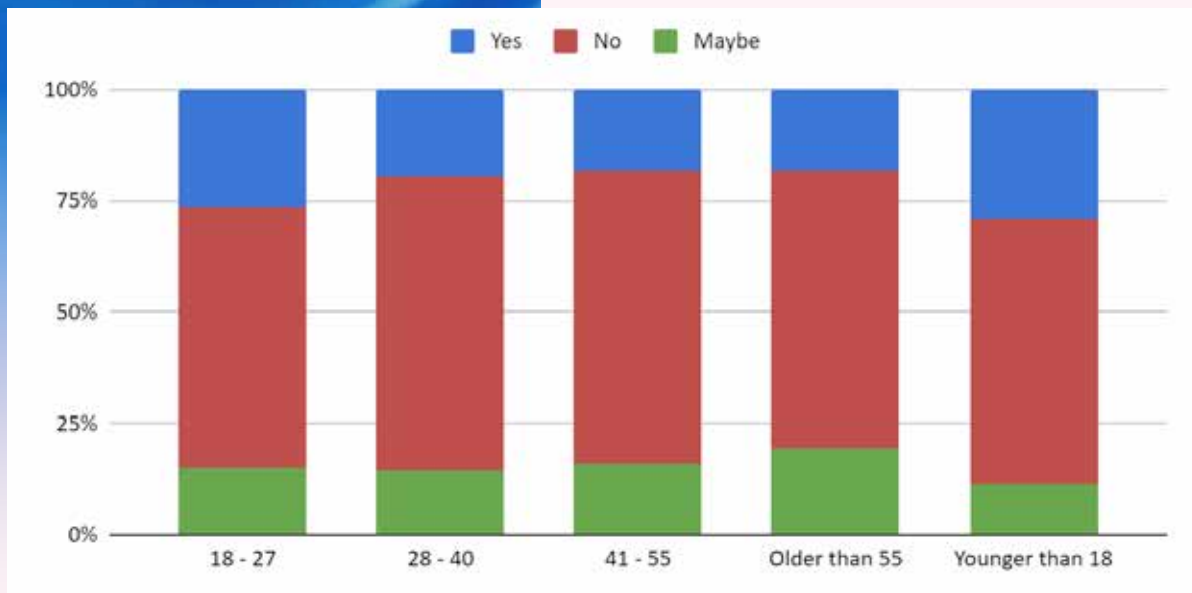
Will you support another lockdown if cases of COVID-19 rise? - by geopolitical zones



The lack of support for another lockdown is held across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria, none of the zones has a contrary view which shows that the opposition of another lockdown is widely held, if such restrictions are imposed, they would likely face severe resistance from the populace.

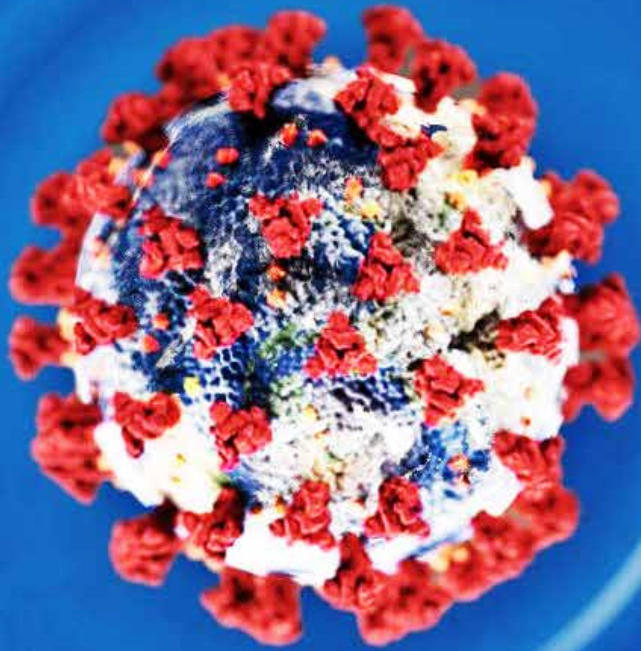


Will you support another lockdown if cases of COVID-19 rise? - by Age



The position of citizens with regards to another lockdown remains the same across the age categories.





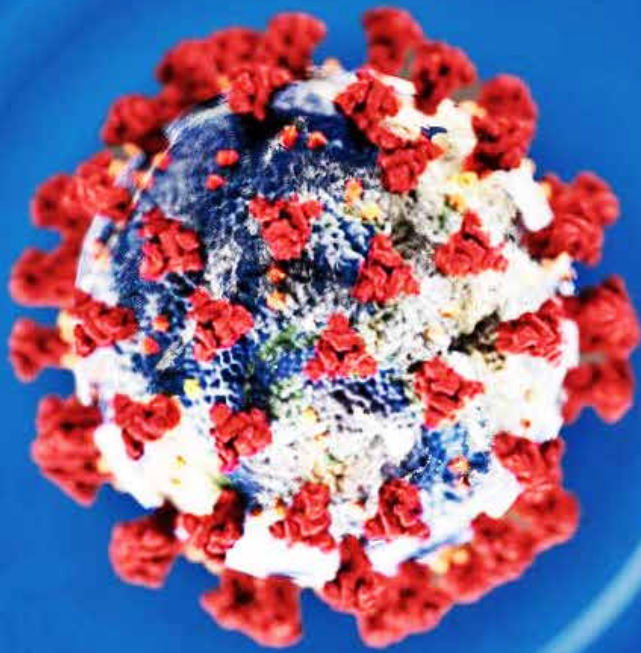
Vaccine distribution, vaccine tourism and vaccine diplomacy

Nigeria expects to acquire a paltry 100,000 vaccine doses by the end of January. Here is a breakdown of how those vaccines will be distributed by state, based on the rate of infection, according to the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)

DISTRIBUTION BY STATES

1.	Kano:	3,557
2.	Lagos:	3,131
3.	Katsina:	2,361
4.	Kaduna:	2,074
5.	Bauchi:	1,900
6.	Oyo:	1,848
7.	Rivers:	1,766
8.	Jigawa:	1,712
9.	Niger:	1,558
10.	Ogun:	1,473
11.	Sokoto:	1,468
12.	Benue:	1,423
13.	Borno:	1,416
14.	Anambra:	1,379
15.	Zamfara:	1,336
16.	Delta:	1,306
17.	Kebbi:	1,268
18.	Imo:	1,267
19.	Ondo:	1,228

20.	Akwa Ibom:	1,161
21.	Adamawa:	1,129
22.	Edo:	1,104
23.	Plateau:	1,089
24.	Enugu:	1,088
25.	Osun:	1,032
26.	Kogi:	1,030
27.	Cross River:	1,023
28.	Abia:	955
29.	Gombe:	908
30.	Yobe:	842
31.	Ekiti:	830
32.	Taraba:	830
33.	Kwara:	815
34.	Ebonyi:	747
35.	Bayelsa:	589
36.	FCT:	695
37.	Nasarawa:	661

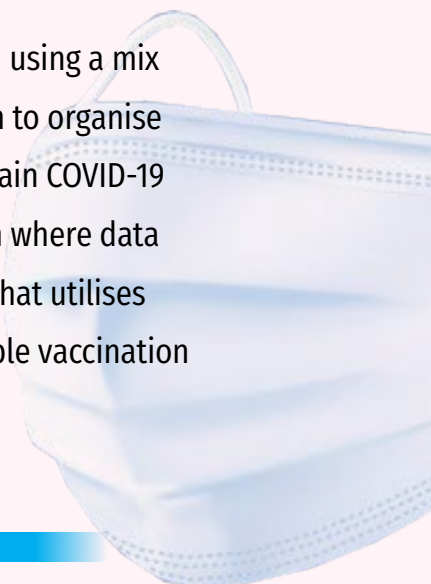


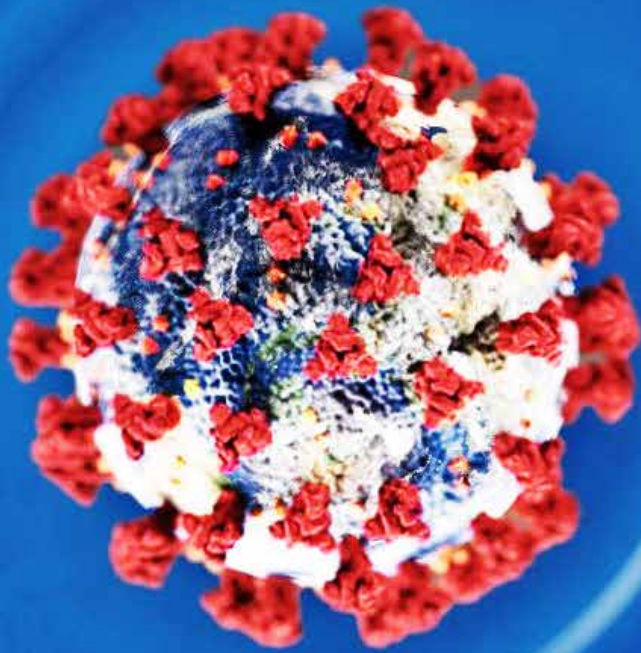
Frontline workers and the elderly will be prioritised in the distribution, and the government aims to administer the vaccine to 40% of Nigerians this year, with 30% expected to be done in 2022. The NCDC have also said the federal government is sourcing vaccines from other countries like Russia.

Despite its best efforts, however, the country's vaccine distribution strategy does not appear to be grounded in any discernible methodology. The vaccines, at least at the onset of the mass vaccination exercise will not go to the states with

the highest incidences of COVID-19 cases. The Federal Capital Territory, which has the second highest number of cases, will only receive 695 vaccines, ranking 36th nationally. Plateau, which has the third highest number of cases and has seen the highest rise in case numbers nationally during this second wave of the epidemic in Nigeria, ranks 23rd in vaccine distribution, Delta, with the tenth highest number of cases is 16th on the vaccine priority list.

A use case can be found in Israel, which has vaccinated a fifth of its population using a mix of smart messaging and leveraging its extensive digital medical records system to organise targeted vaccination drives that prioritise high-risk patients in the country's main COVID-19 hotspots. For a country like Nigeria with an underdeveloped healthcare system where data management protocols are in a rudimentary state of development, a strategy that utilises available data from the NCDC and other supporting partners to design a sensible vaccination strategy should be an imperative



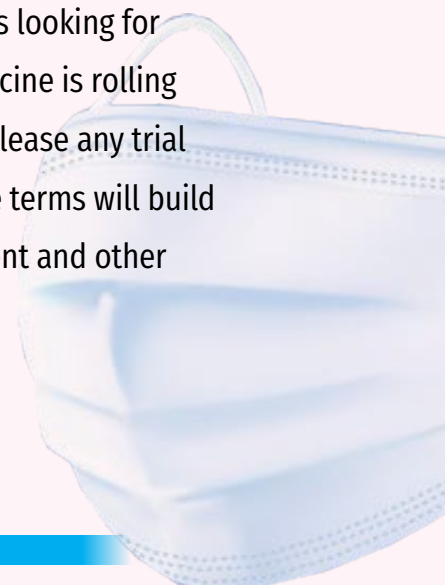


This timeline is likely to be too slow for many prominent Nigerians, some of whom have already begun travelling abroad to take vaccines. Most prominent of which is former vice president Atiku Abubakar, who got his jab in Dubai on January 6th, according to various reports. This emerging vaccine tourism is merely a response to the gap in state capacity regarding vaccines, similar to how medical tourism is a response to state failure in the healthcare sector in general.

This gap presents an opportunity for vaccine diplomacy. As at 8 January, 21 African

countries have procured 260 million doses, which covers only 10% of the continent's population of 1.3 billion people, assuming a two-dose regimen. This accounts for only 3.4% of total vaccines ordered, even though Africa accounts for 20% of global population. In addition, only Seychelles and Morocco have enough doses to achieve the 70% level required for herd immunity.

Into this breach step countries like China and Russia, who are always looking for ways to deepen their influence on the continent. The Sinopharm vaccine is rolling out, despite concerns over its safety, and China's unwillingness to release any trial results. Making vaccines available to African countries on favourable terms will build on China's earlier efforts with shipping personal protective equipment and other essentials at the start of the pandemic.



Conclusion

The impact of the first coronavirus lockdowns on Nigeria's society and economy were palpable and significant. It has impacted the way people gather and fend for themselves and their families, with many unable to do either for long stretches of time - this in a country where more than four-fifths of wage earners subsist on a daily income. Also, many of these activities are yet recovered to their pre-pandemic levels.

Most Nigerians recognise that the virus is real, but are unwilling to consistently follow prevention protocols. Feeding off deep seated economic anxieties, a majority is firmly opposed to another lockdown, pointing to the fact that if declared, it may not be adhered to. In some states, it has forced a change of behaviour. In Ondo, increased reliance on native medicine has been reported, with some believing it will prevent them from contracting COVID. In Imo, a greater sense of community and health awareness was reported.

One under-reported aspect of the pandemic is its impact on educational attainment, especially in the crucial primary and secondary school stages. Those who have the means to pursue online learning have seen their education carry on with minimal disruption, while those who cannot - which constitute the vast majority of school children in Nigeria - have been left behind. For many, their only means of attaining education is through in-person

Conclusion

schooling, and there are few if any federal or state owned educational institutions that provide this. In so doing, the gap between those who can and can't will continue to grow.

Any assessment of the pandemic's far ranging impact on Nigerians has to incorporate the consequential fact that it has exposed glaring gaps, political inefficiencies and structural defects in the country's political, economic, health and social infrastructure which has left it overwhelmed and wholly ill-equipped to address the most pressing challenge the country has ever faced as a sovereign state. The current administration, with its hands filled with addressing worsening economic conditions, a decade-long insurgency and deepening political fragmentation, has not shown the leadership necessary to get a handle on a raging epidemic. As with many things concerning Nigeria, the responsibility for cracking the code of managing the coronavirus devolves back to political leadership. It's time for leadership to step up.



ABOUT SBM

SBM Intel is an Africa focused geopolitical research and strategic communications consulting firm focused on addressing the critical need for political, social, economic and market data, and big data analytics. We employ various methods of data collection. Our Data Collection Methodology team advises on data collection methods for all ONS social and business surveys. With clients both within the business and the wider government community, we aim to provide expert advice on data collection procedures and carry out research leading to improvements in survey quality.

Since 2013, we have provided data analytics and strategic communication solutions to clients across various sectors in Nigeria, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, South Africa, the UK, France and the United States.■