



**Lawyers Alert Findings**

**on**

**Sexual and Reproductive Health and  
Rights (SRHR) Violations in Nigeria**

**In**

**partnership**

**With**

**AmplifyChange**

## **PREFACE/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

In partnership with AmplifyChange, Lawyers Alert in the last two years has been monitoring and documenting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights violations in Nigeria. Within these two years, we have released findings on these rights violations with regard to Violence Against Women and Girls (VWG), Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) and the entire gamut with respect to Persons Living With, Affected By, Or Most At Risk of HIV infection in Nigeria. These includes; Persons Living With HIV, Sex Workers, Men who have Sex with Men, Person Who Inject Drugs, Persons With Disabilities and Sexual Minorities. Our findings are published and updated every six months. Our reports can be found at <http://www.lawyersalertng.org/res.php>

This report encompasses violations in the last two years as it affects the above target groups. Our documentation is via our online tool styled “LadockT” <http://colahr.org/lawyersalert/index.php> which automatically analyzes these violations across locations with regard to State and Local Government. It also exhibits trends and gaps. Over the years, our report has acted as a base for intervention for State and Non-State Actors. Some interesting facts have arisen from the present report which shows that SRHR violations with regards to vulnerable groups is highest in Federal Capital Territory at 34% followed by Borno at 11% and Lagos State 10%. With regard to the target groups, VWG recorded the highest at 46% and it is interestingly followed by MSM at 43% while Persons Living With HIV and Sex Workers come at 4%.

We are cognizant that, as it relates to Nigeria as a geographical entity, the findings here may not represent the entire facts nationally. The project that birthed this tool is focused in 12 states. Again, persons who suffer violation of sexual rights hardly report same for varying reasons. In our case, enormous emphasis is placed on legal literacy and free legal services which is a big motivation for reportage.

Nevertheless, these findings are critical owing to their veracity and mode of collation. Violations were mostly documented even as legal assistance was given and physical verification carried out. Perhaps these findings are therefore the most authentic in terms of verification and scientific analysis. The web tool developed wherein violations are entered, are robotically analyzed along age, location, types, trends etc. SRHR Programing and law reform cannot be better informed that when situated against the findings in this report.

It is hoped that the document will help to highlight the dangers that vulnerable groups are exposed to. It is disaggregated by a range of indices clearly depicted in pie charts to enhance comprehension and assimilation at a quick glance. It should also be stated that the data represented in this report is based only on that obtained from the online portal.

Lawyers Alert is obliged to several individuals and officialdoms, who referred cases to us directly, assisted us technically and/or monetarily in the course of developing and putting up the Web-based tool platform. Cases referred to us were huge in terms of efforts at populating the tool. Women community groups proved invaluable as regard to violence against women and girls, alongside positive persons and organizations, sexual minority groups and Sex Workers.

Lawyers Alert believes the report will prove to be a vital resource base for those who desire precise and up-to-date data regarding the subject matter and it is further hoped that this data will be used to enhance and promote a more robust legislative process where SRHR is concerned.

We acknowledge AmplifyChange for believing in this project and supporting it. We are indebted to UNAIDS for the immense technical support advanced. The National Agency for the Control of AIDS in Nigeria, NACA, has engaged with us severally on this tool and are acknowledged.

Lawyers Alert  
April, 2019.

## STATES WITH HIGHEST VIOLATION RATES

The data compiled and analyzed having the highest violation rates: out of the 36 states in Nigeria, the Federal Capital Territory (**34%**) has the highest with almost quarter of all reports from there. The second is Bornu with about **11%** of reported violations. The third is **Lagos** coming in closely with Bornu with about **10%** of reported violations, following closely is **Edo** with **8%** while **Ondo** and **Ogun** having **6%**. **Niger state** in the **North central** is having **5%** and Delta state follows closely with **4%** of violations reported and documented. Cross River and **Anambra** having **3%** respectively while **Kogi**, **Ebonyi**, **Bauchi** and **Rivers State** having **2%** each which is the least.

The reflection of most states with high violation rates is a result of intensive and effective SRHR movements in the respective zones, collating reports of violations with extensive legal support and literacy for the empowerment of the vulnerable.

From these, knowledge of these rights must lie with citizens so as to support the effective movements of SRHR in Nigeria and to reach out to the vulnerable groups.

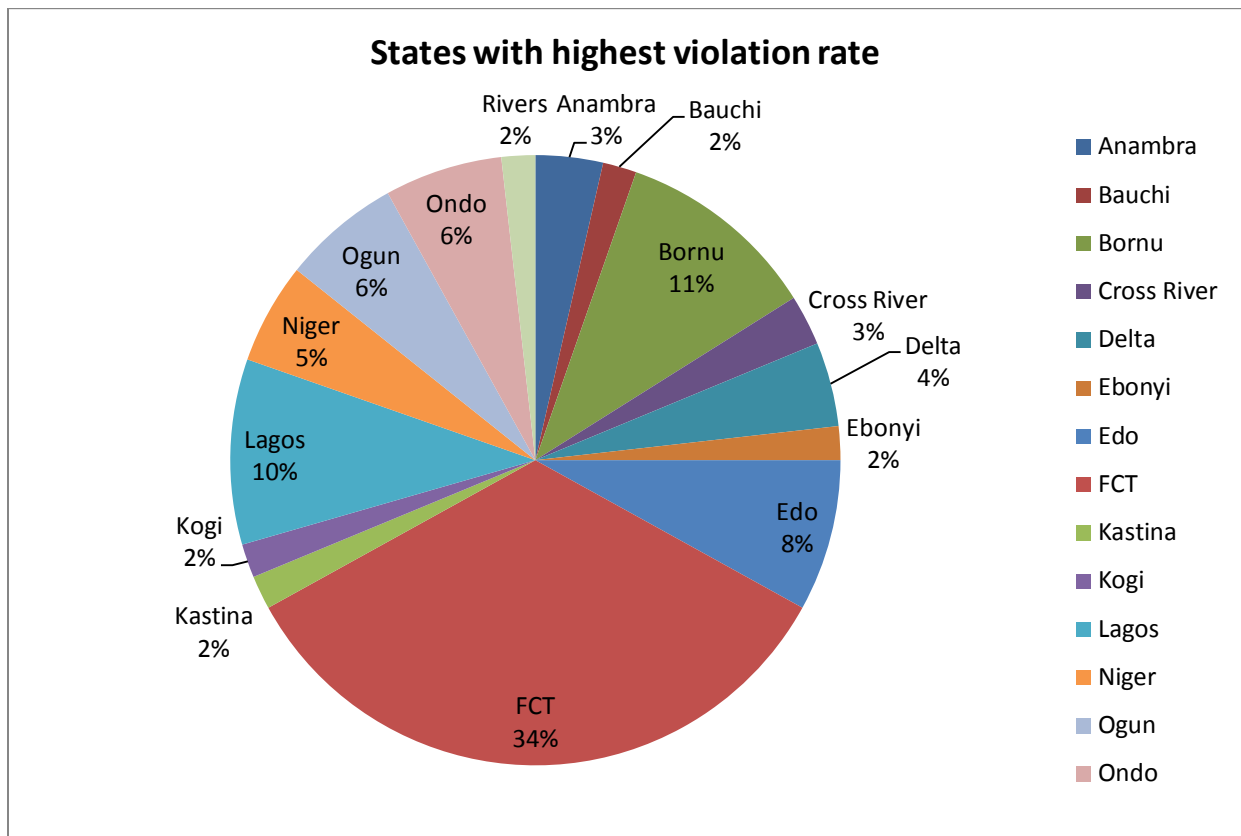


Fig 1.

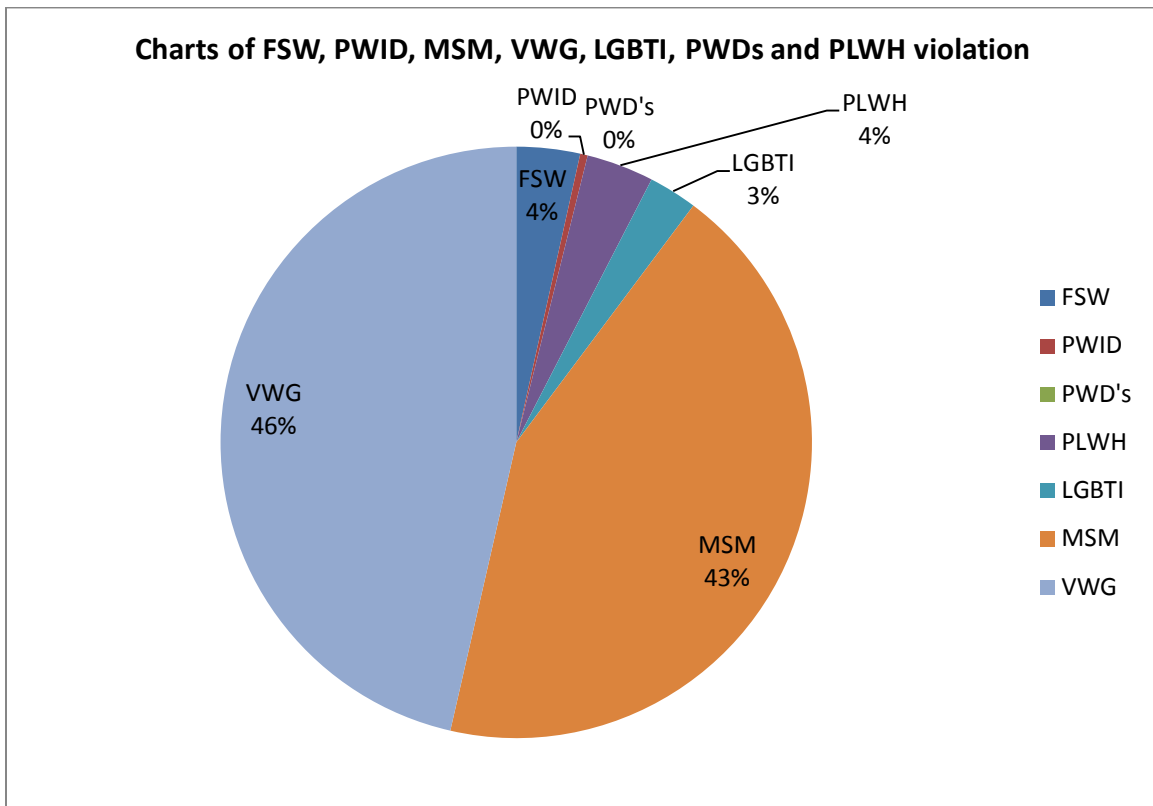
STATES	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
FCT	49%	34%	-	15%
LAGOS	30%	4%	-	26%
ANAMBRA	3%	3%	-	-
ONDO	2%	6%	4%	-

**Table 1: Table showing percentage increase & decrease among some States**

## VIOLATION ANALYSIS BASED ON GROUPS

The figure below depicts violations based on the various groups. It shows that **Violence against Women and Girls, VWG**, has highest number of reported violations with **46%**. Followed closely by **Men who Sleep with Men, MSM** with **43%**. **Persons Living with HIV, PLWH** and **Female Sex Workers, FSW** both come third with **4%** each. **The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex, LGBTI** group comprise **3%**

It is pertinent to note that violence against women and girls has remained at an uncomfortably high percentage of **46%** and analysis has shown that most **Rape** and **Sexual molestation** victims are minors (**0-5 years and 6-9years**). These violations also are often not reported owing to attendant stigma.



**Fig2**

GROUPS	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
VWG	11%	46%	35%	-
FSW	30%	4%	-	26%
PWID	0%	0%	-	-
PLWH	38%	4%	-	34%
PWDs	0%	0%	-	-
LGBTI	21%	3%	-	18%
MSM	0%	43%	43%	-

**Table 2: Table showing percentage increase & decrease among Groups**

Within the above time range, Violence against Women & Girls has increased from **11 %**( 2017) to **46%** presently. This is due to engagements of **effective SRHR movement** conducted to reach these vulnerable groups especially women. MSM group also have a distant increase in reported violations within the above time range shown.

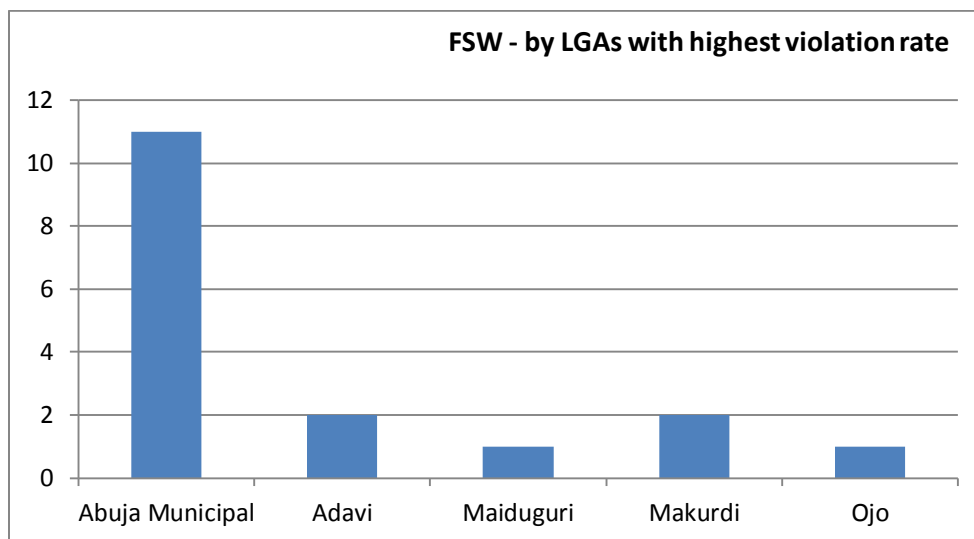
## **VIOLATION ANALYSIS BASED ON LGAs, AGE & GROUPS**

In guaranteeing findings are community and grassroots focused, Lawyers Alert placing results within the 774 local government areas in Nigeria. Local government is the layer of government closest to the people and at the grassroots. The thinking is that programs, policies and laws can be tailored and precise in addressing issues in their locations and be context specific.

### **a. Female Sex Workers, FSW**

The collated data has been further broken into the following demographics:

The figure below indicates that **FCT** has the highest violation rate with regards to Female Sex Workers followed by **Kogi** and Benue while **Bornu** and **Lagos** have the least violation rate in this regard.



**Fig 4 showing FCT – Abuja Municipal having the highest violation rate with regard to FSW.**

Disaggregation by age, as shown in the figure below reveals that **20 – 24 years** group has the highest violation rate with **65%**. Followed by **25 – 40 years** having **29%** while **10 – 19 years** has the least violation rate of **6%**.

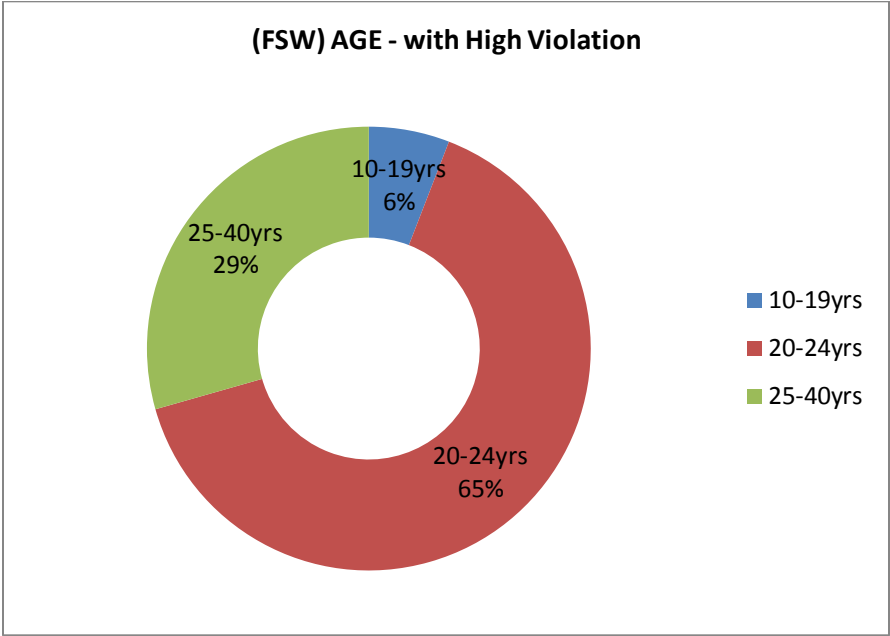


Fig 4a

<b>FSW - AGE</b>	<b>JULY 2017</b>	<b>APRIL 2019</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>
20-24 YRS	27%	65%	38%	-
25-40 YRS	73%	29%	-	44%

Table 3. Showing increase and decrease of violation among age brackets

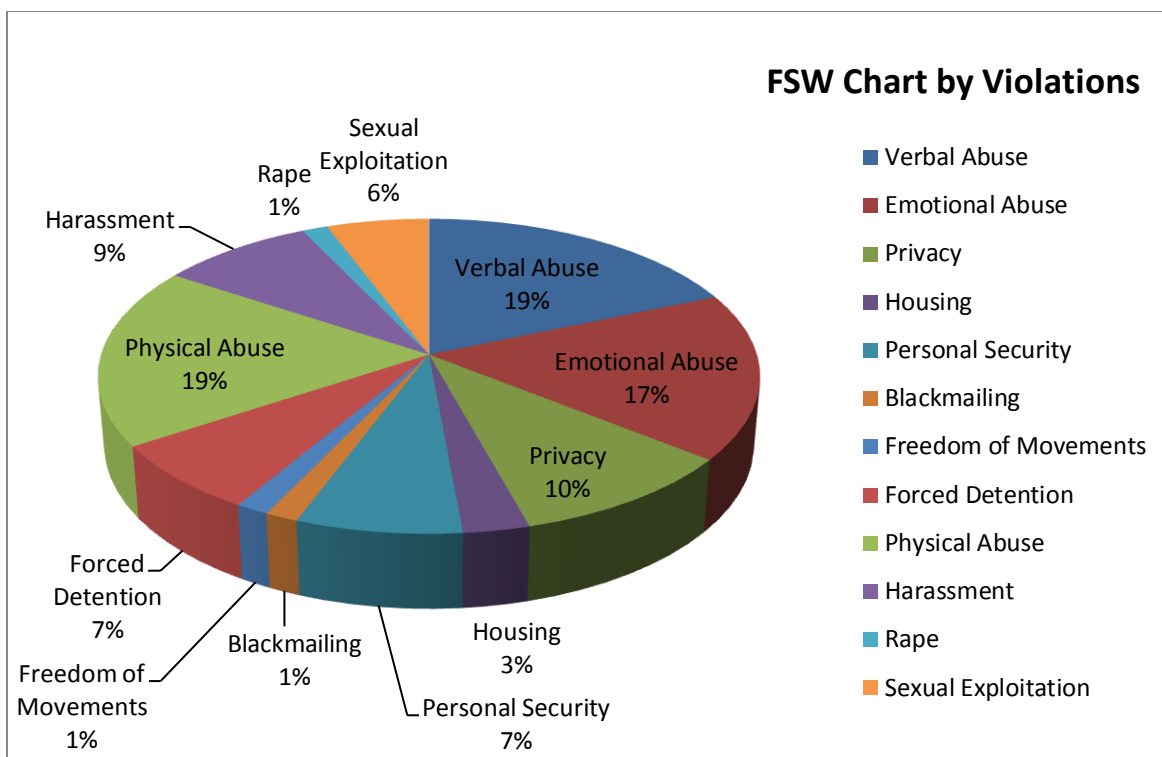


Fig 5.

Those reporting **Verbal Abuse** and **Physical Abuse** indicate the highest rates with **19%**, followed by those reporting cases of **Emotional Abuse** with **17%**. **Harassment**, **9%**, **Personal Security** and **Forced Detention** show **7%** each. While **Sexual Exploitation** indicates **6%**, **Housing** with **3%**. Lastly **Freedom of Movements**, **Blackmailing** and **Rape** indicates **1%** each.

<b>VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>JULY 2017</b>	<b>APRIL 2019</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>
Verbal Abuse	20%	19%	-	1%
Emotional Abuse	20%	17%	-	3%
Privacy	11%	10%	-	1%
Blackmailing	5%	3%	-	2%
Freedom of Movement	2%	7%	5%	-
Forced Detention	9%	1%	-	8%
Physical Abuse	15%	7%	-	8%
Harassment	7%	9%	2%	-
Sexual Exploitation	7%	6%	-	1%

**Table 4. Showing Percentage increase and decrease of violation types**



## b. Persons Living With HIV, PLWH

The below figure shows that with regard to **PLWH**, again the **Abuja Municipal Area Council** in the **FCT** reports the highest number of incidents, followed by **Karu** local government area in **Nasarawa state**. **Akure East** in **Ondo State**, **Awka North** in **Anambra State**, **Ibadan South East** in **Oyo State**, **Kebbi** in **Kebbi State**, **Kwande** in **Benue State** and **Lagos Mainland** in **Lagos State** all show the same violation rate.

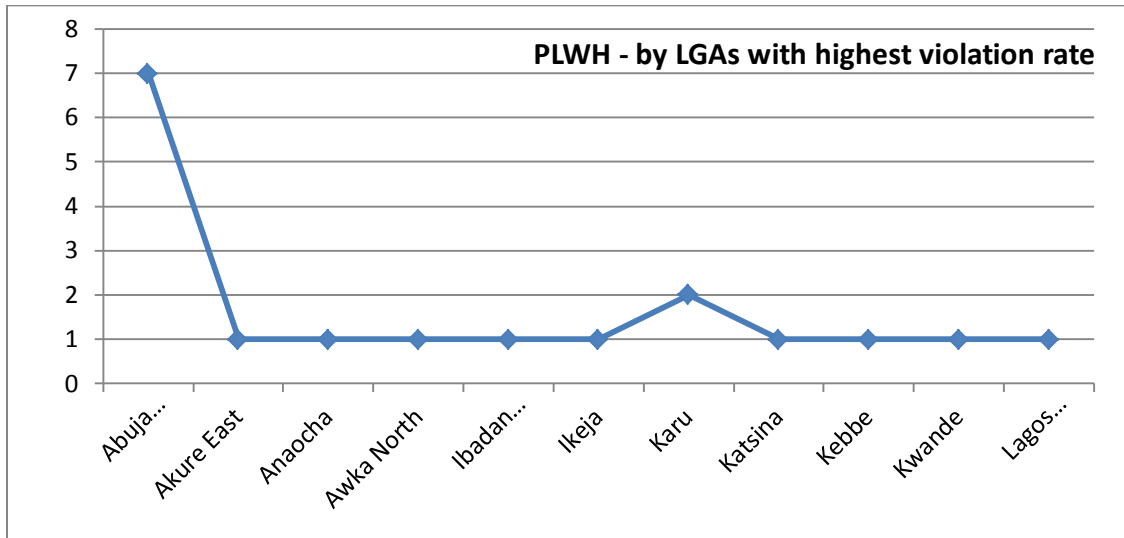


Fig 6.

Disaggregated by age, the **6-9 years** group has the lowest violation rate for **PLWH** as shown below with a total of **7%**, followed by ages **10-19 years** with **17%** and ages **20-24 years** with **22%** while ages **25-40 years** report the highest violation rate in **PLWH**

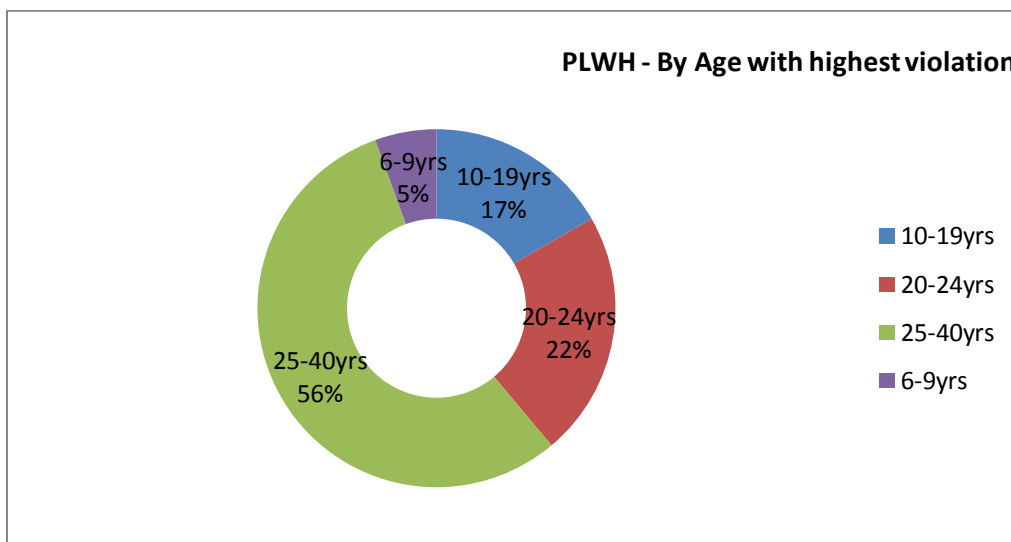
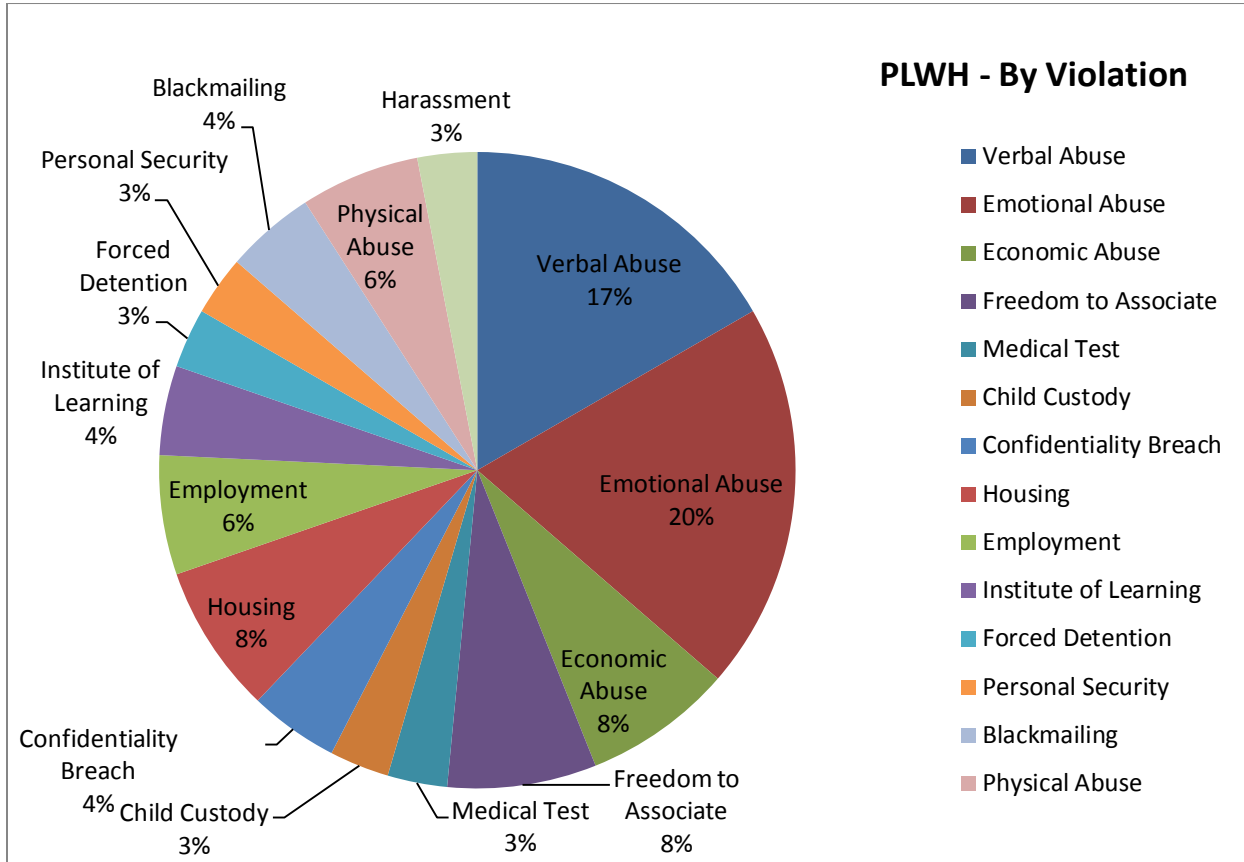


Fig7.

PLWH – AGE	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
6-9 years	7%	5%	-	2%
10-19 years	21%	17%	-	4%
20-24 years	29%	22%	-	7%
25-40 years	43%	56%	13%	-

**Table 5. Showing Percentage increase and decrease in PLWH -Age groups**



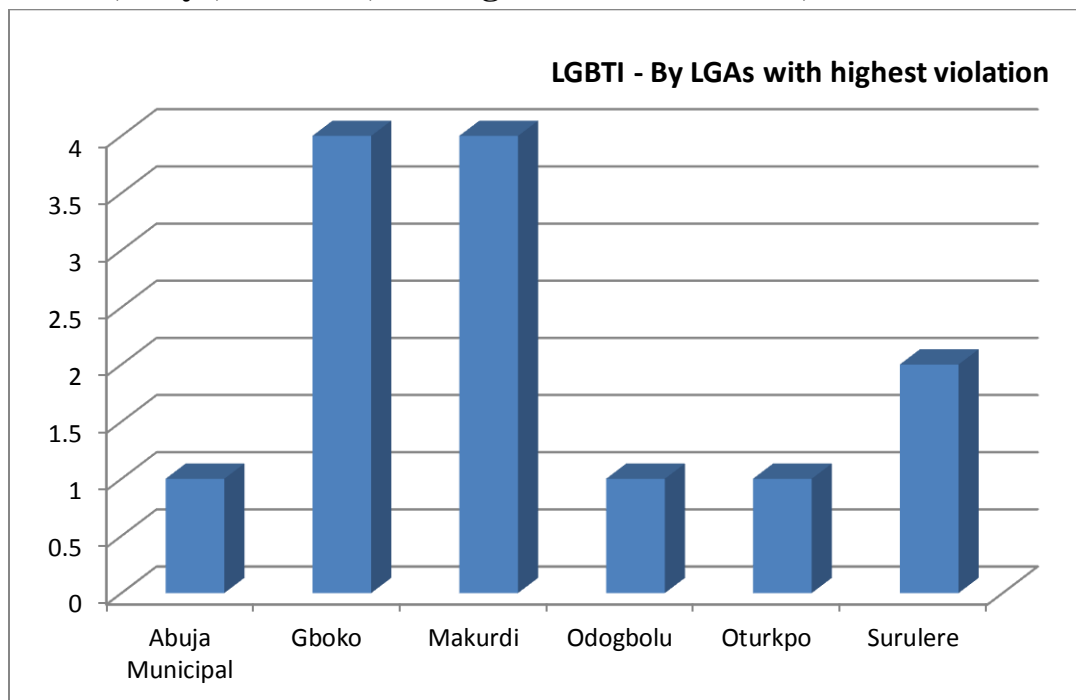
**Fig8.**

In the chart above, **Emotional Abuse** shows the highest rate of violation with **20%** followed by **Verbal Abuse** with **17%**, **Economic Abuse**, **Freedom to Associate** and **Housing** have **8%** each. While **Employment** and **Physical Abuse** have **6%**. **Confidentiality Breach**, **Blackmailing** and **Institute of Learning** have **4%** each followed by the least rate of violations which are **Personal Security**, **Forced Detention**, **Harassment**, **Medical Test** and **Child Custody** having **3%** each.

<b>VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>JULY 2017</b>	<b>APRIL 2019</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>
Emotional Abuse	20%	20%	-	-
Verbal Abuse	16%	17%	1%	-
Economic Abuse	4%	8%	4%	-
Freedom to Associate	6%	8%	2%	-
Housing	8%	8%	-	-
Employment	4%	6%	2%	-
Physical Abuse	2%	6%	4%	-
Confidentiality Breach	6%	4%		2%
Blackmailing	4%	4%	-	-
Institute of Learning	6%	4%		2%
Personal Security	2%	3%	1%	
Forced Detention	2%	3%	1%	
Harassment	4%	3%		1%
Medical Test	4%	3%		1%
Child Custody	4%	3%		1%

**Table 7. Showing Percentage increase and decrease of PLWH - Violations**

**c. Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex, LGBTI**



**Fig8.**

In all, Three LGAs in **Benue State** appeared in the chart above with two LGAs from the same state showing the highest rate of violations regarding with **LGBTI** cases. This is due to the

effective **SRHR** movements in the zones and intense literacy on health rights. **Gboko** and **Makurdi** in **Benue State** showing the highest reported violations, followed by **Surulere** in **Lagos State**. Lastly **Abuja Municipal** in **FCT**, **Odogbolu** in **Ogun** and **Oturkpo** in **Benue State** show the least.

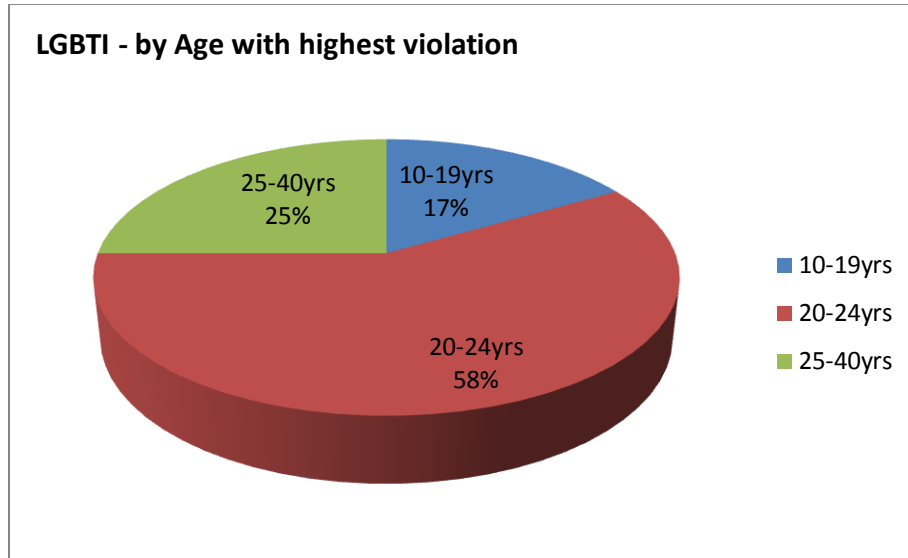


Fig9.

The chart above shows that **20-24 years** have the highest violation rate with **58%**, followed by **25-40 years** with **25%** and Ages **10-19 years** show the lowest violation rate which is **17%**.

AGE - LGBTI	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-19 years	12%	17%	5%	-
20-24 years	63%	58%	-	5%
25-40 years	25%	25%	-	-

**Table 8. Showing Percentage increase and decrease of age brackets**

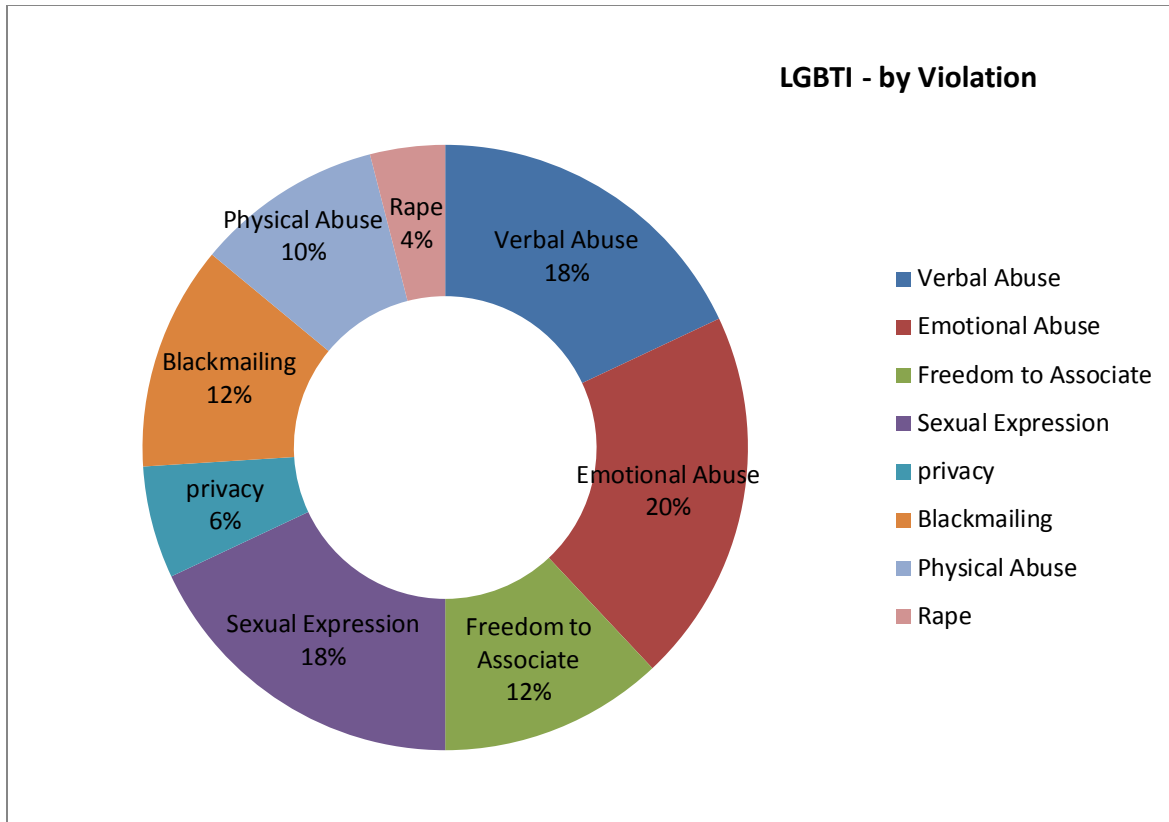


Fig10.

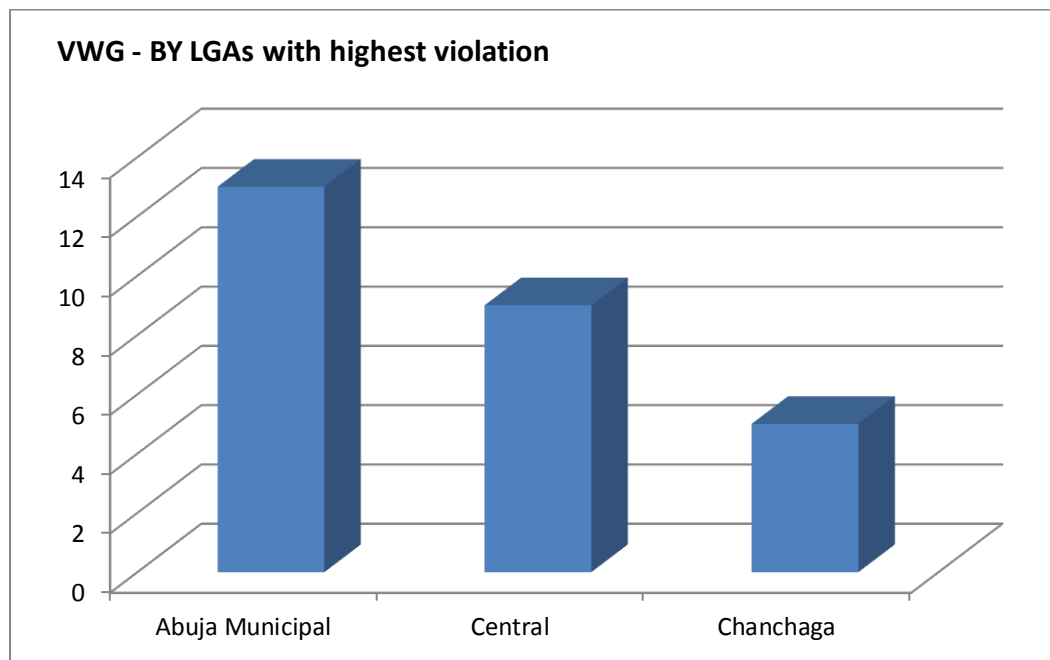
In the chart above, **Emotional Abuse** has **20%** which is the highest violation rate with regard to **LGBTI** group, followed by **Verbal Abuse** and **Sexual Expression** having **18%** respectively. While **Blackmailing** and **Freedom to associate** both comes third with **12%** violation rate. **Physical Abuse** with **10%**, **Privacy** with **6%** and lastly **Rape** with **4%**.

No reports were captured for **Freedom of Movement, Sexual Exploitation, Legal Literacy, CSE, SRH Information, Affordable SRH, SRH Access, Denial of SRH, Traditional Practice, Family Life, Quality Healthcare, Maternal Healthcare, Childbirth, Forced Abortion, Medical Procedure and Medical Tests** having **0%** rate each.

Violations – LGBTI	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
Emotional Abuse	22%	20%	-	2%
Verbal Abuse	19%	18%	-	1%
Sexual Expression	17%	18%	1%	-
Blackmailing	17%	12%	-	5%
Freedom to Associate	8%	12%	4%	-
Physical Abuse	8%	10%	2%	-
Privacy	3%	6%	3%	-
Personal Security	3%	-	-	3%
Rape	-	4%	4%	-

**Table 9. Showing percentage increase and decrease of violation types - LGBTI**

#### **d. Violence against Women & Girls, VWG**



**Fig11.**

In the figure above (Fig11), **Abuja Municipal** local government area in **FCT** has the highest violation rate with regard to **VWG**. While **Central** in **Edo State** ranks second position and lastly **Chanchaga** in **Niger State** ranks the least of them all.

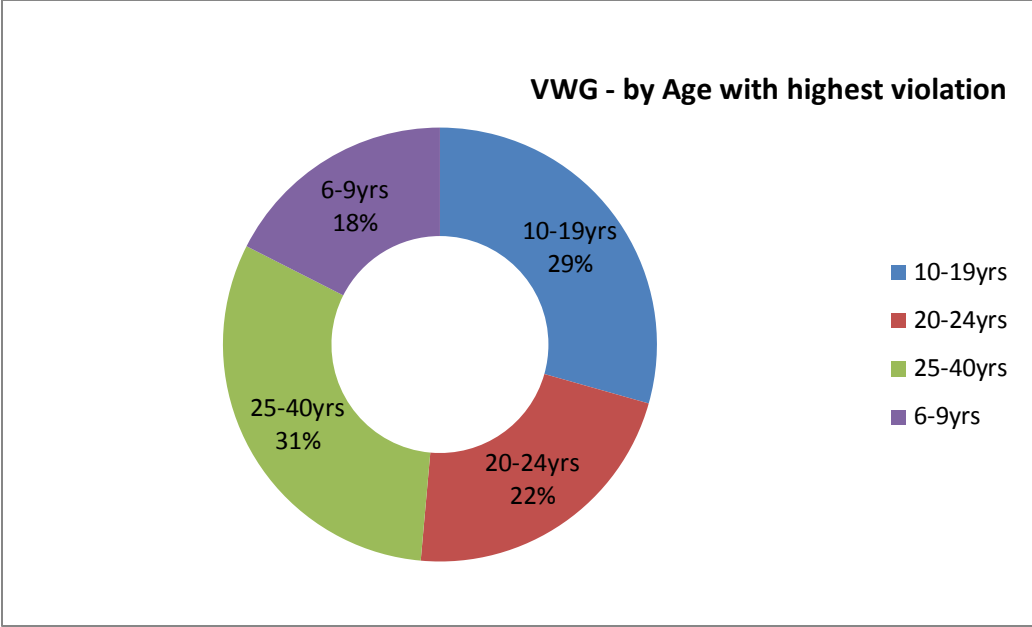


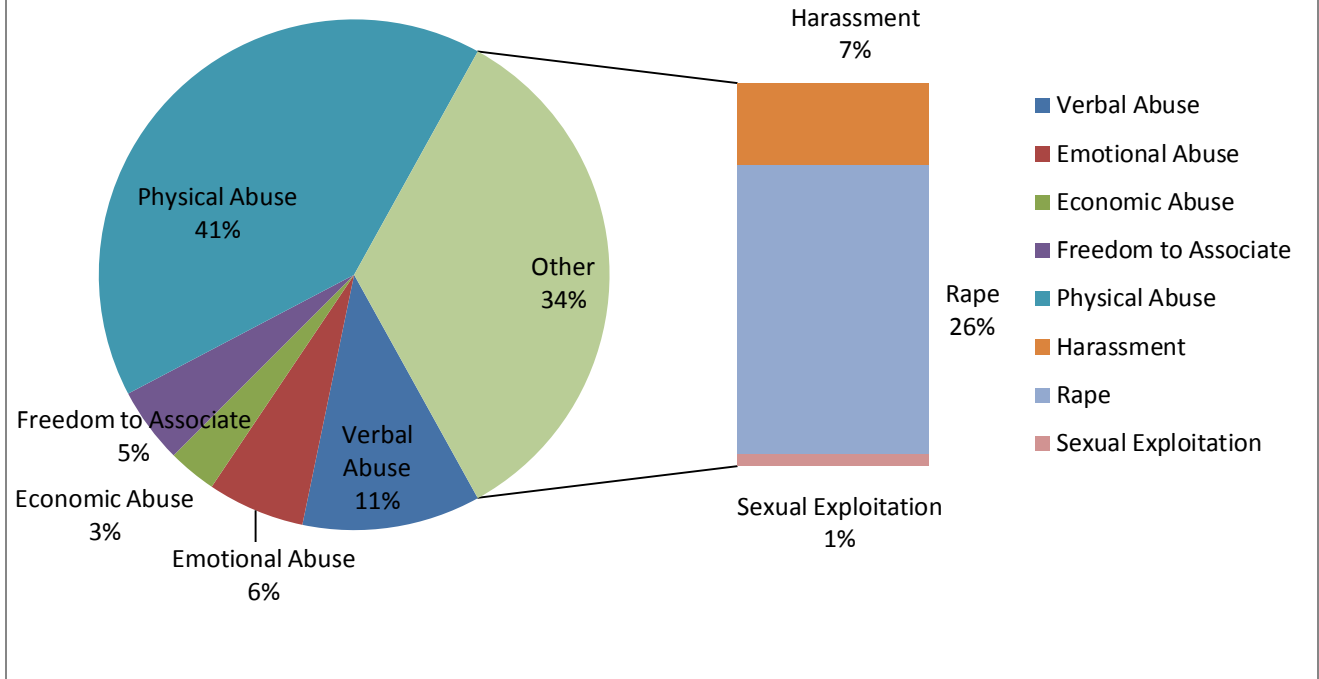
Fig12.

The above chart shows that across the VWG age range, **25-40 years** has the highest rate of violation with **31%**. Followed closely by **10-19 years** having **29%**, while **20-24 years** has **22%** and lastly **6-9 years** ranks the least with **18%** violation rate.

AGE - VWG	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
6-9 years	25%	18%	-	7%
10-19 years	25%	29%	4%	-
20-24 years	25%	22%	-	3%
25-40 years	25%	31%	6%	-

Table 10. Showing percentage increase and decrease of Age Brackets - VWG

### VWG - by violations



In the chart above as shown, **Physical Abuse** has the highest violation rate of **41%**. Followed by **Rape** with **26%**, while **Verbal Abuse** ranks third with **11%**. **Harassment** comes forth with **7%** violation rate, **Emotional Abuse** has **6%**, **Freedom to Associate** with **5%**, **Economic Abuse** with **3%** and lastly **Sexual Exploitation** having **1%**.

GROUPS	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
Physical Abuse	-	41%	41%	-
Rape	20%	26%	6%	-
Verbal Abuse	20%	11%	-	9%
Harassment	7%	7%	-	-
Emotional Abuse	20%	6%	-	14%
Freedom to Associate	-	5%	5%	-
Economic Abuse	6%	3%	-	3%
Sexual Exploitation.	7%	1%		6%

**Table 11. Showing percentage increase and decrease of violation types - VWG**



**e. Men who have Sex with Men, MSM**

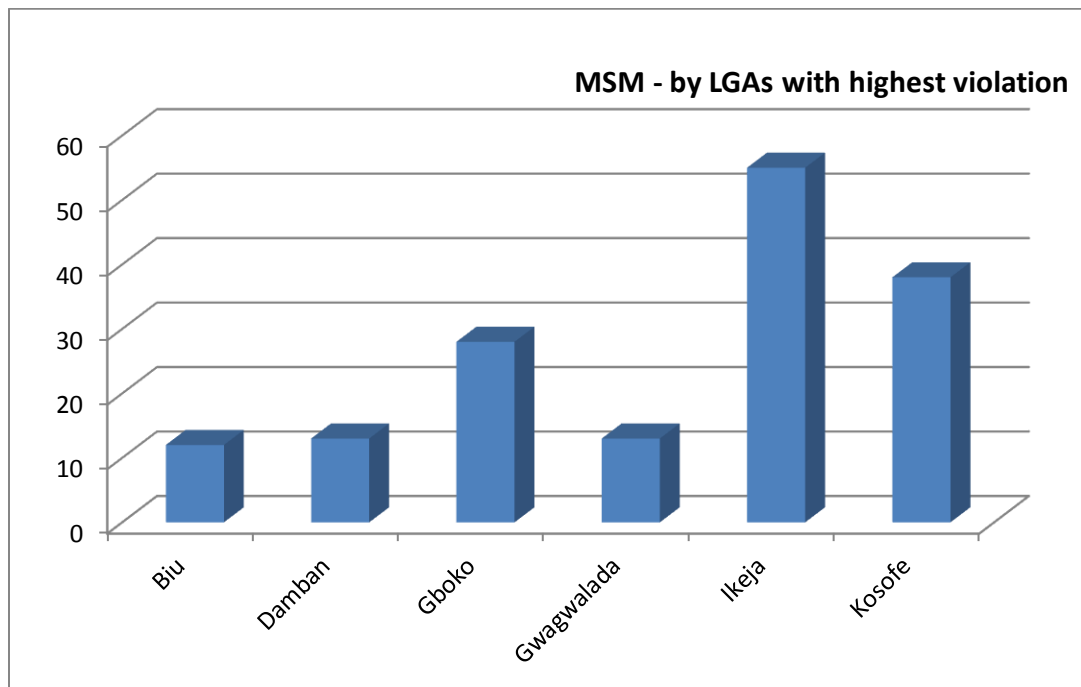


Fig 14.

In the **MSM** chart shown above, **Ikeja** in **Lagos State** has the highest reported violation rate. Followed by **Kosofe** in the same **Lagos State**, while **Gboko** in **Benue State** ranks third on violation rate. **Damban** in **Bauchi State** and **Gwagwalada** in the **Federal Capital Territory** both rank fourth. Lastly **Biu** in **Bornu State** ranks the least with regards to **MSM** violation rate.

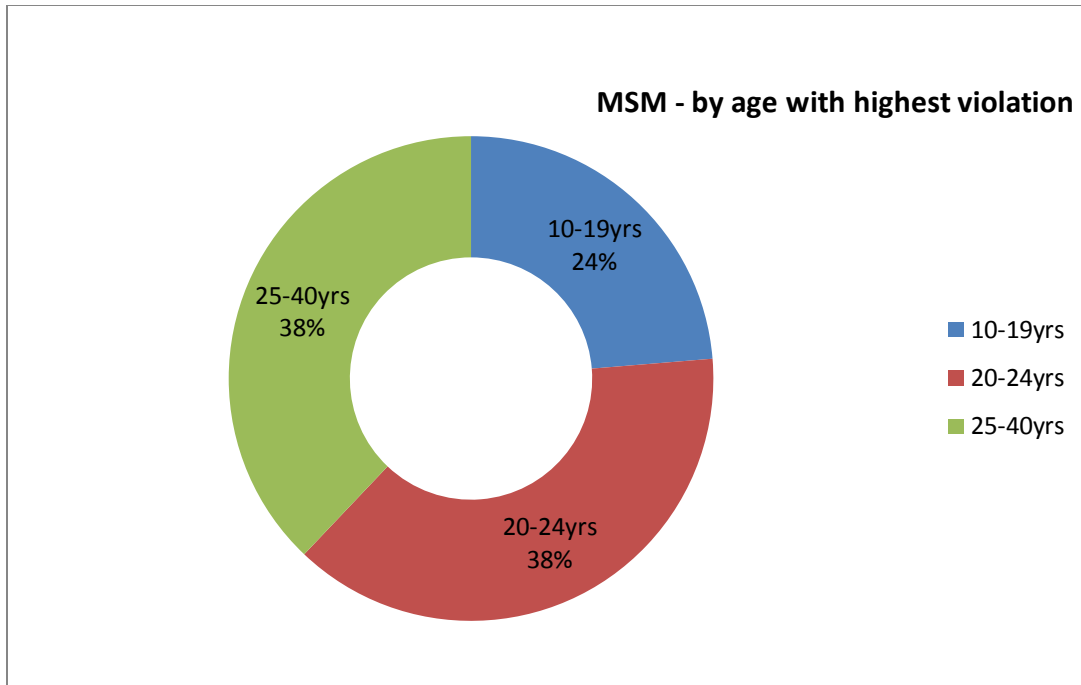


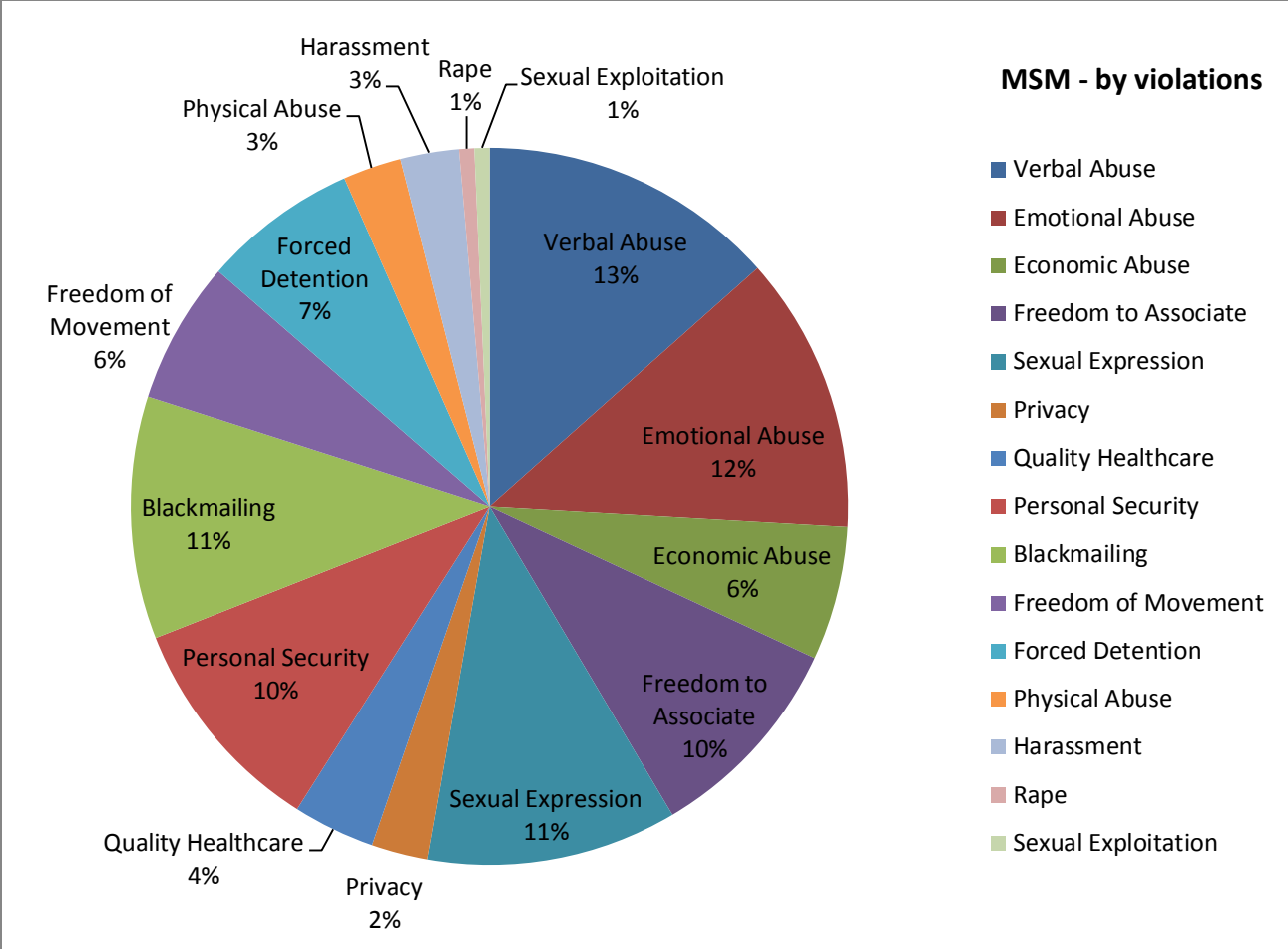
Fig 15.

The above chart of age with regards to MSM group, **25-40 years** and **20-24 year** both have the highest violation rate with **38%** while **10-19 years** with **24%**.

AGE – MSM	JULY 2017	APRIL 2019	INCREASE	DECREASE
10-19 years	-	24%	24%	-
20-24 years	-	38%	38%	-
25-40 years	-	38%	38%	-

**Table 12. Showing percentage increase and decrease of Age Brackets - MSM**

The above table shows an extreme increase of violations as regard to the **MSM** group, within the time range ( July, 2017 – April, 2019) **20-24 years** and **25-40 years** has been leading age group in the increase to reported violations in local government area in States. Followed closely by **10 – 19 years** age group.



**Fig16.**

In the chart shown above, Verbal Abuse has the highest reported violation rate with 13%. Followed closely by Emotional Abuse having 12%, Blackmailing and Sexual Expression both rank third with 11% each. Personal Security and Freedom to Associate both rank fourth with 10% respectively. Forced Detention has 7%, Freedom of Movement and Economic Abuse both have 6% each. Quality Healthcare has 4%, Harassment and Physical Abuse have 3% each. Privacy having 2%, Sexual Exploitation and Rape both have the least amount with 1% each.

<b>VIOLATION TYPES - MSM</b>	<b>JULY 2017</b>	<b>APRIL 2019</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>
Physical Abuse	-	13%	13%	-
Rape	-	1%	1%	-
Verbal Abuse	-	13%	13%	-
Harassment	-	3%	3%	-
Emotional Abuse	-	12%	12%	-
Freedom to Associate	-	10%	10%	-
Economic Abuse	-	6%	6%	-
Blackmailing	-	11%	11%	-
Privacy	-	2%	2%	-
Freedom of Movement	-	6%	6%	-
Quality Healthcare	-	4%	4%	-
Sexual Expression	-	11%	11%	-
Personal Security	-	10%	10%	-
Forced detention	-	7%	7%	-
Sexual Exploitation.	-	1%	1%	-

**Table 13. showing percentage increase and decrease of violation types - MSM**

## **CONCLUSION**

The above findings may not be a representation of the State by State and National figures in Nigeria. As earlier captured, our focus is twelve states across the six geopolitical zones alongside free legal services. The motivation for free legal services has perhaps encouraged violations reportage across the 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory which we have done our best to meet through our engagement with Human Rights Lawyers across the country and especially the Coalition of Lawyers for Human Rights (COLaHR). It is important to note however that all violations recorded were verified.

Lawyers Alert hopes that this data as with our past publications will form the basis for informed interventions amongst State and Non-State Actors. The incoming Legislators at Federal and State levels will be engaged based on these findings for Law reforms that will address the challenges as shown.