

## ABSTRACT

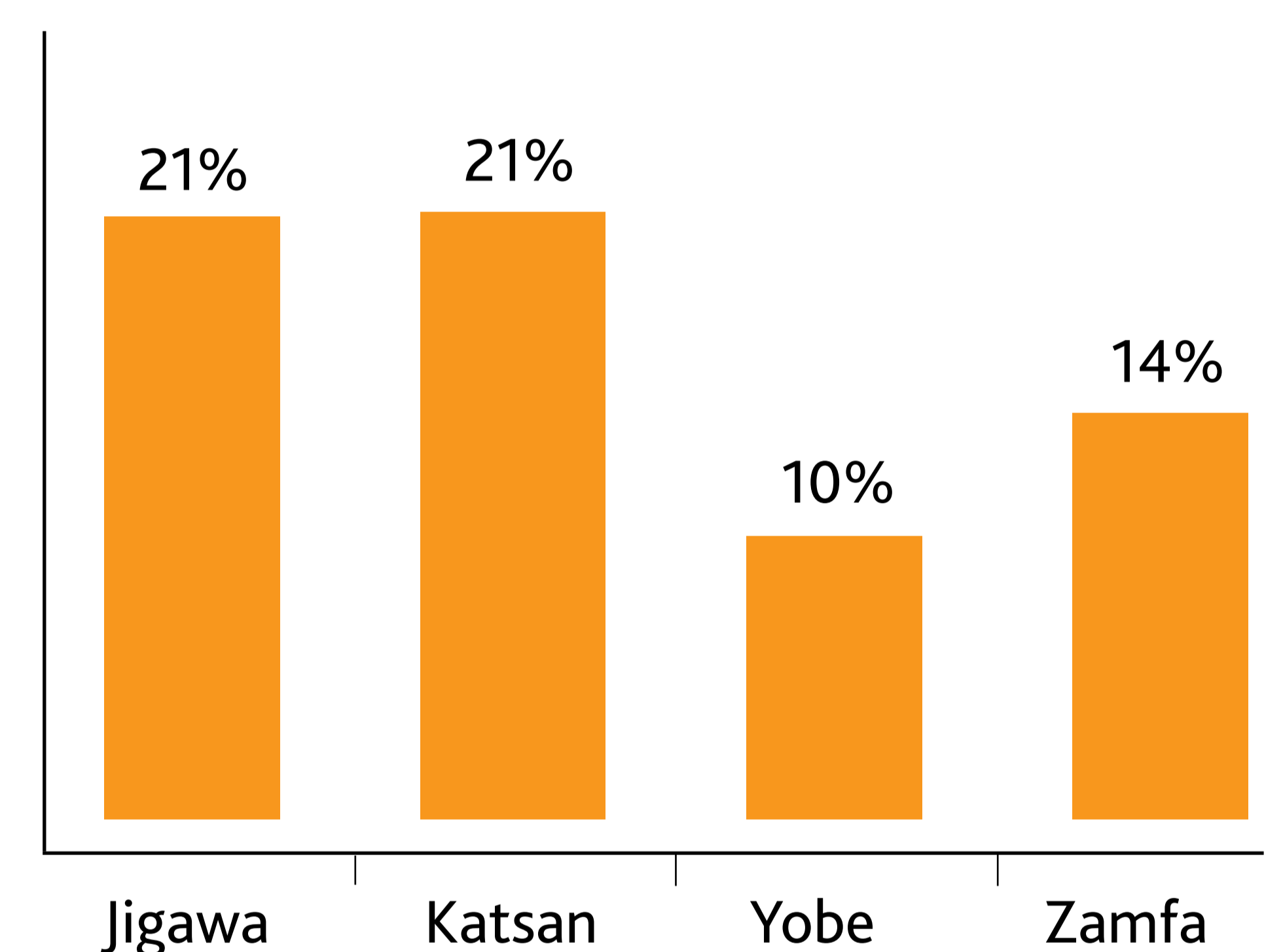
This survey focused on determining baseline data with respect to coverage, adherence and barriers to utilization of iron and folic acid (IFA) supplements as well as on identifying facilitating factors for IFA compliance of IFA supplement among pregnant women in 5 states of Nigeria. Quantitative and qualitative techniques to collect and analyze the data were used. It was observed that anaemia prevalence was 71% and 70% of women from all States received some IFAS in their last pregnancy, <50% reported consuming IFAS  $\geq 90$  days. Utilization of IFAS among pregnant women was affected by several factors such as misconception about IFAS, influences of male spouse and older women.



## RESULTS

- The prevalence of anaemia was high across all states surveyed ranging between 61.2 to 88.7%.
- The proportion of women who were aware of the benefits of seeking ANC was 79.7%.
- Seventy percent of women from all states received some IFA supplements in their last pregnancy.
- Less than 50% reported consuming IFA  $\geq 90$  days.
- Utilization of IFA among pregnant women was affected by such factors as misconception about IFAS, influences of male spouse and senior female family members.

### PERCENTAGE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TRAINED ON BCC



## BACKGROUND

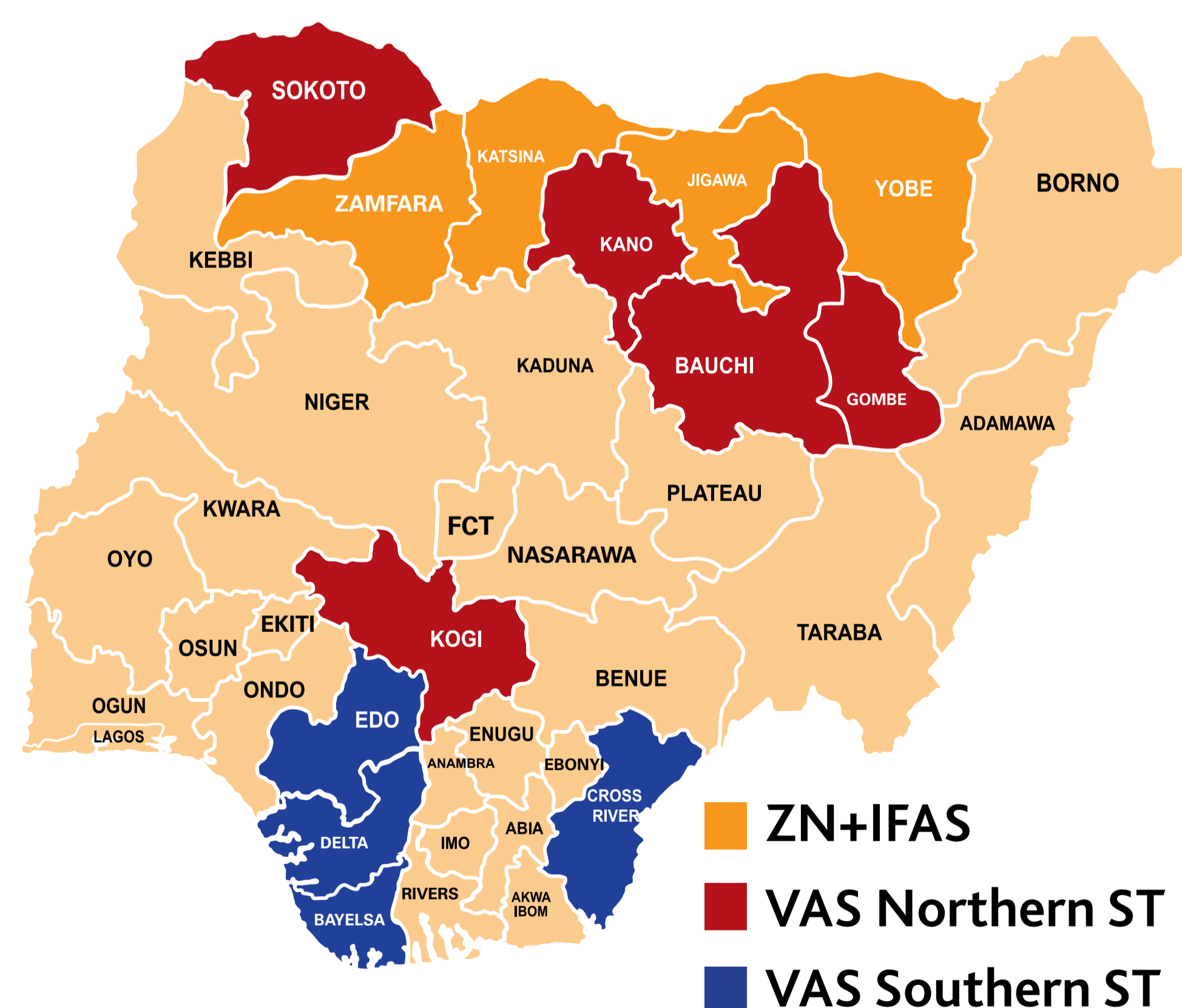
- Information on the potential barriers and enablers to increasing Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) coverage and adherence for pregnant women in selected states in northern Nigeria was lacking.
- These baseline values are needed to inform programme design and to provide reference points for programme monitoring and evaluation of MI IFA project in 2015.

## METHODS

- Cross-sectional survey conducted in 4 northern Nigerian states namely: Jigawa, Katsina, Zamfara and Yobe.
- A quasi-experimental research design was employed to collect quantitative and qualitative data from target groups using trained enumerators and Focus group discussion facilitators between March and July 2013.
- A total of 682 pregnant and post-partum women were sampled.

## OBJECTIVES

To determine the coverage and adherence to IFA supplementation in pregnant women and identify barriers and facilitating factors among pregnant women, from both service delivery and recipient perspectives.



## CONCLUSIONS

The study has shown high awareness, and high coverage of IFA supplementation, yet relatively low utilization. There is a need to address some misconceptions about IFA supplementation through Behaviour Communication Interventions that target pregnant women and their family members.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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### DESCRIPTIVE PARAMETERS OF SELECTED STATES

STATE	NO. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS	2012 EST. TOTAL POP	NO. WARD	NO. FACILITY	HEALTH FACILITY PROVIDING ANC	ESTIMATED PREGNANT WOMEN
BENUE	23	5,037,998	253	794	560	251,900
JIGAWA	27	5,162,340	287	667	423	258,117
KATSINA	34	6,916,641	365	1513	533	142,691
YOBE	17	2,853,828	178	252	221	251,900
ZAMFARA	14	3,937,996	158	714	426	196,900