



COCAP BIWEEKLY: INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19

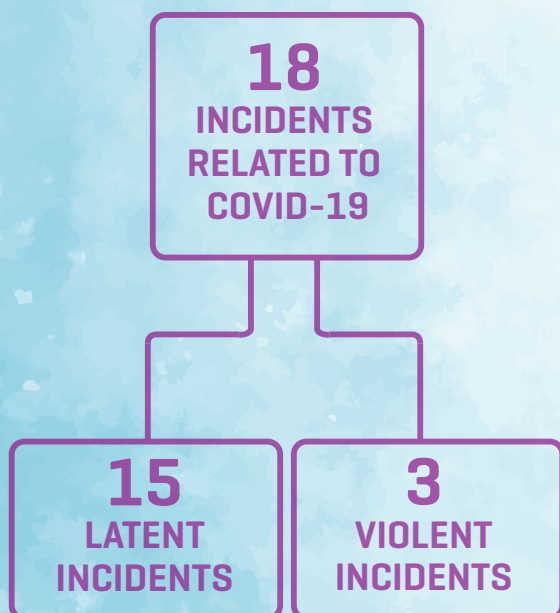
JULY 1 - JULY 15, 2020



COCAP BIWEEKLY: INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 JULY 1 - 15, 2020

COCAP's "COVID-19 Biweekly" covers the incidents related to gender based violence (GBV) and COVID-19 from July 1 - 15, 2020.

From July 1 - 15, 2020, COCAP's Nepal Peace Monitoring Project (PMP) recorded 18 incidents related to COVID-19. Majority of incidents were of protests against the government with citizens taking to the streets demanding better and efficient action to prevent the spread of COVID-19 with increased polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test, need of proper management of quarantine centers and businessmen demanding economic support from the government [See Fig:1]. Of the total COVID-19 related incidents three were violent and 15 were latent incidents of protest [See Fig 2].



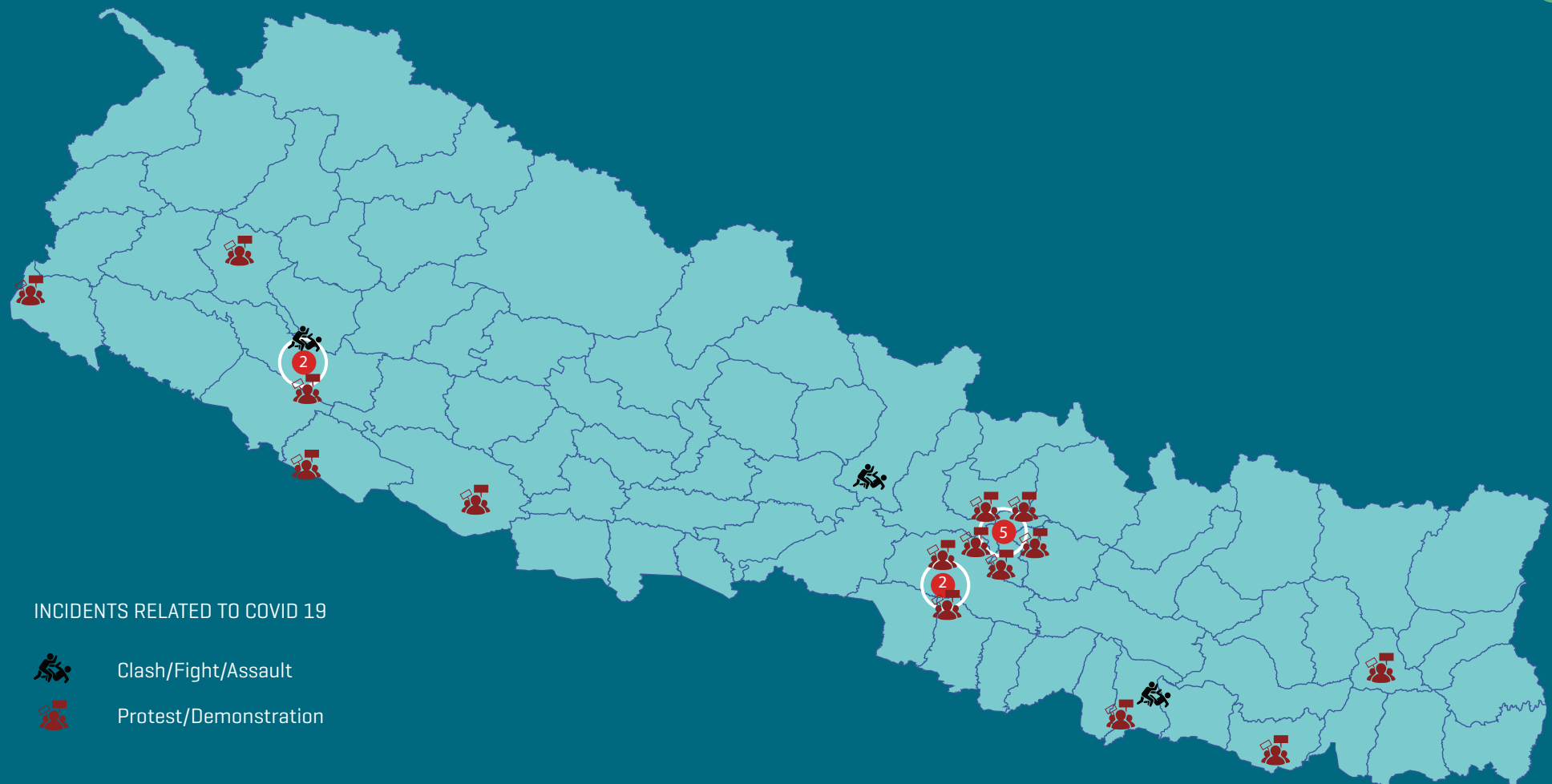
From July 1 - 15, 50 cases of gender based violence (GBV) were recorded in which 38 victims of sexual assault were below the age of 26. GBV itself is a crisis in our communities but the pandemic has made victims furthermore vulnerable to abuse. It is important to note that both males and females face GBV but according to our data the majority of victims are women and girls.

This bi-weekly report is aimed to inform our readers on the added crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic which has affected everyone's livelihood and made some group of people even more vulnerable. Until July 15, the total number of positive cases reached 17,177 with 39 deaths.¹

45 INCIDENTS OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN NEPAL (JULY 1 - JULY 15, 2020)



Disclaimer: This map shows incidents which were reported in the media and might not include all incidents around Covid-19 crisis across Nepal.

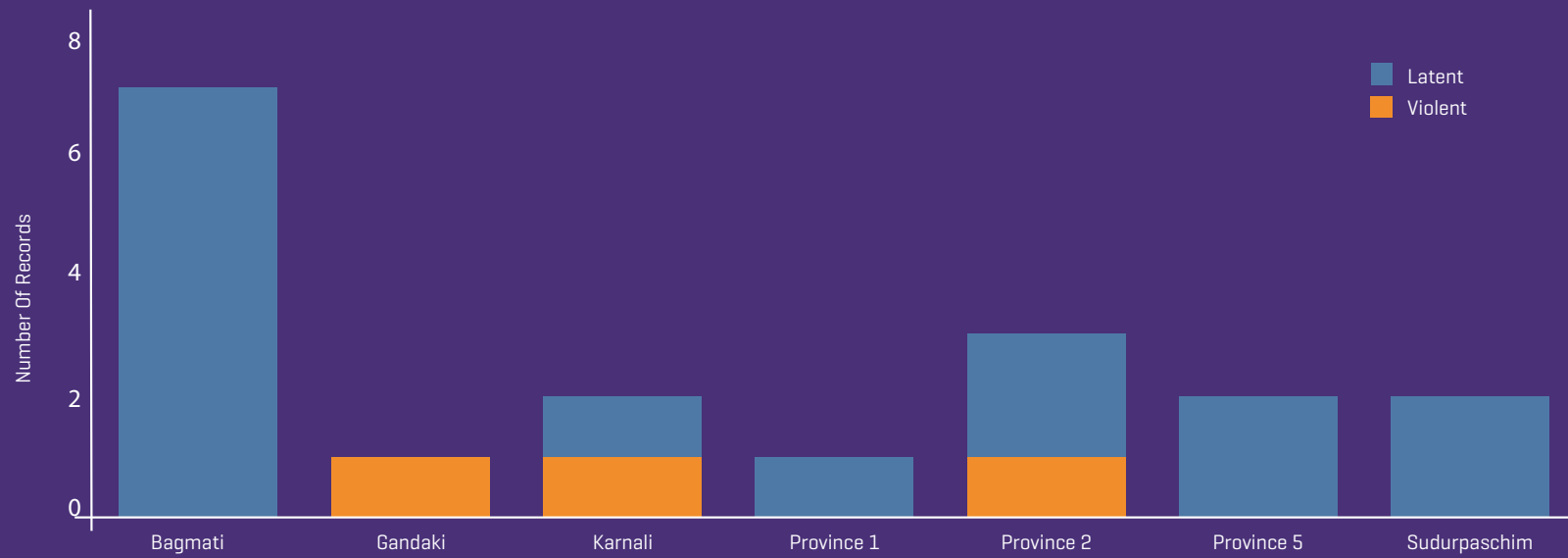
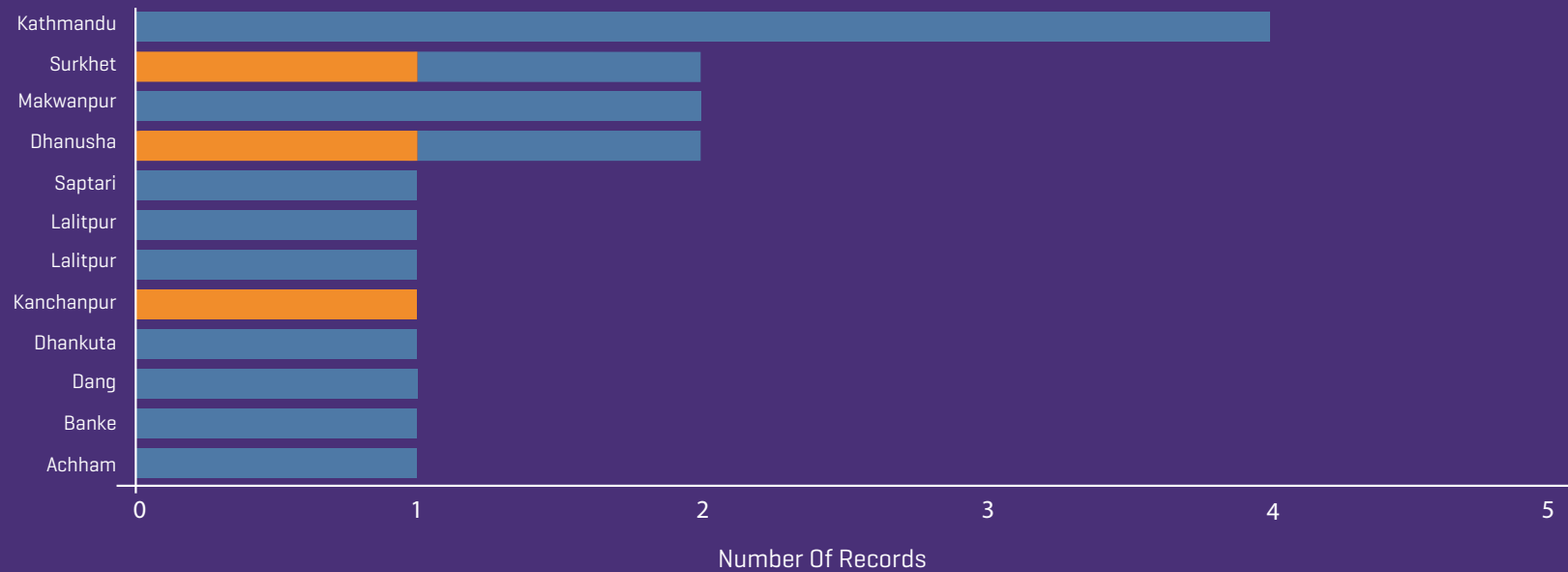
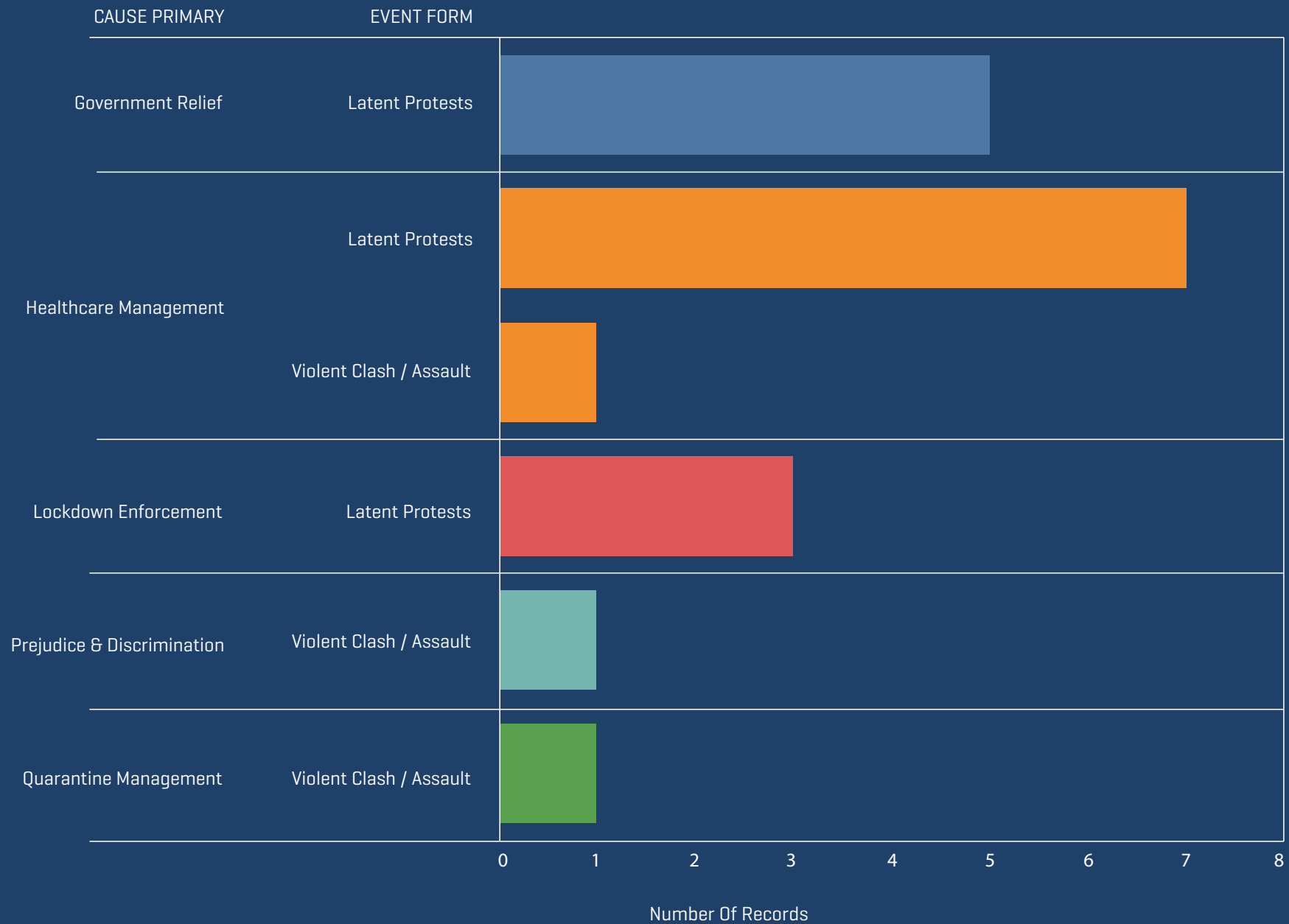
FIG -1 INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 BY PROVINCE**INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 BY DISTRICT**

FIG -2 INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 (JULY 1 - JULY 15, 2020)

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT

**JULY
2**

A peaceful candle light protest was organized in Basantapur, Kathmandu to support the 'enough is enough' campaign demanding efficient action from the government in dealing with the crisis of COVID-19.²

**JULY
2**

Prime Minister Oli visited two youths who staged a hunger strike for almost a week demanding efficient response from the government in dealing with COVID-19.³ The PM visited them at HAMS hospital in Kathmandu after their health deteriorated from the hunger strike.

**JULY
4**

The residents of Gorkha municipality 12 and Shahid Laxan rural municipality 1, Gorkha obstructed the burial of COVID-19 patients expressing their concern over the spread of the virus through the dead body.⁴ In order to take the situation under control four cells of tear gas were fired in the air.

**JULY
5**

Youths staged a protest against the government by walking barefoot in Mahendranagar, Kanchanpur demanding proper management of quarantine centers and increase in PCR tests.⁵

**JULY
6**

A group associated with Corona Victims Struggle Committee staged a demonstration in Lalitpur demanding distribution of relief packages for squatters, students and others affected by the COVID-19 lockdown and also demanding the operation of public transportation.⁶

**JULY
6**

Youths staged a protest in support of the 'enough is enough' campaign at Basantapur, Kathmandu holding pamphlets which read 'too much' and 'don't be hopeless'.⁷

**JULY
7**

Dilliraj Khanal of Lamahi Municipality 5 staged a solo demonstration to support the 'enough is enough' campaign holding a placard which read "changing the government is not an option at the time of COVID-19".⁸

**JULY
7**

The youths of Janakpur protested under the "enough is enough" campaign demanding management of quarantine centers. The protest was organized by Kayapalat in collaboration with Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC) Nepal and Modern Mithila.⁹

**JULY
8**

Public transportation workers along with the members of Nepal Transportation Free Labour Union in Saptari district organized a protest demanding permits for the operation of transport service in Rajbiraj.¹⁰

**JULY
10**

Members of the Makwanpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry staged a protest in Hetauda against financial institutions for pressuring them to pay loan installments and interest at the time of economic crisis.¹¹

**JULY
14**

Hair-dressers staged a demonstration at Maitighar demanding a relief of Rs 25,000 per month as their business had been severely affected by the lockdown.¹²

**JULY
14**

Nepal Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association protested demanding immediate reversal of the decision regarding the registration of hand sanitizers by the minister of health.¹³

**JULY
15**

The chamber of commerce and industry, Dhankuta staged a sit in in front of banks including Rashtriya Banijya Bank and Shangrila development bank demanding to waive payment of loan interest and provide emergency loan to operate business and industry.¹⁴



INCIDENTS OF CLASH WITH THE POLICE

**JULY
2**

Two protesters and a policeman was injured after the rally organized by the Dalit Struggle Committee in Janakpur turned violent.¹⁵ The protest was organized after a teenager died in an isolation facility after being admitted for testing positive to COVID-19 without receiving any treatment in Dhanusha.

**JULY
13**

A man who had returned from India and was staying in quarantine for two weeks at Bageshwori Secondary School, Simta 6, Surkhet was beaten by the police accusing him of trying to return home with friends.¹⁶

COVID-19 PATIENTS PICKET OFFICE OF RURAL MUNICIPALITY

**JULY
4**

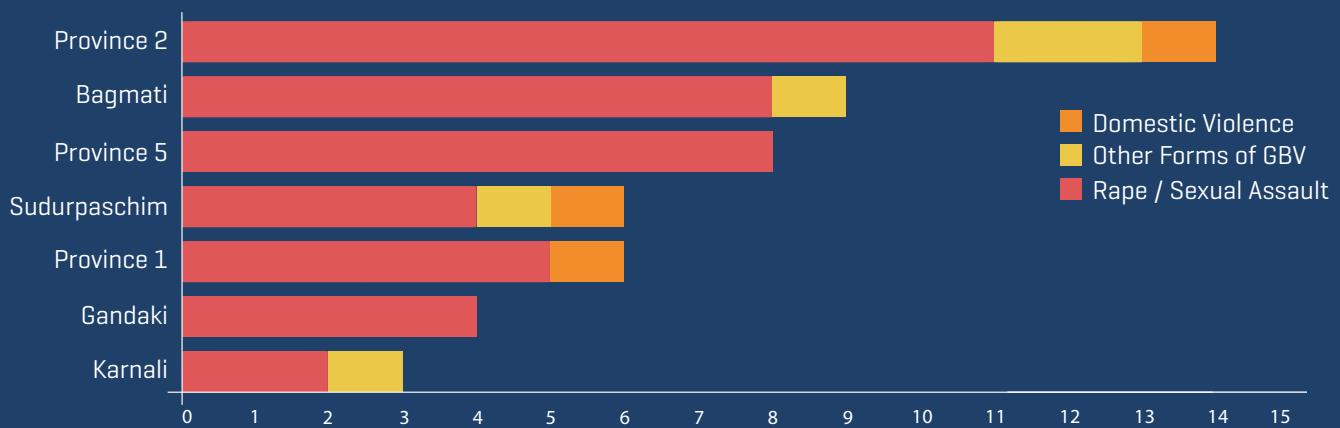
A few people who tested positive for COVID-19 picketed the office of Jayagadh Rural Municipality in Achham expressing their dissatisfaction over the management of the healthcare system.¹⁷



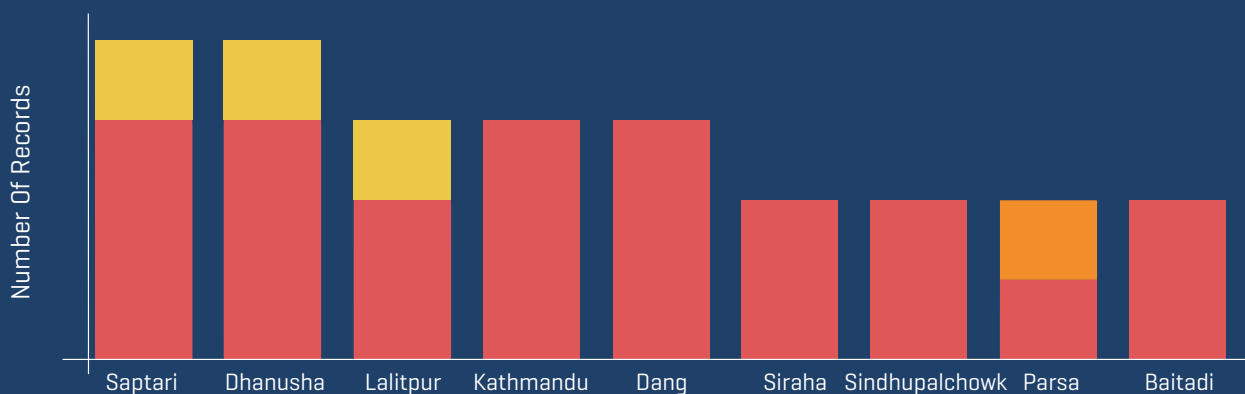
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE WORSEN DURING THE PANDEMIC

Amidst the crisis of COVID-19 with a nation wide lockdown confining oneself at home might force many to live with their abuser making women and children most vulnerable to domestic violence and abuse. In the past fifteen days, 50 cases of gender based violence (GBV) were recorded from across Nepal. Sexual assault was the most common form of GBV with 42 cases of which 38 cases were of rape. Of the 38 victims, 30 victims were women and girls below the age of 26 [See Fig: 3]. The cases of GBV are likely to be much higher as the reporting of cases in the media has decreased due to the lockdown and lack of accessibility to report the case.

FIG -3 REPORTED INCIDENTS OF GBV BY PROVINCE



REPORTED INCIDENTS OF GBV BY DISTRICT



ENDNOTES

1. See: Kathmandu Valley Sees 12 New COVID-19 Cases
2. See: Candlelight Vigil in Support of the “Enough is Enough” Campaign
3. See: PM Oli Meets Activists Staging Hunger Strike Demanding Govt’s Better Response to COVID-19
4. See: Gorkha Locals Obstructed the Burial of a COVID-19 Patient in Their Area
5. See: Youths Demonstrate Against Government by Walking Barefoot in Kanchanpur
6. See: People Affected by Lockdown Stage Demonstration in Lalitpur Demanding Economic Relief
7. See: Youths Protest in Support of ‘Enough is Enough’ Campaign in Basantapur
8. See: Solo Demonstration in Support of “Enough is Enough” in Dang
9. See: Youths Demonstration in Janakpur Saying “Safe Quarantine is My Right”
10. See: Public Transportation Workers Stage Protest in Rajbiraj
11. See: Businessmen Stage Demonstration in Hetauda Against Call for loan Installment Payments
12. See: Hair Dresser Stage Demonstration Demanding Payment for Lockdown Period
13. See: Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Protest Governments Decision
14. See: Sit-in Staged in Dhankuta Demanding Waiver of Interests and Extension of Repayment Period
15. See: Three Injured in a Clash Between Protesters and Police
16. See: Police Beats Corona Infected in Surkhet
17. See: Corona Infected picket the Office of Rural Municipality in Achham

The PMP gathered data on violent and latent incidents past 15 days of the lockdown period by compiling reports from all major online news portals, national dailies, local newspapers from 20 districts, and incidents reports directly submitted to us. The goal of the report is to deliver an update and understanding of the incidents surrounding the pandemic of Coronavirus to better respond to the situation and to promote peace. The numbers recorded in this report are based on the reports mapped by Nepalmonitor.org.

