

# #ENDSARS MOVEMENT: FROM TWITTER TO NIGERIAN STREETS



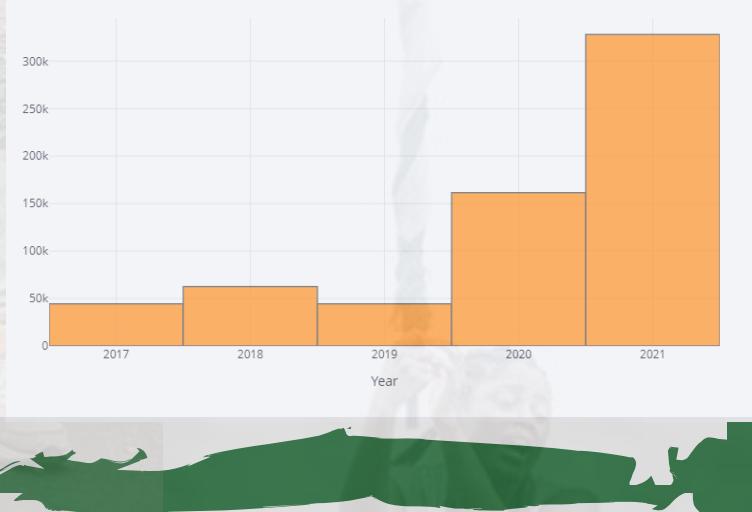
End SARS is a decentralised social movement, and series of mass protests against police brutality in Nigeria. The slogan calls for the disbanding of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), a notorious unit of the Nigerian Police with a long record of abuses. The protest takes its name from the slogan started in 2017 as a Twitter campaign using the hashtag #EndSARS to demand the disbanding of the unit by the Nigerian government. After experiencing a revitalisation in October 2020 following more revelations of the abuses of the unit, mass demonstrations occurred throughout the major cities of Nigeria, accompanied by vociferous outrage on social media platforms. About 28 million tweets bearing the hashtag have been accumulated on Twitter alone. Solidarity protests and demonstrations by Nigerians in diaspora and sympathizers occurred in many major cities of the world. The protest is notable for its patronage by a demographic that is made of entirely young Nigerians. The movement has since expanded to include demands for good and accountable governance.

## WHAT STARTED ENDSARS?

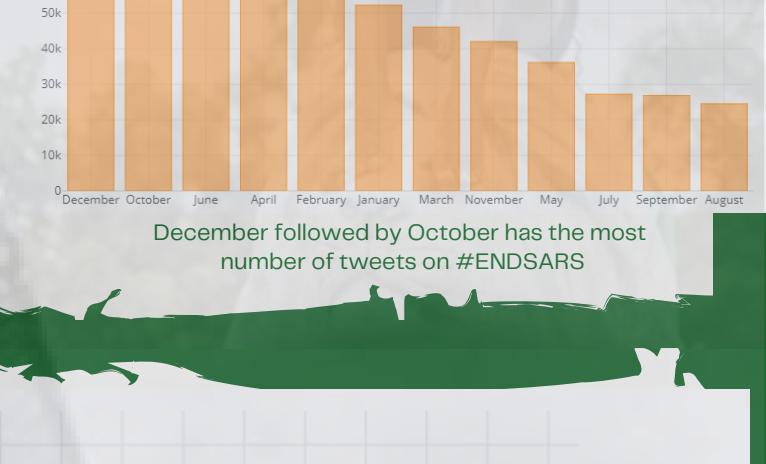
Tens of thousands of young Nigerians took to the streets to protest against police brutality after a video went viral of a man allegedly being killed by the notorious Special Anti-Robbery Squad (Sars), sparking what became known as the #EndSars demonstrations.

## QUIET?

If one could ask, are Nigerians now satisfied, have their voices been heard by the government?, form the chart on the right one can clearly say Nigerians are yet to be satisfied based on the number of tweets generated from 2017 to 2021, the number has doubled and tripled when comparing 2021 tweets to the previous years



Tuesday in general has the most number of tweets on #ENDSARS

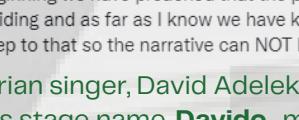


December followed by October has the most number of tweets on #ENDSARS

## TRIGRAM

This plot shows a trigram of tweets. In here you can see the most frequent words grouped together in threes. We will look at some of these frequent words and see how it is related to the ENDSARS protest. Seeing the plot, one can deduce that this trend was orchestrated by the Nigerian youths, with words like 'millions of Nigerians' present in the plot. And it indicates a passionate cry by the Nigerians for their demands to be met, with frequent trigram words like 'will never forget', 'we will never', 'must be heard', 'we need to'.

Some of the words we would be identifying from this plot would be names like; Davido, Wizkid, Burnaboy, and subsequently the place called; Lekki Toll gate, then lastly the date; 20 20 20.



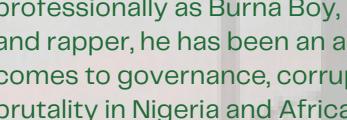
Davido @davido  
After seeing all that's gone on today I just want to say that from the beginning we have preached that the protest must remain peaceful & Law Abiding and as far as I know we have kept to that! And we will continue to keep to that so the narrative can NOT be switched up on us!

Nigerian singer, David Adeleke, popularly known by his stage name, **Davido**, met with the Inspector General of Police, Muhammadu Adamu, over the ongoing #EndSARS protests.

The protests are against widespread atrocities committed by personnel of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) of the police. The FEM crooner had earlier on a Sunday morning joined other protesters on the streets of Abuja as the protests continued in parts of the country despite the announcement of the dissolution of the police unit.

In a 33 seconds video of the meeting, obtained by **premium times paper** on a Monday afternoon, Davido raised the need for adequate training and psychological re-evaluation of members of the police unit with **Mr Adamu**.

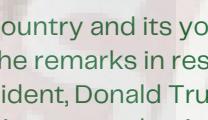
affecting the country and its youth, rather than matters that concern America. Wizkid made the remarks in response to a tweet by **Mr Buhari** wherein he wished the American President, Donald Trump, fast recovery from coronavirus. "Donald Trump is not your business! Old man! Police/Sars are still killing Nigerian youth on a daily basis! Do something! Nothing concerns you for America! Face your country," the pop star wrote.



Burna Boy @burnaboy  
#EndSARS #EndPoliceBrutalityinNigeria Remember their NAMES!!!

R.I.P to all those that we have lost to Police Brutality & To Sars in Nigeria. ♡

**Burna Boy** Damini Ebunoluwa Ogulu known professionally as Burna Boy, is a Nigerian singer and rapper, he has been an active voice when it comes to governance, corruption, and police brutality in Nigeria and Africa as a whole. He has further shown his activist spirit by releasing a song in support of the incident that happened on the 20th of October, 2020. On this day, some #EndSARS protesters were shot by some security agents during the protest against police brutality.



Wizkid @wizkidayo

#EndSars #endpolicebrutality

Yodeji Ibrahim Balogun known professionally as **Wizkid**, is a Nigerian singer and songwriter, urged the President to focus more on issues

affecting the country and its youth, rather than matters that concern America. Wizkid made the remarks in response to a tweet by **Mr Buhari** wherein he wished the American President, Donald Trump, fast recovery from coronavirus. "Donald Trump is not your business! Old man! Police/Sars are still killing Nigerian youth on a daily basis! Do something! Nothing concerns you for America! Face your country," the pop star wrote.

## 20 10 20 Lekki Toll Gate

On the night of 20 October 2020, at about 6:50 p.m., members of the Nigerian Army opened fire on unarmed End SARS protesters at the Lekki toll gate in Lagos State, Nigeria. Amnesty International stated that at least 12 protesters were killed during the shooting. A day after the incident, on 21 October, the governor of Lagos State, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, initially denied reports of any loss of lives, but later admitted in an interview with a CNN journalist that "only two persons were killed". The Nigerian Army initially denied involvement in the shooting, but later stated that it had deployed soldiers to the toll gate on the orders of the governor of Lagos State. A month after the shooting, following a CNN documentary on the shooting, the Nigerian Army admitted to the Lagos Judiciary panel of inquiry into the shooting that it had deployed its personnel to the toll gate with both live and blank bullets.

