

Niger Delta Quarterly Conflict Trends

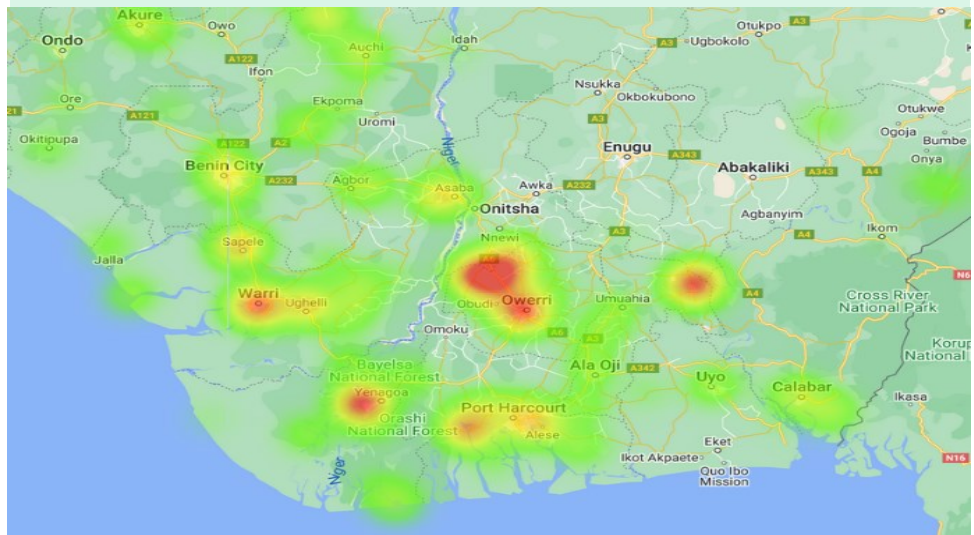
July to September 2022

The Niger Delta peace and conflict landscape was relatively stable in the third quarter of 2022. There was a decrease in lethal violence during the period compared to the second quarter of the year (See page 2). Data shows improvement in the overall security situation as peace actors continued to leverage local capacity for conflict early warning and peacebuilding to catalyze proactive response to the numerous drivers of conflict and instability in the region. According to data on the P4P Peace Map (www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p), organized criminality, clashes between hoodlums and government security operatives, communal conflict, separatist agitation, clashes between rival cult gangs, and illicit economic activities were the major causes of lethal violence during the period.

This quarterly tracker looks at the trends and patterns of conflict risk, lethal violence, and the related pressures on peace and stability at the regional, state and local levels. It is not designed as a conflict analysis, rather it is intended to update stakeholders on the patterns and trends of violence. Understanding the deeper conflict drivers, implications, and mitigating options require a robust participatory qualitative analysis of these trends and patterns by stakeholders.

Prevailing conflict issues in the Niger Delta include organized criminality, communal tensions, human rights abuses, political competition, and resource-based conflicts. Incidents include kidnapping, robbery, piracy, militancy, cult/gang violence, election violence, sexual violence, illicit drugs and human trafficking, ritual killing, mob violence, land

Heatmap of Conflict Fatalities in the Niger Delta of Nigeria



Heatmap shows concentration of conflict fatalities reported in the Niger Delta from July - September 2022.

Source: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

disputes, separatist agitation, violence against security operatives, extra-judicial killing, natural disasters, and protests. Data sources include ACLED (www.acleddata.com), Nigeria Watch (www.nigeriawatch.org), VAWG Sources (focused on Violence against Women and Girls), CIEPD (<https://ciepdwc.crowdmap.com>), the IPDU SMS early warning system, and others.

The Niger Delta region is highly heterogeneous, with over 40 ethnic groups who speak more than 100 languages and dialects, and whose traditional livelihood involved mainly farming and fishing. The region comprises 185 out of the 774 local government areas (LGAs) and covers 9 out of the 36 states of Nigeria: Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa,

Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo and Rivers. With over 30 million people, according to a 2006 population census, and an estimated population density of 265 people per square kilometer, the region accounts for more than 23 percent of Nigeria's population.

The Niger Delta contains vast reserves of oil and gas, which play an important role in the Nigerian economy. Despite these abundant natural resources, the region is marked by poverty, underdevelopment, environmental degradation, and insecurity. Historical tensions and a proliferation of armed groups (militant, criminal, and ethno-sectarian) contribute to many of the conflict dynamics described in the following pages.

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — July to September 2022

There was a 46% decrease in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter as reported conflict fatalities reduced from 452 in Q2 to 244 in Q3 of 2022. Several data-driven and community-initiated conflict mitigation and peacebuilding interventions implemented by peace actors contributed to an improvement in the overall peace and security situation in the region during the quarter.

There was a decline in gang and cult related violence during the quarter. Clashes between rival cult gangs and associated violence decreased by 30% during the quarter as reported incidents reduced from 10 in Q2 to seven in Q3. Advocacy and campaigns against gang and cult violence

were intensified by peace actors during the period, particularly in Ondo, Bayelsa, and Rivers States.

Communal violence declined by 86% during the quarter as reported fatalities decreased from 114 in Q2 to 21 in Q3. Similarly, violence associated with ethno-nationalism and separatist agitation declined by 54% during the quarter as reported incidents decreased from 13 in Q2 to six in Q3.

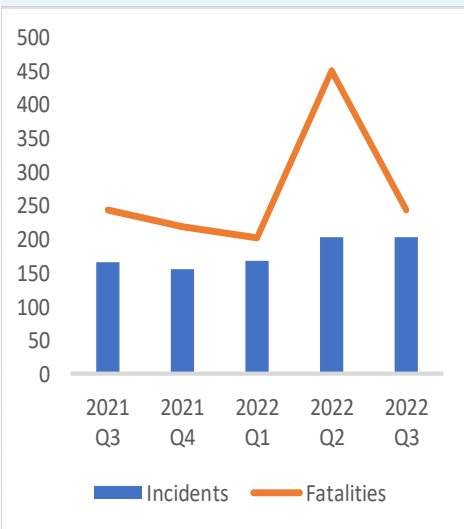
Conflict risks and lethal violence during the quarter were mainly driven by criminality, clashes between hoodlums and government security operatives, and illicit economic activities including illegal artisanal oil refining and drug trafficking.

Criminal violence and armed clashes between government security forces and hoodlums increased by 30% and 28% respectively during the quarter. Armed clashes and criminal violence caused more than 200 fatalities during the period.

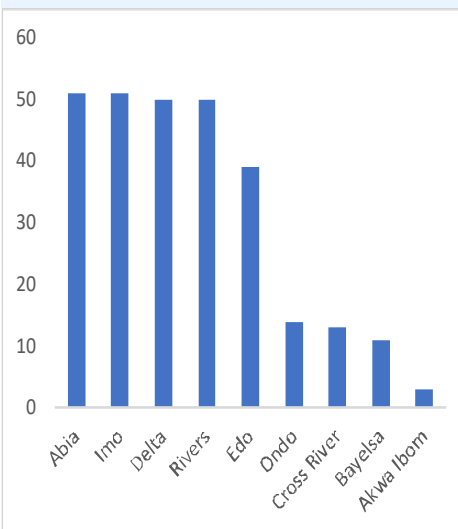
Abia and Imo, followed by Delta and Rivers States recorded the highest levels of lethal violence during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. The LGAs with the highest number of conflict fatalities were Ohafia (Abia) and Degema (Rivers).

The following pages provide a breakdown by State as to the main conflict issues reported during the quarter and the trends in those issues over time.

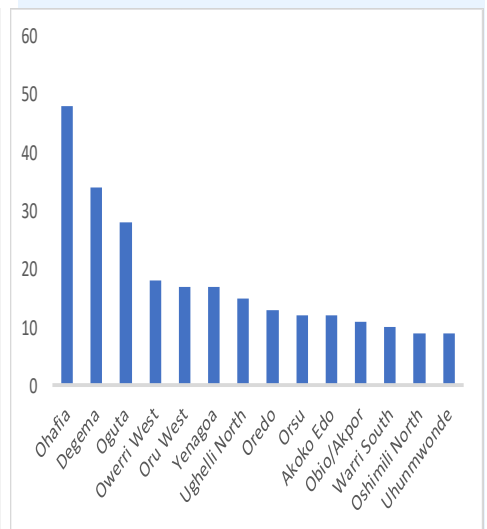
Incidents and Fatalities, Niger Delta Quarterly (Q3 2021 - Q3 2022)



Conflict Fatalities, State Level (July - September 2022)



Conflict Fatalities, LGA Level (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

About this Conflict Tracker

We hope that this tracker provides stakeholders with information to inform the process of analysis and joint planning to promote sustainable peace in the Niger Delta.

To ensure that the tracker is comprehensive, please contribute your knowledge by reporting any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU Early Warning System by texting a message to **080 9936 2222**.

Kindly include the relevant State, LGA, town, date, and brief description of the incident. To read the latest conflict trackers and weekly updates, please visit: <https://pindfoundation.org/category/conflict-trackers/> OR www.p4p-nigerdelta.org/peace-map

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Abia State

There was an increase in lethal violence in Abia State in Q3 of 2022, compared to the second quarter of the year. Data shows that the level of conflict risk and lethal violence has continued to increase in Abia State since the first quarter of 2022. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Abia was one of the States that ranked very high in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Lethal violence during the period was largely driven by criminality and illegal artisanal oil refining related fire outbreaks. Ohafia LGA had the highest levels of lethal violence in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Criminality was a major driver of conflict risk and lethal violence in Abia State during the quarter.

Criminal violence caused over 40 fatalities during the period. In July, for instance, armed kidnappers reportedly abducted some travellers in Lokpanta community, Umunneochi LGA. Separately, in July, robbers reportedly attacked a bullion van, killed a bank official and injured three police officers at Ntigha Junction along the Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway in Isiala Ngwa North LGA. Separately, in July, gunmen suspected to be members of a cult gang reportedly killed a young man at Ehere Timber Market in Obi Ngwa LGA.

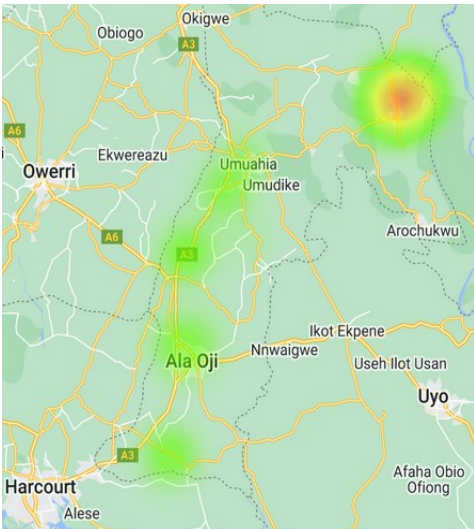
In August, a soldier was allegedly killed by gunmen in Ebem community, Ohafia LGA. In September, gunmen reportedly attacked a police station, injured three policemen and stole weapons in Umuagu community, Umuahia North LGA.

Illegal Artisanal Oil Refining

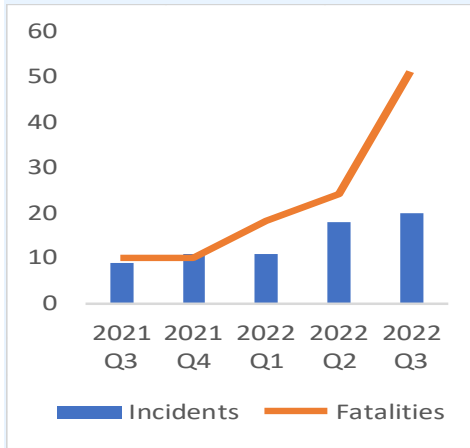
Illegal artisanal oil refining related fire outbreak was a major cause of violent deaths during the quarter. In August, six persons were reportedly killed in a fire outbreak at an illegal artisanal oil refinery in Owaza community, Ukwa West LGA.

Mob Violence

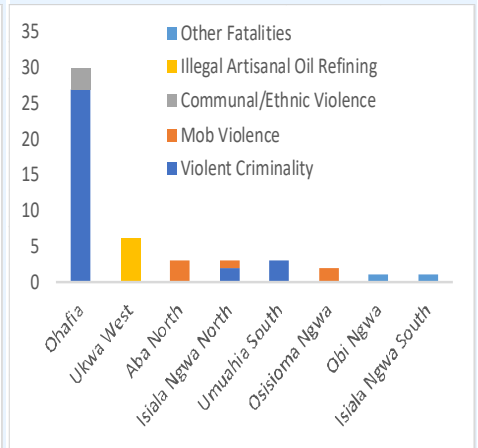
Mob violence was a major conflict risk and security issue in the State during the period, particularly in Aba North, Osisioma Ngwa, and Isiala Ngwa North LGAs. In July, for instance, three robbery suspects were reportedly killed by a mob along the Aba-Owerri Road in Osisioma Ngwa LGA. In August, a mob reportedly destroyed a morgue over alleged illegal harvesting of human body parts in Ndiolumbe town, Isiala Ngwa South LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Abia State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Abia State (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Akwa Ibom State

There was a decrease in lethal violence in Akwa Ibom State in Q3 of 2022 compared to the second quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Akwa Ibom was the least violent State in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Security issues in the State during the period were mainly related to criminality and violence against women and girls. Etim Ekpo and Uyo LGAs had the highest levels of lethal violence in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Reported incidents of criminality violence reported in the State during the quarter included kidnapping for ransom and child trafficking. In July, for instance, 28 fishermen were reportedly robbed and abducted by sea robbers who double as kidnapers along the Uruan Water Channel in Akwakpa community, Uruan LGA. Separately, in July, pirates who double as kidnapers allegedly attacked a fishing settlement, abducted five

residents and stole nine boat engines in Ibaka community, Mbo LGA.

In August, kidnapers reportedly killed a woman and abducted her two male children in Ikot Akpa Etok community, Ibesikpo Asutan LGA. The children were later sold to a child trafficker in Abia State. Separately, in August, kidnapers reportedly abducted a man, collected a ransom of one million naira and killed him in Nwaniba village, Uruan LGA. In September, a male school principal was reportedly abducted by kidnapers in Udianga Enem community, Etim Ekpo LGA. In September, a young man was reportedly killed by gunmen in Eyo Abasi community, Oron LGA.

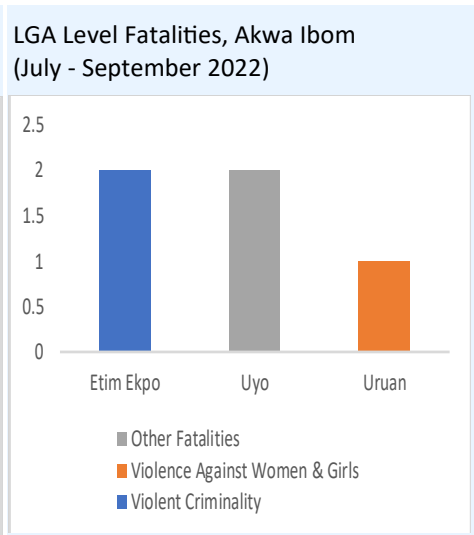
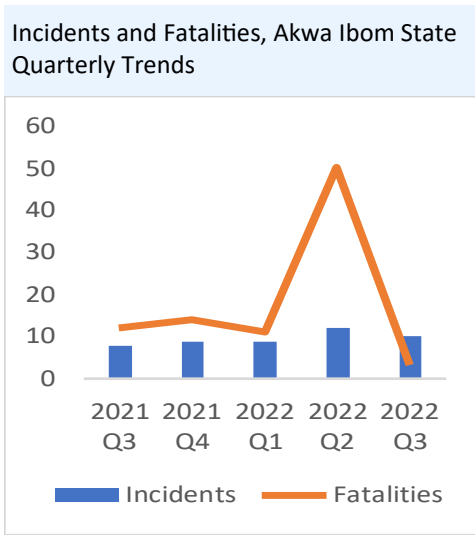
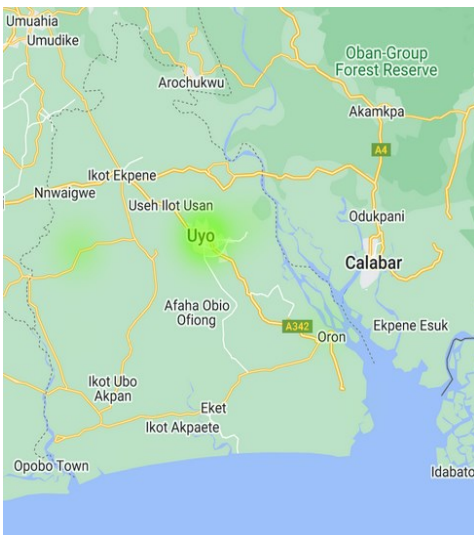
Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG)

In addition to the impact of criminal violence on women and girls listed above, other incidents of targeted violence against women and girls were

also reported during the period. In August, for instance, a woman was reportedly killed by kidnapers in Ikot Akpa Etok community, Ibesikpo Asutan LGA. In September, a young lady was allegedly killed by her boyfriend in the neighborhood of Uyo, the state capital. Her corpse was reportedly found in the boyfriend’s apartment.

Other Incidents

In September, communal tensions were reportedly heightened following a clash between some Igbo traders and local residents over a disagreement at a mechanic village along Abak Road in Afaha Offot community, Uyo LGA. The local government authority later ordered the closure of the facility to ensure the security of lives and properties in the area. Separately, in September, a four story building under construction reportedly collapsed on a bungalow, killed two persons and injured three others in Uyo, the state capital.



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Bayelsa State

There was a decrease in conflict risk and lethal violence in Bayelsa State in Q3 of 2022, compared to the second quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Bayelsa was among the States with the least number of lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the period were largely driven by organized criminality, clashes between rival cult gangs, and mob violence. Yenagoa LGA had the highest levels of lethal violence in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Organized criminality was a major driver of conflict risk and lethal violence in the State during the quarter. In July, for instance, gunmen suspected to be assassins reportedly killed an official of an indigenous oil pipeline surveillance company in a hotel in Okutukutu town, Yenagoa LGA. Separately, in July, gunmen in military camouflage reportedly killed a community youth leader at a mechanic village along Edepie-Imiringi Road in

Yenagoa, the state capital. In another incident, in July, gunmen reportedly killed a police officer and injured another at a security checkpoint in Famgbe community, Yenagoa LGA. In August, a 37-year-old man was allegedly decapitated by suspected ritualists in Elebele community, Ogbia LGA. Separately, in August, pirates reportedly attacked a passenger boat along the Nembe-Brass Waterways in Brass LGA. In September, two residents were reportedly killed by armed robbers in Ekeki community, Yenagoa LGA.

Gang/Cult Violence

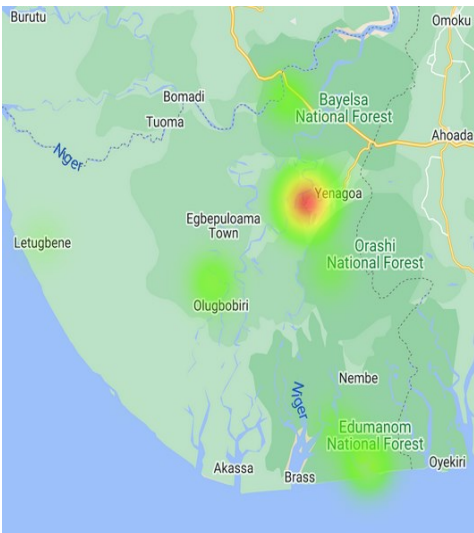
Clashes between rival cult gangs over battles for territorial control and supremacy caused many fatalities in the State during the quarter. In July, for instance, a resident was reportedly killed during a clash between members of two rival cult gangs at Arietalin Street in Yenagoa, the state capital. In August, two persons were reportedly killed during a clash between rival cult gangs in Ogbogboro community, Yenagoa LGA.

Mob Violence

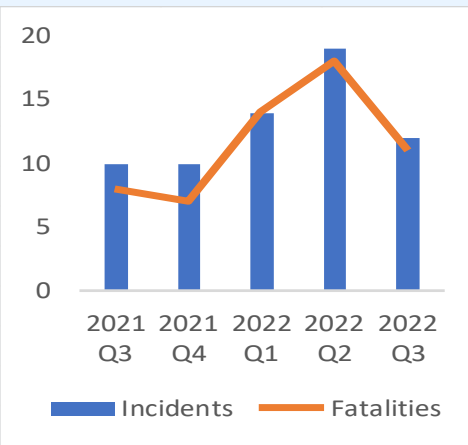
In August, a robbery suspect was allegedly lynched by a mob in Biogbolo community, Yenagoa LGA. In September, a man was reportedly killed by a mob over allegation of witchcraft practices in Agudama-Epie community, Yenagoa LGA.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG)

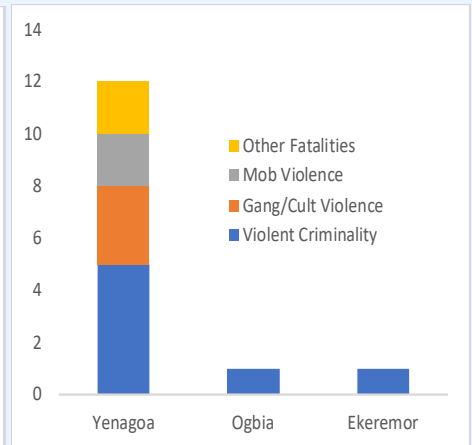
In addition to the impact of criminal violence and rival cult gangs related clashes on women and girls listed above, other incidents of targeted violence against women and girls were reported during the period. In July, for example, a 26-year-old woman was reportedly strangled by her boyfriend in Okaka community, Yenagoa LGA. The 27-year-old suspect allegedly killed his girlfriend and buried her in a shallow grave in his bedroom.



Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Bayelsa State (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Cross River State

There was a decrease in lethal violence in Cross River State in Q3 of 2022, compared to the second quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Cross River was among the States with the least number of lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Incidents of conflict risk and lethal violence during the period mainly related to criminality, communal conflict over land and boundary disputes, and mob violence. Akpabuyo followed by Calabar Municipal LGA had the highest number of reported incidents of lethal violence in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence was a major conflict risk and security issue in Cross River State during the quarter. In July, for instance, a gang of kidnapers reportedly abducted a female student and injured several others at a private university in Ikot Effanga community, Akpabuyo LGA. Six members of the gang were later reportedly killed during a clash with the police. Separately, in July, sea robbers who double as kidnapers reportedly

waylaid and robbed a commercial boat and abducted all the male passengers along the waterways between Calabar the Cross River State capital and Oron LGA in Akwa Ibom State. In August, hoodlums suspected to be members of a cult gang reportedly killed a traditional ruler in Orimekpang community, Boki LGA. Separately, in August, a 24-year-old female law student was reportedly abducted from her residence by gunmen suspected to be kidnapers in Ikot Ansa community, Calabar Municipal LGA. The father of the victim was allegedly beaten and injured by the gunmen during the incident. In September, two members of a gang of criminals were reportedly killed during a clash with government security operatives at Creek Town in Odukpani LGA.

Mob Violence

In August, a mob reportedly tortured and killed two widows over alleged witchcraft practices in Ebbaken community, Boki LGA. The women were reportedly accused of initiating a member of the community into witchcraft. In September, a young woman was reportedly stoned to death by a mob

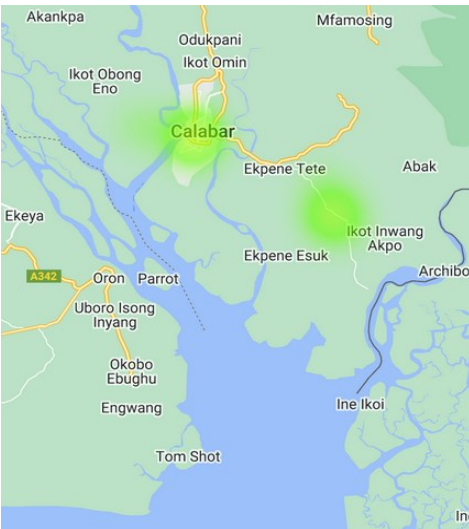
at Eleven-Eleven Roundabout in Calabar, the state capital. She was reportedly found dead with injuries all over her body and a few stones beside her.

Communal Violence

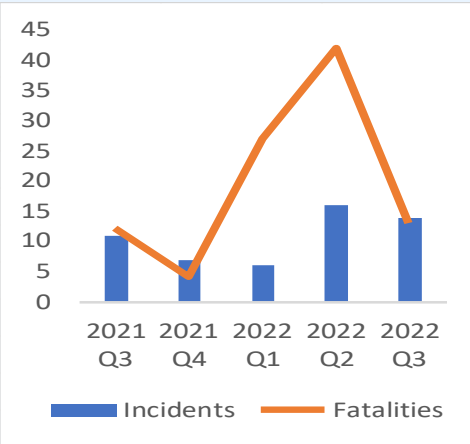
Conflict over land and boundary disputes was one of the key conflict issues reported in the State during the quarter. In July, for instance, two persons were reportedly killed and several houses destroyed during a clash over the ownership of a rice farm between Ijegu and Yabu communities in Yala LGA.

Other Incidents

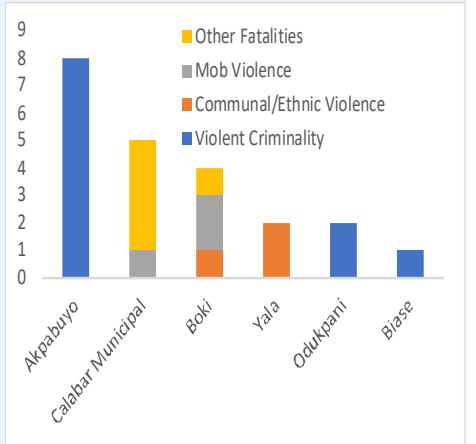
In July, four children of a 38-year-old physically challenged man were reportedly killed by a mudslide caused by a heavy rainfall in Okangbang community, Calabar Municipal LGA. The children were reportedly aged between nine and 15 years.



Incidents and Fatalities, Cross River State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Cross River (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Delta State

There were no significant changes in the levels of conflict risk and lethal violence in Delta State in Q3 of 2022 compared to the first and second quarters of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Delta was one of the States that ranked high in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the period, based on reported fatalities. According to data, over 45 conflict fatalities were reported in the State during the quarter. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the period were largely driven by criminality and communal violence. Ughelli North followed by Warri South and Ndokwa West LGAs had the highest number of conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence was a major driver of conflict risk and insecurity in the State during the quarter. Several incidents of violent criminality including kidnapping, assassination, and targeted attacks on government security facilities were reported in the State during the period. In July, for instance, gunmen reportedly attacked a police station, killed three officers, and stole weapons in Okpanam community, Oshimili North LGA. Separately, in July, a chieftain of a major political party who was also a special assistant to a prominent federal

lawmaker from Delta State was reportedly shot dead by suspected assassins at his residence in Sapele town, Sapele LGA. Also, in July, a couple were reportedly robbed and killed by their three male employees in Amai community, Ndokwa West LGA. The woman was allegedly raped by two of the suspects before she died.

In August, a 62-year-old Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) was reportedly shot dead by suspected assassins at his residence in Ime-Obi community in Agbor town, Ika South LGA. Also, in August, a community leader was reportedly killed by gunmen in Effurun town, Uvwie LGA. Separately, in August, a man was reportedly killed by gunmen at his farm in Obodogwua Ogume community, Ndokwa West LGA.

Communal Violence

In August, a youth leader was reportedly killed and three others injured during a clash over a leadership tussle in Ufuoma town, Ughelli North LGA. In September, a passenger was reportedly shot dead and a community leader seriously injured during a clash between two rival factions over a leadership tussle in Igvide community, Isoko South LGA. Separately, in September, a

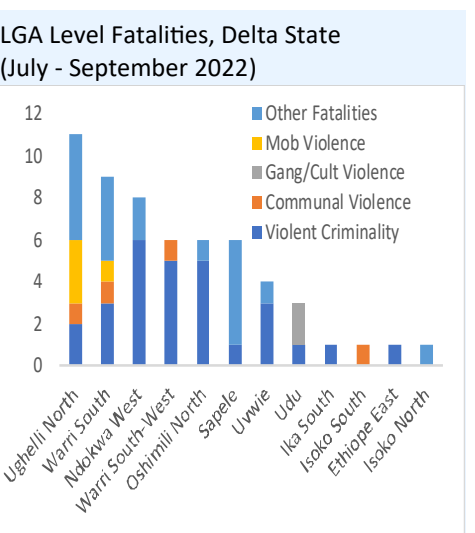
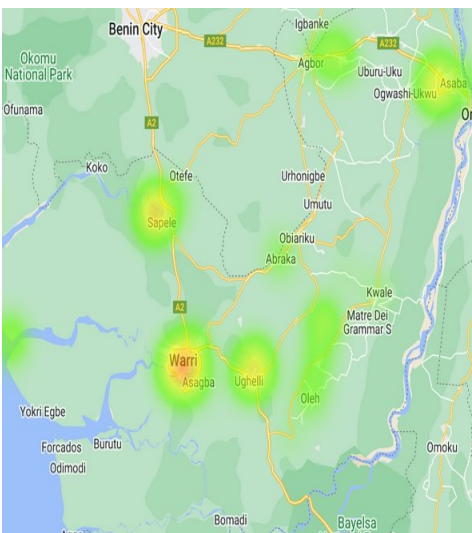
middle-aged man was reportedly killed during renewed clashes over a boundary dispute between Aladja and Ogbe-Ijoh communities in Udu and Warri South-West LGAs respectively.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG)

In addition to the impact of criminality and communal violence on women and girls listed above, other incidents of violence against women and girls were also reported during the period. In July, for instance, a 22-year-old female polytechnic student was reportedly killed by her 23-year-old boyfriend during a disagreement in Ozoro town, Isoko North LGA. In September, a woman was allegedly killed by her husband in Ovorie-Ovu community, Ethiope East LGA.

Other Incidents

In August, two members of a local vigilante group were reportedly killed by members of a cult gang in Ohwase community, Udu LGA. Separately, in August, three robbery suspects were reportedly killed by a mob in Ekiugbo community, Ughelli North LGA.



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Edo State

There were no major changes in the levels of conflict risk and lethal violence in Edo State in Q23 of 2022 compared to the second quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), more than 35 conflict fatalities were reported in Edo State during the quarter. Lethal violence during the period was mainly driven by criminality. Oredo followed by Uhumwonde LGA had the highest number of conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Criminality including kidnapping for ransom was a major driver of conflict risk and lethal violence in Edo State during the quarter. Criminal violence caused over 30 fatalities in the State during the period. In July, for example, two Catholic priests were reportedly abducted by gunmen along the Benin-Ekpoma Expressway in Irukepken community, Esan West LGA. Separately, in July, a 64-year-old Italian Catholic priest was reportedly abducted by kidnappers at Ogunwenyi village in Usen community, Ovia South-West LGA. Also, in July, six

travelers were reportedly abducted by gunmen along the Ibillo/Ikiran-Ore Road in Akoko-Edo LGA. In a separate incident, in July, the ward chairman of a major political party was reportedly abducted by kidnappers in Ologbo-nugu community, Orhionmwon LGA.

In September, a Divisional Police Officer (DPO) was reportedly killed by gunmen suspected to be kidnappers in Igarra community, Akoko-Edo LGA. Separately, a man was reportedly killed and three others abducted by kidnappers in Uhen community, Ovia North-East LGA. Also, in September a 36-year-old medical doctor reportedly killed a 39-year-old taxi driver and stole his vehicle in Benin City, the state capital. In another incident, in September, a 13-month-old baby was reportedly abducted by kidnappers in Achigbor community, Uhumwonde LGA.

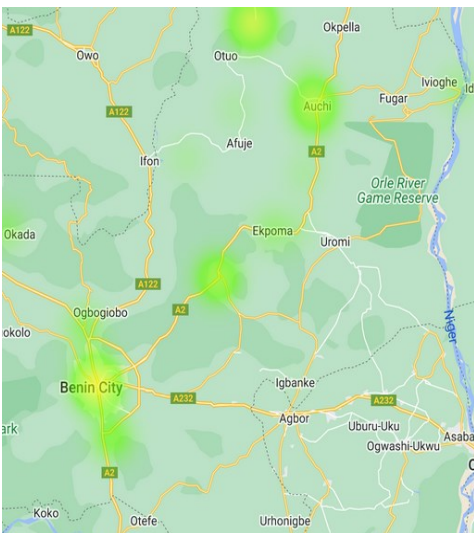
Gang/Cult Violence

In August, a resident was reportedly killed during a clash between members of the Black Axe and Eiye cult gangs in Ugbowo community, Egor LGA.

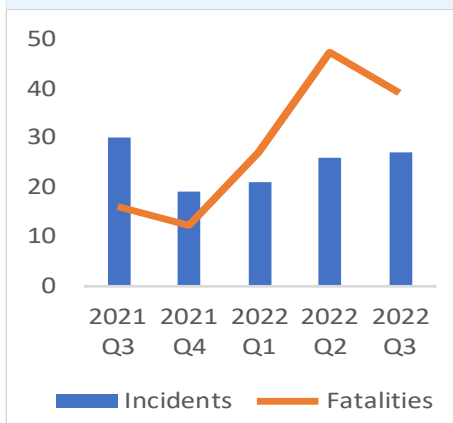
Separately, in August, a fatality was reported during a clash between two rival cult gangs in Uselu community, Oredo LGA.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

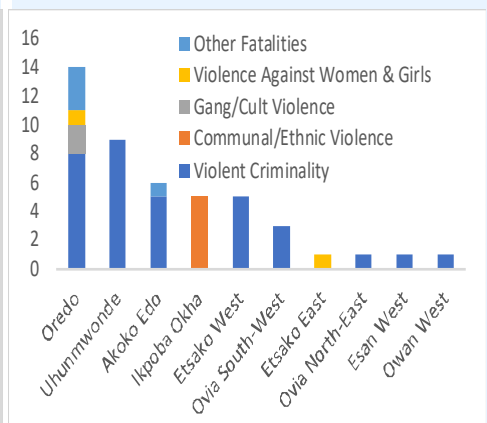
In addition to the impact of criminality, cult clashes, and communal violence on women and girls listed above, other violence targeting women and girls were also reported during the period. In July, for instance, a 20-year-old woman was reportedly raped and stabbed to death by unknown assailants at her residence in Agenebode community, Etsako East LGA. Separately, in July, an 81-year-old woman was reportedly killed and dismembered for ritualistic purposes in Igbe Ibuya community, Oredo LGA. Also, in July, a 65-year-old woman was reportedly killed and buried in her farm by unknown assailants at Ekehuan community in Benin City, the state capital.



Incidents and Fatalities, Edo State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Edo State (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Imo State

There was a decrease in the number of reported conflict fatalities in Imo State in Q3 of 2022 compared to the second quarter of the year. However, according to Peace Map data (see page 2), Imo was one of the States that ranked very high in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the period, based on reported fatalities. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the period were mainly driven by criminality and ethno-nationalist separatist agitation. Oguta followed by Owerri West LGA had the highest number of conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

Violent Ethno-National Separatist Agitation

Ethno-national separatist agitation and clashes between government security forces and separatist militias caused several fatalities in the State during the quarter. In July, for example, a man was reportedly shot dead at a funeral by gunmen suspected to be separatist militias in Atta community, Ikeduru LGA. In August, five separatist militias were reportedly killed during a clash with government security forces in Izombe community, Oguta LGA.

Also, in August, two separatist militias were allegedly killed during a clash with government security forces in Awo-Idemili community, Orsu LGA. In a separate incident, separatist militias reportedly killed seven residents and injured several others in Orogwe community, Owerri West LGA. In September, two separatist militias and a soldier were allegedly killed during a clash at a security checkpoint in Mgbidi community, Orsu LGA. The gunmen numbering about 15 allegedly attacked the military checkpoint and engaged the soldiers at the checkpoint in a gun duel.

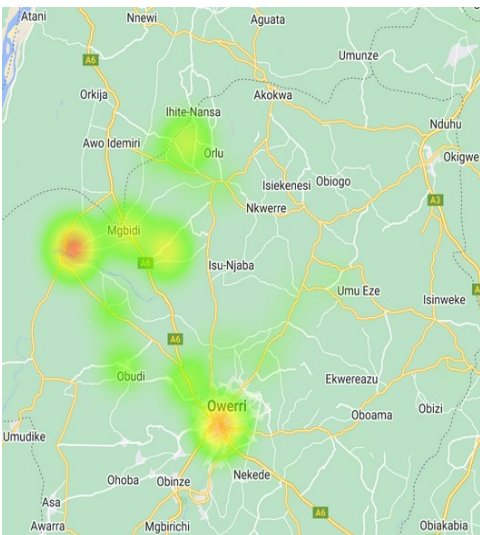
In another incident, in August, gunmen reportedly went on rampage, shot sporadically and burned several properties including houses, shops and vehicles in Izombe community, Oguta LGA. In a separate incident, a resident was reportedly killed by a stray bullet during a clash between some gunmen and government security operatives in Orlu community, Orlu LGA. In September, the traditional ruler of Isiala Umudi community in Nkwerre LGA was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Owerri, the state capital.

Violent Criminality

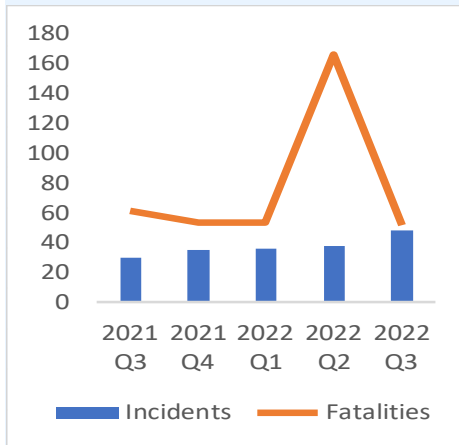
Several incidents of criminal violence were reported in the State during the period. In August, for instance, hoodlums reportedly attacked a divisional police headquarters with petrol bombs and other improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and killed four police officers in Agwa community, Oguta LGA. Separately, in August, gunmen reportedly attacked a market and killed a commercial motorcyclist in Ogbaku community, Mbaitoli LGA. Also, in August, gunmen allegedly killed seven local security guards at different locations in Orogwe community, Owerri West LGA.

Other Incidents

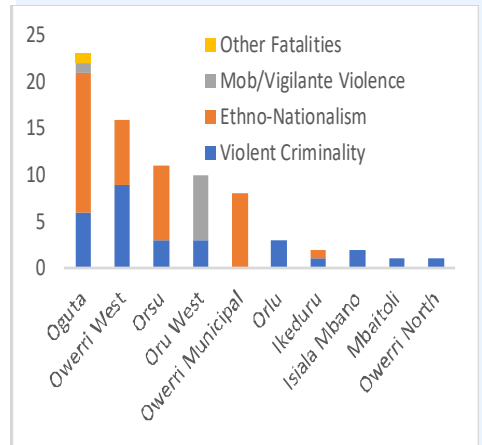
In July, operatives of 'Ebubeagu' - a regional security outfit in South-Eastern Nigeria - reportedly killed a 25-year-old man in Amaeshe community, Oguta LGA. Also, in July, seven young men who were reportedly returning from a marriage ceremony were allegedly killed by 'Ebubeagu' operatives in Awomama community, Oru East LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Imo State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Imo State (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Ondo State

There were significant changes in the levels of conflict risk and lethal violence in Ondo State during the quarter. There was a decrease in the number of conflict fatalities in the State in Q3 of 2022 compared to the second quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Ondo was among the States with the least number of lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the quarter were mainly driven by criminality. Akure North LGA had the highest number of reported conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence including kidnapping for ransom was a major security issue in the State during the period. In July, for instance, gunmen reportedly attacked a petrol station, killed a security guard and set the station ablaze in Igoba community, Akure North LGA. Also, in July, gunmen allegedly attacked a police station and killed an Inspector of

Police in Okuta Elerinla community, Akure South LGA. Separately, in July, gunmen reportedly attacked a construction site, shot two persons and detonated explosive devices in Owo town, Owo LGA. Two security guards were reportedly wounded during the incident.

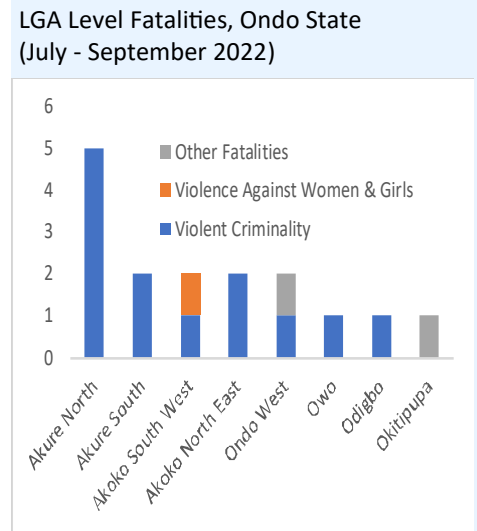
In August, four persons including two community leaders and a chieftain of a major political party were reportedly abducted by gunmen along Owo-Ikare Expressway in Ago-Panu community, Owo LGA. The kidnapper later demanded a 50 million naira ransom.

In September, a senior civil servant was reportedly abducted and killed by gunmen in Akure, the state capital. Also, in September, gunmen reportedly abducted 32 passengers along Owo-Benin Highway in Ifon community, Ose LGA. The passengers were allegedly abducted while they were returning from a funeral in Edo State. The kidnappers reportedly demanded a 90 million naira ransom to release the passengers.

Separately, in September, a 26-year-old man and his father reportedly killed a farmer for ritualistic purposes in Kuseru community, Odigbo LGA. Some body parts of the victim were allegedly removed by the suspect.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

In addition to the impact of criminality on women and girls listed above, other violence targeting women and girls were also reported during the period. In July, for instance, a 30-year-old man reportedly killed his girl friend during a disagreement in Owo town, Owo LGA. In August, a 66-year-old woman was reportedly killed by her 23-year-old grandson in Ondo town, Ondo West LGA. In September, a woman was reportedly strangled by her 18-year-old son during a disagreement in Ikakumo Akoko community, Akoko North-East LGA. Separately, in September, a 2-year-old girl was allegedly killed by her stepfather in Akungba-Akoko community, Akoko South-West LGA.



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Rivers State

There was an increase in the level of conflict risk and lethal violence in Rivers State in Q3 of 2022 compared to the first and second quarters of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Rivers was one of the States that ranked high in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the period, based on reported fatalities. Conflict risk and lethal violence in the State during the period were mainly driven by violent criminality and illegal artisanal oil refining activities. Degema LGA had the highest number of reported conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

Violent Criminality

Criminality was a major driver of conflict risk and lethal violence in the State during the quarter. In August, gunmen reportedly attacked residents, killed a man and burned three houses in Rundu community, Emohua LGA. In September, gunmen reportedly killed a commercial bus driver and abducted eight passengers along the Abonnema-Emohua-Buguma axis of the East-West Road in Emohua LGA. Separately, in September, gunmen reportedly attacked a commercial bus and abducted five passengers along the Emohua-Kalabari axis of the East-West Road in Emohua LGA. Also, in September, a soldier and a civilian

were reportedly killed during a clash between sea robbers and government security operatives at a security checkpoint along the waterways in Bille community, Degema LGA. In another incident, in September, gunmen reportedly killed a man along Nkpolu-Rumuigbo Road in Obio/Akpor LGA.

Illegal Artisanal Oil Refining

Illegal artisanal oil refining related explosions and fire outbreaks caused many fatalities in the State during the quarter. In August, for example, a tanker that was allegedly used to convey illegal artisanal refined petroleum products reportedly exploded and killed six residents Eteo community, Eleme LGA.

Gang/Cult Violence

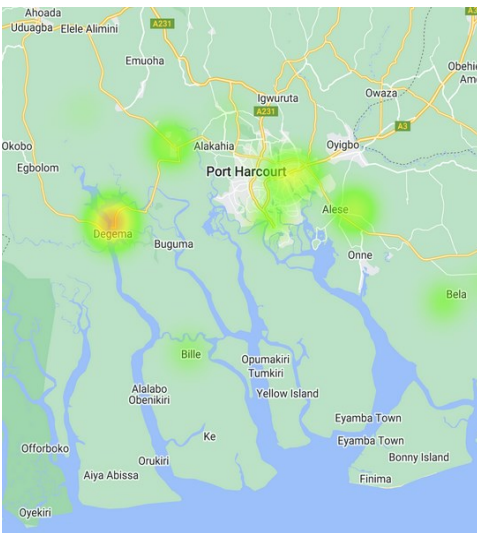
Clashes over battles for supremacy and territorial control among rival cult gangs, as well as clashes between cult gangs and local vigilante groups caused several fatalities in the State during the period. In July, for example, two persons were reportedly killed during a clash between members of a cult gang and a local vigilante group in Elibrada community, Emohua LGA.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

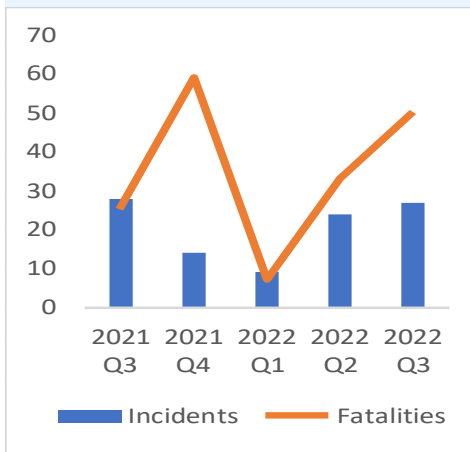
In addition to the impact of criminality and gang violence on women and girls listed above, other violence targeting women and girls were also reported during the period. In August, for example, a 21-year-old woman was reportedly abducted and raped by a taxi driver along Obiri-Kwere Airport Road in Obio/Akpor LGA. Separately, in August, a pregnant woman was reportedly raped by two armed robbers in Borokiri community, Port Harcourt LGA. Also, in August, a 17-year-old girl and her friend were allegedly assaulted and sexually abused by a public security operative in Port Harcourt, the state capital.

Other Incidents

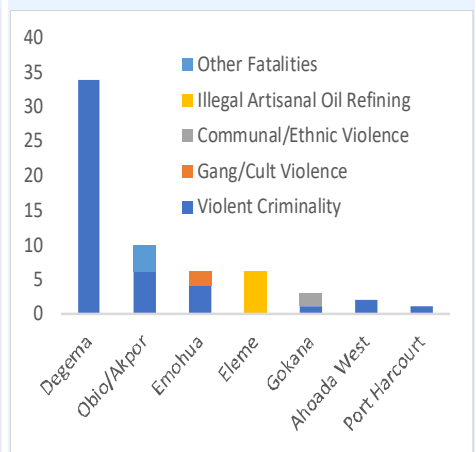
In July, a policeman was allegedly killed by hoodlums during a clash at a political rally at the Government Reserved Area (GRA) in Port Harcourt LGA. In August, two persons were reportedly killed during a clash over a land dispute between Yeghe and Boue communities in Gokana LGA. In September, security personnel attached to the oil pipeline surveillance task force of an oil company allegedly killed two residents and burned three houses in Okobe community, Ahoada West LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Rivers State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Rivers State (July - September 2022)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

About Us

PIND



The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) is a nonprofit organization that promotes peace and equitable economic growth in Nigeria's Niger Delta region through multi-stakeholder partnerships.

PIND implements collaborative market-based, community-owned programs to mitigate conflicts and boost economic opportunities for local businesses, ensuring that economic progress occurs in a systemic, inclusive, and sustainable manner. Headquartered in Abuja, Nigeria, PIND also has a Washington, D.C.-based counterpart known as the Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI).

PIND has developed an interactive Peace Map to gather data on peace and conflict for validation, triangulation, and multi-stakeholder collaboration. With over 55,000 data points on conflict that dates back to 2009, the Peace Map is one of the most comprehensive data set on conflict publicly available in Nigeria.

The Projects



IPDU: The Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) of PIND's Peacebuilding Program responds to emerging threats and mobilizes appropriate actors and resources for preventive interventions. It provides operational level support to stakeholders through: research, capacity building, and applied learning aimed at early targeting and mitigation of potential drivers of conflict and instability.

P4P: Partners for Peace (P4P) is a network of peace actors whose mission is to build social capital around peacebuilding by amplifying the voices of positive actors, and collaborating on activities for conflict early warning and prevention. The network includes stakeholders from community-based organizations, civil society, and the general public committed to promoting peaceable livelihoods.

Our Services

PIND's Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) provides technical support to stakeholders and implementing partners in the public and private sectors. Leveraging our in-house team of subject-matter experts and a network of partners on the ground, and drawing on our over 10 years of experience in peacebuilding and archiving of conflict data and research, we offer technical support to both national and international stakeholders in conflict early warning/response, and production of data-driven conflict reports.

Contact Us

Inquiries: PINDfoundation.org

Contacts: info@PINDfoundation.org +234 (0) 9 291 0454.

What do you think about the report? - [We value your feedback](#)

Report Incidents: IPDU Early Warning System

Please report any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU SMS early warning system: Text report to **080 9936 2222**

Incident Details: Include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and brief description.