

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Rivers State: October-November 2018

### Background

This monthly tracker is designed to update Peace Agents on patterns and trends in conflict risk and violence, as identified by the Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) early warning system, and to seek feedback and input for response to mitigate areas of conflict.

### Patterns and Trends August-October 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in lethal violence in Rivers state in September 2018. Incidents reported during this period included criminality, gang/cult violence, political violence, and protests.

**Violent Criminality:** In September, gunmen reportedly ambushed and attacked the deputy national chairman of the Pan Niger Delta Forum (PANDEF) and killed his driver along the East-West Road in Ikwerre LGA. Separately, two members of a vigilante group were reportedly killed by gunmen along Ikwerre road in Port Harcourt LGA.

**Kidnapping:** In August, gunmen reportedly hijacked a commercial bus with 18 passengers and diverted it into a forest along Owerri-Port Harcourt road in Ikwerre LGA. Separately, kidnappers reportedly killed three people, comprising two policemen, and abducted an expatriate in Woji community, Obio/Akpor LGA. In another incident, a policeman and a driver were reportedly killed by kidnappers during an attempted abduction of an expatriate in Abua Odual LGA. In October, gunmen reportedly kidnapped 10 community leaders in Abonema town, Akuku-Toru LGA. The kidnappers demanded a 5-million naira ransom.

**Cult Violence:** In August, the chairman of a community vigilante group was reportedly

ambushed and killed by cultists in Rumuolumeni community, Obio/Akpor LGA. Separately, a 90-year old man was reportedly burned to death by cultists in Egbeda community, Emohua LGA. In September, two people were reportedly killed during a rival cult clash in Khana LGA. In October, cultists reportedly killed the paramount ruler of Elibrada community in Emohua LGA. The cultists also killed two others in the community and took away their severed heads. Separately, cultists reportedly attacked a community and killed four people including a woman in Diobu, Port Harcourt LGA.

Criminality was key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period.

**Political Violence:** In August, a State House of Assembly by-election conducted in Port Harcourt LGA was reportedly marred by violence characterized by sporadic shootings and hijacking of voting materials.

**Flooding:** In September, two people were reportedly killed by flood in Ahoada West

LGA. Over 30 communities were reportedly submerged by water in the area. In October, five people including two women were reportedly killed by flooding in Ahoada West LGA.

**Protest:** In September, there was a protest by some ex-militants along the East-West Road in Ahoada West LGA over payment of stipends and exclusion from the Federal Government Amnesty Program for militants.

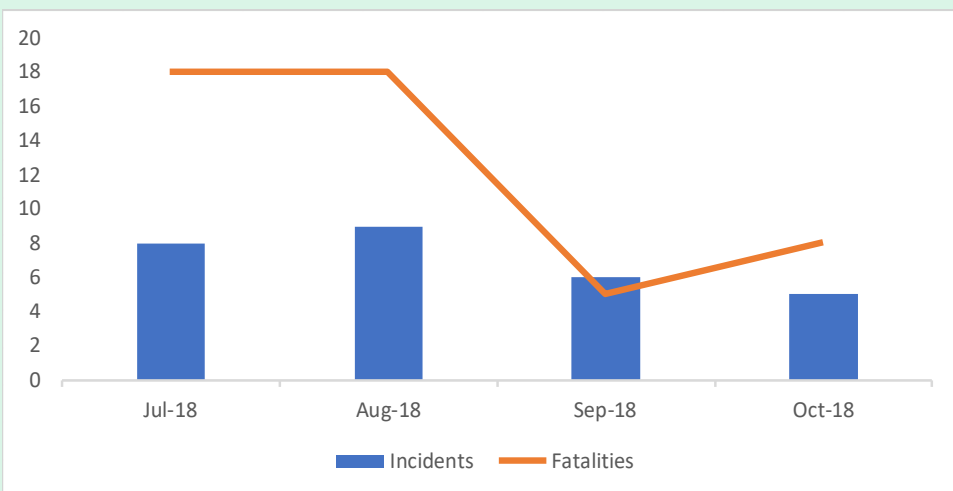
### Recent Incidents, November 2018

Reported incidents during the month mainly related to kidnapping, political tension, sexual violence, child trafficking and building collapse.

**Kidnapping:** A chieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC) was reportedly kidnapped and later found dead in a forest in Ubima community, Ikwerre LGA.

**Political Violence:** A supporter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was reportedly shot dead during a political event in Ipo community, Ikwerre LGA. Over 30

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Rivers State



Reported incidents and fatalities from July – October 2018 in Rivers State.

Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

gunmen invaded the venue of the political event, shot sporadically and vandalized many vehicles.

**Cult Violence:** Two people were reportedly beheaded by cultists in Choba, Obio/Akpor LGA.

**Sexual Violence:** A 9-year old daughter of a pastor was reportedly raped to death by a 23-year old man in Khana LGA.

**Child Trafficking:** A 32-year old widow was reportedly arrested for selling her 2-month old baby for two hundred and fifty thousand naira in Diobu, Port Harcourt LGA.

**Others:** A 7-storey building under construction reportedly collapsed, killed six people and trapped several others in Port Harcourt LGA. Separately, a man was reportedly shot dead by soldiers during a protest by youths over flooding in Nkpolu community, Obio/Akpor LGA.

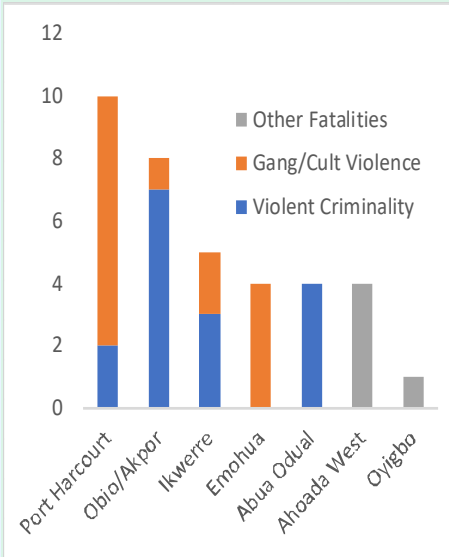
## Prognosis

Reported incidents in the state during the period related mainly to cult violence, political tension, sexual violence, child trafficking, protests, and criminality including kidnapping for ransom. Peace Agents should monitor the security situation closely and respond appropriately.

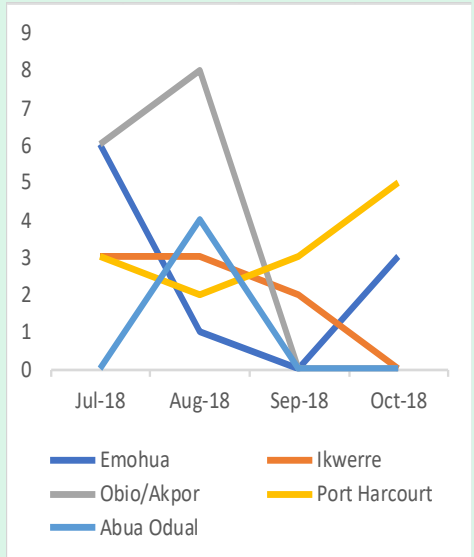
## Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is anything missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issues are a priority for you (as P4P Chapter, Prevent Committee, or other stakeholder)?
3. What are some likely trigger events in the next 6 months that could escalate this conflict?
4. Who are the key stakeholders that have influence on the conflict?
5. What will you do to help mitigate the conflict in the short, medium, and long term?

**Figure 2: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (August - October 2018)**

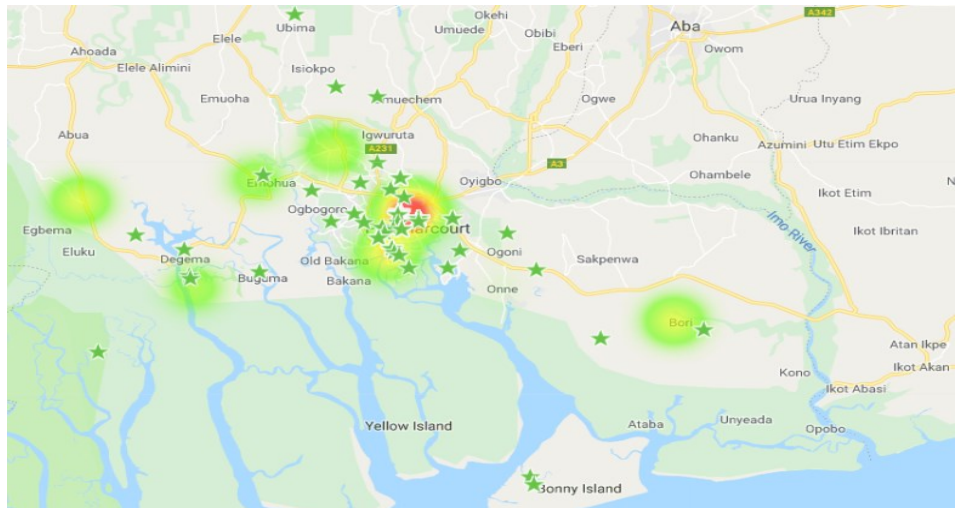


**Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA**



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Rivers State this quarter shows that Port Harcourt, followed by Obio/Akpor had the highest number of reported fatalities. Sources (Figure 2): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map. Source (Figure 3): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

**Figure 4: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Rivers State**



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from August – October 2018 in Rivers; with green stars representing the registered Peace Agents. Source: All data sources formatted for the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

### Report Incidents: IPDU Early Warning System

Please report any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU SMS early warning system:

**Text:** 080 9936 2222

**Incident Details:** Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and Brief Incident Description

Contact Us



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