

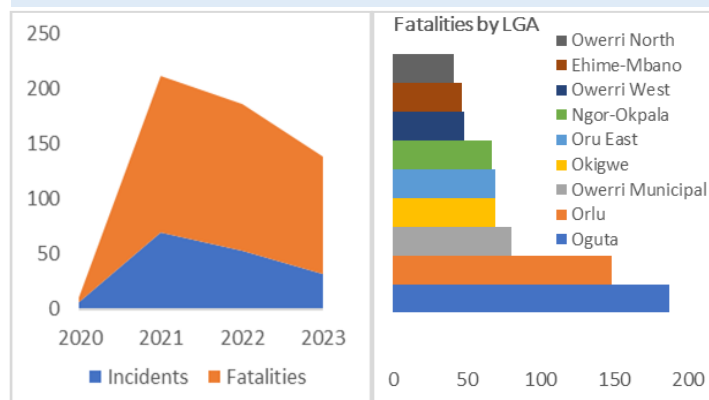
# Niger Delta Weekly: De-escalating Criminal Insurgency and Targeted Violence in Imo State

November 03-09, 2024

## Background

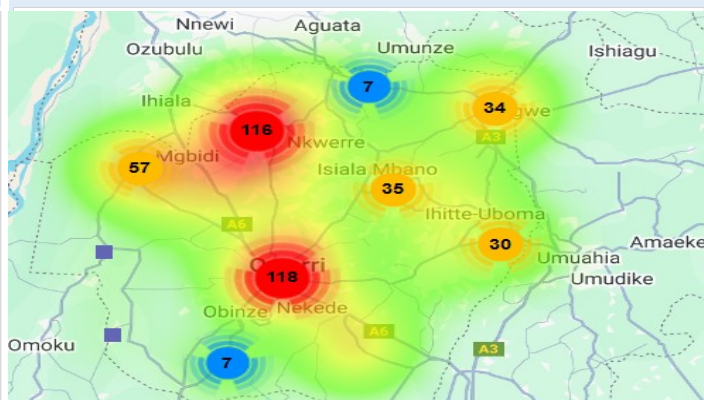
This week's update spotlights organized criminality in the Niger Delta, with a focus on criminal insurgency and targeted violence in Imo State. Criminal insurgency, including targeted attacks by separatist militias and criminal gangs against government security forces and civilians, continues to drive insecurity across the state, with over 400 fatalities recorded between January 2021 and September 2024 (see map below). Recent data indicates a resurgence of criminal insurgency in the State. For instance, in August 2024, gunmen suspected to be separatist militias reportedly killed seven people, including six village heads, during a meeting in Umucheke Okwe community, Onuimo LGA. In September, separatist militias allegedly attacked a divisional police headquarters in Njaba LGA, resulting in three deaths. In October, a clash between soldiers and gunmen in Ehime Mbano LGA reportedly left several people dead. Most recently, on November 5, 2024, gunmen reportedly detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) at Orlu International Market in Orlu LGA, killing two and injuring several others.

## Key Facts and Figures: Trends and Dynamics of Criminal Insurgency in Imo State



Data shows that Oguta LGA had the highest fatalities caused by criminal insurgency in Imo State during the period. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on PIND's P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

## Fatalities Heat Map of Criminal Insurgency and Targeted Violence in Imo State, Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical concentration of fatalities caused by criminal insurgency in Imo State from January 2021 - September 2024. Sources: All data sources formatted on PIND's P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

## Why it Matters

The current wave of criminal insurgency and targeted violence risks escalating into a breakdown of law and order, marked by hooliganism, communal tensions, and reprisal killings. Increased attacks by separatist militias and criminal gangs are destabilizing communities, undermining security and posing severe threats to public safety. If not checked, the situation could lead to security measures that may violate human rights and trigger severe humanitarian, political, socio-economic, and security impacts at both state and regional levels.

## Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

The current trend of violence in Imo State, driven by separatist agitation and criminal insurgency, risks deepening insecurity across the South-East. To mitigate further escalation, stakeholders, including civil society organizations, community leaders, and government security agencies, should collaborate to identify and address the underlying drivers and triggers of the recent violence. Coordinated efforts to develop preventive and developmental strategies are essential to de-escalate tensions and restore stability in the region.

## Contact Us

Inquiries: [PINDfoundation.org](http://PINDfoundation.org)

Contacts: [info@PINDfoundation.org](mailto: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 2222/0912 233 4455**

Incident Details: Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and brief incident description.



FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA



FOUNDATION FOR NIGER DELTA PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE