

# Niger Delta Quarterly Conflict Trends

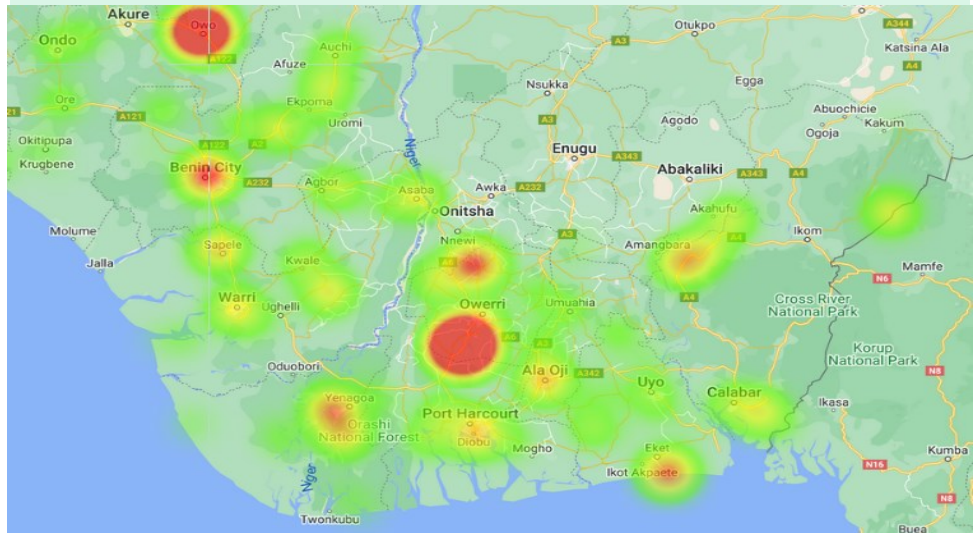
April to June 2022

There were significant changes in the dynamics of peace and security in the Niger Delta during the second quarter of 2022, compared to the first quarter (See page 2). These changes include major shifts in hot spots of violence and an increased conflict fatalities. However, there was an improvement in the overall security situation, as peace actors continued to leverage local capacity for early warning and peacebuilding to catalyze proactive response to the drivers of conflict and instability. According to data on the P4P Peace Map ([www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p](http://www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)), organized criminality, separatist agitation, clashes between hoodlums and government security forces, clashes between rival cult gangs, terrorism, communal conflict, and political violence 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, political competition, and resource-based conflicts. Incidents include kidnapping, robbery, piracy, militancy, cult/gang violence, election violence, sexual violence, human trafficking, ritual killing,

## Heatmap of Conflict Fatalities in the Niger Delta of Nigeria



Heatmap shows concentration of conflict fatalities reported in the Niger Delta from April - June 2022.

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

mob violence, communal violence, land disputes, separatist agitation, violence against security operatives, extra-judicial killing, and protests. Data sources include ACLED ([www.acleddata.com](http://www.acleddata.com)), Nigeria Watch ([www.nigeriawatch.org](http://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 — April to June 2022

There was a 123% increase in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the second quarter of 2022 compared to the first quarter of the year. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the quarter was mainly driven by communal conflict, separatist agitation, political tensions, organized criminality, illicit economic activities, and clashes between hoodlums and government security operatives.

Ethno-nationalist separatist agitation increased by 30% during the quarter. Separatist agitation and targeted violence by separatist militias as well as clashes between militias and government security forces caused more than 40 fatalities during the period, particularly in Imo and Abia State.

Communal violence increased by 87% during the quarter. Conflict over land and boundary disputes and the herder-farmer was prevalent in Ondo, Edo, and Cross Rivers State, and it caused about 30 fatalities during the period.

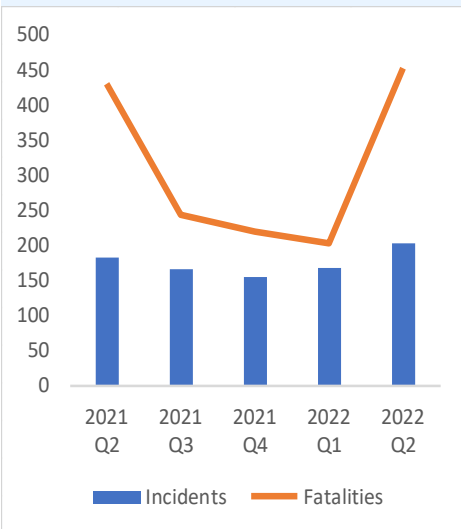
Criminal violence and clashes between cult gangs decreased by 7% and 44% respectively during the quarter. However, criminality and clashes between rival cult gangs were major drivers of lethal violence during the period. Kidnapping for ransom, ritual killing, and clashes between hoodlums and security forces caused over 130 fatalities. Also, illegal artisanal oil refining caused more than 150 fatalities in Imo and Rivers State during the period.

Clashes between rival cult gangs were reported in Akwa Ibom, Delta, Rivers and Bayelsa States, driven mainly by battles for supremacy and territorial control. Gang and cult related violence caused more than 60 fatalities during the period.

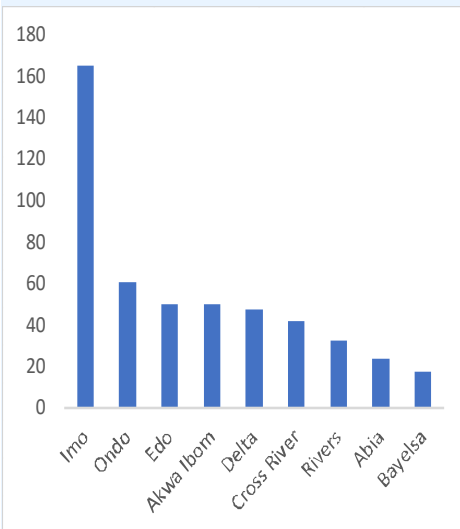
Imo, followed by Ondo State ranked highest in lethal violence during the quarter, based on the number of reported conflict fatalities. The LGAs with the highest number of conflict fatalities were Ohaji/Egbema (Imo) and Owo (Ondo).

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.

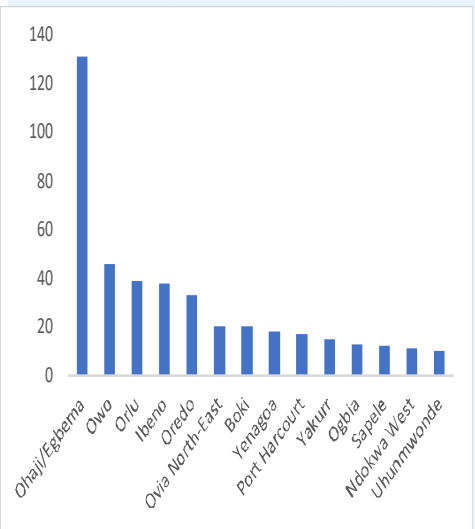
Incidents and Fatalities, Niger Delta Quarterly (Q2 2021 - Q2 2022)



Conflict Fatalities, State Level (April - June 2022)



Conflict Fatalities, LGA Level (April - June 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](http://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](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org/peace-map)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Abia State

There was an increase in conflict risk and lethal violence in Abia State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. However, according to Peace Map data (see page 2), Abia was among the States with the least number of lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Lethal violence during the period was largely driven by organized criminality and separatist agitation. Aba South LGA had the highest levels of lethal violence during the period.

### Violent Criminality

Several incidents of criminal violence were reported in the State during the quarter. In May, armed kidnappers reportedly killed a bus driver and abducted seven passengers including students along Uturu-Okigwe Road in Isuikwuato LGA.

In June, two businessmen were reportedly killed by gunmen at Ogor Hill Waterside Bridge in Aba North LGA. Separately, in June, a 36-year-old tipper driver was allegedly kidnapped and killed by armed herdsmen in Umuorie community, Ukwa West LGA. The incident reportedly sparked off a violent protest by residents. Two persons were allegedly killed during the protest.

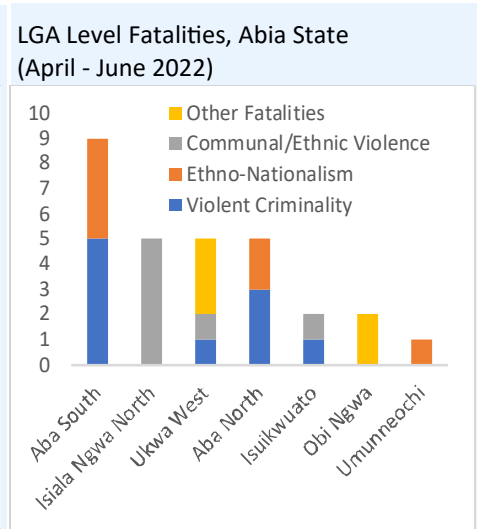
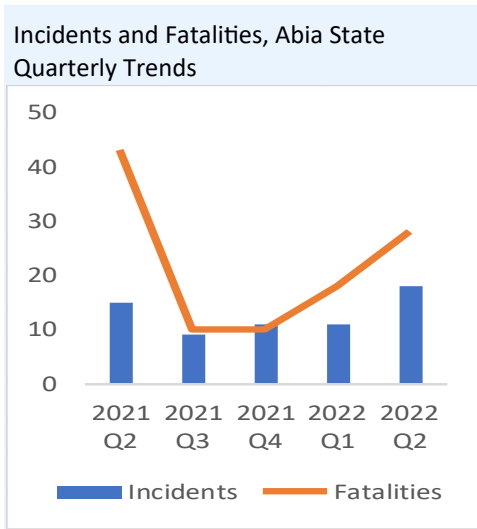
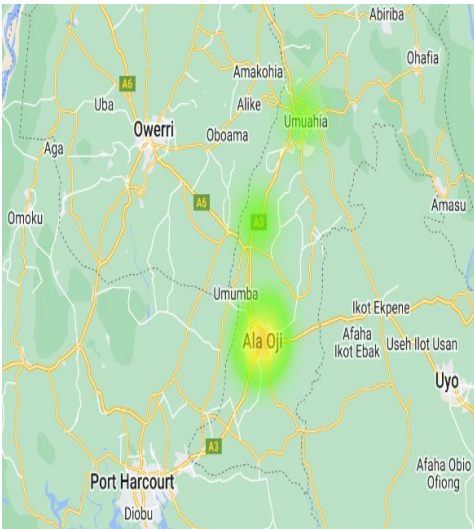
### Separatist Agitation and Criminal Insurgency

There was a resurgence of violent separatist agitation and clashes between separatist militias and government security operatives in the State during the period. In April, for instance, separatist militias reportedly attacked some soldiers and burned their patrol van along the Enugu-Aba-Port

Harcourt Expressway in Osisioma Ngwa LGA. In May, four persons were reportedly killed during a clash between soldiers and separatist militias at Uratta in Aba North LGA.

### Violence Affecting Women & Girls

In addition to the impact of separatist agitation and violent criminality on women and girls listed above, other violence targeting women and girls were also reported during the period. In April, for example, a young woman was reportedly killed and dismembered, and her 2-year-old daughter was taken away by unknown assailants at a hotel in Ogor Hill, Aba North LGA. The woman was believed to have been killed for ritual purposes. In June, a woman was allegedly abducted and killed by suspected herdsmen in Umuorie community, Ukwa 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](http://www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Akwa Ibom State

There was an increase in lethal violence in Akwa Ibom State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Akwa Ibom was among the states that ranked high in 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 communal conflict, criminality and clashes between rival cult gangs. Ibeno LGA had the highest levels of lethal violence in the State during the period.

### Violent Criminality

Several incidents of violent criminality including mob violence were reported in the State during the period. In April, for example, a suspected electricity cable vandal was reportedly killed by a mob in Obot Idim community, Ibesikpo Asutan LGA. Separately, in April, two young men were reportedly killed by a gang of robbers in Okobo Ibiono community, Ibiono Ibom LGA. The robbers

allegedly killed the two men because the residents could pay only five million naira out of the 20 million naira they demanded from the community. In June, a suspected member of a cult gang who doubles as a robber was reportedly killed by a mob in Uyo, the state capital.

### Political Violence

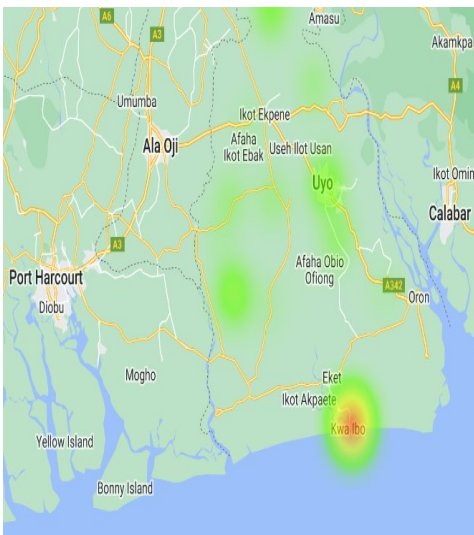
Several incidents of politically motivated violence and killings were reported in the state during the period. In May, for instance, the former chairman of the local chapter of a major political party was reportedly assassinated by gunmen at his residence in Ekparakwa community, Oruk Anam LGA. Separately, in May, two persons were reportedly killed in a clash between political thugs during the primary elections of a major political party in Mbiabong Ikot Udofia community, Ini LGA.

### Communal Violence

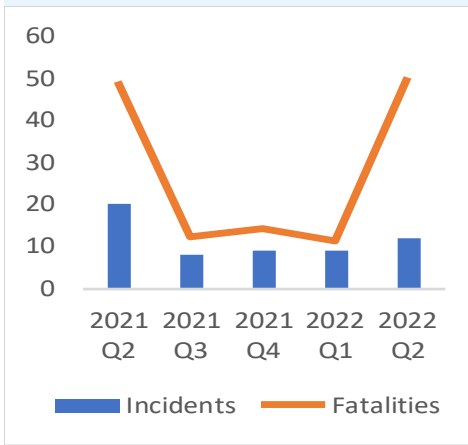
Communal conflict caused over 30 fatalities in the State during the period, particularly in Ibeno LGA. In April, for instance, more than 10 persons were reportedly killed and several houses destroyed during a clash between Ilaje and Ibeno ethnic communities in Mkpanak village, Ibeno LGA. In June, some farmers protested over the destruction of their crops by herdsmen in Mbiafun Nkwongo and Nung Ukim Ikot Etefia villages, Ikono LGA.

### Gang/Cult Violence

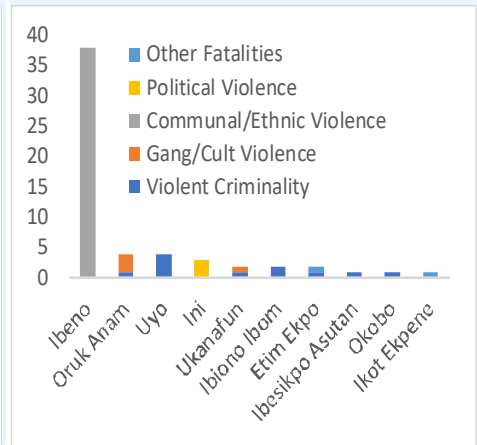
In May, gunmen suspected to be members of a cult gang reportedly killed three persons and robbed some Point of Sale (POS) operators in Inen community, Oruk Anam LGA. Separately, in May, a youth leader was reportedly ambushed and killed by gunmen suspected to be members of a cult gang in Ikot Andem community, Ukanafun LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Akwa Ibom State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Akwa Ibom (April - June 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](http://www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Bayelsa State

There was an upsurge in conflict risk and lethal violence in Bayelsa State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. However, according to Peace Map data (see page 2), Bayelsa was the least violent state in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on the number of reported conflict fatalities. Lethal violence during the period was mainly driven by organized criminality, clashes between rival cult gangs, and communal conflict. Yenagoa LGA had the highest number of reported incidents of lethal violence during the period.

### Violent Criminality

Criminality was a major driver of conflict risk and lethal violence in the State during the period. In April, for example, a chieftain of a major political party was reportedly killed by gunmen at his residence in Yenagoa, the state capital. The victim was alleged to be a major campaigner against illegal oil bunkering and artisanal oil refining activities in his community. Separately, in April, a fatality was reported during a clash between

soldiers who were guarding an oil facility and gunmen at a security checkpoint in Ogboinbiri community, Southern Ijaw LGA. In May, gunmen reportedly kidnapped three residents including a traditional ruler and a 50-year-old woman in Otuabula community, Ogbia LGA. Separately, in May, gunmen reportedly attacked and killed five persons including two policemen and three civilians, and inflicted injuries on many others along Idema-Otuabagi Road in Ogbia LGA.

### Gang/Cult Violence

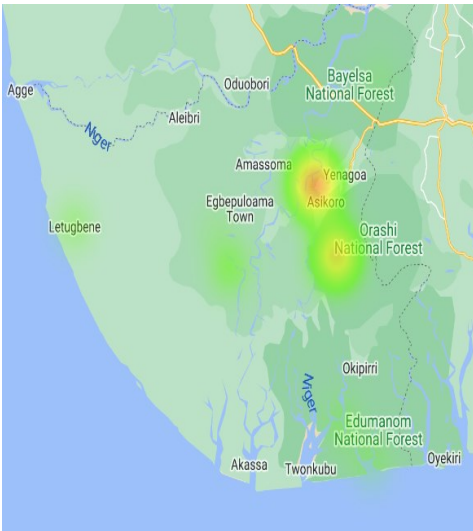
Clashes over battles for territorial control and supremacy between rival cult gangs caused many fatalities in the State during the period. In June, for example, four persons were reportedly killed during clashes between rival cult gangs at different locations in Yenagoa, the state capital. The clash was reportedly triggered by a disagreement over the sharing of cash gifts from some politicians in the State.

### Communal Violence

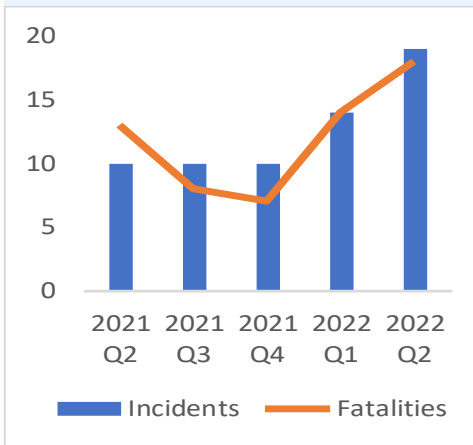
Communal tension over leadership tussle was elevated in the State during the quarter. In May, for example, a community leader was reported killed by gunmen over a leadership tussle in Amabolou community, Ekeremor LGA. In June, gunmen reportedly killed two community leaders including the paramount ruler and the Community Development Committee (CDC) chairman of Kalaba community in Yenagoa LGA. The incident was alleged to be related to conflict over access to oil pipeline surveillance contracts and illegal oil bunkering and artisanal refining opportunities in the community.

### Other Incidents

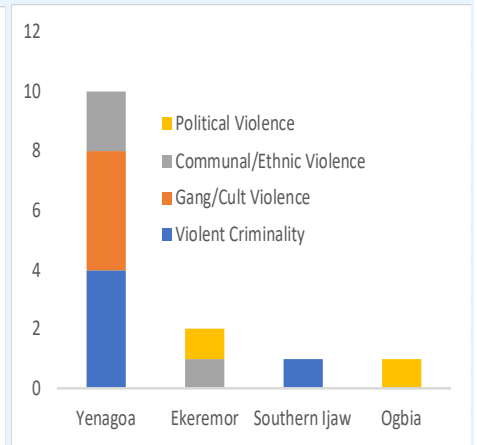
In May, a man was reportedly killed during the primary elections of a major political party in Ogbia town, Ogbia LGA. In June, a robbery suspect was reportedly killed by a mob along Isaac Boro Expressway in Yenagoa, the state capital.



Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Bayelsa State (April - June 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](http://www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Cross River State

There was an increase in the levels of conflict risk and lethal violence in Cross River State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), more than 40 conflict fatalities were reported in Cross River State during the quarter. Conflict risk and lethal violence in the State during the period were largely driven by criminality, political tensions, and communal conflict over land and boundary disputes, as well as cross border violence. Boki and Yakurr LGAs had the highest number of reported incidents of lethal violence during the period.

### Violent Criminality

Several incidents of criminal violence were reported in the State during the quarter. In May, gunmen suspected to be militants reportedly killed a marine police officer and injured several others during a gun battle at Ilang Jetty in Bakassi LGA. In June, gunmen reportedly killed a policeman, abducted a shop owner and robbed some residents in Calabar, the state capital. Also, in June, a policeman was allegedly killed by gunmen at a supermarket in the state capital.

### Communal Violence

Communal conflict over land and boundary disputes caused more than 10 fatalities in the State during the quarter. In June, for instance, more than seven residents were reportedly killed during renewed clashes over a lingering communal land dispute between Nko community in Yakurr LGA and Onyadama community in Obubra LGA. Separately, in June, local militias reportedly ambushed and attacked some soldiers in Nko community, Yakurr LGA. One of the soldiers was allegedly killed while six others were injured. The soldiers were reportedly on a peacekeeping mission in the community when they were attacked by the militias. The soldiers allegedly raided the community and destroyed some houses including the palace of the community leader, in a bid to apprehend the militias.

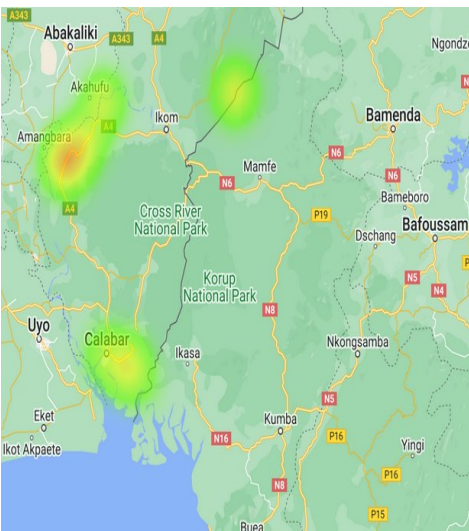
### Political Violence

In May, a policeman was reportedly shot dead at the venue of the primary elections of a major political party in Obudu town, Obudu LGA.

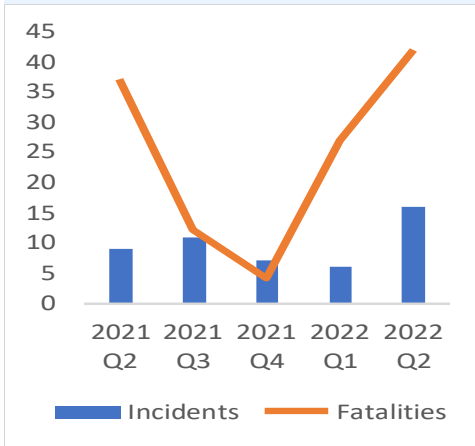
Separately, in May, a youth leader was reportedly killed and a policeman injured during a clash between hoodlums and security personnel at the venue of the primary elections of a major political party in Calabar South LGA.

### Cross Border Violence

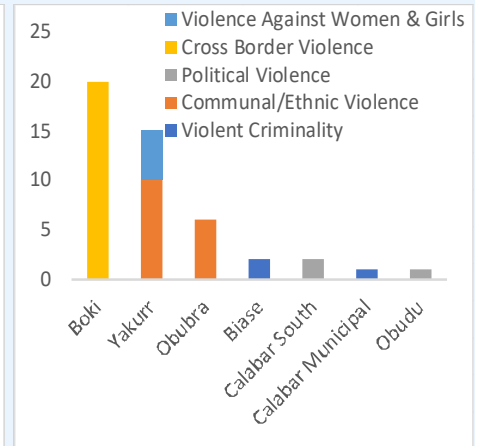
In April, Cameroonian soldiers allegedly killed a local leader of the Biafra National League (BNL) at his residence in Atabong, Bakassi LGA. In May, Ambazonia separatist militias reportedly attacked and killed about 20 displaced Cameroonians in Bashu community, Boki LGA. Separately, in May, Ambazonia separatist militias reportedly killed seven motorcyclists in Bashu community, Boki LGA. The motorcyclists were reportedly killed while they were conveying some Cameroonians who allegedly refused to join the separatist militias in their agitation. Many Cameroonians have reportedly fled into the border community of Bashu in Boki LGA, Cross River State, as a result of the alleged invasion of their community by Ambazonia separatist militias.



Incidents and Fatalities, Cross River State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Cross River (April - June 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](http://www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Delta State

There was an increase in reported conflict fatalities in Delta State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), more than 40 conflict fatalities were reported in Delta State during the quarter. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the period were largely driven by organized criminality and clashes between rival cult gangs. Ndokwa West followed by Aniocha South and Sapele LGAs had the highest number of reported conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

### Violent Criminality

Several incidents of violent criminality including assassination were reported in the State during the period. In April, for example, gunmen suspected to be assassins reportedly killed a man alleged to be an internet fraudster in Orhuwhoron community, Udu LGA. His assailants allegedly trailed and shot him dead in his car. Separately, in April, a 24-year-old tricycle operator was reportedly killed by robbers in Oton community, Sapele LGA.

In May, a popular photographer was reportedly shot dead by suspected assassins at his wife’s shop in Sapele town, Sapele LGA. Separately, in May 10 kidnappers who double as robbers were

reportedly killed during a gun duel with the police in Kwale community, Ndokwa West LGA. Also, in May, a hotelier who was a local council chairmanship aspirant was reportedly assassinated by gunmen in Agbarho community, Ughelli North LGA. The assassins allegedly invited the man to the location where he was shot dead.

In June, gunmen reportedly attacked a provision store and killed a landlord and two children in Sapele town, Sapele LGA. Separately, in June, a policeman and a commercial motorcyclist were reportedly killed by gunmen suspected of being robbers in Effurun community, Ovwie LGA.

### Gang/Cult Violence

In April, four persons were reportedly killed during a series of clashes between rival cult gangs in Ogwasi-Uku community, Aniocha South LGA. In June, a man was reportedly killed during a clash between members of two rival cult gangs in Sapele town, Sapele LGA.

### Communal Violence

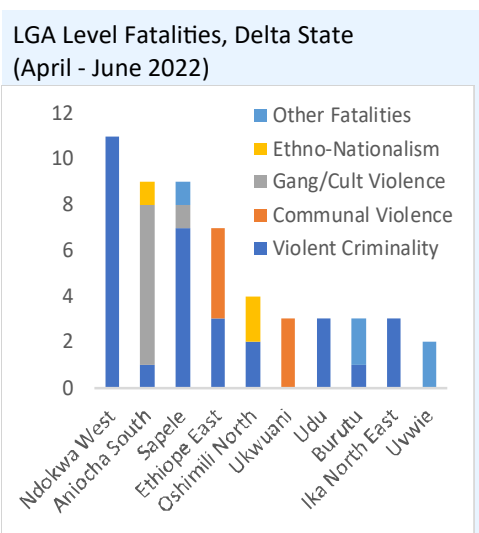
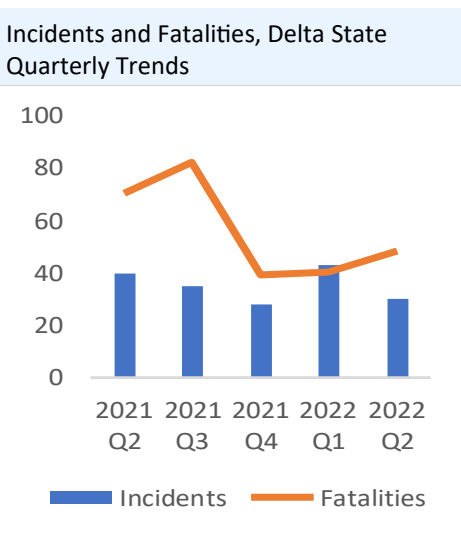
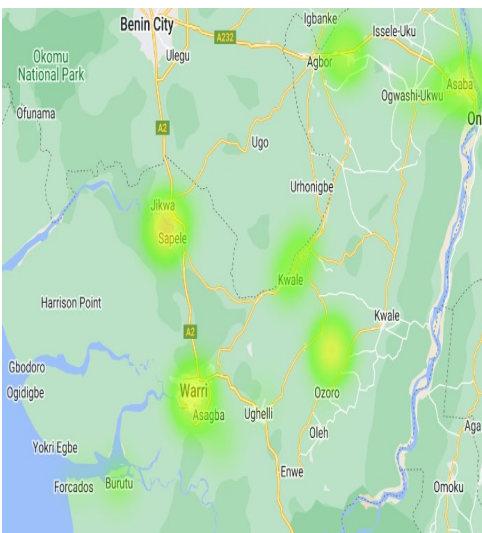
In June, three residents including a hunter were reportedly killed by armed herdsmen at different locations in Obiaruku community, Ukwuani LGA.

### 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 targeted violence against women and girls were also reported during the period. In April, for instance, a young lady was reportedly murdered in a hotel in Ozoro community, Isoko North LGA. The decapitated corpse of the lady was found in the hotel. In June, an orphan was reportedly raped by a 35-year-old man in Ebrumede community, Uvwie LGA. The victim is reportedly the daughter of the late sister of the man’s wife.

### Other Incidents

In May, a truck driver was reportedly killed by suspected members of the proscribed Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) in Ugbolu community, Oshimili North LGA. In June, a man who was hunting snails was reportedly killed by soldiers attached to an oil and gas facility in Ogulagha community, Burutu LGA. The incident sparked off a protest by residents.



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](http://www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Edo State

There was an increase in the levels of conflict risk and lethal violence in Edo State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Edo was among the states that ranked high in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Conflict risk and lethal violence in Edo State during the period were mainly driven by criminality and communal conflict. Oredo 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. Criminality caused over 20 fatalities in the State during the period. In April, for instance, the police reportedly killed five gunmen who attempted kidnapping an expatriate working in a popular oil palm plantation in Ovia North East LGA. Separately, in April, a 17-year-old boy reportedly stabbed his employer to death and stole his car in Benin City, the state capital. In June, a 41-year-old Catholic priest was reportedly

abducted and killed by kidnapers in Ikabigbo community, Etsako West LGA. Two hunters who attempted to rescue the priest were also killed. Separately, in June, 13 mourners who were returning from a funeral were reportedly abducted by kidnapers along the Auchi-Benin Expressway in Etsako West LGA. The kidnapper later demanded a 60 million naira ransom.

### Gang/Cult Violence

In June, eight persons were reportedly killed during a series of clashes between rival cult gangs at different locations in Benin City, the state capital. One of the victims was alleged to be the mother of a member of one of the rival cult gangs that are involved in a battle for supremacy and territorial control in the area.

### Communal Violence

Several incidents of communal conflict were reported in the State during the period. In April, armed herdsmen reportedly attacked some residents, destroyed crops and killed five persons in Odiguetue community, Ovia North East LGA.

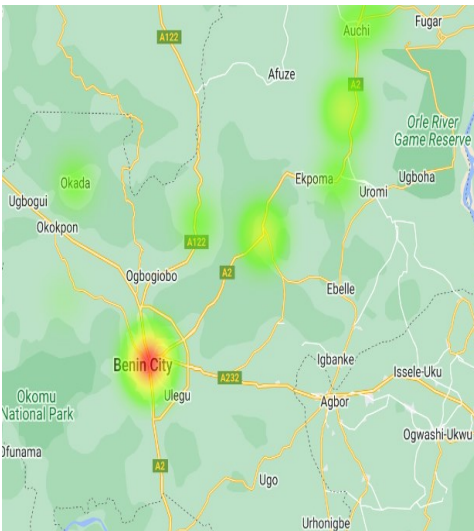
Separately, in April, gunmen reportedly killed three residents, including the leader of a local vigilante group, following a leadership tussle in Uselu-Nahor community, Uhumwonde LGA.

### Violence Affecting Women & Girls

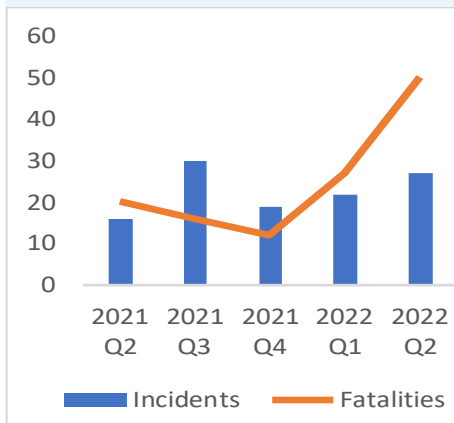
In addition to the impact of criminality, cult clashes, and communal violence on women and girls listed above, other violence targeting women and girls was also reported during the period. In June, for instance, a 17-year-old girl was reportedly raped and killed for ritual purposes by a suspected internet fraudster in Benin City, the state capital.

### Other Incidents

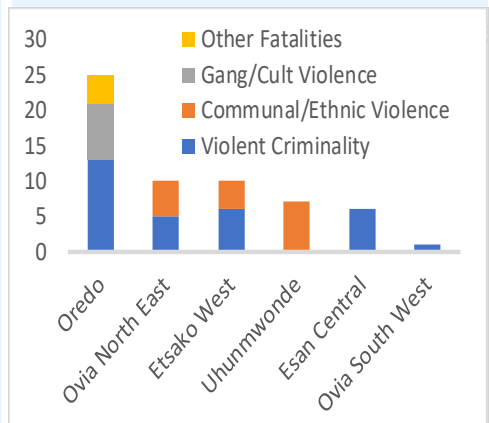
In May, a robbery suspect was reportedly burned to death by a mob in Auchi community, Etsako West LGA. Separately, in May, the local leader of a major political party was allegedly killed during the primary elections of the party in Benin City, the state capital. In June, a 33-year-old man reportedly killed his 20-month-old son for money making rituals in Benin, Oredo LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Edo State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Edo State (April - June 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](http://www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)



## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Imo State

There was a significant increase in the number of reported conflict fatalities in Imo State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Imo State ranked highest in lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter, based on reported fatalities. Conflict risk and lethal violence during the period were mainly driven by illegal oil bunkering and artisanal refining activities, ethno-nationalist separatist agitation and violent criminality. Ohaji/Egbema LGA had the highest number of conflict fatalities during the period.

### Illegal Artisanal Oil Refining

Illegal artisanal oil refining related violence and disasters caused over a hundred fatalities in the State during the quarter. In April, for instance, more than 100 persons were reportedly killed and several vehicles burned in a fire outbreak caused by an explosion at an illegal artisanal oil refinery in Abaezi community, Ohaji/Egbema LGA. In May, two men were reportedly killed in an explosion at an oil flow station in Izombe community, Oguta LGA. The men were allegedly attempting to bomb the facility when the improvised explosive device mistakenly detonated and killed them.

### Violent Ethno-Nationalist Separatist Agitation

Violent separatist agitation and clashes between government security forces and separatist militias caused several fatalities in the State during the quarter. In April, for example, two persons were reportedly killed during a clash between government security forces and separatist militias along the Orlu-Orsu Road in Orlu LGA. Separately, in April, five separatist militias were reportedly killed during a clash with soldiers who were on internal security operations in Orlu community, Orlu LGA. The militias were reportedly killed while they were enforcing a ‘Sit-at-home’ order allegedly issued by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB).

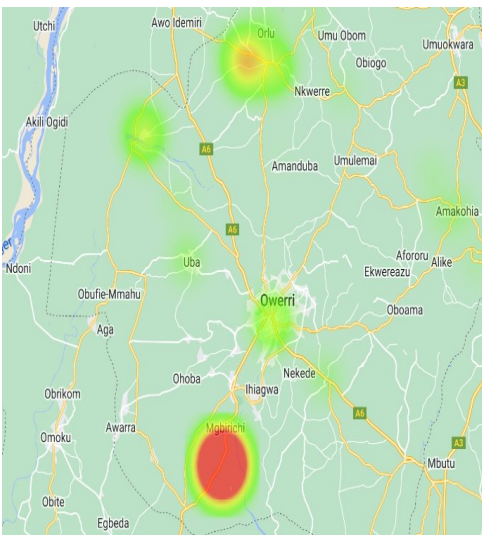
In May, separatist militias reportedly killed and decapitated a military couple at an unknown location in Orlu LGA. Separately, in May, six separatist militias were reportedly killed by government security forces during a clash in Orlu community, Orlu LGA. The militias were allegedly killed while they were attempting to attack the residence of a traditional ruler in the community.

### Violent Criminality

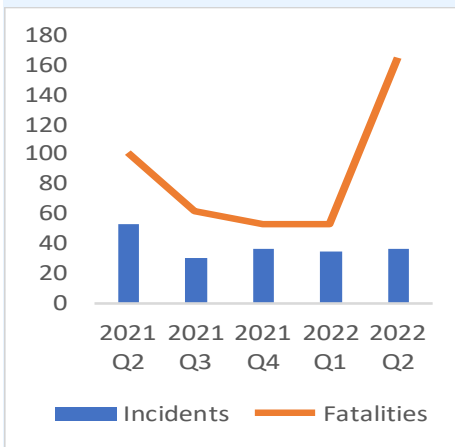
Several incidents of violent criminality were reported in the State during the period. In April, gunmen reportedly attacked and killed a staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) during a voter registration exercise in Nkwo Ihitte community, Ihitte Uboma LGA. In May, a private security personnel at the facility of a major telecommunication company was reportedly killed by gunmen in Ogbotoukwu community, Obowo LGA. Separately, in May, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) was reportedly killed by gunmen at a security checkpoint in Agwa community, Oguta LGA.

### Other Incidents

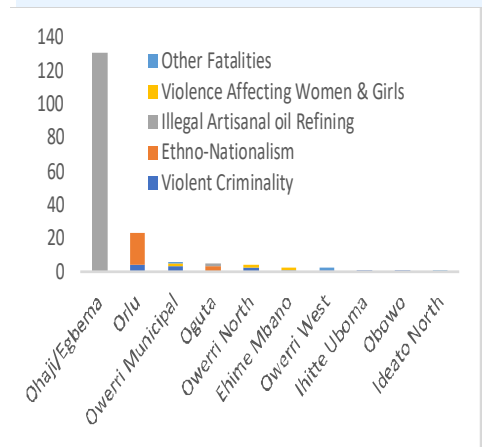
In April, gunmen reportedly attacked some staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) during a voter registration exercise and killed a registration officer in Nkwo Ihitte community, Ihitte Uboma LGA. In June, an 18-year-old girl was reportedly drugged and raped to death by a young man in Umuezeala Nsu community, Ehime Mbano LGA. Also, in June, a woman was reportedly stabbed to death by a 28-year-old man in Nekede town, Owerri West LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Imo State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Imo State (April - June 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](http://www.tgpccloud.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 an increase in the number of conflict fatalities in the State in Q2 of 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Ondo 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 during the quarter were mainly driven by communal/ethnic conflict and criminality. Owo LGA had the highest number of reported conflict fatalities in the State during the period.

### Violent Criminality

Criminal violence including kidnapping for ransom, homicide and targeted killing was a major cause of insecurity in the State during the period. In April, for instance, armed herdsmen reportedly killed a 49-year-old staff of a popular cement company during a failed kidnapped attempt in Ajowa Akoko community, Akoko North West LGA.

In May, gunmen reportedly killed a soldier and a driver, and abducted an expatriate engineer at a construction site in Ogbonmo community, Owo LGA. Separately, in May, a cleric and his son were reportedly kidnapped by gunmen along Ifon/Okeluse Road in Ose LGA. The kidnapers later demanded a 10 million naira ransom. Also, in May, a 17-year-old boy was reportedly stabbed to death by a 20-year-old woman during a fight in Ebute community, Okitipupa LGA.

In June, gunmen suspected to be terrorists reportedly attacked a Catholic church and killed more than 38 worshippers including five children in Owo town, the headquarters of Owo LGA. Separately, in June, gunmen reportedly attacked a community, robbed residents and killed six persons in the Sabo area of Ondo town in Ondo East LGA.

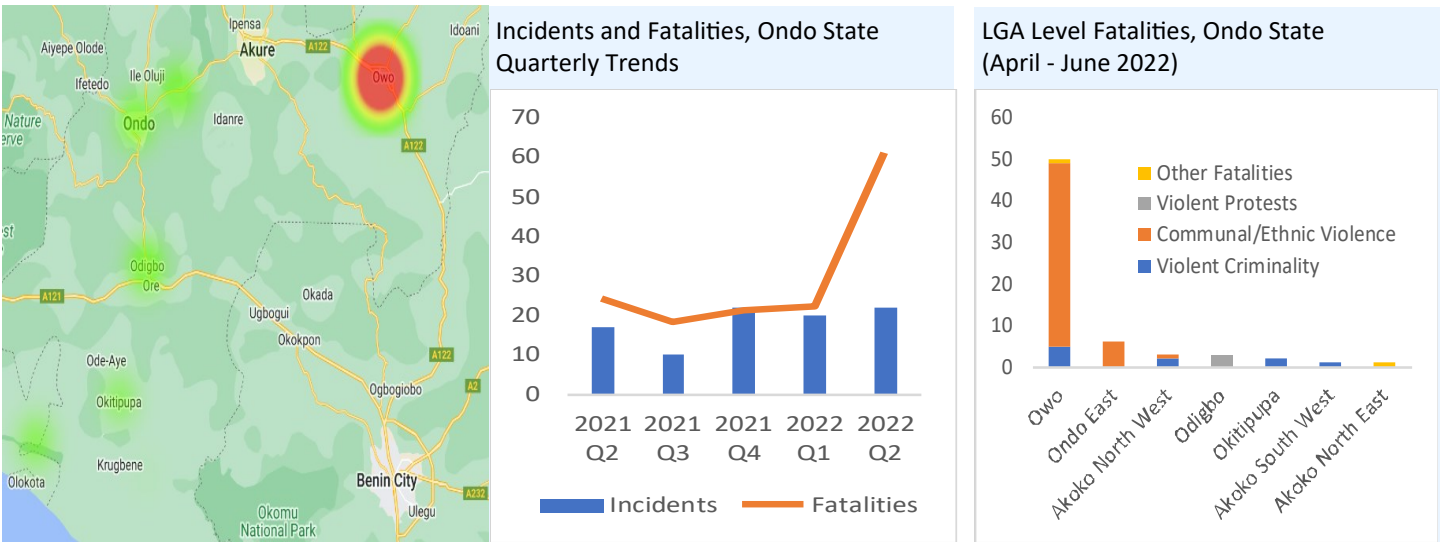
### Communal Violence

Communal violence including clashes between herders and famers caused several fatalities in the

State during the period. In April, for example, a male farmer was reportedly killed and decapitated by gunmen suspected to be herdsmen in Ago Panu community, Owo LGA. Also, in April, suspected herdsmen reportedly attacked and macheted a 77-year-old farmer in Ikakumo village, Akoko North East LGA.

### Other Incidents

In April, three persons including a community leader were reportedly killed at a security checkpoint in Kajola community, Odigbo LGA. The victims allegedly died after they were hit by a vehicle at the security checkpoint. The incident reportedly triggered a protest by residents who blamed the police officers at the checkpoint for negligence. In June, a polytechnic student was reportedly shot and killed by operatives of the Ondo State chapter of the Western Nigeria Security Network also known as ‘Amotekun Corps’ in Owo community, Owo LGA. The incident reportedly sparked off a series of protests by students in the community.



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](http://www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p)

## Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — Rivers State

There was an increase in the number of reported incidents of conflict risk and lethal violence in Rivers State in Q2 2022, compared to the first quarter of the year. However, according to Peace Map data (see page 2), Rivers 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 in the State during the period were mainly driven by illegal artisanal oil refining activities, violent criminality, communal conflict, and clashes between rival cult gangs. Port Harcourt followed by Emohua LGA had the highest number of reported conflict fatalities during the period.

### Illegal Artisanal Oil Refining

Illegal artisanal oil refining related explosions and fire outbreaks caused over 15 fatalities in the State during the quarter. In April, for instance, more than 10 persons including a pregnant woman and two children were reportedly killed in a fire outbreak caused by illegal artisanal refined petroleum products at the Bonny-Bille-Nembe jetty in Port Harcourt LGA. The incident was allegedly caused by fire from a gas cylinder that exploded while some residents were off-loading illegally refined petroleum products also known as ‘Kpofire’ from a wooden boat in the area. In June,

over seven residents were reportedly killed in a fire outbreak in Oru-Amaboko community, Degema LGA. The fire reportedly spread into the community from a boat conveying illegal artisanal refined petroleum products. The boat was allegedly set ablaze by security operatives.

### Violent Criminality

Criminality was a major driver of conflict risk and lethal violence in the State during the quarter. In June, for instance, a police officer was reportedly killed by gunmen in Kom Kom community, Oyigbo LGA. Separately, in June, two residents including a community leader were reportedly killed by gunmen in Udoda community, Ahaoda West LGA.

### Communal Violence

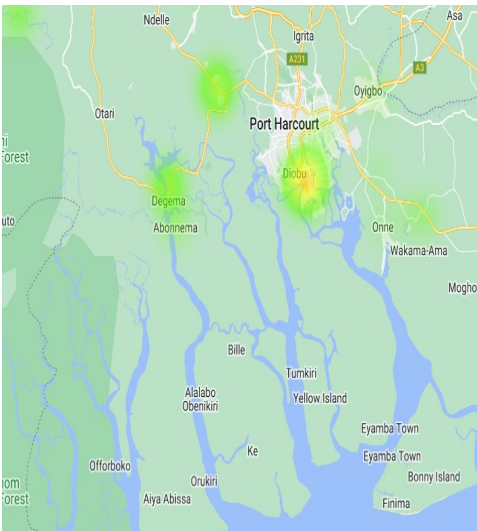
Several incidents of communal conflict were reported in the state during the period. In April, for example, a resident was reportedly killed during a youth association election in Onne community, Eleme LGA. Separately, in April, gunmen reportedly killed a herdsman while he was grazing his cattle in Ogu community, Ogu/Bolo LGA. In May, suspected members of a local vigilante group reportedly set ablaze the house of a community leader in Obelle community, Emohua LGA.

### Gang/Cult Violence

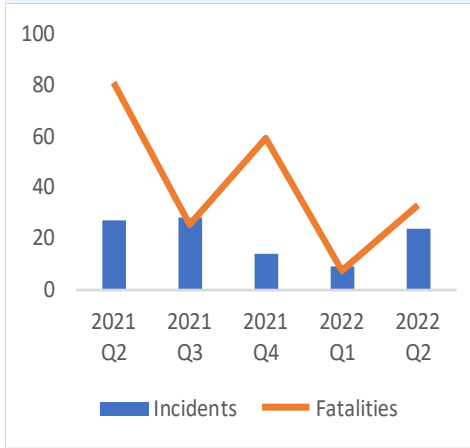
Clashes over battles for supremacy and territorial control among rival cult gangs caused several fatalities in the State during the period. In April, four residents were reportedly killed during a series of clashes between members of two factions of a local vigilante group that belongs to rival cult gangs over the collection of levies known as ‘Matching ground’ in Ibaa community, Emohua LGA. Separately, in April, the leader of a local vigilante group was reportedly killed by a member of a cult gang in Obelle community, Emohua LGA. In May, a suspected cultist was reportedly killed during a reprisal attack by members of a rival cult gang in Diobu community, Port Harcourt LGA.

### Other Incidents

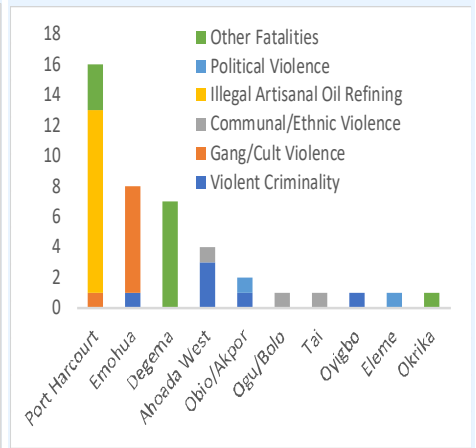
In April, an inmate was reportedly killed and 12 others injured during a fight at the Port Harcourt Township Correctional Centre in Port Harcourt LGA. The fight allegedly later degenerated into an attempted jailbreak. In May, a man was reportedly killed during a protest by members of a major political party at the Government Residential Area (GRA) in Obio/Akpor LGA. The man was allegedly killed by a stray bullet fired by a security personnel who attempted to disperse the protesters.



Incidents and Fatalities, Rivers State Quarterly Trends



LGA Level Fatalities, Rivers State (April - June 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](http://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:** Afeno Super Odomovo, Research Coordinator

**Contacts:** ✉ [afeno@pindfoundation.org](mailto:afeno@pindfoundation.org) 📞 (+234) 08172401595

**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.