

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Rivers State: November-December 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 September-November 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was an increase in lethal violence in Rivers state in November 2018. Based on reported fatalities (see Figure 2), Rivers was one of the most violent states in the Niger Delta during the period. Reported incidents included criminality, cult and political violence, child trafficking and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG).

Political Violence: In November, a supporter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was reportedly shot dead during a political event in Ipo community, Ikwerre LGA. Over 30 gunmen invaded the venue of the political event, shot sporadically and vandalized many vehicles.

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 October, gunmen reportedly kidnapped 10 community leaders in Abonema town, Akuku-Toru LGA. The kidnappers demanded a 5-million naira ransom. In November, a chieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC) was reportedly

kidnapped and later found dead in a forest in Ubima community, Ikwerre LGA.

Cult Violence: 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. In November, two people were reportedly beheaded by cultists in Choba, Obio/Akpor LGA.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG): In addition to the impact of criminality on women and girls listed above, sexual violence was also reported during the period. In November, for instance, a 9-year old daughter of a pastor was reportedly raped to death by a 23-year old man in Khana LGA.

Child Trafficking: In November, 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.

Flooding: In October, five people including two women were reportedly killed by flooding in Ahoada West LGA.

Others: In November, 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.

Recent Incidents, December 2018

Reported incidents during the month mainly related to criminality, cult violence, and domestic violence.

Criminality: A paramount ruler was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Rumuepirikom community, Obio/Akpor LGA. Separately, gunmen reportedly killed five people in Adada-Odua community, Abua/Odual LGA.

Cult Violence: During the month, six people were reportedly killed during a series of

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Rivers State

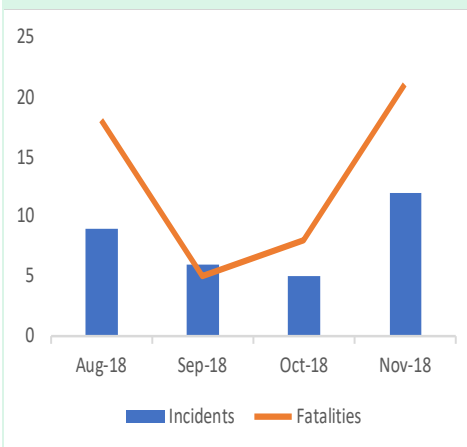
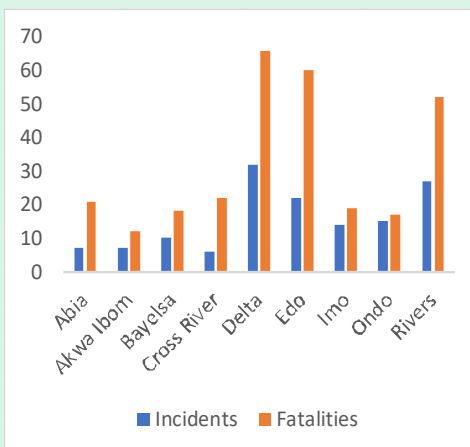


Figure 2: Incidents and Fatalities, Niger Delta (Aug - Nov 2018)



Reported incidents and fatalities from August – November 2018 in Rivers State and regional trends. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

clashes between members of Icelanders and Greenlanders cult groups in Port Harcourt LGA.

Domestic Violence: A 35-year old man reportedly killed his four children and later committed suicide in Alesa, Eleme LGA. The children aged, 8, 5, 3 and 1, were locked up and burned to death in their house. Separately, a 30-year old man reportedly strangled his 32-year old pregnant ex-lover and buried her in his one-room apartment in Rumuepirikom, Obio/Akpor LGA.

Other: A policeman reportedly shot a passenger who was travelling in a commercial bus over one hundred naira bribe along the East-West road, Emohua 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 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (September - November 2018)

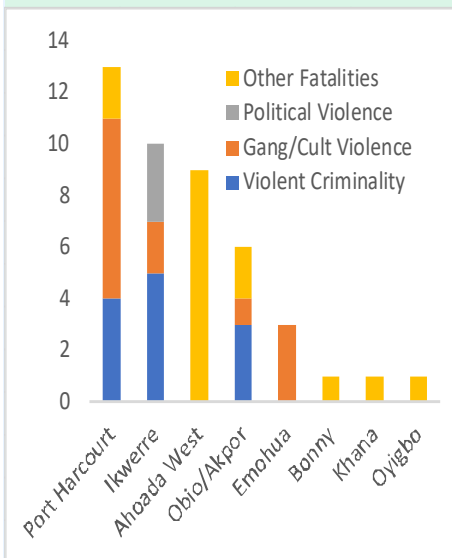
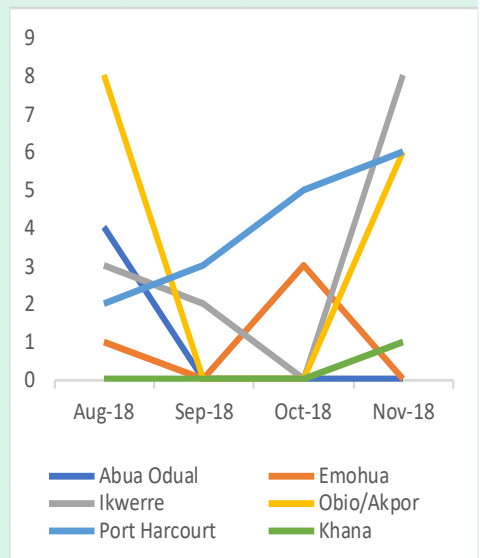
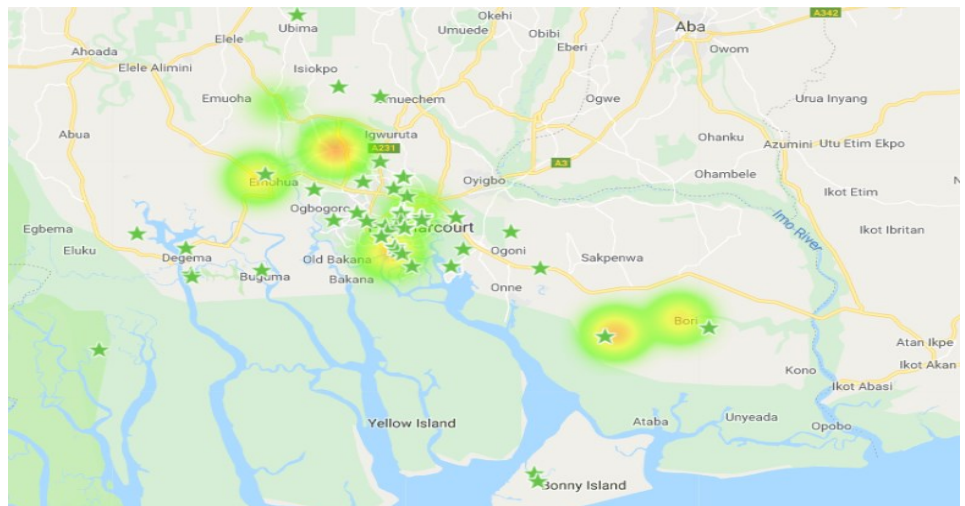


Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Rivers State this quarter shows that Port Harcourt, followed by Ikwerre had the highest number of reported fatalities. Sources (Figure 3): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map. Source (Figure 4): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 5: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Rivers State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from September – November 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

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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