

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Edo State: July-August 2019

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 May-July 2019

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was an increase in conflict risk and lethal violence in Edo state in July 2019, compared to the previous month. Reported incidents included communal conflict, cult violence, protests, and criminality including kidnapping for ransom.

Violent Criminality: In May, gunmen reportedly shot dead a man along Medical Road in Egor LGA. In July, the police reportedly killed four teenage robbers who stole a car at gunpoint in Benin City, Oredo LGA. Separately, two robbers were reportedly killed during a gun duel with the police in Ekehuan community, Egor LGA. In another incident, three robbers were reportedly arrested for robbing a man of his car in Ekpoma, Esan West LGA.

Kidnaping: In June, a Catholic priest was reportedly abducted by gunmen along Auchigarra Road, Akoko Edo LGA. In July, gunmen reportedly kidnapped two Chinese working with an aluminum company and killed a policeman attached to them in Utesi community, Ikpoba-Okha LGA. Separately,

herdsmen who double as kidnapers reportedly killed a naval officer and abducted 17 passengers from a commercial bus along the Benin-Lagos expressway in Ekiadolor, Ovia North-East LGA. In another incident, three women who were travelling to Lagos were reportedly abducted by kidnapers in Okada town, Ovia North-East LGA. In a separate incident, gunmen reportedly abducted a man who was driving to his farm in Igarra-Okpe community, Akoko-Edo LGA.

Cult Violence: In May, 11 people were reportedly killed following renewed cult violence in Benin City, the state capital. The killings took place during clashes between members of Eiyé and Black Axe cult groups in different parts of the city. In June, three persons reportedly sustained injuries during a clash between members of a vigilante and

a cult group at a funeral in Fugar community, Etsako Central LGA.

Communal Conflict: In June, a resident was reportedly killed by herdsmen in Okada community, Ovia North East LGA. The incident sparked off a protest by youths who reportedly sacked some camps set up by the herdsmen in the area.

Other Fatalities: In July, an army corporal reportedly stabbed a man to death during a disagreement in Agbede community, Etsako West LGA. Separately, a 13-year old pupil was reportedly killed by flood on his way to school in Uromi, Esan North-East LGA.

Protest: In May, there was a protest against an oil company over community development and other issues relating to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Kolokolo community, Ikpoba-Okha LGA.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Edo State

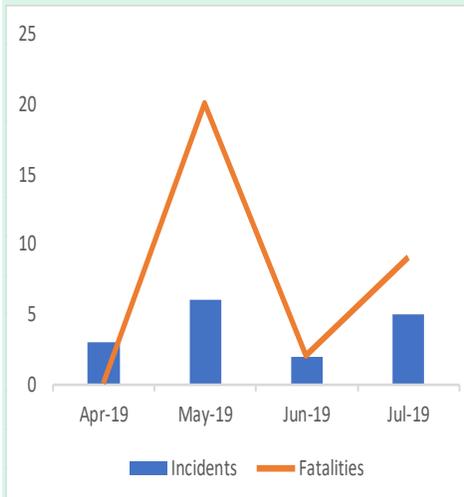
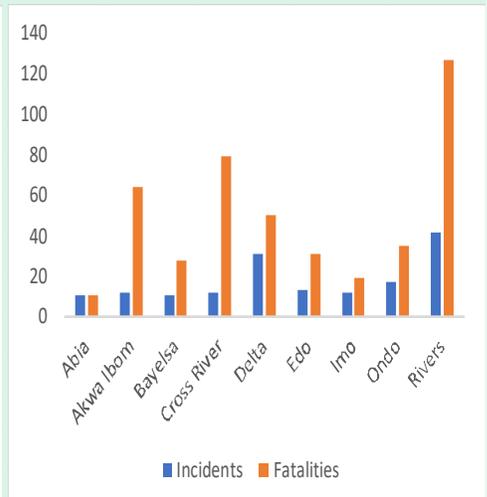


Figure 2: Incidents and Fatalities, Niger Delta (April - July 2019)



Reported incidents and fatalities from April – July 2019 in Edo State and regional trends. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Recent Incidents or Issues, August 2019

Incidents reported during the month mainly related to sexual violence and criminality including kidnapping for ransom.

Violent Criminality: Gunmen reportedly killed two policemen in the convoy of the Chief Medical Director (CMD) of a specialist hospital at Ramat Park, Ikpoba Okha LGA. The medical director was abducted by the gunmen who also shot and injured two other occupants of a vehicle in the convoy.

Sexual Violence: A 52-year old man was reportedly sentenced to 21 years imprisonment for raping his 12-year old daughter in Osoo, Akoko Edo LGA.

Prognosis

Conflict risk and violence in Edo state during this period were driven mainly by cult violence, communal conflict, protest, and criminality including kidnapping for ransom. Peace Actors should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is there anything missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issue suggested by, or missing from, this tracker is a top 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 (May - July 2019)

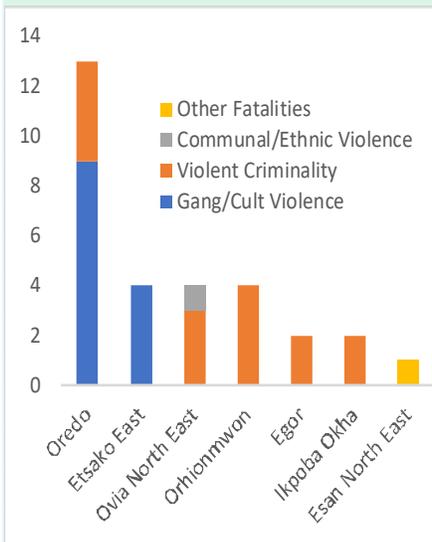
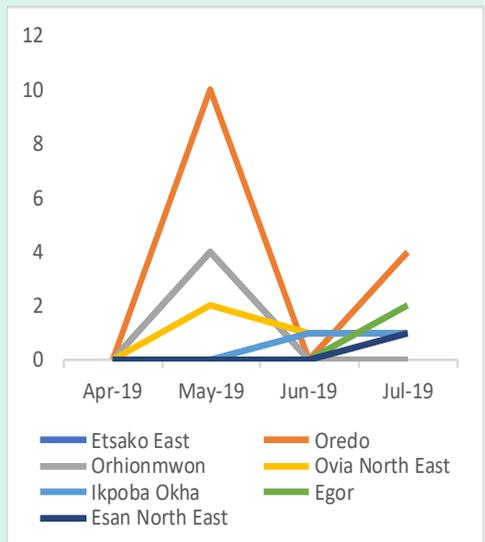
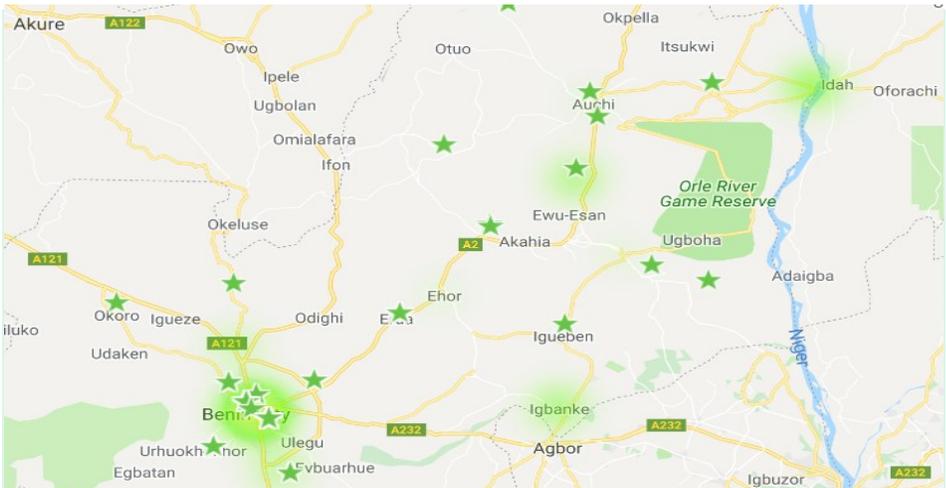


Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (May - July 2019)



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Edo State during this period show that Oredo had the most reported conflict fatalities in the state. 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 Edo State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from May - July 2019 in Edo State; 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



Inquiries: Afeno Super Odomovo, IPDU Research Coordinator

Telephone: 08172401595

Email: afeno@pindfoundation.org