

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Bayelsa State: August-September 2019

### Background

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

### Patterns and Trends June-August 2019

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in lethal violence in Bayelsa State in August 2019 compared to the previous month. Incidents reported during this period related mainly to political violence, communal conflict, criminality including militancy and kidnapping, and other Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG).

**Political Violence:** In August, gunmen reportedly attacked the residence of a former Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) senator in Yenagoa, the Bayelsa state capital. Separately, political thugs reportedly fired gunshots and detonated an explosive device suspected to be dynamite close a local secretariat of the PDP in Yenagoa LGA. The incidents was reportedly an attempt by the attackers to stop the party's ward congress which was going on in the secretariat. Political tension has been elevated in Yenagoa, the state capital in the context of the upcoming November 2019 gubernatorial elections in the state.

**Violent Criminality:** In July, gunmen reportedly attacked a police station and killed four officers including a pregnant female officer in Agudama community, Yenagoa LGA. The hoodlums carted away arms, ammunition and police uniforms.

**Mob Violence:** In August, three robbery suspects were reportedly killed by a mob in Biogbolo community, Yenagoa LGA. The suspects were arrested by a local vigilante group.

**Kidnapping:** In July, kidnappers reportedly abducted a 5-year old girl in Akenfa community, Yenagoa LGA. The kidnappers later left the girl in a hotel room after they had collected a 1-million naira ransom.

**Militancy:** In July, militants reportedly attacked an oil flow station, killed two soldiers, abducted another and made away

with rifles belonging to the soldiers in Azagbene community, Ekeremor LGA. Following the incident, soldiers reportedly attacked the community and burned several houses.

**Communal Conflict:** In July, two people were reportedly killed during a clash between Toru-Orua and Ofoni communities, Sagbama LGA. One of the victims allegedly killed a man and stole his motorcycle. He was later killed by the kinsmen of the man he killed.

**Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG):** In addition to the impact of criminality on women and girls listed above, kidnapping of women and girls was also reported during this period. In July, for instance, three women were reportedly kidnapped in Odoni community, Sagbama LGA. They included an 80-year and 66-year old woman with her 17-year old daughter.

Figure 1: Incidents & Fatalities, Bayelsa State

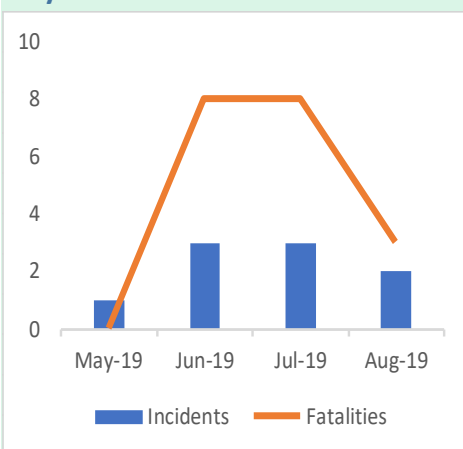
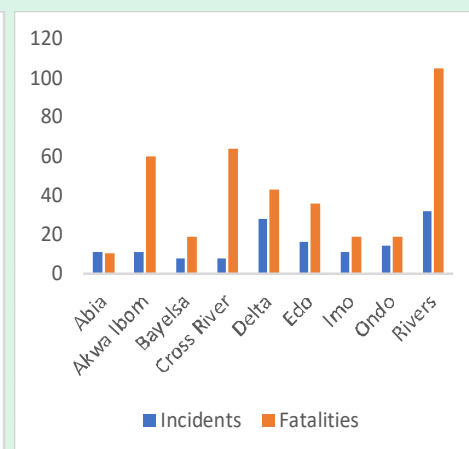


Figure 2: Incidents & Fatalities, Niger Delta (May - August 2019)



Reported incidents and fatalities from May—August 2019 in Bayelsa State and regional trends.  
Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

## Recent Incidents, September 2019

Incidents reported during this period related mainly to political violence and criminality.

**Political Violence:** During the month, gunmen reportedly attacked the venue of the People Democratic Party (PDP)'s governorship primary election in Nembe LGA. The attackers also reportedly engaged the police in a gun battle during the incident.

**Criminality:** Gunmen reportedly killed the chairman of the Bayelsa State Butchers Association in Yenagoa, the state capital.

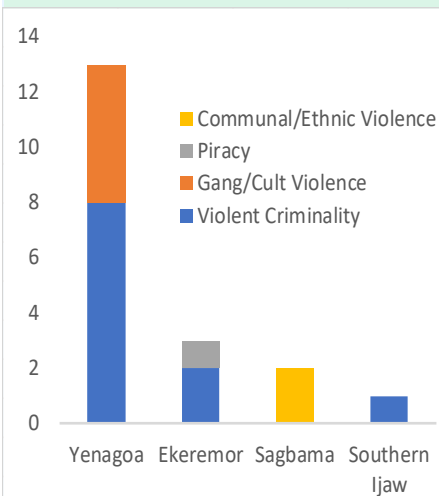
## Prognosis

Conflict risk and violence in Bayelsa state during this period were mainly driven by criminality including kidnapping for ransom, militancy, political violence, mob violence, communal conflict, and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). Peace Agents should monitor the security situation closely and respond appropriately.

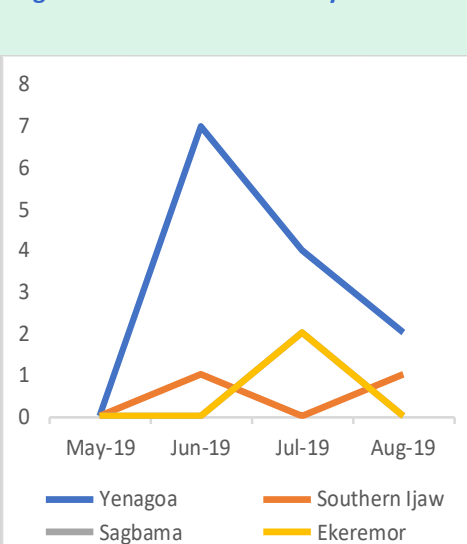
## Questions for Peace Agents

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 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 (June - August 2019)**

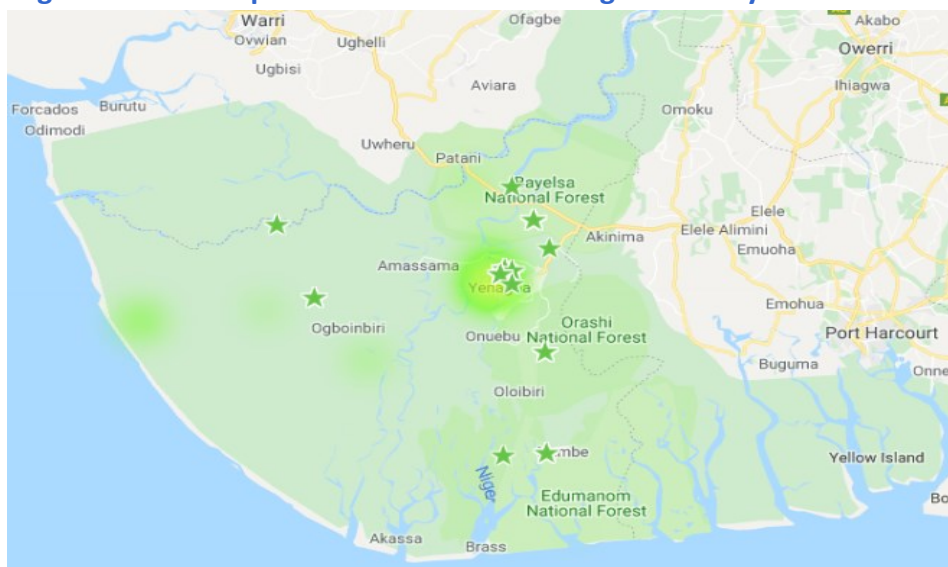


**Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA**



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State this period show that Yenagoa had the highest number of reported incidents of lethal violence. 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](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

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



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from June - August 2019 in Bayelsa; 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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