

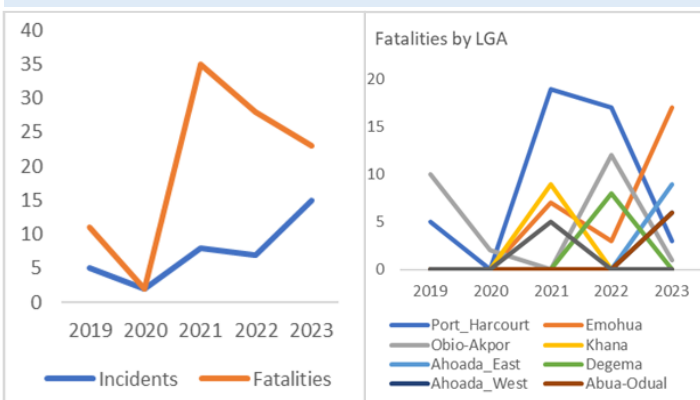
# Niger Delta Weekly: Preventing Recurrent Explosions and Fire Outbreaks in Rivers State

February 04-10, 2024

## Background

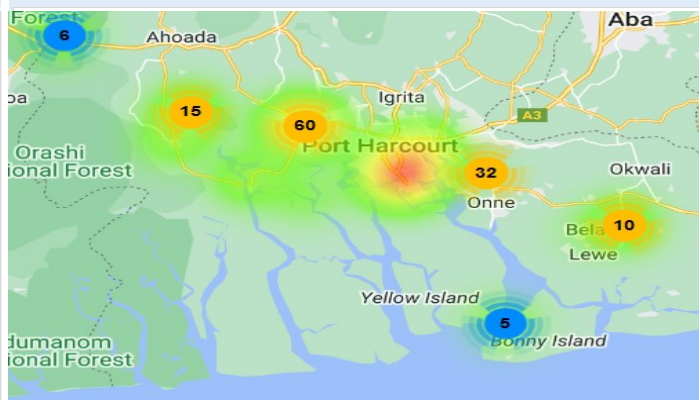
This special edition of the weekly update spotlights human-induced natural disasters in the Niger Delta with a focus on oil pipeline explosion and fire outbreak in Rivers State. According to data (see map below), petroleum pipeline explosion and fire outbreak caused more than 120 fatalities in Rivers State between January 2021 and December 2023. Recent data shows the prevalence of explosion and fire outbreak in the State. In December 2023, for instance, over 20 persons were reportedly killed and many others injured in a fire outbreak at an oil facility in Obrikom community, Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA. Separately, in December, a fire outbreak reportedly destroyed several shops and goods at Ebony Road in Oroazi community, Obio/Akpor LGA. In January 2024, a leaking gas pipeline belonging to a multinational oil company allegedly exploded and destroyed several farmlands and economic trees in Obagi community, Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA. More recently, on January 29, 2024, about 10 persons were allegedly killed and four boats destroyed by fire at the Bonny/Nembe/Bille Jetty along Creek in Port Harcourt LGA.

## Key Facts: Trends and Geographical Distribution of Explosions and Fire Outbreaks in Rivers State



Data shows that Port Harcourt LGA had the highest number of fatalities caused by explosion and fire outbreak in the State. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

## Fatalities Heat Map of Pipeline Explosions and Fire Outbreaks in Rivers State, Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical concentration of explosions and fire outbreaks in Rivers State from January 2021 - December 2023. Sources: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

## Why it Matters

The prevalence of oil and gas pipeline explosion and fire outbreak in the State is worrying, especially considering that such incidents usually cause many human fatalities, destruction of vegetation and natural habitats, and environmental pollution. This could intensify the devastation of the traditional livelihoods of farming and fishing, and consequently worsen human insecurity. It could also cause internal displacement, social dislocations and communal tensions, with far-reaching social, economic, political and security consequences.

## Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

The recurrence of oil and gas pipeline explosion and fire outbreak has the potential to adversely impact the dynamics of violent conflict and insecurity in the State. Stakeholders should work with the government to integrate artisanal refining into the mainstream oil and gas sector through modular refineries. Stakeholders should also leverage the Host Community Development Trust (HCDT) to raise public awareness of the effects of vandalism, illegal artisanal oil refining, and educate residents to be environmentally friendly.

## 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**

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