

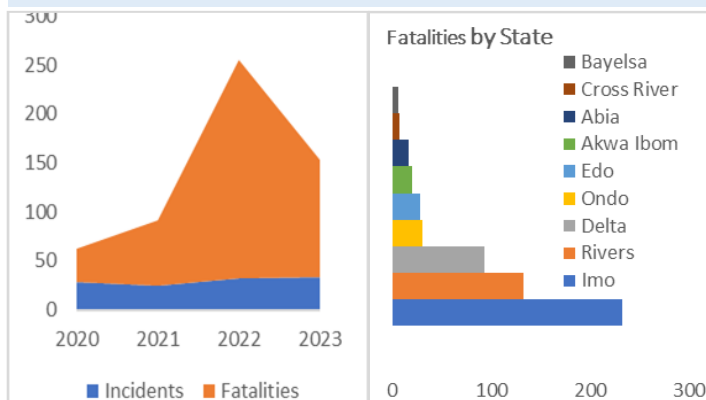
Niger Delta Weekly: Spotlighting Recurrent Explosion of Petroleum Tankers in the Niger Delta

June 02-08, 2024

Background

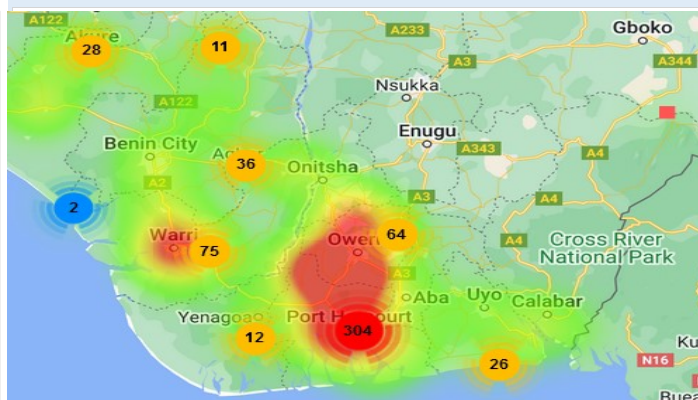
This special edition of the weekly update spotlights lethal violence in the oil and gas industry in the Niger Delta, with a focus on explosions and fire incidents associated with the production and distribution of petroleum products. According to data (see map below), fire incidents associated with the production and distribution of petroleum products caused over 500 fatalities in the Niger Delta between January 2020 and March 2024. Recent data shows the prevalence of fire disasters associated with the production and distribution of petroleum products. In January 2024, for instance, several persons were allegedly killed in a fire incident at an illegal oil bunkering site in Obitti, Ohaji/Egbema LGA, Imo State. In April, a petrol tanker reportedly exploded, killed four persons, and destroyed over 70 vehicles along the East-West Road in Eleme LGA, Rivers State. In May, an oil tanker exploded and killed seven persons at Ometan along Warri-Sapele Expressway in Okpe LGA, Delta State. Recently, on June 04, 2024, a gas tanker reportedly exploded and killed three persons at the Obiri-Ikwerre flyover along the East-West Road in Rivers state.

Key Facts and Figures: Trends and Patterns of Fire Outbreaks in the Niger Delta of Nigeria



Data shows that Imo and Rivers States had the highest number of fatalities caused by explosions and fire outbreaks. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Fatalities Heat Map of Explosions and Fire Outbreaks in the Niger Delta of Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical concentration of explosions and fire outbreaks in the Niger Delta from January 2020 - March 2024. Sources: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Why it Matters

The prevalence of fire incidents associated with the production and distribution of petroleum products in the Niger Delta is alarming, especially considering the massive loss of human life, destruction of properties, disruption of businesses, and environmental pollution. Frequent explosion of petroleum tankers could disrupt the distribution component of the oil and gas value chain, and thus hinder the provision of essential services. This could bring about far-reaching socio-economic, political and security consequences in the region.

Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

The current trend of accidents and explosions associated with the distribution of petroleum products is likely going to continue unless appropriate preventive measures are taken by stakeholders. In spite of the frequency and severity of the situation, safety measures remain inadequate. Stakeholders should collaborate with the relevant government agencies to take immediate action to mitigate the situation. This should include strict enforcement of all safety regulations and provision of emergency response services.

Contact Us

Inquiries: PINDfoundation.org

Contacts: info@PINDfoundation.org +234 (0) 9 291 0454

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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 2222/0912 233 4455**

Incident Details: Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and brief incident description.



FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA



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