

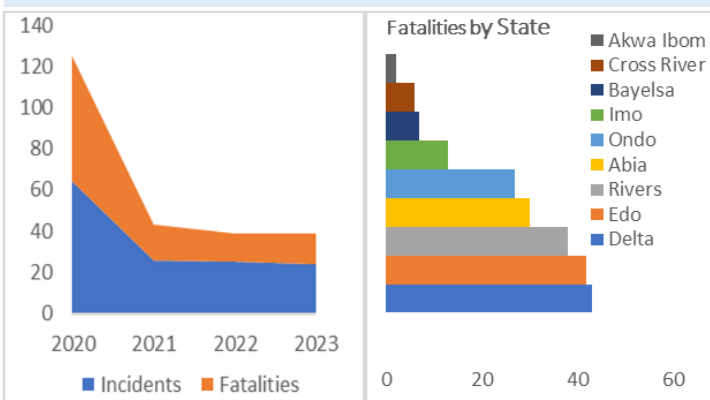
# Niger Delta Weekly: Preventing and Mitigating Violent Protests in the Niger Delta

August 04-10, 2024

## Background

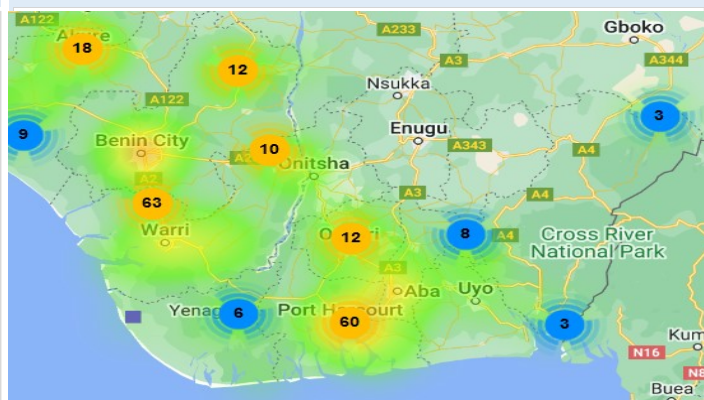
This special edition of the weekly update spotlights the ongoing mass protest in Nigeria with a focus on the Niger Delta region. Since the 1st of August 2024, thousands of residents, mostly youths, have taken to the streets to protest economic hardship caused by rising inflation across the country. The mass protest which started as a campaign against poor governance, corruption and rising cost of living, has snowballed into mass demonstrations and sit-ins, and targeted destruction of public and private infrastructure by hoodlums. In the Niger Delta, many incidents of violence, including clashes between protesters and government security forces, vandalism, and disruption of economic activities, have been reported, particularly in Delta and Rivers States. On August 02, 2024, for instance, a resident was reportedly shot and injured during a clash between a group of protesters and some police officers at Otovwodo Junction in Ughelli North LGA, Delta State. On August 07, 2024, hoodlums reportedly beat up two protesters and harassed a female journalist who was covering the protest in Port Harcourt, the Rivers State capital.

## Key Facts and Figures: Trends and Dynamics of Violent Protests in the Niger Delta



Data shows that Delta State had the highest fatalities caused by riots and protests in the Niger Delta during the period. 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 Violent Protests and Crackdowns in the Niger Delta of Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical concentration of reported fatalities caused by violent protests in the Niger Delta from January 2020 - June 2024. Sources: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

## Why it Matters

The ongoing #EndBadGovernance protest has the potential to escalate in ways that could negatively impact the dynamics of conflict and insecurity in the Niger Delta. As hinted by reported incidents of violence and hooliganism in some States, the situation could spiral and intersect with organized criminality and political tensions in the region. While the ongoing protest is driven by widespread discontent, the associated incidents of violence could pose serious risk to security, political stability, and economic development in the region.

## Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

Similar to the 'EndSARS' protests in October 2020, the ongoing 'EndBadGovernance' protest could be hijacked by violent non-state actors and other subversive elements to undermine governance and cause insecurity and political instability in the Niger Delta. Stakeholders including civil society actors should collaborate with the Federal and State governments to create safe space for peaceful protests, and initiate actions to de-escalate the situation, including providing assurances to address the concerns of the protesters.

## Contact Us

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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.



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