

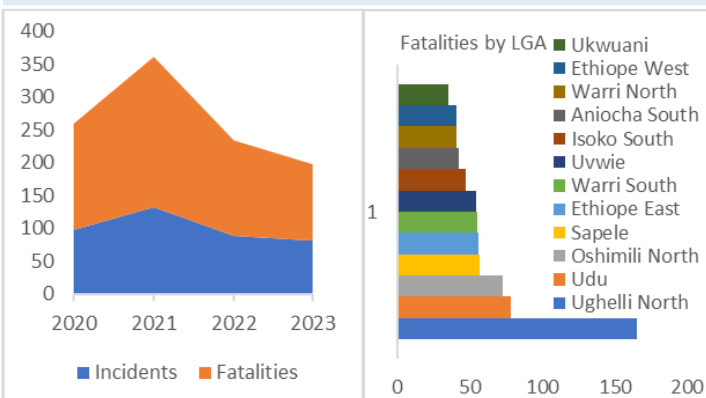
Niger Delta Weekly: De-escalating Communal Tensions and Criminal Violence in Delta State

September 08-14, 2024

Background

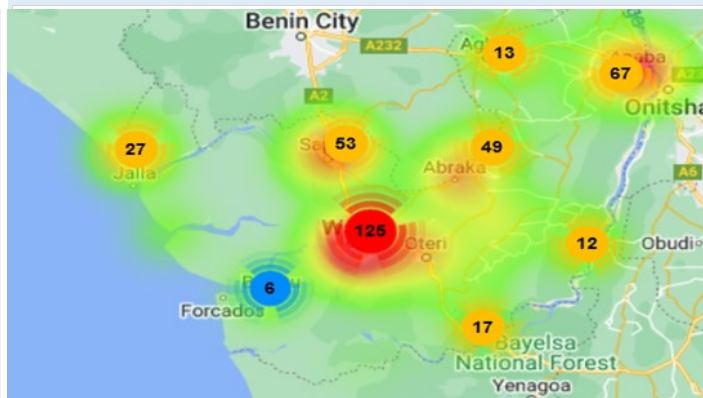
This weekly update spotlights lethal violence and insecurity in the Niger Delta with a focus on communal tensions and criminal violence in Delta State. Criminal violence and communal conflict are major drivers of insecurity in Delta State. According to data (see map below), communal conflict and criminal violence caused over 260 fatalities in the State between January 2021 and June 2024. Recent data indicate the resurgence of communal and criminal violence in the State. In May 2024, for instance, a man was allegedly abducted and killed by kidnappers in Adjekota community, Ughelli North local government area (LGA). In July, a fatality was reported during a clash between the police and a gang of armed kidnappers in Oviri-Ogor community, Ughelli North LGA. In September, three residents, including two police officers, were reportedly killed by kidnappers during the attempted abduction of the wife of a member of the Delta State House of Assembly in Jakpa community, Uvwie LGA. More recently, on September 09, 2024, three youths were reportedly killed in a clash with soldiers in Okuama community, Ughelli South LGA.

Key Facts and Figures: Trends and Hotspots of Communal and Criminal Violence in Delta State



Data shows that Ughelli North LGA had the highest fatalities caused by communal and criminal violence during the period. Sources: Nigeria Watch and ACLED data formatted on PIND's P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Fatalities Heat Map of Communal Tensions and Criminal Violence in Delta State, Nigeria



Heat Map shows the concentration of fatalities caused by communal and criminal violence in Delta State from January 2021 - June 2024. Sources: All data sources formatted on PIND's P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Why it Matters

A resurgence of communal and organized criminal violence could gravely impact the dynamics of conflict and insecurity in the State. The current trends of communal and criminal violence, including kidnapping and clashes between security forces and hoodlums, could escalate in ways that could cause a breakdown of law and order. This could cause unrest and the deployment of repressive strategies by law enforcement agencies. This could bring about serious socio-economic, political and security repercussions in the State.

Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

Based on recent trends and historical data, a resurgence of criminal and communal violence could dangerously affect the dynamics of conflict and insecurity in the State. Stakeholders should work with the security agencies to devise strategies to mitigate the situation. Peace actors should collaborate with other relevant governments' agencies to develop institutional and developmental strategies to address the underlying causes. Interestingly, several organizations are working to address the various forms of insecurity in the State.

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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