

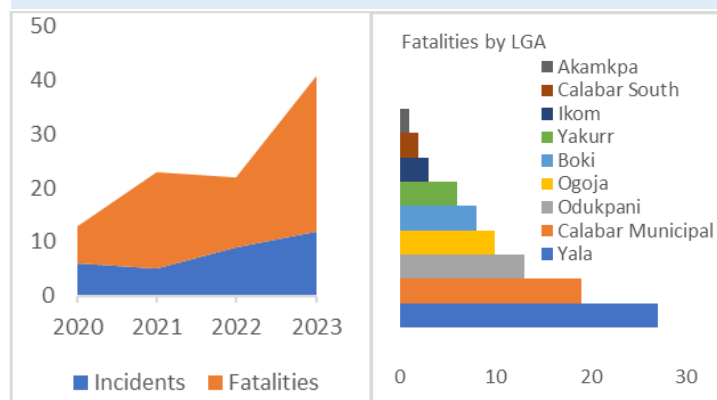
# Niger Delta Weekly: Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls in Cross River State

October 13-19, 2024

## Background

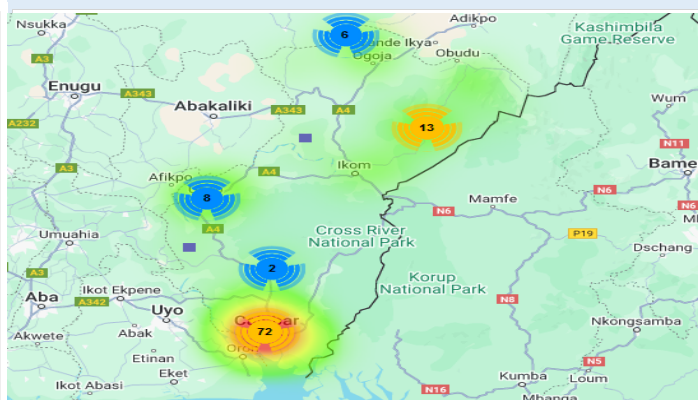
This special edition of the weekly update spotlights gender-based violence (GBV) in the Niger Delta with a focus on violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Cross River State. VAWG remains a significant threat to peace and human security in the State. According to data (see map below), more than 80 incidents of VAWG and over 45 related fatalities were reported in Cross River State between January 2020 and June 2024. Recent data indicates a resurgence of VAWG, including kidnapping and sexual violence. For instance, in August 2024, a pregnant woman was reportedly killed in Ugep, Yakurr local government area (LGA). Two suspects were arrested by the police. In September, a 1-year-old baby girl was allegedly raped by a middle-aged man in Betem, Biase LGA. The suspect is the landlord of the child's mother. Also, in September, residents raised the alarm about a hotel where teenage girls were allegedly held hostage, drugged and sexually abused in Afokang, Calabar South LGA. Most recently, on October 05, 2024, a pregnant woman was allegedly abducted by kidnapers at Eseku in Creek Town, Odukpani LGA.

## Key Facts and Figures: Trends and Dynamics of VAWG in Cross River State



Data shows that Yala and Calabar Municipal LGAs had the highest VAWG related fatalities in the State during the period. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on PIND's P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

## Incidents Heat Map of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in Cross River State, Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical concentration of incidents of violence against women and girls in Cross River State 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

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a major threat to public health, economic development and human security in Cross River. If not effectively addressed, it could intensify, reinforcing harmful cultural norms and practices that undermine the rights, health, and safety of women and girls. Furthermore, when VAWG is overlooked, it emboldens perpetrators, sending a dangerous message that such actions are tolerated. This fosters a culture of impunity, which can escalate violence and deepen feelings of injustice within society.

## Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

VAWG has the potential to intensify in the State, given historical data and recent trends showing rising levels of violence. This could undermine socio-economic development and human security by further marginalizing women and girls, and destabilizing communities. By fostering collaboration, developing stronger legal and policy frameworks, and promoting public awareness and education, stakeholders can work together to mitigate VAWG and protect the rights, safety, and welfare of women and girls in Cross River State.

## Contact Us

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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 2222/0912 233 4455**

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



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