

Regional Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk — April to June 2025

The peace and security situation in the Niger Delta was generally stable in Q2 2025. Compared to Q1, the region experienced a notable reduction in both conflict risks and incidents of lethal violence. Data from PIND’s [P4P Peace Map](#), indicates that conflict-related fatalities declined by 24%, falling from 221 in Q1 to 169 in Q2 2025.

Fatalities linked to communal conflict, criminal violence, gender-based violence, mob justice, and disasters all declined during the period. Notably, deaths from mob violence decreased by 80%, from 30 in Q1 to six in Q2, while fatalities from communal conflict decreased by 54%, from 85 to 39 within the same period.

Deaths from criminal violence decreased by 13%, from 126 in Q1 to 110 in Q2. Fatalities resulting from disasters also declined by 12.5%, from 32 to 28 over the same period. Violence against women and girls showed a mixed trend: fatalities dropped by 52%, from 21 to 10, while reported incidents more than doubled, rising by 109%, from 34 to 71.

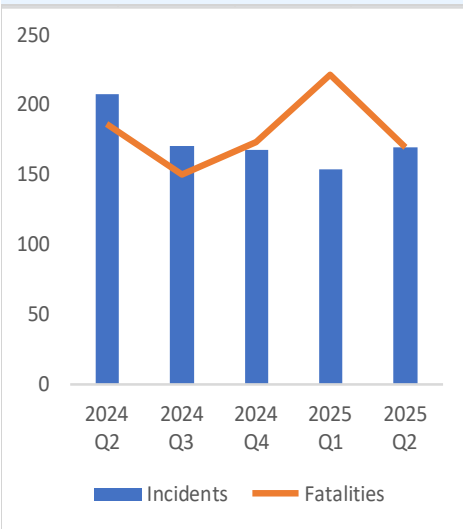
However, the period also witnessed an increase in cult-related gang violence and separatist agitation, including clashes between separatist militias and government security forces. Separatist-related violence recorded the most significant rise, with fatalities increasing by 90%, from 10 in Q1 to 19 in Q2. Gang-related incidents rose by 57%, from 21 in

Q1 to 33 in Q2, while fatalities increased by 14%, from 35 to 40. Also, protest activity surged by 89%, rising from 38 incidents in Q1 to 72 in Q2.

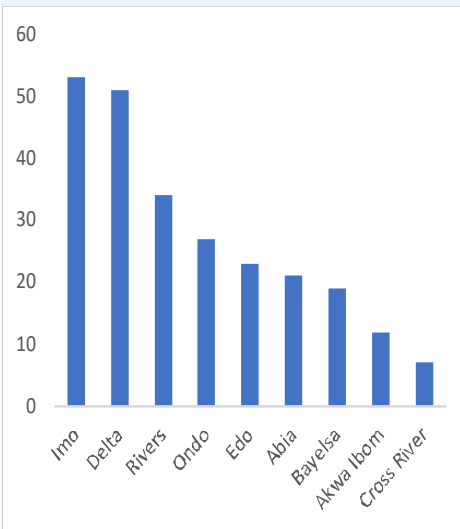
Based on reported conflict-related fatalities, Imo and Delta States, followed by Rivers, recorded the highest levels of lethal violence in the region during the period. At the regional level, Oguata and Okigwe LGAs in Imo State accounted for the highest number of deaths.

The following pages present a state-by-state breakdown of the primary conflict issues reported during the quarter, along with an analysis of emerging trends and patterns over time.

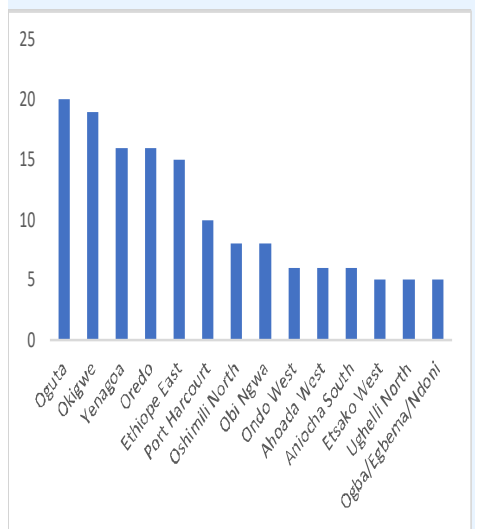
Incidents and Fatalities, Niger Delta Quarterly (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



Conflict Fatalities, State Level (April - June 2025)



Conflict Fatalities, LGA Level (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

About this Conflict Tracker

This tracker provides stakeholders with timely information to support analysis and joint planning efforts to promote sustainable peace in the Niger Delta.

To ensure the tracker is comprehensive, please contribute your knowledge by reporting any verified incident of conflict to PIND’s IPDU Early Warning System by texting a message to any of the hotlines: **091 2233 4455**.

Include the relevant state, LGA, town, date, and brief description of the incident. To read the latest conflict trackers and weekly updates, please visit <https://pindfoundation.org/category/conflict-trackers/> or www.p4p-nigerdelta.org/peace-map

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Abia State

Abia State recorded an increase in conflict risks and lethal violence in Q2 2025. Reported incidents doubled, rising by 100% from 6 in Q1 to 12 in Q2, while fatalities increased by 18%, from 11 to 13 within the same period. Despite this rise, Peace Map data (see page 2) indicates that Abia was still among the states with the lowest levels of lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter. The main drivers of insecurity were criminal activities, communal conflict, and violence against women and girls. Obi Ngwa and Umunneochi LGAs accounted for the highest number of fatalities.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence was a major driver of conflict and insecurity in Abia State during the quarter. In April, gunmen reportedly ambushed the convoy of Chinese expatriates in Uturu, Isuikwuato LGA,

killing three people, including two expatriates and a police officer attached to the convoy. The attackers also abducted three expatriates and seized rifles belonging to the police escorts. In June, gunmen reportedly murdered a commercial motorcyclist outside the Abia State University in Uturu, Isuikwuato LGA. That same month, in Umuhia North LGA, the police allegedly killed a member of a cult group after he attacked a resident.

Communal Violence

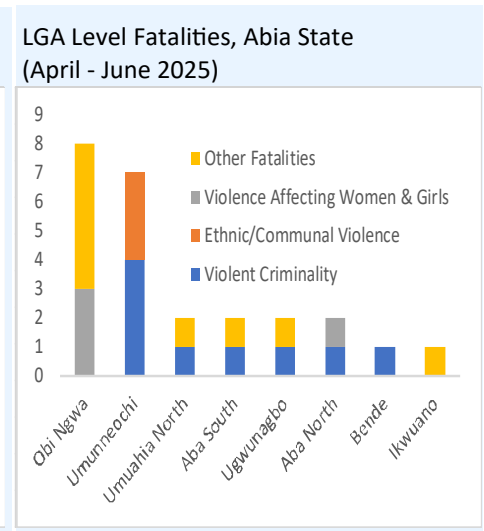
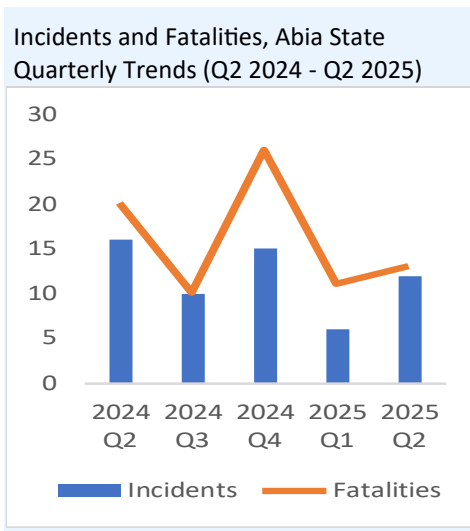
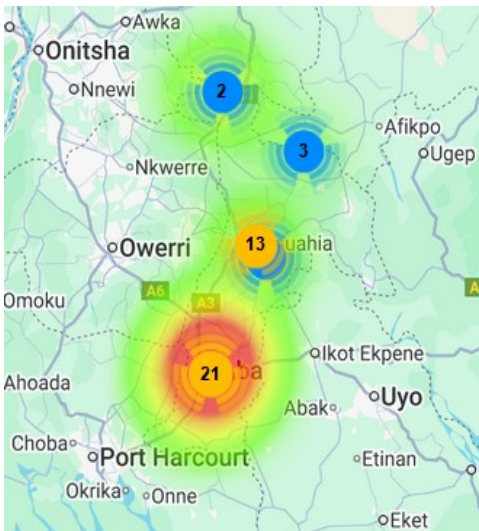
Communal conflict also posed a major security challenge in Abia State during the quarter. In June, for example, suspected herdsmen reportedly killed more than three people in Isuochi, Umunneochi LGA.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

In addition to the impact of communal and criminal violence on women and girls, other forms of gender-based violence were reported. In May, an artisan in Onicha Ngwa community, Obi Ngwa LGA, reportedly killed his wife and their baby before taking his own life following a domestic dispute. In June, a young man in Aba North LGA reportedly strangled his girlfriend during a fight.

Separatist Agitation

Separatist-related violence also contributed to insecurity in the State. In May, one person was reportedly killed in a clash between government forces and militias linked to the Eastern Security Network (ESN), the armed wing of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), in Ebubengwa-Abayi Nchokoro, Ugwuagbo LGA.



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND's P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Akwa Ibom State

Akwa Ibom State experienced a decline in conflict risks and lethal violence in Q2 2025 compared to Q1. Peace Map data (see page 2) shows that the state ranked among the least violent in the Niger Delta during the period, based on reported fatalities. The main drivers of insecurity were cult gang clashes, criminal activities, and gender-based violence. Most of the reported fatalities occurred in Etim Ekpo, Itu, Uruan, Ukanafun, Eket, and Oruk Anam LGAs.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence, including sea robbery and kidnapping for ransom, remained a major driver of insecurity in the State during the quarter. In May, sea pirates reportedly attacked travelers along the Oron–Calabar waterways but were repelled by a marine police patrol team following a distress call. In June, kidnappers abducted an 8-year-old pupil at Ikot Ibritam Junction, Oruk Anam LGA, but she was rescued by residents after raising the alarm.

Gang/Cult Violence

Cult-related violence was a major source of insecurity and fatalities in Akwa Ibom State during the period. In May, suspected cultists reportedly murdered a middle-aged farmer at his residence in Udianga Enem, Etim Ekpo LGA. The assailants allegedly stormed his home, called him out, and hacked him to death with machetes.

Communal Violence

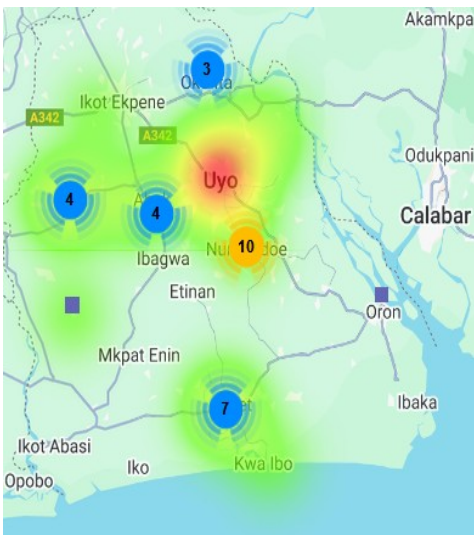
Communal clashes also led to fatalities in the state. In May, two people were reportedly killed and several others declared missing in renewed violence over a boundary dispute between Oku Iboku community in Itu LGA of Akwa Ibom State and Ikot Offiong community in Odukpani LGA of Cross River State. The victims included fisherfolk, farmers, and other residents.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

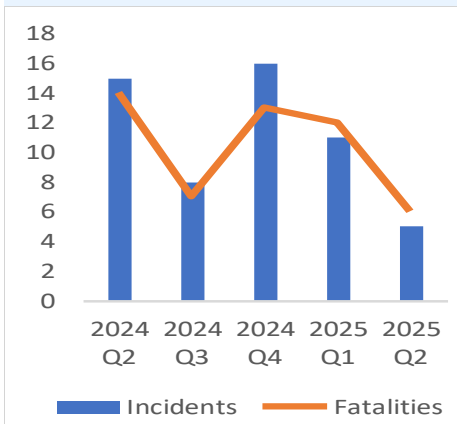
In addition to criminal and cult-related violence, other forms of violence against women and girls were reported during the period. In May, a young woman at Qua River Quarters, Eket LGA, was reportedly stabbed to death by her cohabiting boyfriend during a domestic dispute. Both individuals sustained fatal stab wounds in the altercation. In June, a man allegedly killed his 71-year-old mother with a machete in Ikot Inyang village, Oruk Anam LGA.

Other Incidents

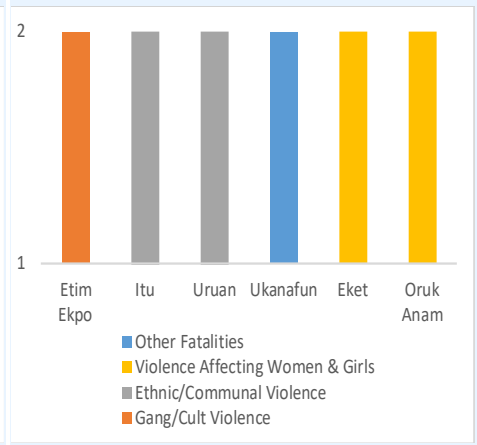
In June, a ward chairman was reportedly killed during a clash between supporters of two major political parties in Ukanafun LGA. The dispute was said to have stemmed from money donated by a politician to reward grassroots leaders.



Incidents and Fatalities, Akwa Ibom State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Akwa Ibom (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Bayelsa State

Bayelsa State experienced a rise in conflict risks and lethal violence in Q2 2025, with fatalities increasing by 162.5%, from eight in Q1 to 21 in Q2. Despite this increase, Peace Map data (see page 2) indicates that Bayelsa remained among the least violent states in the Niger Delta during the period, based on reported fatalities. The main drivers of insecurity were criminal activities and clashes between rival cult gangs, with most incidents, particularly cult-related violence, concentrated in Yenagoa, the state capital, and Southern Ijaw LGA.

Gang/Cult Violence

Clashes between rival cult gangs were a major driver of lethal violence and insecurity in the State during the period, resulting in multiple fatalities. In April, four people were reportedly killed in Swali, Yenagoa LGA, during a violent clash between rival cult gangs over market revenue. That same month, a cult leader was allegedly murdered by members of his own gang during a leadership tussle in the Azikoro area of Yenagoa. In May,

cultists reportedly killed two university graduates in Gbarabtoru-Ekpetiama, Yenagoa LGA. In separate incidents, three young men were also killed in cult-related attacks at different locations across Yenagoa.

Violent Criminality

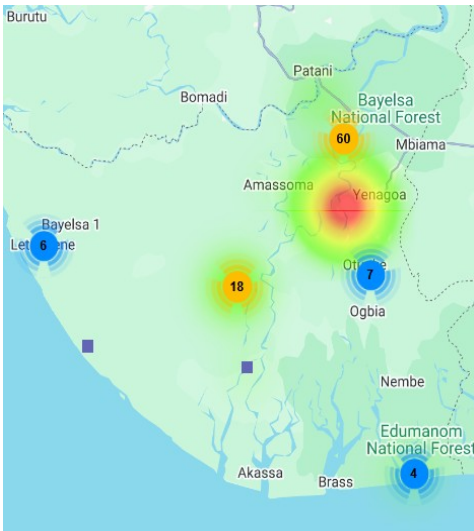
Organized criminal violence was a major security challenge in Bayelsa State during the quarter. In April, suspected militants reportedly ambushed and killed an officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Igbomotoru, Southern Ijaw LGA. In May, gunmen allegedly shot and killed a taxi driver at Samphino Junction in the Kpansia area of Yenagoa.

In June, a six-year-old boy was allegedly murdered by a 26-year-old man in the Aretalin area of Ovom, Yenagoa LGA. The suspect, identified as a member of the Greenlanders cult group and notorious for violent crimes, was alleged to have been contracted to provide a child for ritual purposes.

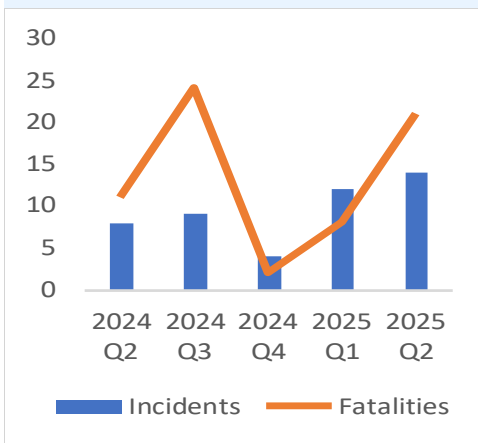
Also in June, a high court judge was reportedly abducted by gunmen in front of an eatery near a motor park in Ekeki, Yenagoa LGA. He was released 12 days later following interventions by community leaders and security stakeholders, who appealed to his abductors for his release.

Other Incidents

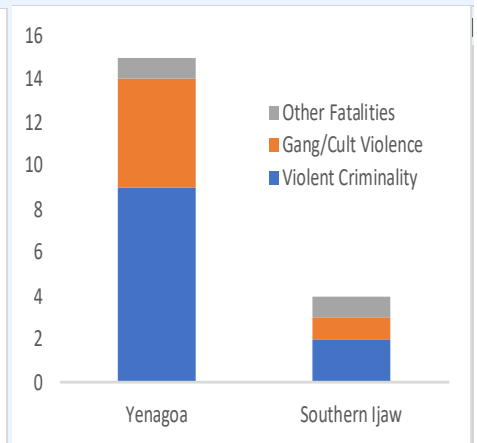
In May, a 26-year-old man was reportedly killed by a policeman at INEC Junction in Yenagoa, the state capital. However, police authorities claimed that he was a victim of a clash between rival cult groups. In June, the body of a 22-year-old woman was reportedly discovered in a hotel where she had lodged with a young man suspected to be an internet fraudster, commonly referred to as a Yahoo Boy, in Igbogene, Yenagoa LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Bayelsa State (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND's P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Cross River State

Conflict risks and insecurity in Cross River State showed a mixed trend during the period. Reported incidents more than doubled, increasing by 140% from 5 in Q1 to 12 in Q2, while fatalities declined by 36%, from 11 in Q1 to 7 in Q2. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Cross River recorded the lowest number of conflict-related deaths in the Niger Delta during the period. Communal clashes and cult-related gang violence were the main drivers of fatalities, with cases concentrated in Akamkpa and Boki LGAs.

Communal Violence

Communal tensions over land and boundary disputes were a major driver of lethal violence and insecurity in Cross River State during the quarter. In June, a violent clash between youths from Etono II and Biakpan communities in Biase LGA reportedly left two people dead. That same month, two persons were killed on their farms and three others injured during a land-related clash between Bendeghe and Boje communities in Boki LGA.

Gang/Cult Violence

Rival cult clashes also accounted for several fatalities. In April, five people, including a policeman, were reportedly killed during a clash between rival cult groups at Camp 2 in Mfamosing, Akamkpa LGA. The policeman was said to have been killed while attempting to stop the gangs from looting palm fruits from an oil palm company. Following the incident, many investors, farmers, and residents fled the area for fear of reprisals.

Violent Criminality

Maritime insecurity remained a concern during the quarter. In April, more than 20 passengers traveling by boat from Oron (Akwa Ibom State) to Calabar were reportedly abducted by pirates along the Oron–Calabar waterways in Calabar Municipal LGA. In May, police operatives reportedly engaged pirates in a firefight along the same waterways after they attacked travelers. The pirates, numbering about seven on a speedboat, managed to escape with gunshot injuries. In June, a student

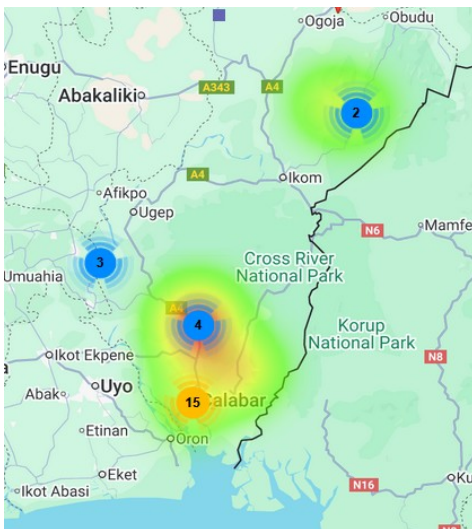
of the University of Calabar was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Calabar, the state capital.

Protest

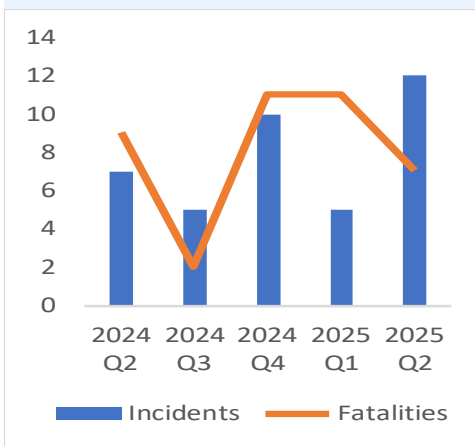
Several protest activities were recorded in the state during the quarter. In April, students of Cross River State University in Calabar protested a new policy requiring tuition fees to be paid before examinations, arguing that it would worsen the plight of indigent students. In May, more than 100 nurses and midwives staged a protest at the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital over the harassment and arrest of three colleagues by the police.

Other Incidents

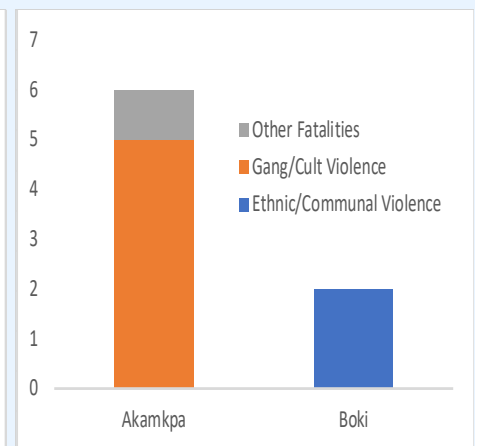
In April, a 23-year-old nursing student was found dead in a drainage channel in Calabar, the Cross River State capital, after being swept away by floodwaters during heavy rainfall.



Incidents and Fatalities, Cross River State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Cross River (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Delta State

In Delta State, conflict risks and insecurity showed a mixed trend during the period. Reported incidents rose by 30%, from 33 in Q1 to 43 in Q2, while fatalities dropped by 39%, from 51 in Q1 to 31 in Q2. Despite the decline in deaths, Peace Map data (see page 2) indicates that Delta remained among the states with the highest number of conflict-related fatalities in the Niger Delta during the period. The main drivers of violence were criminal activities, communal clashes, and cult-related gang violence, with Ethiope East LGA recording the highest number of fatalities in the State.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence, particularly kidnapping for ransom and homicide, remained a major security concern in Delta State during the quarter. In April, armed men reportedly abducted five individuals from their private residences in Issele-Azagba, Aniocha South LGA. That same month, kidnapers abducted a woman and her three-month-old baby along the Abraka–Eku Road in Eku, Ethiope East LGA, and demanded a ransom of ₦25 million for their release. Also in April, four suspected kidnapers were allegedly killed in a clash with the police in a forest along the Asaba–Agbor Road in

Agbor, Ika South LGA. The police reportedly recovered three AK-47 rifles and 90 rounds of live ammunition. In May, three suspected kidnapers were killed in a shootout with police along the Ughelli–Patani Road in Ughelli North LGA, with arms and ammunition recovered. In June, four people were reportedly killed during a clash between armed herdsmen and a combined team of police officers, local vigilantes, and hunters in Abraka, Ethiope East LGA.

Communal Violence

Several incidents of communal violence were reported during the quarter. In April, gunmen suspected to be herdsmen abducted and killed a farmer in Ubulu-Uku, Aniocha South LGA. That same month, two persons were reportedly killed and two others injured in a land dispute between youths from Edjekota and Otor-Ewu communities in Ughelli South LGA. In May, suspected herdsmen reportedly killed a farmer, injured his wife, and abducted their 14-year-old daughter on their farm in Idjerhe, Ethiope West LGA.

Gang/Cult Violence

Rival cult clashes posed a major security challenge in the state during the period. In April, a young

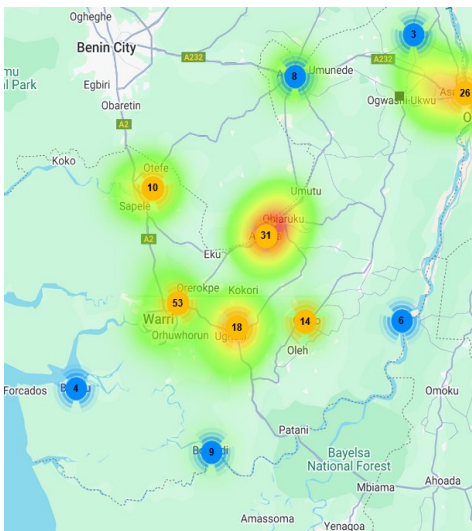
man was reportedly killed during a clash between rival cult gangs in Otefe-Oghara, Ethiope West LGA. Also in April, two persons were allegedly killed in a confrontation between members of the Eiye and Vikings cult groups in Obiaruku, Ukwuani LGA.

Violence Against Women & Girls

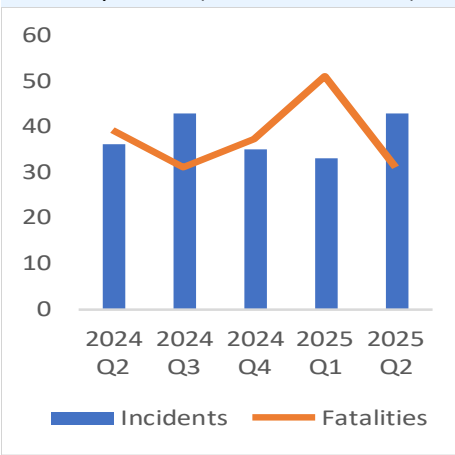
In addition to the broader impact of criminal and communal violence on women and girls, several incidents of gender-based violence were reported during the quarter. In April, the Special Adviser to the Delta State Governor on Trade and Export was allegedly poisoned to death in her residence in Asaba, the state capital, with her husband identified as the prime suspect.

Other Incidents

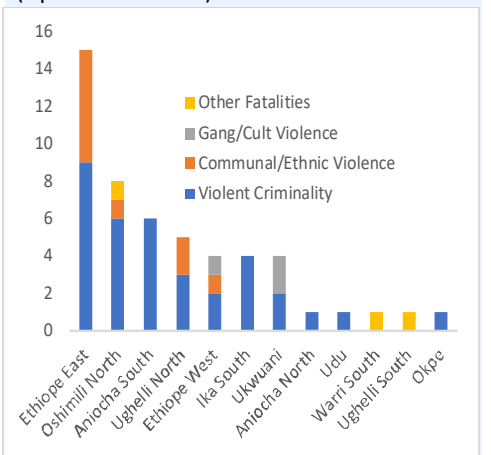
In April, protesting youths reportedly shut down a 28,000-barrel-per-day oil facility in Ogidigben, Warri South West LGA, over grievances related to the recent re-delineation of constituencies by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). In May, a 29-year-old polytechnic student was allegedly killed by a stray bullet fired by a local vigilante at his hostel in Ogwashi-Uku, Aniocha South LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Delta State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Delta State (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND's P4P Peace Map www.tgpcloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Edo State

Edo State recorded a significant decline in conflict-related fatalities in Q2 2025, with deaths dropping by 66.6% compared to Q1. Reported fatalities fell from 45 in Q1 to 15 in Q2, despite a 19% increase in the number of incidents, which rose from 21 to 25 within the same period. This indicates a notable reduction in the lethality of violence during the quarter. According to Peace Map data (see page 2), Edo was among the states in the Niger Delta that experienced reduced levels of lethal violence in Q2. The main drivers of insecurity included criminal activities, cult gang clashes, and communal conflict, with Oredo LGA accounting for the highest number of fatalities in the state.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence, including kidnapping, remained a major source of insecurity in the State during the quarter. In April, gunmen allegedly abducted a man along the Ugbekpe-Agenebode road in Agenebode, Etsako East LGA. The victim was later rescued by a combined team of police, hunters, and a local defense militia, although one militia member was killed in the ensuing gunfire. In May,

police reportedly arrested a suspected kidnapper and recovered firearms and vehicles during a raid on a hotel in Benin City, the state capital.

Gang/Cult Violence

Cult-related clashes continued to drive fatalities and insecurity in the state. In April, four people were reportedly killed in a series of reprisal attacks across different parts of Benin City, Oredo LGA. That same month, cultists allegedly attacked and killed two residents, including a realtor and a local vigilante, at separate locations in the city. Also in April, suspected cultists allegedly shot and killed two individuals, including a physiotherapist, in Ugbowo, Benin City. In another incident, a suspected cultist was reportedly killed by a rival gang along Upper Forestry Road in Benin City. In May, cultists allegedly murdered a man in Auchi, Etsako West LGA, for renouncing his membership.

Communal Violence

Communal conflict also contributed to lethal violence during the quarter. In April, armed

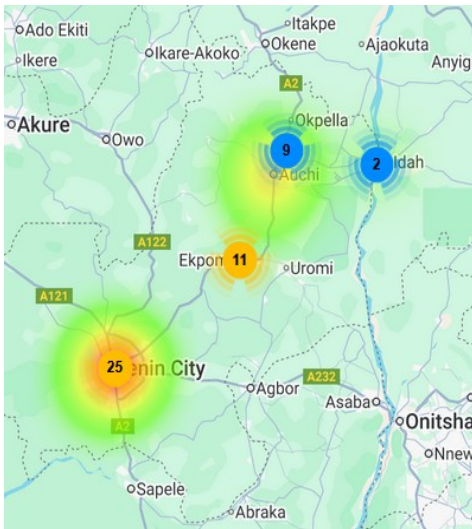
herdsmen reportedly attacked Uluoke community in Etsako West LGA, killing one man and abducting his pregnant wife and sister. The incident sparked protests in the community. In June, armed youths allegedly opened fire during a meeting over a boundary dispute in Umegbe, Oredo LGA, killing one person and injuring four others.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

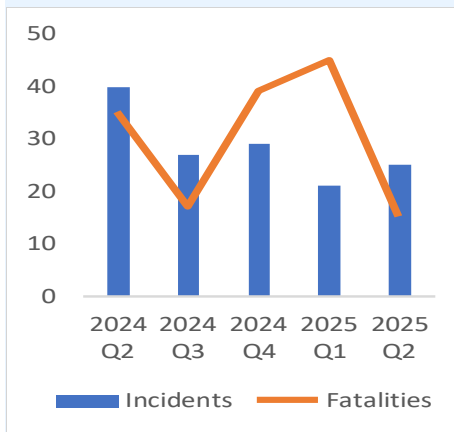
Beyond the broader impacts of criminality and communal violence, gender-based violence also posed serious risks to women and girls during the period. In May, for instance, a middle-aged man allegedly beat his wife to death following a domestic dispute in Ogbelaka, Oredo LGA.

Disease Outbreak

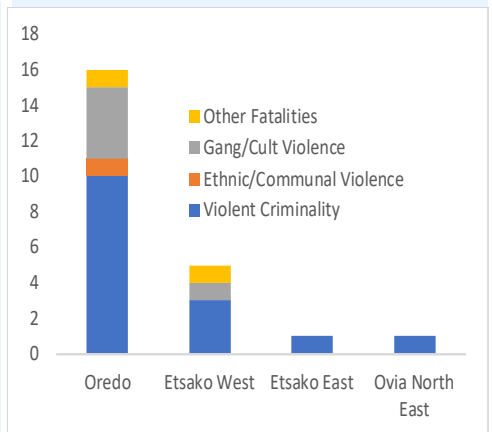
In June, a dengue fever outbreak was confirmed in Edo State through laboratory testing, prompting an intervention by the State Ministry of Health. That same month, two individuals reportedly died of diphtheria at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital in Ovia North East LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Edo State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Edo State (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Imo State

Lethal violence in Imo State rose sharply in Q2 2025, with reported fatalities increasing by 215%, from 13 deaths in Q1 to 41 in Q2. Peace Map data (see page 2) shows that Imo ranked among the states with the highest conflict-related fatalities in the Niger Delta during the quarter. The main drivers of insecurity included criminal activities, communal clashes, and violent separatist agitation, particularly confrontations between separatist militias and security forces. Oguta LGA recorded the highest number of fatalities, followed by Okigwe LGA.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence, particularly kidnapping for ransom, was a major driver of insecurity in the State during the quarter. In May, gunmen reportedly abducted several travelers and killed a driver during an ambush along the Owerri-Aba Highway in Ngor Okpala LGA. That same month, gunmen allegedly killed about 30 travelers and set multiple vehicles on fire along the Okigwe-Owerri Road in Amuro, Okigwe LGA. In another incident, a 35-year-old woman was reportedly abducted in Umuhu, Aboh Mbaise LGA, with the perpetrators demanding a ₦2 million ransom for her release. Also in May, gunmen allegedly killed a truck driver,

hijacked an 18-seater bus, and abducted all the passengers along the Aba-Owerri Road in Ulakwo, Owerri North LGA. In Umuoka village, Amakohia-Ubi community, Owerri West LGA, gunmen reportedly abducted an 18-year-old boy and a 16-year-old girl, demanding ₦100 million for their release.

Separatist Agitation

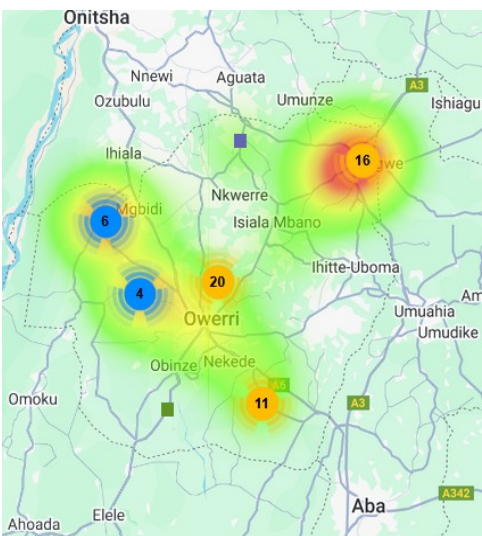
Separatist agitation, particularly clashes between separatist militias and government security forces, was a major source of insecurity in the state. In May, a separatist fighter was reportedly killed during a confrontation between militias allegedly affiliated with the Eastern Security Network (ESN, the paramilitary wing of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), and a joint security team of the police, military, and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Abor-Umulolo, Okigwe LGA. In a separate incident that same month, suspected separatist militias allegedly killed more than 15 people and set about 20 trucks on fire along the Okigwe-Owerri Road in Amuro, Okigwe LGA. In June, separatist militias reportedly shot and killed two truck drivers and set their vehicles ablaze at Ogi Junction in Okigwe LGA.

Communal Violence

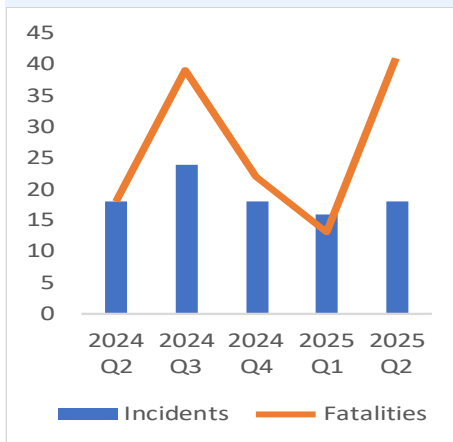
Communal violence, including clashes between herders and farmers, resulted in several fatalities during the period. In April, a female farmer was reportedly killed on her farm by suspected armed herdsmen in Amala, Ngor Okpala LGA. In May, a pregnant woman was reportedly killed by armed herdsmen during a disagreement over access to land for grazing in Amakohia-Ubi, Owerri West LGA. A farmer was also injured during the incident. In June, armed herdsmen allegedly attacked and killed four people including a young woman and a commercial motorcyclist in Ogbaku, Mbaitoli LGA. Also, in June, armed herdsmen allegedly attacked and killed five people, abducted three others and seized some farmlands in Obudi-Agwa, Oguta LGA.

Other Incidents

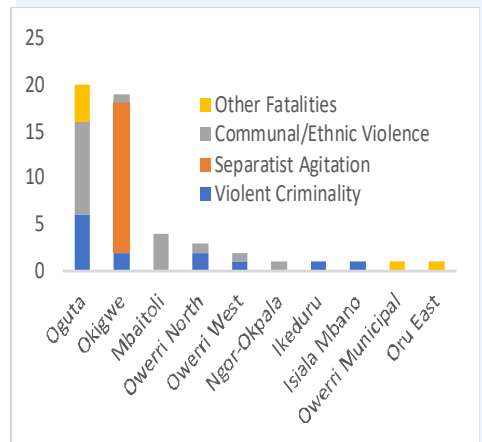
In June, security operatives reportedly uncovered a child trafficking ring that forced 12 children into street begging in Ngor Okpala LGA. A 42-year-old female suspect was arrested in connection with the case. Also in June, a diphtheria outbreak reportedly claimed the lives of three pupils in Obibi and Ihitte-Owerre communities, Orlu LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Imo State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Imo State (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Ondo State

Conflict risks and lethal violence declined significantly in Ondo State in Q2 2025 compared to Q1. Reported fatalities dropped by 56.8%, from 51 deaths in Q1 to 22 in Q2. Despite this decline, Peace Map data (see page 2) indicates that Ondo remained among the states with the highest levels of lethal violence in the Niger Delta during the quarter. The main drivers of insecurity were criminal activities, cult gang clashes, and communal conflict, with Ondo West LGA recording the highest number of fatalities.

Violent Criminality

Criminal violence, particularly kidnapping for ransom and homicide, posed a major security challenge in the State during the quarter. In April, a man was allegedly macheted to death by his 34-year-old laborer at Agbajo farm in Ilu-Abo, Akure North LGA. That same month, a popular socialite and hotelier was reportedly stabbed to death in his hotel room in the Arakale area of Akure, Akure South LGA. In May, a commercial motorcyclist was reportedly shot dead by gunmen at Alafia Street,

along the Ore-Benin Expressway in Odigbo LGA. In another incident, gunmen allegedly abducted and killed a political party chieftain along the Ifon–Owo Road in Ose LGA after collecting a ₦5 million ransom. Also in May, four residents were reportedly abducted along the Benin–Lagos highway in Odigbo and Akoko South West LGAs. In a separate incident, gunmen allegedly abducted three members of a prominent church in Ogbese, Akure North LGA, and demanded ₦15 million for their release. In June, two undergraduate students were reportedly abducted, robbed, and murdered by their landlord in Akungba-Akoko, Akoko South LGA.

Communal Violence

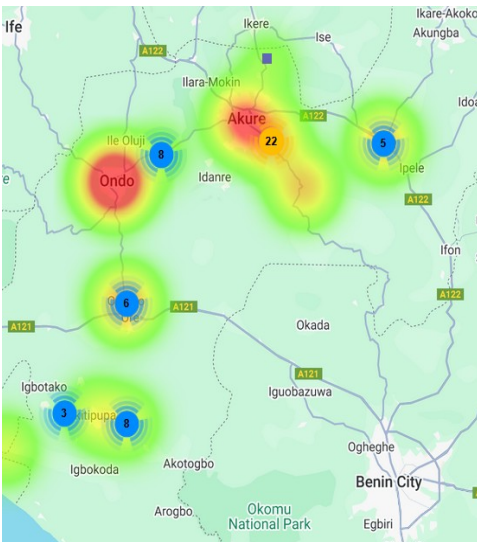
Communal violence was another major driver of insecurity during the quarter, resulting in more than 20 fatalities across the state. In April, armed herdsmen reportedly ambushed and killed three farmers on their way to their farms at the Ajagbusi settlement in Ala Elefosan, Akure North LGA. The attack triggered protests in the community.

Gang/Cult Violence

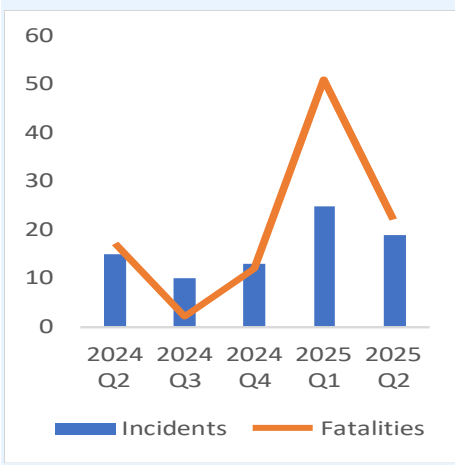
Cult-related clashes also contributed to lethal violence in the state. In May, four people were allegedly killed and eight others injured during supremacy battles between rival Aye and Black Axe cult gangs at several locations, including Ife Garage and Sabo, in Ondo town, Ondo West LGA. In June, a businessman was reportedly killed by a suspected cultist in Ondo town, Ondo West LGA, in an incident allegedly linked to drugs and cult gang sponsorship.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

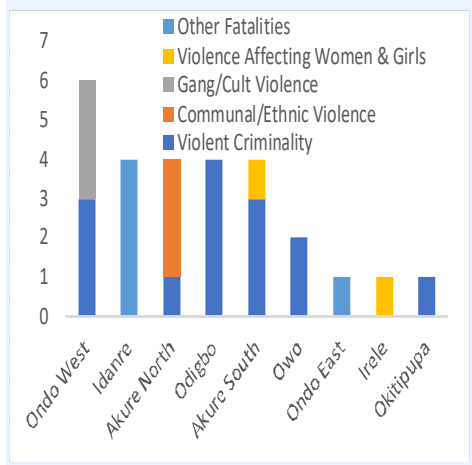
In addition to the broader impact of criminal and communal violence on women and girls, several incidents of gender-based violence were recorded. In May, a 22-year-old woman was reportedly stabbed to death by the 41-year-old son of her landlord during an argument in Ode-Irele, Irele LGA. In June, a 12-year-old girl was allegedly sexually assaulted by a village head in Laagba, Ondo East LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Ondo State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Ondo State (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

Patterns and Trends in Conflict Risk and Violence — Rivers State

Rivers State experienced a slight decline in lethal violence in Q2 2025 compared to Q1, with reported conflict-related fatalities falling by 24%, from 33 deaths to 25. Despite this decrease, Peace Map data (see page 2) shows that Rivers remained among the Niger Delta states with the highest levels of lethal violence during the period. The main drivers of insecurity were criminal activities and clashes between rival cult gangs, with Port Harcourt LGA recording the highest number of fatalities.

Violent Criminology

Organized criminal violence, including kidnapping and sea robbery, remained a major security concern in the State during the quarter, leading to multiple fatalities. In April, four pirates who also operated as kidnappers were reportedly killed and others injured in a firefight with police in a creek off the Bonny Waterway, Bonny LGA. The gang had been notorious for abducting and killing travelers along the waterway. That same month, pirates allegedly abducted six people traveling by boat from Bille to Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt LGA. In May, gunmen reportedly attacked three boats and abducted more than 16 passengers along the Isaka waterways in Okrika LGA.

Gang/Cult Violence

Rival cult clashes were also major drivers of insecurity in the state during the quarter. In April, a former youth leader was reportedly killed by suspected members of the Icelanders cult group in Odhiaje, Ahoada East LGA. In May, suspected cultists allegedly shot and killed a rival gang member during a territorial dispute at Mile 3 in Diobu, Port Harcourt LGA. In reprisal, members of the victim’s group reportedly killed a member of the opposing gang.

In June, a cultist allegedly shot and killed both a police officer and a vigilante member in Ahoada town, Ahoada East LGA. That same month, members of the Deebam cult group reportedly killed a vigilante member at Mile 2 in Diobu, Port Harcourt LGA. Also in June, two rival Deebam factions clashed over supremacy and territorial control in Diobu, Port Harcourt LGA, during which a stray bullet allegedly killed a taxi driver.

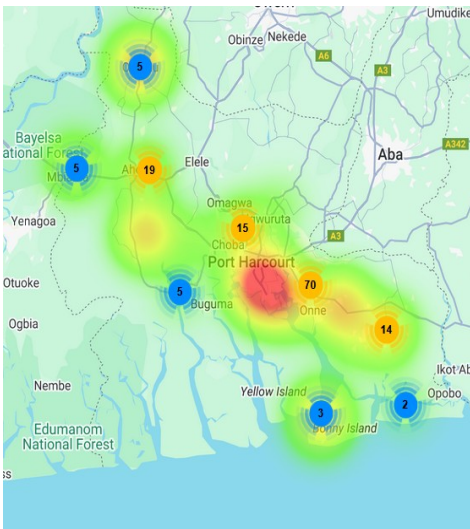
Political Tensions

Political tensions escalated in Rivers State during the quarter following the President’s declaration of a state of emergency and suspension of the elected governor in March 2025. This triggered a

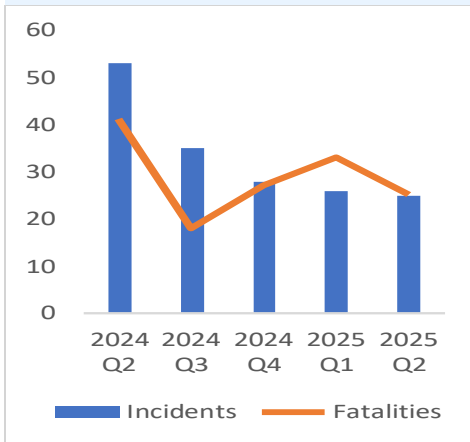
series of protests across the state. In April, hundreds of supporters of the suspended governor reportedly marched in Port Harcourt demanding his reinstatement, carrying placards with various inscriptions. That same month, a group of women marched to the Government House in Port Harcourt to protest both the suspension of the governor and the imposition of emergency rule, describing the decision as unconstitutional and calling on former presidents to intervene and restore democratic governance. In June, political thugs allegedly attacked the Sole Administrator of Ahoada East LGA, beating him with cutlasses, forcing him to sign a resignation letter, and seizing his phone.

Violence Affecting Women & Girls

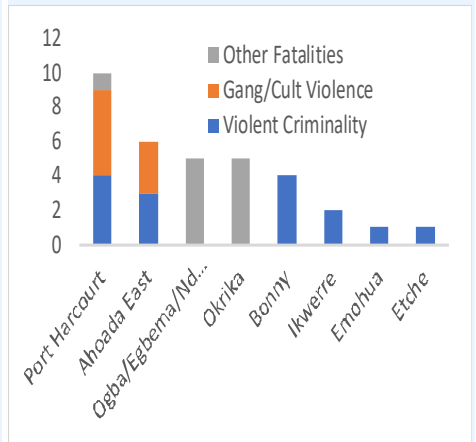
Beyond the broader impacts of criminality and cult violence, gender-based violence also posed serious risks to women and girls in the State during the quarter. In April, a Catholic Reverend Sister was reportedly killed by a man who allegedly owed her money in Aluu, Ikwerre LGA. In May, a 10-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a 45-year-old cleric in Ihuaje, Ahoada East LGA.



Incidents and Fatalities, Rivers State Quarterly Trends (Q2 2024 - Q2 2025)



LGA Level Fatalities, Rivers State (April - June 2025)



Data for map and bar charts from ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted and integrated on PIND’s P4P Peace Map www.tgpccloud.org/p4p/index.php?m=p4p

About Us

PIND



The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) is a nonprofit organization that promotes peace and equitable economic growth in Nigeria's Niger Delta region through multi-stakeholder partnerships.

PIND implements collaborative market-based, community-owned programs to mitigate conflicts and boost economic opportunities for local businesses, ensuring that economic progress occurs in a systemic, inclusive, and sustainable manner. Headquartered in Abuja, Nigeria, PIND also has a Washington, D.C.-based counterpart known as the Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI).

PIND has developed an interactive Peace Map to gather data on peace and conflict for validation, triangulation, and multi-stakeholder collaboration. With over 55,000 data points on conflict that dates back to 2009, the Peace Map is one of the most comprehensive data set on conflict publicly available in Nigeria.

The Projects



P4P: Partners for Peace (P4P) is a network of peace actors whose mission is to build social capital around peacebuilding by amplifying the voices of positive actors, and collaborating on activities for conflict early warning and prevention. The network includes stakeholders from community-based organizations, civil society, and the general public committed to promoting peaceable livelihoods.

IPDU: The Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) of PIND's Peacebuilding Program responds to emerging threats by mobilizing relevant actors and resources for preventive interventions. It provides operational-level support to stakeholders through research, capacity building, and applied learning, all aimed at the early identification and mitigation of potential drivers of conflict and instability.

Our Services

PIND's Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) provides technical support to stakeholders and implementing partners in the public and private sectors. Leveraging our in-house team of subject-matter experts and a network of partners on the ground, and drawing on our over 10 years of experience in peacebuilding and archiving of conflict data and research, we offer technical support to both national and international stakeholders in conflict early warning/response, and production of data-driven conflict reports.

Contact Us

Inquiries: [PINDfoundation.org](mailto:info@PINDfoundation.org)

Contacts: 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

Report any verified conflict incident to the IPDU SMS early warning system:

Text report to **091 2233 4455**.

Incident Details: Include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and brief description.