



# NIGERIA WEEKLY INCIDENT REPORT

20 January 2024 – 26 January 2024

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# Executive Summary

## Countrywide Incidents for the Week

1. Bandit attacks persisted in Plateau state with over 25 fatalities recorded.
2. Attacks on security forces positions persisted in the North East region.
3. ISWAP attacks resulted in the kidnap of over 32 individuals in Katsina State.
4. Protests surged in parts of the South West and North Central regions.



Figure 1. Incident map

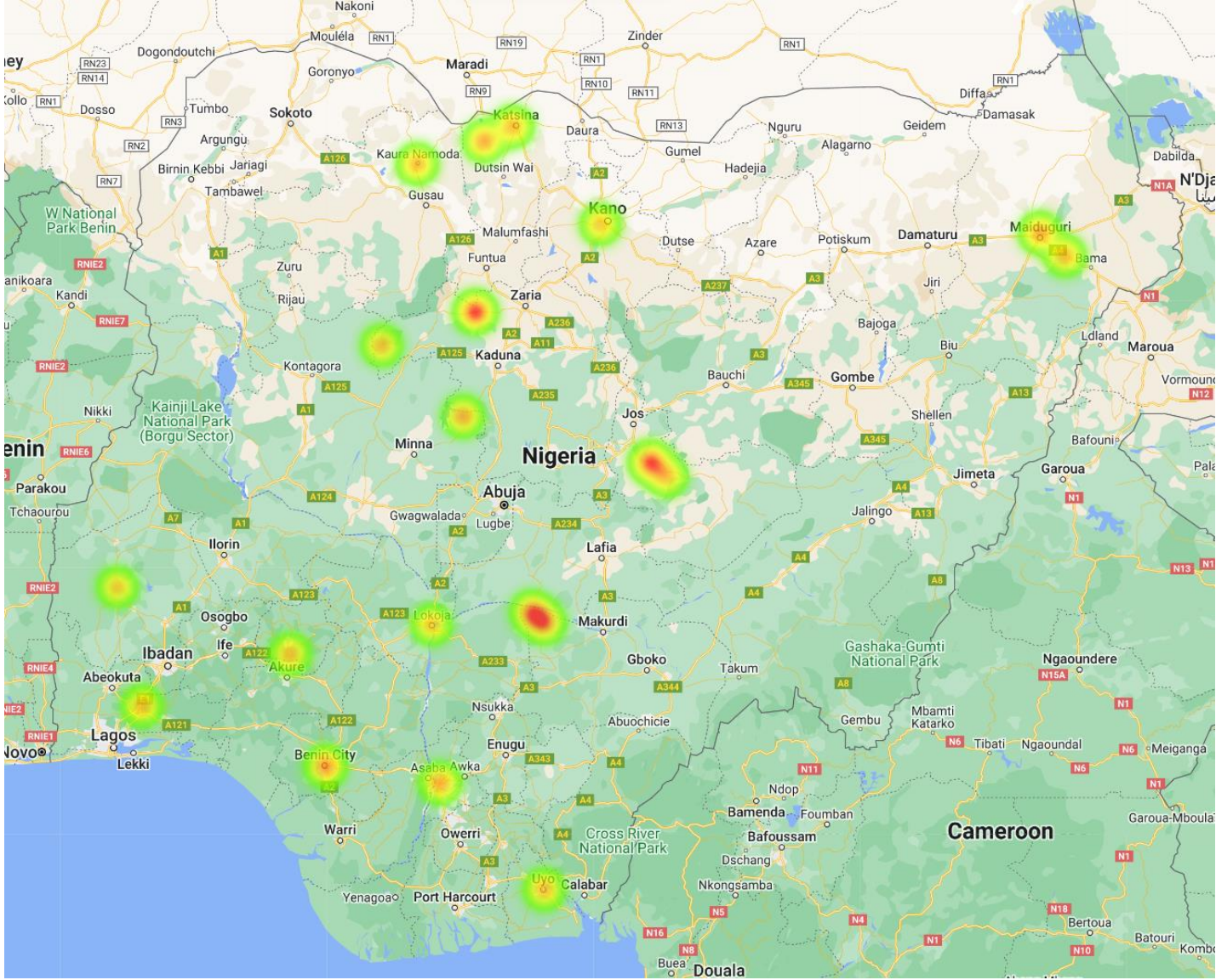


Figure 2. Graph portraying incident types per region

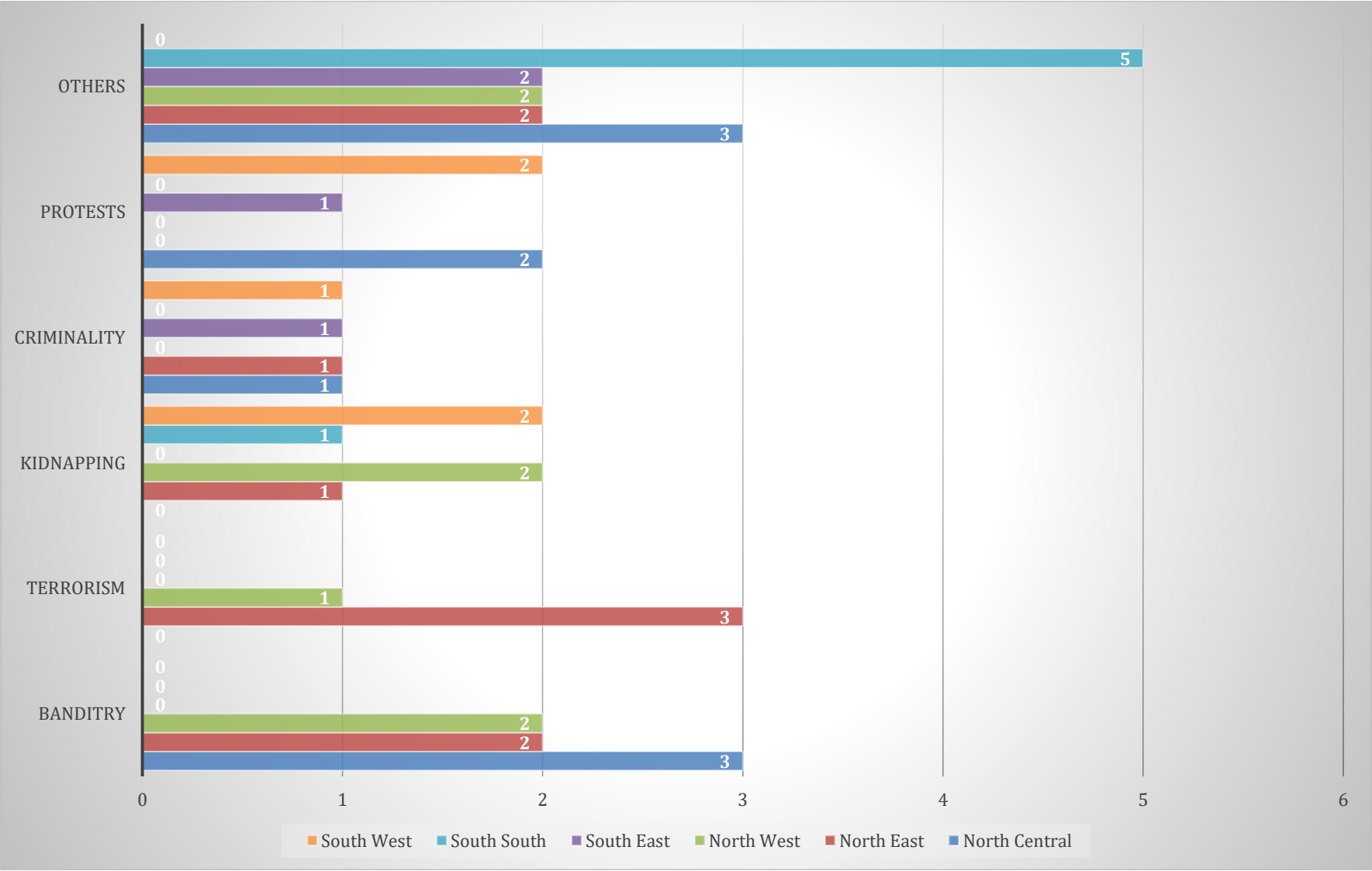


Figure 3.

## Risk map showing kidnapped victims

VALUE

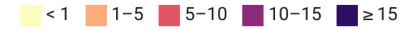


Created with Datawrapper

Figure 4.

## Risk map showing killed victims

VALUE



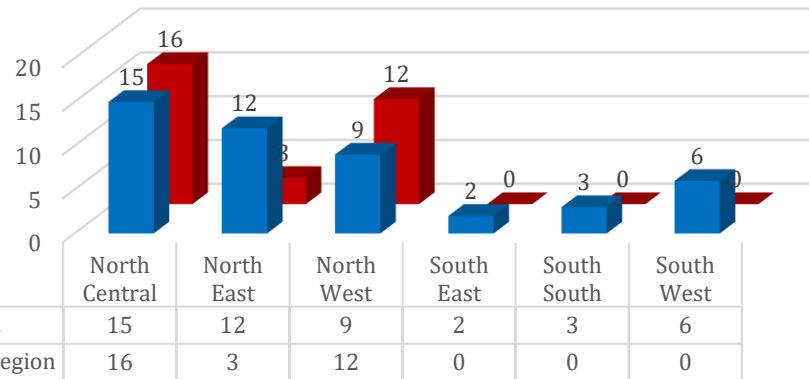
Created with Datawrapper

The above risk maps show locations where citizens were killed and kidnapped in the reporting week. Figure 3 represents areas where abductions occurred, while Figure 4 reflects locations with recorded fatalities.

# Weekly trend analysis

Figure 5. Week 03

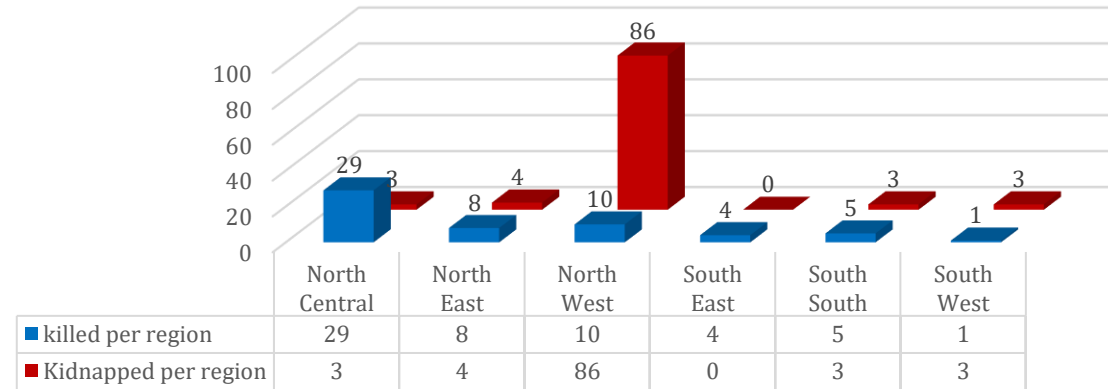
Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims



■ killed per region ■ Kidnapped per region

Figure 6. Week 04

Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims

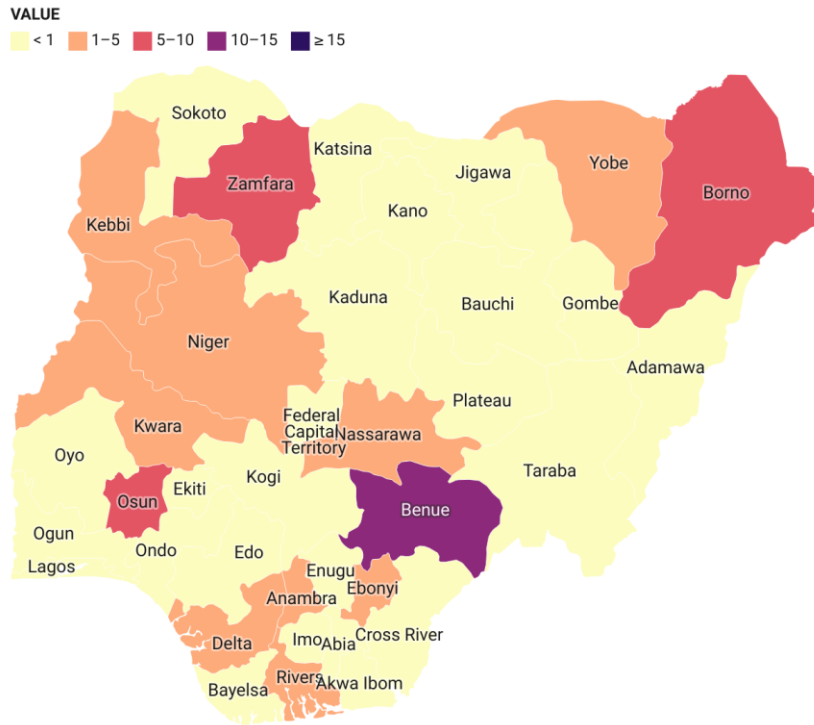


■ killed per region ■ Kidnapped per region

The figures above show a bar chart contrasting the statistics from the total number of fatalities/kidnapped individuals between week 03 and week 04. The figures show regions where conflict-related fatalities were high and low, also capturing regions with high/low numbers of kidnapped victims. The blue bar represents the number of persons killed, while the dark red represents kidnapped victims.

**Figure 7. Week 03**

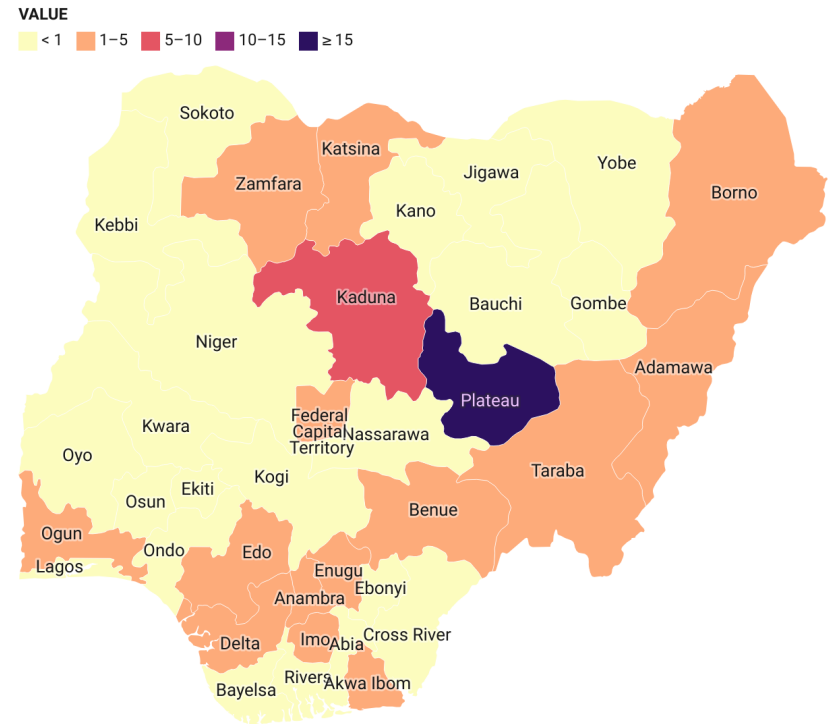
**Risk map showing killed victims**



Created with Datawrapper

**Figure 8. Week 04**

**Risk map showing killed victims**



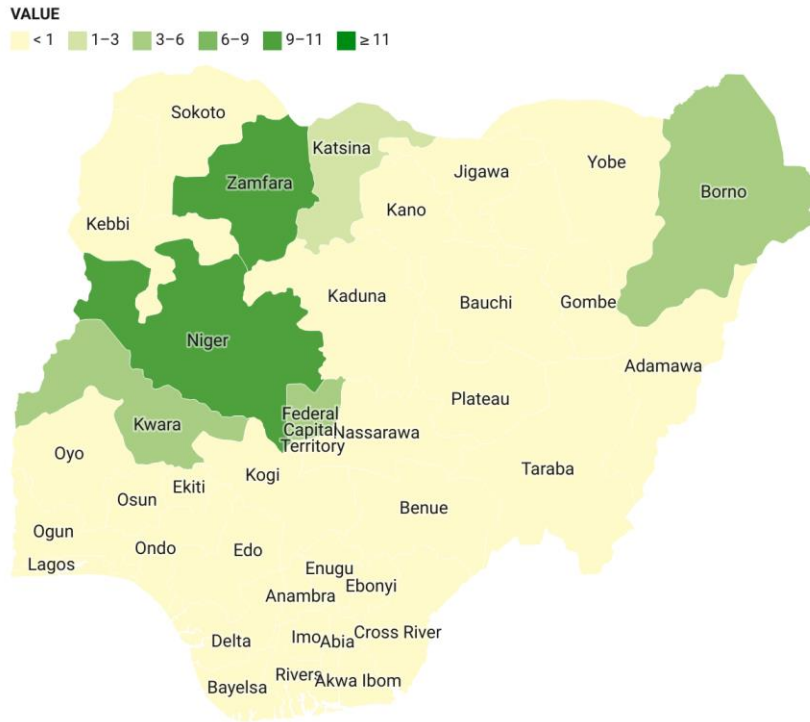
Created with Datawrapper

The above figure shows a risk map contrasting areas where fatalities occurred in the country. The contrast between week 03 and week 04 helps spot the progression of conflict-related fatalities and shows areas where fatalities occurred the most and least. The color intensity and lightness depict areas with the least and most fatalities. Based on the above map, Kaduna and Plateau states captured the highest number of fatalities.



Figure 9. Week 03

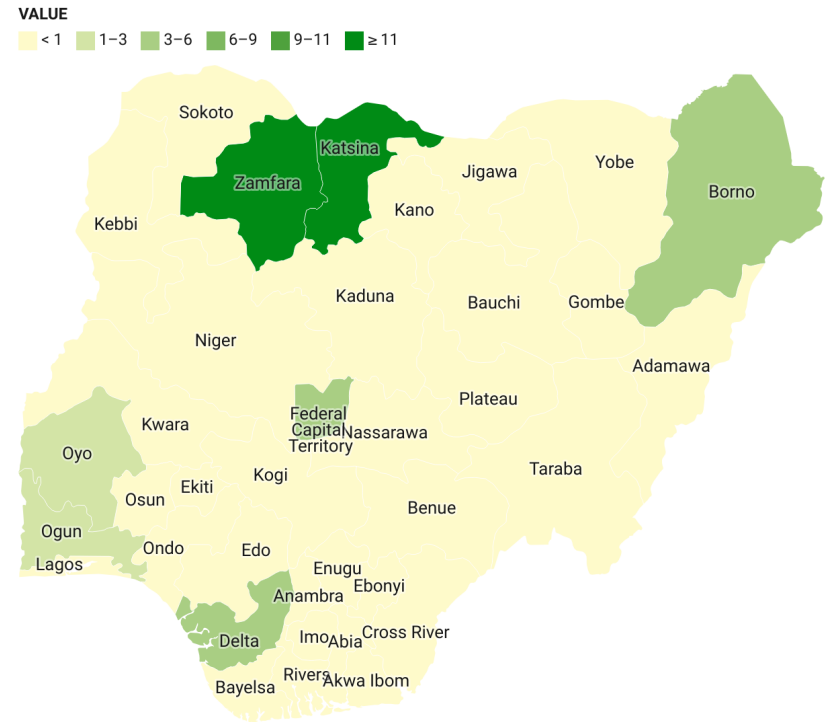
Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 10. Week 04

Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

The above figure captures areas where victims fall into kidnapping threats the most or least. In week 04, most kidnapped victims were from Zamfara, Katsina, and Borno states. This is most likely because kidnap incidents were underreported in other states during the week.

# Regional Summary/Incident list

## NORTH CENTRAL (NC) - Summary

**Analysis** – During the week, the number of fatalities increased significantly to 29 individuals, while the count of kidnapping victims decreased, with 3 reported victims.

In recent security incidents in week 4, several events have unfolded, reflecting a mix of criminal activities, political unrest, and communal conflicts. On January 26, 2024, the Special Intervention Squad of the Federal Capital Territory Police Command successfully neutralized three notorious bandits in a forest linking Abuja to Kaduna State. This operation marked a significant victory in the ongoing fight against criminal elements in the region. Another incident occurred on January 23, 2024, when suspected herdsmen attacked the Ikpele and Okpokpolo communities, resulting in two fatalities and injuries to others. The assailants also set several houses ablaze during the attack, adding to the escalating violence in the area.

In a separate event on January 24, 2024, unknown gunmen defied a 24-hour curfew imposed by the Governor of Plateau State, unleashing violence in Kwahaslalek village and neighboring communities. Tragically, at least 25 villagers lost their lives, and property worth millions of naira was destroyed, highlighting the precarious security situation in the region.

Meanwhile, on January 25, 2024, members of the casual staff Association of Plateau State Polytechnic protested in Jos over issues related to the lack of salary structure and employment accreditation. This unrest underscores the broader challenges facing certain employment sectors in the region.

These incidents collectively depict a complex landscape of security concerns, ranging from targeted political threats to communal clashes and criminal activities. The challenges faced by law enforcement in maintaining order and protecting citizens remain prominent, necessitating ongoing efforts to address the root causes of unrest and violence in the affected areas.

## NORTH CENTRAL (NC) – Incident List

**26 January 2024** – Operatives of the Special Intervention Squad, Federal Capital Territory Police Command, have neutralized three notorious bandits in a forest within the Bwari area of Abuja.

**23 January 2024** – Armed individuals suspected to be herdsmen attacked the Ikpele and Okpokpolo communities on 23 January 2024. During the attack, two persons were killed while others sustained injuries. Furthermore, several houses were set ablaze by the assailants.

**25 January 2024** - Irate members of the casual staff Association of Plateau State Polytechnic, Barkinladi are protesting at the Jos Campus and main campus over the lack of salary structure and accreditation of employment.

**24 January 2024** - Unknown gunmen have defied the 24-hour curfew imposed on Mangu Local Government Area of Plateau State by Governor Caleb Mutfwang to unleash mayhem on Kwahaslalek village and the surrounding communities.

**24 January 2024** - Police operatives of the FCT Command attached to the Anti-kidnapping unit and the Rubochi Division Police Headquarters in the continued fight against kidnapping in FCT, rescued 14 kidnapped victims.

**23 January 2024** - Police operatives on Tuesday teargassed the 16 Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) members of the Plateau Assembly sacked by the Court of Appeal. The incident occurred as the lawmakers and their supporters were getting ready to resume plenary sessions at the Rayfield Old Government House in Jos.

**23 January 2024** - Armed individuals suspected to be herdsmen attacked the Ikpele and Okpokpolo communities on 23 January 2024. During the attack, two persons were killed while others sustained injuries. Furthermore, several houses were set ablaze by the assailants.

**22 January 2024** - Many residents have been feared killed, and buildings, including churches and mosques, were burnt in Sabon Gari area of Mangu local government area of Plateau State, in a fresh sectarian crisis that erupted in the state.

**22 January 2024** - The police have arrested two suspects involved in an alleged plot to assassinate the Speaker of the Benue State House of Assembly, Aondona Dajoh. The suspects include the chairman of a local government area in Benue State.

## NORTH EAST (NE) - Summary

**Analysis** – There was an overall decrease in the number of fatalities as 8 persons were killed and a slight increase in kidnap victims, with 4 kidnap victims during the week.

Amidst ongoing security challenges in various regions of Nigeria, a series of violent incidents have occurred in the North East, underscoring the persistent threat posed by armed groups and militias. On January 25, 2024, gunmen suspected to be part of the Jukun militia targeted and killed two returning Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ikyenum, Wukari local government area of Taraba state, highlighting the vulnerability of displaced populations to such attacks. The preceding day, on January 24, unidentified armed individuals launched an assault on the Bakin Dutse community, injuring two vigilantes before retreating. Additionally, on the same day, suspected elements affiliated with ISWAP (Islamic State

West Africa Province) targeted a security forces (SF) position near Buniyadi town with mortar fire. Fortunately, the attack resulted in no casualties, but it serves as a reminder of the persistent threat posed by insurgent groups in the region.

On January 21, members of ISWAP conducted a coordinated abduction operation along the Damasak to Maiduguri Road, seizing four individuals traveling from the Gubio market. Similarly, on the same day, an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near Gajibo village, claiming the lives of two ex-combatants on motorcycles, further illustrating the volatility of the security situation.

Earlier, on January 20, a group of former fighters associated with the JAS Shekau faction raided the Wagga community, looting food items and clothes without resorting to gunfire. In a separate incident on the same day, security forces successfully ambushed ISWAP members near Luskori village, resulting in the death of one assailant and the recovery of weapons. These events collectively highlight the multifaceted security challenges facing Nigeria and the ongoing efforts to address them.

## NORTH EAST (NE) – Incident List

**25 January 2024** – Gunmen suspected to be Jukun militia attacked and killed two returning Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ikyenum, Wukari local government area of Taraba state.

**24 January 2024** - Unidentified armed individuals stormed the Bakin Dutse community and wounded two vigilantes before withdrawing.

**24 January 2024** - Suspected ISWAP elements targeted the SF position on the eastern edge of Buniyadi town with three rounds of mortar fire. All fell short of the intended target, and no casualties were reported.

**21 January 2024** - Members of ISWAP on motorcycles set up an IVCP along the Damasak to Maiduguri Road, IVO Binduldul village. They intercepted commercial vehicles and abducted four people returning from the Gubio market before they withdrew.

**21 January 2024** – A hybrid force initiated an IED IVO Gajibo village, approximately 10km from Dikwa town on the road to Ngala. Two ex-combatants on motorcycles were killed in the blast.

**20 January 2024** - A group of ex-JAS Shekau fighters entered the Wagga community and stole food items and clothes belonging to the people without resorting to gunfire. No casualties were reported.

**20 January 2024** - An SF team ambushed members of ISWAP IVO Luskori village, killing one while the rest withdrew. One AKvariant rifle along with one magazine and nine rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition were recovered.

## NORTH WEST (NW) - Summary

**Analysis** – Fatalities increased slightly with only 10 persons killed, while kidnapped individuals increased with over 86 victims during the week.

On January 25, 2024, the Katsina State Police Command successfully thwarted a kidnapping attempt in Dandume community, neutralizing a suspected bandit and recovering a general-purpose machine gun. This reflects law enforcement efforts to combat criminal activities in the region.

Tragically, on January 24, armed bandits targeted Bachain Dauran community in Zurmi LG, resulting in the deaths of two individuals, injuries to four others, and the abduction of over 50 people, including women, children, and the elderly. The attack underscores the challenges faced by communities in vulnerable areas and the brazenness of criminal groups. In another incident on January 23, armed individuals associated with an organized criminal group abducted four people, including two children, from Hayin Kanini village in Kakangi ward, Birnin Gwari LGA. Additionally, on the same day, gunmen suspected to be terrorists kidnapped Jamilu Yoyo, his two wives, and their little child in the Kaura Namoda Local Government Area of Zamfara State, highlighting the widespread nature of such incidents.

The violence escalated on January 23 when suspected terrorists killed three individuals, including a 65-year-old imam, in Yandaka village, Batsari Local Government Area of Katsina State. The terrorists also abducted more than 32 people, further emphasizing the security challenges faced by communities in the region. On January 22, bandits attacked the Executive Secretary of Zamfara State Investment Promotion Agency, Hajiya Mariam Yaro, a few kilometers from Gusau, the State capital, underscoring the vulnerability of even high-profile individuals to such criminal activities.

## NORTH WEST (NW) – Incident List

**25 January 2024** - The Katsina State Police Command has foiled a kidnapping attempt in Dandume community, neutralised a suspected bandit and recovered a general-purpose machine gun.

**24 January 2024** - Armed bandits yesterday night attacked Bachain Dauran community of Zurmi LG, killed 2 people, injuries 4 others and kidnapped more than 50 people including women, children and elderly people, the attack.

**23 January 2024** - Armed individuals linked with an OCG entered Hayin Kanini village, Kakangi ward in Birnin Gwari LGA, and subsequently abducted four people including two children, and fled the area afterward.

**23 January 2024** – Gunmen suspected to be terrorists have kidnapped one Jamilu Yoyo, his two wives and their little child in the Kaura Namoda Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

**23 January 2024** - Suspected terrorists have killed three persons including a 65-year-old imam, Bashiru Jibrin at Yandaka village, in Batsari Local Government Area of Katsina State. The incident which occurred at about 9:00 pm, also saw the terrorists abduct more than 32 people, including women and children.

**22 January 2024** - The Executive Secretary of Zamfara State Investment Promotion Agency, Hajiya Mariam Yaro, was attacked by bandits on Monday on her way to attend a meeting with investors. she was attacked a few kilometers from Gusau, the State capital.

**20 January 2024** - An explosive device was detonated at a children’s playground IVO Kidandan village in Giwa LGA. Consequently, one child was killed, and 10 other children were injured in the blast.

## SOUTH EAST (SE) – Summary

**Analysis** – The number of fatalities increased with 4 killed victims while no kidnap victims were recorded during the week. This is most likely because incidents are underreported within the area.

In Abia State, a series of events have unfolded, exposing economic and security challenges faced by local communities. On January 25, 2024, traders from Ariaria Market in Aba, organized under the Ariaria Markets Traders Association (AMATA), protested the re-emergence of illegal revenue collectors. Despite agreeing to pay an approved levy of N18,000, traders alleged that an individual imposed an additional daily levy of five hundred naira. This protest highlights the economic strain and frustration experienced by local businesses, emphasizing the need for effective regulation to protect traders from unauthorized levies.

A day prior in Anambra state, on January 24, a disturbing incident occurred along the Enugu – Onitsha expressway at Tempo junction, Umunya axis. Reports indicated that two lifeless bodies were abandoned inside a car boot, prompting an ongoing investigation to uncover the circumstances surrounding their deaths. This event raises concerns about the safety and security of individuals traveling along major highways and underscores the need for measures to address potential criminal activities in the region.

The security challenges extend beyond economic grievances, as evidenced by the events of January 23 and 22. Armed individuals attacked residents of Odoba and Isi Agbuhu villages in Agu-Amede community in Enugu state, resulting in the death of one person and the destruction of property. Additionally, on January 22, a point of sale (POS) operator in Mgbala Agwa was shot dead while attending to customers at his shop in Imo state. These incidents underscore the pressing need for law enforcement and community engagement to address the prevailing security concerns and ensure the safety of residents in the affected areas.

## SOUTH EAST (SE) – Incident List

**25 January 2024** - Traders of Ariaria Market Aba, Abia State, under the aegis of Ariaria Markets Traders Association, AMATA, have protested what they called the re-emergence of illegal revenue collectors.

**24 January 2024** - According to reports, two lifeless bodies were abandoned inside a car boot IVO Tempo junction, Umunya axis along the Enugu – Onitsha expressway. An investigation is ongoing to unravel the circumstances surrounding the deaths.

**23 January 2024** - Armed individuals attacked residents of Odoba and Isi Agbuhu villages, Agu-Amede community in Aha-Amagu on 21 January 2024. One person was killed by the assailants while a building was also set ablaze. An investigation is ongoing.

**22 January 2024** - A group of unidentified armed individuals shot dead a point of sale (POS) operator IVO Mgbala Agwa. The information indicated that the victim was killed while attending to customers at his POS shop.

## SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Summary

**Analysis** – The number of fatalities increased with 5 fatalities captured while 3 persons were also kidnapped during the reporting week as compared to the previous week.

The security situation in Delta and Akwa Ibom States reveals a combination of criminal activities, abductions, and law enforcement operations. On January 24, 2024, a decomposing body was discovered by a combined team of security operatives along the Ogor-Evwreni axis of the East-West Road in Ughelli. The circumstances surrounding the male victim's death, found with a red motorcycle helmet nearby, remain unclear, underscoring the need for a thorough investigation. The same day, in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State, suspected Fulani herdsmen kidnapped three Mobile Policemen attached to PMF 51. The officers were drafted to the Ohoror axis of the East-West Road. This

incident highlights the ongoing challenges of security in certain regions, particularly involving attacks on law enforcement personnel. On January 23, in Uyo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, unidentified assailants beheaded a woman, illustrating the brutal nature of certain criminal activities in the region.

Conversely, on January 22, the Nigerian Navy operatives at the Forward Operating Base, Egwema, impounded a fishing trawler, MFV Lady Jessica II, in Brass LGA of Bayelsa State. The vessel, lacking an Automatic Identification System (AIS) and found within an area designated for artisanal fishing boats, resulted in the arrest of 13 crew members for violating the Nigeria Sea Act. This operation highlights efforts to enforce maritime regulations and combat illegal activities in coastal areas.

Moreover, on January 21, the police tactical unit conducted a raid on a kidnapers' camp/hideout in a forest along the Calabar-Itu-Ikot Ekpene Federal Highway. The camp, allegedly used for holding kidnapped victims during ransom negotiations, led to the arrest of 10 suspected kidnapers. The suspects, linked to the kidnap of expatriates working for the China Civil Engineering Construction Company (CCECC), were found with weapons and charms. This operation showcases law enforcement efforts to dismantle criminal networks engaged in kidnapping activities and protect the safety of residents and workers in the region.

## **SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Incident List**

**24 January 2024** - A combined team of security operatives attached to Ughelli Police “A” Division recovered the decomposing body of a male with a red motorcycle helmet by his side IVO Ogor-Evwreni axis of the East-West Road in Ughelli. The circumstances surrounding the death were yet to be ascertained.

**24 January 2024** - Suspected Fulani herdsmen have kidnapped three Mobile Policemen attached to PMF 51, Oghara, drafted to Ohoror axis of the East West Road in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.

**23 January 2024** - A woman was beheaded by unidentified assailants in Uyo Local Government Area (LGA), Akwa Ibom State.

**22 January 2024** - The Nigerian Navy operatives of the Forward Operating Base, Egwema impounded a fishing trawler, MFV Lady Jessica II, IVO Brass LGA of the State. The reports further stated that the vessel was sighted without an Automatic Identification System (AIS) within an area reserved for artisanal fishing boats. The HG SF also arrested the 13 crew members for violating the Nigeria Sea Act and handed them over to the Federal Department of Fisheries (FDF) for further investigation.



**21 January 2024** - Reports from sources indicate that three persons were killed at different times and different locations on the same day within the LGA in suspected cult-related clashes between rival cult groups. An investigation is ongoing by the police into the killings.

**21 January 2024** - The tactical unit of the police in the state raided a kidnappers' camp/hideout in a forest IVO Calabar-Itu-Ikot Ekpene Federal Highway. The camp was said to be used for keeping kidnapped victims while negotiating for ransom. During the security operation, 10 suspected kidnappers were arrested after an exchange of SAF that lasted for hours.

## SOUTH WEST (SW) - Summary

**Analysis** – The number of fatalities decreased with 1 fatality captured while the number of kidnap victims increased to 3 this week. Despite the increase, it is still relevant to note that these incidents are underreported in this region.

In a string of incidents across different locations, security concerns and unrest have emerged, shedding light on various challenges faced by communities and institutions. On January 26, 2023, tension gripped Araromi Ilogbo Secondary School along the Badagry Expressway i Lagos following a student protest over the alleged death of a fellow student at the hands of a teacher. This incident underscores the importance of ensuring the safety and well-being of students within educational institutions.

Similarly, on January 25, 2024, armed robbers targeted a student hostel in the Saapade area of Ode Remo town. An exchange of gunfire with security forces ensued, resulting in the death of one suspect while the others managed to escape with injuries. The recovery of stolen items at the scene highlights the prevalence of criminal activities targeting educational facilities and the need for enhanced security measures to protect students and their belongings.

Additionally, workers of Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology (OAUSTECH) in Okitipupa, Ondo State, staged a protest on January 23, 2023, over the non-implementation of minimum wage and wage awards. This demonstration disrupted academic and commercial activities, signaling discontent among employees and highlighting the importance of addressing labor-related grievances to maintain a conducive work environment.

Moreover, on January 20, 2024, the abduction of two individuals in Otu town by suspected members of an organized criminal group further underscores the security challenges faced by residents. The escape of one victim with bullet injuries adds to the urgency of law enforcement efforts to combat kidnapping and ensure the safety of communities. These incidents collectively emphasize the multifaceted nature of security concerns and the need for coordinated efforts to address them effectively.

## SOUTH WEST (SW) – Incident List

**26 January 2023** - Tension has been noted at the Araromi Ilogbo Secondary School along the Badagry Expressway following a protest by students over the death of their colleague. Reports indicate the deceased was allegedly beaten to death by a teacher.

**25 January 2024** - Four armed suspected robbers raided a tertiary institution's student hostel IVO Saapade area in Ode Remo town. Sources indicate that following an exchange of fire with SF, one of the armed robbery suspects was shot dead, while three others fled the scene with bullet wounds. A bag containing five phones, a wristwatch, an iPod, and a power bank was recovered at the scene. Efforts are ongoing to apprehend the other fleeing suspects.

**25 January 2024** - Four armed suspected robbers raided a tertiary institution's student hostel IVO Saapade area in Ode Remo town. Sources indicate that following an exchange of fire with SF, one of the armed robbery suspects was shot dead, while three others fled the scene with bullet wounds. A bag containing five phones, a wristwatch, an iPod, and a power bank was recovered at the scene. Efforts are ongoing to apprehend the other fleeing suspects.

**23 January 2023** - Workers of Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, OAUSTECH, Okitipupa, Ondo State, on Tuesday staged a protest, disrupting academic and commercial activities, over the non-implementation of minimum wage and wage award in the institution.

**20 January 2024** - Sources indicate the abduction of two persons in two different locations in Otu town by persons suspected to be members of an OCG. Additional report indicates that the husband of one of the victims escaped from the kidnappers with bullet injuries. An investigation is ongoing by the police.

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