



NIGERIA WEEKLY INCIDENT REPORT

17 February 2024 – 23 February 2024

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Executive Summary

Countrywide Incidents for the Week

1. Protests surged nationwide due to increased economic hardship
2. Terrorist attacks surge in parts of the North East.
3. Airstrikes in the North result in the neutralization of several terrorists
4. Crime surges in parts of the South West Region



Figure 1. Incident map

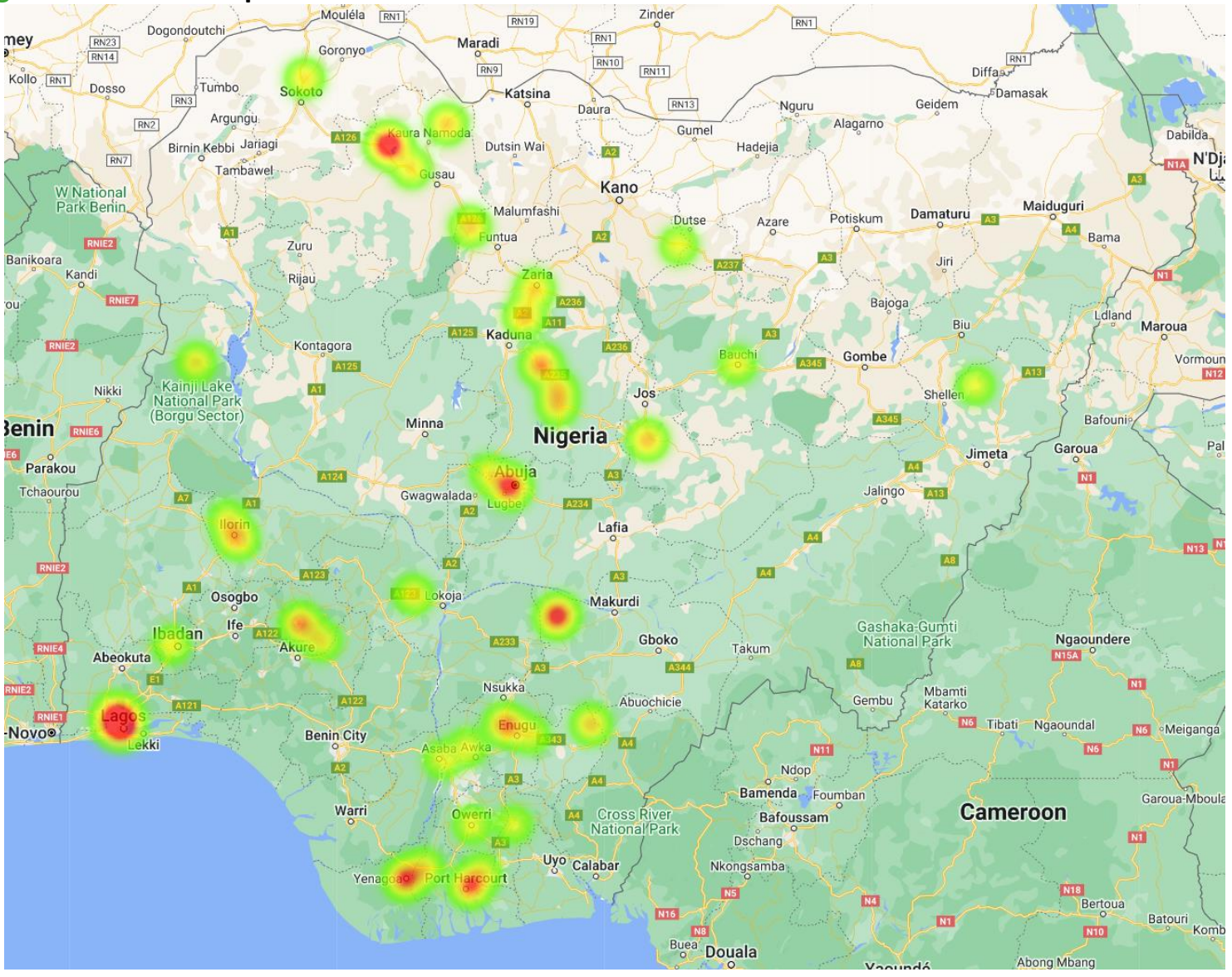


Figure 2. Graph portraying incident types per region

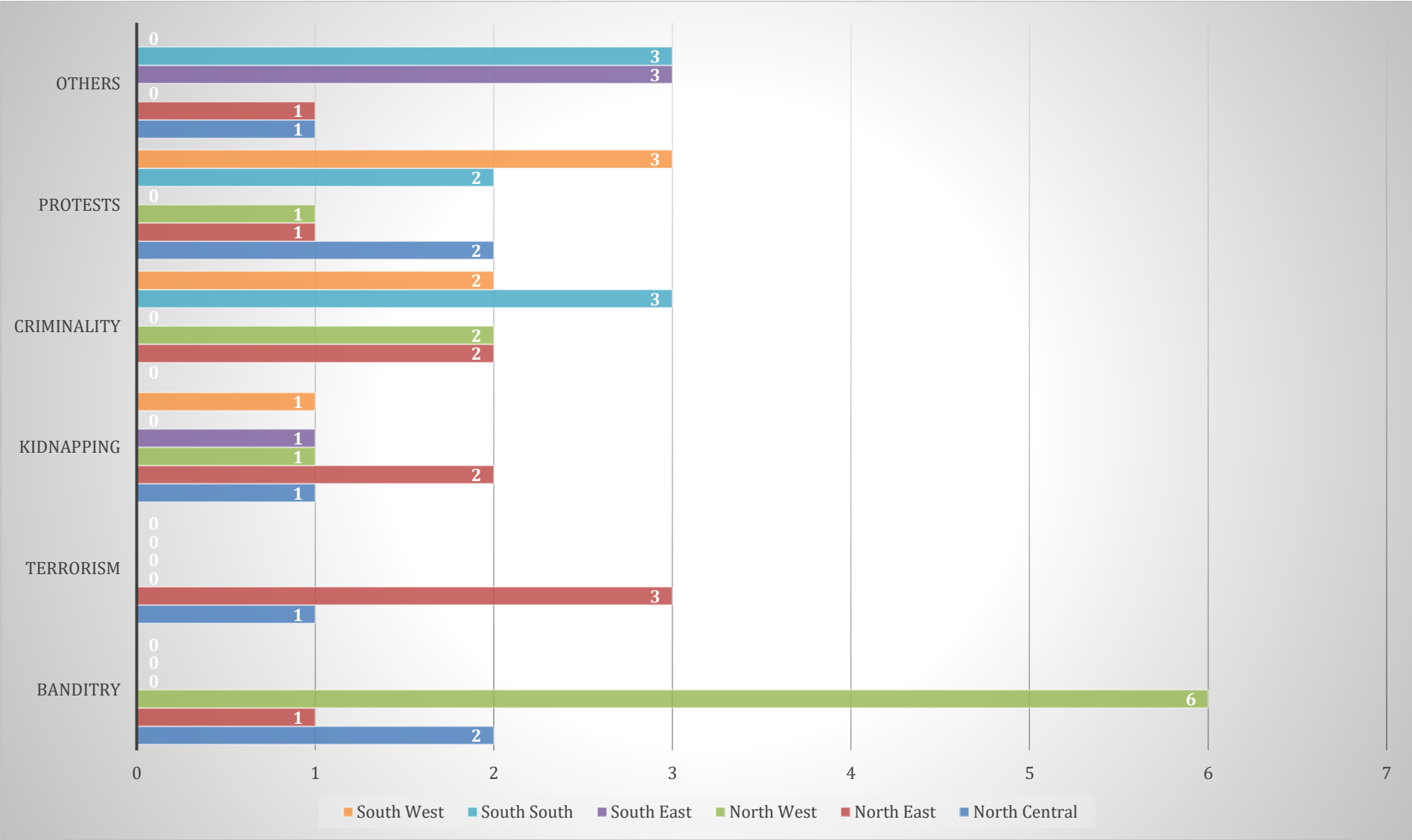
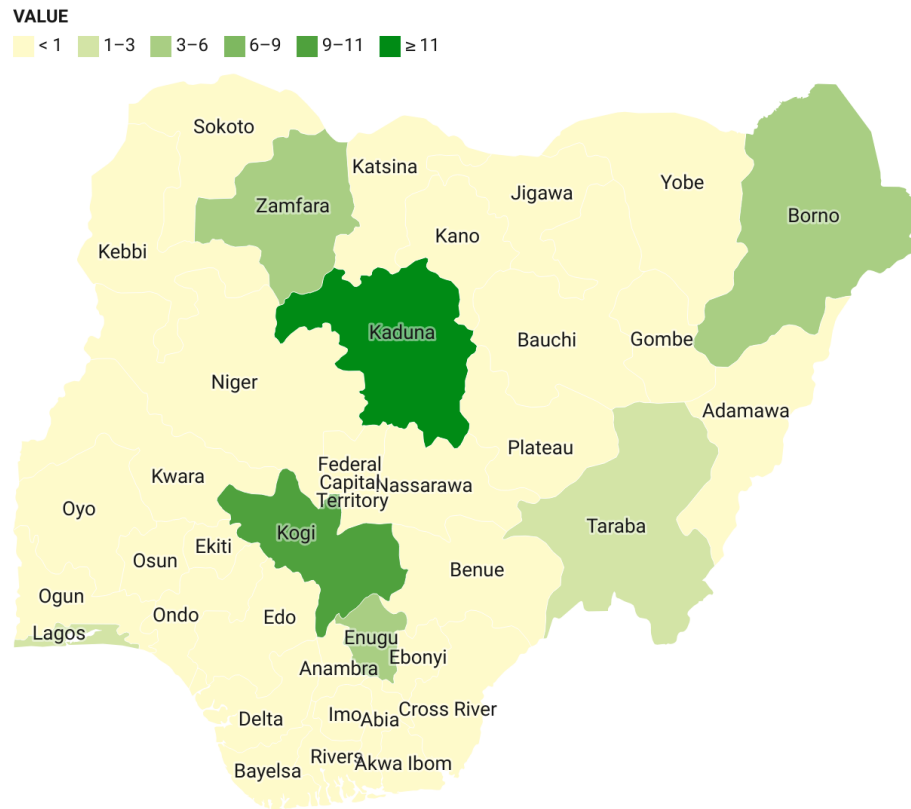


Figure 3.

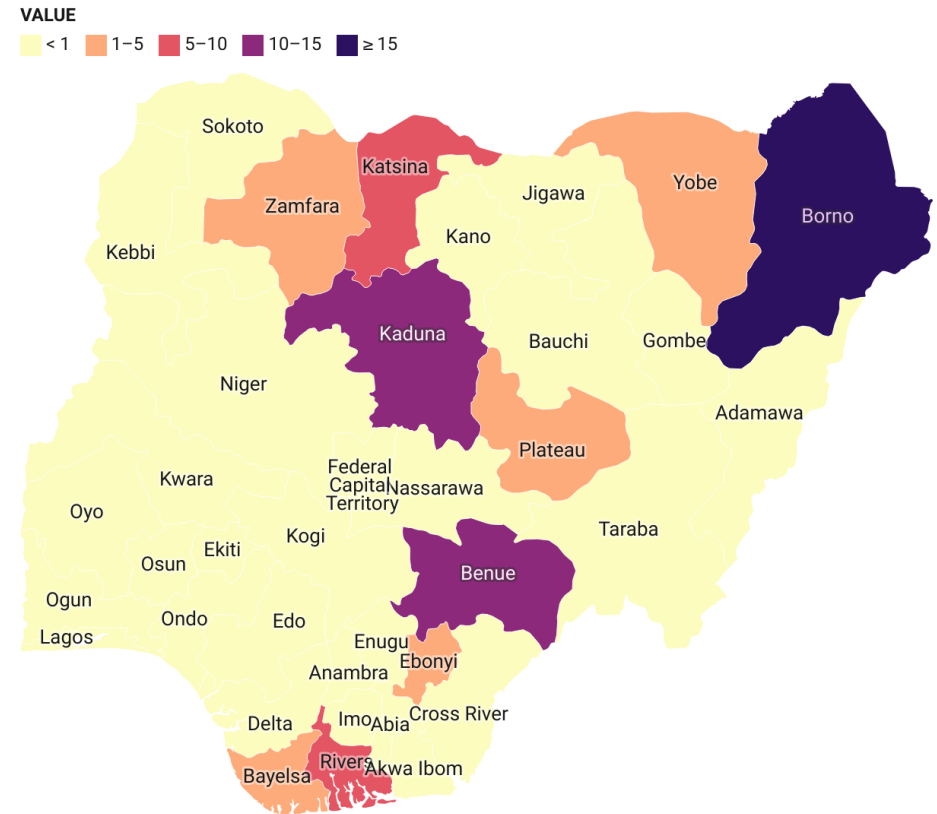
Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 4.

Risk map showing killed victims



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 07

Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims

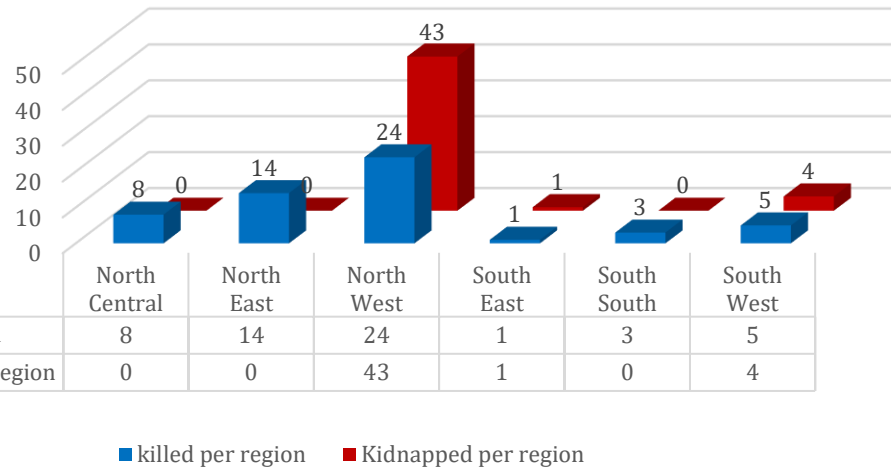
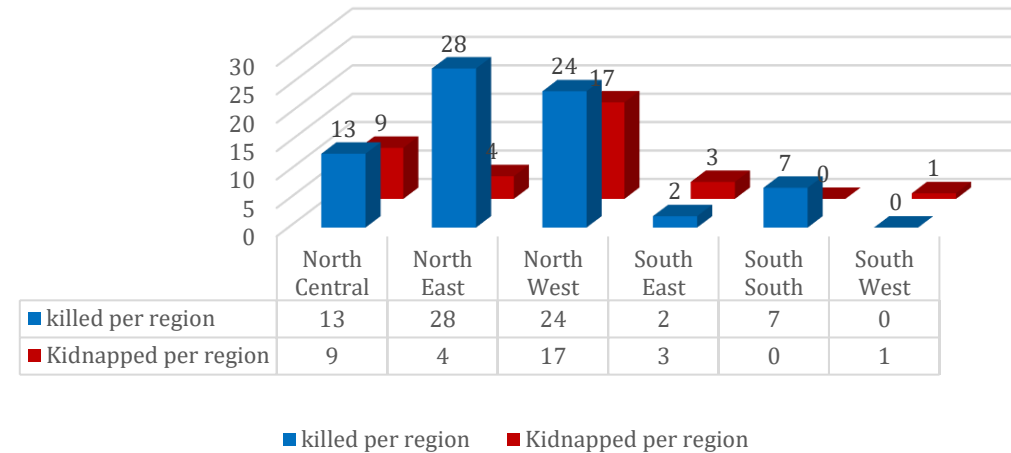


Figure 6. Week 08

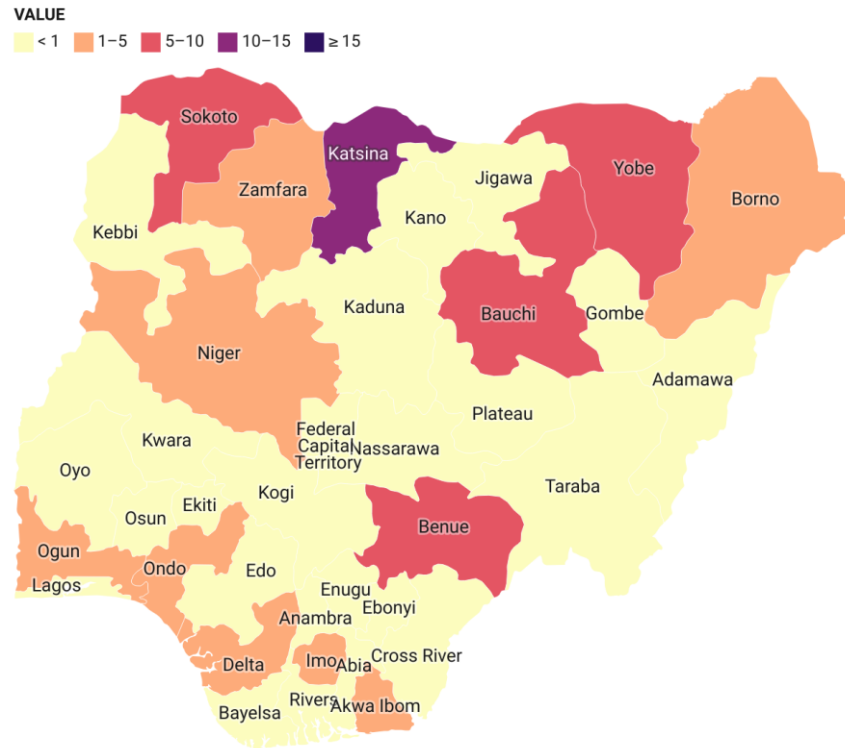
Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims



The figures above show a bar chart contrasting the statistics from the total number of fatalities/kidnapped individuals between week 07 and week 08. 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 07

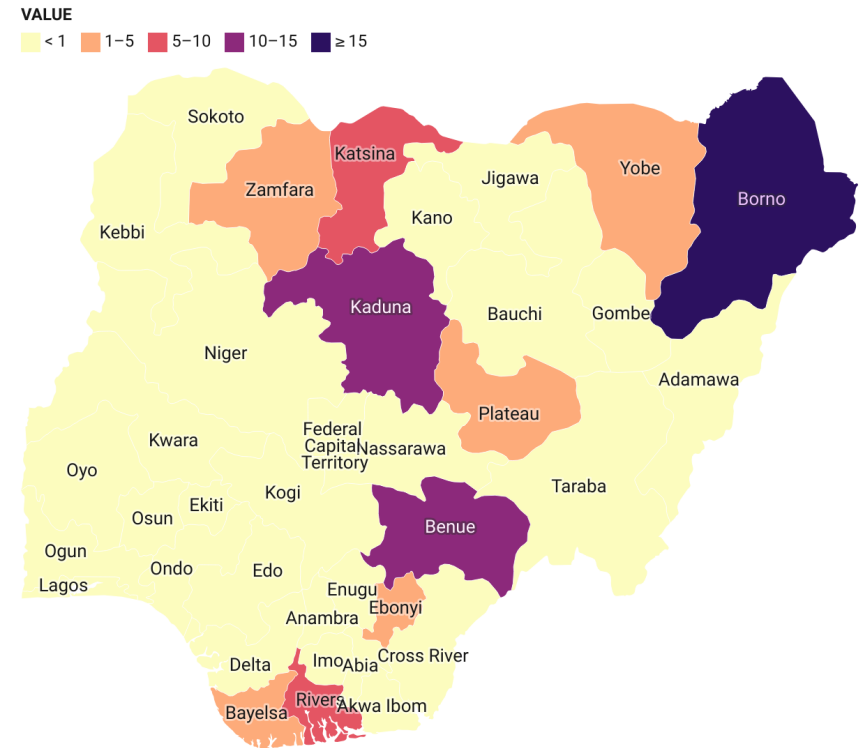
Risk map showing killed victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 8. Week 08

Risk map showing killed victims

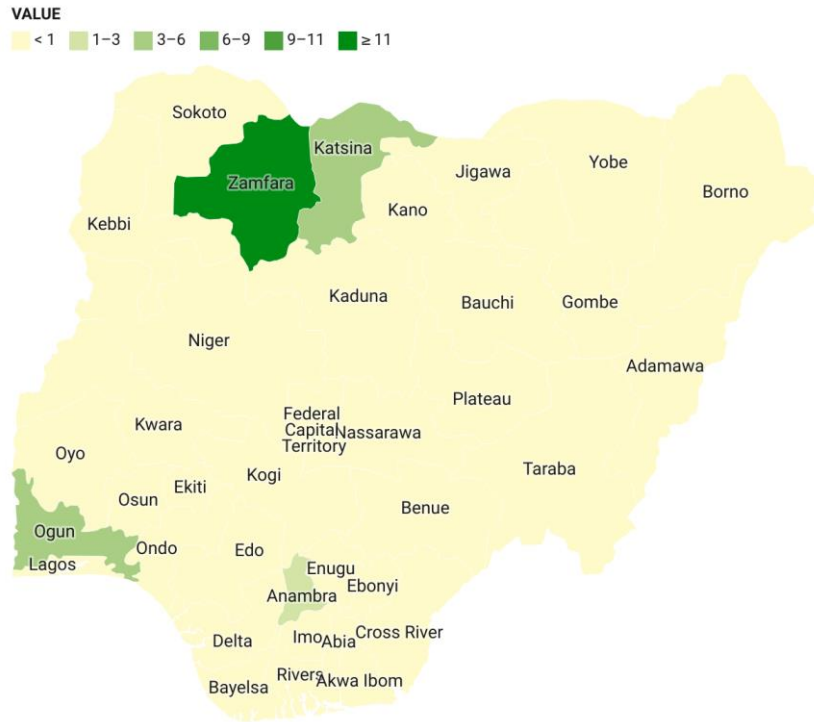


Created with Datawrapper

The above figure shows a risk map contrasting areas where fatalities occurred in the country. The contrast between week 07 and week 08 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, Borno, and Benue States captured the highest number of fatalities.

Figure 9. Week 07

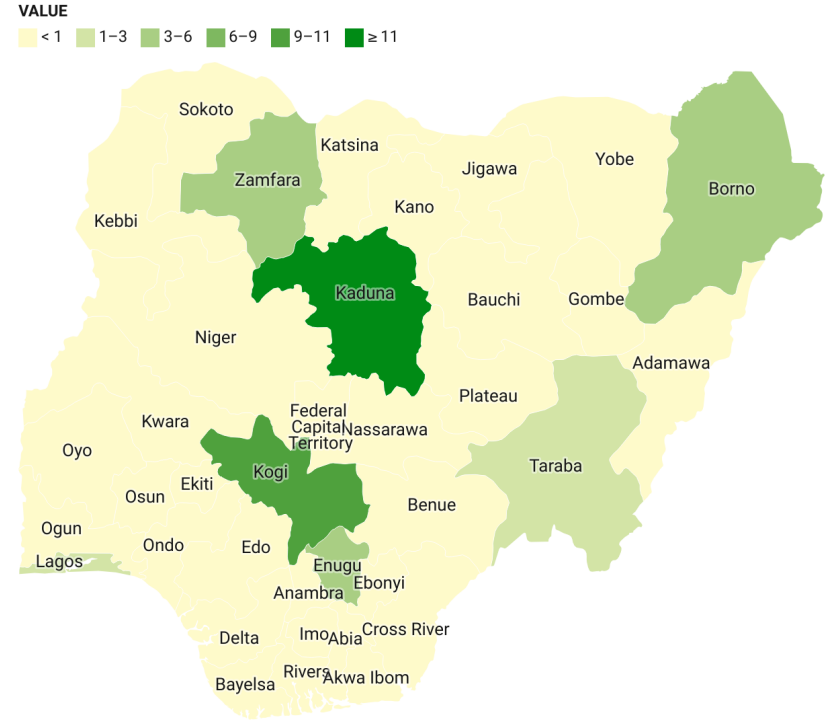
Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 10. Week 08

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 08, most kidnapped victims were from Kaduna and Kogi 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 13 individuals, while the count of kidnapping victims also increased, with 9 reported victims.

There were seven incidents recorded in the region this week. Among the threats recorded were kidnappings, terrorism, protests, and banditry. Banditry was the most incident captured the week, and it was recorded in the Barkin-Ladi area of Plateau State and the Apa area of Benue State. Protests were also reported in the Otukpo area of Benue State and the AMAC area of the Federal Capital Territory

Over nine persons traveling on Kabba-Lokoja Road in Kogi State were kidnapped by unidentified individuals. The families of the kidnapped victims were also contacted by the perpetrators and requested to pay a ransom. Bandits, on the other hand, continue to cause unrest among civilians within the region. On 18 February 2024, suspected armed herdsmen reportedly invaded communities in Apa, Kwande, and Guma local government areas of Benue State, leaving 10 persons dead and others injured. This incident has caused the displacement of locals within the area.

The North Central is not exempted from the spike in nationwide protests as two protests were reported in Abuja and Benue states during the reporting week. Information available revealed that a group of about 20 youths carrying placards, staged a peaceful protest at Banex Plaza Junction in Abuja on 19 February 2024. However, sources indicate that the protest was against the current economic situation and insecurity in the land. Academic activities were disrupted at the Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo, Benue as youths from the host community on Monday protested against what they term as ‘acts of nepotism’ and high tuition fees in the new University in Otukpo. They also promised to continue the protest for the next 14 days.

NORTH CENTRAL (NC) – Incident List

19 February 2024 – A coalition of three youth groups protested along Edikwu junction to the school gate of a higher institution, blocking the busy Otukpo – Enugu Road. The protesters carried placards with different inscriptions.

19 February 2024 – Information available revealed that a group of about 20 youths carrying placards, staged a peaceful protest at Banex Plaza Junction in Abuja. However, sources indicate that the protest was against Hunger and Insecurity in the land.

18 February 2024 – Suspected armed herdsmen have reportedly invaded communities in Apa, Kwande, and Guma local government areas of Benue State, leaving 10 persons dead and others injured.

18 February 2024 – Armed individuals linked to a terrorist organization attacked Allewa Village IVO Shiroro LGA, burnt down over 30 houses, and stole several livestock, and bags of grains.

18 February 2024 – Unidentified armed individuals killed two people and injured five others in a renewed attack IVO Rawuru community in Barikin Ladi Local Government Area. Reportedly, the perpetrators entered the village in the night, and shot sporadically, killing two residents while five others escaped with gunshot wounds.

18 February 2024 – Reports revealed that armed individuals suspected to be assassins shot dead a prominent political figure at a hotel accommodation IVO Pankshin town. Further information revealed that the deceased was in the area to attend a burial function.

17 February 2024 – Information acquired revealed that nine persons traveling on Kabba-Lokoja Road in Kogi State were kidnapped. The families of the kidnapped victims have been contacted by the perpetrators and requested to pay a ransom.

NORTH EAST (NE) - Summary

Analysis – There was an overall increase in the number of fatalities as 28 persons were killed and an increase in kidnap victims, with 4 kidnap victims during the week.

The Air Component of Operation HADIN KAI (OPHK) conducted airstrikes in the Arinna Woje village area of Borno state. According to claims by the military, 22 ISWAP fighters and three ISWAP commanders were killed in the respective operation. Their bodies were later recovered and buried by ISWAP members. Three other armed attacks were reported in parts of Borno state. Two adult male civilians who went to farm in the vicinity of Jege village, 6.6km southwest of Gwoza were attacked and killed by ex-JAS Shekau members. The attackers withdrew, while the bodies were evacuated to Gwoza town for burial. In another attack, two unidentified individuals shot and injured a local businessman in the left shoulder at Burum junction, approximately 13km South of Damboa town. The attackers withdrew immediately while the victim was evacuated to Damboa for treatment.

Two terrorist attacks were reported in parts of Yobe State during the reporting week. On 18 February, SWAP fighters stormed the Lawanti community enforcing zakat (alms) collection when a distress call was made to security forces in the Kukareta community. Security forces

mobilized and engaged the assailants, killing three while the remainder withdrew. Lawanti community is 26km East of Damaturu town, along Damaturu-Maiduguri route. ISWAP elements also attacked the security location (Charlie Company) on the Eastern outskirts of Buniyadi town on 21 February, but the attack was repelled. One soldier was reportedly killed and another wounded, and the attackers burnt a gun truck before withdrawing. One day before the attack, ISWAP elements in two-gun trucks were reportedly sighted hibernating in the vicinity of Buniyadi.

A single protest action was reported in the region where, an unspecified number of traders from Banki embarked on a peaceful protest at the border post in Banki town, Borno State. They protested the attempt by another group of traders to move some goods-laden trucks to Amchide, an action which the State Government had banned. The government had directed that all produce be sold at the Banki international market and instructed customs and immigration on 13 February 2024 to enforce the ban. The Police arrested all the major actors and interrogated them, restoring normalcy in the area

NORTH EAST (NE) – Incident List

21 February 2024 – An unspecified number of traders from Banki embarked on a peaceful protest at the border post in Banki town. They protested the attempt by another group of traders to move some goods-laden trucks to Amchide.

20 February - ISWAP elements attacked the SF location (Charlie Company) on the Eastern outskirts of Buniyadi town, but the attack was repelled by the SF. One soldier was reportedly killed and another wounded, and the attackers burnt a gun truck before withdrawing.

19 February 2024 – Armed individuals broke into a student’s hostel, injured two people, and stole cash and other valuables IVO a tertiary institution’s Campus. Reportedly, the perpetrators overpowered the guards to gain access to the hostel.

19 February - ISWAP elements kidnapped an unspecified number of local women who went to gather firewood in the Bush IVO Borno College of Basic Studies, 5 km Southwest of Bama town.

18 February – The Air Component of OPHK conducted airstrikes in the Arinna Woje village area. According to claims by the military, 22 ISWAP fighters and three ISWAP commanders were killed in the respective operation.

18 February 2024 – Two unidentified individuals shot and injured a local businessman in the left shoulder IVO Burum junction, approximately 13km South of Damboa town. The attackers withdrew immediately while the victim was evacuated to Damboa for treatment.

18 February - ISWAP fighters stormed the Lawanti community enforcing zakat (alms) collection when a distress call was made to the SF in the Kukareta community. SF mobilized and engaged the assailants, killing three while the remainder withdrew. Lawanti community is 26km East of Damaturu town, along Damaturu-Maiduguri.

17 February - An adult male, vendor with an INGO, was attacked and wounded by suspected OCG elements with unspecified dangerous weapons IVO Wajare Ward. The victim was evacuated to an INGO medical facility for treatment, and no arrest was made

17 February - Unidentified men suspected to be members of an OCG attacked a commercial rider and stole his motorbike IVO Tudun Wus Area in Dass Local Government Area, Bauchi state. The victim is being treated at a medical facility due to injuries sustained during the incident. A police investigation is ongoing.

17 February - Two adult male civilians who went to farm IVO Jege village, 6.6km SW of Gwoza HH were attacked and killed by ex-JAS Shekau members. The attackers withdrew, while the bodies were evacuated to Gwoza town for burial.

NORTH WEST (NW) - Summary

Analysis – Fatalities stayed the same as the previous week with 24 persons killed, while kidnapped individuals decreased with 17 victims during the week.

Banditry was predominant during the week. Incidents were recorded in Katsina, Kaduna, and Zamfara states. The attacks were in addition to the security deterioration in the region, coupled with other incidents such as kidnapping, crime, and protests.

Zamfara recorded a series of attacks this week, the attacks were recorded in Zurmi, Tsafe, and Kaura-Namodo local government areas. Bandits attacked Yar Nasarawa village, located close to the boundary with Zamfara State, and killed six persons, while ten others sustained injuries. The armed individuals also rustled livestock and set ablaze houses, motorcycles, and food reserves in surrounding villages before they departed. Police confirmed the incident and investigation had commenced. Unidentified armed persons mounted a checkpoint and stopped commercial vehicles along Funtua – Gusau MSR IVO of Unguwar Gida village in Tsafe LGA. A commercial vehicle was attacked and the driver was shot dead, while all passengers were abducted and taken to the forest. The Police responded and recovered the driver's body to Tsafe Town Hospital for autopsy. A police investigation is in progress.

In Kaduna state, armed individuals linked to an OCG attacked Gindin Dutse Makyali village IVO Idon ward in Kajuru LGA, killed 12 people, and injured several others before burning down 20 houses. This incident caused unrest among civilians within the area. In a coordinated operation, several armed individuals entered Amala-Dam Village which shares a boundary with Janjala Village along river Gurara in Kachia LGA of Kaduna, abducted 14 persons, and fled the area afterward.

A single protest action was reported in Jigawa state. However, the police disrupted the peaceful demonstration against economic crisis, insecurity, and hardship. The protest was organized by civil societies, political groups, and some members of the public to register their dismay over the unpleasant situation.

NORTH WEST (NW) – Incident List

22 February 2024 - The police in Jigawa State disrupted a peaceful demonstration against hunger, insecurity, and hardship.

19 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals attacked Yar Nasarawa village, located close to the boundary with Zamfara State, and killed six persons, while ten others sustained injuries.

19 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals attacked a man, a community focal person for a UN agency, by opening fire and wounding him behind a Girls' High school location in Gwadabawa town – Gwadabawa LGA.

18 February 2024 - In a coordinated operation, armed individuals linked to an OCG attacked Gindin Dutse Makyali village IVO Idon ward in Kajuru LGA, killed 12 people, and injured several others before burning down 20 houses.

18 February 2024 - Suspected armed persons attacked the Nasarawa community and Divisional Police Office, Zurmi, killed the officer on duty and wounded two others.

17 February 2024 - In a coordinated operation, several armed individuals linked to OCGs entered Amala-Dam Village which shares a boundary with Janjala Village along river Gurara in Kachia LGA, abducted 14 persons, and fled the area afterwards.

17 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals attacked Dan Tsuntsu village and killed two persons, while four others sustained injuries in Batsari LGA. The Police responded by evacuating the bodies to the general hospital in Batsari town.

17 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals attacked a man on his way home from his workplace and seized his mobile phone in Raka area of Gwadabawa town of Gwadabawa LGA.

17 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals attacked a community and shot dead two persons in Gwiwa village, Sakajiki Ward of Kauran Namoda LGA. The Police responded against the attackers and an investigation is in progress.

17 February 2024 - Unidentified armed persons mounted an IVCP and stopped commercial vehicles along Funtua – Gusau MSR IVO of Unguwar Gida village in Tsafe LGA. A commercial vehicle was attacked and the driver was shot dead, while all passengers were abducted and taken to the forest.

SOUTH EAST (SE) – Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities increased with 2 killed victims while 3 kidnap victims were recorded during the week.

Generally, due to the underreporting of incidents in this region, there tends to be a minimal number of reported incidents as compared to other regions. During the week, incidents were captured in Enugu, Anambra, Ebonyi, and Imo States.

In Enugu State, armed individuals reportedly abducted an unidentified number of passengers in the vicinity of the Umuoka community on 18 February 2024. It was alleged the victims were heading to Enugu from Lagos. Furthermore, the abductors have contacted the victim’s family for payment of a ransom.

On a different note, security agencies demonstrated collaborative efforts in countering insurgent activities in Achalla, a community in Awka North Local Government Area of Anambra State. The successful operation resulted in the dismantling of a camp suspected to be used by insurgents. This cooperative approach among security forces underscores the importance of coordinated strategies to address complex security challenges and maintain stability in the South-eastern region of Nigeria.

Unfortunately, the tranquility of the Iboko community in the Izzi Local Government Area of Ebonyi State was shattered when armed gunmen launched a deadly attack. The assailants targeted the area, resulting in the tragic deaths of two security guards and two fuel attendants. This incident highlights the urgent need for improved local security measures to safeguard communities and prevent further loss of life in the face of such violent attacks.

SOUTH EAST (SE) – Incident List

21 February 2024 - NSCDC arrested two suspected “one-chance robbers” IVO Okigwe Road. It was reported that the suspects were attempting to forcefully dispossess their victims of their valuables when they were apprehended.

20 February 2024 - There was panic at the Iboko community in the Izzi Local Government Area of Ebonyi State on Tuesday, when gunmen stormed the area and killed no fewer than two security guards and two fuel attendants during attacks in the community.

19 February 2024 - Combined security agencies have busted a camp of suspected insurgents in Achalla, a community in Awka North Local Government Area of Anambra State, Nigeria's southeast.

18 February 2024 - Armed individuals reportedly abducted an unidentified number of passengers IVO Umuoka community on 18 February 2024. It was alleged the victims were heading to Enugu from Lagos. Furthermore, the abductors have contacted the victim's family for payment of a ransom.

SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities increased with 7 fatalities captured while no persons were kidnapped during the reporting week. This is most likely because incidents are underreported within the area.

There was a decline in incidents this week, compared to the previous week. Incidents were recorded in Rivers, Edo, Bayelsa, and Delta states. The incidents ranged from criminality to killing, protests, and communal clashes.

In Bayelsa state, two persons lost their lives, others sustained injuries while properties were looted and destroyed in a communal clash between Opolo and Okutukutu communities IVO Yenagoa LGA. The reports indicated that the clash was a result of a dispute over the ancestral boundaries of their communal lands.

On 21 February, traffic was held up for several hours in Ozoro, headquarters of the Isoko north council area of Delta State, as indigenes blocked the busy Asaba-Ughelli motorway in the town, protesting the relocation of the Faculty of Management Sciences from the Delta State University of Science and Technology to Orerokpe. Delta State Polytechnic IVO Ogwashi Uku, Aniocha South LGA was also forced to close following incessant attacks on students by criminals. Reports stated that most of the hostels outside and inside the campus were deserted over fears of attacks by criminals breaking into hostels stealing handsets and laptops, and sexually assaulting the female students. However, students are expected to resume academic activities on Monday, February 26.

In another incident on the same day, unidentified armed individuals attacked a security force position in the vicinity of Eliozu Underbridge, Rumukurusi-Rumuokoro road, Port Harcourt, and killed three policemen. Two policemen were reportedly taken hostage. Consequently, there has been a large security presence in the area.

SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Incident List

21 February 2024 - Traffic was held up for several hours in Ozoro, headquarters of the Isoko north council area of Delta State, on Wednesday as indigenes blocked the busy Asaba-Ughelli motorway in the town, protesting the relocation of the Faculty of Management Sciences from the Delta State University of Science and Technology to Orerokpe.

21 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals attacked an HG SF position IVO Elioazu Underbridge, Rumukurusi-Rumuokoro road, Port Harcourt, and killed three policemen. Two policemen were reportedly taken hostage. Consequently, there has been a large security presence in the area.

19 February 2024 - Some youths and women of the All-Progressives Congress (APC) on Monday thronged the party's secretariat in Benin City, the Edo State capital in protest against the outcome of Saturday's governorship primary election which produced three winners.

19 February 2024 - Two persons lost their lives, others sustained injuries while properties were looted and destroyed in a communal clash between Opolo and Okutukutu communities IVO Yenagoa LGA. The reports indicated that the clash was a result of a dispute over ancestral boundaries of their communal lands.

18 February 2024 - The operatives of the Rivers State Police Command arrested the manager of a private health facility IVO Stadium Road in Port Harcourt as part of an investigation following the death of a female graduate at the hospital during a faulted procedure on the deceased.

17 February 2024 - Delta State Polytechnic IVO Ogwashi Uku, Aniocha South LGA was forced to close following incessant attacks on students by criminals. Reports stated that most of the hostels outside and inside the campus were deserted over fears of attacks by criminals breaking into hostels stealing handsets and laptops, and sexually assaulting the female students.

17 February 2024 - Criminal elements disrupted the coalition of results of a political party primary election. According to reports, the perpetrators overpowered the police operatives at the gate, entered the venue, and broke some equipment owned by journalists

SOUTH WEST (SW) - Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities decreased significantly with no fatalities captured while the number of kidnap victims decreased to 1 this week.

the most significant incident type captured during the reporting week were protests, in Oyo, Ondo, and Osun states. Most of these protests are linked to the ongoing economic crisis within the country.

Reports revealed that some youths gathered at the Mokola Roundabout in Ibadan, Oyo state to protest against the rising cost of living in the country. The youths were later joined by some traders and other citizens in a procession around the city of Ibadan. The procession terminated at the Agodi Gate government house and it was peaceful.

The economic situation nationwide has increased criminal activities as reported during the week. Robbers invaded a music studio owned by a Nigerian musician and carted away with studio equipment worth millions of naira IVO Sango-Ota, Ogun state. Investigation into the incident is ongoing. Acquired information indicates that suspected landgrabbers invaded Ajasa community, in possession of dangerous weapons such as charms, daggers and guns. Reports further revealed that the culprits vandalized people's properties and extorted residents in the area. No casualties were reported.

SOUTH WEST (SW) – Incident List

22 February 2023 - Members of Osun Civil Societies Coalition (OCSC) are reportedly protesting in Osogbo over economic hardship.

21 February 2024 - Two suspected kidnapers were arrested for the abduction of a female student in Ikotun. Some neighbours alerted the police of suspicious activities before the arrest was made. An investigation is ongoing.

19 February 2024 - Interns of the Federal Medical Centre, Owo, Ondo State, have protested over unpaid three months' salary by the Federal Government.

19 February 2024 - Reports revealed that some youths gathered at the Mokola Roundabout in Ibadan to protest against the rising cost of living in the country.

17 February 2024 - Acquired information indicates that suspected landgrabbers invaded Ajasa community, in possession of dangerous weapons such as charms, daggers and guns. Reports further revealed that the culprits vandalized people's properties and extorted residents in the area. No casualties were reported.

17 February 2024 - Robbers invaded a music studio owned by a Nigerian musician and carted away with studio equipment worth millions of naira IVO Sango-Ota. Investigation into the incident is ongoing.

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