



NIGERIA WEEKLY INCIDENT REPORT

24 February 2024 – 01 March 2024

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Executive Summary

Countrywide Incidents for the Week

1. Protests surged nationwide due to increased economic hardship.
2. IED attacks surge in parts of Borno State.
3. Increased security presence nationwide to curb criminality.
4. Crime due to economic hardship surges in parts of the South West Region.



Figure 1. Incident map

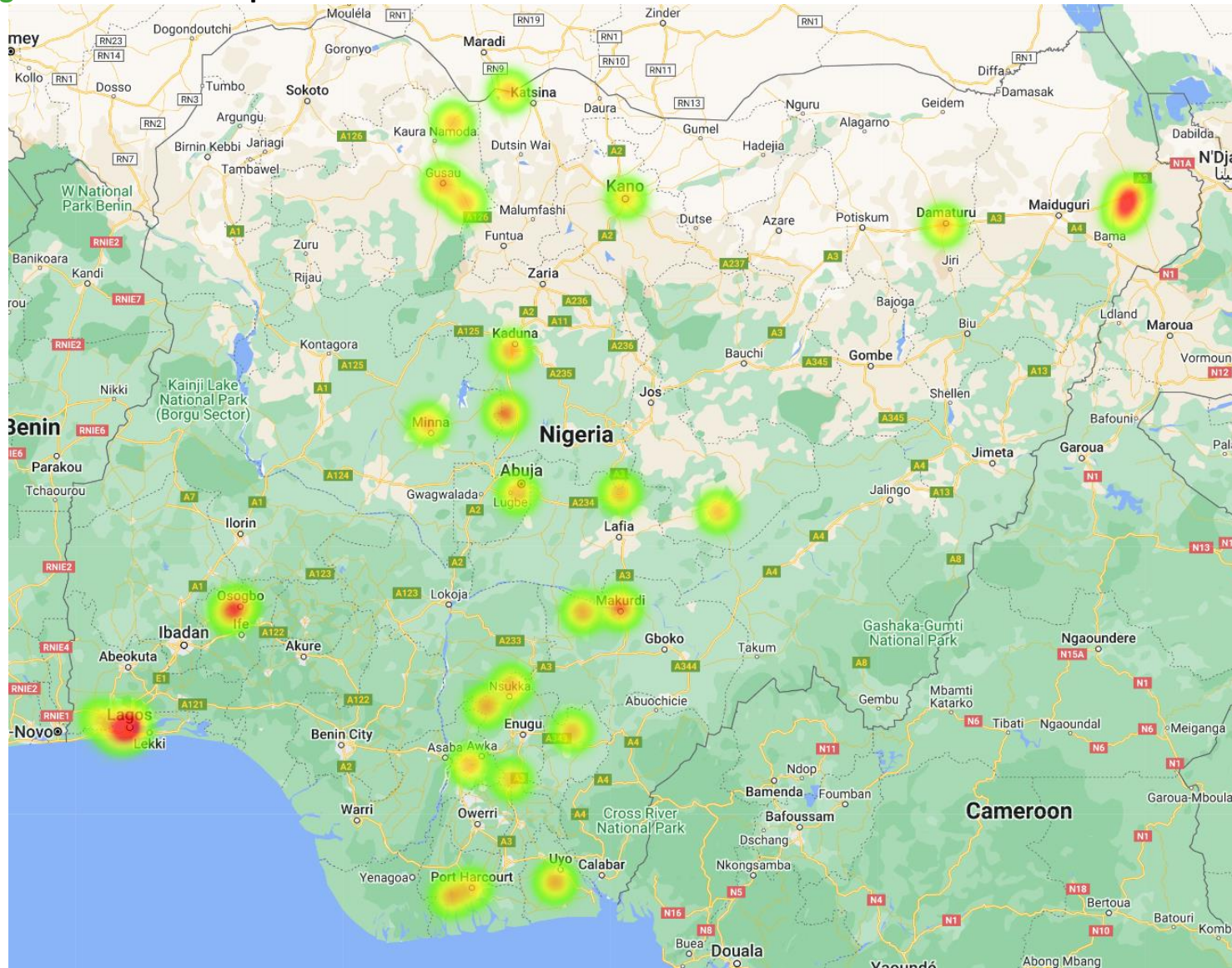


Figure 2. Graph portraying incident types per region

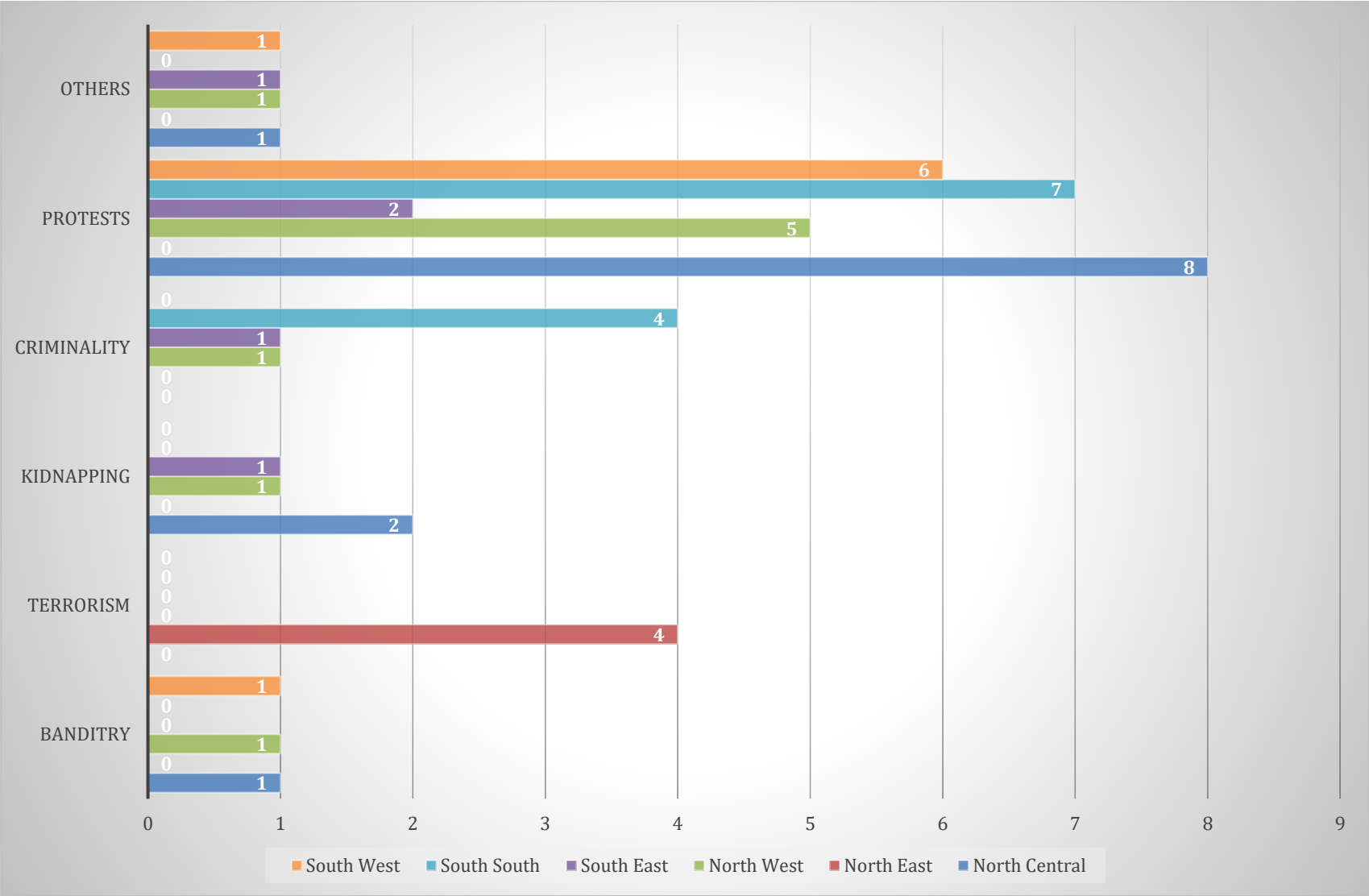


Figure 3.

Risk map showing kidnapped victims

VALUE
 < 1 1-3 3-6 6-9 9-11 ≥ 11



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 4.

Risk map showing killed victims

VALUE
 < 1 1-5 5-10 10-15 ≥ 15



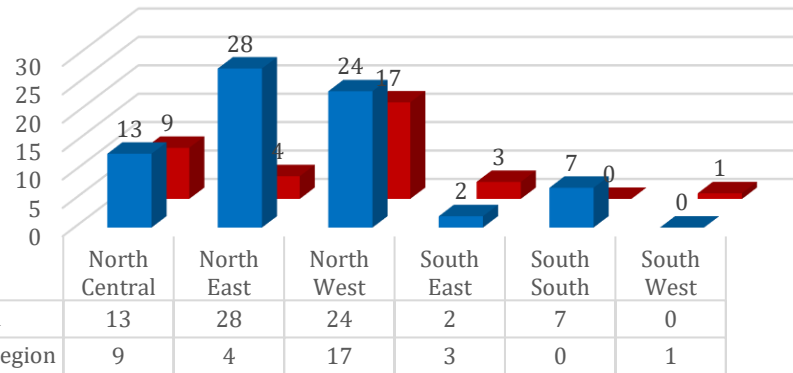
Created with Datawrapper

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 08

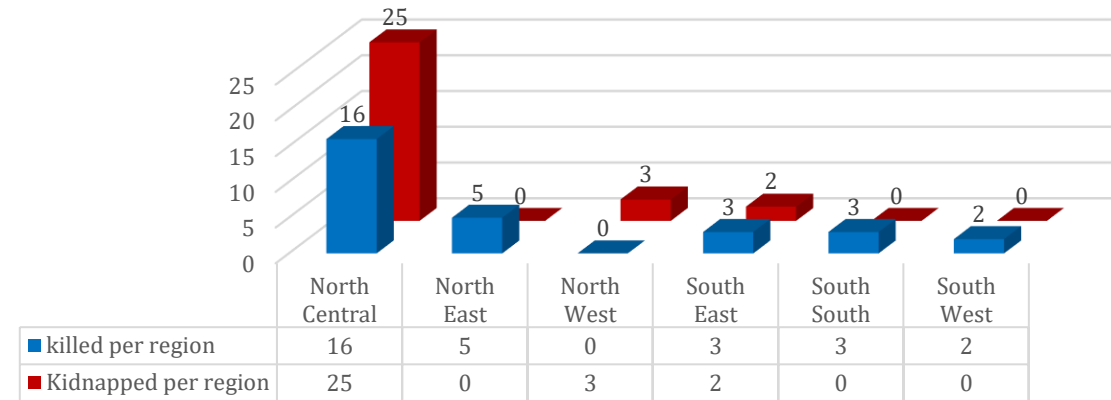
Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims



■ killed per region ■ Kidnapped per region

Figure 6. Week 09

Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims

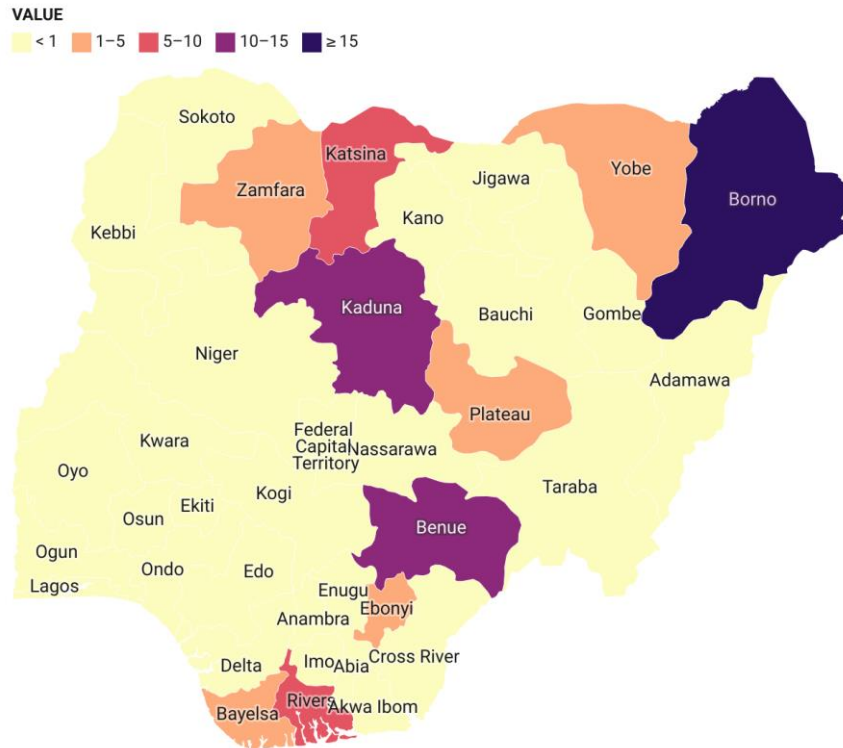


■ killed per region ■ Kidnapped per region

The figures above show a bar chart contrasting the statistics from the total number of fatalities/kidnapped individuals between week 08 and week 09. 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 08

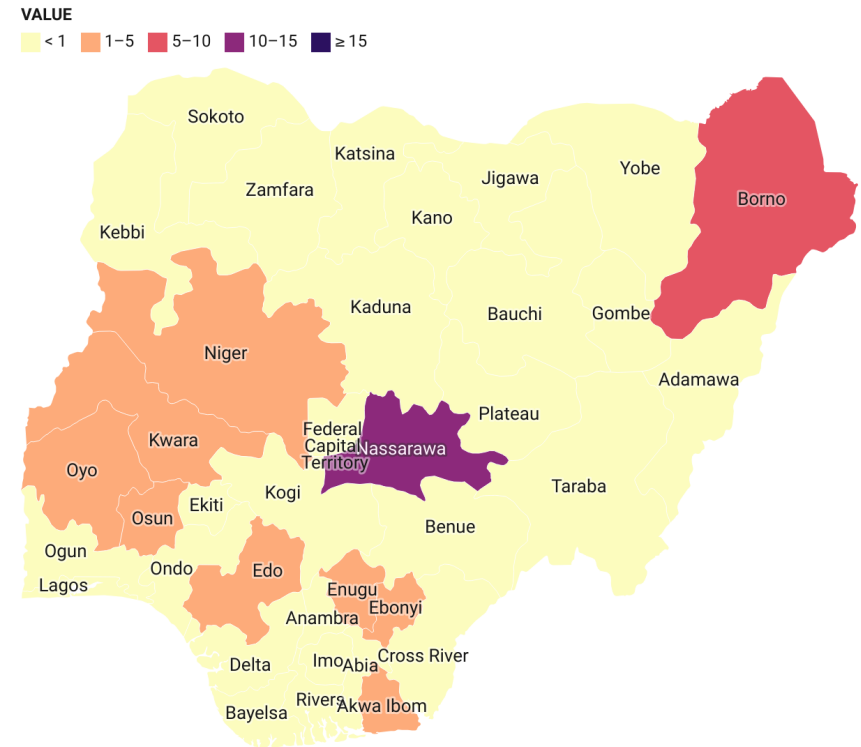
Risk map showing killed victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 8. Week 09

Risk map showing killed victims

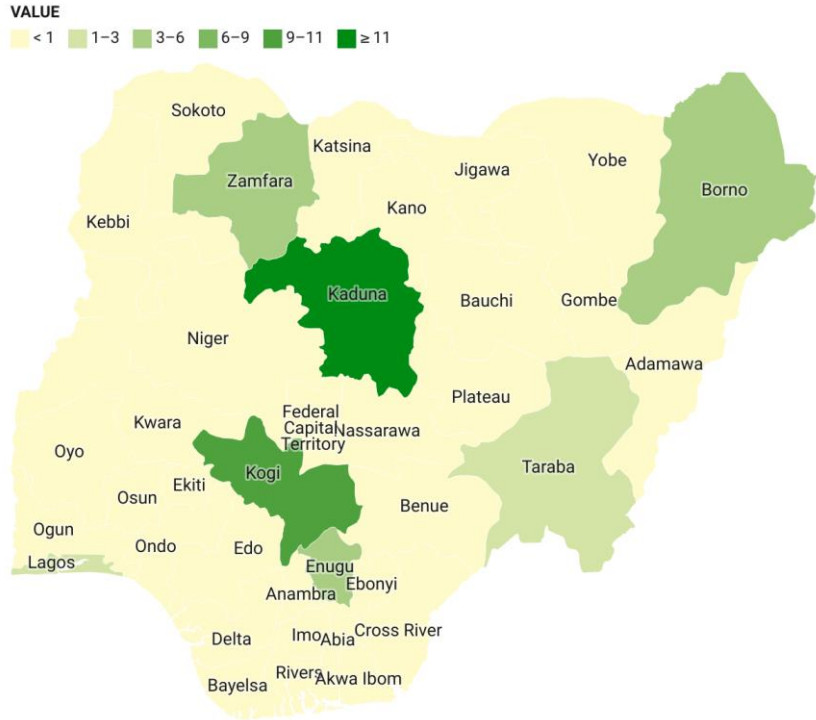


Created with Datawrapper

The above figure shows a risk map contrasting areas where fatalities occurred in the country. The contrast between week 08 and week 09 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, Borno and Nasarawa States captured the highest number of fatalities.

Figure 9. Week 08

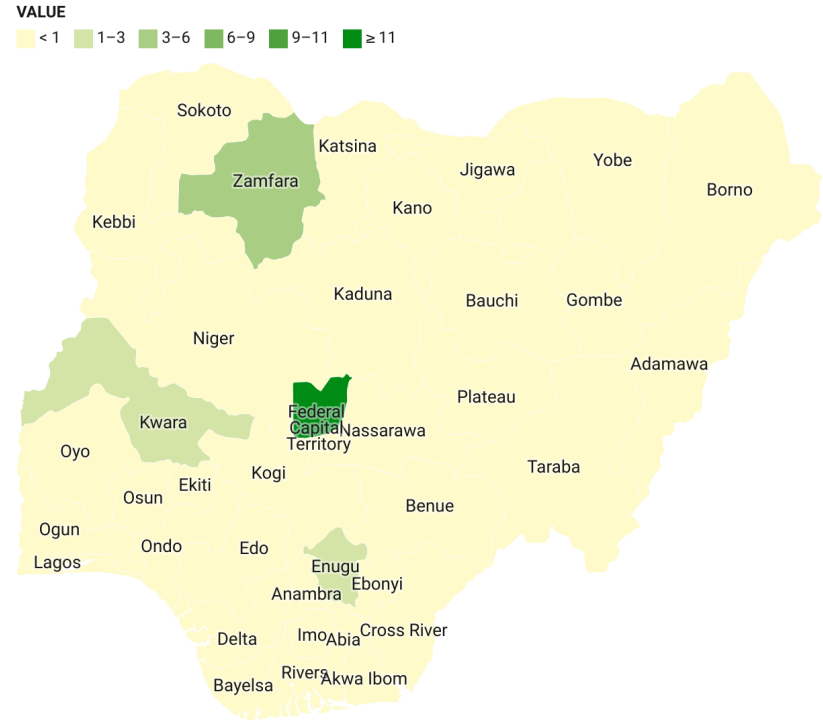
Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 10. Week 09

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 09, most kidnapped victims were from FCT and Zamfara state. 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 16 individuals, while the count of kidnapping victims also increased, with 25 reported victims.

There were twelve incidents recorded in the region this week. Among the threats recorded were kidnappings, protests, and criminal activities. Protests were the most incident captured the week, and it was recorded in FCT, Benue, Kwara, and Plateau states. Protests were mostly carried out by aggrieved residents and the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) over economic hardship.

Information also revealed that members of the Network of Civil Society for Economic Sustainability held a rally at the Unity Fountain in AMAC, of the Federal Capital Territory. The members carried placards with various inscriptions supporting the current President's administration. There seems to be no end in sight for the intra-party crisis rocking the Benue State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC), as policemen on Friday fired tear gas at anti-Austin Agada group who attacked the state's party chairman while attempting to access the state secretariat of the APC in Makurdi.

A single bandit attack was reported over the week, precisely in the Toto local government of Nasarawa state. Unidentified armed individuals reportedly stormed Katakpa village and killed the village head, two police officers, and 11 civilians, after attacking the police outpost. On 29 February, around 40 armed individuals stormed Kawu Community in the Bwari Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory and reportedly abducted 23 persons, including women, children, and a local politician to an unknown destination. These attacks have slightly increased during the past weeks due to the unstable economic situation of the country.

NORTH CENTRAL (NC) – Incident List

01 March 2024 – There seems to be no end in sight for the intra-party crisis rocking the Benue State chapter of the All-Progressives Congress (APC), as policemen on Friday fired tear gas at anti-Austin Agada group who attacked the state's party chairman while attempting to access the state secretariat of the APC in Makurdi.

01 March 2024 – Inmates at the Jos Correctional Center, Plateau State, on Friday staged a protest over the economic hardship ravaging the nation. It was gathered that the protest began immediately the inmates were informed of the downward review of sizes of food in the correctional center.

28 February 2024 – Residents of Tse-Kucha community in the Gboko Local Government Area of Benue State have protested against Dangote Cement Company over alleged neglect following the limestone dust ravaging the community and its environs.

27 February 2024 – Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) are protesting in Jos Metropolis over economic hardship.

27 February 2024 – Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) are protesting in Ilorin over economic hardship.

27 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.

27 February 2024 – Gunmen attacked the residence of a photographer in Tundun Fulani community, Minna, Chanchaga LGA. The photographer was stabbed and killed, and his valuables including a laptop were stolen.

27 February 2024 – Unidentified armed individuals reportedly stormed Katakpa village and killed the village head, two police officers, and 11 civilians, after attacking the police outpost.

24 February 2024 – One person was killed, while two others were abducted by gunmen IVO Ora Community. Reportedly one armed individual was killed when the police and vigilantes rescued three other victims kidnapped in two villages in Omupo.

NORTH EAST (NE) - Summary

Analysis – There was an overall decrease in the number of fatalities as 5 persons were killed and a decrease in kidnap victims, with no kidnap victims during the week. This decrease can be attributed to underreporting of incidents in the region during the reporting 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.

The escalating violence in northeastern Nigeria, particularly the recent attacks involving ex-JAS Shekau elements and ISWAP members, underscores the persistent security challenges in the region. The attack on the security position near Pulka town on March 1st, resulting in the death of a Special Forces (SF) member and subsequent withdrawal of the attackers, highlights the brazenness and agility of these militant groups. The use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in multiple incidents, such as the ones near Gwoza and Bama, further indicates the sophisticated tactics employed by the insurgents, posing a significant threat not only to military personnel but also to civilians caught in the crossfire.

The clash between Bakoura fighters and ISWAP elements on February 19th introduces a complex dynamic within the militant landscape, potentially signaling internal conflicts or power struggles among these groups. The lack of available details regarding the Kangarwa village attack raises concerns about the transparency of information and challenges in obtaining accurate accounts of such events. The resulting panic in nearby communities suggests the broader impact of these clashes on the civilian population, highlighting the urgent need for enhanced security measures and intelligence capabilities to address the root causes of the ongoing instability in the region.

NORTH EAST (NE) – Incident List

01 March 2024 – The security position IVO Pulka town along the Mararaba junction was attacked by ex-JAS Shekau elements. The attackers withdrew after an exchange of fire lasting approximately 10 minutes. One SF was reportedly struck and killed by an IED during reinforcement duties.

29 February 2024 - Two civilians succumbed to their wounds after one of them initiated an IED assessed as being emplaced by ISWAP members in the vicinity of Dagari village, 6km NW of Gwoza.

25 February 2024 – Two soldiers were killed after being struck by an IED, assessed to have been placed by ISWAP members in the vicinity of Blakurie village, 8 km South of Bama town.

19 February 2024 - A group of Bakoura fighters attacked ISWAP elements at Kangarwa village. Details of the attack were not available. The clash reportedly caused panic in the nearby communities

NORTH WEST (NW) - Summary

Analysis – Fatalities decreased significantly, with no persons killed, while kidnapped individuals decreased with 3 victims during the week. This decrease can be attributed to underreporting of incidents in the region during the reporting week.

The spate of criminal activities and insecurity in the North West, as highlighted by recent incidents, reflects the multifaceted challenges faced by the country due to the economic hardship. On March 1st, residents of Wurna village in Katsina State, driven to desperation by recurrent bandit attacks, took matters into their own hands by blocking the Katsina-Dutsinma highway. This symbolic act of protest underscores the frustration and fear prevalent among local communities in the face of escalating violence. Similarly, the attack on a BUA truck on the Zaria-Kano expressway on the same day further illustrates the audacity of criminal elements operating along major transportation routes, posing threats not only to individuals but also to economic activities.

Meanwhile, the abduction of worshippers in Tsafe town, Zamfara State, on February 29th highlights the vulnerability of religious institutions and the brazenness of bandits. The attacks on village heads in Gwadabawa LGA and the assault on Kurar Mota in Bungudu LGA on February 27th and 26th, respectively, exemplify the broader breakdown of security in rural areas. The concurrent protests by labor unions across different states on February 27th draw attention to the socioeconomic challenges faced by the nation, indicating a need for holistic solutions to address both security and economic issues. These incidents collectively underscore the urgency for coordinated efforts at both the state and federal levels to restore security, protect citizens, and address the root causes of the challenges facing Nigeria.

NORTH WEST (NW) – Incident List

01 March 2024 - Following a series of attacks by bandits in the area, residents of Wurna village in Kurfi Local Government Area of Katsina State on Friday set bonfires and blocked the Katsina-Dutsinma highway.

01 March 2024 - Hoodlums have attacked a BUA truck loaded with cartons of spaghetti at the Dogarawa axis of the Zaria-Kano expressway.

29 February 2024 - Bandits have abducted scores of worshippers in one of the mosques in Tsafe town, the headquarters of Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

27 February 2024 - The Jigawa State chapter of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) on Tuesday protested against the current economic hardship in the country.

27 February 2024 - The Nigeria Labour Congress, NLC, Zamfara State chapter, has joined the nationwide protest against economic hardship

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) are protesting along Independence Way in Kaduna Metropolis over economic hardship.

27 February 2024 - Gunmen killed a village head on his way to the farm in Rumbuje community, Asara ward, Gwadabawa LGA..

26 February 2024 - Bandits attacked Kurar Mota in Bungudu LGA. Four people were killed, and an unspecified number of people were injured.

SOUTH EAST (SE) – Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities increased slightly with 3 killed victims while only 2 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, Abia, and Ebonyi States.

The series of incidents reported, including attacks, arson, and protests, collectively point to the deep-seated economic challenges and rising social tensions in Nigeria. On February 28th, the targeted killing of a Point of Sale (POS) operator in Ezzamgbo community highlights the vulnerability of individuals engaged in financial transactions, with the assailants stealing both the POS machine and an undisclosed amount of money. This act may be indicative of the desperation and criminal activity stemming from economic hardships faced by the Nigerian population.

The attack on the home of the Isseke youth spokesperson in Ubaha-Isseke, Anambra state on February 29th, involving the burning of houses, adds another layer to the complexity of the situation. The motivations behind such acts remain unclear, but they may be rooted in broader socioeconomic grievances or local disputes. Simultaneously, the nationwide protests led by the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) on February 27th, witnessed in Abakaliki (Ebonyi State) and Umuahia South LGA (Abia state), signify a collective response to the economic challenges faced by citizens. The protests serve as a manifestation of widespread discontent and a call for action to address the overarching issues contributing to the economic hardship experienced by many in Nigeria. The incidents collectively underscore the urgent need for comprehensive measures to tackle economic challenges, promote social stability, and address the root causes of criminal activities.

SOUTH EAST (SE) – Incident List

28 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals shot dead a Point of sale (POS) operator in his residence IVO Ezzamgbo community on 28 February 2024. The perpetrators made away with the victim's POS machine and an unconfirmed amount of money.

29 February 2024 - Reports revealed that unidentified armed individuals attacked and set ablaze the home of the spokesperson of Isseke youth IVO Ubaha-Isseke, community. It was also reported that several houses of some individuals in the community were also set ablaze by the assailants. The reason for this is unknown.

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) protested in Abakaliki over economic hardship.

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) held protests at Umuahia South LGA, Abia State

25 February 2024 - Gunmen killed two persons in Opanda, Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area of Enugu State on Sunday.

SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities decreased with 3 fatalities captured while no persons were kidnapped during the reporting week. This is most likely because incidents are underreported within the area.

The incidents reported across various Nigerian communities highlight a complex web of social, economic, and security challenges contributing to unrest and tension. On February 29th, the peculiar burglary in Mosagar community, Delta State where the perpetrators emptied the kitchen of foodstuffs without taking valuable items, may indicate desperation fueled by economic hardships, emphasizing the struggle for basic necessities.

The chaos on the Benin-Asaba Expressway on the same day, triggered by a stray bullet allegedly fired by the police, underscores the potential for volatile situations to escalate. The protest, led by non-indigenous residents who blocked the road and vandalized police vehicles, reflects the underlying frustrations and mistrust between the community and law enforcement agencies. Simultaneously, the nationwide protests by labor unions, civil society organizations, and community members on February 27th highlight the widespread dissatisfaction with the economic situation in Nigeria.

In Edo State, the palpable tension in Iguomo and Ikhueniro, following the killing of a youth, indicates the potential for localized grievances to spark broader unrest. The clash between communities in Akwa Ibom on February 26th adds another layer to the social discord in the region.

SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Incident List

29 February 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals suspected to be robbers burgled a resident's home IVO Mosagar community. It was alleged that the culprits didn't take any valuables from the victim's home but rather emptied all the items in the kitchen, including foodstuffs.

29 February 2024 - There was chaos at the Benin-Asaba Expressway, by Iguomo Junction on Wednesday evening, when a stray bullet allegedly fired from a police gun hit and killed a resident in the area. Being that the entire area is populated by non-indigenes, they came out in large numbers and blocked the road in protest. They even vandalized some police vehicles that passed the area.

28 February 2024 - Ukpana Community in Onna Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, on Wednesday, blocked an oil firm, Natural Oilfield Services Limited, NOSL, operating in their area with the claims that its activities have destroyed their environment, economic trees, water bodies and traditional shrines.

28 February 2024 - There was palpable tension in Iguomo and Ikhueniro in Orhionmwon Local Government Area of Edo State, along the Benin-Asaba Road on Wednesday as irate youths barricaded the road over the killing of one of them.

28 February 2024 - Illegal miners attacked some soldiers and forest rangers from Cross River National Park, CRNP, who went to enforce laws to sustain the park.

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT), and National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) are gathered at the National Museum in Benin to protest over economic hardship.

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) are protesting in Yenagoa over economic hardship.

27 February 2024 - Reports indicate that a suspected kidnapper was set ablaze and killed by an angry mob IVO Alihame, Agbor on 24 February 2024. Nine suspected kidnappers were also arrested by a local vigilante group at an uncompleted building by Oriri axis, IVO Agbor-Obi. Firearms, ammunition, daggers, handsets as well as different sizes of cloth were recovered from the culprits.

26 February 2024 - Two persons are feared dead while scores injured as communities in Eket and Esit Eket local government areas of Akwa Ibom clashed with their neighbours in Ibeno local government area.

26 February 2024 - Members of Civil Society Organisations held a protest along major streets in Benin City, Oredo LGA, over the current state of the country's economy.

24 February 2024 - Civil Society Organisations in Edo State protested in the streets of Benin City. The protest followed the current economic hardship currently affecting Nigerians. Members of the group carried various placards with various inscriptions to state their grievances. The protest was peaceful.

SOUTH WEST (SW) - Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities increased slightly with two fatalities captured while the number of kidnap victims decreased to 0 this week.

In late February 2024, the South West witnessed a series of events that spotlighted the deep-seated issues affecting different facets of society. The protests by scores of liquor sellers against the prohibition of sachet alcoholic beverages revealed the economic consequences of regulatory decisions. T

The nationwide protests led by the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) on February 27th brought together workers from various states, reflecting a unified call for action against the prevailing economic hardship. The protests, occurring in Osogbo, Ikeja, Ado-Ekiti, and other locations, highlight the widespread discontent among citizens and the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address the root causes of economic challenges. These collective actions symbolize a demand for accountability and effective policies to alleviate the economic burdens faced by the Nigerian populace.

Amid these economic and labor-related demonstrations, the tragic incident in Ile-Ife, Osun State, where an Assistant Priest killed the Presiding Priest inside a church, adds a layer of societal distress. Together, these events emphasize the multifaceted challenges that Nigeria grapples with and the importance of holistic approaches to foster stability, security, and well-being across the nation.

SOUTH WEST (SW) – Incident List

29 February 2023 - Scores of liquor sellers staged a peaceful protest against the prohibition of production and sales of sachet alcoholic beverages in the country by the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control.

27 February 2024 - Scores of workers in Oyo State have joined their counterparts to partake in the ongoing nationwide protests.

27 February 2024 - Angry residents of Osogbo, OSUN state capital on Monday trooped to major roads of the town to stage a pre-protest exercise against the real protest scheduled for tomorrow by the leadership of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC).

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) are protesting at Ikeja Under-Bridge over economic hardship.

27 February 2024 - Members of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) are protesting in Ado-Ekiti over economic hardship.

26 February 2024 - Tragedy struck in Ile-Ife, Osun State when an Assistant Priest Lekan Ogundipe killed the Presiding Priest of the Celestial Church of Christ at Omitoto area, Evangelist Moris Fadehan inside the church and burnt his corpse on the altar.

26 February 2024 - •There was a protest at different locations in Surulere LGA, over the current state of the country's economy. The protesters carried placards and moved from Ojuelegba Under Bridge towards Surulere.

25 February 2024 - ONE person was killed at Ago Are in Oke Ogun area of Oyo State when some bandits reportedly invaded the agrarian community on Saturday night.

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