



NIGERIA WEEKLY INCIDENT REPORT

09 March 2024 – 15 March 2024

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Executive Summary

Countrywide Incidents for the Week

1. Armed robbery attacks surge nationwide due to economic hardship
2. Three students of the Nasarawa State University, Keffi, died in a stampede while struggling for rice donated by the state government.
3. Bandits targeted Zamfara and Katsina states during the week.
4. ISWAP terrorists clashed with security forces in Borno State.



Figure 1. Incident map

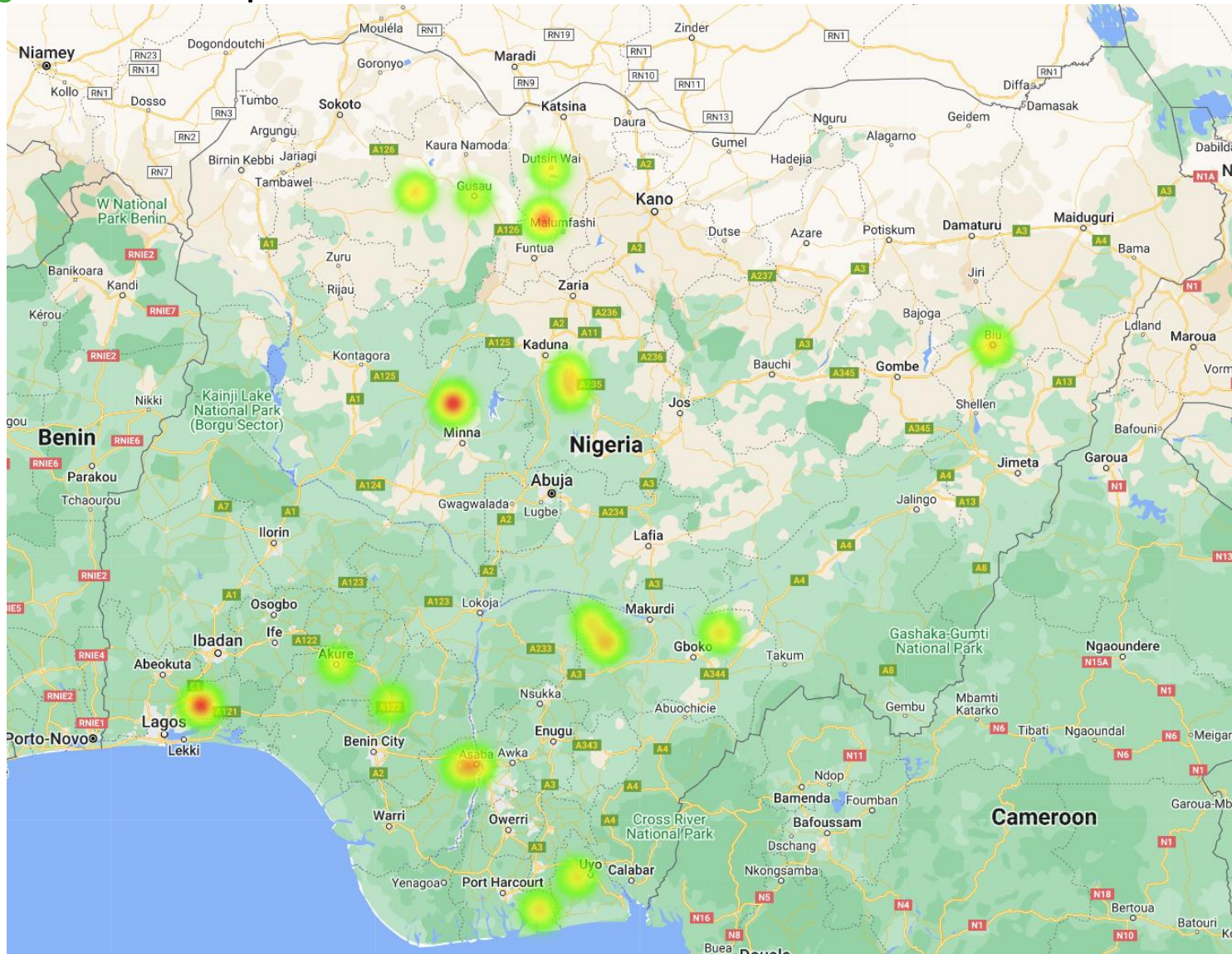


Figure 2. Graph portraying incident types per region

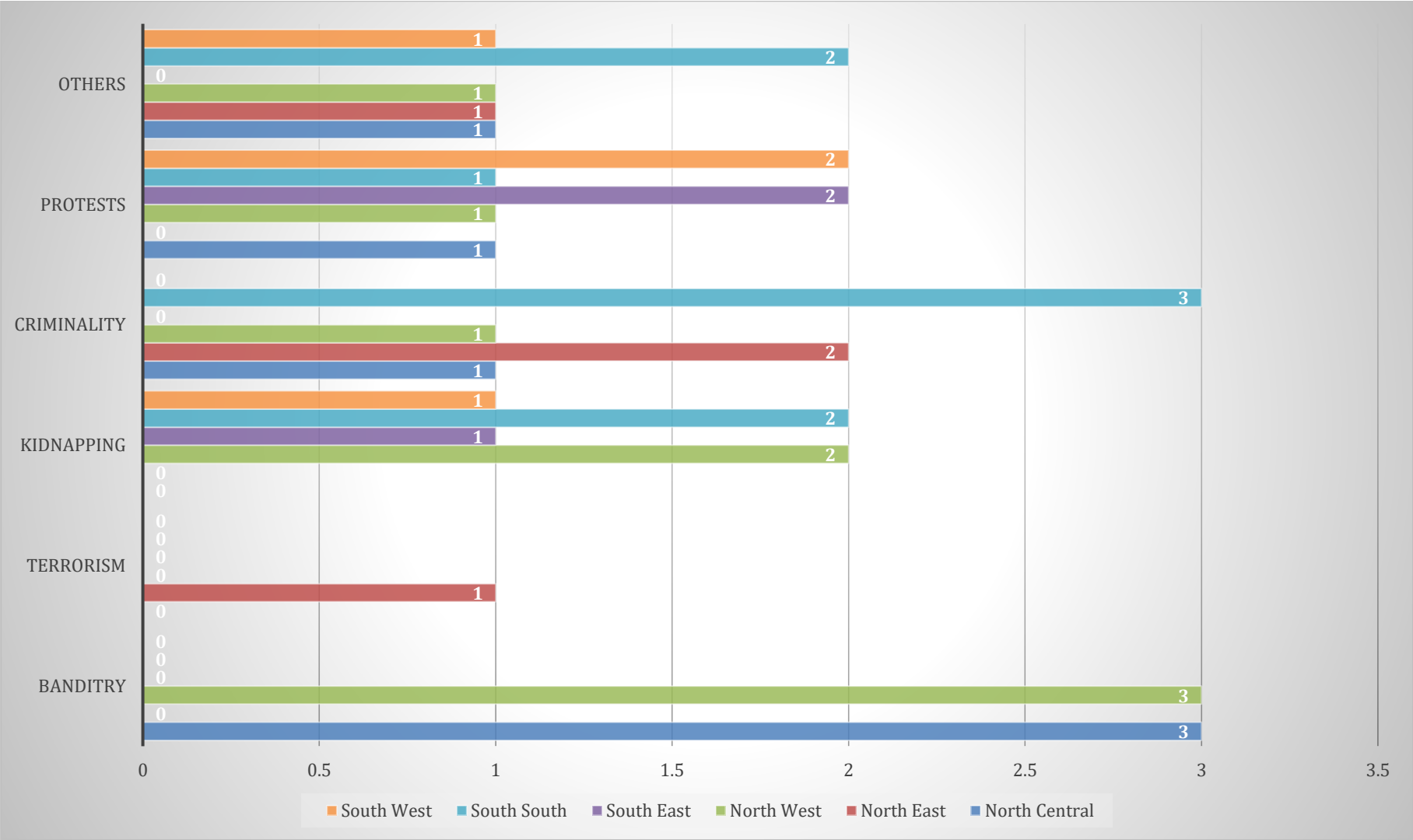
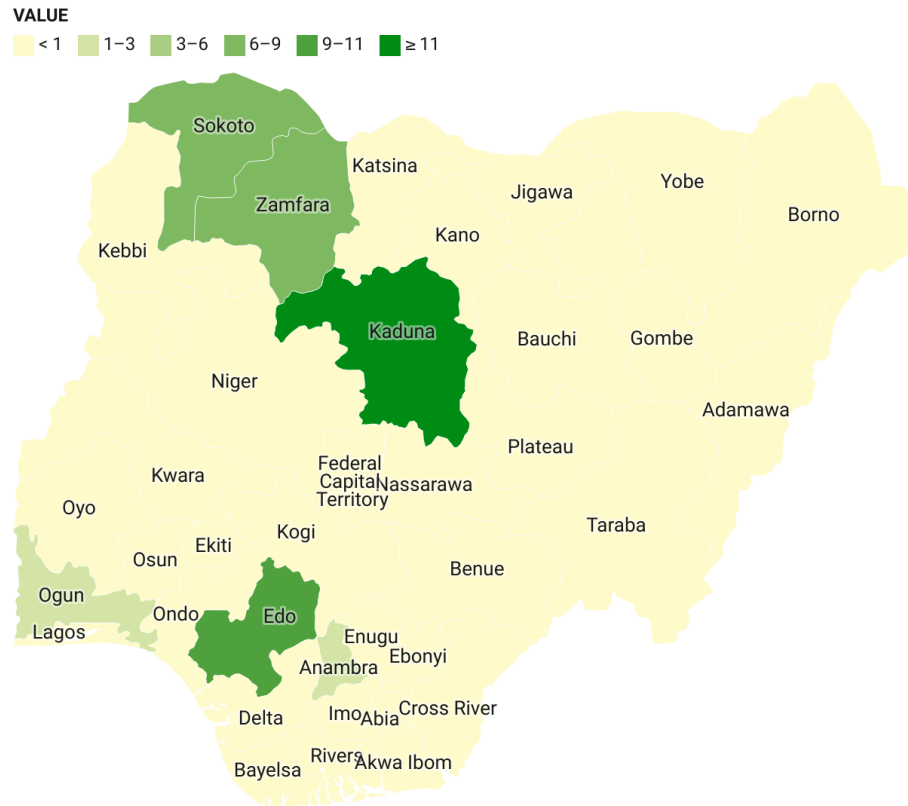


Figure 3.

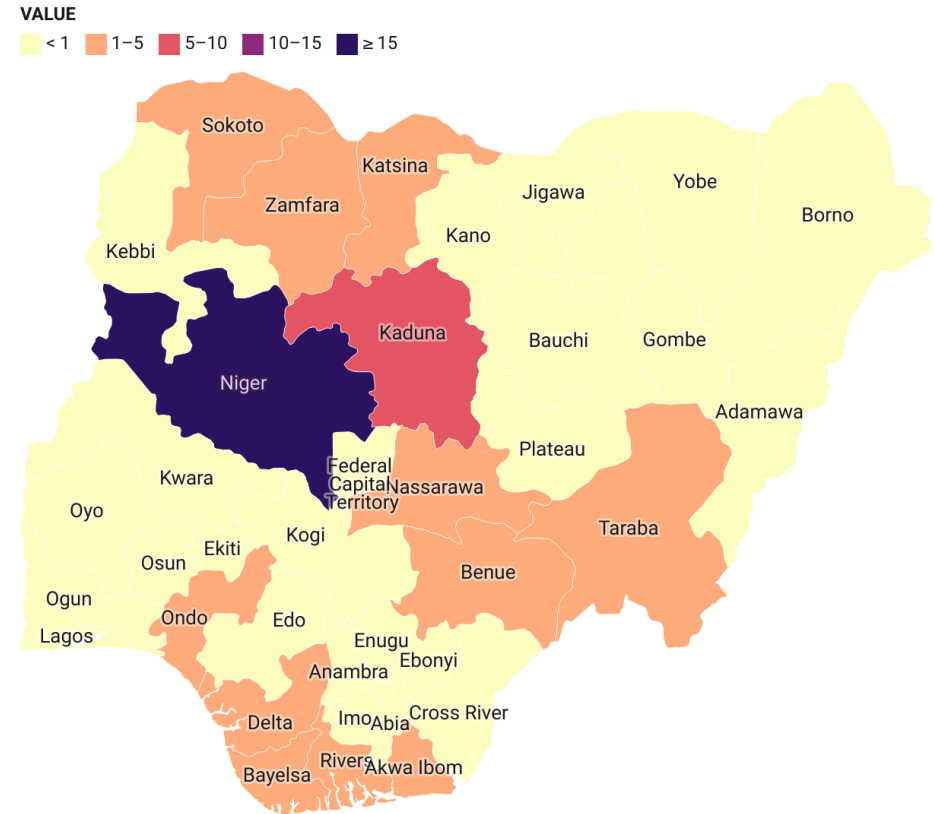
Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 4.

Risk map showing killed victims



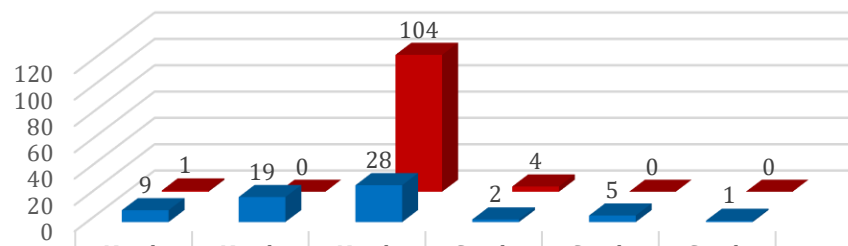
Created with Datawrapper

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 11

Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims

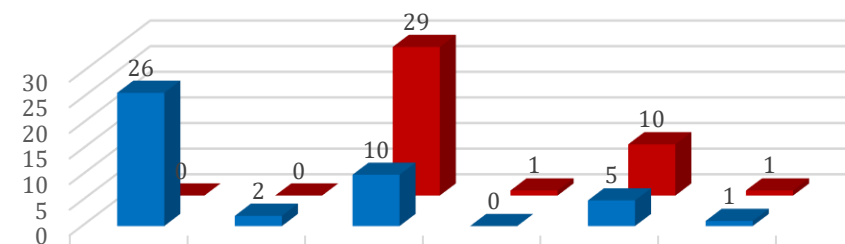


■ killed per region	9	19	28	2	5	1
■ Kidnapped per region	1	0	104	4	0	0

■ killed per region ■ Kidnapped per region

Figure 6. Week 12

Regional fatalities/kidnapped victims



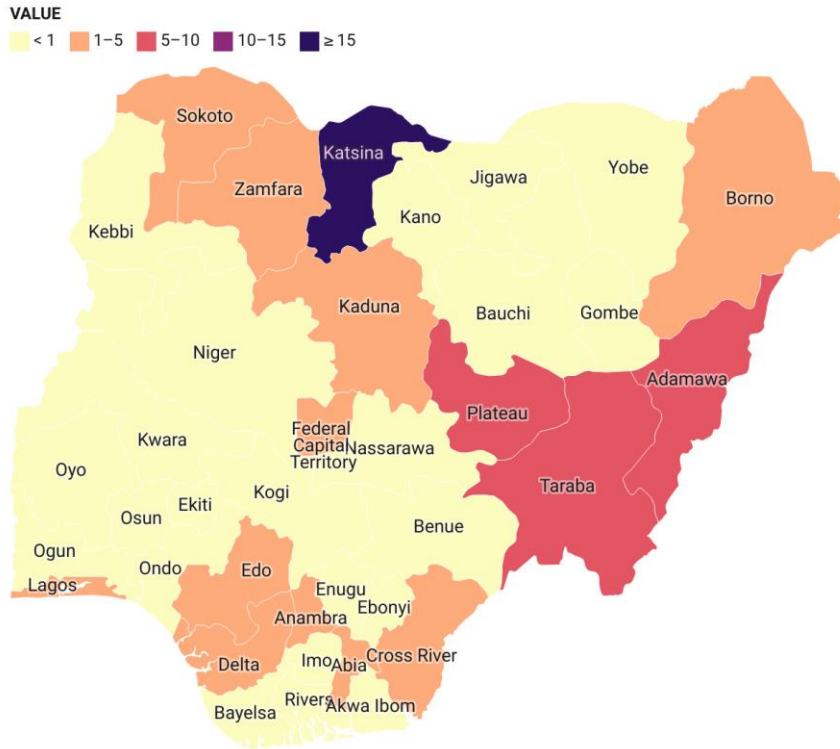
■ killed per region	26	2	10	0	5	1
■ Kidnapped per region	0	0	29	1	10	1

■ 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 11 and week 12. 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 11

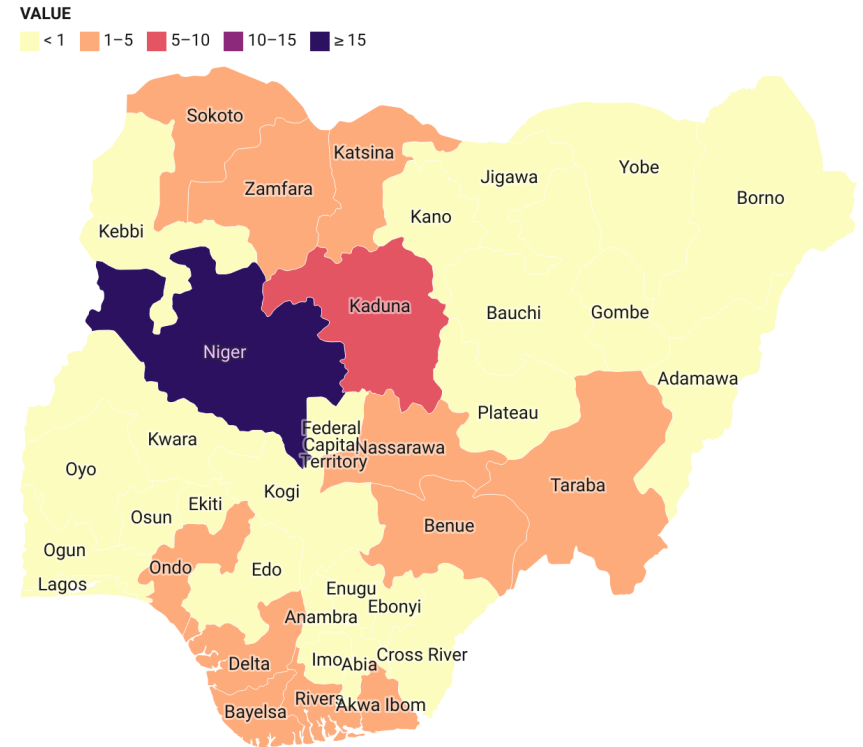
Risk map showing killed victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 8. Week 12

Risk map showing killed victims

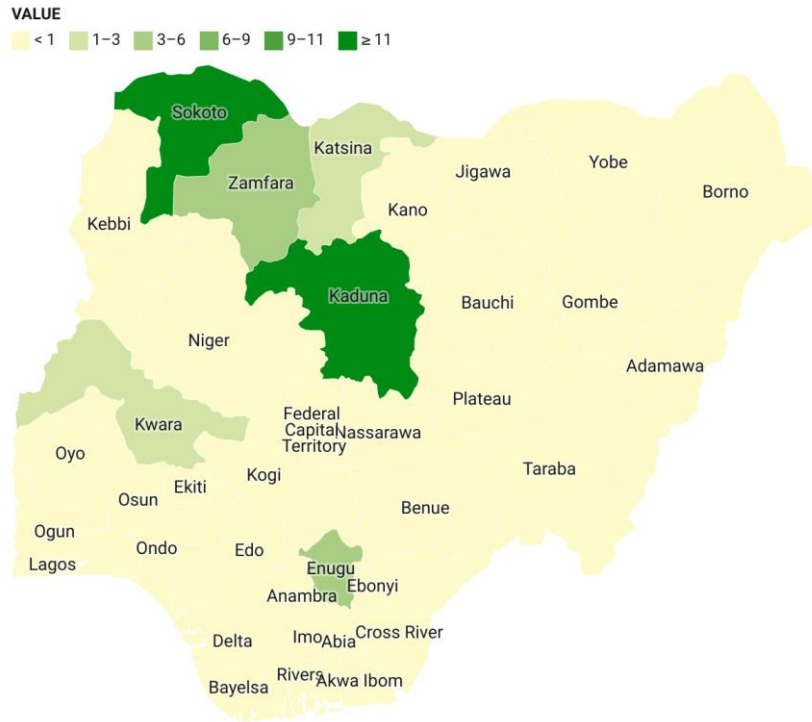


Created with Datawrapper

The above figure shows a risk map contrasting areas where fatalities occurred in the country. The contrast between week 11 and week 12 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, Niger and Kaduna States captured the highest number of fatalities.

Figure 9. Week 11

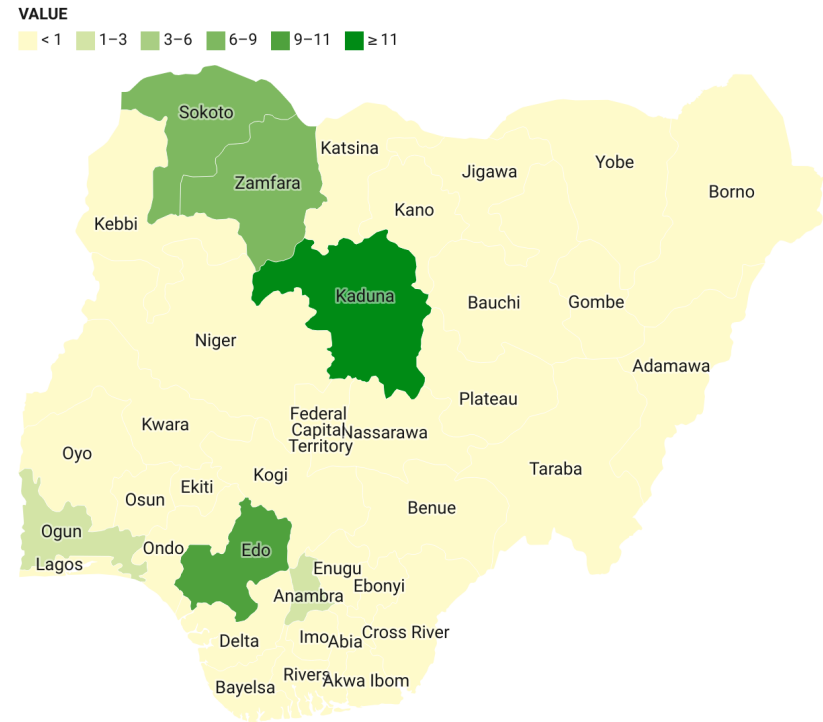
Risk map showing kidnapped victims



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 10. Week 12

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 12, most kidnapped victims were from Sokoto and Kaduna 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 26 individuals, while the count of kidnapping victims decreased slightly, with no reported victim. This could be attributed to underreporting during the reporting week.

There were 6 incidents recorded in the region this week, a significant decrease compared to week 11. Among the threats recorded were bandit attacks, protests, criminal activities, and a stampede. Bandit attacks were the most incidents captured the week, and they were recorded in Benue and Niger states.

Communal conflicts, such as the devastating assault on the Madaka community in Niger State on March 21, highlight the persistent threat of banditry and intercommunal tensions. The attack resulted in significant casualties, including the village head, underscoring the severity of the violence and its impact on local communities. Similarly, suspected armed herders invaded communities in Benue State on the same day, resulting in loss of lives and property destruction.

Criminal activities, including armed robbery and targeted attacks, also contribute to insecurity in the North Central region. Most of these activities are fuelled by the ever-decreasing economic situation of the country. For instance, armed robbers invaded multiple houses in the Kuje area council of the Federal Capital Territory on March 20, highlighting the brazenness of criminal groups operating in urban areas. Despite the prompt response from security forces, the perpetrators managed to evade arrest. Similarly, unidentified armed individuals targeted the Onipi community in Benue State on March 19, resulting in fatalities and injuries. These incidents underscore the importance of proactive measures to enhance public safety and deter criminal elements from operating with impunity.

The Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) staged a peaceful demonstration at the national secretariat of a political party in Abuja on March 21, highlighting grievances over leadership disputes. While protests may serve as legitimate expressions of dissent, they also pose security challenges, particularly in urban centers where they can disrupt public order and lead to confrontations with law enforcement agencies. Proactive measures to address underlying grievances and foster dialogue between stakeholders are essential to mitigate the risk of further escalation of tensions in the North Central region.

NORTH CENTRAL (NC) – Incident List

22 March 2024 – Three students of the Nasarawa State University, Keffi, were feared dead in a stampede that occurred when the students struggled for rice donated by the state government. The incident occurred at the convocation square of the university where the bags of rice were kept awaiting the arrival of Governor Abdullahi Sule for the commencement of distribution.

21 March 2024 – In a devastating assault on the Madaka community within the Rafi Local Government Area of Niger State, suspected bandits have wrought havoc, claiming the lives of no fewer than 21 individuals, among them, the village head.

21 March 2024 – Many people have lost their lives as suspected armed herders invaded some communities in the Apa Local Government Area of Benue State. The invading armed herders were also reported to have burned several houses in some communities, as villagers were said to have fled their homes.

21 March 2024 – Information received revealed that the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) led by their president, demonstrated peacefully at the national secretariat of a political party, Utako, Abuja over a rift between the latter's leadership and the NLC president.

20 March 2024 – The information available indicates that unspecified armed individuals suspected to be armed robbers invaded about 5 houses in the Kuje area council of FCT, robbed the occupants of their belongings, and disappeared to an unknown destination. The HG security Forces responded promptly to the incident, unfortunately, no arrests were made.

19 March 2024 – Reports indicate two persons were killed by unidentified armed individuals IVO Onipi community in Adoka district, Benue state. It was also reported that 12 persons were wounded during the attack.

NORTH EAST (NE) - Summary

Analysis – There was an overall decrease in the number of fatalities as 2 persons were killed and a significant decrease in kidnap victims, with no kidnap victims during the week. This can be attributed to the underreporting of kidnap attacks during the week.

There were 4 incidents recorded in the region this week, a significant decrease compared to week 11. Among the threats recorded were terrorist activities, killing, and criminal activities. Criminal activities were the most incidents captured the week, and they were recorded in Taraba and Borno states.

Terrorist attacks by groups like ISWAP (Islamic State West Africa Province) pose a significant threat to communities, as evidenced by the attack on a herder's settlement in Mobbar LGA, Borno State, on March 19. Such attacks often result in casualties and property damage, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities in conflict-affected areas. The rustling of cattle during the attack further underscores the economic impact on livelihoods and the challenges faced by vulnerable populations in the region.

The stabbing incident involving a staff member of an INGO (International Non-Governmental Organization) who injured three colleagues in Damboa LGA, Borno State, on March 18, highlights the potential for internal disputes to escalate into violence. Similarly, the unidentified armed individual who attacked and killed two people in Taraba State on the same day underscores the sporadic nature of violence and the difficulty in predicting and preventing such incidents. These isolated acts of violence can disrupt communities and erode trust in institutions.

Moreover, intergroup clashes, such as the violent clash between two religious groups in Taraba State on March 17, further exacerbate tensions and contribute to insecurity in the region. The deployment of GSF (Government Security Forces) personnel to restore order underscores the challenges in managing communal conflicts and maintaining peace and stability. These clashes often have deep-rooted causes, including religious, ethnic, or socio-economic factors.

NORTH EAST (NE) – Incident List

19 March 2024 – ISWAP insurgents attacked a herder's settlement in the vicinity of Joka village, along the Nigeria-Niger Republic Border in Mobbar LGA, Borno State. Three herders were injured, and an unspecified number of cattle were rustled.

18 March 2024 – A staff member of an INGO stabbed and injured three of his colleagues in Damoba town, Damboa LGA, Borno state.

18 March 2024 – An unidentified armed individual attacked and killed two people IVO Gatari settlement in Bissau ward, Kurmi Local Government Area, Taraba State. The reason for the attack remains unknown.

17 March 2024 – There was a violent clash between two religious groups at Donga Bridge by the Mile Six by-pass, Jalingo LGA, Taraba state. GSF personnel were deployed to the area to restore order.

NORTH WEST (NW) - Summary

Analysis – Fatalities decreased significantly, with 10 persons killed, while kidnapped individuals also decreased significantly with 29 victims during the week.

There were 8 incidents recorded in the region this week, an increase compared to week 11. In the North West region of Nigeria, security incidents are predominantly characterized by banditry, kidnappings, crime, and protests. Bandit activities were the most incidents captured the week, and they were recorded in Katsina, and Zamfara states.

Banditry remains a significant challenge, as evidenced by attacks on motorists and villages across several states in the region. On March 20, bandits fired indiscriminately at motorists along the Dutsin Ma Road in Dustin Ma LGA of Katsina state, resulting in fatalities and injuries. Similarly, bandits attacked Ruwan Bore village in Gusau LGA, Zamfara state on March 19, resulting in casualties and property destruction. These incidents underscore the pervasive threat of armed groups operating in the region and the need for robust security measures to protect civilians and deter criminal activities.

The killing of a commercial motorcycle rider during an altercation over non-payment of dues in Gusau town on March 20 led to protests by motorcycle riders, highlighting tensions within informal sectors and the potential for disputes to escalate into violence. Additionally, armed individuals linked to organized criminal groups attacked and killed two people in Mai Ido Village in Awon ward on March 19, underscoring the brazenness of criminal networks operating in rural communities.

Protests also feature prominently in the region, reflecting grievances over socio-economic issues and governance. The deployment of Government Security Forces (GSF) to Gusau town to restore order following the motorcycle riders' protest on March 20 highlights the potential for civil unrest to disrupt public order and pose challenges to security forces. Moreover, community members' retaliation against a bandit in Damba village on March 16 underscores the complexities of vigilante justice and the challenges in reconciling community security initiatives with formal law enforcement efforts.

NORTH WEST (NW) – Incident List

20 March 2024 - Bandits fired indiscriminately at motorists along the Dutsin Ma Road near the Federal University permanent site in Dustin Ma LGA. One driver was killed, and a driver was shot and injured.

20 March 2024 - Commercial motorcycle riders held a protest in Gusau town, Gusau LGA, over the killing of their colleague during an altercation over non-payment of a N50 daily due enforced by the motorcycle rider's union on 19 Mar24. The protesters blocked major roads within the town. GSF personnel were deployed to the area to restore order.

19 March 2024 - Bandits attacked Ruwan Bore village in Gusau LGA. Three people (two members of the Community Protection Guards (CPGs) and a vigilante) were killed, and an unspecified number of houses and shops were set on fire.

19 March 2024 - Reports indicate that armed individuals linked to an OCG attacked and killed two people at Mai Ido Village IVO Awon ward, before fleeing the area on hearing that security forces were being mobilized. The criminals were collecting dues from farmers in that community, attacking anyone who refused to pay. An investigation is in progress.

18 March 2024 - Gunmen attacked Tumba village in Matseri Ward, Anka LGA, and abducted six people

17 March 2024 - Bandits attacked Damba village in Illela LGA, Sokoto State and abducted seven people including four men and three women.

16 March 2024 - Bandits fired indiscriminately in Dogon-Noma community, Kajuru LGA, Kaduna state. An unspecified number of people were killed, and at least 16 people (15 female and one male) were abducted.

16 March 2024 - Community members killed a bandit in Damba village, Illela LGA.

SOUTH EAST (SE) – Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities decreased slightly with no killed victims while 1 kidnap victims were also recorded during the week. This can be attributed to the underreporting of incidents in the region.

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 Ebonyi and Anambra States.

One notable event occurred on March 22 in Azia, Anambra State, where a dispute over the traditional throne caused significant turmoil within the community. This internal strife underscores the deep-rooted tensions and power struggles that can arise within local governance structures, often fueled by historical and cultural factors. Such conflicts have the potential to divide communities and disrupt social cohesion.

Furthermore, on March 18, residents of the Ngwogwo community in Ebonyi State staged a protest against what they perceived as the unjust arrest and detention of some members of their community. This demonstration highlights broader concerns over human rights abuses and the need for accountability in law enforcement practices. By voicing their grievances through peaceful protests, community members seek to draw attention to systemic issues and advocate for positive change.

SOUTH EAST (SE) – Incident List

22 March 2024 - Tussle over traditional throne tears Anambra community apart. Azia, a community in Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State is currently in turmoil over a battle for the traditional stool of the community.

18 March 2024 - The people of Ngwogwo community, Ishiagu, in the Ivo Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, protested against the alleged incessant arrest and detention of some members of the community

18 March 2024 - Gunmen abducted a Lebanese national working for a construction company between Umuchu community in Aguata LGA and Umunze community in Orumba South LGA, Anambra state.

SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities stated same as the previous week with 5 fatalities captured while over 10 persons were kidnapped during the reporting week.

There were 8 incidents recorded in the region this week. In the South-South region of Nigeria, security incidents this week were predominantly characterized by criminal activities, kidnapping, killing, and protests. Criminal activities were the most incidents captured the week, and they were recorded in Akwa Ibom and Delta states.

On March 20, multiple incidents occurred, including the abduction of individuals in Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State and the fatal shooting of a youth named Moses Akanda in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State. These incidents highlight the prevalence of violence and insecurity in the region, with incidents ranging from targeted abductions to lethal shootings, posing significant challenges to public safety and law enforcement efforts.

Additionally, clashes between rival cult groups on March 20 in Ibaka, Akwa Ibom State, underscore the persistent threat of organized crime and gang violence in the region. The involvement of security forces, such as the Nigerian Navy and the Department of State Services, reflects the concerted efforts to address these security challenges and maintain order. However, the existence of such conflicts points to underlying issues related to social marginalization, youth unemployment, and the proliferation of illicit activities, necessitating comprehensive strategies to tackle the root causes of criminality and promote peacebuilding initiatives.

Moreover, incidents of civil unrest and clashes with law enforcement authorities further compound the security situation in the South-South region. Protests erupted on March 19 along the Okpanam-Asaba Road in Oshimili North Local Government Area of Delta State, following the alleged killing of a chairman by policemen during enforcement activities. Similarly, a violent clash between Hausa traders and policemen on March 18 in Asaba, Delta State, underscores the tensions surrounding law enforcement practices and community relations. These incidents highlight the importance of accountable and transparent policing practices and effective conflict resolution mechanisms to address grievances and prevent further escalation of violence in the region.

SOUTH SOUTH (SS) – Incident List

20 March 2024 - No fewer than 10 persons have been reportedly abducted by gunmen suspected to be kidnappers in Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State.

20 March 2024 - A youth identified as Moses Akanda was killed in Bayelsa State on Wednesday. The incident happened at the Yenizue-Epie community in the Yenagoa Local Government Area of the state.

20 March 2024 - Reports revealed that two rival cult groups clashed IVO Ibaka, in Mbo LGA of Akwa Ibom over territorial control. Consequently, two suspected cultists have been arrested by operatives of the Nigerian Navy's FOB Ibaka and handed over to the Department of State Services of the state for further investigations.

19 March 2024 - There was a protest along the Okpanam-Asaba Road, opposite Flower Gate in Oshimili North LGA, over the killing of the Chairman of the Okpanam Building Materials Sellers Association of Nigeria, allegedly by policemen during a clash between tricycles and motorcycles and the State Task Force who were enforcing the ban on late-hour commercial operations of commercial tricycles and motorcycles in the state capital.

18 March 2024 - There was a violent clash between Hausa traders and policemen in the vicinity of Sweet Spirit Junction, along the Okpanam Road in Asaba, Oshimili North LGA, over the killing of a trader by operatives of the Task Force on 17 March 2024.

17 March 2024 - Unidentified armed individuals abducted a couple at the entrance gate to their residence IVO Akpasak Estate, Mbiabong, Uyo, Akwa Ibom state, leaving their infant twins abandoned. The suspects had trailed the victims in a minibus decorated with camouflage tarpaulin, and subsequently ordered them out of their vehicle while they were waiting for their gate to be opened

16 March 2024 - Unidentified armed men shot and killed a printer at Abakaliki Street in the Mile 1 axis of Diobu, Port Harcourt LGA, Rivers state.

16 March 2024 - Unidentified armed men attacked communities along the Forcados Waterways in Okuama, Ughelli South LGA, following an ongoing communal clash between the Okuama community in Ughelli South LGA and the Okoloba community in Bomadi LGA over land disputes.

SOUTH WEST (SW) - Summary

Analysis – The number of fatalities stayed the same as the previous week with one fatality captured while the number of kidnap victims increased to one this week.

In the South West region of Nigeria, incidents during the third week of March 2024 encompass a range of civil protests, labor disputes, and criminal activities. On March 21, civil society organizations and women's groups protested at the Federal High Court in Ikoyi, Lagos State, demanding the release of gospel singer Ayotunde Richard. This event reflects the ongoing activism and advocacy efforts within civil society to address perceived injustices and advocate for human rights and freedom of expression. Similarly, on March 20, members of various university staff unions protested in front of the University of Lagos gate in Akoka, Lagos State, over the withheld salaries of their colleagues by the Federal Government. This labor dispute highlights the challenges facing university workers and the impact of delayed payments on their livelihoods. Such protests underscore the importance of fair labor practices, adequate remuneration, and institutional support for workers in the education sector.

In contrast to the civil protests and labor disputes, criminal incidents also occurred in the South West region during March 2024. For instance, on March 20, suspected armed kidnapers abducted a manager of a poultry farm in the Idowa community, Ogun State. This event highlights the persistent threat of insecurity and criminal activities, such as kidnapping, which continue to pose significant challenges to public safety and law enforcement efforts in the region.

SOUTH WEST (SW) – Incident List

21 March 2024 - Members of the Coalition of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in collaboration with the Women Arise for Change (WAC) platform are protesting at the Federal High Court in Ikoyi to demand the release of a gospel singer, Ayotunde Richard.

20 March 2024 - Members of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities, (SSANU) the Non-Academic Staff Union of Educational Associated Institutions, (NASUEAI), and the National Association of Academic Technologists (NAAT) of the University of Lagos State (UNILAG) are protesting in front of the school gate along University Road in Akoka area over the withheld salaries of their colleagues by the Federal Government.

20 March 2024 - Operatives of the Edo State Police Command arrested a 17-year-old girl for allegedly stabbing her foster mother to death IVO Oda, Akure. Further information revealed that the suspect was suffering from mental illness.

18 March 2024 - Suspected armed kidnapers abducted a manager of a Poultry Farm in the Idowa community, Ogun State.

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