



# MONTHLY SITUATION REPORT

31 JANUARY 2024

# Highlights

## Highlight of week 1 & 2

- Armed men kidnap 8 in Rivers State.
- Several attacks by Boko Haram and ISWAP terrorists caused tension within Borno State.
- Armed men kidnapped 58 civilians in Kaduna state.
- A group of women protested in the Nwaorie area of Owerri, Imo State, against the takeover of ancestral land by the government.
- Armed men kidnap 23 in Kawu, Bwari Local Government Area (LGA), Abuja Territory.
- Airstrikes in Borno state kill several ISWAP terrorists.
- Security forces repel a bandit attack in Danmusa Local Government Area (LGA), Katsina State, killing 16 bandits.



## Highlight of the week 3 & 4

- Kidnapping and armed attacks persisted in FCT.
- Several attacks by Boko Haram and ISWAP terrorists caused tension within Borno State.
- Counter-terrorism operations by security forces surged in the NE and NW regions.
- In the SW region, different groups of individuals protested the deteriorating nature of the country's economy.
- Bandit attacks persisted in Plateau state with over 25 fatalities recorded.
- Attacks on security forces positions persisted in the North East region.
- ISWAP attacks resulted in the kidnap of over 32 individuals in Katsina State.
- Protests surged in parts of the South West and North Central regions.



**27**

Terrorist  
Activity

**16**

Killings  
Incident

**30**

Criminal  
Activity

**38**

Banditry  
Incident

**32**

Protests  
Incident

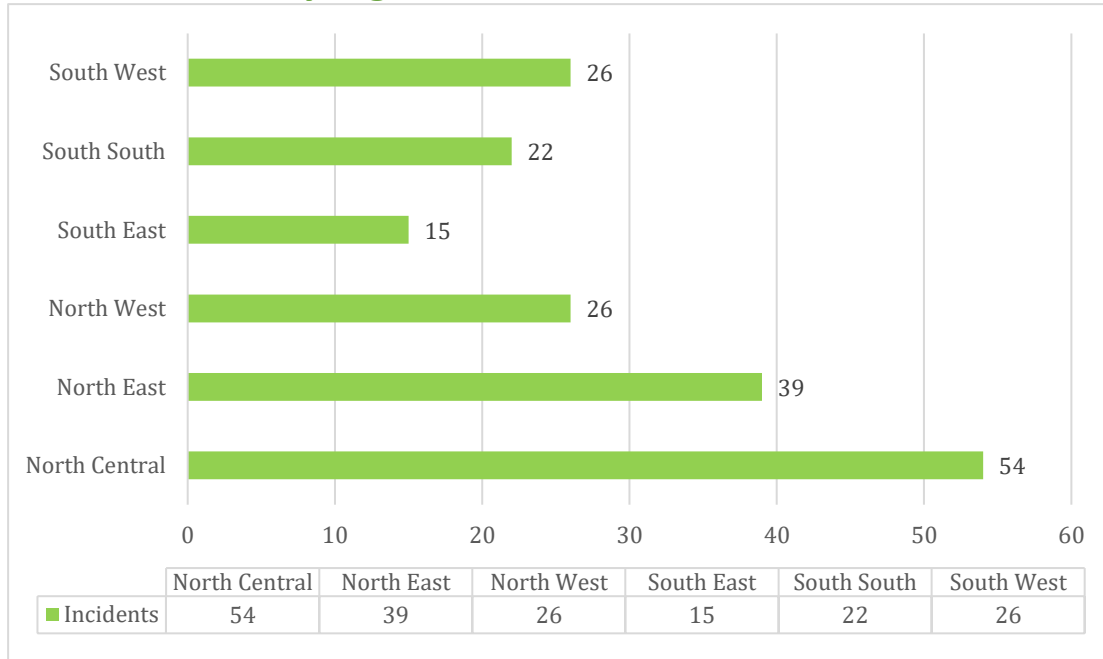
**39**

Kidnapping  
Activity



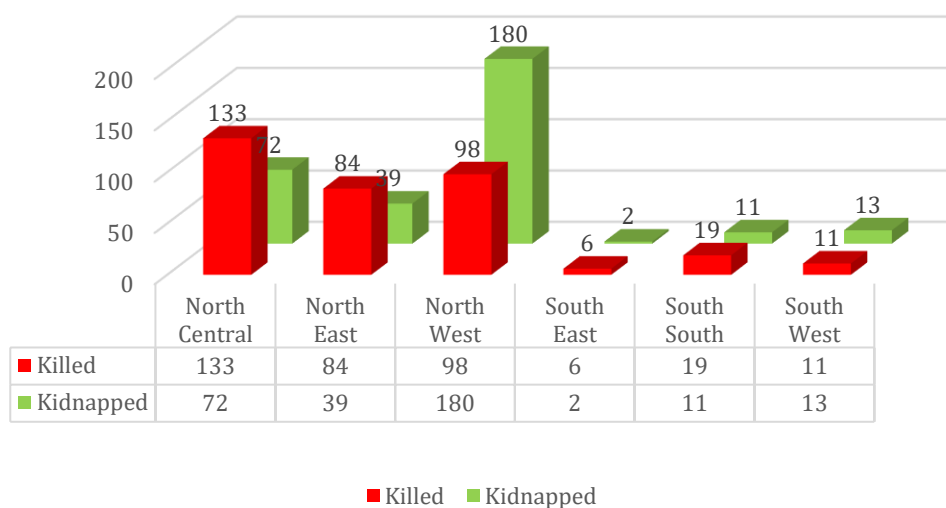
# Monthly Statistics

## Total incidents by region



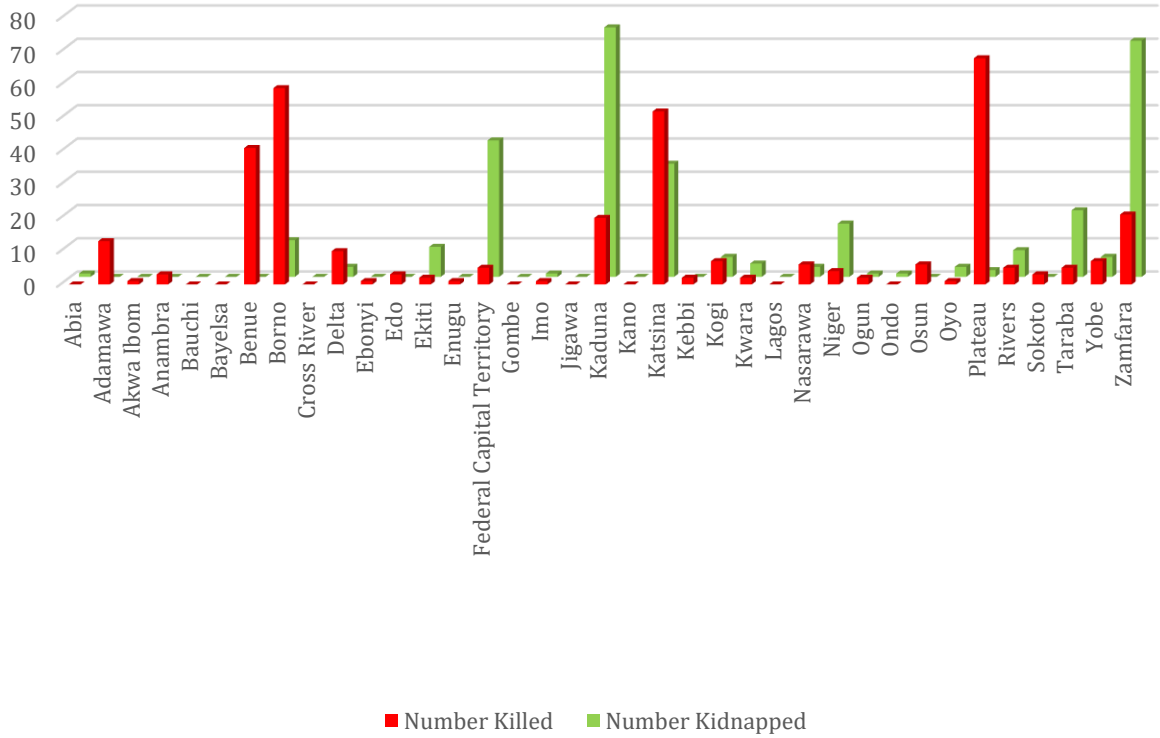
The above charts show the total incidents by region. The NE and NC regions recorded the most incidents, while SE recorded the least.

## Individuals killed/kidnapped per region



Above captures the total number of individuals killed and individuals kidnapped per region. As a result of the high presence of banditry and terrorism, the Northern States had the most kidnappings and fatalities.

### Total killed/kidnapped per state



The above charts show the total killed and kidnapped per state. Kaduna state recorded the most kidnapped, while Plateau state recorded the most killed victims.

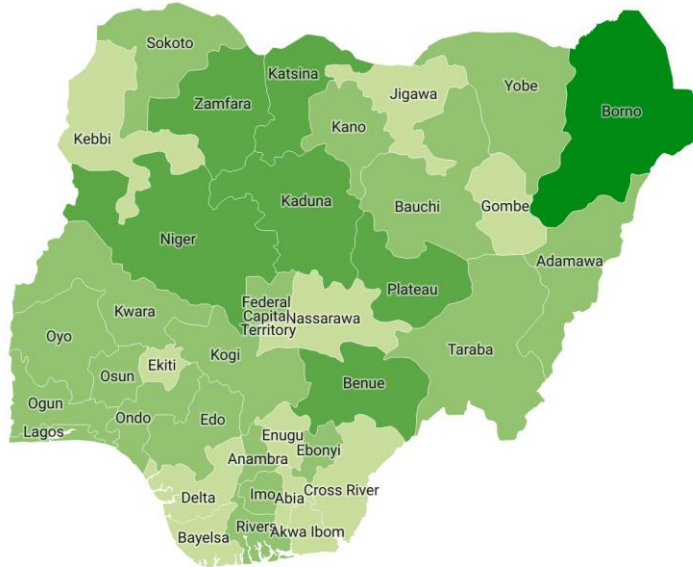
# Nationwide Statistics Analysis

## Fatalities/kidnapped victims

Locations displayed: all regions 1 January 2020 – 31 January 2024

### Estimated Number of security incidents related to fatalities

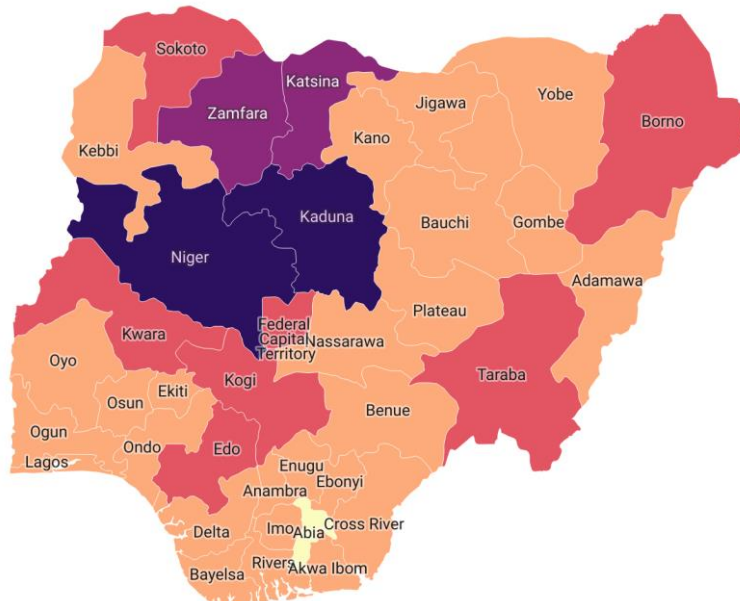
< 20   20-200   200-800   800-2000   ≥ 2000



Created with Datawrapper

### Estimated Number of Kidnapped Victims

< 5   5-150   150-600   600-1410   ≥ 1410



Created with Datawrapper

# Analysis

The overall threat level for the reporting month is rated as **High**. The overall number of people kidnapped within the month was 317, while an estimated 351 fatalities were reported.

This death toll can be attributed to the terrorist conflict and security operations in the Northern regions, which led to a substantial number of terrorist fatalities. It is important to note that the nationwide estimates may exceed the figures presented above due to underreporting.

During the month, there were 182 incidents relating to banditry, terrorist activities, kidnappings, killings, robberies, attacks on police operatives, civil unrest, and hazards which is a significant decrease compared to last month's statistics. In order of sequence, the incidents with the most occurrences during the month were banditry, civil unrest, kidnapping, criminal activities, terrorism, and killing.

The Southeast experienced the lowest number of incidents among the six geo-political zones

## Terrorism

Terrorist activities remain a dominant threat in Nigeria and have over the years given rise to other Organized Crime Groups. Collaborations between terrorist groups and other OCGs have also been witnessed in the NW region between 2020 and the present. In January 2024, there were 19 incidents of terrorist activities recorded in the NE region alone. The security stance in northern Nigeria is likely to remain frequently sabotaged by insecurity owing to the presence of armed factions.

There was a significant increase in terrorist-related activities this month; terrorist activities in January 2024 numbered 27, compared to December 2023 which recorded only 17 incidents. The increase is not directly

during the month. The Northern region, however, continues to face significant threats from activities related to banditry and terrorism, with areas such as Borno, Zamfara, Kaduna, and Kano recording the highest number of incidents.

There was a significant increase in security operations conducted nationwide throughout the month which led to the removal of prominent terrorists, bandit leaders, and criminals. Raids and arrests of bandits and kidnappers were noted in the NC, NW, and NE regions, while operations targeting illegal oil bunkering sites and unlawful activities were executed in the SS region. These efforts continued towards the conclusion of the reporting period, with a particular focus on combating bandit factions in the region.

Below are the major incident categories discussed for the month.

proportional to any recent development, as incidents have been known to be fluctuational the past three years. The porosity of border areas between states has equally left a wide gap through which terrorists and bandits alike operate freely with little or no GSF resistance.

Recent developments have noted a significant increase in conflicts between ISWAP and Boko Haram terrorists in the Northern part of the country. One such incident occurred on 15 January 2024 when scores of Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) fighters were killed in another clash between the two groups. The clash occurred on the islands of Kandahar and Kaduna Ruwa on the Lake Chad

shores of Kukawa, near the Nigerian border with Cameroon.

Various COIN operations in the region have recorded successes within the Northwest, Northeast, and Northcentral regions. Several Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) militants, including three of their commanders (Maimuna, Zahra, and Saleh), were killed during a Nigeria Air Force (NAF) airstrike in the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Kukawa and Marte in Borno State on 9 January 2024.

Other cases of terrorist attacks on civilians were also recorded throughout the month, particularly in the Kukawa area of Borno state. Two herdsmen were killed in an attack by members of ISWAP around Cross Kauwa and Marimanti villages, approximately 7km from Kukawa town. Three others were abducted, and a ransom has been demanded for their release

### Key Incidents of Terrorism in January

**23 January** - Suspected terrorists 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.

## Kidnapping

The threat of kidnapping remains **high** despite efforts by GSFs to mitigate this illegal enterprise. Kidnapping for ransom is a major threat to both locals and foreigners in the country. According to HWA, there were 39 overall kidnapping incidents recorded countrywide. Statistically, the first week of January recorded the most kidnapping incidents in the month.

Kidnap incidents were captured across all regions though in varying numbers. Large-scale kidnap incidents were captured in Zamfara, Kaduna, and Kano states. On 02 January, terrorists struck Kaduna, as no fewer than 17 people were killed, while 58 were feared kidnapped in an operation

**15 January** - Two herdsmen were killed in an attack by members of ISWAP IVO Cross Kauwa and Marimanti villages, approximately 7km from Kukawa town. Three others were abducted, and a ransom has been demanded for their release.

**09 January** - Eight people were killed, while several others were injured after two commercial passenger vehicles drove over landmines planted by terrorists along the Ngala-Dikwa Road in Ngala Local Government Area (LGA), Borno State.

**06 January** - Police repelled a bandit attack on traders in Danmusa Local Government Area (LGA), Katsina State. Twenty-two people including six civilians and 16 bandits were killed.

**02 January** – Terrorists struck Kaduna, as no fewer than 17 people were killed, while 58 were feared kidnapped in an operation that lasted for 6 hours after the gunmen invaded three communities at Dawaki Ward in Kauru Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

that lasted for 6 hours after the gunmen invaded three communities at Dawaki Ward in Kauru Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

The fourth week recorded the least number of kidnap incidents, while Zamfara state recorded the highest number of kidnapped victims, with over 86 reportedly kidnapped individuals.

Sequentially, the top five states with the most kidnapping victims were; Kaduna, Katsina, Zamfara, Borno, Niger, and Taraba states. Kaduna and Zamfara states have predominantly had the most kidnapping victims. Bandits carry out attacks both in the day and night, most especially

during the early hours of the morning. They either invade homes, and farms or set up illegal checkpoints on highways. The incidents this month indicate the fact that mass and incessant abductions are still common in the Northern region.

Over in the Southern regions, kidnapping incidents were mainly opportunistic in nature. Organized Crime Groups (OCGs) took advantage of derelict roadways to abduct unsuspecting commuters. This was mostly recorded in Imo State, although many incidents remain underreported.

Positively, Government Security Forces (GSFs), responded to some kidnapping attacks, where several assailants were neutralized. The tactical unit of the police in the state raided a kidnappers' camp/hideout in a forest IVO Calabar-Itu-Ikot Ekpepe 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. Further information indicated that the suspects have been connected to the kidnap of expatriates working for the China Civil Engineering Construction Company (CCECC). Four AK-47 rifles, some locally made pistols, and objects suspected to be charms were recovered from the suspects.

## Banditry

Banditry remains widespread throughout Nigeria with the Northern regions experiencing the majority of incidents. HWA defines banditry as; activities by Fulani herders attacking local communities, and also Organized Crime Groups (locally referred to as bandits).

Banditry remains a significant threat to peace, stability, and progress in the NW and the country at large. Several communities in the Northern regions have been held back from societal developments following incessant attacks; locals who depend on farming, herding, and other forms of trade have had their means of livelihood

## Key Incidents on Kidnapping in January

**21 January** - 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.

**18 January** - Unidentified armed persons in large numbers attacked a community at Gidan Anna village Kuryar Madaro, in Zamfara State killed one person, and abducted 10 others.

**16 January** - Four persons were reportedly abducted by suspected armed kidnappers in the Ile-Ire district of Ifelodun Local Government Area in Kwara State.

**06 January** - Insurgents attacked a civilian community in Wuro Musa, Jalingo Local Government Area (LGA), Taraba State, and kidnapped ten people.

**02 January** - Gunmen suspected to be Fulani herdsmen have kidnapped about eight persons in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The kidnappers struck around the Port Harcourt International Airport Roundabout, Omuagwa, and whisked away the said number of people.

crippled by these OCGs. Bandits attack weekly markets, where they kill, rob, and kidnap locals and traders.

This month, there were 38 incidents of banditry recorded. Compared to December 2023, the number of incidents decreased. The highlight of the month was on 24 January when unknown gunmen 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 in the early hours of the morning where no fewer than 25 villagers



were killed and property worth millions of naira burnt.

Security operatives reportedly repelled a bandit attack in Tse Gaagum village, Logo Local Government Area of Benue state resulting in a fatality. Reports indicate that a motorcycle was recovered during the operation. Policemen also killed one local bandit who invaded Tse Gaagum village in the Ukemberegya council ward of Logo Local Government Area, Benue State. According

### Key incidents on Banditry in January

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

**19 January** - Armed individuals attacked and killed three villagers, a few kilometers off Takum-Mararaba road IVO T.Y. Danjuma University site in Jalingo metropolis, Taraba State.

## Criminality

Nigeria grapples with a **high** rate of criminality, often inadequately reported despite being documented nationwide. Major cities across the country frequently witness various criminal activities orchestrated by multiple threat groups. These offenses encompass home invasions, highway robberies, homicides, assaults, mob violence, cultism, and, assaults by banned separatist entities like the Indigenous People of Biafra and Oduduwa Yoruba Nation. Throughout the month, a range of incidents was documented, including robberies, killings, looting, mob attacks, gang clashes, vandalism, illegal mining, drug trafficking, smuggling, and oil bunkering.

Some state governments have declared war against vandalism following incessant incidents recorded over the months. The menace has led to the dilapidation of infrastructures in a country with slow infrastructural developments. Petty thieves loot infrastructures such as street light

to a source in the community, the policemen, responding to a distress call from residents, successfully repelled the bandits.

Areas that recorded incidents of banditry were; Gusau, Kaura Namoda, Maru, and Bukkuyum LGAs, Zamfara State; Binji, Wurno, Isa, Tangaza LGAs, Sokoto State; Zaria, Giwa, Birnin Gwari LGAs, Kaduna State; Logo, Gwer-West, Guma LGAs, Benue State; Munya, Niger state.

**10 January** - Bandits attacked a community in Kukar Babangida, Yangayya, Jibia Local Government Area (LGA), Katsina State, shooting dead ten people and injuring several others.

**06 January** - Suspected Indigenous People of Biafra-Eastern Security Network (IPOB-ESN) fighters kidnapped traditional ruler, Eze Samuel Agunwa Ohiri, from his residence in Orodó Mbaitoli Local Government Area (LGA), Imo State.

poles, electrical cables, rail tracks, railings on bridges, and private homes. The war against crude oil theft in the Niger Delta received a major boost on Thursday as a private oil pipelines security provider, Tantita Security Services Limited (TSSL) impounded an ocean-going vessel laden with stolen crude oil in Bayelsa state.

Several armed robbery incidents were recorded in the country this month. Robbery incidents are highly underreported as most incidents surface at the point of arrest. Armed robbery attacks were recorded in all regions in varying numbers.

### Key Incidents on Criminality in January

**25 January** - Four armed suspected robbers raided a tertiary institution's student hostel IVO Saapade area in Ode Remo town in Ogun State. 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.

**22 January** - 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.

**17 January** - Recurring armed robbery attacks have been reported along the Gbagada Express Road. Reports indicate that the perpetrators are posing as commercial transporters. Security operations are anticipated in the vicinity.

**11 January** - The war against crude oil theft in the Niger Delta received a major boost on Thursday as a private oil pipelines security provider, Tantita

Security Services Limited (TSSL) impounded an ocean-going vessel laden with stolen crude oil in Bayelsa state.

**15 January** - Six unidentified armed individuals, using a Toyota Hilux vehicle, vandalized a transformer providing power to Ojoto, Wokoma, Elechi, and Ekwe streets IVO Mile 3 Diobu, Port Harcourt City Council of the state in the early hours of Monday. The Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHED) has been informed about the incident and an investigation is ongoing.

**02 January** - Armed assailants killed four people at a supermarket in New Karu, Nasarawa State, before fleeing the area. The death of the four men was a result of a raid by gunmen suspected to be rubbers, who raided a popular supermarket located in One Man Village at about 8:00 pm on Tuesday.

## Threat matrix

Likelihood	Vulnerability				
	1 - Insignificant	2 - Minor	3 - Significant	4 - Major	5 - Severe
4 - High	4 - Low	8 - Moderate	12 - High	16 - High	20 - High
3 - Medium	3 - Low	6 - Moderate	9 - Moderate	12 - High	15 - High
2 - Low	2 - Low	4 - Low	6 - Moderate	8 - Moderate	10 - Moderate
1 - Negligible	1 - Low	2 - Low	3 - Low	4 - Low	5 - Moderate
12 - 20	High Risk	Incident occurred at increased proportion and active with demonstrated will to conduct attacks targeting project assets and/or personnel.			
5 - 10	Moderate Risk	Incident occurred but minimal. Nevertheless, the will to conduct attacks and opportunities to target project assets and/or personnel remains a threat.			
0 - 4	Low Risk	Incident did not occur in the reporting period. Nevertheless, the will to conduct attacks and opportunities to target project assets and/or personnel remains a threat.			

## Threat table

Threats for the Month						
Region	Kidnapping	Terrorism	Banditry	Killing	Civil Unrest	Criminal Activities
North Central	High	Low	High	Low	High	Medium
North East	Moderate	High	Moderate	Low	Low	Low

North West	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Low
South East	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Moderate
South West	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	High	Moderate
South South	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderate

## Operations in Nigeria

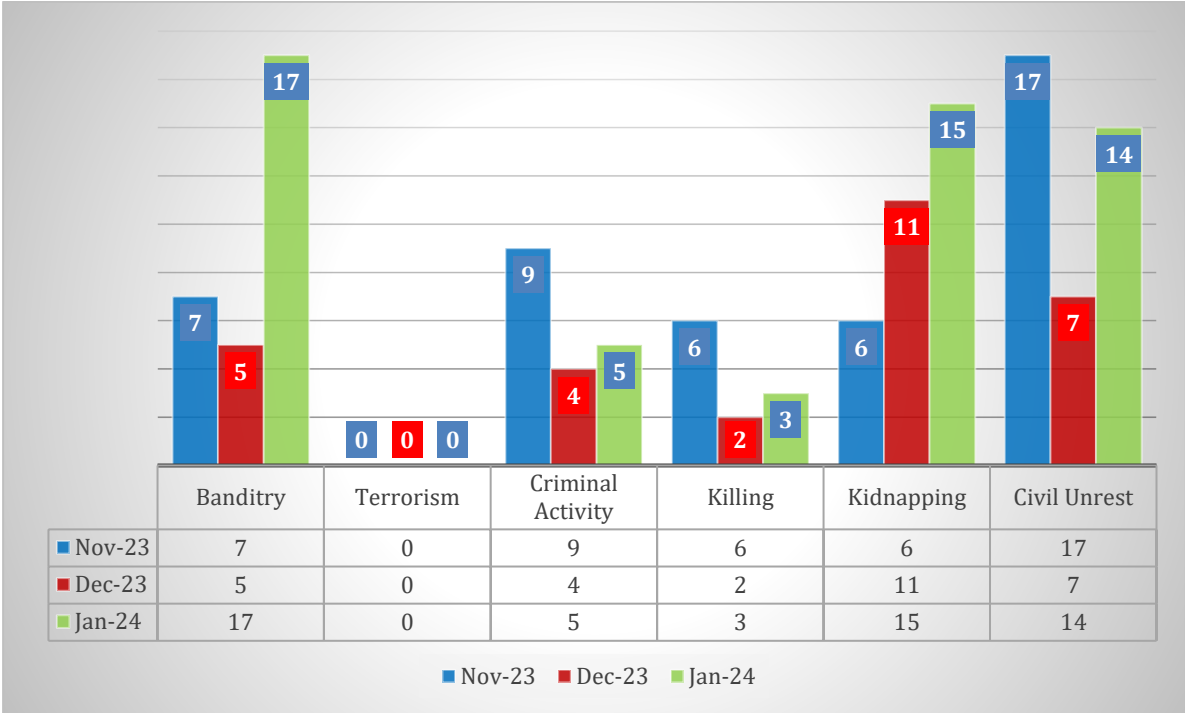
Level	Definition	Characterization	Travel Restrictions
1	Low	All threats remain low and business can be conducted with routine security measures in place	Travellers should be aware of the current situation and exercise caution
2	Medium	Acts of terrorism, crime and/or instability exist, but these are considered manageable with correct corporate and personal security procedures being applied	Travellers should exercise a high degree of caution and understand their destination and personal safety.
3	High	Crime rates are high, or terrorist acts, instability and rioting are occurring, movement is constrained, Embassies are able to operate but with added levels of protection and business operations are threatened by non-standard conditions. Other civil authorities will have limited capacity	Travellers should reconsider the need to travel. If travel is necessary, a full assessment of the risks should be completed and personal should attend preparatory training. A security & risk advisor in-country may be required.



# Threats by region and monthly progression

## North Central

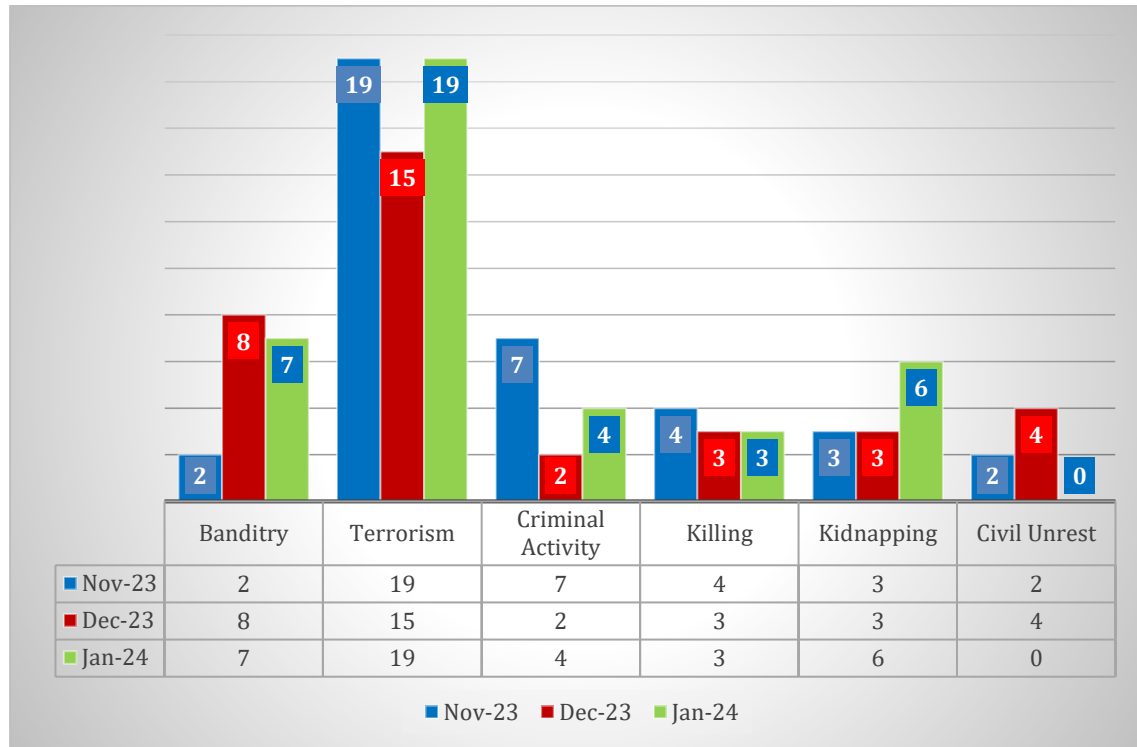
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. In January 2024, incidents of killing and kidnapping increased slightly, while incidents of banditry and civil unrest increased significantly.



Threat type	Threat level
Banditry	High
Terrorism	Low
Criminal	Moderate
Kidnapping	High
Civil Unrest	High

## North East

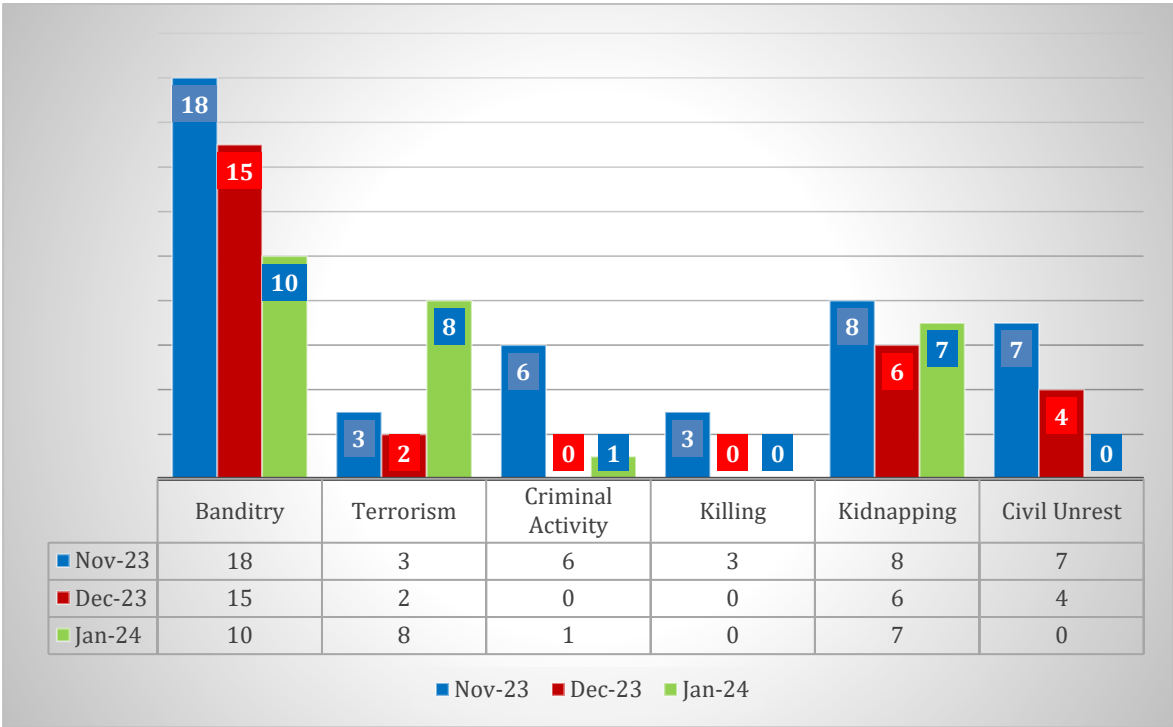
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. Incidents of terrorism increased slightly in January 2023. Most recorded incidents were banditry, kidnapping, and terrorism. Killing increased slightly in January.



Threat type	Threat level
Banditry	Moderate
Terrorism	High
Criminal	Low
Kidnapping	Moderate
Civil Unrest	Low

### North West

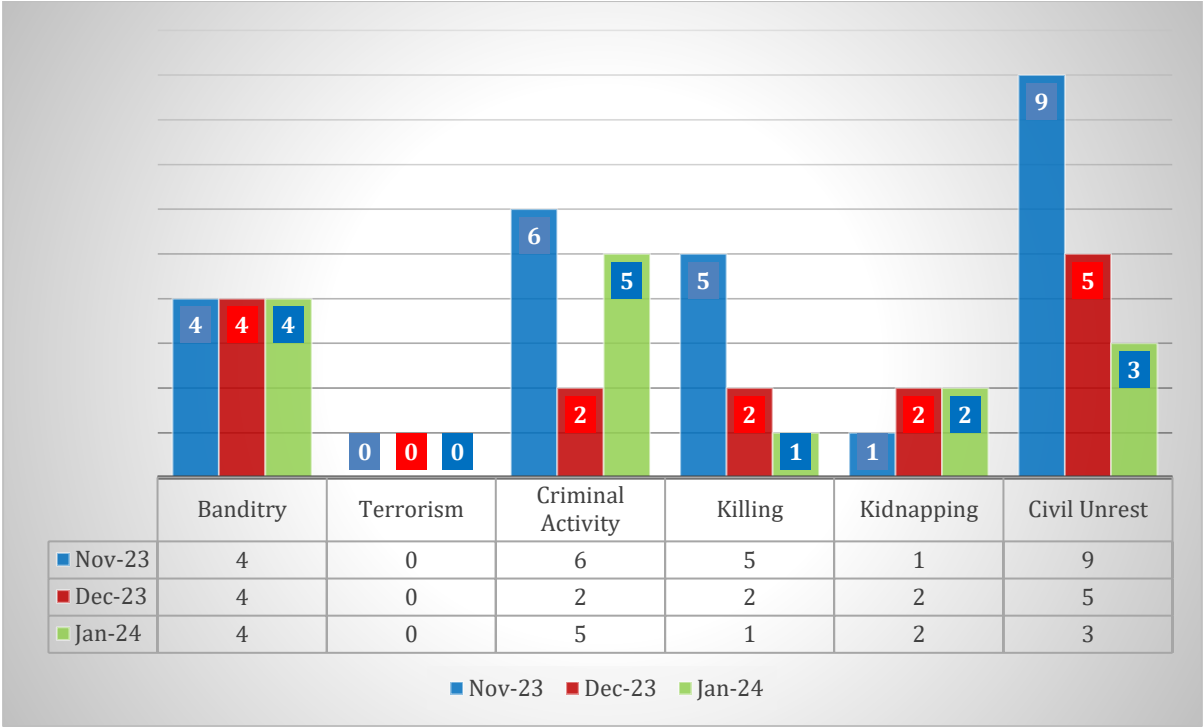
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. There was an overall decrease in the number of incidents captured in January 2024. However, terrorism incidents increased significantly.



Threat type	Threat level
Banditry	Moderate
Terrorism	Moderate
Criminal	Low
Kidnapping	Moderate
Civil Unrest	Low

### South East

The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. The overall number of incidents remained same as last month. However, there was an increase in criminal activities. Common threats in the region in the past three months were civil unrest, criminal activities, and kidnapping.

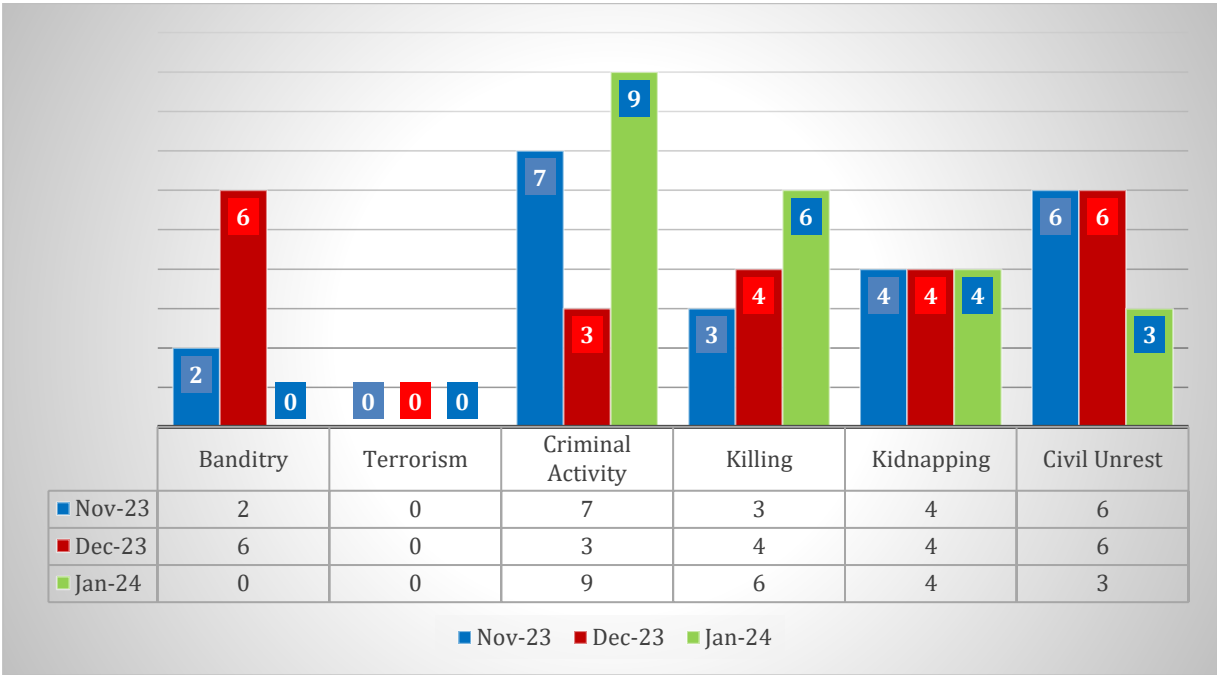


Threat type	Threat level
Banditry	Low
Terrorism	Low
Criminal	Moderate
Kidnapping	Low
Civil Unrest	Low



### South South

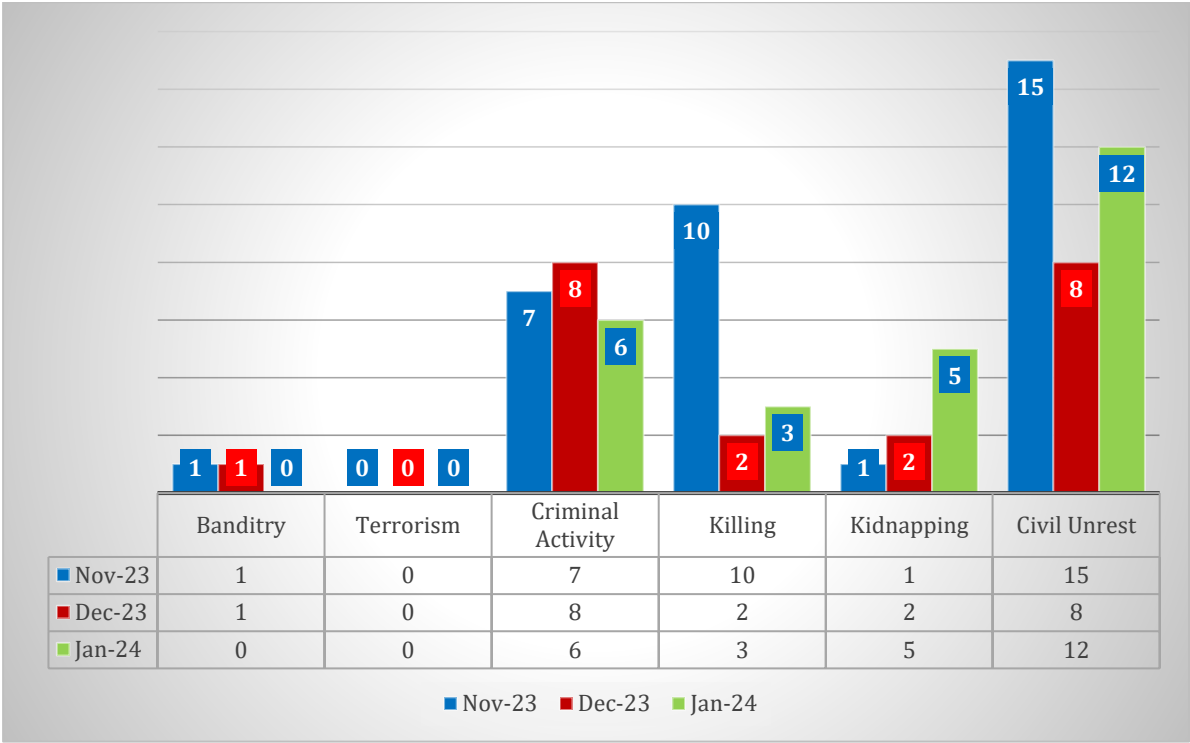
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. Common threats are Criminal activities and killing. Threats of civil unrest are recorded occasionally, although underreported. Banditry decreased significantly in January.



Threat type	Threat level
Banditry	Low
Terrorism	Low
Criminal	Moderate
Kidnapping	Low
Civil Unrest	Low

### South West

The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. Civil unrest incidents significantly surged in January 2024. Common threats are criminal activity, civil unrest, and kidnapping.



Threat type	Threat level
Banditry	Low
Terrorism	Low
Criminal	Moderate
Kidnapping	Moderate
Civil Unrest	High

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