



MONTHLY SITUATION REPORT

29 FEBRUARY 2024

Highlights

Highlight of week 1 & 2

- Protests surged particularly in NC and SE
- Counter-terrorism and insurgency operations continue in the Northern region.
- Significant cases of criminality were reported in SW
- In Borno state, several targeted terrorist attacks were captured.
- Protests surged particularly in NC and SE
- Terrorist attacks surge in parts of the North East.
- Security forces enforce measures to combat Organized Crime and Kidnappings in several regions
- Protests and Civil Unrest surge in Sokoto

Highlight of the week 3 & 4

- Protests surged nationwide due to increased economic hardship
- Terrorist attacks surge in parts of the North East.
- Airstrikes in the North result in the neutralization of several terrorists
- Crime surges in parts of the South West Region
- Protests surged nationwide due to increased economic hardship.
- IED attacks surge in parts of Borno State.
- Increased security presence nationwide to curb criminality.
- Crime due to economic hardship surges in parts of the South West Region.



16

Terrorist
Activity

27

Killings
Incident

39

Criminal
Activity

33

Banditry
Incident

57

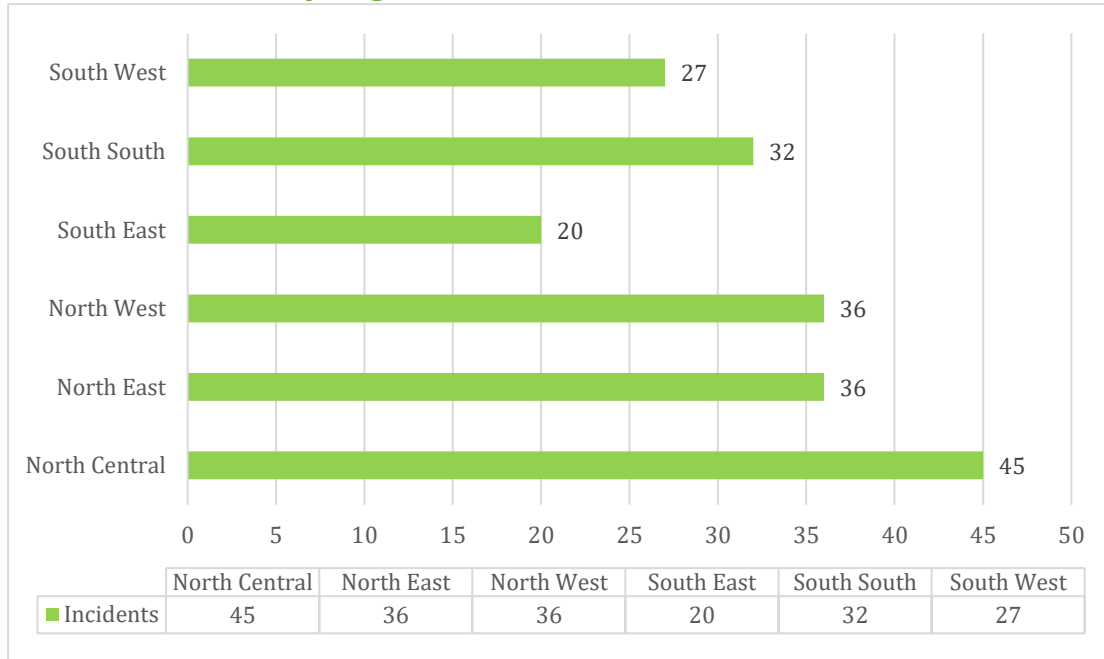
Protests
Incident

24

Kidnapping
Activity

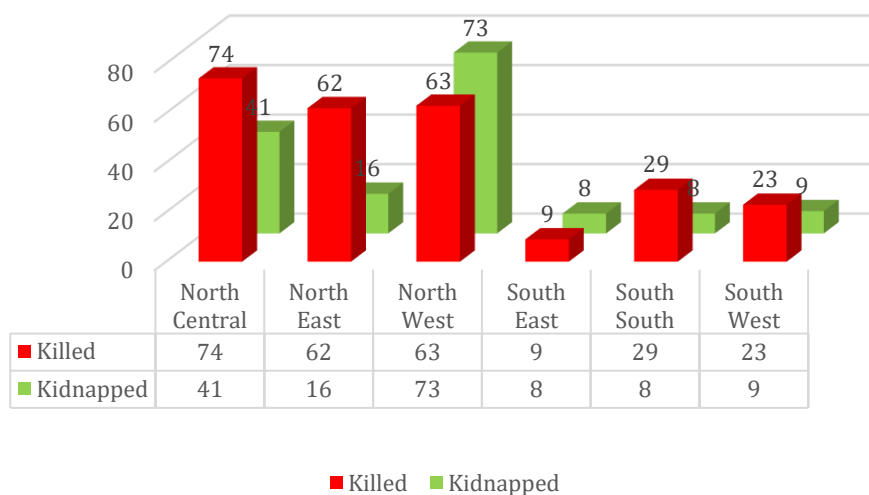
Monthly Statistics

Total incidents by region



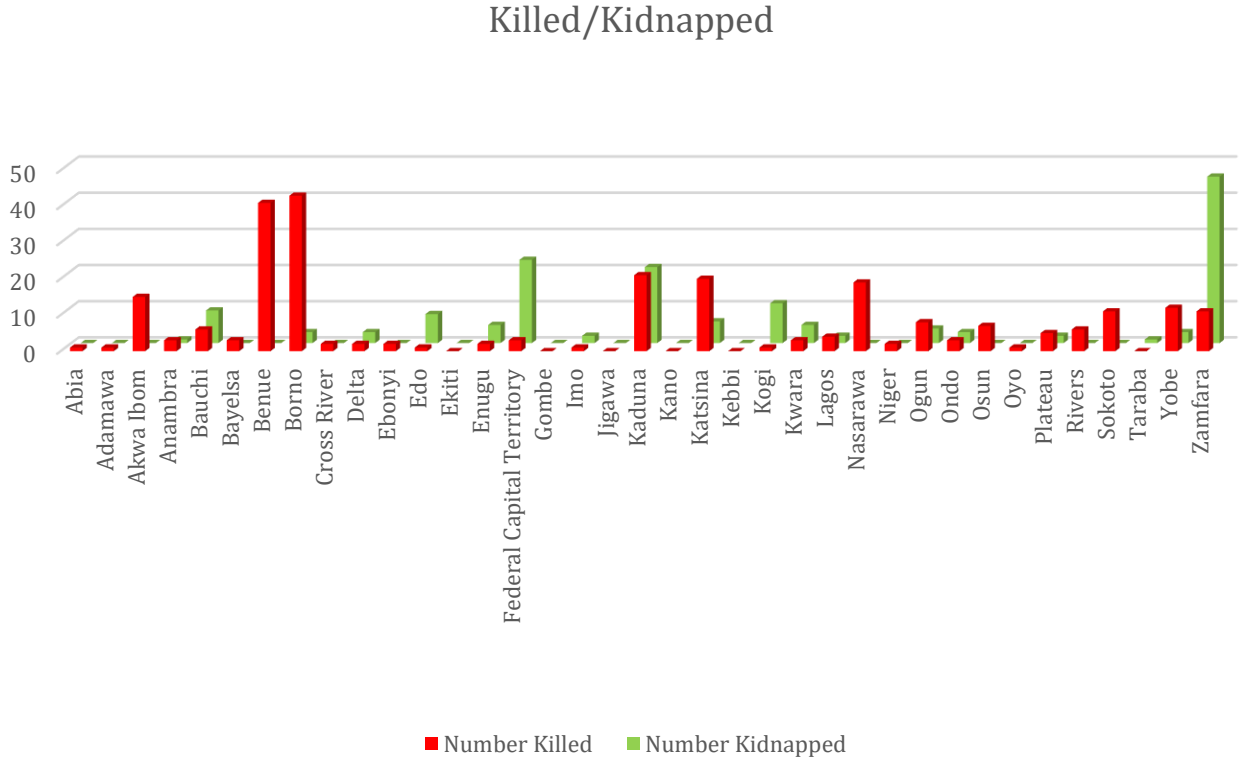
The above charts show the total incidents by region. The NW and NC regions recorded the most incidents, while SE recorded the least.

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 NC and NW had the most kidnap victims and fatalities.

Total killed/kidnapped per state



The above charts show the total killed and kidnapped per state. Zamfara State state recorded the most kidnapped, while Borno state recorded the most killed victims.

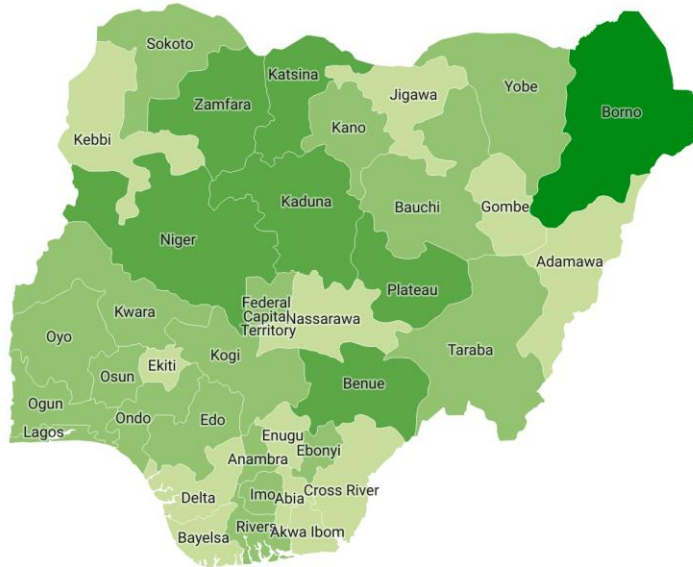
Nationwide Statistics Analysis

Fatalities/kidnapped victims

Locations displayed: all regions 1 January 2020 – 29 February 2024

Estimated Number of security incidents related to fatalities

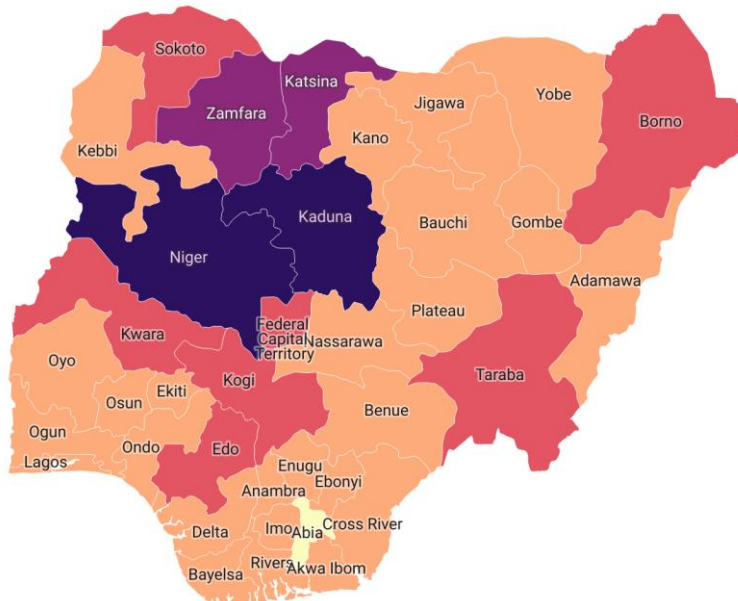
< 20 20–200 200–800 800–2,000 ≥ 2,000



Created with Datawrapper

Estimated Number of Kidnapped Victims

< 5 5–150 150–600 600–1,410 ≥ 1,410



Created with Datawrapper

Analysis

The overall threat level for the reporting month is rated as **High**. An estimated 260 fatalities were recorded, while the total number of persons kidnapped within the month was 351 victims. It should be noted that as a result of underreporting, the estimated figures could be more than what was presented above. This kidnap victim toll can be attributed to the terrorist conflict and an increase in kidnap for ransom due to economic hardship in the Northern regions, which led to a substantial number of terrorist fatalities.

During the month, there were 196 incidents relating to banditry, terrorist activities, kidnappings, killings, robberies, attacks on police operatives, civil unrest, and hazards which is a significant increase compared to last month's statistics. In order of sequence, the incidents with the most occurrences during the month were civil unrest, criminal activities, banditry, killing, kidnapping, and terrorism. The increase in the rate of protests and crime can be attributed to the recent economic hardship and the little to no response by the government.

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 February 2024, there were 15 incidents of terrorist activities recorded in the NE region alone which is a slight decrease compared to the previous month. 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 decrease in terrorist-related activities this month; terrorist activities in

The Southeast experienced the lowest number of incidents among the six geo-political zones 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 protest actions nationwide throughout the month which led to roadblocks and in some areas vandalism of government property. 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.

February 2024 numbered 16, compared to January which recorded over 27 incidents. The decrease is not directly proportional to any recent development, as incidents have been known to be fluctuational the past three years, coupled with the decrease in incident reporting. 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.

Throughout the reported month, the Northern regions of the country experienced organized armed assaults, particularly in the Northwest

states. Daily attacks were documented in villages and along major routes, with notable incidents in Katsina, Zamfara, Borno, Yobe, Nasarawa, Benue, Niger, Adamawa, and Kwara states. Despite various collaborative security operations, the dominance of bandits, terrorists, and insurgents in these regions persists. In week 8, an unspecified number of individuals were reported killed and kidnapped following an attack by gunmen on Munhaye village in the Faskari Local Government Area of Katsina State.

Key Incidents of Terrorism in February

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. One day before the attack, ISWAP elements in two gun trucks were reportedly sighted hibernating IVO Buniyadi.

18 February - 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.

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 particularly due to increasing economic hardship. According to HWA, there were 24 overall kidnapping incidents recorded countrywide, a significant decrease as compared to the previous month. 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 Benue, Borno, Kaduna, and Katsina states. On 13 February, four people, including two police officers and two civilians, were shot dead, while 40 other

16 February - Armed individuals suspected to be ISWAP members mounted an IVCP IVO College of Agriculture, 18 km South of Damaturu on Buniyadi Road, forcefully stopped some vehicles and killed about three people, and immediately retreated.

04 February - Members of ISWAP and Bakoura clashed IVO Dabar Gajeri approximately 5km South of Daban Masara. Although several fighters were killed on both sides, accurate casualty details could not be ascertained.

04 February – Suspected Boko Haram militants attacked a village in Dankalwar, Yobe State, killing two construction workers while kidnapping three other people before fleeing the area. The attack was preceded by another on an Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria military camp in the area which was repelled.

individuals were kidnapped during a suspected bandit attack targeting a community in Kasuwa-Daji Town, Kaura Namoda Local Government Area (LGA), Zamfara State.

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

Kidnapping incidents were recorded in the six geopolitical zones. A breakdown of the locations is; Bwari, Municipal area, FCT; Ifelodun, Kwara state; Olamaboro, Kabba, Kogi State; Shendam, Plateau state; Kirfi, Bauchi state; Kukawa, Bama, Borno state; Ibi, Taraba state; Kachia, Kaduna State; Jibia, Katsina State; Tsafe, Zamfara state;

Udi, Uzo-Uwani Enugu State; Ihiala, Anambra State; Etsako Central, Edo State; Akoko North, Ondo State; Egbado South, Ogun State; Alimosho, Lagos State.

Positively, Government Security Forces (GSFs), responded to some kidnapping attacks, where several assailants were neutralized. 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.

Key Incidents of Kidnapping in February

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

17 February - 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. An investigation by the police is ongoing.

17 February - 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.

13 February - Four people, including two police officers and two civilians, were shot dead, while 40 other individuals were kidnapped during a suspected bandit attack targeting a community in Kasuwa-Daji Town, Kaura Namoda Local Government Area (LGA), Zamfara State.

03 February - Nine commercial motorcyclists, known as "Yan Achaba," who were traveling from Kirfi Local Government Area of Bauchi State to Lafia in Nasarawa, have reportedly gone missing in Plateau State. According to reports, the youths were en route to Lafia for bike business before losing contact with family and friends on Saturday.

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

This month, there were 33 incidents of banditry recorded. Compared to January, the number of incidents decreased.

During the reporting month, the Southern states documented recurrent incursions by unidentified armed groups, predominantly in the Southeast and South-south regions. Most of the attacks were against security operatives. Such an incident was recorded in week 7 when a policeman was killed while another was kidnapped during an attack by suspected members of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB)/Eastern Security Network (ESN) at a Correctional Farm Settlement in the Umualomoke community in Okigwe Local Government Area of Imo State. At least 7 prisoners escaped during the attack.

Key incidents on Banditry in February

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

18 February - 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. An investigation is ongoing by the security forces

14 February - A group of armed herders reportedly attacked Bulama Bukar, 15km West of Gujba town, Yobe State, and two other adjoining

communities simultaneously, killing three civilians. The attackers also burnt several houses, while an SF team responded to a distress call but were outnumbered by the attackers and abruptly aborted the mission due to poor visibility.

03 February - Seventeen personnel were killed following a Biafra Nations League (BnL) militant attack targeting a joint Nigeria-Cameroon border patrol camp in Ebughu, Mbo Local Government Area (LGA), Akwa Ibom State.

09 February - Armed assailants attacked four vehicles, including a commercial passenger bus, in Akoko, Imo State, injuring some people while kidnapping others before fleeing.

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 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.

There was an increase in civil unrest incidents such as protests, and tensions across the six geopolitical zones in the country with approximately 75 incidents recorded during the reporting month as compared to the previous reporting period which documented 42 incidents. The drive behind these incidents was mostly the high rate of inflation and the hike in the prices of consumers' goods. In the forthcoming month protest demonstrations are expected to increase.

During the reporting month, incidents of communal clashes and cultist activities were documented in Delta, Akwa Ibom, Ogun, Osun, and Benue states. A communal clash was reported in week 9, which led to the deaths of an unconfirmed number of individuals and the destruction of houses in Akwa Ibom State.

Key Incidents on Criminality in February

29 February - 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.

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

23 February - Reports revealed no fewer than seven persons were reportedly killed while others were injured following a cult clash between the so-called "Black Axe" and "Red Confraternity" rival groups IVO North Bank area on 23 February 2024

12 February - Unidentified individuals suspected to be members of an OCG broke into a higher

institution student's lodge and injured three people in IVO Gwallameji Area along Dass Road in Bauchi town. The victims were rushed to a medical facility for treatment. A police investigation is in progress

17 February - 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

17 February - 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.

06 February - Six people were killed, and several others were injured in clashes between the Aye and Eye cultist groups in the towns of Ilesa and Osu in Osun State, between 06th and 07th February 2024.

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	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low	High	Moderate
North East	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low

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

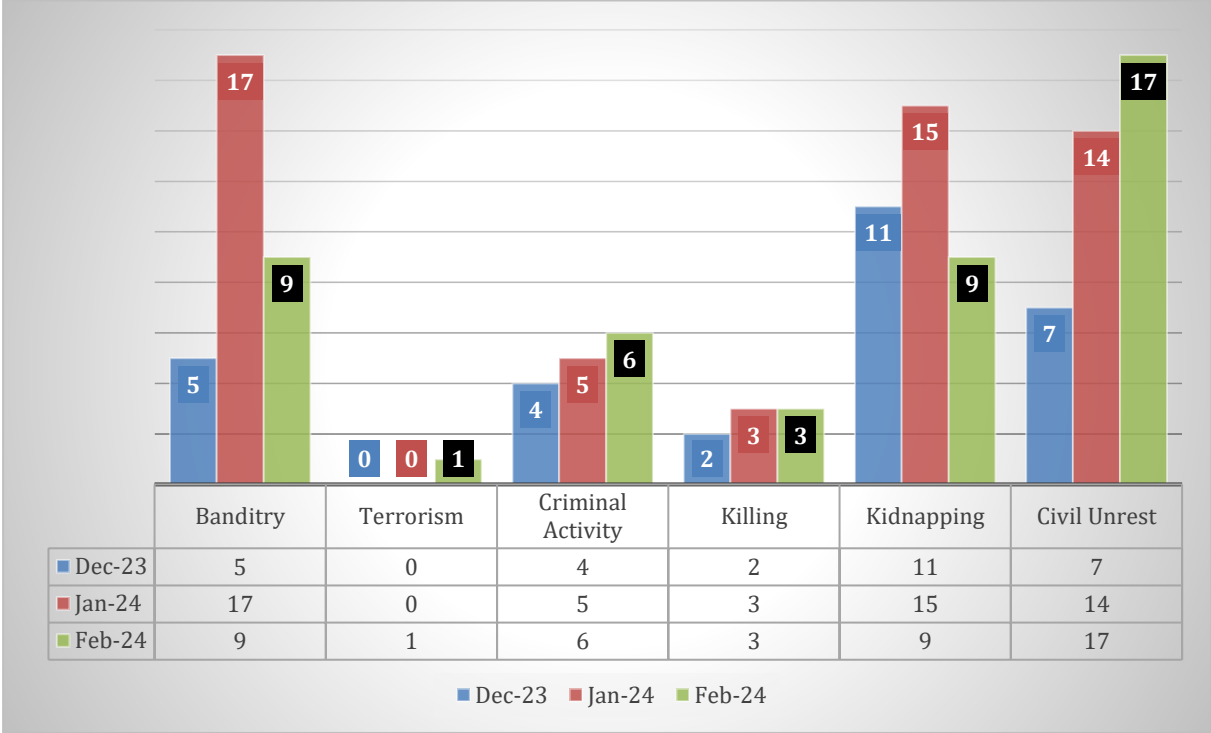
Operations in Nigeria

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

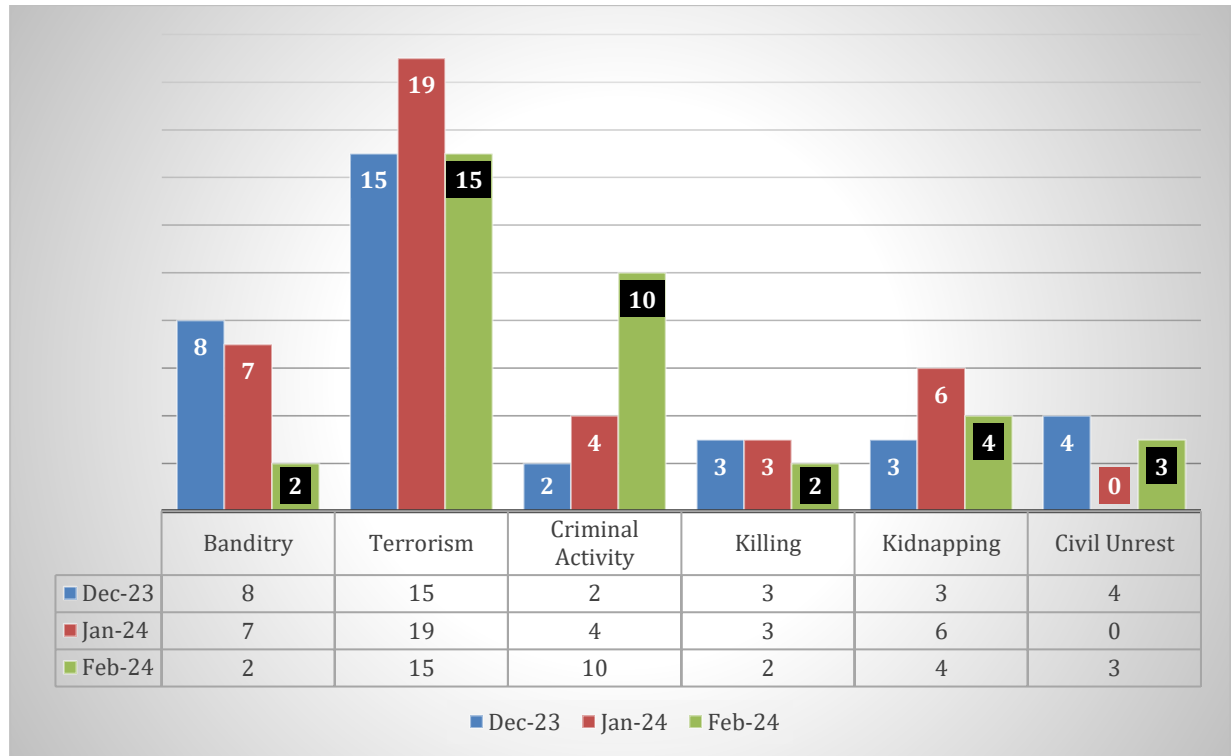
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. In February 2024, incidents of Civil Unrest and kidnapping increased slightly, while incidents of banditry decreased significantly.



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

North East

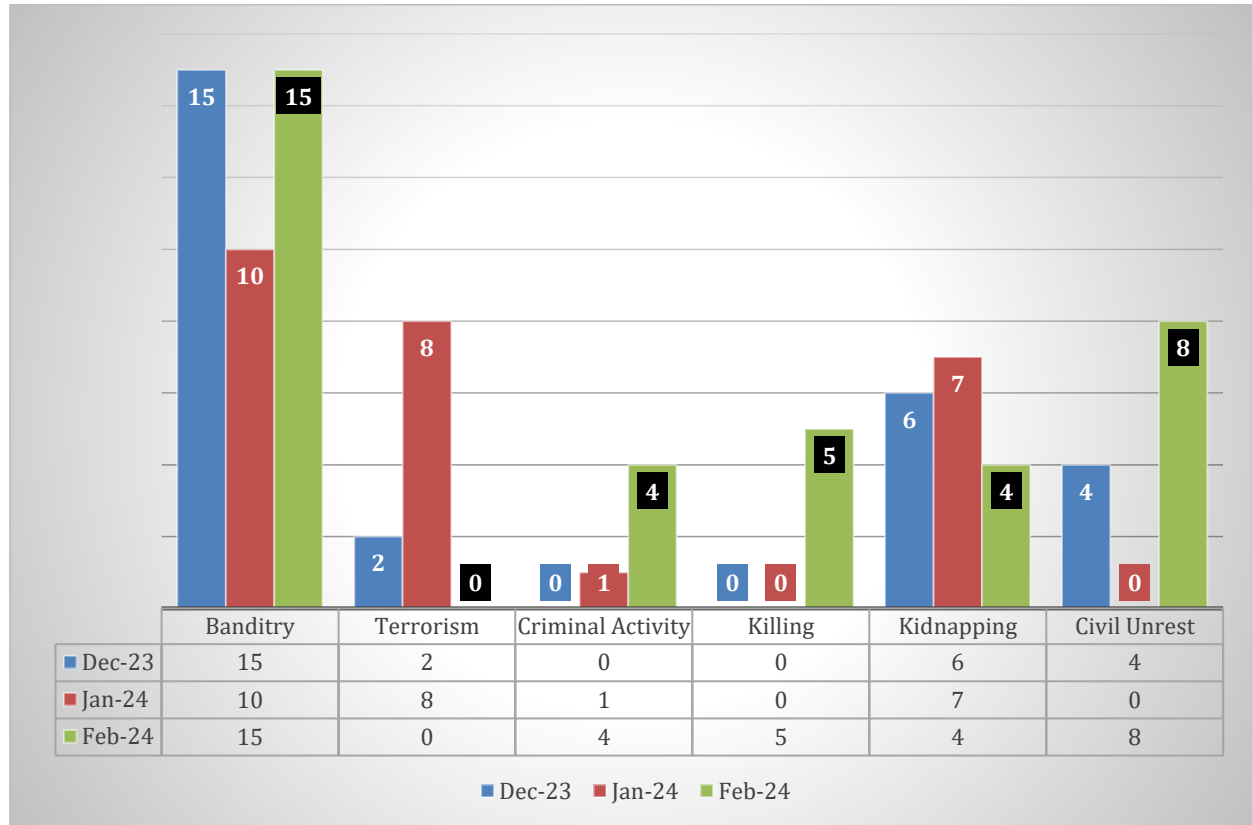
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. Incidents of terrorism increased slightly in February 2024. Most recorded incidents were criminal activity, kidnapping, and terrorism. Civil unrest increased slightly in February.



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

North West

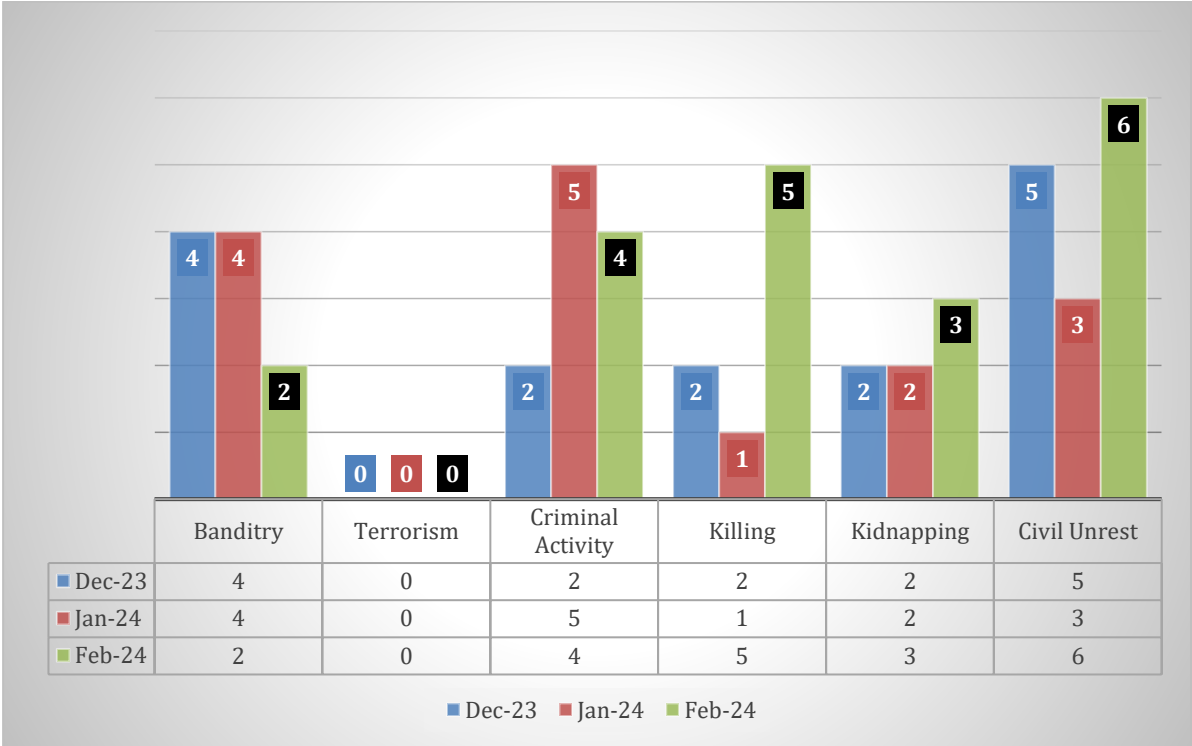
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. There was an overall increase in the number of incidents captured in February 2024, particularly incidents of banditry and civil unrest.



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

South East

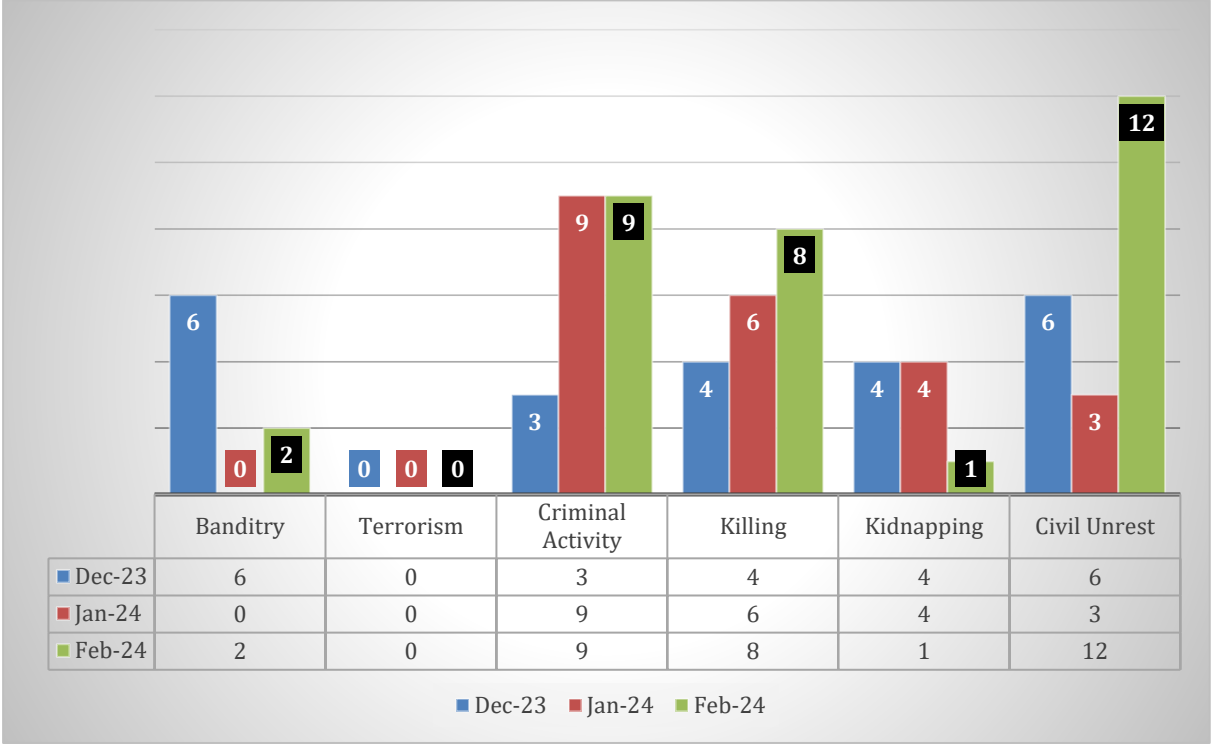
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. The overall number of incidents increased compared to last month. There was an increase in civil unrest. Common threats in the region in the past three months were civil unrest, killing, criminal activities, and kidnapping.



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

South South

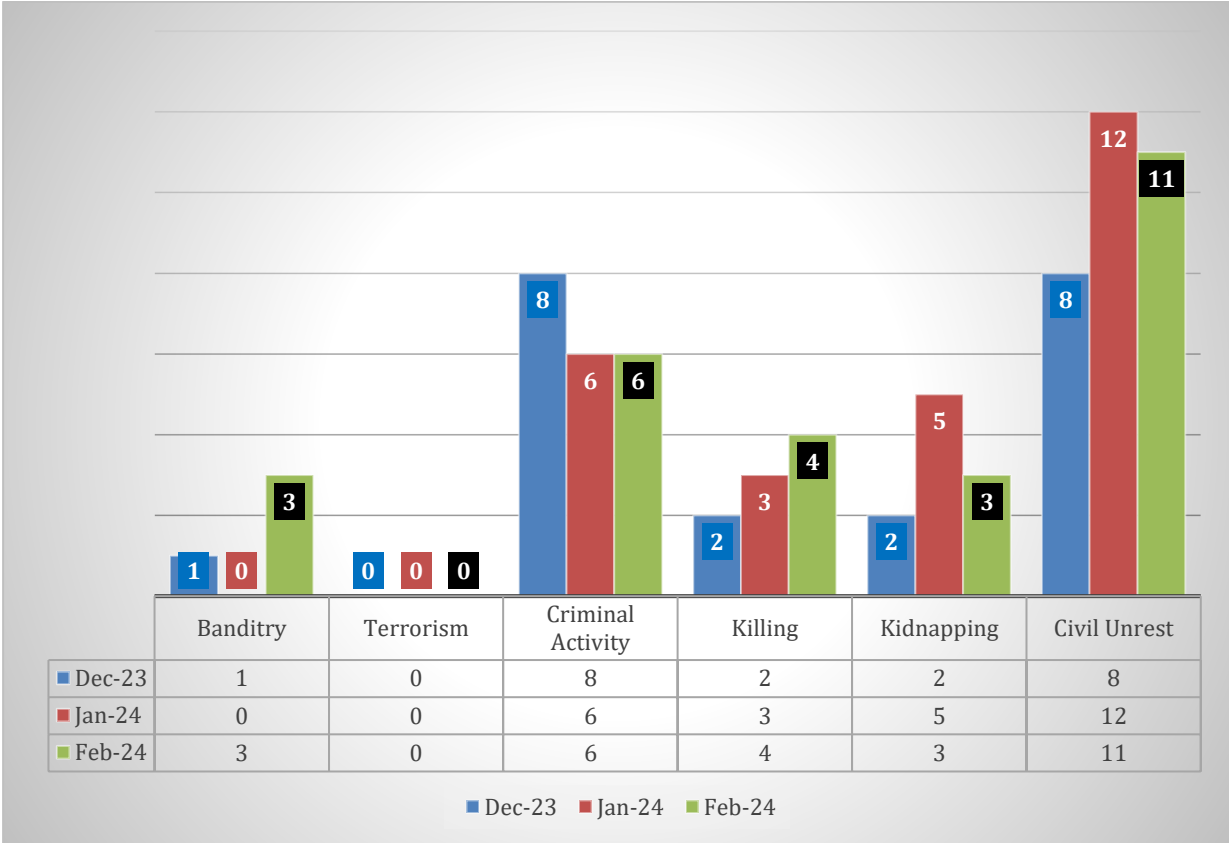
The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. Common threats are Criminal activities civil unrest and killing. Banditry increased slightly in February.



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

South West

The chart shows a progression of incidents in the last three months. Common threats are criminal activity, civil unrest, and killing. Kidnapping decreased slightly during the reporting month.



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

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