

# **NEW\$ MONTHLY BULLETIN- (WANEP-NIGERIA)**

## (JUNE 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

As of June 2025, 856, incidents were recorded in the *Monthly Conflict Census* from the WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS).<sup>1</sup> A cumulative fatality of 1,153 and 936 injuries and infected cases emanating from criminal attacks, road accidents and diseases related incidents were recorded in June 2025.

As shown in the thematic graph below, Violent Extremism and Organised Crime recorded a total fatality of 1,028, accounting for the highest of the total number of fatalities (1,153) recorded in the reporting period while Democracy and Governance theme recorded 106 deaths.<sup>2</sup> Also, Environmental Security theme recorded 19 deaths, while the Gender, Peace and Security thematic area recorded no death in the reporting period.<sup>3</sup> (see annex for the monthly census).



Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>4</sup>.

The *Monthly Bulletin* provides an analysis of the security challenges identified from monitoring trends of incidents through the WANEP NEWS and the mass media. It also offers recommendations for stakeholders' interventions and mitigation.

#### 2. ORGANISED CRIME AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The North-Eastern region of Nigeria continues to grapple with threats from Boko Haram and Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP) extremist groups. These threats continue to cause instability, as the increasing frequency of IED attacks (particularly landmines) on critical routes not only disrupts the safety of travel but also indicates a persistent threat to livelihood activities and increases the risks of abduction and ambushes. These challenges have also hindered resettlement initiatives for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/ <sup>3</sup> ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

The WANEP NEWS recorded 17 incidents of terrorist attacks in Abadam, Biu, Gwoza, Damboa, Kukawa, Konduga, Chibok, Ngala and Monguno LGAs of Borno State, and Gujba LGA of Yobe State. These incidents resulted in 86 casualties including 24 fatalities 61 injuries, with 1 victim abducted in the reporting period. Of the 24 fatalities, 1 was a minor. Prominent among these attacks was the detonation of a Person-Borne Explosive Device (PBIED) by a suspected female terrorist which resulted in the death of 12 people with 18 others injured at Fish Market Axis in Konduga LGA of Borno State.



Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>5</sup>

Despite the prevailing security challenges, the Nigerian Military and the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) have maintained a strong partnership with the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) to execute robust security clearance operations in the North-East region. These efforts have been characterized by intelligence-driven air strikes and ground operations, targeting terrorist enclaves and strongholds.

The WANEP-NEWS recorded 412 incidents of **Organized Crimes** including banditry, human and drug trafficking, kidnapping, weapons trafficking, cult/gang violence clash, community-herder violence, arson, vandalism and armed violence by militia gangs, amongst others, in the month. A total of 1,002 fatalities were recorded in the period, out of which 246 were members of Non-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

State Armed Groups (NSAG), 715 civilians and 41 security personnel.<sup>6</sup> Out of the total recorded fatalities, 29 were females, and 15 children.

Armed banditry recorded a fatality of 157 people and injury to 83 others in Kaduna, Zamfara, Zamfara, Katsina, Sokoto and Kebbi States in the North-West and the FCT and Niger State in the North-Central.<sup>7</sup> Other criminal incidents perpetrated by bandits in the period include the abduction of 110 people, cattle rustling, and arms trafficking.<sup>8</sup> A sect of suspected bandits/terrorists identified simply as "Mahmuda" operating mainly in Ifelodun, Edu and Pategi LGAs of Kwara State emerged with the killing of 16 people and abduction of 19 others during the reporting month.

Armed attacks by ethnic militia gangs/armed herders resulted in the fatality of 363, while armed violence incidents including robbery and armed attacks accounted for 138 deaths.<sup>9</sup> Other armed violence incidents including homicide, suicide and cult violence led to the death of 34, 8 and 10 people, while extrajudicial killing and mob violence led to 7 and 21 deaths respectively.<sup>10</sup> Below is the graphical representation of armed violence incidents and fatalities as documented by WANEP NEWS in June 2025.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://dailypost.ng/2024/08/12/over-30-bandits-die-many-injured-as-rival-groups-clash-in-zamfara/ <sup>9</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>0</sup> Ibid.

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Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>11</sup>

The persistent threat of kidnapping in Nigeria continued in the period. According to WANEP NEWS, June 2025 saw 76 reported kidnapping incidents across 20 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). These incidents resulted in the abduction of 203 individuals, including 47 women, 8 children and 1 security operative.<sup>12</sup>

The graph below illustrates the statistics of kidnapped victims across the affected States in the period.



In June 2025, WANEP NEWS documented 220 cases of arrest stemming from diverse criminal and civil offenses, including kidnapping, human trafficking, arms/ammunition trafficking, violent demonstrations, physical assaults, thuggery, robbery, banditry, terrorism, vandalism and destruction of public infrastructures, fraud, cybercrime, murder, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), theft, cultism, illegal migration, rape, cattle rustling, trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), drug trafficking, sexual assault, gender and domestic violence, environmental law violation, extra-judicial activities, environmental disturbance, oil theft, illegal mining, and illegal possession of firearms.<sup>14</sup> 1443 suspects were reportedly arrested, 60 being females, 35 minors and 11 security personnel.

Security agencies also intercepted several illicit drugs across 15 states with 134 suspects arrested including 9 females and 1 minor for drug-related offences as recorded in the WANEP NEWS<sup>15</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/ <sup>2</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/ <sup>14</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

## **3. DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE**

Between June 1 and June 30, 2025, Nigeria witnessed over 25 public demonstrations across several states including Abuja (FCT), Benue, Delta, Ogun, Ondo, Bayelsa, Anambra, Plateau, Niger, Kwara, Osun, and Lagos. These protests were triggered by a broad range of grievances such as extrajudicial killings, abductions, land grabbing, labour-related disputes, poor governance, and security failures. In Gwagwalada (FCT), Ogun, and Niger, protests erupted following the murder of civilians by suspected hoodlums, prompting public outrage and demands for justice. In Benue, Anambra, and Delta, residents protested violent herder attacks, criminal activities, and poor living conditions. Workers in Lagos, Kwara, Bayelsa, and Abuja staged protests over poor remuneration, workplace safety concerns, corruption allegations, and general neglect of staff welfare. Additionally, students in Plateau and Niger, along with schoolchildren in the FCT, led peaceful demonstrations demanding safety, educational access, and reforms.

The underlying drivers of these demonstrations reflect deepening socio-economic and security crises across the country. Benue witnessed several protests—including prayer walks and highway blockades—over recurring attacks by suspected armed herders. In Ogun and Osun, disputes over land and abandoned infrastructure projects further fuelled unrest. The nationwide Democracy Day protests held in Abuja, Lagos, Ondo, Oyo, and Adamawa were emblematic of widespread discontent over inflation, fuel subsidy removal, and rising insecurity. Civil society groups and student associations also led rallies against corruption and systemic governance failures. In the FCT, workers from multiple federal institutions protested poor working conditions, mismanagement of funds, delayed promotions, and non-payment of wages. While some protests prompted police deployment, others received minimal intervention, reflecting growing public frustration with perceived government inaction and accountability gaps.

In addition to the wave of peaceful and organized demonstrations across the country, a violent protest was reported in Lafiagi, Edu LGA of Kwara State, where aggrieved community youths set ablaze the office of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and several vehicles on June 30, 2025. The arson was reportedly triggered by growing frustration over escalating insecurity in the area, which residents claimed had received little or no response from the authorities.<sup>16</sup>

Also, in June 2025, several strike actions erupted across Nigeria due to unresolved labour disputes. The Judiciary Staff Council of Nigeria (JUSUN) began a nationwide strike on June 1 over unpaid wage awards, minimum wage delays, and salary increases. In Ondo State, JUSUN commenced an indefinite strike on June 13 over non-implementation of financial autonomy, while the Joint Action Committee of State-Owned Tertiary Institutions (JAC-ODSTI) launched a 14-day warning strike on June 19 over unpaid wages, arrears, and unfulfilled government promises. No interventions were reported at the time.

 $<sup>^{16}\</sup> https://saharareporters.com/2025/06/30/breaking-angry-youths-burn-ndlea-office-invade-lafiagi-emirs-palace-kwara-over-abduction$ 

Furthermore, the WANEP NEWS recorded a total of 74 safety-related incidents spanning building collapses, fire outbreaks, drownings, boat mishaps, tanker explosions, and road accidents. Five (5) building and fence collapse incidents occurred in Lagos (2), Oyo, Kwara, and Kaduna States, resulting in at least 4 deaths and 3 injuries, largely due to structural defects and poor construction practices. Seven (7) drowning cases in Kwara, Cross River, Nasarawa, Adamawa, Gombe, and the FCT led to the death of at least 11 people and 64 livestock, mostly linked to unsafe swimming, collapsed sandbanks, and flood-related water hazards. Four (4) boat mishaps in Sokoto, Niger, and the FCT claimed 13 lives, mainly traders and minors, often due to overcrowded or unregulated vessels. Infrastructural hazards also included the collapse of a 33kVA power transmission line in Kwara State, which caused a residential fire, and a telecommunication mast collapse in Ogun State that injured 1 person, both attributed to environmental and weather conditions. Five (5) fire-related tanker explosions in Oyo, Ogun, and the FCT resulted in at least 6 injuries and widespread property damage, triggered by vehicular collisions and gas leaks. Thirtyone (31) road traffic accidents across 12 states and the FCT resulted in 58 deaths—including 41 males, 6 females, 9 minors, and 2 security personnel—and 49 injuries, primarily due to reckless driving, poor road conditions, and mechanical failures. Additionally, 21 separate fire outbreaks were recorded across 11 states with no casualties.

## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:

In the reporting period, WANEP NEWS recorded public health emergencies, including outbreaks of Lassa Fever. The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) reported 284 suspected cases of Lassa Fever across 12 states between June 2 and 15, 2025, with 19 confirmed cases and 3 fatalities. <sup>17</sup>

A total of 14 weather-related hazard incidents were also recorded across 12 states in Nigeria, including Niger, Ondo, Borno, Taraba, Gombe, Kano, Cross River, Sokoto, Kogi, Benue, Ogun, and the FCT. In total, these incidents resulted in 16 human fatalities including 11 males, 2 females, and 3 minors — and 61 injuries, with 7,836 individuals displaced. The incidents comprised flooding, windstorms, rain-induced erosion, and lightning strikes. Flooding in Akure North LGA of Ondo State, and Damboa LGA of Borno State led to the displacement of numerous residents as homes and farmlands were submerged. In Gwadabawa and Kware LGAs of Sokoto State, a severe windstorm resulted in the destruction of 1,401 houses, affecting 2,709 households and displacing 7,836 people. Additional destruction occurred in Bunkure LGA of Kano State, Ogoja LGA of Cross River State, and Bali LGA of Taraba State, where residential, religious, and commercial buildings were damaged. A rain-induced gully erosion in Misau LGA of Gombe State claimed the life of a male minor, while a rainstorm damaged multiple structures at the Federal Polytechnic in Idah LGA of Kogi State. Lightning strikes killed 2 males and injured 2 others in Obi LGA of Benue State, and a separate strike in Odeda LGA of Ogun State led to the death of 32 cows.

#### **5. GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:**

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> file:///C:/Users/Early2/Downloads/An%20update%20of%20Lassa%20fever%20outbreak%20in%20Nigeria\_140625\_24.pdf

The WANEP NEWS recorded 5 incidents of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), especially rape of female adults and minors in the FCT, Yobe, Ekiti, and Ondo States, in the month.<sup>18</sup> Out of the 5 recorded incidents, there were no fatalities and 5 injuries including 1 female and 4 female minors. Also, no fewer than 27 victims of human trafficking including 15 females and 12 minors were rescued in Imo, and Akwa Ibom States in the month while 5 suspects including 2 females were arrested.<sup>19</sup>

## Implications for Peace and Security in Nigeria

The incidences of threats and attendant fatalities and insecurity highlight a deepening erosion of public safety across the country. The scale of violence—driven largely by organised crime and extremist activity—continues to expose civilians, particularly women and children, to abduction, displacement, and death. These patterns signal a growing failure of protective structures and an urgent need for coordinated responses to safeguard vulnerable populations.

The rising toll of weather-induced disasters underscores growing environmental vulnerability, especially in underserved and disaster-prone areas. Events such as floods, windstorms, and lightning strikes have intensified humanitarian needs, with widespread damage to homes, farmlands, and schools. These disruptions have further constrained access to education for children and deepened existing insecurity among already at-risk populations.

Additionally, the country witnessed at least 25 public protests and multiple strike actions by judiciary and tertiary education workers. These were driven by unresolved grievances including extrajudicial killings, poor wages, and weak institutional responses to insecurity. With education systems further strained and growing frustration among youth and workers, the risk of deeper socio-political unrest remains high, further underscoring the urgent need for effective social interventions to mitigate the impacts on populations and address the recurrent strikes, protests, and demonstrations in the country.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

In view of the human security threats and the analysis highlighted, the following recommendations are proposed for response and mitigation by stakeholders:

 While efforts to improve coordination among security agencies are ongoing, strengthening existing counterinsurgency and anti-crime units is critical. This can be achieved by enhancing targeted training, logistics, and surveillance capabilities including the deployment of drones, AI-driven analytics, and satellite imagery for remote monitoring. Intelligence sharing should be improved through integrated data hubs, while community trust can be built by formalizing community policing and recruiting local

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/ <sup>19</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

informants. Boosting personnel welfare and enforcing operational accountability will also improve unit effectiveness without duplicating existing functions.

- While some vocational and livelihood programs exist in displacement camps, these efforts remain fragmented and donor-dependent. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and state governments should institutionalize and scale up long-term recovery by establishing Sustainability Centres across major camps. These centres should provide structured vocational training, agricultural support, and access to small business loans, enabling displaced persons to rebuild livelihoods and reduce aid dependency. Strengthening coordination with international donors and NGOs will also enhance accountability and efficiency in aid delivery.
- In addition to temporary schools, the Ministry of Education should collaborate with tech companies and broadcasters to develop low-tech and offline mobile learning platforms such as radio-based lessons, solar-powered audio devices, and printed learning kits in indigenous languages—to ensure continuous education for children in volatile areas. Where possible, community learning hubs should be established to provide safe access to structured learning.
- While efforts like the youth integration program already support out-of-school youth through apprenticeships, mentorship, and skill-building initiatives, these programs should be scaled up, better funded, and more strategically targeted to offer meaningful pathways to employment or entrepreneurship, especially in communities at risk of extremist recruitment.
- To better address the rising cases of SGBV and human trafficking, the Ministry of Women Affairs could enhance efforts aimed at changing social attitudes, by launching a national education campaign targeting men and boys, focusing on the harmful effects of genderbased violence and fostering positive behaviours. Moreover, specialized courts should be established to fast-track cases of trafficking and gender-based violence, ensuring that victims receive timely justice.
- To improve disaster response, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs) should establish community-based rapid response units in high-risk LGAs and train local volunteers in evacuation and relief protocols. The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) and the Nigerian Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) must enhance last-mile early warning systems using local radio, mobile networks, and community leaders. The National Orientation Agency (NOA), with the Ministry of Information, should boost grassroots safety awareness, while inter-agency coordination should be strengthened through joint drills and regular assessments.

## **CONCLUSION:**

In conclusion, the data and analysis from June 2025 highlight the complex and interlinked nature of Nigeria's peace and security landscape—where violent extremism, organized crime, natural disasters, public health threats, and safety-related incidents collectively fuel displacement, social instability, and economic hardship. The disproportionate impact on populations, women, children, and displaced populations underscores the urgent need for a coordinated national

response that integrates security reform, humanitarian relief, disaster preparedness, and longterm social investment. Without deliberate and inclusive interventions, heightened insecurity risks entrenching cycles of violence, eroding public trust, and undermining national development goals.

## **CENSUS OF INCIDENTS FOR JUNE 2025**

THEMATIC AREA	No of Attacks	VICTIMS	
		DEATHS	INJURIES
VIOLENT EXTREMISM: Boko Haram/ISWAP attacks	17	24	61
<b>ORGANISED CRIME:</b> (Armed robbery/theft, armed violence, armed bandits, mob attack, arson and cult/gang clash).	172	327	177
Security Clearance Operations - Shoot-out between security operatives and criminal gangs.	52	246	21
Abduction (evident across 20 States & the FCT)	76	-	-
Cybercrime/Fraud	4	-	-
Extrajudicial Attacks/Shooting	12	7	10
Physical/Armed Assault	16	-	21
Herder-Community Conflict Vandalism Violent Clash	23 15 7	364 - 10	87 - 12
Communal Clash	5	8	106
Illicit Drug Trafficking	40	-	Q /
Homicide	40	34	-
Suicide	7	8	-/
DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE:		$\sim$	
Demonstration (peaceful)	27		-
Demonstration (violent)	1	-	-
Strike	3	-	-
Electrocution	1	5	13
Arrest/Detention	220	-	-
Road Accident	31	58	49
Boat Accident	3	13	-

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Building Collapse	2	-	2
Bridge Collapse	1	-	-
Pit collapse	1	11	7
Fence Collapse	2	4	-
Mine collapse	1	1	_
Power Transmission Line Collapse	1	-	_
Telecommunication Towe Collapse	1		1
Drowning	6	8	-
	0	0	
Tanker Explosion	-	-	3
Other Explosions	2	6	16
ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:			
Illegal Mining/Oil theft	1	-	-
Pandemic/Epidemics:			Confirmed/Infec
			ted Cases
a. Lassa Fever	19	3	284
Fire Outbreak	21		-
Thunderstorm/Lightning	14	16	61
Strike/Rainstorm/Flood/Windstorm			01
GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:			
SGBV: Sexual Assault/Rape	5		5
Human Trafficking	3		-
		1152	
Total	856	1153	936

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