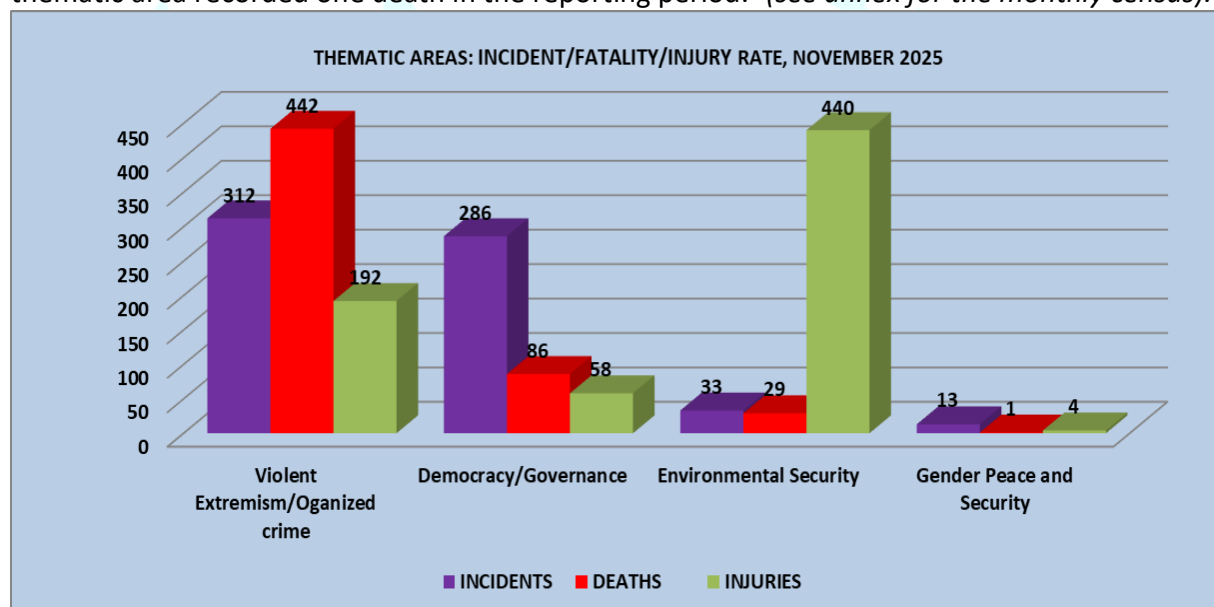


I. INTRODUCTION

In November 2025, 589 incidents were recorded in the *Monthly Conflict Census* from the WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS).¹ A cumulative fatality of 558 and 689 injuries and infected cases emanating from criminal attacks, road accidents and diseases related incidents were recorded.

As shown in the thematic graph below, Violent Extremism and Organized Crime recorded a total fatality of 442 accounting for the highest of the total number of fatalities (558) recorded in the reporting period while the Democracy and Governance theme recorded 86 deaths. Also, the Environmental Security theme recorded 29 deaths while the Gender, Peace and Security thematic area recorded one death in the reporting period.² (see annex for the monthly census).



Source: WANEP-NEWS³

The *Monthly Bulletin* presents 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

Terrorist-related attacks by Boko Haram and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) continue to pose significant security threats to rural communities in the North-East region. The sustained attacks and the recurrent use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) by these groups demonstrate their adaptive and persistent tactics aimed at instilling fear and undermining

¹ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

² Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

³ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

Government-led reconstruction and resettlement efforts for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Despite the ongoing counter-terrorism operations by the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) and the Nigerian Armed Forces, the insurgents have maintained a notable level of operational capability. These developments highlight the enduring threat posed by terrorist groups and their continued impact on national peace and security stability.

WANEP NEWS documented terrorists attacks targeted civilians including farmers. These communities include Magumeri Town, Askira- Uba, Geidam, Yusufari LGAs of Borno and Yobe State, The violent attacks resulted in 18 fatalities, including security operatives and 1 local vigilante with 25 people abducted during the reporting period. In response, the Nigerian Military, in collaboration with the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), strengthened its partnership with the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) to conduct intensified counterinsurgency and clearance operations across the region, particularly in Borno, and Yobe States, with several terrorists neutralized during the period.⁴



Source: WANEP-NEWS⁵

Additionally, **organized crime** including weapons trafficking, armed banditry, human and drug trafficking, cult violence, kidnapping, and armed violence by militia gangs, remains pervasive in the security landscape. During the reporting period, WANEP NEWS recorded 218 incidents of organized crime, resulting in 424 fatalities among civilians and security personnel. Of the recorded deaths, 60 were members of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs), while over 25 were

⁴ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

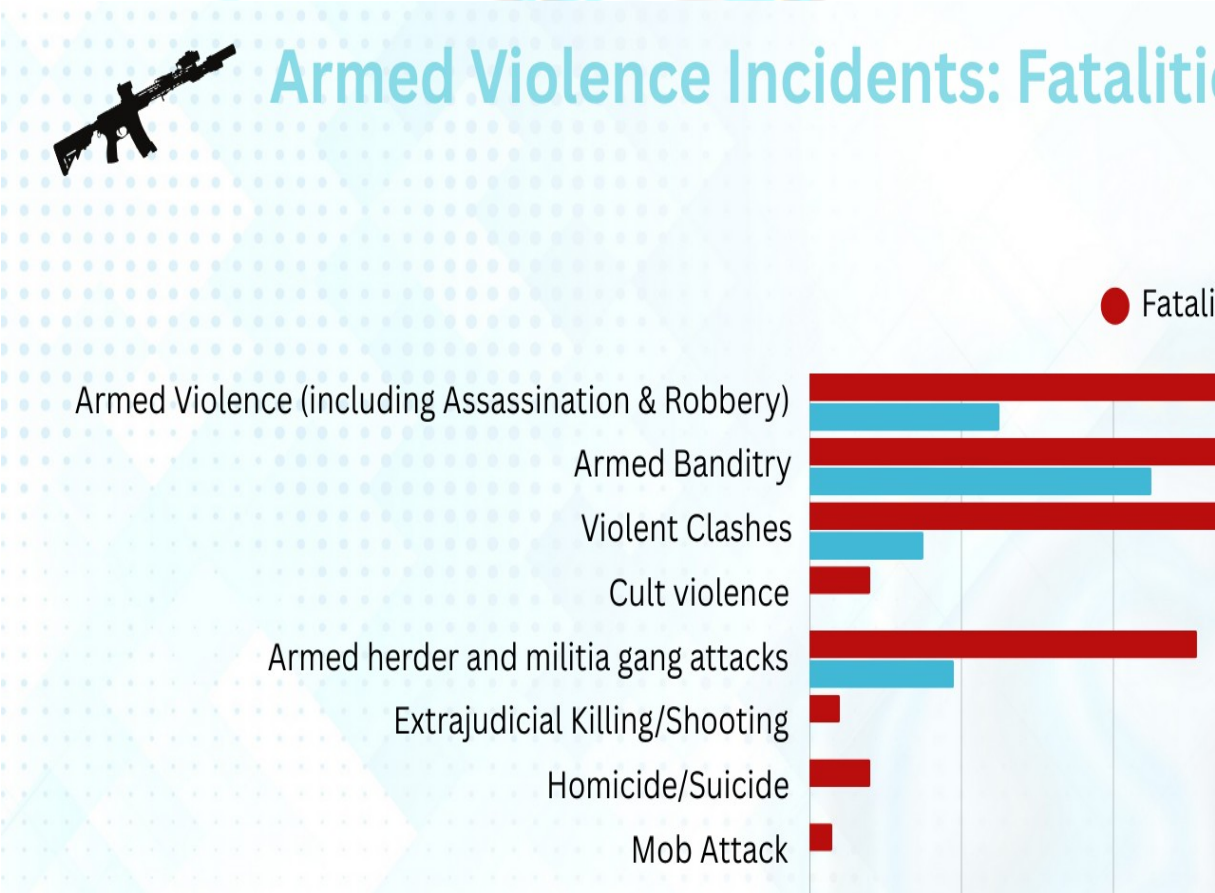
⁵ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

females, 15 were children, and 25 were security personnel, including members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) and Vigilante Groups.⁶

Armed banditry resulted in the deaths of no fewer than 90 fatalities across Kaduna, Zamfara, Niger, Katsina, Sokoto, Kano, Kogi, Kwara, and Kebbi States in the North-West and North-Central regions. In addition to the loss of lives, the perpetrators engaged in a range of criminal activities, including kidnapping, cattle rustling, arms trafficking, large-scale looting, arson, and the destruction of several properties during the period under review.

Armed violence incidents, including robbery, assassination and Violent clashes resulted in 65 deaths, **while Armed attacks by ethnic militia gangs/armed herders** resulted in the fatality of 51 deaths. **Other reported incidents included culpable homicide, Cult clashes, extrajudicial killings/shootings, mob violence** which recorded 8, 8, 4, and 3 deaths, respectively in the reporting period.

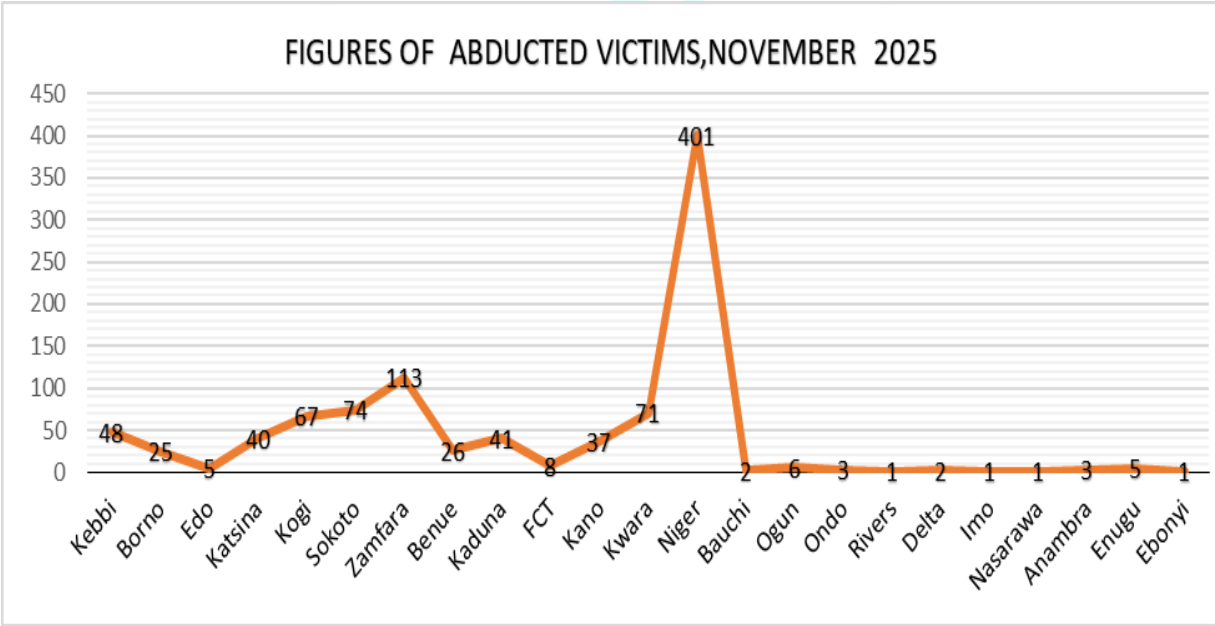
Below is the graphical representation of armed violence incidents and fatalities as documented by WANEP NEWS in September 2025.



Source: WANEP-NEWS.⁷

⁶ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

The activities of armed criminal groups involved in kidnapping continue to undermine peace and security across Nigeria. WANEP NEWS documented 88 kidnapping incidents across 23 states, with a total of 981 people abducted. Among the victims were over 189 females, 342 children, and one security operative during the reporting month.⁸ The growing prevalence of kidnapping not only disrupts daily life but also exacerbates existing socio-economic challenges, as affected communities grapple with trauma and the financial burdens of ransom demands and recovery effort.



Source: WANEP-NEWS.⁹

WANEP NEWS documented 202 arrests linked to diverse criminal activities, following coordinated joint security operations conducted across several states in Nigeria that led to the apprehension of multiple criminal suspects. The arrests covered a wide range of offenses, including kidnapping, drug and human trafficking, arms and ammunition trafficking, violent demonstrations, physical assaults, robbery, banditry, terrorism, vandalism, and the destruction of public infrastructure. Additionally, the recorded incidents included fraud, cybercrime, murder, and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), reflecting a broad spectrum of both criminal and civil offenses.

As reflected in the map below, security agencies intercepted several illicit drugs and weapons across states. Notable successes included numerous arrests and the seizure of substantial quantities of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, such as Indian hemp, skunk, opioids, fentanyl, codeine, tramadol, cocaine, and methamphetamine, as documented by WANEP NEWS.

⁷ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

⁸ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

⁹ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/



3. DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE:

The WANEP NEWS recorded public demonstrations and strike action of which one in the reporting period. The Joint Health Sector Unions (JOHESU) and the Assembly of Healthcare Professional Associations reportedly embarked on an indefinite nationwide strike over the Federal Government's failure to implement the adjusted Consolidated Health Salary Structure in the FCT, Abuja, while the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) reportedly commenced an indefinite strike following the expiration of a 30-day ultimatum over the government's repeated failure to implement agreements reached with the association despite several meetings, appeals, and warnings. A female was reportedly injured by a stray bullet allegedly fired by a Nigeria Immigration Service officer in Igbogbele community, Badagry LGA of Lagos State, an incident that triggered unrest as irate youths reportedly set an immigration checkpoint ablaze in protest. Farmers and residents of Aponmu community in Akure South Local Government Area of Ondo State reportedly staged a peaceful demonstration against the activities of alleged land grabbers, while tension was reportedly recorded in Oworonshoki, Lagos State, after police officers allegedly dispersed a peaceful protest over the demolition of residential buildings, during which human rights activist and former presidential candidate Omoyele Sowore and some landowners were reportedly assaulted by personnel of the Lagos State Police Command.

In Benue State, hundreds of traders at the Makurdi Modern Market reportedly shut down the market during a peaceful protest over incessant cases of car theft, with no intervention

¹⁰ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

reported at the time, while hundreds of commercial motorcyclists in Gboko LGA reportedly staged a peaceful demonstration following the killing of one of their members by unidentified armed gang, demanding government intervention to end the killings. Members of the All Indigenous Contractors Association of Nigeria reportedly staged a peaceful protest at the National Assembly in Abuja, demanding payment of debts allegedly owed by the Federal Government for executed constituency and federal projects, while parents of Nigerian students on foreign government scholarships reportedly blocked the entrance of the Federal Ministry of Finance in Abuja to demand payment of outstanding stipends owed to their children, including prolonged unpaid allowances.

Child rights advocates and civil society groups reportedly conducted a peaceful demonstration at the Lagos State House of Assembly complex in Ikeja LGA of Lagos State, demanding justice for the late Ochanya Ogbanje and other victims of sexual abuse across the country, while hundreds of residents of Yagba East Local Government Area of Kogi State reportedly staged a peaceful protest against the rising wave of kidnappings and bandit attacks in the Ilafin-Isanlu area, with no reported intervention at the time of reporting. Hundreds of members of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria (IMN) reportedly staged protests across several parts of the Kano metropolis against a viral statement attributed to United States (U.S.) President Donald Trump, allegedly suggesting the possibility of a military strike on Nigeria, while some women in Ezimo community, Udenu Local Government Area of Enugu State reportedly staged a peaceful protest over the alleged kidnap of five residents and the shooting of others during an attack on the community. Community residents in Ibese, Yewa North Local Government Area of Ogun State also reportedly conducted a peaceful demonstration against what they described as a deliberate and politically backed attempt to allocate part of their land to neighbouring Ilaro township.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:

In the reporting month, Nigeria continued to experience recurring public health challenges, notably outbreaks of Lassa fever across several states. According to the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), a total of ten deaths, 59 confirmed cases, and 375 suspected cases of Lassa fever were recorded across Ondo, Bauchi, Edo, Benue, Gombe, Plateau, Nasarawa, Delta, Lagos, Oyo, Sokoto, Ekiti and Ogun States.¹¹ The NCDC identified challenges such as delayed presentation of cases and poor health-seeking behavior, often driven by the high cost of treatment and clinical management of Lassa fever, as key factors contributing to increased fatality rates.

5. GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:

During the reporting period, WANEP NEWS recorded incidents of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), predominantly cases of rape involving female minors in Rivers, Abia, Yobe, FCT, and Niger States, including one case that resulted in death in Rivers State. These incidents

¹¹ <https://ncdc.gov.ng/diseases/sitreps/?cat=5&name=An%20update%20of%20Lassa%20fever%20outbreak%20in%20Nigeria>

highlight the persistent vulnerabilities faced by women and children and underscore the urgent need to strengthen existing protection mechanisms. Furthermore, over 45 victims of human trafficking, mostly children and females, were rescued in Benue, Kaduna, Oyo, Ondo, Niger, and Ogun States during the month.¹²

Implications for Peace and Security

The security situation in Nigeria reflects a complex interplay of violent extremism, organized crime, governance challenges, and public health threats, all of which continue to undermine national stability. The 492 fatalities recorded from violent extremism and organized crime highlight the growing intensity of violence across the country. Persistent terrorist attacks by Boko Haram and ISWAP in the North-East, despite sustained counterterrorism operations, demonstrate the resilience, adaptability, and continued operational capacity of extremist groups. These attacks disrupt reconstruction and resettlement efforts for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), deepen humanitarian crises, and weaken state authority in affected communities.

Organized criminal activities including armed banditry, kidnapping, arms trafficking, and attacks by ethnic militia groups remain prevalent, especially in rural and hard-to-reach areas with limited security presence. The reported abduction of 981 civilians reflects the vulnerability of ordinary citizens and the widening operational reach of criminal networks. These threats have been amplified by large-scale kidnappings of schoolchildren and staff by armed groups in northern Nigeria, including the seizure of hundreds of pupils and teachers from a boarding school in Niger State. This incident prompted the Federal Government to order the temporary closure of 41 Federal Unity Colleges nationwide to mitigate further threats against educational institutions. Women and children continue to bear a disproportionate share of the impact of these security crises, facing elevated risks of sexual and gender-based violence, psychological trauma, economic displacement, and social marginalization. Prolonged captivity places children at heightened risk of exploitation, indoctrination, and forced recruitment by armed groups, further entrenching long-term insecurity and weakening community resilience.

Persistent public dissatisfaction linked to poor governance, delayed implementation of government commitments, economic hardship, and inadequate service delivery has continued to manifest in strikes, protests, and civil unrest across several states. These developments reflect growing distrust between citizens and the state, weakening state–society relations and increasing the risk of localized instability. The recurrence of protests and confrontations with security agencies further underscores the fragility of democratic engagement and the erosion of the social contract.

Health-related security challenges also compound the overall risk environment. Recurrent outbreaks of Lassa fever continue to strain Nigeria's already overstretched public health system, particularly in rural and underserved areas. According to the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Nigeria recorded 1,069 confirmed Lassa fever cases and 195 deaths in 2025,

¹² Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

indicating ongoing transmission and a continued public health burden¹³. Weak healthcare infrastructure, delayed health-seeking behavior, and high treatment costs hinder effective disease management, contributing to preventable deaths and expanding humanitarian needs. The intersection of health insecurity with ongoing violence and economic hardship amplifies vulnerability, reduces community resilience, and poses additional threats to peace and security.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

State Governments are encouraged to deepen sustained engagement with traditional authorities, community leadership structures, faith-based organisations, and women and youth networks to strengthen local peace dialogue and mediation mechanisms. To support early identification of security risks, facilitate peaceful conflict resolution, and reinforce social cohesion at the community level.

- The Federal and State Governments should invest in building a more responsive and capable security architecture through targeted recruitment, continuous capacity-building, and the strategic positioning of adequately equipped personnel, particularly in high-risk and underserved areas. Enhanced coordination among security agencies will improve preparedness and response to evolving security threats.
- The Federal and State Governments should expand inclusive employment and vocational skills initiatives, including structured youth empowerment programmes, with a focus on out-of-school and at-risk young people. By improving access to sustainable livelihoods, these interventions can reduce youth exposure to criminal networks and violent groups driven by economic vulnerability.
- State and Local Governments, in collaboration with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), should strengthen partnerships with Civil Society Organisations, the media, and traditional and religious institutions to improve community awareness of health, hygiene, and disease-prevention practices. Tailored communication strategies targeting remote and underserved communities will help curb recurrent Lassa fever outbreaks.
- State and Local Governments should work closely with Civil Society Organisations, traditional and religious leaders, women and youth groups, and media platforms to promote full domestication and enforcement of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act and the Child Rights Act. Community-focused advocacy should aim to prevent gender-based violence, address harmful social norms, and advance gender equality and human rights protection.
- The State government should collaborate with the Local government authorities and other existing peace structures to make community policing effective to promote peace and security.

CONCLUSION:

¹³ https://www.premiumtimesng.com/health/health-news/844293-nigeria-records-195-lassa-fever-deaths-higher-fatality-rate-in-2025-ncdc.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Nigeria's evolving security environment continues to pose serious challenges to human security and national stability. Effectively addressing these threats requires coordinated and sustained action by the Federal and State Governments in close collaboration with security institutions civil society and other strategic stakeholders to comprehensively review and strengthen the country's peace and security architecture. Enhancing the capacity coherence and responsiveness of these frameworks is critical to countering violent extremism organized crime governance related grievances and public health risks while rebuilding public trust in government institutions. Moreover ensuring inclusive and meaningful participation particularly from civil society actors will strengthen accountability leverage community level expertise and support durable locally grounded approaches to peace and stability across Nigeria.

CENSUS OF INCIDENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2025

THEMATIC AREA	NO of Attacks	VICTIMS	
		DEATHS	INJURIES
VIOLENT EXTREMISM: Boko Haram/ISWAP attacks/ IED Explosion in Borno & Yobe States	5	18 people including 7 security operatives and civilians including CJTF	Over 20 people injured
ORGANISED CRIME: (Armed robbery/theft, murder, armed violence, armed bandits, mob attack, arson and cult/gang clash	91	171	73
Violent Clash: a. Clash between Boko Haram and ISWAP terrorists in (Borno) b. Clash between soldiers and operatives of the Nigerian Police (Benue) c. Clash between farmers and Fulani herders in (FCT) d. Clash between rival youths in (Niger) State.	4	106	Over 15 people injured
Security Clearance Operations - Shoot-out between security operatives and criminal gangs.	60	82	Over 38 people injured
Abduction (evident across 28 States)	88	-	-
Cybercrime/Fraud	5	-	-
Extrajudicial killing/Shooting	3	3	5

Physical/Armed Assault	6	-	6
Herder-Community Conflict/Ethnic Militia Attacks	12	51	Over 35 people injured
Illicit Drug Trafficking	25	-	-
Homicide	10	8	-
Suicide	3	3	-
<u>DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE:</u>			
Demonstration (peaceful)	19	-	
Violent demonstration	1	-	1
Strike	2	-	-
Arrest/detention	202	-	-
Road/Train Accident	50	70	57
Boat Accident			-
Building Collapse	2		
Electrocution	2		-
Drowning	5	8	-
Threats	2	8	-
Gas Explosion	1	-	-
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:</u>			
Communal clash	1	7	-
Flood/Rainstorm	1	1	-
Erosion/Road Collapse		-	-
Stampede	1	1	6
<u>Pandemic/Epidemics:</u>			
a. Lassa Fever Outbreak	13	10	<u>Confirmed/Infected Cases</u> Lassa Fever: 434
Fire Outbreak	13	6	-
Tanker Explosion	4	4	-
<u>GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:</u>			
SGBV: Sexual Assault/Rape	5	1	4
Human Trafficking	8	-	-
Total	630	558	689

Through its National Early Warning System (NEWS), the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP- Nigeria) develops and disseminates a monthly bulletin on Human Security at the end of each month to inform the different actors and / or partners and formulates recommendations to different decision-makers for targeted responses to the given alerts. This monthly monitoring is based on information gathered from the field by the WANEP-NIGERIA field monitors, and also information gathered from the various national and international media.

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