

Nigeria Violent Conflict

(Bi-monthly Report)

Insights from the Nextier Violent Conflict Database

Nextier

Volume 1, Issue 11

September 2024 – October 2024

General Overview of Violent Conflict in Nigeria (September 2024 – October 2024)



Incidents

121



Casualties

323

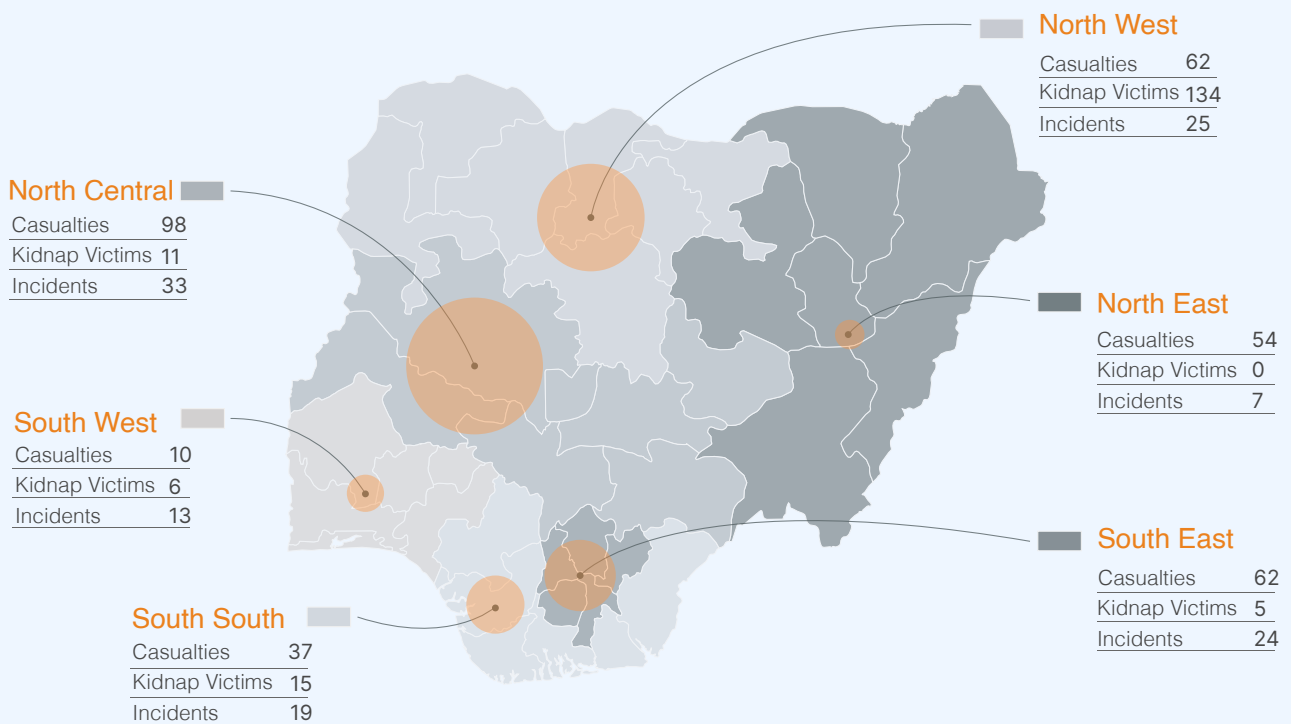


Kidnap Victims

171

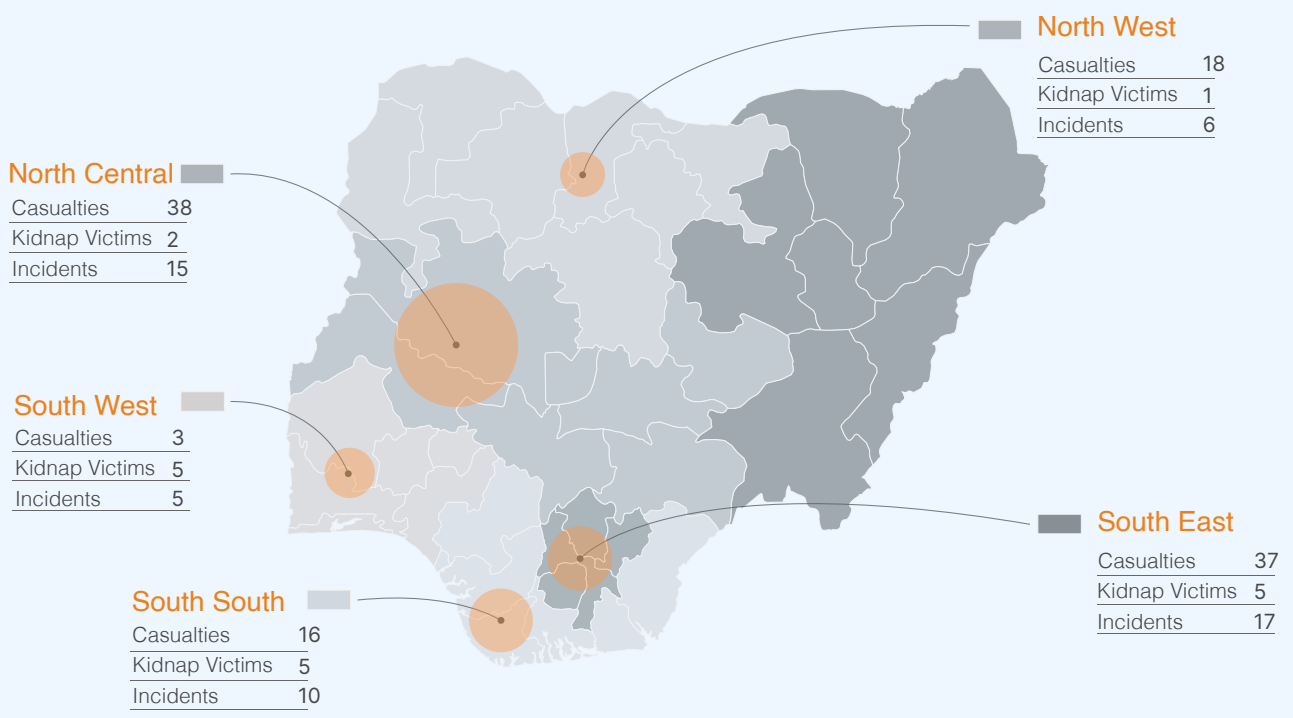
Violent Conflict by Region

Period: September 2024 – October 2024



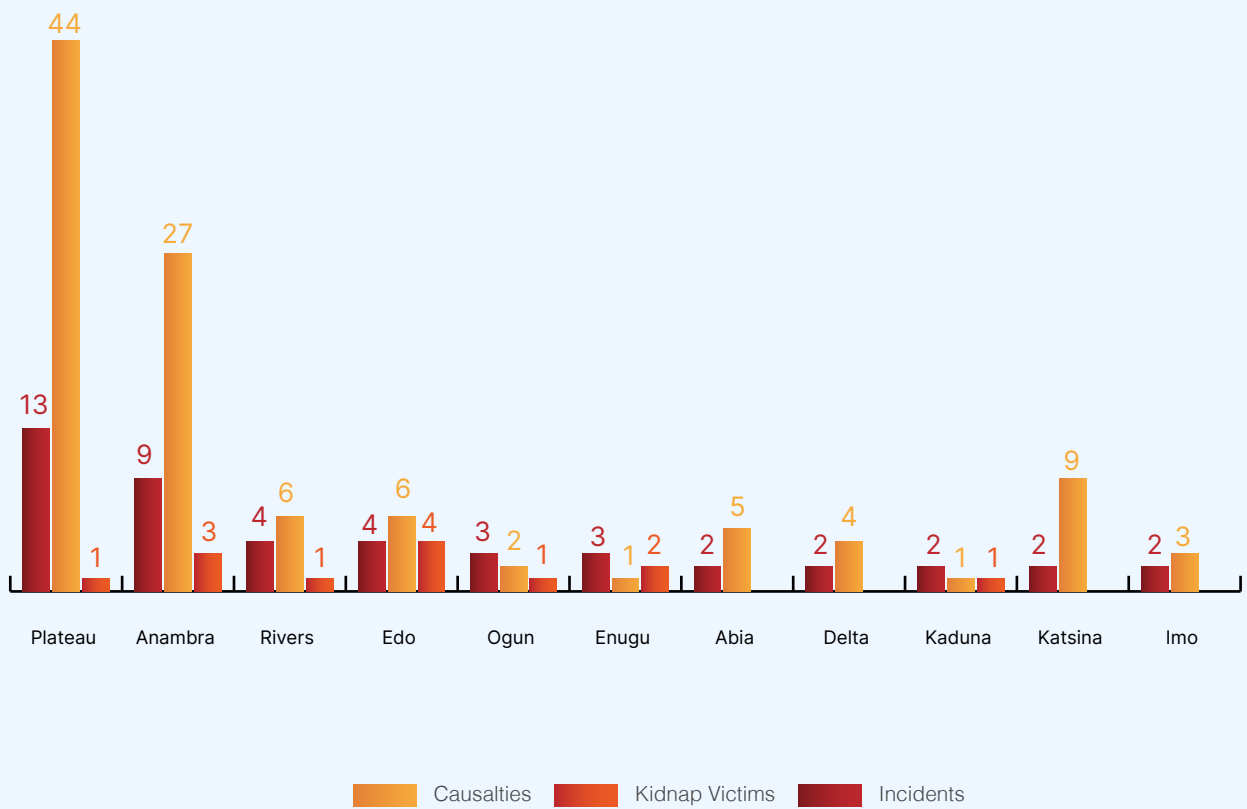
Gunmen Attacks - Violent Conflict in Nigeria

Violent Conflict Data by Region: Gunmen Attacks
Period: September 2024 – October 2024



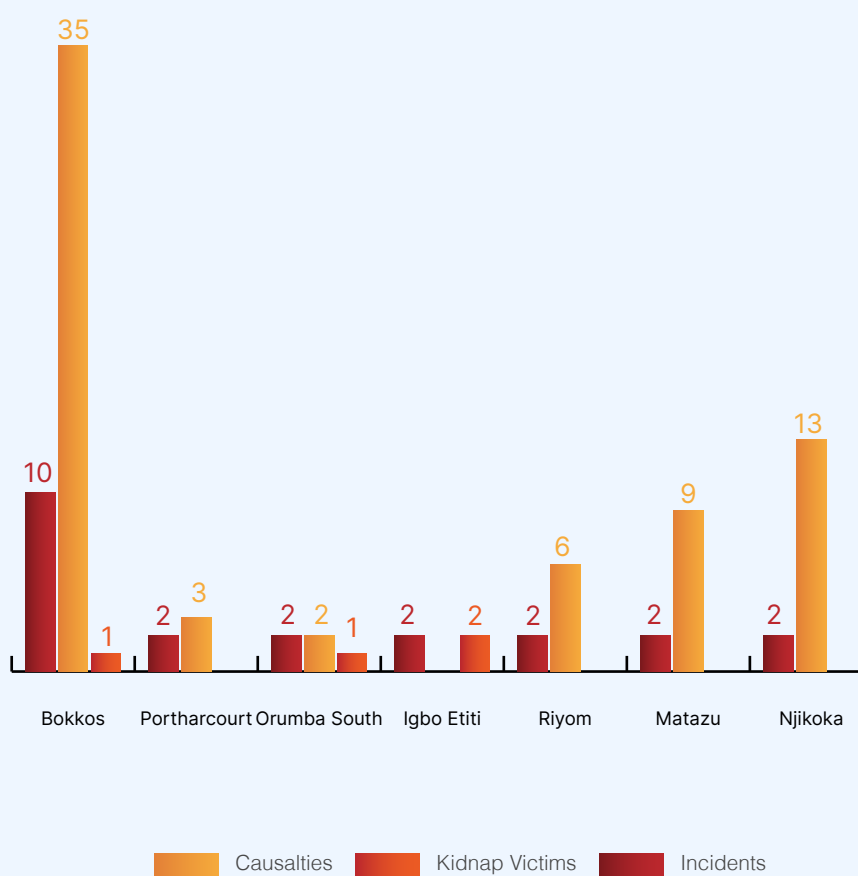
Gunmen Attacks - Most Affected States

Period: September 2024 – October 2024



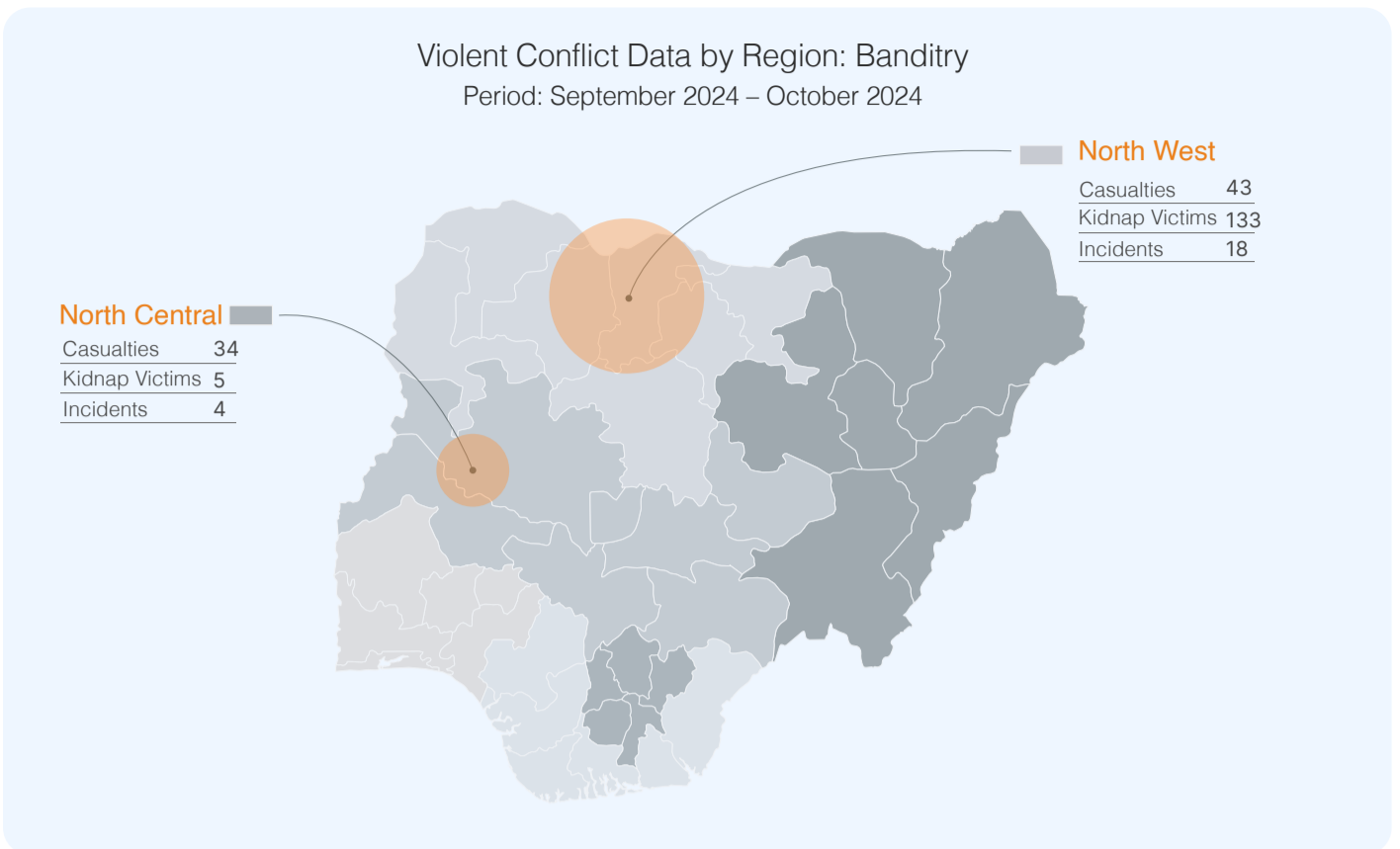
Gunmen Attacks - Most Affected LGAs

Period: September 2024 – October 2024

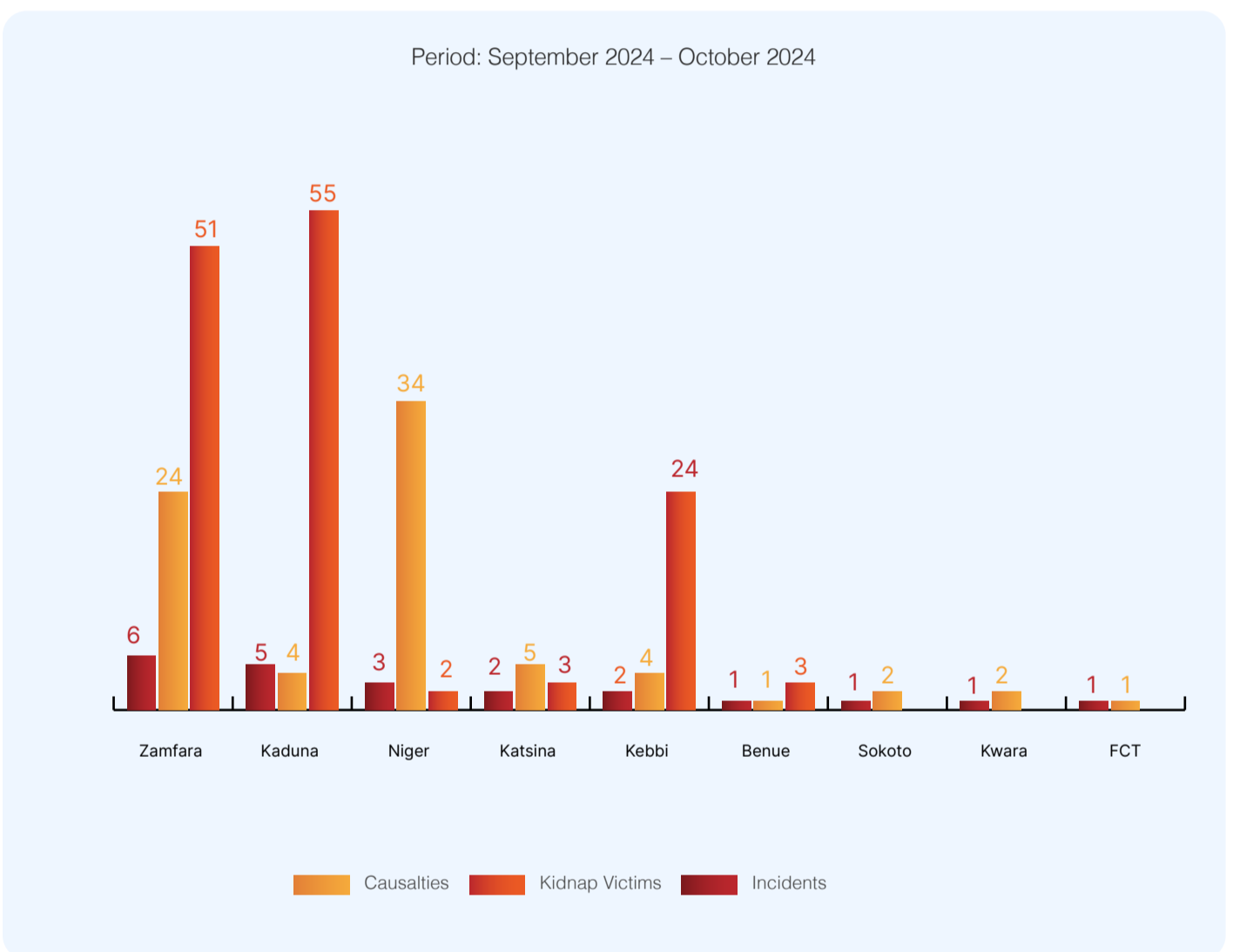


Bi-Monthly Spotlight

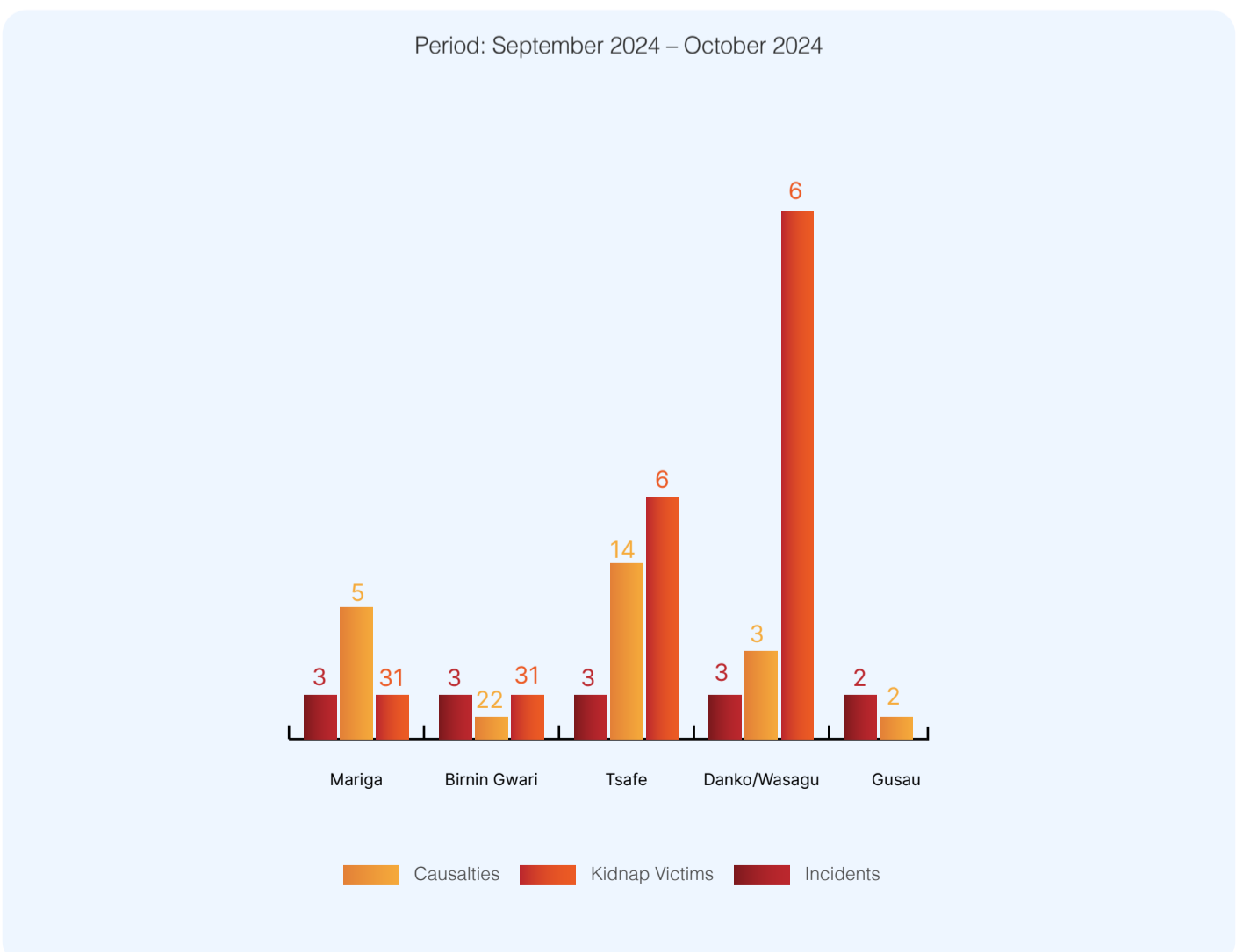
Banditry - Violent Conflict Data by State



Banditry - Violent Conflict Data by State

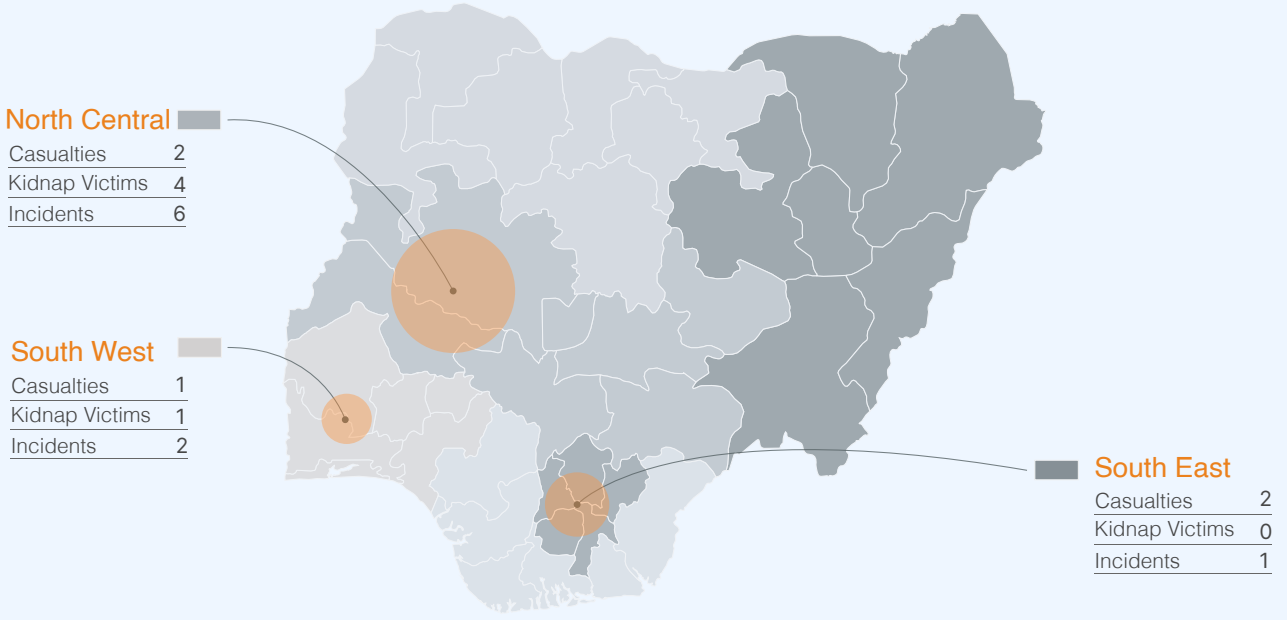


Banditry - Most Affected LGAs



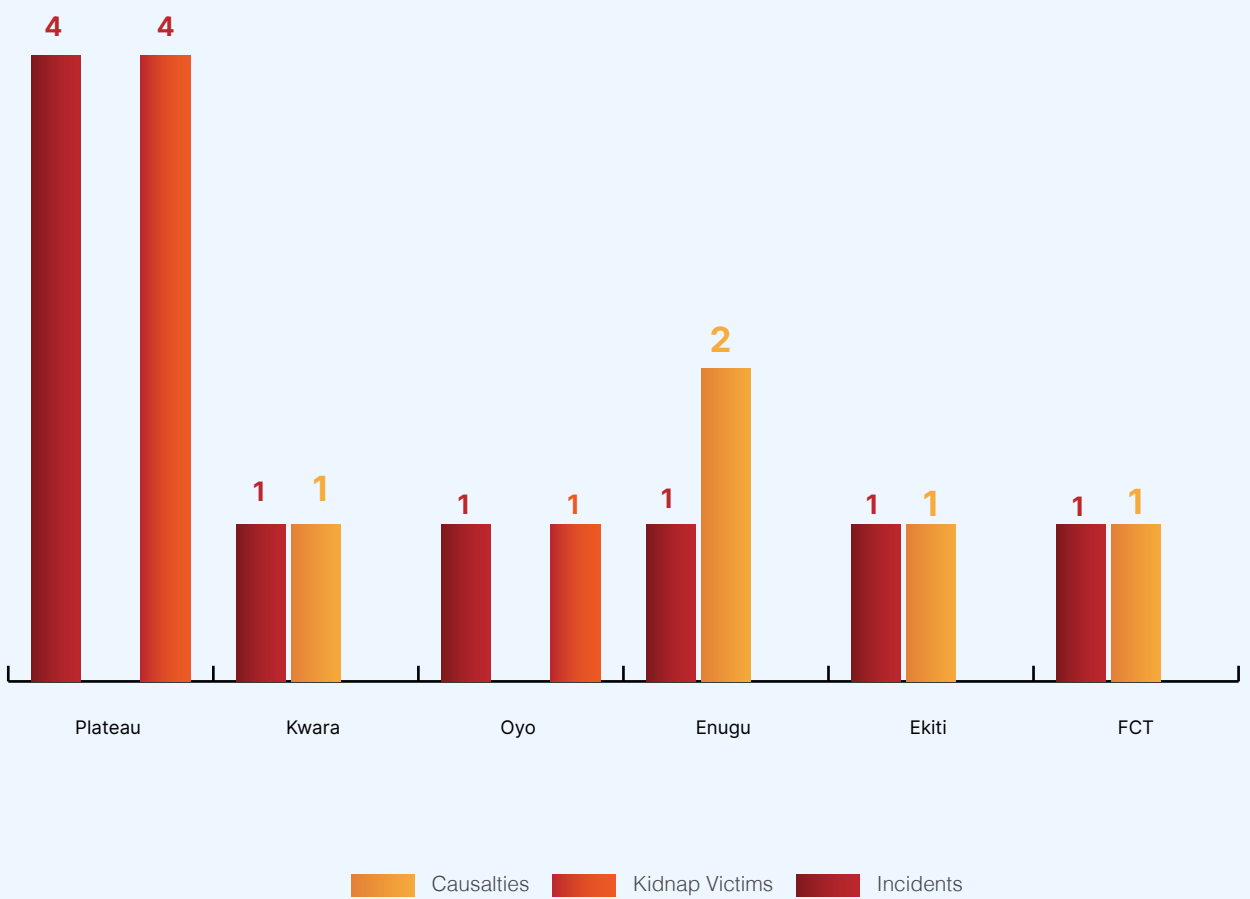
Kidnapping - Violent Conflict in Nigeria

Violent Conflict Data by Region: Kidnapping
 Period: September 2024 – October 2024



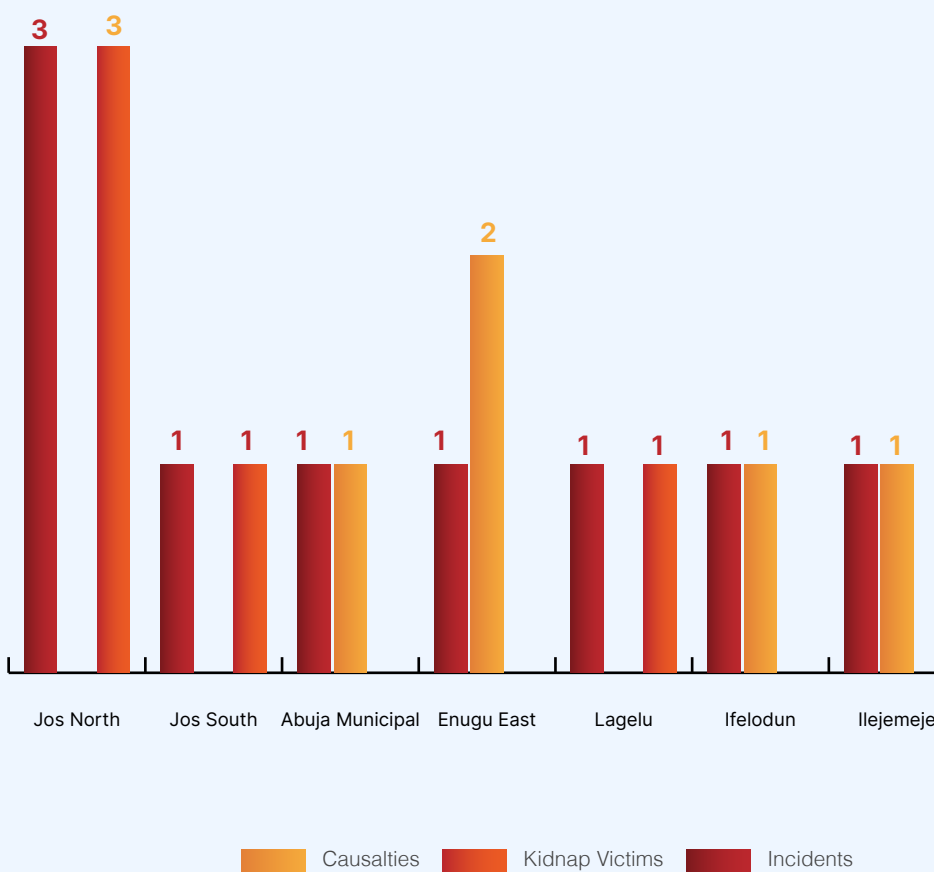
Kidnapping - Most Affected States

Period: September 2024 – October 2024



Kidnapping - Most Affected LGAs

Period: September 2024 – October 2024



Introduction

Within September and October 2024, Nigeria recorded notable incidents. One of the standout incidents was the Borno state flooding, which was one of the most devastating floods in its history. Heavy rainfall and the collapse of the Alau Dam triggered the disaster. According to the National Emergency Management Agency, [70%](#) of the residents in Maiduguri were displaced. The flood disaster was followed by a cholera outbreak, which was recorded in Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa State. Also, for a second time in two months, Nigerians [demonstrated](#) against economic hardship coinciding with the country's 64th independence anniversary. While the turnout for the "Fearless In October" protest was lower than the [previous protest in August](#), those who turned out in the capital, Abuja, were met with [teargas](#).

Beyond the flooding and protests that occurred, gunmen attacks, banditry and kidnapping characterised the months of September and October 2024. Across various regions, a spectrum of threats manifested, unravelling the fabric of stability and safety. In the months under review, gunmen attacks were commonplace in the country and were the most occurring violent conflict, with 53 incidents and 112 casualties. Banditry made second place with 22 incidents and 77 casualties. Kidnapping, though overshadowed by banditry and gunmen attacks, recorded five casualties from 9 incidents. An overview of the six regions revealed that the North Central region was the most affected region, with 50 incidents, while the least affected region was the North East, with 13 incidents.

Top Three Crisis Types in September and October 2024

Gunmen Attacks

Gunman attacks have long been a hallmark of Nigeria's violent conflict scene. According to data from Nextier's Nigeria Violent Conflicts Database, gunmen attacks were among the country's top three violent conflicts throughout the study period. Gunmen attacks were most prominent in South East Nigeria, with 17 incidents and 37 casualties. The region recorded a 13% increase compared to the previous bi-monthly report. Amongst the states in the South East, Anambra state had the highest number of gunmen attacks, which stood at nine, while Imo and Abia state recorded the least, with two incidents each. The states in the region have been rife with attacks on security agents and civilians. One of the incidents in Anambra state occurred in the Nawfia community, where the gunmen attack claimed five lives. While police reports provided no confirmation of the motives of the attack, eyewitness accounts from locals stated the pre-existence of nefarious and cult activities. The South East region is closely followed by the North Central region, which recorded 15 incidents, 38 casualties and two kidnap victims. The North Central region decreased compared to the previous bi-monthly report, which recorded 19 incidents. Plateau State has perpetually been a hotbed for violent conflicts, and it recorded a total of 13 incidents, making it the most affected state in the North Central region. The modus operandi has often involved group attacks, as witnessed in the [attack on a mining site](#) in Bokkos LGA. Another incident involved an ambush attack on the 11th of October 2024 in Riyom LGA, which culminated in the death of 3. In light of the insecurity in the state, the Plateau State House of Assembly has called on the Plateau State Government to direct the state-owned security outfit, known as Operation Rainbow, to [establish](#) modern security outposts on inter-state boundaries to curb the incessant security challenges in the state.

Banditry

Banditry has continued across Nigeria. North West Nigeria peaked with 18 incidents and 43 casualties. Compared with the previous bi-monthly data, acts of banditry have increased by 38.9 %. North Central Nigeria follows, albeit distantly, with four incidents and 34 casualties. On state-level analysis, Zamfara, Kaduna, and Niger states have been the most affected by banditry, recording 6, 5 and 3 incidents, respectively. Actors in this violent conflict have been bandits, civilians, informal security actors and security forces. One brazen incident within the period under review is the [killing](#) of five policemen and three soldiers in Tsafe LGA, Zamfara State. This brings to light the continued attacks on state and non-state security agents. Attacks by Nigerian security forces against bandits were also recorded in the period under review. Twenty-eight bandits were killed as NAF foiled the ['attack on DSS facilities'](#) in Niger state. Rival attacks amongst bandit groups have also been recorded within the period under review. One such [incident](#) occurred in Maru LGA of Zamfara state on the 30th of October 2024. The incident resulted in the death of bandit kingpin Kachalla Mai Shayi and 12 followers.

Kidnapping

Kidnapping has also occurred within the review period. It peaked in the North Central region at six incidents and four kidnap victims. This makes the North Central region the most affected region by the violent conflict within the review period. The South West region follows the North Central region with two incidents, while the South East recorded an incident each in the review window. Across the states, Plateau State recorded four kidnap victims from 4 incidents in Jos North and Jos South LGAs, making it the most affected state by incidents. However, Kwara, Oyo, Enugu, Ekiti, and FCT-Abuja recorded one incident each, totalling five incidents. Security forces have responded to kidnappings and have recorded some success. For instance, the police in Enugu state killed two suspected [kidnappers](#) in Enugu East LGA. The kidnappers were identified as members of a kidnap syndicate terrorising residents of the state. In a different incident in Kwara state, a vigilante commander was killed during the rescue of kidnapped victims. This prompted a protest by the youth against the killing. Response to the incident, as well as other similar kidnap incidents, have been in the form of [assurances](#) of bringing perpetrators to book.

Conclusion

The months of September and October 2024 recorded continued violent conflict across Nigeria. However, banditry and gunmen attacks have decreased holistically compared to the previous bi-monthly report. In conclusion, the persistent prevalence of gunmen attacks, banditry, and kidnapping across various regions in Nigeria underscores the complex nature of the country's security challenges. The South East, North Central, and North West regions remain hotspots for these violent conflicts, driven by varying motives and actors, including cult activities, bandit rivalries, and kidnappers targeting civilians and security agents alike. While the state and non-state security responses, including operations by law enforcement and vigilante groups, have some achievements, the general trend shows a dire need for an approach that will be more coordinated, better resourced and intelligence-driven. Implementing early warning systems in dangerous areas can help identify and escalate conflict indicators, allowing for quick intervention. Also, the government should focus its efforts on strengthening community-based security frameworks, reinforcing inter-agency cooperation, and addressing the root socioeconomic drivers of insecurity as a means of tackling these acts of violence.

The data presented in this report are from Nextier's Nigeria Violent Conflict Database which collates violent conflict incidents across Nigeria from field sources and media-reported violent conflict incidents. Nextier is an Africa-focused multi-competency public sector advisory firm. For enquires, please contact the firm at info@thenextier.com or call +234 913 1303 903. To access other publications, please visit: www.thenextier.com/spd