

IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial.....	1
Quarterly trend analysis.....	2
○ Comparing Road and Boat Accidents.....	2-3
○ Crime Report.....	4
○ The Boko Haram Insurgency.....	5-6
○ Election Violence in Ekiti & Osun states.....	7
Nigeria Watch Activities.....	8
About Nigeria Watch.....	8



EDITORIAL

With a 2% rise in public violence in the second quarter of 2014 (May-August) compared to the first (January-April), the nation's security profile remains problematic. A total number of 6,363 fatalities were recorded in the second quarter as opposed to 6,638 in the first. This issue of Fatality Trends analyses the main drivers of fatal events in the second quarter of the year, focusing on violent events including road accidents, crime, incidents related to the Boko Haram insurgency and electoral violence in Osun and Ekiti states. Section A analyses fatalities of boat mishaps and compare them with those of road accidents to highlight the risks associated with water-born transportation, which has emerged as an alternative means of transportation in Nigeria. In section B, our analysis of reported crimes points to the complex interplay of threats across the country, focusing on what it means for the most vulnerable states. Section C. focuses on the widely mediatised Boko Haram insurgency in the North-East, the effects of which have increased dramatically within the period in focus. This development culminated in the most lethal incident in Kaduna - where a former Head of State, Gen. Mohammedu Buhari was the key target and more than 100 innocent souls perished. Section D. looks at election violence in Ekiti and Osun States which are still on-going. The Newsletter concludes the analyses for this quarter by accounting for the violence that trailed the elections.

QUARTERLY TREND ANALYSIS

A. ACCIDENTS

This section presents a synopsis of both road and boat accidents across the country, pointing first at the general trends of fatalities by month and state, then presenting them in a comparative analysis.

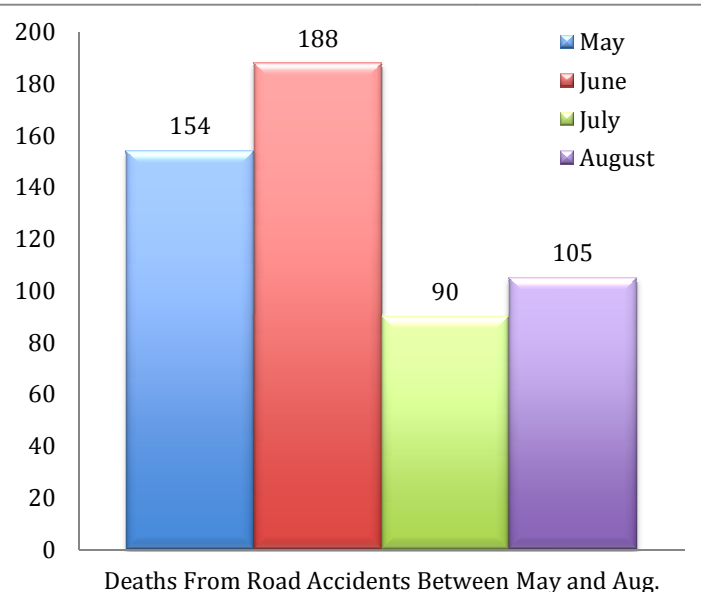


Fig 1. Fatal Car Accidents by Month (May-Aug 2014)

Figure 1 presents fatalities in road accidents between May and August 2014 as they occurred in 172 incidents. Over 35% of these deaths occurred in June, proving that environmental factors such as heavy rainfall are factors that impact the number of road crashes. There was a significant drop in road fatality rate in July and August.

In this period, the highest relative figure of recorded deaths from road accidents was in FCT (Abuja) with 68 recorded deaths. Following were Lagos – with 48 fatalities - Kogi (42), Oyo (36) and Delta (33). The high number of inhabitants and registered vehicles in FCT accounted for the high number of road fatalities in the State. The most deadly accident recorded in FCT within the period under review was on 2nd June 2014 when 30 people died in an accident that involved

several vehicles in Gwako. A truck was reported to have crashed into other vehicles while trying to overtake a car¹. Although Lagos state has the highest frequency of car crashes, it did not record the highest level of road fatalities.

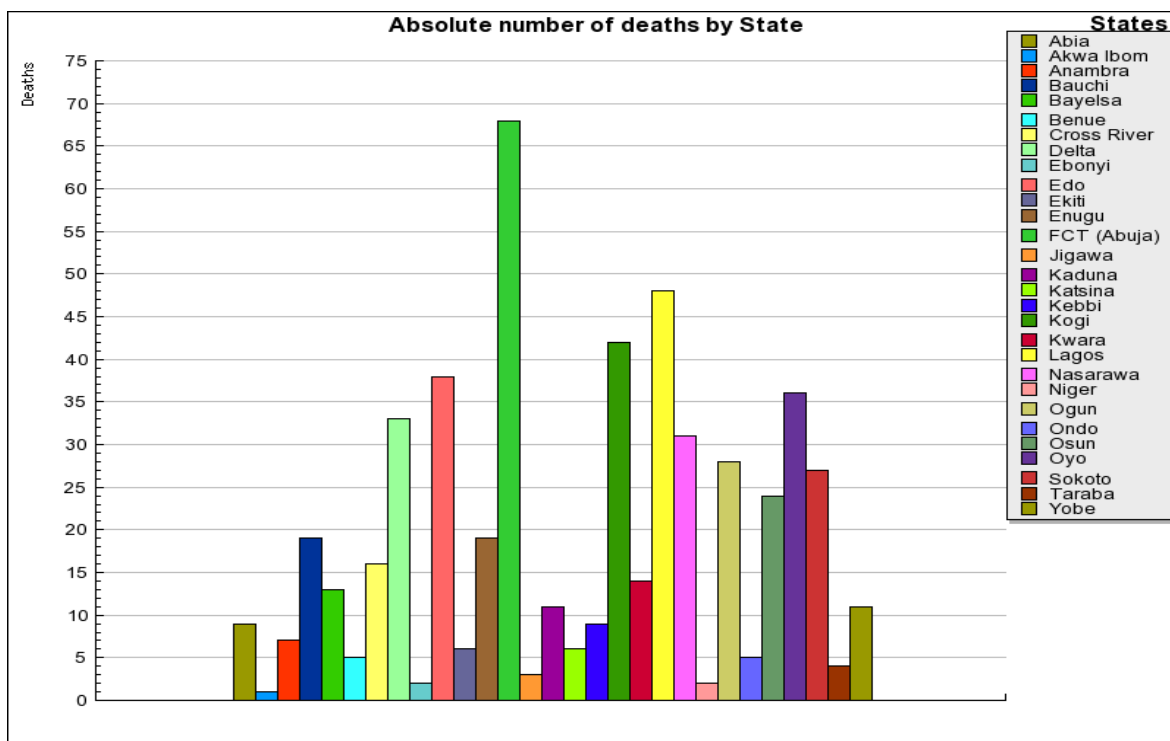


Fig 2. Fatality Car Accidents By State (May-Aug 2014)

While road accidents claimed a high number of lives, many other Nigerians died in boat mishaps over the period analysed here. The rising boat accidents may increase casualty rate and, therefore should be a matter of concerns to all stakeholders as shown in figure 3 (analysis by month) and 4 (by state):

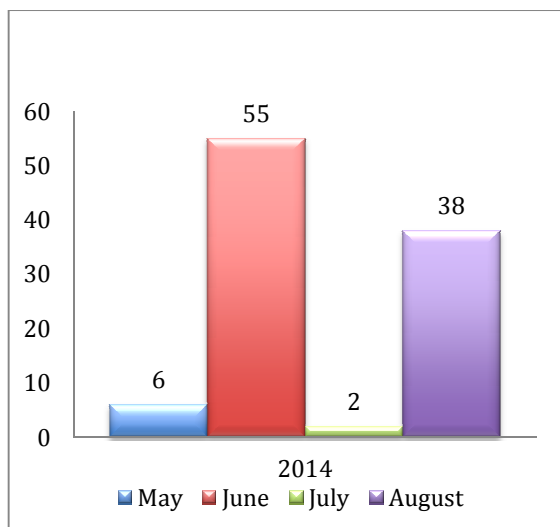


Fig 3. Deaths from Boat Accidents By Month (May-Aug 2014)

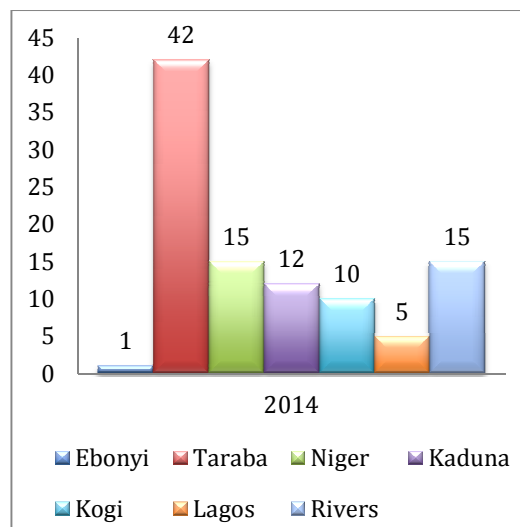


Fig 4. Deaths from Boat Accidents By State (May-Aug 2014)

Figure 3 shows that the month of June recorded the highest number of deaths from boat mishaps within the period under review. About 101 persons died in 11 boat incidents. August recorded the second largest number of deaths (38) while 6 people died in May and 2 persons lost their lives to boat mishaps in July. With 42 deaths, Taraba has the highest record of deaths from boat mishap, seconded by Niger and Rivers with 15 deaths respectively. The increase in boat fatalities in June relates to one deadly incident on 17th June 2014, which witnessed the drowning of 40 people, who were fleeing a violent attack in Taraba State¹. This brings to the fore the role of criminal networks in fueling fatal road and boat accidents.

COMPARING FATAL ROAD ACCIDENTS WITH BOAT MISHAPS (MAY-AUG 2014)

The majority of Nigerians prefer road transportation to waterways. Hence, it is understandable that most fatalities are associated with road incidents. However, the severity index for boat accidents is far higher than for car accidents. With 101 deaths in 11 boat incidents, the severity index is pinned at approximately 9 deaths per boat incident between May and August, 2014. On the other hand, the index calculation of 586 deaths in 172 fatal road crashes stands at 4 deaths per crash. This shows that between May and August 2014, boat incidents were more deadly than road accidents in Nigeria.

¹ http://www.nigeriawatch.org/index.php?urlaction=evtView&id_evt=14549&rang=1

B. CRIME REPORT

The first quarter of this year witnessed a significant increase in criminal activities. As a matter of fact, as much as 2,651 crime-related deaths were recorded over the time period for 474 events, accounting for the highest number of fatalities across the country. In the second quarter – May to August 2014 – crime-related fatalities came third (with 1,651 deaths) compared to religious (4,124) and political (4,077) violence-related fatalities. It is important to note that the rise in religious and political related fatalities is not unconnected to the Boko Haram insurgency in the North-East.

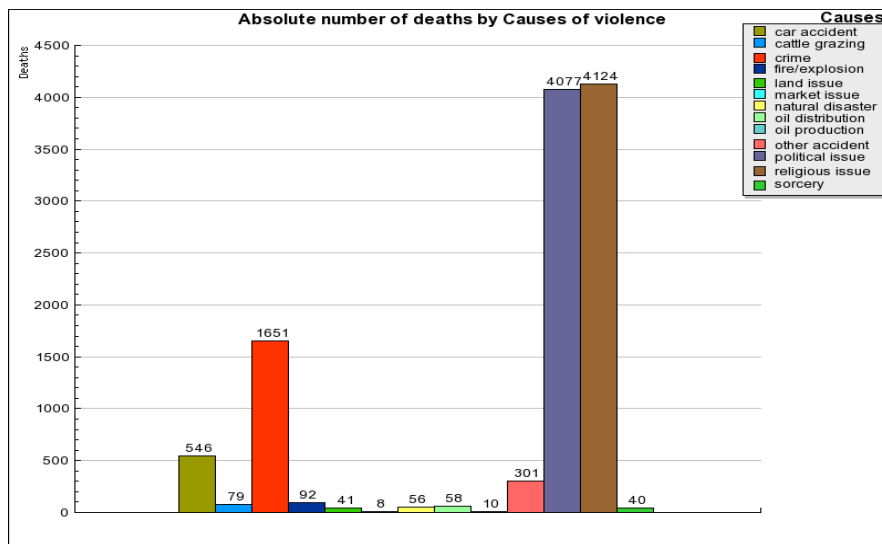


Fig 5. Causes of Deaths May-Aug 2014

As figure 5 shows, among these crimes related fatalities, the majority is accounted for by armed robbery, cultism and police brutality. Out of the 491 crime-related events recorded within the period of the study, security forces were involved in 309 deaths in 92 events while armed gangs were involved in 418 deaths in over 127 events.

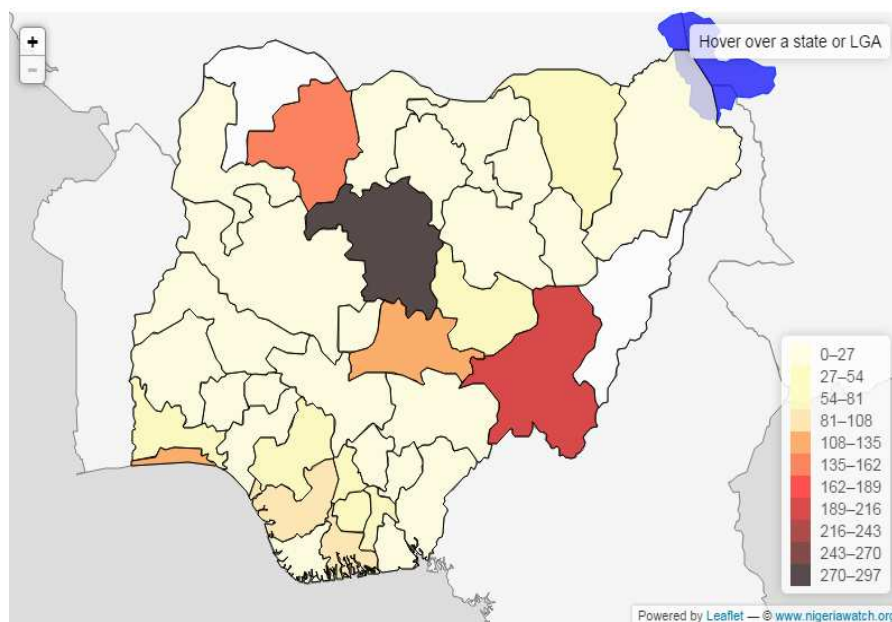


Fig 6. Crime Figures Across the States

Figure 6 shows that Kaduna, Taraba, Zamfara, Lagos, Nasarawa, Delta, Rivers and Plateau states were most prone to deadly criminal activities. Kaduna recorded the highest fatality rate of 272 deaths in 21 events, followed by Taraba with 212 deaths in 17 cases. Zamfara has 161 in 5 events; Lagos, 133 in 88 events and Nasarawa, 119 in 11 events. The highest crime in Kaduna is accounted for by the recent ethno-religious outburst in Sanga LGA that claimed more than 200 lives. And of course, the population density of Lagos and its intense commercial activities explain the highest frequent lethal criminal events.

C. THE BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY

Violent deaths involving the activities of the Boko Haram sect and the counter-insurgency operations of security forces have become prevalent in the North Eastern part of the country. Violent encounters between insurgents and security forces as well as violent attacks on communities by the insurgents have caused thousands of fatalities since 2009 when activities of the Islamic group assumed a deadly dimension. The group's activities were especially violent in the North-Eastern states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe. As was indicated in the previous issue of *Fatality Trends*, there was an increase in fatalities in the North-East in the first quarter of 2014 as a result of the Boko Haram insurgency. However, the current trend shows a decrease in incidents involving the Islamic group.

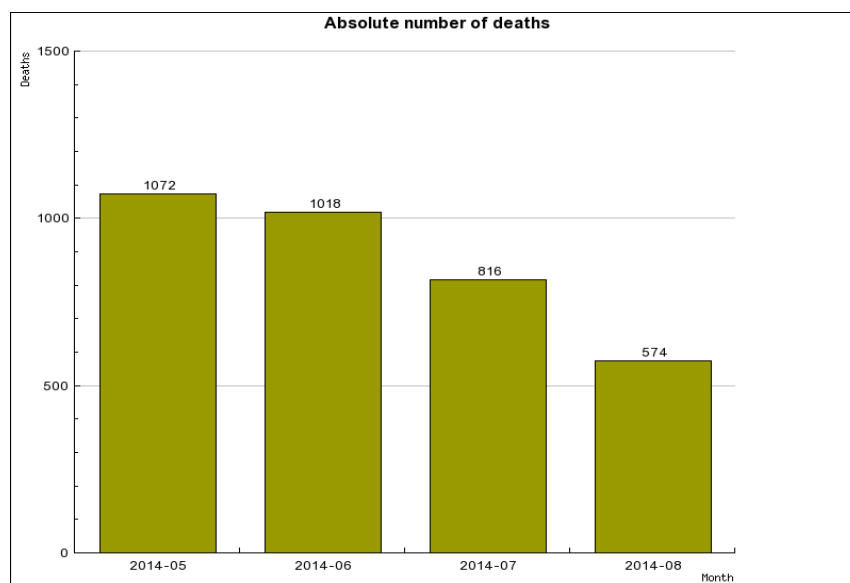


Fig 7. General Trends Boko Haram insurgency, May-Aug 2014

There was a significant decrease in fatality figures from 1,072 in May to 574 in August 2014. The majority of these fatalities were recorded in violent incidents involving the Islamic group, the security forces and communities. As shown in figure 7, violent encounters between the insurgents and the security forces, especially the army, led to more fatalities. Following the extension of the emergency rule in the North-Eastern states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe in May 2014, violent encounters between the security forces and the insurgents became more frequent and deadly, causing more fatalities per incident.

As indicated on the graph, there was a significant increase in deaths resulting from conflict between the security forces and the insurgents. Boko Haram attacks on communities between May and June were also very deadly. Following the extension of the emergency rule in May, the insurgents intensified their violent attacks against communities in and around their strongholds. However, fewer fatalities were recorded from incidents involving the insurgents and communities between July and August as the insurgents became more interested in raiding communities for food and livestock rather than killing residents.

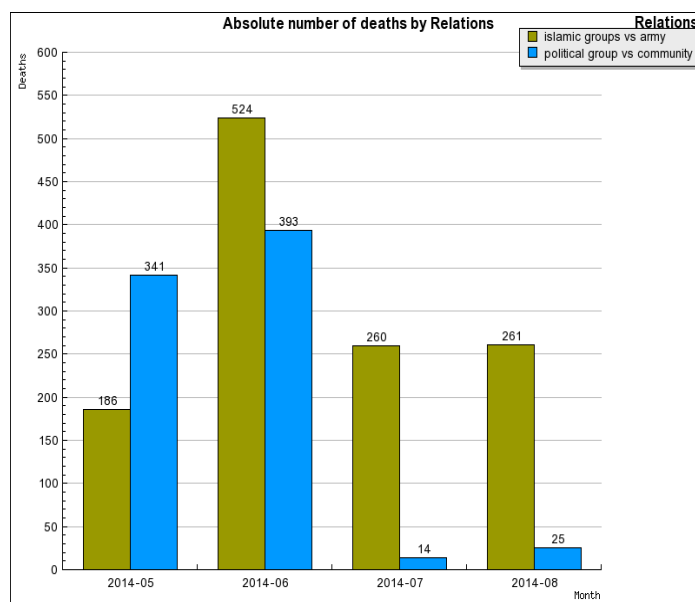
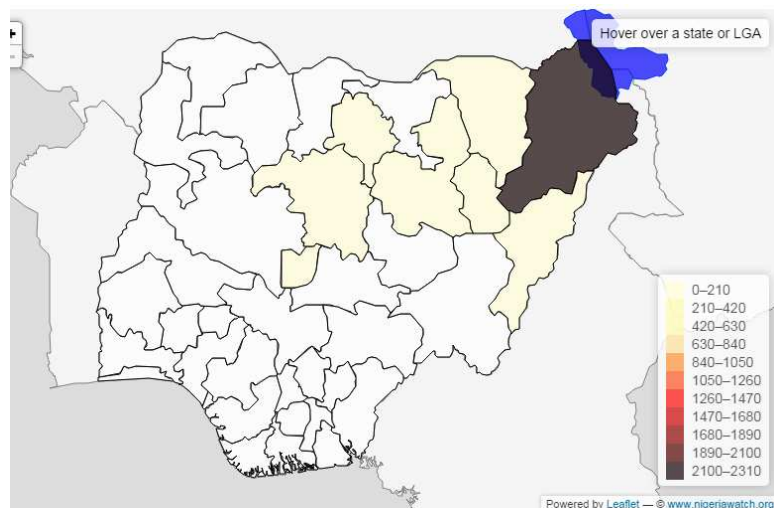


Fig 8. Boko Haram insurgents ner relations



**Fig 9. Mapping Boko Haram Related Fatalities
May-Aug 2014**

Violent incidents involving Boko Haram insurgents have caused many fatalities in Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Bauchi, the FCT, Gombe, Kaduna and Kano. More fatalities were recorded in Boko Haram strongholds in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states. As indicated in figure 3 violent incidents involving the Boko Haram sect caused more violent deaths in Borno state than any other state.

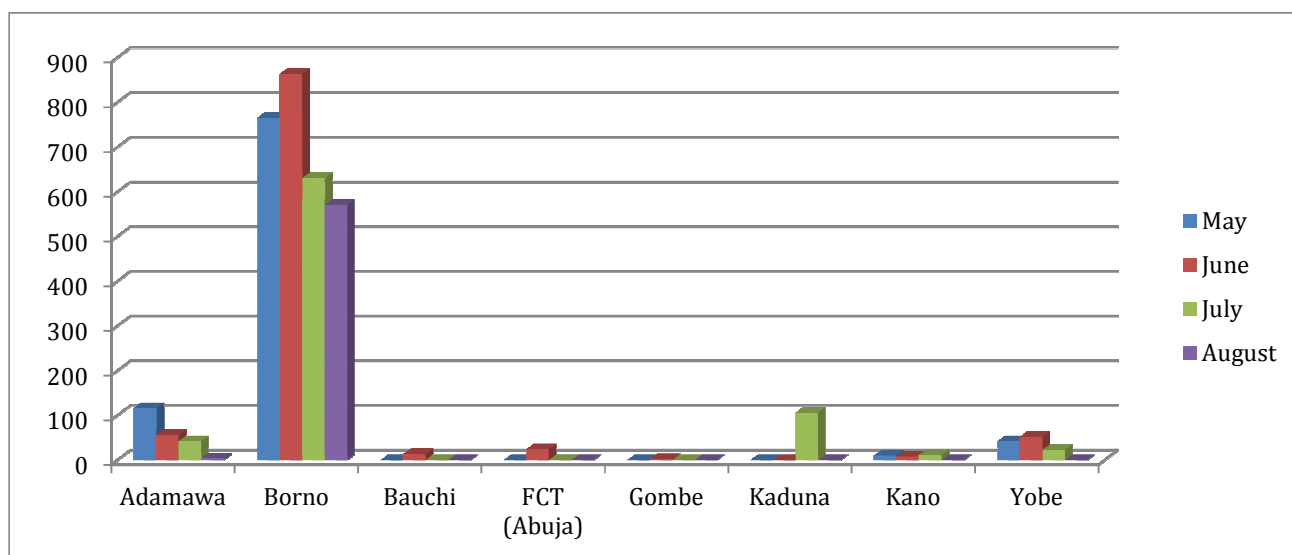


Fig 10. Boko Haram Prone States, May-Aug 2014

Adamawa state experienced a steady decline in fatalities between May and August 2014, dropping from 116 to 4 deaths in May and August respectively. In Borno, a total of 2,829 fatalities were recorded in events involving the Boko Haram insurgency. The fatality figures peaked in June with 863 deaths and this was followed by a decrease from 691 deaths in July to 570 in August. However, it would be too simplistic to assume a decrease in fatalities by the insurgents, bearing in mind that the Islamic sect extended their deadly campaigns to locations like Kano, Kaduna and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja during the period in focus. In the case of Kaduna, a twin-bomb, one of which was believed to have been targeted at the former Head of State and APC chieftain, General Mohammadu Buhari exploded in Akali and Kawo Market areas of Kaduna South, LGA. More than 100 casualties were recorded in the incident.

D. ELECTION VIOLENCE IN EKITI AND OSUN STATES

Elections remain a very complex aspect of governance in Nigeria. Occupying public offices is the fastest means of acquiring wealth and influence in the country. Hence, violence persists as the main feature of elections in the country. Between May and August 2014, two gubernatorial elections were conducted in Ekiti and Osun states. Ekiti state election took place on the 21st June 2014, while Osun's election was held on 9th August 2014. As it would be expected, the two elections did not hold without cases of fatal incidents. We present a brief analysis of the violence that trailed these elections. For a proper analysis as in figure 11, the various phases of the elections were categorized as pre-election, during –election and post-election stages.

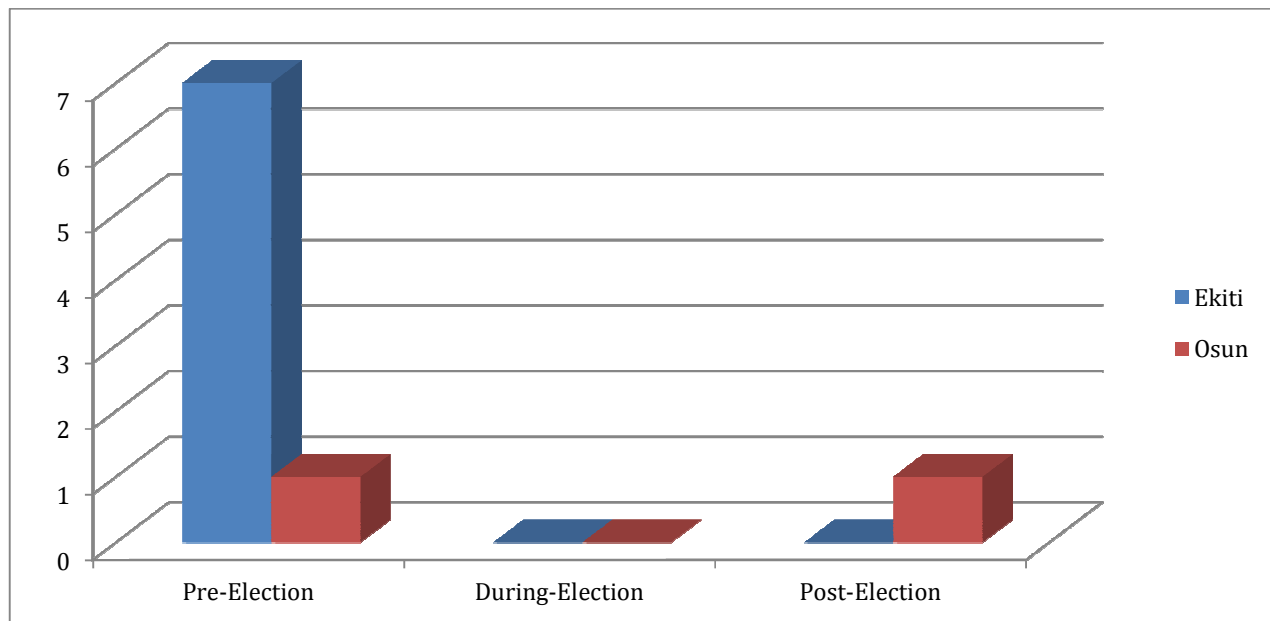


Fig 11: Fatality data for Osun and Ekiti Gubernatorial elections.

The data presented above shows that the pre-election fatality numbers stand at 7 deaths in Osun for 1 in Ekiti. There were no major or fatal events documented during the elections in both states. Ekiti recorded an incident in the post-election period while Osun state recorded none. The data implies that the pre-election period is usually more violent than during and post election periods. Perhaps, one of the reasons may be that over 70,000 security forces were used to monitor the conduct of Osun state election. In the same vein, the people of Ekiti are yet to recover from the heavy placement of combined state security agents to supervise the state election. Reports of intimidation and harassment of a particular political party by the security forces were rife. It is also interesting to note that the transparent and credible manner INEC conducted the elections in both states accounted for the relative peace recorded during and after the elections.

NIGERIA WATCH'S ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOP

The Nigeria Watch Project participated in a workshop entitled 'Early Warnings Data and New Technologies' organized by the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) on 14th August 2014. The Nigeria Watch team was represented by its coordinator, Dr Adeola Adams. At the workshop, practitioners shared their stories on Early Warning. Other organizations that participated included Search for Common Ground (SCG), Centre for Conflict Management and Peace Studies (CECMPS), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), MIC Consulting, Mercy Corps, Emergency Preparedness and Response and others. The workshop introduced participants to new technologies of early warning and response.

TRAINING

2 separate trainings on 'How To Use the Database' were conducted for Associate members of IFRA Research Fellows and the Faculty of the Institute of African Studies respectively. The trainings were in line with the overall goal of the project; to ensure that intending researchers of the database are trained on how to use the statistical tools and security graphs at their disposal. About 11 participants attended the training from the Institute of African Studies. Dr Danjibo who led the delegation thanked IFRA- Nigeria and the Nigeria Watch team for organizing the training. Presently, Nigeria Watch trainings have been approved for researchers of the Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), Abuja and the National Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER), Ibadan.

FAREWELL TO MANUEL REINERT

A send-forth party was put together for Mr Manuel Reinert on 9th June 2014 at Kokodome, Dugbe, Ibadan. Manuel was the Research Associate for IFRA-Nigeria. He also served as the interface between Nigeria Watch Project and IFRA-Nigeria. He was very dynamic and outstanding in the management of the affairs of the project. Friends and well wishers gathered at the occasion to bid Manuel a farewell. Among those that were present at the event were the Director of IFRA, Dr Xavier Moyet, Dr Elodie Apard, Dr Willie Eselebor, Dr Sola Isola, Dr Benjamin Aluko, Dr Olubayo Adekola, Dr Philip Olayoku, IFRA Staff and Associates of IFRA-Fellowship. This is to acknowledge Manuel's valuable contributions to the Nigeria Watch Project and wishing him the best in all his endeavours.

ABOUT NIGERIA WATCH

Nigeria Watch (NW) was established in 2006 by French researcher Prof. Marc-Antoine Pérouse de Montclos of the University of Paris 8. Since mid-2013, the project has been implemented under the supervision of IFRA-Nigeria at the University of Ibadan, with funding from DFID and as part of the Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme. NW is a database that monitors and compiles violent deaths, including accidents, crimes, natural disasters, fire outbreaks, and oil-related violence, occurring in Nigeria since 1 June 2006. As part of its strategic initiatives, NW partners with research /academic institutions, government agencies and NGOs to provide training on how to use its data.

Fatality Trends is published quarterly by NIGERIA WATCH PROJECT. All correspondence should be forwarded to the Project Coordinator adams.nwifra@gmail.com Tel: +2348056683323 No. 9, Parry Road, University of Ibadan, www.nigeriawatch.org