

*“The security situation has changed over a time now. Because for over two months, the armed groups have been constantly visiting this community and have succeeded in launching two attacks” (Tamsu)*

*“The security situation has changed drastically – the insurgents have changed their tactics. Now they are kidnapping commuters on their way and kill them” (Koshebe)*

*“The security situation has changed completely. Presently, motorists are being blocked by the insurgents on the highway. They kidnap passengers – many people are afraid of traveling because of this situation” (Koshebe)*

At the same time, KIs note that more mobile troops have been deployed who are better armed, including with RPGs.

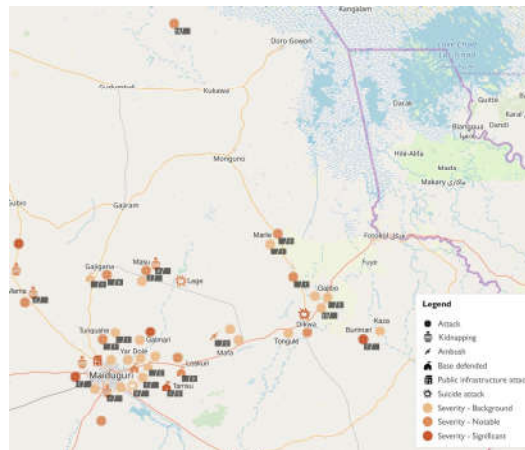
In **Magumeri**, north of Maiduguri, KIs say they are “constantly terrorized” by insurgents and that the frequency of sightings – especially along the Gubio road – has gone up. In line with this, one protected source report in January suggested insurgents might be looking to establish 4 so-called “Super Camps” in Magumeri LGA. KIs on the other hand note the deployment of more soldiers and the governor’s general commitment to “fighting the insurgents.”

West of Maiduguri, in **Konduga** and **Kaga**, KIs also describe more sightings, in some cases a couple of times per month (e.g. Marguba). Some KIs – as mentioned in the section on Damaturu – are pleased that a new military commander has brought a more offensive posture towards insurgents. Still in some areas, e.g. Jakana, field staff observe the population is reducing because people seek safety elsewhere.

## Incidents

There were no attacks inside Maiduguri. **Insurgents, however, managed to disrupt the power supply to Maiduguri by destroying power transmission facilities** leading to blackouts in places located between Damaturu and Maiduguri and between Damboa and Maiduguri. It’s unclear how deliberate this action was, but it sparked significant concern.

There was a substantial number of attacks and incidents on the fringes of town. December spiked with 17 attacks (compared to 11 in October, 13 in November), but still didn’t reach the level of September (17). January saw 13 attacks. There were **attacks in all compass directions around Maiduguri**, but attacks clustered on the western flank around Auno (and further out) and towards the east from Muna Garage and outwards. There were also **a larger number of attacks towards the south in Askira/Uba, where ISWAP consolidated their presence in areas previously known to be under Boko Haram control**. The most notable attacks included:



- 22 Dec: Insurgents, likely ISWAP, attack a military checkpoint relatively close to Maiduguri in Tamsu, approximately 15k east town. 3 soldiers and 1 CJTF are reported killed, and buildings along with the military post are destroyed. Insurgents explained villagers that they were not after them