STATE OF SECURITY IN NIGERIA:

2021 PERSPECTIVES
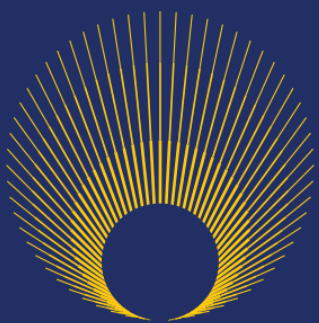
HALOGEN
GROUP

February 2021

Table of Contents

Introduction

This report provides a summary of perspectives and highlights about security in Nigeria in 2020. The report further flags some indicators of what the state of security will be in Nigeria in 2021.

The views and positions expressed in this report are what are considered as the top security risks facing Nigeria and Nigerians from the perspectives of some experts, data and intelligence garnered by Halogen Group's fusion center, and respondents to nationwide opinion polls conducted by Academy Halogen.

9926
Total Death

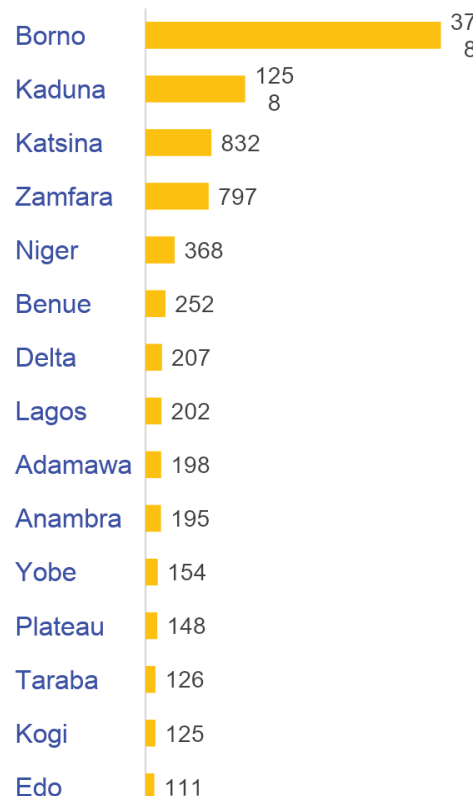## Incidents Recorded
2365

2474
Arrest

"Recorded incidents, 2020"
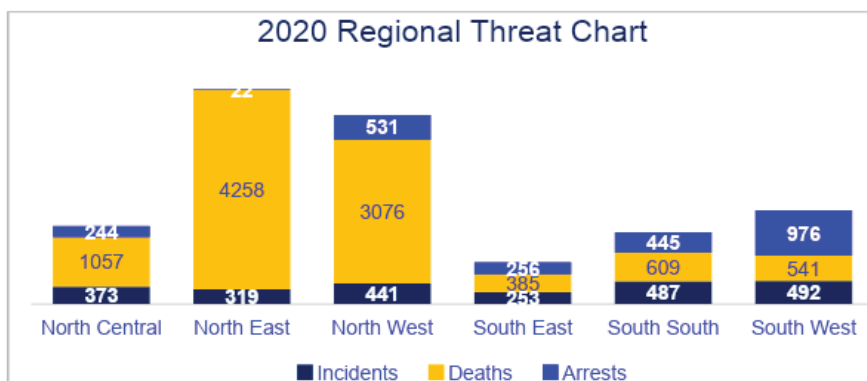Source: Halogen Fusion Centre

Year 2020: Some Highlights

- There were 23% more recorded deaths, than the reported cases in 2019

- More than four (4) persons died per security incident in Nigeria

- Terrorism remained the leading cause of security related deaths, representing approximately 45% of recorded deaths

- According to available records, there was an average of one arrest per every security incident – this is quite low, in comparison to the numbers of incidents recorded

- Boko Haram insurgents launched 262 attacks in the North East claiming over 150 lives and displacing over 13,000 people from their homes. These operations were concentrated majorly in Borno.

- Banditry had an upsurge, accounting for an estimated 72% of the total deaths recorded

- Motorcycles and tricycles induced accidents reduced by over 90% - in Lagos state alone - following some restrictions that were imposed

- 62% of Nigerians were aware of and/or experienced one or more security incident(s), most of which were at cities and metropolitan areas

- Insurgents terrorized parts of the North East in the early parts of 2020, leading to new
strategies deployed by the Nigerian Army

- There was a near collapse of security due to the lockdown orders in many parts of the country. Alongside increased reported cases of rape and domestic violence, kidnappers and cultists' activities became high security risks, leading to individuals in some parts of the country, taking responsibilities for their personal safety

- There were experiences of sporadic violence, notably in September, in many parts of the country, some as part of the "End SARS" campaign.

Top 15 Death Recorded by State in 2020

State	Deaths
Borno	378
Kaduna	1258
Katsina	832
Zamfara	797
Niger	368
Benue	252
Delta	207
Lagos	202
Adamawa	198
Anambra	195
Yobe	154
Plateau	148
Taraba	126
Kogi	125
Edo	111

2020 Regional Threat Chart

	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Arrests	244	22	531	256	445	976
Deaths	1057	4258	3076	385	609	541
Incidents	373	319	441	253	487	492

Source: Halogen Fusion Centre

Cybercrime

■ Nigeria was labelled as one of the sources of internet frauds and cybercrimes, as law enforcement agencies of the victims' countries - the US FBI, Action Fraud and NCA in the UK, for example - traced the origin of some of the scams to Nigeria

■ According to an opinion poll conducted by Academy Halogen, 79% of Nigerians believed that cybercrimes will increase in the country, whilst 85% of Nigerians were aware of and/or experienced more than two (2) cybercrime incidents in 2020.

2020 Incidents by Threats

Threats	Incidents	Deaths	Arrests
Terrorism	262	4323	35
Banditry	416	2861	83
Community Crises	94	449	3
Political/ Civil Unrest	258	437	67
Murder	318	415	173
Cultism	110	368	180
Herdsmen Attack	74	306	15
Others	146	220	397
Kidnap	295	186	167
Safety Accident	91	154	10
Armed Robbery	101	143	88
Theft	47	36	62
(blank)	10		
Marine Piracy	12	7	76
Accident		3	
Child Abuse	66	3	44
Fraud	63	3	162
Crime		1	
Religious Crises	2		
Drug Crime	8		912
Grand Total	**2365**	**9926**	**2474**

Source: Halogen Fusion Centre

Home and personal security

■ Only 3 out of 10 Nigerian homes were adequately prepared and/or equipped for security challenges and/or emergencies.

■ Less than 20% of Nigerians insured their homes and the contents.

■ 6 out of 10 Nigerians did not carry out background-checks/identity verifications on their domestic helps – such as drivers, house help, gate men, gardener etc.

■ Over 63% of Nigerians did not have a family emergency plan, 48% do not have an agreed contact person during emergency, whilst only 40% have the contact details of emergency services.

The effects of Covid-19

■ A poll conducted by Academy Halogen indicated that
· 84% of Nigerians were aware of CODIV-19
· 82% of Nigerians felt less secured during the lock down
· 89% of Nigerians became more concerned about their health than usual

■ 73% of respondents believed that COVID-19 cases will increase, as people appeared resigned to the possibility of a future where coronavirus is like every other disease that they have to live with

■ 85% of Nigerians believed that insecurity will increase. This was confirmed by major incidents in the Southwest region [for example the "1 million boys"] and the incessant bandit activities across the nation

The shape of security In 2021

In a national survey, carried out in January 2020, Academy Halogen sought the views of Nigerians on what they considered to be the top security risks in 2021. These were the responses and ratings/rankings:

RISKS	Likelihood & Impact % by Respondents
Lack of safety	68%
Unemployment	56%
Covid-19 pandemic	54%
Poverty and high cost of living	46%
Insurgency and banditry	40%
Ethnic conflict	37%
Cyber-attacks and insecurity	34%
Social unrest and uprising	22%

- **Health insecurity:** Like the rest of the world, Nigeria is facing a second wave of COVID-19 - with a possible third wave in sight noting the new variants and increased detection and death rates. This requires that citizens must take more responsibility for curbing the spread, as well as better enforcement by the authorities.

- **Economics of security:** Nigeria will likely see a further dip in direct foreign investment until at least the 2nd quarter of 2021, partly influenced by the high spate of insecurity. Foreign direct investment in Nigeria fell by 29% or $1.2bn in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, according to a report from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development – and this trend may continue.

- **Food insecurity:** There will be an increase in insecurity and crimes, judging by an impending food scarcity. This may lead to an estimated over 22% rise in burglary and theft. Individuals and corporations would be in a better positioned by having robust security solutions in place. Crime and the Nigeria Situation Report of 4 January 2021 forecasts that up to 5.1 million people risk being critically food-insecure between June-August 2021, a level similar to 2016-2017.

- **Migration of insecurity:** As militant activities are likely to become more pronounced in 2021, insecurity will continue to remain a daunting challenge with more attacks in rural and urban areas across the country. More clashes between bandits, farmers and herders, and local communities are anticipated - as already experienced in the Southwest region. This may result in increased migration of people from the rural to the urban spaces

- **Cyber security:** The changes to the world of work and commerce alongside the continued campaign of "social distancing" have triggered increased use in technology and social media platforms. This increased by an esti-mated over 44% since the covid-19 pandemic began. This opens the nation and citizens to further risks' expo-sures such as information and identity hacking/theft, loss of private and critical data etc.

- **Increasing terrorism:** Stalemate between the Nigerian military and insurgents will continue in 2021. More states may likely fall into the conflict as terrorists expand into the North central and South west regions

- **Internal displacement:** The number of people in need of urgent assistance in the North east region increased from 7.9 million at the beginning of 2020 to over 10.6 million - since covid-19. The numbers may likely increase in 2021 if the root causes are not addressed

- **Personal insecurity:** As experienced in October 2020, there will be a few sporadic attacks on public infra-structure and places. These will most likely occur in Lagos and possibly other south-west states. Retailers have higher risks' exposures, while some high-net-worth individuals will become targets – some will be planned and some will be opportunistic

- **Insecurity of ungoverned spaces:** Kidnapping has con-tinued unabated, typified by the abductions of students and travelers in several states across the nation. The problem of ungoverned spaces in Nigeria will become more pronounced, and non-state actors will take advantage of these gaps to entrench themselves deeper in communities.
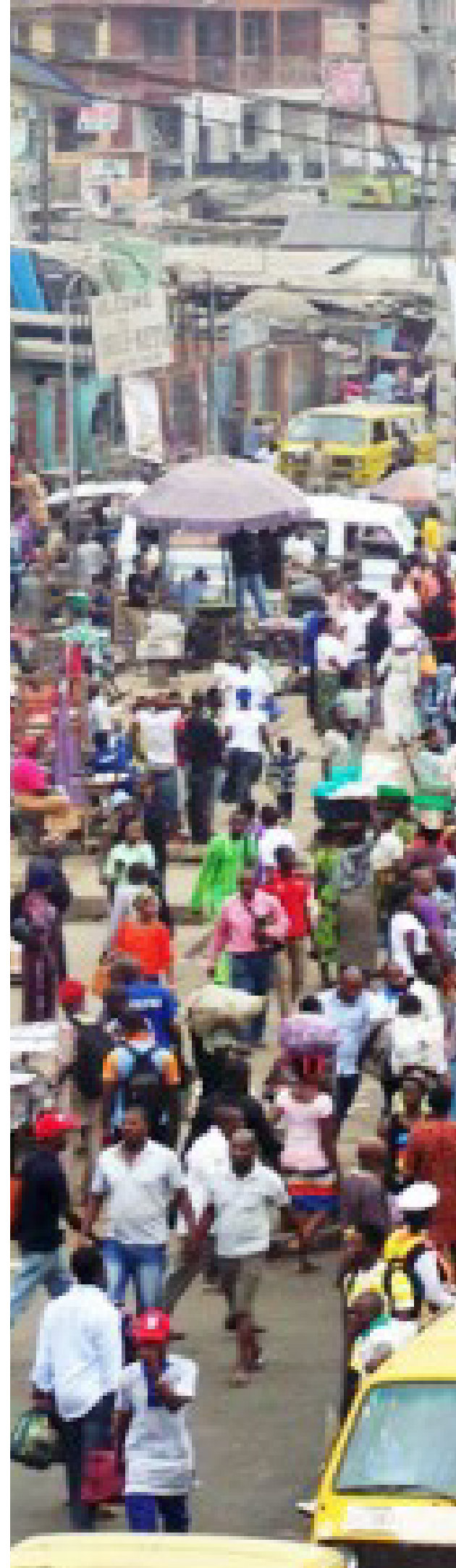
Projections: 2021...a year of "security shifts"

1. **Shifts in security magnitude:** Academy Halogen opines that organizations – private and public sectors – will become more security conscious and will put in place more protective and security systems and mechanisms. This will lead to more success at detecting and responding to attacks and breaches. Despite these efforts, there will be some successful attacks that will result in higher losses and impact. Hence, organizations will need to be proactive through predictive risks' mechanisms rather than reactive strategies and systems – that is, a focus on preventive security as well as improved practices around disaster recovery and business continuity.

2. **Shifts in security targets:** Many security incidents will move from "well prepared" attacks - on individuals, corporate establishments and government agencies - to the seemingly unlikely targets. This will include SMEs, Educational Institutions and government infrastructure that will be exposed due to their unpreparedness.

3. **Shifts in cyber space:** There will be significant changes in cybercrime and counter-measures, noting the announcement of the President calling for a national overhaul of the national strategy on cyber security. Cyber-attacks and incidents will have increased magnitude, thereby requiring more robust identification and authentication systems/solutions for individuals and enterprise.

4. **Shifts of security trust:** More people will move to "zero Trust" security mindset, where security, in their minds will begin with: "Never trust anyone". This will influence the level of security consciousness and interventions/solutions, whilst having negative impact on social dynamics, co-existence and relationships.

5. **Shifts in regulatory oversight:** Nigeria will experience increased and more activities in security policy and regulations including government agencies releasing more security guidelines. The changes in the service Chiefs and the attempt at implementing the new Police Act will be part of the triggers. There will also be increased enforcement, as experienced at the recent curtailment of demonstration at the Lekki toll gates in February 2020.

6. **Shifts in security awareness and education:** There will be improved security awareness thereby creating more impact, which will ultimately protect the populace. There will be more local involvement in security. As security risks are now broad based – including environmental, health, wellbeing, individual, cyber etc. – these will demand new knowledge and new security practice. Some states may include security education in schools' curriculum as a way to increase awareness and develop new skills.

7. **Shifts in security collaboration:** Historically, government security establishments have worked in silos, with each establishment fully responsible for all its security operations. Due to recent events, it is evident now more than ever that collaboration is needed in the security landscape most especially in the threat intelligence front. This year will see a shift with better engagement and shared resources among government security agencies, including the private sector.

Conclusions

For Nigeria to ensure robust security architecture and systems, some fundamentals need to guide the nature and practice of security. Academy Halogen therefore propounds the following;

1. **Trust based security:** The government's narrow focus on security and failure to address the root causes of insurgency, alongside lack of economic opportunities, inter-ethnic tensions, organized crime, and a perception of corruption with impunity have made citizens to lack trust. To build trust in these turbulent times, security should look at what people value and ensure that government promises are in sync with the competencies to deliver on them. Trust entails closing the gap between what the government says and what the government does …when security services do not meet citizens' expectations, trust breaks down.

2. **Purpose-driven security:** The Nigerian security system must be purpose-driven. Security agencies must inherently understand why they exist and who they are best built to serve regardless of what they do today. The agencies must ensure that they follow through on their promises with purpose-driven KPIs by ingraining measurement in policies and operations.

3. **Agile security:** The nation must leverage digital technology to make agile security a reality. "Agile security" requires a single, unified technological and systemic view of the nation [and communities], and the use of technology for predictive security.

4. **Human security:** The security systems and infrastructure must be built as human entities that mirror and support the values of those that they are built to secure and protect. Security agencies – private and public - must ensure human connection and inclusivity.

5. **Citizens' [security] Engagement:** Security agencies must stay ahead of the issues by crafting an engagement strategy that leans into citizens' participation at its deepest levels.

6. **Security talents:** To address the multifaceted nature of security will require that security agents develop and ensure talents' transformation – this must be at the forefront of their agenda in order to address the urgent current needs alongside the accelerated pace of change.

7. **New security ecosystem:** The most agile security system is one that will look beyond traditional industry boundaries to find better ways to address the nation's security needs and requirements. Engagement of the private sector is part of this new dynamics.

About Us

Halogen Group is a premium, digital-enabled and integrated security group that provides end to end security risk solutions to enterprises as well as individual consumers.

Our single minded purpose is to enable SAFETY in today's open and continuously volatile world, for you, your family, your assets, both physical and virtual, and your business.

At Halogen Group, we are committed to enabling you safely pursue the ACHIEVEMENT of your goals and purposes. We do this by creating security risk solutions that help you forestall and mitigate threat.

ABOUT ACADEMY HALOGEN:
A learning institution that demonstrably shapes enterprise security risk management in the digital space via education, policy and thought leadership

WHAT WE DO:
• School of Security
• School of Management
• School of Technology
• Policy & Thought Leadership

Head Office:
19B, Mobolaji Bank Anthony Way, Ikeja, Lagos.

Call:
+234 1-3429012,
+234 1-3429021
+234 8081602646,
+234 700HALOGEN

Email:
info@halogen-group.com

Halogenlimited | HalogenNg | @Halogensecurity

HALOGEN
GROUP

ACADEMY
HALOGEN