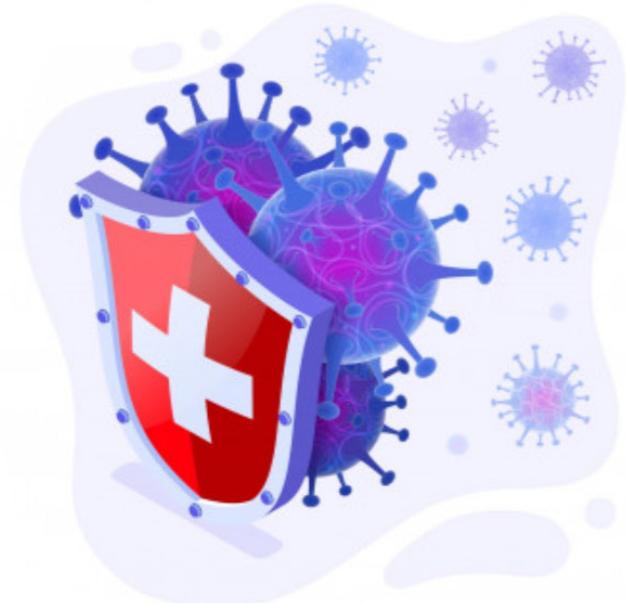


Nigeria Security Intelligence Report

JULY 2020



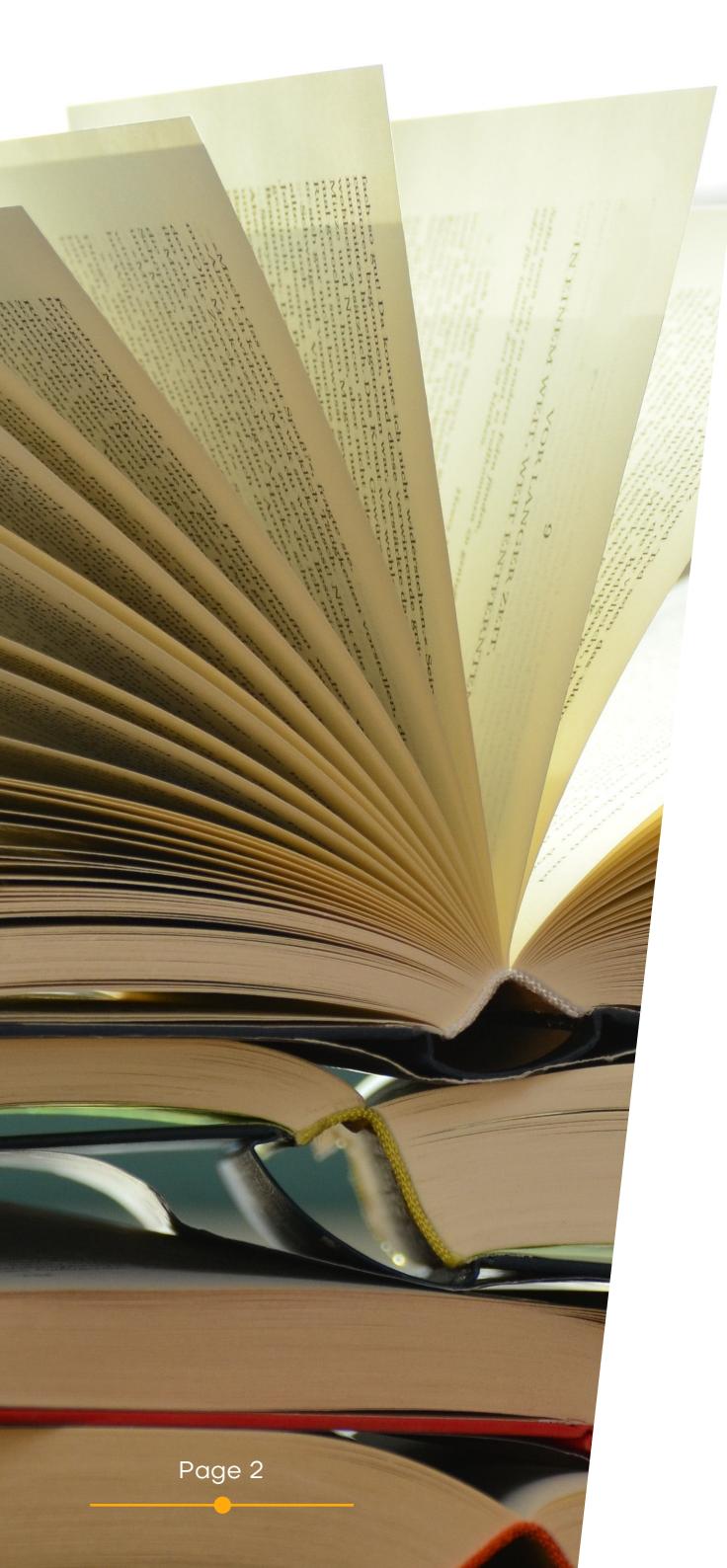


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Insight

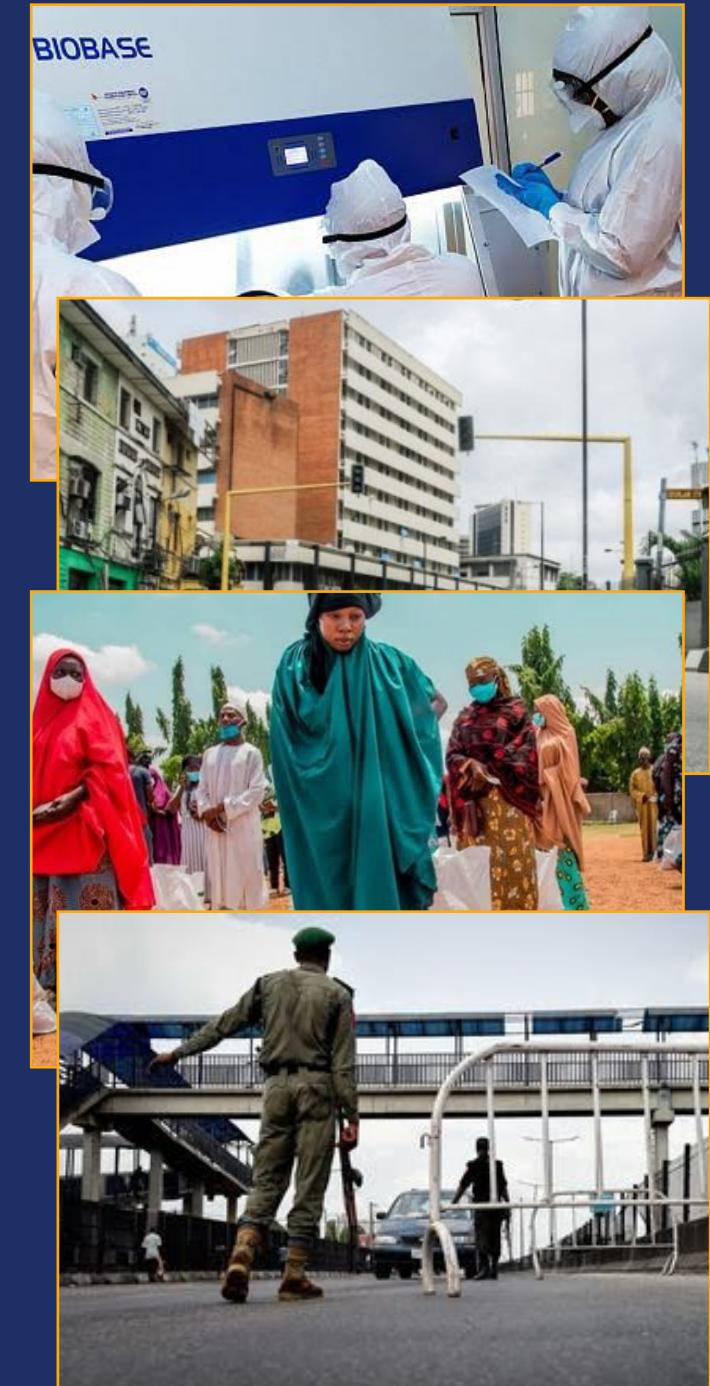
Personal Security in a COVID-19 World

- COVID-19 has demonstrated its capacity as a pandemic on an unprecedented scale. As a result, most countries have been compelled to impose severe measures to halt the spread at enormous social and economic cost. Many have described this crisis as the most perilous threat to humans since the Second World War. It is humanity's shared responsibility.
- According to the **Tokyo Foundation** for Policy Research: "The COVID-19 pandemic is not only a health crisis; it is a human security crisis — depriving our freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom to live with dignity. The pandemic demands a human security approach of comprehensive, across-the-board human protection and empowerment."
- The term "human security" was first adopted by the United Nations Development Program in 1994. Human security combines the security of individuals with that of the state. It was initially designed to address seven themes: "economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security".
- Personal security aims to protect people from physical violence, whether from the state or external states, from violent individuals and sub-state actors, from domestic abuse, or from predatory adults. It refers to the safety of human beings – which can look different for men, women, girls and boys – and the ways in which they are enabled to live a full and productive life with dignity, without feeling afraid or at risk.
- COVID-19 has exposed people to different kinds of security risks: anxiety, being infected, becoming victims of violence, economic downturn and so on. Hence, personal security is now at the forefront of our existence.



Security Issues from Nigeria's COVID-19 Experience

- **Weak Interventions:** Like many governments around the world, African countries responded to the global pandemic by declaring states of emergency, lockdowns, quarantines, curfews, heavy policing, and social distancing measures to combat the spread. Some of the remedies offered, such as total lockdowns, did not necessarily reflect the people's realities in some contexts.
- **Disadvantaged People:** The pandemic has further revealed the glaring disparity in the "global village." In England and Wales for example, people of the African diaspora are four times more likely than whites to die of COVID-19. According to the Office of National Statistics in the UK, when variables such as wealth, health, and education, among others are factored, black people are still two times more likely to die of COVID-19 compared to whites.
- **Lacking Foresight:** The National Security Strategy 2019 (NSS2019) acknowledges challenges to public health. The document contained food, labour, health, education, environmental, political and social security, but there was no mention of human security. A section is also devoted to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive security which did not, however, consider how a pandemic, such as coronavirus can become a "weapon of mass destruction."
- **"Hunger Virus":** There is a risk of about 50% rate of unemployment as the crisis hits deeper. The economic assistance that the government has announced in response to the virus has exposed inadequacies in Nigeria's social protection systems and risks excluding the country's poorest and most vulnerable people. Over 90 million Nigerians who observed the COVID-19 lockdown lacked the food and income that their families need to survive.
- **Food Security:** The United Nations World Food Programme warned that an estimated 265 million people could face acute food insecurity by the end of 2020. Food producers also face large losses on perishable and nutritious food as buyers have become limited and traders stop engaging with farmers. Persistence and increase in terrorist attacks and threats continue to increase the number of IDPs from 700,000 in November 2019 to over 1,060,000 in March 2020. Many will be unable to produce again this year due to the inability to access to their farmlands.
- **Underfunded Security:** With public health demands and the fall in government revenue, allocations to the security services is likely to get worse, reducing the capacity to fight against rising insecurity in the country. In addition insecurities, COVID19 poses additional responsibilities to the security personnel in terms of enforcing social distancing and enforcement of safety protocols.
- **Lacking Hope:** The president's Democracy Day speech had 37 paragraphs that touched on a broad range of issues. Nine of those paragraphs were devoted to security, underscoring the fact that this remains a key issue three years after he assumed office. The president however chose to highlight what his government had been able to achieve in three years, while noting the incidences of kidnappings, herdsmen-farmers clashes, and killings and destruction of properties across the country. What the speech didn't address are concrete plans to rid the country of its current security challenges.



Security is Personal, Nigerians Agree

Academy Halogen hosted a focus group on the topic: "What does personal security mean to you?" Participants, comprising of security professionals, researchers, analysts and members of the public engaged in robust conversations. These outcomes of that session are presented as follows:

Below are the highlighted insecurity issues in Nigeria today:

Threats

- Banditry
- Terrorism
- Community Crises
- Political/Civil Unrest
- Murder
- Others
- Herdsmen Attack
- Cultism
- Theft
- Armed Robbery
- Kidnap
- Child Abuse
- Drug Crime
- Fraud

These threats are corroborated by data from:
<http://halogenintel.com.ng/>

We thus surmise that:

- There are more banditry related deaths than terrorism.
- More Murder incidents were recorded in the month compared to other crimes.
- Banditry and Terrorism has the highest death to crime ratio.



- However, in terms of ranking, respondents consider Armed Robbery, Banditry, and Herdsmen Attack as the biggest insecurity issue in Nigeria today. Other issues identified include cybercrime, unemployment, rape epidemic, etc.
- Opinions are equally divided (50-50) regarding government's impact in addressing insecurity in the country. While some think the response from government is non-existent, others believe the government has done its best in the circumstance.
- In practicing personal security therefore, it is imperative to manage the fear of crime and not only the crime itself. This requires having a "security think" (mindset), and it is demonstrated by self-defence, vetting and other personal efforts.

The core elements of personal security are:

- Ability to deter or delay arm
- Capability to summon assistant when it occurs
- Capability to deal with it when it happens

90%

90% of participants in the focus group session agree that security should be the responsibility of every individual.

Some Recommendations

- Communities – whether gated or not – need to bond together and find ways to provide their own security. The police and other law enforcement agencies are overwhelmed and understaffed at this moment hence it may be unreasonable to expect time to cover all the hot spots in the state every night.
- The demand for good, proactive and inclusive governance should be at the forefront once we emerge from this crisis. Government should use the evidence of this pandemic as a blueprint for crisis intervention planning and programs. The COVID-19 pandemic has produced enough scenarios for learning.
- Government at the Federal, State, and Grassroots levels should develop well codified Contagion Prevention and Management Plans. FEMA should be upgraded and updated to have systems, programs and policies to deal with contagions. These plans should include Fiscal, Security and Logistics elements within it.



Personal Safety

- When you go out, let someone know where you are going and when you plan to be back. Avoid walking alone or appearing distracted by wearing headphones or talking on your cell phone.
- Learn the best routes between your residence and your destinations. Take the safest route, not the fastest route.
- Share your class schedule with friends and family, effectively creating a buddy system. It is always a good idea to use the buddy system or travel in groups of two or more.
- Do not carry your passport, banking information or family details in your handbag, wallet, vehicle, mobile phone or laptop. Avoid displaying large amounts of cash or other tempting targets such as jewellery or expensive clothing.
- Do not leave your belongings unattended, even for a few minutes.
- At night try to walk in well-lit, regularly travelled pathways.
- Wherever you are, stay alert to your surroundings and the actions of people around you.

Cyber Security

Online safety and security is more important than ever

- With the lockdown continuing in countries across the world, the reliance on mobile internet services for work, education, entertainment and social activities has increased manifold. Vodafone, which operates in more than 65 countries, says it has “already seen data traffic increase by 50% in some markets.”
- Although there is no comprehensive global data source available on online fraud, harassment and safety breaches on mobile phones, as we transition from in-person to online modes of communication, we have seen an ever increasing number of news reports on fake news, online scams and frauds.
- Women are more likely than men to experience online harassment and fraud from strangers including threats, stalking, and zoombombing. The GSMA Gender Gap report 2020 has found that women tend to perceive security concerns related to owning and using mobile devices, and harassment from strangers, as the third most important barrier to internet adoption and usage.

Security tips to help stay safe

- Turn on automatic security updates, antivirus, and firewall. The reality of cyberthreats is that they often prey upon the devices that are the easiest to compromise: those without a firewall, without an antivirus service, or without the latest security updates. To reduce this risk, turn on automatic updates to ensure your devices have the latest security fixes, enable or install an antivirus solution that runs continuously, and configure a firewall.
- Don't forget networking devices. Device safety includes your networking devices, too. As with computing devices, make sure that you check for and apply all updates for your networking devices. Make sure to check your networking devices are not using default admin passwords or ones that are easily guessable. It's also good hygiene to update your Wi-Fi credentials to strong passwords with a mix of upper- and lowercase letters as well as symbols and numbers.
- Use Wi-Fi encryption options for access. Wireless access points offer the ability to require passwords to gain access to the network. You should take advantage of this feature to ensure only authorized users are on your home network.
- Protect your digital identity. With more of our lives connected in the virtual realm, your digital identity becomes even more important to protect. Use strong passwords or, if possible, biometric authentication like your face or fingerprint, and wherever possible enable multi-factor authentication (MFA).

National Security Profile

-JUNE 2020

See the latest data and analytics from <http://halogenintel.com.ng/>.

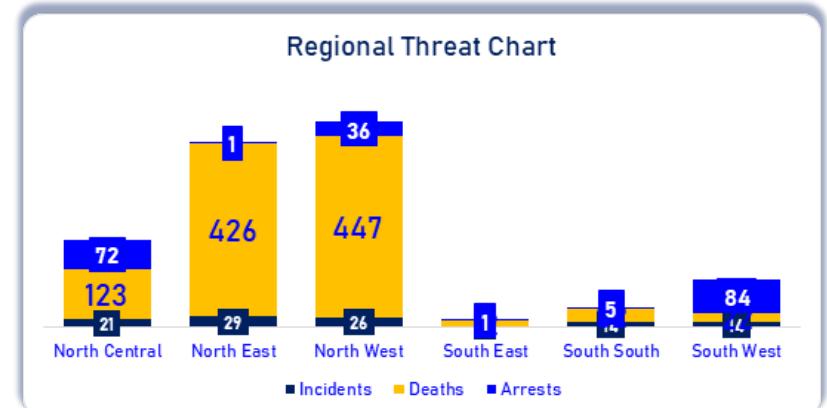


Highest death was recorded in Borno.

- Zamfara recorded more bandits induced deaths than Kaduna and Katsina.



- 40% increase in number of deaths compared to May (762)
- Approximately 2 arrests are made per crime June
- There are about 10 deaths recorded per incident



- South East and South-South regions recorded the least crime in the month.

Regional Outlook

North-West

- Over 250 deaths were recorded (the largest ever recorded in a month) in the region with Kaduna recording 155 deaths and Katsina 91 deaths. These are from banditry related activities. Zamfara State used to be the worst case scenario of rural banditry but Katsina, its neighbour, appears to be taking over that title with other states like Sokoto, Niger, and Kaduna coming closely behind.
- An estimated 3,156 women and children are currently taking refuge in IDP camps. The inmates, among who are 700 adult women, were forced to abandon their various communities following incessant attacks by bandits. Spate of bandit attacks in some parts of Katsina state are posing serious threat to agricultural activities in the state as farmers desert their affected villages.
- Faskari, Dandume and Sabuwa LGAs in the south are the agricultural hub of the state but now bedeviled by incessant kidnapping, cattle rustling, looting and wanton killings by suspected Fulani bandits.
- In reaction to the killings, hundreds of Katsina youths on June 16, 2020, embarked on a peaceful protest, calling for the resignation of President Muhammadu Buhari over the deteriorating security challenges bedeviling the North-west region and Katsina State in particular. This protest led to the arrest of Nastura Sharif, the organizer of the protest – a decision that has attracted the reprimand of Amnesty International and other international NGOs.
- In response to the protests, President Buhari at a meeting with the security heads told them that their best was not good enough and charged them to redouble efforts to ensure that all the security challenges in the country were tackled headlong. He also approved a joint military and police operation specifically targeted at combating Niger, Kaduna, Katsina, Zamfara and Sokoto states to rid the areas of bandits.



North-East

- On June 9, an ISWA faction called a religious gathering in a village in Gubio, Borno state. It would become the group's deadliest attack on civilians so far in 2020. Claiming to be on a preaching tour, armed militants entered the village of Foduma Koloram and asked residents to give up their weapons after which the militants started shooting at close range and used vehicles to ram those attempting to flee. The group killed 81 people over a period of six hours; left many others injured, and abducted seven.
- Barely four days after killing 38 people in an assault on Goni Usmanti village; the group attacked a base of some international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) in Monguno. The attack on Monguno was met with resistance by government forces in which twenty soldiers died while protecting aid workers.

North-Central

- Benue, Plateau and Nasarawa are facing a fresh wave of communal clashes cum herdsmen's crisis. Despite several failed peace accords that resulted in lower crisis in 2019, the clashes have picked up in 2020 with over 45 deaths recorded from several clashes in Benue and Plateau and Nasarawa in June.
- Suspected Fulani herdsmen killed 13 persons in a renewed attack on Itskpka community in the Obi Local Government Area of Benue State on June 4.
- In Agatu, 10 persons killed while scores sustained injuries and over 20 persons still declared missing in a bloody communal conflict involving Egba, Adugbe and Adana communities in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue state. The latest trend is the hiring of mercenaries to help wreak havoc at neighbouring communities. If these current crises are not nipped in the bud, we could be witnessing a rebirth of a full blown crisis as witnessed in 2016/2017.

South-South

- There are growing concerns about the security of Edo State in the light of the upcoming governorship election, slated for September 19, 2020. Noting the peculiarity of Edo state, there are serious security undertones.
- Risk factors to watch out are cult activities, political racketeering within caused by the two camps and with opposition party, politicians, and their godfathers, thug, snatching of ballot box, etc. Volatile LGAs in Edo include: Estako West, Uwelu, Ogida, Esan West, Orhionmwon, Owan East, Ikpoba Okha, Owan West, Esan North East and Oredo.

South-East

- Following the expiration of a 21-day ultimatum issued by the Igbo National Council (INC) to Almajirai and Miyetti Allah to leave South East in response to the latter's comment to roll out 100,000 Fulani vigilantes in the zone, the group made bold its threat by launching a vigilante outfit known as Operation Lion Walk to flush out all herdsmen in the zone.
- On Friday June 12, a group of herdsmen, hiding in some forests in Oguta LGA, attacked and killed two men in at Mbano autonomous community and in Agwa, Oguta LGA of Imo State. To this end, INC has charged all town unions, traditional rulers and youth organisations in Igbo communities that have not constituted their vigilante groups to immediately do so and quickly commence the combing of their community farmlands and forests "to fish out and flush out remnants of these criminal elements who are still hiding in some of our forests waiting for order to attack and attempt to invade Igbo land."
- In another development, the renewed boundary dispute between the people of Ishinkwo and their neighbouring community, Abaomege, both under Onicha Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, has claimed four lives. Properties worth millions of naira were also destroyed when armed youths from Abaomege reportedly stormed Ishinkwo shooting sporadically at villagers.
- A lingering boundary dispute that ensued between the two neighbouring states of Abia and Amaka communities in Ivo LGA of Ebonyi led to the killing of two men. The disputes are generally as a result of disagreement over which portion of farmland belongs to which community.

South-West

- A number of rape cases reported include a pregnant postgraduate student of the University of Ibadan, Azeezat Shomuyiwa, who was killed in her home in Ibadan and Miss Bello Barakat, a 18-year-old undergraduate, who was also raped and murdered in Ibadan, Oyo State.
- Following these incidents, protesters have taken to the streets in cities across Nigeria to demand urgent action to combat rape and sexual violence against women. On June 5 in Lagos, the protesters, drawn from different non-governmental organizations, stormed the Lagos State Police Command, to challenge security agencies to rise to the occasion by ensuring justice for rape victims.
- A coalition of rights groups marched to the Lagos state parliament calling for it to declare a state of emergency on rape and sexual violence. Human rights campaigners also rallied in Nigeria's capital, Abuja, to raise awareness about violence against women after a series of high-profile rape cases sparked outcries across the country.
- Aside Lagos, Ekiti State governor have instituted a naming and shaming system by activating a Sexual Offenders Register, and taking that register to the social media. Since 2008, every attempt to review the extant laws on rape has been unsuccessful.

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 US: 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 Studies
- School of Security Management
- School of Security Technology
- Thought Leadership



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