



1.2.2. Intercommunal conflicts, including between farmers and herders

1.2.2. Intercommunal conflicts, including between farmers and herders

The country witnessed continued violence between herders and farmers²⁰¹ as well as deadly attacks on local communities by unidentified perpetrators.²⁰² In late May 2025, Amnesty International reported that at least 10 217 people had been killed in armed attacks in the states of Benue, Plateau (North-Central), Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara (North-West) and Edo (South-South) since the end of May 2023, with Benue accounting for most deaths (6 896), followed by Plateau (2 630).²⁰³

After high levels of lethal violence in 2023,²⁰⁴ the year 2024 saw a drop in fatalities from herder-farmer violence as Nigeria Watch recorded 567 such fatalities over the year (compared to 860 in 2023), with the largest numbers recorded in Kaduna state, the FCT and Delta state.²⁰⁵ However, in the second quarter of 2025, Benue and Plateau states witnessed a another 'resurgence' of the conflict,²⁰⁶ involving a series of mass-casualty attacks by assailants linked to herders across Benue resulting in over 150 deaths²⁰⁷ and several mass-casualty²⁰⁸ /coordinated attacks in Plateau.²⁰⁹ Government efforts to enhance security were hindered by a lack of police and military personnel and shortages in equipment, as Nnamdi Obasi, International Crisis Group's senior adviser for Nigeria, told the Financial Times.²¹⁰

- [201](#)

Amnesty International, The State of the World's Human Rights, Nigeria 2024, 29 April 2025, [url](#)

- [202](#)

Conversation (The), Nigeria's growing security crisis: 6 essential reads, 22 April 2025, [url](#)

- [203](#)

Amnesty International, Nigeria: Mounting death toll and looming humanitarian crisis, 29 May 2025, [url](#)

- [204](#)

FT, Nigeria's spiralling rural violence heaps pressure on president, 27 April 2025, [url](#);
Nigeria Watch, Fourteenth report on violence 2024, 2025, [url](#), p. 11

- [205](#)

Nigeria Watch, Fourteenth report on violence 2024, 2025, [url](#), p. 11

- [206](#)

FT, Nigeria's spiralling rural violence heaps pressure on president, 27 April 2025, [url](#)

- [207](#)

HRW, Nigeria: Prioritize Security Amid Rising Violence in Benue State, 18 June 2025, [url](#);
Guardian (The), Forty-two people killed in central Nigeria in attacks blamed on herders, 27
May 2025, [url](#); Al Jazeera, Herder-farmer clashes in Nigeria kill at least 56, 19 April 2025,
[url](#)

- [208](#)

Conversation (The), Nigeria's growing security crisis: 6 essential reads, 22 April 2025, [url](#)

- [209](#)

Amnesty International, Nigeria: Mounting death toll and looming humanitarian crisis, 29
May 2025, [url](#)

- [210](#)

FT, Nigeria's spiralling rural violence heaps pressure on president, 27 April 2025, [url](#)