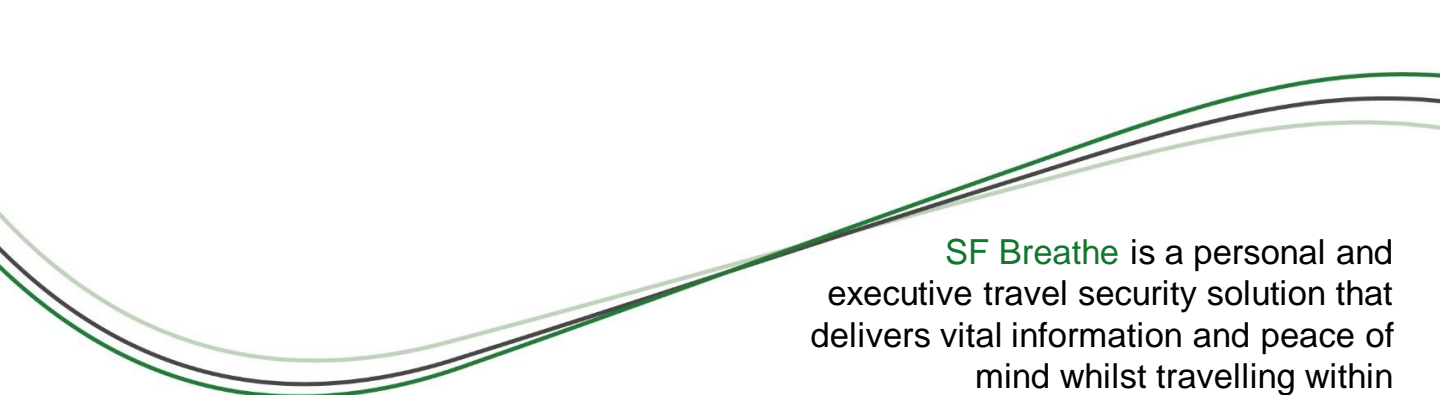


Weekly Situation Report Kenya


18th – 24th April 2022

DISCRETION | FORTITUDE | BRIDGING CULTURES





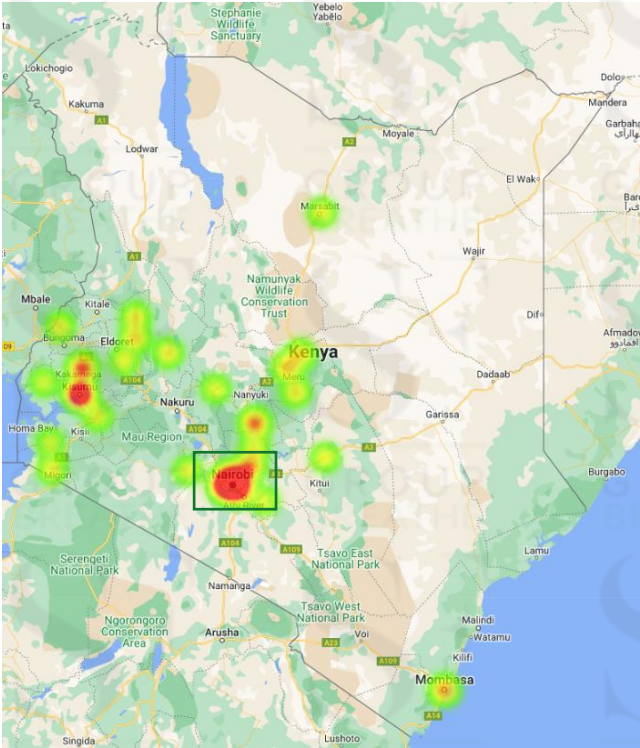
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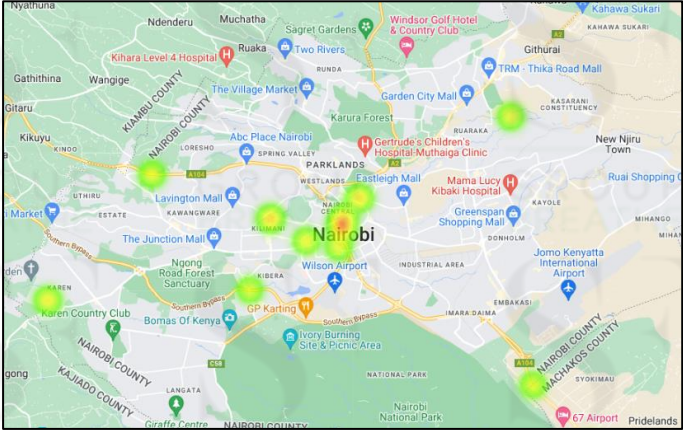
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Weekly Overview



Kenya



Nairobi



- Election Violence (8)
- Route Obstruction (5)
- Robbery (3)
- Announcement (3)
- SGBV (2)
- Domestic Violence (1)
- Mob Violence (1)
- Killing (8)
- Gov. Sec. Response (4)
- Other (3)
- Protest (2)
- Criminal Activity (2)
- Natural Disaster (1)
- Armed Attack (1)



x8

...fatalities recorded as a result of separate killings.



x5

...killed in bandit attack in Meru County.



x8

...reported instances of election violence.

Executive Summary

Nairobi

- On 21st April, boda-boda (motorcycle taxi) riders attempted to raid Raila Odinga's Mwitwa Estate residence in Karen. Police and security services were reportedly overwhelmed at the scene.
- On 21st April, Nandi Senator Samson Cherargei was arrested following an alleged disturbance he caused in court earlier in April. Senator Cherargei is facing charges of hate speech.

Elsewhere

- On 20th April, two suspected bandits linked to recurrent armed attacks in Marsabit town and its environs were arrested at their hideout in Manyatta Jillo Estate, Marsabit County, where an AK-47 rifle with 16 rounds of ammunition and a toy pistol were recovered.
- On 19th April, five people were killed in a bandit attack within the Tigania area, along the Meru-Isiolo border in Meru County.
- On 18th April, police in Bondo Nyironge, Suna West, Migori County, arrested 12 suspects on suspicions of intending to disrupt voting at a polling station for the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party primaries in the area. The suspects were armed with machetes and wooden clubs.

Significant Developments

- On 22nd April, the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) conducted further nomination exercises across Mombasa and Nairobi counties.
- On 22nd April, former President Mwai Kibaki died at the age of 90.
- On 19th April, the UDA staged repeat primary nomination exercises across 13 constituencies in Nairobi and the Rift Valley from 19th to 21st April. Furthermore, the UDA cancelled nominations for Kamkunji, Embakasi East, and Starehe Constituencies in Nairobi, initiating opinion polls.



x105

Days to 09th August 2022 General Elections

We will shortly be launching our Kenya 2022 Election Risk Monitor: if you are interested in subscribing to this service, please contact us at infoservice@sf-group.co

Last Week's Status



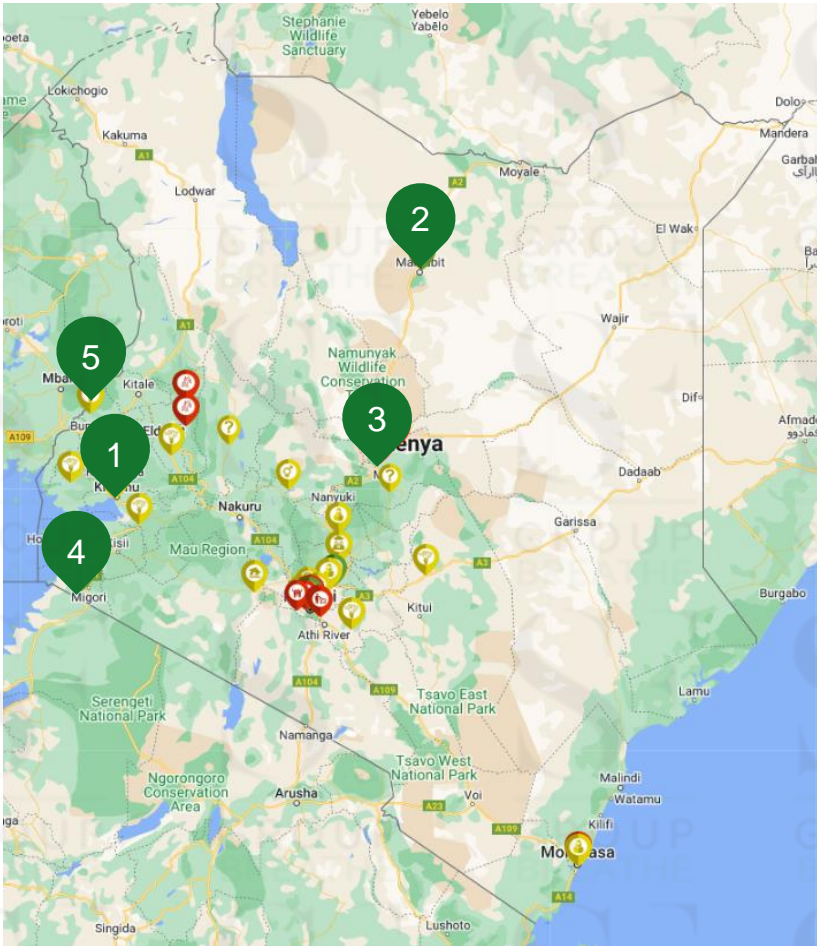
This Week's Status



Next Week's Status



Significant Incidents Summary

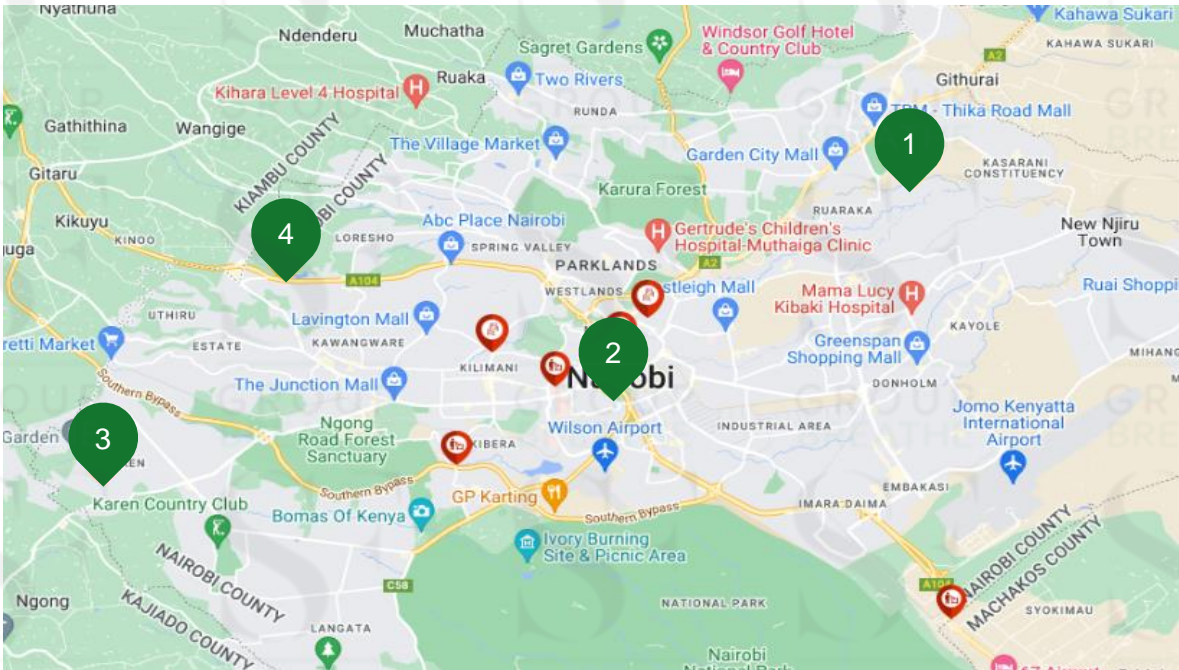


Kenya

1. 20/04/2022 – Police disperse protests at ODM party primaries, Jomo Kenyatta Highway, Kisumu County
2. 20/04/2022 – Two suspected bandits arrested, Manyatta Jillo, Marsabit County
3. 19/04/2022 – Five killed in bandit attack, Tigania, Meru-Isiolo border, Meru County
4. 18/04/2022 – Twelve suspects armed with crude weapons arrested on suspicions of attempting to disrupt primary nominations, Suna West, Migori County
5. 17/04/2022 – Two people arrested following politically-motivated attack during clashes between rival UDA supporters, Busia County

Significant Incidents

Nairobi



Nairobi

1. 22/04/2022 – Reports of unrest and police presence amidst ODM nominations, Lucky Summer, Kasarani
2. 21/04/2022 – Nandi Senator arrested on charges of hate speech, Nairobi
3. 21/04/2022 – Boba-boda riders attempt to raid Raila Odinga's residence, Mwituni Estate, Karen
4. 19/04/2022 – Motorists robbed during traffic backlog, Waiyaki Way IVO Kangemi/Mountain View

Analysis

- **On 24th April, five members of a Mombasa-based criminal group dubbed the 'Panga Boys' were arrested in Mjambere, Kiasuni, Mombasa, Mombasa County.**

In the capital, the week was dominated by opportunistic thefts following an observed increase in traffic volumes across multiple travel routes. Along Waiyaki Way, several motorists were reportedly robbed by unarmed criminals during extended traffic backlogs reported on 19th April, particularly in Mountain View and Kangemi areas. Motorists travelling within the Central Business District (CBD) are especially advised to be vigilant given the ongoing construction of the Nairobi Expressway project prompting travel delays across adjoining routes. Moreover, during the current escalation of political campaign activities ahead of the 09th August General Elections, a rise in politically-motivated unrest was also reported in several areas within the week. On 22nd April, security forces responded with teargas and live fire in Lucky Summer Estate area of Kasarani, in response to an eruption of public unrest during ongoing Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) nominations in the area. On 21st April, boda-boda riders attempted to raid Raila Odinga's Mwituu Estate residence in Karen. Police and security services are reported to have been overwhelmed at the scene.

In the Coast region a resurgence of criminal gang activity linked to the political party primaries that were conducted over the week was noted. In Old Town area of Mombasa County, on 19th April, at least five assailants were filmed while robbing several pedestrians across several streets in daylight hours. Social media reports associated the attacks to the Wakali Wao and Wakali Kwanza gang members which have an active presence in

Kisauni and Old Town locations. In subsequent security operations, five members of a Mombasa-based criminal group dubbed the 'Panga Boys' were arrested in Mjambere, Kiasuni, Mombasa. According to police, the suspects were armed with machetes and were intercepted prior to targeting Soko Mjinga Area.

Armed attacks along the Isiolo and Meru counties border continued unabatedly, with an additional five fatalities reported in Tigania area on 19th April. It is noted that the dispute has been fuelled by territorial land disputes between pastoralists from Isiolo who have reportedly invaded farmlands in Meru County, in search of pasture for their livestock. As a result, successive reprisal attacks have particularly been recorded in Tigania and Igembe North regions. As such with the worsening drought situation in several parts of the country, which has continued to fuel resource-based conflict, the attacks are anticipated to continue in the short term. In the northern frontier, armed attacks in Marsabit County, continued to be motivated by ethnic violence between Gabbra and Borana communities. Tens of civilians have been shot dead in Kiwanja Ndege and immediate vicinity of Marsabit town, which has sparked concern amongst government agencies. On 19th April, the Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Interior Fred Matiang'i stated that the National Security Council was considering a possible special security operation following the imminent lapse of a 30-day period for peace talks amongst local elders, aimed at resolving the hostilities. On 20th April, two bandits linked to recurrent armed attacks in Marsabit town and its environs were arrested at their hideout in Manyatta Jillo Estate, where an AK-47 rifle with 16 rounds of ammunition and a toy pistol were recovered.

Significant Stories

Kenya to mediate talks between the DRC and rebel groups

Kenya is set to mediate talks between the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the plethora of rebel groups operating in eastern DRC. On 21st April, the respective leaders of Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, and the DRC met in Nairobi to discuss the crisis, with President Kenyatta later announcing that the Kinshasa government would hold a "consultative meeting" with the rebels on Friday. The president had "graciously agreed to host and provide logistical support for the consultations in Nairobi".

The Nairobi talks come barely a month after the DRC was admitted to the regional East African Community (EAC). On 21st April, the Office of the President stated that EAC leaders were looking at establishing a regional force to neutralise rebel groups operating within the region.

All foreign armed groups in the DRC were urged to disarm with immediate effect and return to their countries of origin. Any groups who failed to cooperate with the directive, "would be considered as negative forces and handled militarily".

There are over one-hundred various armed groups within eastern DRC, including the Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP)-linked Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebel group. The ADF has been blamed for thousands of deaths within the region as well as a spate of bomb attacks in the Ugandan capital, Kampala.

Former President Mwai Kibaki passes away at 90

Former President Mwai Kibaki died on Friday 22nd April 2022, at the age of 90. After announcing his death, President Kenyatta declared a period of national mourning, including the flying of national flags at half-mast, until a state funeral is held for

Former President Kibaki on 30th April.

During Kibaki's presidency between 2002 and 2013, Kenya obtained a new constitution that introduced the devolved governance system, and free primary education was introduced. Furthermore, Kibaki's administration oversaw notable infrastructural development under the Vision 2030 blueprint, and the country observed a trend of relatively stable economic growth. However, the 2007 General Elections and subsequent post-election violence marred Kibaki's presidency.

After leaving office, Kibaki lived a rather private life, rarely making public appearances. Especially after falling ill in 2016. Kibaki served as a member of parliament for 50 years between 1963 and 2013.

The impact of small arms proliferation

The proliferation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) continues to pose a threat to efforts made to meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) before 2030. According to the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States (RECSA), there is an alarming trend "where illegal guns are used to disrupt lives at various levels", which "has a huge impact in efforts to meet the SDGs".

The proliferation of SALWs has contributed to a rise in armed conflict, crime, environmental degradation, fuelling the illegal exploitation of natural resources, poaching, and terrorist activity across the region. In Kenya, the majority of related instances have occurred in central and western Kenya, along the borders of Somalia and Ethiopia, and along the northern coastline.

Following recent bandit attacks along the Meru-Isiolo border, government security force presence is set to be increased.

Electoral Developments

Raila Odinga's search for a running mate

The 'Azimio la Umoja' One Kenya Coalition party council has resolved to appoint an advisory panel to recommend candidates to run alongside Raila Odinga ahead of the 09th August general elections. The process is reported to have started with immediate effect as of 21st April.

Moreover, reports suggest that opinion polls will be used to gauge the relative popularity of potential nominees and to inform the subsequent appointment.

DP Ruto seeks to bring unity in UDA after nominations

Deputy President (DP), William Ruto, is expected to hold a meeting on 25th April with the intent of bringing together participants of the recent United Democratic Alliance (UDA) nominations, in a bid to map out a way forward ahead of the 09th August general elections.

This comes after most of the also-rans in the primaries vowed to leave and vie as independent candidates. The DP, who is reported to have also spoken individually to them ahead of the meeting, is seeking to reassure them of his support with promises of nominations to the county and national assemblies.

With a united front, the DP will not only have numbers during the elections but aims to have approximately 65 per cent of member representation in the National Assembly and the Senate.

Mike Sonko to vie for Mombasa Governor position under Wiper

On 21st April, Wiper Democratic Movement Party leader, Kalonzo Musyoka, announced the nomination of Mike Sonko for the Mombasa gubernatorial position. Under this nomination, the

former governor's opponent, Ali Mbogo, would be his deputy.

Following his impeachment as Nairobi Governor in December 2020, Sonko resigned from the Jubilee Party in March 2022. Two candidates, Abdulswamad Sharif Nassir of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM), and Hassan Omar of the UDA, will compete against Sonko in the August General Elections.

Sonko's nomination could potentially cause problems for 'Azimio la Umoja' prospects in Mombasa, because both ODM and Wiper are under the same coalition; Nassir and Sonko are strong candidates who could split voters, giving UDA strong chance of winning. Moreover, a win for Sonko could improve his outlook, given the corruption-related court cases he is facing.

High Court rejects appeal to block Political Parties Act

On 20th April, the High Court struck down three petitions against the Political Parties Amendment Act 2021. In its ruling, the Court declared that the law had sufficient public participation to merit its passage by Parliament. It also ruled that timelines specified in the law would not negatively impact the August general elections.

However, the Court ruled that certain elements of the law were unconstitutional. For example, exempting political parties from financial audit, and granting the Registrar of Political Parties powers that are reserved for the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).

The Act was passed on 27th January 2022 by President Uhuru Kenyatta, and is notable for allowing the formation of coalitions between political parties. Coalitions that seem to be of high strategic importance within the current political environment.

Incident List

Announcement

- 22nd April – The Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) conducted nomination exercises across Mombasa County. No instances of civil unrest were reported.
- 22nd April – Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) nomination exercises were reported across parts of Nairobi County. There were incidents of civil unrest and traffic disruptions in various parts of the county.
- 19th April – The United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party are staging repeat primary nomination exercises across 13 constituencies in Nairobi and the Rift Valley from 19th to 21st April. Furthermore, the UDA has cancelled nominations for Kamkunji, Embakasi East and Starehe Constituencies in Nairobi and instead initiated opinion polls.

Armed Attack

- 19th April – Five people have been killed in a bandit attack within the Tigania area, along the Meru-Isiolo border in Meru County.

Criminal Activity

- 24th April – Police in the Gatonye area, Murang'a County, have recovered a vehicle reported to have been stolen.
- 19th April – Several motorists were robbed by unidentified assailants at Mountain View and Kangemi areas during extended traffic delays along Waiyaki Way, Nairobi County.
- 18th April – Police in Murang'a County, arrested a male politician who owns a bar in Maragua town for allegedly conspiring with his two female employees to steal KES 283,000 (USD 2,449) from a reveller.

Domestic Violence

- 23rd April – Police in Ndhiwa, Homa Bay County, arrested a woman for allegedly pouring boiling water over another woman following a domestic dispute.

Election Violence

- 23rd April – A civilian sustained gunshot injuries following a dispute over the Wiper Party political primaries in Mwingi, Kitui County.
- 22nd April – Reports indicate that security forces have responded with teargas and live fire in Lucky Summer Estate area of Kasarani, Nairobi County, in response to an eruption of public unrest during ongoing Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) nominations in the area.
- 20th April – Police officers discharged teargas along the Jomo Kenyatta Highway, Kisumu County, in an attempt to break up protests staged by a parliamentary seat aspirant for Kisumu and his supporters over the results of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) party primaries.
- 20th April – Gunfire was reported in Cheptiret area, Uasin Gishu County, as police attempted to disperse protests staged by supporters of United Democratic Alliance (UDA) political party following a dispute over nomination results. The group barricaded the Eldoret-Cheptiret Road, resulting in severe traffic disruptions.
- 19th April – Three individuals were arrested at a polling centre near Ofafa Hall in Kisumu, Kisumu County, during Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) primary nominations. The suspects were arrested for carrying crude weapons following the alleged stabbing of an individual at the location.

Incident List (2)

- 19th April – Security forces deployed teargas and fired live ammunition following a dispute during Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) primaries in Sondu, Kericho County.
- 19th April – At least two people were reported to have been injured following disruption during the ongoing ODM party primaries in Kisumu, Kisumu County.

Government Security Response

- 24th April – Four suspects were arrested at Kabete Police Station, Nairobi, for allegedly stupefying and robbing passengers on a Nairobi-bound bus along the Nairobi-Nakuru Highway.
- 24th April – Five members of a Mombasa-based criminal group dubbed the 'Panga Boys' were arrested in Mjambere, Kiasuni, Mombasa, Mombasa County. According to police, the suspect were armed with machetes and were intercepted prior to targeting Soko Mjinga Area.
- 21st April – Nandi Senator Samson Cherargei was arrested following an alleged disturbance he caused in court earlier in April. Senator Cherargei is facing charges of hate speech.
- 20th April – Following a security operation, two suspected bandits linked to recurrent armed attacks in Marsabit town and its environs were arrested at their hideout in Manyatta Jillo Estate, Marsabit County, where an AK-47 rifle with 16 rounds of ammunition and a toy pistol were recovered.
- 20th April – Police arrested two suspects linked to the killing of Joel Juma, a Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) student, on 18th April 2022, following a robbery incident. The first suspect was arrested from his hideout in Kiandutu, Thika town, while the second was arrested in Gachororo, Juja area, Kiambu County.
- 18th April – Police in Bondo Nyironge, Suna West, Migori County, arrested 12 suspects on suspicions of intending to disrupt voting at polling station for the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party primaries in the area. The suspects were armed with machetes and wooden clubs.

Killing

- 23rd April – Police at Kapsowar Police Station, Kapsowar, Elgeyo-Marakwet County, arrested a woman for allegedly killing her husband following a domestic dispute. Reports indicated that the woman hacked her husband to death with a machete.
- 24th April – The body of a Form 1 student who was previously reported missing on 21st April, was found floating in Kobodo dam, Kobodo, Homa Bay County. The body of the deceased showed signs of violence.
- 21st April – The body of a 29-year-old man was found along Cotton Avenue, Kileleshwa Estate, Nairobi. It remains unclear whether the man was killed elsewhere and the body dumped in the area.
- 20th April – A Meru County government employee was arrested following the murder of her husband at a hotel in Igembe North, Meru County. The woman, who works in the Meru Gender Office, was arrested after being accused of stabbing her husband, a Judiciary officer, in the neck following an altercation between the two at the hotel.
- 20th April – The body of a woman was discovered in a hotel along Desai Road, Ngara in Nairobi County. The victim, who did not have identification documents, had reportedly checked into the hotel with a man who fled from the scene.

Incident List (3)

- 19th April – The body of a 24-year-old athlete, Damaris Muthee Mutua, was discovered at a residence in Iten, Elgeyo-Marakwet County. The body of the deceased was found at the residence of an Ethiopian athlete identified as Koki Fai and the alleged boyfriend of the victim, who reportedly fled the country after the incident.
- 18th April – A man was stabbed to death by his brother in Senyende village, Shinyalu, Kakamega County, for allegedly stealing a chicken. The thirty seven-year-old suspect was admitted to hospital in critical condition after he was attacked by villagers in response to the stabbing.
- 18th April – CMM Clemo, a prominent manager currently overseeing Ohangla musician Emma Jalamo, was reportedly stabbed to death outside a nightclub in Kondele in Kisumu, Kisumu County, under unclear circumstances. Police officers later apprehended one suspected linked to the incident.

Mob Violence

- 21st April – Reports indicated that Boda-boda riders attempted to raid Raila Odinga's Mwituu Estate residence in Karen, Nairobi, Nairobi County. Police and security services are reported to have been overwhelmed at the scene.

Natural Disaster

- 21st April – Several vehicles were reportedly swept away by flash floods along the Mai Mahiu-Narok Road at Suswa area in Narok County, and several sections along the route were partially blocked by silt deposits as a result.

Other

- 22nd April – Four individuals were hospitalised

following a leopard attack in the vicinity of Cheplambus village, Baringo, Baringo County.

- 19th April – A woman and her two children died in a house fire in Kiambaa, Kiambu County.
- 18th April – Two quarry workers died while another two were injured after falling off a 40-metre cliff at Ukuu Quarry, Imenti South, Meru County. The two injured individuals were admitted to Consolata Hospital, Nkubu, Meru County.

Protest

- 21st April – A group of athletes staged a protest in Machakos, Machakos County, appealing for increased government support to end rising gender-based violence (GBV) incidents among athletes. This came two days after the murder of a Kenyan-born Bahraini athlete in Lilies estate in Iten, Elgeyo-Marakwet County.

Robbery

- 21st April – A 62-year-old man was assaulted and robbed in Karatina, Nyeri County, after withdrawing approximately KES 600,000 (USD 5,182). Two suspects targeted the victim as he walked out of a bank after withdrawing the money.
- 19th April – A group of at least ten criminal gang members robbed and injured a lone male pedestrian at Old Town area in Mombasa County.
- 18th April – Three suspects stabbed to death a 23-year-old Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) student before escaping with his mobile phone and other valuables at Gachochoro area in Kiambu County, which is in close proximity to the University's premises.

Incident List (4)

Route Obstruction

- 23rd April – A section of the Southern Bypass was blocked off by a broken down trailer in the vicinity of Kibera, Nairobi County, in the outbound lane towards Kikuyu.
- 22nd April – Intermittent traffic disruptions and a heightened security presence were anticipated as high-ranking officials and politicians visited the body of former President Mwai Kibaki at Lee Funeral Home, Upper Hill, Nairobi County.
- 21st April – Severe traffic congestion stretching for several kilometres was reported along Mombasa Road (A109) in both inbound and outbound lanes, following a snarl up in the vicinity of the Madaraka Express Syokimau Terminus in Machakos County.
- 21st April – President Uhuru Kenyatta, alongside other 'Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition' leaders including Raila Odinga, held a political meeting at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) within the Central Business District (CBD) of Nairobi. As such, a heavy police presence was reported around the premises with traffic disruptions along adjacent travel routes including City Hall Way, Harambee Avenue, as well as other adjoining roads.
- 20th April – A severe traffic backlog was reported along Mombasa Road (A109) at Mlolongo in Machakos County, along the inbound lane towards Nairobi's Central Business District (CBD), due to a broken down trailer which had partially obstructed the road.

Image of the Week



The funeral cortège of former President Emilio Mwai Kibaki arrives at the Parliament Building in the Central Business District of Nairobi, 25th April 2022

(Source: State House Nairobi)

Threat Rating

Key

“Last period’s status” provides a comparative from which this period’s status can be understood.

GREEN

The overall security situation underwent notable improvements during the previous reporting period

AMBER

The security situation remained constant in the previous reporting period, undergoing little change

RED

There was a decline in the situation over the previous reporting period

“This period’s status” is decided by monitoring trends in comparison to the previous reporting period.

GREEN

There has been an improvement in the overall security situation over the reporting period

AMBER

The overall security situation has remained broadly unchanged over the reporting period

RED

The overall security situation has worsened over the reporting period

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