



SITUATION REVIEW – FEBRUARY 2017

Issues to watch

- ▶ **Four political party-related incidents**
- ▶ **Sixteen incidents at or around schools**
- ▶ **Police-initiated incidents lower than past months**

Four incidents between political party supporters in February

Belun’s Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) system recorded 124 violent incidents in February, including four between supporters of different political parties. This is a higher total than the monthly average of only 2.4 such incidents over the past year, which is to be expected in advance of the March Presidential Election and campaign period.

In Bazartete, Likisá Municipality, a group of youth assaulted another youth who was driving around with a party flag before the opening of the official campaign period in March. In Remexio, Aileu Municipality, two men from different parties argued and swore at each other after a political party consolidation event. In Uatulari, Vikeke Municipality, an intoxicated man interrupted a party consolidation event by insulting and throwing rocks at participants. In Vera Cruz, two brothers who supported different political parties fought after arguing about whose party was better.

Sixteen incidents recorded at or around schools

In February, the EWER system recorded 16 violent incidents at or around schools. In an average month over the past year, only 5.5 incidents were reported at schools. Interestingly, six incidents at schools were recorded on or just before Valentine’s Day.

Four incidents were recorded in **Dili**: in Mascarinhas, students fought during a football match at Eskola Secundaria No 4 Unamet, Balide; in two incidents at a school in Duyung, Metinaro, two students fought, and then, later, the family of one student assaulted the other student; in Vertude, Becora, a student assaulted another student for posting a photo on Facebook without permission. Three incidents were recorded in **Bobonaru**: in Balibo, at Eskola EBC Balibo, a female teaching apprentice stabbed two female students in the legs with a pen, because they were wearing short skirts; in Maliana at EBC Palaca, a group of

Total number of violent incidents by municipality in February 2017	
Municipality	Incidents
Aileu	5
Ainaru	6
Baukau	9
Bobonaru	7
Covalima	5
Dili	54
Ermera	6
Lautein	2
Likisá	4
Manatutu	7
Manufahi	6
Oekusi	5
Vikéké	8
Totál	124

students assaulted a male student with a club and also injured a female student; also at EBC Palaca, a group of students assaulted another student who erased the whiteboard before they were finished copying its contents. Three incidents were recorded in **Oekusi**: in two incidents at Eskola ETAROS in Costa, Pante Makassar, a group of students threatened, assaulted and otherwise prevented another student who had just finished serving a three-day suspension from returning to school; in Passabe, a teacher was assaulted by family members of a female student that he had allegedly impregnated. Two incidents were recorded in **Covalima**: in Zulo, Zumalai, two groups of students fought after one student hit a female student with his motorbike; in Maudemo, Tilomar, a student grabbed a teacher by the neck when the teacher chastised him for arriving late. In Remexio, **Aileu**, a former local leader assaulted a student who had previously assaulted his son. In Buibau, **Baukau**, a group of students assaulted another student as he was leaving school because of a Martial Arts Group-related dispute. In Talimoro, **Ermera**, students fought after one student pulled another’s pants down. In Babula, **Manufaha**, two students fought with clubs until one was seriously injured.

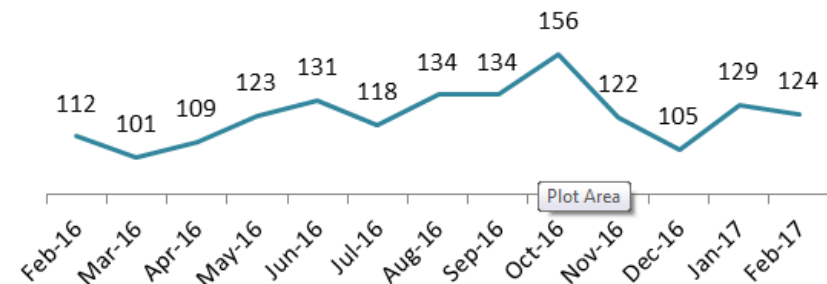
Violent incidents initiated by police decrease since New Year

Over the past two months, EWER monitors recorded only 5 violent incidents that were perpetrated by the police (3 in January and 2 in February), which is fewer than the monthly average of 4.6 such incidents over the past year. By contrast, in each of the three final months of 2016, monitoring recorded at least seven or more incidents of police-initiated violence per month.

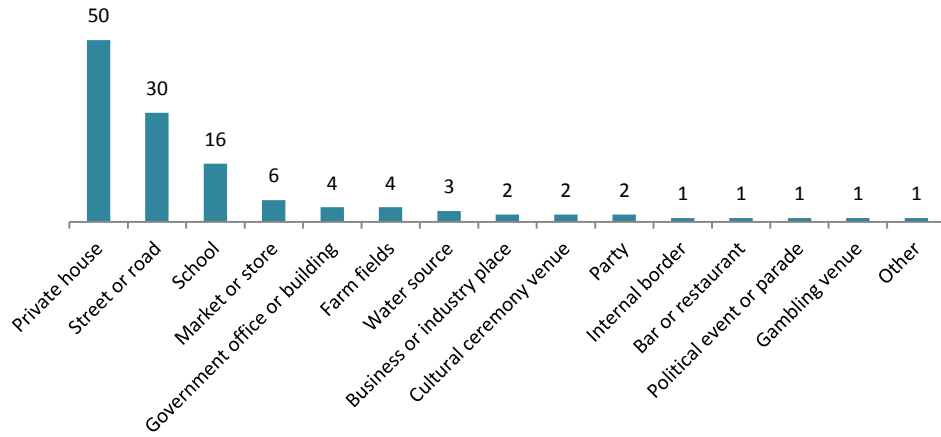
In February, in Debos Village, Covalima, a transit police assaulted a journalist who was photographing him during a traffic stop. In Becora, an intoxicated, off-duty police officer threatened a group of youth as he was drinking with another group of youth.

INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS

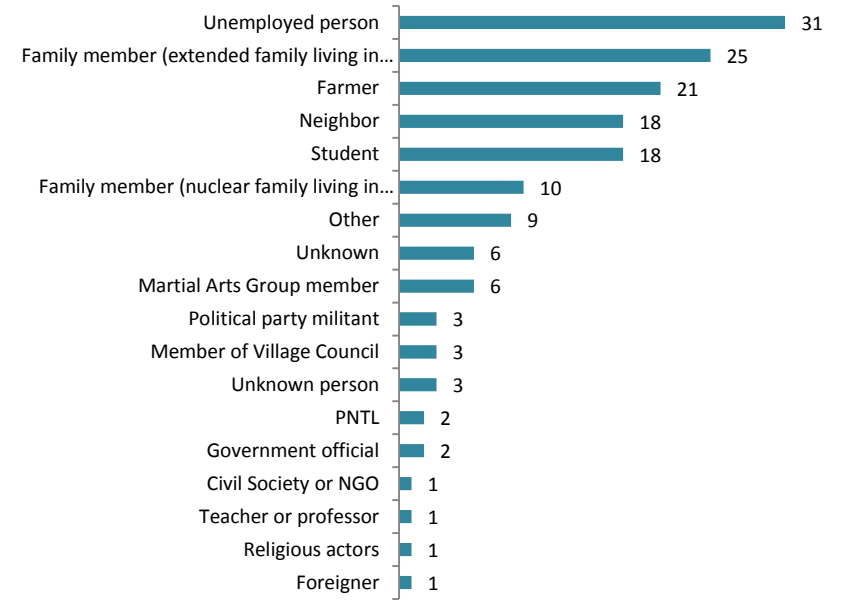
Monthly incident totals: February 2016-February 2017



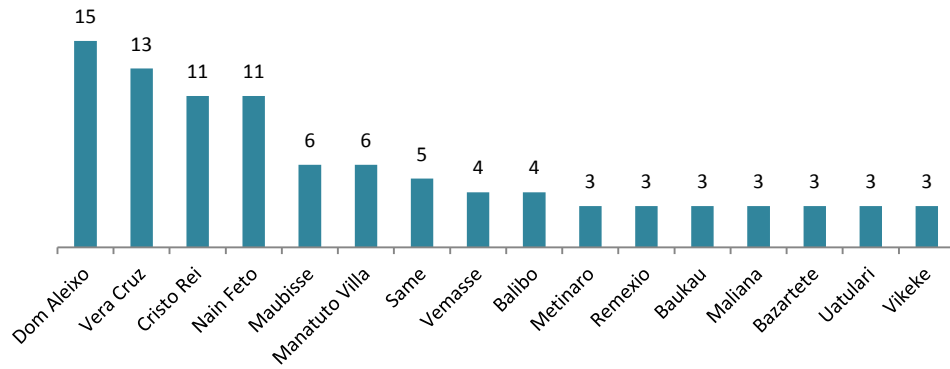
Physical Location



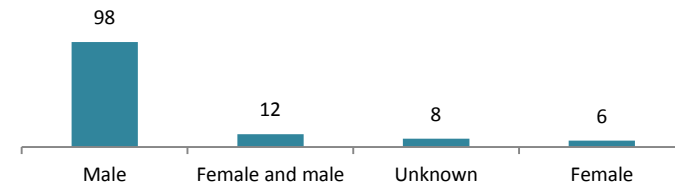
Perpetrators by Position or Status



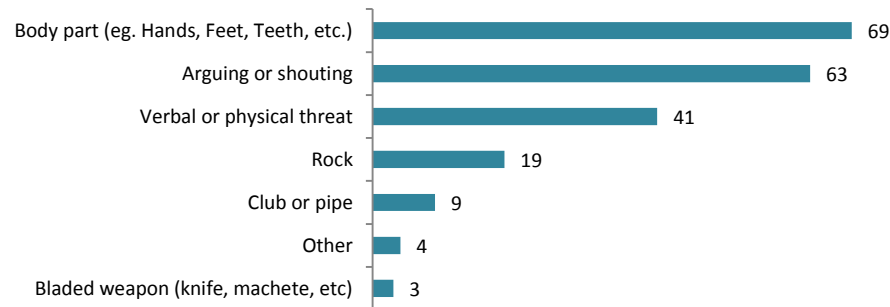
Incidents by Administrative Post (that recorded 3 incidents or more)



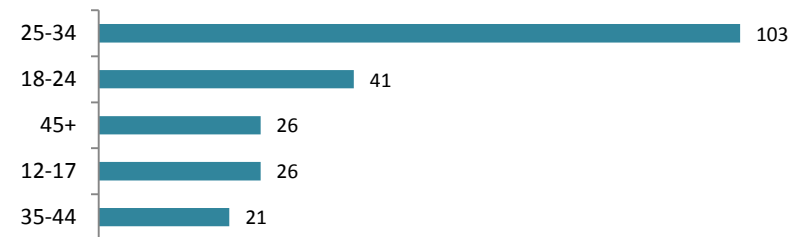
Perpetrators by Gender



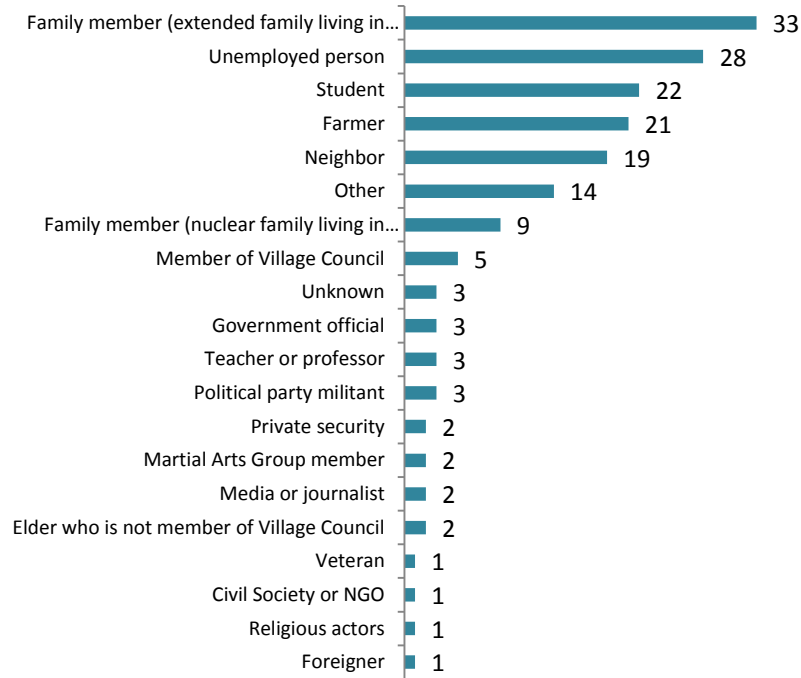
Weapons Used/ Form of Violence



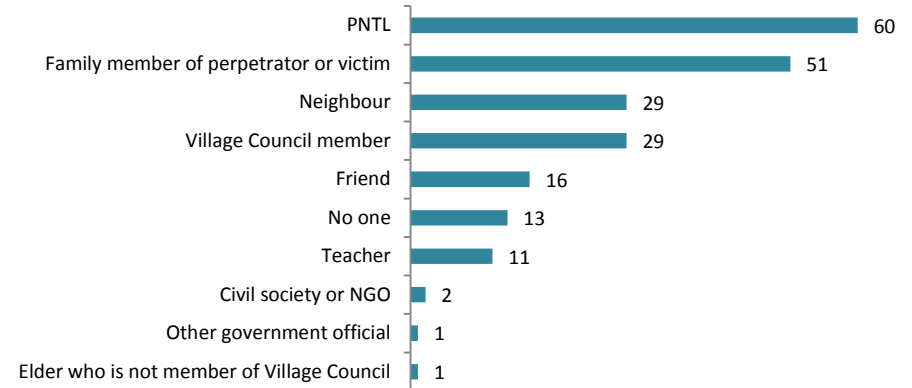
Perpetrators by Age



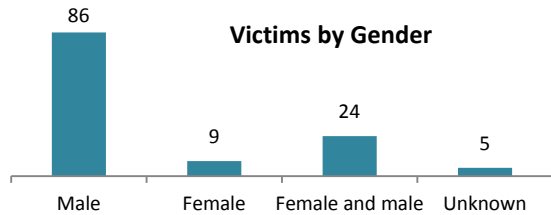
Victims by Position or Status



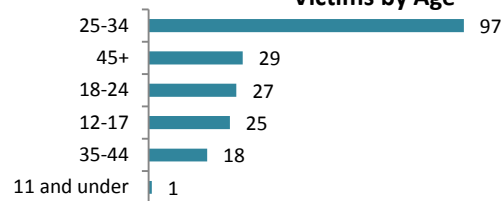
Incident Responder



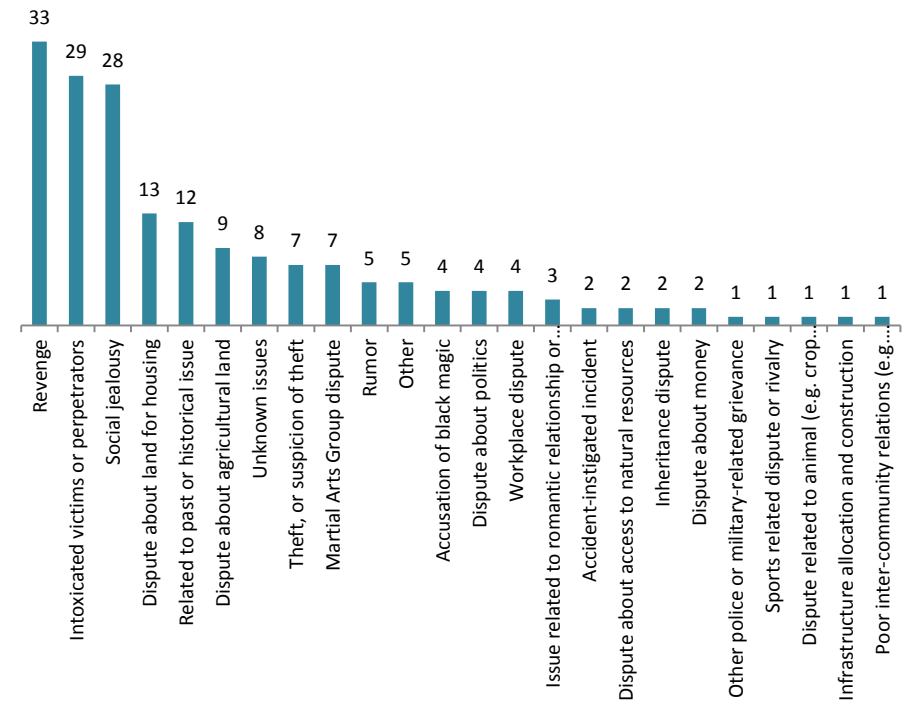
Victims by Gender



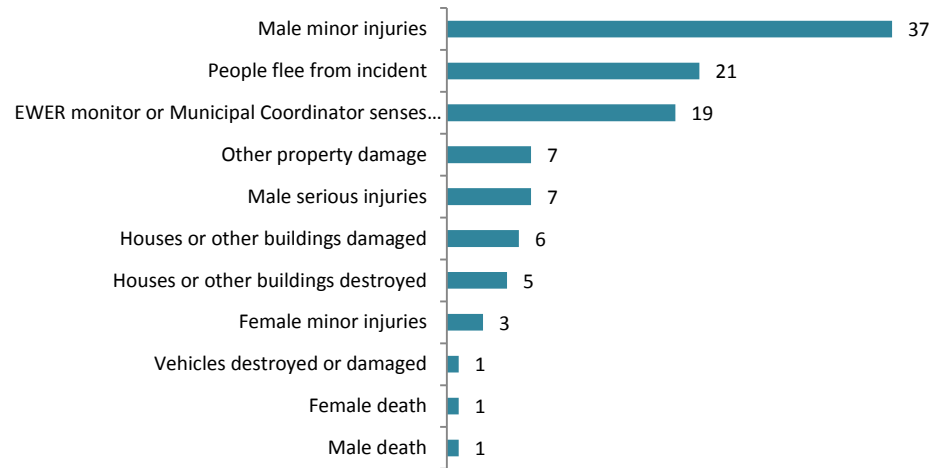
Victims by Age



Incident Factors



Incident Impact



This situation review reports on violent incidents and trends in Timor-Leste that were identified by Belun’s Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) monitoring system in 43 of Timor-Leste’s 65 Administrative Posts in January 2017. Complete data and incidents descriptions can be found at: www.atres.belun.tl. Belun strives to share up-to-date and verified information. Considering that situations change rapidly, we appreciate receiving information to clarify or update our EWER monitoring data.

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CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

By the Access to Justice Clinic Team:

- ▶ On 9 and 10 February, the team participated in a training of trainers delivered by the Public Defender’s Office about how the public is able to engage with Access to Justice Clinics. The team then held public meetings on 23 February in Lospalos and 27 February in Covalima to pass on that information to community members.

By the Community Policing Support Program (CPSP) team:

- ▶ The team facilitated regular Community Policing Council meetings in Covalima, Dili, Likisa, Manufahi and Vikéké; peace activities in Likisa (2) and Manufahi (2); meetings of the Municipal Security Council in Covalima and Manufahi; and Women Community Policing Council meetings in Manufahi.

By the Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) team:

- ▶ From 21-27 February, Belun and the Laga Administrative Post Conflict Prevention and Response Network held events in all eight Laga villages to raise awareness about the rules and procedures for the 2017 Presidential and Parliamentary election. Primary speakers came from the National Elections Commission, the Technical Secretariat for Election Administration, the police and local administrators.
- ▶ On 28 February, Belun launched a new Early Warning, Early Response Data Portal (www.atres.belun.tl) through which all stakeholders can access Belun’s database in real-time, quickly conduct their own analysis, and design their own response and prevention activities.