

# The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

Series 1, Issue 17, 13th September, 2024



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## INEC confirms readiness for Edo governorship poll

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has confirmed its preparedness for the Edo State governorship election set for September 21, 2024. INEC Chairman, Professor Mahmood Yakubu, announced this during a stakeholders' meeting in Benin City on Wednesday, urging political parties and candidates to ensure a peaceful election. Yakubu also noted that most of the necessary preparations for the election had been completed.

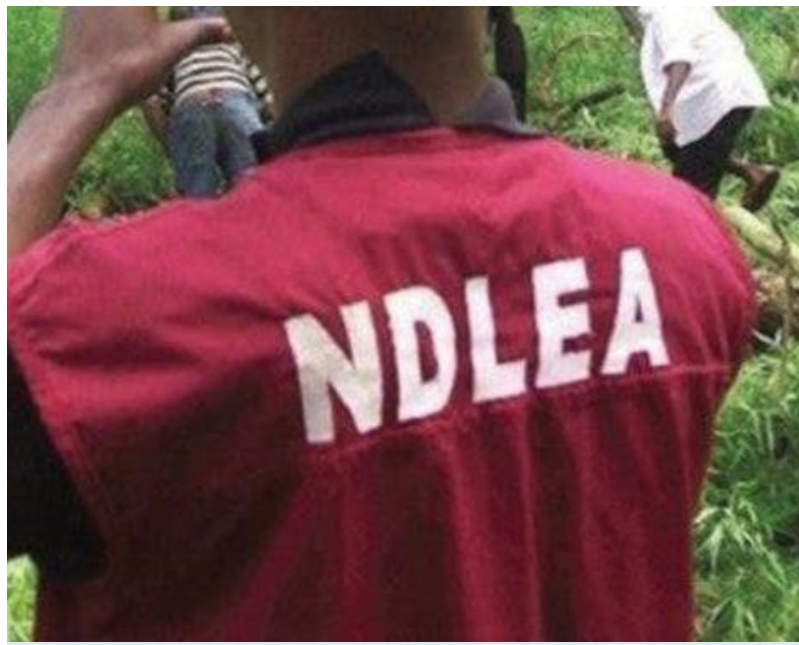
Read more: <https://punchng.com/inec-confirms-readiness-for-edo-governorship-poll/?amp>

## Yiaga Africa Raises Concerns Over Security and Political Tensions Ahead of Edo State Governorship Election



Yiaga Africa has dispatched its Election Observation team to Edo State ahead of the governorship election on September 21, 2024. Our Pre-Election Observation Statement raised concerns about escalating security issues, increasing political violence, and economic challenges that could undermine the election's integrity. As major political parties intensify their campaigns and reports of voter inducement and violence mount, we have called for heightened vigilance and unwavering commitment to democratic principles to ensure a transparent and credible electoral process.

Read more: <https://yiaga.org/pre-election-observation-preo-statement-on-september-21-2024-edo-gubernatorial-election/>



## Kano LG Polls: 20 Aspirants Tested Positive For Cannabis, Codeine, Others – NDLEA

At least 20 political aspirants vying for positions in the upcoming local government elections in Kano State have tested positive for multiple drugs, according to the state's National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). NDLEA Commander Abubakar Idris Ahmad confirmed on Tuesday that the candidates, presented by the ruling New Nigeria People's Party (NNPP), tested positive for substances including opioids (codeine), THC (the active ingredient in cannabis), benzodiazepines, and nicotine. Ahmad added that the screening process is ongoing.

Read more:

<https://dailytrust.com/kano-lg-polls-20-aspirants-tested-positive-for-cannabis-codeine-others-ndlea/>

## Edo guber: PDP pulls out as APC, 16 other parties sign peace accord

The Edo State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday withdrew from the national peace accord for the upcoming September 21 governorship election, while the All Progressives Congress (APC), which had initially threatened to pull out, reversed its stance and committed to the peace deal. The event, organized by the National Peace Committee in Benin City, saw state chairmen and candidates from all 17 participating political parties signing the accord, except for PDP chairman Dr. Tony Aziegbemi and the party's candidate, Asue Ighodaló, who attended but did not sign.

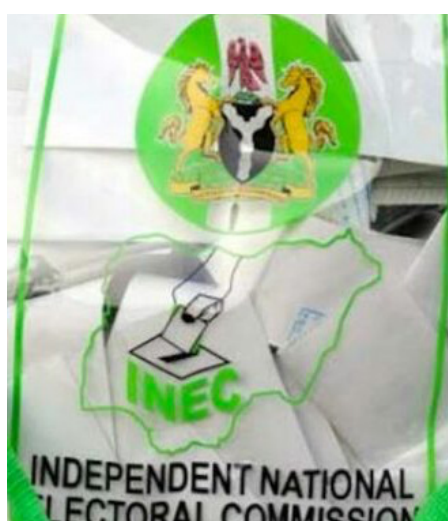
Read more: <https://pmnewsnigeria.com/2024/09/12/edo-guber-pdp-pulls-out-as-apc-16-other-parties-sign-peace-accord/?amp=1>



## Edo governorship election: Police begin mop up of illegal arms

The Edo State Police Command has begun a mop-up of illegal arms and ammunition ahead of the September 21 Governorship Election, according to the state's Commissioner of Police, Nemo Edwin-Iwo. Speaking during a meeting with political party chairmen and their governorship candidates in Benin on Saturday, Edwin-Iwo emphasized that the initiative is aimed at ensuring the security of the electoral process, according to the command's spokesperson, SP Moses Yamu.

Read more: <https://pmnewsnigeria.com/2024/09/07/edo-governorship-election-police-begin-mop-up-of-illegal-arms/>



## BVAS, IREV will be deployed in Ondo, Edo elections — INEC

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has announced plans to deploy the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) and the INEC

Result Viewing (IREV) portal for the upcoming Ondo and Edo state elections to facilitate swift uploading of polling unit results. The Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), Mrs. Toyin Babalola, disclosed this on Wednesday, adding that approximately two million registered voters will participate in the November 16 governorship election in Ondo State.

Read more: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/bvas-irev-will-be-deployed-in-ondo-edo-elections-inec/>



## Gov. Caleb Mutfwang sacks all TIC Chairmen in Plateau

Plateau State Governor Caleb Mutfwang has dissolved the appointments of all 17 Local Government Transition Implementation Committee Chairmen, effective September 6, 2024, just a month ahead of the state's local government elections set for October 9, 2024. The chairmen, who were appointed on June 9, 2023, have served for over a year.

Read more: <https://royalnews.com.ng/gov-caleb-mutfwang-sacks-all-tic-chairmen-in-plateau/>



## Appeal Court Rules on Election Victory of Labour Party's Reps Member

The Court of Appeal in Abuja has upheld the election of Hon. Daniel Asama Ago of the Labour Party as the representative for Bassa/ Jos North federal constituency in Plateau State, affirming his victory in the February 4, 2024, bye-election. The ruling followed an appeal by his opponents after the National Assembly Election Petition Tribunal initially upheld his win. In his reaction, Asama Ago expressed gratitude to God, his constituents, and the judiciary for upholding justice and the will of the people, praising the court's commitment to democracy and the rule of law.

Read more:

<https://politicsnigeria.com/appeal-court-rules-on-election-victory-of-labour-partys-reps-member/>

## LG autonomy: Bauchi scraps ministry for local government

Bauchi State Governor, Bala Mohammed, has abolished the Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs following a Supreme Court ruling that grants autonomy to local governments nationwide. Announcing the decision on Monday after swearing in three new commissioners, the governor explained that the move is part of efforts to reduce the cost of governance and streamline the state's administration. The new commissioners replace those who resigned to contest in the August 17 local government elections.

Read more: <https://guardian.ng/politics/lg-autonomy-bauchi-scraps-ministry-for-local-government/>



## Election Commission publishes list of qualified candidates for Anambra local elections

The Anambra State Independent Electoral Commission (ANSIEC) has released the final list of qualified candidates for the upcoming Local Government Council chairpersons and ward councillors elections, scheduled for September 28. ANSIEC chairperson, Genevieve Osakwe, posted the list at the commission's headquarters in Awka, urging candidates to commence their campaigns.

Read more: <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/regional/ssouth-east/733625-election-commission-publishes-list-of-qualified-candidates-for-anambra-local-elections.html>



## Kano Assembly Extends Tenure of LG Caretaker Chairmen Amid Election Uncertainty

The Kano State House of Assembly has approved a two-month extension for the 44 local government caretaker chairmen, following a request

by the Deputy Governor and Commissioner for Local Government, Comrade Abdul Salam Gwarzo. The extension, announced by Majority Leader Lawan Hussaini Dala during the Assembly's plenary session on Monday, September 9, 2024, will run from September 9 to November 9, 2024, as the current tenure expired on September 8, 2024.

Read more: <https://leadership.ng/kano-assembly-extends-tenure-of-lg-caretaker-chairmen-amid-election-uncertainty/>

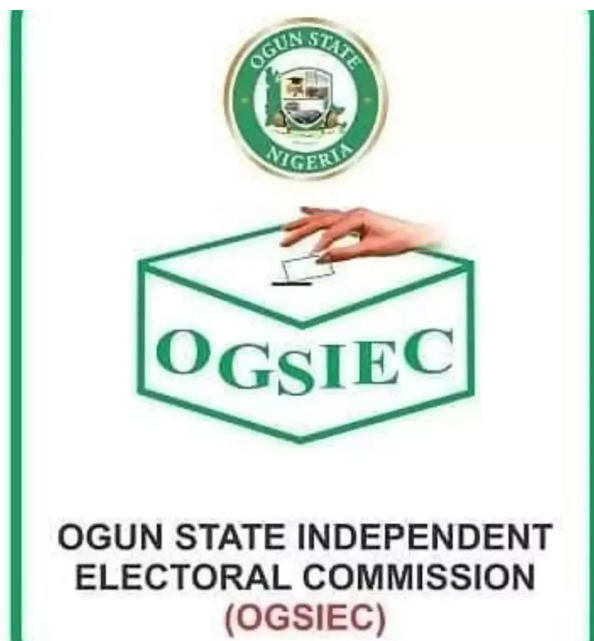


## LG Autonomy: State Electoral Commissions Have Failed, Says Ex-NIWA Boss

Former Managing Director of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), George Moghalu, has criticized state electoral commissions for failing to conduct independent and unbiased elections, hindering the autonomy of local governments in Nigeria. Speaking on Channels Television's "Inside Sources"

program, Moghalu highlighted that despite the Supreme Court's ruling granting local governments autonomy, the flawed electoral process remains a significant barrier. He argued that State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs), controlled by state governments, consistently ensure the ruling party's dominance in local polls, undermining true governance at the grassroots level.

Read more: <https://www.channelstv.com/2024/09/09/lg-autonomy-state-electoral-commissions-have-failed-says-ex-niwa-boss/>



## LG poll: OGSIEC amends electoral guidelines, reduces age limit to 25 years

The Ogun State Independent Electoral Commission (OGSIEC) has reduced the minimum age qualification for candidates in the upcoming November 16 local government elections from 30 to 25 years. The amendment, announced in a statement signed by OGSIEC Chairman Babatunde Osibodu and obtained by DAILY POST on Friday, aligns the election guidelines with Section 7 and 106 of the Nigerian Constitution, which sets the minimum age for candidates at 25. Additionally, the Commission has extended the deadline for party primaries by one week.

Read more:

<https://headtopics.com/ng/lg-poll-ogsiec-amends-electoral-guidelines-reduces-age-58577134>

## APC withdraws from Anambra LG election, heads to Court

The Anambra State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) has pulled out of the local government elections set for September 28, 2024, citing alleged irregularities in the electoral process. The party has filed a lawsuit against the Anambra State Independent Electoral Commission (ANSIEC) and the State House of Assembly, urging the court to cancel the election should ANSIEC proceed with the scheduled vote.

Read more: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/apc-withdraws-from-anambra-lg-election-heads-to-court/>



## LG poll: OGSIEC pegs candidates' age, extends primaries deadline

The Ogun State Independent Electoral Commission (OGSIEC) on Friday said that it had amended the minimum qualifying age for candidates to contest in the state's November 16 Local Government elections from 30 to 25 years. The commission's Chairman, Babatunde Osibodu, disclosed this in a statement signed by him and made available to journalists on Friday.



Read more: [https://punchng.com/lg-poll-ogsiec-pegs-candidates-age-extends-primaries-deadline/?utm\\_source=rss.punchng.com&utm\\_medium=web](https://punchng.com/lg-poll-ogsiec-pegs-candidates-age-extends-primaries-deadline/?utm_source=rss.punchng.com&utm_medium=web)



## LG Polls: Benue APC Elects Chairmanship, Councillorship Candidates, Sets Up Appeal Panel

The Benue State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) has successfully elected its candidates for the upcoming

October 5 local government elections. According to Mr. James Ornguga, the Caretaker Organising Secretary and Spokesman of the APC Caretaker Committee in Benue State, the primaries were conducted smoothly, resulting in the selection of 23 chairmanship and 276 councillorship candidates.

Read more: <https://thewillnews.com/lg-polls-benue-apc-elects-chairmanship-councillorship-candidates-sets-up-appeal-panel/>



## AAC Party Demands Immediate Withdrawal of Arbitrary Charges Imposed On LGA Election Candidates In Benue State

The African Action Congress (AAC) has called for the immediate withdrawal of charges imposed on candidates for the upcoming Benue State Local Government Area elections, scheduled for October 5. The party revealed on Friday that the Benue State Independent Electoral Commission (BSIEC) is demanding N500,000 from Chairman candidates and N250,000 from Councillorship candidates, in addition to N115,000 and N90,000 in handling charges, respectively.

Read more: <https://saharareporters.com/2024/09/07/aac-party-demands-immediate-withdrawal-arbitrary-charges-imposed-lga-election-candidates>

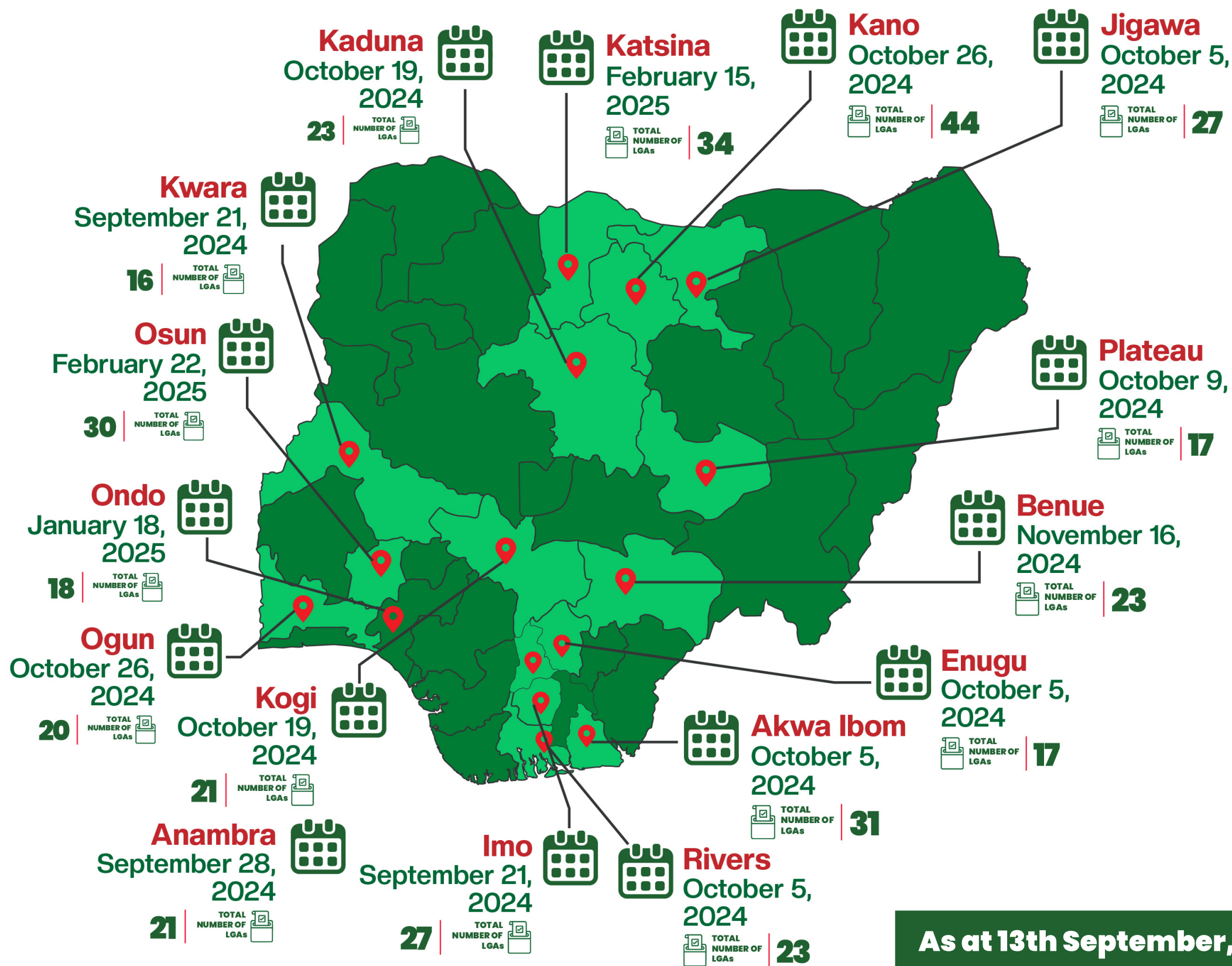
# Upcoming Local Government Elections



**TOTAL NUMBER OF STATES** | **16**

**TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs** | **397**

**TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS** | **44,978,040**



**As at 13th September, 2024**



**Countdown to Off-Cycle Governorship Elections 2024**

**08** DAYS TO Edo State Elections 21st September, 2024

**64** DAYS TO Ondo State Elections 16th November, 2024