

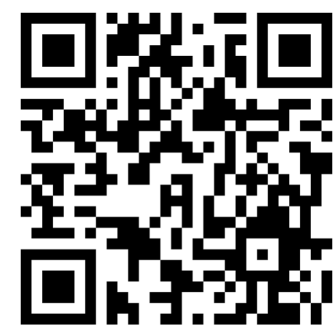
The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

Series 1, Issue 19, 27th September, 2024



Subscribe to the Newsletter



Jonathan: Edo Guber Poll is Proof Technology Can't Solve Our Electoral Challenges

Former President Goodluck Jonathan has stated that the outcome of the recent Edo State governorship election demonstrates that technology alone cannot resolve Nigeria's electoral challenges. Speaking at an event in Abuja organized by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) to mark the International Day of Peace, Jonathan emphasized that addressing the nation's electoral issues hinges on changing the human mindset, lamenting the "dirty attitude" many Nigerians hold toward politics. He called for an attitudinal shift among citizens to foster meaningful progress.

Read more:

<https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2024/09/25/jonathan-edo-guber-poll-is-proof-technology-cant-solve-our-electoral-challenges/>



Edo 2024 Fails the Integrity Test - Yiaga Africa

In a comprehensive evaluation of the September 2024 Edo State Governorship Election, Yiaga Africa has raised an urgent call for electoral reforms. Utilizing its Process and Results Verification for Transparency (PRVT) methodology, the organization deployed 325 observers to monitor polling units across all 18 LGAs. The assessment revealed that while voting and counting processes generally adhered to standards, serious irregularities during the results collation process have cast significant doubt on the election's integrity.

Read more: <https://yiaga.org/post-election-statement-on-the-september-2024-edo-state-governorship-election/>

EDO GUBER: INEC Declares APC's Monday Okpebholo Winner Of Poll

In a decisive victory, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) announced on Sunday that Senator Monday Okpebholo of the All Progressives Congress (APC) has won the governorship election in Edo State, securing 291,667 votes. He defeated the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) candidate, Asue Ighodalo, who received 247,274 votes, while Olumide Akpata of the Labour Party finished third with 22,763 votes. INEC's Returning Officer, Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta, Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Minna, confirmed that Okpebholo met the legal requirements for election victory.



Read more: <https://independent.ng/edo-guber-inec-declares-apcs-monday-okpebholo-winner-of-poll/>



Bill to allow independent candidates compete elections passes first reading

The House of Representatives on Thursday advanced a bill seeking to amend the 1999 Constitution, passing it through first reading. Sponsored by Akin Rotimi, the House spokesperson and representative for Ikole-Oye Federal Constituency, the bill proposes changes to sections 7, 65, 106, 131, 177, and 221 of the Constitution to allow independent candidates to participate in presidential, governorship, National Assembly, State Houses of Assembly, and local government elections without political party sponsorship.

Read more:

<https://dailypost.ng/2024/09/26/bill-to-allow-independent-candidates-compete-elections-passes-first-reading/>

Coalition makes 37 recommendations for electoral reforms

A coalition of civil society organizations, including Yiaga Africa and the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre, has unveiled a Citizens' Memorandum on Electoral Reforms, proposing 37 urgent recommendations to enhance Nigeria's electoral system. Released on Wednesday in Abuja, the memorandum comes as the National Assembly prepares for a new round of electoral reforms, aiming to tackle long-standing challenges in the electoral framework and restore public confidence to combat voter apathy.

Read more: <https://yiaga.org/press-statement-for-the-public-presentation-of-the-citizens-memorandum-on-electoral-reforms/>



All Pre-election Matters Will Terminate at Appeal Court, Kekere-Ekun tells Senate

The Senate on Wednesday screened the acting Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun, for confirmation as the substantive Chief Justice. During the session, Kekere-Ekun emphasized that all pre-election matters will now terminate at the Court of Appeal, underscoring the judiciary's role in streamlining the electoral process. The screening followed a letter from President Bola Tinubu, presented to the Senate by Senate President Godswill Akpabio during Tuesday's plenary session.



Read more: <https://royalnews.com.ng/all-pre-election-matters-will-terminate-at-appeal-court-kekere-ekun-tells-senate/>



No court judgment stopping Rivers LG polls — Electoral commission

The Rivers State Independent Electoral Commission has affirmed that no court ruling is obstructing the local government elections scheduled for October 5, 2024.

The Commission's Chairman, Justice Adolphus Enebeli (retd.), clarified this during a training session for RSIEC staff in Port Harcourt on Tuesday. His statement follows claims by the Chairman of the Caretaker Committee of the All Progressives Congress in Rivers, Chief Tony Okocha, who suggested in a press briefing that the elections were entangled in litigation and could not proceed.

Read more: <https://punchng.com/no-court-judgment-stopping-rivers-lg-polls-electoral-commission/>



Gov. Aliyu swears in newly elected LG Chairmen, warns against truancy

Sokoto State Governor Ahmed Aliyu has inaugurated the newly elected local government council chairmen, urging them to remain within their constituencies and maintain close engagement with their communities. He emphasized that the government would not tolerate inaccessibility, indolence, or laxity in their duties.

Read more: https://newsdiaryonline.com/gov-aliyu-swears-in-newly-elected-lg-chairmen-warns-against-truancy/#google_vignette



Imo SDP Rejects LG Poll Results, Threatens Legal Action

The Imo State chapter of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) has announced its intent to challenge the results of the recently concluded local government elections in court. The party criticized the conduct of the elections across the state's 27 local government areas and 305 wards, accusing the Imo State Independent Electoral Commission (ISIEC) of manipulating the process to benefit the APC-led administration. This position was outlined in a petition by the party's state chairman, Ifeanyi Henry Eluwa, and shared with journalists in Owerri.

Read more: <https://leadership.ng/imo-sdp-rejects-lg-poll-results-threatens-legal-action/>

APC Clears Chairmanship, Councillorship Seats In Imo LG Election

Candidates from the All Progressives Congress (APC) have secured victory in all 27 local government chairmanship and 305 councillorship positions in the recent Imo council elections. Charles Ejiogu, Chairman of the Imo State Independent National Electoral Commission, announced the results on Monday at the commission's headquarters in Owerri, affirming that the elections were conducted according to state electoral laws and were credible, free, and fair.

Read more: <https://independent.ng/apc-clears-chairmanship-councillorship-seats-in-imo-lg-election/>



Court restrains APC, other parties from disrupting Kano LG election

A Kano State High Court has issued an order restraining 19 political parties from obstructing or frustrating the upcoming local government elections in the state. The ruling was delivered on Tuesday in response to a motion ex parte filed on September 20 by Rilwanu Umar, counsel to the Kano State Independent Electoral Commission (KANSIEC).

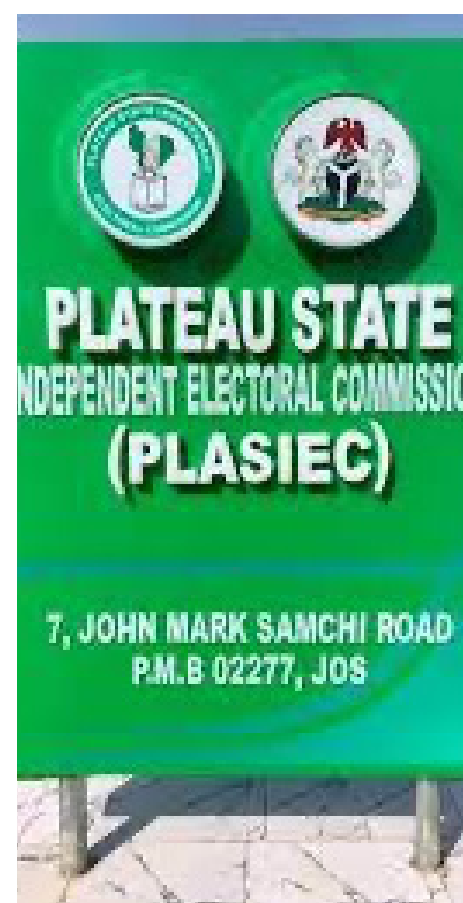
Read more: <https://pmnewsnigeria.com/2024/09/25/court-restrains-apc-other-parties-from-disrupting-kano-lg-election/>



CROSIEC rolls out timetable for Cross River LG polls

The Cross River State Independent Electoral Commission (CROSIEC) has unveiled the timetable for the 2024 Local Government Elections, set to commence on September 25, 2024. The announcement, made on Wednesday, follows the mandate of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) and the Cross River State Law No. 2 of 2002.

Read more: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/crosiec-rolls-out-timetable-for-cross-river-lg-polls/>



11 parties to contest Plateau LG poll, mock election holds Sept 28

The Plateau State Independent Electoral Commission (PLASIEC) has confirmed that 11 political parties will participate in the upcoming local government elections scheduled for October 9. According to the commission's chairman, Mr. Plangji Cishak, 75 chairmanship candidates and 788 councillorship candidates have been cleared to contest in the elections, which will take place across 325 electoral wards in the state.

Read more: https://guardian.ng/news/nigeria/metro/11-parties-to-contest-plateau-lg-poll-mock-election-holds-sept-28/#google_vignette

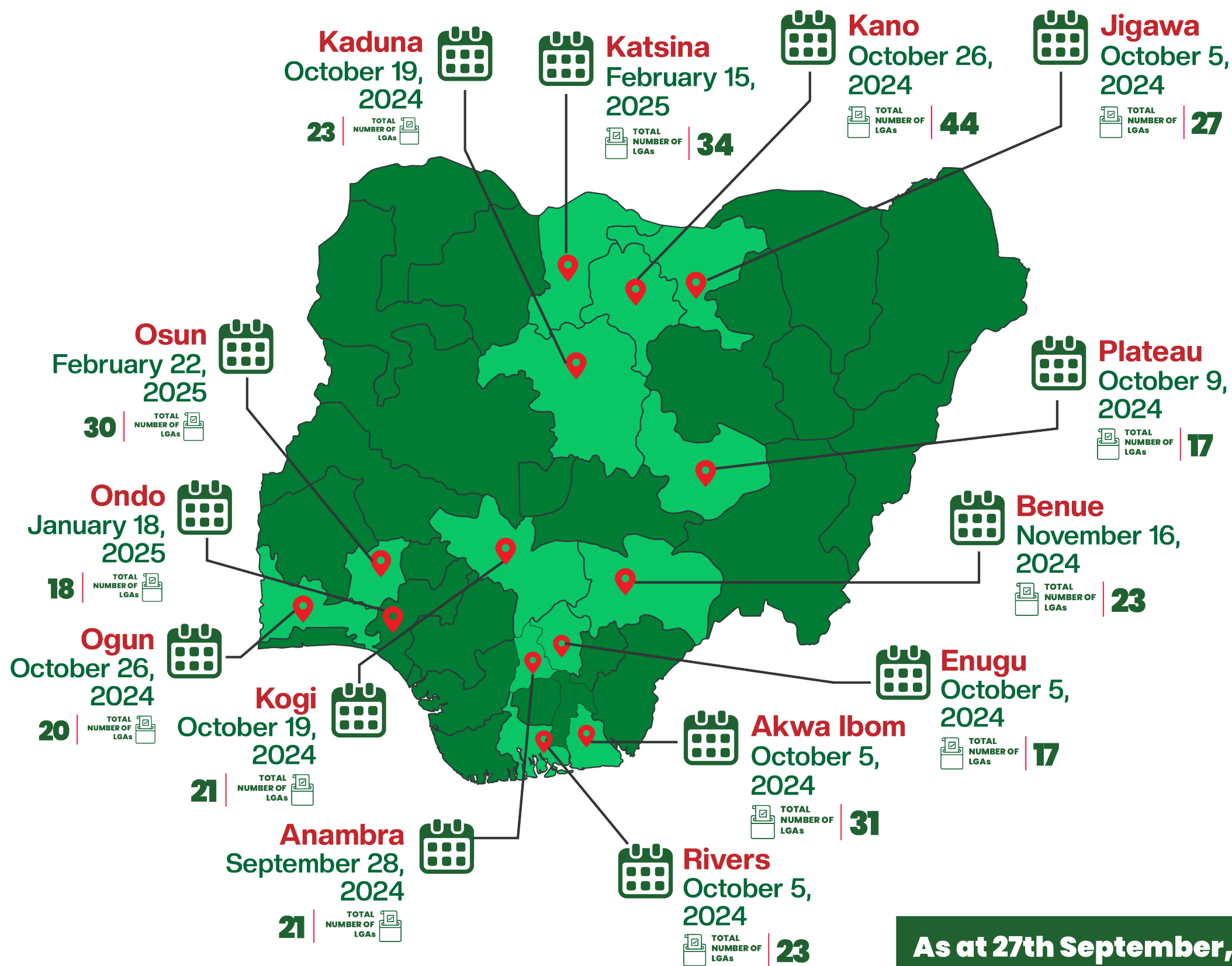
Upcoming Local Government Elections



TOTAL NUMBER OF STATES | **14**

TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs | **349**

TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS | **40,862,191**



As at 27th September, 2024



Countdown to Off-Cycle Governorship Elections 2024

50 DAYS TO Ondo State Elections 16th November, 2024