

The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

Series 2, Issue 17, 25th April, 2025



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INEC moves to legalise voting without PVC

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has signaled its readiness to allow eligible Nigerians without Permanent Voter Cards (PVCs) to vote in the 2027 general elections—provided the move is supported by legislative amendments. This development aligns with the commission's push to expand voter access through technology, INEC's Chief Press Secretary, Rotimi Oyekanmi, told **The PUNCH** on Wednesday. The initiative traces back to comments made by INEC Chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, during a consultative meeting with Resident Electoral Commissioners in Abuja in December 2024.

Read more: <https://punchng.com/inec-moves-to-legalise-voting-without-pvc/?amp>

Senate forges ahead with bill for same-day elections

The Senate has passed the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill 2025 for second reading, marking a significant step toward strengthening democratic governance. Sponsored by Senator Saliu Mustapha (Kwara Central), the bill aims to amend the 2022 Electoral Act and streamline Nigeria's election system by holding presidential, governorship, National Assembly, and State Assembly elections on the same day. The proposed changes are designed to cut the high costs of elections, reduce expenses, and restore public confidence in the electoral process.



Read more: <https://thesun.ng/senate-forges-ahead-with-bill-for-same-day-elections/?amp>

2027 election: Tallen demands 50-50 male, female candidate pairing

Former Minister of Women Affairs, Dame Pauline Tallen, has urged political parties to adopt a 50-50 gender pairing model for candidate nominations in the 2027 general elections, insisting that every male candidate should be paired with a female counterpart at all levels. Tallen warned that failing to ensure equal participation between men and women would tarnish Nigeria's democratic credibility on the global stage. The call was echoed by key stakeholders, including the Minister of Women Affairs, Imaan Sulaiman-Ibrahim, and the National Chairman of the Inter-Party Advisory Council, Yusuf Dantalle, at the opening of a two-day capacity-building conference for women political leaders in Abuja.

Read more: <https://guardian.ng/politics/2027-election-tallen-demands-50-50-male-female-candidate-pairing/>





Lagos Assembly summons LASIEC over 2025 council elections

Members of the Lagos State House of Assembly have called on the leadership of the State's Independent Electoral Commission (LASIEC) to appear before them to provide updates on preparations for the 2025 local government elections. The lawmakers issued the summons on Thursday following a motion moved by Hon. Ladi Ajomale, Chairman of the House Committee on LASIEC, Judiciary, and Public Petitions, under 'Urgent Public Importance.' Ajomale expressed concern over the lack of communication from LASIEC, noting that, as the committee chairman, he should have been kept informed about the commission's activities.

Read more:

<https://www.westernpost.ng/lagos-assembly-summons-lasiec-over-2025-council-elections/>

Lagos LGA Election: TOS Picks Nomination Form Amidst Cheers In Agege

Read more:

<https://independent.ng/lagos-lga-election-tos-picks-nomination-form-amidst-cheers-in-agege/>

The race for the chairmanship of Agege Local Government gathered momentum on Thursday as Hon. Taiwo Olasunkanmi Samuel, popularly known as TOS, officially picked up his nomination form at the party secretariat amid a jubilant crowd of supporters, party loyalists, and grassroots stakeholders. The atmosphere was electric as enthusiastic well-wishers, dressed in party colors and waving banners bearing his name, sang and danced in celebration, describing the moment as the dawn of a new era in Agege politics. Addressing the crowd, Hon. TOS expressed deep appreciation to the party leadership for fostering internal democracy and providing a platform for credible aspirants, while reaffirming his commitment to transparent governance, inclusive development, and people-centered policies aimed at transforming the local government if elected.

2027 power shift: Opposition weakens as more PDP govts, senators eye APC

A wave of high-profile defections from the opposition is rocking Nigeria's political landscape, as key figures from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP), and Labour Party abandon their platforms for the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC). The opposition has accused the APC-led Federal Government of using state resources to pressure politicians into joining its ranks.



Read more: <https://punchng.com/2027-power-shift-opposition-weakens-as-more-pdp-govts-senators-eye-apc/>



FCT Polls: Traditional rulers want violent-free elections

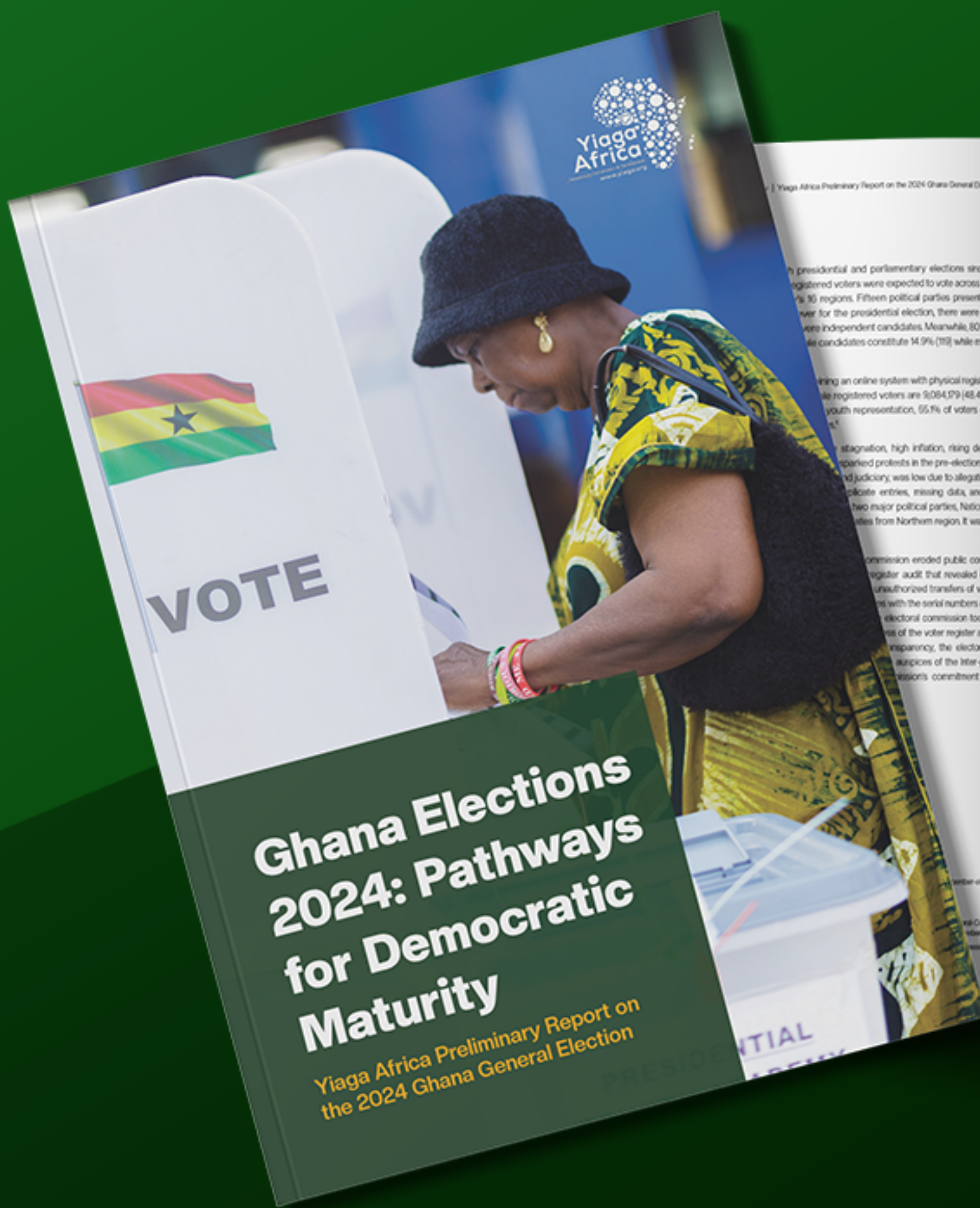
Youths have been urged to reject electoral violence and embrace peace as a pathway to the nation's socio-economic growth. The call was made by the Ona of Abaji and Chairman of the FCT Council of Chiefs, Alhaji Adamu Baba-Yunusa, during a forum in Abuja organized by the Sustainable Solutions for Youths and the Vulnerable Initiatives. The event, held ahead of the FCT Area Council elections, also marked the launch of a sensitisation campaign across Abaji and Kwali to address the long-standing challenge of electoral violence in Nigeria's democratic process.

Read more: <https://radionigeria.gov.ng/2025/04/23/fct-polls-traditional-rulers-want-violent-free-elections/>



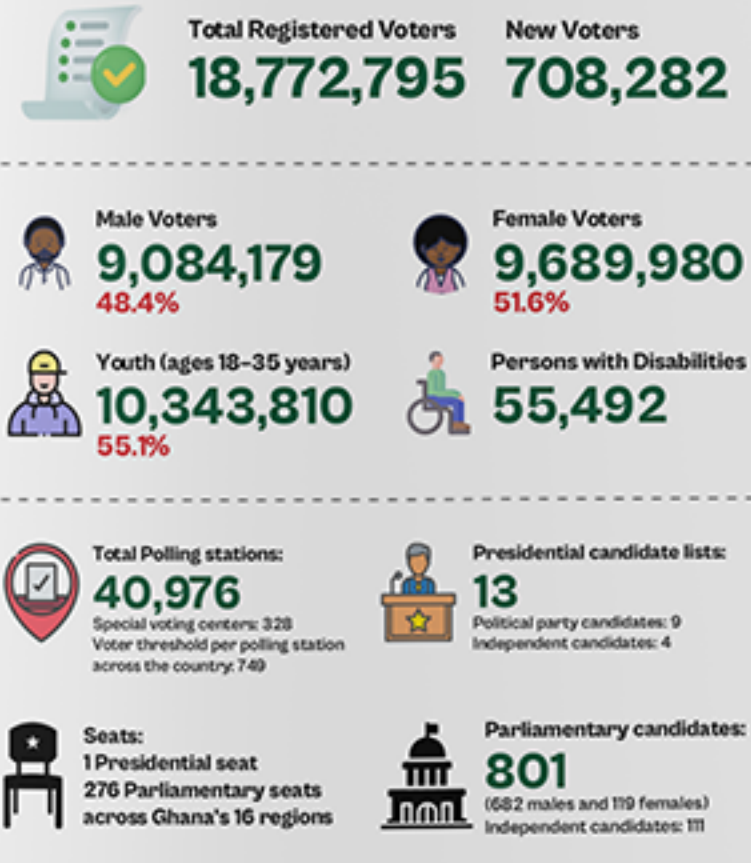


“Ghana Elections 2024: Pathways for Democratic Maturity” offers a comprehensive analysis of key aspects of the 2024 Ghana Presidential and Parliamentary elections, including election administration, voting rights, and the role of electoral technology.



2024 Ghana Presidential and Parliamentary Elections:

Key Insights



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**NEW
PUBLICATION**



**of the Local
Election Index Tool**

A comprehensive tool designed to evaluate the quality of local government elections, assesses key electoral aspects, provides insights into key areas for improvement, and advocates for measures to address these issues. The tool covers various aspects of the electoral process, including voter registration, campaign activities, election administration, and the role of electoral institutions to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections.

**Electoral
Integrity Index**

The Index is a comprehensive and qualitative method. The Index is a comprehensive and qualitative method. The Index is a comprehensive and qualitative method. The Index is a comprehensive and qualitative method.

**Local Government
Elections Integrity
Index**



Index for Assessing the Integrity of Local Government Elections in Nigeria | 4

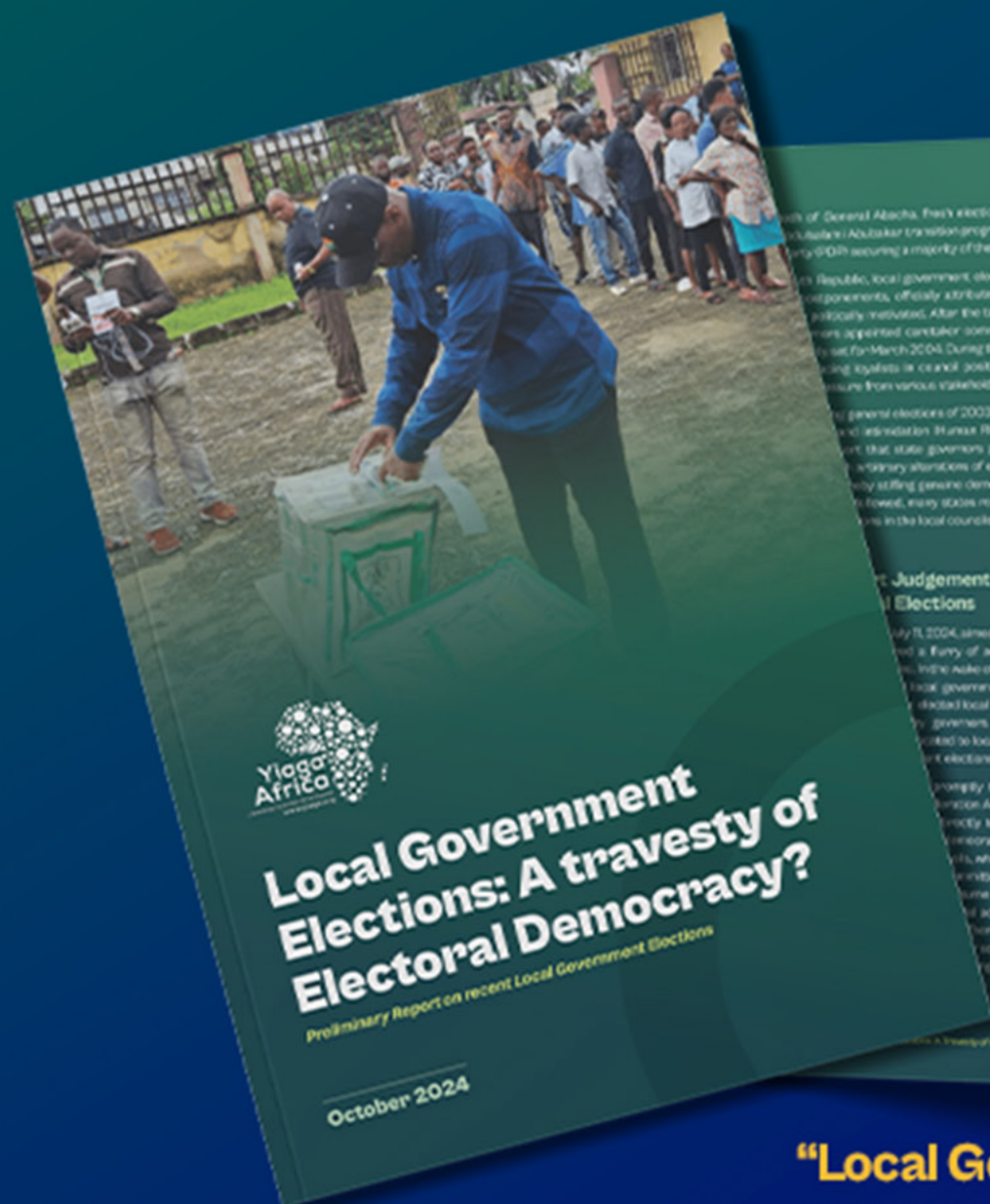
**Local Government Election
Assessment Index (LGEAI)**

Period	Sections	Questions
Pre-election	A. Electoral Context	1. The previous election that brought in the incumbent administration was credible and transparent.
		2. Incumbent administration performed well in governance.
Election Day	1. Electoral Laws	3. Citizens experienced freedom under the incumbent administration.
		4. The tenure of the incumbent was characterised by relative peace and security.
		5. The opposition party was not suppressed by the incumbent administration.
		6. The Opposition party did not boycott the last LGA elections in the state.
		7. There were few allegations during the last LGA elections.
		8. There was a high voter turnout in the last election.
		9. Citizens expressed satisfaction with the last election.
		10. Election guidelines complied with the provisions of the Electoral Act.
Election Day	2. Electoral Procedures	1. Electoral laws were fair to smaller parties and candidates.
		2. Electoral laws did not only favour the governing party or parties.
		3. Election laws did not restrict the rights of, i.e., disenfranchised citizens.
		4. Election procedures are consistent with the state electoral law.
		5. Electoral rules and procedures are clearly spelt out.
		6. Election regulations were accessible to all stakeholders.
		7. Election regulations and voting procedures were widely publicised.
		8. Election regulations and voting procedures were widely publicised.

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“The Local Government Elections Integrity Index” is developed as a tool to systematically assess key aspects of local government elections in Nigeria.



**Local Government
Elections: A travesty of
Electoral Democracy?**

Preliminary Report on recent Local Government Elections

October 2024

**Judgement on Local Government
Elections**

On 18 October 2024, the Supreme Court handed down its judgment on the appeal filed by the Federal Government against the decision of the Court of Appeal in the case of *Attorney General of the Federation v. State Governors*. The Court held that the 2023 local government elections were free, fair, and credible, and that the results should stand.

**States with Democratically Elected LGA before the
Supreme Court Judgement**



14
States

States with Elected LGAs after the Supreme Court Judgements



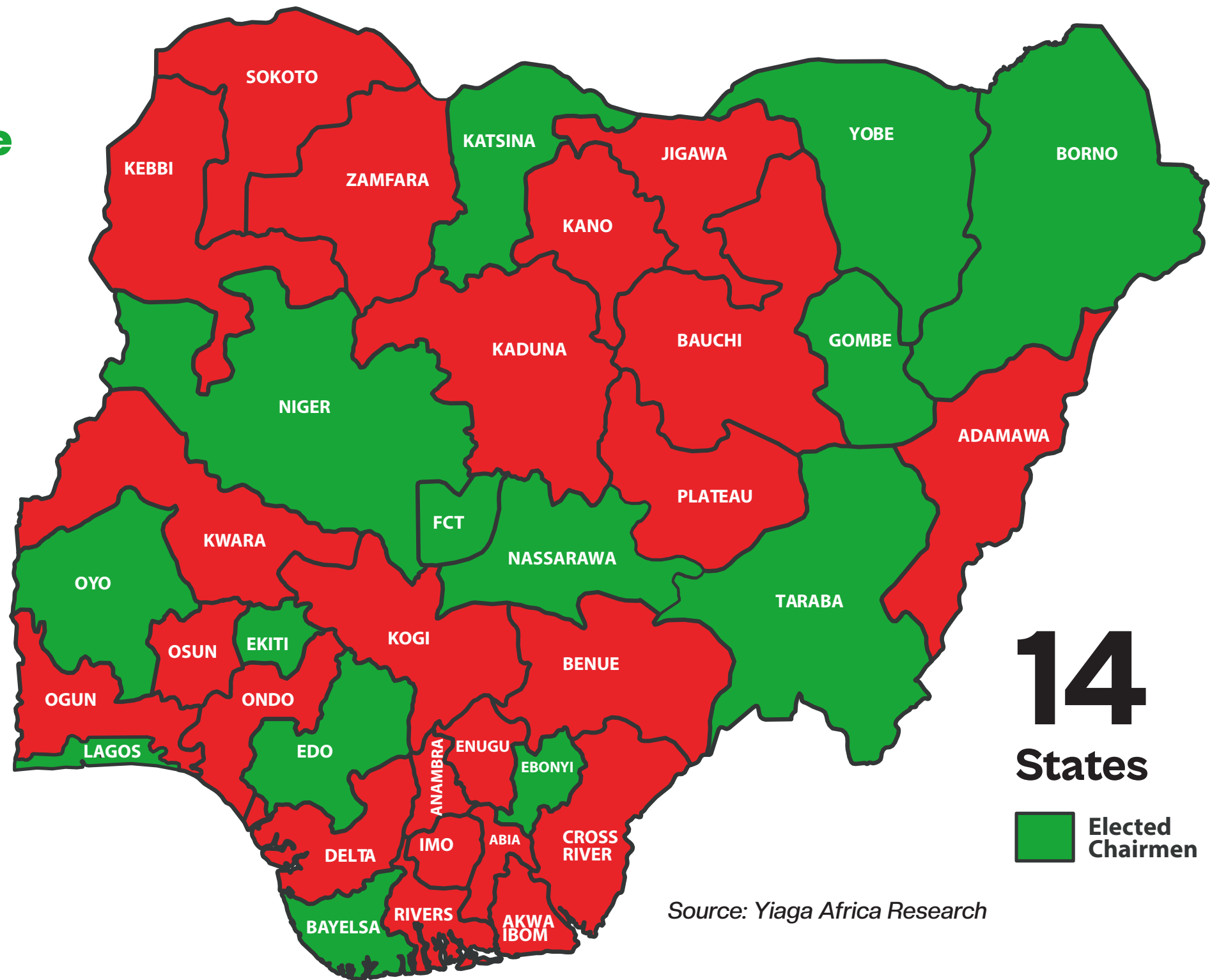
31
States

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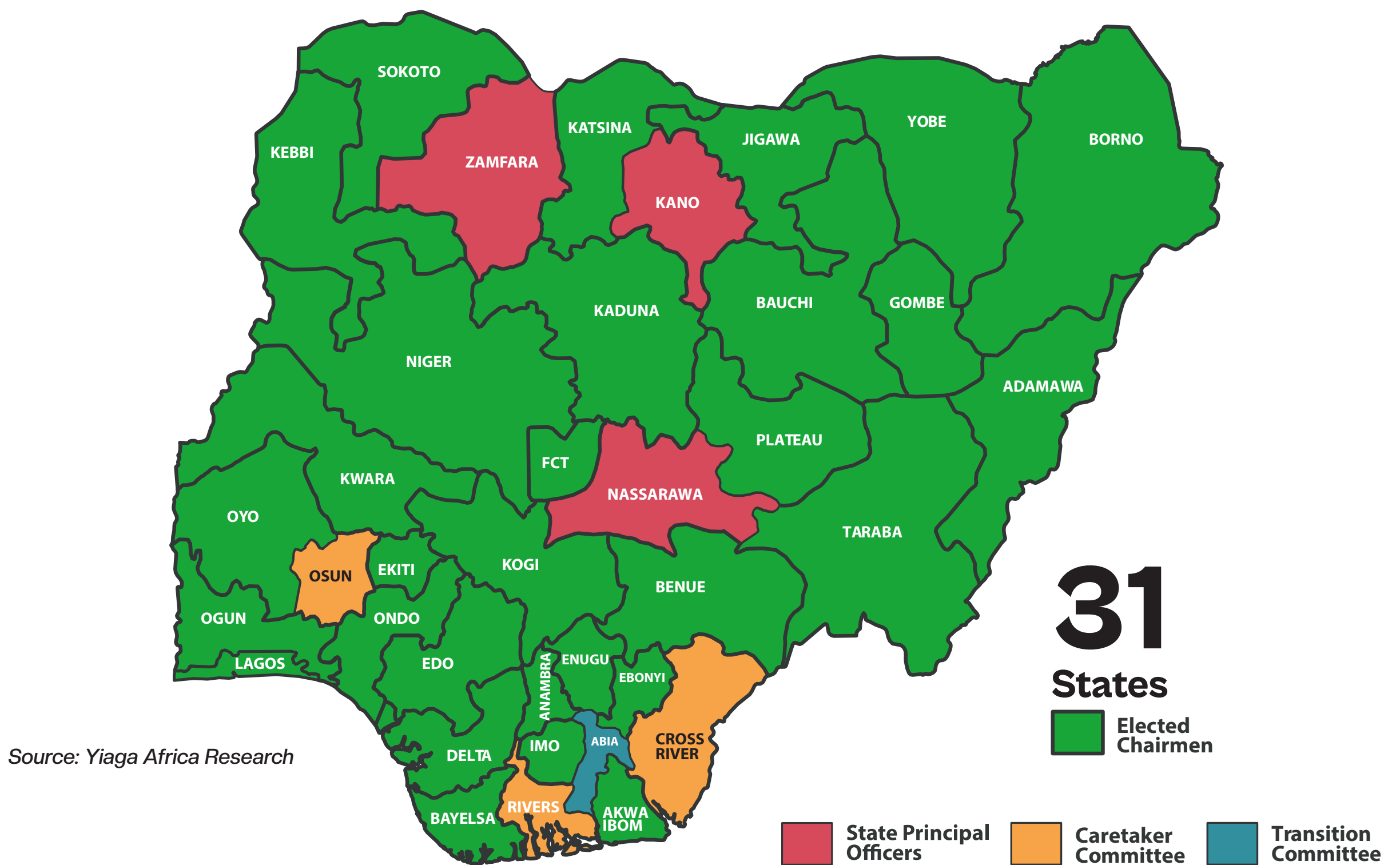


“Local Government Elections: A Travesty of Electoral Democracy?” is designed to explain the current debacle over local government elections in Nigeria and highlight major issues in the public and policy discourse around the problems. The aim is to provide ingredients for discourse on local government elections in Nigeria.

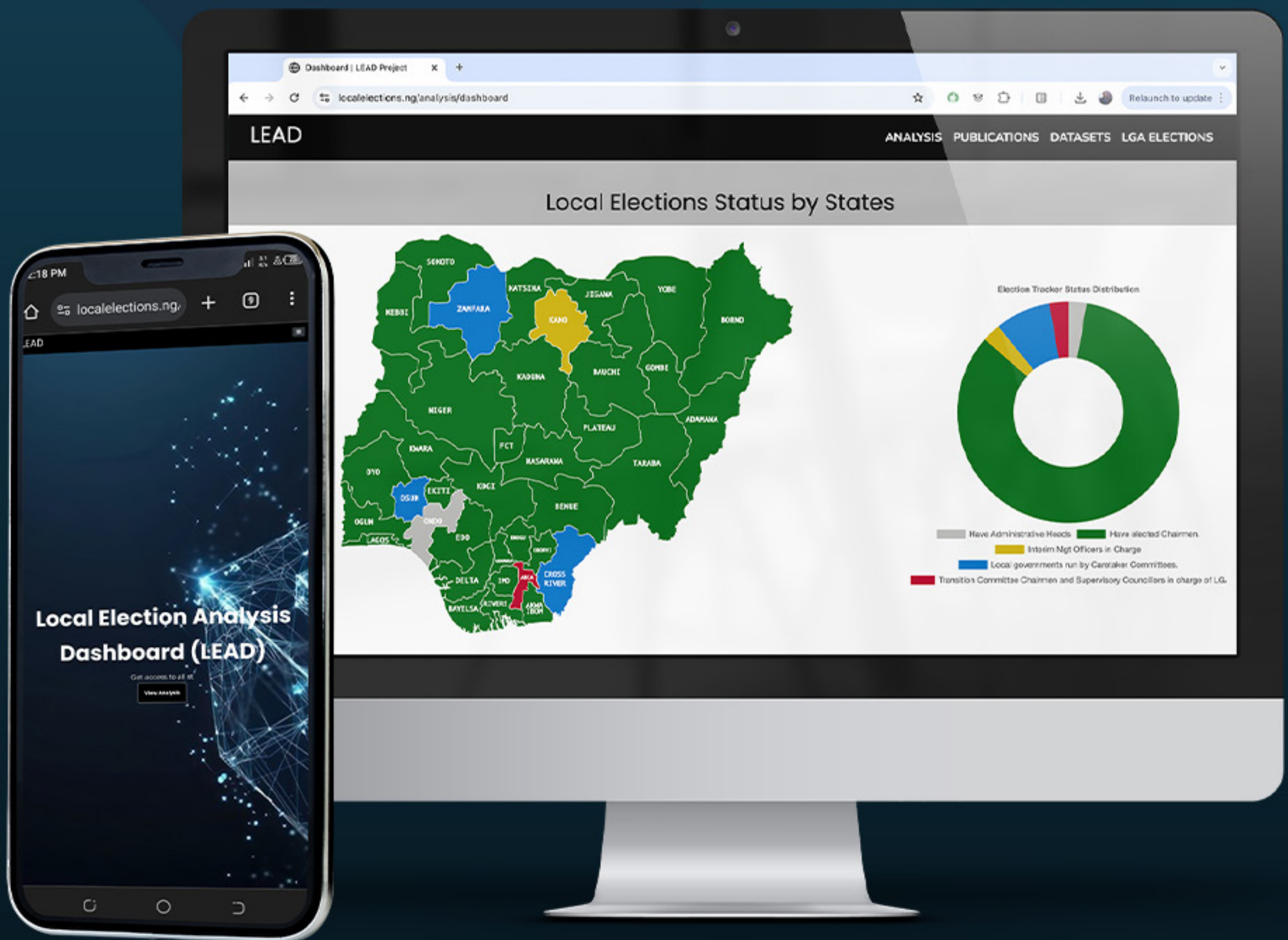
States with Democratically Elected LGA before the Supreme Court Judgement



States with Elected LGAs after the Supreme Court Judgements



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION ANALYSIS DASHBOARD



www.localelections.ng

COMING SOON

Upcoming Local Government Elections



 **TOTAL NUMBER OF STATES**

2

 **TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs**

43

 **TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS**

10,597,385

Rivers
August 9,
2025

23 | **TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs**

Lagos
July 12,
2025

23 | **TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs**

As at 25th April, 2025