

OSUN STATE

2026 GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

EVERYTHING YOU SHOULD KNOW



ELECTION DAY

SATURDAY, 15 AUGUST 2026





1.0

Osun at a Glance



Located in Nigeria's South-West geopolitical zone, Osun State is one of Nigeria's thirty-six states. Created on 27 August 1991 from the old Oyo State, it derives its name from the Osun River, one of the most culturally significant rivers in Yorubaland. The State shares boundaries with Kwara State to the north, Ekiti and Ondo States to the east, Ogun State to the south, and Oyo State to the west, covering approximately 14,875 square kilometres.



Widely regarded as one of Nigeria's cultural and historical heartlands, Osun is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, educational institutions, agriculture, commerce and tourism. The people are predominantly Yoruba, comprising the Ife, Ijesha, Ibolo, Igbomina and Oyo sub-groups, with Yoruba serving as the principal language spoken across the State.



Administratively, Osun State comprises 30 Local Government Areas (LGAs), three Senatorial Districts, nine Federal Constituencies and twenty-six State Constituencies. For electoral purposes, the State is divided into 332 Registration Areas (Wards) and 3,763 Polling Units administered by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).



Scheduled for Saturday, 15 August 2026, the Osun State Governorship Election is one of Nigeria's major off-cycle elections. Beyond electing the next Governor, the election provides an important opportunity to assess the implementation of the Electoral Act 2026, the performance of election technology, political party competitiveness, voter participation and the overall credibility of Nigeria's electoral process ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

Key Facts

VOTER DEMOGRAPHICS



TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS

2,339,233



**NEW REGISTRATIONS
(2025/2026 CVR)**
395,995



**VALID NEW
REGISTRATION**
365,356



VOTER MOBILITY

Transfers Into Osun: **26,202**
Transfers Out of Osun: **7,125**

GEOGRAPHICAL & LOGISTICAL DATA



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREAS (LGAS)**
30



**SENATORIAL
DISTRICTS**
3



**FEDERAL
CONSTITUENCIES**
9



**STATE
CONSTITUENCIES**
26



POLLING UNITS
3,763



BVAS DEVICES
5,130
+ 1,328 BACKUP DEVICES

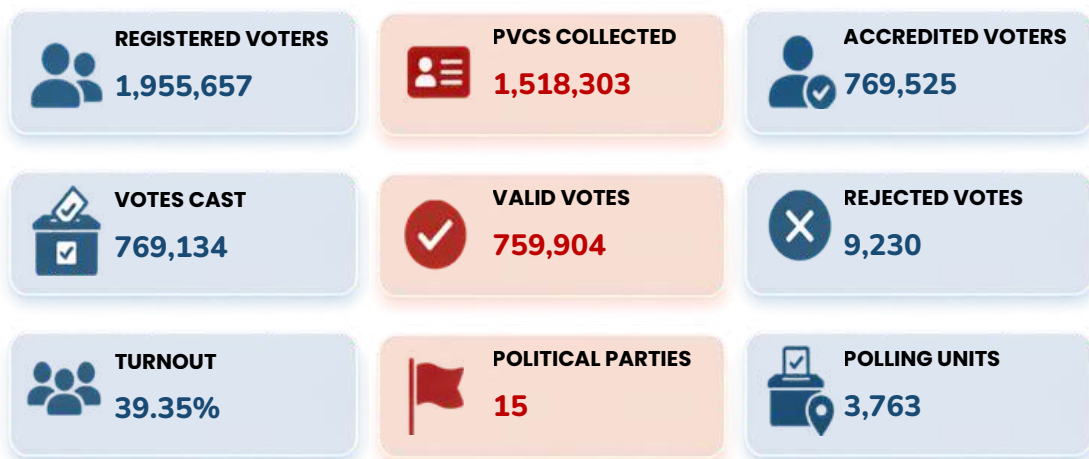
2.0 Electoral History of Osun State —

Since Nigeria's return to democratic rule in 1999, Osun State has experienced competitive governorship elections and several changes in political leadership. While different political parties have governed the State over the years, elections in Osun have consistently attracted national attention due to their competitiveness, legal disputes and implications for politics in the South-West.

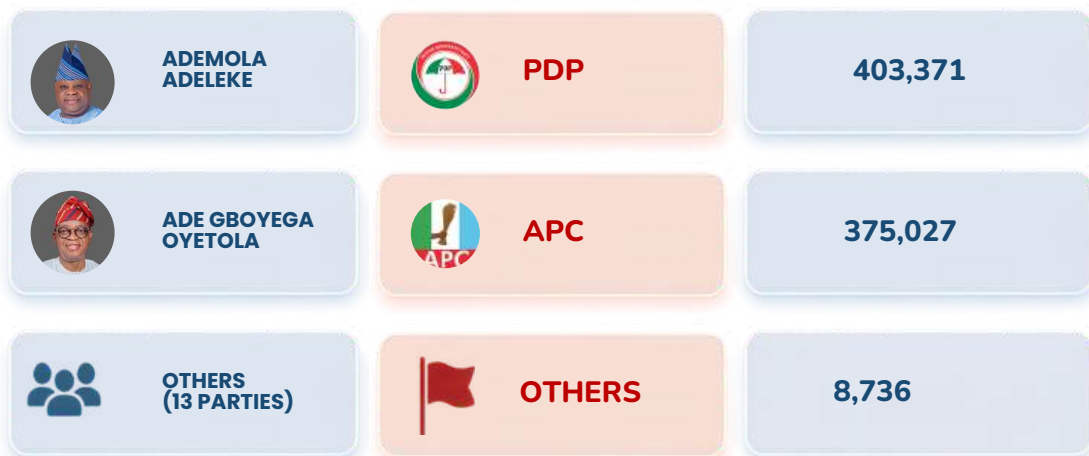
Key political milestones:

YEAR	WINNER	POLITICAL PARTY	VOTES	NOTABLE DEVELOPMENTS
1999	Chief Adebisi Akande	Alliance for Democracy (AD)	295,557	First democratically elected governor of Osun State in the Fourth Republic.
2003	Olagunsoye Oyinlola	Peoples Democratic Party (PDP)	493,509	PDP assumed control of the State.
2007	Olagunsoye Oyinlola (initially declared winner)	Peoples Democratic Party (PDP)	426,669	The result was challenged in court and later overturned. In November 2010, the Court of Appeal declared Rauf Aregbesola the lawful winner of the 2007 election.
2014	Rauf Aregbesola	All Progressives Congress (APC)	394,684	Re-elected for a second term after defeating Iyiola Omisore (PDP).
2018	Gboyega Oyetola	All Progressives Congress (APC)	255,505	Election was declared inconclusive, followed by a supplementary poll. Oyetola was declared winner after the rerun and his victory was ultimately affirmed by the Supreme Court.
2022	Senator Ademola Adeleke	Peoples Democratic Party (PDP)	403,371	PDP regained Osun State after defeating incumbent Governor Gboyega Oyetola. The Supreme Court subsequently affirmed Adeleke's election.

2022 Election Statistics



Election Outcome



MARGIN OF VICTORY : 28,344 VOTES

3.0 2022 vs 2026

How Has the Election changed?

The 2026 Osun State Governorship Election builds on the 2022 election but takes place within a different political and electoral landscape. Since the last governorship election, the voter register has expanded significantly, the Electoral Act has been updated, political alignments have shifted, and electoral technology has become more established. These developments make the 2026 election an important indicator of Nigeria's democratic progress ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

Comparative Overview

INDICATOR	2022 ELECTION	2026 ELECTION
ELECTION DATE	16TH JULY 2022	15TH AUGUST 2026
REGISTERED VOTERS	1,955,657	2,339,233
INCREASE IN VOTERS	+273,162	+365,356
PVCS COLLECTED	1,518,303	322,822 • As at 29 th July 2026
ELECTORAL LAW	ELECTORAL ACT 2022	ELECTORAL ACT 2026
POLITICAL PARTIES	15	14
POLLING UNITS	3,763	3,763
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS	30	30
REGISTRATION AREAS	332	332
BVAS DEPLOYED	3,763	5,130 • +1,328 backup devices

2022 MAJOR PLAYERS



2026 MAJOR PLAYERS



The 2023 General Elections in Perspective

The 2023 General Elections were the first nationwide elections conducted under the Electoral Act 2022 and marked the large-scale deployment of technologies such as BVAS and the INEC Result Viewing (IReV) Portal. While these innovations strengthened voter accreditation and increased transparency in several respects, the elections also exposed operational challenges relating to logistics, technology deployment and result management.

For Osun State, the 2023 elections were conducted using the same register developed after the 2022 governorship election, with 1,954,800 registered voters, approximately 81.5% PVC collection, 1,534,948 PVCs collected, and 5,114 registered Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

These figures provide an important benchmark for assessing changes in the state's electoral landscape ahead of the 2026 governorship election.



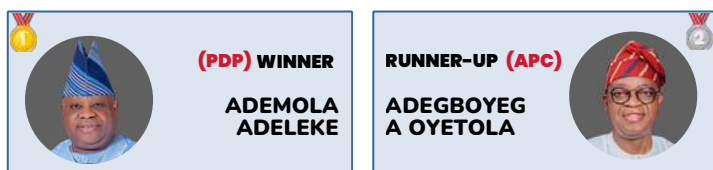
Key Changes Since 2022

Between the 2022 and 2026 Osun State governorship elections, the number of registered voters increased from 1,955,657 to 2,339,233, representing a net increase of 383,576 voters (19.6%). This growth followed the Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) exercise conducted ahead of the 2023 General Election, during which 395,995 people registered. After the Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) validation, 365,356 new registrations were confirmed as valid and added to the register. In addition, 26,202 voters transferred into Osun State, contributing to the expanded voter register for the 2026 governorship election.

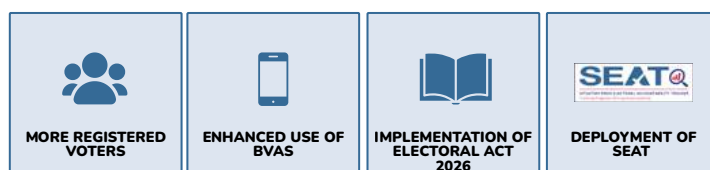
Other notable developments include:

- The implementation of the Electoral Act 2026, introducing further reforms to Nigeria's electoral framework.
- An expanded deployment of BVAS, with 5,130 devices available, including 1,328 backup devices to strengthen contingency planning.
- A reduction in the number of political parties contesting the election from 15 in 2022 to 14 in 2026.
- The deployment of the SEAT App by the Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room to support citizen reporting, election observation and real-time incident monitoring.
- Increased emphasis on national security, voter education and technology-driven election management as Nigeria prepares for the 2027 General Elections.

ELECTION OUTCOME



KEY CHANGES



4.0 Meet the Candidates

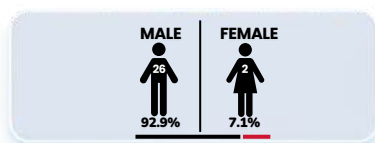
The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has cleared 14 political parties to participate in the 2026 Osun State Governorship Election. Each political party has nominated a governorship candidate and a running mate, presenting voters with a diverse field of contestants from different political, professional, and leadership backgrounds.

This section provides a consolidated list of all candidates contesting the election, followed by a demographic overview of the race. The demographic profile highlights the distribution of candidates by gender and age, offering readers a snapshot of the composition of the 2026 governorship contest.

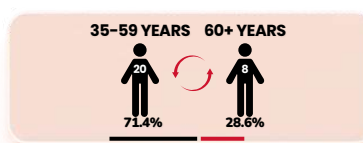
S/N	POLITICAL PARTY	CANDIDATE	AGE	GENDER	PWD
1.	 ACCORD (A)	ADEMOLA ADELEKE KOLA ADEWUSI	65 66	M M	No No
2.	 ACTION ALLIANCE (AA)	OLANREWAJU FARINLOYE FADAHUNSI OLANIYI	40 67	M M	No No
3.	 AFRICAN ACTION CONGRESS (AAC)	ESAN OLAJIDE BELLO MUIDEEN YEKEEN	39 51	M M	No No
4.	 AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (ADC)	SALAAM NAJEEM FOLASAYO AGIRI YEMISI TEMITOPE	60 55	M F	No No
5.	 AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (ADP)	ADEAGBO OPAWOYE YEMISI ATANDA ENIOLA BABATUNDE	64 43	F M	No No
6.	 ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS (APC)	BOLA OYEBAMIJI BENJAMIN ADERETI KAYODE	60 48	M M	No No
7.	 ALL PROGRESSIVES GRAND ALLIANCE (APGA)	ADESINA ADEYEMI-DORO DURO ONI DURO IRIMENG	40 41	M M	No No
8.	 ALLIED PEOPLES MOVEMENT (APM)	ADEWALE ADEBAYO SIMON JIMOH NAHEEM SHINA	41 42	M M	No No
9.	 ACTION PEOPLES PARTY (APP)	CLEMENT ADESUYI ODESOLA OLUSEYE TITUS	69 49	M M	No No
10.	 BOOT PARTY (BP)	MASILO ADELEKE ARESA KEHINDE ADENIKE	65 42	M M	No No
11.	 NEW NIGERIA PEOPLES PARTY (NNPP)	TAOFEEK ADELEKE OLUWABUSOYA ADEYERA	52 36	M M	No No
12.	 PEOPLES REDEMPTION PARTY (PRP)	SALIU OYELAMI ADEWALE ALABI SOLOMON	49 65	M M	No No
13.	 YOUNG PROGRESSIVES PARTY (YPP)	OGUNSAKIN OLALEKAN ENOCH OYETOLA TAYE	37 40	M M	No No
14.	 ZENITH LABOUR PARTY (ZLP)	ADEFEMI ADESUYI JOHN ABDULSALAM ABUBAKAR	50 35	M M	No No

Demographics

GENDER AGGREGATION



AGE DISTRIBUTION



PWD DISTRIBUTION



NOTE: Across the 28 candidates (governorship and deputy governorship), only two are women - Adeagbo Yemisi (ADP governorship candidate) and Yemisi Temitope Agiri (ADC deputy governorship candidate), representing just 7.1% of all candidates.



4.0 Voters Demographics

Understanding the composition of the electorate is essential to appreciating the dynamics of the 2026 Osun State Governorship Election. Osun's voter register reflects a diverse electorate across gender, age groups and persons with disabilities (PWDs), providing valuable insights into the population eligible to participate in the election.

As of the final register released by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Osun State has 2,339,233 registered voters spread across the state's 30 Local Government Areas and 3,763 Polling Units. Women constitute a slight majority of registered voters, while young people continue to make up a significant share of the electorate, highlighting the critical role of youth participation in determining the outcome of the election.

The voter register also captures the inclusion of 8,021 Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), reinforcing the importance of ensuring an electoral process that is accessible, inclusive and responsive to the needs of every eligible voter.

Key Highlights:



WOMEN MAJORITY OF REGISTERED VOTERS

Women make up the majority of registered voters in Osun State, accounting for

52.8%

of the electorate.



YOUNG VOTERS AGED 18–34 YEARS

Young voters aged 18–34 years represent the single largest age group, comprising

857,056 (36.64%)

registered voters



VOTERS BELOW 50 YEARS

Approximately

69.7%

of registered voters are below the age of 50, demonstrating the significant influence of younger and middle-aged voters in the election.



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)

8,021 registered voters identified as Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), representing

0.34%

of the electorate.

6.0 Electoral and Security Environment —



Every election is conducted within a unique political and security context that can influence voter participation, electoral administration, and the overall credibility of the process. Understanding this environment enables citizens, observers, political actors, and other stakeholders to anticipate potential risks and contribute to a peaceful electoral process.

As the 2026 Osun State Governorship Election approaches, political campaigns have intensified across the State, accompanied by increased public engagement and heightened political activities. While democratic participation remains vibrant, recent developments have also highlighted emerging security concerns that require sustained attention from electoral stakeholders.

To provide a clearer understanding of the electoral landscape, the Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room, through its partners, has continued to monitor developments across the state. This section presents key findings from independent pre-election assessments conducted by **Kim pact Development Initiative (KDI)** highlighting the prevailing electoral environment, emerging security concerns, and identified flashpoints that may require increased monitoring before, during, and after the election.

Kim pact Development Initiative Election Security Risk Assessment Report (ESRA):

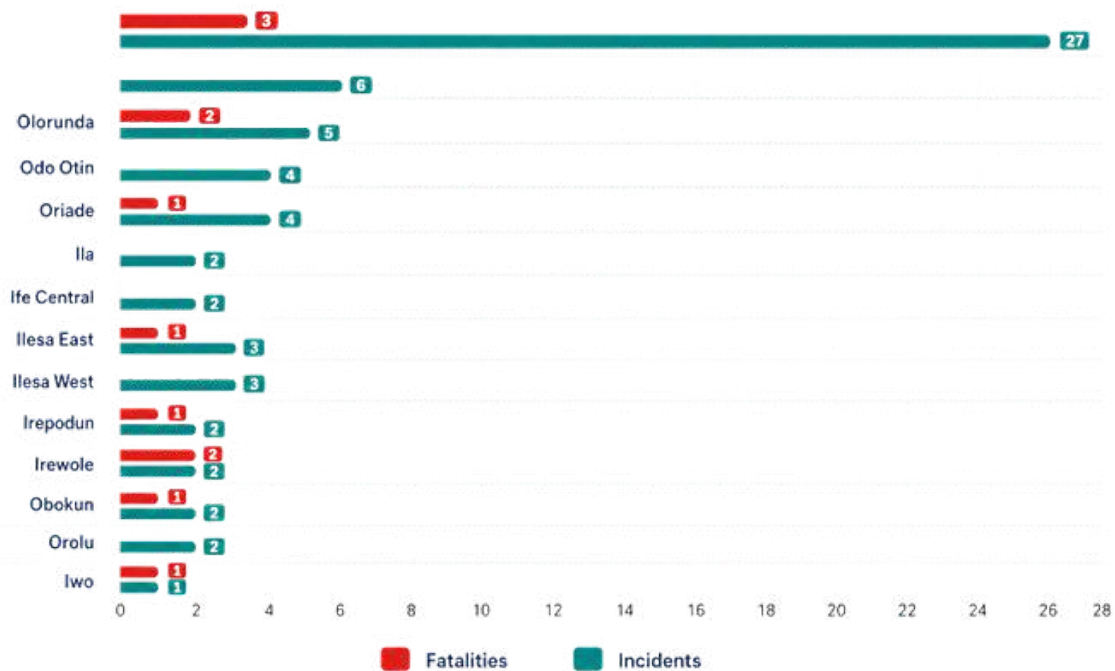
Experience from previous election cycles demonstrates that many election-day disruptions originate from risks that emerge during the pre-election period but remain insufficiently understood or inadequately addressed. Effective election security therefore depends on the ability of electoral stakeholders to identify, monitor, and mitigate these risks before they escalate into violence, operational failures, or threats to electoral credibility.

It is against this backdrop that Kimpact Development Initiative (KDI) conducted the 2026 Osun State Election Security Risk Assessment (ESRA).

Rather than viewing electoral violence as isolated incidents, the assessment examines the broader ecosystem of pressures that influence election security and democratic stability.

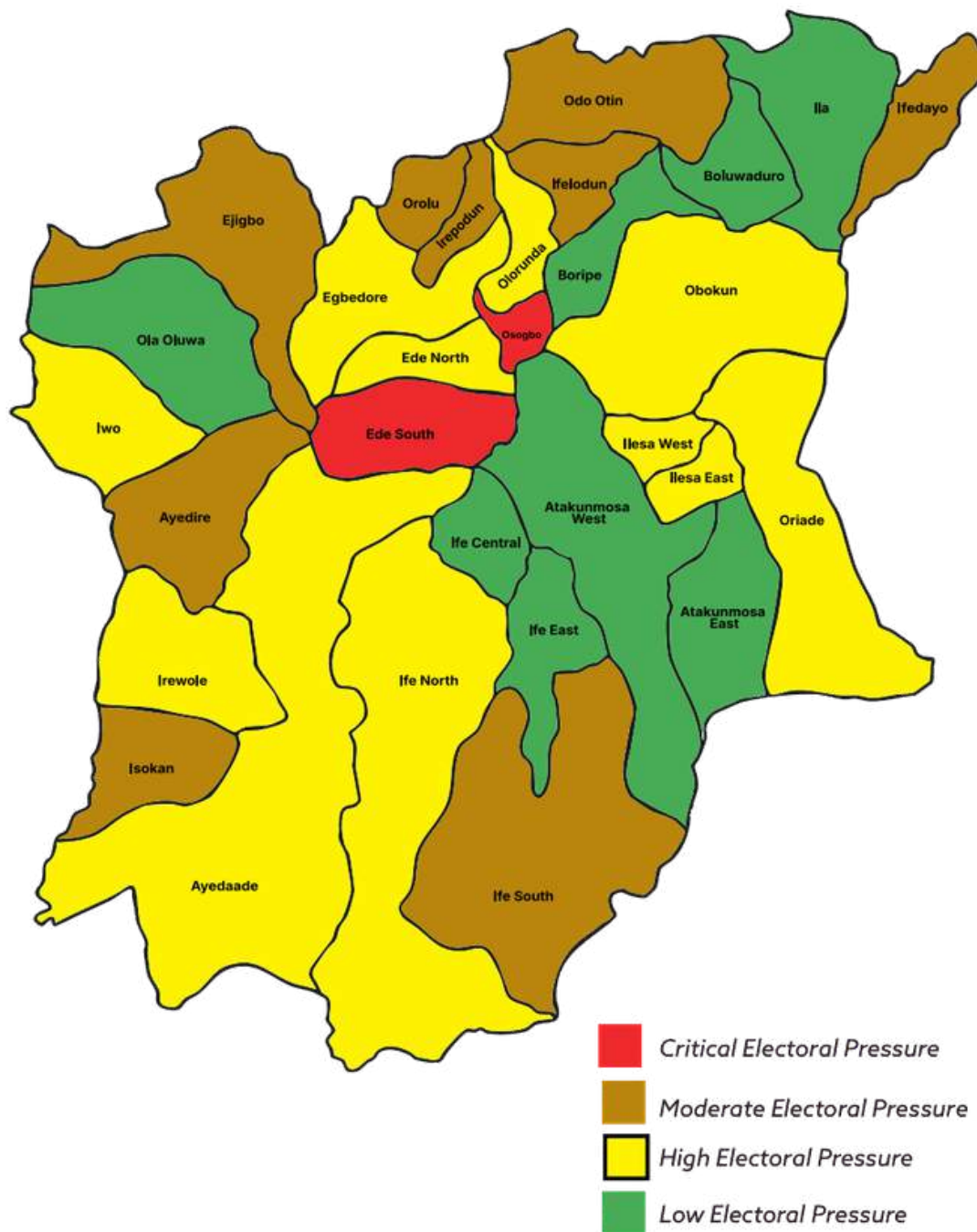
Geographic Patterns of Electoral Violence in Osun

INCIDENTS AND REPORTS PER LGA



- 01 ▶ **Osogbo is the epicentre:** 27 incidents and 3 deaths - The state capital absorbs the bulk of both
- 02 ▶ **Olorunda, Oriade, Irepodun, Irewole, Iwo and Obokun** each saw fatality in a few incidents - lethality is not where volume is the highest
- 03 ▶ **Aiyedaade, Atakumosa West, Ede North, Egbedore, Ife East, Ifed-ayo, Ilesa East, Ilesa West, and Isokan** all had one incidents each.

Osun State Pre-electoral Risk Pressure Mapping



Electoral Pressure Category	LGAs	No. of LGAs
Critical Electoral Pressure	Osogbo, Ede South	2
High Electoral Pressure	Ede North, Egbedore, Iwo, Irewode, Ayedaade, Obokun, Oriade, Ilesha East, Ilesha West, Ife North, Olorunda	11
Moderate Electoral Pressure	Ifelodun, Ife South, Ayedire, Ejigbo, Ifedayo, Odo Otin, Irepodun, Isokan, Orolu	9
Low Electoral Pressure	Atakunmosa East, Atakunmosa West, Ife East, Ife Central, Ila, Boripe, Boluwaduro, Ola-Oluwa	8
Total	30 LGAs	30

Highlight of the Findings

Violence is changing: Electoral violence in Osun State ahead of the August 15, 2026, governorship election is becoming more deliberate, organised, geographically concentrated and strategic rather than spontaneous.

Fear is spreading: Behavioural indicators show that fear has become an electoral weapon with intimidation and unanticipated violence beginning to suppress participation before physical violence occurs.

Existing criminal structures were activated: Existing criminal and communal structures are being activated by political competition.

Risks are overlapping: Electoral risk pressure (interacting political, criminal, operational, information and social pressures) rather than only security risk (isolated incidents) will shape how the outcome of the 2026 Osun governorship election will be viewed.

Hotspots Are Becoming Predictable: A limited number of LGAs account for the majority of emerging electoral pressures, making preventive deployment more achievable.

Prevention is possible: Evidence suggests that timely intelligence, coordinated deployment and targeted preventive interventions can significantly reduce escalation.

SOURCE: Kimpact Development Initiative, Aug 2026, 2026 Osun Election Integrity and Security Assessment, Electoral Pressures, Risk Scenarios and Strategic Mitigation Priorities.

7.0 How to Vote

How to Vote on Election Day:

Voting in the Osun State Governorship Election follows procedures established by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). Every eligible voter is expected to comply with these procedures to ensure a peaceful, transparent and credible electoral process.



Before Leaving Home:



1. CONFIRM YOUR POLLING UNIT.

Ensure you know your polling unit location before election day.



2. TAKE YOUR PERMANENT VOTER'S CARD (PVC).

Your PVC is required to vote, so don't leave home without it.



3. LEAVE EARLY TO AVOID DELAYS.

Voting begins 8:30 am. Plan ahead to arrive on time.



4. DRESS COMFORTABLY AND PREPARE FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Be comfortable and ready for any weather.



At the Polling Unit

STEP 1



Join the appropriate queue.

STEP 2



Present your PVC to the polling official.

STEP 3



Complete BVAS accreditation through finger print and/or facial authentication.

STEP 4



Receive your ballot paper.

STEP 5



Proceed to the voting cubicle and mark your preferred candidate in secret.

STEP 6



Fold your ballot paper correctly.

STEP 7



Insert the ballot paper into the ballot box.

STEP 8



Remain orderly while the results are counted, where applicable.

Election Day Do's and Dont's



ELECTION DAY DO'S



Come with your PVC.



Follow INEC officials' instructions.



Vote peacefully.



Respect other voters.



Report electoral offences appropriately.



Verify information before sharing.



ELECTION DAY DON'TS



Do not trade your votes.



Do not campaign within your polling unit.



Do not destroy election materials.



Do not engage in violence.



Do not spread misinformation.



Do not interfere with election officials.



Do not impersonate another voter.

8.0 SEAT App – Incident Reporting Guide–

Your election day experience matters, share it with the SEAT App!

What is the SEAT App?

The SEAT App is a digital election accountability platform developed by the Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room to promote transparency, citizen participation and electoral accountability throughout Nigeria's electoral process.

It enables citizens to report election-related incidents in real time, document their Election Day experiences, and access credible election information. By providing timely reports from polling units across the country, the platform supports election observation efforts and contributes to the credibility and integrity of the electoral process.

Every report submitted through the SEAT App helps strengthen election monitoring by providing timely information that can support rapid response, documentation and advocacy by election stakeholders.



What Can You Report?

Using the SEAT App, citizens can report a wide range of election-related incidents, including:



How to Report an Incident Using the SEAT App

Option 1: Report via the SEAT App:

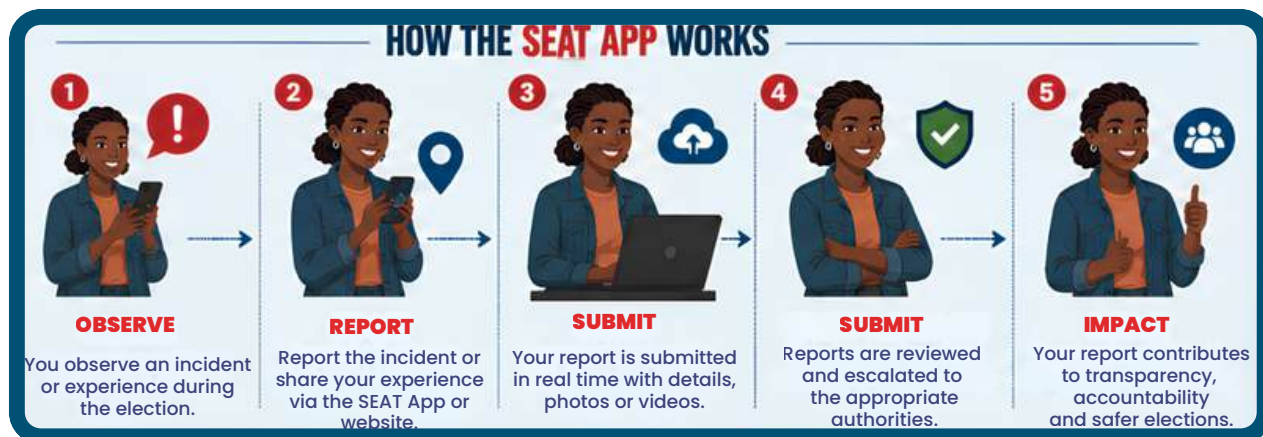


Option 2: Report via the Website



What Happens After You Submit?

All reports submitted through the SEAT platform are received in real time and reviewed by the Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room. Where necessary, verified reports are escalated to the appropriate authorities and relevant stakeholders to support timely response, election monitoring and accountability.



Remember: Report only incidents you personally observe or experience. Your safety is paramount, never place yourself at risk while gathering information or documenting an incident.



NIGERIA CIVIL SOCIETY
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