



ELECTORAL HUB TECHNICAL PAPER 2/2020

DEEPENING DEMOCRACY: LESSONS FROM ONDO STATE 2020 GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

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Introduction

The Ondo governorship election held on 10 October 2020 led to the victory of incumbent Governor Rotimi Akeredolu of the All Progressives Congress (APC). Shortly after the election, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) gave an official breakdown of the results, declaring the number of votes gained by each candidate.

Just like the previous election in Edo State, INEC used an online result viewing portal to allow citizens track the election results in real time. As a result of this portal, stakeholders can also conduct research and analysis of the primary data. In line with this, the Electoral Hub, an organ of the Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD), produced a document analysing the Edo election and its result.¹ In a similar way, we have produced this document to contribute to the understanding of the Ondo election and its results.

Reports by observers also reveal the strengths and weaknesses of this election. From these reports, we can highlight important lessons to be learned from the election, and how we can use them to deepen democracy in Nigeria. Given that the Ondo election is the second major election to be conducted during the coronavirus pandemic in Nigeria, it can be used as a case study on how to conduct elections during emergencies.

This document analyses the 2020 Ondo election, using INEC's result breakdown, data from the result viewing portal, and reports from observers on the field. In particular, it analyses the result sheets of selected polling units in Akoko North East, Ondo East, and Ese-Odo to draw out five major themes. It then outlines the strengths and weaknesses of the election, drawing lessons from them and providing recommendations on how to improve the electoral systems and processes in the future. This document can be used by stakeholders to better understand the Ondo election, and how we can use the lessons from the election to improve the integrity and credibility of elections in Nigeria.

¹ The Electoral Hub, *Deepening Democracy: Lessons from Edo State 2020 Governorship Election*, Electoral Hub Technical Paper 1/2020. Available at <https://electoralhub.iriadev.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/TECHNICAL-PAPER-Lessons-from-Edo-State-Governorship-Election.pdf>

Results Analysis

On 11 and 13 October 2020, official breakdowns of the governorship election results were posted by INEC, declaring that Akeredolu was elected with 292,830 votes (51.1%), while voter turnout was 32.8% (see images below). Data from INEC's result viewing portal (see Appendix A) also reveal some wider trends about the election. The data extracted from the portal covers selected polling units in one local government area (LGA) in each of the three senatorial districts: Akoko North East (Ondo North), Ondo East (Ondo Central), and Ese-Odo (Ondo South). These results reveal five major themes about the election results: mathematical inconsistencies and administrative errors, electoral malpractices, low turnout, multi-party voting, and quality of data.



DECLARATION OF RESULT TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, ONDO STATE

I Prof. Abel Idowu Olayinka, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ibadan, hereby certify that I am the returning officer for the Ondo State Governorship Election held on the 10th day of October 2020. That the election was contested and the following parties received the following votes;

APC = 292,830
PDP = 195,791
ZLP = 69,127

Total Number of Registered Voters = 1,812,634
Total Number of Accredited of Voters = 595,213
Total Number of Valid Votes = 572,745
Total Number of Rejected Votes = 18,448
Total Number of Votes Cast = 591,193

That OLUWAROTIMI ODUNAYO AKEREDOLU of the APC, having satisfied the requirement of the law and scored the highest number of votes, is hereby declared the WINNER and returned elected.

Prof. Abel Idowu Olayinka
10th October 2020

Source: INEC Nigeria²

1. Mathematical inconsistencies and administrative errors

From the sample of result sheets analysed, there were noticeable corrections and cancellations, although they were not as much as the corrections in the sample analysed for the Edo election.³ An example is the result sheet of Ward 2, Unit 3, Ondo East, which had many cancellations and corrections that made the figures difficult to read. This indicates the high likelihood of error that comes with manual voting and recording of results.

In addition to cancellations and corrections, there were also clear mathematical inconsistencies in the result sheets of some polling units. Some of these inconsistencies were minor, as in Ward 4, Unit 6, Akoko North East and Ward 3, Unit 7, Ese-Odo, where the total number of valid votes differed from the sum of votes recorded for each party by one. Others were more significant, such as Ward 2, Unit 2, Ese-Odo, where the sum of the votes recorded for each party was 332, but the total number of valid votes recorded was 341 – a difference of 9. Indeed, the number of invalid votes for that polling unit was also 9, which suggests that the correct figure for valid votes should have been 332, to make a total of 341 accredited voters. This indicates that the discrepancies were due to either mathematical or administrative errors on the part of election officials.

It was also clear that there were some errors in recording in some polling units. For instance, in Ward 4, Unit 8, Akoko North East, the result sheet indicates that there were

² INEC Nigeria, <https://twitter.com/inecnigeria/>

³ The Electoral Hub, *Deepening Democracy: Lessons from Edo State 2020 Governorship Election* (above n 1), page 4

272 accredited voters out of 272 registered voters, indicating a voter turnout of 100% which seems highly unlikely. Indeed, 698 ballot papers were issued to the polling unit, which suggests that the correct figure for registered voters is 698 rather than 272. These errors in recording ultimately affect aggregate results like overall voter turnout.

As a result of these mathematical inconsistencies in some polling units, the total figures for registered voters, accredited voters, and valid versus invalid votes are unreliable. While the aggregates are generally indicative, they are not completely accurate due to incorrect or unavailable data on the portal. It is important for INEC to address this issue by training officials to enter results accurately and, eventually, introducing electronic voting to reduce the likelihood of error.

2. Electoral malpractices

The result portal shows that electoral malpractices including violence prevented elections from holding in some polling units. According to the message written on the result sheet of Ward 6, Unit 6, Ondo East, there was an incident where the Presiding Officer (PO) refused to use the Smart Card Reader. The agents were not happy with this and a fight broke out, leading to the Assistant Presiding Officer (APO), who was to handle the Smart Card Reader, running away. As all efforts to find the APO failed, the election in that polling unit was cancelled.

Similarly, in Ward 2, Unit 7, Ese-Odo, the message on the portal indicates that an argument broke out as voters insisted that the place where the election was to hold was not a political polling unit, but a place of worship. Due to the geography of the community which is surrounded by water, there was no other available place to conduct the election. This resulted in a dangerous argument within voters, who tried to take charge of electoral materials. The PO, APOs and security personnel had to flee the scene and go back to the Registration Area Centre (RAC) in a boat. Therefore, no election was conducted at that polling unit.

Acting in a disorderly manner at an election is an offence under the Electoral Act 2010, punishable by a maximum fine of ₦500,000 or twelve months imprisonment or both.⁴ It is imperative for the security agents to carry out their investigation and prosecute those responsible for compromising the election in those communities. Only when electoral offenders are prosecuted can we prevent incidents like this from re-occurring.

3. Low turnout

There were relatively high turnouts in some polling units: about 52.9% in Ward 2, Unit 11, Ese-Odo, and 56.3% in Ward 1, Unit 8, Akoko North East. However, other areas

⁴ Section 128, Electoral Act 2010 (as amended)

saw particularly low turnout rates, such as 15.3% in Ward 2, Unit 9, Ese-Odo, and 15.4% in Ward 1, Unit 5, Ese-Odo.

Ultimately, average voter turnout at the election was low, with only 592,213 out of 1,812,634 registered voters (32.8%) coming out to vote on election day. This is a reduction of about 2.2% compared to the previous governorship election in 2016.⁵ There are many possible reasons for this. One is that about 372,888 registered voters in Ondo State were unable to collect their Permanent Voter Cards (PVCs) because INEC suspended distribution due to the COVID-19 pandemic.⁶ Another reason could be voter apathy, as there has been a steady decline of voter turnout in Ondo over the years: 38% in 2012 and 35% in 2016.⁷

It is also likely that the coronavirus pandemic contributed to low turnout, due to fears of contracting the virus by coming out to vote. Indeed, prior to the election, a survey by Kimpact Development Initiative (KDI) showed that 48.1% of residents believed that the pandemic would affect voter turnout,⁸ and it appears to have been the case.

Another potential reason for low turnout is fear of participating due to risk of violence at the election. The pre-election environment in Ondo State was very tense, as there were numerous violent incidents, coupled with accusations and counter-accusations of “stockpiling firearms for the disruption of the peaceful conduct of the election” from opposing politicians.⁹ It is therefore possible that people refrained from coming out to vote due to fears of violence.

Finally, ineffective civic and voter education (CVE) could have contributed to not just the low turnout at this election, but also the steady decline in voter turnout in Ondo over the years. On this point, it is worth mentioning that 18,448 votes (3.2%) were invalid during the election. The figures were particularly striking in Ward 2, Unit 9, Ese-Odo, which had 102 accredited voters but only 39 valid votes. This is particularly worrying as the polling unit already had a very low turnout (15.3%), and more than half of the few people who showed up to vote did not even vote correctly.

To address this problem, INEC, NOA and civil society organisations (CSOs) should engage in effective CVE to encourage citizens to exercise their right to vote, inform

⁵ KDI, *Low Voter Turnout May Mar 2020 Edo and Ondo States Gubernatorial Elections because of COVID-19* (May 2020). Available at: <https://www.kdi.org.ng/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Kimpact-COVID-19-and-Election-Survey-Report.pdf>

⁶ “INEC refuses registration of new voters for Ondo election”, *Business Day* (2 July 2020). Available at: <https://businessday.ng/politics/article/inec-refuses-registration-of-new-voters-for-ondo-election/>

⁷ KDI, *Low Voter Turnout May Mar 2020 Edo and Ondo States Gubernatorial Elections because of COVID-19* (above n 5)

⁸ Ibid

⁹ O Ramon & P Dada, “Group accuses Ondo deputy gov of stockpiling arms”, *Punch* (24 August 2020). Available at: <https://punchng.com/group-accuses-ondo-deputy-gov-of-stockpiling-arms/>

them of how to vote safely during the pandemic, and also inform them of how to mark ballot papers correctly.

4. Multi-party voting

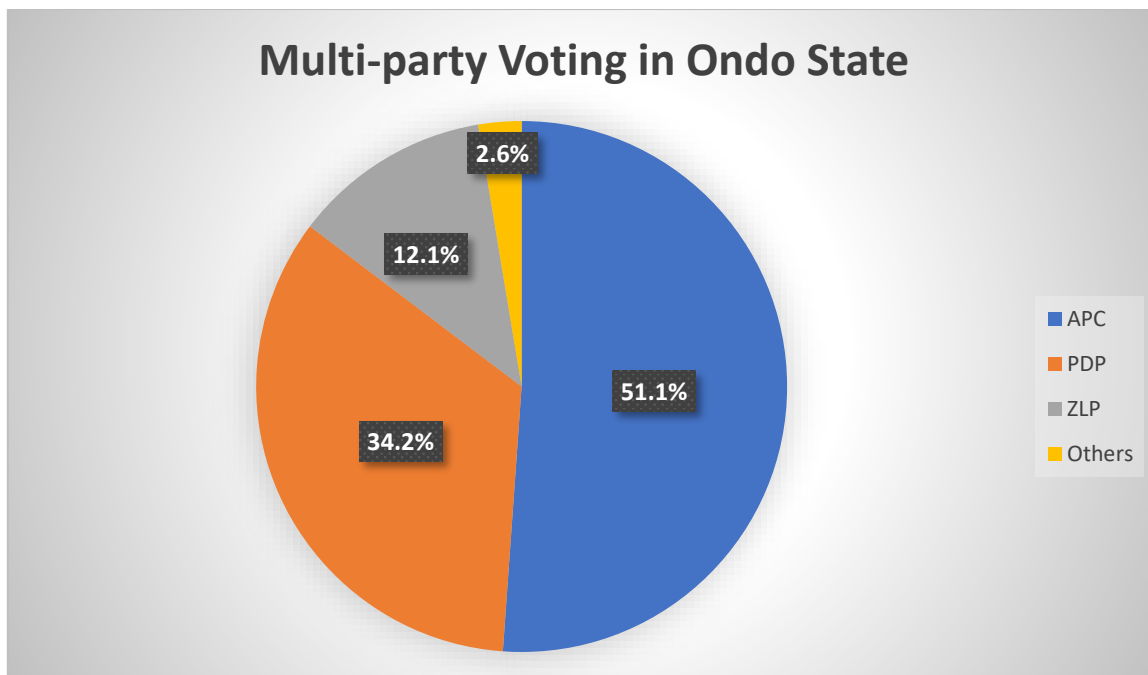
There are eighteen registered parties in Ondo, and seventeen of them presented candidates for this election. These are: Accord Party (A), Action Alliance (AA), African Action Congress (AAC), African Democratic Congress (ADC), Action Democratic Party (ADP), All Progressives Congress (APC), All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), Allied People's Movement (APM), Action People's Party (APP), Labour Party (LP), New Nigerian People's Party (NNPP), National Rescue Movement (NRM), People's Democratic Party (PDP), People's Redemption Party (PRP), Social Democratic Party (SDP), Young Progressive Party (YPP), and Zenith Labour Party (ZLP).

While the APC and PDP still got a majority of votes (85.3% combined), there is a trend toward multi-party voting in the state, with the ZLP emerging as a powerful third force, having gained 12.1% of the vote while others combined had 2.6%. This is in stark contrast to the Edo election, where APC and PDP had 98.9% of the vote, with all other twelve parties combined getting only 1.1% of the vote.¹⁰ The trend towards multi-party voting in Ondo is reflective of the fact that, as mentioned in the Electoral Hub's political context analysis prior to the election, no party has political dominance in Ondo: Alliance for Democracy (AD) (now defunct) produced the governor from 1999-2003; PDP from 2003-2008; LP from 2008-2016; and APC from 2016 till date.¹¹

This multi-party voting, which is an important part of democracy, can be strengthened by the media, which should ensure that each candidate/party is given equal attention during the campaign period, so as to enable the citizens make an informed choice among all candidates.

¹⁰ INEC Nigeria, *2020 Edo Governorship Election: Declaration of Results* (21 September 2020). Available at <https://twitter.com/inecnigeria/status/1308000156135165953>

¹¹ The Electoral Hub, *Political Context Analysis: 2020 Ondo State Governorship Election*, Electoral Hub Political Context Analysis 2/2020, page 17. Available at: <https://electoralhub.iriadev.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ELECTORAL-HUB-PCA-of-Ondo-State-Governorship-Election.pdf>



5. Quality of data

A final observation has to do with the quality of data available on the result portal. By 7pm on election day, 73% of results had already been uploaded. This is highly commendable and demonstrates a high level of efficiency in collating results and uploading them on the portal. There were also fewer glitches in terms of uploading result sheets, which shows a general improvement in the management of the portal.

However, there are also areas for improvement as some of the data were either incomplete or unavailable. For instance, for Ward 4, Unit 1, Akoko North East and Ward 3, Unit 12, Ese-Odo, the document that was uploaded to the portal was the “Publication of Result of Poll”, rather than the standard “Statement of Result of Poll” which was uploaded in other polling units (see images below). As a result, the only data included was the breakdown of votes – there was no data on accredited voters, registered voters, valid votes, and invalid votes. Similarly, for Ward 3, Unit 4, Ondo East, and Ward 3, Unit 14, Ese-Odo, the fields for registered voters, accredited voters, and invalid votes were not filled.

EC 60 (E)

INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

PUBLICATION OF RESULT OF POLL

ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE: ONDO

NAME: ST. THOMAS PRI. SCHOOL CODE 001

(PURVAILGA/CONSTITUENCY)

S/N	NAME OF CANDIDATE (SURNAME FIRST AND IN CAPITAL)	PARTY ACRONYM	TOTAL VOTES RECEIVED BY CANDIDATE / PARTY		AGENTS SIGNATURE & DATE
			IN FIGURES	IN WORDS	
1	ROTIMI ADELEYE AKINDEJOYE	AA	0	ZERO	
2	JOSHUA OLUWAFEMI ADEHOLE	AAC	0	ZERO	
3	ADELEYE ADEHUNLE PETER	ADC	1	ONE	
4	ADELEGAN ADEBAPO OLUWASEYI	ADP	1	ONE	
5	MARTIN KUNLE OLATERU OLAGBEGI	APC	6	SIX	
6	OLUNWATIMI OLUWATO AKEREDOLU	APGA	135	ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIVE	
7	OLUWOLOBA DELE	APM	0	ZERO	
8	AKEM OLANREWaju AMINU	APP	0	ZERO	
9	OLADUNWA ADEBAYO	LP	2	TWO	
10	OKUNADE TAYO	NSPP	1	ONE	
11	OLAJORI ENOLA JOSEPH	NRM	0	ZERO	
12	FUMILAYO JEMTO ATUNGBARD	PDP	94	NINETY FOUR	
13	EYITAYO OLAYINKA JEGEDE	PRP	0	ZERO	
14	ALLI BABATUNDE FRANCIS	SDP	0	ZERO	
15	PETER OYELEYE FASUA	YPP	0	ZERO	
16	OLUN OTUN	ZLP	32	THIRTY TWO	
17	AGBOLA ALFRED AJAYI				

PREPARED BY: CHUKWU CHINEMEREN. F. SIGNATURE: [Signature] ID NO: NJSC

POSITION: PO

Publication of Result of Poll with only breakdown of votes

INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF RESULT OF POLL FROM POLLING UNIT

ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

2020 ONDO STATE GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

Polling Unit: AYE 1,11,111 / OBUN-EWI / LUGBODI, PRY SCH OBUN-EWI Code 006

Registration Area: ATERU / OTASAN / IGBA Code 01

Local Government Area: Ondo East Code 15

State: ONDO Code 28

1. Number of Voters on the Register	576
2. Number of Accredited Voters	118
3. Number of Ballot Papers Issued to the Polling Unit	576
4. Number of Unused Ballot Papers	134
5. Number of Spoiled Ballot Papers	6
6. Number of Rejected Ballots	112
7. Number of Total Valid Votes (Total valid votes cast for all Parties)	112
8. Total Number of Used Ballot Papers (Total of #5 + #6 + #7 above)	119

S/N	POLITICAL PARTY	VOTES SCORED		NAME/SIGNATURE OF POLITICAL POLLING AGENT
		IN FIGURES	IN WORDS	
1	A	00	Nil	
2	AA	00	Nil	
3	AAC	00	Nil	
4	ADC	00	Nil	
5	ADP	00	Nil	
6	APC	069	Sixty Nine	[Signature] 10-10-2020
7	APGA	00	Nil	
8	APM	01	One	
9	APP	00	Nil	
10	LP	01	One	
11	NSPP	00	Nil	
12	NRM	00	Nil	
13	PDP	096	Ninety Six	[Signature] 10/10/2020
14	PRP	002	Two	
15	SDP	00	Nil	
16	YPP	00	Nil	
17	ZLP	018	Eighteen	[Signature] 10-10-2020
TOTAL VALID VOTES		0112	One hundred and twelve	

(Name of Presiding Officer), hereby certify that the information contained in this Form is a true and accurate account of votes cast in this Polling Unit and that the election was CONTESTED/NOT CONTESTED.

Signature of Presiding Officer: [Signature] Date: 10-10-2020

Statement of Result of Poll with breakdown of votes, registered voters, accredited voters, valid votes, and invalid votes

Sometimes, the data was available but the figures were difficult to read due to the blurriness of the result sheet uploaded. This was the case in Ward 3, Unit 1, Ondo East. In some cases, the blurriness of the result sheet made some of the figures completely impossible to read, as in Ward 6, Unit 1, Ondo East, and Ward 2, Unit 8, Ese-Odo. In Ward 2, Unit 10, Ese-Odo, the result sheet was not blurry, but it was uploaded in such a way that the fields for number of registered voters, accredited voters, and invalid votes are not visible.

These data points are useful to find out voter turnout and the number of votes actually counted (i.e. were valid) in each polling unit. To improve the amount of data available, officials should be informed to upload the result sheet that has more data available. Furthermore, officials should be informed to fill out all the fields on the results sheet, not just the number of votes for each party. Finally, officials should be trained on how to upload the result sheet, ensuring that all figures are visible. INEC should also ensure that officials have appropriate devices to take high quality pictures of the result sheets.

A further recommendation is for INEC to upload aggregated result sheets per LGA to aid research and analysis. With as many as 3,009 polling units in Ondo State, the results are too disaggregated to allow for analysis on a more holistic level.

Ultimately, given that this is just the second major election in which the result portal has been used, it is highly commendable and improvements have been made. It is hoped that the quality of data on the portal will continue to improve in subsequent elections, taking into account the recommendations made above.

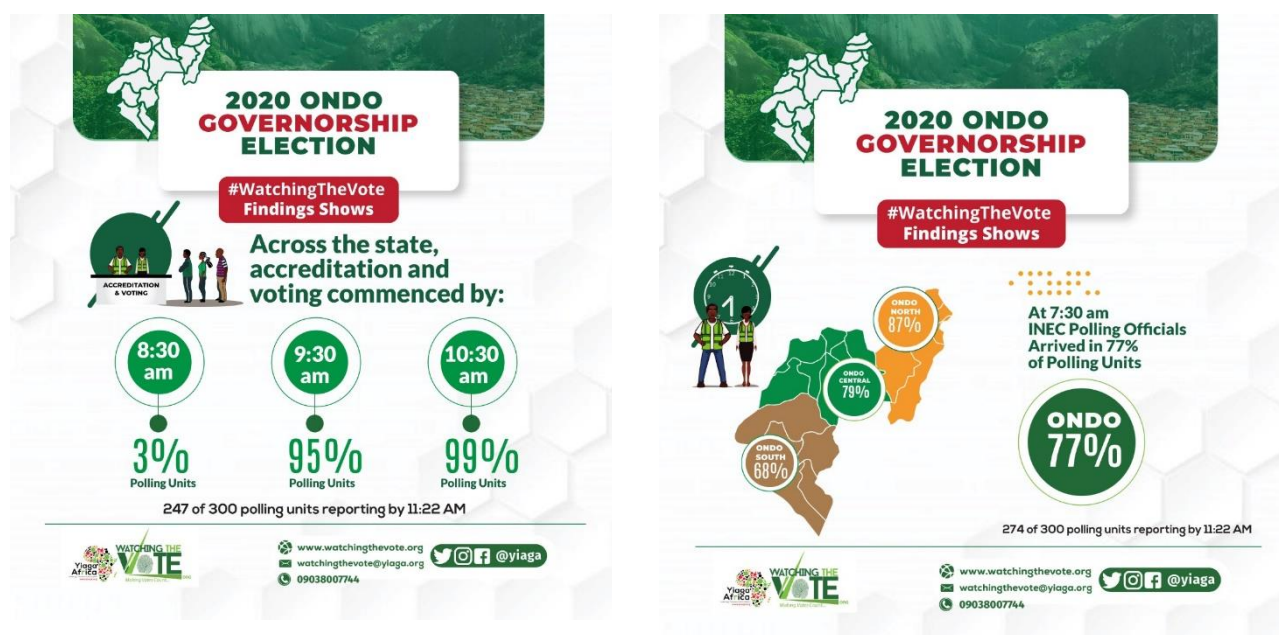
Lessons from the Election

The Ondo election highlights important strengths and weaknesses. From this, we can learn lessons about what to emulate and what to avoid in future elections.

Strengths of the election

Role of INEC

INEC demonstrated tremendous improvement in this election, particularly with regard to logistics. This was an area of weakness during the Edo election, which saw several delays in the arrival of personnel and election materials,¹² but a strength in this election. As show in the pictures from YIAGA below, INEC polling officials arrived in 77% of polling units at 7:30 am, while accreditation and voting had commenced by 9:30 am in 95% of pulling units.



According to observation from the field, the reason for the effective logistics management in Ondo was the strong leadership of the Resident Electoral Commissioner, Mr Rufus Akeju, as well as the high level of organisation and experience by electoral officers. This was demonstrated as materials for the RACs were already well-packed and arranged a day to the election.

Furthermore, it is impressive that INEC was able to handle logistics effectively, despite the difficult terrains in Ondo State with the presence of rivers constituting a major

¹² Report from CDD and PLAC situation rooms

barrier. To address riverine areas, by 2pm on the day before the election, materials were already being shared in difficult to reach LGAs such as Ilaje and Ese-Odo. It is hoped that this effective logistics management will continue in future elections.

In order to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the elections, INEC also adopted innovative measures including an online result viewing portal, as discussed earlier, and a virtual situation room. Through the results viewing portal, citizens were able to track elections results in real time, regardless of their location. Through the virtual situation room, INEC officials were able to tack the election process via Zoom, and give rapid responses to issues arising from the election. These measures were also used in Edo and had a significant impact on the elections (Edo and Ondo).

In addition to the general voter code of conduct, INEC created a voter code of conduct for Ondo in order to educate voters on how to vote safely, as shown below.

ONDO STATE GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION 2020
VOTERS CODE OF CONDUCT

04 Queues must be orderly and voters on the queue must maintain a distance of two (2) meters (6 feet) from each other.

05 Avoid unnecessary touching of surfaces or leaning on walls and other surfaces at the Polling Unit.

06 An election official may ask to clean your fingers with an disinfectant before your fingerprint is read with the Smart Card Reader.

SATURDAY 10TH OCT 2020

07 Please show your voters' card to the election officials whenever you are requested to do so.

08 After you cast your vote, move away from the voting area.

09 If you wish to observe the counting of votes and announcement of result, you will be directed by an election official on where to stay.

10 Please, obey all directives issued by election officials. Cell phones and other electronic devices, are not allowed in the voting cubicles.

SATURDAY 10TH OCT 2020

01 Wearing a face mask at Polling Units and all election locations is mandatory.

02 Voting starts by 8:30am and stops at 2:30pm, all voters on the queue are allowed to vote until the last voter cast his/her vote.

03 There shall be two queues formed at each polling location (Polling Unit or Voting Point).

SATURDAY 10TH OCT 2020

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INEC Making your votes count...consolidating our democracy

Ondo Voters Code of Conduct¹³

¹³ INEC Nigeria, <https://twitter.com/inecnigeria/status/1314764104075223040>

Citizen involvement

Another strength of the election was the involvement of citizens. Just like in Edo, turnout at Ondo on election day was low, but general citizen involvement from across the country and through online means, was impressive. Through the result viewing portal, people in various locations were able to track the results of the election. On social media, the hashtags #OndoDecides and #OndoDecides2020 were trending on Twitter throughout the day. Citizen observers and vote watchers also made reports and complaints of electoral malpractices. For example, some people attempted to snatch a ballot box at Owo LGA, but this was stopped by vigilant community members.¹⁴ This shows the high level of citizen involvement, regarding not only voting, but also monitoring the election and making reports.

CSOs and election observers

In addition to citizen involvement, the efforts of civil society organisations (CSOs) and election observers also contributed to the success of the election. INEC approved 53 domestic observer groups and six international observer groups for the election, including the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC), and Youth Initiative for Advocacy, Growth, and Advancement (YIAGA). These CSOs tracked the election through their observers, giving reports to ensure electoral integrity and improve transparency. For example, CDD, in collaboration with media organisations like The Cable and the International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR), provided real-time updates of happenings at the election on social media. Through its fact check team, CDD also debunked a viral video on Twitter claiming that three people were killed, while Betty Anyanwu-Akeredolu, the first lady of Ondo, was injured at Ward 5, Unit 6, Owo.¹⁵ In this way, CSOs help to keep the public informed and prevent disinformation campaigns during elections from gaining ground.

Strength of opposition

Separately, the top two opposition parties in this election, PDP (with 34.2% of the vote) and ZLP (with 12.1%) did not come close to the ruling APC's 51.1%. However, when combined together, PDP and ZLP amassed a total of 46.3%, which is just 3.8% away from the APC's vote. Although APC won fifteen of the eighteen LGAs, in terms of vote numbers it was not that far ahead of PDP and ZLP combined. This confirms what was said in the Electoral Hub's political context analysis, that PDP's Eyitayo Jegede and

¹⁴ Richard Elesho, "OndoDecides2020: Voters foil ballot snatching at Shagari Village", *PM News* (10 October 2020). Available at: https://www.pmnewsnigeria.com/2020/10/10/ondodecides2020-voters-foil-ballot-snatching-at-shagari-village/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

¹⁵ The Cable, "CDD FACT CHECK: Was Ondo first lady injured during an attack at her polling unit?", *The Cable* (10 October 2020). Available at: <https://www.thecable.ng/cdd-fact-check-was-ondo-first-lady-injured-during-an-attack-at-her-polling-unit>

ZLP's Agboola Ajayi would have been stronger together, but by running on different platforms, they further divided support, thereby weakening their individual positions.¹⁶

Opposition parties are important for effective scrutiny and to increase transparency and accountability on the part of the ruling government. Though the opposition parties did not win, they demonstrated they have a combined strength that can also match that of the ruling party. Moreover, as the Electoral Hub has noted, elections are not only free and fair when the opposition wins; rather, they are free and fair when rules are followed, and electoral norms and standards are adhered to.¹⁷ Therefore, although the opposition did not win this election, the election was free and fair because electoral norms and standards were largely followed.

Security personnel

In the Electoral Hub's political context analysis, it was noted that transportation to riverine areas in Ondo, such as Ilaje, posed a problem, and it was necessary to deploy adequate security such as the Nigerian Navy to protect personnel and election materials.¹⁸ This worry was well-founded, as INEC confirmed that there was an incident during the transportation of personnel and material to the riverine registration areas in Ilaje a day before the election.¹⁹ During the incident, the boat capsized, but all personnel and materials were rescued by the Nigerian Navy who escorted the boats. Hence, this did not delay or affect voting on election day. It is highly commendable that INEC deployed the Nigerian Navy to escort these personnel, and that the Navy were able to adequately perform their protective role.

Additionally, the Inspector General of Police announced the deployment of 33,783 personnel for the election.²⁰ These security personnel were able to arrest fake observers allegedly working for the PDP in Akure,²¹ thereby showing their proactiveness in safeguarding the election environment.

Low level of violence

Following on from the previous point, observers revealed that despite the highly tense pre-election environment, there was a low level of violence at the election. Governor

¹⁶ The Electoral Hub, *Political Context Analysis: 2020 Ondo State Governorship Election* (above n 11), page 20

¹⁷ The Electoral Hub, <https://twitter.com/ElectoralHub/status/1314973619362115587>

¹⁸ The Electoral Hub, *Political Context Analysis: 2020 Ondo State Governorship Election* (above n 11), pages 7-8

¹⁹ INEC Nigeria, <https://twitter.com/inecnigeria/status/1314886907004887042/photo/1>

²⁰ "Police to deploy 33,783 personnel for Ondo State governorship election", *The Guardian* (5 October 2020), <https://editor.guardian.ng/news/police-to-deploy-33783-personnel-for-ondo-state-governorship-election/>

²¹ Hassan Muaz, "Ondo poll: Fake observers arrested", *The Eagle Online* (10 October 2020). Available at: <https://theeagleonline.com.ng/ondo-poll-fake-observers-arrested/>

Kayode Fayemi of Ekiti State applauded the “atmosphere devoid of rancour, violence and blood-letting”.²² This low level of violence is attributable to the efforts of INEC and CSOs in the pre-election stages, which culminated in Akeredolu, Jegede, and Ajayi signing a peace accord facilitated by the National Peace Committee on 6 October 2020,²³ as well as the actions of security personnel on election day. Just like in Edo, peace interventions contributed to low violence in Ondo, and this is something that should be done in subsequent elections as well.

Weaknesses of the election

Card reader failure

Despite significant progress in terms of logistics at this election, there are still areas of improvement, particularly with regard to Smart Card Readers. According to observers, some card readers were not recognising fingerprints even though voters saw their names on the voters list.²⁴ It was reported that the card reader also malfunctioned at the polling unit of the PDP candidate, Jegede (Ward 2, Unit 9, Akure South). Jegede, his wife, and others behind him had to wait until the card reader eventually worked about ten minutes later.²⁵ This shows how problems like card reader failure lead to delays and discomfort on the part of voters. Given the frequency with which card reader failure occurs in Nigerian elections, it may also contribute to voter apathy and lack of confidence in the process. It is therefore important for INEC to address this issue in subsequent elections, ensuring that card readers are functioning effectively.

a) Electoral malpractices

Electoral malpractices such as vote buying were also observed during the election. Observers on the field reported vote buying by an APC agent at Ward 3, Unit 2, Mahin Ilaje LGA.²⁶ In that polling unit, voters queued to write their names down to be given money after the election. All major parties were complicit in vote buying, as ICIR also identified a ZLP agent canvassing for votes at the polling unit in reward for money,²⁷

²² William Ukpe, “Rotimi Akeredolu wins Ondo governorship election”, *Nairametrics* (11 October 2020). Available at: <https://nairametrics.com/2020/10/11/rotimi-akeredolu-wins-ondo-governorship-election/>

²³ A Kabir, “Ondo 2020: Akeredolu, Jegede, others sign peace accord”, *Premium Times* (6 October 2020), <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/regional/ssouth-west/418736-just-in-ondo-2020-akeredolu-jegade-others-sign-peace-accord.html>

²⁴ Reclaim Naija, <https://twitter.com/reclaimnaija/status/1314892264137723905>

²⁵ “Drama As Card Reader Malfunctions At Jegede’s Polling Unit”, *Channels*. <https://www.channelstv.com/2020/10/10/just-in-drama-as-card-reader-malfunctions-at-jegedes-polling-unit/>

²⁶ PLAC situation room

²⁷ ICIR, <https://twitter.com/TheICIR/status/1314910868614852610/photo/1>

while one voter reported that they were promised ₦5,000 for voting by APC and PDP agents.²⁸ This happened despite the presence of security operatives. Although vote buying in Ondo was not as explicit as it was in Edo, it is still a problem that needs to be addressed. Despite the commendable actions of security personnel, more needs to be done to prevent vote buying at polling units.

COVID-19 protocols

According to INEC's policy on conducting elections during the pandemic, on voting day there will be a two-tier queuing system at the polling unit, and voters will be brought into the voting area periodically to prevent overcrowding.²⁹ Tags and twines will also be used to ensure crowd control and maintenance of social distance.³⁰ However, these protocols were largely ignored during the Ondo election. While some people wore face masks, there was barely any social distancing. This is reflective of the general societal behaviour in Nigeria since the pandemic started, as calls for social distancing are largely ignored. INEC and CSOs need to do more to educate voters on how to vote safely, and INEC needs to ensure that these protocols are observed during elections.



Overcrowding at Ward 6, Unit 5, Okitipupa. Source: The Cable³¹

*Overcrowding at Ward 1, Unit 7, Owo.
Source: ICIR³²*



²⁸ ICIR, <https://twitter.com/TheICIR/status/1314895401166802946>

²⁹ INEC, *Policy on Conducting Elections in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic*, INEC Policy Number 01/2020, page 10. Available at: <https://www.inecnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/INEC-POLICY-ON-CONDUCTING-ELECTIONS-IN-COVID19.pdf>

³⁰ Ibid

³¹ The Cable, <https://twitter.com/thecableng/status/1314920024088416257>

³² ICIR, <https://twitter.com/TheICIR/status/1314895398398496769>

Voter turnout

A final weakness of this election was poor voter turnout, with only 32.8% of voters coming out to vote. This reflects how pictures from the field show fully occupied polling units, but in the final analysis the percentage is usually poor. Measures to increase voter turnout have already been discussed extensively in the results analysis section. It is worth adding here that CVE should also be contextualised and targeted, rather than generic, taking into account the differences across the six geo-political zones of the country, as well as rural versus urban populations.

Conclusion

The 2020 Ondo governorship election was an improvement on the Edo election. INEC, citizens, CSOs, opposition parties, and security personnel all worked together to improve the credibility and integrity of the election. In particular, INEC's result viewing portal has brought more transparency to the result management process, making it possible for the results analysis in this document to be done.

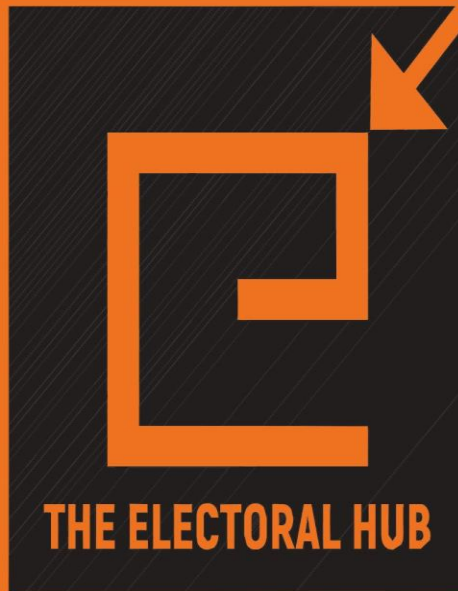
The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic has also led to innovative measures such as virtual situation rooms used by INEC. It would be beneficial to continue using these innovative measures even after the pandemic, so as to strengthen our electoral process. However, it is clear that there needs to be much stricter enforcement of COVID-19 protocols at elections, as both Edo and Ondo show that this has not been done successfully.

From the Ondo election, we can see the roles that stakeholders must play in improving the electoral process. *INEC* should improve its maintenance of Smart Card Readers to prevent frequent failures at elections. *INEC* should also improve its training of ad-hoc staff on how to record results accurately, check for mathematical inconsistencies, and upload the result sheets to the portal in a way that is clear to read.

Security personnel should investigate and prosecute electoral offenders, such as those responsible for vote buying and violence at polling units, in line with the Electoral Act 2010.

CSOs, in collaboration with INEC, should engage in contextualised and targeted CVE in order to increase voter turnout, and inform citizens on how to vote safely and correctly.

Finally, the *media* should allocate equal time to all candidates during elections to allow citizens make informed choice. If all stakeholders take these steps to deepen democracy, then future elections in Nigeria will continue on the path of improvement that was noticed in Ondo.



#OndoDecides2020

Appendix A: Table of Results for Selected Polling Units in Akoko North East, Ondo East, and Ese-Odo LGAs

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
1	AKOKO NORTH EAST	Ward 1 (Edo)	Unit 1	- APC: 218 - PDP: 22 - ADP: 4 - ZLP: 52 - SDP: 3 - LP: 4 - AAC: 1 - APM: 2	647	309	47.8%	306	4
			Unit 2	- APC: 103 - PDP: 46 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 58 - SDP: 2 - LP: 3 - APP: 2 - PRP: 1	509	218	42.8%	218	-
			Unit 3	- APC: 76	278	141	50.7%	126 ³³	15

³³ There are mathematical inconsistencies here:

- Ward 1, Unit 3, Akoko North East: the sum of the votes recorded for each party is 127, but the total number of valid votes recorded is 126
- Ward 4, Unit 6, Akoko North East: the sum of the votes recorded for each party is 203, but the total number of valid votes recorded is 204

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- PDP: 27 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 23					
			Unit 4	- APC: 58 - PDP: 55 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 69 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - PRP: 1 - AA: 1	463	189	40.8%	188	1
			Unit 5	- APC: 66 - PDP: 47 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 24 - SDP: 3 - AAC: 1	544	158	29%	143	15
			Unit 6	- APC: 75 - PDP: 56 - ADP: 2	497	159	32%	159	-

-
- Ward 2, Unit 2, Ese-Odo: the sum of the votes recorded for each party is 332, but the total number of valid votes recorded is 341. Furthermore, the number of invalid votes is 9, which suggests that the correct figure for valid votes is 332, which together make a total of 341 accredited voters
 - Ward 3, Unit 5, Ese-Odo: the sum of the votes recorded for each party is 96, but the total number of valid votes recorded is 99
 - Ward 3, Unit 7, Ese-Odo: the sum of the votes recorded for each party is 186, but the total number of valid votes recorded is 187

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 22 - NNPP: 1 - LP: 2 - AAC: 1					
			Unit 7	- APC: 111 - PDP: 68 - ZLP: 78 - SDP: 1 - NNPP: 1 - LP: 2 - A: 1	586	265	45.2%	262	3
			Unit 8	- APC: 139 - PDP: 33 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 35 - SDP: 1 - PRP: 1 - APM: 1 - A: 1	391	220	56.3%	216	4
			Unit 9	- APC: 213 - PDP: 36 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 36 - LP: 1	657	288	43.8%	287	1

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
			Unit 10	- APC: 165 - PDP: 38 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 47 - SDP: 4 - LP: 2 - APP: 1 - APM: 1	563	267	47.4%	263	4
			Unit 11	- APC: 83 - PDP: 40 - ADC: 3 - ZLP: 16 - SDP: 1	359	146	40.7%	143	3
			Unit 12	- APC: 161 - PDP: 39 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 57 - SDP: 2 - YPP: 2 - AAC: 1	539	275	51%	265	9
		TOTAL	12	- <u>APC: 1,468</u> - PDP: 507	6,033	2,635	43.7%	2,576	59

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ADC: 10 - ADP: 23 - ZLP: 517 - NNPP: 2 - SDP: 18 - LP: 15 - APP: 2 - PRP: 3 - YPP: 2 - APM: 3 - AAC: 4 - A: 2 - AA: 1					
		Ward 4 (Ikado II)	Unit 1	- APC: 135 - PDP: 94 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 6 - ZLP: 32 - NNPP: 1 - LP: 1 - APP: 2 - AAC: 1	DATA NOT AVAILABLE ³⁴			273	

³⁴ The sheet that was uploaded to the portal was the publication of result of poll, rather than the standard statement of result of poll, which was uploaded in other polling units. As a result, the only data included was the breakdown of votes – there was no data on accredited voters, registered voters, or invalid votes

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
			Unit 2	- APC: 129 - PDP: 67 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 29 - NNPP: 2 - SDP: 1 - APP: 2 - YPP: 1	690	241	34.7%	236	5
			Unit 3	- APC: 53 - PDP: 36 - ZLP: 12	281	112	39.9%	101	9
			Unit 4	- APC: 109 - PDP: 65 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 29 - SDP: 2 - LP: 2	789	213	27%	211	2
			Unit 5	- APC: 50 - PDP: 47 - ADC: 4 - ZLP: 31 - APP: 2 - YPP: 1	604	145	24%	136	9

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- AAC: 1					
			Unit 6	- APC: 56 - PDP: 96 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 40 - NRM: 1 - SDP: 1 - LP: 2 - PRP: 1 - AAC: 1 - AA: 1	877	209	23.8%	204 ³³	5
			Unit 7	- APC: 58 - PDP: 92 - ZLP: 27 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - PRP: 1 - AA: 1	739	185	25%	181	4
			Unit 8	- APC: 146 - PDP: 80 - ADC: 3	272	272 ³⁵	100% ³⁵	269	3

³⁵ These figures appear to be incorrect, as 698 ballot papers were issued to the polling unit, but only 272 registered voters were recorded. It also seems unlikely that a 100% turnout was achieved.

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ADP: 2 - ZLP: 34 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - PRP: 1 - APM: 1					
			Unit 9	- APC: 119 - PDP: 67 - ADC: 3 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 16 - NNPP: 2 - SDP: 3 - LP: 3 - PRP: 1 - A: 2	551	221	40.1%	218	3
			Unit 10	- APC: 272 - PDP: 168 - ADC: 3 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 46 - SDP: 1 - LP: 5 - PRP: 1 - APM: 2	1,814	519	28.7%	502	17

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- A: 1					
			Unit 11	- APC: 200 - PDP: 37 - ADC: 4 - ADP: 4 - ZLP: 12 - NRM: 1 - APGA: 1 - LP: 1 - APM: 1 - AAC: 2	599	273	45.6%	263	10
			Unit 12	- APC: 110 - PDP: 76 - ADC: 4 - ADP: 6 - ZLP: 8 - SDP: 1 - PRP: 2 - YPP: 1 - AA: 1	458	217	47.4%	209	8
			Unit 13	- APC: 158 - PDP: 67 - ADC: 3 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 18	571	259	45.4%	257	2

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- SDP: 3 - LP: 2 - APP: 3 - PRP: 1					
		TOTAL	13	- <u>APC: 1,595</u> - PDP: 992 - ADC: 31 - ADP: 32 - ZLP: 334 - NRM: 2 - NNPP: 5 - APGA: 1 - SDP: 14 - LP: 18 - APP: 9 - PRP: 8 - YPP: 3 - APM: 4 - AAC: 5 - A: 3 - AA: 3	8,245	2,865	34.7%	3,060	77
		Ward 5 (Ilepa I)	Unit 1	- APC: 106 - PDP: 50 - ZLP: 46	600	210	35%	202	8

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
			Unit 2	- APC: 170 - PDP: 32 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 33 - SDP: 1 - LP: 2	705	242	34.3%	241	1
			Unit 3	- APC: 79 - PDP: 89 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 17 - APGA: 1 - SDP: 2 - APP: 1 - YPP: 1 - APM: 1	594	199	33.5%	193	6
			Unit 4	- APC: 85 - PDP: 104 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 11 - LP: 1 - APP: 1 - AAC: 2	733	213	29.1%	205	8
			Unit 5	- APC: 129	1,016	291	28.6%	290	1

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- PDP: 105 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 43 - NRM: 1 - SDP: 2 - LP: 4 - APP: 1 - PRP: 1 - APM: 2 - A: 1					
			Unit 6	- APC: 78 - PDP: 59 - ADC: 2 - ZLP: 41 - SDP: 1 - LP: 6 - YPP: 1 - AAC: 1	499	192	38.5%	189	3
			Unit 7	- APC: 115 - PDP: 75 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 27 - APP: 1 - PRP: 2	650	229	35.2%	225	3

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- AAC: 2					
			Unit 8	- APC: 76 - PDP: 99 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 46 - APGA: 1 - LP: 1	627	231	36.8%	226	5
			Unit 9	- APC: 147 - PDP: 45 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 44 - SDP: 4 - LP: 2 - AAC: 1	700	250	35.7%	245	4
			Unit 10	- APC: 128 - PDP: 79 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 37 - LP: 1 - APP: 1	651	257	39.5%	248	9
		TOTAL	10	- <u>APC: 1,113</u> - PDP: 737	6,775	2,314	34.2%	2,264	48

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ADC: 13 - ADP: 6 - ZLP: 345 - NRM: 1 - APGA: 2 - SDP: 10 - LP: 17 - APP: 5 - PRP: 3 - YPP: 2 - APM: 3 - AAC: 6 - A: 1					
2	ONDO EAST	Ward 2 (Asantan Oja)	Unit 1	- APC: 69 - PDP: 47 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 40 - SDP: 2 - LP: 2 - PRP: 1	821	166	20.2%	162	4
			Unit 2	- APC: 66 - PDP: 31 - ZLP: 50 - SDP: 1	499	152	30.5%	150	2

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- LP: 1 - AAC: 1					
			Unit 3	- APC: 42 - PDP: 44 - ZLP: 29	388	115	29.6%	115	-
			Unit 4	- APC: 81 - PDP: 19 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 46 - SDP: 2 - APP: 1	472	155	32.8%	151	4
		TOTAL	4	- APC: 258 - PDP: 141 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 165 - SDP: 5 - LP: 3 - APP: 1 - PRP: 1 - AAC: 1	2,180	588	27%	578	10
		Ward 3 (Bolorunduro I)	Unit 1	- APC: 114 - PDP: 124	1,587	376	23.7%	363	9

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ADC: 5 - ADP: 6 - ZLP: 106 - NRM: 1 - SDP: 1 - LP: 4 - APP: 1 - AA: 1					
			Unit 2	- APC: 128 - PDP: 100 - ADC: 3 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 43 - SDP: 3 - YPP: 2	1,147	293	25.5%	281	12
			Unit 3	- APC: 68 - PDP: 52 - ADC: 2 - ZLP: 57 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - YPP: 1 - APM: 1	666	185	27.8%	183	2

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
			Unit 4	- APC: 49 - PDP: 40 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 41 - SDP: 1 - YPP: 2	DATA NOT AVAILABLE ³⁶			134	
			Unit 5	- APC: 91 - PDP: 103 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 30 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - A: 1	755	240	31.8%	230	9
			Unit 6	- APC: 40 - PDP: 33 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 16 - SDP: 1	309	97	31.4%	92	8
			Unit 7	- APC: 79 - PDP: 21 - ADP: 1	465	192	41.3%	188	4

³⁶ The fields for number of registered voters, accredited voters, and invalid votes were not filled

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 86 - SDP: 1					
			Unit 8	- APC: 69 - PDP: 51 - ADC: 2 - ZLP: 20 - NRM: 2 - SDP: 1	628	188	29.9%	145	42
		TOTAL	8	- APC: 638 - PDP: 524 - ADC: 16 - ADP: 11 - ZLP: 399 - NRM: 3 - SDP: 10 - LP: 6 - APP: 1 - YPP: 5 - APM: 1 - A: 1 - AA: 1	5,557	1,571	28.3%	1,616	86
		Ward 6 (Obada)	Unit 1	- APC: 135	DATA NOT AVAILABLE³⁷			221	

³⁷ Some figures are not visible due to the blurriness of the result sheet uploaded

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- PDP: 66 - ZLP: 20					
			Unit 2	- APC: 43 - PDP: 77 - ZLP: 24	492	153	31.1%	144	8
			Unit 3	- APC: 82 - PDP: 19 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 27 - SDP: 1 - A: 1	385	137	35.6%	131	6
			Unit 4	- APC: 71 - PDP: 37 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 52 - SDP: 2 - LP: 1 - APP: 2	521	183	35.1%	169	14
			Unit 5	- APC: 65 - PDP: 32 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 32	402	131	32.6%	131	2

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
			Unit 6	ELECTION CANCELLED³⁸					
		TOTAL	6	- APC: 396 - PDP: 231 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 5 - ZLP: 155 - SDP: 3 - LP: 1 - APP: 2 - A: 1	1,800	614	34.1%	796	30
3	ESE-ODO	Ward 1 (Apoi I)	Unit 1	- APC: 81 - PDP: 41 - ZLP: 106 - NRM: 1 - NNPP: 1 - LP: 2 - APM: 1	946	243	25.7%	233	10
			Unit 2	- APC: 118 - PDP: 18 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 1	519	200	38.5%	200	-

³⁸ The result sheet had the following message:

“The election for polling unit 006 was cancelled because the presiding officer refused to use Smart Card Reader. The agents were not happy and fight broke out and the APO I that was to handle the Smart Cart Reader ran away. All efforts to find her failed.”

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 56 - NNPP: 1 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - PRP: 1 - AA: 1					
			Unit 3	- APC: 77 - PDP: 15 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 41 - SDP: 2 - LP: 2 - APP: 1 - APM: 2	616	151	24.5%	142	9
			Unit 4	- APC: 27 - PDP: 15 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 15 - NRM: 1 - YPP: 2 - AAC: 1	402	62	15.4%	62	-
			Unit 5	- APC: 60 - PDP: 21 - ZLP: 41	505	136	26.9%	122	14

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
			Unit 6	NO ELECTION HELD					
			Unit 7	NO ELECTION HELD					
			Unit 8	- APC: 58 - PDP: 26 - ZLP: 28 - LP: 1 - APP: 1 - PRP: 1	531	120	22.6%	115	5
			Unit 9	- APC: 73 - PDP: 22 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 50 - NNPP: 1 - SDP: 2 - LP: 1	559	158	28.3%	151	7
			Unit 10	- APC: 66 - PDP: 11 - ZLP: 69	497	167	33.6%	146	13
			Unit 11	- APC: 109 - PDP: 36 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 110 - NNPP: 1 - SDP: 3	825	307	37.2%	285	22

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- LP: 8 - APP: 2 - PRP: 1 - YPP: 7 - APM: 3					
			Unit 12	- APC: 80 - PDP: 36 - ADC: 4 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 76 - LP: 2 - YPP: 6 - AAC: 1 - A: 1	654	216	33%	207	9
			Unit 13	- APC: 89 - PDP: 15 - ADC: 2 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 78 - SDP: 2 - LP: 3 - YPP: 1	589	202	34.3%	193	9
			Unit 14	- APC: 66 - PDP: 7 - ADP: 1	423	136	32.2%	130	6

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 51 - SDP: 3 - LP: 1 - AAC: 1					
		TOTAL	14	- <u>APC: 904</u> - PDP: 263 - ADC: 11 - ADP: 13 - ZLP: 721 - NRM: 2 - NNPP: 4 - SDP: 13 - LP: 21 - APP: 4 - PRP: 3 - YPP: 16 - APM: 6 - AAC: 3 - A: 1 - AA: 1	7,066	2,098	29.7%	1,986	104
		Ward 2 (Apoi II)	Unit 1	- APC: 93 - PDP: 6 - ZLP: 417 - LP: 1	1,067	530	49.7%	518	12

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- APP: 1					
			Unit 2	- APC: 73 - PDP: 5 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 247 - SDP: 1 - LP: 3 - APM: 2	1,053	341	32.4%	341 ³³	9
			Unit 3	- APC: 55 - PDP: 5 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 143 - APP: 1 - AAC: 1	581	216	37.2%	206	10
			Unit 4	- APC: 13 - PDP: 5 - ZLP: 395 - LP: 1 - AAC: 1	1,081	418	38.7%	415	3
			Unit 5	- APC: 159 - PDP: 4 - ZLP: 150 - LP: 2 - AAC: 1	844	324	38.4%	316	8
			Unit 6	- APC: 58	671	179	26.7%	162	17

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- PDP: 2 - ZLP: 101 - SDP: 1					
			Unit 7	NO ELECTION HELD ³⁹					
			Unit 8	- APC: 39 - PDP: 5 - ZLP: 73	DATA NOT AVAILABLE ³⁷			117	7
			Unit 9	- APC: 11 - PDP: 1 - ZLP: 27	668	102	15.3%	39	63
			Unit 10	- APC: 25	DATA NOT AVAILABLE ⁴⁰			71	

³⁹ The following message was uploaded on the portal:

“On getting to the polling unit, open space at Ojigboghene, Unit Seven (7), Apoi Ward II, Ondo State, an argument occurred by the polling unit voters stressing that the place pointed to us the INEC officials to conduct the election wasn’t a political polling unit but a place of worship and there was no other available place to conduct the election because the whole community is surrounded by water. This led to a serious and dangerous argument within themselves trying to take charge of electoral materials. For the safety of myself and that of my assistants and security personnel managed to escape to a boat that brought us to RAC. Therefore, no election conducted at that polling unit.”

⁴⁰ The fields for number of registered voters, accredited voters, and invalid votes are not visible because the picture of the result sheet has been cut off

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- PDP: 4 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 41					
			Unit 11	- APC: 126 - PDP: 30 - ADC: 3 - ADP: 1	418	221	52.9%	208	13

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 45 - SDP: 1 - LP: 2					
			Unit 12	- APC: 95 - PDP: 39 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 33 - SDP: 2 - LP: 2 - APP: 1 - A: 1	371	185	49.9%	174	11
			Unit 13	- APC: 123 - PDP: 33 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 3 - ZLP: 39 - SDP: 2 - LP: 3 - APP: 11 - A: 1	588	216	36.7%	216	-
		TOTAL	13	- APC: 870 - PDP: 139 - ADC: 6 - ADP: 6 - ZLP: 1,711	7,342	2,732	37.2%	2,783	153

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- SDP: 7 - LP: 14 - APP: 14 - APM: 2 - AAC: 3 - A: 2					
		Ward 3 (Apoi III)	Unit 1	- APC: 113 - PDP: 23 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 84 - APGA: 1 - LP: 2 - APP: 2	651	246	37.8%	226	20
			Unit 2	- APC: 129 - PDP: 43 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 95 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - APM: 1 - A: 2	818	290	35.5%	273	13
			Unit 3	- APC: 113 - PDP: 30 - ADP: 1	538	252	46.8%	228	24

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 77 - NRM: 1 - LP: 3 - PRP: 2 - AAC: 1					
			Unit 4	- APC: 44 - PDP: 18 - ZLP: 35 - SDP: 1 - AAC: 2	583	106	18.2%	100	6
			Unit 5	- APC: 46 - PDP: 7 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 41 - A: 1	559	103	18.4%	99 ³³	5
			Unit 6	- APC: 113 - PDP: 17 - ADP: 5 - ZLP: 59 - SDP: 2 - LP: 1 - A: 2	587	201	34.2%	199	2
			Unit 7	- APC: 119 - PDP: 18 - ADC: 2	557	188	33.8%	187 ³³	1

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- ZLP: 46 - APM: 1					
			Unit 8	- APC: 90 - PDP: 30 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 26 - SDP: 1 - YPP: 1	555	155	27.9%	149	4
			Unit 9	- APC: 98 - PDP: 35 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 2 - ZLP: 29 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1	632	169	26.7%	167	2
			Unit 10	- APC: 57 - PDP: 13 - ZLP: 15 - LP: 1 - PRP: 1	547	95	17.4%	87	8
			Unit 11	- APC: 103 - PDP: 30 - ZLP: 63 - SDP: 3 - APM: 1	674	202	30%	201	1

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- A: 1					
			Unit 12	- APC: 84 - PDP: 24 - ADC: 1 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 67	DATA NOT AVAILABLE ³⁴			177	
			Unit 13	- APC: 74 - PDP: 15 - ZLP: 59 - SDP: 3 - LP: 1 - APP: 1	458	162	35.4%	153	9
			Unit 14	- APC: 64 - PDP: 16 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 40 - APGA: 1 - SDP: 1 - LP: 1 - YPP: 1	DATA NOT AVAILABLE ³⁶			125	
			Unit 15	- APC: 73 - PDP: 15 - ADC: 1 - ZLP: 109 - LP: 4	510	216	42.4%	205	4

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- APP: 1 - PRP: 1 - AAC: 1					
			Unit 16	- APC: 112 - PDP: 26 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 96 - APGA: 1 - SDP: 1 - LP: 3 - APP: 1 - PRP: 1 - YPP: 1 - AAC: 1 - A: 1	557	252	45.2%	245	7
			Unit 17	- APC: 71 - PDP: 21 - ADP: 1 - ZLP: 90 - LP: 1	498	187	37.6%	184	3
		TOTAL	17	- <u>APC: 1,503</u> - PDP: 381 - ADC: 7 - ADP: 14 - ZLP: 1,031	8,724	2,824	32.4%	3,005	109

S/N	LGA	Ward	Polling Unit	Votes	Registered Voters	Accredited Voters	Voter Turnout	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes
				- NRM: 1 - APGA: 3 - SDP: 14 - LP: 19 - APP: 5 - PRP: 5 - YPP: 3 - APM: 3 - AAC: 5 - A: 7					

Source: INEC Result Viewing Portal (<https://inecelectionresults.com>)



**INITIATIVE FOR RESEARCH,
INNOVATION AND ADVOCACY
IN DEVELOPMENT**

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About the Electoral Hub

The Electoral Hub (E-Hub), an organ of the Initiative for Research, Innovation and Advocacy in Development (**IRIAD**), is a multidisciplinary strategic think-tank which seeks to provide solutions to improve the credibility and integrity of the electoral process. It is conceptualized to complement the roles and activities of the different institutions, stakeholders and drivers of the electoral process and governance. The Electoral Hub's aim is to strengthen electoral governance and accountability in Nigeria through the provision of data and critical analysis supporting the credibility and integrity of the electoral process. We believe that the integrity of the electoral process is crucial in improving the electoral governance architecture and democracy in Nigeria. We also believe in contextual analysis for solutions rooted in the principles of justice and equity

Our core values are knowledge-exchange, inclusion, justice, equity, transparency and accountability.

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