THE ELECTORAL HUB









REPUBLIC OF CHAD 2021 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION MEDIA MONITORING FEBRUARY – APRIL 2021

Electoral Hub Data Bank 4/2021

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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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Introduction

Under Chad's electoral system, the President of Chad is elected to a five-year term using a two-round system, with an absolute majority required to prevent a second round of voting. The National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI, Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante) is constituted for each election to organise, supervise and control electoral operations into elective positions in the country.[1]

According to Human Rights Watch, pretrial detentions, systematic bans on gatherings, and attempts to prevent the free exchange of information were rampant in Chad in the months leading up to the 2021 elections.[2] Ahead of the election, 12 opposition candidates withdrew from the presidential race due to threats, intimidation and assassination attempts; there was also unrest and protests by citizens rejecting the incumbent President Idriss Déby's participation in the election which resulted in numerous casualties.[3]

The presidential elections were held in Chad on 11 April 2021. Déby, who has served five consecutive terms since seizing power in the 1990 coup d'état, ran for a sixth term despite the protest that followed the announcement of his nomination. Déby has been described as an authoritarian by several international media sources and human rights activists.[4] Déby during previous elections put in place strict measures banning the use of social media by

[1] Chad: Electoral System, August 2020. Available at https://www.eisa.org/wep/cha4.htm
[2] "Chad: Pre-Election Crackdown on Opponents," April 8, 2021. Available at https://reliefweb.int/report/chad/chad-pre-election-crackdown-opponents
[3] Ibid; "Chad opposition leader quits presidential race after shoot-out". Available at https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/1/chad-opposition-leader-quits-presidential-race-after-shootout; "Chad police clash with protesters after Deby nominated for sixth term", February 6, 2021. Available at https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20210206-chad-police-clash-with-protesters-after-deby-nominated-for-sixth-term
[4] Stefan Ehlert, "Chad's authoritarian Deby unwilling to quit," April 8, 2021. Available at https://www.dw.com/en/chads-authoritarian-deby-unwilling-to-quit/a-19173621

the citizens, and while Chad's total ban on social media use was lifted in 2019, restrictions continue to exist.[5]

Provisional results released on April 19 showed that incumbent President Idriss Déby won reelection with 79% of the vote.[6]

Against this context, to further deepen understanding about Chad's presidential elections, the Electoral Hub, an organ of the Initiative for Research, Innovation and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD), has been tracking the trends and happenings in Chad ahead of the election. However, while tracking the activities and events in Chad, it is pertinent to state that the National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI) has no functional website or social media pages. The absence of a functional website or social media handle gives credence to the continued restriction on the use of online platforms in disseminating information, therefore restricting the right of citizens to information.

This database gives an overview of the various events that took place in the country in the two months preceding the election. It is hoped that the information provided in this database will facilitate further research and discussions among relevant stakeholders working on elections in order to proffer solutions to improve the integrity and credibility of our electoral process in Nigeria.

[5] Daniel N'Doh Nadjitan, "Chad Lifts Ban on Social-Media Usage After More Than a Year," July 14, 2019. Available at https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-14/chad-lifts-ban-on-social-media-usage-after-more-than-a-year

[6] "Chad's Idriss Deby wins 6th term as army fends off rebel advance" April 20, 2021. Available at https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/4/20/chads-idriss-deby-wins-6th-term-as-army-fends-off-rebel-advance

Media Reports

Date	Source	Key Points
February 4, 2021	Newz Post http://newz.ug/chads-president-idriss-deby-in-power-for-30-years-endorsed-for-a-sixth-term-in-the-april-2021-elections/	**Chad's President Idriss Deby in power for 30 years; endorsed for a sixth term in the April 2021 elections** -Chad's ruling party on Saturday endorsed President Idriss Deby Itno's bid for a sixth term in an election later this year. It was made possible after he pushed through a new constitution in 2018- allowing him to run again. -On Saturday, hundreds of protesters called on by the opposition took to the capital N'Djamena. Reports said police fired teargas and protesters burned tires while chanting "No to a sixth term!" -Deby has been the leader of the central African state since December 1990, when he ousted the autocratic leader Hissene Habre. -He has been re-elected every five years since then, thanks to constitutional changes approved by a referendum in 2005 to remove limits on presidential terms.
February 6, 2021	France 24 https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20210206-chad-police-clash-with-protesters-after-deby-nominated-for-sixth-term	**Chad police clash with protesters after Deby nominated for sixth term** -Police in Chad fired tear gas and made several arrests as hundreds protested President Idriss Deby's

		nomination on Saturday to run for a sixth term in April. -In the capital N'Djamena, hundreds of protesters set tyres on fire and chanted "No to a sixth term!" and "Leave, Deby!", according to witnesses. -Police fired tear gas and arrested several people, including Mahamat Nour Ibedou, a prominent human rights activist. Protests were also held in the cities of Moundou, Doba, Sarh and Abeche, witnesses said. -Ahead of the April election, 12 opposition parties last week said they would field a joint single candidate. They also signed a deal creating an electoral coalition called Alliance Victoire (Victory Alliance). -Signatories include two prominent opposition figures – Saleh Kebzabo, the runner-up in the 2016 election with about 13 percent of the vote, and Mahamat Ahmat Alabo. -The opposition manifesto says other opposition parties can join, although it does not set a date for when the single candidate will be named.
February 9, 2021	Amnesty International https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/02/tchad-droits-humains-empeches-de-manifester-librement/	**Chad: Opposition members and human rights activists banned from freely protesting ahead of election**

		- The ban on public demonstrations and the arbitrary arrests of opposition members and civil society activists at the weekend send a wrong signal on the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly ahead of the Chad's presidential election in April, Amnesty International said today. - While a platform bringing together political parties, human rights associations, and civil society, called for a protest on 6 February, the authorities issued a decree on 4 February banning all demonstrations across the country, citing fears of public disorder. - At least 14 people arrested on 6 February were charged yesterday with "assault and battery, disturbing public order and destruction of state property" before being remanded in custody in the capital N'Djamena. Around 30 others were sentenced yesterday to between two and three months in prison in the southern town of Moundou where some of them were arrested on 4 February while preparing the protest.
February 9, 2021	Yahoo News https://news.yahoo.com/chad-opposition-parties-name-single-131421725.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly8yMXZvdGVzLmNvbS9jaGFkLWVsZWN0aW9ucy8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAF57eFovLgFGm0O4T_avSXMbg4TuQLKl0WNkl7lYLvJpYrglO2zVBJ9u	**Chad opposition parties name single candidate for April 11 poll** - Fifteen parties in Chad's fragmented opposition said on Tuesday that they had named a single candidate to contest presidential elections on April 11 against the 30-year incumbent, Idriss Deby Itno.

	A09ZcGOJrghgz2K0A24nlJlpAMVuQ5-ErOVvrqqR2-vn_omgvh5TRrtfAuXsGFRG7qr5FMe9LlZP5eudFDs2uaROIh_r6zj9JFoWS4m1AlkBl5ipuQAw	-Their champion is Theophile Bebzoune Bongoro, a 55-year-old newcomer to politics, who was backed by nine out of the 15 party leaders, they said. -Five others voted for Deby's best-known adversary, Saleh Kebzabo, the runner-up in the 2016 elections with 12.8 percent of the vote. -Opposition parties last week set up a coalition called Alliance Victoire (Victory Alliance), seeking to overcome long-standing divisions that have helped Deby to remain in **power.**
February 11, 2021	DW News https://www.dw.com/en/chad-tensions-rise-over-debys-presidential-run/a-56536855	**Chad: Tensions rise over Deby's presidential run** - President Idriss Deby has ruled Chad for 30 years. His nomination to run for a sixth term in the April election is inflaming tensions in a country marked by economic woes and frustration with the political elite. - After a referendum in 2005 removed the two-term limit from the constitution, Deby continued his winning streak, sweeping presidential elections in 2006, 2011 and 2016. -Chad amended its constitution again in 2018, expanding the president's powers and increasing the presidential term from five to six years. And although the new constitution reintroduced a two-term limit,

		this won't be applied retroactively, leaving Deby free to theoretically stand for president until 2033. -Earlier this week, his party officially nominated the 68-year-old to run for a sixth term in elections scheduled for April 11, 2021. -Despite a government ban on protests under coronavirus laws, Deby's nomination saw several hundred people gather in the capital N'Djamena, with demonstrators setting tires on fire while chanting, "Leave, Deby!"
February 12, 2021	HSB Identification https://www.hsb.nl/chad-presents-updated-electoral-register/	**CHAD PRESENTS UPDATED ELECTORAL REGISTER** -On 12th of February 2021 the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) in Chad presented the updated electoral register. This is a significant milestone and we are proud of our team who worked hard for this achievement -After successfully performing the de-duplication and adjudication processes, based on a combination of fingerprint and face matching, around 200.000 duplicates have been removed. Currently, more than seven million Chadians are now eligible to vote for the upcoming elections. -According to the statistics, it showed that 49.24% of the registered voters are men and 50.76% are women. The

		chart below shows the distribution of gender among voters per region in Chad. -The issuance of new voter cards will start in March 2021
February 28, 2021	DW Africa https://www.dw.com/en/chad-several-killed-during-arrest-of-opposition-figure/a-56730133	**Chad: Several killed during arrest of opposition figure** - At least two people were killed after security forces attempted to detain Chad's opposition presidential candidate Yaya Dillo on Sunday. - Dillo, who plans to run in the election in April, told Reuters he was attacked at home by members of the presidential guard on Sunday morning. He said that five family members were killed, including his mother. - The government released a statement that said security forces were trying to arrest Dillo after he refused to answer to two judicial mandates and were met with armed resistance. The ensuing gunfight resulted in two deaths and five injuries, according to the statement.
March 1, 2021	ALJAZEERA https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/1/chad-opposition-leader-quits-presidential-race-after-shootout	**Chad opposition leader quits presidential race after shoot-out** -Chad's main opposition figure has announced his withdrawal from the upcoming race for the country's top job, accusing veteran President Idriss Deby of using force to intimidate rivals. -Saleh Kebzabo says his party decided 'purely and simply' to withdraw from the April vote following a deadly shoot-out at another candidate's home**.**

		-Kebzabo condemned what he called a “military attack” on Dillo’s home in the capital, Ndjamena.
March 14, 2021	Africa News https://www.africanews.com/2021/03/14/chad-president-kicks-off-campaign-for-sixth-term//	**Chad president kicks off campaign for sixth term** -Chad President Idriss Deby Itno kicked off his campaign for a sixth term on Saturday, calling for unity after rival protests were banned and broken up. -The first rally since the start of the official election period on Thursday was held by Deby's Patriotic Salvation Movement (MPS) at a packed stadium in the capital, N'Djamena. -Deby, who has ruled for 30 years and is widely deemed a shoo-in for another term, said he had fought for national unity, while also drawing a line in the sand for his opponents. -On Thursday, three opposition candidates quit the race ahead of the April 11 ballot with one of them -- Mahamat Yosko Brahim -- saying the climate was "not favourable for fair and transparent presidential elections". -Their withdrawal leaves half a dozen candidates, including Deby, who has ruled the country since 1990. -In recent months, demonstrations calling for his resignation have been banned and violently dispersed.

		-Another authorised candidate who withdrew on Thursday, Saleh Kebzabo, denounced what he called the "clear militarisation of the political climate" after police and troops raided the home of another opposition figure Yaya Dillo Djerou**.**
March 20, 2021	Africa News https://www.africanews.com/2021/03/20/chad-s-opposition-candidate-albert-padacke-kicks-off-campaign//	**Chad's opposition candidate Albert Padacke kicks off campaign** -A candidate in the presidential election of April 11 in Chad, Albert Pahimi Padacké promised Friday, if he wins, the outgoing Idriss Déby Itno, almost assured of being re-elected, would continue to "live in his country" in peace. -Mr. Pahimi Padacké, Prime Minister from 2016 until 2018, when Mr. Déby had the post abolished to concentrate in his hands all executive power, was addressing his supporters in the large stadium Idriss Mahamat Ouya of N'Djamena, half empty, reported a journalist from AFP. Five days earlier, the outgoing president had packed the stadium, according to the same source. -Faced with a fragmented and muzzled opposition in the street, Mr. Déby is, according to political analysts and local and foreign observers, assured of winning a sixth term in this central African country that he leads with an iron fist since a coup in 1990. -Sixteen people had expressed their intention to run against him. The most critical opponents of the regime

		have all dropped out: seven candidates have been invalidated by the Supreme Court and four other candidates have announced their withdrawal in the face of "violence" by the security forces and the "militarisation" of the election campaign. -Mr. Pahimi Padacké, who presents himself as "independent" of the government and the opposition calling for the departure of the president, assured that "on April 11, Marshal Déby will be defeated", under the cheers of hundreds of young militants of his party.
March 21, 2021	Bloomerg https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-03-21/chad-opposition-leader-condemns-police-crackdown-ahead-of-vote	**Chad Opposition Leader Condemns Police Crackdown Ahead of Vote** -Chad's main opposition leader called on supporters to continue protests in the face of a government crackdown, as pre-election tension rose in a country seen as a key U.S. and French ally in the fight against Islamist militants. -Saleh Kebzabo's call followed a month of demonstrations against President Idriss Deby's leadership ahead of next month's presidential poll, culminating Saturday in the arrest of dozens of opposition supporters.
March 24, 2021	The Conversation https://theconversation.com/how-a-popular-movement-could-threaten-idriss-deby-itnos-30-years-in-power-157162	**How a popular movement could threaten Idriss Déby Itno's 30 years in power** -Chadian President Idriss Déby Itno, who has ruled since 1990, is gearing up to take on his sixth mandate as head of state. Elections are scheduled for 11 April 2021. And

		the country's 2018 constitution allows him to stay in office, if elected, until 2033. -Political liberties are almost non-existent; human rights violations are part of everyday life, and opposition leaders, human rights activists, journalists and trade unionists live under permanent threat. -Over the years, various protests have been staged against Déby's rule. Opposition parties and trade unions have held repeated demonstrations to demand free and fair elections, and also to bring attention to the poor socio-economic status of ordinary Chadians. -Northern Chad has also witnessed a number of rebellions against Déby's rule. And in 2006 and 2008, members of Déby's Zaghawa clan and former allies who defected to the opposition tried to overthrow him by military force. -Most recently, protests broke out in February 2021, when Déby announced that he would run for a sixth term. The president dispatched his security forces to disperse them immediately.
March 29 2021	The Africa Report https://www.theafricareport.com/76236/chad-could-idriss-deby-itnos-30-years-in-power-come-to-an-end/?utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=post_articles_twitter_29_03_2021&utm_medium=social	**Chad: Could Idriss Déby Itno's 30 years in power come to an end?** -Chadian President Idriss Déby Itno, who has ruled since 1990, is gearing up to take on his sixth mandate as head of state.

		-Elections are scheduled for 11 April 2021. And the country's 2018 constitution allows him to stay in office, if elected, until 2033. -The resistance during this election cycle is even more passionate than in recent years. Prominent opposition politician Succès Masra, who leads The Transformers party, has been at the forefront of the protests against Déby. -Over the years, various protests have been staged against Déby's rule. Opposition parties and trade unions have held repeated demonstrations to demand free and fair elections, and also to bring attention to the poor socio-economic status of ordinary Chadians. -Northern Chad has also witnessed a number of rebellions against Déby's rule. And in 2006 and 2008, members of Déby's Zaghawa clan and former allies who defected to the opposition tried to overthrow him by military force. -Most recently, protests broke out in February 2021, when Déby announced that he would run for a sixth term. The president dispatched his security forces to disperse them immediately. -One opposition heavyweight who withdrew is veteran opposition leader Saleh Kebzabo, who leads the National Union for Democracy and Renewal party, and was runner-up in the 2016 presidential elections. The official

		results, which were questioned by the opposition, showed that he won just 12.8% of the vote. Kebzabo is now calling for a boycott of the elections and regime change.
April 6, 2021	Africa News https://www.africanews.com/2021/04/06/chad-charged-atmosphere-pre-election-as-opposition-calls-for-boycott/	**Chad: Charged pre-election atmosphere as opposition calls for boycott** -During a press conference on Monday in N'Djamena, Chad at the headquarters of the Transformateurs party of opposition leader **Dr Succès Masra**, he described the upcoming April 11 election as a masquerade. -Accusing the regime of abuse, he presented the media with the remnants of ammunition that were fired by police at the political site.
April 8, 2021	Human Rights Watch https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/04/08/chad-pre-election-crackdown-opponents	**Chad: Pre-Election Crackdown on Opponents** -Chad's security forces have ruthlessly cracked down on protesters and the political opposition in the lead-up to the country's April 11, 2021 presidential election, harming Chadians' right to freely choose their elected representatives, Human Rights Watch said today. -Incumbent President Idriss Déby Itno, who has ruled Chad since December 1990 when he removed the autocratic leader Hissène Habré, is running for a sixth term.

		-Since February, a coalition of nongovernmental groups, labor unions, and opposition political parties have organized peaceful demonstrations in the capital, N'Djamena, and other cities across the country, despite a government ban on public gatherings. -Human Rights Watch found that security forces used teargas to disperse peaceful protesters in N'Djamena on February 6, February 15, March 20, and March 27, injuring dozens of protesters and bystanders. They also arbitrarily arrested at least 112 opposition party members and supporters and civil society activists, subjecting some to severe beatings and other ill-treatment.
April 11, 2021	Daily Monitor https://twitter.com/DailyMonitor	-Chad headed into presidential elections on April 11, 2021 with Idriss Deby Itno, ruler for the last 3 decades, set to win a 6th term.
April 4, 2021	DW Africa https://www.dw.com/en/chad-awaits-presidential-election-result/a-57168317	**Chad awaits presidential election result** -Votes are being counted in Chad's presidential election, which is widely expected to give incumbent Idris Deby a sixth term. -A key ally in the West's anti-jihadi campaign in the Sahel, Idris Deby, 68, was the frontrunner in a six-candidate race without major rivals and after a campaign in which demonstrations were banned or dispersed. -Jean Pierre is convinced that the election will not bring change or a new leader. "The real candidates and the ones people should have voted for have withdrawn from this

		election. So, there was absolutely no need to vote," he said. -Opposition leader Saleh Kebzabo told DW that their boycott of the election and low turnout exposed incumbent president Idris Deby. "He should notice that the Chadian people disavowed him and that the people disapprove and reject him," Kebzabo told DW in an interview.
April 10, 2021	VOA News https://www.voanews.com/africa/chads-veteran-leader-deby-targets-sixth-term-presidential-vote	**Chad's Veteran Leader Deby Targets Sixth Term in Presidential Vote** -Voters in Chad head to the polls Sunday for a presidential election in which Idriss Deby is widely expected to extend his three-decade rule despite growing signs of popular discontent and opposition criticism over his handling of oil wealth. -Earlier this week, the authorities arrested several people, including at least one opposition leader, for what they said was a plot to assassinate politicians and bomb polling stations and the electoral commission headquarters. -The opposition said the arrests showed mounting repression under Deby, whose government has also arrested scores of people ahead of the vote, according to Human Rights Watch.
April 11, 2021	ALJAZEERA	**Chad counts votes as President Deby seeks to extend 30-year rule**

	https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/4/11/voters-in-chad-head-to-polls-as-leader-debby-seeks-sixth-terms	-Election kicks off amid mounting popular discontent and opposition criticism against incumbent Deby. - Votes are being counted in Chad following a presidential election in which incumbent Idriss Deby is widely expected to extend his 30-year rule despite growing signs of popular discontent and criticism over his handling of oil wealth. - Election officials began counting ballots at a polling station in centre of the capital N'Djamena immediately after polls closed, watched by a group of observers, the Reuters news agency reported. - Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International both said that there was intimidation around the election campaign and that people were not free to express their opinion, especially opposition candidates," Morgan added. - The opposition has called the 7.3 million people who registered to vote to boycott the election.
April 11, 2021	U.S News https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2021-04-11/voting-starts-in-chad-presidential-election	**Voting Starts in Chad Presidential Election** -Polling stations opened in Chad on Sunday for a presidential election in which incumbent Idriss Deby is widely expected to extend his three-decade rule despite growing signs of popular discontent and criticism over his handling of oil wealth.

April 12, 2021	VOA News https://www.voanews.com/africa/chad-counts-votes-deby-seeks-sixth-term-after-30-years-power	**Chad Counts Votes as Deby Seeks Sixth Term after 30 Years in Power** -Vote counting has started in Chad after a tense presidential election on Sunday that is likely to see President Idriss Deby extend his three-decade rule, despite signs of growing discontent over his handling of the nation's oil wealth. -Election officials began counting ballots at a polling station in center of the capital N'Djamena immediately after polls closed, watched by a group of observers, a Reuters reporter said. The election commission has until April 25 to announce provisional results. -Among Deby's six rivals is former prime minister Albert Pahimi Padacke, but several leading opponents are boycotting the race, including the 2016 runner-up Saleh Kebzabo, who has vowed to make Chad "ungovernable" if Deby wins. -Observers are closely watching the turnout after several recent anti-government demonstrations turned violent. A heavy military presence patrolled the capital on Sunday.

April 12, 2021	BBC News https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-56708261	**Chad presidential election: Idriss Déby seeks sixth term amid boycott** -People in Chad have been voting in a presidential election that is expected to give one of Africa's longest-serving leaders a sixth term. -President Idriss Déby, who seized power in a military coup in 1990, has been accused of stifling dissent in the lead-up to the vote. -Most prominent opposition leaders withdrew from the race, alleging attacks by the security forces. -They urged supporters to boycott the election and to protest. -Human Rights Watch has described a ruthless crackdown on key opponents and protesters. It says recent anti-government demonstrations have been met with brutal force. -In February security forces attempted to arrest opposition candidate Yaya Dillo and left five members of his family dead, according to his party, although the government says three people were killed. -The weekly anti-government protest marches were demanding a peaceful transfer of power. -Challengers shrank from 16 to six after candidates were barred or quit.

		-Most notably, the president's main opponent and runner-up in the 2016 presidential poll, Saleh Kebzabo, quit in protest over violence by the security forces.
April 13, 2021	The Africa Report https://www.theafricareport.com/79552/chad-will-the-11-april-presidential-election-be-idriss-deby-itnos-final-one/	**Chad: Will the 11 April presidential election be Idriss Déby Itno's final one?** -On 11 April, Chadians voted in the first round of the country's presidential election. Idriss Déby Itno is the overwhelming favourite, but the election is not without its challenges, as his supporters admitted that the question of his succession is of increasing importance. -In the embassy district, not far from N'Djamena airport, the streets were deserted in the early morning of 8 April. Police and soldiers took up positions at the crossroads of the main roads.
April 13, 2021	Africa News https://www.africanews.com/2021/04/16/chad-election-voter-turnout-low-in-one-district/	**Chad election: Voter turnout low in one district** -Voter turnout was low in one district in Chad's presidential election amid calls for a boycott by the opposition. -The Independent National Electoral Commission of Chad announced only 108,000 cast their ballots in the eighth district in the province of N'Djamena. -"Number of registered voters: 167,312. Number of voters: 108,865. Invalid ballot papers: 1,658. Rate of invalid ballots: 1.52%. Votes cast: 107,207. Rate of

		participation: 65.7%," said the Independent National Electoral Commission's rapporteur. -Incumbent Idriss Deby Itno is set to win a sixth term after three decades in power.
April 13, 2021	Council on Foreign Relations https://www.cfr.org/blog/chad-holds-another-sham-election	**Chad Holds Another Sham Election** -On April 11, Chadians went to cast their votes to elect a president. The electoral commission is to certify the outcome by April 25. Not that the outcome was ever in doubt: incumbent president Idriss Deby, born in 1952, said publicly that he knew in advance that he would win "as I have done for the last thirty years." In 2018, he engineered a new constitution that would enable him to win the presidency two more times—by rigging if necessary—thereby remaining in office until 2033. -This election, like previous ones that Deby won and others conducted by African big men, is essentially a pageant, designed to underscore to Chadians his legitimacy and to mollify foreign partners.

April 17, 2021	VOA News https://www.voanews.com/africa/chads-deby-takes-early-election-lead-partial-results-show	**Chad's Deby Takes Early Election Lead, Partial Results Show** -Chad President Idriss Deby has taken a strong early lead and appeared poised to extend his three-decade rule, partial provisional results of the April 11 presidential election released by the election commission showed. -Deby has won a majority in all but one of the 51 departments announced so far, and he secured a plurality in the other, with 61 departments remaining, according to the Independent National Election Commission (CENI). -Kilmapone Larme, head of logistics at the CENI, said they had still not received more than 30% of results.
April 18, 2021	ALJAZEERA https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/4/18/chads-deby-takes-early-election-lead-as-rebels-near	**Chad's Deby takes early election lead as rebels near Ndjamena** -Chad's President Idriss Deby has taken a strong early lead and appeared poised to extend his 30-year rule, partial provisional results of the April 11 presidential election showed, as the United States and the United Kingdom warned of possible violence in the Chadian capital, Ndjamena. -The Independent National Election Commission (CENI) said on Saturday that Deby won a majority in all but one of the 51 departments announced so far, and secured a plurality in the other. Results from 61 departments are yet to be announced.

April 19, 2021	France 24 https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20210419-chad-s-president-idriss-deby-re-elected-for-sixth-term-with-79-3-of-vote	**Chad's President Idriss Deby re-elected for sixth term with 79.3% of vote** -Chad's long-ruling President Idriss Deby Itno was re-elected to a sixth term with 79.32 percent of the votes cast in April 11's election, according to provisional results from the electoral commission on Monday. -Deby, 68, took 79.3 percent of the vote from the April 11 election after top opposition leaders boycotted to protest his efforts to extend his 30 years in power.



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