



ELECTORAL TECHNICAL NOTE 2025 ANAMBRA GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

Acronyms

A	Accord
AA	Action Alliance
AAC	African Action Congress
ABIS	Automatic Biometric Identification System
ABS	Anambra Broadcasting Service
AEOs	Assistant Electoral Officers
APC	All Progressive Congress
APGA	All Progressives Grand Alliance
APO	Assistant Presiding Officer
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CVR	Continuous Voter Registration
EMBs	Electoral Management Bodies
EOs	Electoral Officers
EVMAT	Election Violence Mitigation and Advocacy Tool
ICCES	Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security
INEC	Independent National Electoral Commission
IReV	INEC Result Viewing Portal
IRIAD	Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development
IVEC	Information and Voter Education Committee
JDPC	Justice Development and Peace Commission, Onitsha
LGA	Local Government Area
LP	Labour Party
NBA	Nigeria Bar Association
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NOA	National Orientation Agency
NSCDC	Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps
NURTW	National Union of Road Transport Workers
NTA	National Television Authority
PDP	Peoples Democratic Party
PO	Presiding Officer
PU	Polling Unit
PVCs	Permanent Voter Cards
PWD	People with Disability
RACs	Registration Area Centres
RTEAN	Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria
SIDEC	Social and Integral Development Centre

SPOs	Supervising Presiding Officers
STOs	State Training Officers
TEI	The Electoral Institute
ToT	Training of Trainers
YPP	Young Progressive Party
ZLP	Zenith Labour Party

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Introduction

This electoral technical note provides detailed information about the socio-political environment of the 2025 Anambra State Governorship election, including factors that could influence the electoral process and outcome. The Note is divided into five broad thematic areas, namely: the electoral background, socioeconomic context, political environment, civil terrain, and stakeholders' engagements, as well as electoral integrity measures.

The Anambra governorship election is scheduled for November 8, 2025, and will elect a governor for a four-year term to govern the state for that period. The Anambra governorship election is one of several off-cycle elections in Nigeria conducted by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) after the General Election. The off-cycle election began in Anambra State when, in 2006, former governor Peter Obi, of All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), was sworn in as the winner of the 2003 governorship election¹ after a long court case. Peter Obi became governor after disputing the results of the 2003 elections, which installed Dr Chris Ngige of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Subsequently, Anambra has held governorship elections in February 2010², November 2013, November 2017, and November 2021.

Since 1999, Anambra State has held seven governorship elections, and the state's political dynamics have been characterized by inter-party rivalry, intra-party factionalism, and occasional parties' clashes. Other elements that have influenced the political atmosphere in the state include socioeconomic development, cultural background, political ideology, party activities, cultism, IPOB, kidnapping, and emergent insecurities plaguing the South East³. There are also several factors that can impact and influence the electoral process in the Anambra elections, including insecurity, logistical challenges, technical issues with accreditation devices, material distribution delays, widespread voter apathy, vote buying and money politics, and the urban-rural divide.

¹ General Election for electing all positions from President to Members of the State Houses of Assembly

² Peter Obi went to court to argue that his tenure as governor had not ended despite the governorship election held during the 2007 General Election. The court ruled in his favor, granting his request and affirming that his tenure was still ongoing.

³ unknown gun men phenomenon

Our Approach

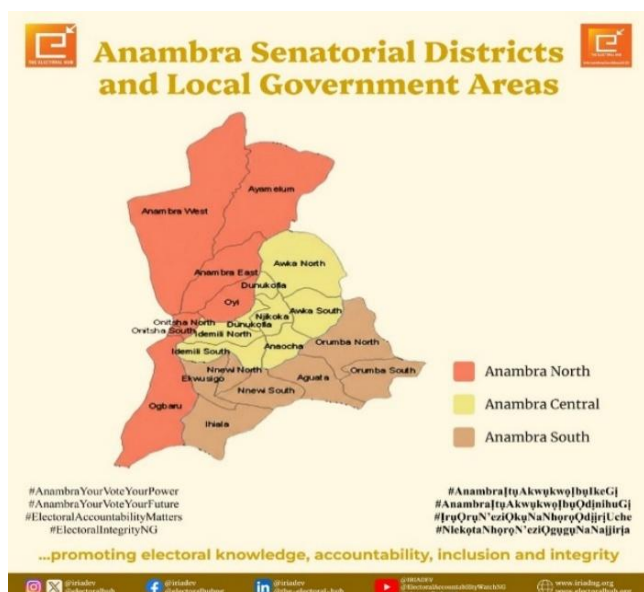
The Electoral Hub, as an accredited observer, will monitor the entire election process, including the pre-electoral, electoral, and post-electoral periods, through an electoral accountability framework. This approach recognizes that elections do not happen in a vacuum and effective electoral governance alone does not ensure good elections, as a complex mix of social, economic, and political factors influences the process, integrity, and outcomes of democratic elections. Nonetheless, good elections cannot occur without effective electoral governance.

Elections are multifaceted and complex, involving both socio-political and administrative dimensions. While the Electoral Management Body (EMB), INEC, plays a vital role, ensuring credible and transparent elections is not its sole responsibility. There are other critical electoral stakeholders and institutions that also have responsibilities to ensure the integrity of electoral processes and governance, and quality of elections. These include the legislature, executive, judiciary, political parties, candidates, security agencies, voters, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and the media. Each contributes significantly to shaping electoral integrity and quality.

The Electoral Hub stresses the importance of amplifying the roles of these critical stakeholders and institutions in safeguarding electoral integrity. By acknowledging elections as collective and complex enterprises, comprising diverse, interconnected institutions, actors, and activities shaped by sociocultural and political contexts, we promote a holistic approach to improving electoral processes and governance.

The success, quality, and legitimacy of elections depend on the joint efforts and interactions of all involved institutions and stakeholders, not only the EMB's performance. Through this comprehensive perspective, The Electoral Hub aims to advance electoral accountability and integrity while encouraging collaboration among all electoral stakeholders, striving for elections that not only have integrity, but are also socially and politically meaningful.

This approach guides our work and shapes the production of this Electoral Technical Note, designed to inform critical stakeholders, educate the electorate, and sensitize the public about the socio-political context and power dynamics surrounding the Anambra State governorship election. The Note presents key figures and addresses five broad thematic areas: electoral background, socio-economic context, political environment, civil terrain and stakeholder engagements, and integrity measures for the election.



The Highlights

S/N	ISSUE	FEATURE
ELECTORAL BACKGROUND		
1	The 2025 Governorship Election	— The Anambra State governorship election is scheduled for November 8, 2025 — Since 1999, Anambra State has held seven governorship elections — The previous elections were held on January 9, 1999, April 19, 2003, April 14, 2007, February 6, 2010, November 16, 2013, November 18, 2017, and November 6, 2021. — The governor and deputy governor will be voted for a four-year term in the election. — This election is significant because it offers an additional setting for putting the provisions of the Electoral Act 2022 into practice and applying the knowledge gained from the general elections held on February 25 and March 18, 2023, and the Edo and Ondo States governorship elections of 2024. — Additionally, it provides INEC and other critical electoral stakeholders, such as the political parties, CSOs, media, and security agencies, with another chance to enhance their institutional capacity, the electoral process's integrity, and Nigeria's electoral democracy.
2	Legal Frameworks	Section 176 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) establishes the office of Governor for each State of the Federation, while

.... promoting electoral knowledge, accountability, inclusion and integrity

Section 176 (2) provides that the Governor of a state is the Chief Executive of that state⁴.

— Section 177 of the same Constitution provides the qualifications for a candidate contesting for election to the Office of the Governor as follows⁵:

- a. he is a citizen of Nigeria by birth
- b. he has attained the age of thirty-five years
- c. he is a member of a political party and is sponsored by that political party
- d. he has been educated up to at least School Certificate level or its equivalent

— The Constitution, the Electoral Act 2022, and the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections 2022, make up the legal frameworks governing the conduct of the November 8, 2025, election.

— As provided in the Third Schedule of the Constitution, the Anambra State Governorship election would be conducted and managed by INEC, the Federal Electoral Management Body of Nigeria which has the legal authority to plan, execute, and oversee all elections for the offices of President and Vice president, Governor and Deputy governor of a State, membership in the Senate, House of representatives, and House of Assembly of each State of the Federation (State House of Assembly).⁶

⁴ <https://nigerian-constitution.com/tag/establishment-of-office-of-governor/>

⁵ This is one of loud exclusive provision in Constitution in terms of the language – the use of ‘He’

⁶ Third Schedule Item F Paragraph 15(a) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended)

3	Electoral Delimitation	— Anambra State is delimited into 21 Local Government Areas (LGA), 326 Registration Areas (RAs), and 5,720 Polling Units (PU)⁷. — For this election, the total of registered voters is 2,802,790 and according to the new INEC Chairman, Professor Joash Amupitan PVC collection is 98.8%⁸. This is 2,769,137 PVCs collected out of the total registered voters. — The recent CVR exercise produced 146,353⁹ additional voters¹⁰ of which 97,832 (58%) are female, while 70,355 (42%) are male¹¹. — There are 3,456 PwDs registered voters, 0.12% of the total registered voters in Anambra State. — With the conduct of the Automatic Biometric Identification System (ABIS) procedure, 27,817 were expunged for multiple registrations¹². — 6,879 Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) devices, 24,000 ad-hoc staff, 3000 vehicles, 6,520 motorcycles, and 83 boats will be deployed for the election.¹³ — It has three Senatorial Districts, namely, Anambra North, Anambra Central, and Anambra South — 11 Federal Constituencies: Anambra/Anambra West, Onitsha North/Onitsha South, Ogbaru, Aguata, Oyi/Ayamelum, Awka North/Awka South,
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⁷ See NEC (2024). Report of the 2023 General Election page 317; <https://inecnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2023-GENERAL-ELECTION-REPORT-1.pdf>

⁸ Address by The Chairman, INEC, Professor Joash Ojo Amupitan, SAN, at the Press Conference on the 2025 Anambra State Governorship Election, INEC Headquarters, Abuja, On Thursday, 6th November 2025

⁹ Address by Dr Ken Ukeagu, INEC National Commissioner supervising Anambra State during the stakeholders meeting of November 4, 2025 in Akwa

¹⁰ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/news-letters/2-8-million-voters-cleared-for-anambra-governorship-election-171-groups-seek-party-registration/>

¹¹ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1948430537887989802>, <https://www.inecnigeria.org/news-letters/2-8-million-voters-cleared-for-anambra-governorship-election-171-groups-seek-party-registration/>

¹² Ibid

¹³ Address by Dr Ken Ukeagu, INEC National Commissioner supervising Anambra State during the stakeholders meeting of November 4, 2025 in Akwa

		Njikoka/Dunukofia/Anaocha, Idemili North/Idemili South, Ihiala, Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo, Orumba North/Orumba South. — Anambra State has a total of 30 State Constituencies: — 10 in Anambra North: Anambra West, Anambra East, Oyi, Onitsha North II, Onitsha South I, Onitsha South II, Ayamelum, Onitsha North I, Ogbaru I and Ogbaru II — 11 in Anambra Central: Anaocha I, Anaocha II, Awka North, Awka South I, Awka South II, Dunukofia, Idemmili North, Idemmili South, Njikoka I and Njikoka II — 9 in Anambra South: Aguata I, Aguata II, Ihiala I, Ihiala II, Nnewi North, Nnewi South I, Orumba North, Orumba South, Ekwusigo and Nnewi South II)
4	Electoral Participation	— Historically, Anambra State reflects strong voter apathy with continuous decline in voter turn-out since 1999. — The State has only recorded above 50% voter turnout once and this was 2007 election where the winner was never sworn into Office as his election became invalid when Peter Obi won the court case on tenure. — 1999, turnout was 46.36% — 2003, turnout was 47.22% — 2007, turnout was 68% — 2010, turnout was 16.3% — 2013, turnout rose but only to 25.5%. — 2017, turnout dropped to 20.10%.

		— 2021, turnout deteriorated sharply with only 10.27% of registered voters exercising their franchise.
5	Key Electoral Dates	— Notice of Election – 13 November 2024 — Conduct of Party Primaries, including resolution of disputes arising from the Primaries – 20 March 2025 – 10 April 2025 — Submission of forms EC9 and EC 9B online (Nomination Portal) – 18 April 2025- 12 May 2025. — Publication of Personal Particulars of Candidates (EC9) by the Commission – 19 May 2025 — Last day for withdrawal by candidate (s)/replacement of withdrawn candidate (s) by Political Parties – 2 June 2025 — Last Day for Submission of Nomination Forms (EC13B) by Political Parties – 7 June 2025 — Publication of final list of nominated candidates by the Commission – 9 June 2025 — Commencement of campaign by Political Parties in Public 11 June 2025 — Last day for submission of names of Polling Agents for the Election to the Electoral Officer of the Local Government Area by Political Parties – 4 September 2025 — Publication of the official Register of Voters for the election by the Commission – 3 October 2025. — Publication of Notice of Poll by the Commission – 25 October 2025 — Last day for campaigns by Political Parties – 6 November 2025. — Date of Election – 8 November 2025

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT

6 Anambra State People and Geography	— Anambra State, with a total land area of 4,416 square kilometers¹⁴ is situated in the South East geopolitical zone of Nigeria — Anambra State was created on February 3, 1976, by the Murtala regime with the partitioning of the East Central State¹⁵ of Gowon. It was again reestablished in its current form, which was split into Anambra and Enugu States on August 27, 1991, (birthing Enugu State) by the Babangida's regime. — It is bordered in the North by Kogi State, in the East by Enugu State, to the South by Imo, Abia, and Rivers States, while Delta and Edo States to the West. — Anambra State derived its name from the Omambala river, a prominent river in the region¹⁶. — With its capital at Awka, the state also has popular towns such as Nnewi¹⁷ and its largest town, Onitsha¹⁸. — The largest commercial and industrial cities of the State are Onitsha, Nnewi, and Ekwulobia¹⁹. — The state is predominantly occupied by the Igbo ethnic group. Most of the population are farmers, fishermen, craftsmen, and traders²⁰.
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¹⁴ <https://anambrastate.gov.ng/history/>

¹⁵ East Central State was split into Anambra and Imo States in 1976

¹⁶ <https://anambrastate.gov.ng/history/>

¹⁷ <https://www.scribd.com/document/721571419/Anambra-State>

¹⁸ https://www.legit.ng/1210231-biggest-town-anambra-state-terms-population-facts-it.html#google_vignette

¹⁹ <https://nnewicommunity.com/about-anambra/>; <https://southeast.ng/the-region/anambra-state/>

²⁰ <https://www.anambradfw.org/anambra-state#:~:text=Anambra%20State%20is%20located%20in,Cities%20&%20Towns>

- While Igbo and English languages are the predominant languages in Anambra state, there are a few places in the state where the Igala language is majorly spoken, namely: Ujam/Nzam (headquarters of Anambra West LGA), Odekpe, Odomagwu, Igbedor, Onugwa, Odeh, Ibokenyi, Owelle, Inoma, Ukwala, Ala, and Anam.
- Christianity and African Traditional religion are the predominant religions in the state.
- One of the geographical features in the northern part of the state is the open grassland with occasional woodlands and clusters of oil palm trees. The southern part includes a tropical rainforest along the eastern bank of the Niger River, which forms Anambra's western boundary ²¹.
- Anambra state is dominated by agriculture, thus making the state a hub for palm oil, corn, rice, yam, and cassava production and commerce. It also has significant deposits of natural gas, crude oil, bauxite, and other minerals²².
- Crafts such as Metalwork and Wood carving are the traditional crafts of the Anambra people.
- Anambra State was officially recognised as an oil-producing state in Nigeria in 2012 when President Goodluck Jonathan declared it so, following oil exploration activities in the Anambra River Basin ²³.
- However, it was not until 2021 that Anambra started receiving its share of the 13% derivation fund for oil-producing states, and emerged as the fifth-largest oil-producing state in Nigeria²⁴.

²¹ <https://www.britannica.com/place/Anambra>

²² <https://vcdpnigeria.org/anambra/>

²³ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2012/09/as-anambra-joins-oil-producing-states/>

²⁴ <https://www.thecable.ng/anambra-to-benefit-from-13-derivation-fund-as-revenue-commission-approves-11-oil-wells/>

		— Crude oil and gas communities of Anambra state are found in six local government areas, namely, Ogbaru LGA, Ayamelum LGA, Anambra East LGA, Njikoka LGA, Dunukofia LGA, and Ihiala LGA ²⁵. — Other mineral resources in Anambra state include kaolin, clay, ironstone, coal, bentonite, pyrite, lignite, and sandstone ²⁶. — Tertiary institutions in Anambra State include: Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Federal Polytechnic Oko, Anambra State Polytechnic, Madonna University, Okija, Paul University, Awka, Tansian University, Umunya, Legacy University, Okija, Peter University, Achina-Onneh, University of the Niger, Umunya, Shanahan University, Onitsha — It is important to note that the geography of the state is critical to electoral planning, logistics, and deployment.
7	Anambra State Citizens and Electorate	— As of the 2006 census exercise, Anambra state had a total population of 4,177,828, with 2,117,984 males and 2,059,844 females²⁷. In 2016 population was projected at 5,527,809²⁸ and 2022, the population was projected to be 5,953,500 at a 2.2% annual population increase — Its workforce is 52.9% of the total population²⁹ with 47.2% of households receiving remittances - 45.9% domestic and 5.9% international³⁰.

²⁵ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2018/05/hoscon-uncovers-50-oil-wells-12-anambra-communities/>

²⁶ <https://cirdoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Anambra-State.pdf>;

²⁷ https://www.nigerianstat.gov.ng/pdfuploads/Annual_Abstract_of_Statistics_2011.pdf

²⁸ <https://nigeria.opendataforafrica.org/apps/atlas/Anambra>

²⁹ NBS (2020), Nigeria Living Standards Survey 2018/2019, page 48 <https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/1123>

³⁰ Ibid, page 61 <https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/1123>

- According to the NBS Nigeria Living Standards Survey (NLSS) report 2020, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Anambra State stands at 0.95% for males and 1.30% for females of its total population³¹.
- Anambra State's poverty head count rate for 2019 is 14.8%³². The poverty income gap is 0.032, and the Gini coefficient is 25.0.³³
- The State has an average household size of 4.61 and a dependency ratio of 0.98³⁴.
- Anambra State's poverty head count rate for 2019 is 14.8%³⁵. The poverty income gap is 0.032, and the Gini coefficient is 25.0.³⁶
- According to the World Bank 2022 Poverty Assessment Report, the median annual deflated consumption per person in Anambra State is ₦208,277, with 15.1% of the population experiencing multidimensional poverty³⁷.
- The State has an average household size of 4.61 and a dependency ratio of 0.98³⁸.
- According to the Human Development Index, about 80.97% of the population uses improved sources of drinking water, while literacy is relatively high at 80.25%³⁹.

³¹ NBS (2020) Nigeria Living Standards Survey 2018/2019, page 41 <https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/1123>

³² <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1121438/poverty-headcount-rate-in-nigeria-by-state/>

³³ The World Bank (2022), Nigeria Poverty Assessment 2022: A Better Future for All Nigerians.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099730003152232753/pdf/P17630107476630fa09c990da780535511c.pdf>

³⁴ NBS (2020), Nigeria Living Standards Survey 2018/2019, page 8 <https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/1123>

³⁵ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1121438/poverty-headcount-rate-in-nigeria-by-state/>

³⁶ The World Bank (2022), Nigeria Poverty Assessment 2022: A Better Future for All Nigerians.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099730003152232753/pdf/P17630107476630fa09c990da780535511c.pdf>

³⁷ Ibid

³⁸ NBS (2020), Nigeria Living Standards Survey 2018/2019, page 8 <https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/1123>

³⁹ <https://nigeria.opendataforafrica.org/>

		However, the infant mortality rate remains concerning at 39.67%, and the total fertility rate stands at 5.99⁴⁰. — Access to electricity is fairly widespread, with 90.9% of households connected to the national grid and 92.2% having electricity⁴¹. Despite these positive indicators, urgent efforts are needed to improve infant health. — Anambra State reflects a low out-of-school rate for children between the ages of 6–15 at 2.9%, the lowest in Nigeria⁴². This achievement reflects comprehensive investments and reforms in the education sector, including over N6 billion allocated to Universal Basic Education projects between 2022 and 2024 for school infrastructure improvements, provision of learning materials, and ICT integration⁴³.
8	Some Useful State Laws	Anambra State has formally adopted and adapted some national Acts and laws for domestication <i>as</i> state laws. These laws are progressive as they guarantee and promote inclusion and citizens' rights. They include: — Anti-Discrimination Law 2025 (for persons living with HIV/AIDS) — Anambra State Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Law, 2024 — The Anambra State Disability Rights Law 2018 (for Persons with Disability) — The Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law 2017 — Anambra State Malpractices Against Widows and Widowers (Prohibition) Law 2005 — The Child Rights Law, 2004

⁴⁰ Ibid

⁴¹ NBS (2020) Nigeria Living Standards Survey 2018/2019, page 87, <https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/download/1123>

⁴² <https://www.thecable.ng/out-of-school-children-soludos-educational-impact-on-a-national-scale/>

⁴³ Ibid

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

9	2021 Governorship Election	— The last governorship election was conducted on November 6, 2021, with 18 political parties fielding candidates for the election⁴⁴. — The 2021 Anambra state governorship election was characterised by spectre of IPOB, low voters' turnout, electoral violence, and the intimidation of voters⁴⁵. — The All-Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) candidate, Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo, was declared the winner of the election⁴⁶. — Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo of the APGA secured a total of 112,229 votes while his closest rival, Valentine Ozigbo of the PDP, got a total of 53,807 votes⁴⁷. — Prior to the election, the nomination process by some political parties like the APGA, PDP, and APC did not take recourse to the internal democratic principles, as different factions of these parties conducted parallel primary elections ahead of the governorship election. This led to each faction going to court to seek validation of their nomination⁴⁸.
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⁴⁴ <https://inecnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/LIST-OF-CANDIDATES-FOR-THE-ANAMBRA-GOVERNORSHIP-ELECTION.pdf>

⁴⁵ The Electoral Hub (2021). Deepening Democracy: Lessons from Anambra State 2021 Governorship Election

⁴⁶ <https://www.channelstv.com/2021/11/10/breaking-apgas-soludo-sweeps-to-victory-in-anambra-governorship-election/>

⁴⁷ Ibid

⁴⁸ <https://situationroomng.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Pre-Assessment-Report-on-Anambra-State-2021-Governorship-Election.pdf>

10	Political Parties, and Candidates	Political Parties — 16 Political Parties will be participating in the November 8, 2025 governorship election, including — All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) – Ruling party — All Progressive Congress (APC) – Major Opposition party — Labour Party (LP) – Minor Opposition party Candidates — The final list of candidates for the Anambra State governorship election was approved by INEC on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. — The election has 16 governorship and 16 deputy governorship candidates in the race⁴⁹. They are: 1. Onyeeze Chidi Charles - Accord (A) 2. Nweke Ezechukwu Japhet - Action Alliance (AA) 3. Ifemeludike Chioma Grace – African Action Congress (AAC) 4. Nwosu Chima John - African Democratic Congress (ADC) 5. Ukachukwu Nicholas – All Progressive Congress (APC) 6. Soludo Charles Chukwuma – All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) 7. Otti Cyprian Echezona – Allied Peoples Movement (APM) 8. Nweke Christopher Chukwudubem – Action Peoples Party (APP)
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⁴⁹ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/publication-of-the-final-list-of-candidates-and-commencement-of-campaign-for-the-2025-anambra-state-governorship-election/>

		9. Okeke Chika Jerry – Boot Party (BP) 10. Moghalu George Nnadubem – Labour Party (LP) 11. Onyejebu Geoffrey – New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) 12. Ndidi Christy Olieh – National Rescue Movement (NRM) 13. Ezenwafor Jude – Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) 14. Chukwurah Vincent – Social Democratic Party (SDP) 15. Chukwuma Paul Chukwuka – Young Progressive Party (YPP) 16. Ugwoji Uchenna Martin – Zenith Labour Party (ZLP)
11	Inclusivity Issues	— Nigeria has clear legal frameworks that promote inclusion in the electoral process, ensuring that every citizen, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, or social status, can actively participate in the electoral process. These include: 1. The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) — The Constitution provides the foundation for equal participation and non-discrimination: → Section 14(2)(c): Ensures citizens’ participation in government. → Section 42(1): Prohibits discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion, or political opinion. → Section 77(2): Grants every Nigerian aged 18 and above the right to register and vote. → Section 40: Protects the right to form or join political parties. → Section 17(3): Promotes equal opportunities and upholds the dignity of all citizens.

2. The Electoral Act, 2022

- This Act strengthens inclusive participation in elections with the following provisions:
- Section 54: Mandating INEC to provide assistance to voters with disabilities and ensure accessible voting materials such as Braille, large print, or sign language interpreters.

3. The National Gender Policy (2022)

- Although not a law, this policy complements the legal framework by:
- Promoting 50% affirmative action for women in political and public offices.
- Encouraging political parties and institutions to ensure gender balance and fair participation.

4. The Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018

- This Act specifically supports the political inclusion of persons with disabilities:
- Section 29: Mandates that public organizations, including INEC, give PWDs equal opportunity to participate in politics and public life.

Inclusivity Analysis of Candidates

		— There are 14 male and 2 female governorship candidates, 6 female deputy governorship candidates, 10 male deputy governorship candidates, and zero Youth⁵⁰ and PWD governorship candidate. — The youngest candidate is 36years AAC Ifemeludike Chioma Grace — The 2 Female governorship candidates are: 1. Ifemeludike Chioma Grace – AAC 2. Ndidi Christy Olieh – NRM — The 6 female deputy governorship candidates are: 1. Ezeadili Appolonia O. – A 2. Ekwunife Uche Lilian – APC 3. Okeke Blessing Ebele – APP 4. Ugboma Happiness – BP 5. Okaro Ifeoma Veronica – LP 6. Obi Chibuzo Faith – ZLP
12	Pre-election Litigations	— Despite INEC’s cautions and advise to political parties to comply with the legal frameworks, constitution, regulations, and guidelines for meetings, rallies, and processions ahead of the November 8, 2025, governorship elections⁵¹. Parties and

⁵⁰ Youth here is as defined by the National Youth Policy (15-29 years old, revised from previous policy of 18-35years old), ECOWAS Youth Policy (18 -35 years), and AU Youth Charter (15 – 35 years old).

⁵¹ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/cvr-centres/>

candidates still flout these legal frameworks, leading to multiple litigations, a trend that continues to bedevil the process.

APC

- Post political primaries of APC for the Anambra governorship election, Valentine Ozigbo, one of the aspirants, filed a lawsuit at the Federal High Court Awka, challenging the legitimacy of the APC governorship primary conducted on April 5, 2025, in Anambra State⁵².
- The suit seeks to nullify Nicholas Ukachukwu's nomination and compel the party to recognise Ozigbo as the rightful candidate.⁵³
- On July 23, 2025, the Federal High Court in Awka upheld the validity of the APC governorship primary in Anambra State⁵⁴.
- Similarly, the Supreme Court in October officially confirmed Mr. Ukachukwu as the APC candidate for the November election⁵⁵.

LP

- Labour Party also has a pre-election case before the Federal High Court, Enugu, which issued an interim order restraining Chief George Moghalu from parading himself as the governorship candidate of the Labour Party.⁵⁶

⁵² <https://punchng.com/anambra-2025-ozigbo-sues-apc-inec-seeks-fresh-primaryanambra-2025-ozigbo-sues-apc-inec-seeks-fresh-primary/>

⁵³ Ibid

⁵⁴ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2025/07/anambra-court-affirms-ukachukwu-as-apc-candidate-ozigbo-vows-to-continue-legal-battle/>

⁵⁵ <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/831867-nigerian-politician-makes-unsubstantiated-claims-against-supreme-court-after-failing-to-clinch-apc-ticket.html>

⁵⁶ <https://www.lawyard.org/blog/court-restrains-moghalu-from-parading-self-as-labour-party-governorship-candidate-for-2025-anambra-election/>

		— The order was filed by members of the Interim State Executive Committee of Anambra State Chapter of the party, led by Okoye Peter Chukwunulu and Jerry Nnubia, as they alleged that Moghalu emerged from a faction of the party loyal to the ‘removed’⁵⁷ National Chairman, Julius Abure.
13	Power Dynamics	— For this election, there is general perspective from electoral watchers and democracy advocates and defenders that the election may be won by default by the incumbent as there seem not be strong contenders amongst the candidates that can dislodge him from the government house⁵⁸. — Unlike the 2021 election with the threat of violence hanging over the election, this election has little or no violence tension that attends of these off-cycle governorship elections which some politicians approached as war. For instance, January 2024, Governor Soludo, suspended Igwe Damian Ezeani as the traditional ruler of Neni for conferring a chieftaincy title on late Senator Ifeanyi Ubah of APC who was reportedly gearing up to contest the 2025 governorship election⁵⁹. APGA — The political party of the incumbent governor, Professor Charles Soludo, who is seeking a second term as governor⁶⁰.

⁵⁷ There was long court battle over rightful chairman of the LP. Abure was removed but later reinstated by court judgement and recognised by INEC

⁵⁸ Gleaned from stakeholders’ meetings, and Informal conversations with practitioners

⁵⁹ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/01/soludo-suspends-monarch-for-conferring-chieftaincy-title-on-senator-ubah/>

⁶⁰ <https://www.ndr.org.ng/anambra-2025-the-issues-challenges-party-dynamics/>

- APGA has maintained strong grassroots support and emphasised continuity. This has helped the party to keep loyal voters in several regions with established voting patterns. The party has dominated the state since 2003 by leveraging its local networks and reputation.
- The party also rides on the influence of late Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, “Ikemba”, the founder of the party.
- There is report of over 2,500 APGA stakeholders, including former appointees and key figures such as Hon. Owelle Onyeka Mbaso, Hon. Ifeanyi Akunne, Dr. Juslin Nwankwo, Mr. Vin Onyeka, Hon. Arinze Ayogu, and Chief Basil Ejidike, defecting to support APC’s Nicholas Ukachukwu for election, citing grievances against Governor Soludo’s leadership and promising grassroots mobilization for the APC candidate⁶¹.
- There were also defections to APGA, including Chief Patrick Nwanyiaku, a prominent APC stalwart from Nnobi Ward 1, along with over 150 members and key local leaders who left APC and LP for APGA⁶².

APC

- The Anambra State chapter of the APC was faced with internal crises and divisions as key party leaders, stakeholders, and members resigned, thus threatening the party’s structure across the state⁶³.

⁶¹ https://www.legit.ng/politics/1666737-anambra-election-2025-setbacks-soludo-apga-stakeholders-endorse-candidate/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=pp&utm_campaign=legitbreaking

⁶² <https://tribuneonlineng.com/anambra-guber-over-150-apc-lp-members-defect-to-apga-soludos-aide/>

⁶³ <https://businessday.ng/politics/article/panic-grips-anambra-apc-as-wave-of-defections-follows-controversial-governorship-primary/>

- The ward congress held on March 16 to select delegates for the April 5, 2025, primary was marred by delayed commencement. Further compounding the situation was the delayed announcement of the congress results, prompting the aspirant to assert that the process was unjust and orchestrated to the advantage of a particular aspirant⁶⁴.
- The primary, which was conducted on April 5, 2025, was marked by violence and disruption. It was reported that thugs supporting the winning candidate, Nicholas Ukachukwu, allegedly worked with the police to stop other delegates from registering⁶⁵.
- After the primary, the party went into crisis with several resignations and defections. On April 11, Oduenyi Ifeanyi, Chairman of APC in Njikoka, Nimo Ward I, resigned noting that he was frustrated with the party's weakening structure and the loss of key members to the YPP⁶⁶.
- Some other leaders who defected were: the chairman of Nnewi South LGA and nearly all members of the executive arm of the party in Nimo Ward, Njikoka LGA.
- This situation sparked fears that the APC's organizational foundation in Anambra was weak and jeopardizing the party's electoral prospects.
- There were also some defections to the APC in the state, including Kingsley and Kennedy Ezekwelu, popularly known as the KKs, along with Dr. Ngozi Osy, Agbata, former Commissioner for Information, Dr Paul Nwosu, and Chief Owelle Mbaso⁶⁷.

⁶⁴ <https://dailypost.ng/2025/03/16/confusion-as-anambra-apc-ward-congress-ends-in-crisis/>

⁶⁵ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2025/04/anambra-2025-apc-in-crisis-as-governorship-primary-triggers-resignations-defections/>

⁶⁶ Ibid

⁶⁷ <https://thenationonlineng.net/anambra-2026-ex-appointees-of-obi-obiano-defect-to-apc/>

PDP

- The Peoples Democratic Party which previously governed the State, has historically been a key player. However, it is currently facing internal divisions that could undermine its strength, with some members choosing to align themselves with the ADC coalition⁶⁸.
- In early 2025, a group of 14 elected ward and local government executives petitioned the PDP National Chairman to nullify the state congress that held in October 2024, citing a court ruling that invalidated that exercise due to the exclusion of rightful delegates⁶⁹. They demanded a fresh congress following the court and party appeal committee recommendations.
- However, the Public Secretary of PDP Anambra State issued a statement no higher court had overturned the Court of Appeal ruling which upheld the leadership of the party at the Wards and Local Government Area levels across all 21 LGAs in Anambra State. According publicity secretary, the conduct and results of the state congress, remained final and cannot be altered or repeated⁷⁰.
- There was also move by the National Working Committee NWC to dissolve the State Executive. NWC was cautioned by elders who insisted that the current state leadership was effective and dissolving the executive will weaken the party in the election⁷¹.

⁶⁸ <https://www.ndr.org.ng/anambra-2025-the-issues-challenges-party-dynamics/>

⁶⁹ <https://www.pulse.ng/articles/news/anambra-pdp-crisis-deepens-as-party-officials-demand-nullification-of-congress-2025011618542080559>

⁷⁰ https://web.facebook.com/groups/www.apgang.org/posts/9448225311908485/?_rdc=1&_rdr#

⁷¹ <https://punchng.com/anambra-pdp-rejects-plans-to-dissolve-state-exco/>

- Amidst all the internal divisions, Jude Ezenwafor, the governorship candidate was reportedly shot by unknown gunmen in Abuja on Friday night, July 18, 2025⁷². Despite the assassination attempt, Jude Ezenwafor has continued to actively engage and expressed determination to address security concerns in the state once elected⁷³.

LP

- The Labour Party has become a major force in urban areas, driven by youth involvement and Peter Obi's ongoing influence, which could affect voter preferences⁷⁴.
- The Anambra state chapter of the Labour Party is factionalised into two.
- The two factions of the party conducted two parallel political primaries for the election.
- One of the factions held a governorship primary which Jude Umenajiego emerged as the candidate of the party⁷⁵.
- Another faction of the Labour Party held its governorship primary, with Dr George Moghalu emerging as their candidate.
- There were claims that LP had merged with ADC. However, the Deputy Publicity Secretary Anambra State LP issued a statement in July denying the claims⁷⁶.

⁷² <https://www.thisdaylive.com/2025/07/20/anambra-pdp-governorship-candidate-jude-ezenwafor-shot-in-abuja/>; https://www.thecable.ng/jude-ezenwafor-anambra-pdp-guber-candidate-shot-in-abuja/#google_vignette

⁷³ Ibid

⁷⁴ <https://www.ndr.org.ng/anambra-2025-the-issues-challenges-party-dynamics/>

⁷⁵ <https://punchng.com/anambra-lp-in-disarray-as-faction-holds-parallel-gov-primary/>; <https://thenationonline.net/labour-party-crisis-deepens-as-faction-holds-parallel-governorship-primary-in-anambra/>

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CIVIL TERRAIN AND STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT

14	INEC Engagement with Stakeholders	— On October 17, 2024, the Commission led Professor Mahmood Yakubu⁷⁷, the Chairman met with leaders of political parties⁷⁸. — The meeting was held to announce the date for the Anambra governorship election and to discuss the electoral activities and timelines for the election. — On January 22, 2025, INEC held its first regular consultative meeting with Political parties for year 2025. The meeting was specifically held to discuss the elections and electoral activities of 2025, with a focus on the Anambra State governorship election. — During the meeting, the Chairman stressed that the Commission is always mindful to ensure compliance with legal requirements⁷⁹. — The Second INEC regular quarterly consultative meeting with political parties was held on June 25, 2025⁸⁰. — The meeting was aimed at providing a comprehensive update on upcoming electoral activities, including the scheduling of bye-elections, the resumption of Continuous Voter Registration (CVR), and preparations for the Anambra State Governorship election. — The INEC Chairman revealed that the Commission approved the resumption of CVR at state-specific and nationwide levels, adding that for Anambra State, because of the
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⁷⁷ Professor Mahmood Yakubu handed over on October 7, 2025

⁷⁸ <https://thenationonlineng.net/inec-announces-nov-8-2025-for-anambra-governorship-election/>

⁷⁹ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/remarks-by-the-chairman-independent-national-electoral-commission-inec-prof-mahmood-yakubu-at-the-first-regular-consultative-meeting-with-political-parties-held-at-the-inec-conference-room-abuj-2/>

⁸⁰ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1938201379706654810>

governorship election, the CVR will take place in all 326 Wards from July 8 to July 17, 2025, running daily from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm including weekends.

- On June 25, 2025, INEC held its Second regular consultative meeting with CSOs⁸¹. The meeting was focused on the Anambra governorship election
- The Commission's held a second consultative meeting with Media Executives on June 25, 2025.
- The INEC on June 27, 2025, convened its second quarterly consultative meeting with the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES), as part of efforts to strengthen preparations for the Anambra governorship election and the resumption of CVR exercise in Anambra and across the country⁸².
- In line with global practice, INEC invited registered CSOs and other stakeholders to apply to observe the Anambra governorship election. This application ended on September 9, 2025⁸³.
- September 1, 2025, the portal for online accreditation of media organizations for the Anambra State Governorship Election was launched, inviting media to submit applications through the designated link⁸⁴.
- October 13, 2025, the Department of Election and Party Monitoring (EPM) held a briefing for observers of the election at INEC headquarters. The briefing focused on enlightening observers on the expectations and code of conduct for observers.

⁸¹ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1937898820777476601>

⁸² https://web.facebook.com/inecnigeria/posts/inec-security-agencies-strategize-ahead-of-bye-elections-and-anambra-governorshi/1132234292262962/?_rdc=1&_rdr#;

⁸³ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/advert-for-application-to-serve-as-observer-groups-for-the-november-8th-anambra-governorship-election/>

⁸⁴ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1981059425671471440>

- Third INEC quarterly consultative meeting with political parties held on October 14, 2025⁸⁵. Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu, the Acting Chairman, pointed out at the meeting that the Schedule of Activities and Timetable for the Anambra State Governorship Election lists **13 crucial activities** that the Commission must complete and at the time of the meeting the Commission has **completed 10 of these activities**⁸⁶. She outlined the three outstanding activities as: the Notice of Poll, which is scheduled for October 25, 2025; the deadline for campaigns, which is November 6, 2025; and the election date, which is November 8, 2025⁸⁷.
- Third INEC regular quarterly consultative meeting with CSOs held on October 15, 2025⁸⁸. The acting Chairman, Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu, also gave an update on the Anambra State Governorship Election stating the completed and outstanding activities⁸⁹.
- Third INEC regular quarterly consultative meeting with the Media held on October 15, 2025. During the meeting, the acting Chairman, Mrs. Agbamuche-Mbu, gave an update on the Commission's election preparations in Anambra, specifically on the accreditation procedure for journalists. She noted that the Commission has received applications from 43 media organizations seeking accreditation for 363 personnel since the opening of media accreditation portal on September 1, 2025⁹⁰.

⁸⁵ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1978044580554535200>

⁸⁶ Ibid

⁸⁷ Ibid

⁸⁸ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1978489811729101062>

⁸⁹ Ibid

⁹⁰ Ibid

- Furthermore, she stated that the accreditation gateway will close at midnight on October 24, 2025, and there would be no extension.
- On Tuesday, October 21, 2025, the INEC convened a strategic forum in Awka, Anambra State, bringing together media executives, reporters, producers, and on-air personalities to strengthen collaboration and enhance media engagement in preparation for the governorship election⁹¹.
- On October 22, 2025, a four-member delegation from INEC headquarters led by Professor Rhoda Gumus, National Commissioner for Election Planning and Monitoring, arrived in Awka for governorship election readiness assessment. Other delegates were Mr. Sam Olumekun, National Commissioner, Information and Voter Education (IVEC), Dr. Kenneth Ukeagu, National Commissioner supervising Anambra State, and Dr. Baba Bila, National Commissioner for Electoral Operations and Logistics.
- The delegation conducted field assessments in Dunukofia LGA (Anambra Central) and Oyi LGA (Anambra North), inspecting the batching of non-sensitive election materials in preparation for deployment. They affirmed the Commission's readiness for the election⁹².
- On October 23, 2025, the delegation held a meeting with the Electoral Officers and Transport Unions on readiness for the election⁹³.

⁹¹ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1980659950826189267>

⁹² <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1981035347674112084>

⁹³ Ibid

15 Engagement and Training of Election Personnel

- On July 3, 2025, the Electoral Institute (TEI) of INEC, in collaboration with the Voter Registry (VR) and ICT departments, organised Training-of-Trainers (ToT) for the Anambra State CVR exercise at TEI. The training was to equip Trainers with the needed skills to train Registration Officers, July 4 – 5, 2025⁹⁴.
- On July 10, 2025, TEI held a crucial Methodology Workshop at Awka to train field agents and local guides for the Voter Register Assessment (VRA) exercise.
- The workshop aimed to prepare participants to conduct a thorough evaluation of the voter register in preparations for the 2025 Anambra State governorship election⁹⁵.
- On September 15, 2025, INEC commenced the recruitment of Ad-hoc Staff in preparation for the Anambra Governorship Election 2025, and the application closed on October 5, 2025⁹⁶.
- On October 16–17, 2025, INEC via TEI, conducted a two-day Training of Trainers (ToT) program to equip Supervisory Presiding Officers (SPOs), Presiding Officers (POs), and Assistant Presiding Officers (APOs) with the necessary skills and knowledge for the Anambra State Governorship Election⁹⁷.
- From October 23 -25, 2025, INEC trained SPOs to prepare them to effectively carry out their duties during the election⁹⁸.
- The Commission has also commenced online accreditation for journalists and Media organisations intending to cover the Anambra State governorship election. The

⁹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/inecnigeria/posts/the-collaborative-teivriect-training-of-trainers-tot-for-the-anambra-state-contin/1137271278425930/>;

<https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1941092097064374608>

⁹⁵ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1944067795454406670>

⁹⁶ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/information-block/inecpres/>

⁹⁷ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1978837505781756070>

⁹⁸ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1979591620409352446>

portal, which was opened on September 1, 2025, will be closing on October 24, 2025⁹⁹.

- On September 19, 2025, INEC-TEI organised a methodology workshop in Awka to prepare Field Agents and Supervisors for the deployment of the Election Violence Mitigation and Advocacy Tool (EVMAT) for Anambra Governorship Election¹⁰⁰.
- EVMAT is a strategic tool developed by INEC to identify electoral flashpoints and guide interventions to prevent violence.
- October 7, 2025, INEC commenced the training workshop for Election Security Personnel (ESP) in Awka. The workshop brought together officers from the State Commands of ICCES member Security Agencies, including the Nigeria Police, Army, Navy, Air Force, Directorate of State Security (DSS), Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Immigration, Customs, Correctional Service, NDLEA, Fire Service, and Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC)¹⁰¹.
- According to INEC, the objectives of the training include: to update security agencies the latest initiatives and innovations of INEC, sensitize them to understand their roles and responsibilities as electoral critical stakeholders, strengthen collaboration and enhance the effectiveness of security personnel in safeguarding elections and promoting credible, peaceful voting environment¹⁰².

⁹⁹ <https://www.inecnigeria.org/media-accreditation-for-2025-anambra-state-governorship-election/>

¹⁰⁰ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1969147441275683298>

¹⁰¹ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1975796312776814833>

¹⁰² Ibid

16	Community Stakeholders Engagement	Traditional Rulers' Involvement — On July 26, 2025, Mr. John Chuma Nwosu, the ADC governorship candidate, paid a courtesy visit to present his manifesto to HRH Igwe Peter Anugwu, the traditional ruler of Mbaukwu-Eze Amosu, Eze Ka Eze at his royal palace¹⁰³. — May 2025, Traditional rulers from the five South-Eastern states, Enugu, Anambra, Imo, Abia, and Ebonyi, during a two-day 2025 South East Traditional Rulers Council Delegates Meeting at the International Convention Centre (ICC), Awka openly prayed for Anambra State Governor Charles Soludo to win the November 8 Anambra Governorship election¹⁰⁴. Other community engagements — June 21, 2025, Anambra North Stakeholders Forum, a coalition of current and former elected officials, appointees, and key stakeholders from Anambra North¹⁰⁵ organised a rally at the Otuocha township stadium in Aguleri in support of the governor, Prof Chukwuma Soludo¹⁰⁶.
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¹⁰³ https://web.facebook.com/groups/878594709141447/posts/2650569738610593/?_rdc=1&_rdr

¹⁰⁴ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2025/05/southeast-traditional-rulers-pray-for-soludos-second-tenure-victory/>

¹⁰⁵ Ibid

¹⁰⁶ <https://punchng.com/anambra-community-backs-soludos-re-election/?amp=>

		— September 18, 2025, the Umueri community in Anambra-East LGA endorsed Governor Soludo as their consensus candidate for the November 8 election during a grand reception for the governor in Ama-Umueri¹⁰⁷.
17	Civil Society Engagement with the Electoral Process	Civil Society engagement with the governorship election includes: — The Electoral Hub developed this Electoral Technical Note and Political Context Analysis to offer a comprehensive understanding of the political and social dynamics surrounding the election. Additionally, The Electoral Hub produced and disseminated a series of infographics as part of its civic education efforts, designed to enhance citizens' electoral knowledge and sensitize them about the electoral process. — Creative Minds Centre for Youths and Community Development, an Anambra State CSO organised the Anambra Governorship Debate held in Awka on October 24, 2025, with the theme “Voices Beyond the Frontline” at Hollywood Event Centre, Akwa, in partnership with Active Citizen Media. — The Social and Integral Development Centre (SIDECE), another Anambra State based CSO conducted a two-day training session on September 17-18, 2025 in Awka, for government officials, journalists, and community leaders to combat the spread of disinformation, misinformation, fake news, and hate speech¹⁰⁸. The organization has carried out civic and voter education in 15 markets across the State, five per senatorial

¹⁰⁷ https://tribuneonline.ng/guber-poll-anambra-community-endorses-soludo/?fbclid=IwB21leANH3LtleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHIA7FKyILUlrkOfnnz_-c2bWdC14wOu89IosxNdhZOAMGULddvnMw36HRqxd_aem_dgRX4sh1aKWqj3r1Z4twUQ

¹⁰⁸ <https://iwitness.ng/sidec-trains-stakeholders-to-combat-misinformation-ahead-of-anambra-governorship-election/>

zone, radio programme on inclusive election and information disorder as well as advocacy visits to relevant stakeholders.¹⁰⁹

- Justice Development and Peace Commission, Onitsha carried out online campaigns encouraging the people of Anambra to come out and vote on November 8, 2025¹¹⁰.
- On September 8, 2025, Yiaga Africa embarked on a series of advocacy visits to critical stakeholders in the state to promote peaceful, credible, and inclusive elections¹¹¹.
- Yiaga engaged key institutions such as the NSCDC, the Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN), the Inter-Party Advisory Council (IPAC), the National Orientation Agency (NOA), and the Nigeria Police Force, on strengthening collaboration, and assess the electoral environment¹¹².
- ElectHER, on September 24, 2025, concluded a two-day engagement in Awka combining a multi-stakeholder roundtable with an advocacy visit to security agencies, aimed at ensuring an inclusive, peaceful, and secure governorship election on November 8, 2025¹¹³.
- KDI produced early warning report ‘Assessing Pre-Election Security Risk Ahead of the 2025 Anambra off-cycle Governorship Election’. The report highlighted security issues that would have an impact on the election if not addressed¹¹⁴.

¹⁰⁹ Phone interview with Ugochi Agalaba-Ehiahuruike, Executive Director, SIDEC

¹¹⁰ <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DPwFUhtj3bu/>

¹¹¹ <https://yiaga.org/building-trust-ahead-of-anambra-2025-yiaga-africa-engages-security-media-and-csos/>

¹¹² Ibid

¹¹³ <https://punchng.com/women-group-seeks-gender-inclusive-peaceful-election-in-anambra/>

¹¹⁴ https://kimpact.org.ng/storage/publications/anambradecides25_esra/AnambraDecides25_ESRA_Report.pdf

		— On Tuesday, 15 October 2025, the Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room convened a dialogue session in Abuja to evaluate INEC's readiness for the upcoming Anambra State Governorship Election set for November 8, 2025. During the session, Anambra State Resident Electoral Commissioner, Dr. Queen Elizabeth Agwu, expressed strong confidence in the Commission's ability to conduct a free, fair, and credible election¹¹⁵.
18	Media in Anambra State	TV Stations: — Nigerian Television Authority (NTA): located in Awka, the State's capital and in Onitsha, the commercial hub in Anambra State, is owned by the Federal Government. — Anambra Broadcasting Service TV (ABS TV): A state-owned television station with its stations at Onitsha and Awka, is owned and managed by the State Government. Radio Stations: — Radio Nigeria Purity FM (102.5): Located in Awka is owned by the Federal Government. — Anambra Broadcasting Service (ABS) Radio 88.5 FM: Located in Awka is owned and managed by the State Government. — Radio 90.7 FM: Located in Onitsha is owned and managed by the State Government.

¹¹⁵ <https://x.com/SituationRoomNg/status/1978776790815658005>. The Electoral Hub was a participant at the meeting

Private Radio Station:

- Madonna Radio (93.3 FM): It is the campus radio station owned and operated by Madonna University.
- Blaze FM (91.5): Located in Oraifite and owned by Dr Emeka Offor, CEO of Chrome Group, one of the leading oil and gas conglomerates in West Africa. He is alleged to be a strong supporter of the incumbent governor
- Tansian University Radio (107.1 FM): It is a Campus radio station owned and managed by Tansian University, and it is located at Umunya.
- Unizik FM (94.1 FM): Is a Campus radio station owned and managed by the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, and it is located at Awka Campus of Unizik.
- Authority FM (91.9): Located in Nnewi, is owned by the late Senator Ifeanyi Ubah, who served as the senator representing Anambra South Senatorial District elected under YPP but later defected to the APC.
- Moment FM (98.7): It is owned and managed by Federal Polytechnic, Oko.
- Omega Radio (101. 7 FM): Owned by Godwin Ezeemo and located at Umuchu. Godwin Ezeemo is a member of the Progressive Peoples Alliance (PPA) and has contested in the Anambra State governorship election under this party.

Newspapers:

- National Light Newspaper: Is owned by the Anambra Newspapers and Printing Corporation (ANPC).

- Fides Newspaper: Published by Fides Media, a project of the Catholic Church in Awka.
- Trinitas Newspaper: Located in Onitsha. The newspaper is associated with the Catholic Archdiocese in Onitsha

INTEGRITY MEASURES FOR THE ELECTION

19	Integrity Measures	— So far, INEC has complied with the timing, schedule, and adequate public disclosure of rules and guidelines for the election. Thus, ensuring certainty¹¹⁶ in the electoral process. — There have been stakeholders' engagements with different critical electoral stakeholders where INEC provides updates about the election on its plans and preparations: political parties, CSOs, media, logistics institutions (e.g. NURTW). — INEC has also consistently engaged and communicate the electorate and the public through different social media platforms as well as by publishing information on its website¹¹⁷. — All election-related information has been proactively disclosed by INEC and made available to electoral stakeholders and the public. For example, electoral
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¹¹⁶ “Democratic elections combine procedural certainty with substantive uncertainty, while authoritarian elections combine procedural uncertainty with substantive certainty. In the former, the integrity of procedures is secure, while electoral outcomes are open. In the latter, the procedural quality of elections is doubtful, while their results are predictable: the ruling party always wins”. Schedler, A. (2010) page 4. *Transitions from Electoral Authoritarianism*. CIDE Paper Numero 22. Retrieved from https://cide.repositorioinstitucional.mx/jspui/bitstream/1011/327/1/000102958_documento.pdf November 6, 2025

¹¹⁷ See INEC social media handles

stakeholders and the public can access information such as PVC collection, political party candidate list, election technology, and voter registration status.

- Expansion of citizens participation with the conduct of a CVR, and devolution to registration areas (RAs/Ward) to enable eligible voters to register and participate in the election.
- Also on citizens' participation, INEC ensured that registered voters received their PVCs for election¹¹⁸ by devolving collection to designated RAs across the State from Wednesday, October 22, to Sunday, October 26, 2025.
- Ensuring a conducive environment for CSOs and other electoral stakeholders to engage the EMB and participated freely in the process, including accrediting a range of CSOs, media, and Development partners to observe the election.
- Conducting readiness assessment for the election with high level field visits by the Commission, engagement with state electoral stakeholders such as EOs, transport unions, testing of the BVAS machine's usability, effectiveness, and operation, and testing the functionality of the IReV¹¹⁹.
- However, several factors can influence the electoral process in the Anambra election, including insecurity, logistical challenges, technical issues with accreditation devices, material distribution delays, widespread voter apathy, vote buying and money politics, and the urban-rural divide. All these factors can impact the integrity of the electoral process.

¹¹⁸ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1979627467251093600>

¹¹⁹ <https://x.com/inecnigeria/status/1981424251916702004>

Conclusion

The 2025 Anambra State governorship election is a pivotal event with significant implications for the state's future governance and democratic consolidation. The electoral process is underpinned by robust legal frameworks, including the Constitution, Electoral Act and INEC regulations and guidelines provisions that delineate the roles, qualifications, and responsibilities of candidates and election officials. The pre-election stages activities such as reviews, lesson learning meetings, voter registration, voter education, planning and logistical arrangements, have been done to ensure clarity, certainty, fairness, and transparency. Critical to this endeavor is the active participation of INEC, political parties, civil society, and security agencies, all working collaboratively to mitigate risks such as insecurity, vote-buying, and logistical delays that have historically challenged electoral integrity in Nigeria.

The Anambra State Governorship election of November 8, 2025 offers a platform to demonstrate the effectiveness of contemporary election management technologies, including BVAs and the IReV portal, which are intended to enhance transparency and public confidence. Furthermore, it underscores the importance of civic engagement, voter education, and community participation in fostering a culture of democratic accountability.

As stakeholders navigate the final stages of electoral preparations, the overarching goal remains to conduct a free, fair, and credible election that genuinely reflects the will of the people. The successful execution of these electoral activities will significantly influence governance stability, economic development, and democratic consolidation in Anambra State. This election, therefore, presents an opportunity for Nigeria to reaffirm its commitment to democratic governance and to demonstrate that electoral processes can be resilient, inclusive, and trustworthy despite prevailing challenges.

Finally, electoral stakeholders involved in this election must sustain their vigilance, uphold the principles of fairness and integrity, and prioritize peaceful conduct during and after the election. The collective effort in securing electoral integrity will serve not only to reinforce the legitimacy of the elected government but also to strengthen the democratic fabric of Nigeria.

About The Electoral Hub

The Electoral Hub is an interdisciplinary knowledge, policy and advocacy hub promoting electoral knowledge, accountability, inclusion, and integrity. We are committed to providing solutions to improve the credibility and integrity of the electoral process and governance. Our mission is to strengthen electoral governance in Nigeria through the provision of critical and contextualized analysis. We believe that the integrity of the electoral process is crucial in improving electoral governance and sustaining democracy in Nigeria. We also believe in solutions rooted in the principles of justice and equity. Our vision is to be an electoral knowledge and innovation one-stop-shop for sustainable democracy. Our values are knowledge-exchange, inclusion, justice, equity, transparency, and accountability.

The Electoral Hub, an affiliate of the Initiative for Research, Innovation and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD).

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