



# **INEC BRIEFING FOR OBSERVERS TO THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION**

**INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE CENTRE,  
ABUJA**

**TUESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2023**

**[www.inecnigeria.org](http://www.inecnigeria.org)**



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## NIGERIA: FACTS AND FIGURES

### LOCATION:



Extreme Eastern corner of West Africa. Bordered to the West by the Republic of Benin, to the North by the Republic of Niger, the North-East by Chad, to the East by Cameroon, and to the South by the Bight of Benin.

### LANDMASS:



923,768 Km<sup>2</sup> (32nd in the world and 13th in Africa); 910,768Km<sup>2</sup> of land and 13,000Km<sup>2</sup> of water areas. Total of 4,047Km land boundaries and 853Km of coastline boundaries.

### ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION:



36 States and a Federal Capital Territory (FCT), 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs).

### POPULATION:



213,401,323 inhabitants; 107,827,013 (50.52%) male and 105,574,310 (49.48) female

### ECONOMY



GDP is estimated at US\$440.83Billion (2021 WDI\* estimate);

Agriculture (23.35%), Industry (31.40%), Services (43.78%)

GDP per capita is estimated at US\$4,922 (WDI estimate).

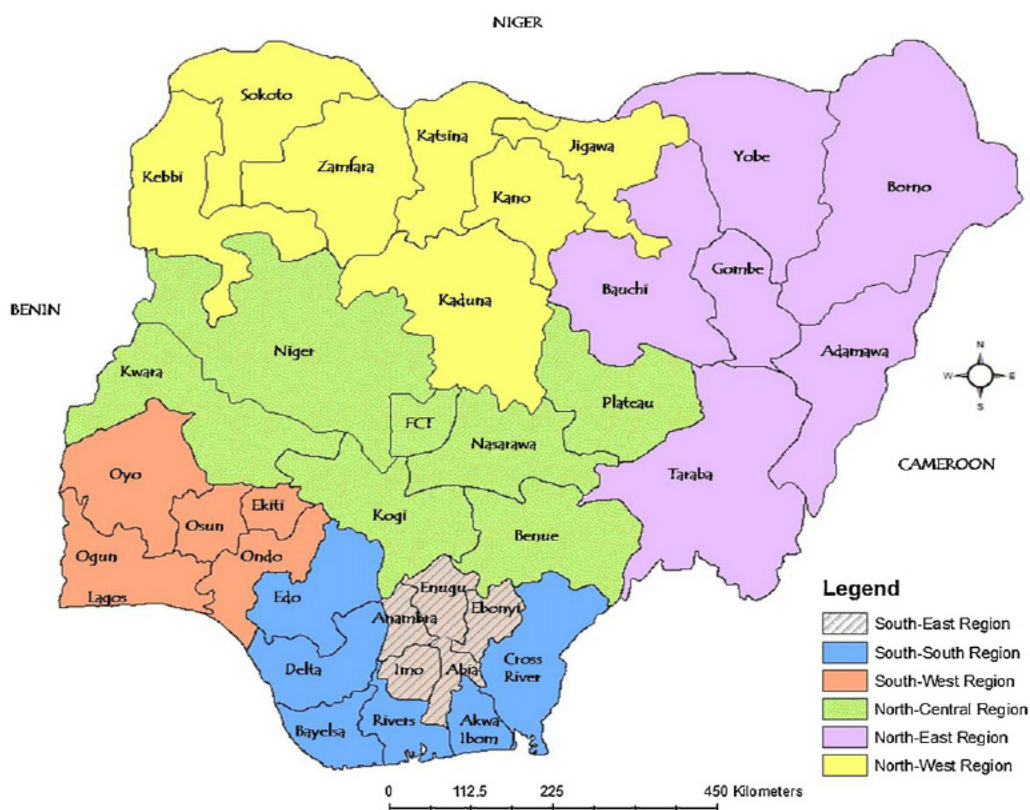
**ADULT  
LITERACY  
RATE:**

62.01% (2017 WDI estimate)

**CURRENCY:**

Naira (\$1 = N466)

## THE POLITICAL MAP OF NIGERIA



# THE POLITICAL SYSTEM



The Federal Republic of Nigeria comprises 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The Federal Government is composed of three organs namely: the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary.

**The Executive** is headed by the President of the Federation who is the Head of State, the Chief Executive of the Federation, and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation (S130 of the 1999 Constitution). At the State level, the Executive is headed by a Governor who is the Chief Executive of the State (S179 of the 1999 Constitution).

To qualify for election to the office of President, a candidate must be a citizen of Nigeria by birth; attained the age of 35 years; be a member of a political party and is sponsored by that political party; and has an educational qualification up to at least School Certificate or its equivalent. (S131 of the 1999 Constitution)

A President is elected on the basis of the Federation being a single constituency and by persons registered to vote at the election for a mandate of four years, renewable only once. [S132(4&5) & 135(2) of the 1999 Constitution]

To be elected President, a candidate

shall win the highest number of the votes cast at the election and not less than one-quarter of all the votes cast in each of at least two-thirds of all the States in the Federation and the FCT. (S134 of the 1999 Constitution)

In case no candidate is able to fulfill the condition, a run-off election shall be held within 21 days after the previous election at which the only candidates shall be (a) the candidate who scored the highest number of votes at the election and (b) one among the remaining candidates who has a majority of votes in the highest number of States. Where there are more than one candidate with majority of votes in the highest number of States, the candidate among them with the highest total of votes cast at the election shall be the second candidate. (S134 of the 1999 Constitution)

A Governor is elected on the basis of the state being a single constituency by persons registered to vote at the election in that state for a mandate of four years, renewable only once. [S132(4&5) & 135(2) of the 1999 Constitution]

To qualify for election to the Office of Governor, a candidate must be a citizen of Nigeria by birth; attained the age of 35 years; be a member of a Political Party and is sponsored by that political party; and has an educational qualification up to at least school certificate or its equivalent. (s177 of the 1999 Constitution)

To be elected Governor, a candidate shall win the highest number of the votes cast at the election and not less than one-quarter of all the votes cast in each of at least two-thirds of all the Local Government Areas in the State. (S179 of the 1999 Constitution)

In case no candidate is able to fulfill the condition, a run-off election shall be held within 21 days after the previous election at which the only two candidates shall be: (a) the candidate who secured the highest number of votes cast at the election; and (b) one among the remaining candidates who secured a majority of votes and in the highest number of Local Government Areas in the State. Where there are more than one candidate with a majority of votes in the highest number of Local Government Areas, the candidate among them with the next highest total of votes cast at the election shall be the second candidate. (S179 of the 1999 Constitution)

The **Legislative** arm of government consists of the Bicameral National Assembly for the Federation, comprising a Senate and a House of Representatives (HOR) (S47 of the 1999 Constitution); as well as the House of Assembly (SHOA) for each state of the Federation (S90 of the 1999 Constitution).

To qualify for election for membership of the National or State Assembly, a candidate must be a citizen of Nigeria by birth; attained the age of 35 years for Senate; 25 years for HOR and 25 years for SHOA; be a member of a political party and is sponsored by that political party; and has an educational qualification up to at least school certificate or its equivalent. (S131 of the 1999 Constitution)

The Senate comprises 109 members made up of three (3) senators from each State of the Federation and one (1) from the FCT. (S48 of the 1999 Constitution)

The House of Representatives comprises 360 members representing constituencies of nearly equal population as far as possible, provided that no constituency shall fall within more than one State. (S49 of the 1999 Constitution)

The House of Assembly for each State of the Federation comprises not less

than 24 and not more than 40 members representing State constituencies divided in a way as far as possible to reflect nearly equal population. (S91 of the 1999 Constitution)

Members of the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly have a four (4) year mandate commencing from the date of first sitting (S64 & 105 of the 1999 Constitution) and the mandate is renewable through re-election, with no term limit.

The National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly are mandated to sit for a period of not less than 181 days in a year (S63 & 104 of the 1999 Constitution)

The **Judiciary** arm of government consists of:

The Supreme Court of Nigeria (S230 – 236 of the 1999 Constitution);

The Court of Appeal (S237 – 248 of the 1999 Constitution);

The Federal High Court (S249 – 245 of the 1999 Constitution)

The National Industrial Court of Nigeria (S254a – 254e of the 1999 Constitution);

The High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja (S255 – 259 of the 1999 Constitution);

The Sharia Court of Appeal of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja (S260 – 264 of the 1999 Constitution);

the customary Court of Appeal of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja (S265 – 269 of the 1999 Constitution);

High Court of a state (S270 – 274 of the 1999 Constitution);

Sharia Court of Appeal of a state (S275 – 279 of the 1999 Constitution); and

Customary Court of Appeal of a State (S280 – 284 of the 1999 Constitution).



For the purpose of election adjudication, one or more Election Tribunals (S285 of the 1999 Constitution) is/are established for each of the 36 States of the Federation and FCT as follows:

National and State Houses of Assembly Election Tribunal, which to the exclusion of any Court or Tribunal has original jurisdiction to hear and determine whether any person has been elected as a member of the National Assembly or State House of Assembly.

Governorship Election Tribunal, which to the exclusion of any Court or Tribunal has original jurisdiction to hear and determine whether any person has been elected to the office of Governor or Deputy Governor.

The Court of Appeal, which to the exclusion of any other Court has original jurisdiction to hear or determine any question as to whether any person has been validly elected to the office of President or Vice President. it also has jurisdiction to the exclusion of any other Court as the final appellate Court to hear and determine appeals from the electoral tribunals on the election of members of the National Assembly or State House of Assembly

The Supreme Court is the final appellate Court with jurisdiction to hear or determine any question as to whether any person has been validly elected to the office of President or Vice President, as well as to the office of Governor or Deputy Governor.

## THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is a statutory body empowered among other things to organise, undertake and supervise all elections to the offices of the President and Vice-President, the Governor and Deputy Governor of a State, and to the membership of the Senate, the House of Representatives and the House of Assembly of each State of the Federation, as well as into the offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman and members of Area Councils of the FCT.

The current members of the Commission are: Prof. Mahmood Yakubu (Chairman); Mr. Mohammed K. Haruna; Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu; Barr. Festus Okoye; Mr. Sam Olumekun, Prof. Muhammad Kallah; Dr. Baba Bila; Prof. Kunle Ajayi; Prof. Rhoda Gumus; Mr. Kenneth Ukeagu; Gen. Abubakar Alkali (rtd); Prof. Sani Adam and Prof. Abdullahi Abdu Zuru.

The Commission operates a three-tier administrative structure consisting of the Headquarters, State/FCT Offices (37) and LGA Offices (774).

The INEC Office in each State of the Federation and FCT is headed by a Resident Electoral Commissioner, while its office in each of the 774 LGAs of the Federation is headed by an Electoral Officer who is a permanent staff of the Commission.

The members of the Commission and the Resident Electoral Commissioners are appointed by the President, following due consultation with the Council of State and confirmation by the Senate for a specified tenure of five (5) years from the date of appointment.

The INEC Budget for the 2023 General Election approved by the National Assembly is N303.17 billion (US\$650.57

million) amounting to US\$6.96 per registered voter.

The 2023 General Election will be governed by the 1999 Constitution

of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) and the Electoral Act 2022, as well as by Regulations, Guidelines and Manuals issued by the Commission.

## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS SINCE 1999



27 February 1999

Presidential Election  
with two candidates

PDP won with **62.78%** of the total of 30.2 million votes cast



19 April 2003

Presidential Election  
with 20 candidates

PDP won with **61.94%** of the 42 million votes cast.



21 April 2007

Presidential Election  
with 25 candidates

PDP won with **69.82%** of the total of 35.4 million votes cast.



16 April 2011

Presidential Election  
with 20 candidates

PDP won with **58.9%** of the total of 39.4 million votes cast.



25 March 2015

Presidential Election  
with 14 candidates

APC won with **53.9%** of the total of 29.4 million votes cast.



23 February 2019

Presidential Election  
with 73 candidates

APC won with **53.09%** of the total of 28.6 million votes cast.

25 February 2023

Presidential Election with 18 candidates will be the seventh since the country's return to civilian rule in 1999.



# TIMETABLE & SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

## FOR 2023 GENERAL ELECTION












By virtue of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), tenure of the President, Vice President, Governors and Deputy Governors of States of the Federation (except Anambra, Bayelsa, Edo, Ekiti, Imo, Kogi, Ondo and Osun States) will expire on the 28th day of May 2023 while the National and State Assemblies will stand dissolved on the 8th day of June 2023.






Pursuant to Sections 76(2), 116(2), 132(2) and 178(2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), elections to the said offices shall hold not earlier than One Hundred and Fifty (150) days and not later than Thirty (30) days before the expiration of the term of office of the last holder of that office. In line with this provision and the Regulations of the Independent National Electoral Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”), the Presidential and National Assembly elections shall hold on Saturday 18th February 2023 while the Governorship and State Assembly elections shall hold on Saturday 4th March 2023.

The Commission is empowered by Section 28(1) of the Electoral Act 2022 to issue Notice for the elections not later than Three Hundred and Sixty (360) days before the date of the elections.

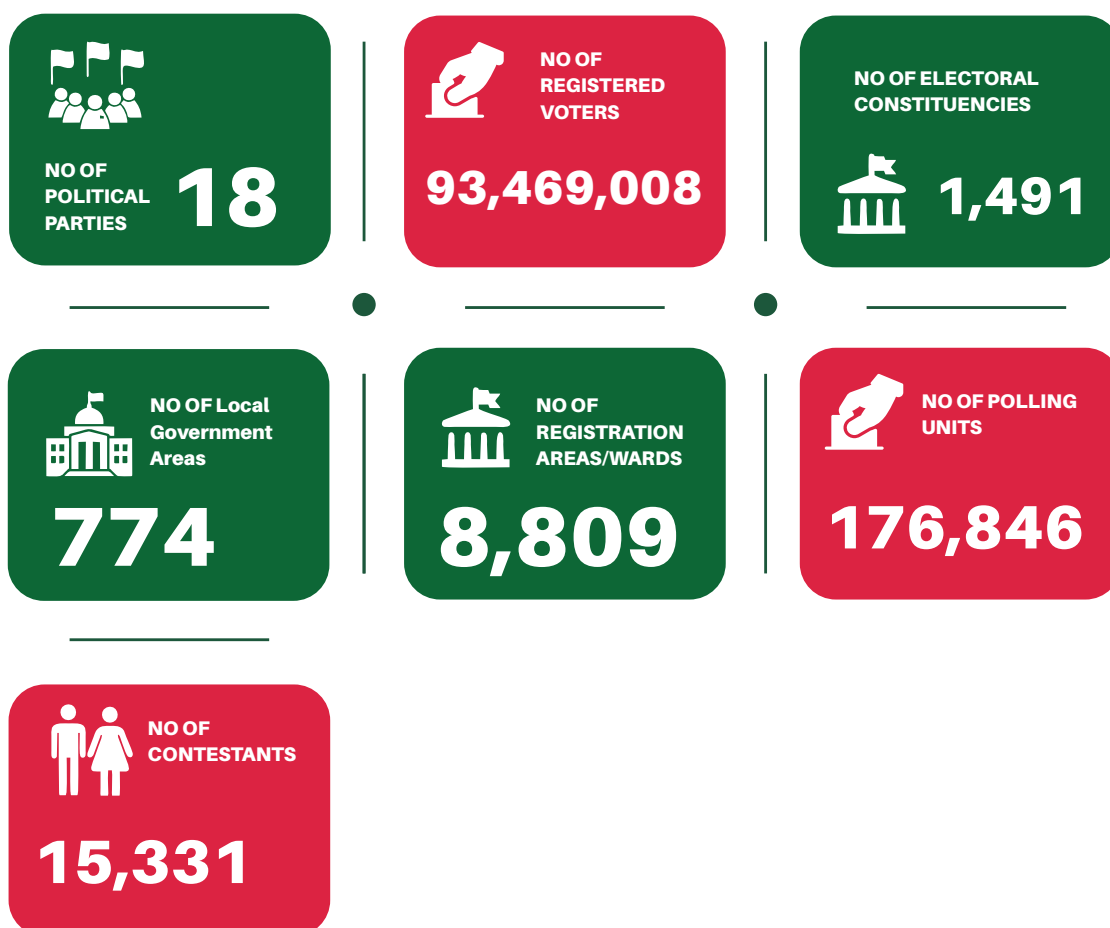
In exercise of the powers conferred by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) and the Electoral Act 2022 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Commission hereby issues this Timetable and Schedule of Activities for the 2023 General Election.

	Activity	Date	Remark
1	 Notice of Election	28th February 2022	Section 28(1) of the Electoral Act 2022 provides not later than 360 days before the election.
2	 Collection of Forms EC9 (Formerly CF001) and EC9A, 9B, 9C, 9D & 9E (Formerly CF002) for the election by Political Parties from INEC website.	1st March 2022	Collection by Political parties to be issued to their candidates.
3	 Conduct of Party Primaries including resolution of disputes arising from the Primaries.	Commencement date 4th April 2022 End 3rd June 2022	To enable Political Parties democratically nominate candidates for the election as required by Section 84 of the Electoral Act 2022.

4		Submission of Forms EC9 and EC9A, 9B, 9C, 9D & 9E online (Nomination Portal).	<p>Presidential &amp; National Assembly 9.00am 10th June 2022 - 6.00pm 17th June 2022</p> <p>Governorship &amp; State Houses of Assembly 9.00am 1st July 2022 - 6.00pm 15th July 2022</p> <p><b>Access code for the submission of nomination forms shall be available for collection from 5th June 2022 at the Commission's Headquarters.</b></p>	<p>Section 29(1) of the Electoral Act 2022 provides for not later than 180 days before the election.</p> <p>EC9 (Personal Particulars of Candidates). EC9A, 9B, 9C, 9D &amp; 9E (Names/List of Nominated Candidates).</p>
5		Publication of Personal Particulars of candidates (EC9) by the Commission.	<p>Presidential &amp; National Assembly 24th June 2022</p> <p>Governorship &amp; State Houses of Assembly 22nd July 2022</p>	<p>Section 29(3) of the Electoral Act 2022 provides for publication within 7 days of the receipt of Form EC9.</p>
6		Last day for withdrawal by candidate(s)/replacement of withdrawn candidate(s) by Political Parties.	<p>Presidential &amp; National Assembly 15th July 2022</p> <p>Governorship &amp; State Houses of Assembly 12th August 2022</p>	<p>Section 31 of the Electoral Act 2022 provides not later than 90 days to the election.</p>
7		Last day for submission of Nomination forms (EC13A, 13B, 13C, 13D & 13E) by Political Parties.	<p>Presidential &amp; National Assembly 8th August 2022</p> <p>Governorship &amp; State Houses of Assembly 18th August 2022</p>	<p>To enable Political Parties comply with Section 30(1) of the Electoral Act 2022.</p>
8		Publication of final list of nominated candidates by the Commission.	<p>Presidential &amp; National Assembly 20th September 2022</p> <p>Governorship &amp; State Houses of Assembly 4th October 2022</p>	<p>Section 32(1) of the Electoral Act 2022 provides at least 150 days before the day of election.</p>
9		Commencement of campaign by Political Parties in public.	<p>Presidential &amp; National Assembly 28th September 2022</p> <p>Governorship &amp; State Houses of Assembly 12th October 2022</p>	<p>Section 94(1) of the Electoral Act 2022. Campaign in public by every political party shall commence 150 days before polling day and end 24 hours prior to that day.</p>

10		Last day for submission of names of Polling Agents for the Election to the Electoral Officer of the Local Government Area by Political Parties through the Commission's dedicated portal.	Presidential & National Assembly 30th December 2022  Governorship & State Houses of Assembly 6th January 2023	Section 43 of the Electoral Act 2022 provides for not later than 14 days before the election.
11		Publication of official Register of Voters for the election by the Commission.	12th January 2023	Section 10(4) of the Electoral Act 2022
12		Publication of Notice of Poll by the Commission.	30th January 2023	Section 44 of the Electoral Act 2022 provides for not later than 14 days before the election.
13		Last day for campaigns by Political Parties.	Presidential & National Assembly 23rd February 2023  Governorship & State Houses of Assembly 9th March 2023	Section 94(1) of the Electoral Act 2022. Campaign in public by every political party shall commence 150 days before polling day and end 24 hours prior to that day.
14		Date of Election	Presidential & National Assembly 25th February 2023  Governorship & State Houses of Assembly 11th March 2023	Sections 76 (1) & (2), 116 (1) & (2), 132 (1) & (2) 178 (1) & (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) empower the Commission to appoint dates for Presidential, Governorship, National Assembly and State House of Assembly elections not earlier than 150 days and not later than 30 days before the expiration of the term of office of the last holder/before the House stands dissolved.



















## DELIMITATION DATA FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION



## NO OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION

SN	POSITION	VACANCY	NO OF CANDIDATES	MALE		FEMALE		PWD
				NO	%	NO	%	
1	President	1	18	17	94.0	1	6.0	0
	Vice President		18	18	100	18	0	0
2	GOVERNOR	28	420	394	94.0	26	6.0	1
	Deputy Governor		420	320	76.0	100	24.0	0
3	Senate	109	1,101	1,009	87.7	92	12.3	3
4	House of Representatives	360	3,122	2,834	88.4	288	11.6	8
5	State Houses of Assembly	993	10,232	9,183	90.0	1,049	10.0	24
TOTAL		1,491	15,331	13,775	89.85	1,556	10.15	36

## POLITICAL PARTIES AND THEIR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION

S/N	NAME	ACRONYM	PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
1	ACCORD	 A	IMUMOLEN IRENE CHRISTOPHER
2	ACTION ALLIANCE	 AA	ALMUSTAPHA HAMZA
3	AFRICAN ACTION CONGRESS	 AAC	SOWORE OMOYELE STEPHEN
4	AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS	 ADC	KACHIKWU DUMEBI
5	ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY	 ADP	SANI YABAGI YUSUF
6	ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS	 APC	TINUBU BOLA AHMED
7	ALL PROGRESSIVES GRAND ALLIANCE	 APGA	UMEADI PETER NNANNA CHUKWUDI
8	ALLIED PEOPLES' MOVEMENT	 APM	OJEI PRINCESS CHICHI
9	ACTION PEOPLES PARTY	 APP	NNADI CHARLES OSITA
10	BOOT PARTY	 BP	ADENUGA SUNDAY OLUWAFEMI
11	LABOUR PARTY	 LP	OBI PETER GREGORY
12	NEW Nigeria POEPLER PARTY	 NNPP	MUSA MOHAMMED RABIU KWANKWASO
13	NATIONAL RESCUE MOVEMENT	 NRM	OSAKWE FELIX JOHNSON
14	PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY	 PDP	ABUBAKAR ATIKU
16	PEOPLES REDEMPTION PARTY	 PRP	ABIOLA LATIFU KOLAWOLE
16	SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY	 SDP	ADEBAYO ADEWOLE EBENEZER
17	YOUNG PROGRESSIVE PARTY	 YPP	ADO-IBRAHIM ABDULMALIK
18	ZENITH LABOUR PARTY	 ZLP	NWANYANWU DANIEL DABERECHUKWU

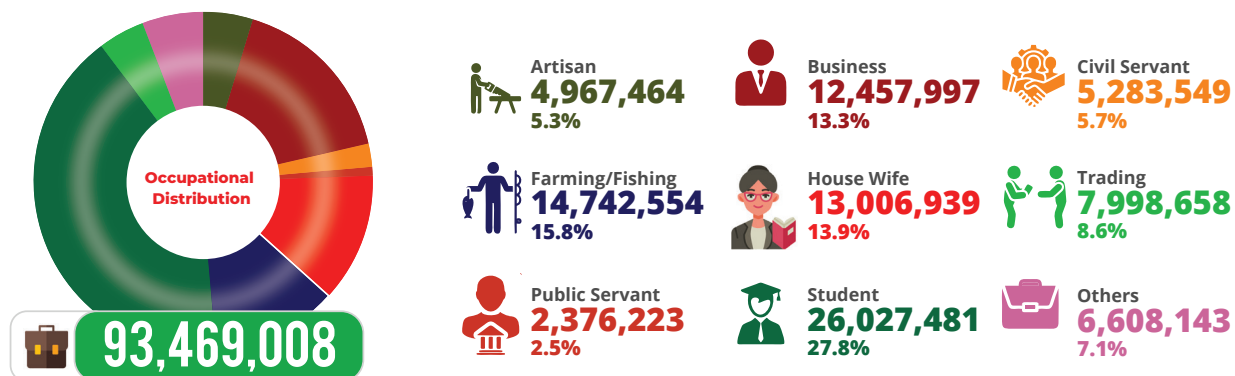


## REGISTERED VOTERS

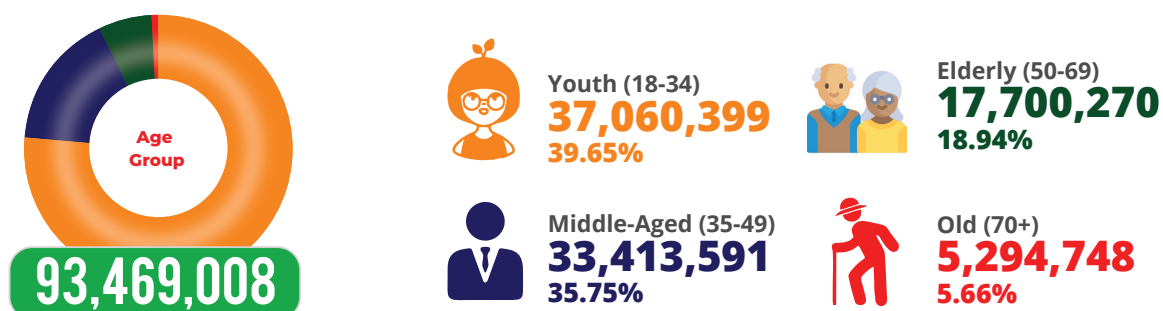
S/N	STATE	CAPITAL	TOTAL	MALE	% MALE	FEMALE	% FEMALE
1	ABIA	UMUAHIA	2,120,808	1,063,424	50.14	1,057,384	49.86
2	ADAMAWA	YOLA	2,196,566	1,193,883	54.35	1,002,683	45.65
3	AKWA IBOM	UYO	2,357,418	1,223,875	51.92	1,133,543	48.08
4	ANAMBRA	AWKA	2,656,437	1,311,803	49.38	1,344,634	50.62
5	BAUCHI	BAUCHI	2,749,268	1,567,508	57.02	1,181,760	42.98
6	BAYELSA	YENAGOA	1,056,862	566,095	53.56	490,767	46.44
7	BENUE	MAKURDI	2,777,727	1,451,626	52.26	1,326,101	47.74
8	BORNO	MAIDUGURI	2,513,281	1,442,711	57.40	1,070,570	42.60
9	CROSS RIVER	CALABAR	1,766,466	894,623	50.64	871,843	49.36
10	DELTA	ASABA	3,221,697	1,637,122	50.82	1,584,575	49.18
11	EBONYI	ABAKALI	1,597,646	722,805	45.24	874,841	54.76
12	EDO	BENIN	2,501,081	1,303,228	52.11	1,197,853	47.89
13	EKITI	ADO-EKITI	987,647	485,396	49.15	502,251	50.85
14	ENUGU	ENUGU	2,112,793	973,043	46.05	1,139,750	53.95
15	FCT	ABUJA	1,570,307	856,962	54.57	713,345	45.43
16	GOMBE	GOMBE	1,575,794	905,986	57.49	669,808	42.51
17	IMO	OWERRI	2,419,922	1,199,263	49.56	1,220,659	50.44
18	JIGAWA	DUTSE	2,351,298	1,209,490	51.44	1,141,808	48.56
19	KADUNA	KADUNA	4,335,208	2,334,305	53.85	2,000,903	46.15
20	KANO	KANO	5,921,370	3,292,291	55.60	2,629,079	44.40
21	KATSINA	KATSINA	3,516,719	1,787,364	50.82	1,729,355	49.18
22	KEBBI	BIRNI KEBBI	2,032,041	1,096,449	53.96	935,592	46.04
23	KOGI	LOKOJA	1,932,654	953,941	49.36	978,713	50.64
24	KWARA	ILORIN	1,695,927	875,755	51.64	820,172	48.36
25	LAGOS	IKEJA	7,060,195	3,803,396	53.87	3,256,799	46.13
26	NASARAWA	LAFIA	1,899,244	983,286	51.77	915,958	48.23
27	NIGER	MINNA	2,698,344	1,546,159	57.30	1,152,185	42.70
28	OGUN	ABEOKUTA	2,688,305	1,322,508	49.19	1,365,797	50.81
29	ONDO	AKURE	1,991,344	1,006,097	50.52	985,247	49.48
30	OSUN	OSOGBO	1,954,800	923,438	47.24	1,031,362	52.76
31	OYO	IBADAN	3,276,675	1,619,863	49.44	1,656,812	50.56
32	PLATEAU	JOS	2,789,528	1,403,066	50.30	1,386,462	49.70
33	RIVERS	PORT - HARCOURT	3,537,190	1,885,293	53.30	1,651,897	46.70
34	SOKOTO	SOKOTO	2,172,056	1,216,817	56.02	955,239	43.98
35	TARABA	JALINGO	2,022,374	1,093,949	54.09	928,425	45.91
36	YOBE	DAMATURU	1,485,146	886,423	59.69	598,723	40.31
37	ZAMFARA	GUSAU	1,926,870	1,014,919	52.67	911,951	47.33
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>93,469,008</b>	<b>49,054,162</b>	<b>52.48</b>	<b>44,414,846</b>	<b>47.52</b>



## OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED VOTERS



## AGE GROUP OF REGISTERED VOTERS

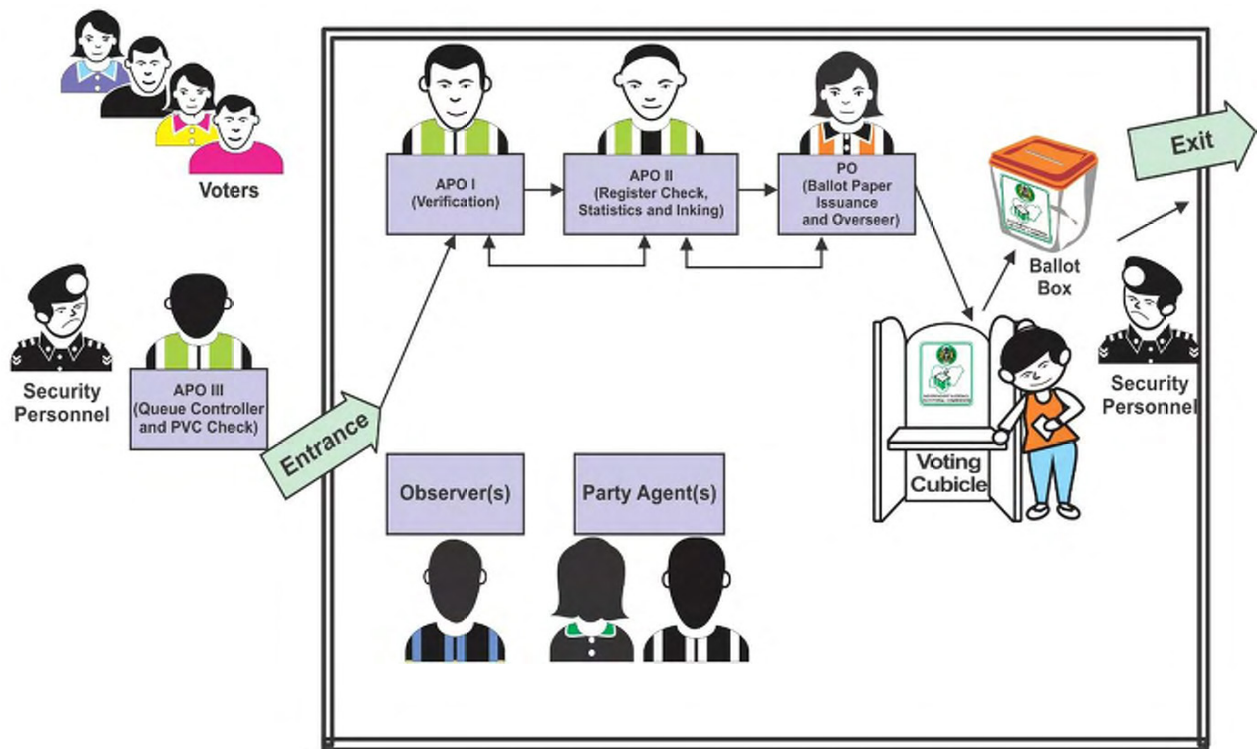


## STATES & NUMBER OF LGAs, RAs, PUs & ELECTORAL CONSTITUENCIES

S/N	STATE	NO OF LGAs	NO OF RAs	NO OF PUs	GOVERNOR	Senate	FC	SC
1	ABIA	17	184	4,062	1	3	8	24
2	ADAMAWA	21	226	4,104	1	3	8	25
3	AKWA IBOM	31	329	4,353	1	3	10	26
4	ANAMBRA	21	326	5,720	OFF-CYCLE	3	11	30
5	BAUCHI	20	212	5,423	1	3	12	31
6	BAYELSA	8	105	2,244	OFF-CYCLE	3	5	24
7	BENUE	23	276	5,102	1	3	11	32
8	BORNO	27	312	5,071	1	3	10	28
9	CROSS RIVER	18	193	3,281	1	3	8	25
10	DELTA	25	270	5,863	1	3	10	29
11	EBONYI	13	171	2,946	1	3	6	24
12	EDO	18	192	4,519	OFF-CYCLE	3	9	24
13	EKITI	16	177	2,445	OFF-CYCLE	3	6	26
14	ENUGU	17	260	4,145	1	3	8	24
15	FCT	6	62	2,822	0	1	2	0
16	GOMBE	11	114	2,988	1	3	6	24
17	IMO	27	305	4,758	OFF-CYCLE	3	10	27
18	JIGAWA	27	287	4,522	1	3	11	30
19	KADUNA	23	255	8,012	1	3	16	34
20	KANO	44	484	11,222	1	3	24	40
21	KATSINA	34	361	6,652	1	3	15	34
22	KEBBI	21	225	3,743	1	3	8	24
23	KOGI	21	239	3,508	OFF-CYCLE	3	9	25
24	KWARA	16	193	2,887	1	3	6	24
25	LAGOS	20	245	13,325	1	3	24	40
26	NASARAWA	13	147	3,256	1	3	5	24
27	NIGER	25	274	4,950	1	3	10	27
28	OGUN	20	236	5,042	1	3	9	26
29	ONDO	18	203	3,933	OFF-CYCLE	3	9	26
30	OSUN	30	332	3,763	OFF-CYCLE	3	9	26
31	OYO	33	351	6,390	1	3	14	32
32	PLATEAU	17	207	4,989	1	3	8	24
33	RIVERS	23	319	6,866	1	3	13	32
34	SOKOTO	23	244	3,991	1	3	11	30
35	TARABA	16	168	3,597	1	3	6	24
36	YOBE	17	178	2,823	1	3	6	24
37	ZAMFARA	14	147	3,529	1	3	7	24
Total	37	774	8,809	176,846	28	109	360	993

# POLLING PROCEDURES ON ELECTION DAY:

## SET UP OF POLLING UNIT



- Voting on election day shall take place at 176,606 Polling Units NATIONWIDE ON ELECTION DAY. (THERE ARE 240 ZERO POLLING UNITS)
- Voting locations are sited in public facilities, including public schools, civic centres, town halls and communal open spaces, accessible to every voter, including Persons With Disability (PWDs).
- Each Polling Unit (PU) will be manned by four (4) Officials: a Presiding Officer (PO) and three (3) Assistant Presiding officers (APOs).
- A political party sponsoring a candidate in an election may appoint one person as its polling agent for each polling unit.
- Voting shall be in accordance with the Continuous Accreditation and Voting System (CAVS) procedures and voters will only be allowed to vote in the Polling Unit at which his/her name appears in the Register of Voters and after he/she presents his/her permanent voter's card to be verified by the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS).
- Accreditation and voting shall commence at 8.30am and close at 2:30pm, provided that all voters already on the queue by 2:30pm are allowed to accredit and vote.

7. Where a voter's PVC is read by the BVAS, but his/her fingerprint is not authenticated, authentication shall be done using the facial recognition.
8. Where the neither the fingerprint nor the facial can be authenticated by the BVAS, the voter shall not be allowed to vote. **no authentication, no voting!!!**
9. Where a voter's PVC is read, but the name of the voter is not on the register of voters or the PVC cannot be read by the BVAS, the voter will also not be allowed to vote.
10. in the event of sustained malfunction of the BVAS, the PO after following laid down procedures shall suspend accreditation and voting until a new BVAS is made available and where a replacement is not available by 2:30pm, shall inform the voters and polling agents that voting shall continue the following day.
11. Where a BVAS is replaced in the middle of an election, the data of verified/accredited voters in the faulty BVAS shall be merged with the data in the replacement BVAS for purposes of determining the number of verified/accredited voters.
12. Telephones and other electronic devices capable of taking pictures are not allowed in the voting cubicles. voters may come to the polling unit with telephones and other electronic devices, provided that they do not take them to the voting cubicles or take pictures of other voters while they are voting.
13. Voters, provided they are peaceful and orderly, are free to remain within the vicinity of the polling unit after casting their ballot to witness the sorting and counting of votes and announcement of results.
14. Visually impaired or blind persons that are unable to distinguish symbols or who suffer from any other physical disability may be assisted to vote by a person chosen by him/her, other than an election official, a party agent or a security personnel on election duty.
15. Visually impaired/blind voters may, where available, use the braille ballot guide or magnifying glass provided by the commission.
16. PWDs, visibly pregnant women, nursing mothers and the aged shall be granted priority access to vote.

## COUNTING, COLLATION, TRANSMISSION AND DECLARATION OF RESULTS

### AT CLOSE OF POLL, THE PO SHALL:

1. Declare voting closed after every voter on the queue by 2:30 pm has voted;
2. Cancel all the unused ballot papers by crossing them out;
3. Sort out the ballot papers by party and thereafter loudly count the votes scored by each political party in the presence of the party agents and observers;
4. Allow recount of votes on demand by a party agent, provided that such a recount shall only be done once;

5. Cross-check the scores, enter the scores of each candidate in the appropriate forms and conspicuously paste the Form EC60E. Failure to do so may amount to dereliction of duty;
6. Sign, date, stamp the appropriate forms and loudly announce the votes scored by each political party;
7. Take and photograph of the result sheet Form EC8A with the BVAS and transmit accordingly;
8. Complete other required procedures and take the BVAS and original copy of forms and results in a tamper proof envelope to the RA/Ward Collation Officer.

**THE COLLATION OF AND OF ELECTION RESULTS SHALL BE DONE AT DESIGNATED CENTRES AND DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS SHALL BE DONE BASED ON THE TYPE OF ELECTION:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Registration Area - RA/Ward (Collation for all RA/Ward election results)                   | Representatives election results  |
| 2. Local Government Area- LGA (Collation for all LGA/Area Council election results)           | 5. Senatorial District - Collation and declaration of Senatorial District election results                            |
| 3. State Constituency - Collation and Declaration of State House of Assembly election results | 6. Governorship - Collation and Declaration of Governorship election results at each State capital                    |
| 4. Federal Constituency - Collation and Declaration of House of                               | 7. Presidential - Collation and Declaration of Presidential election results at the National Collation Centre, Abuja. |

**ACCESS TO THE ELECTORAL MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION CENTRES, POLLING UNITS AND COLLATION CENTERS IS AS ALLOWED TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Voters at Polling Units for purposes of voting and citizens' observation.   | and procedures, call attention to any irregularity without interference and countersign appropriate result forms.                                |
| 2. INEC officials at designated locations on election duty depending on their role and responsibilities.   | 5. Accredited journalists and observers to observe the processes and procedures without interference and seek for clarification where necessary. |
| 3. Security agents at designated locations depending on their role and responsibilities to enforce law and order and provide security as prescribed. |  |
| 4. Candidates or their accredited polling agents at designated electoral locations to observe the processes  |  |

*NOTE: Access to National Collation Centre/Situation Room is restricted to ONLY INVITED accredited journalists and observers.*

## RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR ACCREDITED ELECTION OBSERVERS

1. The Commission welcomes foreign and domestic election observation groups to the 2023 general election.
2. The collection of accreditation tags and information kits for all accredited foreign observer groups and team leaders of domestic observer groups will be at INEC Headquarters, Abuja from 21 February 2023.
3. The collection of accreditation tags and information kits for all accredited individual domestic observers will be at state/FCT office nationwide from 22 February 2023.
4. Only INEC accredited foreign and domestic observers will be allowed to observe the elections and permitted access to electoral sites.
5. Election observers are not authorised to intervene in the electoral process. they can only observe without interference and report.

## PRINCIPLES OF ELECTION OBSERVATION

1. Recognise and be respectful of national sovereignty and the laws of Nigeria.
2. Respect the traditions, culture and customs in your area of deployment
3. Comply with security advisory by the security agencies
4. Be non-partisan and neutral in election observation duty
5. Be comprehensive, transparent and accurate in observation and review of the electoral processes and procedures

## OBJECTIVES OF ELECTION OBSERVATION

Election observers are required to:

1. Conduct a systematic, comprehensive and accurate observation of the electoral process based on the national electoral legal framework and in line with regional, continental and international norms and standards governing the conduct of democratic elections.
2. Promote public confidence in the electoral process by fostering a conducive environment for the conduct of free, fair, credible and transparent elections.
3. Undertake a professional and impartial analysis of the information gathered to produce an informed, impartial and balanced report.



4. Offer an impartial, balanced and informed assessment of the electoral process and make appropriate recommendations.
5. Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that can assist INEC to learn vital lessons to improve its processes and procedures.

## ISSUES TO OBSERVE

1. State of preparedness for the general election
2. Ability of all stakeholders to participate freely in the electoral process without fear of intimidation and violence
3. Adherence of all stakeholders to the electoral legal framework and to international, continental and regional protocols and standards governing elections.
4. The conduct and behaviour of the security personnel during the electioneering period, especially on electoral day
5. The role and professionalism of the media
6. Adherence to all processes and procedures as required by the electoral legal framework, including opening and closing time of the vote, presence of polling agents, voting procedure, layout of the polling units to protect the sanctity of the vote, polling and counting procedures including sealing of the ballot boxes, announcement and transmission of results.
7. Access of accredited stakeholders to polling units, collation centers and necessary electoral sites
8. The extent to which the electoral outcome reflects the will of the people and the acceptance of the electoral outcome by majority of stakeholders
9. Availability of a well laid out post-election legal adjudication system and dispute resolution mechanisms

## CODE OF CONDUCT

All election observers are requested to:

1. Comply with the INEC Code of Conduct for Observers and with instructions issued by INEC and its officials unless such instructions are manifestly unlawful.
2. Observe the processes, procedures and activities organised before, during and after elections without interference, intervention or confrontation;
3. Wear accreditation badge in a visible manner and provide proof of accreditation upon request by electoral officials and security personnel;
4. Collate and interpret the facts gathered against the legal and institutional framework and basic democratic norms to determine if the elections meet the threshold of credibility as defined by law and accepted by international standards;
5. Outline the findings so collated and the interpretation based on them in a document or report; and
6. Submit finding, report and recommendations to the commission as prescribed.

***INEC reserves the right to revoke the accreditation of any individual observer or observer group that violates the INEC Code of Conduct for observers***



 [WWW.INECNigeria.ORG](http://WWW.INECNigeria.ORG)

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**0700 CALL INEC (0700 2255 4632)**