



**CLEEN**  
FOUNDATION

**ELECTION SECURITY THREAT  
ASSESSMENT  
ONDO STATE  
2024 GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION**

- *Justice Sector Reform*

# Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Methodology**
- **Major Findings**
- **Recommendations**

# Introduction

- The November 16 election is the sixth off-cycle election in the state since the transition to civil rule in 1999. Seventeen political parties are contesting for the highest political office.
- Recognising that electoral politics in Ondo is traditionally characterised by tension, outbreaks of violence, and confrontational zero-sum politics, the STA identified potential threats ahead of the November 16 election.
- Ondo state has a history of election violence dating back to the 1983 election in the states that led to the death of many people. Most recently, the last gubernatorial election in the state also recorded violence and even a non-violent death of boat mishap that claimed 6 lives.
- Trend analysis of Ondo state past elections STA indicates that the factors that contribute to breaches in election security has largely remained the same from the perception of the people.

# Introduction

- For this election, there are 3933 polling units in the state with a total number of 2,053,061 eligible registered voters in the state.
- The election in Ondo state is majorly between the APC, the PDP and the ZLP. The APC and PDP candidate were lieutenants to the late governor of the state, Rotimi Akeredolu while the ZLP candidate is the brother to the former governor of the state, Olusegun Mimiko.
- There has been demand for the redeployment of the Resident Electoral Commissioner in the state by the PDP which if not well managed by all stakeholders could be a prelude to electoral violence in the state.
- The NPF as the lead election security agency has equally assured the stakeholders of adequate security during the governorship elections in Ondo state.

# Specific objectives

- Identify actors that constitute threats to peaceful election
- Proffer actionable recommendations to mitigate identified threats or potential risk factors.

# Methodology

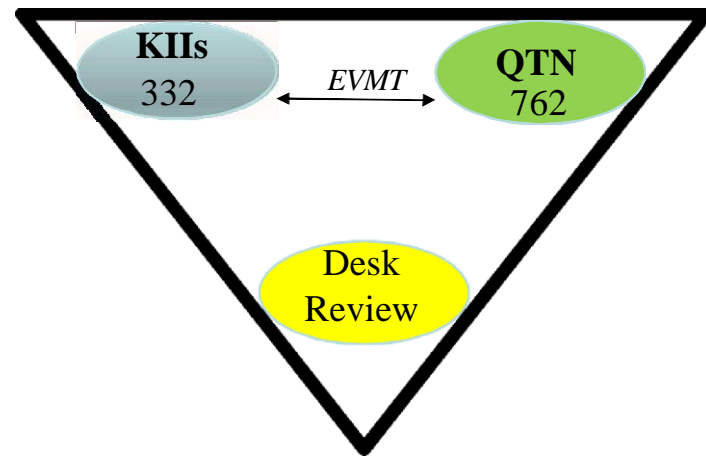
## \*\* Primary Sources:

*Utilized the standardized Electoral Violence Mitigation Tool (EVMT)*

- Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)
- Mobile Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (MCAPI) Tool

## \*\* Secondary Sources

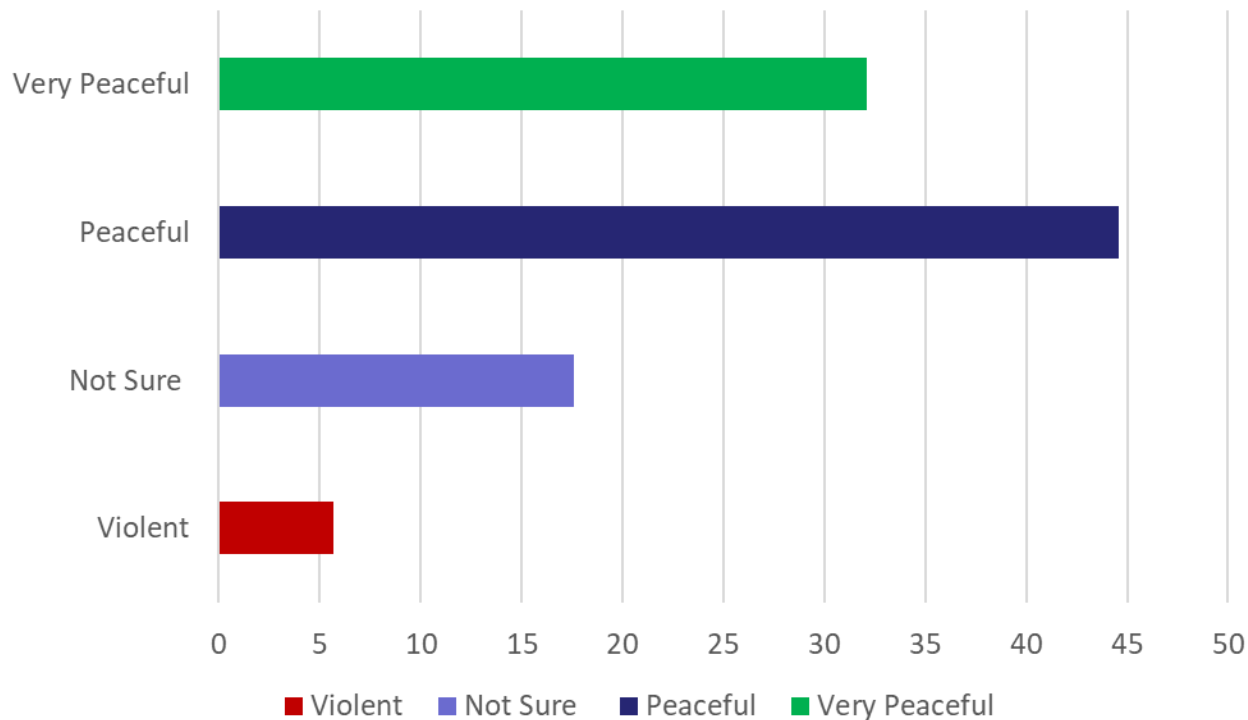
- Scholarly publications – *books, Journals, monographs, occasional papers*
- Other publications – *media, official, organisational reports, among others*



# MAJOR FINDINGS

# Expectation of Peaceful Election

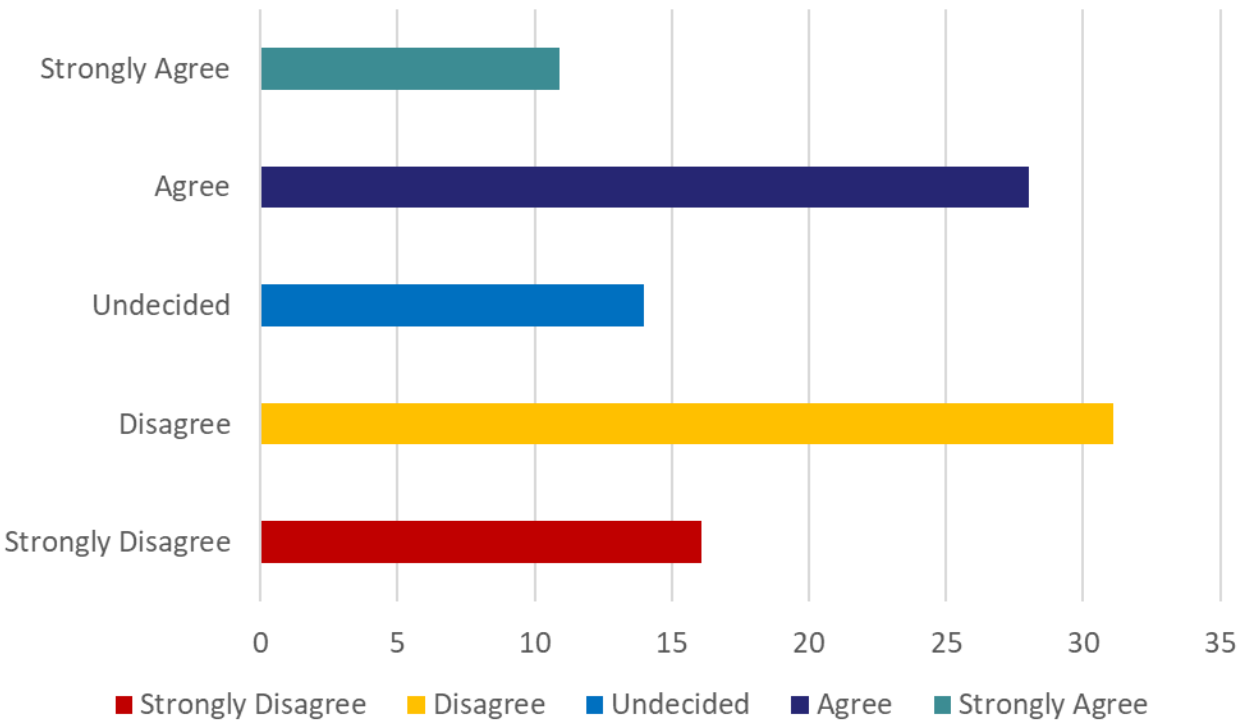
Expectation of Peaceful Election



- 76.6% of the respondents suggests that the election will either be peaceful or very peaceful.
- Interestingly, 17.6% said they are not sure the election will be peaceful.
- Just 5.7% of the respondents claimed that the election will be violent.

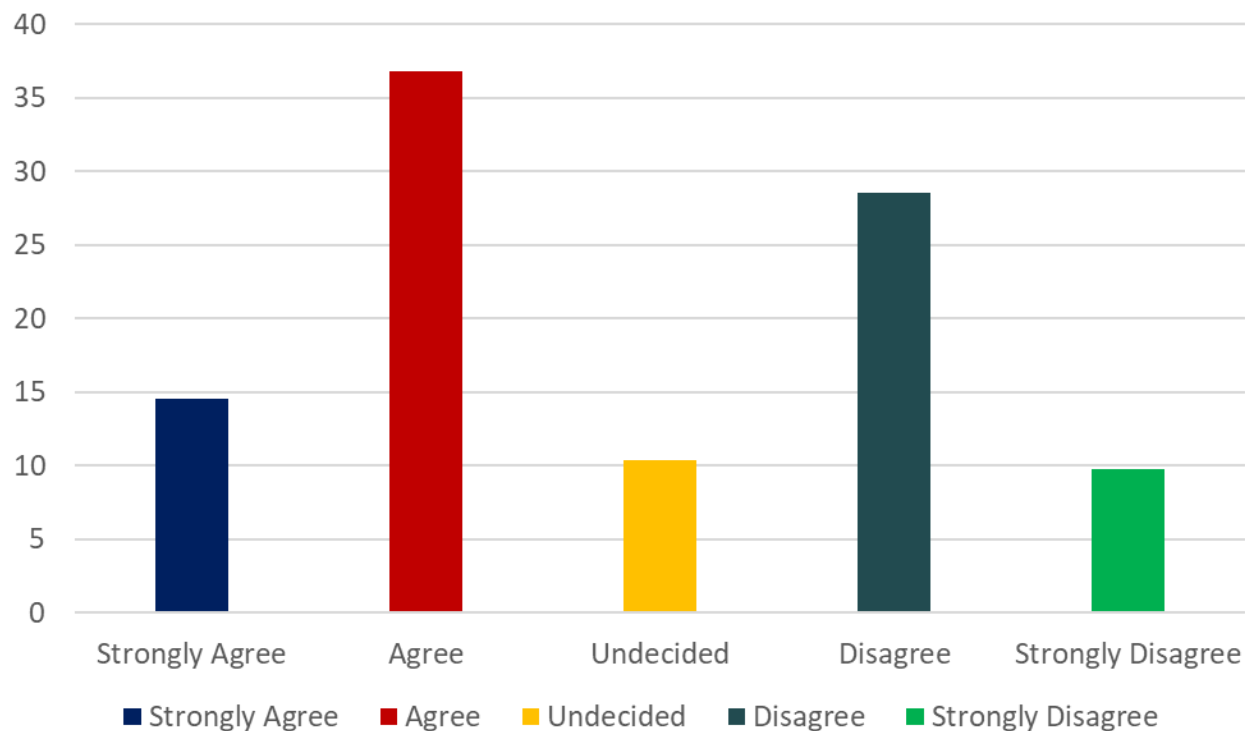
# History of Electoral Violence in Ondo

History of Violence in the State



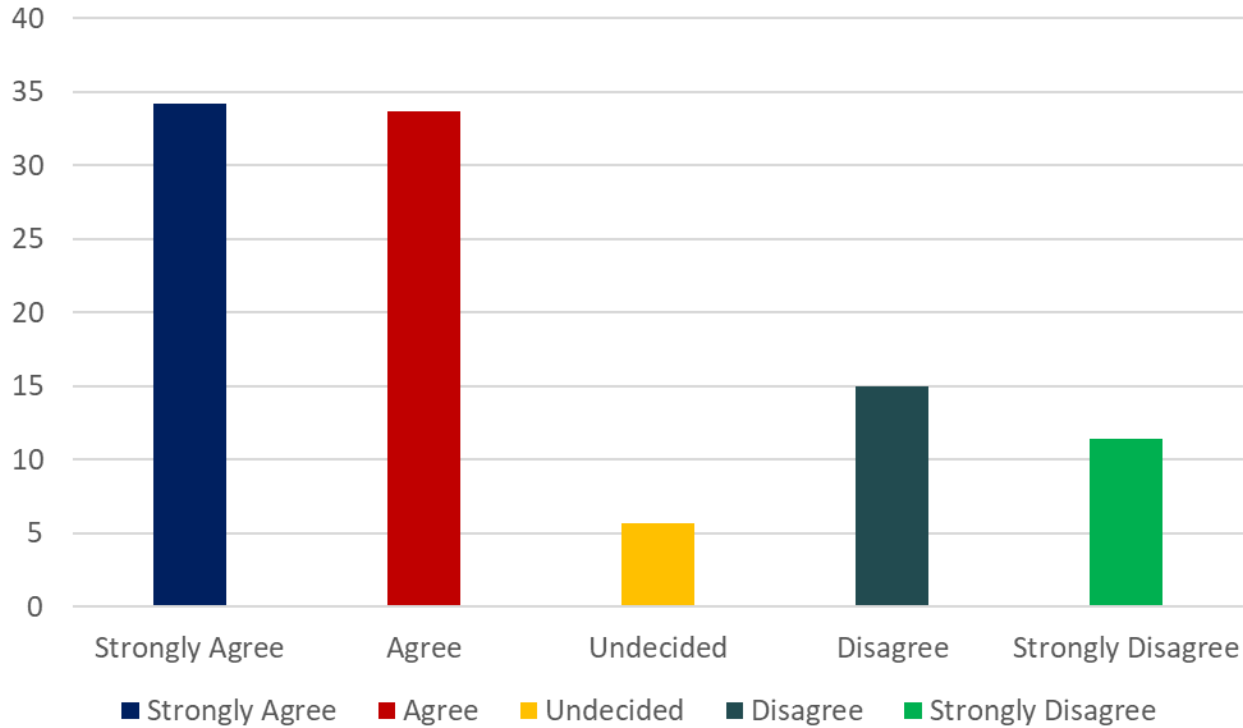
# Citizens' Disenchantment and Electoral Violence

Citizens' Disenchantment and Electoral Violence



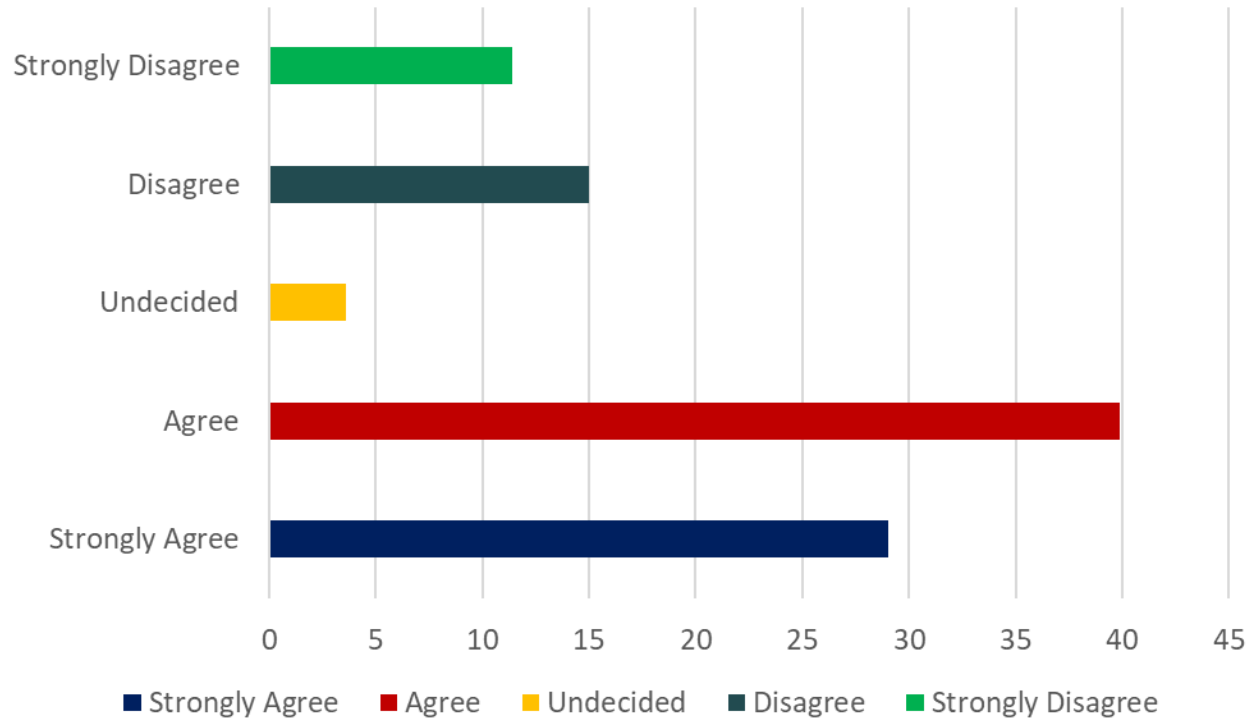
# Vote Buying and Godfatherism

Vote Buying and Godfatherism



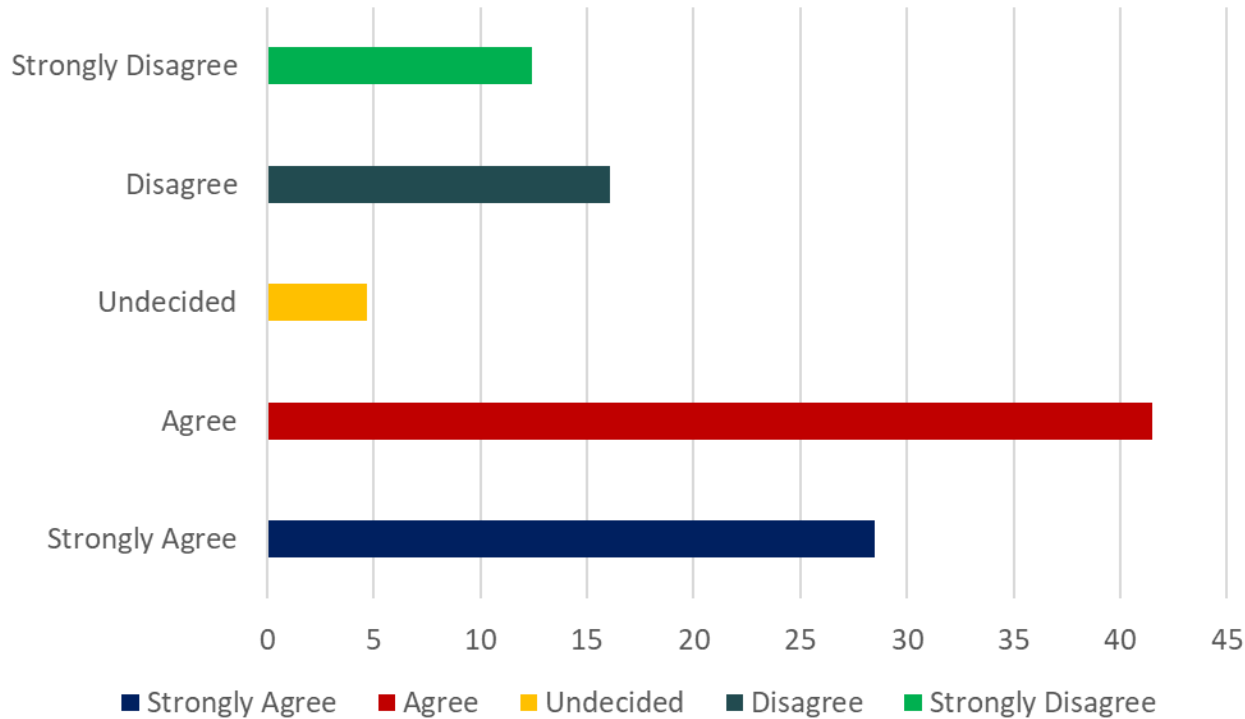
# Party Thugs

## Activities of Party Thugs



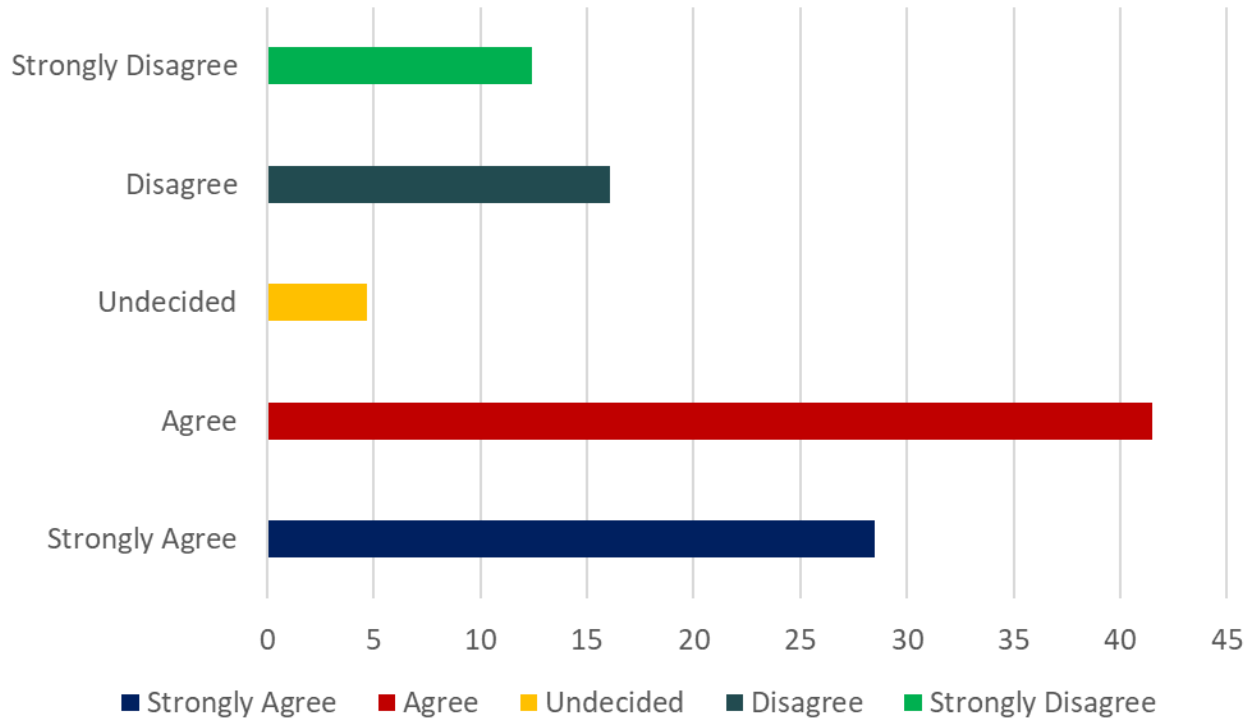
# Problem with Voters Register

Problem with Voters Register



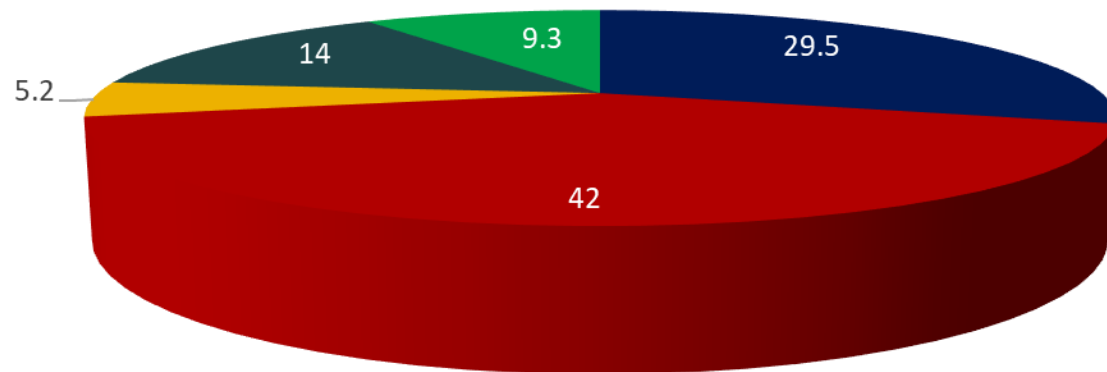
# Problem with Voters Register

Problem with Voters Register



# Partiality of Election Official

Partiality of Election Official



■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Undecided ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

# Recommendations

- **Non-Partisanship:** Law Enforcement Agencies are encouraged to remain apolitical throughout the entire process of the election. Partisanship by any of the agencies can directly lead to election violence.
- **Adherence to Electoral Act:** Law Enforcement personnel deployed for the election in Ondo state must strictly adhere to the provisions of the Electoral Act. Personnel at polling unit must not bear arm; wear recognizable nametag and must exhume crowd management skills.
- **Protection of Voters:** LEAs must ensure the protection of voters across the state both during and after the election.
- **Political parties and candidates** should refrain from using hate speech and character assassination during their campaigns. They have publicly pledged to conduct themselves peacefully and discourage their supporters from engaging in violent or disruptive activities.

# Recommendations (INEC)

- Intensify voter education activities across all 18 LGAs in the state and ensure intentional voter education activities for marginalised groups.
- Secure and efficiently have an oversight system to fully comply with the rules and reduce the culture of impunity.
- Remain professional and neutral as election day gets closer.

# END

Thank you