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ANAMBRA ELECTION 2025

Election Security Threat Assessment

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CONTEXT

Anambra State heads to the polls on **November 8, 2025**, to elect its next governor. With over **6,000** polling units across 21 LGAs, the 2025 Anambra state governorship election is high-stakes.

INEC, Security Agencies and key stakeholders are at the final stages of preparation for the success of Anambra state's governorship election.

SECURITY CONTEXT

The Anambra election on 8 Nov 2025 carries high security risk driven principally by a recent pattern of politically motivated violence, active non-state armed groups and vigilante actors, and a highly competitive political environment.

The state has a history of tense and highly competitive elections, shaped by its political influence and strategic importance in the South-East.

SECURITY CONTEXT

There is a combined deployment of 52,224 personnel across security agencies for the November 8 gubernatorial election in Anambra state.

INEC deploys **24,000** adhoc staff for the **5170** Polling Units in the **326** Wards across the state. Similarly, there are **2.8 million** accredited voters for the election.

This analysis reveals a high level of concern among respondents, with an overall agreement rate of 71.7% that the surveyed factors pose a risk to peaceful elections.

Why this Matters?

CLEEN Foundation carried out a Security Threat Assessment (STA) to guide stakeholders in preventing violence and promoting accountability during the polls. This assessment helps identify and understand the security risks that could affect the credibility and safety of the election. It provides a comprehensive analysis of survey data collected on pre-election violence risk factors in Anambra State.

Goal of the ESTA

01 to identify actors and actions that constitute threat to the peaceful conduct of the elections;

02 Assess the level of risk across the state

03 Recommend actions to reduce the likelihood of violence

Methodology

{Primary Sources)

Survey: 218 respondents across 19 LGAs

Tool Used: Electoral Violence Mitigation Tool (EVMT)

Focus Areas: Security, Media, Electoral Process, Political Party Conduct

Rating Scale: 5-point Likert (Strongly Agree – Strongly Disagree)

ELECTION SECURITY THREAT ASSESSMENT

Methodology

{Secondary Sources)

Scholarly publications – books, Journals, monographs, occasional papers

Other publications – media, official, organisational reports, among others

MAJOR FINDINGS

Overall Risk Assessment

Risk Level Scale

3.83

out of 5.0

High-Risk Environment

Risk Implications

A score of 3.83 indicates a high probability of pre-election violence, violence, requiring immediate attention to mitigate risks.

Overall Pereception of Risk Level

- **71.7% of respondents believe electoral violence risks are high**

What this indicates is a systemic distrust and anxiety towards 2025 polls.

TOP 10 RISK FACTORS

Perception that election will not be peaceful – 4.37

Partiality of security agents – 4.34

Aggressive use of force – 4.24

Poor professionalism of security agents – 4.22

Activities of party thugs – 4.18

Armed groups (cultists, unknown gunmen) – 4.17

Money/godfather influence – 4.16

Hate speech – 4.15

Drug use – 4.14

Contentious primaries – 4.13

Election Risk Categories

Low Risk — High

Security Issues

4.07

High

Media & Information

3.93

Moderate

Electoral Process

3.91

Moderate

Political Conduct

3.81

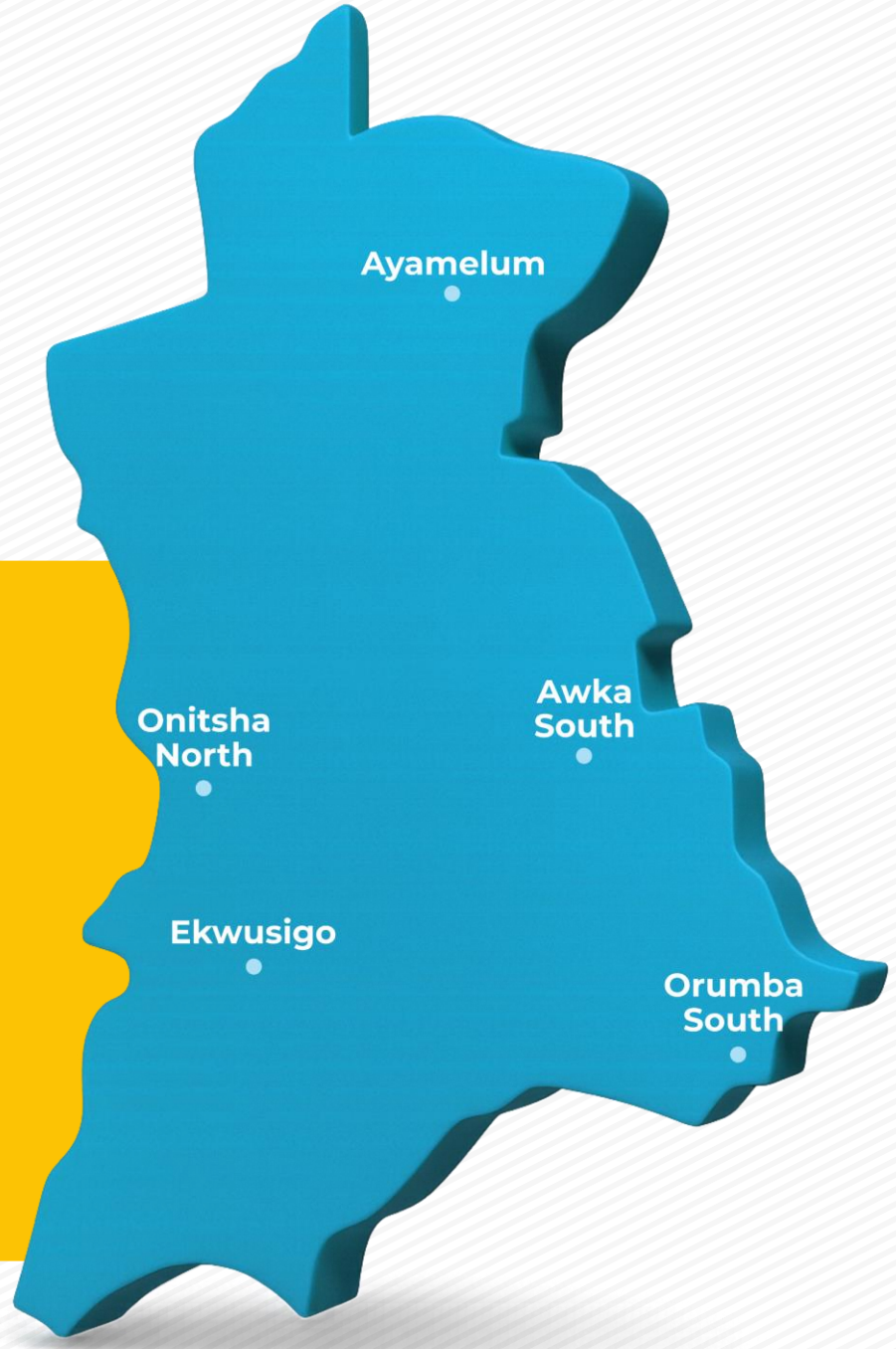
Moderate

Risk Categories

Security concerns remain the top risk factor ahead of the Anambra 2025 election, driven by distrust in security neutrality and coordination gaps.

High Risk Local Govt Areas

- Ekwusigo
- Ayamelum
- Awka South
- Onitsha North
- Orumba South



ANAMBRA ELECTION 2025

ELECTION SECURITY THREAT ASSESSMENT

DATA COMPARISM

ANAMBRA ELECTION 2025

High Risk Local Govt Areas

- Ekwusigo
- Ayamelum
- Awka South
- Onitsha North
- Orumba South

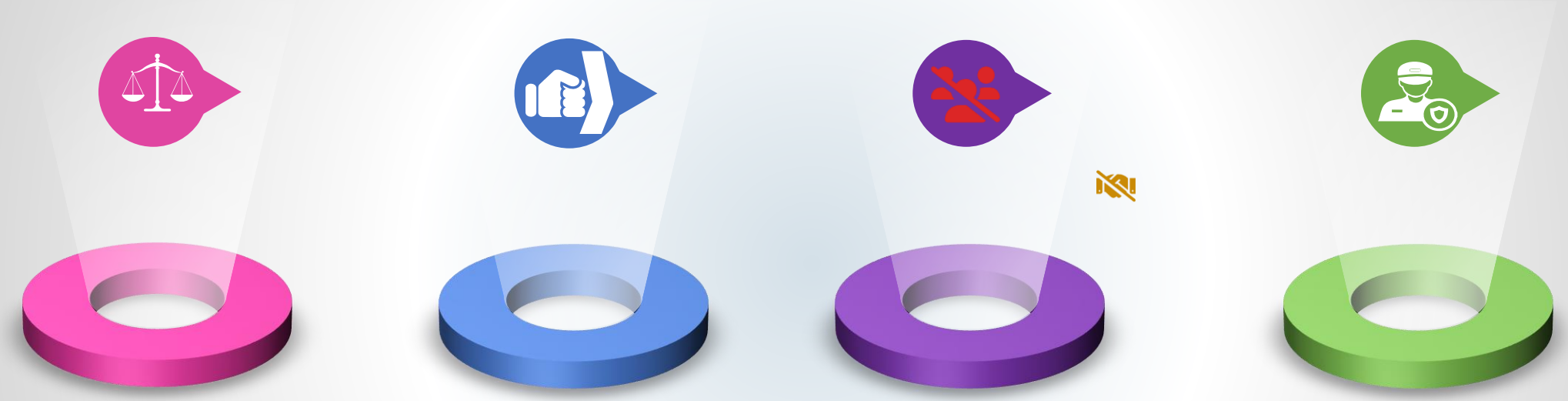
PREVIOUS DATA

- Ihiala
- Ogbaru
- Nnewi South
- Orumba North
- Onitsha North

There has been a significant shift in risk areas from the last dissemination as new LGAs are now potential risk zones for election violence

ELECTION SECURITY THREAT ASSESSMENT

Key Security Concerns



PERCEIVED BIAS

Public doubt about neutrality of security agents,

EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE

Aggressive or heavy-handed policing

POOR COORDINATION/ TRAINING

Weak communication between security agencies and Inadequate preparation and professional standards

LOW PUBLIC TRUSTY

Citizens fear bias or lack of protection

These challenges undermine public confidence and can fuel tension during the polls.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Security Agencies

- Retrain officers on neutrality, de-escalation, and human rights
- Establish/utilise public complaint mechanisms
- Address security agent partiality and professionalism

RECOMMENDATIONS

INEC/ GOVERNMENT

- Train INEC and ad-hoc officials.
- Voter education on peaceful participation.
- Enhance voter register integrity
- Prosecute past offenders to end impunity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

MEDIA/ INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Combat misinformation, enforce hate speech laws and content moderation.
- Media monitoring & accountability mechanisms.
- Prosecute past offenders to end impunity.
- Ensure reliability of IVED and BVAS systems

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Community Peacebuilding

- Early warning systems in high-risk LGAs.
- Inter-party peace dialogues.
- Youth and women inclusion in peace campaigns.

CONCLUSION

Anambra's 2025 election will test the state's ability to balance security and democracy. The actions of security agencies and the tone of the media space will largely determine whether the polls are peaceful or tense.

Building trust, promoting accurate information, and ensuring professionalism among security actors remain key to having a credible and violence-free election in Anambra