



NIGERIA YOUTH
FUTURES FUND



OSUN DECIDES 2026

CITIZEN
OBSERVATION
REPORT



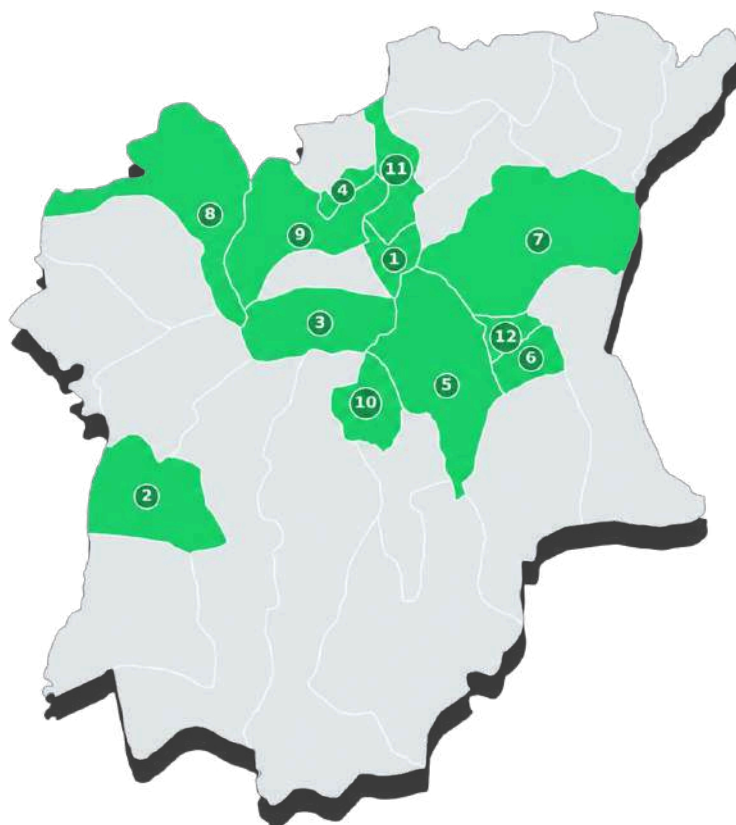
Scope of Observation



Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria deployed citizen observers across **12 Local Government Areas (LGAs)** during the Osun State Governorship Election held on August 15, 2026.

The LGAs covered were:

1. Osogbo
2. Irewole
3. Ede South
4. Irepodun
5. Atakumosa West
6. Ilesa East
7. Obokun
8. Ejigbo
9. Egbedore
10. Ife Central
11. Olorunda
12. Ilesa West



12

LGAs covered

Observer Reports

492

**15th
Aug.**

Election Date

The observation team received 492 observer reports across the 12 LGAs covered, providing polling-unit-level observations on voting, accreditation, election technology, security, counting and other aspects of the electoral process.

These findings reflect observations and reports received from the locations covered by EiE observers. They should not be interpreted as statistically representative of every polling unit in Osun State. Where an incident was reported by an observer or voter but could not be independently verified by EiE, it is identified as such.

Key Findings



BVAS failures recurred	Reported in 7 of 12 LGAs, echoing Ekiti issues.
Accreditation equipment issues	Separate from BVAS failures, faulty thumbprint pads were reported at two polling units in Ife Central.
Alleged vote buying concentrated	5 LGAs; Irepodun had the heaviest activity.
Security response inconsistent	Prompt arrests in Olorunda, none in Atakumosa West.
Accessibility gaps remained	Physical access and missing EC40H forms.
Most locations were peaceful	But isolated violence was serious where it occurred.
Ballot secrecy at risk	Pressure or monitoring of voters' ballot choices reported.
Readiness varied	Delayed openings in Osogbo, Ife Central, Olorunda.

BVAS-related challenges affected multiple polling units



BVAS-related problems were reported in seven of the 12 LGAs covered: Osogbo, Ede South, Irepodun, Irewole, Ilesa East, Obokun and Ilesa West. The reported problems included machines failing to start, stopping during the accreditation process, slow or interrupted processing, and difficulty capturing voters' faces, particularly elderly voters.

Specific reports included:

1. Osogbo

At Ward 4, PU 31, a queue backed up while only one BVAS machine was available. A BVAS-related issue was also reported at Ward 06, Ataoja "E", PU 018.

2. Ede South

At Ward Jagun Jagun, Baptist Primary School Iseki Oloro, the BVAS reportedly became stuck at 12% during the export process.

3. Irepodun

At Ward 6, PU 016, Bara B/Yibiri Compound, the BVAS reportedly stopped working after the election had commenced. At Ward 10, PU 29-20-10-003, the machine reportedly would not switch on despite the use of a power bank.

4. Irewole

At Ward 9, Polling Unit 7, Country Lodge, the BVAS was reported not to be working.

These incidents did not necessarily prevent voting from taking place, but they contributed to delays and, in some locations, voter frustration.

5. Ilesa East

At PU 009, Kajola Junction/RA 02, the BVAS reportedly had difficulty capturing the faces of elderly voters.

6. Obokun

At Ward 08, PU 29-24-08-001, the BVAS malfunctioned but was subsequently resolved.

7. Ilesa West

At Ward 5, PU 29-19-05-013, Oba Ajimoko High School, the machine reportedly stopped working repeatedly.

Accreditation equipment issues



Separate from BVAS failures, faulty thumbprint pads were reported at two polling units in **Ife Central**:

1. Ward Ilare 1, PU 018, Open Space adjacent to Foursquare Gospel Church; and

2. Ward Ilare IV, PU 016, Akodi Apejiogo.

The issues were escalated to the Supervisory Presiding Officer (SPO).



Voters at a polling unit during the August 15, 2026 election

Vote buying was reported in five of the 12 LGAs covered



5/12

LGAs with alleged vote buying reports

Reports of alleged vote buying were received from **Ilesa East, Ede South, Irepodun, Obokun and Egbedore.**

The strongest concentration of reports was in **Irepodun**, where observers described alleged vote buying at multiple polling units as "massive" and, in some cases, "digital."

Specific reports included:

Ilesa East, PU 009, Sabo Market (RA 05): A voter reportedly told an observer that ₦50,000 was given by APC and Accord, while ADC allegedly gave ₦20,000. This remains a voter-reported allegation and was not independently verified by EiE.

Irepodun, Ward 6, PU 008 and PU 016:

Observers reported what they described as "massive" and "digital" vote buying.

Irepodun, Ward Olonde 08, PU Idi Esu 06:

Vote buying was also reported in a tense environment where touts were present, and alcohol/drug use was reported.

Obokun, Ward Otan-Ile 008, PU 29/24/08/006, Town Hall:

Vote buying was reported.

Egbedore, Ward 4, PU 003:

Voters were reportedly displaying their marked ballots before casting them, causing commotion. This is recorded primarily as a ballot-secrecy concern, although it occurred in the context of alleged inducement.

Ede South, Ward Alajue 1, PU 004,

Obalaoye Grammar School II: Citizens, presumed to be party agents, were reportedly observed moving around with a list.



Polling activity observed in Osun State during the governorship election

Violence, intimidation and disorder were reported at selected polling locations



Most polling units monitored by EiE observers were reported to remain peaceful. However, several locations recorded incidents involving violence, intimidation, altercations or heightened tension.



1. Atakumosa West

At Ward 11, Ifewara High School I & II, an observer reported that thugs beat voters who did not comply with their instructions. The same observer reported that police and NSCDC personnel encountered the individuals but did not intervene and instead turned back. The observer also reported that, at one point, only APC voters were allowed to queue. The individuals subsequently left the location and voting resumed.



2. Irewole

A notable security incident involved the reported arrest of **Hon. Abiola Ibrahim Inaolaji**, a sitting member of the Osun State House of Assembly, at his residence opposite the Irewole Local Government Secretariat in Ikire. An eyewitness account alleged that the arrest involved "146 imported thugs" and voter cards. **EiE has not independently verified this additional allegation**, and it should therefore not be presented as an established fact.



3. Irepodun

At **Ward 6, PU Bara B/Yibiri Compound**, observers reported a fight over voter eligibility and the counting process.

At **Ward Olonde 08, PU Idi Esu 06**, the environment was described as tense, with touts present and reports of alcohol/drug use.



4. Ilesha East

At **PU 008, Odo-Ehiran (RA 05)**, a mild fight reportedly broke out in a queue and was handled by police.

At **PU 002, Ilesha Grammar School (RA 09)**, a fight reportedly occurred between INEC officials and party agents over a proposed change to the collation venue.



5. Olorunda

At **Ward Balogun 2, PU 2, Ayoola Street**, voting was reportedly paused at approximately 3:23 pm after thugs were observed loitering nearby. Security personnel subsequently arrived and arrested the individuals.



6. Osogbo

At **Ward 4, PU 31**, agitation was reported over a slow-moving queue caused by operational delays. The observer explicitly reported no violence at the location.

Concerns about ballot secrecy were reported in Ilesa East and Ilesa West



Two reports raised specific concerns about the secrecy of voters' choices.

1. At **Ilesa East, PU 007, Ijesa Muslim Grammar School (RA 09)**, a party agent reportedly pressured voters to display their marked ballots before depositing them. Police reportedly warned the agent.
2. At **Ilesa West, Ward 05, PU 012**, Ajimoko High School, a suspected party loyalist was reportedly observed watching an older voter's ballot choice.

Polling-unit readiness and commencement of voting varied across locations



The official commencement of voting was **8:30am**. Observers reported that some polling units were not fully ready to commence at that time.

1. In **Osogbo**, voters and election materials were reportedly already present at some polling units before 8:30 am, but INEC officials and security personnel arrived after the scheduled commencement time at some locations.



Persons with disabilities faced accessibility and assistance gaps



Accessibility concerns were documented in Olorunda and Ejigbo.

1. In **Olorunda**, observers reported that polling areas at Ward Agowande, including PU No. 2 BCGA and an open-space polling location at T Junction Ajibade, were situated across a gutter, making access difficult for persons with disabilities, particularly wheelchair users.
2. At **Ward 1/Agowande, PU 006**, an observer reported that no EC40H forms were available for persons requiring assistance.
3. In **Ejigbo, Ward 2, Unit 17**, an observer similarly reported that there was no EC40H form for persons with disabilities.

2. In **Ife Central**, particularly around polling units near Obafemi Awolowo University, observers reported that INEC officials and police arrived between approximately 8:30 am and 9:00 am.

3. At **Olorunda, Ward Agowande, PU No. 2 BCGA**, the presiding officers were reportedly without chairs and tables, and election materials had not yet been fully set up.

Security presence was visible, but intervention was inconsistent



Observers reported the presence of police, NSCDC, DSS and other security personnel across several LGAs.

However, the effectiveness of intervention varied.

1. In **Atakumosa West**, observers reported that police and NSCDC personnel did not intervene when voters were allegedly being assaulted by thugs.

2. In **Olorunda**, by contrast, security personnel reportedly responded to the presence of suspected thugs and made an arrest.

3. In **Ilesa East**, police reportedly intervened when a party agent pressured voters to display their ballots.

Procedural and administrative irregularities were documented



Several isolated procedural concerns were reported:

1. Over-voting

At Ejigbo, Ward 2, Unit 9, an observer reported three votes in excess of the number of accredited voters.

2. Accreditation equipment

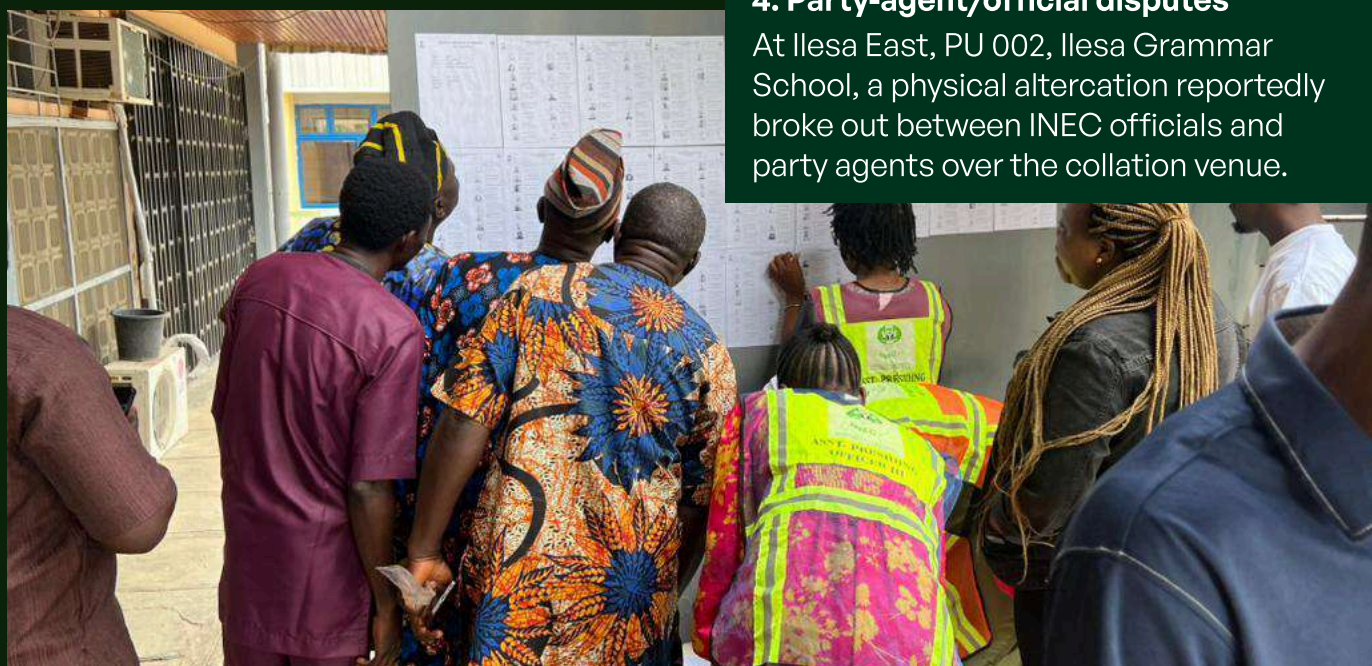
At Ife Central, Ward Ilare 1, PU 018 and Ward Ilare IV, PU 016, faulty thumbprint pads were reported and escalated to the SPO.

3. Polling-unit setup

At Olorunda, Ward Agowande, PU No. 2 BCGA, presiding officers reportedly lacked basic furniture and had not completed setup at the time observed.

4. Party-agent/official disputes

At Ilesa East, PU 002, Ilesa Grammar School, a physical altercation reportedly broke out between INEC officials and party agents over the collation venue.



Election-day preparations at a polling unit in Osun State

LGA-by-LGA Findings



Osogbo

57 Observer Reports

The principal operational concern in Osogbo was the management of queues and the performance of election technology.

At **Ward 4, PU 31**, observers reported a significant queue backup, with only one BVAS machine available. The resulting delays sparked agitation among voters, although the observer explicitly reported no violence.

At **Ward 06, Ataoja "E", PU 018**, a BVAS-related issue was also reported. Observers also reported that some polling units were not ready to commence at the official 8:30am start time due to the delayed arrival of INEC officials and security personnel.

A dry voting ink pad was also reported at one location, with voters reportedly advised to use thumbprinting.

At one polling unit, observers documented the cancellation procedure for unused ballot papers and reported that the process was followed.



Irewole

57 Observer Reports

Security presence was reported across several polling units, including police, NSCDC and DSS personnel.

At **Ward 9, Polling Unit 7, Country Lodge**, the BVAS was reported as not working.

A sitting member of the Osun State House of Assembly, **Hon. Abiola Ibrahim Inaolaji**, was reportedly arrested at his residence opposite the Irewole Local Government Secretariat in Ikire.

An eyewitness additionally alleged that the arrest involved "146 imported thugs" and voter cards. This specific detail was not independently verified by EiE and should therefore be treated as an allegation.

A physical altercation among voters was also reported in a queue due to a lack of order.

At one polling unit, observers reported the presence of touts or suspected thugs later in the afternoon and alleged that voters associated with parties other than the incumbent were prevented from voting there.

Voting extended into the evening at some polling units, with sorting and counting reportedly concluding at approximately 9:19pm at one location.

LGA-by-LGA Findings



Ede South

49 Observer Reports

Voting was generally reported as peaceful.

At **Ward Jagun Jagun, Baptist Primary School Iseki Oloro**, the BVAS reportedly became stuck at 12% during the export process.

At **Ward Alajue 1, PU 004, Obalaoye Grammar School II**, voters were reportedly observed moving around with a list, raising concerns about possible voter tracking or inducement.

Other reports described the process as generally orderly.



Irepodun

49 Observer Reports

Irepodun recorded some of the most significant reports concerning both BVAS performance and alleged vote buying.

At **Ward 6, PU 016, Bara B/Yibiri Compound**, the BVAS reportedly stopped working after voting had commenced.

At **Ward 10, PU 29-20-10-003**, the BVAS reportedly would not switch on despite the use of a power bank.

At **Ward 6, PU 008 and PU 016**, observers described alleged vote buying as "massive" and "digital."

At **Ward Olonde 08, PU Idi Esu 06**, vote buying was also reported in an environment described as tense, with touts and reported alcohol/drug use.

A fight reportedly broke out at **Ward 6, PU Bara B/Yibiri Compound** over voter eligibility and counting.

An observer also reported harassment by an individual who described himself as a security official while alleged vote buying was taking place.

Voting and counting extended into the evening, with an EiE observer present at Ward 6 collation beyond 10:00pm.



Atakumosa West

45 Observer Reports

The most significant incident reported in Atakumosa West occurred at **Ward 11, Ifewara High School I & II**.

LGA-by-LGA Findings



An observer reported that thugs beat voters who did not comply with their instructions. The observer also reported that police and NSCDC personnel turned back after encountering the individuals.

At one point, only APC voters were reportedly allowed to queue.

The individuals subsequently left the location and voting resumed.

Other polling units observed in the LGA were reported to have remained peaceful.



Ilesha East

38 Observer Reports

At **PU 009, Sabo Market, RA 05**, a voter reportedly told an observer that APC and Accord representatives gave them a combined ₦50,000, while ADC allegedly gave ₦20,000. This remains an unverified voter-reported allegation.

At **PU 009, Kajola Junction/RA 02**, BVAS reportedly struggled to capture the faces of elderly voters.

At **PU 007, Ilesha Muslim Grammar School, RA 09**, a party agent reportedly pressured voters to display their marked ballots. Police reportedly warned the agent.

At **PU 008, Odo-Ehiran, RA 05**, a mild fight reportedly broke out in a queue and was handled by police.

At **PU 002, Ilesha Grammar School, RA 09**, a physical altercation reportedly occurred between INEC officials and party agents over a change to the collation venue.



Obokun

36 Observer Reports

At **Ward 08, PU 29-24-08-001**, the BVAS reportedly malfunctioned but was subsequently restored.

At **Ward Otan-Ile 008, PU 29/24/08/006**, Town Hall, vote buying was reported.

The majority of other reports described the voting process as peaceful.

LGA-by-LGA Findings



Ejiogbo

36 Observer Reports

At **Ward 2, Unit 17**, observers reported that no EC40H form was available for persons with disabilities.

At **Ward 2, Unit 9**, an observer reported an over-voting incident involving three votes in excess of the number of accredited voters.

During counting at one polling unit, an observer reported that their phone was damaged during a disagreement.



Egbedore

33 Observer Reports

At **Ward 4, PU 003**, vote buying was reported.

Observers also reported that voters were displaying marked ballots before casting them, resulting in commotion at the polling unit. This raises a concern about ballot secrecy.

Heavy security presence, including paramilitary personnel, was reported at several polling units.



Ife Central

31 Observer Reports

At **Ward Ilare 1, PU 018, Open Space adjacent to Foursquare Gospel Church, and Ward Ilare IV, PU 016, Akodi Apejiogo**, faulty thumbprint pads were reported.

The issues were escalated to the SPO.

Observers also reported that some polling units around Obafemi Awolowo University were not fully operational at the official 8:30am commencement time, with INEC and security personnel arriving between approximately 8:30am and 9:00am.

The voting process was otherwise described as peaceful in the locations observed.

LGA-by-LGA Findings



Olorunda

31 Observer Reports

At **Ward Agowande, PU No. 2 BCGA**, presiding officers reportedly lacked a chair and table, while election materials had not yet been fully set up.

At polling locations around **Ward Agowande and T Junction Ajibade**, observers reported that polling areas were located across a gutter, creating accessibility difficulties for persons with disabilities.

At **Ward 1/Agowande, PU 006**, no **EC40H** forms were reportedly available.

At **Ward Balogun 2, PU 2, Ayoola Street**, voting was reportedly paused at approximately 3:23pm after suspected thugs were observed loitering nearby. Security personnel subsequently arrived and arrested the individuals.

Most other reports described the voting environment as peaceful.



Ilesa West

30 Observer Reports

At **Ward 5, PU 29-19-05-013, Oba Ajimoko High School**, the BVAS reportedly stopped working repeatedly.

At **Ward 05, PU 012, Ajimoko High School**, a suspected party loyalist was reportedly observed watching an older voter's ballot choice, raising concerns about ballot secrecy.

The overall environment was described as calm, including at polling units where BVAS processing was slow.



L-R_ Tunde Adeosun (Research & Program Officer); Bukola Omosanya (HR & Operations Officer); Akindeji Aromaye (Snr Media & Project Officer - Elections) for the Osun State Election Observers Mission.

Overall Assessment



The observation data from the 12 LGAs covered presents a mixed picture of the conduct of the Osun State Governorship Election.

The majority of polling units observed were reported to have remained peaceful, and voters were generally able to participate in the process. However, the 492 observer reports also identify recurring operational, procedural and electoral-integrity concerns.

The principal findings are:

First, BVAS-related challenges were a recurring operational concern.

Reports of BVAS malfunction, interruptions, failure to start and difficulty with facial recognition were received from seven of the 12 LGAs covered. Separately, faulty thumbprint pads were reported in two polling units in Ife Central. While these incidents did not necessarily prevent voting, they contributed to delays and voter frustration in some locations.

Second, vote buying remained a significant concern in parts of the state.

Reports were received from five LGAs: Ilesha East, Ede South, Irepodun, Obokun and Egbedore. Irepodun recorded the most concentrated reports, including descriptions of "massive" and "digital" vote buying. The observations indicate the continued presence of voter inducement in parts of the electoral environment, but do not establish that vote buying was widespread across the state or that it determined the election outcome.

Third, most observed locations remained peaceful, but isolated incidents of violence and intimidation were serious.

The reported assault of voters in Atakumosa West, tensions in parts of Irepodun, altercations involving INEC officials and party agents in Ilesha East, and the incident involving suspected thugs in Olorunda demonstrate that a generally peaceful polling environment did not eliminate risks to voters and electoral personnel at individual locations.

Fourth, ballot secrecy was placed at risk in some locations.

Reports of voters being pressured to display marked ballots and of suspected party loyalists monitoring voters raise concerns about whether voters were consistently able to exercise their franchise privately and free from observation or pressure.

Fifth, persons with disabilities faced practical barriers to participation.

Physical inaccessibility and unavailable EO40H forms were reported in Olorunda and Ejigbo, highlighting gaps in the implementation of inclusive voting arrangements.

Overall Assessment



EiE staff and partners at the Osun State Election Observers Mission

Sixth, polling-unit readiness varied.

Since voting was officially scheduled to commence at 8:30am, reports of polling units that were not fully set up or operational by that time are relevant to the efficiency of the process. Such reports were received from parts of Osogbo, Ife Central and Olorunda.

Seventh, the presence of security personnel did not always translate into consistent intervention.

While police, NSCDC, DSS and other security personnel were visible across several LGAs, observer reports indicate differences in how security personnel responded to incidents involving intimidation, alleged vote buying and ballot secrecy.

Overall, the findings show that the conduct of the election cannot be characterised solely by either the presence or absence of isolated incidents. The process was largely peaceful in many of the locations observed, but persistent operational challenges and documented concerns around vote buying, voter protection, ballot secrecy, accessibility and procedural compliance remain important areas for electoral reform.

The findings are based on observations from the locations covered and should not be interpreted as a statistically representative assessment of every polling unit in Osun State. They also do not, by themselves, establish that any particular irregularity determined the outcome of the election.

They do, however, provide evidence of areas requiring attention from INEC, security agencies, political parties, civil society organisations and other electoral stakeholders ahead of future elections.