



WHAT NIGERIANS THINK

NIGERIAN PUBLIC OPINION IN THE PRE-ELECTION ENVIRONMENT

April 2007

The results of this survey are based on face-to-face interviews conducted under the direction of IFES by Practical Sampling International. The interviews were with 2,410 Nigerians 18 years of age or older and were conducted between February 13 and 25, 2007. Interviews were conducted in all 36 Nigerian states and the federal capital territory and are representative of the Nigerian adult population. The survey was paid for by the Department for International Development (DfID) under IFES' "Nigerian Election Support 2007" program. The sampling error for this survey is plus or minus 2 percentage points. As in the case in any public opinion survey, question wording and the practical difficulties of conducting surveys can introduce additional error or bias.

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POLITICAL CONTEXT OF THE 2007 ELECTIONS

Political leaders elected in the polls to be held in April 2007 will have no easy task ahead of them. A large majority of Nigerians are dissatisfied with the overall state of their country. Many cite corruption and its natural allies—poverty and unemployment—as Nigeria’s biggest challenges. Yet despite deep dissatisfaction, slim majorities or large minorities have at least some confidence in governmental leaders and institutions and think they are at least somewhat effective in performing their duties. Nevertheless, among the offices up for grabs in these elections, none of the incumbents have the confidence of a strong majority of the Nigerian electorate.

A majority have at least a moderate amount of confidence in the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)—the institution charged with conducting the elections—and hold that INEC is at least moderately effective and neutral in the conduct of its duties. And yet, despite this confidence in INEC and the fact that a large majority believes elections are the most effective way to select political leaders, many are skeptical about the ability of voters to influence decision-making by marching to the polls.

Nigerians head to the polls dissatisfied about the state of their country.

Just two months before the elections for state governors (April 14), parliament, and president (April 21), a large majority of seven in ten Nigerians (70%) say they are dissatisfied with the overall situation of the country today. What is more, nearly two in five Nigerians (37%) hold this opinion strongly and say they are not satisfied at all with the overall situation of the country.

Could you tell me if you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied or not satisfied at all with the overall situation in Nigeria today?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very satisfied	4%
Somewhat satisfied	24%
Not too satisfied	33%
Not satisfied at all	37%
Don't know / Refused	2%

When asked to name the biggest problems their country faces, more than a third of Nigerians name poverty (37%), corruption and the mismanagement of public funds (37%), or unemployment (35%). Nearly as many mention the lack of basic amenities, such as electricity, as a major concern (30%).

What are the biggest problems Nigeria faces as a country – that is, the problems that are of most concern to you?*

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Poverty	37%
Corruption / bribery / mismanagement of public funds	37%
Unemployment	35%
Inadequate infrastructure / no basic amenities / no electricity	30%
Fuel shortages	17%
Economic problems / instability	13%
Bad leadership	11%
Bad roads	11%
Poor educational system	9%
General insecurity	9%
Political problems / political thuggery / election rigging	5%
Violent crime / terrorism / security	4%
Health care issues / lack of medical care	3%
Ethnic/tribal/communal conflicts	3%
Other	8%
Nothing / no problems	1%
Don't know / refused	1%

* Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to name up to three responses.

Despite dissatisfaction, confidence in institutions and leaders is not lost.

Of all the offices up for grabs in these elections, none of their incumbents have the confidence of a strong majority of Nigerians, although slim majorities or sizable minorities have at least a fair amount of confidence in them. Further, in each case, citizens' ratings of the effectiveness of government leaders and institutions outpace their level of confidence in them.

Among the politicians that Nigerians will be going to the polls in April to replace or re-elect, the outgoing President and respondents' own state's Governor are the most popular. Roughly half or more Nigerians say they have a great deal or fair amount of confidence in the President of Nigeria (50%) or their state's Governor (51%). Somewhat more say the President (58%) and their state's Governor (56%) are very or somewhat effective in carrying out the duties that are their responsibility.

Confidence levels in the Vice President (42%), the Senate (42%) or the House of Representatives (40%) are lower with roughly four in ten expressing at least moderate confidence. However, close to half say these institutions or leaders are effective in discharging their duties (Vice President 48%, Senate 47%, and House of Representatives 47%).

How much confidence do you have in these government institutions and leaders?	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410	How effective are the following institutions and leaders in carrying out the duties that are their responsibility?	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
➤ The President of Nigeria		➤ The President of Nigeria	
Great deal / fair amount	50%	Very / somewhat effective	58%
Not very much / none at all	48%	Not too / not at all effective	39%
Don't know / Refused	2%	Don't know / Refused	3%
➤ The Vice President of Nigeria		➤ The Vice President of Nigeria	
Great deal / fair amount	42%	Very / somewhat effective	48%
Not very much / none at all	56%	Not too / not at all effective	51%
Don't know / Refused	2%	Don't know / Refused	2%
➤ The Senate		➤ The Senate	
Great deal / fair amount	42%	Very / somewhat effective	47%
Not very much / none at all	54%	Not too / not at all effective	49%
Don't know / Refused	4%	Don't know / Refused	3%
➤ The House of Representatives		➤ The House of Representatives	
Great deal / fair amount	40%	Very / somewhat effective	47%
Not very much / none at all	56%	Not too / not at all effective	49%
Don't know / Refused	4%	Don't know / Refused	4%
➤ Your state's Governor		➤ Your state's Governor	
Great deal / fair amount	51%	Very / somewhat effective	56%
Not very much / none at all	47%	Not too / not at all effective	43%
Don't know / Refused	2%	Don't know / Refused	2%

Citizens have confidence in INEC in spite of some doubts about its independence.

A solid majority of seven in ten Nigerians (71%) express confidence in the Independent National Election Commission (INEC)—the body charged with organizing and conducting the elections—with most of these respondents expressing a fair amount rather than a great deal of confidence. On the flip side, just under a quarter (22%) express little or no confidence in INEC, with roughly only one in ten (9%) saying they have no confidence at all in this election management body.

Those with little or no confidence in INEC were asked why they hold this position. Most of those who lack confidence in INEC point to a belief that INEC is involved in the rigging of elections (26%), a belief that INEC lacks independence from the government (26%), or a perceived bias on the part of INEC (25%) as the root of their skepticism towards INEC.

In this same vein, two of five people in Nigeria (40%) question INEC's neutrality—at least to some degree—and disagree that INEC is a neutral body that administers the elections in an objective manner. However, a 55% majority believe that INEC is largely neutral in its administration of the elections.

While confidence in INEC is moderately high, a much slimmer majority of Nigerians give INEC equally high marks for being effective in carrying out the duties that are its responsibility. A majority of fewer than six in ten (56%) say that INEC is effective in carrying out its duties, and nearly one in four (39%) believe that INEC has not been effective in carrying out the duties that are its responsibility.

How much confidence do you have in INEC?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Great deal	18%
Fair amount	53%
Not too much	13%
None at all	9%
Don't know / Refused	7%

Can you tell me why you have so little/no confidence in INEC?*	
	FEBRUARY 2007 N=535+
Involved in falsification/rigging of elections	26%
Lack of independence / under control of the government	26%
They are biased / not trustworthy	25%
Corruption / accept bribes	16%
Ineffective / not serious in discharging their duties	9%
Other	3%
Don't know / refused	5%

* Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to give multiple responses.
+ Asked only of those who said they have not very much or no confidence at all in INEC

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is a neutral body that administers the elections in an objective manner?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Strongly agree	14%
Somewhat agree	41%
Somewhat disagree	27%
Strongly disagree	13%
Don't know / Refused	5%

How effective is INEC in carrying out the duties that are its responsibility?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very effective	12%
Somewhat effective	44%
Not too effective	30%
Not at all effective	9%
Don't know / Refused	4%

Confidence in the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission are somewhat lower but both seen as moderately effective.

In addition to INEC, two other institutions have come under increased scrutiny during this election season: the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC)¹ and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).² The EFCC in particular came under fire when it published a list of 135 indicted politicians, which the anti-corruption agency said should not be allowed to run in the forthcoming polls. Some charge the EFCC's list was motivated by political bias against

members of the opposition, and others took advantage of the opportunity to construct and circulate their own fake versions of the list to target political opponents.

Despite these controversies, there is a moderate level of trust in both the ICPC and the EFCC. Roughly half of all Nigerians say they have confidence in the ICPC (48%), with the plurality expressing a fair amount rather than a great deal of confidence. Confidence is even higher in the embattled EFCC, although still below that of INEC. A 55% majority of Nigerians say they have a great deal or a fair amount of confidence in the EFCC.

While INEC enjoys a higher level of confidence among the populace than either the ICPC or the EFCC, the effectiveness ratings of all three bodies are much closer. In fact, the effectiveness rating of the ICPC is on par with that of INEC. A majority of 55% say the ICPC is effective in carrying out its duties with the plurality saying the ICPC is somewhat rather than very effective.

Slightly more believe the EFCC is effective in carrying out its duties. Three in five (61%) Nigerians believe the EFCC is effective with again the plurality holding that the EFCC is somewhat rather than very effective.

How much confidence do you have in these government institutions?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
> Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC)	
Great deal	14%
Fair amount	34%
Not very much	28%
None at all	12%
Don't know / Refused	11%
> Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)	
Great deal	21%
Fair amount	34%
Not very much	25%
None at all	11%
Don't know / Refused	9%

How effective are the following institutions in carrying out the duties that are their responsibility?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
> Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC)	
Very effective	17%
Somewhat effective	38%
Not too effective	26%
Not at all effective	10%
Don't know / Refused	9%
> Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)	
Very effective	22%
Somewhat effective	39%
Not too effective	23%
Not at all effective	8%
Don't know / Refused	8%

¹ The ICPC is an independent body charged with examining the practices, systems and procedures of public entities which may facilitate corruption as well as educating Nigerians on and against bribery, corruption and related offences. The Commission is empowered to investigate and prosecute cases of corruption and related offences and has the powers to search, seize, arrest and summon persons for examination and information gathering, including powers to demand disclosure of information even of a privileged nature. The ICPC was established in September 2000 and declared constitutionally valid in June 2002.

² The EFCC was established in 2004 with the mandate is to combat financial and economic crimes. The Commission is empowered to prevent, investigate, prosecute and penalize economic and financial crimes and is charged with enforcing the provisions of other laws and regulations relating to economic and financial crimes. In addition, the EFCC is the key agency of Nigerian government responsible for fighting terrorism.

Despite confidence in election management authorities, many Nigerians are skeptical about their ability to make a difference at the ballot box.

A majority of six in ten (60%) believe that ordinary people have little or no influence over the way things are run in Nigeria.

Similarly, roughly half (51%) disagree that voting gives people like them a chance to influence decision making.

Yet a large majority still believe elections are the most effective means to select leaders.

In spite of some doubts about whether or not people can influence decision making in Nigeria through voting, a large majority (71%) believe that elections are the most effective method of selecting leaders. Fewer (18%) somewhat disagree that elections are the most effective way to select leaders, with one in ten (9%) solidly rejecting elections as an effective tool for choosing leaders.

Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with these statements:	
FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410	
➤ People like me have little or no influence on the way things are run in Nigeria	
Strongly agree	26%
Somewhat agree	34%
Somewhat disagree	18%
Strongly disagree	20%
Don't know / Refused	3%
➤ Voting gives people like me a chance to influence decision-making in Nigeria	
Strongly agree	11%
Somewhat agree	35%
Somewhat disagree	23%
Strongly disagree	28%
Don't know / Refused	3%
➤ Elections are the most effective way to select leaders in Nigeria	
Strongly agree	34%
Somewhat agree	37%
Somewhat disagree	18%
Strongly disagree	9%
Don't know / Refused	3%

MEDIA AND ELECTORAL AWARENESS

A majority have at least a fair amount of confidence in the Nigerian media and believe the media provides objective and thorough coverage of elections.

Awareness of the election is high, and two thirds say they have at least a fair amount of knowledge about how elections are organized and run. Even more claim to have knowledge about Nigeria's adoption of an electronic registration process. Nevertheless, only two months before the elections, a third of adults cannot correctly name the month the elections will take place in.

Only a minority are familiar with the 2006 Electoral Act under which these elections will be governed, but of those who know it, most think it will improve the quality of Nigerian elections.

Nigerian media's election coverage is largely seen as thorough and credible.

The media's role in helping to inform the population about the elections, the parties and the candidates involved is crucial. Overall, Nigerians give the media positive marks. A majority of Nigerians (58%) say they have at least a fair amount of confidence in Nigerian media. Yet more than a third say they have not too much confidence (26%) or no confidence at all (10%) in the media.

Speaking specifically about the media's coverage of the elections, nearly two thirds (64%) say the Nigerian media provides thorough coverage of the parties and candidates standing for election. Furthermore, two thirds (68%) believe that the coverage the media provides on parties and candidates is objective. On the flip side, roughly one in three expresses doubts about the thoroughness (30%) or objectivity (27%) of the media's election coverage.

How much confidence do you have in the media in Nigeria?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Great deal	18%
Fair amount	40%
Not too much	26%
None at all	10%
Don't know / Refused	6%
Nigerian media provides thorough coverage of the parties and candidates for elections.	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Strongly agree	19%
Somewhat agree	45%
Somewhat disagree	23%
Strongly disagree	7%
Don't know / Refused	6%
Nigerian media provides objective coverage of the parties and candidates for elections.	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Strongly agree	21%
Somewhat agree	47%
Somewhat disagree	21%
Strongly disagree	6%
Don't know / Refused	5%

Nearly all know about elections...

Knowledge of the upcoming elections is high. Nearly everyone in this large territory knows that elections are coming up. Ninety-five percent of Nigerians say they are aware that Nigeria will be having elections. Only 2% say they were unaware of forthcoming polls. The high-level of awareness is no surprise given the large volume of posters and billboards candidates have plastered throughout the country.

Some people are aware that Nigeria will be having elections in the upcoming weeks while others are not. Are you aware that elections are coming up? (If yes, can you tell me what month these elections will be held in?)	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Yes, held in April	65%
Yes, but month unknown or incorrect	30%
No, not aware	2%
Don't know / Refused	3%

...But only two months before the poll, a sizable minority do not know when they will be held.

With only two months remaining until Nigerians head to the polls, nearly one in three are unsure when these elections will be. When asked what month the elections will be held, 30% said they did not know which month or incorrectly named a month other than April as the date of the elections.

Majority feel informed about how elections are organized and run.

Although fewer than one in five (18%) say they have a great deal of information about how elections are organized and run in Nigeria, a solid majority (66%) are reasonably well informed and report having at least a fair amount of information about the election process. One in three (33%) say they have little information about how elections are organized. Few (7%) say they have no information at all on about this topic.

How much information would you say you have about how elections are organized and run in Nigeria?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Great deal	18%
Fair amount	48%
Not too much	26%
None at all	7%
Don't know / Refused	2%

The bulk of Nigerians know about the new electronic registration system...

Seven in ten Nigerians (72%) say they know that Nigeria was using a new electronic voter registration system to register people to vote in these upcoming elections. However, despite the fact that 89% of Nigerian adults report that they are registered to vote in these elections, nearly a quarter (23%) are not aware that voter registration was conducted by an electronic system.

Some people are aware that Nigeria will be using a new electronic system for voter's registration for the upcoming election while others are not? Are you aware of this or not?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Yes, aware	72%
No, not aware	23%
Don't know / Refused	5%

...But most are uninformed about the 2006 Electoral Act.

Only a minority of one in five (22%) are aware that the National Assembly passed a new Electoral Act last year.

Three-quarters of those who are aware of the Act believe it is effective.

While awareness of the act is low, more than three-quarters of those who know about the new Electoral Act (79%) believe it has been effective in helping to make the upcoming elections free and fair.

Some people are aware of the new Electoral Act passed by the National Assembly last year while others are not. Are you aware of this new law?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Yes, aware	22%
No, not aware	70%
Don't know / Refused	8%

How effective do you think this law has been in helping to make the upcoming elections free and fair?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=509*
Very effective	23%
Somewhat effective	56%
Not too effective	14%
Not at all effective	5%
Don't know / Refused	3%

*Asked only of those who are aware of the Electoral Act

VOTER REGISTRATION

Despite being plagued by delays, nearly all Nigerian adults report that they registered to vote for the upcoming April elections. What is more, nearly half reject claims that the delays in the voter registration process were motivated by political calculation and instead say the delays were understandable given the logistical challenges involved in registering people in Africa's most populous country.

The majority of successful registrants rate their registration process as good—but not excellent. Complaints center mainly on the slow speed of the process and on the insufficient number of machines or machines that broke down. Those who didn't register cite constraints such as a lack of time or being sick or out of town during the exercise. Many also say they had trouble reaching the registration center or chose not to register because they think the outcome of the election will be falsified.

Registration delays due to logical difficulties rather than political bias, according to a plurality of Nigerians.

The registration of Nigeria's approximately 60 million voters suffered from several setbacks and delays. The registration period, originally scheduled to run from September to November 2006, was extended

twice and finally concluded in February 2007. There was much speculation whether these delays were merely due to the complexity of the immense task of registering people to vote in Africa's most populous country or if these delays were motivated by political bias and an attempt to delay or influence the outcome and/or timing of the scheduled elections.

Public opinion on the cause of the delays remains somewhat split, but a clear plurality of Nigerians (48%) believe that these delays were understandable given the complexity of the task. However, one in three (33%) hold the opposite view and speculate that the delays were born of a desire to influence the outcome of the elections. Another one in five (19%) refrain from making a judgment one way or the other.

Which is closer to your own view: Delays in the voter registration process were understandable given the complexity of registering people in Nigeria, OR delays were a deliberate attempt by some to influence the outcome of the elections?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Delays understandable	48%
Delays an attempt to influence elections	33%
Don't know / Refused	19%

Vast majority report they are registered to vote.

Nine in ten Nigerian adults (89%) report that they have registered to vote in the April 2007 elections. Only one in ten (11%) say they have not registered.

There are a variety of reasons why one in ten Nigerians did not register. Nearly a third cite personal reasons, such as being too busy (15%) or sick or out of town during the registration period (14%). Another 16% didn't register because they have no intention of voting.

However, half give more troubling answers. Two in ten (19%) say they were not able to reach the registration center because it was too far away or because they were not able to locate the center. Another one in five chose not to register because they think voting is useless because their vote won't count (12%) or the election results will be falsified (7%). And lastly, one in ten attempted to register but were

unable to because of what they perceived to be an irregularity on the part of registration attendants (3%), lack of materials (2%), the registration center was closed (2%), or because the crowds were too great (4%).

Are you registered to vote for the 2007 elections?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Yes	89%
No	11%
Don't know / Refused	<1%

Can you please tell me why you're not registered?*

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=275 ⁺
Couldn't get to / find registration center	19%
I don't want to vote	16%
No time / chance to register / too busy	15%
Sick / out of town during registration period	14%
My vote doesn't count	12%
No reason to vote because election will be rigged	7%
Too many people when I went	4%
Tried to but couldn't because of irregularities by registration attendants	3%
No materials when I went	2%
Registration center was closed when I went	2%
Others	4%
Don't know / refused	6%

*Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to give multiple responses.

⁺Asked only of those who said they did not register to vote.

Most rate the registration process as good; few say it was poor.

Those who did register to vote were asked to give an overall assessment of the registration process, including their ability to locate the center, the time it took to register, and the quality of the registration staff and equipment. Eight in ten give the registration process positive marks and say their experience was either excellent (23%) or good (57%).

Roughly one in ten characterize their registration experience as fair (12%). Only 8% say they had a poor experience.

How would you rate your overall experience registering including locating the registration center, the time it took to register, and the quality of the registration staff and equipment?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2135*
Excellent	23%
Good	57%
Fair	12%
Poor	8%
Don't know / Refused	<1%

*Asked only of those who registered to vote.

Those who said their registration experience was fair or poor were asked what happened to give them that opinion. Most people complain that the process took too long (42%). Others mention related concerns of a shortage of machines (19%), machinery breaking down (15%), and large crowds (5%). One in five found the process of waiting in the sun among all the commotion too stressful (20%) and roughly one in ten thought that there was inadequate information about how the registration process worked (10%).

Why do you say your experience was fair/poor?*	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=404 ⁺
Process / machines too slow	42%
Too stressful	20%
Not enough machines	19%
Malfunctions of machinery	15%
Process unclear / not enough information	10%
Poor organization of exercise	4%
Too many people / large crowds / not enough centers	5%
Other	6%
Don't know / refused	2%

*Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to give multiple responses.
⁺Asked only of those who said they did not register to vote.

But many had to return on a different day to receive their card.

Although a majority of Nigerians received their voter registration card on the same day they registered, more than a quarter (27%) say that—counter to established procedures—they had to return on a different day to collect their card. A small number of those who report that they registered to vote (3%) also report that they never received their card, and thus may not be permitted to vote on election day.

Did you receive your temporary voter registration card with your picture on it the same day you registered, on a different day, or did you not receive a card with your picture on it at all?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2135*
Same day	69%
Different day	27%
Not received	3%
Don't know / Refused	<1%

*Asked only of those who registered to vote

Printed ID cards are an effective tool to help decrease election fraud only if the quality of the card is sufficient that an election worker can tell if the person attempting to vote is the same person the voter registration card was issued to. Fifty-one percent of Nigerians are very confident they can be accurately identified by their voter ID. An additional 35% say they are somewhat confident that the quality of the ID is sufficient for

How confident are you that you can be accurately identified by your voter ID given the quality of the picture and the printed information?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2160*
Very confident	51%
Somewhat confident	35%
Not too confident	11%
Not confident at all	3%
Don't know / Refused	1%

*Asked only of those who registered to vote and received their voter ID card.

them to be accurately identified. However, more than one in ten have doubts about the quality of their card and say they are not too confident (11%) or not confident at all (3%) that they can be accurately identified by their voter identification card.

Registration process was somewhat smoother in urban than rural areas.

Although urban and rural Nigerians report being able to register to vote in equal numbers, there is some evidence that the process went less smoothly in rural areas. People living in rural areas are somewhat less likely to rate their registration process as excellent than were those living in urban areas (18% vs. 28%). Compared to their urban counterparts, rural inhabitants were less likely to have received their ID card on the same day they registered (64% vs. 76%). Nigerians living in rural areas were also a little less likely than urban dwellers to be very confident they can be accurately identified by their voter card (48% vs. 54%).

Similarly, there was some unevenness in perceptions of the registration process across different regions of Nigeria. Those who live in the South West rate the registration process more highly than those living in most other areas, although most of those in these areas still rate their experience as excellent or good. Two in ten (or fewer) of those who live in the South South (21%), North Central (17%), North East (16%), or North West (15%) areas rate their experience as excellent compared to four in ten of those in the South West (39%). Inhabitants of the South West are also more likely than those living in all other parts of Nigeria to be very confident they can be identified by their voter ID.

ELECTORAL BEHAVIOR

A majority of adults say they are very likely to participate in the upcoming elections and most of the rest say they are somewhat likely to vote. In the lead-up to the polls, the ANPP and the PDP are the two most popular political parties in Nigeria and their respective candidates are leading the electoral race.

When deciding who to vote for, the majority of Nigerians say that the issues the candidate advocates, their general assessment of the candidate, and the likeability of the candidate are major factors. The opinions of religious leaders, relatives, and local community leaders are also important considerations.

The majority of Nigerian adults say they are likely to vote in the presidential and parliamentary elections.

A 56% majority of adults in Nigeria say they are very likely to vote in the upcoming presidential and parliamentary elections. An additional 28% say they are somewhat likely to turn out for the poll.

Only about one in ten (12%) say they are not too likely or not at all likely

to vote. When asked why they are unlikely to participate in the upcoming presidential and parliamentary elections, about half simply say that they can't vote because they are not registered. One in five (20%) say there is no reason to participate because they don't think the elections will make a difference. Other reasons—such as not trusting or liking any of

the presidential candidates (6%), having no interest in politics (5%), being concerned about election violence (4%) and believing the elections will be rigged (3%)—are mentioned by a small number of people.

How likely is it that you will vote in the upcoming presidential and parliamentary elections that are scheduled to take place in April 2007?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very likely	56%
Somewhat likely	28%
Not too likely	4%
Not likely at all	8%
Don't know / Refused	4%

Why are you unlikely to vote?*

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=310 ⁺
Not registered	53%
Don't think elections will make a difference	20%
Don't trust / like any of the presidential candidates	6%
No interest in politics	5%
Concerned about violence / security	4%
Election will be rigged	3%
Others	8%
Don't know / Refused	5%

*Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to give multiple responses.

⁺Asked only of those who are not too likely or not likely at all to vote.

Honesty and a solid agenda matter most in electoral choices.

When asked what will be the primary reason for voting for a particular candidate, many Nigerians point to the honesty or credibility of the candidate (29%) or the candidate's ability to lay out a credible agenda for future progress (23%). The candidate's ability to address economic woes (17%), his or her past achievements or leadership abilities (15%) or the candidate's religion (9%) is also mentioned by roughly one in ten or more.

When you vote in the election, what will be your primary reason for voting for a particular candidate?*

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Honesty / credibility of candidate	29%
Agenda / manifesto / credible plans for the future	23%
Can change economic situation / provide jobs	17%
Past achievements / leadership abilities	15%
Candidate's religion	9%
Will up hold democracy / provide fair and equal representation	7%
Candidate's personality	7%
To exercise my right to vote / choose my candidate	3%
Can provide social amenities (water, education, electricity)	3%
Candidate's party affiliation	3%
Others	9%
Don't know / Refused / No plans to vote	8%

*Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to give multiple responses.

In addition to issues, a winning personality also helps.

A 60% majority of Nigerians say that whether a candidate talks about issues that are important to them plays a major role in their decision of whom to vote for.

More than half also say that their own assessment of the candidate (55%) and the candidate's personality (54%) play a major role in their electoral decisions. Fewer than one in five say the issues the candidate talks about (11%), their own assessment of the candidate (12%), or the candidate's personality (14%) play no role at all in their electoral choices.

The candidate's party affiliation plays a major role in electoral decisions for four in ten Nigerians (39%), while half as many (20%) say that the candidate's party affiliation isn't important to them.

Nigerians are split on the importance of religion when it comes to voting. As many say the candidate's religious views play a major role in their decisions of who to vote for (28%) as say that the candidate's religious views play no role at all (30%). Instead, the plurality say that the candidate's religious views plays only a minor role in their decision of whom to support at the ballot box.

The candidate's ethnic group plays a major role in decision making for a 20% minority. Instead, most either say that a candidate's ethnic background is a minor factor (40%) or that it doesn't figure into their decision-making process (38%).

While more than half say that it makes no difference to them whether the candidate offers them anything in return for their vote, more than one in ten (13%) says that the expectation of a reward plays a major role in their decision of who to vote for. An additional 27% says that the expectation of a reward plays a minor role.

There are many different reasons why people vote for a candidate. For each of these, please tell me if this will play a major role, minor role or no role at all in your decision of whom to vote for.

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➤ The candidate talks about issues that are important to you	
Major role	60%
Minor role	28%
No role at all	11%
Don't know / Refused	1%
➤ Your own opinion or assessment of the candidate	
Major role	55%
Minor role	31%
No role at all	12%
Don't know / Refused	2%
➤ You like the candidate's personality	
Major role	54%
Minor role	31%
No role at all	14%
Don't know / Refused	2%
➤ The candidate represents a party you like	
Major role	39%
Minor role	40%
No role at all	20%
Don't know / Refused	1%
➤ The candidate's religious views	
Major role	28%
Minor role	40%
No role at all	30%
Don't know / Refused	2%
➤ The candidate belongs to your ethnic group	
Major role	20%
Minor role	40%
No role at all	38%
Don't know / Refused	2%
➤ The candidate has offered you a reward for your vote	
Major role	13%
Minor role	27%
No role at all	57%
Don't know / Refused	3%

Opinions of religious leaders, relatives, and community leaders are also important.

While a majority say that their personal assessment of the candidate plays a major role in their decision of whom to vote for, majorities also say that the opinions of religious leaders, relatives, and community leaders are also important to their decision-making process.

More than six in ten says the opinions of their religious leaders (67%) or the opinions of their father, brother, or other relatives (66%) are important factors in their decision of whom to vote for. About a third of Nigerians say these opinions are very important to their electoral decisions. Only roughly one in ten say they do not consider the opinions of religious leaders (13%) or relatives (13%) when making electoral choices.

Somewhat fewer, but still a majority, hold the opinions of local community leaders to be important (57%) with nearly a quarter (22%) saying that the opinions of local community leaders are very important to them.

How important are the opinions of the following people in your decision to vote for a particular candidate or political party?

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> Your religious leaders	
Very important	31%
Somewhat important	36%
Not too important	19%
Not important at all	13%
Don't know / Refused	1%
> Your father, brother, or other relatives	
Very important	33%
Somewhat important	33%
Not too important	21%
Not important at all	13%
Don't know / Refused	1%
> Your local community leaders	
Very important	22%
Somewhat important	35%
Not too important	27%
Not important at all	15%
Don't know / Refused	1%

PDP and ANPP are the most popular parties nationally.

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) and the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) enjoy the most support in country and are supported by roughly three in ten of all Nigerian adults (31% and 28%, respectively). One in ten (12%) throughout Nigeria favor the Action Congress (AC), and roughly one in twenty (7%) say that no political party represents the aspirations of people like them.

When considering individual regions of Nigeria, the picture looks somewhat different. In the South West, South South, and the North Central regions, the People's Democratic Party (PDP) enjoys support from a clear plurality of adults, and in the South East, preference for the PDP is equal to that of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA). On the other hand, in the North East and the North West, pluralities or majorities believe the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) best represents their interests.

Which political party best represents the aspirations of people like you?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
People's Democratic Party (PDP_	31%
All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP)	28%
Action Congress (AC)	12%
All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA)	3%
Democratic Peoples Party (DPP)	2%
FDP (Fresh Democratic Party)	2%
Alliance for Democracy (AD)	1%
None	7%
Others	3%
Don't know / Refused	11%

	TOTAL n=2410	SOUTH WEST n=504	SOUTH SOUTH n=538	SOUTH EAST n=272	NORTH EAST n=296	NORTH WEST n=488	NORTH CENTRAL n=312
PDP	31%	35%	44%	25%	28%	17%	43%
ANPP	28%	5%	6%	11%	43%	57%	28%
AC	12%	21%	10%	12%	13%	5%	11%
APGA	3%	>1%	1%	23%	1%	0%	>1%
DPP	2%	0%	3%	>1%	2%	7%	>1%
FDP	2%	1%	5%	0%	5%	1%	2%
None	7%	18%	7%	9%	2%	2%	6%
Others	6%	9%	2%	11%	1%	1%	2%
Don't know / Refused	8%	11%	19%	9%	4%	11%	8%

Buhari and Yar Adua lead as presidential contenders.

Former mid-eighties military ruler of Nigeria and ANPP candidate Muhammadu Buhari (28%) and PDP candidate Alhaji Umar Yar Adua (25%) are the top contenders in the presidential race with Buhari enjoying only a very narrow lead over Yar Adua. When considering only those who are most likely to vote in the polls,³ Buhari maintains his narrow lead over Yar Adua (31% vs. 27%). However, with nearly a quarter opting not to make a choice at this time, the race is much to close for either candidate to feel comfortable.

If the Presidential election was held tomorrow, which of the following candidates would you vote for?

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Pat Utomi	
Vice President Atiku Abubakar	12%
Alhaji Umar Yar Adua	25%
Orji Uzor Kalu	6%
Muhammadu Buhari	28%
Chris Okotie	2%
Olapade Agoro	>1%
Attahiru Bafarawa	3%
Habu Fari	>1%
Others	6%
Don't know / Refused	23%

³ Most likely voters are those who are registered to vote and offer the self assessment that they are “very likely” to vote in the upcoming elections as well as those who say they are “somewhat likely” to vote, are registered to vote, and possess a moderate amount of interest and knowledge about politics.

ELECTION CREDIBILITY AND IRREGULARITIES

A majority of Nigerians think the elections will be at least moderately free and fair, yet nearly a third have serious doubts. Nevertheless, Nigerians are expecting these elections to be more fair than the 2003 presidential elections. Vote buying is one of the activities that threaten the polls' credibility and while most think vote buying is a common occurrence in Nigerian elections, a majority think this behavior is wrong and unjustifiable.

The possibility of violence in the period surrounding the elections is a concern for most Nigerians, and a majority of voters say they would give preference to a political party or candidate that signed a pledge committing to not engage in or endorse violent tactics.

Solid majority looks forward to at least moderately free elections.

Roughly six in ten Nigerian adults expect the upcoming 2007 elections—which will be the first civilian-to-civilian transfer of power in Nigeria's history—will be free and fair. However, only a quarter (26%) expect the elections to be completely free and fair. A plurality (37%) instead say they expect that

the elections will be somewhat free and fair while three in ten say they think the elections will be either not too free and fair (20%) or not at all free and fair (9%).

How free and fair do you expect the upcoming 2007 elections to be?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Completely free and fair	26%
Somewhat free and fair	37%
Not too free and fair	20%
Not at all free and fair	9%
Don't know / Refused	8%

Nigerians expect upcoming elections to be more free and fair than past elections.

Today, more Nigerians say the 2007 elections will be at least somewhat free and fair (63%) than consider as free and fair either the 2003 presidential elections (48%) or the 1999 presidential elections (59%). What is more, this credibility gap is maintained when the bar is raised to *completely* free and fair. More say they expect the upcoming elections will be completely free and fair (26%) than consider as completely free and fair the 2003 (10%) or 1999 (18%) elections.

In your opinion, how free and fair were the 2003 presidential elections?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Completely free and fair	10%
Somewhat free and fair	38%
Not too free and fair	28%
Not at all free and fair	15%
Don't know / Refused	10%

And how about the presidential elections held in 1999. Do you think the 1999 presidential elections were...?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Completely free and fair	18%
Somewhat free and fair	41%
Not too free and fair	24%
Not at all free and fair	9%
Don't know / Refused	13%

Vote buying is thought to be common occurrence...

More than seven in ten Nigerians believe that vote buying happens all the time (37%) or most of the time (38%). Two in ten think that vote buying occurs only some of the time (15%) or rarely (4%).

Furthermore, nearly four in ten (37%) say they have a close friend or relative that was offered money, goods, or other material things to vote for a particular candidate in the 2003 presidential elections.

...Yet the majority thinks it is wrong.

Despite their suspicions that many are engaging in it, Nigerians are nearly unanimous (93%) in thinking that it is wrong to receive payment in exchange for voting for a particular candidate. Only 6% of Nigerian adults say that this behavior is not wrong.

The main difference is whether or not people perceive vote buying as something that is wrong and punishable or whether, while wrong, receiving a payment in exchange for a vote is at least somewhat justifiable. Although a solid majority believe it is wrong and punishable (65%), a significant minority of roughly three in ten (28%) believe that while vote buying is wrong, it is also understandable.

Most worried the polls will be marred by violence.

Eight in ten Nigerians are concerned that there will be violence between political groups in their area during the upcoming elections. Roughly half (52%) are very concerned about the prospect of violence while an additional 31% are somewhat concerned that there will be violence. Fewer than two in ten say they are not too concerned (9%) or not at all concerned (7%) by the prospect of violence.

There are reports around election time that ordinary Nigerian are offered money or goods to vote for a particular political party or candidate. Do you think this happens...?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
All the time	37%
Most of the time	38%
Some of the time	15%
Rarely	4%
Don't know / Refused	5%

Do you know any close friends or relatives who were offered money, goods or other material things to vote for a particular candidate in the 2003 presidential elections...?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Yes	37%
No	57%
Don't know / Refused	7%

Is it not wrong, wrong but understandable, or wrong and punishable to receive payment in exchange for voting for a particular party of candidate?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Not wrong	6%
Wrong but understandable	28%
Wrong and punishable	65%
Don't know / Refused	1%

How concerned or not concerned are you that there may be violence between political groups in your area during the upcoming elections?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very concerned	52%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Not too concerned	9%
Not at all concerned	7%
Don't know / Refused	2%

Majority say they would give preference to candidates or parties that reject violence.

A 54% majority of Nigerians say that if a candidate or party were to sign a pledge not to engage in violence during the election process, it would increase the likelihood they would vote for the party or candidate.

Would your likelihood of voting for a party or candidate increase, decrease, or not change if the candidate or party signed a pledge not to engage in violence during the election process?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Increase	54%
Decrease	15%
Not change	25%
Don't know / Refused	6%

Renouncing violence is even more important among those most likely to show up at the polls.

If we divide registered voters into two camps, those who are registered to vote and very likely to vote in the upcoming elections and those who, while registered, are less likely to vote in the April polls, we see that election violence is of greater concern among those most likely to vote. Eighty-six percent of most likely voters are very or somewhat concerned about election violence, compared to 79% of registered but less likely voters.

What is more, those who are most likely to turn out to vote are even more likely to report they would be more likely to vote for candidates or parties that reject violence. Nearly six in ten (58%) of those who are most likely to turn out to the polls say they are more likely to vote for a candidate or party that signs a pledge not to engage in violence, while only half (50%) of registered voters who are less likely to vote say the same thing.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND NGOS IN THE ELECTION PROCESS

Nearly all respondents think political parties are necessary to Nigerian democracy, but only half think they are *very* necessary. Belief in the need for political parties is highest among those who think political parties have clear proposals to confront the challenges facing the country and those who believe parties effectively communicate their ideals to the public.

Public awareness of the activities of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Nigeria is low. Nevertheless, NGOs are regarded favorably by most, and a majority wants Nigerian NGOs to play a role in the election process. What is more, those most familiar with the activities of NGOs in Nigeria are likely to say NGOs are very necessary and want to see them play a role in the elections. This fact suggests that NGOs will become even more highly regarded as their work expands and more people become familiar with them.

Awareness of international government and NGO activities in the field of elections is also not widespread, but those familiar with such activities believe their results are positive and beneficial to the Nigerian people.

Political parties are important to Nigerian democracy.

Half of Nigerians (49%) firmly believe that political parties are crucial to Nigerian democracy and say they are very necessary. An additional 36% believe political parties are somewhat necessary. However, one in ten Nigerians are less convinced of the need for political parties and believe that political parties are not too (10%) or not at all (2%) necessary for democracy in Nigeria.

How necessary are political parties for democracy in Nigeria?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very necessary	49%
Somewhat necessary	36%
Not too necessary	10%
Not at all necessary	2%
Don't know / Refused	3%

Parties are moderately effective in communicating their ideas...

While six in ten Nigerians believe that political parties are at least somewhat effective in communicating their ideas and principles to the Nigerian public, few believe that parties are very effective (12%) at this. Instead, the plurality believes parties are only somewhat effective (49%) at such communication. Further, more than three in ten believe parties are not too effective (26%) or not at all effective (9%) at communicating their ideas to the Nigerian public.

How effective do you think political parties in Nigeria are in representing their ideas and principles to the Nigerian public?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very effective	12%
Somewhat effective	49%
Not too effective	26%
Not at all effective	9%
Don't know / Refused	4%

...But only some parties are thought to have clear proposals.

When asked whether most, some, or none of the major political parties in Nigeria have clear proposals to address the issues facing the country, a solid majority (63%) respond that only some major parties do. Only 14% think most major parties have clear proposals to address the issues facing the country. Slightly more (17%) think that no major parties have clear proposals.

In your opinion, do most, some, or none of the major political parties in Nigeria have clear proposals to address the issues facing the country?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Most have clear proposals	14%
Some have clear proposals	63%
None have clear proposals	17%
Don't know / Refused	7%

The ability of candidates to communicate their agendas to the public has a big impact on people's views of political parties' role in the democratic process. A large majority of those who think political parties are very effective in representing their ideas also believe parties are very necessary to Nigerian democracy. Likewise, those who think that parties have clear proposals to address issues facing the country are more likely to believe that political parties are crucial.

Two thirds think political party contributions are motivated by greed.

Two thirds of Nigerians (67%) think that people give financial contributions to political campaigns because they expect something in return. One in ten believe financial contributions are made out of commitment to a party's policies. When asked to choose between these two ends of the spectrum, 15% volunteer that they believe the motivations behind political party contributions are mixed—partially party support and partially the expectation of a direct benefit.

What do you think is the primary motivation of those who contribute financially to political campaigns: because they support the policies being advocated by the party, or because the contributors expect something in return when the party gets into power?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Support party policies	9%
Expect something in return	67%
Both (volunteered)	15%
Don't know / Refused	9%

Majority think NGOs are necessary.

A majority of Nigerians say that NGOs in Nigeria are necessary. Roughly six in ten (63%) say that they find NGOs in Nigeria to be at least somewhat necessary, with more than one third (36%) saying that NGOs are very necessary. In contrast, few Nigerians say that NGOs are not necessary. Only roughly one in ten (11%) say that NGOs are not too or not at all necessary.

In your opinion, how necessary are NGOs in Nigeria?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Very necessary	36%
Somewhat necessary	27%
Not too necessary	8%
Not at all necessary	3%
Don't know / Refused	27%

Awareness of active NGOs is low in Nigeria.

Although Nigerians generally regard NGOs favorably, awareness of the activities of these NGOs is low. When asked if they know of any NGOs that are active in Nigeria, a full quarter (25%) says they are unsure of what an NGO is. Four in ten (42%) are familiar with NGOs but do not know of any NGOs that are active in Nigeria.

Only roughly one quarter (24%) of Nigerians say they know of NGOs that are active in the country.

Do you know of any NGOs that are active in Nigeria?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=2410
Yes	24%
No	42%
Don't know what NGO is	25%
Don't know / Refused	9%

NGOs' work in the field of health is most well known.

Those who are aware of active NGOs in Nigeria were asked, without any prompting, to name the areas these NGOs work on. Nearly three quarters say they know NGOs work on health issues, with 41% citing general health issues or the provision of health services and 31% saying the campaign against HIV/AIDS. Besides health issues, one in ten mention poverty alleviation (10%).

Only 7% are aware of NGOs working on election-related issues.

What issues are these NGOs working on in Nigeria?*	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=562+
Health issues / health services	41%
Campaign against HIV/AIDS	31%
Poverty alleviation	10%
Promoting political awareness/Free and Fair Elections	7%
Trafficking of children and women	7%
Fighting for rights and freedoms	6%
Education	6%
Assistance for those disabled due to accident	3%
Other Issues	13%
No issues	1%
Don't know / Refused	5%

*Asked only of those who say they know of NGOs active in Nigeria
+Totals exceed 100%. Respondents were allowed to give multiple responses.

Majority believe Nigerian NGOs should play a role in Nigeria's election process.

Of Nigerians familiar with NGOs, more say that these organizations should play a role in the election process than say that the government should run the elections without outside input. A solid majority (59%) say that NGOs should play a role in providing oversight and information on the electoral process, while only one quarter (25%) say that the government should be able to administer the elections without outside input.

Do you think Nigerian NGOs should play a role in providing oversight and information on the election process in Nigeria? Or should the government be able to administer the elections without input from other groups in Nigerian society?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=1794*
NGOs should play a role	59%
Government should run elections without outside input	25%
Don't Know/Refused	17%

*Asked only of those who know what an NGO is

Most support a role for Nigerian NGOs in the election process in several different capacities.

Among respondents who say that Nigerian NGOs should play a role in the election process, strong majorities support Nigerian NGOs' participation in the election process both on and leading up to election day. Roughly eight in ten supporters of NGOs' involvement in the election process say that NGOs should place neutral observers at polling stations on election day (83%) or say that NGOs should provide information about the election process to the public (81%).

Given the many reports of election-related violence leading up to the April 2007 elections, it is not surprising that roughly three quarters (77%) say that Nigerian NGOs should play a role in mediating conflict during the election process to reduce election-related violence. Only roughly one in ten (12%) of those who think NGOs should play a part in the election process think that NGOs should not play this role.

A somewhat smaller but still strong majority support the monitoring of political parties' finances by Nigerian NGOs. Roughly seven out of ten (69%) supporters of NGOs' role in the election process say that Nigerian NGOs should monitor the financing of campaigns by political parties and candidates.

Please tell me if Nigerian NGOs should play these roles, if any, in the election process.	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=1345*
➤ Placing neutral observers at polling stations on election day	
Yes	83%
No	8%
Don't Know/Refused	9%
➤ Providing information on the election process to the Nigerian public	
Yes	81%
No	9%
Don't know /Refused	10%
➤ Mediating conflict during the election process to reduce the level of election-related violence	
Yes	77%
No	12%
Don't know /Refused	11%
➤ Monitoring the financing of campaigns by political parties and candidates	
Yes	69%
No	18%
Don't know /Refused	13%
*Asked only of those who know what an NGO is and think Nigerian NGOs should play a role in the election process	

Awareness of the involvement of international NGOs and governments in the 2007 elections is low....

Only about one in three (28%) of those who know what an NGO is are aware that international NGOs and governments have been assisting with the April 2007 elections. The majority (64%) are not aware of such activities.

Are you aware that there are international NGOs and governments assisting with the April 2007 election in Nigeria?	
	FEBRUARY 2007 n=1794*
Yes	28%
No	64%
Don't Know/Refused	8%
*Asked only of those who know what an NGO is	

...But these international activities are regarded positively by those in the know.

An eight in ten majority (79%) of those who are aware that international NGOs and governments have been assisting with the upcoming elections believe that their involvement provides benefits to the Nigerian people. Fewer than one in five (16%) believe that the assistance provided by international NGOs and governments has no effect, and only a handful (3%) believe that such activities are damaging to the people of Nigeria.

In this same vein, nine in ten (90%) of those aware of the fact that international NGOs and governments have been assisting with the elections say that their involvement is positive, with the majority believing that their involvement is very positive. Only a small minority believe that the involvement

of international NGOs and governments is somewhat (6%) or very (1%) negative.

In your opinion, does the assistance provided by these international NGOs and governments assisting with the April 2007 election in Nigeria...?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=477*
Provide benefits to the Nigerian people	79%
Have no effect on the Nigerian people	16%
Are damaging to the Nigerian people	3%
Don't know / Refused	2%

*Asked only of those who know what an NGO is and are aware international NGOs and governments are assisting with 2007 elections

Do you think that international NGOs' involvement in the election process in Nigeria is ...?

	FEBRUARY 2007 n=477*
Very positive	60%
Somewhat positive	30%
Somewhat negative	6%
Very negative	1%
Don't know / Refused	4%

*Asked only of those who know what an NGO is and are aware international NGOs and governments are assisting with 2007 elections

Familiarity breeds respect.

Overall, NGOs in Nigeria have a favorable reputation. What is more, NGOs are most highly regarded among those who know the most about them. Those who say they know of NGOs active in Nigeria are overwhelmingly positive—even more positive than those who know what an NGO is but are not aware of any NGOs active in Nigeria.

Two thirds of those who are familiar with NGOs active in Nigeria believe NGOs are very necessary to Nigeria, compared to roughly one third of those who know what an NGO is but are unfamiliar with the activities of NGOs in Nigeria specifically (68% vs. 35%).

What is more, three quarters of those who are familiar with NGOs in Nigeria believe that Nigerian NGOs should be playing a role in the election process, compared to a smaller majority of those who know what an NGO is but are unaware of NGOs active in Nigeria (77% vs. 53%).

How necessary are NGOs in Nigeria?

	Aware of NGOs Active in Nigeria n=562	Know What NGO is But Not Aware of NGOs Active in Nigeria n=1016
Very necessary	68%	35%
Somewhat necessary	25%	40%
Not too necessary	4%	10%
Not at all necessary	1%	3%
Don't know / Refused	3%	12%

Should Nigerian NGOs play a role in providing oversight and information on the election process?

	Aware of NGOs Active in Nigeria n=562	Know What NGO is But Not Aware of NGOs Active in Nigeria n=1016
NGOs should play a role	77%	53%
Government should run elections without outside input	20%	30%
Don't know / Refused	3%	17%