

QUARTERLY
REPORT



BROADCAST MEDIA COVERAGE OF ELECTION-RELATED POLITICS AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA

JUL-SEP 2024 REPORT



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(July-September 2024 Quarterly Report)

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FOREWORD

The role of the media in the electoral process and general democratic governance is central and essential. In a diverse and dynamic country like Nigeria, it serves as a powerful force that informs, educates and mobilises citizens to participate actively in the democratic process of choosing leaders for political offices. It also serves to scrutinize and hold political officeholders and institutions accountable to citizens.

The content that the media produce and disseminate is important to the extent that it contributes significantly to the management and success or otherwise of the electoral process and democratic governance.

Hence, stakeholder institutions such as civil society conduct media monitoring, which entails collecting and analysing data from related content of media on various platforms – broadcast, print and online.

Professionally conducted media content monitoring is a useful evidence-based approach to assessing the coverage of elections by a country's media. Among other things, it helps to provide a picture of media attention to issues in the elections, the balance in the coverage of election actors and institutions as well as, the emergence and visibility of harmful content such as fake news and hate speech. It is also useful as a mechanism for an early warning system (to generate red flags for potential challenges and how to mitigate them) as well as shaping stakeholder perception of various elements of the electoral process such as participation and trust.

Building on past experiences, our organisation, the Centre for Media and Society (CEMESO), created a Media Monitoring initiative, with a well-trained and oriented team, which took off in 2022. The initiative focused on broadcasting platforms. Hence, the monitoring activity was concentrated on the contents of radio and television stations selected across the country. The coverage period was segmented into pre-election period, election days and post-election period.

This report presents the findings of the monitoring exercise for a particular quarter during the electoral process. It contains valuable insights and recommendations on the coverage provided by the broadcast media during the period. We trust it will be a useful resource for media professionals, media owners, regulators, policymakers, and local and international development organisations who are involved in supporting the development of a free, independent and pluralistic media which provides fair, accurate, inclusive and credible coverage of the electoral process in Nigeria.

*Dr Akin Akingbulu,
Executive Director*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our organisation has a long history of monitoring media content during Nigeria's elections. Recognising the importance of teamwork in this endeavour, we have established a dedicated media monitoring team made up of dedicated persons who contributed immensely to this report.

We appreciate the remarkable efforts of our media monitors, Aminat Aminu, Babatunde Bakare, Bisola Adeyemo, Ifunanya Ugwumba, Javan Binam, Nurudeen Fasasi, Omotola Badejo and Qudus Adegoke. They diligently tracked the broadcasts and coded them for credible analysis. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the Monitor Supervisor, Zainab Akodu, who ensured prompt data capture and accuracy. We also appreciate the efforts of our Writer/Analyst, Rotimi Akinola, who interpreted the data and provided enriching analyses for this document.

Furthermore, we wish to thank the European Union for their financial support towards our media monitoring activity and the publication of this report.

MANAGEMENT

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BVAS - Bimodal Voter Accreditation System
CEMESO - Centre for Media and Society
CSO - Civil Society Organisation
EU SDGN II - European Union Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria Programme Phase Two
FBO - Faith-Based Organisation
FM - Frequency Modulation
INEC - Independent National Electoral Commission
IPC - International Press Council
IReV - INEC Result Viewing portal
LCDA - Local Council Development Area
LG - Local Government
LGA - Local Government Area
MDA - Ministries, Departments and Agencies
NBC - National Broadcasting Commission
NGO - Non-Governmental Organisation
NOA - National Orientation Agency
OAP - On-Air Personality
PSG - Political Support Group
PWDs - Persons with Disabilities
REC - Resident Electoral Commissioner
TV - Television
AA - Action Alliance
AAC - African Action Congress
ADC - African Democratic Congress
ADP - Action Democratic Party
APC - All Progressives Congress
APGA - All Progressives Grand Alliance
APM - Allied Peoples Movement
APP - Action Peoples Party
BP - Boot Party
LP - Labour Party
NNPP - New Nigeria Peoples Party
NRM - National Rescue Movement
PDP - Peoples Democratic Party
PRP - Peoples Redemption Party
SDP - Social Democratic Party
YPP - Young Progressives Party
ZLP - Zenith Labour Party

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Actor: A stakeholder in the electoral and general democratic process who is mentioned or used as the source of a broadcast.

Balance: The journalistic quality of a broadcast which is measured in the context of the variety of perspectives, sources and fairness.

Broadcast media: Media that transmit audio and video content to the public via radio waves, including radio and television stations.

Broadcast: Radio or television content.

Broadcasting: The transmission of programmes or information by radio or television.

Campaign activity/strategy: Tactics and approaches used by political candidates or parties to persuade, mobilise and engage voters during an election campaign, including policy development, message framing, voter outreach, fundraising, media engagement and 'get-out-the-vote' efforts.

Campaign promise: A commitment or pledge made by a political candidate or party during an election campaign, outlining their policy goals and intentions if elected.

Campaign: An organised effort by political parties and other relevant entities to win elections and influence public opinion.

Candidate: An individual who is running for public office in an election.

Citizen participation: Active involvement of individuals and communities in the political, social and economic life of their society, especially regarding protesting, petitioning, advocating and engaging in public discourse.

Corporate actor: An organisation or entity with stakes in the electoral and democratic process.

Discussion programme: Media content revolving around discourses about specific topics, often involving multiple participants.

Election administration: The process of managing, organising and overseeing all aspects of an electoral process from voter registration and education to vote casting, counting and tabulation.

Election observers: Independent individuals or groups who monitor the election process to ensure that it is free, fair and transparent.

Election officials: Individuals responsible for managing and overseeing the election process, including the conduct of voting, counting and collation of results. This is the purview of INEC officials.

Election petition: A formal complaint or challenge filed by a candidate, political party or voter alleging irregularities, fraud or violations of election laws.

Embassy: A diplomatic mission representing the government of one country in another country, responsible for conducting official diplomatic relations, promoting cooperation and providing consular services to citizens of the sending country.

Extreme/hate speech: Speech that incites hatred, violence or discrimination against individuals or groups based on their race, religion, gender, political affiliation or other characteristics.

Faith-based organisation: A non-governmental organisation centred around religious beliefs, values or practices, often engaging in charitable, social or advocacy work in line with their religious mission.

Fake news: False or misleading information presented as news, often intended to deceive or manipulate public opinion.

Foreign actor: An individual, organization, or government from another country, potentially influencing or interfering in the domestic affairs, elections, or democratic governance of a target country.

Government agency: An organisation or department within a government responsible for carrying out specific functions, providing services or enforcing regulations in a particular area.

High commission: A diplomatic mission representing the government of one country in another country, specifically when both countries are members of the British Commonwealth.

Inclusion: The practice of ensuring that people of diverse backgrounds and abilities are represented and have equal opportunities.

Individual actor: A single stakeholder in the electoral and democratic process.

Instance: The frequency of usage or mention of an actor or theme in a broadcast.

Interest group: An organised group of individuals sharing common concerns, goals or objectives, advocating for their interests and influencing public policy and decision-making processes.

Inter-party conflict: Disagreements, disputes or competition between different political parties, often arising from ideological, policy or personal differences.

Interview programme: A media content format where journalists or anchors ask questions of actors or sources to gather information or opinion.

Intra-party conflict: Disagreements, disputes or competition within a single political party, often arising from ideological, policy or personal differences among its members.

Language: The quality of dialogue measured in the context of the deployment of extreme rhetoric.

Misinformation: False, inaccurate, or misleading information spread often with the intent to deceive or manipulate.

News report: A factual account of recent events, typically presented by journalists on television or the radio.

Non-governmental organization (NGO): A non-profit, independent organisation operating outside of government structures, often focused on social, environmental or humanitarian issues, and working to influence public policy, promote awareness or provide services.

Non-state actors: Violent individuals or groups who are not affiliated with the government or other official institutions.

Party agents: Representatives of political parties who are present at polling units and other stages of the election process to ensure that their party's interests are protected.

Party chieftains: High-ranking members or leaders of political parties who hold significant influence and power within the party.

Political party: An organised group of people with similar political aims and opinions, seeking to influence public policy by getting their candidates elected to public office.

Political party: Organised group of individuals and supporters sharing common ideological, policy or political goals, participating in the electoral process and governance by contesting elections, advocating for their agenda and holding elected office.

Political support group (PSG): An organised group of individuals providing support, resources or assistance to a political candidate, party or cause, often through volunteering, fundraising or campaigning.

Professional body: An organisation that represents and regulates a specific profession or occupation.

Programme typology: The classification of programmes based on their inherent characteristics, such as their objectives, structure and content.

Radio station: A media organisation which deploys radio technology as its primary mode of content distribution.

Radio: A form of media and sound communication by radio waves, usually through the transmission of programmes from single broadcast stations to multitudes of individual listeners equipped with radio receivers.

Rule of law: The principle that all individuals, including government officials and politicians, are subject to and accountable under the same laws, which are clear, publicly accessible and enforced fairly.

Rural area: Geographical region characterised by low population density and limited infrastructure, often facing unique challenges and opportunities in access to services, economic development and political representation.

Security agency: A government agency responsible for maintaining public safety, law enforcement and national security.

Security: Reportage and discussions around the safety of the polity, and usually tied to the role of security agencies in the electoral process and broader democratic governance.

Sociocultural group: A group of individuals sharing common social, cultural or ethnic backgrounds, often organised around shared values, traditions or identities.

Source: An actor quoted or interviewed in a broadcast.

Television station: A media organisation which deploys television technology as its primary mode of content distribution.

Television: Broadcast media technology based on a system for converting audiovisual signals into electrical signals, transmitting them by radio or other means, and displaying them electronically on the screens of receiving devices also called 'television' or TV for short.

Thematic emphasis: The focus on specific themes or topics within a piece of content or a series of programmes.

Transparency and accountability: Principles ensuring that political institutions, processes and actors are open, honest and responsible to the public through accessible information and mechanisms holding them accountable for their actions, decisions and performance.

Underage voting: The act of allowing individuals who are below the legal voting age to vote in an election.

Urban area: A densely populated, built-up geographical region with a high concentration of infrastructure, services and economic activities, often serving as political, cultural and

economic hubs and presenting distinct challenges and opportunities in governance, development and social inclusion.

Usage: The deployment of an actor as a source of a broadcast.

Voter education: Providing potential voters with the necessary information to make an informed choice at the polling booth.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the 2024 off-cycle governorship elections in Edo and Ondo states approached, the Centre for Media and Society (CEMESO) continued the implementation of its comprehensive media monitoring initiative aimed at evaluating the coverage of election-related politics and democratic governance by broadcast stations in Nigeria. The analysis detailed in this report focuses on radio and television content, with the objectives of promoting ethical journalism standards, combating misinformation and enhancing the representation of underrepresented demographics.

Most (70%) of the radio broadcasts monitored from July to September 2024 were presented as news reports, with discussions and interviews making up 23% and 7%, respectively. The adherence to journalistic balance was notable, with 83% of broadcasts maintaining this principle. Coverage of key issues included citizen participation (21.9%), election administration (18.3%) and campaign activities/strategies (11.2%). However, coverage of women's, PWD and youth issues was minimal at 1.3%, 0.7% and 0.4% respectively. Also, females, youth and PWDs were not as visible as men, adults and non-PWD actors.

PDP was the most frequently cited political party, representing 37.6% of sources and 36% of mentions, followed by APC and LP. Security agencies, owing largely to their role in August's 'End Bad Government in Nigeria' protests, were the most visible actors, comprising 49% of sources. LCDAs and LGAs had significantly lower visibility compared to the higher levels of government.

Similarly, television programming was predominantly news-oriented, with 72.2% of content in this format. The principle of balance was upheld in 95% of broadcasts, with one instance of extreme language noted. Key themes mirrored those in radio, with election administration (20.77%), citizen participation (18.24%) and campaign activities/strategies (13.59%) leading the reportage and discussions. Coverage of women's, youth and PWD issues was, however, limited.

APC emerged as the most featured political party, followed closely by PDP and LP. Security agencies dominated the government agency category, accounting for 58% of sources, while local government entities were less visible compared to higher levels of government. NGOs were more prominent than other interest groups and uncategorised foreign actors received more attention than international NGOs and embassies.

BACKGROUND

With the 2024 off-cycle governorship elections in Edo and Ondo states in mind, CEMESO, funded by EU-SDGN II, continued its media monitoring effort to evaluate the coverage of election-related politics and democratic governance by broadcast stations in Nigeria.

Through its evaluation of the broadcast media, CEMESO aimed to foster adherence to ethical and professional journalism standards while discouraging the spread of misinformation, the use of extreme language, and biased reporting. Additionally, CEMESO sought to promote the inclusion of underrepresented demographics, such as women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PWDs)."

METHODOLOGY

The initiative focused on relevant programmes broadcast by carefully selected radio and television stations. These stations were chosen based on:

- Audience reach
- Location
- Political programming
- Digital footprint and
- Ownership

A dedicated team, based in Lagos, monitored and analysed content accessed through online and traditional distribution channels. Inaccessible stations were replaced using the criteria stated above, and their data are included in the analyses crafted within the period the stations were accessible.

A total of 2861 contents from 26 radio and 16 television stations were analysed. The dataset for the period under review comprised 1112 contents from the radio stations and 1749 contents from the television stations.

The following radio stations were monitored:

- Adaba FM Akure - Ondo state [Privately owned]
- Arewa Radio - Kano state [Privately owned]
- Boss Radio Owerri - Imo state [Privately owned]
- Breeze FM Akure - Ondo state [Privately owned]
- Bridge FM Asaba - Delta state [Privately owned]
- Crest FM Akure - Ondo state [Privately owned]
- Gotel Radio Yola - Adamawa state [Privately owned]
- Grace FM Lokoja - Kogi state [Privately owned]

- Independent Television Radio (ITV Radio) Benin - Edo state [Privately owned]
- Inform Me Radio Benin - Edo state [Privately owned]
- Invicta FM - Kaduna state [Privately owned]
- Jay FM Jos - Plateau state [Privately owned]
- Kapital FM (Operated by Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, FRCN, Abuja) - Abuja [Government-owned]
- KU FM Benin - Edo state [Privately owned]
- NAS FM Yola - Adamawa state [Privately owned]
- New Cruse FM Ikere-Ekiti - Ekiti state [Privately owned]
- Nigeria Info Port Harcourt - Rivers state [Privately owned]
- Osun State Broadcasting Corporation (OSBC Radio) - Osun state [Government-owned]
- Peoples' FM Yenagoa - Bayelsa state [Privately owned]
- Positive FM (Operated by Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, FRCN, Akure) - Ondo state [Government-owned]
- Radio Rivers - Rivers state [Government-owned]
- Sapientia FM Onitsha - Anambra state [Privately owned]
- Speed FM Benin - Edo state [Privately owned]
- Splash FM Ibadan - Oyo state [Privately owned]
- Super FM Benin - Edo state [Privately owned]
- Urban Radio - Enugu state [Privately owned]

The following television stations were monitored:

- Adamawa Television (ATV) Yola - Adamawa [Privately owned]
- Africa Independent Television (AIT) - Network [Privately owned]
- Akwa Ibom Broadcasting Corporation (AKBC TV) - Akwa Ibom [Government owned]
- Anambra Broadcasting Service Television (ABS TV) - Anambra state [Government owned]
- Arise Television (Arise TV) - Network [Privately owned]
- Channels Television (Channels TV) - Network [Privately owned]
- Gotel Television (Gotel TV) Yola - Adamawa [Privately owned]
- Independent Television (ITV) Benin - Edo state [Privately owned]
- Kwara State Television (KSTV) - Kwara state [Government-owned]
- Lagos Television (LTV) - Lagos state [Government-owned]
- Liberty Television (Liberty TV) - Abuja [Privately owned]
- Nigerian Television Authority International (NTAi) - Network [Government owned]
- Ogun Television (OGTV) - Ogun state [Government owned]
- Ondo State Radiovision Corporation (OSRC TV) - Ondo [Government owned]
- Silverbird Television (STV) - Lagos state [Privately owned]
- Television Continental (TVC News) - Network [Privately owned]

The monitoring endeavour sought to answer the following questions:

- What did the broadcast media talk about?
- Who were the actors the broadcast media gave coverage to?
- What was the quality of reporting when measured in terms of balance?
- Were there traces of extreme language in the radio and television broadcasts?

The findings are presented in three distinct sections. The first segment provides an evaluation of radio stations' performance in covering the issues. The subsequent section offers parallel analyses of television stations. The final section harmonises the insights from radio and television stations to present a combined assessment of broadcast media coverage of election-related politics and democratic governance in Nigeria during the period under review.

PART I

CONTENT OF POLITICAL PROGRAMMES ON RADIO

Broadcasts were systematically monitored across the selected radio stations from July to September 2024. The resulting analyses are structured into four primary categories: programme typology, thematic emphasis, programme quality and inclusion. A similar presentation format applies to subsequent sections.

PROGRAMME TYPOLOGY ON RADIO

A total of 1112 news reports, discussions and interviews were monitored on the selected radio stations.

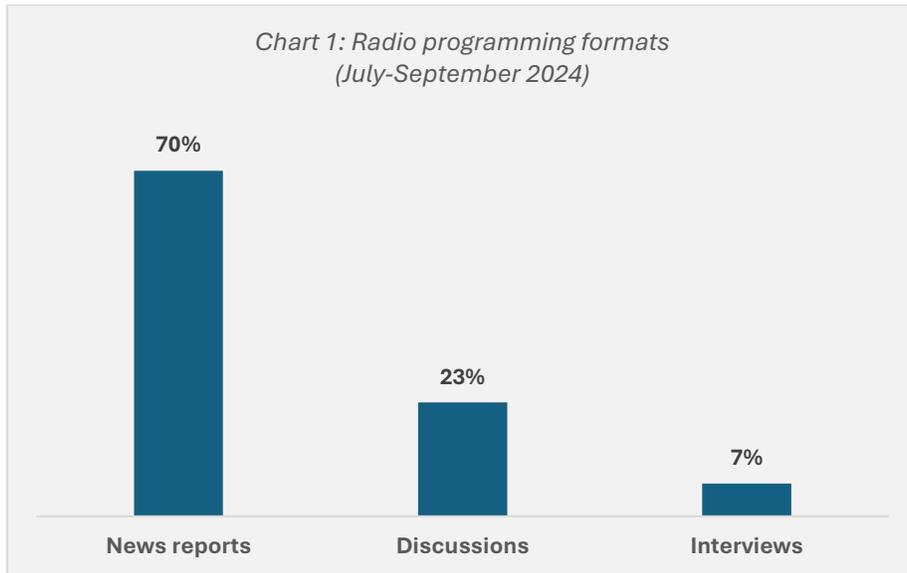
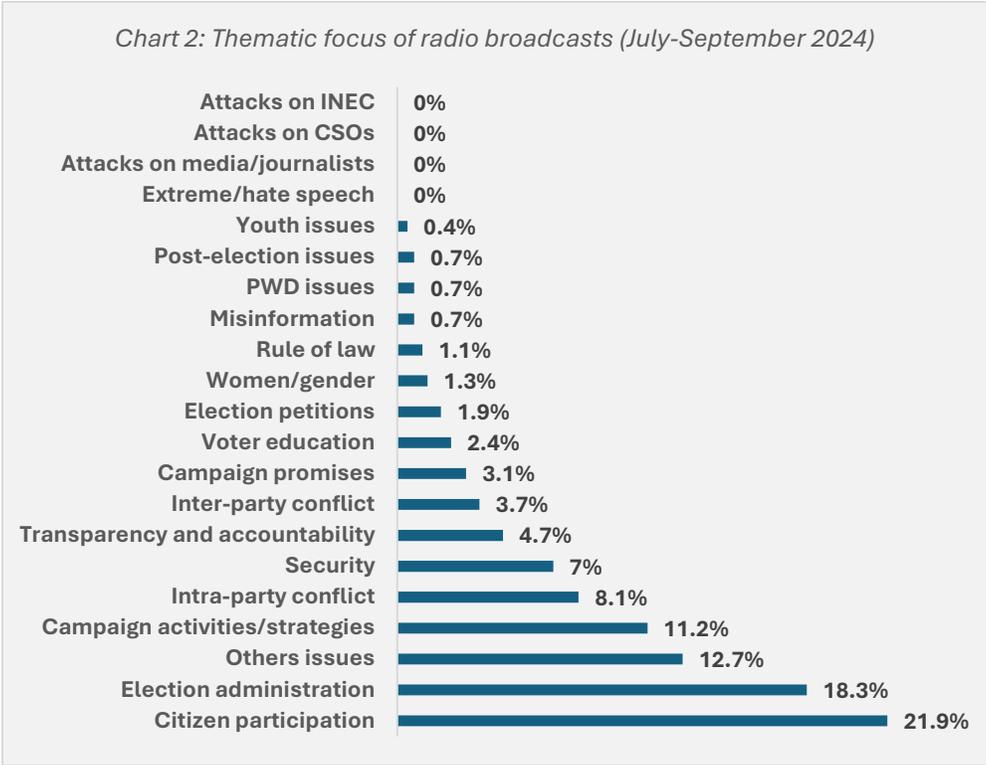


Chart 1 shows that 70% (781 in 1112 contents) of the broadcasts analysed during the period under review were packaged as news reports. The other radio broadcasts were packaged as discussions (23%; 257 contents) and interviews (7%; 74 stories).

THEMATIC EMPHASIS ON RADIO

The thematic emphasis or thematic focus highlights identified topics or issues that dominated the monitored radio broadcasts.



According to Chart 2, citizen participation was the most reported and discussed issue, accounting for 21.9% (292 in 1336 instances) of the thematic focus areas. Transparency and accountability constituted 4.7% (63 instances) of the coverage while the rule of law received 1.1% (15 instances) of the coverage.

- “Senator Anyin enjoins Nigerians to shun protest,” ITV Radio reported on July 24, focusing on an impending citizen participation in an anti-government protest many say was necessary because the government was failing at fulfilling its campaign promises.
- In another instance focusing on citizen participation, information minister Muhammed Eedris “has today explained why the federal government has kicked against the nationwide protest slated to begin on the 29th of July 2024,” Sapienta FM reported on July 24.
- “A senior advocate of Nigeria, Femi Falana, says the government should call the organisers of the protest and address their demands before August 1st instead of

making mere promises, and cautions young people to be strategic in their planned protest,” Crest FM reported on July 24.

- The presidential candidate of the Labour Party in the 2023 general elections, Peter Obi, “expressed his support for the constitutional right of Nigerians to protest,” Invicta FM reported on July 30.
- Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) Senator George Akume “has expressed his concerns about the nationwide protest, saying that it may be hijacked by hoodlums to cause mayhem; the National Assembly has today called on Nigerians and supporters of the nationwide protest to shelve the protest for the peace of the country,” Sapienta FM reported on July 31.
- “Court restricts nationwide protest in Lagos,” ITV Radio reported on July 31.
- “The Supreme Court has affirmed the financial autonomy of Nigeria’s 774 local governments. In its unanimous judgement on Thursday, the seven-member panel of the Supreme Court upheld the suit brought by the federal government to strengthen the independence of local governments in the country,” Grace FM reported on July 11, focusing on transparency and accountability.
- In a similar instance, human rights activist Femi Falana has “called on Nigerians to be prepared to monitor the activities of local government officials in the wake of the Supreme Court judgement,” Super FM reported on July 12.
- In an instance focusing on the rule of law, “A state high court in Port Harcourt has issued an ex-parte order restricting the Chief Judge of Rivers state, Chibuzor Amadi, from dealing with Martins Amaewhule and 24 others as members of the Rivers State House of Assembly, pending the hearing and determination of a motion,” Nigeria Info reported on July 7.
- “Amid the political crisis in Rivers state, Femi Falana faulted Monday’s sitting of the Martin Amaewhule-led assembly, adding that the Court of Appeal ruled on the jurisdiction of the state high court and not on the status of Martin Amaewhule and the others,” Nigeria Info also reported on July 7. The lawmakers stirred controversy after defecting from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

- In another instance focusing on the rule of law, the Attorney-General of the Federation (AGF), Lateef Fagbemi, “cautions security agencies against detaining suspects beyond stipulated periods,” Kapital FM reported on July 26.
- “Violence disrupts protest across states in Nigeria,” ITV Radio reported on August 1, presenting an instance of the coverage of citizen participation issues during the period under review.
- In a similar vein, “IGP charges security agencies to be alert as nationwide protest commences,” Kapital FM reported on August 1.
- Also on August 1, OSBC Radio reported that although the protests were peaceful in Osun state, businesses were mostly closed for fear of the type of violent demonstrations witnessed in parts of Abuja, Bayelsa, Kano and Katsina.
- In another instance, “Confederation of APC support groups urge Nigerians to shun violent protests and choose dialogue,” Kapital FM reported on August 8.
- Also, “The presidential candidate of the Labour Party in the 2023 poll, Peter Obi, has opined that the nation-wide protests that ended on August 10 were a call on Nigerian leaders to reflect deeply on the growing poverty in the country and take steps to address it,” Boss Radio reported on August 12.
- “A federal high court sitting in Abuja has ruled that 10 persons involved in the ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protest be remanded in Kuje Correctional Centre,” Sapientia FM reported on September 3, focusing on citizen participation.
- “Court grants N10 million bail to arrested ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protesters,” Positive FM reported on September 11.
- While analysing the Edo state governorship election on the September 18 edition of Peoples FM discussion programme ‘Neighbourhood Watch,’ guest Shehu Sani said the authorities should prosecute eligible voters who refuse to vote. A caller said that the judiciary should be held responsible for the voting process in Nigeria. The session was focused on the rule of law in the context of elections.

Election administration made up 18.3% (244 instances) of the thematic focus areas while voter education received 2.4% (32 instances) of the coverage.

- In an instance focusing on election administration, “Off-cycle elections: INEC chairman urges newly inducted RECs to discharge their duties duly for a seamless electoral process,” OSBC Radio reported on July 1.
- “INEC begins accreditation of observers for Edo and Ondo governorship elections, says 153 applications received from interested organisations,” Arewa Radio reported on July 16, also focusing on election administration.
- In addition, “INEC expresses capability to conduct local government elections if the law allows, promises improved conduct during Edo and Ondo guber polls,” ITV Radio reported on July 25.
- In an instance focused on voter education, “Ahead of the September 21 governorship election in Edo state, INEC has urged young female voters to vote for a candidate who will brighten their future with people-orientated programmes and policies,” Splash FM reported on July 23.
- “INEC has released the final register of voters for the upcoming governorship elections in Edo and Ondo states,” Arewa Radio reported on August 5, focusing on election administration.
- In a related instance, “INEC has said that there are 77,914 newly registered voters for the Edo and Ondo elections,” Crest FM reported on August 5.
- In another instance, “Anambra State Independent Electoral Commission has announced Saturday 28 September 2024 as the date for the local government election in the state,” Speed FM reported on August 13.
- Also, “Edo guber election: INEC says that over 50 per cent of new PVCs have been collected in Edo state ahead of the election,” Breeze FM reported on August 28.
- In an instance focused on voter education, KU FM reported on September 23 that “INEC in Edo state has urged registered and eligible voters to collect their PVCs from any of the collection centres, advising them to channel PVC errors/issues to INEC officials at the centres; the commission also advised voters to come out en masse in September and vote for their preferred candidates”.
- “INEC chairman Yakubu Mahmood said the commission has recorded a total of 2.6 million registered voters for Edo state governorship election,” KU FM reported September 11.

- “INEC announces the commission’s readiness to begin the deployment of election materials for the Edo state,” Invicta FM reported on September 19, focusing on election administration.
- “EFCC, police crackdown on, apprehend three persons over alleged vote buying during Edo gubernatorial election,” Bridge FM reported on September 21. Bridge FM also reported on September 22 that “APC leads as Edo guber poll result collation is underway”.
- “INEC announces Monday Okpebholo as Edo governor-elect as Edo government chief of staff alleges manipulation” by the electoral body, Kapital FM reported on September 23.
- “INEC issues certificate of return to Edo governor-elect Monday Okpebholo,” Positive FM reported on September 26.
- “LP caucus of the House of Reps condemns the outcome of the Edo guber election, expresses concern over vote-buying, voter intimidation, other irregularities,” Kapital FM reported on September 26.
- During the September 21 edition of KU FM programme ‘Dialogue,’ journalists in the studio educated voters on how to cast their votes and advised them to go out en masse to exercise their franchise. The broadcast was focused on voter education.

Whereas campaign activities/strategies received 11.2% (149 instances) of the coverage, campaign promises accounted for 3.1% (41 instances) of the coverage.

- “Edo deputy governor Godwin Omobayo canvasses support for PDP in Igara, Edo state,” ITV Radio reported on July 5, focusing on campaign activities/strategies ahead of the September 21 off-cycle governorship election in the state.
- In another instance, “The All Progressives Congress (APC) has inaugurated a 362-member national campaign council for the Edo governorship election,” NAS FM reported on July 19.
- “Edo YPP guber candidate Paul Okungbowa canvasses for support, hints on plan for aged people and PWDs,” ITV Radio reported on July 5, focusing on campaign promises.

- “The candidate of the PDP for the Edo state governorship election, Asue Ighodalo, has said that his administration would deploy modern technology to tackle the issue of insecurity in the state if given the mandate,” Arewa Radio reported on July 14, also focusing on campaign promises.
- During the discussion segment of the July 30 edition of Super FM programme ‘What The Honourable Has To Say,’ analysts discussed the plans of Dr Dennis Akeroghe, the governorship candidate of the National Rescue Movement, to address insecurity, public safety and combat crime in the light of a reportedly growing rate of kidnapping in some parts of Edo state. The session was focused on campaign promises.
- “Edo YPP guber candidate, Paul Okungbowa canvasses for support ahead of the Edo guber election,” ITV Radio reported on August 2, focusing on campaign activities/strategies.
- In another instance, “Ondo PDP inaugurates 500-member campaign council ahead of guber election,” Positive FM reported on August 15.
- Also, “Political affairs analyst Paul Alelome decries dearth of issue-based campaigns ahead of the Edo guber election,” Kapital FM reported on August 30.
- During the August 13 edition of Super FM’s programme ‘What The Honourable Has To Say,’ analysts discussed the security, economy and education manifestos of PDP and LP governorship candidates, Asue Ighodalo and Olumide Akpata, in Edo state. The discussion was focused on their campaign promises.
- In another instance focused on campaign promises, Super FM analysts discussed an electoral promise by Edo APC candidate Monday Okphebolo, who said he would return 10 private properties that were allegedly seized by the Godwin Obaseki-led government to their owners.
- “PRP guber candidate Patience Ndidi Key campaigns in Edo, promises better employment and welfare; urges residents to shun biases and vote for a competent candidate,” Positive FM reported on September 11, focusing on campaign activities/strategies and campaign promises.
- In a related instance, “Edo guber election: INEC has called on all political parties to suspend campaign activities after midnight today,” OSBC Radio reported on September 19, focusing on campaign activities/strategies.

Intra-party conflict and inter-party conflict represented 8.1% (108 instances) and 3.7% (49 instances) of the coverage while election petitions received 1.9% (26 instances) of the coverage.

- “The New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) in Kano state has rejected the call for the suspension of Governor Abba Yusuf by the National Executive Committee, saying that it is against the party’s constitution; it also struck out the dismissal of the presidential candidate of the party in the 2023 presidential election, Sen. Rabiw Kwankwaso,” Sapienta FM reported on July 8, focusing on intra-party conflict.
- During the discussion segment of the July 9 edition of Nigeria Info programme ‘Morning Crossfire,’ former PDP spokesperson Kola Ologbodiyan spoke on Governor Siminalayi Fubara’s comment on zero support from PDP members. Kola said that the party had not related with Governor Fubara over his issue with his predecessor and FCT minister Nyesom Wike. The session was focused on intra-party conflict.
- The PDP national working committee “has suspended the National Vice Chairman South-South, Dan Obi,” Urban Radio reported on July 10, also focusing on intra-party conflict.
- In a related instance, Super FM reported on July 11 that Dan Obi dismissed a group called ‘Edo State PDP Youth League’ that demanded penalties for his alleged anti-party activities, saying they were unknown to the party.”
- Also, on July 28, Splash FM reported that Kenneth Okonkwo, a former spokesperson for the Labour Party Presidential Campaign Council, had announced his departure from the party.
- In an instance focusing on inter-party conflict, “Defected Rivers lawmaker shut down Rivers Consolidated Revenue Account,” ITV Radio reported on July 15. The lawmakers defected from the ruling PDP to the APC.
- In another instance, “Governors elected on the platform of the PDP rose from their meeting in Enugu on Wednesday, warning against any presidential interference in the forthcoming off-season governorship elections in Edo and Ondo states. They also denounced what they described as the abysmal and lacklustre performance of the APC-led federal government,” Adaba FM reported on July 18.
- Also, Radio Rivers reported on July 22 that the APC-led presidency claimed that supporters of Peter Obi, a prominent member of the Labour Party, were the

masterminds behind the planned nationwide protests against the Bola Ahmed Tinubu government.

- In an instance focused on election petitions, “The Court of Appeal in Abuja has affirmed Usman Ododo as the elected governor of Kogi State, dismissing the petition filed by the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and its candidate, Muritala Ajaka,” New Cruse reported on July 11.
- “Bayelsa election petition: Court affirms the election of Governor Duoye Diri,” ITV Radio reported on July 18.
- On August 8, New Cruse FM reported that “The State High Court sitting in Gboko, Benue State on Thursday restrained the PDP from conducting the forthcoming congress scheduled for Saturday, August 10, 2024 in six local governments. The restraining order was signed by Justice J. M. Ayua in a motion ex parte brought before the court. The applicants in the suit were Senator Orker Jev, Terseer Tumba, Aondoyina Grace, Tergun Tsegba, and 13 others. According to the applicant’s counsels, F.T. Anongo and G.M. Tyoh prayed for a restraining order preventing the party from proceeding with local government congresses until it determined the reason the ward congress scheduled for July 27, 2024, did not take place.” The applicants and respondents are PDP members; hence, the report represented an instance of an intra-party conflict leading to an election petition.
- In another instance focusing on intra-party conflict, Boss Radio reported on August 12 that “The ruling APC has begun consultations with the leadership of the Senate to facilitate the reinstatement of Senator Ali Ndume as the chief whip. The move comes one month after Ndume was relieved of the position for repeated criticism of President Bola Tinubu and the ruling party”.
- Also, South-South leader and former federal information commissioner Edwin Clark “has asked PDP national chairman Umar Illiya to show FCT minister Nyesom Wike out of the party,” Crest FM reported on August 20. Wike, a PDP member who holds a position in the APC government, was said to be involved in anti-party activities.
- In an instance focused on inter-party conflict, “Rivers APC chairman Tony Okocha has accused the state government of sponsoring attacks on its secretariat,” Nigeria Info reported on August 7. The PDP-led state government reportedly responded by absolving itself of blame for any form of violence in the state.

- Also, “Edo guber election: Edo APC accuses PDP-led state government of undermining the September 21 ballot,” Breeze FM reported on August 28.
- “PDP has called on FCT minister and former Rivers state governor Nyesom Wike to desist from anti-party activities,” Sapientia FM reported, focusing on internal party wranglings in the PDP.
- “Plateau APC confident of victory in forthcoming LGA election, laments state speaker’s alleged refusal to swear in party members according to court order,” Kapital FM reported on September 3, focusing on a potential conflict in the APC in Kogi state.
- “Enugu LP member Prof. Paul Nnachi files suit seeking to end the tenure of Enugu LP executives, says it is illegal,” Kapital FM reported on September 5.
- “North Central APC says it will appeal Monday’s ruling in the federal high court where its suit for the removal of Ganduje as APC national chairman was dismissed,” OSBC Radio reported on September 9.
- “APC, PDP in war of words over alleged plot to rig forthcoming Edo governorship election,” Gotel Radio reported on September 3, focusing on inter-party conflict.
- In another instance, “APC renews call for the arrest and prosecution of Edo speaker Blessing Agbebaku over alleged involvement in election violence,” Super FM reported on September 3. Agbebaku was a member of the PDP.
- “PDP Campaign Organization in Ondo state has accused the governor and APC candidate Lucky Aiyedatiwa of plotting to compromise the upcoming governorship election by employing a private security firm to rig the process,” Gotel Radio reported on September 5.
- “The Federal High Court sitting in Abuja, on Friday, declined to compel INEC to conduct by-election to fill seats of 27 members of the Rivers State House of Assembly who defected to APC. The suit was filed by APP,” Adaba FM reported on September 20.
- In an instance focused on an election petition, “The Court of Appeal in Abuja has dismissed an appeal by Edo PDP aspirants Arthur Esene and Anselm Ojezua seeking to disqualify the party’s candidate governorship candidate Asue Ighodalo,” KU FM reported on September 6.

- “PDP rejects Edo guber election result, seeks legal redress,” Positive FM reported on September 24.

Security issues made up 7% (93 instances) of the coverage. Attacks on the media, INEC and CSOs were not featured.

- “Ahead of the Edo governorship election, Edo state police public relations officer SP Chidi Nwabuzor has advised parents to caution their children, especially the youths, to desist from involving in any criminal activities during and after the election,” KU FM reported on July 19, focusing on election-related security issues. “They should stay away from political thuggery because security officers will not spare anyone caught with illegal weapons,” the police spokesperson was reported to have said. The report was aired as part of a discussion segment on the radio programme ‘Dialogue’.
- In another instance, “The Edo state commissioner of police Funsho Adeboye has vowed to arrest and bring to book the hoodlums suspected to be political thugs involved in a reported shooting incident along Airport Road, Benin City,” Super FM reported on July 19.
- “Explosions rock APP secretariat in rivers, party asks police to launch an investigation into the matter,” Breeze FM reported on August 12, focusing on election-related security issues.
- Also, “The National Security Adviser to the President Bola Tinubu, Nuhu Ribadu, has assured that the security agencies would defend the integrity of the governorship elections in Edo and Ondo states using every lawful means,” Gotel Radio reported on August 14.
- In a related instance, “INEC holds meeting with security agencies, national security adviser warns against violence in the forthcoming guber election,” ITV Radio reported on August 15, focusing on election-related security issues.
- Also, “Osun State Independent Electoral Commission expresses readiness to conduct free and fair local government election, set for sensitisation against electoral violence,” Positive FM reported on August 15.
- In another instance, “Governor Godwin Obaseki has called on the Nigerian military to help seize illegal guns that some gangs and groups in the state allegedly kept for use during the governorship election slated for next month,” Speed FM reported on August 16.

- “INEC has set September 12 for signing of the peace accord ahead of the Edo and Ondo states governorship elections,” Arewa Radio reported on September 2, focusing on election-related security issues.
- In a related instance, “Edo PDP hints on unwillingness to sign peace accord ahead of 2024 guber election, says party has lost faith in police and INEC,” Positive FM reported on September 12.
- “Less than two hours before the signing of the peace accord between contending political parties ahead of the September 21 governorship election, APC says it was not disposed to signing the accord,” Adaba FM reported on September 12.
- “The Inspector-General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, has announced comprehensive security measures to ensure a peaceful and transparent electoral process for Edo governorship election scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2024,” Super FM reported on September 20.
- “President Tinubu commends INEC, security agencies for the peaceful conduct of Edo guber election, urges party members to remain united and focused,” Kapital FM reported on September 27.

Women’s, PWD and youth issues accounted for 1.3% (18 instances), 0.7% (10 instances) and 0.4% (6 instances) of the coverage respectively.

- During an interview segment of the July 1 edition of Grace FM programme ‘The Perspective,’ the first female deputy speaker of Kogi state, Comfort Nwochiola, and leading civil society activist Idris Maliki spoke on the activities and participation of women in parliament, providing an instance in which women’s issues were discussed on radio during the period under review.
- In another instance, “Deputy Speaker Benjamin Kalu, 12 others propose a bill, which passed its second reading, seeking to increase the number of seats for women in the House of Representatives to promote gender balance and encourage more female participation,” New Cruse reported on July 9.
- “First Lady Oluremi Tinubu has challenged political officeholders across various political parties in Nigeria to walk the talk on gender equity,” Splash FM reported on July 23 also focusing on women’s issues.

- Similarly, Kapital FM reported on July 23 that “ECOWAS female parliamentarian calls on Nigerian women to be active in sociopolitical administration.”
- In an instance focusing on youth issues, APC chieftain Mr Olowookere Oluwadamilare “says the party will win in the forthcoming governorship election in Ondo state, adding that Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa has not neglected the youth but has appointed many of them into his cabinet,” Crest FM reported on July 2.
- Also, “The chairman of Ovie Northeast Local Government Area, Collins Ogbewe, has urged the youth to queue behind PDP governorship candidate, Barrister Asue Ighodalo, and his running mate, Barrister Osarodion Ogie,” Super FM reported on July 25.
- Ekiti state’s Commissioner for Special Education and Social Inclusion Mrs Adetoun Agboola was featured on the discussion segment of the July 4 edition of Adaba FM programme, ‘Ekiti Today’. She spoke on the challenges facing PWDs and the efforts of the government to address the challenges. The session was focused on PWD issues.
- “As part of his campaign promise for inclusive governance, Governor Adeleke has started a free health insurance enrolment programme for PWDs in Osun state,” OSBC Radio reported on July 25.
- “Middle-Belt Dynamic Women in Emoha local government has endorsed a former minority leader in Rivers state, Azubike Odom, for the chairmanship position in the forthcoming local election in the state,” Nigeria Info reported on August 16, focusing on women’s issues.
- “President of National Women Leaders Amina Brahim calls for reduction of the price of party nomination forms for women politicians,” Kapital FM reported on August 30 in another instance.
- “Ifeyinwa Ighodalo, wife of Edo PDP governorship candidate, has urged women to actively participate in the electoral process to enthrone competent leadership in the state,” Super FM reported on September 3, focusing on women’s issues.
- Pro-PWD organisation TAF Africa “has called on INEC and security agencies to ensure the protection of PWDs in the electoral process,” Super FM reported on September 20, focusing on PWD issues.

- During the September 16 edition of Crest FM programme 'The Platform,' the Lucky Boy Youth Movement spokesperson, Yomi Oyekan, said the movement was backing Ondo Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa's election bid. The session was focused on youth issues.

Misinformation made up 0.7% (10 instances) of the coverage. Extreme/hate speech was neither reported nor discussed.

- During the discussion segment of the July 17 edition of Super FM programme 'What The Honourable Has To Say,' Dr Bright Onovokoko, the convener of Rally For Peaceful Elections, described the level of misinformation embarked on by political parties on social media as alarming. He was referring to the Edo governorship race.
- "Niger Delta Developmental Commission has said that the news making rounds on social media that it used the money mapped out for contractors to support the governorship candidate of the APC in Edo state is false," Sapientia FM reported on August 12, focusing on election-related misinformation.
- In another instance, "Stakeholders at 2024 Press Week charge media practitioners to combat misinformation and adequately report issues of accountability in governance," Kapital FM reported on August 15.
- "Ahead of Edo state governorship election, INEC has issued a stern warning against the spread of misinformation on the electoral process," Urban Radio reported on September 6.
- During a discussion segment of the September 18 edition of Super FM programme 'What The Honourable Has To Say,' Edo ADC governorship candidate Osarenren Derek Izedonmwun denied collapsing his campaign structure into another political party ahead of the governorship election in the state.

Post-election and other issues accounted for 0.7% (10 instances) and 12.7% (170 instances) of the coverage respectively.

QUALITY OF RADIO PROGRAMMES — BALANCE

Balanced reporting presents a variety of perspectives and sources on significant election-related issues while maintaining journalism's obligation to provide context. In contrast, unbalanced reporting fails to do so. The selected radio broadcasts were analysed to assess their adherence to this standard.

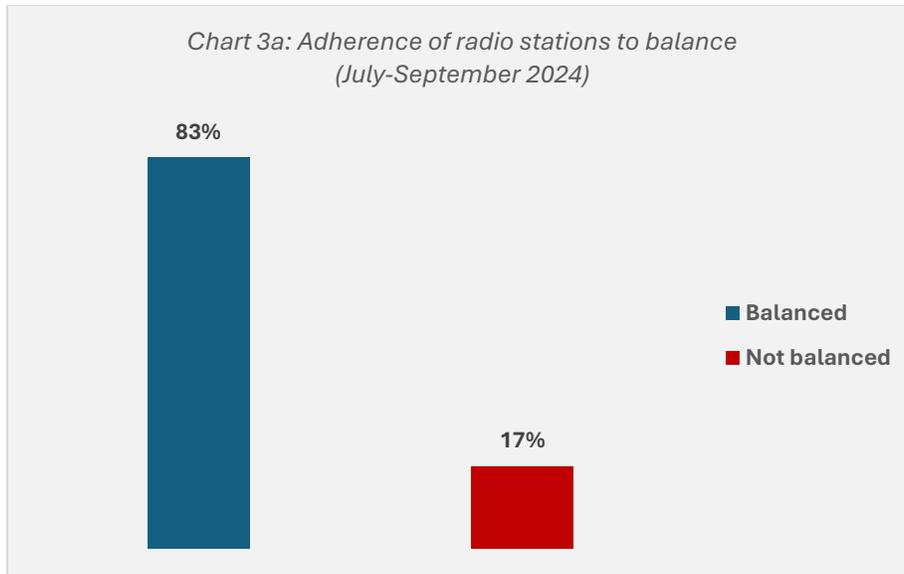


Chart 3a shows that 83% (81 in 98 applicable stories) of the sampled radio broadcasts were balanced while 17% (17 instances) were not.

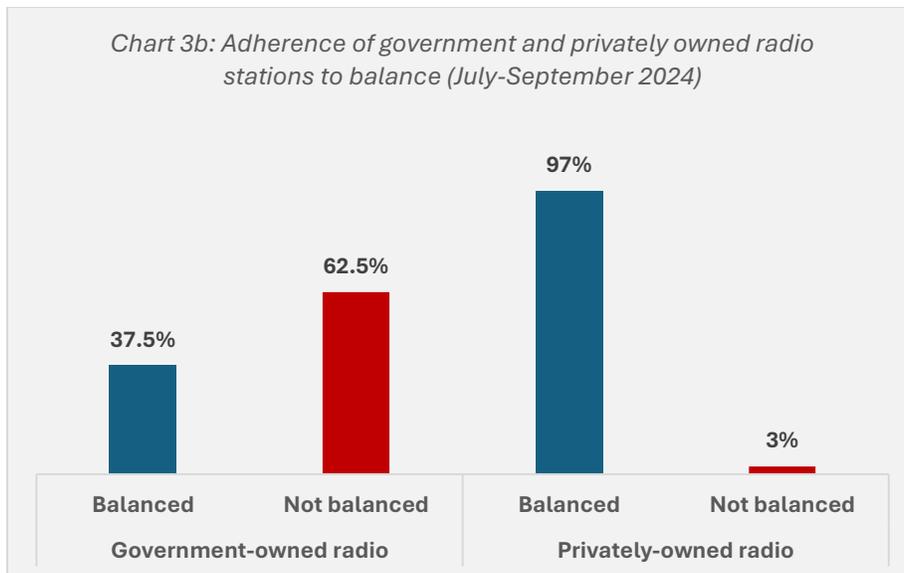


Chart 3b shows that 37.5% (9 in 24 stories) of the broadcasts from government-owned radio stations were balanced while 62.5% (15 stories) were not. In contrast, 97% (72 in 74 instances) of the broadcasts from privately owned radio stations were balanced while 3% (2 instances) were not.

QUALITY OF RADIO PROGRAMMES — LANGUAGE

Extreme language can incite hatred, prejudice and/or violence towards specific individuals or groups within society. The selected radio stations were examined for adherence to wholesome language and avoidance of inflammatory rhetoric in their programmes. The

noted incidents involved not only the media and its sources using provocative language but also those who actively opposed such rhetoric.

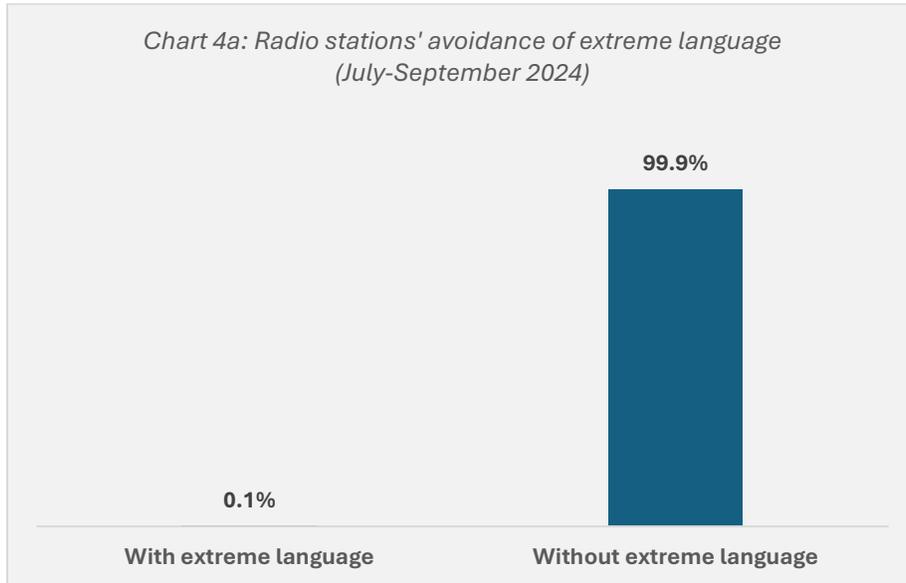


Chart 4a shows that the radio stations avoided extreme language in 99.9% (1111 in 1112 stories) but fell short in 0.1% (1 story) of their programmes.

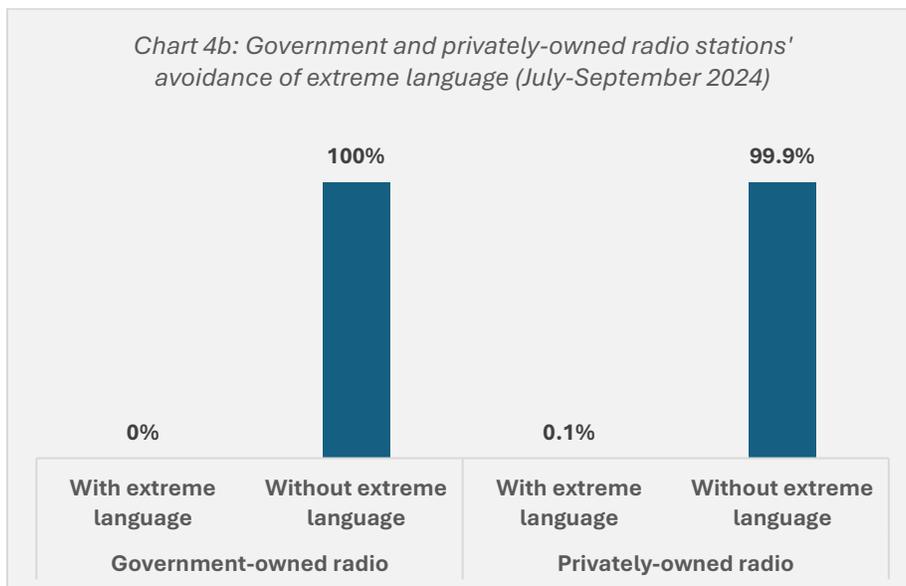


Chart 4b reveals that all 196 stories (100%) from government-owned radio stations were free of extreme language. In contrast, 915 stories (99.9%) from privately-owned radio stations contained no extreme language while one story (0.1%) fell short.

- An instance of extreme language was noted during a July 22 news report by Sapientia FM. Edo APC, the report said, “called on the state assembly to remove Governor Godwin Obaseki from his seat following his threat that Nigeria will be on fire if what

happened on Thursday, that is, the reinstatement of Deputy Governor Philip Shaibu and an APC governorship aspirant who allegedly took the life of a police officer, repeated itself". Obaseki's reported threat that Nigeria could be on "fire" was deemed extreme, as such unwholesome language should not be deployed in the political arena.

VISIBILITY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTORS ON RADIO

INCLUSION: VISIBILITY OF UNDER-REPRESENTED DEMOGRAPHICS ON RADIO

This section assesses the visibility of vulnerable groups in radio broadcasts during the period in review, with a focus on their gender, age and PWD status.

PWDs

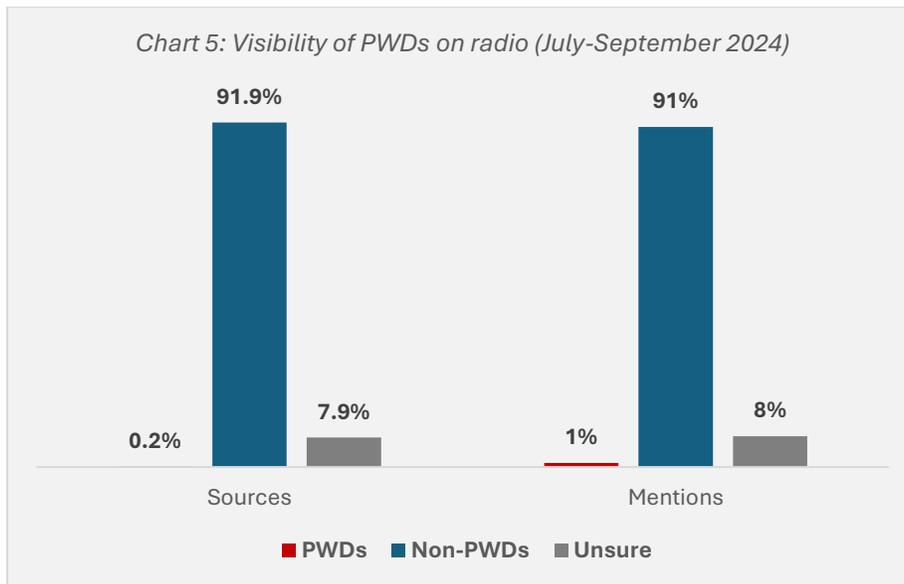


Chart 5 shows that PWD actors made up 0.2% (2 in 1026 instances) of the sources and 1% (6 in 548 instances) of the mentions. Non-PWD actors, on the other hand, accounted for 91.9% (943 instances) of the sources and 91% (497 instances) of the mentions. In some instances, the PWD status of the sources (7.9%; 81 instances) and the mentions (8%; 45 instances) was indeterminate. The data reflects the previously noted low level of coverage of PWD issues (0.7%; 10 in 1336 instances) previously shown in Chart 2.

- Ekiti state's Commissioner for Special Education and Social Inclusion Mrs Adetoun Agboola was featured on the discussion segment of the July 4 edition of Adaba FM programme 'Ekiti Today'. She spoke on the challenges facing PWDs and the government's efforts to address the challenges. PWDs were mentioned during the programme.

- “As part of his campaign promise for inclusive governance, Governor Adeleke has started a free health insurance enrolment programme for PWDs in Osun state,” OSBC Radio reported on July 25, mentioning PWDs.
- “Widow Association in Gokana and PWDs are calling on the CTC chairman of Gokana local government area, Kenneth Bede, to contest in the October 2024 chairmanship election as they drum up support for him and also appreciate him for the inclusion and participation of PWDs,” Nigeria Info reported on September 12, using PWD actors as sources.
- TAF Africa “has called on INEC and security agencies to ensure the protection of PWDs in the electoral process,” Super FM reported on September 20, mentioning PWDs.
- In another instance in which PWDs were mentioned, “Voter commends INEC for putting PWDs into consideration at all polling units,” KU FM reported on September 21, the day INEC conducted the Edo 2024 off-cycle governorship election.

Women

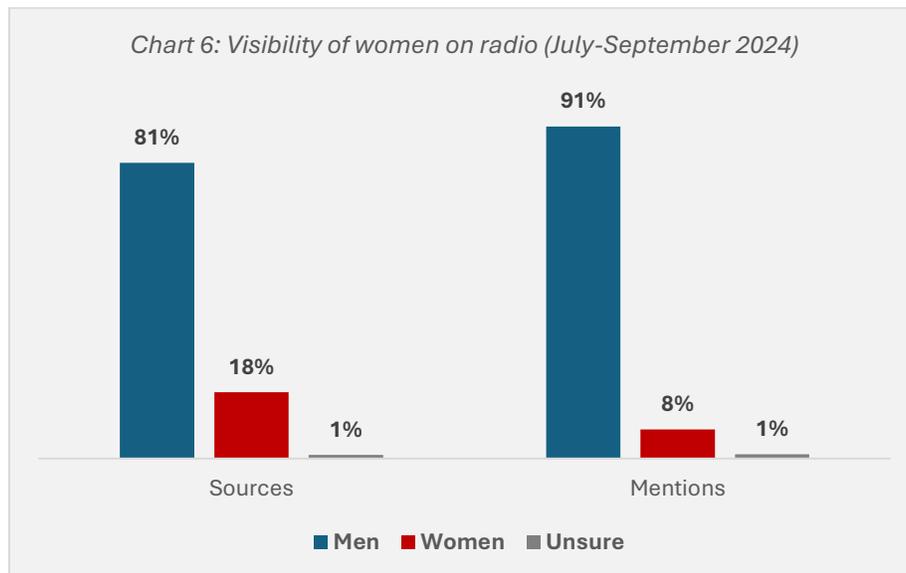


Chart 6 shows that women comprised 18% (189 in 1043 instances) of the sources and 8% (47 in 591 instances) of the mentions. Men, on the other hand, made up 81% (844 instances) of the sources and 91% (537 instances) of the mentions. In some instances, the gender of the sources (1%; 10 instances) and the mentions (1%; 7 instances) was indeterminate. The data indicates that women were less visible than their male counterparts, echoing the previously noted low level of coverage dedicated to women's issues (1.3%; 18 in 1336 instances) as shown in Chart 2.

- Ekiti state's Commissioner for Special Education and Social Inclusion Mrs Adetoun Agboola was featured on the discussion segment of the July 4 edition of Adaba FM programme, 'Ekiti Today'. She spoke on the challenges facing PWDs and the government's efforts to address the challenges, presenting another instance of using a woman as the source of an election-related radio broadcast.
- During a discussion session of the July 15 edition of Super FM programme 'What The Honourable Has To Say,' Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) governorship candidate in Edo state Patience Ndidi Key, a woman, talked about her political agenda. The session represented an instance of using a woman as the source of an election-related programme on radio during the period under review. At least seven of the instances of women being mentioned involved the PRP candidate. She was the only female politician running for office in the 2024 off-cycle governorship election in Nigeria.
- In one instance where women were mentioned, Urban Radio reported on July 9 that "an amendment bill to improve women's representation in parliament through the introduction of special seat has scaled second reading in the House of Representatives".
- "Middle-Belt Dynamic Women in Emoha Local Government Area has endorsed a former minority leader in Rivers state, Azubike Odom, for the chairmanship position in the forthcoming election in the state," Nigeria Info reported on August 16, citing the women's group as the source.
- During the August 27 edition of Kapital FM discussion programme 'Politics Nationwide,' INEC official Mrs Alese urged Edo politicians to run issue-based campaigns, adding that the political class should collaborate with INEC for effective voter education. She also urged Edo voters to act responsibly during the guber election. The discussion was another instance of a woman serving as the source of a radio broadcast during the period in review.
- "NBC director Gloria Makinde stresses the need for all political parties to have equitable access to every broadcast station, hints on meeting with political and democratic stakeholders," Kapital FM reported on August 30, citing the female NBC director as the source.
- Also, "President of the National Women Leaders, Amina Brahim, calls for reduction of the price of party nomination forms for women politicians," Kapital FM reported on August 30.

- In one instance where women were mentioned, “Ondo governor applauds women, CSOs for keeping their promise on not joining nationwide protest,” Breeze FM reported on August 2.
- During the September 5 edition of Kapital FM programme ‘The Platform,’ guest and barrister Kemi Okeyedo advocated for diaspora voting and decried the alleged disruption of elections by “some party agents”. The session was an instance of a woman serving as the source of an election-related radio broadcast during the period under review.
- “PRP guber candidate Patience Ndidi Key campaigns in Edo, promises better employment and welfare; urges residents to shun biases and vote for a competent candidate,” Positive FM reported on September 11, citing Ndidi Key, a female governorship candidate in the Ondo election, as the source.
- “More women seen in most of the polling units,” KU FM reported on Edo governorship election day, mentioning women.
- During a September 19 interview on Invicta FM’s ‘Spot On,’ Mrs Godiya Ayuba Lolo, a 31-year-old Kaduna PDP women leader candidate, said that she had been actively involved in politics for a while and was ready to turn the narrative in favour of women and youth in politics. She added that her manifesto focused on inclusion. The interview presented an instance of women being featured both as sources and in mentions.

Youth

The African Youth Charter¹ defines youth as individuals aged between 15 and 35. This report adopted the same age bracket. However, individuals older than 35 were also considered youth if they represented a youth group or initiative. Those younger than 15 are categorised as children.

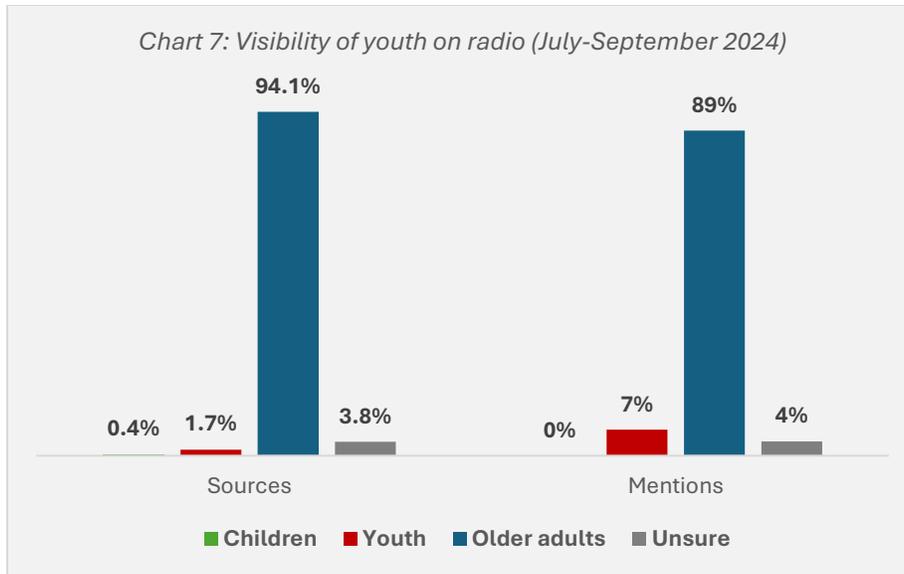


Chart 7 shows that youth represented 1.7% (17 in 1021 instances) of the sources and 7% (54 in 763 instances) of the mentions. Older adults made up 94.1% (961 instances) of the sources and 89% (679 instances) of the mentions. Children comprised 0.4% (4 instances) of the sources but were not mentioned. In some instances, the age group of the sources (3.8%; 39 instances) and the mentions (4%; 30 instances) remained indeterminate. The data highlights the low visibility of youth actors, reflecting the previously noted low level of coverage of youth issues (0.4%; 6 in 1336 instances) as shown in Chart 2.

- On July 19, a PDP youth leader, Victor Oguntoyinbo, was interviewed on the Crest FM programme 'Oro Oselu'. The interviewee insisted that the party was united despite news that some stalwarts had decamped to other parties. The interview presented an instance of a youth serving as the source of a radio broadcast during the period under review.
- Most of the instances in which youth were mentioned were focused on the anti-government protests planned for August. There was, however, one instance related to the September 21 off-cycle governorship election in Edo state. In that instance, recorded on July 19, NAS FM reported that "APC has inaugurated a 362-member national campaign council for the Edo state governorship election". Youth were mentioned in the report.
- "National Commission for Almajiri and Out-Of-School Children's Education expresses concern as to the involvement of children in the ongoing protest, calls for government support," Kapital FM reported on August 7, using a child actor as the source.

- During the August 5 edition of NAS FM interview programme 'Inda ba Kasa At 8 PM,' guest and youth actor Comrade Danladi Jonah spoke on President Bola Tinubu's speech on the nationwide protests, saying that the Nigerian leader did not address issues raised by the protesters. The interview represented an instance of a youth actor serving as the source of a radio broadcast during the period in review.
- "Youths took to the streets of Jalingo, Taraba state, to protest the prevailing hardships, chanting 'we do not agree; we do not agree' to draw attention to the challenges they are going through," Gotel Radio reported on August 1, mentioning youth.
- "The Nigerian Army has arrested the soldier who shot and killed a 16-year-old demonstrator who was among the protesters in Zaria, Kaduna state," Sapiencia FM reported on August 8, mentioning a youth. An August 8 broadcast by Splash FM identified the teenage victim as Ismail Muhammad.
- "Youth president and secretaries from Ogweben Mandoni Local Government Area of Rivers state have thrown their weight behind the candidacy of Kingsley Ogo in the October 5 local government election in the state," Nigeria Info reported on September 5, citing youth as the source.
- During a September 17 interview on Crest FM programme 'Oro Oselu,' an Ondo APC youth leader identified as Professor Lawal spoke about President Tinubu's administration, saying that the president was a good leader who loved people. He also said that the APC was one family and would resolve its issues in-house before the 2024 off-cycle governorship election in the state. The interview presented another instance of a youth serving as the source of a radio broadcast.
- During a discussion segment of the September 13 edition of Crest FM's 'Oro Oselu,' Barrister Olutayo Babalayo, a pioneer youth leader of the APC in Ondo state, commented on the recent appointments made by Governor Aiyedatiwa. He emphasised that these appointments were not motivated by the upcoming elections, noting that similar actions occurred during the PDP's administration. He also addressed the forthcoming gubernatorial election, asserting that there was no real opposition. In response, Leye Igbagbo, a PDP member, criticised the appointments, stating that a reasonable leader would not make such decisions. He accused the APC of shifting blame and expressed confidence that the people of the state were aware of the truth and knew who to support during the election. Youth were mentioned in the broadcast.

STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL ACTORS FEATURED ON RADIO

This section examines the social status of the individuals used as sources and mentioned in the broadcasts on the selected radio stations during the period under review.

Aspirants/candidates, political office holders, other politicians and their spouses occupy the political side of this section while journalists/on-air-personalities (OAPs), public intellectuals/commentators, religious leaders, traditional rulers and other citizens occupy its public side.

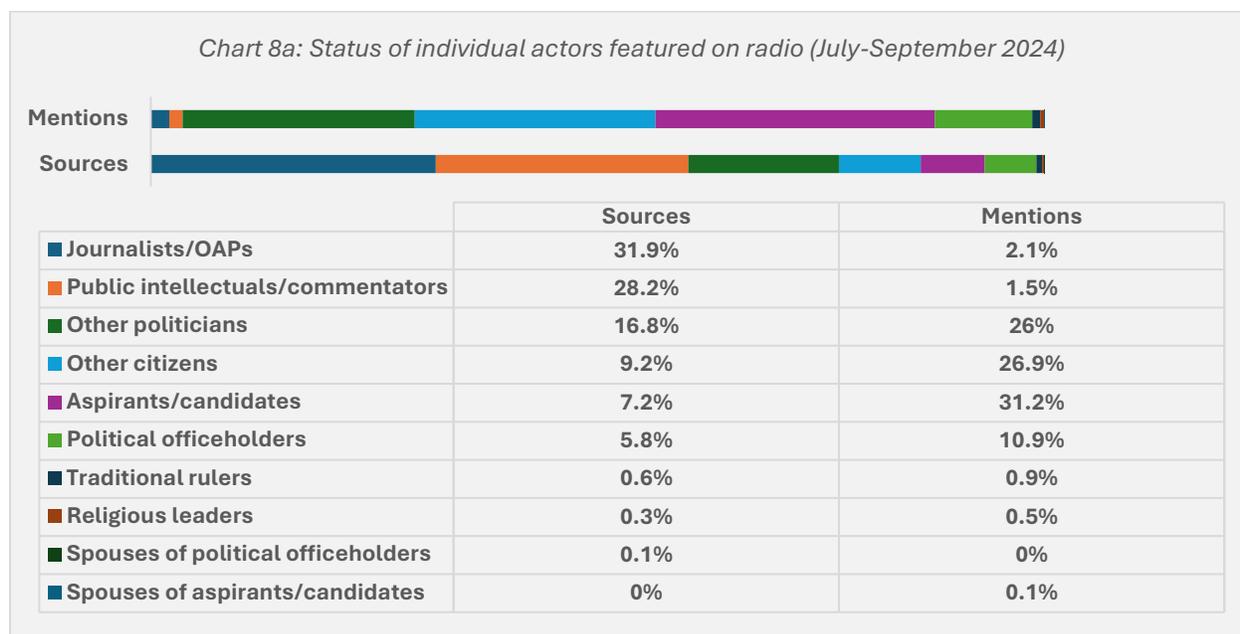


Chart 8a shows that journalists/OAPs accounted for 31.9% (254 in 797 instances) of the sources and 2.1% (18 in 874 instances) of the mentions. Public intellectuals/commentators made up 28.2% (225 instances) of the sources and 1.5% (13 instances) of the mentions.

Aspirants/candidates constituted 7.2% (57 instances) of the sources and 31.2% (273 instances) of the mentions while political officeholders comprised 5.8% (46 instances) of the sources and 10.9% (95 instances) of the mentions. Other politicians made up 16.8% (134 instances) of the sources and 26% (227 instances) of the mentions.

The spouses of political officeholders received 0.1% (1 instance) of the sources but were not used as sources. The reverse was the case for the spouses of aspirants/candidates who received 0.1% (1 instance) of the mentions.

Traditional rulers accounted for 0.6% (5 instances) of the sources and 0.9% (8 instances) of the mentions while religious leaders accounted for 0.3% (2 instances) of the sources and 0.5% (4 instances) of the mentions.

Other citizens constituted 9.2% (73 instances) of the sources and 26.9% (235 instances) of the mentions.

Given that politicians play a significant role in elections, the visibility of political officeholders, aspirants, candidates and other politicians was also examined. The results are displayed in Chart 8b.

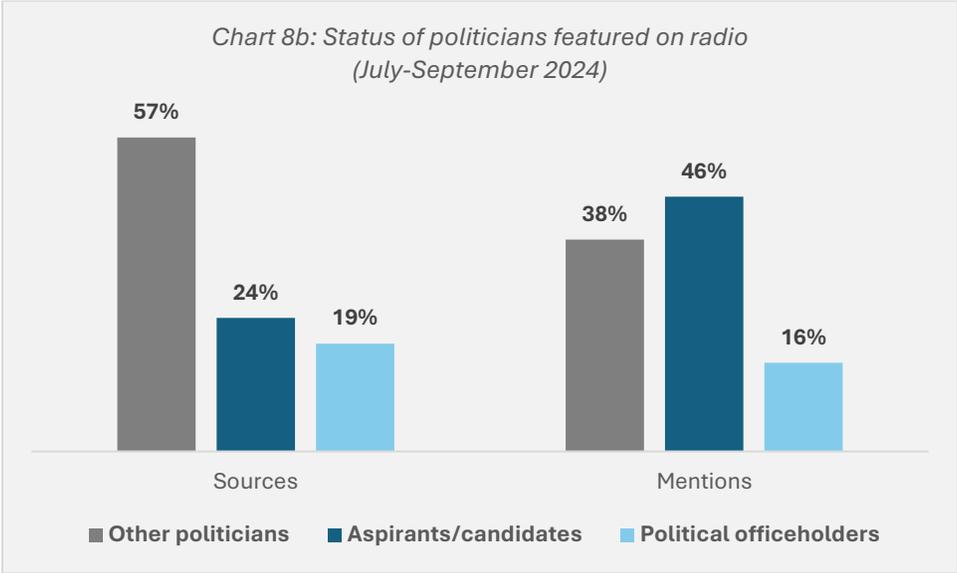


Chart 8b shows that aspirants/candidates accounted for 24% (57 in 237 instances) of the sources and 46% (273 in 595 instances) of the mentions while political officeholders made up 19% (46 instances) of the sources and 16% (95 instances) of the mentions. Other politicians made up 57% (134 instances) of the sources and 38% (227 instances) of the mentions.

The visibility of politicians compared to that of non-politicians was also analysed.

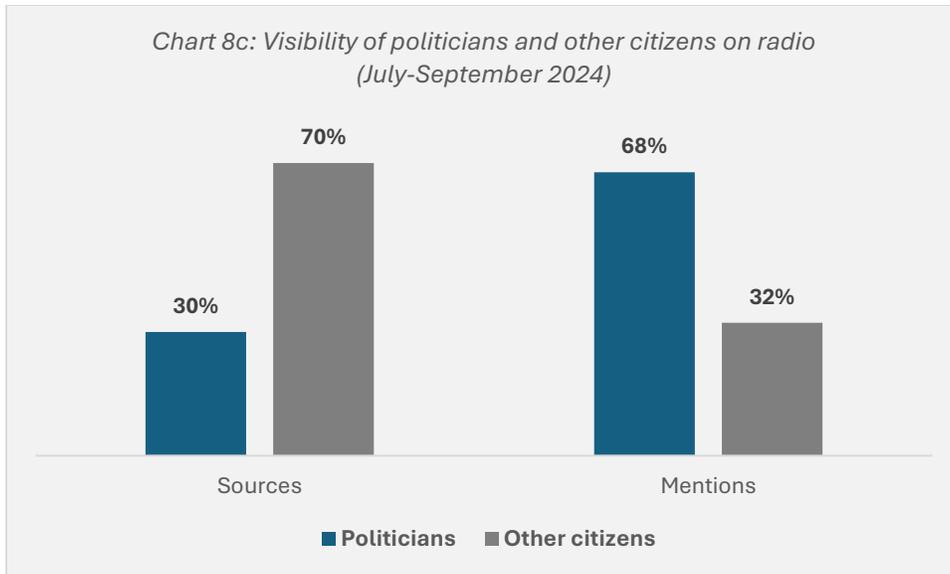


Chart 8c shows that politicians constituted 30% (237 in 797 instances) of the sources and 68% (595 in 874 instances) of the mentions while other citizens accounted for 70% (560 instances) of the sources and 32% (279 instances) of the mentions.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ACTORS ON RADIO

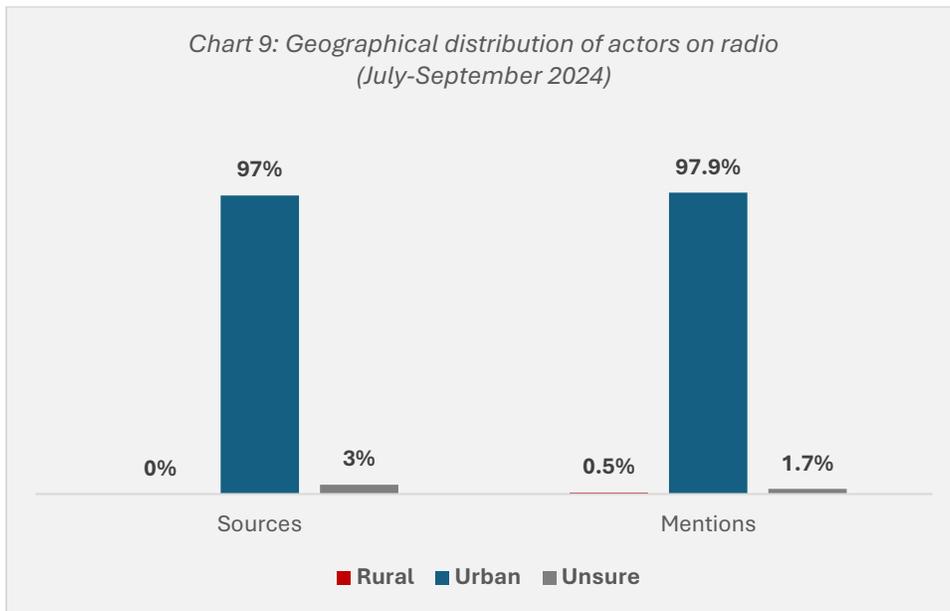


Chart 9 shows that actors from urban areas dominated radio coverage with 97% (987 in 1018 instances) of the sources and 97.9% (648 in 662 instances) of the mentions. Rural actors made up 0.5% (3 instances) of the mentions but were not used as sources. In some instances, the location of the sources (3%; 31 instances) and the mentions (1.7%; 11 instances) was indeterminate.

VISIBILITY OF CORPORATE ACTORS ON RADIO

The corporate actors include political parties, government agencies, interest groups and foreign entities.

POLITICAL PARTIES

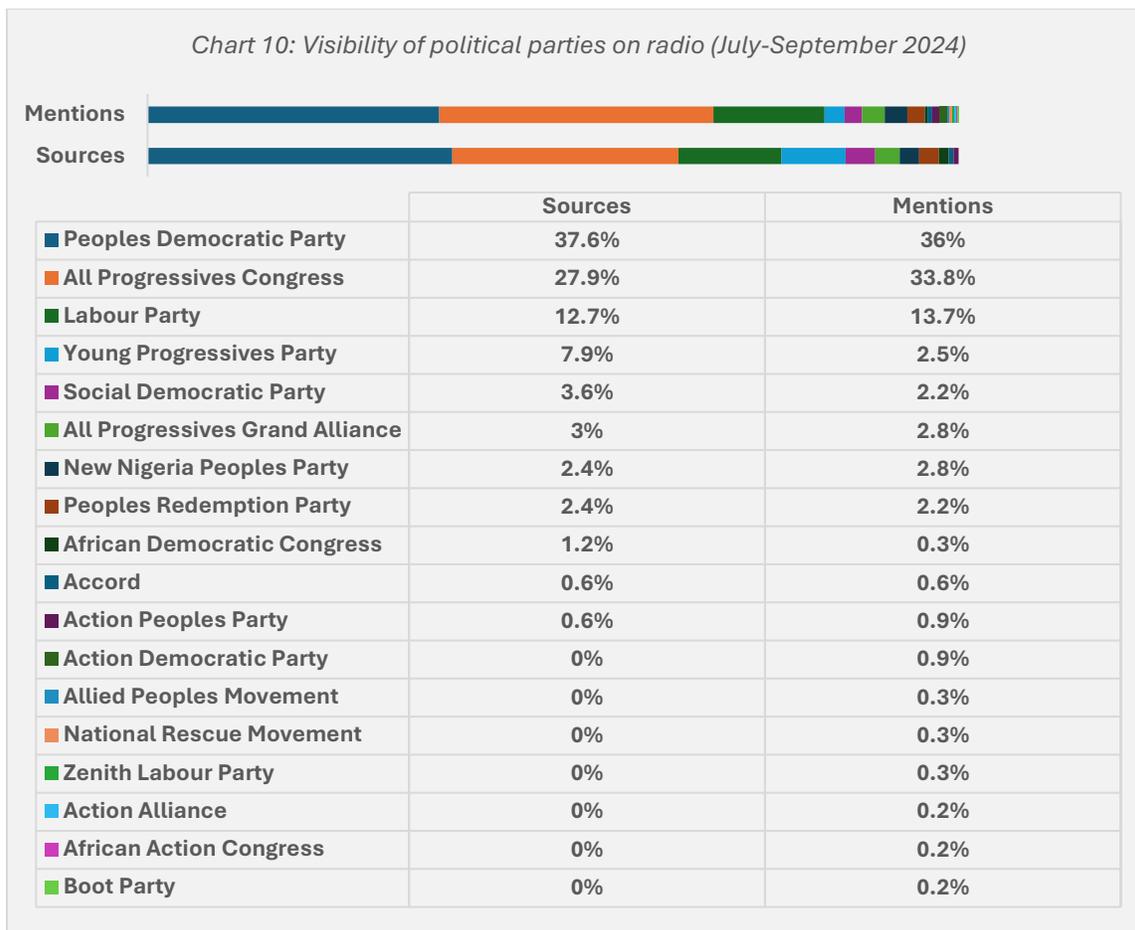


Chart 10 shows that Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was the most visible actor in this category, accounting for 37.6% (62 in 165 instances) of the sources and 36% (233 in 648 instances) of the mentions.

- “Edo PDP chairman Tony Azegbemi says court judgment does not affect the candidature of Asue Ighodalo, adds that plaintiffs were not party delegates and hints on appeal,” Kapital FM reported on July 7, presenting an instance in which an actor spoke for the PDP and was used as the source of a radio broadcast.
- In another instance, “PDP governors warn against presidential interference in forthcoming off-cycle elections, admonish candidates to shun violence and focus on issue-based campaigns,” ITV Radio reported on July 18.

- In an instance in which PDP was mentioned, “A Court of Appeal sitting in Abuja has accepted Dr Asue Ighodalo as the governorship candidate of the PDP in Edo state, stating that the suit filed by Philip Shaibu lacked merit,” Sapia FM reported on July 23.
- In another instance, “Court issues injunction restraining disruption of Rivers PDP congresses,” Kapital FM reported on July 24.
- “The acting national chairman of the PDP, Umar Damagu, says nobody can make him resign from his position,” Speed FM reported on August 21, mentioning PDP.
- “The Court of Appeal in Abuja has overturned the judgement of a Federal High Court, which ordered the PDP to allow the participation of 381 ad hoc delegates in its February 22 primary election in Edo state,” KU FM reported on August 6, also mentioning PDP.
- “PDP has officially rejected the result of the governorship election in Edo state as announced by INEC. The national chairman of the party called on concerned citizens to equally reject the outcome of the election,” Speed FM reported on September 24, using PDP as the source.
- In an instance in which the party was mentioned, “PDP refuses to sign peace accord ahead of Edo gubernatorial election,” Urban Radio reported on September 12.

All Progressives Congress (APC) made up 27.9% (46 instances) of the sources and 33.8% (219 instances) of the mentions while Labour Party (LP) constituted 12.7% (21 instances) and 13.7% (89 instances) of the mentions.

- “Edo APC demands investigation of alleged assassination attempt on its political candidate, Monday Okpebolo, in Benin, alleges shooter is PDP supporter,” ITV Radio reported on July 19, providing an instance in which APC was the source of an election-related radio broadcast.
- During a discussion segment of the July 5 edition of Super FM programme ‘What The Honourable Has To Say,’ analysts discussed Edo LP governorship candidate, Barrister Olumide Akpata, pointing out that he visited almost 192 wards in the state to solicit votes. LP was mentioned in the discussion.

- “Edo YPP guber candidate Paul Okungbowa canvasses for support, hints on plan for digital economy and financial education in schools,” ITV Radio reported on July 8, presenting an instance in which YPP was mentioned.
- “USA chapter of APC urges Nigerians not to protest unlawfully,” Kapital FM reported on August 8, using the APC as the source.
- Also, “APC national chairman Abdullahi Ganduje has described the claims that protesters carted away sensitive documents relating to his corruption trials as baseless,” Urban Radio reported on August 15.
- In an instance in which the party was mentioned, “The caretaker committee of the APC has rejected the ruling of the Rivers State High Court against Sen. Abdullahi Ganduje,” Sapientia FM reported on August 12.
- “Edo APC, LP and PDP suspend campaign as protest continues,” ITV Radio reported on August 5, mentioning LP and three other political parties.
- “APC to inaugurate The Progressive Institute, a thinktank resource centre, that offers training on leadership, governance and voter education,” Kapital FM reported on September 6, featuring APC.
- “INEC declares APC guber candidate Monday Okpebholo winner of 2024 Edo governorship election,” Bridge FM reported on September 23.

Young Progressives Party (YPP) comprised 7.9% (13 instances) of the sources and 2.5% (16 instances) of the mentions while Social Democratic Party (SDP) made up 3.6% (6 instances) of the sources and 2.2% (14 instances) of the mentions.

All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) and New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) each represented 2.8% (18 instances) of the mentions, as well as 3% (5 instances) and 2.4% (4 instances) of the sources respectively. Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) accounted for 2.4% of the sources and 2.2% (14 instances) of the mentions. African Democratic Congress (ADC) made up 1.2% (2 instances) of the sources and 0.3% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Accord and Action Peoples Party (APP) each made up 0.6% (1 instance) of the sources, as well as 0.6% (4 instances) and 0.9% (6 instances) of the mentions respectively.

Action Democratic Party (ADP) constituted 0.9% (6 instances) of the mentions but was not used as a source. The same was true for Allied Peoples Movement (APM), National Rescue Party (NRP) and Zenith Labour Party (ZLP), each of which received 0.3% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Also, Action Alliance (AA), African Action Congress (AAC) and Boot Party (BP) each accounted for 0.2% (1 instance) of the mentions but were not used as sources.

GOVERNMENT

This section examines the visibility of the federal and state arms of government — the executive, the judiciary, and the legislature. It also compares the visibility of local council development areas (LCDAs) and local government areas (LGAs) with that of the higher levels of government.

Federal government

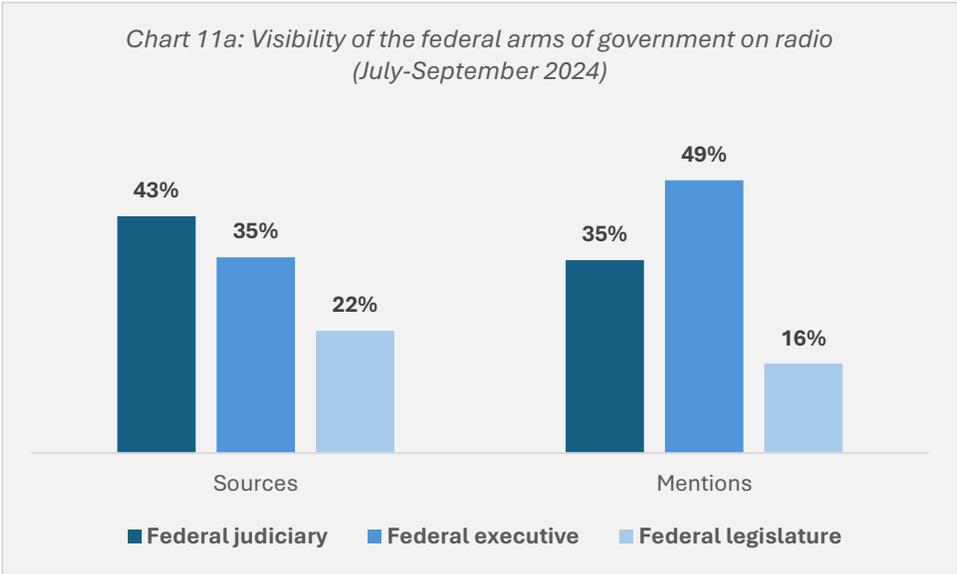


Chart 11a shows that the federal judiciary constituted 43% (29 in 68 instances) of the sources and 35% (123 in 354 instances) of the mentions while the federal executive accounted for 35% (24 instances) of the sources and 49% (174 instances) of the mentions. The federal legislature comprised 22% (15 instances) of the sources and 16% (57 instances) of the mentions.

State governments

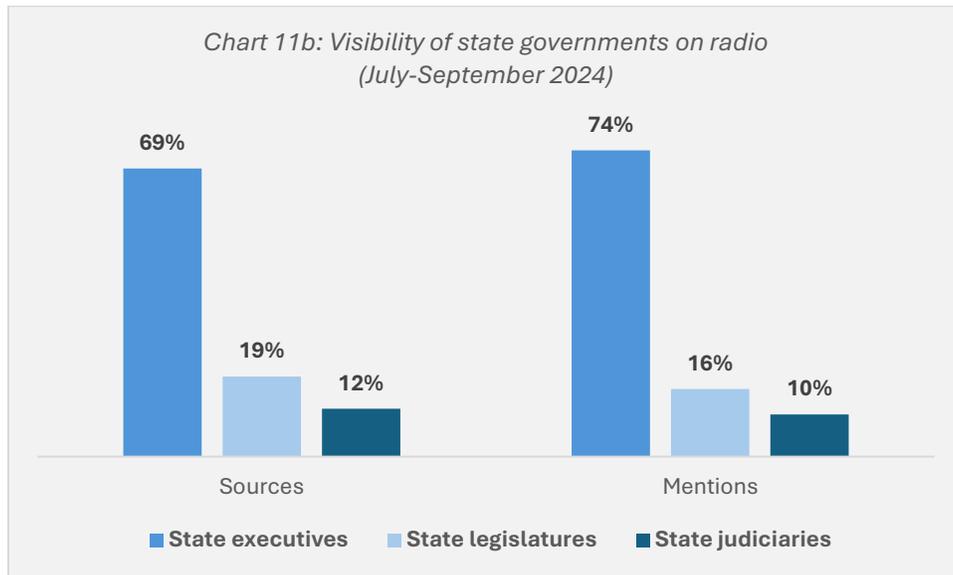


Chart 11b shows that state executives constituted 69% (36 in 52 instances) of the sources and 74% (181 in 246 instances) of the mentions, making them the most visible actors in this section. State legislatures made up 19% (10 instances) of the sources and 16% (40 instances) of the mentions while state judiciaries represented 12% (6 instances) of the sources and 10% (25 instances) of the mentions.

Local governments

This subsection compares the visibility of local council development areas (LCDAs) and local government areas (LGAs) with that of the higher levels of government (the state and federal levels).

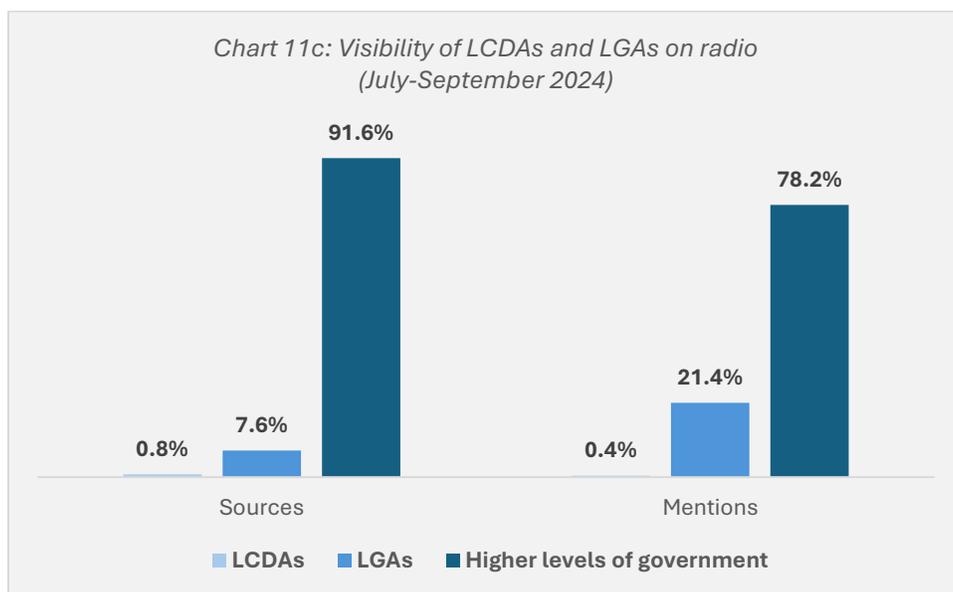
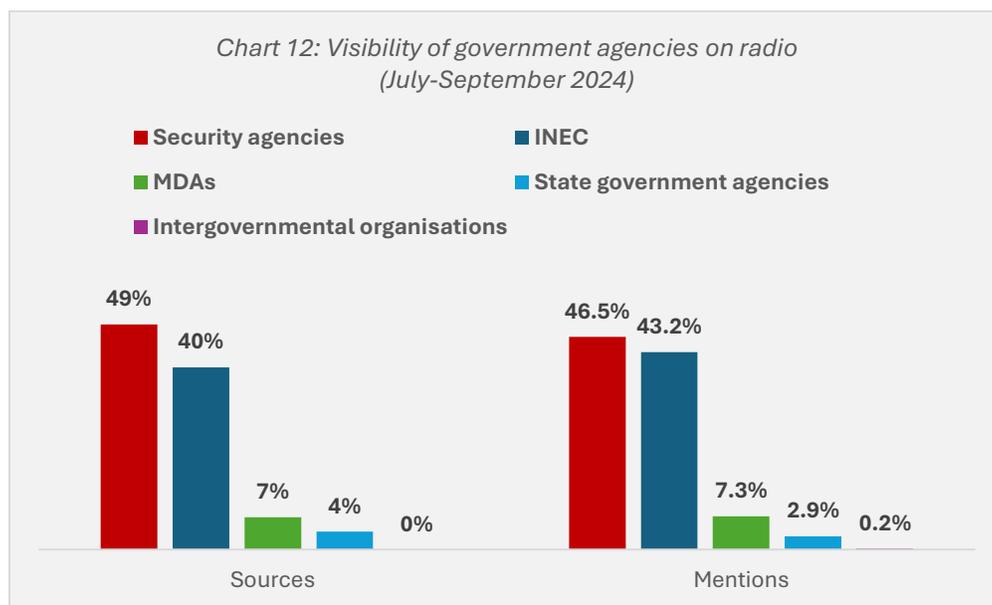


Chart 11c shows that the higher levels of government accounted for 91.6% (120 in 131 instances) of the sources and 78.2% (600 in 767 instances) of the mentions. LCDAs represented 0.8% (1 instance) of the sources and 0.4% (3 instances) of the mentions while LGAs made up 7.6% (10 instances) of the sources and 21.4% (164 instances) of the mentions.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

This section assesses the visibility of government agencies such as the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and security agencies which conduct and safeguard the elections, state government agencies, and intergovernmental organisations. The visibility of ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) is also analysed.



According to Chart 12, security agencies were the most visible actors in this category, representing 49% (63 in 128 instances) of the sources and 46.5% (224 in 482 instances) of the mentions. INEC comprised 40% (51 instances) of the sources and 43.2% (208 instances) of the mentions. MDAs represented 7% (9 instances) of the sources and 7.3% (35 instances) of the mentions while state government agencies comprised 4% (5 instances) of the sources and 2.9% (14 instances) of the mentions. Intergovernmental organisations accounted for 0.2% (1 instance) of the mentions but were not used as sources.

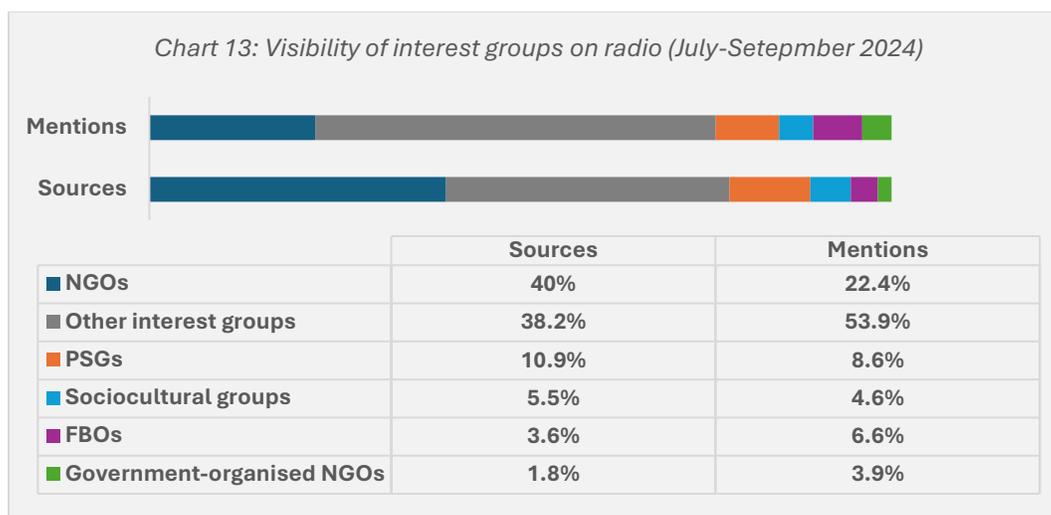
- Fourteen of the 15 instances in which security agencies were used as sources involved comments from the agencies regarding the anti-government protests planned for early August. For instance, “Edo police commissioner expresses readiness to ensure law and order during protest,” ITV Radio reported on July 26.
- During a discussion segment of the July 9 edition of Super FM programme ‘What The Honourable Has To Say,’ analysts talked about Edo police’s claim to have mapped out

trouble spots in over 4000 polling units to prevent violence during the polls. The discussion presented an instance in which security agencies were mentioned in relation to the elections.

- In an instance in which INEC was used as a source, “INEC has asked for the support of all stakeholders to ensure that the governorship election slated for September 21, 2024 is seamless,” Sapienta FM reported on July 10.
- In another instance, “INEC to attend to 246 applicants having issues with continuous voter accreditation,” Kapital FM reported on July 19.
- “Kano State Police Command said it has arrested several protesters who allegedly destroyed and looted other public infrastructure and vandalized the Digital Innovation Park in the state,” New Cruse reported on August 1, featuring a security agency, that is, the police.
- “Governor Godwin Obaseki has called on the Nigerian military to help seize illegal guns that some gangs and groups in the state allegedly kept for use during the governorship election slated for next month,” Speed FM reported on August 16, mentioning the military.
- “INEC releases final voter registers for Edo and Ondo guber elections,” ITV Radio reported on August 7, using INEC as the source.
- Also, “INEC official in Edo state Mr Timidi Warriwei said the commission would begin the distribution and collection of PVCs ahead of the governorship election in the state,” Arewa Radio reported on August 15.
- In an instance in which MDAs were featured, “NBC director Gloria Makinde stresses the need for all political parties to have equitable access to every broadcast station, hints on meeting with political and democratic stakeholders,” Kapital FM reported on August 30, using an official of the government-run broadcasting regulatory body, NBC, as the source.
- “NBC national director Mrs Gloria Makinde has urged the media journalists in Edo State to ensure professionalism in their reportage,” Speed FM reported on September 21, featuring an MDA.
- “IGP says police will provide level playing field for parties in forthcoming Edo guber election,” Positive FM reported on September 13, featuring a security agency.

INTEREST GROUPS

This section examines the visibility of corporate actors such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that play critical roles in the electoral process and democratic governance. It also assesses the visibility of faith-based organisations (FBOs), sociocultural groups and government-organised NGOs and political support groups (PSGs).



According to Chart 13, NGOs accounted for 40% (22 in 55 instances) of the sources and 22.4% (34 in 152 instances) of the mentions. PSGs represented 10.9% (6 instances) of the sources and 8.6% (13 instances) of the mentions while sociocultural groups made up 5.5% (3 instances) of the sources and 4.6% (7 instances) of the mentions. Whereas FBOs constituted 3.6% (2 instances) of the sources and 6.6% (10 instances) of the mentions, government-organised NGOs accounted for 1.8% (1 instance) of the sources and 3.9% (6 instances) of the mentions.

- During a discussion session of the July 16 edition of Nigeria Info programme ‘Morning Crossfire,’ Harrison Nwosu, the Rivers state spokesperson of the United Community Development Committee, spoke on how local government autonomy could benefit Nigerian communities. The session was an instance of an NGO serving as the source of a radio broadcast during the period in review.
- “Ahead of the national protest slated for August 1, 2024, the leadership of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) has asked Nigerians to consider alternative means of expressing their grievances. In a statement on Friday, signed by its president, Rev Daniel Oko, CAN stated that it deeply empathises with the pains and frustration that many Nigerians are experiencing,” Boss Radio reported on July 26, using CAN, an FBO, as the source.

- During a discussion segment of the July 30 edition of Super FM programme 'What The Honourable Has To Say,' analysts pointed out that Edo APC governorship candidate Senator Monday Okphebolo and members of his campaign had met with Christian leaders under the aegis of Christians in Leadership for Societal Development to solicit their support in the September 21 poll. An FBO was mentioned in the discussion.
- During a discussion session of the July 9, edition of the same programme, analysts talked about a PDP group named Edo State PDP Youth League that called for sanctions against Dan Obi, the party's national vice chairman, South-South. A PSG was mentioned in the discussion.
- "CEMESO trains journalists on sensitisation of electorate and voter education; IPC charges media on reportage of women, youth and PWDs," Kapital FM reported on August 13, featuring two NGOs, Centre for Media and Society (CEMESO) and International Press Centre (IPC).
- "Confederation of APC Support Groups urges Nigerians to shun violent protests, choose dialogue," Kapital FM reported on August 8, using a PSG as the source.
- "Ohaneze Ndigbo Youth Council Worldwide speaks over comment by House of Representative Deputy Speaker Benjamin Kalu that APC would take over Abia state in 2027," Boss Radio reported on August 23, using a sociocultural group as the source.
- "The immediate past president of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria, Reverend Dr Felix Onibude, has told Edo voters that 'prayers do not count; go out and cast your votes'," Super FM reported on September 5, featuring an FBO.
- "Yunusa Tanko, the National Coordinator of the Obidient Group Worldwide, announced that a formal registration process for current and prospective members of the movement will be launched soon," Bridge FM reported on September 9, featuring a PSG.
- "CEMESO, IPC engage journalists on achieving credible polls through issue-based reporting during Ondo guber election as police assure of adequate security," Positive FM reported on September 12, featuring two NGOs, CEMESO and IPC.

FOREIGN ACTORS

This section examines the visibility of foreign actors such as embassies, high commissions, international non-governmental organisations (international NGOs) and foreign government representatives.

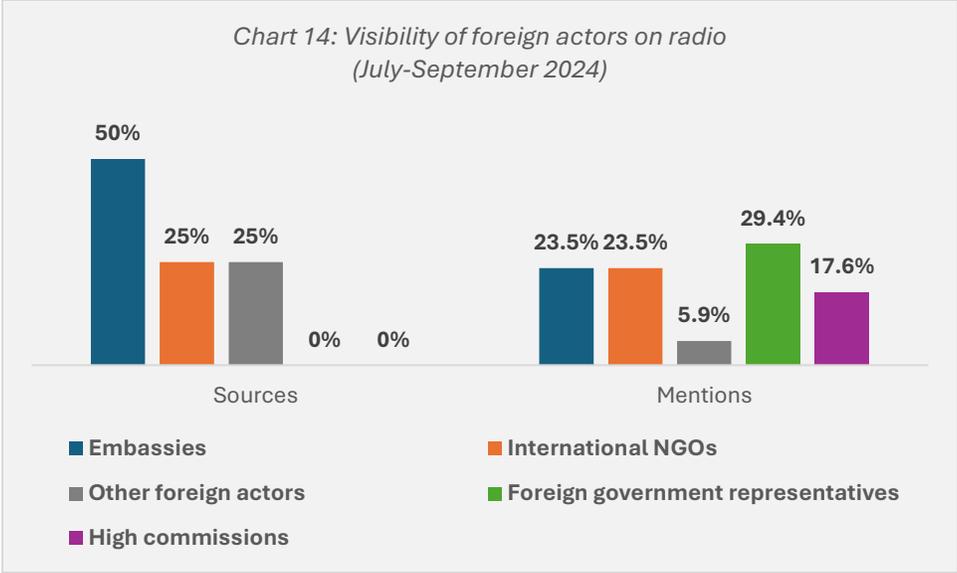


Chart 14 shows that embassies and international NGOs each constituted 23.5% (4 in 17 instances) of the mentions as well as 50% (2 in 4 instances) and 25% (1 instance) of the mentions respectively. Foreign government representatives and high commissions comprised 29.4% (5 instances) and 17.6% (3 instances) of the mentions respectively but were not used as sources. Other foreign actors accounted for 25% (1 instance) of the sources and 5.9% (1 instance) of the mentions.

- “ECOWAS female parliamentarian calls on Nigerian women to be active in sociopolitical administration,” Kapital FM reported on July 23. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), a foreign actor, was mentioned in the news report.
- “The chairman of Amnesty International in Nigeria, Hawa Johanny, has warned against stopping protesters as doing so does not go well with democracy,” Splash FM reported on July 28, mentioning an international NGO, Amnesty International.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The analysis of the content monitored from July to September 2024 revealed that 70% of the radio broadcasts were packaged as news reports while the others were packaged as discussions (23%) and interviews (7%). The radio stations adhered to the journalistic principle of balance in 83% of the applicable broadcasts and recorded one instance of extreme language which represented 0.1% of 1112 contents.

Citizen participation (21.9%), election administration (18.3%) and campaign activities/strategies (11.2%) were the most reported and discussed issues. Women’s, PWD and youth issues received 1.3%, 0.7% and 0.4% of the coverage. Female actors accounted for

18% of the sources and 8% of the mentions in the gender category while PWD actors represented 0.2% of the sources and 1% of the mentions in their category. Youth comprised 1.7% of the sources and 7% of the mentions in the age section.

PDP accounted for the most sources (37.6%) and mentions (36%) and was followed by APC (27.9% sources; 33.8% mentions) and LP (12.7% sources; 13.7% mentions) in the political parties' section.

Security agencies (49% sources; 46.5% mentions) were more visible than INEC (40% sources; 43.2% mentions). Both actors were more visible than other government agencies combined.

LCDAAs (0.8% sources; 0.4% mentions) and LGAs (7.6% sources; 21.4% mentions) were not as visible as the higher levels of government (91.6% sources; 78.2% mentions) in the government category. NGOs (40% sources; 22.4% mentions) and PSGs (10.9% sources; 8.6% mentions) were more visible than other interest groups. Embassies (50% sources; 23.5% mentions) and international NGOs (25% sources; 23.5% mentions) received more attention than other foreign actors featured in the analysed radio broadcasts.

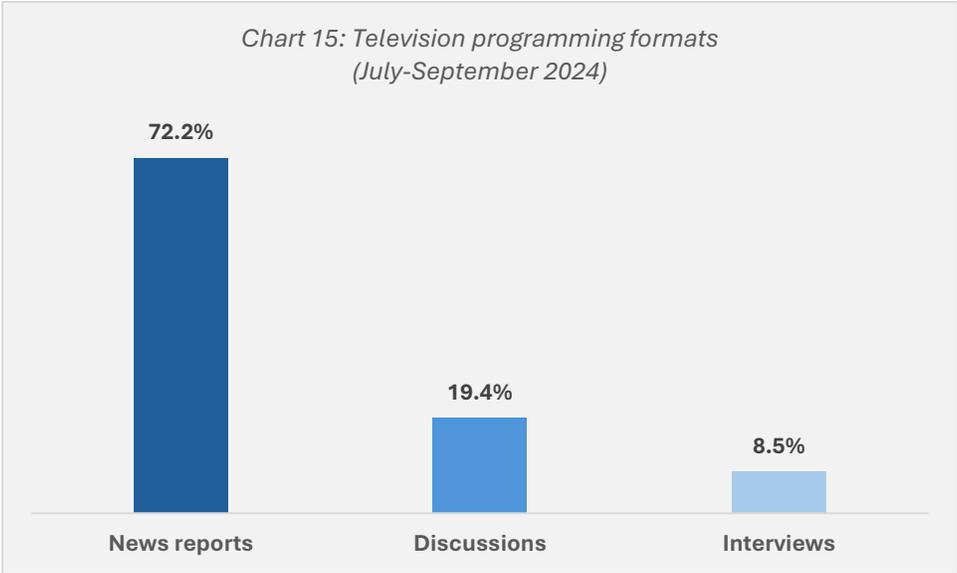
PART II

CONTENT OF POLITICAL PROGRAMMES ON TELEVISION

Relevant broadcasts were monitored on selected television stations from July to September 2024. The findings are presented below.

PROGRAMME TYPOLOGY ON TELEVISION

A total of 1749 news reports, discussion programmes and interviews were monitored on the selected television stations.



Out of the contents analysed during the period under review, 1262 were packaged as news reports. These, according to Chart 15, represented 72.2% of the contents. The remaining television broadcasts were aired in the discussion (19.4%; 339 stories) and interview (8.5%; 148 stories) formats.

THEMATIC EMPHASIS ON TELEVISION

Thematic focus refers to the dominant topics or issues covered in monitored television broadcasts.

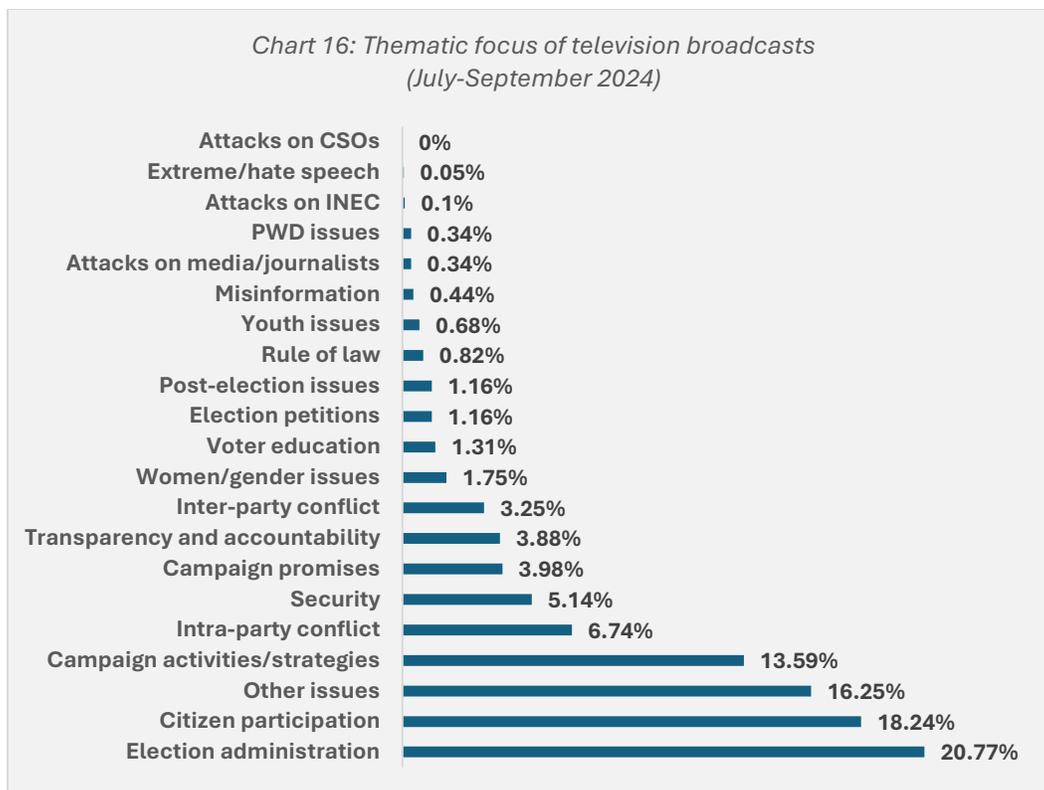


Chart 16 shows that election administration was the most reported and discussed theme on television, accounting for 20.77% (428 in 2061 instances) of the coverage. Voter education received 1.31% (27 instances) of the attention.

- “INEC inducts new RECs, assures commitment to transparency,” Channels TV reported on July 1, focusing on election administration.
- In another instance, INEC meets with election observers, monitors ahead of Edo and Ondo guber elections, emphasises adherence to electoral rules,” Channels TV reported on July 17.
- Also, “Off-cycle election: INEC expresses fear over insecurity in Edo state, urges National Assembly to implement electoral act,” ITV reported on July 25.
- During a discussion segment of the July 2 edition of Channels TV programme ‘Sunrise Daily,’ Executive Director of Alliance for Inclusive Development James Ugochukwu harped on the role of the media, political parties and civil society in mobilising the electorate to mitigate voter apathy. Voter education was the focus of the discussion.

- In another instance, “NNPP will now have a new logo on the ballot papers in the November 2024 off-season governorship election in Ondo state,” NTAi reported on July 13.
- “Edo guber: INEC tasks media on ethical conduct, asks them to apply for accreditation” to cover off-cycle election, ITV reported on August 1, focusing on election administration.
- In a related instance, “Off-cycle elections: INEC registers 177,914 new voters ahead of elections,” OGTV reported on August 5.
- In another instance, “LG election: Kano State Independent Electoral Commission set to conduct exercise,” ITV reported on August 6.
- Also, “Ahead of the Ondo and Edo governorship elections, INEC has released the final list of voters as the continuous voter registration exercise ends in the two states,” NTA reported on August 6.
- During an August 30 interview on Channels TV’s ‘Politics Today,’ INEC chairman’s spokesperson Rotimi Oyekanmi hinted at the commission’s adequate preparation and planned mock accreditation in Edo state, adding that Edo residents had turned out well for the collection of voter cards.
- During the August 8 edition of LTV’s ‘The Conversation,’ interviewee Barrister Tosin Akande opined that INEC’s voter education department was not as active as necessary. The comment was focused on voter education.
- Also, during the August 15 edition of ITV programme ‘This Morning On ITV,’ new media expert and youth advocate Sarah Igunbor, political analyst Grant Osazuwa Aghedo and civil rights activist Armstrong Ovie-Afabor urged INEC and other stakeholders in the electoral process to embark on robust voter education to properly educate the electorate on the power of the ballot. The session was focused on voter education.
- “INEC has said that political parties taking part in the Edo governorship election are expected to sign a peace accord for a hitch-free poll,” Gotel TV reported on September 1, focusing on election administration.
- “IPAC proposes single-day election, asserts that staggered election not cost effective, adds that INEC chairman should no longer be appointed by the executive but rather through an advertised selection process,” Channels TV reported on September 2.

- “Edo guber: INEC assures of conducting election with highest standards,” NTA reported on September 6.
- AIT reported on September 23 that “INEC declares APC candidate Monday Okphebolo winner of the September 21 governorship election in the state with a total of 291,667 votes; the PDP candidate Asue Ighodalo received 247,274 votes; and LP’s Olumide Akpata received 22,763 votes”.
- “PDP rejects results of Edo governorship election result,” TVC News reported on September 23.
- “Edo LP candidate Olumide Akpata alleges that the election was not credible, shades PDP for engaging in alleged vote-buying,” Channels TV reported on September 23.
- During the September 4 edition of ITV programme ‘This Morning on ITV,’ Osahon Uwoghiren, Edo state coordinator of the National Orientation Agency (NOA), spoke on the civic responsibility of the agency’s civic responsibility to educate voters. The discussion was focused on voter education.
- In another instance, “Edo governorship election: Edo CSO holds sensitisation rally in Ekpoma,” ITV reported on September 17.
- “Lagos State Independent Electoral Commission (LASIEC) takes voter education to Somolu and Bariga,” LTV reported on September 19.

Citizen participation accounted for 18.24% (376 instances) of the coverage. Transparency and accountability represented 3.88% (80 instances) of the issues while the rule of law comprised 0.82% (17 instances) of the coverage.

- “SDP national chairman Shehu Gabam shows support for peaceful protest, adds that the government should be diplomatic and not threaten the protesters,” Channels TV reported on July 25, focusing on citizen participation.
- In a related instance, “Economic hardship: League of Imams and Alfas in Ogun state condemns planned protest,” OGTV reported on July 25.
- Also, “CAN Youth Wing, Arewa Youth Movement dissociate selves from planned protest as United National Youth Congress vows to join the protest,” Channels TV reported on July 26.

- “Supreme Court bars states from handling local government funds,” AIT reported on July 11, focusing on transparency and accountability. The report also noted that President Tinubu was “happy” with the judgement.
- During a discussion segment of the July 8 edition of AIT programme, ‘Democracy Today,’ Political analyst Okazhu Powers discussed the Court of Appeal judgement on the Rivers State House of Assembly, saying that Justice Eluwale’s recognition of Victor Okoh Jombo as Speaker was null and void. Martins Amawhule, the analyst said, remained Speaker. During the segment, the local government caretaker committee chairman and ALGON spokesperson, Marvin Yobana, argued that Amawhule was an impostor who should be arrested. The discussion segment, titled ‘Rivers Political Logjam and Fresh Matters Arising,’ centred around the rule of law.
- “Police disperse protesters with tear gas in Abuja,” LTV reported on August 1 concerning the ‘End Bad Governance’ or ‘Hunger’ protests staged during the period under review. The report was focused on citizen participation.
- In a related instance, “Peaceful protests hold in Ogun and Oyo states,” Channels Television reported on August 1.
- Liberty TV reported on August 13 that “The governors of Kano, Kaduna and Yobe have lifted curfews imposed after the nationwide ‘End Bad Governance’ protest degenerated into violence in their states.”
- Local government autonomy was the fulcrum of the instances of reportage focused on transparency and accountability. For instance, LTV reported on August 20 that “Federal government inaugurates committee to enforce local government autonomy”.
- In a related instance, “Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) has applauded the Supreme Court for judgement on local government autonomy,” Liberty TV reported on August 20.
- Also, during an interview on Channels TV’s ‘Politics Today’ on August 5, ADP national chairman Yabagi Sanni stated that governors should be held accountable for the substantial revenues they receive from the federal government, particularly the funds allocated for local government operations before the Supreme Court ruled on local government autonomy.

- In an instance focused on the rule of law, “The Nigeria Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ) has challenged the newly sworn-in Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun, to use her position to promote the rule of law and equality in justice for Nigerians irrespectively of their status,” KSTV reported on August 26.
- In another instance, “NBA holds national conference as President Tinubu expresses commitment to rule of law; Lagos Governor Sanwo-Olu hints on collaboration with the judiciary for improved electoral process,” LTV reported on August 26.
- During a discussion segment of the August 7 edition of Channels TV’s programme ‘Sunrise Daily,’ PDP spokesperson Ibrahim Abdullahi commented on the reported refusal of Oyo state local government chairmen to comply with the Supreme Court judgment on local government autonomy, assuring that Governor Seyi Makinde would ensure compliance with the ruling.
- “Groups protest in Taraba, Adamawa against bad governance,” Channels TV reported on September 1, focusing on citizen participation.
- During the September 2 edition of AIT programme ‘Democracy Today,’ lawyer Deji Adeyanju criticised the government for charging ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protesters with treason.
- “NBA set to offer free legal representation to ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protesters,” Channels TV reported on September 4.
- “PDP supporters protest arrest of PDP members as Obaseki accuses APC of alleged intimidation, collusion with police,” Channels TV reported on September 10.
- “Edo election 2024: PDP members in Akoko-Edo protest against alleged plans of Kogi Governor Ododo to work for a major party in Igarra,” ITV reported on September 20.
- In an instance focused on transparency and accountability, “LG autonomy: Group calls for accountability on allocations from local government chairmen,” ITV reported on September 2.
- Kano APC chastises NNPP leader Rabiu Kwankwaso for alleging a lack of transparency in FG’s distribution of food palliatives, OSRC TV reported on September 10.
- Focusing on the rule of law, Channels TV reported on September 2 that “Amnesty International says the trial of protesters is a mockery of the rule of law”.

- Also, “Ondo guber: Abuja high court orders INEC to accept Nehemiah, Awude as LP candidates,” KSTV reported on September 27.

Campaign activities/strategies received 13.59% (280 instances) of the coverage while campaign promises constituted 3.98% (82 instances) of the attention.

- During the July 1 edition of AIT programme ‘Democracy Today,’ the Deputy Director-General of the Asue/Ogie Campaign Council, Olu Martins, analyst Orobosa Omo-Ojo and the chairman of media for Team LP Governorship Council Edo State, Idris Zekeri, discussed the game of wits and the batter for votes in the forthcoming Edo governorship election. The discussion represented an instance of campaign activities/strategies serving as the focus of an election-related television broadcast during the period under review.
- In a related instance, “Edo guber election: APC Ikpoba Okha Campaign Council inaugurates directorates, ward coordinators,” ITV reported on July 1.
- Also, “Mathew Iduoyekawen, the DG, Campaign Management Council of the PDP governorship candidate, led others in a rally in Benin City in support of candidate Asue Ighodalo and his running mate,” Gotel TV reported on July 10.
- In an instance centred on campaign promises, “PRP guber candidate in Edo state Patience Ndidi Key restates commitment to human capital and infrastructural development,” ITV reported on July 1.
- In another instance, LP governorship candidate Ayodele Olorunfemi “has vowed to pay N120,000 minimum wage if elected to office in the off-cycle election on November 16,” Liberty TV reported on July 16.
- “The PDP Campaign Organisation urges voters to reject APC in the Edo state governorship election due to the prevailing hardship they caused,” AIT reported on August 2, focusing on campaign activities/strategies.
- In a related instance, “Edo 2024 election: APC holds mega rally to flag off campaign in Edo South,” ITV reported on August 13.
- “Ondo PDP inaugurates 500-member campaign council ahead of Ondo guber election,” Channels TV reported on August 15.

- Also, “The APC Ondo State Chapter has said the party will record a victory in the forthcoming governorship election in the state,” OSRC TV reported on August 20.
- During an August 27 discussion of Arise TV’s ‘This Morning Show,’ Edo LP governorship candidate Olumide Akpata claimed that APC and PDP ran the state for 25 years with nothing to show for it. He promised to deliver on electricity, agriculture, education and security if elected to office. The discussion was focused on campaign promises.
- In a related instance, “Edo APC campaigns in Ikpoba Okha communities, promises improved health and infrastructure,” Channels TV reported on August 29.
- Also, “Governor Obaseki says election of PDP’s Asue Ighodalo will sustain the reforms of the last eight years,” ITV reported on August 30.
- “Edo 2024 election: Peter Obi drums support for LP guber candidate Olumide Akpata,” ITV reported on September 10.
- “Edo guber poll: PDP campaign council presents solar-powered streetlights to residents of Egor LGA,” ITV reported on September 19.
- “Edo APC candidate Monday Okphebolo concludes campaign across 100 wards in 18 local government areas with optimism,” AIT reported on September 19, focusing on campaign activities/strategies. AIT also reported on the same day that “PDP candidate Asue Ighodalo solicits votes from traders, civil servants, pensioners as Edo goes to the polls”.
- “Edo PDP takes campaign to Etsako East and Central LGAs, promises better use of marine economy,” Channels TV reported on September 4, focusing on campaign promises.
- “Edo APC candidate Monday Okpebholo has promised to address educational deficits in the state by hiring over 5,000 teachers if elected as governor,” Gotel TV reported on September 18, focusing on campaign promises.

Intra-party conflict and inter-party conflict comprised 6.74% (139 instances) and 3.25% (67 instances) of the coverage respectively while election petitions made up 1.16% (24 instances) of the coverage.

- Edo PDP deputy chairman Harrison Omagbon was interviewed on the July 9 edition of Channels TV programme ‘Politics Today’, during which he opined that the party’s

primary election was conducted according to the law. He, however, railed at those behind the conflict in the party, adding that Asue Ighodalo who won the primary election had the competence to govern the state. The interview represented an instance in which intra-party conflict was discussed on television.

- APC Senator Ali Ndume was removed as chief whip and vice chairman of the Appropriation Committee because he angrily claimed that the APC government is run by thieves, AIT reported on July 17, highlighting an intra-party conflict in the ruling party. The report added that the APC national chairman and secretary signed a letter asking Ndume to resign from the party and join any other he preferred.
- In another instance, “The crisis in LP seems to be far from over as former spokesperson for the Obi Presidential Campaign Organisation Kenneth Okonkwo has left the party,” TVC News reported on July 28.
- On July 1, LP national youth leader Kennedy Ahanotu went on Channels TV programme ‘Politics Today’ to claim that the ruling APC was trying to make opposition parties ineffective. YPP national chairman Bishop Amakri agreed with Ahanotu on the programme, adding that the APC had not been fair to the opposition. The television broadcasts focused on inter-party conflict.
- In another instance, “Edo state government says APC orchestrated violence to get PDP leaders arrested ahead of guber election,” Channels TV reported on July 19. Deputy governor Philip Shaibu, who was at loggerheads with the PDP following his failure to win the party’s governorship ticket, “debunks the statement, says Edo vigilante group was responsible for the violence,” the report added.
- Also, “Defected Rivers lawmakers issue seven-day ultimatum to Governor Siminalayi Fubara to re-present appropriation bill,” LTV reported on July 8. The lawmakers had decamped from Fubara’s PDP to the APC. The report added that “the Victor Okojombo faction” of the assembly leadership “has screened and approved” the governor’s new commissioners.
- “Court affirms the election of Governor Uzodimma in Imo state,” Channels TV reported on July 16, focusing on election petitions.
- In another instance, “Appeal Court affirms the election of Governor Duoye Diri of Bayelsa state,” LTV reported on July 18.

- “Senator representing Borno South Ali Ndume has brokered a truce with the national working committee of APC over differences with the party which led to his removal as the Senate Chief Whip,” NTA reported on August 6, focusing on intra-party conflict.
- During a discussion segment of the August 7 edition of AIT programme ‘Democracy Today,’ Benue PDP media consultant Colinus Hwande said that Governor Ortom was suspended from the party for choosing LP candidate in last year’s general election and asking PDP members to vote for APC in the yet-to-be-conducted 2027 presidential election. The discussion was also focused on intra-party conflict.
- During an August 12 interview on Channel TV’s ‘Politics Today,’ reinstated Rivers APC chairman Emeka Beke threatened to take disciplinary action against defecting Rivers lawmakers if they failed to attend a planned APC stakeholder meeting. The intra-party conflict was the focus of the discussion. The lawmakers had defected from PDP but seemed uncommitted to their new platform.
- In an instance focused on inter-party conflict, “Edo 2024 election: PDP campaign says no truck of rice was given to Edo state by the FG, says APC shouldn’t promote fallacy,” ITV reported on August 5. Both parties traded words on a reported federal government food palliative programme.
- In another instance, “Rivers APC chairman Tony Okocha canvasses support for President Bola Tinubu, alleges that PDP’s Governor Siminalayi Fubara sponsored nationwide protest in Rivers state,” Channels TV reported on August 13.
- Also, Rivers APP calls for the arrest and prosecution of those responsible for the explosion at its state secretariat in Port Harcourt,” TVC news reported on August 14. “The improvised explosive device was allegedly planted by suspected political thugs who likely supported another party,” the report said.
- “Bayelsa Governor Douye Diri confident PDP party crises will be resolved during state congresses,” AIT reported on September 2, focusing on the intra-party crisis.
- “APGA chieftain Chekwes Okorie calls for sanction of Governor Charles Soludo, others over anti-party activities,” Channels TV reported on September 4.
- “Edwin Clark calls for Wike’s arrest over threat to PDP states,” Channels TV reported on September 5.

- “2027: LP withdraws automatic tickets for Peter Obi and Alex Otti, says stakeholders meeting was an illegal gathering,” Channels TV reported on September 9.
- “Ondo PDP has accused APC of planning to cause violence during the Ondo state governorship election,” Gotel TV reported on September 5, focusing on inter-party conflict.
- “Edo guber election: PDP wants IGP to stop alleged violent attacks by APC, calls for release of detained members,” ITV reported on September 9.
- “PDP’s Sam Anyawu says he would appeal Supreme Court judgment over Imo guber election if possible,” Channels TV reported on September 2, focusing on the election petition.
- “Court stops INEC from releasing voter register to Rivers State Independent Electoral Commission (RSIEC),” Channels TV reported on September 30, focusing on the election petition.

Security issues accounted for 5.14% (106 instances) of the coverage. Attacks on media/journalists and attacks on INEC received 0.34% (7 instances) and 0.1% (2 instances) of the coverage respectively.

- “Edo government calls for investigation into the shooting incident during the arrival of Philip Shaibu to Benin,” Channels TV reported on July 18, focusing on security issues.
- In another instance, “INEC has disclosed the security concern that cropped up over the upcoming governorship election in Edo state,” ATV reported on July 25.
- “Explosive device detonates at APP secretariat in Port Harcourt, party leadership alleges that attack is political,” Channels TV reported on August 12, focusing on election-related security issues.
- In another instance, “Security agencies promise adequate security during Edo and Ondo guber elections,” Channels TV reported on August 14.
- Also, “INEC chairman Professor Mahmood Yakubu calls for vigilance ahead of Edo and Ondo governorship elections,” Liberty TV reported on August 14.
- “Political parties to sign peace accord on September 12 ahead of Edo guber election,” LTV reported on August 29.

- In an instance focused on attacks on the media/journalists, “Police attack protester, AIT correspondent in Abuja as nationwide hunger protests commence,” AIT reported on August 1, focusing on security issues arising from the protest staged during the period in review.
- In a related instance, “Reacting to the nationwide protest, the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) has condemned the harassment and intimidation of journalists by security operatives,” OSRC TV reported on August 4.
- Also, “Nationwide protest subsides on day seven as governors relax curfew and hoodlums molest journalist,” Channels TV reported on August 7.
- “35,000 police officers and 800 other security personnel deployed for Edo guber election,” Channels TV reported on September 10, focusing on election-related security issues.
- “Chief of Defence Staff commits to peaceful polls in Edo as Governor Obaseki laments intimidation of citizens by police,” Channels TV reported on September 18.
- “IGP orders restriction of movement from 6 am to 6 pm on Edo guber election day,” LTV reported on September 20
- “Enugu poll: NSCDC deploys 984 personnel ahead of local government election,” KSTV reported on September 20.
- “Suspected political thugs attack TVC News crew covering Edo state governorship election in Irrua, Esan Central,” TVC News reported on September 19, focusing on attacks on media/journalists.
- In an instance concerning attacks on INEC, “Edo election 2024: Soldiers repel attack on Oredo INEC collation centre by suspected thugs,” ITV reported on September 20.

Women’s issues received 1.75% (36 instances) of the coverage. Youth and PWD issues received 0.68% (14 instances) and 0.34% (7 instances) of the coverage respectively.

- Akwa Ibom governor’s wife Patience Umo Eno, others advocate for women to occupy various posts in the state,” AKBC TV reported on July 4, focusing on women’s issues.

- “Governor Umo Eno announces 40% participation for women, says forms for local government elections will be free for female aspirants,” AKBC TV also reported on July 4.
- In another instance, “Women leaders in political parties call for more women representation in administration,” LTV reported on July 22.
- In an instance focused on youth issues, “Edo guber election: Ovia North-East LG boss advises youth to shun political thuggery in forthcoming governorship election, says youth can hold political posts,” ITV reported on July 26.
- During a July 17 discussion on AIT programme ‘Democracy Today,’ the Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on PWDs, Bashiru Dawodu, and the Chairman of the National Association of PWDs FCT Chapter, Christian Agbor, highlighted their expectations from the government on budgeting for PWDs in the country. The discussion represented an instance in which PWD issues were featured on television during the period in review.
- During an August 14 interview on OGTV’s ‘Ijoba Awarawa,’ APC politician Omolola Talabi spoke about the participation and inclusion of women in local government elections and other polls in the country. The discussion was focused on election-related women’s issues.
- In an instance focused on youth issues, “Youth advocate Abdulsalam Ashade celebrates International Youth Day, says youth are not really involved in politics because of intimidation,” LTV reported on August 13.
- In a related instance, “Catholic archbishop Onaiyekan asks politicians to give space to young people,” Channels TV reported on August 13.
- “Adamawa deputy governor Kaletapwa Farauta has praised Governor Ahmadu Fintiri for surpassing 35% affirmative action benchmark for women’s inclusion in governance,” ATV reported on September 2, focusing on women’s issues.
- “United Nations charges media to advocate gender inclusiveness in leadership and governance,” LTV reported on September 6.
- “Women group advocates improved representation of women in public offices as women representation in National Assembly has fallen by 19%,” AIT reported on September 11.

- “Ondo governorship election: Advocacy group encourages voter participation among PWDs,” OSRC TV reported on September 4, focusing on PWD issues.
- “An NGO, TAF Africa, has announced its collaboration with INEC to ensure that PWDs can vote without hindrance in the Ondo state governorship election, Mr. Adeolu Kilanko, programme manager of the organisation, said,” Gotel TV reported on September 5.
- “Edo PDP candidate Asue Ighodalo promises reforms for youth development as the campaign train moves to Iselu in Igoh local government area,” AIT reported on September 9.
- “NYSC director-general Brigadier General YD Ahmed has appealed for maximum security for all Corps members and NYSC officials who would work as electoral officers in the Edo state gubernatorial election,” AIT reported on September 20, focusing on youth issues.

Misinformation accounted for 0.44% (9 instances) of the coverage. Extreme/hate speech accounted for 0.05% (1 instance) of the coverage.

- “Social media fake news: Prospective voters in Benin City condemn rising trend of fake news blamed on political operatives,” ITV reported on July 24, focusing on misinformation.
- Oseh Anenih, the director of strategy for Edo PDP guber candidate Asue Ighodalo’s campaign organisation, claimed on August 8 that if propaganda was an Olympics sport, APC chieftain Adams Oshiomhole would have won a gold medal. The discussion was focused on alleged misinformation spread by the APC chieftain. He made the claim on Arise TV programme ‘This Morning Show’.
- During the August 19 edition of the show, civil activist Ogbidi Emmanuel spoke about the challenges of curtailing the spread of election-related misinformation and propaganda on social media, placing most of the blame on political parties.
- “Edo election: INEC warns media against misleading news, says it has completed all processes regarding election materials,” OGTV reported on September 6, focusing on election-related misinformation.

- “Ahead of Edo guber election, INEC says it has put measures in place to curb the spread of fake news, misinformation and disinformation,” LTV reported on September 6.
- During a September 13 interview on Arise TV’s ‘Arise Primetime,’ Edo APC chairman Jarret Tenebe said the “chairman of the PDP has a diarrhoea of the mouth and because he is failing, he wants to drag someone with him”. This represented an instance in which election-related extreme/hate speech was deployed on television during the period under review.

Post-election and other issues received 1.16% (24 instances) and 16.25% (335 instances) of the coverage respectively.

QUALITY OF PROGRAMMES ON TELEVISION — BALANCE

Balanced reporting presents a variety of perspectives and sources on significant election-related issues while maintaining journalism’s obligation to provide context. In contrast, unbalanced reporting fails to do so. The selected television broadcasts were analysed to assess their adherence to this standard.

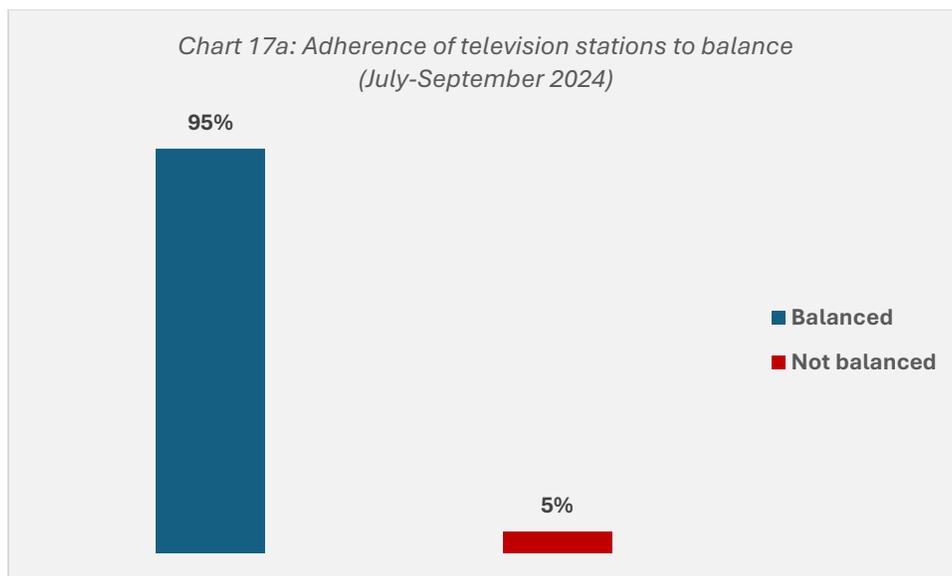


Chart 17a shows that 95% (450 in 474 applicable stories) of sampled television broadcasts were balanced while 5% (24 stories) were not.

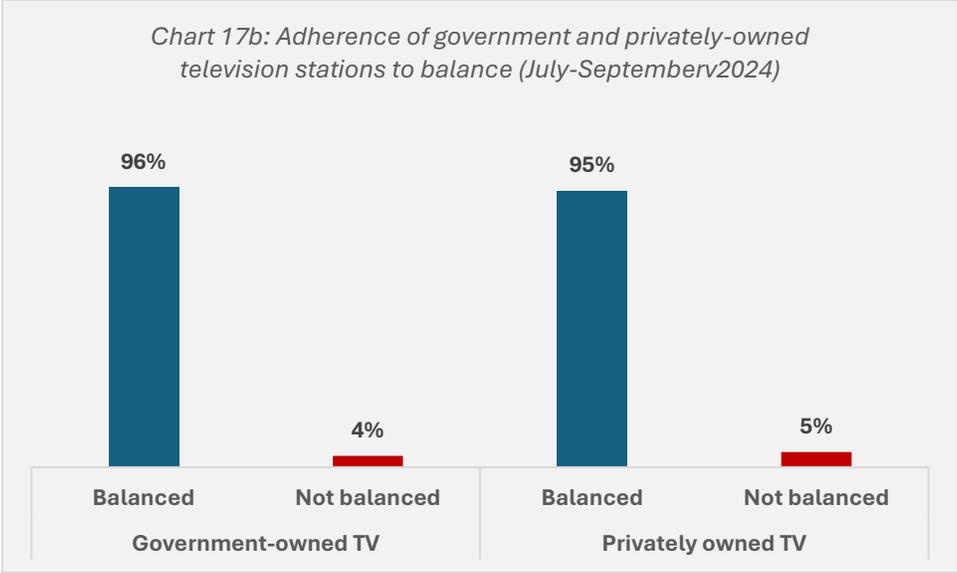


Chart 17b shows that 96% (49 in 51 stories) of the broadcasts from government-owned television stations were balanced while 4% (2 stories) were not. In contrast, 95% (401 in 423 stories) of the broadcasts from privately-owned television stations were balanced while 5% (22 stories) were not.

QUALITY OF PROGRAMMES ON TELEVISION — LANGUAGE

The selected television stations were examined for adherence to wholesome language in their programmes. The recorded incidents involved not only the media and its sources employing provocative language but also the actions of those actively decrying inflammatory rhetoric.

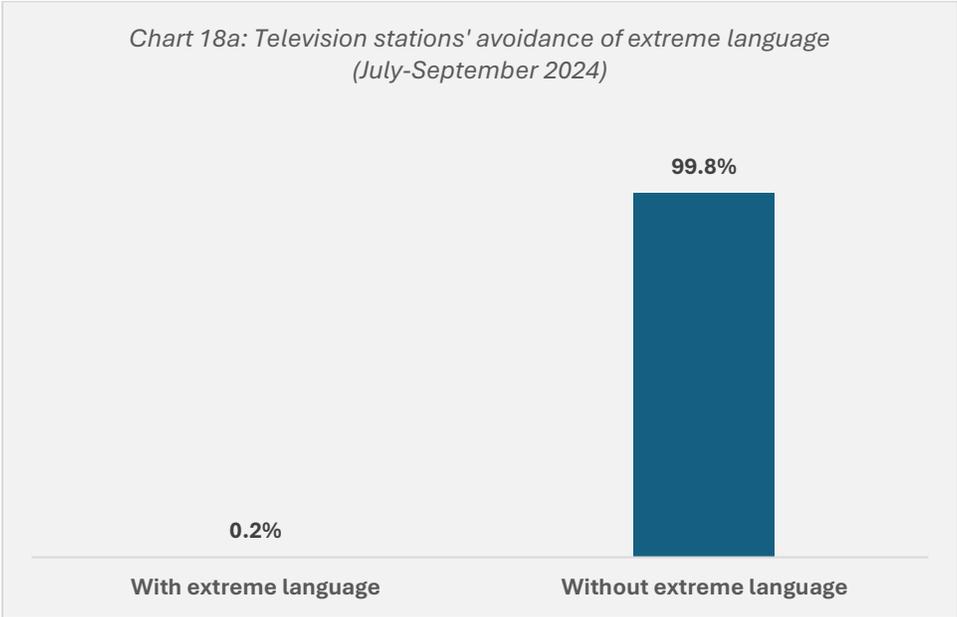


Chart 18a shows that the television stations avoided extreme language in 99.8% (1746 in 1749 stories) of their programmes but fell short in 0.2% (3 stories) of the programmes.

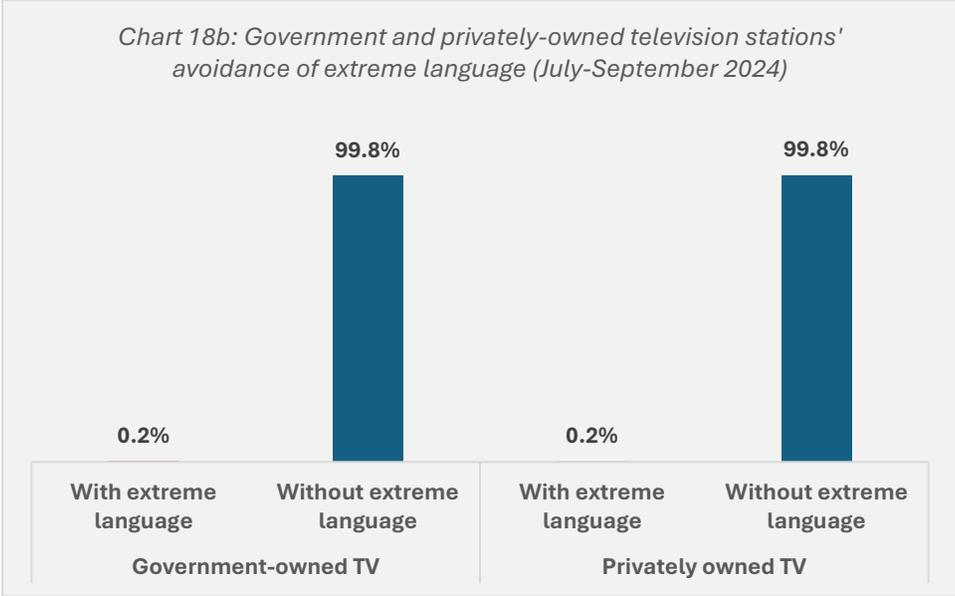


Chart 18b shows that 99.8% (453 in 454 stories) of the broadcasts from government-owned television stations were free of extreme language while 0.2% (1 story) were not. Similarly, 99.8% (1293 in 1295 stories) of the broadcasts from privately-owned television stations lacked extreme language while 0.2% (2 stories) did not.

- While being interviewed on OSRC TV programme ‘State of The State’ on July 4, Ondo NNPP governorship candidate Gbenga Edema said the PDP “is a vomit”. The language was deemed extreme.
- During a September 13 interview on Arise TV’s ‘Arise Primetime,’ Edo APC chairman Jarret Tenebe said the “chairman of the PDP has a diarrhoea of the mouth and because he is failing, he wants to drag someone with him”. This represented an instance in which extreme language was used on television.
- During the September 16 edition of ITV programme ‘This Morning on ITV,’ PDP campaigner Shedrack Udugbai said the Edo APC guber candidate’s intellectual capability “is close to that of a moron.” The anchor immediately cautioned Udugbai, stating that such extreme rhetoric was inappropriate for television.

VISIBILITY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTORS ON TELEVISION

INCLUSION: VISIBILITY OF UNDER-REPRESENTED DEMOGRAPHICS ON TELEVISION

This section assesses the visibility of vulnerable groups on television during the period in review, with a focus on gender, age and PWD status.

PWDs

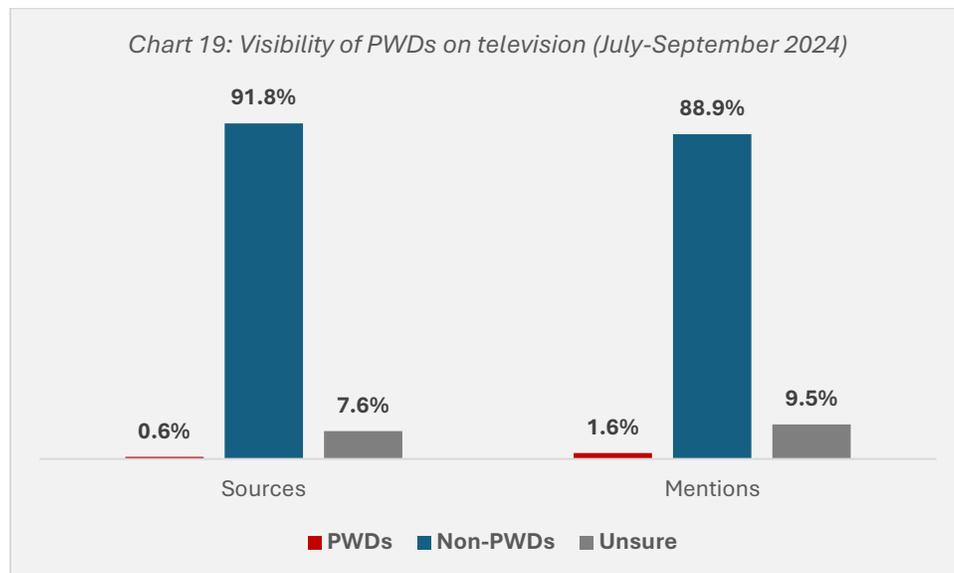


Chart 19 shows that PWD actors comprised 0.6% (10 in 1671 instances) of the sources and 1.6% (18 in 1109 instances) of the mentions while non-PWD actors made up 91.8% (1534 instances) of the sources and 88.9% (989 instances) of the mentions. In some instances, the PWD status of the sources (7.6%; 127 instances) and the mentions (9.5%; 105 instances) could not be determined. The data reflects the previously noted low level of coverage of PWD issues (0.34%; 7 in 2061 instances) as shown in Chart 16.

- The July 14 edition of AIT discussion programme ‘Democracy Today,’ featured the Founder of The Albino Foundation, Jake Ekpele, who discussed local government autonomy with other analysts. The discussion represented an instance of a member of the PWD community serving as the source of a television broadcast.
- Another instance was presented during a July 17 discussion on the programme when the Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on PWDs, Bashiru Dawodu, and the Chairman of the National Association of PWDs FCT Chapter, Christian Agbor, highlighted their expectations from the government on budgeting for PWDs in the country.

- “TAF Africa has announced its collaboration with INEC to ensure that PWDs can vote without hindrance in the Ondo state governorship election, Mr Adeolu Kilanko, programme manager of the organisation, said,” Gotel TV reported on September 5.
- “About 10 PWDs have cast their ballot,” NTA reported on September 21 (Edo election day), featuring PWDs.
- On September 21, a visually impaired male voter in Unit 5, Esan South, Edo Central told NTA that the Edo election “is peaceful and the environment is friendly”.

Women

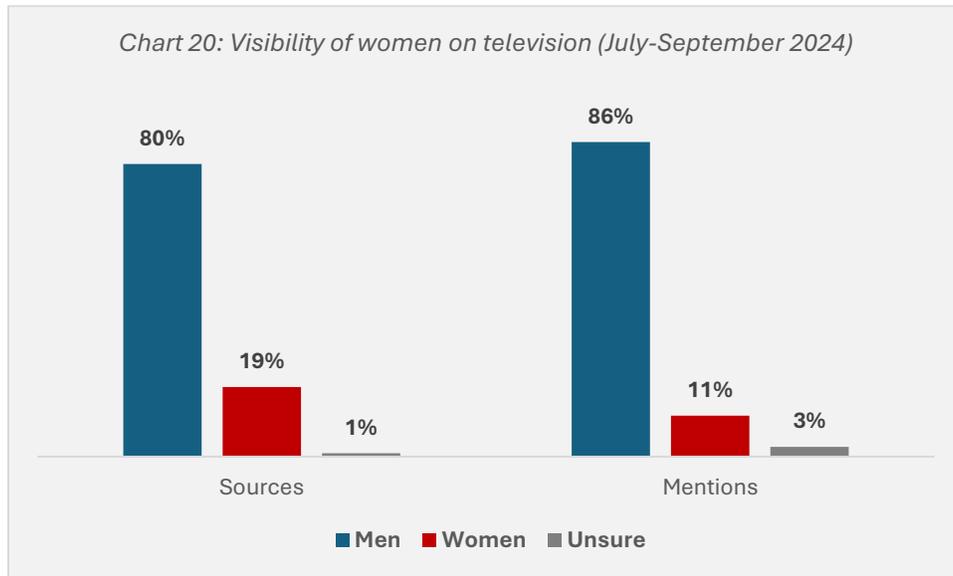


Chart 20 shows that women comprised 19% (294 in 1544 instances) of the sources and 11% (118 in 1051 instances) of the mentions while men made up 80% (1236 instances) of the sources and 86% (905 instances) of the mentions. In several instances, the gender of the sources (1%; 14 instances) and the mentions (3%; 28 instances) was indeterminate. The data indicates that female actors were less visible compared to their male counterparts and reflects the previously noted low level of coverage (1.75%; 36 in 2061 instances) dedicated to women's issues as shown in Chart 16.

- On July 5, OSRC TV reported that Ondo governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa was committed to the welfare of the women of the state. The comment was credited to Mrs Osameye, a senior special adviser-designate to the governor and presented an instance of a woman serving as the source of a television broadcast.
- In another instance, “As the campaign for the Edo state governorship election gathers momentum, some political groups under the aegis of Edo Girls and Edo Choice have

assured victory for PDP candidate Asue Ighodalo and his running mate Barrister Osarodion Ogie,” NTAi reported on July 12.

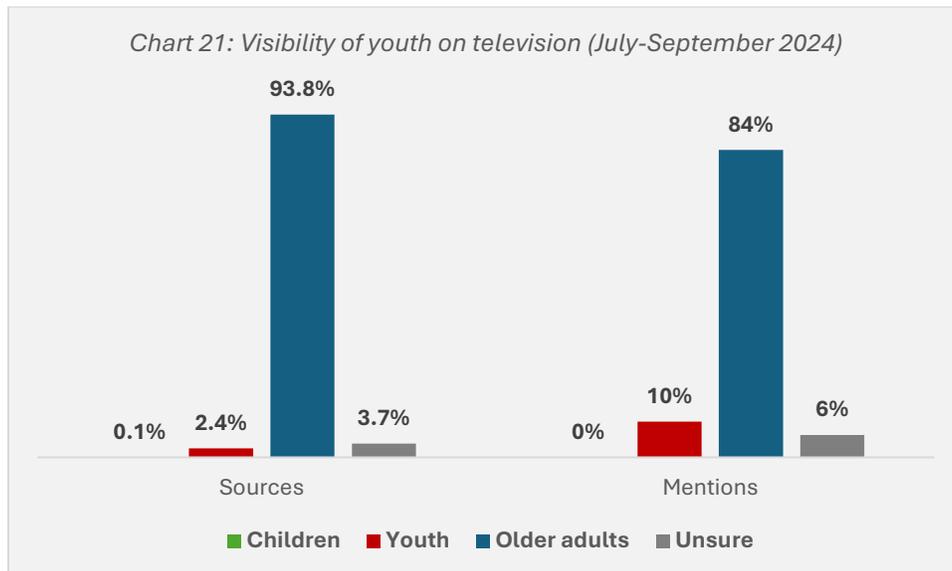
- Also, “South-South women sue for peace on Rivers political crisis,” AIT reported on July 22, using women as the source.
- In an instance in which women were mentioned, “Ondo 2024: The Progressive Nation Women For Aiyedatiwa/Adelami 2024 have shown their support for the governor,” OSRC TV reported on July 9.
- In another instance, “Edo 2024 election: APC intensifies campaign, empowers students, market women,” ITV reported on July 17.
- “O’datiwa Women Initiative visits Ondo City, drums up support for Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa,” OSRC TV reported on August 20, using the special adviser to the governor on women affairs, Mrs Seun Osamaye, who led the team, as the source. Osamaye said the governor was passionate about women and their progress in society.
- In another instance, “Edo 2024: Edo House of Assembly deputy majority leader Natasha Osawaru visits stakeholders in Egor, urges them to vote for PDP guber candidate,” ITV reported on August 21, using Osawaru, a woman, as the source of the television broadcast.
- In an instance in which women were mentioned, “Edo governorship election: APC leaders interact with progressive women in Edo state,” ITV reported on August 1.
- In another instance, “Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa receives more PDP defectors to APC. The defectors were led by former PDP women leader Mrs Esther Ebiwanjumi who said they were impressed by the governor’s leadership style,” OSRC TV reported on August 6.
- Also, “Muslim women in Ondo state have pitched their tent with Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa in the November 16 governorship election,” OSRC TV reported on August 11.
- “Lagos lawmaker Kafilat Ogbara advocates for more gender inclusivity in politics,” LTV reported on September 18, using a woman as the source.
- During the September 16 edition of ITV programme ‘This Morning on ITV,’ APC chieftain Deaconess Maryam Jibrin Obokhale and analyst Dr Elizabeth Ojugo

discussed the quality of candidates campaigning for the governorship office in Edo state. Both sources are women.

- During the September 30 edition of ITV programme ‘This Morning on ITV,’ Edo PRP governorship candidate Patience Ndidu Key spoke about the gains and failures of the election and its impact on Nigeria’s democracy. She also decried vote buying. The discussion presented an instance of a woman serving as the source of a television broadcast during the period in review.
- In an instance in which women were mentioned, “Ondo governorship poll: Idanre women rally for Aiyedatiwa ahead of the November 16 gubernatorial election,” OSRC TV reported on September 13.
- Also, APC governorship candidate Monday Okphebolo promises support for market women as party wraps up ward-to-ward rally with Owan East and West of Edo state,” AIT reported on September 13.

Youth

The African Youth Charter¹ categorises individuals aged between 15 and 35 as youth. This report adopted the same age bracket. However, individuals older than 35 were also considered youth if they represented a youth group or initiative. Those younger than 15 are categorised as children.



According to Chart 21, youth represented 2.4% (37 in 1529 instances) of the sources and 10% (107 in 1095 instances) of the mentions while older adults made up 93.8% (1434 instances) of the sources and 84% (921 instances) of the mentions. Children accounted for 0.1% (1

instance) of the sources but received no mention. The data highlights the limited visibility of youth actors, reflecting the previously noted low level of coverage (0.68%; 14 in 2061 instances) of youth issues as illustrated in Chart 16.

- During a discussion session on the July 16 edition of the ITV programme 'This Morning on ITV,' Shadrack Udugbai, the special adviser on youth affairs to Edo governor Godwin Obaseki, and other analysts discussed the Supreme Court ruling on local government autonomy and how it could be implemented. A youth was used as a source of the television broadcast.
- In another instance, "National Association of Nigerian Students threatens to join protest over high cost of living," Channels TV reported on July 24.
- During a discussion segment on the July 23 edition of ITV programme 'This Morning On ITV,' legal practitioner Itote Damisa talked about the role of youth in curbing violence ahead of the guber race in Edo state. Youth were mentioned during the discussion.
- In another instance, during the July 24 edition of 'ITV This Morning,' the head of the Edo state chapter of the National Youth Council of Nigeria, Moses Aguinede, talked about the role and responsibility of Edo youth in the electoral process.
- "Ondo chapter of National Youth Association endorses the re-election of Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa," Channels TV reported on August 5, using the youth association as the source.
- During an August 9 discussion on Channels TV's 'Sunrise Daily,' IPAC chairman Yusuf Dantalle spoke about plans to promote youth inclusion. Youth were mentioned in the broadcast.
- "Edo 2024 election: Youth urged to support APC candidate Monday Okpebholo for development," ITV reported on September 11, featuring youth.
- "Catholic youth endorse Edo PDP candidate Asue Ighodalo, say he can take state to greater heights," Arise TV reported on September 19.
- "Kwara LG election: Youth organisation canvasses peaceful, credible polls," KSTV reported on September 20.

STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL ACTORS FEATURED ON TELEVISION

This section focuses on the social status of the individual actors given attention in the relevant broadcasts on the selected television stations during the period in review. Aspirants/candidates, political office holders and other politicians occupy the political side of this categorisation while journalists/on-air-personalities (OAPs), public intellectuals/commentators, religious leaders and traditional rulers occupy the public side. The spouses of political aspirants/candidates and the spouses of political office holders are also included.

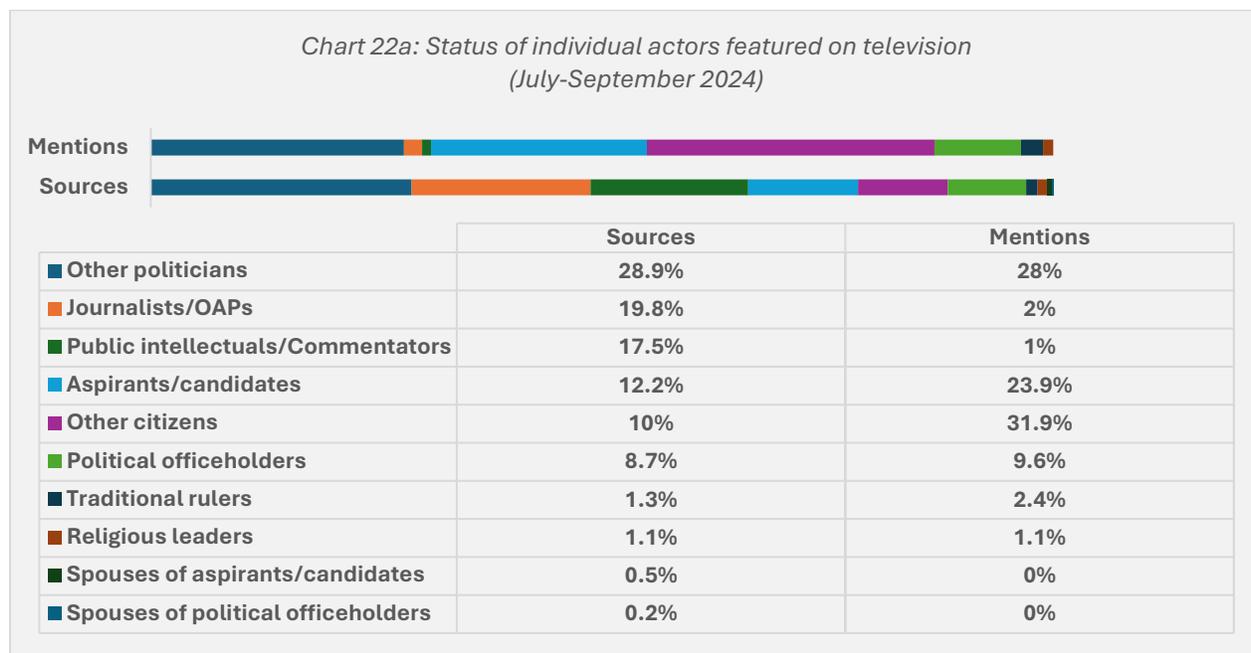


Chart 22a shows that aspirants/candidates comprised 12.2% (154 in 1266 instances) of the sources and 23.9% (381 in 1594 instances) of the mentions while political officeholders accounted for 8.7% (110 instances) of the sources and 9.6% (153 instances) of the mentions. Other politicians were more visible with 28.9% (366 instances) of the sources and 28% (447 instances) of the mentions. The spouses of aspirants/candidates and the spouses of political officeholders represented 0.5% (6 instances) and 0.2% (2 instances) of the sources respectively. They were, however, not mentioned.

Journalists/OAPs constituted 19.8% (251 instances) of the sources and 2% (32 instances) of the mentions while public intellectuals/commentators made up 17.5% (221 instances) of the sources and 1% (16 instances) of the mentions.

Traditional rulers made up 1.3% (16 instances) of the sources and 2.4% (39 instances) of the mentions while religious leaders accounted for 1.1% (14 instances) of the sources and 1.1% (18 instances) of the mentions.

Other citizens received 10% (126 instances) of the sources and 31.9% (508 instances) of the mentions.

Since politicians are major players in elections, the comparative visibility of political office holders, aspirants/candidates and other politicians was analysed. The findings are presented in Chart 22b.

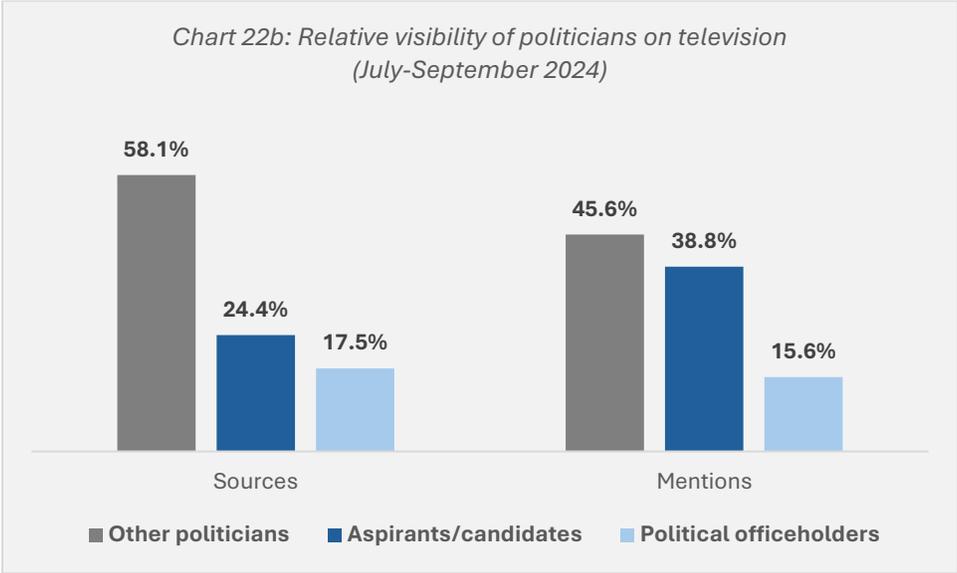


Chart 22b shows that aspirants/candidates constituted 24.4% (154 in 630 instances) of the sources and 38.8% (381 instances) of the mentions while political officeholders represented 17.5% (110 instances) of the sources and 15.6% (153 instances) of the mentions. Other politicians made up 58.1% (366 instances) of the sources and 45.6% (447 instances) of the mentions.

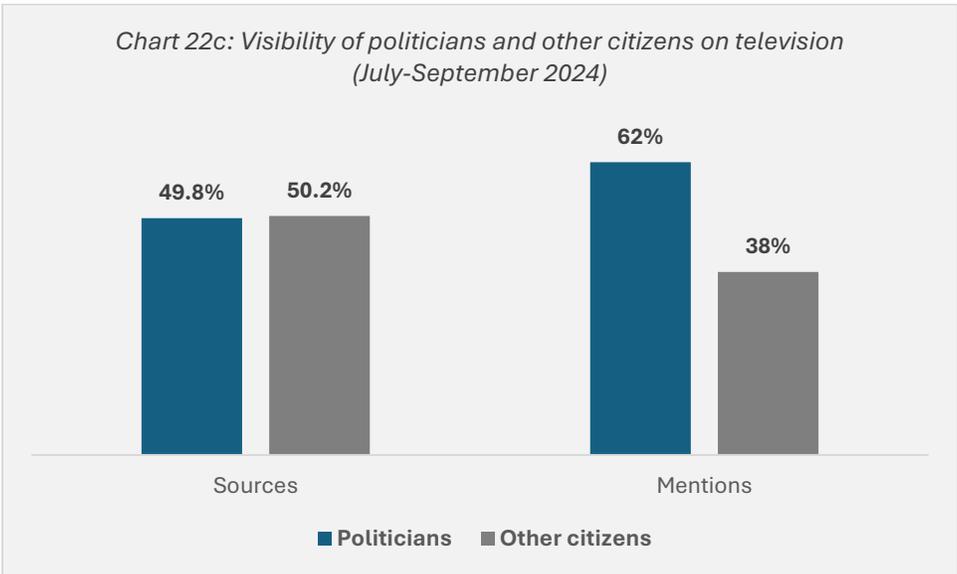


Chart 22c shows that politicians made up 49.8% (630 in 1266 instances) of the sources and 62% (981 in 1594 instances) of the mentions while other citizens constituted 50.2% (636 instances) of the sources and 38% (613 instances) of the mentions.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ACTORS ON TELEVISION

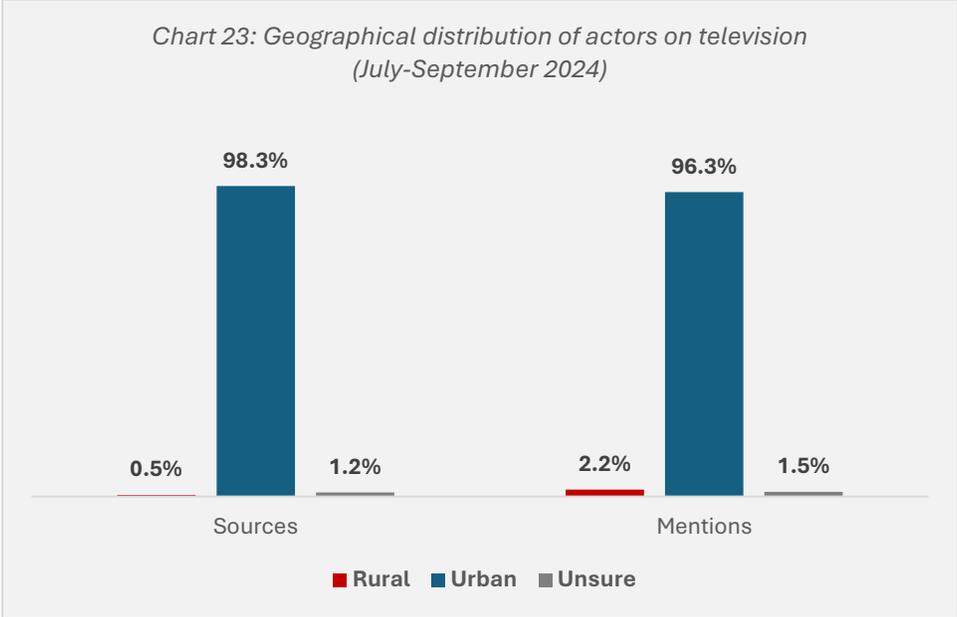


Chart 23 shows that actors from urban locations represented 98.3% (1417 in 1442 instances) of the sources and 96.3% (709 in 736 instances) of the mentions. Rural actors made up 0.5% (7 instances) of the sources and 2.2% (16 instances) of the mentions. The location of the sources in 18 instances (1.2%) and the mentions in 11 instances (1.5%) was indeterminate.

VISIBILITY OF CORPORATE ACTORS ON TELEVISION

The corporate actors include political parties, governments and their government agencies, interest groups and foreign actors.

POLITICAL PARTIES

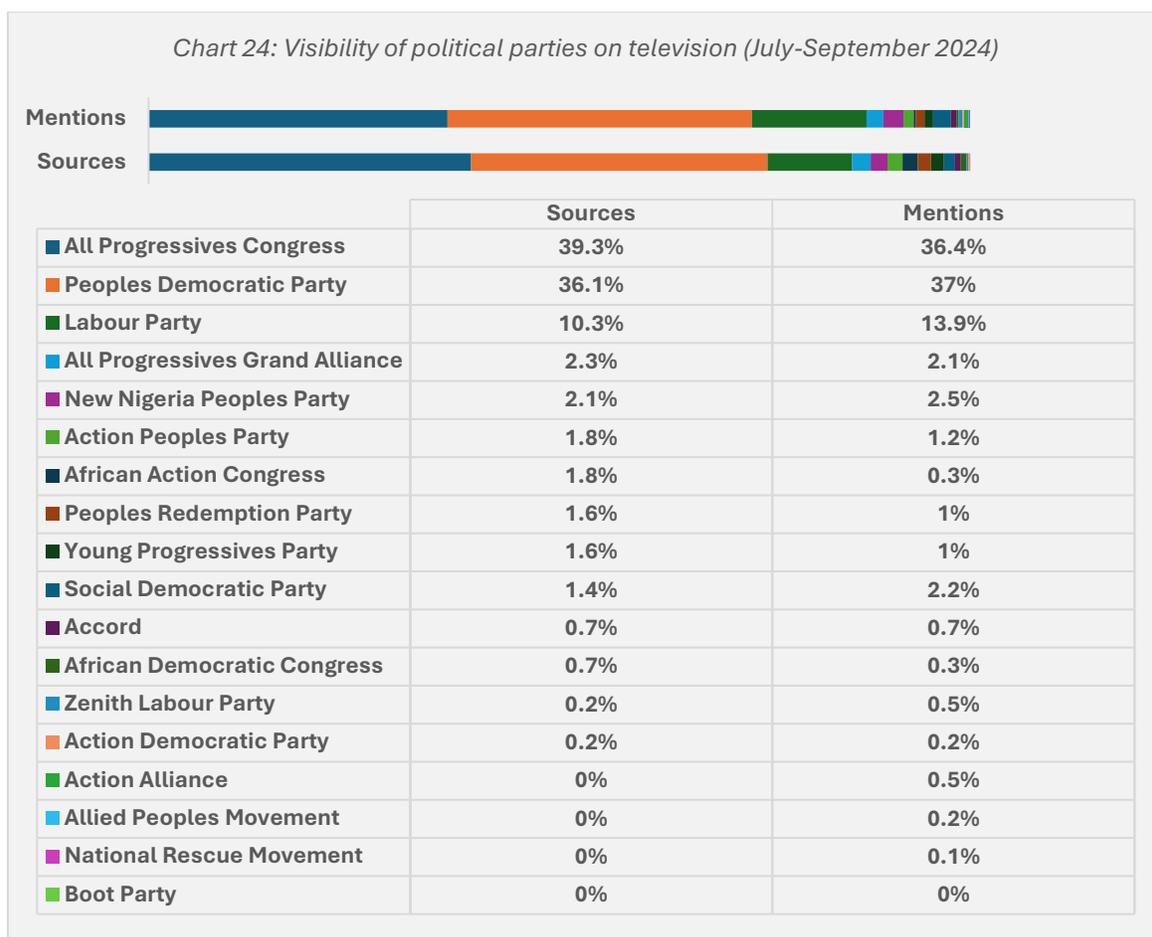


Chart 24 shows that All Progressives Congress (APC) accounted for 39.3% (172 in 438 instances) of the sources and 36.4% (386 in 1061 instances) of the mentions while Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) constituted 36.1% (158 instances) of the sources and 37% (393 instances) of the mentions. Labour Party (LP) comprised 10.3% (45 instances) of the sources and 13.9% (148 instances) of the mentions.

- “Edo PDP says court verdict does not nullify the candidature of Asue Ighodalo,” Channels TV reported on July 4, presenting an instance of PDP serving as the source of a television broadcast during the period in review.
- In another instance, “Edo PDP accuses APC of alleged planned attacks on government infrastructure to cause mayhem during planned protest,” ITV reported on July 26.
- “Edo 2024 election: APC chieftain Ernest Osifo, ex-publicity secretary Bright Ehimwenma, Silas Ituayor, others defect to PDP in Orhionmwon LGA,” ITV reported

on July 1, presenting an instance in which APC and PDP were mentioned on television during the period in review.

- “Edo 2024 election: Reaction trails President Tinubu’s comment to return Edo to APC,” ITV reported on July 2, presenting an instance in which APC was mentioned on television.
- In an instance in which LP was mentioned, “Court affirms Olumide Akpata as Edo LP guber candidate,” Channels TV reported on July 17.
- During the August 12 edition of OSRC TV programme ‘AM Today,’ Mr Kolade Lawal, an APC youth leader in the Southwest, said that Nigerian youth have invested too much into nation building to be politically marginalised. Lawal commented in commemoration of the 2024 International Youth Day. The session presented an instance of an APC actor serving as the source of a television broadcast during the period in review.
- In another instance, “Edo APC takes campaign to Edo central, promises development,” Channels TV reported on August 14.
- Also, “Edo APC takes campaign to Auchu, promises better water supply,” Channels TV reported on August 15.
- In an instance in which APC was mentioned, “Edo governorship election: APC leaders interact with progressive women in Edo state,” ITV reported on August 1.
- In another instance, “Edo APC candidate Monday Okpebholo meets with professionals, business community as he makes promises for a better Edo,” AIT reported on August 28.
- Also, “APC Youth Wing hints on four-year plan for youth development,” LTV reported on August 8.
- “Edo 2024 election: Edo state PDP media campaign council urges political opponents to shun campaign of calumny,” ITV reported on August 15, featuring PDP.
- In another instance, “PDP inaugurates reconciliatory and disciplinary committees, intends to settle intra-party conflicts,” Channels TV reported on August 21.

- In an instance in which LP was featured, “LP guber candidate Olumide Akpata arrives Benin to commence second round of campaigns,” ITV reported on August 13.
- On August 15, Ayo Olorunfemi claimed on Channels TV’s ‘Sunrise Daily’ that he was the authentic governorship candidate of LP in Ondo state, adding that any factional candidate was an imposter.
- During a September 30 interview on Channels TV’s ‘Politics Today,’ PDP chieftain Segun Sowunmi expressed disappointment at the intra-party conflict in his party and decried what he called the ineptitude of the APC government. The interview presented an instance in which both political parties were featured on television during the period under review.
- “Adamawa PDP chairman comments on the national leadership tussle, says Umar Damagun is the most qualified to serve as chairman presently,” Channels TV reported on September 27, featuring PDP.
- Edo election aftermath: PDP members decry alleged violation of electoral guidelines, call for declaration of Asue Ighodalo as governor-elect,” ITV reported on September 26.
- Kaduna’s “Governor Uba Sani flags off APC campaign ahead of LGA election, promises rural revitalisation,” Channels TV reported on September 30. APC was featured in the report.
- During a September 25 interview on Channels TV’s ‘Politics Today,’ Edo LP guber candidate Olumide Akpata said that the governorship election was flawed, adding that there was a high level of vote buying during the September 21 exercise. LP was featured in the interview.

All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) comprised 2.3% (10 instances) of the sources and 2.1% (22 instances) of the mentions while New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) accounted for 2.1% (9 instances) of the sources and 2.5% (26 instances) of the mentions.

Action Peoples Party (APP) and African Action Congress (AAC) each constituted 1.8% (8 instances) of the sources, as well as 1.2% (13 instances) and 0.3% (3 instances) of the mentions respectively.

Whereas Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) and Young Progressives Party (YPP) each accounted for 1.6% (7 instances) and 1% (11 instances) of the mentions, Social Democratic

Party (SDP) made up 1.4% (6 instances) of the sources and 2.2% (23 instances) of the mentions.

Accord and African Democratic Congress (ADC) each represented 0.7% (3 instances) of the sources, as well as 0.7% (3 instances) and 0.3% (3 instances) of the mentions respectively.

Zenith Labour Party (ZLP) and Action Democratic Party (ADP) each made up 0.2% (1 instance) of the sources, as well as 0.5% (5 instances) and 0.2% (2 instances) of the mentions respectively.

Action Alliance (AA), Allied Peoples Movement (APM) and National Rescue Movement (NRM) made up 0.5% (5 instances), 0.2% (2 instances) and 0.1% (1 instance) of the mentions respectively. They were, however, not used as sources.

Boot Party (BP) was not featured.

GOVERNMENT

This section focuses on the visibility of the federal and state arms of government — the executive, the judiciary and the legislature — in relevant television programmes during the period under review. It also compares the visibility of local council development areas (LCDAs) and local government areas (LGAs) with that of the higher levels of government.

Federal government

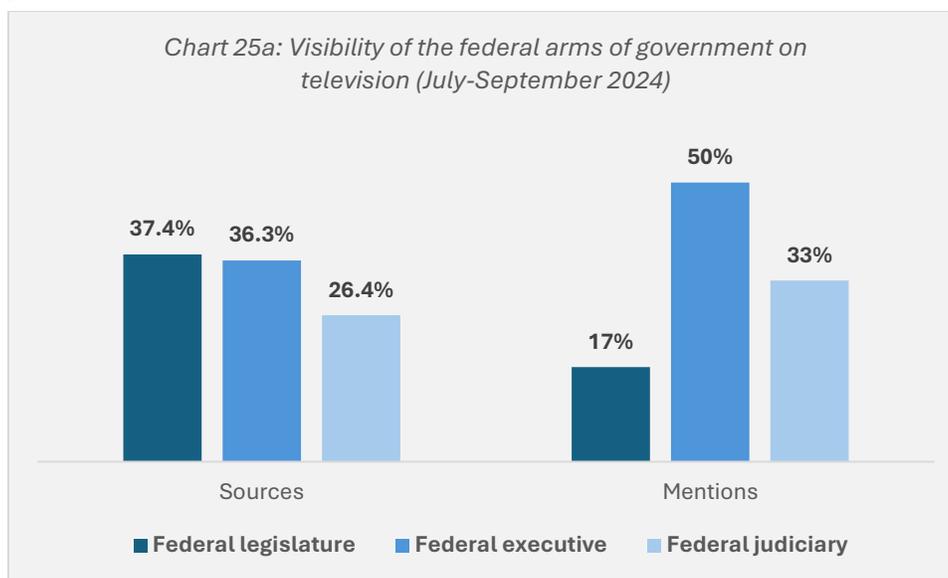


Chart 25a shows that the federal legislature constituted 37.4% (34 in 91 instances) of the sources and 17% (106 in 622 instances) of the mentions while the federal executive accounted for 36.3% (33 instances) of the sources and 50% (313 instances) of the mentions. The federal executive represented 26.4% (24 instances) of the sources and 33% (203 instances) of the mentions.

State governments

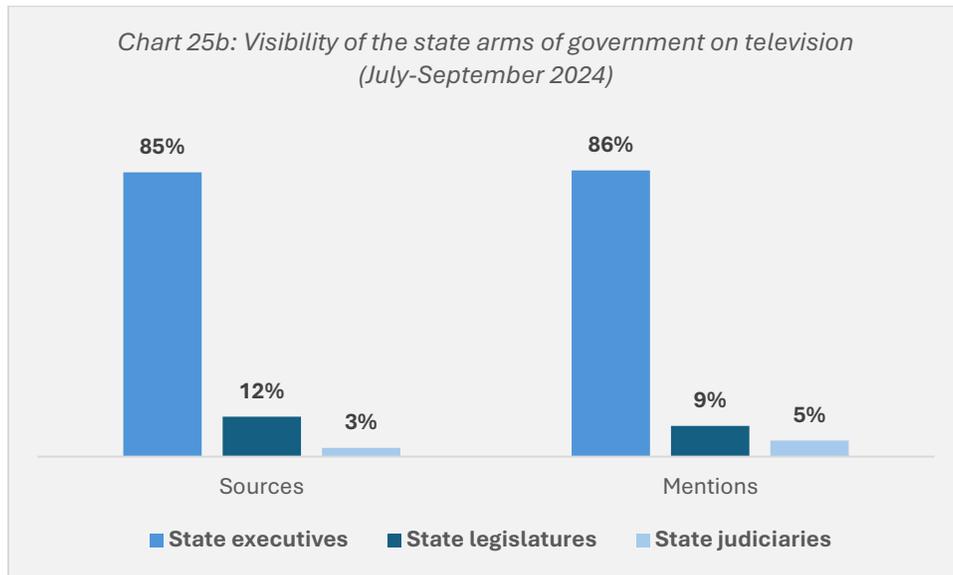


Chart 25b shows that state executives made up 85% (128 in 150 instances) of the sources and 86% (337 in 392 instances) of the mentions. State legislatures accounted for 12% (18 instances) of the sources and 9% (36 instances) of the mentions while state judiciaries represented 3% (4 instances) of the sources and 5% (19 instances) of the mentions.

LCDAs and LGAs

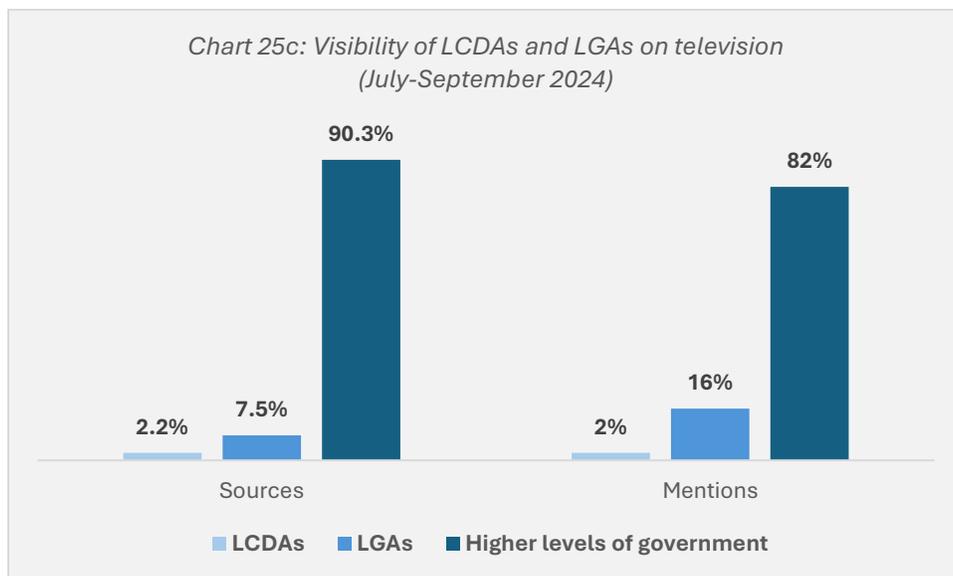
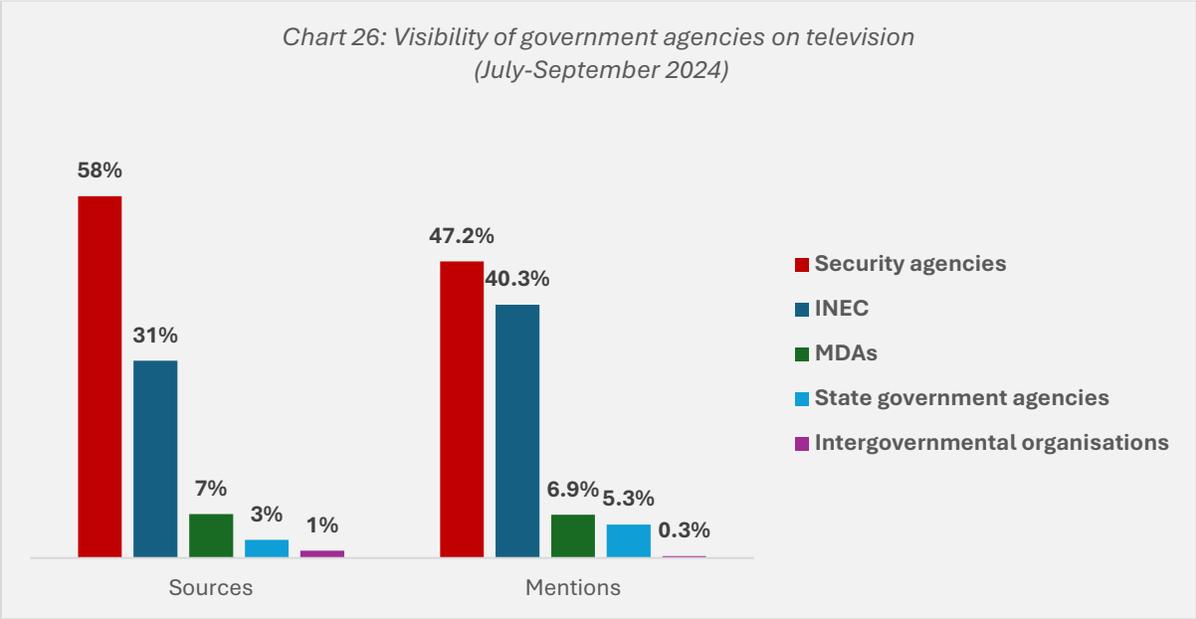


Chart 25c shows that the higher levels of government dominated this category with 90.3% (241 in 267 instances) of the sources and 82% (1014 in 1234 instances) of the mentions. LCDAs made up 2.2% (6 instances) of the sources and 2% (28 instances) of the mentions while LGAs comprised 7.5% (20 instances) of the sources and 16% (192 instances) of the mentions.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

This section assesses the visibility of government agencies such as the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and security agencies which conduct and safeguard the elections, state government agencies, and intergovernmental organisations. The visibility of ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) is also analysed.



According to Chart 26, security agencies made up 58% (99 in 172 instances) of the sources and 47.2% (337 in 714 instances) of the mentions, making them the most visible government agency on television during the period under review. INEC constituted 31% (54 instances) of the sources and 40.3% (288 instances) of the mentions. MDAs comprised 7% (12 instances) of the sources and 6.9% (49 instances) of the mentions while state government agencies accounted for 3% (5 instances) of the sources and 5.3% (38 instances) of the mentions. Intergovernmental agencies made up 1% (2 instances) of the sources and 0.3% (2 instances) of the mentions.

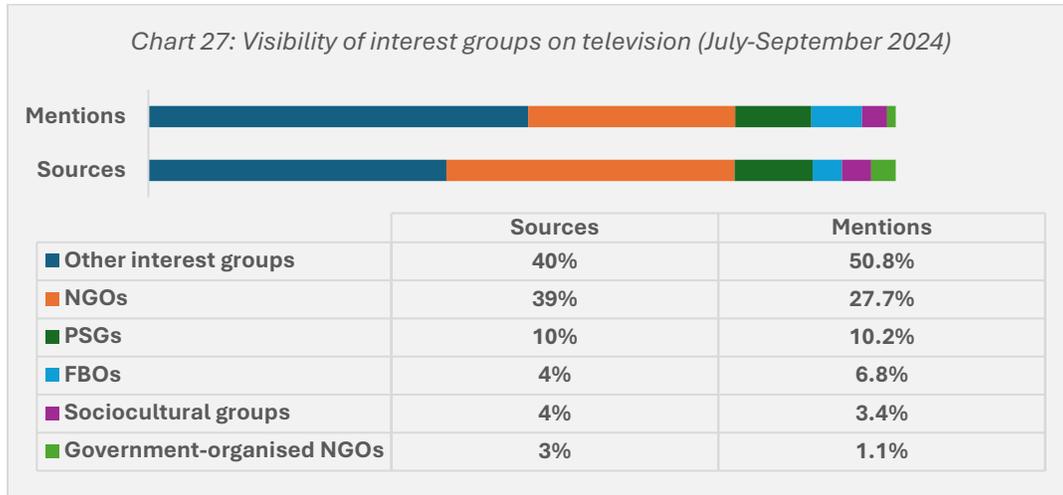
- During his appearance on the July 3 edition of Channels TV interview programme 'Politics Today,' INEC deputy director Lawrence Bayode said that the electoral body was preparing for the 2024 off-cycle governorship elections. The interview represented an instance of INEC serving as the source of a television broadcast during the period under review.
- In a related instance, "Edo guber: INEC calls on political parties to submit list of agents," ITV reported on July 29.

- In an instance in which a security agency was used as a source, “IGP reiterates police commitment to protect protesters, meets with other security agencies,” Channels TV reported on July 30.
- Security agencies were mostly featured in television broadcasts focused on the ‘End Bad Governance’ protests. For instance, “The Chief of Defence Staff, Christopher Musa, said President Tinubu has ordered a crackdown on the protesters flying Russian flags in the name of protest against hardship in the country,” Liberty TV reported on August 7.
- Channels TV also reported on August 7 that “Army arrest soldier for killing protester in Kaduna”.
- “Off-cycle election: INEC calls for vigilance of security agencies ahead of the election,” OGVTV reported on August 14, featuring INEC.
- Also, “INEC promises credible off-cycle elections,” Channels TV reported on August 16.
- In another instance in which a government agency was featured, “The Ministry of Labour and Employment has cautioned the Joe Ajaero-led Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trade Union Congress (TUC) against interfering in the activities of the Labour Party (LP) and other political parties as this contravenes the Act that established the unions,” AIT reported on August 7.
- “INEC distributes sensitive materials to 18 LGAs in Edo state,” AIT reported on September 19, featuring INEC.
- During the September 4 edition of ITV programme ‘This Morning on ITV,’ Edo state coordinator of the National Orientation Agency (NOA) Osahon Uwoghiren spoke about the government agency’s civic responsibility in educating voters.
- “Edo 2024 election: NBC broadcast monitoring team visits management of ITV and ITV Radio,” ITV reported on September 20, featuring a government agency.
- Party politics: Governor Obaseki set to meet IGP on arrest and harassment of Edo PDP members,” ITV reported on September 10, featuring the police, a security agency.
- In a related instance, “Governor Obaseki faults police over arrest of the Esan West local government chairman,” AIT reported on September 11.

- Also, “Edo poll: Police Service Commission (PSC) officials arrive in Benin to monitor police conduct,” OSRC TV reported on September 19.

INTEREST GROUPS

This section addresses the visibility of corporate actors such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that play critical roles in the election process. It also addresses the visibility of faith-based organisations (FBOs), sociocultural groups, government-organised NGOs and political support groups (PSGs).



According to Chart 27, NGOs made up 39% (59 in 153 instances) of the sources and 27.7% (49 in 177 instances) of the mentions while PSGs accounted for 10% (16 instances) of the sources and 10.2% (18 instances) of the mentions. FBOs and sociocultural groups each represented 4% (6 instances) of the sources, as well as 6.8% (12 instances) and 3.4% (6 instances) of the mentions respectively. Government-organised NGOs constituted 3% (5 instances) of the sources and 1.1% (2 instances) of the mentions. Other interest groups comprised 40% (61 instances) of the sources and 50.8% (90 instances) of the mentions.

- “The executive director of Kukah Centre, Rev Atta Barkindo, speaks on collaboration with the EU to enhance structures of emerging political parties ahead of the 2027 general election,” AIT reported on July 4, presenting an instance of an NGO serving as the source of an election-related television broadcast during the period under review.
- During a July 2 appearance on Channels TV interview programme ‘Politics Today,’ YIAGA Africa programme director Cynthia Mbamalu condemned what she described as intimidation tactics among political parties, adding that INEC and security agencies have roles to play in ensuring peaceful elections. The interview presented an instance in which an NGO was the source of an election-related television broadcast.

- “Nationwide protest: Fellowship of General Overseers of Churches in Nigeria urges dialogue,” ITV reported on July 31, presenting an instance in which an FBO was featured on television.
- “Edo 2024 election: Iyabo Sunshine Group drums up support for Okpebholo. Team Campaign Unusual drums up support for APC candidate,” ITV reported on July 29, representing an instance in which PSGs were mentioned.
- “Edo 2024: NOCSON urges Nigeria Police to do the needful in upcoming gubernatorial election and INEC to conduct a free and credible poll,” ITV reported on August 13, featuring an NGO.
- In another instance in which an interest group was featured in an election-related broadcast during the period in review, “Edo 2024 election: Coalition of registered political parties, CRPP, endorses Asue and Ogie candidacy,” ITV reported on August 13.
- “EDO 2024: Muslim coalition group holds rally in support of APC governorship candidate,” ITV reported on September 2, featuring an Islamic FBO.
- “Ahead of Edo 2024: CAN holds prayer session for peaceful poll,” ITV reported on September 19, featuring the Christian Association of Nigeria, an FBO.
- “Electoral reform: YIAGA, other CSO want INEC unbundled, creation of electoral offences commission, auditing of voters register and electoral integrity to curb voter apathy,” ITV reported on September 26, featuring YIAGA, an NGO.
- “Obidients begin membership drive in the Northwest,” Channels TV reported on September 30, featuring the Obidient Movement, a PSG.

FOREIGN ACTORS

This section concerns the visibility of foreign actors such as embassies, high commissions, international NGOs and foreign government representatives in the television broadcasts.

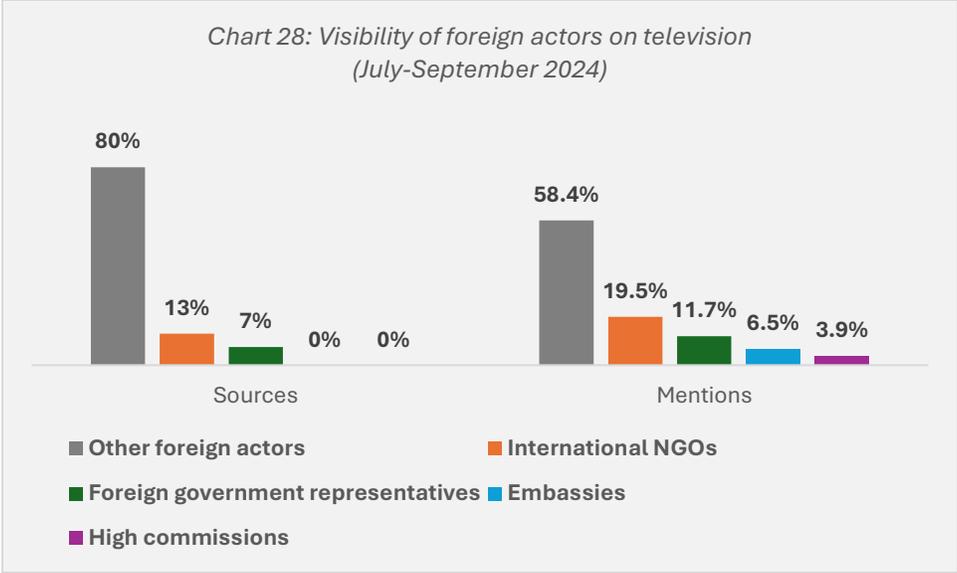


Chart 28 shows that international NGOs accounted for 13% (7 in 55 instances) of the sources and 19.5% (15 in 77 instances) of the mentions while foreign government representatives made up 7% (4 instances) of the sources and 11.7% (9 instances) of the mentions. Embassies and High commissions accounted for 6.5% (5 instances) and 3.9% (3 instances) of the mentions respectively. They were, however, not used as sources. Other foreign actors made up 80% (44 instances) of the sources and 58.4% (45 instances) of the mentions.

- “The UK, US and Canada have issued security alerts to their nationals in Nigeria, warning of potential violence during the planned ‘EndBadGovernance’ protest on August 1, 2024,” Liberty TV reported on July 9, featuring foreign actors.
- “The Kukah Centre in collaboration with the European Union has met with the national executives of political parties to engage them on how to strengthen the parties and have stronger institutions that can foster true democracy in Nigeria,” TVC News reported on July 16. The European Union, a foreign actor, was mentioned in the report.
- “European Union leadership meets with INEC, promises support for Nigeria’s democracy,” LTV reported on August 8, featuring a foreign actor.
- “UN Women advocates for more opportunities in governance,” ITV reported on September 6, featuring United Nations Women, a foreign actor.
- “US ambassador to Nigeria commends Edo people on peaceful election, commends Governor Obaseki’s appeal for peace, urges aggrieved parties to follow legal

procedures for redress," Channels TV reported on September 26, featuring a foreign government representative.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Most (72.2%) of the television programmes analysed during the period under review were aired as news reports, with the rest taking the discussion (19.4%) and interview (8.5%) formats. The television stations adhered to the principle of balance 95% of the time and recorded one instance of extreme language, which accounted for 0.2% of 1747 contents.

Women's, youth and PWD issues respectively comprised 1.75%, 0.68% and 0.34% of the themes, which were dominated by election administration (20.77%), citizen participation (18.24%) and campaign activities/strategies (13.59%). Furthermore, women (19% sources; 11% mentions), youth (2.4% sources; 10% mentions) and PWDs (0.6% sources; 1.6% mentions) were not as visible as men, adults and non-PWD actors.

APC (39.3% sources; 36.4% mentions), PDP (36.1% sources; 37% mentions) and LP (10.3% sources; 13.9% mentions) were the most featured political parties.

Security agencies accounted for 58% of the sources and 47.2% of the mentions in the government agency category where it was more visible than INEC (31% sources; 40.3% mentions), MDAs and other actors in the category.

Whereas LCDAs (2.2% sources; 2% mentions) and LGAs (7.5% sources; 16% mentions) were not as visible as the higher levels of government (90.3% sources; 82% mentions) in the government category, NGOs (39% sources; 27.7% mentions) were more visible than other identified interest groups. Uncategorised foreign actors were more visible than international NGOs, foreign government representatives, embassies and high commissions.

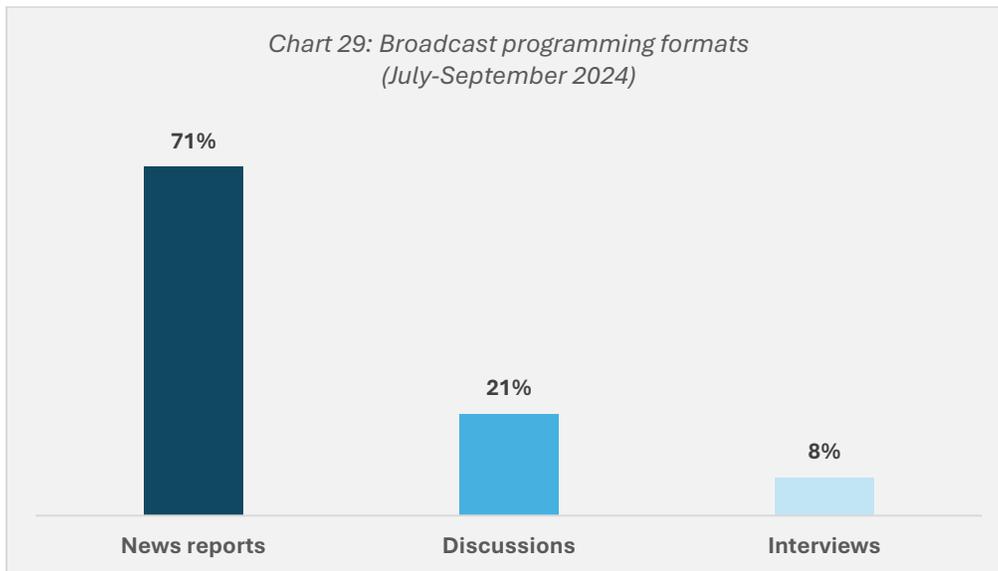
PART III

COMBINED REPORT ON RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTS

A total of 2861 contents from 25 radio and 16 television stations were analysed. The dataset for the period under review comprised 1112 contents from the radio stations and 1749 contents from the television stations.

PROGRAMME TYPOLOGY

News reports, discussion programmes and interviews were monitored on the selected radio and television stations.



Out of the contents analysed during the period in review, 2043 were packaged as news reports, representing, as Chart 29 shows, 71% of the contents. The remaining radio and television broadcasts were packaged as discussions (21%; 596 stories) and interviews (8%; 222 stories).

THEMATIC EMPHASIS

Thematic focus highlights identified topics or issues that dominated the monitored radio and television broadcasts.

Chart 30: Thematic focus of broadcasts (July-September 2024)

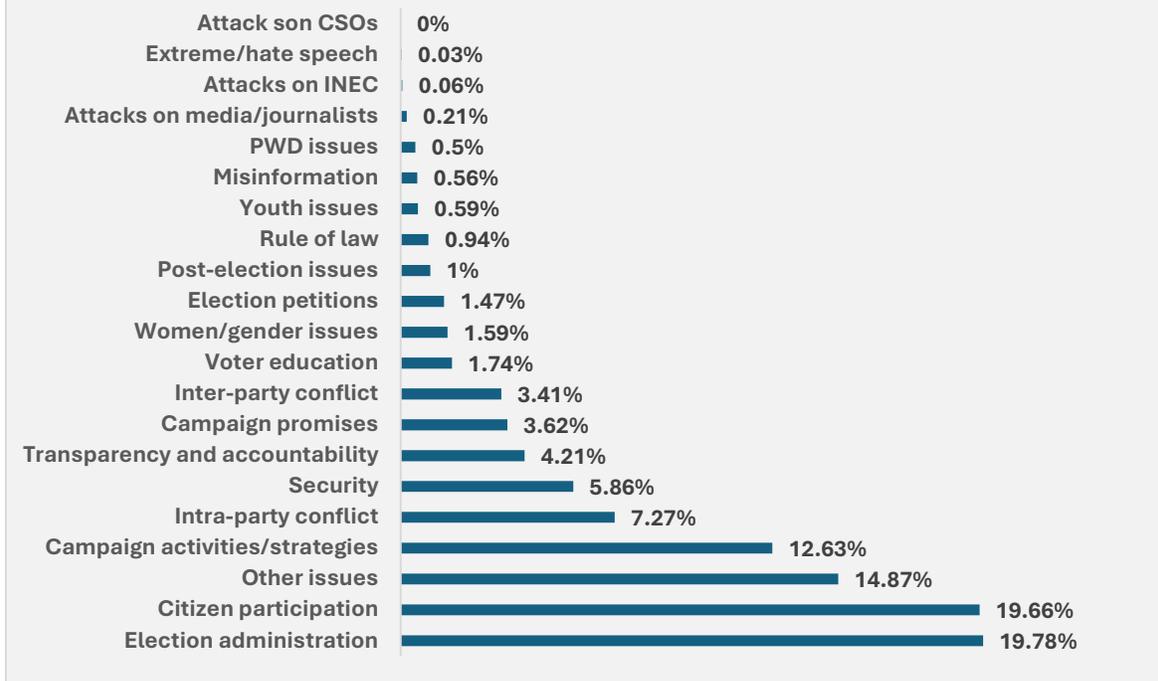


Chart 30 shows that election administration was the most featured issue, accounting for 19.78% (672 in 3397 instances) of the thematic focus areas. Voter education received 1.74% (59 instances) of the coverage.

Citizen participation also received significant coverage, comprising 19.66% (668 instances) of the coverage. Transparency and accountability accounted for 4.21% (143 instances) of the coverage. The rule of law made up 0.94% (32 instances) of the coverage.

Campaign activities/strategies and campaign promises received 12.63% (429 instances) and 3.62% (123 instances) of the coverage respectively.

Intra-party conflict received 7.27% (247 instances) of the coverage while inter-party conflict received 3.41% (116 instances) of the coverage. Election petitions accounted for 1.47% (50 instances) of the coverage.

Security issues accounted for 5.86% (199 instances) of the coverage. Attacks on media/journalists and attacks on INEC received 0.21% (7 instances) and 0.06% (2 instances) of the coverage respectively.

Whereas women’s issues received 1.59% (54 instances) of the coverage, youth issues received 0.59% (20 instances) of the attention. PWD issues comprised 0.5% (17 instances) of the coverage.

Misinformation and extreme/hate speech received 0.56% (19 instances) and 0.03% (1 instance) of the coverage respectively.

Whereas post-election issues received 1% (34 instances) of the attention, other issues constituted 14.87% (505 instances) of the coverage.

QUALITY OF PROGRAMMES — BALANCE

Balanced reporting presents a variety of perspectives and sources on relevant issues while maintaining journalism's obligation to provide context. In contrast, unbalanced reporting fails to do so. The selected radio and television broadcasts were analysed to assess their adherence to this standard.

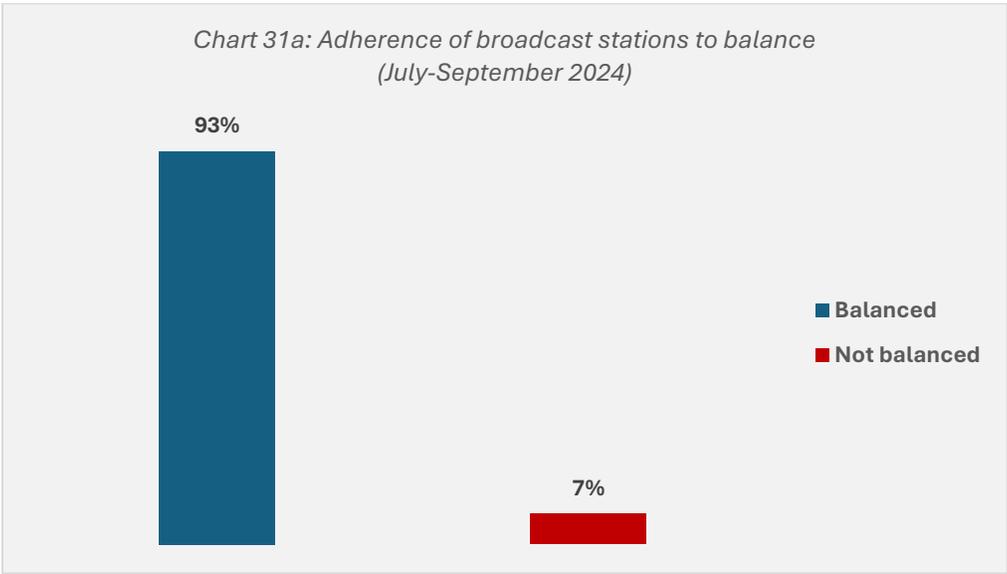


Chart 31a shows that 93% (531 in 572 applicable contents) of the sampled broadcasts were balanced while 7% (41 contents) were not.

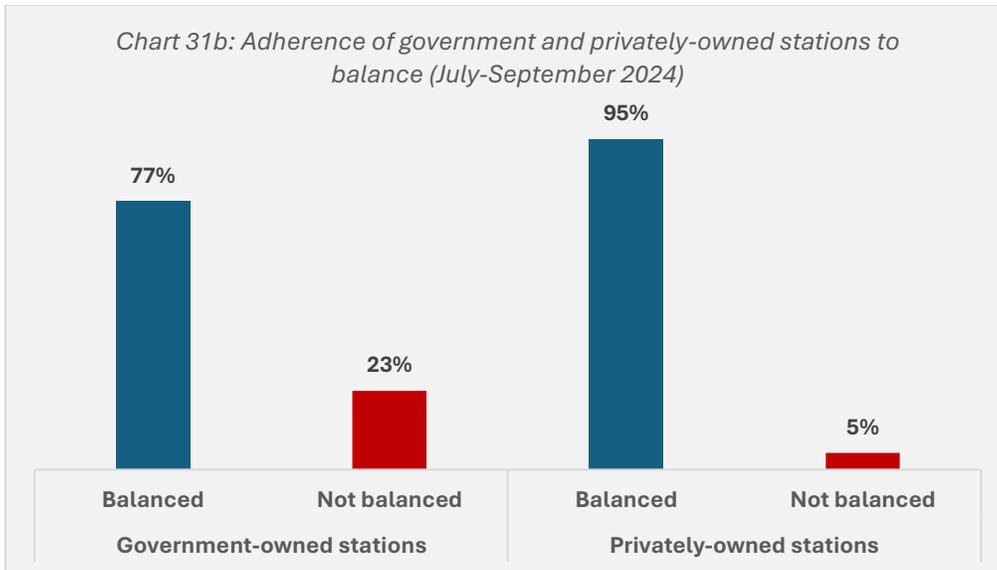
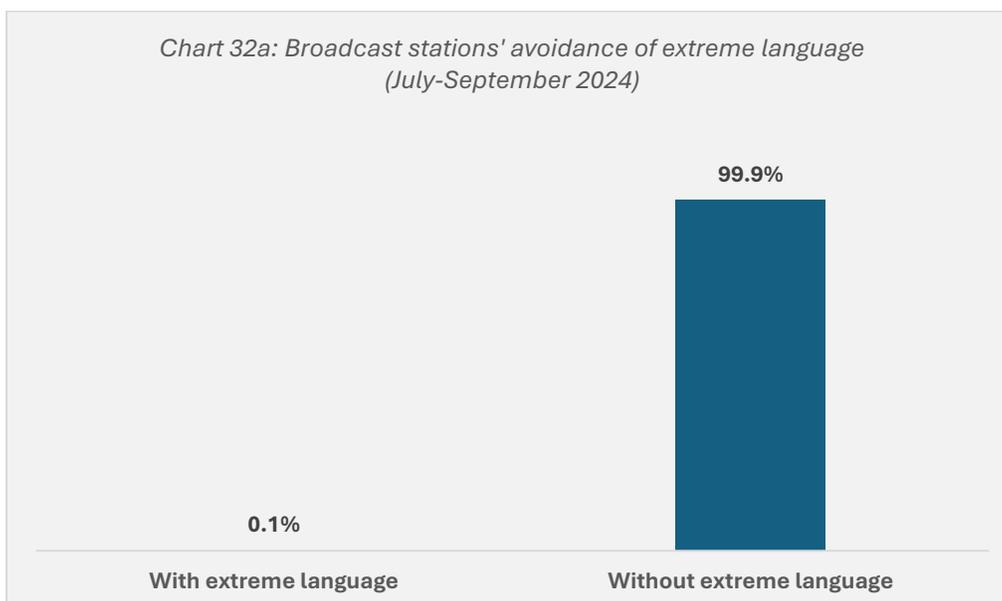


Chart 31b shows that 77% (58 in 75 contents) of the broadcasts from government-owned stations were balanced while 23% (17 contents) were not. In contrast, 95% (473 in 497 contents) of the broadcasts from privately-owned stations were balanced while 5% (24 contents) were not.

QUALITY OF PROGRAMMES — LANGUAGE

Extreme language can incite hatred, prejudice and/or violence towards specific individuals or groups within society. The selected radio and television stations were examined for adherence to wholesome language and avoidance of extreme speech in their election-related programming. The incidents captured instances of provocative media coverage and counteractions against inflammatory rhetoric.



According to Chart 32a, the broadcast stations avoided extreme language in 99.9% (2857 in 2861 contents) of their programmes but fell short in 0.1% (4 contents).

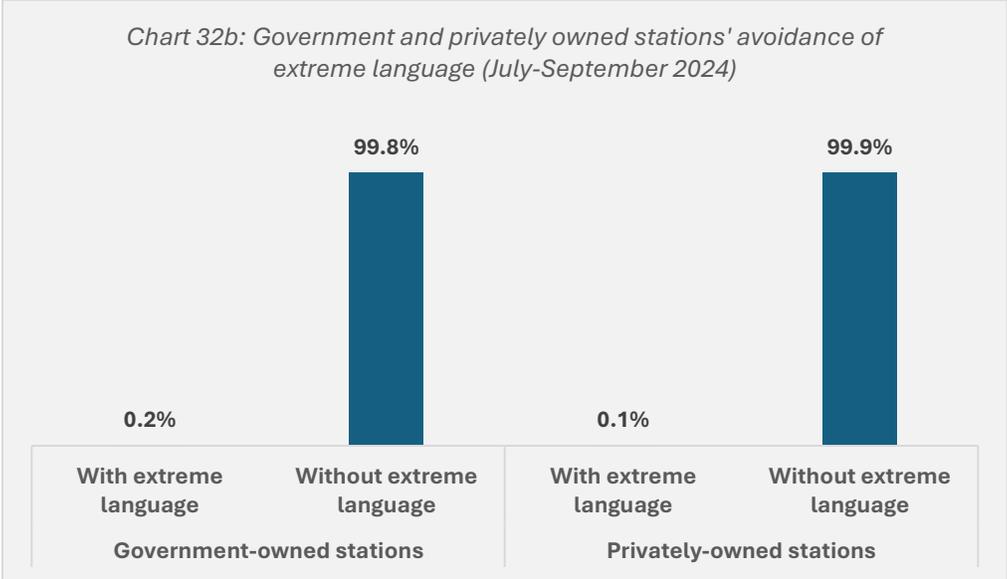


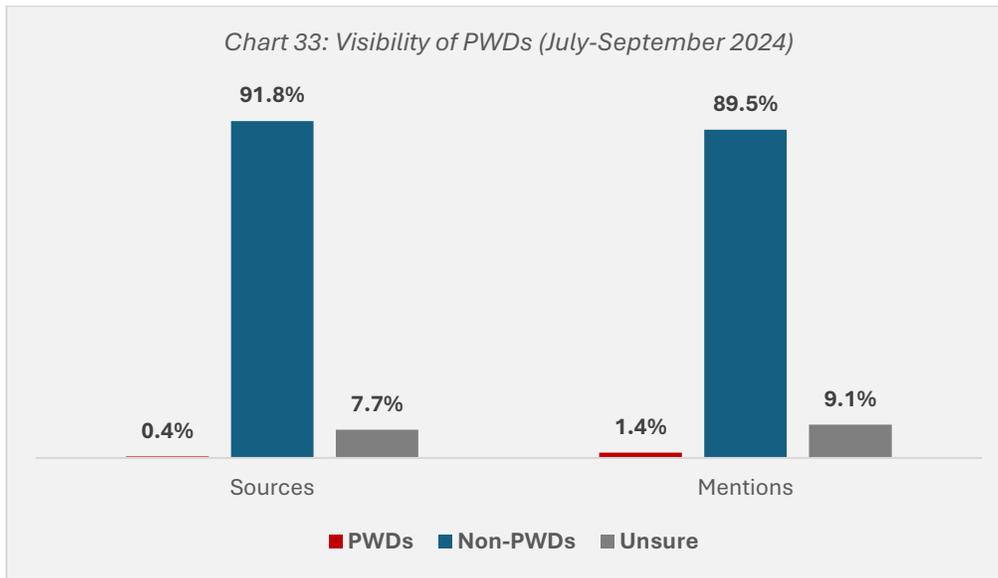
Chart 32b shows that 99.8% (649 in 650 contents) of the programmes from government-owned stations were free of extreme language while 0.2% (1 content) were not. Also, 99.9% (2208 in 2211 stories) of the programmes from privately-owned stations were free of extreme language while 0.1% (3 contents) were not.

VISIBILITY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTORS

INCLUSION: VISIBILITY OF UNDER-REPRESENTED DEMOGRAPHICS

This section assesses the visibility of vulnerable groups in the radio and television broadcasts during the period in review, with a focus on their gender, age and PWD status.

PWDs



According to Chart 33, PWD actors made up 0.4% (12 in 2697 instances) of the sources and 1.4% (24 in 1657 instances) of the mentions while non-PWD actors constituted 91.8% (2477 instances) of the sources and 89.5% (1483 instances) of the mentions in this category. The PWD status of the sources in 208 instances (7.7%) and the mentions in 150 instances (9.1%) was indeterminate. The data reflects the limited coverage of PWD issues (0.5%; 17 in 3397 instances) as previously noted in Chart 30.

Women

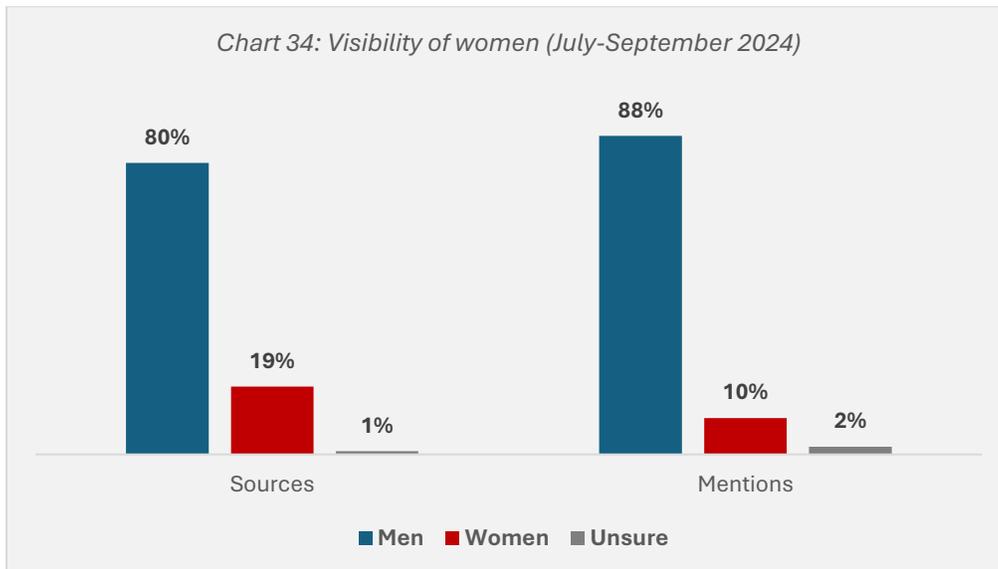


Chart 34 shows that women represented 19% (483 in 2587 instances) of the sources and 10% (165 in 1642 instances) of the mentions while men accounted for 80% (2080 instances) of the sources and 88% (1442 instances) of the mentions. In some instances, the gender of the

sources (1%; 24 instances) and the mentions (2%; 35 instances) could not be determined. The data indicates that women were not as visible as men, reflecting the limited coverage (1.59%; 54 in 3397 instances) dedicated to women's issues as previously revealed in Chart 30.

Youth

The African Youth Charter¹ categorises individuals aged between 15 and 35 as youth. This report adopted the same age bracket. However, individuals older than 35 were also considered youth if they represented a youth group or initiative. Those younger than 15 are categorised as children.

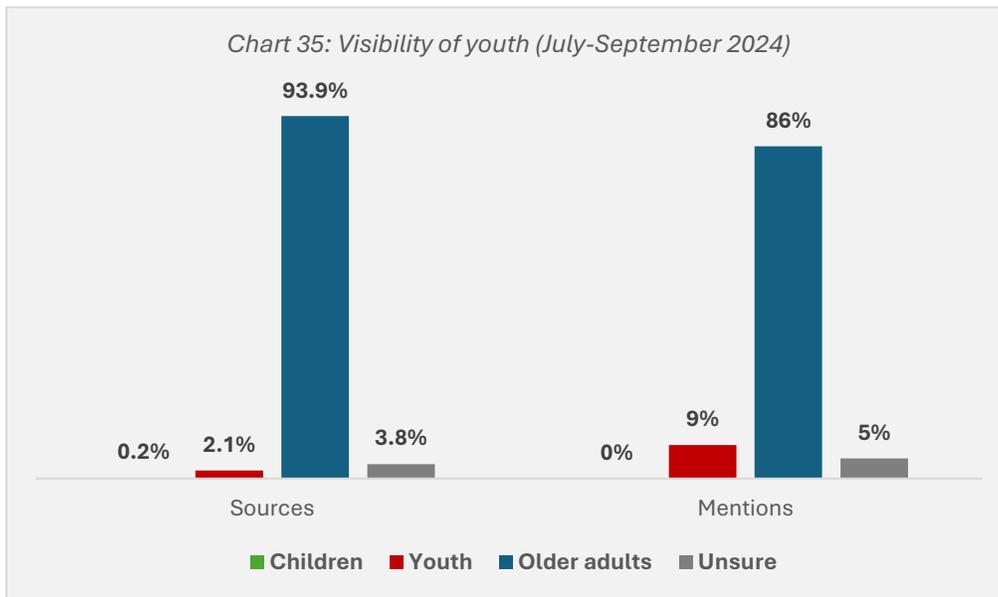


Chart 35 shows that youth accounted for 2.1% (54 in 2550 instances) of the sources and 9% (161 in 1858 instances) of the mentions in this category. Older adults constituted 93.9% (2395 instances) of the sources and 86% (1600 instances) of the mentions while children accounted for 0.2% (5 instances) of the mentions but were not used as sources. The age group of the sources in 96 instances (3.8%) and the mentions in 97 instances (5%; 97 instances) was indeterminate. The low visibility of youth actors reflects the overall minimal coverage (0.59%; 20 in 3397 instances) dedicated to youth as previously shown in Chart 30.

STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL ACTORS

This section of the report deals with the social status of the individual actors featured in the broadcasts during the period in review. Whereas aspirants/candidates, political officeholders and other politicians occupy the 'political side' of this segment, journalists/on-air personalities (OAPs), public intellectuals/commentators, religious leaders, and traditional rulers, coded as 'other citizens' in Chart 36c, occupy its 'public side'. The visibility of the spouses of politicians was also analysed.

Chart 36a: Status of individual actors (July-September 2024)

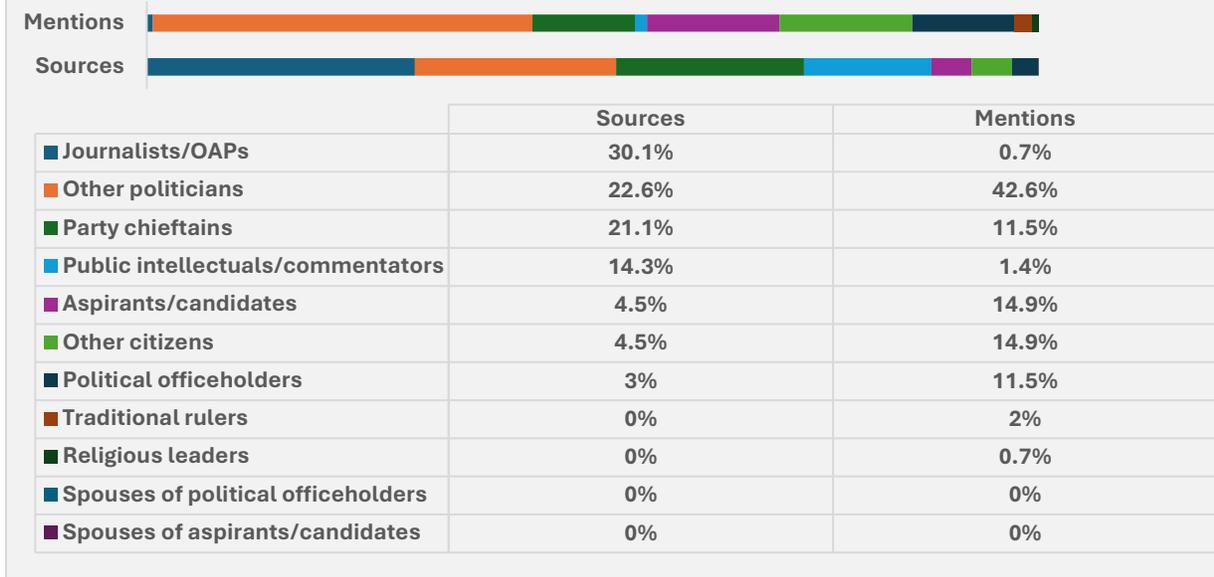
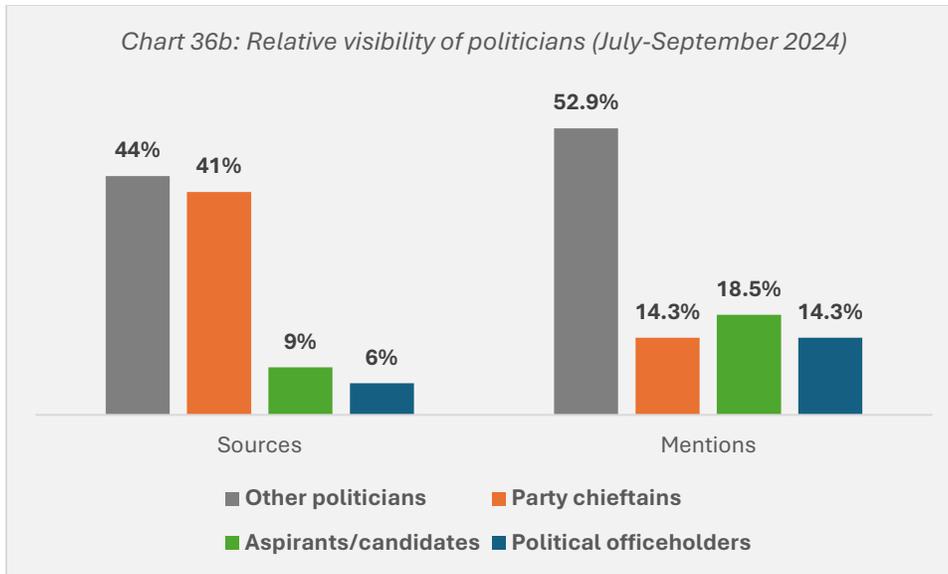


Chart 36a shows that journalists/OAPs accounted for 30.1% (40 in 133 instances) of the sources and 0.7% (1 in 148 instances) of the mentions while public intellectuals/commentators made up 14.3% (19 instances) of the sources and 1.4% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Party chieftains and political officeholders each constituted 11.5% (17 instances) of the mentions, as well as 21.1% (28 instances) and 3% (4 instances) of the sources respectively. Aspirants/candidates represented 4.5% (6 instances) of the sources and 14.9% (22 instances) of the mentions while other politicians accounted for 22.6% (30 instances) of the sources and 42.6% (63 instances) of the mentions. The spouses of politicians were not featured.

Traditional rulers and religious leaders accounted for 2% (3 instances) and 0.7% (1 instance) of the mentions respectively but were not used as sources.

Other citizens constituted 4.5% (6 instances) of the sources and 14.9% (22 instances) of the mentions.



According to Chart 36b, party chieftains and political officeholders each made up 14.3% (17 in 119 instances) of the mentions, as well as 41% (28 in 68 instances) and 6% (4 instances) of the sources respectively. Aspirants/candidates comprised 9% (6 instances) of the sources and 18.5% (22 instances) of the mentions while other politicians accounted for 44% (30 instances) of the sources and 52.9% (63 instances) of the mentions.

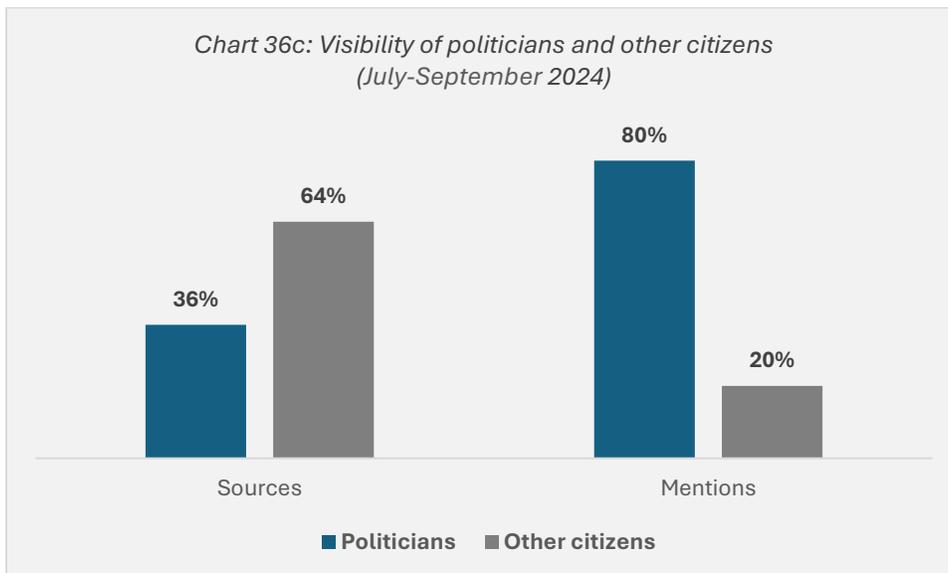


Chart 36c shows that politicians represented 36% (48 in 133 instances) of the sources and 80% (119 in 148 instances) of the mentions while other citizens made up 64% (85 instances) of the sources and 20% (29 instances) of the mentions. The data shows that other citizens were more visible than politicians in terms of sources, with the reverse being the case in the context of mentions.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ACTORS

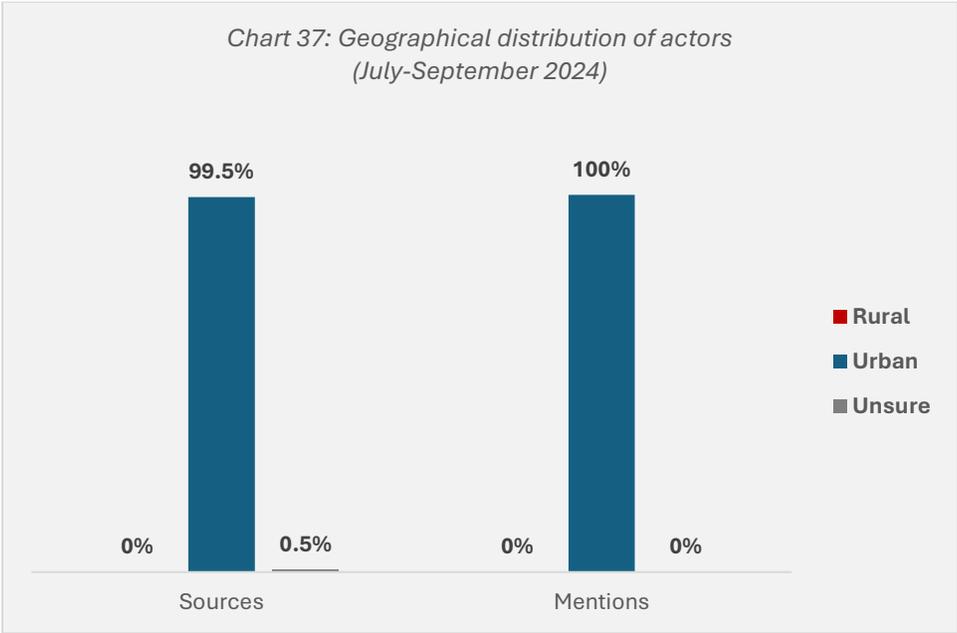
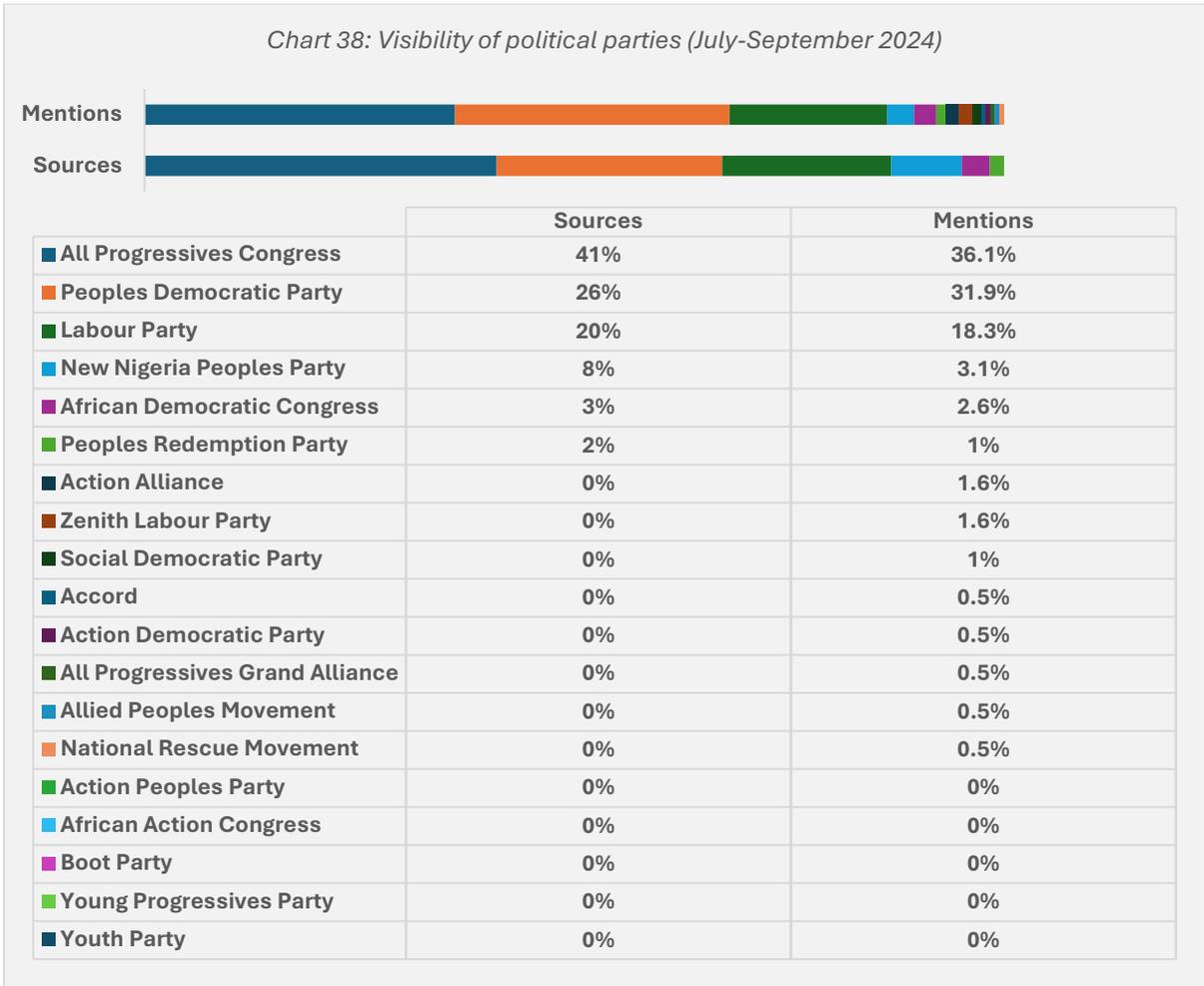


Chart 37 shows that actors from urban areas made up 99.5% (184 in 185 instances) of the sources and 100% (77 instances) of the mentions. Rural actors were not featured. In one instance (0.5%), the location of the source could not be determined.

VISIBILITY OF CORPORATE ACTORS

The corporate actors include political parties, government and government agencies, interest groups and foreign actors.

POLITICAL PARTIES



According to Chart 38, All Progressives Congress (APC) was the most visible political party, accounting for 41% (25 in 61 instances) of the sources and 36.1% (69 in 191 instances) of the mentions.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) made up 26% (16 instances) of the sources and 31.9% (61 instances) of the mentions while Labour Party (LP) represented 20% (12 instances) of the sources and 18.3% (35 instances) of the mentions.

Whereas New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) accounted for 8% (5 instances) of the sources and 3.1% (6 instances) of the mentions, African Democratic Congress constituted 3% (2 instances) of the sources and 2.6% (5 instances) of the mentions. Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) made up 2% (1 instance) of the sources and 1% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Action Alliance (AA) and Zenith Labour Party (ZLP) each represented 1.6% (3 instances) of the mentions while Social Democratic Party (SDP) made up 1% (2 instances) of the mentions. They were, however, not used as sources.

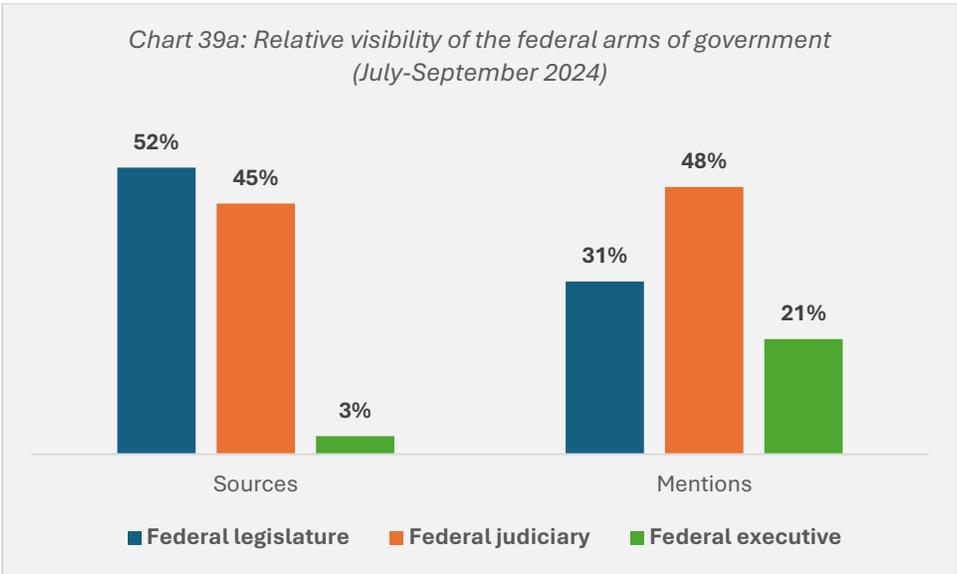
Similarly, Accord, Action Democratic Party (ADP), All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) and National Rescue Movement (NRM) each accounted for 0.5% (1 instance) of the mentions.

The other political parties identified in the chart were not featured.

GOVERNMENT

This section focuses on the visibility of the federal and state arms of government — the executive, the judiciary, and the legislature — in the broadcasts during the period under review. It also compares the visibility of local council development areas (LCDAs) and local government areas (LGAs) with that of the higher levels of government.

Federal government



According to Chart 39a, the federal legislature constituted 52% (16 in 31 instances) of the sources and 31% (33 in 106 instances) of the mentions. The federal judiciary made up 45% (14 instances) of the sources and 48% (51 instances) of the mentions while the federal executive accounted for 3% (1 instance) of the sources and 21% (22 instances) of the mentions.

State governments

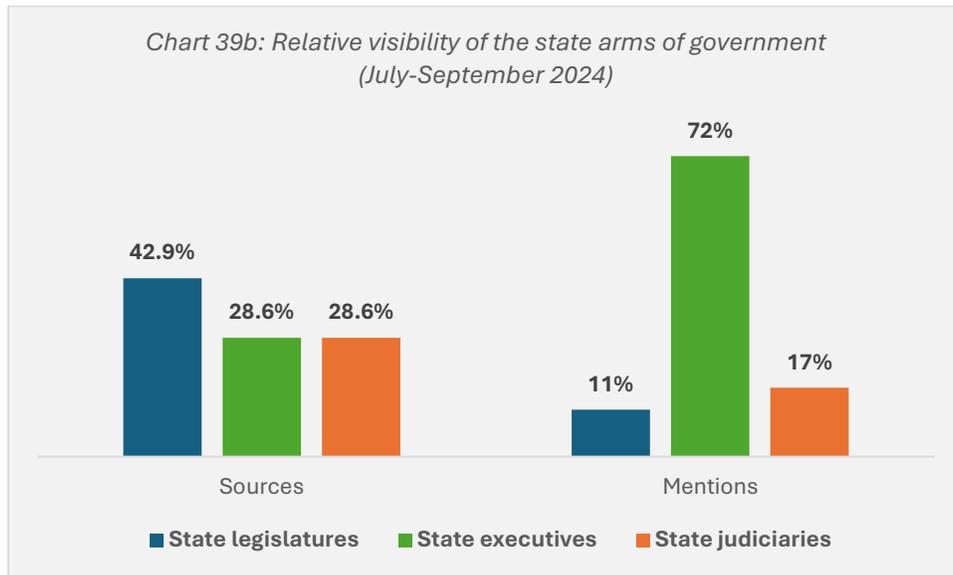


Chart 39b shows that state legislatures accounted for 42.9% (3 in 7 instances) of the sources and 11% (13 in 115 instances) of the mentions. State executives and state judiciaries each represented 28.6% (2 instances) of the sources, as well as 72% (83 instances) and 17% (19 instances) of the mentions respectively.

LCDAs and LGAs

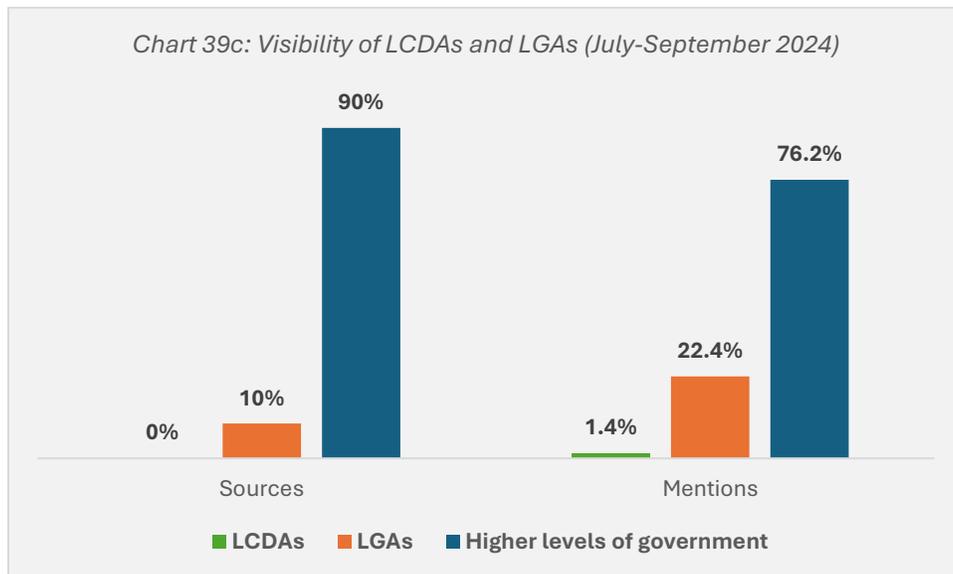
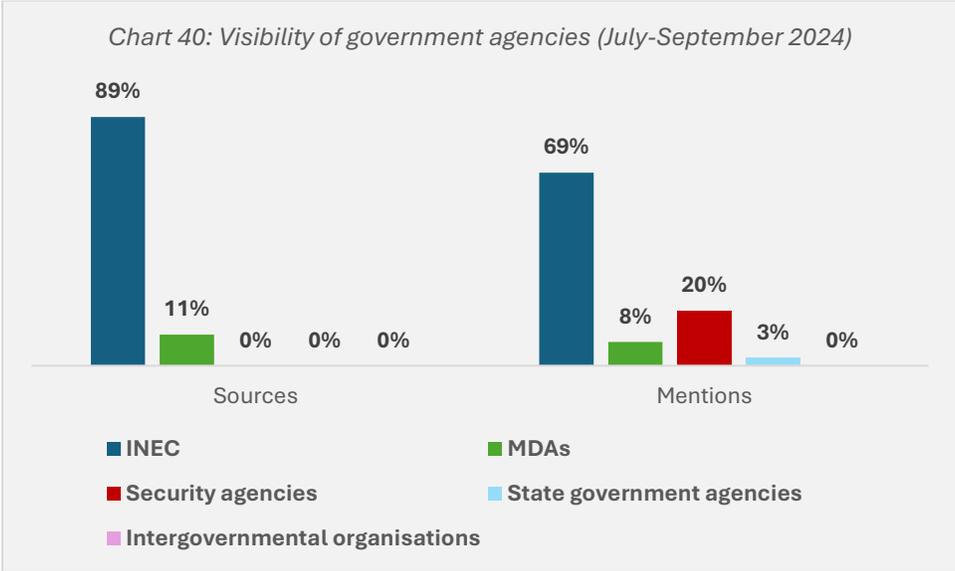


Chart 39c shows that the higher levels of government accounted for 90% (38 in 42 instances) of the sources and 76.2% (221 in 290 instances) of the mentions. LGAs represented 10% (4 instances) of the sources and 22.4% (65 instances) of the mentions. LCDAs represented 1.4% (4 instances) of the mentions but were not used as sources.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

This section assesses the visibility of government agencies such as the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and security agencies which conduct and safeguard the elections, state government agencies and intergovernmental organisations. The visibility of ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) is also analysed.



INEC, Chart 40 shows, accounted for 89% (8 in 9 instances) of the sources and 69% (49 in 71 instances) of the mentions, making the electoral body the most featured government agency during the period under review. MDAs made up 11% (1 instance) of the sources and 8% (6 instances) of the mentions. Security agencies received 20% (14 instances) of the mentions but were not used as sources. The same was true for state government agencies, which accounted for 3% (2 instances) of the mentions. Intergovernmental organisations were not featured.

INTEREST GROUPS

This section addresses the visibility of corporate actors such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that play critical roles in the election process. It also addresses the visibility of faith-based organisations (FBOs), sociocultural groups, government-organised NGOs and political support groups (PSGs).

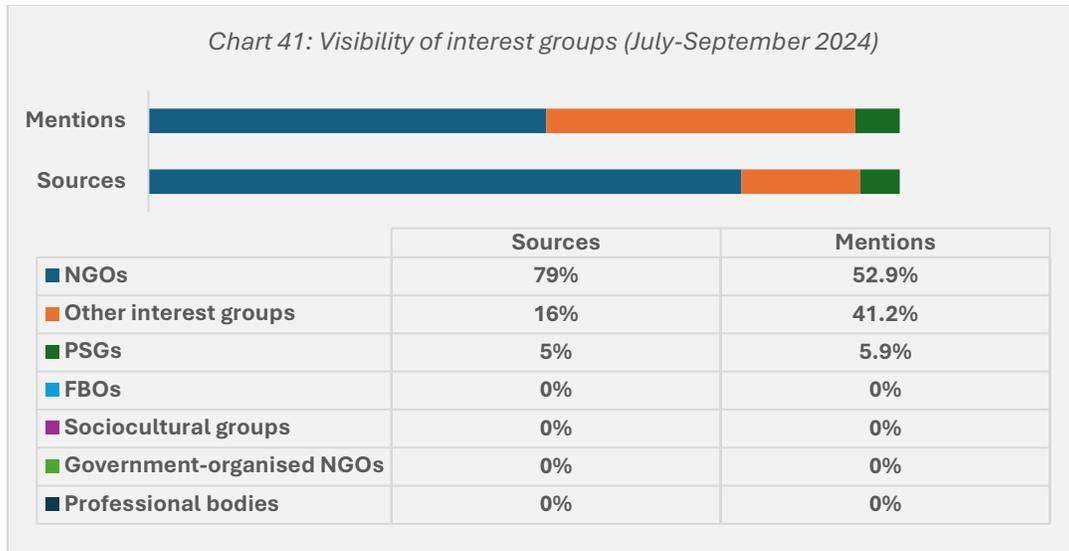


Chart 41 shows that NGOs made up 79% (15 in 19 instances) of the sources and 52.9% (9 in 17 instances) of the mentions, making them the most visible actors in this section. PSGs constituted 5% (1 instance) of the sources and 5.9% (1 instance) of the mentions. FBOs, sociocultural groups and professional bodies were not featured. Other interest groups accounted for 16% (3 instances) of the sources and 41.2% (7 instances) of the mentions.

FOREIGN ACTORS

Foreign actors such as embassies, high commissions, international NGOs and foreign government representatives play crucial roles in nurturing democracies. Their visibility is analysed in the chart below.

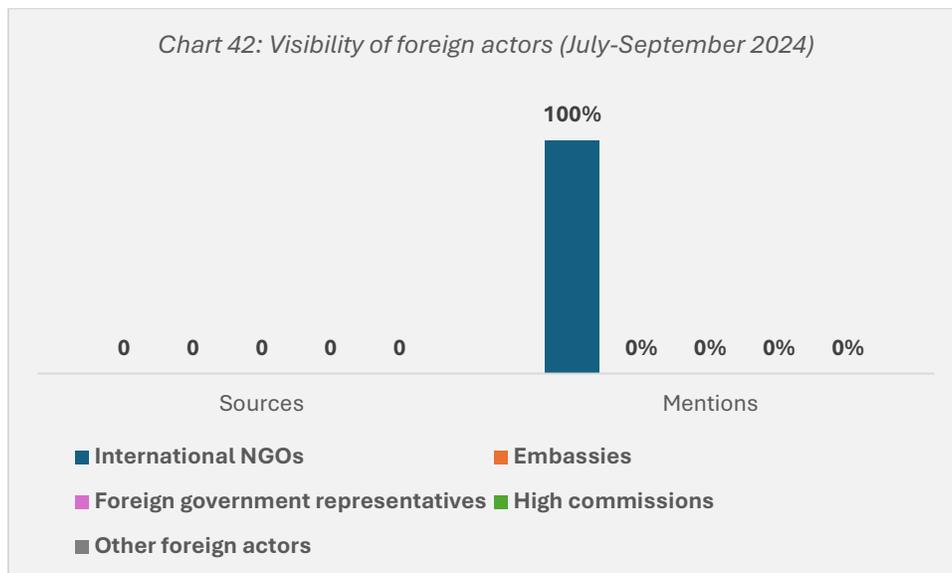


Chart 42 shows that international NGOs accounted for 100% (3 instances) of the mentions, making them the only foreign actors featured in the analysed broadcasts.

TRENDS IN THE VISIBILITY OF SELECTED ACTORS

This section addresses the movement in the visibility of selected actors featured in analysed broadcasts during the period in review. The selected actors included election umpire INEC, women, youth and PWDs.

INEC

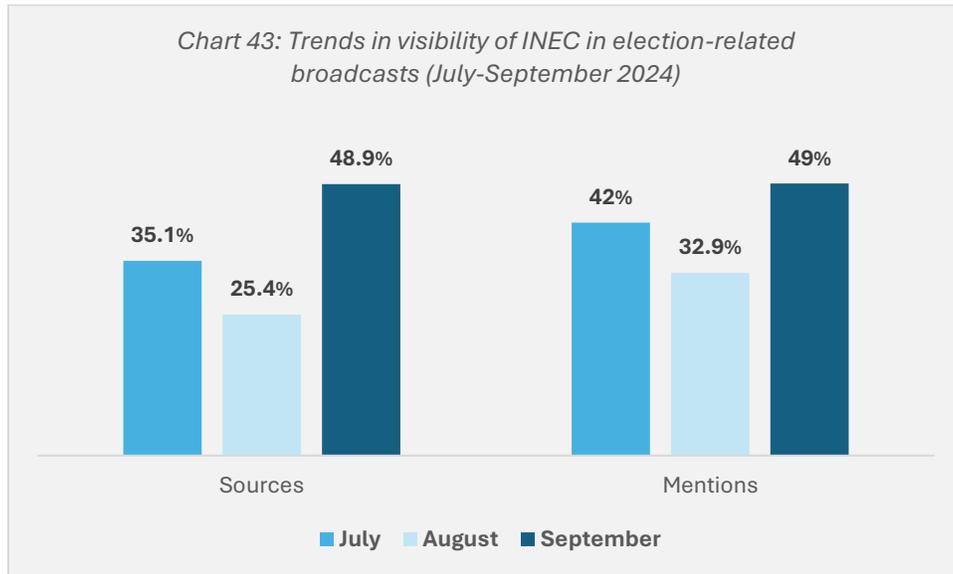
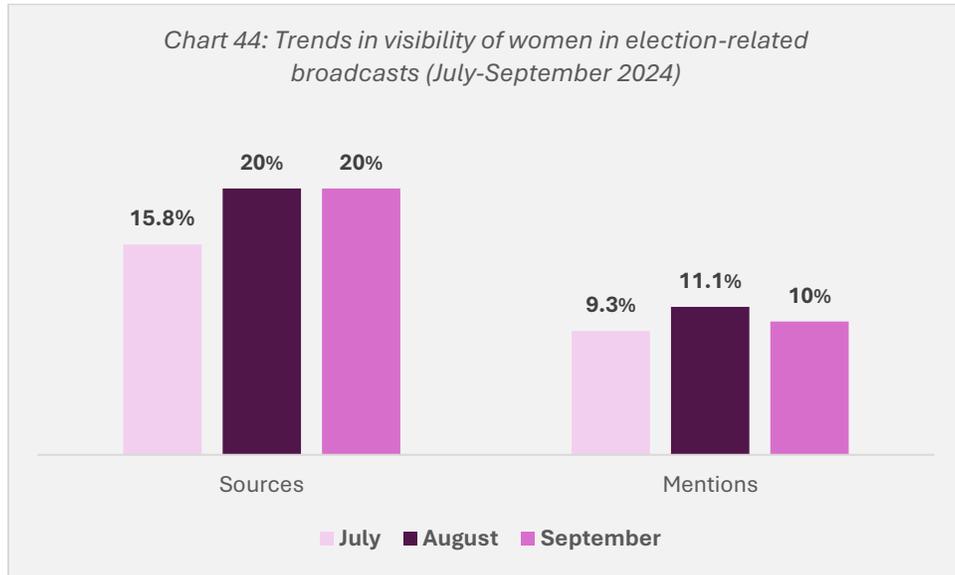


Chart 43 shows the trend in the visibility of INEC during the period under review. In July, the electoral umpire constituted 35.1% of the sources and 42% of the mentions, with the trend slightly slumping to 25.4% of sources and 32.9% of mentions in August. INEC was most visible in September, accounting for 48.9% of the sources and 49% of the mentions in the government agency category.

Women



Women, Chart 44 shows, were most visible in August when they comprised 20% of the sources and 11.1% of the mentions and least visible in July with 15.8% of the sources and 9.3% of the mentions. Female actors accounted for 20% of the sources and 10% of the mentions in September.

Youth

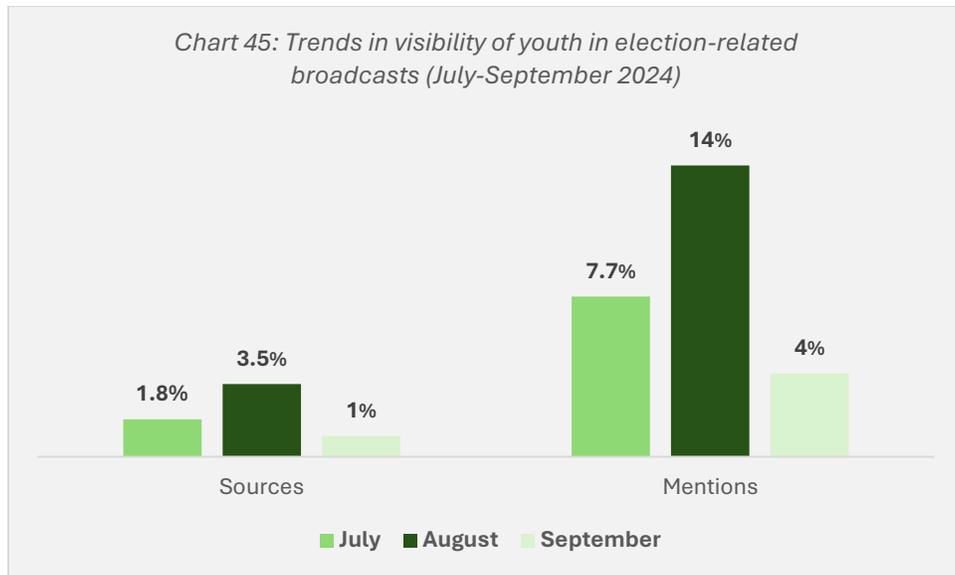
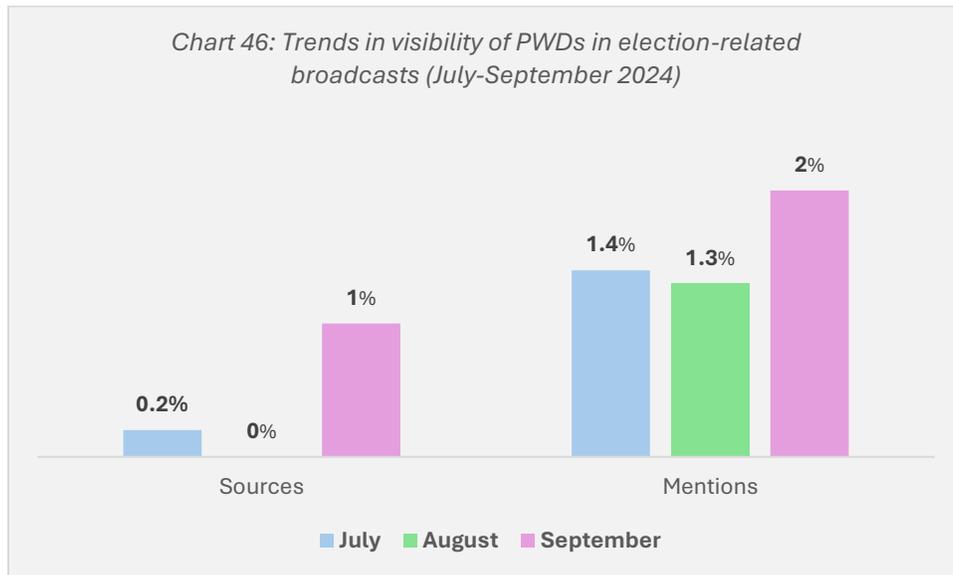


Chart 45 shows that youth accounted for 3.5% of the sources and 14% of the mentions in August, during which they were most visible in the age category. They were, however, not as visible in July when they constituted 1.8% of the sources and 7.7% of the mentions. Youth were least visible in September, with 1% of the sources and 4% of the mentions.

PWDs



According to Chart 46, PWD actors were barely visible in August, accounting for only 1.3% of the mentions and receiving no usage as sources. The trend was a decline in visibility from July when they constituted 0.2% of the sources and 1.4% of the mentions. PWDs were most visible in September, accounting for 1% of the sources and 2% of the mentions.

TRENDS IN BALANCE

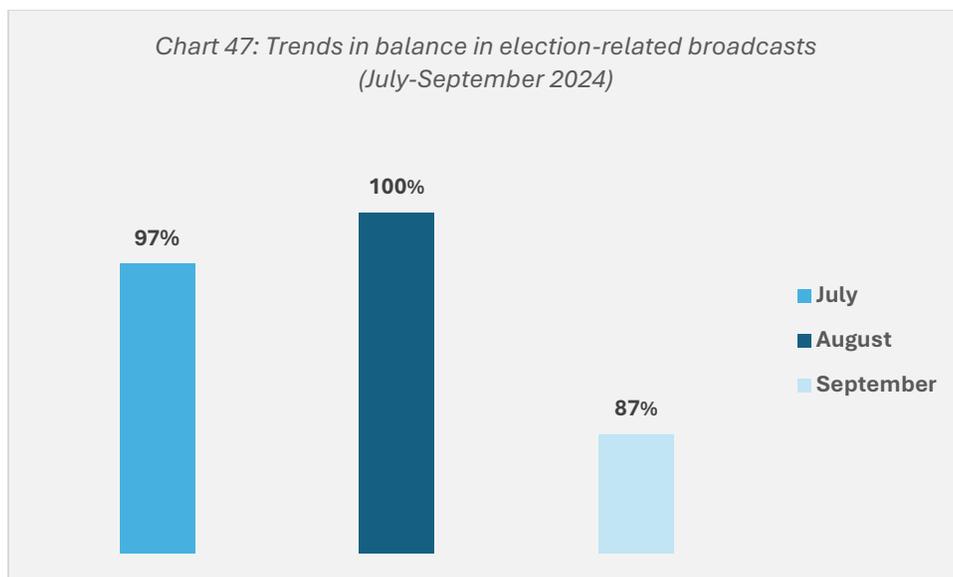


Chart 47 shows that 97% of the broadcasts in July were balanced. The figure rose to 100% in August and fell to 87% in September.

TRENDS IN THE USE OF EXTREME LANGUAGE



According to Chart 48, there were two instances of the use of extreme language in July and two in September. None was recorded in August.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The analysis of the content during the review period showed that most (64%) of the sampled broadcasts were packaged as news reports, 20% as discussion programmes and 16% as interviews. The stations maintained the principle of balance 97% of the time and recorded one instance (0.5% of total programmes) of the use of extreme language.

Transparency and accountability (21.3%), intra-party conflict (20.9%) and election administration (12.4%) were the most reported and discussed topics. Women's, PWD and youth issues comprised 1.3%, 0.9% and 0.4% of the coverage respectively, indicating that inclusion-related themes were not as prominent as the aforementioned.

Additionally, women actors constituted 14% of the sources and 7% of the mentions, indicating that men garnered more attention in the analysed broadcasts. Youth made up 1% of the sources and 1.6% of the mentions in the age category while PWDs represented 1.1% of the sources and 2% of the mentions in their category.

APC (41% sources; 36.1% mentions) was the most visible political party and was followed by PDP (26% sources; 31.9% mentions) and LP (20% sources; 18.3% mentions).

LCDAs (1.4% mentions) and LGAs (10% sources; 22.4% mentions) were not as visible as the higher levels of government, which accounted for 90% of the sources and 76.2% of the mentions.

INEC (89% sources; 69% mentions) was more visible than the other agencies in its category as MDAs accounted for 11% of the sources and 8% of the mentions. Security agencies, mentioned 20% of the time, were not used as sources.

NGOs (79% sources; 52.9% mentions) were more visible than other interest groups combined.

International NGOs (100% mentions) were the only foreign actors featured in the analysed broadcasts.

REFERENCE

1. African Youth Charter (2006), Page 3.

https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/7789-treaty-0033_-_african_youth_charter_e.pdf

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