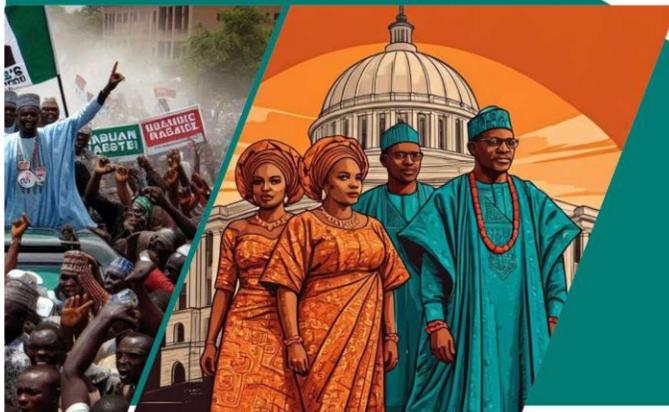


QUARTERLY  
REPORT



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

OCT-DEC 2024 REPORT



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*(October-December 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 and used 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 – pre-election period, election days and post-election period.

This report presents the findings of the monitoring exercise for a particular month 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 Disability  
**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 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

The Centre for Media and Society's (CEMESO) comprehensive media monitoring initiative is 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 both radio and television content, with the objectives of promoting ethical journalism standards, combating misinformation and enhancing the representation of underrepresented demographics.

This report presents an analysis of radio and television content monitored from October to December 2024, focusing on the coverage of political issues, representation of various demographic groups and adherence to journalistic standards.

Most (82%) of the radio broadcasts analysed were packaged as news reports, with discussions and interviews constituting 10% and 8% of the contents respectively. The stations demonstrated a strong commitment to journalistic balance, achieving this in 94% of applicable broadcasts, and no instances of extreme language were recorded. The primary topics covered included election administration (29.7%), intra-party conflict (10.4%) and campaign activities/strategies (8%). Coverage of women's, PWD and youth issues was minimal, at 0.8%, 0.5% and 0.2% respectively.

Furthermore, female sources accounted for 19% of the sources and 10% of the mentions in the gender category, while PWD actors had no sources and only 0.3% of mentions in their category. Youth representation was also low, with 1.2% of sources and 2.9% of mentions in the age group category. Political party representation showed PDP as the most cited (42.2%) and mentioned (38.6%) actors, followed closely by APC with 37.3% of the sources and 38.6% of the mentions. INEC was the most visible government agency, accounting for 71% of sources and 57% of mentions, overshadowing security agencies and others.

Television content mirrored radio trends, with 69% of programs presented as news reports, while discussions and interviews made up 19% and 12% of the content respectively. Similar to radio, television stations maintained a balance in 94% of their broadcasts, though one instance of extreme language was noted, representing 0.1% of the total content. The dominant themes were election administration (25.6%), intra-party conflict (12.5%) and campaign activities/strategies (9.4%), with women's, youth and PWD issues receiving 1.7%, 0.4% and 0.3% of the coverage respectively.

Political representation on television was led by APC (37.2% sources; 38.4% mentions) and PDP (36.7% sources; 53.4% mentions), with the Labour Party (LP) at 11.6% of the sources and 11.7% of the mentions. INEC again emerged as the most prominent government agency, accounting for 54% of both sources and mentions, surpassing security agencies and other relevant actors. Local government structures were less visible compared to higher levels of government, while NGOs were notably more prominent than other interest groups.

## BACKGROUND

CEMESO's EU-SDGN II-funded media monitoring effort aims to evaluate the coverage of election-related politics and democratic governance by broadcast stations in Nigeria.

By evaluating the broadcast media, CEMESO aimed to foster adherence to ethical and professional journalism standards and discourage the dissemination of hate misinformation, the deployment of extreme language and the tendencies for biased reportage of the issues. CEMESO also aimed to promote the inclusion of usually underreported demographics such as women, youth and 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 are replaced using the criteria stated above, and their data is included in the analyses crafted within the period the stations were accessible.

A total of 1420 contents from 26 radio and 17 television stations were analysed. The dataset for the period under review comprised 523 contents from the radio stations and 897 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]
- Glory FM (Bayelsa State Broadcasting Corporation, BSBC Radio) - Bayelsa state [Government-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]
- 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]
- News Central - Network [Privately owned]
- Nigerian Television Authority International (NTAi) - Network [Government owned]
- Ogun Television (OGTV) - Ogun state [Government owned]
- Ondo State Radiovision Corporation (OSRC TV) – Ondo state [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 were the broadcast media talking 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 station performance in covering the issues. The subsequent section offers parallel analyses of television stations. The final section harmonises the insights from both 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 October to December 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 523 news reports, discussions and interviews were monitored on the selected radio stations.

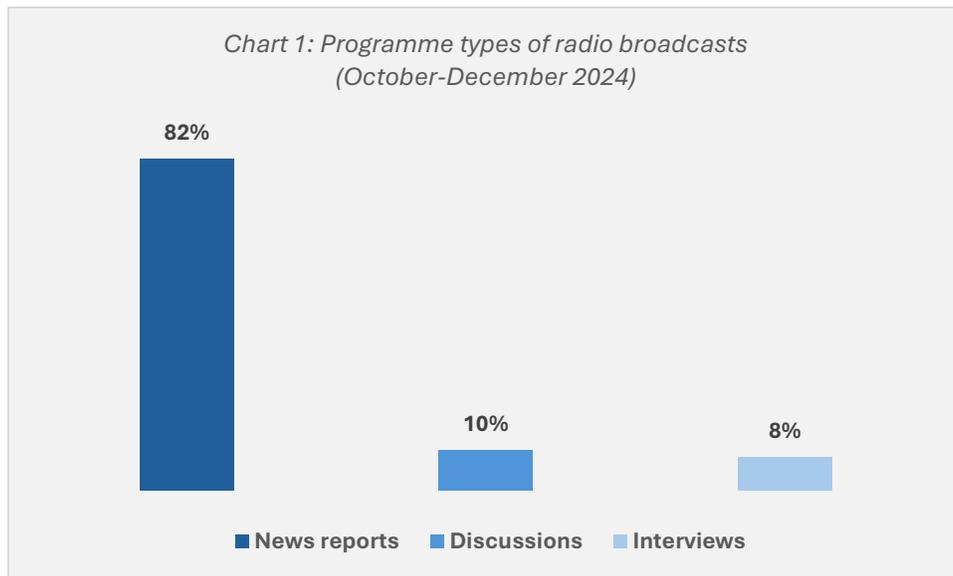
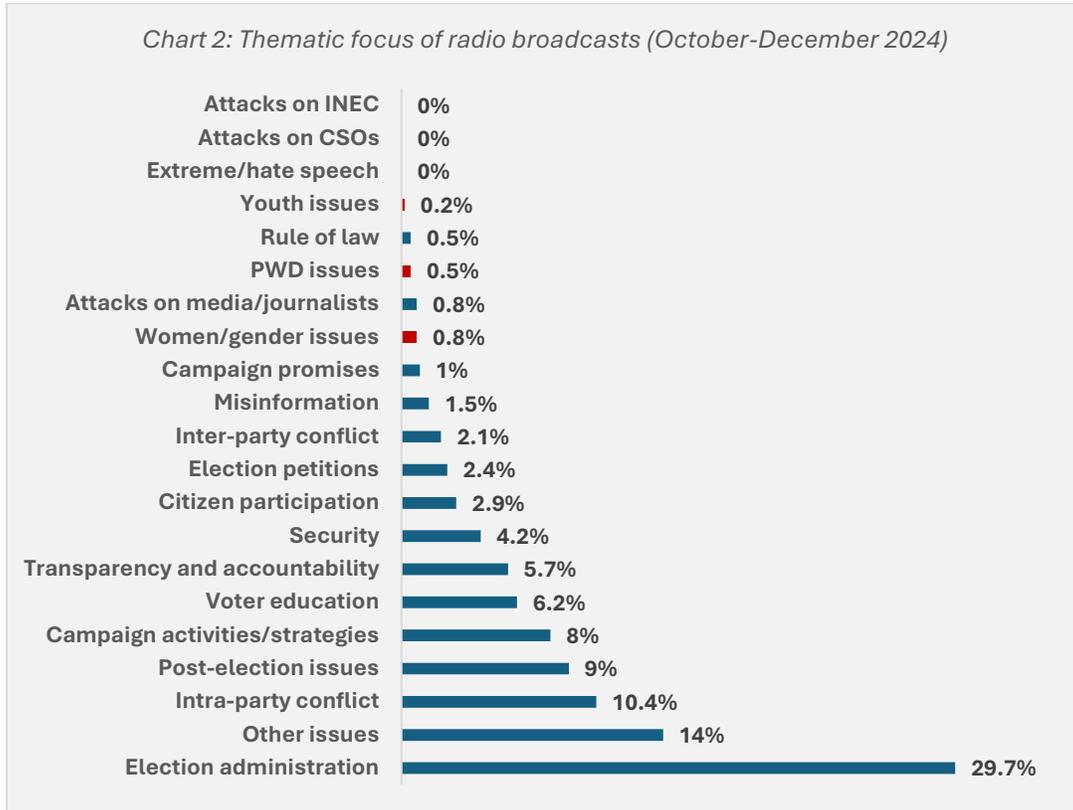


Chart 1 shows that 82% (428 in 523 contents) of the radio broadcasts analysed during the period under review were packaged as news reports. The other radio broadcasts were packaged as discussions (10%; 52 contents) and interviews (8%; 43 stories).

## 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, election administration accounted for 29.7% (182 in 613 instances) of the coverage, making them the most prominent theme on radio during the period under review. Voter education received 6.2% (38 instances) of the coverage.

- “INEC warns people without voter card (PVC) to stay away from the polling centres during the November 16 governorship election in Ondo state,” New Cruse FM reported on October 15, focusing on election administration and voter education.
- “INEC starts distribution of voter cards ahead of the Ondo gubernatorial election,” Breeze FM reported on October 17.
- In a related instance, “INEC distributes PVCs ahead of the Ondo gubernatorial poll, promises no PVC will be collected by proxy,” Breeze FM reported on October 23.

- “Ahead of the November 16 governorship election in Ondo state, INEC confirmed on Thursday that sensitive election materials will arrive in Akure by Tuesday, November 12,” Adaba FM reported on November 7, focusing on election administration.
- CEMESO, other NGOs urge stakeholders in Ondo election to ensure they play by the rules,” OSBC Radio reported on November 15.
- “INEC declares Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa of APC winner of the 2024 Ondo gubernatorial election,” Breeze FM reported on November 7.
- In an instance focused on voter education, the Ondo state chapter of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) “asked residents to go out and exercise their franchise while also being peaceful”.
- “Katsina LG election: Katsina Independence Electoral Commission pledges a free, fair and credible election, trains officers ahead of poll,” Breeze FM reported on December 9, focusing on election administration.
- “INEC proposes review of PVCs as sole means of accreditation ahead of 2027 election, seeks reforms to improve electoral system,” ITV Radio reported on December 12.
- “The Senate has declared the seat of Edo State Governor Monday Okpebholo vacant and has urged INEC to conduct a by-election to fill the position,” KU FM reported on December 30.

Whereas intra-party conflict and inter-party conflict constituted 10.4% (64 instances) and 2.1% (13 instances) of the coverage respectively, election petitions accounted for 2.4% (15 instances) of the coverage.

- “PDP national working committee (NEC) has suspended national chairman Umar Damagum and national secretary Debo Ologunagba over allegations of misconduct levelled against them,” Invicta FM reported on October 11, focusing on intra-party conflict.
- In a related instance, “Court restricts PDP NEC, BoT from sacking Umar Damagum as national chairman,” Positive FM reported on October 11.
- “Appeal Court dismisses governor Fubara’s suit seeking to remove defected lawmakers, asks him to represent state budget,” Kapital FM reported on October 11,

focusing on the inter-party crisis between Siminalayi Fubara's PDP government and the APC-led Rivers State House of Assembly.

- "Edo PDP files petition at election petition tribunal, seeks to retrieve mandate, accuses INEC, APC of attempting to hinder inspection of election materials," ITV Radio reported on October 14, focusing on an election petition.
- Also, "Six political parties in Edo state file case at Edo State Election Tribunal challenging INEC's declaration of APC governorship candidate Monday Okpebholo as winner of the September 21, 2024, governorship election," Speed FM reported on October 16.
- "Oyo's Governor Seyi Makinde has urged all PDP members to embrace genuine reconciliation, unity and integration," Splash FM reported on November 1, focusing on intra-party conflict.
- "PDP chieftain Bode George urges Atiku Abubakar to leave his presidential ambition, knocks disloyal party members," ITV Radio reported on November 22.
- PDP chieftain Segun Showunmi stated that President Bola Tinubu, an APC member, was to blame for the crisis rocking the PDP due to the appointment of Nyesom Wike, a PDP member, as the FCT minister without consulting the opposition. He further expressed his belief that if Wike were to be removed, it would restore normalcy within the PDP. This was according to a November 21 report by Breeze FM, focusing on intra and inter-party conflict.
- Outgoing Edo governor Godwin Obseki (PDP) has alleged that APC is borrowing between two and five billion naira to finance the inauguration of the new governor, Splash FM reported on October 7 focusing on inter-party conflict.
- Also, "Edo PDP chairman Tony Aziegbemi accuses APC of attacking Edo PDP secretariat to prevent party from getting back 'stolen mandate'," ITV Radio reported on November 26.
- Ondo state gubernatorial election petition says it is open to hear legal challenges to the November 16 election in the state," Breeze FM reported on November 28, focusing on election petitions.
- "LP experienced a major setback after losing four of its members in the House of Representatives to the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC)," New Cruse FM

reported on December 5, focusing on intra and inter-party conflict. "The defecting lawmakers," the report continued, "include Tochukwu Chinedu Okere from Imo, Donatus Matthew from Kaduna, Akiba Basse from Cross River and Esosa Iyawe from Edo. In a related development, Erhiatake Ibori-Suenu, the daughter of former Delta State governor James Ibori, also switched allegiance from the PDP to the APC."

- "LP initiates legal action against defected lawmakers," ITV Radio reported on December 6.
- "PDP expresses concern over alleged refusal of NWC to conduct NEC meeting to address leadership crises," Kapital FM reported on December 6.
- During a December 31 interview on Kapital FM, IPAC chairman Yusuf Dantalle stated that money and lack of internal democracy within political parties contribute to intra-party crises.
- "The Akure Division of the Federal High Court in Ondo State has dismissed a lawsuit aimed at disqualifying the APC governorship candidate, Lucky Aiyedatiwa, from the recently concluded gubernatorial election in the state," Gotel Radio reported on December 2, focusing on election petitions.
- "Tension flared at the Edo State High Court complex, the venue of the Edo State Election Petition Tribunal, as supporters of the APC and PDP clashed during the tribunal sitting," Arewa Radio reported on December 10.
- Also, "Ondo NNPP disowns suit instituted by its candidate against governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, asks for withdrawal of party name for suit," ITV Radio reported on December 12, focusing on election petitions.

Campaign activities/strategies received 8% (49 instances) of the coverage while campaign promises enjoyed 1% (6 instances) of the attention.

- "Ahead of the November 16 governorship election in Ondo state, the state chapter of the PDP on Tuesday flagged off its campaign in the state," Adaba FM reported on October 15, focusing on campaign activities/strategies.
- "APC flags off governorship campaign in Ondo South Senatorial District," Adaba FM reported on October 16.

- Also, “SDP kicks off campaign in Owo council area of Ondo state,” Positive FM reported on October 29.
- Ondo APC candidate Governor Aiyedatiwa promised to approve N73,000 minimum wage for workers and work on delivering his electoral promises, state party chairman Ade Adetimehin was reported to have said in a news report Adaba FM aired on October 15. The report was focused on campaign promises.
- According to a November 4 report by Adaba FM, Nigeria’s Minister for Youth Development, Ayodele Olawande, led a solidarity walk with young peoples in Ondo state to mobilise support for Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa. The group marched from Ilesha Garage along Oyemekun-Oba Adesida Road to the Alagbaka area, engaging with residents on motorcycles, known as okadas, as well as traders at Oja Oba and pedestrians. After the walk, the Minister told journalists that the event demonstrated the strength of the APC in Akure, the state capital, and highlighted the youths’ readiness to vote for Aiyedatiwa. Olawande expressed confidence that Akure would deliver significant votes for the APC candidate. The report was focused on campaign activities/strategies.
- Adaba FM also reported on November 12 that Ondo PDP governorship candidate Agboola Ajayi has wrapped up his campaign in the state ahead of the election scheduled for November 16, 2024. The PDP candidate, the report said, urged the residents to vote for him, promising to build on the achievements of former Governor Rotimi Akeredolu.
- Ondo LP candidate Sola Ebiseni, NAS FM reported on November 1, has pledged during his campaign in Akure South LGA to implement a free and compulsory education policy if elected governor.

Transparency and accountability made up 5.7% (35 instances) of the coverage while citizen participation received 2.9% (18 instances) of the coverage. The rule of law constituted 0.5% (3 instances) of the coverage.

- Rights group calls on President Bola Ahmed Tinubu to withhold allocations from states that fail to conduct credible local government elections, Splash FM reported on October 4, focusing on transparency and accountability.
- Senate President Godswill Akpabio says senators support the Supreme Court judgement granting financial autonomy to local government chairmen, Speed FM reported on October 10.

- “Benin residents protest bad governance, alleged electoral fraud in Edo guber election, ask INEC chairman to resign,” ITV Radio reported on October 3, focusing on citizen participation.
- During an October 3 interview on Urban Radio programme ‘Urban Primetime,’ the guest Mr Okechukwu discussed a recommendation by former PDP presidential candidate Atiku Abubakar regarding a constitutional review policy advocating for a six-year political term. The interviewee emphasised that the proposal should be rationalised based on the six geopolitical zones. The interview was focused on the rule of law.
- “Court grants N10 million bails to ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protesters including 67 minors,” ITV Radio reported on November 1, focusing on citizen participation.
- “National Human Rights Commission condemns arraignment of minors involved in ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protest,” OSBC Radio reported on November 4.
- The Kano State government has handed over the minors arrested during the ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protest to their parents, OSBC Radio reported on November 21.
- On November 8, Splash FM aired a report in which the Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees cautioned the Nigeria Governor's Forum against undermining the recent Supreme Court ruling that granted financial autonomy to local governments. The report was focused on transparency and accountability.
- In a related instance, “Federal government signs LG autonomy agreement,” Breeze FM reported on November 13.
- The Attorney-General of the Federation (AGF), Mr Lateef Fagbemi, SAN, stated that since the Supreme Court ruled on local government autonomy, the Federal Government has been working to ensure its implementation through necessary human and pragmatic solutions. Fagbemi, who also serves as the Minister of Justice, made this remark on Thursday at the Body of Attorneys-General (BOSAG) Conference in Abuja. In response to a comment from Nasarawa State's Attorney-General, Mr Labaran Magaji, the minister noted, ‘Since the judgment was delivered on July 11, we have been striving to provide the required human and pragmatic solutions.’ This was according to a November 14 report by New Cruse FM.

- “Edo state governor Senator Monday Okpebohlo has given a 48-hour deadline to the 18 local government council chairmen in the state to submit statements of accounts,” Speed FM reported on December 2, focusing on transparency and accountability.
- The Nigeria Governors Forum, according to a December 3 report by Splash FM, has endorsed the administrative and financial autonomy of local government councils in Nigeria.
- “AGF Lateef Fagbemi warns governors, says tampering with local government funds is an impeachable offence,” ITV Radio reported on December 13.
- “Nigeria Police deny reports that officers shot ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protesters across the nation,” Sapientia FM reported on December 2, focusing on citizen participation.

Security issues received 4.2% (26 instances) of the coverage while attacks on the media/journalists accounted for 0.8% (5 instances) of the coverage. Attacks on INEC and CSOs were not featured.

- “The Rivers State House of Assembly has called on the Inspector-General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, to quickly arrest the political thugs who burnt some local government secretariats in the state,” Speed FM reported on October 4, focusing on security issues.
- In a related broadcast, “Police orders withdrawal of personnel from three local government secretariats in Rivers state,” Splash FM reported on October 7.
- “IGP discloses that they are drafting strategic policing to help counter challenges as we move towards Ondo gubernatorial election and local government elections,” OSBC Radio reported on October 15.
- In an instance focused on an attack on the media/journalists, Boss Radio reported on October 22 that “The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) has apologised to the broadcast industry, the people of Enugu state and the listening public over the incursion of operatives of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) into Urban Radio station; the apology was contained in a statement issued by NBC’s Director of Public Affairs, Mrs Susan Obi in Abuja.”
- The Inspector General of Police Kayode Egbetokun has prohibited the Western Nigerian Security Network, known as Amotekun, along with other vigilante groups,

from participating in the Ondo gubernatorial election, Splash FM reported on November 8.

- “Ahead of the November off-cycle governorship election in Ondo state, candidates of 17 political parties participating in the poll have signed a peace accord committing themselves to a peaceful electoral process,” NAS FM reported on November 8.
- “FRSC approves deployment of 1500 officers and 25 patrol vehicles for November 16 governorship election in Ondo state,” Speed FM reported on November 15.
- “Ondo NSCDC Commandant Ibiyemi Joshua Ibiloye has lauded the level of synergy and collaboration between the members of the inter-agency consultative committee on election security in ensuring a violence-free election in Ondo state,” Adaba FM reported on November 19.

Women’s, PWD and youth issues received 0.8% (5 instances), 0.5% (3 instances) and 0.2% (1 instance) of the coverage respectively.

- “House of Reps calls for more women inclusion in politics,” Kapital FM reported on October 29.
- Also “APC national secretary Tolu Bankole says there should be inclusion of PWDs in national and grassroots politics,” Breeze FM reported on October 28.
- During the November 4 edition of Grace FM programme ‘The Perspective,’ Idris Miliki, the Executive Director of Conscience for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution (CHRCRP), and Hamza Aliyu, the Executive Director of INGRA, discussed the roles of women in politics and the lessons learned from the October LG election in Kogi state.
- The leadership of the House of Representatives has reaffirmed its commitment to eradicating all forms of violence against women and girls in the country, Splash FM reported on November 25.
- During the November 28 edition of Kapital FM programme ‘Electoral Reform Hour’, democracy and policy expert Babatunde Oluajo emphasised the importance of women’s inclusion in politics. Gender advisor Ene Ede echoed this sentiment, advocating for greater representation of women in both politics and administration.

Misinformation made up 1.5% (10 instances) of the reportage and discussions. Extreme/hate speech was not featured.

- “INEC denies preventing any political party from investigating materials used for Edo governorship election,” Sapientia FM reported on October 10, focusing on misinformation.
- “INEC urges journalists to guard against fake news, provide adequate, balanced reportage for Ondo guber election,” Positive FM reported on October 22.
- During a December 19 appearance on Kapital FM programme ‘Electoral Reform Hour,’ Hamzat Lawal, the Chief Executive of Connected Development, stated that there was insufficient clarity regarding the laws related to electoral misinformation.

Post-election and other issues accounted for 9% (55 instances) and 14% (86 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.

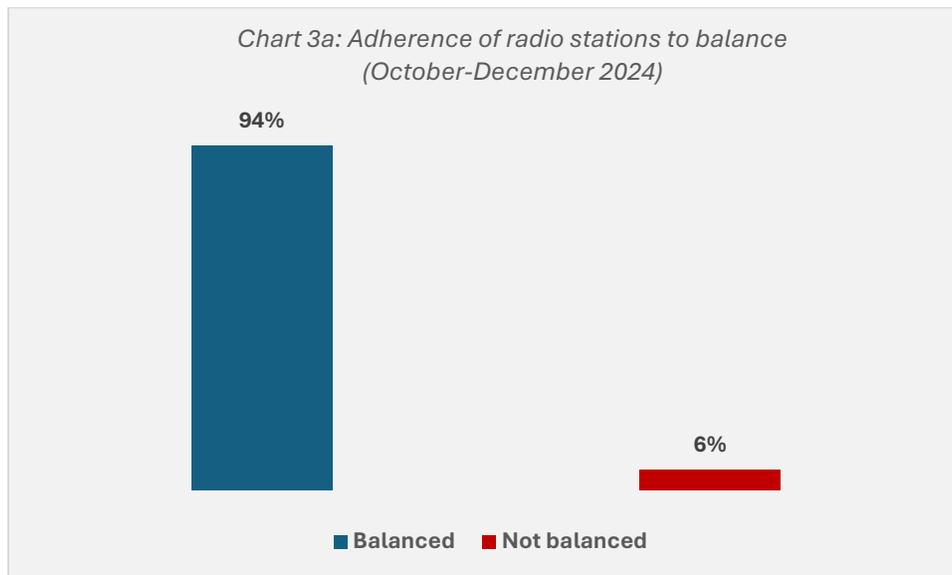


Chart 3a shows that 94% (101 in 107 applicable contents) of the sampled radio broadcasts were balanced while 6% (6 contents) were not.

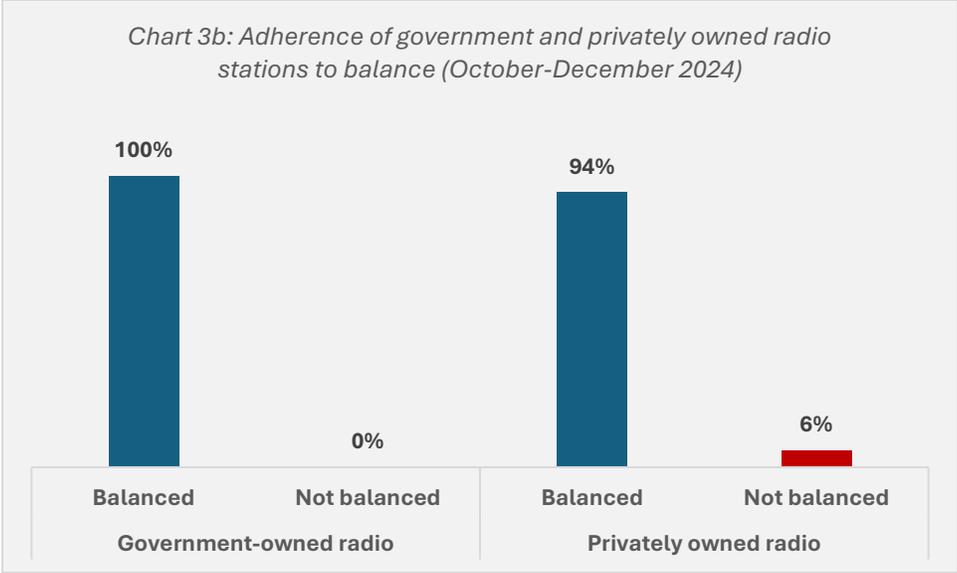


Chart 3b shows that 100% (3 contents) of the broadcasts from government-owned radio stations were balanced. In contrast, 94% (98 in 104 contents) of the broadcasts from privately owned radio stations were balanced while 6% (6 contents) were not.

**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 did not solely involve the media or its sources employing provocative language; they also involved the actions of those actively opposing such rhetoric.

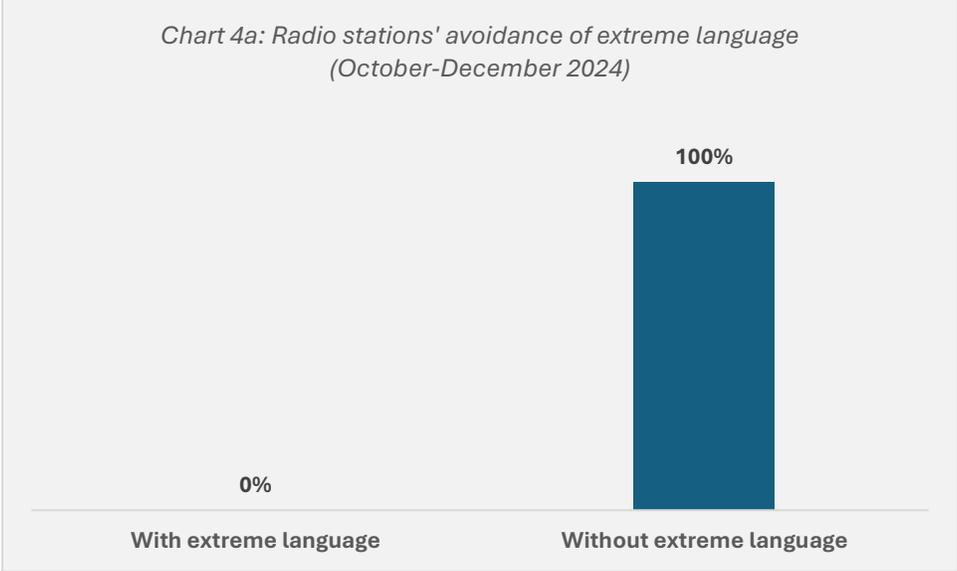


Chart 4a shows that the radio stations avoided extreme language in 100% (523 contents) of their programmes.

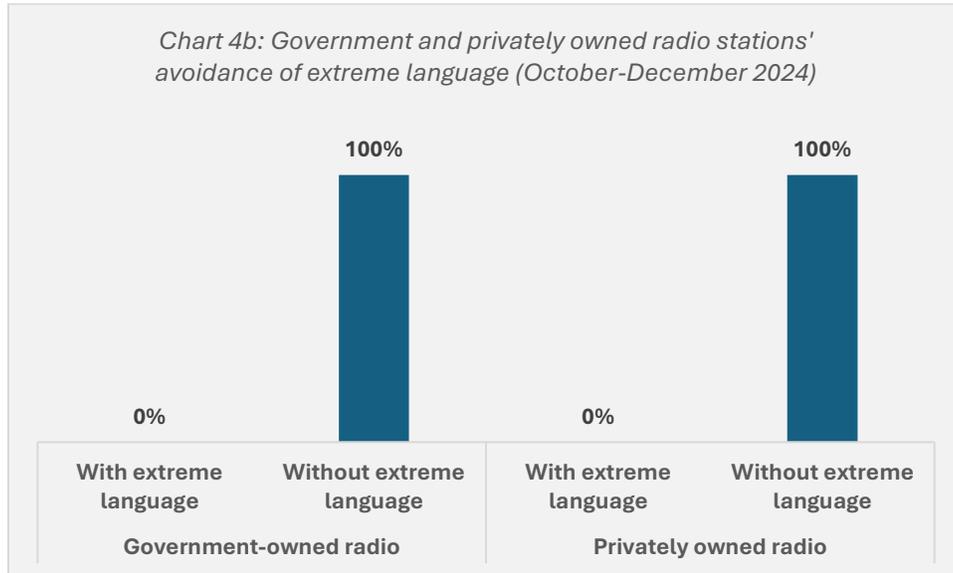


Chart 4b reveals that all 98 contents (100%) from government-owned radio stations and 425 contents (100%) from privately owned radio stations were free of extreme language.

## **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

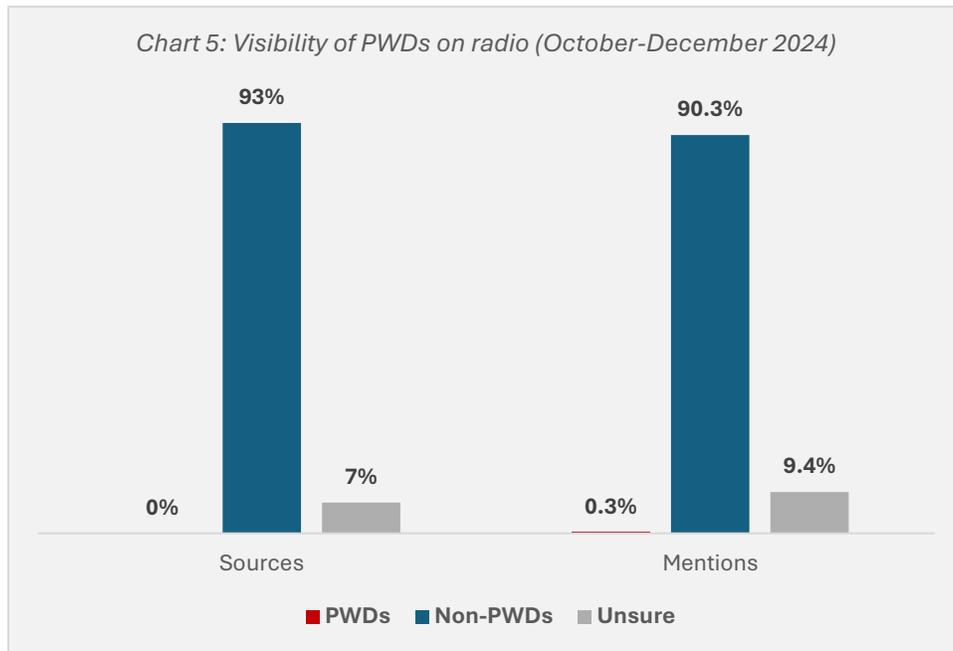


Chart 5 shows that PWD actors constituted 0.3% (1 in 298 instances) of the mentions. They were, however, not used as sources. Non-PWD actors, on the other hand, accounted for 93% (440 in 473 instances) of the sources and 90.3% (269 instances) of the mentions. There were instances in which the PWD status of the sources (7%; 33 instances) and the mentions (9.4%; 28 instances) could not be determined. The data reflects the previously noted low level of coverage of PWD issues (0.5%; 3 in 613 instances) as previously shown in Chart 2.

- “APC national secretary Tolu Bankole says there should be inclusion of PWDs in national and grassroots politics,” Breeze FM reported on October 28. PWDs were mentioned in the report.

## Women

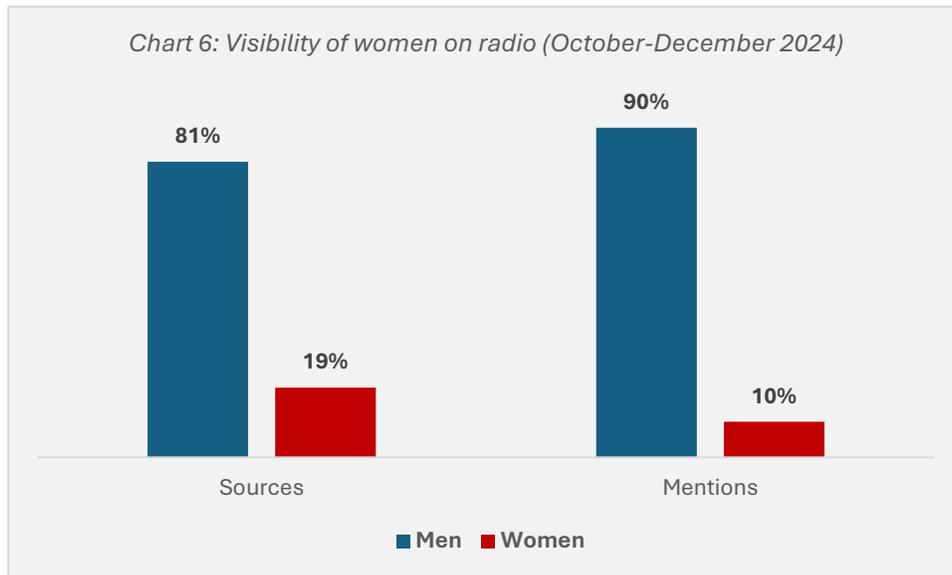


Chart 6 shows that 19% (86 in 451 instances) of the sources and 10% (30 in 308 instances) of the mentions in this category were women. On the other hand, 81% (365 instances) of the sources and 90% (278 instances) of the mentions were men. The data indicates that women were less visible than their male counterparts, echoing the previously noted low level of coverage dedicated to women's issues (0.8%; 5 in 613 instances) as shown in Chart 2.

- “The women wing of Edo PDP protests alleged stealing of the mandate of its candidate Asue Ighodalo in the last governorship election in the state,” Gotel Radio reported on October 10, citing the protesting women.
- “As Ondo State Government provides loans for market women, special adviser on gender matters says the governor will do more if re-elected,” Breeze FM reported on October 29.
- During an October 22 interview on Crest FM’s ‘Oro Oselu,’ PDP member Mr Leye Igbagbo called for the removal of Ondo INEC REC Oluwatoyin Babalola, citing her long tenure in the state and her reported friendship with the APC. A woman was mentioned in the interview.
- During the November 28 edition of Kapital FM programme ‘Electoral Reform Hour’, gender advisor Ene Ede advocated for greater representation of women in both politics and administration. The discussion presented an instance in which a woman was the source of a radio broadcast during the period under review.

- During the November 16 (election day) edition of Kapital FM programme Ondo Mandate, INEC Deputy Director of Publicity, Mrs Adenike Tadishe, discussed the Ondo gubernatorial election and analysed the issues arising from the entire process.

## Youth

The African Youth Charter<sup>1</sup> 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.

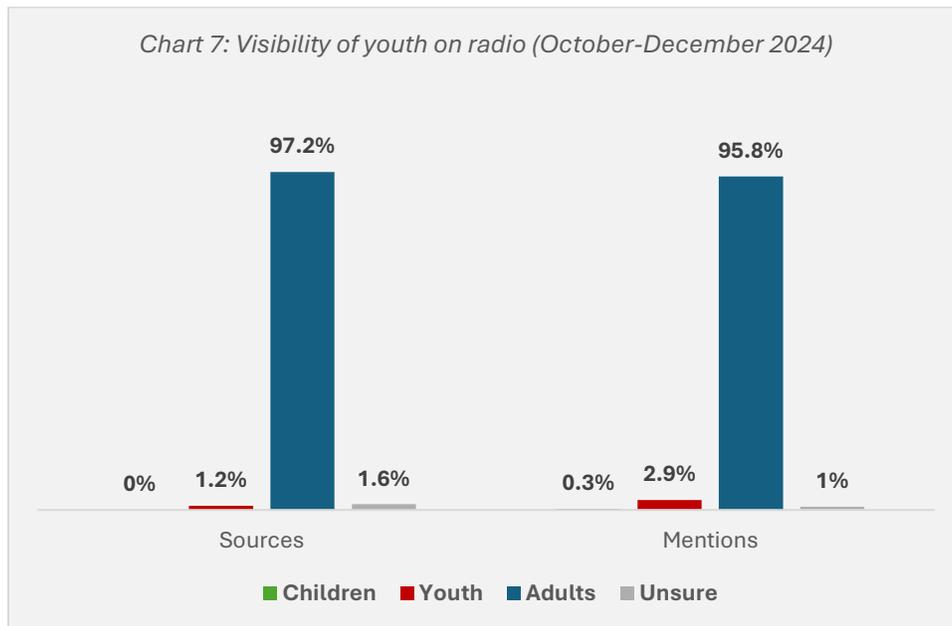


Chart 7 shows that youth represented 1.2% (5 in 426 instances) of the sources and 2.9% (9 in 312 instances) of the mentions. Older adults, on the other hand, made up 97.2% (414 instances) of the sources and 95.8% (299 instances) of the mentions. Children comprised 0.3% (1 instance) of the mentions but were not used as sources. There were instances in which the age group of the sources (1.6%; 7 instances) and the mentions (1%; 3 instances) could not be determined. The data highlights the low visibility of youth actors, reflecting the previously noted low level of coverage of youth issues (0.2%; 1 in 613 instances) as shown in Chart 2.

- “Aggrieved youth call for the redeployment of Ondo REC Oluwatoyin Babalola for fraternizing with Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, saying she could compromise the electoral process,” Breeze FM reported on October 2.
- During the October 21 edition of Crest FM programme ‘The Platform,’ Sunday Adejuyigbe, a CDA chairman in Ondo state, discussed the governor's visit to Akure, describing it as successful. He noted that the governor had a brief engagement at a

designated location and highlighted how the governor interacted with traditional rulers and market women in the state capital. Oluwatuyi Daniel Adekanbi, the youth leader of the Akure Kingdom, also commented on Governor Aiyedatiwa's visit to the king, explaining the significance of the governor and the king walking through the market together.

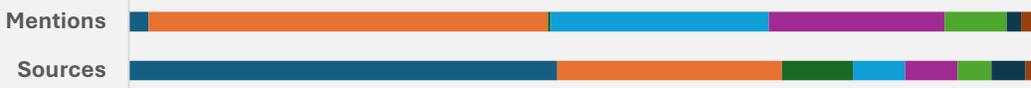
- During a discussion segment of the October 23 edition of Invicta FM programme 'Perspectives,' Kaduna LP members, Yusuf Solomon Danbaki and Mallam Jabir voiced their discontent with the local government elections in the state, accusing APC of jeopardising the future of the youth by employing them as thugs during elections. Consequently, Mallam Jabir urged the youth of Kaduna to refrain from being exploited by corrupt politicians.
- During a November 5 interview on Crest FM programme 'Oro Oselu,' Mr Wale Ajayi, an Ondo PDP youth leader, expressed confidence in the party's prospects for the upcoming gubernatorial election, stating that they were not intimidated and believed they would emerge victorious. The interview presented an instance in which a youth was the source of a radio broadcast during the period under review.
- The situation in Owo was peaceful, with the Deputy Governor and the former Chief of Staff casting their votes. There was also a significant turnout of youth. This was according to reporting by Breeze FM during the November 16 governorship election in Ondo state. Youth were mentioned in the broadcast.
- The youth came out in large numbers and voting commenced early in many polling units, Kapital FM also reported on November 16.

## **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: Status of individual actors featured on radio (October-December 2024)



	Sources	Mentions
Journalists/OAPs	47%	2.2%
Other politicians	24.7%	43.8%
Public intellectuals/commentators	7.8%	0.3%
Aspirants/candidates	5.7%	23.9%
Other citizens	5.7%	19.3%
Political officeholders	3.7%	6.8%
Party chieftains	3.7%	1.6%
Traditional rulers	1%	1.2%
Religious leaders	0.7%	0.9%
Spouses of political officeholders	0%	0%
Spouses of aspirants/candidates	0%	0%

Chart 8a shows that journalists/OAPs represented 47% (139 in 296 instances) of the sources and 2.2% (7 in 322 instances) of the mentions while public intellectuals/commentators made up 7.8% (23 instances) of the sources and 0.3% (1 instances) of the mentions.

Aspirants/candidates constituted 5.7% (17 instances) of the sources and 23.9% (77 instances) of the mentions. Political officeholders and party chieftains each made up 3.7% (11 instances) of the sources, as well as 6.8% (22 instances) and 1.6% (5 instances) of the mentions respectively. Other politicians accounted for 24.7% (73 instances) of the sources and 43.8% (141 instances) of the mentions. The spouses of politicians were not featured.

Whereas traditional rulers accounted for 1% (3 instances) of the sources and 1.2% (4 instances) of the mentions, religious leaders represented 0.7% (2 instances) of the sources and 0.9% (3 instances) of the mentions.

Other citizens made up 5.7% (17 instances) of the sources and 19.3% (62 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.

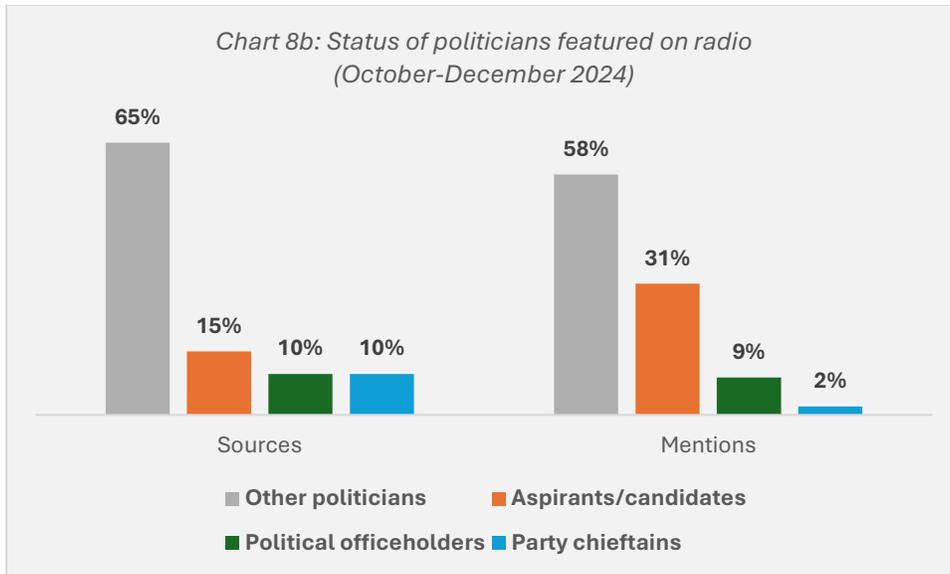


Chart 8b shows that aspirants/candidates represented 15% (17 in 112 instances) of the sources and 31% (77 in 245 instances) of the mentions. Political officeholders and party chieftains each made up 10% (11 instances) of the sources, as well as 9% (22 instances) and 2% (5 instances) of the mentions respectively. Other politicians accounted for 65% (73 instances) of the sources and 58% (141 instances) of the mentions.

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

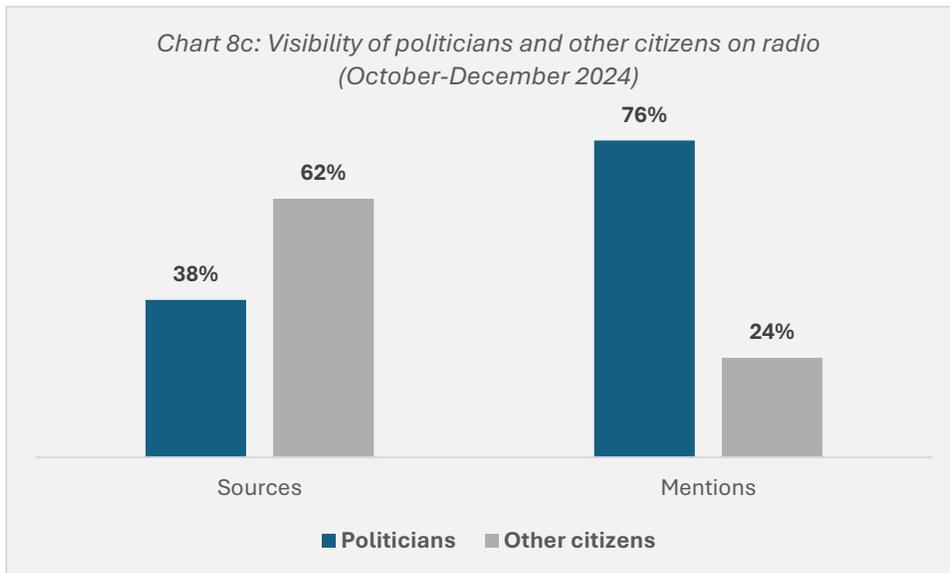


Chart 8c shows that politicians represented 38% (112 in 296 instances) of the sources and 76% (245 in 322 instances) of the mentions while other citizens accounted for 62% (184 instances) of the sources and 24% (77 instances) of the mentions.

# LOCATION OF ACTORS ON RADIO

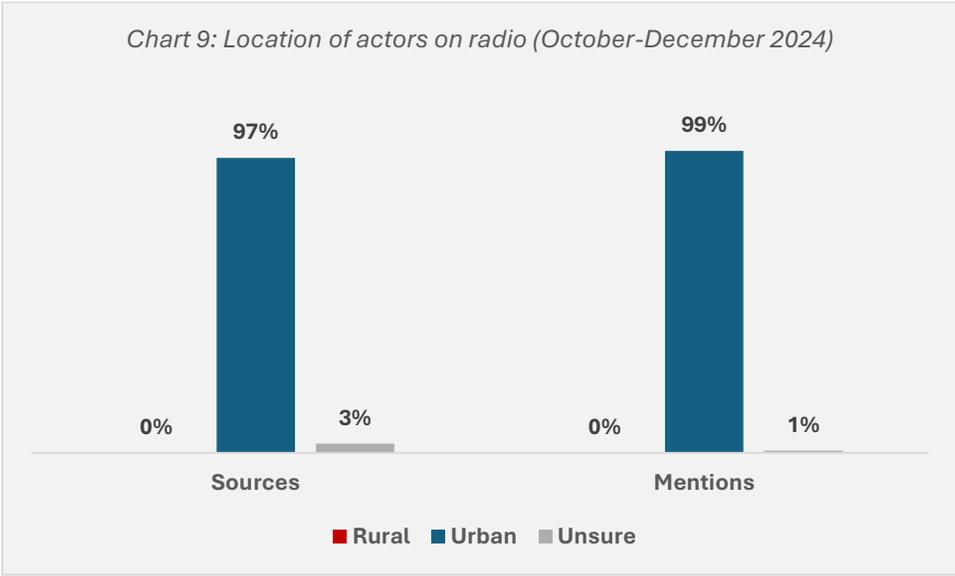


Chart 9 shows that actors from urban areas dominated radio coverage with 97% (441 in 455 instances) of the sources and 99% (255 in 257 instances) of the mentions. Rural actors were not featured. There were instances in which the location of the sources (3%; 14 instances) and the mentions (1%; 2 instances) could not be determined.

# VISIBILITY OF CORPORATE ACTORS ON RADIO

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

## POLITICAL PARTIES

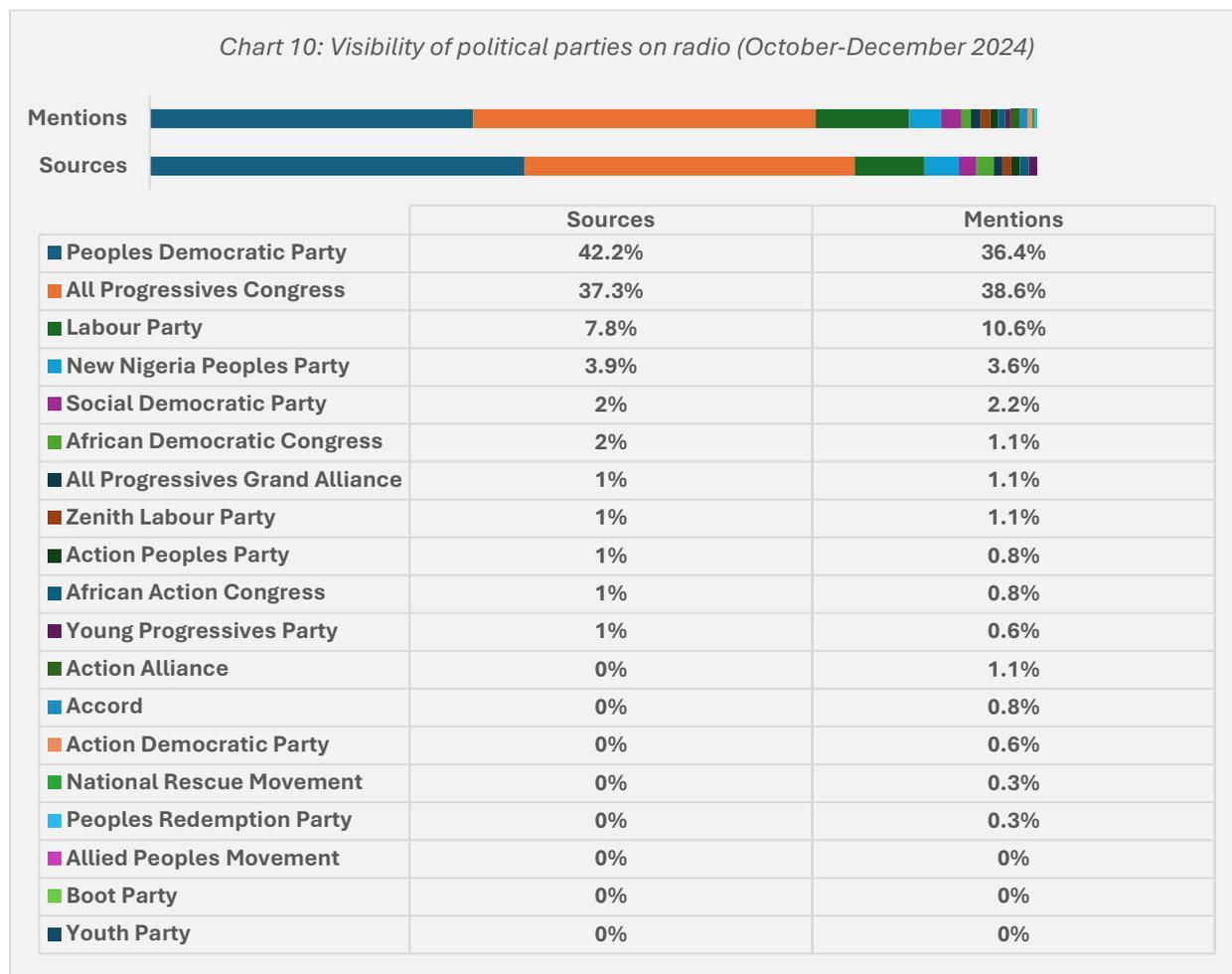


Chart 10 shows that Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) accounted for 42.2% (43 in 102 instances) of the sources and 36.4% (131 in 360 instances) of the mentions.

- During an October 26 interview on Crest FM's 'Oro Oselu,' Ondo PDP member Olawale Ijanusi discussed the party's campaign approach, emphasising that they engage in meaningful conversations with the people rather than just singing and dancing at campaign rallies.
- "Edo residents ask APC, PDP to put the interest of the people above party interest amidst transition conflict in the state," ITV Radio reported on October 29.
- "Ondo PDP candidate in the November 16 governorship election, Agboola Ajayi, has promised to fix the road in Ose as part of first things to do in office," Adaba FM reported on October 30.

- On November 25, Breeze FM reported that the PDP accused INEC of manipulating the results of the Ondo election to benefit the APC. INEC, the report said, replied that the party should not blame its failure on the electoral body.
- During a November 22 interview on Crest FM programme 'Oro Oselu,' Mr Adeoti Ayodeji, a PDP member, expressed his dissatisfaction with the gubernatorial election in Ondo state, claiming that it was not conducted fairly. He pointed out a discrepancy between the deputy governor's name and the name on his certificate, alleging that the election was rigged. In response, Bosun Ogunleye, the APC campaign secretary for Akure South, asserted that the results reflected the will of the people. He highlighted the positive reaction of the public to the governor's post-election rally, noting that the people were pleased to see the governor. Ogunleye also responded to the allegations of vote trading and the claims made against the deputy governor.

All Progressives Congress (APC) constituted 37.3% (38 instances) of the sources and 38.6% (139 instances) of the mentions while Labour Party (LP) made up 7.8% (8 instances) and 10.6% (38 instances) of the mentions.

- "APC inaugurates campaign council for Ondo guber election," Positive FM reported on October 28.
- "Courts affirms Julius Abure as LP national chairman," ITV Radio reported on October 8.

New Nigeria People Party (NNPP) made up 3.9% (4 instances) of the sources and 3.6% (13 instances) of the mentions.

Social Democratic Party (SDP) and African Democratic Congress (ADC) each represented 2% (2 instances) of the sources, as well as 2.2% (8 instances) and 1.1% (4 instances) of the mentions respectively.

Also, All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), Zenith Labour Party (ZLP), Action Peoples Party (APP), African Actions Congress (AAC) and Young Progressives Party (YPP) each constituted 1% (1 instance) of the mentions. APGA and ZLP each made up 1.1% (4 instances) of the mentions while APP and AAC each represented 0.8% (3 instances) of the mentions. YPP received 0.6% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Action Alliance (AA), Accord and Action Democratic Party (ADP) accounted for 1.1% (4 instances), 0.8% (3 instances) and 0.6% (2 instances) of the mentions respectively. They were, however, not used as sources.

The same was true for National Rescue Movement (NRM) and Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) each of which accounted for 0.3% (1 instance) of the mentions.

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

## GOVERNMENT

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

### Federal government

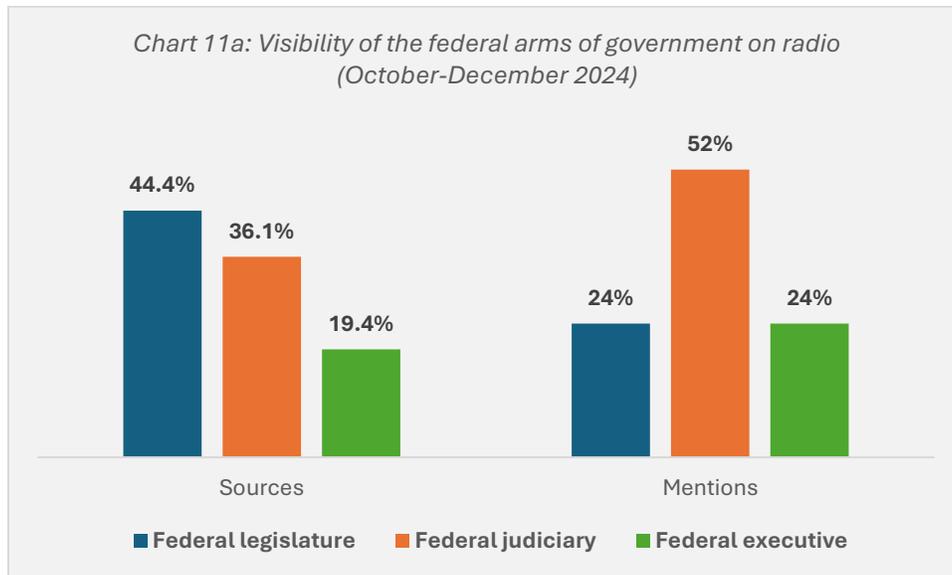


Chart 11a shows that the federal legislature made up 44.4% (16 in 36 instances) of the sources and 24% (33 in 137 instances) of the mentions while the federal judiciary constituted 36.1% (13 instances) of the sources and 52% (71 instances) of the mentions. The federal executive made up 19.4% (7 instances) of the sources and 24% (33 instances) of the mentions.

## State governments

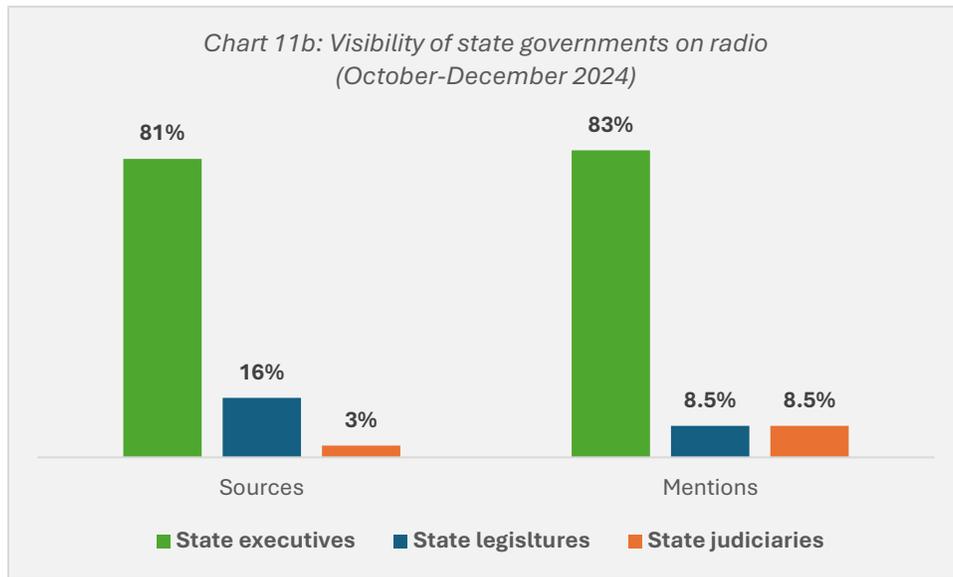


Chart 11b shows that state executives represented 81% (25 in 31 instances) of the sources and 83% (137 in 165 instances) of the mentions, making them the most visible actors in this category. State legislatures constituted 16% (5 instances) of the sources and 8.5% (14 instances) of the mentions while state judiciaries made up 3% (1 instance) of the sources and 8.5% (14 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).

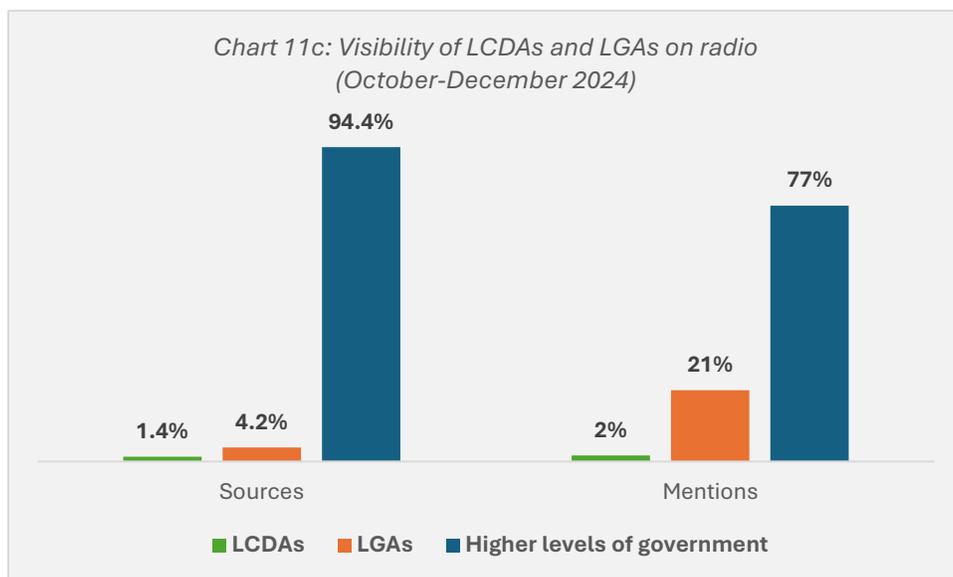


Chart 11c shows that the higher levels of government made up 94.4% (67 in 71 instances) of the sources and 77% (302 in 393 instances) of the mentions. LCDAs represented 1.4% (1 instance) of the sources and 2% (7 instances) of the mentions while LGAs constituted 4.2% (3 instances) of the sources and 21% (84 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.

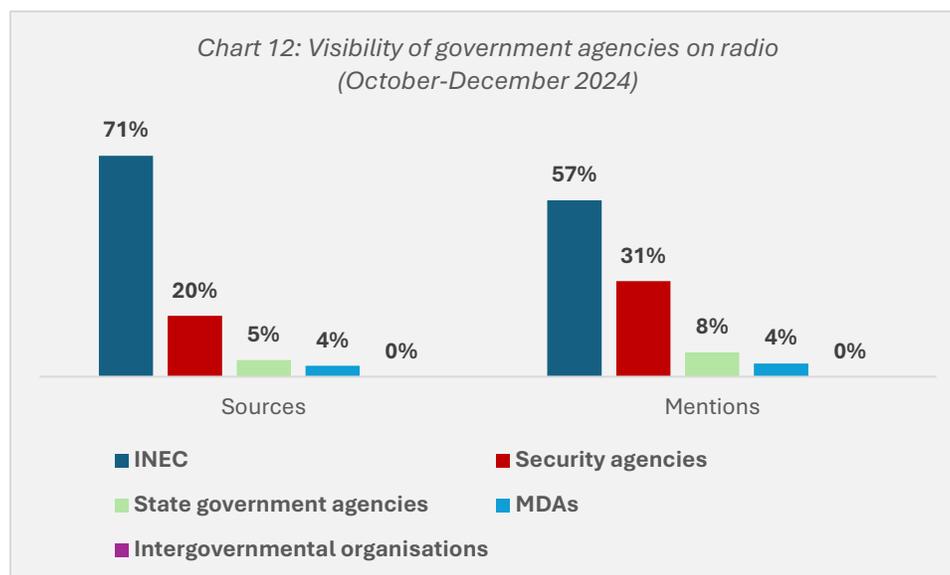


Chart 12 shows that INEC made up 71% (40 in 56 instances) of the sources and 57% (146 in 256 instances) of the mentions while security agencies accounted for 20% (11 instances) of the sources and 31% (79 instances) of the mentions in this category. Whereas state government agencies made up 5% (3 instances) of sources and 8% (20 instances) of the mentions, MDAs represented 4% (2 instances) of sources and 4% (11 instances) of the mentions. Intergovernmental organisations were not featured.

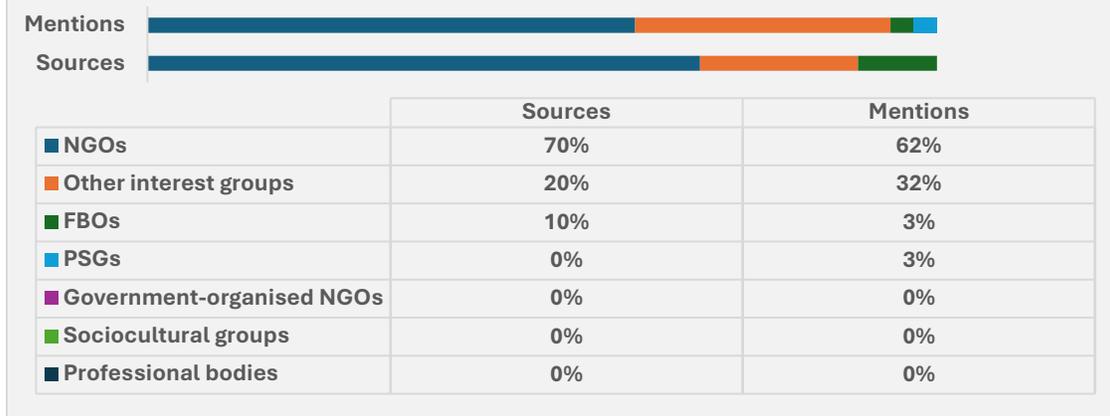
- On October 22, Boss Radio reported that the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) has issued an apology to the broadcast industry, the people of Enugu state and the listening public regarding the intrusion of operatives from the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) into Urban Radio station. This apology was expressed in a statement released by Mrs Susan Obi, the Director of Public Affairs at NBC. Government agencies were featured in the radio broadcast.

- “INEC holds interactive workshop for media practitioners to curb the spread of fake news and disinformation about electoral processes,” Positive FM reported on October 28, featuring the electoral body.
- “Ondo guber poll: Nigeria Airforce stations defence team in Akure to address security challenges during, after governorship election,” Breeze FM reported on October 30, featuring a security agency.
- “Ondo PDP guber candidate Agboola Ajayi rejects outcome of election, alleges criminality by APC and INEC,” ITV Radio reported on November 20. INEC was mentioned in the report.
- “INEC spokesperson Rotimi Oyekanmi criticises PDP for alleging that the commission manipulated the Edo guber election, asks PDP to present evidence in court,” ITV Radio reported on November 25. INEC was the source of the radio broadcast.
- “The Deputy Inspector-General of Police Abiodun Alabi has assured of the readiness of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies for the Ondo state governorship election,” Arewa Radio reported on November 13.
- “President Tinubu calls for peaceful election in Ondo, commends INEC preparedness as police expresses readiness for election,” ITV Radio reported on November 15, featuring the police, a security agency.
- “The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) has praised Adaba FM for its adherence to political broadcasting guidelines and its commitment to professionalism, providing a neutral platform for political candidates during electioneering campaigns,” Adaba FM reported on November 15, featuring NBC, an MDA.

## **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.

Chart 13: Visibility of interest groups on radio (July-September 2024)



According to Chart 13, NGOs represented 70% (14 in 20 instances) of the sources and 62% (21 in 34 instances) of the mentions while FBOs made up 10% (2 instances) of the sources and 3% (1 instance) of the mentions. PSGs made up 3% (1 instance) of the mentions but were not used as sources. Other interest groups accounted for 20% (4 instances) of the sources and 32% (11 instances) of the mentions. Sociocultural groups and professional bodies were not featured.

- “Inter-Party Advisory Council (IPAC) backs Rivers state LG elections, decries high cost of nomination forms, conflicting court orders,” Arewa Radio reported on October 4, featuring an interest group.
- “Ondo Muslim community endorses governor Aiyedatiwa,” Breeze FM reported on October 31, featuring an FBO.
- Adebo Jacob, widely known as Idajo, the former chairman of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in Ondo state, recently gathered thousands of supporters in Akure, particularly in Ward 4, to endorse Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa's re-election campaign, Adaba FM reported on November 7, featuring NURTW, an interest group.
- “CEMESO, YIAGA Africa, other NGOs urge Ondo election stakeholders to play by the rules,” OSBC Radio reported on November 15, featuring NGOs.
- “Ondo guber poll: Centre for Transparency Advocacy has called for a transparent election, urging political parties to honour the signing of the peace accord,” Breeze FM reported on November 13.

## 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.

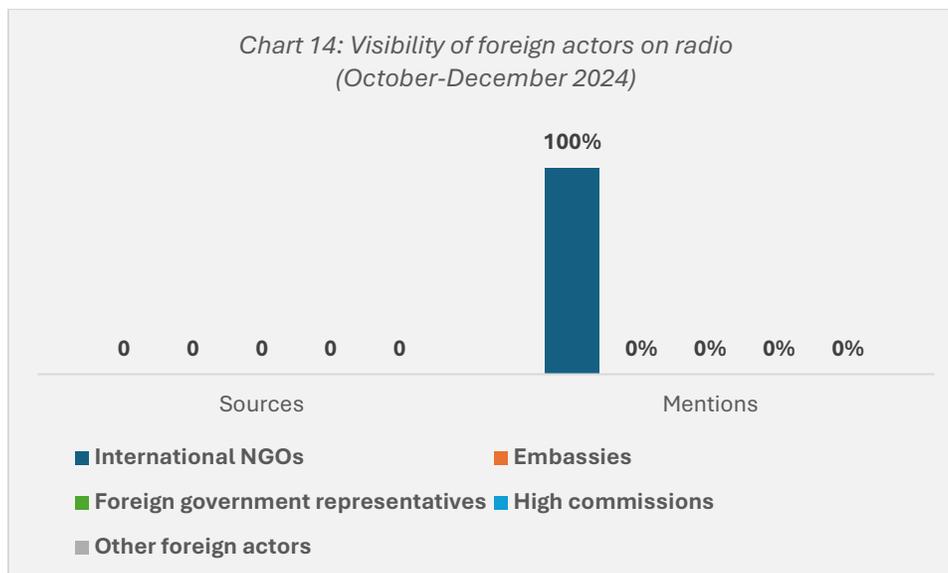


Chart 14 shows that international NGOs (100%; 3 instances) were the only foreign actors featured on radio during the period under review.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The analysis of the content monitored from October to December 2024 revealed that 82% of the radio broadcasts were packaged as news reports while the others were packaged as discussions (10%) and interviews (8%). The radio stations adhered to the journalistic principle of balance in 94% of the applicable broadcasts and recorded no instances of extreme language.

Election administration (29.7%), intra-party conflict (10.4%) and campaign activities/strategies (8%) were the most reported and discussed issues. Women's, PWD and youth issues received 0.8%, 0.5% and 0.2% of the coverage. Female actors accounted for 19% of the sources and 10% of the mentions in the gender category while PWD actors represented 0% of the sources and 0.3% of the mentions in their category. Youth constituted 1.2% of the sources and 2.9% of the mentions in the age category.

For political parties, PDP accounted for the most sources (42.2%) and 38.6% of the mentions while APC constituted most of the mentions (38.6%) and 37.3% of the sources. LP made up 7.8% of the sources and 10.6% of the mentions.

INEC (71% sources; 57% mentions) were more visible than security agencies (20% sources; 31% mentions) and other government agencies combined.

LCDAs (1.4% sources; 2% mentions) and LGAs (4.2% sources; 21% mentions) were not as visible as the higher levels of government (94.4% sources; 77% mentions) in the government category. NGOs (70% sources; 62% mentions) and FBOs (10% sources; 3% mentions) were more visible than other interest groups. International NGOs (100% mentions) were the only foreign actors featured in the analysed radio broadcasts.

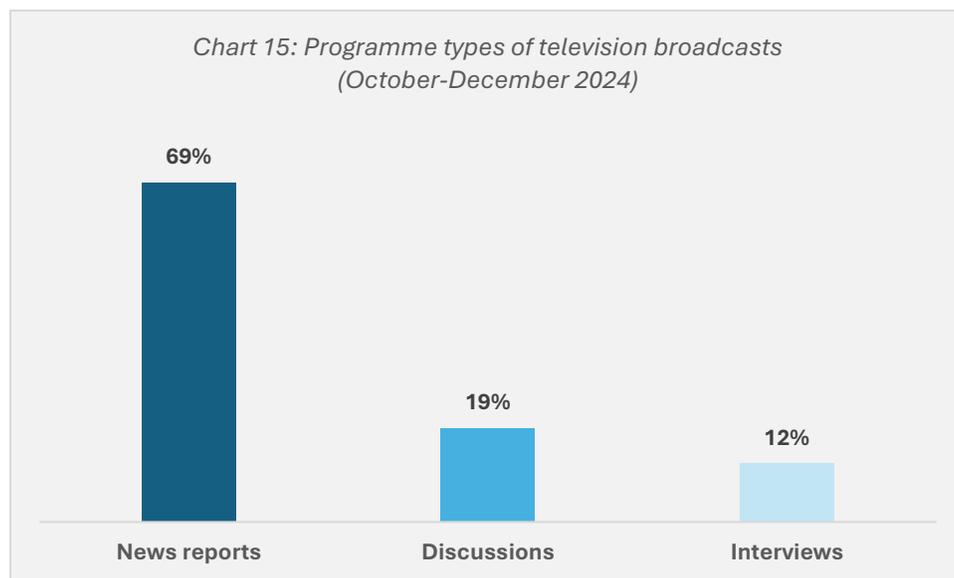
# PART II

## CONTENT OF POLITICAL PROGRAMMES ON TELEVISION

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

### PROGRAMME TYPOLOGY ON TELEVISION

A total of 897 news reports, discussion programmes and interviews were monitored on the selected television stations.



Out of the contents analysed during the period under review, 619 were packaged as news reports. These, according to Chart 15, represented 69% of the contents. The remaining television broadcasts were aired in the discussion (19%; 171 contents) and interview (12%; 107 contents) formats.

### THEMATIC EMPHASIS ON TELEVISION

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

Chart 16: Thematic focus of television broadcasts  
(October-December 2024)

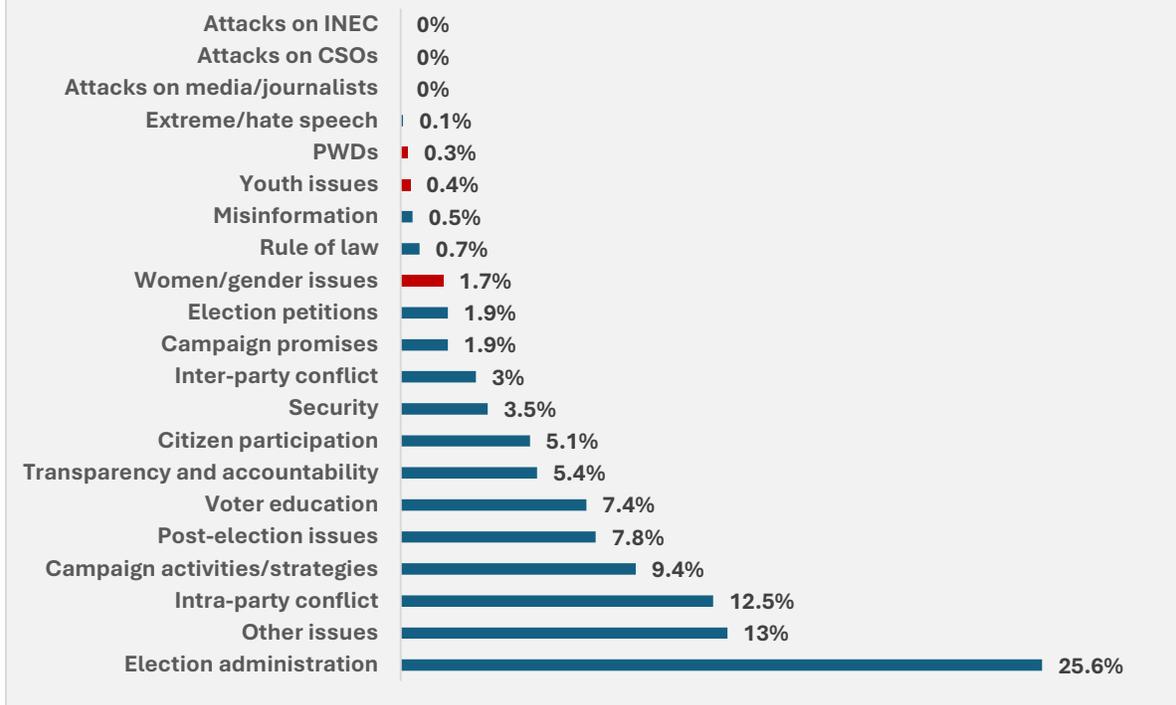


Chart 16 shows that election administration was the most reported and discussed theme, accounting for 25.6% (273 in 1068 instances) of the television coverage during the period under review. Voter education accounted for 7.4% (79 instances) of the attention.

- “INEC says it is yet to officially handover voter register to the Rivers State Resident Electoral Commission for the October 5 local government election in the state,” NTA reported on October 3, focusing on election administration.
- During the October 7 edition of ITV’s ‘This Morning on ITV,’ political analyst Christopher Ojeikere and Joe Johnson, the Commissioner of Information for Rivers state, discussed the local government election in the state and the need to prevent undue interference in the electoral process. Legal activist Emmanuel Ogbidi addressed the absence of police involvement in the election, noting that it still proceeded peacefully.
- “INEC meets with heads of political parties as IPAC urges it to draw lessons from Edo guber experience and perfect logistic matters in Ondo guber election,” Channels TV reported on October 17.

- In an instance focusing on voter education, Senator Shekarau said, during an October 21 discussion on Channels TV's 'Sunrise Daily' that voter enlightenment was required to improve the electoral system.
- NTA reported on October 24 that "with less than four weeks to the November 16 governorship election in Ondo state, major political parties and their candidates are intensifying their efforts in educating the electorate on the importance of voting".
- "Ondo poll: INEC distributes 64,273 PVCs as mock accreditation, preparation for the distribution of electoral materials commence," OGVT reported on November 7, focusing on election administration.
- "INEC to deploy BVAS machine for polling, upload result on IReV portal in Ondo guber election," Channels TV reported on November 7.
- "INEC declares Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa of APC winner of the November 16, 2024, gubernatorial election in Ondo state," ITV reported on November 17.
- "IPAC has called on Ondo residents to come out en mass and vote for the candidate of their choice, adding that voters should shun vote buying, other electoral crimes," TVC News reported on November 13, focusing on voter education.
- According to a November 16 (election day) report by NTA, INEC spokesperson Rotimi Oyekanmi stated that the commission implemented various techniques to educate the public. The electoral, Oyekanmi was reported to have said, utilised social media to reach younger audiences and employed alternative methods such as town criers and town hall meetings to reach older demographics to ensure effective communication and education. The report was focused on voter education.
- During a December 3 interview on Arise TV programme 'Arise Primetime,' Osita Chidoka, founder of the Athena Centre for Policy and Leadership, claimed that INEC has inexplicably disabled the result viewing feature of the BVAS on the IREV platform in Edo and Ondo, which he considered a significant violation of transparency. The comment was based on election administration.
- Also, "INEC set to implement recommendations obtained from internal and external engagements about 2023 general election," Channels TV reported on December 12.
- During the discussion segment of the December 15 edition of ITV's 'This Morning On ITV,' Oshahon Okoro, Hon. Napoleon Agbama, Iyeyemi Onajomo, Ahmed Evabakare

and Ahmed Momodu, all political analysts, raised concerns about voter apathy and highlighted the need for voter education.

Intra-party conflict and inter-party conflict represented 12.5% (133 instances) and 3% (32 instances) of the coverage respectively while election petitions constituted 1.9% (20 instances) of the coverage.

- During a discussion segment of the October 3 edition of Channels TV programme 'Sunrise Daily,' reinstated Rivers APC chairman Emeka Beke stated that the Rivers LGA election would proceed as scheduled. However, Rivers APC chieftain Tony Okocha, who was expected to agree with the state chairman, argued that it was illegal for the election to take place. He further claimed that Beke was not the recognised chairman of Rivers APC. The discussion was focused on an intra-party crisis.
- "PDP national working committee disagrees with Rivers chapter, insists LGA election will hold in Rivers state," Channels TV reported on October 4.
- "APP disowns factional group, urges IGP to arrest members as they are impostors," AIT reported on October 4.
- Pro-APC Rivers assembly declares pro-PDP lawmakers' seats vacant, decides to call INEC to conduct bye-election," LTV reported on October 15, focusing on intra-party conflict.
- In an instance focused on election petitions, "Edo guber: Election petition tribunal set to entertain petitions from aggrieved political parties," ITV reported on October 9.
- "2023 NASS election: Appeal Court sacks Enugu PDP Reps member, Atigwe, declares Dennis Agor of LP as rightful candidate," OGTV reported on October 9.
- "Edo election: PDP files petition against Okpebholo's victory," OSRC TV reported on October 14.
- During a November 7 interview on News Central programme 'Politics HQ,' NNPP national spokesperson Ladipo Johnson stated that those who were expelled from the party should not have been, as due process was not followed. The discussion centred on the leadership of the NNPP, with Rabiw Kwankwaso, their 2023 election presidential candidate, remaining silent as the party's crisis deepened. The interview presented an instance in which intra-party conflict was the focus of a television broadcast during the period under review.

- Nyesom Wike, a prominent PDP member serving as FCT minister under Tinubu's APC government, said, according to a November 13 report by Channels TV, that there was no clear effort for PDP to win the governorship election in Ondo state, adding that Governor Bala Mohammed's leadership style was ruining the party. The report was focused on intra and inter-party conflict.
- During a November 14 discussion on Channels TV programme 'Sunrise Daily,' factional Ondo LP guber candidate Ayo Olorunfemi said that he was the valid governorship candidate of the party, claiming that Olusola Ebiseni's candidature was invalid. The discussion signalled an instance of intra-party conflict.
- New Edo government: PDP, according to a November 26 report by ITV, called for Governor Okpebholo and his deputy to resign from their National Assembly seats, and alleged that APC attacked its secretariat to undermine the PDP and prevent them from reclaiming their mandate. The report was focused on inter-party conflict.
- "Ondo poll: Court of Appeal constitutes petition tribunal," OSRC TV reported on November 11, focusing on election petitions.
- "Ondo guber: Court reserves judgement on eligibility of deputy governor-elect," OGTV reported on November 20.
- "Lagos APC holds summit, emphasises need to resolve internal conflicts, be united," ITV reported on December 5, focusing on intra-party conflict.
- During a December 22 interview on Channels TV's 'Politics Today,' factional Rivers APC chairman Emeka Beke asserted that he, not Tony Okocha, was the legally recognised state chairman of the party. He contended that FCT minister Nyesom Wike (a PDP member serving under an APC-led presidency) was to blame for his leadership challenges within the APC. The interview was focused on intra and inter-party conflict.
- During a discussion segment of the December 24 edition of News Central programme 'Breakfast Central,' LP official Marcel Nogobehi highlighted the crises rocking the party but pointed out that gains made by the Obidient Movement were good.
- "APC sets up committee to reconcile aggrieved party members in Adamawa state," Channels TV reported on December 29.

- “Edo PDP condemns suspension of 18 local government chairmen, says it is unconstitutional and abuse of local government autonomy,” Channels TV reported on December 17, focusing on inter-party conflict.
- Also, “Edo PDP alleges plan by APC-led state government to change local government account signatories,” Channels TV reported on December 31.
- In an instance focusing on election petitions, “Ondo guber: Court dismisses suit challenging qualification of Governor Aiyedatiwa, deputy,” OGTV reported on December 2.
- “Edo governorship election: Tribunal receives seven petitions against Governor Okpebholo,” OGTV reported on December 9.

Whereas campaign activities/strategies received 9.4% (100 instances) of the coverage, campaign promises enjoyed 1.9% (20 instances) of the attention.

- “Ondo governorship poll: Ifedore APC leaders mobilise support for Aiyedatiwa,” OSRC TV reported on October 9, focusing on campaign activities/strategies.
- “Ondo governorship election: Ondo state governor Aiyedatiwa has inaugurated the campaign council of APC ahead of next month’s governorship election in the state,” OSRC TV reported on October 10.
- “PDP National working committee members, other party leaders arrive in Akure to kick off the governorship campaign flag-off election,” TVC News reported on October 15.
- “Ondo 2024: PDP candidate, Agboola Ajayi, promises to strengthen Amotekun security, others,” OSRC TV reported on October 31, focusing on campaign promises.
- During the November 5 edition of AIT programme ‘Democracy Today,’ Ondo SDP governorship candidate Bamidele Akingboye discussed his manifesto and vision for the state. He criticised both the current and previous governments for their lack of performance, stating that this was why he was stepping forward to run for governor. Similarly, YPP candidate John Otitolaju Akinmurele shared his plans for Ondo state, emphasising his commitment to reviving agriculture and working towards the overall betterment of the state. The discussions were focused on campaign activities/strategies and campaign promises.

- “Governorship election: Sunday Falae leads campaign walk for Aiyedatiwa,” OSRC TV reported on November 11. The state also reported on the same day that, “Ondo poll: YPP embarks on street-to-street campaign”.
- Former president Olusegun Obasanjo “visits Governor Aiyedatiwa, wishes him victory,” Channels TV reported on November 11.
- “PDP governors urged all eligible voters in Ondo state to vote for the party’s candidate,” TVC News reported on November 14.
- “Boosting tourism: Aiyedatiwa promises Akure-Idanre dualization,” OSRC TV reported on November 11, focusing on campaign promises.
- During a November 14 interview on Channels TV programme ‘Politics Today,’ factional Ondo LP gubernatorial candidate Sola Ebiseni asserted that his candidacy remained steadfast despite ongoing court proceedings. He promised to ensure the security of lives and properties while also focusing on leveraging the state’s natural resources for development.
- During a December 10 interview on News Central’s ‘Politics HQ,’ LP chieftain Marcel Ngogbehei addressed what he identified as Nigeria’s biggest challenge: a segment of the population’s disengagement from politics. He noted that entering politics often required overcoming significant obstacles. He also emphasises that LP’s mobilisation efforts for future elections would extend from the local government level down to the polling units.
- “Benue APC endorses President Tinubu for 2027 presidency,” Channels TV reported on December 29.

Transparency and accountability received 5.4% (58 instances) of the coverage while citizen participation accounted for 5.1% (55 instances) of the coverage. The rule of law constituted 0.7% (8 instances) of the coverage.

- “Coalition of civil societies condemns planned October 1 protest, urges organisers to embrace dialogue,” ITV reported on October 1, focusing on citizenship participation.
- “Protesters converge at Ikeja as police ensure security; protesters demand release of previously arrested protesters,” Channels TV reported on October 1.

- “Lagos government promises to prioritise local government autonomy,” LTV reported on October 7, focusing on transparency and accountability.
- During an October 17 interview on Arise TV’s ‘Arise Primetime,’ Dr Ibrahim Modibbo, a public affairs analyst, asserted that some state governors select local government chairmen intending to exert control over them. He emphasised that achieving financial independence was essential for driving the change the people desired.
- “The Nigeria Senate has demanded compliance with the Supreme Court decision on LG autonomy,” Liberty TV reported on October 9, focusing on transparency and accountability, the rule of law.
- “Rivers crisis: CJN orders probe of judges over conflicting rulings,” OGTV reported on October 28, focusing on the rule of law.
- “‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria’ protests: Court grants 10 million bails to 72 protesters, arraigns wanted British national,” OGTV reported on November 11, focusing on citizen participation.
- “Police say teenage protesters were violent and not too young to be charged to court,” Channels TV reported on November 1.
- During a November 1 interview on Channels TV programme ‘Politics Today,’ human rights activist Funke Adeoye stated that the teenage protesters were brought to court following pressure from their lawyers. She also expressed concern over the stringent bail conditions imposed on the young demonstrators.
- “Court strikes out suit against minor protesters,” LTV reported on November 6.
- According to a November 25 report by LTV, public affairs analyst Lekan Oni praised the federal government’s transparency in its monthly allocations to local governments. The report was focused on transparency and accountability.
- During a discussion segment of the November 4 edition of Channels TV programme ‘Sunrise Daily,’ Barrister Adeola Oyelade criticised the detention of minor protesters, emphasising that suspects should always be prosecuted in accordance with the law.
- “AGF maintains that Supreme Court judgment on local government autonomy must be enforced,” Channels TV reported on December 12, focusing on transparency and accountability.

- During a December 31 interview on LTV programme 'Talking Point,' public affairs analyst Taiwo Olapade stated that local government autonomy was a significant achievement for the government in 2024. He, however, expressed regrets that it had not been officially implemented.
- "Take It Back Movement demands immediate release of female activist Abiodun Thomas who was arrested by the Nigeria police," News Central reported on December 13, focusing on citizen participation.
- "Rule of law: Justice minister says no governor has power to suspend, remove LG chairman, deputies," ITV reported on December 19.

Security issues accounted for 3.5% (37 instances) of the coverage. Attacks on media/journalists, INEC and CSOs were not featured.

- "Ahead of Benue LG elections, the police command in the state has assured residents of adequate security during the polls," Liberty TV reported on October 2, focusing on security agencies.
- "Ondo guber election: IGP promises maximum security for November poll, reacts to the rivers state crisis," ITV reported on October 16.
- "INEC, National Peace Committee state that political parties will sign peace accord ahead of the Ondo state governorship election," Liberty TV reported on November 1, focusing on security issues.
- "IGP bans Amotekun, vigilante corps from participating in Ondo governorship election," TVC News reported on November 11.
- "Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Abiodun Alabi, has assured of the readiness of the Nigeria Police and other security agencies for the Ondo state governorship election," Liberty TV reported on November 14.

Women's issues received 1.7% (18 instances) of the coverage while youth and PWD issues accounted for 0.4% (4 instances) and 0.3% (3 instances) of the coverage respectively.

- "Inclusive governance: Governor Aiyedatiwa promises to give women more recognition," OSRC TV reported on October 4, focusing on women's issues.

- During the October 7 edition of OSRC TV's 'AM Today,' Oluwakemi Adeniyi, a politician, discussed the role and mobilisation of women in Ondo politics. She stated that women are vital agents of change and leadership, highlighting that Governor Aiyedatiwa was supportive of women's issues.
- "As Ondo state prepares for its governorship election, students have been charged on the need to participate actively in politics to strengthen democracy and ensure good governance," OSRC TV reported on October 10.
- OSRC TV also reported on October 30 "November governorship election: National Youth Council, stakeholders empower young voters."
- "Ondo governorship election: INEC engages PWD group leaders for better planning," OSRC TV reported on October 4.
- "Nasarawa APC adopts consensus method for choosing candidates for LG elections, women, PWDs to pay 50 per cent of the nomination fee," AIT reported on October 9.
- "Betsy Obaseki, Ibukun Awosika advocate bigger roles for women in politics," Channels TV reported on November 4, focusing on women's issues.
- "UN Women laments low female participation in politics in Nigeria," Channels TV reported on November 11.
- During a November 6 discussion on OSRC TV programme 'AM Today,' the Ondo state chairman of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Matthew Ogunmolawa, emphasised that he believed the youth are key stakeholders in any electoral process, asserting that they play a significant role in the process. He discussed the importance of youth involvement in elections, stating that the youth in Nigeria will soon make their voices heard. He also noted that present-day youth were not willing to be sidelined. The discussion was focused on Youth issues.
- "Edo disability law enforcement: NAPVID, ROLAC, others want immediate implementation of disability law in the state," ITV News reported on December 5.
- During a December 18 discussion on LTV programme 'The Conversation,' public intellectual Obadare Adenekan said that the proposal for special seats for women would enhance their participation in governance.

Whereas misinformation was reported and discussed 0.5% (5 instances) of the time, extreme/hate speech accounted for 0.1% (1 instance) of the coverage.

- “Police warn against fake news, incitement to violence ahead of Ondo poll,” OGTV reported on October 21, focusing on misinformation.
- “INEC fixes November 8 for signing peace accord, announces end of PVC collection, appeals to media to serve as counterforce to fake news and misinformation,” Channels TV reported on November 1.
- During a November 13 discussion on OSRC TV programme ‘AM Today,’ Mr Ahmed Anuku, a data analyst, discussed the importance of information management and fact-checking in the context of elections.

Post-election issues and other issues represented 7.8% (83 instances) and 13% (139 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.

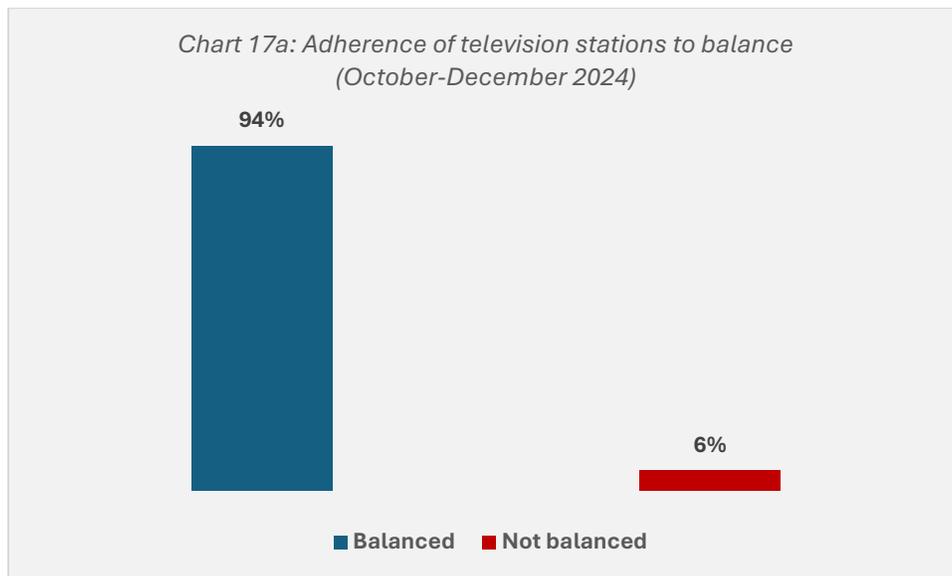


Chart 17a shows that 94% (237 in 251 applicable contents) of sampled television broadcasts were balanced while 6% (14 contents) were not.

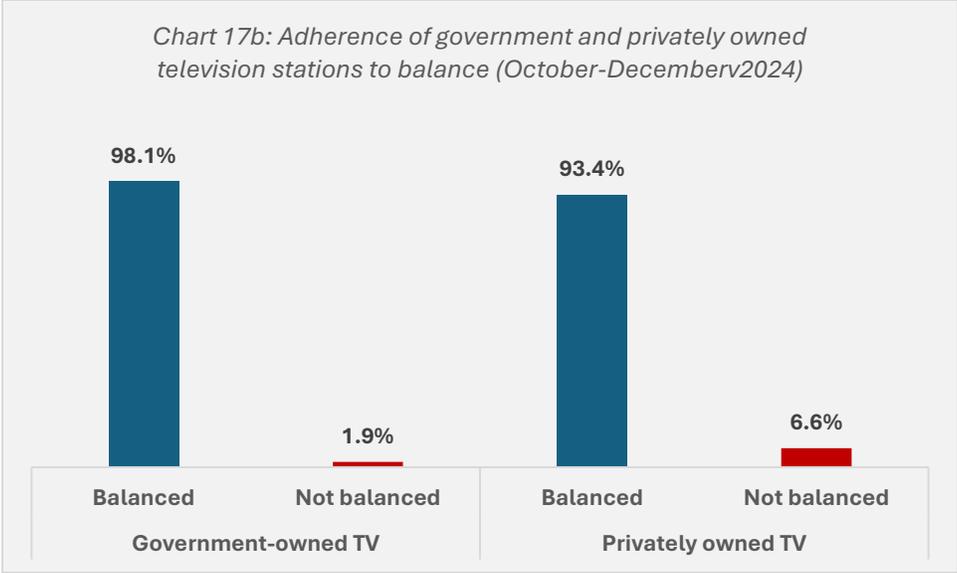


Chart 17b shows that 98.1% (52 in 53 contents) of the broadcasts from government-owned television stations were balanced while 1.9% (1 content) were not. In contrast, 93.4% (185 in 198 contents) of the broadcasts from privately owned television stations were balanced while 6.6% (13 contents) were not.

**QUALITY OF PROGRAMMES ON TELEVISION — LANGUAGE**

The selected television stations were examined for adherence to wholesome language in their programmes. The recorded incidents did not solely involve the media or its sources employing provocative language; they also documented the actions of those actively decrying inflammatory rhetoric.

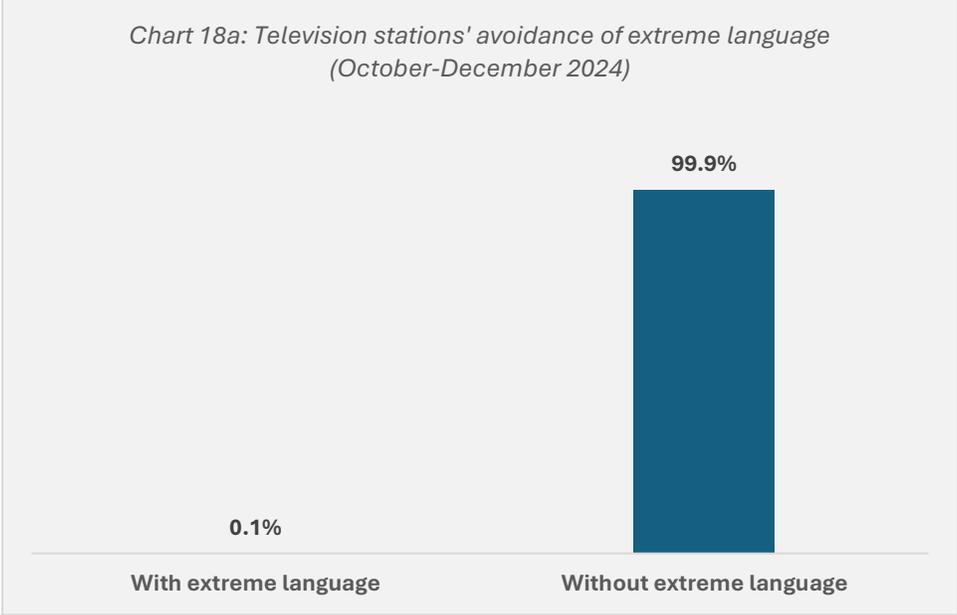


Chart 18a shows that the television stations avoided extreme language in 99.9% (896 in 897 contents) of their programmes but fell short in 0.1% (1 content) of the programmes.

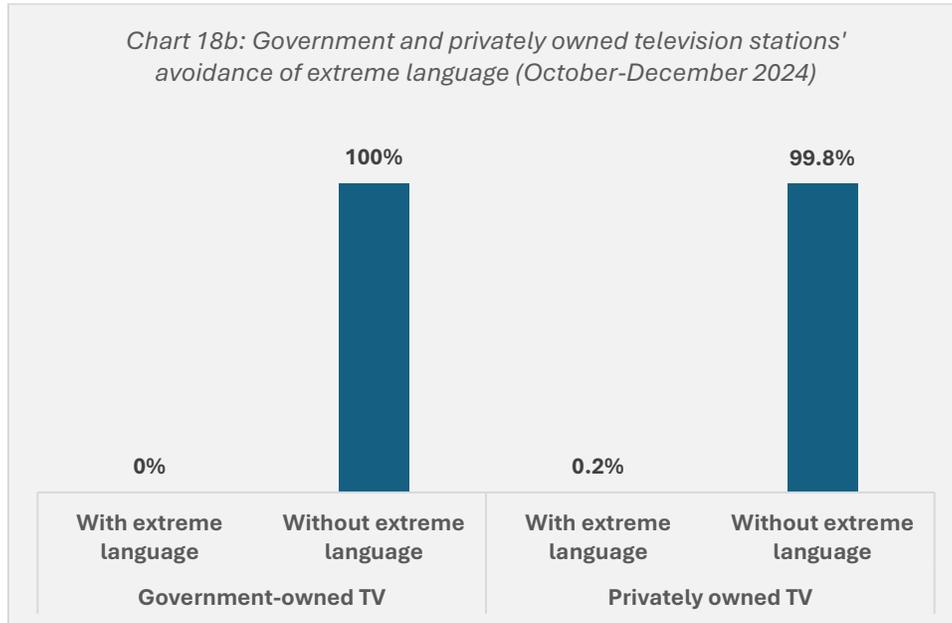


Chart 18b shows that 100% (282 contents) of the broadcasts from government-owned television stations were free of extreme language. In contrast, 99.8% (614 in 615 contents) of the broadcasts from privately owned television stations were free of extreme language while 0.2% (1 content) were not.

- “Martin Amaewhule-led Rivers Assembly frowns at Governor Fubara’s presentation of 2025 budget to three lawmakers loyal to him,” Channels TV reported on December 31. Amaewhule, according to the report, said that Fubara “is a rascal in government house”. His characterisation of Fubara was deemed an extreme rhetoric.

## 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

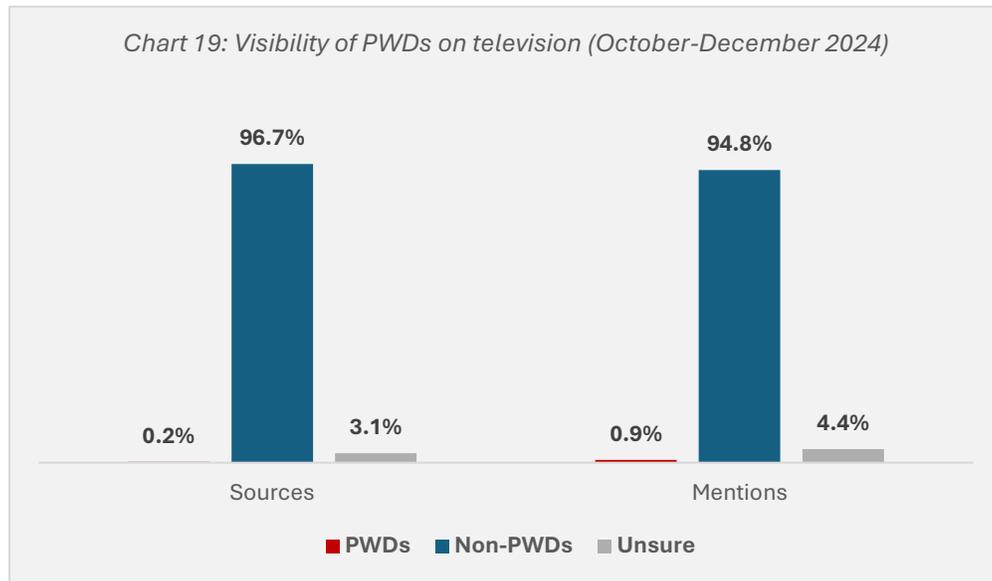


Chart 19 shows that PWD actors constituted 0.2% (2 in 849 instances) of the sources and 0.9% (5 in 572 instances) of the mentions while non-PWD actors made up 96.7% (821 instances) of the sources and 94.8% (542 instances) of the mentions. There were instances in which the PWD status of the sources (3.1%; 26 instances) and the mentions (4.4%; 25 instances) could not be determined. The data reflects the previously noted low level of coverage of PWD issues (0.3%; 3 in 1068 instances) as shown in Chart 16.

- “Ondo governorship election: INEC engages PWD group leaders for better planning,” OSRC TV reported on October 4, featuring PWDs.
- “Nasarawa APC adopts consensus method for choosing candidates for LG elections, women, PWDs to pay 50 per cent of the nomination fee,” AIT reported on October 9.
- “Edo disability law enforcement: NAPVID, ROLAC, others want immediate implementation of disability law in the state,” ITV News reported on December 5, featuring PWDs.

## Women

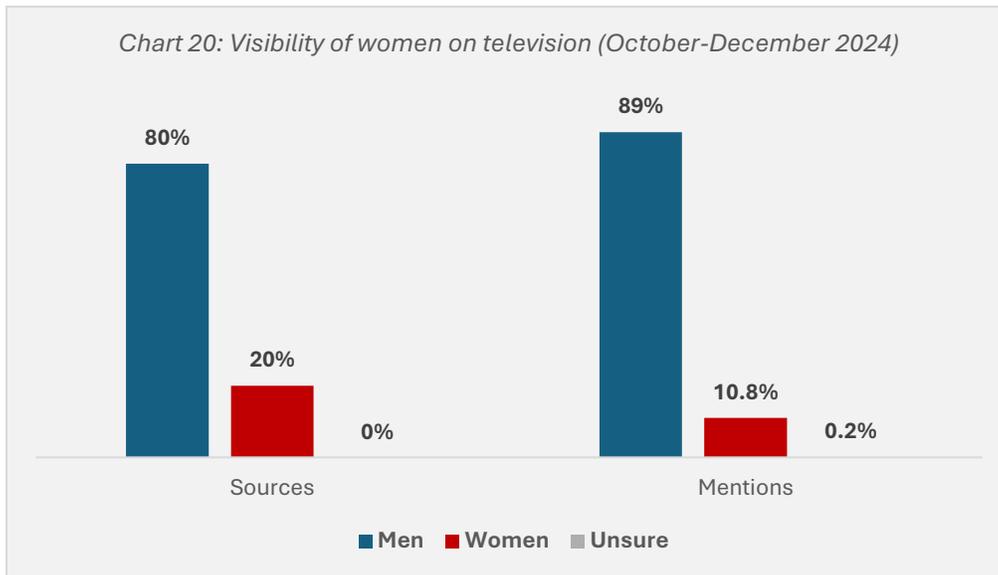


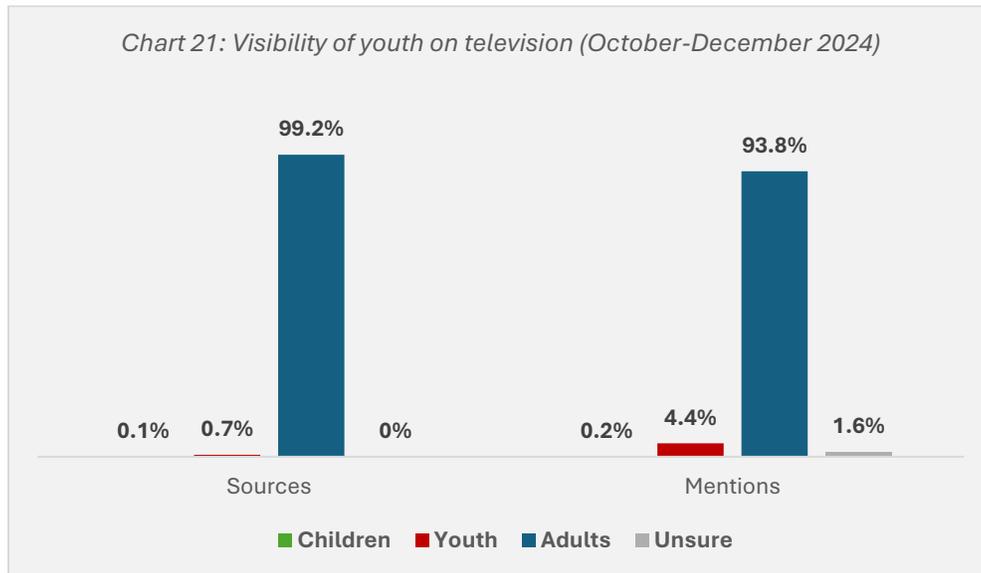
Chart 20 shows that women constituted 20% (151 in 769 instances) of the sources and 10.8% (55 in 510 instances) of the mentions while men made up 80% (618 instances) of the sources and 89% (454 instances) of the mentions. There was one instance in which the gender of the mentions (0.2%; 1 instance) could not be determined. The data indicates that female actors were less visible compared to their male counterparts and reflects the previously noted low level of coverage (1.7%; 18 in 1068 instances) dedicated to women's issues as shown in Chart 16.

- During an October 28 interview on Channel TV's 'Politics Today,' Kafilat Ogbara, the lawmaker representing Kosofe Federal Constituency of Lagos at the House of Representatives, emphasised the importance of increasing women's participation in politics. She commended the Deputy Speaker of the House, Benjamin Kalu, for his support and advocated for a political reform that would require the inclusion of women on the nomination lists for political offices in each state. The interview presented an instance in which a woman was the source of a television broadcast during the period in review.
- During an October 31 interview on OSRC TV's 'State of the State,' Mrs Seun Osamaye, the Special Assistant to the Governor on Women Affairs, stated that the people of Ondo state, particularly women, were pleased with the governor for prioritising their welfare and assured that conditions would continue to improve.
- "Speaker Tajudeen Abass laments low women participation in Nigeria's parliament," LTV reported on October 29.

- During a December 18 discussion on LTV programme 'The Conversation,' public intellectual Obadare Adenekan said that the proposal for special seats for women would enhance their participation in governance. Women were mentioned in the report.

## Youth

The African Youth Charter<sup>1</sup> 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 made up 0.7% (5 in 767 instances) of the sources and 4.4% (25 in 562 instances) of the mentions while older adults represented 99.2% (761 instances) of the sources and 93.8% (527 instances) of the mentions. Children constituted 0.1% (1 instance) of the sources and 0.2% (1 instance) of the mentions. There were nine instances (1.6%) in which the age group of the mentions could not be determined. The data highlights the limited visibility of youth actors, reflecting the previously noted low level of coverage (0.4%; 4 in 1068 instances) of youth issues as illustrated in Chart 16.

- "President Tinubu plans to convene 30-day national youth conference," AIT reported on October 1.
- "INEC promises to deliver free and fair election in Ondo guber election as youth protest and call for the replacement of Ondo rec," Channels TV reported on October 29.

- During a November 13 discussion on OSRC TV's 'AM Today,' Ondo YPP chairman Dotun Ojon stated that running for election was just one aspect of the electioneering process. He also discussed the three-point campaign strategies adopted by the party and highlighted the importance of youth participation in politics.
- During a December discussion on TVC News programme 'This Morning,' the Chairman of Kosofe Local Government, Barrister Moyosore Ogunlewe, disclosed plans to empower Kosofe youths in the coming year.

## 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.

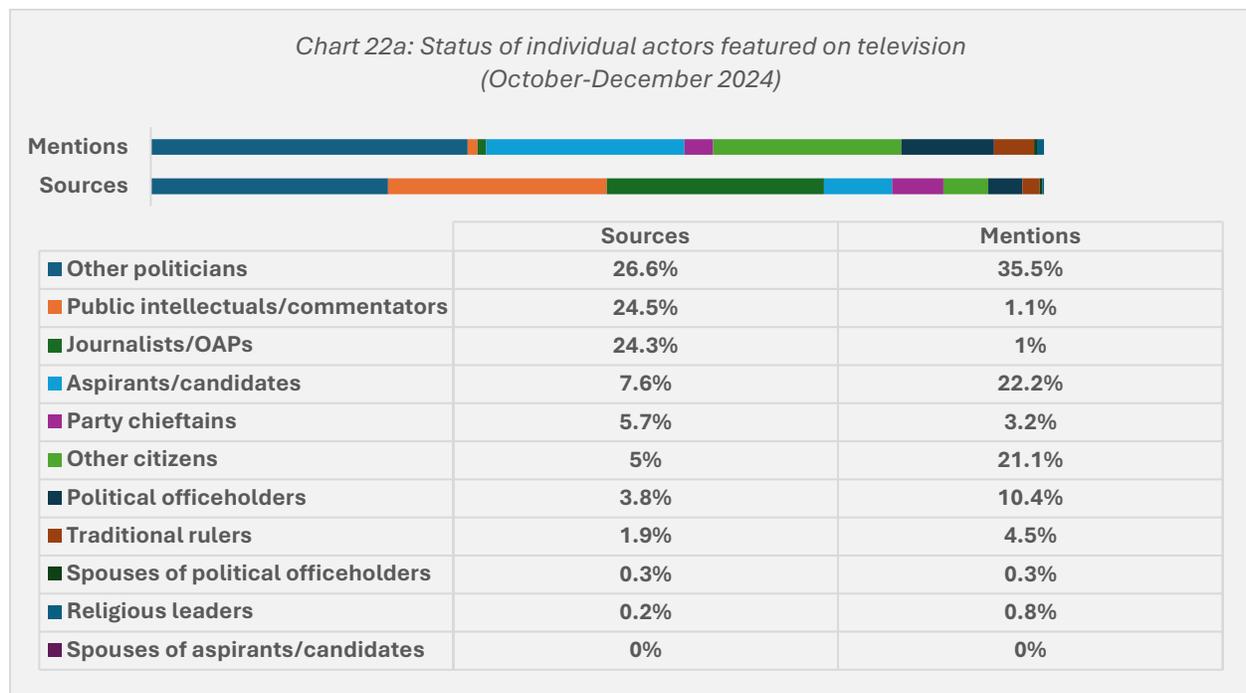


Chart 22a shows that aspirants/candidates constituted 7.6% (44 in 576 instances) of the sources and 22.2% (139 in 626 instances) of the mentions while party chieftains made up 5.7% (33 instances) of the sources and 3.2% (20 instances) of the mentions. Political officeholders accounted for 3.8% (22 instances) of the sources and 10.4% (65 instances) of the mentions while other politicians represented 26.6% (153 instances) of the sources and 35.5% (222 instances) of the mentions. The spouses of political officeholders accounted for

0.3% (2 instances) of the sources and 0.3% (2 instances) of the mentions). The spouses of aspirants/candidates were not featured.

Whereas public intellectuals/commentators represented 24.5% (141 instances) of the sources and 1.1% (7 instances) of the mentions, journalists/OAPs constituted 24.3% (140 instances) of the sources and 1% (6 instances) of the mentions.

Traditional rulers made up 1.9% (11 instances) of the sources and 4.5% (28 instances) of the mentions while religious leaders constituted 0.2% (1 instance) of the sources and 0.8% (5 instances) of the mentions.

Other citizens accounted for 5% (29 instances) of the sources and 21.1% (132 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.

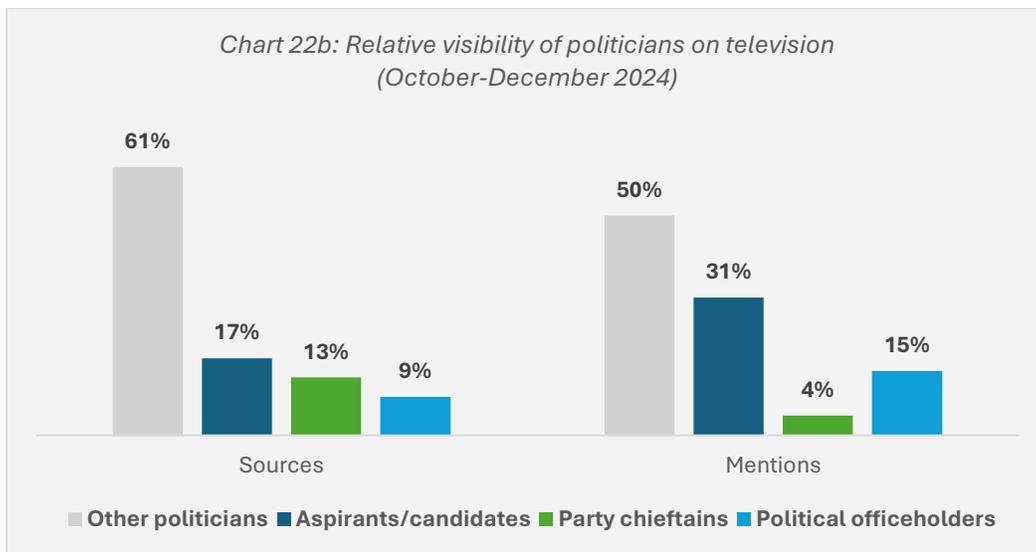


Chart 22b shows that aspirants/candidates constituted 17% (44 in 252 instances) of the sources and 31% (139 in 446 instances) of the mentions while party chieftains represented 13% (33 instances) of the sources and 4% (20 instances) of the mentions. Political officeholders made up 9% (22 instances) of the sources and 15% (65 instances) of the mentions while other politicians accounted for 61% (153 instances) of the sources and 50% (222 instances) of the mentions.

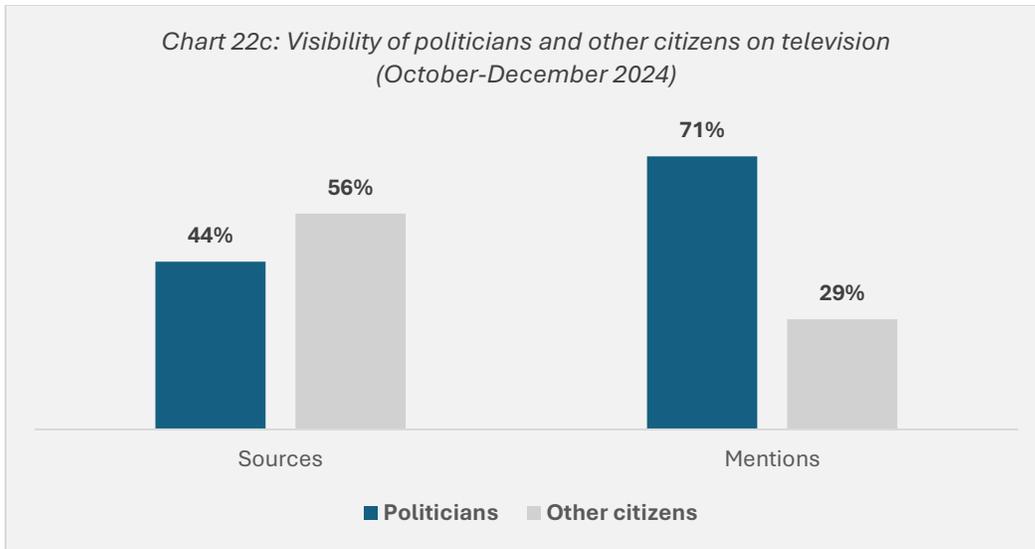


Chart 22c shows that politicians made up 44% (252 in 576 instances) of the sources and 71% (446 in 626 instances) of the mentions while other citizens made up 56% (324 instances) of the sources and 29% (180 instances) of the mentions.

### LOCATION OF ACTORS ON TELEVISION

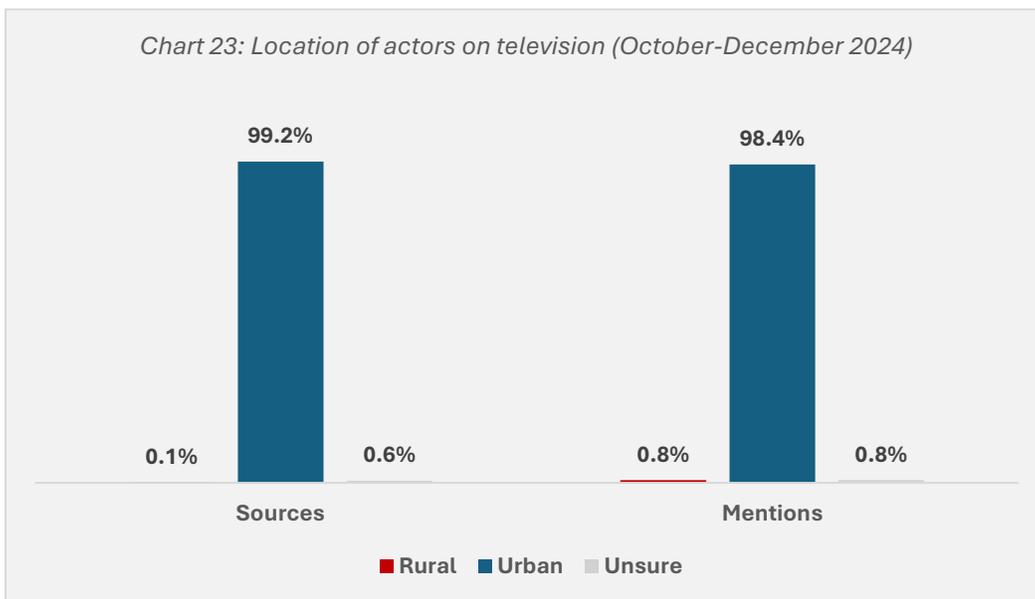


Chart 23 shows that actors from urban locations represented 99.2% (767 in 773 instances) of the sources and 98.4% (371 in 377 instances) of the mentions. Rural actors made up 0.1% (1 instance) of the sources and 0.8% (3 instances) of the mentions. There were instances in which the location of the sources (0.6%; 5 instances) and the mentions (0.8%; 3 instances) could not be determined.

# VISIBILITY OF CORPORATE ACTORS ON TELEVISION

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

## POLITICAL PARTIES

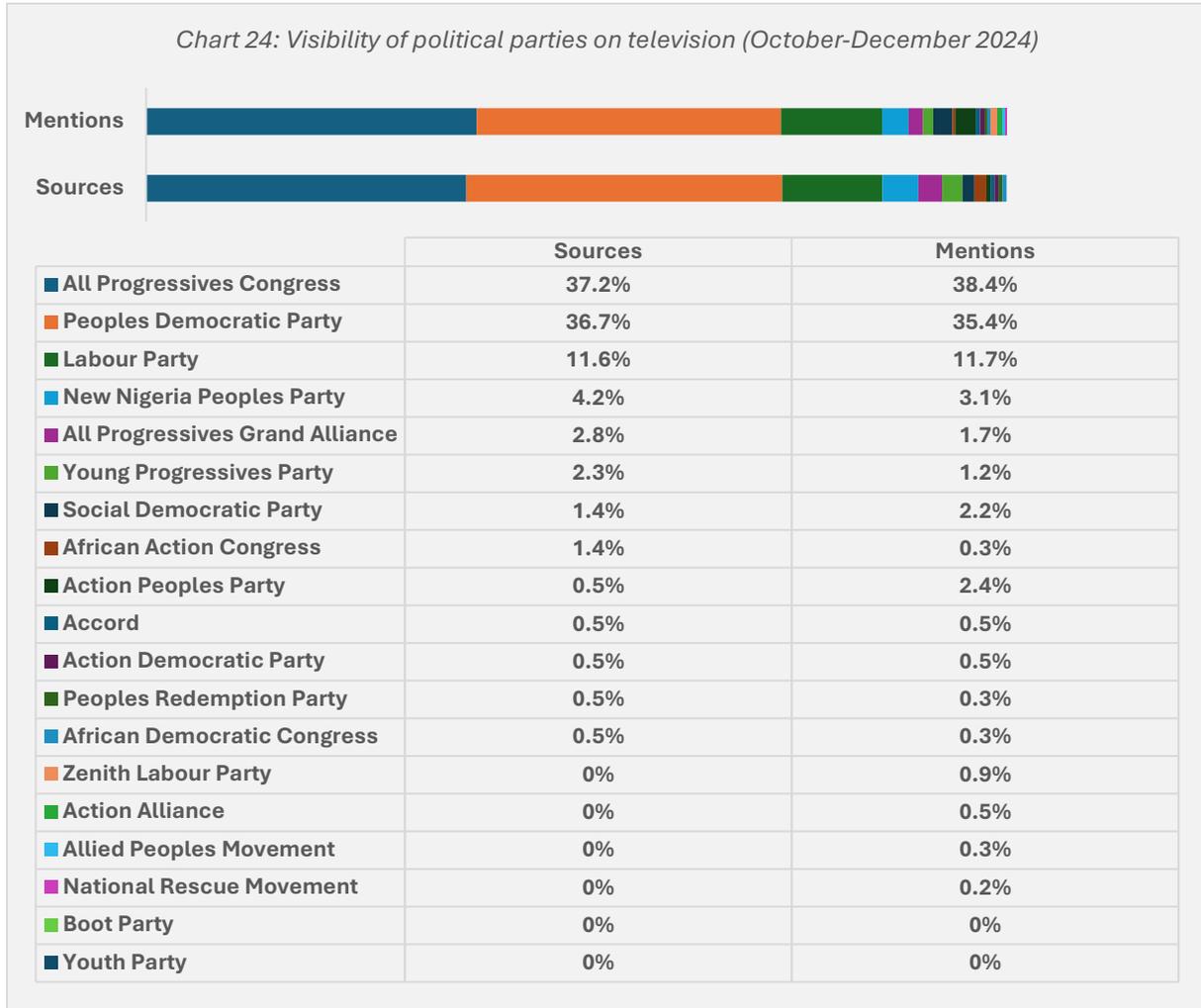


Chart 24 shows that All Progressives Congress (APC) made up 37.2% (80 in 215 instances) of the sources and 38.4% (226 in 588 instances) of the mentions while Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) constituted 36.7% (79 instances) of the sources and 35.4% (208 instances) of the mentions. Labour Party (LP) represented 11.6% (25 instances) of the sources and 11.7% (69 instances) of the mentions.

- “PDP stakeholders hold meeting to address internal wranglings,” Channels TV reported on October 22, featuring PDP.

- “PDP Governors’ Forum reschedules NEC meeting, sues for peace,” LTV reported on October 23.
- “Ogun LG poll: Over 100 supporters dump PDP for APC as campaign begins in Ewekoro LG,” OGTV reported on October 29, featuring PDP and APC.
- “Ondo 2024: APC leaders drum support for Aiyedatiwa, stress genuine commitment,” OSRC TV reported on October 21.
- “Edo APC transition committee members reiterate request for relevant documents from outgoing PDP administration,” ITV reported on October 22.
- During an October 9 appearance on TVC News programme ‘This Morning,’ Arambabi Abayomi, the publicity secretary of the Apapa LP faction, expressed his disappointment with INEC and the judiciary for affirming Julius Abure as the party chairman. In response, Dr Ope Banwo, a US-based lawyer and political affairs analyst, criticised Abayomi for making personal attacks within the LP and for undermining the party's key asset, Peter Obi. Banwo also accused Abayomi of engaging in anti-party activities during the 2023 presidential election. LP was featured in the discussion.
- Ondo APC gubernatorial candidate Governor Lucky Aiyedatiwa, in a November 18 interview aired by Arise TV, expressed immense gratitude regarding his electoral victory and thanked the security agencies INEC for conducting a free, fair, conclusive and secure poll.
- During a November 22 interview on Channels TV programme ‘Politics Today,’ APC member Cletus Ogbun stated that it was part of the APC's responsibility to destabilise the PDP. He noted that some APC members were pleased with recent appointments made by President Tinubu, while also acknowledging that his party had a weak reward system. APC and PDP were featured in the discussion.

Whereas New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) accounted for 4.2% (9 instances) of the sources and 3.1% (18 instances) of the mentions, All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) constituted 2.8% (6 instances) of the sources and 1.7% (10 instances) of the mentions. Young Progressives Party (YPP) accounted for 2.3% (5 instances) of the sources and 1.2% (7 instances) of the mentions.

Social Democratic Party (SDP) and African Action Congress (AAC) each accounted for 1.4% (3 instances) of the sources, as well as 2.2% (13 instances) and 0.3% (2 instances) of the mentions respectively.

Action Peoples Party (APP), Accord, Action Democratic Party (ADP), Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) and African Democratic Congress (ADC) each constituted 0.5% (1 instance) of the sources. While APP also made up 2.4% (14 instances) of the mentions, Accord and ADP each constituted 0.5% (3 instances) of the mentions. PRP and ADC each accounted for 0.3% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Zenith Labour Party (ZLP) made up 0.9% (5 instances) of the mentions. They were, however, not used as sources. The same was true for Action Alliance (AA) and National Rescue Movement (NRM) as they accounted for 0.3% (2 instances) and 0.2% (1 instance) of the mentions respectively.

Boot Party (BP) and Youth Party (YP) 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 relevant television programmes during the period under review. It also concerns the visibility of local council development areas (LCDAs) and local government areas (LGAs) with that of the higher levels of government.

**Federal government**

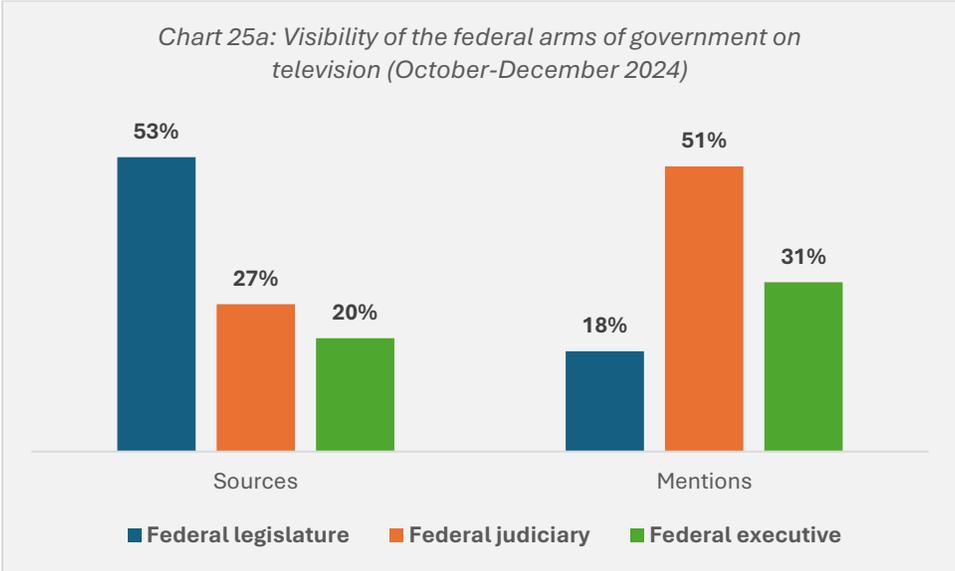


Chart 25a shows that the federal legislature made up 53% (26 in 49 instances) of the sources and 18% (58 in 321 instances) of the mentions while the federal judiciary accounted for 27% (13 instances) of the sources and 51% (165 instances) of the mentions. The federal executive represented 20% (10 instances) of the sources and 31% (98 instances) of the mentions.

## State governments

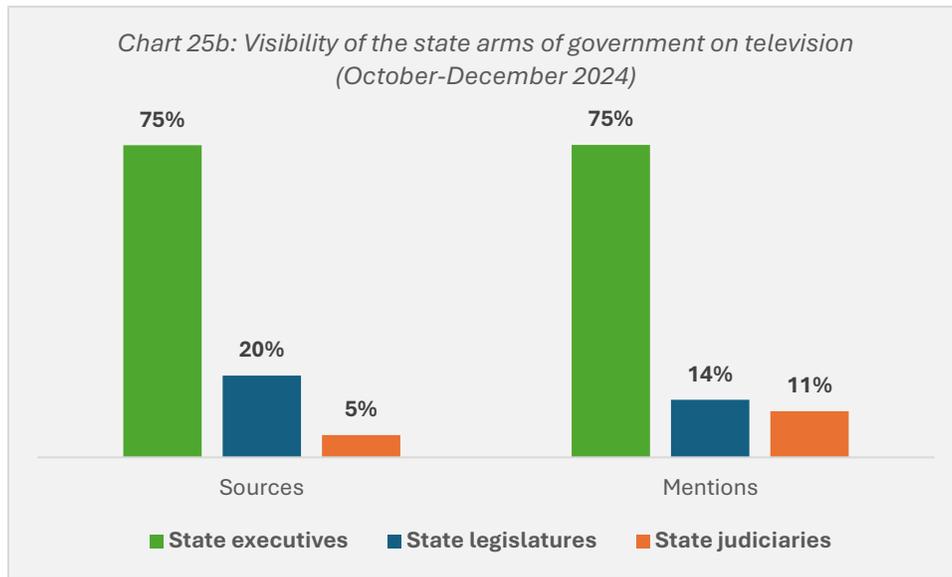


Chart 25b shows that state executives constituted 75% (42 in 56 instances) of the sources and 75% (244 in 325 instances) of the mentions. State legislatures accounted for 20% (11 instances) of the sources and 14% (45 instances) of the mentions while state judiciaries made up 5% (3 instances) of the sources and 11% (36 instances) of the mentions.

## LCDAs and LGAs

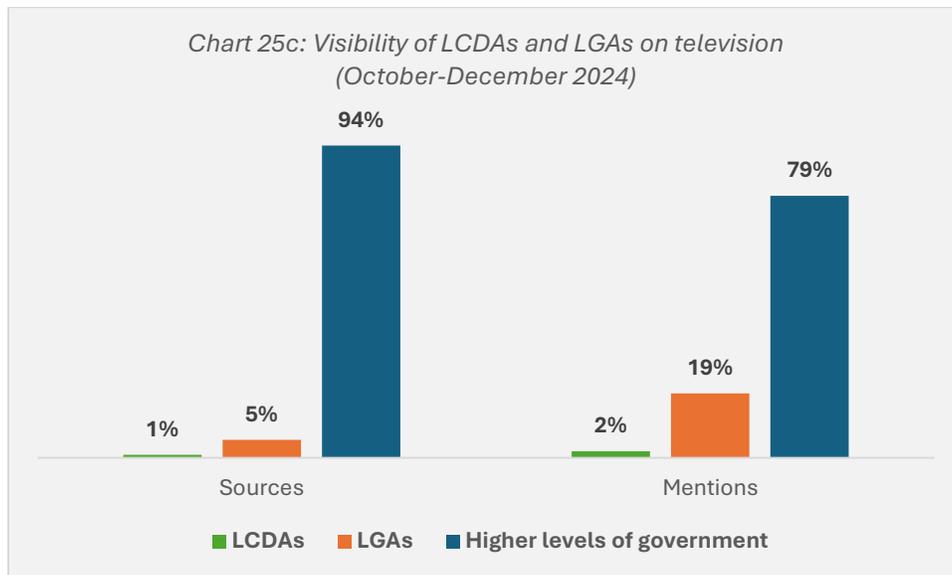
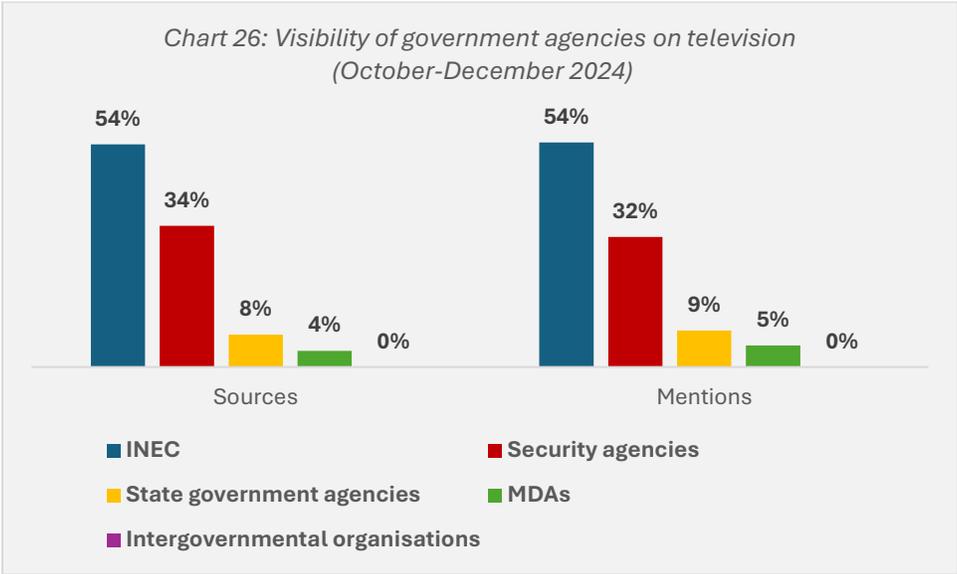


Chart 25c shows that the higher levels of government dominated this category with 94% (105 in 112 instances) of the sources and 79% (646 in 821 instances) of the mentions. LCDAs made up 1% (1 instance) of the sources and 2% (16 instances) of the mentions while LGAs constituted 5% (6 instances) of the sources and 19% (159 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, INEC accounted for 54% (41 in 76 instances) of the sources and 54% (209 in 384 instances) of the mentions, making them the most visible government agency on television during the period under review. Security agencies ranked next with 34% (26 instances) of the sources and 32% (121 instances) of the mentions. State government agencies accounted for 8% (6 instances) of the sources and 9% (34 instances) of the mentions while MDAs represented 4% (3 instances) of the sources and 5% (20 instances) of the mentions. Intergovernmental organisations were not featured.

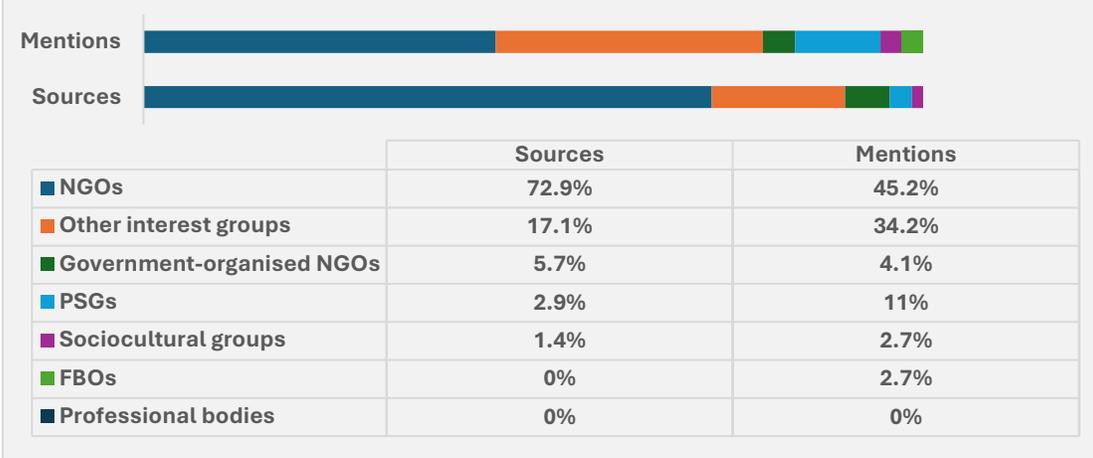
- “Police deny being partisan in Rivers LG election, say the force acted according to court order,” LTV reported on October 7, featuring a security agency.
- “Financial autonomy: EFCC to track LG funds as implementation begins in November,” OSRC TV reported on October 28, featuring EFCC, a government agency.
- “INEC hints on collaboration with security agencies for effective conflict resolution ahead Ondo guber election,” Channels TV reported on October 31, featuring INEC.
- “Ondo guber: INEC assures deployment of EFCC, ICPC personnel to curb vote buying,” ITV reported on November 15, featuring EFCC and ICPC, both being MDAs.

- According to a November 18 by NTA, Nick Dasang, a former Director of Voter Education and Publicity at INEC, stated that the events in Ondo represented a significant improvement over those in Edo, particularly regarding the early opening of polls, logistics, the professional conduct of INEC and security agencies, and the seamless performance of the BVAS and IReV systems. He emphasised that INEC was now on a path to earning the trust of stakeholders and should continue to strive for excellence in this trajectory. INEC and security agencies were featured in the report.
- “INEC presents certificate of return to Governor Aiyedatiwa,” Channels TV reported on November 20.
- During a November 29 interview on Channels TV’s ‘Politics Today,’ Osita Chidoka, founder of the Athena Centre, presented the centre’s statistical report on the Edo gubernatorial election, based on data received from INEC. He asserted that the election was compromised by design through systemic rigging. Chidoka highlighted several issues, including a lack of transparency, discrepancies in voter accreditation, incidents of over-voting, manipulations at ward collation centres and problems with the result viewing portal (IReV). He reported that results from 363 polling units were unavailable, even to INEC. He urged the judiciary to investigate the discrepancies between the certified true copies of election results provided by INEC and those uploaded on IReV. Chidoka noted that these issues were prevalent across the local government areas and alleged that there was back-end tampering with the BVAS, which led to inflated vote counts. He recommended that INEC focus on building public confidence, investing in technology, promoting accountability and strengthening institutions. INEC was featured in the report.

## **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 27: Visibility of interest groups on television (October-December 2024)



According to Chart 27, NGOs constituted 72.9% (51 in 70 instances) of the sources and 45.2% (33 in 73 instances) of the mentions while government-organised NGOs accounted for 5.7% (4 instances) of the sources and 4.1% (3 instances) of the mentions. PSGs made up 2.9% (2 instances) of the sources and 11% (8 instances) of the mentions while sociocultural groups accounted for 1.4% (1 instance) of the sources and 2.7% (2 instances) of the mentions. FBOs constituted 2.7% (2 instances) of the mentions. They were, however, not used as sources. Professional bodies were not featured.

- “YIAGA Africa again alleges vote buying in the just-concluded governorship election in Edo state,” AIT reported on October 11, featuring an NGO.
- In anticipation of the Ondo gubernatorial election and an assessment of preparations, Dengiyefa Angalapu, a research analyst at the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), stated that while technology had been introduced to elections, integrity cannot be digitised. He emphasised that Nigerians lacked trust in INEC and urged politicians to improve their conduct. CDD, an NGO, was featured in the interview aired by Arise TV on November 8.
- Speaking on the Ondo election, Sam Amadi, Director of the Abuja School of Social and Political Thought, according to a November 8 report by AIT, highlighted issues related to polling unit results and IReV. He urged the court to have the courage to reject manipulated results. Amadi’s NGO was featured in the discussion.
- Regarding the vision for a new Nigeria in 2027, Dr Yunusa Tanko, National Coordinator of the ‘Obidient Movement,’ acknowledged the challenges facing LP but emphasised that they were working to build the structures of the movement to address the issues. He asserted that the ‘Obidient Movement’ was larger than LP

itself. He made the comments during a November 10 interview on Arise TV programme 'The Morning Show'. The interview represented an instance in which a PSG, the 'Obidient Movement,' was featured on television during the period under review.

## 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.

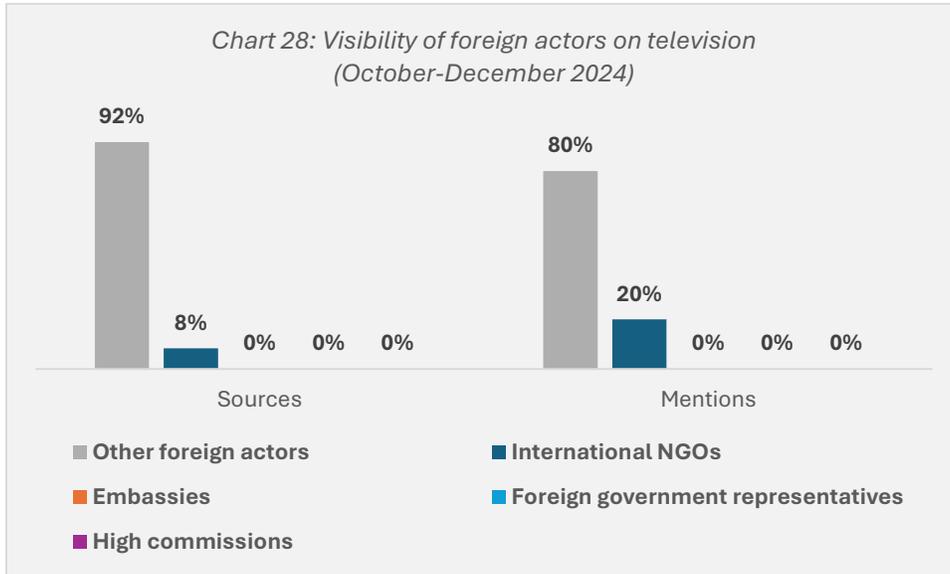


Chart 28 shows that international NGOs made 8% (1 in 12 instances) of the sources and 20% (5 in 25 instances) of the mentions while uncategorised foreign actors accounted for 92% (11 instances) of the sources and 80% (25 instances) of the mentions.

- “UN Women laments low female participation in politics in Nigeria,” Channels TV reported on November 11.
- “Amnesty International reports that there were at least 24 deaths during the ‘End Bad Governance in Nigeria protests,” Channels TV reported on November 28.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Most (69%) of the television programmes analysed during the period under review were aired as news reports, with the rest taking the discussion (19%) and interview (12%) formats. The television stations adhered to the principle of balance 94% of the time and recorded one instance of extreme language which accounted for 0.1% of 897 contents.

Women’s, youth and PWD issues respectively constituted 1.7%, 0.4% and 0.3% of the themes which were dominated by election administration (25.6%), intra-party conflict (12.5%) and

campaign activities/strategies (9.4%). Also, women (20% sources; 10.8% mentions), youth (0.7% sources; 4.4% mentions) and PWD (0.2% sources; 0.9% mentions) actors were not as visible as men, adults and non-PWD actors.

APC (37.2% sources; 38.4% mentions), PDP (36.7% sources; 53.4% mentions) and LP (11.6% sources; 11.7% mentions) were the most featured political parties.

INEC accounted for 54% of the sources and 54% of the mentions in the government agency category where it was more visible than security agencies (34% sources; 32% mentions), MDAs and other relevant actors combined.

Whereas LCDAs (1% sources; 2% mentions) and LGAs (5% sources; 19% mentions) were not as visible as the higher levels of government (94% sources; 79% mentions) in the government category, NGOs (72.9% sources; 45.2% 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.

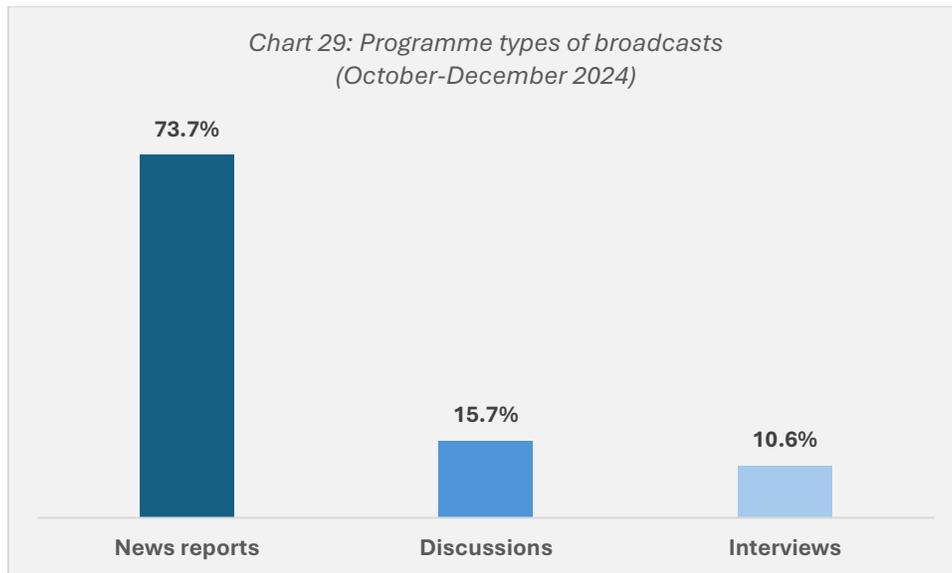
# PART III

## COMBINED REPORT ON RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTS

A total of 1420 contents from 26 radio and 17 television stations were analysed. The dataset for the period under review comprised 523 contents from the radio stations and 897 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, 1047 were packaged as news reports, representing, as Chart 29 shows, 73.7% of the contents. The remaining radio and television broadcasts were packaged as discussions (15.7%; 223 contents) and interviews (10.6%; 150 contents).

### THEMATIC EMPHASIS

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

Chart 30: Thematic focus of broadcasts (October-December 2024)

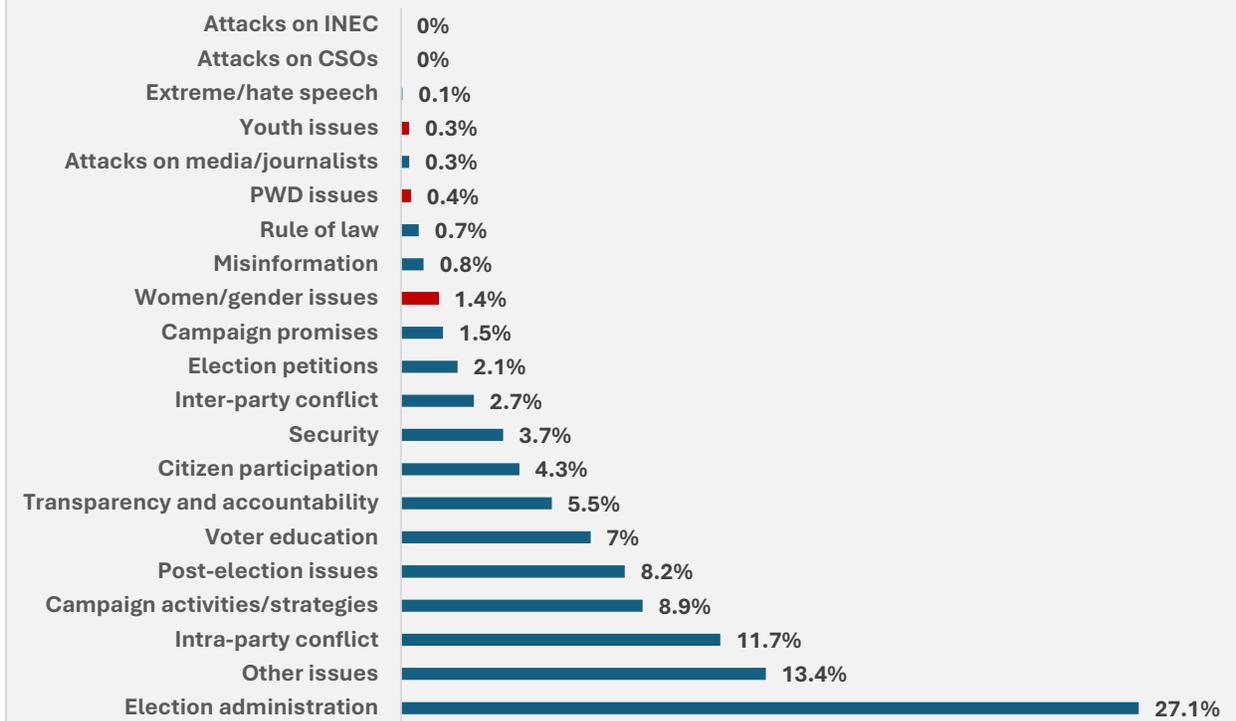


Chart 30 shows that election administration was the most featured topic, accounting for 27.1% (455 in 1681 instances) of the thematic focus areas. Voter education received 7% (117 instances) of the coverage.

Intra-party conflict received 11.7% (197 instances) of the coverage while inter-party conflict received 2.7% (45 instances) of the coverage. Election petitions received 2.1% (35 instances) of the coverage.

Whereas campaign activities/strategies received 8.9% (149 instances) of the coverage, campaign promises received 1.5% (26 instances) of the coverage.

Transparency and accountability received 5.5% (93 instances) of the coverage while citizen participation constituted 4.3% (73 instances) of the coverage. The rule of law received 0.7% (11 instances) of the coverage.

Security issues constituted 3.7% (63 instances) of the coverage while attacks on media/journalists accounted for 0.3% (5 instances) of the coverage. Attacks on INEC and CSOs were not featured.

Whereas women’s issues received 1.4% (23 instances) of the coverage, PWD issues received 0.4% (6 instances) of the attention. Youth issues were featured 0.3% (5 instances) of the time.

Misinformation and extreme/hate speech received 0.8% (14 instances) and 0.1% (1 instance) of the coverage respectively.

Post-election issues received 8.2% (138 instances) of the attention while other issues constituted 13.4% (225 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.

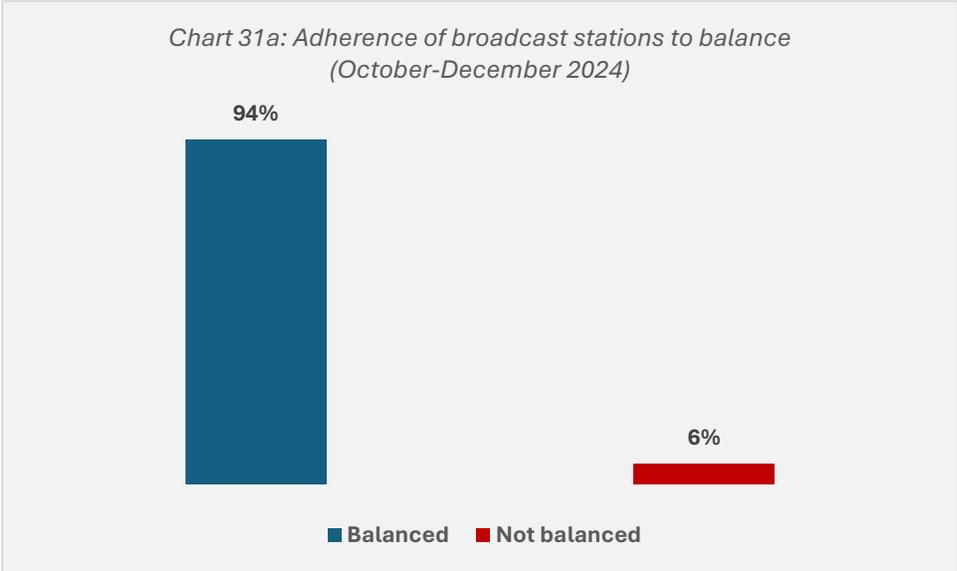


Chart 31a shows that 94% (338 in 358 applicable contents) of the sampled broadcasts were balanced while 6% (20 contents) were not.

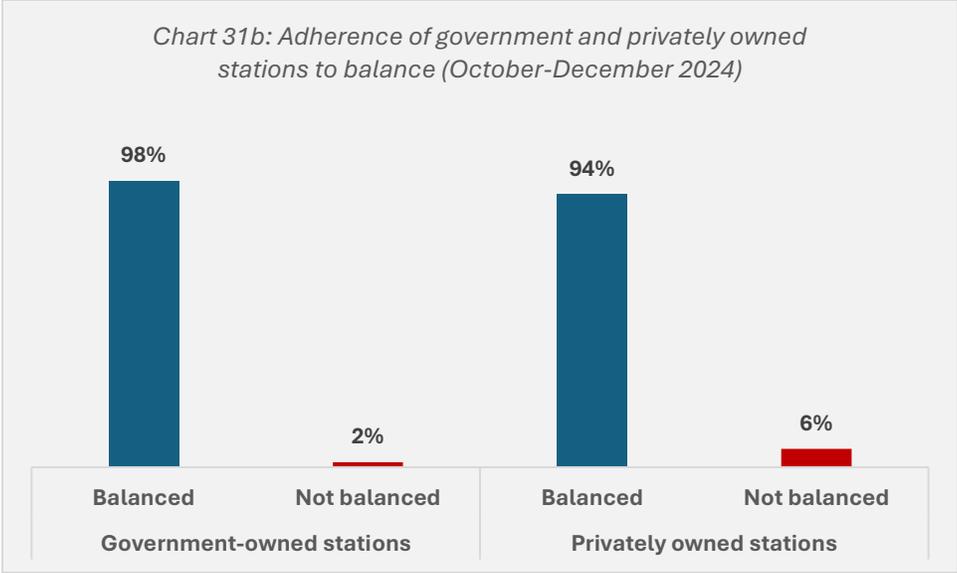
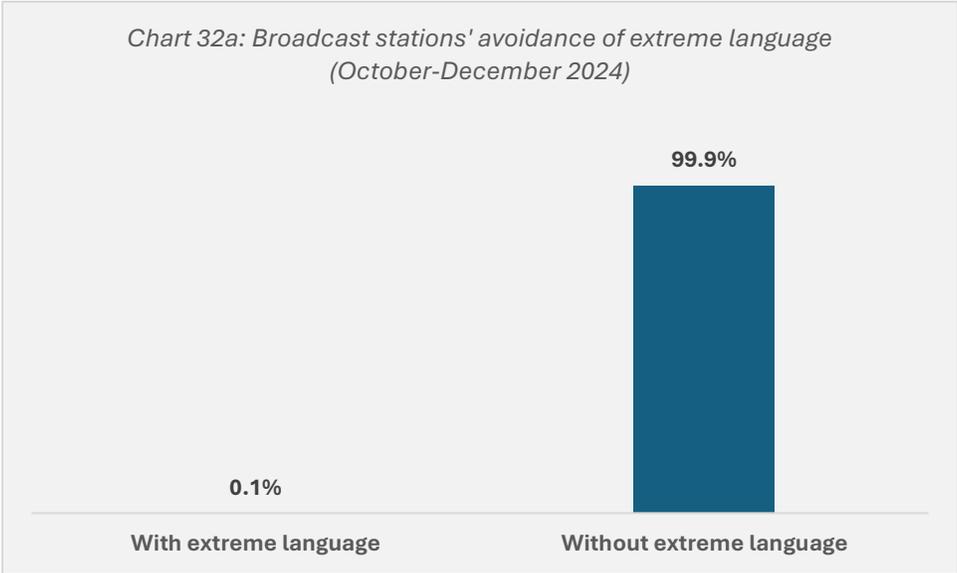


Chart 31b shows that 98% (55 in 56 contents) of the broadcasts from government-owned stations were balanced while 2% (1 content) were not. In contrast, 94% (283 in 358 contents) of the broadcasts from privately owned stations were balanced while 6% (19 contents) were not.

**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 both provocative media coverage and counteractions against inflammatory rhetoric.



According to Chart 32a, the broadcast stations avoided extreme language in 99.9% (1419 in 1420 contents) of their programmes but fell short in 0.1% (1 content) of the programmes.

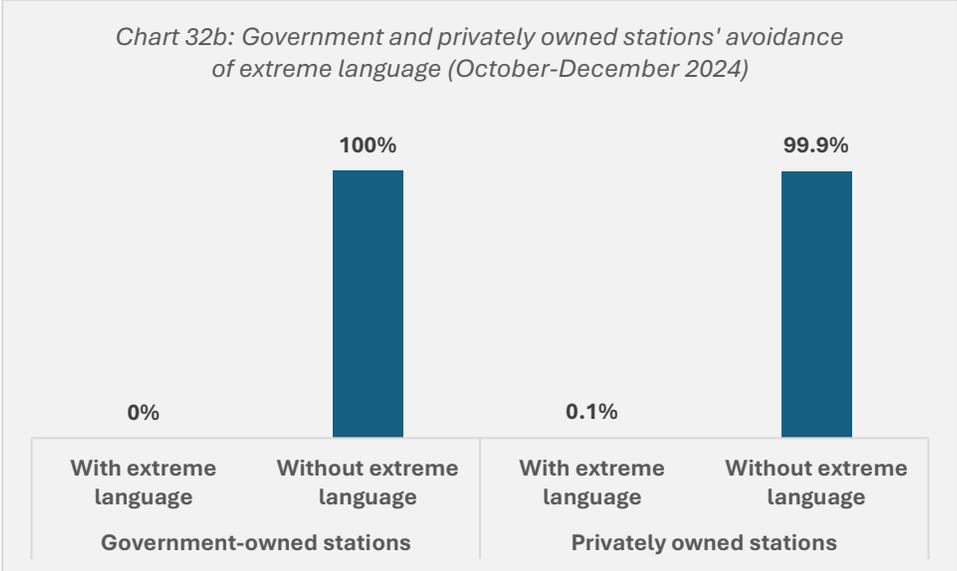


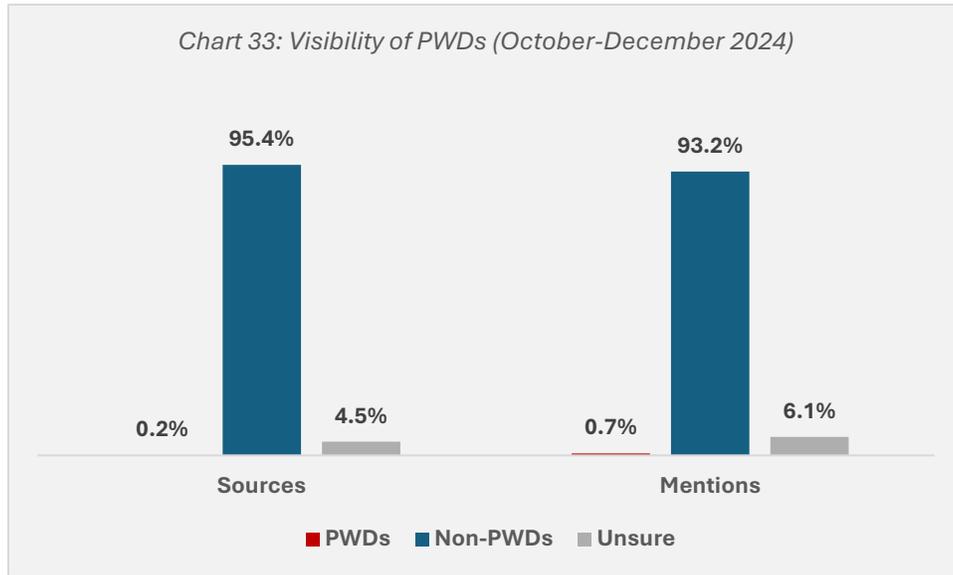
Chart 32b shows that 100% (380 contents) of the programmes from government-owned stations were free of extreme language. In contrast, 99.9% (1039 in 1040 contents) of the programmes from privately owned stations were free of extreme language while 0.1% (1 content) were not.

## 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 constituted 0.2% (2 in 1322 instances) of the sources and 0.7% (6 in 870 instances) of the mentions while non-PWD actors represented 95.4% (1261 instances) of the sources and 93.2% (811 instances) of the mentions in this category. There were instances in which the PWD status of the sources (4.5%; 59 instances) and the mentions (6.1%; 53 instances) could not be determined. The data reflects the low level of coverage of PWD issues (0.4%; 6 in 1681 instances) as previously noted in Chart 30.

## Women

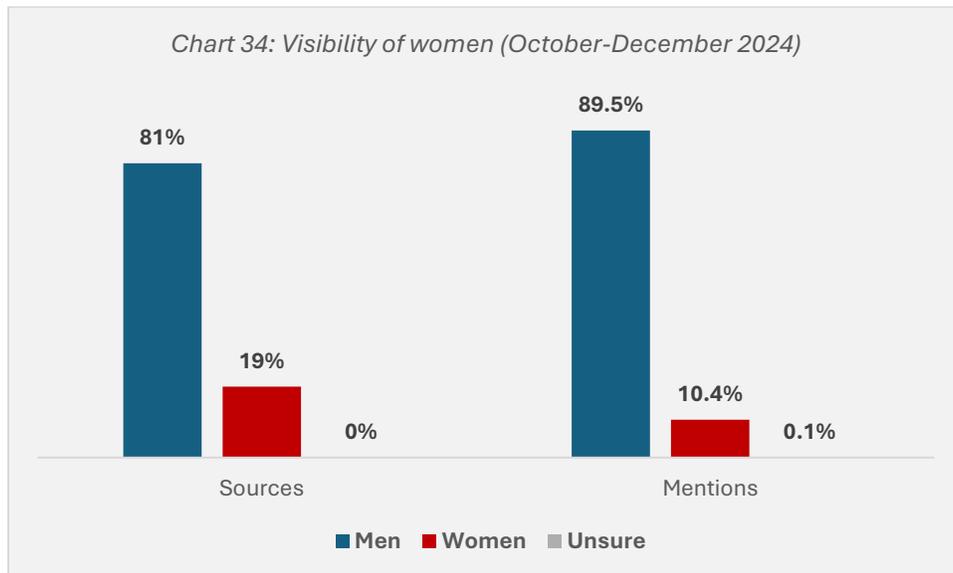


Chart 34 shows that women represented 19% (237 in 1220 instances) of the sources and 10.4% (85 in 818 instances) of the mentions while men accounted for 81% (983 instances) of the sources and 89.5% (732 instances) of the mentions. There was one instance in which the

gender of the mention (0.1%; 1 instance) could not be determined. The data indicates that women were not as visible as men, reflecting the limited coverage (1.4%; 23 in 1681 instances) dedicated to women's issues as previously revealed in Chart 30.

## Youth

The African Youth Charter<sup>1</sup> 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.

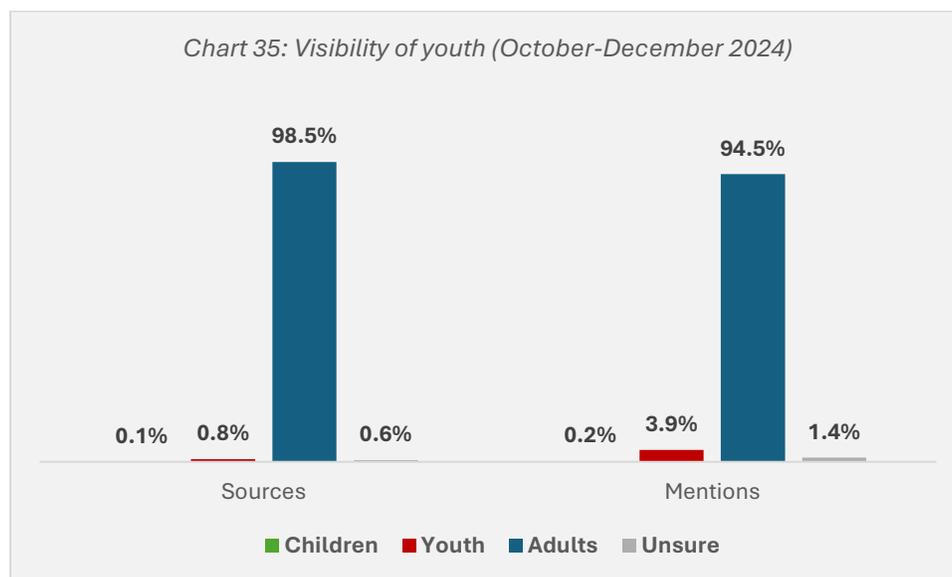


Chart 35 shows that youth made up 0.8% (10 in 1193 instances) of the sources and 3.9% (34 in 874 instances) of the mentions in this category. Older adults accounted for 98.5% (1175 instances) of the sources and 94.5% (826 instances) of the mentions while children represented 0.1% (1 instance) of the sources and 0.2% (2 instances) mentions. There were instances in which the age group of the sources (0.6%; 7 instances) and the mentions (1.4%; 12 instances) could not be determined. The low visibility of youth actors reflects the overall minimal coverage (0.3%; 5 in 1681 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 (October-December 2024)

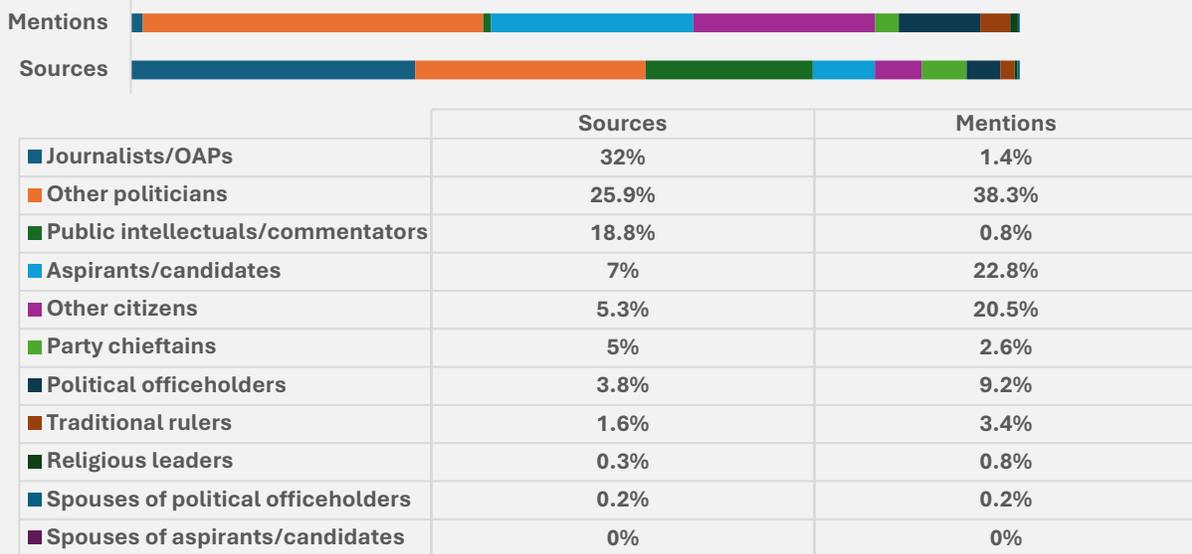
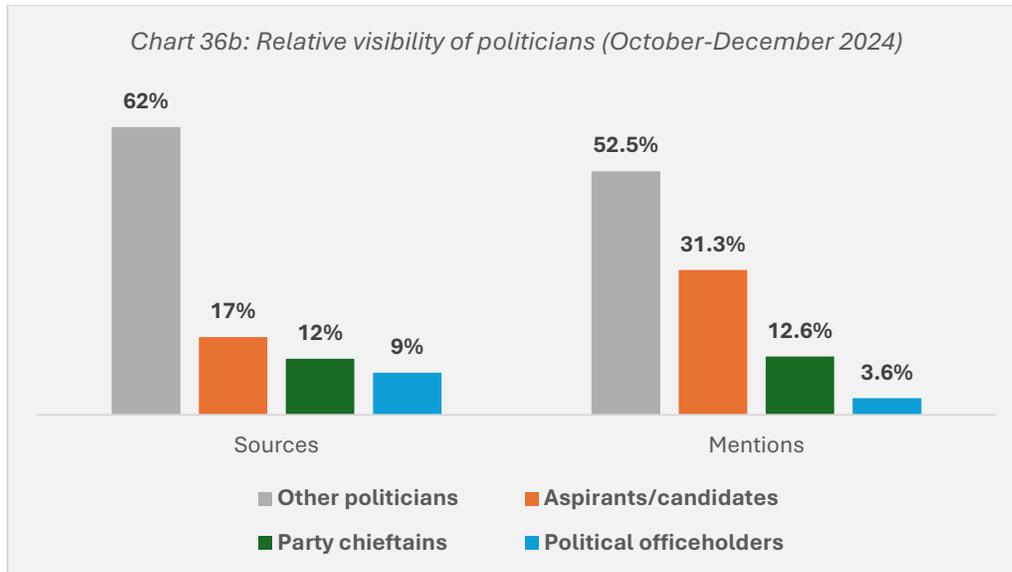


Chart 36a shows that journalists/OAPs constituted 32% (279 in 872 instances) of the sources and 1.4% (13 in 948 instances) of the mentions while public intellectuals/commentators accounted for 18.8% (164 instances) of the sources and 0.8% (8 instances) of the mentions.

Aspirants/candidates accounted for 7% (61 instances) of the sources and 22.8% (216 instances) of the mentions while party chieftains made up 5% (44 instances) of the sources and 2.6% (25 instances) of the mentions. Political officeholders represented 3.8% (33 instances) of the sources and 9.2% (87 instances) of the mentions while other politicians made up 25.9% (226 instances) of the sources and 38.3% (363 instances) of the mentions. Whereas the spouses of political officeholders represented 0.2% (2 instances) of the sources and 0.2% (2 instances) of the mentions, the spouses of aspirants/candidates were not featured.

Traditional rulers accounted for 1.6% (14 instances) of the sources and 3.4% (32 instances) of the mentions while religious leaders made up 0.3% (3 instances) of the sources and 0.8% (8 instances) of the mentions.

Other citizens constituted 5.3% (46 instances) of the sources and 20.5% (194 instances) of the mentions.



According to Chart 36b, aspirants/candidates accounted for 17% (61 in 364 instances) of the sources and 31.3% (216 instances) of the mentions in this category while party chieftains made up 12% (44 instances) of the sources and 3.6% (25 instances) of the mentions. Political officeholders made up 9% (33 instances) of the sources and 3.6% (25 instances) of the mentions while other politicians accounted for 62% (226 instances) of the sources and 52.5% (363 instances) of the mentions.

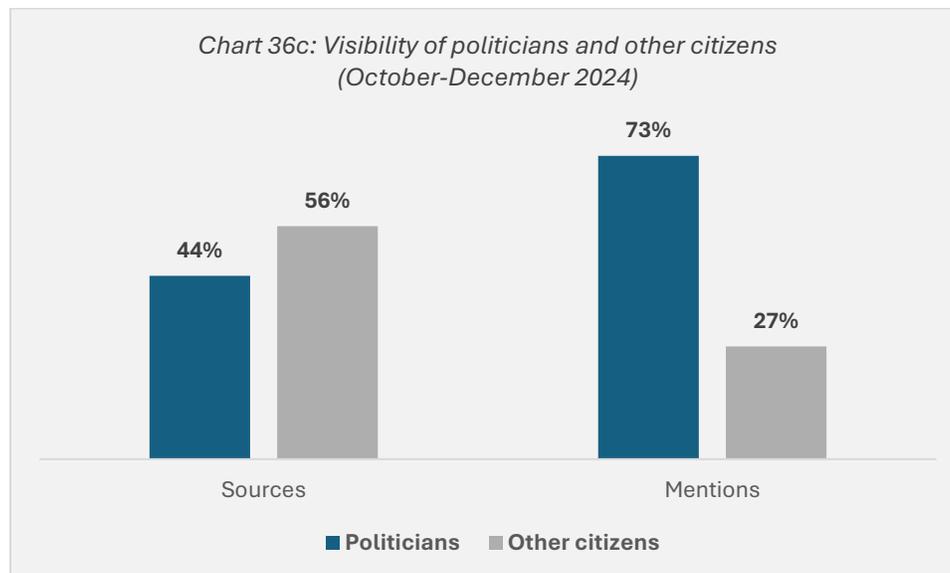


Chart 36c shows that politicians made up 44% (364 in 827 instances) of the sources and 73% (691 in 948 instances) of the mentions while other citizens represented 56% (463 instances) of the sources and 27% (257 instances) of the mentions in this category. The data shows that other citizens were more visible than politicians in terms of sources, with the reverse being the case in the context of mentions.

# LOCATION OF ACTORS

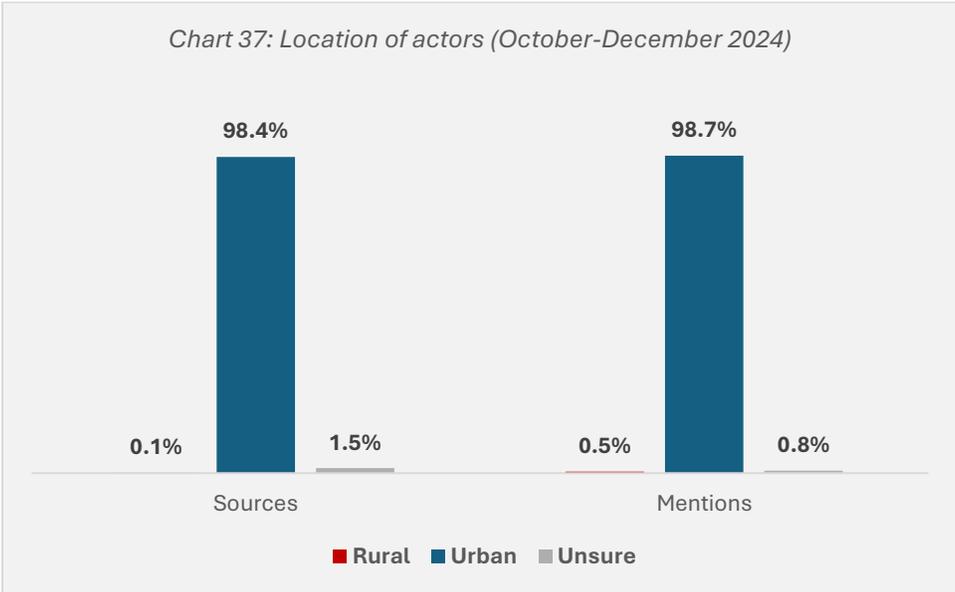
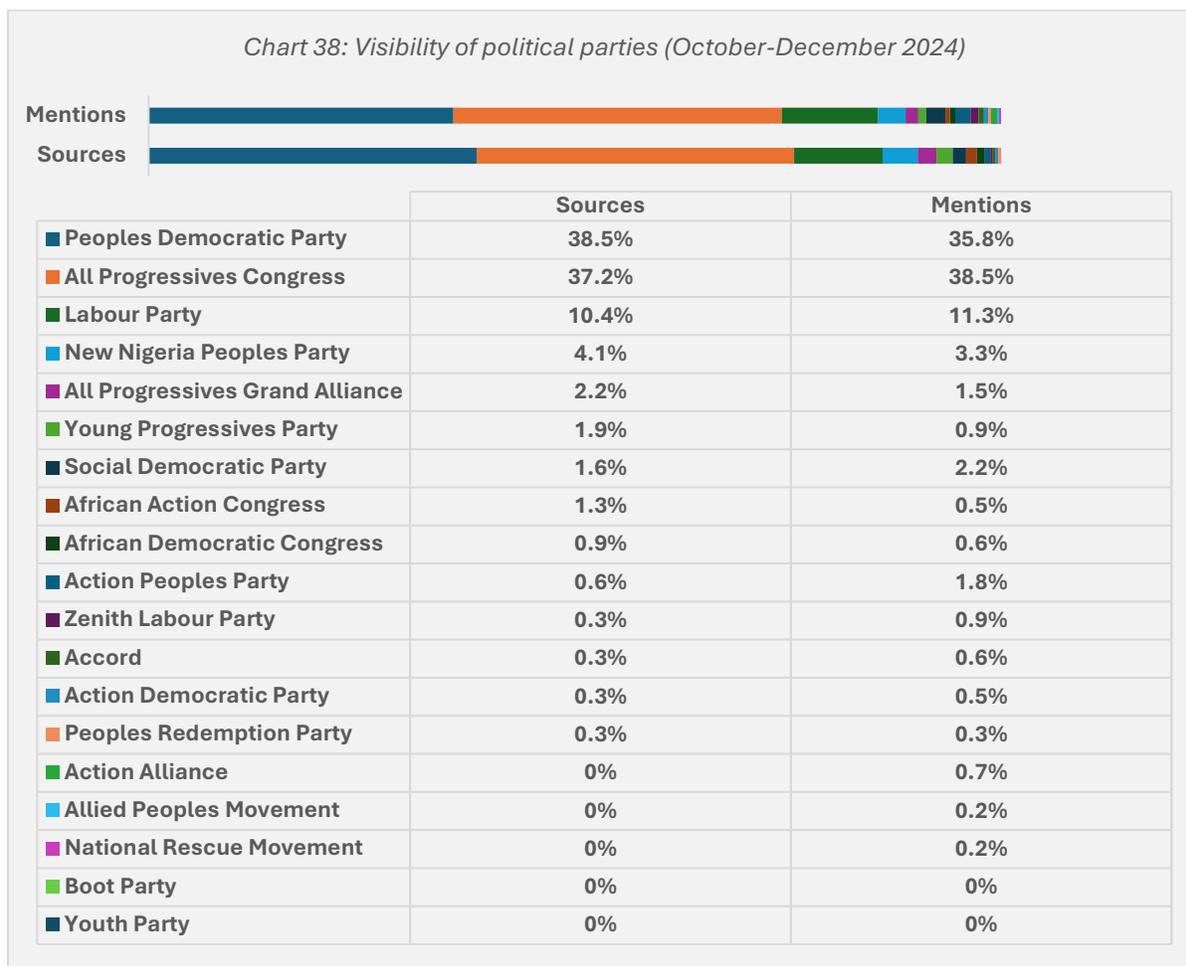


Chart 37 shows that actors from urban areas constituted 98.4% (1208 in 1228 instances) of the sources and 98.7% (626 instances) of the mentions while rural actors made up 0.1% (1 instance) of the sources and 0.5% (5 instances) of the mentions. There were instances in which the location of the sources (1.5%; 19 instances) and the mentions (0.8%; 5 instances) 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, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) accounted for 38.5% (122 in 317 instances) of the sources and 35.8% (339 instances) of the mentions while All Progressives Congress (APC) constituted 37.2% (118 instances) of the sources and 38.5% (365 instances) of the mentions. Labour Party (LP) made up 10.4% (33 instances) of the sources and 11.3% (107 instances) of the mentions.

New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) made up 4.1% (13 instances) of the sources and 3.3% (31 instances) of the mentions while All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) constituted 2.2% (7 instances) of the sources and 1.5% (14 instances) of the mentions.

Whereas Social Democratic Party (SDP) accounted for 1.6% (5 instances) of the sources and 2.2% (21 instances) of the mentions, African Action Congress (AAC) represented 1.3% (4 instances) of the sources and 0.5% (5 instances) of the mentions.

African Democratic Congress (ADC) made up 0.9% (3 instances) of the sources and 0.6% (6 instances) of the mentions while Action Peoples Party (APP) accounted for 0.6% (2 instances) of the sources and 1.8% (17 instances) of the mentions.

Zenith Labour Party (ZLP), Accord, Action Democratic Party (ADP) and Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) each made up 0.3% (1 instance) of the sources, as well as 0.9% (9 instances), 0.6% (6 instances), 0.5% (5 instances) and 0.3% (3 instances) of the mentions respectively.

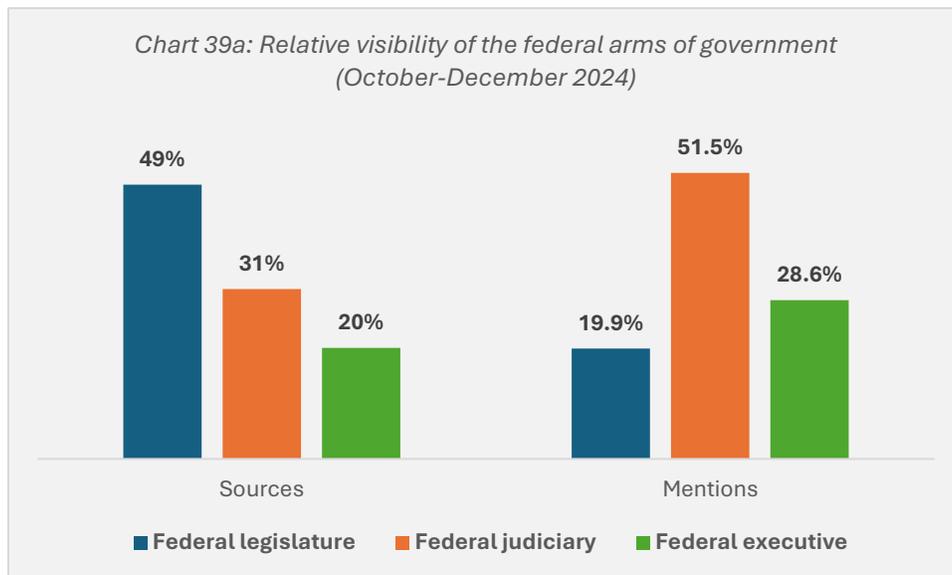
Action Alliance (AA) accounted for 0.7% (7 instances) of the mentions but was not used as a source. The same was true for Allied Peoples Movement (APM) and National Rescue Movement (NRM) each of which made up 0.2% (2 instances) of the mentions.

Boot Party (BP) and Youth Party (YP) 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 concerns 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 made up 49% (42 in 85 instances) of the sources and 19.9% (91 in 458 instances) of the mentions. The federal judiciary constituted 31% (26 instances) of the sources and 51.5% (236 instances) of the mentions while the federal executive accounted for 20% (17 instances) of the sources and 28.6% (131 instances) of the mentions.

## State governments

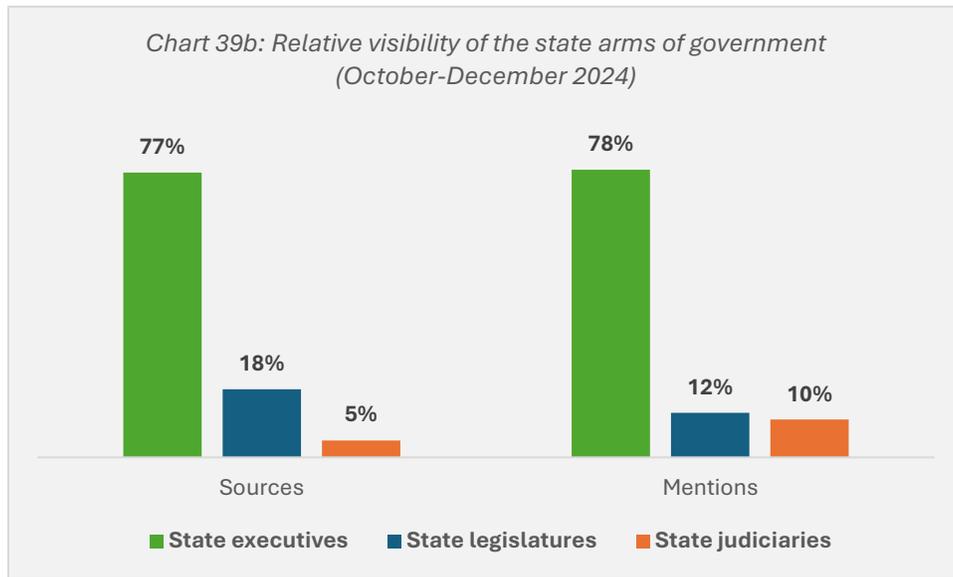


Chart 39b shows that state executives represented 77% (67 in 87 instances) of the sources and 78% (381 in 490 instances) of the mentions. State legislatures made up 18% (16 instances) of the sources and 12% (59 instances) of the mentions while state judiciaries accounted for 5% (4 instances) of the sources and 10% (50 instances) of the mentions.

## LCDAs and LGAs

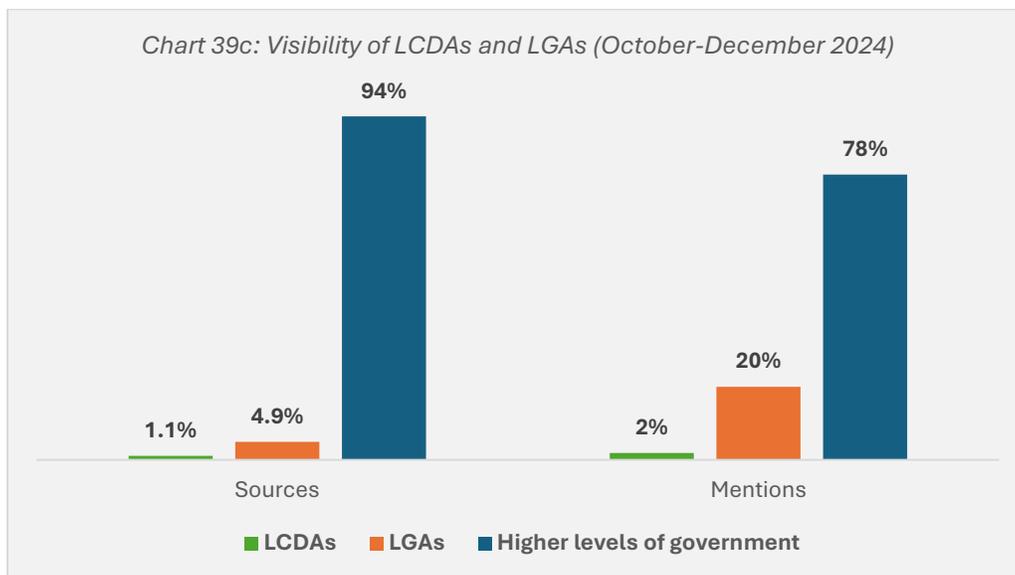
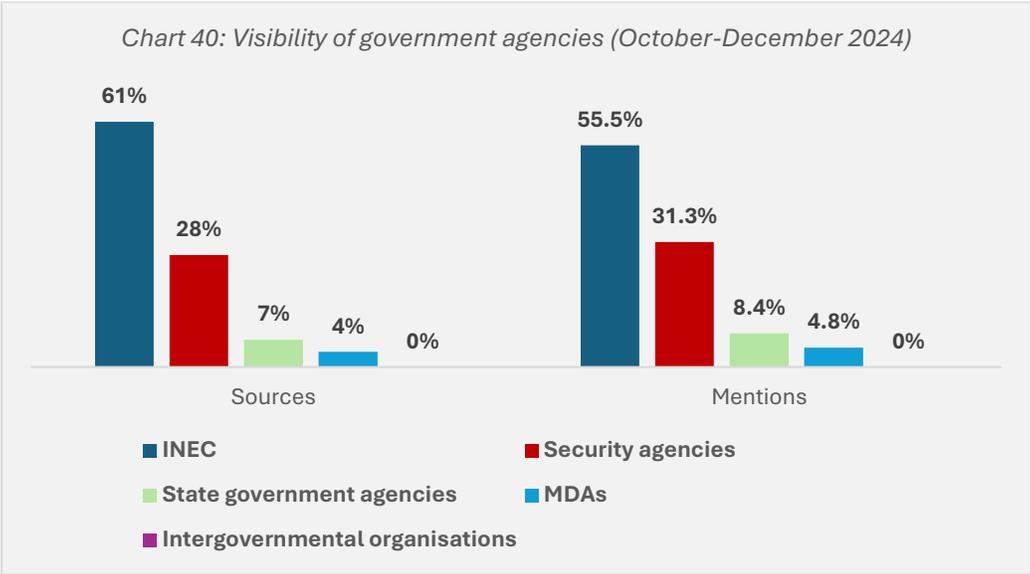


Chart 39c shows that the higher levels of government made up 94% (172 in 183 instances) of the sources and 78% (948 in 1214 instances) of the mentions. LCDAs constituted 1.1% (2 instances) of the sources and 2% (23 instances) of the mentions while LGAs accounted for 4.9% (9 instances) of the sources and 20% (243 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.



INEC, Chart 40 shows, constituted 61% (81 in 132 instances) of the sources and 55.5% (355 in 640 instances) of the mentions, making the electoral body the most featured government agency during the period under review. Security agencies accounted for 28% (37 instances) of the sources and 31.3% (200 instances) of the mentions while state government agencies made up 7% (9 instances) of the sources and 8.4% (31 instances) of the mentions. MDAs constituted 4% (5 instances) of the sources and 4.8% (31 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).

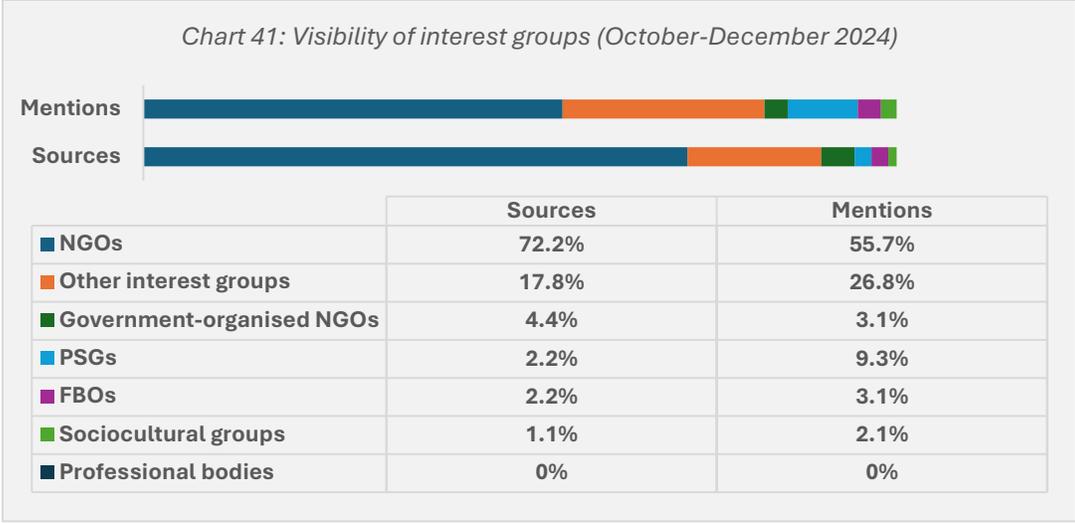


Chart 41 shows that NGOs made up 72.2% (65 in 90 instances) of the sources and 55.7% (54 in 97 instances) of the mentions, making them the most visible actors in this section. Government-organised NGOs represented 4.4% (4 instances) of the sources and 3.1% (3 instances) of the mentions. PSGs and FBOs each accounted for 2.2% (2 instances) of the sources, as well as 3.1% (3 instances) and 9.3% (9 instances) of the mentions respectively. Sociocultural groups made up 1.1% (1 instance) of the sources and 2.1% (2 instances) of the mentions. Professional bodies were not featured.

**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.

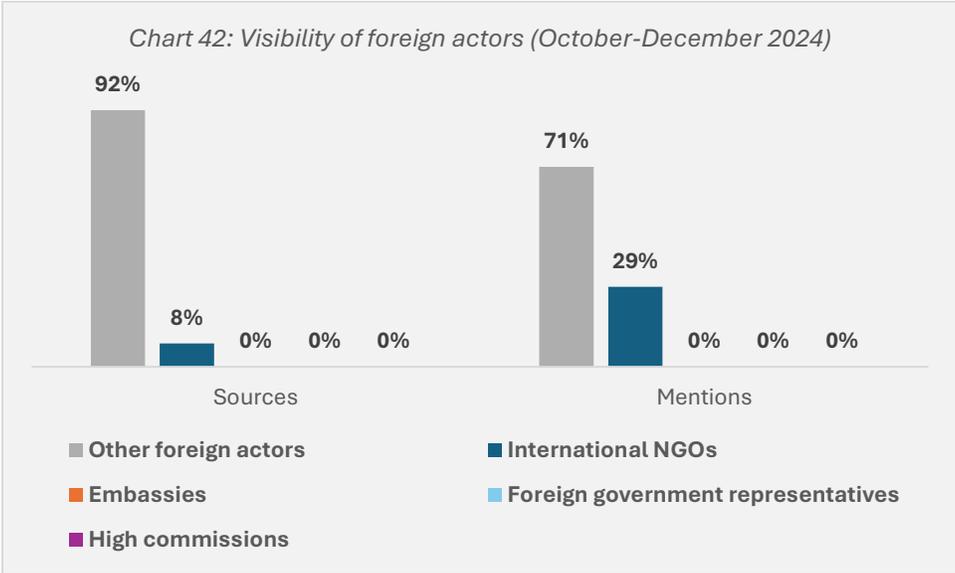


Chart 42 shows that international NGOs accounted for 8% (1 in 12 instances) of the sources and 29% (8 in 28 instances) of the mentions. Other foreign actors made up 92% (11 instances) of the sources and 71% (20 instances) of the mentions. Foreign government representatives, embassies and high commissions were not featured.

### 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

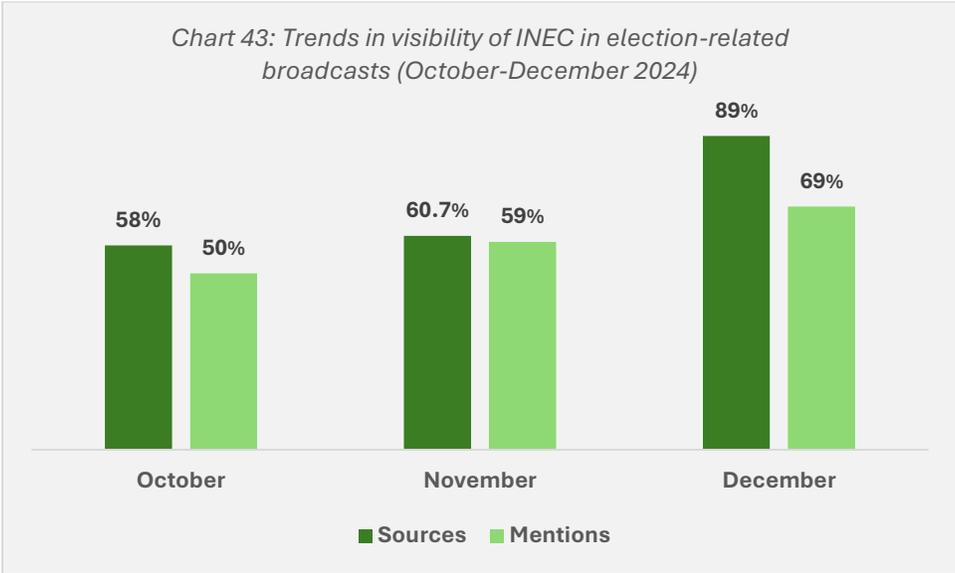
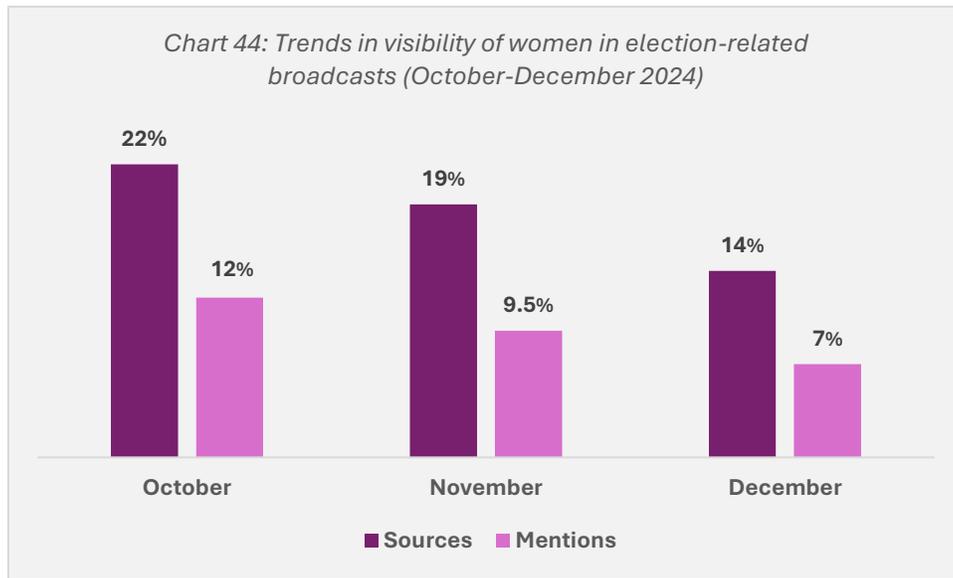


Chart 43 shows the trend in visibility of INEC during the period under review. In October, the electoral umpire constituted 58% of the sources and 50% of the mentions in the government agency category, with the trend increasing to 60.7% of the sources and 59% of the mentions in November. INEC was most visible in December, constituting 89% of the sources and 69% of the mentions.

## Women



Women, Chart 44 shows, were most visible in October when they accounted for 22% of the sources and 12% of the mentions in the gender category, and least visible in December with 14% of the sources and 7% of the mentions. They constituted 19% of the sources and 9.5% of the mentions in November.

## Youth

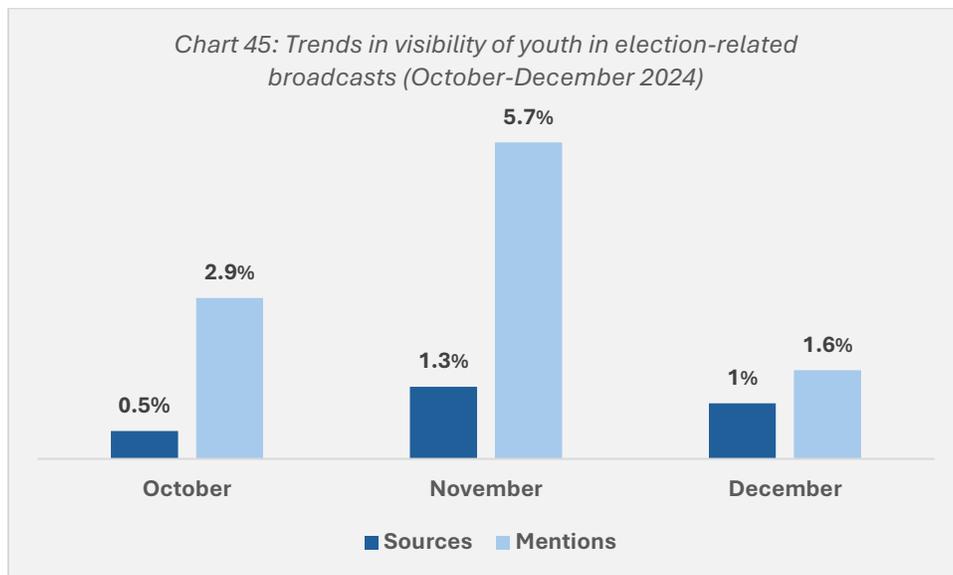
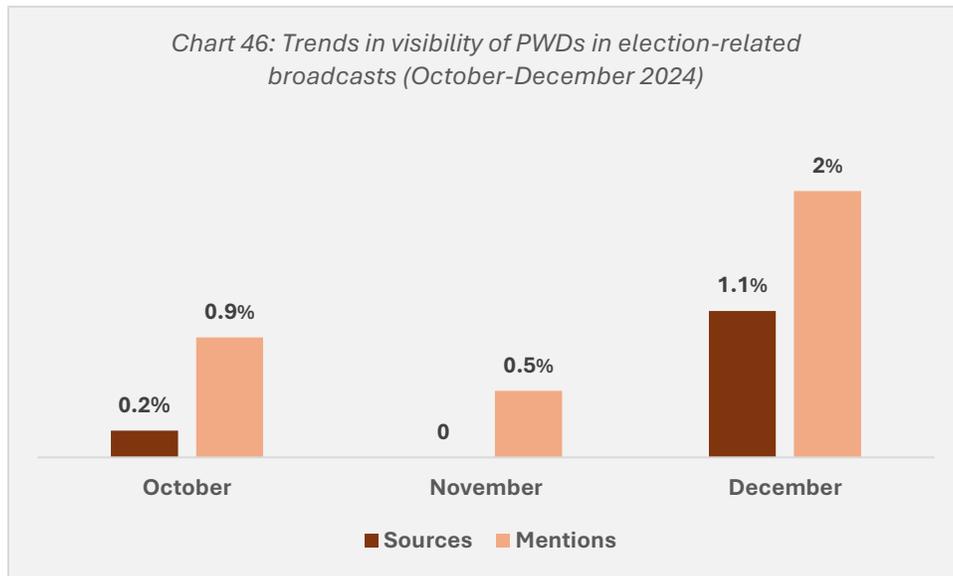


Chart 45 shows that youth accounted for 1.3% of the sources and 5.7% of the mentions in November, during which they were most visible in the age category. They were, however, not as visible in October when they made up 0.5% of the sources and 2.9% of the mentions. Youth accounted for 1% of the sources and 1.6% of the mentions in December.

## PWDs



According to Chart 46, PWD actors were barely visible in November, accounting for only 0.5% of the mentions and receiving no usage as sources. The trend was a decline in visibility from October when they constituted 0.2% of the sources and 0.9% of the mentions. PWDs were most visible in December, accounting for 1.1% of the sources and 2% of the mentions.

## TRENDS IN BALANCE

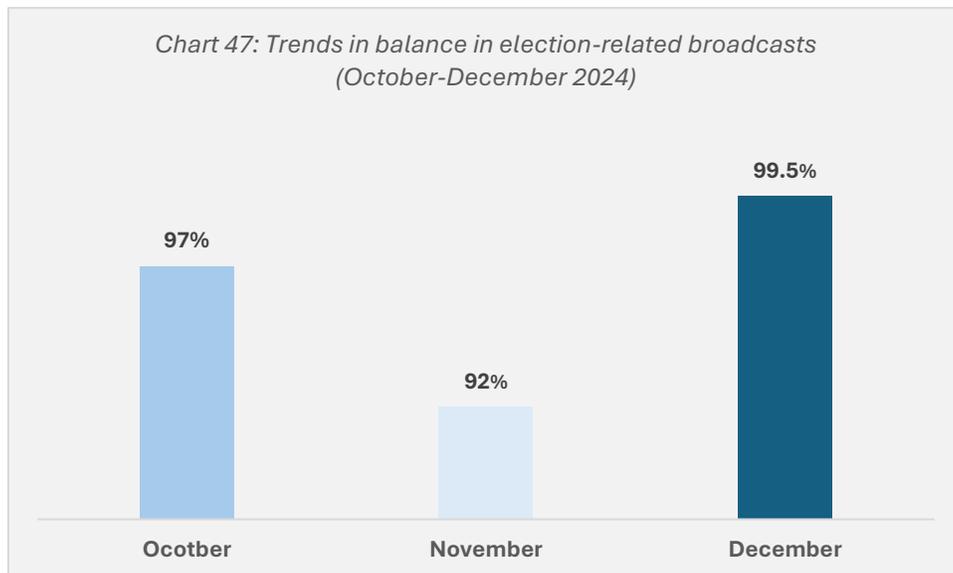


Chart 47 shows that 97% of the broadcasts in October were balanced. The figure declined to 92% in November and rose to 99.5% in December.

## TRENDS IN THE USE OF EXTREME LANGUAGE



According to Chart 48, there was one instance of the use of extreme language in December. There was, however, no record of such in the two preceding months.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The analysis of the content during the review period showed that most (73.7%) of the sampled broadcasts were packaged as news reports, 15.7% as discussion programmes and 10.6% as interviews. The stations maintained the principle of balance 94% of the time and recorded one instance (0.1% of total programmes) of the use of extreme language.

Election administration (27.1%), intra-party conflict (11.7%) and campaign activities/strategies (8.9%) were the most reported and discussed topics. Women's, PWD and youth issues constituted 1.4%, 0.4% and 0.3% of the coverage respectively, indicating that inclusion-related themes were not as prominent as other topics.

Furthermore, women actors constituted 19% of the sources and 10.4% of the mentions in the gender category, indicating that men garnered more attention in the analysed broadcasts. Youth made up 0.8% of the sources and 3.9% of the mentions in the age category while PWDs represented 0.2% of the sources and 0.7% of the mentions in their category.

PDP (38.5% sources; 35.8% mentions) and APC (37.2% sources; 38.5% mentions) were the most visible political parties and were followed by LP (10.4% sources; 11.3% mentions).

LCDA (1.1% sources; 2% mentions) and LGAs (4.9% sources; 20% mentions) were not as visible as the higher levels of government which accounted for 94% of the sources and 78% of the mentions in the government category.

INEC (61% sources; 55.5% mentions) was more visible than the other agencies in its category as security agencies accounted for 28% of the sources and 31.3% of the mentions. NGOs (72.2% sources; 55.7% mentions) were more visible than other interest groups combined. International NGOs (8% sources; 29% mentions) were not as visible as uncategorised foreign actors (92% sources; 71% mentions).

## REFERENCE

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

[https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/7789-treaty-0033\\_-\\_african\\_youth\\_charter\\_e.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/7789-treaty-0033_-_african_youth_charter_e.pdf)

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