

LEARNING FROM HISTORY

DRAWING LESSONS FOR 2021 ELECTION

Governor
Chris Ngige

Governor
Chris Ngige



Governor
Willie Obiano

Governor
Chinwoke
Mbadinuju



Governor
Peter Obi



Governor
Willie Obiano

1999

2003

2006

2014

2021

1999

2003

2006

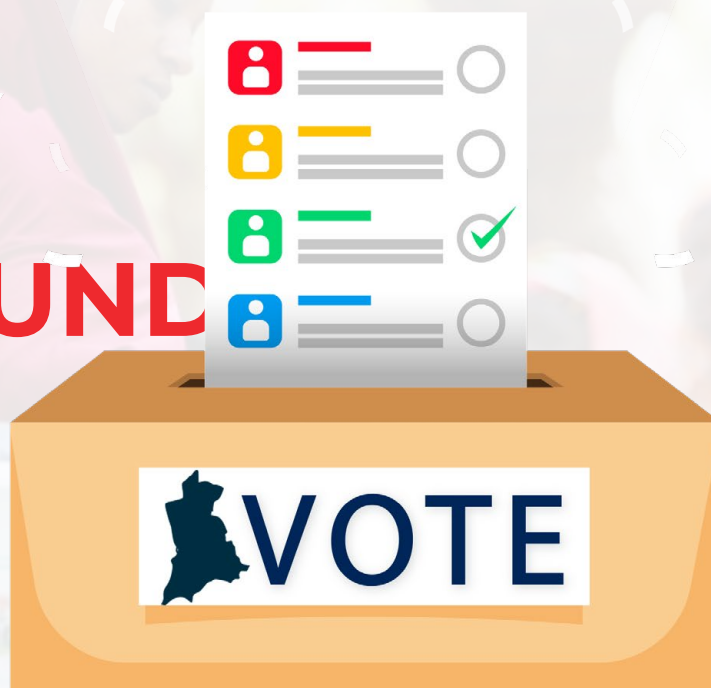
2014

TABLE OF CONTENT

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1	Background	Pg 3
2	Anambra Current Wave of Violence	Pg 10
3	Recommendations	Pg 25
4	References	Pg 26

BACKGROUND



Elections are pivotal to the essence of democracy and good governance as it is a fundamental contribution to democratic rule. Through elections, the electorates are allowed to vote for the candidates and parties representing their varying interests. Ordinarily, the electoral process is expected to contribute towards democratic consolidation in any given society. However, violence and countless anomalies have repeatedly marred the electoral process in Nigeria.

Anambra State is in no way different from the issue mentioned above. Historically, Anambra state has been infected with the blight of electoral violence that has crippled Nigeria's electoral system since the country's return to democratic rule. This cannot but be disconnected from strong godfatherism, rebellion, and the insatiable desperate desire for power as it has occurred in the State. Violence has served as a historical instrument for inhibiting election success in Anambra; it is refashioned differently from the long-standing culture of using cult groups to perpetrate intra and inter-party violence.

At the end of the military rule in 1999, Chinwoke Mbadinuju was elected as the first Democratic Governor, and he was in office till 2003. A large part of his term in office was characterized by political clashes between him and Emeke Offor, his godfather. Before that time, Emeke Offor had singlehandedly funded Governor's Mbadinuju election. On assumption of power, it was reported alleged that Mbadinuju held tight to the locks of the State's treasury, refusing to allow Offor to delve into it brazenly. They fell



bitterly apart. Their embarrassing fall-out remains one of the anticlimaxes of Nigeria's third republic. He threatened that the governor would not come back to the office like other PDP governors. He made good his threat. To seek re-election, Mbadinuju lost to Chris Ngige at the PDP primary election.

In 2003, Chris Ngige was presented as the candidate via the PDP platform and had the election sponsored singlehandedly by Chris Uba, a renowned businessman in the State. The 2003 elections were not void of irregularities and violence. Despite all the irregularities surrounding the elections, Chris Ngige assumed office in May 2003 as the State's new governor. On July 10 2003, a civilian coup was attempted in Anambra state in Southeast Nigeria. Barely two months after Chris Ngige was sworn in as

the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) governor of Anambra, a team of armed policemen disarmed his security detail and took him into custody. The governor's attempted ousting made public the breakdown of his relationship with his political godfather, Chief Chris Uba, and sparked a debate on godfather politics in Nigeria¹.

On November 12 2004, the New Humanitarian in a published article revealed that "More than a dozen public buildings have been razed in two days of political violence in southeast Nigeria's Anambra State between rival factions of the country's ruling party, government officials and residents." This razed building includes the state legislature, the radio and television studios of the Anambra Broadcasting Service, and the electoral commission.

The then Anambra State Governor, Chris Ngige, accused police of complicity in violence and blamed the destruction on a faction of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) led by businessman Chris Uba. Rival factions, controlled by Ngige and others by Uba, have been battling supremacy in the Anambra state since the general elections in 2003. Uba, who claims to have funded Ngige's election, accused him of reneging on an agreement to give him a say in his government².

However, in March 2006, The Ngige-Uba saga ended when a Federal Court of Appeal, Enugu Division, ruled that Ngige's 2003 election victory was fraudulent and null and void. The court order replaced Ngige's with his 2003 electoral opponent from the opposition, All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), Peter Obi. Obi had produced massive evidence of electoral fraud, and his installation as governor was widely hailed as a victory for democracy in Anambra³.

Just seven months after Obi assumed office, a group of legislators in the PDP-dominated State House of Assembly voted to impeach him. The events leading up to that purported "impeachment" clearly illustrate how state and federal government institutions and law enforcement agencies were manipulated, misused, and influenced by corruption. Peter Obi was reinstated in February 2007 by the Federal Court of Appeal. But INEC disqualified Obi from standing in the 2007 elections on a technicality stemming from a factional dispute within Obi's APGA party from standing in the 2007 elections.

The 2007 polls were a high-stakes affair in Anambra because the PDP candidate for governor, Andy Uba, reportedly enjoyed the strong political backing of President Obasanjo. Andy Uba had served as an influential Special

Advisor to Obasanjo for most of his eight years as president. Andy Uba, brother to Chris Uba, and his designs on the governor's office caused a rift between his brother and him. Andy Uba took over the Anambra State PDP and installed Tony Nwoye as state chairman of the party. This move met several oppositions as Nwoye was identified as a prominent member of the Black Axe cult. The installed state PDP chairman, Nwoye, mobilized funds to recruit thugs to ensure Andy Uba's victory in the PDP primaries in December 2006. Andy Uba's campaign used its capacity to mobilize violence to stifle opposition to his eventual victory⁴. By the time Election Day arrived, Andy Uba was facing only weak and fragmented opposition. INEC had eliminated his two most prominent opponents, Governor Peter Obi and Chris Ngige, from the ballot. Nonetheless, the elections were meticulously rigged in Uba's favour⁵.

Reports of observation missions shown that voting did not take place in some polling units in Anambra State, leaving out any possibility of unexpected developments at the polling stations. There were also report of witnessed widespread evidence of intimidation of would-be voters, fraud, and fabrication of results by electoral officials and PDP members. A report said that most polling stations across several communities did not open, with no officials and voting materials. These happenings resulted in protests and riots, which led to the razing of government buildings, INEC offices, etc. The official results showed an uncontroverted victory for Andy Uba as Governor. They fabricated voters' turnout figures far higher than anything observed by credible observers in any part of the State⁶.

Despite a heavily armed presence, security forces and government officials often did little to protect the rights of voters and the integrity of the process. Journalists, international and local election observers have reported that the elections were marred by violence, fraud, and intimidation. There were several incidents in which voters in Anambra state were faced with violence and intimidation. According to interviewed eyewitnesses, unidentified armed men killed the brother of a PDP aspirant in Achalla. The police and army were deployed in significant numbers to Anambra state. Still, they were primarily concentrated around INEC offices and specific hotels in Awka town, while some polling stations had no police presence⁷.

Uba's celebration was short-lived. However, months before the elections, Governor Peter Obi had filed a lawsuit arguing that he had been robbed of his term in office be-

cause of the years-long delay in declaring him the winner of the 2003 election. Days after Uba was sworn in as governor, Nigeria's Supreme Court ruled in favour of Obi in that case, granting Obi the right to serve a full four years in office. Uba's election was null and void, and gubernatorial elections will not be held in Anambra State until 2010⁸.

The 2019 elections were not void of violence. Few hours before the 2019 elections, Anambra State recorded some violence in three local government areas. A member of the House of Representatives, Mr Gabriel Onyenweife, who defected from All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), after failing to secure a ticket of APGA, had one of the houses in his compound set ablaze. At the same time, 30 motorcycles he assembled for empowerment were razed. Onyenweife, the deputy director of the APC campaign council house, was attacked, leading to tension in the Ayamelum local government area. Also, the campaign vehicle of the member representing Nnewi North, Nnewi South, and Ekwusigo federal constituency, Mr Chris Azubogu, was burnt by unknown persons. The Divisional Police station at Ajali in Orumba North local government area of the State was gutted by fire. Many police officers were beaten up before the station was set ablaze, while some vehicles parked at the station were burnt. Some detainees at the station were allegedly released by people suspected of being members of Indigenous People of Biafra, IPOB, who moved into the station immediately after the fire started⁹.

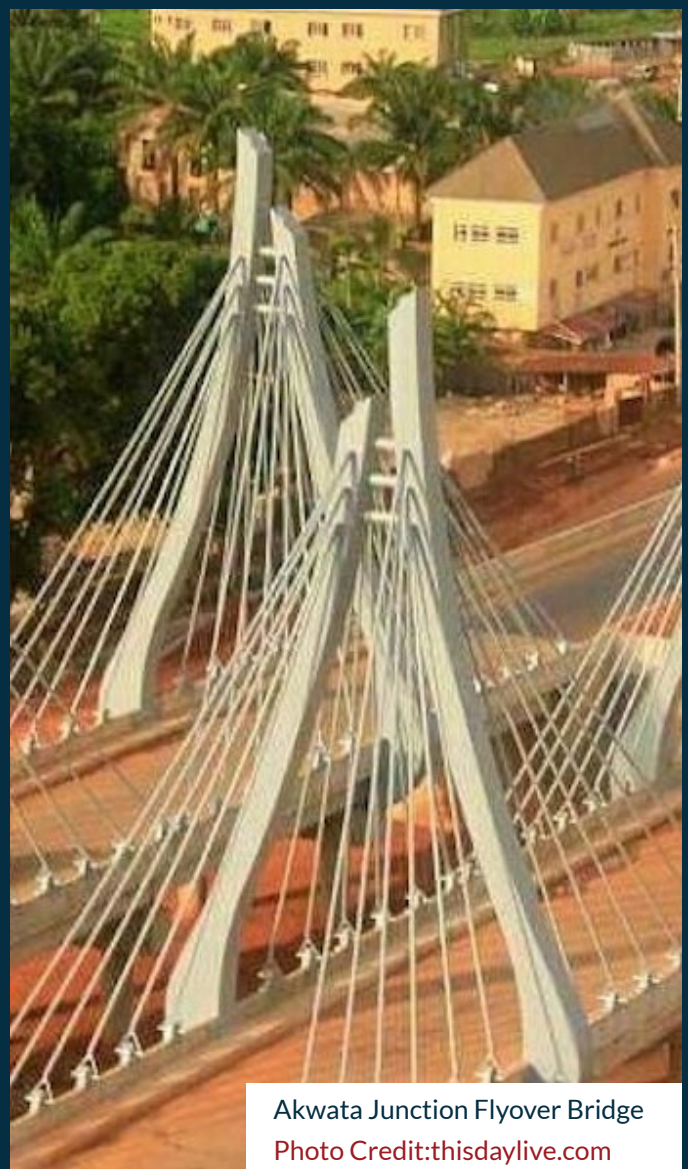
During the 2019 general elections, it was also reported that the Nigeria police confirmed the death of two persons in the Obosi area during the State House of Assembly elections. When armed political thugs attempted to snatch electoral results, 47 people were equally arrested for disrupting elections, thuggery, and assault during the March 9th election¹⁰.

Anambra's citizens have remained without a meaningful voice in selecting their political leaders since at least 2003. Without sustained action against cult gangs and their backers, violence, fraud, and corruption are likely to remain features of the State's political landscape¹¹.

Recently, Attacks on INEC and security apparatus by unknown gunmen and sit-at-home orders by IPOB have also dominated the news headlines in Anambra state. On February 2 2020, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) office in Ogidi, Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State, was attacked. Similarly, the headquarters in Awka had been razed on February 12, 2019¹².

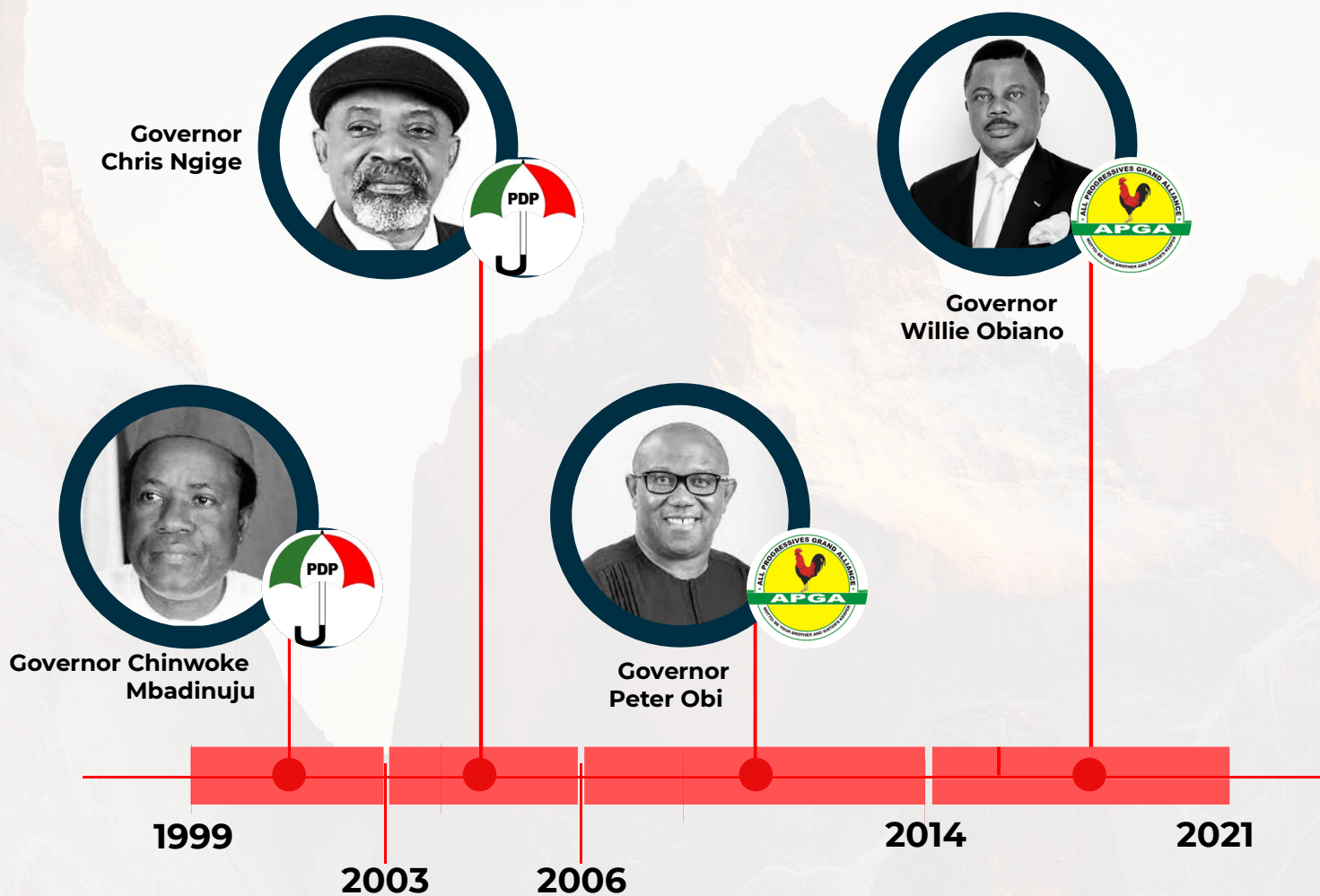
These attacks have cost implications for INEC. Going by the sharp decline in federal revenue, funding for the election will likely be a significant challenge for the Anambra election and the 2023 election. Ahead of the November 6 2021, governorship election, Anambra State has recorded several incidences of violence, including deadly attacks on police headquarters and police officers across the State. Moreover, as assailants were killing police personnel, a governorship aspirant in the State, Professor Charles Soludo, was equally involved in a deadly attack in March 2021, losing three security aides¹³.

Although it remains unclear whether the attack on him was politically motivated, the perpetuation of armed conflict and continued violence across Anambra calls for concern as the governorship election in the state approaches.



Akwata Junction Flyover Bridge
Photo Credit: [thisdaylive.com](https://www.thisdaylive.com)

List of Anambra State Governors from 1999 to 2021



- **Chinwoke Mbadinuju:** From May 29, 1999 to May 29, 2003 - **PDP**
- **Chris Ngige:** From May 29, 2003 to March 17, 2006 - **PDP**
- **Peter Obi:** From March 17, 2006 to November 3, 2006 – **APGA**
- **Peter Obi:** From February 9, 2007 to March 17, 2014 - **APGA**
- **Willie Obiano:** From March 17, 2014 to date - **APGA**

NOTE

**Virginia Etiaba: From November 3, 2006 to February 9, 2007 APGA. (Appointed when the previous governor, Peter Obi, was impeached by the state legislature for alleged gross misconduct. She transferred her powers back to Peter Obi three months later when an appeal court nullified the impeachment).*

***Andy Uba was elected and sworn in as the governor of Anambra State on May 29 2007. He was removed by a Supreme Court decision on June 14, 2007. He governed the state for 14 days.*

Likely Impact of Separatist Movement on Anambra Gubernatorial Elections

Another issue that has been bedevilled the peace of Anambra State, accompanied by its baggage of violence, and ultimately affecting the electoral system in the State is the separatist movement of the Indigenous People of Biafra. This Separatist movement, with its agitations, has spawned violence in different forms in the State despite being declared as a terrorist group by the Federal Government of Nigeria. Violence by operatives of the Eastern Security Network (ESN)/IPOB has been on the page of national dailies in Anambra state in recent times. This follows the arrest and extradition of the Indigenous People of Biafra movement leader, Nnamdi Kanu, from Kenya to Nigeria in July 2021; the neo-Biafra group subsequently gave a stay-at-home order to residents in the Southeast region until their leader is released. IPOB stated that the order would subsist until its leader, Nnamdi Kanu, was unconditionally released from the custody of the Department of States Services¹⁴. Sequel to this, the government gave counter-order to IPOB's sit-at-home order promising to provide its citizens with adequate security, but IPOB has ignored this. Instead, IPOB has resorted to enforcing compliance using violent means. There have been reports of extra-judicial killings and vandalization of properties by members of IPOB in attempts to enforce compliance.



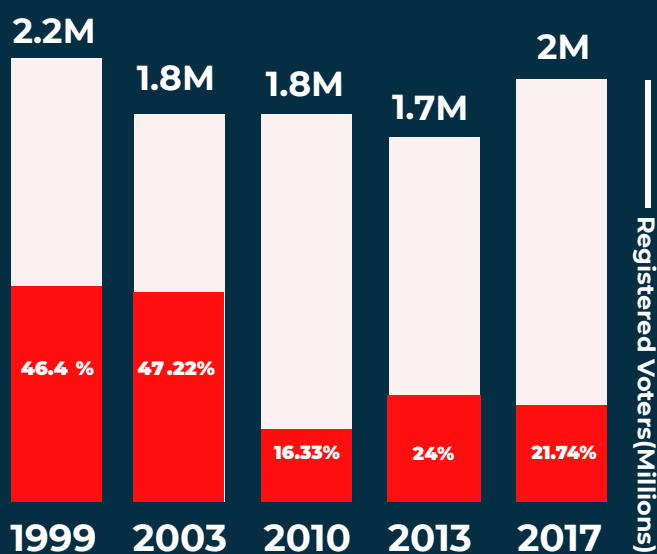
The table below contains reports of violence incidences recorded as a result of the enforcement of the order.

Date	Incidence of Violence	Source	Where it happened	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
09/08/2021	Armed men attacked the Nnewi Police Area Command and carted away with weapons. There was heavy gunfire between the armed criminals and Police officers, causing unrest amongst residents of the industrial city.	https://kaftanpost.com/armed-men-attack-nnewi-police-station-steal-weapons/	Nnewi Police Area Command	Heavy gunfire	No casualty recorded	Armed men	Pandemonium/Tension
09/08/2021	Two persons were killed in Nnewi, Anambra State. Also, three buses were set ablaze in the early hours of the morning.	http://saharareporters.com/2021/08/09/two-killed-vehicles-burnt-ipob%E2%80%99s-sit-home-order-turns-bloody-anambra	Izuchukwu Junction, NnewiW	Murder	Two men	Soldiers	Death
09/08/2021	The Nigerian Navy said its men killed six Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) members in a gun duel during Monday's sit-at-home.	https://thenationonline.net/navy-we-killed-six-suspected-ipob-members-in-anambra/	Anambra	Murder	Six men	Nigerian Navy	Death
09/08/2021	The member of IPOB harassed a food vendor at her shop on Monday, August 9, during the sit-at-home order at about 7 am. The victim was slapped several times, and her stew was poured away before they left to other shops to continue enforcing the sit-at-home order.	https://punchng.com/south-east-groans-under-ipob-sit-at-home-secessionists-order-grounds-businesses-schools-others/	Obosi, Idemili Local Government Area	Destruction of wares	C e c i l i a Ozomma	ESN/ IPOB operatives	Economic loss
9/08/2021	An unidentified young man was killed in the Awada area in Onitsha.	https://tribuneonline.com/ipob-sit-at-home-order-claims-three-lives-in-anambra/	Awada Area, Onitsha	Murder	A young man	Members of IPOB operatives	Death

All these happenings had contributed to insecurity in the State and stirred up an atmosphere of fear, which could likely affect the forthcoming governorship elections in November. It is crucial to glean from the outcome of the 2017 governorship election when IPOB claimed credit for the low voter turnout across the State. The secessionist group, in a statement, said Anambra residents listened to his demand that they boycott the polls¹⁵. The 2017 Anambra State governorship elections recorded one of the lowest voter turnouts in the history of elections in the State, wherein just 22% of over 2 million registered voters voted during the elections. Voter Apathy is another colossal implication of the insecurity that has plagued the pre-election environment. This security breakdown has made most eligible voters fearful, according to the pre-election security risk assessment done by Kimpact Development Initiative as of June 2021¹⁶.

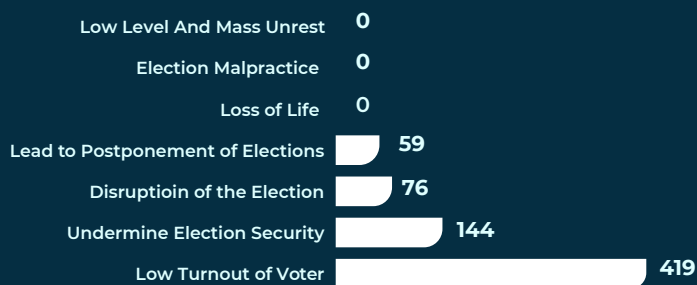
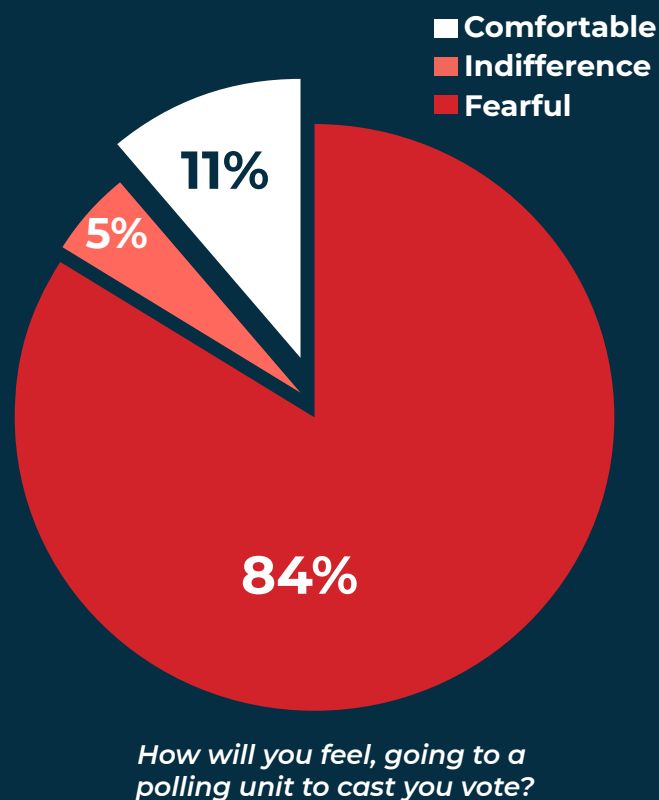
However, the low turnout of voters in Anambra State has followed a consistent pattern. Since 1999, governorship elections in the State never witnessed up to 50 per cent voter turnout, except in the 2007 election, which was marred by allegations of massive rigging.

Turnout in Previous Governorship Elections



With a rise of insecurity in the State, voters can be discouraged from voting on the election day. Despite the suspension of the sit-at-home order by IPOB, residents of Anambra State were skeptical in returning to their regular daily businesses due to the apprehension or fright that there might still be an offshoot of violence arising from the post-IPOB sit-at-home order. This is also not far from the ESRA study, which revealed that most (84%) of the respondents of the pre-election survey expressed that they will not be comfortable going to the polls on election day

due to the violence rocking the State. Denotatively, there is a high probability of low voter turnout at the forthcoming elections if citizens are still indoors even after the IPOB order has been suspended. This is also in line with the ESRA report, which revealed that insecurity in the State could likely affect the upcoming election, in which 60% of the respondents believe it will lead to low voter turnout because people are already overwhelmed with fright and danger. In addition, 21% think it might undermine election security, 11% believe it will lead to a disruption of the election, and 8% think it could lead to election postponements¹⁷. It is imperative to note that if these acts of violence are not curtailed, it might result in anarchy as history may repeat itself in the forthcoming 2021 gubernatorial elections in Anambra State.



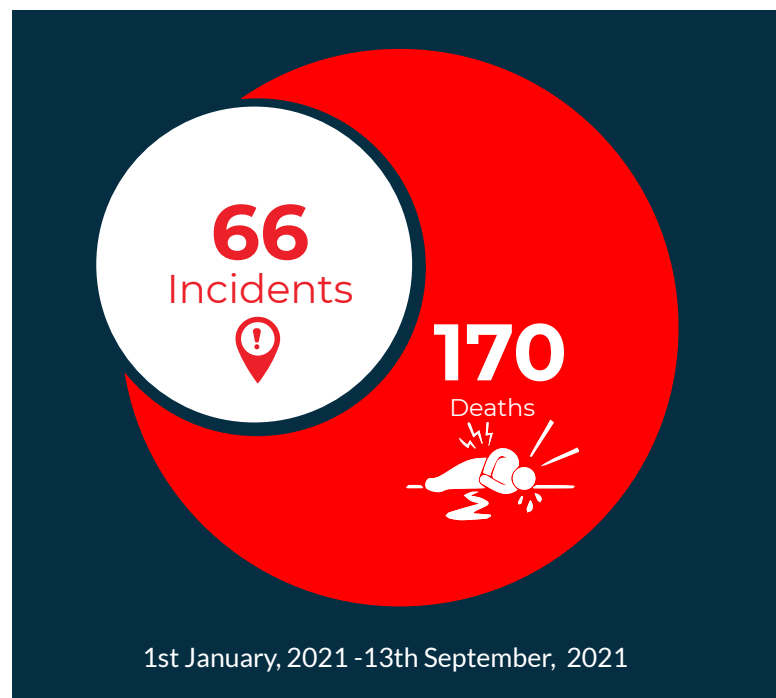
In what way do you think violence will affect the forthcoming election?

Anambra Current Waves of Violence



From 1st January, 2021 till 13th September, 2021, the cumulative figures in the KDI waves of violence report show that over 66 incidents of violence have been tracked and documented in Anambra State. These 66 incidents led to over 170 deaths.

The incidences of violence in the State cannot be overlooked as it can affect the forthcoming elections, which affect the elections' turnout. The dominant form of violence remains attacks from unknown gunmen, attacks on security apparatus, INEC offices, and kidnapping. It is worrisome that few arrests have been made in connection with these atrocious crimes, which connotes that the perpetrators of these acts of violence are still at liberty to do more. Ultimately, this would not give voters the confidence required to participate in an election.



The table below shows the incidences of violence recorded in Anambra State from January to August 2021.

S/N	January	Description of Incident	Location	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
1	26/01/2021	In Anambra state, a man allegedly killed his wife and only child with a shovel in Ozubulu, Ekwusiogo LGA.	Ozubulu, Ekwusiogo LGA	Murder	2 Community dwellers	Family members	Death
2	28/01/2021	A 65 years old hunter from Amunike community, Awka North LGA, Killed his wife and son, set the house ablaze and killed himself	Amunike community, Awka north LGA	Murder, Arson	3 community dwellers	Family Members	Death
S/N	February	Description of Incident	Location	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
3	06/02/2021	Youths suspected to be thugs disrupted sports events organized by a governorship aspirant of the PDP, destroying equipment and properties.	St Andrew's Church premises, Nnewi	Physical harm/ torture, Destruction of property, Intimidation/ harassment	Residents	Youths	Tension, Disruption
4	06/02/2021	Man murdered his wife and four-year-old son, claiming that the wife was involved in infidelity and that she had told him that their son was not his.	Awka	Murder	Deaths of 2 family members	Family members	Death
5	10/02/2021	Two unknown gunmen killed 3 men at the inauguration of the Nkpor Community Tax force at the civic centre, Eke Nkpor, in the Idelimi North LGA of Anambra State by shooting sporadically at the crowd.	Civic centre, Eke Nkpor in Idemili North	Murder	3 residents	Unknown gunmen	Death
6	19/02/2021	Anambra State Police Command has arrested two suspects for raping a 12-year-old girl. The suspects after that left the girl unconscious due to excessive loss of blood.	Idemili North LGA	Rape	A resident of the community	Unknown persons	Psychological trauma

7	04/02/2021	Unknown gunmen killed a middle-aged man Mr Ken Ekwesianya, his wife and daughter in Azia, Ihiala LG. The victims were murder in church premises around 7 pm on Thursday.	Azia, Ihiala LG	Murder	3 residents of the community	Unknown gunmen	Death
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S/N	March	Description of Incident	Location	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
8	31/03/2021	Gunmen attacked and disrupted an interactive session between the community youths and the former governor of CBN, who is also a governorship aspirant in the upcoming State governorship election. The attack led to the death of 3 police orderlies attached to him. The State's Commissioner for Public Utilities was said to be taken away.	Isiofia, Aguta LGA.	Murder, attempted murder, Kidnap.	3 Security operatives, Community dwellers	Unknown Gunmen	Death
9	04/03/2021	A 35 years old man allegedly killed his wife with a kitchen knife in Dueze street in otigba.	Dueze street in otigba	Murder	1 Family Member	Family Member	Death
10	15/03/2021	President General of Omor Community and 4 others were kidnapped.	Ayamelum LGA.	Kidnap	5 residents of the community	Unknown Gunmen	Psychological trauma
11	18/03/2021	Three Police officers were killed, and their patrol vehicle was set on fire at Ukacha junction, while the four naval officers were killed at Awkuzu junction, and their firearms carted away.	Ukacha Junction, Neni, Anaocha LGA and Awkuzu, Oyi LGA.	Murder, Arson, Theft/looting	7 Security operators	Unknown Gunmen	Death, Economic/financial loss
12	19/03/2021	Gunmen attacked the court duty vehicle belonging to the Nigerian Correctional Service, Anambra State, while conveying inmates back to the Auta Correctional Center. The attackers killed the Correction Officer, and one other then whisked away the inmates.	Nanka.	Murder, Kidnap	2 deaths of security operatives, Prison inmates	Unknown Gunmen	Death, Psychological trauma
13	20/03/2021	Two persons were reportedly beheaded in different locations in the community. The assailants were said to have gone away with the victim's heads.	Okija Community, Ihiala LGA.	Murder	2 deaths of residents of the community	Suspected ritualists	Death
14	21/03/2021	Four persons were killed and one injured after renewed cult activities at Okija in Ihiala Local Government Area, Anambra State.	Okija in Ihiala LGA	Murder, Physical harm/torture	4 Deaths of residents	Cultists	Death, Injury

15	06/03/2021	The South East chapters of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN) have alleged that four of his members were killed during an attack in Anambra State.	Ogbiji, Orumba South LGA	Murder	Deaths of 4 Herdsmen	U n k n o w n Gunmen	Death
16	27/03/2021	A 35 years old man from Sagamu in Ogun state was killed after he allegedly abducted a four-year-old boy and wanted to run away at okpuno areas of Awka, the state capital.	Okpuno area of Awka	M u r d e r , Attempted kidnap	1 resident	Residents	Death

S/N	April	Description of Incident	Location	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
17	03/04/2021	Victims were kidnapped on their returning trip from Akwa. Men of the Police force rescued 2 out of the five that were abducted.	Igbariam-Nando-Aguleri Road, Anambra East LGA.	Kidnap	5 Travelers	Unknown Gunmen	Psychological
18	17/04/2021	A revenue collector in the Umuleri area Anambra murdered his 19 years old relative, Chukwuebuka Iloegbunam, by strangled him to death over unpaid debt	Umuleri area, Anambra	Murder	1 Resident of the community	Unknown Gunmen	Murder
19	26/04/2021	On Monday, gunmen attacked Ukpomachi Village, Awkuzu in Oyi LGA, Anambra, killing 9 unidentified people and destroying properties.	Ukpomachi Village, Awkuzu in Oyi LGA, Anambra	Murder, destruction of property	9 Residents in the community	U n k n o w n gunmen	Death, Economic/ financial loss, Displacement
20	21/04/2021	The Anambra State was attacked, a Divisional Police Station in Adani, Uzo-Uwani LG. Two policemen on duty were liked, while several others sustained injuries during the attack.	Uzo-Uwani LG	Murder, destruction of property	2 Security operatives	Hoodlums	Death, Injury

	May	Description of Incident	Location	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
21	06-May-21	Suspected herd men attack in forests and farmland has left many injured, some killed in Akwa North local government.	Akwa north area, ughene,ugbenu,awba-ofemmili and ebenebe	Farmer-herder crisis	7 residents	Herdsmen	Death, Injury
22	05/05/2021	Gunmen attacked a police station in Obosi in the Idemili North LG Anambra State. Two policemen were killed in the mayhem while several buildings at the station were torched.	Obosi, Idemili North LG	Murder, Arson	2 Policemen	Unknown gunmen	Death

23	09\05\21	Unknown gunmen have killed no fewer than 5 persons and destroyed the area's office and vehicles belonging to vigilante groups.	Ekwusigo LGA	Murder	5 Vigilante members	Unknown gunmen	Death, destruction of property,
24	05/10/2021	A man was set ablaze by angry mobs when he was assumed to have stolen money, but instead, a handkerchief was found on him. When he was asked to point out his gang members, the deceased refused, and the angry mob burnt him to death.	North Local Government area	Mob action	A thief	Residents of the community	Death

	Date of	Incident Description	Location	Local Government	Type of Violence	Victim	Victim Gender	Number of Victims	Perpetrator	Source	Impact
25	March 28 2021	On March 28 2021, there was a clash between two Cult groups in Eke Awka Market.	Eke Awka Market by Zik's Avenue and Along Ifite Awka.	Awka South	Group Clash	Cult members	Male	3	Cultists	KDI Monitor, Daily Trust Newspaper 29th Monday, March 2021	Tension
26	April 15, 2021	On April 15, 2021, Gunmen in a black Pilot SUV Vehicle without a number plate shoot indiscriminately into the air at scarce people on arrival to the community before setting two Vehicles ablaze. While burning the vehicles, a tricycle operator carrying the two students was coming towards the incident scene. They shot the occupant of the tricycle and killed the two students while the tricycle driver escaped been unhurt.	First bank Ogidi, Close to Onyeolise market along old Onitsha/ Akwa Road, A b a g a n a community.	Njikoka LGA	D e a t h , Destruction of property	2 students and citizens	UTD	2	u n k n o w n GunmenW	KDI Monitor, https://newsexpressngr.com/news/121633-Gunmen-kill-2-students-set-2-vehicle-ablaze-in-Anambra	loss of lives and economic loss

27	April 17, 2021	2 youth were shot dead around 6 pm at Temo site De Santos and Fayrous Joint around 8 pm same day. The reason for the shooting and killing was unknown.	Temp site De Santos and Fayrous Joint	Awka South	Death	Young persons	male	2	Unknown Gunmen	KDI monitor	loss of lives
28	April 19, 2021	On April 19, 2021, Unknown gunmen burned down zone 13 police station and destroyed vehicle, killed 3 mobile police	Zone 13 police station	Dunukofia LGA	Death, Destruction of property		Male	3	Unknown Gunmen	KDI Monitor	loss of lives and economic loss.
29	April 20, 2021	On April 20, 2021, A young man was shot to death at Igboariam junction by Police Officer, resulting in violence by the public. Tyres were burnt on the road, causing unrest	Igboariam junction	Oyi LGA	Death	A young man	Male	1	Policeman	KDI Monitor	loss of life and Community unrest
30	April 25 2021	On April 25, 2021, Close to South African Lodge Oko, Two young persons were shot dead by unknown gunmen who drove in with a tinted sienna	Close to South African Lodge Oko	Orumba North	Death	Young persons	Male	2	Unknown Gunmen	KDI Monitor	loss of lives

31	April 24 2021	On April 24, 2021, A student of Abuchi polytechnic was stabbed by the caretaker who collected the money contributed by the whole tenants to pump water on Friday. Still, to their greatest surprise, the water didn't last up to a day, so concerned lodge mates went straight to the lodge caretaker to complain. The complaint led to a fight between both parties. In the process, the caretaker stabbed the student.	Currency Lodge	Orumba North	Death	ND2 student of Abuchi poly	Male	1	Lodge Caretaker	https://www.anaedoonline.ng/2021/04/25/oko-polytechnic-stabbed-death/	loss of life
32	April 27, 2021	On April 27, 2021, Unknown Gunmen attacked Naval Checking Point along Onitsha-Owerri towards the evening period. The attack resulted in the death of a Naval Officer. Based on the above, the Naval officers began to shoot sporadically at the Naval Base along Atani Road of Ogbaru LGA, and many passersby sustained gun injuries.	Along Onitsha-Owerri Road	Ogbaru	Death and physical harm	Naval officer and Citizens	Male	1	unknown Gunmen	KDI Monitor	loss of life and people injured

33	May 6, 2021	On May 6, 2021, Obosi Police Station was set ablaze by unknown gunmen in the early hours of Thursday, May 6 2021. Two police officers on night duty were gunned down to death, Police Station and Vehicles parked at the premises burnt down.	Obosi Police Station	Idemili Northern	Death		Male	2	u n k n o w n Gunmen	R e s i d e n c e within the area	loss of lives
34	May 9, 2021	On May 9, 2021, Unknown gunmen operating on a bike attacked the Ozubulu Security office, burnt it down, set security vans and Motorcycles ablaze while Ambassador Peter Uzokwe, President General of the community, who was meant to address the security men, escaped death, they equally attack Benjass filling station and killed the brother of the owner of the station and one other person	O z u b u l u Security Office and B e n j a s s filling station	Ekwusigo	D e a t h , Destruction of property	Citizen's property and a man	Male	2	u n k n o w n Gunmen	KDI Monitor	Loss of lives and Economic loss
35	May 16, 2021	On May 16, 2021, There was a communal clash over the land issue. The Youths of Anaku attacked the former Chief Judge of Anambra State that triggered the Youths of Omor to retaliate. The Omor youth went to Anaku burnt former Commissioner's house and the other two buildings, a car and nine persons injured. A police station in the area was also attacked.	A n a k u Community	Ayamelum	P h y s i c a l h a r m / Destruction of property		Male and Female	9	The Youths of Omor	KDI Monitor	C o m m u n i t y unrest and people injured

36	May 21, 2021	On May 20, Unknown Gunmen stormed NSCDC Outpost Nneyi in the evening and started shooting sporadically, in the process killed Two Officers, burnt Vehicle and cart away Arms	NSCDC (Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps) Outpost Nneyi	Anambra East	Death and destruction of properties		Male	2	unknown Gunmen	KDI Monitor/ NSCDC, PRO Anambra State Command	Loss of lives and Economic loss
37	May 25, 2021	On the 2nd May 2021, An armed robber was captured this morning along Onitsha-Owerri Road by Obodo-Ukwu junction. Jungle justice was passed on him immediately, and he was set ablaze	Onitsha Owerri Road by Obodo-Ukwu junction	Ogbaru LGA by Owerri Road	Death	An armed robber	Male	1	Angry mob	KDI Monitor	loss of life
38	May 23, 2021	On May 23, 2021, Unknown gunmen shot sporadically at the B division police station and INEC Head Office and set some parts of the offices ablaze.	B division police station near Anambra state secretariat and INEC Office near Alex Ekwueme a	Awka South	Destruction of property		UTD	UTD	unknown Gunmen	KDI Monitor	Economic loss
39	May 28, 2021	On May 28, 2021, Cult people shot to death two people, one at Nibo and the other at Nise	Nibo and Nise	Awka South	Death		Male	2	Cultists	KDI Monitor	loss of lives

40	May 28, 2021	Nigeria Naval Officers blocked Onitsha Bridgehead on May 28, 2021. There was a rumour that 5 Nigeria Soldiers were attacked and killed at Abbot Boys Checking Point Ihiala in Ihiala LGA by Unknown Gunmen. For that reason, Naval Officers within Atani Road junction went and blocked the Bridgehead. The only Entrance/Exit of Eastern Region, thereby keeping commuters stranded for several hours.	O n i t s h a Bridgehead	Onitsha South			Male and Female	UTD	Nigeria Naval Officers	KDI Monitor	Tension
41	May 2021 6,	On May 6, 2021, there was a gunshot in front of the Cathedral Church of St Mary's Uruagu Nnewi in which a Hilux truck driver was abducted and his car set ablaze by masked gunmen	In front of Cathedral Church of St Mary's Uruagu Nnewi	Nnewi North	K i d n a p , Arson and destruction of property	A driver	Male	1	u n k n o w n Gunmen	KDI Monitor	psychological effect and loss of property
42	June 2021 4,	On June 4, 2021, A trailer loaded with cows suspected from North had an accident at Kwata bypass/flyover. About 8 hawking children were feared dead while 2 people in SUV car got injured. The Angry mobs around there set the trailer and everything inside it ablaze.	Kwata junction flyover	Awka South	Death, Arson and loss of property	Trailer driver, children and adult	Male and Female	10	Angry mob	KDI Monitor	loss of lives and economic loss

43	June 11 2021	On June 11, three criminals were caught in action by armed local security. The security personnel overpowered the criminals, got them down, and set them ablaze with the machine they operate within the town.	Around Kenneth Dike Primary/ secondly school	Awka South	Arson and death	criminals	Male	3	The local security personnel	KDI Monitor	loss of lives and economic loss
44	June 9, 2021	On June 9, 2021, A young boy said to be a cultist was gun down at termsite Awka. The boy was killed by a person who was on a tricycle.	Termsite close to St Joseph the walker	Awka South	Death	A young boy	Male	1	Cultists	KDI Monitor	loss of life

	July	Incidence of Violence	Source	Where it happened	Type of Violence	Victims	Perpetrator	Impact
45	13-07-21	Unknown Gunmen Kill Three Policemen, Two Others, Burn Three Vehicles In Anambra	https://www.evernote.com/l/AYJg8E71CGtFwJRW1kOH_9KOjsDA806Nosc https://www.evernote.com/l/AYLgJKm6VphEs6ILTj47HjbaVL73xC_kvAc https://www.evernote.com/l/AYKpu6fuHrtGl66KJmEPQxGHwW3b4WvRMNY	Abatete, Idemili North	Murder / Arson	Policemen & citizens	Unknown Gunmen	Death
46	15-07-2021	2 Policemen, 8 Others Killed By Cultists, Assassins In Anambra	https://www.evernote.com/l/AYIUmNkZVMNCioXuwJePVwz7paNYQ9XNMuM	Ifite-Awka, AwkaNort	Cult killing	indigenes		Death/ Unrest

47	August 31 2021	#Anambra2021: Traditional ruler clashed in Njikoka LG: On August 31 2021, the Traditional ruler of Enugwu-Agidi community in Njikoka LG and Okpallariam Mike Okekeuche and Chairman of Ezinato Clan, Izuchukwu Okeke-Onyeocha (Igwe Ezinato), clashed.	Enugwu-Agidi community in Njikoka LG	Enugwu-Agidi community in Njikoka LG	Group Clash	Traditional Ruler	Male	UTD	Traditional ruler	Clash	https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/07/blood-bath-averted-in-anambra-community-as-monarch-clan-head-clash/amp/
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48	August 9, 2021	#Anambra2021: Armed men attacked the Nnewi Police Area Command and carted away with weapons. There was heavy gunfire between the armed criminals and Police officers, causing unrest amongst residents of the industrial city.	Nnewi Police Area Command	Nnewi LG	Loss of property	Policemen	Null	Null	Gunmen	Economic loss	https://kaftanpost.com/armed-men-attack-nnewi-police-station-steal-weapons/
49	August 9, 2021	#Anambra2021: Suspected military men killed 2 in Anambra State: On August 9 2021, suspected military personnel killed two persons in Nnewi, Anambra State. Also, three buses were set ablaze in the early hours of the morning.	Izuchukwu Junction, Nnewi	Nnewi North LG,	Murder and Arson	unknown men	male	2	Soldier	Loss of lives	http://saharareporters.com/2021/08/09/two-killed-vehicles-burnt-ipob%E2%80%99s-sit-home-order-turns-bloody-anambra
50	August 9, 2021	#Anambra2021: Navy soldier killed six suspected IPOB members in Anambra: On August 9, 2021, the Nigerian Navy yesterday said its men killed six members of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) in a gun duel during Monday's sit-at-home.	Anambra	Anambra	Killings	suspected IPOB members	male	6	Navy soldiers	loss of lives	https://thenationonlineng.net/navy-we-killed-six-suspected-ipob-members-in-anambra/
51	August 9, 2021	#Anambra2021: An unidentified young man was killed in the Awada area in Onitsha.	Onitsha	Onitsha	Murder	A young boy	male	1	IPOB Members	loss of life	https://tribuneonlineng.com/ipob-sit-at-home-order-claims-three-lives-in-anambra/

52	August 2021	9,	#Anambra2021; IPOB members harassed business owners over sit-at-home order in Anambra: The member of IPOB harassed a food vendor at her shop on Monday, August 9, during the sit-at-home order at about 7 am. The victim was slapped several times, and her stew was poured away before they left to other shops to continue enforcing the sit-at-home order.	O b o s i , Idemili Local Government Area	I d e m i l i L o c a l	Harassment a n d intimidation	C e c i l i a O z o m m a (A food vendor)		1	IPOB Members	Economic loss	https://punchng.com/south-east-groans-under-ipob-sit-at-home-secessionists-order-grounds-businesses-schools-others/
53	August 2021	9,	#Anambra2021: Hoodlum killed 6 in Nnewi command in Okigwe area of Umudim LG. On August 9 2021, The sit-at-home order handed down to the southeast turned bloody as hoodlum wreaked havoc. Four cops were said to have been killed by hoodlums, two persons were shot dead in Nnewi, while three buses were set ablaze in the area.	N n e w i command in Okigwe area of Umudim	Nnewi LG	Murder	Policemen/ Residents	UTD	6	Hoodlums	Loss of lives	The Punch, 17, 10/8/2021
54	August 2021	1,	#Anambra2021: Two persons were set ablaze Nnewi in Anambra: On August 1 2021, two suspected carjackers were set ablaze by a mob in Anambra State on Sunday.	Nnewi LG	Nnewi LG	Murder	Residents	Male	2	angry mob	Loss of lives	
55	August 2021	23,	#Anambra2021: Driver shot dead in Onitsha North LGA Anambra: On August 23, 2021, an Onitsha driver was shot dead in a brawl with vigilante operatives in Onitsha North LGA	O n i t s h a North LGA	O n i t s h a North LGA	Murder	Driver	Male	1	Vigilante	Loss of lives	

56	August 9, 2021	#Anambra2021: Suspected IPOB destroyed goods of violators of the sit-at-home order in South-East: On August 9, 2021, suspected IPOB stormed the shops of people selling goods in residents and industrial areas in South-East and destroyed their goods for disobeying the sit-at-home orders.	South-East		Destruction of property	Residents	UTD	UTD	Suspected IPOB member	Economic/Financial loss	http://saharareporters.com/2021/08/09/suspected-ipob-militants-invade-south-east-shops-destroy-goods-violators-sit-home-order
57	August 11, 2021	#Anambra2021: Navy kills six suspected IPOB members in Awkuzu; On August 11, 2021, in Awka, the commanding officer of Navy disclosed that Navel personnel killed six suspected IPOB members while others suffered severe injuries when the troops repelled an attack by the group.	Awka LG	Awka LG	Murder	IPOB	UTD	6	Navy	Loss of lives	https://guardian.ng/news/navy-kills-six-suspected-ipob-members-in-anambra/
58	14th, August 2021	#Anambra2021: Youth attack residents in the Otoko community in Awka North LG: On August 11 2021, armed men suspected to be community youth wounded and destroyed properties worth millions of naira in the community. People working on a construction site was attacked with machetes, destroying their parked cars and tricycles	O t o k o community	A w k a North LG	Physical harm/ Destruction of property	Residents	UTD	UTD	Community Youth	Economic/Financial loss	https://dailypost.ng/2021/08/14/anambra-community-laments-attacks-urges-obiano-to-intervene/
59	September 5, 2021	#Anambra2021: PDP Onitsha South LG Chairman and 15 others defected to APC. On September 5, 2021, PDP Onitsha South LG Chairman, Chief Chuks Onyeizugbe, defected alongside 15 ward leaders and joined APC.	O n i t s h a South LG	O n i t s h a South LG	Party Defection	PDP Party	UTD	UTD	Party Members	Tension	https://www.sunnewsonline.com/anambra-2021-pdp-onitsha-south-lg-chairman-15-others-defect-to-apc/
60	September 1, 2021	#Anambra2021: Six Anambra lawmakers defected from APGA to APC: On the 1st September, 2021, six Anambra State House of Assembly members elected on the platform of the APGA defected to APC.	Anambra	Anambra	Party Defection	APGA	UTD	UTD	Party Members	Tension	https://www.sunnewsonline.com/6-anambra-lawmakers-dump-apga-join-apc/

61	September 10, 2021	#Anambra2021: Gunmen killed former Igwe of Mlpunado and his driver in Auguleri: On September 10 2021, Chief Alexander Edozieuno, Igwe of Mlpunado and his driver were killed by suspected hired assassins on Friday afternoon. The traditional ruler was lying dead outside his jeep, and his driver was shot inside the jeep.	A g u l e r i community	Anambra North LG	Murder	Traditional Ruler / Driver	Male	2	Gunmen	Loss of lives	https://www.blueprint.ng/breaking-fear-grips-many-as-gunmen-assassinate-anambra-monarch-driver/
62	September 13, 2021	#Anambra2021: IPOB members send students writing WAEC away in Anambra. On September 13, 2021, IPOB members sent away students writing the English WACE exam and over 10 bikes belonging to the student was set ablaze by them	Anambra	Anambra	Arson/ harassment/ Destruction of property	community members		UTD	IPOB Members	Loss of Property	https://www.sojworldnews.com/condemnable-ipob-send-students-writing-waec-exams-away-sets-over-10-bikes-ablaze-too-bad-watch-the-video/

Date	Incidence of Violence	Source	Where it happened	Type of Violence	Victims		Impact
05/02/2021	A pavilion set up for a health walk by Valentine Ozigbo, contesting under the PDP platform for the Anambra State gubernatorial elections, was vandalized by thugs, with a stern warning to the politician not ever to visit Nnewi to campaign for public office.	https://humangle.ng/residents-fear-violence-may-affect-anambra-governorship-poll-after-attack-on-aspirant/	Diocesan Church Centre Field, Nnewi, and Nnewi High School, Nnewi	Destruction of property	Valentine Ozigbo, a PDP aspirant	Thugs	Economic loss/ Tension

Recommendations



Therefore, the government cannot afford to be complacent in addressing this issue as urgent action is required to deescalate or prevent conflict escalation in the State. There is a need for the government to be proactive and prepared for the oncoming elections, especially in security.

As there is a need for more decisive action to be taken, the government should be wary of human rights violations on ordinary citizens. If there is a surge in human rights violations wherein citizens do not feel safe in the hands of the armed state actors, this will cause fear in the populace's minds. One of the causative factors for the low turnout of voters in the last election, as accounted for by experts, was the government's militarization response to IPOB's boycott of the election. This further contributed to increasing public fear and tension.

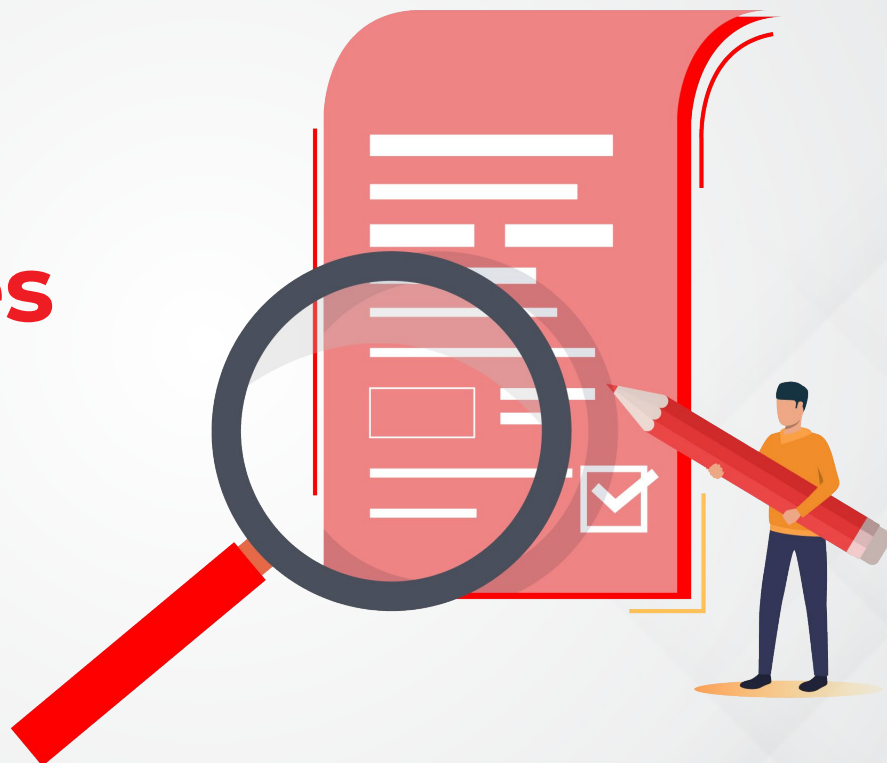
The following are some recommendations to address the current trends of violence in the State.

- The government needs to deploy more security operatives around the State to curb the spread of violence, swiftly arrest violators of peace and security and protect life and property, should any incidence of violence arise.
- The government should uphold the integrity of our Constitution while making efforts to see that citizens' fundamental rights are protected, and IPOB's continuous civil disobedience are addressed to restoring and maintaining peace and tranquillity to Anambra State,

especially with recourse to the forthcoming elections.

- To avoid a constitutional crisis, there is a need to improve the security of the Anambra State to curb the widespread violence that could drastically affect the forthcoming election; security agencies need to be empowered. However, the federal government mustn't militarise the election because militarization alone can frighten potential voters.
- All key stakeholders, including security agencies, INEC, community leaders, religious leaders, and politicians, should engage in peaceful dialogue to mitigate all forms of violence and deploy initiatives that reinforce sustained peace within the State before, during, and after the governorship election.
- Considering the upcoming elections in Anambra State, the National Peace Committee (NPC) can also step in as a facilitative leader to ensure election security. This could encourage more youths and other citizens to get involved in the electioneering process to hope for positive electoral outcomes.
- There is a need for intensive peace advocacy by Civil Society Organizations to forestall violence from erupting.
- Politicians need to play by the rules and avoid any form of intimidation or harassment of their opponents. They should refrain from employing any form of violence before, during, or after the on-coming elections.

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About KIMPACT

Kimpact Development Initiative (KDI) is a youth-focused nonprofit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization. KDI inspires citizen-led democratic development anchored on participation, data-driven advocacy, strong democratic institutions, and public policies. We do this by building informed and active citizens through capacity development, advancing public policies, data-driven advocacy, and reforms that give a more supportive environment for citizen-led development. KDI has administrative structures and partners in all the 36 states of Nigeria and has implemented State, Regional, and National Projects in the past.

KDI uses VTrack, its citizen-led violence tracking initiative, to provide an impartial voice on violent incidents in Nigeria especially electoral and armed conflict. This is done using a scientific approach to quantify the impact of insecurity and violent incidents on democratic stability. KDI uses VTrack to document and publish disaggregated data on electoral violence and inform stakeholders in numbers why the security of lives and properties matters.

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