

# A NIGERIAN PERSPECTIVE ON THE 2007 PRESIDENTIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

# RESULTS FROM PRE- AND POST- ELECTION SURVEYS

# **Pre-Election Survey**

February 13 and 25 2,410 Nigerians

# **Post-Election Survey**

May 3 and 10, 2007 (except in Osun state where interviewing was delayed until May 18th to May 20th)

2,417 Nigerians

- •Survey written and overseen by IFES
- •Fieldwork carried out by Practical Sampling International
- •Interviews conducted in all 36 Nigerian states and the federal capital territory and are representative of the Nigerian adult population.

•The survey was paid for by the Department for International Development (DfID) under IFES' "Nigerian Election Support 2007" program.

## Medium to high interest in the elections

How would you describe your interest in the recent presidential and parliamentary elections?



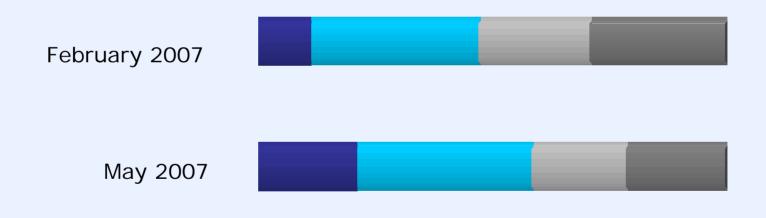
May 2007

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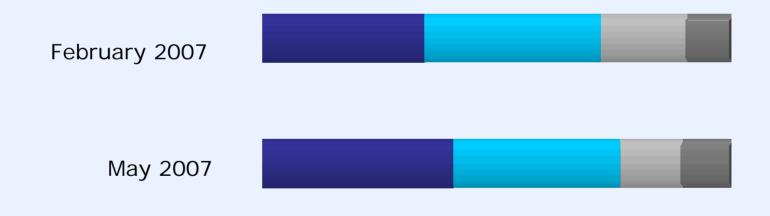
### Post-election increase in the power of voting

# Voting gives people like you a chance to influence decision-making?



# Strong commitment to holding of elections

# Elections are the most effective way to select leaders in Nigeria?



## Politically powerlessness outside of elections

In between elections there is no way for an ordinary person to have his voice heard?



## Just under half think Nigeria is a democracy

Is Nigeria primarily a democracy today, or that it is not primarily a democracy today?



# Equally split in belief in fairness of 2007 elections

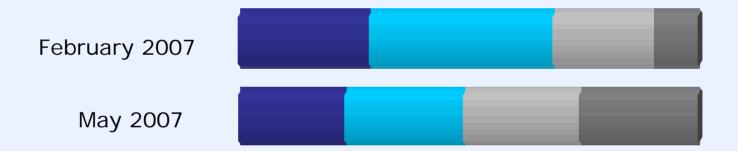
How free and fair were the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections?



Completely free and fair Somewhat Not too Not at all free and fair

# Some disappointment in pre-election expectations of fairness

How free and fair do you EXPECT the upcoming presidential and parliamentary elections will be?



# How free and fair WERE the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections?

# Almost half think 2007 elections less free and fair than those in 2003

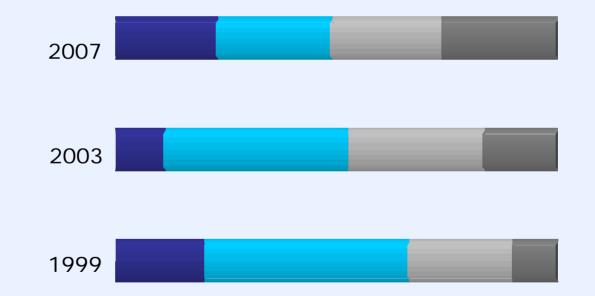
Compared to the 2003 elections, were these elections...



2007 more free and fair than 2003 Both equally fair 2007 less free and fair than 2003

# Assessment of elections becoming more divided over time

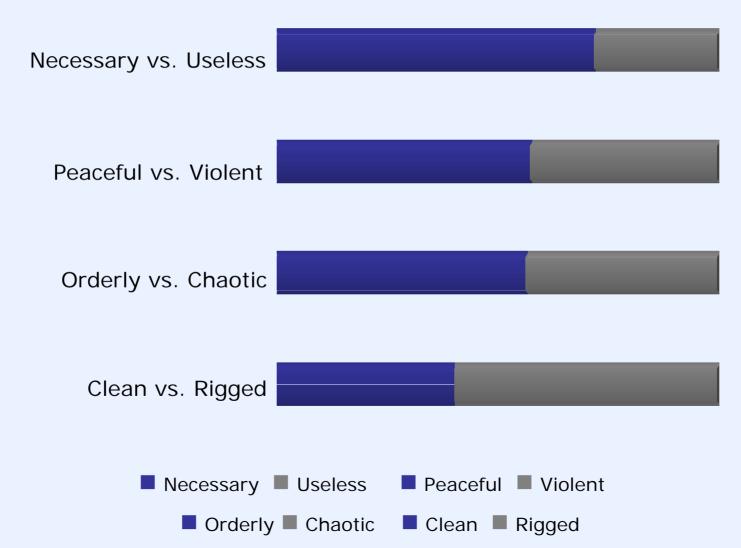
#### How free and fair were these elections?



🖡 Completely free and fair 🗧 Somewhat 💻 Not too 🔳 Not at all free and fair

# Most think elections necessary, but concerns over their conduct

#### Which word better describes the elections?



# Basic satisfaction with the election process...

# How satisfied or dissatisfied you were with the following aspects of the 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary elections



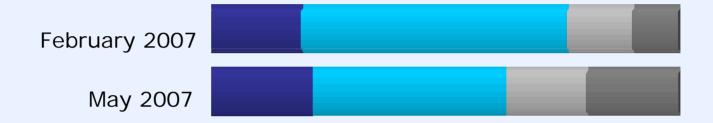
# But less so with tabulation and announcement of results

How satisfied or dissatisfied you were with the following aspects of the 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary elections?



# **Evaluations of INEC fall**

### How much confidence do you have in INEC?



#### How effective is INEC in carrying out its duties?



Great deal Fair amount Not too much Not confidence at all

Very effective Somewhat Not too Not at all effective

# Half doubt INEC's neutrality

#### With which do you agree more:

•INEC performs its duty as a neutral body guided in its work only by the law OR

•INEC makes decisions which favor particular people or interests?

Guided in its work only by the law Makes decisions which favor people or interests

Carrot and stick tactics used to influence vote

On or before the elections, did anyone try to....

pressure you to vote for a certain candidate?

offer you a reward or gift to vote a certain way?



# Majority have doubts about confidentiality of the vote

Even though the vote is secret, do you believe that someone can find out how a person in your neighborhood voted?





## Election violence has a far reach

Is election-related violence a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all?

Did you personally see or hear of any violence related to these Presidential and Parliamentary elections in your area?

Not at all a problem Minor problem Major problem

Did not see or hear of violence in area Heard of violence in area Personally saw violence

# Voters find polling place procedures easy

We would like to know about YOUR experiences at your polling station on the DAY of the PRESIDENTIAL election.

Was it very easy, somewhat easy or somewhat hard for you to...

Locate your polling place



Understand and follow the procedures at the polling place

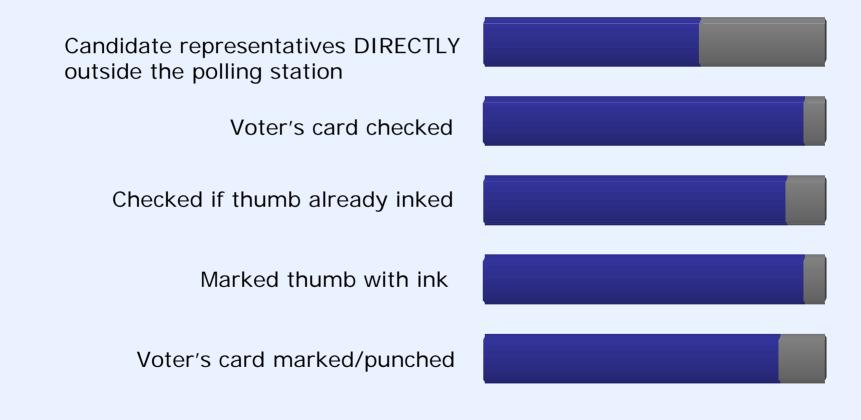


Very easy Somewhat easy Somewhat hard Very hard

(Based on those who say they voted in the 2007 Presidential elections)

# Most basic procedures followed at the polls

Did these take place or did not take place when you voted at your things polling station for the PRESIDENTIAL election



No Yes (candidates advocating)

Yes No (inking and marking of cards)

(Based on those who say they voted in the 2007 Presidential elections)

# Most basic procedures followed at the polls

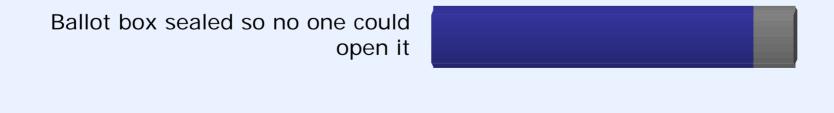
Did these things take place or did not take place when you voted at your polling station for the PRESIDENTIAL election

the ballots

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Able to vote with privacy so that no one else could see how you were voting

Received your own copy of each of

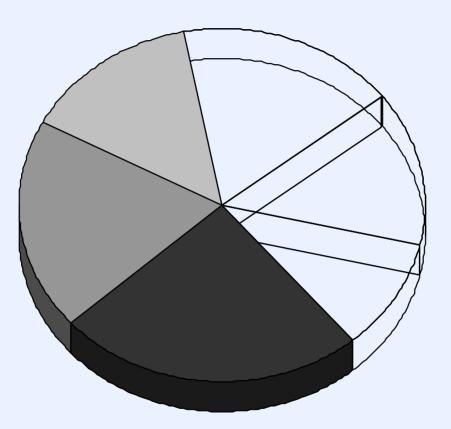


(Based on those who say they voted in the 2007 Presidential elections)

No

Yes

### Yet not all registered voters could vote



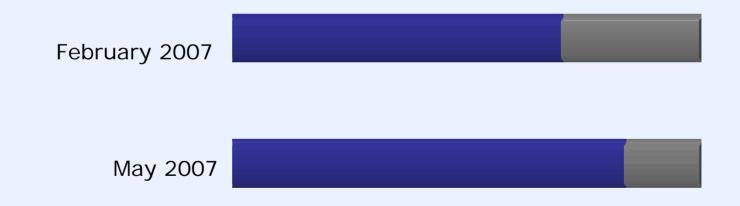
Missing materials Elections rigged/not conducted well Security concerns
Health/away from area Other reasons Don't know/refused

(Based on those who say they registered but did not vote in the 2007 Presidential elections)

# Nigerian NGOs should be involved in elections...

Do you think NIGERIAN NGOs should play a role in providing oversight and information on the election process in Nigeria? OR

Should the government be able to administer elections without input from other groups in Nigeria?



Nigerian NGOs should play a role
Government should run elections without input

(Based on those who know what an NGO is)

# And their participation makes the elections better

Did the involvement of Nigerian NGOs make these recent elections...?



A lot more free and fair
 Somewhat less
 A lot less free and fair

(Based on those who know what an NGO is)

# International NGOs also viewed positively

Does the assistance by INTERNATIONAL NGOs and governments in these elections benefit the Nigerian people?



Do you think INTERNATIONAL NGOs' and governments' involvement in the elections was a positive thing?

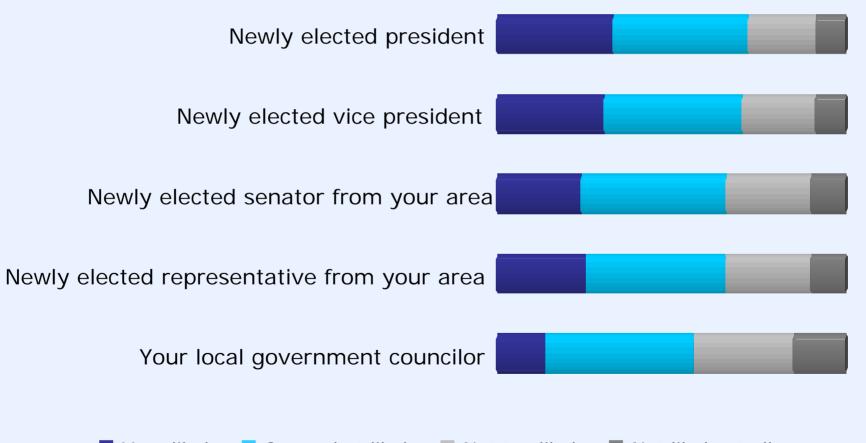


Benefits the Nigerian people
 Have no effect
 Damaging to the Nigerian people
 Very positive
 Somewhat positive
 Somewhat negative
 Very negative

(Based on those who know what an NGO is)

## Post-election hope in elected leaders...

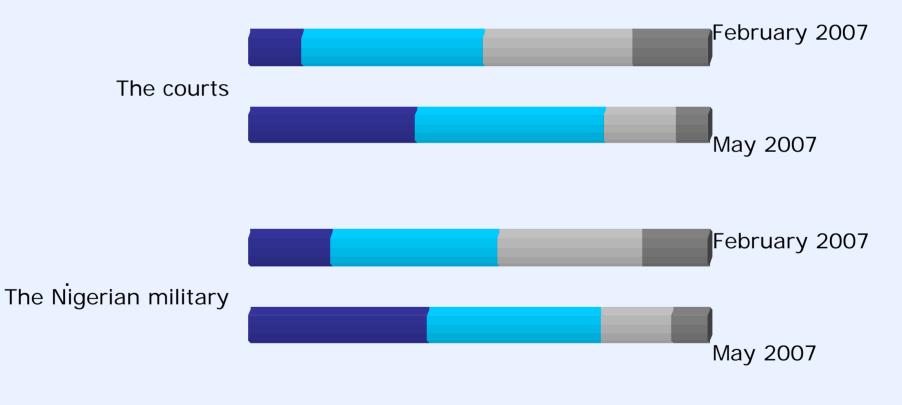
How likely are the following leaders to make improvements or progress on the biggest issues facing Nigeria



Very likely Somewhat likely Not too likely Not likely at all

## And institutions

How much confidence do you have in....



Great deal Fair amount Not too much Not confidence at all