



SLOEDP

OPEN ELECTION DATA ANALYSES

**2018 Presidential Elections in Sierra Leone
A Quantitative, Qualitative and Visual Analyses Report**



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Key Findings, Recommendations, Data Cleaning, Preparation, Analyses, Reporting and Visualization



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Executive Summary

This report provides analyses of past election results to inform the June 24, 2023, election. By examining historical data, trends, and patterns, we aim to offer insights that can assist in strategic decision-making and enhance the understanding of key factors influencing voter behavior during elections. The report will be in two parts: part one focuses on comparing past election outcomes, voter turnout, and demographic shifts to observe implications for the upcoming presidential election on June 24, 2023. Part two will present five cycles of presidential election results from 1996 to 2018 and investigate, especially results from 2012 and 2018, to compare, contrast, and opine on the data. A special report will also include projections for the 2023 results based on what the data from the past tells us.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - KEY FINDINGS

HISTORICAL TRENDS

We performed an analysis of previous elections that revealed consistent patterns in terms of voter turnout, party performance, and regional variations, save for one or two periods. Understanding these trends provides valuable context for projecting potential outcomes in the June 24 election. We found out how population growth could influence votes, for example.

VOTER TURNOUT

Historical voter turnout patterns that we assessed provide insights into the effectiveness of voter mobilization efforts. We examined turnout rates across different elections, uncovered potential improvement areas, and suggested targeted strategies to increase participation. The national average over 4 election cycles has been about 81%. In 2007, Sierra Leone experienced the worst turnout at 69%. This means 31% of eligible voters showed "voter apathy."

KEY ISSUES AROUND ELECTIONS

Key issues that have resonated with voters in past elections can help shape campaign messaging and policy platforms. By analyzing past election results, we found issues that have influenced voter preferences and prioritize them in the upcoming election. Voter registration has been a problem historically, with limited awareness and voter education engagements, intimidation and partisan violence and, finally, inadequate electoral infrastructure making it challenging for voters to get to the polls.

COMPETITOR ANALYSIS

Analyzing the performance of political parties and candidates in past elections offers valuable insights into their strengths, weaknesses, and voter appeal. Political parties can gain a competitive advantage by studying their campaign strategies, messaging, and performance in the upcoming election.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - RECOMMENDATIONS

Targeted Campaign Strategies

Based on the analysis of historical data, it is recommended to tailor campaign strategies to resonate with specific demographic groups. Understanding their preferences, concerns, and motivations enables us to effectively craft compelling messages and engage these groups. Most of the campaign promises are written in English, and transferring that to non-English speaking people, the majority of Sierra Leoneans can be challenging.

Issue Prioritization

Prioritize key issues that have consistently resonated with voters in past elections. Developing clear policy positions and highlighting these issues in campaign communications can help build support and attract undecided voters. Issues-based understanding among the populace can be improved.

Voter Mobilization

Focus on targeted voter mobilization efforts in areas with historically low turnout. Implement grassroots initiatives, community outreach programs, and innovative strategies to engage and motivate voters to participate in the upcoming election.

Competitor Assessment

Conduct a thorough analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of political opponents. This analysis will aid in developing effective counterstrategies, differentiating our candidate, and capitalizing on the weaknesses of competitors. Hardly do we hear from other parties other than the two major ones. Even they are not effective in this area.

Conclusion

By leveraging insights gained from the analysis of past election results, this report provides valuable information for planning and executing a successful upcoming election campaign in 2023; and beyond. Understanding historical trends, demographic shifts, and voter preferences will enable informed decision-making, enhance campaign strategies, and increase the chances of electoral success. By applying these recommendations, we can foster greater voter engagement, address key concerns, and ultimately engender peace as a favorable outcome in the upcoming election.

INTRODUCTION

In 2018, our organization, LAM-TECH, created Africa's first open election database platform. We did it as a means of gifting it to the National Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone to improve transparency and integrity in the elections process, starting with the 2018, or even 2023 elections. It was a roller coaster effort as we faced all kinds of criticisms from civil society in elections NEW and government representatives. As well as supporters of political parties. But we pressed on, and in the end, our database platform was chosen out of over 600 respondents across the globe to stand for Sierra Leone at the Open Data Charter biennial event. When they say a prophet is not known in his own land, it was true in this case. Regardless, here we are again in 2023 with an upgraded version of the platform.

Multi-Stakeholder Approach to Implementing SLOEDP

We learned that to successfully implement the Sierra Leone version of OEDP (SLOEDP), all government MDAs, especially those relevant to elections and open data, should/could collaborate. Also, civil society organizations, international observers specifically, etc., all should work together to the fullest collaboration with the government. SLOEDP becomes a Swiss army knife in this respect, as we show below. But it can be used individually and separately from all the different parts as a single project. One of its uses is evident in this very report. To prepare it, we did what researchers, for example, would do with the platform.

"Most notable Election Analysis"



DATA CLEANING, PREPARATION AND ANALYSES

To ensure accurate analysis, it is crucial to clean and prepare the 2018 election data to remove any irrelevant or inconsistent data points, correct errors, and organize the data in a structured format. We understand that it is necessary to verify the integrity and quality of the data before proceeding with any analysis. Our team, led by the Chief Architect, has been doing all these activities to prepare for our work before, during, and after the 2023 elections. In addition to the cleanup of the data and validating via accuracy checks, SLOEDP will also perform some of the following.

Define Key Metrics and Variables: We will identify key metrics and variables that are essential for projecting the outcomes of the 2023 elections. These may include voter turnout/apathy, expressed as a percentage of eligible voters who cast their ballots. It is a critical metric. Grasping an understanding of the factors affecting turnout can supply insights into potential levels of engagement in the upcoming election.

Party Performance: We assessed the performance of the major political parties in earlier elections, which we believe is crucial. This includes analyzing their vote shares, seat distributions (which may not be useful given the proportional representation voting system adopted by this government for 2023), and overall electoral success. If understood, the historical performance of parties can supply insights into their strengths, weaknesses, and potential trajectories that will feed into the upcoming election.

Voter Apathy: We looked at voter turnout and analyzed the apathy shown by voters in each district during the 2018 elections. The geographical distribution of votes, party performance, candidate profiles, demographics, and historical voting patterns were also observed, noted, and analyzed. We will clearly define and standardize these metrics to ease meaningful analysis and comparison. See *Section 1B*.

Distribution of Votes: We examined how votes were distributed geographically to provide insights into national, regional, and district variations and electoral dynamics. Analyzing voting patterns by constituency, district, or other geographical units can help show areas of strong support for specific parties or candidates. It can also highlight swing regions or potential shifts in voter preferences.

Voting Patterns: Assessed historical voting patterns, including party affiliations and shifts in voter preferences, as it supplies insights into long-term trends. Analyzing how certain regions or constituencies have historically voted can help show patterns that may continue. We focused on the 2012 & 2018 elections.

Electoral Reforms or Changes: We have looked at some significant electoral reforms, changes in electoral laws, or alterations in the electoral system since the previous election. It is essential to understand what this could mean to political parties. These reforms can affect voter behavior, party strategies, or overall election dynamics and have been factored into the projections. We believe that a comprehensive analysis combining multiple metrics and variables will supply a more robust foundation for projecting outcomes in future elections.

Voter Turnout Scenarios: Historical data can be used to illustrate voter turnout scenarios. We may create scenarios for high turnout, low turnout, or variations in turnout across different regions or election types (e.g., general elections vs by-elections). Past turnout rates and trends can help inform these scenarios.

Party Performance Scenarios: We have composed scenarios exploring different party performance outcomes. This involves creating scenarios where specific parties gain or lose support based on historical trends, voter preference shifts, or political dynamics changes.

REPORTING AND VISUALIZATION

We present the findings, projections, and scenarios using different election data in a clear and concise manner via informative visualizations and charts, as necessary. We use the tool and approach referred to as Fractal Grid Application Movement (FGAM) to show some of our analyses in a structured fashion that eases the understanding of the material. The use of charts, graphs, and maps to illustrate historical data, trends, and potential outcomes is possible. We hope this will facilitate a better understanding and communication of the analysis results or report to relevant stakeholders, including the electoral management body, political parties, and the public.

There are charts and spreadsheets within the report below that make use of descriptive analyses using Fractal Grids to enhance understanding and appreciation of the data. They include most of the promises, if not all, made above in the data cleaning, reporting, and analyses section above. We have some key metrics in visual form and accompanying charts or on a Fractal Grid and more, as warranted. We also make use of descriptive analysis on certain qualitative aspects as we saw fit.



"Against all odds, we pioneered Africa's first open election database platform, defying criticism and opposition, to foster transparency and integrity in the electoral process."

CONCLUSION

By effectively utilizing the 2018 election data through comprehensive analysis, an independent platform like SLOEDP, a product of TpISENT, can make data-driven projections for the June 24, 2023 elections in Sierra Leone. These insights can contribute to informed decision-making, improved electoral strategies, and, ultimately, contribute to a more transparent and fair electoral process. The report will be in two parts: one on a broader analysis going five to six elections deep; the other will speak to the last two election cycles and the shift in votes that may or may not influence the 2023 elections for both the APC and the SLPP.

Welcome to the revamped 2023 version of the Sierra Leone Open Election Data Platform (SLOEDP) website (<https://electiondata.io>). Let's have a free, fair, and peaceful election. Peace is in our hands. I stand for peace, you stand for peace, and we stand for peace.

"Through the power of data analysis and informed insights, the Sierra Leone Open Election Data Platform (SLOEDP) empowers us to foster free, fair, and peaceful elections, ensuring that peace remains firmly within our grasp."



PART 1A

Analyses of Presidential Election Results for
Political Parties in Sierra Leone (1996 to 2018)



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PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS FOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN SIERRA LEONE (1996 TO 2018)

This section of the report presents the introductory analysis of presidential election results for two political parties in Sierra Leone over the past election (2018) particularly with extended analyses to other years, from the 1996 elections to the 2023 one. By examining the electoral performance of these parties over time, this report aims to provide insights into their strengths, weaknesses, and trends. The analysis includes key metrics, graphical visualizations, and comparative assessments to understand the parties' performance in past elections fully. And how those could influence this one

By examining the electoral performance of these parties over the most recent two cycles specifically, we look to gain valuable insights into the preferences, voting patterns, and political dynamics of the electorate by analyzing election results over a period. This analysis holds significance in understanding the political landscape of Sierra Leone and the dynamics that shape the electoral outcomes. By aiming at the two selected political parties, we can delve deeper into their electoral trajectories, contrasting their performances and understanding their respective positions in Sierra Leone's political arena. They have been dominant. We will start with the 2018 elections and go downwards from there on the next page.

This analysis will allow us to assess political parties' appeal among voters and gain other insights into factors that may affect the 2023 elections. Findings, if any, can serve as a basis for informed decision-making, strategic planning, and the formulation of targeted interventions to help all parties better understand and strengthen democratic processes in Sierra Leone. It will also serve useful beyond 2023. Just like the platform that has been since 2018.

We want our readers to know this is an objective analysis based on available data. It will contribute to a deeper understanding of the political dynamics surrounding presidential elections in Sierra Leone. However, we reiterate that it is conducted within data availability limitations and should be interpreted in the context of broader political, social, and economic factors that shape electoral outcomes. Qualitative factors.

Analysis of data that includes five cycles of national presidential results is illustrated below. With it are assessments of both quantitative and qualitative attributes of elections and their management to appreciate the dynamics at play better.



PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS IN 2018

2018

Population: 6,043,157
 Registered: 2,692,635
 Votes: 2,350,626
 Turnout %: 87%*
 Voter Reg: Pop*: 45%
 Vote-to-Pop**: 39%

* Ratio of votes to population
 ** Ratio of votes to the voter register



Round 1

← 2012 2018 Presidential...

Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Julius Bio ✓	SLPP	1,097,482	43.26
Samura Kamara	APC	1,082,748	42.68
Kandeh Yumkella	NGC	174,014	6.86
Samuel Sam-Sumana	C4C	87,720	3.46
Mohamed Mansaray	ADP	26,704	1.05
Gbandi Ngobeh	RUFPP	12,827	0.51
Musa Tarawally	CDP	11,493	0.45
Charles Margai	PMDC	9,864	0.39
Mohamed Bah	NDA	8,344	0.33
Mohamed Sowa	UDM	5,695	0.22
Patrick O'Dwyer	NPD	4,239	0.17
Kandeh Conteh	PLP	4,233	0.17
Olufemi Claudius-Cole	UP	3,825	0.15
Henry Kabuta	UNPP	3,061	0.12
Beresford Williams	ReNIP	2,555	0.10
Jonathan Patrick Sandy	NURP	2,318	0.09
Total		2,537,122	100%

Total Registered Voters = 3,178,664
 Total Valid Votes: 2,537,122
 Total Invalid Votes: 139,427

Round 2

≡ MENU SLOEDP FILTER ...

← 2012 2018 Presidential...

MAP National R... TABLE

Round: First

● Second

Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Julius Bio ✓	SLPP	1,319,406	51.81
Samura Kamara	APC	1,227,171	48.19
Total		2,546,577	100%

Total Registered Voters = 3,178,664
 Percentage of votes counted: 80.11%
 Result Status: Final & Certified
 Total Valid Votes: 2,546,577
 Total Invalid Votes: 139,427




PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS IN 2012

2012

Round 1



Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Ernest Bai Koroma 	APC	1,314,881	58.65
Julius Bio	SLPP	837,517	37.36
Charles Margai	PMDC	28,944	1.29
Joshua Albert Carew	CDP	22,863	1.02
Eldred Collins	RUFPP	12,993	0.58
Gibrilla Kamara	PDP	8,273	0.37
Kandeh Baba Conteh	PLP	6,144	0.27
Mohamed Bangura	UDM	5,069	0.23
James Obai Fullah	UNPP	5,044	0.23
Total		2,241,728	100%

- Population: 6,043,157
 - Registered: 2,692,635
 - Votes: 2,350,626
 - Turnout %: 87%
 - Vote-to-Pop*: 39%
 - Vote-to-Reg**: 45%
- * Ratio of votes to population
** Ratio of votes to the voter register

2012 – In these elections, after his first term and agenda for changing the national development plan, the people of Sierra Leone gave Ernest Koroma a second term. And he defeated Maada Bio in the first round with a 58% to 37% showdown.

PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS IN 2007



2007

Round 1

Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Ernest Bai Koroma ✓	APC	815,523	44.95
Solomon Berewa	SLPP	704,012	38.81
Charles Margai	PMDC	255,499	14.08
Andrew Turay	YPP	28,610	1.58
Kandeh Baba Conteh	PLP	10,556	0.58
Total		1,814,200	100%

- Population: 5,391,108
- Registered: 2,619,565
- Votes: 1,783,851
- Turnout %: 69%*
- Vote-to-pop: 49%
- Vote-to-reg: 34%

Limited data available



- After President Kabbah's first term, the SLPP could not succeed him with Solomon Berewa. Ernest Koroma of the APC won the election in a two-round battle.
- President Koroma had a business background versus others, and it brought much hope with the "run Sierra Leone like a business" mantra after previous hopes that didn't matter.

Round 2

Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Ernest Bai Koroma ✓	APC	950,407	54.62
Solomon Berewa	SLPP	789,651	45.38
Total		1,740,058	100%

PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS IN 2002

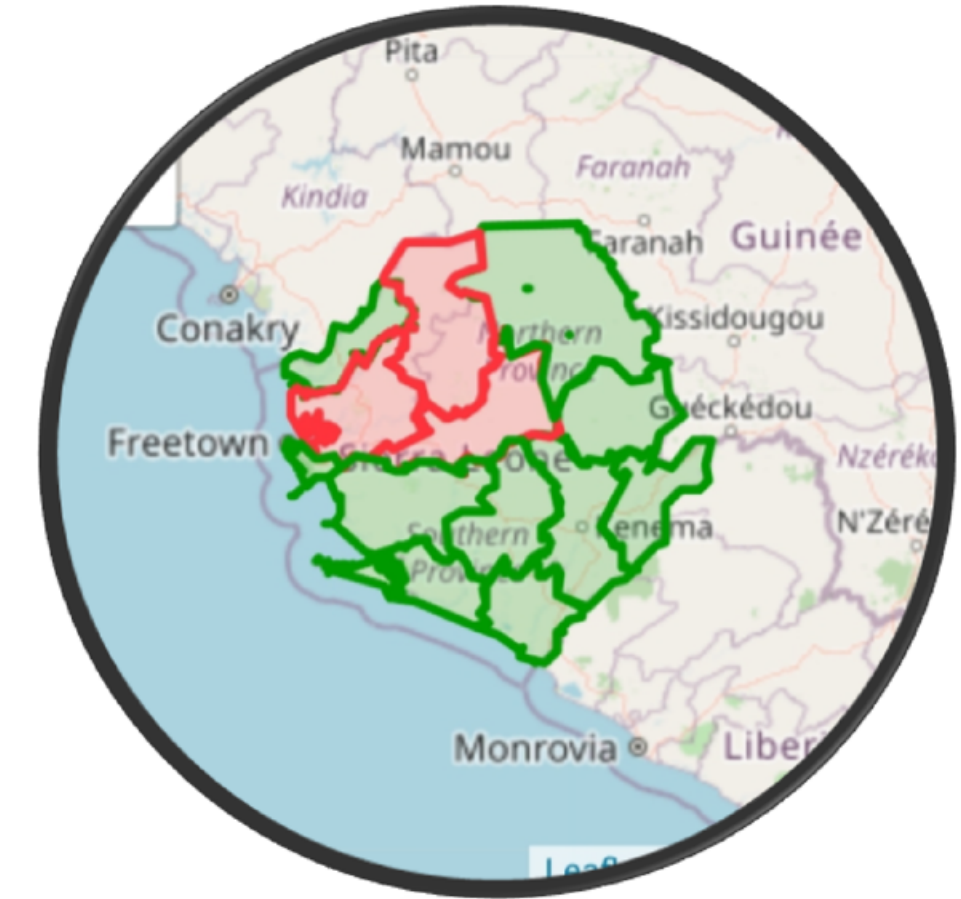
2002



Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Ahmad Tejan Kabbah ✓	SLPP	1,373,146	70.71
Ernest Bai Koroma	APC	426,405	21.96
Johnny Paul Koroma	PLP	54,974	2.83
Alimamy Pallo Bangura	RUFP	33,084	1.70
John Karefa-Smart	UNPP	19,847	1.02
Raymond Kamara	GAP	11,181	0.58
Zainab Bangura	MOP	10,406	0.54
Raymond Bamidele Thompson	CUPP	9,028	0.46
Andrew Turay	YPP	3,859	0.20
Total		1,941,930	100%

- Population: 4,422,154
- Registered: 2,348,567
- Votes: 1,907,455
- Turnout %: 69%*
- Vote-to-pop: 49%
- Vote-to-reg: 34%

Limited data available



- President Kabbah of the SLPP blew away the race against APC candidate Ernest Bai Koroma in the first round.
- President Kabbah, who was exiled to Guinea for some time, came back and won the presidential elections, and this time it was in the first round.

PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS IN 1996

Round 1

Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Ahmad Tejan Kabbah ✓	SLPP	266,893	20.29
John Karefa-Smart	UNPP	168,666	12.82
Thaimu Bangura	PDP	119,782	9.11
John Karimu	NUP	39,617	3.01
Edward Turay	APC	38,316	2.91
Abu Koroma	DCP	36,779	2.80
Abass Bundu	PPP	21,557	1.64
Edward Kargbo	PNC	15,798	1.20
Desmond Luke	NUM	7,918	0.60
Andrew Lungay	SDP	5,202	0.40
Andrew Turay	NPP	3,925	0.30
Mohamed Sillah	NADP	3,723	0.28
Total		1,315,371	100%

1996



- Population: N/A
- Registered: 2,348,567
- Votes: N/A
- Turnout %: N/A
- Vote-to-pop: N/A
- Vote-to-reg: N/A

Limited data available

Round 2

Candidate	Party	Votes	Percentage
Ahmad Tejan Kabbah ✓	SLPP	608,419	59.49
John Karefa-Smart	UNPP	414,335	40.51
Total		1,022,754	100%

- According to the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, the elections will go into a second round if no candidate gets 55% and above.
- In 1996, coming out of an eleven-year civil war, it took two rounds for President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah to be announced, President.
- The first-placed candidate in that year only garnered about 20% of the initial round votes. In the end, President Kabbah polled almost 20% more votes than Dr. Karefa-Smart.

PART 1A: VOTES IN ROUND 1 FROM ALL TO APC & SLPP IN RD 2

Row Labels	APC 1	Votes counted in Rd. 2	APC 2	SLPP 1	Votes Gained in Rd. 2	SLPP 2	TOTAL (all others)	% of votes to APC	% of votes to SLPP
Bo	24,891	1,254	26,145	202,453	16,678	219,131	14,524	3,664	30,710
Bombali	133,640	10,416	144,056	13,153	1,654	14,807	8,185	20,189	2,075
Bonthe	3,558	246	3,804	69,729	6,390	76,119	4,323	533	10,668
Falaba	19,696	2,866	22,562	11,599	5,263	16,862	11,389	3,162	2,363
Kailahun	14,251	-908	13,343	111,239	8,263	119,502	10,405	1,870	16,748
Kambia	42,335	27,207	69,542	10,973	19,182	30,155	54,421	9,746	4,226
Karene	65,045	8,469	73,514	6,456	2,690	9,146	8,652	10,303	1,282
Kenema	25,727	1,581	27,308	195,402	15,830	211,232	12,009	3,827	29,603
Koinadugu	33,987	6,223	40,210	12,789	6,215	19,004	13,624	5,635	2,663
Kono	28,006	6,630	34,636	30,018	61,805	91,823	81,499	4,854	12,869
Moyamba	20,846	199	21,045	85,686	10,770	96,456	10,047	2,949	13,518
Port Loko	123,578	30,030	153,608	16,184	10,900	27,084	33,481	21,528	3,796
Pujehun	6,429	272	6,701	70,528	2,593	73,121	4,931	939	10,248
Tonkolili	122,106	21,394	143,500	15,545	7,203	22,748	21,649	20,111	3,188
Western Area Rural	123,765	7,668	131,433	76,826	13,344	90,170	21,111	18,420	12,637
Western Area Urban	294,888	20,876	315,764	168,902	33,144	202,046	46,642	44,253	28,316
Grand Total	1,082,748	144,423	1,227,171	1,097,482	221,924	1,319,406	356,892	171,983	184,909

THE TOTAL VOTES POLLED BY ALL OTHER PARTIES IN ROUND 1 WAS APPORTIONED TO THE APC & SLPP USING A CLEAR APPROACH (SEE NEXT PAGE FOR METHODOLOGY)

PART 1A: ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS IN 2018 FOR 2 PARTIES

Reporting and Visualization

District	APC 1	Votes counted in Rd. 2	APC 2	SLPP 1	Votes counted in Rd. 2	SLPP 2	Total (all others)	% votes to APC	% votes to SLPP
Bo	24,891	1,254	26,145	202,453	16,678	219,131	14,524	3,664	30,710
Bombali	133,640	10,416	144,056	13,153	1,654	14,807	8,185	20,189	2,075
Bonthe	3,558	246	3,804	69,729	6,390	76,119	4,323	533	10,668
Falaba	19,696	2,866	22,562	11,599	5,263	16,862	11,389	3,162	2,363
Kailahun	14,251	-908	13,343	111,239	8,263	119,502	10,405	1,870	16,748
Kambia	42,335	27,207	69,542	10,973	19,182	30,155	54,421	9,746	4,226
Karene	65,045	8,469	73,514	6,456	2,690	9,146	8,652	10,303	1,282
Kenema	25,727	1,581	27,308	195,402	15,830	211,232	12,009	3,827	29,603
Koinadugu	33,987	6,223	40,210	12,789	6,215	19,004	13,624	5,635	2,663
Kono	28,006	6,630	34,636	30,018	61,805	91,823	81,499	4,854	12,869
Moyamba	20,846	199	21,045	85,686	10,770	96,456	10,047	2,949	13,518
Port Loko	123,578	30,030	153,608	16,184	10,900	27,084	33,481	21,528	3,796
Pujehun	6,429	272	6,701	70,528	2,593	73,121	4,931	939	10,248
Tonkolili	122,106	21,394	143,500	15,545	7,203	22,748	21,649	20,111	3,188
Western Area Rural	123,765	7,668	131,433	76,826	13,344	90,170	21,111	18,420	12,637
Western Area Urban	294,888	20,876	315,764	168,902	33,144	202,046	46,642	44,253	28,316
Grand Total	1,082,748	144,423	1,227,171	1,097,482	221,924	1,319,406	356,892	171,983	184,909

Observations to guide you through the table

- ❑ The SLPP won the first round by about 15,000 votes
- ❑ The APC in round 2 polled 144,423 for all districts. (See "votes counted in round 2" and METHODOLOGY below).
- ❑ Multiplying each district vote in percentage form identified in the methodology ($26,146 * 0.10$) round two for both APC and SLPP, by the total of all votes other parties had in round one (356,892) we arrive at 3664. Under the heading of "% of votes to APC."
- ❑ These numbers check off when you add those two columns ($171,983 + 184,909 = 356,892$)
- ❑ With this we can establish that in round two of the 2018 election the round one votes of all other political parties were distributed in a manner in which the APC got 171,983 and the SLPP 184,909. For a difference of 12,926.
- ❑ In conclusion the SLPP's lead, and final vote count is a cumulation of 14,734 (rd.1), 12,926, and 64,575 of new votes?

Methodology

- ❑ We identified the total of new votes in each district between round one and two.
- ❑ We then used the voting in each district as the numerator to the total count of votes 2,546,577 and divided them to get a percentage.
- ❑ We multiplied that percentage to each district's votes counted in round two and got a number to apply to that district. (Example: Bo had 1,254 added to the previous (rd. 1) count. Divide that by $[1254/2,454,577] = 0.010$ Now multiply the product 0.010 by the total of what all other political parties had in the first round (356,892)

INSTRUCTIONS: THE FIRST 3 COLUMNS SHOW APC VOTES FROM RD. 1 TO RD. 2. THE NEXT 3 IN GREEN SHOW THE SLPP VOTES. THE 7TH COLUMN IS THE TOTAL ALL OTHERS GOT IN VOTES. THE LAST 2 COLUMNS IN RED AND GREEN SHOW HOW VOTES FROM THE OTHER PARTIES WERE DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN THE APC AND SLPP.

PART 1B

Analysis of Voter Apathy in the 2018 Presidential Election



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PART 1B: ANALYSIS OF VOTER APATHY IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Part 1B covers voter apathy or disillusionment. No motivation to vote in an election people have registered for. What a waste!

We show broad categories of presidential and parliamentary elections over the world to observe that as a nation averaging just above 80% of voter turn- out we are not too far-placed from global leaders. That has to be encouraging.

In the summary of election results, including voter turnout and apathy, the former's flip side, we illustrate that the APC party 2018 showed relatively weaker participation from their "strongholds" in 2018. At an average of 74% of turnout and 26% of apathy, they were below the national average of 81%. On the other hand, the SLPP had a stronger showing of about 82% and above the average.

We also looked at the stronghold districts in detail while identifying and analyzing three main parts in each of the three elements: Voter register total, actual votes and absent votes. Then we ventured into three districts or precincts that are not considered any of the major parties' strongholds. And we used a certain approach to apportion those apathetic votes to where they should be (according to the votes scored in each of them by the two major parties during the second round of the election. In Sierra Leone, elections are taken to the second round if no single candidate gets more than 55% of the votes.

A sticky point that has been raised since 2015, at least, is a census that was done under the Koroma administration. It has sort of forced the SLPP to do what they may consider an even-playing-level field. We will look at both and opine on some of the data we will explore and investigate.

We double down with the district-level analyses in a show of "A Tale of Two Centuries." And go through two censuses and voter registers from 2015 to 2023

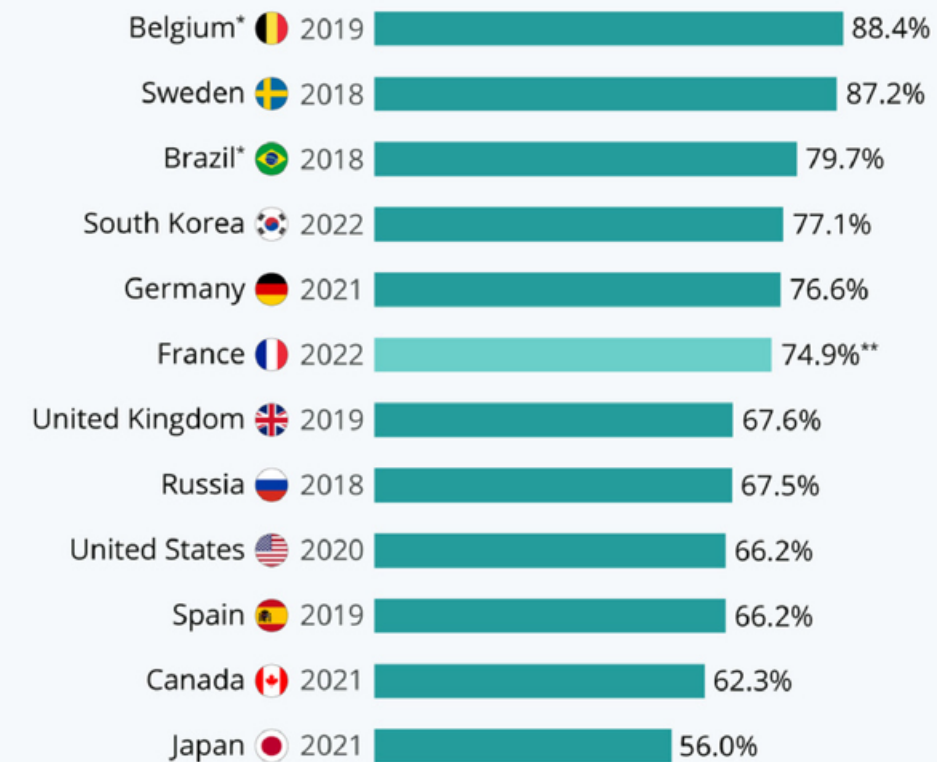
PART 1B: WORLD VOTER TURNOUT COMPARISON

Top 10 Countries with the Highest Voter Turnout:*

Rank	Country	Election Type & Year	Turnout (%)
1	Rwanda	2017 Presidential	98.15
2	Laos	2021 Parliamentary	98.02
3	Turkmenistan	2022 Presidential	97.17
4	Singapore	2020 Parliamentary	95.81
5	Vietnam	2021 Parliamentary	95.60
6	Nauru	2019 Parliamentary	95.13
7	Ethiopia	2021 Parliamentary	93.64
8	Equatorial Guinea	2016 Presidential	92.70
9	Togo	2020 Presidential	92.28
10	Antigua and Barbuda	2014 Parliamentary	90.27

How Voter Turnout Compares Around the World

Voter turnout based on the number of registered voters in the last presidential/national election



* National law makes voting compulsory though not necessarily enforced

** Based on provisional results as of April 11, 2022, 10:00 (CET)

Sources: International IDEA, French Ministry of the Interior



statista

Voter apathy is when a statistically significant portion of eligible voters display a lack of interest, motivation, or participation in the electoral process. This could happen due to more than one reason. Addressing it is an important part of the electoral and, thus, the democratic process in civilized nations. It reveals itself via low voter turnout on one hand and disengagement from political issues on the other. Ultimately, it nurtures a sense of disillusionment towards voting. At 81% roughly, Sierra Leone's average is not shabby.

PART 1B: ANALYSIS OF VOTER APATHY IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Voter Apathy 2018 Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG) Level 0 (Zero)

Districts	Total Votes	Reg. Votes	Apathy	Turnout %	Apathy %
Falaba	42,684	64,445	21,761	66.2	33.8
Kambia	107,729	155,020	47,291	69.5	30.5
Koinadugu	60,400	85,219	24,819	70.9	29.1
Bombali	154,978	188,319	33,341	82.3	17.7
Port Loko	173,243	236,261	63,018	73.3	26.7
Tonkolili	159,300	203,456	44,156	78.3	21.7
Karene	80,153	101,398	21,245	79.0	21.0
TOTAL / AVERAGE	778,487	1,034,118	255,631	74.2	25.8
Moyamba	116,579	147,699	31,120	78.9	21.1
Pujehun	81,888	101,964	20,076	80.3	19.7
Kailahun	135,895	166,250	30,355	81.7	18.3
Bonthe	77,610	93,308	15,698	83.2	16.8
Kenema	233,138	279,293	46,155	83.5	16.5
Bo	241,868	286,452	44,584	84.4	15.6
TOTAL / AVERAGE	886,978	1,074,966	187,988	82.0	18.0

This summarizes what can be deemed strongholds from the two major political parties' points of view. They have been dominant in national elections over the years. Other players not featured here include Kono and the Western Area, both urban and rural. Part two will expound on the subsection coined "Impact on 2023 Election (if any)." This summary contains three big pieces of our analyses on the past two election cycles to inform the 2023 presidential election. Let us take a look at what happened in party strongholds.

OBSERVATIONS

The first thing to observe is the total of registered votes: APC has 1,034,118 versus 1,074,966 for the SLPP; showing a difference of about 40,000 more people registered in the SLPP "strongholds." Not by much. But add that to 70,000 more people than the SLPP; who did not go to vote, the APC is not at their best output possible. From a "stronghold" perspective the SLPP out-registered the APC. The same appears to be true in 2023.

RAW NUMBERS ANALYSIS

We can look at the columns and see what is there in terms of numbers for total, registered, and apathy votes; and in addition, turnout and apathy percentages. The last two; turnout and apathy rates have a direct inverse relationship.

Noteworthy, is that the APC's lower number of registered voters faced the highest apathy rate in numbers of people, at 255,631 for a 26% voter apathy rate. The SLPP experienced a much lower rate with 18% and people, 187,988. And therefore, APC had about 70,000 more people stay at home on polling day.

Another thing that is clear is that the highest turnout percentage for the APC was the lowest turnout percentage for the SLPP (0.790 to 0.789)

IMPACT ON 2023 ELECTION (if any)


Overall, the APC because they did so poorly in 2018 in their own stronghold districts as compared to the SLPP has a better opportunity to improve more than the SLPP which lacks much room; save for the new census and registration numbers. Where did the APC go wrong with their areas the last time? Lots of things to talk about there. The SLPP on the other hand has an opportunity to investigate the areas where they could also make some progress if any, especially in places like Port Loko, Kambia, and Tonkolili where over 154,00 votes were unused.

Regardless of what side you are looking at it from as both sides experienced apathy, here are the things to do in summary to bring out the vote: understand the reasons for the apathy; launch education and awareness campaigns; engage with communities; outreach drives; use grassroots efforts; identify barriers to voting (transportation); and continuous evaluation and adjustments.


There are quite a bit of "what if" scenarios possible as we look at different options and "plug and play." Campaign managers can also find nuggets in some of our analyses. Onwards to a safe and peaceful elections in 2023. Good luck to both sides!

PART 1B: ANALYSIS OF VOTER APATHY IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Voter apathy is normally the lack of interest or motivation to participate in elections.

Voter Apathy 2018 Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG) Level 1 (One)		
BO Registered: 286,452 Votes: 241,868 Absent: 44,584 Percent Absent: 15.6%	BONTHE Registered: 93,308 Votes: 77,610 Absent: 33,341 Percent Absent: 17.7%	KAILAHUN Registered: 166,250 Votes: 135,895 Absent: 30,355 Percent Absent: 18.3%
KENEMA Registered: 286,452 Votes: 279,293 Absent: 46,155 Percent Absent: 16.5%	VOTER APATHY 2018 Presidential Elections "Strongholds"	MOYAMBA Registered: 147,699 Votes: 116,579 Absent: 31,120 Percent Absent: 21.1%
PUJEHUN Registered: 101,964 Votes: 81,888 Absent: 20,076 Percent Absent: 18.2%		

2018 SLPP Voter Apathy

Voter Apathy 2018 Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG) Level 1 (One)		
BOMBALI Registered: 188,319 Votes: 154,978 Absent: 44,584 Percent Absent: 18.7%	FALABA Registered: 64,445 Votes: 77,610 Absent: 21,761 Percent Absent: 33.8%	KAMBIA Registered: 155,020 Votes: 107,729 Absent: 47,291 Percent Absent: 30.5%
KARENE Registered: 101,398 Votes: 80,153 Absent: 21,245 Percent Absent: 21.0%	VOTER APATHY 2018 Presidential Elections "Strongholds"	KOINADUGU Registered: 85,219 Votes: 60,400 Absent: 24,819 Percent Absent: 29.1%
PORT LOKO Registered: 236,261 Votes: 173,243 Absent: 63,018 Percent Absent: 26.7%	TONKOLILI Registered: 203,456 Votes: 159,300 Absent: 44,156 Percent Absent: 21.7%	

2018 APC Voter Apathy

This report introduces effective strategies and recommendations to address voter apathy, engage citizens, and increase voter turn-out in support of all political parties.

PART 1B: ANALYSIS OF VOTER APATHY IN NON-STRONGHOLDS

Voter Apathy 2018 Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG)		Level 1 (One)
	<p>WESTERN AREA URBAN Registered: 606,511 Votes: 510,432 Absent: 96,079 Percent Absent: 15.8%</p>	
<p>WESTERN AREA RURAL Registered: 281,138 Votes: 221,702 Absent: 59,436 Percent Absent: 21.1%</p>	<p>VOTER APATHY 2018 Presidential Elections "Not-So Strongholds"</p>	<p>KONO Registered: 182,169 Votes: 116,579 Absent: 31,120 Percent Absent: 23.4%</p>
<p>Pink indicates districts that may be lukewarm to the APC, but not considered a stronghold necessarily (in 2018)</p>	<p>APC total no shows in 2018: 374,528* SLPP no shows in 2018: 267,252**</p> <p>Assuming 100% turnout on each side and with the difference of 107,276 while the SLPP won the election by about 96,000 it would have been a different story</p> <p>*Includes APC strongholds and percentages from total applied from non-strongholds (WA Urban, Rural and Kono)</p> <p>** Includes SLPP strongholds and percentages from total applied from non-strongholds (WA Urban, Rural and Kono)</p>	<p>Green indicates a district that may be lukewarm to the SLPP, but not considered a stronghold necessarily (in 2018)</p>

According to his polling results, **60%** of the total voter apathy population in the Western Area went to Samura Kamara and the APC. The rest was apportioned to Bio and the SLPP. Similarly, in Kono, **73%** of the votes went to Maada Bio and the SLPP, so that percentage was apportioned to him using the same approach to apportion numbers from non-strongholds. The APC has a better opportunity to mobilize their constituents who registered to vote to go to the polls on election day. They showed a **74%** voter turnout in their stronghold areas, below the national average of **81%**. In the second round, the APC had a 24% voter apathy rate, and the SLPP had only 11% of voter apathy

We have made some recommendations on the next page to help those who need to improve their voter turnout rate get there.

2018 Non-Strongholds Voter Apathy

PART 1B: NARRATIVE ON VOTER APATHY IN THE 2018 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Voter Apathy: A Discussion

Voter apathy is a concern that democracies should take seriously. But truth be told, scoring 80% and above for a country like ours is not so bad. We could be considered amongst one of the world's highest rates on presidential elections. Browsing global trends about voter turnout, which is the opposite of voter apathy among registered voters.

It is crucial for parties struggling with voter apathy to address it head-on. I have had discussions with some of the civil society activists on the ground, and it is clear there are many areas in the country where there still lie tremendous opportunities to gain electoral success for one or more of these political parties vying for the highest seat of the land. So two things: the first is to implement these recommendations and build confidence in the citizens and empower voters by walking in their shoes. Not that politicians have to move into neighborhoods of their voters occasionally, but engage and show commitment to their challenges and concerns. Do you think it makes sense?

We have shown absentee voters in APC and SLPP strongholds and how we tried to assign absentee voters in the non-stronghold precincts of the parties. Following a fair approach, Also shown are raw numbers for all strongholds, and we were able to conclude that the average turnout was 74.2% for the APC while the SLPP showed 82.0%. And similarly, what caused the SLPP to increase its lead from 15,000 in round one to 92,000, adding about 77,000 new votes from those who did not vote for either side on the first ballot? The qualitative must be assessed and addressed; for change in the electoral process.

To increase voter turnout in their strongholds and reverse a higher rate of voter apathy, the following considerations should be in place:

Target your campaign strategies: By understanding their preferences, concerns, and motivations, we can craft compelling messages and engage these groups effectively.

Prioritize issues that resonate; for example, corruption in Sierra Leone. This is a topic that no one has been able to control, and it has gone worst.

Mobilize your people to get to the polls on election day! For example, in some fishing communities around the country, there is a huge opportunity to engage and educate citizens, especially those on the voter register. They may need motivation in Port Loko, Kambia, and Tonkolili, where over 154,000 people stayed home. All APC "strongholds." Similarly, the SLPP strongholds in Bo, Kenema, and Kailahun, where over 121,000 people combined, went farming on election day!

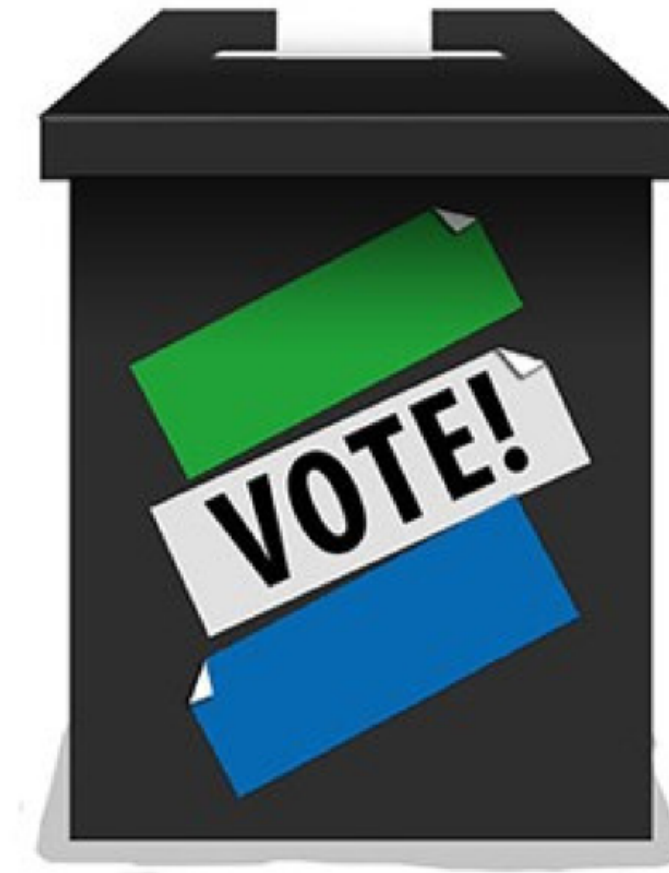
Using competitive analysis to differentiate candidates is another string option to get voters interested in taking their votes to the polls. What can the SLPP say about Samura Kamara? And inversely, what can the APC say about Maada Bio, especially regarding references and output? These things matter!

We cannot be remiss that a voter turnout of 74% showing apathy of 26%, especially in the second round, is a big problem for the APC, but it also affords a comparatively better opportunity to the SLPP with a lower 18%. But the change in registration numbers alone could change that. We analyze those censuses in more detail in a separate section.

The next section will deal with historical data on some metrics, showing where we have come from since 1996 to 2023.

PART 1C

Analysis of election metrics over 5 cycles



SUSTAIN

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PEACE

PART 1C: INTRODUCTORY NARRATIVE OF METRICS OVER FIVE CYCLES

This section (Part 1C) covers key steps and illustrations as to how we can use data put out by ECSL to analyze past and present results. The findings of our analyses in this comprehensive report highlight key insights, trends, and patterns observed in the election data.

We hope to provide brief recommendations based on the data analysis to inform policymakers, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. These recommendations may include improving the electoral process, enhancing voter education, promoting transparency, or addressing identified issues or disparities. Sometimes, we are not offering anything regarding what can be done, but we will still raise them. That is not necessarily the scope of our work. In other words, we don't deem making recommendations compulsory.

By utilizing election data from an electoral management body, independent organizations like TplSENT can create products like SLOEDP that can provide objective analysis and insights into past and present election results. This analysis promotes transparency, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making in the electoral process.

We will limit this analysis to three views of voter registration and voting patterns over four, five or six years, as appropriate. So we will investigate the national results and the regional and district-level data.

A sticky point that has been raised since 2015, at least, is a census that was done under the Koroma administration. It has forced the SLPP to do what they may consider an even-playing-level field. We will look at both and opine on some of the data we will explore and investigate.

We double down with the district-level analyses in a show of "A Tale of Two Censuses." And go through two censuses and voter registers worth of data from 2015 to 2023 (two censuses and voter registers that followed).

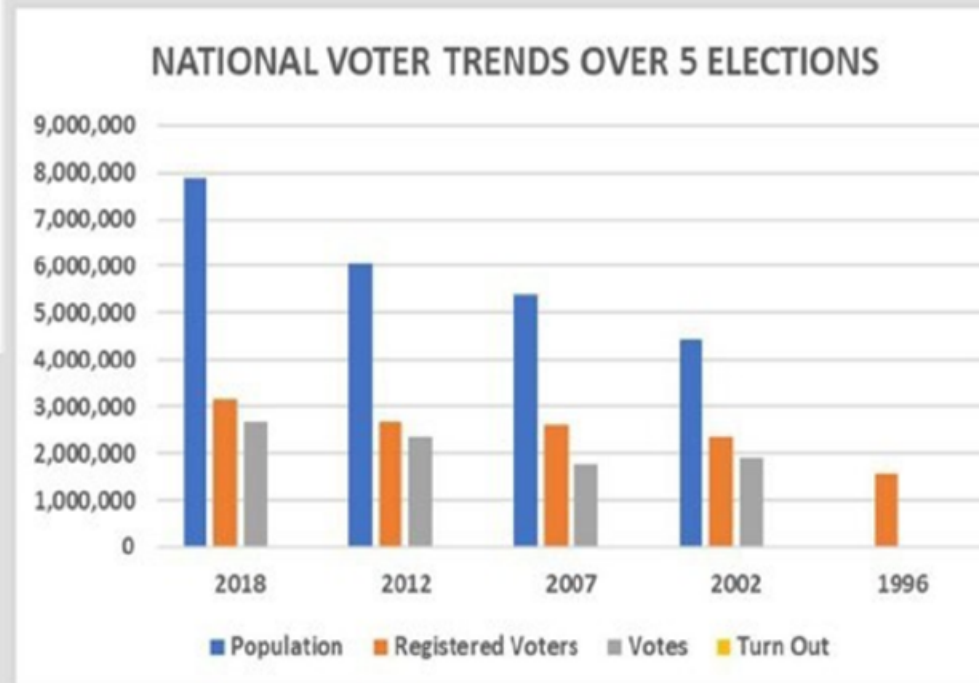
PART 1C: ANALYSIS OF METRICS OVER FIVE CYCLES - NATIONAL

Five Cycles of Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG) Level 0 (Zero)

"Exponential Productivity, Innovation, and Creativity (EPIC) Learning ... at School; Home; Outdoors; Work"

Year	Population	Registered Voters	Votes	Turn Out
2018	7,883,123	3,178,663	2,676,549	84.2
2012	6,043,157	2,692,635	2,350,626	87.3
2007	5,391,108	2,619,565	1,783,851	68.61
2002	4,422,154	2,348,567	1,907,455	81.21
1996	N/A	1,566,464	N/A	N/A

This spreadsheet and accompanying chart is an indication of how the population has influenced the registered voters and ultimate voter turnout save for 2007 where voter apathy seems to be the highest ever. What was happening in 2007 was that the people had lost a lot of faith in government and therefore apathy was high. Ernest Koroma was ushered in as President over Solomon Berewa after a second round duel

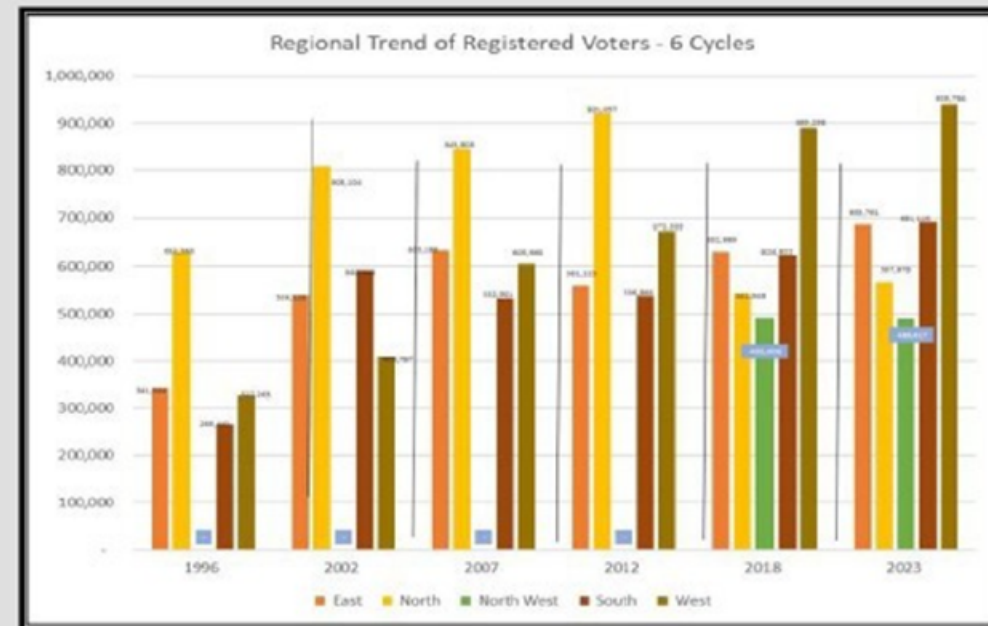


In these five columns, we present the national results for four years ranging from 2002 to 2018. The following columns to the right of the year show the population, registered voters, those who voted, and the percentage of votes against those who registered and showed up on election day (turnout)! We must establish that there is no added voter-or-not-relationship between the census and the voter register. You do not necessarily have to be on a census to register to vote, as there have been discussions. They are two different things. For example, some people were not counted for the census but are on the voter register. The Executive Director of NEW had publicly stated that the census counting team never visited her home. But she is registered to vote. So when partisans and their supporters claim that you did not want to be counted, so you would not get to vote is simply misinformation and disinformation. Let's look at some analysis on the next page as we calculated some of the above numbers and brought them more meaning for our readership. The discussions are data-driven, and we apply our opinions sometimes to inject qualitative aspects into the narratives as part of descriptive analysis.

PART 1C: ANALYSIS OF METRICS OVER FIVE CYCLES - REGIONAL

Six Cycles of Voter Registration in Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG) Level 0 (Zero)
 "Exponential Productivity, Innovation, and Creativity (EPIC) Learning ... at School; Home; Outdoors; Work"

REGION	1996	2002	2007	2012	2018	2023
East	341,394	539,126	635,188	561,123	631,989	685,761
North	632,363	808,104	845,808	921,057	541,949	567,978
North West	N/A	-	-	-	490,606	489,617
South	265,442	592,540	532,901	536,866	624,822	691,116
West	327,265	408,797	605,668	673,589	889,298	939,786
Grand Total:	1,566,464	2,348,567	2,619,565	2,692,635	3,178,664	3,374,258



Over six election cycles since 1996 to 2023, the data shows that a total of 195,000 new voters were added to the voter register from what was there in 2018. What the numbers also show is that in the East and South there is a total of 120,066 versus 25,040 in the North and Northwest (the latter which registered downward). When you split the Western Area 60-40 as the votes from 2018 suggest, we end up with 140,261 more votes in the south and east against a new total of 55,333 in the north and northwest. For a difference of 84,928. This quantitative analysis is devoid of any assessment of qualitative factors.

Here we look at the regional version of what we just checked out at the national level on the previous page. In this instance, we are looking at all six cycles from a high level and drawing attention to each year's regional totals. There used to be 4 regions in Sierra Leone until after the 2015 census when two new districts were added, as shown in the North West region in 2018 and 2023. So we have five today. But you can see that even though the population and registered voters are moving upward, it is not the same for all regions and years. We have highlighted in red rectangles areas where you can see how the data sort of points backwards. From 2002 to 2007 in the South; and the East from 2007 to 2012. And from 2018 to today, 2023's number shows the North West going backwards. However, while the most recent loss of registered voters in the North West was only 989, those in the South and East were much higher, showing 59,639 and 74,065, respectively, for a total of 133,704 from SLPP's strongholds. That these scores need settling is a natural call for fairness.

"Examining regional variations in population and registered voters, we uncover disparities and notable shifts that call for fairness and further exploration, highlighting the need to address discrepancies and ensure equitable representation in Sierra Leone's electoral landscape."

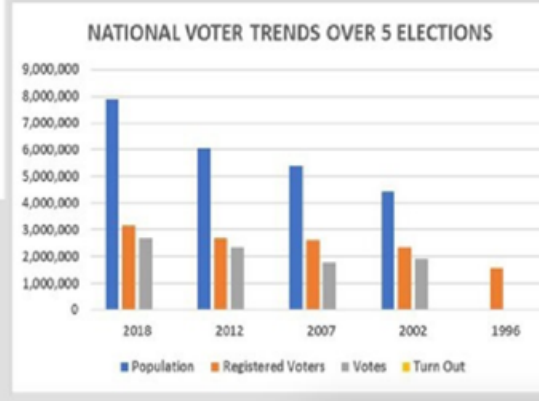
We investigated the 2015 and 2021 censuses in depth in the next slide. We will look at these same registration numbers we have now discussed at the national and regional levels. We will show which district gained what after the much-talked-about 2015 census. One belief is what the SLPP avenges with their call and execution for an off-cycle mid-term census; in an unprecedented fashion.

PART 1C: ANALYSIS OF METRICS - POPULATION, REGISTER AND VOTES

Five Cycles of Presidential Elections -- Fractal Grid (FG) Level 0 (Zero)

"Exponential Productivity, Innovation, and Creativity (EPIC) Learning ... at School; Home; Outdoors; Work"

Year	Population	Registered Voters	Votes	Turn Out
2018	7,883,123	3,178,663	2,676,549	84.2
2012	6,043,157	2,692,635	2,350,626	87.3
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2002	4,422,154	2,348,567	1,907,455	81.21
1996	N/A	1,566,464	N/A	N/A



This spreadsheet and accompanying chart is an indication of how the population has influenced the registered voters and ultimate voter turnout save for 2007 where voter apathy seems to be the highest ever. What was happening in 2007 was that the people had lost a lot of faith in government and therefore apathy was high. Ernest Koroma was ushered in as President over Solomon Berewa after a second round duel

"As we delve into the data and analyze the voter registration-to-population rate, a declining trend becomes apparent, raising important questions and highlighting the need for further investigation. Understanding the complex interplay of factors, from demographics to political context, is crucial in understanding the ever-evolving electoral landscape."

Year	Population	Registered Voters	Votes	Turn Out	Reg Vot/Pop	Vote/Pop
2023	8,791,092	3,374,258	0	0	0.38	0.00
2018	7,883,123	3,178,663	2,676,549	84	0.40	0.34
2012	6,043,157	2,692,635	2,350,626	87	0.45	0.39
2007	5,391,108	2,619,565	1,783,851	69	0.49	0.33
2002	4,422,154	2,348,567	1,907,455	86	0.53	0.43
1996	N/A	1,566,464	N/A	(rounded)	% (C/B)	% (D/B)
AVG	32,530,634	14,213,688	0.4369324			

The list in the top diagram shows a spread over several years (four election cycles). Population counts and registered voters, actual votes, and turn-out is the same one you saw on the previous page. But in the second diagram, we added one more cycle for 2023 and two new columns (in blue) that calculate the voter registration-to-population and vote-to-population rates, we could see a trend that as the population grows, so do the registered voters and votes. And the turnout has been stable in the mid-80 percentile. Which is not too shabby after all when compared to elections, the world over.

In the second diagram that shows some analysis, the registered-voter-to-population rate that can be used to measure trends in elections show a decreasing rate (from 53%, the ratio drops every cycle through 2023, which shows 38%. Some things may have to change going forward as we dip below the 40 percentile for the first time in 2023, as the data suggests... We also investigated the average percentage for four cycles and found the mean was 43% between the total population and registered voters (2002 to 2018). This year, that ratio shows 38%. Several or a few factors could be responsible for this, which may warrant further investigation. Our work here is limited in scope.

Other factors make things shift one way or the other. These trends should be analyzed with other factors, such as changes in demographics, political context, legal reforms, and others, to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the electoral landscape.

APPENDIX

A Tale of Two Censuses



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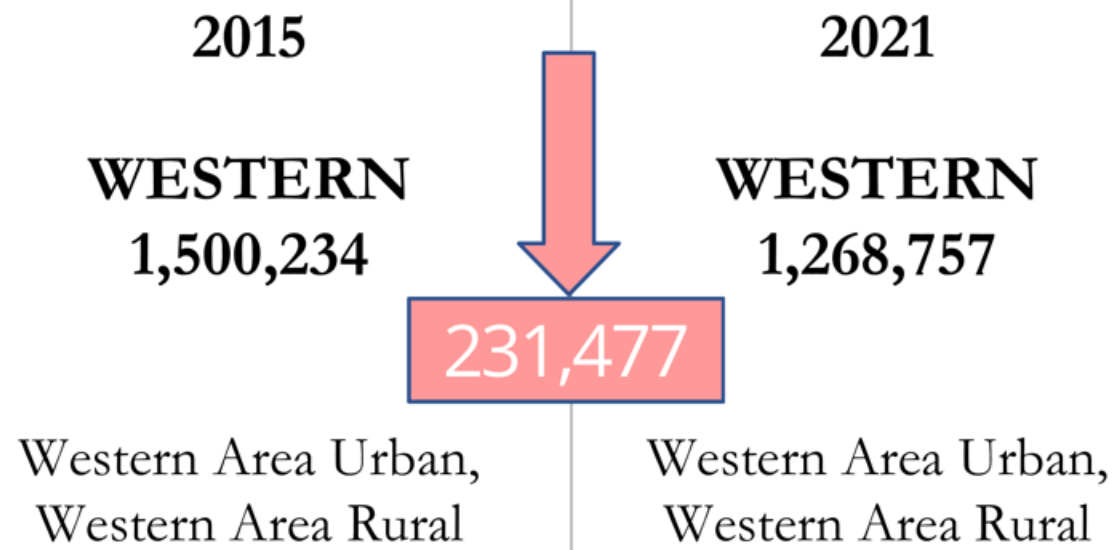
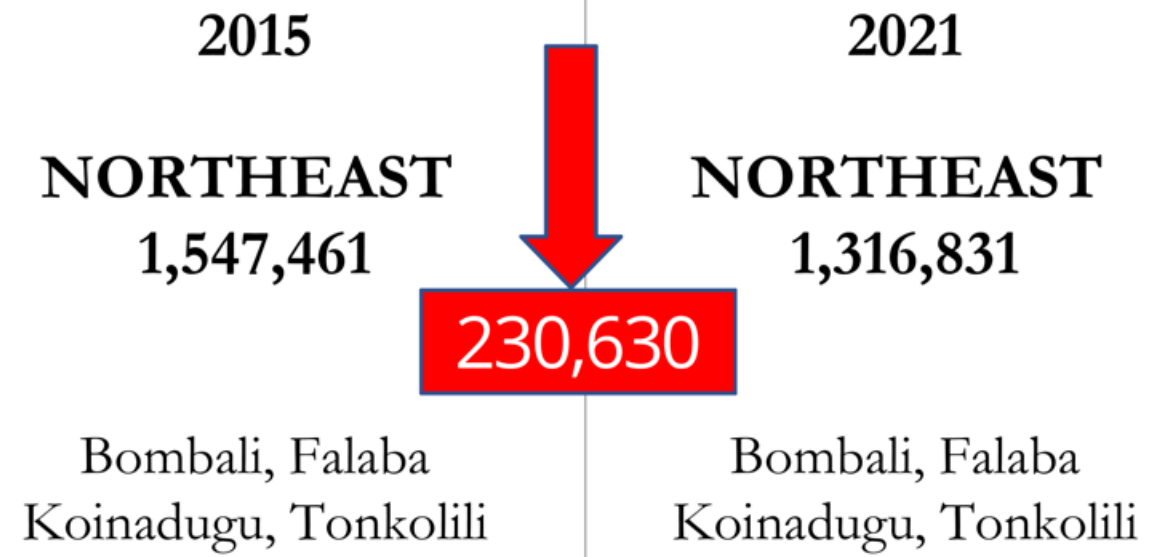
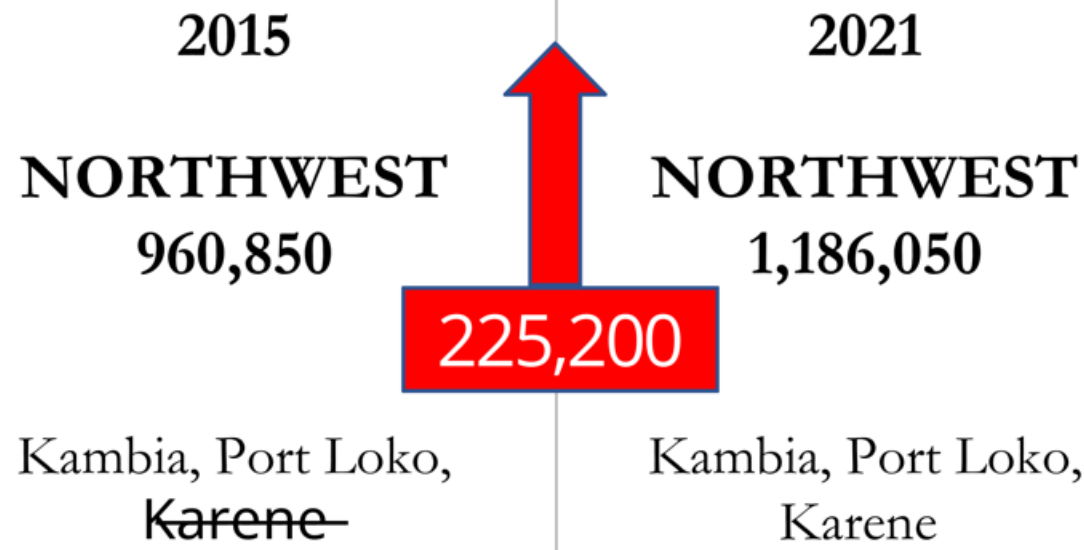
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A Tale of Two Censuses in Sierra Leone – Fractal Grid

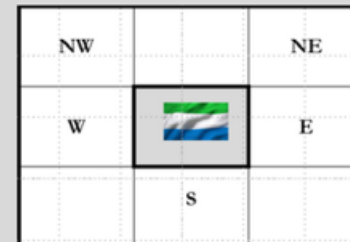
The “numbers” story of two Censuses in Sierra Leone illustrates part of the current debacle we face as a Nation

INTRODUCTION - Sierra Leone has two major political parties: The SLPP and APC. In our body politic the two major political parties have what you would refer to as “strongholds.” These are areas where a given party has more people supporting it than in other places. In the South and Eastern part of the country, the SLPP have their strongholds. Likewise, in the Northern parts of the country (northeast and northwest), the APC has theirs. The green arrows represent the SLPP strongholds, and the numbers show up in both regions. The red applies to the APC’s. Pink suggests warm, but not necessarily



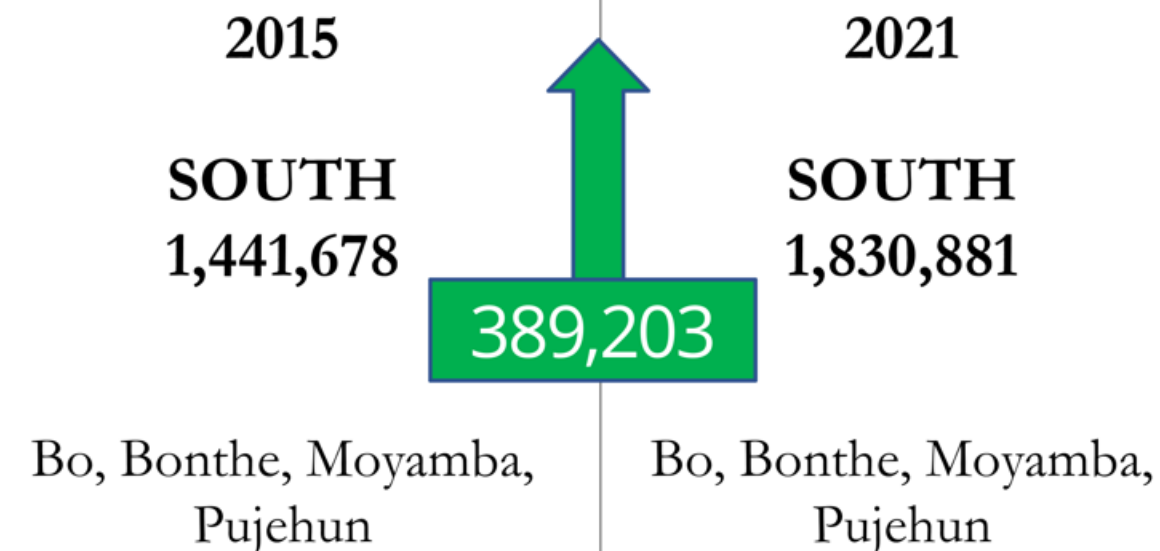
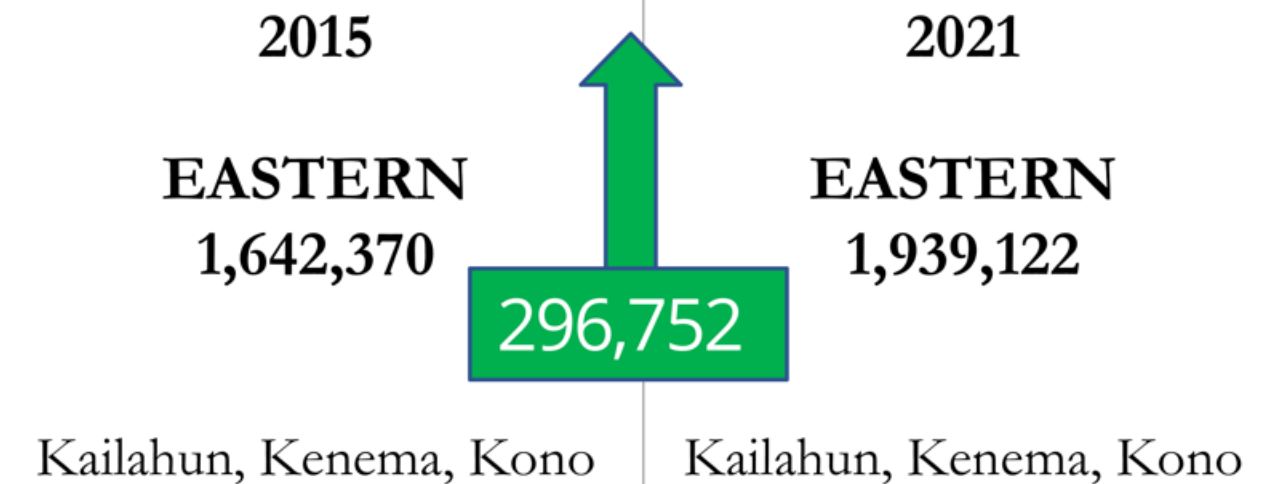
2 Censuses in Sierra Leone

2015



2021

An analysis of the last two censuses held by respective governments of Sierra Leone in 2015 (APC) and 2021 (SLPP)



THE NUMBERS – In both the Eastern and Southern regions (SLPP strongholds), there is a net increase of **685,955** people. In both the Northeastern and Northwestern (APC strongholds), there is a net increase of **5,430**. The difference in these 2021 census “stronghold” numbers from the last one done in 2015 is **680,525**. The Western Area Urban and Rural, not necessarily an identified “stronghold” of either declined by **231,477** people. It is important to note that for this exercise, the Western Area was won by the main opposition APC in the last two Presidential elections. Also, this census set out to bring quality data to correct the ills of the past. But with billions of leones spent in both donor and public funds, did we get that?

CENSUS JUSTIFICATION – In 2015, we had the last Census with the APC party in government. The SLPP thinks that those numbers were deliberately inaccurate, so they set out to do theirs while in office. But instead of following the usual 10 years cycle, they opted for an unprecedented mid-term census, which was done at the end of the 6th (almost 7th) year. When we looked at the data from a Strongholds point of view it appears as if to tells a different story

PART 1C: NARRATIVE ON REGISTRATION DATA AND CENSUSES

There had been an outcry from citizens of Sierra Leone, especially opposition members and/or supporters, for years about a 2015 census that was supposedly unfairly created during the Koroma administration. So, we decided to take a deeper look at the data and assess who got what in that particular exercise. It revealed that after the Census of 2015, 486,029 new registered voters for the 2018 presidential election. was recorded That number was divided in the following manner: SLPP strongholds (Kailahun, Kenema, Bonthe, Pujehun, Moyamba & Bo) increased their registered voters by 137,256. APC strongholds (Koinadugu, Kambia, Tonkolili, Bombali, Port Loko Falaba & Karene) increased by 111,498. See the next page for a visual presentation of the details over the period of 2015 to 2021 and how each district enlisted newly registered voters.

The Western Area, with Rural (117,952) and Urban (97,757), registered 215,709 new voters. To round it off, registered 21,296 more after the 2015 census. Those numbers add up.

It would be useful to look at this on the table on a per-district basis. So, from a stronghold perspective, after the 2015 census, the SLPP got more registered voters. We had mentioned that there is no correlation between registered voters and census in terms of people being on one list versus another. However, we have not treated the Western Area as an APC stronghold. But objectivity in our work, twists my arm to ask this question from a qualitative assessment point of view: Is it possible the ruling APC in 2015 could have felt that they had the Western Area as a stronghold? Especially based on the results from the 2012 win. From a qualitative assessment point of view, the Census did not provide any advantage to the APC, even if it was their intent, as they eventually lost the presidential election.

In the same vein, the SLPP administration, despite caution by the National Election Watch (NEW), the European Union Election Follow-Up Commission, and later a World-Bank financing “pull-out” that saw SLPP supporters demonstrate at the donor partner’s head office in Freetown, the SLPP administration still went and forced the “mid-term” census. Today, the new register shows a total of 195,594 new voters, potentially. Many were canceled, we heard, due to ineligibility as claimed. The recent voter’s register show that of the 195,594 new voter registrants, 131,955 are in SLPP strongholds, and 27,975 are in the APC’s strongholds register. A difference of about 104,000 votes. Kono’s registered voters went down by 11,889, and Western Area Urban also went down by almost 8,921 registered voters.

The APC did not win when they did a cycle-legal Census in 2015. They did split districts and created new ones in Karene and Falaba. The SLPP tried to introduce Bandajuma and Panguma following a similar strategy, but they seem to have run into problems with how the numbers have been “massaged” for want of a better way to put it. Will they win the elections after the forced mid-term census in an illegal cycle for Censuses?

PART 1C: ANALYSIS OF METRICS OVER FIVE CYCLES - DISTRICT

DISTRICT	1996	2002	2007	2012	2015 Census	2018	2022 Census	2023
Kailahun	63,044	119,898	183,821	147,463	18,290	165,753	27,825	193,578
Kono	124,905	128,145	180,341	164,798	21,296	186,094	(11,889)	174,205
Kenema	153,445	291,083	271,026	248,862	31,280	280,142	37,836	317,978
Koinadugu	86,753	102,353	119,423	133,289	(48,996)	84,293	965	85,258
Kambia	98,269	122,339	134,757	139,035	16,449	155,484	(2,935)	152,549
Tonkolili	115,385	196,638	169,504	187,997	16,234	204,231	3,111	207,342
Bombali	170,978	195,525	205,426	222,514	(34,850)	187,664	18,586	206,250
Port Loko	160,978	191,249	216,698	238,222	(4,260)	233,962	2,961	236,923
Falaba	-	-	-	-	65,761	65,761	3,367	69,128
Karene	-	-	-	-	101,160	101,160	(1,015)	100,145
Bonthe	27,153	71,050	72,678	75,925	16,258	92,183	15,349	107,532
Pujehun	26,083	113,469	98,475	82,055	19,196	101,251	14,538	115,789
Moyamba	29,944	125,954	121,461	129,544	17,497	147,041	3,169	150,210
Bo	182,262	282,067	240,287	249,342	35,005	284,347	33,238	317,585
Western Area Rural	41,246	237,636	113,368	164,403	117,952	282,355	59,409	341,764
Western Area Urban	286,019	171,161	492,300	509,186	97,757	606,943	(8,921)	598,022
Grand Total:	1,566,464	2,348,567	2,619,565	2,692,635		3,178,664		3,374,258
Census Effects on Voter Register:					486,029		195,594	

Key:
Green SLPP
Red APC
Black
 represents
 swing votes

WHAT IS OPEN ELECTION DATA PLATFORM (OEDP)

Open Election Data Platform is a web-based tool to collect, aggregate, visualize and share current and historical election data following the nine principles of open election data;



Source: <https://www.openelectiondata.net/en/guide/principles/>

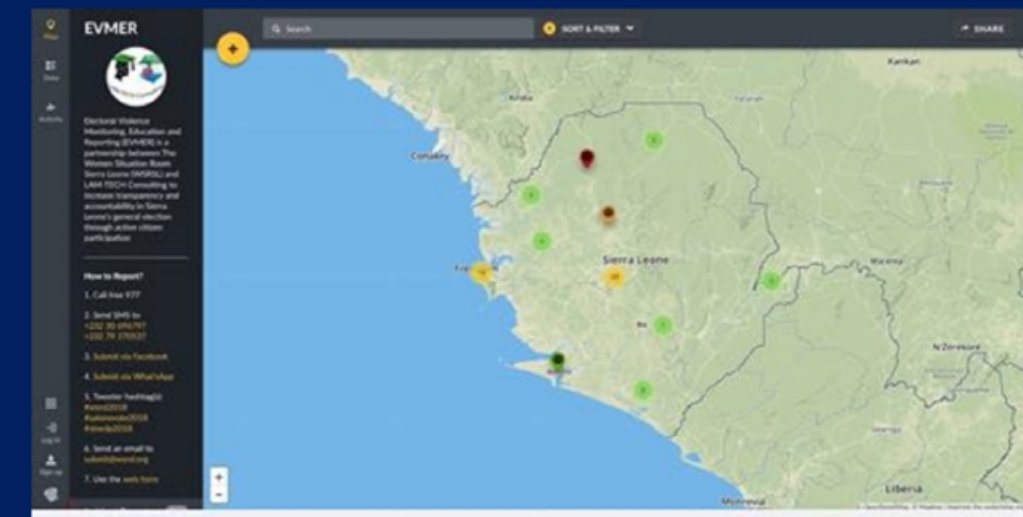
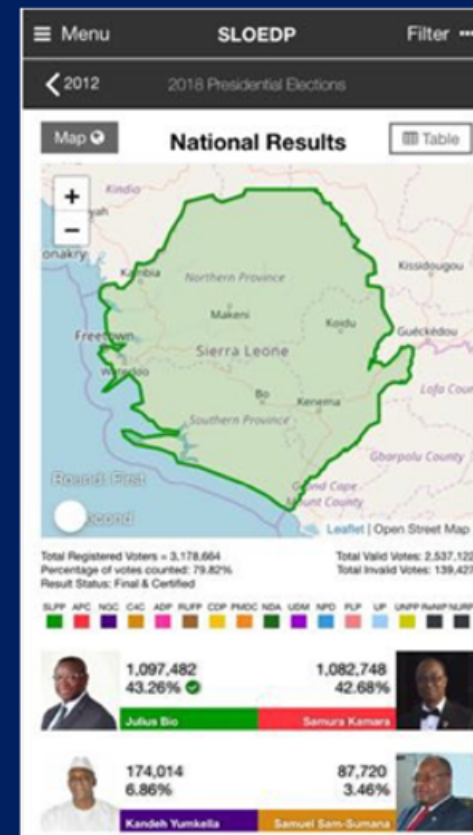
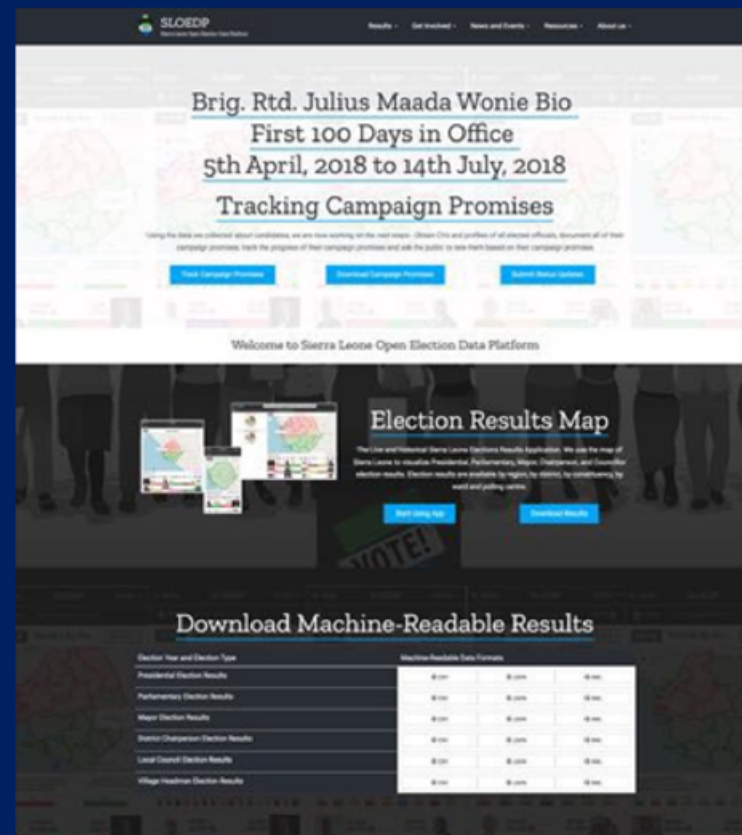
THE THREE COMPONENTS OF THE PLATFORM

Sierra Leone Open Election Data Platform (SLOEDP) is a country-specific implementation of the OEDP

Web-Based Open Elections
Data Platform

Web-Based Election Results
Map

Web Based Election Violence
Monitoring, Education and
Reporting (EVMER)



The platform enables data collection, data aggregation, data visualization, and data sharing of election results, candidate profiles, boundary delimitations, polling stations, voter registration centers, political party information, electoral news articles, electoral education materials and political violence incident reports in accordance with global open election data principles

POST ELECTION ACTIVITIES



Chapter 7: Open Data and records management – activating public engagement to improve information: case studies from Sierra Leone and Cambodia (pp. 109- 120)

Open data initiatives support transparency and innovation, promote a knowledge-based society and advance democratic principles. Data in the hands of citizens can facilitate empowerment and support improved government efficiency and accountability. Open data promotes transparency by enabling citizens to reanalyse data underpinning government decisions and monitor the impact of government policies. Citizens with access to the same government data used by policy-makers are more informed and better able to participate in and contribute to policy-making. Through their access to the administrative data generated by the government, they are also able to identify incidents of corruption

