

2013 Local Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin

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Registration up to 72%

More than 72% of potential voters had registered by the end of Thursday, STAE (Secretariado Técnico de Administração Eleitoral, Election Technical Secretariat) said Friday. All voters must register anew to vote in municipal elections on 20 November, and registration closes Tuesday 23 July. Registration is only taking place in the 53 municipalities, which have about one-third of the national population; national presidential and parliamentary elections will be in October next year.

So far, 2,590,613 people have registered, of an estimated 3,598,003 potential voters. After a difficult and ill-prepared start, the process is speeding up and in some areas more people are going to registration posts. In just the eight days through Thursday, 16% of potential voters received their cards.

STAE says it hopes to register 75% of potential voters, but this is well below the 90% for the 2009 elections.

Turnout is lowest in Zambézia, at 57%, and highest in Tete at over 100%. Registration in the 11 provinces is:

Cidade de Maputo: 71.3%.

Província de Maputo: 67.2%.

Gaza: 84.4%.

Inhambane: 83.4%.

Sofala: 75%.

Manica: 85.8%.

Tete: 101%

Zambézia: 57%

Nampula: 64.1%.

Niassa: 69.2%.

Cabo-Delgado: 83.9%.

Full details for all 53 municipalities are in the table on the next page.

Full registration details for all 53 municipalities at the end of the day on 18 July.

Province	Municipality	Possible voters	Registered 10 July		Registered 19 July		Change
			number	%	number	%	
Maputo city		716,996	396,413	55.3%	511,046	71.3%	16.0%
Maputo Province	Matola	482,739	236,401	49.0%	314,260	65.1%	16.1%
	Boane (n)	46,156	23,884	51.7%	34,948	75.7%	24.0%
	Manhiça	34,072	23,108	67.8%	27,629	81.1%	13.3%
	Namaacha	8,207	6,475	78.9%	7,214	87.9%	9.0%
	TOTAL	571,174	289,868	50.7%	384,051	67.2%	16.5%
Gaza	Xai-Xai	64,960	45,645	70.3%	53,938	83.0%	12.8%
	Macia	17,084	13,771	80.6%	16,337	95.6%	15.0%
	Praia Bilene (n)	4,641	5,547	119.5%	5,527	119.1%	-0.4%
	Chibuto	35,882	20,956	58.4%	24,103	67.2%	8.8%
	Chókwè	31,100	21,413	68.9%	25,307	81.4%	12.5%
	Mandlakazi	5,266	5,513	104.7%	8,844	167.9%	63.3%
	TOTAL	158,933	112,845	71.0%	134,056	84.3%	13.3%
Inhambane	C. Inhambane	41,505	27,523	66.3%	32,227	77.6%	11.3%
	Massinga	13,048	14,047	107.7%	16,543	126.8%	19.1%
	Maxixe	65,548	40,217	61.4%	46,759	71.3%	10.0%
	Quissico (n)	4,784	6,293	131.5%	8,157	170.5%	39.0%
	Vilankulo	27,079	20,600	76.1%	23,064	85.2%	9.1%
	TOTAL	151,964	108,680	71.5%	126,750	83.4%	11.9%
Sofala	Beira	248,850	146,583	58.9%	178,687	71.8%	12.9%
	Dondo	38,733	25,181	65.0%	30,522	78.8%	13.8%
	Gorongosa	11,391	11,224	98.5%	13,128	115.2%	16.7%
	Nhamatanda (n)	12,646	9,302	73.6%	13,633	107.8%	34.2%
	Marromeu	27,173	13,612	50.1%	18,277	67.3%	17.2%
	TOTAL	338,793	205,902	60.8%	254,247	75.0%	14.3%
Manica	Chimoio	141,020	83,436	59.2%	104,973	74.4%	15.3%
	Catandica	11,349	12,979	114.4%	14,715	129.7%	15.3%
	Gondola	18,156	17,475	96.2%	20,323	111.9%	15.7%
	Sussundenga (n)	9,869	7,344	74.4%	10,400	105.4%	31.0%
	Manica	20,417	18,956	92.8%	21,951	107.5%	14.7%
	TOTAL	200,811	140,190	69.8%	172,362	85.8%	16.0%
Tete	C. Tete	100,032	63,640	63.6%	86,561	86.5%	22.9%
	Ulongue	7,791	15,211	195.2%	17,310	222.2%	26.9%
	Moatize	23,362	22,473	96.2%	26,235	112.3%	16.1%
	Nhamayabue (n)	4,623	6,115	132.3%	7,020	151.8%	19.6%
	TOTAL	135,808	107,439	79.1%	137,126	101.0%	21.9%

Province	Municipality	Possible voters	Registered 10 July		Registered 19 July		Change
			number	%	number	%	
Zambézia	Quelimane	123,166	78,950	64.1%	94,912	77.1%	13.0%
	Alto Molócuè	40,416	13,742	34.0%	18,020	44.6%	10.6%
	Gúruè	91,067	25,514	28.0%	32,701	35.9%	7.9%
	Milange	22,014	10,224	46.4%	15,188	69.0%	22.5%
	Mag. da Costa (n)	7,581	7,661	101.1%	10,538	139.0%	38.0%
	Mocuba	100,022	38,509	38.5%	47,826	47.8%	9.3%
	TOTAL	384,266	174,600	45.4%	219,185	57.0%	11.6%
Nampula	C Nampula	300,157	121,110	40.3%	177,540	59.1%	18.8%
	Angoche	53,708	20,833	38.8%	32,434	60.4%	21.6%
	Ilha Moçambique	28,174	20,189	71.7%	22,785	80.9%	9.2%
	Monapo	31,467	20,944	66.6%	28,126	89.4%	22.8%
	Malema (n)	10,649	5,161	48.5%	12,444	116.9%	68.4%
	Nacala-Porto	118,993	47,536	39.9%	72,869	61.2%	21.3%
	Ribáuè	20,911	10,786	51.6%	15,253	72.9%	21.4%
	TOTAL	564,059	246,559	43.7%	361,451	64.1%	20.4%
Cabo Delgado	Pemba	94,807	57,078	60.2%	72,924	76.9%	16.7%
	Moçimboa Praia	27,505	16,356	59.5%	20,495	74.5%	15.0%
	Montepuez	46,935	32,656	69.6%	40,954	87.3%	17.7%
	Chiure (n)	23,923	17,762	74.2%	22,945	95.9%	21.7%
	Mueda	15,830	13,931	88.0%	17,956	113.4%	25.4%
	TOTAL	209,000	137,783	65.9%	175,274	83.9%	17.9%
Niassa	Lichinga	93,956	48,047	51.1%	62,498	66.5%	15.4%
	Cuamba	49,064	19,545	39.8%	28,498	58.1%	18.2%
	Metangula	9,294	5,570	59.9%	6,935	74.6%	14.7%
	Mandimba (n)	9,079	4,953	54.6%	7,894	86.9%	32.4%
	Marrupa	4,806	7,791	162.1%	9,240	192.3%	30.1%
	TOTAL	166,199	85,906	51.7%	115,065	69.2%	17.5%
TOTAL		3,598,003	2,006,185	55.8%	2,590,613	72.0%	16.2%

(n) = new municipality

Low registration in some MDM target cities

There are 14 municipalities where the opposition has been strong in previous elections, and thus are likely to be targets for MDM. Registration is very low in some of them, such as Alto Molócuè (45%) and Gúruè (34%); if this is due to the Renamo boycott and opposition voters are not registering, this could hurt MDM chances.

On the other hand, registration is above average in two cities which have had close elections in the past, Quelimane (77%) and Mocimboa da Praia (75%).

Beira and Quelimane currently have MDM mayors (presidents). In 2003, five municipalities elected

Renamo mayors: Beira, Nacala, Angoche, Ilha de Moçambique and Marromeu (where the Renamo candidate was elected mayor by a single vote and Frelimo won a 1 seat majority in the assembly).

The table below gives the 14 municipalities where the opposition has the best chance, and the percentage registration. Nationally, 72% of potential voters have registered.

14 municipalities where the opposition could do well

Municipality	Municipal Assembly Seats 2008		Registration at 19 July	Above or below average
	Frelimo	Others		
Beira	19	26	72%	→
Quelimane	22	17	77%	↗
Nacala Porto	20	19	61%	↘
Gúruè	10	7	34%	↘↘
Marromeu	8	5	67%	↘
Monapo	13	8	89%	↗↗
Mocimboa da Praia	11	6	75%	→
Ilha de Moçambique	11	6	81%	↗
Angoche	14	7	60%	↘
Alto Móloquè	9	4	45%	↘↘

New municipality		Registration at 19 July	Above or below average
Nhamatanda sede	Sofala	108%	↗↗
Maganja sede	Zambézia	139%	↗↗↗
Nhamayabue	Tete	151%	↗↗↗
Mandimba sede	Niassa	87%	↗

Has the Renamo boycott cut Nacala registration?

Nacala-Porto and Ilha de Moçambique are two Nampula cities where the opposition has always been strong, and should be expecting to do well. But in Nacala, registration is low at 61% while in Ilha it is high at 81%.

Renamo claims credit for the low turnout in Nacala. Party head Rafael Gusman says Renamo members are following the national edict to boycott the elections. Nacala has been a politically divided city. In 2008 the election for mayor went to a second round because no candidate gained 50%; Frelimo eventually won. Renamo has 19 members of the municipal assembly, just one behind the 20 of Frelimo.

If Renamo stays out of the election, MDM would hope to capture the opposition vote and win, but if large numbers of Renamo supporters do not register and vote, Frelimo will win.

In Ilha de Moçambique, Renamo is also pushing the boycott, but it does not seem to be working. Gulamo Mamudo, former Renamo mayor of Ilha, blames an "invasion" of people from the neighbouring district of Mossuril who he says are coming in the register to vote in the city. Ana

Isabel Npueche, MDM party representative, backs the claim. But, curiously, neither Renamo nor MDM have made any kind of formal complaint to police or electoral authorities.

Meanwhile Mamudo also claims that Frelimo has a youth group called the "nucleo duro" (hard cell), which will try to prevent opposition supporters from voting. This group functions in previous elections that cases were reported where these young people stopped opposition supporters from voting. There are indications that this groups is being created again," he said. Such incidents did occur on the Ilha in 2008 and serious misconduct was reported in the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin* (number 37, 15 Dec 2008).

Updating Maputo province figures

The very high turnout in the new municipalities suggests that numbers of potential voters has been significantly underestimated, perhaps because of difficulties in estimating how many people actually live in these towns.

The National Statistics Insitute (Instituto Nacional de Estatística, INE) and STAE have looked again at the numbers for Maputo province. For Boane, where registration was well over 100%, the number of potential voters has been increased from 15,752 to 46,156, which brings registration down to 75.7%

The changes for Maputo province mean there has been a slight increase in total potential voters, to 3,598,003.

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