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Registration will only be 80% of target as turnout falls

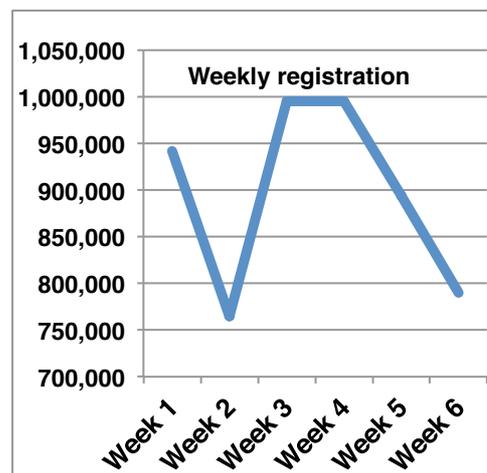
Registration rates are falling and we predict that only 80% of target voters will register this year. In the first five weeks 131,153 people per day registered, but in the week to 26 May this fell to 112,831.

Registration remains highest in Gaza (94%), Cabo Delgado (93%) and Zambézia (89%). If last minute registration increases slightly and registration for the last four days (Monday-Thursday) remains at the average level as the first six weeks, we predict three provinces will have high registration: Gaza (103%), Cabo Delgado (102%) and Zambézia (97%). The high turnout means Gaza will gain 9 seats in parliament (AR) and Cabo Delgado will gain 1, which will probably be for Frelimo. Zambézia loses five seats.

The high registration in Gaza and Cabo Delgado means a possible 170,000 extra votes for Frelimo candidate Filipe Nyusi, more than 2% of the possible vote, which could make a significant difference in a close election.

The table gives registration figures up to Sunday 26 May announced by STAE (Secretariado Técnico da Administração Eleitoral, STAE) this morning. Registration ends Thursday 30 May after 46 days.

Registration levels at 26 May and projections for total registration					
Province	Target 2019	At 26 May, 42 of 46 days		Projection @ 46 days	
		Registered	%	Registered	%
Niassa	476,502	256,159	54%	280,555	59%
Cabo Delgado	644,021	600,428	93%	657,612	102%
Nampula	1,702,140	1,145,799	67%	1,254,923	74%
Zambézia	1,144,643	1,018,587	89%	1,115,595	97%
Tete	785,444	503,966	64%	551,963	70%
Manica	452,402	361,995	80%	396,471	88%
Sofala	521,950	331,257	63%	362,805	70%
Inhambane	478,026	314,074	66%	343,986	72%
Gaza	575,055	541,019	94%	592,545	103%
Maputo Prov	440,900	244,897	56%	268,221	61%
Maputo City	120,655	61,980	51%	67,883	56%
TOTAL	7,341,738	5,380,161	73%	5,892,557	80%



Under estimate of Mozambicans abroad

Mozambicans abroad have two seats in parliament, but the government has significantly

underestimated the number of voting age adults in South Africa and Zimbabwe. It estimated 65,536 in South Africa but so far 109,519 have registered (167%). In Zimbabwe the overestimate is smaller - the estimate was 12,038 voting age adults, but registration has been 14,562 (122%).

Law miscalculates AR seats

The table shows only 247 seats allocated for parliament in our projection. This is because the law is wrong in the way that it assigns seats to parliament. There are two seats for Mozambicans abroad. The law says that the total registration inside Mozambique is divided by 248 seats (giving 51,279 voters per seat in our estimate). Next the law says that the number of voters in each province is divided by that number of voters per seat to give the number of seats in each province. And, as the table shows, that gives only 247 seats.



This is because it is impossible to have part of a seat - there cannot be half an MP. So if the calculation gives 8.6 we say 9 seats and if it is 8.4 we say 8 seats. That does not automatically give a total of 248.

The d'Hondt method of seat allocation is used everywhere else in the law to resolve this problem, but not for the initial assignment of seats! Parliament has never corrected this error, so, in the past, the National Elections Commissions has, in secret, assigned an extra seat to one province or removed a seat. Whenever it does this, it never admits publicly to have done so, and never says how it decided.

Parliament seat estimate			
Province	Parliament (AR) seats		
	projected 2019	2014	difference
Niassa	13	14	-1
Cabo Delgado	23	22	1
Nampula	46	47	-1
Zambézia	40	45	-5
Tete	21	22	-1
Manica	17	16	1
Sofala	19	21	-2
Inhambane	13	14	-1
Gaza	23	14	9
Maputo Prov	19	17	2
Maputo City	13	16	-3
TOTAL	247	248	-1

Renamo member convicted of helping Zambians register

Renamo member Paulo Banda was convicted 25 May by the Marávia, Tete, district tribunal of aiding three Zambians to register in Nhanseula, Malowera, by giving testimony that they were Mozambicans without documents. He was fined 17,000 meticaís (\$270). He is also charged with registering three other Zambians, in a case which has not yet come to trial.

Micheque Wezulu Zulu, Renamo member of the District Elections Commission, told the Bulletin that the court was biased. "Justice, just like the district government, is run by Frelimo. Those Zambians have lived in that village for more than five years."

Combining 2018 and 2019 registration and projecting final totals

Province	Registered in 2018	Target 2019	Total voting age adults	Projection of total registration	%
Niassa	368,717	476,502	845,219	649,272	77%
Cabo Delgado	532,731	644,021	1,176,752	1,190,343	101%
Nampula	1,091,772	1,702,140	2,793,912	2,346,695	84%
Zambézia	953,899	1,144,643	2,098,542	2,069,494	99%
Tete	526,239	785,444	1,311,683	1,078,202	82%
Manica	496,877	452,402	949,279	893,348	94%
Sofala	627,234	521,950	1,149,184	990,039	86%
Inhambane	321,427	478,026	799,453	665,413	83%
Gaza	569,282	575,055	1,144,337	1,161,827	102%
Maputo Prov	720,325	440,900	1,161,225	988,546	85%
Maputo City	616,076	120,655	736,731	683,959	93%
TOTAL	6,824,579	7,341,738	14,166,317	12,717,136	90%

Police in Mecanhelas, Niassa, arrested a Malawian trying to register, said the district election commission head, Jomissone José.

In Nacarôa, Nampula, two people were arrested Friday, 24 May, at EPC de Mucuthy. Eugénio Barnabé tried to register with documents

from someone else, Eugénio Mendes Paulino. And a woman identified only as Ivone had tried to scratch out her birth year on her identity card to pretend she would be over 18 on polling day.

500 displaced families cannot register

500 families in Dombe, Sussundenga, Manica, who were displaced by the flash floods of cyclone Idai, complain they cannot register. They are in

Mageba, Matarara, Nuwawa and Nhanhenba 1 and 2 accommodation centres.

The people of Dombe denounced the exclusions to the District Administrator, Rosa Bia Luís, when she visited Dombe yesterday, Monday. District STAE had promised that mobile brigades would go to accommodation centres, but, so far, this has not happened.

Faced with the complaint to the administrator, STAE Sussundenga operations chief Paulino Pascoal could only say she would try to resolve the problem before registration ends on Thursday.



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Detailed coverage 2019 national elections is again being provided by the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, which has covered all of Mozambique's multi-party elections. We will have a large team of local journalists throughout the country, ensuring that our reports are accurate and verified.

The elections newsletter is also in Portuguese; para subscrever <http://eepurl.com/gnZXPz>

The newsletters covering the 2018 local elections are on <http://bit.ly/LocEI2018>

Newsletters from 2013 local elections and 2014 national elections are on <http://bit.ly/2H066Kg>

There are two archives of historic elections data, at IESE on <http://www.iese.ac.mz/eleicoes-resultados/> and at London School of Economics on <http://bit.ly/MozEIData>

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