



NATIONAL ELECTION WATCH

A Coalition of Civic and Non-Governmental Organizations

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27th JUNE 2023 – PRVT UPDATE: *PARTIAL* ELECTION RESULTS RELEASED BY ECSL

Based on the information issued by the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone yesterday afternoon regarding partial election results from 60% of polling stations across the country, and using the disaggregated data by district, National Election Watch is able to confirm that, so far, the portion of results announced by the electoral commission match NEW's PRVT when taking into account an equal portion of the PRVT results. We wish to thank the Commission for providing data disaggregated by district, which increased transparency of the process and can build confidence for the remaining process.

The results announced by ECSL are based on **60% of polling stations in each district but do not represent 60% of the total votes cast in each district** because polling stations vary in size. For example:

- In Kailahun, the valid votes cast in the 60% of polling stations announced represent 80% of the registered voters in the district;
- In Bombali, the valid votes cast in the 60% of polling stations announced represent 71% of registered voters in the district;
- In Port Loko, the valid votes cast in the 60% of polling stations announced represent 66% of registered voters in the district;
- In Bonthe, the valid votes cast in the 60% of polling stations announced represent 71% of registered voters in the district; and
- In Western Area Urban, the valid votes cast in the 60% of polling stations announced represent 44% of registered voters in the district.

However, NEW affirms that all ballots have not yet been counted. Based on our PRVT findings and the ECSL data announced thus far, we are confident that once all votes are counted with integrity:

- Voter turnout will be 77.3% +/- 1.7% (between 75.4% and 79%); and
- No candidate will reach the constitutional threshold of 55% of votes cast in the first round.

NEW's PRVT data, which is the basis for this projection, will be made available to the public subsequently.

For the 2023 elections, NEW trained and deployed 6,000 observers across the country covering every polling centre. Of these observers, 750 were specially trained and deployed to a statistically representative sample of polling stations across all the 5 regions and 16 districts in Sierra Leone using the Process and Results Verification for Transparency (PRVT) methodology. The PRVT allowed NEW to assess the quality of election day processes and independently verify the official election results announced by the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL). NEW's 2023 PRVT successfully consolidated findings that are representative of all polling stations at a national scale.

National Election Watch (NEW) is a coalition of local and international organizations in Sierra Leone with a common objective of supporting credible and peaceful elections.