

KEY METROS REMAIN BATTLEGROUND AHEAD OF THE NOVEMBER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Ipsos in South Africa
4 September 2026

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Registered voters remain engaged in politics and elections

How interested are you in politics and elections?



33%

Very interested

33%

Somewhat interested

34%

Not very interested

Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

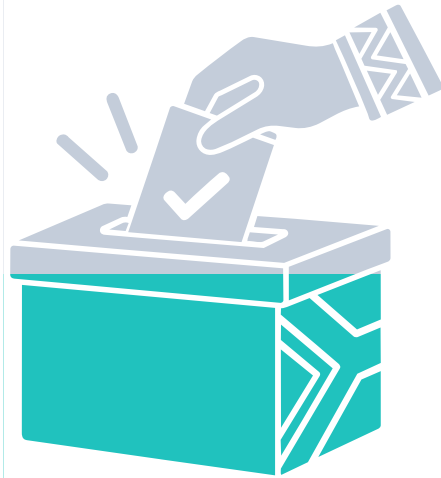
Source: Ipsos Khayabus | © Ipsos 2026

Turnout remains a key battleground across provinces & metros

How likely are you to vote in the Local Government Elections on 4 November 2026?



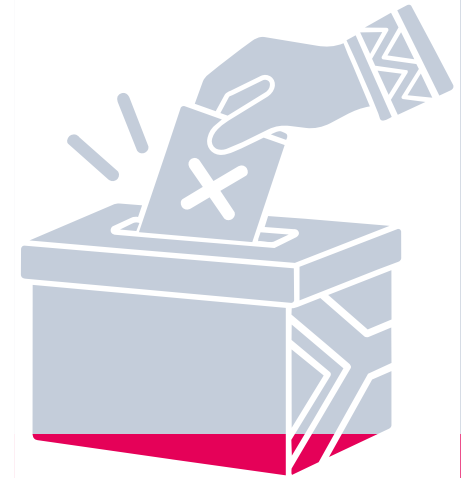
33%
Very likely



43%
Likely



13%
Not likely



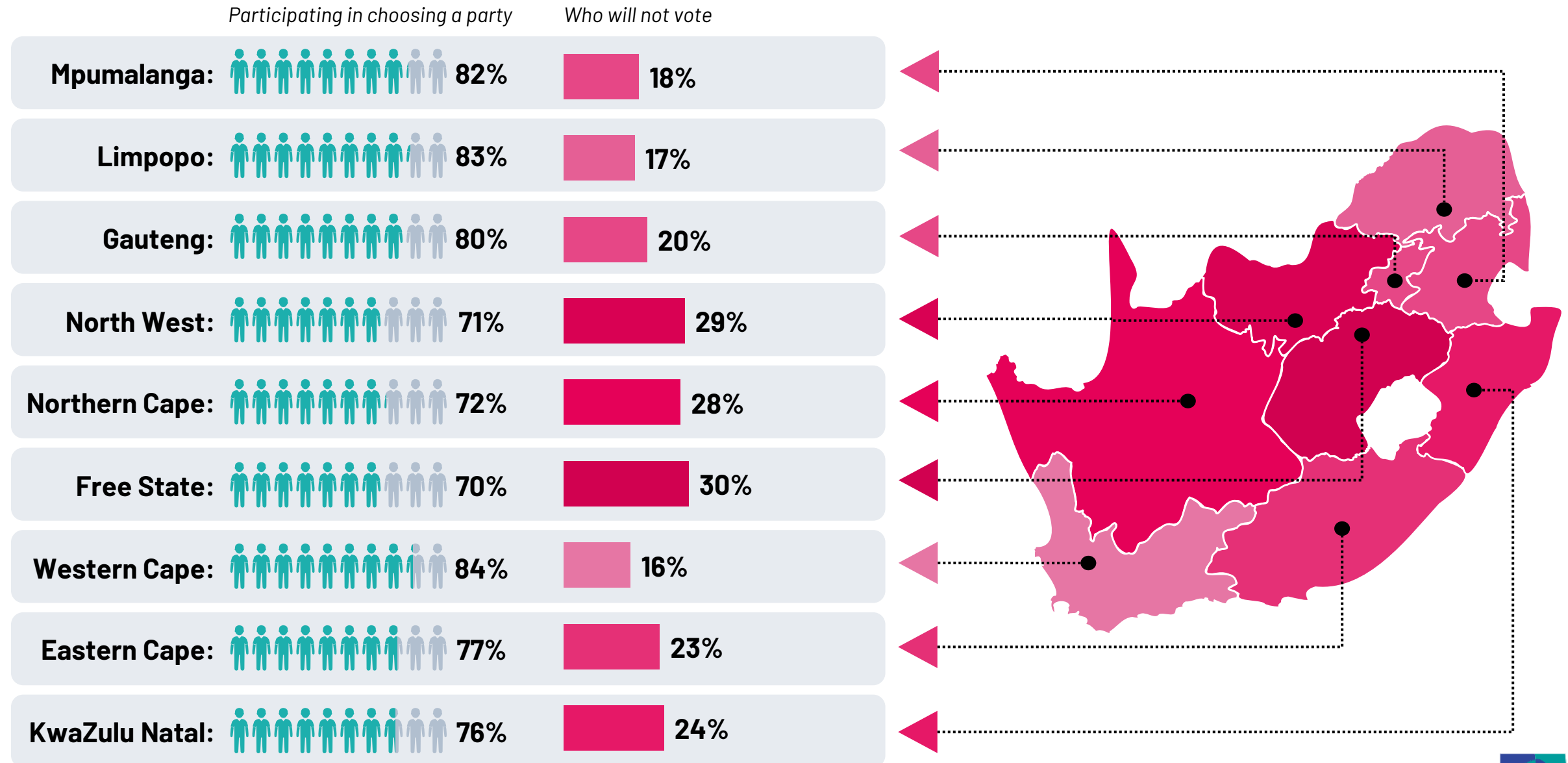
10%
Not at all likely

1% Don't know

Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

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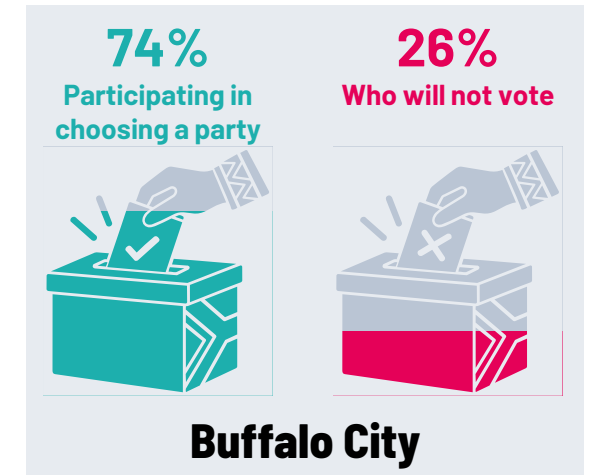
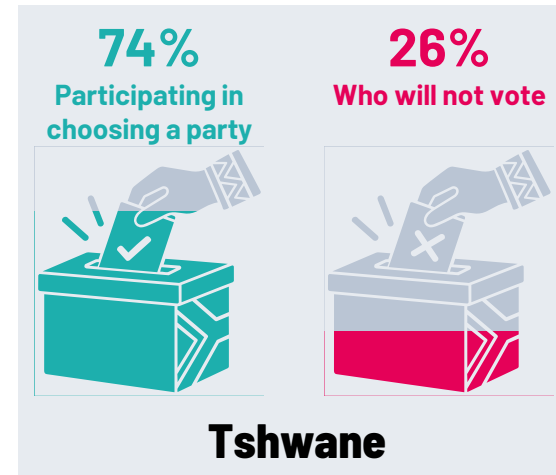
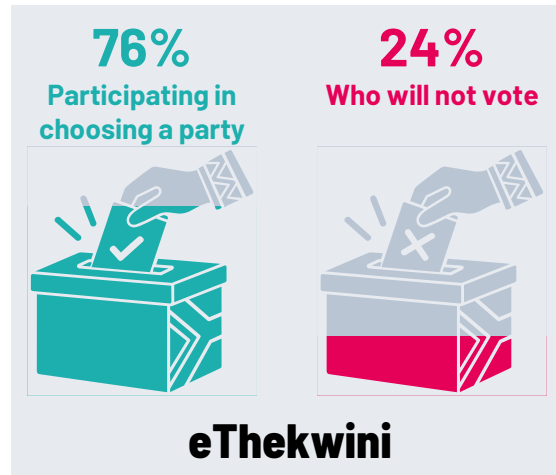
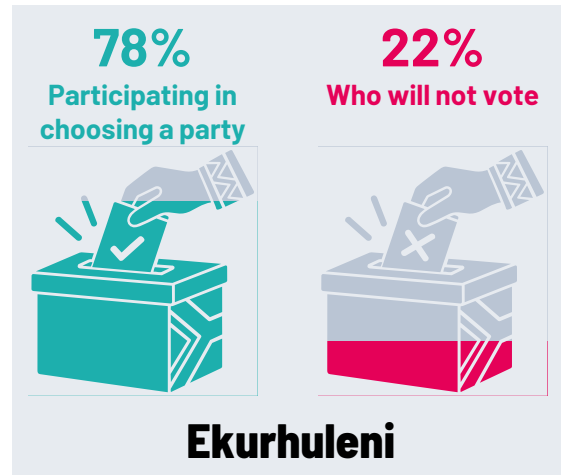
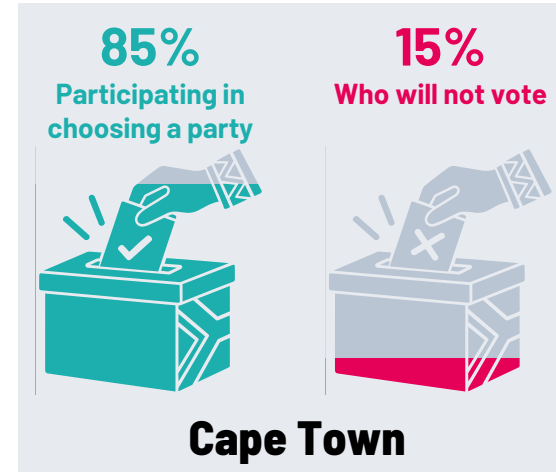
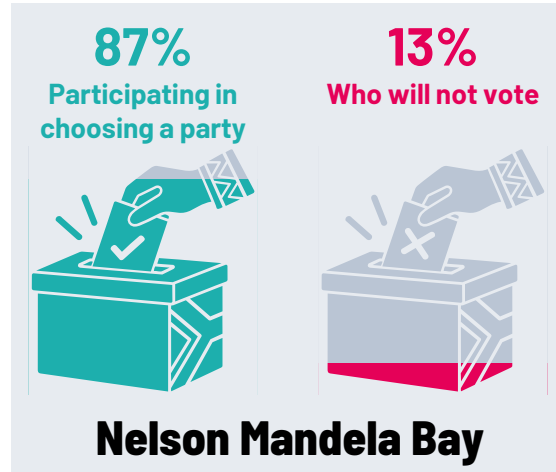
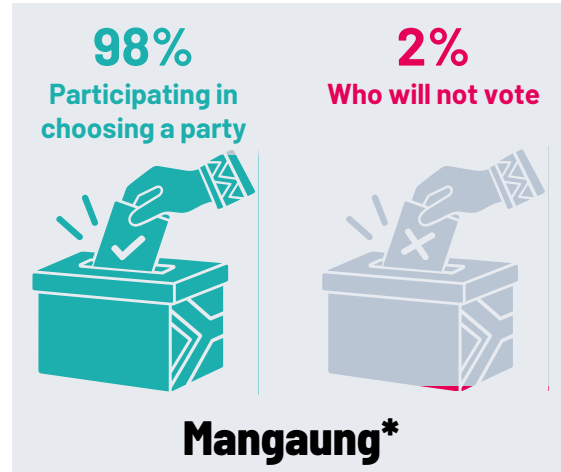
Turnout could influence election outcomes across several provinces



Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

Source: Ipsos Khayabus | © Ipsos 2026

Several key metros still have significant numbers of persuadable voters



*Note that the sample size in Mangaung is only an indication, as not many interviews are proportionately allocated to this small metro.

Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

Source: Ipsos Khayabus | © Ipsos 2026

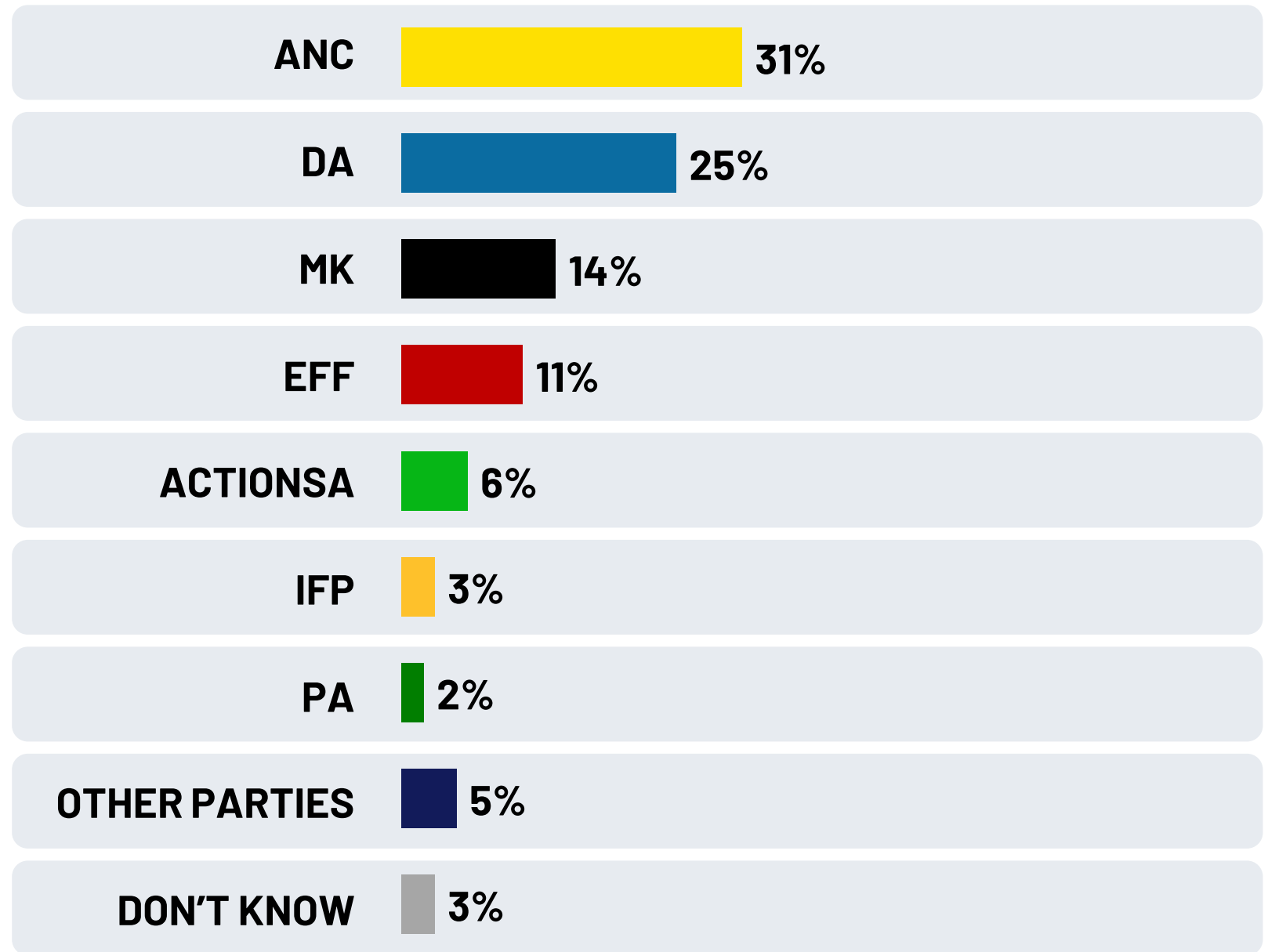
No single party commands majority support among registered voters

At a national level, the ANC remains the largest party at 31%, followed by the DA at 25%, MK at 14%, and the EFF at 11%.

*A large number of political parties are included on the ballot paper, or were added by respondents supporting different parties, however, this list ONLY includes political parties achieving a minimum of 2% on the national vote.

Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

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Political parties maintain distinct provincial strongholds

	Gauteng	Western Cape	KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Free State	North West	Limpopo	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape
ANC	26%	25%	11%	42%	35%	42%	58%	56%	38%
DA	27%	47%	14%	23%	41%	22%	18%	19%	30%
MK	10%	*	50%	8%	4%	*	1%	*	*
EFF	10%	8%	2%	17%	15%	11%	17%	16%	10%
ACTIONSA	15%	1%	4%	5%	1%	4%	*	1%	*
IFP	*	*	14%	2%	*	*	*	*	*
PA	2%	9%	*	*	*	16%	*	3%	5%
OTHER PARTIES	8%	7%	4%	1%	4%	14%	5%	2%	5%
DON'T KNOW	2%	3%	1%	2%	0%	7%	1%	3%	12%

A star (*) does not mean there is no support for the particular political party in that province or metro, but that the support is lower than 2%,

Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

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Metro-level support reveals contrasting electoral battles

	Nelson							
	Johannesburg	Tshwane	Ekurhuleni	eThekweni	Mandela Bay	Buffalo City	Cape Town	Mangaung
ANC	31%	22%	24%	10%	37%	29%	26%	32%
DA	28%	31%	21%	17%	37%	33%	46%	36%
MK	6%	5%	18%	55%	*	*	*	5%
EFF	8%	9%	10%	3%	8%	27%	11%	17%
ACTIONS	14%	11%	13%	4%	5%	*	*	2%
IFP	*	*	*	6%	*	*	*	*
PA	3%	2%	2%	*	5%	4%	8%	*
OTHER PARTIES	7%	18%	9%	5%	5%	7%	7%	*
DON'T KNOW	3%	2%	3%	*	3%	*	2%	*

A star (*) does not mean there is no support for the particular political party in that province or metro, but that the support is lower than 2%,

Key metros remain battlegrounds ahead of the November Local Government Elections (4 September 2026)

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Survey Methodology in detail

Khayabus:

This press release is based on the views of 3,600 randomly selected respondents. Interviews were conducted by trained Ipsos interviewers in the homes and home languages of respondents.

Interviews were conducted between June and July 2026.

A scientific process of multi-stage stratified random selection distributed interviews in all areas of the county, including deep rural areas. This methodology ensured that the results are representative of the views of the universe (adult South Africans) and that findings can be weighted and projected to the universe.

All results were collated and analysed in an aggregate format to protect the identity and confidentiality of respondents.

In data processing filters were applied to isolate the group of respondents who are registered to vote.

All sample surveys are subject to a margin of error, determined by sample size, sampling methodology and response rate.

The margin of error, dependent on sample size, response rate and sampling methodology, at a 95% confidence level and a response rate of 50% is a maximum of $\pm 1.77\%$ for the sample of registered voters as a whole.

However, when those who have indicated that they are not going to vote are excluded and the sample is then divided into provinces and metropolitan areas the margins of error for the smaller sample sizes increase.

The table below is an illustration of the maximum margins or error for the different provincial samples and metropolitan samples – at a 95% confidence level and a response rate of 50%.

Some of the findings should thus be regarded as indicative (**) or should be used with caution (****).

Provinces	Maximum of MofE	Metropolitan areas	Maximum of MofE
Gauteng	± 3.44	Johannesburg	± 5.57
Western Cape	± 5.15	Tshwane	± 7.94
KwaZulu-Natal	± 4.27	Ekurhuleni	± 6.86
Mpumalanga	± 7.94	eThekweni	± 6.86
Free State**	$\pm 9.75^{**}$	Nelson Mandela Bay****	$\pm 12.12^{****}$
North West**	$\pm 8.89^{**}$	Buffalo City****	$\pm 15.46^{****}$
Limpopo**	$\pm 8.54^{**}$	Cape Town	± 6.12
Eastern Cape	± 6.86	Mangaung****	$\pm 15.46^{****}$
Northern Cape****	$\pm 12.12^{****}$		

THANK YOU

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