CIRRUS

Local Authority & Regional Council Elections 2025

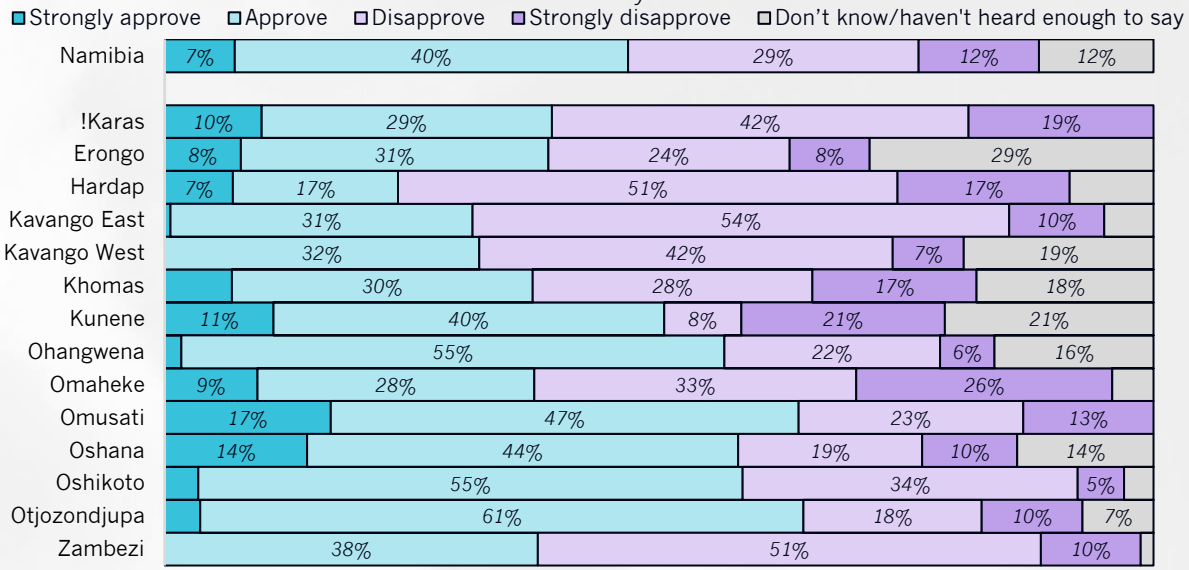
Turnout and Results

Tannan Groenewald

03 December 2025

Background - Namibian Perceptions (2024)

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way that your elected Regional Councillor has performed their job over the past 12 months, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?"



Nonetheless, approval is greater in Namibia's northern regions. Other questions asked on councillors pertaining to trust and willingness to listen to what ordinary people have to say are also generally more positive in these regions, however, perceptions on corruption within councillors are more evenly distributed, with about 30% of respondents believing that 'most' or 'all' councillors are involved in corruption.

In !Karas and Hardap, however, about 30% believe there is no corruption within their councillors, compared to less than 10% believing so in all other regions.

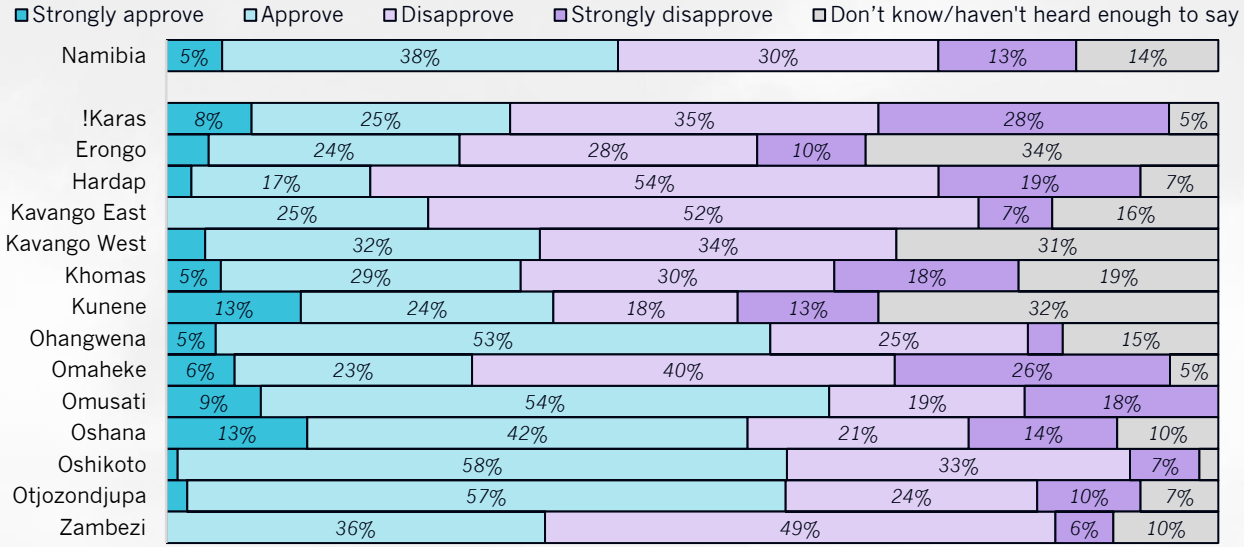
Contact between communities and their representatives is also low. While 20-30% of respondents in the four northern O-regions state they have made contact with their councillors in the preceding 12 months, only about 10-20% state so in all other regions.

According to the 2024 Afrobarometer survey, roughly 45% of Namibian adults approve of the performance of their elected regional and local authority councillors in 2024.

However, the findings also indicate comparatively low levels of public awareness, with a relatively high share of respondents reporting that they do not know or have not heard enough to evaluate councillors' performance, particularly in urban areas. Views on regional and local authorities also do not differ as widely as opinions on national-level actors such as the President or the National Assembly. This pattern may suggest that many respondents have limited information or direct experience with regional and local authority councillors leading to default, general or otherwise non-committal evaluations rather than informed assessments.

Afrobarometer surveys interview a nationally representative sample of 1,200 adult citizens, yielding country-level results with a margin of error of +-3 p.p. at a 95% confidence level. Results at regional level should be interpreted with care due to smaller underlying samples.

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way that your elected Local Authority Councillors have performed their jobs over the past 12 months, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?"



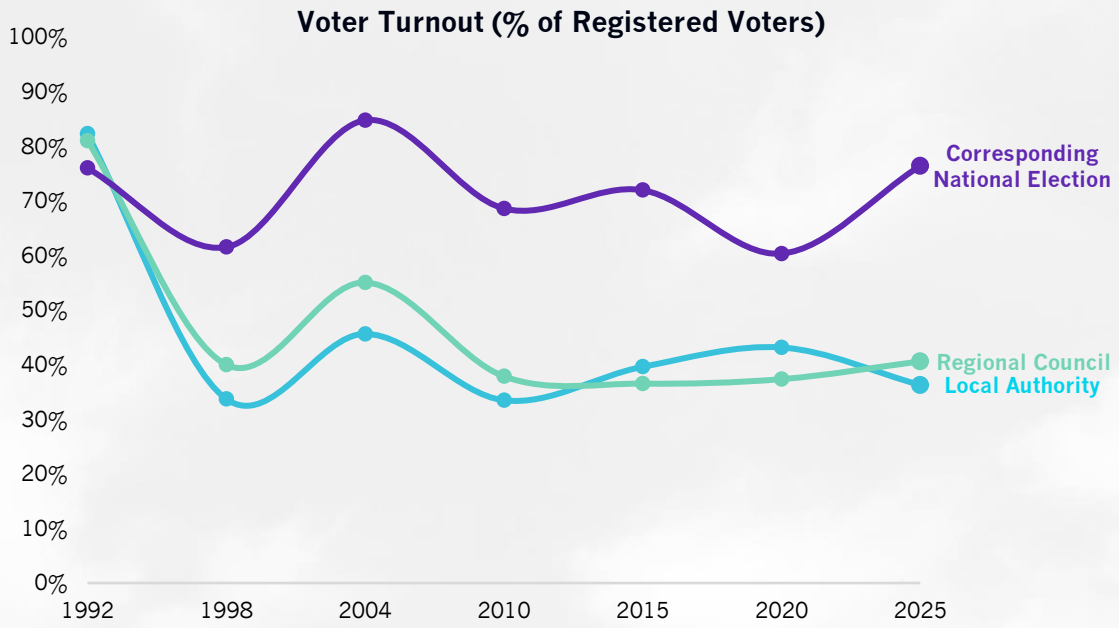
Key Statistics

Year	1992	1998	2004	2010	2015	2020	2025
Local Authority Election							
Total Registrants	156,663	188,302	359,152	418,972	410,045	451,870	752,043
Percentage Change		+20.2%	+90.7%	+16.7%	-2.1%	+10.2%	+66.4%
Total Votes	128,973	63,545	163,999	140,313	162,491	195,072	272,942
Percentage Change		-50.7%	+158.1%	-14.4%	+15.8%	+20.1%	+39.9%
Registered Non-Voters	27,690	124,757	195,153	278,659	247,554	256,798	479,101
Turnout	**82.3%**	**33.7%**	**45.7%**	**33.5%**	**39.6%**	**43.2%**	**36.3%**
Regional Council Election							
Total Registrants	470,006	534,278	950,266	1,180,925	1,051,471	1,408,670	1,499,449
Percentage Change		+13.7%	+77.9%	+24.3%	-11.0%	+34.0%	+6.4%
Total Votes	381,041	213,789	523,450	447,386	384,258	526,373	609,013
Percentage Change		-43.9%	+144.8%	-14.5%	-14.1%	+37.0%	+15.7%
Registered Non-Voters	88,965	320,489	426,816	733,539	667,213	882,297	890,436
Turnout	**81.1%**	**40.0%**	**55.1%**	**37.9%**	**36.5%**	**37.4%**	**40.6%**

Source: ECN

The 2025 L.A. and R.C. elections recorded voter turnouts of 36.3% and 40.6%, respectively. Although an additional 300k registrants were eligible to vote in the L.A. elections, only 78k more individuals cast a ballot. For the R.C. elections, 91k additional registrants were eligible, with 83k more individuals voting.

Voter turnout (as a percentage of registrants) therefore fell from 43.2% in the 2020 L.A. elections, but rose from 37.4% in the 2020 R.C. elections. By comparison, the 2024 national election recorded a turnout of 76.5%.

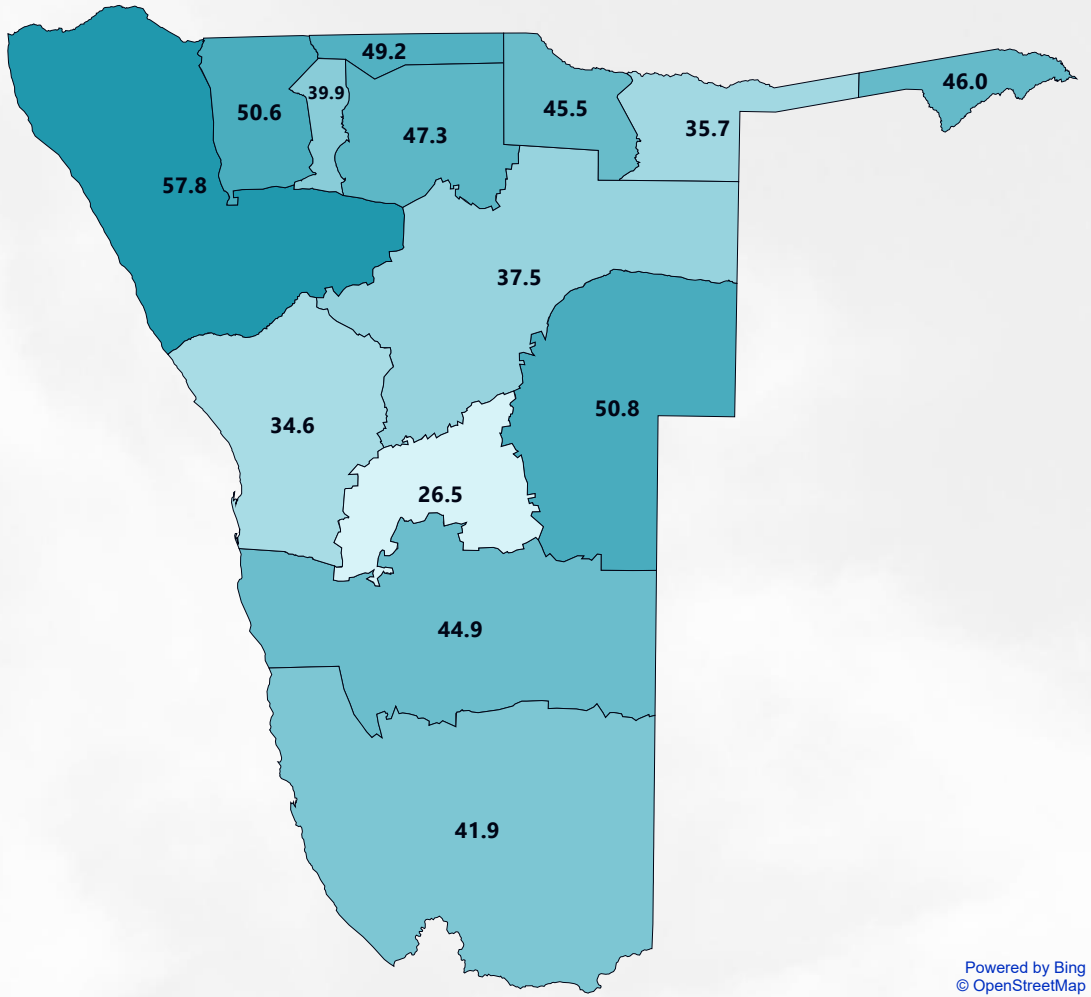


2569

Regional Council Election

Turnout

Voter Turnout (% of Registered Voters)



In R.C. elections, the candidate with the most votes wins. In these elections, voters can only vote in the constituency in which they are registered. Independent candidates contesting R.C. elections must have their nomination supported by at least 150 registered voters in the constituency.

In the 2025 election, the two most urban regions, Khomas and Erongo, saw the lowest turnouts at just 26.5% and 34.6% of registered voters, respectively.

Nine of the fourteen regions recorded an improvement in voter turnout.

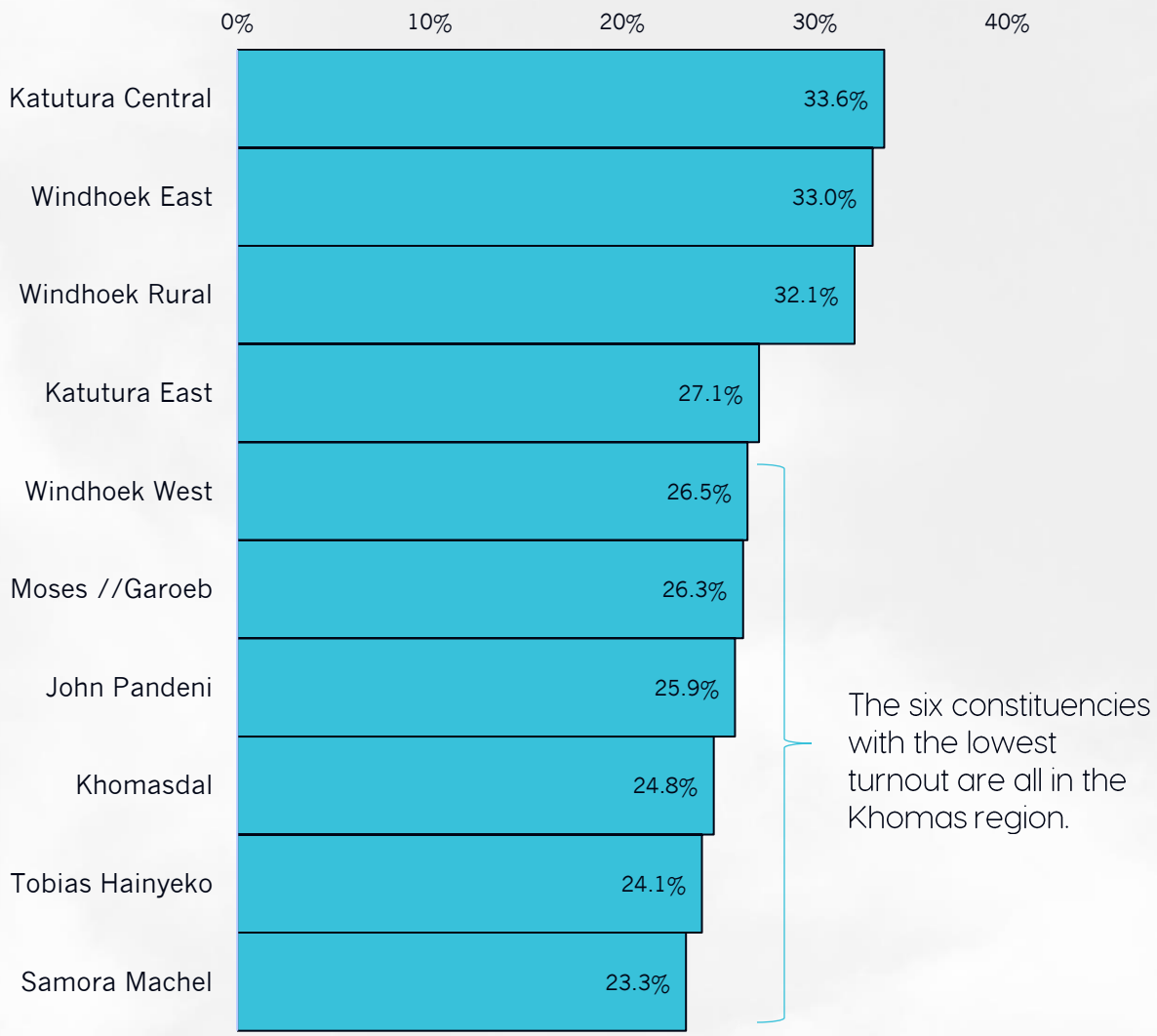
The strongest turnout was seen in the Kunene region, where 57.8% of registered voters cast a vote. The Kavango West region saw a significant decline in turnout (45.5% vs 69.0% in 2020).

Turnout

Region	2015	2020	2025	2025 vs. 2020 (p.p.)
Kunene	56.5	48.5	57.8	9.2
Omaheke	45.0	45.3	50.8	5.5
Omusati	82.8	44.3	50.6	6.3
Ohangwena	58.7	43.5	49.2	5.7
Oshikoto	81.7	41.9	47.3	5.4
Zambezi	37.0	39.5	46.0	6.5
Kavango West	45.6	69.0	45.5	-23.5
Hardap	41.9	43.1	44.9	1.9
//Kharas	46.3	43.2	41.9	-1.3
Oshana	58.7	41.1	39.9	-1.1
Otjozondjupa	34.9	33.9	37.5	3.7
Kavango East	37.7	26.3	35.7	9.4
Erongo	29.0	35.2	34.6	-0.6
Khomas	23.2	28.7	26.5	-2.2

Source: ECN

Khomas Constituency Turnouts



The six constituencies with the lowest turnout are all in the Khomas region.

There are 121 constituencies in Namibia.

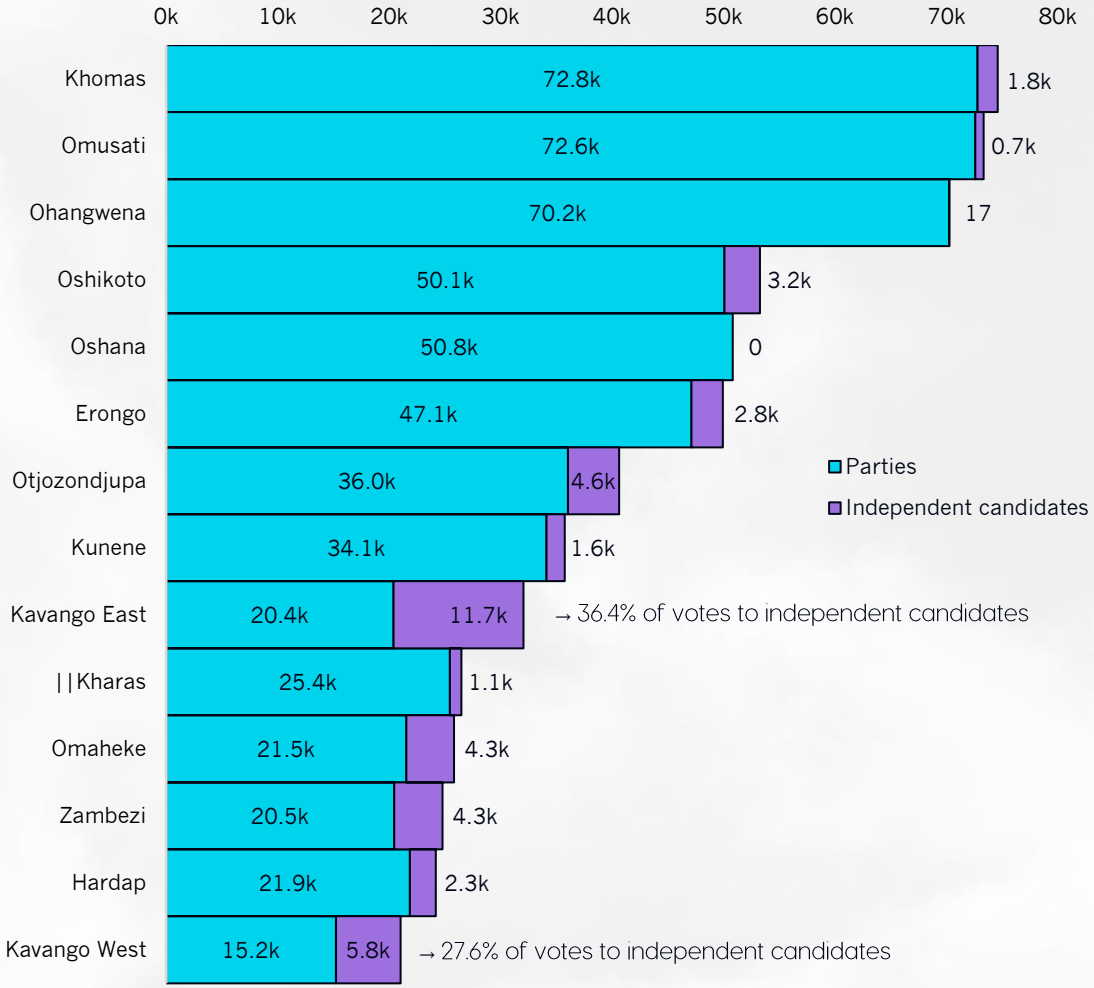
All Khomas constituencies placed in the bottom 20 for turnout.

Constituencies with <30% turnout (excluding Khomas):

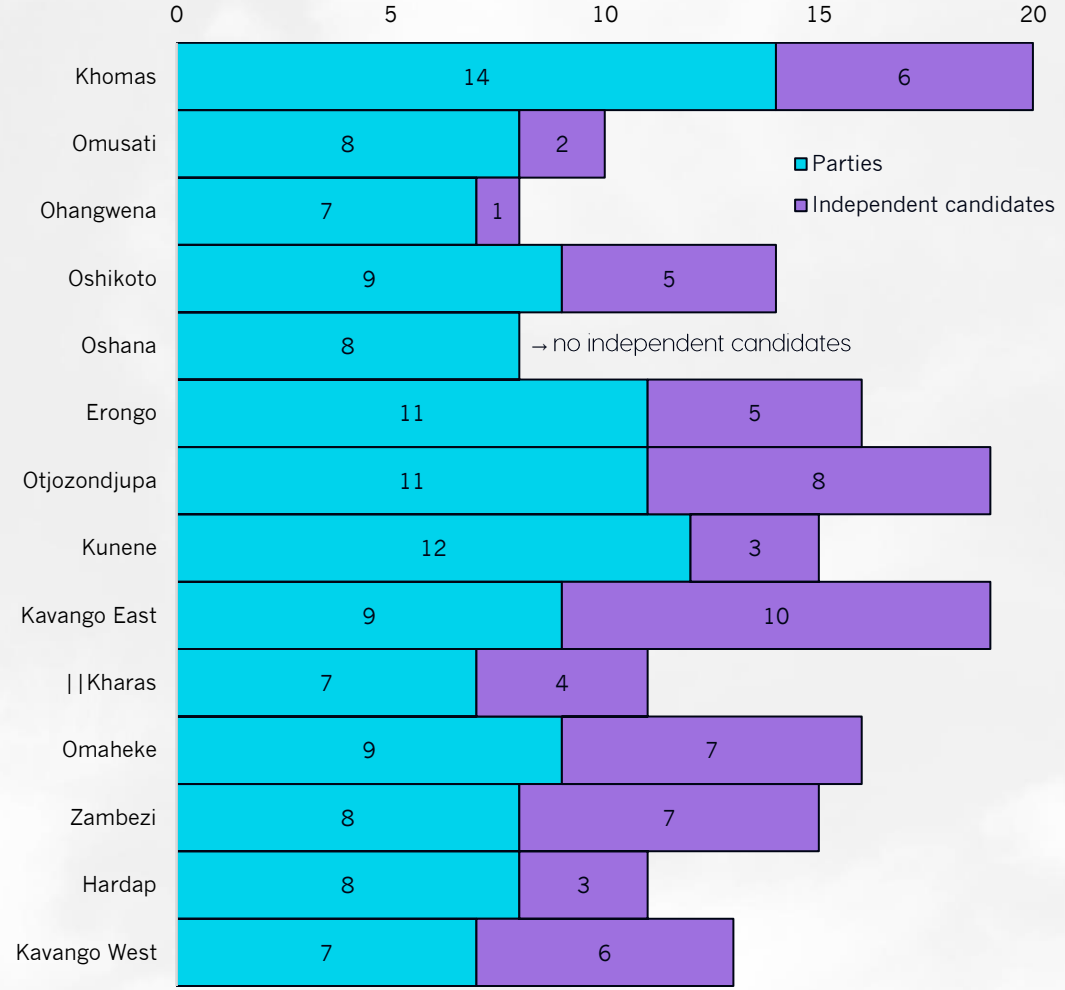
- Karasburg West (29.7%)
- Walvis Bay Rural (29.7%)
- Katima Mulilo Urban (29.5%)
- Walvis Bay Urban (29.3%)
- Rundu Urban (26.5%)

Votes and Contestants

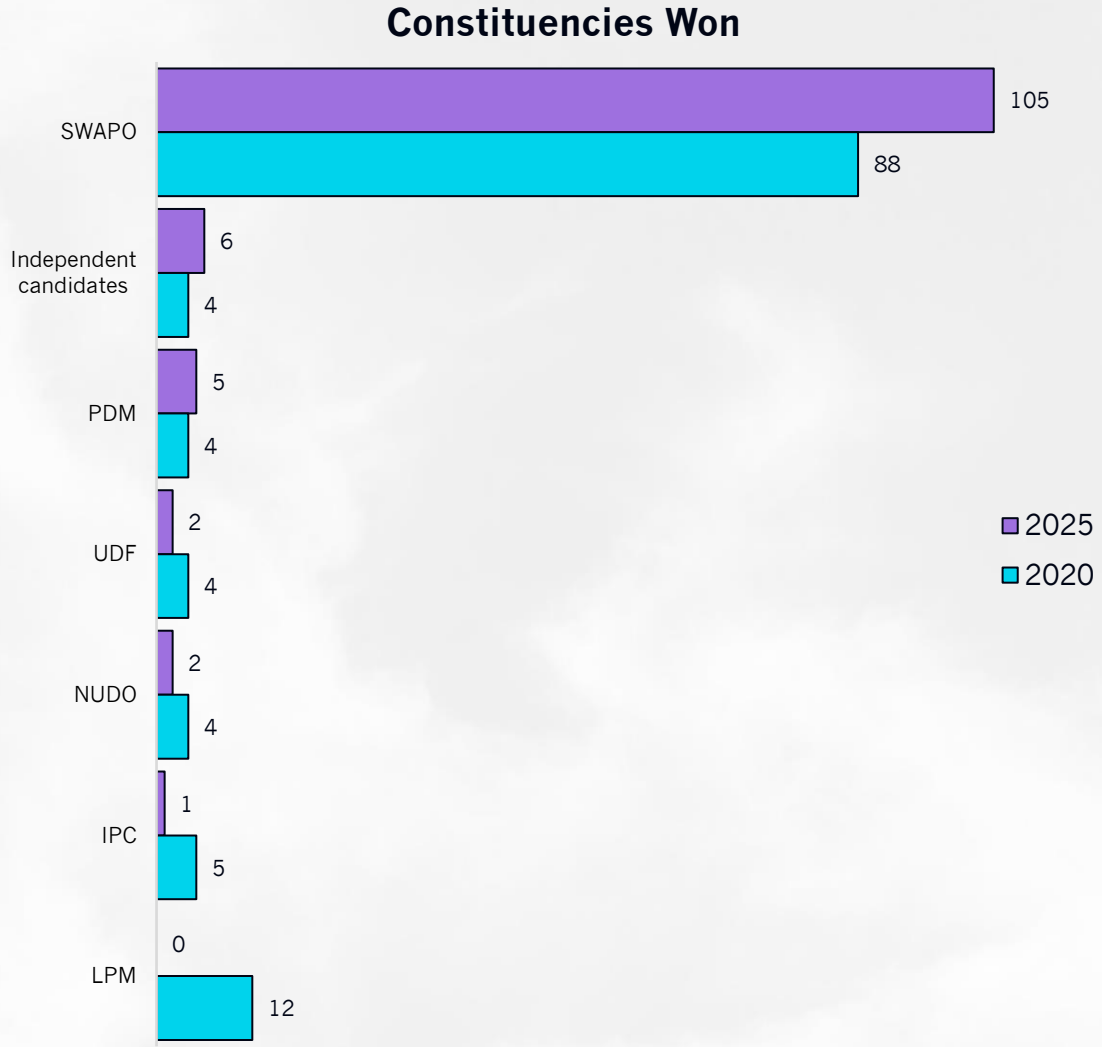
Total Valid Votes



Number of Contestants



Regional Council Election



In the R.C. election, SWAPO won 105 constituencies, up from 88 in 2020. This amounts to victories in 86.7% of the 121 constituencies, compared with 72.7% in 2020. As a share of national votes, SWAPO received 63.4%, an improvement on its 2020 share of 56.7%.

The IPC won only one constituency, Windhoek East, securing 50.0% of the vote (2020: 43.2%). In the same constituency, the SWAPO candidate improved markedly to 41.8%, from 18.8% in 2020. PDM, the third party contesting the constituency, saw its vote share fall to 8.2%, from 29.2%. In 2020, five parties contested Windhoek East, including RP and LPM.

The LPM lost all twelve constituencies it held in 2020.

Six constituencies were won by independent candidates. In Kongola and Rundu Rural, the same independents were re-elected. The remaining independent winners were in Tsumkwe, Mashare, Ncuncuni, and Rehoboth West Urban.

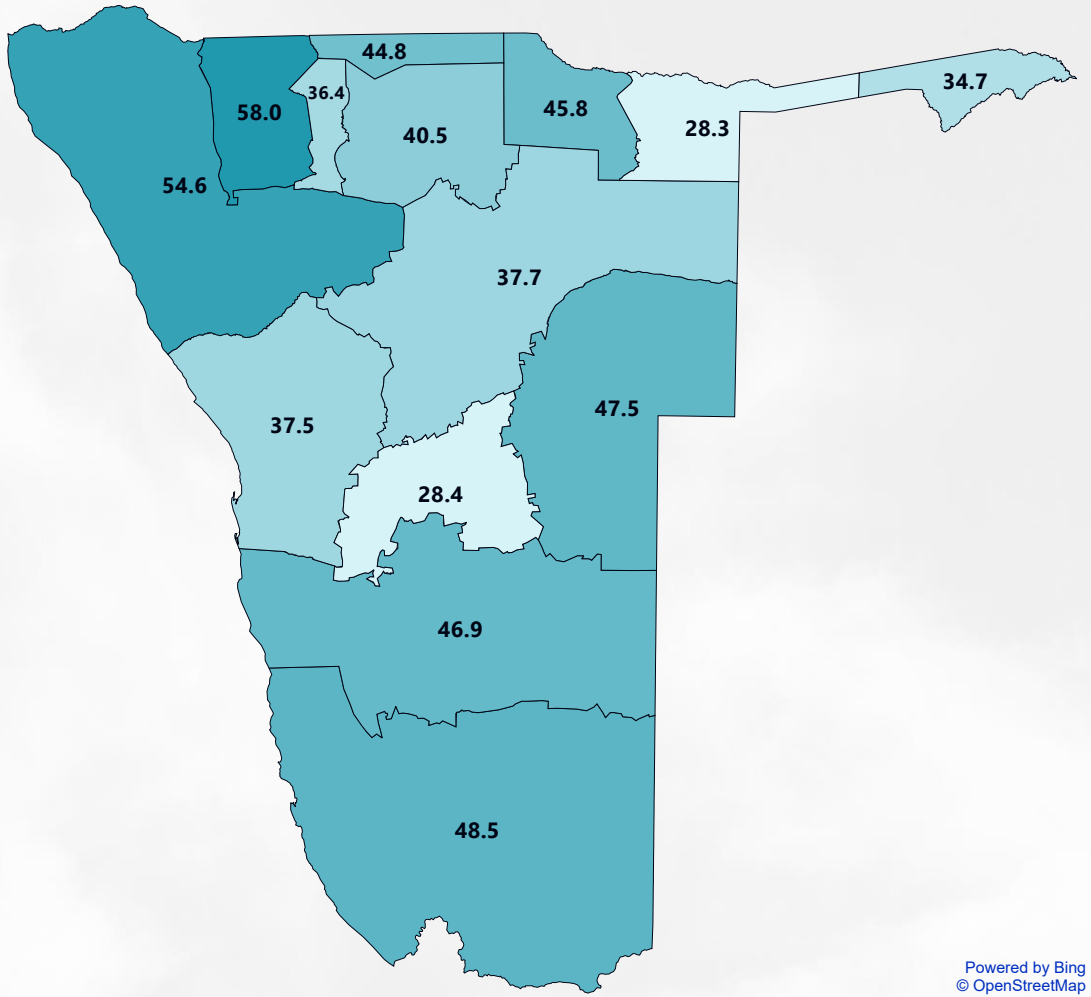
Full vote shares for the four largest parties can be found at end of report

2569

Local Authority Election

Turnout

Voter Turnout (% of Registered Voters)



In L.A. elections, seats are allocated proportionally using a two-stage process. First, a seat quota is calculated by dividing the total number of valid votes by the number of seats. Any party that reaches this quota is immediately awarded a seat for each full quota it achieves.

In the second stage, the remaining seats are allocated by comparing each party's leftover votes. Parties with the largest surpluses receive the unallocated seats, even if they did not reach the quota in the first stage.

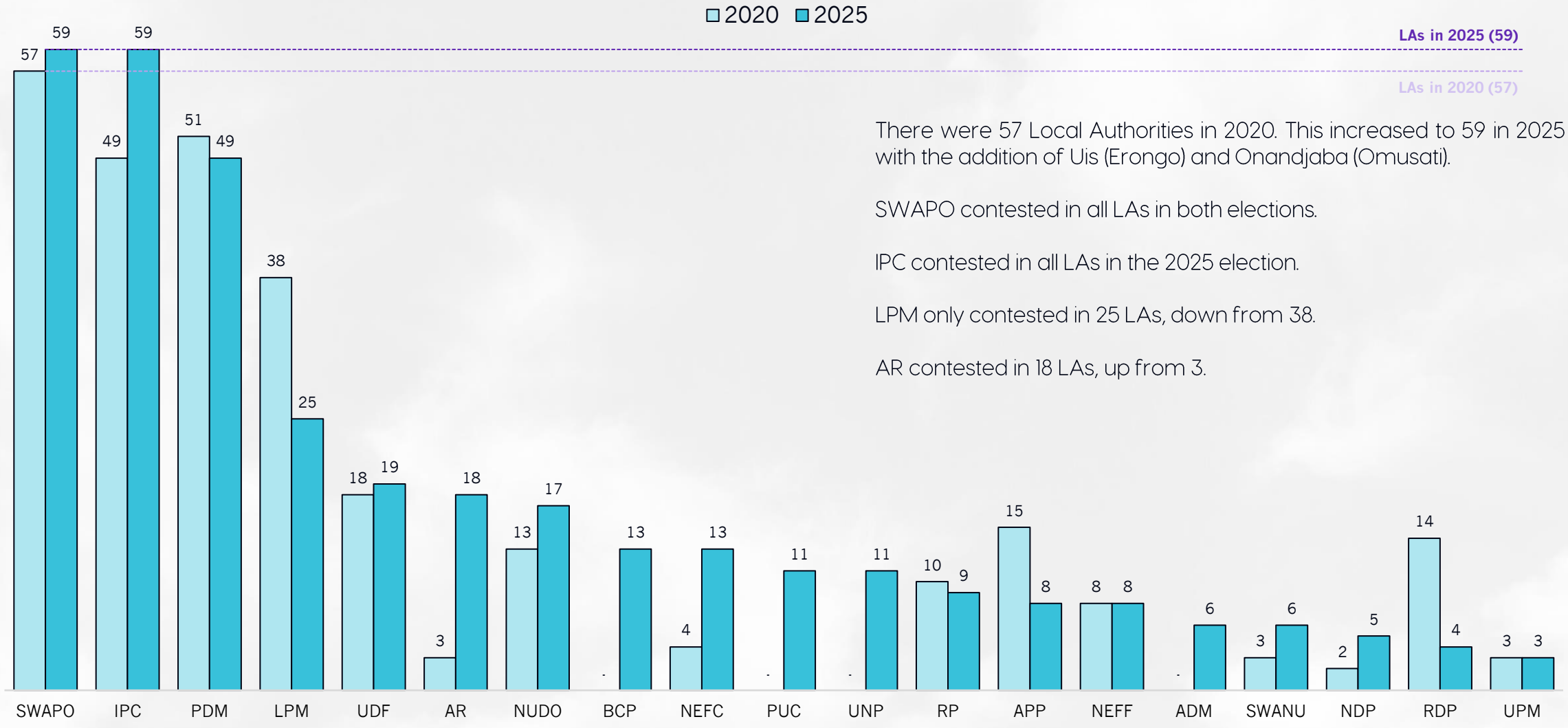
In the L.A. election, only five regions recorded higher turnout than in 2020. Kavango East (28.3%) and Khomas (28.4%) had the lowest turnout, while Omusati recorded the highest (58.0%). Khomas also saw the largest decline in turnout, while Ohangwena recorded the largest improvement, rising to 44.8%.

Turnout

Region	2015	2020	2025	2025 vs. 2020 (p.p.)
Omusati	74.8	59.2	58.0	-1.2
Kunene	56.3	45.5	54.6	9.0
//Kharas	49.6	56.4	48.5	-8.0
Omaheke	43.2	44.2	47.5	3.3
Hardap	48.0	48.9	46.9	-2.0
Kavango West	53.6	37.5	45.8	8.3
Ohangwena	54.0	29.8	44.8	15.0
Oshikoto	58.5	50.0	40.5	-9.5
Otjozondjupa	40.3	41.5	37.7	-3.9
Erongo	40.2	47.8	37.5	-10.4
Oshana	43.8	45.9	36.4	-9.5
Zambezi	39.5	37.1	34.7	-2.4
Khomas	32.7	39.8	28.4	-11.4
Kavango East	35.3	23.5	28.3	4.8

Source: ECN

Number of LAs Contested in (excl. single LA parties)



There were 57 Local Authorities in 2020. This increased to 59 in 2025 with the addition of Uis (Erongo) and Onandjaba (Omusati).

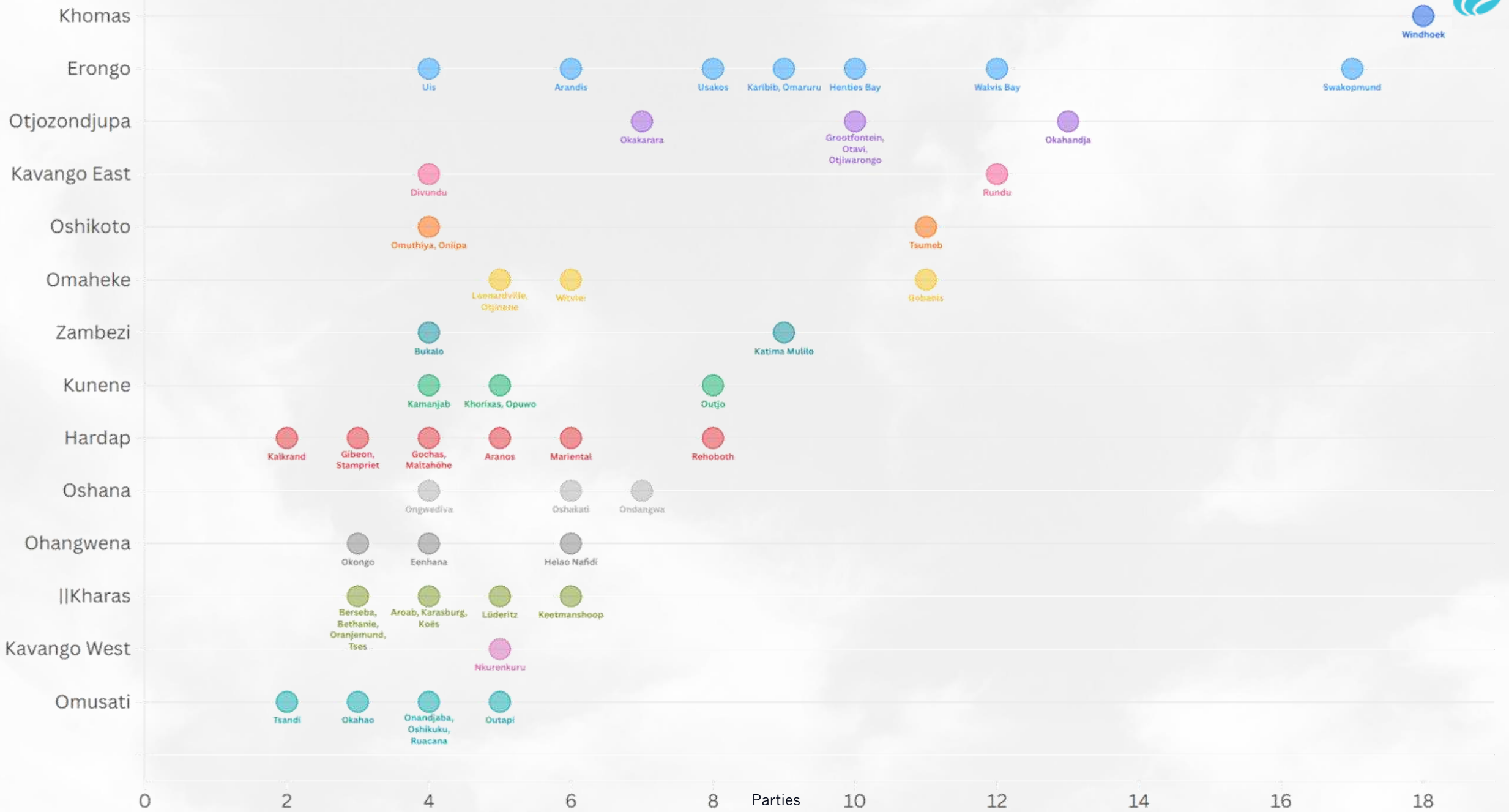
SWAPO contested in all LAs in both elections.

IPC contested in all LAs in the 2025 election.

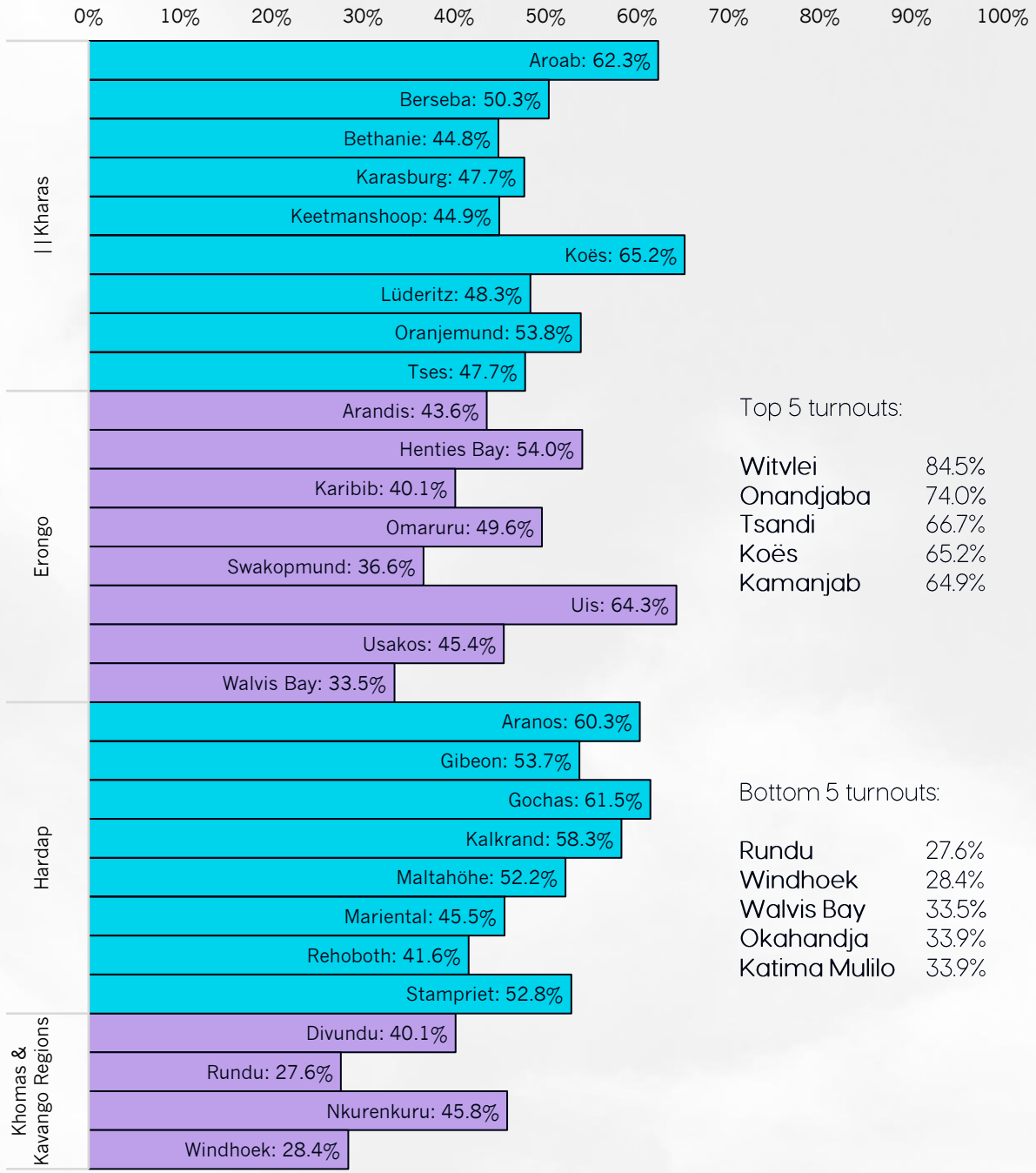
LPM only contested in 25 LAs, down from 38.

AR contested in 18 LAs, up from 3.

LAs by Number of Parties Contesting



Voter Turnout by LA

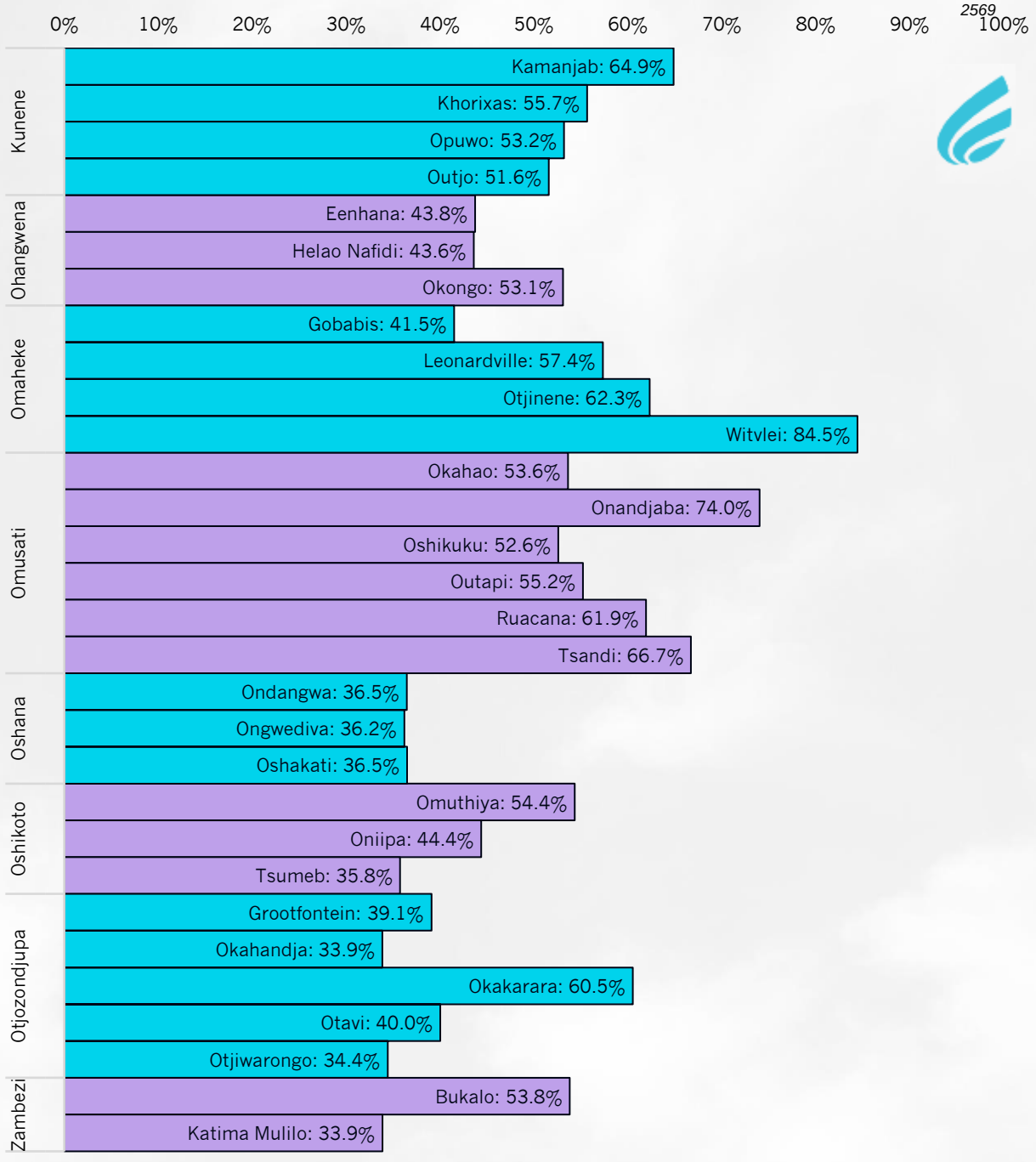


Top 5 turnouts:

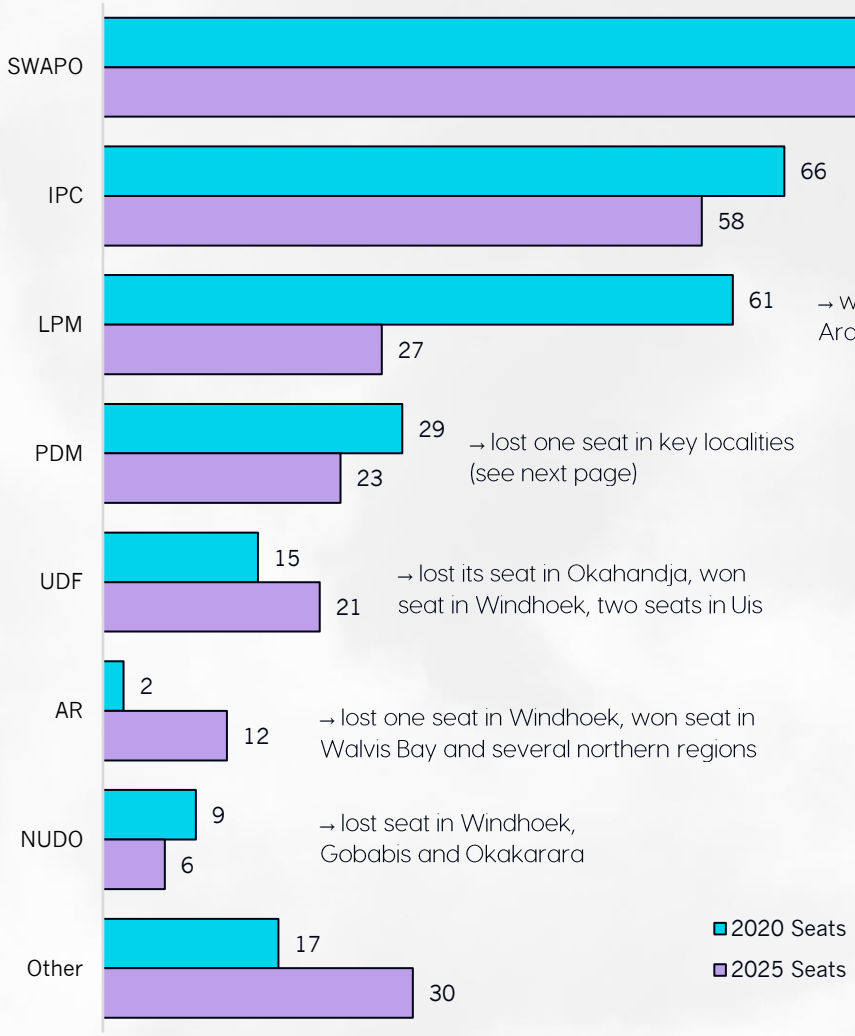
Witvlei	84.5%
Onandjaba	74.0%
Tsandi	66.7%
Koës	65.2%
Kamanjab	64.9%

Bottom 5 turnouts:

Rundu	27.6%
Windhoek	28.4%
Walvis Bay	33.5%
Okahandja	33.9%
Katima Mulilo	33.9%



Total LA Seats



→ won two seats in Aranos (only LA with +2 change), lost two seats in Oshakati (only LA with -2 change)

↓
gained in 30 LAs, including 4 and 3 in new LAs Onandjaba and Uis, respectively

→ won seat in Grootfontein (only improvement), lost in 22 LAs, notably, -3 in Bethanie, Aranos, Gibeon, Stampriet; -2 in Berseba, Keetmanshoop, Kalkrand, Rehoboth

→ lost one seat in key localities (see next page)

→ lost its seat in Okahandja, won seat in Windhoek, two seats in Uis

→ lost one seat in Windhoek, won seat in Walvis Bay and several northern regions

→ lost seat in Windhoek, Gobabis and Okakarara

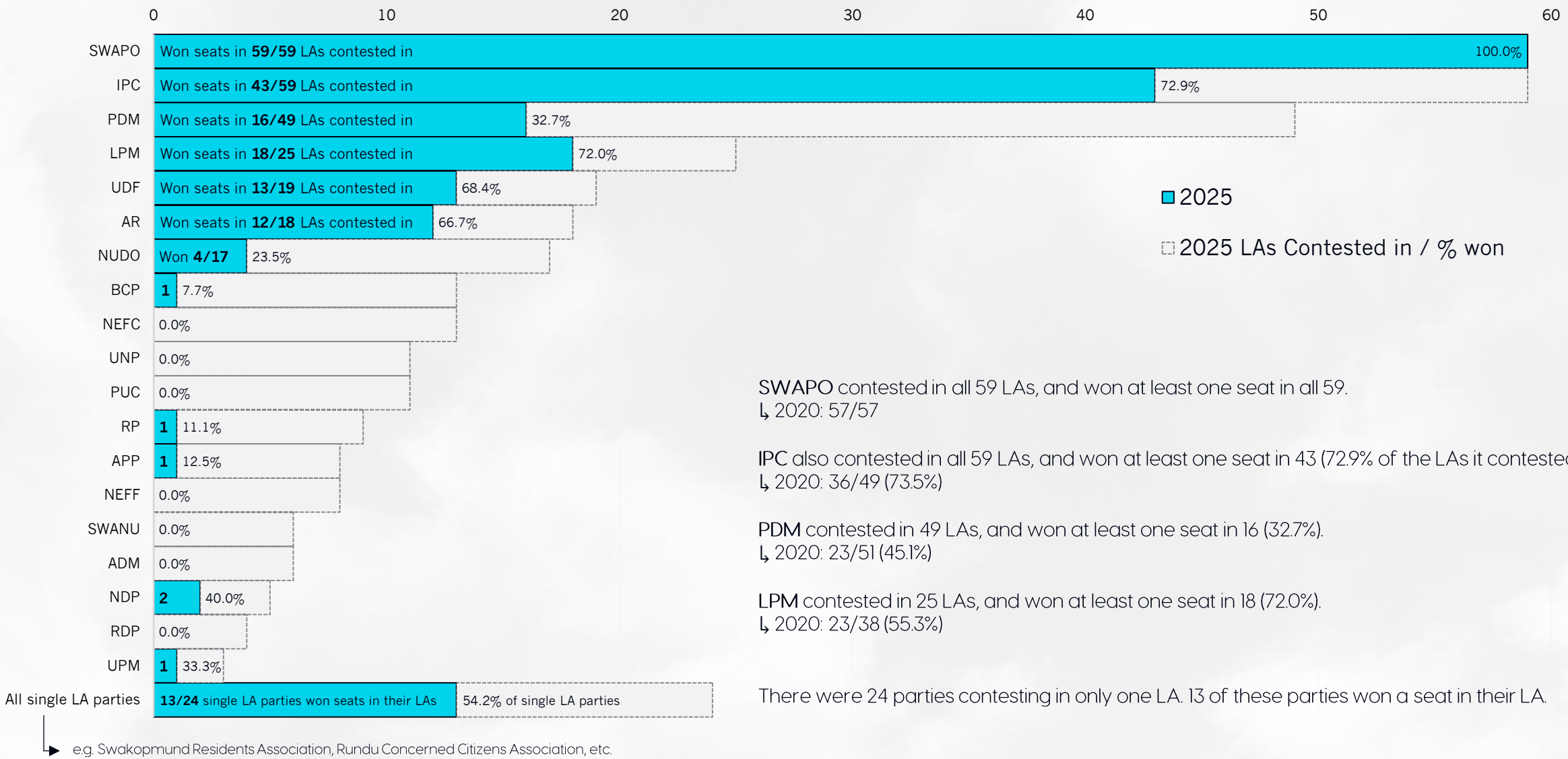
Gain/Loss in Total Seats by Region

Region	SWAPO	AR	UDF	NUDO	PDM	IPC	LPM	Other
||Kharas	+9	-	-	-	+2	+2	-13	-
Erongo*	+6	+2	+4	-	-3	-	-2	-2
Hardap	+10	-	-	-	+3	+3	-16	-
Kavango East	-1	+1	-	-	-	-1	-	+1
Kavango West	-2	+1	-	-	-	+1	-	-
Khomas	+3	-1	+1	-1	-	-1	-1	-
Kunene	+1	-	-	-	-2	+1	-2	+2
Ohangwena	-	+1	-	-	-	-2	-	+1
Omaheke	-	-	+1	-1	-2	-	-	+2
Omusati*	+5	+3	-	-	-	-3	-	-
Oshana	+2	+2	-	-	-	-4	-	-
Oshikoto	-	+1	-	-	-1	-3	-	+3
Otjozondjupa	-2	-	-	-1	-1	-1	-	+5
Zambezi	+1	-	-	-	-2	-	-	+1
Total Gain/Loss	**+32**	**+10**	**+6**	**-3**	**-6**	**-8**	**-34**	**+13**

Source: ECN

*additional 5 seats in region due to addition of Uis (Erongo) and Onandjaba (Omusati)

Number of LAs where party won at least one seat



e.g. Swakopmund Residents Association, Rundu Concerned Citizens Association, etc.

SWAPO contested in all 59 LAs, and won at least one seat in all 59.
↳ 2020: 57/57

IPC also contested in all 59 LAs, and won at least one seat in 43 (72.9% of the LAs it contested in).
↳ 2020: 36/49 (73.5%)

PDM contested in 49 LAs, and won at least one seat in 16 (32.7%).
↳ 2020: 23/51 (45.1%)

LPM contested in 25 LAs, and won at least one seat in 18 (72.0%).
↳ 2020: 23/38 (55.3%)

There were 24 parties contesting in only one LA. 13 of these parties won a seat in their LA.

Seat Allocation (Largest 15 Localities)

Locality	Seat Number														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Windhoek	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	IPC	IPC	LPM	AR	PDM	UDF
Walvis Bay	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	IPC	IPC	AR	JWBRA					
Swakopmund	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	IPC	SRA	SRA	LPM	UDF					
Rundu	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	AR	RCCA	RUCA								
Oshakati	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	AR								
Otjiwarongo	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	LPM	UDF								
Katima Mulilo	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	NDP								
Okahandja	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	LPM	ORPA								
Rehoboth	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	PDM	RITMA	UPM								
Tsumeb	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	CROT	CROT	IPC	AR								
Ongwediva	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	IPC								
Gobabis	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	A-RTS-N	A-RTS-N	A-RTS-N	LPM								
Ondangwa	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	IPC	AR								
Helao Nafidi	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	IPC	BCP								
Keetmanshoop	SWAPO	SWAPO	SWAPO	LPM	LPM	LPM	IPC								

Newcomer: **A Right to Shelter Foundation of Namibia (A-RTS-N)** won three seats in Gobabis.

- Excluding the Khomas region, the Gobabis constituency has the highest rate of shacks in Namibia (57.0%).*

Changes from 2020 (largest 5):

Windhoek:
- SWAPO: +3
- UDF: +1
- IPC, LPM, AR, NUDO: -1 each

Walvis Bay:
- SWAPO: +2
- AR: +1
- IPC, LPM, PDM: -1 each

Swakopmund:
- SWAPO: +1
- IPC: -1

Rundu:
- AR: +1
- IPC: -1

Oshakati:
- SWAPO: +2
- AR: +1
- IPC: -2

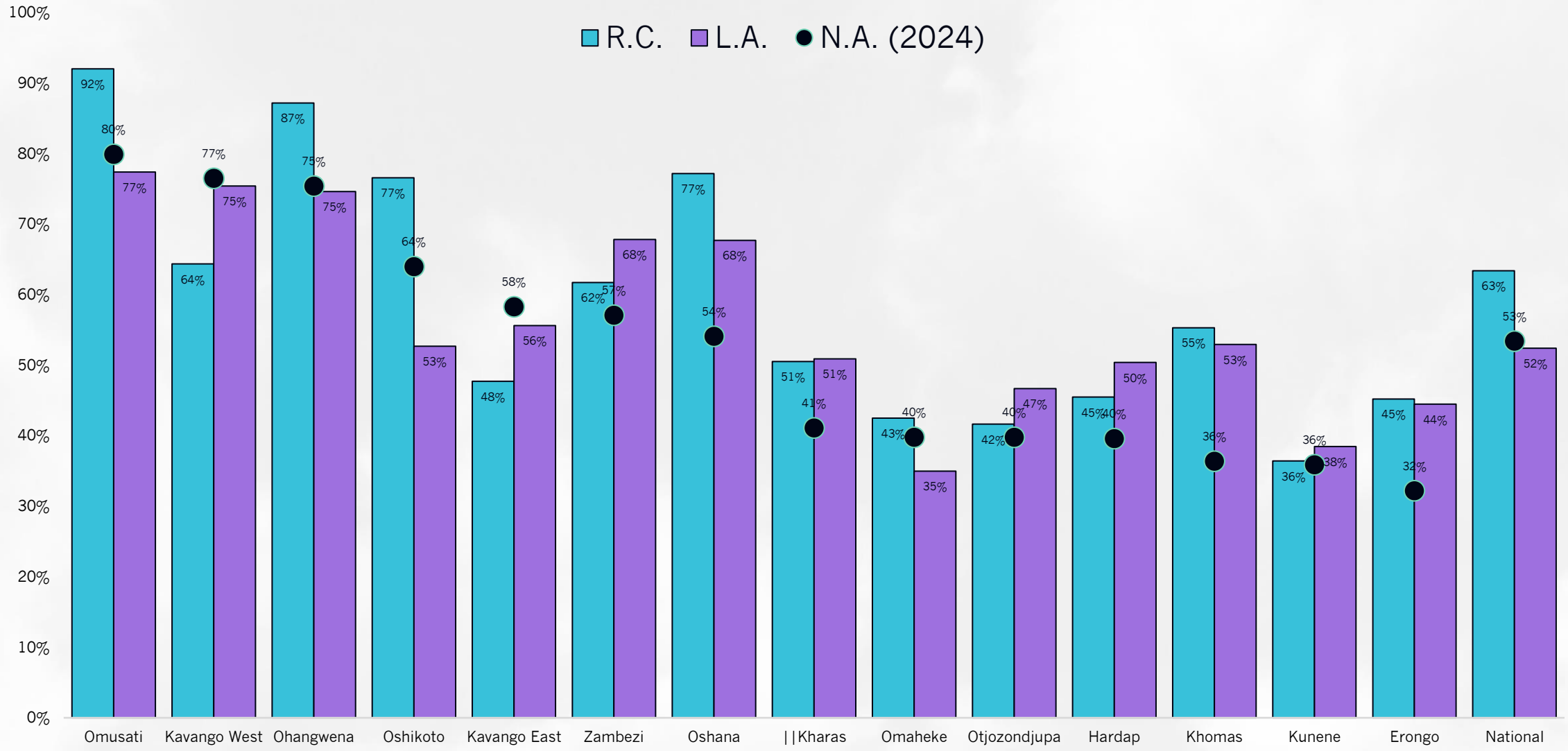
Source: ECN

*behind Moses ǁGaroëb (85.9%), Tobias Hainyeko (84.3%) and Samora Machel (72.5%) constituencies.

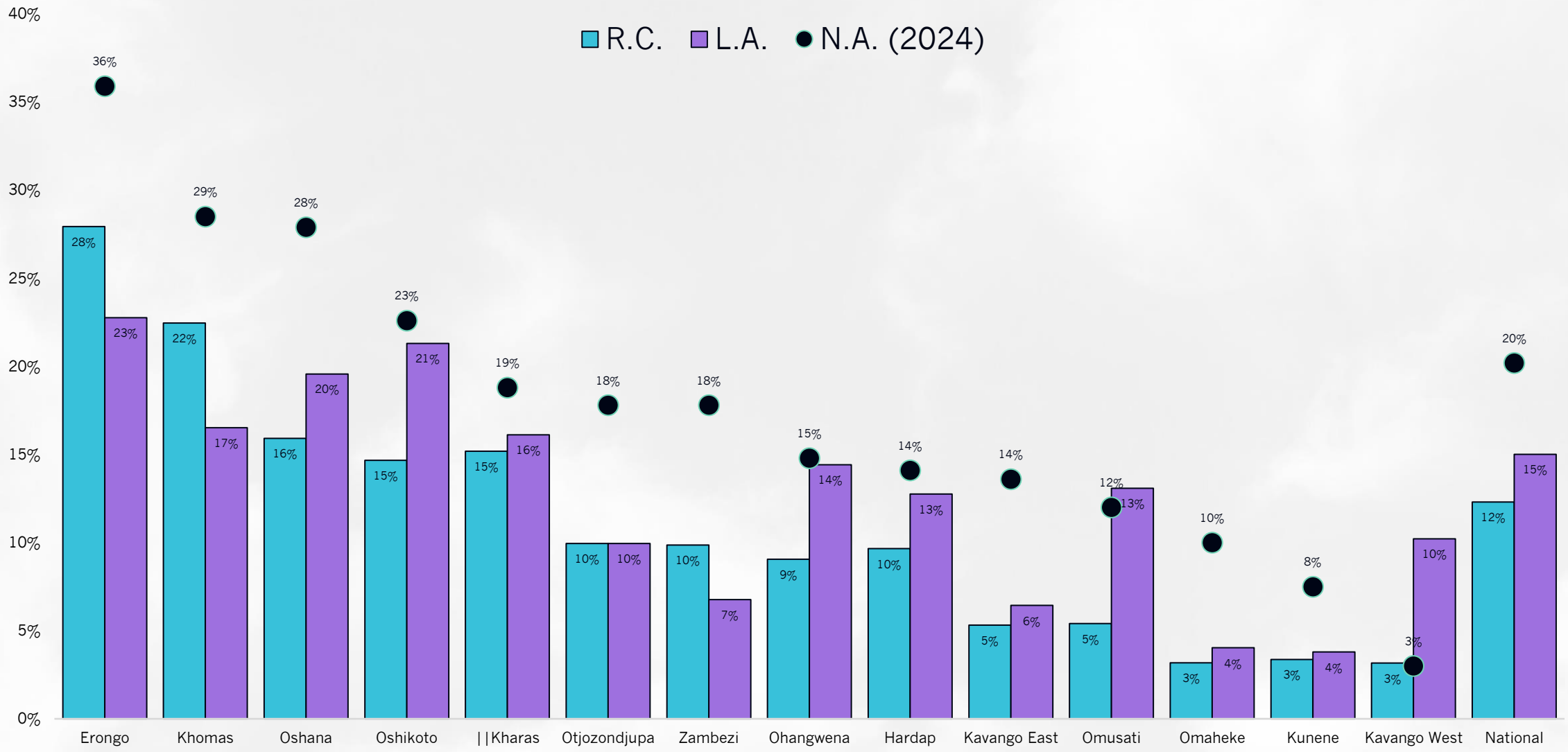
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Additional: Party L.A. & R.C. Support vs National Support

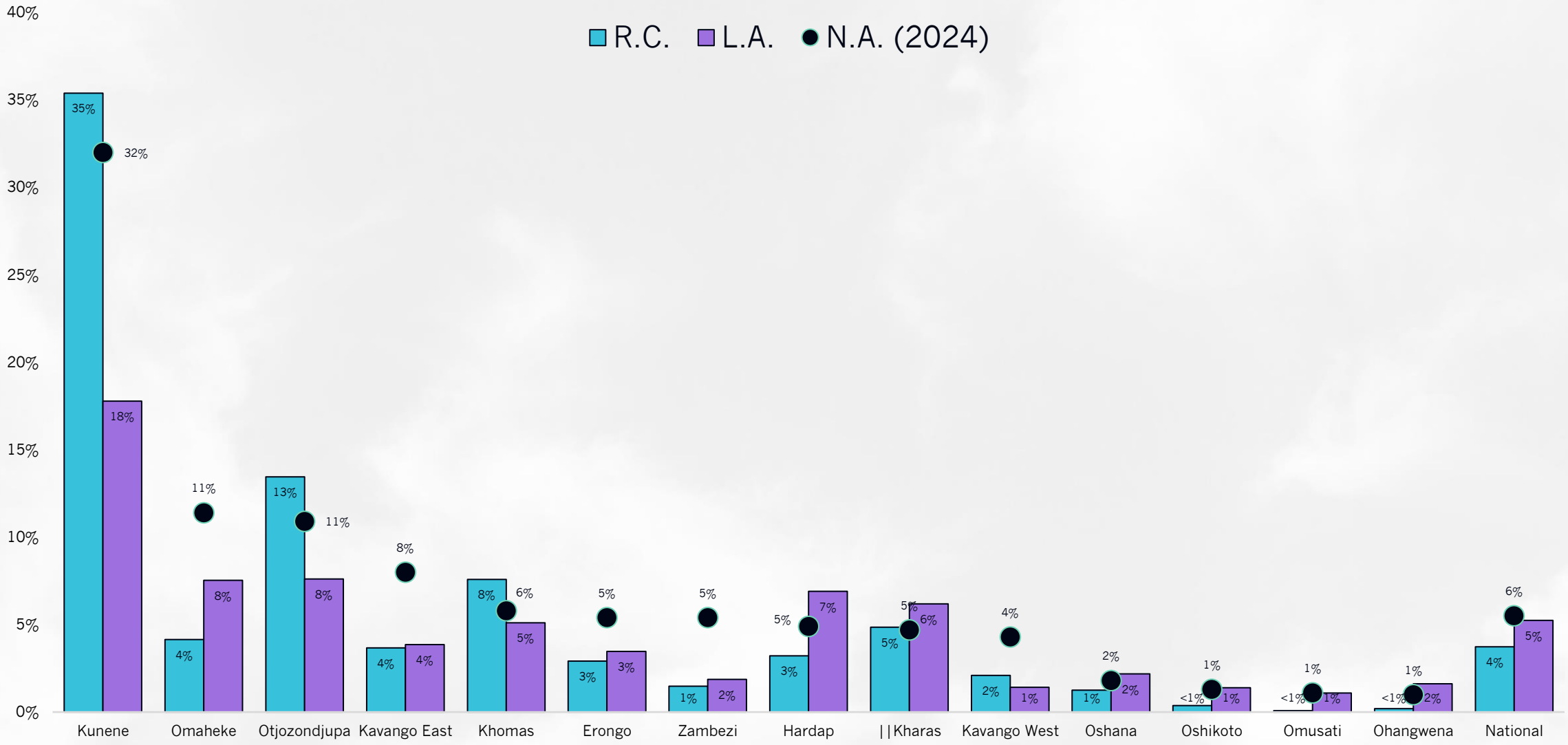
SWAPO Vote Share



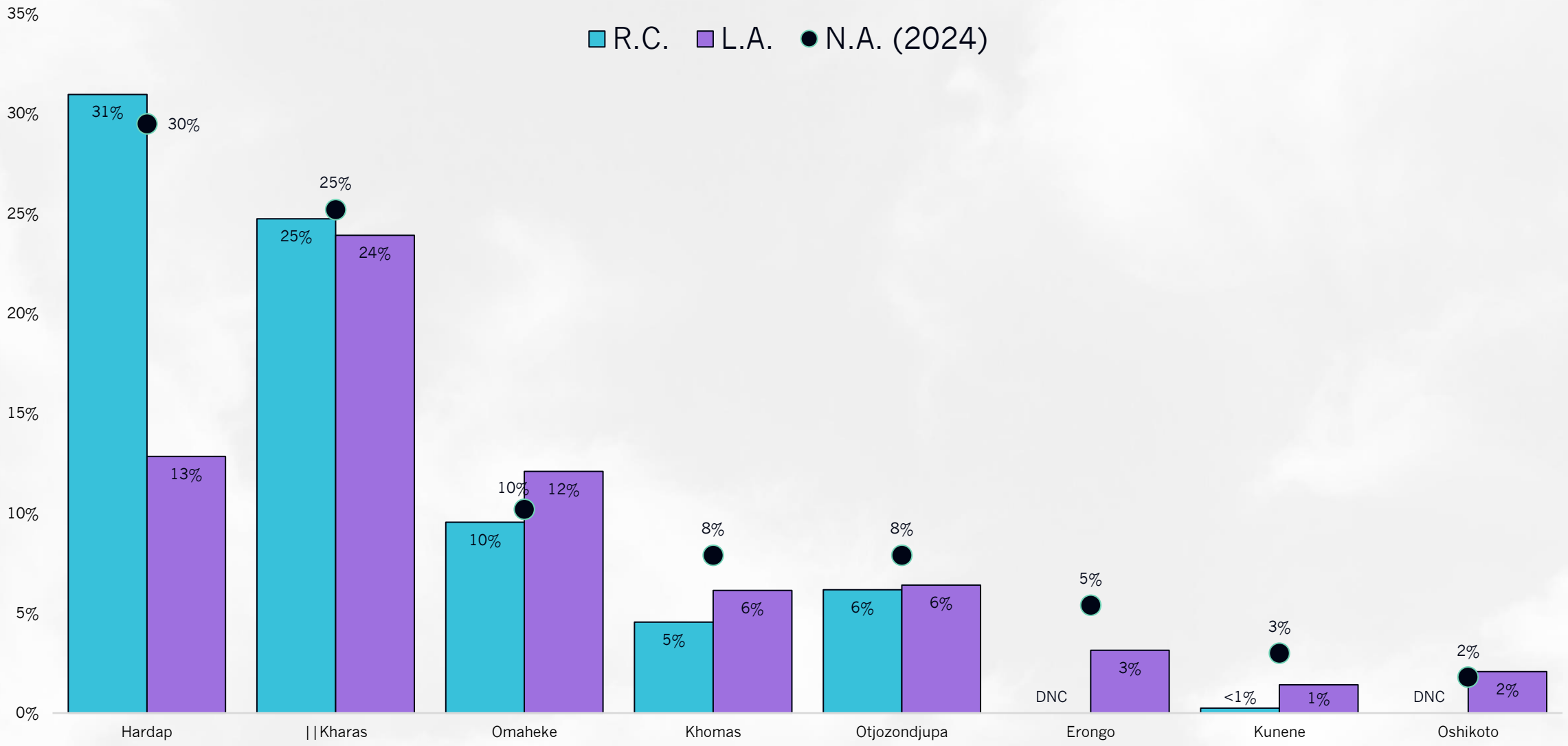
IPC Vote Share



PDM Vote Share



LPM Vote Share



Did not contest in other regions

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CIRRUS

35 Schanzen Road, Windhoek, Namibia | +264 (0) 61 256 666 | info@cirrus.com.na