

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date:** August 29, 2025**Tight Race in Akwatia By-Elections: NDC's Bernard Baidoo Holds Slim Lead Over NPP's Solomon Asumadu – Sanity Africa Survey**

Sanity Africa undertook a constituency-level opinion poll [between August 1st and August 27th 2025] ahead of the Akwatia Parliamentary By-Elections, scheduled for September 2, 2025. The survey shows a tight race between the NDC's Bernard Baidoo and the NPP's Solomon Asumadu, with Baidoo holding a slight edge of 52.3% to Asumadu's 47.7% among likely voters.

The by-election was triggered by the passing of sitting NPP MP Hon. Ernest Kumi. While the NDC went through its usual selection process, resulting in the emergence of Lawyer Bernard Baidoo, the NPP opted for a non-conventional approach by handpicking Solomon Asumadu, a local figure in the mining sector.

Survey Snapshot

- Total Registered Voters: 52,328
- Sample Size: 1,568 (≈3% of total voters)
- Estimated Voter Turnout: 48% (25,117)
- Polling Stations Covered: 39 out of 119
- Communities Covered: 17

Key Survey Results

Candidate	Support (%)
Bernard Baidoo (NDC)	52.3%
Solomon Asumadu (NPP)	47.7%

Margin: 4.6 percentage points**Interpretation:** A closely contested race, with Baidoo holding a modest lead. Voter mobilization will be crucial.**Summary demographic figures:**

Group	Baidoo (NDC)	Asumadu (NPP)
Christians	49.1%	50.9%
Muslims	50.3%	49.7%
Youth (18–40)	40.4%	59.6%
Unemployed	47.2%	52.7%
Graduates	82.7%	17.3%
No Formal Education	44.0%	56.0%



What do these figures mean for both candidates?

- The NPP's decision to bypass primaries may lead to internal dissatisfaction. Potential parliamentary candidates and grassroots supporters excluded from the process may not fully back Solomon Asumadu at the polls.
- Asumadu enjoys strong support among the unemployed and individuals involved in 'galamsey' (illegal mining). The NPP may be able to capitalize on this by focusing its messaging on job creation, informal sector regularization, and economic inclusion.
- The NDC's overwhelming support among graduates and educated voters presents a key strategic opportunity. Baidoo's campaign could strengthen its appeal by highlighting professionalism, legal reform, education, and governance issues.

Voter Turnout: The key Factor

Historically, Ghana has had a very low by-election turnout, with previous elections barely passing 50%. With this in mind, Sanity Africa makes the following assumptions:

- Estimated turnout is a low 48%, due in part to heavy security presence and political fatigue following the MP's death.
- However, survey data indicates that door-to-door campaigns, reduced visible security, and even modest financial inducements could increase turnout.

Our key take away:


"In such a closely contested by-election, *mobilization is everything*. The candidate who best activates their base and overcomes turnout barriers will likely emerge victorious."


Conclusion

In conclusion, with the by-election just days away, Akwatia is witnessing one of the tightest races in recent memory. Lawyer Bernard Baidoo of the NDC has a marginal lead, but Solomon Asumadu remains within striking distance. Both campaigns will need to sharpen their ground game and voter mobilization strategies to secure victory.

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