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Final National Polls

Base case: comfortable PRI win

The 'quiet period' for the elections began today. All the major polling shops published at the top of the week the results of nationwide surveys taken in the final days of June. Most pollsters also estimated the number of congressional seats that would result from their voting estimates.

The majority of the polls point to a comfortable 5-6% PRI margin in the nationwide vote for the Chamber of Deputies. All the polls show that the PRI has maintained or increased its lead since the May surveys. This median outcome would be enough to give the PRI a substantial plurality in the 500 seat Chamber, but not a majority.

Several of the polls point to alternative outcomes:

- GEA-ISA shows the PRI and PAN essentially tied within the margin of error, though they no longer show the PAN ahead, as they did in May.
- GCE and *El Universal* give the PRI a large enough share of the vote that the tri-colored party could potentially have a majority of the seats in the Chamber, either on its own or together with the Green Party.

Other points:

- The pollsters who tried to measure the null vote and voter abstention estimate that these numbers will not be dramatically higher than the historical range for similar elections.
- At least one party (PSD) will certainly lose its registration. Potentially two other parties could fail to make the 2% cut (PANAL, Convergencia). The last election law reform was clearly designed to winnow the ranks of the minor parties.
- The phenomenon of the election could well be the Green Party, PVEM. Through clever marketing, the championing of the death penalty, the overt support of the TV broadcasters, and its possible role as the swing bloc in the Chamber, the PVEM will probably emerge with a greater weight in the next Congress than its national numbers suggest. The fact that many of the PVEM candidates have ties to the broadcasters has not gone unnoticed.

Key Dates

7/5: Election Day

9/1: Start of new Congressional session; President delivers *Informe*.

10/18: Tabasco and Coahuila local elections

	GEA-ISA	GCE	Mitofsky	Reforma	Universal	Parametria
Probable voters, "effective vote" (excluding undecideds)						
	34%	31%	32%	33%	33%	31%
	36%	39%	37%	38%	42%	37%
	19%	15%	15%	14%	15%	16%
	4%	5%	5%	7%		6%
	4%	4%	5%	3%		4%
		3%	2%	2%		3%
	3%	2%	2%	2%		2%
		1%	1%	1%		1%
Change in PRI margin (in one month)	+ 4%	0%	+ 1%	+ 1%	+ 1%	0%
Undecided probable voters		13%	9%		29%	
Estimated participation rate		38%		41%		
Estimated null vote	5%			3.5%		
All surveys were nationwide, face-to-face household surveys						
Sample size	1,200	1,500	2,000	1,515	1,156	1,200
Statistical margin for error	3%		2.2%		2.8%	2.8%
Survey date	6/25-28	6/26-29	6/25-26	6/26-28	6/23-26	6/26-29

	GEA-ISA	GCE	Mitofsky	Reforma	Universal	Parametria
Distribution of Seats in Chamber of Deputies						
	175	148	147 - 177	170	n/a	150
	212	237	210 - 234	220	n/a	225
	95	81	78 - 92	76	n/a	
		15	8 - 16			
		9	8 - 13			
		5	0 - 6			
		5	0 - 6			
		0	0			
				34		125

Sources:

[GEA-ISA](#), [GCE](#), [Mitofsky](#), [Reforma](#), [Universal](#), [Parametria](#).

(note: in accordance with electoral law, the results of the surveys have been removed from the web sites until after the elections. Contact [Zemi](#) if you would like to receive copies of the file archives.)