
Brazilians to the Polls; Most Likely There'll Be a Runoff

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Brasilia, Oct 7 (Prensa Latina) Brazilians are coming to the polls today under the forecast that most likely there'll be a runoff election between the two leading candidates: Jair Bolsonaro, from the Liberal Social Party (PSL), and Fernando Haddad, from the Workers Party (PT).

This Sunday Brazilians are electing the country's new president and vice-president, along with 81 members of Congress, 513 members of the lower chamber and 27 state governors (including the Federal District of Brasilia).

Though there are another three runners, the race is between Bolsonaro and his vice presidential hopeful Hamilton Mourao, and Haddad and his running-mate Manuela D'avila.

According to the latest poll by Instituto Vox Populi and Brazil 247 digital daily, Bolsonaro would be getting 34 percent of the votes while Haddad, 27 percent, below the needed ballots to win the presidency in the first electoral round.

The remaining candidates have the following percentage of support from voters: Ciro Gomes of the Labor Democratic Party is at 10 percent, Geraldo Alckmin of the Brazilian Social Democratic Party is fourth with 7 percent, and Marina Silva of the Network of Sustainability has 4 percent.

Vox Populi's director Marcos Coimbra said with such results there is the likelihood there'll be a runoff election in January.

A forecast for the runoff elections still gives Bolsonaro a slight lead, 40-37, over Haddad, and

38-36 over Gomes.

An ultra right politician Bolsonaro has been criticized nationally and internationally for his authoritarian, sexist, racist, homophobic and fascist comments and behavior.

His running-mate Mourao, a retired general, has threatened with a military coup in Brazil if they don't win.

Both Mourao and Bolsonaro have repeatedly praised Brazil's military dictatorship (1964-1985), which tortured, forcibly disappeared and murdered thousands of people.

Haddad served as minister of education from 2005, during Lula's presidency, to 2012, when Rousseff was serving her first term.

D'Avila, 37, comes from the Communist Party of Brazil. Though young for a politician she nonetheless brings vast political and activist experience to the PT's presidential ticket.

Polls also reveal Bolsonaro is the most rejected candidate: 55.7 percent of voters are against him, followed by Alckmin at 52.8 percent, Haddad comes third with 48.3 percent, and Gomes with 37.1 percent.
