

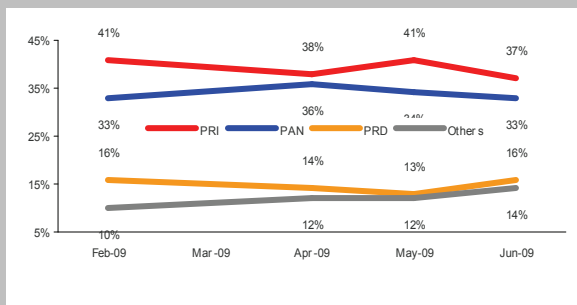
Alan Stoga, President
Daniel Wilson, Managing Director and editor

Polls

PRI with 4-point lead; nullification gains ground

A *Reforma* nationwide poll gives the PRI a 4% point lead (37-33%) over the PAN, down from 7% in May, based on probable voters and excluding undecideds. The PRD has inched back up to 16%, and the minor parties have increased to 14%. Among the latter, the Green Party has 6%, and the PT – which has become *de facto* AMLO's party – has 3%. The survey estimates the participation rate at 39%. The share of voters who say they are considering nullifying their vote has jumped from 10% last month to 15% in the June survey as the vote nullification movement gains ground. ([Reforma 6/17](#))

Preferences for Federal Deputy, probable voters, excluding undecideds



Have you considered annulling your vote on July 5? (probable voters)

	May	June
Yes	10%	15%
No	88%	83%
Don't know	2%	2%

Key Dates

7/5: National congressional, 6 gubernatorial, and 5 other local elections.

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

10/18: Tabasco and Coahuila local elections

IMSS sues Sonora government for day care center deaths

Daniel Karam, the head of the Social Security Institute (IMSS), announced that the IMSS had sued the Sonora State Finance Ministry for civil damages related to the fire in the ABC Day Care Center in Hermosillo. The toll reached 47, with the death of a 2-year old girl today. The Finance Ministry was the day care center's co-tenant, and Karam said, "This fire was caused by the negligence of those responsible for the warehouse used by the State of Sonora." Columnist Ricardo Alemán noted, "The governor of Sonora, **Eduardo Bours**, has become a dead weight for the PRI. ... The tragic scandal that killed the [47] children, the offensive family business of Bours' relatives with day care centers, the phony state investigation, and today's federal lawsuit ... are a lethal media blow which could wind up painting Sonora blue [the color of the PAN]." ([Excelsior 6/22](#), [Universal 6/22](#))

More citizen pressure for reform

Alejandro Martí, the head of the organization [Mexico SOS](#) that he founded after the kidnap-murder of his son, launched a new program called "My Vote for Your Commitment." He is calling on voters to support only candidates that sign notarized pledges to support a package of security and democratization reforms. Martí was joined by **Ana Franco**, the head of [Mexico United Against Crime](#) and **Meyer Klip**, the head of the [Citizens Council for Public Safety](#) in making the announcement. Today, SOS Mexico announced the first group of 97 candidates who submitted pledges that qualified. ([Reforma 6/15](#))

PRI-PAN debate called off at last minute

The scheduled debate between the heads of the PRI and the PAN, **Beatriz Paredes** and **Germán Martínez**, was called off after the Radio and TV Chamber (CIRT) refused to broadcast it. The PRD and the PSD parties filed complaints with the Federal Electoral Institute about being excluded, and the broadcasters said the risk of being sanctioned by the IFE was too great. Columnist Sergio Sarmiento noted that the IFE has no legal basis for opposing the debate, but, "In Mexico everything that is not expressly prohibited is permitted ... unless the IFE says otherwise." ([Reforma 6/16](#), [6/17](#))

Iztapalapa pits AMLO against the PRD

The election for borough president of Iztapalapa, the key to the PRD's grip on Mexico City, was further complicated by **Andrés Manuel López Obrador's** call for his supporters to vote for the PT candidate, who pledged not to serve if elected. Columnist Leo Zuckermann called it "Pure surrealism." (More Zuckermann on [our blog](#).) PRD party president **Jesús Ortega** issued a statement saying, "Any party militant who calls for a vote for the candidates of another party is, in reality, betraying our principles and seeking to deceive the citizens who are activists, sympathize, or work for the PRD." ([Excelsior 6/18](#), [Reforma 6/18](#))

More troops sent to Juárez as killings spike up

The Army sent 2,500 fresh troops to Ciudad Juárez, relieving the existing 1,500 man garrison. While gang related killings in the border city dropped to an average of one per day after the initial military intervention in March, in recent weeks the rate has gone back up to 8 or 9 per day, according to authorities. ([Universal 6/21](#)).