

# *Poll reveals 59.5% undecided on early elections in Ecuador*

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Quito, July 23 (RHC)-- With one month to go before the August 20th presidential elections in Ecuador, the level of undecided voters reaches 59.5 percent, according to the Cedatos poll revealed Friday.

The figure was determined in a measurement of presidential voting intention based on 1,300 interviews conducted from July 14 to the 18th in homes in 34 urban and rural localities in the Sierra, Coast, and Amazon regions of the Andean country, Cedatos said.

At least 65 percent do not know the names of the eight presidential candidates registered with the National Electoral Council (CNE), while 98.6 percent do not know the names of the candidates for vice president of the Republic.

Only 37.6 percent know that the elections will be held on August 20th, according to the poll, which has a confidence level of 95 percent and a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

"This reality prevents making a forecast of the presidential elections," and there is an "environment of pessimism, indecision, and ignorance of the electoral process," the pollster said.

Cedatos said the high level of indecision is linked to the lack of "information about the candidates, their professional training and experience in government management on action plans in direct relation to the problems the country is experiencing, such as insecurity, lack of employment, and economic and social management."

The early elections were called after the country's president, Guillermo Lasso, decreed the "death cross" and dissolved the National Assembly on May 17th, just as it had initiated an impeachment trial against him.

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