

Brazilian Presidential Candidates Still Technically Tied Ahead of Runoff



Rio de Janeiro, October 16 (RHC-Xinhua) -- Brazil's two presidential candidates remain technically tied in the lead-up to a runoff on October 26th, according to a poll released Wednesday.

Pollster Datafolha reported conservative opposition candidate Aécio Neves has 45 percent of voter support, while President Dilma Rousseff, who is running for re-election, has 43 percent. As the poll has a two-point margin of error, the candidates are technically tied.

Some 12 percent of those surveyed said they are undecided or will vote blank. In last week's Datafolha poll, Neves and Rousseff had 46 and 44 percent of support respectively.

The latest poll also registered the rejection rate of the two candidates, with 42 percent of the people saying they would not vote for Rousseff under any circumstances, while 38 percent said the same about Neves. The poll, carried out on October 14th and 15th, surveyed 9,081 voters in 366 towns across Brazil.

Rousseff won the first round of voting on October 5 with 41.6 percent of the votes, while Neves garnered 33.6 percent. All polls prior to the first round predicted that Brazilian Socialist Party's candidate Marina Silva would be the runner up, with the numbers showing Neves trailed in third place.

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