Calculation of Voter Turnout on Election Day

The average percentage of voter turnout presented by Urnas Abiertas is an approximation resulting from a citizen observation based on the design of a representative statistical sample at the national level that included the participation of **1.450 observers distributed across the country.**

Utilizing the 2021 electoral information published by the Supreme Electoral Council, a probabilistic national sample was designed with a **confidence level of 95% and a margin of statistical error of 4% utilizing standard deviation.**

The size of the sample was of 536 Voting Centers (VCs), that were surveyed through a **method of counting the flow of voters** that entered the VCs during a period of six hours, in three periods of two hours each: in the morning, in the middle of the day and during the afternoon, then multiplied by weighting the flow per hour and per period cutoff to extrapolate to 11 hours of assistance, the time during which the voting centers were open.

The number of notes that attended each of the observed VCs was compared to the number of people registered to vote in each of the same VCs, according to the official electoral information. Obtaining a percentage of **average national participation of 18.5%** and an average level of national abstention of 81.5%.

Despite the general climate of political violence and the raids that were carried out on the eve of voting day, which resulted in more than 30 arbitrary arrests between November 1 and 7. Of the people called to be part of the citizen observation, 85.67% were able to successfully complete the process. It is thanks to these people that this data can be known to Nicaragua and the world.

Citizen observation network:

- Observers: 1.450 in 563 VCs.
- Citizen observation networks: 3.

Technical data:

- Sample size: 563 VCs, representing 18% of the total 3,106 VCs.
- Confidence level: 95%
- Margin of error: 4%
- Standard deviation.



Observation data:

- Municipalities observed: 153 (100%).
- Districts of Managua observed: 7 (100%).
- Effectiveness of the sample: 85,67%.
- Size of the electoral registry used as reference: 4.478.334 individuals.
- Each VC was observed for 6 hours throughout the day from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Schedule of observation shifts:
 - 7:00 AM 9:00 AM
 - 11:00 AM 1:00 PM
 - 4:00 AM 6:00 PM

Observations:

- The sample design has a slight bias towards the VCs with the highest number of voters.
- The weak point of the data lies in the collection process, since the observation was carried out from outside the VCs, which could result in counting people who entered the precincts and were not going to vote, which in any case could mean a higher turnout reported than the real one.

