

EL SALVADOR

Date of Elections: March 12, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the Legislative Assembly on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of El Salvador, the Legislative Assembly, consists of 52 members elected for 2 years.

Electoral System

All Salvadorian citizens over 18 years of age have the right to vote provided they enjoy their civil and political rights, are of sound mind and are registered on the electoral list of their municipality.

Electoral lists are revised before the election and are used to compile the Central Register of electors. Voting is a right and a moral duty, but is compulsory in only a few departments.

To stand for election to the Legislative Assembly, a candidate must be Salvadorian by birth, aged at least 25, have been in possession of his political rights during the 5 years preceding the elections, and have been resident or born in the department in which he submits his candidature. In addition, he must be educated and of sound morals.

Elections to the Legislative Assembly are held in each of El Salvador's 14 departments by closed-list system with proportional distribution of seats.

The electoral quotient is obtained in each department by dividing the total valid votes by the number of seats to be filled. Seats that remain unfilled after the first allotment are allocated to the lists with the highest number of left-over votes.

Statistics

1. *Distribution of Seats in the Legislative Assembly*

Political Group	Distribution in the Legislative Assembly
Party of National Conciliation (PCN)	38 (+2)
National Opposition Union (UNO).	7 (—9)
Salvadorian Popular Party (PPS).	6 (+6)
United Democratic Independent Front (FUDI).	M+1)
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