

Politics



08 JUN 9:41 UTC Chile Tactical: Primaries to elect candidates for October municipal elections to be held nationwide from 08:00-18:00 (local time) on June 9; allot for disruptions

Current Situation

- On June 9, nationwide Primarias Municipales y de Gobernadores (municipal and gubernatorial primaries), will be held to elect candidates for various offices, including mayors, councilors, regional governors, and regional councilors to compete in the municipal elections on October 27, 2024.
- The primary elections for governors will only be held in Coquimbo region's Elqui province and in the Aysen region, while the primaries for mayors will be held in 60 communes nationwide. This includes the 11 communes in the Metropolitan region like Calera de Tango, Independencia, Isla de Maipo, La Florida, La Granja, Lo Barnechea, Paine, Penalolen, Providencia, and Puente Alto as well as Futrono in Los Rios and Pucon in La Araucania.
- Voting is voluntary for the citizens, and the voting centers are usually schools, both public and private, and civil associations. The exact location of the polling stations can be found here. Polling stations open at 08:00 (local time) and will close at 18:00.
- Regardless, the "electoral ban" has been in effect since June 6, per which public events are prohibited. The electoral ban ends at 23:50 on June 9.
- The ruling coalition, Frente Amplio, alongwith Socialismo Democratico, Partido Comunista, and Partido Democrata Cristiano have allied to form a list for mayoral elections and choose common candidates in some areas. The opposition, grouped in the right-wing coalition, Chile Vamos, will

- use the same method to select its municipal and regional governorship candidates. More details on the regional candidates can be found <u>here</u>.
- Further, Directorio de Transporte Publico Metropolitano, (Directorate of Metropolitan Public Transportation, DTPM) will implement a special plan in seven communes of Greater Santiago. This includes reinforcing 26 Red Movilidad bus services and operating three additional routes that typically do not run on Sundays, ensuring better access to the 138 voting locations. The communes affected by these changes are Independencia, La Florida, La Granja, Lo Barnechea, Penalolen, Providencia, and Puente Alto.

Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Political campaigns and spontaneous demonstrations are possible in the Metropolitan Region and other major urban centers ahead of the primaries, during the night hours of June 8. Potential gatherings are likely to transpire largely peacefully, without any major incidents of unrest or violence.
- 2. A bolstered security presence is liable to be deployed outside all polling stations, key government buildings, and major public spaces as a precautionary measure from the early morning hours of lune 9.
- 3. Disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic can be anticipated throughout the day, with preemptive road closures and security cordons expected in the vicinity of key government buildings and polling sites nationwide.

Recommendations

Those operating or residing in Chile on June 9 are advised to allot for disruptions to traffic in the vicinity of polling stations due to the slated primaries for the October municipal elections.