

General Election Results - 28 November 2011

On 9 October 2011, President Bharrat Jagdeo called parliamentary elections for 28 November.

In the previous elections held in August 2006, President Bharrat Jagdeo's People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) took 36 of the 65 directly elected seats.

The main opposition People's National Congress Reform-One Guyana (PNCR-1G) took 22 seats. Voting in Guyana has often taken place largely along ethnic lines.

Support for the PPP/C is high among the Guyanese of Indian descent, who account for 50 per cent of the population, while the PNCR-1G has strong backing among the 36 per cent of the population of African origin.

A new party, the Alliance For Change (AFC), took five seats. The AFC, led by former members of the PPP/C, had urged voters not to vote along ethnic lines. The Guyana Action Party and the United Force (TUF) took one seat each.

As the candidate of the winning party, Mr. Jagdeo (PPP/C), in power since 1999, was re-elected by parliament as President and officially sworn in in September for a second five-year term.

Mr. Jagdeo was constitutionally barred from seeking a third consecutive term. He backed his political adviser and PPP/C General Secretary, Mr. Donald Ramotar, as the party's presidential candidate in 2011.

The PPP/C, which was seeking a fifth straight victory, was challenged by an opposition coalition, A Partnership for National Unity (APNU), led by Mr. David Granger, a retired army brigadier.

The APNU included the PNCR and the Guyana Action Party, among others. The AFC, the TUF and

ELECTION SNAPSHOT



ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Proportional Representation

65 elected seats

VOTER TURNOUT

Total Valid Votes	342,236
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Invalid Votes	4,481
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Total Votes Cast	346,717
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Registered Voters	475,496
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Voter Turnout	72.92%
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CRITICAL DATES

Dissolution of House	Thu, 22 Sep 2011
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Nomination Day	Thu, 27 Oct 2011
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Polling Day	Tue, 15 Nov 2011
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First Meeting of New Parliament	Thu, 12 Jan 2012
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the East Berbice Development Association (EBDA) were also vying for seats in the National Assembly.

The PPP/C ran on the government's record, emphasizing that under its administration, the country's GDP per capita rose from US\$ 304 in 1991 to US\$ 2,533 in 2010.

Despite the global economic crisis, the country's economy has grown by an average of 5 per cent uninterruptedly since 2005. Mr. Ramotar pledged to pursue outgoing President Jagdeo's policies.

He said that the PPP/C would work for better housing, education, health and energy security. Mr. Jagdeo called for a peaceful voting process for "a free, secure, socially just and prosperous Guyana".

The APNU pledged to bring about "a good life" for all Guyanese. It proposed to establish a national unity government by inviting all parties to participate in the new government according to their share of seats in the elections.

The APNU promised to work for poverty reduction and sustainable development.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan's AFC argued that Guyana needed to make the "right turn, onto the right track".

It promised to bring 28 changes, including lower taxes reducing the value-added tax from 16 to 12 per cent in its first year of office, and corporate tax from 40 to 35 per cent at the end of its first term. It also promised to create job placement programmes.

On 28 November, 72.92% of the registered 475,000 voters turned out at the polls.

The Organization of American States (OAS) said that free elections were "in progress" in Guyana. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) echoed that sentiment, while noting minor logistical problems related to the electoral roll.

The PPP/C remained the largest party with 32 seats,

but failed to secure a parliamentary majority for the first time in 19 years. The APNU took 26 seats and the AFC, seven. The TUF and the EBDA failed to win parliamentary representation.

On 3 December, Mr. Ramotar was sworn in as the new President, announcing that he would form a minority government - the first since Guyana gained independence from Britain in 1966.

On 12 January 2012, the newly-elected National Assembly held its first session. Mr. Raphael Trotman (AFC) was elected as its new Speaker, becoming the first opposition member to assume the post.

SUMMARY RESULTS							
Political Group	Code	Votes	% votes	Seats			Total
				Contituency	National Top-up		
A Partnership for National Unity	APNU	139,678	40.81%	10	16		26
Alliance for Change	AFC	35,333	10.32%	2	5		7
People's Progressive Party/Civic ✓	PPP/C	166,340	48.60%	13	19		32
The United Force	TUF	885	0.26%	-	-		-
Total Valid Votes		342,236	100%	25	40		65

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SEAT ALLOCATION BY REGION				
Region	APNU	AFC	PPP/C	Total
Region 1	1	0	1	2
Region 2	0	0	2	2
Region 3	1	0	2	3
Region 4	4	0	3	7
Region 5	1	0	1	2

Region 6	0	1	2	3
Region 7	1	0	1	2
Region 8	0	1	0	1
Region 9	0	0	1	1
Region 10	2	0	0	2
Total	10	2	13	25
Top-up	16	5	19	40
Total Seats	26	7	32	65

NATIONAL TOP-UP SUMMARY

Region	Registered Voters	APNU	AFC	PPP/C	TUF	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes	Total Votes	Voter Turnout
Region 1	9,738	887	786	3,472	55	5,200	151	5,351	54.95%
Region 2	27,178	3,287	2,086	12,555	51	17,979	230	18,209	67.00%
Region 3	69,363	14,028	3,343	33,424	70	50,865	604	51,469	74.20%
Region 4	213,147	84,828	10,635	60,851	201	156,515	1,582	158,097	74.17%
Region 5	32,807	8,906	3,079	13,558	29	25,572	338	25,910	78.98%
Region 6	75,199	10,798	11,634	32,360	83	54,875	976	55,851	74.27%
Region 7	9,598	2,843	505	2,376	84	5,808	122	5,930	61.78%
Region 8	4,197	739	995	741	95	2,570	64	2,634	62.76%
Region 9	10,204	2,004	946	4,135	183	7,268	182	7,450	73.01%

Region 10	24,065	11,358	1,324	2,868	34	15,584	232	15,816	65.72%
Total	475,496	139,678	35,333	166,340	885	342,236	4,481	346,717	72.92%

REGIONAL DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL RESULTS

Region	Registered Voters	APNU	AFC	PPP/C	TUF	EBDA	Valid Votes	Invalid Votes	Total Votes	Voter Turnout
Region 1	9,738	868	787	3,458	69	-	5,182	216	5,398	55.43%
Region 2	27,178	3,254	2,159	12,450	71	-	17,934	416	18,350	67.52%
Region 3	69,363	13,852	3,508	33,232	96	-	50,688	781	51,469	74.20%
Region 4	213,147	83,998	11,291	60,344	435	-	156,068	1,748	157,816	74.04%
Region 5	32,807	8,804	3,154	13,470	66	-	25,494	275	25,769	78.55%
Region 6	75,199	10,593	12,008	32,042	147	152	54,942	909	55,851	74.27%
Region 7	9,598	2,838	503	2,373	80	-	5,794	123	5,917	61.65%
Region 8	4,197	693	983	744	121	-	2,541	93	2,634	62.76%
Region 9	10,204	1,982	939	4,111	244	-	7,276	174	7,450	73.01%
Region 10	24,065	11,135	1,465	2,684	59	-	15,343	253	15,596	64.81%
Total	475,496	138,017	36,797	164,908	1,388	152	341,262	4,988	346,250	72.82%