
Regional elections in Andalusia

June 19, 2022



HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Historical political change in Andalusia.** For the first time in democracy, **the People's Party (PP) reaches the absolute majority, which means that PP will govern alone and with majority in the Andalusian parliament.** In 2018 the winning party was PSOE (27.94%), although the sum of blocks ended up facilitating a Government of PP regional leader Juanma Moreno (20.75%) with the support of the liberal Ciudadanos (18.2%) and the far-right Vox (10.97%). The PP of Andalusia and, specifically, its leader Juanma Moreno, becomes one of the key figures in the PP at national level. Moreover, after the departure of Alberto Núñez Feijóo from Galicia to lead the national PP, Moreno is the only regional leader of the PP who will govern after obtaining an absolute majority. The influence of the Andalusian PP will be very relevant in the national PP.
- 2 The early elections have not been penalized.** Taking into consideration that Feijóo has been recently appointed new PP national leader, added to the unprecedented PP-Vox agreement in Castilla y León, a national government coalition in full crisis and a vice-president split from Podemos, the PP regional leader Juanma Moreno made a political bet that has finally been endorsed by the ballot boxes. The citizens have understood the crisis of governability due to the lack of majorities and, concerned about the immediate future, have come to vote in a forceful way.
- 3 Andalusians vote management instead of ideology.** The last polls that assured a leak of left-wing voters towards the PP are confirmed. According to the survey of SIGMA 2 for the media El Mundo, over half of the Andalusian population (56.4%) assess positively the management of the Government of Juanma Moreno, a strikingly high satisfaction among PSOE voters in 2018 (45.6%).
- 4 The PSOE obtains its worst results and Sánchez comes out weakened.** The Socialist candidate Juan Espadas, Sánchez's clear bet, obtains the worst results in the history of the Andalusian Socialists, with 25% of the votes. It is worth remembering that the former PSOE leader in the region, Susana Díaz was expelled from all her institutional and party positions in this community, obtaining 7 seats more than the PP and this nullified any possibility of maintaining her challenge to the leadership Pedro Sánchez at national level, as she intended. Furthermore, there is the perception that the actions of the Government (pact with the Catalan pro-independence supporters; agreements with the Basque pro-independence Bildu; Pegasus spyware case; pandemic; inflation and energy crisis) have weighed down the results of the PSOE in Andalusia. In certain media and circles close to the Government there is already speculation about a reshuffle of the Government after the summer in view of the local and regional elections in 2023 and the last stage of the legislative term.
- 5 The paradox of the second party: does Ciudadanos disappear?** The regional leader of the party, Juan Marín, until now vice-president, well valued by the Andalusians, and key in the formation of Moreno's Government, goes from representing the second party of the Andalusian center-right and disputing the hegemony of the PP by barely 2 points, to losing all of its seats and disappears from the Andalusian political panorama. As already occurred between the general elections of November 2019 and the regional elections in Castilla y León in 2022, it has been demonstrated that, in coalition governments, the party that obtains results is the one that leads the Executive. Therefore, Ciudadanos disappears as institutional actor in Andalusia and, probably, it will mean its next disappearance at the national level.
- 6 Vox slightly grows but does not meet expectations.** Abascal's party keeps on growing in the national political chessboard, although the 'sacrifice' of Macarena Olona (from MP in Congress to candidate in Andalusia) has not brought the very high expectations that this formation had in Andalusia. They have gained 2.5% of the votes with respect to 2018, but the PP doubles in votes/seats to those of Abascal.



- 7 **The losing fight to the left of the left confirms the worst results.** In 2018, the Podemos space (far-left) concurred united under the Adelante Andalucía brand, harvesting a meritorious 17 parliamentarians. However, the fratricidal struggle between Podemos and its former colleagues, embodied in the division between "Adelante Andalucía" and the Andalusian regionalism of Teresa Rodríguez, and "Por Andalucía", wrapped by Yolanda Díaz and Errejón, have caused a relevant loss of support to these formations. The wear and tear of being part of the Government of Sanchez, which forces them to temper that populist discourse that so much mobilized their electorate, added to an increasingly divided and unrecognizable project, weakens this electoral flank to the point of lethally weighing down any option of governability to the left of the left.
- 8 **Among the countercultural leaderships, PP's Feijóo comes out favored.** Since the crisis that led to the resignation of Pablo Casado, the new PP president's bet, based on non-stridency, moderation and management over political agitation, is beginning to produce its effects. The new PP cannot be understood without the Andalusian protagonist role of Juanma Moreno in Madrid, and citizens, more concerned with the immediate future of economic uncertainty, prefer a PP that is recognizable in its management and that leans towards the center, rather than charismatic leaderships.
- 9 **Possible early elections.** The Socialist debacle in Andalusia suggests that the bad results of the PSOE could be projected to the rest of the regions and city councils, something that would definitely hinder Sánchez's chances of successfully facing a national call which, according to the calendar, is due after the local and regional elections. That is why, most probably, his cabinet values both a new government crisis and an early election, taking the entry of the far-right as a casus belli in the purest Macron vs Le Pen style. It is also worth mentioning, with a view to the local, regional and national elections of 2023, the uncertainty posed by the rural movements related to the so-called "emptied Spain". Although they had some success in Castilla y León, this has not materialized in Andalusia, where only one list was presented for the province of Jaén, without any electoral success.

RESULTS



	2022	2018	
PP	43.13% 1,582,412	20.75% 750,778	26
PSOE-A	24.09% 883,707	27.94% 1,010,889	21
VOX	13.46% 493,932	10.91% 396,607	17
PorA	7.68% 281,688	-%	6
ADELANTE ANDALUCÍA-ANDALUCISTAS	4.58% 167,970	-%	4
Cs	3.29% 120,870	18.28% 661,371	3



ANALYSIS

Winners:

- **People's Party (PP)** (58 MPs, +32)
 - Historic result for the PP. PP gets over the double of votes compared to the last elections in 2018.
 - The PP has seen its institutional management recognized. Juanma Moreno reaped in 2018 the worst result in the history of the PP in Andalusia after 37 years of PSOE governments in the region and, after the legislative term of the coalition between Moreno (PP) and Juan Marín (Cs), the PP has obtained great electoral revenue, a large majority of the electorate has endorsed its management with the vote.

Losers:

- **Socialist Party (PSOE)** (30 MPs, -3)
 - The Socialist Party obtains the worst electoral result in its history in Andalusia, its historical bastion. Moreover, with a candidate who has held the mayoralty of Sevilla, the PSOE has lost the elections in this province for the first time, a candidate quite unknown outside the capital.
 - This is the third consecutive defeat for the Socialists after the regional elections in Madrid (2021) and in Castilla y León (2022).
 - With a view to the election year 2023, the PSOE may carry out a government crisis and strengthen leaderships at local and regional level.
- **Por Andalucía** (5 MPs, -12)
 - Bad results for the far-left formation due, in part, to the general demobilization in the classic electorate of the left, more accentuated in the axis to the left of the PSOE. The tension between the core of Podemos and the vice-president of the national Government Yolanda Díaz, who originated the process of creation of a transversal platform, has taken its toll.
 - Likewise, the coalition formed by numerous parties with disparate interests and initial disputes when forming the lists, as well as a practically unknown candidate, have also taken their toll.
- **Ciudadanos** (0 MPs, -21)
 - The liberal formation disappears from the political map in Andalusia as it does not obtain any deputy, which confirms the trend of this formation towards irrelevance.

Expectations not met:

- **Vox** (14 MPs, +2)
 - It improves the results obtained in 2018, a year in which it achieves for the first time in its history parliamentary representation precisely in Andalusia. But it does not achieve the success it expected, and the PP will not need Vox to govern.
 - Vox was influential for the government formation following the latest regional elections in Madrid and Castilla y León, but it is not in Andalusia.



NEXT STEPS

Date	Event
19 June	Elections
14 July	Constitution of the new Parliament and election of the presidency and board of the regional Parliament
29 July	Deadline to propose candidate/s for the presidency of the Andalusian government
TBC	Investiture debate (no specific deadlines) and vote



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