

Fire Destroys Most Voting Machines in Venezuela's Capital

By [Reuters](#)

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Venezuela's elections council said on Sunday that a fire over the weekend destroyed most of the voting machines stored in its main warehouse in the capital, Caracas, potentially complicating parliamentary elections scheduled for this year.

Nearly 50,000 voting machines and almost 600 computers went up in flames as a result of the fire that broke out on Saturday, said elections council chief Tibisay Lucena.

"There was little that could be rescued," Lucena said in a statement broadcast on state television.

"If there are small groups (of people) who think that this will end our constitutionally established electoral processes, they are very wrong."

She did not elaborate on how many voting machines were still available for use, or how the incident would affect future elections.

Lucena said she had asked state prosecutors to look into the cause of the blaze, which did not cause any injuries.

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