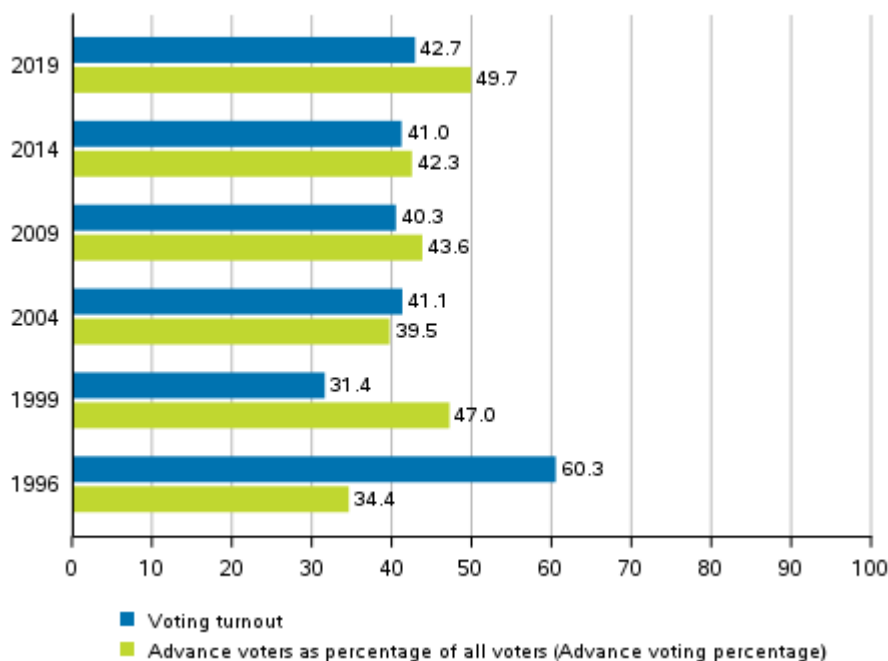


European Parliament elections 2019, overview on voting

European Parliament elections 2019, overview on voting

Statistics Finland releases data on the background of persons who voted in the European Parliament elections 2019. The voting percentage of Finnish citizens resident in Finland was 42.7 which is 1.7 percentage points higher than in the previous European Parliament elections. Around one-half of those who voted (49.7%) did so in advance. Detailed information about unit-level background factors on voting turnout is found in the review. Persons who voted in the European Parliament elections 2019.

Voting percentages (Finnish citizens resident in Finland) in the European Parliament elections 1996–2019



An electronic voting register was in use in 143 municipalities, of which 88 municipalities' data were received from all voting districts. Thus, data on those having voted on the election day were also available

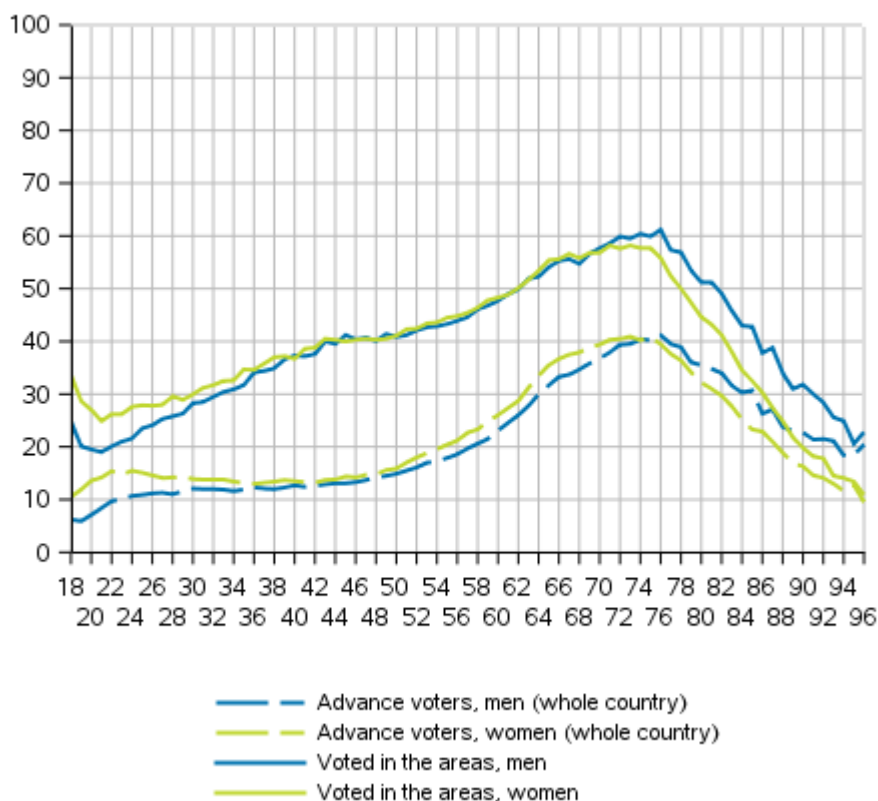
from these 143 municipalities. The electronic voting register covered 41.9 per cent of the persons entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections 2019.

Those aged 75 were the most active advance voters in the whole country (40.5% of persons entitled to vote), the number of advance voters lowest was in relative terms among those aged 18 (8.3%).

In the voting districts where voting data was also available for the election day, the voting turnout was highest for those entitled to vote aged 74, of whom 58.9 per cent voted. Women voted more actively than men in the whole country, the difference between men's and women's voting turnout was 1.7 percentage points.

Women voted more actively in advance in the whole country up to the age of 73. Voting turnout in areas where an electronic voting register was in use was higher for women, especially for young people entitled to vote aged 18 to 38.

Advance voters in the whole country and all who voted in the areas (Finnish citizens resident in Finland) by sex and age in the European Parliament elections 2019, %



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1. Persons who voted in European Parliamentary elections 2019

This review examines persons entitled to vote and those who voted in the European Parliament elections 2019 according to various background factors. The data on persons entitled to vote and those who voted derive from the voting register of the Election Information System of the Ministry of Justice. The unit-level background data are based on Statistics Finland's data, such as population, employment and family statistics, and the Register of Completed Education and Degrees. The groups under examination are, on the one hand, persons entitled to vote and advance voters in the whole country, and, on the other hand, persons entitled to vote and those who voted in voting districts where an electronic voting register was in use in the European Parliament elections 2019.

The electronic voting register enables examination of voting turnout also in terms of votes cast on the election day. These data provide a complete picture of voting turnout as they can reliably help take into account those who did not vote. This is not possible for the data containing only advance voters. In this review, advance voters refer to all persons that voted in advance throughout the country and all who voted refer to both advance voters and those who voted on the election day in the above-mentioned districts.

The data presented in the review concerning all who voted do not cover the entire country or all persons entitled to vote. In this review, all who voted refer to the actual event of voting in those districts on which data were available. The data presented in this review have not been edited in any way, for example, by weighting the data based on background factors, but the breakdowns are presented as they are in the data. In other words, the data presented on all who voted in a particular area only apply to the municipalities, voting districts and persons entitled to vote for which data were available.

Analysed data

The analyses include two separate, but partly overlapping, voter groups. The following terms are used for these voter groups in the text, tables and figures of the review:

1. *Advance voters* that cover all persons who voted in advance in the European Parliamentary elections throughout the country;
2. *All who voted in the areas* that cover both advance voters and persons who voted on the election day (that is, all who voted) in the voting districts that used the electronic voting register.

The voter groups used in the review are not mutually exclusive. The advance voters of the entire country also include the persons entitled to vote who voted in advance in the above-mentioned areas. All who voted in the areas also include all persons that voted in advance in those particular areas. Thus, the group "advance voters" depicts, just like the name suggests, persons entitled to vote who voted in advance in the entire country, and the group "all who voted in the areas" covers persons who voted on the election day and in advance in a limited number of voting districts.

The data of the review are limited to Finnish citizens living in Finland, so the data do not include citizens of other EU countries entitled to vote living in Finland. With this limitation, there were 4,256,326 persons entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections 2019. Of these persons entitled to vote, 904,404, or 21.2 per cent of all persons entitled to vote, voted in advance.

The voting districts where data on voting on the actual election day are available had 1,782,138 persons entitled to vote. So, complete voting data are available for 41.9 per cent of persons entitled to vote. Of those entitled to vote, for whom voting data was also available for the election day in the 2019 European Parliament elections, 99.2 per cent were the same persons as in the corresponding group in the 2019 Parliamentary elections.

All unit-level background data cannot be linked to all persons entitled to vote. In terms of individual background variables used, for example, the numbers of persons entitled to vote can be lower than the above-mentioned numbers. In practice, this is visible, for example, in that the distributions presented in the figures and tables may vary slightly by background variable.

Data coverage

The municipalities and voting districts for which all voting data were received are not divided entirely equally on the level of the whole country. Data on voting on the actual election day were available from 143 municipalities, from 88 municipalities completely and for 55 municipalities from some of the voting districts.

Voting data from the election day were available from all Mainland Finland constituencies. However, the coverage of the data varied by constituency. The most comprehensive data were available from the constituency of Central Finland, 83.0 per cent of persons entitled to vote in the constituency. Data were also more comprehensive than the average for the entire country in the constituencies of Oulu (74.8% of persons entitled to vote), Lapland (70.7%), Pirkanmaa (59.5%), Uusimaa (48.1%) and Satakunta (48.0%). The coverage for election day voting data was lowest in the Helsinki constituency where data were available only for two voting districts and for 1.4 per cent of persons entitled to vote. In other words, those entitled to vote in the Helsinki constituency were clearly under-represented in the available data. (See Appendix table 1)

Appendix table 2 examines the background factors of persons entitled to vote in the entire country and in the areas with complete voting data. In the European Parliament elections 2019, the average age of persons entitled to vote was 51.0. In this respect, the persons entitled to vote in certain areas do not considerably differ from those entitled to vote in the entire country. Of all persons entitled to vote, men represented 48.6 per cent in the whole country, as many as in the areas in relative terms.

The median for the disposable income of persons entitled to vote in the whole country was slightly higher than that of persons entitled to vote in the areas. The difference is around EUR 300 per year.

As regards the level of education, the examined areas do not essentially differ from the whole country. In the whole country, persons entitled to vote were, on average, slightly more highly educated than in the examined areas with the electronic voting register. The difference is, in practice, only visible in the highest examined group of education. There were 1.2 percentage points more persons with higher tertiary level or doctorate level education in the whole country than in the areas. As regards education, the under-representation of the constituency of Helsinki, and, e.g. Turku and Espoo missing from the data, affects the distributions of the data.

Differences between all persons entitled to vote and persons entitled to vote living in the areas are small when it comes to main type of activity categories. There were slightly more employed persons (0.5 percentage points) in the whole country than in the areas and correspondingly, the areas had more students (0.5 percentage points). In turn, the number of pensioners was, in relative terms, equal in the areas and in the whole country.

There were slightly more Finnish-speaking persons entitled to vote in the areas (1.8 percentage points) than in the whole country. There were some differences in parties' support in the European Parliament elections 2019 between the areas and the whole country. Support for the Centre Party of Finland, the Finns Party and the Social Democratic Party was slightly higher in the areas than in the whole country. Correspondingly, support for the Coalition Party, the Green League and the Swedish People's Party was lower in the areas than in the whole country. There were no significant differences in the support of other parties between the areas and the whole country.

The factors presented in Appendix tables 1 and 2 should be considered if the data obtained on all who voted in the areas with an electronic voting register are to be generalised to relate to all persons entitled to vote.

Age and sex

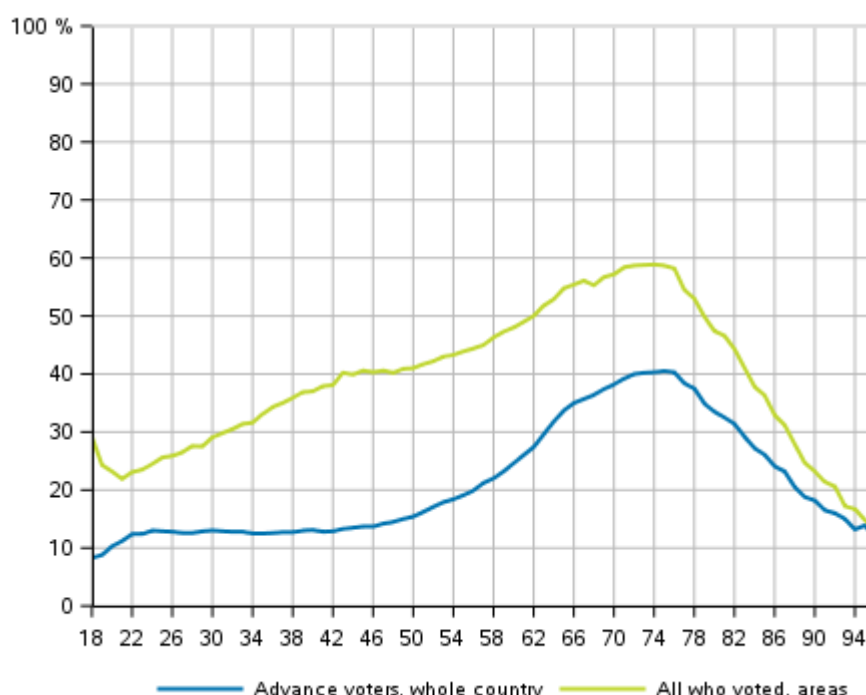
In the European Parliament elections 2019, a total of 904,404 Finnish citizens entitled to vote resident in Finland voted in advance, which represents 21.2 per cent of all persons entitled to vote living in Finland. The advance voting percentage reported by Statistics Finland is 49.7. The advance voting percentage is derived by calculating the share of advance voters among those having voted. In this review, persons who

voted are examined in relation to persons entitled to vote, so the percentages given are lower than the advance voting percentage.

In the voting districts where all voting data were available, a total of 726,467 persons entitled to vote cast their vote, which was 40.8 per cent of the persons entitled to vote in the areas. In these areas, 21.1 per cent of persons entitled to vote voted in advance and 19.7 per cent voted on the election day.

Age clearly had an impact on voting. The share of advance voters in the whole country among persons entitled to vote exceeds 30 per cent at the age of 64, after which the share grows faster than earlier. Advance voting was most common among persons aged 75, of whom 40.5 per cent voted in advance. The share of advance voters falls under 30 per cent among persons aged 83. (Figure 1.)

Figure 1. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by age in the European Parliament elections 2019, %



In areas where voting data on the election day were also obtained, the voting percentage of those aged 18 was 29.1. The voting percentage drops to 21.9 per cent in the group of persons aged 21. After this, the voting percentage grows quite evenly to 40.2 per cent among persons aged 43. The voting percentage is at its highest in the group of persons aged 74 (58.9 %). For persons aged 79 or over, the voting percentage drops below 50 per cent, and for those aged 91 the level is below that of persons aged 21. (Figure 1.)

Women voted more actively than men, particularly in the younger age groups. In the whole country, 22.5 per cent of women entitled to vote voted in advance, 2.6 percentage points more than men.

The voting percentage that takes into account all persons who voted was slightly higher for women than for men, among women, 0.9 percentage points more voted than men. Examined by age group, women voted more actively in all age groups, except in the age group aged 65 and over, however, in the age groups 35 to 54, the differences in voting turnout between sexes were small. The biggest difference in voting activity between the sexes was found in the youngest age groups, 18 to 24. (Table 1)

Table 1. Share of advance voters and all who voted among persons entitled to vote by sex and age in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

Age group	Total		Men		Women	
	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas
Total	21.2	40.8	19.9	40.3	22.5	41.2
18-19	8.6	26.7	6.1	22.4	11.2	31.1
20-24	11.9	23.3	9.2	20.3	14.7	26.4
25-34	12.8	28.5	11.5	27.1	14.1	29.9
35-44	12.9	36.8	12.4	36.3	13.4	37.4
45-54	15.8	41.5	15.1	41.4	16.5	41.5
55-64	24.5	47.9	22.9	47.5	26.0	48.2
65-74	37.5	57.0	36.2	57.1	38.8	56.9
75-	30.9	43.5	34.2	49.7	28.8	39.6

Main type of activity, education and family status

In an examination of groups of main type of activity, the voting activity among pensioners is emphasised. Measured by main type of activity, pensioners voted most actively in advance in the whole country, making up 48.5 per cent of all advance voters. In other groups of main type of activity, the share of advance voters was relatively smaller than their share among all persons entitled to vote. (Figure 2.)

Also, among all persons who voted, only the share of the group pensioners was higher than the corresponding share of the group among all persons entitled to vote. The share of persons who voted in other groups of main type of activity was below the relative size of the groups among all persons entitled to vote. (Figure 3.)

Figure 2. Persons entitled to vote and advance voters in the whole country by main type of activity in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

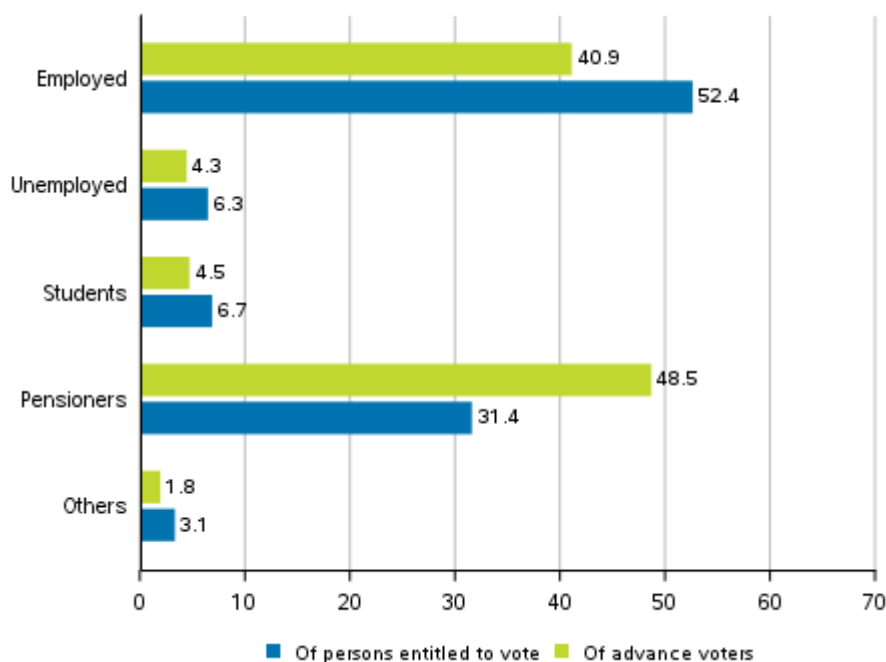
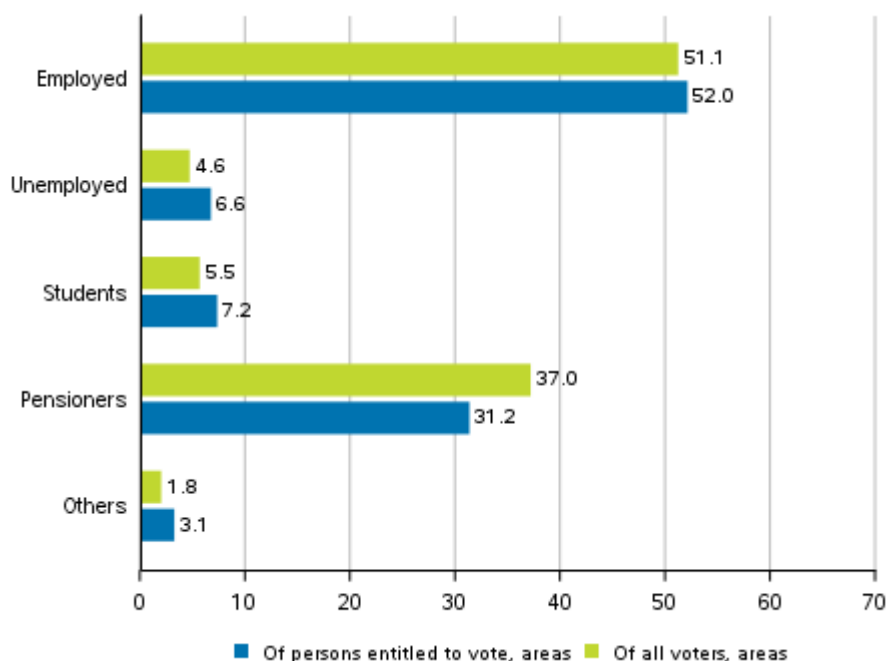


Figure 3. Persons entitled to vote and all who voted in the areas by main type of activity in the European Parliament elections 2019, %



High education increases the probability of voting also in European Parliament elections. The voting percentage of persons with higher tertiary or doctorate level education was 41.7 percentage points higher than among all persons entitled to vote with only basic level qualifications in areas.

The connection of age to voting turnout is also visible in the educational groups as, in practice, in all of them, voting activity grows with age, apart from the oldest age group. Voting turnout of more than 80 per cent is only achieved among those with at least higher university degrees in the age groups 65 to 74. (Table 2)

Table 2 also shows that education for lowest tertiary level qualifications has been abolished in Finland and such qualifications are no longer completed. Thus, the age structure of those who have completed this level of education differs from other education level groups. Lowest tertiary level education covers qualifications above upper secondary level that are not university of applied sciences degrees.

Table 2. Share of advance voters and all who voted among persons entitled to vote by age and level of education in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

		Total	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Lowest tertiary	Lower tertiary	Higher tertiary, doctorate
Total	Advance voters, whole country	21.2	16.7	17.2	32.4	24.3	34.0
	All who voted, areas	40.8	29.2	33.7	58.1	51.4	70.9
18-24	Advance voters, whole country	11.0	7.7	13.2	..	28.2	..
	All who voted, areas	24.2	22.3	25.1	..	46.9	..
25-34	Advance voters, whole country	12.8	5.0	9.1	9.4	18.8	28.5
	All who voted, areas	28.5	10.8	22.0	19.2	41.8	61.4
35-44	Advance voters, whole country	12.9	6.4	9.1	11.9	14.6	22.6
	All who voted, areas	36.8	15.9	26.7	38.1	44.1	63.5
45-54	Advance voters, whole country	15.8	8.6	12.3	17.5	18.6	26.1
	All who voted, areas	41.5	20.3	31.7	47.0	51.5	70.0
55-64	Advance voters, whole country	24.5	15.0	20.2	29.8	33.1	40.2
	All who voted, areas	47.9	29.1	40.3	57.7	65.3	77.8
65-74	Advance voters, whole country	37.5	27.0	34.4	48.8	54.9	60.3
	All who voted, areas	57.0	42.7	53.8	71.8	80.3	86.4

		Total	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Lowest tertiary	Lower tertiary	Higher tertiary, doctorate
75-	Advance voters, whole country	30.9	22.4	32.8	47.6	53.4	60.6
	All who voted, areas	43.5	33.0	47.3	64.6	71.1	80.0

The family status of persons who voted is examined by means of certain family status groups. Attention is paid to married or cohabiting couples (partnerships) and those without a family, the number of children and the age of persons entitled to vote.

Those in partnerships voted in the areas clearly more than those without a family, the voting percentage of married or cohabiting couples was over 10 percentage points higher than that of those without a family. The voting turnout of parents of one-parent families remained at 26.5 per cent.

When examining the voting turnout of young people aged 18 to 24, we can see that the voting turnout of those living at home (with their parents) was higher than of those of the same age not belonging to families. Those not belonging to a family include both those living alone and with another person or other persons. The difference in the groups' voting turnout in the areas was slightly under four percentage points.

An age group specific examination of all who voted does not significantly change the picture of the effect of family status. As a rule, the voting percentage grows in all family status groups by age, apart from the oldest age group of people aged 75 and over. For the family status, the group "Other" includes those aged over 24 living at home, parents of one-parent families living with their adult child, the institutional population and unclassified persons and those whose family status is unknown. (Figure 4, Table 3)

Figure 4. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by age in certain family status groups in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

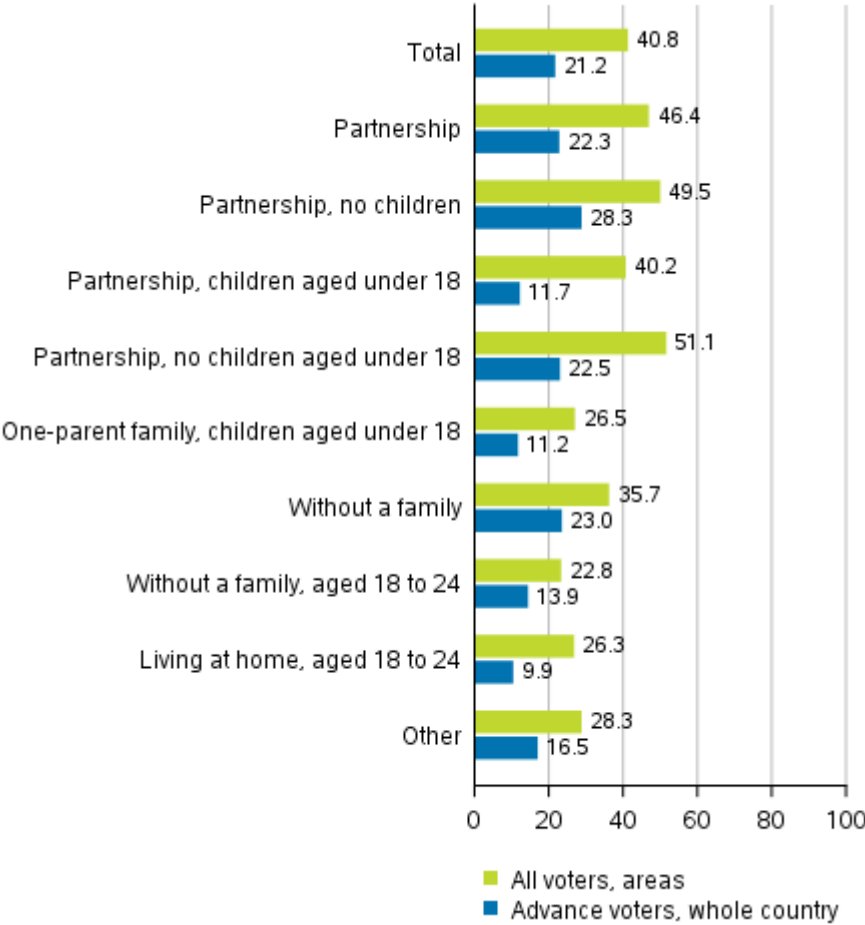


Table 3. Share of advance voters in the whole country and all who voted in the areas by family status in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

		Total	Partnership	Partnership, no children	Partnership, children aged under 18	Partnership, no children aged under 18	One-parent family, children aged under 18	Without a family	Other
Total	Advance voters, whole country	21.2	22.3	28.3	11.7	22.5	11.2	23.0	16.5
	All voters, areas	40.8	46.4	49.5	40.2	51.1	26.5	35.7	28.3
18-24	Advance voters, whole country	11.0	9.9	10.8	3.5	..	3.3	13.9	8.4
	All voters, areas	24.2	21.5	22.6	13.5	..	6.3	22.8	12.9
25-34	Advance voters, whole country	12.8	11.7	14.8	8.2	..	5.6	15.2	12.7
	All voters, areas	28.5	30.6	33.9	27.2	..	12.3	27.8	24.5
35-44	Advance voters, whole country	12.9	11.9	16.2	10.9	8.5	10.1	17.0	14.6
	All voters, areas	36.8	39.6	39.4	39.7	27.3	25.4	33.1	26.1
45-54	Advance voters, whole country	15.8	14.8	16.8	13.7	15.3	14.4	19.0	16.3
	All voters, areas	41.5	45.0	40.1	47.7	44.3	34.7	34.4	31.0
55-64	Advance voters, whole country	24.5	24.6	25.7	19.4	23.1	19.4	24.9	21.6
	All voters, areas	47.9	52.0	51.0	54.4	54.6	42.2	40.2	36.7
65-74	Advance voters, whole country	37.5	39.3	39.8	29.1	33.6	31.0	34.8	27.9
	All voters, areas	57.0	61.6	61.7	60.3	59.7	58.1	48.9	38.9

		Total	Partner-ship	Partner-ship, no children	Partner-ship, children aged under 18	Partner-ship, no children aged under 18	One-parent family, children aged under 18	Without a family	Other
75-	Advance voters, whole country	30.9	36.5	36.9	..	27.6	..	27.1	14.6
	All voters, areas	43.5	53.2	53.5	..	45.7	..	36.3	19.9

Income level and occupation

The income level of those who voted, and persons entitled to vote is examined with the help of disposable monetary income. Income data derive from the latest taxation data from 2017. Disposable monetary income refers to monetary income after taxes. These consist of earned income, property income, benefits in kind and transfer income.

In the data of the review, the income of persons entitled to vote is divided into deciles. Income deciles are derived by arranging persons entitled to vote by income and by dividing the group into ten equal parts. The groups formed in this way each have around 425,000 persons entitled to vote for all persons entitled to vote in the whole country. In the areas from which data were received on voting on the election day as well, the groups have around 178,000 persons entitled to vote each.

For the whole country, income data are missing for some 7,500 persons entitled to vote. In the data for areas containing election day votes, the income level was missing for some 2,400 persons entitled to vote. The median for the disposable income of all persons entitled to vote was EUR 21,500, in the examined areas the corresponding median income was EUR 21,200. The disposable income of persons entitled to vote in the whole country belonging to the highest income decile was at least EUR 39,648 and in the examined areas it was EUR 38,410 per year. The income for those belonging to the lowest income decile was at most EUR 9,359 for persons entitled to vote in the whole country and EUR 9,167 per year in the areas. (Table 4)

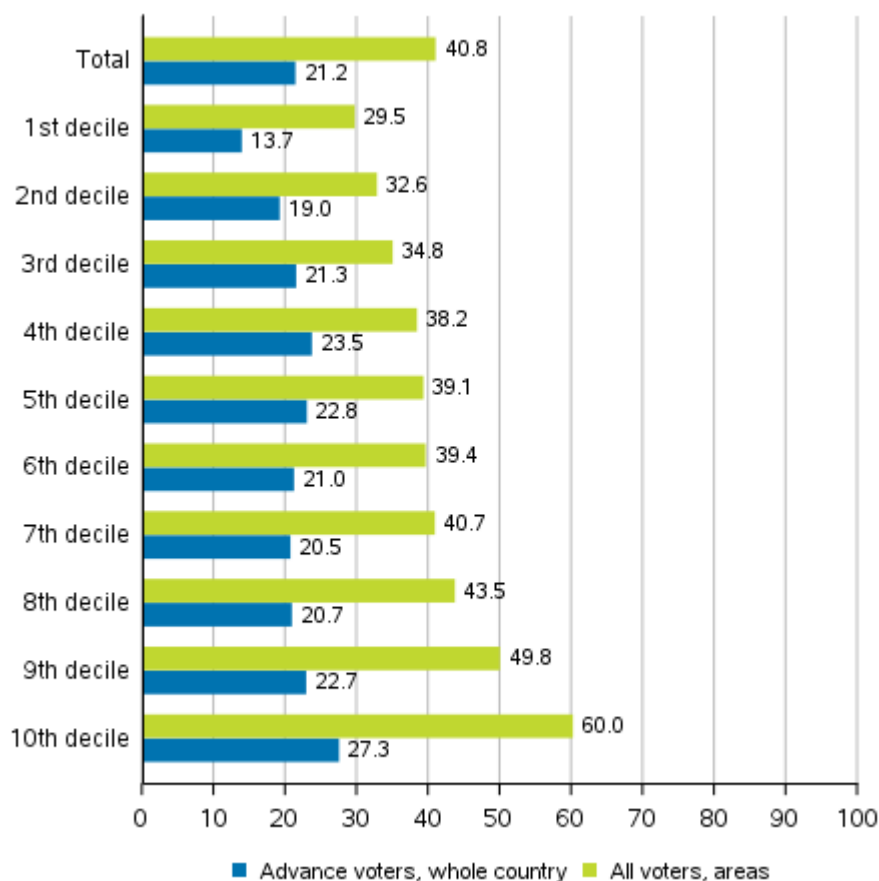
Table 4. Lowest limits for the income deciles of persons entitled to vote in 2019, EUR

Decile	All persons entitled to vote	Persons entitled to vote in areas
1st decile	0	0
2nd decile	9,260	9,168
3rd decile	13,102	13,029
4th decile	15,698	15,571
5th decile	18,419	18,191
6th decile	21,477	21,163
7th decile	24,540	24,184
8th decile	27,727	27,288
9th decile	31,972	31,335
10th decile	39,648	38,410

On the level of the whole country, the level of income as a whole does not have a substantial connection on advance voting. In the lowest income decile, advance voting is relatively lower than in the higher income brackets. Starting from the second income decile, there are no major changes in the rate of advance voting, the share of advance voting in these categories varies from 19.0 to 27.3 per cent. (Figure 5.)

When examining all who voted in the areas, the effect of income on voting turnout is evident. As a rule, voting is more common in higher income groups than in lower income groups. However, in the income deciles 4 to 7, voting turnout was around 40 per cent. In all, 60.0 per cent of those belonging to the highest income decile voted. By contrast, the voting turnout remained at 29.5 per cent in the lowest income decile. Thus, the difference between the voting turnout of the lowest and highest income earners was over 30 percentage points. (Figure 5.)

Figure 5. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by income decile in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

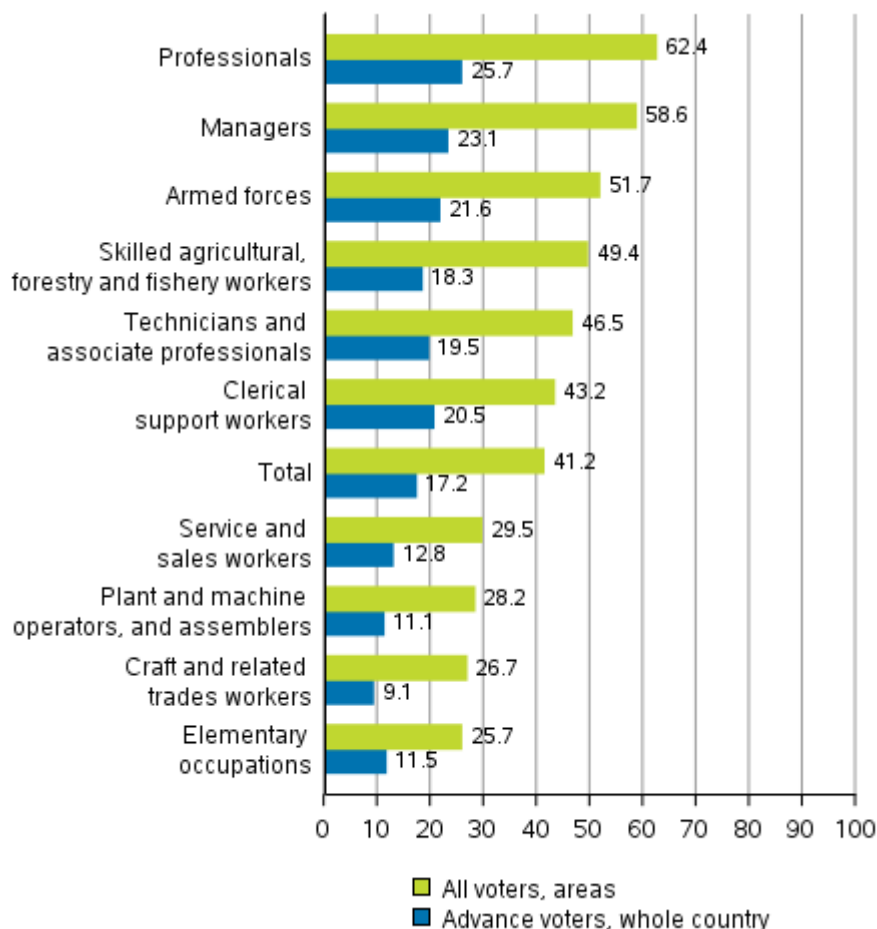


The occupations of those entitled to vote is examined with the Classification of Occupations. The occupation data used is from 2016. The occupation is determined on the last day of the year for persons who, based on their main type of activity, are employed. The occupation data for those entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections 2019 is available for around 2,100,000 persons entitled to vote. In the examined areas, the corresponding data is available for some 870,000 persons entitled to vote.

The voting turnout for all persons entitled to vote for whom occupation data is available in the examined areas was 41.2 per cent. Among occupational groups, professionals had the highest voting turnout, 62.4 per cent. The 50 per cent level was also exceeded by managers and armed forces personnel. (Figure 6.)

Voting turnout was lowest in elementary occupations, where it was 25.7 per cent, which is more than 15 percentage points below the average of occupational groups. The elementary occupations group includes auxiliary, routine-like jobs that require only little education.

Figure 6. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by occupational group in the European Parliament elections 2019, %



Foreign background

The background of persons entitled to vote and persons who voted is viewed by means of language and origin. There was no difference in the voting turnout of Finnish and Sami speakers compared to all persons entitled to vote. By contrast, the voting turnout of Swedish speakers was more than 12 percentage points higher than the turnout among all persons entitled to vote.

Of all persons entitled to vote, 92.1 per cent were Finnish speakers, 5.2 per cent Swedish speakers and 2.5 per cent other language speakers. In the areas for which data were available for all who voted, 93.9 per cent spoke Finnish as their native language, 4.0 per cent Swedish and 2.0 per cent other languages. The share of Sami speakers was 0.03 per cent in both cases.

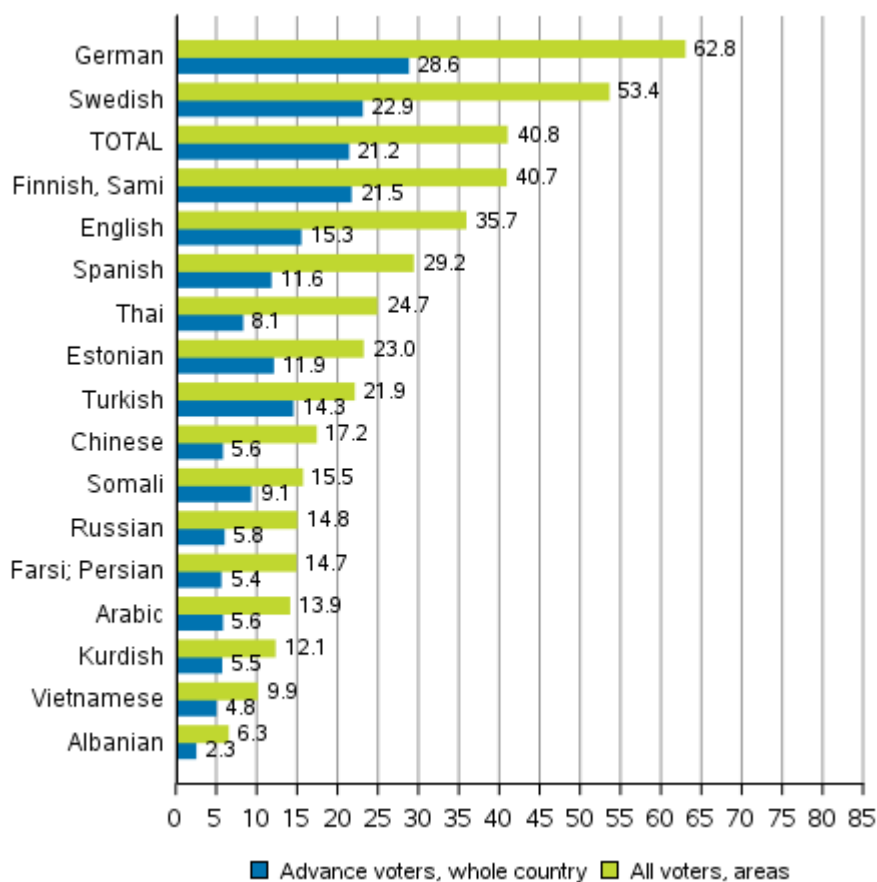
Table 5. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by sex and language in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

Sex	Total		Finnish, Sami		Swedish		Other language	
	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, areas
Total	21.2	40.8	21.5	40.7	22.9	53.4	8.0	18.3
Men	19.9	40.3	20.2	40.2	21.1	52.2	8.5	18.8
Women	22.5	41.2	22.8	41.2	24.8	54.6	7.7	17.9

The voting turnout of foreign-language speakers was clearly lower than for those speaking national languages. Of all foreign-language speakers entitled to vote in the whole country, 8.0 per cent voted in advance. Correspondingly, among all who voted in the areas, 18.3 per cent of foreign-language speakers voted, which was 22 percentage points fewer than for all persons entitled to vote. (Table 5)

A more detailed examination of the voting turnout of different language groups shows that the voting turnout among all votes cast in the areas was highest for German speakers (62.8%). The voting turnout of Swedish speakers was 53.4 and that of Finnish and Sami speakers 40.7 per cent. Figure 7 includes the largest language groups measured by absolute numbers in the areas for which data were also available for election day voting. (Figure .)

Figure 7. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by language in the European Parliament elections 2019, %



Examined by age group and origin, young people’s voting turnout was lower than in older age groups both among persons of Finnish background and of foreign background. This is visible both among advance voters in the whole country and all who voted in the areas. For all who voted in the areas, the difference between voting turnout among persons of Finnish and foreign background was over 22 percentage points. (Table 6)

Table 6. Share of those who voted among persons entitled to vote by origin and age in the European Parliament elections 2019, %

Age group	Total population		Persons with Finnish background		Persons with foreign background	
	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, in areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, in areas	Advance voters, whole country	All who voted, in areas
Total	21.2	40.8	21.6	41.2	8.6	19.0
18-24	11.0	24.2	11.2	24.6	4.3	9.8
25-34	12.8	28.5	13.1	29.0	5.6	12.2
35-44	12.9	36.8	13.2	37.4	6.1	17.2
45-54	15.8	41.5	16.0	42.0	7.8	20.6
55-64	24.5	47.9	24.7	48.2	11.2	25.0
65-74	37.5	57.0	37.7	57.1	20.7	37.5
75-	30.9	43.5	31.0	43.6	25.3	38.4

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Information on voting on election day: proportion of those entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections elections 2019, %

		Of those entitled to vote (%)
Helsinki constituency	Constituency, total	1.4
	Helsinki	1.4
Uusimaa constituency	Constituency, total	48.1
	Vantaa	100.0
	Karkkila	100.0
	Kerava	45.9
	Kirkkonummi	100.0
	Lohja	100.0
	Mäntsälä	60.2
	Nurmijärvi	84.8
	Porvoo	79.8
	Sipoo	100.0
	Tuusula	37.7
	Vihti	100.0
	Varsinais-Suomi constituency	Constituency, total
Aura		100.0
Kaarina		100.0
Kustavi		100.0
Kimitoön		100.0
Pargas		100.0
Masku		100.0
Mynämäki		100.0
Naantali		77.8
Paimio		100.0
Raisio		100.0
Salo		89.9
Somero		100.0
Uusikaupunki		89.2
Satakunta constituency	Constituency, total	48.0
	Eurajoki	100.0
	Harjavalta	100.0
	Karvia	100.0
	Nakkila	100.0
	Pomarkku	100.0
	Pori	81.9
	Rauma	19.6
	Siikainen	100.0

		Of those entitled to vote (%)
Häme constituency	Constituency, total	28.8
	Asikkala	67.1
	Forssa	80.5
	Hausjärvi	100.0
	Hollola	44.0
	Hämeenlinna	18.8
	Janakkala	100.0
	Jokioinen	100.0
	Lahti	19.9
	Sysmä	100.0
	Tammela	79.7
	Ypäjä	100.0
Pirkanmaa constituency	Constituency, total	59.5
	Hämeenkyrö	100.0
	Juupajoki	100.0
	Kangasala	13.0
	Orivesi	60.7
	Parkano	100.0
	Pälkäne	100.0
	Sastamala	51.5
	Tampere	100.0
	Valkeakoski	87.6
Southeast Finland constituency	Constituency, total	14.0
	Kouvola	5.3
	Luumäki	100.0
	Mikkeli	39.9
	Pertunmaa	100.0
	Pieksämäki	100.0
	Pyhtää	100.0
	Sulkava	88.1
	Taipalsaari	41.6
Virolahti	85.0	

		Of those entitled to vote (%)
Savo-Karelia constituency	Constituency, total	35.3
	Ilomantsi	100.0
	Joensuu	97.5
	Keitele	100.0
	Kontiolahti	73.4
	Outokumpu	100.0
	Lapinlahti	53.5
	Lieksa	97.8
	Liperi	100.0
	Pielavesi	66.7
	Polvijärvi	84.8
	Tuusniemi	100.0
	Varkaus	16.5
	Vieremä	100.0
Vaasa constituency	Constituency, total	38.5
	Alajärvi	100.0
	Alavus	100.0
	Halsua	100.0
	Isojoki	100.0
	Kannus	100.0
	Kaskinen	100.0
	Kaustinen	100.0
	Kristinestad	67.2
	Kuortane	100.0
	Lappajärvi	100.0
	Larsmo	53.0
	Malax	83.3
	Korsholm	66.4
	Närpes	15.5
	Perho	100.0
	Seinäjoki	20.7
	Soini	100.0
	Toholampi	84.5
	Vaasa	100.0
Vöyri	100.0	
Ähtäri	100.0	

		Of those entitled to vote (%)
Central Finland constituency	Constituency, total	83.0
	Hankasalmi	84.3
	Jyväskylä	99.1
	Jämsä	100.0
	Kannonkoski	100.0
	Karstula	100.0
	Kivijärvi	100.0
	Konnevesi	100.0
	Laukaa	100.0
	Muurame	100.0
	Petäjävesi	100.0
	Saarijärvi	100.0
	Toivakka	100.0
	Viitasaari	85.0
	Äänekoski	28.5
Oulu constituency	Constituency, total	74.8
	Alavieska	100.0
	Haapajärvi	100.0
	Haapavesi	100.0
	Hailuoto	100.0
	Kajaani	61.0
	Kempele	100.0
	Kuusamo	100.0
	Liminka	100.0
	Lumijoki	100.0
	Muhos	80.7
	Nivala	100.0
	Oulainen	7.4
	Oulu	100.0
	Pudasjärvi	66.3
	Puolanka	100.0
	Pyhäjärvi	100.0
	Raahe	40.0
	Reisjärvi	100.0
	Sotkamo	100.0
Vaala	100.0	
Utajärvi	100.0	
Ylivieska	100.0	

		Of those entitled to vote (%)
Lapland constituency	Constituency, total	70.7
	Inari	73.3
	Kemi	100.0
	Keminmaa	28.0
	Kolari	52.2
	Pelkosenniemi	100.0
	Posio	100.0
	Ranua	100.0
	Rovaniemi	100.0
	Sodankylä	73.2
	Tervola	100.0
	Tornio	78.4

Appendix table 2. Background factors of persons entitled to vote in European Parliament elections 2019

	Persons entitled to vote/ whole country	Voting areas with complete voting data
Age, average	51.0	50.6
Sex, men (%)	48.6	48.8
Income, median (EUR)	21,477	21,163
Education: lower secondary (%)	24.0	23.8
Education: upper secondary (%)	43.4	44.5
Education: lowest tertiary (%)	10.0	10.1
Education: lower tertiary (%)	11.7	11.8
Education: higher university, doctorate (%)	10.7	9.5
Employed (%)	52.3	51.8
Unemployed (%)	6.2	6.5
Students (%)	6.6	7.1
Pensioners (%)	31.3	31.1
Other inactive population (%)	3.1	3.0
Finnish- speaking (%)	92.1	93.9
Swedish- speaking (%)	5.2	4.0
Other language speaking (%)	2.5	2.0
KESK Centre Party, support (%)	13.5	15.3
PS Finns Party, support (%)	13.8	14.8
KOK Coalition Party, support (%)	20.8	19.4
SDP Social Democrats, support (%)	14.6	15.4
VIHR Green League, support (%)	16.0	14.5
VAS Left Alliance, support (%)	6.9	6.9

	Persons entitled to vote/ whole country	Voting areas with complete voting data
RKP Swedish People's Party, support (%)	6.3	5.0
KD Christian Democrats, support (%)	4.9	4.9
MUUT Others, support (%)	3.1	3.3

European Parliament elections, quality description

1. Relevance of statistical information

1.1 Summary of the information content of statistics

Statistics Finland produces Finland's official statistics from European Parliament elections containing key data on the candidates, elected councillors, those entitled to vote, those who voted and support gained by the parties. Preliminary data have been published on the Internet starting from the first European Parliament elections held in Finland (1996); these statistics are updated by the figures of the confirmed result. Statistics Finland's statistics pages on European Parliament elections also include tables in databases, i.e. the StatFin online service, containing data by voting district starting from 2004.

1.2 Essential concepts

Holding of elections

The European Parliament elections are held every five years in all EU Member States. The European Parliament is the only international organ that the citizens elect by direct elections. National authorities oversee practical arrangements for the elections. In Finland the organiser is the Ministry of Justice that confirms the candidates and the election result. In Finland the European Parliament elections are held on Sunday, 26 May. Elections are held in accordance with the Election Act in force, more details on the Ministry of Justice's webpages www.vaalit.fi (=> Legislation) and www.finlex.fi, Election Act (714/1998).

Legislation

The elections for the Members of European Parliament (European Parliament elections) are held in each Member State in accordance with the national election legislation. In addition, the stipulations of the EU's election regulation (from 1976) are followed. With the revision of election legislation in 1998, all provisions on elections were collected into one single act, the Election Act (714/1998), which entered into force on 8 October 1998. The Act 1213/2013 amended Paragraph 2 Section 2 and Paragraph 3 Section 18 of the Election Act (714/1998). The Act 1213/2013 entered into force on 1 January 2014.

Amendment of election legislation 939/2017

The amendment to the Election Act (939/2017), which allowed postal voting for Finnish citizens not resident in Finland and other voters staying abroad at the time of the elections, was confirmed on 14 December 2017 and it came into force on 1 November 2018. Postal voting can be used for the first time in the 2019 Parliamentary elections.

Government bill for an act on amendment to the Election Act (HE 101/2017).

The main principles of holding elections

All elections in Finland are held according to the following principles:

- **The elections are direct.** Electors (those entitled to vote) vote directly for the person they want to be elected.
- **The elections are proportional.** In proportional elections each party or other group gains seats in relation to the votes cast for it compared with the votes cast for other groups (not in presidential elections).
- **The elections are secret.** Secrecy of the ballot means that neither the election authorities nor anyone else get to know for whom voters have cast their votes or whether they have returned an empty ballot. By contrast, the information on whether a person entitled to vote has exercised his/her right, i.e. actually voted, is not covered by the secrecy of the ballot.
- **The right to vote is universal and equal.** Universal franchise means that the right to vote only depends on requirements which citizens usually fulfil. Equal franchise means that every person entitled to vote has an equal right to influence the election results. In general, everybody has one vote in elections.
- **Voting is personal.** The right to vote may not be used through an agent.
- **Voting takes place in front of election authorities.** An exception is postal voting that does not take place in front of election authorities. In postal voting, the voter needs to have two witnesses who attest,

by their signatures, that voting has taken place in such a manner that election secrecy has been preserved and electoral freedom respected while voting.

- **The Finnish election system is a combination of voting for individuals and parties**, where a vote goes to both a party and a person (not in presidential elections).

Right to vote (Paragraph 2 Section 2, amended on 1 January 2014), establishing the voting register and the information contained in this (Paragraph 3 Section 16, amended on 1 January 2014) and eligibility

Entitled to vote in European Parliament elections held in Finland are every person that has reached the age of 18 no later than on day of the election::

- a) every Finnish citizen regardless of the domicile, and
- b) all citizens of a Member State of the EU who have not lost eligibility in elections in their home state and who is registered in the voting register in Finland by the 80th day before the election at the local register office and
 - b1) whose municipality of residence is in Finland on the 51st day before the election day or
 - b2) who is employed by the European Union or an international organisation in Finland or is a family member of such a person in Finland.

A person entitled to vote may only vote in one Member State in the same European elections, either in his/her home state or in his/her country of residence.

A Finnish citizen, who has registered as a voter in another Member State within the set time limit, is not entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections in Finland.

Persons with a right to vote can vote either 1) during the advance voting, or 2) on the election Sunday.

Voting of citizens of other EU Member States in Finland

Citizens of other EU Member States living in Finland can vote in the Finnish European Parliament elections if they wish. This requires that the person is registered in the voting register in Finland by 4 pm on 7 March 2019. The registration is done at the local register office.

When a person has been entered in the voting register in Finland, Finnish authorities will send a notification of this to the authorities of the person's home state, who will remove the person from their electoral lists. This is because EU's election regulation stipulates that a person can only vote in one Member State, either in his/her country of residence or home state, as desired.

A EU citizen included in the voting register in Finland is also eligible to be a candidate in the Finnish European Parliament elections.

Voting by a Finnish citizen in another EU Member State

A Finnish citizen entitled to vote who resides in another EU Member State can choose whether he/she wants to vote in the country of residence or in the Finnish European Parliament elections.

If he/she wants to vote in the European Parliament election in the country of residence, he/she shall register in the electoral lists of the country of residence in accordance with what the election legislation of the country of residence rules. After this, the authority responsible for the electoral lists in the country of residence informs the Population Register Centre of Finland and it removes the person's name from the voting register of the Finnish elections.

If he/she wants to be able to vote in the Finnish European Parliament elections he/she needs to do nothing as he/she is automatically entitled to vote in Finnish elections. However, if the person entitled to vote has already registered to vote in his/her country of residence and now wishes to vote in the Finnish election, he/she should withdraw the previous registration with the electoral authority in the country of residence. If a person entitled to vote is uncertain whether the registration is valid, he/she can check this by contacting the electoral authority in the country of residence.

If the United Kingdom (UK) separates from the European Union before the beginning of the electoral period (Brexit), it will not participate in the 2019 European Parliamentary elections. All Finnish citizens living in the UK will automatically be included in the voting register of the Finnish European Parliament elections and they will receive a notice of the right to vote to the address they have registered in the Finnish Population Information System.

Establishing the voting register and the information contained in this

If the municipality of residence of a person entitled to vote is not in Finland on the 51st day before the election day, the municipality in the population register in accordance with the Municipality of Residence Act is entered into the voting register instead of the municipality of residence. If this municipality no longer belongs to the Finnish territory, the City of Helsinki is used. If a citizen of another EU Member State entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections does not have a municipality of residence in Finland, the municipality of the polling station is entered into the voting register instead of the municipality of residence. In such cases, the person entitled to vote belongs to the voting district which the council has based on Paragraph 1, Section 8 decreed as the voting district for persons who have not been registered under any real estate in the Population Information System.

Eligibility

The provisions on eligibility are the same as in parliamentary elections. Thus eligible are

1. All Finnish citizens who are entitled to vote in elections and not legally incompetent, and
2. All citizens of a Member State of the EU who are entitled to vote and who have registered and been entered into the voting register in Finland, and who have not lost eligibility in elections in their home state.

However, a member of the European Parliament cannot be:

1. A member of the Council of State;
2. A member of the European Commission;
3. A Judge, Advocate-General or Registrar of the European Court of Justice or of the Court of First Instance;
4. A member of the executive board of the European Central Bank;
5. A member of the European Court of Auditors;
6. The European Ombudsman;
7. A member of the Economic or Social Committees for the European Community or the European Atomic Energy Community;
8. A member of the Committee of Regions;
9. A member of a Committee or another body responsible for the permanent administration or finances of the Community as is provided in the Treaties regarding the European Community and the European Atomic Energy Community;
10. A member of the Board of Directors and Board of Governors of the European Investment Bank and a member of staff of the European Investment Bank;
11. An official or a staff member working in the service of a body or a specialist organisation of the European Community;
12. A person who is in a post or a position that impedes membership of a Parliament as is provided in the Constitution.

Nomination of candidates

Candidates in European elections may be nominated by

1. Parties entered into the party register, and
2. Constituency associations established by people entitled to vote.

The candidates enter as candidates in the entire country. Each party may nominate not more than 20 candidates. Parties may form electoral alliances. However, the maximum number of candidates for parties forming an electoral alliance may be the same as for an individual party, i.e. 20. All candidates are nominated for the whole country. A constituency association for the nomination of one candidate may be established by at least 2,000 people entitled to vote. Constituency associations may form a joint list that can have at most 20 candidates.

Parties and constituency associations must deliver their list of candidates (candidate application) to the Electoral District Committee of Helsinki by 4 pm on the 40th day prior to the election day. However, in the 2019 European Parliament elections the deadline for the candidate applications is exceptionally on Thursday 18 April 2019 before 4 pm. By the same deadline, notifications of electoral alliances and of joint electoral lists must also be delivered to the Electoral District Committee.

The Electoral District Committee of Helsinki compiles a combined list of the candidates in which the candidates of all parties, constituency associations and joint lists are enumerated in an order drawn by lot. The combined list contains the following information on the candidates: number (beginning with number 2), name, municipality of residence and title, profession or position.

Seats

The maximum number of councillors in the European Parliament is 751 (705 councillors after the possible Brexit). Each Member State may have a maximum of 96 councillors, but not less than six councillors.

In the 2019 European Parliament elections, the number of councillors selected from Finland is 14 or 13, if the United Kingdom (UK) is still a EU Member State at the beginning of the electoral period (= at the beginning of July). In previous European Parliament elections, councillors were elected from Finland as follows: 16 councillors in 1996 and 1999, 14 councillors in 2004 and 13 councillors in 2009 and 2014.

Member States and their current number of seats and the new number of seats that will be in force if UK is no longer a Member State

Member State	Current number of seats	New number of seats	Change
Germany	96	96	-
France	74	79	+5
United Kingdom (UK)	73	-	-73
Italy	73	76	+3
Spain	54	59	+5
Poland	51	52	+1
Romania	32	33	+1
The Netherlands	26	29	+3
Greece	21	21	-
Belgium	21	21	-
Portugal	21	21	-
The Czech Republic	21	21	-
Hungary	21	21	-
Sweden	20	21	+1
Austria	18	19	+1
Bulgaria	17	17	-
Denmark	13	14	+1
Slovakia	13	14	+1
Finland	13	14	+1
Ireland	11	13	+2
Croatia	11	12	+1
Lithuania	11	11	-
Slovenia	8	8	-
Latvia	8	8	-
Estonia	6	7	+1
Cyprus	6	6	-
Luxemburg	6	6	-
Malta	6	6	-
Totalt	751	705	

European Parliament councillors are arranged into political groups not by nationality. You need 25 councillors from at least seven Member States in order to form a political group. Seat distribution of the parliament on *15 May 2019 (www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/fi/search/advanced?groupCode=2970):

EPP group, Group of the European People's Party Christian Democrats) *216

S&D, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament *185

ECR, European Conservatives and Reformists Group *77

ALDE&R, Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe + Renaissance + USR PLUS *69

Greens/EFA, Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance *52

GUE/NGL, Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left *52

EFDD, Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy Group *42

ENF, Europe of Nations and Freedom Group *36

NI, Non-attached Members *20

The parliamentary seats are divided so that the Member States small in population have in relative terms more seats than large Member States.

European Parliament, names and abbreviations of political groups and the parties of the group's Finnish members (situation on 5 June 2019)

Party of the group's Finnish members	Abbreviation of group	Name of group in English and abbreviation
National Coalition Party KOK	EPP	European People's Party Group (Christian Democrats) EPP
Centre Party of Finland KESK Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	ALDE&R	Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe + Renaissance + USR PLUS ALDE&R
Finns Party PS	ECR	European Conservatives and Reformists Group ECR
Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	S & D	group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament S & D
Green League VIHR	Greens/EFA	Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance Greens/EFA
The Left Alliance VAS	GUE/NGL	Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left GUE/NGL
..	EFDD	Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy Group EFDD
..	NI	Non-attached Members - Members not belonging to any political group NI
..	ENF	Europe of Nations and Freedom Group ENF

Parliamentary seats are divided between the parties, electoral alliances and constituency associations by the number of votes gained by them in the whole country following the d'Hondt method. The party, electoral alliance or joint list receives as its first comparative index the total number of votes cast for the party, electoral alliance or joint list concerned. The candidate with the highest number of votes cast in the group then gets as a comparative index the total number of votes cast for the group, the second one half of the number of votes and the third one third and so on.

Changes in constituencies and municipalities and consolidations of municipalities

Changes in constituencies and municipalities and consolidations of municipalities concerning elections of different years are presented on the Internet in the Classifications section (on the homepage of European Parliament elections).

The division into constituencies was changed in the act amending the Election Act (271/2013) that entered into force on 1 September 2013 and the act was applied for the first time in the Parliamentary elections 2015 (19 April 2015).

In the amendment of the Election Act, the constituencies of Kymi (08) and South Savo (09) were combined into the new Southeast Finland constituency (08) and the constituencies of North Savo (10) and North Karelia (11) were combined into the new Savo-Karelia constituency (09).

Municipalities are placed into constituencies according to the constituency division in force. At the beginning of 2019, the number of municipalities is 295 in Mainland Finland and 16 in Åland.

The valid statistical grouping of municipalities is used in the statistics (Statistics Finland, Municipalities and Regional Divisions Based on Municipalities). In the statistical grouping of municipalities, municipalities are divided by the proportion of the population living in urban settlements and by the population of the largest urban settlement into urban, semi-urban and rural municipalities. The classification is based on the definition of urban settlements made in 2018 and the population of the municipality in 2017. The definition of urban settlements is produced yearly by the Finnish Environment Institute.

1. Urban municipalities are those municipalities in which at least 90 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements, or in which the population of the largest urban settlement is at least 15,000.
2. Semi-urban municipalities are those municipalities in which at least 60 per cent but less than 90 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements, or in which the population of the largest urban settlement is at least 4,000 but less than 15,000.
3. Rural municipalities are those municipalities in which less than 60 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements, and in which the population of the largest urban settlement is less than 15,000, as well as those municipalities in which at least 60 per cent but less than 90 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements, and in which the population of the largest urban settlement is less than 4,000.

Classifications used

Names of constituencies in European Parliament elections in 2019 are:

1. Helsinki constituency
2. Uusimaa constituency
3. Varsinais-Suomi constituency
4. Satakunta constituency
5. Åland constituency
6. Häme constituency
7. Pirkanmaa constituency
8. Southeast constituency
9. Savo-Karelia constituency
10. Vaasa constituency
11. Central Finland constituency
12. Oulu constituency
13. Lapland constituency

In the European Parliament elections Finland forms one constituency. The candidates stand as candidates for the whole country and the voters may vote for any candidate. However, the votes cast in the European Parliament elections are initially counted by national constituency and the election committee of the constituency of Helsinki combines the results of all constituencies into a result for the whole country.

Statistics Finland's classification of municipalities. Constituency, municipality group, municipality, voting district, party (included in the Party Register), age of candidates and elected councillors, nationality and country of residence.

Candidates have been nominated in the 2019 European Parliament elections by the following registered parties (17/19):

- Finnish Social Democratic Party (SDP)
- Centre Party of Finland (KESK)
- National Coalition Party (KOK)
- Swedish People's Party in Finland (RKP)
- Christian Democrats in Finland (KD)
- Green League (VIHR)
- The Left Alliance (VAS)
- Finns Party (PS)
- Communist Party of Finland (SKP)
- Liberal Party - Freedom for Choice (LIBE)
- Pirate Party of Finland (Pirattip.)
- Animal Justice Party of Finland (EOP)
- Citizens' Party (KP)
- Feminist Party (FP)
- Blue Reform (Sin)
- Finnish People First (SKE)
- Seven Star Movement (STL)

Data collection methods and data sources

Statistics Finland receives basic election data from the Ministry of Justice's election data system, the technical implementation of which it has assigned to Tieto Oyj. Statistics Finland collects data with a separate form on advance voting from municipalities that do not use an electronic voting register (municipalities in the constituency of Åland).

1.3 Acts, decrees and recommendations

The function of Statistics Finland is to compile statistics describing conditions in society (Statistics Finland Act of 24 January 1992/48). These also include election statistics. Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure define the Population and Social Statistics department as the producer of election statistics (Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure, TK-00-954-18).

2. Methodological description of survey

The statistics are based on total data. The basic data of the statistics are based on the Ministry of Justice's election data system consisting of five subsystems. They include:

1. Basic data and geographical information system that includes, for example, data on constituencies, municipalities and voting districts as well as election authorities (polling station register, which include data on general advance polling stations and polling stations on election day);
2. Franchise data (voting register) for which data on every person entitled to vote are collected by the Population Register Centre on the 46th day (10 April 2019) prior to the election day. The voting register is formed separately for each election. The voting register personal data on each person entitled to vote the data (name, personal identity code, constituency, municipality of domicile and polling station) included in the Population Information System on the 51st day prior (5 April 2019) to the election day. The voting register becomes legally valid at (12:00) noon 12 days prior to the election day.
The voting register is in use in the advance polling stations and every person that votes in advance is marked in the register. The voting register can, however, also be used in the polling stations instead of electoral rolls on the election day.
3. Data on candidates (candidate register, confirmed on 25 April 2019) in which the following data on each candidate in the elections are entered: name, candidate number, profession, municipality of residence, party/constituency association that has nominated the candidate, and personal identity code;
4. A centralised calculation system to which the electoral district committees and the central election committees submit their results of the elections;
5. The result service system (statistical and information service system) by means of which the results of the elections and other statistical data are transmitted to the media and to Statistics Finland.

Statistics Finland's election data system comprises four election data files: regional file, party file, candidate file and candidate register.

Background analysis of persons who voted

The data on persons entitled to vote and those who voted derive from the voting register of the Election Information System of the Ministry of Justice. The unit-level background data are based on Statistics Finland's data, such as population, employment and family statistics, and the Register of Completed Education and Degrees.

The groups under examination are, on the one hand, persons entitled to vote and advance voters in the whole country, and, on the other hand, persons entitled to vote and those who voted in voting districts where an electronic voting register was in use in the European Parliament elections 2019.

Of the persons entitled to vote, only Finnish citizens living in Finland are included in the analysis.

The analysis describes the persons entitled to vote and persons who voted with regard to certain variables. The background data usually relate to the years 2016 to 2017. More recent data than that have not been available. The person's age is the age on the day of the election in full years.

The background variables used in the analysis are described in the following.

Constituency

For those entitled to vote the constituency is based on the information drawn from the Population Register Centre's Population Information System 51 days prior to the day of the election.

Foreign background

Foreign background is examined by means of two variables, that is, native language or origin. Persons whose native language is not Finnish, Swedish or Sami are regarded by language as coming from a foreign background. Persons whose both parents or the only parent were born abroad are regarded by origin as coming from a foreign background. The data are from the year 2018.

Main type of activity

The concept of main type of activity describes the nature of the person's economic activity. The population is divided by their main type of activity to the active and inactive population. These groups can be further divided into sub-groups. The classification is based on the person's activity during the last week of the year. The main type of activity is based on data derived from different registers.

The classification of main type of activity is as follows:

- Employed
- Unemployed
- 0 to 14-year-olds
- Students, pupils
- Pensioners
- Conscripts, conscientious objectors
- Other inactive population

The information used in the analysis describes the person's activity during the last week of 2017.

Family status

In this analysis the population is divided into the following groups by family status:

- Parent of a married/cohabiting family
- Single parent
- Childless couple
- Living alone
- Youth living at home
- Other

Parents of a married/cohabiting family include all married and cohabiting persons and partners in a registered partnership, who have their own and/or spouse's children living at home. Childless couples are married/cohabiting persons and partners in a registered partnership who have no children. People living with their own or adopted parent/s having the status of a child are defined as the youth living at home. The group "Other" includes persons without a family living together with others (for example, a mother/father living with the family of their child), homeless persons and institutional population. Persons living alone without a family belong to the group "Living alone".

The data on the person's family status are from the year 2017.

Number of children

In the analysis, the number of children used is the number of the person's biological and adopted children. The data are from the year 2017.

Level of education

Those with basic level education have at most nine years of education. They have qualifications from primary schools, middle schools or comprehensive schools.

Those with upper secondary level education have 11 to 12 years of education. These qualifications include matriculation examination, vocational qualifications attained in one to three years and initial vocational qualifications.

Lowest level tertiary education lasts two to three years after upper secondary level education. Examples of these qualifications include the qualification of a technician engineer, diploma in business and administration, and diploma in nursing, which are not university of applied sciences degrees.

Completion of lower-degree level tertiary education requires three to four years of full-time studies after upper secondary level education. Lower-degree level tertiary education comprises university of applied sciences degrees and lower university degrees.

Completion of higher-degree level tertiary education requires as a rule five to six years of full-time studies after upper secondary level education. Higher-degree level tertiary education leads to master's degrees and specialist's degrees in medicine, for instance.

Completion of doctorate or equivalent level tertiary education requires independent research work or doctorate theses fit for publication. The degrees are scientific licentiate and doctorate degrees.

The data on education are derived from Statistics Finland's Register of Completed Education and Degrees. The data used in the analysis concern the year 2017.

Disposable cash income

Disposable money income includes monetary income items and benefits in kind connected to employment relationships. Money income does not include imputed income items, of which the main one is imputed dwelling income. When current transfers paid are deducted from gross money income, the remaining income is the disposable money income.

The data are from the year 2017.

Median income

When income earners are put in the order of size by income, median income is the income of the middle income earner. An equal number of income earners remains on both sides of the middle income receiver. Median income is not as sensitive to extreme observations as mean income.

Occupation

Occupation is examined by the Classification of Occupations 2010 which describes occupational structure in society.

The data are from the year 2016.

3. Correctness and accuracy of data

The basic data of the statistics derive from the Ministry of Justice's election data system and from data supplied by the election authorities, which can be considered reliable.

4. Timeliness and accuracy of data

The confirmed data always differ somewhat from the figures of the preliminary statistics. The 'preliminary results' after the election night serve users before the confirmed result is obtained.

The results change once the result is confirmed in all respects: by voting district, municipality, constituency, party and number of votes gained by all candidates and by the elected, whereby even their mutual order may change.

5. Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

The first data, or preliminary statistics are published on the Internet, in the StatFin service and on the statistics pages on European Parliament elections as soon as possible. Election data by municipality and voting district and the numbers of votes gained by elected members are entered in the StatFin service.

Releases and tables concerning the elections in question are available in three languages (Finnish, Swedish and English) on the statistics pages on European Parliament elections. The second, or final data are supplied to Statistics Finland after the election result is confirmed. After the confirmation of the election result, the confirmed data corresponding to the preliminary statistics are released on the statistics pages and the StatFin databases are updated.

6. Comparability of statistics

The statistical grouping of municipalities (urban, semi-urban and rural) was introduced starting from 1999. Prior to that, municipalities were grouped as follows: towns and other municipalities. Changes in constituencies and municipalities between the elections have been taken into account in statistics that have comparative data with the results of the previous elections.

Election results are presented on the statistics pages on European Parliament elections starting from the first European Parliament elections in 1996. Preliminary statistics on European Parliament elections are released on the statistics pages on the Internet. In addition, the StatFin online service has a time series on European Parliament elections starting from 1996 (NB From 2004 also data by voting district).

7. Coherence and consistency/uniformity and documentation

The Ministry of Justice publishes exhaustive information about different elections and the national candidate register and election result data on its web pages (www.vaalit.fi). The statistics on advance voters published by the Ministry of Justice differ from Statistics Finland's statistics on advance voters, because they are defined on different grounds:

- The Ministry of Justice counts the number of advance voters from the number of those entitled to vote, whereas
- Statistics Finland counts the number of advance voters from the number of all persons who voted.

The classifications used in the statistics can be found on Statistics Finland's website.

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http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/euvaa/index_en.html

Source: European Parliament Elections 2019, Statistics Finland