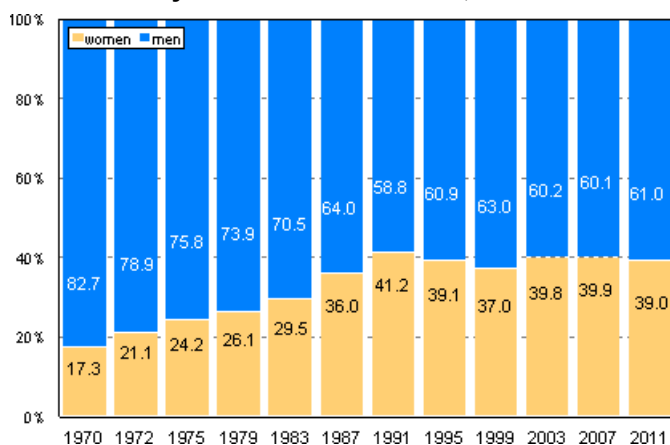


Parliamentary elections 2011, nomination of candidates

Nomination of candidates in Parliamentary elections 2011

Altogether 2,315 candidates were nominated for the elections, which is 311 more than in the previous Parliamentary elections. A total of 17 registered political parties take part in the Parliamentary elections. The number of parties participating in the elections fell by one from the previous Parliamentary elections. Three new parties participate in the elections, while the others took part four years earlier as well. The names of the participating parties and the abbreviations used for them can be found in the quality description of this release.

Figure 1. Men and women as percentage of candidates in Parliamentary elections 1970 – 2011, %



Nearly 73 per cent of the candidates were nominated by current parliamentary parties – the Centre Party, National Coalition Party, Social Democratic Party, Left Alliance, Green League, Christian Democrats, Swedish People’s Party and True Finns. The total number of candidates in this group was 1,679. The numbers of candidates nominated by the other parties not in the present Parliament vary considerably. Among them, the highest number of candidates was nominated by the Communist Party of Finland (143) and the lowest by the For the Poor party (12). The number of candidates from outside parties was only 22 in the whole country.

The majority of the Parliamentary election candidates have always been men. In the Parliamentary elections 2011, 1,412 of the candidates are men and 903 women. Women’s proportion of candidates in these elections

is 39 per cent, which is about one percentage point lower than in the 2007 Parliamentary elections. When comparing with the previous Parliamentary elections, the proportion of women candidates among the candidates for the party decreased in four parliamentary parties. The proportion of women candidates fell most in the Social Democratic Party. In the Social Democratic Party, the proportion of women candidates is 43.3 per cent in these elections, which is nearly six percentage points lower than four years previously. For True Finns, the proportion of women candidates rose most, by over eight percentage points. The proportion of women candidates among parliamentary parties is still smallest for True Finns, 33.2 per cent. The Green League is the only parliamentary party where over one half of the candidates are women. In other parties than those in the Parliament the proportion of women candidates varies more than in the parliamentary parties. In the For the Poor party, three of the party's four candidates are women, while in the Change 2011 and the Pirate Party of Finland only under one sixth of the candidates are women.

Of all candidates, 1,514 were aged 40 or over. Twelve candidates were over the age of 75. In all, 158 candidates were aged under 25, of whom seven were aged 18. The average age of all candidates was 45.4 years, that of male candidates 46.2 and that of female ones 44.3 years. (The age refers to the age of the candidate on the election day).

[The national register of candidates](#) is published on the Internet pages of the Ministry of Justice.

Table 1. Number of candidates by sex and party in Parliamentary elections 2011

Candidates	Tot.	KESK	KOK	SDP	VAS	VIHR	KD	RKP	PS	SKP	SSP	IP	KA	KTP	STP	Pirate Pty	Change 2011	Liberty Pty	Others
Total	2 315	233	232	238	236	228	191	83	238	143	44	69	12	46	47	127	66	60	22
Men	1 412	137	128	135	133	110	109	46	159	86	26	46	3	35	34	107	56	44	18
Women	903	96	104	103	103	118	82	37	79	57	18	23	9	11	13	20	10	16	4

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1. Municipal mergers in Parliamentary elections 1983 - 2011

Municipal mergers in Parliamentary elections 1983 - 2011 (1.1.2011, total 152)

Abolished municipality		Name of new or expanding municipality		Date
08	Kymi constituency	08	Kymi constituency	
	539 Nuijamaa		405 Lappeenranta	1.1.1989
02	Uusimaa constituency	02	Uusimaa constituency	
	842 Tenhola		835 Tammisaari	1.1.1993
03	Turku etel. constituency	03	Turku etel. constituency	
	209 Kalanti		895 Uusikaupunki	1.1.1993
04	Turku pohj. constituency	04	Turku pohj. constituency	
	685 Rauman mlk		684 Rauma	1.1.1993
13	Central Finland constituency	13	Central Finland constituency	
	787 Säynätsalo		179 Jyväskylä	1.1.1993
	274 Konginkangas		992 Äänekoski	1.1.1993
02	Uusimaa constituency	02	Uusimaa constituency	
	427 Lohja		444 Lohja	1.1.1997
	428 Lohjan kunta		444 Lohja	1.1.1997
	612 Porvoo		638 Porvoo	1.1.1997
	613 Porvoon mlk		638 Porvoo	1.1.1997
06	Häme constituency	06	Häme constituency	
	088 Heinola		111 Heinola	1.1.1997
	089 Heinolan mlk		111 Heinola	1.1.1997
09	Etelä-Savo constituency	09	Etelä-Savo constituency	
	014 Anttola		491 Mikkeli	1.1.2001
	492 Mikkelin mlk		491 Mikkeli	1.1.2001
13	Central Finland constituency	13	Central Finland constituency	
	299 Kuorevesi		182 Jämsä	1.1.2001
14	Oulu constituency	14	Oulu constituency	
	841 Temmes		859 Tyrnävä	1.1.2001
08	Kymi constituency	08	Kymi constituency	
	917 Vehkalahti		075 Hamina	1.1.2003
14	Oulu constituency	14	Oulu constituency	
	582 Pattijoki		678 Raahe	1.1.2003
09	Etelä-Savo constituency	09	Etelä-Savo constituency	
	184 Jäppilä		640 Pieksänmaa	1.1.2004
	594 Pieksämäen mlk		640 Pieksänmaa	1.1.2004
	937 Virtasalmi		640 Pieksänmaa	1.1.2004
03	Varsinais-Suomi constituency	03	Varsinais-Suomi constituency	
	431 Loimaan kunta		430 Loimaa	1.1.2005
	219 Karinainen		636 Pöytyä	1.1.2005
04	Satakunta constituency	04	Satakunta constituency	
	293 Kullaa		886 Ulvila	1.1.2005
07	Pirkanmaa constituency	07	Pirkanmaa constituency	
	730 Sahalahti		211 Kangasala	1.1.2005
08	Kymi constituency	08	Kymi constituency	
	728 Saari		580 Parikkala	1.1.2005
	891 Uukuniemi		580 Parikkala	1.1.2005
10	Pohjois-Savo constituency	10	Pohjois-Savo constituency	
	919 Vehmersalmi		297 Kuopio	1.1.2005
	212 Kangaslampi		915 Varkaus	1.1.2005
11	North Karelia constituency	11	North Karelia constituency	

Abolished municipality		Name of new or expanding municipality			Date	
	251	Kiihtelysvaara		167	Joensuu	1.1.2005
	856	Tuupovaara		167	Joensuu	1.1.2005
	943	Värtsilä		848	Tohmajärvi	1.1.2005
12	Vaasa constituency		12	Vaasa constituency		
	589	Peräseinäjoki		743	Seinäjoki	1.1.2005
15	Lapland constituency		15	Lapland constituency		
	699	Rovaniemen mlk		698	Rovaniemi	1.1.2006
03	Varsinais-Suomi constituency		03	Varsinais-Suomi constituency		
	490	Mietoinen		503	Mynämäki	1.1.2007
04	Satakunta constituency		04	Satakunta constituency		
	266	Kodisjoki		684	Rauma	1.1.2007
07	Pirkanmaa constituency		07	Pirkanmaa constituency		
	864	Toijala		020	Akaa	1.1.2007
	928	Viiala		020	Akaa	1.1.2007
	439	Luopioinen		635	Pälkäne	1.1.2007
	772	Suodenniemi		912	Vammala	1.1.2007
	932	Viljakkala		980	Ylöjärvi	1.1.2007
07	Pirkanmaa constituency		13	Central Finland constituency		
	443	Längelmäki		182	Jämsä	1.1.2007
09	Etelä-Savo constituency		09	Etelä-Savo constituency		
	085	Haukivuori		491	Mikkeli	1.1.2007
	640	Pieksänmaa		593	Pieksämäki	1.1.2007
12	Vaasa constituency		12	Vaasa constituency		
	479	Maksamaa		945	Vöyri-Maksamaa	1.1.2007
	944	Vöyri		945	Vöyri-Maksamaa	1.1.2007
13	Central Finland constituency		13	Central Finland constituency		
	770	Sumiainen		992	Äänekoski	1.1.2007
	774	Suolahti		992	Äänekoski	1.1.2007
14	Oulu constituency		14	Oulu constituency		
	292	Kuivaniemi		139	Ii	1.1.2007
	940	Vuolijoki		205	Kajaani	1.1.2007
	708	Ruukki		748	Siikajoki	1.1.2007
13	Central Finland constituency		13	Central Finland constituency		
	415	Leivonmäki		172	Joutsa	1.1.2008
02	Uusimaa constituency		02	Uusimaa constituency		
	737	Sammatti		444	Lohja	1.1.2009
	220	Karjaa		710	Raasepori	1.1.2009
	606	Pohja		710	Raasepori	1.1.2009
	835	Tammisaari		710	Raasepori	1.1.2009
03	Varsinais-Suomi constituency		03	Varsinais-Suomi constituency		
	602	Piikkiö		202	Kaarina	1.1.2009
	040	Dragsfjärd		322	Kemiönsaari	1.1.2009
	243	Kemiö		322	Kemiönsaari	1.1.2009
	923	Västanfjärd		322	Kemiönsaari	1.1.2009
	006	Alastaro		430	Loimaa	1.1.2009
	482	Mellilä		430	Loimaa	1.1.2009
	101	Houtskari		445	Länsi-Turunmaa	1.1.2009
	150	Iniö		445	Länsi-Turunmaa	1.1.2009
	279	Korpoo		445	Länsi-Turunmaa	1.1.2009

Abolished municipality		Name of new or expanding municipality		Date
533	Nauvo	445	Länsi-Turunmaa	1.1.2009
573	Parainen	445	Länsi-Turunmaa	1.1.2009
017	Askainen	481	Masku	1.1.2009
419	Lemu	481	Masku	1.1.2009
485	Merimasku	529	Naantali	1.1.2009
705	Rymättylä	529	Naantali	1.1.2009
920	Velkua	529	Naantali	1.1.2009
636	Pöytyä	636	Pöytyä	1.1.2009
979	Yläne	636	Pöytyä	1.1.2009
906	Vahto	704	Rusko	1.1.2009
073	Halikko	734	Salo	1.1.2009
252	Kiikala	734	Salo	1.1.2009
259	Kisko	734	Salo	1.1.2009
308	Kuusjoki	734	Salo	1.1.2009
501	Muurla	734	Salo	1.1.2009
586	Perniö	734	Salo	1.1.2009
587	Pertteli	734	Salo	1.1.2009
734	Salo	734	Salo	1.1.2009
776	Suomusjärvi	734	Salo	1.1.2009
784	Särkisalo	734	Salo	1.1.2009
04	Satakunta constituency	04	Satakunta constituency	
262	Kiukainen	050	Eura	1.1.2009
913	Vampula	102	Huittinen	1.1.2009
406	Lappi	684	Rauma	1.1.2009
06	Häme constituency	06	Häme constituency	
083	Hauho	109	Hämeenlinna	1.1.2009
210	Kalvola	109	Hämeenlinna	1.1.2009
401	Lammi	109	Hämeenlinna	1.1.2009
692	Renko	109	Hämeenlinna	1.1.2009
855	Tuulos	109	Hämeenlinna	1.1.2009
07	Pirkanmaa constituency	07	Pirkanmaa constituency	
506	Mänttä	508	Mänttä-Vilppula	1.1.2009
933	Vilppula	508	Mänttä-Vilppula	1.1.2009
493	Mouhijärvi	790	Sastamala	1.1.2009
912	Vammala	790	Sastamala	1.1.2009
988	Äetsä	790	Sastamala	1.1.2009
303	Kuru	980	Ylöjärvi	1.1.2009
08	Kymi constituency	08	Kymi constituency	
044	Elimäki	286	Kouvola	1.1.2009
163	Jaala	286	Kouvola	1.1.2009
286	Kouvola	286	Kouvola	1.1.2009
306	Kuusankoski	286	Kouvola	1.1.2009
754	Anjalankoski	286	Kouvola	1.1.2009
909	Valkeala	286	Kouvola	1.1.2009
173	Joutseno	405	Lappeenranta	1.1.2009
09	Etelä-Savo constituency	09	Etelä-Savo constituency	
741	Savonranta	740	Savonlinna	1.1.2009
11	North Karelia constituency	11	North Karelia constituency	
045	Eno	167	Joensuu	1.1.2009

Abolished municipality		Name of new or expanding municipality		Date	
	632	Pyhäselkä	167	Joensuu	1.1.2009
12	Vaasa constituency		12	Vaasa constituency	
	414	Lehtimäki	005	Alajärvi	1.1.2009
	004	Alahärmä	233	Kauhava	1.1.2009
	233	Kauhava	233	Kauhava	1.1.2009
	281	Kortesjärvi	233	Kauhava	1.1.2009
	971	Ylihärmä	233	Kauhava	1.1.2009
	315	Kälviä	272	Kokkola	1.1.2009
	429	Lohtaja	272	Kokkola	1.1.2009
	885	Ullava	272	Kokkola	1.1.2009
	175	Jurva	301	Kurikka	1.1.2009
	544	Nurmo	743	Seinäjoki	1.1.2009
	743	Seinäjoki	743	Seinäjoki	1.1.2009
	975	Ylistaro	743	Seinäjoki	1.1.2009
13	Central Finland constituency		13	Central Finland constituency	
	179	Jyväskylä	179	Jyväskylä	1.1.2009
	180	Jyväskylän mlk	179	Jyväskylä	1.1.2009
	277	Korpilahti	179	Jyväskylä	1.1.2009
	182	Jämsä	182	Jämsä	1.1.2009
	183	Jämsänkoski	182	Jämsä	1.1.2009
	633	Pylkönmäki	729	Saarijärvi	1.1.2009
14	Oulu constituency		14	Oulu constituency	
	973	Ylikiminki	564	Oulu	1.1.2009
	247	Kestilä	791	Siikalatva	1.1.2009
	603	Piippola	791	Siikalatva	1.1.2009
	617	Pulkkila	791	Siikalatva	1.1.2009
	682	Rantsila	791	Siikalatva	1.1.2009
02	Uusimaa constituency		02	Uusimaa constituency	
	424	Liljendal	434	Loviisa	1.1.2010
	434	Loviisa	434	Loviisa	1.1.2010
	585	Pernaja	434	Loviisa	1.1.2010
	701	Ruotsinpyhtää	434	Loviisa	1.1.2010
04	Satakunta constituency		04	Satakunta constituency	
	537	Noormarkku	609	Pori	1.1.2010
	609	Pori	609	Pori	1.1.2010
08	Kymi constituency		08	Kymi constituency	
	405	Lappeenranta	405	Lappeenranta	1.1.2010
	978	Ylämaa	405	Lappeenranta	1.1.2010
14	Oulu constituency		14	Oulu constituency	
	208	Kalajoki	208	Kalajoki	1.1.2010
12	Vaasa constituency		14	Oulu constituency	
	095	Himanka	208	Kalajoki	1.1.2010
06	Häme constituency		06	Häme constituency	
	015	Artjärvi	560	Orimattila	1.1.2011
	560	Orimattila	560	Orimattila	1.1.2011
07	Pirkanmaa constituency		07	Pirkanmaa constituency	
	020	Akaa	020	Akaa	1.1.2011
	310	Kylmäkoski	020	Akaa	1.1.2011
	211	Kangasala	211	Kangasala	1.1.2011

Abolished municipality		Name of new or expanding municipality			Date	
	289	Kuhmalhti		211	Kangasala	1.1.2011
10	Pohjois-Savo constituency		10	Pohjois-Savo constituency		
	227	Karttula		297	Kuopio	1.1.2011
	297	Kuopio		297	Kuopio	1.1.2011
	916	Varpaisjärvi		402	Lapinlahti	1.1.2011
	402	Lapinlahti		402	Lapinlahti	1.1.2011
12	Vaasa constituency		12	Vaasa constituency		
	559	Oravainen		946	Vöyri	1.1.2011
	945	Vöyri-Maksamaa		946	Vöyri	1.1.2011

Appendix tables

Number of candidates by party and constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011

Constituency	Party																		
	Tot.	KESK	KOK	SDP	VAS	VIHR	KD	RKP	PS	SKP	SSP	IP	KA	KTP	STP	Pirate Pty	Change 2011	Liberty Pty	Others
Whole country	2315	233	232	238	236	228	191	83	238	143	44	69	12	46	47	127	66	60	22
Helsinki	267	21	21	21	21	21	20	21	21	21	9	7	1	6	18	21	13	1	3
Uusimaa	406	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	27	-	15	8	13	9	35	13	2	4
Varsinais-Suomi	191	14	17	17	17	17	17	3	17	16	2	7	-	1	5	15	7	17	2
Satakunta	97	12	14	14	14	14	2	-	14	3	-	5	-	2	1	-	1	1	-
Häme	132	14	14	14	14	14	14	-	14	6	4	2	-	4	1	9	5	2	1
Pirkanmaa	207	18	18	18	18	18	18	-	18	17	18	7	-	2	1	12	6	18	-
Kymi	118	14	14	14	14	14	14	-	14	-	-	6	-	2	4	3	3	2	-
South Savo	94	14	11	14	12	14	3	-	14	1	-	2	-	1	1	5	1	1	-
North Savo	118	14	14	14	14	14	12	-	14	8	-	1	1	2	2	-	3	4	1
North Karelia	108	14	11	14	14	14	3	-	14	8	-	4	-	2	1	2	1	5	1
Vaasa	158	17	17	17	17	7	17	17	17	6	3	8	-	1	1	9	1	2	1
Central Finland	141	14	14	14	14	14	14	-	14	14	8	4	-	1	1	11	3	1	-
Oulu	156	18	18	18	18	18	15	2	18	8	-	1	2	3	1	5	7	3	1
Lapland	114	14	14	14	14	14	7	5	14	8	-	-	-	6	1	-	2	1	-
Åland	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8

Parliamentary elections, quality description

1. Relevance of statistical information

1.1 Summary of the information content of statistics

Statistics Finland produces official statistics from Parliamentary elections containing key data on the following:

- Votes gained by parties and their proportions by municipality divided into votes gained during advance voting and votes gained on the election day;
- Number and proportion of votes gained by female candidates by party and constituency;
- The number of persons entitled to vote and persons who voted by gender and municipality both during advance voting and on the election day;
- The number of candidates and elected representatives by party and gender, and the number of votes to all candidates and the comparative figures by constituency.

The data are available in the Statistics Finland's free database, the StatFin online service (starting from 2003 onwards also by voting district).

1.2 Essential concepts

Holding of elections

According to the Finnish Constitution, the powers of the state are vested in the people who are represented by the Parliament. Members of Parliament are elected in direct and proportional elections according to the Government's decision on how the seats in Parliament are allocated to constituencies. Parliamentary elections are held every four years and the election day is the third Sunday in April of the election year.

Legislation

With the revision of election legislation in 1998 all provisions on elections were collected into one single act, the Elections Act (714/1998), which entered into force on 8 October 1998. Elections are held according to the election legislation in force. More detailed information is available on the Internet pages of the Ministry of Justice at www.vaalit.fi (=> elections => legislation) and www.finlex.fi/en/ (=>Translations of Finnish acts and decrees => Elections Act (714/1998)).

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 direct 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.
- **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 elections everybody has one vote.
- **Voting is personal.** The right to vote may not be used through an agent.
- **Voting must take place in front of election authorities.**
- **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 and eligibility

Every Finnish citizen is entitled to vote in Parliamentary elections provided the person has reached the age of 18 no later than on the day of the election.

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

Eligibility

Everyone with the right to vote and who is not under guardianship can be a candidate in Parliamentary elections. However, a person holding military office cannot be elected as a representative. In addition, certain high officials, such as the Chancellor of Justice of the Government and the members of the Supreme Court may not serve as representatives. Consequently, they may not stand as candidates in elections either unless they resign from office.

Nomination of candidates

A party entered in the register of political parties has the right to nominate 14 candidates in each constituency or, if the number of Parliamentary seats for a constituency exceeds 14, at most as many candidates as there are seats. In addition to parties, a voters' association founded by at least 100 enfranchised persons in one constituency has the right to nominate a candidate in Parliamentary elections. One person may stand as a candidate in a single election only for one party or voters' association and in only one constituency. In the constituency of Åland, a voters' association founded by at least 30 enfranchised persons has the right to nominate a candidate in Parliamentary elections and another person as the candidate's substitute.

Voting percentage = proportion of voters of enfranchised persons

Statistics on general elections include four different voting percentages:

1. The voting percentage of Finnish citizens resident in Finland.
2. The voting percentage of Finnish citizens resident abroad.
3. The total voting percentage which includes both of the above.
4. A separate percentage for persons belonging to group 2 above and living in Sweden.

Valid and invalid ballots taken into account in the advance voting

As a rule, counting of advance votes starts at 15:00 hours on the actual election Sunday. The count may be brought forward in large electoral districts; the earliest possible starting time being 12:00 noon. The objective is to finish the counting of advance votes by 20:00 hours, from which time onwards preliminary data may be released.

Constituencies

For the purpose of Parliamentary elections, the country is divided into 15 constituencies based on regions. In Parliamentary elections, the seats in Parliament are allocated to the constituencies according to a Government decision. The number of seats in Parliament will change for two constituencies (electoral districts) in the Parliamentary elections of 17 April 2011. The constituency of Uusimaa gains one seat and the constituency of North Savo loses one seat. According to law, one representative is elected from the constituency of Åland and the remaining 199 seats are allocated proportionally to the other constituencies according to the size of their population of Finnish citizens resident in Finland in the Population Information System on 31 October 2010. On 11 November 2010, the Government issued a decree on the allocation of seats in Parliament among constituencies. Seats in the Parliamentary elections 2011 are proportionally divided as following:

- Helsinki constituency 21
- Uusimaa constituency 35
- Varsinais-Suomi constituency 17
- Satakunta constituency 9
- Häme constituency 14
- Pirkanmaa constituency 18
- Kymi constituency 12
- South Savo constituency 6
- North Savo constituency 9
- North Karelia constituency 6
- Vaasa constituency 17
- Central Finland constituency 10
- Oulu constituency 18
- Lapland constituency 7
- Åland constituency 1

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 in the Classifications section of the Internet home page of the statistics.

Municipalities are placed into constituencies according to the constituency division in force. 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 every five years in connection with population censuses and on the data thus obtained about the population living in urban settlements.

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

Statistics Finland's classification of municipalities. Constituency, municipality group, municipality, voting district, party (entered in the Party Register), age of candidates and elected MPs.

The names of constituencies in the Parliamentary elections 2011 are:

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

Candidates have been nominated in the Parliamentary elections 2011 by the following registered parties:

- The 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 (GREENS)
- Left - Wing Alliance (LEFT)
- True Finns (PS)
- Communist Party of Finland (SKP)
- Finnish Seniors Party (SSP)
- Communist Worker's Party (Finland) – For Peace and Socialism (KTP)
- Finnish Labour Party (STP)
- Independence Party (IP)
- For the Poor (KA)
- Pirate Party of Finland
- Change 2011
- Liberty Party – Future of Finland

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 is assigned to Tieto.

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 Statistics department as the producer of election statistics (Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure, TK-00-1469-00).

2. Methodological description of survey

The statistics are based on census data. The basic data of the statistics are based on the Ministry of Justice's election information system consisting of six subsystems. They are:

1. Basic data, including data on constituencies, municipalities, and voting districts and election authorities;
2. Data on polling stations (polling station register), including data on general advance polling stations and polling stations on the election day;
3. Franchise data (voting register), for which data on every person entitled to vote are collected by the Population Register Centre on the 46th day prior to the election day. The voting register includes personal data on each person entitled to vote (name, personal identity code, constituency, municipality of domicile and polling station) included in the Population Information System on the 51st day prior to the election day. The voting register gains legal force at 12:00 noon on the 12th day prior to the election day;
4. Data on candidates (candidate register) in which the following data on each candidate in the elections are entered: name, candidate number, profession, municipality of residence, party/voters' association that has nominated the candidate, and personal identity code;
5. A centralised calculation system to which the electoral district committees and the central election committees submit their results of the elections;
6. Statistics and information service 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 candidates and elected MPs

The analysis is based on the national candidate register (Ministry of Justice) and on the results of the preliminary calculation as well as on Statistics Finland's employment statistics data.

3. Correctness and accuracy of data

The basic data of the election statistics derive on 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 elected representatives, whereby even their mutual order may change.

5. Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

The preliminary statistics are published on the Internet, in the StatFin online service and on the web pages of statistics on Parliamentary elections as soon as possible. Election data by municipality and voting district (starting from 2003) and the numbers of votes gained by candidates and elected representatives are entered into the StatFin online service.

Reviews and time series tables in addition to the tables concerning the elections in question are available in three languages (Finnish, Swedish and English) on the web pages of statistics on Parliamentary 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 data are released on the statistics pages on the Internet and the StatFin online service is updated.

The chargeable ALTIKA regional database contains results on Parliamentary elections starting from 1983.

6. Comparability of statistics

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

Election results are presented as time series tables starting from 1908 on the statistics pages on Parliamentary elections. Preliminary statistics on Parliamentary elections have been released on the Internet since 1995. In addition, the StatFin online service contains a time series on Parliamentary elections starting from 1983 (NB! From 2003 onwards also data by voting district).

7. Coherence and consistency/uniformity and documentation

The Ministry of Justice publishes information about the results of different elections and the national candidate register on its website (www.vaalit.fi). The statistics published by the Ministry of Justice differ from those of Statistics Finland with regard to 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 homepages.

Inquiries

Kimmo Moisio (09) 1734 3239

Jaana Asikainen (09) 1734 3506

Director in charge:

Jari Tarkoma

vaalit@stat.fi

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

Source: Parliamentary Elections 2011, Statistics Finland