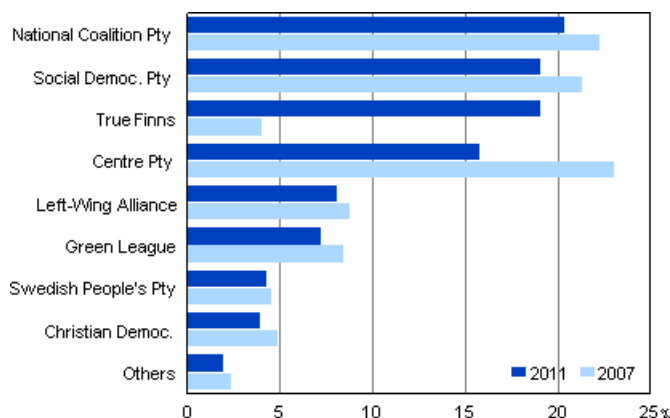


Parliamentary elections 2011, confirmed result

True Finns the biggest winner in the elections. Coalition Party the largest party in the Parliamentary elections 2011

The True Finns emerged as the winner of the elections as the other parliamentary parties lost their support compared with the previous Parliamentary elections. The True Finns increased their support by 15.0 percentage points, thus gaining 19.1 per cent of the country's votes, which raised it from the smallest parliamentary party into the third largest party in Finland. The number of votes cast for the True Finns gave it 34 additional seats in Parliament. In total, the True Finns got 39 MPs and a total of 560,075 votes in the whole country, which is 447,819 votes more than in the Parliamentary elections 2007.

Support for parties in Parliamentary elections 2011 and 2007



The Centre Party of Finland lost most in the elections, as it dropped from the largest party to the fourth biggest party. The Centre Party gained 15.8 per cent of all the votes cast. When compared with the previous Parliamentary elections, its support went down by 7.4 percentage points. The Centre Party received 463,266 votes and 35 MPs into Parliament. The number of seats for the party fell by 16 and the number of votes by 177,162 compared with the 2007 Parliamentary elections.

The National Coalition Party emerged as the largest party. The Coalition Party gained 44 seats and 20.4 per cent of the votes cast. The Coalition Party lost six MPs and gained 1.9 percentage points fewer

votes than in the previous Parliamentary elections. In the whole country, the Coalition Party received 599,138 votes, which is 17,703 down from 2007.

The Social Democratic Party became the second largest party in Finland. The Social Democrats gained 19.1 per cent of the votes and 42 seats, which is 2.3 percentage points and three seats down from the Parliamentary elections 2007. The Social Democrats got 561,558 votes, which is 32,636 votes fewer than in the previous Parliamentary elections.

The Left Alliance gained 8.1 per cent of all votes cast and 14 seats. Compared with the previous Parliamentary elections, the number of votes fell by 0.7 percentage points and the number of MPs by three. The Green League gained 7.3 per cent of all votes cast and ten seats. The number of votes cast for the party decreased by 1.2 percentage points and the number of seats went down by five. The Swedish People's Party got 4.3 per cent of the votes casts, which is 0.3 percentage points down from the previous Parliamentary elections. The party retained its nine seats. The Christian Democrats gained 4.0 per cent of the votes or 0.8 percentage points down from the previous Parliamentary elections. The Christian Democrats lost one seat, thus gaining six MPs in Parliament. No new parties entered the Parliament in the 2011 Parliamentary elections.

Support for parties in Parliamentary elections 2011 and 2007

Party	Parliamentary elections 2011	Parliamentary elections 2007
National Coalition Party KOK	20.4	22.3
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	19.1	21.4
True Finns PS	19.1	4.1
Centre Party of Finland KESK	15.8	23.1
Left-Wing Alliance VAS	8.1	8.8
Green League VIHR	7.3	8.5
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	4.3	4.6
Christian Democrats KD	4.0	4.9
Others	2.0	2.4

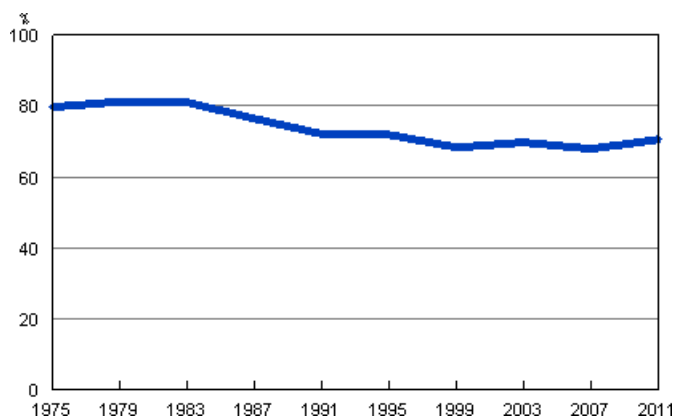
Election participation more active than in the previous Parliamentary elections

The voting percentage of Finnish citizens resident in Finland was 70.5, which is 2.6 percentage points more than in the 2007 Parliamentary elections. The voting turnout rose in all constituencies, except for

the constituency of Åland. The voting turnout was highest in the constituency of Helsinki, where 75.5 per cent of persons entitled to vote cast their vote. The voting turnout was also higher than average in the constituencies of Vaasa (73.2%), Uusimaa (72.9%), Pirkanmaa (71.5%) and Varsinais-Suomi (71.2%).

The total number of persons entitled to vote was 4,387,701. The number of persons entitled to vote resident in Finland was 4,159,857 and the number of persons entitled to vote resident abroad was 227,844. The voting turnout of Finnish citizens resident abroad was 10.6 per cent, which is 2.0 percentage points higher than in the previous Parliamentary elections.

Voting turnout of Finnish citizens resident in Finland in Parliamentary elections 1975 - 2011, %



Voting turnout in Parliamentary elections 1975 - 2011, %¹⁾

Year	Voting turnout of Finnish citizens living in Finland, %	Voting turnout of Finnish citizens living in abroad, %
1975	79.7	7.1
1979	81.2	6.7
1983	81.0	6.7
1987	76.4	5.8
1991	72.1	5.6
1995	71.9	6.1
1999	68.3	6.5
2003	69.7	8.8
2007	67.8	8.5
2011	70.5	10.6

1) In 1975 the right to vote was extended to cover Finnish citizens not registered as resident in Finland.

Contents

1. Background analysis of candidates and elected MPs in the Parliamentary elections 2011	6
1.1. Candidates, elected MPs and persons entitled to vote by sex	6
1.2. Foreign background	9
1.3. Average age	9
1.4. Employment	12
1.5. Family status	13
1.6. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by number of children in 2011	15
1.7. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by educational level in 2011	17
1.8. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by income subject to state taxation in Parliamentary elections 2011	18
1.9. Income brackets	22
2. Municipal mergers in Parliamentary elections 1983-2011	24

Tables

Table 1. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by sex and party in Parliamentary elections 2011	7
Table 2. Women's proportion of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011	8
Table 3. Average age of candidates by sex and constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011	10
Table 4. Age structure of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs in Parliamentary elections 2011	11
Table 5. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by main type of activity in Parliamentary elections 2011	13
Table 6. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by family status in Parliamentary elections 2011	15
Table 7. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by number of biological children in Parliamentary elections 2011	16
Table 8. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by educational level in Parliamentary elections 2011	18
Table 9. Persons to vote, candidates and elected MPs by median income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections 2011 and 2007	20
Table 10. Median income subject to state taxation (in euro) of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011	21
Table 11. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections 2011	23

Figures

Figure 1. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by sex and party in Parliamentary elections 2011	6
Figure 2. Women's proportion of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011	8
Figure 3. Persons entitled to vote and candidates with a foreign background in Parliamentary elections 2011	9
Figure 4. Average age of candidates by sex and constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011	10
Figure 5. Age structure of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs in Parliamentary elections 2011	11
Figure 6. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by main type of activity in Parliamentary elections 2011	12

Figure 7. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by family status in Parliamentary elections 2011...	14
Figure 8. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by number of biological children in Parliamentary elections 2011.....	16
Figure 9. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by educational level in Parliamentary elections 2011.....	17
Figure 10. Persons to vote, candidates and elected MPs by median income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections in 2011 and 2007	19
Figure 11. Median income subject to state taxation (in euro) of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011 ¹	21
Figure 12. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections 2011	22
Parliamentary elections, quality description.....	30

1. Background analysis of candidates and elected MPs in the Parliamentary elections 2011

In the following review persons entitled to vote and background information on the persons nominated as candidates by the parties and on the elected MPs are examined against diverse statistical data. Data on those entitled to vote are based on the voting register established on 2 March 2011. The background information on the persons is based on statistical data from Statistics Finland's Population Statistics, such as statistics on employment and families. Of the persons entitled to vote only those resident in Finland are included in the review.

1.1. Candidates, elected MPs and persons entitled to vote by sex

The total number of candidates nominated in the Parliamentary elections is 2,315. Of these, 1,412 are men and 903 women. Of the parliamentary parties, the True Finns and the Centre Party have in relative terms the lowest proportions of women candidates (33.2% and 41.2%, respectively). Among the major parties, the True Finns are the only parliamentary party where the proportion of women lies below the average (39%). The highest proportions of women candidates are in the Green League (51.8%) and the National Coalition Party (44.8%). Only the Green League has more women than men candidates. The majority, or 51.6 per cent, of the persons entitled to vote are women.

Figure 1. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by sex and party in Parliamentary elections 2011

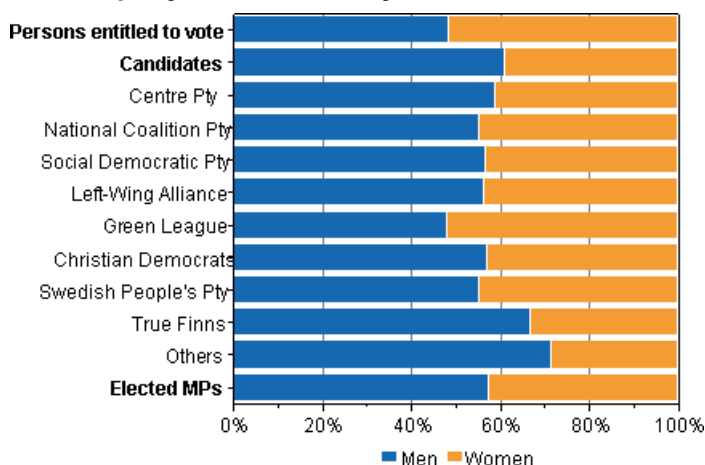


Table 1. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by sex and party in Parliamentary elections 2011

	Men	Women
Persons entitled to vote	48.4	51.6
Candidates	61.0	39.0
Centre Party of Finland KESK	58.8	41.2
National Coalition Party KOK	55.2	44.8
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	56.7	43.3
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	56.4	43.6
Green League GREENS	48.2	51.8
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	57.1	42.9
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	55.4	44.6
True Finns PS	66.8	33.2
Others	71.5	28.5
Elected MPs	57.5	42.5

Of the elected MPs, 42.5 per cent are women, which is slightly more than the proportion of women candidates (39%). In relative terms, the proportion of elected female MPs was highest in the Social Democratic Party, where women's proportion of elected MPs is 64.3 per cent. It is over 20 percentage points more than the proportion of women candidates for the party. The Christian Democrats and the Swedish People's Party also received in relative terms more female MPs than they had women as candidates.

Figure 2. Women's proportion of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011

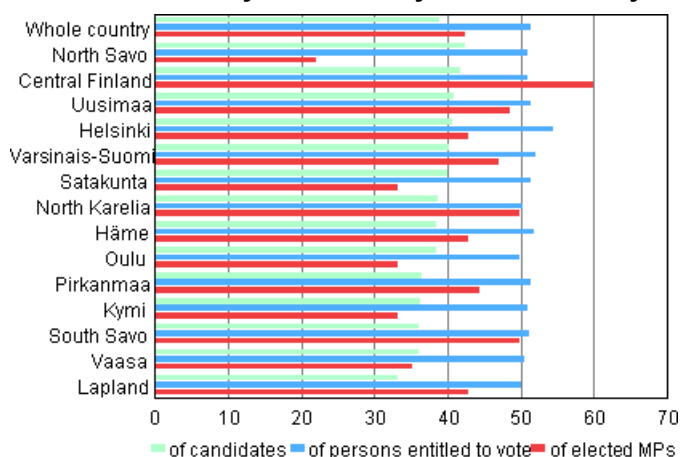


Table 2. Women's proportion of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011

Constituency	Proportion of women of candidates	Proportion of women of persons entitled to vote	Proportion of women of elected MPs
Whole country	39.0	51.6	42.5
North Savo	42.4	51.1	22.2
Central Finland	41.8	51.0	60.0
Uusimaa	40.9	51.5	48.6
Helsinki	40.8	54.5	42.9
Varsinais-Suomi	40.3	52.2	47.1
Satakunta	40.2	51.4	33.3
North Karelia	38.9	50.5	50.0
Häme	38.6	51.9	42.9
Oulu	38.5	50.0	33.3
Pirkanmaa	36.7	51.6	44.4
Kymi	36.4	51.0	33.3
South Savo	36.2	51.3	50.0
Vaasa	36.1	50.7	35.3
Lapland	33.3	50.1	42.9
Åland	25.0	51.1	100.0

The lowest proportions of women candidates are in the constituencies of Åland (25.0%) and Lapland (33.3%). The proportions of women candidates are highest in the constituency of North Savo (42.4%). The proportions of women candidates are also higher than the average for the whole country in the constituencies of Central Finland, Uusimaa, Helsinki, Varsinais-Suomi and Satakunta.

The majority of persons entitled to vote are women in all constituencies. The strongest majority is in the constituency of Helsinki, where 54.5 per cent of the persons entitled to vote but only 40.8 per cent of the candidates are women.

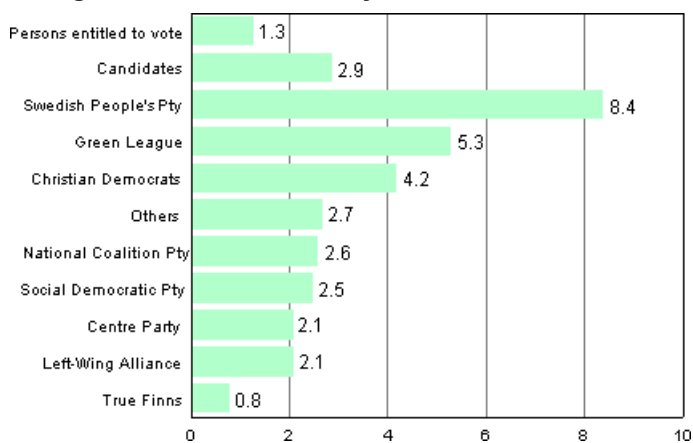
The difference between the population structure and the candidate structure, or the under-representation of women, is greatest in the constituency of Åland, where 25 per cent of the candidates, but 51 per cent of the persons entitled to vote, are women. In the constituency of Lapland the proportion of female candidates is 33.3 per cent and 50.1 per cent of persons entitled to vote are women. The difference is smallest in the constituency of North Savo, 8.7 percentage points.

Women make up 42.5 per cent of all elected MPs. More women than men were elected only in the constituency of Central Finland, where 60 per cent of the elected MPs are women. Equal numbers of men and women were elected in North Karelia and South Savo. The lowest proportions of women were elected in North Savo (22.2%) and in the constituencies of Satakunta and Kymi (both 33.3%). It should be noted, however, that in small constituencies randomness may swing the gender proportions quite substantially.

1.2. Foreign background

Around three per cent of the candidates have a foreign background. In all, 1.3 per cent of the persons entitled to vote have a foreign background. Persons whose mother tongue is not Finnish, Swedish or Sami are regarded as having a foreign background. The highest proportions of candidates with a foreign background were nominated by the Swedish People's Party (8.4%) and the Green League (5.3%). The True Finns have the lowest proportion of foreign-language speakers as candidates (0.8%).

Figure 3. Persons entitled to vote and candidates with a foreign background in Parliamentary elections 2011



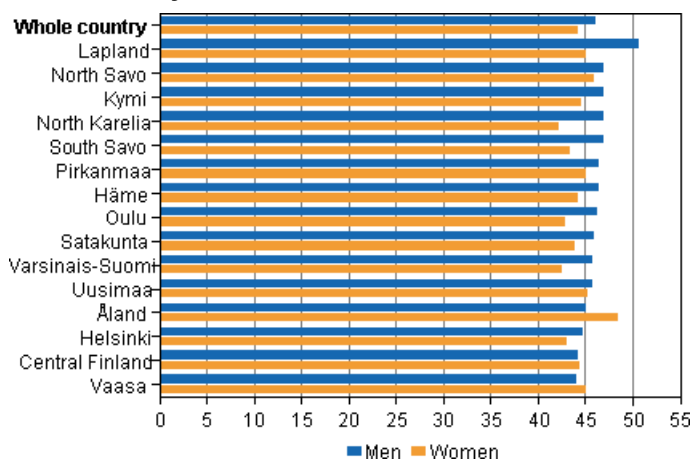
1.3. Average age

The average age of men candidates has fallen by about two years from the previous Parliamentary elections. In contrast, women candidates are now six months older, on average, than in the previous Parliamentary elections. The average age of men candidates is now 46.2 years and that of women candidates 44.3 years. Women candidates are, on average, about two years younger than men candidates are.

Table 3. Average age of candidates by sex and constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011

Constituency	Men	Women
Whole country	46.2	44.3
Lapland	50.7	45.1
North Savo	47.1	46.1
Kymi	47.1	44.7
North Karelia	47.1	42.3
South Savo	47.0	43.5
Pirkanmaa	46.6	45.2
Häme	46.5	44.4
Oulu	46.3	43.0
Satakunta	46.1	43.9
Varsinais-Suomi	45.9	42.6
Uusimaa	45.8	45.3
Åland	45.2	48.5
Helsinki	44.9	43.2
Central Finland	44.3	44.5
Vaasa	44.2	45.2

Figure 4. Average age of candidates by sex and constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011



The average age of men entitled to vote is 48.1 years and that of women 50.9 years. Men candidates are a couple of years younger than men entitled to vote, but women candidates are nearly seven years younger than women entitled to vote.

The youngest women candidates were nominated in North Karelia (42.3 years) and Varsinais-Suomi (42.6 years). The youngest men candidates were nominated in the constituencies of Vaasa (44.2 years), Central Finland (44.3 years) and Helsinki (44.9 years). The oldest women candidates were nominated in Åland (48.5 years) and North Savo (46.1 years). Men candidates are oldest in Lapland (50.7 years). The largest age difference between men and women candidates is in Lapland, i.e. 5.6 years and the smallest in Central Finland and Uusimaa, where it is under one year.

The average age of the elected MPs is 48.0 years, that of male MPs 50.2 years and that of female MPs 45.0 years.

Figure 5. Age structure of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs in Parliamentary elections 2011

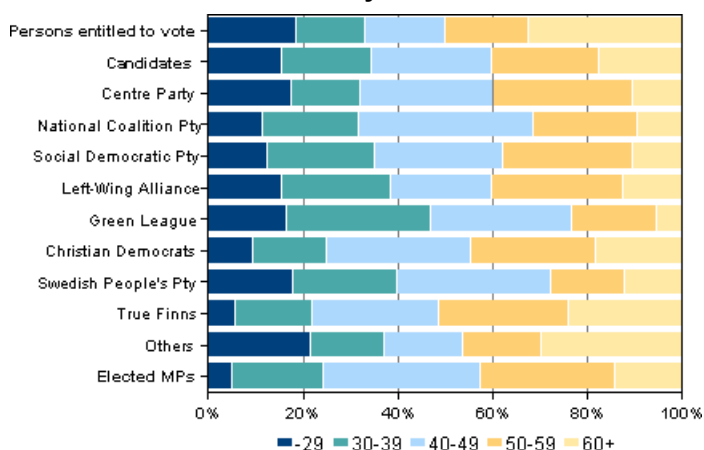


Table 4. Age structure of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs in Parliamentary elections 2011

	-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
Persons entitled to vote	18.5	14.7	16.7	17.8	32.3
Candidates	15.5	19.1	25.3	22.7	17.4
Centre Party of Finland KESK	17.6	14.6	27.9	29.6	10.3
National Coalition Party KOK	11.6	20.3	36.6	22.0	9.5
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	12.6	22.7	26.9	27.3	10.5
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	15.7	22.9	21.2	28.0	12.3
Green League GREENS	16.7	30.3	29.8	18.0	5.3
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	9.4	15.7	30.4	26.2	18.3
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	18.1	21.7	32.5	15.7	12.0
True Finns PS	5.9	16.0	26.9	27.3	23.9
Others	21.7	15.6	16.5	16.7	29.6
Elected MPs	5.0	19.5	33.0	28.5	14.0

The Green League has the highest proportion, nearly one half, of the candidates younger than 40 years of age. The proportion of candidates younger than 40 years of age is higher than their proportion of the

persons entitled to vote also in the Swedish People's Party, the Left Alliance and the Social Democratic Party. The lowest proportions of young candidates were nominated by the True Finns and the Christian Democrats. The Coalition Party has the highest proportion of candidates aged 40 to 49.

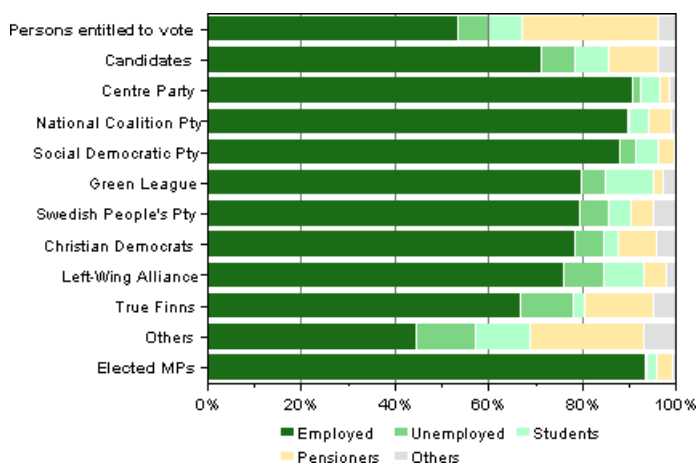
The True Finns (51.3%) and the Christian Democrats (44.5%) have the highest proportion of candidates aged 50 or over, the True Finns even more than among the persons entitled to vote (50.1%). In the Green League and the Swedish People's Party fewer than 30 per cent of the candidates are over the age of 50.

The proportion of young people among the elected MPs is considerably lower than their proportion of persons entitled to vote or candidates. Only five per cent of the elected MPs are aged under 30, while their proportion of all people entitled to vote is 18.5 per cent and 15.5 per cent of the candidates. Compared with the previous elections, the proportion of young people nevertheless grew by four percentage points. In the 2007 elections only two persons aged under 30 were elected to the Parliament, that is, one per cent. The largest age group in the new Parliament is formed by those aged 40 to 49, to which one third of all MPs belong.

1.4. Employment

At the end of 2009, just over one half, or 53.4 per cent of all persons entitled to vote were employed, 6.7 per cent unemployed, 7.2 per cent students, and 28.8 per cent pensioners. Around 90 per cent of the candidates of the three major parties, the Centre Party, the Coalition Party and the Social Democratic Party, were employed, while in the True Finns the proportion of employed was 66.8 per cent. The Social Democrats, the Coalition Party and the Centre Party have virtually no unemployed candidates. In contrast, 11.3 per cent of the True Finns have been unemployed at the end of 2009. Around 71 per cent of all candidates were employed and about seven per cent were unemployed at the end of 2009.

Figure 6. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by main type of activity in Parliamentary elections 2011



In the major parties only six to nine per cent of the candidates are students or pensioners. The proportion of student candidates is highest in the Green League (10.1%) and the Left Alliance (8.5%). The proportion of pensioner candidates is highest among the True Finns (14.7%) and the Christian Democrats (7.9%).

Table 5. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by main type of activity in Parliamentary elections 2011

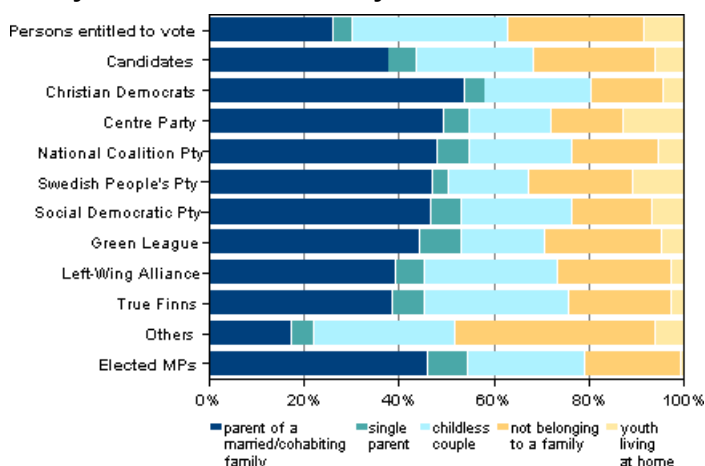
	Employed	Unemployed	Students	Pensioners	Others
Persons entitled to vote	53.4	6.7	7.2	28.8	3.8
Candidates	71.4	7.3	7.1	10.7	3.6
Centre Party of Finland KESK	91.0	1.7	3.9	2.1	1.3
National Coalition Party KOK	89.7	0.4	4.3	4.7	0.9
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	88.2	3.4	4.6	3.4	0.4
Green League GREENS	79.8	5.3	10.1	2.2	2.6
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	79.5	6.0	4.8	4.8	4.8
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	78.5	6.3	3.1	7.9	4.2
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	76.3	8.5	8.5	4.7	2.1
True Finns PS	66.8	11.3	2.5	14.7	4.6
Others	44.8	12.4	11.8	24.2	6.8
Elected MPs	93.5	0.5	2.0	3.5	0.5

Nearly all elected MPs, or 93.5 per cent, were employed at the end of 2009. In all, 2.0 per cent were students and 3.5 per cent pensioners.

1.5. Family status

Of all persons entitled to vote nearly one quarter are parents of a family with children, or the family had at least one underage child. Nearly three per cent of them are single parents. In addition, around six per cent are parents with only children aged over 18 living at home. Around 33 per cent are childless couples, close on 30 per cent live alone without a family and around eight per cent of persons entitled to vote are young adults living at home.

Figure 7. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by family status in Parliamentary elections 2011



The candidates also differ in their family status from persons entitled to vote: considerably more of them are parents of a family with children and childless couples than is the case among persons entitled to vote. This is of course explained by that the age structure of candidates is younger than among persons entitled to vote. For a major part of those entitled to vote children have already moved from home, while most candidates are at an age when children are still living at home.

The True Finns, the Left Alliance and the Swedish People's Party have the lowest proportion of parents of families with children (37% to 42%), while in other major parties their proportion is 47 to 50 per cent. The proportions of young people living at home are highest among the candidates of the Centre Party (12.9%) and the Swedish People's Party (10.8%). The Green League and the Left Alliance have most candidates without a family, usually living alone, that is, nearly one quarter of all candidates.

Of all persons entitled to vote, 44.3 per cent are married and 14.5 per cent are cohabiting. In all, 48.5 per cent of the candidates are married and 13.9 per cent are cohabiting.

Christian Democrat candidates differ most from the voters in that 74.9 per cent of them are married. The Green League and the Left Alliance have the lowest proportions of married persons (43.0% and 47.9%, respectively) but their proportion of cohabiting couples is highest, about 19 per cent.

Of the elected MPs, 45.5 per cent are parents of a family with children, that is, they have at least one underage child at home. In addition, around nine per cent are parents with adult children living at home. One fifth of the elected MPs do not belong to a family and one quarter are living in a childless partnership.

Table 6. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by family status in Parliamentary elections 2011

	Parent of a married/ cohabiting family	Single parent	Childless couple	Not belonging to a family	Youth living at home
Persons entitled to vote	26.2	4.1	32.7	28.7	8.3
Candidates	37.8	5.9	24.5	25.8	5.9
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	53.9	4.2	22.5	15.2	4.2
Centre Party of Finland KESK	49.4	5.6	17.2	15.0	12.9
National Coalition Party KOK	48.3	6.5	21.6	18.5	5.2
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	47.0	3.6	16.9	21.7	10.8
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	46.6	6.7	23.1	16.8	6.7
Green League GREENS	44.3	8.8	17.5	24.6	4.8
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	39.4	5.9	28.0	24.2	2.5
True Finns PS	38.7	6.7	30.3	21.8	2.5
Others	17.3	5.0	29.6	42.1	6.0
Elected MPs	46.0	8.5	24.5	20.5	0.5

1.6. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by number of children in 2011

Although the majority of persons entitled to vote and many candidates are not at the moment going through the everyday life of a family with children, it does not mean that they did not have experiences of it. Nearly 35 per cent of persons entitled to vote have never had children of their own, while about 31 per cent of the candidates are completely childless. The proportion of candidates without children is higher than average in parties with a large proportion of young candidates, such as the Green League and the Swedish People's Party. The Christian Democrats have the lowest proportion of candidates without children, only around 20 per cent.

Nearly 80 per cent of the elected MPs have biological children. Large families are also more common to the elected MPs than to persons entitled to vote. Thirty per cent of the elected MPs have at least three children, while this is so for only about one fifth of persons entitled to vote.

Figure 8. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by number of biological children in Parliamentary elections 2011

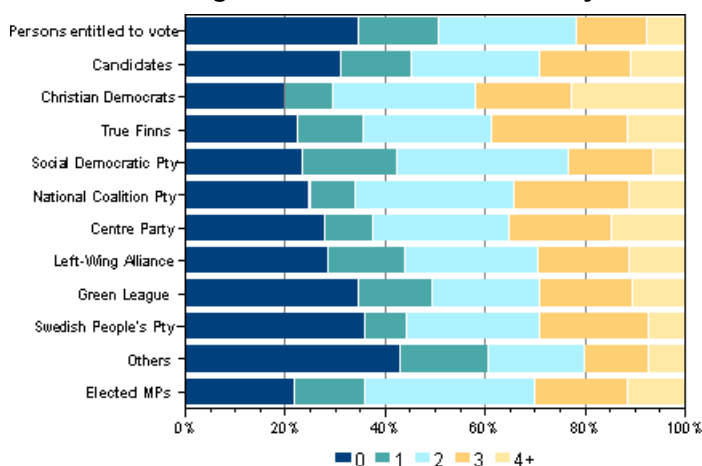


Table 7. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by number of biological children in Parliamentary elections 2011

	0	1	2	3	4+
Persons entitled to vote	34.9	15.8	27.8	14.1	7.4
Candidates	31.2	14.2	25.5	18.5	10.6
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	19.9	9.9	28.3	19.4	22.5
True Finns PS	22.7	13.0	25.6	27.3	11.3
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	23.5	18.9	34.5	16.8	6.3
National Coalition Party KOK	25.0	9.1	31.9	22.8	11.2
Centre Party of Finland KESK	27.9	9.9	27.0	20.6	14.6
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	28.8	15.3	26.7	18.2	11.0
Green League GREENS	34.6	14.9	21.5	18.4	10.5
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	36.1	8.4	26.5	21.7	7.2
Others	43.1	17.6	19.2	13.1	7.1
Elected MPs	22.1	14.0	34.0	18.5	11.5

1.7. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by educational level in 2011

Highly educated people are seeking entry to the Parliament. The educational level of the candidates of almost all parties is higher than that of the average population. Of the total population, 30.8 per cent rely on basic level education, but this is the case only for 11.9 per cent of the candidates. Of the candidates nominated by the major parties even fewer rely on basic level education: around five per cent for the Centre Party, the Social Democratic Party and the Coalition Party, slightly over six per cent for the Green League and the Social Democrats and nearly seven per cent for the Christian Democrats. Around 14 per cent of the True Finns candidates and about ten per cent of the Left Alliance candidates have basic level education only. More than one half of the candidates are educated to the tertiary level, but only about 29 per cent of those entitled to vote have attained that level. The candidates of the National Coalition Party have the highest level of education, as over 74 per cent of them have tertiary level education. The Left Alliance (39.3%) and the True Finns (43.6%) have the lowest proportion of candidates with tertiary level education.

Figure 9. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by educational level in Parliamentary elections 2011

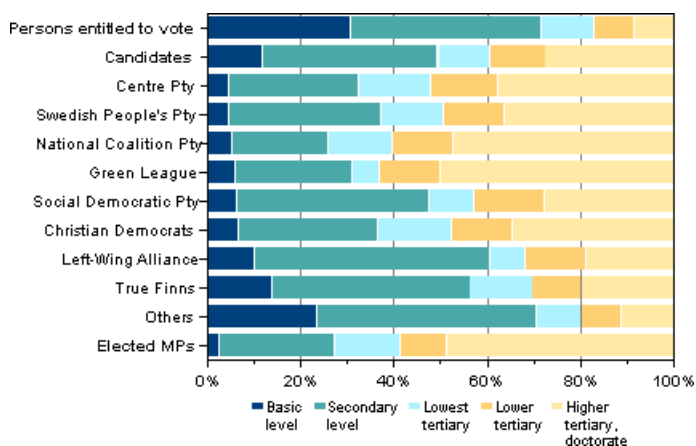


Table 8. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by educational level in Parliamentary elections 2011

	Basic level	Secondary level	Lowest tertiary	Lower tertiary	Higher tertiary, doctorate
Persons entitled to vote	30.8	40.7	11.3	8.8	8.4
Candidates	11.9	37.6	11.1	11.9	27.5
Centre Party of Finland KESK	4.7	27.9	15.5	14.2	37.8
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	4.8	32.5	13.3	13.3	36.1
National Coalition Party KOK	5.2	20.7	13.8	12.9	47.4
Green League GREENS	6.1	25.0	5.7	13.2	50.0
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	6.3	41.2	9.7	15.1	27.7
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	6.8	29.8	15.7	13.1	34.6
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	10.2	50.4	7.6	13.1	18.6
True Finns PS	13.9	42.4	13.4	10.5	19.7
Others	23.6	47.0	9.6	8.5	11.3
Elected MPs	2.5	25.0	14.0	10.0	48.5

Highly educated people are elected as MPs. Over 70 per cent of the elected MPs have tertiary level education, while this is the case for one half of all candidates and for nearly 30 per cent of all persons entitled to vote. Just 2.5 per cent of MPs rely on basic level education. Of the candidates 11.9 per cent had completed only basic level education and over 30 per cent of all persons entitled to vote.

1.8. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by income subject to state taxation in Parliamentary elections 2011

Income is the one variable that marks the greatest difference between candidates and voters. The median of the candidates' income subject to state taxation is EUR 32,042, that of all persons entitled to vote EUR 21,561 and that of employed persons in 2009 EUR 29,897. Thus, the candidates' income compared with all persons entitled to vote is 1.5 times higher. Compared with working persons entitled to vote, candidates' income is around seven per cent higher. The median income of candidates in 2007 was EUR 30,116, which is 63 per cent higher than the income of persons entitled to vote.

The Coalition Party candidates have the biggest income difference with persons entitled to vote, as their income is around 2.5 times higher than among voters. The income of candidates in the Centre Party, the

Social Democrats and the Swedish People's Party is also at least double that of those entitled to vote. Among the parliamentary parties, the Left Alliance and the True Finns are closest to the electorate, but even their income is around 50 per cent higher than among persons entitled to vote. Only for candidates of small parties, the income is below the level of the voters.

Figure 10. Persons to vote, candidates and elected MPs by median income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections in 2011 and 2007

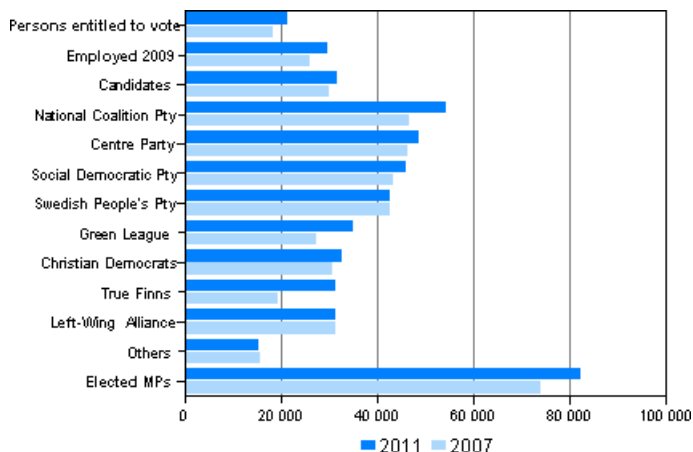


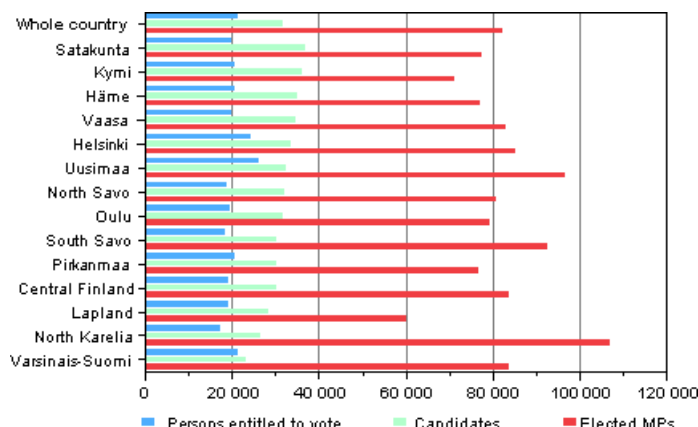
Table 9. Persons to vote, candidates and elected MPs by median income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections 2011 and 2007

	2011	2007
Persons entitled to vote	21,561	18,528
Employed	29,897	26,105
Candidates	32,042	30,116
National Coalition Party KOK	54,569	46,895
Centre Party of Finland KESK	48,722	46,561
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	46,225	43,542
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	43,026	43,020
Green League GREENS	35,118	27,461
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	32,850	30,757
True Finns PS	31,645	19,518
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	31,480	31,535
Others	15,646	15,917
Elected MPs	82,566	74,104

During the present parliamentary period the nominal income of all persons entitled to vote increased by 16.4 per cent, that of working persons by 14.5 per cent and that of candidates by 6.4 per cent. Income rose most for the candidates of the True Finns, by over 60 per cent, although the median income among them is still the lowest of all parliamentary parties. Among the Greens, the income went up by 27.1 per cent and among the Coalition Party by 16.4 per cent. In other parties, the change in median income is smaller than among all persons entitled to vote. The median income of Left Alliance and small party candidates even decreased from the previous elections.

The median income of the elected MPs was EUR 82,566 per year. Their median income is nearly 3.8 times that of persons entitled to vote and 2.6 times that of the candidates. Compared with the previous Parliamentary elections, the median income of the elected MPs rose by 11.4 per cent.

Figure 11. Median income subject to state taxation (in euro) of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011 ¹



¹ Åland is excluded from the examination due to the small number of observations.

Table 10. Median income subject to state taxation (in euro) of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by constituency in Parliamentary elections 2011 ¹⁾

Constituency	Persons entitled to vote	Candidates	Elected MPs
Whole country	21,561	32,042	82,566
Satakunta	19,950	36,997	77,768
Kymi	20,669	36,167	71,459
Häme	20,958	35,166	77,197
Vaasa	20,148	34,902	83,170
Helsinki	24,547	33,641	85,492
Uusimaa	26,270	32,635	96,786
North Savo	19,042	32,091	80,840
Oulu	19,858	31,694	79,421
South Savo	18,547	30,564	92,902
Pirkanmaa	20,892	30,504	76,333
Central Finland	19,268	30,360	83,925
Lapland	19,127	28,542	60,174
North Karelia	17,520	26,527	107,349
Varsinais-Suomi	21,524	23,215	83,775

1) Åland is excluded from the examination due to the small number of observations.

The income level of those entitled to vote is the highest in the constituencies of Uusimaa and Helsinki. The candidates with the highest income come from Satakunta, Kymi and Häme. The income of the candidates and persons entitled to vote is closest to each other in the constituency of Varsinais-Suomi, where the candidates' median income was only EUR 1,700 higher than that of persons entitled to vote. The difference is biggest in Satakunta, where it is around EUR 17,000. Except for Varsinais-Suomi, Helsinki, Uusimaa, Pirkanmaa and Lapland the candidates' median income is at least 50 per cent higher than in the electorate of the area. Voters have the lowest income in North Karelia and South Savo, where the voters' median income remained under EUR 19,000. The candidates with the lowest income, EUR 23,000, come from the constituency of Varsinais-Suomi.

MPs with the highest income were elected from the constituency of North Karelia. There the median income of the elected MPs is EUR 107,349, which is over six times that of persons entitled to vote and four times that of the candidates in that area. MPs with the lowest income were elected in the constituency of Lapland, where the median income of the elected MPs was slightly over EUR 60,000.

1.9. Income brackets

In the following, comparisons are made on the division of candidates into income quintiles that are formed on the basis of the income subject to state taxation of persons entitled to vote. In the division into income quintiles the income brackets are determined so that there is an equal number of persons in each quintile, i.e. 20 per cent of the persons entitled to vote. For the sake of comparison, employed persons in 2009 are also examined in the same income brackets.

The lowest quintile among persons entitled to vote earned in 2009 under EUR 9,708 and the highest quintile over EUR 36,333. Seven per cent of employed persons and 16 per cent of the candidates belong to the lowest quintile. Correspondingly, one third of employed persons and nearly 43 per cent of the candidates belong to the highest income quintile. Of the Coalition Party candidates 75 per cent and nearly two thirds of the Centre Party and SDP candidates belong to the highest income bracket. The proportion of low-income candidates in the parliamentary parties is highest for the Swedish People's Party, the Green League and the Left Alliance. Their low-income earning is explained by the candidates' younger than average age structure and larger student background than among others.

The income structure of small parties' candidates resembles the average income structure of voters more closely than that of the major parties' candidates. As many as nearly one third of the candidates of small parties belong to the lowest income bracket and only 14 per cent to the highest income bracket.

Nearly 90 per cent of the elected MPs belong to the highest income quintile. In all, 42.6 per cent of the candidates and 32.6 per cent of employed persons in 2009 belonged to this group. Only 2.5 per cent of the elected MPs were in the lowest quintile, that is, earned less than EUR 9,708.

Figure 12. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections 2011

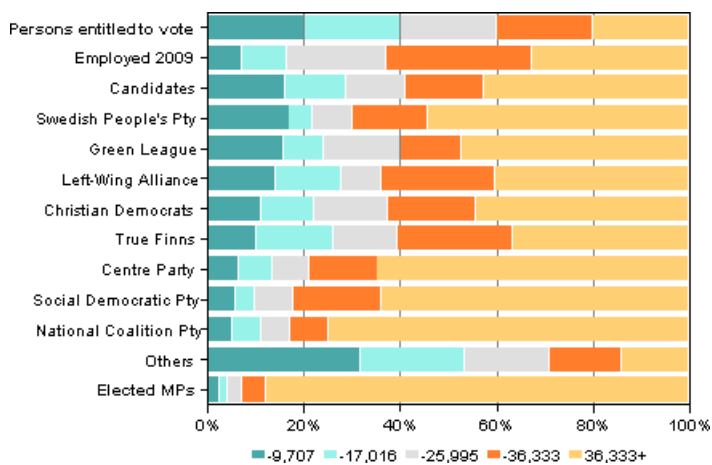


Table 11. Persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs by income subject to state taxation (in euro) in Parliamentary elections 2011

	-9,707	-17,016	-25,995	-36,333	36,333+
Persons entitled to vote	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Employed 2009	7.0	9.5	20.6	30.3	32.6
Candidates	16.0	12.6	12.4	16.4	42.6
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	16.9	4.8	8.4	15.7	54.2
Green League GREENS	15.8	8.3	15.8	12.7	47.4
Left-Wing Alliance LEFT	14.0	13.6	8.5	23.7	40.3
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	11.0	11.0	15.2	18.3	44.5
True Finns PS	10.1	16.0	13.4	23.9	36.6
Centre Party of Finland KESK	6.4	6.9	7.7	14.2	64.8
The Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	5.9	3.8	8.0	18.5	63.9
National Coalition Party KOK	5.2	6.0	6.0	7.8	75.0
Others	31.6	21.9	17.5	14.9	14.2
Elected MPs	2.5	1.5	2.5	5.0	88.5

2. 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

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 persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected representatives

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.

In connection with the election statistics, a background analysis is produced on persons entitled to vote, candidates nominated by the parties and elected representatives. The population of persons entitled to vote is based on the voting register established on 2 March 2011 and the candidates on the candidate register of the Ministry of Justice. The background data on the persons combined with these registers are based on statistical data from Statistics Finland's Population Statistics Department, such as employment statistics, the Register of Completed Education and Degrees and family statistics. Of the persons entitled to vote only those resident in Finland are included in the review.

The analysis describes the persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected representatives with regard to certain variables. Employed persons in 2009 according to employment statistics are also included as comparative data in some figures/tables. The background data usually relate to the year 2009. 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

The constituency used in the analysis is for the candidates the one for which the person stands as a candidate. 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

Persons whose mother tongue is not Finnish, Swedish or Sami are regarded as coming from a foreign background. The data are from the year 2009.

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 2009.

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
- Not belonging to a family
- Youth living at home

Parents of a married/cohabiting family include all married and cohabiting persons and those in a registered partnership who have their own and/or spouse's children living at home. Childless couples are married/cohabiting persons and those in a registered partnership who have no children. Young people living with their own or adopted parent/s having the status of a child are defined as the youth living at home. Those not belonging to a family are usually persons living alone but also a lone mother/father living with her/his child's family is counted as not belonging to a family.

The data on the person's family status are from the year 2009.

Number of children

In the analysis the number of children used is the number of the person's biological children. The data are from the year 2009.

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 polytechnic qualifications.

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 polytechnic 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 2009.

Income subject to state taxation

With certain exceptions, all income received as money or a benefit of monetary value is taxable. Certain social benefits, pensions, allowances and compensations are not taxable. These are such as child benefits,

housing allowances and income support. Taxable are neither grants and awards received from the general government.

The data are based on the National Board of Taxes' data in the tax database concerning income subject to state taxation. The data used in the analysis concern the year 2009.

Median income

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

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.

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Source: Parliamentary Elections 2011, confirmed result. Statistics Finland