

# Swedish election study 1956

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**Is part of collection at SND:** [Swedish Election Studies - Parliamentary elections](#)

## Associated documentation

0020.html (190.18 KB)

0020eqA.pdf (568.01 KB)

0020eqB.pdf (497.25 KB)

0020qA.pdf (667.77 KB)

0020qB.pdf (562.57 KB)

## Citation

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## Alternative title

VU56

## Creator/Principal investigator(s)

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## Research principal

[University of Gothenburg](#) - Department of Political Science

## Description

In the first Swedish election study the respondents were interviewed twice, once before and once after the parliamentary election in September 1956. The pre-election schedule contained questions regarding interest in the election and attention to election programs in radio, and also about the respondent's newspaper reading habits. The respondent had to point out possible retrenchment sectors and to indicate the sectors in which cuts should not be made in public expenditure, and also point out other areas for political change. Questions about trade union affiliation, union activity and opinion of the union, membership in temperance societies, free churches and church attendance were asked. The respondent had to give a prediction for the election outcome and the respondent's political knowledge was measured through photography identification. Other questions dealt with direction and strength of party identification and political history of respondent and the respondent's father, respondent's interest in politics and especially the interest in the election 1956, opinion on the political parties, and degree of political interaction with family and friends. The post-election interview concentrated on the election campaign and the actual vote, when the respondent decided how to vote, if she/he changed party since last election and if this was influenced of family or friends, but there were also questions about the war risk in Europe, especially the threat of the atomic bomb, and about the Swedish defense.

Purpose:

Explain why people vote as they do and why an election ends in a particular way. Track and follow trends in the Swedish electoral democracy and make comparisons with other countries.

**Data contains personal data**

No

**Language**

[English](#)

[Swedish](#)

**Unit of analysis**

[Individual](#)

**Population**

Individuals aged 21-80 years, residing in Sweden and eligible to vote in the parliamentary election 1956

**Time Method**

[Longitudinal: Trend/Repeated cross-section](#)

**Sampling procedure**

The sample was drawn from Statistics Sweden Survey Research Centres sampling framework. The framework consisted of a nation-wide set of primary sampling units which provide the framework for a 'general purpose' two-stage population sample. Respondents not included in the target population because of ineligibility to vote are excluded from the sample. The target population even includes Swedes resident abroad, but these are not included in the sample. People above 80 years of age at the time of the study are excluded in order to avoid the difficulties encountered in interviewing very old people.

**Time period(s) investigated**

1956-08-28 - 1956-09-30

**Variables**

220

**Number of individuals/objects**

1131

**Response rate/participation rate**

95%

**Data format / data structure**

[Numeric](#)

**Data collection 1**

- Mode of collection: Face-to-face interview

- Time period(s) for data collection: 1956-08-28 – 1956-09-14
- Data collector: Statistics Sweden
- Instrument: (Semi-structured questionnaire)
- Instrument: Frågeformulär förval (Questionnaire)
- Source of the data: Registers/Records/Accounts: Administrative, Registers/Records/Accounts: Voting results, Population group, Registers/Records/Accounts

## **Data collection 2**

- Mode of collection: Face-to-face interview
- Time period(s) for data collection: 1956-09-18 – 1956-09-30
- Data collector: Statistics Sweden
- Instrument: (Semi-structured questionnaire)
- Instrument: Frågeformulär efterval (Questionnaire)
- Source of the data: Registers/Records/Accounts: Administrative, Registers/Records/Accounts: Voting results, Population group, Registers/Records/Accounts

## **Geographic spread**

Geographic location: [Sweden](#)

## **Responsible department/unit**

Department of Political Science

## **Funding 1**

- Funding agency: Conservative Party

## **Funding 2**

- Funding agency: Agrarian Party

## **Funding 3**

- Funding agency: Swedish Broadcasting Service

## **Funding 4**

- Funding agency: Social Democratic Party

## **Funding 5**

- Funding agency: University of Gothenburg, The foundation för sociological research at University of Gothenburg

## **Funding 6**

- Funding agency: Swedish Social Science and Legal Research Council

## **Funding 7**

- Funding agency: Liberal Party

## **Research area**

[Elections](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

[Government, political systems and organisations](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

[Political behaviour and attitudes](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

[Social sciences](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Political science](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Media](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

## Keywords

[Developing countries](#), [Elections](#), [Housing](#), [Mass media](#), [Population migration](#), [Defence](#), [Occupations](#), [Participation](#), [Politics](#), [Public sector](#), [Religion](#), [Social mobility](#), [Voting](#), [Political interest](#), [Political behaviour](#), [Political allegiance](#), [Political participation](#), [Internal politics](#), [Political parties](#), [Political leaders](#), [Trade unions](#), [Political attitudes](#), [Lobbying](#), [Cors](#)

## Publications

Petersson, O. (1975) Change in Swedish political behavior. Göteborg studies in politics, 5. Göteborg: Department of Political Science. ISBN: 91-40-04067-4.

[Libris](#) | [Google Books](#)

**ISBN:** 9789140040671

Särllvik, B. (1970) Electoral Behavior in the Swedish Multiparty System, Göteborg: Department of Political Science.

[Google Books](#) | [Libris](#)

Westerståhl, J., & Särllvik, B. (1957) Svensk valrörelse 1956 : arbetsrapport I : intervjuundersökningen. Göteborg: Department of Political Science.

Petersson, O. (1975) Social class and electoral change : Sweden 1956-1973. Uppsala: Department of Political Science.

Elinder, M. (2008) Essays on Economic Voting, Cognitive Dissonance and Trust. Uppsala : Department of Economics, Univ. ISBN: 978-91-85519-20-0.

**ISSN:** 0283-7668

**ISBN:** 978-91-85519-20-0

Särllvik, B. (1964) Politisk rörlighet och stabilitet i valmanskåren. Särtryck ur Statsvetenskaplig Tidskrift 1964:4

[Libris](#)

Särllvik, B. (1968) Partibytten som mått på avstånd och dimensioner i partisystemet. Särtryck ur Sociologisk Forskning, no. 1, 1968

Holmberg, Sören (2000) Partidemokrati : en sammanfattning av några resultat från valundersökningarna 1956-1998. Stockholm: Statistics Sweden.

Oscarsson, H. (1998) Den svenska partirymden : Väljarnas uppfattningar av konfliktstrukturen i partisystemet 1956-1996. Göteborg : Department of Political Science. ISBN: 91-628-3000-7.

[Libris](#)

**ISBN:** 91-628-3000-7

**ISSN:** 0346-5942

## Accessibility level

Access to data through SND

Access to data is restricted

## **Use of data**

[Things to consider when using data shared through SND](#)

## **Versions**

Version 2.0. 1984-10-01

[Version 1.0.](#) 1982-01-01

## **Related research data in SND's catalogue**

[Swedish election study 1998](#)

[Swedish election study 1960](#)

[Swedish election study 1964](#)

[Swedish election study 1968](#)

[Swedish election study 1970](#)

[Swedish election study 1973](#)

[Swedish election study 1976](#)

[Swedish election study 1979](#)

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