

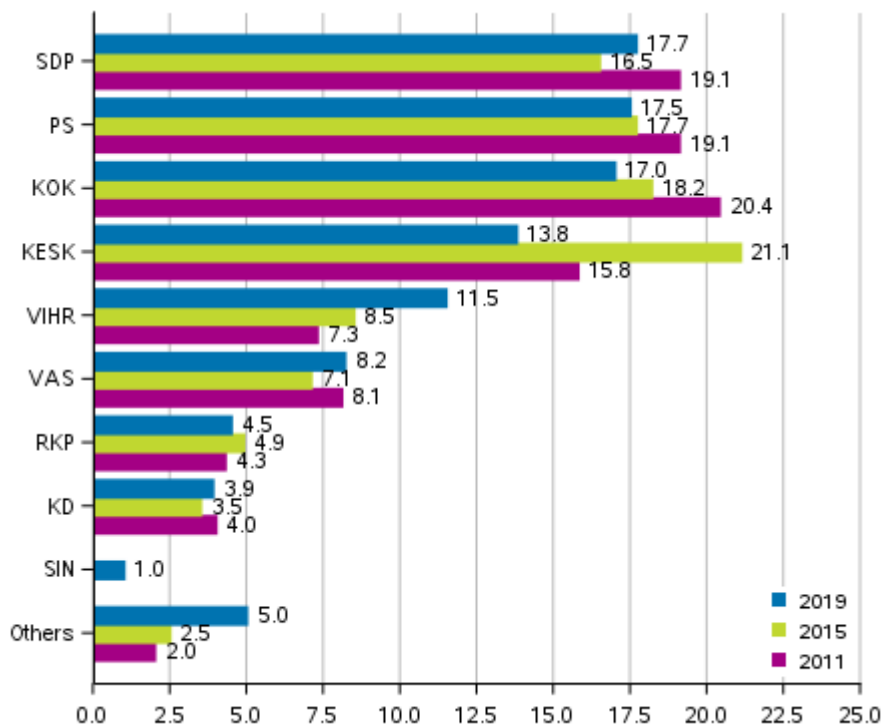
Parliamentary elections 2019

Confirmed election result

Parliamentary elections 2019, result of the control calculation

The control calculation of the election result did not change the power relationships of the parties. The Social Democratic Party became the biggest party in the Parliamentary elections with 17.7 per cent of all votes cast, which is 0.2 percentage points higher than the Finns Party's share of votes and 0.7 percentage points higher than the Coalition Party's share. The Green League increased its support most, by 3.0 percentage points. In relative terms, the Centre Party lost most votes, the party gained 13.8 per cent of the votes cast, which is 7.3 percentage points lower than in the previous Parliamentary elections. Detailed election results can be found in Statistics Finland's PX-Web database service.

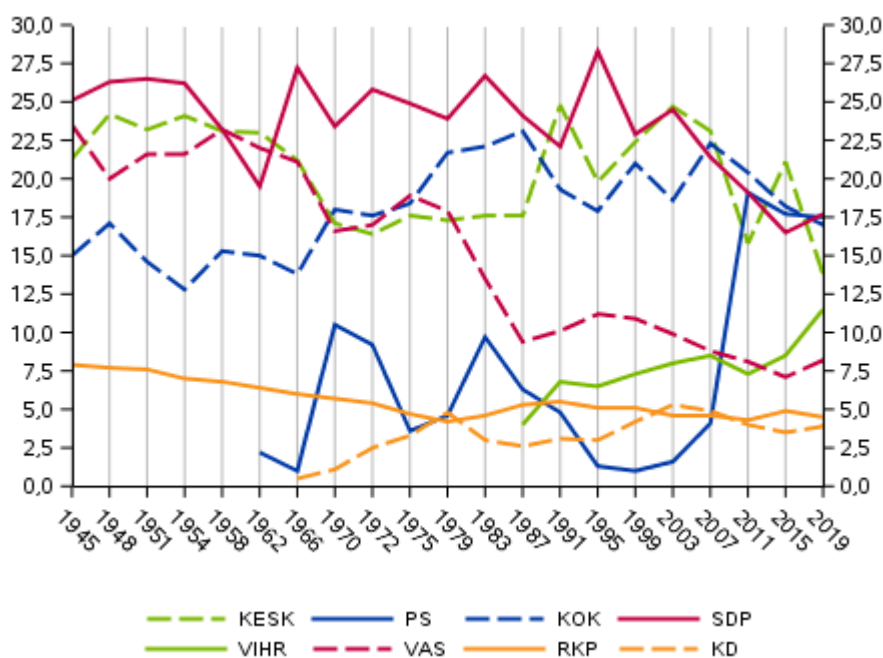
Support for parties in Parliamentary elections 2011, 2015 and 2019



For the first time, all parties' support remained under 20 per cent and the differences between the three biggest parties were small. The Social Democratic Party gained a total of 546,471 votes, the Finns Party 538,805 and the National Coalition Party 523,957 votes. The Centre Party received 423,920 votes, which is over 200,000 votes fewer than in the previous Parliamentary elections. Except for the Green League and particularly the Centre Party, changes in the parties' support were small. Apart from the parties mentioned above, the changes in support for the Parliamentary parties were at their biggest 1.2 percentage points either way. The Blue Reform that separated from the Finns Party gained 1.0 per cent of all votes cast and thus did not get any representatives in the new Parliament.

Groups outside the Parliamentary parties increased their support from the previous elections, now 5.0 per cent of persons who voted supported these groups. The group included parties outside the Parliament, constituency associations and groups having nominated candidates in the region of Åland. Parties outside the Parliamentary parties gained a total of 63,452 votes, the number of votes cast for constituency associations in Mainland Finland was 76,506. Of the constituency associations in Mainland Finland, Movement Now also got a representative to the new Parliament.

Support for parties in Parliamentary elections 1945–2019, %



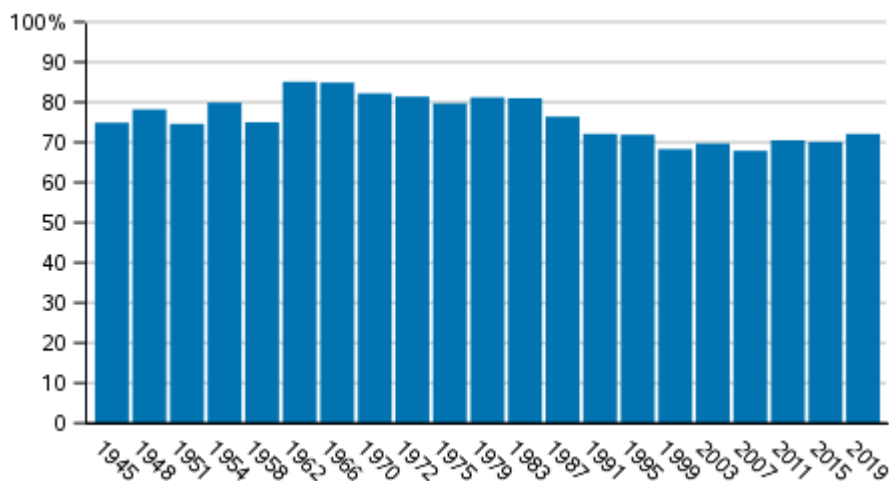
PS: 1962–1995 Finnish Rural Party (SMP); VIHR: 1983 not as a party of its own; VAS: 1945–1987 the Democratic League of the People of Finland (SKDL); KD: 1966–1999 Christian League of Finland (SKL)

Voting turnout rose from the previous Parliamentary elections

The voting percentage of Finnish citizens living in Finland was 72.1, which is 2.0 percentage points higher than in the previous Parliamentary elections. The voting turnout rose in all constituencies, in relative terms most in the constituencies of Pirkanmaa and Satakunta, by 3.2 percentage points. In Mainland Finland, the voting percentage was highest in the constituency of Helsinki (77.7%) and lowest in the constituency of Savo-Karelia (67.4%). Of municipalities in Mainland Finland, the voting percentage was lowest in Hyrynsalmi (60.0%) and highest in Luoto (86.2%).

The total number of persons entitled to vote in the Parliamentary elections was 4,510,040, of whom 4,255,466 were living in Finland and 254,574 abroad.

Voting turnout of Finnish citizens resident in Finland in Parliamentary elections 1945–2019, %



Women voted in the 2019 Parliamentary elections more actively than men, women's voting percentage was 73.5, or 2.9 percentage points higher than men's voting percentage. Women have voted more actively than men in all Parliamentary elections since 1987. Advance voting increased its popularity in the Parliamentary elections 2019, as the share of advance voters in all who voted rose to over 50 per cent. Voting turnout also rose for those entitled to vote living abroad, as 12.6 per cent of persons entitled to vote living abroad voted in the 2019 Parliamentary elections, which is 2.5 percentage points higher than in the previous Parliamentary elections. Over 6,000 votes were given by post, as postal voting was allowed as a new method of voting in the 2019 Parliamentary elections.

Turnout by sex in Parliamentary elections 1945–2019 (Finnish citizens living in Finland), %

Year	Total	Men	Women	Advance voters as percentage of all voters (Advance voting percentage)
2019	72,1	70,6	73,5	50,7
2015	70,1	68,9	71,3	46,1
2011	70,5	69,6	71,3	45,0
2007	67,9	65,8	69,9	43,8
2003	69,7	67,6	71,6	37,3
1999	68,3	66,8	69,7	40,1
1995	71,9	70,6	73,1	43,2
1991	72,1	71,0	73,2	40,5
1987	76,4	76,2	76,6	15,3
1983	81,0	81,2	80,9	11,4
1979	81,2	81,9	80,6	9,6
1975	79,7	80,1	79,4	9,5
1972	81,4	81,9	81,0	6,3
1970	82,2	83,2	81,3	6,7
1966	84,9	86,1	83,9	3,8
1962	85,1	86,1	84,2	4,5
1958	75,0	78,3	72,1	6,0
1954	79,9	82,9	77,4	3,5
1951	74,6	78,4	71,4	5,6
1948	78,2	81,0	75,9	13,3
1945	74,9	77,5	72,7	13,0

Party analysis

The party analysis examines parties' results in the Parliamentary elections 2019 with the help of various background variables in classified areas. Changes in the parties' support are examined relative to the result of the previous Parliamentary elections. The voting districts whose borders have changed as little as possible since the previous elections are used as data. Small voting districts with fewer than 1,000 persons entitled to vote are combined so that the average size of a voting district is about 2,000 persons entitled to vote. The analysis is based on around 1,400 areas comparable to the previous elections.

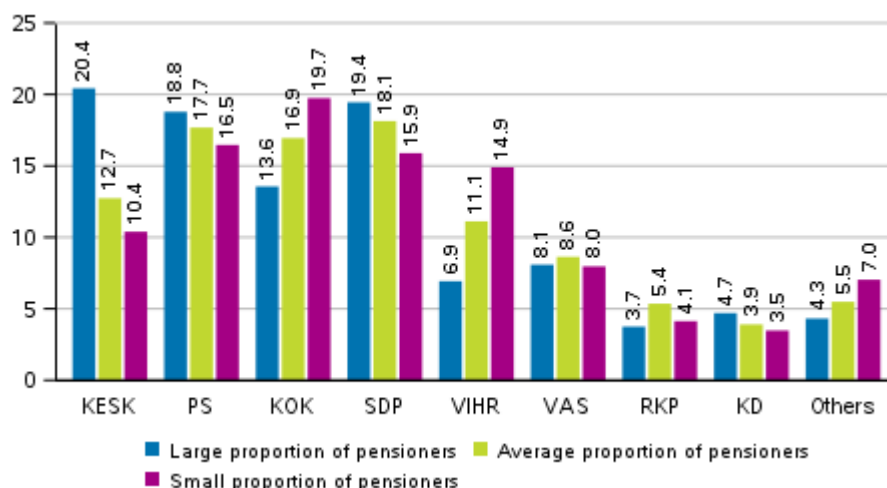
The background variables used in the analysis are the area's economic structure, degree of urbanisation, income level, unemployment rate and the number of pensioners. The background variables used are not mutually exclusive. For example, the area's economic structure and degree of urbanisation also partially describe the area's income level. (See the methodological description.)

In the Parliamentary elections 2019, the changes in support for the parties were relatively minor except for the Centre Party and the Green League. Apart from the aforementioned parties, the support percentages of the Parliamentary parties changed at most by 1.2 percentage points compared with the previous elections. This should be considered when interpreting changes in support. In practice, changes in parties' support in different areas were on the whole minor, with the exception of the Centre Party and the Green League.

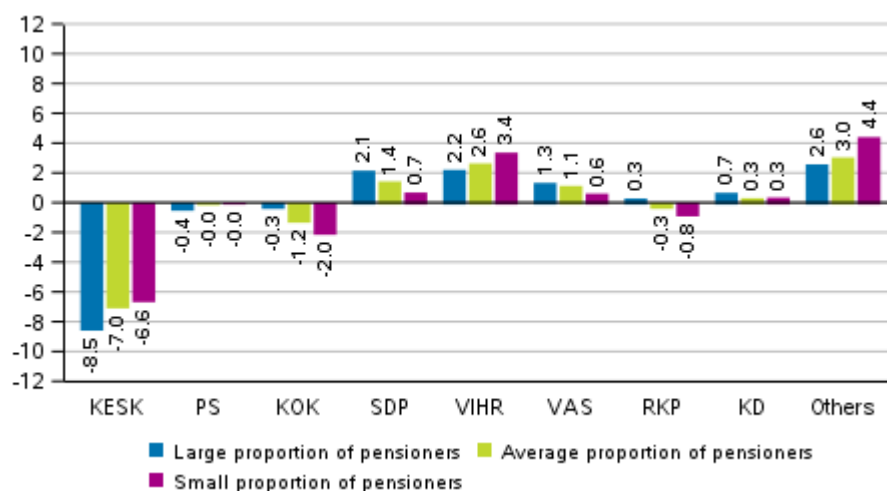
The support for the Centre Party was highest in areas where pensioners' share of the population is big. The Centre Party also lost in relative terms its support most in areas with a large share of pensioners. The number of pensioners in the area has a positive effect on support for the Finns Party and the SDP and a negative effect on support for the Coalition Party and the Green League. Support for the Finns Party did not in practice change from the previous elections in areas limited by the number of pensioners, while the

Coalition Party lost in relative terms its support most in areas where the number of pensioners is small. Correspondingly, support for the Social Democratic Party increased most in areas with more than average pensioners.

Support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by the number of pensioners in specific geographical regions, %



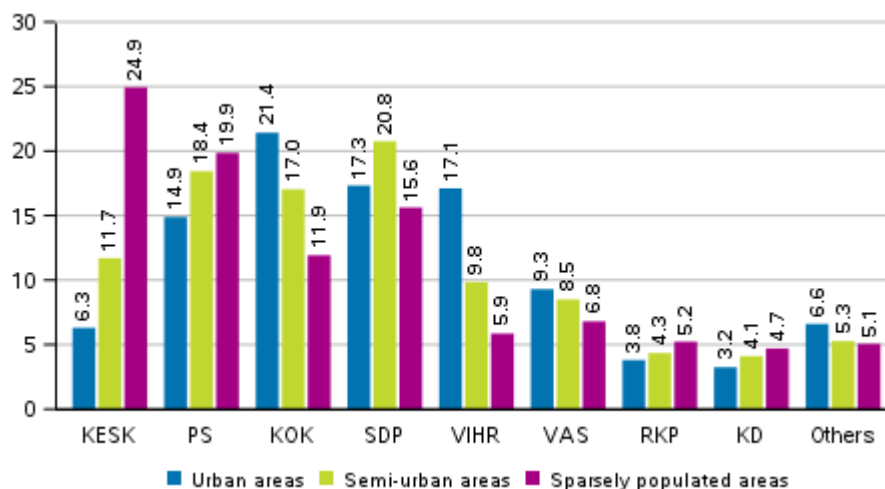
Change in the support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by the number of pensioners in specific geographical regions, %



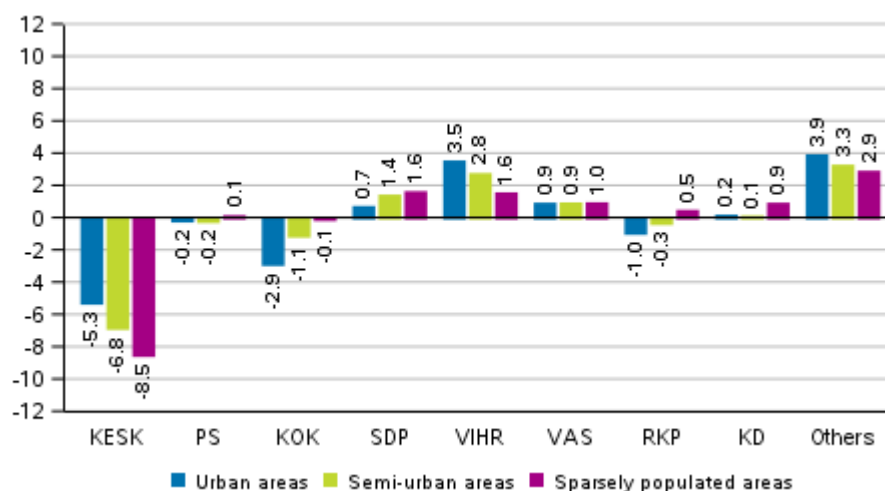
Support for the Centre Party was clearly focused on sparsely-populated areas, the party's support also decreased most in these areas in relative terms. The Finns Party's support was particularly centred on population centres and sparsely-populated areas, support for the party did not in practice change in areas of different population densities from the previous elections. The support profile of the Coalition Party and the Green League is again similar, the strongest areas for both are urban areas. Support for the Coalition Party fell and for the Green League correspondingly rose most in urban areas.

Support for the Left Alliance was also focused on urban areas more than other areas, though less so than for the Coalition Party and the Greens. The Social Democratic Party's support differs when examined with this indicator, the biggest support was reached in population centres that are less populated than urban areas.

Support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by population density, %

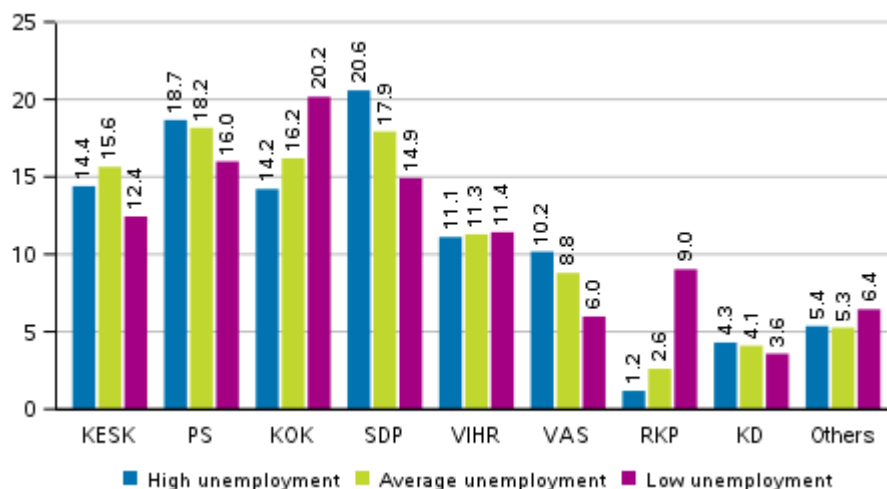


Change in the support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by population density, %

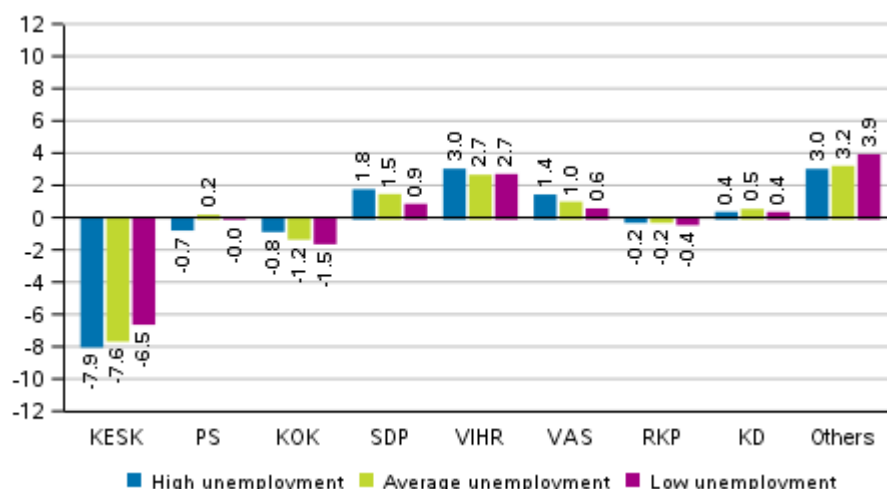


The Social Democratic Party and the Left Alliance and to a lesser degree also the Finns Party gained support in areas with higher than average levels of unemployment. For these parties, the differences in changes in support were small between areas. Support for the Coalition Party focused on areas of low unemployment, the party lost support fairly evenly in the examined areas. The number of unemployed persons appears not to have had an effect on the Greens' support, the party also increased its support evenly in all areas. The Centre Party's support was biggest in areas with average levels of unemployment, the party lost support in all areas grouped by the unemployment rate, least in the areas with low levels of unemployment. Support for the Swedish People's Party clearly centred on areas of low levels of unemployment.

Support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by the unemployment rate, %

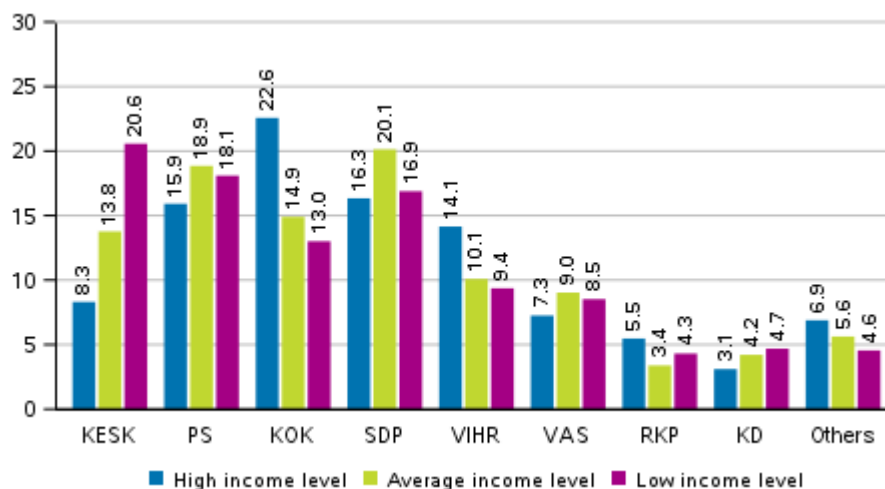


Change in the support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by the unemployment rate, %

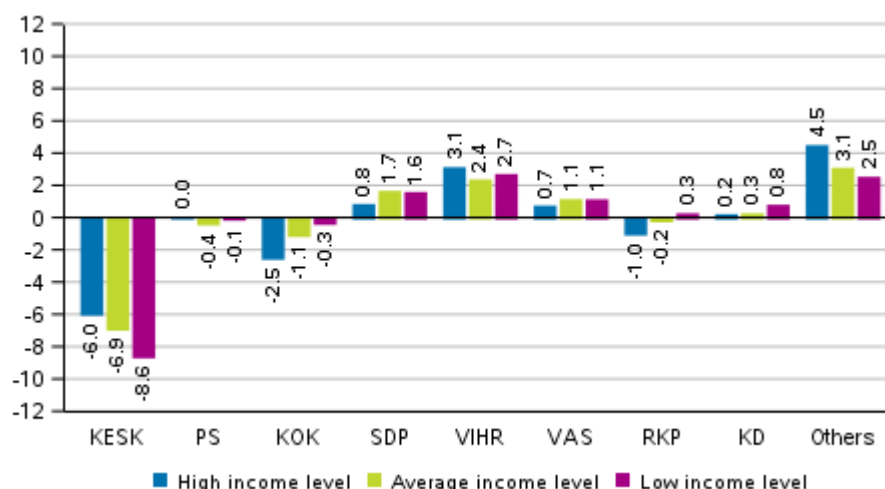


The Social Democratic Party's support is biggest in areas with average income level, the support profile of the Finns Party and the Left Alliance was also more or less similar to the SDP in this respect. Both the SDP and the Left Alliance increased their support in all areas, though relatively least in areas with high income level. Changes in support for the Finns Party were small in all areas grouped by the income level. Support for the Coalition Party and the Green League centred on areas with higher than average income level, the Coalition Party lost most votes in relative terms in these areas. Support for the Centre Party was highest in areas with low income levels, which is explained by lower income levels than average in agriculture-dominated and sparsely-populated areas.

Support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by the income level, %



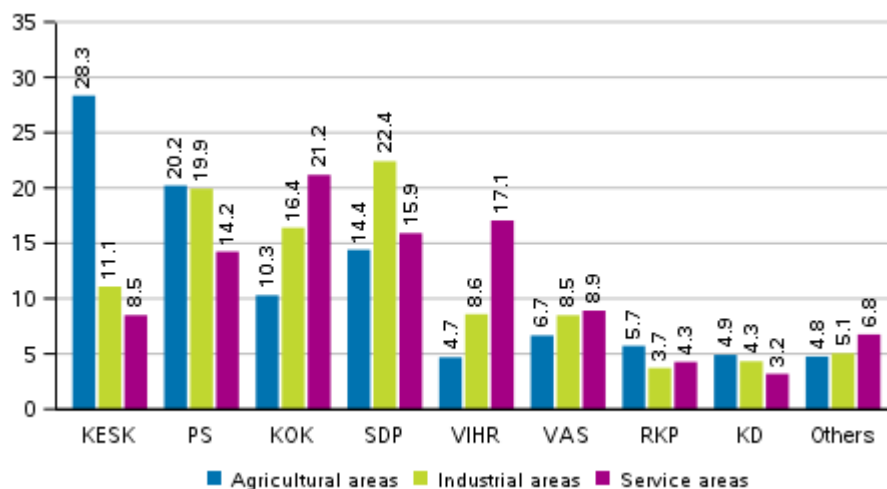
Change in the support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by the income level, %



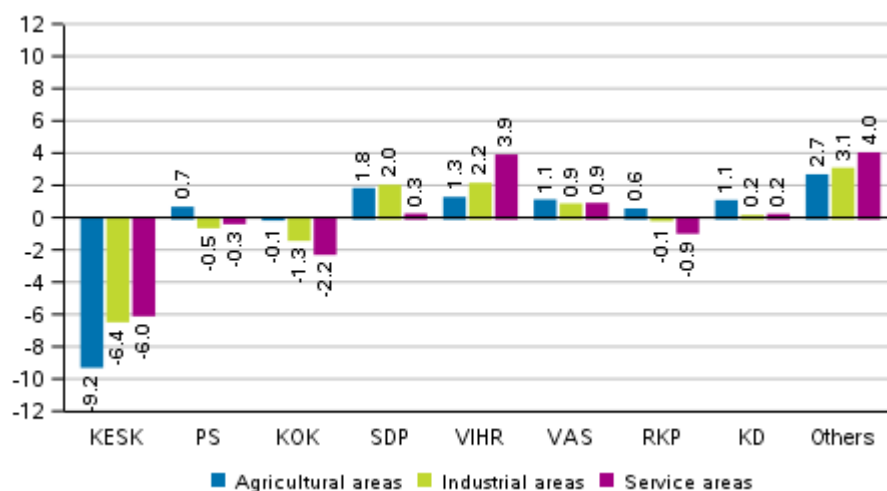
As expected, support for the Centre Party centred on areas where the economic structure is agriculture-dominated, the party’s support in industrial and service areas was clearly lower. The party lost votes in all areas, focusing on agriculture-dominated areas with biggest support for the party. Support for the Social Democratic Party was biggest in areas where the economic structure is industry, their support being clearly lower in agricultural and service areas. The SDP gained more support from agricultural and industrial areas, the party's support from service-dominated areas did not in practice change from the previous elections. Support for the Finns Party was strongest in agricultural and industrial areas, changes in the party's support were again very small.

Measured by the areas’ economic structure, the support profile of the Coalition Party and the Green League is also similar, while support for the Greens focused more on service areas than for the Coalition Party. The biggest changes in support for the parties also centre on service areas, the Greens’ support rose, and the Coalition Party's support fell in these areas. Support for the Left Alliance is relatively even in different areas, though slightly more in industrial and service areas. The party gained more support evenly in all areas grouped by service structure.

Support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by economic structure, %



Change in the support for the parties in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by areas specified by economic structure, %



Statistics Finland's election result services

Before the elections, Statistics Finland released a review on 5 April 2019 on the background of Parliamentary election candidates analysing the candidates' sex distribution, age, origin, education, employment, income level and family status in comparison to persons entitled to vote. The review will be updated on 29 April 2019 with background data on the elected MPs. The review on voting turnover will be published on 24 May 2019, which will examine voting turnout by means of unit-level background factors, such as age, sex, education and income.

[Database tables](#)

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Appendix table 1. Support for parties in Parliamentary elections 1983-2019 (%)

	1983	1987	1991	1995	1999	2003	2007	2011	2015	2019
Centre Party of Finland KESK	17,6	17,6	24,8	19,8	22,4	24,7	23,1	15,8	21,1	13,8
Finns Party PS	9,7	6,3	4,8	1,3	1,0	1,6	4,1	19,1	17,7	17,5
National Coalition Party KOK	22,1	23,1	19,3	17,9	21,0	18,6	22,3	20,4	18,2	17,0
Finnish Social Democratic Party SDP	26,7	24,1	22,1	28,3	22,9	24,5	21,4	19,1	16,5	17,7
Green League VIHR	-	4,0	6,8	6,5	7,3	8,0	8,5	7,3	8,5	11,5
Left Alliance VAS	13,5	9,4	10,1	11,2	10,9	9,9	8,8	8,1	7,1	8,2
Swedish People's Party in Finland RKP	4,6	5,3	5,5	5,1	5,1	4,6	4,6	4,3	4,9	4,5
Christian Democrats in Finland KD	3,0	2,6	3,1	3,0	4,2	5,3	4,9	4,0	3,5	3,9
Communist Party of Finland SKP	-	-	-	-	0,8	0,8	0,7	0,3	0,3	0,1
Communist Worker's Party KTP	-	-	0,2	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0
Liberal Party LIBE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,2
Pirate Party of Finland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,5	0,8	0,6
Animal Justice Party of Finland EOP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,1
Citizens' Party KP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,2
Feminist Party FP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,2
Independence Party IP	-	-	-	1,0	0,4	0,4	0,2	0,1	0,5	0,1
Blue Reform SIN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,0
Finnish People First SKE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,1
Seven Star Movement STL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0,4
Others	2,8	7,5	3,3	5,8	4,0	1,6	1,5	1,0	0,9	2,9

Appendix table 2. Elected candidates with the most votes by constituency in Parliamentary elections 1995-2019

			Votes cast	Proportion of votes cast, %
2019	Helsinki	Halla-aho Jussi (PS)	30,596	7.9
	Uusimaa	Lepomäki Elina (KOK)	19,292	3.5
	Varsinais-Suomi	Andersson Li (VAS)	24,542	8.8
	Satakunta	Huhtasaari Laura (PS)	12,991	10.4
	Åland	Löfström Mats (Others)	11,051	83.7
	Häme	Skinnari Ville (SDP)	8,319	4.0
	Pirkanmaa	Marin Sanna (SDP)	19,088	6.4
	Southeast Finland	Häkkänen Antti (KOK)	20,234	8.2
	Savo-Karelia	Essayah Sari (KD)	12,397	5.6
	Vaasa	Henriksson Anna-Maja (RKP)	14,545	5.8
	Central Finland	Mäkinen Riitta (SDP)	8,916	5.7
	Oulu	Sipilä Juha (KESK)	16,688	6.4
	Lapland	Kulmuni Katri (KESK)	8,423	8.4

			Votes cast	Proportion of votes cast, %
2015	Helsinki	Pelkonen Jaana (KOK)	15,964	4.4
	Uusimaa	Soini Timo (PS)	29,527	5.7
	Varsinais-Suomi	Andersson Li (VAS)	15,071	5.7
	Satakunta	Salonen Kristiina (SDP)	9,560	7.8
	Åland	Löfström Mats (Others)	5,217	41.8
	Häme	Filatov Tarja (SDP)	8,318	4.1
	Pirkanmaa	Marin Sanna (SDP)	10,911	3.9
	Southeast Finland	Lindström Jari (PS)	9,966	4.0
	Savo-Karelia	Essayah Sari (KD)	11,186	5.1
	Vaasa	Urpilainen Jutta (SDP)	11,627	4.7
	Central Finland	Ihalainen Lauri (SDP)	10,354	6.8
	Oulu	Sipilä Juha (KESK)	30,758	12.3
	Lapland	Kulmuni Katri (KESK)	9,702	9.6
	2011	Helsinki	Arhinmäki Paavo (VAS)	17,226
Uusimaa		Soini Timo (PS)	43,437	8.5
Varsinais-Suomi		Paasio Heli (SDP)	13,958	5.3
Satakunta		Kiuru Krista (SDP)	7,786	6.1
Åland		Naucclér Elisabeth (Others)	6,925	64.4
Häme		Koskinen Johannes (SDP)	7,603	3.7
Pirkanmaa		Tainio Hanna (SDP)	10,400	3.8
Kymi		Kiljunen Anneli (SDP)	8,294	4.9
South Savo		Toivakka Lenita (KOK)	5,783	6.9
North Savo		Oinonen Pentti (PS)	8,920	6.8
North Karelia		Myller Riitta (SDP)	7,700	8.8
Vaasa		Risikko Paula (KOK)	11,907	4.8
Central Finland		Kalmari Anne (KESK)	9,288	6.2
Oulu		Tölli Tapani (KESK)	9,777	4.0
Lapland		Mustajärvi Markus (VAS)	7,621	7.6
2007	Helsinki	Zyskowicz Ben (KOK)	17,607	5.6
	Uusimaa	Niinistö Sauli (KOK)	60,563	13.0
	Varsinais-Suomi	Wallin Stefan (RKP)	12,097	5.0
	Satakunta	Kataja Sampsa (KOK)	8,463	6.9
	Åland	Naucclér Elisabeth (Others)	4,388	39.0
	Häme	Koskinen Johannes (SDP)	9,056	4.8
	Pirkanmaa	Tiura Marja (KOK)	17,578	6.9
	Kymi	Kiljunen Anneli (SDP)	10,770	6.4
	South Savo	Viitamies Pauliina (SDP)	6,690	8.1
	North Savo	Katainen Jyrki (KOK)	10,806	8.5
	North Karelia	Lahtela Esa (SDP)	10,813	12.7
	Vaasa	Mieto Juha (KESK)	13,768	5.7
	Central Finland	Pekkarinen Mauri (KESK)	9,102	6.4
	Oulu	Lehtomäki Paula (KESK)	16,390	7.2
Lapland	Väyrynen Paavo (KESK)	10,944	11.4	

			Votes cast	Proportion of votes cast, %
2003	Helsinki	Lipponen Paavo (SDP)	26,415	8.0
	Uusimaa	Karpela Tanja (KESK)	19,169	4.2
	Varsinais-Suomi	Itälä Ville (KOK)	21,422	8.6
	Satakunta	Juhantalo Kauko (KESK)	8,484	6.5
	Åland	Jansson Roger (Others)	3,125	26.2
	Häme	Koskinen Johannes (SDP)	12,135	6.4
	Pirkanmaa	Karhu Saara (SDP)	14,281	5.7
	Kymi	Kiljunen Anneli (SDP)	9,396	5.4
	South Savo	Leppä Jari (KESK)	6,819	8.0
	North Savo	Kääriäinen Seppo (KESK)	9,121	7.0
	North Karelia	Lahtela Esa (SDP)	11,283	12.8
	Vaasa	Lintilä Mika (KESK)	10,127	4.1
	Central Finland	Pekkarinen Mauri (KESK)	12,164	8.7
	Oulu	Lehtomäki Paula (KESK)	11,063	4.7
	Lapland	Takkula Hannu (KESK)	10,938	10.6
1999	Helsinki	Niinistö Sauli (KOK)	30,450	10.0
	Uusimaa	Siimes Suvi-Anne (VAS)	15,955	3.8
	Varsinais-Suomi	Itälä Ville (KOK)	14,130	5.9
	Satakunta	Heinonen Olli-Pekka (KOK)	11,697	8.2
	Åland	Jansson Gunnar (Others)	5,150	48.5
	Häme	Räsänen Päivi (SKL)	11,407	6.9
	Pirkanmaa	Stenius-Kaukonen Marjatta (VAS)	13,429	6.0
	Kymi	Uosukainen Riitta (KOK)	14,160	8.2
	South Savo	Leppä Jari (KESK)	6,310	6.2
	North Savo	Ryynänen Mirja (KESK)	8,610	6.8
	North Karelia	Lahtela Esa (SDP)	10,125	11.4
	Vaasa	Kallis Bjarne (SKL)	13,385	5.4
	Central Finland	Pekkarinen Mauri (KESK)	9,633	7.1
	Oulu	Saapunki Pauli (KESK)	8,069	3.6
	Lapland	Tennilä Esko-Juhani (VAS)	13,713	13.1
1995	Helsinki	Salolainen Pertti (KOK)	16,002	5.5
	Uusimaa	Kalliomäki Antti (SDP)	17,187	4.1
	Turku South	Niinistö Sauli (KOK)	18,946	7.6
	Turku North	Heinonen Olli-Pekka (KOK)	10,327	6.7
	Åland	Jansson Gunnar (Others)	5,199	52.7
	Häme South	Viinanen Iiro (KOK)	15,647	8.8
	Häme North	Lindroos Reijo (SDP)	9,985	4.4
	Kymi	Uosukainen Riitta (KOK)	15,342	8.3
	Mikkeli	Lehtosaari Markku Antero (KESK)	7,901	7.2
	Kuopio	Kääriäinen Seppo (KESK)	8,547	9.1
	North Karelia	Puhakka Matti (SDP)	8,265	6.2
	Vaasa	Aho Esko (KESK)	16,446	8.4
	Central Finland	Pekkarinen Mauri (KESK)	10,265	4.0
	Oulu	Alaranta Juhani (KESK)	10,289	4.5
	Lapland	Tennilä Esko-Juhani (VAS)	11,004	10.1

Parliamentary elections, quality description

1. Relevance of statistical information

1.1 Summary of the information content of statistics

Statistics Finland produces Finland's official statistics from parliamentary elections containing key data on the following:

- Votes gained by parties and their proportions divided into votes gained during advance voting and votes gained on the election day by constituency, municipality and voting district.
- Votes gained by candidates and shares according to gender by party, constituency, municipality and voting district
- 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 1983 (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. If the third Sunday in April is Easter Sunday, the election day is the Sunday preceding Easter.

Legislation

With the revision of election legislation in 1998 all provisions on elections were collected into one single act, the Election Act (714/1998), which entered into force on 8 October 1998. 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 and at www.finlex.fi/en/, Election Act (714/1998).

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

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

The main principles of holding elections

Elections in Finland are held according to the following principles:

- **The elections are direct.** Electors (those entitled to vote) vote direct for the persons they want to be elected.
- **The elections are proportional.** In proportional elections each party or other group gains seats in relation to the votes cast for it compared with the votes cast for other groups (not in presidential elections).
- **The elections are secret.** Secrecy of the ballot means that neither the election authorities nor anyone else get to know for whom voters have cast their votes or whether they have returned an empty ballot. By contrast, the information on whether a person entitled to vote has exercised his/her right, i.e. actually voted, is not covered by the secrecy of the ballot.
- **The right to vote is universal and equal.** Universal franchise means that the right to vote only depends on requirements which citizens usually fulfil. Equal franchise means that every person entitled to vote has an equal right to influence the election results. In general 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.** An exception is voting by post that does not take place in front of election authorities. In postal voting, the voter needs to have two witnesses who attest, by their signatures, that voting has taken place in such a manner that election secrecy has been preserved and electoral freedom respected while voting.
- **The Finnish election system is a combination of voting for individuals and parties**, where a vote goes to both a party and a person (not in presidential elections).

Right to vote 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.

Amendment to the Election Act (939/2017), which allows voting by post for Finnish citizens not resident in Finland and other voters staying abroad at the time of the elections came into force on 1 November 2018. Voting by post is used for the first time in the 2019 Parliamentary elections.

Eligibility

All persons entitled to vote and who are not incompetent, i.e. under guardianship can stand as candidates in parliamentary elections. A military official cannot, however, be elected as a member of parliament. In addition, the following high officials cannot act as members of parliament: Chancellor of Justice of the Government, the Parliamentary Ombudsman, Justices of the Supreme Court and of the Supreme Administrative Court nor the Prosecutor General. They can stand as candidates but if they are elected they must resign from their office.

Eligibility in the parliamentary elections is independent of the candidate's municipality of residence, so the candidate can stand as candidate in any constituency, however only in one constituency.

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 constituency association founded by at least 100 enfranchised persons in the same constituency (in Mainland Finland) 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 constituency association and in only one constituency.

In the constituency of Åland, a constituency association founded by at least 30 enfranchised persons has the right to nominate a candidate in parliamentary elections.

In the constituency of Åland, the joint electoral list can have at most four candidates.

The candidate application, as well as the notification of an electoral alliance and of a joint electoral list, must be given to the Electoral District Committee 40 days before the elections (5 March 2019).

Compilation of a combined list of candidates 31 days before the elections (14 March 2019) and entering the candidates and their ages on the day of the elections and personal identity codes in the national candidate register.

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.

Calculating of election results

Counting the advance votes

As a rule, counting of advance votes starts at 3 pm on the actual election Sunday. The count may be brought forward in large electoral districts; the earliest possible starting time being 12 noon. The objective is to finish the counting of advance votes by 8 pm, from which time onwards preliminary data may be released.

Counting the votes cast on the election day

When the doors of the polling stations have been closed at 8 pm the election boards begins a preliminary count of the votes. The board opens the ballot box, counts the ballots within it, and notes down the votes of the candidates in a particular election protocol. Immediately thereafter the board informs the central election committee of the municipality of the votes of the candidates, i.e. of the election results in the voting district.

The central election committee again enters the results in the central calculation system in the Election Information System of the Ministry of Justice. Finally, the election board seals the ballots in a parcel and delivers it to the election committee before 9 am on Monday morning.

Determination of the election results

The so-called d'Hondt method is used to determine the election results. Thus, in the first stage of the calculation the total number of votes of each group, i.e.:

- A (single) party not belonging to an electoral alliance,
- An electoral alliance,
- A joint list, and
- A constituency association not belonging to a joint list,

is counted.

Parties which have formed an electoral alliance are thus treated as a single group, as are constituency associations on a joint list. In *the second stage* of the calculation the candidates in each group are ranked in order of their personal number of votes.

In *the third stage* each candidate is accorded a comparative index, i.e. the candidate who has received most personal votes is accorded an index which equals the total number of votes of the group, the second best candidate half of that, the third best a third, the fourth best a fourth, and so on.

In *the final stage* all candidates are listed in order from best to worst according to their comparative index, and as many members of parliament are chosen from this list as are to be elected from the constituency.

Communication of preliminary results

The preliminary result of the elections is clear already on the evening of the election day. When the doors of the polling stations close, the result of advance voting that has been transferred to the election data system at 8 pm are published. Then the preliminary calculations of the election boards are transferred to the election data system as they become completed during the evening of the election day. Usually, the preliminary result is clear by 11 pm at the latest.

Control calculation and confirmation of election results

The Electoral District Committees start the control calculation of ballots on the Monday following the election day at 9 am. The results of the control calculation must be finished on the following Wednesday at 6 pm at which time the Electoral District Committees confirm the final election results in the constituencies and write the proxies for the persons that have been elected as members of parliament.

Constituencies

For the purpose of parliamentary elections, the country is divided into 13 constituencies based on regions. In parliamentary elections the seats in parliament are allocated to the constituencies according to a Government decision.

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.

Apart from the constituency of Åland, the allocation of seats among constituencies is made based on the number of those Finnish citizens who according to the data of the Population Information System have a municipality of residence in Finland in the constituency in question on the last day of the sixth calendar month preceding the election day.

The allocation, where **changes in the division of municipalities entering into force at the beginning of the election year** are taken into consideration, is made by dividing the number of Finnish citizens in each constituency by the total number of Finnish citizens in constituencies and by multiplying the figure obtained by 199. Each constituency will have the number of seats corresponding to the integer shown by the calculation. If all seats do not become allocated in this manner, the remaining seats are divided among constituencies in the order shown by the size of the decimals of the figures in the calculation. (21 Dec. 2007/1263)

The number of seats in parliament will change for two constituencies (electoral districts) in the Parliamentary elections of 14 April 2019. The constituency of Uusimaa gains one seat and the constituency of Savo-Karelia loses one seat. The figure derived from the Population Information System on 31 October 2018. On 8 November 2018, the Government issued a decree on the allocation of seats in parliament among constituencies. Seats in Parliamentary elections 2019 are proportionally divided as follows:

- 01 Helsinki constituency 22
- 02 Uusimaa constituency 36 (+1)
- 03 Varsinais-Suomi constituency 17
- 04 Satakunta constituency 8
- 06 Häme constituency 14
- 07 Pirkanmaa constituency 19
- 08 Southeast Finland constituency 17
- 09 Savo-Karelia constituency 15 (-1)
- 10 Vaasa constituency 16
- 11 Central Finland constituency 10
- 12 Oulu constituency 18
- 13 Lapland constituency 7
- 05 Åland constituency 1

Changes in constituencies and consolidations of municipalities

Changes in constituencies and municipalities and consolidations of municipalities are presented on the website of Parliamentary elections, in the Classifications section.

The division into constituencies was changed in the act on amending the Election Act (271/2013) that entered into force on 1 September 2013 and the act was applied for the first time in the Parliamentary elections 2015 (19 April 2015). In the amendment of the Election Act, the constituencies of Kymi (08) and South Savo (09) were combined into the new Southeast Finland constituency (08) and the constituencies of North Savo (10) and North Karelia (11) were combined into the new Savo-Karelia constituency (09).

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

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

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

Classifications used

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

Candidates have been nominated in the Parliamentary elections 2019 by the following registered parties:

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

Data collection methods and data sources

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

1.3 Acts, decrees and recommendations

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

2. Methodological description of survey

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

1. Basic data and geographical information system that includes, for example, data on constituencies, municipalities and voting districts, as well as election authorities and polling stations (polling station register, which include data on general advance polling stations and polling stations on the election day);
2. Data on parties and candidates (candidate register) in which the following data on each candidate in the elections are entered: name, candidate number, occupation, municipality of residence, party/constituency association that has nominated the candidate, and personal identity code (14 March 2019). The data on candidates also includes the party register;
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 (27 February 2019) prior to the election day. The voting register is formed separately for each election. 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 (22 February 2019) prior to the election day. The voting register gains legal force at 12:00 noon on the 12th day (2 April 2019) prior to the election day. The voting register is in use in the advance polling stations and every person that votes in advance is marked in the register. After the advance voting, electoral rolls for the polling stations on the election day are printed from the register. The voting register can, however, also be used in the polling stations instead of the electoral rolls on the election day.
4. A centralised result calculation system to which the electoral district committees and the central election committees submit their results of the elections;
5. The result service system (statistical and information service system) by means of which the results of the elections and other statistical data are transmitted to the media and to Statistics Finland.

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

Background analysis of persons entitled to vote, candidates and elected MPs and Review of voting

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 27 February 2019 (data drawn from the Population Information System on 22 February 2019) 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 such as population, family and employment statistics, and the Register of Completed Education and Degrees. 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. The background data usually relate to the years 2016 to 2017. More recent data than that have not been available. The person's age is the age on the day of the election in full years.

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

Constituency

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

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

Main type of activity

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

The classification of main type of activity is as follows:

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

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

Family status

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

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

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

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

Number of children

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

Level of education

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Disposable cash income

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

The data are from the year 2017.

Median income

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

Income subject to state taxation

With certain exceptions, all income received as money or a benefit of monetary value is taxable. Certain social benefits, allowances and compensations are not taxable. These are such as child benefits, housing allowances and income support. Taxable are neither grants nor awards received from the general government.

Occupation

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

The data are from the year 2016.

3. Correctness and accuracy of data

The basic data of the 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 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 first data, or preliminary statistics are published on the Internet, in the StatFin service and on the statistics pages 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 statistics pages 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 confirmed data corresponding to the preliminary statistics are released on the statistics pages and the StatFin databases are updated.

Key election results on Parliamentary elections are published in the election map service.

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 2019, Statistics Finland