

**Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES)  
Module 4: Design Report (Sample Design and Data Collection Report)**

September 10, 2012

Country: Norway  
Date of Election: September 8-9<sup>th</sup> 2013  
  
Prepared by: Institute for Social Research  
Date of Preparation:

**NOTES TO COLLABORATORS:**

- Where brackets [ ] appear, answer by placing an “X” within the appropriate bracket or brackets.
- If more space is needed to answer any question, please lengthen the document as necessary.

**Collaborator(s):**

Collaborators are the contact persons for election studies that appear in the CSES dataset - they are not necessarily the parties who collected the data. These collaborators and their contact information will be listed on the CSES website.

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**Data Collection Organization:**

Organization that conducted the survey field work/data collection:

Organization: Statistics Norway  
Address: Postboks 8131 Dep,  
NO-0033 Oslo,  
Norway  
  
Telephone: (+47) 21 09 00 00  
Fax:  
E-Mail: ssb@ssb.no  
Website: www.ssb.no

**Funding Organization(s):**

Organization(s) that funded the data collection:

Organization: Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation  
Address: Postboks 8112 Dep,  
0032 Oslo  
  
Telephone: (+47) 22 24 90 90  
Fax:  
E-Mail: postmottak@kmd.dep.no  
Website: www.regjeringen.no

**Archiving Organization**

If appropriate, please indicate the primary location where the full, original election study dataset (not just the CSES portion) will be archived:

Organization: Norwegian Social Science Data Service  
Address: Harald Hårfagres gate 29,  
N-5007 Bergen,  
Norway  
  
Telephone: (+47) 55 58 21 17  
Fax:  
E-Mail: nsd@nsd.uib.no  
Website: www.nsd.uib.no

Please indicate the date when the study is expected to be available at this archive:  
Archived and available online at <http://valgundersokelse.nsd.uib.no/webview/>

**Study Design**

1. Timing of the study that the CSES Module was included in:

- Post-Election Study
- Pre-Election/Post-Election Panel Study
- Between Rounds

2a. Date Post-Election Interviewing Began:

September 10, 2013

2b. Date Post-Election Interviewing Ended:

January 30, 2014

3. Mode of interviewing for the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared:

(If multiple modes were used, please mark all that apply.)

- In person, face-to-face
- Telephone
- Mail or self-completion supplement
- Internet

4a. Was the survey part of a panel study?

- Yes
- No

4b. If the survey was part of a panel study, please describe the design of the panel study, including the date at which interviewing for each prior wave began and ended:

Rolling cross sectional panel. Half of the sample was re-interviewed in the next election.

September 15, 2009 – February 04, 2010

September 10, 2013 – January 30, 2014

### **Translation**

Please provide copies of questionnaires in all languages used as part of the election study deposit. For questionnaires in a language other than English, please also provide a version of each translated back into English. Note: Questions are based on those developed for the ISSP.

5. Was the questionnaire translated?

- Yes, translated by member(s) of research team
- Yes, by translation bureau
- Yes, by specially trained translator(s)
- No, not translated

6. Please list all languages used for the fielded module:

Norwegian

7a. If the questionnaire was translated, was the translated questionnaire assessed/checked or evaluated?

- Yes, by group discussion
- Yes, an expert checked it
- Yes, by back translation
- Other; please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- No
- Not applicable

7b. If the questionnaire was translated, was the questionnaire pre-tested?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

7c. If the questionnaire was translated, were there any questions which caused problems when translating?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

7d. If the questionnaire was translated, please provide a list of all questions which caused problems when translating. For each question listed, describe what problems were encountered and how they were solved:

### **Sample Design and Sampling Procedures**

8. Please describe the population that your sample is meant to be representative of:

All Norwegian citizens between 18 and 80 years old

### **Eligibility Requirements**

9a. Must a person be a certain age to be interviewed?

Yes

No

If yes, what ages could be interviewed?

9b. Must a person be a citizen to be interviewed?

Yes

No

9c. Must a person be registered to vote to be interviewed?

Yes

No

9d. Please list any other interviewing requirements or filters used:

## Sample Frame

10a. Were any regions of the country excluded from the sample frame?

Yes

No

If yes, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? \_\_\_\_\_ %

If yes, please explain:

10b. Were institutionalized persons excluded from the sample?

Yes

No

If yes, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? \_\_\_\_\_ %

If yes, please explain:

10c. Were military personnel excluded from the sample?

Yes

No

If yes, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? \_\_\_\_\_ %

If yes, please explain:

10d. If interviews were conducted by telephone, what is the estimated percentage of households without a phone? \_\_\_\_\_ %

Please explain: Not relevant. Respondents are drawn regardless of whether they possess a phone. If they do not have a phone they are interviewed face-to-face.

10e. If interviews were conducted by telephone, were unlisted telephone numbers included in the population sampled?

Yes

No

If no, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? \_\_\_\_\_ %

10f. Were other persons excluded from the sample frame?

Yes

No

If yes, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? \_\_1,6\_\_ %

If yes, please explain: Persons living abroad for more than 6 months

10g. Please estimate the total percentage of the eligible population excluded from the sample frame: \_\_1,6\_\_ %

## Sample Selection Procedures

11. Please describe, in your own words, how the sample for the study was selected. If the survey is part of a panel study, please also describe the original sample, from the beginning of the study.

The sample consists of 3200 persons aged 18-79 years and is rolling panel (half of the sample replaced at each election). The sample is selected from registers covering all Norwegian inhabitants, and in accordance with Statistics Norway's sampling frame.

Statistics Norway's sampling frame is a two-stage design.

12a. What were the primary sampling units?

**Stage 1:** The country is divided into a set of primary sampling units (*psus*). There exists a variety of classifications which might serve as such units: school districts, constituencies and postal code areas are examples of classifications that have been considered. A disadvantage with those mentioned is frequent adjustments and changes. An administrative system with fine-meshed local units was evaluated, but the number of units found too numerous. The preferred classification was the local municipalities. Norway consists of 428 municipalities in 19 counties. Municipalities with very few inhabitants were pooled with adjacent municipalities to form one *psu*. A total of 363 *psus* were then stratified into 109 strata.

12b. How were the primary sampling units selected?

All *psus* with more than 30000 inhabitants, and some with a population number between 25000 and 30000, constitute separate strata. For the remaining *psus* one tried to form as homogeneous strata as possible. Stratification variables were industrial structure, number of inhabitants, centrality, communication structures, commuting patterns, trade areas and (local) media coverage. The stratification was done in such a way that no *psu* had less than 7 per cent of the total population in its stratum, and separately for each county. Thus it is possible to give unbiased estimates for each county. Then one *psu* was selected from each stratum. *Psus* which constituted separate strata was included with certainty. For the remaining strata one unit was drawn with probability proportional to the number of inhabitants.

12c. Were the primary sampling units randomly selected?

Yes

No

Please explain how the units were randomly selected. If the units were not randomly selected, please provide a justification for why the units were not randomly selected.

See above.

13. Were there further stages of selection?

- Yes  
 No

13a. If there were further stages of selection, what were the sampling units at each of the additional stages?

Persons

13b. If there were further stages of selection, how were the sampling units selected at each of the additional stages?

Systematic random sampling

13c. If there were further stages of selection, were units at each of these stages randomly selected?

- Yes  
 No

Please explain how the units were randomly selected. If the units were not randomly selected, please provide a justification for why the units were not randomly selected.

14a. How were individual respondents identified and selected in the final stage?

**Stage 2:** A sample of survey units (persons) was drawn from the population register, selected from the 109 sampling areas, using systematic random sampling. The sampling fraction at the second stage is proportional with the inverse selection probability at the first stage. The final sample then is self-weighting when both stages are taken into consideration. If a sampled unit from the *panel sample* has moved out of their original *psu*, it is still included in the sample.

14b. Could more than one respondent be interviewed from a single household?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please explain:

15. Did the sample design include clustering at any stage?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please describe:

Norway consists of 430 municipalities in 19 counties. Municipalities with very few inhabitants were pooled with adjacent municipalities to form one *psu*. A total of 363 *psus* were then stratified into 109 strata.

16. Did the sample design include stratification?

Definition: Stratification involves the division of the population of interest according to certain characteristics (for instance: geographic, political, or demographic). Random selection then occurs within each of the groups that result.

Yes

No

If yes, please describe (please include the list of characteristics used for stratification):

Only in stage 1 (selecting *psus*). Stratification variables were industrial structure, number of inhabitants, centrality, communication structures, commuting patterns, trade areas and (local) media coverage.

17. Was quota sampling used at any stage of selection?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

18. Was substitution of individuals permitted at any stage of the selection process or during fieldwork?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

19. Under what circumstances was a household designated non-sample? Please check all that apply:

Non-residential sample point

All members of household are ineligible

Housing unit is vacant

No answer at housing unit after \_\_\_\_\_ callbacks

Other (Please explain): Individuals, not households as units

20. Were non-sample replacement methods used?

Yes

No

Please describe:

21a. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a random digit dial (RDD) sample?

Yes

No

21b. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a listed sample?

Yes

No

21c. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a dual frame sample?

Yes

No

If yes, what % list frame\_\_\_\_\_ and what % RDD\_\_\_\_\_

22. For surveys conducted by mail, was the sample a listed sample?

Yes

No

Please describe:

Do not apply

23. For surveys conducted on the Internet, did any respondents self-select into the survey?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Do not apply

## Incentives

24a. Prior to the study, was a letter sent to the respondent?

Yes

No

(If yes, please provide a copy of the letter.)

24b. Prior to the study, was a payment sent to the respondent?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe (including amount of payment):

24c. Prior to the study, was a token gift sent to the respondent?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

24d. Did respondent receive an additional payment after their participation? (Do not include any payment made prior to the study.)

Yes

No

If yes, please describe (including amount of payment):

24e. Were any other incentives used?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

## Interviewers

25. Please describe the interviewers (e.g., age, level of education, years of experience):

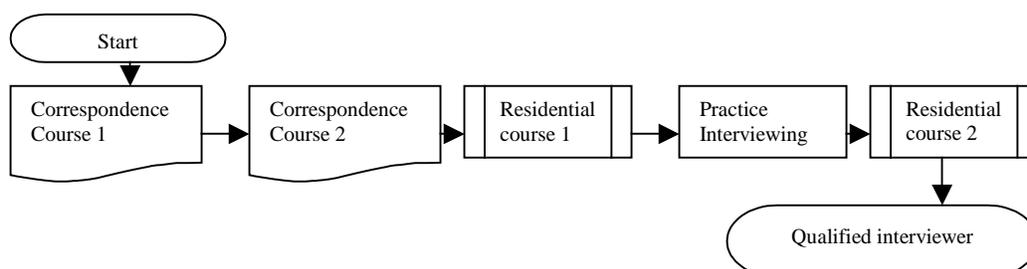
84 local interviewers were used. The interviewers are regularly employed, and there is a tariff agreement regulating the working conditions. Interviewers can choose between 500 and 700 hours contracts per year. Senior interviewers have a contract of 1200 hours per year. All interviewers work on several surveys at the same time, normally 3-5 per week. About half of the local interviewers employed are males. There is a variety in age. Over 50 percent of them have been working over five years, and 25 percent have been in the job for over 10 years. All interviewers have secondary education or higher.

Interviewers, gender, age and years in the job. Percent

	Total	Male	Female
<b>Gender</b>	100	57	43
<b>Age</b>			
Under 40	21	21	22
40-49	18	23	11
50-59	21	17	28
Over 60	39	40	39
<b>Years</b>			
1 year	27	29	25
2-4	19	17	22
5-9	25	29	19
Over 10	29	25	33
<b>N</b>	84	48	36

26. Please provide a description of interviewer training:

The basic training of interviewers follows several stages. First they undertake a correspondence course, and then they participate in a residential course of several days with intensive training. Normally there is one course before the start and another one or two months after their first work experience. In this basic training the candidates are role playing refusal conversion, learning to track the ones hard to get. There is also developed software for training purposes where the interviewers shall give a response to a programmed respondent unwilling to participate.



*Figure 3.2 Basic training of interviewers*

One employed of the staff has a responsibility to follow up new interviewers. To advice them in situations they experience as difficult. New interviewers are also participants in telephone conferences with other more experienced interviewers. How to deal with refusals and tracing strategies are discussed in these conferences.

**Contacts**

27a. What was the average number of contact attempts made per household, for the entire sample?

5

27b. For households where contact was made, what was the average number of contact attempts prior to first contact?

2

27c. During the field period, how many contacts were made with the household before declaring it a **non-sample**?

28d. During the field period, how many contacts were made with the household before declaring it a **non-interview**?

28e. During the field period, what were the maximum number of days over which a household was contacted?

75

28f. During the field period, did interviewers vary the time of day at which they re-contacted the household?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

The sample is drawn from the population register, and merged with databases that consists of each sampled units registered address, age, gender, household structure and listed telephone number. We always merge the sample with all telephone listings that are available, also in face-to-face interviewing, because it is more cost efficiently for the interviewers to first try to interact with the respondents by phone. The interviewers then call respondent routinely and at different weekdays and hours.

## Refusal Conversion

29a. Were efforts made to persuade respondents who were reluctant to be interviewed?

Yes

No

Please describe:

The interviewers were instructed and trained to listen to the type of concern the respondent communicated, then identify a way to address them and deliver an answer quickly in native language.

Ex: The respondent: Don't you know there's a soccer game on right now?

The interviewer: Then this is probably a bad time for you, would it be OK if I call you back when the game is finished?

Furthermore; the interviewer is instructed to accentuate that the respondent is one of 3200 who is given the opportunity to express their opinion, which entails that the respondents opinions is greatly emphasized. The interviewer can also specify that the respondent is irreplaceable, and that the survey result may become more unreliable if many respondents refuse to participate.

29b. Were respondents who were reluctant to be interviewed sent a letter persuading them to take part?

Yes

No

(If yes, please provide a copy of the letter or letters.)

If yes, please describe: See letter.

29c. Was payment offered to respondents who were reluctant to take part?

Yes

No

If yes, how much?

29d. Were respondents who were reluctant to take part turned over to a more experienced interviewer?

Yes – in some cases.

No

29e. What was the maximum number of re-contacts used to persuade respondents to be interviewed?

1 if contact was established, if no contact was established there was no fixed number.

29f. Were any other methods used to persuade respondents reluctant to be interviewed to take part?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

### **Interview/Survey Verification**

Definition: Interview/survey verification is the process of verifying that an interview was conducted and that the survey was administered to the correct respondent, for quality control purposes.

30. Was interview/survey verification used?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe the method(s) used:

If yes, please indicate the percent of completed surveys that were verified: \_\_\_\_\_ %

## Response Rate

Note: If multiple modes of interviewing were used for the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared, please repeat the following questions as appropriate for each of the modes used.

31. What was the response rate of the survey that the CSES Module appeared in? Please show your calculations. (If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, please report the response rate of the first wave of the study, even if the CSES Module did not appear in that wave.)

55%

32. Please provide the following statistics for the survey that the CSES Module appeared in. (If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, please report the statistics for the first wave of the study, even if the CSES Module did not appear in that wave.)

A. Total number of households in sample:	3140
B. Number of valid households:	3140
C. Number of invalid (non-sample) households:	
D. Number of households of unknown validity:	
E. Number of completed interviews:	1726
F. Number of partial interviews:	-
G. Number of refusals and break-offs:	943
H. Number non-contact (never contacted):	448
I. Other non-response:	23

The sum of B+C+D should equal the value of A. If not, please describe why:

If statistic D (number of households of unknown validity) has a value greater than zero (0), please estimate the proportion of households of unknown validity that are valid:

The sum of E+F+G+H+I should equal the value of B. If not, please describe why:

If statistic I has a value greater than zero (0), please describe what cases fall into this category:

Language problems, not able to participate (long time sick, in hospital etc.)

33. If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, how many waves were conducted prior to the wave that included the CSES Module?

None

34. If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, what was the total panel attrition between the first wave of the study and the wave that included the CSES Module? Please show your calculations.

35. If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, please provide the number of completed interviews for the wave that included the CSES Module:

36. If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, please provide the following statistics for panel attrition by age and education. In each cell, indicate the percent of all completed interviews in each category for the indicated wave.

<b>Age</b>	First wave of study	Wave that included CSES
18-25	%	%
26-40	%	%
41-64	%	%
65 and over	%	%

<b>Education</b>	First wave of study	Wave that included CSES
None	%	%
Incomplete primary	%	%
Primary completed	%	%
Incomplete secondary	%	%
Secondary completed	%	%
Post-Secondary Trade/Vocational	%	&
University incomplete	%	%
University degree	%	%

### Post-Survey Adjustment Weights

37. Are weights necessary to make the sample representative of the populated being studied?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

38. Are weights included in the data file?

Yes

No

39. If weights are included in the data file, please describe in detail how the weights were constructed:

We have found that there is a correlation between non-response in the survey and background variables such as gender, age and education, as well as between electoral turnout and participating in the survey. Therefore, we correct for this skewness by constructing a weight based on the following variables:

- Voted in the election (controlled against electoral roll): Yes, no
- Gender: man, woman
- Age: 17-30, 31-59, 60 and older
- Education: No education/No answer/Primary education, Secondary education, university

The weight is constructed with adjustment cells (corresponds to simple post-stratification), that is the ratio between the size of the gross sample in a certain strata and the total gross sample size, divided by the ratio between the net sample size in a certain strata and the total net sample size. We have divided the samples in 36 different stratum. The weight  $w_i$  for an element  $i$  in stratum  $h$  is:

$$W_i = \frac{N_h/N}{n_h/n}$$

40a. If weights are included in the data file, are the weights designed to compensate for disproportionate probability of selection?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

40b. If weights are included in the data file, are the weights designed to match known demographic characteristics of the population?

Yes  
 No

If yes, please describe:  
 See above.

40c. If weights are included in the data file, are the weights designed to correct for non-response?

Yes  
 No

If yes, please describe:  
 See above.

40d. If weights are included in the data file, are the weights designed to correct to the official election results?

Yes  
 No

If yes, please describe:

41. Comparison of Completed Interviews to Population (please provide as percentages of the total):

Characteristic	<u>Population Estimates</u>	<u>Completed Interviews</u>	
		<u>Unweighted Distribution</u>	<u>Weighted Distribution</u>
<u>Age</u>			
18-25	14%	13,9%	15,0%
26-40	23%	20,2%	20,0%
41-64	42%	48,7%	48,2%
65 and over	21%	17,2%	16,8%
<u>Education</u>			
None	0,3%	0,2%	0,2%
Primary	%	1,7%	2,1%
Lower Secondary	24%	21,2%	24,5%
Upper Secondary	28%	25,5%	26,7%
Post-secondary non-tertiary	3%	8,2%	8,8%
Bachelor or equivalent	24%	25,9%	23,6%
Master or equivalent	7%	16,4%	13,5%
Doctoral or equivalent	0,4%	0,8%	0,6%
<u>Gender</u>			
Male	49,4%	50,7%	48,2%

Female

50,6%	49,3%	51,3%
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42. Please indicate the source of the population estimates in the prior question. English language sources are especially helpful. Include website links or contact information if applicable.

<http://statbank.ssb.no/en/statistikbanken>

<http://www.ssb.no/en/valg>