

Israel data set

**Completed CSES form providing
macro-level data**

Comparative Study of Electoral Systems Macro-Level Data

Part I: Data Pertinent to the Election at which the Module was administered

1. Variable number/name in the dataset that identifies the primary electoral district for each respondent. **There are no electoral districts; the whole country is one district.**
2. Names and party affiliation of cabinet-level ministers serving at the time of the dissolution of the most recent government.

Name of Cabinet Member	Name of the Office Held	Political Party
Yitzhak Rabin	Prime minister and secretary of defense	Avoda
Shimon Peres	Foreign secretary (secretary of state) up to Nov. 1995, Prime minister, secretary of defense and of economy and planing	Avoda
Abraham Shochat	secretary of treasury	Avoda
Moshe Shahal	Secretary of police, of communication and of energy and infrastructure. to Nov. 1995, minister of inner security	Avoda
Amnon Rubinstein	secretary of energy and infrastructure, of science and technology, and of education, culture and sports	Meretz
Shimon Shetreet	secretary of economy, of science and technology, and of religious matters	Avoda
Shulamit Aloni	secretary of education and culture, of communication and of science and arts	Meretz
Binyamin Ben-Eliezer	Secretary of rebuilding and housing	Avoda
Uzi Baram	Secretary of tourism	Avoda
Arieh Deri	Secretary of interior affairs	Shas
Michael Harish	Secretary of industry and trade	Avoda
Ora Namir	Secretary of ecology and of employment and welfare	Avoda
Haim Ramon	Secretary of health and of interior affairs	Avoda
Ephraim Sneh	Secretary of health	Avoda
Yair Tsaban	Secretary of immigrants reception	Meretz
Israel Kessar	Secretary of transportation	Avoda
Yossi Sarid	Secretary of ecology	Meretz

3. Political Parties (active during the election).

Name of Political Party*	Year Founded	Ideological Family Party is Closest to	International Organization Party Belongs to
Israel Labor Party <i>Mifleget Haavoda Hayisraelit</i>	1968	Social Democratic Parties	Socialist International Confederation of Socialist Parties of the European Community
Likud <i>Likud</i>	1973 - As an Electoral Alliance 1988 - As a united party	National Parties	
National Religious Party <i>Hamiflaga Hadatit Leumit</i>	1956	Other Parties-Religious Parties	
Renewed Zionism Party <i>Tzomet</i>	1983	Right Liberal Parties	
Change <i>Shinuy</i>	1974	Left Liberal Parties	Liberal International
Civil Rights and Peace Movement <i>Tenua</i> <i>le-Zechuiot-ha-Ezrakh U'le-Shalom (Ratz)</i>	1973	Left Liberal Parties	
International Organization of Torah-observant Sephardic Jews <i>Hitachdut Jaspheeradim Ha-Olamit Shomrei Torah (Shas)</i>	1984	Other Parties-Religious Parties	
Union of Israel <i>Agudat Israel</i>	1912	Other Parties-Religious Parties	Agudat Israel World Organization
United Workers Party <i>Mifleget Hapoalim Hameuchedet (Mapam)</i>	1948	Socialist Parties	Socialist International
Democratic Front for Peace and Equality <i>Hazit Democratit le-Shalom ve-Shivayon (Hadash)</i>	1977	Communist Parties	
The Third Way <i>Haderech Hashlishit</i>	1996	Other Parties-Center Party	

Democratic Arab Party <i>Hamiflaga Hademocratit</i> <i>Haaravit</i>	1988	Ethnic Parties	
Immigration Israel <i>Israel Ba'aliya</i>	1996	Other Parties- New Immigrants Party	
Bridge <i>Gesher</i>	1996	Other Parties	
Motherland <i>Moledet</i>	1988	National Parties	
National Democratic Alliance <i>Brit Leumit Democratit</i>	1996	Ethnic Parties	
United Arab List <i>Hareshima Haaravit</i> <i>Hameuchedet</i>	1996	Ethnic Parties (Muslim)	
The Bible Flag <i>Degel Hatora</i>	1988	Other Parties-Religio us Parties	

4. (a) Parties position in left-right scale (in the expert judgment of the CSES Collaborator):

Party Name	Left 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Right 10
1. Likud								⑦			
2. Avoda					④						
3. Shas							⑥				
4. Mafdal									⑧		
5. Meretz			②								

5. In your view, what are the five most salient factors that affected the outcome of the election (e.g. major scandals; economic events; the presence of an independent actor; specific issues)?

1. Terror bombings (2-3/96)
2. Direct election of Prime Minister (2 votes)
3. Likud – Netanyahu campaign
4. Parties' organization / mobilization
5. Peres

6. Electoral Alliances

Sometimes, electoral alliances are made at the constituency level as, for example, in Finland. Documenting who is allied with whom, and how, in each constituency is a large task and we do not expect you to do more than make some general reference to the existence of constituency-level alliances. Sometimes, electoral alliances are made at the national level -- these are the

alliances that we would like you will identify. Information is sought on who is allied with whom and on the nature of the electoral alliance.

- a) Were electoral alliances permitted during the election campaign? **Yes**
- b) (If yes) Did any electoral alliances form? **Yes**
- c) (If yes to b) List the party alliances that formed:

	Name of Alliance	Parties in the Alliance
Alliance 1:		Likud-Gesher-Tzomet
Alliance 2:	Meretz	Mapam, Ratz, Shinui
Alliance 3:	Yahadut Hatorah	Degel Hatora, Agudat Israel
Alliance 4:		Hadash, Balad
Alliance 5:	Reshima Arvit Meuhedet	Mada, Hatnua Haislamit, Gush Aravi Islami

- 7. (If a **PM** election was held concurrently with the legislative elections) List **PM** candidates

Name of PM Candidate	Party of Candidate
Netanyahu Benjamin	Likud
Peres Shimon	Avoda

- 8. If the national team plans to collect aggregate election returns (or constituency-level returns) please include these returns with the study materials provided when the data are archived.

Part II: Data on Electoral Institutions

A central theme in the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems concerns the impact of electoral institutions on voting behavior and election outcomes. In order to assess the impact of institutions properly, a necessary preliminary step is to obtain accurate information on those institutional arrangements. The purpose of this document is to describe the kind of information we are asking you to provide.

Overview of Information Needed

In most countries, the best source of the needed information is the electoral statute or code that currently governs Lower House elections. If the text of the law is available in a variety of different languages, please send a version in the most accessible language available. In any event, please also provide full bibliographic information on the source of the information sent.

In a few countries, such as the U.K., there may not be a single statute that governs elections. In such cases, our hope is that you will do your best to provide an accurate description of the electoral system in response to the detailed questions described below. For those countries in which there is an electoral statute, there may also be other sources of information on the electoral procedure that you know of: perhaps the constitution specifies part of the electoral system, or perhaps a local scholar has written a description of

the electoral system, or perhaps there is a map of the electoral districts available. It would be helpful if these materials could be sent as well.

Details of Information Needed

The kinds of details that are needed are indicated by the following list of questions. If you are sending a copy of the electoral code, then there is no need to answer these questions separately. If you are not sending the electoral code, then these questions may help in deciding what to send.

I. QUESTIONS ABOUT ELECTORAL DISTRICTS.

Definitions: An electoral district is defined as a geographic area within which votes are counted and seats allocated. If a district cannot be partitioned into smaller districts within which votes are counted and seats allocated, it is called primary. If it can be partitioned into primary districts, and there is some transfer of votes and/or seats from the primary districts to the larger district, then the larger district is called secondary.

If a district can be partitioned into secondary districts (again with some transfer of votes and/or seats), it is called tertiary.

In some electoral systems, there are electoral districts that are geographically nested but not otherwise related for purposes of seat allocation. In Lithuania, for example, there are 71 single-member districts that operate under a majority runoff system, and also a single nationwide district that operates under proportional representation (the largest remainders method with the Hare quota). Neither votes nor seats from the single-member districts transfer to the nationwide district, however. The two processes are entirely independent (with voters having one vote in each district). In this case, the nationwide district, although it contains the 71 single-member districts, is not considered to be secondary. It is primary. One might say that there are two segments to the electoral system in such cases.

1) How many segments (as just defined) are there in the electoral system?
1 segment

For the first segment, please answer the following questions (questions 2 through 11):

2) How many primary electoral districts are there? **1**

3) For each primary electoral district, how many members are elected from in that district? **120**

4) How many secondary electoral districts are there? **None**

5) How many tertiary electoral districts are there? **None**

II. QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING.

6) Exactly how are votes cast by voters?

6a) How many votes do they or can they cast? **2 (1 for parliament +1 for PM)**

6b) Do they vote for candidates, for lists, or for both? (Explain) in **parliamentary election vote for list, in PM election for candidates**

7) Are the votes transferable? **No**

8) If more than one vote can be cast, can they be cumulated? **No**

9) Are there any other features of voting that should be noted? **No**

III. QUESTIONS ABOUT CONVERTING VOTES INTO SEATS.

10) Exactly how are votes converted into seats? **Hagenbach-Bishopf version of the d'Hondt system**

10a) Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats? **Yes** if so, what is the threshold? **1.5% of votes**

10b) What electoral formula or formulas are used?

11) If there are lists, are they closed, open, or flexible?
Closed

IV. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF ELECTORAL ALLIANCE.

12) What are the possibilities of alliance in the system?

12a) Can parties run joint lists? **Yes**

12b) Is there apparentement or linking of lists? **Yes**

12c) Can candidates run with the endorsement of more than one party? **No**

12d) Do parties withdraw their lists or candidates in some constituencies, urging their supporters there to vote for an ally s list or candidate? **No**

12e) Other? _____

13) If joint lists are possible, are they subject to different regulations than single-party lists? For example, higher thresholds, different numbers of candidates that may appear on the list, etc. **No**

14) If appurement is possible, what lists can participate in such agreements

Lists of the same party in the same constituency?

Lists of the same party from different constituencies?

Lists of different parties in the same constituency?

The whole country – one constituency

15) If candidates can run with the endorsement of more than one party, is this reflected on the ballot? **No, Party Lists**

Part III: Data on Regime Type

Below are various questions about the type of regime--presidential, parliamentary, semi-presidential--in your country. There are two potential problems with these questions that should be noted at the outset. First, in some countries there may be a discrepancy between the de jure (or legal) situation and the de facto (or practical) situation. For example, in Great Britain the Queen still possesses a legal right to veto legislation, but this right has not been exercised since 1707. In the case of such obviously obsolete powers, please answer according to the de facto situation. Otherwise, describe the de jure situation. A second potential problem is that the questions may not be phrased optimally for the situation in your particular country. In such cases, please answer as best you can, providing some indication of the difficulties as you see them.

I.) Questions regarding the Head of State.

1) Who is the Head of State? **The President**

2) How is the head of state selected? **Indirect election**

b) If by indirect election, by what process? **Selection by the legislature**

By which chamber(s) of the legislature? **Only one chamber**

What is the voting procedure used? **A majority of Knesset**

members (at least 61 members) for the first two rounds; a

simple majority from round three on.

3) If there is a Head of State, does the Head of State have the following powers? [Check all that apply.]

a) Introduce legislation? **No**

b) Require expedited action on specific legislation? **No**

c) Package veto? **No**

d) Partial veto? **No**

e) Legislate by decree? **No**

f) Emergency powers? **No**

g) Negotiate treaties and international agreements? **No**

h) Commander of the armed forces? **No**

j) Introduce referenda? **No**

k) Refer legislation to the judicial branch for review of constitutionality?
No

**Under direct election law, Prime Minister can dismiss parliament
with agreement of the president**

m) Convene special legislative sessions? **No**

II.) Questions about the Head of Government.

1) Who is the Head of Government? **The Prime Minister**

2) If the Head of Government is a Prime Minister, how is the Prime Minister selected? **Other (Explain): directly elected by the people**

3) If there is a Prime Minister, what authorities does the Prime Minister have over the composition of the cabinet? [Check all that apply.]

Names ministers and assigns portfolios alone
Dismisses ministers and reassigns portfolios at own discretion

4) If there is a Prime Minister, what authorities does the Prime Minister have over the policy making process? [Check all that apply.]

Chairs cabinet meetings
Other

III.) By what method(s) can cabinet members, or the entire cabinet, be dismissed? [Check all that apply.]

By the prime minister alone

IV.) Can the legislature be dissolved prior to regularly scheduled elections?
Yes

1) If yes, by what method?

By majority vote of the legislature
By some combination of the above, acting in concert - by Prime Minister with agreement of president.

In both cases, the early election of the Knesset also means early elections for the Prime Minister at the same time (head of state + PM).

2) If yes, are there restrictions on when and how the legislature can be dissolved? [Check all that apply.]

As a response to action/inaction by the legislature (e.g. only when the legislature has censured the cabinet; e.g. only if the legislature fails to pass the budget) (Explain) **1. If the budget is not passed within 3 months of the beginning of the fiscal year.**
2. If the Prime Minister fails to bring a cabinet for approval to the Knesset within 45 days after the election.

Other (Explain) **vote of 61 MP's dissolves Knesset (i.e.) new election for Knesset and Prime Minister**