

# Sweden: Macro-Level Data Questionnaire

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

- Variable number/name in the dataset that identifies the primary electoral district for each respondent:  
V114
- Names and party affiliation of cabinet-level ministers serving at the time of the dissolution of the most recent government.

<i>Name of the Cabinet Member</i>	<i>Name of the Office Held</i>	<i>Political Party</i>
Göran Persson	Prime Minister	Social Democrats
Lena Hjelm-Wallén	Minister of Foreign Affairs	Social Democrats
Thage G Peterson	Minister without portfolio, Prime Minister's Office	Social Democrats
Laila Freivalds	Minister of Justice	Social Democrats
Margot Wallström	Minister of Health and Social Affairs	Social Democrats
Carl Tham	Minister of Education and Science	Social Democrats
Erik Åsbrink	Minister of Finance	Social Democrats
Mona Sahlin	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Industry and Trade	Social Democrats
Pierre Schori	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Social Democrats
Leif Blomberg	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of civil Affairs (until 2/3)	Social Democrats
Jörgen Andersson	Minister of Civil Affairs	Social Democrats
Margareta Winberg	Minister of Employment	Social Democrats
Ines Uusmann	Minister of Communications	Social Democrats
Marita Ulvskog	Minister of Culture	Social Democrats
Anders Sundström	Minister of Industry and Trade	Social Democrats
Anna Lind	Minister of Environment	Social Democrats
Ylva Johansson	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Education and Science	Social Democrats
Björn von Sydow	Minister of Defense	Social Democrats
Maj-Inger Klingvall	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs	Social Democrats
Annika Åhnberg	Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries	Social Democrats
Leif Pagrotsky	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Industry and Trade	Social Democrats
Thomas Östros	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Finance	Social Democrats
Ulrika Messing	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Employment	Social Democrats
Lars Engqvist	Minister without portfolio, Ministry of Civil Affairs	Social Democrats

- Political Parties (active during the election at which the module was administered).

<i>Name of Political Party</i>	<i>Year Founded</i>	<i>Ideological Family Party is Closest to</i>	<i>International Organization Party Belongs to (if any)</i>
Left Party (Sveriges Socialdemokratiska Vänsterparti)	1917	Socialist	?
Social Democrats	1889	Social Democratic	Socialist International
Centre Party (Bondeförbundet)	1915	Agrarian	?
People's Party Liberals (Frisinnade Landsföreningen)	1902	Liberal	?
Moderate Party (Allmänna Valmansförbundet)	1904	Liberal/conservative	?
Christian Democrats (Kristen Demokratisk Samling)	1964	Christian Democratic	?
Green Party	1981	Green	?

### *Ideological Party Families:*

Ecology Parties  
 Liberal Parties  
 Agrarian Parties  
 Communist Parties  
 Right Liberal Parties  
 Ethnic Parties  
 Socialist Parties  
 Christian Democratic  
 Regional Parties  
 Social Democratic Parties  
 Other Parties  
 Conservative Parties  
 Independents Parties  
 Left Liberal Parties  
 National Parties

### *International Party Organizations:*

Socialist International  
 Liberal International  
 Confederation of Socialist  
 Federation of European Liberal,  
 Parties of the European Community  
 Democrat, and Reform Parties  
 Asia-Pacific Socialist Organization  
 International Democrat Union  
 Socialist Inter-African  
 Caribbean Democrat Union  
 European Democrat Union  
 Christian Democratic International  
 Pacific Democrat Union  
 European Christian Democratic Union  
 The Greens  
 European People's Party

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

Party Name	LEFT										RIGHT											
1. Left Party	0	1	<u>2</u>	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2. Social Democrats	0	1	2	3	<u>4</u>	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3. Centre Party	0	1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4. People's Party Liberals	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	<u>7</u>	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<u>8</u>	9	10
5. Moderate Party	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<u>8</u>	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6. Christian Democrats	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	<u>7</u>	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

4. (b) If you have asked respondents to rank political parties on a dimension other than the left-right dimension, please also provide your own rankings on this other dimension.

**Not asked**

Name of dimension: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Label for left position: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Label for right position: \_\_\_\_\_

Party Name	LEFT										RIGHT											
1.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

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. **Welfare/cut backs**
2. **EMU**
3. **Taxes**
4. **Political distrust**
5. **Economy**

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 \_\_\_ No **X**
- b) (If yes) Did any electoral alliances form?  
 Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
- c) (If yes to b) List the party alliances that formed:

Name of Alliance	Parties in the Alliance
Alliance 1: _____	_____
Alliance 2: _____	_____
Alliance 3: _____	_____
Alliance 4: _____	_____
Alliance 5: _____	_____

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

**No presidential election**

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.

**No**

**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. (SEE APPENDIX)

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 \_\_\_\_
2 segments \_\_\_\_

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

- 2) How many primary electoral districts are there? \_\_\_\_
3) For each primary electoral district, how many members are elected from in that district? \_\_\_\_
4) How many secondary electoral districts are there? \_\_\_\_
5) How many tertiary electoral districts are there? \_\_\_\_

II. QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING.

- 6) Exactly how are votes cast by voters? \_\_\_\_
6a) How many votes do they or can they cast? \_\_\_\_
6b) Do they vote for candidates, for lists, or for both? (Explain)\_\_\_\_
7) Are the votes transferable? \_\_\_\_
8) If more than one vote can be cast, can they be cumulated? \_\_\_\_
9) Are there any other features of voting that should be noted? \_\_\_\_

III. QUESTIONS ABOUT CONVERTING VOTES INTO SEATS.

- 10) Exactly how are votes converted into seats? \_\_\_\_
10a) Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats? \_\_\_\_
If so, what is the threshold? \_\_\_\_
10b) What electoral formula or formulas are used? \_\_\_\_
11) If there are lists, are they closed, open, or flexible?
closed \_\_\_\_
flexible, but in practice virtually closed \_\_\_\_
flexible \_\_\_\_
flexible, but in practice virtually open \_\_\_\_
open \_\_\_\_

Definitions: A list is closed if the seats that are awarded to that list are always occupied by the candidates in order of their appearance on the list (i.e., if the list gets x seats then necessarily the top x names on the list get the seats). A list is open if the question of which candidates on the list get the seats that are awarded to the list is determined solely by the votes that each candidate receives. A list is flexible if it is neither closed nor open.

IV. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF ELECTORAL ALLIANCE.

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

12a) Can parties run joint lists? \_\_\_\_\_

12b) Is there apparentement or linking of lists? \_\_\_\_\_

12c) Can candidates run with the endorsement of more than one party? \_\_\_\_\_

12d) Do parties withdraw their lists or candidates in some constituencies, urging their supporters there to vote for an ally's list or candidate?

12e) Other? \_\_\_\_\_

Definitions: A joint list refers to one on which candidates of different parties run together. Apparentement refers to a legal agreement between two or more lists to pool their votes for the purposes of an initial seat allocation, with seats initially allocated to the alliance then reallocated to the lists in the alliance.

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.  
\_\_\_\_\_

14) If apparentement 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? \_\_\_\_\_

15) If candidates can run with the endorsement of more than one party, is this reflected on the ballot?  
Yes, candidate's name appears once, together with the names of all supporting parties \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes, candidate's name appears as many times as there are different parties endorsing him or her, each time with the name of the endorsing party \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes, other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
No party endorsements are indicated on the ballot paper \_\_\_\_\_

### 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?

- President  
 Monarch  
 Prime Minister serves as ceremonial head of state  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

2) How is the head of state selected?

- Direct election  
 Indirect election  
 Birth right  
 Divine right  
 Other (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_

a) If by direct election, by what process?

- Plurality election  
 Run-off or two-ballot system  
 Other (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_

(i) If by run-off system, what is the

- Threshold for first-round victory? \_\_\_\_  
Threshold to advance to second round? \_\_\_\_  
Threshold for victory in second round? \_\_\_\_

b) If by indirect election, by what process?

- Electoral college  
 Selection by the legislature  
 Other (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_

(i) If by electoral college,

- How are electors chosen?  
Does the electoral college deliberate? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No  
What is the voting procedure used by the electoral college?

(ii) If by the legislature,

- By which chamber(s) of the legislature?  
What is the voting procedure used?

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

- a) Introduce legislation? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No  
b) Require expedited action on specific legislation? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, what is the default if the legislature takes no action?

Definitions: A Head of State possesses a partial veto when he or she can target specific clauses of a piece of legislation for veto, while promulgating the rest. In the U.S., such vetoes are sometimes called line item vetoes. A Head of State possesses a package veto when he or she can veto the entire piece of legislation submitted by the legislature, but cannot veto some parts and accept others.

c) Package veto? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, what is the requirement to override the veto?

d) Partial veto? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, what is the requirement to override the partial veto?

e) Legislate by decree? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, does this require that the legislature must first specifically delegate decree authority to the head of state by statute? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, are there restrictions on the policy areas in which the head of state can legislate by decree? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, are there other restrictions on the head of state's authority to legislate by decree? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

f) Emergency powers? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, what actions can the head of state take under emergency authority?

If yes, under what conditions can the head of state invoke emergency authority?

If yes, what restrictions are there on the head of state's authority to invoke and exercise emergency authority?

g) Negotiate treaties and international agreements? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, what other requirements are there for approval of treaties and international agreements negotiated by the head of state?

h) Commander of the armed forces? \_\_\_\_ Yes  No

If yes, does the head of state control promotions of high-ranking officers?  
 Yes  No  
If yes, can the head of state dismiss or demote high-ranking officers?  
 Yes  No  
If yes, can the head of state mobilize and demobilize troops?  Yes  No

j) Introduce referenda?  Yes  No

If yes, under what conditions?

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

m) Convene special legislative sessions?  Yes  No

If yes, is this the head of state's power exclusively, or can any other (s) do this as well?  Yes, other power  No other powers  
(if yes, explain): \_\_\_\_\_

II.) Questions about the Head of Government.

1) Who is the Head of Government?

President  
 Prime Minister (or equivalent)  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

2) If the Head of Government is a prime minister, how is the prime minister selected?

Appointed by the head of state alone  
 Appointed by the legislature alone  
 Nominated by the head of state, and approved by the legislature  
 Nominated by the legislature, and approved by the head of state  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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  
 Nominates ministers for approval by the president  
 Reviews and approves ministerial nominations made by the president  
 Dismisses ministers and reassigns portfolios at own discretion  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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  
 Determines schedule of issues to be considered by the legislature  
 Determines which alternatives will be voted on by the legislature, and in which order  
 Refers legislative proposals to party or legislative committees  
 Calls votes of confidence in government  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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

By the head of state alone  
 By the prime minister alone  
 By majority vote of the legislature where a majority of all legislators is required  
 By majority vote of the legislature where a majority of those legislators voting is required  
 By some combination of the above, acting in concert (Explain)  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

IV.) Can the legislature be dissolved prior to regularly scheduled elections?  Yes  No

1) If yes, by what method?

By the head of state alone  
 By the prime minister alone  
 By majority vote of the legislature  
 By some combination of the above, acting in concert (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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

On the timing of dissolution (e.g. not within one year after a legislative election)  
(Explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
 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)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix

## Elections in Sweden 1998-1999

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### **Elections in Sweden 1998-1999**

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#### **1. General**

At parliamentary, county council and municipal council elections, and at elections to the European Parliament, voters in Sweden vote for a political party, and can also cast a specific personal vote.

Sweden's electoral system is based on proportional representation. As a result, the composition of the political bodies elected reflects the composition and political views of the electorate.

Regular parliamentary elections, together with county council and municipal council elections, take place on the third Sunday in September every four years. In the case of re-election to Parliament, the date is decided by the government. For county council or municipal council re-elections, the date is set by Sweden's National Tax Board, in consultation with the county council.

Elections to the European Parliament are held in June every five years.

#### **2. Election authorities**

The National Tax Board is the central election authority and is responsible for planning and coordinating the holding of elections. The Board is also responsible for the distribution of seats between the political parties and for appointing members of parliament at Swedish parliamentary elections and candidates at elections to the European Parliament.

The county administration is responsible for the conduct of elections at regional level. This body decides the boundaries of constituencies and electoral districts, and is also responsible for the final counting of votes in all elections and for the distribution of seats in county council and municipal council elections.

The local election authority in each municipality is the Election Committee. The Election Committee appoints electoral officers, ensures that polling stations are provided and is responsible for the provisional counting of votes (i) on the night of the election and (ii) on the Wednesday following the day of the election (to include early votes that fail to arrive at the polling stations during the Sunday).

The tax authority is responsible for compiling electoral rolls and printing voting cards. The Electoral Causes Committee is the supreme instance for dealing with protested elections. The Committee consists of seven members. Its Chairman is required to be, or to have served as, a regular judge, and may not at the same time be a member of parliament. The remaining members of the Committee are appointed by the Swedish Parliament.

### **3. Suffrage and electoral rolls**

Voting rights in parliamentary elections are reserved for all Swedish citizens who are 18 years of age before or on election day and who are, or have at some time been, registered residents of Sweden.

Voting rights in county council and municipal council elections are enjoyed by Swedish citizens who are 18 years of age before or on election day and who are registered as residents of Sweden within the county or municipality. Citizens of any member State of the European Union (Union Citizens) and citizens of Iceland and Norway are also entitled to vote under the same conditions. Citizens of other States are entitled to vote if registered residents of Sweden for three years uninterruptedly on election day.

Those qualified to vote at Swedish parliamentary elections also have the right to vote at elections to the European Parliament. Union Citizens are also entitled to vote if they do not exercise their vote in any other member State. To be entitled to vote, a person must be included on an electoral roll.

An electoral roll is compiled for each constituency prior to every election, and includes only those persons who are qualified to vote at that particular election. In the event that several elections are held simultaneously, the electoral roll is the same for each election. The names of those who are not entitled to vote in all elections are marked as being excluded from those elections in which they are not qualified to vote. An electoral roll is drawn up for every electoral district.

Whether a person is qualified to vote is determined by the details held in the Civic Registers of the tax authorities 30 days before election day. This means that voters resident in Sweden are included on the electoral roll in the electoral district where they are registered as resident 30 days before election day. Voters are entitled to vote in the county or municipality where they are registered as resident 30 days before election day. Events after that point - including notification of change of address delivered later than then - have no bearing on where the person is entitled to vote. Swedish citizens resident abroad are included on the electoral roll if their move abroad took place during the past ten years, or if they have notified the tax authority, no later than 30 days before election day, that they wish to be included on the electoral roll. As notification of this kind, it is sufficient for a Swedish citizen resident abroad to mail address details to the tax authority.

(At the 1998 and 1999 elections, Swedish citizens moving abroad after 1 July, 1991 will be automatically included on the electoral roll. Alongside these, Swedish citizens who have moved abroad earlier will be included if their names appeared on the 1996 special electoral roll for Swedish citizens resident abroad, or if they applied during the period January-May 1997 for inclusion on the special electoral roll that was to be drawn up in 1997.)

A special form is available for Swedish citizens resident abroad wishing to notify their address details and to be included on the electoral roll.

At elections to the European Parliament, Swedish citizens are subject to the same rules as for Swedish parliamentary elections. Union Citizens may be included in the electoral roll if they have advised the tax authority, no later than 30 days before election day, that they wish to be included on the electoral roll. In this case, they must also give an undertaking not to vote in the same election in any other member State.

The electoral rolls may be scrutinized on computer medium at the tax authority (the local tax office). Anyone who considers that the electoral roll contains inaccurate information about themselves must send a request in writing to have the information corrected. Such a request must be delivered to the tax authority no later than on the Monday before election day. The electoral rolls are then printed and delivered to the Election Committees on the Thursday before election day. Voting cards are dispatched at such time that they may be expected to reach voters 18 days before election day. Duplicate voting cards are available from the tax authority.

### **4. Eligibility**

Anyone who qualifies to vote is also eligible for election. Eligibility is determined by the circumstances prevailing on election day. A person is eligible in the municipality in which he or she is registered as resident on election day. It is therefore possible to qualify to vote in one municipality and to be eligible for election in another.

In the case of elections to the European Parliament, Union Citizens must be able to demonstrate that they have not forfeited their eligibility in their country of origin. Certain officials are also disqualified from eligibility, for example, members of the government of a member State.

### **5. Constituencies and constituency seats**

For parliamentary elections, Sweden is divided into 29 constituencies. As a rule, each county represents one constituency. However, Stockholm is divided into two, Skåne into four and the recently-established Västra Götaland County into five constituencies.

The Swedish Parliament consists of 349 members. Of the 349 seats in Parliament, 310 are fixed constituency seats, and 39 are additional "equalizing" seats, to redress imbalances in distribution among the political parties. No later

than on 30 April in election year, the National Tax Board is required to have determined how many fixed seats are to be nominated by each constituency. The distribution of seats is based on the number of voters in each constituency. The equalizing seats are distributed at the count based on the result of the election. After the 1994 election, a normalized constituency was represented by 12 members of parliament. The County of Stockholm, the largest constituency, was allocated 36 members, while Gotland, the smallest, was awarded just 2 members.

For county council elections, a constituency is generally made up of one or more municipalities. The county council decides how many seats the council should have. County councils are also made up of fixed seats and equalizing seats. The county administration decides on no later than 30 April in election year how many fixed seats each constituency should nominate.

At municipal council elections, large municipalities have to be divided into constituencies. The municipal council decides how many seats the council should have. These are only fixed seats. The county administration decides as to the distribution of the seats on no later than 30 April in election year.

For elections to the European Parliament, the whole of Sweden represents one constituency.

## **6. Electoral districts**

Each municipality is divided into electoral districts. An electoral district is a geographically defined area around a polling station. The county administration decides how the division into electoral districts is to be made, at the recommendation of the municipal council. Electoral districts vary in size, but comprise as a rule the 1,200-1,500 people who are entitled to vote. After consultation with the Election Committee, the county administration may approve electoral districts encompassing more than 1,800 people. The Election Committee may demand the establishment, in addition to the polling station, of one or more special voting stations in an electoral district. The county administration is required to determine the division into electoral districts no later than on 1 December in the year before election year.

The Election Committee sets up polling stations and appoints no less than four persons to serve as electoral officers in each district. During voting, no less than three electoral officers must be present.

## **7. Registration of political party names and candidates**

A political party wishing to protect its name from improper use may apply to the National Tax Board to have its name registered. However, a party need not have its name registered to take part in elections.

For the Board to be able to register a party name, the application, for example, must be seconded, by a specific number of voters. In addition, the name may not resemble another registered name to the extent it may be assumed to be capable of being mistaken for that name.

Applications for registration of a party name must be received by the Board no later than on the last day of February in election year, for registration to be valid in that election.

If a party name is registered for parliamentary elections, the registration is also valid for elections to county council and municipal council elections throughout Sweden, as well as for elections to the European Parliament. If a party name is registered for county council elections, the registration is valid for elections to the county council concerned and for elections to the councils in the municipalities within the area covered by the county council.

A party whose name has been registered must nominate an agent.

In order to protect the party name, the party must also register all its candidates for the elections. If this is done, all names of candidates other than those nominated by the party will be disregarded during counting. Candidates may only be nominated to the National Tax Board by the party's agent, or other person nominated in turn by the agent. The nominated candidates are also required to confirm in writing that they have given the party consent to use their name.

Union Citizens who are standing as candidates for election to the European Parliament must also give an undertaking that they are not also standing at the same election in their country of origin.

The National Tax Board determines a latest point in time when the candidates must have been nominated.

The Board draws up a list of all political parties nominating candidates. These lists are sent out to the polling stations.

A special leaflet on registration of political party names is available.

## **8. Ballot papers**

Ballot papers are printed by certain printers appointed by the National Tax Board, on special paper provided by the Board. Ballot papers are yellow for parliamentary elections, blue for county council elections and white for municipal council elections. The ballot papers are required to be identical in size and material.

Three kinds of ballot papers are used in the different elections:

1. Name ballot papers carrying the name of a political party and names of candidates, each with a box in which the voter may enter a specific mark for personal vote.
2. Party ballot papers without the names of any candidates.
3. Blank ballot papers (on which the voter may enter his or her choice).

The order of preference among candidates must be clearly indicated on the ballot paper.

The State bears the cost of printing a number of ballot papers equalling three times the population entitled to vote. This applies to a party which has gained in one of the two most recent parliamentary elections - or which in the impending election gains - at least one per cent of the votes cast in the entire country. In county council and municipal council elections, a party is entitled to the same number of free ballot papers as for parliamentary elections if it is, or comes to be, represented. As regards elections to the European Parliament, the rule is the same as for Swedish parliamentary elections, namely that the party must receive at least one per cent of votes cast in Sweden.

In the case of the parties that gain more than one per cent of the votes cast in parliamentary elections, the State also bears the cost of placing ballot papers with the name of their party, in the polling stations for parliamentary, municipal council and county council elections. The parties themselves bear the cost of distributing name ballot papers to the voters, and for placing such ballot papers in polling stations and at post offices.

The National Tax Board determines the latest day by which ballot papers must be ordered to ensure that they can with certainty be delivered 45 days before election day. An order from a party that has registered its name and the names of candidates is only accepted if placed by an authorized representative of the party, for example, its agent for dealings with the Board.

In the case of parliamentary, county council and municipal elections, ballot paper orders are generally delivered to the county administration. In the case of elections to the European Parliament, on the other hand, ballot paper orders are handled by the National Tax Board.

For administrative reasons, unique list numbers are printed on the name ballot papers. These numbers consist of a 4-digit code, indicating the party, and a 5-digit serial number. All ballot papers without names of candidates bear the serial number 90 000.

### **9. Voting for political parties and candidates (personal vote)**

Voters vote for a political party, but, within their choice of party, also have a certain amount of influence over the ranking order between candidates. By entering a mark alongside the name of a particular candidate, the voter can cast a personal vote. The voter is free to indicate his or her personal choice of candidate, or to accept the party's ranking and vote only for the party. A personal choice may only be indicated for one candidate.

The voter's former freedom to add or remove names of candidates has been restricted. If a voter has deleted one or more names on the ballot paper, this has no bearing on the count. If a party has registered its name and candidates (see section 7, above), the voter cannot add names of candidates to the ballot paper either. During the count, any names added to the ballot papers of these parties are disregarded. It is indicated at the top of the ballot paper, above the names of candidates, whether the candidates have been registered.

A special brochure about personal voting will be available to voters (to be published by the National Tax Board in spring 1998).

### **10. Polling stations**

Voting takes place at polling stations, Sweden Post Co.'s post offices, special voting stations arranged by Sweden Post Co. or the Election Committee at, for example, hospitals or care facilities, together with voting stations arranged by Swedish diplomatic missions outside Sweden.

On election day, voters are required to vote at the polling station in the district in which they are included in the electoral roll. Voters who, for some reason, cannot vote on election day at their designated polling station, may cast their vote before election day at a post office, a special voting station in Sweden or at a diplomatic mission abroad. Any voter who is prevented by disability, illness or advanced age from visiting the polling station may vote by proxy. A special information sheet on proxy voting is available.

#### **a) At polling stations**

Special voting booths are set up (divided by screens), in which voters can insert their ballot papers for each election into the appropriate envelope. When the chairman of the electoral district has verified that the voter is entitled to vote in the district and that the ballot paper has been properly inserted into the appropriate envelope, he places the envelopes into the appropriate ballot boxes. A mark is then made on the electoral roll to show that the voter has exercised his right to vote. Polling stations remain open between 8.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. unless the National Tax Board has decided on fewer hours for voting. In elections for European Parliament voting continues until 9.00 p.m.

#### **b) At post offices**

Here, the voter follows the same procedure as at polling stations. Members of post office staff collect the votes and mail them in special window envelopes to the Election Committee. Anyone exercising their right to vote at a post office must present their voting card. The voting card is sent with the person's vote to the Election Committee. Voting at post offices starts 18 days before election day. On election day, at least one post office is open in every municipality for voting.

#### **c) At special voting stations**

No earlier than on the Sunday before election day, special voting stations may be set up at hospitals, residential homes for the elderly and other care institutions, for everyone who is unable to get to a polling station on election day. Special voting stations may also be set up as required on election day at other locations, for example in districts

with more than 1,800 voters. The National Tax Board may instruct the Election Committee or Sweden Post Co. to set up special voting stations. The voting procedure is the same as at post offices.

#### **d) At diplomatic missions**

The National Tax Board decides, with reference to proposals put forward by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at which Swedish diplomatic missions abroad votes may be received. Voting begins 24 days before election day, and in some locations may take place for only a short time. Voting must be halted at such time before the election to ensure that the votes cast reach the Board no later than on the Saturday before election day. All votes received at Swedish diplomatic missions abroad are sent to the Board, where they are sorted and forwarded to the various Election Committees.

It is an advantage - but not a requirement - for voters to present their voting card. In the case of voters not presenting their voting card, one showing their personal details is drawn up and sent with the vote to the Election Committee.

#### **e) Postal voting**

Swedish citizens resident in Germany or Switzerland may vote by post no earlier than 24 days before election day. The vote is considered to have been cast on the date of the postmark. It must be postmarked in Germany or Switzerland no later than on the day before election day and must be posted in such time to ensure that it may be received by the National Tax Board no later than on the Monday after election day.

Those on board Swedish ships plying international routes may vote by mail no earlier than 55 days before election day. A vote is considered to have been cast on the day it is recorded on board ship. The ship's commanding officer, or other person appointed by that person, is required to indicate the name of the ship on the postal vote. A postal vote from a ship may be posted from any country whatsoever.

### **11. Counting of votes**

When voting is finished on election day, the electoral officers begin their count of the votes received.

Earlier during the day, the electoral officers are required to carry out a preliminary check of the votes cast in advance delivered from post offices. The votes cast in advance that are approved will be inserted in the appropriate ballot box. The ballot boxes are then emptied and the votes contained in them are counted. The ballot papers for the parliamentary election are counted first, followed by those for the municipal council election and last by those for the county council election.

The ballot papers are counted and the grand totals for each party are entered on special report forms. When the counting is complete, the ballot papers are placed in special envelopes which are sealed and conveyed to the Election Committee. The Election Committee is responsible for ensuring that the votes received from the polling stations are transported to the county administration with the minimum possible delay.

On the Wednesday after election day, the Election Committee counts the votes cast in advance which could not be delivered to the electoral districts on election day.

Once the count by the Election Committee is complete, all electoral material is conveyed to the county administration.

### **12. Reporting**

When an electoral district has completed the counting of the votes for the political parties to be reported (the National Tax Board determines which parties are to be reported at parliamentary elections, while the county administration decides on the parties to be reported at municipal elections), the results are phoned to a special reception unit set up by the National Tax Board. The results reported are then fed into the Board's election computer service and then on by e-mail to Swedish Television, the Swedish News Agency (TT) and other parts of the mass media. During the night, the Board calculates the distribution of seats in the different elections among the political parties.

### **13. Final counting**

The final counting is conducted by the county administration. Votes in the parliamentary election are counted first, then in the municipal council elections and finally in the county council elections. The county administration checks the ballot papers, divides them into different types of list within the political parties and counts the number of personal votes for each candidate.

Next, the seats are distributed among the parties. Then the number of seats gained by each party are allocated within each party, that is to say, the seats are allocated to candidates. Finally, deputies are nominated.

### **14. Checking of ballot papers**

#### **Invalid ballot papers**

A ballot paper is invalid if not marked with the name of a political party (blank ballot paper), or if marked with more than one party name, or is clearly spoilt intentionally. In the vast majority of cases, ballot papers are invalid because they are blank. It is extremely rare for ballot papers to be declared invalid for another reason.

#### **Ballot papers on which all names of candidates are rejected**

A ballot paper on which all names of candidates are rejected are valid, but counts only as a vote for the political party, in the same way as a ballot paper marked with a party name. It is not included in the later stage of counting, in which seats for the parties are allocated to candidates.

For example:

1. A name ballot paper without a box for a personal vote.
2. A voter has entered a mark indicating a personal vote, but it is not clear which candidate has been cast the personal vote, for example, if several candidates have been indicated.
3. The mark indicating the personal vote may have been made by a machine.
4. The order of choice between the names is not evident.

#### **Ballot papers on which certain names of candidates are rejected**

The ballot paper is valid, but one or more names of candidates on the ballot paper are rejected.

For example:

1. A candidate is not eligible (a check of residential registration is carried out on election day).
2. The name of a candidate is added to a ballot paper for a political party which had registered its name and candidates.
3. The name of a candidate has not been registered but is printed on a ballot paper for a political party which had registered its name and candidates.

#### **Crossed out names of candidates**

Even if the name of candidate has been crossed out on a ballot paper, the name is not considered to have been removed, meaning that crossings-out do not in any way affect the ranking of candidate names on a ballot paper.

### **15. Distribution of seats among political parties**

The Swedish electoral system includes barriers to exclude small political parties. To take part in the distribution of seats in parliamentary elections and elections to the European Parliament, a party must gain at least 4 per cent of all votes cast in the whole country. A party gaining fewer votes may, however, take part in the distribution of fixed constituency seats in the constituency where it has gained at least 12 per cent of all votes cast. In county council elections, a party must gain at least 3 per cent of all votes cast in the entire county in order to take part in the distribution of seats. No barriers exist in the electoral system for municipal council councils.

The fixed constituency seats are distributed on the basis of the total number of votes gained by the political parties in each constituency. Comparative numbers are calculated for the parties that will take part in the distribution of seats. The first comparative number is obtained by dividing the parties' respective total number of votes by 1.4. The party with the highest comparative number is awarded the first seat in the constituency. That party is then allocated a new comparative number, obtained by dividing the party's votes by 3. The other parties taking part in the process keep their comparative number until they are awarded a seat. When a party obtains its second seat, its votes are divided by 5 to calculate the next comparative number. For the third seat, its votes are divided by 7 etc. This method of calculation is referred to as the adjusted odd-number method.

#### **Parliamentary elections**

The Table below sets out the distribution of fixed seats in the County of Kronoberg at Sweden's 1994 parliamentary election.

<b>Party</b>	<b>Total vote</b>	<b>Seat 1</b>	<b>Seat 2</b>	<b>Seat 3</b>	<b>Seat 4</b>	<b>Seat 5</b>	<b>Seat 6</b>
Con.	24,906	17,790.00	<b>17,790.00</b>	8,302.00	8,302.00	8,302.00	<b>8,302.00</b>
Soc.	49,337	<b>35,240.71</b>	16,445.66	<b>16,445.66</b>	9,867.40	<b>9,867.40</b>	7,048.14
Lib.	6,246	4,461.42	4,461.42	4,461.42	4,461.42	4,461.42	4,461.42
Cen.	15,409	11,006.42	11,006.42	11,006.42	<b>11,006.42</b>	5,136.33	5,136.33
Com	6,689	4,777.85	4,777.85	4,777.85	4,777.85	4,777.85	4,777.85
Env.	5,533	3,952.14	3,952.14	3,952.14	3,952.14	3,952.14	3,952.14
Chr.	5,522	3,944.28	3,944.28	3,944.28	3,944.28	3,944.28	3,944.28

When the fixed seats have been distributed between the parties in each constituency, the fixed seats for the parties in all constituencies (a total of 310) are aggregated. A new distribution of seats is then conducted, based on the grand total of votes in the country for each party. This time, 349 seats are distributed, taking the whole of Sweden as a single constituency.

A comparison is then made between the outcome of the two distributions. A party which has obtained more seats in the second distribution, taking the whole of Sweden as a constituency, is entitled to equalizing seats. The party is allotted equalizing seats in the constituency where it has the largest comparative number following the distribution of the fixed seats. If a party has not obtained any fixed constituency seats in any constituency, it takes part in the distribution of equalizing seats on the basis of its total number of votes, instead of its adjusted comparative number.

#### **County council elections**

In county council elections, 9/10 of the seats are fixed seats and 1/10 equalizing seats. The seats are distributed using the same method as for parliamentary elections, that is, first the fixed seats in each constituency, then all seats based on the respective total votes for the parties taking the whole of the county as a single constituency. This decides

which parties are entitled to equalizing seats, which are allotted on the basis of the same rules as at parliamentary elections.

#### **Municipal council and European Parliament elections**

In municipal council elections, all seats are fixed, with the number of seats in each constituency being decided by the county administration at an earlier stage. For elections to the European Parliament, the whole of Sweden represents one constituency.

#### **16. Distribution of seats within political parties**

Once the distribution of seats among the political parties is complete, it is decided which candidate or candidates should be awarded each seat.

The first stage is to ascertain whether the seat may be awarded on the basis of personal votes.

The total of personal votes is the number of personal votes cast for a specific candidate in a constituency under one political party name. The number of list types has no bearing on the process. The requirement (threshold) for election on the basis of total personal votes is that the number of personal votes cast for the candidate must correspond to at least 8 per cent of the total votes cast for the party in the constituency in the parliamentary election and at least 5 per cent of the party's votes in county council and municipal council elections. In elections to the European Parliament, the total personal votes for a candidate is required to be 5 per cent of total votes for the party in the whole of Sweden.

In the event that more than one candidate clears the personal vote threshold, seats are awarded according to the number of personal votes for each. If a number of candidates gain the same number of votes, lots are drawn to decide which of them will be awarded the seat.

If it is not possible to allocate the seats on the basis of personal votes, the "whole number method" is used.

In the whole-number method, the names of candidates in each party are arranged in groups of ballot papers according to the names by which the different slips are headed. This allows candidates who have been awarded a seat on the basis of personal votes to be excluded. The number of ballot papers for the first name represent that candidate's comparative number; thus, the first comparative number is equal to the total number of votes. The candidate with the highest number of votes is allocated the party's first seat. That candidate's name is then excluded and the ballot papers are resorted into new groups according to what are now the first names on the ballot papers.

Comparative numbers are now calculated for the candidate or candidates at the top of the list, partly on the basis of the extent to which the group or groups were involved when the first candidate was awarded his or her seat.

The simplest manifestation of the whole-number method is when only one new group is created, i.e. one candidate is placed as number two choice on all the ballot papers involved in the selection of the first candidate. In that case, the comparative number is arrived at by dividing the total votes for the group of ballot papers by 2. If the second candidate is allocated the second seat, and all ballot papers state the same third candidate, the total votes are divided by 3 to obtain the next comparative number. On the same basis, the comparative numbers for further selection are 4, 5, 6 etc.

If a candidate obtains seat in more than one constituency, he or she will take up his or her seat in the constituency where he or she gained the highest proportion of personal votes (if the seat is awarded on the basis of personal votes), or where he or she recorded the highest comparative number (if the seat is awarded using the whole-number method). To allocate a seat not taken up by the candidate, the same procedure as for appointing a deputy is followed.

#### **17. Appointing deputies**

Parliamentary, county council elections and elections to the European Parliament

For every member or representative, a number of deputies equal to the number seats won by the party are appointed, although no less than three.

Deputies may also be elected on the basis of personal votes, provided that all members or deputies representing the party have been appointed on the basis of personal votes, and that additional candidates have cleared the threshold.

If it is not possible to appoint deputies on the basis of personal votes, they must be appointed according to standard rules. Generally speaking, this means appointing deputies from the list which shows the highest total votes and which were used at selection of the member/representative.

#### **County council elections**

County councils determine how many deputies are to be appointed for the elected members. The number is fixed as a specific proportion - no more than half - of the number of seats gained by each party in the municipality. In most cases, the council determines that the proportion of deputies should be half the number of members, so a party with four seats will normally be allocated two deputies. Nevertheless, in the case of parties with just one or two seats, two deputies are to be appointed.

#### **18. Appeals**

Certain electoral decisions may be contested by appeal to the Electoral Causes Committee:

- decisions on distribution of fixed constituency seats;
- decisions on constituency and electoral district boundaries;
- decisions in matters of registration or notification; and

- decisions in which the National Tax Board or the county administration has declared the result of an election.

Anyone wishing to appeal against the result of an election must do so within ten days.

Anyone who considers that an election authority has deviated from prescribed procedure in its work, or that someone has acted in an unauthorized way, may appeal against the outcome of the election. The appeal must be received, by the authority responsible for the decision, no later than 10 days after announcement of the election result. The Electoral Causes Committee may cancel an election and order a new election, either nationally or in a specific constituency, if the deviation may be presumed to have affected the election result. If rectification is possible by means of a new count or some other minor measure, the Electoral Causes Committee may, instead, instruct the decision-making authority to take the appropriate corrective action.

### **19. Election expenditure**

The State covers the expense, for example, of:

- election materials (e.g. voting slips, voting envelopes)
- public information
- the involvement of Sweden Post Co. in the election.

The municipality bears the expense, for example, of:

- electoral officers
- polling station facilities
- transport to and from polling stations, delivery of election materials.