Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES)
Module 5: Design Report (Sample Design and Data Collection Report)
September 14, 2016

Country: Republic of Ireland
Date of Election: February 2016

Prepared by: Michael Marsh
Date of Preparation: April 2019

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: Michael Marsh</th>
<th>Name:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Emeritus Professor of Political Science</td>
<td>Title:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization: Trinity College Dublin (TCD)</td>
<td>Organization:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address: Department of Political Science, Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland</td>
<td>Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: 35387 990 2534</td>
<td>Telephone:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fax:</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mmarsh@tcd.ie">mmarsh@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>E-Mail:</td>
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**Data Collection Organization:**

Organization that conducted the survey field work/data collection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>E-Mail</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RED C Research &amp; Marketing Ltd</td>
<td>7 The Seapoint Building, 44-45 Clontarf Road, Dublin</td>
<td>+353 1 818 6316</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@redcresearch.ie">info@redcresearch.ie</a></td>
<td><a href="http://redcresearch.ie/">http://redcresearch.ie/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding Organization(s):**

Organization(s) that funded the data collection:

<table>
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<th>Organization</th>
<th>Address</th>
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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:
Address:

Telephone:
Fax:
E-Mail:
Website:

Please indicate the date when the study is expected to be available at this archive:

Study Design

1. Timing of the study that the CSES Module was included in:
   [ X] Post-Election Study (with interviewing starting within 6 months after the election)
   [ ] Post-Election Study (with interviewing starting more than 6 months after the election)
   [ ] Pre-Election/Post-Election Panel Study
   [ ] Between Rounds

2a. Date Post-Election Interviewing Began: All interviews completed in the week after the election

2b. Date Post-Election Interviewing Ended:
3a. 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 - using a questionnaire on paper
[ ] In person, face-to-face - using an electronic/computerized questionnaire
[ X] Telephone
[ ] Mail or self-completion supplement
[ ] Internet

3b. Was there a mode change within interviews (e.g., selected self-completion elements within the questionnaire)?
[ X] No
[ ] Yes; please provide details:

4a. Was the survey part of a panel study?
[ X] 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:

The methodology used was to conduct a quota-controlled sample of 1,000 among a random representative sample of voters who had been called in a number of commercial polls across the twelve polls in the run up to the general election.

The pre-election polls were conducted as follows: A random digit dial (RDD) method was used to ensure a random selection process of households to be included – this also ensured that ex-directory households were covered. Half of the sample were interviewed using an RDD landline sample, with the other half of interviews conducted using an RDD mobile phone sample. This ensured 98 per cent coverage of the population, reaching landline-only households, mobile-only households and those with both a landline and a mobile.

Interviews were conducted across the country and the results weighted to the profile of all adults, including age, gender, region, social class and education level. Twelve pre-election polls were conducted, with approximately 65 per cent of respondents agreeing to be re-contacted. This provided the sample pool of 8,000 people polled in the run up to the election, from which to undertake the recall polls. A random contact approach was conducted among the 8,000 leads, again using both mobile and landline approaches. Quotas were set to provide an accurate representation of the population in the final recall poll. Where it was necessary to reach these quotas, new interviews were conducted using the initial RDD approach where leads were not sufficient to complete from those that had taken part in the pre-election polls.
4c. If the survey was entirely or partly conducted via the Internet, please indicate whether it was based on an access panel (i.e. respondents were selected from a group of pre-screened panelists):
   [ ] Yes
   [ ] No

4d. If the survey was based on an Internet access panel, please describe the access panel (company, population [does it include persons without initial access to the Internet and how are they interviewed], method of recruiting members, total size of access panel, method of selecting survey respondents from the panel):
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)
   [X] No, not translated

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

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:

**Eligibility Requirements**

9a. Must a person be a certain age to be interviewed?  
   [ X] Yes  
   [ ] No  

   If yes, what ages could be interviewed?  
   18

9b. Must a person be a citizen to be interviewed?  
   [ X] Yes  
   [ ] No

9c. Must a person be registered to vote to be interviewed?  
   [ ] Yes  
   [ X] 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
   [ X] 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?
   [ X] Yes
   [ ] No

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

   If yes, please explain: very small

10c. Were military personnel excluded from the sample?
   [ ] Yes
   [X ] 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: Unknown but very small with neither landline or mobile.

10e. If interviews were conducted by telephone, were unlisted telephone numbers included in the population sampled?
   [ X] Yes
   [ ] No

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

10f. If interviews were conducted via the Internet, what is the estimated percentage of households without access to the Internet? ______ %

10g. If interviews were conducted via the Internet, were provisions taken to include members of the population without access to the Internet? And if so, which?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] No

   If “Yes”, please explain:

   If “No”, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? ______ %

10h. Were other persons excluded from the sample frame?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] No

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

   If yes, please explain:

10i. Please estimate the total percentage of the eligible population excluded from the sample frame: 3%
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 and/or based on an Internet access panel, please also describe the original sample, from the beginning of the study.

See above

12a. What were the primary sampling units?

Country as a whole

12b. How were the primary sampling units selected?

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.

13. Were there further stages of selection?

[ ] Yes
[ X] No

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

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?

See above

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

[ X ] Yes
[ ] No

If yes, please explain: if each has a mobile, or one had a mobile and another answered a random land line call

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

[ ] Yes
[ X] No

If yes, please describe:
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
[ X] No

If yes, please describe (please include the list of characteristics used for stratification, and in the case of multi-stage selection processes the stage[s] at which stratification occurred):

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

[ X] Yes
[ ] No

If yes, please describe:
Quotas were set to provide an accurate representation of the population in the final recall poll.

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

[ ] Yes
[ X] 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):

20. Were non-sample replacement methods used?

[ ] Yes
[ X] No

Please describe:
21a. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a random digit dial (RDD) sample?
   [X] Yes
   [ ] No

21b. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a listed sample?
   [ ] Yes
   [X] No

21c. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a dual frame sample?
   [ ] Yes
   [X] 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:

23. For surveys conducted on the Internet, did respondents self-select into the survey, at any stage?
   [ ] Yes
   [ ] No

   Please explain:
Incentives

24a. Prior to the study, was a letter sent to the respondent?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] No

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

24b. Prior to the study, was a payment sent to the respondent?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] No

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

24c. Prior to the study, was a token gift sent to the respondent?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] 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
   [ X] No

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

24e. Were any other incentives used?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X ] No

   If yes, please describe:
Interviewers

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

No information available on this beyond saying these were professional phone interviewers normally employed by the company doing the survey in the course of its extensive practice.

26. Please provide a description of interviewer training. If possible please differentiate between general interviewer training and study-specific components:

26a. Please provide a description of the content, structure and time used for general training of interviewers:

26b. Please provided a description of the content, structure and time used for training interviewers in the specifics of the study within which CSES was run:
Contacts

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

One.

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

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?

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:
Refusal Conversion

29a. Were efforts made to persuade respondents who were reluctant to be interviewed?
   [ ] Yes
   [ ] No

   Please describe:

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:

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
   [ ] No

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

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
   [ X] 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.)

This information is not available. However, 65% of respondents to the original surveys agreed to a second contact.

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:  
   B. Number of valid households:  
   C. Number of invalid (non-sample) households:  
   D. Number of households of unknown validity:  
   E. Number of completed interviews:  
   F. Number of partial interviews:  
   G. Number of refusals and break-offs:  
   H. Number non-contact (never contacted):  
   I. Other non-response:  

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:

This does not seem relevant here. It was not a household survey, and refusals not recorded.
33. If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, how many waves were conducted prior to the wave that included the CSES Module?

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>First wave of study</th>
<th>Wave that included CSES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-25</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-40</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-64</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>First wave of study</th>
<th>Wave that included CSES</th>
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<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete primary</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary completed</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary completed</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Secondary Trade/Vocational</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>&amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td>University incomplete</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>University degree</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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Post-Survey Adjustment Weights

37. Are weights necessary to make the sample representative of the populated being studied?
   [X] Yes
   [ ] No

   If yes, please explain: It was a quota controlled sample with the quotas not always met. The weights are to adjust for that.

38. Are weights included in the data file?
   [ X] Yes
   [ ] No

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

40a. If weights are included in the data file, are the weights designed to compensate for disproportionate probability of selection?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] 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?
   [ X] Yes
   [ ] No

   If yes, please describe:
   As explained above

40c. If weights are included in the data file, are the weights designed to correct for non-response?
   [ ] Yes
   [ X] No

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

- [ ] Yes
- [X] No

If yes, please describe:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Population Estimates</th>
<th>Completed Interviews</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Unweighted Distribution</td>
<td>Weighted Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-39</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-64</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>*%</td>
<td>*%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete Primary</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>*%</td>
<td>*%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Completed</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete Secondary</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Completed</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Secondary Trade/Vocational</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Incomplete</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Degree</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
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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://www.cso.ie/