Ireland

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Particularities

- PR-STV electoral system
- Dominance of two centre-right parties with little sign of left-right competition; particular dominance of Fianna Fáil party
- Candidate centred politics
- Geographical patterns of candidate/party support and intensive election campaign on the ground
- 2011 post-crisis election
Time lines over 31 elections
Time lines over 31 elections

Elections

Eurobarometer

1923---------------------1973---------------------2011
Time lines over 31 elections

Elections 1923––––––––––––––––––––––––––2011

Eurobarometer 1977

Opinion polls 1923––––––––––––––––––––––––––1977
Time lines over 31 elections

- Elections
- Eurobarometer
- Opinion polls
- EES

Time lines over 31 elections

- Elections
- Eurobarometer
- Opinion polls
- EES
- Exit polls

1923—1997—2011
INES

• 2002-07: five wave panel; 2,600 in 2002 and 1,300 (incl top up) in 2007; face to face post-election in 2002 and 2007 with additional drop-off mail back/collectable module; CSES II,III integrated. Funding from Government/Research Council.

  Cost over €200,000 each time

• 2011: 1,800 face to face post-election with additional drop off mail back/collectable module; CSES IV integrated. Funding from a dozen sources incl universities, professional association (PSAI) and even Google. Cost €120,000
Novelties

- Heavy on the dependent variable, with a ‘mock-ballot’; many questions rating parties; many questions rating candidates
- Sample sufficient to give estimates at constituency level (40 or so constituencies)
- 2011 heavy on the economic crisis
- CSES element spread throughout questionnaire
Reports and data

• From 1987 onwards series of seven books each called *How Ireland voted*, each including analyses of opinion/exit polls
• Data from 2002-7 [www.tcd.ie/ines](http://www.tcd.ie/ines)
• Data for 2011 [mmmarsh@tcd.ie](mailto:mmmarsh@tcd.ie)
2016

OUTLOOK POOR

Research council less cash than in the past and has other concerns

Private pots emptied in 2011

HOPE down to CSES link