

**Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES)
Module 5: Design Report (Sample Design and Data Collection Report)**

September 14, 2016

Country: Switzerland
Date of Election: 20 October 2019

Prepared by: Lukas Lauener and Anke Tresch
Date of Preparation: 27 July 2020

NOTES TO COLLABORATORS:

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

Collaborator(s):

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

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Data Collection Organization:

Organization that conducted the survey field work/data collection:

Organization: FORS Address: FORS Quartier UNIL-Mouline Bâtiment Géopolis CH-1015 Lausanne Telephone: +41 21 692 37 30 Fax: +41 21 692 37 35 E-Mail: info@forscenter.ch Website: www.forscenter.ch
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Funding Organization(s):

Organization(s) that funded the data collection:

Organization: Swiss National Science Foundation SNSF Address: Wildhainweg 3 P.O. Box CH-3001 Bern Telephone: +41 31 308 22 22 Fax: +41 31 301 30 09 E-Mail: desk@snf.ch Website: www.snf.ch

Organization: Address: Telephone: Fax: E-Mail: Website:
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Organization:
Address:

Telephone:
Fax:
E-Mail:
Website:

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: FORS
Address:
FORS
Quartier UNIL-Mouline
Bâtiment Géopolis
CH-1015 Lausanne

Telephone: +41 21 692 37 30
Fax: +41 21 692 37 35
E-Mail: dataservice@fors.unil.ch
Website: www.forscenter.ch

Please indicate the date when the study is expected to be available at this archive:
The original data was published on 3 July 2020.

Study Design

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

21 October 2019

2b. Date Post-Election Interviewing Ended:

5 January 2020

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
- Telephone
- Mail or self-completion supplement
- Internet

3b. Was there a mode change *within* interviews (e.g., selected self-completion elements within the questionnaire)?

- No
- Yes; please provide details:

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

- Yes
- No

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

NA

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):

NA

Translation

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

5. Was the questionnaire translated?

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

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

German, French, Italian

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:

NA

Sample Design and Sampling Procedures

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

All Swiss citizens residing in Switzerland who were at least 18 years old on Election Day (20 October 2019) and thus eligible to vote.

Eligibility Requirements

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

Yes

No

If yes, what ages could be interviewed?

Minimum age of 18.

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

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Once Swiss citizens turn 18, they are automatically registered to vote.

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

NA

Sample Frame

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

Yes

No

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

If yes, please explain:

10b. Were institutionalized persons excluded from the sample?

Yes

No

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

If yes, please explain:

10c. Were military personnel excluded from the sample?

Yes

No

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

If yes, please explain:

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

Please explain:

NA

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

Yes

No

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

NA

10f. If interviews were conducted via the Internet, what is the estimated percentage of households without access to the Internet? 5 %

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

No

If "Yes", please explain:

All sampled people who did not have access to the Internet, who were unable to fill in the online questionnaire or who failed do so received a paper questionnaire.

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

No

If yes, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? 3.4 %

If yes, please explain: The coverage of the sampling frame that is provided and maintained by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office includes all individuals (not households) resident in Switzerland. The coverage of the sampling frame is thus almost 100% for Swiss citizens living in Switzerland. Only Swiss citizens living abroad are not included in the sampling frame (3.4% or 185'000 registered out of 5.5 Mio potential voters in total).

10i. Please estimate the total percentage of the eligible population excluded from the sample frame: 3.4 %

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.

The sample was drawn by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) from their sampling frame of Swiss citizens who were at least 18 years old and residing in Switzerland at the time of the elections. The sample frame is based on data from cantonal and communal population registers, which are updated on a quarterly basis.

12a. What were the primary sampling units?

Individuals

12b. How were the primary sampling units selected?

Poisson sampling, smaller electoral districts (cantons) as well as the cantons of Zurich, Ticino and Geneva were oversampled.

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.

The Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and – in the case of the Geneva oversample the Geneva State Chancellery – randomly selected individuals.

13. Were there further stages of selection?

Yes

No

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

NA

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

NA

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.

NA

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?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

The sampling process did not have to assure that only one person per household is selected, since there often more than one eligible Swiss voters per household.

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

Yes

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

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):

The sample size was adjusted to have a minimum of at least 80 respondents per canton in each of the 26 cantons (oversampling of small cantons) and to have a large sample of individuals in three cantons of different linguistic areas, namely the cantons of Zurich, Geneva, and Tessin.

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

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

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

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

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

Non-residential sample point

All members of household are ineligible

Housing unit is vacant

No answer at housing unit after _____ callbacks

Other (Please explain):

NA

20. Were non-sample replacement methods used?

Yes

No

Please describe:

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

Yes

No

NA

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

Yes

No

NA

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

Yes

No

If yes, what % list frame _____ and what % RDD _____

NA

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

Yes

No

Please describe:

Only sampled individuals who did not answer the online questionnaire received a paper questionnaire per mail.

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

No

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

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

Yes

No

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

All randomly selected individuals received a postal check of 10 CHF.

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

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

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

Yes

No

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

24e. Were any other incentives used?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

Interviewers

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

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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:

NA

Contacts

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

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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:

NA

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

NA

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

Individuals received up to three reminders to participate in the post-election survey.

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

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

Interview/Survey Verification

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

30. Was interview/survey verification used?

Yes

No

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

Only individuals with their individual logins could access the online questionnaires. For paper questionnaires, there was a code printed on the questionnaire in order to attribute the responses to the right person in the sample. Respondents whose year of birth and/or gender did not correspond to the information from the sample frame provided by the Federal Statistical Office were systematically excluded from the final data set.

If yes, please indicate the percent of completed surveys that were verified: 100%

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.

Note: The numbers represent totals of both modes of the post-election survey, online and paper answers. 82% of the questionnaires were filled in online, while 18% answered the questions by filling in and returning the paper questionnaire.

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.)

37.3% (6664 valid questionnaires out of 17'866 valid individuals in the sample = E/A)

This is the percentage of valid questionnaires that were filled out online or on paper and returned to us. The initial sample contained 17'866 individuals. Our sample comes from a sampling frame of *individuals* (not households), which have been selected by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) as they should be eligible (Swiss nationality, ≥ 18 years old). The only invalid cases are individuals who have deceased (21) or moved away and could thus not be contacted (194).

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 <i>individuals</i> in sample:	17'866
B. Number of valid <i>individuals</i> :	17'651
C. Number of invalid (non-sample) <i>individuals</i> :	21
D. Number of <i>individuals</i> of unknown validity:	194
E. Number of completed interviews:	6650
F. Number of partial interviews:	14
G. Number of refusals and break-offs:	943
H. Number non-contact (never contacted):	18
I. Other non-response:	9677

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:

N=349 respondents were removed from the dataset because their declared sex and/or age did not correspond to the sample information. These are thus cases where we have reasons to believe that someone else than the sampled individual completed all or part of the questionnaire (substitution).

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

These are implicit refusals, e.g. individuals who never reacted to any of the contact letters

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

NA

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.

NA

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:

NA

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.

NA

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

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

Post-Survey Adjustment Weights

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

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

The design weight needs to be used to correct for the oversampling of small cantons and the three larger cantons (ZH, GE and TI) where the sample size was increased to allow for analyses on the cantonal level.

38. Are weights included in the data file?

Yes

No

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

- A5_1. ORIGINAL WEIGHT: SAMPLE: This is the original Design Weight in the Swiss post-election survey data. Because of the fact that three cantons (ZH, GE and TI) were overrepresented in the sample as well as some small cantons in order to have enough respondents in each canton for subgroup analyses, sample-related biases occur in the original data. Applying the Design Weight corrects this cantonal oversampling. This weight was calculated as the quotient of the proportion of eligible voters in the population of each canton and the proportion of respondents in the sample that falls within the canton.

- A5_3. ORIGINAL WEIGHT: POLITICAL: This is the original Total Weight in the Swiss post-election survey data. It corrects biases that result from oversampling, turnout and party choice in the data. The weight is calculated by multiplying three weights, namely the Design, Turnout and Party Choice Weights. The Design Weight corresponds to A5_1. The original Turnout Weight corrects respondents' overreporting of participation in the federal elections (according to the official election turnout), whereas the original Party Choice Weight corrects party choice biases in the survey (according to the official election results).

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

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

See 37.

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

- Yes
 No

If yes, please describe:

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

- Yes
 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
 No

If yes, please describe:

Correction of overrepresentation of voters' participation and bias in party choice.

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

Note: In the last column, the data was weighted using the Sample / Design Weight (A5_1) since there is not demographic weight in the data.

Characteristic	Population Estimates	Completed Interviews	
		Unweighted Distribution	Weighted Distribution
<u>Age</u>			
18-25	11.1%	9.2%	8.9%
26-40	21.5%	20.6%	20.5%
41-64	40.7%	43.7%	43.2%
65 and over	26.7%	26.5%	27.4%
<u>Education</u>			
None	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%
Incomplete Primary	na	na	na
Primary Completed	1.1%	2.0%	2.1%
Incomplete Secondary	na	na	na
Secondary Completed	7.6%	6.0%	5.3%
Post-Secondary Trade/ Vocational	64.3%	56.5%	60.5%

University Incomplete	na	na	na
University Degree	26.9%	35.1%	31.7%
<u>Gender</u>			
Male	47.8%	48.0%	49.8%
Female	52.2%	52.0%	50.2%

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.

https://www.pxweb.bfs.admin.ch/pxweb/en/px-x-0102010000_101/px-x-0102010000_101/px-x-0102010000_101.px

The numbers indicated in the table are from the Federal Statistical Office (see link above) and the Swiss Labour Force Survey (<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/work-income/surveys/slfs.html>). In order to have the relevant information for individuals of 18 years and older with the Swiss nationality, the microdata was consulted and recalculated for the above-mentioned categories. The information in the table above can thus not be directly found on the websites.