

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

June 28, 2021/October 17, 2021

Country: Slovak Republic  
Date of Election: February 29, 2020  
  
Prepared by: Olga GYARFASOVA  
Date of Preparation: May/June 2021

**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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Name: Miloslav BAHNA Title: Mgr. Ing. Dr. Organization: Sociological Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences (SU SAV) Address: Klemensova 19 813 64 Bratislava; Phone: (+421) (2) 52 964 355 Fax: (+421) (2) 52 962 315 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:miloslav.bahna@savba.sk">miloslav.bahna@savba.sk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sociologia.sav.sk/en/">http://www.sociologia.sav.sk/en/</a>	Name: Title: Organization:  Address:   Telephone: Fax: E-Mail: Website:

**Data Collection Organization:**

Organization that conducted the survey field work/data collection:

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Prievozská 4D, 814 94 Bratislava  
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<https://www.kantarmedia.com/sk>

**Funding Organization(s):**

Organization(s) that funded the data collection:

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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:

Slovak Archive of Social Data  
Institute for Sociology of SAS  
Klemensova 19  
813 64 Bratislava  
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Contact:  
PhDr. Elena Kajabová  
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Please indicate the date when the study is expected to be available at this archive:

Fall 2021

## Study Design

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

- Post-Election Study
- Pre-Election/Post-Election Panel Study
- Between Rounds

Due to the budget constraints, CSES survey was fielded together with ISSP Module Social Inequality.

The pandemic affected the fieldwork very much. We were prepared for having the fieldwork immediately after the election day (February 29, 2020), the agency (Median SK, [www.median.sk](http://www.median.sk)) was selected via a very strictly organized public procurement by the Sociological Inst. of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (project partner). However, when the lockdown started (early March) the agency realized that under these conditions they are no table to meet the condition of random sampling. After longer consultations and attempts to find the solution we gave up. As the restrictions were lifted in May / June in Slovakia we were able to repeat our public procurement and had found another research agency (Kantar Slovakia) for the fieldwork.

Still, the fieldwork was not easy, because the pandemic/lockdown has left the research agency without some of its interviewers. So it happened that they were unable to cover approximately 20 % of the PSUs selected in our stratified random sample approach. Thus they were not able to reach the promised sample size of 1000. To compensate for this, we agreed they will do another wave of PSU selection to collect the missing approx 33% of the sample.

To sum it up, currently we have the data file with 1003 cases consisting of

- a) 668 respondents from the first fieldwork where 20 % of PSUs were not visited
- b) 335 respondents from the second fieldwork.

*In further correspondence with the CSES Secretariat, the following information was provided:*

For the second round of fieldwork, sampling was again based on the whole country. Specifically, the first round of sampling resulted in 143 selected primary sampling units, while 130 primary sampling units were selected in the second round. For further details, see Question 11, p.7 of this document.

2a. Date Post-Election Interviewing Began:

9.6.2020

2b. Date Post-Election Interviewing Ended:

31.8. 2020

3. 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, via **CAPI (tablet)**

- Telephone
- Mail or self-completion supplement
- Internet

The fieldwork was running only after the restriction were lifted by the pandemic authorities – June – August. Mode of interviewing CAPI – with tablets in the households. Agency did GPS tracking of the interviewer. Interviewers had to wear face-masks.

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

- Yes
- No

CSES survey was fielded together with ISSP Module Social Inequality.

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:

### **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:

Slovak

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, **by the agency, a small pilot**
- 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:

Population of the Slovak republic, of age 18+ (eligible age for voting).

### **Eligibility Requirements**

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

- Yes  
 No

If yes, what ages could be interviewed?

18 – without upper limit

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

- Yes  
 No, has to have permanent residence

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

- Yes  
 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  
 No

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?   2-3   %

If yes, please explain:

Institutionalized persons (senior care houses), in-prisoned and homeless

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:

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?            %

10f. 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?            %

If yes, please explain:

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

## 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, please also describe the original sample, from the beginning of the study.

The design of the representative was conducted by the mean of random sampling from the register of all communities (villages and towns) in Slovakia based on the proportions of the population of the age 18+ and size of the community.

The sample was designed by two samplings of 143, ev. 130 territory sampling units in which the households were selected by random walk (according to the strict rules). In each sampling unit 1-10 interviews were carried out. The respondent in the household (must be 18+) has been selected according to the closest birthday.

Each interviewer had to visit each household where no contact was established at least four times before it was taken out of the selection. Substitution was not possible.

Size of the target population: 4 437 897

Sample: 1003

Refused interviews for the first sampling: 1569 (59,14%)

Refused interviews for the second sampling: 468 (47,22% )

12a. What were the primary sampling units?

Territorial units and communities

12b. How were the primary sampling units selected?

Randomly according to the register (see Q11 above)

12c. Were the primary sampling units randomly selected?

Yes, in two rounds of sampling

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

No

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

See above

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

See above

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?

The closest birthday

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

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

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):  
See Q11.

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 \_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_ callbacks

Other (Please explain):

20. Were non-sample replacement methods used?

Yes

No

Please describe:

Each interviewer received more addresses - 15+15 for conducting 7 interviews.

21a. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a random digit dial (RDD) sample?  
 Yes  
 No

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

21c. For surveys conducted by telephone, was the sample a dual frame sample?  
 Yes  
 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 any respondents self-select into the survey?  
 Yes  
 No

Please explain:

### **Incentives**

24a. Prior to the study, was a letter sent to the respondent?  
 Yes – telephone call or leaflet in the mail box with information  
 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):

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):

Experienced, trained network of contracted interviews, Kantar is member of ESOMAR and the Slovak Association of the Polling Agencies (<https://sava.sk/en/clenstvo/zoznam-clenov/>) Both set standards for the work with the interviewers. In the CSES survey 88 interviewers were used. Gender structure: 93,7 % were female, average age 54,2.  
No specific details about the training of the network were provided by the agency.

26. Please provide a description of interviewer training:

### **Contacts**

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

1,9

1904 contacted household, 1629 out of them with real contact

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

1,6

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

Max 4

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

No

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

- Back calls
- GPS of conducted interviews
- Logical control of responses
- Length of interview

If yes, please indicate the percent of completed surveys that were verified: 30,7 %

### 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.)

Total number of PSUs (primary sampling units - initial points of the random walk) used - first sampling		1	2	0
Total number of PSUs (initial points of the random walk) used – second sampling			5	4
Number of invalid addresses– first sampling		2	8	4

Number of invalid addresses – second sampling 

	1	0	3
--	---	---	---

Number of address where no contact was established (even after 4th visit) – first sampling 

		9	7
--	--	---	---

Number of households where no contact was established (even after 4th visit) – second sampling 

		7	8
--	--	---	---

Refusals at the selected address – first sampling 

1	5	6	9
---	---	---	---

Refusal at the selected address – second sampling 

	4	6	8
--	---	---	---

Completed interviews 

1	0	0	3
---	---	---	---

Number of partial interviews: 0

Information from the agency:

Between 1 and 10 interviews were conducted in each selection unit. The respondent was a member of the household who was over 18 years of age and will have a birthday in the nearest future.

The goal of each interviewer was to conduct 7 interviews in each selection unit. Each interviewer had to visit each address at least 4 times before s/he could label it an "unreachable".

*In further correspondence with the CSES Secretariat, the following information was provided:*

Collaborators suggest the following response rate calculation based on the table provided above: If all approached addresses were regarded for response rate calculation, irrespective of whether addresses were invalid, contact was not established, the interview was refused by a contacted person, or the interview was completed, the following average response rate for both rounds of sampling can be obtained:

$(\text{Invalid addresses } (284 + 103) + \text{non-contacts } (97 + 78) + \text{refusals } (1569 + 468) + \text{complete interviews } (1003)) / \text{completed interviews } (1003) = 27.8\%$ .

Further, collaborators note that the likely reason why only 54 out of 130 primary sampling units selected for the second round of sampling were approached is that the survey agency stopped fieldwork once the overall target of 1,000 completed interviews was met.

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.

### **Post-Survey Adjustment Weights**

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

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please explain:

Weighted according to the parameters of the target population (variables are: gender, age, education, size of the resident's community, region)

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:

weights were programmed with the statistical software SPSS v23.0

*In further correspondence with the CSES Secretariat, the following information was provided:*

The text below lists the entire procedure/syntax employed for creating the combined demographic and sample weight as described by the vendor:

1. Calculation of design weight from the variables in data.
2. calculation of "post-stratification weight" (PS weight) while the design weight was on, following variables were included (gender – 2 categories), age (5 categories); region (8 categories); education (5 categories); size of the community where the respondent resides (5 categories).
3. conjunction of design weight and PS weight.

4. setting of minimum and maximum of weight to 0,3, resp. 3 (this was the “trimmed weight”).
5. Final weight -  $\text{weight\_FINAL} = \text{final\_trimmed} * 1 / 0,988043$ . Coefficient 0,988043 is average value of “final\_trimmed”.

For the calculation the method of “iterative proportional raking” was used, it is an additional module of SPSS marked as „Rake Weights”. Method used is SPSS.

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:

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:

Characteristics mentioned above known from the 2011 census, and 2015 micro census

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:

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

**Target population as for 31.12. 2019 (for categories age, gender, size of the community, regions) and 31.12.2015 for education**

**Sample size:** [1003]

Weights according population structure – sex and age – are for 2019

[http://datacube.statistics.sk/#!/view/en/VBD\\_SLOVSTAT/om2024rs/v\\_om2024rs\\_00\\_00\\_00\\_en](http://datacube.statistics.sk/#!/view/en/VBD_SLOVSTAT/om2024rs/v_om2024rs_00_00_00_en)

age structure for the regions are here:

[http://datacube.statistics.sk/#!/view/en/VBD\\_DEM/om7007rr/v\\_om7007rr\\_00\\_00\\_00\\_en](http://datacube.statistics.sk/#!/view/en/VBD_DEM/om7007rr/v_om7007rr_00_00_00_en)

Characteristics	Population	Unweighted distribution	Weighted distribution	Difference in % points (unweighted distribution vs population)	CHI2 Test Significance level (HV) 5%
<b>GENDER</b>					57,925 significant at 5%
Male	48,3	36,3	48,3	-12,0	
Female	51,7	63,7	51,7	12,0	
<b>AGE</b>					46,672 significant at HV 5%
18 – 29	17,3	13,2	17,3	-4,1	
30 – 39	19,1	16,6	19,1	-2,5	
40 – 49	19,2	15,4	19,2	-3,8	
50 – 59	15,9	18,9	15,9	3,0	
60+	28,5	36,0	28,5	7,5	
<b>EDUCATION</b>					29,427 significant at HV 5%
Without, unfinished elementary	0,3	0,3	0,3	0	
Elementary	11,1	7,8	11,1	-3,3	
Vocational (without matura)	25,9	23,2	25,9	-2,7	
High school (with matura)	44,9	45,5	44,9	0,6	

University	17,8	23,2	17,8	5,4	
<b>Size of the community</b>					
Up to 1000 inhabitants	15,6	8,3	15,6	-7,3	78,691 significant at HV 5%
1 001 - 5 000	28,6	27,7	28,6	-0,9	
5 001 – 20 000	16,3	19,0	16,3	2,7	
20 001 – 100 000	26,9	25,5	26,9	-1,4	
100 001 and more	12,5	19,4	12,5	6,9	
<b>REGION</b>					
Bratislavský	12,1	17,4	12,1	-5,3	114,445 significant at HV 5%
Trnavský	10,5	11,4	10,5	-0,9	
Trenčiansky	11,0	7,4	11,0	-3,6	
Nitriansky	12,7	8,4	12,7	-4,3	
Žilinský	12,7	10,6	12,7	-2,1	
Banskobystrický	12,0	9,2	12,0	-2,8	
Prešovský	14,6	12,8	14,6	-1,8	
Košický	14,4	22,9	14,4	8,5	

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.

**Regional Statistical Yearbook of Slovakia 2015**

Last update: 01.04.2016 |

Available at:

<https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal/ext/home!/ut/p/b1/>

Regional statistical yearbook of Slovakia 2020

Last update: 05.02.2021

Available at:

<https://slovak.statistics.sk/wps/portal!/ut/p/z1/>