FSD1260 EDUSKUNTAVAALITUTKIMUS 2003 FSD1260 FINNISH NATIONAL FLECTION STUDY 2003

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Updated weight variables for the Finnish National Election Study datasets

The new weights were calculated using the same variables for each of the 2003-2019 Finnish National Election Study datasets. The variables that were used included the respondent's age and gender (combined), constituency, party choice and whether R voted (combined), mother tongue, and level of education.

Further information on how the data were collected and operationalised for each variable is detailed below. The aim was to collect data on target population level (people residing in Finland, excluding the Åland Islands, and entitled to vote in the Finnish parliamentary elections), but this could not be achieved for all variables. In these cases, the closest possible match to the target population was strived for.

The new weight variables were formed using the anesrake package.

Age – gender

Data on the target population distributions of age and gender were retrieved from the Statistics Finland free-of-charge statistical database

(https://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/fi/StatFin/StatFin_vrm_vaerak/statfin_vaerak_pxt_11rg.px/table/tableViewLayout1/). The target population was determined as people residing in Finland, excluding the Åland Islands, at the end of the year preceding the parliamentary elections (e.g. for the 2003 Finnish National Election Study, the target population was Finland's population on 31.12.2002). Because the data do not include a separate category for people aged 18-19, it was estimated that this age group accounted for 40% of the 15-19 age group. The age groups from the Statistics Finland data were combined so that one category covers 10 years.

The final age groups are 18–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–64, 65–75, 75–.

Constituency

The data on target population distribution in terms of constituency were retrieved from the Ministry of Justice election information service (no data were collected for the Åland Islands constituency). Below are links to the source material for each year:

2003 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E2003/e/aanioikeutetut/kokomaa.htm

2007 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E2007/e/aanaktiivisuus/aanestys1.htm

2011 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E2011/e/aanaktiivisuus/aanestys1.htm

2015 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E-2015/en/aoik_kokomaa.html

2019 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/EKV-2019/en/aoik_kokomaa.html

Party choice – whether R voted

The data on voters' party choice were retrieved from the Ministry of Justice election information service. The final number of votes for each party was divided by the total number of confirmed votes to form a percentage result (rounded to the nearest hundredth percent). Then, the percentages

were multiplied by the voting activity of people residing in Finland who were entitled to vote (data retrieved from the election information service's voter turnout tab for each election).

Invalid ballots were not included in the calculations, because invalid ballots were not reported in 2003 and some of the datasets do not include any respondents who had returned an invalid ballot.

In the 2003 dataset, the share of votes received by True Finns was fairly small, so it was combined with the category 'Other'.

Below are links to the source material for each year:

2003 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E2003/e/tulos/tulos kokomaa.html

2007 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E2007/e/tulos/tulos kokomaa.html

2011 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E2011/e/tulos/tulos kokomaa.html

2015 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/E-2015/en/tulos_kokomaa.html

2019 https://tulospalvelu.vaalit.fi/EKV-2019/en/tulos kokomaa.html

Mother tongue

Exact information on the target population distribution of mother tongue was not available for any of the election years. The earliest information available on the mother tongue distribution of Finnish citizens is from the end of 2004. Information on the mother tongue distribution (Finnish, Swedish, and other) of people entitled to vote is available from the 2015 parliamentary elections onwards.

In the 2011 dataset, only eight people responded that they spoke some other language than Finnish or Swedish as their mother tongue.

Below are links to the source material for each year:

2003 (31.12.2004) https://www.tilastokeskus.fi/til/vaerak/2004/vaerak 2004 2005-03-18 tie 001.html (in Finnish)

2007 (31.12.2006)

https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/19178/jamk_1199789501_4.pdf?sequence=2&isAl_lowed=y (in Finnish)

2011 (31.12.2010) https://www.stat.fi/til/vaerak/2010/vaerak 2010 2011-03-18 fi.pdf (in Finnish)

2015 (people entitled to vote in 2015, note that Finnish and Sami speakers were combined into one category) https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2015/evaa 2015 2015-04-30 kat 001 en.html

2019 (people entitled to vote in 2019, note that Finnish and Sami speakers were combined into one category) https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2019/02/evaa 2019 02 2019-04-29 kat 001 en.html

Level of education

Information on the level of education of people entitled to vote was retrieved from the background analysis done by Statistics Finland on election candidates and elected MPs. Statistics Finland uses a five-level scale for education: basic level, secondary level, lowest level of tertiary level, lower university degree, and higher university degree.

In the Finnish National Election Studies, it is not possible to differentiate respondents who have completed a lower university degree from those who have completed a higher university degree. As such, these levels were combined when forming the weights.

2003 https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2003/evaa 2003 2004-05-31 kat 002 en.html

2007 https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2007/evaa 2007 2007-03-22 kat 001 en.html

2011 https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2011/evaa_2011_2011-04-29_kat_001_en.html

2015 https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2015/evaa 2015 2015-04-30 kat 001 en.html

2019 https://www.stat.fi/til/evaa/2019/02/evaa 2019 02 2019-04-29 kat 001 en.html