

The European Election Studies

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

The EES is driven by a network of social scientists. Prior to 1999 the EES was embedded in the Eurobarometer study, while in later years it has become an independent study. An international research group was responsible for the election studies between 1979 and 2004, whereas after 2004 the national study directors have funded and conducted the study in 24 out of 25 EU countries.

CONNEX, a network of excellence funded by the European Commission, funded parts of the EES 2004. Funding has been difficult and varied each time, since there is no stable financing source. The EES has been funded by as different sources as national research foundations, the principal investigators' home institutions, Volkswagen (1979), and the Consortium of European News Media (1989). In 2004, the funding model was more stable as the funding went national and the European Commission funded the coordination and communication.

All rounds except the 2009 round were organized by the University of Mannheim. The 2009 round was part of the [PIREDEU](#) infrastructure for electoral research and as such co-ordinated by the European University Institute in Florence.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

The project was established in 1979 in connection with the first direct election to the European Parliament by an international group of electoral researchers. Between 1979 and 2004 six studies were prepared, five were realised. A new era began in 2004 with central planning but decentralised execution, as mentioned.

Internet links to the website of the responsible organization

<http://www.ees-homepage.net/>

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

The EES is conducted every five years, as a postelection survey after the European Parliament elections. The 1979 Voter Study, 1989 Voter Study, and 1994 Voter study also include a pre-electoral component. The three rounds 1979, 1989, and 1994 were conducted as part of the

Eurobarometer studies, whereas the 1999 Voter study was the first to be conducted separately. For details on each round, please refer to the links below.

[Round 1: 1979](#)

[Round 2: 1984](#)

[Round 3: 1989](#)

[Round 4: 1994](#)

[Round 5: 1999](#)

[Round 6: 2004](#)

[Round 7: 2009](#)

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey

The survey's main content is focused on electoral participation and voting behaviour in European Parliament elections, but also the evolution of an EU political community and a European public sphere; citizens' perceptions of and preferences about the EU political regime, and their evaluations of EU political performance. The EES supplements the surveys with elite surveys, party manifesto analysis and media analysis.

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used

The 1979, 1989 and 1994 Voter studies are part of the regular Eurobarometer Surveys. Please refer to the report on the Eurobarometer for details on the sampling procedures and data collection methods used in these rounds. In 1999, representative samples of all the 15 member states were obtained, with sample sizes roughly proportional to the populations (the minimum sample size was 300). In 2004 the sample sizes ranged from 500 in the Czech Republic to 2,100 in Sweden (Kittilson 2007: 883).

In 1999 and 2004, telephone interviews were conducted (Kittilson 2007: 883).

An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

All data from all rounds are available in SPSS and STATA format at [Trinity College Dublin, Department of Political Science](#). No registration or application is needed.

Questionnaires, English version

The questionnaires for the 1979 round: [Eurobarometer 11](#) and [Eurobarometer 12](#)

There was no proper European Election Study in 1984, but some questions were added to the regular [Eurobarometer 21](#) and [Eurobarometer 22](#). Please refer to these.

The questionnaires for the 1989 round:

[First wave questionnaire](#) (pre-election: October-November 1988)

[Second wave questionnaire](#) (pre-election: March-April 1989)

[Third wave questionnaire](#) (post-election: June 1989)

The questionnaires for the 1994 round:

[Questionnaire, first pre-election Eurobarometer](#) (EB40)

[Questionnaire, second pre-election Eurobarometer](#) (EB41)

[Questionnaire, post-election Main Study](#)

[Questionnaire, post-election Eurobarometer](#) (EB42)

The questionnaire for the 1999 round is [available here](#).

The Master Questionnaire for the 2004 round is [available here](#).

The questionnaire for the 2009 round is [available here](#).

The countries included in the different rounds

The EU member states.

Cumulative file of the various rounds

Trend files and combined, cumulative files are also available at [Trinity College Dublin, Department of Political Science](#).

Publications based on the data

[The EES Bibliography](#)

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the EES.

Kittilson, Maki Caul (2007): "Research Resources in Comparative Political Behaviour", ch. 47 in Russel J. Dalton & Hans-Dieter Klingemann (ed.): *The Oxford Handbook of Political Behaviour*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.