

Estonian national candidate data 1992-2015

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The data set “Estonian national candidate data 1992-2015” provides information on the candidates for Estonian parliament between 1992 and 2015. The data set covers seven national elections and includes such information as the candidate name, gender, age, education, party membership and also information on the election results, such as votes for candidates, parties and total votes cast in districts. A full list of variables is provided below.

The raw data comes from the Estonian National Electoral Committee (www.vvk.ee) and I would like to acknowledge their help in compiling these data. This data file provides the information on candidates and election results in a single document. In addition, many variables, such as incumbency, gender, vote shares, etc. have been added to the original data made public by the electoral committee. The data set is a single .csv document with the approximate size of about 1.28 MB.

Much of the data for 1992-2011 elections were collected during my PhD research at Trinity College, Dublin, and used for Allik (2015) “Who stands in the way of women? Open vs. closed lists and candidate gender in Estonia” *East European Politics* Vol 31(4). DOI:10.1080/21599165.2015.1084924

The 2015 data was collected for a short research project funded by the Estonian Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner. The output from this has been made publicly available in Estonian: ”Naiskandidaadid ja valimisnimekirjad, Riigikogu valimised 2015” and ”Naiskandidaadid, hääled ja mandaadid: Riigikogu valimised 2015”.

Description of variables for “Estonian national candidate data 1992-2015”

Name	Definition
year	election year
regnumber	candidate registration number at a given election
partynumber	numeric code for party
partyname	name of party
incumbent	binary variable, 1 for incumbents (includes MPs, MEPs and ministers). For 1992, the members of the Supreme Council of Estonia (elected in 1990) are considered as incumbents.
forename	name of the candidate
surname	name of the candidate
highereducation	binary variable, 1 for candidates with higher education
female	binary variable, 1 for female candidates
age	age of candidate at the time of election
mp	binary variable, 1 for members of Riigikogu at the time of election (not coded for 1992)
minister	binary variable, 1 for candidates who are cabinet ministers at the time of election (not coded for 1992)
mep	binary variable, 1 for members of the European Parliament at the time of election (coded since 2007)
mandatetype	categorical variable for the type of mandate 0 for not elected, 1 for personal, 2 for district and 3 for compensatory mandate
elected	binary variable, for candidates who were elected
district	district number at a given election
Npartydistcand	number of candidates filed by a party in a given district (not calculated for 2015)
districtrank	the rank order of candidates in a district list
finalrank	the rank order of candidates in a district after votes were tallied
nationalrank	the rank order of candidates in a national list
partydistM	the number of mandates (seats) won by a party in a given district
districtM	the number of mandates in a district
votes	number of votes for a candidate
partyvotes	number of votes for a party in a district
distvotes	number of votes cast in a district
voteshare	a share of candidates votes from all district votes
logitvotes	logit transformation of voteshare (used as the DV)
parlparty	binary variable, 1 for parties that gained represented in the parliament
open	elected through open (district) lists
closed	elected through closed (national) lists
partyvoteshare	the share of party’s votes from all district votes
quota	the size of the district quota at a given election
votequotapcnt	votes as a percent from quota
votegroup	categorical variable indicating candidates’ success, 0 if votequotapcnt < 10%, 1 if votequotapcnt ≥ 10% but < 100%, 2 if votequotapcnt ≥ 100% (not calculated for 2015)
agesquare	square of candidates’ age at the time of election
independent	binary variable, 1 for independents
party_dist	an identifier for a party in a district, used as a level identifier in multilevel models
partymandate	total number of mandates (seats) won by a party
mandatepos	number of mandate positions for a party at a given election (not calculated for 1992 and 2015)
challengepos	number of challenge positions for a party at a given election (not calculated for 1992 and 2015)
ornamentalpos	number of ornamental positions for a party at a given election (not calculated for 1992 and 2015)
positiontype	categorical variable, 1 for mandate, 2 for challenge and 3 for ornamental positions (not calculated for 1992 and 2015)