The Representative Democracy Data Archive (REPDEM) - Election dataset

This comparative dataset serves as a companion dataset to the Representative Democracy Data Archive (REPDEM) Basic dataset. It covers lower-house national elections in 34 countries from 1945 (or from the onset of democratic rule) through 1 July 2026.

The dataset is organized into two components. The main Election Dataset contains data on votes and seats won by parties and electoral alliances. A supplementary Alliances Dataset provides additional information on electoral alliances and aggregates vote and seat data from the Election Dataset to the alliance level.

The data are primarily compiled from official election sources, ParlGov (Döring & Manow 2024; Döring 2025) and Wikipedia.

How to cite

When using these data, please cite the following:

Hellström, Johan, Jonas Lindahl, and Elsa Karlsson Gustafsson (2026). *The Representative Democracy Data Archive (REPDEM): Election dataset, Version 2026.09.* REPDEM is part of and funded by DEMSCORE, a national research infrastructure (Grant 2021-00162 from the Swedish Research Council). Available on https://repdem.org.

Structure of the codebook

The following sections provide detailed information on

- the name of the variable as it is defined in the dataset,
- the label describing the variable,
- the attached value label,
- relevant additional information on specific coding decisions (where applicable).

For several variables, the information is given using party abbreviations and/or party IDs. Please refer to the corresponding Party Codebook for further information. For additional information on coding and definitions of most variables, please see *Notes on Coding Principles*.

References

Döring, Holger, and Philip Manow. 2024. "ParlGov 2024 Release." Harvard Dataverse. — DOI: 10.7910/dvn/2vz5zc

Döring, Holger. 2025. "Advancing Data Infrastructures on Democratic Representation: An Open-Source Version of ParlGov." SOCIUM SFB 1342 Working Papers. — DOI: 10.26092/elib/4362

Variables - Election dataset

Variable	Label	Value Label/Format	Additional Information
country_id	Country		
country_id_iso	Numeric ISO country code		ISO 3166-1 standard
country_name	Country name (English)		Country name in English
country_elec_id	Election ID	First two digits: country ID Second two digits: election number	A sequential number recording the sequence of elections in a country, beginning with the election preceding the first cabinet in the data. E.g., the first election in country 1 has the election ID 101.
parlgov_elec_id	Parlgov Election ID		Corresponding election ID in ParlGov.
elecdate	Election date	YYYY-MM-DD (e.g. 2014-07-13)	Date of parliamentary election: (a) Two-round elections: date of the second round (b) Elections held over several days: date of last day
earlyelec	Early election	0: no 1: yes	
party_id	Party ID	First two digits: country ID Four last digits: party number	
party_abbr	Party abbreviation		
partyfacts_id	PartyFacts ID		The corresponding ID for the party in PartyFacts.
election_seats	Seats		Seats won by the party/alliance.
votes	Votes received by party/alliance		Left empty if a party wins seats but only contests the election as part of an electoral alliance.
valid_votes	Total valid votes cast		
vote_share	Vote share (%) of party/alliance		
alliance_id	Alliance ID	First four digits: country election ID Last two digits: alliance number	See the Election dataset/alliances for information on the corresponding alliances.

alliance_id2	Alliance ID, 2	First four digits: country election ID Last two digits: alliance number	Only coded when a party participates in multiple non-overlapping alliances, primarily in Japan.
alliance_id3	Alliance ID, 3	First four digits: country election ID Last two digits: alliance number	Only coded when a party participates in multiple non-overlapping alliances, primarily in Japan.
alliance_id4	Alliance ID, 4	First four digits: country election ID Last two digits: alliance number	Only coded if a party enters into separate alliances with no overlap, predominantly in Japan
parlgov_alliance_id	Parlgov Alliance ID		The corresponding ID for the alliance in the Parlgov election dataset.
total_elec_seats	Total seats in election		
source	Source(s)		URLs and other references to source material. "ParlGov" refers to the election identified by the corresponding parlgov_elec_id..

Variables – Alliances dataset

Variable	Label	Value Label/Format	Additional Information
country_id	Country		
country_id_iso	Country numeric ISO code		ISO 3166-1 standard
country_name	Country name		Country name in English
country_elec_id	Election ID	First two digits: country ID Second two digits: election number	A sequential number recording the sequence of elections in a country, beginning with the election preceding the first cabinet in the data. E.g., the first election in country 1 has the election ID 101.
elecdate	Election date	YYYY-MM-DD (e.g. 2014-07-13)	Date of most recent parliamentary election: (a) Two-round elections: date of the second round (b) Elections held over several days: date of last day
alliance_id	Alliance ID	First four digits: country ID Two last digits: alliance number	
alliance_votes	Votes received by alliance		
alliance_vote_share	Alliance vote share		The share of votes the alliance won of the total number of valid votes. In bicameral systems, refers to the lower house only.
alliance_seats	Seats won by the alliance		
alliance_seat_share	Share of seats won by the alliance		The share of seats by the alliance. In bicameral systems, refers to the lower house only.
alliance_name	Alliance name		The name of the alliance in its native language(s), if applicable. If there is no formally recognized name, this is left blank.
alliance_name_en	Alliance name in English		The alliance's name in English, if applicable. If there is no formally recognized name, this is left blank.
alliance_abbr	Alliance abbreviation		The alliance's abbreviation, defaulting to whichever abbreviation is most used domestically. If there is no distinct abbreviation, the abbreviations of the constituent parties are listed instead.
parlgov_alliance_id	Parlgov alliance ID		Party or alliance ID corresponding to the same alliance in ParlGov (Döring and Manow 2024; Döring 2025), if applicable.

wikipedia_url	Wikipedia URL(s)		URL(s) to the alliance, or to its constituent parties when no dedicated alliance page exists, defaulting to English language Wikipedia sites if available. In some cases, URLs for a specific election are provided, as they contain the requisite information on the alliance.
notes	Additional notes		Additional notes and clarifications, e.g., if an alliance is only active in some electoral districts or has a heterogeneous composition between electoral districts.