



Icelandic Election Study – ICENES
1983
Questionnaire

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NOTE

In the dataset for the Icelandic Election study in 1983, the number values for some of the reply categories have been recoded.

The accurate codes for the reply categories in the dataset are listed in the codebook for the election study 1983.

Information about respondent

Number of respondent, string variable:

Ranging from 1001 to 3033

Year of birth:

Ranging from 1901 to 1963

Gender:

1. Male
2. Female

Postal code:

Ranging from 101 til 900

Electoral district:

1. Reykjavik
2. Reykjanes
3. West
4. Vestfjords
5. North west
6. North east
7. East
8. South

QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1. Do you consider your interest in politics very great, great, some, little, or are you not interested in politics at all?**
 1. Very great
 2. Great
 3. Some
 4. Little
 5. None
 - 6.
 8. Refuse to answer
 9. Don't know

- 2. Now I will read you the names of the newspapers in an alphabetical order, and for each paper I would like you to say how often you see it. If we start with Althydubladið, would you say that you see it daily, often, seldom, or never? What about DV? Morgunblaðið? Timinn? Thjodviljinn?**
 1. Daily
 2. Often
 3. Seldom
 4. Never

 8. Refuse to answer
 9. Don't know

- 3. Do you think that politicians are in general trustworthy, that many of them are trustworthy, some are trustworthy, few or none?**
 1. General
 2. Many
 3. Some
 4. Few
 5. None

 8. Refuse to answer
 9. Don't know

- 4. If we turn to individual issues - first, to attempts to assure women equal position to men. Do you think this development has gone much too far, a bit too far, about right, needs to go a bit further, or needs to go much further?**
 1. Gone much too far
 2. Gone a bit too far
 3. About right
 4. Needs to go a bit further
 5. Needs to go much further

 8. Refuse to answer
 9. Don't know

- 5. What about the liberalization in women's rights to abortion? Do you think this has gone much too far, a bit too far, about right, needs to go a bit further, or needs to go much further?**

1. Gone much too far
2. Gone a bit too far
3. About right
4. Needs to go a bit further
5. Needs to go much further

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

6. What do you think about the proposition which has sometimes been suggested that beer should be sold in Icelandic liquor stores – do you agree, disagree, or do you think this makes no difference? (If agree or disagree, probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Makes no difference
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

7. The Defence Agreement between Iceland and the United States has been much debated. Some people support the presence of the American armed forces here, while others oppose it. Do you support its presence here, oppose it, or do you think this makes no difference? (Probe: Strongly/tend to)

1. Strongly support
2. Tend to support
3. Makes no difference
4. Tend to oppose
5. Strongly oppose

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

8. Now we will read you some statements that are sometimes heard when politics are discussed. We would like to know what you think of these statements. The first statement is: Real and long-term increases in living standards can only be obtained if the government closely cooperates with the trade unions and really considers their point of view. Do you agree, disagree, or do you think this makes no difference? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Makes no difference
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

9. The next statement is: It is necessary to do more to decrease the differences in conditions between the rural regions and the capital area. Do you agree, disagree, or do you think this makes no difference? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree

2. Tend to agree
3. Makes no difference
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

10. Next statement: Gradual reduction of inflation is impossible. The best policy is a quick solution by strict reduction on spending and toughness towards pressure groups. Do you agree, disagree, or do you think this makes no difference? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Makes no difference
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

11. All parties should hold open primaries, where supporters as well as party members can decide the ranking of candidates in the lists' top seats. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Ambivalent
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

12. Cooperation with foreigners on power intensive plants is only acceptable if at least 50% of the ownership in such companies is Icelandic. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Ambivalent
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

13. Agricultural production must be greatly reduced as now there is overproduction at the tax-payers' expense. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Ambivalent
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

14. Icelanders should receive payment for the presence of US military force in the country. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

- 1. Strongly agree
- 2. Tend to agree
- 3. Ambivalent
- 4. Tend to disagree
- 5. Strongly disagree

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

15. Taxes should be reduced even though it meant that public services had to be reduced, e.g. in health care, education, or social security. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

- 1. Strongly agree
- 2. Tend to agree
- 3. Ambivalent
- 4. Tend to disagree
- 5. Strongly disagree

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

16. Preferably all votes in the country should have equal weight when parliamentary seats are allotted. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

- 1. Strongly agree
- 2. Tend to agree
- 3. Ambivalent
- 4. Tend to disagree
- 5. Strongly disagree

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

17. Government should prioritize full employment even though companies are inefficient. Do you agree, disagree, or are you ambivalent? (Probe: strongly/tend to).

- 1. Strongly agree
- 2. Tend to agree
- 3. Ambivalent
- 4. Tend to disagree
- 5. Strongly disagree

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

18a. If we now turn to the question whether Iceland should continue its membership of NATO – is that an issue on which you have an opinion?

- 1. Yes

2. No

8. Refuse to answer

9. Don't know

18b. (If yes to 18a.) Some people believe Iceland should stay in NATO, while others believe it should discontinue its membership. What is your opinion?

1. Stay

2. Discontinue

8. Refuse to answer

9. Don't know

19. Some people always vote in Althingi elections and some people never vote. If you consider the period since you came of voting age, do you think you have always voted in Althingi elections, usually voted, seldom, or never?

1. Always

2. Usually

3. Seldom

4. Never

8. Refuse to answer

9. Don't know

20. Some people always vote for the same party in Althingi elections, while some people usually vote for different parties. Have you always voted for the same party in Althingi elections, have you usually voted for the same party, or have you usually voted for different parties?

1. Always the same

2. Usually the same

3. Usually for different parties

8. Refuse to answer

9. Don't know

21a. Now I would like to ask you about your attitudes towards political parties. I would like to remind you that any information you may give is strictly confidential. Many people consider themselves supporters of political parties. Do you in general consider yourself as a supporter of any political party or organization? (If yes: What party?)

0. Yes, The Social Democratic Party

1. Yes, The Progressive Party

2. Yes, The Independence Party

3. Yes, The People's Alliance

4. Yes, The Social Democratic Alliance

5. Yes, The Women's Alliance

6. Yes, other. What?

7. No

8. Refuse to answer

9. Don't know

21b. (If yes to 21a.) Would you say you are a very strong, rather strong or not a very strong supporter (of a given party)?

1. Very strong
2. Rather strong
3. Not very strong

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

22. (If no or don't know to 21a.) Do you nevertheless feel somewhat closer to any party or organization than to others? (If yes: which party?)

0. Yes, The Social Democratic Party
1. Yes, The Progressive Party
2. Yes, The Independence Party
3. Yes, The People's Alliance
4. Yes, The Social Democratic Alliance
5. Yes, The Women's Alliance
6. Yes, other. What?
7. No

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

23a. (If yes to 21a or 22): Are you a member of (given party)?

1. Yes
2. No

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

23b. (If no to 23a): Would you consider becoming a member of (given party)?

1. Yes
2. No

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

24. Left and right are common terms in politics. Do you generally consider yourself to the right in politics, to the left, or are you in the centre in politics?

1. Right
2. Left
3. Center

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

25. If you consider where the four old parties stand in this respect, and we start with the SDP. Do you think the SDP is to the right, to the left or in the centre in politics? What about the PP? The IP? The PA?

1. Right

- 2. Left
- 3. Center

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

26. Now I would like you to rank the four old parties, i.e. the SDP, the PP, the IP and the PA, according to how much you like or dislike them. What party do you generally dislike most? Which one is the second best? And which one is the best?

- 1. Dislike most
- 2. Second worst
- 3. Second best
- 4. The best

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

27a. Have you ever taken part in a primary of any party before an Althingi election?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

27b. (If yes to 27a.): Did you take part in a primary before this election?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

27c. (If yes to 27b.): Could you tell me in what primary/primaries you took part?

Answer: _____

28a. If you try to remember individual elections in this country in recent years – did you vote in the 1978 Althingi election?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

28b. (If yes to 28a.): May I ask what party or list you voted for then?

Answer: _____

29a. What about the Althingi election in December 1979? (Did you vote?)

- 1. Voted
- 2. Did not vote

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

29b. (If yes to 29a.): What list did you vote for then?

Answer: _____

30a. What about the Althingi election on last April 23rd? (Did you vote?)

- 1. Voted
- 2. Did not vote

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

30b. (If yes to 30a.): What list did you vote for then?

Answer: _____

31a. Did you ever consider voting for another party before the last election? (If yes: What party/parties?)

- 1. Yes. What party/parties?
- 2. No

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

31b. (If yes til 31a.): How long before the election did you make a final decision?

Answer: _____

31c. (If yes til 31a.): If we had a fresh election in the next few days, do you think you would vote for the same party you voted for last time, or some other party?

- 1. Same party
- 2. Some other party

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

32. Where in the country did you grow up? (Region, county, town-rural, age 8-16)

Answer: _____

- 1. Rural
- 2. Town

- 8. Refuse to answer
- 9. Don't know

33a. What was your father's occupation in your youth (age 12-17)?

Answer: _____

33b. What was your mother's occupation?

Answer: _____

34. Do you know what political party your father supported when you were growing up? (If yes: What party?)

1. Yes, The Social Democratic Party
2. Yes, The Progressive Party
3. Yes, The Independence Party
4. Yes, The Communist Party/ The People's Alliance
5. Yes, other. What?
5. Yes, The Women's Alliance
6. Yes, he supported no party/different parties
7. Yes, refuses to give name of party
8. Nei, don't know
9. No, don't remember

35. What about your mother? (If yes: What party?)

1. Yes, The Social Democratic Party
2. Yes, The Progressive Party
3. Yes, The Independence Party
4. Yes, The Communist Party/ The People's Alliance
5. Yes, other. What?
6. Yes, he supported no party/different parties
7. Yes, refuses to give name of party
8. Nei, don't know
9. No, don't remember

36. Do you know one or more members of Althingi personally?

1. Nobody
2. One
3. Two or more

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

37a. Have you completed any studies after the age of 15?

1. Yes
2. No

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

37b. (If yes to 37a.): In what field? What school? When?

Field: _____
School: _____
Year: _____

38. How many years, approximately, have you attended school, including compulsory education?

Number of years in school: _____

39. Have you generally been economically active in the last 3-4 months, or have you mainly been doing something else?

1. Yes
2. No, unemployed, but used to work
3. No, retired because of age/disability
4. No, student
5. No, working at home
6. No, other reasons

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

40. (If active, or has been active): What was your main occupation? (Name of occupation, and a short description. Public, private, cooperative. Employee, self-employed, employer. Manual, non-manual. Agriculture, fisheries, fish industry, other industry, electricity or water supplies, construction, communications, commerce, other service)

Occupation: _____
Description: _____

41. Are you a member of a trade union or other economic or professional interest organization? (If yes: what union?)

1. No
2. Yes. What union? _____

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

42. Are you married or cohabiting?

1. Yes
2. No

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

43. (If yes to 42): Has your spouse generally been economically active in the last 3-4 months, or has he/she mainly been doing something else?

1. Yes
2. No, unemployed, but used to work
3. No, retired because of age/disability
4. No, student
5. No, working at home
6. No, other reasons

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

44. (If spouse active, or has been active): What is the main occupation of your spouse?

Occupation: _____
Description: _____

45. (If spouse active, or has been active): Is your spouse a member of a trade union or other economic or professional interest organization? (If yes: what union?)

1. No
2. Yes. What union? _____

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know

46. Are you living in your own accomodation or do you rent?

1. Own accomodation
2. Rent
3. Other. What?

8. Refuse to answer
9. Don't know