

28. ELECTIONS

After the expiry of the term for which the Chamber of Deputies was elected on 14-15 June 2002, a regular election to the Chamber of Deputies called by the President of the CR in President's Decision No. 31/2006 Sb. was held on 2-3 June 2006. The way of determining the election results and the procedure of their processing up to the distribution of seats were laid down by Act No. 247/1995 Sb., on the CR's Parliamentary Election, as amended (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"). The data presented are based on the results processed for the State Election Committee.

The election to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic was held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot, following the principle of proportional representation in the election regions. The annex to the Act defined 14 election regions that were identical with the administrative regions of the Czech Republic. It was possible for Czech nationals to vote abroad, in polling stations installed in embassies and general consulates of the Czech Republic; these results were added to the results of the Jihočeský election region (as decided by lot drawn by the State Election Committee).

The voters were Czech nationals who reached the age of 18 on the second day of the election at the latest and no legal impediment to exercising their suffrage occurred. The voter could cast the vote in any of the regular wards in the Czech Republic or in a special ward abroad where his/her name was on the list of voters.

The seats were contested by a total of 25 political parties and political movements and 1 coalition of seven political parties and movements (hereinafter referred to as "the political party"), which had submitted their individual lists of candidates at least in one of the election regions. The lists contained the names of candidates in the descending order preferred by the political party for the allocation of seats. The maximum number of candidates was limited by the Act, differently for each election region.

To cast his/her vote, the voter put one ballot for the chosen political party into official envelope. The voter was allowed to show his/her preference for the candidates by encircling one or two ordinal numbers on the ballot. Each ballot represented one valid vote for the political party, provided the voting procedure complied with the Act.

Valid votes won by individual political parties decided on which of them will share the 200 seats. Those political parties, which reached the pre-fixed percentage of the total number of valid votes in all election regions, qualified for the scrutiny. The percentage was fixed by the Act differently, depending on the type of the list of candidates: 5% for a single political party or political movement and 20% for the seven-member coalition.

Seats falling on the election regions were allocated to the political parties gradually within the election region with regard to the shares of votes calculated using the d'Hondt election divisor. The seats won by the political party were obtained by its candidates in the order, in which they were listed on the ballot, unless voters decided otherwise by their preferential votes. Candidates who did not obtain seats became substitutes.

Notes on tables

In Table 28-1, the column 'Turnout, %' shows the percentage of voters, who cast their votes, in the number of voters on the lists of voters.

Table 28-2 shows votes in % won by political parties, represented in the Chamber of Deputies, in the election regions.

In Table 28-3 the column 'Votes, %' shows the percentage of votes won by political party in the total number of valid votes in the Czech Republic.

The data are comparable with data for 1990, 1992, 1996, 1998, and 2002 only for identical political entities and only for the Chamber of Deputies in total. However, identification according to the name of the political party may not be unambiguous due to frequent changes (births of new political entities, changes in their names).

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The complete voting results broken down by territorial administrative units can be found in publications brought out by the CZSO in the third and fourth quarters of 2006. According to the Catalogue of Publications 2006 (thematic group 4 - POPULATION, ELECTIONS, subgroup 42 - Election Statistics), Part 1 and Part 2 of the following publication is available:

– “Volby do Poslanecké sněmovny Parlamentu ČR 2006”

Further data are published on the following web pages of the Czech Statistical Office:

http://www.volby.cz/index_en.htm