

### 30. ELECTIONS

*In 2010, the electoral term, for which local councils were elected on 20 and 21 October 2006 and in additional and new elections during the years 2007–2010 finished. At the same time, electoral term finished also for senators in 27 electoral districts, who were elected in November 2004 for a six-year term.*

*Elections for new local councils for another four-year term on the entire territory of the Czech Republic and elections for a six-year term in 27 senatorial districts were held on 15 and 16 October and on 22 and 23 October 2010 based on the decision of the President of the Czech Republic from 18 June 2010 (No. 207/2010 Sb.).*

*Returning of ballot papers, checking of them and initial counting of votes took place in permanent electoral wards, where ward election committees were the same for both elections. The elections for local councils took place in 14 765 electoral wards; the elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the CR took place in 4 860 electoral wards. The elections took place only on the territory of the Czech Republic and were controlled by the State Electoral Committee as a permanent election body. Powers of election bodies pursuant to the act on elections to the Parliament of the CR and the act on local council elections have not changed in comparison to the previous elections.*

***The elections for local councils** were held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot. Citizens of the Czech Republic who had attained the age of at least 18 on the election day, were residing in the municipality and no legal impediment to the exercise of their right to vote occurred were entitled to vote. Voters were allowed to cast their vote only in the poll station of the electoral ward of their permanent residence and could be entered in only one electoral roll. The right to vote and to be elected was also given to foreign nationals of the states with which the Czech Republic had concluded a relevant agreement (in these elections citizens of EU Member States) who were registered as permanent residents in the municipality and placed a request for inclusion into the electoral roll.*

*The number of local council members being elected depended on the population of the municipality and ranged between 5 and 55 except for the Hl. m. Praha Region, for which 63 members were being elected. Voters were free to use one of three ways of casting their votes stipulated by the Election Act, using the ballot common to all parties standing for election. The pre-determined number of seats in the local council was split among the election parties in one scrutiny, using a proportional system and election divisors.*

*The numbers of votes in Table 30-2 show that each voter participating in the elections had a maximum of so many votes how many members of the local council were being elected. The number of the seats thus does not have to be directly proportional to the number of the votes, because a substantially smaller number of votes was necessary in small municipalities than in large ones (as measured by number of voters) to get a seat.*

*The tables do not include the results of elections to councils of city parts and city districts of territorially structured statutory cities and towns or the city parts of the Hl. m. Praha Region.*

***The elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic** were held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot, using the plurality voting system, in single-member election districts. In comparison to 2004, eleven out of 27 election districts where the elections took place were re-determined as for their territory. The underlying reasons were the population size outside the permitted range in senatorial districts and changes in the determination of administrative districts of the Czech Republic under the Decree No. 513/2006 Sb.*

*The voters were citizens of the Czech Republic who had attained the age of at least 18 on the second day of the elections at the latest. They were entitled to vote in the electoral ward of the election district where they were included in the electoral roll, provided no legal impediment to the exercise of their right to vote occurred. Citizens of the Czech Republic with permanent residence outside the country were also entitled to vote if they stayed on the territory of the Czech Republic on the election day. They could vote in any electoral ward of the election district, in which the elections took place.*

*A voter inserted a ballot paper of the selected candidate into an official envelope and put the envelope into the ballot box. If a candidate gained over 50 percent of valid votes in the election district, he/she was elected senator; if none of the candidates gained over 50 percent of valid votes,*

*the senator was not elected and in such electoral district the second round took place a week later. It was a runoff between two candidates who received the highest numbers of valid votes in the first round. No senator was elected in the first round of elections on 15 and 16 October 2010 so the second round was held on 22 and 23 October 2010 in all of the 27 electoral districts.*

*The sums of relative values do not have to equal 100 due to rounding off.*

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*The complete election results broken down by territorial administrative unit can be found on a web page of the Czech Statistical Office at:*

– [http://www.volby.cz/index\\_en.htm](http://www.volby.cz/index_en.htm)