

Victory for the Swedish Moderate party

Fredrik Reinfeldt will be new Prime Minister after winning yesterday's general elections in Sweden. By winning the election he succeeds Prime Minister Göran Persson who as a result of his defeat steps down as leader of the Swedish Social Democratic party in March 2007.

With a turnout of 80,4 percent, a slight increase from 79,1 percent in 2002, the centre-right Alliance for Sweden won with 48,1 percent over the Social Democrats who gained 46,2 percent of the votes. The Alliance won the election with 7 mandates, 178 to 171 in the 349 seat parliament, and 1,9 percent points. The Moderate Party increased its share of the vote from 15,3% in 2002 to 26,1% this year and thereby experienced their best election since 1928.

These are the results from 2006 and 2002:

| Party | 2006 | | | 2002 | | |
|---|------|---------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| | | Votes | % Mandates | Votes | % Mandates | |
| M Moderata Samlingspartiet | | 1417814 | 26,1 | 97 | 792964 | 15,2 |
| C Centerpartiet | | 430322 | 7,9 | 29 | 325474 | 6,2 |
| FP Folkpartiet liberalerna | | 408276 | 7,5 | 28 | 699747 | 13,4 |
| KD Kristdemokraterna | | 359760 | 6,6 | 24 | 479344 | 9,2 |
| S Arbetarepartiet-Socialdemokraterna | | 1914929 | 35,2 | 130 | 209355 | 940,0 |
| V Vänsterpartiet | | 317113 | 5,8 | 22 | 437834 | 8,4 |
| MP Miljöpartiet de gröna | | 280379 | 5,2 | 19 | 240626 | 4,6 |
| Other parties | | 308588 | 5,7 | | 163431 | 3,1 |
| | | | | | | 0 |

Source: Election Authority's web site on 18/9 2006 at 10.40

Here are the results of the political blocks:

| block | % | + - %* | mandates | + - mandat* |
|--------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------|
| V, S, MP | 46.2% | -6,70% | 171 | -20 |
| C, FP, KD, M | 48.1% | +4,20% | 178 | +20 |
| ÖVR | 5.7% | +2,60% | 0 | ± 0 |

Source: Swedish Television on 18/9 2006 at 10.00

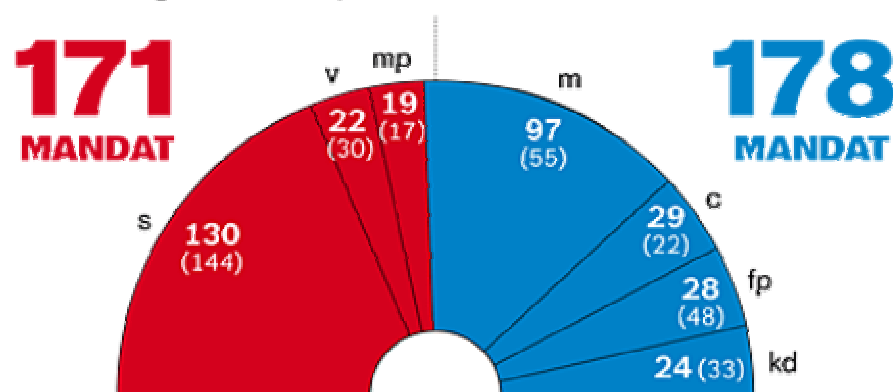
The results put an end to 12 years of social democratic rule. The Social Democratic Party has governed Sweden for 65 of the last 74 years. By winning 35,2 percent of the votes the Social Democratic Party have experienced their worst results since 1914 but remains still strong.

Both winner and losers of the election is to be found within the Alliance. Only a limited number of seats have come from the social democrats. The Moderate party won 42 seats in the parliament whereas the Liberal Party and the Christian Democratic Party have lost 20 and 9 seats respectively.

Distribution of mandates in the Swedish parliament:

■ Valprognos klockan 00.45

MANDAT Prognosen baseras på 5 779 av 5 783 distrikt



Source: Dagens Nyheter on 18/9 2006 at 00.45

Prime Minister Göran Persson will today hand in his resignation as Prime Minister to the parliament's spokesman. Then the spokesman will call the party leaders and ask Fredrik Reinfeldt to form a centre-right government. The deadline is October the 2nd where a new spokesperson is chosen. According to Swedish television Per Westerberg (Moderate Party) could be the successor of the social democrat Björn von Sydow. Formally the Swedish Parliament opens on October 3rd. On that day Fredrik Reinfeldt will be suggested Prime Minister. The announcement of the new cabinet will be on October 6th.

Voters

First time voters voted the Moderate Party (M). 27,3 percent of first time voters voted for the Moderate Party whereas 26,4 percent voted the Social Democratic Party (SDP). In 2002 30,4 percent of first time voters voted social democratic and only 12,9 percent voted moderate. 25,8 percent of 22-30 year olds have voted M. 25,7 percent voted SDP. In 2002 the figure was 14,1 to 31,5 M and SDP respectively. 31-64 year olds have voted 25,1 percent M and 31,7 SDP. In 2002 the figure was 12,8 to 39,5 for M and SDP respectively. Over 65 year olds have voted social democratic. 33,4 percent voted SDP compared to 43,8 in 2002. 25,1 percent voted M compared to 14,7 in 2002.

Employees in the public sector voted for the SDP with 34,4 percent of the votes (40,6 percent in 2002). 18,8 percent of public employees voted for M (9,2 percent in 2002). Private employees voted for M. 33,8 percent this year to 16,9 in 2002. 27,6

percent of private employees vote SDP (36,5 in 2002). 38,3 percent unemployed voted for SDP (45,5 in 2002) whereas 17,2 voted M (8,3 in 2002). Company owners voted with 46,4 percent for M (24,8 in 2002) and with 13,9 percent for SDP (21,1 in 2002). Farmers voted for M with 24,8 percent (19,5 in 2002) and with 5,1 for SDP (8,0 in 2002). Immigrants (primarily from other countries than the Nordic countries) voted for SDP with 36,7 (50 percent in 2002) and for M with 23 percent (8,9 in 2002).

Members of LO (The Swedish Trade Union Confederation) vote SDP with 54,4 percent (59,4 in 2002) and M with 11,1 percent (4,2 percent in 2002). 31,1 percent of TCO-members (Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees) voted SDP (39 percent in 2002) and 24,2 percent voted M (10,0 percent in 2002). 27,2 percent of SACO-members (The Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations) voted M (14,8 percent in 2002) and 19,6 percent voted SDP (25,6 percent in 2002). 23,6 percent of those who decided what to vote on election day and the week before voted SDP (28,8 percent in 2002) and 21,7 voted SDP (10,4 in 2002). Those who decided earlier vote SDP, 34,4 percent (42,4 in 2002) and 29,6 voted M (14,6 in 2002).

More men than women voted for the M. 30,5 percent of male voters voted for M compared to 16,2 in 2002. 23,1 percent of female voters voted for M compared to 10,6 in 2002. Women vote SDP. 34,6 percent of female voters voted for SDP compared to 37,4 percent in 2002. 34,0 percent of male voters voted SDP compared to 38,4 percent in 2002.

Voters who gave personal votes voted for Göran Persson. 30 percent of social democrat voters voted for Göran Persson compared to 29,3 in 2002, and 26,3 percent of moderate voters voted for Fredrik Reinfeldt personally compared to 33,8 percent who made a personal vote for the former moderate party leader Bo Lundgren.

Voters who consider themselves right-wing are 41,1 percent compared to 34 percent in 2002. Voters considering themselves left-wing are 37,4 percent compared to 44 in 2002. 21,5 percent do not consider themselves right- or left-wing compared to 22 percent in 2002.

Decisive for the voters motivation to vote for the Moderate Party was the Swedish economy. 63,7 percent of the questioned voters answered that the Swedish economy was important for their decision on voting the Moderate Party compared to 52,6 for the Social Democratic Party. The Moderate Party's view on employment was decisive for 63,4 percent of those who voted the party compared to 54,1 percent social democratic voters. Here is a breakdown in the priorities of what was decisive for voting the Moderate Party in comparison with the Social Democratic Party:

| Important for my vote was: | Moderate Party | Social Democratic Party |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Taxes | 49,00 | 27,8 |
| Environment | 18 | 30,8 |
| Employment | 63,4 | 54,1 |
| Swedish economy | 63,7 | 52,6 |
| Private economy | 53,2 | 47,8 |
| Foreign- and security policy | 23,5 | 25 |
| Law and order | 51,9 | 39,1 |
| Immigration | 23,2 | 22,1 |
| EU/EMU | 21,9 | 17,3 |
| Health system | 50,3 | 59,1 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------|------|
| Equality between men and women | 25,6 | 43,1 |
| Education | 57,7 | 54,2 |
| The company's conditions | 58,7 | 19,8 |
| Energy and nuclear power | 37,2 | 31,7 |
| Care for elderly | 41,4 | 53,1 |
| Children | 35,2 | 49,1 |

Source: SVT on 18/9 2006 at 10.00

Municipal and County council elections

Yesterday the Swedes were casting their votes for three elections: *Riksdagsval* (parliamentary elections), *Landstingsval* (county council elections) and *Kommunalval* (municipal council elections).

The Moderate Party had a sound victory in Sweden's capital Stockholm. This means that Kristina Axén Olin will lead Stockholm for the next four years replacing the present Mayor Anikka Billström. With 456 of 461 wards having delivered their results, Axén Olin's Moderate Party had won 35.8 percent of the votes. The Social Democrats saw a large fall in support, gaining 24.5 percent of the votes, compared to 32.2 percent in 2002.

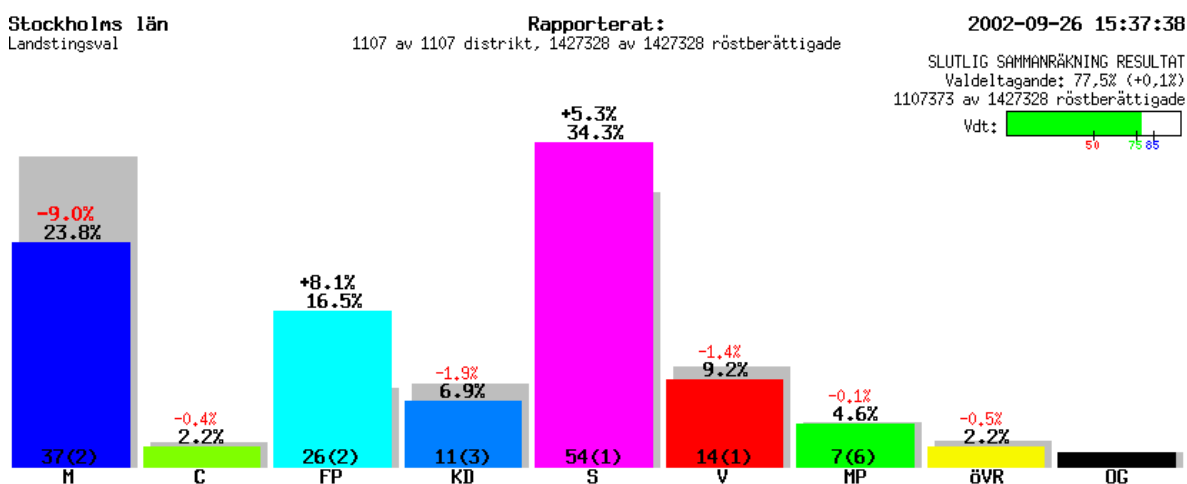
The new Swedish government will be a centre-right government. However, Sweden remains a social democratic country. In 19 of the 20 counties the Social Democratic Party gained majority of the votes only beaten by the Moderate Party in Stockholm. Here the Moderate Party gained 35,8 percent to 27,4 for the social democrats.

| County | M | C | FP | KD | S | V | MP | Others |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| Blekinge län | 20,3% | 8,1% | 7,8% | 5,3% | 42,4% | 5,8% | 3,5% | 6,9% |
| Dalarnas län | 19,4% | 12,7% | 5,7% | 6,0% | 38,3% | 6,5% | 3,7% | 7,8% |
| Gävleborgs län | 16,6% | 13,0% | 6,0% | 5,2% | 37,6% | 8,0% | 3,7% | 9,9% |
| Hallands län | 27,4% | 12,5% | 8,1% | 6,2% | 31,7% | 4,4% | 3,5% | 6,2% |
| Jämtlands län | 16,3% | 20,4% | 5,1% | 3,7% | 39,5% | 9,0% | 4,6% | 1,5% |
| Jönköpings län | 21,6% | 10,2% | 5,6% | 16,7% | 35,8% | 4,4% | 2,8% | 2,9% |
| Kalmar län | 18,7% | 12,6% | 5,2% | 10,6% | 40,8% | 5,8% | 3,1% | 3,3% |
| Kronobergs län | 23,0% | 13,5% | 6,1% | 8,3% | 36,2% | 6,8% | 3,6% | 2,5% |
| Norrbottens län | 10,3% | 6,1% | 5,4% | 3,6% | 43,0% | 8,4% | 2,9% | 20,3% |
| Skåne län | 27,9% | 5,9% | 8,4% | 4,7% | 34,5% | 4,2% | 4,3% | 10,1% |
| Stockholms län | 35,8% | 4,0% | 10,2% | 6,0% | 27,4% | 6,6% | 6,5% | 3,6% |
| Södermanlands län | 22,2% | 7,2% | 7,5% | 6,5% | 42,7% | 5,3% | 5,0% | 3,4% |
| Uppsala län | 25,1% | 10,3% | 10,4% | 6,5% | 31,5% | 6,4% | 5,8% | 3,9% |
| Värmlands län | 16,9% | 11,0% | 5,7% | 5,0% | 41,8% | 6,5% | 2,9% | 10,2% |
| Västerbottens län | 11,3% | 11,4% | 9,5% | 7,6% | 44,2% | 8,8% | 4,6% | 2,6% |
| Västernorrlands län | 16,7% | 10,1% | 5,0% | 5,1% | 44,0% | 6,0% | 3,2% | 10,0% |
| Västmanlands län | 20,8% | 7,8% | 9,4% | 6,4% | 37,2% | 6,7% | 3,6% | 8,0% |

| County | M | C | FP | KD | S | V | MP | C | Others | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|---|--------|--|--|--|
| Västra Götalands län | 23,1% | 7,4% | 8,8% | 7,6% | 33,9% | 6,3% | 5,1% | | 7,7% | | | |
| Örebro län | 17,8% | 7,8% | 7,3% | 8,0% | 43,8% | 6,9% | 4,1% | | 4,3% | | | |
| Östergötlands län | 21,4% | 7,0% | 6,4% | 6,8% | 33,9% | 5,1% | 4,2% | | 15,2% | | | |

Source: The Swedish Election Authority's web site at 10.00

The results in Stockholm from 2002:



Source: The Swedish Election Authority's web site

The municipal elections have shown great support for the anti-immigrant party Sverige-Demokraterna. Before yesterday's election the party was represented in 29 of the 290 municipalities. Today the party is represented in 75 municipalities. This means that Sverige-Demokraterna are represented in every fourth Swedish municipality. In the counties the party is now voted into every second council. Sverige-Demokraterna have primarily gained support in the southern part of Sweden. In Skåne and Blekinge County the party has received more than 6 percent of the votes. In the City of Landskrona the party received more than 22 percent.

On a national level the party received 1,9 percent of the votes and will therefore not be represented in the parliament.

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