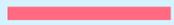




The Swedish National
Election Studies

Report 2018:6



**Polling accuracy in the Swedish
general election 2018**

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Rapport 2018:6

Polling accuracy in the Swedish general election 2018

PER OLESKOG TRYGGVASON

Sammanfattning

I den här rapporten analyseras opinionsundersökningarnas avvikelser från 2018 års riksdagsval. Fokus ligger framförallt på de undersökningar som publicerades närmast valdagen. Sett till samtliga instituten så var träffsäkerheten 2018 klart sämre än de fyra senaste valen med ett medelfel per parti på 1.6 procentenheter. Den ovanligt höga genomsnittliga avvikelsen från valresultatet är framförallt ett resultat av stor spridning mellan instituten. Här stod två av instituten för historiskt stora avvikelser där de största missarna var en rekordstor överskattning av Sverigedemokraterna och underskattning av Socialdemokraterna. Rapporten analyserar om det finns någon systematik i partiernas under- och överskattningar i mätningarna. Här ser vi att instituten likt tidigare år också 2018 i flera fall hade fel åt samma håll. Exempelvis underskattades de två stora partierna Socialdemokraterna och Moderaterna i samtliga mätningar. Samma mönster fanns också för Vänsterpartiet som istället överskattades av samtliga åtta institut.

Summary

This report examines the accuracy of the Swedish pre-election polls during the run-up to the 2018 election. The main focus is on the final polls conducted just before election day. Looking at the mean average error (MAE) per party, the election year 2018 represents the largest collective polling error so far in the twenty-first century with an average error of 1.6 percentage points per party. The large error is, however, mainly a result of historical errors of two of the pollsters, where the principal deviation was an overestimation of the support for the Sweden Democrats and an underestimation of the Social Democrats. We also analyze to what extent any parties were over or underestimated in the final polls. We find, as have been the case in previous Swedish elections, that pollsters have systematic errors in so far that they err in the same direction: Most notably were the overall underestimation of the Social Democrats and the Moderate Party and the overestimation of the Left Party.

Introduction

Whether pre-election polls are accurate or not are important for several reasons. First, poll reports constitute a vital part of voter's information environment that (among other things) are used to make decisions whether or not to vote for parties that are close to an electoral threshold (Meffert and Gschwend 2011). Second, polls are a key feature of political journalism, especially during election campaigns (Holtz-Bacha and Strömbäck 2012; Patterson 2005). Hence, the level of support, or the momentum that a party has in published opinion polls can have direct and indirect influence on how the news media is covering political parties (Patterson 1993). Third, being able to evaluate the accuracy of polling against the election result constitutes a rare opportunity for pollsters to be assessed against a known benchmark, something that is not possible when polling on for example issues or policy.

From a comparative perspective, Swedish pre-election polls have been fairly accurate during the last few decades (Jennings and Wlezien 2018). The average deviation per party has fluctuated around one percentage point for each election dating back to the 1990s. The comparatively small errors are often explained by Sweden's extensive public statistics (e.g. on demographical factors such as sex, age, education and income) in combination with a tradition of high voter turnout (over 80 percent in each national election dating back to 1958). However, as in most other advanced democracies (Prosser and Mellon 2018), Swedish pollsters have faced extensive challenges in the form of declining response rates (Vernersdotter 2016), large changes in the communication environment and a more volatile electorate with a growing number of party switchers (VALU/Swedish exit polls 2018).

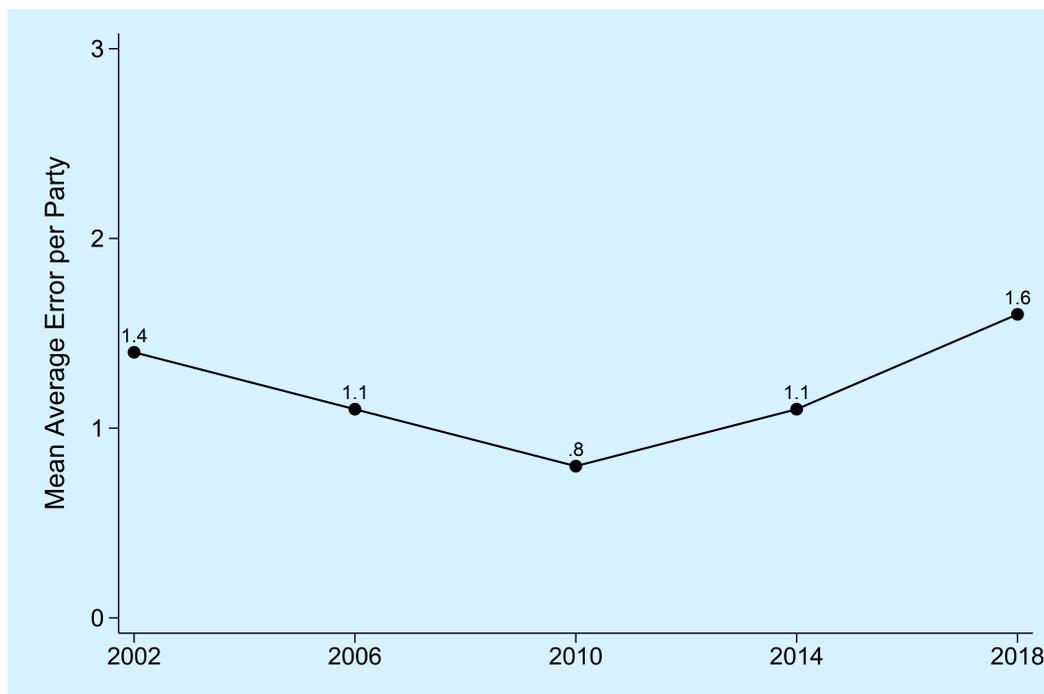
Though the mean average error per party was no greater than in previous years, an overall underestimation of the anti-immigration party the Sweden Democrats in the 2014 general election sparked a heated debate calling into question the ability of Swedish pollsters to gauge public opinion correctly. This question was perhaps even more present when the final polls before the 2018 election showed a record spread of 16.8 to 24.8 percent supporting the party.

In this report, I will evaluate the accuracy of the Swedish pre-election polls conducted in the run-up to the 2018 Swedish general election. I will assess the accuracy of all pollsters as a community, and how each of the individual companies preformed, and compare how these results measure up against previous election polls. I will also examine to what extent there were any systematic biases in estimating the level of support for each of the eight parties, and to what extent this varies across time.

Assessing the accuracy in the 2018 Swedish general election

Figure 1 shows the mean average error (MAE) per party for the final polls conducted by all private pollsters doing pre-election polls on a regular basis between 2002 and 2018. In 2018, the mean average error was 1.6 percentage points per party. Even if this is comparatively good from an international perspective (Jennings and Wlezien 2018), it represents the largest collective error during the twenty-first century. However, focusing on only the average error for all pollsters conceals the fact that where considerable variation between individual pollsters.

Figure 1 Average deviation per party (percentage points) during the 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 Swedish general election.



Comment: The graph show mean average error (MAE) per party for the final polls among all pollsters at Swedish general elections 2002–2018. The MAE is calculated by adding up the absolute difference (over or underestimation) between the point estimate for a party and the election result for thus party and subsequently dividing the absolute error of all parties in the poll by the number of parties/categories estimated. The denominator varies across election depending on how many parties were measured by all pollsters. In 2002, the denominator for calculating the mean was eight parties, in 2006 eight parties, in 2010 nine parties, in 2014 ten parties in 2018 nine parties. The line in the graph is the average of all pollsters who conducted polls during each year. For a detailed account of which pollsters that are included, see Table 1.

Table 1 displays the mean average error per party by pollsters in the 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 Swedish general elections. The results in the table reveals that the high error in 2018 where due to unparalleled errors among two of the eight pollsters, Sentio and YouGov. In 2018, the two pollsters had MAE of 2.7 and 2.8 percentage points per party respectively. This is almost a whole percentage point more than any other error dating back to 2002. When excluding the two outliers, the MAE for the six remaining pollsters in 2018 is 1.3 percentage points per party. Even if this is somewhat higher compared to previous years, it is much more in line with how Swedish pre-election polls usually perform. Turning to the pollsters who had the lowest errors, we find a trio within a very narrow interval. Demoskop had the lowest MAE with 1.0 percentage points, closely followed by Inizio in second (1.1 pp) and Skop (1.2 pp) in third place. When comparing errors across time, there are no visible patterns of some pollsters performing systematically better or worse. In fact, it is not unusual that a pollster who is having the lowest error one year, has the highest error in the next year and vice versa. One illustrating example if this is Ipsos and United Minds in 2010 and 2014. Ipsos went from having the lowest to having the highest MAE between 2010 and 2014, while United Minds went the complete opposite direction, from having the highest to the lowest error during the same period. One example from 2018 is Demoskop who went from having the second highest error in 2014 to the lowest error in 2018.

Table 1 Mean average error (MAE) per party 2002-2018 (percentage points).

Pollster	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018	Method/mode 2018
Sifo	1.3	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.6	Prob telephone/ prob web
Ipsos	1.4	1.0	0.6	1.6	1.3	Prob telephone/ prob web
Demoskop	1.9	1.3	0.7	1.4	1.0	Prob telephone/ non prob web
Novus	n/a	n/a	0.8	0.8	1.4	Prob telephone
Skop	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.2	Prob web
YouGov	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.1	2.8	Non prob web
Sentio	n/a	n/a	0.8	1.1	2.7	Non prob web
Inizio	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.1	Non prob web
United Minds	n/a	n/a	1.3	0.6	n/a	n/a
Ruab	1.2	1.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gallup	1.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.6	

Note: The table displays the mean average error (MAE) for each pollster's final poll during the period 2002 to 2018. The denominator used to calculate the MAE varies across election depending on the number of parties polled by all pollsters. In 2002 and 2006 the number of parties polled was eight (seven parliamentary parties and the category other parties), in 2010 the number of parties polled was nine (seven parliamentary parties, the Sweden Democrats and the category other parties), in 2014 the number of parties polled was ten (eight parliamentary parties, Feminist Initiative and the category other parties), in 2018 the number of parties polled was nine (eight parliamentary parties and the category other parties). In years when there was individual pollsters who polled additional parties (e.g. Ipsos and Sifo polled the Sweden Democrats in 2006) these parties have been added to the category of other parties.

Source: Data on the final election results have been downloaded from www.val.se. Polling data 2002-2014 is based on Novus compilation of all Swedish polls 2002-2018 (<https://novus.se/valjaropinionen/samtliga-svenska-valjarbarometrar/> - downloaded 2018-08-30) in combination with data from the Swedish National Election Studies Program (2018) (<https://datastory.se/story/matningarnas-matning>).

Another way to evaluate the performance of the polls is to analyze how accurately the eight pollsters were at predicting the support of the two major political blocs. Though the Swedish party system is highly fragmented with eight parties represented in the parliament, much of the political conflict has been structured around two traditional blocs. The red green bloc (the Left Party, the Social Democrats and the Green Party) and the center right bloc, the Alliance (Center Party, the Liberal Party, the Moderate Party and the Christian Democrats).

Table 2 display the mean average error the two blocs. Looking at the bottom row in Table 2, we once again note that the collective polling errors were higher in 2018 compared to the three preceding elections, similar to the error in 2002. The MAE for the two blocs was 2.0 percentage points. Once again, these figures are inflated by the fact that the same two pollsters had historical errors also with respect to bloc accuracy. Sentio had a MAE of 4.7 and YouGov and MAE of 5.6 percentage points. This can be contrasted against MAE-bloc errors of 0.6 to 1.3 percentage points for the six other pollsters. Focusing instead on which pollsters who had the highest bloc accuracy we once again find three pollsters within a narrow range, all with bloc-errors below 1 percentage point. Sifo had the lowest bloc error with 0.6 percentage points, closely followed by Ipsos (0.7 pp) and Inizio (0.9 pp). This is a somewhat rearranged rank order compared to accuracy on party level.

Table 2 Mean average error (MAE) for the two blocs 2002-2018 (percentage points)

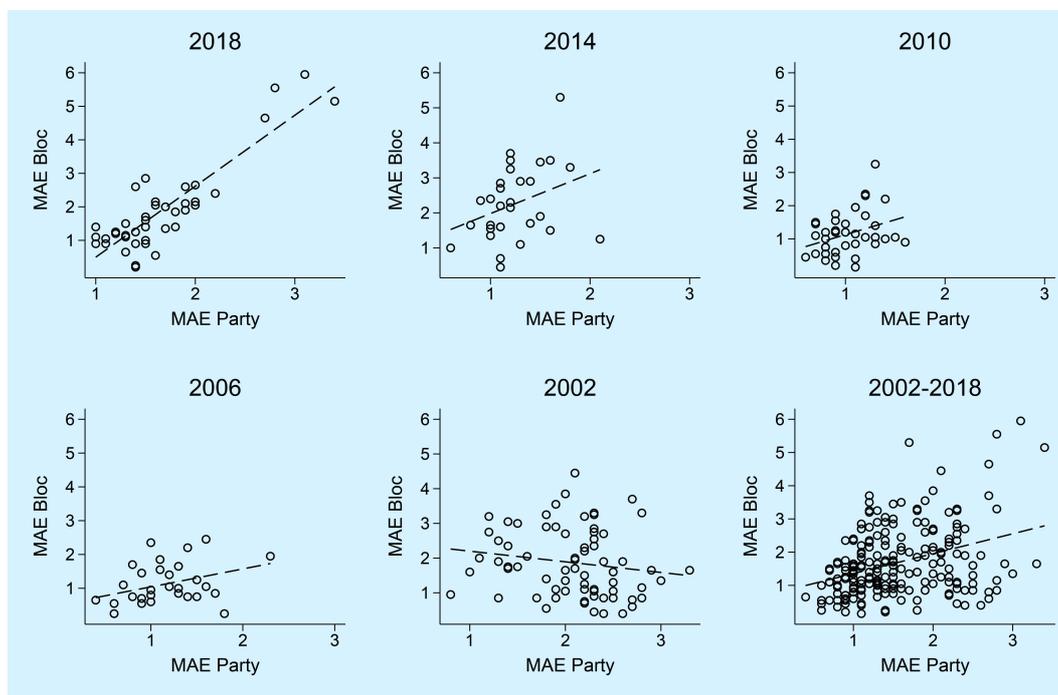
Pollster	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018	Method/mode 2018
Sifo	1.9	0.3	1.1	1.3	0.6	Prob telephone/ prob web
Ipsos	1.7	2.3	0.4	1.5	0.7	Prob telephone/ prob web
Demoskop	2.9	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.4	Prob telephone/ opt in web
Novus	n/a	n/a	0.4	1.7	1.3	Prob telephone
Skop	2.0	0.9	0.2	2.4	1.3	Prob web
YouGov	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.4	5.6	Non prob web
Sentio	n/a	n/a	0.6	1.6	4.7	Non prob web
Inizio	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.9	Non prob web
United Minds	n/a	n/a	1.4	1.0	n/a	n/a
Raub	2.8	0.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gallup	0.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	2.0	1.2	0.8	1.5	2.0	

Note: The table shows the mean average error (MAE) for the two traditional blocs, the red-green bloc (Left Party, Social Democrats and the Green Party) and the center-right bloc the Alliance (the Center Party, the Liberal Party, the Moderate Party, and the Christian Democrats).

Source: Data on the final election results are downloaded from www.val.se. Polling data 2002-2014 is based on Novus compilation of all Swedish polls 2002-2018 (<https://novus.se/valjaropinionen/samtliga-svenska-valjarbarometrar/> - downloaded 2018-08-30) in combination with data from the Swedish National Election Studies Program (2018) (<https://datastory.se/story/matningarnas-matning>).

The finding that there are considerable differences if we assess pollsters on their ability to accurately estimate party or bloc support raises the question to what extent these two constructs are empirically correlated. Below, Figure 2 display six scatterplots for all polls published 30 days before the general election during the period 2002-2018. The x-axis represents the MAE per party and the y-axis represents the MAE for the two blocs. Looking at the six scatterplots it is obvious that the correlation is far from perfect. For the whole period (bottom right plot) the correlation is moderately positive at $r=+.32$. The correlation is similar in 2006, 2010 and 2014 (Pearsons r ranges between $+.32$ and $+.34$) while having a somewhat negative slope (sic!) in 2002 ($r=-.18$). Even though there we notable rearrangements with respect to the rank order between party and bloc accuracy in 2018, this is by far the year with the highest correlation at $r=+.88$.

Figure 2 Scatterplot of MAE for all parties and MAE for the two blocs (percentage points) in the 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 Swedish general election.



Note: The figure displays all polls conducted within 30 days before the general elections 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 (n=218). Pearson's r for each year was; 2002 $r=-.18$; 2006 $r=+.34$; 2010 $r=+.32$; 2014 $r=+.36$; 2018 $r=+.88$.

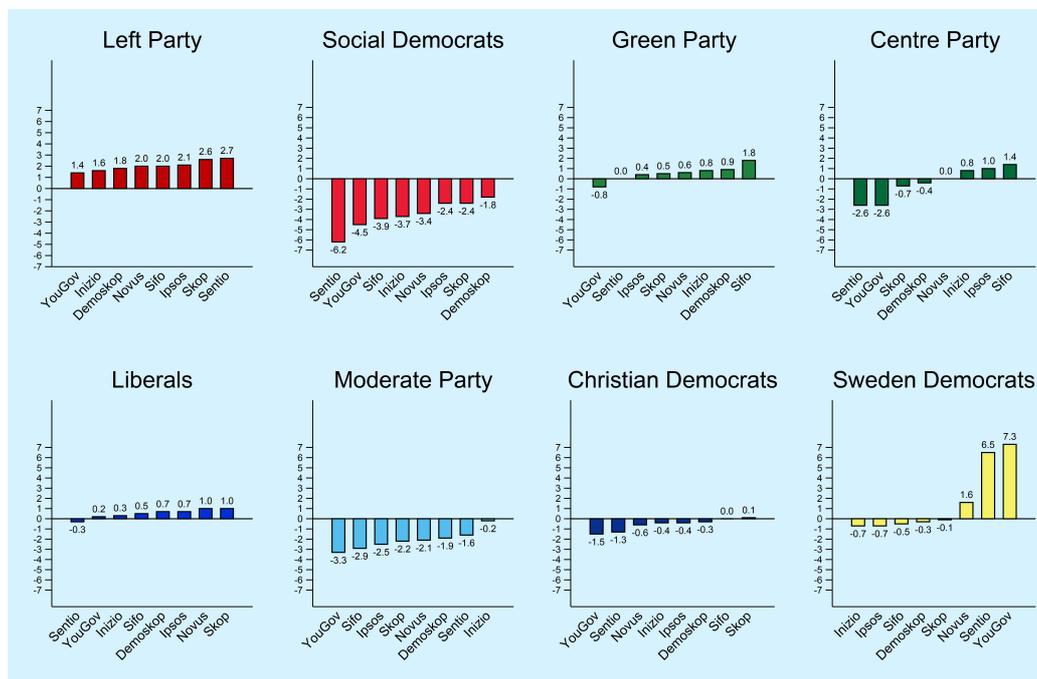
Errors in the same direction

Looking at the average error across all parties and for the two blocs, we can conclude that the 2018 pre-election polls performed approximately as good as the historical average. In the next section, we instead shift the focus to accuracy at the party level. Was there any systematic under- or overestimation of the eight parliamentary parties?

In the wake of 2014 election there was a large debate of what caused a general underestimation of the Sweden Democrats. The party had been underestimated with between 0.2 and 4.9 percentage points, where the established pollsters who used probability-based samples while conducting their interviews via telephones had the largest errors. Since 2014, most pollsters changed some part of their sampling procedure and or mode of collection. Among pollsters using probability-based samples surveying respondents via telephone, everyone with the exception of Novus either complemented a part of their sample from their own web panels (Sifo, Ipsos and Demoskop) or switched from telephone to web collection almost entirely (Skop). Heading in to the 2018 election there was a record spread between the eight pollsters where the support for the Sweden Democrats ranged from 16.8 to 24.8 percent.

Figure 3 below displays the under- and overestimations in the final poll conducted by the eight pollster for each party represented in the Swedish riksdag. Positive figures means that the pollster had a higher estimate for the party compared to the election result and negative figures means that the pollster had a lower estimate compared to the final election result.

Figure 3 Over and underestimation of the eight parties represented in the 2018 Swedish general election by pollster (percentage points).



Note: The figure displays each pollsters over and underestimation of each of the eight parliamentary parties in their final polls before the 2018 Swedish general election. Positive bars represent an overestimation of the party compared to the final election result; negative bars represent an underestimation of the party.

The figure illustrates a number of interesting findings. First, it is obvious that the more established pollsters who predominantly used probability-based samples this time were much more accurate in assessing the support for the Sweden Democrats. Sentio and YouGov, two pollsters using non probability samples collecting via their own web panels (who was closest to the Sweden Democrats in 2014), had a record high deviation, overestimating the party with 6.4 and 7.2 percentage points respectively.

Second, there is a clear pattern that in most cases, pollsters are off in the same direction. With the exception of the Sweden Democrats and the Center Party, pollsters' errors are almost unanimously in the same direction. All pollsters underestimated the two large parties, the Social Democrats and the Moderate Party, while also overestimating the support for the Left Party. Similar patterns with few minor exceptions exist with respect to the overall overestimation of the Liberal and Green parties and the underestimation of the Christian Democrats.

The tendency of having errors in the same direction is not unique to the 2018 election. Similar patterns are also found if we look at earlier elections. Figure 4 display under and overestimations in the final polls for each of the parties during the 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 elections. Each dot represents one pollsters estimate for each party.

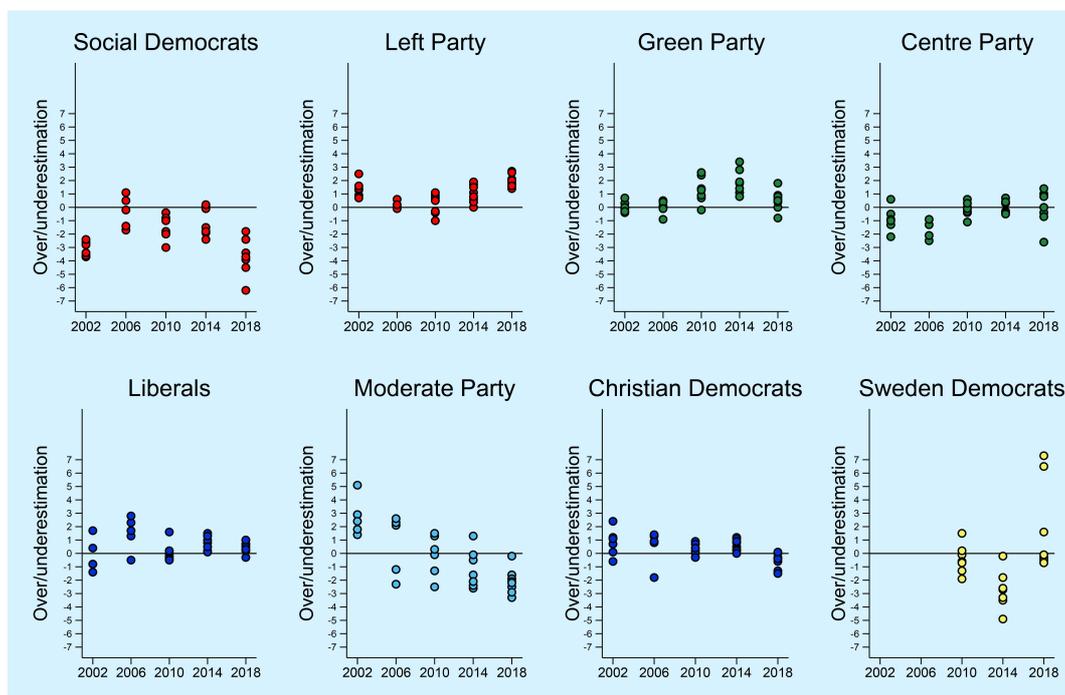
The most striking finding is perhaps the pattern that pollsters underestimate the support for the Social Democrats. Looking at final polls since 2002 the largest overestimation is 1.1 percentage points compared to the actual electoral result. In fact, the party has received a lower support in 29 out of 34 final polls with an average underestimation of 2 percentage points across all five elections. Another key finding is that there has been a systematic overestimation of the two smaller parties within the socialist bloc, the Left Party and the Green Party. The Left Party has received a higher share in the final polls published just before the election in 28 out of 34 occasions; the corresponding figure for the Green Party is an overestimation in 25 out of 34 polls.

Within the center-right bloc, there are no such obvious patterns. However, looking at 2014 and 2018, the Liberals have been overestimated in 15 out of 16 final polls, this said, before that there was a much more even distribution for the party. Pollsters have also had a problem measuring the Moderate Party. In the 2002 election, a year with lots of late developments, all pollsters overestimated the party with 1.4 to 5.1 percentage points. In 2006, there was an even split in under- and overestimating the party by about 2.5 percentage points (the exception being Sifo, -1.2 pp) and since 2014 the Moderates have been underestimated in 15 out of 16 final polls.

It is by no means self-evident why we see these systematic errors, and it is beyond this report to dissect this empirically. There are however a number of more or less plausible explanations (Prosser and Mellon 2018). One potential explanation is that these errors are the result of systematic late swings within the two established blocs. That is, voters change their vote intention, after pollsters have halted their fieldwork. This is however somewhat contradicted by the fact that the major Swedish exit poll VALU, and the election day poll conducted for Swedish TV4 displayed similar patterns in over and underestimations, underestimating the Social Democrats (with 2.1 and 2.9 pp) and the Moderate Party (2.0 and 1.4 pp) while overestimating the Left Party (1.0 and 1.8 pp).

Other potential explanations could be biases in sampling, non-response and weighting schemes. With respect to sampling bias, relying only collection via the web excludes a sizable party of the electorate who do not have access to, or who only use the Internet to a very low extent. This group is predominantly older (Bergström 2017), one of the strongest Social Democratic constituents (Oscarsson and Holmberg 2016). With respect to non-response bias, we know that the Social Democrats are strong with voters in areas where large part of the electorate is either a first or a second-generation immigrant. We also know that voters with immigrant background are less likely to participate in political surveys (Oleskog Tryggvason and Hedberg 2015).

Figure 4 Over and underestimation of the eight parties represented in the Swedish parliament 2002-2018 (percentage points)



Note: Each dot represents the over/underestimation of a pollster's final poll before each election in 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, and 2018. A value of zero represents the election result for each party, positive values indicate overestimations and negative values indicates underestimations compared to the final election result.

Summary

This report has examined the accuracy of pre-election polls conducted in the run-up to the 2018 Swedish general election. It shows an unusual large heterogeneity across polls, where two pollsters displayed the largest errors for decades. The most substantial miss was overestimating the support of the Sweden Democrats. However, with these two outliers excluded from the analysis, the six remaining pollsters performed about as good as the historical average in Sweden, both with respect to party and bloc accuracy.

One of the main findings is that once again, Swedish pollsters' error in the same direction, over and underestimating the same parties across pollsters. The most notable of these systematic errors is the pattern of underestimating the Social Democrats.

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Appendix

Table A1. The table displays the support for each party in the final pre-election poll for each of the private pollsters during the 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 Swedish General Elections.

	Pollster	Publication date	Left Party	Social Democrats	Green Party	Center Party	Liberal Party	Christian Democrats	Moderate Party	Sweden Democrats	Feminist initiative	Other Parties	Average Error
2018													
	Skop	2018-09-09	10.6	25.9	4.9	7.9	6.5	6.4	17.6	17.4	n/a (1.1)	2.5	1.2
	Inizio	2018-09-08	9.6	24.6	5.2	9.4	5.8	5.9	19.6	16.8	n/a	3.1	1.1
	Demoskop	2018-09-07	9.8	26.5	5.3	8.2	6.2	6.0	17.9	17.2	n/a (1.3)	2.8	1.0
	Novus	2018-09-07	10.0	24.9	5.0	8.6	6.5	5.7	17.7	19.1	n/a	2.5	1.4
	Sifo	2018-09-07	10.0	24.4	6.2	10.0	6.0	6.3	16.9	17.0	n/a (1.1)	3.2	1.6
	Ipsos	2018-09-05	10.1	25.9	4.8	9.6	6.2	5.9	17.3	16.8	n/a	3.4	1.3
	YouGov	2018-09-05	9.4	23.8	3.6	6.0	5.7	4.8	16.5	24.8	n/a (0.6)	5.4	2.8
	Sentio	2018-08-31	10.7	22.1	4.4	6.0	5.2	5.0	18.2	24.0	n/a (1.3)	4.3	2.7
2014													
	Novus	2014-09-13	6.1	30.9	8.8	5.6	6.9	4.8	23.2	9.6	3.3	0.8	0.8
	Sifo	2014-09-13	6.3	31.1	8.3	6.5	6.8	5.5	21.2	10.3	3.0	1.2	1.0
	Skop	2014-09-13	6.5	31.2	7.7	6.5	6.7	4.6	24.6	8.0	3.5	1.0	1.0
	Demoskop	2014-09-12	7.2	29.2	9.7	6.8	5.9	4.9	20.9	10.2	3.9	1.4	1.4
	Ipsos	2014-09-12	7.6	28.6	10.3	5.7	6.4	5.7	21.7	9.4	3.6	1.0	1.6
	United Minds	2014-09-12	5.7	31.1	8.7	5.8	5.5	5.4	22.8	11.1	3.3	0.7	0.6
	YouGov	2014-09-11	6.8	29.5	8.0	6.4	6.2	5.8	21.2	11.1	4.0	1.1	1.1
	Sentio	2014-09-09	7.4	29.1	8.8	6.5	5.6	5.1	20.7	12.7	2.5	1.7	1.1

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2010												
Ipsos	2010-09-18	4.6	29.7	8.6	6.9	6.6	5.3	30.4	5.9	n/a	2.1	0.6
Novus	2010-09-18	6.1	29.9	8.2	7.2	7.3	6.0	28.8	4.4	n/a	2.2	0.8
Sifo	2010-09-18	5.3	30.3	9.7	6.6	6.8	6.5	30.0	3.8	n/a	1.2	0.7
Skop	2010-09-18	6.7	28.7	8.0	6.5	8.7	5.6	28.8	5.0	n/a	2.0	0.9
United Minds	2010-09-18	6.3	27.7	9.9	6.3	6.7	6.3	27.6	7.2	n/a	1.8	1.3
Demoskop	2010-09-17	6.5	28.9	7.1	6.2	7.1	6.3	31.6	5.1	n/a	1.2	0.7
Sentio	2010-08-25	5.2	28.8	8.7	5.5	6.9	5.8	31.4	5.6	n/a	2.2	0.8
2006												
Ipsos	2006-09-17	6.0	33.6	4.3	7.0	7.0	8.0	28.8	n/a (2.2)	n/a	5.3	1.0
Raub	2006-09-16	5.7	35.5	5.6	5.8	9.8	4.8	28.5	n/a	n/a	4.3	1.4
Sifo	2006-09-16	5.8	34.8	5.3	7.0	9.2	7.4	25.0	n/a (2.5)	n/a	5.5	0.6
Skop	2006-09-16	6.4	36.1	5.1	6.6	10.3	7.5	23.9	n/a	n/a	4.1	1.3
Demoskop	2006-09-14	5.9	33.3	5.7	5.4	8.8	7.9	28.3	n/a		4.6	1.3
2002												
Ipsos	2002-09-14	9.8	36.5	5.3	4.9	13.8	9.2	18.2	n/a	n/a	2.4	1.4
Raub	2002-09-14	9.1	37.3	4.5	6.8	15.1	8.5	17.1	n/a	n/a	1.6	1.2
Sifo	2002-09-14	9.7	37.1	4.6	5.3	12.6	10.2	18.2	n/a	n/a	2.3	1.3
Skop	2002-09-14	10.0	37.5	4.3	5.2	12.6	11.5	17.7	n/a	n/a	1.2	1.6
Demoskop	2002-09-13	9.3	36.3	4.2	4.0	12.0	10.3	20.4	n/a	n/a	3.4	1.9
Gallup	2002-09-13	10.9	36.2	4.9	5.7	12.6	9.8	16.7	n/a	n/a	3.3	1.3

Note: Five out of eight pollsters had estimates for Feminist Initiative in 2018 and two out of five pollsters had estimates for the Sweden Democrats in 2006. When calculating the MAE for each pollster and year, these estimates are combined with the category other parties in order to have the same denominator each year.

Source: Polling data 2002-2014 is based on Novus compilation of all Swedish polls 2002-2018 (<https://novus.se/valjaropinionen/samtliga-svenska-valjarbarometrar/> - downloaded 2018-08-30) in combination with data from the Swedish National Election Studies Program (2018) (<https://datastory.se/story/matningarnas-matning>).

Table A2. Official election result 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 (percentage points)

Year	Left Party	Social Democrats	Green Party	Center Party	Liberal Party	Christian Democrats	Moderate Party	Sweden Democrats	Feminist initiative	Other*
2002	8.4	39.9	4.6	6.2	13.4	15.3	9.1			3.1
2006	5.8	35.0	5.2	7.9	7.5	26.2	6.6			5.6
2010	5.6	30.7	7.3	6.6	7.1	30.1	5.6	5.7		1.4
2014	5.7	31.0	6.9	6.1	5.4	23.3	4.6	12.9	3.1*	1.0
2018	8.0	28.3	4.4	8.6	5.5	19.8	6.3	17.5		1.5

Note: Sweden Democrats received 2.9% in 2006. Feminist Initiative received 0.7% in 2006, 0.4 % in 2010, and 0.5% in 2014. Feminist Initiatives result 2014 is displayed as all pollsters had estimates for the party.

Source: www.val.se

Det svenska Valforskningsprogrammet finns vid Statsvetenskapliga institutionen i Göteborg. Sedan tidigt 1950-tal ägnar vi oss hängivet åt empiriska studier av opinionsbildning, val och väljarbeteende och av tillståndet och utvecklingen av den svenska representativa demokratin.

Syftet med forskningen är bland annat att förklara varför väljare röstar som de gör och varför val slutar som de gör. Vi spårar och följer trender i svensk valdemokrati och gör jämförelser med utvecklingen i andra länder.

Professor Henrik Ekengren Oscarsson leder det svenska Valforskningsprogrammet.

