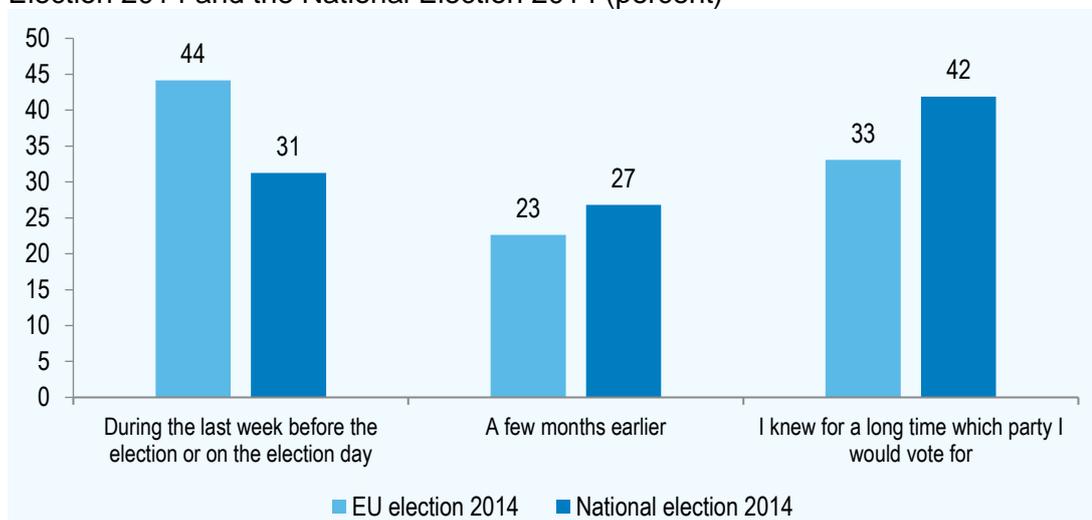


Later Decisions in EU-elections

Although it is only a few days until the EU elections of 2019, surveys from previous years show that there is actually a large proportion of voters who have not yet decided which party to vote for. In the figure below we can see that around 44 percent of the voters decided which party they would vote for in the EU elections of 2014 during the last week before the election or on the actual Election Day. 23 percent decided earlier in the spring, while 33 percent knew far in advance which party they would vote for. We can also draw a comparison with when voters decided which party they would vote for in the national parliamentary elections in 2014. There, we can see that many voters (42 percent) knew far in advance which party they would vote for, while 31 percent decided in the final week before the election. This means that there were more who decided which party they would vote for in the final week before the election in the EU elections of 2014 than in the national elections of 2014. There are several reasons why many voters make later decisions in EU elections than they do in national elections (Oscarsson 2016). Voters are less well-versed in EU elections than they are in parliamentary elections, many have low knowledge of the EU and that the election campaign is shorter for the EU elections (Oscarsson & Holmberg 2010).

Figure 1. When decisions about how to vote were made in the European Parliament Election 2014 and the National Election 2014 (percent)



Source: [The Election studies Programme](#). The European Parliament Election survey 2014 and the National Election survey 2014.

Comments: The question in the European Parliament election survey 2014 was: "When did you decide which party to vote for in the European Parliament election this year?" with the response options "At the election day" och "During the last week before the election" (coded as "During the last week of at the election day"), "earlier during spring" and "I knew for a long time how I was going to vote". The question in the National election survey 2014 was: "When did you decide which party to vote for in the national election this year? Was it during the last week before the election or earlier in the autumn and summer, or did you know how to vote for a longer period of time?" The response options were: "During the last week before the election", "Earlier during autumn and summer", "I knew for a long time how I was going to vote". The response options "Other" and "Don't know" have been coded as "Missing". The percentage is based on the number of voters who answered the questions.

Referenser

Oscarsson, H (2016) "Flytande väljare: Demokratistatistik rapport 21" Stockholm: SCB

Oscarsson, H & Holmberg, S (2010) "Väljarbeteende i Europaval" Göteborg: Statsvetenskapliga Institutionen.