

= Valencia ( Spanish Congress Electoral District ) =

Valencia is one of the 52 electoral districts ( Spanish : circunscripciones ) used for the Spanish Congress of Deputies ? the lower chamber of the Spanish Parliament , the Cortes Generales . It is the third largest district in Congress in terms of the numbers of deputies elected . From 1986 until 2015 it elected sixteen deputies out of the total number of three hundred and fifty . Since the 2015 General Election it has elected fifteen members . Corresponding to the Province of Valencia , most of the electorate resides in the metropolitan area of Valencia which includes Valencia City and its satellite towns such as Torrent , Paterna , Mislata , Burjassot and Xirivella .

In political terms , the district has shown a long term shift to the right . Valencia initially favoured the parties of the left and centre left who won nine of the district ' s fifteen seats in the 1977 election , an election which was won overall by the centre right Union of the Democratic Centre ( UCD ) . However , by 2008 , despite the fact that the centre left Spanish Socialist Workers ' Party ( PSOE ) won the election , the centre right People ' s Party ( PP ) won nine of the sixteen seats in the district . Although smaller parties such as United Left and Valencian Union polled over 10 % in previous elections and won seats , elections until 2008 had become dominated by the two main Spanish parties , the PSOE and PP , who won all the seats in the 2008 election and together received over 90 % of the votes cast . However , at the 2011 election , United Left regained a seat , while Coalició Compromís and Union , Progress and Democracy won their first seats in the district .

= = Boundaries and electoral system = =

Under Article 68 of the Spanish constitution , the boundaries of the electoral district must be the same as the province of Valencia and , under Article 140 , this can only be altered with the approval of congress . At the time of the 2008 election , the largest municipality , Valencia City , had 585 @ , @ 000 voters out of the total electorate of 1 @ , @ 900 @ , @ 000 . The next largest municipalities were Torrent ( 56 @ , @ 000 ) , Sagunto ( 49 @ , @ 000 ) , Gandia ( 48 @ , @ 000 ) , Paterna ( 44 @ , @ 000 ) , Alzira ( 32 @ , @ 000 ) and Mislata ( 32 @ , @ 000 ) . There are no other municipalities with electorates over 30 @ , @ 000 .

Voting is on the basis of universal suffrage in a secret ballot . The electoral system used is closed list proportional representation with seats allocated using the D 'Hondt method . Only lists which poll 3 % of the total vote ( which includes votes " en blanco " i.e. for none of the above ) can be considered . Under article 12 of the constitution , the minimum voting age is 18 .

= = Electoral procedures = =

The laws regulating the conduct and administration of elections are laid out in detail in the 1985 electoral law . ( Ley Orgánica del Régimen Electoral General . ) Under this law , the elections in Valencia , as in other districts , are supervised by the Electoral Commission ( Junta Electoral ) , a permanent body composed of eight Supreme Court judges and five political scientists or sociologists appointed by the Congress of Deputies . The Electoral commission is supported in its work by the Interior Ministry . On election day , polling stations are run by electoral boards which consist of groups of citizens selected by lottery .

The format of the ballot paper is designed by the Spanish state , however , the law allows political parties to produce and distribute their own ballot papers , either by mailing them to voters or by other means such as street distribution , provided that they comply with the official model . The government then covers the cost of all printed ballot papers . These must then be marked by voters , either in the polling station or outside the polling station and placed inside sealed envelopes which are then placed inside ballot boxes in the polling station . Following the close of polls , the ballots are then counted in each individual polling station in the presence of representatives of the political parties and candidates . The ballots are then immediately destroyed , with the exception of those considered invalid or challenged by the candidates ' representatives , which are retained for further scrutiny . The result is that full recounts are impossible .

= = Eligibility = =

Article 67 @. @ 3 of the Spanish Constitution prohibits dual membership of both chambers of the Cortes or of the Cortes and regional assemblies , meaning that candidates must resign from regional assemblies if elected . Article 70 also makes active judges , magistrates , public defenders , serving military personnel , active police officers and members of constitutional and electoral tribunals ineligible . Additionally , under Article 11 of the Political Parties Law , June 2002 ( Ley Orgánica 6 / 2002 , de 27 de junio , de Partidos Políticos ) , parties and individual candidates may be prevented from standing by the Spanish Supreme Court ( Tribunal Supremo ) , if they are judged to have violated Article 9 of that law which prohibits parties which are perceived to discriminate against people on the basis of ideology , religion , beliefs , nationality , race , gender or sexual orientation ( Article 9a ) , foment or organise violence as a means of achieving political objectives ( Article 9b ) or support or compliment the actions of " terrorist organisations " ( Article 9c ) . Article 55 , Section 2 of the 1985 electoral law also disqualifies director generals or equivalent leaders of state monopolies and public bodies such as the Spanish state broadcaster RTVE . Lastly , following changes to the electoral law which took effect for the 2007 municipal elections , candidates ' lists must be composed of at least 40 % of candidates of either gender and each group of five candidates must contain at least two males and two females .

= = = Presenting candidates = = =

Parties and coalitions of different parties which have registered with the Electoral Commission can present lists of candidates ( Article 44 , 1985 electoral law ) . Groups of electors which have not registered with the commission can also present lists , provided that they obtain the signatures of 1 % of registered electors in a particular district ( Article 169 ) .

= = Number of members = =

In the general elections of 1977 , 1979 and 1982 , Valencia returned 15 members . That figure was increased to 16 members for the 1986 general election and remained at that level until the 2015 General Election , when it was reduced to 15 members . It returned to 16 members for the 2016 General Election .

Under Spanish electoral law , all provinces are awarded an initial minimum of two seats , while the cities of Ceuta and Melilla must be single member districts . The remaining 248 seats are then allocated to provinces according to their population , ignoring the two minimum seats that they were awarded .

The practical effect of this law has been to over @-@ represent smaller provinces at the expense of larger provinces like Valencia . In 2008 , for example , Spain had 35 @, @ 073 @, @ 179 voters giving an average of 100 @, @ 209 voters per deputy . In Valencia , however , the number of voters per deputy was 118 @, @ 704 , in contrast to the smallest provinces of Teruel and Soria where the ratio was 38 @, @ 071 and 38 @, @ 685 , respectively .

= = Political parties = =

The following political parties have won seats in the district .

= = = Active parties = = =

People 's Party ( PP ) : formed in 1989 . It grew out of the earlier Popular Alliance ( AP ) . The PP has been described as conservative and a " catch @-@ all pluralistic party with tendencies towards more conservative neo @-@ liberal policies . " In regional elections , the PP has held the Presidency of the Valencian region since the 1995 elections and the Mayoral position in Valencia

city since the 1991 local election .

Spanish Socialist Workers ' Party ( PSOE ) : formed in 1879 , the PSOE is a social @-@ democratic political party . The party held the Presidency of the Valencian region from 1983 to 1995 and the Mayoral position in Valencia city from 1979 until the 1991 local election .

United Left ( IU )

Democratic and Social Centre ( CDS )

Coalició Compromís

Union , Progress and Democracy

= = = Inactive and defunct parties = = =

Union of the Democratic Centre ( UCD )

Popular Socialist Party ( PSP )

Valencian Union ( UV ) : formed in August 1982 , was described variously as a " centre right regionalist party " and " Valencian nationalist " It opposed pan @-@ Catalanism ( the merging of the Valencia region with Catalonia proper ) and regarded Valencian to be a different language from Catalan .

= = Results by municipality = =

In recent elections the People 's Party ( PP ) has polled best in Valencia City , with the Spanish Socialist Workers ' Party ( PSOE ) polling best in the satellite towns , particularly to the immediate west of Valencia in the region known as " L 'Horta Oest " .

= = = 2004 election = = =

While the PP enjoyed a lead of 3 @. @ 5 % overall , PSOE polled strongly in Quart de Poblet where they led the PP by over 20 % . They led by 15 % in the neighbouring municipality of Alaquàs and had leads of 10 % in the nearby towns of Aldaia and Xirivella . PP led by almost 10 % in Valencia City and this was strongly concentrated in the city 's central districts . In four districts in particular ? Extramurs , L 'Eixample , Ciutat Vella and El Pla del Real ? PP polled between 60 % and 67 % and led PSOE by between 31 % and 41 % .

At neighbourhood level the differences were even more pronounced . While Carmen and Russafa districts were close to the city average , the PP polled nearly 80 % of the vote in the central neighbourhoods of Sant Francesc and El Pla del Remei ( in the latter they had polled 84 @. @ 1 % against 8 @. @ 7 % for the PSOE in the year 2000 ) . PSOE 's best performances came in the outlying neighbourhood of Ciutat Fallera where they led by 20 % and they also polled well in parts of Benimaclet and the Malvarosa area , adjacent Valencia port .

United Left ( IU ) generally failed to break the 10 % barrier in most areas . In the seven largest municipalities , they only polled more than 10 % in Sagunt . They polled best in Favara ( 21 @. @ 0 % ) , Otos ( 20 @. @ 8 % ) , Barxeta ( 20 @. @ 6 % ) and Bunyol , where they received 18 @. @ 6 % of the vote . Bloc Nacionalista Valencia 's best performances were in the Comarca of Safor , near the city of Gandia . There , their best results came in Potries ( 19 @. @ 6 % ) Palmera ( 17 @. @ 6 % ) Guardamar de la Safor ( 17 @. @ 5 % ) and Benifairó de la Valldigna ( 12 @. @ 1 % ) . Outside of Safor , their best result came in Albalat dels Tarongers where they polled almost 12 % .

= = = 2008 election = = =

The 2008 election saw the PP improve their position relative to the PSOE in most municipalities in the Valencian community . In Valencia City , they extended their lead over the PSOE to 15 % and overtook the PSOE to become the most voted party in Burjassot , Mislata , Paterna and Xirivella . In the other satellite towns , PSOE 's lead over the PP was cut to 10 % in Quart de Poblet and to 1 % in both Aldaia and Alaquas . PP 's highest vote shares came in Castellonnet de la Conquesta where

they polled nearly 76 % and Terrateig ( 74 % ) . PSOE ? s highest percentages came in Carrícola ( 77 % ) and Sempere ( 74 % ) .

United Left ( IU ) and Bloc Nacionalista Valencia were outpolled by the PP and PSOE in all municipalities . IU ? s highest vote shares were just over 16 % in Polinyà de Xúquer and Fuenterrobles . Bloc exceeded 10 % of the vote in only two municipalities ? Otos and Potries . While Bloc and IU ? s vote share declined in most areas , IU increased their vote from under 1 % in 2004 in Real de Gandia to 8 % in 2008 . Coalició Valenciana ( CVa ) were the only other party to exceed the 5 % barrier in any municipality which they achieved in Benifla . As in 2004 , Ràfol de Salem had the highest turnout at over 94 % . The lowest turnout was in Andilla at 73 % .

One of the more unusual results relative to 2004 occurred in Puebla de San Miguel which had the lowest turnout in 2004 at 51 % . In 2008 , the turnout increased to 76 % and this benefited the PSOE who increased their vote by 25 % with the PP 's share dropping by 19 % .

= = Summary of seats won 1977 @-@ 2016 = =

Seats shown for the People 's Party include seats won by their predecessors , the Popular Alliance and the Popular Coalition before 1989 - including those won as part of an electoral alliance with the Valencian Union ( UV ) in 1982 . Seats shown for United Left include seats won by the Communist Party of Spain before 1986 .

PP formed an unofficial electoral pact with UV for the 2004 election , under which the UV leader and former Valencia deputy José María Chiquillo was elected to the Spanish Senate as part of the PP ticket . This proved controversial with the membership and led to a split in the party .

= = = Vote share summary 1977 @-@ 2015 = = =

? From 1982 to 1996 Unitat del Poble Valencià , from 2000 to 2008 Valencian Nationalist Bloc , for 2011 Coalició Compromís .

= = 2008 Election = =

The then Deputy Prime Minister and former Madrid deputy María Teresa Fernández de la Vega headed the PSOE list at the 2008 election . This was interpreted as an attempt to at least gain the United Left seat and possibly advance to nine seats . However , the PSOE vote share fell . Controversy over the repeal of a PP plan to divert the River Ebro had been an important issue in the campaign . The National Hydrological Plan , approved by the former PP government in 2001 , had planned to divert the Ebro to the Communities of Valencia and Murcia .

For the PP , former President of the Valencian community , Eduardo Zaplana , moved to Madrid district while Vicente Martínez Pujalte , who became the first deputy in the 2004 @-@ 08 congress to be expelled from the chamber by the speaker , stood instead in Murcia . Both were reelected . After the Mayor of Valencia , Rita Barberá Nolla turned down an offer to head the PP list , Esteban González Pons was selected as head of the list .

Isaura Navarro was deselected by the regional federation of United Left ( IU ) on 18 November 2007 being replaced by Antonio Montalbán . The Federal Executive Praesidium of IU annulled this result one month later , citing irregularities in membership registration . Following the controversy , Navarro resigned from IU and stood unsuccessfully as part of a multi @-@ party list which included Bloc Nacionalista Valencia . However , neither Montalbán nor Navarro were successful , with the PP gaining the final seat . Valencian Union , which had previously won seats in the district , decided not to contest the 2008 election .

In the wake of the 2008 election result , the Prime Minister , José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero , highlighted Valencia as one of five areas where the PSOE needed to improve its results .

= = Results = =

== 2016 General Election ==

Turnout = 75 @. @ 4 %

== 2015 General Election ==

Turnout = 76 @. @ 4 %

== 2011 General Election ==

Turnout = 74 @. @ 9 %

\* Moreno was replaced by María Martín Revuelta on 10 December 2014 .

# Rodríguez @-@ Piñero was replaced by Antoni Such Botella in July 2014 . On 14 July 2015 , Such was replaced by Talía Roselló Saus .

? Cantó resigned in April 2015 and was replaced by Julio Leonart Crespo .

== 2008 General Election ==

Turnout = 79 @. @ 1 %

\* Catala resigned and was replaced by Teresa García on 14 October 2008 .

# On 16 April 2009 Rodríguez @-@ Piñero was named General Secretary of Infrastructure and was replaced by José Luís Ábalos Meco .

? In August 2009 Michavila resigned his seat , citing " personal and family reasons . " He was replaced by Inmaculada Guaita Vañó on 3 September 2009 .

== 2004 General Election ==

Turnout = 77 @. @ 7 %

\* Calomarde resigned from the PP in April 2007 , and subsequently sat in the mixed group - a group which consists of non @-@ party deputies and those parties unable to form a parliamentary group with at least five deputies .

== 2000 General Election ==

Turnout = 72 @. @ 1 %

\* On 8 April 2002 , Francisco Camps was replaced by Inmaculada Martínez Cervera .

# José Luis Juan Sanz replaced Martorell on 16 May 2000 . Martorell 's six @-@ week term as deputy is the shortest period served by a Valencia deputy since the restoration of democracy .

? Michavila , who had moved to the district for the 2000 election after representing Madrid for the previous seven years , was replaced by María Oltra Torres on 19 May 2000 .

§ On 19 May 2000 , Gerardo Camps was replaced by Miguel Albiach Chisbert .

? On 2 June 2003 , Pla was replaced by Margarita Pin , a former deputy who had lost her seat at the 2000 election .

== 1996 General Election ==

Turnout = 81 @. @ 6 %

\* Camps was replaced by Fernando Coquillat Durán on 24 February 1997 . Coquillat was in turn replaced by María José Mora Devis on 19 August 1999 .

# Romero was replaced by Joan Pla Durá on 12 April 1999 .

== 1993 General Election ==

Turnout = 81 @. @ 8 %

\* On 10 June 1994 , Albero was replaced by Javier Paniagua Fuentes , a former deputy who had lost his seat at the 1993 election .

# On 27 June 1994 , Garcia @- @ Margallo was replaced by Vicente Martínez @- @ Pujalte López

? On 4 October 1994 , González Lizondo was replaced by José María Chiquillo Barber

= = = 1989 General Election = = =

Turnout = 75 @. @ 1 %

\* Agramunt was replaced by Juan Albiñana Calatayud on 11 June 1991 .

= = = 1986 General Election = = =

Turnout = 77 @. @ 0 %

\* On 23 June 1987 Sanz was elected to the European parliament and was replaced by former deputy Daniel Vidal Escartí , the second election in a row on which Vidal was elected as a replacement for another deputy . Another returning deputy at this election was García @- @ Margallo , who had represented Melilla for the UCD from 1977 @- @ 1982 , while CDS member Joaquin Abril Martorell was the brother of Fernando Abril Martorell , who had served in the 1979 @- @ 1982 legislature as a UCD deputy .

= = = 1982 General Election = = =

Turnout = 83 @. @ 4 %

\* Lerma Blasco was replaced by Daniel Vidal Escartí on 15 February 1983

# Romero was replaced by José Pons Grau on 19 January 1983 .

? Giner Miralles was replaced by Ignacio Gil Lázaro on 26 May 1983 .

= = = 1979 General Election = = =

Turnout = 74 @. @ 8 %

\* Albiñana Olmos resigned on 27 February 1980 and was replaced by Adela Pla Pastor , who thus became the first female representative for Valencia after the restoration of democracy .

= = = 1977 General Election = = =

Turnout = 84 @. @ 7 % Source :