

Kuwaiti Parliamentary Elections: National Assembly

[16 May 2009]

Brief review

Elections for the elective seats in the National Assembly took place in Kuwait on 16 May 2009 following a premature dissolution of the National Assembly on 18 March 2009. The elections were held according to the Electoral Law Number 42 of year 2006 that reduced the number of constituencies from 25 to 5, such that 10 candidates from each constituency will win seats in the parliament.

210 candidates including 16 women competed for 50 seats in the National Assembly distributed over 5 constituencies. The number of registered voters was 384,790. Of the eligible voters, 175,679 were men and 209,111 were women.

[See also: [Legal background, detailed results and in-depth coverage](#) (external link)]

Summary of results and statistics

The overall turnout in these elections was around 58%.

The two mainstream Sunni groups, the Islamic Salafi Alliance and the Islamic Constitutional Movement, the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood, won three seats compared to seven seats in the previous elections. Sunni Islamists won a total of 11 seats compared to 21 in the previous elections.

The Shia Muslim minority gained nine seats compared to five seats in the previous elections. Tribal candidates won 25 seats and the popular bloc headed by Ahmad Al Saadoon won 3 seats.

Four women won for the first time in Kuwait history. Maasouma Al-Mubarak, a former minister, came first in the first constituency with 14,274 votes, while Salwa Al-Jassar won a seat to represent the second constituency with 4,776 votes. In the third constituency, Aseel Al-Awadhi came second with 11,860 votes then Rola Dashti came sixth with 7,666 votes.