Bavaria election results: Scholz coalition dealt a blow

After key regional elections on Sunday in Germany conservatives and right-wing populists are celebrating.

But the results are a blow for all three parties in Chancellor Olaf Scholz's left-wing-led national coalition. The ramifications will be felt across Germany.

A quarter of voters were able to go to the polls in regional elections in two of Germany's largest and wealthiest states, Bavaria and Hesse.

In both regions, conservative and right-wing populist parties used the election campaign to bash Olaf Scholz's national government over migration and energy policy. It paid off.

In Hesse, according to initial predictions, the conservative incumbent CDU scored 34.5% of the vote, a substantial gain on its solid win last time.

The far-right AfD also upped its previous score by a couple of percent to a predicted 18%, which would be the AfD's highest score in a western German state election and put the party in second place.

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