



RESEARCH PAPER 04/61  
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# UK Election Statistics: 1918-2004

This paper summarises the results of UK general elections since 1918. It focuses on elections to Westminster and includes statistics on voting at general and by-elections, characteristics of MPs and performance of minor parties.

Data for local elections, European Parliamentary elections and elections to devolved bodies are also included, as are by-elections, referendums and elections for local mayors and other referendums in the UK since 1945.

It replaces and expands on Library Research Paper 03/59 *UK Election Statistics 1945-2003*.

Jessica Yonwin

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## Relevant Research Papers and Standard Notes

### Research Papers

<b>01/54</b>	General Election results, 7 June 2001	18.06.01
<b>01/71</b>	The Local Elections of 7 June 2001	27.09.01
<b>02/33</b>	Local Elections in England: 2 May 2002	09.05.02
<b>03/44</b>	Local Elections 2003	12.05.03
<b>03/45</b>	Welsh Assembly Elections: 1 May 2003	14.05.03
<b>03/46</b>	Scottish Parliament Elections: 1 May 2003	14.05.03
<b>04/42</b>	Social Indicators	07.06.04
<b>04/48</b>	2004 London elections	18.06.04
<b>04/49</b>	Local elections 2004	23.06.04
<b>04/50</b>	European Parliament elections 2004	23.06.04

### Standard Notes

<b>SN/SG/2233</b>	General Election 2001: Incumbents and seat winners	14.07.03
<b>SN/SG/2633</b>	Turnout: Social Indicators page	17.09.03
<b>SN/SG/2634</b>	Local, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly and European Parliament elections: Social Indicators page	17.09.03
<b>SN/SG/2636</b>	Voter characteristics: Social Indicators page	17.09.03
<b>SN/SG/2608</b>	Electoral Swing	17.09.03
<b>SN/SG/2165</b>	Electorates 2003/4	08.03.04
<b>SN/SG/2635</b>	Opinion polls: Social Indicators page	17.05.04
<b>SN/SG/1982</b>	The electoral performance of far-right parties in the UK	29.06.04

## II Introduction

This research paper summarises the results of general elections since 1918, elections to the devolved institutions in Wales and Scotland since 1999, recent European and local election results and referendums held since 1945. The paper is intended as a summary. In many cases more detailed results are available in other Library Research Papers, such as those summarising General Election Results issued after the elections in 1997 and 2001.

Section II examines general election results in the UK since 1918. Tables show the results in the UK as a whole and its constituent countries. Figures are also presented on turnout, spoilt and postal ballots, women MPs and ethnic minority MPs.

Section III looks at the performance of minor parties in general elections since 1945.

The results of parliamentary by-elections since the 1945 general election are summarised in Section IV.

Section V examines the results of elections of UK Members of the European Parliament.

Section VI looks at the results of elections to the devolved bodies in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and London, while Section VII examines the results of local elections since 1997 and the referendums and subsequent election results for local mayors.

Four referendums were held to establish the National Assembly for Wales, Scottish Parliament, Northern Ireland Assembly and Greater London Authority. Summary results are given in Section VIII along with details of other referendums held in the UK since 1945.

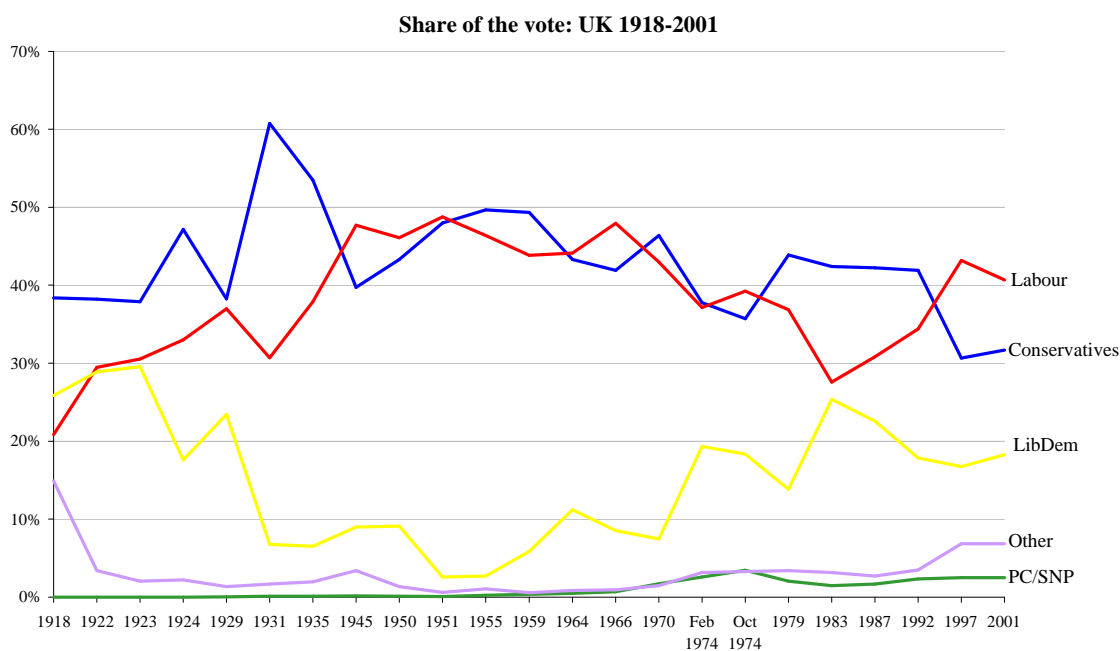
Finally, Section IX presents opinion poll data on voting intention compiled by ICM and MORI, as well as party leader approval ratings from MORI polls.

The aim of this Paper is to provide summary data on UK election results. Further information regarding elections in the UK since 1832 can be found in *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999* by Colin Rallings and Michael Thrasher, published in 2000 by Parliamentary Research Services.

### III General Elections since 1918

#### A. Summary of results

Tables 1a to 1f and the charts below summarise the results of the general elections from 1918 to 2001.



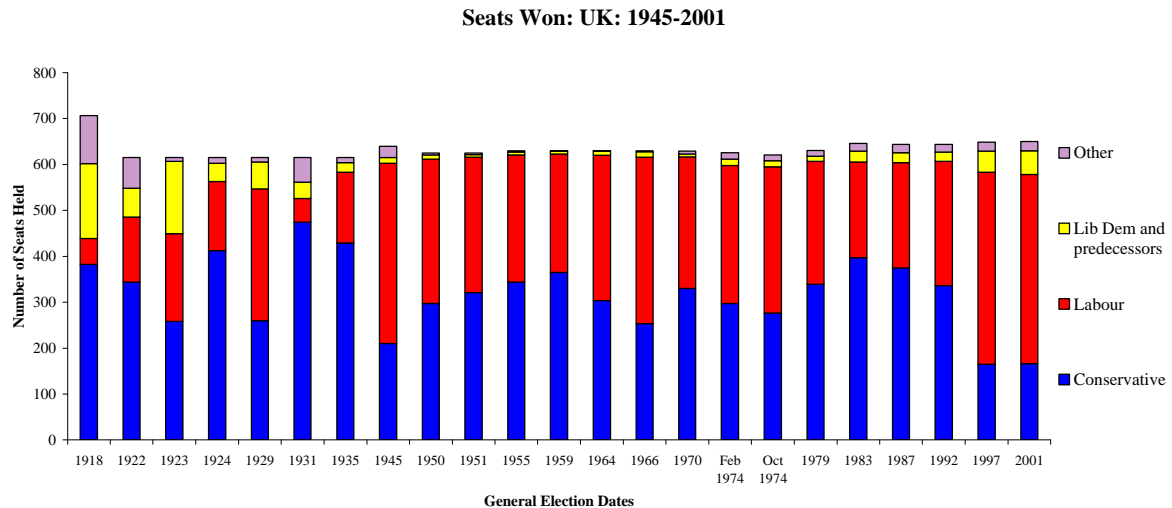
Some of the main points are:

- In terms of seats won, the Conservatives were the largest party on fourteen occasions Labour on nine. On three occasions the general election has resulted in the party with most seats failing to gain an overall majority. In 1923 the Conservatives gained 258 out of 615 seats, in 1929 Labour won 287 out of 615 seats and in February 1974 Labour gained 301 out of 635 seats.
- On three occasions the party gaining most votes did not win the most seats. In 1929, the Conservatives polled the most votes but, the Labour Party won the election with 27 more seats than the Conservatives. In 1951 Labour polled most votes yet won 26 fewer seats than the Conservatives. In February 1974, the Conservatives polled 180,000 more votes than Labour but won four fewer seats.
- Since 1918, the Conservatives' best result in terms of seats won was in 1931 (474 seats). This was due to the formation of the National Government coalition from the Conservative, Labour, National Labour Organisation, and National parties. The Conservatives best result in the post war period was in



1983 where they won 397 seats. Correspondingly, this was Labour's worst result in terms of seats (209) and share of vote (27.6%), since 1945.

- Labour's 418 seats won in 1997 was their highest ever, while their highest vote share was recorded in 1951 (48.8%), an election they lost. The Conservatives' lowest vote share was in 1997 (30.7%).



- The Liberal Party won 163 seats in the 1918 General Election, its best result in terms of seats won. Since 1945 the highest number of seats won by the Liberals was at the 2001 general election (52), where they campaigned as the Liberal Democrats.
- The Scottish National Party won its first seat at a general election in 1970, although it had won a by-election in 1967. Its highest share of the vote in Scotland was at the October 1974 Election when it polled 30.4% of the vote.
- Plaid Cymru won its first seats at a general election in February 1974. It had previously won a by-election in 1966. Its highest share of the vote in Wales was 14.3% in the 2001 election.

From 1950, the Speaker of the House of Commons has sought re-election as "The Speaker" and not as a party candidate. In this Paper, where the Speaker stood for re-election s/he has been classified as "Other" rather than the political party for which s/he was previously a Member.

Table 1a

**General Election Results: 1918-2001: United Kingdom**

	Votes (millions)						Share of vote (%)					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total
*1918	4.14	2.25	2.79	0.00	1.61	10.79	38.4%	20.9%	25.9%	0.0%	14.9%	100.0%
1922	5.50	4.24	4.16	0.00	0.49	14.39	38.2%	29.5%	28.9%	0.0%	3.4%	100.0%
1923	5.51	4.44	4.30	0.00	0.30	14.55	37.9%	30.5%	29.6%	0.0%	2.1%	100.0%
1924	7.85	5.49	2.93	0.00	0.37	16.64	47.2%	33.0%	17.6%	0.0%	2.2%	100.0%
1929	8.66	8.37	5.31	0.00	0.31	22.65	38.2%	37.0%	23.4%	0.0%	1.4%	100.0%
1931	13.16	6.65	1.47	0.02	0.36	21.66	60.7%	30.7%	6.8%	0.1%	1.6%	100.0%
1935	11.76	8.33	1.44	0.03	0.43	21.99	53.5%	37.9%	6.5%	0.1%	2.0%	100.0%
1945	9.97	11.97	2.25	0.05	0.86	25.10	39.7%	47.7%	9.0%	0.2%	3.4%	100.0%
1950	12.47	13.27	2.62	0.03	0.39	28.77	43.3%	46.1%	9.1%	0.1%	1.4%	100.0%
1951	13.72	13.95	0.73	0.02	0.18	28.60	48.0%	48.8%	2.6%	0.1%	0.6%	100.0%
1955	13.29	12.41	0.72	0.06	0.29	26.76	49.6%	46.4%	2.7%	0.2%	1.1%	100.0%
1959	13.75	12.22	1.64	0.10	0.16	27.86	49.4%	43.8%	5.9%	0.4%	0.6%	100.0%
1964	11.98	12.21	3.10	0.13	0.24	27.66	43.3%	44.1%	11.2%	0.5%	0.9%	100.0%
1966	11.42	13.07	2.33	0.19	0.26	27.26	41.9%	47.9%	8.5%	0.7%	1.0%	100.0%
1970	13.15	12.18	2.12	0.48	0.42	28.34	46.4%	43.0%	7.5%	1.7%	1.5%	100.0%
1974 Feb	11.83	11.65	6.06	0.80	1.00	31.34	37.8%	37.2%	19.3%	2.6%	3.2%	100.0%
1974 Oct	10.43	11.46	5.35	1.01	0.95	29.19	35.7%	39.3%	18.3%	3.4%	3.3%	100.0%
1979	13.70	11.51	4.31	0.64	1.07	31.22	43.9%	36.9%	13.8%	2.0%	3.4%	100.0%
1983	13.01	8.46	7.78	0.46	0.96	30.67	42.4%	27.6%	25.4%	1.5%	3.1%	100.0%
1987	13.74	10.03	7.34	0.54	0.88	32.53	42.2%	30.8%	22.6%	1.7%	2.7%	100.0%
1992	14.09	11.56	6.00	0.78	1.18	33.61	41.9%	34.4%	17.8%	2.3%	3.5%	100.0%
1997	9.60	13.52	5.24	0.78	2.14	31.29	30.7%	43.2%	16.8%	2.5%	6.8%	100.0%
2001	8.36	10.72	4.81	0.66	1.81	26.37	31.7%	40.7%	18.3%	2.5%	6.9%	100.0%

	Candidates						Seats won					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total
*1918	445	361	421	0	396	1,623	382	57	163	0	105	707
1922	482	414	485	0	60	1,441	344	142	62	0	67	615
1923	536	427	457	0	26	1,446	258	191	158	0	8	615
1924	534	514	339	0	41	1,428	412	151	40	0	12	615
1929	590	569	513	3	55	1,730	260	287	59	0	9	615
1931	522	516	117	7	130	1,292	474	52	36	0	53	615
1935	515	552	161	9	111	1,348	429	154	21	0	11	615
1945	618	603	306	15	141	1,683	210	393	12	0	25	640
1950	618	617	475	10	148	1,868	297	315	9	0	4	625
1951	617	590	104	9	56	1,376	321	295	6	0	3	625
1955	623	620	110	13	43	1,409	344	277	6	0	3	630
1959	625	621	216	25	49	1,536	365	258	6	0	1	630
1964	629	628	365	28	97	1,747	303	317	9	0	1	630
1966	629	621	311	43	103	1,707	253	363	12	0	2	630
1970	629	624	332	101	151	1,837	330	287	6	1	6	630
1974 Feb	623	623	517	106	266	2,135	297	301	14	9	14	635
1974 Oct	621	623	619	107	282	2,252	276	319	13	14	13	635
1979	622	622	577	107	648	2,576	339	268	11	4	13	635
1983	633	633	633	110	569	2,578	397	209	23	4	17	650
1987	632	633	633	109	318	2,325	375	229	22	6	18	650
1992	645	634	632	107	931	2,949	336	271	20	7	17	651
1997	648	639	639	112	1,686	3,724	165	418	46	10	20	659
2001	643	640	639	112	1,285	3,319	166	412	52	9	20	659

(a) Includes Coalition Conservative for 1918; includes National for 1931; includes National, National Liberal and National Labour for 1931-1935; includes National and National Liberal for 1945. includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Includes Coalition Liberal Party for 1918; includes National Liberal for 1922; includes Independent Liberal for 1931; Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

\* Figures for Ireland, not Northern Ireland

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999*, *Rallings and Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000*  
House of Commons Library data

Table 1b

**General Election Results: 1918-2001: Great Britain**

	<b>Votes (millions)</b>						<b>Share of vote (%)</b>					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total
1918	3.85	2.25	2.79	0.00	0.86	9.75	39.5%	23.0%	28.6%	0.0%	8.8%	100.0%
1922	5.39	4.24	4.14	0.00	0.41	14.18	38.0%	29.9%	29.2%	0.0%	2.9%	100.0%
1923	5.40	4.44	4.30	0.00	0.17	14.31	37.7%	31.0%	30.1%	0.0%	1.2%	100.0%
1924	7.40	5.49	2.93	0.00	0.30	16.12	45.9%	34.0%	18.2%	0.0%	1.9%	100.0%
1929	8.30	8.37	5.21	0.00	0.25	22.14	37.5%	37.8%	23.5%	0.0%	1.1%	100.0%
1931	13.01	6.64	1.48	0.02	0.23	21.37	60.9%	31.1%	6.9%	0.1%	1.1%	100.0%
1935	11.76	8.33	1.44	0.03	0.44	22.00	53.4%	37.8%	6.6%	0.1%	2.0%	100.0%
1945	9.58	11.90	2.25	0.05	0.59	24.38	39.3%	48.8%	9.2%	0.2%	2.4%	100.0%
1950	12.12	13.20	2.62	0.03	0.25	28.21	42.9%	46.8%	9.3%	0.1%	0.9%	100.0%
1951	13.44	13.89	0.73	0.02	0.05	28.13	47.8%	49.4%	2.6%	0.1%	0.2%	100.0%
1955	12.84	12.37	0.72	0.06	0.12	26.11	49.2%	47.4%	2.8%	0.2%	0.5%	100.0%
1959	13.31	12.17	1.64	0.10	0.07	27.29	48.8%	44.6%	6.0%	0.4%	0.3%	100.0%
1964	11.58	12.10	3.08	0.13	0.12	27.02	42.9%	44.8%	11.4%	0.5%	0.4%	100.0%
1966	11.05	12.99	2.30	0.19	0.14	26.67	41.4%	48.7%	8.6%	0.7%	0.5%	100.0%
1970	12.72	12.08	2.11	0.48	0.17	27.57	46.2%	43.8%	7.6%	1.7%	0.6%	100.0%
1974 Feb	11.83	11.65	6.06	0.80	0.28	30.62	38.6%	38.0%	19.8%	2.6%	0.9%	100.0%
1974 Oct	10.43	11.46	5.35	1.01	0.25	28.49	36.6%	40.2%	18.8%	3.5%	0.9%	100.0%
1979	13.70	11.51	4.31	0.64	0.37	30.53	44.9%	37.7%	14.1%	2.1%	1.2%	100.0%
1983	13.01	8.46	7.78	0.46	0.20	29.91	43.5%	28.3%	26.0%	1.5%	0.7%	100.0%
1987	13.74	10.03	7.34	0.54	0.15	31.80	43.2%	31.5%	23.1%	1.7%	0.5%	100.0%
1992	14.05	11.56	6.00	0.78	0.44	32.83	42.8%	35.2%	18.3%	2.4%	1.3%	100.0%
1997	9.59	13.52	5.24	0.78	1.36	30.50	31.5%	44.3%	17.2%	2.6%	4.5%	100.0%
2001	8.36	10.72	4.81	0.66	1.00	25.56	32.7%	42.0%	18.8%	2.6%	3.9%	100.0%

	<b>Candidates</b>						<b>Seats won</b>					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC/SNP	Other	Total
1918	409	361	421	0	228	1,419	359	57	163	0	27	606
1922	470	414	485	0	57	1,426	334	142	115	0	12	603
1923	524	427	457	0	22	1,430	248	191	158	0	6	603
1924	522	514	339	0	31	1,406	400	40	151	0	12	603
1929	580	569	507	3	49	1,708	250	287	59	0	7	603
1931	571	515	117	7	66	1,276	512	52	36	0	3	603
1935	571	552	161	9	38	1,331	419	154	21	0	9	603
1945	606	598	306	15	134	1,659	202	393	12	0	21	628
1950	606	612	475	10	142	1,845	287	315	9	0	2	613
1951	608	586	104	9	49	1,356	312	295	6	0	0	613
1955	611	617	110	13	30	1,381	334	277	6	0	1	618
1959	613	618	215	25	36	1,507	353	258	6	0	1	618
1964	617	618	361	28	94	1,718	291	317	9	0	1	618
1966	617	617	308	43	95	1,680	242	363	12	0	1	618
1970	617	617	328	101	134	1,797	322	287	6	1	2	618
1974 Feb	623	623	517	106	218	2,087	297	301	14	9	2	623
1974 Oct	621	623	619	107	239	2,209	276	319	13	14	1	623
1979	622	622	577	107	584	2,512	339	268	11	4	1	623
1983	633	633	633	110	474	2,483	397	209	23	4	0	633
1987	632	633	633	109	241	2,248	375	229	22	6	1	633
1992	634	634	632	107	842	2,849	336	271	20	7	0	634
1997	640	639	639	112	1,569	3,599	165	418	46	10	2	641
2001	640	640	639	112	1,188	3,219	166	412	52	9	2	641

(a) Includes Coalition Conservative for 1918; includes National for 1931; includes National, National Liberal and National Labour for 1931-1935; includes National and National Liberal for 1945. includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Includes Coalition Liberal Party for 1918; includes National Liberal for 1922; includes Independent Liberal for 1931; Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Rallings and Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000 House of Commons Library data*

Table 1c

**General Election Results: 1918-2001: England**

	<b>Votes (millions)</b>					<b>Share of vote (%)</b>				
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	Other	Total
1918	3.41	1.81	2.14	0.69	8.05	42.4%	22.5%	26.5%	8.6%	100.0%
1922	4.81	3.37	3.21	0.31	11.70	41.1%	28.8%	27.5%	2.6%	100.0%
1923	4.73	3.55	3.57	0.07	11.93	39.7%	29.8%	30.0%	0.6%	100.0%
1924	6.46	4.47	2.39	0.25	13.56	47.6%	32.9%	17.6%	1.8%	100.0%
1929	7.18	6.85	4.34	0.13	18.50	38.8%	37.0%	23.5%	0.7%	100.0%
1931	11.48	5.46	1.01	0.13	18.08	63.5%	30.2%	5.6%	0.7%	100.0%
1935	9.99	7.05	1.11	0.12	18.27	54.7%	38.6%	6.1%	0.7%	100.0%
1945	8.27	9.97	1.91	0.38	20.54	40.3%	48.6%	9.3%	1.9%	100.0%
1950	11.62	11.63	0.54	0.04	23.83	48.8%	48.8%	2.3%	0.1%	100.0%
1951	10.47	11.05	2.25	0.18	23.95	43.7%	46.1%	9.4%	0.8%	100.0%
1955	11.14	10.36	0.57	0.07	22.14	50.3%	46.8%	2.6%	0.3%	100.0%
1959	11.56	10.09	1.45	0.03	23.13	50.0%	43.6%	6.3%	0.1%	100.0%
1964	10.08	9.98	2.78	0.09	22.94	44.0%	43.5%	12.1%	0.4%	100.0%
1966	9.69	10.86	2.04	0.11	22.69	42.7%	47.8%	9.0%	0.5%	100.0%
1970	11.28	10.10	1.85	0.12	23.36	48.3%	43.2%	7.9%	0.5%	100.0%
1974 Feb	10.47	9.84	5.57	0.25	26.14	40.1%	37.7%	21.3%	1.0%	100.0%
1974 Oct	9.38	9.70	4.88	0.24	24.19	38.8%	40.1%	20.2%	1.0%	100.0%
1979	12.26	9.53	3.88	0.31	25.97	47.2%	36.7%	14.9%	1.2%	100.0%
1983	11.71	6.86	6.71	0.18	25.47	46.0%	26.9%	26.4%	0.7%	100.0%
1987	12.52	8.01	6.47	0.14	27.13	46.1%	29.5%	23.8%	0.5%	100.0%
1992	12.80	9.55	5.40	0.40	28.15	45.5%	33.9%	19.2%	1.4%	100.0%
1997	8.78	11.35	4.68	1.25	26.06	33.7%	43.5%	18.0%	4.8%	100.0%
2001	7.71	9.06	4.25	0.86	21.87	35.2%	41.4%	19.4%	3.9%	100.0%

	<b>Candidates</b>					<b>Seats won</b>				
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	Other	Total
1918	352	291	327	181	1,151	315	42	107	21	485
1922	406	340	368	42	1,156	307	95	75	8	485
1923	444	350	362	285	1,441	221	138	123	3	485
1924	440	414	280	25	1,159	347	109	19	10	485
1929	469	467	422	30	1,388	221	226	35	3	485
1931	476	428	87	41	1,032	436	29	19	1	485
1935	473	452	132	21	1,078	357	116	11	1	485
1945	507	494	265	97	1,363	167	331	5	7	510
1950	502	506	91	13	1,112	271	233	2	0	506
1951	503	505	413	107	1,528	252	251	2	1	506
1955	508	510	95	21	1,134	292	216	2	1	511
1959	509	511	191	23	1,234	315	193	3	0	511
1964	510	511	323	65	1,409	261	246	3	1	511
1966	510	510	273	70	1,363	219	285	6	1	511
1970	510	510	282	101	1,403	292	216	2	1	511
1974 Feb	516	516	452	190	1,674	268	237	9	2	516
1974 Oct	514	516	515	221	1,766	252	255	8	1	516
1979	516	516	506	536	2,074	306	203	7	0	516
1983	523	523	523	431	2,000	362	148	13	0	523
1987	522	523	523	214	1,782	357	155	10	1	523
1992	524	524	522	758	2,328	319	195	10	0	524
1997	528	527	527	1,363	2,945	165	328	34	2	529
2001	529	529	528	1,002	2,588	165	323	40	1	529

(a) Includes Coalition Conservative for 1918; includes National for 1931; includes National, National Liberal and National Labour for 1931-1935; includes National and National Liberal for 1945. includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Includes Coalition Liberal Party for 1918; includes National Liberal for 1922; includes Independent Liberal for 1931; Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999*, Rallings and Thrasher, *Parliamentary Research Services*, 2000  
House of Commons Library data

Table 1d

**General Election Results: 1918-2001: Wales**

	<b>Votes (thousands)</b>						<b>Share of vote (%)</b>					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC	Other	Total
1918	59.6	163.1	258.8	0.0	47.6	529.0	11.3%	30.8%	48.9%	0.0%	9.0%	100.0%
1922	190.9	363.6	306.0	0.0	32.3	892.7	21.4%	40.7%	34.3%	0.0%	3.6%	100.0%
1923	178.1	355.2	299.3	0.0	12.5	845.1	21.1%	42.0%	35.4%	0.0%	1.5%	100.0%
1924	224.0	320.4	244.8	0.0	0.0	789.2	28.4%	40.6%	31.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
1929	289.7	577.6	440.9	0.6	8.1	1316.9	22.0%	43.9%	33.5%	0.0%	0.6%	100.0%
1931	340.7	479.5	229.0	1.1	38.2	1088.5	31.3%	44.1%	21.0%	0.1%	3.5%	100.0%
1935	292.5	395.8	157.1	2.5	23.3	871.3	33.6%	45.4%	18.0%	0.3%	2.7%	100.0%
1945	316.7	779.2	198.6	14.3	21.9	1,330.7	23.8%	58.6%	14.9%	1.1%	1.6%	100.0%
1950	418.7	888.0	193.1	17.6	11.2	1,528.6	27.4%	58.1%	12.6%	1.2%	0.7%	100.0%
1951	471.3	925.8	116.8	10.9	4.6	1,529.4	30.8%	60.5%	7.6%	0.7%	0.3%	100.0%
1955	428.9	825.7	104.1	45.1	30.0	1,433.7	29.9%	57.6%	7.3%	3.1%	2.1%	100.0%
1959	486.3	841.5	79.0	77.6	7.0	1,491.3	32.6%	56.4%	5.3%	5.2%	0.5%	100.0%
1964	425.0	837.0	106.1	69.5	9.4	1,447.0	29.4%	57.8%	7.3%	4.8%	0.6%	100.0%
1966	396.8	863.7	89.1	61.1	12.8	1,423.4	27.9%	60.7%	6.3%	4.3%	0.9%	100.0%
1970	419.9	781.9	103.7	175.0	36.0	1,516.6	27.7%	51.6%	6.8%	11.5%	2.4%	100.0%
1974 Feb	412.5	745.5	255.4	171.4	9.0	1,593.8	25.9%	46.8%	16.0%	10.8%	0.6%	100.0%
1974 Oct	367.2	761.4	239.1	166.3	3.8	1,537.8	23.9%	49.5%	15.5%	10.8%	0.2%	100.0%
1979	526.3	768.5	173.5	132.5	35.8	1,636.6	32.2%	47.0%	10.6%	8.1%	2.2%	100.0%
1983	499.3	603.9	373.4	125.3	7.2	1,609.0	31.0%	37.5%	23.2%	7.8%	0.4%	100.0%
1987	501.3	765.2	304.2	123.6	3.7	1,698.1	29.5%	45.1%	17.9%	7.3%	0.2%	100.0%
1992	499.7	865.7	217.5	154.9	11.0	1,748.8	28.6%	49.5%	12.4%	8.9%	0.6%	100.0%
1997	317.1	886.9	200.0	161.0	54.9	1,620.1	19.6%	54.7%	12.3%	9.9%	3.4%	100.0%
2001	288.7	667.0	189.4	195.9	31.6	1,372.5	21.0%	48.6%	13.8%	14.3%	2.3%	100.0%

	<b>Candidates</b>						<b>Seats won</b>					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	PC	Other	Total
1918	8	25	29	0	9	71	4	9	20	0	2	35
1922	19	28	30	0	3	80	6	18	10	0	1	35
1923	19	27	31	0	1	78	4	19	11	0	1	35
1924	17	33	21	0	0	71	9	16	10	0	0	35
1929	35	33	34	1	3	106	1	25	9	0	0	35
1931	20	30	14	1	7	72	11	16	8	0	0	35
1935	20	12	33	1	2	68	11	18	6	0	0	35
1945	27	34	17	7	2	87	4	25	6	0	0	35
1950	35	36	21	7	6	105	4	27	5	0	0	36
1951	36	9	4	4	31	84	6	27	3	0	0	36
1955	32	36	10	11	2	91	6	27	3	0	0	36
1959	34	36	8	20	3	101	7	27	2	0	0	36
1964	36	36	12	23	5	112	6	28	2	0	0	36
1966	36	36	11	20	8	111	3	32	1	0	0	36
1970	36	36	19	36	11	138	7	27	1	0	1	36
1974 Feb	36	36	31	36	9	148	8	24	2	2	0	36
1974 Oct	36	36	36	36	6	150	8	23	2	3	0	36
1979	35	35	28	36	20	154	11	21	1	2	1	36
1983	38	38	38	38	17	169	14	20	2	2	0	38
1987	38	38	38	38	6	158	8	24	3	3	0	38
1992	38	38	38	35	31	180	6	27	1	4	0	38
1997	40	40	40	40	63	223	0	34	2	4	0	40
2001	40	40	40	40	64	224	0	34	2	4	0	40

(a) Includes Coalition Conservative for 1918; includes National for 1931; includes National, National Liberal and National Labour for 1931-1935; includes National and National Liberal for 1945. includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Includes Coalition Liberal Party for 1918; includes National Liberal for 1922; includes Independent Liberal for 1931; Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Rallings and Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000*  
House of Commons Library data

Table 1c

**General Election Results: 1918-2001: Scotland**

	Votes (thousands)						Share of vote (%)					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	SNP	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	SNP	Other	Total
1918	358.5	265.7	385.1	0.0	117.4	1126.7	31.8%	23.6%	34.2%	0.0%	10.4%	100.0%
1922	379.4	501.3	617.2	0.0	71.5	1569.4	24.2%	31.9%	39.3%	0.0%	4.6%	100.0%
1923	468.3	532.5	423.0	0.0	77.6	1501.3	31.2%	35.5%	28.2%	0.0%	5.2%	100.0%
1924	688.3	697.1	286.5	0.0	45.1	1717.1	40.1%	40.6%	16.7%	0.0%	2.6%	100.0%
1929	792.1	937.3	407.1	3.3	103.2	2242.9	35.3%	41.8%	18.1%	0.1%	4.6%	100.0%
1931	1180.0	696.2	205.4	21.0	71.7	2174.3	54.3%	32.0%	9.4%	1.0%	3.3%	100.0%
1935	1135.4	863.8	174.2	25.7	124.7	2323.8	48.9%	37.2%	7.5%	1.1%	5.4%	100.0%
1945	964.1	1,144.3	132.8	30.6	118.0	2,389.9	40.3%	47.9%	5.6%	1.3%	4.9%	100.0%
1950	1,222.0	1,259.4	180.3	9.7	55.3	2,726.7	44.8%	46.2%	6.6%	0.4%	2.0%	100.0%
1951	1,349.3	1,330.2	76.3	7.3	14.7	2,777.8	48.6%	47.9%	2.7%	0.3%	0.5%	100.0%
1955	1,273.9	1,188.1	47.3	12.1	21.9	2,543.3	50.1%	46.7%	1.9%	0.5%	0.9%	100.0%
1959	1,260.3	1,245.3	109.0	21.7	31.3	2,667.5	47.2%	46.7%	4.1%	0.8%	1.2%	100.0%
1964	1,069.7	1,283.7	200.1	64.0	17.1	2,634.5	40.6%	48.7%	7.6%	2.4%	0.6%	100.0%
1966	960.7	1,273.9	172.4	128.5	16.9	2,552.4	37.6%	49.9%	6.8%	5.0%	0.7%	100.0%
1970	1,020.7	1,197.1	147.7	306.8	16.0	2,688.2	38.0%	44.5%	5.5%	11.4%	0.6%	100.0%
1974 Feb	950.7	1,057.6	229.2	633.2	16.5	2,887.1	32.9%	36.6%	7.9%	21.9%	0.6%	100.0%
1974 Oct	681.3	1,000.6	228.9	839.6	7.7	2,758.1	24.7%	36.3%	8.3%	30.4%	0.3%	100.0%
1979	916.2	1,211.4	262.2	504.3	22.6	2,916.6	31.4%	41.5%	9.0%	17.3%	0.8%	100.0%
1983	801.5	990.7	692.6	332.0	7.8	2,824.6	28.4%	35.1%	24.5%	11.8%	0.3%	100.0%
1987	713.1	1,258.1	570.1	416.5	10.1	2,967.8	24.0%	42.4%	19.2%	14.0%	0.3%	100.0%
1992	752.0	1,142.9	383.9	629.6	23.4	2,931.7	25.6%	39.0%	13.1%	21.5%	0.8%	100.0%
1997	493.1	1,283.4	365.4	621.6	53.4	2,816.7	17.5%	45.6%	13.0%	22.1%	1.9%	100.0%
2001	360.7	1,001.2	378.0	464.3	109.5	2,313.7	15.6%	43.3%	16.3%	20.1%	4.7%	100.0%

	Candidates						Seats won					
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	SNP	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	SNP	Other	Total
1918	37	39	61	0	28	165	30	6	33	0	2	71
1922	36	43	81	0	8	168	13	29	27	0	2	71
1923	52	48	59	0	8	167	14	34	22	0	1	71
1924	56	63	34	0	3	156	36	26	8	0	1	71
1929	65	66	45	2	14	192	20	36	13	0	2	71
1931	65	57	14	5	14	155	57	7	7	0	0	71
1935	69	63	16	7	12	167	43	20	3	0	5	71
1945	68	68	22	8	18	184	27	37	0	0	7	71
1950	68	71	41	3	29	212	31	37	2	0	1	71
1951	70	71	9	2	8	160	35	35	1	0	0	71
1955	71	71	5	2	7	156	36	34	1	0	0	71
1959	70	71	16	5	10	172	31	38	1	0	1	71
1964	71	71	26	15	14	197	24	43	4	0	0	71
1966	71	71	24	23	17	206	20	46	5	0	0	71
1970	71	71	27	65	22	256	23	44	3	1	0	71
1974 Feb	71	71	34	70	19	265	21	40	3	7	0	71
1974 Oct	71	71	68	71	12	293	16	41	3	11	0	71
1979	71	71	43	71	28	284	22	44	3	2	0	71
1983	72	72	72	72	26	314	21	41	8	2	0	72
1987	72	72	72	71	21	308	10	50	9	3	0	72
1992	72	72	72	72	53	341	11	49	9	3	0	72
1997	72	72	72	72	143	431	0	56	10	6	0	72
2001	71	71	71	72	122	407	1	55	10	5	1	72

(a) Includes Coalition Conservative for 1918; includes National for 1931; includes National, National Liberal and National Labour for 1931-1935; includes National and National Liberal for 1945. includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Includes Coalition Liberal Party for 1918; includes National Liberal for 1922; includes Independent Liberal for 1931; Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999*, Rallings and Thrasher, *Parliamentary Research Services*, 2000  
House of Commons Library data

Table 1f

**General Election Results: 1918-1970: Northern Ireland**

	<b>Votes (thousands)</b>					<b>Share of vote (%)</b>				
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib <sup>(b)</sup>	Other	Total
*1918	289.2	..	..	750.0	1039.2	27.8%	..	..	72.2%	100.0%
1922	108.0	..	..	99.9	207.9	51.9%	..	..	48.1%	100.0%
1923	117.2	..	..	125.1	242.3	48.4%	..	..	51.6%	100.0%
1924	451.3	..	..	68.1	519.4	86.9%	..	..	13.1%	100.0%
1929	354.7	..	100.1	55.3	510.1	69.5%	..	19.6%	10.8%	100.0%
1931	149.6	9.4	..	123.1	282.0	53.0%	3.3%	..	43.6%	100.0%
1935	292.8	..	..	158.3	451.2	64.9%	..	..	35.1%	100.0%
1945	392.5	65.5	..	261.9	719.8	54.5%	9.1%	..	36.4%	100.0%
1950	352.3	67.8	..	141.3	561.4	62.8%	12.1%	..	25.2%	100.0%
1951	274.9	62.3	..	126.0	463.2	59.4%	13.5%	..	27.2%	100.0%
1955	442.6	35.6	..	168.4	646.6	68.5%	5.5%	..	26.0%	100.0%
1959	445.0	44.4	3.3	83.5	576.1	77.2%	7.7%	0.6%	14.5%	100.0%
1964	401.9	102.8	17.4	116.3	638.3	63.0%	16.1%	2.7%	18.2%	100.0%
1966	368.6	72.6	29.1	125.9	596.2	61.8%	12.2%	4.9%	21.1%	100.0%
1970	422.0	98.2	12.0	246.9	779.1	54.2%	12.6%	1.5%	31.7%	100.0%

	<b>Candidates</b>					<b>Seats won</b>				
	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib	Other	Total	Con <sup>(a)</sup>	Lab	Lib	Other	Total
*1918	36	..	..	168	204	23	..	..	78	101
1922	12	..	..	3	15	10	..	..	2	12
1923	12	..	..	4	16	10	..	..	2	12
1924	12	..	..	10	22	12	..	..	0	12
1929	10	..	6	6	22	10	..	0	2	12
1931	12	1	..	3	16	10	0	..	2	12
1935	12	..	..	5	17	10	..	..	2	12
1945	11	6	..	7	24	9	0	..	3	12
1950	12	5	..	5	22	10	0	..	2	12
1951	12	4	..	4	20	9	0	..	3	12
1955	12	3	..	12	27	10	0	..	2	12
1959	12	3	1	13	29	12	0	0	0	12
1964	12	10	4	13	39	12	0	0	0	12
1966	12	4	3	8	27	11	0	0	1	12
1970	12	8	3	17	40	8	0	0	4	12

(a) Conservative (or Unionist) Party. Includes National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

\* Figures for Ireland, not Northern Ireland.

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Rallings and Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000*  
House of Commons Library data

Table 1g

**General Election Results: 1974-2001: Northern Ireland**

	<b>Votes (thousands)</b>								<b>Share of Vote</b>											
	Feb		Oct		1979	1983	1987	1992	1997	2001	Feb		Oct		1979	1983	1987	1992	1997	2001
	1974	1974	1974	1974							1974	1974	1974	1974						
Ulster Unionist	326.4	256.1	254.6	260.0	276.2	271.0	258.3	216.8	45.5%	36.5%	36.6%	34.0%	37.8%	34.5%	32.7%	26.8%				
Ulster Democratic Unionist	58.7	59.5	71.0	152.7	85.6	103.0	107.3	182.0	8.2%	8.5%	10.2%	20.0%	11.7%	13.1%	13.6%	22.5%				
Ulster Popular Unionist	..	..	..	22.9	18.4	19.3	..	..	..	..	..	3.0%	2.5%	2.5%	..	..				
SDLP	160.4	154.2	126.3	137.0	154.1	154.4	190.8	169.9	22.4%	22.0%	18.2%	17.9%	21.1%	19.7%	24.1%	21.0%				
Alliance	22.7	44.6	82.9	61.3	72.7	68.7	63.0	29.0	3.2%	6.4%	11.9%	8.0%	10.0%	8.7%	8.0%	3.6%				
Sinn Fein	..	..	..	102.7	83.4	78.3	126.9	175.9	..	..	..	13.4%	11.4%	10.0%	16.1%	21.7%				
Others <sup>(a)</sup>	149.5	187.7	161.1	28.4	39.7	90.3	44.4	36.7	20.8%	26.7%	23.2%	3.7%	5.4%	11.5%	5.6%	4.5%				
Total	717.6	702.1	695.9	764.9	730.1	785.1	790.8	810.4	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%				

<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>Candidates</b>								<b>Seats Won</b>							
	1974	1974	1979	1983	1987	1992	1997	2001	1974	1974	1979	1983	1987	1992	1997	2001
Ulster Unionist	14	7	11	16	12	13	16	17	7	6	5	11	9	9	10	6
Ulster Democratic Unionist	2	2	5	14	4	7	9	14	1	1	3	3	3	3	2	5
Ulster Popular Unionist	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..
SDLP	12	9	9	17	13	13	18	18	1	1	1	1	3	4	3	3
Alliance	3	5	12	12	16	16	17	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sinn Fein	..	..	..	14	14	14	17	18	..	..	..	1	1	0	2	4
Others <sup>(a)</sup>	17	20	27	21	17	36	48	23	3	4	3	0	0	0	1	0
Total	48	43	64	95	77	100	125	100	12	12	12	17	17	17	18	18

Notes: (a) The "others" winning seats were the Vanguard Unionist Progressive Party with three seats in both 1974 elections; an independent in October 1974; the United Ulster Unionist Party, an independent and James Kilfedder as an Ulster Unionist (not the Official Ulster Unionist Party) in 1979; the UK Unionist Party in 1997.

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Rallings and Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000*  
*House of Commons Library Data*



## B. Turnout

Table 2 shows turnout at general elections since 1918.

- In 2001, turnout was the lowest recorded since 1945 (59.4%), with the exception of 1918 (57.2%).
- Turnout in Northern Ireland between 1945 and 1997 was lower than in the other constituent countries of the UK in each election, with the exception of 1983. In 2001, turnout was higher in Northern Ireland than in England, Wales and Scotland.
- At every election, turnout was higher in Wales than in other constituent counties of the UK, with the exception of 1918 and 2001.

Table 2

### Turnout at UK General Elections: 1918-2001

Valid votes as % of electorate

	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
*1918	55.7%	65.9%	55.1%	69.5%	<b>57.2%</b>
1922	72.8%	79.4%	70.4%	77.2%	<b>73.0%</b>
1923	71.1%	77.3%	67.9%	76.5%	<b>71.1%</b>
1924	77.4%	80.0%	75.1%	66.7%	<b>77.0%</b>
1929	76.6%	82.4%	73.5%	63.8%	<b>76.3%</b>
1931	76.1%	79.3%	77.4%	74.5%	<b>76.4%</b>
1935	70.7%	76.4%	72.6%	72.0%	<b>71.1%</b>
1945	73.4%	75.7%	69.0%	67.4%	<b>72.8%</b>
1950	84.4%	84.8%	80.9%	77.4%	<b>83.9%</b>
1951	82.7%	84.4%	81.2%	79.9%	<b>82.6%</b>
1955	76.9%	79.6%	75.1%	74.1%	<b>76.8%</b>
1959	78.9%	82.6%	78.1%	65.9%	<b>78.7%</b>
1964	77.0%	80.1%	77.6%	71.7%	<b>77.1%</b>
1966	75.9%	79.0%	76.0%	66.1%	<b>75.8%</b>
1970	71.4%	77.4%	74.1%	76.6%	<b>72.0%</b>
1974 Feb	79.0%	80.0%	79.0%	69.9%	<b>78.8%</b>
1974 Oct	72.6%	76.6%	74.8%	67.7%	<b>72.8%</b>
1979	75.9%	79.4%	76.8%	67.7%	<b>76.0%</b>
1983	72.5%	76.1%	72.7%	72.9%	<b>72.7%</b>
1987	75.4%	78.9%	75.1%	67.0%	<b>75.3%</b>
1992	78.0%	79.7%	75.5%	69.8%	<b>77.7%</b>
1997	71.4%	73.5%	71.3%	67.1%	<b>71.4%</b>
2001	59.2%	61.6%	58.2%	68.0%	<b>59.4%</b>

\* Figures for Ireland not Northern Ireland

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999*, Parliamentary Research Services  
House of Commons Library data

## C. Spoilt ballots

Table 3 details the numbers of spoilt ballot papers at UK general elections. Figures on spoilt ballots have been collected only since 1964. The proportion of all ballot papers spoilt was highest in the 1979, 1997 and 2001 general elections. These were years where local elections were held on the same day as the General Election.

Table 3

### Spoilt Ballot Papers in UK General Elections

Spoilt ballot papers by reason

	Want of Official Mark	Voting for more than one Candidate	Writing or mark by which voter could be identified	Unmarked or void for uncertainty	<b>Total</b>	Average per Constituency	Percentage of total ballot Papers
1964	2,826	15,486	6,787	15,974	<b>41,073</b>	65	0.15%
1966	2,061	11,519	8,525	27,794	<b>49,899</b>	79	0.18%
1970	2,118	14,144	7,541	17,544	<b>41,347</b>	66	0.15%
1974 Feb	3,176	12,214	7,320	19,542	<b>42,252</b>	67	0.13%
1974 Oct	2,938	13,492	6,009	15,267	<b>37,706</b>	59	0.13%
1979	3,282	72,515	5,801	36,250	<b>117,848</b>	186	0.38%
1983	2,819	27,938	4,693	15,654	<b>51,104</b>	79	0.17%
1987	2,408	14,216	4,976	15,345	<b>36,945</b>	57	0.11%
1992	2,593	14,538	5,008	17,587	<b>39,726</b>	61	0.12%
1997	2,169	25,234	4,421	61,415	<b>93,408</b>	142	0.30%
2001	2,548	22,590	3,760	69,910	<b>100,005</b>	152	0.38%

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Parliamentary Research Services*  
Data for 2001 available from [www.electoralcommission.gov.uk/](http://www.electoralcommission.gov.uk/)

## D. Postal votes

Figures on postal voting have only been compiled since the General Election of 1945. Under the *Representation of the People Act 2000*, and more specifically parts IV and V of the *Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001*, the rules for applying for postal ballots have changed. It is no longer necessary to state a reason when applying for a postal vote. In 2001, postal votes as a percentage of total ballot papers accounted for 5.2% of all ballots cast, compared to 2.3% at the 1997 general election.

Table 4

**Postal Ballot Papers in UK Elections 1945-2001**

	Number of postal ballot papers issued	Number of envelopes returned before close of poll	Number rejected	No of ballot papers included at the start of the count	Percentage of total ballot papers
1945	1,219,519	1,032,688	14,359	1,018,329	3.9%
1950	507,717	478,038	11,691	466,347	1.6%
1951	831,877	756,967	14,393	742,574	2.5%
1955	595,000	526,904	11,311	515,593	1.9%
1959	692,827	612,231	13,672	598,559	2.1%
1964	818,901	723,927	16,291	707,636	2.5%
1966	617,481	528,006	14,965	513,041	1.8%
1970	731,249	639,674	14,319	625,355	2.2%
1974 Feb	743,441	645,080	16,173	628,907	2.0%
1974 Oct	1,075,131	875,324	25,219	850,105	2.8%
1979	847,335	714,892	22,923	691,969	2.2%
1983	757,604	643,634	20,080	623,554	2.0%
1987	947,948	818,349	25,287	793,062	2.4%
1992	835,074	714,895	21,465	692,139	2.0%
1997	937,205	764,366	26,371	738,614	2.3%
2001	1,758,055	1,402,073	31,189	1,370,884	5.2%

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Parliamentary Research Services*

Data for 2001 available from [www.electoralcommission.gov.uk/](http://www.electoralcommission.gov.uk/)

**E. Women MPs**

Table 5 shows the number of women elected at General Elections since 1918.

- The first woman MP to win a seat at Westminster was Countess Constance Markievicz who won the St Patrick's division of Dublin in 1918. However, she did not take her seat and Nancy Astor, who won a by-election in 1919 in Plymouth, Sutton, was the first woman MP to take her seat in the House of Commons.
- Between 1945 and 1983, the number of women MPs remained below 30, ranging from 17 in 1951 to 29 in 1964. This number increased to 41 in 1987 and 60 in 1992. The number of women MPs doubled in 1997 to 120, of whom 101 were Labour MPs.
- The election of two women at by-elections following the 1997 general election meant the total number of women MPs reached 122. This fell, to 118 after the 2001 election, but has risen to 119 following by-elections to date.

- Out of the 4,536 Members of Parliament elected since 1918, 253, 6% have been women.<sup>1</sup>

Table 5

**Women Members Elected at General Elections: 1918-2001**

	Women MPs by party							Total Number of Seats	Women as proportion of all MPs
	Con	Lab	Lib	SDP	Other	Speaker	Total		
1918	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>	707	0.1%
1922	1	0	1	0	0	0	<b>2</b>	615	0.3%
1923	3	3	2	0	0	0	<b>8</b>	615	1.3%
1924	3	1	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>	615	0.7%
1929	3	9	1	0	1	0	<b>14</b>	615	2.3%
1931	13	0	1	0	1	0	<b>15</b>	615	2.4%
1935	6	1	1	0	1	0	<b>9</b>	615	1.5%
1945	1	21	1	0	1	0	<b>24</b>	640	3.8%
1950	6	14	1	0	0	0	<b>21</b>	625	3.4%
1951	6	11	0	0	0	0	<b>17</b>	625	2.7%
1955	10	14	0	0	0	0	<b>24</b>	630	3.8%
1959	12	13	0	0	0	0	<b>25</b>	630	4.0%
1964	11	18	0	0	0	0	<b>29</b>	630	4.6%
1966	7	19	0	0	0	0	<b>26</b>	630	4.1%
1970	15	10	0	0	1	0	<b>26</b>	630	4.1%
1974 Feb	9	13	0	0	1	0	<b>23</b>	635	3.6%
1974 Oct	7	18	0	0	2	0	<b>27</b>	635	4.3%
1979	8	11	0	0	0	0	<b>19</b>	635	3.0%
1983	13	10	0	0	0	0	<b>23</b>	650	3.5%
1987	17	21	1	1	1	0	<b>41</b>	650	6.3%
1992	20	37	2	0	1	0	<b>60</b>	651	9.2%
1997	13	101	3	0	2	1	<b>120</b>	659	18.2%
2001	14	95	5	0	4	0	<b>118</b>	659	17.9%

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999, Parliamentary Research Services*  
*House of Commons Library data*

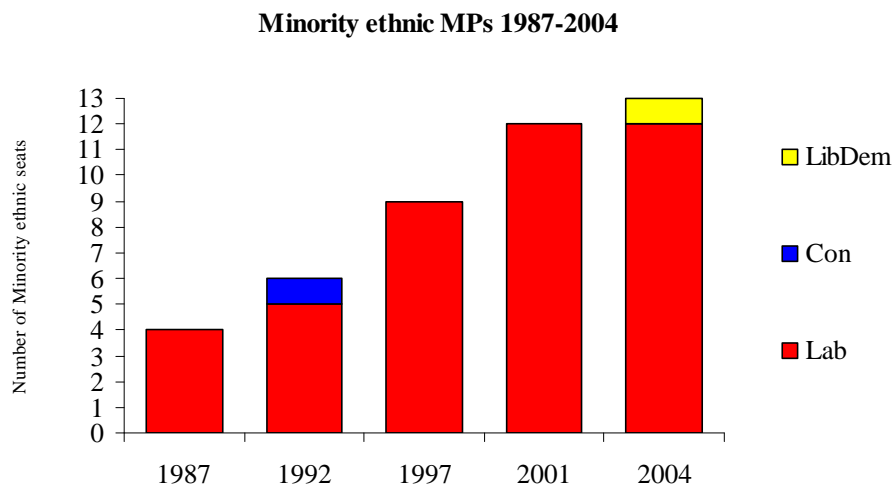
- At the 2001 general election, 11.9% of the 118 women MPs were from the Conservative party, 80.5% from the Labour party, and 4.2% from the Liberal Democrats.

<sup>1</sup> House of Commons Information Office Factsheet M4 (March 2003)

## F. Minority ethnic MPs

An individual's ethnicity is self-defined. Consequently, it is hard to obtain complete records of MPs' ethnicity, particularly in historical perspective.

- The first minority ethnic MP was Dadabhai Naoroji who was elected as the Liberal Member of Parliament for Finsbury Central in 1892. He lost the seat in 1895.
- The first minority ethnic Conservative MP to be elected was Mancherjee Bhownaggee who was Member for Bethnal Green North-East from 1895 to 1905.
- The first minority ethnic Labour MPs were elected in 1987: Diane Abbott (Hackney North & Stoke Newington), Paul Boateng (Brent South), Bernie Grant (Tottenham) and Keith Vaz (Leicester East). Abbott, Boateng and Grant were also the first black MPs to be elected and Diane Abbott was the first black woman MP.
- The first minority ethnic Liberal Democrat MP was Parmjit Singh Gill (Leicester South), who was elected at a by-election, in 2004.
- The total number of minority ethnic MPs rose to six in 1992 (five Labour and one Conservative). In 1997 there were nine minority ethnic MPs (all Labour) and in 2001 this rose to twelve (all Labour). In 2004 there were thirteen minority ethnic MPs (twelve Labour and one Liberal Democrat).



## G. Characteristics of MPs

This section provides data on the occupations of MPs from those elected from 1951-2001. The information is provided for the three major parties only: Conservative, Labour, and Liberal Democrat (and predecessors).

### 1. Occupation

Among MPs returned to Parliament after the 2001 general election the most common occupations across the three major parties were teachers (117 MPs) and company executives or directors (77 MPs). In 2001, company executives and directors comprised 30% of the Conservative parliamentary party. The most common occupations among Labour MPs were teachers (24%) and company executive or director (25%) among Liberal Democrat MPs.

Table 6a lists the main occupations of MPs by party from 1951 to 2001 in percentage terms. Graphs illustrating the number of MPs by occupation from 1951 to 2001 are also provided.

Table 6a

#### Main Occupations of Members of Parliament 1951- (percentages)

<b>Conservative</b>														
	51	55	59	64	66	70	Feb 74	Oct 74	79	83	87	92	97	01
<b>Professions</b>														
Barrister	19	19	20	21	22	18	20	20	15	14	11	12	12	11
Solicitor	3	3	4	5	6	4	4	4	6	7	6	6	5	8
Civil service/local govt	3	3	4	6	5	4	3	3	4	4	3	1	3	1
Teachers	2	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	5	5	7	7	5	4
Armed services	10	14	10	9	8	7	3	3	6	5	4	4	5	7
Other Professions	4	6	7	6	4	9	11	12	9	10	10	10	6	8
<b>Business</b>														
Company Executive/Director	24	18	24	19	21	28	21	22	17	25	30	33	32	30
Other business	13	11	7	7	9	2	11	11	17	11	7	5	7	7
<b>Other White collar</b>														
Politician/pol. organiser	4	5	3	4	1	3	2	1	2	3	6	6	9	11
Publisher/journalist	4	6	7	7	7	9	11	10	9	8	7	8	8	8
Misc. white collar	1	1	1	2	3	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	1	1
<b>Manual Workers</b>														
Miner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other Manual	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
Other	13	13	12	13	13	11	10	9	7	6	6	5	4	4
<b>Total</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

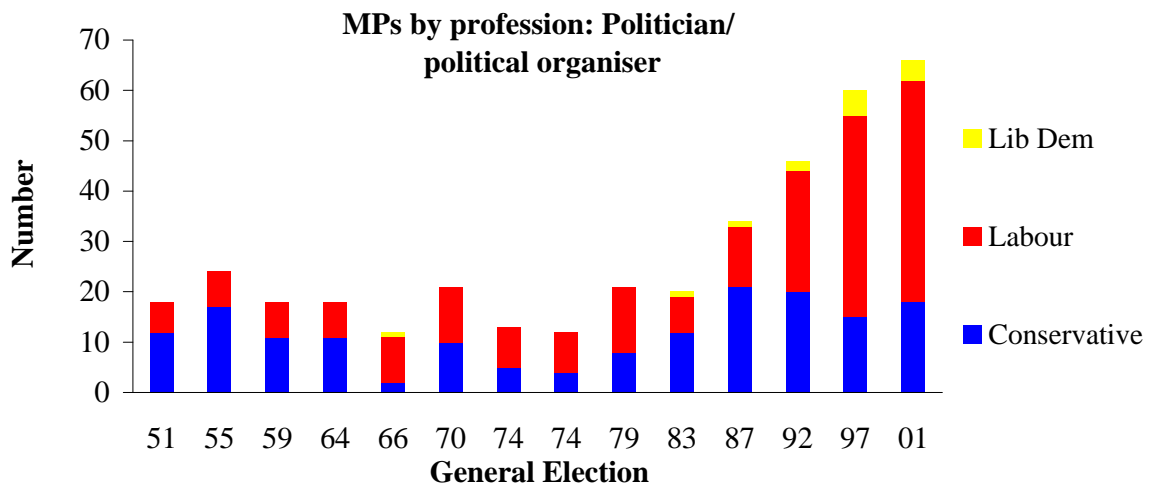
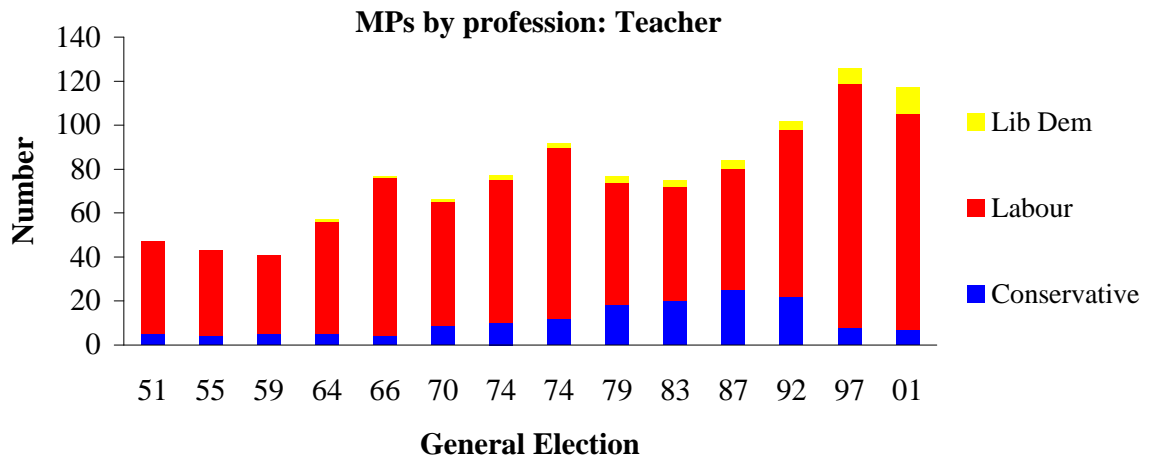
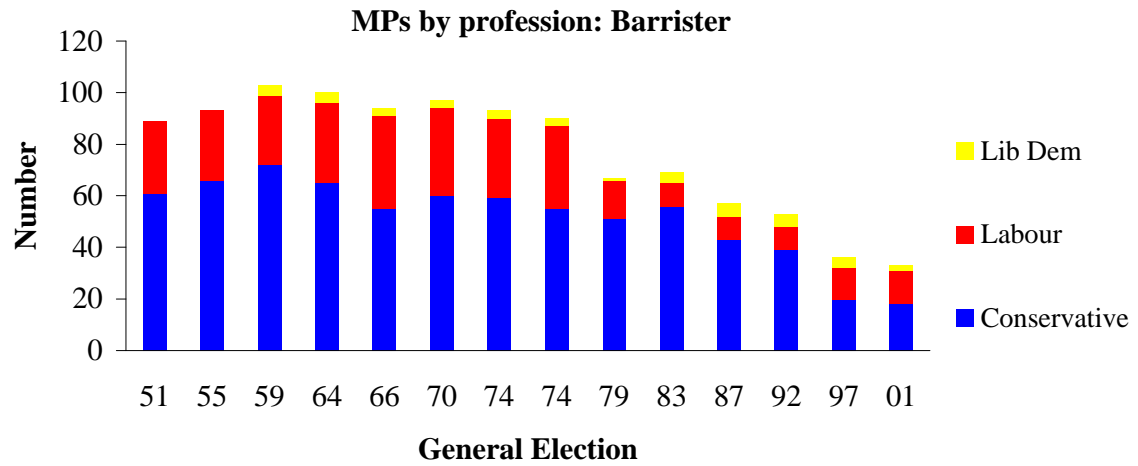
**Labour**

	Feb Oct													
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01
<b>Professions</b>														
Barrister	9	10	10	10	10	12	10	10	6	4	4	3	3	3
Solicitor	4	3	4	5	5	5	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	4
Civil service/local govt	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	2	6	5	3	6	7	7
Teachers	14	14	14	16	20	20	22	24	22	25	24	28	27	24
Armed services	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Professions	3	5	5	7	5	11	9	9	8	4	5	2	4	5
<b>Business</b>														
Company Executive/Director	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	5	5	2	4	3	4	4
Other business	8	12	8	9	5	5	3	3	4	7	5	5	5	4
<b>Other White collar</b>														
Politician/pol. organiser	2	3	3	2	2	4	3	3	5	3	5	9	10	11
Publisher/journalist	11	10	10	9	8	9	8	7	5	4	6	5	7	8
Misc. white collar	4	2	2	3	6	1	2	3	2	7	8	13	17	18
<b>Manual Workers</b>														
Miner	12	12	13	10	9	8	6	6	8	10	7	4	3	3
Other Manual	25	23	22	23	21	19	23	22	24	24	22	17	10	10
Other	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

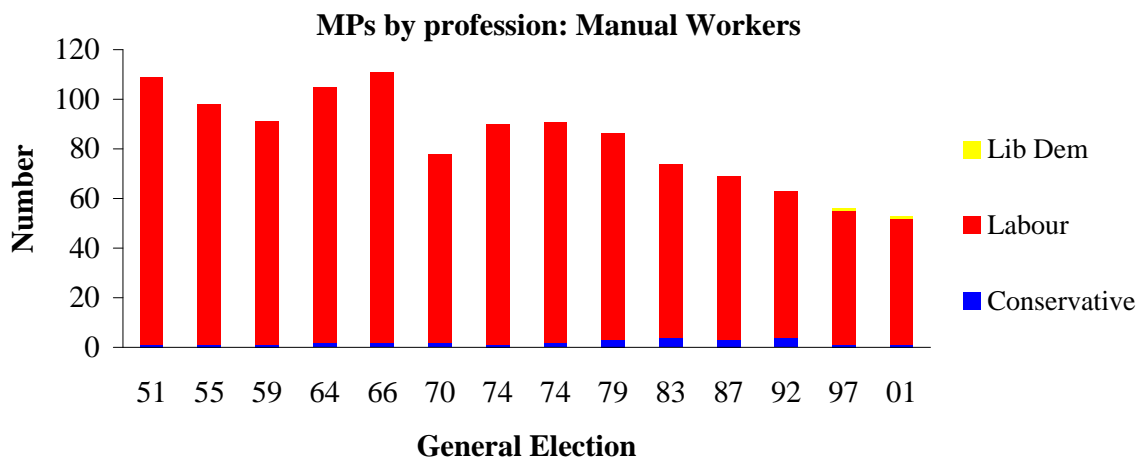
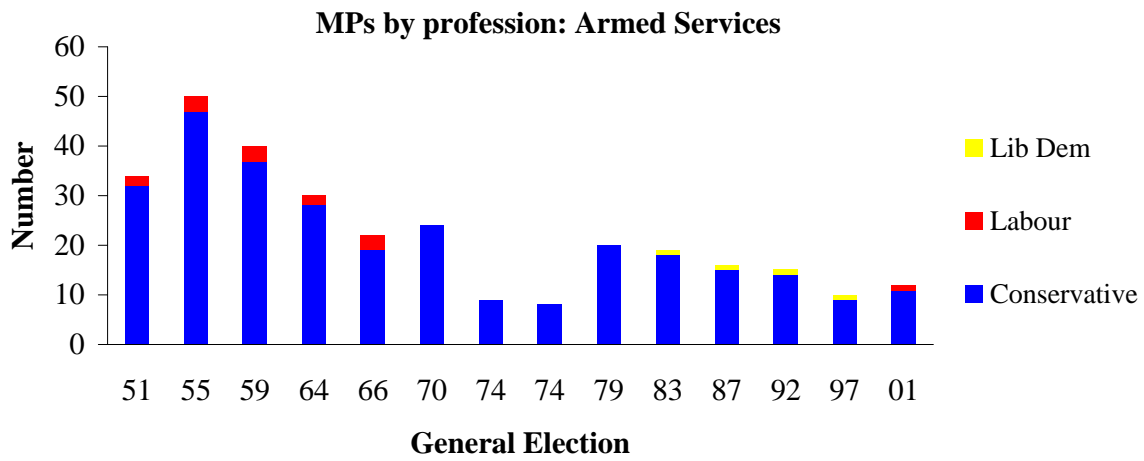
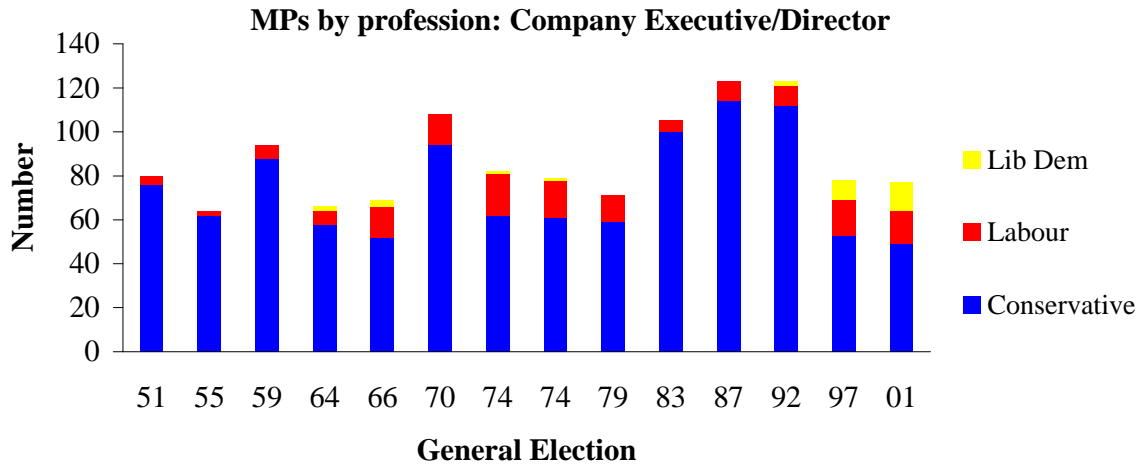
**Liberal Dem and predecessors**

	Feb Oct													
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01
<b>Professions</b>														
Barrister	...	...	67	44	25	50	21	23	9	17	23	25	9	4
Solicitor	...	...	17	0	0	17	7	8	0	4	5	5	4	8
Civil service/local govt	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	4	6
Teachers	...	...	0	11	8	17	14	15	27	13	18	20	15	23
Armed services	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	5	2	0
Other Professions	...	...	0	0	17	0	29	23	27	17	5	5	15	12
<b>Business</b>														
Company Executive/Director	...	...	0	22	25	0	7	8	0	0	0	10	20	25
Other business	...	...	17	0	0	0	7	8	9	4	9	0	4	2
<b>Other White collar</b>														
Politician/pol. organiser	...	...	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	4	5	10	11	8
Publisher/journalist	...	...	0	0	0	17	7	8	18	22	14	15	9	8
Misc. white collar	...	...	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	4	9	5	2	2
<b>Manual Workers</b>														
Miner	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Manual	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Other	...	...	0	11	17	0	7	8	9	4	5	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: *The British General Election of ... (1951-2001)*, David Butler and Denis Kavanagh







## 2. Education

The table below summarises trends in the education of MPs of the major parties.

Table 6b

### Education of Members of Parliament 1951-2001 (percentages)

	Feb Oct														
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01	
<b>Conservative</b>															
Public School	75	76	72	75	81	74	74	75	73	70	68	62	66	64	
University	65	63	60	63	67	63	67	69	68	71	70	73	81	83	
Oxbridge	52	53	50	52	57	52	54	56	49	48	44	45	51	48	
<b>Labour</b>															
Public School	20	22	18	18	18	17	16	18	18	14	14	15	16	17	
University	41	40	39	42	51	54	53	57	59	53	56	61	66	67	
Oxbridge	19	17	18	19	23	25	20	25	21	15	15	16	15	16	
<b>Liberal</b>															
Public School	...	...	67	33	58	50	71	69	55	52	45	50	41	35	
University	...	...	100	78	83	100	71	62	45	65	73	75	70	69	
Oxbridge	...	...	83	44	50	50	43	38	27	30	27	30	33	27	

Source: *The British General Election of 1951, 55...2001*, David Butler and Denis Kavanagh

## 3. Parliamentary experience

At present the most experienced MP by date first elected is Sir Peter Tapsell (first elected on 8 October 1959). As Father of the House Tam Dalyell has the most continuous service among current MPs, having been a MP since 14 June 1962, 41 years.

Table 7

### Parliamentary experience of MPs: following 2001 election

Members by date first elected

	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	PC/SNP	Others	Total	
1950-59	1	...	...	...	...	1	0.2%
1960-69	1	6	...	...	...	7	1.1%
1970-74	14	15	2	...	2	33	5.0%
1975-79	7	14	...	...	2	23	3.5%
1980-83	30	22	4	...	6	62	9.4%
1984-87	23	51	3	1	2	80	12.1%
1988-92	30	72	3	1	2	108	16.4%
1993-97	29	181	26	...	2	238	36.1%
1997-01	28	47	15	7	8	105	15.9%
2001-	...	2	...	...	...	2	0.3%
						659	

Sources: *The British General Election of 2001*, David Butler and Denis Kavanagh

#### 4. Age

Table 8a summarises the membership of the House of Commons by age at July 2004. At present, the oldest Member is Piara Khabra (born 20 November 1924) while the youngest MP is Sarah Teather (born 1 June 1974).

Table 8a

##### Current House of Commons Members by Age

Age	Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	SNP/PC	Other	Total	% Share
30-34	1	8	2	1	1	13	2.0%
35-39	9	17	10	1	...	37	5.6%
40-44	22	37	7	3	1	70	10.6%
45-49	37	63	8	2	2	112	17.0%
50-54	27	103	5	2	4	141	21.4%
55-59	30	87	14	...	5	136	20.6%
60-64	28	53	8	...	1	90	13.7%
65-69	8	29	1	...	6	44	6.7%
70-74	2	9	...	...	2	13	2.0%
75-79	...	2	...	...	1	3	0.5%
Total	164	408	55	9	23	659	100%

House of Commons Library electronic holdings

The median age of Members of Parliament has remained almost constant since 1951. After the 2001 election the median age of Conservative MPs was one year higher than in 1951, while the median age for Labour MPs was two years lower. The median age has shown most fluctuation among Liberal MPs: after the 1970 General Election it was 39 compared with 47 after the 2001 General Election.

Table 8b

##### Median age of Members of Parliament at elections 1951- 2001

	Feb Oct														
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01	
Conservative	47	49	48	45	48	49	48	47	47	47	48	48	50	48	
Labour	52	54	55	52	50	50	50	49	51	51	47	51	48	50	
Liberal	...	...	46	43	39	39	39	45	47	43*	45*	45	46	47	

\* Liberals only

No data provided for the Liberal Party for 1951 and 55 elections

Source: *The British General Election of 1951, 55...2001*, David Butler and Denis Kavanagh

## H. Characteristics of voters

Table 9 analyses self-reported voter turnout by age and gender for four general elections (1970, 1983, 1997 and 2001). Between 1970 and 2001, voter turnout rose in only one age category among men, (60-64), and women (65+). The largest fall in turnout among men was for voters aged 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 (both by 15 percentage points), and voters aged 25 to 34 among women (by 21 percentage points). In reality self-reported turnout tends to be higher than actual turnout.

Table 9

**Self-reported general election turnout by age and gender**  
Great Britain, percentages

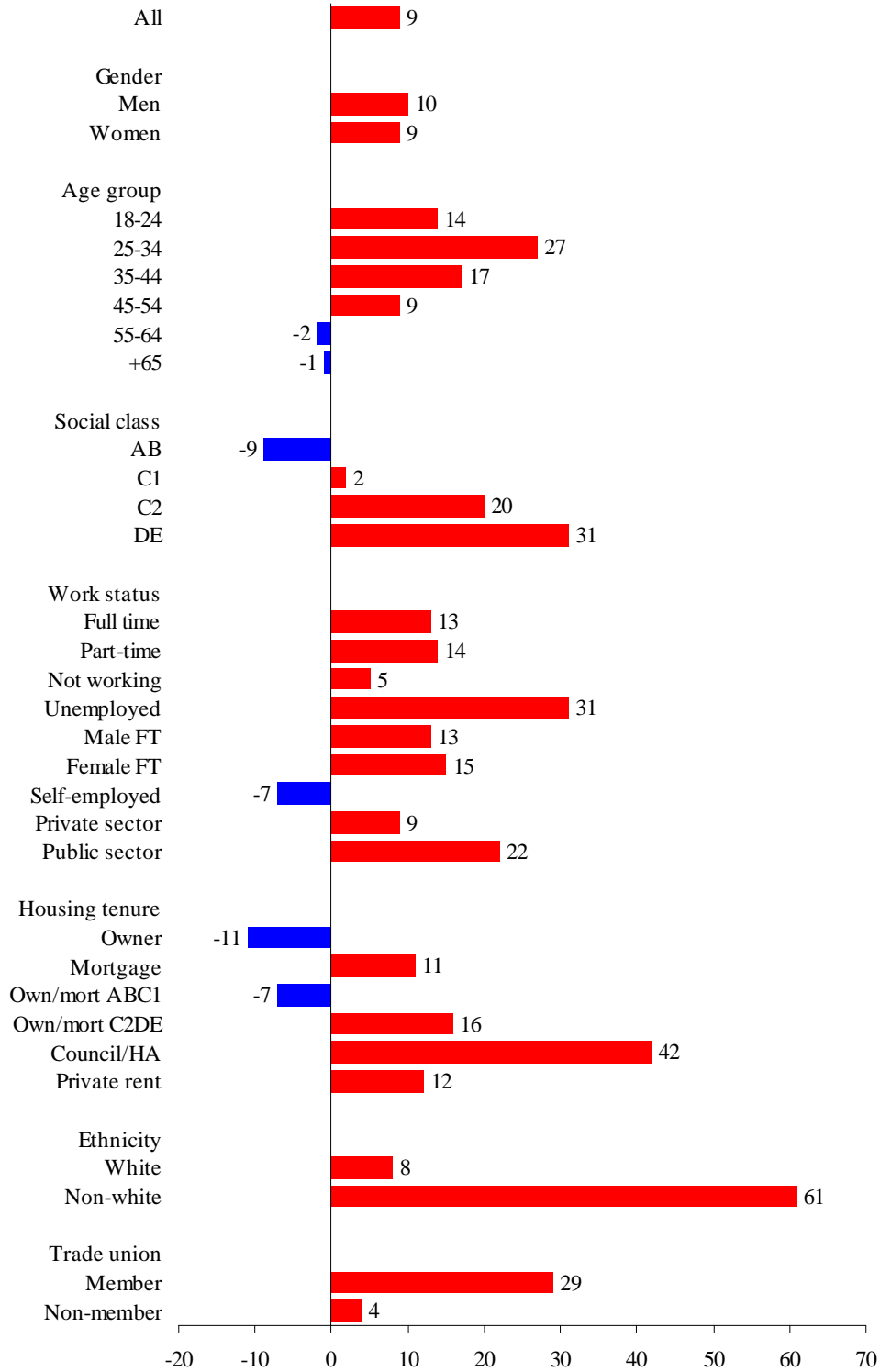
	1970		1983		1997		2001	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
18-24	67	66	74	73	56	64	60	46
25-34	74	77	76	79	67	70	59	56
35-44	81	84	87	88	77	78	66	74
45-54	86	85	88	93	83	86	76	81
55-59	88	86	89	93	90	87	79	82
60-64	79	84	82	90	87	88	80	80
65 +	93	84	86	82	87	85	87	87

Source: British Election Study data quoted in National Statistics, *Social Trends 2002*, table 13.20

The chart overleaf analyses the estimated percentage Labour lead over the Conservatives at the 2001 General Election by voter characteristics. When analysing voters by age, Labour held the largest lead among voters aged 25 to 34 (27%) while the Conservatives held a lead over Labour among voters aged 55 to 64 (2%) and 65+ (1%).

Dividing voters by employment status shows that Labour held their largest leads over the Conservatives among the unemployed (31%) and public sector workers (22%). In addition, Labour's lead was estimated at 61 percentage points among voters of non-white ethnicity, compared to 8 percentage points among voters of white ethnicity.

**2001 General Election:  
estimated %pt Labour lead over Conservatives  
by voter characteristic**  
MORI election aggregate data



## IV Minor Parties at general elections 1945-2001

In this section the performance of minor parties at all general elections since 1945 is examined. This includes all parties except the Conservatives, Labour, and Liberal Democrats (and its predecessors), in line with the scope of earlier work in this area by F.W.S Craig.<sup>2</sup>

Although the recent success of independent candidates at general elections has been accompanied by growth in the representation of minor parties in the House of Commons, in overall terms minor parties remain relatively small, especially in the context of the current Government majority of over 160. A summary of minor party representation in the House of Commons is provided in table 10:

Table 10

### Representation in the House of Commons of minor parties and independents: GB, 1945-2001

Year	SNP	Plaid Cymru	ILP	Communist	Other	Total
1945	...	...	3	2	16	21
1950	...	...	...	...	1	1
1951	...	...	...	...	...	0
1955	...	...	...	...	...	0
1959	...	...	...	...	1	1
1964	...	...	...	...	...	0
1966	...	...	...	...	...	0
1970	1	...	...	...	1	2
Feb 1974	7	2	...	...	2	11
Oct 1974	11	3	...	...	...	14
1979	2	2	...	...	...	4
1983	2	2	...	...	...	4
1987	3	3	...	...	...	6
1992	3	4	...	...	...	7
1997	6	4	...	...	1	11
2001	5	4	...	...	1	10

ILP = Independent Labour Party

Speakers not standing for a party are excluded

Sources: Rallings and Thrasher, *British Electoral Facts* 1983-1999

House of Commons Library electronic holdings

A full record of the performance of minor parties in general elections since 1945, by party, is provided in table 11 overleaf. Average percentage vote for each party is for the seats in which they stood only. Details of the number of seats won by minor parties in Northern Ireland elections since 1945 can be found in tables 1f (1945-70) and 1g (1974-2001).

<sup>2</sup> F.W.S. Craig, *Minor Parties at British Parliamentary Elections 1885-1974*.

Table 11

**Summary of Minor Parties - Great Britain only**

General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
<b>ACTION PARTY</b>				
1959	1	0	0	8.1
1966	4	0	0	3.7
<b>ANTI-FEDERALIST LEAGUE</b>				
1992	16	0	0	0.3
<b>ANTI-PARTITION OF IRELAND LEAGUE OF GREAT BRITAIN</b>				
1950	4	0	0	3.0
1951	1	0	0	2.7
<b>BRITISH EMPIRE PARTY</b>				
1951	1	0	0	3.4
<b>BRITISH MOVEMENT</b>				
1970	1	0	0	2.5
1974(F)	1	0	0	1.5
<b>BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY(1)</b>				
1964	1	0	0	9.1
1966	3	0	0	5.3
<b>BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY(2)</b>				
1983	54	0	0	0.5
1987	2	0	0	0.6
1992	13	0	0	1.2
1997	57	0	3	1.3
2001	33	0	5	3.9
<b>CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL DEMOCRACY</b>				
1974(F)	5	1	1	8.3
1974(O)	1	0	1	34.6
<b>COMMONWEALTH</b>				
1945	23	1	7	12.6
<b>COMMUNIST PARTY OF ENGLAND (MARXIST-LENINIST)</b>				
1974(F)	6	0	0	0.6
1974(O)	8	0	0	0.4
<b>COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN</b>				
1945	21	2	9	14.6
1950	100	0	3	2.0
1951	10	0	0	4.7
1955	17	0	2	4.9
1959	18	0	1	4.3
1964	36	0	0	3.5
1966	57	0	0	3.0
1970	58	0	0	1.8
1974(F)	44	0	1	1.8
1974(O)	29	0	0	1.6
1979	35	0	0	1.0
1983	35	0	0	0.8
1987	19	0	0	0.7
1992	3	0	0	0.3
1997	3	0	0	0.4
2001	6	0	0	0.5
<b>CORNISH NATIONALIST PARTY</b>				
1979	1	0	0	0.4
1983	1	0	0	0.7
<b>DEMOCRATIC PARTY [1]</b>				
1945	5	0	0	1.3

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General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
<b>DEMOCRATIC PARTY [2]</b>				
1970	5	0	1	5.6
<b>ECOLOGY PARTY</b>				
1979	51	0	0	1.5
1983	105	0	0	1.0
<b>FELLOWSHIP PARTY</b>				
1959	1	0	0	2.6
1964	1	0	0	2.5
1966	1	0	0	2.1
<b>GREEN PARTY</b>				
1987	133	0	0	1.4
1992	253	0	0	1.3
1997	94	0	1	1.2
2001	145	0	10	2.8
<b>INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE</b>				
1974(F)	6	0	0	0.7
<b>INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY</b>				
1945	5	3	4	35.2
1950	4	0	0	2.7
1951	3	0	0	3.6
1955	2	0	0	5.0
1959	2	0	0	1.8
1966	1	0	0	0.9
1970	1	0	0	1.7
<b>INDEPENDENT NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT ELECTION COMMITTEE</b>				
1964	2	0	0	1.6
<b>INTERNATIONAL MARXIST GROUP</b>				
1974(F)	3	0	0	0.5
<b>IRISH CIVIL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION</b>				
1974(O)	7	0	0	1.0
<b>ISLAMIC PARTY</b>				
1992	4	0	0	0.6
<b>LABOUR INDEPENDENT GROUP</b>				
1950	5	0	3	14.0
<b>LEAGUE OF EMPIRE LOYALISTS</b>				
1964	3	0	0	0.9
<b>LEGALISE CANNABIS</b>				
1997	4	0	0	1.0
2001	13	0	0	1.6
<b>LIBERAL PARTY</b>				
1992	73	0	1	1.5
1997	54	0	2	1.7
2001	14	0	1	2.5
<b>LIVERPOOL PROTESTANT GROUP</b>				
1945	1	0	0	13.2
<b>MEBYON KERNOW</b>				
1970	1	0	0	2.0
1974(F)	1	0	0	1.5
1974(O)	1	0	0	0.7
1979	2	0	0	3.5
1983	2	0	0	1.2
1997	3	0	0	1.1
2001	3	0	0	2.1



General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
<b>MONSTER RAVING LOONY</b>				
1983	11	0	0	0.7
1987	5	0	0	0.7
1992	22	0	0	0.6
1997	24	0	0	0.7
2001	15	0	0	1.0
<b>MUSLIM PARTY</b>				
2001	4	0	0	0.9
<b>MUDIAD GWERINIAETHOL CYMRU</b>				
1950	1	0	0	1.3
<b>NATIONAL DEMOCRAT</b>				
1997	20	0	1	1.1
<b>NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY</b>				
1964	1	0	0	0.6
1966	1	0	0	1.3
1970	4	0	1	7.9
1974(F)	1	0	0	1.6
<b>NATIONAL FRONT</b>				
1970	10	0	0	3.6
1974(F)	54	0	0	3.1
1974(O)	90	0	0	3.1
1979	303	0	0	1.3
1983	60	0	0	1.1
1992	14	0	0	0.8
1997	6	0	0	0.9
2001	5	0	0	1.5
<b>NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY</b>				
1974(F)	1	0	0	4.4
<b>NATIONAL LABOUR PARTY</b>				
1959	1	0	0	4.1
<b>NATURAL LAW PARTY</b>				
1992	309	0	0	0.5
1997	177	0	0	0.3
<b>PATRIOTIC PARTY</b>				
1964	2	0	0	1.5
1966	1	0	0	0.4
<b>PEOPLE</b>				
1974(F)	6	0	0	1.7
1974(O)	5	0	0	0.9
<b>PLAID CYMRU</b>				
1945	7	0	1	9.1
1950	7	0	1	6.8
1951	4	0	0	6.1
1955	11	0	4	11.3
1959	20	0	6	10.3
1964	23	0	2	8.4
1966	20	0	2	8.7
1970	36	0	11	12.4
1974(F)	36	2	10	11.7
1974(O)	36	3	10	11.6
1979	36	2	8	8.6
1983	38	2	6	7.8
1987	38	3	18	7.3
1992	35	4	13	9.0
1997	40	4	25	9.9
2001	40	4	35	14.8
<b>PRO-LIFE ALLIANCE</b>				
1997	56	0	0	0.7
2001	37	0	0	0.7

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General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
<b>RADICAL ALLIANCE</b>				
1966	1	0	0	0.5
<b>RAINBOW</b>				
1987	2	0	0	0.4
1992	3	0	0	
1997	31	0	0	0.3
<b>RED FRONT</b>				
1987	14	0	0	0.5
<b>REFERENDUM PARTY</b>				
1997	547	0	42	3.1
<b>SCOTTISH MILITANT LABOUR</b>				
1992	1	0	1	19.3
<b>SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY</b>				
1945	8	0	2	9.1
1950	3	0	0	7.4
1951	2	0	1	10.0
1955	2	0	1	14.8
1959	5	0	2	11.3
1964	15	0	3	10.6
1966	23	0	13	14.1
1970	65	1	22	12.8
1974(F)	70	7	63	22.7
1974(O)	71	11	71	30.6
1979	72	2	54	17.2
1983	72	2	19	11.8
1987	71	3	70	14.1
1992	72	3	72	21.5
1997	72	6	72	22.1
2001	72	5	72	20.3
<b>SCOTTISH SOCIALIST ALLIANCE</b>				
1997	16	0	1	1.8
<b>SCOTTISH SOCIALIST PARTY</b>				
2001	72	0	10	3.3
<b>SOCIAL CREDIT PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN</b>				
1950	1	0	0	0.9
<b>SOCIALIST</b>				
1997	24	0	1	1.1
<b>SOCIALIST ALLIANCE</b>				
2001	98	0	2	1.7
<b>SOCIALIST LABOUR PARTY</b>				
1997	64	0	3	1.8
2001	114	0	1	1.4
<b>SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN</b>				
1945	1	0	0	1.7
1950	2	0	0	0.6
1959	1	0	0	2.4
1964	2	0	0	0.5
1966	2	0	0	0.5
1970	2	0	0	0.6
1974(O)	1	0	0	0.3
<b>UNITED COUNTRY PARTY</b>				
1979	2	0	0	1.0
<b>UNITED DEMOCRACY PARTY</b>				
1974(O)	13	0	0	0.7

General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
<b>UNITED KINGDOM INDEPENDENCE PARTY</b>				
1997	194	0	1	1.1
2001	428	0	6	2.1
<b>VECTIS NATIONALIST PARTY</b>				
1970	1	0	0	2.8
<b>WESSEX REGIONAL PARTY</b>				
1979	7	0	0	0.7
1983	10	0	0	0.3
<b>WORKERS PARTY</b>				
1997	8	0	0	0.8
<b>WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY</b>				
1974(F)	9	0	0	1.0
1974(O)	10	0	0	0.9
1979	52	0	0	0.5
1983	21	0	0	0.4
1987	10	0	0	0.4
1992	2	0	0	0.4
1997	9	0	0	0.3
2001	6	0	0	0.3

## V By-elections

There have been five by-elections since the 2001 general election. The results are summarised below. Labour retained its seat in three cases, although its share of the vote fell and the Liberal Democrats gained two seats from Labour in Brent East and Leicester South.

### By-elections since 2001 General Election

	Result	Winner	Swing since 2001 General Election	Change in share of the vote since 2001:				Turnout
				Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	
Ipswich	Lab hold	C Mole	7.6% Lab to L Dem	-2.1%	-8.0%	+7.2%	...	40.2%
Ogmore	Lab hold	H Irranca-Davies	8.5% Lab to SNP	-3.7%	-10.1%	-4.0%	+6.8%	35.2%
Brent East	LD gain from Lab	S Teather	29.0% Lab to L Dem	-2.1%	-29.4%	+28.6%	...	36.2%
Birmingham Hodge Hill	Lab hold	Liam Byrne	27.7% Lab to L Dem	-3.3%	-29.6%	+25.8%	...	37.9%
Leicester South	LD gain from Lab	Parmjit Singh Gill	21.5% Lab to L Dem	-3.3%	-25.2%	+17.7%	...	40.6%

The 1997 Parliament was the first since 1951-55 where the party in government did not lose a seat to another party at a by-election. The Conservative's win in Uxbridge in July 1997 was their first by-election victory since February 1989.

A summary of the performance of the major parties at by-elections since 1945 is provided in table 12:

Table 12

### By-election summary

	Net Seat Gains and Losses					Average change in share of vote since previous election					Average Turnout
	Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
1945-50	+4	-1	...	...	-3	+3.7%	-2.3%	-2.8%	+8.9%	-2.2%	67.3%
1950-51	...	...	...	...	...	+6.8%	-2.0%	-8.0%	...	-0.3%	68.8%
1951-55	+1	-1	...	...	...	-0.6%	+0.3%	-2.4%	+8.3%	+3.0%	58.6%
1955-59	-2	+4	...	...	-2	-8.7%	+1.3%	+14.6%	+6.9%	+3.8%	63.5%
1959-64	-5	+4	+1	...	...	-14.1%	-2.1%	+16.7%	+7.8%	+3.1%	62.9%
1964-66	...	-1	+1	...	...	+1.3%	-1.8%	+0.6%	+2.1%	+0.4%	58.2%
1966-70	+11	-15	+1	+2	+1	+6.8%	-17.3%	+4.2%	+29.0%	+10.5%	62.1%
1970-74(F)	-5	...	+5	+1	-1	-10.7%	-4.2%	+13.4%	+23.9%	+2.5%	56.5%
1974(F)-74(O)	...	...	...	...	...	-1.1%	-3.4%	-2.3%	...	+6.8%	25.9%
1974(O)-79	+6	-6	+1	...	-1	+9.9%	-9.3%	-4.9%	-2.8%	+5.5%	57.5%
1979-83	-3	+1	+4	...	-2	-11.4%	-10.2%	+19.8%	+5.4%	+1.5%	56.7%
1983-87	-4	...	+4	...	...	-14.0%	+0.4%	+12.3%	+0.6%	+1.3%	63.5%
1987-92	-7	+3	+3	+1	...	-10.7%	-0.3%	+5.1%	+14.8%	+4.9%	58.1%
1992-97	-8	+3	+4	+1	...	-19.9%	+7.4%	+5.2%	+13.3%	+4.9%	52.7%
1997-2001	-2	+1	+2	...	-1	-0.6%	-11.1%	+5.0%	+9.4%	+3.6%	42.4%
2001-	...	-2	+2	...	...	-2.9%	-20.5%	+15.1%	+1.4%	+3.1%	38.0%

Source: House of Commons Library electronic holdings

A full list of by-elections since 1945 can be found in Table 13.

Table 13

## By-elections since 1945

Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
01/10/1945	Smethwick	Lab hold	-2.9%	+2.9%	...	...	...	65.4%
02/10/1945	Ashton-under-Lyme	Lab hold	-8.6%	-2.3%	+10.9%	...	...	70.5%
03/10/1945	Edinburgh E	Lab hold	+1.1%	+5.2%	...	-6.3%	...	51.0%
30/10/1945	Monmouth	Con hold	+0.8%	-0.8%	...	...	...	66.7%
31/10/1945	City of London	Con gain	Not Comparable	...	...	...	...	51.6%
14/11/1945	Bromley	Con hold	+4.6%	+5.0%	-9.6%	...	...	56.5%
15/11/1945	Bournemouth	Con hold	-8.7%	+12.0%	-3.3%	...	...	56.5%
20/11/1945	Kensington South	Con hold	+11.9%	+7.0%	+18.9%	...	...	36.8%
13/12/1945	Tottenham North	Lab hold	+8.2%	-8.2%	...	...	...	39.5%
31/01/1946	Preston	Lab gain	Not Comparable	...	...	...	...	64.9%
07/02/1946	Ayrshire South	Lab hold	-2.3%	+2.3%	...	...	...	69.0%
12/02/1946	Glasgow, Cathcart	Con hold	-6.3%	-4.1%	...	+10.4%	...	55.6%
21/01/1946	Heywood and Radcliffe	Lab hold	+0.5%	-0.5%	...	...	...	75.6%
22/02/1946	Hemsworth	Lab hold	uncontested	...	...	...	...	...
13/03/1946	Combined English Universities	Con gain from Ind	Not Comparable	...	...	...	...	42.1%
04/06/1946	Ogmore	Lab hold	-18.0%	-5.8%	...	+23.8%	...	33.1%
22/07/1946	Bexley	Lab hold	+17.7%	-4.4%	-13.3%	...	...	61.2%
23/07/1946	Pontypool	Lab hold	+4.1%	-4.1%	...	...	...	64.8%
25/07/1946	Battersea North	Lab hold	+3.5%	-5.0%	...	...	+1.5%	55.4%
29/08/1946	Glasgow, Bridgeton	ILP hold	-12.0%	+28.0%	...	...	-16.0%	53.3%
19/11/1946	Bermondsey, Rotherhithe	Lab hold	-11.2%	-14.1%	+25.3%	...	...	50.9%
20/11/1946	Paddington North	Lab hold	+6.1%	-5.6%	...	...	-0.5%	53.9%
22/11/1946	Combined Scottish Universities	Con gain from Ind	Not Comparable	...	...	...	...	50.7%
26/11/1946	Aberdeen South	Con hold	+8.0%	+2.9%	-10.9%	...	...	65.6%
05/12/1946	Aberdare	Lab hold	-4.0%	-16.0%	...	+20.0%	...	65.7%
05/12/1946	Kilmarnock	Lab hold	-8.1%	+0.3%	...	+7.8%	...	68.4%
11/02/1947	Normanton	Lab hold	+2.1%	-4.5%	...	...	+2.4%	54.6%
07/05/1947	Jarrow	Lab hold	+3.5%	-6.7%	...	...	+3.2%	73.4%
11/09/1947	Liverpool, Edge Hill	Lab hold	+7.5%	-12.8%	+4.4%	...	+0.9%	62.7%
25/09/1947	Islington West	Lab hold	+0.4%	-16.6%	+16.0%	...	+0.2%	51.4%
26/11/1947	Gravesend	Lab hold	+12.9%	-0.7%	-12.2%	...	...	77.3%
27/11/1947	Howdenshire	Con hold	+8.0%	-3.7%	-4.3%	...	...	67.0%
27/11/1947	Edinburgh East	Lab hold	-3.0%	-5.8%	+10.1%	-1.3%	...	63.0%
04/12/1947	Epsom	Con hold	+11.0%	-6.3%	-4.7%	...	...	70.5%
28/01/1948	Glasgow, Camlachie	Con gain from ILP	+1.4%	+42.1%	+1.2%	...	-44.7%	56.8%
18/02/1948	Paisley	Lab hold	+10.5%	+1.2%	-10.0%	...	-1.7%	76.0%
04/03/1948	Wigan	Lab hold	+3.9%	-9.2%	...	...	+1.9%	81.4%
11/03/1948	Croydon North	Con hold	+12.9%	-3.5%	-9.4%	...	...	74.8%
24/03/1948	Brigg	Lab hold	+4.3%	-4.3%	...	...	...	77.1%
29/04/1948	Southwark Central	Lab hold	+6.5%	-6.5%	...	...	...	48.7%
30/09/1948	Glasgow, Gorbals	Lab hold	+8.6%	-25.5%	...	...	+16.9%	50.0%
07/10/1948	Stirling and Falkirk	Lab hold	-1.1%	-7.1%	...	+8.2%	...	72.9%
13/11/1948	Edmonton	Lab hold	+17.6%	-14.8%	...	...	-2.8%	62.7%
25/11/1948	Glasgow, Hillhead	Con hold	+9.9%	-2.0%	-7.9%	...	...	56.7%
17/02/1949	Batley and Morley	Lab hold	+12.3%	+1.2%	-13.5%	...	...	81.3%
24/02/1949	Hammersmith South	Lab hold	+5.2%	-5.2%	...	...	...	60.6%
10/03/1949	St.Pancras North	Lab hold	+4.8%	-6.3%	...	...	+1.5%	65.1%
16/03/1949	Sowerby	Lab hold	+16.0%	+2.3%	-18.3%	...	...	80.7%
21/07/1949	Leeds West	Lab hold	+17.2%	-3.9%	-13.3%	...	...	65.1%
08/12/1949	Bradford South	Lab hold	+9.3%	-1.2%	-14.4%	...	+6.3%	75.4%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1950</b>								
05/04/1950	Sheffield, Neepsend	Lab hold	-0.4%	-1.9%	...	...	+2.3%	62.9%
25/04/1950	Dunbartonshire West	Lab hold	+1.8%	+1.1%	...	...	-2.9%	83.4%
04/05/1950	Brighouse and Spenborough	Lab hold	+1.7%	-1.7%	...	...	...	85.4%
28/09/1950	Leicester NE	Lab hold	+8.8%	+1.4%	-9.5%	...	-0.7%	63.0%
25/10/1950	Glasgow, Scotstoun	Con hold	+4.3%	+1.3%	-4.9%	...	-0.7%	73.7%
02/11/1950	Oxford	Con hold	+10.6%	+1.8%	-11.6%	...	-0.8%	69.3%
16/11/1950	Birmingham, Handsworth	Con hold	+10.2%	-1.1%	-10.3%	...	+1.2%	63.2%
30/11/1950	Bristol SE	Lab hold	+8.4%	-5.9%	-1.4%	...	-1.1%	61.1%
30/11/1950	Abertillery	Lab hold	+0.6%	-0.6%	...	...	...	71.1%
15/02/1951	Bristol West	Con hold	+22.5%	-11.4%	-11.1%	...	...	53.6%
08/04/1951	Ormskirk	Con hold	+5.2%	-7.2%	...	...	+2.0%	64.7%
21/04/1951	Harrow West	Con hold	+13.4%	-1.5%	-11.9%	...	...	68.0%
14/06/1951	Woolwich East	Lab hold	+6.3%	-0.8%	-3.5%	...	-2.0%	66.8%

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Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
21/06/1951	Westhoughton	Lab hold	+1.9%	-1.9%	...	...	...	76.5%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1951</b>								
06/02/1952	Bournemouth East and Christchurch	Con hold	-1.5%	-1.7%	-1.5%	...	+4.7%	63.8%
06/02/1952	Southport	Con hold	+1.8%	+3.7%	-5.5%	...	...	61.0%
07/02/1952	Leeds SE	Lab hold	-2.7%	+2.7%	...	...	...	55.7%
17/07/1952	Dundee East	Lab hold	-10.6%	+2.5%	...	+7.4%	+0.7%	55.7%
23/10/1952	Cleveland	Lab hold	+0.7%	-0.7%	...	...	...	71.4%
04/11/1952	Wycombe	Con hold	+0.3%	-0.3%	...	...	...	83.9%
27/11/1952	Birmingham, Small Heath	Lab hold	+2.1%	+3.6%	-5.7%	...	...	46.6%
27/11/1952	Farnworth	Lab hold	-0.7%	+0.7%	...	...	...	71.0%
12/02/1953	Canterbury	Con hold	+6.0%	+1.9%	-7.9%	...	...	49.2%
12/03/1953	Isle of Thanet	Con hold	-0.3%	+0.3%	...	...	...	58.7%
31/03/1953	Barnsley	Lab hold	+9.8%	+3.2%	-13.0%	...	...	57.9%
31/03/1953	Stoke-on-Trent North	Lab hold	-4.1%	+4.1%	...	...	...	50.5%
01/04/1953	Hayes and Harlington	Lab hold	+0.9%	-0.9%	...	...	...	45.0%
13/05/1953	Sunderland South	Con gain from Lab	-1.1%	-4.2%	+5.3%	...	...	72.7%
30/06/1953	Abingdon	Con hold	-2.3%	-4.8%	+7.1%	...	...	75.9%
02/07/1953	Birmingham, Edgbaston	Con hold	+3.3%	-3.3%	...	...	...	50.2%
17/09/1953	Broxtowe	Lab hold	-1.4%	+1.4%	...	...	...	63.5%
12/11/1953	Crosby	Con hold	-2.8%	+1.5%	...	...	+4.3%	62.5%
12/11/1953	Ormskirk	Con hold	-2.0%	+2.0%	...	...	...	54.1%
19/11/1953	Holborn and St.Pancreas S	Lab hold	-0.2%	+1.9%	-1.7%	...	...	56.2%
03/12/1953	Paddington North	Lab hold	+1.0%	-1.9%	...	...	+0.9%	60.3%
03/02/1954	Ilford North	Con hold	+4.3%	-5.7%	+1.4%	...	...	45.4%
11/02/1954	Kingston upon Hull, Haltemprice	Con hold	+3.7%	-3.7%	...	...	...	45.7%
11/02/1954	Harwich	Con hold	+0.2%	-0.2%	...	...	...	58.8%
18/02/1954	Bournemouth West	Con hold	+4.2%	-4.2%	...	...	...	45.1%
09/03/1954	Arundel and Shoreham	Con hold	+1.1%	-1.1%	...	...	...	54.2%
11/03/1954	Harrogate	Con hold	+0.2%	-0.2%	...	...	...	55.3%
08/04/1954	Edinburgh East	Lab hold	-3.5%	+3.5%	...	...	...	61.8%
14/04/1954	Motherwell	Lab hold	-3.4%	-0.9%	...	...	+4.3%	70.5%
30/09/1954	Croydon East	Con hold	-2.2%	-5.8%	+8.0%	...	...	57.5%
21/10/1954	Shoreditch and Finsbury	Lab hold	-5.6%	+5.6%	...	...	...	40.7%
21/10/1954	Wakefield	Lab hold	+0.2%	-0.2%	...	...	...	68.6%
28/10/1954	Aldershot	Con hold	-0.2%	+0.2%	...	...	...	58.7%
28/10/1954	Aberdare	Lab hold	-0.9%	-9.0%	...	+9.9%	...	69.7%
04/11/1954	Sutton And Cheam	Con hold	+3.7%	-3.7%	...	...	...	55.6%
04/11/1954	Morpeth	Lab hold	+0.6%	-0.6%	...	...	...	73.0%
18/11/1954	Liverpool, West Derby	Con hold	+1.6%	-1.6%	...	...	...	58.9%
21/12/1954	Inverness	Con hold	-23.1%	+36.0%	-12.9%	...	...	49.2%
13/01/1955	Norfolk South	Con hold	-3.0%	+3.0%	...	...	...	66.6%
20/01/1955	Orpington	Con hold	+3.1%	-3.1%	...	...	...	55.4%
25/01/1955	Twickenham	Con hold	+1.9%	-1.9%	...	...	...	47.3%
27/01/1955	Edinburgh North	Con hold	+0.6%	-0.6%	...	...	...	46.4%
03/02/1955	Stockport South	Con hold	+0.1%	-0.1%	...	...	...	64.6%
17/03/1955	Wrexham	Lab hold	-4.0%	-3.7%	...	+7.7%	...	62.4%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1955</b>								
07/12/1955	Gateshead West	Lab hold	-1.2%	+1.2%	...	...	...	42.3%
08/12/1955	Greenock	Lab hold	-2.3%	+2.3%	...	...	...	75.3%
15/12/1955	Torquay	Con hold	-9.4%	-0.2%	+9.6%	...	...	62.6%
02/02/1956	Blaydon	Lab hold	-3.4%	+3.4%	...	...	...	56.5%
09/02/1956	Leeds NE	Con hold	+1.8%	-1.8%	...	...	...	39.9%
14/02/1956	Hereford	Con hold	-7.5%	+11.6%	-4.1%	...	...	61.5%
14/02/1956	Gainsborough	Con hold	-15.0%	-6.6%	+21.6%	...	...	61.9%
14/02/1956	Taunton	Con hold	-1.9%	+9.7%	-8.4%	...	...	75.0%
01/03/1956	Walthamstow West	Lab hold	-14.1%	-1.0%	+14.7%	...	...	52.0%
07/06/1956	Tonbridge	Con hold	-8.4%	+8.4%	...	...	...	60.6%
06/07/1956	Newport(Mon.)	Lab hold	-6.4%	+2.6%	+3.8%	...	...	72.1%
27/09/1956	Cheter-le-Street	Lab hold	-4.5%	+4.5%	...	...	...	64.9%
15/11/1956	City of Chester	Con hold	-5.0%	+4.6%	+0.4%	...	...	71.5%
19/12/1956	Melton	Con hold	-7.6%	+7.6%	...	...	...	56.5%
14/02/1957	Lewisham North	Lab gain from Con	-7.5%	+3.5%	...	...	+4.0%	70.8%
28/02/1957	Wednesbury	Lab hold	-11.6%	+1.7%	...	...	+9.9%	60.0%
28/02/1957	Carmathen	Lab gain from Lib	...	+4.6%	-8.3%	+3.7%	...	87.5%
07/03/1957	Bristol West	Con hold	-5.1%	+5.1%	...	...	...	61.1%
07/03/1957	Warwick and Lemington	Con hold	-12.2%	+12.2%	...	...	...	77.9%

Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
21/03/1957	Beckenham	Con hold	-6.1%	+6.1%	...	...	...	64.7%
21/03/1957	Newcastle upon Tyne	Con hold	-3.6%	+3.6%	...	...	...	64.1%
29/05/1957	Edinburgh South	Con hold	-21.9%	-1.6%	+23.5%	...	...	65.8%
30/05/1957	East Ham North	Lab hold	-11.5%	-2.8%	...	...	+14.3%	57.3%
30/05/1957	Hornsey	Con hold	-6.7%	+9.3%	...	...	-2.6%	63.0%
27/06/1957	Dorset North	Con hold	-7.0%	+2.8%	+3.7%	...	+0.5%	75.8%
12/09/1957	Gloucester	Lab hold	-20.5%	+0.4%	+20.1%	...	...	71.0%
24/10/1957	Ipswich	Lab hold	-14.4%	-7.1%	+21.5%	...	...	75.6%
28/11/1957	Leicester SE	Con hold	-3.2%	+3.2%	...	...	...	56.4%
05/12/1957	Liverpool, Garston	Con gain from Ind Con	-14.3%	-0.9%	+15.2%	...	...	49.7%
12/02/1958	Rochdale	Lab gain from Con	-31.7%	-3.8%	+35.5%	...	...	80.2%
13/03/1958	Glasgow, Kelvingrove	Lab gain from Con	-13.8%	+3.4%	...	...	+10.4%	60.5%
27/03/1958	Torrington	Lib gain from Con	-27.7%	-10.3%	+38.0%	...	...	80.6%
15/05/1958	Islington North	Lab gain	-10.4%	+7.4%	...	...	+3.0%	35.6%
12/06/1958	Ealing South	Con gain from Ind Con	-9.2%	+1.6%	+7.6%	...	...	64.5%
12/06/1958	St.Helens	Lab hold	-0.4%	+0.4%	...	...	...	54.6%
12/06/1958	Wigan	Lab hold	-5.7%	+6.6%	...	...	-0.9%	70.3%
12/06/1958	Weston-super-Mare	Con hold	-13.4%	-11.1%	+24.5%	...	...	72.2%
12/06/1958	Argyll	Con hold	-20.8%	-6.7%	+27.5%	...	...	67.1%
06/11/1958	Morecambe and Lonsdale	Con hold	-5.9%	+5.9%	...	...	...	63.8%
06/11/1958	Chichester	Con hold	+0.1%	-0.1%	...	...	...	51.7%
10/11/1958	Pontypool	Lab hold	-5.6%	-4.4%	...	+10.0%	...	61.7%
20/11/1958	Aberdeenshire East	Con hold	-19.9%	-4.4%	+24.3%	...	...	65.9%
27/11/1958	Shoreditch and Finsbury	Lab hold	-2.5%	+2.5%	...	...	...	24.9%
29/01/1959	Southend West	Con hold	-8.6%	-0.6%	+9.2%	...	...	42.9%
19/03/1959	Harrow East	Con hold	-1.6%	+0.6%	...	...	+1.0%	68.9%
25/03/1959	Norfolk SW	Lab hold	+0.7%	-3.3%	...	...	+2.6%	75.2%
09/04/1958	Galloway	Con hold	-16.5%	-9.2%	+25.7%	...	...	72.7%
11/06/1959	Penistone	Lab hold	-1.8%	+1.8%	...	...	...	65.0%
18/06/1959	Whitehaven	Lab hold	-0.6%	+0.6%	...	...	...	79.2%

**GENERAL ELECTION 1959**

17/03/1960	Brighouse and Spensborough	Con gain from Lab	+0.9%	-0.9%	...	...	...	82.4%
17/03/1960	Harrow West	Con hold	-15.2%	-10.9%	+21.4%	...	+4.7%	61.6%
19/05/1960	Edinburgh North	Con hold	-9.8%	-5.7%	+15.5%	...	...	53.8%
16/11/1960	Bolton East	Con hold	-15.0%	-11.0%	+24.8%	...	+1.2%	68.2%
16/11/1960	Bedfordshire Mid	Con hold	-1.4%	-6.2%	+7.0%	...	+0.6%	...
16/11/1960	Tiverton	Con hold	-9.9%	-7.6%	+17.5%	...	...	68.4%
16/11/1960	Petersfield	Con hold	-6.5%	-4.7%	+11.2%	...	...	53.6%
16/11/1960	Ludlow	Con hold	-13.9%	-13.4%	+27.3%	...	...	63.6%
16/11/1960	Carshalton	Con hold	-2.3%	-9.8%	+12.1%	...	...	54.2%
17/11/1960	Ebbw Vale	Lab hold	-6.3%	-12.2%	+11.5%	+7.0%	...	76.1%
24/11/1960	Blyth	Lab hold	-3.8%	-5.7%	+9.5%	...	...	54.1%
16/03/1961	Worcester	Con hold	-18.0%	-12.1%	+30.1%	...	...	64.2%
16/03/1961	Cambridgeshire	Con hold	-12.0%	-12.0%	+24.0%	...	...	62.4%
16/03/1961	High Peak	Con hold	-8.6%	-1.9%	+10.5%	...	...	72.5%
16/03/1961	Colchester	Con hold	-4.4%	-2.8%	+7.2%	...	...	64.9%
23/03/1961	Birmingham, Small Heath	Lab hold	-13.8%	+1.8%	+12.0%	...	...	42.6%
20/04/1961	Warrington	Lab hold	-12.1%	-0.4%	+12.5%	...	...	56.7%
20/04/1961	Paisley	Lab hold	-29.5%	-11.9%	+41.4%	...	...	68.1%
04/05/1961	Bristol SE	Lab hold	-13.3%	+13.3%	...	...	...	56.7%
07/11/1961	Manchester, Moss Side	Con hold	-21.1%	-11.9%	+27.8%	...	+5.2%	46.7%
08/11/1961	Oswestry	Con hold	-15.1%	+0.0%	+12.3%	...	+2.8%	60.8%
08/11/1961	Fife East	Con hold	-22.4%	-3.7%	+26.1%	...	...	67.3%
16/11/1961	Glasgow, Bridgeton	Lab hold	-15.9%	-5.9%	...	+18.7%	+3.1%	41.9%
08/03/1962	Lincoln	Lab hold	-14.7%	-4.6%	+18.2%	...	+1.1%	75.0%
13/03/1962	Blackpool North	Con hold	-19.5%	+4.8%	+14.7%	...	...	55.2%
14/03/1962	Middlesbrough	Lab hold	-23.7%	-1.0%	+22.9%	...	+1.8%	52.2%
14/03/1962	Orpington	Lib gain from Con	-21.9%	-9.8%	+31.7%	...	...	80.3%
22/03/1962	Pontefract	Lab hold	-4.2%	+0.9%	...	...	+3.3%	63.3%
05/04/1962	Stockton-on-Tees	Lab hold	-18.5%	-8.4%	+26.9%	...	...	81.5%
17/04/1962	Derby North	Lab hold	-24.7%	-3.4%	+25.4%	...	+2.7%	60.5%
15/05/1962	Montgomeryshire	Lib hold	-9.4%	-6.0%	+9.2%	+6.2%	...	85.1%
06/06/1962	Middlesbrough West	Lab gain from Con	-21.2%	+4.3%	+16.1%	...	+0.8%	72.2%
06/06/1962	Debyshire West	Con hold	-25.2%	-11.4%	+32.5%	...	+4.1%	79.4%
14/06/1962	West Lothian	Lab hold	-28.3%	-9.4%	+10.8%	+23.3%	+3.6%	71.1%
12/07/1962	Leicester NE	Lab hold	-23.9%	-10.4%	+34.3%	...	...	60.8%
22/11/1962	Dorset South	Lab gain from Con	-18.0%	-1.2%	+6.2%	...	+13.0%	70.2%
22/11/1962	Norfolk Central	Con hold	-12.6%	+2.2%	+7.6%	...	+2.8%	60.2%

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Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
22/11/1962	Northamptonshire South	Con hold	-15.8%	-4.4%	+19.3%	...	+0.9%	69.0%
22/11/1962	Chippenham	Con hold	-15.2%	-1.9%	+15.6%	...	+1.5%	68.0%
22/11/1962	Glasgow, Woodside	Lab gain from Con	-19.1%	-7.0%	+14.0%	+11.1%	+1.0%	54.7%
21/03/1963	Colne Valley	Lab hold	-14.5%	+0.1%	+13.7%	...	+0.7%	78.9%
28/03/1963	Rotherham	Lab hold	-8.8%	+6.5%	...	...	+2.3%	56.3%
28/03/1963	Swansea East	Lab hold	-14.7%	-6.3%	+15.8%	-5.3%	+10.5%	55.9%
20/06/1963	Leeds South	Lab hold	-10.9%	+4.4%	+4.3%	...	+2.2%	60.5%
04/07/1963	Deptford	Lab hold	-18.9%	-3.6%	+22.5%	...	...	44.1%
04/07/1963	West Bromwich	Lab hold	-19.0%	+1.4%	+17.6%	...	...	55.2%
15/08/1963	Stratford	Con hold	-25.0%	+2.6%	+21.0%	...	+1.4%	69.4%
20/08/1964	Bristol SE	Lab gain from Con	-43.8%	+23.5%	...	...	+20.3%	42.2%
07/11/1963	Luton	Lab gain from Con	-15.6%	+3.1%	+11.4%	...	+1.1%	74.0%
07/11/1963	Kinross-shire and Perthshire West	Con hold	-10.8%	-1.6%	+19.5%	-7.7%	+0.6%	76.1%
21/11/1963	Dundee West	Lab hold	-8.9%	+1.0%	...	+7.4%	+0.5%	71.6%
05/12/1963	St.Marylebone	Con hold	-9.6%	+8.2%	+1.4%	...	...	44.2%
05/12/1963	Manchester, Openshaw	Lab hold	-10.6%	+5.7%	...	...	+4.9%	46.1%
05/12/1963	Sudbury and Woodbridge	Con hold	-3.4%	+4.0%	-0.6%	...	...	70.5%
12/12/1963	Dunfriesshire	Con hold	-17.5%	-3.1%	+10.9%	+9.7%	...	71.6%
14/05/1964	Winchester	Con hold	-15.1%	+1.9%	+13.2%	...	...	68.7%
14/05/1964	Bury St.Edmunds	Con hold	-9.7%	+2.2%	+7.5%	...	...	74.6%
14/05/1964	Devizes	Con hold	-4.6%	+1.0%	+10.3%	...	-6.7%	75.8%
14/05/1964	Rutherglen	Lab gain from Con	-7.6%	+7.6%	...	...	...	82.0%
04/06/1964	Faversham	Lab hold	+5.6%	+4.8%	...	...	+0.8%	74.8%
11/06/1964	Liverpool, Scotland	Lab hold	-12.5%	+12.5%	...	...	...	42.0%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1964</b>								
21/01/1965	Leyton	Con gain from Lab	+9.3%	-7.9%	-2.2%	...	+0.8%	57.7%
21/01/1965	Nuneaton	Lab hold	+5.8%	-3.8%	-2.0%	...	...	60.8%
04/02/1965	Altrincham and Sale	Con hold	+3.2%	+1.0%	+5.8%	...	+1.6%	62.0%
04/02/1965	East Grinstead	Con hold	+1.8%	-6.3%	+4.5%	...	...	64.5%
04/02/1965	Salisbury	Con hold	-0.1%	+3.0%	-4.4%	...	+1.5%	69.1%
23/03/1965	Saffron Walden	Con hold	-0.8%	+2.1%	-1.3%	...	...	76.1%
24/03/1965	Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire and Peeblesshire	Lib gain from Con	-4.2%	-4.5%	+10.3%	-2.5%	+0.9%	82.2%
01/04/1965	Abertillery	Lab hold	+0.2%	-6.9%	...	+6.7%	...	63.2%
06/05/1965	Birmingham, Hall Green	Con hold	+2.2%	-3.0%	+0.8%	...	...	52.4%
22/07/1965	Hove	Con hold	-6.2%	-11.0%	+16.9%	...	+0.3%	58.5%
04/11/1965	Cities of London and Westminster	Con hold	+1.2%	+2.3%	-4.8%	...	...	41.8%
11/11/1965	Erith and Crayford	Lab hold	+4.9%	+2.3%	-7.2%	...	...	-7.6%
27/01/1966	Kingston upon Hull North	Lab hold	+0.0%	+8.9%	-9.6%	...	+0.7%	76.3%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1966</b>								
14/07/1966	Carmarthen	PC gain from Lab	-4.5%	-13.1%	-5.3%	+22.9%	...	74.9%
09/03/1967	Nuneaton	Lab hold	+1.1%	-11.8%	+3.1%	...	+7.6%	66.1%
09/03/1967	Rhondda West	Lab hold	-3.5%	-27.1%	...	+31.2%	-0.6%	82.2%
09/03/1967	Glasgow, Pollok	Con gain from Lab	-10.7%	-21.2%	+1.9%	+28.2%	+1.8%	75.7%
16/03/1967	Honiton	Con hold	+2.5%	-6.3%	+3.8%	...	...	72.6%
27/04/1967	Brierley Hill	Con hold	+2.6%	-12.6%	+7.8%	...	+2.2%	68.0%
21/09/1967	Cambridge	Con gain from Lab	+8.2%	-8.9%	+1.6%	...	-0.9%	65.7%
21/09/1967	Walthamstow West	Con gain from Lab	+12.2%	-24.4%	+8.8%	...	+3.4%	54.0%
02/11/1967	Leicester SW	Con gain from Lab	+10.3%	-22.8%	+12.5%	...	...	57.5%
02/11/1967	Manchester, Gorton	Lab hold	+4.6%	-14.2%	+5.9%	...	+3.7%	72.4%
02/11/1967	Hamilton	SNP gain from Lab	-16.3%	-29.7%	...	+46.0%	...	73.7%
23/11/1967	Derbyshire West	Con hold	+7.0%	-18.8%	+6.6%	...	+5.2%	64.5%
14/03/1968	Kensington South	Con hold	+10.3%	-11.2%	-2.5%	...	+3.4%	40.0%
28/03/1968	Acton	Con gain from Lab	+6.3%	-23.8%	+11.4%	...	+6.1%	59.7%
28/03/1968	Dudley	Con gain from Lab	+17.2%	-25.1%	+7.9%	...	...	63.5%
28/03/1968	Meriden	Con gain from Lab	+18.4%	-18.4%	...	...	...	66.0%
28/03/1968	Warwick and Leamington	Con hold	+16.7%	-19.6%	+2.9%	...	...	58.5%
13/06/1968	Oldham West	Con gain from Lab	+7.7%	-27.6%	+6.7%	...	+13.2%	54.7%
13/06/1968	Sheffield Brightside	Lab hold	+13.5%	-20.8%	...	...	+7.3%	49.8%
27/06/1968	Nelson and Colne	Con gain from Lab	+11.9%	-10.9%	+9.0%	...	-10.0%	74.2%
18/07/1968	Caerphilly	Lab hold	-4.2%	-28.7%	+3.6%	+29.3%	...	75.9%
31/10/1968	Bassetlaw	Lab hold	+9.5%	-11.9%	...	...	+2.4%	68.0%
07/11/1968	New Forest	Con hold	+15.1%	-12.9%	-2.2%	...	...	55.9%
27/03/1969	Brighton, Pavilion	Con hold	+12.5%	-23.3%	+10.8%	...	...	45.1%
27/03/1969	Walthamstow East	Con gain from Lab	+20.8%	-11.0%	-9.8%	...	...	51.2%
27/03/1969	Weston-super-Mare	Con hold	+13.6%	-14.2%	+0.6%	...	...	60.8%
22/05/1969	Chichester	Con hold	+17.0%	-12.9%	-4.1%	...	...	53.4%



Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
26/06/1969	Birmingham, Ladywood	Lib gain from Lab	-0.6%	-33.4%	+30.6%	...	+3.4%	51.9%
30/10/1969	Islington North	Lab hold	+8.2%	-10.2%	+0.3%	...	+1.7%	32.8%
30/10/1969	Paddington North	Lab hold	+16.0%	-6.7%	-9.3%	...	...	46.3%
30/10/1969	Newcastle-under-Lyme	Lab hold	+5.7%	-15.7%	+6.4%	...	+3.6%	72.3%
30/10/1969	Swindon	Con gain from Lab	+5.1%	-20.8%	+15.3%	...	+0.4%	69.8%
30/10/1969	Glasgow, Gorbals	Lab hold	-4.2%	-19.7%	...	+25.0%	-1.1%	58.5%
04/12/1969	Louth	Con hold	+11.6%	-17.0%	+1.0%	...	+4.4%	44.7%
04/12/1969	Wellingborough	Con gain from Lab	+6.8%	-12.6%	...	...	+5.8%	69.6%
12/03/1970	Bridgwater	Con hold	+11.1%	-6.2%	-4.9%	...	...	70.3%
19/03/1970	Ayrshire South	Lab hold	-7.2%	-13.2%	...	+20.4%	...	76.3%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1970</b>								
22/10/1970	St.Marylebone	Con hold	+1.3%	-2.3%	-2.4%	...	+3.4%	35.3%
19/11/1970	Enfield West	Con hold	-0.6%	-0.2%	-0.5%	...	+1.3%	49.9%
01/04/1971	Liverpool, Scotland	Lab hold	-6.8%	-3.5%	...	...	+10.3%	37.7%
01/04/1971	Arundel and Shoreham	Con hold	+3.3%	-2.0%	-1.6%	...	+0.3%	53.1%
27/05/1971	Southampton, Itchen	Lab hold	+31.6%	-11.8%	+5.4%	...	-25.2%	50.1%
27/05/1971	Bromsgrove	Lab gain from Con	-10.1%	+10.1%	...	...	...	67.0%
27/05/1971	Goole	Lab hold	-8.7%	+8.7%	...	...	...	55.6%
17/06/1971	Hayes and Harlington	Lab hold	-15.9%	+17.0%	...	...	-1.1%	42.3%
08/07/1971	Greenwich	Lab hold	-8.3%	+9.4%	-6.4%	...	+5.3%	39.2%
16/09/1971	Stirling and Falkirk	Lab hold	-15.9%	-4.2%	...	+20.1%	...	60.0%
23/09/1971	Widnes	Lab hold	-11.4%	+11.4%	...	...	...	45.4%
30/09/1971	Macclesfield	Con hold	-7.4%	+9.4%	-3.9%	...	+1.9%	75.8%
13/04/1972	Merthyr Tydfil	Lab gain from Ind Lab	-2.4%	+19.8%	+2.4%	+27.4%	-47.2%	79.5%
04/05/1972	Southwark	Lab gain from Ind Lab	-10.1%	+12.0%	...	...	-1.9%	32.1%
04/05/1972	Kingston upon Thames	Con hold	-4.3%	-0.7%	-0.4%	...	+5.4%	53.6%
26/10/1972	Rochdale	Lib gain from Lab	-10.3%	-10.5%	+11.9%	...	+8.9%	69.1%
07/12/1972	Sutton and Cheam	Lib gain from Con	-26.2%	-18.6%	+39.0%	...	+5.8%	56.3%
07/12/1972	Uxbridge	Con hold	-9.4%	-5.1%	+1.3%	...	+13.2%	54.3%
01/03/1973	Lincoln	Dem Lab gain from Lab	-21.5%	-27.7%	...	...	+49.2%	72.6%
01/03/1973	Chester-le-Street	Lab hold	-20.0%	-18.6%	+38.6%	...	...	72.3%
01/03/1973	Dundee East	Lab hold	-17.2%	-15.6%	+8.3%	+21.3%	+3.2%	70.6%
24/05/1973	West Bromwich	Lab hold	-19.4%	-2.0%	...	...	+21.4%	43.6%
24/05/1973	Westhoughton	Lab hold	-2.3%	+1.6%	...	...	+0.7%	63.4%
27/06/1973	Manchester, Exchange	Lab hold	-20.7%	-13.2%	+36.5%	...	-2.6%	43.7%
26/07/1973	Isle of Ely	Lib gain from Con	-24.9%	-13.4%	+38.3%	...	...	65.8%
26/07/1973	Ripon	Lib gain from Con	-20.2%	-12.3%	+30.4%	...	+2.1%	64.3%
08/11/1973	Hove	Con hold	-20.9%	-19.7%	+37.3%	...	+3.3%	62.4%
08/11/1973	Berwick-upon-Tweed	Lib gain from Con	-11.0%	-7.6%	+18.0%	...	+0.6%	75.0%
08/11/1973	Edinburgh North	Con hold	-14.1%	-13.1%	+8.3%	+18.9%	...	54.4%
08/11/1973	Glasgow, Govan	SNP gain from Lab	-16.5%	-21.8%	+8.2%	+31.6%	-1.5%	51.7%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1974 (FEB)</b>								
23/05/1974	Newham South	Lab hold	-1.1%	-3.4%	-2.3%	...	+6.8%	25.9%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1974 (OCT)</b>								
26/06/1975	Greenwich, Woolwich West	Con gain from Lab	+10.2%	-5.0%	-9.0%	...	+3.8%	62.3%
04/03/1976	Coventry NW	Lab hold	+5.8%	-4.2%	-4.4%	...	+2.8%	72.9%
11/03/1976	Sutton, Carshalton	Con hold	+6.3%	-10.4%	-1.7%	...	+5.8%	60.5%
11/03/1976	Wirral	Con hold	+16.0%	-11.3%	-6.2%	...	+1.5%	55.5%
24/06/1976	Rotherham	Lab hold	+12.6%	-13.9%	-5.5%	...	+6.8%	46.8%
15/07/1976	Thurrock	Lab hold	+11.0%	-10.3%	-7.8%	...	+7.1%	54.1%
04/11/1976	Newcastle upon Tyne	Lab hold	+3.2%	-24.2%	+17.3%	...	+3.7%	41.0%
04/11/1976	Walsall North	Con gain from ENP	+17.3%	-27.9%	-10.2%	...	+20.8%	51.5%
04/11/1976	Workington	Con gain from Lab	+15.9%	-10.4%	-5.5%	...	...	74.2%
02/12/1976	Cambridge	Con hold	+9.8%	-10.0%	-2.8%	...	+3.0%	49.2%
24/02/1977	City of London and Westminster South	Con hold	+7.4%	-11.2%	-5.1%	...	+8.9%	39.6%
31/03/1977	Birmingham, Stetchford	Con gain from Lab	+15.6%	-19.6%	-6.6%	...	+10.6%	58.8%
28/04/1977	Ashfield	Con gain from Lab	+20.8%	-20.9%	-4.7%	...	+4.8%	59.7%
28/04/1977	Grimsby	Lab hold	+13.8%	-0.2%	-13.9%	...	+0.3%	70.2%
07/07/1977	Saffron Walden	Con hold	+12.0%	-11.4%	-5.1%	...	+4.5%	64.8%
18/08/1977	Birmingham, Ladywood	Lab hold	+6.3%	-11.4%	-8.5%	...	+13.6%	42.6%
24/11/1977	Bournemouth East	Con hold	+11.7%	-5.7%	-11.8%	...	+5.8%	42.6%
02/03/1978	Redbridge, Ilford North	Con gain from Lab	+9.4%	-4.5%	-11.6%	...	+6.7%	69.1%
13/04/1978	Glasgow, Garscadden	Lab hold	+5.6%	-5.5%	-5.0%	+1.7%	+3.2%	69.1%

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Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other	
20/04/1978	Lambeth Central	Lab hold	+8.2%	-10.7%	-7.2%	...	+9.7%	44.5%
27/04/1978	Epsom and Ewell	Con hold	+9.5%	-2.8%	-13.8%	...	+7.1%	54.9%
27/04/1978	Wycombe	Con hold	+13.7%	-2.3%	-12.0%	...	+0.6%	59.0%
31/05/1978	Hamilton	Lab hold	+3.5%	+3.5%	-1.4%	-5.6%	...	72.1%
13/07/1978	Manchester, Moss Side	Lab hold	+6.3%	-0.7%	-8.4%	...	+2.8%	51.6%
13/07/1978	Penistone	Lab hold	+8.9%	-8.7%	-0.2%	...	...	59.8%
26/10/1978	Pontefract and Castleford	Lab hold	+11.1%	-4.6%	-5.4%	...	-1.1%	48.9%
26/10/1978	Berwick and East Lothian	Lab hold	+2.6%	+4.1%	-2.3%	-4.4%	...	71.2%
01/03/1979	Clitheroe	Con hold	+17.0%	-2.8%	-14.2%	...	...	62.8%
01/03/1979	Knutsford	Con hold	+16.1%	-7.0%	-10.6%	...	+1.5%	57.2%
29/03/1979	Liverpool, Edge Hill	Lib gain from Lab	-11.4%	-28.1%	+36.8%	...	+2.7%	57.2%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1979</b>								
27/09/1979	Manchester Central	Lab hold	-10.1%	-0.1%	+8.9%	...	+1.3%	33.6%
13/12/1979	Hertfordshire SW	Con hold	-8.8%	+0.0%	+7.4%	...	+1.4%	48.3%
13/03/1980	Southend East	Con hold	-19.3%	+6.5%	+12.0%	...	+0.8%	62.5%
26/06/1980	Glasgow Central	Lab hold	-7.6%	-11.7%	...	+15.2%	+4.1%	42.8%
16/07/1981	Warrington	Lab hold	-21.7%	-13.2%	+33.3%	...	+1.6%	67.0%
22/10/1981	Croydon NW	Lib gain from Con	-18.9%	-14.1%	+29.5%	...	+3.5%	62.8%
26/11/1981	Crosby	SDP gain from Con	-17.2%	-15.9%	+33.8%	...	-0.7%	69.3%
25/03/1982	Glasgow, Hillhead	SDP gain from Con	-14.5%	-8.5%	+19.0%	+1.2%	+2.8%	76.4%
27/05/1982	Beaconsfield	Con hold	+0.1%	-9.7%	+9.7%	...	-0.1%	53.9%
03/06/1982	Merton, Mitcham and Morden	Con gain from Ind SNP	-0.5%	-20.8%	+20.5%	...	+0.8%	48.5%
24/06/1982	Coatbridge and Airdrie	Lab hold	-1.3%	-5.8%	+8.2%	-1.1%	...	56.3%
16/09/1982	Gower	Lab hold	-8.4%	-9.7%	+16.0%	+1.5%	+0.6%	65.4%
28/10/1982	Southwark, Peckham	Lab hold	-15.7%	-9.5%	+25.2%	...	+0.0%	38.0%
28/10/1982	Birmingham, Northfield	Lab gain from Con	-9.8%	-8.8%	+18.0%	...	+0.6%	55.0%
02/12/1982	Glasgow, Queens's Park	Lab hold	-12.0%	-8.4%	+9.4%	+10.3%	+0.7%	47.0%
24/02/1983	Southwark, Bermondsey	Lib gain from Ind Lab	-19.4%	-37.5%	+50.9%	...	+6.0%	57.7%
24/03/1983	Darlington	Lab hold	-8.5%	-6.0%	+14.3%	...	+0.2%	80.0%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1983</b>								
28/07/1983	Penrith and The Border	Con hold	-12.8%	-5.9%	+16.7%	...	+2.0%	55.7%
01/03/1984	Chesterfield	Lab hold	-17.2%	-1.6%	+15.2%	...	+3.6%	76.9%
03/05/1984	Stafford	Con hold	-10.8%	+3.7%	+7.1%	...	+0.0%	65.6%
03/05/1984	Surrey SW	Con hold	-10.4%	-1.5%	+11.3%	...	+0.6%	61.7%
03/05/1984	Cynon Valley	Lab hold	-6.8%	+2.8%	-0.7%	+1.8%	+2.9%	65.7%
14/06/1984	Portsmouth South	SDP gain from Con	-15.7%	+3.9%	+12.2%	...	-0.4%	54.5%
13/12/1984	Enfield, Southgate	Con hold	-8.5%	-5.9%	+12.2%	...	+2.2%	50.6%
04/07/1985	Brecon and Radnor	Lib gain from Con	-20.5%	+9.4%	+11.4%	-0.6%	+0.3%	79.4%
05/12/1985	Tyne Bridge	Lab hold	-14.1%	+1.3%	+11.4%	...	+1.4%	38.1%
10/04/1986	Hamersmith and Fulham	Lab gain from Con	-11.3%	+10.4%	+0.5%	...	+0.4%	70.8%
08/05/1986	Derbyshire West	Con hold	-16.4%	+2.7%	+12.4%	...	+1.3%	71.9%
08/05/1986	Ryedale	Lib gain from Con	-17.9%	-1.9%	+19.8%	...	...	67.3%
17/07/1986	Newcastle-under-Lyme	Lab hold	-17.4%	-1.2%	+17.2%	...	+1.4%	62.2%
13/01/1986	Knowsley North	Lab hold	-13.8%	-8.2%	+19.8%	...	+2.2%	57.3%
26/02/1987	Greenwich	SDP gain from Lab	-23.6%	-4.5%	+27.9%	...	+0.2%	68.2%
12/03/1987	Truro	Lib hold	-6.5%	+2.5%	+3.1%	...	+0.9%	70.3%
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1987</b>								
14/07/1988	Kensington	Con hold	-5.9%	+4.9%	...	...	+5.2%	51.6%
14/07/1988	Glasgow, Govan	SNP gain from Lab	-4.5%	-27.9%	...	+38.4%	+3.0%	60.2%
10/11/1988	Epping Forest	Con hold	-21.5%	+0.4%	+15.2%	...	+4.8%	49.1%
15/12/1988	Pontypridd	Lab hold	-6.5%	+1.1%	...	+21.2%	+5.5%	62.0%
23/02/1989	Richmond (Yorks)	Con hold	-26.0%	-4.1%	-5.0%	...	+3.4%	64.2%
23/02/1989	Vale of Glamorgan	Lab gain from Con	-10.5%	+14.2%	...	+1.7%	+6.3%	70.7%
04/05/1989	Glasgow Central	Lab hold	-5.4%	-9.9%	...	+20.3%	+3.0%	52.9%
15/06/1989	Vauxhall	Lab hold	-10.2%	+2.6%	-0.7%	...	+9.7%	44.4%
15/06/1989	Mid Staffordshire	Lab gain from Con	-18.3%	+24.3%	-12.0%	...	+0.4%	77.5%
17/05/1990	Bootle	Lab hold	-11.0%	+8.5%	...	...	+5.0%	50.6%
24/05/1990	Knowsley South	Lab hold	-6.5%	+4.4%	-5.4%	...	+2.4%	33.4%
27/09/1990	Eastbourne	LD gain from Con	-19.0%	-3.8%	+21.1%	...	+3.4%	60.7%
18/10/1990	Bootle	Lab hold	+0.1%	+3.0%	-5.1%	...	+4.1%	39.7%
08/11/1990	Bradford North	Lab hold	-22.7%	+8.8%	+7.6%	...	+12.5%	53.4%
29/11/1990	Paisley North	Lab hold	-0.9%	-11.5%	...	+16.5%	+5.1%	53.7%
29/11/1990	Paisley South	Lab hold	-1.3%	-10.0%	...	+13.5%	+7.9%	55.0%
07/03/1991	Ribble Valley	LD gain from Con	-22.3%	-8.3%	+27.1%	...	+1.5%	71.1%

Date	Constituency	Result	change in share of the vote since previous election:					Turnout	
			Con	Lab	L Dem	SNP/PC	Other		
04/04/1991	Neath	Lab hold	-7.5%	-11.6%	...	+17.0%	...	63.7%	
16/05/1991	Monmouth	Lab gain from Con	-13.5%	+11.6%	+0.8%	-0.2%	...	75.8%	
04/07/1991	Liverpool Walton	Lab hold	-12.2%	+0.1%	+14.8%	...	...	74.9%	
07/11/1991	Hemsworth	Lab hold	-6.7%	-0.7%	+4.3%	...	...	42.6%	
29/08/1991	Kincardine and Deeside	LD gain from Con	-10.1%	-8.2%	+12.7%	+4.7%	...	64.6%	
07/11/1991	Langbaugh	Lab gain from Con	-2.6%	+4.5%	-3.8%	...	...	65.3%	
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1992</b>									
06/05/1993	Newbury	LD gain from Con	-29.0%	-4.0%	+27.8%	...	+5.2%	71.3%	
29/07/1993	Christchurch	LD gain from Con	-32.2%	-9.4%	+38.6%	...	+3.0%	74.2%	
05/05/1994	Rotherham	Lab hold	-13.9%	-8.3%	+17.4%	...	+4.8%	43.7%	
09/06/1994	Barking	Lab hold	-23.5%	+20.5%	-2.5%	...	+5.5%	38.3%	
09/06/1994	Eastleigh	LD gain from Con	-26.5%	+6.8%	+16.3%	...	+3.4%	58.7%	
09/06/1994	Newham North East	Lab hold	-16.0%	+16.6%	-7.0%	...	+6.3%	34.8%	
09/06/1994	Bradford South	Lab hold	-20.7%	+7.5%	+10.2%	...	+3.0%	44.2%	
09/06/1994	Dagenham	Lab hold	-26.4%	+19.7%	-3.1%	...	+9.7%	37.0%	
30/06/1994	Monklands East	Lab hold	-13.7%	-11.5%	-2.0%	+26.9%	+0.4%	70.0%	
15/12/1994	Dudley West	Lab gain from Con	-30.2%	+28.1%	-2.8%	...	+5.0%	47.0%	
16/02/1995	Islwyn	Lab hold	-10.9%	-5.1%	+4.9%	+8.7%	+2.4%	45.1%	
25/05/1995	Perth and Kinross	SNP gain from Con	-18.7%	+10.5%	+0.4%	+4.4%	+3.4%	62.1%	
27/07/1995	Littleborough & Saddleworth	LD gain from Con	-20.7%	+13.9%	+2.7%	...	+4.1%	64.4%	
01/02/1996	Hemsworth	Lab hold	-9.8%	+1.0%	-3.7%	...	+12.5%	39.5%	
11/04/1996	South East Staffordshire	Lab gain from Con	-22.2%	+22.0%	-4.9%	...	+5.1%	59.6%	
11/10/1996	Barnsley East	Lab hold	-6.9%	-0.7%	-0.3%	...	+7.9%	33.6%	
27/02/1997	Wirral South	Lab gain from Con	-16.5%	18.0%	-3.0%	...	+1.5%	73.0%	
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 1997</b>									
31/07/1997	Uxbridge	Con hold	+7.6%	-2.5%	-5.3%	...	+0.2%	55.5%	
06/11/1997	Paisley South	Lab hold	-1.7%	-13.4%	+1.6%	+9.1%	+4.3%	43.1%	
20/11/1997	Beckenham	Con hold	-1.2%	+4.0%	+0.2%	...	-3.1%	43.6%	
20/11/1997	Winchester	LD win	-13.6%	-8.8%	+26.0%	...	-3.6%	68.7%	
10/06/1999	Leeds Central	Lab hold	-1.4%	-21.4%	+19.6%	...	+3.2%	19.6%	
22/07/1999	Eddisbury	Con hold	+2.3%	+0.0%	+0.6%	...	-2.9%	51.4%	
23/09/1999	Hamilton South	Lab hold	-1.4%	-28.7%	-1.9%	+16.4%	+15.7%	41.3%	
23/09/1999	Wigan	Lab hold	+1.1%	-9.0%	+3.3%	...	+4.6%	25.0%	
25/11/1999	Kensington and Chelsea	Con hold	+2.8%	-5.9%	-5.9%	...	+9.1%	29.7%	
03/02/2000	Ceredigion	PC hold	+1.6%	-9.9%	+6.5%	+1.1%	+0.6%	45.6%	
04/05/2000	Romsey	LD gain from Con	-4.0%	-14.8%	+21.1%	...	-2.3%	55.5%	
22/06/2000	Tottenham	Lab hold	+0.3%	-15.8%	+8.3%	...	+7.1%	25.4%	
23/11/2000	Glasgow, Anniesland	Lab hold	-0.6%	-9.7%	+0.8%	+3.7%	+5.8%	38.4%	
23/11/2000	Preston	Lab hold	+3.1%	-15.1%	+1.5%	...	+10.5%	29.6%	
23/11/2000	West Bromwich West	Lab win	Not Comparable						27.6%
21/12/2000	Falkirk West	Lab hold	-3.8%	-15.8%	-2.0%	+16.5%	+5.1%	36.2%	
<b>GENERAL ELECTION 2001</b>									
15/10/2001	Ipswich	Lab hold	-2.1%	-8.0%	+7.2%	...	+2.8%	40.2%	
14/02/2002	Ogmore	Lab hold	-3.7%	-10.1%	-4.0%	+6.8%	+11.0%	35.2%	
18/09/2003	Brent East	LD gain from Lab	-2.1%	-29.4%	+28.6%	...	+2.9%	36.2%	
15/07/2004	Birmingham Hodge Hill	Lab hold	-3.3%	-29.6%	+25.8%	...	+0.9%	37.9%	
15/07/2004	Leicester South	LD gain from Lab	-3.3%	-25.2%	+17.7%	...	-1.9%	40.6%	

Sources: Chronology of British Parliamentary By-elections 1833-1987, F.W.S. Craig  
House of Commons Library

## VI European Elections

Elections to the European Parliament were last held in the UK on 10 June 2004.

The first direct elections to the European Parliament took place in June 1979, when nine European nations went to the polls to elect the members of a single Parliament. Previously, members of the European Parliament had been delegates from national parliaments. Direct elections have taken place at five-yearly intervals since then in 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999 and 2004.

Table 14 details the number of UK MEPs by party since 1979. In 1994, the Liberal Democrats gained their first European Parliament seats – Cornwall & West Plymouth and Somerset & North Devon – and the SNP increased their number of MEPs from 1 to 2. The change in the electoral system in 1999 enabled the Liberal Democrats to increase their representation, from 2 to 10. The SNP remained with 2 MEPs, and other parties (Plaid Cymru, UKIP and the Green Party) gained their first UK MEPs.

In 2004 the number of UK MEPs was reduced from 87 to 78 as the number of EU members has risen to 25. The number of Labour MEPs fell as the Liberal Democrat Party and the UK Independence Party increased their representation in the EU Parliament.

Table 14

### UK MEPs by party - 1979 to 2004

	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999	2004
<b>Great Britain</b>						
Labour	17	32	45	62	29	19
	(Number)					
	21%	40%	56%	73%	33%	24%
	(% of UK MEPs)					
Conservative	60	45	32	18	36	27
	(Number)					
	74%	56%	40%	21%	41%	35%
	(% of UK MEPs)					
Liberal Democrat	...	...	...	2	10	12
Scottish National	1	1	1	2	2	2
Plaid Cymru	...	...	...	...	2	1
Green	...	...	...	...	2	2
UKIP	...	...	...	...	3	12
Total	78	78	78	82	84	75
<b>Northern Ireland</b>						
Democratic Unionist	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sinn Fein	...	...	...	...	...	1
SDLP	1	1	1	1	1	...
Ulster Unionist	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>Total UK</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>78</b>

Table 15 shows the number of votes for each party at euro-elections in the UK since 1979. In Great Britain to 1994 these were on a first-past-the-post basis, with constituencies comprising a number of Westminster seats. In 1999 and 2004 elections were held under a regional list system. In Northern Ireland they have been on the basis of a system of single transferable vote - the table shows first preference votes only.

Table 15

**European Election Results:  
Votes by Party 1979 to 2004**

	Votes					
	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999	2004
<b>Great Britain</b>						
Labour	4,253,207	4,865,261	6,153,661	6,753,881	3,578,203	3,718,683
Conservative	6,508,493	5,426,821	5,331,098	4,268,539	2,803,820	4,397,087
Liberal Democrat (a)	1,691,531	1,358,145 (c)	944,861	2,557,887	1,266,549	2,452,327
Scottish National	247,836	230,594	406,686	487,237	185,235	231,505
Plaid Cymru	83,399	103,031	115,062	162,478	268,528	159,888
Green (b)	17,953	70,853	2,292,718	494,561	625,378	1,028,283
SDP	...	1,233,490 (c)	75,886	...	...	...
UKIP	...	...	...	150,251	696,055	2,660,768
BNP	...	...	...	...	102,644	808,201
Respect	...	...	...	...	...	252,216
Others	71,433	24,678	41,295	417,888	475,841	749,645
Total	12,873,852	13,312,873	15,361,267	15,292,722	10,002,253	16,458,603

**Northern Ireland**  
(first preference votes)

Democratic Unionist	170,688	230,251	160,110	163,246	192,762	175,761
SDLP	140,622	151,399	136,335	161,992	190,731	87,559
Ulster Unionist	125,169	147,169	118,785	133,459	119,507	91,164
Sinn Fein	...	91,476	48,914	55,215	117,643	144,541
Alliance	39,026	34,046	27,905	23,157	14,391	...
Green	...	...	...	...	...	4,810
Others	96,734	30,976	42,762	22,798	43,775	45,442
Total	572,239	685,317	534,811	559,867	678,809	549,277

	Votes					
	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999	2004
<b>Great Britain</b>						
Labour	33%	37%	40%	44%	36%	23%
Conservative	51%	41%	35%	28%	28%	27%
Liberal Democrat (a)	13%	10%	6%	17%	13%	15%
Scottish National	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	1%
Plaid Cymru	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%
Green (b)	0%	1%	15%	3%	6%	6%
SDP	...	9%	0%	...	...	...
UKIP	...	...	...	1%	7%	16%
BNP	...	...	...	...	1%	5%
Respect	...	...	...	...	...	2%
Other	1%	0%	0%	3%	5%	5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Northern Ireland**  
(first preference votes)

Democratic Unionist	30%	34%	30%	29%	28%	32%
SDLP	25%	22%	25%	29%	28%	16%
Ulster Unionist	22%	21%	22%	24%	18%	17%
Sinn Fein	...	13%	9%	10%	17%	26%
Alliance	7%	5%	5%	4%	2%	...
Green	...	...	...	...	...	1%
Others	17%	5%	8%	4%	6%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(a) SLD in 1989/Liberal SDP Alliance in 1984/Liberal Party in 1979

(b) Ecology Party in 1979 and 1984

(c) The Liberal/SDP Alliance total is 2,591,635 in 1984

Sources: Library Research Paper 04/50

Craig & Mackie *Europe Votes 3*

Home Office Statistical Bulletin 26/84 June 1984

Home Office *European Assembly election expenses 1979*

## **VII Elections to devolved bodies**

### **A. National Assembly for Wales**

Elections to the National Assembly for Wales were held in 1999 and 2003.

Elections to the National Assembly for Wales are conducted under the Additional Member System. Voters are given two ballot papers: one to elect each of 40 members under the first-past-the-post system<sup>3</sup> and the second to elect four members from each of five electoral regions<sup>4</sup>. These additional members are elected so that the total representation from each area, including those Members elected under first-past-the-post, corresponds as closely as possible with the share of votes cast for each party in the region.

In 2003, Labour gained the highest share of the vote in both the constituency and regional ballots of the election as well as the highest number of seats (30). Plaid Cymru won 12 seats, the Conservatives 11 and the Liberal Democrats 6.

The average turnout across regions and constituencies was 38.2%, down by 8 percentage points compared with 1999.

Table 16 provides a summary of the results for both the 2003 and 1999 elections. Detailed analysis of the Welsh Assembly Elections is available in Library Research Paper 03/45 *Welsh Assembly Elections: 1 May 2003*.

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<sup>3</sup> based on the existing 40 parliamentary constituencies

<sup>4</sup> based on the constituencies used for the 1994 European Elections

Table 16

**National Assembly for Wales elections: 1999 and 2003**

	Number of Votes		% Share of Vote			Seats won		
	1999	2003	1999	2003	change	1999	2003	change
<b>Constituencies</b>								
Labour	384,671	340,515	37.6%	40.0%	-2.4%	27	30	+3
Plaid Cymru	290,572	180,183	28.4%	21.2%	+7.2%	9	5	-4
Conservative	162,133	169,432	15.8%	19.9%	-4.1%	1	1	+0
Liberal Democrat	137,857	120,220	13.5%	14.1%	-0.6%	3	3	+0
Others	47,992	40,053	4.7%	4.8%	-0.1%	...	1	+1
Total	1,023,225	850,403	100.0%	100.0%	...	40	40	...
<b>Regional lists</b>								
Labour	361,657	310,658	35.4%	36.6%	+1.2%	1	0	-1
Plaid Cymru	312,048	167,653	30.5%	19.7%	-10.8%	8	7	-1
Conservative	168,206	162,725	16.5%	19.2%	+2.7%	8	10	+2
Liberal Democrat	128,008	108,013	12.5%	12.7%	+0.2%	3	3	+0
Others	51,938	100,503	5.1%	11.8%	+6.7%	...	...	...
Total	1,021,857	849,552	100.0%	100.0%	...	20	20	...
<b>Total</b>								
Labour	746,328	651,173	36.5%	38.3%	+1.8%	28	30	+2
Plaid Cymru	602,620	347,836	29.5%	20.5%	-9.0%	17	12	-5
Conservative	330,339	332,157	16.2%	19.5%	+3.3%	9	11	+2
Liberal Democrat	265,865	228,233	13.0%	13.4%	+0.4%	6	6	+0
Other	99,930	140,556	4.9%	8.3%	+3.4%	0	1	+1
Total	2,045,082	1,699,955	100.0%	100.0%	...	60	60	...

## **B. Scottish Parliament Elections**

Elections to the Scottish Parliament were held in 1999 and 2003.

Voters were given two ballot papers: one used to elect each of 73 constituency members under the first-past-the-post system<sup>5</sup> and the second to elect seven members from each of eight electoral regions<sup>6</sup>. These additional members were elected so that the total representation from each area, including those Members elected under first-past-the-post, corresponds as closely as possible with the share of votes cast for each party in the region.

Overall in 2003, Labour gained 34.5% of the constituency votes and 29.4% of the regional votes. This gave Labour a total of 50 of the 129 seats, 15 seats short of an overall majority. The Scottish National Party won 27 seats, the Conservatives 18 (all top-up seats), and the Liberal Democrats 17.

The average turnout across regions and constituencies was 49%, down by 9% compared with 1999.

Table 17 provides a summary of the results for the elections in 2003 and 1999. Detailed analysis is also available in Library Research Paper 03/46 *Scottish Parliament Elections: 1 May 2003*.

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<sup>5</sup> based on the existing 72 Parliamentary Constituencies (with Orkney and Shetland split into two separate constituencies)

<sup>6</sup> based on the constituencies used for the 1994 European elections



Table 17

**Scottish Parliament elections: 1999 and 2003**

	Number of Votes		% Share of Vote			Seats won		
	1999	2003	1999	2003	change	1999	2003	change
<b>Constituencies</b>								
Labour	908,346	663,585	38.8%	34.5%	-4.3%	53	46	-7
Scottish National Party	672,768	455,772	28.7%	23.7%	-5.0%	7	9	+2
Conservative	364,425	318,279	15.6%	16.6%	+1.0%	0	3	+3
Liberal Democrat	333,179	294,347	14.2%	15.3%	+1.1%	12	13	+1
Scottish Socialist Party	23,654	116,013	1.0%	6.0%	+5.0%	0	0	0
Others	8,573	39,171	0.4%	2.0%	+1.6%	1	1	0
Independent	31,543	34,452	1.3%	1.8%	+0.5%	0	1	+1
Total	2,342,488	1,921,619	100.0%	100.0%	...	73	73	...
<b>Regional lists</b>								
Labour	786,818	561,879	33.6%	29.4%	-4.2%	3	4	+1
Scottish National Party	638,644	399,659	27.3%	20.9%	-6.5%	28	18	-10
Conservative	359,109	296,929	15.4%	15.6%	+0.2%	18	15	-3
Liberal Democrat	290,760	225,810	12.4%	11.8%	-0.6%	5	4	-1
Scottish Green Party	84,023	132,138	3.6%	6.9%	+3.3%	1	7	+6
Scottish Socialist Party	46,714	128,126	2.0%	6.7%	+4.7%	1	6	+5
Independent	41,321	31,942	1.8%	1.7%	-0.1%	0	1	+1
Scottish Senior Citizens Unity Party	...	28,966	...	1.5%	+1.5%	...	1	+1
Pensioners Party (Scotland)	...	28,655	...	1.5%	+1.5%	...	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	55,153	21,657	2.4%	1.1%	-1.3%	0	0	0
United Kingdom Independence Party	...	11,969	...	0.6%	+0.6%	...	0	0
People's Alliance	...	7,718	...	0.4%	+0.4%	...	0	0
ProLife	9,784	6,759	0.4%	0.4%	+0.0%	0	0	0
Scottish Unionist Party	7,011	6,113	0.3%	0.3%	+0.0%	0	0	0
Others	19,577	20,274	0.8%	1.1%	+0.3%	0	0	0
Total	2,338,914	1,908,594	100.0%	100.0%	...	56	56	...
<b>Total seats won</b>								
Labour	1,695,164	1,225,464	36.2%	32.0%	-4.2%	56	50	-6
Scottish National Party	1,311,412	855,431	28.0%	22.3%	-5.7%	35	27	-8
Conservative	723,534	615,208	15.5%	16.1%	+0.6%	18	18	+0
Liberal Democrat	623,939	520,157	13.3%	13.6%	+0.3%	17	17	+0
Scottish Green Party	84,023	132,138	1.8%	3.4%	+1.6%	1	7	+6
Scottish Socialist Party	70,368	244,139	1.5%	6.4%	+4.9%	1	6	+5
Independent	72,864	66,394	1.6%	1.7%	+0.1%	0	2	+2
Other	100,098	171,282	2.1%	4.5%	+2.4%	1	2	+1
Total	4,681,402	3,830,213	100.0%	100.0%	...	129	129	...

## C. Northern Ireland Assembly

Table 18 shows the results of the elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 1998 and 2003. Voting in the election was by proportional representation using the Single Transferable Vote system.

Table 18

### Northern Ireland Assembly elections: 1998 and 2003

Party	First Preference Votes		% Votes			Seats		% Seats		
	1998	2003	1998	2003	change	1998	2003	1998	2003	change
SDLP	177,963	117,547	22.0%	17.0%	-5.0%	24	18	22.2%	16.7%	-5.6%
Ulster Unionist	172,225	156,931	21.3%	22.7%	+1.4%	28	27	25.9%	25.0%	-0.9%
Democratic Unionist	146,917	177,944	18.1%	25.7%	+7.6%	20	30	18.5%	27.8%	+9.3%
Sinn Féin	142,858	162,758	17.6%	23.5%	+5.9%	18	24	16.7%	22.2%	+5.6%
Alliance	52,636	25,372	6.5%	3.7%	-2.8%	6	6	5.6%	5.6%	+0.0%
United Kingdom Unionists	36,541	5,700	4.5%	0.8%	-3.7%	5	1	4.6%	0.9%	-3.7%
Progressive Unionist Party	20,634	8,032	2.5%	1.2%	-1.4%	2	1	1.9%	0.9%	-0.9%
NI Women's Coalition	13,019	5,785	1.6%	0.8%	-0.8%	2	0	1.9%	0.0%	-1.9%
Ulster Democratic Party	8,651	...	1.1%	...	...	0	...	0.0%	...	...
Others	38,801	31,959	4.8%	4.6%	-0.2%	3	1	2.8%	0.9%	-1.9%
Total	810,245	692,028	100%	100%	...	108	108	100%	100%	...

Sources: *British Electoral Facts: 1832-1999*, *Rallings and Thrasher*  
CAIN web service ([cain.ulst.ac.uk](http://cain.ulst.ac.uk))

- The Democratic Unionist Party won 30 of the 108 seats, 10 more than in 1998. The DUP won the highest share of the first preference votes.
- The Ulster Unionist Party won 27 seats, one fewer than in 1998 despite a higher share of the first preference votes.
- Sinn Fein, who secured more first preference votes than the UUP, won 24 seats.
- The Social Democratic and Labour Party won the fewest seats, and the lowest share of the vote, of the major parties.

Turnout in 2003 was 63.1 percent of the electorate, compared to 68.8 percent at the 1998 Assembly elections and 68.0 percent in Northern Ireland at the 2001 General Election.

Elections were held to the Northern Ireland House of Commons (Stormont) from its creation in 1921 to its prorogation in 1972. Since 1972 there were also elections to other devolved bodies. The results are not detailed here, but can be found at the following weblinks: <http://www.cain.ulst.ac.uk/issues/politics/election/elect.htm> (all elections since 1968) and <http://www.election.demon.co.uk/stormont/> (Stormont elections 1921 to 1969). Membership of Stormont by party following each general election in Northern Ireland between 1921 and 1969 are also available in Butler's *British Political Facts 1900-2000*.

## D. Greater London Assembly

The London Assembly has 25 Members. There are 14 constituency members topped-up by 11 London-wide members. Voters had two votes: one for a constituency member and another for a party or independent candidate that was used to determine the number of London-wide Assembly members.

In 2004, the Conservative Party won 9 GLA seats, the Labour Party 7, the Liberal Democrats 5 and the Green Party 2. The UK Independence Party gained its first 2 members in the Assembly. Turnout for the GLA election was 36%.

Table 19

### Greater London Assembly Elections: 4 May 2000 and 10 June 2004 Votes for Constituency Assembly Members - London totals

Party of candidates	Number of Votes		% Share of Vote		Seats won		
	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004	Change
Conservative Party	526,707	562,047	33.2%	31.2%	8	9	+1
Labour Party	501,296	444,808	31.6%	24.7%	6	5	-1
Liberal Democrats	299,998	332,237	18.9%	18.4%	0	0	0
Green Party	162,457	138,242	10.2%	7.7%	0	0	0
UK Independence Party	2,115	181,146	0.1%	10.0%	0	0	0
Respect	...	82,301	...	4.6%	...	0	0
Christian Peoples Alliance	...	43,322	...	2.4%	...	0	0
Other	93,497	19,064	5.9%	1.1%	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,586,070</i>	<i>1,803,167</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>14</i>	

### Votes for London-wide Assembly Members - London totals

Party	Number of Votes		% Share of Vote		Seats won		
	2000	2004	2000	2004	2000	2004	Change
Conservative Party	481,053	533,696	29.0%	28.5%	1	0	-1
Labour Party	502,874	468,247	30.3%	25.0%	3	2	-1
Liberal Democrats	245,555	316,218	14.8%	16.9%	4	5	+1
Green Party	183,910	160,445	11.1%	8.6%	3	2	-1
UK Independence Party	34,054	156,780	2.1%	8.4%	0	2	+2
British National Party	47,670	90,365	2.9%	4.8%	0	0	0
Respect	...	87,533	...	4.7%	...	0	0
Christian Peoples Alliance	55,192	54,914	3.3%	2.9%	0	0	0
Others	109,322	4,968	6.6%	0.3%	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,659,630</i>	<i>1,873,166</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	

### Composition of London Assembly

Party	2000	2004	Change
Conservative Party	9	9	0
Labour Party	9	7	-2
Liberal Democrats	4	5	+1
Green Party	3	2	-1
UK Independence Party	0	2	+2
<i>Total</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>...</i>

## VII Local Elections

### A. Council Elections

As the areas with elections change from year to year, the actual votes cast do not fully reflect the pattern of voting that would occur if elections were held in all areas. However, estimates of national equivalent shares of the vote for Great Britain are calculated each year. These are shown in table 20. The 2000 local elections were the first since 1992 in which the Conservatives gained a higher estimated national share than Labour.

Table 20

**Estimated national equivalent vote at Local Government elections**  
1979-2004: Great Britain

	Con	Lab	Lib
<b>1979</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>14%</b>
1980	40%	42%	13%
1981	38%	41%	17%
1982	40%	29%	27%
1983	39%	36%	20%
1984	38%	37%	21%
1985	32%	39%	26%
1986	34%	37%	26%
1987	38%	32%	27%
1988	39%	38%	18%
1989	36%	42%	19%
1990	33%	44%	17%
1991	35%	38%	22%
1992	46%	30%	20%
1993	31%	39%	25%
1994	28%	40%	27%
1995	25%	47%	23%
1996	29%	43%	24%
<b>1997</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>17%</b>
1998	33%	37%	25%
1999	34%	36%	25%
2000	38%	30%	26%
<b>2001</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>18%</b>
2002	34%	33%	25%
2003	35%	30%	27%
2004	37%	26%	27%

Sources: Rallings and Thrasher, *British electoral facts 1832-1999*  
Rallings and Thrasher, *Local elections handbook*, various  
Local Government Elections Centre, personal communication

Local elections in 1979, 1997 and 2001 were held on same day as the general election, and general election results are shown. These figures are emboldened

The table overleaf summarises the actual local election results since 1997.

Table 21

**Local Election results: 1997-2003**

	Share of votes					Seats won					
	Con	Lab	Lib	PC/SNP	Other	Con	Lab	Lib	PC/SNP	Other	Total
1997											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>36.2%</b>	<b>33.2%</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	...	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>724</b>	...	<b>123</b>	<b>3,247</b>
Shire counties	36.9%	32.2%	26.8%	...	4.1%	873	745	495	...	90	2,203
English unitary authorities	31.3%	40.2%	23.5%	...	5.0%	233	549	229	...	33	1,044
1998											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>30.4%</b>	<b>40.3%</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	...	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>2,239</b>	<b>853</b>	...	<b>147</b>	<b>4,344</b>
London boroughs	32.0%	40.6%	20.8%	...	6.6%	538	1,050	301	...	28	1,917
Metropolitan boroughs	26.0%	45.8%	22.9%	...	5.3%	107	575	152	...	15	849
Shire districts	34.8%	33.3%	26.4%	...	5.5%	423	512	351	...	86	1,372
English unitary authorities	26.7%	40.4%	26.4%	...	6.5%	37	102	49	...	18	206
1999											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>27.6%</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>3,781</b>	<b>4,816</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>1,684</b>	<b>13,301</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>32.9%</b>	<b>33.1%</b>	<b>24.6%</b>	...	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>3,598</b>	<b>3,703</b>	<b>2,357</b>	...	<b>1,151</b>	<b>10,809</b>
Metropolitan boroughs	25.6%	44.8%	24.5%	...	5.1%	116	532	172	...	16	836
English unitary authorities	30.2%	38.3%	25.0%	...	6.5%	310	624	293	...	47	1,274
Shire districts	36.5%	27.2%	24.6%	...	11.7%	3,172	2,547	1,892	...	1,088	8,699
Scottish unitary authorities	13.5%	36.3%	12.7%	28.7%	8.8%	108	550	156	204	204	1,222
Welsh unitary authorities	10.1%	34.4%	13.4%	18.2%	23.9%	75	563	98	205	329	1,270
2000											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>37.2%</b>	<b>32.4%</b>	<b>24.3%</b>	...	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>1,327</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>726</b>	...	<b>204</b>	<b>3,374</b>
Metropolitan boroughs	31.4%	38.4%	24.4%	...	5.8%	203	458	202	...	21	884
English unitary authorities	39.3%	31.9%	23.3%	...	5.5%	356	302	180	...	44	882
Shire districts	43.0%	25.4%	24.8%	...	6.8%	768	357	344	...	139	1,608
2001											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>39.4%</b>	<b>30.9%</b>	<b>25.1%</b>	...	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>460</b>	...	<b>95</b>	<b>2,484</b>
English unitary authorities	32.0%	38.4%	23.5%	...	6.1%	73	127	53	...	16	269
Shire districts	39.9%	30.4%	25.2%	...	4.5%	1,021	708	407	...	79	2,215
2002											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>32.2%</b>	<b>35.2%</b>	<b>23.7%</b>	...	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>2,011</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>1,263</b>	...	<b>240</b>	<b>5,914</b>
London boroughs	34.2%	34.1%	20.6%	...	11.1%	655	865	307	...	34	1,861
Metropolitan boroughs	26.2%	43.1%	23.3%	...	7.4%	133	528	153	...	24	838
Shire districts	38.5%	27.0%	25.4%	...	9.1%	1,108	775	657	...	148	2,688
English unitary authorities	29.7%	34.9%	27.2%	...	8.2%	115	232	146	...	34	527
2003											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	...	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>4,417</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>2,652</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>11,649</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	<b>27.0%</b>	<b>26.1%</b>	...	<b>12.3%</b>	4,294	2,485	2,477	...	1,171	10,427
Metropolitan boroughs	26.0%	39.9%	24.7%	...	<b>9.4%</b>	160	458	193	...	25	836
English unitary authorities	32.5%	27.8%	28.0%	...	<b>11.7%</b>	527	501	488	...	109	1,625
Shire districts	39.4%	20.7%	26.0%	...	<b>13.9%</b>	3,607	1,526	1,796	...	1,037	7,966
Scottish unitary authorities	15.1%	32.6%	14.5%	24.1%	<b>13.7%</b>	123	509	175	181	234	1,222
2004											
<b>All Authorities</b>	<b>(forthcoming, late 2004)</b>					<b>1,714</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>6,072</b>
Metropolitan boroughs						547	1,182	595	0	121	2,445
English unitary authorities						202	263	132	0	44	641
Shire districts						856	328	404	0	136	1,724
Welsh unitary authorities						109	478	148	172	355	1,262

Rallings and Thrasher, *Local Elections Handbooks*, (1997-2002)

## B. Elected Mayors

### 1. London Mayor

Table 22 breaks down the 2000 London mayoral election results. The two round Supplementary Vote system was used. The two leading candidates on the basis of first preference votes, in this case Ken Livingstone and Steve Norris, proceed to a second round. In the second round, second preference votes for the two leading candidates are added to the first preference totals. Ken Livingstone polled 58% of the final vote. Turnout was 34%.

Table 22

#### Election for London Mayor: 10 June 2004

Name	Party	1st Pref	%	2nd Pref <sup>(a)</sup>	%	Final <sup>(b)</sup>	%
Ken Livingstone	Labour Party	685,541	36.8	250,517	15.7	828,380	57.9
Steve Norris	Conservative Party	542,423	29.1	222,559	14.0	667,178	42.1
Simon Hughes	Liberal Democrats	284,645	15.3	465,704	29.3	...	...
Frank Maloney	UK Independence Party	115,665	6.2	193,157	12.1	...	...
Lindsey German	Respect	61,731	3.3	63,294	4.0	...	...
Julian Leppert	British National Party	58,405	3.1	70,736	4.4	...	...
Darren Johnson	Green Party	57,331	3.1	208,686	13.1	...	...
Ram Gidoomal	Christian Peoples Alliance	41,696	2.2	56,721	3.6	...	...
Lorna Reid	Indep. Working Class Assoc.	9,542	0.5	39,678	2.5	...	...
Tammy Nagalingam	Indep. Working Class Assoc.	6,692	0.4	20,391	1.3	...	...

#### Election for London Mayor: 4 May 2000

Name	Party	1st Pref	%	2nd Pref <sup>(a)</sup>	%	Final <sup>(b)</sup>	%
Ken Livingstone	Independent	667,877	39.0	178,809	12.6	776,427	57.9
Steve Norris	Conservative	464,434	27.1	188,041	13.2	564,137	42.1
Frank Dobson	Labour	223,884	13.1	228,095	16.0	...	...
Susan Kramer	Liberal Democrat	203,452	11.9	404,815	28.5	...	...
Ram Gidoomal	Christian Peoples Alliance	42,060	2.4	56,489	4.0	...	...
Darren Johnson	Green	38,121	2.2	192,764	13.6	...	...
Michael Newland	British National Party	33,569	2.0	45,337	3.2	...	...
Damian Hockney	UK Independence Party	16,234	1.0	43,672	3.1	...	...
Geoffrey Ben-Nathan	Pro-Motorist Small Shop	9,956	0.6	23,021	1.6	...	...
Ashwin Kumar Tanna	Independent	9,015	0.5	41,766	2.9	...	...
Geoffrey Clements	Natural Law Party	5,470	0.3	18,185	1.3	...	...

(a) 2nd preference votes are only used if no candidate receives more than 50% of 1st pref votes.

(b) If no candidate receives more than 50% of 1st preference votes, the top two receive 2nd preferences from remaining candidates.

## 2. Mayoral elections

### a. *Mayoral referendums*

The first referendum on whether to have an elected local authority mayor was in Berwick-upon-Tweed on 7 June 2001. 30 councils have held referendums on elected mayors, with 11 voting in favour of a mayor and 19 against. Full details are listed below:

Table 23

#### Mayoral referendum results

Council	Date	Result	For	Against	Turnout
Berwick-upon-Tweed	7 Jun 2001	No	3,617	10,212	64.0%
Cheltenham	28 Jun 2001	No	8,083	16,602	31.0%
Gloucester	28 Jun 2001	No	7,731	16,317	30.8%
Watford	12 Jul 2001	Yes	7,636	7,140	24.5%
Doncaster	20 Sep 2001	Yes	35,453	19,398	25.0%
Kirklees	4 Oct 2001	No	10,169	27,977	13.0%
Sunderland	11 Oct 2001	No	9,593	12,209	10.0%
Hartlepool	18 Oct 2001	Yes	10,667	10,294	31.0%
Lewisham	18 Oct 2001	Yes	16,822	15,914	18.0%
North Tyneside	18 Oct 2001	Yes	30,262	22,296	36.0%
Sedgefield	18 Oct 2001	No	10,628	11,869	33.3%
Middlesbrough	18 Oct 2001	Yes	29,067	5,422	34.0%
Brighton and Hove	18 Oct 2001	No	22,724	37,214	31.6%
Redditch	8 Nov 2001	No	7,250	9,198	28.3%
Durham City	20 Nov 2001	No	8,327	11,974	28.5%
Harrow	7 Dec 2001	No	17,502	23,554	26.0%
Harlow	24 Jan 2001	No	5,296	15,490	36.4%
Plymouth	24 Jan 2001	No	29,559	42,811	39.8%
Southwark	31 Jan 2002	No	6,054	13,217	11.2%
Newham	31 Jan 2002	Yes	27,263	12,687	25.9%
West Devon	31 Jan 2002	No	3,555	12,190	41.8%
Shepway	31 Jan 2002	No	11,357	14,435	36.3%
Bedford	21 Feb 2002	Yes	11,316	5,537	15.5%
Newcastle under Lyme	2 May 2002	No	12,912	16,468	31.5%
Oxford	2 May 2002	No	14,692	18,686	33.8%
Hackney	3 May 2002	Yes	24,697	10,547	31.9%
Stoke on Trent	3 May 2002	Yes	28,601	20,578	27.8%
Mansfield	3 May 2002	Yes	8,973	7,350	21.0%
Corby	26 Sep 2002	No	5,351	6,239	30.9%
Ealing	12 Dec 2002	No	9,454	11,655	9.8%

Source: SocietyGuardian.co.uk

None of the Mayoral referendum achieved a turnout of over 50%, with the exception of Berwick-upon-Tweed, with voting occurring on the same day as the General Election. The lowest turnout was in Ealing with 9.8%.

**b. Mayoral election results**

Mayoral elections were held on 2 May 2002 and 17 October 2002. These took place for eleven councils with 4 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat elected as Mayors. The other successful candidates were all independents, including Stuart Drummond in Hartlepool also known as H' Angus the monkey, the mascot of Hartlepool FC.

None of the mayoral elections achieved a turnout of over 50 per cent. The highest turnout was in North Tyneside at 42.5% and the lowest in Mansfield at 18.5%.

A mayoral by-election was held in North Tyneside on 12 June 2003 after Christopher Morgan resigned as Mayor. The Conservative Party held the position of Mayor, with 56.4% of the vote, although turnout did fall to 31.4%.

Table 24  
Mayoral Elections, 2002

Authority/Turnout	Candidate	Party	1st pref		2nd pref		Total	
			Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%
<b>2 May 2002</b>								
<b>Doncaster</b> Turnout 28.4%	Andrew Burden	Con	9,000	15.4	3,170	42.9	12,170	32.1
	Jessie Credland	CG	8,469	14.5	...	...	...	...
	Shafiq Kham	Ind	2,836	4.8	...	...	...	...
	Michael Maye	Ind	7,502	12.8	...	...	...	...
	Graham Newman	LD	5,150	8.8	...	...	...	...
	Terence Wilcox	Ind	4,036	6.9	...	...	...	...
	<b>Martin Winter</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>21,494</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>4,213</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>25,707</b>	<b>67.9</b>
			58,487	100	7,383	100	37,877	100
<b>Hartlepool</b> Turnout 30.1%	Ian Cameron	Ind	5,174	26.5	...	...	...	...
	Stephen Close	Con	1,561	8.0	...	...	...	...
	<b>Stuart Drummond</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>5,696</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>7,395</b>	<b>52.1</b>
	Leo Gillen	Lab	5,438	27.8	1,354	44.3	6,792	47.9
	Arthur Preece	LD	1,675	8.6	...	...	...	...
			19,544	100	3,053	100	14,187	100
<b>London Borough of Lewisham</b> Turnout 25.5%	<b>Steve Bullock</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>20,011</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>4,509</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>24,520</b>	<b>71.3</b>
	Alex Feakes	LD	7,276	16.3	...	...	...	...
	Louise Irvine	LEAP	3,710	8.3	...	...	...	...
	Sinna Mani	Gr	5,517	12.4	...	...	...	...
	Derek Stone	Con	8,004	18.0	1,851	29.1	9,855	28.7
			44,518	100	6,360	100	34,375	100
<b>Middlesborough</b> Turnout 41.3%	Sylvia Connolly	Lab	9,653	23.0	...	...	...	...
	Ronald Darby	Con	1,510	3.6	...	...	...	...
	Jeffrey Fowler	SA	352	0.8	...	...	...	...
	Rod Jones	Ind	297	0.7	...	...	...	...
	<b>Raymond Mallon</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>26,362</b>	<b>62.8</b>	...	...	Not required	...
	Joseph Michna	LD	3,820	9.1	...	...	...	...
			41,994	100	...	...	...	...



Authority/Turnout	Candidate	Party	1st pref		2nd pref		Total	
			Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%
<b>2 May 2002</b>								
<b>London Borough of Newham</b> Turnout 27.6%	Tawfique Choudhury	Ind	5,907	14.7	...	...	...	...
	Alan Craig	CPA	3,649	9.1	...	...	...	...
	Michael Davidson	BNP	2,881	7.2	...	...	...	...
	Graham Postles	Con	4,635	11.5	...	...	...	...
	Gabrielle Rolfe	Gr	2,691	6.7	...	...	...	...
	<b>Robert Wales</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>20,384</b>	<b>50.8</b>	...	...	Not required	...
			40,147	100				
<b>North Tyneside</b> Turnout 42.5%	Eddie Darke	Lab	19,601	32.2	4,930	53.7	24,531	48.5
	Michael Elliott	SA	2,119	3.5	...	...	...	...
	Michael Huscroft	LD	12,323	20.2	...	...	...	...
	<b>Christopher Morgan</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>21,829</b>	<b>35.9</b>	4,254	46.3	26,083	51.5
	Allan Pond	Ind	4,993	8.2	...	...	...	...
			60,865	100	9,184	100	50,614	100
<b>Watford</b> Turnout 37.4%	Tristram Cooke	FC	330	1.5	...	...	...	...
	Gary Ling	Con	4,746	21.4	...	...	...	...
	Vincent Muspratt	Lab	4,899	22.1	370	12.8	5,269	28.1
	Stephen Rackett	Gr	851	3.8	...	...	...	...
	<b>Dorothy Thornhill</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>10,954</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>2,519</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>13,473</b>	<b>71.9</b>
	Paul Woodward	SA	390	1.8	...	...	...	...
			22,170	100	2,889	100	18,742	100
<b>17 October 2002</b>								
<b>Bedford</b> Turnout 25.3%	<b>Frank Branston</b>	<b>BBI</b>	<b>9,557</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>2,522</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>12,079</b>	<b>63.4</b>
	Christine McHugh	LD	4,711	17.0	2,253	47.2	6,964	36.6
	Charles Rose	Con	4,661	16.8	...	...	...	...
	Apu Bagchi	Lab	4,114	14.8	...	...	...	...
	Ian Clifton	Ind	1,893	6.8	...	...	...	...
	Arthur Foster	Ind	1,826	6.6	...	...	...	...
	Mark Powell	Gr	735	2.6	...	...	...	...
	Gurminder Singh Dosanjh	Ind	218	0.8	...	...	...	...
				27,715	100	4,775	100	19,043
<b>London Borough of Hackney</b> Turnout 25.2%	<b>Jules Pipe</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>13,813</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2,421</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>16,234</b>	<b>74.3</b>
	Andrew Boff	Con	4,502	13.7	1,127	31.8	5,629	25.7
	Paul Foot	SA	4,187	12.7	...	...	...	...
	Ian Sharer	LD	4,185	12.7	...	...	...	...
	Crospin Truman	Gr	3,002	9.1	...	...	...	...
	Bruce Spenser	Ind	1,543	4.7	...	...	...	...
	Terry Edwards	Ind	1,253	3.8	...	...	...	...
	Errol Carr	Ind	441	1.3	...	...	...	...
			32,926	100	3,548	100	21,863	100
<b>Mansfield</b> Turnout 18.5%	<b>Tony Egginton</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>4,150</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>1,801</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>5,951</b>	<b>52.6</b>
	Lorna Carter	Lab	4,773	34	590	24.7	5,363	47.4
	Kathryn Allsop	Con	3,351	23.9	...	...	...	...
	Phillip Smith	LD	958	6.8	...	...	...	...
	Michael Comerford	Gr	811	5.8	...	...	...	...
			14,043	100	2,391	100	11,314	100

Authority/Turnout	Candidate	Party	1st pref		2nd pref		Total	
			Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%
<b>17 October 2002</b>								
Stoke on Trent City Turnout 24.0%	<b>Mike Wolfe</b>	<b>M4S</b>	<b>9,356</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>12,693</b>	<b>50.6</b>
	George Stevenson	Lab	9,752	22.2	2,627	44.0	12,379	49.4
	Steven Batkin	BNP	8,213	18.7	...	...	...	...
	Roger Ibbs	Con	4,417	10	...	...	...	...
	Geoffrey Snow	ND	3,975	9	...	...	...	...
	Fred Morrow	LD	2,408	5.5	...	...	...	...
	Paul Breeze	ND	1,349	3	...	...	...	...
	Patricia Whitehouse	Ind	1,280	2.9	...	...	...	...
	Graham Wilkes	Ind	1,157	2.6	...	...	...	...
	David Chatton	Ind	926	2.1	...	...	...	...
	Adrian Knapper	AKIP	708	1.6	...	...	...	...
	Harry Chesters	ND	453	1	...	...	...	...
				43,994	100	5,964	100	25,072
<b>12 June 2003</b>								
North Tyneside mayoral by-election Turnout 31.4%	<b>Linda Arkley</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>18,478</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>21,288</b>	<b>56.4</b>
	Gordon Adam	Lab	13,070	30.5	3,357	54.4	16,427	43.6
	Michael Huscroft	LD	8,404	19.6	...	...	...	...
	Robert Batten	NF	2,554	6.0	...	...	...	...
	Louise van der Hoeven	SA	400	0.9	...	...	...	...
				42,906	100	6,167	100	37,715

**Additional party abbreviations:**

AKIP	Adrian Knapper Independent Party	CG:	Community Group
BBI	Better Bedford Independent	ND:	No description
M4S	Mayor 4 Stoke	LEAP:	Local Education Action by Parents
SA:	Socialist Alliance	NF:	National Front
CPA:	Christian People's Alliance		
FC:	Fat Cat Party		

Source: HoC Library electronic holdings

## VIII Referendums

### A. Scotland

On 11 September 1997, two questions were asked in Scotland on separate ballot papers, one concerning the proposed Scottish Parliament and the other on tax varying powers. In Scotland, electors were asked whether they or not they agreed there should be a Scottish Parliament. A comparison with the results of the 1979 referendum is provided in table 25:

Table 25

#### Change in voting for/against devolution in Scotland, 1979 and 1997

	Yes		No		Change 79-97
	% Share of vote		% Share of vote		
	1979	1997	1979	1997	
<i>1979 areas</i>					
Borders	40.3	62.8	59.7	37.2	+22.5
Central	54.7	76.3	45.3	23.7	+21.7
Dumfries and Galloway	40.3	60.7	59.7	39.3	+20.4
Fife	53.7	76.1	46.3	23.9	+22.4
Grampian	48.3	67.6	51.7	32.4	+19.3
Highland	51.0	72.6	49.0	27.4	+21.6
Lothian	50.1	74.5	49.9	25.5	+24.4
Orkney	27.9	57.3	72.1	42.7	+29.4
Shetland	27.0	62.4	73.0	37.6	+35.4
Strathclyde	54.0	78.1	46.0	21.9	+24.1
Tayside	49.5	67.6	50.5	32.4	+18.1
Western Isles	55.8	79.4	44.2	20.6	+23.6
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>+22.7</b>

1997 results fitted to 1979 areas on the following basis:

Borders (Borders); Central (Clackmannan, Falkirk, Stirling); Dumfries & Galloway (Dumfries & Galloway); Fife (Fife); Grampian (City of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray); Highland (Highland); Lothian (City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, West Lothian, Midlothian); Orkney (Orkney); Shetland (Shetland Islands); Strathclyde (Argyle & Bute, East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, City of Glasgow, Inverclyde, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire); Tayside (Angus, City of Dundee, Perthshire & Kinross); Western Isles (Western Isles)

Sources: Scottish Office; FWS Craig *British Electoral Facts, 1832-1987*

A second question was also put to the Scottish electorate in 1997. Electors were asked whether they agreed or disagreed that a Scottish Parliament should have tax varying powers. 63.5% voted for tax varying powers, although there was confusion among some voters which led to a sizeable number of spoilt ballots on the tax varying powers question. Turnout was 60.2%, not only lower than the general election of 71.3%, but also lower than the turnout in the previous referendum on devolution for Scotland in 1979 where turnout was 63.0%.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Scottish Office

## B. Wales

On 18 September 1997, one question was asked in Wales, concerning the proposed National Assembly for Wales. Voters were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the Governments proposals. 50.3% of those voting agreed with the question asked.

Turnout was 50.1%, well below the turnout in the May general elections (73.5%) and also lower than the last referendum on Welsh devolution in 1979 (58.3%).<sup>8</sup>

A full comparison between the 1997 and 1979 referendums is provided in the table below:

Table 26

### Voting for/against devolution in Wales, 1979 and 1997

	Yes		No		Change 79-97
	% Share of vote		% Share of vote		
	1979	1997	1979	1997	
<i>1979 areas</i>					
Clwyd & Gwynedd	27.1	47.4	72.9	52.6	+20.3
Dyfed	28.1	57.2	71.9	42.8	+29.1
Powys	18.5	42.7	81.5	57.3	+24.2
Gwent & Mid Glamorgan	16.7	51.3	83.3	48.7	+34.6
South Glamorgan	13.1	42.0	86.9	58.0	+28.8
West Glamorgan	18.7	57.8	81.3	42.2	+39.1
<b>Wales</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>+30.0</b>

1997 results fitted to 1979 areas on the following basis:

Clwyd & Gwynedd (Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Wrexham) -- 1997 area *excludes* communities of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llansilin and Llangedwyn (formerly in Glyndwr DC in Clwyd, now in Powys UA) Dyfed (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire) Powys (Powys) -- 1997 area includes communities of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llansilin and Llangedwyn (formerly in Glyndwr DC in Clwyd, now in Powys UA) Powys (Powys) -- 1997 area includes communities of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llansilin and Llangedwyn (formerly in Glyndwr DC in Clwyd, now in Powys UA) Powys (Powys) -- 1997 area includes communities of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llansilin and Llangedwyn (formerly in Glyndwr DC in Clwyd, now in Powys UA)

Wick, St Bride's Major and Ewenny (formerly in Ogwr BC in Mid Glamorgan, now in Vale of Glamorgan UA) and excludes community of Pentyrch (formerly in Taff-Ely BC in Mid Glamorgan, now in Cardiff UA) South Glamorgan (Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff) -- 1997 area includes communities of Wick, St Bride's Major and Ewenny (formerly in Ogwr BC in Mid Glamorgan, now in Vale of Glamorgan UA) and includes community of Pentyrch (formerly in Taff-Ely BC in Mid Glamorgan, now in Cardiff UA) West Glamorgan (Neath & Port Talbot, Swansea)

Source: Welsh Office, FWS Craig, *British Electoral Facts, 1832-1987*; Local government (Wales) Act 1994 (Schedule 1)

<sup>8</sup> Welsh Office & The Western Mail (20 September 1997)

## C. Northern Ireland

A referendum was held in Northern Ireland in 1973, asking the electorate if they wanted to remain part of the UK. Turnout was 58.7%, with 98.9% voting in favour.

Table 27

### 1973 Referendum: NI remaining part of UK

The Northern Ireland Border Poll 8 March 1973	Votes	Total (%)
Do you want Northern Ireland to remain part of the United Kingdom?	591,820	98.9%
Do you want Northern Ireland to be joined with the Republic of Ireland outside the United Kingdom?	6,463	1.1%
Rejected ballot papers	5,973	
Turnout	58.7%	

Source: *The Northern Ireland Border Poll 1973* (Cmnd 5875 paragraph 68)

On 22 May 1998, the electorate of Northern Ireland was asked to vote on the question:

“Do you support the agreement reached in the multi-party talks on Northern Ireland and set out in Command Paper 3883?”

Turnout was 81.1%, the only referendum in the UK where turnout was comparable to the 1997 general election turnout.

The number voting “yes” was 676,966, 71.1% of the total.<sup>9</sup>

## D. London

On 7 May 1998 the question was put to Londoners:

“Are you in favour of the Government’s proposals for a Greater London Authority made up of an elected Mayor and separately elected authority?”

The total number of valid votes was 1,709,128, a turnout of 34.1%. 1,230,759 voted in favour of the Government’s proposals, 72% of the total. 478,413 voted against.

Out of the 33 London Boroughs, all voted in favour of the Government’s proposals with Haringey the strongest in favour with a Yes vote of 84%. Bromley returned the lowest Yes vote, 57%.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Table 21.07 British Electoral Facts 1832-1999 Colin Rallings and Michael Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000

<sup>10</sup> Table 21.08 British Electoral Facts 1832-1999 Colin Rallings and Michael Thrasher, Parliamentary Research Services, 2000

## E. Europe

A referendum was called in June 1975 to ascertain public opinion on whether the United Kingdom should remain within the European Community, as it was then known. The results were as follows:

Table 28

### Referendum on E.C. Membership, Thursday 5 June 1975

**Do you think that the United Kingdom should stay in the European Community (the Common Market)?**

	Total Electorate	Total Votes	% turnout	% 'yes'
England	33,339,959	21,722,222	64.6	68.7
Wales	2,015,766	1,345,545	66.7	64.8
Scotland	3,698,462	2,286,676	61.7	58.4
N.Ireland	1,032,490	498,751	47.5	52.1
U.K.	40,086,677	29,453,194	64.0	67.1

Source: *British electoral facts 1832-1999*, Rallings and Tharsher (2000)

## **IX Opinion Polls**

This section presents recent trends in opinion polls using figures from ICM and MORI. Individuals were asked about how they would vote if there was a general election tomorrow. Approval ratings since January 2000 for party leaders from MORI are included in table 31.

Table 29

**Voting Intention: ICM monthly polls since the 1997 general election**

	Con	Lab	LDem	Other	Lab Lead		Con	Lab	LDem	Other	Lab Lead
<b>1997</b>						<b>2001 (cont.)</b>					
Jun 1997	23	61	12	4	+38	Jun 2001	30	47	18	5	+17
Jul 1997			No poll			Jul 2001	30	46	18	6	+16
Aug 1997	29	55	12	4	+26	Aug 2001	30	46	17	7	+16
Sep 1997	24	60	10	6	+36	Sep 2001	29	46	20	5	+17
Oct 1997	23	59	13	4	+36	Oct 2001	29	47	19	5	+18
Nov 1997	30	52	14	4	+22	Nov 2001	29	46	19	6	+17
Dec 1997	29	50	17	4	+21	Dec 2001	29	44	20	7	+15
<b>1998</b>						<b>2002</b>					
Jan 1998	30	48	17	5	+18	Jan 2002	30	45	19	6	+15
Feb 1998	31	47	18	4	+16	Feb 2002	30	47	18	5	+17
Mar 1998	33	46	17	5	+13	Mar 2002	34	43	17	6	+9
Apr 1998	31	48	16	6	+17	Apr 2002	29	45	18	8	+16
May 1998	29	50	16	5	+21	May 2002	34	42	19	5	+8
Jun 1998	29	51	16	4	+22	Jun 2002	32	42	20	7	+10
Jul 1998	27	52	17	4	+25	Jul 2002	33	42	20	4	+9
Aug 1998	31	47	17	4	+16	Aug 2002	32	41	21	6	+9
Sep 1998	29	48	17	6	+19	Sep 2002	34	39	20	7	+5
Oct 1998	29	51	15	5	+22	Oct 2002	32	43	20	6	+11
Nov 1998	27	51	17	5	+24	Nov 2002	29	42	22	7	+13
Dec 1998	29	49	16	6	+20	Dec 2002	27	41	23	8	+14
<b>1999</b>						<b>2003</b>					
Jan 1999	30	50	15	5	+20	Jan 2003	30	43	21	6	+13
Feb 1999	28	49	16	6	+21	Feb 2003	31	39	22	8	+8
Mar 1999	29	52	16	4	+23	Mar 2003	32	38	24	6	+6
Apr 1999	28	50	17	5	+22	Apr 2003	30	42	21	7	+12
May 1999	28	51	16	6	+23	May 2003	29	42	21	8	+13
Jun 1999	29	46	19	7	+17	Jun 2003	34	38	21	7	+4
Jul 1999	31	48	16	5	+17	Jul 2003	34	36	30	9	+2
Aug 1999	30	48	16	6	+18	Aug 2003	32	37	22	9	+5
Sep 1999	32	45	16	8	+13	Sep 2003	30	35	22	8	+5
Oct 1999	32	45	17	6	+13	Oct 2003	33	38	28	8	+5
Nov 1999	34	44	15	7	+10	Nov 2003	33	38	21	8	+5
Dec 1999	29	48	17	6	+19	Dec 2003	33	38	22	7	+5
<b>2000</b>						<b>2004</b>					
Jan 2000	30	47	17	6	+17	Jan 2004	34	39	20	7	+5
Feb 2000	29	44	18	9	+15	Feb 2004	34	36	21	8	+2
Mar 2000	32	44	16	8	+12	Mar 2004	35	37	21	7	+2
Apr 2000	32	45	15	8	+13	Apr 2004	33	38	22	6	+5
May 2000	34	41	18	7	+7	May 2004			No poll		
Jun 2000	32	43	17	8	+11	Jun 2004			No poll		
Jul 2000	35	42	17	6	+7						
Aug 2000	34	44	17	5	+10						
Sep 2000	38	34	22	7	-4						
Oct 2000	35	40	19	6	+5						
Nov 2000	34	40	20	7	+6						
Dec 2000	34	44	16	6	+10						
<b>2001</b>											
Jan 2001	34	44	16	6	+10						
Feb 2001	32	47	15	7	+15						
Mar 2001	35	44	16	6	+9						
Apr 2001	33	47	14	6	+14						
May 2001	32	48	15	5	+16						

Source: www.icmresearch.co.uk



Table 30

**Voting Intention: MORI monthly polls (all those naming a party)**

	Con	Lab	LDem	Other	Lab Lead		Con	Lab	LDem	Other	Lab Lead
<b>1997</b>						<b>2001 (cont.)</b>					
Jun 1997	24	58	15	3	+34	Jun 2001	25	49	19	7	+24
Jul 1997	23	57	15	5	+34	Jul 2001	25	52	17	6	+27
Aug 1997	28	54	15	4	+26	Aug 2001	25	53	16	6	+28
Sep 1997	25	59	13	3	+34	Sep 2001	27	53	15	5	+26
Oct 1997	24	60	12	3	+36	Oct 2001	25	57	13	5	+32
Nov 1997	24	56	16	4	+32	Nov 2001	25	56	15	4	+31
Dec 1997	26	55	15	4	+29	Dec 2001					No poll
<b>1998</b>						<b>2002</b>					
Jan 1998	28	54	14	4	+26	Jan 2002	27	51	16	6	+24
Feb 1998	28	52	15	5	+24	Feb 2002	28	51	16	5	+23
Mar 1998	28	53	14	5	+25	Mar 2002	28	47	19	6	+19
Apr 1998	27	56	14	3	+29	Apr 2002	27	50	16	7	+23
May 1998	26	55	14	5	+29	May 2002	30	46	17	7	+16
Jun 1998	27	56	13	4	+29	Jun 2002	29	48	17	6	+19
Jul 1998	28	53	14	2	+25	Jul 2002	27	48	18	5	+21
Aug 1998	28	52	14	6	+24	Aug 2002	25	53	16	6	+28
Sep 1998	24	56	15	4	+32	Sep 2002	27	53	15	5	+26
Oct 1998	26	53	16	2	+27	Oct 2002	25	57	13	5	+32
Nov 1998	29	53	13	2	+24	Nov 2002	27	47	18	8	+20
Dec 1998	27	54	12	2	+27	Dec 2002	29	43	23	5	+14
<b>1999</b>						<b>2003</b>					
Jan 1999	24	56	14	2	+32	Jan 2003	27	44	20	9	+17
Feb 1999	30	51	14	2	+21	Feb 2003	25	44	22	8	+19
Mar 1999	27	54	13	5	+27	Mar 2003	27	46	20	7	+19
Apr 1999	25	56	13	6	+31	Apr 2003	26	47	20	7	+21
May 1999	28	52	14	7	+24	May 2003	28	43	22	9	+15
Jun 1999	28	51	13	8	+23	Jun 2003	27	43	22	12	+16
Jul 1999	28	51	14	7	+23	Jul 2003	32	40	21	10	+8
Aug 1999	27	49	17	7	+22	Aug 2003	30	40	21	9	+10
Sep 1999	25	52	17	5	+27	Sep 2003	29	43	21	8	+14
Oct 1999	28	56	11	5	+28	Oct 2003	35	38	21	7	+3
Nov 1999	25	55	14	5	+30	Nov 2003	31	41	21	6	+10
Dec 1999	28	54	13	5	+26	Dec 2003	28	43	22	6	+15
<b>2000</b>						<b>2004</b>					
Jan 2000	30	50	15	5	+20	Jan 2004	31	41	20	8	+10
Feb 2000	29	50	15	6	+21	Feb 2004	32	39	20	9	+7
Mar 2000	29	50	14	7	+21	Mar 2004	32	40	22	8	+8
Apr 2000	27	51	15	7	+24	Apr 2004	31	40	21	8	+9
May 2000	32	49	15	4	+17	May 2004	30	37	20	12	+7
Jun 2000	33	47	13	7	+14	Jun 2004	28	37	20	16	+9
Jul 2000	33	49	12	5	+16						
Aug 2000	29	51	15	5	+22						
Sep 2000	35	37	21	7	+2						
Oct 2000	32	45	17	6	+13						
Nov 2000	33	48	13	6	+15						
Dec 2000	34	46	14	6	+12						
<b>2001</b>											
Jan 2001	31	50	14	5	+19						
Feb 2001	30	50	14	6	+20						
Mar 2001	31	50	14	5	+19						
Apr 2001	30	50	13	7	+20						
May 2001	30	54	13	3	+24						

Source: www.mori.com

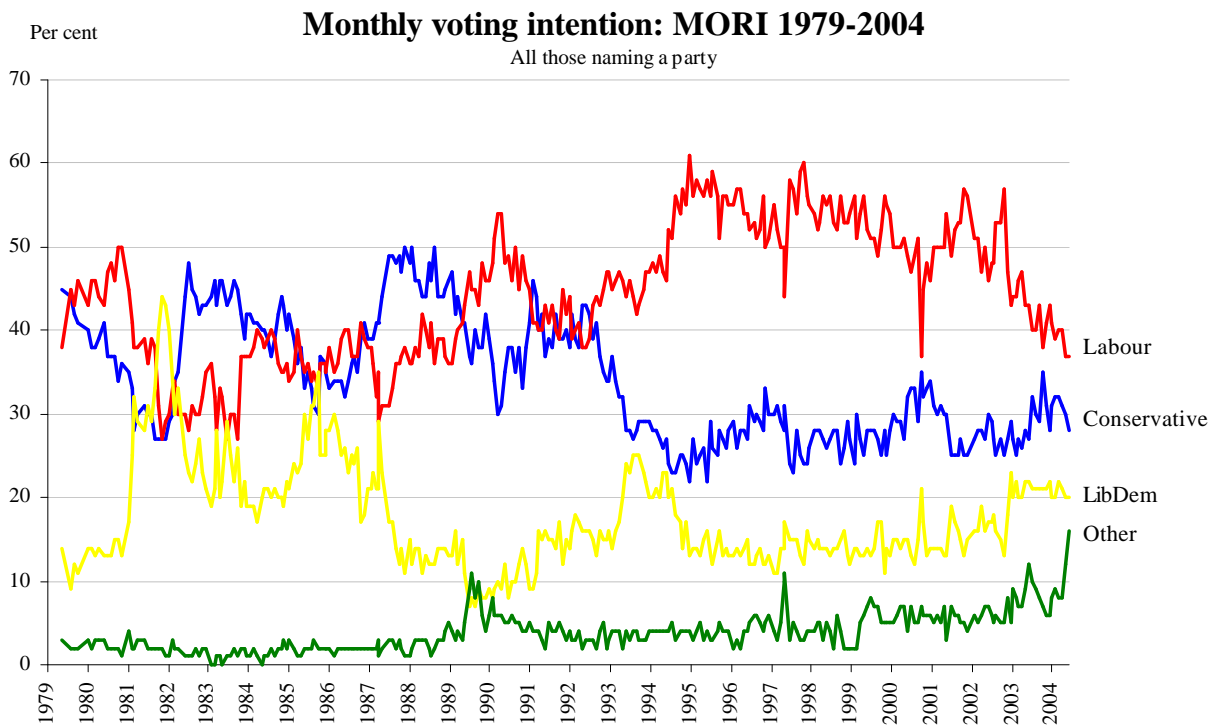
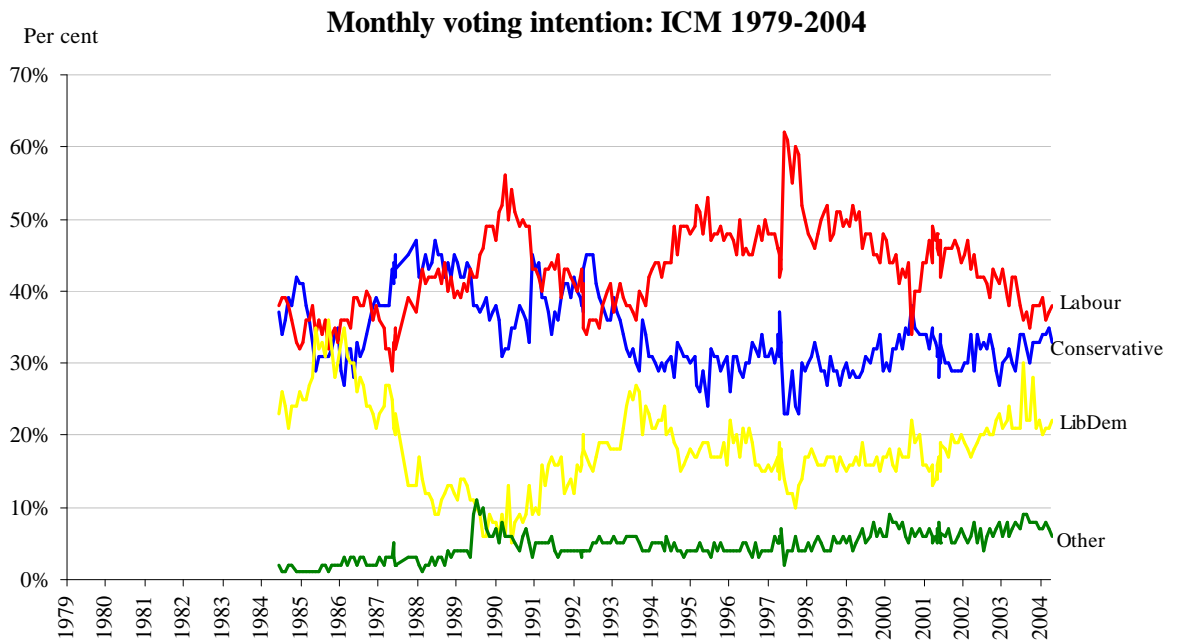


Table 31

**MORI Approval Ratings for Party Leaders**

<b>2000</b>	<b>Blair</b>			<b>Hague</b>			<b>Kennedy</b>		
	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Net	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Net	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Net
Jan 2000	53	38	+15	19	56	-37	28	14	+14
Feb 2000	49	42	+7	22	55	-33	26	15	+11
Mar 2000	47	43	+4	26	49	-23	30	16	+14
Apr 2000	52	41	+11	24	51	-27	34	16	+18
May 2000	47	42	+5	27	47	-20	32	15	+17
Jun 2000	39	52	-13	29	48	-19	31	17	+14
Jul 2000	42	50	-8	29	49	-20	31	19	+12
Aug 2000	45	45	0	26	51	-25	32	18	+14
Sep 2000	32	63	-31	23	56	-33	42	17	+25
Oct 2000	37	55	-18	28	51	-23	34	19	+15
Nov 2000	42	49	-7	26	52	-26	34	16	+18
Dec 2000	43	50	-7	25	52	-27	35	18	+17
<b>2001</b>									
Jan 2001	47	44	+3	25	52	-27	33	19	+14
Feb 2001	48	43	+5	25	56	-31	35	19	+16
Mar 2001	47	46	+1	25	53	-28	40	22	+18
Apr 2001	44	46	-2	25	54	-29	35	20	+15
<b>General Election</b>									
Jun 2001	55	37	+18	23	55	-32	59	17	+42
Jul 2001	51	41	+10	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	15	+31
Aug 2001	49	43	+6	n/a	n/a	n/a	43	14	+29
				<b>Duncan Smith</b>					
Sep 2001	67	26	+41	15	15	0	47	15	+32
Oct 2001	65	28	+37	22	14	+8	45	16	+29
Nov 2001	64	28	+36	24	22	+2	44	15	+29
Dec 2001				No poll					
<b>2002</b>									
Jan 2002	51	39	+12	25	33	-8	53	16	+37
Feb 2002	46	46	0	27	30	-3	46	16	+30
Mar 2002	42	50	-8	23	31	-8	46	15	+31
Apr 2002	46	46	0	26	27	-1	47	14	+33
May 2002	39	50	-11	26	35	-9	41	19	+22
Jun 2002	46	47	-1	24	33	-9	44	16	+28
Jul 2002	42	50	-8	22	35	-13	46	17	+29
Aug 2002				No poll					
Sep 2002	42	49	-7	22	39	-17	43	17	+26
Nov 2002	40	51	-11	22	49	-27	47	19	+28
Dec 2002	38	54	-16	19	49	-30	43	20	+23

2003	Blair			Duncan Smith			Kennedy		
	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Net	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Net	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Net
Jan 2003	33	58	-25	18	49	-31	42	20	+22
Feb 2003	31	61	-30	16	53	-37	42	23	+19
Mar 2003	43	48	-5	21	47	-26	39	26	+13
Apr 2003	47	45	+2	22	47	-25	40	26	+14
May 2003	38	54	-16	23	44	-21	38	26	+12
Jun 2003	31	61	-30	21	49	-28	37	27	+10
Jul 2003	32	60	-28	25	45	-20	39	26	+13
Aug 2003	30	63	-33	20	47	-27	38	25	+13
Sep 2003	29	64	-35	19	49	-30	35	29	+6
Oct 2003	31	60	-29	22	49	-27	38	24	+14
				Howard					
Nov 2003	32	57	-25	26	17	+9	40	18	+22
Dec 2003	36	55	-19	22	21	+1	41	20	+21
<b>2004</b>									
Jan 2004	32	59	-27	30	22	+8	39	20	+19
Feb 2004	31	60	-29	29	27	+2	39	23	+16
Mar 2004	32	60	-28	31	28	+3	40	21	+19
Apr 2004	31	61	-30	28	30	-2	38	25	+13
May 2004	29	61	-32	30	31	-1	38	24	+14
Jun 2004	30	61	-31	26	38	-12	36	28	+8

Note: net approval rating is the percentage satisfied subtract the percentage dissatisfied

Source: www.mori.com