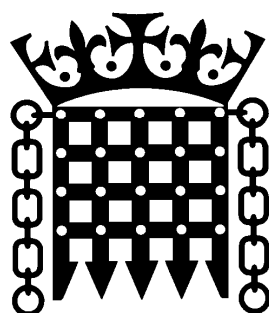


General election results, 1 May 1997

Research Paper 97/49

9 May 1997



This paper presents some analyses the general election held on 1 May 1997. The figures in it should be regarded as provisional, as it has been impossible to check each constituency result with returning officers. A revised version of the paper will be produced when the final results become available centrally.

The tables in the paper are derived from the Library's election database which can be used to produce further analyses. Members requiring these should contact the Social & General Statistics Section (extensions 4310, 3851 or 2938).

Rob Clements and Paul Mann
Social and General Statistics Section

House of Commons Library

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CONTENTS

I Introduction

II Tables

	Page
Table 1 Summary of voting in the UK	6
Table 2 The results in Northern Ireland	7
Table 3 Votes cast by standard region	8
Table 4 Shares of the vote cast by standard region	8
Table 5 Changes since 1992 in shares of the vote by standard region	9
Table 6 Seats won by standard region	10
Table 7 Changes from 1992 in seats won by standard region	10
Table 8 Votes cast by Government Office Region	11
Table 9 Shares of the vote cast by Government Office Region	11
Table 10 Turnout	12
Table 11 Largest and smallest absolute majorities, by party	13
Table 12 Largest and smallest percentage majorities, by party	14
Table 13 Highest and lowest shares of the vote, by party	15
Table 14 Highest shares of the vote for selected minor parties	16
Table 15 Largest constituency changes in share of the vote	18
Table 16 First, second, third and fourth places	19
Table 17 Seats gained and lost	20

I Introduction

This paper presents some analyses of the 1997 general election. The figures in it are based on the House of Commons Library's election database, which itself has been based on results kindly supplied by ITN and the Press Association's results reported in the national press. Any discrepancies between the two have been checked with returning officers. The tables must, however, be regarded as provisional as it is likely that some errors (which, it is hoped, are small) will remain. The Library database will be updated as any of these come to light.

The 1997 election was notable in many ways. Labour's 13.5 million votes have only been exceeded in 1951 and the party's share of 43.2% is its highest since 1966. The 418 seats won are the party's most ever, and compare with 393 won in 1945. The Conservatives' 9.6 million votes are the party's fewest since 1929 and their share of 30.7% the lowest since 1832. Their 165 seats are the party's fewest since 1906. The Liberal Democrats' 5.2 million votes are fewer than in 1992, as is the party's share of the vote, but 46 seats represents the party's most since 1929, when it won 56¹.

Turnout at the election was relatively low, at 71.4%; this is the lowest national level of turnout since 1935.

Several tables in this paper compare individual seats in 1997 with the results in 1992. The boundaries of many seats were redrawn before the 1997 election and the 1992 figures used for comparison in Tables 7, 15 and 17 are the notional results for 1992 based on the new boundaries, taken from work by Colin Rallings and Michael Thrasher of the University of Plymouth².

A record number of women was elected in 1997. In all, 120 women MPs were returned, double the number in 1992. Of the new women MPs, 101 are Labour, 13 Conservative, three Liberal Democrat, two SNP and one is the Speaker.

¹ This is the Liberal total.

² In the **Media Guide to the New Parliamentary Constituencies**, published by BBC, ITN, PA News and Sky.

Table 1
Summary of voting

	Votes	% share	Candidates	MPs elected
Labour	13,509,543	43.2%	639	418
Conservative (a)	9,602,989	30.7%	648	165
Liberal Democrat	5,242,907	16.8%	639	46
Referendum	811,831	2.6%	547	-
Scottish National	621,540	2.0%	72	6
Ulster Unionist	258,349	0.8%	16	10
SDLP	190,814	0.6%	18	3
Plaid Cymru	161,030	0.5%	40	4
Sinn Fein	126,921	0.4%	17	2
Democratic Unionist	107,348	0.3%	9	2
UK Independence	106,028	0.3%	194	-
Green (b)	64,991	0.2%	95	-
Alliance	62,972	0.2%	17	-
Socialist Labour	52,110	0.2%	64	-
Liberal	44,989	0.1%	54	-
British National	35,833	0.1%	57	-
Natural Law (c)	30,190	0.1%	195	-
Speaker	23,969	0.1%	1	1
ProLife Alliance	18,545	0.1%	53	-
United Kingdom Unionist	12,817	0.0%	1	1
Progressive Unionist	10,934	0.0%	3	-
National Democrat	10,728	0.0%	20	-
Scottish Socialist Alliance	9,740	0.0%	16	-
National Front	2,716	0.0%	6	-
Others	160,728	0.5%	295	1
Total	31,280,562	100.0%	3,716	659

(a) Includes eight candidates in Northern Ireland.

(b) Includes one candidate in Northern Ireland.

(c) Includes eighteen candidates in Northern Ireland.

Source: House of Commons Library Election database

Table 2
The results in Northern Ireland

Party	Votes	share	Change from 1992	Candid- ates	MPs elected
Ulster Unionist	258,349	32.7%	-1.9%	16	10
SDLP	190,814	24.1%	0.6%	18	3
Sinn Fein	126,921	16.1%	6.1%	17	2
Democratic Unionist	107,348	13.6%	0.5%	9	2
Alliance	62,972	8.0%	-0.8%	17	-
United Kingdom Unionist	12,817	1.6%	1.6%	1	1
Progressive Unionist	10,934	1.4%	1.4%	3	-
Conservative	9,858	1.2%	-4.4%	8	-
Workers Party	2,766	0.3%	-0.2%	8	-
Natural Law Party	2,208	0.3%	0.0%	18	-
Green Party	539	0.1%	0.1%	1	-
Others	5,252	0.7%	-3.0%	9	-
Total	790,778	100.0%	-	125	18

Table 3
Votes cast for major parties by standard region

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other	Total
England	8,782,925	11,340,825	4,677,525		1,253,276	26,054,551
North	360,980	991,697	215,837		60,333	1,628,847
Yorks & Humber	720,771	1,339,170	412,216		106,019	2,578,176
East Midlands	800,958	1,097,639	311,264		84,889	2,294,750
East Anglia	460,609	456,417	213,474		60,735	1,191,235
Greater London	1,038,092	1,643,270	485,513		156,126	3,323,001
Rest of SE	2,521,555	1,939,120	1,303,360		326,580	6,090,615
South West	1,020,671	734,343	869,507		154,537	2,779,058
West Midlands	953,465	1,326,772	388,807		156,726	2,825,770
North West	905,824	1,812,397	477,547		147,331	3,343,099
Wales	317,147	885,345	200,020	161,030	54,932	1,618,474
Scotland	493,059	1,283,373	365,362	621,540	53,425	2,816,759
Great Britain	9,593,131	13,509,543	5,242,907	782,570	1,361,633	30,489,784
Northern Ireland	9,858				780,920	790,778
United Kingdom	9,602,989	13,509,543	5,242,907	782,570	2,142,553	31,280,562

Table 4
Shares of the vote cast for major parties by standard region

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other	Total
England	33.7%	43.5%	18.0%		4.8%	100.0%
North	22.2%	60.9%	13.3%		3.7%	100.0%
Yorks & Humber	28.0%	51.9%	16.0%		4.1%	100.0%
East Midlands	34.9%	47.8%	13.6%		3.7%	100.0%
East Anglia	38.7%	38.3%	17.9%		5.1%	100.0%
Greater London	31.2%	49.5%	14.6%		4.7%	100.0%
Rest of SE	41.4%	31.8%	21.4%		5.4%	100.0%
South West	36.7%	26.4%	31.3%		5.6%	100.0%
West Midlands	33.7%	47.0%	13.8%		5.5%	100.0%
North West	27.1%	54.2%	14.3%		4.4%	100.0%
Wales	19.6%	54.7%	12.4%	9.9%	3.4%	100.0%
Scotland	17.5%	45.6%	13.0%	22.1%	1.9%	100.0%
Great Britain	31.5%	44.3%	17.2%	2.6%	4.5%	100.0%
Northern Ireland	1.2%				98.8%	100.0%
United Kingdom	30.7%	43.2%	16.8%	2.5%	6.8%	100.0%

Table 5
Changes since 1992 in major parties' share of the vote, by standard region

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other
England	-11.8%	9.6%	-1.2%		3.4%
North	-11.2%	10.3%	-2.3%		3.2%
Yorks & Humber	-10.0%	7.6%	-0.8%		3.2%
East Midlands	-11.7%	10.4%	-1.7%		3.0%
East Anglia	-12.4%	10.3%	-1.6%		3.6%
Greater London	-14.1%	12.4%	-0.5%		2.2%
Rest of SE	-13.1%	11.1%	-1.9%		4.0%
South West	-10.8%	7.2%	-0.1%		3.8%
West Midlands	-11.0%	8.2%	-1.3%		4.1%
North West	-10.7%	9.3%	-1.5%		2.9%
Wales	-9.0%	5.2%	-0.1%	1.0%	2.9%
Scotland	-8.1%	6.6%	-0.1%	0.6%	1.1%
Great Britain	-11.3%	9.1%	-1.1%	0.2%	3.1%
Northern Ireland	-4.4%				4.4%
United Kingdom	-11.2%	8.8%	-1.1%	0.2%	3.4%

Table 6
Seats won by party in each standard region of Great Britain

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other
England	165	328	34		2
North	3	32	1		
Yorks & Humber	7	47	2		
East Midlands	14	30			
East Anglia	14	8			
Greater London	11	57	6		
Rest of SE	73	36	8		
South West	22	15	14		
West Midlands	14	43	1		1
North West	7	60	2		1
Wales		34	2	4	
Scotland		56	10	6	
Great Britain	165	418	46	10	2

Table 7
Change from 1992 in number of seats won by party in each region

This table compares the results in 1997 with the notional 1992 results on new boundaries.

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other
England	-159	£132	£25		£2
North	-3	£3	-		-
Yorks & Humber	-15	£13	£2		-
East Midlands	-15	£15	-		-
East Anglia	-5	£5	-		-
Greater London	-30	£25	£5		-
Rest of SE	-39	£31	£8		-
South West	-17	£9	£8		-
West Midlands (a)	-17	£15	£1		£1
North West	-18	£16	£1		£1
Wales	-8	£7	£1	-	-
Scotland	-11	£6	£2	£3	-
Great Britain	-178	£145	£28	£3	£2

(a) The 'other' seat listed is the Speaker's.

Table 8
Votes cast for major parties by Government Office Region

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other	Total
England	8,782,925	11,340,825	4,677,525		1,253,276	26,054,551
North East	266,294	862,259	169,200		48,768	1,346,521
North West	859,390	1,499,473	421,032		130,739	2,910,634
Merseyside	141,120	442,362	103,152		28,157	714,791
Yorkshire & the Humber	720,771	1,339,170	412,216		106,019	2,578,176
East Midlands	800,958	1,097,639	311,264		84,889	2,294,750
West Midlands	953,465	1,326,772	388,807		156,726	2,825,770
Eastern	1,164,801	1,137,637	504,416		140,337	2,947,191
London	1,038,092	1,643,270	485,513		156,126	3,323,001
South East	1,817,363	1,257,900	1,012,418		246,978	4,334,659
South West	1,020,671	734,343	869,507		154,537	2,779,058
Wales	317,147	885,345	200,020	161,030	54,932	1,618,474
Scotland	493,059	1,283,373	365,362	621,540	53,425	2,816,759
Great Britain	9,593,131	13,509,543	5,242,907	782,570	1,361,633	30,489,784
Northern Ireland	9,858				780,920	790,778
United Kingdom	9,602,989	13,509,543	5,242,907	782,570	2,142,553	31,280,562

Table 9
Shares of the vote cast for major parties by Government Office Region

	Con	Lab	LDem	SNP/PC	Other	Total
England	33.7%	43.5%	18.0%		4.8%	100.0%
North East	19.8%	64.0%	12.6%		3.6%	100.0%
North West	29.5%	51.5%	14.5%		4.5%	100.0%
Merseyside	19.7%	61.9%	14.4%		3.9%	100.0%
Yorkshire & the Humber	28.0%	51.9%	16.0%		4.1%	100.0%
East Midlands	34.9%	47.8%	13.6%		3.7%	100.0%
West Midlands	33.7%	47.0%	13.8%		5.5%	100.0%
Eastern	39.5%	38.6%	17.1%		4.8%	100.0%
London	31.2%	49.5%	14.6%		4.7%	100.0%
South East	41.9%	29.0%	23.4%		5.7%	100.0%
South West	36.7%	26.4%	31.3%		5.6%	100.0%
Wales	19.6%	54.7%	12.4%	9.9%	3.4%	100.0%
Scotland	17.5%	45.6%	13.0%	22.1%	1.9%	100.0%
Great Britain	31.5%	44.3%	17.2%	2.6%	4.5%	100.0%
Northern Ireland	1.2%				98.8%	100.0%
United Kingdom	30.7%	43.2%	16.8%	2.5%	6.8%	100.0%

Table 10
Turnout

Overall turnout	1992	1997
England	78.0%	71.5%
Wales	79.7%	73.5%
Scotland	75.5%	71.4%
Great Britain	77.9%	71.6%
Northern Ireland	69.8%	67.3%
United Kingdom	77.7%	71.4%

The overall turnout in the 1997 election was the lowest since 1935.

Highest and lowest turnouts (per cent)

ENGLAND

1 Wirral South	81.0%	1 Liverpool Riverside	51.9%
2 Stroud	80.5%	2 Hackney North & Stoke Newington	52.2%
3 North West Leicestershire	80.0%	3 Manchester Central	52.6%
4 Richmond Park	79.4%	4 Sheffield Central	53.0%
5 Twickenham	79.3%	5 Birmingham Ladywood	54.2%
6 Wansdyke	79.3%	6 West Bromwich West	54.4%
7 Northavon	79.2%	7 Leeds Central	54.7%
8 Forest of Dean	79.1%	8 Hackney South & Shoreditch	54.7%
9 High Peak	79.0%	9 Kensington & Chelsea	54.7%
10 Dover	78.9%	10 Vauxhall	55.5%

WALES

1 Brecon & Radnorshire	82.2%	1 Swansea East	67.4%
2 Monmouth	80.8%	2 Cardiff South & Penarth	68.6%
3 Cardiff North	80.2%	3 Swansea West	68.9%
4 Vale of Glamorgan	80.2%	4 Cardiff West	69.2%
5 Carmarthen East & Dinefwr	78.6%	5 Cynon Valley	69.2%

SCOTLAND

1 Stirling	81.8%	1 Glasgow Shettleston	55.9%
2 Ayr	80.2%	2 Glasgow Maryhill	56.6%
3 Galloway & Upper Nithsdale	79.7%	3 Glasgow Kelvin	56.9%
4 Strathkelvin & Bearsden	78.9%	4 Glasgow Springburn	59.1%
5 Dumfries	78.9%	5 Glasgow Baillieston	62.3%

NORTHERN IRELAND

1 Mid Ulster	86.1%	1 South Antrim	57.9%
2 West Tyrone	79.6%	2 North Down	58.0%
3 Newry & Armagh	75.4%	3 East Antrim	58.3%
4 Fermanagh & South Tyrone	74.8%	4 Strangford	59.5%
5 Belfast West	74.3%	5 Lagan Valley	62.2%

Table 11
Largest and smallest absolute majorities, by party

Largest Labour majorities

1	Eddie O'Hara	Knowsley South	30,708	64.5%
2	John Cummings	Easington	30,012	71.6%
3	Joe Benton	Bootle	28,421	74.4%
4	Llew Smith	Blaenau Gwent	28,035	70.7%
5	Dennis Skinner	Bolsover	27,149	57.3%

Smallest Labour majorities

1	Paul Stinchcombe	Wellingborough	187	0.3%
2	Philip Sawford	Kettering	189	0.3%
3	Brian White	North East Milton Keynes	240	0.5%
4	Andy King	Rugby & Kenilworth	495	0.8%
5	Eileen Gordon	Romford	649	1.5%

Largest Conservative majorities

1	John Major	Huntingdon	18,140	31.8%
2	Nick Hawkins	Surrey Heath	16,287	29.8%
3	Peter Ainsworth	East Surrey	15,093	27.6%
4	Sir Norman Fowler	Sutton Coldfield	14,885	28.4%
5	Francis Maude	Horsham	14,862	26.0%

Smallest Conservative majorities

1	Ian Bruce	South Dorset	77	0.2%
2	Sir David Madel	South West Bedfordshire	132	0.2%
3	Peter Atkinson	Hexham	222	0.5%
4	Michael Fabricant	Lichfield	238	0.5%
5	Patrick Nicholls	Teignbridge	281	0.4%

Largest Liberal Democrat majorities

1	Paul Tyler	North Cornwall	13,847	23.7%
2	Matthew Taylor	Truro & St Austell	12,501	22.0%
3	Andrew Stunell	Hazel Grove	11,814	23.9%
4	Paddy Ashdown	Yeovil	11,403	21.1%
5	Menzies Campbell	North East Fife	10,356	24.8%

Smallest Liberal Democrat majorities

1	Mark Oaten	Winchester	2	0.0%
2	Adrian Sanders	Torbay	12	0.0%
3	Edward Davey	Kingston & Surbiton	56	0.1%
4	David Heath	Somerton & Frome	130	0.2%
5	David Chidgey	Eastleigh	754	1.4%

Largest and smallest SNP majorities

L	Alex Salmond	Banff & Buchan	12,845	32.0%
S	Roseanna Cunningham	Perth	3,141	7.1%

Largest and smallest Plaid Cymru majorities

L	Dafydd Wigley	Caernarfon	7,949	23.4%
S	Ieuan Wyn Jones	Ynys Mon	2,481	6.2%

Largest and smallest Northern Ireland majorities

L	Jeffrey Donaldson (UU)	Lagan Valley	16,925	38.2%
S	William Thompson (UU)	West Tyrone	1,161	2.5%

Table 12
Largest and smallest percentage majorities, by party

Largest Labour majorities

1	Joe Benton	Bootle	28,421	74.4%
2	John Cummings	Easington	30,012	71.6%
3	Llew Smith	Blaenau Gwent	28,035	70.7%
4	Ted Rowlands	Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney	27,086	69.2%
5	Peter Kilfoyle	Liverpool, Walton	27,038	67.2%

Smallest Labour majorities

1	Philip Sawford	Kettering	189	0.3%
2	Paul Stinchcombe	Wellingborough	187	0.3%
3	Brian White	North East Milton Keynes	240	0.5%
4	Andy King	Rugby & Kenilworth	495	0.8%
5	Tony Clark	Northampton South	744	1.3%

Largest Conservative majorities

1	John Major	Huntingdon	18,140	31.8%
2	Nick Hawkins	Surrey Heath	16,287	29.8%
3	Sir Norman Fowler	Sutton Coldfield	14,885	28.4%
4	James Arbuthnot	North East Hampshire	14,398	28.2%
5	Dominic Grieve	Beaconsfield	13,987	27.9%

Smallest Conservative majorities

1	Ian Bruce	South Dorset	77	0.2%
2	Sir David Madel	South West Bedfordshire	132	0.2%
3	Patrick Nicholls	Teignbridge	281	0.4%
4	Michael Fabricant	Hexham	222	0.5%
5	Peter Atkinson	Lichfield	238	0.5%

Largest Liberal Democrat majorities

1	Jim Wallace	Orkney & Shetland	6,968	33.7%
2	Menzies Campbell	North East Fife	10,356	24.8%
3	Andrew Stunell	Hazel Grove	11,814	23.9%
4	Paul Tyler	North Cornwall	13,847	23.7%
5	Archy Kirkwood	Roxburgh & Berwickshire	7,906	22.6%

Smallest Liberal Democrat majorities

1	Mark Oaten	Winchester	2	0.0%
2	Adrian Sanders	Torbay	12	0.0%
3	Edward Davey	Kingston & Surbiton	56	0.1%
4	David Heath	Somerton & Frome	130	0.2%
5	David Chidgey	Eastleigh	754	1.4%

Largest and smallest SNP majorities

L	Alex Salmond	Banff & Buchan	12,845	32.0%
S	Roseanna Cunningham	Perth	3,141	7.1%

Largest and smallest Plaid Cymru majorities

L	Elfyn Llwyd	Meirionnydd Nant Conwy	6,805	27.7%
S	Ieuan Wyn Jones	Ynys Mon	2,481	6.2%

Largest and smallest Northern Ireland majorities

L	Clifford Forsythe (UU)	South Antrim	16,611	41.3%
S	William Thompson (UU)	West Tyrone	1,161	2.5%

Table 13
Highest and lowest shares of the vote for major parties

Labour

1 Bootle	82.9%	1 Newbury	5.5%
2 Easington	80.2%	2 Christchurch	6.9%
3 Blaenau Gwent	79.5%	3 Harrogate & Knaresborough	8.7%
4 Liverpool Walton	78.4%	4 W. Aberdeenshire & Kincardine	9.1%
5 Knowsley South	77.1%	5 North Cornwall	9.4%
6 Barnsley Central	77.0%	6 South West Surrey	9.4%
7 Tyne Bridge	76.8%	7 North Devon	9.8%
8 Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney	76.7%	8 Cheltenham	10.1%
9 Houghton & Washington East	76.4%	9 North Dorset	10.2%
10 Pontefract & Castleford	75.7%	10 North East Fife	10.3%

Conservative

1 Huntingdon	55.3%	1 Rhondda	3.8%
2 Kensington & Chelsea	53.6%	2 Glasgow Shettleston	5.5%
3 Arundel & South Downs	53.1%	3 Glasgow Maryhill	5.9%
4 Sutton Coldfield	52.2%	4 Glasgow Springburn	6.0%
5 Surrey Heath	51.6%	5 Glasgow Pollok	6.0%
6 North East Hampshire	50.9%	6 Liverpool Walton	6.3%
7 Horsham	50.8%	7 Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney	6.4%
8 New Forest West	50.6%	8 Blaenau Gwent	6.6%
9 Chesham & Amersham	50.4%	9 Western Isles	6.6%
10 Ruislip - Northwood	50.2%	10 Cynon Valley	6.8%

Liberal Democrat

1 Hazel Grove	54.5%	1 Western Isles	3.1%
2 North Cornwall	53.2%	2 Glasgow Pollok	3.5%
3 Newbury	52.9%	3 Cumbernauld & Kilsyth	3.8%
4 Orkney & Shetland	52.0%	4 Glasgow Baillieston	3.8%
5 Harrogate & Knaresborough	51.5%	5 Ynys Mon	3.8%
6 Sheffield, Hallam	51.3%	6 Glasgow Shettleston	4.0%
7 North East Fife	51.2%	7 Kilmarnock & Loudoun	4.0%
8 North Devon	50.7%	8 Dundee East	4.1%
9 Cheltenham	49.5%	9 Airdrie & Shotts	4.2%
10 Yeovil	48.7%	10 Glasgow Springburn	4.3%

Plaid Cymru/Scottish National Party

1 Banff & Buchan	55.8%	1 Monmouth	1.1%
2 Caernarfon	51.8%	2 Brecon & Radnorshire	1.5%
3 Meirionnydd Nant Conwy	50.7%	3 Newport West	1.6%
4 Angus	48.3%	4 Alyn & Deeside	1.8%
5 North Tayside	44.8%	5 Newport East	1.9%
6 Galloway & Upper Nithsdale	43.9%	6 Torfaen	2.4%
7 Ceredigion	41.6%	7 Cardiff North	2.5%
8 Moray	41.6%	8 Vale of Glamorgan	2.6%
9 Ynys Mon	39.5%	9 Cardiff South & Penarth	3.2%
10 Perth	36.4%	10 Wrexham	3.2%

Table 14
Highest shares of the vote for selected minor parties

Referendum Party

1 Harwich	9.2%	6 Bexhill & Battle	6.7%
2 Folkestone & Hythe	8.0%	7 Cotswold	6.6%
3 West Suffolk	7.6%	8 Yeovil	6.6%
4 Reigate	7.0%	9 Falmouth & Camborne	6.6%
5 St Ives	6.9%	10 Truro & St Austell	6.5%

42 candidates held their deposits.

UK Independence Party

1 Salisbury	5.7%	6 New Forest West	3.1%
2 Torbay	3.7%	7 West Dorset	3.0%
3 Romsey	3.5%	8 Arundel & South Downs	2.9%
4 Bognor Regis & Littlehampton	3.3%	9 Hexham	2.6%
5 Torridge & West Devon	3.1%	10 Teignbridge	2.5%

One candidate held his deposit.

Green Party

1 Stroud	5.5%	6 Brighton Pavilion	2.6%
2 Hackney N & Stoke Newington	4.3%	7 Louth & Horncastle	2.5%
3 Islington North	4.2%	8 Hornsey & Wood Green	2.4%
4 Tottenham	2.8%	9 B'ham Sparkbrook & Small Heath	2.3%
5 Sheffield Central	2.6%	10 Leeds West	2.2%

One candidate held his deposit.

Socialist Labour Party

1 East Ham	6.8%	6 Bradford West	3.4%
2 Cardiff Central	5.3%	7 Birkenhead	3.0%
3 Newport East	5.2%	8 Lewisham Deptford	3.0%
4 Dudley North	4.5%	9 Oldham West & Royton	2.9%
5 Ealing Southall	3.9%	10 Barnsley East & Mexborough	2.8%

Three candidates held their deposits.

Liberal Party

1 Liverpool West Derby	9.6%	6 Exeter	3.3%
2 Bethnal Green & Bow	6.6%	7 Wyre Forest	3.0%
3 Slough	3.8%	8 Newcastle-under-Lyme	2.8%
4 Wolverhampton North East	3.8%	9 Romford	2.6%
5 Westbury	3.4%	10 East Devon	2.6%

Two candidates held their deposits.

British National Party

1 Bethnal Green & Bow	7.5%	6 Barking	2.7%
2 Poplar & Canning Town	7.3%	7 Dagenham	2.5%
3 Dewsbury	5.2%	8 Chingford & Woodford Green	2.4%
4 West Ham	3.6%	9 Bradford West	1.8%
5 East Ham	3.2%	10 North Southwark & Bermondsey	1.7%

Three candidates held their deposits.

ProLife Alliance

1 East Kilbride	2.4%	6 Paisley North	1.6%
2 Hamilton South	2.1%	7 Manchester Withington	1.4%
3 Glasgow Cathcart	2.1%	8 Leyton & Wanstead	1.2%
4 Cumbernauld & Kilsyth	1.7%	9 Glasgow Pollok	1.2%
5 Doncaster Central	1.6%	10 Glasgow Maryhill	1.2%

All candidates lost their deposits.

National Democrats

1 West Bromwich West	11.4%	6 Dudley North	1.0%
2 Birmingham Ladywood	1.8%	7 Nottingham South	0.9%
3 Blackburn	1.4%	8 Wolverhampton North East	0.9%
4 Halesowen & Rowley Regis	1.2%	9 East Yorkshire	0.8%
5 Burton	1.1%	10 East Ham	0.7%

One candidate held his deposit.

The six National Front candidates polled between 1.2% (Hayes & Harlington) and 0.7%.

Table 15
Largest constituency changes since 1992 (notional results) in main parties' vote shares (a)

Increases		Decreases	
LABOUR			
1 Liverpool, Wavertree	23.1%	1 Bradford West	-11.7%
2 Crosby	22.4%	2 Bethnal Green & Bow	-7.2%
3 Brent North	20.4%	3 Christchurch	-5.2%
4 North East Cambridgeshire	20.2%	4 Sheffield Hallam	-4.9%
5 Hove	20.1%	5 Harrogate & Knaresborough	-4.8%
6 Stockton South	19.7%	6 Cardiff South & Penarth	-2.2%
7 Wimbledon	19.5%	7 Orkney & Shetland	-1.6%
8 Morecambe & Lunesdale	19.4%	8 St Ives	-0.8%
9 Erith & Thamesmead	19.1%	9 Airdrie & Shotts	-0.7%
10 Pudsey	19.0%	10 Newbury	-0.6%
CONSERVATIVE			
1 Bethnal Green & Bow	4.7%	1 Gordon	-21.9%
2 Greenwich & Woolwich	0.3%	2 Woking	-20.7%
3 Bradford West	-0.8%	3 Lewisham West	-19.0%
4 Linlithgow	-1.2%	4 Dulwich & West Norwood	-18.6%
5 Liverpool Riverside	-1.3%	5 Hastings & Rye	-18.4%
6 Liverpool Wavertree	-1.7%	6 Dagenham	-18.3%
7 Western Isles	-1.8%	7 Newbury	-18.1%
8 Glasgow Pollok	-2.1%	8 Wallasey	-18.0%
9 Glasgow Baillieston	-2.1%	9 Billericay	-17.9%
10 Blyth Valley	-2.3%	10 Hayes & Harlington	-17.7%
LIBERAL DEMOCRAT			
1 Sheffield Hallam	20.6%	1 Greenwich & Woolwich	-22.6%
2 Christchurch	19.2%	2 North East Cambridgeshire	-14.6%
3 Harrogate & Knaresborough	18.2%	3 Bethnal Green & Bow	-13.8%
4 Newbury	15.8%	4 Erith & Thamesmead	-13.4%
5 Gordon	15.4%	5 Wyre Forest	-13.3%
6 Edinburgh West	13.3%	6 Liverpool, Wavertree	-13.2%
7 Hazel Grove	11.4%	7 Pudsey	-12.4%
8 Kingston & Surbiton	10.7%	8 Blyth Valley	-11.1%
9 South East Cornwall	9.0%	9 Cotswold	-10.4%
10 Sutton & Cheam	8.5%	10 Stockton South	-10.4%
SNP/PLAID CYMRU			
1 Ceredigion	10.7%	1 Caernarfon	-7.2%
2 Angus	9.1%	2 Glasgow Pollok	-7.1%
3 Clwyd West	8.9%	3 Dundee East	-5.5%
4 Ochil	8.3%	4 Falkirk East	-4.4%
5 Galloway & Upper Nithsdale	7.5%	5 Western Isles	-3.8%

(a) Tatton and West Bromwich West are excluded from this analysis.

Table 16
Candidates finishing in first, second, third and fourth places (Great Britain only)

	First place	Second place	Third place	Fourth place or lower	Total
Labour	418	102	115	4	639
Conservative	165	386	74	15	640
Liberal Democrat	46	103	427	63	639
SNP	6	44	17	5	72
Plaid Cymru	4	4	4	28	40
Other (a)	2	2	4	1,553	1,561
Total	641	641	641	1,668	3,591

(a) The candidates finishing second were Liberal in Liverpool West Derby and Labour Change in West Bromwich West.

The candidates finishing third were Socialist Labour in East Ham, Scottish Socialist Alliance in Glasgow Pollok, Independent in Tatton and National Democrat in West Bromwich West.

Table 17
Seats gained and lost

The majority of seats fought at the 1997 election had new boundaries. The lists that follow show those seats where the party winning in 1997 differed from that notionally winning the seat in 1992. No account is taken of by-elections between 1992 and 1997.

The Speaker's seat of West Bromwich West was, of course, Labour in 1992.

Labour gains from Conservative (144)

Aberdeen South	Eltham
Amber Valley	Enfield North
Basildon	Enfield Southgate
Batley & Spen	Erewash
Battersea	Exeter
Bedford	Falmouth & Camborne
Bexleyheath & Crayford	Finchley & Golders Green
Birmingham Edgbaston	Gedling
Birmingham Hall Green	Gillingham
Blackpool North & Fleetwood	Gloucester
Blackpool South	Gravesham
Bolton West	Great Yarmouth
Braintree	Halesowen & Rowley Regis
Brent North	Hammersmith & Fulham
Brentford & Isleworth	Harlow
Brigg & Goole	Harrow East
Brighton Kempdown	Harrow West
Brighton Pavilion	Harwich
Bristol West	Hastings & Rye
Broxtowe	Hayes & Harlington
Burton	Hemel Hempstead
Bury North	Hendon
Bury South	High Peak
Calder Valley	Hornchurch
Cardiff North	Hove
Castle Point	Ilford North
Chatham & Aylesford	Ilford South
Chester, City of	Keighley
Chorley	Kettering
Cleethorpes	Kingswood
Clywd West	Lancaster & Wyre
Colne Valley	Leeds North East
Conwy	Leeds North West
Corby	Loughborough
Coventry South	Luton North
Crawley	Luton South
Crosby	Medway
Croydon Central	Middlesbrough South & Cleveland East
Croydon North	Milton Keynes South West
Dartford	Mitcham & Morden
Derby North	Monmouth
Dover	Morecambe & Lunesdale
Dumfries	Newark
Ealing North	North East Milton Keynes
Eastwood	North West Leicestershire
Edinburgh Pentlands	North West Norfolk
Edmonton	Northampton North
Elmet	Northampton South

Norwich North
Oldham East & Saddleworth
Peterborough
Plymouth Sutton
Portsmouth North
Preseli Pembrokeshire
Pudsey
Putney
Reading East
Reading West
Redditch
Romford
Rugby & Kenilworth
St. Albans
Scarborough & Whitby
Selby
Shipley
Shrewsbury & Atcham
Sittingbourne & Sheppey
South Derbyshire
South Ribble
South Swindon
South Thanet
Stafford

Stevenage
Stirling
Stockton South
Stourbridge
Stroud
Tamworth
Tynemouth
Upminster
Vale of Clwyd
Vale of Glamorgan
Wansdyke
Warrington South
Warwick & Leamington
Watford
Waveney
Wellingborough
Welwyn Hatfield
Wimbledon
Wirral South
Wirral West
Wolverhampton South West
Worcester
Wrekin, The
Wyre Forest

Labour gains from Liberal Democrat (2)

Inverness East, Nairn & Lochaber

Rochdale

Liberal Democrat gains from Conservative (30)

Brecon & Radnorshire
Carshalton & Wallington
Colchester
Eastleigh
Edinburgh West
Gordon
Harrogate & Knaresborough
Hazel Grove
Hereford
Isle of Wight
Kingston & Surbiton
Lewes
Newbury
Northavon
Oxford West & Abingdon

Portsmouth South
Richmond Park
St. Ives
Sheffield Hallam
Somerton & Frome
South East Cornwall
Southport
Sutton & Cheam
Taunton
Torbay
Torrige & West Devon
Twickenham
West Aberdeenshire & Kincardine
Weston-Super-Mare
Winchester

SNP gains from Conservative (3)

Galloway & Upper Nithsdale
North Tayside

Perth

Independent gain from Conservative (1)

Tatton

Ulster Unionist gain from DUP (1)

West Tyrone

Sinn Fein gain from DUP (1)

Mid Ulster

Sinn Fein gain from SDLP (1)

Belfast West

United Kingdom Unionist gain from Ulster Popular Unionist (1)

North Down

Note: West Tyrone is a new seat, notionally 'won' by the DUP in 1992, but where the DUP did not field a candidate in 1997.

Recent Library research papers have been:

97/38	Unemployment by Constituency - February 1997	19.03.97
97/39	Unemployment Rates for New Constituencies in England and Wales - February 1997	19.03.97
97/40	Parliamentary Election Timetables (3rd ed: revised)	25.03.97
97/41	Afghanistan	25.03.97
97/42	Energy from Waste	27.03.97
97/43	Cloning	27.03.97
97/44	Economic & Monetary Union	09.04.97
97/45	Endangered Species; CITES, tigers and ivory	04.04.97
97/46	Green Taxes	07.04.97
97/47	The Commonwealth	29.04.97
97/48	Training and Enterprise Councils	07.05.97