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UK Election Statistics: 1945-2003

This paper summarises the results of UK elections since 1945. 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 referendums and elections for local mayors and other referendums in the UK since 1945.

It replaces and expands a previous Research Paper – *UK Election Statistics 1945-2000*, RP 01/37.

Matthew Leeke

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CONTENTS

I	Introduction	6
II	General Elections since 1945	7
	A. Summary of results	7
	B. Turnout	16
	C. Spoilt ballots	17
	D. Postal votes	17
	E. Women MPs	18
	F. Minority ethnic MPs	20
	G. Characteristics of MPs	21
	H. Characteristics of voters	27
III	Minor Parties at general elections 1945-2001	29
IV	By-elections	35
V	European Elections	43
VI	Elections to devolved bodies	45
	A. National Assembly for Wales	45
	B. Scottish Parliament Elections	47
	C. Northern Ireland Assembly	49
	D. Greater London Assembly	50
VII	Local Elections	51
	A. Council Elections	51
	B. Elected Mayors	53
	1. London Mayor	53
	2. Mayoral elections	54
VIII	Referendums	57

A.	Scotland	57
B.	Wales	58
C.	Northern Ireland	59
D.	London	59
E.	Europe	60
IX	Opinion Polls	61

List of Tables

	Page	
Table 1a	General Election Results: 1945-2001: United Kingdom	9
Table 1b	General Election Results: 1945-2001: Great Britain	10
Table 1c	General Election Results: 1945-2001: England	11
Table 1d	General Elections Results: 1945-2001: Wales	12
Table 1e	General Election Results: 1945-2001: Scotland	13
Table 1f	General Election Results: 1945-1970: Northern Ireland	14
Table 1g	General Election Results: 1974-2001: Northern Ireland	15
Table 2	Turnout at UK General Elections: 1945-2001	16
Table 3	Spoilt Ballot Papers in UK General Elections 1964-2001	17
Table 4	Postal Ballot Papers in UK Elections: 1945-2001	18
Table 5	Women Members Elected at General Elections: 1918-2001	19
Table 6a	Main Occupations of Members of Parliament 1951-2001	21
Table 6b	Education of Members of Parliament 1951-2003	25
Table 7	Parliamentary Experience of MPs following 2001 election	25
Table 8a	Current House of Commons Members by age band	26
Table 8b	Median Age of Members of Parliament 1951-2003	26
Table 9	General Election Turnout by Age and Gender: 1970-2001	27
Table 10	Minor Parties at general elections: 1945-2001: GB	29
Table 11	Summary of Minor Parties at General Elections 1945-2001 (GB only)	30
Table 12	Summary of By-Elections by Parliament: 1945-2003	35
Table 13	By-Elections since 1945	36
Table 14	UK MEPs by party 1979-1999	43
Table 15	European Parliamentary Elections: 1979-1999	44
Table 16	National Assembly for Wales Elections: 1999 and 2003	46

Table 17	Scottish Parliament Elections: 1999 and 2003	48
Table 18	Northern Ireland Assembly Elections: 25 June 1998	49
Table 19	Greater London Assembly Election: 4 May 2000	50
Table 20	National Equivalent Vote at Local Government Elections: 1979-2003	51
Table 21	Local Election Results: 1997-2003	52
Table 22	Election for London Mayor: 4 May 2000	53
Table 23	Mayoral Referendum Results	55
Table 24	Mayoral Elections	55
Table 25	Change in Voting For/Against Devolution in Scotland, 1979 and 1997	57
Table 26	Change in Voting For/Against Devolution in Wales, 1979 and 1997	58
Table 27	The Northern Ireland Border Poll, 8 March 1973	59
Table 28	Referendum on E.C. Membership, Thursday 5 June 1975	60
Table 29	Voting Intention: ICM monthly polls since 1997 General Election	62
Table 30	Voting Intention: MORI monthly polls since 1997 General Election	63
Table 31	MORI Approval Ratings for Party Leaders	65

I Introduction

This research paper summarises the results of general elections since 1945, 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 1945. 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.

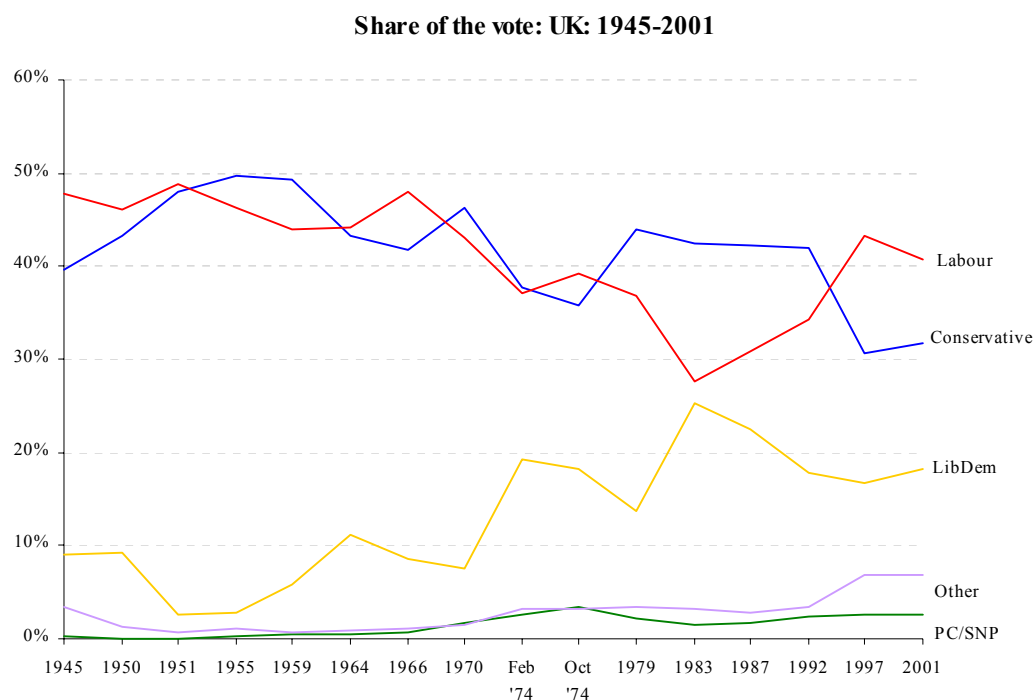
Finally, Section IX presents opinion poll data on voting intention compiled by ICM and MORI, as well as party leader approval ratings from MORI polls.

The aim of this paper is to provide summary data on UK election results. Each section of this paper is reproduced as a Library Standard Note, regularly updated and available on the parliamentary intranet. 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.

II General Elections since 1945

A. Summary of results

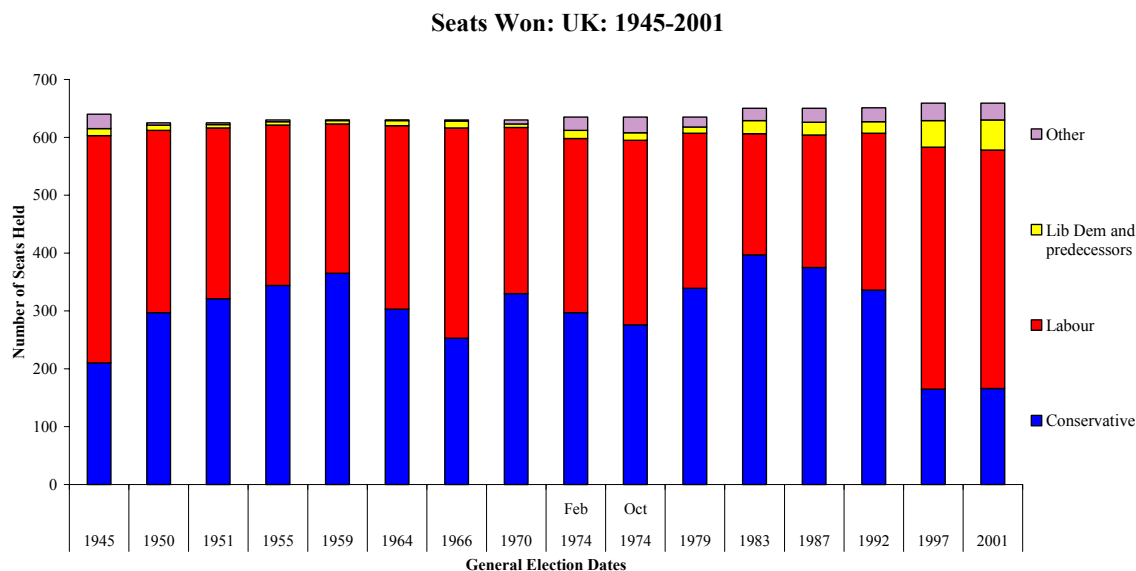
Tables 1a to 1f and the charts below summarise the results of the fifteen general elections from 1945 to 2001.



Some of the main points are:

- In terms of seats won, the Conservatives were the largest party on eight occasions, Labour also on eight. Only one general election has resulted in the party with most seats failing to gain an overall majority (February 1974 - Labour gained 301 out of 635 seats).
- On two occasions the party gaining most votes did not win the most seats. 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.
- The Conservatives' best result in terms of seats won was in 1983 (397 seats). Correspondingly, this was Labour's worst result in terms of seats (209) and share of vote (27.6%). The Conservatives' highest share of the vote was in 1955 when they polled 49.6%.

- Labour's 418 seats which they won in 1997 were 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 Democrats won 52 seats at the 2001 general election. This was the highest number of seats won by the party or its predecessors since 1945.
- 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 seat 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: 1945-2001: United Kingdom

	Votes (millions)						Share of vote (%)					
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total
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 ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total
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 National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

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

Table 1b

General Election Results: 1945-2001: Great Britain

	Votes (millions)						Share of vote (%)					
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total
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%

	Candidates						Seats won					
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC/SNP	Other	Total
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 National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

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

Table 1c

General Election Results: 1945-2001: England

	Votes (millions)					Share of vote (%)				
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	Other	Total
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%

	Candidates					Seats won				
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	Other	Total
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 National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

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

Table 1d

General Election Results: 1945-2001: Wales

	Votes (thousands)						Share of vote (%)					
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC	Other	Total
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%

	Candidates						Seats won					
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	PC	Other	Total
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 National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

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

Table 1e

General Election Results: 1945-2001: Scotland

	Votes (thousands)						Share of vote (%)					
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	SNP	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	SNP	Other	Total
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 ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	SNP	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	SNP	Other	Total
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 National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

(b) Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992

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

Table 1f

General Election Results: 1945-1970: Northern Ireland

	Votes (thousands)					Share of vote (%)				
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib ^(b)	Other	Total
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%

	Candidates					Seats won				
	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib	Other	Total	Con ^(a)	Lab	Lib	Other	Total
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) Includes National and National Liberal for 1945; includes National Liberal and Conservative 1945-1970

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

Table 1g

General Election Results: 1974-2001: Northern Ireland

	Votes (thousands)								Share of Vote											
	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 ^(a)	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%				
Northern Ireland	Candidates								Seats Won											
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 ^(a)	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 1945.

- In 2001, turnout was the lowest recorded since 1945 (59.4%).
- 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.
- Turnout in Wales was the highest in each election, with the exception of 2001.

Table 2

Turnout at UK General Elections: 1945-2001

Valid votes as % of electorate

	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
1945	73.4%	75.7%	69.0%	67.4%	72.8%
1950	84.4%	84.8%	80.9%	77.4%	83.9%
1951	82.7%	84.4%	81.2%	79.9%	82.6%
1955	76.9%	79.6%	75.1%	74.1%	76.8%
1959	78.9%	82.6%	78.1%	65.9%	78.7%
1964	77.0%	80.1%	77.6%	71.7%	77.1%
1966	75.9%	79.0%	76.0%	66.1%	75.8%
1970	71.4%	77.4%	74.1%	76.6%	72.0%
1974 Feb	79.0%	80.0%	79.0%	69.9%	78.8%
1974 Oct	72.6%	76.6%	74.8%	67.7%	72.8%
1979	75.9%	79.4%	76.8%	67.7%	76.0%
1983	72.5%	76.1%	72.7%	72.9%	72.7%
1987	75.4%	78.9%	75.1%	67.0%	75.3%
1992	78.0%	79.7%	75.5%	69.8%	77.7%
1997	71.4%	73.5%	71.3%	67.1%	71.4%
2001	59.2%	61.6%	58.2%	68.0%	59.4%

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

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

D. Postal votes

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. 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 covering 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/

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, however, to 118 after the 2001 election.

- Since 1918, of the 4,533 Members of Parliament elected, 252, 6% have been women.¹

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

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

¹ 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 to be elected was Mancherjee Bhownagree who was the Conservative 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 total number of minority ethnic MPs rose to six in 1992 (five Labour and one Conservative). In 1997 there were nine ethnic minority MPs (all Labour) and in 2001 this rose to twelve (again, all Labour).

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%); 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)

Conservative

	Feb Oct													
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01
Professions														
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
Business														
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
Other White collar														
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
Manual Workers														
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
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

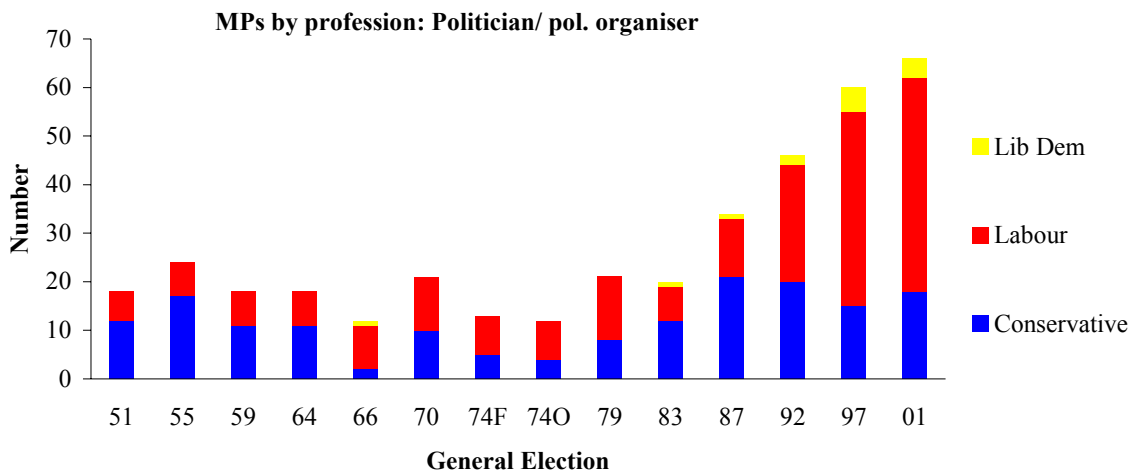
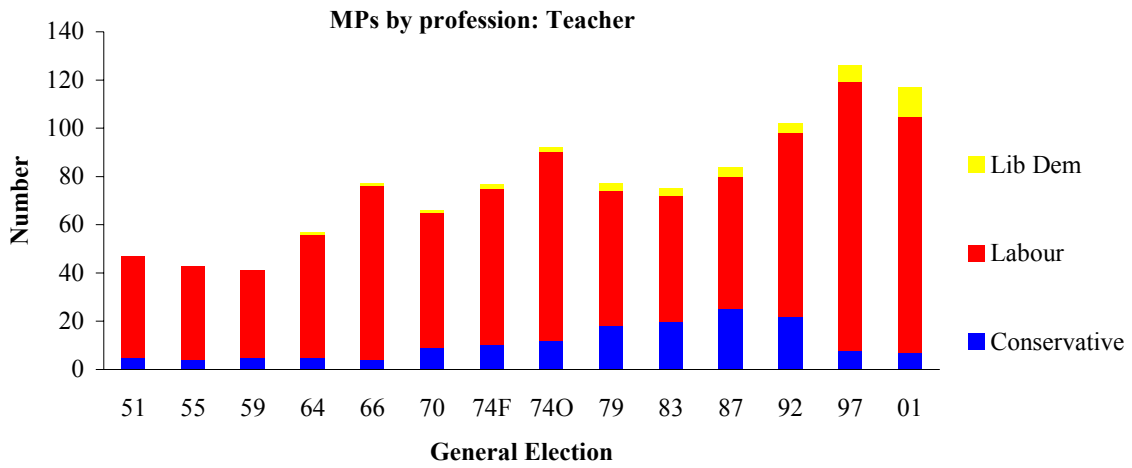
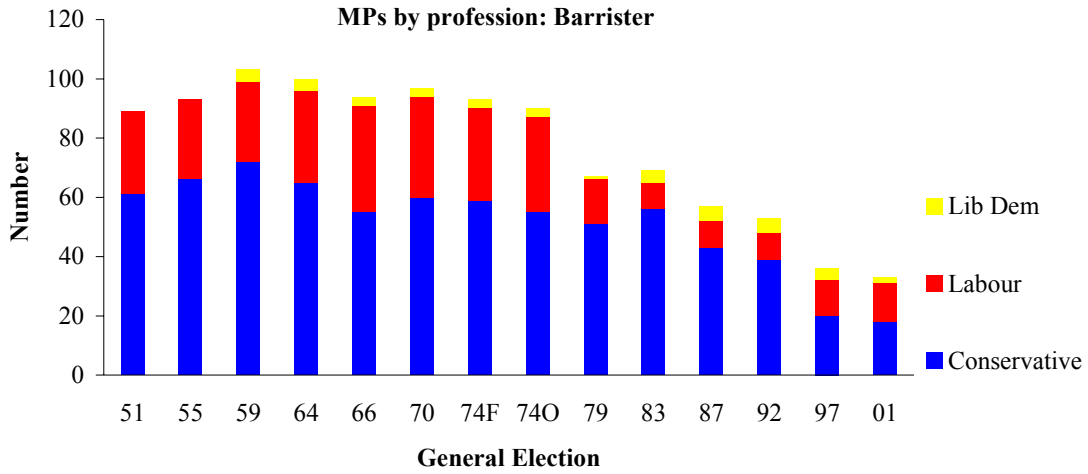
Labour

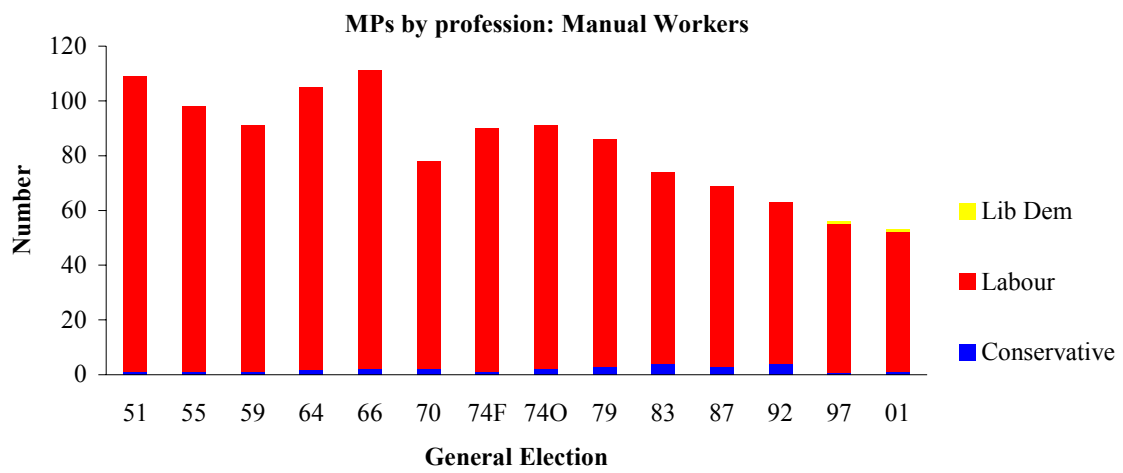
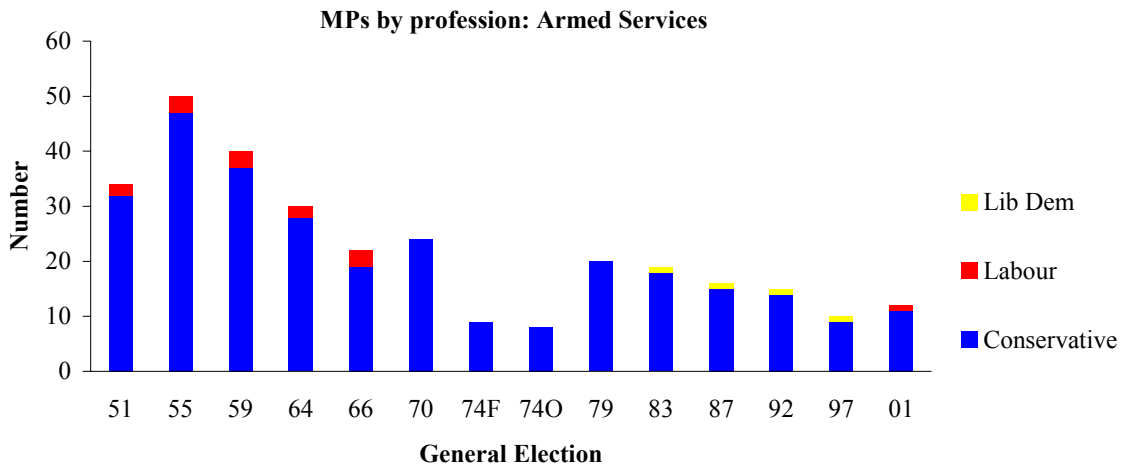
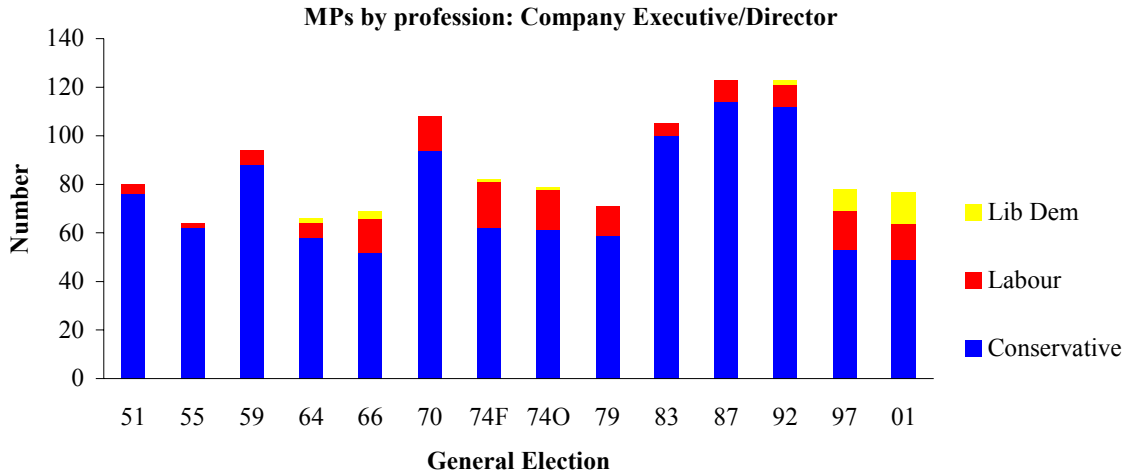
	Feb Oct													
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01
Professions														
Barrister	9	10	10	10	10	12	10	10	6	4	4	3	3	3
Solicitor	4	3	4	5	5	5	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	4
Civil service/local govt	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	2	6	5	3	6	7	7
Teachers	14	14	14	16	20	20	22	24	22	25	24	28	27	24
Armed services	1	1	1	1	1	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
Business														
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
Other White collar														
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
Manual Workers														
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
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Liberal Dem and predecessors

	Feb Oct													
	51	55	59	64	66	70	74	74	79	83	87	92	97	01
Professions														
Barrister	data		67	44	25	50	21	23	9	17	23	25	9	4
Solicitor	not		17	0	0	17	7	8	0	4	5	5	4	8
Civil service/local govt	available		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
Business														
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
Other White collar														
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
Manual Workers														
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
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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
Conservative														
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
Labour														
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
Liberal														
Public School	not		67	33	58	50	71	69	55	52	45	50	41	35
University	available		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 at May 2003. At present, the oldest Member is Piara Khabra (born 20 November 1924) while the youngest MP is David Lammy (born 19 July 1972).

Table 8a

Current House of Commons Members by Age Band

	Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	SNP/PC	Other	Total	% Share
75-79	...	1	...	...	1	2	0.3%
70-74	1	8	...	...	1	10	1.5%
65-69	7	21	...	...	5	33	5.0%
60-64	26	50	9	...	...	85	12.9%
55-59	28	76	11	...	3	118	17.9%
50-54	29	106	5	2	6	148	22.5%
45-49	38	73	9	2	1	123	18.7%
40-44	22	47	8	2	2	81	12.3%
35-39	14	20	10	1	...	45	6.8%
30-34	1	9	1	2	1	14	2.1%
Total	166	411	53	9	20	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

	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). Self-reported turnout tends to be higher than turnout in reality.

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

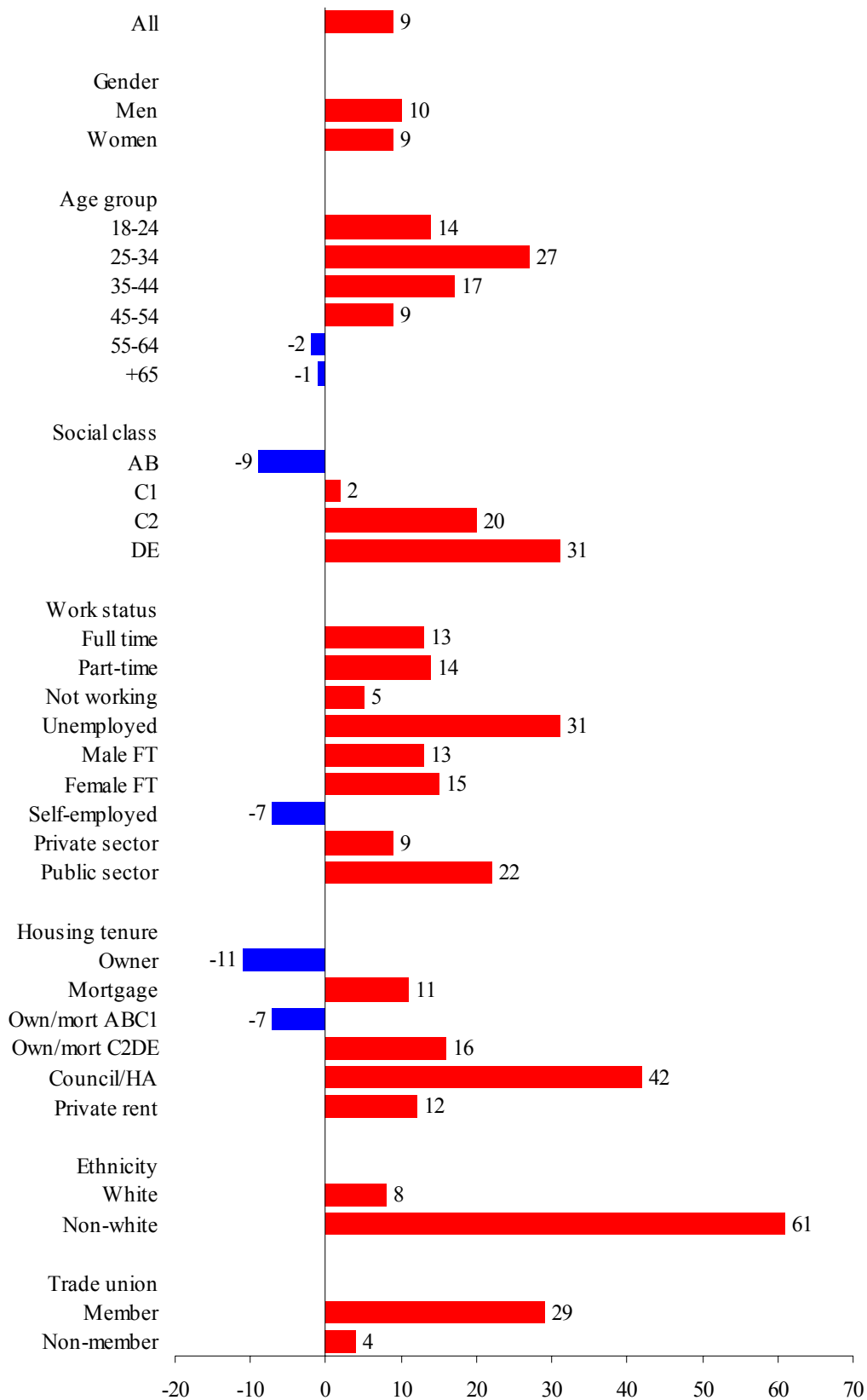
Source: British Election Study data in National Statistics, Social Trends 2002, table 13.20

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



III 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 FWS Craig.²

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).

² 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
ACTION PARTY				
1959	1	0	0	8.1
1966	4	0	0	3.7
ANTI-FEDERALIST LEAGUE				
1992	16	0	0	0.3
ANTI-PARTITION OF IRELAND LEAGUE OF GREAT BRITAIN				
1950	4	0	0	3.0
1951	1	0	0	2.7
BRITISH EMPIRE PARTY				
1951	1	0	0	3.4
BRITISH MOVEMENT				
1970	1	0	0	2.5
1974(F)	1	0	0	1.5
BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY(1)				
1964	1	0	0	9.1
1966	3	0	0	5.3
BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY(2)				
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
CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL DEMOCRACY				
1974(F)	5	1	1	8.3
1974(O)	1	0	1	34.6
COMMONWEALTH				
1945	23	1	7	12.6
COMMUNIST PARTY OF ENGLAND (MARXIST-LENINIST)				
1974(F)	6	0	0	0.6
1974(O)	8	0	0	0.4
COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN				
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
CORNISH NATIONALIST PARTY				
1979	1	0	0	0.4
1983	1	0	0	0.7
DEMOCRATIC PARTY [1]				
1945	5	0	0	1.3

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

RESEARCH PAPER 03/59

General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
MONSTER RAVING LOONY				
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
MUSLIM PARTY				
2001	4	0	0	0.9
MUDIAD GWERINIAETHOL CYMRU				
1950	1	0	0	1.3
NATIONAL DEMOCRAT				
1997	20	0	1	1.1
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY				
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
NATIONAL FRONT				
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
NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY				
1974(F)	1	0	0	4.4
NATIONAL LABOUR PARTY				
1959	1	0	0	4.1
NATURAL LAW PARTY				
1992	309	0	0	0.5
1997	177	0	0	0.3
PATRIOTIC PARTY				
1964	2	0	0	1.5
1966	1	0	0	0.4
PEOPLE				
1974(F)	6	0	0	1.7
1974(O)	5	0	0	0.9
PLAID CYMRU				
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
PRO-LIFE ALLIANCE				
1997	56	0	0	0.7
2001	37	0	0	0.7

General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
RADICAL ALLIANCE				
1966	1	0	0	0.5
RAINBOW				
1987	2	0	0	0.4
1992	3	0	0	
1997	31	0	0	0.3
RED FRONT				
1987	14	0	0	0.5
REFERENDUM PARTY				
1997	547	0	42	3.1
SCOTTISH MILITANT LABOUR				
1992	1	0	1	19.3
SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY				
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
SCOTTISH SOCIALIST ALLIANCE				
1997	16	0	1	1.8
SCOTTISH SOCIALIST PARTY				
2001	72	0	10	3.3
SOCIAL CREDIT PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN				
1950	1	0	0	0.9
SOCIALIST				
1997	24	0	1	1.1
SOCIALIST ALLIANCE				
2001	98	0	2	1.7
SOCIALIST LABOUR PARTY				
1997	64	0	3	1.8
2001	114	0	1	1.4
SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN				
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
UNITED COUNTRY PARTY				
1979	2	0	0	1.0
UNITED DEMOCRACY PARTY				
1974(O)	13	0	0	0.7

General Election	No. of Candidates	No. MPs	Saved Deposits	Average % vote
UNITED KINGDOM INDEPENDENCE PARTY				
1997	194	0	1	1.1
2001	428	0	6	2.1
VECTIS NATIONALIST PARTY				
1970	1	0	0	2.8
WESSEX REGIONAL PARTY				
1979	7	0	0	0.7
1983	10	0	0	0.3
WORKERS PARTY				
1997	8	0	0	0.8
WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY				
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

IV By-elections

There have been two by-elections since the 2001 general election. The results are summarised below. Labour retained its seat in both cases, although its share of the vote fell in both constituencies.

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%

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 the share of vote since previous elction					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-	...	...	...	...	...	-2.9%	-9.1%	+1.6%	+6.8%	+6.9%	37.7%

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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1950								
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%

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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1951								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1955								
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 Spenborough	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%

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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1964								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1966								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1970								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1974 (FEB)								
23/05/1974	Newham South	Lab hold	-1.1%	-3.4%	-2.3%	...	+6.8%	25.9%
GENERAL ELECTION 1974 (OCT)								
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%

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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1979								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1983								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1987								
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	Langbaurgh	Lab gain from Con	-2.6%	+4.5%	-3.8%	...	...	65.3%
GENERAL ELECTION 1992								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 1997								
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%
GENERAL ELECTION 2001								
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%
	Brent East	By election pending following death of Paul Daisley 18.6.03						

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

V European Elections

Elections to the European Parliament were last held in the UK on 10 June 1999. The next are scheduled for 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 and 1999.

Table 14 details the number of UK MEPs by party since 1979. The overall number has risen from 81 to 87. 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.

Table 14

		UK MEPs by party - 1979 to 1999				
		1979	1984	1989	1994	1999
Great Britain						
Labour	<i>(Number)</i>	17	32	45	62	29
	<i>(% of UK MEPs)</i>	21%	40%	56%	73%	33%
Conservative	<i>(Number)</i>	60	45	32	18	36
	<i>(% of UK MEPs)</i>	74%	56%	40%	21%	41%
Liberal Democrat					2	10
Scottish National		1	1	1	2	2
Plaid Cymru						2
Green						2
UK Independence						3
Total		78	78	78	82	84
Northern Ireland						
Democratic Unionist		1	1	1	1	1
SDLP		1	1	1	1	1
Ulster Unionist		1	1	1	1	1
Total		3	3	3	3	3
Total UK		81	81	81	85	87

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 Northern Ireland they have been on the basis of a system of single transferable vote - the table shows first preference votes only. In 1999 elections were held under a regional list system.

Table 15

European Elections: Votes by party - 1979 to 1999					
	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999
Great Britain					
Labour	4,253,207	4,865,261	6,153,661	6,753,881	2,803,821
Conservative	6,508,493	5,426,821	5,331,098	4,268,539	3,578,217
Liberal Democrat (a)	1,691,531	1,358,145	944,861	2,557,887	1,266,549
Scottish National	247,836	230,594	406,686	487,237	268,528
Plaid Cymru	83,399	103,031	115,062	162,478	185,235
Green (b)	17,953	70,853	2,292,718	494,561	625,378
SDP		1,233,490	75,886		
UK Independence				150,251	696,057
Natural Law				96,554	20,329
Liberal				100,500	93,051
Other	71,433	24,678	41,295	220,834	465,105
Total	12,873,852	13,312,873	15,361,267	15,292,722	10,002,270
Northern Ireland (first preference votes)					
Democratic Unionist	170,688	230,251	160,110	163,246	192,762
SDLP	140,622	151,399	136,335	161,992	190,731
Ulster Unionist	125,169	147,169	118,785	133,459	119,507
Sinn Fein		91,476	48,914	55,215	117,643
Alliance	39,026	34,046	27,905	23,157	14,391
Ulster Independence Movement				7,858	
Conservative			25,789	5,583	
Workers Party	4,418	8,712	5,590	2,543	
Natural Law				2,291	998
Other	92,316	22,264	11,383	4,523	42,777
Total	572,239	685,317	534,811	559,867	678,809
European Elections: % Votes by party - 1979 to 1999					
	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999
Great Britain					
Labour	33%	37%	40%	44%	28%
Conservative	51%	41%	35%	28%	36%
Liberal Democrat (a)	13%	10%	6%	17%	13%
Scottish National	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Plaid Cymru	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Green (b)	0%	1%	15%	3%	6%
SDP		9%	0%		
UK Independence				1%	7%
Natural Law				1%	0%
Liberal				1%	1%
Other	1%	0%	0%	1%	5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Northern Ireland (first preference votes)					
Democratic Unionist	30%	34%	30%	29%	28%
SDLP	25%	22%	25%	29%	28%
Ulster Unionist	22%	21%	22%	24%	18%
Sinn Fein		13%	9%	10%	17%
Alliance	7%	5%	5%	4%	2%
Ulster Independence Movement				1%	
Conservative			5%	1%	
Workers Party	1%	1%	1%	0%	
Natural Law				0%	0%
Other	16%	3%	2%	1%	6%
Total	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

Source: Research Paper 99/57, 99/64

Detailed analysis of the 1999 European elections is available in Library Research Paper 99/64 *Elections to the European Parliament - June 1999*.

VI 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 system³ and the second to elect four members from each of five electoral regions⁴. 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*.

³ based on the existing 40 parliamentary constituencies

⁴ 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
Constituencies								
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	
Liberal Democrat	137,857	120,220	13.5%	14.1%	-0.6%	3	3	
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	
Regional lists								
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	
Others	51,938	100,503	5.1%	11.8%	+6.7%			
Total	1,021,857	849,552	100.0%	100.0%		20	20	
Total								
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	
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 system⁵ and the second to elect seven members from each of eight electoral regions⁶. 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*.

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

⁶ 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
Constituencies								
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%			
Others	8,573	39,171	0.4%	2.0%	+1.6%	1	1	
Independent	31,543	34,452	1.3%	1.8%	+0.5%		1	+1
Total	2,342,488	1,921,619	100.0%	100.0%		73	73	
Regional lists								
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%		1	+1
Scottish Senior Citizens Unity Party		28,966	0.0%	1.5%	+1.5%		1	+1
Pensioners Party (Scotland)		28,655	0.0%	1.5%	+1.5%			
Socialist Labour Party	55,153	21,657	2.4%	1.1%	-1.3%			
United Kingdom Independence Party		11,969	0.0%	0.6%	+0.6%			
People's Alliance		7,718	0.0%	0.4%	+0.4%			
ProLife	9,784	6,759	0.4%	0.4%				
Scottish Unionist Party	7,011	6,113	0.3%	0.3%	+0.0%			
Others	19,577	20,274	0.8%	1.1%	+0.3%			
Total	2,338,914	1,908,594	100.0%	100.0%		56	56	
Total seats won								
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%		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 14 shows the results of the first elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly. These were held on the 25 June 1998. Voting in the election was by proportional representation using the Single Transferable Vote system.

Turnout was 68.7%.

Table 18

Northern Ireland Assembly elections: 25 June 1998

Party	First Preference		Seats	% Seats
	Votes	% Votes		
SDLP	177,963	22.0%	24	22.2%
Ulster Unionist	172,225	21.3%	28	25.9%
Democratic Unionist	146,917	18.1%	20	18.5%
Sinn Féin	142,858	17.6%	18	16.7%
Alliance	52,636	6.5%	6	5.6%
United Kingdom Unionists	36,541	4.5%	5	4.6%
Progressive Unionist Party	20,634	2.5%	2	1.9%
NI Women's Coalition	13,019	1.6%	2	1.9%
Ulster Democratic Party	8,651	1.1%	0	0.0%
Others	38,801	4.8%	3	2.8%
Total	810,245	100%	108	

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

Elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly were due to take place in May 2003 but were postponed. More detailed coverage is given to this issue in Library Research Paper 03/43, *The Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections and Periods of Suspension) Bill*.

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 total, the Conservative Party won 9 members, the Labour Party 9, the Liberal Democrats 4 and the Green Party 3. Turnout for the GLA election was 31%. The next Assembly elections will be held in 2004.

More details of the elections for the London Mayor and Assembly can be found in Research Paper 00/59 *The local elections and elections for a London Mayor and Assembly: 4 May 2000*.

Table 19

Greater London Assembly Election: 4 May 2000

Votes for Constituency Assembly Members - London totals

Party of candidates	Number of votes	%	Seats
Conservative Party	526,707	33.2%	8
Labour Party	501,296	31.6%	6
Liberal Democrats Against Tube Sell-Off	299,998	18.9%	0
Green Party	162,457	10.2%	0
London Socialist Alliance	46,530	2.9%	0
Other	49,082	3.1%	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,586,070</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>14</i>

Votes for London-wide Assembly Members - London totals

Party	Number of votes	%	Seats
Conservative Party	481,053	29.0%	1
Labour Party	502,874	30.3%	3
Liberal Democrats Against Tube Sell-Off	245,555	14.8%	4
Green Party	183,910	11.1%	3
Christian Peoples Alliance – Ram Gidoomal	55,192	3.3%	0
London Socialist Alliance	27,073	1.6%	0
British National Party	47,670	2.9%	0
UK Independence Party	34,054	2.1%	0
Peter Gary Tatchell (Independent)	22,862	1.4%	0
Campaign Against Tube Privatisation	17,401	1.0%	0
Pro-Motorist & Small Shop	13,248	0.8%	0
Socialist Labour Party, Leader Arthur Scargill	13,690	0.8%	0
Natural Law Party	7,559	0.5%	0
Communist Party of Britain	7,489	0.5%	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,659,630</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>11</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
1979-2003: Great Britain

	Con	Lab	Lib
1979	45%	38%	14%
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%
1997	31%	44%	17%
1998	33%	37%	25%
1999	34%	36%	25%
2000	38%	30%	26%
2001	32%	41%	18%
2002	34%	33%	25%
2003	35%	30%	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					Total
	Con	Lab	Lib PC/SNP	Other		Con	Lab	Lib PC/SNP	Other		
1997											
All Authorities	36.2%	33.2%	26.4%	...	4.2%	1,106	1,294	724	...	123	3,247
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											
All Authorities	30.4%	40.3%	23.5%	...	5.8%	1,105	2,239	853	...	147	4,344
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											
All Authorities	27.6%	33.8%	21.5%	6.7%	10.4%	3,781	4,816	2,611	409	1,684	13,301
England	32.9%	33.1%	24.6%	...	9.4%	3,598	3,703	2,357	...	1,151	10,809
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											
All Authorities	37.2%	32.4%	24.3%	...	6.1%	1,327	1,117	726	...	204	3,374
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											
All Authorities	39.4%	30.9%	25.1%	...	4.6%	1,094	835	460	...	95	2,484
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											
All Authorities	32.2%	35.2%	23.7%	...	8.9%	2,011	2,400	1,263	...	240	5,914
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											
All Authorities	(forthcoming, late 2003)					4,430	3,012	2,586	164	1,401	11,593
England						4,318	2,504	2,439	...	1,178	10,439
Metropolitan boroughs						157	451	193	...	25	826
English unitary authorities						529	503	484	...	107	1,623
Shire districts						3,632	1,550	1,762	...	1,046	7,990
Scottish unitary authorities						112	508	147	164	223	1,154

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%. The next election will be held in 2004.

Table 22

Election for London Mayor: 4 May 2000

Name	Party	1st Pref	%	2nd Pref ^(a)	%	Final ^(b)
Ken Livingstone	Independent	667,877	39.0	178,809	12.6	776,427
Steve Norris	Conservative	464,434	27.1	188,041	13.2	564,137
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

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

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 H²Angus 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%.

Table 24
Mayoral Elections, 2002

Authority/Turnout	Candidate	Party	1st pref votes	1st round %	2nd pref	Adding 2nd pref votes	2nd round %
02 May 2002							
Doncaster Turnout 28.4%	Andrew Burden	Con	9,000	15.4	3,170	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	...	...	...
	Martin Winter	Lab	21,494	36.8	4,213	25,707	67.9
			58,487	100	7,383	37,877	100
Hartlepool Turnout 30.1%	Ian Cameron	Ind	5,174	26.5	...	...	...
	Stephen Close	Con	1,561	8.0	...	...	...
	Stuart Drummond	ND	5,696	29.1	1,699	7,395	52.1
	Leo Gillen	Lab	5,438	27.8	1,354	6,792	47.9
	Arthur Preece	LD	1,675	8.6	...	...	...
			19,544	100	3,053	14,187	100
London Borough of Lewisham Turnout 25.5%	Steve Bullock	Lab	20,011	45.0	4,509	24,520	71.3
	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	9,855	28.7
			44,518	100	6,360	34,375	100
Middlesborough 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	...	...	...
	Raymond Mallon	ND	26,362	62.8		Not required	
	Joseph Michna	LD	3,820	9.1	...	...	...
			41,994	100			
London Borough of Newham 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	...	...	...
	Robert Wales	Lab	20,384	50.8		Not required	
			40,147	100			
North Tyneside Turnout 42.5%	Eddie Darke	Lab	19,601	32.2	4,930	24,531	48.5
	Michael Elliott	SA	2,119	3.5	...	...	...
	Michael Huscroft	LD	12,323	20.2	...	...	...
	Christopher Morgan	Con	21,829	35.9	4,254	26,083	51.5
	Allan Pond	Ind	4,993	8.2	...	...	...
			60,865	100	9,184	50,614	100
Watford Turnout 37.4%	Tristram Cooke	FC	330	1.5	...	...	...
	Gary Ling	Con	4,746	21.4	...	...	...
	Vincent Muspratt	Lab	4,899	22.1	370	5,269	28.1
	Stephen Rackett	Gr	851	3.8	...	...	...
	Dorothy Thornhill	LD	10,954	49.4	2,519	13,473	71.9
	Paul Woodward	SA	390	1.8	...	...	...
			22,170	100	2,889	18,742	100

RESEARCH PAPER 03/59

Authority/Turnout	Candidate	Party	1st pref votes	1st round %	2nd pref	Adding 2nd pref votes	2nd round %
17 October 2002							
Bedford	Frank Branston	BBI	9,557	34.5	2,522	12,079	63.4
Turnout 25.3%	Christine McHugh	LD	4,711	17.0	2,253	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	19,043	100
London Borough of Hackney	Jules Pipe	Labour	13,813	42	2,421	16,234	74.3
Turnout 25.2%	Andrew Boff	Con	4,502	13.7	1,127	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	21,863	100
Mansfield	Tony Egginton	Ind	4,150	29.6	1,801	5,951	52.6
Turnout 18.5%	Lorna Carter	Lab	4,773	34	590	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	11,314	100
Stoke on Trent City	Mike Wolfe	M4S	9,356	21.3	3,337	12,693	50.6
Turnout 24.0%	George Stevenson	Lab	9,752	22.2	2,627	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	25,072	100
12 June 2003							
North Tyneside mayoral by-election	Linda Arkley	Con	18,478	43.1	2,810	21,288	56.4
Turnout 31.4%	Gordon Adam	Lab	13,070	30.5	3,357	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	100.0	3,357	37,715	100.0
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
	% of Vote		% 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
Scotland	51.6	74.3	48.4	25.7	+22.7

1997 results fitted to 1979 areas on the following basis:

Borders (Borders); Central (Clackmannan, Falkirk, Stirling); Dumfries & Galloway (Dufries & 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 Dumbartonshire, West Dumbartonshire, 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 last referendum on devolution for Scotland in 1979 where turnout was 63.0%.⁷

⁷ 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%).⁸

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
	% of Vote		% 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
Wales	20.3	50.3	79.7	49.7	+30.0

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)

⁸ 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

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.⁹

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%.¹⁰

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

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

Source: www.icmresearch.co.uk

Table 30

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

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

Source: www.mori.com

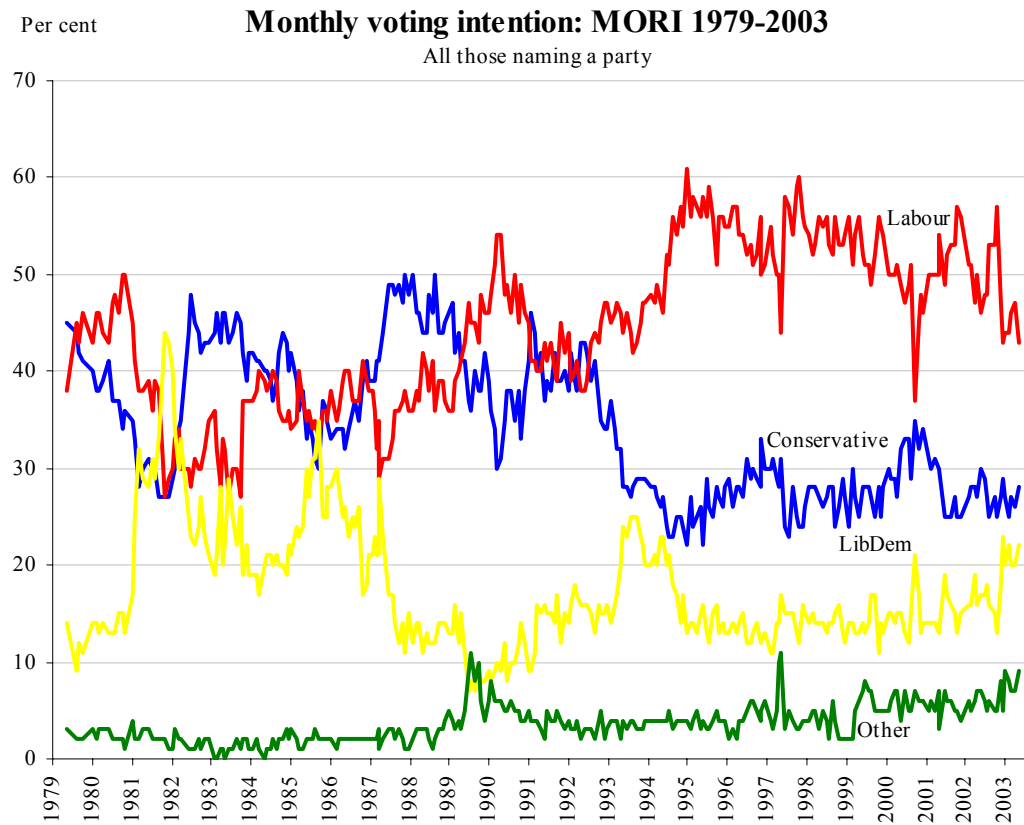
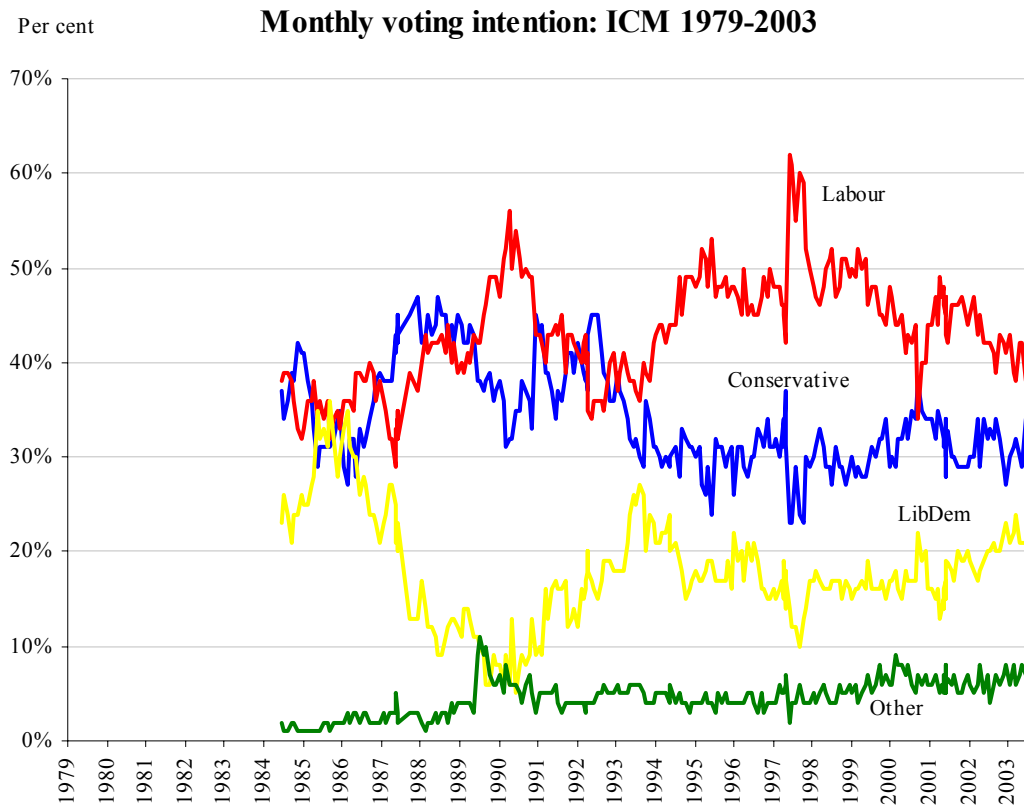


Table 31

MORI Approval Ratings for Party Leaders

2000	Blair			Hague			Kennedy		
	Sat	Dis	Net	Sat	Dis	Net	Sat	Dis	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
2001									
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
General Election									
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
Duncan Smith									
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					
2002									
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									
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

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

Source: www.mori.com