

12 December 2018

# Informal Ballot Paper Study, 2016 House of Representatives elections

**Divisional summaries: Tasmania**

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# Notes for divisional summaries

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## Number of candidates

The number of candidates on the ballot paper for each division has been added to divisional summaries for the 2016 House of Representatives elections. A higher number of candidates may have an impact on informality categories as it increases the likelihood of voters making errors while marking their ballot (i.e. non-sequential numbering), or simply choosing to stop numbering at a given point (i.e. incomplete numbering).

## Demographic rating

The following demographic ratings are applied to divisions:

- *Inner metropolitan*: located in a capital city and comprising well-established, built-up suburbs.
- *Outer metropolitan*: located in capital cities and containing areas of more recent urban expansion.
- *Provincial*: divisions with a majority of enrolment in major provincial cities.
- *Rural*: divisions without a majority of enrolment in major provincial cities.

## Swings

Percentage point swings for turnout and formality are included to show how these measures have increased or decreased between the 2013 and 2016 federal elections (a positive swing indicates the measure has increased, while a negative swing indicates it has decreased). Calculations for swings account for the redistribution of divisional boundaries.

## Informality categories

For the purposes of these divisional summaries, informal ballot papers have been grouped into the following categories:

- Totally blank ballots
- Ballots with incomplete numbering
  - Those with a number '1' only
  - All other ballots with incomplete numbering
- Ballots with ticks and crosses
- Ballots with other symbols
- Ballots with non-sequential numbering
- Ballots with scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks
- Ballots with illegible numbering
- Ballots where the voter has been identified

- Other informal ballot papers

Counts by informality category are divided between ballot papers showing a clear first preference and those with no clear first preference.

- Ballot papers that are informal due to incomplete numbering or voter identification will always show a clear first preference.
- Similarly, ballot papers that are totally blank or that have been placed in the category for scribbles/slogans or protest vote marks will never show a clear first preference.

### Polling places with highest and lowest informal voting rates

For the purposes of these divisional summaries, polling places include static polling places and pre-poll voting centres, as well as votes cast through mobile polling teams. Polling places or teams that received fewer than 100 ordinary or pre-poll votes in total (i.e. formal and informal votes combined) are excluded.

# Bass

Number of candidates: 6

Demographic rating: Provincial

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	73,555	..	..
Turnout	68,904	93.68	-0.74
Informal votes	2,729	3.96	-0.22

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	50,751	2,388	53,139	4.49
Absent	1,789	66	1,855	3.56
Postal	5,051	81	5,132	1.58
Pre-poll ordinary	6,596	148	6,744	2.19
Pre-poll declaration	1,776	31	1,807	1.72
Provisional	212	15	227	6.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,175</b>	<b>2,729</b>	<b>68,904</b>	<b>3.96</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	868	868	31.8
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	240	..	240	8.8
Incomplete numbering – other	84	..	84	3.1
Ticks and crosses	86	12	98	3.6
Other symbols	55	16	71	2.6
Non-sequential numbering	243	87	330	12.1
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	931	931	34.1
Illegible numbering	43	24	67	2.5
Voter identified	0	..	0	0.0
Other	20	20	40	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>2,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Polling places with highest and lowest informal voting rates <sup>2</sup>		Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Highest % informal	Waverley	79	930	8.49
Lowest % informal	Gladstone	3	150	2.00

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 51,973 votes cast at 45 static polling places and 1,166 votes cast through four mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes polling places that received fewer than 100 ordinary or pre-poll votes in total.

# Braddon

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Rural

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	72,529	..	..
Turnout	68,240	94.09	-1.26
Informal votes	3,568	5.23	+1.68

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	50,202	3,040	53,242	5.71
Absent	1,248	46	1,294	3.55
Postal	4,310	86	4,396	1.96
Pre-poll ordinary	6,943	346	7,289	4.75
Pre-poll declaration	1,806	37	1,843	2.01
Provisional	163	13	176	7.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,672</b>	<b>3,568</b>	<b>68,240</b>	<b>5.23</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,088	1,088	30.5
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	353	..	353	9.9
Incomplete numbering – other	172	..	172	4.8
Ticks and crosses	77	31	108	3.0
Other symbols	82	9	91	2.6
Non-sequential numbering	520	110	630	17.7
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	957	957	26.8
Illegible numbering	74	35	109	3.1
Voter identified	0	..	0	0.0
Other	29	31	60	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>2,261</b>	<b>3,568</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Polling places with highest and lowest informal voting rates <sup>2</sup>		Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Highest % informal	Rosebery	35	354	9.89
Lowest % informal	Melrose	3	235	1.28

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 52,143 votes cast at 63 static polling places and 1,099 votes cast through six mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes polling places that received fewer than 100 ordinary or pre-poll votes in total.

# Denison

Number of candidates: 6

Demographic rating: Inner Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	73,963	..	..
Turnout	68,656	92.82	-1.44
Informal votes	2,002	2.92	-1.30

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	47,131	1,531	48,662	3.15
Absent	2,769	82	2,851	2.88
Postal	5,663	60	5,723	1.05
Pre-poll ordinary	8,661	271	8,932	3.03
Pre-poll declaration	2,158	48	2,206	2.18
Provisional	272	10	282	3.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,654</b>	<b>2,002</b>	<b>68,656</b>	<b>2.92</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	607	607	30.3
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	156	..	156	7.8
Incomplete numbering – other	75	..	75	3.7
Ticks and crosses	92	25	117	5.8
Other symbols	30	0	30	1.5
Non-sequential numbering	186	80	266	13.3
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	586	586	29.3
Illegible numbering	48	29	77	3.8
Voter identified	1	..	1	0.0
Other	29	58	87	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>1,385</b>	<b>2,002</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Polling places with highest and lowest informal voting rates <sup>2</sup>		Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Highest % informal	Special Hospital Team 2	10	138	7.25
Lowest % informal	Fern Tree	2	472	0.42

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 47,769 votes cast at 36 static polling places and 893 votes cast through six mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes polling places that received fewer than 100 ordinary or pre-poll votes in total.

# Franklin

Number of candidates: 5

Demographic rating: Outer Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	76,784	..	..
Turnout	72,060	93.85	-1.24
Informal votes	2,453	3.40	-0.37

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	51,986	2,006	53,992	3.72
Absent	3,062	110	3,172	3.47
Postal	5,287	85	5,372	1.58
Pre-poll ordinary	7,071	189	7,260	2.60
Pre-poll declaration	1,951	52	2,003	2.60
Provisional	250	11	261	4.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,607</b>	<b>2,453</b>	<b>72,060</b>	<b>3.40</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	753	753	30.7
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	232	..	232	9.5
Incomplete numbering – other	51	..	51	2.1
Ticks and crosses	94	15	109	4.4
Other symbols	39	10	49	2.0
Non-sequential numbering	241	73	314	12.8
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	846	846	34.5
Illegible numbering	19	29	48	2.0
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.1
Other	14	35	49	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>2,453</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Polling places with highest and lowest informal voting rates <sup>2</sup>		Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Highest % informal	Special Hospital Team 1	12	148	8.11
Lowest % informal	Seven Mile Beach	13	783	1.66

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 53,552 votes cast at 45 static polling places and 440 votes cast through two mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes polling places that received fewer than 100 ordinary or pre-poll votes in total.

# Lyons

Number of candidates: 6

Demographic rating: Rural

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	76,639	..	..
Turnout	71,689	93.54	-0.99
Informal votes	3,174	4.43	-0.03

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	52,028	2,685	54,713	4.91
Absent	3,893	167	4,060	4.11
Postal	6,032	110	6,142	1.79
Pre-poll ordinary	2,919	109	3,028	3.60
Pre-poll declaration	3,434	89	3,523	2.53
Provisional	209	14	223	6.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,515</b>	<b>3,174</b>	<b>71,689</b>	<b>4.43</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference no.	No clear first preference no.	Total no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,083	1,083	34.1
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	280	..	280	8.8
Incomplete numbering – other	107	..	107	3.4
Ticks and crosses	91	15	106	3.3
Other symbols	59	7	66	2.1
Non-sequential numbering	320	114	434	13.7
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	978	978	30.8
Illegible numbering	38	30	68	2.1
Voter identified	1	..	1	0.0
Other	9	42	51	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>2,269</b>	<b>3,174</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Polling places with highest and lowest informal voting rates <sup>2</sup>	Informal votes no.	Total votes no	Informality rate %
Highest % informal Special Hospital Team 2	18	157	11.46
Lowest % informal Divisional Office (PREPOLL)	0	163	0.00

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 54,244 votes cast at 76 static polling places and 469 votes cast through four mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes polling places that received fewer than 100 ordinary or pre-poll votes in total.