

# The June 2017 general election results

An analysis of some key data from the June 2017 general election

## Turnout and share of votes and seats

At 68.7%, turnout in June 2017 increased by 2.3% to the highest level since 1997 (Figure 1). Figures 2 and 3 show that, despite the two main parties being over-represented, the June 2017 result was in line with the proportion of votes, with the notable exception of the SNP which remains dramatically over-represented due to its geographical concentration.

Figure 4 shows that both the two main parties gained at the expense of smaller parties, particularly at the expense of the UKIP vote.

## Voting by age, education, class and gender

Figure 5 shows that, not only did turnout increase with age, but so did the tendency to vote Conservative. The switch comes at the age of 47, with those below more likely to vote Labour and those above more likely to vote Conservative.

Figures 6–8 reveal class made less of a difference than in the past, but that education is a key factor in how people vote, with the likelihood of voting Labour increasing with education. While the female vote was evenly split, men were slightly more likely to vote Conservative.

## The two main parties

Figure 9 indicates that June 2017 went against the decline in the share of the votes and seats won by the two main parties. Although 2017 saw a dramatic increase in the share of the votes won by the two main parties, this did not translate into a similarly large increase in their total number of seats.

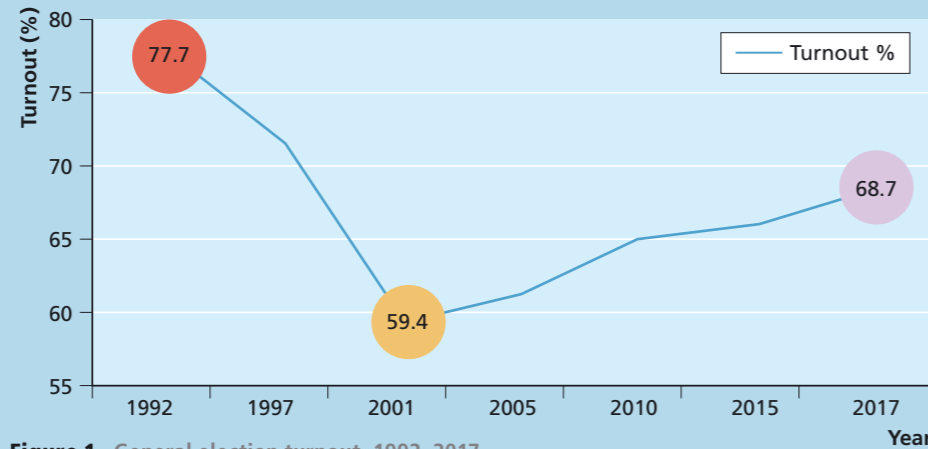


Figure 1 General election turnout, 1992–2017

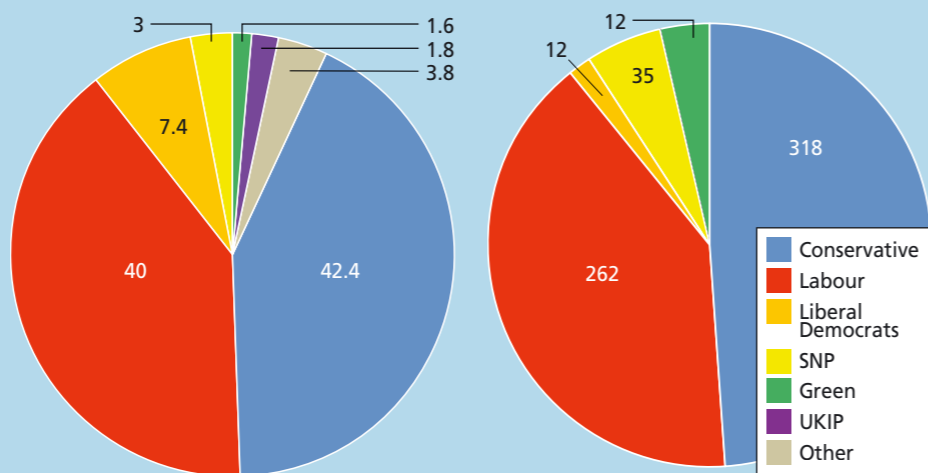


Figure 2 How people voted (%)

Figure 3 How seats were allocated

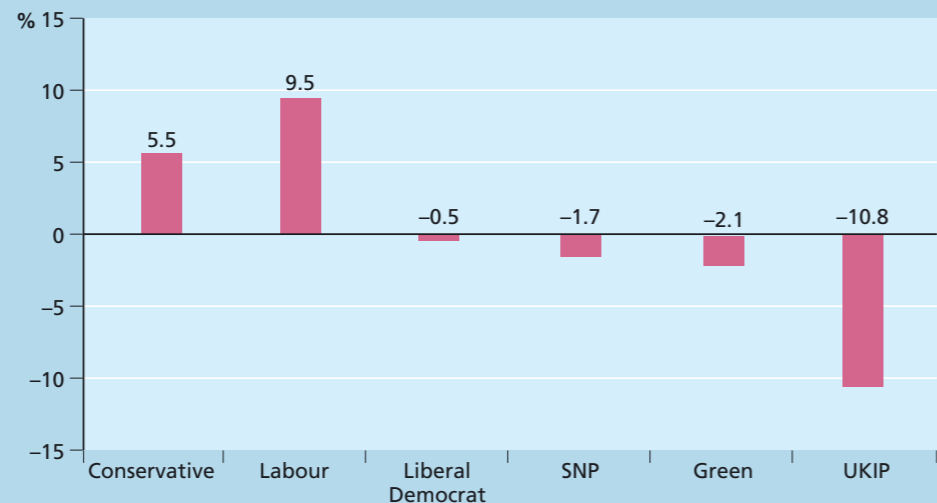


Figure 4 Change in votes since 2015

## Box | Election comparisons

Theresa May won more votes than David Cameron did in 2010 or 2015, by at least 2.3 million. At 13.6 million votes, the Conservatives' June 2017 total was the highest number of votes the party had received since 1992 and was more than Thatcher's 'landslide' in 1983 and more than the votes cast for Blair in 1997. At 12.9 million votes, Labour's 2017 total was the highest number of

votes since 1997, 2 million more than the landslide result of 2001 and 4 million more than in 2005. At 42.4%, the Conservative share of the vote was the same as in 1983 and the second highest since 1979, behind Labour's 43.2% in 1997. At 40% the Labour share of the vote was almost 5% more than that achieved by Blair in 2001 and, apart from 1997 and 2001, the highest share of the vote for Labour since Harold Wilson in 1970.

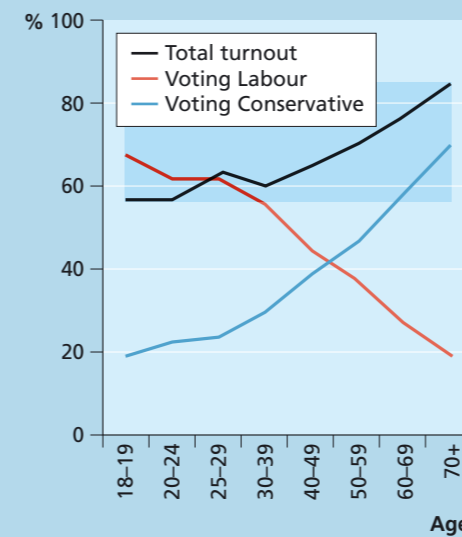


Figure 5 Voting and turnout by age

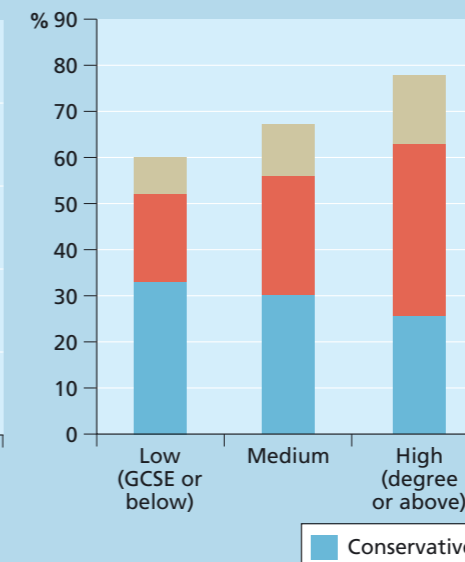


Figure 6 Voting and turnout by education

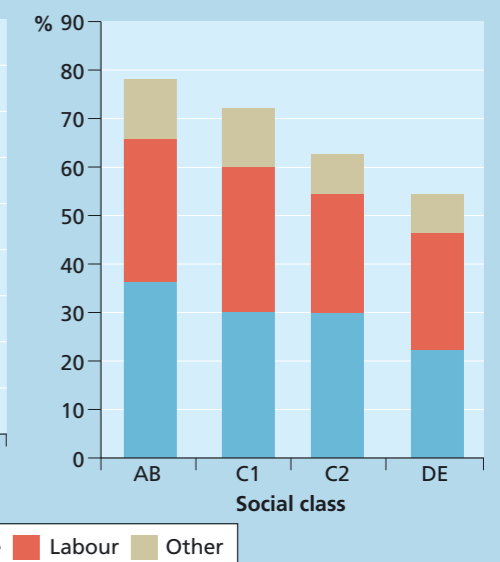


Figure 7 Voting and turnout by social class

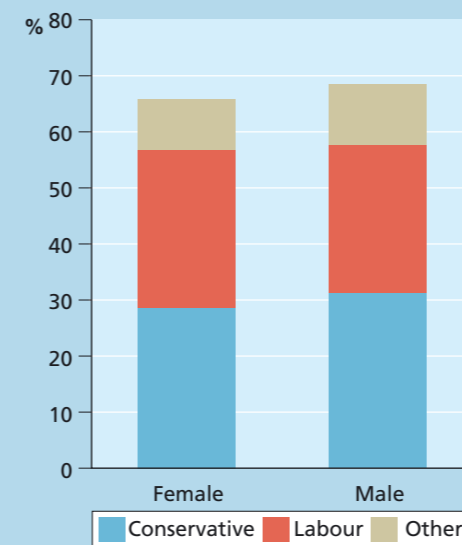


Figure 8 Voting and turnout by gender

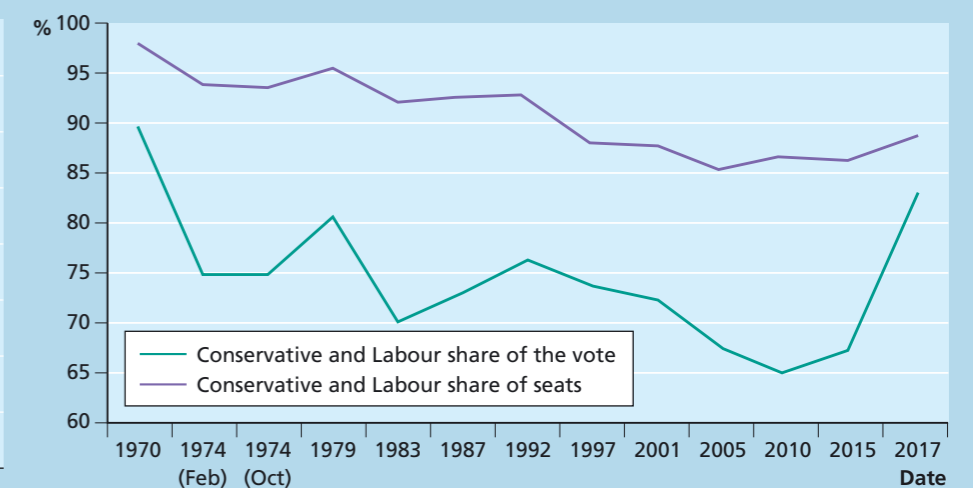


Figure 9 Two-party votes and representation, 1970–2017

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