

U.K. General Election Results 1955-70 and Associated InformationCodebook1.) Origins of the Data Set

This data set is an edited and expanded version of a data set found lying on the tapes of the original data set created for D. Butler and D. Stokes, Political Change in Britain (London, 1969 and 1974). It is evident that this in turn was created from material originally collected for the Nuffield election studies, including the analysis undertaken by Michael Steed in the statistical appendices. The figures for party votes and general election electorates were checked and edited against the figures given in F.W.S. Craig, British Parliamentary Election Results 1950-1970 (Chichester, 1971), and the relevant editions of The Times House of Commons and Dod's Parliamentary Companion. No attempt was made, however, to check the 1970 electorate figures (which are believed to be based on a contemporary Daily Telegraph publication); unlike as in later elections, there was at that time no agreed procedure for estimating the number of voters on the register who had become 18 by polling day (under the provisions of the 1969 Representation of the People Act 18-year olds are eligible to vote from the date of their birthday), and thus all figures for the 1970 electorate vary somewhat. For further information on this problem see F.W.S. Craig, British Electoral Facts 1885-1975 (London, 1976), p. xii.

2.) Variable Names and Placement

The 'SPSS Name' refers to the name given to the variable in the SPSS set-up file which accompanies the main data set.

Card No. 1

<u>Col. No.</u>	<u>SPSS Name</u>	<u>Description</u>
2-4	IDNO	Constituency Identity No.
5	-	Card No. '1'
7-9	PANO	Press Association No. (1970)
11-17	NAME1, NAME2	7 character abbreviated constituency name
20-24	CON55	Conservative vote, 1955
26-30	LAB55	Labour vote, 1955
32-36	LIB55	Liberal vote, 1955
38-42	NAT55	Nationalist (SNP/PC) vote, 1955
44-45	OTH55	Vote for remaining candidates (aggregated), 1955
50-55	ELEC55	Electorate, 1955
58	WP55	Winning Party, 1955
61	SP55	Second Party, 1955

Cards 2-5

<u>Col. No.</u>	<u>SPSS Names</u>				<u>Description</u>
	<u>Card 2</u> (1959)	<u>Card 3</u> (1964)	<u>Card 4</u> (1966)	<u>Card 5</u> (1970)	
2-4	-	-	-	-	Constituency Identification No.
5	-	-	-	-	Card Nos. '2' - '5'
7-11	CON59	CON64	CON66	CON70	Conservative vote
13-17	LAB59	LAB64	LAB66	LAB70	Labour vote
19-23	LIB59	LIB64	LIB66	LIB70	Liberal vote
25-29	NAT59	NAT64	NAT66	NAT70	Nationalist (SNP/PC) vote
31-35	OTH59	OTH64	OTH66	OTH70	Votes for remaining cards. (agg.)
37-42	ELEC59	ELEC64	ELEC66	ELEC70	Electorate
45	WP59	WP64	WP66	WP70	Winning Party
48	SP59	SP64	SP66	SP70	Second Party

Card No. 6

<u>Col. No.</u>	<u>SPSS Name</u>	<u>Description</u>
2-4	-	Constituency Identity No.
5	-	Card No. '6'
7-8	STANDREG	Regional coding as adopted by Nuffield election study in 1970. Based on Registrar-General's standard regions.
10-11	BOOKREG	Regional coding as used in Nuffield election studies, 1955-66.
14	DI	Indicates whether seat underwent more than minor change in post-1970 boundary revision or not.
16-21	SIZE	Area of constituency (hectares) (GB only)
23-28	ELEC53	Electorate, 1953 (E&W only)
30-35	ELEC54	Electorate, 1954 (GB only)
37-42	ELEC69	Electorate, 1969 (GB only)
44-45	COUNTYNO	County coding

3.) Coding Details

Party Votes

Data consists of raw votes for each party. Speaker is classified as Other except in 1964 when, on account of the fact that he faced Labour and Liberal opponents, he is classified as Conservative. There was no Speaker in 1959.

Winning and Second Party Codes

1. Conservative 2. Labour 3. Liberal 4. Nationalist 5. Other

STANDREG

0 Northern Ireland
01 Belfast
02 Rest of N. Ireland

1 South East
11 Inner London
12 Outer London
13 Portsmouth
14 Rest of South East

21-24 South West
21 Devon & Cornwall (less Plymouth)
22 Bristol
23 Rest of South West
24 Plymouth

25 East Anglia
25 East Anglia

3 East Midlands
31 Nottingham
32 Leicester
33 Rest of East Midlands

4 West Midlands
41 Birmingham
42 Rest of W. Midlands conurbation
43 Coventry
44 Stoke-upon-Trent
45 Rest of region

5 Yorkshire
51 Leeds
52 Bradford
53 Rest of Yorkshire conurbation
54 Sheffield
55 Hull
56 Rest of region

6 North West
61 Manchester
62 Rest of S.E. Lancs. conurbation
63 Liverpool
64 Rest of Merseyside conurbation
65 Rest of region

7 North
71 Newcastle
72 Rest of Tyneside conurbation
73 Teeside
74 Rest of region

8 Wales
81 Cardiff
82 Rest of Industrial Wales
83 Rural Wales

9	Scotland
91	Glasgow
92	Rest of Clydeside conurbation
93	Edinburgh
94	Rest of Industrial Centre
95	Highlands
96	Rest of Scotland

For further details of the definition of each region see D. Butler and M. Pinto-Duschinsky, The British General Election of 1970 (London, 1971).

BOOKREG

11-14	County of London	1	London Area
11	South of Thames		
12	East End		
13	Business and Residential		
14	Remainder		
15-17	Suburban Boroughs		
15	Middlesex		
16	Kent and Surrey		
17	Essex		
21-23	South-East England	2	South & East (South)
21	Kent		
22	Surrey		
23	Sussex		
24-25	Wessex		
24	Hampshire Ports		
25	Remainder		
26-27	West of England		
26	Cornwall		
27	Devon		
28	Plymouth		
31-33	Severn	3	South & East (North)
31	Somerset		
32	Glos. & N. Wilts. (excl. Bristol)		
33	Bristol		
34-35	South Central		
34	Oxon., Berks. & Bucks.		
35	Beds. & Herts.		
36	Outer Essex		
36	Outer Essex		
37-38	East Anglia		
37	Norfolk		
38	Suffolk, Ely, Hunts. & Cambs.		
41-46	West Midlands	4,51	Midlands
41	Birmingham		
42	Coventry		
43	Black Country		
44	Potteries		
45	Staffs. & Warwicks.		
46	Salop, Hereford & Worcs.		
40, 47-49	North East Midlands		
47	Nottingham		
48	Leicester		
49	Leics., Notts. & Northants.		
40	Derbyshire		

51	Lincolnshire	
51	Lincolnshire	
52	Cheshire	5 (less 51) North of England (N. West)
52	Cheshire	
53-56	Lancashire	
53	Liverpool	
54	Manchester	
55	South Lancs.	
56	North Lancs.	
61-64	West Riding	6 North of England (N. East)
61	Sheffield	
62	Leeds	
63	Bradford	
64	Remainder	
65-66	North and East Ridings	
65	County Divisions & York	
66	Hull	
67-69	North East England	
67	Newcastle	
68	Boroughs	
69	Durham County Divisions	
60	Border	
60	Border	
71	Rural Wales	7 Wales
71	Rural Wales	
72-74	Industrial Wales	
72	Cardiff	
73	Newport & Swansea	
74	Remainder	
81	Highlands	8 Scotland
81	Highlands	
82	North East	
82	North East	
83-84	Clyde	
83	Glasgow	
84	Lanark, Renfrew, Dunbarton	
85-86	Forth	
85	Edinburgh	
86	Fife, Stirling, W. Lothian	
87	Lowlands	
87	Lowlands	
91-92	Northern Ireland	9 Northern Ireland
91	Belfast	
92	Rest of province	

For further details of the definition of these regions see D. Butler, The British General Election of 1955 (London, 1955), p.170, or any other Nuffield election study up to and including 1966.

DI

- 1. Degree of identity of nearest post-1970 constituency with 1955-70 constituency, 95% or greater.
- 0. Degree of identity of nearest post-1970 constituency with 1955-70 constituency less than 95%.

Based on an analysis of the post-1970 boundary revision undertaken by Michael Steed. For further details see D. Butler and D. Kavanagh, The British General Election of February 1974 (London, 1974), pp.282-307.

SIZE

-99 Missing Value (N. Ireland)

In England and Wales, inland water is included in the calculation; in Scotland it is excluded.

Derived from information contained in the Registrar General's Statistical Review of England and Wales, 1969 and in the 1971 Census County Reports for Scotland. The Scottish figures were calculated from data on the area of local authority districts and wards, and in some constituencies (particularly in Glasgow and Edinburgh) where local authority and parliamentary boundaries did not coincide the figures are only approximate.

ELEC53

-99 Missing Value (Scotland and N. Ireland)

Figures published in the First Periodical Reports of the Boundary Commissions for England and Wales.

ELEC54

-99 Missing Value (N. Ireland)

Figures published in the relevant First Periodical Reports.

ELEC69

-99 Missing Value (N. Ireland)

Figures published in the Registrar General's Review of England and Wales, 1969 and the Annual Report of the Registrar General for Scotland, 1969. This was the last year in which only those aged 21 and over were eligible for inclusion on the register. Thus, in combination with ELEC53 and ELEC54, this variable enables the change in size of the electorate to be calculated on the same basis over the maximum period of time.

COUNTYNO

This variable identifies the (pre-1974) county in which a constituency was situated. It must be used in conjunction with a variable that distinguishes English and Welsh from Scottish constituencies.

		<u>England and Wales</u>			
00	Bedfordshire	23	London (GLC)	44	Anglesey
01	Berkshire	24	Norfolk	45	Brecon & Radnor
02	Buckinghamshire	25	Northamptonshire	46	Caernarvon
03	Cambs. & I. of Ely	26	Northumberland	47	Cardigan
04	Cheshire	27	Nottinghamshire	48	Carmarthen
05	Cornwall	28	Oxfordshire	49	Denbigh
06	Cumberland	29	Shropshire	50	Flintshire
07	Derbyshire	30	Somerset	51	Glamorgan
08	Devon	31	Staffordshire	52	Merioneth
09	Dorset	32	Suffolk	53	Monmouth
10	Durham	33	Surrey	54	Montgomery
11	Essex	34	Sussex, East	55	Pembroke

England and Wales (cont.)

12	Gloucestershire	36	Sussex, West
13	Hampshire	36	Warwickshire
14	Herefordshire	37	Westmorland
15	Hertfordshire	38	Isle of Wight
16	Hunts. & Peterborough	39	Wiltshire
17	Kent	40	Worcestershire
18	Lancashire	41	Yorks. - E. Riding
19	Leicestershire	42	Yorks. - N. Riding
20	Lincs. - Holland	43	Yorks. - W. Riding
21	Lincs. - Kesteven & Rutland		
22	Lincs. - Lindsey		

Scotland

01	City of Aberdeen	17	Fife
02	City of Dundee	18	Invernessshire (incl. W. Isles)
03	City of Edinburgh	20	Kinross & W. Perthshire
04	City of Glasgow	21	Kirkcudbright & Wigtown
05	Aberdeenshire	22	Lanarkshire
06	Angus & Kincardine	23	Midlothian
07	Argyll	24	Moray & Nairn
08	Ayrshire (excl. Bute & N. Ayrsh.)	26	Orkney & Zetland
09	Banff	28	Perthshire (excl. Kinross & W. Perth)
10	Berwick & East Lothian	29	Renfrewshire
11	Bute & N. Ayrshire	30	Ross & Cromarty (excl. W. Isles)
12	Caithness & Sutherland	31	Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles
14	Dumfries	35	Stirling & Clackmannan
15	Dunbartonshire	35	West Lothian
99	<u>Northern Ireland</u>		

4.) Technical Note

Users attempting to replicate the analysis in 'Electoral Choice and the Production of Government' will note that the data set does not include 1965 electorates (see pp.257 & 259). In classifying 1955-70 constituencies according to their electorate density in 1965, first of all the 1964 electorate density was calculated and then the change in electorate between 1964 and 1965 was examined manually to ascertain any constituencies whose urban/rural categorisation had been altered as a consequence.

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