

11 December 2018

# Informal Ballot Paper Study, 2016 House of Representatives elections

**Divisional summaries: South Australia**

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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.

# Adelaide

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Inner Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	109,217	..	..
Turnout	98,662	90.34	-2.13
Informal votes	3,118	3.16	-0.80

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	70,875	2,445	73,320	3.33
Absent	6,589	280	6,869	4.08
Postal	8,390	125	8,515	1.47
Pre-poll ordinary	5,649	179	5,828	3.07
Pre-poll declaration	3,387	57	3,444	1.66
Provisional	654	32	686	4.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,544</b>	<b>3,118</b>	<b>98,662</b>	<b>3.16</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	770	770	24.7
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	293	..	293	9.4
Incomplete numbering – other	159	..	159	5.1
Ticks and crosses	232	56	288	9.2
Other symbols	32	11	43	1.4
Non-sequential numbering	527	172	699	22.4
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	615	615	19.7
Illegible numbering	47	20	67	2.1
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.1
Other	42	140	182	5.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>3,118</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	Kilkenny North (Adelaide)	29	322	9.01
Lowest % informal	College Park	9	834	1.08

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 72,526 votes cast at 42 static polling places and 794 votes cast through 12 mobile polling teams (744 votes cast through ten Special Hospital teams and 50 votes cast through two Other Mobile teams).

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

# Barker

Number of candidates: 5

Demographic rating: Rural

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	105,600	..	..
Turnout	98,673	93.44	-1.18
Informal votes	4,228	4.28	-1.10

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	65,717	3,224	68,941	4.68
Absent	2,897	122	3,019	4.04
Postal	6,568	94	6,662	1.41
Pre-poll ordinary	16,231	698	16,929	4.12
Pre-poll declaration	2,799	78	2,877	2.71
Provisional	233	12	245	4.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,445</b>	<b>4,228</b>	<b>98,673</b>	<b>4.28</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,334	1,334	31.6
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	442	..	442	10.5
Incomplete numbering – other	93	..	93	2.2
Ticks and crosses	364	41	405	9.6
Other symbols	57	8	65	1.5
Non-sequential numbering	494	149	643	15.2
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	1,076	1,076	25.4
Illegible numbering	29	35	64	1.5
Voter identified	5	..	5	0.1
Other	39	62	101	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,523</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>4,228</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	Southend	19	161	11.80
Lowest % informal	Western Flat	1	118	0.85

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 67,990 votes cast at 94 static polling places and 951 votes cast through seven mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

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

# Boothby

Number of candidates: 8

Demographic rating: Outer Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	107,325	..	..
Turnout	99,662	92.86	-1.06
Informal votes	4,374	4.39	+0.91

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	70,682	3,396	74,078	4.58
Absent	5,442	370	5,812	6.37
Postal	7,687	156	7,843	1.99
Pre-poll ordinary	8,806	345	9,151	3.77
Pre-poll declaration	2,214	78	2,292	3.40
Provisional	457	29	486	5.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,288</b>	<b>4,374</b>	<b>99,662</b>	<b>4.39</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference no.	No clear first preference no.	Total no.	%
Totally blank	..	912	912	20.9
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	292	..	292	6.7
Incomplete numbering – other	1,213	..	1,213	27.7
Ticks and crosses	183	56	239	5.5
Other symbols	54	10	64	1.5
Non-sequential numbering	565	127	692	15.8
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	715	715	16.3
Illegible numbering	56	33	89	2.0
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.0
Other	22	134	156	3.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>1,987</b>	<b>4,374</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	13	123	10.57
Lowest % informal Special Hospital Team 4	2	142	1.41

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 73,067 votes cast at 38 static polling places and 1,011 votes cast through seven mobile polling teams (948 votes cast through six Special Hospital teams and 63 votes cast through an Other Mobile team).

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

# Grey

Number of candidates: 6

Demographic rating: Rural

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	102,059	..	..
Turnout	93,495	91.61	-1.40
Informal votes	3,619	3.87	-1.53

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	65,677	2,899	68,576	4.23
Absent	3,295	129	3,424	3.77
Postal	6,368	76	6,444	1.18
Pre-poll ordinary	11,565	414	11,979	3.46
Pre-poll declaration	2,693	84	2,777	3.02
Provisional	278	17	295	5.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,876</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>93,495</b>	<b>3.87</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference no.	No clear first preference no.	Total no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,169	1,169	32.3
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	428	..	428	11.8
Incomplete numbering – other	93	..	93	2.6
Ticks and crosses	256	35	291	8.0
Other symbols	64	2	66	1.8
Non-sequential numbering	364	145	509	14.1
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	874	874	24.2
Illegible numbering	36	25	61	1.7
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.1
Other	38	88	126	3.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>2,338</b>	<b>3,619</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 Wallaroo	168	2,195	7.65
Lowest % informal Special Hospital Team 3	0	167	0.00

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 66,148 votes cast at 98 static polling places and 2,428 votes cast through 12 mobile polling teams (1,023 votes cast through five Remote Mobile teams and 1,405 votes cast through seven Special Hospital teams).

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

# Hindmarsh

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Inner Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	111,715	..	..
Turnout	102,264	91.54	-1.51
Informal votes	4,232	4.14	-0.74

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	71,620	3,366	74,986	4.49
Absent	6,455	338	6,793	4.98
Postal	8,849	156	9,005	1.73
Pre-poll ordinary	8,539	281	8,820	3.19
Pre-poll declaration	2,115	69	2,184	3.16
Provisional	454	22	476	4.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,032</b>	<b>4,232</b>	<b>102,264</b>	<b>4.14</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,069	1,069	25.3
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	428	..	428	10.1
Incomplete numbering – other	154	..	154	3.6
Ticks and crosses	303	64	367	8.7
Other symbols	52	9	61	1.4
Non-sequential numbering	893	154	1,047	24.7
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	829	829	19.6
Illegible numbering	91	51	142	3.4
Voter identified	0	..	0	0.0
Other	44	91	135	3.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,965</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>4,232</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	23	172	13.37
Lowest % informal	Grovene	23	945	2.43

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 74,429 votes cast at 41 static polling places and 557 votes cast through three mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

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

# Kingston

Number of candidates: 5

Demographic rating: Outer Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	105,682	..	..
Turnout	97,008	91.79	-2.01
Informal votes	3,617	3.73	-1.34

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	70,504	2,929	73,433	3.99
Absent	4,564	174	4,738	3.67
Postal	6,769	124	6,893	1.80
Pre-poll ordinary	9,212	312	9,524	3.28
Pre-poll declaration	1,938	43	1,981	2.17
Provisional	404	35	439	7.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,391</b>	<b>3,617</b>	<b>97,008</b>	<b>3.73</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference no.	No clear first preference no.	Total no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,144	1,144	31.6
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	386	..	386	10.7
Incomplete numbering – other	84	..	84	2.3
Ticks and crosses	292	25	317	8.8
Other symbols	65	8	73	2.0
Non-sequential numbering	284	104	388	10.7
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	1,104	1,104	30.5
Illegible numbering	16	36	52	1.4
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.1
Other	11	56	67	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>2,477</b>	<b>3,617</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 3	12	199	6.03
Lowest % informal Special Hospital Team 1	6	250	2.40

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 72,841 votes cast at 35 static polling places and 592 votes cast through four mobile polling teams (578 votes cast through three Special Hospital teams and 14 votes cast through an Other Mobile team).

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

# Makin

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Outer Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	107,086	..	..
Turnout	98,436	91.92	-2.06
Informal votes	4,366	4.44	-0.44

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	72,325	3,559	75,884	4.69
Absent	5,530	303	5,833	5.19
Postal	6,214	116	6,330	1.83
Pre-poll ordinary	7,625	298	7,923	3.76
Pre-poll declaration	1,936	67	2,003	3.34
Provisional	440	23	463	4.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,070</b>	<b>4,366</b>	<b>98,436</b>	<b>4.44</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,351	1,351	30.9
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	453	..	453	10.4
Incomplete numbering – other	190	..	190	4.4
Ticks and crosses	254	39	293	6.7
Other symbols	68	7	75	1.7
Non-sequential numbering	669	151	820	18.8
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	910	910	20.8
Illegible numbering	65	40	105	2.4
Voter identified	1	..	1	0.0
Other	64	104	168	3.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>2,602</b>	<b>4,366</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	37	283	13.07
Lowest % informal	Wynn Vale West	41	1,376	2.98

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 75,397 votes cast at 35 static polling places and 487 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.

# Mayo

Number of candidates: 6

Demographic rating: Rural

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	103,981	..	..
Turnout	97,944	94.19	-0.41
Informal votes	2,828	2.89	-0.98

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	66,525	2,063	68,588	3.01
Absent	4,206	158	4,364	3.62
Postal	7,570	120	7,690	1.56
Pre-poll ordinary	13,461	389	13,850	2.81
Pre-poll declaration	3,008	77	3,085	2.50
Provisional	346	21	367	5.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,116</b>	<b>2,828</b>	<b>97,944</b>	<b>2.89</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	958	958	33.9
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	312	..	312	11.0
Incomplete numbering – other	83	..	83	2.9
Ticks and crosses	155	19	174	6.2
Other symbols	39	7	46	1.6
Non-sequential numbering	212	103	315	11.1
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	786	786	27.8
Illegible numbering	28	29	57	2.0
Voter identified	0	..	0	0.0
Other	16	81	97	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>1,983</b>	<b>2,828</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	14	200	7.00
Lowest % informal	Forreston	3	227	1.32

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 68,063 votes cast at 67 static polling places and 525 votes cast through three mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

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

# Port Adelaide

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Inner Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	113,346	..	..
Turnout	101,936	89.93	-2.24
Informal votes	5,927	5.81	-0.39

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	73,746	4,989	78,735	6.34
Absent	6,286	385	6,671	5.77
Postal	7,089	144	7,233	1.99
Pre-poll ordinary	6,504	286	6,790	4.21
Pre-poll declaration	1,640	64	1,704	3.76
Provisional	744	59	803	7.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,009</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>101,936</b>	<b>5.81</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference no.	No clear first preference no.	Total no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,622	1,622	27.4
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	562	..	562	9.5
Incomplete numbering – other	237	..	237	4.0
Ticks and crosses	490	103	593	10.0
Other symbols	90	10	100	1.7
Non-sequential numbering	1,050	271	1,321	22.3
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	1,137	1,137	19.2
Illegible numbering	109	73	182	3.1
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.0
Other	34	137	171	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>3,353</b>	<b>5,927</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 Ottoway	135	1,520	8.88
Lowest % informal Special Hospital Team 1	7	191	3.66

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 78,235 votes cast at 41 static polling places and 500 votes cast through three mobile polling teams (417 votes cast through two Special Hospital teams and 83 votes cast through an Other Mobile team).

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

# Sturt

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Inner Metropolitan

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	104,742	..	..
Turnout	96,688	92.31	-1.14
Informal votes	3,656	3.78	-0.74

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	64,477	2,701	67,178	4.02
Absent	5,366	212	5,578	3.80
Postal	8,654	125	8,779	1.42
Pre-poll ordinary	12,337	543	12,880	4.22
Pre-poll declaration	1,825	43	1,868	2.30
Provisional	373	32	405	7.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,032</b>	<b>3,656</b>	<b>96,688</b>	<b>3.78</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	948	948	25.9
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	382	..	382	10.4
Incomplete numbering – other	168	..	168	4.6
Ticks and crosses	308	80	388	10.6
Other symbols	50	6	56	1.5
Non-sequential numbering	646	177	823	22.5
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	706	706	19.3
Illegible numbering	49	42	91	2.5
Voter identified	1	..	1	0.0
Other	21	72	93	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,625</b>	<b>2,031</b>	<b>3,656</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 3	41	322	12.73
Lowest % informal	Glen Osmond	15	907	1.65

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 66,452 votes cast at 38 static polling places and 726 votes cast through three mobile polling (Special Hospital) teams.

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

# Wakefield

Number of candidates: 7

Demographic rating: Rural

Key statistics	No.	%	Swing
Enrolled	112,251	..	..
Turnout	101,403	90.34	-2.77
Informal votes	5,470	5.39	-0.30

Type of vote cast	Formal votes no.	Informal votes no.	Total votes no.	Informality rate %
Ordinary <sup>1</sup>	76,318	4,652	80,970	5.75
Absent	5,118	293	5,411	5.41
Postal	6,819	148	6,967	2.12
Pre-poll ordinary	4,969	249	5,218	4.77
Pre-poll declaration	2,090	85	2,175	3.91
Provisional	619	43	662	6.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,933</b>	<b>5,470</b>	<b>101,403</b>	<b>5.39</b>

Informal votes by category	Clear first preference	No clear first preference	Total	
	no.	no.	no.	%
Totally blank	..	1,661	1,661	30.4
Incomplete numbering – number '1' only	527	..	527	9.6
Incomplete numbering – other	252	..	252	4.6
Ticks and crosses	355	72	427	7.8
Other symbols	98	9	107	2.0
Non-sequential numbering	730	193	923	16.9
Scribbles, slogans and other protest vote marks	..	1,282	1,282	23.4
Illegible numbering	74	46	120	2.2
Voter identified	2	..	2	0.0
Other	58	111	169	3.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>3,374</b>	<b>5,470</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	Elizabeth South	138	1,533	9.00
Lowest % informal	Tarlee	11	324	3.40

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pre-poll ordinary votes. Comprises 80,053 votes cast at 55 static polling places and 917 votes cast through four mobile polling team (822 votes cast through three Special Hospital teams and 95 votes cast through an Other Mobile team).

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