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our full report First published: 15 August 2019 Last updated: 15 August 2019 About
the report This report focuses on the administration of the London Mayoral and London
Assembly elections held on 3 May 2012. It reflects the experience of voters, based on
public opinion research and electoral data provided by Returning Officers. It also
reflects feedback and views about the administration of the election from candidates
and agents, those responsible for delivering the poll and other participants. Facts
and figures On 3 May 2012, elections were held for the Mayor of London and 25 London
Assembly members. The poll was combined with local by-elections to elect councillors
in wards in 10 London boroughs. The electorate at these elections was 5.8 million and
the turnout, including votes rejected at the count, was 38.8% ¹. This was a decrease
of 6.5 percentage points from the 2008 elections, when turnout was 45.3%. 2.21
million valid votes were cast at the elections. 1.8% of ballot papers were rejected
at the count, which was 0.1 percentage points higher than in 2008. 14.1% of the
electorate was issued with postal ballot papers for these elections. This is 2.4
percentage points higher than in 2008. Turnout amongst postal voters was 68.8%. 4.6%
of returned postal ballot papers were rejected and not included in the count, which
was a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from those rejected in 2008. People's
experience of voting A key priority for us is that voters are able to vote easily and
know that their vote will be counted in the way they intended. Voters continue to
have high levels of satisfaction with the voting process. Both polling station and
postal voters remain positive about their experience. Voters also understood how to
complete their ballot papers for the London elections. Nearly all (95%) said that
they found it easy to fill in the ballot, with three quarters (76%) finding it very
easy and just 3% reporting difficulties. Full details of our research findings are
contained in this report. We want to ensure that people are aware of the need to
register to vote in order to take part in the elections. We undertook an advertising
campaign for the Greater London Assembly (GLA) elections to promote voter
registration. The activity focussed on raising public awareness of the need to
register in order to vote, how to register to vote and the deadline for doing so.
Awareness of the elections was high in London, with nearly three-quarters (73%) of
respondents in London saying they knew 'a great deal' or 'a fair amount' about the
elections. Over-three quarters (76%) of people surveyed agreed that they had enough
information to make an informed decision on how to vote in the London elections.
Those who voted in London were more likely to say they had enough information about
the elections to make an informed decision, than those who did not vote (86% compared
with 63% respectively). Download our full report 2012 GLA election report 1. Turnout
and rejected ballot paper figures are for mayoral first preference votes. ■ Back to
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