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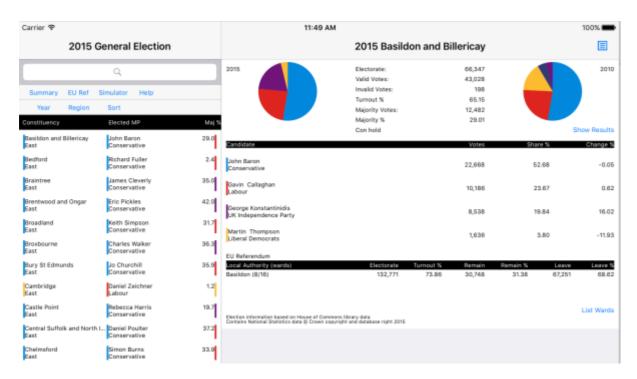
Introduction

The UK General Elections app stores and displays election results from the 2010, 2015 and 2017 General elections and subsequent by-elections and the results of the EU referendum. It allows this data to be filtered and searched and to be sorted in multiple ways (see below). A Simulator is also provided to create what-if scenarios based on the actual election results allowing entry of simulation parameters at National level with overrides by region.

Main Results list

Details displayed

The main results list of the most recent General Election is displayed when the application is opened.



The list is initially sorted by Region and Constituency. A search box at top of list allows the list to be filtered by the partial entry of a Region, Constituency, MP or Party name. It is also possibly to find an unsuccessful candidate in an election by entering that candidate's full name.

The details shown for each Constituency are:



On the left, a colour code for the party holding the seat before the election (Lib Dem in example) and the constituency name and region.

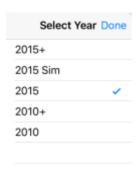
In the middle, a colour code for the party that won the seat in this election (Labour in example) and the MP's name and his/her party name.

On the right, the majority percentage over the runner-up candidate and a colour code for the runner up party (Conservative in example).

Filter Options

Year

Displays a pop-up list allowing selection of an election year. If a simulation has been run, it will appear on the list as 2010 Sim or 2015 Sim. By elections appear as the main general election year followed by a +.



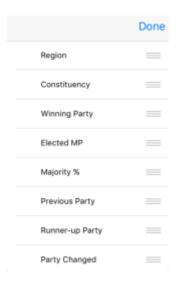
Region

Displays a pop-up list of regions. Selecting a region filters the list to constituencies in the region. Selecting UK Wide returns to the full list. If using the Simulator, the input option changes to entering regional override data for the selected region or changes back to the main national grid.



Sort Options

Displays a pop-up list of data items to set the results list sort order. Items can be moved up or down the list to change the order.



This function can be used to get answers to questions like:

"What were the most marginal constituencies?" – Move Majority % to top of list.

"What were the most marginal constituencies for each Region?" – Move Region to top of list and Majority % to second (Or just filter by Region first)

"What are the most marginal constituencies won by party x?" – Move Winning Party to top of list with Majority % second

"What are the most marginal constituencies won by party x where party y is the runner-up?" – Move Winning Party to top of list, move Runner-up party to second place and Majority % to third place.

"What are the most marginal constituencies won by party x where party z held the seat before the election?" – Move Winning Party to top of list, move Previous party to second place and Majority % to third place.

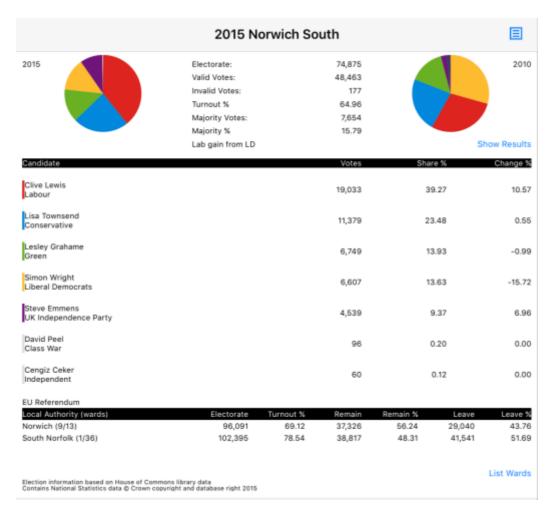
"What are the most marginal constituencies that changed party at the last election" – Move Party Changed to top of list followed by Majority %.

etc.

Note: The same options can be used on a set of Simulation results where the comparisons are with the actual results of the based-on election.

Detail Constituency Results

Selecting any result on the results list displays the detail results for the constituency.



At the top of the screen are pie-charts allowing comparison of the current and previous election. Selecting Show Result under the previous election replaces the breakdown and details of the current election with the previous election details.

The election results and candidate details shown are self-explanatory.

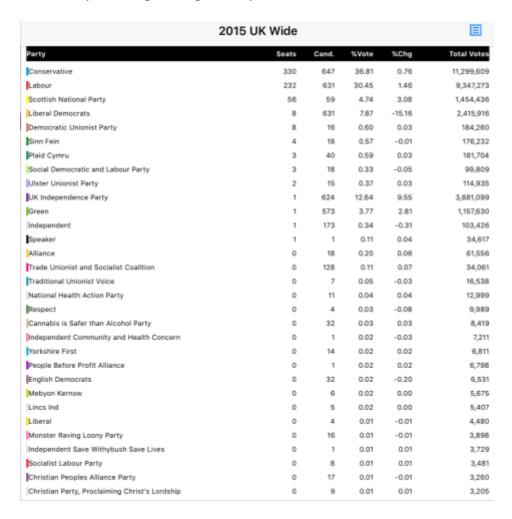
At the bottom of the screen are the results of the EU Referendum for Local Authorities that contain this constituency. EU Referendum results were not released at constituency level so this information is only to give an indication of the opinions in this area. Beside each Local Authority in brackets are the number of wards from that authority in the constituency out of the total number of wards in the authority. (In the example above, we can see that the constituency is mainly in Norwich).

List wards gives the names of the wards from each local authority making up this constituency.

Party Results Summary

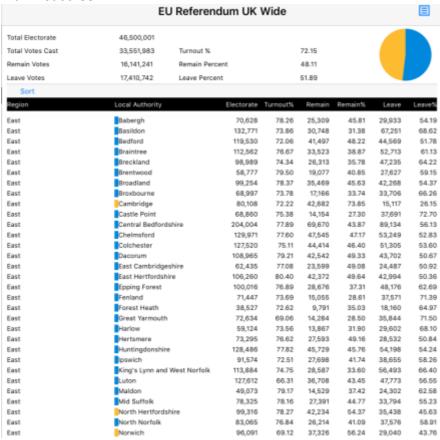
Selecting Summary on the main results list screen displays the Party Summary Results screen. List is ordered by number of seats gained and then by votes received in descending order. The list can be filtered by region on the main list screen.

List shows the party, seats won, number of candidates entered, percentage of vote obtained, percentage change from previous election and the total votes received.

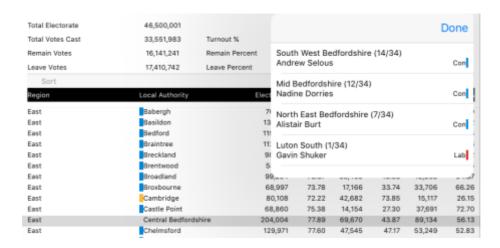


EU Referendum Results

Selecting EU Ref on the main results screen displays the EU Referendum Results screen. List is initially ordered by region and local authority. The list can be filtered by region on the main list screen.

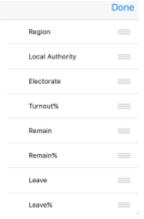


Clicking on a row displays a list of the constituencies in that local authority region.



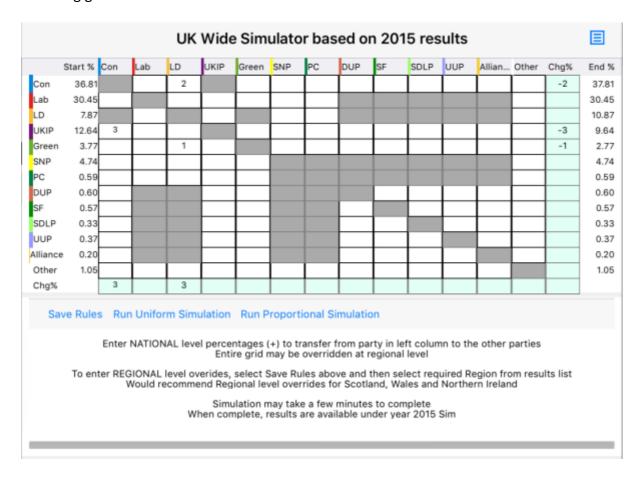
Sort

Selecting Sort displays a pop-up list of data items to sort by:



Simulator National Grid

Selecting Simulator on the main results list when the list is not filtered by region displays the following grid:



In the left column are the party codes and the National percentage of the vote obtained in the based-on election. The rightmost column initially contains the same percentages. Across the top row, the parties are listed in the same order as the left column.

The objective is to enter percentages of the national vote to transfer from a party in the left column to one or more of the parties in the other columns. The percentages are net percentages to transfer between the parties, so if a percentage is entered in the first row / second column slot (Con->Lab) then the second row / first column slot will be greyed out to prevent an opposite transfer. Clearing the first entry re-enables the second slot

The other greyed-out areas on the grid are to prevent entry of a transfer from a party to itself or to a party that does not contest elections in the same constituencies as the left column party.

The green column on the right shows the percentages transferred from the parties on each row. The green row on the bottom shows the percentages transferred to each party in the columns. The end percentages column shows the net effect of transfers to and from each party.

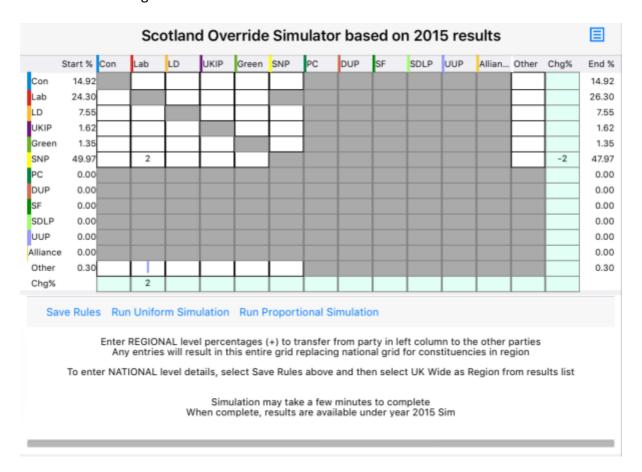
Note: As the percentage entered is a percentage of the National Vote, transfers from and to parties that do not contest all regions will be scaled up when applied i.e. the SNP only contest 59 out of the 650 constituencies, so an entry of 0.18 would scale up to approximately 2% at constituency level.

For this reason, it is easier to enter override regional grids for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as the percentages entered at that level are generally the percentages used without need for adjustment as the parties contest all seats.

Select Save rules before moving from screen of filtering by region.

Regional Grid

Select a region on the main results list and select Simulator if not already displayed. Here the results displayed are for the region and the percentages entered are the percentages of the regional vote to transfer. Otherwise, works in the same way as the national grid. Save rules before leaving screen.



Alliances

To simulate an alliance between two parties, enter a percentage to transfer from the smaller party to the larger party which is greater than the percentage that the smaller party obtained in any constituency (e.g. 99%). This will result in a transfer of all of the votes for the smaller party to the larger party.

Run Uniform Simulation

Option can be selected from either the National or a regional grid. When the calculation completes (after a few minutes) the results can be examined on the main results list and the party summary list by selecting 2010 Sim or 2015 Sim as appropriate from the pop-up year selection.

Calculation works as follows:

- Data for any previous simulation for this election is removed
- The election data is duplicated for the simulation
- The constituencies are processed in region order. If there are any entries in the regional grid, the entire grid is used as the rules to apply. Otherwise, the entire national grid rules are used for that region.
- For each party in the constituency the transfers to other parties are calculated, scaling up for national level rules applying to parties not contesting all 650 seats if required. If a transfer from party did not gain a percentage vote in the election that is greater or equal to the percentage to transfer, the transfer percentage is scaled down to the actual percentage received.
- The transfer percentage is applied uniformly across all constituencies irrespective of the vote percentage obtained by the transfer party in that constituency e.g. 2% of the valid votes in the constituency are subtracted from the transfer from party candidate and added to the transfer to party.
- At constituency level the winning and runner up candidates are identified and the majority votes and percentages are calculated.

Run Proportional Simulation

Works in the same way as the uniform simulation except when calculating the transfer percent.

The process adjusts the transfer percentage by the proportion of the actual percentage obtained by the party in the constituency over the national or regional percentage of the vote. This means that the transfer percentage used is lower in constituencies where the party underperformed as against the national or regional average and higher where the constituency outperformed the national or regional average i.e. the same proportion of the vote percentage obtained is transferred in each constituency.

Data Sources

Data was originally retrieved from the following sources and enhanced

2015 Election results

http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7186

House of Commons library

2010 Election results

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/our-work/our-research/electoraldata

Electoral Commission, UK Parliament general election, published 6 May 2010.

EU Referendum

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/our-work/our-research/electoraldata

Electoral Commission, Referendum on the UK's membership of the EU, published 23 June 2016

Relationship between constituencies and local authorities

http://ons.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=111c3f49aa224989902b750fff785d1a

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