

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS- TOPLINE SUMMARY

- This data is based on 700 adults aged 18+ across Scotland and 262 young people aged 16 or 17.
- Interviewing took place between 6 and 28 May 2016 by telephone.
- Data are weighted to match the profile of Scotland. Iterative weighting was applied to match the sample breakdown within Scottish sub-regions by gender, age (2014 estimates) and ethnicity (census breakdown). A multiplier was then applied to each sub-region to reflect their overall contribution to the 16+ population in Scotland. The Scottish sample also contains a boost of 258 who have been incorporated into the main sample, but clearly downweighted. The four Scottish sub-regions are former NUTS3 areas, corresponding to South West, East, North East & Highlands & Islands; these were applied to reflect sub-regional difference in terms of population density, particularly in relation to the latter sub-region.
- Where results do not sum to 100, this is due to multiple responses, computer rounding or the exclusion of don't knows/not stated.
- Results are based on all respondents unless otherwise stated. Base sizes are in brackets.
- An asterisk (*) represents a value of less than one half of one percent, but not zero.
- Study undertaken by BMG Research on behalf of the Electoral Commission.

Hello, my name is [INTERVIEWER NAME] I'm calling on behalf of the Electoral Commission from BMG Research.

I'm calling to carry out an important survey on electoral registration and voting. All of your responses will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Can I ask you some questions please?

QC1 Could I just quickly confirm that your name is [RESPONDENT NAME HERE]?

IF: No	Specify
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QS1 What was your age on May 5th 2016?

IF: Refuse	CLOSE
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QS2 From which country or countries do you have or are you eligible to hold a passport?
INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF RESPONDENT DOESN'T UNDERSTAND QUESTION, ASK ARE YOU A UK NATIONAL OR ARE YOU A CITIZEN ELSEWHERE?]

IF: Other /Don't know/Refuse	CLOSE
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QS3 Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

IF: Refuse	CLOSE
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REGISTRATION, TURNOUT AND VOTING

⇒ ASK ALL

Q1 As far as you know, is your name on the electoral register, that is, the official list of people who can vote, either where you are living now or somewhere else?

	2016	2011
	%	%
Yes - where living now	98	91
Yes - somewhere else / another address	2	3
No	*	4
Don't know	*	1

QC1 Could I also confirm that the postcode of the place that you are registered to vote at is [RESPONDENT POSTCODE HERE]?

IF: incorrect	Lookup postcode
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⇒ **ASK NOT REGISTERED ONLY**

Q2 People have many reasons for not registering to vote. Why have you not registered to vote? DO NOT READ OUT.

	2016 % (14)
Just moved/Just about to move	0
Don't see the point in registering/voting/don't want to vote	0
Haven't got round to it	6
More convenient/prefer to be registered at second home	0
Not eligible for reason(s) other than age	0
I actively dislike politicians/politics and refuse to vote	3
I didn't receive any forms	0
Not eligible for reason(s) other than nationality	0
Admin/clerical error	0
Not bothered - uninterested in politics	3
Don't know how to register to vote	0
Lack of information on parties/politics	3
I ran out time/too busy	15
Health reasons/illness	0
Politics makes no difference so no point	0
I didn't know I had to/thought I could do it on the day	3
Too difficult/complicated	0
Removed from the register due to new system (e.g. received a letter telling me I needed to re-register)	0
Not eligible because of age	0
Because you cannot register to vote online	0
Other	
No answer/Refused	61
Don't know	0

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q3 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the procedure for getting your name on the list of those people who are registered to vote? Are you.....READ OUT

	2016 %	2011 %
Very satisfied	63	52
Fairly satisfied	28	33
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	5	8
Fairly dissatisfied	1	2
Very dissatisfied	1	1
Don't know	1	4

ASK IF VERY/FAIRLY DISSATISFIED

Q4 Why are you dissatisfied with the system of registering to vote in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?

	2016 % (16)
IER Issues	
I preferred the old system/household form/don't like registering myself	0
I didn't like having to provide additional personal/extra information to confirm my registration	0
I didn't understand why I wasn't registered after I had filled in one form already (the Household Registration Form - HEF)	0
[NOT NORTHERN IRELAND] I didn't like receiving so many forms	8
Difficult/confusing	
It is not easy/they could make it easier	1
It is too confusing/I don't understand the system/ I was confused by the changes in how I have to register	17
EONI/Council should automatically update the register when I move or use other services	0
I'm not sure how to check if I am already registered	0
They do not promote/advertise where/when to register	0
I don't know how to register to vote	0
It is inconvenient	
You should be able to register to vote online	0
It is cumbersome/takes too long	0
You should be able to register to vote over the telephone	0
Mistakes/problems	
The post is unreliable	0
The EONI/Council makes mistakes with my personal details	4
I thought I was registered to vote but was not able to vote on the day	17
Not secure	
The system of registering to vote is open to fraud and abuse	0
Other	
There is no point voting / voting makes no difference	0
I do not know where I can get information about the process of registering to vote	0
Everyone should be automatically registered to vote from birth	0

There should be more limitations on who can vote	0
It should be compulsory to register to vote/everyone should have to register	0
It is harder for students to vote	0
People can be taken off the electoral roll without their knowledge	15
Young people should be able to vote	0
Other	46
Don't know	10

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q5 As you may know, on Thursday May 5th there was/were ...[INSERT APPROPRIATE ELECTION] Many people have told us they didn't manage to vote on 5 May. We often find that a lot of people were not able to vote because they were sick, did not have the time, or were just not interested. How about you – did you manage to vote in the.....**READ OUT AS APPROPRIATE**

		2016	2011
		%	%
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS	Yes	85	57
	No	15	43

⇒ **ALL VOTERS**

Q14 People have different reasons for voting in elections and referendums.

Why did you vote on Thursday 5 May?

DO NOT PROMPT

	2016 % (406)	2011 % (200)
Civic responsibility reasons		
It is important to vote/It is my civic duty/everyone should vote/It is my right to vote	49	50
People fought to win the right to vote for me/others	5	6
I always vote	21	21
I wanted to be part of the democratic process/democracy	3	n/a
To show my support/support the community	3	n/a
[WALES SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND] National identity/ they are our elections	1%	n/a
To express a view		
I wanted to have a say	23	27
If people don't vote then you have no right to complain/have an opinion	10	9
Concerned about local issues	*	2
To support my party/candidates of preference/to help my party/candidate win	9	n/a
Because an important issue was at stake	*	3
To help create a change		
To get a change	3	7
Not happy with the Scottish/Welsh/Northern Irish government/local council/Police and Crime Commissioner	*	3
To help keep the status quo		
I like/am pleased with the current government/local council	*	1
Tactical reasons		
To defeat/stop the other side from winning	2	2
Other reasons		
I was urged/persuaded to vote by a family member/friend	*	1
Because I was sent a ballot paper in the post	0	1
To vote for position supported by my party	2	n/a
I take an interest in politics	1	1
Other	20	2
None of these / no reason	1	*
Don't know	*	1

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS**

Q15 Some people have told us they intentionally spoiled their ballot paper/s on May 5th by deliberately leaving the ballot paper/s blank or by not voting in the instructed way. They did this to register a protest. Did you intentionally spoil your own ballot paper or not?

	2016 %
Scotland	(406)
No	99
Yes - both ballot papers	*
Yes - one of my ballot papers	*
Don't know	0

⇒ **ASK ALL IF HH SIZE = 2+**

Q6 Do you know if anyone else living in your household voted at the elections on Thursday 5th of May?

	2016 % (867)
Yes - at least one person other than me voted	82
No - no one else voted in my household	14
Don't know	4

⇒ **ASK ALL 16 AND 17 YEAR OLDS IN SCOTLAND**

Q7 Do you know if any of your friends voted at the elections on Thursday 5th of May?

	2016 % (262)
Yes - Most of my friends voted	53
Yes - Some of my friends voted	30
No - None of my friends voted	6
Don't know	12

⇒ **ASK ALL 16 AND 17 YEAR OLDS IN SCOTLAND**

Q8 Did any of your parents/guardians vote at the elections on Thursday 5th of May?

	2016 % (262)
Yes	93
No	4
Don't know	3

⇒ **ASK NON VOTERS**

Q10 People had different reasons for not voting in the elections. Why did you not vote in the elections on the 5th May? DO NOT PROMPT

	2016 % (143)	2011 % (145)
Circumstances		
Lack of time/too busy/I was busy at work	31	26
I really intended to vote but circumstances on the day prevented me	6	7
I forgot	10	5
I was away on 5 May/voting day	10	12
I couldn't get to the polling station/it was inconvenient	2	5
Medical/health reasons	6	7
Bad weather	0	1
Disorganised/lost track of time/lost polling card	*%	n/a
Bereavement	6	n/a
Administration		
I wasn't registered	2	5
Not eligible to vote (age or nationality)	0	1
I didn't receive a polling card	1	2
I didn't receive a postal vote/it arrived too late	6	1
I didn't know where my polling station was	*%	1
Admin reason	*%	1
I did not know I could vote	*%	n/a
I got to polling station but told I could not vote	0	n/a
Elections not important		
There was no point in voting because the Scottish Parliament can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	5	n/a
There was no point in voting because the local council can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	2	n/a
The elections (unspecified) aren't important	0	1
The local council elections aren't important	4	*
The National Assembly/Parliament elections aren't important	0	n/a
Disinterested/no point		
I'm just not interested in politics	6	7
There was no point in voting because it was obvious who would win/my vote wouldn't have made a difference to the outcome	2	2
I couldn't be bothered	1	8
Waste of time/Could see no point	2	n/a
Had no interest/view on the subject	2	n/a
Parties/Candidates		
There was no point in voting because all parties are the same	3	2

I didn't like the candidates/parties/they didn't represent my views	10	2
You just can't trust politicians to keep their promises	1	4
I don't like the way the parties interact with each other/lack of co-operation/progress	0	n/a
Do not believe in politics/the voting system/democracy	1	n/a
Politicians do not care/only in politics for their own benefit	1	n/a
No party will likely win	0	n/a
No information/indecision/complicated		
I didn't get any information	3	2
I didn't know who the candidates in my area were/and where to find information	1	n/a
I didn't know enough about the different options	2	1
I couldn't decide which way to vote	1	1
I don't know anything about local politics	*%	n/a
I didn't understand/too confusing	1	1
I don't know anything about politics	*%	n/a
I couldn't understand the voting/electoral system/ the system voting system was too confusing	0	n/a
Reasons related to the referendum		
I didn't know it was happening	*%	n/a
I thought it wasn't happening because of the referendum	0	n/a
I have only received information about the referendum	0	n/a
Too close to the referendum (time, effort, organisation)	0	n/a
Struggled to access information because most of the coverage focused on the referendum	0	n/a
Other referendum related reason	0	n/a
Miscellaneous		
I never vote	2	3
Religious reasons	0	n/a
Other	8	2
None of these/no reason	1	-
Don't know	1	-

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS**

Q12 Did you vote on the 5th May.....READ OUT, SINGLECOD ONLY

	2016 % (819)	2011 % (200)
In person at polling station	83	81
By post	16	18
By proxy	1	1
Other	0	*
Don't know/can't remember	0	*

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q16 Which of these statements best describes your attitude towards voting at UK Parliamentary General Elections (for Westminster)? READ OUT

	2016 %
I always vote at General Elections	83
I sometimes vote at General Elections	10
I voted for the first time in 2015	3
I never vote in General Elections	2
I've not been eligible to vote in the past	3
Don't know/don't remember	0

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS WHO NEVER VOTE IN GENERAL ELECTIONS OR HAVE NOT BEEN ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE PAST**

Q13 Was this the first time you voted in any election or referendum?

	2016 % (18)
Yes, it was my first time	33
Yes it was my first time as I wasn't eligible before	45
No, I voted before	22
Don't know / Cannot remember	1

⇒ **ASK ALL IN SCOTLAND**

Q17 In September 2014 there was an independence referendum in Scotland; did you vote at the referendum in 2014?

	2016 % (962)
Yes	93
No	4
I wasn't eligible	2
Can't remember	1

⇒ ASK ALL

Q11 VOTERS – Q5/1: You already told me that you voted, but would you have been more likely to vote on 5th May, less likely, or would it have made no difference one way or the other if...
NON VOTERS - Q5/2: Would you have been more likely to vote on 5th May, less likely, or would it have made no difference one way or the other if...

	2016 %
If you could have voted at the weekend instead	
More likely	15
Less likely	7
No difference one way or the other	75
Don't know	*%
Would have voted anyway	2
If you could have voted online instead	
More likely	30
Less likely	14
No difference one way or the other	52
Don't know	*%
Would have voted anyway	4
If you had been able to register to vote on election day	
More likely	17
Less likely	4
No difference one way or the other	72
Don't know	2
Would have voted anyway	5
[DO NOT ASK IN NORTHERN IRELAND] If people had to show proof of identity at polling stations	(962)
More likely	6
Less likely	8
No difference one way or the other	81
Don't know	1
Would have voted anyway	4
If you could have voted in a polling station in the days before including the Saturday and Sunday before	
More likely	18
Less likely	3
No difference one way or the other	77
Don't know	*%
Would have voted anyway	1
If it was easier for you to get a postal vote	
More likely	20
Less likely	7
No difference one way or the other	69
Don't know	*%
Would have voted anyway	4

[SCOTLAND16-17 YEAR OLDS] If you knew that your friends were voting	(262)
More likely	24
Less likely	0
No difference one way or the other	75
Don't know	*%
Would have voted anyway	1
[SCOTLAND 16-17 YEAR OLDS] If your parents voted	(262)
More likely	42
Less likely	1
No difference one way or the other	56
Don't know	*%
Would have voted anyway	*%

⇒ ASK ALL

Q18 Please could you tell me whether you think each of the following statements are true or false? DO NOT READ OUT DK

	2016 %
You have to take ID (IN NORTHERN IRELAND: Photo ID) with you to vote at a polling station	
True	14
False	85
Don't know	1
[DO NOT ASK IN NI] You are automatically registered to vote if you pay council tax	
True	25
False	68
Don't know	7
You are automatically registered to vote if you are of legal voting age	
True	30
False	67
Don't know	2
You can register to vote until the day before an election	
True	27
False	61
Don't know	11
You are at risk of getting a fine if you don't register to vote	
True	13
False	83
Don't know	4
One household member is able to register other members of the same household	
True	53
False	44
Don't know	3

You can register to vote online	
True	66
False	23
Don't know	11
If you were registered to vote for the May elections you are also registered to vote at the EU referendum	
True	83
False	13
Don't know	4

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q19 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following...

	2016 %
You should be able to register to vote until the day before the election	
Agree strongly	27
Tend to agree	33
Neither	10
Tend to disagree	14
Disagree strongly	16
Don't know	1
You should be able to register to vote in a polling station on the day of the election	
Agree strongly	20
Tend to agree	19
Neither	7
Tend to disagree	27
Disagree strongly	26
Don't know	1
[DO NOT ASK IN NORTHERN IRELAND] Local government should be able to use other information they hold about me to automatically update my details on the electoral register	(962)
Agree strongly	16
Tend to agree	27
Neither	9
Tend to disagree	20
Disagree strongly	28
Don't know	1
It should be my responsibility, not the government's, to keep my electoral registration details up to date	
Agree strongly	45
Tend to agree	31
Neither	8
Tend to disagree	9
Disagree strongly	6
Don't know	*

AWARENESS

⇒ ASK ALL

Q20 How much, if anything, did you feel you knew about the elections on Thursday 5 May?
Would you say you knew... READ OUT FOR EACH ELECTION AS RELEVANT

	2016
	%
A great deal	29
A fair amount	56
Not very much	13
Nothing at all	2
Don't know	*

⇒ ASK ALL

Q21 Would you say it was very easy, fairly easy, neither easy nor difficult, fairly difficult or very difficult to access information on

	Very easy %	Fairly easy %	Neither %	Fairly difficult %	Very difficult %	DK (DO NOT READ OUT)
All RESPONDENTS: How to cast your vote at the [INSERT *] (ask for each election separately in combined areas) Scottish Parliament elections	48	45	3	3	1	1
ALL EXCEPT PCC ONLY RESPONDENTS: What the ELECTION was for (in combined areas in England ask about local elections, in Wales ask about NAW election) Scottish Parliament elections	47	45	4	3	1	1
ALL RESPONDENTS: Information on the candidates standing in the [INSERT *] (ask for each election separately in combined areas) Scottish Parliament elections	31	50	7	8	3	1

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q22 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following...

		Agree strongly	Tend to agree	Neither	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	DK (DO NOT READ OUT)
ALL: There was a lot of media coverage on the ELECTION Scottish Parliament elections	2016 %	40	35	9	10	4	2
	2011 %	33	39	11	10	4	4
ALL: I had enough information on how to cast my vote	2016 %	61	30	4	4	1	*
	2011 %	45	34	7	8	5	1
ALL: I didn't know enough on what the ELECTION* was about Scottish Parliament elections	2016 %	7	12	6	26	49	*
	2011 %	13	17	5	25	38	1
ALL: I had enough information on candidates to be able to make an informed decision	2016 %	45	35	8	7	5	*
The ELECTION* was overshadowed by coverage of the EU referendum Scottish Parliament elections	2016 %	13	24	13	29	20	1
It was clear to me that there are two sets of electoral events – these elections in May and the referendum that will take place in June	2016 %	63	26	6	2	2	1

⇒ ASK ALL

Q24 Generally speaking, when it comes to receiving information about candidates and parties in elections, what form of communication would you yourself most prefer? DO NOT PROMPT, MULTICODE

	2016
	%
Email messages	17
Leaflets or booklets through the door	62
Online adverts	12
News sources	10
Social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.)	8
TV or radio advertising	10
TV broadcasts or news sources	16
Billboards	*
Personal contact with candidates	8
Dedicated websites	5
Just talking about it with friends and family	1
I would not like any	3
Phone calls	1
SMS/text messages	*
Debates	*
Personal research	*
Public meetings	*
Media	*
Other	2
No preference	*
Don't know	1

VOTING PROCESSES AND PRIORITIES

⇒ ASK ALL

Q25 Generally speaking, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the procedures for voting in elections and referendums in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?

	2016	2011
	%	%
Very satisfied	45	32
Fairly satisfied	44	50
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7	11
Fairly dissatisfied	4	3
Very dissatisfied	1	2
Don't know	*%	1

⇒ **ASK FAIRLY/VERY DISSATISFIED**

Q26 Why do you say you were dissatisfied with the procedure for voting in elections? DO NOT READ OUT

	2016 % (32)	2011 % (19)
Voting system		
The system is not fair	14	5
Disagree with/don't like the voting system	2	n/a
Lack of democracy within the system	0	n/a
Confusion with multiple voting systems	15	n/a
Voting procedure		
Voting process should be available online	2	2
Voting system should be more secure	0	n/a
Many people didn't get to vote/register	0	10
Length of time it takes	0	n/a
Everyone should vote/compulsory voting	0	n/a
Voting should be spread over a few days	2	n/a
Voting should be in pen/a more permanent mark/ not pencil	2	n/a
Issues with postal voting	2	n/a
Outdated methods/paper based/ dropping ballots into the box	*%	n/a
Not enough polling stations to choose from	0	n/a
Non-UK citizen are not able to vote	0	n/a
Process is poorly represented/misrepresented	*%	n/a
Issues with secrecy/anonymity of voting	0	n/a
The system is open to abuse	0	n/a
Voters should be required to show identification	0	n/a
Dislike the counting process	0	n/a
Too many elections taking on the same day	0	n/a
Experience of voting		
Didn't receive a polling card	0	5
Poor accessibility of polling stations	0	n/a
Because of the outcome / dismay with election results	2	n/a
Politicians / The political system		
Don't trust politicians/politicians don't fulfil their promises	18	n/a
Need more options/opinions/choice	0	n/a
Dislike politicians' behaviour	0	n/a
May end up voting for people/positions I don't support	0	2
Lack of information		
Not enough information/media coverage	10	17
People don't/didn't understand what the elections were about/too complicated	2	7
Other		
Should be simpler	8	n/a
Corruption/fraud/fixed results	5	n/a
Waste of money	0	n/a

The polls shouldn't have been held so close to the EU referendum	0	n/a
The polls should have been held on the same day as the EU referendum	0	n/a
Biased information/propaganda	10	n/a
Not a convenient time/not enough time	2	n/a
Prefer proportional representation/ dislike first past the post system of voting	2	n/a
Need personal contact with election candidates	2	n/a
Other	33	11
Don't know	7	5

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q27 How confident, if at all, are you that the election(s) on May 5th was/were well run?

	2016 %	2011 %
Very confident	41	36
Fairly confident	51	48
Not very confident	4	4
Not at all confident	2	3
Don't know	2	9

⇒ **ASK CONFIDENT**

**Q28 Why do you say you are confident that the [ELECTION(S)] was/were well run?
DO NOT PROMPT. MULTICODE.**

	2016 % (427)	2011 % (290)
Clear/concise ballot/easy to vote	8	5
Quick easy voting	9	n/a
There was a lot of information about the elections	10	n/a
Tried and tested	5	6
No negative feedback	9	n/a
Voting system fair	7	7
Trust the staff	4	4
Accessible polling station	1	2
Good staff attitude	2	2
Personal involvement	3	n/a
Professional conducted	4	n/a
Received polling card ballot papers in good time	*%	n/a
Everyone had the opportunity to vote	1	2
Well canvassed	1	2
Well organised	23	29
Well publicised	3	25
Results were in the media quickly	5	2
Feel it was the right result	4	5
High turnout	1	1
Others	35	9
None	2	n/a
Don't know	7	12

⇒ ASK NOT CONFIDENT

**Q29 Why do you say that you are not confident that the election was/were well run?
DO NOT PROMPT. MULTICODE.**

	2016 % (27)	2011 % (24)
Lack of information		
Lack of information/publicity/don't know much/anything about it (general)	16	10
Lack of information/publicity/ don't know much/anything about it because of the focus on the referendum	11	n/a
Information confusing/some people didn't understand what the vote was for	4	n/a
Lack of information about the candidates	3	n/a
Polling station/ballot issues		
Badly run/organised	1	8
Low turnout	1	n/a
Long wait for results	0	n/a
Didn't receive a polling card/postal ballot papers	0	n/a
Lack of time given to vote/decide	0	n/a
The counting process was not well verified	6	n/a
I didn't know how to vote/what to do in the polling station/how to fill in my ballot paper	0	n/a
Two/More elections on one day/too much to organise/handle	0	n/a
Politicians/political system		
Mistrust/Don't stick to their promises/just in it for themselves	3	8
Campaign issues/candidate		
Lack of canvassing/personal contact	2	n/a
There was misinformation/stupid allegations as to what the vote was about	0	n/a
TV/press coverage was biased/badly presented	1	n/a
Little choice in who to vote for	0	n/a
Coverage only focused on the referendum	1	n/a
General impression/word of mouth		
From what I have read/heard	9	n/a
I did not witness what went on	0	n/a
I had a bad impression	6	n/a
Voting system and procedure		
People did not know the voting procedure (how to fill in the ballot paper/what to do in the polling station)	0	n/a
People's opinions are not valued/vote will make no difference	0	n/a
Outdated/unfair voting system	3	n/a
Combination of elections	0	n/a
Fraud security		
Corruption/fraud/fixed results	21	n/a
Other		

Because of the outcome/dismay with the results	8	n/a
Disinterested/don't care about politics	3	12
Some did not have the opportunity to vote/had the opportunity taken away	0	n/a
Issues registering to vote	*%	n/a
Didn't vote for personal reasons	0	n/a
Dislike the National Assembly for Wales	0	n/a
Dislike the Scottish Parliament	1	n/a
Dislike the Northern Ireland Assembly	0	n/a
Dislike Police and Crime Commissioners	0	n/a
Dislike local government	0	n/a
Other	40	25
None	3	n/a
Don't know	11	23

POLLING STATIONS

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q30 From what you have seen or heard or experienced, do you think that voting at the polling station / (SCOTLAND: polling place) for the Thursday 5th May election was...READ OUT

	2016	2011
	%	%
Very convenient	54	45
Fairly convenient	32	33
Neither convenient nor inconvenient	6	8
Fairly inconvenient	2	5
Very inconvenient	2	3
Don't know	2	5

⇒ **ASK POLLING STATION VOTERS**

Q31 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the process of voting at a polling station/place? Would you say.....READ OUT

	2016	2011
	% (320)	% (163)
Very satisfied	73	75
Fairly satisfied	23	22
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	3	1
Fairly dissatisfied	*%	-
Very dissatisfied	*%	1
Don't know	0	*

⇒ **ASK POLLING STATION VOTERS**

Q32 Once you arrived at your polling station/place, how easy or difficult was it for you to get inside to vote?

	2016 % (320)	2011 % (163)
Very easy	93	91
Fairly easy	6	8
Neither easy nor difficult	*%	*
Fairly difficult	*%	*
Very difficult	1	-
Don't know	0	-

⇒ **ASK POLLING STATION VOTERS**

Q33 Thinking back to when you went to vote at the polling station/place, how useful, if at all, was the help or support available from polling station/place staff on how to vote? Was it...**READ OUT**

	2016 % (320)	2011 % (163)
Very useful	56	61
Fairly useful	14	14
Not very useful	1	*
Not at all useful	*%	*
Didn't use them/need them	29	24
Don't know	0	-

⇒ **ASK POLLING STATION VOTERS**

Q34 And again thinking back to when you went to vote at the polling station/place, how useful, if at all, were any written instructions on how to vote, such as a poster on display in the polling booth or guidance on the ballot paper(s)? Were they....**READ OUT**

	2016 % (320)	2011 % (163)
Very useful	46	51
Fairly useful	21	26
Not very useful	3	2
Not at all useful	2	1
Didn't use them/need them	28	20
Don't know	*%	1

VOTING BY POST

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q36 From what you have seen, heard or experienced, do you think that voting by post for the May 5th election(s) was...**READ OUT**

	2016	2011
	%	%
Very convenient	38	35
Fairly convenient	25	24
Neither convenient nor inconvenient	21	17
Fairly inconvenient	2	2
Very inconvenient	2	2
Don't know	12	21

⇒ **ASK POSTAL VOTERS**

Q37 How easy or difficult was it to understand what you had to do in order to complete and return your postal vote(s)? Would you say....**READ OUT**

	2016	2011
	% (93)	% (36)
Very easy	81	69
Fairly easy	17	26
Neither easy nor difficult	2	2
Fairly difficult	0	3
Very difficult	0	-
Don't know	0	-

⇒ **ASK POSTAL VOTERS**

Q38 Thinking back to when you voted by post, how useful, if at all, were any written instructions on how to vote and return your vote, such as guidance on the ballot paper? Were they.....**READ OUT**

	2016	2011
	% (93)	% (36)
Very useful	69	70
Fairly useful	23	28
Not very useful	1	1
Not at all useful	1	-
Didn't use them/need them	7	-
Don't know	0	2

⇒ **ASK ALL POSTAL VOTERS**

Q39 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the process of voting by post? Would you say.....READ OUT

	2016 % (93)	2011 % (36)
Very satisfied	91	80
Fairly satisfied	7	14
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	1	2
Fairly dissatisfied	0	3
Very dissatisfied	0	-
Don't know	1	2

COMBINED ELECTIONS AND BALLOT PAPERS

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS**

Q40 Some people said it was difficult to fill in the ballot paper(s) when voting in the 5th May ELECTIONS*. How easy or difficult did you find it to fill in the ballot paper(s) for this election? Was it... READ OUT.

		Very easy	Fairly easy	Neither	Fairly difficult	Very difficult	DK
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ELECTION	2016 %	84	13	1	1	-	1
	2011 %	75	22	1	1	-	*

⇒ **ASK ALL WHO SAID FAIRLY/VERY DIFFICULT**

Q41 Why do you say it was difficult? DO NOT PROMPT. MULTICODE.

	2016 % (9)
Text too small	0
Too many candidates	0
Instructions were unclear	15
Complex/confusing	18
Lack of information	14
Difficulties using forms	0
The candidates were in a confusing order	0
The parties were in a confusing order	0
The size of the ballot paper	0
I could not easily find the party name of my choice	0
I could not easily find the party candidate of my choice	0
Lack of understanding/clarity	24
The layout was confusing	12
I don't understand how the electoral system works	12
Other	20
Don't know	0

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS IN SCOTLAND AND WALES**

Q42 In elections for the Scottish Parliament/Welsh Assembly you had two votes. One of these was for a party or independent candidate to represent your constituency, and the other vote you had was for a party or individual candidate to represent your region of Scotland/Wales.

How easy or difficult was it to find:

The candidate/party you wanted to vote for on the constituency ballot?

		Very easy	Fairly easy	Neither	Fairly difficult	Very difficult	DK
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ELECTION	2016 %	80	17	1	1	*	1
	2011 %	73	23	1	2	1	*

The name of the party you wanted to vote for on the regional list ballot?

		Very easy	Fairly easy	Neither	Fairly difficult	Very difficult	DK
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ELECTION	2016 %	81	17	1	1	*	1
	2011 %	76	20	1	2	1	*



PARTY AND ELECTION FINANCE

⇒ ASK ALL

Q45 I am going to read you some statements relating to the rules on the money that political parties, organisations and other individuals use when campaigning. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **READ OUT**

	2016 %	2011 %
The spending and funding of political parties, candidates and other campaigning organisations at elections is open and transparent		
Agree strongly	11	20
Tend to agree	26	27
Neither	23	20
Tend to disagree	22	14
Disagree strongly	15	13
Don't know	3	6
If a political party or another campaigner is caught breaking the rules, the authorities will take appropriate actions		
Agree strongly	35	-
Tend to agree	28	-
Neither	11	-
Tend to disagree	14	-
Disagree strongly	9	-
Don't know	3	-
I can easily find out how much political parties, candidates and other organisations spent on campaigning and how they were funded		
Agree strongly	9	-
Tend to agree	20	-
Neither	20	-
Tend to disagree	26	-
Disagree strongly	18	-
Don't know	8	-

ELECTORAL FRAUD

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q46 What do you understand by the term “electoral fraud”? NO NOT PROMPT.
MULTICODE**

	2016
	%
Someone using someone else's vote	32
Voting multiple times	11
Cheating/corruption/vote rigging	22
Ballot stuffing	2
Deliberately miscounting votes	9
When people not eligible but still do vote	6
Spoiling/tampering of ballot papers	11
Misuse of postal voting	3
People being intimidated	2
Casting a vote where not registered	4
Missing/disposing of votes	3
Others	27
None	5
Don't know	14

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q47 How much electoral fraud, if any, do you think took place at the May 5 elections?
Would you say it happened...READ OUT**

	2016
	%
A lot	3
A little	25
Hardly anything at all	32
Nothing at all	17
Don't know	23

⇒ ASK IF 'A LOT/A LITTLE'

Q48 Which one of the following best describes why you think electoral fraud or abuse took place on 5th May? READ OUT. MULTICODE

	2016 % (274)
General impression that fraud is a problem	36
I saw stories in the media about electoral fraud	41
Because you don't have to provide identification to vote	46
Identity fraud is on the increase	48
Postal voting is not secure	43
People are registering other voters at the same address	43
People are registering multiple times	32
I heard from someone else that electoral fraud took place	19
I have first-hand experience of electoral fraud	3
Other	18
Don't know	5

⇒ ASK ALL

Q49 In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that: READ OUT

	2016 %	2011 %
Voting in general is.....		
Very safe	26	26
Fairly safe	60	57
Neither safe nor unsafe	7	8
Fairly unsafe	5	3
Very unsafe	1	5
Don't know	1	4
Voting at a polling station [ENG, WALES, NI]/polling place [SCOTLAND] is...		
Very safe	42	43
Fairly safe	52	46
Neither safe nor unsafe	2	5
Fairly unsafe	3	2
Very unsafe	1	1
Don't know	1	3
Voting by post is...		
Very safe	22	19
Fairly safe	43	41
Neither safe nor unsafe	9	9
Fairly unsafe	14	12
Very unsafe	5	4
Don't know	6	14

REFERENDUM

⇒ ASK ALL ELIGIBLE

Q50 As you may know, on the 23rd of June there will be a referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union, how likely are you to vote at the referendum? READ OUT

	2016 % (693)
Very likely	91
Fairly likely	5
Neither likely or unlikely	1
Fairly unlikely	1
Very unlikely	1
Don't know	*%