
**Evidence of past electoral support and
evidence of current support ahead of the
European Parliamentary elections taking
place on 23 May 2019**

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1. Overview

On 23 May 2019 there is the possibility that there will be European Parliamentary elections in the UK. Should those elections take place, as an aid to broadcasters, we are publishing a digest of evidence of past electoral support (i.e. election results) and evidence of current support (in the form of opinion polls).

This document should be read in tandem with the digest of evidence of past electoral support and evidence of current support that we published¹ on 14 February 2019

- 1.1 In Section Two we lay out evidence of the most recent past electoral support, namely the results of the Newport West Westminster by-election contested on 4 April 2019.
- 1.2 In Section Three we lay out evidence of current support for the political parties across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland in the form of opinion polling data for February and March 2019.

¹ See [Ofcom's digest of evidence of past electoral support and evidence of current support \(https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/112094/evidence-past-current-electoral-support-may-elections-2019.pdf\)](https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/112094/evidence-past-current-electoral-support-may-elections-2019.pdf)

2. Evidence of past electoral support

- 2.1 In the digest of evidence of past electoral support and evidence of current support that we published² on 14 February 2019, we set out (in Figures 8 and 9) the number of seats won and share of the popular vote achieved by the various political parties in the past two cycles of European Parliamentary elections in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- 2.2 In relation to the most recent evidence of past electoral support, Figure 1 sets out the share of the popular vote achieved by the various political parties for the Westminster by-election that took place in Newport West on 4 April 2019.

Figure 1: Winning party and share of vote in the Newport West by-election

	Cons	Lab	Lib-Dem.	Plaid Cymru	UKIP	Green	Others /Ind
Newport West	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	31.3%	39.6%	4.6%	5.0%	8.6%	3.9%	7.0%

Source: BBC

² See [Ofcom's digest of evidence of past electoral support and evidence of current support](https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/112094/evidence-past-current-electoral-support-may-elections-2019.pdf) (https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/112094/evidence-past-current-electoral-support-may-elections-2019.pdf)

3. Evidence of current support

3.1 We lay out below evidence of current support, as indicated by opinion polls, in England, Wales and Scotland for February and March 2019. We are not aware of any opinion polls relating to Northern Ireland for that period.

England

3.2 Figure 2 set outs the Polling Observatory data for February and March 2019. These figures are calculated on the basis of a rolling average of all polls over a two-month window, unadjusted for ‘house effects’ i.e. estimated biases of the individual pollsters.

Figure 2: Polling Observatory opinion poll data (Great Britain-wide) February and March 2019

Date (Week beginning)	Cons	Lab	Lib-Dem.	UKIP	Green
07/02/19	39.6%	35.7%	9.4%	4.6%	3.7%
14/02/19	39.7%	35.0%	9.5%	4.7%	3.7%
21/02/19	40.2%	34.2%	9.5%	4.8%	3.7%
28/02/19	39.6%	34.0%	9.6%	4.7%	3.8%
07/03/19	38.6%	34.1%	9.6%	5.3%	3.9%
14/03/19	36.4%	34.3%	9.6%	5.8%	4.0%
21/03/19	35.6%	34.5%	9.7%	5.8%	4.0%
28/03/19	34.5%	34.6%	9.8%	6.2%	4.0%

Source: Polling Observatory

3.3 Ofcom is also aware that in 15 Great Britain-wide opinion polls published between 18 February and the end of March 2019, polling organisations have also measured support for The Independent Group (“TIG”) of MPs. The average levels of support in these opinion polls were Conservative: 36.0%; Labour: 32.0%; Liberal Democrats: 7.0%; TIG: 8.0%; UKIP: 6.0%; and Green: 4.0%.

Wales

3.4 Figure 3 sets out indicative levels of current support for the various parties in Wales, in February and March 2019, based on voting intention at General Elections. Figure 4 sets out indicative levels of current support for the various parties in Wales, in February and March 2019, based on voting intention at Welsh Assembly elections (both in terms of directly-elected constituency voting intention and regional list voting intention).

Figure 3: Voting preference in UK General Elections

	Cons	Lab	Lib-Dem.	Plaid Cymru	UKIP	Green	Others /Ind
YouGov (Feb 2019)	29.0%	35.0%	8.0%	14.0%	6.0%	3.0%	4.0%
ICM (Feb 2019)	33.0%	42.0%	6.0%	13.0%	3.0%	1.0%	2.0%

Figure 4: Voting preference in Welsh Assembly elections (constituency vote and regional list vote)

	Cons	Lab	Lib-Dem.	Plaid Cymru	UKIP	Green	Others /Ind
YouGov (Feb 2019)							
Directly-elected	26.0%	32.0%	8.0%	23.0%	7.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Regional list	24.0%	29.0%	6.0%	23.0%	6.0%	4.0%	8.0%
ICM (Feb 2019)							
Directly-elected	23.0%	34.0%	7.0%	27.0%	5.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Regional list	22.0%	32.0%	6.0%	25.0%	6.0%	3.0%	6.0%

Scotland

3.5 Figure 5 sets out indicative levels of current support for the various parties in Scotland, in February and March 2019, based on voting intention at General Elections. Figure 6 sets out indicative levels of current support for the various parties in Scotland, in February and March 2019, based on voting intention at Scottish Parliamentary elections (both in terms of directly-elected constituency voting intention and regional list voting intention). (Note: In the Survation opinion poll the levels of support for UKIP and the Scottish Green Party was not separately reported in the case of voting preferences for General Elections and directly-elected seats in Scottish Parliamentary elections).

Figure 5: Voting preference in UK General Elections

	Cons	Lab	Lib-Dem.	SNP	UKIP	Scottish Green	Others /Ind
Survation (Mar 2019)	24.0%	23.0%	8.0%	40.0%	See others	See others	4.0%
Panelbase (Mar 2019)	27.0%	22.0%	7.0%	37.0%	2.0%	2.0%	3.0%

Figure 6: Voting preference in Scottish Parliamentary elections (constituency vote and regional list vote)

	Cons	Lab	Lib-Dem.	SNP	UKIP	Scottish Green	Others /Ind
Survation (Mar 2019)							
Directly-elected	24.0%	22.0%	9.0%	43.0%	See others	See others	2.0%
Regional list	22.0%	19.0%	11.0%	32.0%	3.0%	11.0%	1.0%
Panelbase (Mar 2019)							
Directly-elected	27.0%	19.0%	8.0%	41.0%	2.0%	3.0%	1.0%
Regional list	26.0%	19.0%	9.0%	36.0%	3.0%	6.0%	1.0%

Northern Ireland

3.6 As stated above, Ofcom is not aware of any opinion polls relating to Northern Ireland for the period of February and March 2019.