

National seat status

This fact sheet provides the status of electoral divisions (seats) using 2016 federal election results data.

How is seat status defined?

The AEC uses the margin of the count between the 'final two' candidates to classify seats as follows:

- **marginal (M)**: when the leading candidate receives less than 56 per cent
- **fairly safe (FS)**: when the leading candidate receives between 56 and 60 per cent
- **safe (S)**: when the leading candidate receives more than 60 per cent.

'Non-classic' results

Historically, almost all of the contests for election to the House of Representatives result in the 'final two' candidates being ALP and Coalition candidates. At the 2016 federal election this was the case in 133 out of 150 seats. These 'classic' seat margins are reflected in the tables on pages 3-10 of this fact sheet.

The remaining 17 seats are categorised by the AEC as 'non-classic'. One such non-classic seat was the Division of Port Adelaide in South Australia, which has since been abolished as part of the redistribution process. The other 16 non-classic seat margins are provided in a separate table on page 11.

Redrawn boundaries

Since the 2016 federal election, the boundaries of seats have been redrawn in all states and territories except NSW and WA.

As part of these redistribution processes two additional seats were created - one in the Australian Capital Territory (Bean) and one in Victoria (Fraser). In addition, one seat was abolished in South Australia (Port Adelaide). As a result, a total of 151 seats will be contested at the next federal election.

State/territory	Number of seats
New South Wales	47 seats
Victoria	38 seats
Queensland	30 seats
Western Australia	16 seats
South Australia	10 seats
Tasmania	5 seats
Australian Capital Territory	3 seats
Northern Territory	2 seats
TOTAL	151 seats

As part of the redistribution processes undertaken since the 2016 federal election the names of the following six seats have changed.

State/territory	Former seat name	New seat name
Victoria	Batman	Cooper
	Melbourne Ports	Macnamara
	McMillan	Monash
	Murray	Nicholls
South Australia	Wakefield	Spence
Tasmania	Denison	Clark

Notional margins

In states and territories that have undergone redistributions, seat margins are calculated by applying voting patterns to the new boundaries that will be in place for the 2019 federal election. This notional seat status provides the margin that a party/candidate would have won the seat by if the new boundaries applied.

These notional margins will be used as the baseline in the AEC's tally room at the 2019 federal election to enable the calculation of swings.

By-elections

There have been nine federal by-elections conducted since the 2016 federal election.

The tables on pages 3-11 of this fact sheet reflect 2016 federal election results data. The seat margins that exist as a result of the by-elections conducted since the 2016 federal election are provided in a separate table on page 12 of this document.

****It is not possible to create notional margins (margins based on 2019 federal election boundaries) using by-election results data. This is because by-elections were conducted on the seat boundaries in place at the 2016 federal election.***

Party abbreviations

A list of party abbreviations used in this document is available on page 12.

Seat margins

Note: The last column in the following tables lists the swing required to win or lose a seat. In each case an extra vote would be required to achieve a 50% +1 majority.

New South Wales					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Elected (2016)	Status	Swing required to change %
Banks	48.56	51.44	LP	M	1.44
Barton	58.30	41.70	ALP	FS	8.30
Bennelong [#] *	40.28	59.72	LP	FS	9.72
Berowra	33.55	66.45	LP	S	16.45
Blaxland	69.48	30.52	ALP	S	19.48
Bradfield	28.96	71.04	LP	S	21.04
Calare	38.19	61.81	NP	S	11.81
Chifley	69.19	30.81	ALP	S	19.19
Cook	34.61	65.39	LP	S	15.39
Cowper*	37.42	62.58	*	*	*
Cunningham	63.32	36.68	ALP	S	13.32
Dobell	54.81	45.19	ALP	M	4.81
Eden-Monaro	52.93	47.07	ALP	M	2.93
Farrer	29.47	70.53	LP	S	20.53
Fowler	67.49	32.51	ALP	S	17.49
Gilmore	49.27	50.73	LP	M	0.73
Grayndler*	72.36	27.64	*	*	*
Greenway	56.31	43.69	ALP	FS	6.31
Hughes	40.67	59.33	LP	FS	9.33
Hume	39.82	60.18	LP	S	10.18
Hunter	62.46	37.54	ALP	S	12.46
Kingsford Smith	58.57	41.43	ALP	FS	8.57
Lindsay	51.11	48.89	ALP	M	1.11
Lyne	38.37	61.63	NP	S	11.63
Macarthur	58.33	41.67	ALP	FS	8.33
Mackellar	34.26	65.74	LP	S	15.74
Macquarie	52.19	47.81	ALP	M	2.19

New South Wales					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Elected (2016)	Status	Swing required to change %
McMahon	62.11	37.89	ALP	S	12.11
Mitchell	32.18	67.82	LP	S	17.82
New England #*	33.58	66.42	*	*	*
Newcastle	63.84	36.16	ALP	S	13.84
North Sydney	36.39	63.61	LP	S	13.61
Page	47.70	52.30	NP	M	2.30
Parkes	34.90	65.10	NP	S	15.10
Parramatta	57.67	42.33	ALP	FS	7.67
Paterson	60.74	39.26	ALP	S	10.74
Reid	45.31	54.69	LP	M	4.69
Richmond	53.96	46.04	ALP	M	3.96
Riverina	33.56	66.44	NP	S	16.44
Robertson	48.86	51.14	LP	M	1.14
Shortland	59.94	40.06	ALP	FS	9.94
Sydney	65.31	34.69	ALP	S	15.31
Warringah*	38.91	61.09	*	*	*
Watson	67.58	32.42	ALP	S	17.58
Wentworth #	32.25	67.75	LP	S	17.75
Werriwa	58.20	41.80	ALP	FS	8.20
Whitlam	63.72	36.28	ALP	S	13.72

* indicates non-classic seats (see pg 11)

indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12)

Victoria (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Aston	42.59	57.41	LP	FS	7.41
Ballarat	57.36	42.64	ALP	FS	7.36
Bendigo	53.87	46.13	ALP	M	3.87
Bruce	64.05	35.95	ALP	S	14.05
Calwell	69.73	30.27	ALP	S	19.73
Casey	45.46	54.54	LP	M	4.54
Chisholm	47.09	52.91	LP	M	2.91
Cooper #* (Formerly Batman)	71.99	28.01	*	*	*
Corangamite	50.03	49.97	ALP	M	0.03
Corio	58.20	41.80	ALP	FS	8.20
Deakin	43.56	56.44	LP	FS	6.44
Dunkley	51.03	48.97	ALP	M	1.03
Flinders	42.99	57.01	LP	FS	7.01
Fraser (New seat)	69.79	30.21	ALP	S	19.79
Gellibrand	65.12	34.88	ALP	S	15.12
Gippsland	31.79	68.21	NP	S	18.21
Goldstein	37.32	62.68	LP	S	12.68
Gorton	68.49	31.51	ALP	S	18.49
Higgins*	39.93	60.07	*	*	*
Holt	59.94	40.06	ALP	FS	9.94
Hotham	54.21	45.79	ALP	M	4.21
Indi*	44.90	55.10	*	*	*
Isaacs	52.98	47.02	ALP	M	2.98
Jagajaga	55.60	44.40	ALP	M	5.60
Kooyong	37.18	62.82	LP	S	12.82
La Trobe	46.78	53.22	LP	M	3.22
Lalor	64.19	35.81	ALP	S	14.19
Macnamara (Formerly Melbourne Ports)	51.21	48.79	ALP	M	1.21

Victoria (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Mallee	30.20	69.80	NP	S	19.80
Maribyrnong	60.40	39.60	ALP	S	10.40
McEwen	56.00	44.00	ALP	FS	6.00
Melbourne*	67.00	33.00	*	*	*
Menzies	42.19	57.81	LP	FS	7.81
Monash (Formerly McMillan)	42.49	57.51	LP	FS	7.51
Nicholls* (Formerly Murray)	27.38	72.62	*	*	*
Scullin	69.58	30.42	ALP	S	19.58
Wannon	40.85	59.15	LP	FS	9.15
Wills*	71.57	28.43	*	*	*

* indicates non-classic seats (see pg 11)

indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12)

Note: Margins for the 37 Victorian seats at the 2016 federal election (pre-redistribution) are available at <http://results.aec.gov.au/20499/Website/HouseDivisionMenu-20499-VIC.htm>.

Queensland (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Blair	58.14	41.86	ALP	FS	8.14
Bonner	46.61	53.39	LNP	M	3.39
Bowman	42.93	57.07	LNP	FS	7.07
Brisbane	44.00	56.00	LNP	FS	6.00
Capricornia	49.37	50.63	LNP	M	0.63
Dawson	46.63	53.37	LNP	M	3.37
Dickson	48.31	51.69	LNP	M	1.69
Fadden	38.76	61.24	LNP	S	11.24
Fairfax	39.13	60.87	LNP	S	10.87
Fisher	40.85	59.15	LNP	FS	9.15
Flynn	48.96	51.04	LNP	M	1.04
Forde	49.37	50.63	LNP	M	0.63
Griffith	51.43	48.57	ALP	M	1.43
Groom	34.69	65.31	LNP	S	15.31
Herbert	50.02	49.98	ALP	M	0.02
Hinkler	41.62	58.38	LNP	FS	8.38
Kennedy*	43.26	56.74	*	*	*
Leichhardt	46.05	53.95	LNP	M	3.95
Lilley	55.68	44.32	ALP	M	5.68
Longman #	50.79	49.21	ALP	M	0.79
Maranoa*	32.46	67.54	*	*	*
McPherson	38.36	61.64	LNP	S	11.64
Moncrieff	35.39	64.61	LNP	S	14.61
Moreton	54.02	45.98	ALP	M	4.02
Oxley	59.01	40.99	ALP	FS	9.01
Petrie	48.35	51.65	LNP	M	1.65
Rankin	61.30	38.70	ALP	S	11.30
Ryan	41.02	58.98	LNP	FS	8.98
Wide Bay	41.81	58.19	LNP	FS	8.19
Wright	40.38	59.62	LNP	FS	9.62

* indicates non-classic seats (see pg 11) # indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12)

Note: Margins for Queensland seats at the 2016 federal election (pre-redistribution) are available at <http://results.aec.gov.au/20499/Website/HouseDivisionMenu-20499-QLD.htm>.

Western Australia					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Elected (2016)	Status	Swing required to change %
Brand	61.43	38.57	ALP	S	11.43
Burt	57.11	42.89	ALP	FS	7.11
Canning	43.21	56.79	LP	FS	6.79
Cowan	50.68	49.32	ALP	M	0.68
Curtin	29.30	70.70	LP	S	20.70
Durack	38.94	61.06	LP	S	11.06
Forrest	37.44	62.56	LP	S	12.56
Fremantle #	57.52	42.48	ALP	FS	7.52
Hasluck	47.95	52.05	LP	M	2.05
Moore	38.98	61.02	LP	S	11.02
O'Connor	34.96	65.04	LP	S	15.04
Pearce	46.37	53.63	LP	M	3.63
Perth #	53.33	46.67	ALP	M	3.33
Stirling	43.88	56.12	LP	FS	6.12
Swan	46.41	53.59	LP	M	3.59
Tangney	38.93	61.07	LP	S	11.07

indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12)

South Australia (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Adelaide	58.30	41.70	ALP	FS	8.30
Barker*	36.13	63.87	*	*	*
Boothby	47.29	52.71	LP	M	2.71
Grey*	42.25	57.75	*	*	*
Hindmarsh	58.43	41.57	ALP	FS	8.43
Kingston	63.55	36.45	ALP	S	13.55
Makin	60.79	39.21	ALP	S	10.79
Mayo #*	46.73	53.27	*	*	*
Sturt	44.61	55.39	LP	M	5.39
Spence (Formerly Wakefield)	67.17	32.83	ALP	S	17.17

* indicates non-classic seats (see pg 11)

indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12).

Note: Margins for the 11 South Australian seats at the 2016 federal election (pre-redistribution) are available at <https://results.aec.gov.au/20499/Website/HouseDivisionMenu-20499-SA.htm>

Tasmania (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Bass	55.42	44.58	ALP	M	5.42
Braddon #	51.73	48.27	ALP	M	1.73
Clark* (Formerly Denison)	65.33	34.67	*	*	*
Franklin	60.73	39.27	ALP	S	10.73
Lyons	53.83	46.17	ALP	M	3.83

* indicates non-classic seats (see pg 11)

indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12).

Note: Margins for Tasmanian seats at the 2016 federal election (pre-redistribution) are available at <http://results.aec.gov.au/20499/Website/HouseDivisionMenu-20499-TAS.htm>.

Australian Capital Territory (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Bean (New seat)	58.85	41.15	ALP	FS	8.85
Canberra	62.94	37.06	ALP	S	12.94
Fenner	61.84	38.16	ALP	S	11.84

Note: Margins for the two ACT seats at the 2016 federal election (pre-redistribution) are available at <https://results.aec.gov.au/20499/Website/HouseDivisionMenu-20499-ACT.htm>.

Northern Territory (notional post-redistribution margins)					
Seat	ALP	LP/NP	Notional party	Status	Swing required to change %
Lingiari	58.19	41.81	ALP	FS	8.19
Solomon	56.09	43.91	ALP	FS	6.09

Note: Margins for the two NT seats at the 2016 federal election (pre-redistribution) are available at <https://results.aec.gov.au/20499/Website/HouseDivisionMenu-20499-NT.htm>.

'Non-classic' seats

Two candidate preferred (TCP) margins

At the 2016 federal election there were 17 seats where the final two candidates were not the ALP and the Coalition. These seats are commonly referred to as 'non-classic' contests.

One non-classic seat at the 2016 federal election – Port Adelaide – has since been abolished as part of the redistribution process undertaken in South Australia.

The TCP margins for the remaining 16 non-classic seats are:

State	Seat	Leading party	TCP	Other party / IND	TCP	Status	Swing required to change %
NSW	Cowper	NP	54.56	IND	45.44	M	4.56
	Grayndler	ALP	65.82	GRN	34.18	S	15.82
	New England #	NP	58.52	IND	41.48	FS	8.52
	Warringah	LP	61.55	GRN	38.45	S	11.55
VIC	Cooper # (Formerly Batman)	ALP	51.27	GRN	48.73	M	1.27
	Higgins	LP	57.38	GRN	42.62	FS	7.38
	Indi	IND	55.52	LP	44.48	M	5.52
	Melbourne	GRN	69.04	LP	30.96	S	19.04
	Nicholls (Formerly Murray)	NP	52.49	LP	47.51	M	2.49
	Wills	ALP	54.93	GRN	45.07	M	4.93
QLD	Kennedy	KAP	61.00	LNP	39.00	S	11.00
	Maranoa	LNP	65.86	PHON	34.14	S	15.86
SA	Barker	LP	53.43	CA	46.57	M	3.43
	Grey	LP	51.07	CA	48.93	M	1.07
	Mayo #	CA	52.92	LP	47.08	M	2.92
TAS	Clark (Formerly Denison)	IND	67.77	ALP	32.23	S	17.77

indicates seats for which a by-election has since been conducted (see pg 12).

Note: The status of non-classic seats in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania are notional post-redistribution statistics.

By-election margins

Below are the margins of the nine federal by-elections conducted since the 2016 federal election.

State	Seat	Leading party	TCP	Other party	TCP	Status	Swing required to change %
NSW	Bennelong	LP	54.88	ALP	45.12	M	4.88
	New England	NP	73.63	ALP	26.37	S	23.63
	Wentworth	IND	51.22	LP	48.78	M	1.22
QLD	Longman +	ALP	54.45	LNP	45.55	M	4.45
SA	Mayo +	CA	57.53	LP	42.47	FS	7.53
TAS	Braddon +	ALP	52.31	LP	47.69	M	2.31
VIC	Cooper + (Formerly Batman)	ALP	54.38	GRN	45.62	M	4.38
WA	Fremantle	ALP	73.33	LD	26.67	S	23.33
	Perth	ALP	63.10	GRN	36.90	S	13.10

+ Seats that have since had boundaries redrawn.

****It is not possible to create notional margins (margins based on 2019 federal election boundaries) using by-election results data. This is because by-elections were conducted on the seat boundaries in place at the 2016 federal election.***

Party abbreviations

Party	Abbreviation
Australian Greens	GRN
Australian Labour Party	ALP
Centre Alliance	CA
Independent	IND
Katter's Australian Party	KAP
Liberal Democratic Party	LD
Liberal National Party of Queensland	LNP
Liberal Party of Australia	LP
National Party of Australia	NP
Pauline Hanson's One Nation	PHON

Further information:

Contact the AEC's national media team at media@aec.gov.au or 02 6271 4419.