

Ballot paper preference data – 2012 election – page 1 of 4

File descriptions

Files	Description
BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt	<p>These files (one for each electorate) show preferences recorded on each ballot paper. Only formal ballot papers are included and preferences are only shown to the point where the vote exhausts (that is, until there is a missing or repeated number).</p> <p>Each record shows the placement of a unique preference on a ballot paper. A ballot paper containing multiple preferences is listed over a series of records. Each ballot paper is identified by a unique index number (pindex). All the preferences on a particular ballot paper can be ascertained by selecting all the records containing a particular pindex number.</p> <p>The batch number (batch) is a number assigned to each unique bundle of paper ballots. Batch numbers can be used to identify the electorate of the ballot papers and the polling place at which the votes were cast.</p> <p>The number of the preference written on the ballot paper in each record is in column: pref.</p> <p>The particular candidate against whom the preference is recorded can be ascertained by cross referencing the candidate identifier (ccode) and the party/group identifier (pcode) against the records in the file: Candidates.txt</p> <p>The column: rcand shows the Robson rotation order of candidates listed on ballot papers – “0” is the top position, “1” is the 2nd position from the top, and so on.</p>
BallotPaperVersions.txt	<p>This file shows the number of the Robson rotation version listed on each individual paper ballot (in pversion). (There were 60 versions for Brindabella and Ginninderra, and 420 versions for Molonglo).</p> <p>Each individual paper can be identified by the combination of a batch number (batch) and an index number (pindex).</p> <p>Batch numbers ending in “000” indicate an electronic vote. All other batch numbers are paper votes.</p>
Candidates.txt	<p>This file shows the name of each candidate listed on the ballot papers (in the form SURNAME, Given Name) in the column: cname.</p> <p>Each candidate can be cross referenced to other files using the electorate identifier (ecode), the candidate identifier (ccode) and the party/group identifier (pcode).</p>

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Files	Description
Electorates.txt	This file links the electorate code (ecode) with the name of the electorate. This code is used in Candidates.txt and Groups.txt
Groups.txt	<p>This file shows the name of each party/group listed on the ballot papers in the column: pname and the associated abbreviation listed in the column: pabbrev. Each party/group can be cross referenced to other files using the electorate identifier (ecode) and the party/group identifier (pcode).</p> <p>Column: cand shows the number of candidates standing for each party/group in an electorate.</p>
PollingPlaceBatchNumbers.txt	<p>This file shows which batches of paper ballots were allocated to each polling place. The batch numbers shown in column: batch can be cross referenced to other files. Column: PPN gives a number to each polling place.</p> <p>Column: pollingplace shows the name of each polling place.</p>

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Column descriptions

Column	Files used in	Description
batch	BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt BallotPaperVersions.txt PollingPlaceBatchNumbers.txt	The batch number assigned to each unique bundle of paper ballots. Batch numbers can be used to identify the electorate of the ballot papers and the polling place at which the votes were cast.
cands	Groups.txt	Number of candidates standing for a party/group in an electorate.
ccode	BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt Candidates.txt	Candidate code – the key for these codes is in the file Candidates.txt. The candidate code has to be read with the party/group code to identify an individual candidate.
cname	Candidates.txt	Candidate name in form SURNAME, Given Name.
ecode	Candidates.txt Electorates.txt Groups.txt	Electorate code – described in the file Electorates.txt "1" = Brindabella, "2" = Ginninderra, "3" = Molonglo
electorate	Electorates.txt	Electorate name.
pabbrev	Groups.txt	Party/group abbreviation.
pcode	BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt Candidates.txt Groups.txt	Party/group code – the key for these codes is in the file Groups.txt.

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Column	Files used in	Description
pindex	BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt BallotPaperVersions.txt	A unique number applied to each individual vote. Multiple records showing preferences with the same pindex number belong to the same ballot paper.
pname	Groups.txt	Party/group name.
pollingplace	PollingPlaceBatchNumbers.txt	Polling place name
PPN	PollingPlaceBatchNumbers.txt	A unique identifier for each polling place
pref	BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt	The preference number written by the voter on the ballot paper. Each record shows one preference only. A ballot paper containing 2 or more preferences is listed over multiple records, with one record per preference.
pversion	BallotPaperVersions.txt	The number of the Robson rotation version listed on each individual paper ballot (There were 60 versions for Brindabella and Ginninderra, and 420 versions for Molonglo).
rcand	BrindabellaTotal.txt GinninderraTotal.txt MolongloTotal.txt	Robson rotation position on the ballot paper – “0” is the top position, “1” is the 2nd position from the top, and so on.