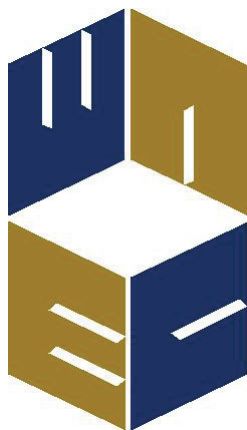
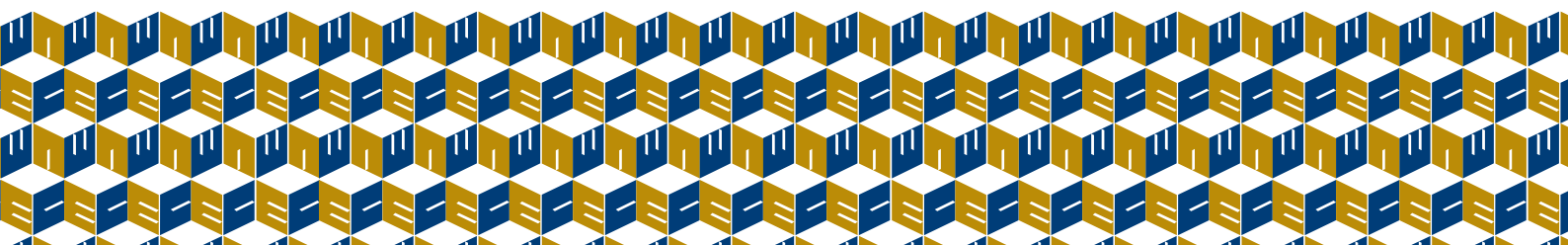


**2008**  
**Western Australian**  
**State General Election**



**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN**  
**Electoral Commission**

**Election Report**



## FOREWORD

Western Australian electors went to the polls on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008 to elect the 38th State Parliament. The distribution of State electoral boundaries determined on 29 October 2007, reflecting one vote one value principles, came into effect for this State general election.

This report provides details about the processes involved in the conduct of the 2008 State general election by the Western Australian Electoral Commission.

The State general election is a significant event in terms of logistics and human and administrative resources, held over a very short timeframe. This was starkly evident at this election which was called some 6 months earlier than the expected time of February 2009. It is noteworthy that for the 20 general elections held since the Second World War only one has been held this early. Compounding this challenge in delivering election services was the minimum time of 31 days from writs to polling day, the impact of significant electoral district boundary changes and a tight labour market affecting staff availability and experience.

The State general election is one of the bigger events in Western Australia. In 2008 over 1.3 million electors were involved, an increase of approximately 6% since 2005. A total of 10 registered political parties and 472 candidates for the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council contested the election. There were 796 ordinary polling places across the State, 58 intrastate, interstate and overseas and a further 59 polling places in remote areas serviced predominantly by air. While the majority of electors chose to cast their vote in person on polling day, there was an increasing trend to vote early or use postal voting for convenience. Approximately 4.7 million ballot papers were printed and distributed in total.

At the close of polling on Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup>, results were collated at the Tally Room located at the ABC studios in East Perth. The closeness of the result meant that an indication of which major party might form government was not clear at the close of counting on 6<sup>th</sup> September and the exact make up of the Legislative Assembly was not known until approximately 8 days post election. This gave rise to intense interest and scrutiny by political parties, candidates, the media and electors. Ultimately there was a change of the executive with the incumbent Labor Government losing power to a Liberal – National Government. The writs for districts and regions were returned on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008.

As with every State general election there are always operational challenges which in turn are areas for learning and development. Results and information dissemination, material handling and training of the casual workforce were such areas. Yet, despite the early calling of the election and the short time to employ and train staff, produce material and secure venues, the election was well executed. Without question, planning and preparation would benefit from the introduction of fixed terms.

Staff employed by the Commission expanded from the usual permanent level of approximately 45 to well over 7000 people during the election period. This team of people comprising permanent staff, Returning Officers, polling place staff and other casual employees joined with contractors, service providers and sponsors to make the State general election a successful event. I would like to express my thanks to all those involved for their efforts in delivering this election to Western Australia.

This report is a companion volume to the 2008 Western Australian State General Election: Results and Statistics. It provides details about the outcome of voting in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.



Warwick Gately AM  
Electoral Commissioner  
November 2009



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## INTRODUCTION

The Western Australian Electoral Commission ('the Commission') was established as a department of the State Public Service by the *Acts Amendment (Electoral Reform) Act 1987*. These amendments now form part of the *Electoral Act 1907*.

The Electoral Commissioner and Deputy Electoral Commissioner both hold independent statutory appointments under the *Electoral Act 1907*. They are responsible for the impartial administration of electoral law through the Commission. The Electoral Commissioner is deemed to be the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission. The permanent staff members of the Commission are employed under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

The Commission has a permanent staff of 45 officers structured into four divisions:

- election management
- information technology
- communications and corporate strategy
- business services.

Each of these divisions contributes to the three areas of operations that collectively comprise the Commission's core business:

- planning and conduct of elections
- maintaining the electoral roll
- electoral education and information.

District and Regional Returning Officers are appointed by the Electoral Commissioner under the provisions of the *Electoral Act 1907* to assist in conducting elections. They are responsible for ensuring the effective administration of the election in each electoral district and region in a State general election of Western Australia.

### Electoral Boundaries

Under the *Electoral Act 1907* the Electoral Commissioner is one of three Electoral Distribution Commissioners responsible for

establishing the boundaries that divide the State into electoral regions and districts. The remaining Electoral Distribution Commissioners are the Chief Justice of Western Australia, who is the chairman, and the Government Statistician. These provisions were formerly in the *Electoral Distribution Act 1947*.

The electoral boundaries and districts for the 2008 State general election were based on 'one vote, one value' principles passed by both Houses of Parliament in May 2005.

The 2007 Electoral Distribution was completed on 29 October 2007. Details of the division of the State were published on the boundaries website [www.boundarieswa.com](http://www.boundarieswa.com), in the *Government Gazette* and in a State-wide newspaper the following weekend.

District and region maps and profiles may be found in the companion publication to this report, *2008 Western Australian State General Election: Results and Statistics*.

### Legislative Changes

A number of electoral reform measures were proposed (and some introduced to Parliament) between the 2005 and 2008 State general elections.

In 2006 the *Electoral Amendment and Repeal Act 2005* reflecting the principles of 'one vote, one value' became law.

The 'one vote, one value' legislation had the following effects:

- it increased the number of Legislative Assembly seats from 57 to 59
- it changed the electoral boundaries in Western Australia, resulting in there being 42 metropolitan seats (an increase from 34) and 17 regional seats (a decrease from 23)
- it provided for Legislative Assembly districts to have approximately the same number of electors with an average of 21,000 electors in each district, except for the five districts in the Mining and Pastoral



region which qualified for a large district allowance

- increased the number of Legislative Council seats from 34 to 36 with six Legislative Council members for each of the six regions.

In 2006, the *Electoral Reform (Electoral Funding) Act 2006* became law. This legislation provided for public funding for Western Australian political parties and candidates, primarily related to their advertising expenditure.

The legislation provides for:

- candidates who receive a minimum of four per cent of valid first preference votes in an election to be paid \$1.56888 (as at 1 July 2008) for each valid vote received
- the payment is adjusted annually and is linked to CPI
- political parties whose candidates achieve four per cent on a State-wide basis are entitled to public funding for all of their candidates
- if actual expenditure incurred by the candidate or party is less than the amount that would be paid under the above calculation, then the lesser amount is the amount paid to the candidate or party.

In 2006, the *Electoral Amendment Act 2006* became law.

This legislation had a range of administrative changes to electoral legislation. Some of these changes were:

- overseas electors would now be allowed to vote in Western Australian elections up to six years after leaving Australia
- to mirror Commonwealth legislation, so that prisoners would be excluded from voting regardless of the term of their sentence, although they could remain on the electoral roll and enrol
- the general public could no longer buy copies of the electoral roll, although parliamentarians and political parties and

certain organisations would still have access to the roll

- Australian citizenship was made a prerequisite for candidates wishing to stand for State Parliament
- postal ballots could be accepted up to 9am on the Thursday following polling day, instead of the Tuesday as was previously the case
- introduced electoral offences in relation to Internet material
- introduced the Weighted Inclusive Gregory Method for Legislative Council counts.

## ELECTION PLANNING

### Election Planning

Assuming a conjoint election, that is, an election for both Houses of Parliament, it was possible for writs to be issued at any time within the 12 months prior to the expiry of the term of the Legislative Council on 21 May 2009. While elections have traditionally been held around February, the State general election could have been held practically anytime between 21 June 2008 and 2 May 2009.

The possibility of a 2008 State general election necessitated the early development of the Commission's election plan and key resource requirements well before the prospect of the actual election announcement. The election plan used a project management approach, building on previously acquired experience.

This kind of planning placed the Commission in a healthy position to effectively respond to the historically early issue of the election writs. Consequently, not withstanding uncertainty surrounding legislative amendments that were before Parliament, a number of key contracts and initiatives were actioned, and in some instances brought forward, on the afternoon of Thursday 7 August 2008, the day the writs were issued.



They include, among others:

- the lease of suitable premises to host the count centre
- the lease and configuration of some 500 computer terminals, faxes, telephone lines and printers used at the count centre
- the implementation and oversight of data-cabling and wireless networks at the count centre
- the lease, delivery and configuration of hundreds of tables and chairs used at the count centre
- development and delivery of count centre staff training
- the establishment of the tally room
- confirmation and appointment of returning officers
- implementation of an internet based online application system that facilitated approximately 7,000 individuals working on election day
- implementation of the count centre casual staff contract that culminated in approximately 1,000 individuals assisting with the counting process
- the timely and accurate updating of the electoral roll
- the production and distribution of over 3,600 electoral rolls
- the timely and accurate execution of the nomination process
- within 9 hours of the close of nominations the ballot paper printing contract was actioned and some 4.7 million ballot papers began being printed
- a statutory and creative advertising campaign with the first *Government Gazette* notice being published on the afternoon of 7 August 2008 and the first print advertisements appearing on 9 August 2008
- within 48 hours of the close of nominations transport contracts were actioned and ballot papers were despatched to early in person voting locations both overseas, intrastate and interstate
- a dedicated call centre to assist electors was operational on Friday 8 August 2008.

These and other achievements were accomplished, in the main, by a small and dedicated team of individuals in what can be accurately described as a tight timeframe.

### **Election Management System WA**

In 2005 the Commission used an electronic 'Election Management System WA' (EMSWA) to coordinate and manage the electoral event. The 2005 version was an enhancement of the one used in 2001. In the period between 2005 and 2008 further enhancements to EMSWA were undertaken that increased functionality.

This system, as with previous versions, enabled the Commission to maintain a central database containing most of the data for an election. Including, but not limited to, returning officers, candidates, polling places, and other statistical information about the enrolment figures and gender break up of each electorate.

EMSWA provided information for any area for which it may have been required, such as advertising, the *Government Gazette*, results system, production of roll books, the Commission's website, the call centre, ballot paper production, resource and delivery schedules.

The advantage of having one central system to coordinate various election activities is the reduction of potential errors, such as inconsistent information from different versions of data. Alternatively, processes such as nominations were handled more efficiently and quickly, and sample ballot papers were produced in-house for the purpose of checking spelling of names and party affiliation prior to data being transmitted to the printer.

### **Election Results System**

EMSWA was also integral to the management and dissemination of election results. The EMSWA results module, successfully trialled in the 2005 State general election, was again pivotal to this process.



As was the case in 2005, EMSWA facilitated the collection and the dissemination of the results data to the Commission's website, political parties, media and other commentators on election night and in the following weeks.

A small number of Returning Officers, approximately 20, were encouraged to directly enter their results into EMSWA via the Internet, and not via the traditional method of telephoning and faxing the data through to a centralised results collection area.

This initiative, first trialled in 2005, on the whole worked well, with results generally being available faster than those collected through traditional methods.

The Commission also developed a new website which included the display of the results once they have been received by the EMSWA system, and was automatically updated every two minutes.

### Returning Officer Appointments

Returning Officers were appointed for each of the State's 59 Legislative Assembly districts and six Legislative Council regions. Fifteen of the district returning officers were contracted by arrangement with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). Sixteen returning officers were women, compared with thirteen at the last election.

District Returning Officers are responsible for:

- inspecting polling places
- appointing polling place staff
- receiving nominations for candidates and conducting the draw for ballot paper position
- liaising with candidates
- arranging mobile polling for declared special institutions and remote areas
- training polling place managers and declaration issuing officers
- supervising voting and the counting of votes for the Legislative Assembly

- declaring the successful candidate in the poll.

The Commission intended to provide all returning officers with two days of training commencing late July and throughout August 2008. However, the early issue of the writ necessitated a change to this schedule, resulting in some returning officers having a one day condensed training session earlier than anticipated.

In addition, all returning officers attended a one day conference, held on 20 June 2008, to meet with key Commission staff and discuss any issues they deemed relevant and to be informed of recent legislative changes.

Because the administration of polling places is the responsibility of district Returning Officers, regional Returning Officers' duties primarily relate to:

- receiving nominations for candidates and conducting the draw for ballot paper position
- liaising with candidates
- supervising voting and the counting of votes
- declaring the successful candidates in the poll.

### Election Projects

Commission staff members were allocated tasks relating to the conduct of the election, separated into 68 specific projects (see Appendix 1 for details).

Each project was managed by a project leader and supervised by a project manager, the latter from the Commission's corporate executive. Project assistants were appointed to some projects depending upon the size and complexity of the project.

The progress of each project was monitored by the project manager, and coordinated by a Commission staff member who was specifically appointed to this task prior to the election. As a means to track the projects and to record data to



inform future events, all project leaders were charged with the responsibility of completing a project planning document (PPD). The PPD acted as a journal that recorded all the steps undertaken to deliver a successful outcome, the resources required, lessons learnt, and recommendations for future improvements.

Project leaders met on a regular basis, initially monthly commencing 7 December 2007, and then later on a fortnightly basis. Once the writs were issued the meetings were held on a weekly basis. The Commission's corporate executive had oversight over all of the projects, and were kept informed of their progress in a number of ways: attending the meetings; reading the minutes of the meetings; and by having one-on-one meetings with project leaders to discuss progress.

## ISSUE OF WRITS

On 7 August 2008, the Governor caused two writs to be issued to the Electoral Commissioner to proceed with elections in all Legislative Assembly districts and Legislative Council regions. Polling day was designated as Saturday 6 September 2008.

## ROLL CLOSE

Under section 69A of the *Electoral Act 1907*, rolls for an election must close at 6 pm on the eighth day after the issue of the writ.

During this period electors are able to update their enrolment details, or enrol for the first time, either by downloading an *Enrolment Application* from either the Commission's website and return it by fax or post, or enrolling through the Australian Electoral Commission and being added to the states electoral roll under a 'joint roll arrangement'.

The roll closed 6 pm on Friday 15 August 2008, and a total of 23,544 enrolment transactions occurred between the issue of the writs and this time, including 6,740 new enrolments.

## PARTY REGISTRATION

Part IIIA of the *Electoral Act 1907* requires the Commissioner to keep a register containing the names of, and other information related to, the political parties registered under the Act. The register contains only those parties registered prior to the issue of the writs for the election.

The following information must be included in a registration application:

- the name of the party
- an abbreviation of the party name for use on ballot papers
- the name and address of the secretary
- the names and addresses of at least 500 members who are electors
- a copy of the party's constitution.

When the Electoral Commissioner is satisfied that an application complies with the requirements of the Act, public notice of the application is given. If, after considering all relevant information and public submissions, the requirements are still met, the party is registered by entering the details in the register of political parties. This contains all of the above information, except for the names and addresses of the party members.

Registered political parties are entitled to the following:

- having the registered party abbreviation (or registered party name if no abbreviation is registered) printed alongside the names of its endorsed candidates and party groups on ballot papers for the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council
- lodging nomination forms for their endorsed candidates directly with the Commission rather than each candidate nominating with individual returning officers.

## Applications for Registration

There were 14 political parties registered with the Commission for the 2005 State general election (Refer Table 1: Parties Registered in 2005).

TABLE 1: PARTIES REGISTERED IN 2005

Name	Ballot Paper Abbreviation
Australian Democrats	DEMOCRATS
Australian Labor Party (Western Australian Branch)	Australian Labor Party
National Party of Australia (WA) Incorporated	THE NATIONALS
The Greens (WA) Inc	Greens (WA)
The Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division) Incorporated	Liberal
One Nation Western Australia	ONE NATION
Christian Democratic Party WA	Christian Democratic Party WA
liberals for forests	FOREST LIBERAL
Citizens Electoral Council of Australia	CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL
Community 1st (Inc.)	COMMUNITY 1ST
New Country Party	New Country Party
Fremantle Hospital Support Group	Fremantle Hospital Support Group
Public Hospital Support Group	Public Hospital Support Group
Family First Party WA Inc.	FAMILY FIRST

Since the 2005 State general election, and prior to the 2008 State general election, three political parties were deregistered (Refer Table 2: Parties Deregistered Since 2005).

TABLE 2: PARTIES DEREGISTERED SINCE 2005

Name	Date of Deregistration
Community 1st (Inc.)	20/05/2008
Fremantle Hospital Support Group	27/06/2008
Public Hospital Support Group	27/06/2008

For the 2008 State general election there were 13 registered political parties, 11 of whom were registered in 2005, and a further 2, Nurses for Health and the Daylight Savings Party, were registered Friday 29 April 2005 (Refer Table 3: Parties Registered in 2008).

TABLE 3: PARTIES REGISTERED IN 2008

Name	Ballot Paper Abbreviation
Australian Democrats	DEMOCRATS
Australian Labor Party (Western Australian Branch)	Australian Labor Party
Christian Democratic Party WA	Christian Democratic Party WA
Citizens Electoral Council of Australia	CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL
Family First Party WA Inc	FAMILY FIRST
liberals for forests	liberals for forests
National Party of Australia (WA) Incorporated	THE NATIONALS
New Country Party	New Country Party
One Nation Western Australia	ONE NATION
The Greens (WA) Inc	Greens (WA)
The Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division) Incorporated	Liberal
Nurses for Health	Nurses for Health
Daylight Saving Party	Daylight Saving Party

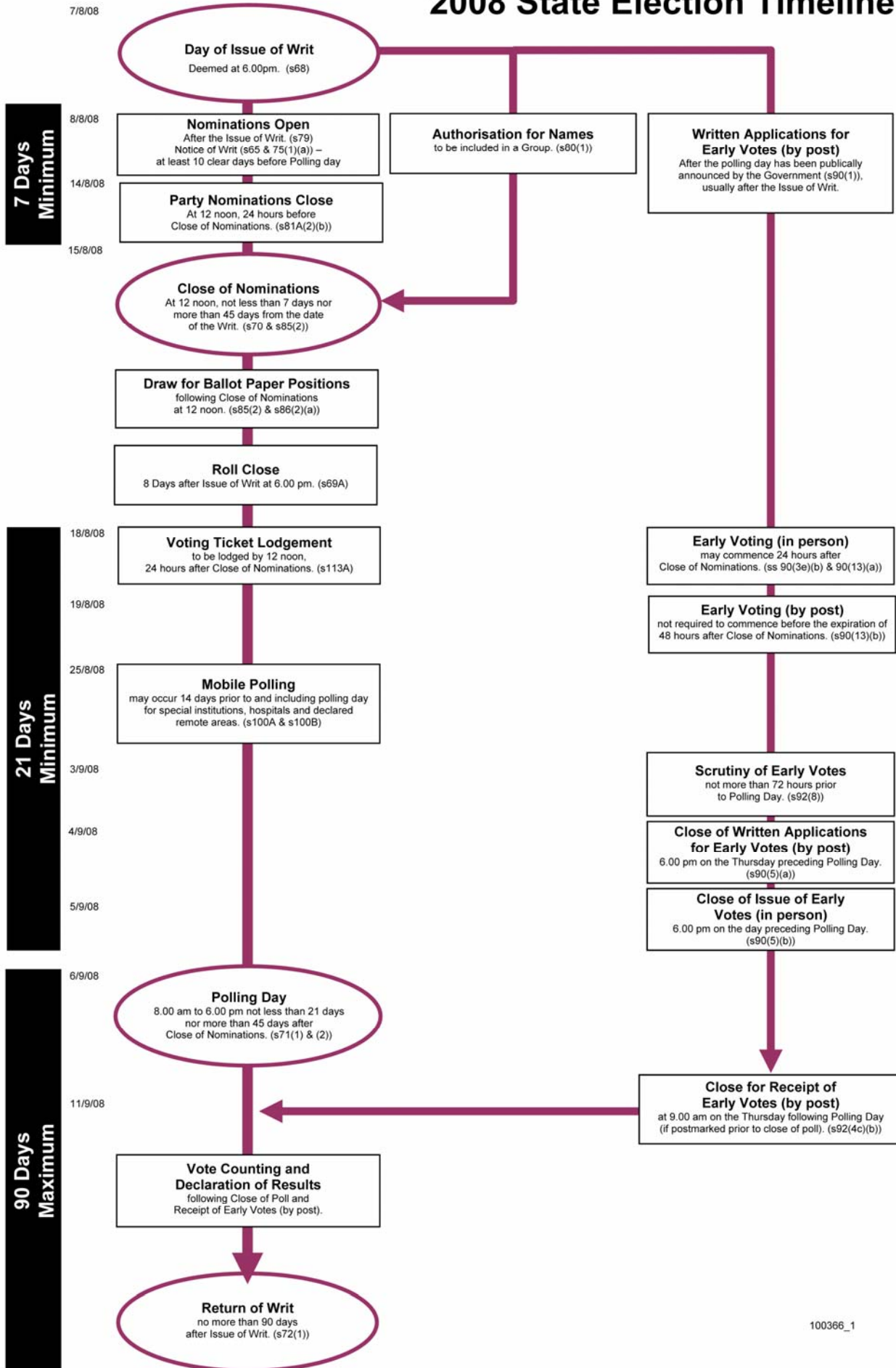
Of the 13 registered parties only 10 contested the 2008 State general election. With the exception of the Daylight Saving Party, the New Country Party and One Nation Western Australia, who only stood candidates for the Legislative Council, all other parties contested seats in both the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council (Refer Table 4: Parties Contesting in 2008).

TABLE 4: PARTIES CONTESTING IN 2008

Name
Australian Labor Party (Western Australian Branch)
Christian Democratic Party WA
Citizens Electoral Council of Australia
Daylight Saving Party
Family First Party WA Inc
The Greens (WA) Inc
The Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division) Incorporated
National Party of Australia (WA) Incorporated
New Country Party
One Nation Western Australia



# 2008 State Election Timeline





## ENROLMENT

Enrolment on the State electoral roll is compulsory for all eligible Western Australians. The *Electoral Act 1907* requires that electoral rolls be maintained for each Legislative Council region and Legislative Assembly district. Thus, a key function of the Commission is to ensure the integrity and accuracy of electoral rolls.

While a separate State roll is maintained, a joint enrolment arrangement exists between the Western Australian and Commonwealth governments. As a consequence, electors need only complete one enrolment form to be included on the Commonwealth, State and local government electoral rolls. Enrolment eligibility requirements between the three levels of government do vary, however, and their respective electoral boundaries do not necessarily correspond.

### Enrolment Categories

The general qualifications for enrolment are described in section 17 of the *Electoral Act 1907*; however, the Act also makes provision for some special enrolment categories or groups of electors:

- a Member of Parliament is entitled to enrol for the district (or a district in the region) he or she represents as opposed to that in which he or she resides. This also applies to the member's spouse
- for personal safety reasons, electors may apply to have their name and address suppressed on the rolls
- eligible electors can register as general early voters and automatically have ballot papers sent to them, rather than having to attend a polling place or apply for an early vote (by post) at each election.

Other special factors, which add complexity to the task of maintaining the State roll, include:

- certain British Subjects are eligible to enrol
- prisoners, although excluded from voting regardless of the term of their sentence, are entitled to remain on the roll and to enrol

- persons subject to certain provisions of the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* or of the *Mental Health Act 1996* may not be entitled to enrol
- certain additional information must also be maintained in order to satisfy the requirements of the *Juries Act 1957*.

### Roll Maintenance

The State roll is maintained electronically on a continuous basis. There are several aspects of the electronic roll which need to be maintained:

- the personal records of individual electors including postal address
- the maintenance of residential addresses (habitations) and the matching of addresses to State electoral regions and districts, local government districts and wards, and jury districts
- the matching of electors to addresses and the detection and removal of duplicate electors.

Amendments to the State roll include the addition of new electors, changes to the enrolment particulars of electors already enrolled, and the deletion of electors. In addition the addresses require maintenance to update changes such as house re-numbering, locality renaming, postcode changes, local government boundary changes, State boundary changes and jury district boundary changes.

### Enrolment Statistics

Sections 17(4a) and 17(4b) of the *Electoral Act 1907* allow persons aged 17 to provisionally enrol but they cannot vote unless they have attained the age of 18 by polling day. The total number of electors on the electoral roll as at 15 August 2008 (roll close) was 1,333,520 of whom 3,121 would not have attained the age of 18 on 6 September 2008 (polling day).

In making the roll that was used for the 6 September 2008 election, those 3,121 electors were excluded from the roll resulting in a total



of 1,330,399 electors being eligible to vote at that election. Enrolment statistics published by the Commission generally include all electors and consequently will differ slightly from enrolment figures for an election which have excluded provisional electors.

Between the 2005 and 2008 State general elections, the net increase in enrolment was 71,137 or 5.65%. The distribution of electors between the metropolitan and country areas has remained virtually the same, changing by only 0.37% in favour of the metropolitan area.

The following table shows the enrolment figures at the 2005 and 2008 State general elections (excluding provisional electors not yet 18).

TABLE 5: METROPOLITAN & COUNTRY ENROLMENT FIGURES

Year	Metropolitan	Country	WA Total
2005	933,421	325,841	1,259,262
2008	991,040	339,359	1,330,399

At the close of rolls on 15 August 2008, enrolments in all electoral districts were inside the permitted range of plus or minus 10% of the average district enrolment with the exception of Wanneroo (15.7%). The average district enrolment is calculated by dividing the total number of enrolled electors in the State by the number of Legislative Assembly districts into which the State is to be divided. The average district enrolment for the 2008 State general election was 22,549 ± 10%.

The passing of the *Electoral Amendment Act 2005*, commonly known as the ‘one-vote-one-value’ legislation, represented a significant change to Western Australia’s electoral boundaries, in particular the size and number of electoral districts, resulting in an increase from 57 to 59 districts.

It is not readily possible to identify the most discerning changes in enrolment figures since the 2005 State general election other than:

- There has been an approximate 14% decrease in the average number of electors in each metropolitan district, and an approximate

40% increase in the average number of electors in country districts.

- The Mining and Pastoral Region has the fewest number of electors in a region, with 76,005 electors at an average of 15,201 electors per district. There are five districts in this region.
- The North Metropolitan Region has the greatest number of electors in a region, with 332,146 electors at an average of 23,725 electors per district. There are 14 districts in this region,
- The district of Pilbara has the lowest number of electors with 11,449 and the Wanneroo district has the greatest with 26,745.
- The average number of electors is 23,596 for a metropolitan district and 19,962 for a country district.

## NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 2008 State general election opened at 6 pm on Thursday 7 August 2008, the day of the issue of the writ. Nominations closed at 12 noon on Friday 15 August 2008, the date specified on the writ. Legislative Council candidates were also entitled to lodge voting ticket claim forms by 12 noon on Monday 18 August 2008.

Registered political parties are entitled to lodge nominations for their endorsed candidates directly with the Commission rather than each candidate needing to individually nominate with the relevant returning officer. These party nominations closed at 12 noon on Thursday 14 August 2008, 24 hours prior to the close of nominations. Candidates who were not endorsed by registered political parties had the option of applying to have the word ‘Independent’ appear adjacent to their name on the ballot paper. There were 13 registered political parties at the time of the issue of the writs.

Each registered political party was contacted prior to the close of nominations to confirm interest in lodging nominations centrally and to



book a time for the lodgement. This proved to be an effective method for ensuring the timely lodgement of nominations, while also allowing sufficient time for details to be checked and any problems rectified prior to the close of the nomination deadline. All registered political parties lodged their nominations directly with the Commission.

At the close of nominations, returning officers faxed the nomination forms and the results of the draw for ballot paper order to the Commission's head office. The information required for printing ballot papers was then entered into EMSWA and sent to the printer electronically to avoid re-keying candidate names, and reducing the likelihood of errors being introduced into the process. This information was subsequently used for advertising, results and statistical purposes and to also assist with the return of candidate deposits.

There were a total of 472 candidates for the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, a decrease of 88 from the 2005 State general election.

### Legislative Assembly

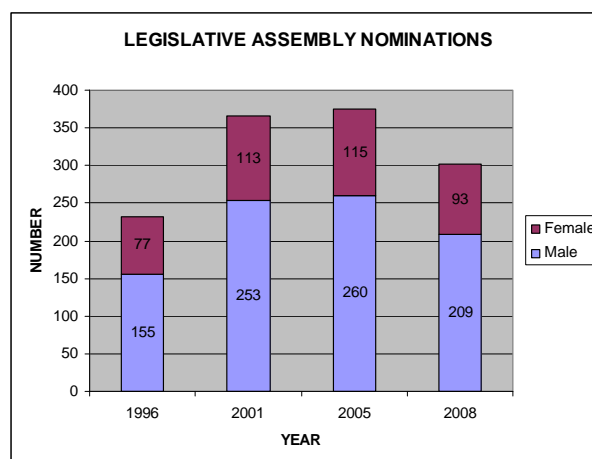
There was a 19.47% decrease in the number of nominations for the Legislative Assembly compared with the 2005 election, with 73 less candidates nominating, bringing the total to 302 in 2008.

The number of nominations for a given district ranged from three for the districts of Churchlands, Girrawheen and Willagee, to nine for the district of Murray-Wellington.

The average age of a candidate was 47, down from 48 in 2005, and the female to male nomination ratio was approximately 31% to 69% respectively.

The number of men nominating decreased by approximately 19%, from 260 in 2005 to 209 at this election. The number of women nominating decreased by approximately the same margin, from 115 in 2005 to 93 in 2008 (Refer Figure 2: Legislative Assembly Nominations).

FIGURE 2: LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY NOMINATIONS



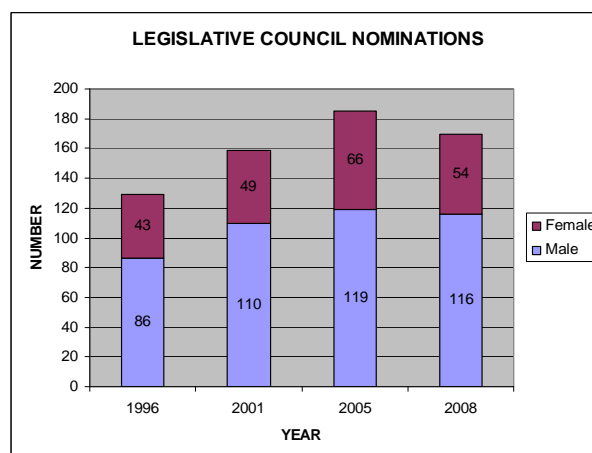
### Legislative Council

There was a 8.11% decrease in the number of nominations for the Legislative Council compared with the 2005 election, with 15 less candidates nominating, bringing the total to 170 in 2008.

The number of candidates nominating for a region at this election ranged from 26 for the Agricultural and Mining and Pastoral regions to 33 for the North Metropolitan region.

The average age of a candidate was 50, the same as in 2005, and the female to male nomination ratio was approximately 32% to 68% respectively.

FIGURE 3: LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NOMINATIONS





## Political Party Representation

There were 44 independent candidates, compared to 50 in 2005; three candidates with no party designation, compared to 11 in 2005; and 425 candidates representing the 10 registered political parties at this election compared to 499 representing 14 registered parties in 2005. In relation to political representation there was an approximate 15% decrease compared to 2005 (Refer Table 6: Political Party Representation).

TABLE 6: POLITICAL PARTY REPRESENTATION

Ballot Paper Abbreviation	Number of Candidates
Australian Labor Party	93
Christian Democratic Party WA	58
CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL	21
FAMILY FIRST	45
THE NATIONALS	29
New Country Party	3
ONE NATION	6
Greens (WA)	73
Liberal	92
Daylight Saving Party	5
TOTAL	425

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VOTING TICKETS

A voting ticket is a statement of a particular order of candidate preferences, provided by a party, group or candidate in a Legislative Council election. An elector may choose a ticket vote, thereby voting in accordance with these preferences. Voting tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of the close of nominations. Although nominations closed at 12 noon on Friday 15 August 2008, the deadline for the lodgement of voting tickets was 12 noon on Monday 18 August 2008, as Saturdays and Sundays are excluded days from the calculation of the time period.

The *Voting Ticket Preferences* form was computer-generated and consisted of a complete list of all candidates for each region. After the close of nominations, this form was either emailed or faxed to all candidates and groups. The forms, customised for each group or candidate in the six Legislative Council regions,

listed candidates in ballot paper order. Candidates and groups numbered the candidates in the order in which they wished them to appear on the voting ticket, similar to marking preferences on a ballot paper. The use of a computer-generated form ensured that no names were omitted inadvertently.

The voting ticket for a group had to list that group, in ballot paper order, first on the voting ticket. Similarly, an ungrouped candidate had to place the number 1 against his or her name on the candidate list. Preferences then had to be marked against all remaining candidates. All candidates and groups lodged a voting ticket, making a total of 72 voting ticket claims across the six regions (Refer Table 7: Voting Tickets Lodged).

A complete list of voting tickets for all regions was published in *The West Australian* on Wednesday 27 August 2008. Voting tickets were also available on the Commission's website soon after the deadline for the lodgement of voting tickets.<sup>1</sup>

TABLE 7: VOTING TICKETS LODGED

Legislative Council Voting Tickets				
Region	Registered Political Parties	Groups	Ungrouped Candidates	Total for Region
East Metropolitan	9	0	3	12
North Metropolitan	9	2	5	16
South Metropolitan	9	2	1	12
South West	10	1	1	12
Agricultural	9	1	0	10
Mining and Pastoral	10	0	0	10
Total	56	6	10	72

<sup>1</sup> A complete set of voting tickets has been produced in the 2008 State General Election: Results and Statistics Report.

FIGURE 4: NOMINATIONS BY PARTY AND GENDER – LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

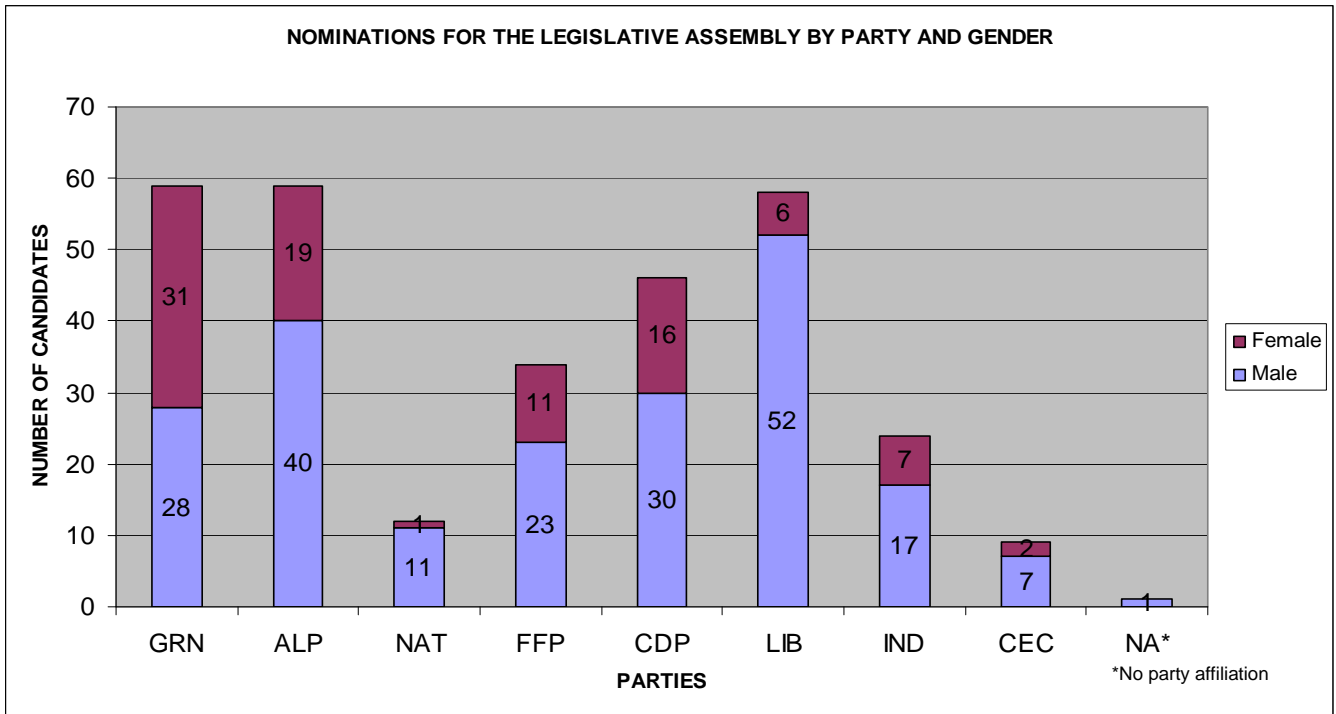
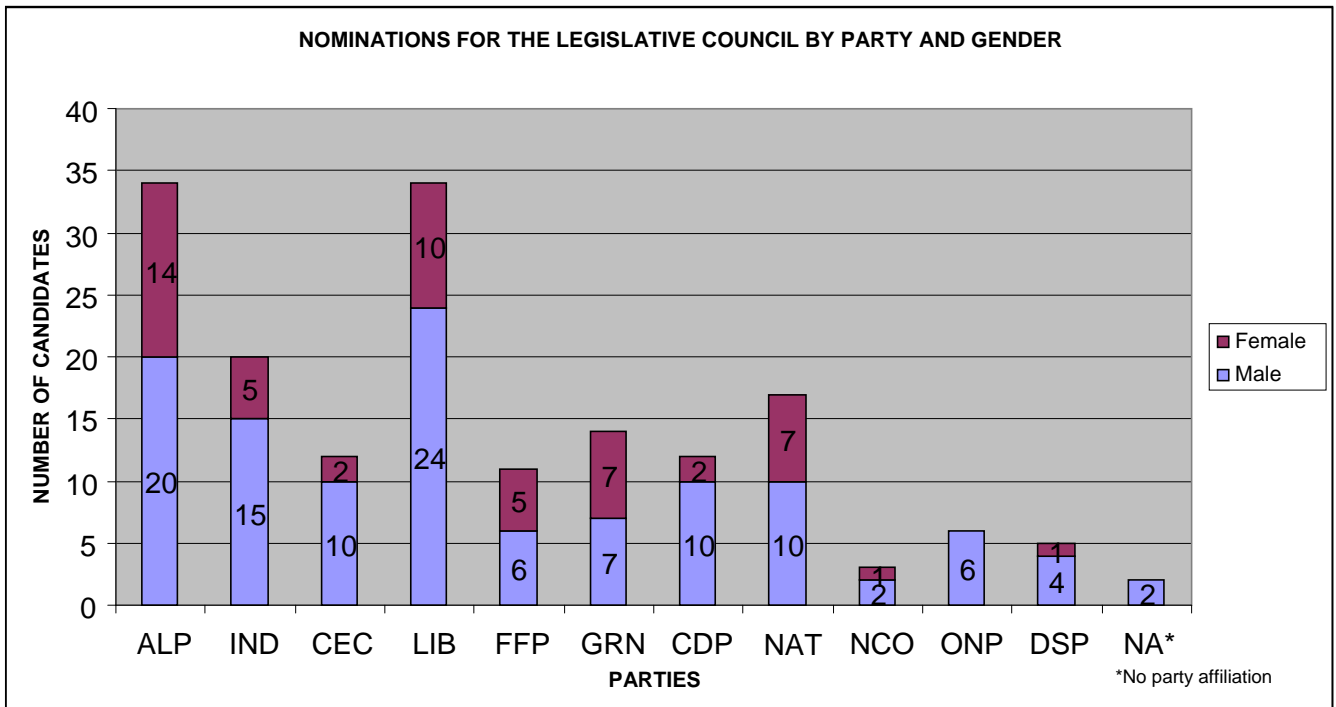


FIGURE 5: NOMINATIONS BY PARTY AND GENDER – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL





## COMMUNITY AWARENESS

### Customer Focus

The Commission is committed to informing and educating the community about their democratic rights and responsibilities regarding voting. Part of this commitment is to encourage and help electors become active participants in the electoral process. The Commission identified four groups of electors who required further options to promote greater participation in the State general election. These were:

- electors with disabilities or limited mobility
- Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Indigenous electors
- young adults/ first time electors.

### Electors with Disabilities

#### Electors with Vision Impairment

To assist electors with vision impairment, all polling places had hand-held magnifying sheets available on request. A number of polling places and early voting venues also had desk top voting screens or video magnifiers available.

#### Electors with Hearing Impairment

Hard of Hearing Counter cards are a visual communication aid for the elector and polling place staff. They were displayed at all polling place issuing points to encourage electors to advise staff if they had a hearing problem.

A Telephone Typewriter Service (TTY) was offered by the Commission to assist electors with hearing impairment when telephoning the Commission.

#### Electors with Limited Mobility

The Commission provided nine drive-in polling places where electors could vote without having to leave their vehicle. These locations were advertised in *The West Australian* on polling day, on the Commission's website and on the *Easy Voter Card* delivered to all households in the State.

Locations with best wheelchair and parking access were advertised in *The West Australian*, the Commission's website and in the *Easy Voter Card*.

Parking bays for people with limited mobility were provided at all polling places.

Portable voting screens were provided at mobile polling places. Desktop voting screens were provided at all ordinary polling places. These provide easy access for wheelchair use and for electors who require a seat to vote.

### General Early Voters

The Commission encourages electors with permanent disabilities, who were seriously ill or, infirm or who were otherwise unable to physically attend a polling place on polling day, to register as General Early Voters. These voters automatically receive a postal voting package for every State general election.

A brochure, *Services for Electors with Special Needs*, was developed and available in other formats on request.

### Australians from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds

Services were provided for 21 different language groups identified by the Commonwealth Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) as requiring translations and interpreting in Western Australia.

A guide was available in 21 languages at every early voting (in person) issuing office and polling place and on the Commission's website providing instructions on how to vote.

A telephone interpreting service was made available in 21 languages for any queries and was publicised in the *Easy Voter Card*.

The Commission advertised election information in several ethnic publications, using a translating service.



## Indigenous Electors

The Commission's advertising campaign targeted a number of Indigenous publications and radio stations to increase elector participation for people residing in remote Aboriginal communities throughout Western Australia.

Polling officials visiting electors in Indigenous communities also filled an educational role, explaining voting processes to electors.

## Young People/ First Time Electors

The Commission provided enrolment information and materials for two university open days prior to the election to target the age groups where elector turnout has been traditionally low.

Print and radio advertising targeted youth media throughout the election campaign, as well as online advertising on popular Internet sites such as [www.news.com.au](http://www.news.com.au) and Myspace to engage the younger demographics.

The advertising campaign was then designed to target this particular age-group (20–25 year-olds) while still appealing to all electors.

## Advertising and Public Relations Campaign

The advertising and publicity components for the State general election campaign were designed to create awareness amongst the general community to maximise meaningful participation by eligible electors in the election process.

The preparations for the 2008 advertising and public relations campaign began in January 2008 when an initial meeting was held with the advertising agency to discuss election advertising requirements. The same advertising agency used in the 2005 State general election, 303 Advertising, was used again. The decision was also taken to re-use the creative advertising from the previous election and simply change the election date, enabling reduced production costs.

The initial advertising plan had been to conduct a separate enrolment campaign which would pay particular attention to the boundary changes as a result of the 2007 Electoral Distribution. However, due to the early election announcement and short election timeframe, there was no time to develop this phase of the campaign and instead, the changed boundary message was incorporated into the four week election campaign.

All statutory advertisements were prepared as much as possible in advance leaving spaces to insert dates and other information when the election was announced. A comprehensive media placement plan was developed with increased coverage in Indigenous, youth and ethnic press. This included a number of advertisements translated into different languages.

The savings created from the reduced production budget was used for placing more advertisements in regional and community newspapers. In addition, the Commission trialled online advertising for the first time. This initiative involved 'pop-up' banners being placed on a number of popular Internet sites, including [www.news.com.au](http://www.news.com.au), and video streaming the television advertisements on Myspace.

The State general election campaign began in earnest following the issue of the writs on Thursday 7 August 2008. The first *Government Gazette* notice appeared the same afternoon, with the first advertisements in *The West Australian* on Saturday 9 August. The early election meant that advertising activity for the first week had to be finalised as a priority and all media placement confirmed. Broadcast advertisements commenced within a week.

The advertising schedule then ran smoothly for the four week campaign. All advertisements were proof-read in-house to ensure accuracy of content.



## Media Placement

Television advertising focussed on all four metropolitan television stations, as well as regional stations WIN and GWN, with the emphasis on prime-time viewing, including during the telecast of the Olympic Games.

Radio advertising ran on all metropolitan commercial radio stations as well as regional stations and Indigenous radio. All radio stations ran advertisements on polling day until polls closed.

*The West Australian*, *Sunday Times*, community and regional newspapers all carried a mix of creative, informative and statutory advertisements throughout the election period. The non-creative advertisements carried essential election information including key features and dates relevant to each of the election phases. Other specialist press including Indigenous newspapers, ethnic press and youth media, including the Internet, were also utilised through the campaign.

All statutory advertising was met as required by the *Electoral Act 1907*. In addition, a total of 210 sets of advertising material were published in 85 separate publications.

## Public Relations

The public relations campaign ran concurrently with the phases of the advertising campaign, although unlike the 2005 State general election, all public relations activities were carried out by existing staff from the Commission's Communications and Corporate Strategy branch. Overall, the Commission received extensive media coverage during the election period and in the weeks following in both print and electronic media. In most cases the coverage was factual, accurate and well-balanced. At times however, there was a deal of negative reporting, centred mainly on perceived Commission errors or omissions or on election issues with political impact. When put into context of the total coverage however, this was not overly adverse and in each instance the Commission had a

reasoned, logical response and was afforded a right of reply by the media. The availability of the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner was pivotal to this. They were able to present to the public the human face of the Commission and tell the real story in an emphatic and reasoned way.

## Media Centre and Media Liaison

The Commission introduced a media centre on its website that proved to be a great success. It was readily accessible and contained all the Commission's media releases, statistics and other information such as electoral boundary maps which addressed many of the media's frequently asked questions. Media liaison on polling day and election night was also successful with no problems encountered and all media requirements satisfied.

## Count Centre Presence

In the immediate aftermath of the election, with media focus moving to the count centre in Fremantle, the decision to base a member of the Communications and Corporate Strategy branch at the centre to coordinate media requests was highly successful. There was high demand for interviews, filming requests and results information and the Communications and Corporate Strategy presence took considerable pressure off staff concentrating on the operational issues of the count.

## Call Centre

A call centre was established to answer queries from the public on election matters to enable them to fully participate in the election process.

The call centre operated for 27 days over the election period, from 8 am Friday 8 August 2008 through till 5 pm Friday 12 September 2008.

The centre was operational from 8 am until 6 pm Monday to Friday and from 8 am until

6 pm on polling day, Saturday 6 September. Joondalup based Stellar Asia Pacific was the successful business partner for this project.

The advertising campaign encouraged electors to telephone the call centre with any queries, and all calls to the Commission's normal telephone number were diverted to this service.

The call centre received 41,005 calls over the 27 days the centre was operational. This represents an approximate 8% increase in assistance provided to electors compared to 2005 (37,768). This is a significant accomplishment given that the 2008 election period was 8 days shorter than that of 2005.

The most frequently asked questions included:

- how can I vote early?
- I'm going overseas/interstate/remote location. How can I vote?
- am I on the roll?
- where is my postal voting package?
- where is my nearest polling place?

Commission subject matter experts (SMEs) were based at the call centre to respond to complex queries. Any queries which could not be answered by the Commission SMEs were escalated to Commission staff at head office who could then research and answer any difficult questions.

During the 2008 State election the Commission received over 4,000 emails from electors. This was a significant increase compared to previous emails. The majority of the emails related to queries about early voting. Over 98% of the emails were responded to within 24 hours by Commission staff.

Responding to emails from the public was not included in the Call Centre contract for the 2008 State election. However, due to the significant increase of email communication by the public, the Commission will consider if this should be included in future elections.

## POLLING ARRANGEMENTS

### Polling Places

As voting in Western Australian State general elections is compulsory, polling places must be easy and convenient to visit on polling day.

For the 2008 State general election 796 ordinary polling places were identified as suitable, comprising:

- 697 single polling places
- 42 dual polling places (84)
- 9 drive-in polling places
- 2 triple polling places (6).

In addition, 241 special institutions and 60 remote area polling places were identified as being suitable.

Once the election was announced returning officers finalised all polling place bookings. In 2008 there was an overall decrease, approximately 3%, in the number of ordinary polling places, from 820 in 2005 to 796. In total there was 1,095 polling places provided for people to cast a vote in 2008, compared to 1,130 in 2005.

The polling places were gazetted on 18 August 2008. The following table details the types of polling places by region.

TABLE 8: TYPES OF POLLING PLACES

Region	Ordinary	Mobile	Remote mobile
Agricultural	142	14	
East Metropolitan	159	48	
Mining & Pastoral	79	15	60
North Metropolitan	142	66	
South Metropolitan	138	58	
South West	136	40	
Total	796	241	60



## Staffing

A total of 6,937 staff were recruited to work at polling places for the 2008 election. This compares with 5,915 staff in the 2005 election. The following table illustrates the categories and numbers of staff employed at polling places for the 2008 election:

TABLE 9: POLLING PLACE STAFF

Polling Place Staff Category	Number Employed
Polling Place Manager	797
Assistant Polling Place Manager	295
Declaration Issuing Officer	1811
Ordinary Issuing Officer	2486
Ballot Box Guard	580
Queue Controller	455
General Assistant	513
<b>Total staff in polling places</b>	<b>6937</b>

Mobile polling staffs were recruited by Returning Officers for the 2008 election. The following table illustrates mobile staff numbers for 2005 and 2008:

TABLE 10: MOBILE POLLING STAFF

Mobile Staff	2005	2008
Declared Special Institutions	217	183
Remote area polling	46	69
<b>Total mobile staff</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>252</b>

Overall, a total of 7,188 polling staff were employed for the 2008 election which compares to 6,178 for the 2005 election.

## Staff Training

Training for the 2008 State general election was focused on providing returning officers with the skills necessary to enable them to conduct an election in their region and/or district. Training materials were also provided to Returning Officers to enable them to train polling staff to manage polling places.

### Pre-Election Training of Returning Officers

A one-day conference was held late June 2008 for Returning Officers that included briefings from Commission senior managers and project

leaders on matters relating to the State general election.

Returning Officers were scheduled to attend two day training sessions in July and August 2008, but due to the early election a number of returning officers were provided with only one- day intensive training sessions.

Attendance at training sessions was compulsory and the topics concentrated on Returning Officer responsibilities prior to the issue of the writ, nominations, training of polling staff, polling day and post election responsibilities.

### Training of Polling Place Staff

Materials for the training of polling place managers, assistant managers and declaration issuing officers were prepared by the Commission for delivery by Returning Officers. Training was conducted, in the main, in the two week period prior to polling day. Topics included prior to, during and after polling day; ballot paper formality; sorting and counting techniques; distribution of preferences; statistical returns and delivery of materials after the poll.

Declaration issuing polling staff received specific training from the Returning Officers with a concentration on voting entitlements; absent and provisional voting procedures and completion of statistical returns.

### Absent Voter Recording System Training

A number of polling staff were selected for further training as declaration issuing officers with responsibility for the issue of absent votes using a laptop computer to locate and mark off electors names, known as 'easy absent' votes.

The training of these individuals was undertaken by the respective Returning Officer. To facilitate the training Returning Officers were initially given an overview and introduction to how the system works, including a





demonstration, during their training. In addition to the training provided by the Returning Officer, each polling place using the system was also provided with a DVD training disk and an Easy Voter Guide manual for reference purposes. The Commission also offered telephone support to the Returning Officers should they require additional information during the provision of their training.

### Training of Call Centre Staff

A total of four training day sessions were conducted prior to and during the operation of the call centre. These were conducted jointly by Stellar (the call centre operator) and Commission training staff.

### **Streets, Towns and Places Directory**

The *Streets, Towns and Places Directory* is designed as a reference guide to be used in determining the correct Legislative Assembly district and Legislative Council region in which an elector resides. The directory is primarily designed for use at polling places in the issue of declaration votes and for ongoing reference by Electoral Commission staff and interested outside bodies such as parliamentary electorate staff.

### **Electoral Rolls**

The Commission produces the roll in a number of different formats for various purposes associated with the election.

The printed rolls which are used in the polling places, where the names of electors who vote are marked off the roll, are printed in a format which allows the pages to be scanned after polling day to determine who has voted. A total of 3,604 scannable rolls were printed, a decrease of 11.48% compared to 2005. These were produced by Salmat BusinessForce in Bassendean.

The printed rolls that are produced for reference purposes in polling places are printed in book format. A total of 1,134 reference rolls were printed, a decrease of 62.48% compared to 2005.

Candidates were provided with the roll as a PDF file and as a manipulable data file on CD. These rolls were provided on request and subject to the signing of a confidentiality agreement by the candidate. Candidates were offered a choice of a roll produced prior to roll close and a roll produced at roll close, the former being available when the candidate nominated and the latter being available a week after roll close. A total of 15 requests were received of which 11 received rolls produced prior to roll close and 12 received rolls at roll close. The total number of rolls provided was 23 and that is because a number of candidates requested a copy of both types of roll.

An electronic roll was produced in a number of formats for internal use within the Commission such as:

- non-voter and multiple voter follow-up
- the Absent Voter Recording System, which is used for early voting (in person) and 'easy absent' voting on polling day.

### **Ballot Paper Design and Production**

The number of ballot papers required for the 2008 election was calculated using anticipated voter numbers based upon historical data.

Canning Vale based company Zipform undertook all ballot paper printing. Approximately 2.4 million Legislative Assembly and 2.3 million Legislative Council ballot papers were printed.

Production of Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council ballot papers commenced on the 15 August 2008, the night of the close of nominations, once the ballot paper templates had been approved. Production was executed in two phases, all early vote (by post) and early vote (in person) ballot papers were printed first and despatched on Sunday 17 August 2008.

Remaining ballot papers were printed by Sunday 24 August 2008 and were then distributed to Returning Officers.



## POLLING

### Early Voting

Early voting enables electors to cast their vote prior to polling day. Early votes can be cast either in person or by post. An elector is eligible to apply for an early vote if, on polling day, he or she:

- will be more than 8 kilometres from a polling place between 8 am and 6 pm
- will be absent from the State of Western Australia
- has a serious illness or infirmity
- has emergency duty or employment
- is approaching maternity
- is caring for a person who is ill or infirm;
- does not have a place of residence shown on the electoral roll (section 51B)
- is a member of a religious order that precludes voting on a Saturday.

In this election 143,660 early votes were issued, which was an increase of 58,021 or 67.75% more than for the 2005 State election.

#### Early Voting (In Person)

Eligible electors were able to cast an early vote by visiting a nominated issuing office between 19 August and 5 September 2008, making a declaration and then voting. These early votes were forwarded to the Commission for processing. A total of 58 early voting issuing offices were identified and made available for this purpose.

Overseas issuing offices were situated in Christmas Island, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom.

TABLE 11: EARLY VOTE (IN PERSON) ISSUING OFFICES

Early Vote (In Person) Issuing Offices	Number
Western Australia	
• AEC Office	14
• Court Houses	27
• Other Locations	4
Total in Western Australia	45
Interstate Electoral Offices	7
Overseas Offices	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>

The number of early votes (in person) issued for this election increased by 27,221 or 77.29%, to 62,441 in 2008, representing 4.7% of the electorate. The reasons for the larger number of early votes may be attributed to:

- an increased awareness by electors of the availability of this form of voting
- the timing of the election during the 'nomadic' holiday season
- the promotion of early voting in previous federal elections
- increased usage by mining contractors working on 'fly-in, fly-out' rosters.

The number of early votes issued at the Commission Office, located in central Perth, increased by approximately 28% from 2,981 in 2005 to 3,832 in 2008.

In recognition of the changing structure of the economy, in particular in Western Australia with its prevalence for workers to fly from a central metropolitan location to a regional centre for work, the Commission established three early voting locations at Perth airports.

Early voting facilities provided at these issuing points, servicing domestic and international travellers, enabled 5,497 electors to cast a vote.

The absent vote recording system was provided on laptops at a number of high volume issuing locations. Feedback from those locations was very positive and found to be more efficient than the manual process.

#### Early Voting (By Post)

Electors were able to apply for a postal vote by completing an application form, which could be downloaded from the Commission's website or obtained from other locations including Australia Post offices. Many electors who work at mine sites and had access to the Internet took advantage of our web based form. Those electors who were registered General Early Voters were automatically sent ballot papers.



Postal votes were issued from 21 August 2008 to 04 September 2008.

A computer assisted postal voting dispatch and checking system was used to simplify the issuing process and validation of returned postal votes. Once the ballot papers were returned in a bar-coded return envelope, the elector's signature was scanned and checked against the original application.

Returned voting packages were progressively authenticated and then forwarded to the Count Team for pre-processing, enabling 35,467 or approximately 43%, of all postal votes issued to be admitted to the count at 6.00pm on election night.

A considerable number of postal vote application forms were downloaded from the Commission's website, completed and faxed to the Commission. Electors who were overseas or interstate at the time of the election, and a number of defence force personnel, used this facility.

Postal votes were issued centrally by the Commission, and also from the London based issuing office. Returned ballot papers were accepted until 9.00 am 11 September 2008. A record number of electors, 81,219 or approximately 6%, requested an early by-post vote. Of these, 7,290 were ultimately rejected for a variety of reason, including failure to complete the declaration, signature not matching the application, including 3,860 arriving too late for processing. A total of 56,305 votes were eventually admitted to the count. A further 17,624 electors who requested and were issued an early vote by post, for one reason or another, did not return them. The return rate is considered normal as many electors subsequently decide to vote in person or do not vote at all.

The increase in postal voting can be attributed to a greater awareness amongst the electors of this method of voting. In addition, the major political parties once again sent their own copies of the postal vote application form direct to electors as part of their campaign activities.

## Drive-In Polling Places

In accordance with the Commission's aim to provide easy access to voting for all electors, nine drive in polling places were established for electors with disabilities. To facilitate voting a contractor was engaged to provide 'site offices' at some locations and drive through canopies were used at others. These arrangements enabled electors to cast a vote from inside their vehicle, or if they were able and so desired, they could walk into the site office and cast a vote.

The nine drive-in polling places serviced 1,153 electors. This represents a 61% decline in usage from the 2005 election, where 2,989 electors took advantage of drive-in polling facilities.

This is the third election where this facility was made available. As indicated in the 2005 election report, a number of able-bodied electors took advantage of drive-in polling services, even though signage at the entrance to the polling place and newspaper advertising clearly promoted these locations as providing access to people with limited mobility and their drivers.

In 2005 the Commission gave an undertaking to review this issue and as a consequence polling place officials were more vigilant in ensuring that this service was only used by those electors that had a genuine need. This may explain the reduction in the number of electors that used this service.

## Mobile Polling

Mobile polling is carried out at declared special institutions and in remote areas around the State. A complete list of the 241 Declared Special Institutions used for polling is included in Appendix 4.

At this election, mobile teams visited:

- 241 special institution
- 59 remote area polling places
- on Polling Day hospitals where patients were unable to come to a polling place.



## Absent Voter Recording System

The absent voter recording system enabled electors who voted outside their enrolled district on polling day to be checked against the State electoral roll on a computer at polling places where it was available. After determining their eligibility to vote, electors had their name marked off the roll electronically and were issued ballot papers with no further checking required. A total of 16,587 votes were recorded using this system and their votes were taken to the count centre to be processed and counted, this represents a decrease of approximately 30% from the 2005 election. This decrease has to be read in context of the large increase in early voting discussed earlier and may help explain the reduction.

The State electoral roll was provided on 73 laptop computers for use in 37 polling places in 17 districts in the metropolitan area and in some country areas that traditionally served large numbers of absent voters. Nine laptop computers were used at the nine drive-in polling places within the metropolitan area.

The advantages of the system are:

- voting is quicker and easier
- declarations are not required
- these 'easy absent' votes are processed at the count centre more efficiently as the electors entitlement has already been established at the point of issue
- staff numbers can be reduced at polling places whilst simultaneously increasing voter turnover per issuing point. Each computer operator was estimated to be able to issue 500 votes compared with 120 per manual declaration issuing point.

## Remote Area Polling

Remote area mobile polling was undertaken in the Mining and Pastoral Region, taking in the Districts of Eyre, Kalgoorlie, Kimberley, North West and Pilbara. In total 59 polling locations were identified and serviced and in the main were reached by air and four-wheel drive vehicles during the 11 days prior to polling day.

Locations included:

- Indigenous communities
- stations
- two mine sites.

## Materials and Equipment

Following the completion of a draft resource schedule, allocations of materials were finalised in consultation with Returning Officers.

## Polling Day

Voting commenced at 8.00 am on Saturday 6 September with many polling places reporting voters already queuing to cast their votes.

The poll closed at 6.00 pm and counting commenced soon after for Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council ballot papers at polling places and the Count Centre.

At the close of polls, the polling place managers were required to:

- count the first preferences of ordinary votes for each Legislative Assembly candidate
- conduct a notional distribution of preferences for the two preferred Legislative Assembly candidates, as identified in advance by the Electoral Commissioner
- sort the Legislative Council ballot papers into ticket and non-ticket ordinary votes and count the first preference votes.

## ELECTION NIGHT

### Tally Room

The tally room was located in the ABC studios at 30 Fielder Street, East Perth.

The technical infrastructure was provided by the Commission's IT service provider working with the Commission's technical staff.

In the tally room a range of interest groups and media had direct enquiry access to the Commission's results database. A first for Western Australian elections was the presence of pay TV news channel, Sky News, and SBS television. In another first, there was live Internet streaming, by WA Today Online, of election coverage provided by 6PR radio Perth (Refer Table: 12 Tally Room Presence).

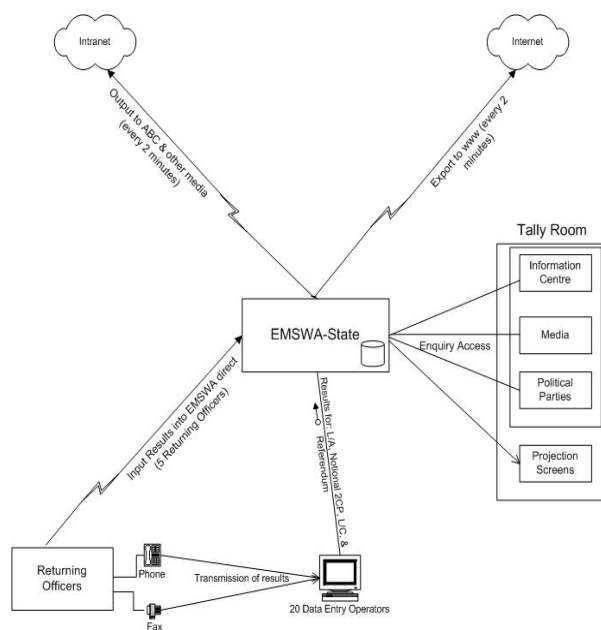
TABLE 12: TALLY ROOM PRESENCE

Attendees	
Political parties	Independent candidates
ABC News	Channel 7
Channel 9	Channel 10
Sky News	SBS Television
6PR Perth Radio	720 Perth Radio
WA Today Online	Community Newspapers
Sunday Times	The West Australian
The Australian	Financial Review

Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council results were displayed onto four large projection screens.

Progressive results for the Legislative Assembly, a notional distribution of preferences and the results for the Legislative Council were transmitted to the tally room by the Returning Officers either by telephone, facsimile machine or by accessing the Commission's results system remotely. Twenty data entry operators were employed to input the telephoned and faxed results into the system. Telephone lines and facsimile machines were installed to achieve efficient throughput (Refer Figure 6: Schema of the Operations and Tally Room).

FIGURE 6: SCHEMA OF THE OPERATIONS AND TALLY ROOM



### Website

The Commission updated its website ([www.waec.wa.gov.au](http://www.waec.wa.gov.au)) with details of the results of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council counts from election night.

The media and the public could view on the Internet the same information that was available in the tally room. The site was linked to EMSWA, providing results updates every five minutes on election night and every hour in the following days until each seat was declared.

Additional information was also available from the Commission's website, including enrolment details for each district and region, an election timeline, location of polling places, ticket vote preferences, Returning Officer details and candidate details.



## Election Night Results

The election night results recording centre was co-located with the tally room at the ABC studios in East Perth.

The election night results team was responsible for the recording and publication of the following election results:

- Legislative Assembly – first preference
- Legislative Assembly – notional distribution of preferences
- Legislative Council – ticket and non-ticket (first preference) votes.

Results were transmitted to the results recording centre by the returning officers by telephone, facsimile or remote access to the Commission's results system.

The computerised election results system performed well, although in some instances the results were slow coming in from the field, and because a considerable number of electors cast either an early or absent vote, there was a misconception, exasperated by the closeness of the election, that there was a problem with the system. This was not the case, the system worked well, what was missing was a critical mass of electors voting in sufficient numbers at polling places so as to provide a clear margin and indication of a probable outcome. This is evident from the historically high number of early votes (112,183) and absent votes (110,883) to the lack of a clear margin.

Election results were projected onto four large screens at the tally room using a 'slide show' approach, displaying four electorates per page, with a cycle time of 20 seconds per page.

Results were provided electronically to the media every two minutes and to the Commission's website every three minutes.

## COUNT CENTRE OPERATIONS

### The Count Centre

Unlike the process undertaken in 2005 the functions in the counting centre operations were brought together in one central location situated in the Fremantle Passenger Terminal.

The following activities were undertaken:

- checking early (in person and postal), absent, and provisional votes
- the counting of early (in person and postal), absent and provisional votes
- the final distribution of preferences for 25 Districts
- the counting of the Legislative Council votes.

A warehouse and material receipt location was also provided at the Count Centre and was used for:

- the receiving of Returning Officers' materials
- the scanned receipt of electoral rolls from Returning Officers, following which they were forwarded to Salmat BusinessForce for scanning as to their contents.

Security personnel were on duty around the clock, whilst there were ballot papers on site.

The contract for the supply of casual staff was awarded to Integrity Staffing, who recruited and managed a casual labour pool consisting of 1216 individuals in total, on our behalf. The contract culminated in the appointment of over 1100 staff per day, across multiple shifts, during the peak period following polling day.

On election night and the following day, Polling Place Managers forwarded all election materials, including ballot papers, to the District Returning Officers. The Returning Officers then sent on all Legislative Council and declaration votes (absent, early and provisional), electoral rolls and other materials to the Fremantle Passenger Terminal for processing.



Declaration votes were checked and counted at the Counting Centre and then returned to the District Returning Officers to conduct a full distribution of preferences. The full distribution of preferences is a time consuming exercise for which there are no shortcuts. For the second time the WAEC actively encouraged Returning Officers to undertake the full distribution of preferences at the count centre where they could be supported with expertise, staff and IT resources. Some 44% of Returning Officers chose to take advantage of this offer and subsequent feedback confirmed the value of this initiative.

### Early Votes (In Person)

The count centre had a separate Early Vote processing area, with a large proportion of the area given to the delivery of materials from issuing offices. The processing of the first dispatch of Early Votes began on the Wednesday immediately prior to polling day, with envelopes from Perth Head office first to be prepared for declaration processing.

Each issuing location was provided with a number of pre-paid courier envelopes and consignment notes. Courier Australia was contracted to co-ordinate delivery back to the count centre at predetermined times, resulting in a steadier workflow for staff.

On the Thursday and Friday before polling day the remainder of votes from the Metropolitan issuing offices were returned for processing. Over the following days early votes issued intrastate, interstate and overseas were progressively received and processed. The latest possible date for the receipt of early votes in person was 9am Thursday 11 September 2008. In total over 62,000 early votes were issued and processed.

### Absent Voter Recording System

There were 16,587 electors issued with an 'easy absent' vote (using the Absent Voter Recording System) across the 37 polling places, yielding an average of 444 per polling place.

The Broome Civic Centre in the Kimberley district issued the greatest number of easy absent votes (1,152), and the Busselton West Primary School in the Vasse district issued the least (211) easy absent votes.

The following polling places issued more than 700 easy absent votes:

- Citiplace Community Centre, in the Perth district, 702
- Exmouth Shire Hall, in the North West district, 797
- Margaret River Snr High School, in the Vasse district, 832
- Broome Civic Centre, in the Kimberley district, 1,152.

The following polling places issued more than 400 easy absent votes:

- Yallingup Hall, in the district of Vasse 401
- Dampier Primary School, in the North West District 427
- Rottnest Island Picture Hall, in the Fremantle district 441
- Guildford Primary School, in the Midland district 442
- Busselton Senior High School, in the Vasse district 448
- Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital – E Block, in the Nedlands district 453
- Dunsborough Hall, in the Vasse district 461
- Tom Price Primary School, in the Pilbara district 479
- Mandurah Primary School, in the Mandurah district 483
- Como Primary School, in the South Perth district 502
- Karratha Snr High School, in the North West District 552
- Rockingham Snr High School, in the Rockingham district 593
- Royal Perth Hospital, in the Perth district 596
- Subiaco Community Centre, in the Nedlands district 603
- Council House, in the Perth district, 612
- Fremantle Town Hall, in the Fremantle district 678.



## Return of Election Materials

A goods-inwards and warehouse system was set up at the Fremantle passenger terminal so that Returning Officers could enter with their vehicles and unload their materials. All materials were receipted and placed in delineated areas to maximise the speed at which urgent materials such as declaration votes, enrolment forms, Legislative Council ballot papers, electoral rolls, returns and staff pay sheets could be processed.

Materials from Returning Officers began to arrive on the Sunday afternoon after polling day, with most arriving throughout that afternoon and night.

## Declaration Vote Processing

Absent, provisional and early voting electors do not have their names marked off a printed roll, as occurs with ordinary voting. Because of this, they are required to complete a declaration of identity and entitlement on an envelope, and then enclose their completed ballot papers.

The Easy Absent Voting System reduced the number of declaration votes to be processed, which meant that there were fewer votes to be processed after polling day, than would otherwise have been the case.

Completed declaration vote envelopes were received, counted and batched into districts by a dedicated team led by Commission staff. This process commenced Sunday 7 September 2008, the day after the election.

The declarations were then checked for errors or omissions, and the elector details, as submitted by the elector, were compared against the electronic electoral roll. Where a match could not be made immediately, thorough crosschecking with other records was carried out before any vote was rejected. The computer system supporting the electronic roll has been revised and streamlined over past elections, enabling staff to decrease processing time and cope with the growing volume of declaration votes.

Once declarations had been admitted, they were transferred to the Declaration Vote Counting Area. Districts known to be close were given immediate priority.

On completion of the counting process, the Legislative Assembly ballot papers were forwarded to the relevant District Returning Officer to complete the full distribution of preferences, and the Legislative Council ballot papers were transferred to the relevant Regional Returning Officer.

Declaration vote processing was completed on 12 September 2008.

## Declaration Voting statistics

As was the case in 2005, there was again substantial increase in the number of declaration votes issued (Refer Table 13: Declaration Voting Statistics).

TABLE 13: DECLARATION VOTING STATISTICS

Declaration Type	Number			
	1996	2001	2005	2008
Absent	107,618	92,674	115,803	116,856
Easy Absent <sup>1</sup>		19,164	23,599	16,587
Early Votes (by post)	42,717	39,080	50,419	81,219
Early Votes (in person)		27,174	35,220	62,441
Provisional	9,834	10,063	11,712	17,058
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>160,169</b>	<b>190,156</b>	<b>236,753</b>	<b>294,161</b>

**Note:** These figures include declaration voting envelopes not containing ballot papers for both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.

1. Absent Voter Recording System processing first used in 2001. In previous elections these votes were incorporated into Absent votes.
2. Early votes (in person) statistics for 1996 are incorporated into the Early votes (by post) figures for that year.





## Roll Scanning

Printed electoral rolls used at polling places to issue votes were run through optical scanners to determine those electors whose names were marked off the rolls. Data from this process, data from electronic rolls used in the absent voting process and data collected from the declaration vote processing at the Counting Centre were merged to produce a consolidated record of electors who voted in the election. This therefore provided a list of electors who voted multiple times and a list of those who did not vote.

The software used in the scanning process has the ability to retain images of each page which can be readily viewed over the Internet. This eliminates the requirement to refer to the printed electoral rolls.

Electoral rolls were individually bar-coded and were scanned into a tracking system when received from Returning Officers after Polling Day. This innovation proved to be useful in the early identification of rolls yet to be returned.

Scanning was conducted at the premises of the contractor, Salmat BusinessForce in Bassendean from Tuesday 9 September to Thursday 11 September 2008. All rolls issued to polling places were returned. Unused rolls were still shrink wrapped in plastic and therefore easily identified as not requiring scanning, which saved on the overall scanning time. The system automatically identified marks on the electoral rolls and their corresponding elector identification number. Where errors were noted on a page the system prompted operator intervention to ensure procedures were followed in accordance with Commission policies.

Data files generated from the scanning process, as indicated above, were used as a source for post election investigations into non voters and multiple voters.

## Legislative Council Count

Following the close of poll, Legislative Council ballot papers were counted at each polling place.

All papers were then bundled and forwarded to the Counting Centre located at the Fremantle passenger terminal. On Monday 8 September 2008, a complete reconciliation and count commenced for each region. Two shifts of 156 people each were employed to conduct the count. The following numbers of votes were counted:

TABLE 14: LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COUNT

Legislative Council Votes	
Region	Number Counted
East Metropolitan	285,910
North Metropolitan	287,663
South Metropolitan	288,922
Agricultural	74,768
Mining and Pastoral	56,070
South West	158,149
TOTAL	1,151,482

The counts were finalised by the 17 September 2008.

A computerised count saves time in a number of ways:

- votes only required to be sorted into ticket and preference votes
- formality checks on the numerical formality of ballot papers built into the software
- conducting formality checks continuously while sorting and also during data-entry, when further informal votes are identified by the program and checked by the Returning Officer
- being able to commence data entry following reconciliation of votes for a district rather than the whole region
- a ballot paper audit trail in which individual ballot papers can be tracked through the counting process, facilitating checking and corrections
- using a computer program to perform the actual count, taking approximately two hours.

Future re-counts to fill Legislative Council vacancies will occur quickly as:

- data from the original counts will be stored electronically



- ballot papers are not required for a new count
- minimal changes are required to conduct a fresh count.

Re-counts now take approximately 30 minutes instead of several weeks and vacancies can be filled on the day of the close of nominations.

## RESULTS

### Legislative Assembly

Elector turnout is measured by the number of votes admitted to the count. In 2008, turnout was measured at 86.48%. This equates to 1,150,497 electors voting for candidates in the Legislative Assembly.

Of the 59 Legislative Assembly electoral districts, 15 candidates were elected with an absolute majority, or in other words, gained more than 50% of all first preference votes (Refer Table 15: Districts Where Candidates Were Elected By Absolute Majority).

TABLE 15: DISTRICTS WHERE CANDIDATES WERE ELECTED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Electoral District	Number of Candidates
Armadale	4
Bateman	5
Bunbury	5
Churchlands	3
Cottesloe	4
Dawesville	6
Girrawheen	3
Hillarys	5
Mandurah	6
Nollamara	4
Rockingham	4
South Perth	6
Vasse	4
Wagin	6
Willagee	3

The remaining 44 districts required a distribution of preferences to determine the final result (Refer Table 16: Districts Where Candidates Were Elected Following a Distribution of Preferences).

Following the close of counting on polling night 11 seats were identified as being very close. Arrangements were made to conduct the full distribution of preferences for these seats over the weekend 13–14 September 2008. Involved Returning Officers were supported by experienced Commission staff and competent casual counting staff identified earlier. Each full distribution took about 16 hours and was conducted under intense scrutiny which was at times difficult. While understandable, as the identity of the Government was not certain, it made for an oppressive work environment. However it must be noted that the Electoral Commission through thorough and accurate counting produced the result for the election one day faster than in 2005.

A total of 21 new members were elected to the Legislative Assembly, eight are members of the Australian Labor Party and 13 are members of the Liberal Party.

Re-counts are conducted if a Returning Officer so determines or in the event of a tied vote. This may be at the request of a candidate's scrutineer, or at the Returning Officer's discretion. The district of Albany was subject of a limited re-count in 2008.

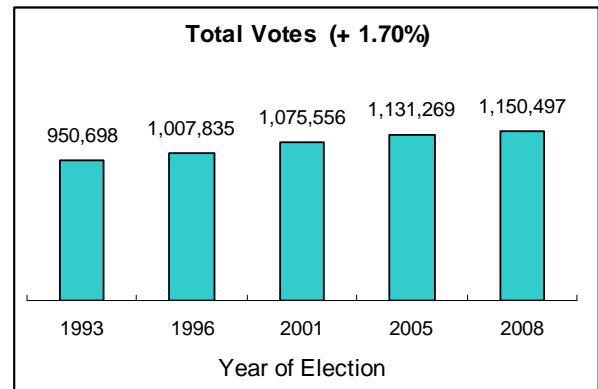
TABLE 16: DISTRICTS WHERE CANDIDATES WERE ELECTED FOLLOWING A DISTRIBUTION OF PREFERENCES

Legislative Assembly districts requiring the distribution of preferences in 2008		
Electoral District	Number of Candidates	Distributions Required
Albany	6	4
Alfred Cove	5	3
Balcatta	5	3
Bassendean	4	2
Belmont	6	4
Blackwood-Stirling	8	6
Cannington	4	2
Carine	7	5
Central Wheatbelt	6	4
Cockburn	4	2
Collie-Preston	5	3
Darling Range	4	2
Eyre	5	3
Forrestfield	5	3
Fremantle	5	3
Geraldton	6	4
Gosnells	5	3
Jandakot	5	3
Joondalup	5	3
Kalamunda	5	3
Kalgoorlie	5	3
Kimberley	5	3
Kingsley	5	3
Kwinana	6	4
Maylands	4	2
Midland	4	2
Mindarie	5	3
Moore	8	6
Morley	6	4
Mount Lawley	5	3
Murray-Wellington	9	7
Nedlands	6	4
North West	5	3
Ocean Reef	5	3
Perth	4	2
Pilbara	5	3
Riverton	6	4
Scarborough	6	4
Southern River	5	3
Swan Hills	5	3
Victoria Park	5	3
Wanneroo	6	4
Warnbro	4	2
West Swan	5	3

## Total Votes Counted

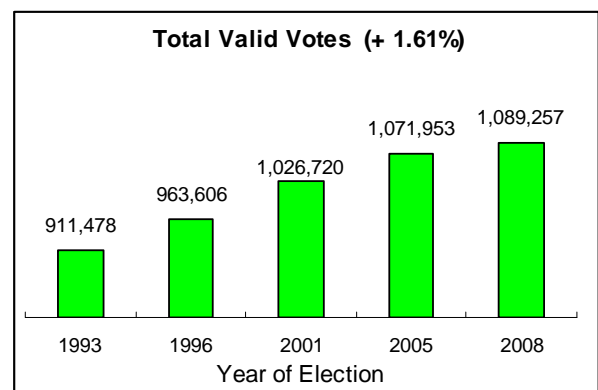
The number of votes accepted for the final count in the 2008 election increased by 19,228 or 1.70% when compared to the 2005 election (Refer Table 17: Total Votes Legislative Assembly). These figures include informal ballot papers.

TABLE 17: TOTAL VOTES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



The total number of valid votes in the 2008 election increased by 17,304 or 1.61% when compared to the 2005 election (Refer Table 18: Total Valid Votes Legislative Assembly). These figures exclude informal ballot papers.

TABLE 18: TOTAL VALID VOTES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



## Party Representation

Government was formed through a power sharing arrangement being entered into between the Nationals, the Liberal Party and Independents, who combined have a three seat majority over the Australian Labor Party in the Legislative Assembly (Refer Table 19: Breakdown of Seats by Party).



TABLE 19: BREAKDOWN OF SEATS BY PARTY

Legislative Assembly		
Party	Before 6 Sep 2008	After 6 Sep 2008
ALP	30	28
Independent	7	3
Liberal	15	24
The Nationals	5*	4
Total	57	59

\* Name change to *The Nationals*, previously *National Party*

### First Preference Votes

The Liberal Party, Greens (WA), The Nationals and Independent candidates all recorded an increase in the number of first preference votes when compared with the 2005 election. The Australian Labor Party recorded an approximate 13% decrease in the proportion of first preference votes received, whilst the Greens (WA) recorded the highest increase, approximately 60%, in the proportion of first preference votes received (Refer Table 20: First Preference Votes by Party).

TABLE 20: FIRST PREFERENCE VOTES BY PARTY

First Preference Votes		
Party	2005	2008
ALP	448,956	390,339
Independent	40,882	47,304
Liberal	382,014	418,208
The Nationals	39,548	53,086
Greens (WA)	81,113	129,827

\* Name change to *The Nationals*, previously *National Party*

### Legislative Council

#### Party Representation

The Australian Labor Party's representation was decreased by approximately 30%, whilst all the other parties increased theirs. The Nationals gained the greatest increase, 400%, or four seats (Refer Table 21: Breakdown of Seats by Party).

TABLE 21: BREAKDOWN OF SEATS BY PARTY

Legislative Council		
Party	Before 6 Sep 2008	After 26 Sep 2008
ALP	16	11
Greens (WA)	2	4
Liberal	15	16
The Nationals*	1	5
Total	34	36

\* Name change to *The Nationals*, previously *National Party*

The Australian Labor Party, although suffering the largest decrease in representation, still has members in all six of the regions. The Greens, although losing representation in the South West Region, increased their representation by gaining seats in the East Metropolitan, Mining and Pastoral and South Metropolitan regions. The Nationals had solid gains by increasing their representation across three regions and gaining four additional seats in 2008 (Refer Table 22: Regional Representation by Party).

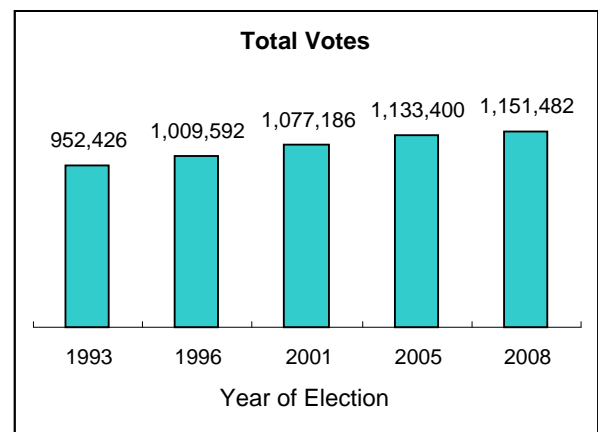
TABLE 22: REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BY PARTY

Region	ALP	Greens (WA)	Liberal	The Nationals
Agricultural	1	0	2	3
East Metropolitan	2	1	3	0
Mining and Pastoral	2	1	2	1
North Metropolitan	2	1	3	0
South Metropolitan	2	1	3	
South West	2	0	3	1
Total	11	4	16	5

### Total Votes Counted

The number of votes accepted for the final count in the 2008 election increased by 18,082 or 1.59% when compared to the 2005 election (Refer Table 23: Total Votes Legislative Council). These figures include informal ballot papers.

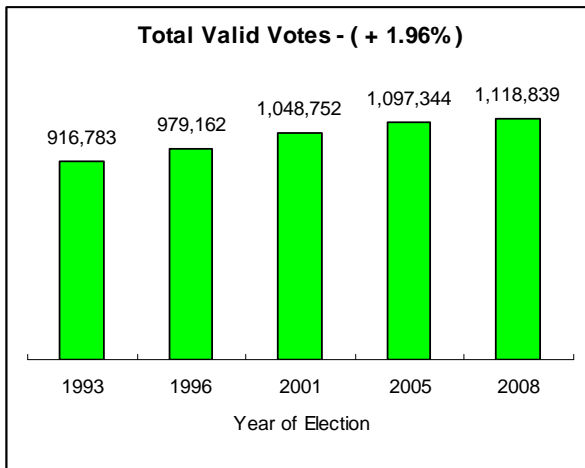
TABLE 23: TOTAL VOTES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL





The total number of valid votes in the 2008 election increased by 21,495 or 1.96% when compared to the 2005 election (Refer Table 24: Total Valid Votes Legislative Council). These figures exclude informal ballot papers.

TABLE 24: TOTAL VALID VOTES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL





## Age and Gender of Elected Candidates

The following tables illustrate the number of male and female candidates (by party) who nominated and were elected to vacancies in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council for the 2008 election.

In the Legislative Assembly, approximately 81% of the successful candidates were male and 19% were female (Refer Table: 25 Candidate Gender Legislative Assembly). In the Legislative Council, approximately 56% of the successful candidates were male and 44% were female (Refer Table: 26 Candidate Gender Legislative Council).

TABLE 25: CANDIDATE GENDER LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Gender Representation – Legislative Assembly								
Party	Nominated				Elected			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	2005	2008	2005	2008	2005	2008	2005	2008
Australian Labor Party	41	40	16	19	23	21	9	7
Christian Democratic Part WA	41	30	16	16				
CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL	8	7	1	2				
COMMUNITY 1st			1					
FAMILY FIRST	24	23	10	11				
Greens (WA)	33	28	24	31				
Independent	24	17	15	7		1	2	2
Liberal	44	52	11	6	16	22	2	2
THE NATIONALS *	9	11	5	1	5	4		
New Country Party	2		3					
ONE NATION	32		13					
No party designation **	2	1						
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>

TABLE 26: CANDIDATE GENDER LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Gender Representation – Legislative Assembly								
Party	Nominated				Elected			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	2005	2008	2005	2008	2005	2008	2005	2008
Australian Labor Party	21	20	12	14	8	5	8	6
Christian Democratic Part WA	10	10	2	2				
CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL	3	10	1	2				
Daylight Saving Party		4		1				
DEMOCRATS	10		2					
FAMILY FIRST	4	6	6	5				
FOREST LIBERAL	2		10					
Fremantle Hospital Support Group	2							
Greens (WA)	7	7	6	7	1	1	1	3
Independent	8	15	3	5				
Liberal	20	24	9	10	10	11	5	5
THE NATIONALS *	4	10	2	7	1	3		2
New Country Party	5	2	2	1				
ONE NATION	10	6	3					
Public Hospital Support Group	7		5					
No Party designation **	6	2	3					
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>

\* Name change to The Nationals, previously National Party.

\*\* Political parties that are not registered for elections are grouped under 'No party designation' for comparative purposes.



## Ballot Paper Formality

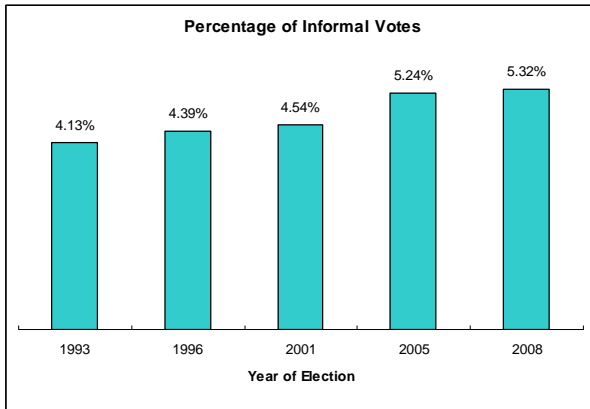
Ballot papers that are blank, do not show preferences in accordance with instructions and/or legislative requirements, or do not make the voter's intention clear, are classified as informal. A ballot paper is also regarded as informal if the voter can be identified through a marking on it.

Informal ballot papers do not contribute to the election of a candidate and are not included in calculating the quota or absolute majority required for election.

### Legislative Assembly

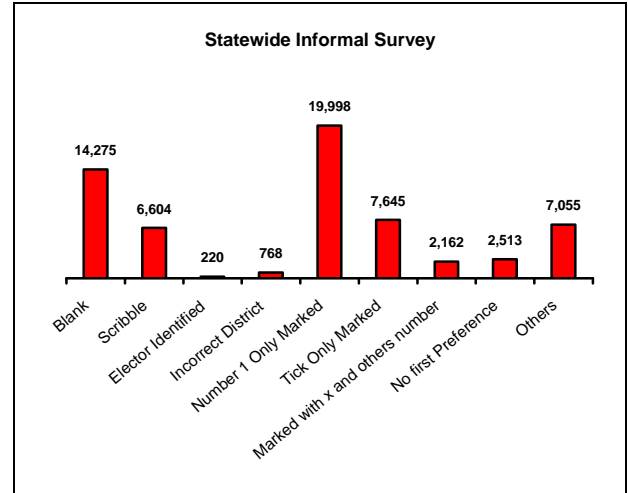
The percentage of informal votes for the Legislative Assembly in the 2008 election was 5.32%, an increase of 0.08% when compared to the 2005 election (Refer Table 27: Percentage of Informal Votes Legislative Assembly).

TABLE 27: PERCENTAGE OF INFORMAL VOTES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



The trend from 1993 to 2008 suggests a continued increase in informal votes, with the majority of informal voters across the State, 19,998, or 32.66%, only marking their ballot with one preference only (Refer Table 28: State-wide Informal Voting Survey – Legislative Assembly).

TABLE 28: STATE-WIDE INFORMAL VOTING SURVEY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

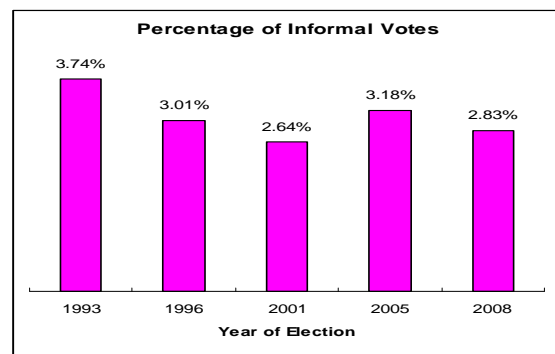


This preference for marking the ballot with one preference only was reflected across all regions. A further 23.31% of these electors made, what can only be described as a deliberate decision, to leave their ballot papers blank.

### Legislative Council

The option of ticket voting (marking a single preference on the left-hand side of the ballot paper) generally ensures that there is less informal voting for the Legislative Council (Refer Table 28: Percentage of Informal Votes Legislative Council).

TABLE 28: PERCENTAGE OF INFORMAL VOTES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



Compared to the 2005 election informal voting decreased by 9.49% in 2008, which fortunately reverses the trend observed in 2005.



## Declaration of the Polls

District and regional Returning Officers were required under the *Electoral Act 1907* to declare the result of the election at an appointed place in the district or region after the result of the election had been ascertained.

The public declaration of the elected candidates for the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council took place at various times, with all the seats having been declared by Friday 26 September 2008.

## Return of the Writ

Statements of results for the elections were returned to the Electoral Commissioner as required by the *Electoral Act 1907*, within the time specified on the writs. On Friday 3 October 2008, the Electoral Commissioner returned the writs to the Governor and advised the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the Clerk of the Legislative Council of the names of the elected members and gave each of them a copy of the relevant certified writ.

## POST ELECTION PROCEDURES

### Non-Voter and Multiple Voter Investigations

The multiple voter and non-voter investigations have now concluded.

#### Non-Voters

A total of 149,692 electors were identified as apparent non-voters. Penalties are imposed on those electors who do not provide a valid and sufficient reason for not voting. Follow-up notices or letters were sent to those who failed to respond to correspondence.

*Certificates of Attendance* were issued to electors who were not correctly enrolled for their current address when they attempted to vote. Any elector who received a certificate was excused from voting. This significantly reduced the number of first non-voter notices sent. The *Certificates of*

*Attendance* were also used to update the electoral roll for those electors who had changed address.

Notices and letters seeking an explanation were forwarded to each elector who appeared not to have voted. Advice of an inability to vote that had already been received from electors was taken into account before the dispatch of the first notices. The initial mail out consisted of 106,913 apparent non-voter notices.

Those 42,779 electors who did not receive non-voter notices had already supplied acceptable reasons for not voting to the Commission. Of this number, 9,109 electors were permanently excused, for, among other reasons, religious beliefs preclude them from participating.

The whole non-voting process consists of a number of steps, each with an allowable time period to allow electors to respond, before the whole process, that can take up to six months, comes to a conclusion (Refer Table 29: Non-Voter Timetable).

TABLE 29: NON-VOTER TIMETABLE

Non-Voter Notice Timetable	
Date	Event
08 December 2008	Form 33 – Apparent Failure to Vote Notices sent.
24 January 2009	Due date for above notices (Extended due to Christmas period).
16 January 2009 09 February 2009	Form 34 – Failure to Vote Notices sent (first & second run).
09 February 2009 27 February 2009	Due date for above notices.
06 March 2009	Final demand & Form 34 – Failure to Vote Notices sent (second run).
03 April 2009	Due date for above notices.
3 June 2009	Fines Enforcement Registry.

Non-voters who fail to pay the penalties imposed on them are ultimately referred to the Fines Enforcement Registry for enforcement action, or action may proceed in the courts.

At the time of writing, all non-voter notices had been sent and 26,161 outstanding infringements





sent to the Fines Enforcement Registry. Responses to these infringements are still being actioned. The timetable followed for the dispatch of notices issued to date is listed above.

### Multiple Voters

A total of 2,268 possible cases of multiple voting were identified by post election investigations. This comprised:

- 2,262 electors who apparently voted twice
- 6 electors who apparently voted more than twice.

Of these, the majority (81%) were found not to have voted more than once. Apparent multiple voter records were identified from a number of factors including:

- polling officials marking the wrong electors off the roll
- the misreading of marks by the electronic scanner due to poor roll marking
- double entries made during declaration processing.

After intensive preliminary investigation, 426 letters were dispatched to apparent multiple voters. At the time of writing, and after further investigation including consideration of responses to the letters posted, only 30 of the 426 apparent multiple voters are currently subject to further action.

The most common factors leading to the casting of a second vote were:

- the forgetfulness of the aged
- concern that a declaration vote already cast would not count or arrive on time
- misunderstanding, particularly from people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

### Political Finance

Under Part VI of the *Electoral Act 1907*, all political parties, associated entities, individual candidates, non-party groups and other persons are required to provide the Electoral Commissioner with details of gifts received and expenditure incurred for electoral purposes.

General information regarding financial disclosure was included in the *Guidelines for Candidates* for both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. Separate guidelines booklets were also prepared, setting out more specific information for candidates and groups. These booklets and relevant forms were distributed to candidates who were not from the registered parties.

In the case of the ten registered parties that contested the election, sufficient information packs and forms were given to the party secretary or agent for distribution to party candidates.

### Agents

All political parties must appoint an agent, while individual candidates, non-party groups and other persons may appoint an agent or otherwise remain responsible for lodging their own return. Those wishing to appoint an agent must do so before 6.00 pm on the day before polling day.

### Party Liaison

An information package was provided to all political parties registered in Western Australia that included information on nominations, advertising, financial disclosure requirements and electoral boundary maps.

Independent candidates received the relevant election information in their candidate packs, from the Commission's website or by contacting the Commission liaison officer. A briefing session was also held by Returning Officers at the close of nominations.



## Election- Related Disclosure Returns

Political parties are required to disclose expenditure incurred in an election. Candidates and groups are required to disclose all gifts received and expenditure incurred during the disclosure period for the election.

Persons other than political parties, associated entities, candidates and groups, who incur expenditure for political purposes are required to disclose all gifts received and expenditure incurred during the disclosure period for the election. If the total amount of expenditure does not exceed \$500, a return is not required.

Election returns were due within 15 weeks after polling day, by Monday 22 December 2008.

## Annual Disclosure Returns

All political parties and associated entities are required to lodge a return annually by 30 November, disclosing all gifts and other income received for the preceding financial year (Refer Table 30: Political Finance Timetable). Copies of all returns received may be viewed or purchased from the Commission.

TABLE 30: POLITICAL FINANCE TIMETABLE

Political Finance Timetable	
Date	Event
15 August 2008	Close of nominations
05 September 2008	Last day for appointment of agents by candidates and unendorsed groups.
06 September 2008	Polling day
22 December 2008	Last day for lodgement of candidate election returns – gifts and expenditure (15 weeks after polling day).
22 December 2008	Last day for lodgement of political party election expenditure returns (15 weeks after polling day).
22 December 2008	Last day for lodgement of 'other persons' who incur expenditure for political purposes – gifts and expenditure (15 weeks after polling day).
19 January 2009	Election related returns made public (19 weeks after polling day).

27 January 2009*	Last day for lodgement of claims for public funding/reimbursement of electoral expenditure (20 weeks after polling day).
30 November 2009	Last day for lodgement of annual returns for political parties 2008/2009.

\* Note that Sunday 25 January is actually 20 weeks after polling day and Monday 26 January is a public holiday. Under section 61(2) of the Interpretation Act 1984 these are 'excluded days' and therefore Tuesday 27 becomes the final day.

## Electoral Funding

In 2006, the *Electoral Reform (Electoral Funding) Act 2006* became law. This legislation provided for public funding for Western Australian political parties and candidates, primarily related to their advertising expenditure.

Funding is only available to those candidates who receive a minimum of four per cent of valid first preference votes in an election, and in doing so are entitled to be paid \$1.56888 for each valid vote received.

Political parties whose candidates achieve four per cent on a State-wide basis are entitled to public funding for all of their candidates

Funding is not automatically provided to either candidates or political parties, first they must provide evidence of incurring electoral expenses. If actual expenditure incurred by the candidate or party is less than the amount that would be paid under the above calculation, then the lesser amount is the amount paid to the candidate or party (Refer Table 31: Public Funding).

TABLE 31: PUBLIC FUNDING

Party/Candidate	Max Amount Payable
ADAMS, Carol (IND)	\$6,846.59
Australian Labor Party	\$1,246,832.86
BOWLER, John (IND)	\$5,437.74
Christian Democratic Party	\$15,516.22
CONSTABLE, Elizabeth (IND)	\$20,906.89
D'ORAZIO, John (IND)	\$4,934.13
Family First Party	\$11,807.39
FULLARTON, Lex (IND)	\$1,299.03
GRAYDEN, Jim (IND)	\$2,772.21
JENKINS, Mary (IND)	\$2,221.53
National Party of Australia (WA)	\$176,641.77



TABLE 31: PUBLIC FUNDING (continued)

Party/Candidate	Max Amount Payable
RE, Elizabeth	\$2,678.08
STEWART, Bill	\$5,604.04
The Greens (WA) Inc	\$398,133.11
The Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australia Division) Inc	\$1,351,232.42
WALKER, Sue (IND)	\$6,979.95
WOOLLARD, Janet (IND)	\$7,991.87
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,267,835.84</b>

## RESOURCE ALLOCATION

The 2008 State general election was conducted at a cost of approximately \$13.8 million to 30 June 2009. Additional costs were incurred during the early part of 2007-08 in relation to pre-election planning activities.

The following table provides a breakdown of the main resource areas utilised during the election, followed by a brief description of these items.

TABLE 32: RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Resource	\$,000	%
Staffing	7,950	58
Contracts and expenses	1,180	8
Advertising and web-site	1,300	9
Printing and stationary	1395	10
Communication and freight	770	6
Equipment	400	3
Travel	805	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>100</b>

### Staffing

This cost includes all expenses associated with the employment of:

- 59 district Returning Officers
- 6 Regional Returning Officers
- 7,188 polling staff
- 1216 casual staff for post election counting and processing
- additional contract staff to assist with specific election projects.

### Contracts and Expenses

This item covers a range of expenses including system developments, tally room and counting centre operations.

### Advertising and Website

These costs relate to the advertising campaign including statutory advertising, campaign development, public relations and information dissemination via the internet.

### Printing and Stationary

The cost of voting screens, ballot boxes and other polling place equipment, manual and forms are included in this item.

### Communication and Freight

Included in this item are telephone, postage, courier and general freight costs.

### Equipment

This item includes the cost of purchase or hire of additional equipment needed for polling place, tally room and counting centre operations.

### Travel

Travel costs incurred by Returning Officers and other staff in providing services across the state are included in this item.



## APPENDIX 1 – ELECTION PROJECT ALLOCATIONS

### Advertising and Publicity

- Advertising
  - Statutory
  - PR (Promotional)
  - Enrolment drive and pre-election awareness
  - Indigenous voter strategies
- Information kits
- Website maintenance and internet information
- Media briefings
- Political party liaison; candidate and party briefings
- Call centre
- Legislation
- East voter card

### Determination of the Poll and Election Results

- Declaration vote receipts
  - Central receipt of votes
- Declaration vote processing and reporting
- Legislative Council count
- Election night management
  - Results system operations
- Election night results system report
- Returning officer returns of election material
- Information integrity project
- Post-election results (weeks 1 and 2)
- Statistics
- Election reports
  - Text
  - Statistics
- Complaints

### Facilities and Voting Services

- East vote recording system
- Early voting (in person)
- Early voting (by post)
  - General postal votes
  - Written applications

- Polling Places – Boundaries and Sites
  - Mining sites/ institutions
  - Mobile polling (remote/ hospitals)
  - Remote area polling
- Polling place maps
- Polling places
  - Equipment
  - Resource schedule and allocations
  - Drive-in polling places
- Voters with special needs – services
- Set up and management of the tally room and counting centre

### Materials and Equipment

- Ballot boxes, screens and other cardboard equipment – design and production
- Ballot papers
  - Final estimate of absent and provisional ballot papers
  - Design and production
  - Proofing
  - Printing and distribution
  - Storage
- Equipment
  - Furniture
  - Telephones, faxes and mobiles
  - Computers and peripherals
  - Stock take
  - Security
  - Distribution
- Forms – design and production
- Forms – electronic
- Production and procurement of materials
- Return of materials to store
- Storage and distribution of materials

### Nominations

- Legislative Council voting tickets – lodgement and distribution
- Nominations – deposits and return of funds
- Nominations – Legislative Assembly
- Nominations – Legislative Council
- Political finance
- Political party registration



## Non-Voting and Multiple Voting

- Roll scanning
- Multiple voters
- Non-voters

## Operations and Support Systems

- Election plan management
- Issue and return of writs
- Management tasks
  - Interstate visitors' program
  - Functions and invitations
- IT support systems and telecommunications
- Returning officer liaison
- Election Management System Western Australia (EMSWA)
- Data communication and off-site replications
- Set up and management of security of online documentation
- Set up of election event in ELMSWA

## Performance Review

- District audit
- Stakeholder surveys

## Rolls and Roll Products

- Roll close
- Roll production
  - CD ROM
  - Certified lists
  - Reference rolls
  - Habitation index
- Streets and Towns Directory

## Staffing – HR Operations

- Casual staff
  - Selection
  - Appointment
  - Assessment

- Polling place staff
  - Establishment
  - Selection
  - Appointment
  - Payment
  - Assessment

## Staffing – Election Services Operations

- Interstate secondment program
- Returning officer recruitment, appointment performance assessment and debriefing
- Remuneration review
- Allocation of projects

## Training

- Training and evaluation program
- Manuals and workbooks – review design and production
- Training – packages and materials
- Returning Officer training and debriefing



## APPENDIX 2 – METROPOLITAN AND COUNTRY AREA ENROLMENT STATISTICS

### Legislative Assembly – Metropolitan Area Enrolment Statistics as at 15 August 2008

District	Enrolment Males	Enrolment Females	Total Enrolment	Variation from Average District Enrolment*
Alfred Cove	10,985	12,598	23,583	4.4%
Armadale	11,748	12,368	24,116	6.5%
Balcatta	11,007	12,358	23,365	3.5%
Bassendean	11,191	11,907	23,098	2.4%
Bateman	10,922	12,109	23,031	2.1%
Belmont	10,682	11,427	22,109	-1.9%
Cannington	11,316	11,882	23,198	2.8%
Carine	11,404	11,988	23,392	3.6%
Churchlands	11,275	12,122	23,397	3.6%
Cockburn	11,969	12,470	24,439	7.7%
Cottesloe	11,195	12,840	24,035	6.2%
Darling Range	12,102	12,060	24,072	6.3%
Forrestfield	11,870	12,378	24,248	7.1%
Fremantle	11,294	12,364	23,658	4.7%
Girrawheen	11,193	11,661	22,854	1.3%
Gosnells	10,811	11,700	22,511	-0.2%
Hillarys	11,565	12,111	23,676	4.8%
Jandakot	11,789	12,388	24,177	6.7%
Joondalup	11,207	11,738	22,945	1.7%
Kalamunda	11,471	12,045	23,516	4.4%
Kingsley	11,495	12,147	23,642	4.6%
Kwinana	11,410	12,081	23,491	4.0%
Maylands	11,304	11,961	23,265	3.0%
Midland	11,353	12,196	23,549	4.3%
Mindarie	11,348	12,265	23,613	4.5%
Morley	11,367	12,113	23,480	4.0%
Mount Lawley	10,859	12,009	22,868	1.4%
Nedlands	11,205	12,431	23,636	4.6%
Nollamara	11,277	12,293	23,570	4.3%
Ocean Reef	11,301	11,744	23,045	2.2%
Perth	12,372	12,009	24,381	7.7%
Riverton	10,969	11,768	22,737	0.8%
Rockingham	11,151	11,752	22,903	1.5%
Scarborough	11,057	12,363	23,420	3.7%
South Perth	11,097	12,425	23,522	4.1%
Southern River	11,978	12,654	24,632	8.5%
Victoria Park	11,540	12,661	24,201	6.8%
Wanneroo	12,958	13,787	26,745	15.7%
Warnbro	11,891	12,467	24,358	7.7%
West Swan	10,849	11,520	22,369	-0.8%
Willagee	11,007	12,407	23,414	3.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>478,787</b>	<b>512,253</b>	<b>991,040</b>	

\* Average district enrolment is calculated by dividing the total enrolment as at 15 August 2008 by the number of districts in the State. The average district enrolment for the 2008 State general election was 22,549.



## Legislative Assembly – Country Area Enrolment Statistics as at 15 August 2008

District	Enrolment Males	Enrolment Females	Total Enrolment	Variation from Average District Enrolment*
Albany	10,739	11,767	22,506	-0.2%
Blackwood-Stirling	10,347	10,376	20,723	-8.8%
Bunbury	10,068	10,849	20,917	-7.8%
Central Wheatbelt	10,239	10,252	20,491	-10.0%
Collie-Preston	11,775	12,094	23,869	5.5%
Dawesville	10,487	11,174	21,661	-4.1%
Eyre	9,054	8,744	17,798	-26.7%
Geraldton	10,458	10,941	21,399	-5.4%
Kalgoorlie	7,207	6,931	14,138	-59.4%
Kimberley	8,408	8,250	16,658	-35.4%
Mandurah	10,048	11,053	21,101	-6.9%
Moore	11,507	10,770	22,277	-1.2%
Murray-Wellington	11,870	11,905	23,775	5.2%
North West	8,347	7,615	15,962	-41.3%
Pilbara	6,050	5,399	11,449	-96.9%
Vasse	11,671	12,578	24,249	7.0%
Wagin	10,363	10,023	20,386	-10.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>168,638</b>	<b>170,721</b>	<b>339,359</b>	

\* Average district enrolment is calculated by dividing the total enrolment as at 15 August 2008 by the number of districts in the State. The average district enrolment for the 2008 State general election was 22,549.



## APPENDIX 3 – ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN TIMETABLE

*Phases 1/2: Announcement of election to close of nominations*

**Timeframe: 7 August 2008 – 15 August 2008**

The Commission had originally planned an enrolment phase of its election advertising campaign which would concentrate on changed boundaries and the need to update enrolment before the State general election. Media had been booked and advertising approval obtained from the Government Media Office, however the election announcement was made before advertisements were developed. This meant the enrolment campaign was not stand-alone, with that message instead being incorporated into the first week of advertising. The main focus of the advertising campaign in the first week was to announce the election and provide key election dates such as the close of rolls and the close of nominations.

In this period the statutory advertising included the election announcement advertisement which ran in *The Government Gazette*, *The West Australian*, *Sunday Times* as well as regional and community newspapers and the details of the returning officers which were published in *The West Australian*. In addition, separate newspaper advertisements focusing on the close of the electoral rolls and boundary changes were also published in *The West Australian*, *Sunday Times* and regional and community newspapers.

The first *Government Gazette* notice was published on the afternoon of 7 August 2008, with the first newspaper advertisements published on Saturday 9 August.

There were a number of media releases distributed at this time with the dual message of checking enrolment and to make certain of correct enrolment before the rolls closed.

*Phase 3: Early voting options, candidate and general voting information for the State general election*

**Timeframe: 15 August 2008 – 24 August 2008**

This phase focused on optional ways to vote if an elector was unable to visit a polling place on polling day and provided candidate and general how to vote information.

Newspaper advertisements in this period included how to vote early (by post) or (in person) whether in Australia or overseas as well as reminding electors that their boundaries may have changed. Advertisements also targeted Indigenous electors and other ethnic groups and were published in newspapers aimed at these groups with a number of advertisements interpreted into other languages.

Also during this period, on 20 August, the Commission published the statutory candidate details advertisement in *The West Australian*.

The creative press advertisements and television advertisements began to run during this phase with the three television and radio 'decision process' advertisements broadcast on all regional and metropolitan television and radio stations.

Media releases detailing candidate information and early voting options were also distributed in this period.

*Phase 4: How to vote information, boundary information and 'Not voting' advertising*

**Timeframe: 25 August 2008 – 31 August 2008**

This week of advertising continued with encouraging ethnic electors to vote and alerting electors to the changed boundaries, which appeared in all regional, community and metropolitan newspapers. On 27 August the Commission published the details of voting tickets advertisement in *The West Australian* and the creative advertisements continued to run.



An advertisement advising that voting was compulsory and that not voting could incur a fine was also distributed during this phase covering metropolitan, regional and youth media. An instructional advertisement on where to vote and how to fill in ballot papers was published in *The West Australian*, *Sunday Times* and other newspapers.

Television, radio and creative print advertisements also continued in this week including television placement during the coverage of the Olympic Games.

Media releases and interviews in this week concentrated on reminding the community that the election was imminent and voting was compulsory.

#### *Phase 5: Final week of advertising*

#### **Timeframe: 1 September 2008 – 5 September 2008**

This final week saw intensive print and broadcast advertising in all media. Advertisements targeting ethnic populations continued to be published as well as instructional and voting is compulsory advertisements. There were also three 'countdown to polling day' advertisements in *The West Australian*.

Creative advertising continued through this entire week.

#### *Phase 6: Polling day*

#### **Timeframe: 6 September 2008**

The level of advertising on polling day was intensive with coverage on all metropolitan and regional radio stations throughout the day. On polling day, all polling places were advertised in *The West Australian*, as well as a full colour ballot paper voting instruction advertisement.

Media activity centred around the tally room on election night as the results began to come in.

#### *Phase 7: Post polling day*

#### **Timeframe: 6 September 2008 – 19 September 2008**

Advertising activity after the election was minimal but did include a two page results advertisements for the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council.

Public relations activity continued in the weeks following the election, with an unprecedented number of media enquiries about the results. Media releases and briefings giving updated information were conducted regularly.



## APPENDIX 4 – DECLARED SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS

<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Albany</b>		
<i>Albany</i>	Albany Regional Hospital	Warden Avenue, Albany
	Bethel Village Hostel (Bethel Aged Care Hostel)	2 Bethel Way, Albany
<i>Spencer Park</i>	Annie Bryson McKeown Lodge	2 Angrove Road, Spencer Park
	Clarence Estate Residential Health & Aged Care	55 Hardie Road, Spencer Park
<i>Yakamia</i>	Glen Craig Village	Beaufort Road, Yakamia
<i>Emu Point</i>	Gwen Hardie Lodge (Silver Chain)	67 Mermaid Avenue, Emu Point
<b>Alfred Cove</b>		
<i>Applecross</i>	Applecross Nursing Home and Apartments	30 Carron Road, Applecross
<i>Attadale</i>	Attadale Hospital	21 Hislop Road, Attadale
<i>Booragoon</i>	Parkland Villas Retirement Village	510 Marmion Street, Booragoon
<b>Armadale</b>		
<i>Armadale</i>	Armadale Nursing Centre	21 Angelo Street, Armadale
	J E Murray Home	16 Deerness Way, Armadale
<i>Mt Nasura</i>	Galliers Private Hospital	3056 Albany Highway, Mt Nasura
	Armadale-Kelmscott District Memorial Hospital	3056 Albany Highway, Mt Nasura
<i>Kelmscott</i>	Sarah Hardey House	222 Cammillo Road, Kelmscott
	Thomas Scott Village	63 Ypres Road, Kelmscott
<b>Balcatta</b>		
<i>Balcatta</i>	St Andrews Balcatta	37 Burswood Road, Balcatta
	Stirling Ethnic Homes Balcatta	11 Nugent Street, Balcatta
<i>Joondanna</i>	Bethanie Joondanna Hostel, Edinboro House	132 Edinboro Street, Joondanna
	Bethanie Joondanna Hostel, Osborne House	5-9 Osborne Street, Joondanna
<i>Osborne Park</i>	James Brown Guest House	171 Albert Street, Osborne Park
<i>Stirling</i>	Osborne Park Hospital	Osborne Place, Stirling
<b>Bassendean</b>		
<i>Bassendean</i>	Bassendean Nursing Home Lodge	24 Hamilton Street, Bassendean
<i>Morley</i>	Carramar Hostel (Carramar Village)	23A Redgum Way, Morley
<b>Bateman</b>		
	Seaforth Gardens Senior Citizens Residence	2542 Albany Highway Gosnells 6110
<i>Bull Creek</i>	Frederick Guest Village	25 Gleddon Road, Bull Creek
	Gordon Lodge	Airforce Association Estate, Bull Creek
<i>Rossmoyne</i>	Adventist Residential Care	31 Webb Street, Rossmoyne



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Belmont</b>		
<i>Belmont</i>	Marist Lodge Belmont	12 Lapage Street, Belmont
<i>Redcliffe</i>	Brightwater Redcliffe Hostel	23 Johnson Road, Redcliffe
<i>Rivervale</i>	Belmont Community Nursing Home Lodge	5 Kemp Place, Rivervale
<b>Blackwood-Stirling</b>		
<i>Bridgetown</i>	Bridgetown District Hospital	Peninsula Road, Bridgetown
	Geegeelup Village Hostel	Scott Street, Bridgetown
<i>Manjimup</i>	Moonya Lodge (Moonya Aged Care Facility)	59 Ipsen Street, Manjimup
	Warren District Hospital	Hospital Avenue, Manjimup
<i>Mount Barker</i>	Mount Barker Plantagenet District Hospital	Langton Road, Mount Barker
<b>Bunbury</b>		
<i>Bunbury</i>	Elanora Villas Nursing Home	37 Hastie Street, Bunbury
	Forrest Gardens Nursing Centre	Woodrow Street, Bunbury
	Ocean Star Hostel	Ocean Drive, Bunbury
	Wattle Hill Lodge	2 Wattle Street, Bunbury
<i>College Grove</i>	South West Health Campus	Bussell Highway, College Grove
<b>Cannington</b>		
<i>Ferndale</i>	Howard Solomon Aged Care Facility	91 Hybanthus Road, Ferndale
<i>Wilson</i>	Agmaroy Nursing Home	115 Leach Highway, Wilson
	Castledare Retirement Village	108 Fern Road, Wilson
<b>Carine</b>		
<i>Duncraig</i>	Glengarry Hospital	53 Arnisdale Road, Duncraig
	Glengarry Retirement Lodge	93 Arnisdlae Road, Duncraig
	Lady McCusker Homes	27 Beddi Road, Duncraig
<i>Gwelup</i>	St Francis Hostel	678 North Beach Road, Gwelup
	David Buttfield Centre	649 North Beach Road, Gwelup
<i>Trigg</i>	Meath House (Homes)	77 Lynn Street, Trigg
<b>Churchlands</b>		
<i>City Beach</i>	Ocean Gardens Retirement Village	60 Kalinda Drive, City Beach
<i>Glendalough</i>	Glendalough Nursing Home (Little Sisters of the Poor)	2 Rawlins Street, Glendalough
<i>Wembley</i>	Catherine McAuley Centre	18 Barrett Street, Wembley
	Koh-I-Noor Nursing Home	34 Pangbourne Street, Wembley



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Collie-Preston</b>		
<i>Collie</i>	Collie District Hospital	Deakin Street, Collie
	Riverview Residence	Pendleton Street, Collie
<i>Donnybrook</i>	Donnybrook Hospital	Bentley Street, Donnybrook
	Tuia Lodge	Allnutt Street, Donnybrook
<i>Eaton</i>	Bethanye Fields Eaton	111 Eaton Drive, Eaton
<b>Cottesloe</b>		
<i>Claremont</i>	Bethesda Hospital Inc	25 Queenslea Drive, Claremont
	Graylands Hospital	Brockway Road, Claremont
	St Louis Estate	10 Albert Street, Claremont
	Sundowner Centre	416 Stirling Highway, Claremont
<i>Cottesloe</i>	Wearne Hostel	40 Marine Parade, Cottesloe
<i>North Fremantle</i>	Hillcrest Nursing Home	23 Harvest Road, North Fremantle
<i>Mosman Park</i>	Dorothy Genders Village	99 McCabe Street, Mosman Park
	Riversea Hostel	720 Stirling Highway, Mosman Park
<b>Darling Range</b>		
<i>Byford</i>	Graceford Hostel	18 Turner Road, Byford
<i>Dudley Park</i>	Brightwater – The Cove	35 Hudson Drive, Dudley Park
<i>Halls Head</i>	Mandurah Care Facility	1 Hungerford Avenue, Halls Head
<i>Kelmscott</i>	Kelmscott River Gardens Aged Care	89 Clifton Street, Kelmscott
<i>Mandurah</i>	Murray River Nursing Home	83 Boundary Road, Mandurah
	Wearne Nursing Home	7 Leslie Street, Mandurah
<b>Eyre</b>		
<i>Esperance</i>	Esperance Aged Care Facility	4 Randell Street, Esperance
	Esperance District Hospital	Hicks Street, Esperance
	Recherche Rotary Hospital	1 Eyre Street, Esperance
<b>Fremantle</b>		
<i>Bicton</i>	Braemar Lodge	51 Point Walter Road, Bicton
	Carinya Annex Bicton	41 Bristol Avenue, Bicton
	Carinya Nursing Home	220 Preston Point Road, Bicton
<i>East Fremantle</i>	Braemar House	10 Windsor Road, East Fremantle
	Kaleeya Private Hospital	15 Wolsely Road, East Fremantle
	Pilgrim House	22 Wolsely Road, East Fremantle



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<i>Fremantle</i>	Fremantle Hospital	South Terrace, Fremantle
<i>White Gum Valley</i>	Italian Village – Fremantle	95 Samson Street, White Gum Valley
<b>Geraldton</b>		
<i>Bluff Point</i>	Nazareth House Hostel	17 Crowtheron Street, Bluff Point
<i>Geraldton</i>	Geraldton Nursing Home	20 Milford Street, Geraldton
	Geraldton Regional Hospital	Shenton Street, Geraldton
	RSL War Veterans Home	134 Gregory Street, Geraldton
<b>Girrawheen</b>		
<i>Marangaroo</i>	Italian Community Nursing Home (Italian Aged Care) and Villa Terenzio Cabrini Village	33 Kent Road, Marangaroo
<i>Warwick</i>	Warwick Village Nursing Home	98 Ellersdale Avenue, Warwick
<b>Gosnells</b>		
<i>Gosnells</i>	Amaroo Village – Independent Living Centre (includes Nancy Jones Centre)	Cnr Dorothy Street and Rotary Avenue, Gosnells
	Amaroo Village – McMahon Caring Centre	74 Lissiman Street, Gosnells
	Amaroo Village – William Buckley Caring Centre	60 Stalker Road, Gosnells
	Seaforth Gardens Senior Citizens Residence	2542 Albany Highway, Gosnells
<i>Huntingdale</i>	Brightwater Care Group Hostel	31 Mildenhall, Huntingdale
<b>Jandakot</b>		
<i>Murdoch</i>	St Ives Retirement Village – Avalon Apartments	22 Windelya Road, Murdoch
	St John of God Hospital	Murdoch Drive, Murdoch
<i>South Lake</i>	Brightwater South Lake Aged Care Group Facility	62 Bloodwood Circle, South Lake
<b>Joondalup</b>		
<i>Edgewater</i>	Brightwater, Edgewater Aged Care	Pioneer Drive (corner Harvest Loop), Edgewater
	Edgewater Mercy Hostel	9 Harvest Loop, Edgewater
<i>Joondalup</i>	Grandview Aged Care	21 Aldwych Way, Joondalup
<i>Joondalup</i>	Joondalup Health Campus	Shenton Avenue, Joondalup
<b>Kalamunda a</b>		
<i>Forrestfield</i>	Southern Cross Care (WA) Jeremiah Donovan House	138 Lewis Street, Forrestfield
<i>Gosnells</i>	The Salvation Army Harry Hunter Centre Gosnells Rehabilitation	2498 Albany Highway, Gosnells
<i>Kalamunda</i>	Swan Kalamunda Health Service (previously Kalamunda District Community Hospital)	Elizabeth Street, Kalamunda
<i>Lesmurdie</i>	Armana Living Parry Hostel	74 Warlingham Drive, Lesmurdie
	Baptist Homes Sunshine Park	10 Brady Road, Lesmurdie
	Villa Maria (sisters of Mercy)	173 Lesmurdie Road, Lesmurdie



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Kalgoorlie</b>		
<i>Kalgoorlie</i>	Edward Collick Home	173 Wilson Street South, Kalgoorlie
	Little Sisters of the Poor	1 Croesus Street, Kalgoorlie
<i>Piccadilly</i>	Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital	Piccadilly Street, Piccadilly
<b>Kimberley</b>		
<i>Broome</i>	Broome District Hospital	Robinson Road, Broome
<i>Derby</i>	Derby Regional Hospital	Loch Street, Derby
	Numbala Nunga Nursing Home	Sutherland Street, Derby
<b>Kingsley</b>		
<i>Kingsley</i>	Kingsley Lodge Hostel	190 Twickenham Drive, Kingsley
	Woodlake Aged Care	40 Woodlake Retreat, Kingsley
<b>Kwinana</b>		
<i>Calista</i>	Kwinana Nursing Home – Grevillea Hostel	44 Chilcott Street, Calista
<i>Cooloongup</i>	Bert England Lodge	111 Woodbridge Drive, Cooloongup
<i>Orelia</i>	Kwinana Nursing Home – Grevillea Hostel	44 Chilcott Street, Orelia
<i>Rockingham</i>	Rockingham-Kwinana District Hospital	Elanora Drive, Rockingham
	Waikiki Private Hospital	Willmott Drive, Rockingham
<b>Mandurah</b>		
<i>Coodanup</i>	Bethany Peel	2 Maclaggan Turn, Coodanup
<i>Greenfields</i>	Greenfields Aged Care Facility	95 Lakes Road (corner Murdoch Drive), Greenfields
	Peel Health Campus	74-110 Lakes Road, Greenfields
<i>Mandurah</i>	Coolibah Aged Care and Nursing Home	24-32 Third Avenue, Mandurah
	RSL War Veterans Home Meadow Springs	82 Oakmont Avenue, Mandurah
<i>Meadow Springs</i>	McNamara Lodge, RAAFA Estate	41 Portrush Parade, Meadow Springs
<b>Maylands</b>		
<i>Bayswater</i>	Ben Ritcher Lodge	480 Guildford Road, Bayswater
	Mertome Village	30 Winfred Road, Bayswater
	St Georges Home	2 Essex Street, Bayswater
<b>Midland</b>		
<i>Guildford</i>	St Vincents Hospital	224 Swan Street, Guildford
<i>Greenmount</i>	Greenmount Gardens Nursing Centre (Undercliffe Nursing Home)	22 Coongan Avenue, Greenmount
<i>Midland</i>	Midland Nursing Home	44 John Street, Midland
	Morrison Lodge	1A North Street, Midland



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<i>Middle Swan</i>	Swan District Hospital	224 Swan Street, Middle Swan
<b>Mindarie</b>		
<i>Merriwa</i>	RAAFA Karri and Banksia Lodge, Tivoli Room (Karri)	250 Baltimore Parade, Merriwa
	Vivian Bullwinkle Lodge	85 Hester Avenue, Merriwa
<b>Morley</b>		
<i>Noranda</i>	Ella Williams House	77 Camboon Road, Noranda
<b>Mount Lawley</b>		
<i>Dianella</i>	Maurice Zeffert Memorial Centre for the Aged	119 Creswell Road, Dianella
<i>Maylands</i>	Craigmont Waters Nursing Home	6 Third Avenue, Maylands
<i>Menora</i>	Bethanie on the Park: "Carinya"	20 Plantation Street, Menora
	Elimatta Lodge	45 Alexander Drive, Menora
	RSL Residential Care Facility Menora	51 Alexander Drive, Menora
<i>Mt Lawley</i>	Mercy Hospital	Thirlmere Road, Mt Lawley
	Mercy Restorative Unit and Ursula Frayne Unit	Thirlmere road, Mt Lawley
	Mt Lawley Private Hospital	14 Alvan Street, Mt Lawley
	Riverslea Lodge	100 Guildford Road, Mt Lawley
	Sandstrom Aged Care	44 Whatley Crescent, Mt Lawley
	Second Avenue Nursing Home	51 Second Avenue, Mt Lawley
	St David's Retirement Centre	17-19 Lawley Crescent, Mt Lawley
<i>Yokine</i>	Stirling Aged Care	33 Specer Avenue, Yokine
<b>Murray-Wellington</b>		
<i>Harvey</i>	Harvey District Hospital	45 Haywood Road, Harvey
	Hocart Lodge and Centre	3 Knowles Street, Harvey
<i>Pinjarra</i>	Bedingfeld Lodge	4 Bedingfeld Road, Pinjarra
	Murray Districts Hospital	McKay Street, Pinjarra
<i>Ravenswood</i>	Settlers Lakeside Village	194 Old Mandurah Road, Ravenswood
<i>Waroona</i>	Pam Corker House	Eastcott Street, Waroona
<b>Nedlands</b>		
<i>Leederville</i>	Niola Private Hospital	61 Cambridge Street, Leederville
	St John of God Hospital	175 Cambridge Street, Leederville
	St John of God Villa	9 McCourt Street, Leederville



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<i>Nedlands</i>	Cancer Foundation Crawford Lodge	55 Monash Avenue, Nedlands
	Hollywood Private Hospital	Monash Avenue, Nedlands
	Hollywood Village Hostel Accommodation	118-120 Monash Avenue, Nedlands
	Hollywood Village – Independent Living	118-120 Monash Avenue, Nedlands
	Hollywood Village – Nursing Home	120 Monash Avenue, Nedlands
	Hollywood Village – Warrina Hostel	118-120 Monash Avenue, Nedlands
	Melvista Nursing Home	20 Betty Street, Nedlands
	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Verdun Street, Nedlands
<i>Shenton Park</i>	Quadriplegic Centre	10 Selby Street, Shenton Park
	Royal Perth Hospital – Shenton Park Campus	6 Selby Street, Shenton Park
<i>Subiaco</i>	Hamersley Nursing Home	441 Rokeby Road, Subiaco
	King Edward Memorial Hospital	Bagot Road, Subiaco
<b>Nollamara</b>		
<i>Dianella</i>	Hellenic Community Aged Care (Villa Hellas Nursing Home)	2 Hellenic Drive, Dianella
	Rosemount Retirement Centre	21 Dianella Drive, Dianella
<b>North West</b>		
<i>Carnarvon</i>	Carnarvon Regional Hospital	Cleaver Street, Carnarvon
<i>Karratha</i>	Nickol Bay Regional Hospital	Millstream Road, Karratha
<i>Roebourne</i>	Yaandina Frail Aged Hostel	52 Hampton Street, Roebourne
<b>Perth</b>		
<i>East Perth</i>	Archbishop Goody Hospital	29 Goderich Street, East Perth
	James Watson Hostel	78 Brown Street, East Perth
<i>Leederville</i>	Lake View Lodge	5 Britannia Road, Leederville
<i>North Perth</i>	Casson House	10 Woodville Street, North Perth
	St Michael’s Nursing Home	53 Wasley Street, North Perth
<i>Perth</i>	Royal Perth Hospital	Victoria Avenue, Perth
	Silver Chain Cottage	21 Wright Street, Perth
<i>West Perth</i>	Florence Hummerston Lodge	67 Cleaver Street, West Perth
	Mount Hospital	150 Mounts Bay Road, West Perth
<b>Pilbara</b>		
<i>Newman</i>	Newman Hospital	Mindarra Drive, Newman
<i>Port Hedland</i>	Port Hedland Regional Hospital	Kingsmill Street, Port Hedland
<i>South Hedland</i>	Kalarra House	200 Forrest Circle, South Hedland





<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Riverton</b>		
<i>Rossmoyne</i>	Margaret Hubery House	36 Fifth Avenue, Rossmoyne
<i>Shelley</i>	Joseph Cook Hostel	2 Houtmans Street, Shelley
<i>Willetton</i>	Canning Lodge	6 Caprice Place, Willetton
<b>Rockingham</b>		
<i>Cooloongup</i>	Tanby Hall	1 Tanby Place, Cooloongup
<i>Rockingham</i>	Gracehaven Hostel	2 Westralia Gardens, Rockingham
	Gracehaven Nursing Home	2 Westralia Gardens, Rockingham
<i>Shoalwater</i>	Shoalwater Nursing Home	72-74 Fourth Avenue, Shoalwater
<b>Scarborough</b>		
<i>Innaloo</i>	Geneff Village	39 Hertha Road, Innaloo
	Shawford Lodge	4 Shawford Place, Innaloo
<i>Karrinyup</i>	Chrystal Halliday Nursing Home	61 Jeanes Road, Karrinyup
	Moline House	7 Deanmore Road, Karrinyup
<i>Woodlands</i>	Parkland Villas Hospital	52-54 Liege Street, Woodlands
<b>South Perth</b>		
<i>Como</i>	Collier Park Village Hostel	16 Morrison Street, Como
	Craigwood Nursing Home	29 Gardner Street, Como
	McDougal Park Nursing Home	18 Ley Street, Como
	Meath Care Memorial Estate	80 Henley Street, Como
	Peter Arney Home	1 Cloister Avenue, Como
	South Perth Community Hospital	76 South Terrace, Como
<i>Manning</i>	Murlali Lodge	25 Mount Henry Road, Manning
<i>Salter Point</i>	Gracewood Village Hostel	18-20 Roebuck Drive, Salter Point
<i>South Perth</i>	Le Fanu Court	5/7 Anstey Street, South Perth
<b>Vasse</b>		
<i>Broadwater</i>	William Carey Court Hotel	450 Bussell Highway, Broadwater
<i>Busselton</i>	Busselton District Hospital	Falkingham Road, Busselton
	Cape Care	20 Ray Avenue, Busselton
<b>Victoria Park</b>		
<i>Bentley</i>	Bentley Hospital	Mills Street, Bentley
	Rowethorpe Nursing Centre	4-10 Hayman Nursing Home, Bentley
	Swan Village of Care Ningana Nursing Home	Allen Court, Bentley



<b>District</b>	<b>Special Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>
<i>Bentley</i>	Swan Village of Care Tandara Nursing Home	73 Jarrah Road, Bentley
	Swan Village of Care Waminda Hostel	Hill View Terrace, Bentley
<i>Carlisle</i>	Lathlain Nursing Home	63-67 Archer Street, Carlisle
	Windsor Park Aged Care	110 Star Street, Carlisle
<i>St James</i>	Craiglea Park Nursing Home	38 Alday Street, St James
<b>Wagin</b>		
<i>Katanning</i>	Bethshan Lodge	7 Piesse Street, Katanning
	Katanning District Hospital	Clive Street, Katanning
<i>Kojonup</i>	Kojonup District Hospital	Spring Street, Kojonup
	Springhaven Lodge	Barracks Place, Kojonup
<i>Narrogin</i>	Karinya Frail Aged Hostel	Felspar Street, Narrogin
	Narrogin Nursing Home	52 Williams Road, Narrogin
	Narrogin Regional Hospital	Williams Road, Narrogin
<i>Wagin</i>	Wagin District Hospital	Warwick Street, Wagin
	Wagin Frail Aged Home	6 Arnott Street, Wagin
<b>Wanneroo</b>		
<i>Madeley</i>	Brightwater Madeley	95 Imperial Avenue, Madeley
<i>Wanneroo</i>	Jacaranda Lodge	55 Belgrade Road, Wanneroo
	Regents Garden Residential Care Resort	33 Drovers Place, Wanneroo
<b>Warnbro</b>		
<i>Port Kennedy</i>	Bethanie Waters Aged Care	18 Olivenza Crescent, Port Kennedy
<b>Willagee</b>		
<i>Coolbellup</i>	Hale Hostel	31 Waverley Road, Coolbellup
<i>Hamilton Hill</i>	Bethany Illawong	1 Rodd Place, Hamilton Hill
	Carrington Lodge	384 Carrington Street, Hamilton Hill
	John Mercer Lodge	19 Laidlaw Street, Hilton
<i>Myaree</i>	Myaree Gardens	444 Marmion Street, Myaree
	St Ives Eldercare Village	15 Cotrill Street, Myaree
<i>Willagee</i>	Braemar Village	24/32 Charsley Street, Willagee



## APPENDIX 5 – DECLARED REMOTE POLLING PLACES

District	Remote Polling Place	Remote Polling Place Address
<b>Eyre</b>	Coonana	Coonana 6434
	Kurrawang	Kurrawang, Kalgoorlie 6430
<b>Kalgoorlie</b>	Blackstone	Warburton 6431
	Cosmo Newbery	Cosmo, Newbery 6431
	Jameson	Kalgoorlie 6431
	Tjukurla	Warburton 6431
	Morapoi	Kalgoorlie 6430
	Mt Margaret	Laverton 6440
	Tjuntjuntjara	Kalgoorlie 6430
	Wanarn	Warburton 6431
	Warakurna	Warburton 6431
	Warburton	Warburton 6431
	Wingellina	Warburton 6431
<b>Kimberley</b>	Balgo (Wirrimanu Community)	PMB 2, Halls Creek 6770
	Balulu	Purnululu 6770
	Bardi Ardyaloon	Broome 6725
	Beagle Bay	Beagle Bay Community, Broome 6725
	Bidyadanga	Bidyadanga Community, North West Coastal Highway, Broome 6725
	Billilluna	Balgo Area, Halls Creek 6770
	Bow River	Bow River Community, Wyndham 6740
	Bardi (One Arm Point)	Broome 6725
	Djugerari	Fitzroy Crossing, 6765
	Dodnun (Mt Elizabeth)	Mt Elizabeth, Derby 6728
	Doon Doon (Dunham River)	Kununurra 6743
	Galeru Gorge (Mt Pierre)	Mt Pierre Station, Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Imintji	Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Jarlmadangah	Derby 6728
	Jimbalakudunj	Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Kalumburu	Kalumburu Community via Wyndham 6740
	Kundat Djaru (Ringers Soak)	Gordon Downs Station, Halls Creek 6770
	Kupungarri (Gibb River Station)	Gibb River Road, Derby 6728
	Kupartiya	Kupartiya Community via Fitzroy Crossing 6755



<b>District</b>	<b>Remote Polling Place</b>	<b>Remote Polling Place Address</b>
<b>Kimberley</b>	Lombadina	Lombadina Community via Broome 6725
	Looma	Looma Community PMB 904, Derby 6728
	Mowanjum	Mowanjum Community via Derby 6728
	Mt Barnett	Gibb River Road, Derby 6728
	Mt House	Mt House Station, Gibb River Road, Derby 6728
	Mulan (Lake Gregory)	Mulan Community via Halls Creek 6770
	Muludja (Fossil Downs)	Muludja Community, Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Ngalingkadji	Ngalingkadji Community, Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Ngumpun (Pinnacles)	Pinnacles, Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Noonkanbah	Noonkanbah Community, Fitzroy Crossing 6765
	Oombulgurri	Oombulgurri Community WYNDHAM 6740
	Pandanus Park	Pandanus Park Community DERBY 6728
	Wangkatjunka (Glen Hill)	Wangkatjunka Community, KUNUNNARA 6743
Yakanarra	Yakanarra Community, Fitzroy Crossing 6765	
Yiyili	Yiyili Community, Halls Creek 6770	
<b>North West</b>	Burringurrah	Burringurrah Community, Mount James 6705
<b>Pilbara</b>	Jigalong Remote Community	Jigalong
	Kanpa	Kanpa Community, Warburton 6431
	Kiwirrkurra	Warburton 6431
	Kunawarriji (Well 33)	South Hedland 6722
	Parnngurr (Cotton Creek)	Cotton Creek via Port Hedland 6721
	Patjarr	Warburton 6431
	Punmu	Lake Dora via Port Hedland 6721
	Telfer Gold/Copper Project	Telfer, 6760
	Tjirrkarli	Warburton 6431
	Warralong	Warralong Community, Warralong Station, Port Hedland 6721
	Woodstock-Abydos	Woodstock Community, Port Hedland 6721
	Yandeyarra	Yandeyarra Community, Port Hedland 6721

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