2017 ELECTION ANALYSIS

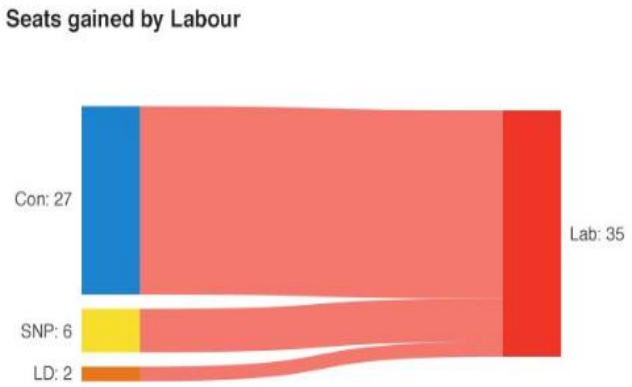
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2017-40219338

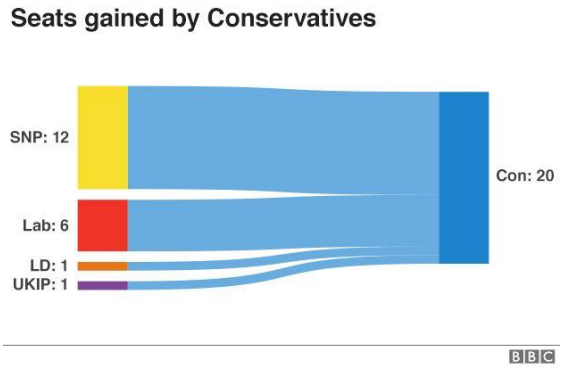
Hung Parliament – Cons 317, Lab 262, SNP 35, LDs 12, DUP 10, PC 4, Others 10
– needed 326 for absolute majority (322 if SF and Speaker discounted) – 10 DUaP with confidence and supply arrangement give May a working maj of 12

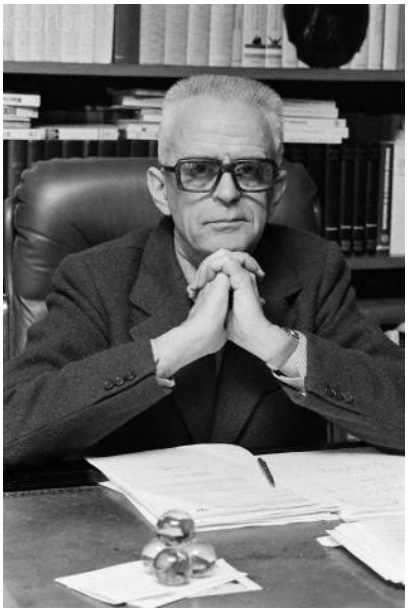
But another early election is possible - and Cons can't afford any by-election losses. Many rumours May will be replaced as Con leader, but poss successor unclear. And see tweet from Tom Newton-Dunn, Sun Political Editor, at end of document for Brexit implications

Seats changing hands (since 2015, excludes by-elections)

69 seats changed party
Labour gained 36 seats, losing 6 (graphic below excludes Kensington)
Con gained 20, losing 33
LD gained 8, losing 4 from 2015 (+ lost Richmond by-election gain)
SNP lost 21 seats







2 party system - ***DuVerger lives!*** Highest Con vote % since 1983, Lab better than 2005 (2 party system in N I also emerged). Highest GB 2-party vote since 1970 - 84%

Turnout- up 2% to nearly 69%

Young people - Lab did better in constits with more younger people, and turnout also rose more in such seats – Ashcroft exit poll suggests 67% of 18-24s voted Labour
BBC - "More generally, in England and Wales there was only a 2.5% swing to Labour in seats where fewer than 7% of the population is aged 18-24, but a swing of 5% in seats where at least one in 10 people is of that age."
- early estimate 72% of 18-24 voted, 4% ahead of overall turnout (but prov for this stat questionable). Only 43% of 18-24s voted in 2015.

England - Cons did advance in N and in seats with more working class people (up c6%), presumably gaining former UKIP voters - but not enough to actually win more than a handful of seats. Vote share went up much less in London & South (c2%).

Lab won back a 9 seats in SE/S for the first time since Blair
- incl 4 in London (Kensington!), Brighton, Bedford, Canterbury, Reading, Bristol & Stroud (Con Educ S Cttee Chair Neil Carmichael's former seat)
+ Labour's Alan Whitehead survived in Shampton Test with much increased maj of 11500

Scotland – SNP lost 21 seats – 12 to Cons, 6 to Lab, 3 to LDs - Ruth Davidson as big election winner. Many SNP surviving MPs now have small majorities (average <2500), and are mostly vulnerable to Labour (25/35 seats) at a future election.

Makes IndyRef2 look much less likely, at least until post-Brexit?

Brexit

BBC – "It may have been the Brexit election after all - Labour has done well in seats that voted to Remain in the EU. The Tory votes has seen an uptick in seats that voted strongly to Leave, but far less than Labour's gain. The swing to Labour in seats where Remain won over 55% in 2016 is averaging seven points, whereas there is a 1% swing to the Conservatives in seats where over 60% voted for Leave"

Lots of narrow majorities (e.g Richmond 45 vote, Shampton Itchen 33, NE Fife 2 votes) - and Cons benefitted in a number of v tight contests (i.e. could have been much worse), LDs suffered - incl to SNP and PC as well as Con.

- 10 constits where maj less than 100 (vs 3 in 2015)
- 30 where maj less than 500
- 50 where maj less than 1000
- 172 MPs have less than 50% of votes cast (26%), so 74% of MPs now have a maj of votes cast (c.f. 50% had maj of votes in constit in 2010, 65% in 2015)

Social Representation

More **women MPs** - 208 = 32% compared to 191 =29% in 2015 (tho 197 by end of parl due to by-elections).
32% female candidates, up from 26% in 2015.
Women are 45% of Labour MPs, only 21% of Conservatives, 34% of SNP, 33% of LD. - http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2017-40192060

More **BME MPS** - Operation Black Vote count 51, BBC 52 - up 10 or 11 = 8%
http://www.obv.org.uk/news-blogs/stunning-rise-bme-mps

45 **LGBTQ MPs** (up 6) = 7%

http://www.pinknews.co.uk/2017/06/09/the-uk-just-elected-a-record-number-of-lgbtq-people-to-parliament/

4 **disabled MPs** – 3 new - 1 registered blind, 1 cerebral palsy, both Lab + 1 partially deaf LD (to add to Maynard and Halfon, both Con with cerebral palsy from 2011) - but 6 in 2010-15 Parl (4 of whom retired/lost in 2015)

Voter Behaviour

See graphics below -Lord Ashcroft polling for exit poll- http://lordashcroftpolls.com/2017/06/result-happen-post-vote-survey/ - bigger/more respected Ipsos/Mori analysis due in a week or so. All data GB (excludes NI)

Social Structures

Runnymede Trust on **BME voting** - estimate 65% of BME voters backed Lab, increase on 2015 (but based on 75 constits with most BME voters, containing half of all BME voters, so questionable).
- Ashcroft Exit poll suggests 67% of BME voters chose Labour.

- http://www.runnymedetrust.org/events-conferences/latestNews/labour-got-two-thirds-of-the-bme-vote.html

Class - see graphs below - some Class issues evident in result esp AB vs DE, (incl for LDs and UKIP), but C2s had higher Con / lower Lab vote than C1s - overall, less class alignment apparent than in 2015 - dealignment nearly complete in UK?

Gender - Men voted 43% Con, 40% Lab - Women voted 40% Con , 42% Lab - similar pattern to recent elections.

Age- 67% of 18-24s voted Lab, 18% voted Con vs voters 65+ 59% Con, 23% Lab - even more age aligned voting than in 2015.

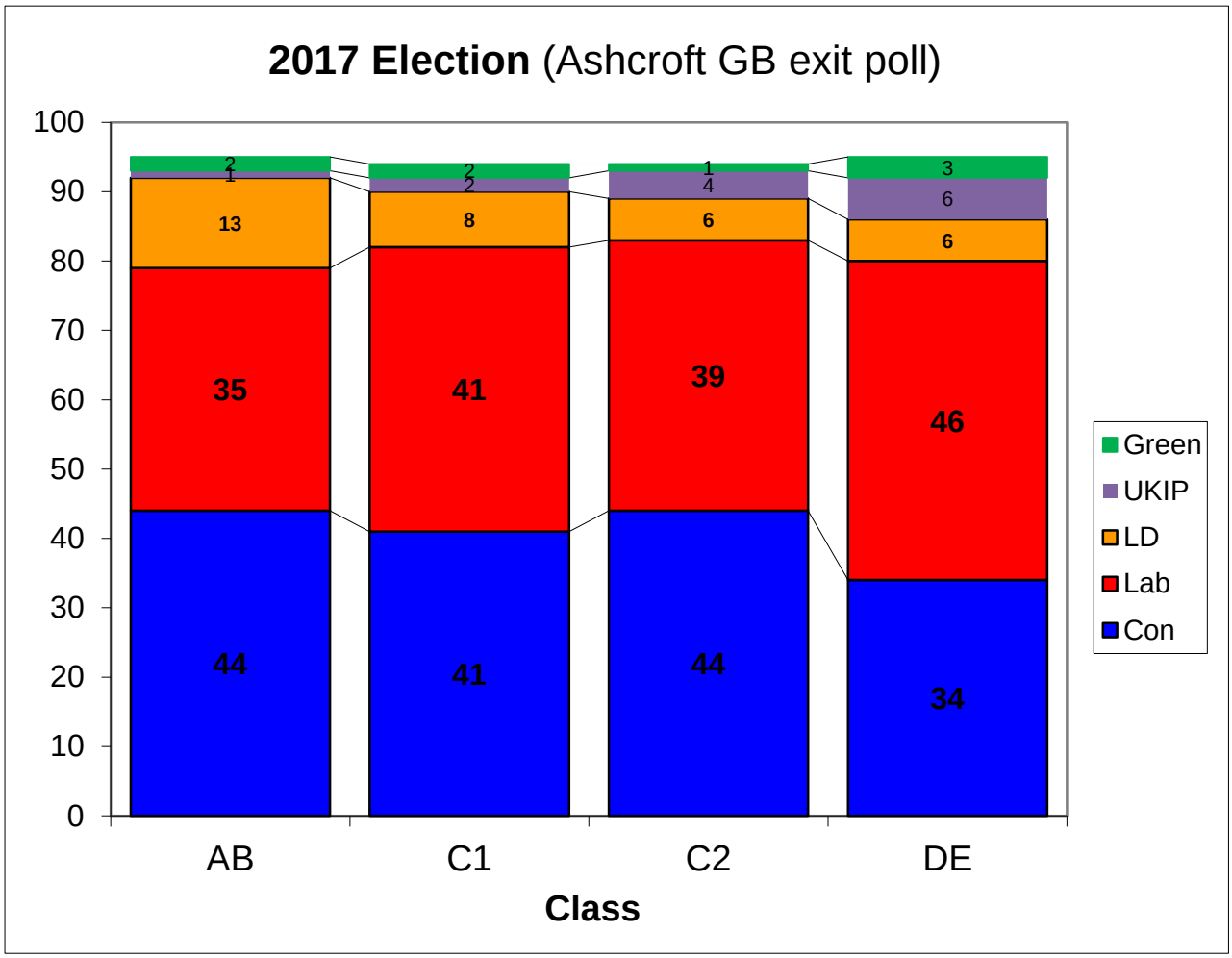
Rational Choice

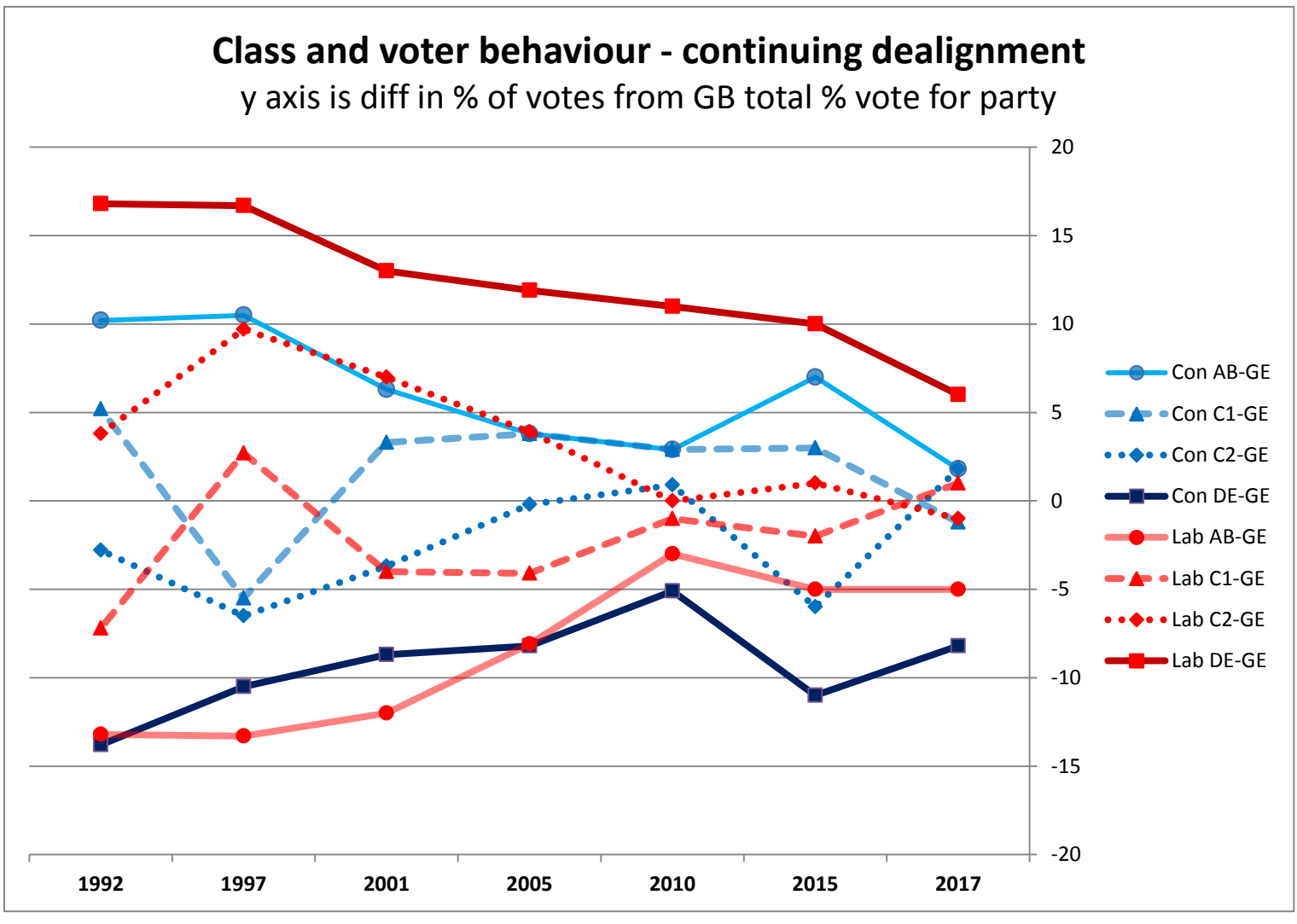
Issues - See graphic below - looks like manifesto offers may have played a big part in the unexpected outcomes -e.g. Lab offer to students, anti-austerity stance; Cons repelling older voters on social care, pro-union stance in Scotland. (See above for more complex role Brexit may have played in the outcome).

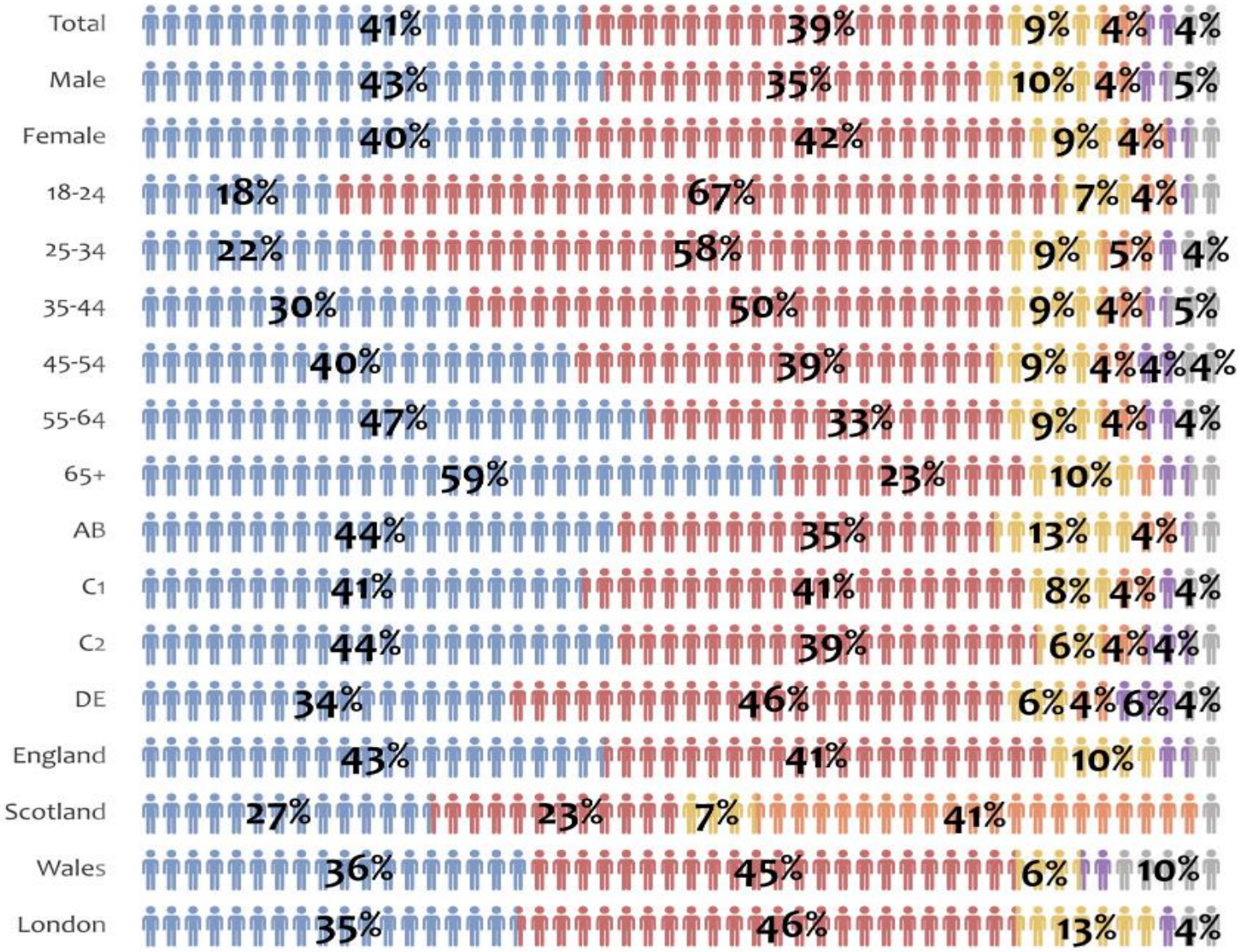
Leadership – (See graphic below) - less signif this election than in 2015 where Cameron's lead of Miliband seen as key in Con victory.

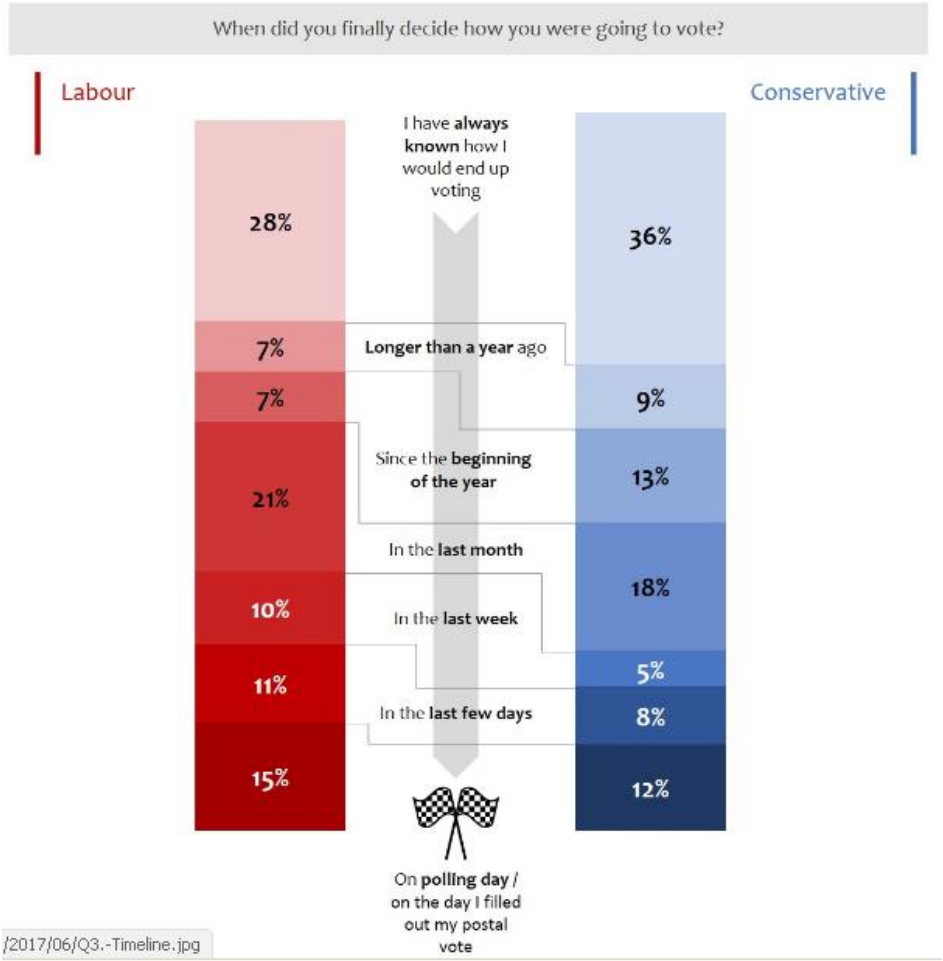
Retrospective? No data yet but despite relatively low unemployment, perceptions of low wage growth, insecure jobs, too much austerity. Cd security issues and falling police no.s be a retrospective voting issue?

Campaigns - trad view is that these don't matter, it's fundamentals like Social Structures + medium term factors like the economy, party image, etc. - but did 2017 upset this? See Ashcroft graphic on when voters decided below – implies lots of late deciding Lab voters (6% in last week, 57% in last month – vs Cons - 25% last week, 43% last month). c.f US parallels ?


2017 Election (Ashcroft GB exit poll)
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
2
1
13
35
44
2
2
8
41
41
1
4
6
39
44
3
6
6
46
34
AB
C1
C2
DE
Class
Green
UKIP
LD
Lab
Con


Class and voter behaviour - continuing dealignment
y axis is diff in % of votes from GB total % vote for party
20
15
10
5
0
-5
-10
-15
-20
1992
1997
2001
2005
2010
2015
2017
Con AB-GE
Con C1-GE
Con C2-GE
Con DE-GE
Lab AB-GE
Lab C1-GE
Lab C2-GE
Lab DE-GE


Total
41%
39%
9%
4%
4%
Male
43%
35%
10%
4%
5%
Female
40%
42%
9%
4%
18-24
18%
67%
7%
4%
25-34
22%
58%
9%
5%
4%
35-44
30%
50%
9%
4%
5%
45-54
40%
39%
9%
4%
4%
4%
55-64
47%
33%
9%
4%
4%
65+
59%
23%
10%
AB
44%
35%
13%
4%
C1
41%
41%
8%
4%
4%
C2
44%
39%
6%
4%
4%
DE
34%
46%
6%
4%
6%
4%
England
43%
41%
10%
Scotland
27%
23%
7%
41%
Wales
36%
45%
6%
10%
London
35%
46%
13%
4%


When did you finally decide how you were going to vote?
Labour
Conservative
I have always known how I would end up voting
28%
36%
7%
Longer than a year ago
7%
9%
21%
Since the beginning of the year
13%
In the last month
18%
10%
In the last week
5%
11%
In the last few days
8%
15%
12%
On polling day / on the day I filled out my postal vote
/2017/06/Q3.-Timeline.jpg

Which was the most important issue when it came to deciding how to vote in the general election?

Tom Newton Dunn @tnewtondunn

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8:37 AM - 12 Jun 2017

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