Bass (ALP 5.3%)

Location
North Eastern Tasmania. Bass includes the City of Launceston and the towns of Georgetown, Scottsdale and Beaconsfield. The electorate also includes Flinders Island.

Redistribution
Gains the remainder of West Tamar Council from Lyons in exchange for its share of Meander Valley Council, reducing the ALP margin from 6.1% to 5.3%.

History
Bass was created in 1903 and for almost all of its history it has been a marginal seat that has changed hands numerous times. Bass’s most prominent, and longest serving, member is Lance Barnard, who represented the electorate from 1954 until 1975 and was minister and Deputy Prime Minister under Gough Whitlam. The by-election that was held after Barnard’s retirement was won by the Liberals’ Kevin Newman, and this defeat is sometimes seen as being the beginning of the end of the Whitlam Government. Newman was Minister for National Development and then Minister for Administrative Services in the Fraser Government, he retired in 1984 and was succeeded by Liberal Warwick Smith, who held the seat until his defeat in 1993. After this election, only one MP for Bass was re-elected. Labor’s Silvia Smith held the seat before Warwick Smith regained it in 1996, Smith was a minister under Howard before losing the seat in 1998 to Labor’s Michelle O’Byrne. O’Byrne was re-elected in 2001 but lost her seat in 2004 amid the backlash in Tasmania over Mark Latham’s forestry policy. Liberal Michael Ferguson won the seat at this election before being defeated in 2007 by Labor’s Jodie Campbell. Campbell only served for one term before retiring for personal reasons. Labor’s Geoff Lyons won Bass in 2010 before losing to Liberal Andrew Nikolic in 2013, who was defeated in 2016 by Labor’s Ross Hart.

Candidates
Ross Hart- ALP: Before his election, Hart was a lawyer at Hill, Gunton and Patmore in Launceston and a former councillor and president of the Tasmanian Law Society. He has also been a director of the Northern Tasmania Regional Development Board.

Bridget Archer- LIB: Archer is currently the mayor of George Town Council

Carl Cooper- NAT: Cooper is a teacher and pastoralist.

Tom Hall- GRN: Hall is an anaesthetist.

Alan Roark- UAP: Roark is a corporate driver trainer.

Susan Woodbury- Animal Justice Party:

Todd Lambert- Independent:

Electoral Geography
The best areas for Labor in Bass are in Launceston and the Tamar Valley while the Liberals’ best results are in the rural booths of the north east. Labor’s Vote ranged from 39.29% at Bridport Hall on the North Coast to 76.1% at Ravenswood Primary School near Launceston.

Prognosis
Labor would be favoured in this current electoral climate.
Braddon (ALP 1.5%)

Location
North Western Tasmania: Braddon includes the towns of Devonport, Ulverstone, Burnie, Smithton and Queenstown and surrounding areas. The electorate also includes King Island.

Redistribution
Gains areas east of Devonport from Lyons, reducing the Labor margin from 2.2% to 1.5%

History
Braddon was created in 1955 and for the first twenty years of its history it was a reliably Labor seat. The first member, the Liberals’ Aubrey Luck only serving for one term before losing to Labor’s Ron Davies. Davies held the seat until his defeat in 1975. For a time after this Braddon became a reliable Liberal seat with Fraser Government Minister and future premier of Tasmania Ray Groom holding the seat until his retirement in 1984. The Liberals’ Chris Miles held the seat from 1984 until he was defeated in 1998 by Labor’s Sid Sidebottom, after 1998, Braddon became more marginal. Sidebottom was re-elected in 2001 before losing to Mark Baker of the Liberal Party, he regained the seat in 2007 and served for a further two terms before losing in 2013 to Liberal Brett Whiteley. Whiteley only served for a single term before losing to Labor’s Justine Keay.

Candidates
Justine Keay- ALP: Before her election, Keay worked in the television industry in Tasmania and then worked as an assistant to a Tasmanian Government Minister. She was also an alderman on Devonport City Council. In 2017 it emerged that Keay did not receive confirmation of her renunciation of British Citizenship until after nominations had closed in the 2016 election. Keay and Labor had argued that she had taken reasonable steps to renounce her citizenship consistent with the findings of the 1992 Sykes v Cleary Eligibility case however, when the High Court invalidated ACT Labor Senator Katy Gallagher’s election over a similarly late confirmation of renunciation, Keay resigned from Braddon and renominated for the by-election. Keay won the by-election in July 2018 with a slightly increased majority.

Gavin Pearce- LIB: Pearce is a beef farmer.

Sally Milbourne- NAT:

Phil Parsons- GRN: Parsons is a horticulturalist.

Kate Spaulding- UAP: Spalding is the owner of an agribusiness

Graham Gallaher- One Nation: Gallaher owns a small business.

Craig Brakey- Independent:

Shane Allan- Conservative National (Anning):

Brett Smith- Independent:

Electoral Geography
The best areas for Labor at the 2016 election were in and around Burnie and on the West Coast. The Liberals performed best in the small rural booths and in Smithton. The Labor vote ranged from 22.22% at Sassafras Primary School south east of Devonport to 70.52% at the Burnie Child and Family Centre in the Burnie suburb of Acton.

At the by-election, the electoral geography remained similar to the 2016 election. Labor’s vote ranged from 30.65% at Marrawah Memorial Hall on the North West Coast to 73.19% at Warratah Municipal Chambers in the west of the electorate.

Prognosis
While Braddon is a highly marginal seat. Keay would be favoured to be re-elected, especially as the Liberals would spend less time and money on Braddon than they did at the by-election.
Clark (IND 17.8% v ALP)

Location
Southern Tasmania. Clark includes the Hobart CBD and most of its suburbs including New Town, Glenorchy, Moonah and Sandy Bay.

Redistribution
Clark is the new name for the seat of Denison. Its boundaries are mostly unchanged.

History
Denison/Clark was created in 1903. Up until 1949, Denison was a marginal seat with a high turnover of MPs. From 1949 there was a period where the seat was relatively safe for the Liberals. Menzies government minister Athol Townley represented the seat from 1949 until his death in 1963 and was succeeded by Liberals Adrian Gibson and then Robert Solomon. Solomon lost Denison in 1972 to Labor’s John Coates, who held the seat until his defeat in 1975 at the hands of Liberal Michael Hodgman. Hodgman was a minister in the Fraser Government and held Denison until his defeat in 1987 by Labor’s Duncan Kerr. During Kerr’s time as an MP the seat became a safe seat for Labor, Kerr was a minister in the Keating Government and a Parliamentary Secretary in the Rudd Government. Upon Kerr’s retirement in 2010, Labor lost Denison to Independent Andrew Wilkie.

Candidates
Andrew Wilkie- Independent: Before entering parliament, Wilkie served in the Australian Army and rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He subsequently worked for the Office of National Assessments. Wilkie became known for his opposition to the 2003 Iraq War and resigned from the ONA in 2003. Wilkie stood as a candidate for the Greens in the seat of Bennelong at the 2004 election and stood as the second Greens candidate for the Senate in Tasmania in 2007. He also stood as an independent in the 2010 Tasmanian state election. Wilkie was one of the three independents who supported a minority Gillard government after the 2010 election but he withdrew his support in 2012 after he and the government fell out over poker machine reforms.

Ben McGregor- ALP: McGregor is a social worker and mental health clinician.

Amanda-Sue Markham- LIB: Markham is a former nurse and was the Liberal candidate in the seat of Franklin in the 2016 election.

Juniper Shaw- Greens: Shaw is a bar manager.

Jim Starkey- UAP:

Electoral Geography
Wilkie performed strongly in all areas of the electorate, winning every polling booth. He performed most strongly in Hobarts inner and southern suburbs while Labor did better in the northern suburbs. Wilkie’s vote ranged from 55.05% at Goodwood Primary School in the northern suburbs to 83.4% at Fern Tree Community Centre at the base of Mount Wellington.

Prognosis
Wilkie is likely to be returned.
Franklin (ALP 10.7%)  

Location  
Southern Tasmania: Franklin includes Suburbs of Hobart on the Eastern Shore of the River Derwent such as Otago, Risdon Vale and Lindisfarne. The electorate also includes the town of Kingston and towns in the Huon Valley such as Margate, Kettering and Huonville. Franklin additionally includes Bruny Island and the mostly uninhabited South West of Tasmania.

Redistribution  
Loses a small area east of the Derwent to Lyons with no impact on the margin.

History  
Franklin was created in 1903. Up until recently, the electorate was held by non-labor parties more often than not. Labor’s first member, Charles Frost, was elected in 1929 but was defeated after one term. Frost regained the seat in 1934 and would hold it until 1946. Throughout the 1950s and 60s it became a safe Liberal seat represented by Bill Falkinder and Thomas Pearsell respectively. Pearsell was defeated in 1969 by Labor’s Ray Sherr, who held the seat until 1975 when he was defeated by Liberal Bruce Goodluck. Goodluck was member for Franklin until his retirement in 1993 when the seat was won by Labor’s Harry Quick. From 1993 onwards Franklin became a secure Labor seat. Quick was a backbencher throughout his time in parliament, he was expelled from the Labor Party in 2007 for failing to pay his membership fees and retired that year. Quick was succeeded by Labor’s Julie Collins.

Candidates  
Julie Collins- ALP: Before entering parliament, Collins was a public servant and ministerial adviser, she was also secretary of the Tasmanian ALP from 2006 to 2007. Collins was Minister for Community Services, Indigenous Employment and the Status of Women in the Gillard Government. She is currently shadow minister for ageing and mental health.

Dean Young- LIB: Young is an accountant and small business owner.

Kit Darko- Greens: Darko is an activist and software developer.

Darren Winter- UAP: Winter is a former football coach and the owner of the Lauderdale Bakehouse.

Darren Hawes- Conservative National (Anning):

Electoral Geography  
Labor won all but one booth in Franklin with their best results being in some of the lower income suburbs on the Eastern Shore. The Liberals did best in the Eastern Shore’s higher income suburbs and in parts of the Huon Valley. The Labor vote ranged from 42.01% at Surges Bay Community Hall south of Huonville to 80.93% at Clarendon Vale Neighbourhood centre on Hobart’s eastern shore.

Prognosis  
Labor will easily hold Franklin
Lyons (ALP 4.0%)

Location
Central and Eastern Tasmania: Lyons covers most of the east coast and midlands areas of Tasmania and includes the towns of New Norfolk, Bridgewater, Swansea, St Helens, Oatlands, Ross, Sheffield and Deloraine.

Redistribution
Loses its share of Latrobe Council to Braddon and West Tamar Council to Bass while gaining the remainder of Meander Valley Council from Bass and part of the Eastern shore of the Derwent from Franklin, raising the Labor margin from 2.3% to 4%.

History
Lyons was created in 1984 and has only had four members in that time. Its first member was Liberal Max Burr, who was elected to the abolished seat of Wilmot in 1975. Burr remained on the backbench for the whole of the time he was in parliament and he retired in 1993. Labor’s Dick Adams won the seat at the 1993 election. Adams also remained on the backbench for his entire parliamentary career, he was defeated in 2013 by Liberal Eric Hutchinson. Hutchinson only served for one term before he himself was defeated by Labor’s Brian Mitchell.

Candidates
Brian Mitchell- ALP: Before entering parliament, Mitchell was a journalist and then editor of the Fremantle Herald in Western Australia. After moving to Tasmania, he was chief of staff of Labor MP Duncan Kerr and then ran a public relations and media consultancy firm.

Jessica Whelan- LIB: Whelan has a background in Aged Care, Hospitality and property and is the former owner of the Twelve Stones Restaurant in Pontville.

Deanna Hutchinson- NAT: Hutchinson has worked in senior executive and management roles.

Gary Whisson- Greens: Whisson is a semi-retired environmental consultant.

Mick Warne- UAP: Warne is a former telecommunications worker and ‘self-employed entrepreneur.’

Tenille Murtagh- One Nation:

Electoral Geography
Lyons has an extremely varied electoral geography. Labor’s best areas are in the larger centres closer to Hobart such as New Norfolk, the party also did well on the North East Coast and Northern Midlands. The Liberals’ best areas are in the north west of the electorate around Sheffield and Deloraine as well as the East Coast between Orford and Bicheno and the Southern Midlands. Labor’s vote ranged from 30.48% at Hagley Farm Primary School east of Deloraine to 77.65% at Gagebrook Primary School north of Hobart.

Prognosis
Mitchell is favoured for re-election.