



IT'S YOUR VOTE. USE IT.

# YOUR GUIDE TO VOTING IN THE 1996 GENERAL ELECTION

**For more information  
call tollfree on  
0800 800 610**

**Māori**

Me whakapā atu ki te waea kore-utu  
0800 800 610. Mō ētahi atu  
whakamōhioanga.

**Cook Island Maori**

Me inangaro tuatua akamarama akaou kotou  
e ringi atu i teia numero kare e tutaki,  
0800 800 610.

**Niuean**

Ka manako ke moua mai foki falu  
fakailoaaga hea he telefoni hea noa na  
0800 800 610.

**Samoan**

Mo nisi faamatalaga, telefoni le numera  
0800 800 610 e aunoa ma se tologi.

**Tokelauan**

Mo ni e tahi fakamatalaga kalaga mai ite  
telefoni e heai he tologi 0800 800 610

**Tongan**

Ka toe fiema'u ha fakaikiiki telefoni mai ki  
he fika ko 'eni pea 'e 'ikai ha totongi 'i he  
0800 800 610

**Chinese**

欲知詳情  
請打免費電話  
0800 800 610

**Korean**

자세한 문의는 다음의  
번호로 연락하십시오.  
무료전화번호  
0800 800 610

**This guide to voting contains everything  
you need to know about how to have your  
say on polling day.**

An important message...

On Saturday 12 October 1996 New Zealanders will go to the polls to vote in the first MMP election.

This means if you are an elector, you will now get two votes; one for the political party of your choice, and one for the candidate you'd prefer to represent your electorate.

While both votes are important it is the party vote that will decide the total number of MPs in Parliament.

All voters are encouraged to cast an ordinary vote within their electorate on polling day. This way, voting will be quicker for you and your vote can be counted on election night helping to give an earlier indication of how Parliament will be made up.

If it is not possible to vote within your electorate you will be able to cast a special vote outside your electorate at any polling place.

As this election is being held using the new electoral boundaries, please check this guide to see the polling places listed for your electorate.



*Phil Whelan, Chief Electoral Officer, Chief Electoral Office  
Level 1, 110 Featherston Street, Wellington, New Zealand*

**Remember to vote on**

## When and Where to Vote

### Voting on Polling Day

#### Ordinary Voting

**Who can:** Anyone whose name is on the electoral roll who votes at a polling place listed under their electorate name in this booklet.

**When:** Between 9 am and 7 pm on Saturday 12 October 1996.

**Where:** Attend any polling place listed under your electorate name in this booklet.

**How it works:** Simply state your full name and address. You will then be given your voting paper. Cast one vote for the political party of your choice and one for your preferred candidate to represent your electorate.

#### Special Voting

**Who can:** Anyone who is enrolled and one of the following grounds applies:

- Anyone whose name is not on the electoral roll and who believes it should be, can ask for a special vote.
- Anyone who is outside their electorate on Saturday 12 October 1996.
- Anyone who is ill or infirm and cannot get to a polling place.
- Anyone who can satisfy a Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer by application that going to a polling place would cause hardship or serious inconvenience.

**When:** Between 9 am and 7 pm on Saturday 12 October 1996.

**Where:** Attend or obtain voting papers (through an agent) at any polling place within New Zealand on Saturday 12 October 1996.

**How it works:** You will need to complete a special vote declaration indicating one of the above grounds and have it witnessed before you complete your voting paper.

#### Tangata Whenua Voting

**Who can:** Voters enrolled on the Maori roll voting at polling places that are not able to issue Ordinary Maori Votes may make a Tangata Whenua Vote. To do this you must be on the roll in that Maori electorate.

**When:** Between 9 am and 7 pm on Saturday 12 October 1996.

**Where:** You must be at the polling place in person in your electorate.

**How it works:** Your roll details will be checked and you will be issued with a Tangata Whenua form to complete. You will then be issued with a voting paper.

### Voting before Polling Day

**Who can:** If you cannot attend a polling place in your electorate on polling day, you can cast a vote before polling day if:

- you will be outside your electorate or overseas
- your name is not on the printed roll
- an illness or infirmity prevents you from attending a polling place
- your religion does not allow you to vote on a Saturday
- or if you can satisfy a Returning Officer or Issuing Officer that going to a polling place would cause you hardship or serious inconvenience.

**When:** Closes on Friday 11 October 1996.

**Where:** Returning Officers will have one or more issuing office(s) where you can vote.

- The days and times that some of these will be open will vary from electorate to electorate.
- Contact your Returning Officer during office hours at the number listed in this booklet under your electorate, or ring the Freephone Information Hotline on 0800 800 610.

**How it works:** You can vote at the issuing office in person or voting papers can be obtained for you through an agent, or by post.

### Hospital Voting

**Who can:** As far as practicable Returning Officers will provide facilities for eligible electors who are in hospitals, maternity homes, or rest homes up until polling day.

**When:** In the last two weeks before Saturday 12 October 1996.

**Where:** At your hospital, rest home etc.

**How it works:** Mobile polling staff will visit the above places on a date and time which has been pre-arranged with the management.

## IMPORTANT

### Your Vote may not count if:

- You are not enrolled or,
- You have resided at a new address for one month and have not updated the electoral roll.

**Your last chance to enrol will be at any PostShop up to close of business on Friday 11 October – the day before polling day.**



## What happens on Election night

### It's 7 pm .... close the booth!

Polling officials break the seals and open the ballot boxes, then sort and count ordinary formal and informal party votes and electorate votes.

From 8:30pm on election night attention will focus on the central results centre in Wellington. The preliminary count of ordinary votes only (not including special votes or Tangata Whenua votes) will be progressively received and made available to news media as they come to hand. Television and radio commentators will report these results to you. The press will prepare reports for the Sunday and Monday editions of the metropolitan and daily newspapers.

Typically, these preliminary results cover about 90% of all votes cast at the election. They often indicate which electorate candidate has won in each of the 65 electorates, and may indicate the total number of seats each party is likely to have.

But the final count cannot be completed until the special votes and Tangata Whenua votes are received and checked in the 10 days following the election. The final results therefore cannot be known with certainty until the official count is concluded in all electorates.

### YOU HAVE 2 VOTES

#### PARTY VOTE

**Explanation**  
This vote decides the share of seats which each of the parties listed below will have in Parliament. Vote by putting a tick in the circle immediately after the party you choose.

Vote for only one party

	CARROT	<input type="radio"/>
	PEACH	<input type="radio"/>
	SQUASH	<input type="radio"/>
	BANANA	<input type="radio"/>
	BROCCOLI PARTY	<input type="radio"/>
	STRAWBERRY	<input type="radio"/>
	PEAR	<input type="radio"/>
	EGGPLANT	<input type="radio"/>
	KIWI FRUIT	<input type="radio"/>
	APPLE	<input type="radio"/>
	ASPARAGUS PARTY	<input type="radio"/>
	CHERRY	<input type="radio"/>
	TOMATO	<input type="radio"/>
	CABBAGE	<input type="radio"/>
	CELERY	<input type="radio"/>
	CORNCOB	<input type="radio"/>
	GRAPE	<input type="radio"/>

#### ELECTORATE VOTE

**Explanation**  
This vote decides the candidate who will be elected Member of Parliament for the AKATARAWA ELECTORATE. Vote by putting a tick in the circle immediately before the candidate you choose.

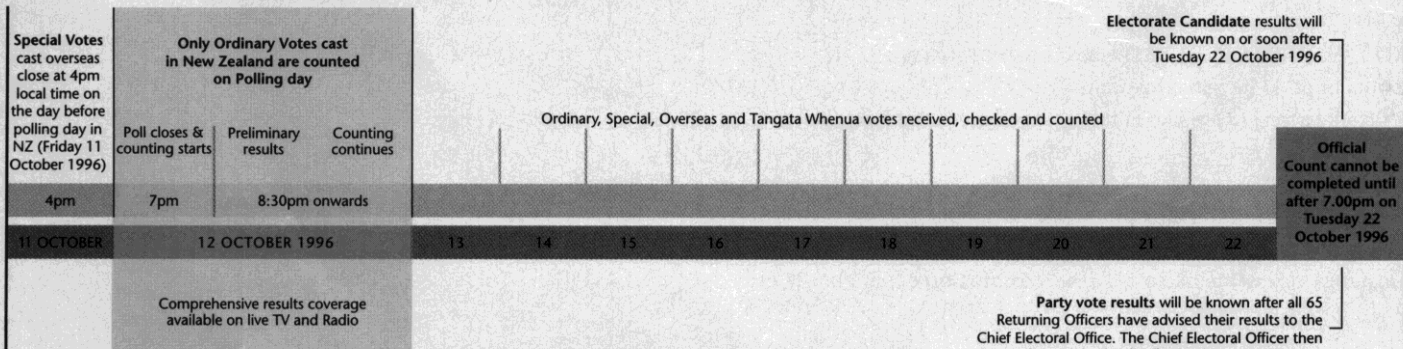
Vote for only one candidate

<input type="radio"/>	ALLENBY, Fred	
<input type="radio"/>	BARNADO, Mary	
<input type="radio"/>	DUMMLOP, Alistair	
<input type="radio"/>	EDLINGTON, Antony	
<input type="radio"/>	GALAXY, John	
<input type="radio"/>	IRONMONGER, Anne	
<input type="radio"/>	McMADDISON, Emma	
<input type="radio"/>	NECTAR, Elizabeth	
<input type="radio"/>	OMEGA, Sebastian	
<input type="radio"/>	PAYLESS, Richard	
<input type="radio"/>	QUEST, Oliver	
<input type="radio"/>	RAWHAI, Whare	
<input type="radio"/>	RUSKIN-BROWN, Robin	
<input type="radio"/>	SMITH, Tarquin	
<input type="radio"/>	TULLIP, Edna	

It is only after all successful electorate candidates have been declared elected and the total support is known for each party, that party list MP's will be known. So the final make-up of Parliament will not be officially known until about two weeks after the election.

See page 9 for more detail on the MMP Electoral System.

### POLLING DAY



## Here's a reminder about how MMP works

**You have two votes, one for a party and one for an electorate candidate.**

### **Your party vote**

**Party votes are very important because they decide each party's share of all the seats in Parliament.**

### **Your electorate vote**

**Electorate votes are also important because they decide who will represent each electorate in Parliament.**

**In order to have seats in Parliament, a party has to win at least 5% of all the party votes or win at least one electorate seat.**

**A party's seats in Parliament are filled by list MPs, electorate MPs, or a combination of both.**

See pages 6 and 7 for information on how to cast your votes. If you have questions about MMP, ring toll-free 0800 800 610 or pick up an Electoral Commission leaflet from a PostShop or from a public library. If you have access to the Internet you will find information about MMP on: <http://www.govt.nz/elections>

Your party vote is for the party you most want to be represented in Parliament. Your electorate vote is for the person you most want to be the MP for your local electorate.

So how you cast your party vote really matters, because you're more likely to be helping your party get more seats in Parliament. The more seats a party has in Parliament, the more influence it is likely to have in deciding what laws are passed and how the country is run.

So how you cast your electorate vote also matters, because the candidate in your electorate who gets the most electorate votes will be elected to Parliament.

This is called the threshold. A party that doesn't get over the threshold won't have any seats in Parliament.

A party's total number of seats will be made up of any electorate seats it has won, plus enough list seats to reach its rightful total according to its share of the party votes.



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