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MMP EXPLAINED IN TWO TICKS

You have two votes, one for a party and one for a person

Your **Party Vote** is for the party you prefer.
Your **Electorate Vote** is for the person
you would like to be the MP for your local
electorate.



Your Party Vote

The **Party Votes** decide the total
number of seats each party gets in
Parliament.

Here's how...

We each vote for our preferred party with
our **Party Vote**.

Each party's share of all the **Party Votes**
decides its share of all the 120 seats in
Parliament.

The more seats a party has, the more
influence it is likely to have in deciding what
laws are passed and how the country is run.

How a party's share of seats is decided

Each party gets seats in Parliament based on its share
of all the **Party Votes**.

For example, if a party gets 40% of all the **Party Votes**,
it gets 40% of all the seats in Parliament: 40% of 120 seats
= 48 seats.

If another party gets 10%
of all the **Party Votes**, it gets
10% of all the seats in
Parliament, i.e. 12 seats.

And so on.



But...

A party must get at least 5% of all the **Party Votes**
or win an electorate seat to get a share of the seats in
Parliament.

This is called the threshold.

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

Your Electorate Vote

The **Electorate Votes** decide who will be the MP for
your electorate.

The person who gets the most **Electorate Votes** in each
electorate is elected the MP for that seat.

There are 60 General electorates and 5 Maori electorates.
So, the **Electorate Votes** will decide 65 of the 120 seats
in Parliament.

The other 55 seats in Parliament will be filled by MPs
elected from the party lists.



The Party List MPs

Remember, the total number of seats for each party is decided by its share of
all the **Party Votes** - provided it gets over the threshold.

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

If a party has some electorate MPs but not enough to reach its
rightful total of seats, it tops up to its total with MPs from its party list.

If a party hasn't won any electorate seats, all its MPs will be
list MPs.

And a party will not have any list MPs if it has enough
electorate MPs to fill its rightful share of seats.



MMP: IT TAKES JUST TWO TICKS



Electoral Commission
Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri