

# Election Timetable 2020

New Zealand Parliament, n.d.[c]

In an election year, a number of significant events are held in Parliament. This timetable outlines key dates before and after the election, explains what happens at each stage of the electoral process and includes links to more information.



**28 January**

**PM announces date of 2020 general election**

**19 March**

**By-elections not usually held**

**Six months before the election**

**Valedictory Statements**

**18 August**

**Regulated period for election expenses begins**

**TBD**

**Adjournment of Parliament**

**6 September**

**Dissolution of Parliament**

**13 September**

**Writ day**



20 to 30 working days before the election

## **Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Update**

18 September

**Nomination day**

30 September

**Overseas voting begins**

3 October

**Advanced voting**

16 October

**Regulated period ends**

17 October

**Election day**

30 October

**Preliminary referendum results will be released.**

**No set day**

**Formation of the Government**

September/October

**MP Induction Programme**

**6 November**

**Official results of general election declared**

**12 November**

**Last day for the return of the writ**

**13 November to 24 December**

**Commission Opening of Parliament**

**14 November to 25 December**

**State Opening of Parliament**

Usually at 2pm on the same day as the State Opening

**Address in Reply debate**

**December**



October



30 October

Preliminary referendum results will be released.



No set day

Formation of the Government



September/October

MP Induction Programme



6 November

Official results of general election declared



12 November

Last day for the return of the writ

After declaring the result, and when satisfied that no application is to be made for a judicial recount, or after any recount has taken place, the Electoral Commissioner delivers the writ to the Clerk of the House. Effectively this is a certificate of election, proving the right of membership to the House of Representatives.

Following the return of the writ, the Governor-General issues a proclamation summoning Parliament to meet within six weeks.

November



13 November to 24 December

Commission Opening of Parliament

Within six weeks of the return of the writ, the first meeting of the new Parliament must take place. Parliament is opened on the Governor-General's behalf by three Royal Commissioners (usually the Chief Justice and two other senior judges). A Commissioner reads the proclamation summoning Parliament and informs members that the Governor-General will attend in person the next day. The Commissioners then depart but the members remain so they can be sworn in and a Speaker elected.



14 November to 25 December

State Opening of Parliament

