

Election 2014: Numbers and Faces

Keith Rankin, 15 September 2014

Democratic politics is a game of numbers and faces. How can we translate the numbers into the 120 or more faces that will be in the next Parliament?

Below is my prediction of a likely result: 120 people, divided by party (listed from Left to Right) and status as 'electorate' or 'list' MP. I have used the [MMP Seat Allocation Calculator](#), at www.elections.org.nz to translate percentages into seats. (The percentages below are estimates of percentages of the effective vote; likely votes for Cannabis and against 1080 are ignored.) While this is not necessarily the outcome that I want, as an analyst rather than an activist, I think it's as good a guess as any as to what we will actually get. It is a centre-right government, 62-58 if the Maori Party is to be included as centre-right.

Parties and Party Votes		Electorate	List	Total
Internet-Mana	3.5%	1	3	4
Green	14.0%	0	17	17
Labour	23.5%	28	0	28
New Zealand First	7.5%	0	9	9
Maori	1.5%	1	1	2
United Future	0.7%	1	0	1
National	42.5%	39	12	51
Conservative	5.0%		6	6
Act	1.8%	1	1	2
	100.0%	71	49	120

The polls are generally accurate but are presented in a misleading way, by excluding 'undecided' from the totals. Thus, if 50% of decided voters say they will vote National, then that probably means about 45% will actually vote National. The published polls usually converge with reality, however, so the poll-of-polls for the 18-19 September should be quite an accurate guide. (Presumably people who have already voted are asked to choose who they did vote for rather than who they would vote for?).

This year there are more choices than usual on the right. So a greater proportion of still undecided votes will fall to the right-bloc than usual. So I'm expecting that the main differences between the latest polls (as I write) and the final result will be increased party-vote support for Internet-Mana, Maori, and Conservative, and decreased support for Labour and National. I think that 66% combined major party support will be about right.

Below is my table of who I think the 120 MPs will be.

Candidates	Electorate
Internet-Mana	
1 Hone Harawira	Electorate Te Tai Tokerau E
2 Laila Harré	Internet Helensville L

3	Annette Sykes	Mana	Waiariki			L
4	John Minto	Mana	Mount Roskill			L
5	Chris Yong	Internet	Te Atatū			
6	Miriam Pierard	Internet	Auckland Central			
7	Te Hāmua Nikora	Mana	Ikaroa-Rāwhiti			
8	David Currin	Internet	Whangarei			
9	James Papali'i	Mana	Mangere Māngere			
10	Beverley Ballantine	Internet	Ilam			
11	Angeline Greensill	Mana	Hauraki-Waikato			
	Georgina Beyer	Mana	Te Tai Tonga			

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Green

1	Metiria Turei	List	Dunedin North			L
2	Russel Norman	List	Rongotai			L
3	Kevin Hague	List	West Coast-Tasman			L
4	Eugenie Sage	List	Port Hills			L
5	Gareth Hughes	List				L
6	Catherine Delahunty	List	Coromandel			L
7	Kennedy Graham	List	Helensville			L
8	Julie Anne Genter	List	Epsom			L
9	Mojo Mathers	List	Christchurch East			L
10	Jan Logie	List	Mana			L
11	David Clendon	List	Northland			L
12	James Shaw		Wellington Central			L
13	Denise Roche	List	Auckland Central			L
14	Steffan Browning	List	Kaikōura			L
15	Marama Davidson		Tāmaki Makaurau			L
16	Barry Coates		Mount Roskill			L
17	John Hart		Wairarapa			L
18	David Kennedy		Invercargill			
19	Jeanette Elley		Mount Albert			
20	Jack McDonald		Te Tai Hauāuru			

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Labour

1	David Cunliffe	Electorate	New Lynn	E
2	David Parker	List		
3	Grant Robertson	Electorate	Wellington Central	E
4	Annette King	Electorate	Rongotai	E
5	Jacinda Ardern	List	Auckland Central	
6	Nanaia Mahuta	Electorate	Hauraki-Waikato	E
7	Phil Twyford	Electorate	Te Atatū	E
8	Clayton Cosgrove	List	Waimakariri	E

9	Chris Hipkins	Electorate	Rimutaka	E
10	Sue Moroney	List	Hamilton West	
11	Andrew Little	List	New Plymouth	
12	Louisa Wall	Electorate	Manurewa	E
13	David Shearer	Electorate	Mount Albert	E
14	Su'a William Sio	Electorate	Māngere	E
15	Maryan Street	List	Nelson	
16	Phil Goff	Electorate	Mount Roskill	E
17	Moana Mackey	List	East Coast	
18	Kelvin Davis	List	Te Tai Tokerau	
19	Meka Whitiri	Electorate	Ikaroa-Rāwhiti	E
20	Megan Woods	Electorate	Wigram	E
21	Raymond Huo	List		
22	Damien O'Connor	Electorate	West Coast-Tasman	E
23	Priyanca Radhakrishnan			
24	Iain Lees-Galloway	Electorate	Palmerston North	E
25	Rachel Jones		Tauranga	
26	David Clark	Electorate	Dunedin North	E
27	Carol Beaumont	List	Maungakiekie	
28	Poto Williams	Electorate	Christchurch East	E
29	Carmel Sepuloni		Kelston	E
30	Tamati Coffey		Rotorua	
31	Jenny Salesa		Manukau East	E
32	Liz Craig		Clutha-Southland	
33	Deborah Russell		Rangitīkei	
34	Willow-Jean Prime		Northland	
35	Jerome Mika		Papakura	
36	Tony Milne		Christchurch Central	E
37	Virginia Andersen		Ōhāriu	
38	Claire Szabó		North Shore	
39	Michael Wood		Epsom	
40	Arena Williams		Hunua	
41	Hamish McDouall		Whanganui	
42	Anjum Rahman			
43	Sunny Kaushal			
44	Christine Greer		Waikato	
45	Penny Gaylor		Taranaki-King Country	
46	Janette Walker		Kaikōura	
47	Richard Hills		Northcote	
48	Shanan Halbert			
49	Anahila Suisuiki			

50	Clare Wilson		Bay of Plenty			
51	James Dann		Ilam			
52	Kelly Ellis		Whangarei			
53	Corrie Haddock		Helensville			
54	Jamie Strange		Taupō			
55	Katie Paul					
56	Steven Gibson		Rangitata			
57	Chao-Fu Wu		Tāmaki			
58	Paul Grimshaw					
59	Tracey Dorreen					
60	Mamedov Tofik Mamedov		Botany			
	Glenda Alexander		Waitaki			
	Clifford Allen		Hamilton East			
	Eric Bolt		Rodney			
	Clare Curran	Electorate	Dunedin South	E		
	Gordon Dickson		Selwyn			
	Ruth Dyson	Electorate	Port Hills	E		
	Kris Faafoi	Electorate	Mana	E		
	Peeni Henare		Tāmaki Makaurau	E		
	Barry Kirker		Pakuranga			
	Anna Lorck		Tukituki			
	Trevor Mallard	Electorate	Hutt South	E		
	Kieran McAnulty		Wairarapa			
	Rob McCann		Ōtaki			
	Greg Milner-White		East Coast Bays			
	Stuart Nash		Napier	E		
	Korbinian Poschl		Coromandel			
	Hermann Retzlaff		Upper Harbour			
	Adrian Rurawhe		Te Tai Hauāuru	E		
	Lesley Soper		Invercargill			
	Rino Tirikatene	Electorate	Te Tai Tonga	E		
	Rawiri Waititi		Waiariki			
					28	0
						28
NZ First						
1	Winston Peters	List				L
2	Tracey Martin	List	Rodney			L
3	Richard Prosser	List	Waimakariri			L
4	Fletcher Tabuteau		Rotorua			L
5	Barbara Stewart	List	Waikato			L
6	Clayton Mitchell		Tauranga			L
7	Denis O'Rourke	List	Port Hills			L
8	Pita Paraone		Whangarei			L

17	Craig Foss	Electorate	Tukituki	E		
18	Simon Bridges	Electorate	Tauranga	E		
19	Nikki Kaye	Electorate	Auckland Central	E		
20	Michael Woodhouse	List	Dunedin North		L	7
21	Jo Goodhew	Electorate	Rangitata	E		
22	Chester Borrows	Electorate	Whanganui	E		
23	Todd McClay	Electorate	Rotorua	E		
24	Sam Lotu-liga	Electorate	Maungakiekie	E		
25	Nicky Wagner	Electorate	Christchurch Central		L	8
26	Lindsay Tisch	Electorate	Waikato	E		
27	Louise Upston	Electorate	Taupō	E		
28	Tim Macindoe	Electorate	Hamilton West	E		
29	Jami-Lee Ross	Electorate	Botany	E		
30	Paul Goldsmith	List	Epsom		L	9
31	Melissa Lee	List	Mount Albert		L	10
32	Kanwal Singh Bakshi	List	Manukau East		L	11
33	Jian Yang	List			L	12
34	Alfred Ngaro	List	Te Atatū			
35	Maurice Williamson	Electorate	Pakuranga	E		
36	Jacqui Dean	Electorate	Waitaki	E		
37	David Bennett	Electorate	Hamilton East	E		
38	Jonathan Young	Electorate	New Plymouth	E		
39	Brett Hudson		Ōhariu			
40	Maggie Barry	Electorate	North Shore	E		
41	Ian McKelvie	Electorate	Rangitīkei	E		
42	Mark Mitchell	Electorate	Rodney	E		
43	Simon O'Connor	Electorate	Tāmaki	E		
44	Mike Sabin	Electorate	Northland	E		
45	Scott Simpson	Electorate	Coromandel	E		
46	Paul Foster-Bell	List	Wellington Central			
47	Joanne Hayes	List	Christchurch East			
48	Parmjeet Parmar		Mount Roskill			
49	Chris Bishop		Hutt South			
50	Nuk Korako		Port Hills			
51	Jono Naylor		Palmerston North			
52	Maureen Pugh		West Coast-Tasman			
53	Misa Fia Turner		Mangere Māngere			
54	Todd Barclay		Clutha-Southland	E		
55	Andrew Bayly		Hunua	E		
56	Matthew Doocey		Waimakariri			
57	Sarah Dowie		Invercargill	E		

58	Barbara Kuriger	Taranaki-King Country	E		
59	Todd Muller	Bay of Plenty	E		
60	Shane Reti	Whangarei	E		
61	Alastair Scott	Wairarapa	E		
62	Stuart Smith	Kaikōura	E		
63	Wayne Walford	Napier			
64	Simeon Brown	Manurewa			
65	Hamish Walker	Dunedin South			
66	Lewis Holden	Rimutaka			
67	Karl Varley	Wigram			
68	Christopher Penk	Kelston			
			39	12	51
Conservative					
1	Colin Craig	East Coast Bays		L	
2	Christine Rankin	Epsom		L	
3	Garth McVicar	Napier		L	
4	Melissa Perkin	North Shore		L	
5	Edward Saafi	Mangere Māngere		L	
6	Callum Blair	Upper Harbour		L	
7	Mel Taylor	Northland			
8	Steve Taylor	New Lynn			
9	Roy Brown	Rangitīkei			
10	Paul Young	Botany			
			0	6	6
AC					
T					
1	Jamie Whyte	Pakuranga		L	
2	Kenneth Wang				
3	Robin Grieve	Whangarei			
4	Beth Houlbrooke	Rodney			
5	Don Nicolson	Clutha-Southland			
	David Seymour	Epsom	E		
			1	1	2
			42	20	62

I have highlighted in yellow names of people I believe will get elected this time on Party lists who have not been in Parliament before, and whose names are not well known. I am hoping that these people will all receive some media profiling this week. There are also people in the present or previous parliaments who are still not well known. I am disappointed that we haven't seen more in the media of our Chinese MPs Jian Yang and Raymond Huo, and, for the sake of diversity, would like to see them be able to continue to represent their communities.

The main point I wish to make here, however, is that my predicted 120 does not include David Parker, Jacinda Ardern, Andrew Little, Sue Moroney, Maryan Street, Moana Mackey or Kelvin Davis. With 66% of the effective vote to the major parties and only 49 list places, there will be only 12 list seats for these parties, and I predict they will all go to National.

What this means is that the individual electorate contests will have a significant bearing on who gets those 12 major party list places.

I have highlighted in light blue seats that I believe Labour candidates will win, but which National candidates may win: Waimakariri, Palmerston North, Port Hills, Christchurch Central, Napier. David Parker and Jacinda Ardern may be nervously hoping that the Labour candidates for these seats will lose their electorate contests.

The other side of the equation is also very interesting. If Labour wins all the 28 electorates I have predicted, and some of the orange-shaded seats, then Labour will have overhang MPs. Five overhang seats for Labour would be enough to hand the election to the centre-left group; five out of: Auckland Central, Hamilton West, Rotorua, Maungakiekie, Invercargill, Whanganui, New Plymouth or Wairarapa. I would like to see some high quality polling results for these electoral contests, all of them like mayoral contests. (I note that most Christchurch electorates have Labour MPs but party-voted National in 2011.)

Finally, I note that if the Conservatives fall just short of the 5% threshold, their list seats would be reallocated to National (3), Labour (2) and Green (1). That would get David Parker and Jacinda Ardern in. (But they might be waiting for the final special vote count.) And it would get the Centre-Left bloc over the line.

While the electoral contests generally have no impact on the number of elected MPs in each party, for each electorate MP down the list or off the list who does get in, then someone else higher up the list misses out.

Further, the overhang issue will need to be addressed at some stage, especially if the North Island population continues to grow faster than the South Island population. I think the best solution will be to have Auckland, Wellington and Hamilton electorates that are bigger, population-wise, than South Island and provincial electorates. After-all it's the party vote that counts, and list MPs disproportionately reside in Auckland and Wellington.

Bring in 1-2-3 preferential voting (see [here](#)) and bigger metropolitan electorates. Then the MMP electoral system will have matured, and the media will have little choice but to focus on the issues. Alleged anomalies within the system will cease to arouse the passions. But electoral contests will still provide local drama, and will still have list-only candidates chewing their nails.
