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**General roll or
Māori roll?**

General roll or Māori roll?

The Māori Electoral Option is where Māori choose which electoral roll they want to be on: the Māori roll or the general roll.

When can you choose rolls?

If you are Māori and enrolling for the first time, you choose which electoral roll you want to be on.

If you're already enrolled, you can change the roll you're on anytime, except:

- In the 3 months before a general election or local election
- Before a parliamentary by-election if the change would move you into the electorate where the by-election is being held.

What does your choice mean for you?

Your roll choice affects which electorate you can vote in and who you can vote for in parliamentary elections and local elections.

Your choice can also affect the number of Māori seats in Parliament.

The number of Māori enrolled on the Māori roll could mean the number of Māori electorates increases, decreases, or stays the same.

Your choice will also help determine the boundaries of Māori and general electorates when they are reviewed before the next general election.

What is an electoral roll?

An electoral roll is a list of people who have enrolled to vote. New Zealand has two electoral rolls: the Māori Electoral Roll and the General Electoral Roll.

What is an electorate?

New Zealand is divided into voting areas called electorates. When you enrol to vote, you're enrolled in the electorate where you live.

New Zealand has two types of electorates: Māori and general. At a general election or a by-election, a member of Parliament (MP) is elected to represent the people in each electorate. Everywhere in New Zealand is covered by both a general electorate and a Māori electorate.

While electorates are not always the same size, they each have roughly the same number of people in them.

Voting in parliamentary elections and by-elections

If you choose the general roll, you'll vote for a candidate in the general electorate you live in. For example, if you live in Hastings you will vote in the Tukituki electorate. The person who wins the most votes in the general electorate of Tukituki will become your local MP.

If you choose the Māori roll, you'll vote for a candidate in the Māori electorate you live in. For example, if you live in Hastings you will vote in the Ikaroa-Rāwhiti electorate. The person who wins the most votes in the Māori electorate of Ikaroa-Rāwhiti will become your local MP.

You can vote for the same list of political parties in a general election, whichever roll you choose to be on.

Voting in local elections

The roll you choose may affect who you can vote for at local elections.

If you choose the Māori roll, and your local council has a Māori ward or constituency, you will vote for candidates in the Māori ward or constituency. If you choose the general roll, you will vote for candidates in the general ward or constituency.

What is a council ward or constituency?

A ward or constituency is a council voting area, like a parliamentary electorate. City and district councils have wards, and regional councils have constituencies.

Some councils have both Māori and general wards or constituencies. At the local elections, councilors are elected to represent the people in each ward and constituency.

While each ward or constituency is not always the same size, they each have roughly the same number of people in them.

How to make your choice

If you want to change the roll you're on you can:

- Do it online at vote.nz. You'll either need a New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity.
- Fill in a paper enrolment form. Call 0800 36 76 56 and ask for an enrolment form to be sent to you in the mail.

If you are on the unpublished roll you won't be able to change your enrolment details online. Instead, you'll need to fill in a paper enrolment form.

When you enrol for the first time or change the roll you're on, we'll send you a letter or email to check your details and that you're enrolled on the roll of your choice.

If your details aren't correct, contact us to update them.

If you're not sure which roll to choose, talking it over with friends and whānau might help.

Enrolling only takes 5 minutes. You can do it online at **vote.nz**, or by calling 0800 36 76 56 to get an enrolment form sent to you in the mail.