Forthcoming Australian and New Zealand Election Dates

January 2018


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Federal, State and Territory election dates
The following table outlines the possible (or actual where fixed) dates for the next Federal, State and Territory elections (Lower Houses only).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Last election</th>
<th>Actual (Fixed)</th>
<th>Latest date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>2 July 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>18 May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>15 March 2014</td>
<td>17 March 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>29 November 2014</td>
<td>24 November 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>25 November 2017</td>
<td>31 October 2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>15 March 2014</td>
<td>3 March 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales</td>
<td>28 March 2015</td>
<td>23 March 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>27 August 2016</td>
<td>22 August 2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Capital Territory</td>
<td>15 October 2016</td>
<td>17 October 2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>11 March 2017</td>
<td>13 March 2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>23 September 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>21 November 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Local Government Area election dates
The following table outlines the most recent and forthcoming LGA election dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Last election</th>
<th>Actual (Fixed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>14 October 2014</td>
<td>30 October 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>7 November 2014</td>
<td>9 November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>21 October 2017</td>
<td>19 October 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>19 March 2016</td>
<td>28 March 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales</td>
<td>10 September 2016</td>
<td>12 September 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>22 October 2016</td>
<td>26 October 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>26 August 2017</td>
<td>28 August 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Capital Territory</td>
<td>No separate local governments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auckland Council, New Zealand</td>
<td>9 October 2016</td>
<td>12 October 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview of the election cycle in each jurisdiction

Federal
Federally, Members of the House of Representatives are elected to three year terms, and Senators elected to six year terms, with half of them being elected every three years. Senators commence their term on 1 July following a general election. There is no constitutional requirement that elections for the House of Representatives and state Senators be held simultaneously. These elections are however, generally held concurrently primarily to avoid the duplication of costs.

For a House of Representatives and half Senate election to be held concurrently the election must be held at any time within one year prior to the Senate places turning over, according to s13 of the Constitution.

If a House of Representatives election is called outside of this time period, the responsibility for the half Senate only election falls to the respective states, with governors issuing writs for the (half) Senate election.

Because the 2016 election was a Double Dissolution, the terms of all Senators ended. The term of State Senators, who were elected in 2016 and allocated three years, will expire on 30 June 2019. The term of State Senators, who were elected in 2016 and allocated six years, will expire on 30 June 2022.

The earliest date for a concurrent House of Representatives and half Senate election would be Saturday 4 August 2018. As the latest possible date for a half-Senate election is Saturday 18 May 2019, the latest possible date for a simultaneous (half-Senate and House of Representatives) election is also 18 May 2019. The Coalition currently hold Government.

South Australia
The South Australian House of Assembly has a fixed four-year term. Elections are held on the third Saturday in March every four years. A revision of South Australia's state electoral boundaries occurred in late 2016, and will take effect at the next election on Saturday 17 March 2018. The Labor Party currently hold Government.

Victoria
The Victorian Legislative Assembly has a fixed four-year term. The election is held on the last Saturday in November every four years. The next election will be held on Saturday 24 November 2018. The Labor Party currently hold Government.

Queensland
In 2016, a referendum was held to provide for fixed four-year terms for the Legislative Assembly in Queensland, after the current term of Parliament. Subsequently the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Act 2015 was enacted in May 2016. The Act included transitional clauses to fixed four-year terms, meaning the next election will be held on 31 October 2020. The Labor Party currently hold Government.

Tasmania
The Tasmanian House of Assembly term expires four years from the return of the writs for its election. The Governor must issue writs of election between five and ten days thereafter.
Nominations must close on a date seven to 21 days after the issuance of the writ, and polling day must be a Saturday between 15 and 30 days after nominations close. The next state election will be held on 3 March 2018. The Coalition currently hold Government.

**New South Wales**
The New South Wales Legislative Assembly has a fixed four-year term. Elections are held on the fourth Saturday in March every four years. The next election will be held on Saturday 23 March 2019. The Coalition currently hold Government.

**Northern Territory**
The Northern Territory’s unicameral Parliament has a four-year term. The election is held on the fourth Saturday of August every four years. The next election is due on Saturday 22 August 2020. The Labor Party currently hold Government.

**Australian Capital Territory**
The Australian Capital Territory’s Legislative Assembly has a fixed four-year term. Elections are held on the third Saturday in October every four years. The next election will be held on Saturday 17 October 2020. The Labor Party currently hold Government.

**Western Australia**
Western Australia’s Legislative Assembly has a fixed four-year term. The election is held on the second Saturday in March every four years. The next election will be held on Saturday 13 March 2021. The Labor Party currently hold Government.

**New Zealand**
New Zealand has a three year electoral cycle. The next general election is likely to take place in late 2020. The New Zealand Labour Party currently hold Government in coalition with New Zealand First, with support from the Green Party.

**Overview of the local government election cycle in each jurisdiction**

**Tasmania**
Tasmanian local government elections are held on the last Tuesday in October, every two years. The next round of local government elections is scheduled for 30 October 2018. The Tasmanian 2018 local government elections will occur in the same year of the state election.

**South Australia**
South Australian local government elections are held every four years in November. Voting for the next round of local government elections is scheduled to close on 9 November 2018 and counting will begin on 10 November 2018. The South Australian 2018 local government election will occur in the same year of the state election.

**Western Australia**
Western Australian local government elections are held on the third Saturday in October, every two years. Local government elections are scheduled for 19 October 2019.

**Queensland**
Queensland local government elections are held every four years, on the final Saturday in March. The next round of local government elections is scheduled for 28 March 2020.
New South Wales
New South Wales’ local government elections are held on the second Saturday in September, every four years. The next round of local government elections is scheduled for 12 September 2020.

Victoria
Victorian local government elections are held on the last Saturday of October, every two years. The next round of local government elections is scheduled for 26 October 2020.

Australian Capital Territory
The Australian Capital Territory does not have local governments.

Northern Territory
The Local Government Act 2016, as in force at 1 May 2016 outlines the Northern Territory Electoral Commission to conduct Northern Territory local government elections. The next round of local government elections is scheduled for 28 August 2021.

Auckland Council, New Zealand
A general election of members of every local authority, local board, or community board must be held on the second Saturday in October every three years. The Mayor of Auckland is Phil Goff, who was a previous Labour Member of the New Zealand Parliament. The next Auckland Council election is scheduled for 12 October 2019.