

Minority and Majority Governments in Federal and State/Territory Parliaments

Name:

1. Answer the following questions:

- In which house is government formed?

Lower

- What is majority government?

Where a political party or a coalition of parties has a majority of the seats in the lower house.

- What is a minority government?

Where a political party forms government but depends on the support (confidence) of other parties and/or independents as it was unable to achieve a majority of seats in the lower house in its own right.

2. Using the information in the following document

https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/library/prspub/3681701/upload_binary/3681701.pdf

(in particular, TABLE 1) determine what sort of government (either minority or majority) has currently been formed in our Federal Parliament and the 8 State/Territory Parliaments by completing the table on the reverse side of this worksheet.

3. Once you have completed the table answer these last two questions:

- How many minority governments are there currently in Australia?

2

- How many majority governments are there currently in Australia?

2. Table to complete: Minority or Majority?

Parliament	Total # of seats in Lower house	# of seats required to form Govt.	Seats won by ALP	Seats won by LIB	Seats won by NATS	Seats won by LNP	Seats won by CA	Seats won by CLP	Seats won by GRN	Seats won by KAP	Seats won by PHON	Seats won by SFF	Seats won by IND	Political party/parties forming Government	Type of Government formed
Federal	150	76	69	58	16		1		1	1			4	Coalition LIB + NATS	Minority
NSW	93	47	34	35	16				3			1	3	Coalition LIB + NATS	Majority
VIC	88	45	55	21	6				3				3	ALP	Majority
QLD	93	47	48				39		1	3	1		1	ALP	Majority
WA	59	30	40	14	5									ALP	Majority
SA	47	24	17	25									3	LIB	Majority
TAS	25	13	10	13					2					LIB	Majority
ACT	25	13	12	11					2					ALP + GRN	Minority
NT	25	13	18					2					5	ALP	Majority

ALP - Australian Labor Party	LIB - Liberal Party	NATS - Nationals	LNP – Liberal National Party (QLD)	CLP – Country Liberal Party	CA – Centre Alliance
GRN - Greens	KAP – Katter's Australia Party	PHON – Pauline Hanson's One Nation	SFF – Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	IND – independents (various)	