How Members of the National Assembly for Wales are elected.

Elections are held every four years and voters have two votes. Of the 60 Assembly Members elected, 40 AMs represent constituencies and are elected by the 'First Past the Post' system, the system under which MPs are elected to the House of Commons. Another 20 AMs represent regions.

The 5 regions are:

North Wales
Mid and West Wales
South Wales West
South Wales Central
South Wales East

The regional Members are elected by a form of proportional representation known as the Additional Member System. This system goes some way towards ensuring that the overall number of seats held by each political party reflects the share of the vote that the party receives.

Each region covers between 7- 9 constituencies. There are 4 Regional Assembly Members elected to each of the 5 regions.

The Additional Member System.

The 4 Regional Members for each of the 5 regions are elected by:

—Counting the number of votes cast per region for each party on the second ballot paper.

—Dividing the number of votes per region for each party by the number of constituency seats won by that party plus 1 for the first additional member.

—Repeating the calculation for the second, third, and fourth Additional Member: in each case dividing the party votes by the number of constituency seats per region plus 1, plus any Additional Member seats already allocated. Candidates do not have the right to stand for a Constituency and a Region.

Can you work out the Additional Member System ?

	Party A	Party B	Party C	Party D
Total Party Votes Cast in a Region on 2nd Ballot Paper	79,564	58,080	34,944	30,911
F.P.T.P Constituency Seats Won (+ 1)	6	1	0	1
Additional Member Seat 1				
Additional Member Seat 2				
Additional Member Seat 3				
Additional Member Seat 4				
Additional Regional Members				
Total AMs Constituency + Regional				

How the Additional Member System is calculated.

	Party A	Party B	Party C	Party D
Total Party Votes Cast in a Region on 2nd Ballot Paper	79,564	58,080	34,944	30,911
F.P.T.P. Constituency Seats Won (+ 1)	6	1	0	1
Additional Member Seat 1	T ÷ 7 = 11,366	T ÷ 2 = 29,040	T ÷ 1 = 34,944 ELECTED	T ÷ 2 = 15,455
Additional Member Seat 2	T ÷ 7 = 11,366	T ÷ 2 = 29,040 ELECTED	T ÷ 2 = 17,472	T ÷ 2 = 15,455
Additional Member Seat 3	T ÷ 7 = 11,366	T ÷ 3 = 19,360 ELECTED	T ÷ 2 = 17,472	T ÷ 2 = 15,455
Additional Member Seat 4	T ÷ 7 = 11,366	T ÷ 4 = 14,250	T ÷ 2 = 17,472 ELECTED	T ÷ 2 = 15,455
Additional Regional Members	0	2	2	0
Total AMs Constituency + Regional	6	3	2	1