

1997 Guyanese general election

General elections were held in Guyana on 15 December 1997.^[1] The result was a victory for the People's Progressive Party/Civic, which won 29 of the 53 seats. Voter turnout was 88.4%.^[1]

Electoral system

The National Assembly had 65 members; 53 elected by proportional representation in a nationwide constituency, 10 appointed by the Regional Councils elected on the same date as the national members, and 2 appointed by the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs, an umbrella body representing the regional councils.^[2] These were the last elections to feature that electoral system, as the electoral law was amended in February 2001 ahead of the elections in March that year.^[3]

The President was elected by a first-past-the-post double simultaneous vote system, whereby each list nominated a presidential candidate and the presidential election itself was won by the candidate of the list having a plurality.^[2]

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53 of the 65 seats in the National Assembly
33 seats needed for a majority

Registered	461,481
Turnout	88.42%



Candidate	<u>Janet Jagan</u>	<u>Desmond Hoyte</u>
Party	<u>PPP/C</u>	<u>PNC</u>
Seats won	34	26
Seat change	▲2	▼5
Popular vote	220,667	161,901
Percentage	55.26%	40.55%
Swing	▼1.81pp	▼1.76pp