

Mid Scotland and Fife 2016 Results, Analysis And 2021 Projections



For elections to the Scottish Parliament, Scotland is divided into 8 Regions. Each Region can contain 8 to 10 Constituencies. So, everyone in Scotland gets 2 votes. A Constituency Vote and a Regional Vote. Normally people vote in both, but sometimes they only vote in one. Only voting in one does not spoil your other vote.

Constituency Vote (Vote 1 – Constituency Ballot Paper)

Constituencies	Labour	SNP	Lib Dem	Cons	Green	SNP %	Total	Valid Votes	Turnout %
Clackmannanshire and Dunblane	7,426	14,147	1,258	6,915	-	47.56	50,557	29,746	58.8
Cowdenbeath	10,674	13,715	1,094	4,251	-	46.13	54,596	29,734	54.5
Dunfermline	9,699	14,257	3,156	5,797	-	43.32	57,740	32,909	57.0
Kirkcaldy	8,963	16,358	1,219	4,568	-	52.58	59,533	31,108	52.3
Mid Fife and Glenrothes	7,279	15,555	1,286	4,427	-	54.49	53,241	28,547	53.6
North East Fife	2,026	11,463	14,928	5,646	-	33.65	54,052	34,063	63.0
Perthshire North	2,604	16,526	1,705	13,190	-	48.57	54,225	34,025	62.7
Perthshire South and Kinrossshire	3,389	15,315	3,008	13,893	-	42.37	59,364	36,149	60.9
Stirling	6,885	16,303	1416	9,585	-	47.68	55,785	34,189	61.3
Total Seats Awarded	0	8	1	0	0	46.26	499,093	290,470	58.2

Regional Vote (Vote 2 – Regional Ballot Paper)

Regional Votes	Labour	SNP	Lib Dem	Cons	Green	D'Hondt Adjustment (Regional Party Totals ÷ Number of Seats Already Won + 1)
Regional Party Totals	51,373	120,128	20,401	73,293	17,860	For Round 1 (SNP - 120,128 ÷ 9 / Lib Dem - 20,401 ÷ 2)
Round 1	51,373	13,348	10,201	73,293	17,860	Cons Win Round 1 - For Round 2 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 2)
Round 2	51,373	13,348	10,201	36,647	17,860	Lab Win Round 2 - For Round 3 (Lab - 51,373 ÷ 2)
Round 3	25,687	13,348	10,201	36,647	17,860	Cons Win Round 3 - For Round 4 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 3)
Round 4	25,687	13,348	10,201	24,431	17,860	Lab Win Round 4 - For Round 3 (Lab - 51,373 ÷ 3)
Round 5	17,124	13,348	10,201	24,431	17,860	Cons Win Round 5 - For Round 4 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 4)
Round 6	17,124	13,348	10,201	18,323	17,860	Cons Win Round 6 - For Round 7 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 5)
Round 7	17,124	13,348	10,201	14,659	17,860	Greens Win Round 7
Total Seats Awarded	2	0	0	4	1	

(Total Votes – 499,093, Valid Votes – 291,172, Turnout – 58.34% and SNP Vote Share – 41.26%)

- The Regional Vote however is affected by how many Seats a Party wins in the Constituencies.
- Regional Seats are awarded by dividing Regional Party Totals by the Number of Seats already Won + 1 (D'Hondt System) over 7 Rounds. This might look complicated but it's really just simple adding and dividing.
- The basic premise is that if a Party does well with Constituency Seats, the System (D'Hondt) makes it very difficult for them to do well with Regional Seats.

Mid Scotland and Fife 2016 Results, Analysis And 2021 Projections (Cont)



What can we say about the 2016 Election Results?

- In 2016 the SNP won 8 Constituency Seats, so their Regional Vote was divided by 8 + 1 (D'Hondt) = 9 from Round 1 going forward. The Lib Dems won 1 Constituency Seat, so their Regional Votes were divided by 1 + 1 (D'Hondt) = 2.
- Despite having 'by far' the largest number of regional votes the SNP won '0' regional seats in Mid Scotland & Fife.
- Unionist Parties and the Greens however shared all the Regional Seats with the Greens winning the last one with 17,860 votes.
- That meant in 2016 the SNP would have needed 160,749 regional votes (an extra 40,621 votes) to win the last regional seat from the Greens in Mid Scotland & Fife (a 33.8% increase). **Yes, you are reading that right. The SNP needed 54,224 extra votes.**
- This is calculated as follows: (120,128 + 40,621 = 160,749 regional votes – 160,749 regional votes ÷ 9 (8 Constituency Seats + 1 (D'Hondt) = 17,861 regional votes).

2021 Projections For Additional Independence Parties Running On The Regional Vote

What might happen if another Independence Party ran on the Regional Vote and encouraged voters to vote for them instead of the SNP?

Regional Votes	Labour	SNP	Lib Dem	Cons	Green	ISP	D'Hondt Adjustment (Regional Party Totals ÷ Number of Seats Already Won + 1)
Regional Party Totals	51,373	102,267	20,401	73,293	17,860	17,861	For Round 1 (SNP - 102,267 ÷ 9 / Lib Dem - 20,401 ÷ 2)
Round 1	51,373	11,363	10,201	73,293	17,860	17,861	Cons Win Round 1 - For Round 2 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 2)
Round 2	51,373	11,363	10,201	36,647	17,860	17,861	Lab Win Round 2 - For Round 3 (Lab - 51,373 ÷ 2)
Round 3	25,687	11,363	10,201	36,647	17,860	17,861	Cons Win Round 3 - For Round 4 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 3)
Round 4	25,687	11,363	10,201	24,431	17,860	17,861	Lab Win Round 4 - For Round 3 (Lab - 51,373 ÷ 3)
Round 5	17,124	11,363	10,201	24,431	17,860	17,861	Cons Win Round 5 - For Round 4 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 4)
Round 6	17,124	11,363	10,201	18,323	17,860	17,861	Cons Win Round 6 - For Round 7 (Con - 73,293 ÷ 5)
Round 7	17,124	11,363	10,201	14,659	17,860	17,861	ISP Wins Round 7
Total Seats Awarded	2	0	0	4	0	1	

- Current Polling projects the SNP is on 52% Constituencies (48.85% in 2016) and 44% Regional (44.65% in 2016). The difference between the SNP vote in Constituencies and Regions is historic and usual because voters have more choice to express opinion on the Regional Ballot.
- Based on current polling the SNP is now projected to win 9 Constituency Seats in Mid Scotland & Fife in 2021 meaning that their Regional Vote would be divided by 9 + 1 (D'Hondt) = 10. Using 2016 as a benchmark, the SNP would need 178,611 Regional votes (an extra 58,483 votes) to win a Regional Seat in Mid Scotland and Fife in 2021. **Yes, you are reading that right. 58,483 extra votes.**
- This is calculated as follows: (120,128 + 58,483 = 178,611 regional votes – 178,611 regional votes ÷ 10 (9 Constituency Seats + 1 (D'Hondt) = 17,861 regional votes).
- In 2016 'BothVotesSNP' did not work and given current polling it will certainly not work in 2021 either. If SNP Votes transfer to other Independence Parties, then Independence MSP's will get elected instead of Unionists.
- If all Independence voters voted for the SNP in the Constituencies, and the SNP withdrew candidates from the Regional Vote, Independence and not an individual Party would be the winner.