

### Summary Chart comparing Electoral Systems

System	Description	Countries Used	Advantages	Disadvantages	Female Representation Options	Ethnic Minority Representation Options	Ease of voting and counting	Relative Cost
<b>Proportional Representation Systems</b> —The results mirror closely the political and ethnic makeup of the voters.								
List Proportional Representation-Open (List PR-Open)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Multi member districts</li> <li>-Voters vote for one or more candidates</li> <li>-Parties get seats based upon the total number of votes party candidates receive</li> <li>-Candidates with the most personal votes receive the party seats.</li> </ul>	Brazil, Ecuador, Finland, Kosovo, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Highly proportional results</li> <li>-Gives voters greater control over parties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Weakens parties</li> <li>-Voter / representative links are weak</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the list (with gender slots “fixed,” often at one in three or one in four)</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Allocate seats to best losers until mandatory level of representation is reached</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the list (with ethnic slots “fixed”)</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Ethnic parties with sufficient support can win seats</li> <li>-Waive threshold for parties representing minorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Difficult if voters can choose more than one candidate</li> <li>-Simple if only one voter choice allowed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher than average costs because of large ballots and longer counts</li> </ul>
List Proportional Representation-Closed (List PR-Closed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Multi member districts</li> <li>-Voters vote for one party</li> <li>-Parties get seats based upon the total number of votes the party receives</li> <li>-Candidates are allocated the party’s seats in the order they appear on its list.</li> </ul>	France, Iraq (2005), Israel, Nepal, Portugal, South Africa, Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Highly proportional results</li> <li>-Strengthens parties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Voter / representative links are weak</li> <li>-Parties have complete control over party lists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the party list (often at one in three or one in four)</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the party list</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Ethnic parties with sufficient support can win seats</li> <li>-Waive threshold for parties representing minorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Simple as voters choose only one party</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Average costs because of simple ballots</li> </ul>

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Single Transferable Vote (STV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Multi member districts</li> <li>-Voters indicate preferences for candidates, from one up to however many candidates are on the ballot</li> <li>-Preferences are transferred between candidates until enough candidates have sufficient votes to win a seat</li> <li>-If districts are reasonably sized STV outcomes are usually reasonably proportional, although the system doesn't set out to be so in the way that List PR or MMP do</li> </ul>	-Ireland, Malta, Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Highly proportional results</li> <li>-Gives voters greater control over parties</li> </ul>	-Weakens political parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Quota of women candidates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-District boundaries drawn to create districts advantaging minority voters</li> <li>-Quota of minority candidates</li> </ul>	-Very difficult with a large number of candidates if voters must number several or all candidates on the ballot	-Higher than average because of large ballots as well as the need to transfer voter preferences between candidates

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<b>Combination Systems:</b> These systems combine the qualities of both proportional and majoritarian/plurality systems.								
Mixed Member Proportional (MMP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Majoritarian seats provide geographic representation</li> <li>-Compensatory list PR seats adjust for any disproportionality produced in the majoritarian system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Albania, Bolivia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lesotho, Mexico, New Zealand, Venezuela</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Geographic representation creates close link between voters and representatives</li> <li>-Compensatory List PR seats used to give highly proportional political representation, including representation of minorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Requires drawing district boundaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the party lists</li> <li>-Reserved seats to which only women can be elected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the party lists</li> <li>-Boundaries drawn in the geographic seats to create districts with a plurality of minority voters</li> <li>-Reserved seats</li> <li>-Ethnic parties with sufficient support can win seats</li> <li>-Waive threshold for parties representing minorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-More difficult as votes must make a proportional choice and a majoritarian choice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher than average costs if two ballots are produced; the count is slightly more complicated</li> </ul>

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Parallel System (PS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Majoritarian seats provide geographic representation</li> <li>-List PR seats are used to provide a degree of proportional political representation</li> <li>-unlike MMP, no account is taken of the results in the majoritarian seats in calculating the allocation of list seats</li> </ul>	Armenia, Japan, Lithuania, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Geographic representation creates close link between voters and representatives</li> <li>-List PR seats provide proportional political representation, including representation of minorities</li> <li>-Unlike the MMP system, list seats are not allocated to compensate for the disproportionality produced in the geographic system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No guarantee of overall proportionality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the party lists</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved slots on the party lists</li> <li>-Boundaries drawn in the geographic seats to create districts with a plurality of minority voters</li> <li>-Reserved seats</li> <li>-Ethnic parties with sufficient support can win seats</li> <li>-Waive threshold for parties representing minorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-More difficult as voters must usually make a proportional choice and a majoritarian choice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher than average costs if two ballots are produced; the count is slightly more complicated</li> </ul>
<b>Majoritarian/Plurality systems:</b> Candidates must win either a majority or the most votes in order to win. The results are not necessarily proportional								
First Past the Post (FPTP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Single member districts</li> <li>-Voters have one vote</li> <li>-Candidate with the most votes wins</li> </ul>	United States, India, Canada, United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Voter / representative links are strong</li> <li>-Promotes a small number of broadly based parties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-More than half of all voters can vote for losing candidates</li> <li>-Can be very disproportional</li> <li>-Difficult to create electoral districts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<u>Difficult</u></li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Reserve some districts for female candidates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-District lines drawn to create districts with a plurality of minority voters</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Simple as voters choose only one candidate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Average because of ease of ballot and count</li> </ul>

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Block Vote (BV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Multi member districts</li> <li>-Voters have as many votes as there are seats</li> <li>-The candidates with the most votes win seats</li> </ul>	Cayman Islands, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Maldives, Mauritius, Palestinian Authority, Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-allows links between voters and representatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can result in highly disproportional results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Candidate quotas</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Award seats to best losers until a mandatory level of representation is reached</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Candidate quotas</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Award seats to best losers until a mandatory level of representation is reached</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Very difficult with a large number of candidates and seats as voters must vote multiple times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher than average because of large ballots</li> </ul>
Alternative Vote (AV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Single member districts</li> <li>-Voters indicate preferences for candidates, from one to however many candidates are on the ballot</li> <li>-Preferences are transferred between candidates until one has achieved an absolute majority</li> </ul>	-Fiji, Australia, Papua New Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Voters are likely to contribute to electing the winning candidate</li> <li>-Promotes moderate politics as candidates must campaign not only for first preferences, but for second, third, and fourth voter preferences as well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can be very disproportional</li> <li>-Difficult to create electoral districts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Difficult</u></li> <li>-Candidate quotas</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-District boundaries drawn to create districts with a plurality of minority voters</li> <li>-Candidate quotas</li> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Very difficult with a large number of candidates if voters must number several or all candidates on the ballot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher than average because of large ballots as well as the need to transfer voter preferences between candidates</li> </ul>

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Single Non-Transferable Vote (SNTV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Multi-member districts.</li> <li>-Voters vote for one candidate</li> <li>-Candidates with the highest numbers of votes win seats</li> <li>-Usually classified as a semi-proportional system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Jordan</li> <li>-Vanuatu</li> <li>-Afghanistan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Helps smaller parties win seats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Not proportional</li> <li>-Weakens parties</li> <li>-Voter / Representative links are weak</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Candidate quotas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reserved seats in the assembly</li> <li>-Candidate quotas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Very difficult with a large number of candidates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher than average costs because of large ballots and longer counts</li> </ul>