

Voting Systems

Abstract

Decisions are made every day in every organization. The most famous decisions are public elections. Many people assume that the election results always indicate the will of the voters. You might be surprised to find out that the election results depend as much on the voting system or election method. This module considers various voting systems and the pros and cons of each. *Arrow's Impossibility* Theorem states in effect that there is no perfect system is discussed in this context. Anyone implementing a voting system has to decide which criteria are important for their election, keeping in mind both the fairness and the practicality of the system — using tools from Arrow's work. How will you decide what method of voting is the most fair?