

## The Single Non-Transferable Vote electoral system

<b>description</b>	Single Non-Transferable Vote is an electoral system used in multi-member districts that gives a partly proportional result. Voters vote for one candidate only, not for the number of seats to be filled. The candidates with the highest numbers of votes win the seats.																																			
<b>some of the countries that use the system</b>	Afghanistan (2005), Jordan, Vanuatu																																			
<b>advantages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• simple to vote and to count votes</li> <li>• helps smaller parties win seats; to be certain of winning a seat, a candidate needs just over one-fifth (20%) of the votes in a 4-seat district, just over one-sixth (16.7%) of the votes in a 5-seat district, and so on</li> <li>• allows independent candidates as well as party candidates</li> </ul>																																			
<b>disadvantages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a party's share of seats in a district is not very close to its share of votes</li> <li>• parties with widely-spread support find it difficult to win seats</li> <li>• the number of candidates a party nominates in a district can affect the number of seats it wins; votes spread among too many candidates may mean that none are elected, whereas votes concentrated on a few candidates may reduce the number of seats the party could have won</li> <li>• if votes are spread among many candidates, many votes will not affect the result and a seat can be won with a small number of votes</li> <li>• in a multi-member district with a lot of seats, the link between voters and the elected members is weaker</li> <li>• can cause political pressure in deciding district boundaries and the number of seats for a district</li> <li>• can improve the chances of extremist candidates</li> </ul>																																			
<b>effect of the number of seats in a district</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the more seats in a district, the more likely it is that the percentage of seats a party wins is close to its percentage of the votes</li> </ul>																																			
<b>implications for drawing district boundaries</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• requires accurate population and geographic data</li> <li>• since location of district boundaries can affect a party's chances in the district, there can be political pressure over deciding district boundaries</li> </ul>																																			
<b>implications for political parties</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• weakens parties because candidates of same party must compete for votes</li> <li>• rewards well-organized parties whose supporters spread their votes among the party's candidates so that the party wins as many seats as possible</li> </ul>																																			
<b>representation of women</b>	<p>The law can require parties to nominate women candidates. However to guarantee women are elected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seats may have to be allocated to the unsuccessful women candidates with the highest numbers of votes, or</li> <li>• seats may have to be reserved for which only women candidates can be elected.</li> </ul>																																			
<b>representation of minorities</b>	<p>Parties representing minorities can win seats in districts where there are enough minority voters. The law can require parties to nominate minority candidates. However to guarantee minority representation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seats may have to be reserved to which only minority candidates can be elected, or</li> <li>• seats may have to be allocated to the unsuccessful minority candidates with the highest numbers of votes.</li> </ul>																																			
<b>Example 1</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">electoral district with 5 seats, 1,000 voters, 1,000 valid votes</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>party A</th> <th>party B</th> <th>party C</th> <th>party D</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>candidate 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">35</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>candidate 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>candidate 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">200</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>candidate 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">400</td> <td style="text-align: center;">35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>candidate 5</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>total votes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">90</td> <td style="text-align: center;">230</td> <td style="text-align: center;">505</td> <td style="text-align: center;">175</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">winning candidates: C4, B3, D1, D2, D3; party representation: A 0, B 1, C 1, D 3</p>		party A	party B	party C	party D	candidate 1	5	10	35	50	candidate 2	40	5	25	45	candidate 3	15	200	15	45	candidate 4	30	5	400	35	candidate 5		10	30		total votes	90	230	505	175
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**Example 2**

electoral district with 5 seats, 1,000 voters, 1,000 valid votes

	party A	party B	party C	party D
candidate 1	5	100	35	50
candidate 2	40	5	200	45
candidate 3	15	110	15	45
candidate 4	30	5	225	35
candidate 5		10	30	
total votes	90	230	505	175

winning candidates: C4, C2, B3, B1, D1; party representation: A 0, B 2, C 2, D 1