

Vikash Hypio

Senior Division Behavioral & Social Sciences

Voting Systems: An Outcome Analysis, Phase 2

Phase I of the project tested different voting systems to see if they produced different outcomes; Phase II of the project focuses on applying some of those same voting systems to a practical application, that of predicting the amount for a school bond issue that would be agreeable to most voters. It was hypothesized that an analysis of the voting results would be useful in predicting passability. Five hundred registered voters were random sampled and mailed surveys. The survey was designed to assess the amount of money that the community would support for a bond issue. Five voting systems were used to tally the votes, including a method based on the "many wrongs" theory. The \$10 million issue won in three of four voting systems, and \$14.4 million was the mean of the "many wrongs" system. In a follow-up survey 53% of the voters supported the \$14.4 million bond, showing it to be the upper limit. 74% of the voters passed the \$10 million bond, indicating an amount highly likely to pass.