Mathematics, Algebra I Unit IV: Lesson A3

Investigation / Oral Report: Election Year



The numbers of votes, representatives, and electoral votes, have varying amounts of effect on the winning candidate in a presidential election.

Gather the data on the 50 states including the population, number of representatives, and number of electoral votes. Discover the apportionment quotient used to assign representatives for each state and the methods proposed to assign the remaining representatives. Also find the minimum fraction of the popular vote that can elect the president. Compare the percent of electoral votes and percent of popular votes of the last few presidential elections. Is the system fair and accurate?

Give an oral report to the class on your findings. Put your data on charts and graphs that can be used in your demonstration. Contact the history teacher to see if your material could be presented to the government class or U.S. history class.

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