

## LESSON PLAN: Bringing Out the Vote

### Voter Turnout Comparisons

Here is the turnout of voters to elect the main legislature of various democracies. The figures are from the latest election as of early 1998. "PR" refers to a country having a form of proportional representation. "District" refers to use of winner-take-all, single-seat districts electing one representative. "Mixed" refers to a mix of systems.

| Country        | Voter Turnout | System      |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Iceland        | 88% 1995      | PR          |
| Italy          | 87% 1996      | Mixed **    |
| Greece         | 84% 1996      | PR          |
| Sweden         | 84% 1994      | PR          |
| Denmark        | 83% 1998      | PR          |
| New Zealand    | 83% 1996      | PR *        |
| Belgium        | 83% 1995      | PR          |
| Australia      | 82% 1996      | PR ***      |
| Austria        | 79% 1995      | PR          |
| Portugal       | 79% 1995      | PR          |
| Spain          | 78% 1996      | PR          |
| Norway         | 77% 1977      | PR          |
| Netherlands    | 75% 1994      | PR          |
| Germany        | 73% 1994      | PR *        |
| Turkey         | 71% 1995      | PR          |
| Finland        | 71% 1995      | PR          |
| United Kingdom | 69% 1997      | District #  |
| Ireland        | 67% 1997      | PR ***      |
| Luxembourg     | 61% 1994      | PR          |
| France         | 60% 1997      | District \$ |
| Canada         | 56% 1997      | District #  |
| Switzerland    | 36% 1995      | PR          |
| United States  | 38% 1994      | District #  |