

Why Do We Have **ELECTIONS**



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Elections allow people to choose who represents them in government. They're a key part of democracy, aimed at making sure that leaders are answerable to voters. Through elections, people express their opinions on policies, decide who makes laws, and are involved in guiding the direction of their community or country. The word "election" comes from the Latin word *electio* (from *eligere*, which means "to pick out / choose").

Elections began in Ancient Greece and Rome, where the citizens met in public to vote. These elections were very different from what we have today. Back then, many people were not allowed to vote, votes were not always secret, and the people you could vote for were limited.

The modern idea of voting regularly for leaders developed later, mainly in Europe and North America, starting in the 1600s. Today, elections are still one of the most important ways people can have a voice and take part in their government.

Sources: <https://www.britannica.com>
<https://etymologyworld.com>

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