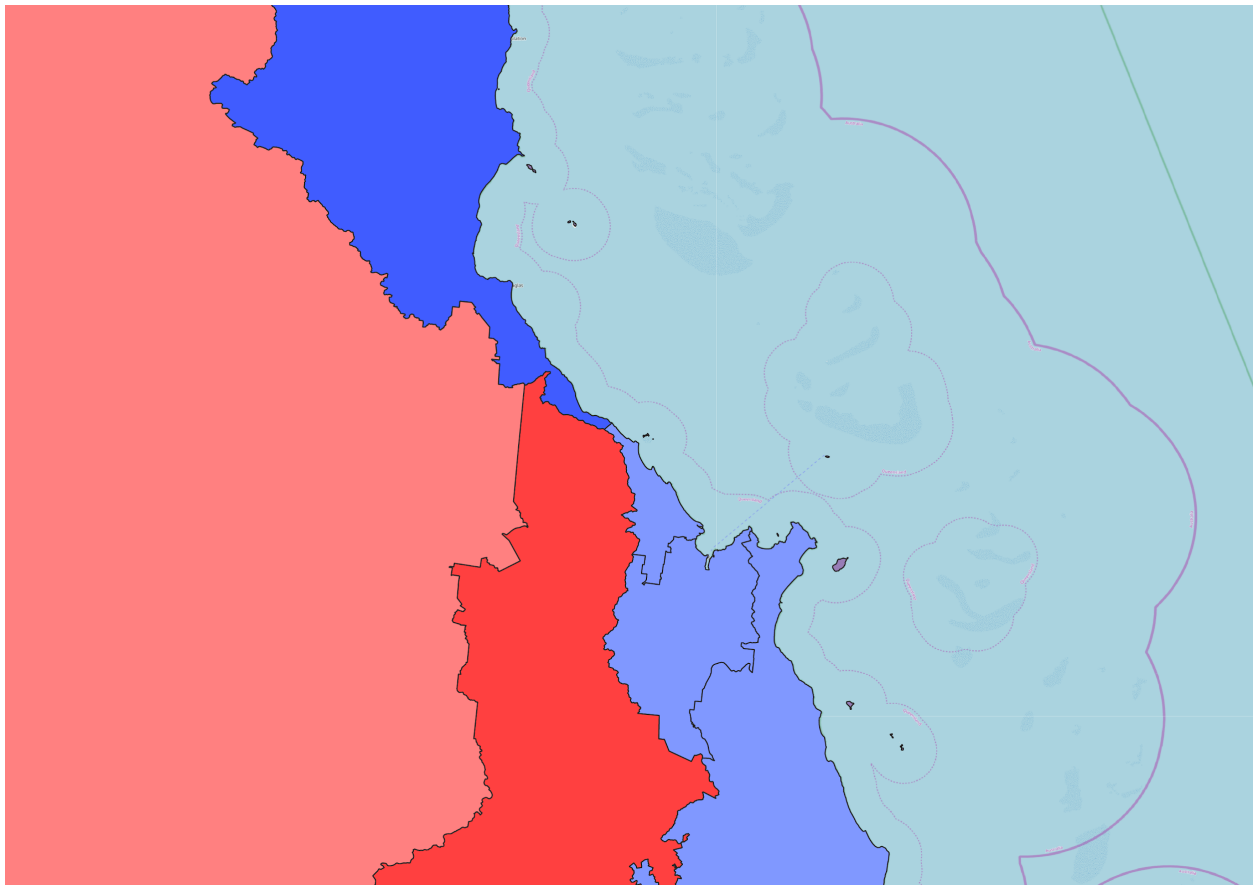


Proposal for Electoral Leanings

Electoral Leanings make sense; however, they should be implemented in a fair manner to ensure equity in the AustraliaSim Community. As Electoral Moderator, I would implement these by developing a regime focused on SA3s, rather than the Electorate as a whole. This provides greater flexibility to the calculator, and in fact, to campaigning.



In Australia, there are certain SA3s that tend to flip between the left and right during elections. This is due to demographics that tend to persuade an elector to support a political party. Under an SA3 system, each Statistical Area in an electorate will have distinct demographics.

In Cairns, for example, the Statistical Area of Cairns South has the following demographic characteristics:

Demographic	Cairns South
< \$40,000	55.64
\$40,001 - \$80,000	29.69
\$80,001 - \$130,000	8.79
\$130,001+	5.88

Demographic Lean	Right Strong	Right Weak	Swing Voters	Left Weak	Left Solid
< \$40,000	0.07299968	0.15512432	0.061204	0.16213496	0.09937304
\$40,001 - \$80,000	0.03420288	0.03388432	0.035628	0.09756134	0.05979566
\$80,001 - \$130,000	0.01181376	0.00271512	0.011427	0.02506908	0.01536492
\$130,001+	0.00959616	0.02039184	0.00294	0.0164052	0.0100548

Despite this, however, other demographics tend to draw greater precedence in determining a vote. Under this proposal, **each demographic will have a certain weighting; with an aggregate of weighted leans determining a base result for a Statistical Area.**

For Example, if a 20% weighting was applied to an income demographic lean in Cairns South, the following base primary result would be calculated.

Note: the following percentages do not add up to 100% as they are only a proportion of a base result.

Lean	Right Strong	Right Weak	Swing	Left Weak	Left Strong
Primary (%)	8.49%	15.79%	7.27%	18.74%	11.49%

If Elected as Electoral Moderator, I **intend to implement the following weightings** in the proposed Electoral Leanings Regime:

- (1) Income
- (2) Age
- (3) Asset Ownership

Moreover, additional leanings may be applied in various Statistical Areas to satisfactorily align calculator data with the composition of the area. For Example, a weighting may be applied in Far North Queensland to highlight a substantial Indigenous & Torres Strait Islander presence in the region, whilst another ‘environmentally conscious’ weighting could be applied in Cairns South due to its dependence on the health of the Great Barrier Reef. **I intend to make the existence of these additional weightings transparent for parties.**

Under the proposed regime, primary votes allocated under a “strong” lean will not shift into another classification. However, there would be potential for vote shifting within the weak and swing classifications. Independent Candidates will have the potential to gain from this vote shifting.

Consequently, no parties or candidates will be disenfranchised from this system. Rather, it enables smarter, more dynamic campaigning during elections by recognising regional differences in politics.
