

Elections to the upper chamber of the Parliament of the Czech Republic is the only case of using a majoritarian electoral system in the country. The type of the electoral system used is a majority run-off system. The thesis aims to analyze effects of such electoral system on political representation in the Senate in the first two cycles of senate elections. That is the period from the very first senate elections in 1996 to the elections of 2002, when the Senate was gradually renewed for the first time. After a theoretical introduction concerning two-round systems in general and their impacts on voting behaviour and party systems, the main focus is put on electoral turnout criterion as well as on electoral support of particular political parties and expression of this support in overall party gains.