predominant

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predominant adjective

pre·dom·i·nant pri-ˈdä-mə-nənt -ˈdäm-nənt

Synonyms of *predominant* >

1 : having superior strength, influence, or authority : PREVAILING

2 : being most frequent or common

Did you know?

Predominant vs. *Predominate*

Predominant and *predominate* are synonymous adjectives. *Predominant* is the older and much more common. Commentators hold *predominate* to be a mistake—a few insisting that the word is only a verb. But they

Pictometry EX2042
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Synonyms

arch
big
capital
cardinal
central
chief
dominant
first
foremost
grand
great
greatest
highest
key
leading
main
master
number one
No. 1
numero uno
overbearing
overmastering
overriding
paramount
preeminent
premier
primal
primary
principal
prior
sovereign
sovran
supreme

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DOMINANT, **PREDOMINANT**, **PARAMOUNT**, **PREPONDERANT** mean superior to all others in influence or importance.

DOMINANT applies to something that is uppermost because ruling or controlling.

> a *dominant* social class

PREDOMINANT applies to something that exerts, often temporarily, the most marked influence.

> a *predominant* emotion

PARAMOUNT implies supremacy in importance, rank, or jurisdiction.

> unemployment was the *paramount* issue in the campaign

PREPONDERANT applies to an element or factor that outweighs all others in influence or effect.

> *preponderant* evidence in her favor

Examples of *predominant* in a Sentence

> Religion is the *predominant* theme of the play.

> She is *predominant* among new writers.

Recent Examples on the Web

> Lemon zest and vanilla extract make up the *predominant* flavors.
>
> – Pam Lolley, *Southern Living*, 9 Nov. 2023

> As far as midcentury modern, this style of design spanned the period from the end of

> The industry's *predominant* theory to explain such results is that for many users, chronological feeds are barren deserts if connections haven't posted recently, or become too frenzied to keep up with when users have large networks that post a lot.
>
> – *WIRED*, 27 July 2023

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These examples are programmatically compiled from various online sources to illustrate current usage of the word 'predominant.' Any opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback about these examples.

Word History

Etymology

Middle French, from Medieval Latin *praedominant-, praedominans*, present participle of *praedominari* to predominate, from Latin *prae-* + *dominari* to rule, govern — more at DOMINATE

Time Traveler

The first known use of *predominant* was in 1576

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predominancy
predominant
predominantly

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predominant adjective

pre·dom·i·nant pri-ˈdäm-ə-nənt

: greater in importance, strength, influence, or authority : **PREVAILING**

> the *predominant* color in a painting

predominantly adverb

More from Merriam-Webster on *predominant*

Nglish: Translation of *predominant* for Spanish Speakers
Britannica English: Translation of *predominant* for Arabic Speakers

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