

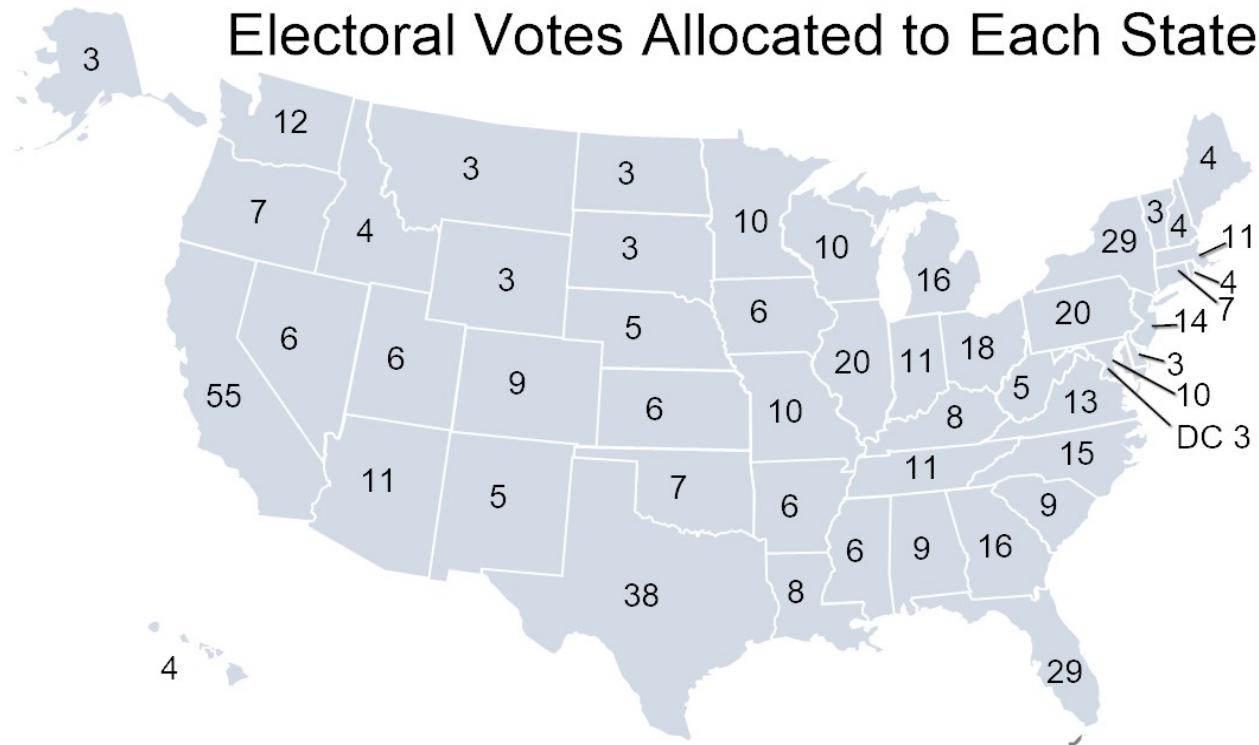
Power and the People: What's At Stake in the 2020 Election?

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October 16, 2020

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What's At Stake in the Nation?

Presidency and Electoral College: 270 out of 538 needed



Presidential Election Factors

Battleground States

- “Toss Up” States: Pennsylvania (20), Florida (29), Wisconsin (10), Michigan (16), Ohio (18), North Carolina (15), Georgia (16), New Hampshire (4), Iowa (6), Nevada (6), Arizona (11), and Texas (38)
- Why do these states matter so much?
 - Shift in the electorate
 - 2016: Pennsylvania, Florida, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ohio flipped from Obama to Trump
 - 2020: Pennsylvania, Florida, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, and Iowa may flip from Trump to Biden, as they went for Obama in 2012

Which states may flip?

Source: RealClearPolitics Electoral College Map, October 2020

STATE	BIDEN	TRUMP	RCP AVERAGE	FOUR YEARS AGO	2016	2012	2008
Pennsylvania (20)	51.0	43.9	Biden +7.1	Clinton +8.7	Trump +0.7	Obama +5.4	Obama +10.3
Florida (29)	48.6	44.1	Biden +4.5	Clinton +2.7	Trump +1.2	Obama +0.9	Obama +2.8
Wisconsin (10)	49.5	44.0	Biden +5.5	Clinton +6.7	Trump +0.7	Obama +6.9	Obama +13.9
Michigan (16)	49.0	42.8	Biden +6.2	Clinton +10.7	Trump +0.3	Obama +9.5	Obama +16.4
Ohio (18)	46.8	46.2	Biden +0.6	Clinton +1.6	Trump +8.1	Obama +3.0	Obama +4.6
North Carolina (15)	48.3	46.9	Biden +1.4	Clinton +2.9	Trump +3.7	Romney +2.0	Obama +0.3
Georgia (16)	46.8	46.5	Biden +0.3	Trump +5.5	Trump +5.1	Romney +7.8	McCain +5.2
New Hampshire (4)	51.8	43.4	Biden +8.4	Clinton +5.0	Clinton +0.3	Obama +5.6	Obama +9.6
Iowa (6)	47.2	45.8	Biden +1.4	Trump +3.7	Trump +9.5	Obama +5.8	Obama +9.5
Nevada (6)	49.7	43.7	Biden +6.0	Clinton +1.4	Clinton +2.4	Obama +6.7	Obama +12.5
Arizona (11)	48.8	45.7	Biden +3.1	Trump +1.0	Trump +3.5	Romney +9.1	McCain +8.5
Texas (38)	45.2	48.4	Trump +3.2	Trump +6.7	Trump +9.0	Romney +15.8	McCain +11.8

Presidential Election Factors

Voter Attitudes and Priorities

- August 2020 Pew Research Survey of 11,000 registered voters found:
 - 1. 49% Voters are highly **engaged AND concerned** about voting process
 - 2. 83% of registered voters indicate that **presidency matters**
 - 3. 80% Trump/leaning voters prefer in-person, while 58% Biden/leaning voters prefer mail-in voting so **voting modality is partisan**
 - 3. **Leadership** is the most important trait cited by all surveyed voters
- Style, not just substance matters: **legitimacy and efficacy**
- **Polarization/partisanship prevail** because 86% believe a difference exists between the candidates, and only 8% think either would make a good president

What's At Stake in California?

Key State Propositions on the Ballot

- **Proposition 15: Property Tax Increase on Commercial and Industrial Property, excluding farms**
 - Is this the end of Proposition 13 (1978)?
- **Proposition 16: Restoring Affirmative Action**
 - Will Proposition 187 (1994) and 209 (1996) be repealed?
- **Proposition 25: Replacing Cash Bail with Risk Assessments**
 - Can an algorithm assess “risk” or will perpetuate bias/discrimination?

Empowerment & Engagement

How can stakeholders be informed and involved?

- **Read and Research:** Data/Information vs. Commentary
 - Pew Research Center (www.pewresearch.org)
 - Britannia ProCon (www.procon.org)
 - CalMatters (calmatters.org)
 - RealClearPolitics Electoral Map (realclearpolitics.com)
 - FactCheck (factcheck.org)
 - Ballotpedia (www.Ballotpedia.org)
 - Cal Lutheran Political Science Election Guide as a starting point! (email me at hhoang@callutheran.edu for a copy/link)
- **Vote and Volunteer**