



UNDERSTANDING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE?

A common analogy to understanding the Electoral College is the World Series. Let's consider the 1971 World Series. The winner of the World Series is the team that wins the best of 7 games.

	PIRATES	ORIOLES
GAME 1	3	5
GAME 2	3	11
GAME 3	5	1
GAME 4	4	3
GAME 5	4	0
GAME 6	2	3
GAME 7	2	1

That year the Pittsburgh Pirates won the Series, even though the Baltimore Orioles scored more runs.

In the history of the World Series the team that scored the fewest runs won the Series 22 times or 20% of all World Series games played to date (2020).

HOW MANY TIMES HAS THE CANDIDATE WHO WON THE POPULAR VOTE LOST THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE?

DATE	Popular Vote Winner	Electoral College Winner
1824	Andrew Jackson	John Quincy Adams
1876	Samuel Tilden	Rutherford B Hayes
1888	Grover Cleveland	Benjamin Harrison
2000	Al Gore	George Bush
2016	Hillary Clinton	Donald Trump

In the history of US Presidential elections (57), only 5 candidates (8.8%) won the popular vote but lost the electoral college.

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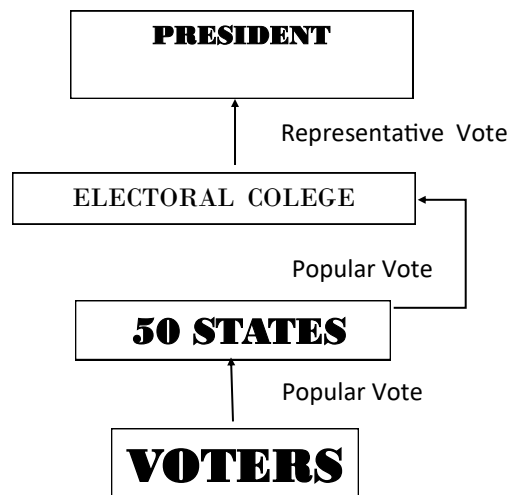
WHAT IS THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE AND HOW EXACTLY DOES IT WORK?

“Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch.

Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote!”

Benjamin Franklin

We are the United States of America. Our Constitutional government established a union of States. At the State level the popular vote determines the outcome of elections. At the Federal level (President, Vice-President), the Founding Fathers created the electoral college, a unique combination of individual democracy and representative democracy.

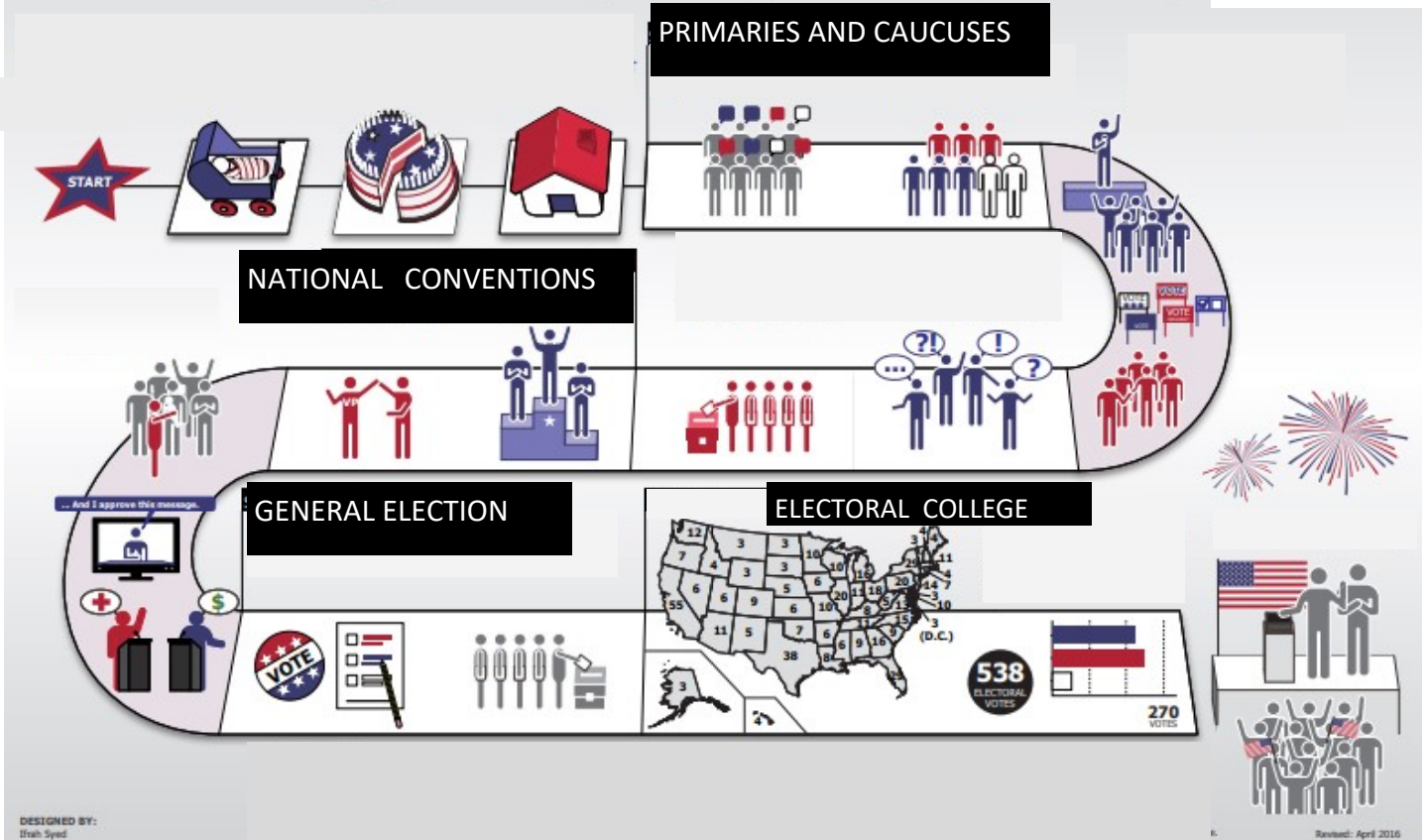


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The purpose of the Electoral College is to protect citizens of the Union from mob rule.

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WHO ARE THESE ELECTORS?

Each political party in every State selects a list of individuals who are pledged to vote for their candidate. These individuals are called Electors. Once the votes are counted, the party that won the popular vote for President, becomes the “Slate of Electors” for that State. In most States, the party that wins the popular vote also wins all of the Electoral votes for that State. Maine and Nebraska are the exceptions. In these States the party that wins the popular vote, wins two of the electoral votes and the remaining **electors** are proportionally allocated based on the vote tally.

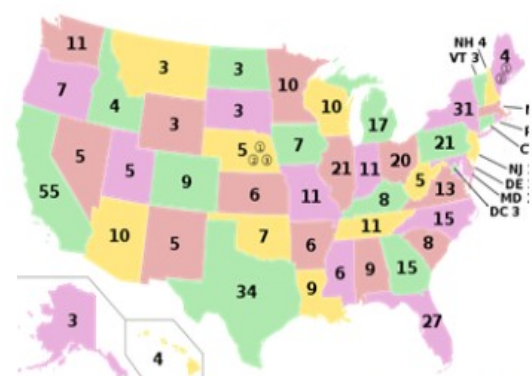
HOW MANY ELECTORS ARE THERE & HOW ARE THEY DETERMINED?

Currently there are 538 Electors. Each State has a number of Electors equal to the number of US Senators (always 2) plus the number of its US Representatives. The number of US Representatives from each State are determined based on the population of that State. Therefore, these numbers can change every 10 years as a result of the National Census.

WHERE DO ELECTORS COME FROM?

Each State is represented in the Electoral College. In addition, the 23rd Amendment treats the District of Columbia as a State for the purposes of the Electoral College and allocates 3 Electors to Washington D.C.

FACT: On election day in the United States, voters are actually casting their ballots for a presidential candidate's electors, who have been chosen by their party's leadership.



Texas, California, Florida & New York have the largest number of Electors.