

# Overwhelming

(December 2024)

A. On one hand, one may read frequently in the press banners reporting:

***The President-elect's overwhelming victory to reclaim the White House!***

B. On the other hand, one may be tempted to research the meaning and etymology of the verb "**overwhelm**":

## **overwhelm (v.)**

mid-14c., *overwhelmen*, "to turn upside down, overthrow, knock over," from **over-** + Middle English *whelmen* "to turn upside down" (see **whelm**). Meaning "to submerge completely" is early 15c. Perhaps the connecting notion is a boat, etc., washed over, and upset, by a big wave. Figurative sense of "to bring to ruin" is attested from 1520s. Related: **Overwhelmed**; *overwhelming*; *overwhelmingly*.

C. Poll results

As of December 10, 2024, the preliminary results with 99.9% of the expected individual vote counted are:

1. Donald Trump, Republican: **49.74%**
2. Kamala Harris, Democratic: **48.27%**

D. Assignment for a Doctoral Thesis in Philology

Submit a dissertation in less than 12,000 words with the aim to formulating a novel but credible amendment to the significance of the word "**overwhelm**".