

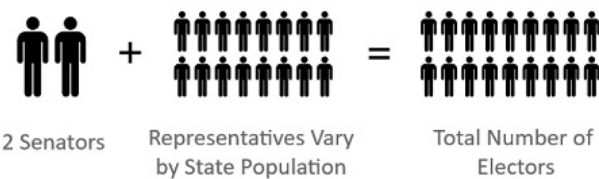
The Electoral College and You

Background	Electoral College Today	Voting Power	Result Volatility	Conclusion
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What is the Electoral College?

1. How many electors does my state get?

Number electors = number senators + number house representatives



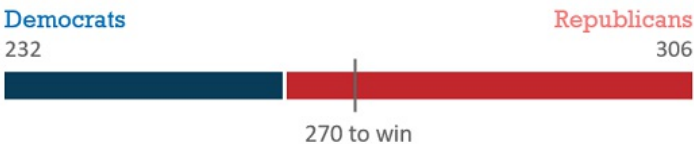
2. How do electors cast their votes?

Electors, who are voted in by the people, cast their ballots in a winner-take-all fashion based on the state's popular vote



3. How many electoral votes does it take to win the election?

The candidate with majority of electoral votes wins. Today that's 270 of 538 electoral votes.

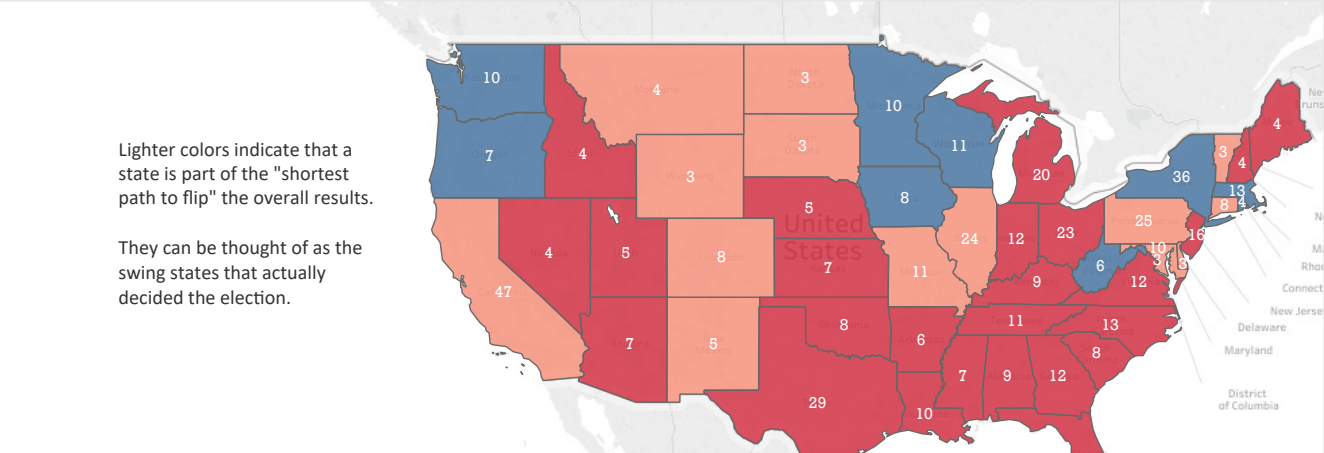


Need to redo so that everything is centered and fits the screen

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Election Results



State Results

State	EV - Dem	EV - Rep	Pop Margin
NY	36	0	-266,011
MA	13	0	-206,762
MN	10	0	-147,134
DC	3	0	-131,817
IA	8	0	-125,202
WI	11	0	-79,295
OR	7	0	-56,080
RI	4	0	-47,362
HI	4	0	-33,739
WV	5	0	-30,951
WA	10	0	-29,681
VT	0	3	8,556
SD	0	3	19,855
MT	0	4	21,476
NM	0	5	25,844

National Results

Year	Winner	EV - Dem	EV - Rep	Pop Margin	Shortest Path Margin
1988	Rep	111	426	7,060,300	1,098,368

CENDY: State results: view as bar chart. Take out National Margin Data

National results: Same info as "Result Volatility". Maybe we just show winner, EV votes, and Popular Vote

Year

- 1980
- 1984
- 1988
- 1992
- 1996
- 2000
- 2004
- 2008
- 2012
- 2016

Winner (critical)

- Democrat
- Republican
- Republican*

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What is the Value of my Vote?

Voter Power is a measure of your vote's ability to influence the outcome of a presidential election. *It depends on how many electors your state gets and the portion of your state that is eligible to vote. In other words, it is your vote re-weighted by the number of electoral votes in your state.*

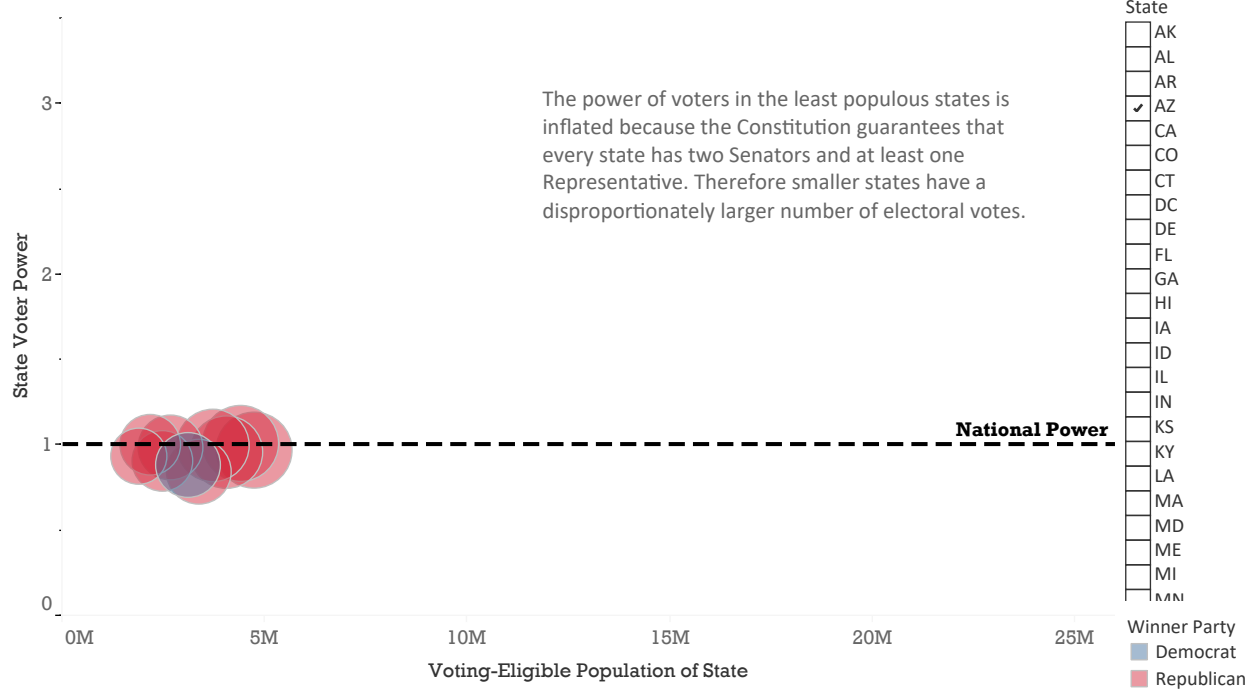
National Power is a reference line to show how State-specific power compares to what it would look like under a nation-wide popular vote system.

- Year
- ☒ 1980
 - ☒ 1984
 - ☒ 1988
 - ☒ 1992
 - ☒ 1996
 - ☒ 2000
 - ☒ 2004
 - ☒ 2008
 - ☒ 2012
 - ☒ 2016

Per class feedback: would it make sense to show another chart that shows State Power under a Popular Vote scenario?

LISA: Add slider bar to show year in the back.

Voter Power



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The Electoral College System is *Deeply Flawed*.

- Because (nearly) all states are winner-take-all, voters whose party did not win in their state have **no** influence on the outcome of the election.
- "Safe" states dampen the importance of even casting a vote in those states.
- Many elections are ultimately decided by only a small number of voters in a small number of so-called "swing states."

Let's take a look at the margins required to swing an election under both systems.

What am I looking at?

Votes needed to flip the election under both systems

Popular Vote Margin: The minimum number of additional votes required to flip the popular vote result (negative numbers indicate that a popular vote election would have resulted in the other party winning)

Electoral College Vote Margin: The minimum number of additional votes required in order to flip the Electoral College results

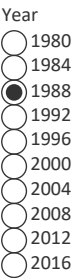
Lost Votes: The total number of votes lost at the state level

Year: 1988

Popular Margin: 7,060,300

EC Margin: 1,098,368

Lost Votes: 41,554,060



Maybe consider relaxing the language and just focusing on how best to show "result volatility". We might even call this the Comparison between two voting systems (EC vs Popular).

Perhaps we add a metric Popular Margin/ EC margin to show multiples to swing by year? Or maybe we show a bar chart of "lost votes" since it seems to be growing over time. We might need to normalize against population growth.

CENDY: Play with different visualizations on Lost Votes, Pop/EC multiple, etc. Voting Gap

TEXT: Who's being silenced? Muzzling the state minority.

Change verbiage from Volatility to comparison between EC and Popular.

Feedback: unclear how we got to "minimum to flip"

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CENDY: We can change image for the websites?

In Closing

- If you're in a big state, your vote is worth **less**.
- If you're in a heavily right/left leaning state with a minority view, your vote is **worthless**.
- The Electoral College allows a President to win despite not having the most votes.
- The election is decided by a small population of people within swing precincts in swing states.

Call to Action

Voice your support at the State and Federal level to remove the Electoral College and institute a National Popular Vote.

Click the images below to find your representatives.

Contact Your State Governor

Contact your state's governor or the mayor of the District of Columbia.

Find your state or territory:

Alabama

Go

State Legislature Websites
For U.S. States and Territories

