2020 Election Results

November 7, 2020 | 4:30 PM ET



Doug Sosnik

2020 Election Results—A Divided Government*

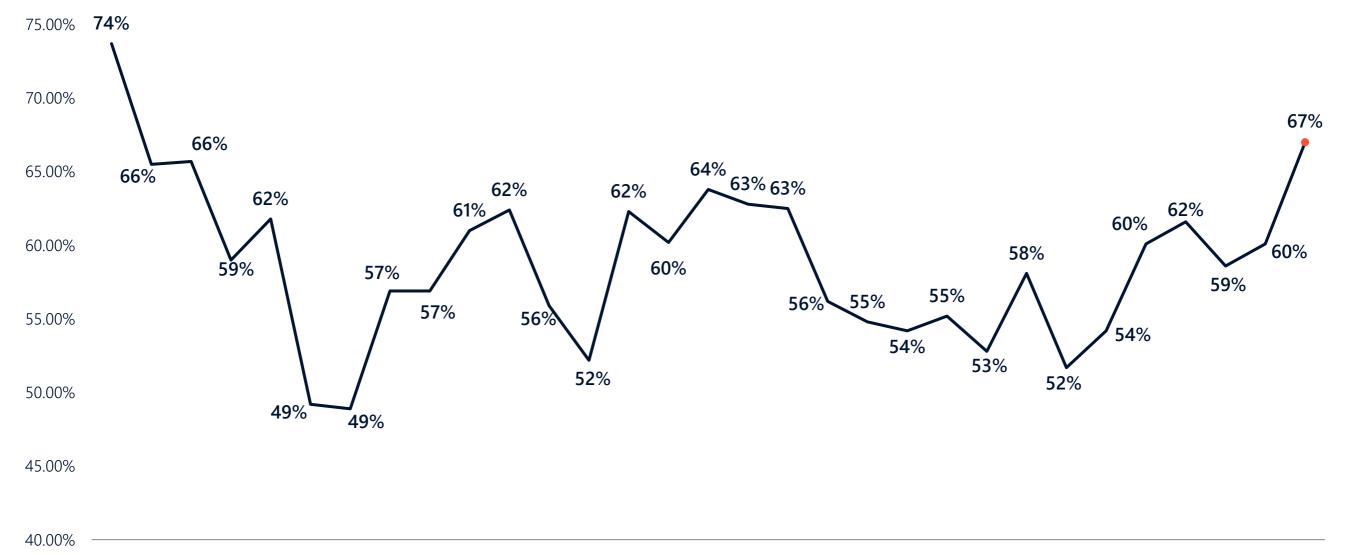
- It is projected that voters cast more than 160 million votes—the highest number of votes cast in American history.
- Class and race are the new political fault lines in America.
- America entered this election as a divided country and remains so.
- Biden's victory came from strong support with women, young, non-white, suburban and college-educated voters while narrowing margins in small towns and rural areas.
- Biden's victory was not based on the Obama coalition. Trump's victory in 2016 relied on flipping counties Obama won in 2012. Trump carried these counties again in 2020 (all 31 counties in lowa, 21 out of 23 counties in Wisconsin).
- Trump's victory in 2016 was not a one-off event, but rather a deeply embedded reality of current American politics.
- Trump and Republican's improved performance with Hispanic voters could reshape American politics.

Republicans are Favored to Maintain Control of the Senate and Make Gains in the House

- Three factors contributed to Republicans' success: Justice Amy Coney Barrett's appointment nationalized the Senate elections, Law and Order and "Democrats are associated with Socialists" messaging was effective.
- Republicans are favored to maintain control of the Senate by a 50-to-48 margin.
- There is a runoff for two Senate seats in Georgia on January 5, 2021 and Republicans are favored to win both seats.
- Republicans only lost a net of one seat despite defending ten vulnerable incumbents.
- NBC News projects Republicans will pick up 13 seats in the House, leaving the Democrats a majority of at least 7 seats, the narrowest majority in 18 years.
- There are now a record number of Republican women in Congress. There will be at least 13
 new Republican women in the House, bringing their total to 33 in their caucus.
- The newly elected Republican women won 6 of the 8 seats where Democratic incumbents were defeated.

2020 Presidential Election

Largest Voter Turnout in Over a Century



1900 1904 1908 1912 1916 1920 1924 1928 1932 1936 1940 1944 1948 1952 1956 1960 1964 1968 1972 1976 1980 1984 1988 1992 1996 2000 2004 2008 2012 2016 2020

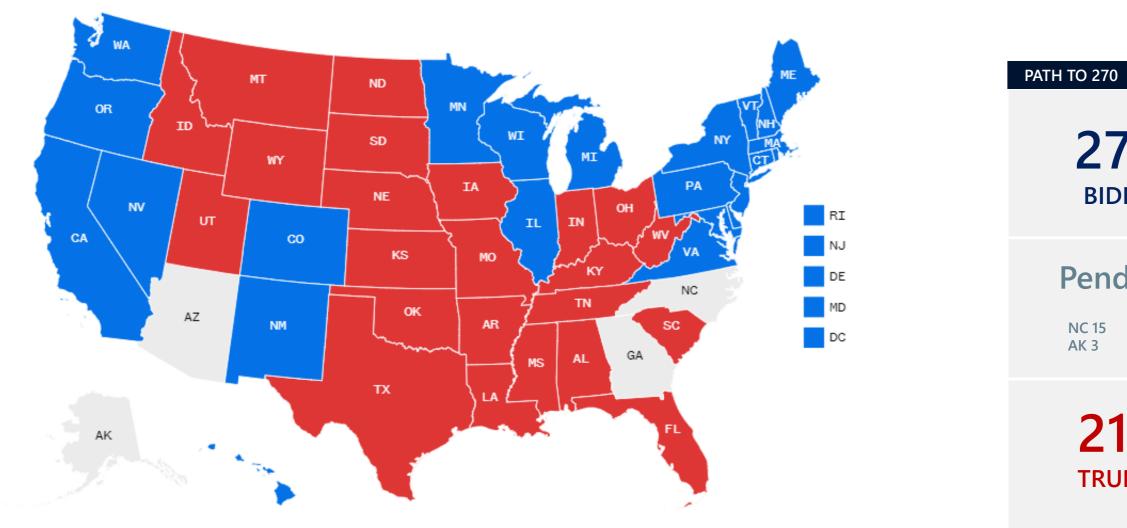
Historically, Job Approval has Accurately Tracked the Incumbent's Share of the Popular Vote

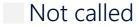
Year	Candidates (Incumbent – Challenger)	October Job Approval Figure	Incumbent Share of Popular Vote
1984	Reagan (R) — Mondale (D)	58%	58.8%
1992	Bush (R) – Clinton (D)	40%	37.4%
1996	Clinton (D) – Dole (R)	53%	49.2%
2004	Bush (R) – Kerry (D)	49%	50.7%
2012	Obama (D) – Romney (R)	49%	51.1%
2020	Trump (R) – Biden (D)	45%	47.7%*

Presidential Race Results 2012-2020

Year	Candidates	Electoral Votes	Popular Vote	% of Vote
2020	Biden	279*	74,488,666*	50.5%*
2020	Trump	214*	70,337,285*	47.7%*
2016	Trump	306	62,985,106	45.9%
2016	Clinton	232	65,853,625	48%
2012	Obama	332	62,611,250	51.4%
	Romney	206	59,134,475	48.6%

Electoral Map as of November 7, 2020 at 4:30 PM ET





Source: NBC News 11/7

279

BIDEN

Pending

214

TRUMP

GA 16

AZ 11

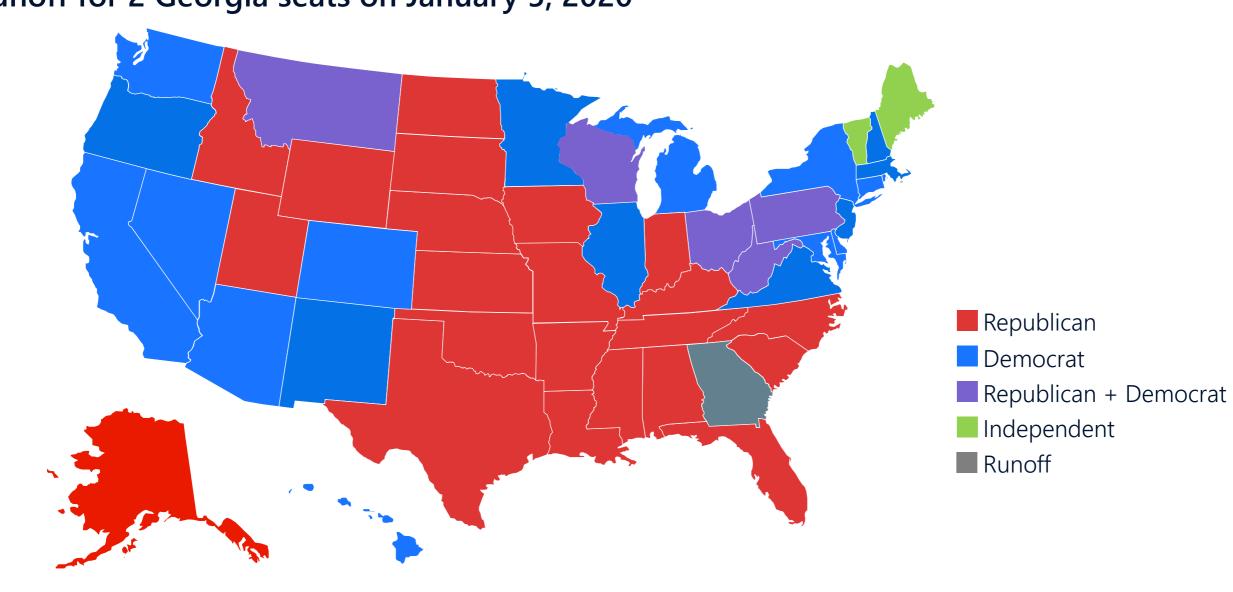
NC 15

AK 3

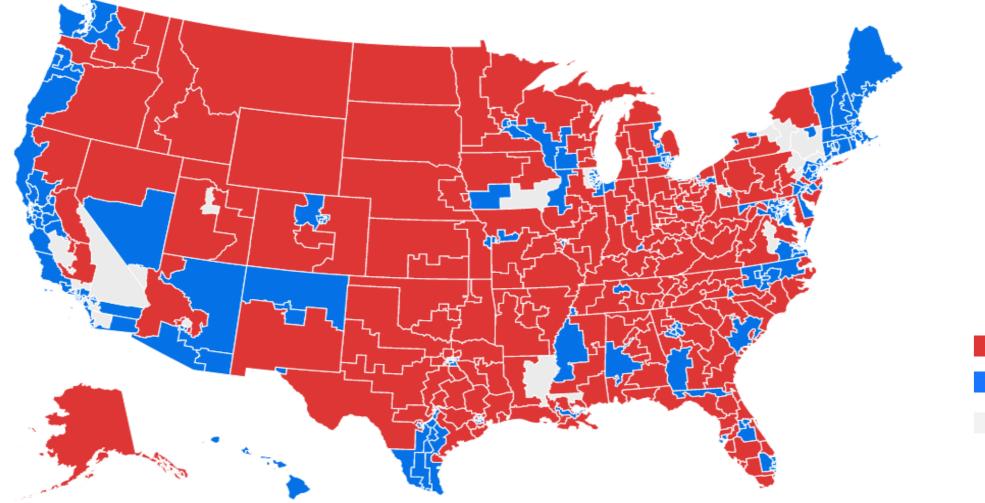
Congressional Results: Divided Government

Republicans favored to maintain control of the Senate while Democrats keep the House.

Republicans Hold a 50/48 Lead Runoff for 2 Georgia seats on January 5, 2020



Democrats Retain Control of the House with the Smallest Majority in 18 Years





Exit Polls From the 2020 Election

Significant Gender Differences Continue in American Politics

Group	Turnout How T		They Voted	
Gender	Gender % of 2020 Total		Biden	
Men	47%	52%	46%	
Women	53%	44%	55%	

Whites Increased Their Total Vote Share

Trump significantly improved his share of Hispanic vote.

Group	Turnout	How They Voted		
Race	% of 2020 Total	Trump Biden		
White	74%	55%	43%	
Hispanic	10%	35%	63%	
Black	11%	8%	90%	
Asian	2%	28%	70%	

Hispanic Vote By Battleground State

Hispanic Voters	Turnout	How They Voted			
State	% of 2020 Total	Trump Biden		Margin	
Arizona	19%	39%	46%	+7 Biden	
Florida	19%	45%	54%	+9 Biden	
Texas	23%	37%	62%	+25 Biden	
Nevada	19%	43%	53%	+10 Biden	

Biden Made Gains with Educated Voters

Trump continued to run strong with non-college educated voters, although Biden narrowed the margin.

Group	Turnout How Th		ney Voted	
Education	% of 2020 Total	Trump	Biden	
White College Women	14%	39%	59%	
White Non-College Women	24%	60%	39%	
White College Men	16%	52%	46%	
White Non-College Men	19%	64%	34%	

Biden Gained Among Young People; Closed the Margin for Older Voters

Group	Turnout	How They Voted		
Age	Age % of 2020 Total		Biden	
18-29	13%	36%	61%	
30-44	23%	43%	54%	
45-64	36%	51%	48%	
65+	27%	51%	48%	

Party Support Remained Strong for Biden and Trump Biden won Independents by 14 points.

Group	Turnout	How They Voted		
Party	% of 2020 Total	Trump	Biden	
Republican	47%	91%	8%	
Democrat	48%	4%	95%	
Independent	5%	37%	51%	

Biden Carried Suburban Voters by 10 Points

Rural turnout was up with Biden narrowing losses.

Group	Turnout	How They Voted	
Urban/Rural	% of 2020 Total	Trump	Biden
Suburban	21%	44%	54%
Urban	45%	33%	65%
Small Town	17%	55%	43%
Rural	18%	65%	33%



Vote Counting Process

State	Ballot Deadline	Certification Date	Automatic Recount?	Margin Required	Candidate Requested Recount?	Conditions	Recount Request Deadline	Recount Deadline
Georgia	11/3	11/20	No	N/A	Yes	Margin between candidates is less than or equal to 0.5%	11/22	N/A
Pennsylvania	11/6	11/23	Yes	Less than or equal to 0.5%	Yes	Three voters of each election district must request the recount.	11/28	N/A
Michigan	11/3	11/23	Yes	Less than or equal to 2,000 votes	Yes	Presidential race	11/25	+39 days after recount begins
North Carolina	11/12	11/24	No	If election officials discover a substantial error while conducting a random-sample partial recount as part of a requested recount.	Yes	The difference between the votes for the requester and the winning candidate is less than or equal to 10,000 votes or 0.5% of the votes cast, whichever is less.	11/26	+5 days after recount begins
Arizona	11/3	11/30	Yes	Less than or equal to: 1. 1/10 of 1% of the number of votes cast for both such candidates 2. 200 votes in the case of an office to be filled by state electors and for which the total number of votes cast is more than 25,000	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nevada	11/10	12/01	No	N/A	Yes	N/A	12/06	+10 days after recount begins
Wisconsin	11/3	12/01	No	N/A	Yes	Trails the leading candidate by no more than 1% of the total votes cast for the office.	12/2	+13 days after recount is ordered

Process and Timing to Determine the Winner in Electoral College Voting

