



US ELECTIONS: 03/11/2020 GUIDE

US branches of government and their election

Branch of government	US institution	Composition and method of election
Executive	Presidency	<p>The President is elected through winning a majority of electoral college votes: 270+ of the 538 electoral college votes. Each state has a set amount of electoral votes according to its population. Each state gives its vote to the candidate with the largest number of votes (except Nebraska and Maine which give their votes proportionally by district).</p> <p>The election is held once every four years on the first Tuesday in November after November 1. The role of the US President is a powerful one., He or she can ratify or veto legislation, pass executive orders, lead foreign and military policy, and make appointments and nominations. A President's new term begins in the January of the following year.</p>
Legislative	Senate	<p>The Senate is the upper chamber of Congress and consists of 100 senators. There are two senators per state. Senators serve a six-year term. Elections for senators are staggered and held at different times. Once every two years in November one third of senators are up for election. Senators are elected through receiving the absolute majority of votes in their state.</p> <p>The role of the Senate is to pass legislation passed by the House of Representatives, to ratify treaties, and to confirm or reject the president's appointments.</p>
	House of Representatives	<p>The House of Representatives is the lower chamber of Congress. It contains 435 house representatives, also known as congressmen/women. The number of house representatives per state is according to population. Each house representative represents a district and is elected through gaining the absolute majority of votes. House representatives are elected every two years. Elections are held every second year in November, always in even years - 2016, 2018, 2020 etc. The role of the House of Representatives is to propose, pass and amend the laws of the USA.</p>
Judicial	The Supreme Court	<p>The Supreme Court currently consists of nine members known as Justices. These Justices are nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Each Justice is appointed as a lifetime appointment - until voluntary retirement or death.</p> <p>The Supreme Court Justices interpret the legality of laws according to the US Constitution and play a key role in striking down or changing laws. They rule by a majority decision.</p>

- Sources: www.pressgallery.house.gov, www.senate.gov, www.whitehouse.gov.

Election night results guide

Positive Republican results	Positive Democratic results
Presidential race	Presidential race
Safe states likely kept: Wyoming, West Virginia, Oklahoma, Idaho, North Dakota, Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, South Dakota, Utah, Mississippi, Kansas, Indiana, Missouri, Montana, South Carolina, Alaska, (Nebraska) (in order of probability – most safe to least safe)	Safe states likely kept: Washington DC, Massachusetts, Vermont, Hawaii, Maryland, New York, California, Rhode Island, Delaware, Washington, Connecticut, New Jersey, Illinois, Oregon, New Mexico, (Maine) (in order of probability – most safe to least safe)
Key swing state results	Key swing state results
0% status quo (keep safe states + <u>swing states</u>) (no change = 306 electoral votes= keep presidency)	+1%. swing: gain <u>Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania</u> (272+ electoral votes= gain presidency)
+1% - 5% swing: gain Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire	+2% – 5% swing: gain <u>Arizona, Florida, North Carolina</u>
+ 5% swing: gain Colorado, Virginia	5% - 10% swing: gain <u>Iowa, Georgia, Ohio, Texas</u>
Senate races	Senate races
0% status quo (53 Senate seats = keep control of Senate)	+1% - 2% swing: gain Colorado, Maine, Arizona (no presidency) (47- 49/50 Senate seats = Senate stays under Republicans)
+1% - 5% swing: gain Alabama seat	+3% - 5% swing: gain Iowa, North Carolina, Georgia (51+ seats = gain control of the Senate or 50 if presidency won)

Sources: <https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/2020-election-forecast/>. <https://www.270towin.com>

Presidential electoral college guide



Source: <https://www.270towin.com>



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