

Electoral College Information

- When the majority (even if it's a very slim majority) of voters in any state cast their votes for a presidential candidate, that candidate receives **all** of the electoral votes from that state. (Except in Nebraska and Maine)
- Each state gets two electoral votes, one for each of the states senators. Each state has exactly two U.S. senators.
- Additionally each state receives one electoral vote for each of its U.S. representatives. Each state gets one representative for every **700,000*** citizens, but every state must have at least one member of the House of Representatives. (*approximately)
- (**709,760 to be exact but this will change after the 2020 census**)
- The smallest number of electoral votes a state can have is three, but more populous states can have much more.
- Washington D.C. also gets three electoral votes.
- There are a total of **538** electoral votes and a candidate needs at least **270** to win.

Electoral College Questions and Activities

1. Using the information above calculate the approximate population of the following states: New York, California, Texas, Ohio, South Carolina.
2. Create a scenario in which two candidates receive the same number of electoral votes (or as close as you can get). Tell which states each candidate would have to win.
3. What is the smallest number of states a candidate could win and still be elected?
4. In a scenario in which each candidate wins 25 states what would be the closest and the most lopsided results possible in the Electoral College.
5. Using your history text describe the outcomes and the controversy surrounding the elections of 1800 and 1824.



ELECTORAL COLLEGE MAP

