

Electoral College Maps Scavenger Hunt

Using C-SPAN's **Historical Electoral College Maps resource**, search through the various election slides and answer each of the following questions relating to the electoral college. View the maps and data associated with the answers and complete the chart. Answers might be found using the map, the election results or the "Did you know?" section on the slides.

How the Electoral College Works	
Question	Answer
How does the electoral vote determine the winner of the election?	
How many electoral votes are currently required to win the presidency?	
How is the number of electors per state determined?	
How are Maine and Nebraska unique in how they allocate electoral votes?	
What is meant by a faithless elector?	
What happens if neither presidential candidate receives 270 electoral votes?	

What happens if neither vice presidential candidate receives 270 electoral votes?	
What is meant by the “winner-takes-it all” rule?	
What is the process and timeline for counting electoral votes?	

History of the Electoral College	
Question	Answer
Why did the founding fathers create the electoral college?	
How did the 12th Amendment change how presidents and vice presidents are elected?	
From the maps, when was the last time the total number of electoral votes changed? What caused this?	
Comparing the electoral votes on the maps, which candidate had the largest margin of victory in the electoral college since 1900?	

When was the first election that Washington, D.C. was granted electoral votes?	
Using the election results on the slides, since 1900, how many third-party candidates won electoral votes? Who were they and what parties did they represent?	
When was the last time a third-party candidate won any electoral votes?	
Comparing the maps, in general, what areas of the country did the Democrats consistently win for the first part of the 20th century? How did this change?	
Use the election results to name the two times since 1900 that a candidate has won the electoral college but lost the popular vote.	
Using the election results on the slides, which candidate won the highest popular vote since 1900?	
Comparing the election results, since 1900, which election had the closest electoral vote count?	

Use the maps to determine the first election to include all 50 states.

Current Patterns and Trends

Question	Answer
Compare the most recent electoral maps to determine which state has continuously voted for the Democratic candidates the longest.	
Compare the most recent electoral maps to determine which states have continuously voted for the Republican candidates the longest.	
On the 2020 electoral college map which five states have the most electoral votes?	
On the 2020 electoral college map which states are tied for the least electoral votes?	
Based on the last 20 years, what states and areas of the country appear to vote more for the Democratic candidates? Which states and areas of the country appear to vote more for the Republican candidates?	

Based on the electoral maps from the last 20 years, which states do you see as the most important “swing states” for candidates to target? Explain your answer.	
By comparing the historical maps, how has the number of electoral votes in your state changed since 1900? Why do you think this is?	

For the final step, research the 2020 election results and determine the missing information from the boxes on the first map.