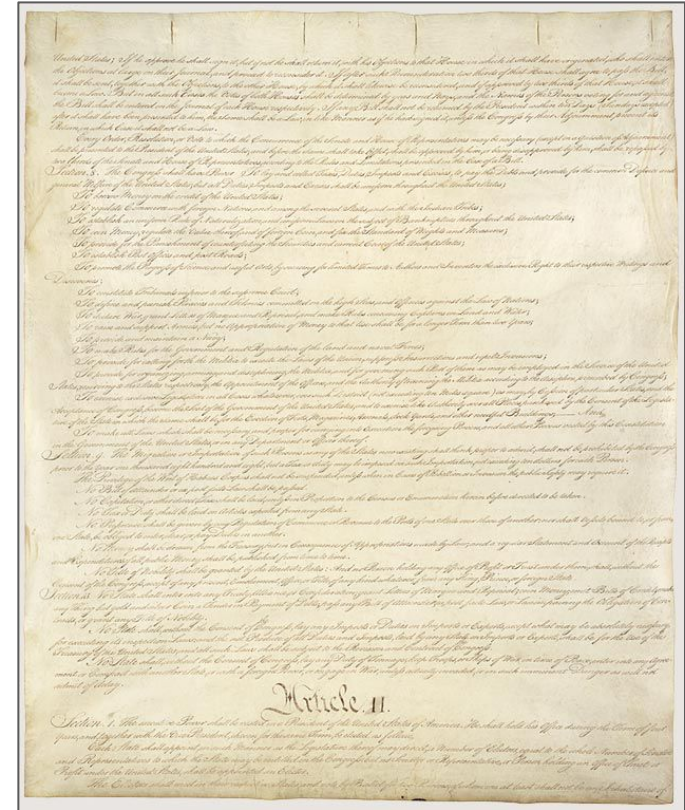


Elections at the State and National Levels

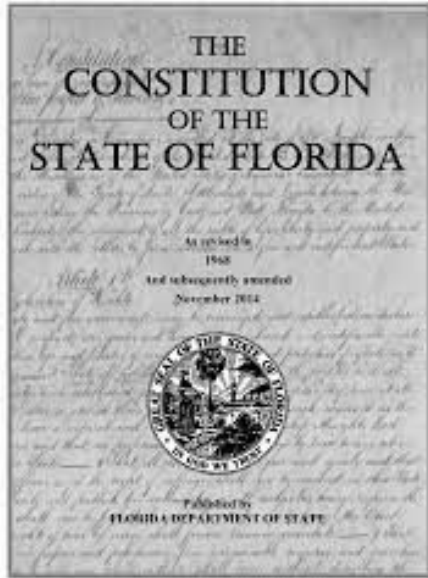


Article I, Section 4, U.S. Constitution

The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.

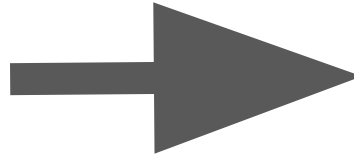


Article VI, Section 1, Florida Constitution



All elections by the people shall be by direct and secret vote. General elections shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast. Registration and elections shall, and political party functions may, be regulated by law; however, the requirements for a candidate with no party affiliation or for a candidate of a minor party for placement of the candidate's name on the ballot shall be no greater than the requirements for a candidate of the party having the largest number of registered voters.

From Candidate to Elected Official



Our Constitutional Republic At Work

- Our constitutional republic allows for citizens to select their leaders so that their views are reflected in government policies
- At the national level, voters elect officials such as president, representatives, and senators
- At the state level, voters elect a governor, state legislators, and many others



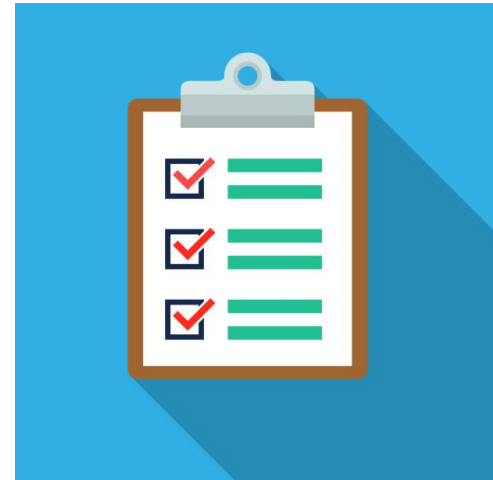
Step 1: Registering



- Candidates must meet legal qualifications to run for office (citizenship, age, residency)
- Need to file the proper forms and pay fees
- An option to collect signatures may be used instead of paying some fees
- Meet registration deadlines

FL State Statute on Candidate Qualifications

(1) The provisions of any special act to the contrary notwithstanding, each person seeking to qualify for nomination or election to a federal, state, or multicounty district office, other than election to a judicial office as defined in chapter 105 or the office of school board member, shall file his or her qualification papers with, and pay the qualifying fee, which shall consist of the filing fee and election assessment, and party assessment, if any has been levied, to, the Department of State, or qualify by the petition process pursuant to s. 99.095 with the Department of State, at any time after noon of the 1st day for qualifying, which shall be as follows: the 120th day prior to the primary election, but not later than noon of the 116th day prior to the date of the primary election, for persons seeking to qualify for nomination or election to federal office or to the office of the state attorney or the public defender; and noon of the 71st day prior to the primary election, but not later than noon of the 67th day prior to the date of the primary election, for persons seeking to qualify for nomination or election to a state or multicounty district office, other than the office of the state attorney or the public defender.



FL State Statute on Petition Process



(1) A person who seeks to qualify as a candidate for any office and who meets the petition requirements of this section is not required to pay the qualifying fee or party assessment required by this chapter.

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a candidate must obtain the number of signatures of voters in the geographical area represented by the office sought equal to at least 1 percent of the total number of registered voters of that geographical area, as shown by the compilation by the department for the immediately preceding general election. Signatures may not be obtained until the candidate has filed the appointment of campaign treasurer and designation of campaign depository pursuant to s. 106.021 and are valid only for the qualifying period immediately following such filings.

Step 2: Primary Elections

A **primary** is the nominating election held to choose party candidates who will run in the general election

Types of Primaries

Closed Primary:

Individuals registered to vote, and registered with a political party, may select the candidate who will represent that party in the upcoming election

Semi-Closed:

Individuals registered to vote, and registered as independents, may select the candidate who will represent one party in the upcoming election.

Open Primary:

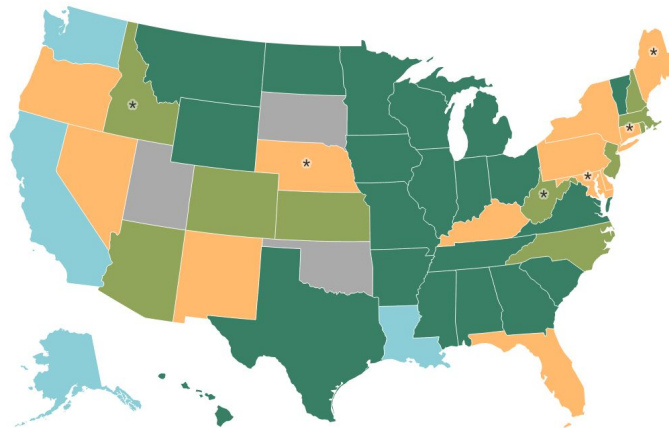
Individuals registered to vote may select a candidate from one political party who will represent that party in the upcoming election.

Primary participation rules by state

Showing each state based on the participation rules used by both major parties in congressional and statewide elections.

In gray states, Democratic primaries are semi-closed and Republican primaries are closed.
Blue states use unique systems described in more detail below.

Open Semi-closed Closed Mixture



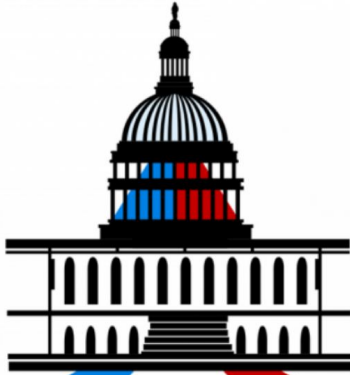
* State law provides a baseline, but lets parties choose whether to change participation rules.

Change-Up

Think-Pair-Share

Do you like that Florida is a closed primary state? If so, why? If not, which type of primary would you prefer and why?

Caucus



- A type of contest in the primary process, but one that looks very different from a typical election
- Instead of filling out a private ballot, voters meet in a designated area (community center, school gymnasium, etc.) and publicly support the candidate of their choice
- Voters openly try to persuade other voters to support their candidate before making their decision; typically lasting for a prescribed amount of time, which could be a few hours
- Tends to attract the more dedicated members of the party, since it is less private and more time consuming

Step 3: The Campaign Trail

Candidates try and engage with and persuade voters leading up to the election by using a variety of tactics:

- Events/Appearances
- Flyers
- Commercials/Ads
- Phone Calls
- Campaign Swag
- Debates



Role of Debates

- A debate is when two or more opposing candidates have a formal and public meeting to discuss their positions
- Can occur during the primary process between members of the same party, and can also occur leading up to the general election between candidates of opposing parties
- Offers candidates a chance to persuade voters by stating their positions on various topics while also criticizing the views of their opponent



Debates

<https://safesha.re/3tcg> Marco Rubio and Chris Christie Debate clip

<https://www.jfklibrary.org/asset-viewer/archives/TNC/TNC-172/TNC-172>

John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon Debate video

Change-Up

Quickwrite

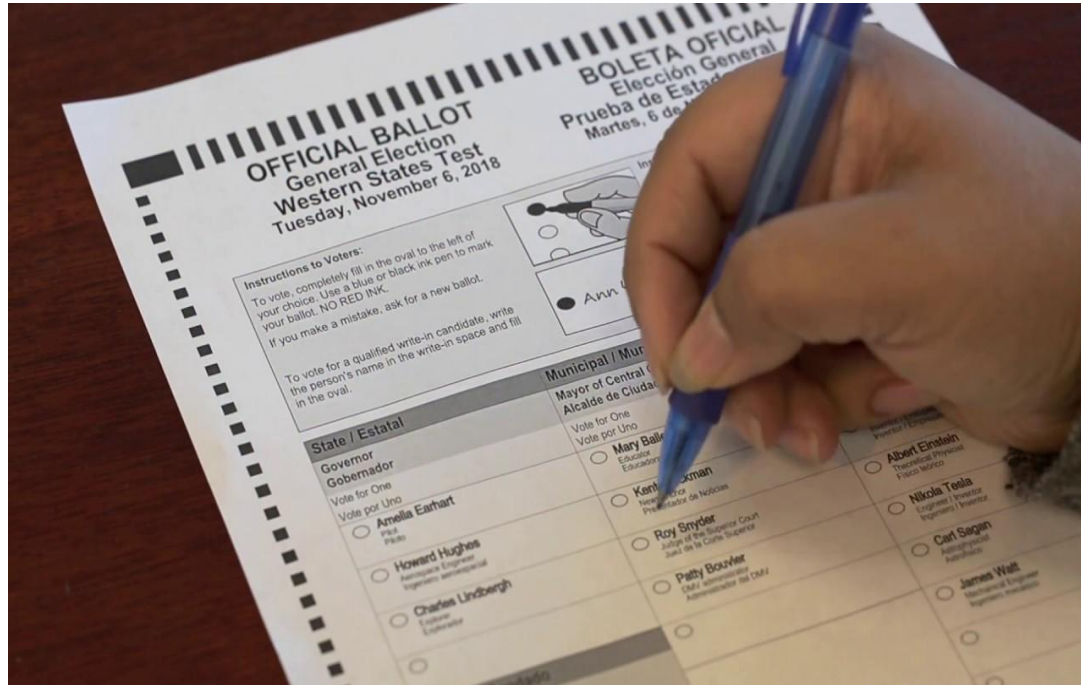
In evaluating the role of debates, craft two possible tweets that demonstrate how a voter may have reacted to the debates shown.



Step 4: General Election Voting Day



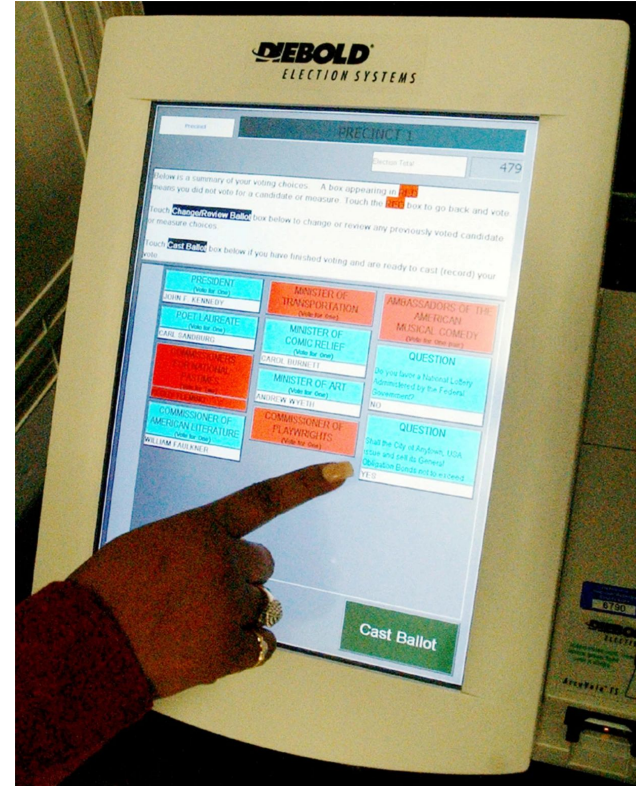
Methods: Fill-In Ballots



Fill-in Ballots - voters fill out a traditional paper ballot with a pen; takes time to tabulate results but viewed as trusted since it allows for physical ballots that could be recounted if needed

Electronic Voting

Voters use a prescribed electronic device, such as a touchscreen, to cast their vote; fast & efficient to tabulate results, but raises concerns about security & transparency of election outcomes



Punch Cards

1

OFFICIAL BALLOT, GENERAL ELECTION
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 7, 2000

**ELECTORS
FOR PRESIDENT
AND
VICE PRESIDENT**
(A vote for the candidates will
actually be a vote for their electors.)
(Vote for Group)

(REPUBLICAN)	3 ➔
GEORGE W. BUSH - PRESIDENT DICK CHENEY - VICE PRESIDENT	
(DEMOCRATIC)	5 ➔
AL GORE - PRESIDENT JOE LIEBERMAN - VICE PRESIDENT	
(LIBERTARIAN)	7 ➔
HARRY BROWNE - PRESIDENT ART OLIVIER - VICE PRESIDENT	
(GREEN)	9 ➔
RALPH NADER - PRESIDENT WINONA LA DUKE - VICE PRESIDENT	
(SOCIALIST WORKERS)	11 ➔
JAMES HARRIS - PRESIDENT MARGARET TROWE - VICE PRESIDENT	
(NATURAL LAW)	13 ➔
JOHN HAGELIN - PRESIDENT NAT GOLDHABER - VICE PRESIDENT	

A

1-B

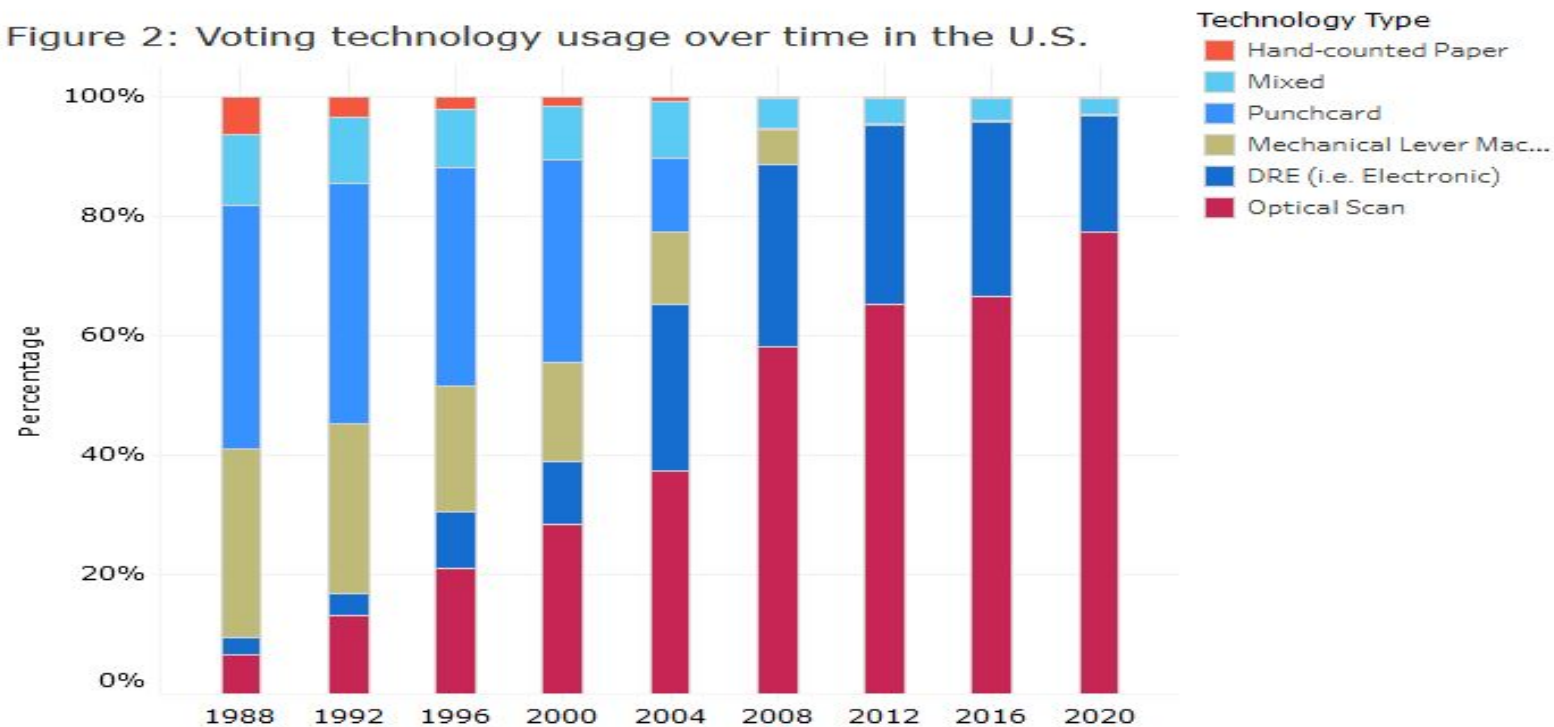
OFFICIAL BALLOT, GENERAL ELECTION
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 7, 2000

4 ←	(REFORM) PAT BUCHANAN - PRESIDENT EZOLA FOSTER - VICE PRESIDENT
6 ←	(SOCIALIST) DAVID McREYNOLDS - PRESIDENT MARY CAL HOLLIS - VICE PRESIDENT
8 ←	(CONSTITUTION) HOWARD PHILLIPS - PRESIDENT J. CURTIS FRAZIER - VICE PRESIDENT
10 ←	(WORKERS WORLD) MONICA MOOREHEAD - PRESIDENT GLORIA LA RIVA - VICE PRESIDENT
WRITE-IN CANDIDATE To vote for a write-in candidate, follow the directions on the long stub of your ballot card.	

TURN PAGE TO CONTINUE VOTING ➔

Voters use a stylus to physically punch a hole in a paper ballot next to the candidate they wish to vote for; created confusion in 2000 presidential election as voters had trouble reading ballots and some holes not fully punched through, making counting ballots difficult

Figure 2: Voting technology usage over time in the U.S.



Data source: Election Data Services, Verified Voting, state/local election sources

Change-Up

Partner Debate

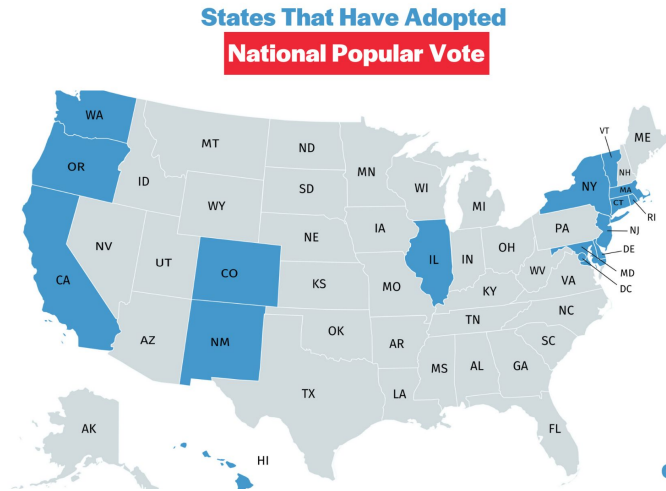
Find a partner

For 30 seconds, one of you needs to make an argument for the benefits of allowing technology to advance voting methods (i.e. citizens could vote on an app, role of AI, etc.)

For 30 seconds, the other student needs to make an argument for the dangers/downsides of using technology in the election process

Different Ways Elections are Decided

Popular Vote



- The vote that is cast directly by the electorate
- Initially, the U.S. Constitution only allowed for the direct popular vote at the national level for members of the House of Representatives
- Most elections in the U.S. (national, & state) use a direct popular vote to decide the winner, with the exception of the election of the president

Different Ways Elections are Decided

Winner-Take-All

- As the term suggests, the winning candidate gets all of the reward, such as the seat in the House of Representatives for a particular district
- The losing candidate, and their party, get nothing as a result of the election
- Only has to be a plurality
- This is the method for how most elections are decided in the U.S.



Sources

Taft Cartoon: [C-043_7-24-1947_a.jpg](#)
U.S. Constitution: [Constitution_2_of_4_630.jpg](#)
FL Constitution: [Florida-Constitution.jpg](#)
Desantis Yard Sign: [90](#)
Desantis Sworn In: <https://www.wuft.org/news/files/2019/01/AP19008616745040-1024x689.jpg>
Campaign Pix: [Campaign-5644594_1920.jpg](#)
Signatures: [90](#)
Congressional Primary Map:
[Na7a6HwFqnVNHDENwzKDG4BqiW6MoOuYmaiKYUGQfULBM6WvIQNoKD06ir9C6llamNTBBSldMloV3hkh9qRaHan_eRyFAC63LUdD4x2gml4ch-F3NSwBgtz5u1kcY-FpYI_xCpyduGte8zcsa5vmhU](#)
Caucus: [BTG only image.PNG](#)
Campaign Commercial: [1121_full_still_political_ads.jpg](#)
Rubio Christie Debate: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkdpzRDxTXU>
Kennedy/Nixon Debate: <https://www.jfklibrary.org/asset-viewer/archives/TNC/TNC-172/TNC-172>
Election Day: [38e88852-7b41-4093-aac4-312fddf7b9a-SAR_ELECTION_DAY_005.jpg](#)
Popular Vote: [NPV_Map_OR_\(1\).png](#)