



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Course: US History/Ms. Brown****Homeroom:**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade US History  
Standard # – Do Now – Day #75

**Aims:** SWBAT identify and explain the purpose of the Electoral College  
SWBAT demonstrate the Electoral College process

**DO NOW**

**Directions:** Answer the following questions in complete and historically accurate sentences. Use your notes and knowledge of history. You **MUST** annotate your answers, which means cross off the question stem, capitalize the first letter, and cross off the question mark.

1. How is the Great Compromise a combination of both the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plans. Be sure to talk about the two different types of representation in your answer.

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2. What is the Three-Fifths Compromise?

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3. Which of the grades at DPH would prefer to have a Senate? Explain, why this type of representation would benefit them most.

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4. Which of the grades at DPH would prefer to have a House of Representatives? Explain why this type of representation would benefit them most.

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**CONFLICT (again)! How should the Chief Executive be elected?**

**Opinion A:** Some delegates wanted Congress to appoint the President. Governor Morris objected. The president “must not be made a flunky of the Congress,” he argued. “It must not be able to say to him: “You owe your appointment to us.”

**Opinion B:** Several delegates thought that the people should elect the President. James Madison, however, argued that voters would naturally choose someone from their own state. Additionally, most delegates did not trust the people to make decisions. They thought people would often be misled by candidates.

**Opinion C:** Still others suggested that the president be elected by a specifically chosen group of “electors” from each state. Such a group, they felt, would be able to look beyond state interests to make a wise choice for the entire country.

Which opinion do you most agree with? Explain your answer with at least 1 - 2 pieces of evidence.

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Which opinion do you least agree with? Explain your answer with at least 1 – 2 pieces of evidence.

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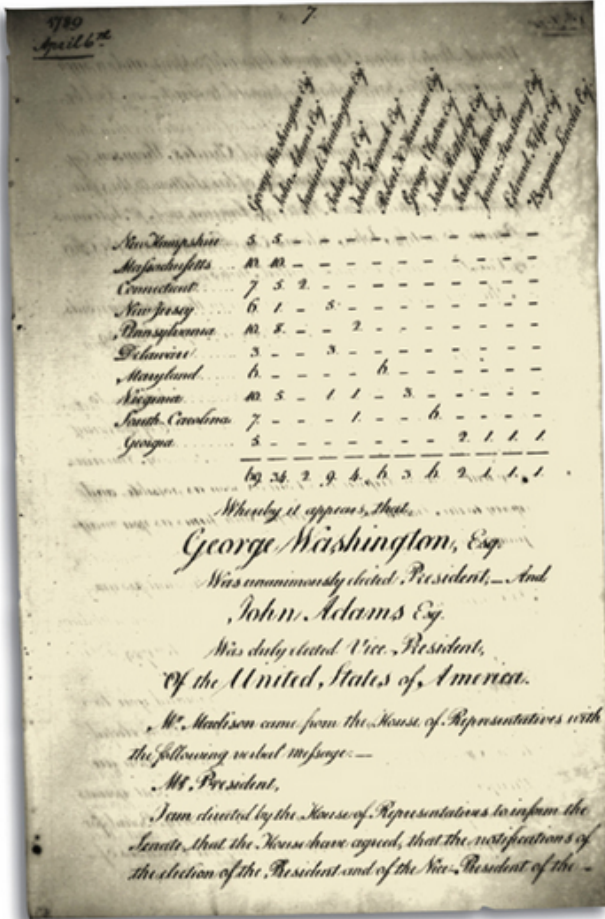


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**Compromise: The Electoral College**



It was decided that a special body called the **Electoral College** would elect the president. Whichever candidate had a majority (more than 50%) of the electoral votes would become president.

The Electoral College is made up of electors who cast votes to elect the president and vice-president every four years. Each state has as many electors in the Electoral College as the number of senators and representatives it sends to Congress. For example, New York has 2 representatives in Senate and 29 representatives in the House of Representatives so New York has a total of 31 electors in the Electoral College.

The delegates left the method of choosing the elector to the states. Before 1820, state legislatures chose electors in most states. Today, the people choose their state’s electors when they vote in presidential elections. The electors then cast their ballot for president and vice-president on a date chosen by Congress.

This is a copy of the Electoral College vote for the election of 1789. At that time, which states had the most electoral votes?

than a majority—gets all of the state’s electoral votes. As a result, a candidate could win a majority in the Electoral College without winning a majority of votes cast across the country.

The Electoral College system still affects presidential elections today. In most states, the candidates with the most votes—even if it is less

**Describe the role of the Electoral College, in your own words.**

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### Let's Break It Down

Step One: The candidate with the most state wide support becomes the candidate your state supports

Step Two: Candidate wins all electors from that state

Step Three: The first candidate to reach **270** electors becomes the President-elect

**Directions:** With your shoulder partner complete the chart about the electoral college.

State	# of Senators	# of Representatives in the House of Representatives	Total # of Representatives	# of Electoral Votes
California		53		
New York		29		
Kentucky		6		
West Virginia		3		
Delaware		1		

1. Imagine that in November 2012, Barack Obama won 55% of the vote in California. How many electoral votes from California did he win?

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2. Imagine in that same election, Mitt Romney won 45% of the popular vote in California. How many electoral votes did he win?

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3. Imagine that you are an advisor to a presidential candidate. If your team could only campaign in two of the states listed, which states would you choose? Why?

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4. Using your previous answers, in which **type** of states would presidential candidates most likely campaign? Why?

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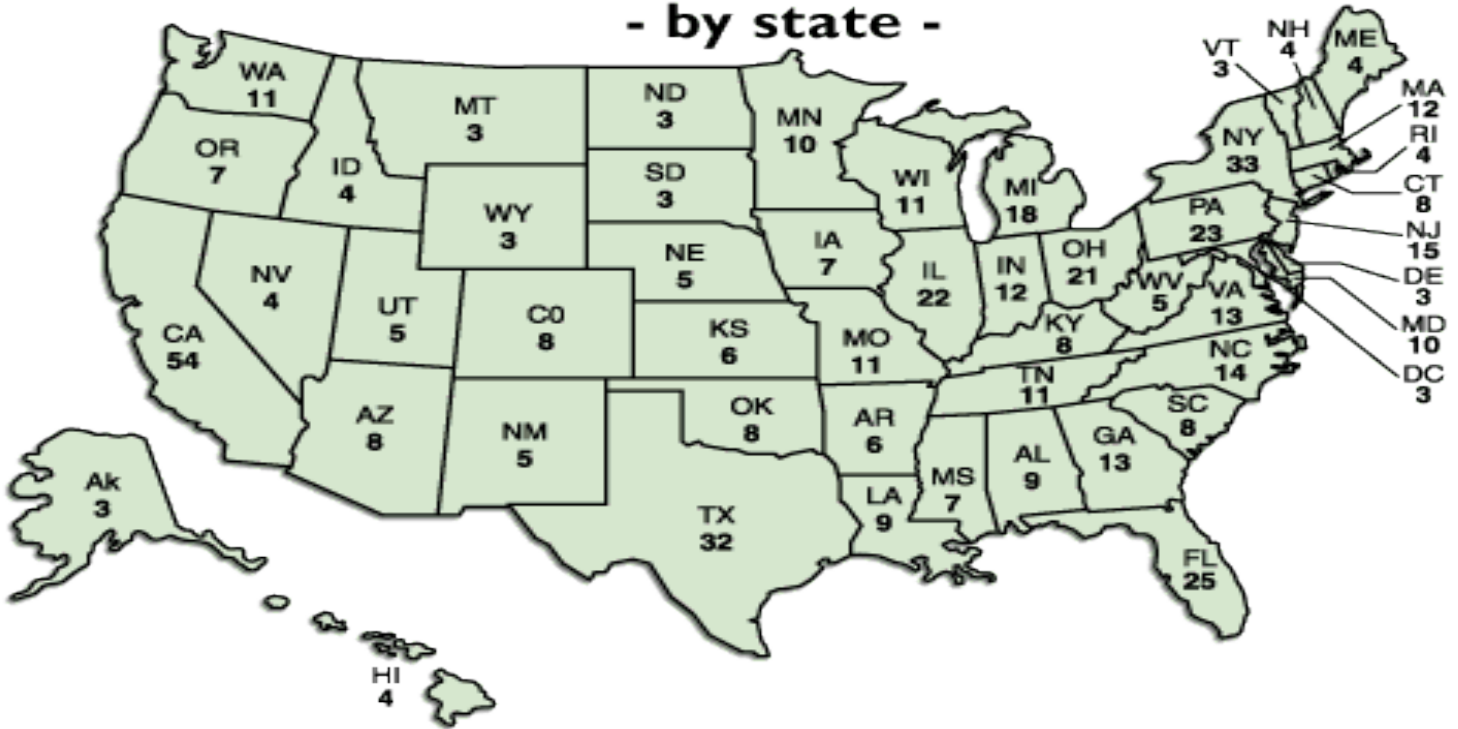
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**Document 1:**

# USA Electoral Votes - by state -



1. Which three states have the **most** electoral votes?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Which seven states, besides Washington DC have the **fewest** electoral votes?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

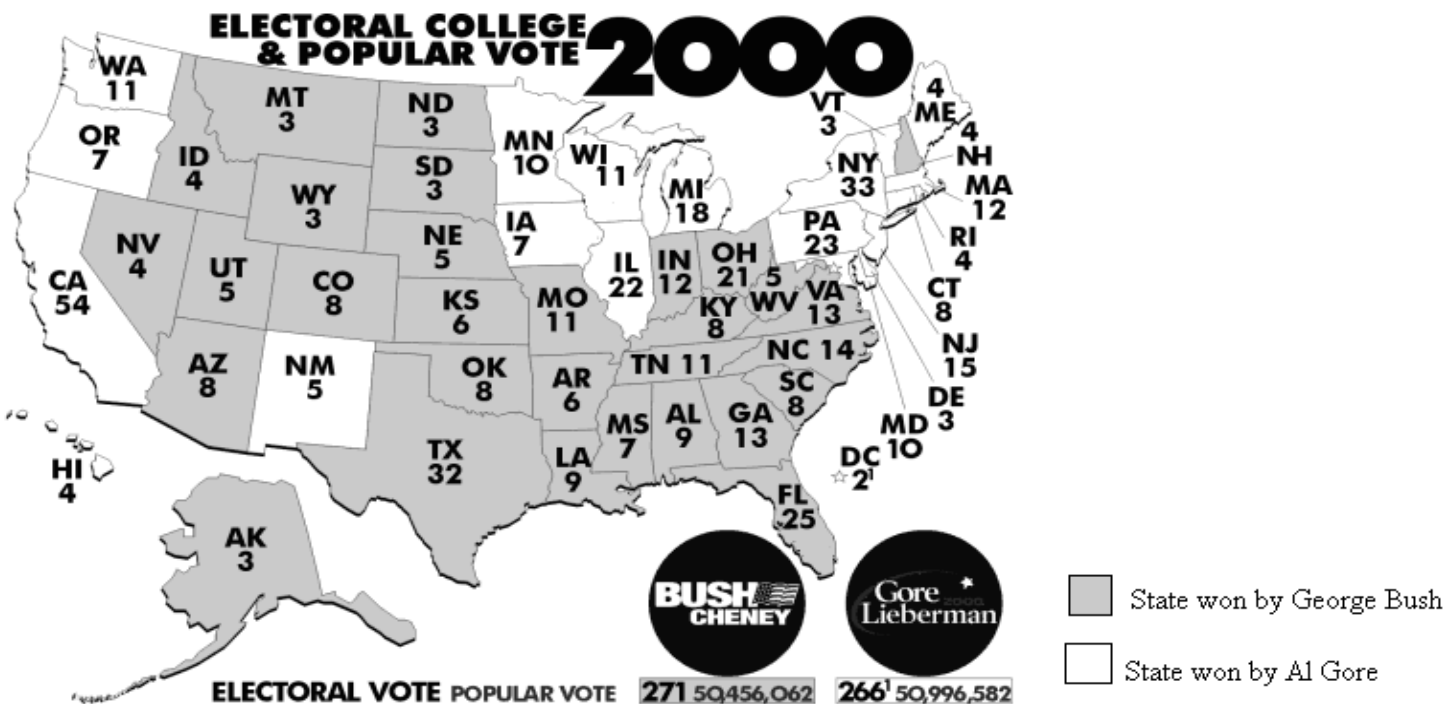
3. If you were running for President, in which states would you spend a majority of your time? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_



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**Document 2**



1. Which candidate in the 2000 election won most of the votes in the South?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. How many electoral votes did George W. Bush receive in 2000?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Who won the popular vote in 2000?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. Who was actually elected president in 2000?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. Do you think the electoral college is a fair way to elect presidents? Why or why not?  
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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



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### The Electoral College HOMEWORK

\_\_\_\_\_/10 Mastered/Passing/Not Mastered

# CHESTER THE CRAB WHO GOES TO ELECTORAL COLLEGE?

THIRD-GRADER TAMARA AND CHESTER ARE IN A RACE WITH THE REPUBLICAN ELEPHANT AND DEMOCRATIC DONKEY...

IN MOST AMERICAN ELECTIONS, THE CANDIDATE WITH THE MOST VOTES WINS. THE ELECTION FOR PRESIDENT HAS A **TWIST!!**



THE U.S. CONSTITUTION SAYS "ELECTORS" FROM ALL 50 STATES WILL ELECT A PRESIDENT.

electoral college

YAA!

WHAT ABOUT VOTERS?!

RELAX—ELECTORS ARE LINKED TO REAL VOTERS.

LET'S SAY MOST VOTERS IN OHIO PICK THE REPUBLICAN FOR PRESIDENT. ALL OF OHIO'S 21 ELECTORS GO TO THE REPUBLICAN (THIS IS THE "WINNER TAKE ALL" RULE). THESE ELECTORS THEN VOTE FOR PRESIDENT. IT'S JUST MORE REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY.

LOUISIANA

OHIO

GERMANY

IDMHO

SO IF I GET 48% OF ALL THE MOMS AND DADS VOTING IN OHIO, I DON'T GET 48% OF OHIO'S ELECTORS. I LOSE THE WHOLE STATE!

\*MAINE AND NEBRASKA ARE DIFFERENT. THEY NAME ELECTORS FOR CANDIDATES THAT WIN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

THIS IS WHY THIRD POLITICAL PARTIES NEVER GET A PRESIDENT. THEY WIN VOTES BUT NOT ELECTORS!

THE BIGGER THE STATE POPULATION, THE MORE ELECTORS IT HAS. DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS FIGHT OVER THE BIG STATES BECAUSE WINNING THOSE ELECTORS QUICKLY ADDS UP.

GALIFORNIA

I NEED 270 ELECTORS TO WIN THE PRESIDENCY!

CALIFORNIA'S 54 ELECTORS ARE MINE!!



**NEXT: MUDSLINGING**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the difference between most American elections and the Electoral College?

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2. Nebraska has five electoral votes. If a presidential candidate wins Nebraska with 57% of the vote, how many electoral votes will that candidate receive?

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3. Why don't third party candidates ever win presidential elections?

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**Background:** It is November 2012, and Barack Obama and Mitt Romney are running for president.

<u>State</u>	<u>Number of Electoral Votes</u>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>42</b>

4. If Obama wins 5 million votes in Michigan and Romney wins 7 million votes, how many **electoral** votes does **Obama** win? (1) *you must provide a number*

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5. If Obama wins 5 million votes in Michigan and McCain wins 7 million votes, how many **electoral** votes does **McCain** win? (1) *you must provide a number*

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**The Electoral College  
EXIT TICKET**

\_\_\_\_\_/5 Mastered/Passing/Not Mastered

1. The President is the head of which branch of government?
  - a. Executive
  - b. Judicial
  - c. Legislative
  - d. Congress
  
2. What group is designated to electing the president?
  - a. Supreme Court
  - b. Senate
  - c. Electoral College
  - d. House of Representatives

Use the chart below to answer question 3

<u>State</u>	<u>Number of Electoral Votes</u>
<b>Massachusetts</b>	<b>21</b>

3. If in the 2016 election Hillary Clinton won 10 million votes and Chris Christy won 5 million votes in Massachusetts.

- a. How many electoral votes did Hillary Clinton win?

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- b. Explain your answer

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