



Facts about Presidential Elections and the National Popular Vote

- The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact is a bipartisan agreement among states who enact it to award their electoral votes to the Presidential candidate who receives the national popular vote. The Compact would guarantee that:
 - Every vote in every state would matter
 - Votes become more equal across the country and millions of ignored voters are enfranchised
 - Candidates run true national campaigns, campaigning in all states, hearing from a far greater range of voters and promoting agendas that unite the greatest number of voters
 - The Electoral College as envisioned in our Constitution remains intact and states retain control over elections
- The Electoral College currently determines the outcome of the U.S. Presidential elections; Americans have no constitutional right to elect the President or Vice President.
- As specified in Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution, states have exclusive power to determine how to select and instruct their electors. Electors are chosen by the leadership of the state, party in power and/or legislature.
- The Presidential election is an anomaly in U.S. politics; candidates for all other political offices (members of Congress, governors, state legislators, local officials, etc.) are elected by popular vote.
- In Presidential elections, all votes are not equal (one person ≠ one vote) because the Electoral College formula allocates a disproportionate number of electors to less populous states. This means that the vote of a Florida resident is worth less than many states with smaller populations. For example, Wyoming, Vermont, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, New Hampshire, Montana, Delaware, and Alaska have a combined total population of about 8 million with 29 total electoral votes. Florida's population is more than 20.5 million, but Florida also has just 29 electoral votes.¹
- Today, national elections are determined by a handful of battleground, or 'swing' states (e.g., not reliably Republican or Democrat). Eleven battleground states, representing 95 million Americans, determined the outcome of the 2016 Presidential election.
- Battleground states receive most of the campaign attention and funding; the remaining states do not matter to Presidential candidates and are essentially ignored, including 3 of the country's 4 most populous states (Texas, California and New York). In 2016, issues of concern to 215 million Americans in the 39 "flyover" states were ignored.
- In recent presidential elections, almost half of Floridian votes did not count because of the "winner take all" rule, even if the candidate won by a slim margin.
- National polls over the past 50 years have consistently shown that the majority of Americans support the popular vote for choosing POTUS.
- Red and blue states representing 165 of the 270 electoral college votes needed for the Compact to take effect have already enacted it, with at least one chamber in another 12 passing NPV legislation and others considering it.

¹ Nationalpopularvote.com, retrieved December 11, 2017.