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# How the President of the U.S. is Elected

#### Announce candidacy

Multiple candidates in each party

### Political parties:

A political party is a group of people who think alike about issues.

#### Pre-nomination and State campaigns:

The voters in each party decide among the candidates in a chain of preliminary elections called caucuses or primaries. Each state holds its own caucus or primary, where the voters decide which candidate in their party they will support. Each state's delegates then take these results to the party's national convention.

#### The national convention:

Then each party holds its national convention when all the delegates vote to select one candidate to nominate for President.

## The national campaign:

After the conventions, the nominees have debates which are like structured arguments on the issues. Candidates make appearances in states with close races or with important issues.

## The Election and the Electoral College:

Votes are counted by state.

After Election Day, each state assigns people called electors who vote for the ticket that won their state.

The electors then get together at a big meeting called the Electoral College, where they elect the President and Vice-President.

who are then sworn in and begin their term.

1. What is the purpose of a caucus





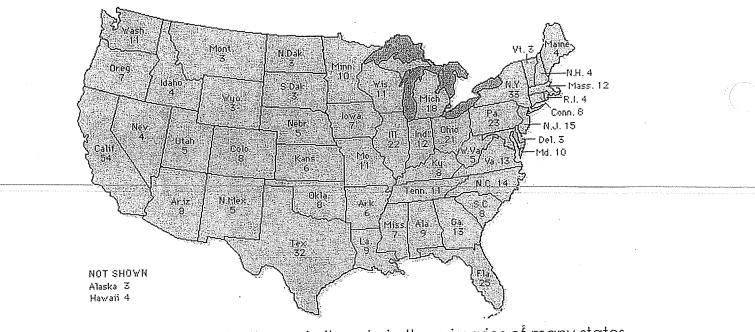




PLIFORNIA POPULAR VOTE CHAN = 65% - Winner! JONES = 35%







2. If a candidate wins the majority vote in the primaries of many states, how will that help them at the national convention of their party?

3.	Why is the national	convention so important	to	the	candidates?
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- 4. Why are debates important to the voters?
- 5. How do electors decide which candidate to vote for in the Electoral College?
- 6. How many electoral votes does California get?\_\_\_\_ How many electoral votes does Rhode Island get?\_\_\_\_ Why do you think states like Texas, California and New York get more votes than other states like lowa and Montana?
- 7. How can a President win an election, but not get the most popular votes?
- 8. What are delegates to the Electoral College called?
- 9. Considering all of the state primaries, the convention, the national vote and the Electoral College, how many elections must a candidate go through to become President?
- 10. Name one strength and one weakness of this system.