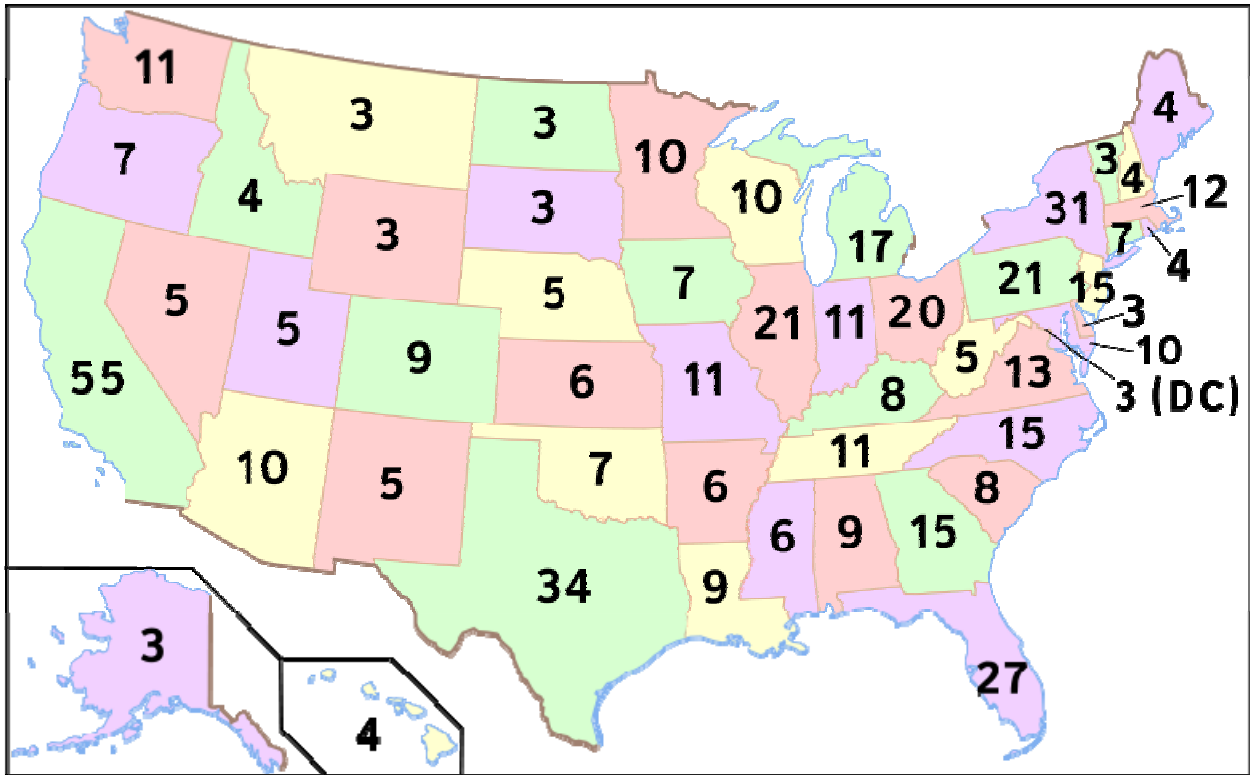


States and Electoral Votes: Page 1



Election day is November 4th. On that day, each state will count up their votes and figure out which candidate won in that state. The state then appoints electors for that candidate. Each state gets to appoint as many electors as they have representatives and senators in congress. The electors meet in December to vote for the candidate the state wants them to vote for. This is called the electoral college. The total of electoral votes are counted to decide the winner. A candidate needs 270 electoral votes to win. Because some states have lots of electoral votes and some states just have a few, some states are more important to the candidates than others.

The total number of votes cast for a candidate is called the popular vote. Because of the way the states' electoral votes are divided, it's possible to win the popular vote and still lose the election.

Challenge Questions:

1. Which state do you think is the most important to the candidates?
2. How many electors does your state get to appoint?
3. Do you think it's fair that some states get more electors than others?
4. How many Montanas would you have to win to equal one Illinois?
5. Would you rather live in a state with a lot of electors or just a few?

Sing: Who Goes to the Electoral College?

States and Electoral Votes: Page 2

Circle the state with more electors:

Montana vs California

Idaho vs Nevada

Oregon vs Wisconsin

Florida vs New York

Put these states in the order of how much time the candidate will spend visiting. Put a 1 next to the state the candidate will visit most, a 2 next to the one in the middle, and a 3 next to the state where the candidate will spend the least time:

____ North Dakota

____ Michigan

____ Virginia

____ New Mexico

____ California

____ Oklahoma

____ South Carolina

____ Georgia

____ Texas

____ Hawaii

____ Alaska

____ West Virginia

Combine the electoral votes of these two states to get a total:

New Jersey ()

Mississippi ()

North Carolina ()

+ Michigan ()

+ Maine ()

+ Idaho ()

Match the states with the same number of electoral votes in each column:

Kansas

Iowa

North Carolina

Arkansas

Colorado

Georgia

Oklahoma

Alabama