

Election 2020 – Here we are

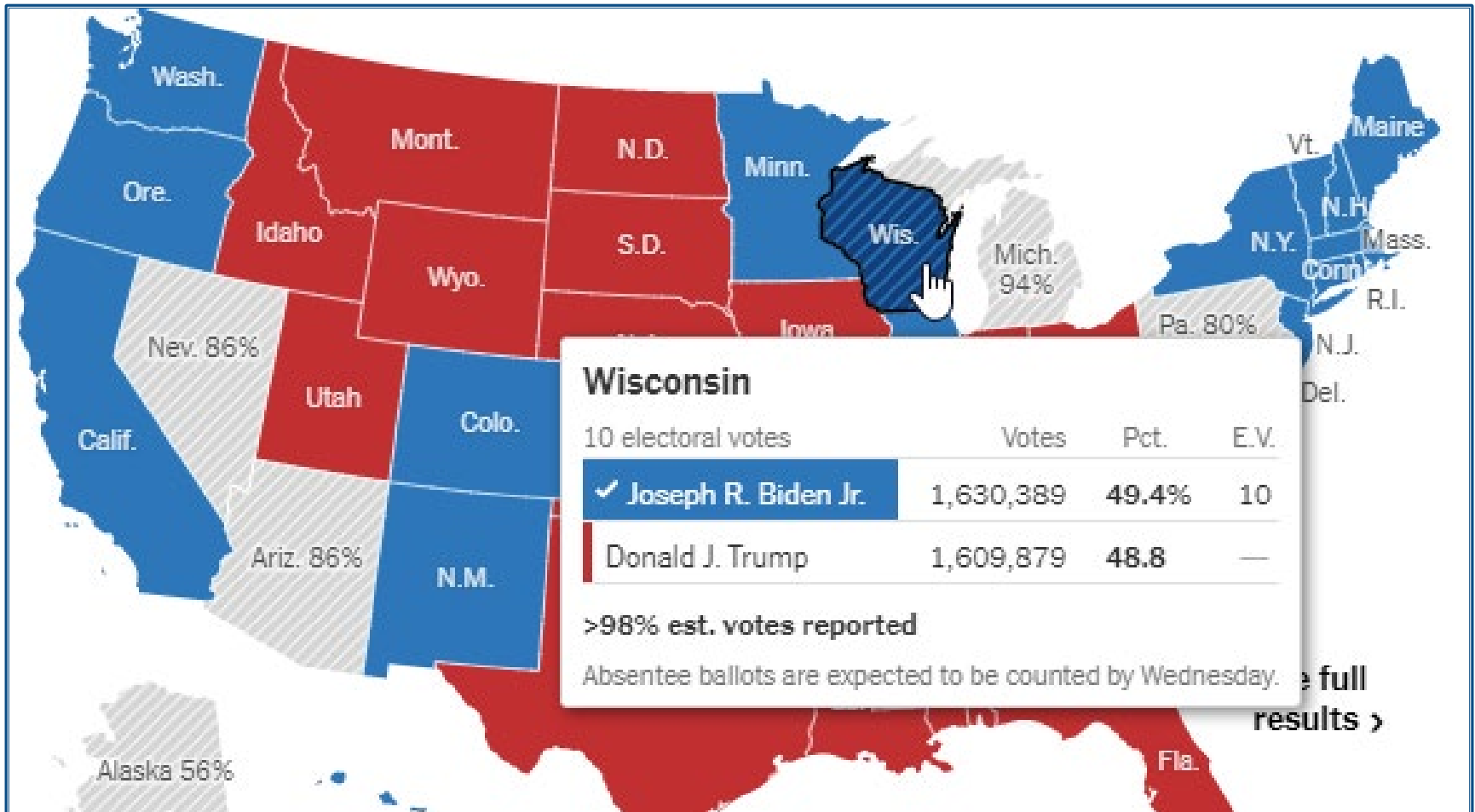
Course outline

Date	Topic	Notes
10/26	How we got here	
11/4	What the heck just happened?	
11/11	Congressional and state results	May be overcome by events
11/18	Transition and aftermath	
12/2	What did we learn?	

Contact information

Karl Hakkarainen
kh@queenlake.com
508 829 5825

Slides will be available on Election 2020. (Slides will be available within 15 minutes of the start of class.)

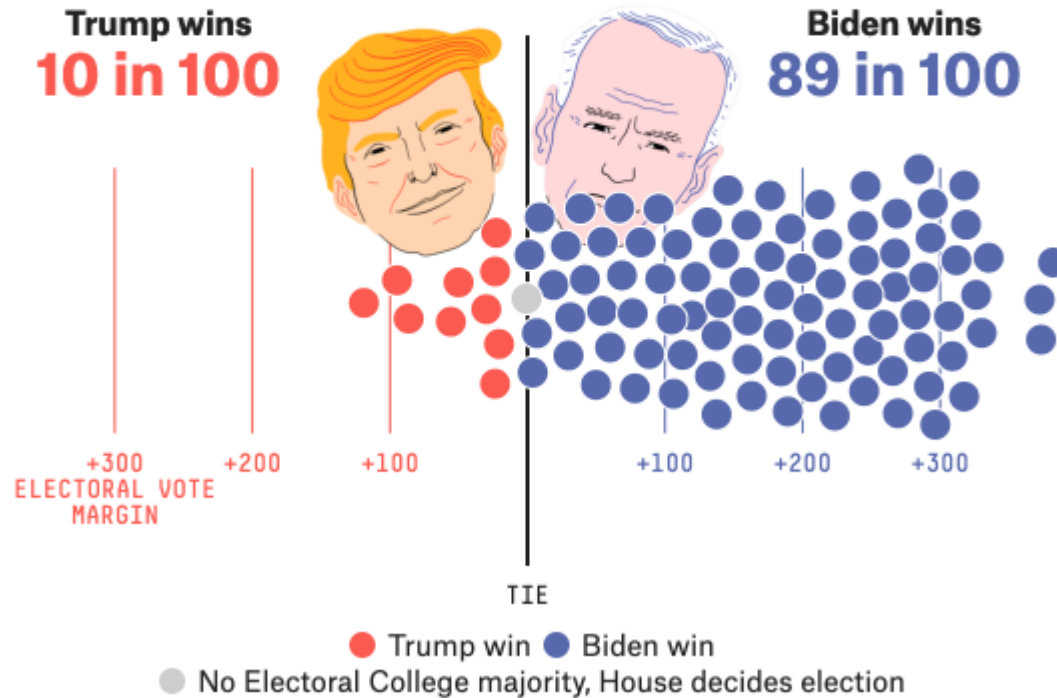


Election Highlights: As Biden Wins Wisconsin, Trump Team Seeks Recount – NYT, 11/4/2020 2:35PM

Biden – 237, Trump - 214

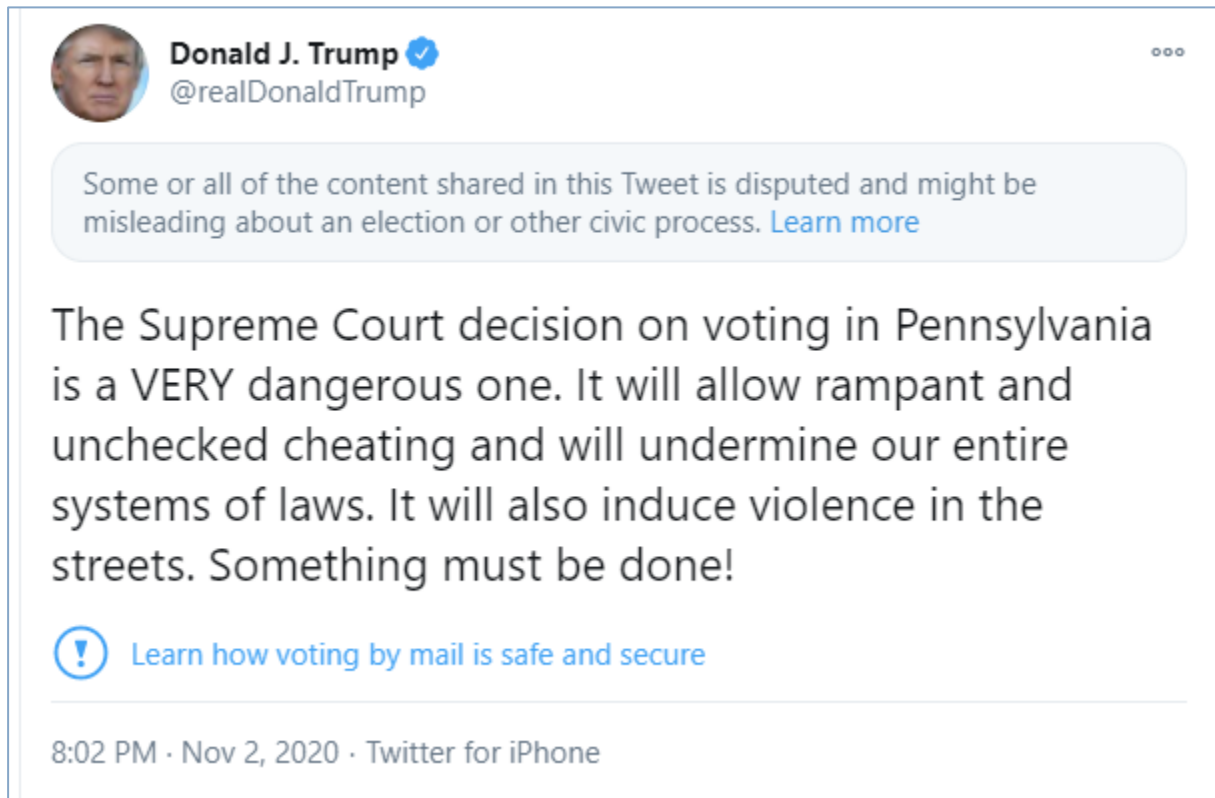
Biden is *favored* to win the election

We simulate the election 40,000 times to see who wins most often. The sample of 100 outcomes below gives you a good idea of the range of scenarios our model thinks is possible.



538 said, ...

Biden's Favored In Our Final Presidential Forecast, But It's A Fine Line Between A Landslide And A Nail-Biter



Supreme Court Allows Longer Deadlines for Absentee Ballots in Pennsylvania and North Carolina

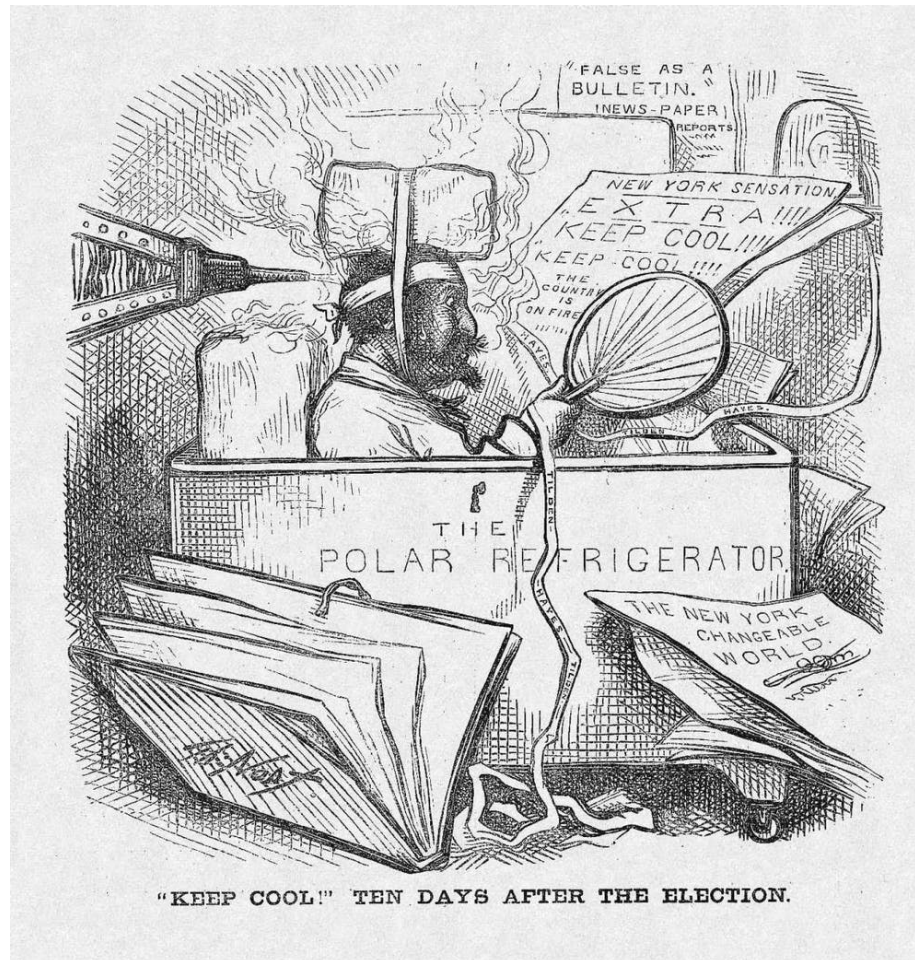
Twitter hides Trump tweet attacking Supreme Court's decision on Pennsylvania ballots



“Non-scalable fence” in front of the White House – [ABC News](#)

Election of 1800

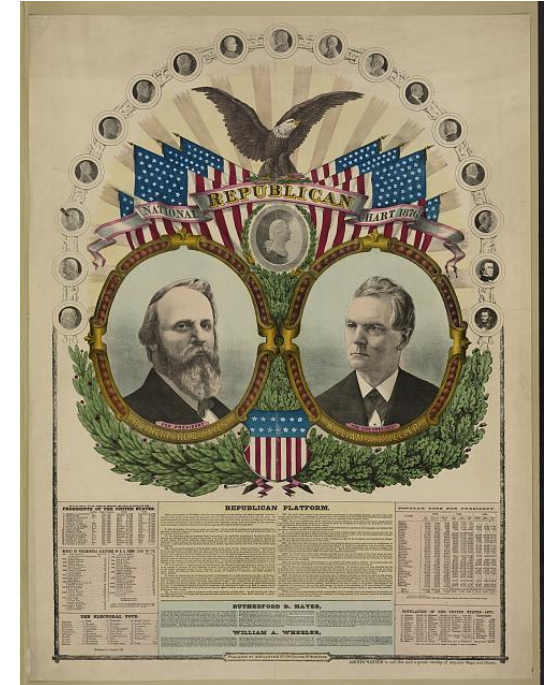
- Smear tactics, skulduggery, and the début of American democracy.
- The First Ugly Election: America, 1800
- Did an Illuminati Conspiracy Theory Help Elect Thomas Jefferson?



Why there's so much legal uncertainty about resolving a disputed presidential election

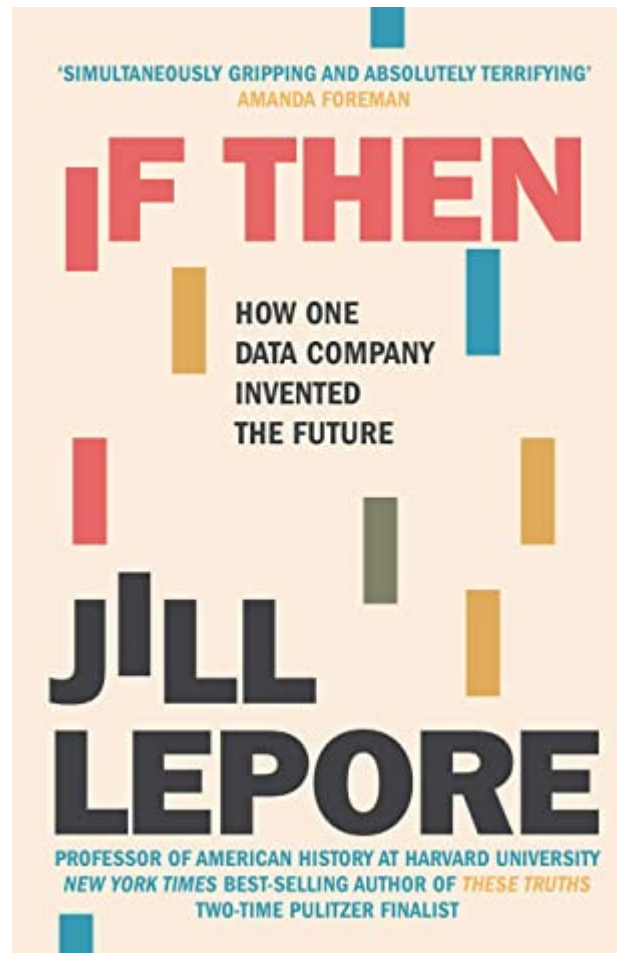
Election of 1876

- The Ugliest, Most Contentious Presidential Election Ever
- Presidential Election of 1876: A Resource Guide





How a 1920s radio broadcast changed politics forever



How the Simulmatics Corporation Invented the Future



If Then: by Jill Lepore

How the Simulmatics Corporation Invented the Future

Minow wanted Schlesinger's advice: "Without prejudicing your judgment, my own opinion is that such a thing (a) cannot work, (b) is immoral, (c) should be declared illegal. Please advise."

The Anti-Democratic Origins of Voter Prediction
The Trouble with Election Projections

CHAPTER 6

The IBM President

When a machine takes the job of ten men, where do those ten men go?

—John F. Kennedy, 1960



Simulmatics project let the Kennedys know that JFK should address the Catholicism issue head-on. He would lose some support, but would gain more.

Eisenhower Opposed a Nixon Recount

By FELIX BELAIR Jr.
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5—President Eisenhower advised Richard M. Nixon not to demand a recount of 1960 election returns in two states in an effort to win the Presidential race against John F. Kennedy.

General Eisenhower's advice to his Vice President is one of a number of reminiscences coming to light among old associates of the five-star general, who was buried Wednesday at Abilene, Kan.

The associates also recalled that after his second election, President Eisenhower toyed with the idea of starting a "suprapartisan" third-party movement because of his

great plurality over other candidates on the Republican ticket for Congressional, state and municipal offices.

The unpublished anecdotes were recounted after his death in fond recollection of the man who disliked "politics" in the narrow partisan sense because he said he had no "feel" for the art, but who succeeded at it because he epitomized the simple virtues of American life and enjoyed an unparalleled popularity.

One remembered incident involved a remark made by General Eisenhower several years after he left the White House.

He described Mr. Nixon as the one man best qualified by experience to be President

but one who might lack sufficient popularity to be elected to that office. General Eisenhower was quoted in this context as having said:

"There is no question in my mind that Dick Nixon is best qualified of any of the available candidates to be President of the United States. But it's a funny thing about Dick. Almost everywhere I go people tell me they don't like him. I just don't understand it."

General Eisenhower's recollection of his telephone conversation with Mr. Nixon the

Continued on Page 32, Column 1

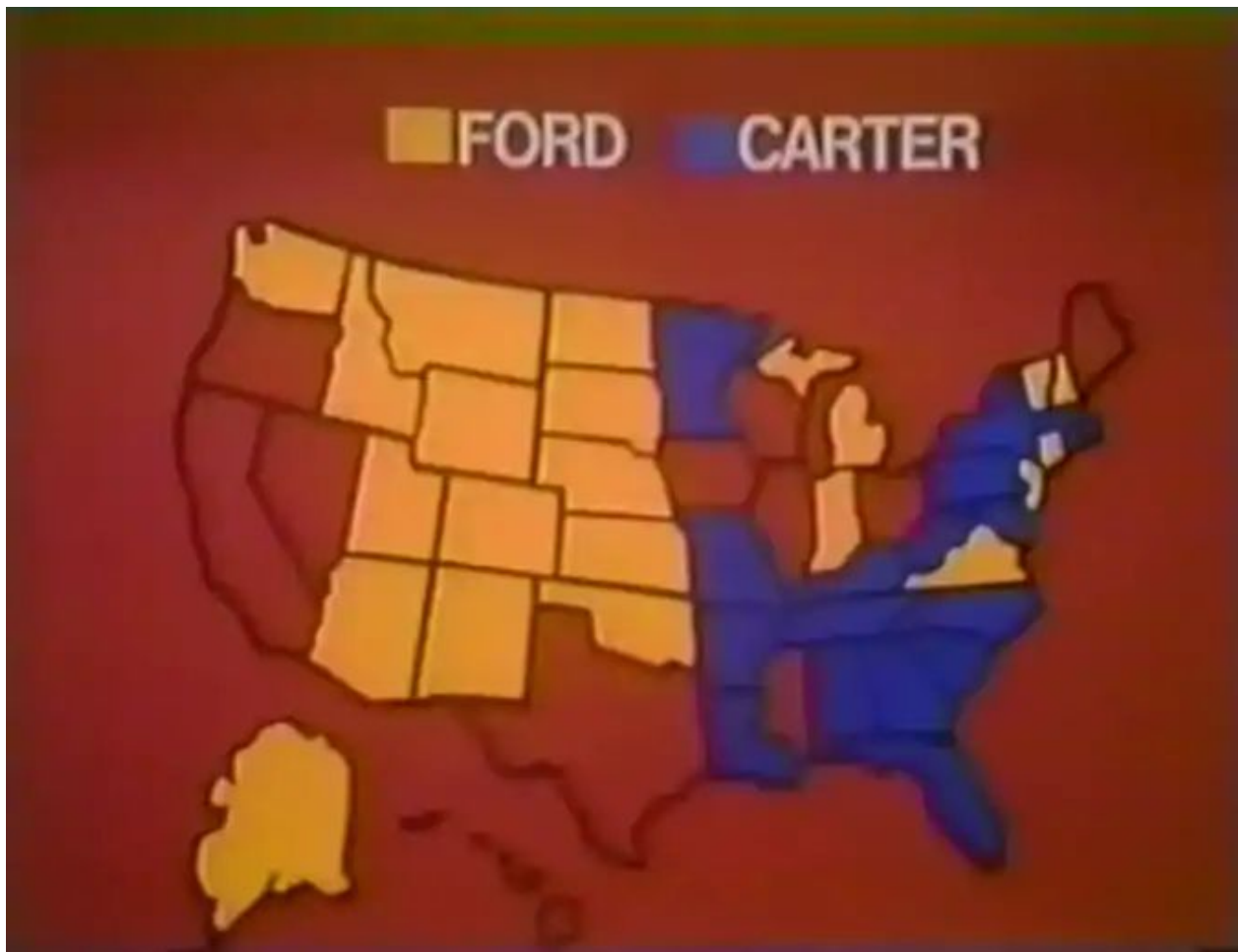
The New York Times

Published: April 6, 1969
Copyright © The New York Times

Election of 1960

The Time Nixon's Cronies Tried to Overturn a Presidential Election





Red vs. Blue: A history of how we use political colors

RED STATE BLUES Did I Miss That Memo?, Clark Bensen

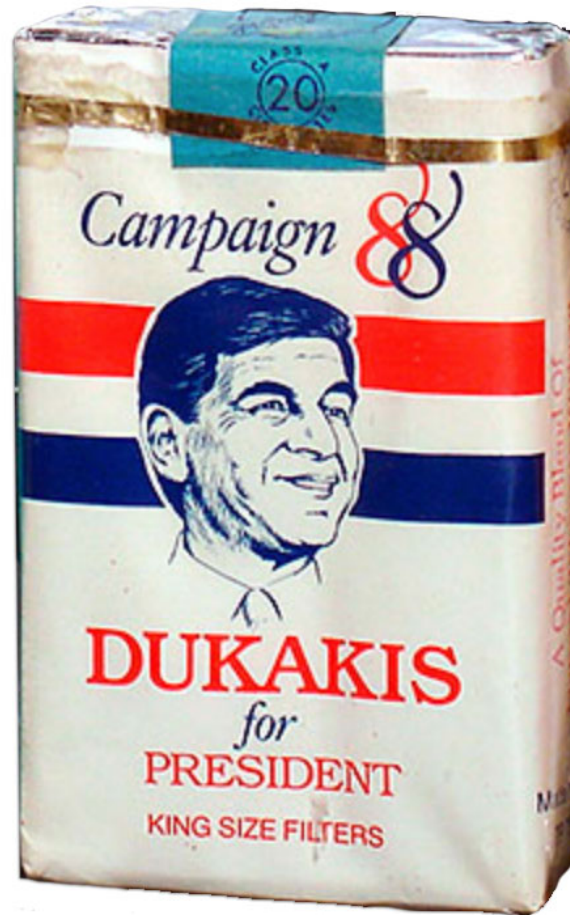


Brit Hume
@brithume

Biden now clear favorite in betting odds as of 5:30 a.m. Tuesday.



Fox News' Brit Hume Proves Why You Should Always Check Screenshots Before Tweeting



Back when campaigns were fun: Dukakis cigarettes

VIDEO

**Wednesday, November 8:
Watch today's Political Points
Webcast by selecting your
bandwidth connection below.**

TO VIEW THE VIDEO:

SELECT A SPEED

- ▶ LOW BANDWIDTH / 28.8 Kbs
- ▶ MEDIUM BANDWIDTH / 56.6 Kbs
- ▶ HIGH BANDWIDTH / 80 Kbs
- ▶ BROADBAND / 300 Kbs

**You will need the Real G2
or 7 player to view the video.
[Click here to download](#)**

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How a not-yet-mature web covered the Florida recount in 2000



Bush v. Gore

How Amy Coney Barrett played a role in Bush v. Gore — and helped the Republican Party defend mail ballots

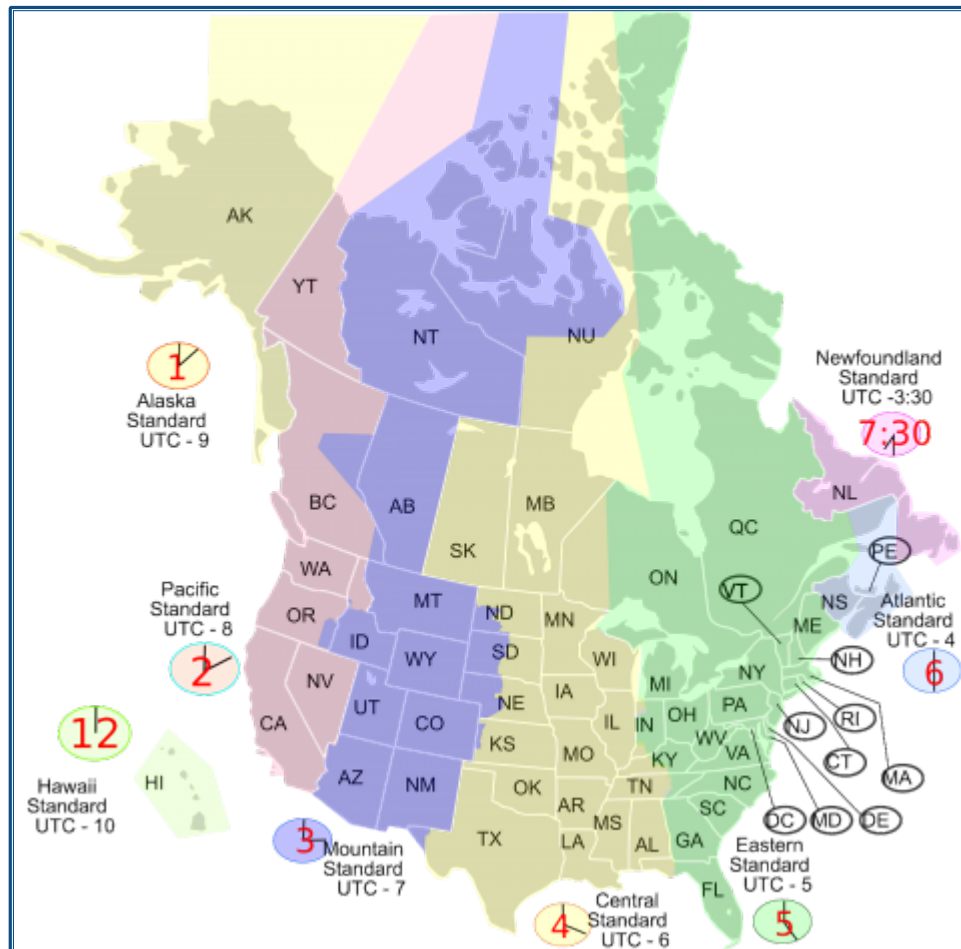
Why Bush v. Gore Still Matters in 2020

- Normally, federal courts don't intervene when a state's highest court rules on state law
- SCOTUS in Bush v. Gore applied a different standard, based on Presidential Electors Clause

Senate Races to Watch

State	Republican Incumbents	Democrat
Arizona Special Election	Martha McSally	Mark Kelly 🗳️
Colorado	Cory Gardner	John Hickenlooper 🗳️
Georgia	David Perdue	Jon Ossoff
Georgia Special Election, Open Primary	Kelly Loeffler	Raphael Warnock and others
Iowa	Joni Ernst 🗳️	Theresa Greenfield
Maine	Susan Collins	Sara Gideon
Montana	Steve Daines 🗳️	Steve Bullock
North Carolina	Thom Tillis	Cal Cunningham
South Carolina	Lindsey Graham 🗳️	Jaime Harrison

Boston Globe: Nine key US Senate races to keep a close eye on Tuesday night



Time Zones and Elections – First Amendment Issues

A Link to the Past: Will Kentucky's Two Time Zones Affect the Election Results?



Supreme Court denial keeps mask mandate at Minnesota polls (California is cool with no mask)

Appeals Court Halts Decision Extending Gov. Abbott's Mask Mandate Inside Polling Places

Ranked Choice

- Why Maine's Senate Race Will Likely Not Be Officially Resolved Until A Week or so After Nov. 3rd
- Massachusetts Question 2 - Create Ranked-Choice Voting – Yes: 45.6, **No: 54.6**



'We don't speculate': How AP counts votes and calls races

The US doesn't have one election. It has 3,141.

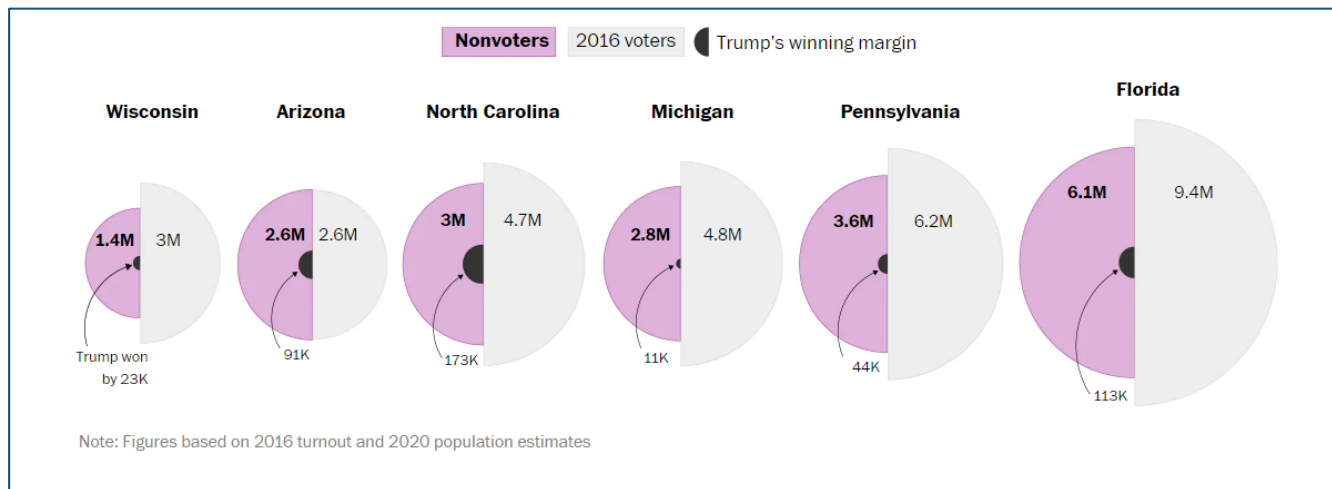
PHILLIPSTON - Poll worker Barbara Sanden hand cranks ballots into the town's vintage ballot box in Phillipston Town Hall Thursday October 29, 2020. T&G STAFF/BRAD PETRISHEN



Florida Gov. DeSantis attempts to vote, discovers someone changed his address

Non-voters and undecided

- 2016 Nonvoters, a Key Prize for Biden and Trump, Turn Out in Drove
- 20 million Americans didn't vote in 2016's closest battlegrounds

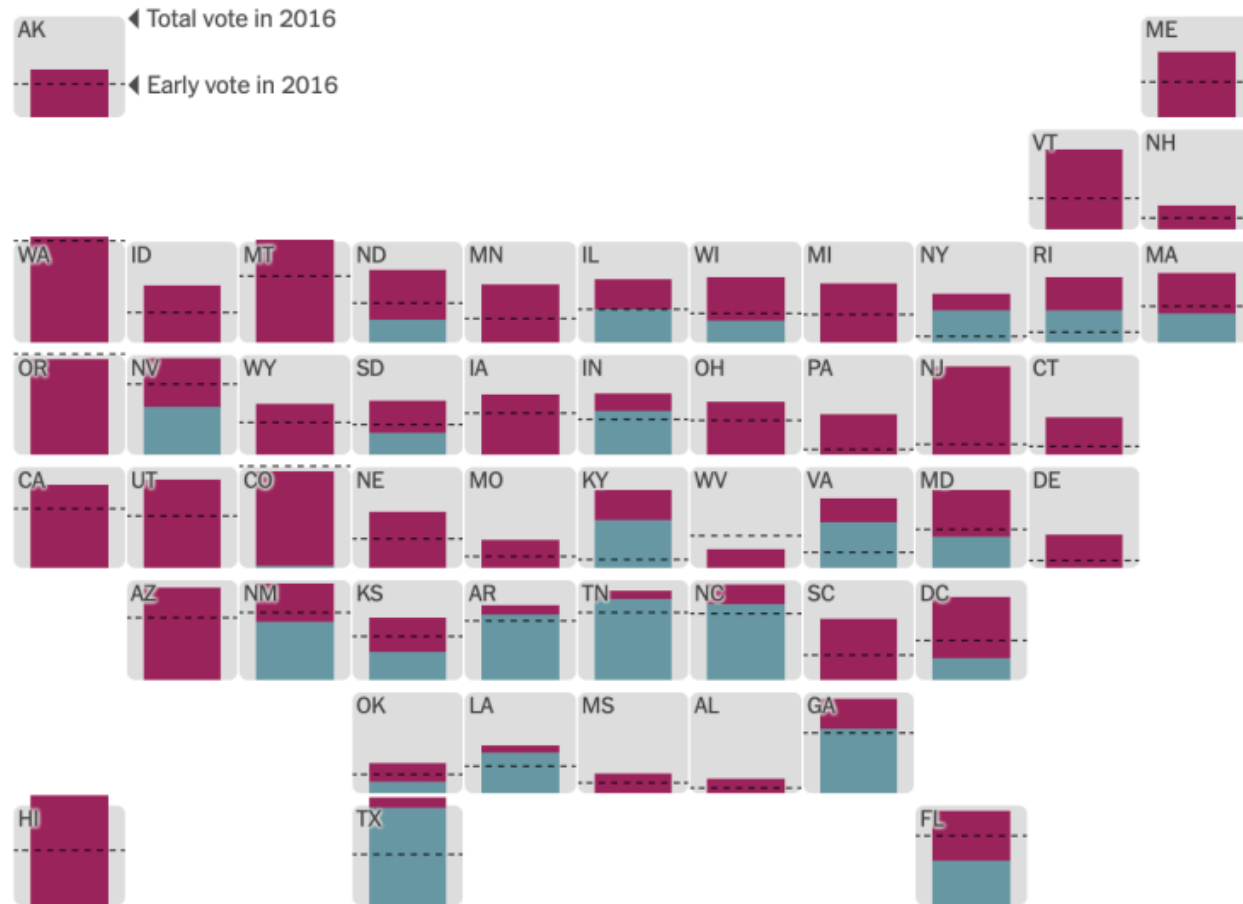




How Miami Cubans disrupted Biden's path to a Florida win

Early Voting in Each State

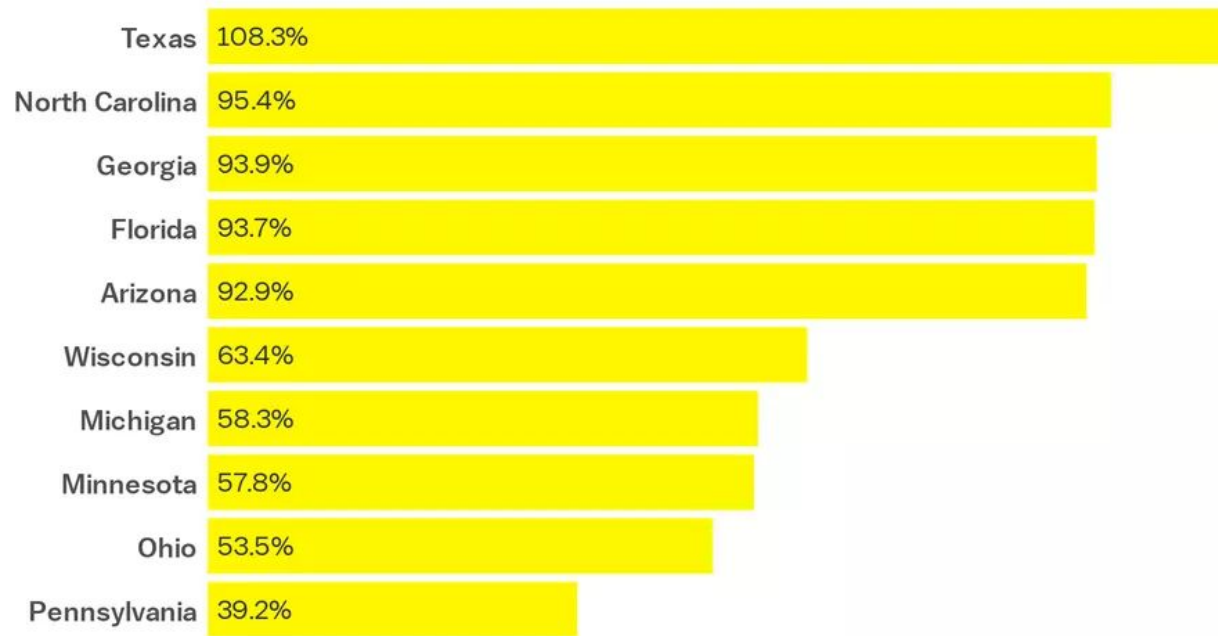
Compared with 2016 turnout



Early voting by state

Early voting in Texas has surpassed 2016 totals

Early votes in 2020 swing states as a share of all voting in 2016



Data as of November 3

Source: US Elections Project

Vex

Texas early voting surpasses 2016's total turnout

9 questions about 2020's record-breaking early vote, answered

BRIAN C. KALT

Constitutional Cliffhangers

A

LEGAL

GUIDE

FOR

PRESIDENTS

AND THEIR

ENEMIES

- 1 Prosecuting a President
- 2 The Presidential Self-Pardon Controversy
- 3 Removing a “Disabled” President
- 4 The Line of Succession Controversy
- 5 Impeaching an Ex-President
- 6 The Third-Term Controversy
- 7 Getting Out of Trouble

Constitutional Cliffhangers: A Legal Guide for Presidents and Their Enemies

eBook available at academic and public libraries

'You are no longer my mother': A
divided America will struggle to
heal after Trump era



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump



Some or all of the content shared in this Tweet is disputed and might be misleading about an election or other civic process. [Learn more](#)

We are up BIG, but they are trying to STEAL the Election. We will never let them do it. Votes cannot be cast after the Polls are closed!

⚠ [Learn about US 2020 election security efforts](#)



12:49 AM · 11/4/20 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Early responses from the candidates

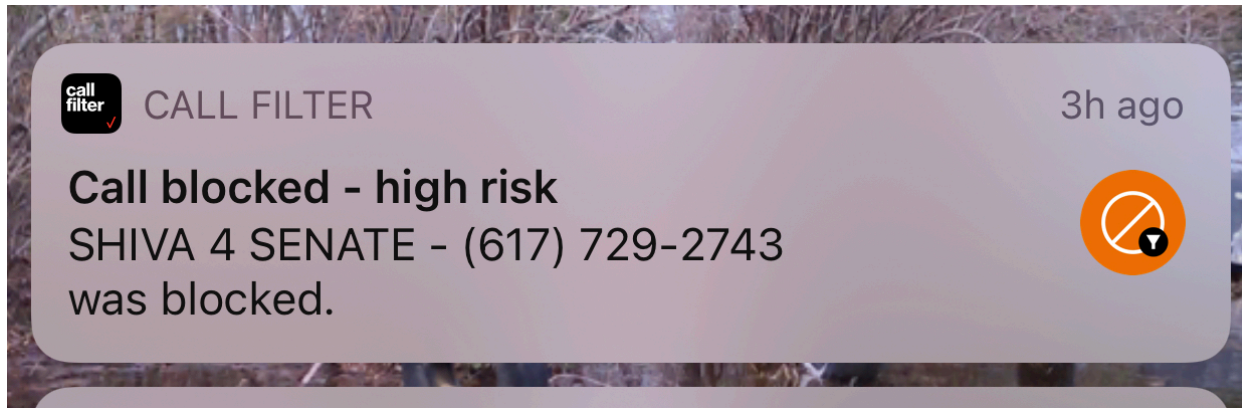
[Biden jumps the gun](#)

Why polls are (sometimes/often) wrong

- The “shy Trump voters” debate, explained
 - Electoral models
 - State polling is harder than national polling because state idiosyncrasies matter more
- Poll: 62% of Americans Say They Have Political Views They’re Afraid to Share
 - Up from 58% in 2017
 - Majorities of Democrats (52%), independents (59%) and Republicans (77%) all agree they have political opinions they are afraid to share.

Social media and law enforcement online

- Twitter suspends recently created right-wing news accounts posting about U.S. elections for 'coordination'
- The FBI is investigating misleading robocalls in key states like Michigan



Shiva Ayyadurai's Lawsuit Against A Massachusetts Official Actually Raises An Interesting 1st Amendment Question About Election Disinformation

Lawyers

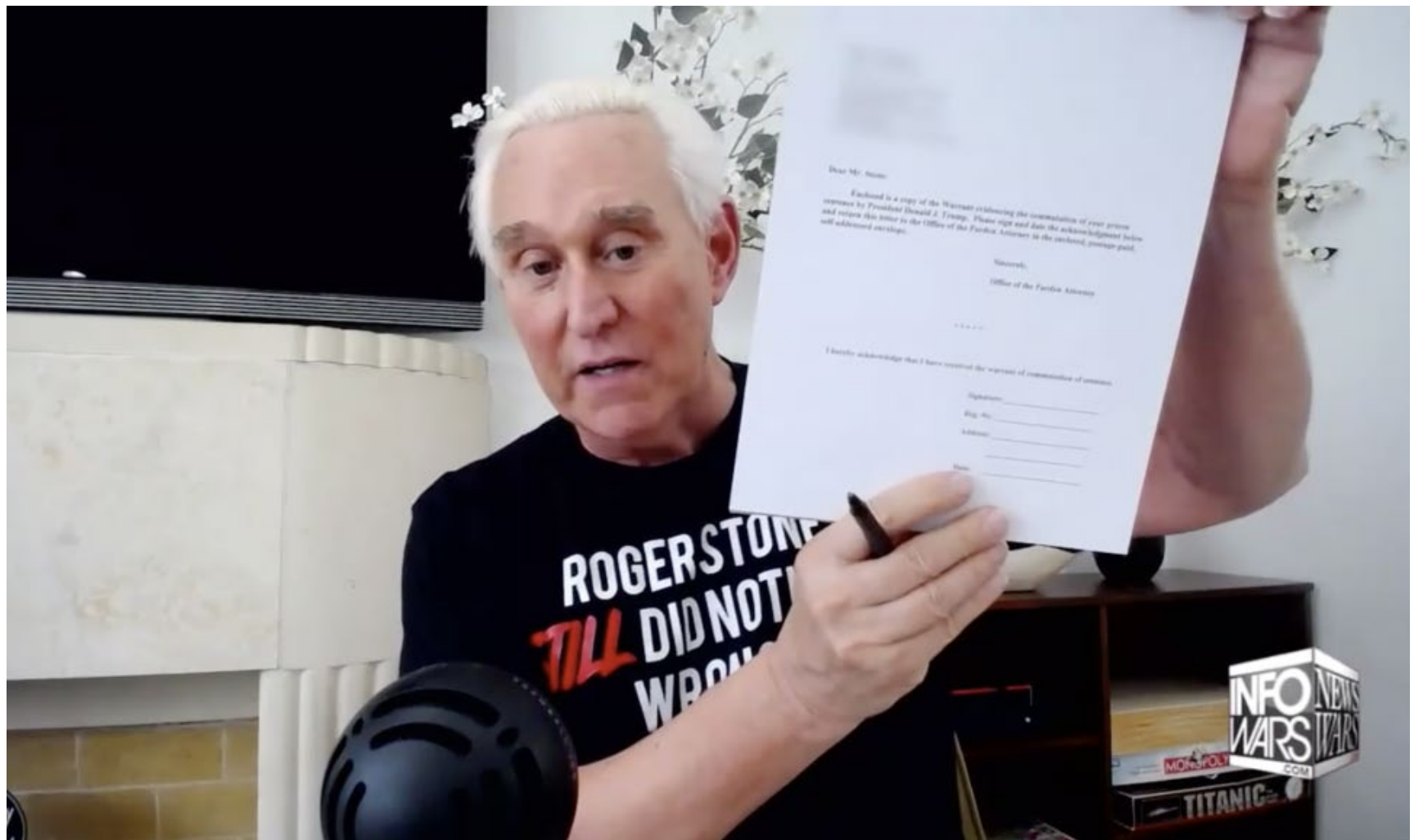
- The Nevada Supreme Court has denied an emergency request by President Donald Trump's re-election campaign and the state Republican Party to immediately order Clark County election officials to stop processing mail ballots.
- COVID-19 and the Most Litigated Presidential Election in Recent U.S. History
- COVID-Related Election Litigation Tracker: Case List: 434 cases (11/2/2020 2:00 PM), 451 (11/4/2020 1:15 PM)



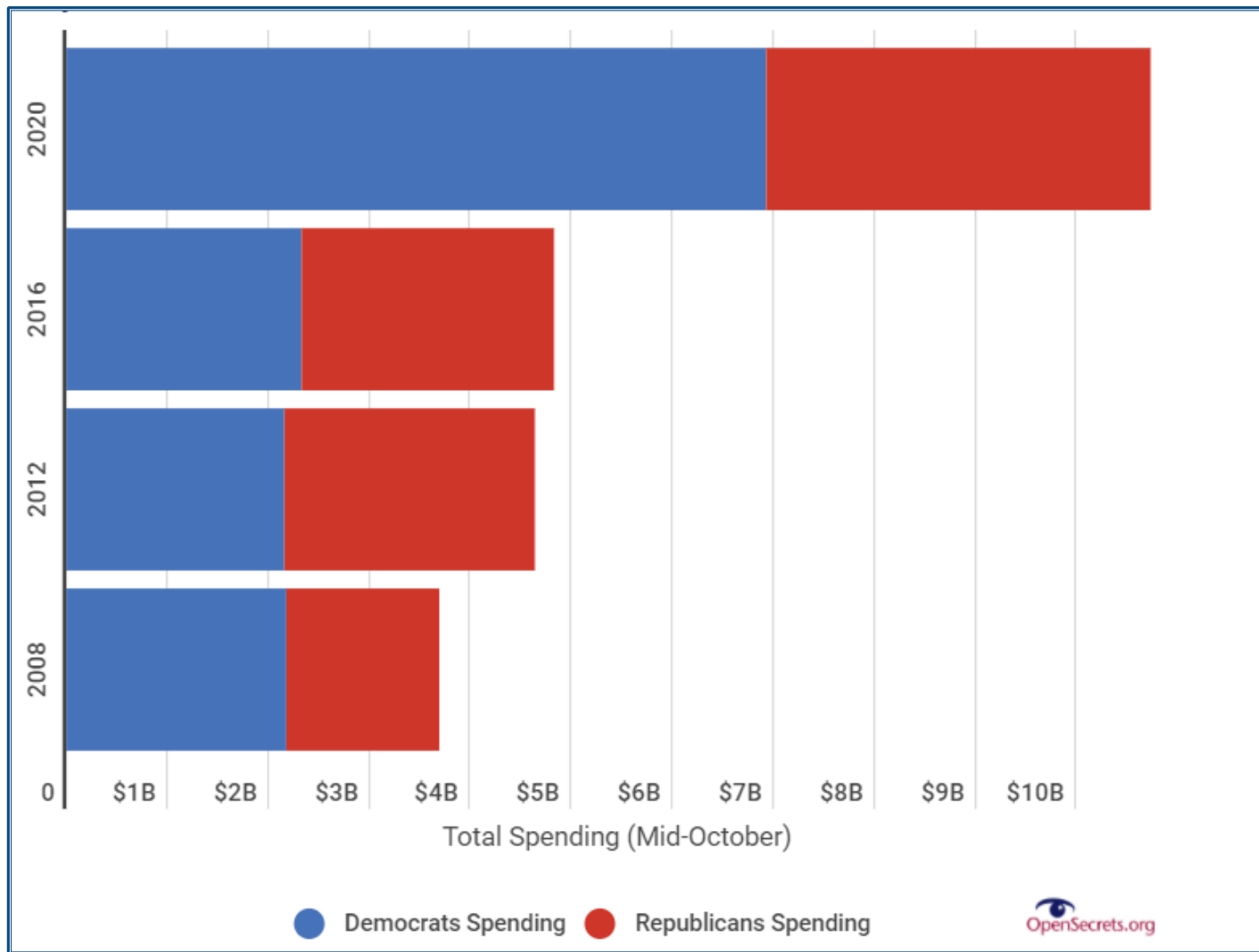
Missing From Supreme Court's Election Cases: Reasons for Its Rulings – NYT, Adam Liptak



Gun sales to first-time buyers skyrocket amid fears of ‘bloody’ election and unrest – NBC News



Roger Stone: If Trump wins, Rod Rosenstein and other “coup” plotters “must be hung by the neck until dead”



The 2020 Campaign Is the Most Expensive Ever (By a Lot) \$14B

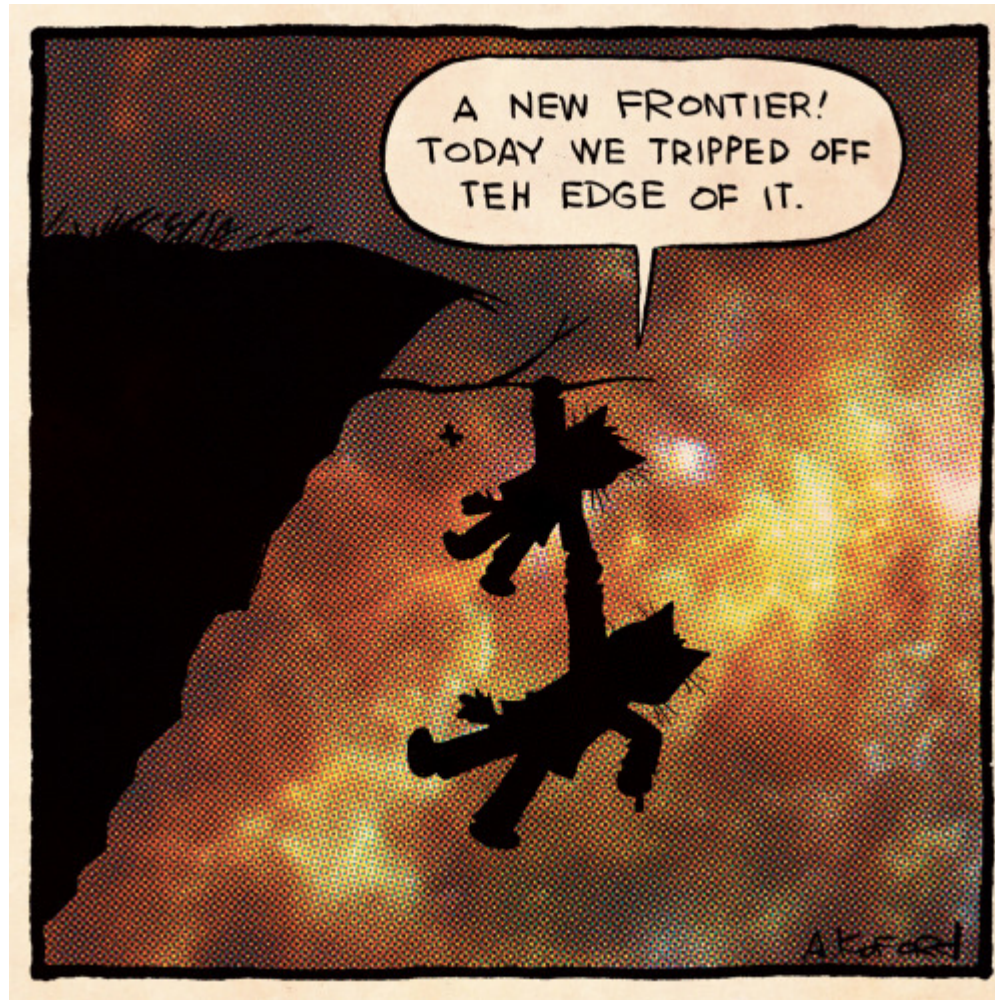
Q Mr. President, you spent \$60 million in that primary. How much are you talking about putting into your campaign now?

THE PRESIDENT: Whatever it takes. We have to win.

Remarks by President Trump Before Air Force One Departure | Joint Base Andrews, MD

Issued on: September 8, 2020

Trump has not donated to his own reelection campaign



See You Next Week ...