

Resources on Elections and Political Parties

America at the Polls: A Handbook of American Presidential Election Statistics. 2 vols. Compiled by Alice V. McGillivray and Richard M. Scammon. CQ Press. 2005.

Volume 1 ***Harding to Eisenhower, 1920-1956***
Volume 2 ***Kennedy to George W. Bush, 1960-2004***

Provides election results of America's presidential elections, organized by state and presented in county-by-county detail.

America Votes: A Handbook of Contemporary American Election Statistics. 29 vols. (1956-2010). Compiled by Richard M. Scammon, Alice V. McGillivray and Rhodes Cook. CQ Press. Published every two years; most recent volume covers 2009-2010.

Provides detailed results for national elections (presidential, Senate, House, and gubernatorial), organized by state and presented in county-by-county detail.

The Cook Political Report.

An independent, nonpartisan newsletter that analyzes and handicaps elections and campaigns for the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, governors, and the president. Also analyzes political trends. Founded in 1984, the publication moved to an online only format in 2004.

Elections A to Z: A Ready Reference Encyclopedia. Compiled by Dave Tarr and Bob Benson. CQ Press. 2012.

Provides alphabetical, encyclopedia-style entries on the history, issues, and concepts of running for political office. There are over 200 entries, written at a high-school level, on subjects such as campaign finance, term limits, superdelegates, and black suffrage.

The Electoral Politics Dictionary. Peter G. Renstrom and Chester B. Rogers. ABC-CLIO. 1989. (Out of Print.)

Focuses on political terms and concepts as well as federal statutes and court decisions. Provides a paragraph of "significance" in which the authors discuss and analyze each term's historical and current relevance.

The Encyclopedia of the Democratic Party and *The Encyclopedia of the Republican Party.* 6 vols. Edited by George Thomas Kurian. M.E. Sharpe, Inc. 1997, Supplement 2002.

Surveys the history, evolution, and current state of the Democratic and Republican parties. The first two volumes of each encyclopedia are divided into four sections: history; issues and ideology; elections, conventions, and platforms; and biographies. The Supplemental volumes each include ten parts on a variety of topics, including members of Congress and political statistics.

Encyclopedia of Third Parties in America. 3 vols. Edited by Immanuel Ness and James Clement. M.E. Sharpe, Inc. 2000.

Includes historical context of third parties, starting in 1788. Includes maps displaying percentage of total electoral vote for various parties, multi-page entries on over 100 third parties and over 100 key politicians. Also includes a glossary and indices.

Encyclopedia of Third Parties in the United States. Earl R. Kruschke. ABC-CLIO. 1991. (Out of print.)

Provides a one- or more page description of 81 third parties that have been in existence throughout American history. Also contains a list of sources of other works about each party. Good for historical research.

Guide to U.S. Elections, 5th ed. 2 vols. CQ Press. 2010.

A historical resource for national, state, and congressional district voting returns for presidential, congressional, and gubernatorial elections. Also available as an electronic resource. See also entry for ***United States Congressional Elections, 1788-1997.***

Historical Dictionary of United States Political Parties. Harold F. Bass Jr. Scarecrow Press. 2000.

Short descriptions of political parties, major and minor, past and present, and the people who ran them. Also describes the workings of the parties and familiar jargon. Contains an introduction on the development of political parties and an extensive bibliography.

National Party Conventions, 1831-2008. CQ Press. 2009.

Provides chronological summaries of all major party conventions, with excerpts from party platforms, and presents the results of key convention ballots, votes on rules, and various delegate disputes. Includes information about pre-convention presidential nomination processes, presidential nominees, and political parties.

Political Parties and Elections in the United States: An Encyclopedia. 2 vols. Edited by L. Sandy Maisel. Garland Publishing. 1991. (Out of print.)

Provides introductory information on the history and current operations of political parties, on individuals who have played key roles in politics, on political concepts and terms, and on court cases dealing with politics. Also provides a list of references to other resources on each topic.

Presidential Also-Rans and Running Mates, 1788 through 1996, 2nd ed. Leslie H. Southwick. McFarland and Company, Inc. 1997.

Provides detailed biographical sketches of the 95 U.S. presidential and vice presidential nominees from major parties and significant third-parties who were never elected. Includes

bibliographies of works on the nominees and pictures of each nominee.

Presidential Elections in the United States: A Primer. Kevin J. Coleman et al. Congressional Research Service. April 17, 2000. 53 pp. CRS Report RL30527.

An excellent primer that describes the four stages of the presidential election process: the pre-nomination primaries and caucuses for selecting delegates to the national conventions; the national nominating conventions; the general election; and voting by members of the electoral college to choose the president and vice president.

Presidential Elections, 1789-2004. CQ Press. 2005.

Provides electoral votes and electoral maps from 1789, popular votes from 1824, and primary votes from 1912. Also contains information on nominating conventions and lists political party nominees for president and vice president since 1831. If you are only interested in presidential elections, this is a more affordable resource than *Guide to U.S. Elections*.

Statistics of the Presidential and Congressional Elections. Biennial publication issued by the Clerk of the House: http://clerk.house.gov/member_info/electioninfo/index.aspx

Statistical summary of votes cast for presidential (for applicable years) and for Senate and House candidates, organized by state. Years available: 1920-present.

United States Congressional Elections, 1788-1997: The Official Results of the Elections of the 1st through 105th Congresses. Michael J. Dubin. McFarland and Company, Inc. 1998.

Provides complete election returns for congressional elections, including special elections. For all candidates, party affiliation, number of votes received, and percentage of popular vote are given. See also entry for *Guide to U.S. Elections*.

United States Presidential Primary Elections 1968-1996: A Handbook of Election Statistics. Rhodes Cook. CQ Press. 2000.

Provides county-by-county results for all Democratic and Republican presidential primary elections from 1968 to 1996. Includes a discussion on the presidential primary process and trends.