

Election Post-Mortem Blog

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POLS 3310

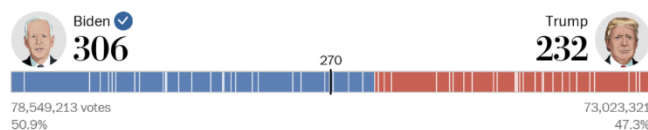
2020-11-15

POLS 3310 – Blog Post #2- Election Post-Mortem Blog

Presidential Election Results – Former Vice President Joe Biden has been elected 46th president of the United States. Biden has secured the electoral college votes needed to win the presidency and won the popular vote.



How it [started](#)



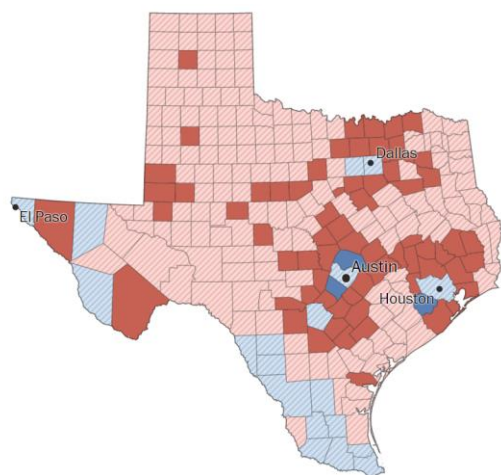
How it [ended](#)



Analysis – Although the election happened November 3rd, the winner was not declared that evening. In fact, many states were still counting ballots in the days following the election. Biden was declared the winner of the presidential election November 7th beginning with an announcement by CNN. That evening president-elect Biden and vice president-elect Harris addressed the nation. Their win was historic because, [“Biden won more votes than any Presidential candidate in American history”](#). In addition, Kamala Harris will be, [“America’s first female, first Black and first South Asian vice president-elect.”](#) The success of the Biden/Harris ticket

can also be seen in that five states that went to Trump in 2016 had flipped to Biden. Those states are Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. This is significant as Arizona has been solidly Republican since the mid 90’s.

Swing States: Texas – Results – Winner Trump / Republicans

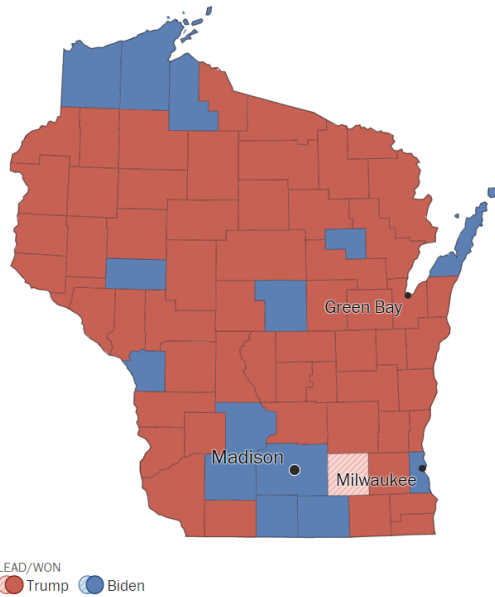


LEAD/WON
● Trump ● Biden

In Harris County, Biden won handily with [56%](#) of the vote. However, this was not enough for Biden to take the state of Texas. As I predicted in my initial post, the state went to Trump with [52.1%](#) of the vote. In addition, Republican incumbent Dan Crenshaw was re-elected to the US House of Representatives and Republican incumbent John Cornyn was re-elected to the US Senate.

Map displays 2020 election results for Texas.

Swing States: Wisconsin – Results – Winner Biden / Democrats



As I predicted, Wisconsin was a very tight race. Although very close, Biden won Wisconsin with [49.5%](#) of the vote versus Trump with 48.8%, meaning Biden won the state by just over a 20,000-vote margin. The Trump campaign has called for a [recount of Wisconsin](#). Whether this will happen remains to be seen, as the rules in the state for recount are based on the margin of victory and would mean that Trump would have to pay for the recount to happen.

Map displays 2020 election results for Wisconsin.

What's Next?

THE COURT: I understand. I am asking you a specific question, and I am looking for a specific answer. **Are you claiming that there is any fraud in connection with these 592 disputed ballots?**

MR. GOLDSTEIN: **To my knowledge at present, no.**

THE COURT: **Are you claiming that there is any undue or improper influence upon the elector with respect to these 592 ballots?**

MR. GOLDSTEIN: **To my knowledge at present, no.**

As of writing this post, Trump still has not conceded the election. Instead, Trump has made multiple tweets disputing the results and claiming voter fraud. His campaign and legal team have confusedly declared in states where Trump is winning ballot counting should be halted, while in states he is losing the counting should continue.

There seems to be a disconnect between what Trump and his campaign have said publicly about the votes and what his legal team has stated in court. The [image](#) above is a partial transcript from a court case in Pennsylvania where a lawsuit was brought by the Trump Campaign seeking to stop the Montgomery County Board of Elections from counting mail-in ballots. Biden won the state of Pennsylvania by a margin of

approximately 63,000 votes. Trump has tweeted, [“Tens of thousands of votes were illegally received after 8 P.M. on Tuesday, Election Day, totally and easily changing the results in Pennsylvania”](#). As we can see from the transcript, Trump’s public statements seem to contradict his own legal team.

In addition to the legal challenges, there have also been opposition from key members of the Trump administration to the transfer of power. Most notably, the Trump appointed head of the General Services Administration (GSA) Emily W. Murphy. Normally, the GSA, [“issues an “ascertainment” letter, which gives the incoming president’s transition team access to federal funds and space, within 24 hours of an election being called”](#). At this time, the GSA has not still signed off on the ascertainment letter.



Trump Attorney Rudy Giuliani (Photo: screen capture)

President Trump's personal attorney (and former New York mayor) Rudy Giuliani learns news networks have called the election for Biden during a press conference at Four Seasons Total Landscaping, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Secretary of State Pompeo and Director of Trade and Manufacturing Policy Navarro

have stated Trump will serve a second term. Also, there have been several firings at the Department of Defense. While all of this takes place, the US is experiencing a [recording breaking](#) rise in Covid-19 cases. Aside from all the political manoeuvring going on, there has been speculation about the next steps Trump will take as he prepares to leave office. In a Rose Garden press conference regarding the Covid-19 response this week, Trump appeared to momentarily acknowledge his loss when he stated, [“I will not go – this administration will not be going to a lockdown. Hopefully the – whatever happens in the future, who knows which administration will be”](#). It is unknown now how the transfer of power will proceed but we will watch as the countdown to January 20, 2021 continues.

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All images include hyperlinks.

