

# Current (and past) elections



Name:

Date:

## US 2024 Presidential Election: A Nation Decides its Future

The 2024 United States presidential election, scheduled for November 5, 2024, is shaping up to be one of the most consequential in American history. Incumbent President Joe Biden, initially the Democratic nominee, withdrew from the race, citing health concerns. Vice President Kamala Harris stepped into the fray, making history as the first female and first Asian American nominee from a major party. Harris, with Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her running mate, will face former President Donald Trump, who is seeking a second, non-consecutive term. Trump's campaign, marked by his usual fiery rhetoric, aims for a comeback after his 2020 defeat. His running mate, Ohio Senator JD Vance, complements Trump's hardline stances on immigration and border security. Trump's campaign has been mired in controversy, including criminal convictions and numerous false claims about the 2020 election being stolen. Despite these setbacks, Trump remains a formidable contender, with a strong base of loyal supporters.



*Kamala Harris, Democratic nominee. Source: Lawrence Jackson, Public domain*

The electoral map, redrawn after the 2020 census, highlights key swing states like Arizona, Georgia, and Pennsylvania. Voters in these states will play a critical role in deciding the next president. Major issues dominating the campaign include the economy, healthcare, abortion rights, and climate change. Both candidates have starkly different visions for America's future, making this election a pivotal moment for the nation.

As the election approaches, both campaigns are ramping up their efforts to sway undecided voters. The outcome will not only determine the next occupant of the White House but also set the tone for America's domestic and foreign policies for the next four years. The world watches closely as the United States prepares to make a historic decision on November 5, 2024.

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## Select the correct answer

**What was the primary reason Joe Biden withdrew from the 2024 presidential race?**

- Legal issues    Health concerns    Low approval ratings    Party pressure

**What historic firsts does Kamala Harris represent as the Democratic nominee?**

- First African American and first female nominee  
 First former Senator and first female nominee  
 First female and first Asian American nominee from a major party  
 First Asian American and first LGBTQ+ nominee

**Who is Kamala Harris's running mate in the 2024 election?**

- Tim Walz    Gavin Newsom    Pete Buttigieg    Bernie Sanders

**What key factor may influence the outcome of the 2024 presidential election?**

- Recent natural disasters    New international trade agreements  
 Changes in the Supreme Court    The electoral map redrawn after the 2020 census

**What is a notable characteristic of Donald Trump's campaign in the 2024 election?**

- Primarily driven by environmental concerns    Marked by his usual fiery rhetoric  
 Focused mainly on education reform    Centered around a new healthcare plan

**What are some of the key issues dominating the 2024 presidential campaign?**

- Immigration reform, international relations, and education  
 Trade policies, labor laws, and gun control  
 Economy, healthcare, abortion rights, and climate change  
 Military spending, space exploration, and agriculture

**Which states are considered key swing states in the 2024 election?**

- Arizona, Georgia, and Pennsylvania    California, New York, and Illinois  
 Wisconsin, Michigan, and Nevada    Florida, Texas, and Ohio

**What impact will the 2024 presidential election likely have on the United States?**

- It will lead to new international military alliances
- It will primarily affect local government structures
- It will set the tone for America's domestic and foreign policies for the next four years
- It will determine the new Speaker of the House

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## Some background information

### Drag the words into the correct panels.

The United States employs an \_\_\_\_\_ system known as the Electoral College to elect its president. Rather than a direct popular vote, the election hinges on winning a majority of the 538 electoral votes allocated across the states and the District of Columbia. Each state's number of \_\_\_\_\_ is based on its representation in Congress, combining both senators and House members. In almost all states, the candidate who secures the most votes wins all of the state's electoral votes, a mechanism termed "winner-takes-all." The system thus emphasizes the importance of \_\_\_\_\_, which can tilt the balance in favor of one candidate. The Electoral College has been a subject of debate, with critics arguing it sometimes yields results that do not reflect the \_\_\_\_\_ vote. Proponents, however, believe it ensures a balanced representation by preventing populous states from dominating the election. Ultimately, this unique system shapes the \_\_\_\_\_ and campaign efforts of presidential candidates.

swing states, electors, strategies, popular, electoral

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## Meet the candidates

**Kamala Harris**



Kamala Harris, born on October 20, 1964, in Oakland, California, is the 49th Vice President of the United States and the first female, first Black, and first South Asian vice president. She served as the U.S. Senator from California from 2017 to 2021 and as the Attorney General of California from 2011 to 2017. Harris is the Democratic nominee for the 2024 presidential election, with Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her running mate.

Harris's political agenda focuses on healthcare reform, climate change, criminal justice reform, and protecting voting rights. She advocates for progressive policies and aims to build on the achievements of the Biden administration.

**Donald Trump**



Donald Trump, born on June 14, 1946, in Queens, New York, is the 45th President of the United States, serving from 2017 to 2021. He is a businessman and media personality who became the Republican nominee for the 2024 presidential election, seeking a non-consecutive second term. Trump's campaign is marked by his strong stances on immigration, border security, and economic policies.

Trump's political agenda centers on reducing immigration, cutting taxes, deregulating industries, and taking a tough stance on trade. He aims to revive the economy through conservative fiscal policies and maintain strong national security measures.

### Tim Walz



Tim Walz, born on April 6, 1964, in West Point, Nebraska, is the 41st Governor of Minnesota, serving since January 2019. A former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Walz has a background in education and military service. He is the running mate of Kamala Harris in the 2024 presidential election.

Walz's political agenda includes focusing on education reform, healthcare accessibility, clean energy, and veterans' affairs. He advocates for progressive policies and aims to support Harris in implementing their shared vision for the country.

### JD Vance



JD Vance, born on August 2, 1984, in Middletown, Ohio, is a United States Senator from Ohio, serving since January 2023. He is an author and venture capitalist known for his memoir 'Hillbilly Elogy.' Vance is the running mate of Donald Trump in the 2024 presidential election.

Vance's political agenda aligns with Trump's, emphasizing immigration control, economic nationalism, and reducing government regulations. He supports conservative policies and aims to appeal to working-class voters in the Rust Belt and beyond.