An Analysis of U.S. Presidential Elections from 2012 to 2024

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Abstract
The United States of America (USA) held four presidential elections between 2012 and 2024, facing multiple political changes while maintaining secure democratic systems. Voting behavior and electoral management tools determine how elections take place. Every election term had new obstacles and improvements to preserve a fair system as Americans changed what they wanted their Democracy to do. President Barack Obama won a second term in 2012 after making a recovery and healthcare expansion his major campaign issues. During the 2016 presidential elections, Donald Trump became president because he appealed to populism and criticized the political system. The US public cast votes in record numbers during 2020, even with COVID-19 present, which earned Joe Biden victory and brought back a need to unite Americans behind crucial public health initiatives. The 2024 election showed how deep political divisions in America changed the way candidates ran their campaigns, as Donald Trump won the election against Kamala Harris. Democrats and Republicans are two major political parties in the United States which compete for each election run. This analysis used qualitative research methods to assess the US presidential elections during twelve years (2012-2024) by reviewing reports, academic studies, and case studies and considering the US reports of offices in charge of communication and press. The study also used comparative investigation techniques to observe the process of each election using results approved by the guaranteed agencies. The results have shown how political parties manage campaigns along with the ruling party's strengths and limitations to help other countries uphold democratic standards during votes.

Introduction

Americans use elections to build their democratic system and execute peaceful power transfers successfully. The US electoral process contains essential steps like voter sign-up and election registration, plus primaries and debates before leaders are chosen through the Electoral College system. Since 2012, the elections experienced changes due to voting age population shifts combined with updates in election technology, different policies, and external influences on the economy and world events. One party wins the presidency and switches rule between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party through national elections. Today's election campaigns use digital ways to reach voters, handle social media, and find particular groups of people to help them vote more often. To protect election security, officials have put changes in place that boost vote validation and shield against misused votes. The analysis of US elections between 2012 and 2024 helps other nations understand how to run fair elections by understanding what impacts election results and votes office leadership. Therefore, elections are held for government officials at the federal, state, and local levels. At the federal level, the head of state, the president, is indirectly elected by the people of each state, through an electoral college. Today, these electors almost always vote with the popular vote of their state. All members of the federal legislature, Congress, are directly elected by the people of each state. There are many elected offices at the state level, with each state having at least one elected governor and legislature. There are also elected offices at the local level, in counties, cities, townships, townships, boroughs, and villages; as well as for special districts and school districts that may transcend county and municipal boundaries. A year before the election, candidates from both major political parties, the Democrats and the Republicans, begin their campaign. They assemble their teams and begin to tour across the country to rally support and fundraise money for their campaigns. Early in the campaign, candidates from both parties participate in televised debates where each candidate will answer tough questions about their policies and defend their positions on issues and policies against other candidates. Once the election process begins, the U.S. presidential election process can be daunting.

Methodology of elections in United States of America

The key question for this research was to look for data to help the scholar to answer "How has the U.S. electoral system been changing between 2012 and 2024? The study expected to find out that the democratic principles and good electoral processes in all four terms in US came out with results

being accepted by both parties. Further, the conduct of these elections were expected to be exemplary to other countries by showing what and why it could be done so.

Here are the four key stages through which U.S. elections are held: primaries and caucuses, national conventions, general elections, and the electoral college.

o **Primaries and Caucuses:** Many people want to be president, each with their ideas about how government should work. People with similar ideas belong to the same political party. This is where primaries and caucuses come in. Candidates from each political party campaign across the country to gain favor with their party members. Beginning in February, major voting events, primaries and caucuses, will lead to the selection of delegates who will represent the people at the upcoming conventions. The main focus will be on the results in Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, and South Carolina, which can usually determine who the final presidential nominee for each party will be. In a caucus, party members select the best candidate through a series of discussions and votes, while in a primary, party members vote for the best candidate to represent them in the general election.

o **National Conventions**: Each party holds a national convention to select a final presidential nominee. Delegates from the primary and caucus states selected to represent the people will now approve their preferred candidates, and each party's final presidential nominee will be officially announced at the end of the conventions. The presidential nominee also selects a running mate (vice presidential candidate). Presidential candidates campaign throughout the country to gain the support of the general population.

o **General Election:** Citizens in each state in the country vote for a president and vice president. When Americans go to the polls in November, they will choose their preferred presidential candidate and running mate. When people vote, they are really voting for a group of people called electors. Except in Maine and Nebraska, if a candidate receives a majority of the votes of the people in a state, then that candidate receives all of the electoral votes in that state. The presidential candidate with the most electoral votes becomes president of the United States.

o **Electoral College** the Electoral College is a process in which electors, or representatives, from each state in proportion to the state's population vote and determine who will be president. Each state gets a certain number of electors based on its representation in Congress. There are a total of 538 electors selected according to the politics of each state. Each elector casts one vote after the general election, and the candidate who receives more than half (270) wins. In the last election, President Donald J. Trump of the

Republican Party won with 312 votes while his opponent Kamala D. Harris received 226.

The 2012 Presidential Election

In 2012, voters strengthened or weakened the incumbent president based on their assessment of economic progress and population changes alongside party platforms. Research shows that Democrat President Barack Obama competed against Republican Mitt Romney for the presidency in 2012 by discussing economic plans and healthcare solutions (Keller, 2022). Obama centered his campaign on using the Affordable Care Act's success to show gentle economic expansion, whereas Romney advocated lowering government involvement in business and decreasing taxes. President Obama won the election by 332 electoral votes, while Romney gained 206 (Wisniewski, 2023). Figure 1 demonstrates that Hispanic voters made the difference in helping Obama win the election by 71%. The 2012 election showed that voting patterns depended heavily on changes in the US population combined with economic and healthcare platform choices.

The Hispanic Vote in Presidential Elections, 1980-2012
(% of Hispanics who voted for the ...)
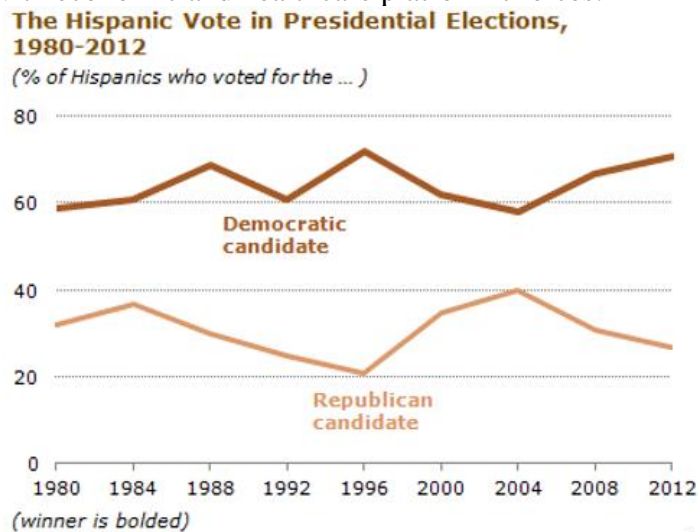
Figure 1: Latino Voters in the 2012 Election (Lopez, 2024)

The 2012 election system followed the rules established by both national US Constitution principles and state election code requirements. Each state had unique voter registration rules, and some states passed strict voter ID laws that people debated for, making it harder for some citizens to vote. The Electoral College made its controlling votes count to give power to both big-state and small-state electorates. The political campaigns paid special attention to the swing states of Ohio, Florida, and Virginia because they wanted to win these states to take control of the election results (Foley, 2024). Obama built his campaign on getting people involved face-to-face and online, while

Romney put his effort into television and mass media. The Pew Research Center found that more voters used early voting and mail-in ballots, which altered how people voted, according to their survey results. In 2012, election campaigns successfully moved voters to participate while election rules and Electoral College decisions defined presidential victory.

Political action committees and corporate donors became more decisive in the 2012 election while their influence kept growing in modern-day campaign financing. The Congressional Research Service reports that Obama collected $1.123 billion while Romney raised $1.2 billion, with both tops getting money from PACs (Vogel et al., 2012). Following the Citizens United ruling from the US Supreme Court, corporations and unions gained unlimited expenditure power in political matters. Super PACs invested in heavy advertising across every media channel to reach their target voter groups for both presidential candidates. Money played a prominent role in campaigns, yet it did not compromise election integrity because the Federal Election Commission maintained strong campaign finance controls. The financial side of the 2012 election demonstrated that fundraising and advertising had grown essential while transparency became more critical for political elections to succeed. The 2012 election period saw technology and social media change how people communicated with voters and protected election results.

Electronic voting machines were standard in voting, but these machines raised security issues regarding the digital systems (Jafar et al., 2021). Writer issues and long lines create debate on election efficiency improvements. During his 2012 election campaign, Barack Obama used data analytics alongside Facebook and Twitter platforms to connect with younger voters better and gain their backing (Rita et al., 2023). campaign advertisers used social media to guide voter impressions and design winning election tactics. Today's election security must factor in the technology used to win elections.

The 2016 Presidential Election

In 2016, voters made large ideological changes, and strong party divisions were built during the US presidential election. Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Hillary Clinton fought hard during their political race against one another (Espinoza, 2022). Trump based his campaign on economic protectionism and immigration control with attacks on government leaders, while Clinton promoted her experience plus social and foreign policy plans. Donald Trump won the election with 306 votes in the Electoral College, which captured 49% of the total vote (Statista, 2024). Electoral College picked Trump as president even though he received fewer votes in total from the people than Hillary Clinton (Burns, 2019). working-class whites from rural areas elected Donald Trump as president. In 2016, the election showed us how

extreme political divisions influence elections through populist messages and Electoral College voting rules.

The 2016 election struggled with doubts over security and foreign interference, which made people debate that elections should work better to protect Americans from fraudulent information. Russian operatives tried to deceive voters and break into voting records during their research for the National Association of Secretaries of State (Davidson, 2021). Social media manipulation strongly affected public thinking during this time since hackers spread deceitful content across Facebook and Twitter. The government put new safeguards in place following election misconduct to stop outside hackers from affecting voter choices. Digital deception in politics created voter distrust, so people began talking about both learning media skills and keeping elections honest. The 2016 presidential election showed us how weak online systems are and why both discrediting false information and keeping voting safe need protection.

The 2016 election proved media power in campaign funding as these influences created an election outcome that differed from traditional methods of political communication. Figure 2 shows that Clinton's election expenses totaled $237.4 million, while Trump spent $68 million during his campaign (Allison et al., 2016). The Clinton campaign, with its financial superiority, failed to drive voters to the polls, especially in critical swing states of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. Trump used Twitter and other unconventional platforms to get continuous media attention even though he invested less in traditional advertising. Digital contact with voters during the 2016 election undermined the effect of the old media on political campaigns (Jungherr, 2023). The election of 2016 demonstrated that digital media now holds more sway than before, alongside the use of nontypical political advertising and campaign money influence.

Following 2016 Campaign Spending character clarifies more.
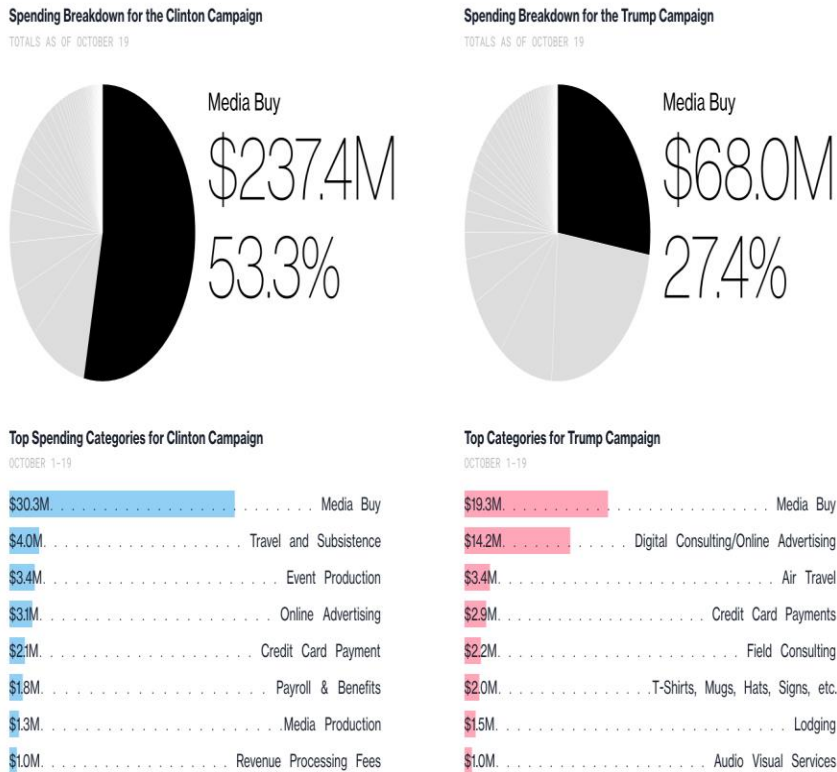
Figure 2: 2016 Campaign Spending (Allison et al., 2016)

During the 2016 election, voters had to deal with opposing views on election procedure and voting rights. US Election Assistance Commission studies demonstrated that new voter ID rules in several states mainly hurt minority communities and low-income populations. The Supreme Court's 2013 ruling in Shelby County v. Holder weakened voting protections under the Voting Rights Act, which worried people that their rights would be at risk in particular states (Johnson, 2021). People increased their use of early voting and mail-in ballots because these voting methods became more common habits for voters. Election changes would improve voting accessibility without hurting security. Voters in 2016 showed that America requires voting rules that both raise turnout and guard against voting system threats.

The 2020 Presidential Election

The 2020 US presidential election held important status because millions of people voted in large numbers, yet coronavirus and election legitimacy questions shaped this historic polling. Joe Biden won over Donald Trump through the election by receiving 306 electoral votes, while Trump gained 232 (Jackson & Foster, 2022). Biden achieved 81.2 million popular votes to win the election at 51.3%, while Trump got 74.2 million votes. This

led to the largest voter turnout recorded in over a century (Sullivan & Agiesta, 2020). Extraordinary pandemic conditions pushed Americans to cast more votes before Election Day and through mailed ballots. Through the 2020 election cycle, voters demonstrated their resolve to participate in Democracy while demonstrating how states can include mail-in ballots to keep polls open during emergencies.

The 2020 election outcomes were shaped by both election protection steps and court actions, along with false information about the votes' credibility. Every U.S. state has developed stronger protection methods against cyber threats to votes. Even though Trump projected election fraud multiple times, his team and the courts demonstrated that vote counts are correct. The 2020 election achieved the highest level of security in US voting history due to its controlled fraud prevention measures (Eggers et al., 2021). Social media disinformation spread across platforms generated distrust among the public and ended in the violent assault on the US Capitol on January 6, 2021 (Edwards-Heller, 2024). Voters' faith in the election system lost strong Republican support as many Republicans doubted Biden won adequately. Through the 2020 election, our country learned how lies affect elections and why election authorities enforce security safeguards backed by court decisions that protect voting integrity.

Both political parties spent a great deal of money to run promotions and send workers across the nation during the 2020 election. Figure 3 demonstrates that Biden took in $1.0 billion from donors, and Trump collected $ 700 million (New York Times, n.d.). Super PACs and outside groups affected the election more than before, with Democrat-affiliated organizations spending more than their Republican peers in major voting areas. Digital advertising became vital for voter persuasion when candidates put major resources into Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube during their marketing campaigns (Gulati & Williams, 2021). politicians and voters disagreed about how to control money in political campaigns, especially concerning business contributions and secret political funding. Through the 2020 election, financial domination in election campaigns increased while digital media better engaged voters, but we still need political finance reform.

During the 2020 election, voter access problems stood out above other issues as states took actions that made voting easier and harder for citizens. States like California approved all registered voters to receive mail-in ballots, while Texas and Georgia reduced mail-in voting rights for their residents (James & Stewart III, 2022). People have fought legal battles against the Trump administration to validate the extended voting deadlines that several states have applied. The Supreme Court refused to make decisions on these matters, so existing state rules remained in place. After studying at the Brookings Institution, researchers discovered that election access talks

brought up voting rights problems and prompted countrywide standards for equal voting rights. The democratic elections showcased both how people can access voting and how legal roles defend voting procedures.
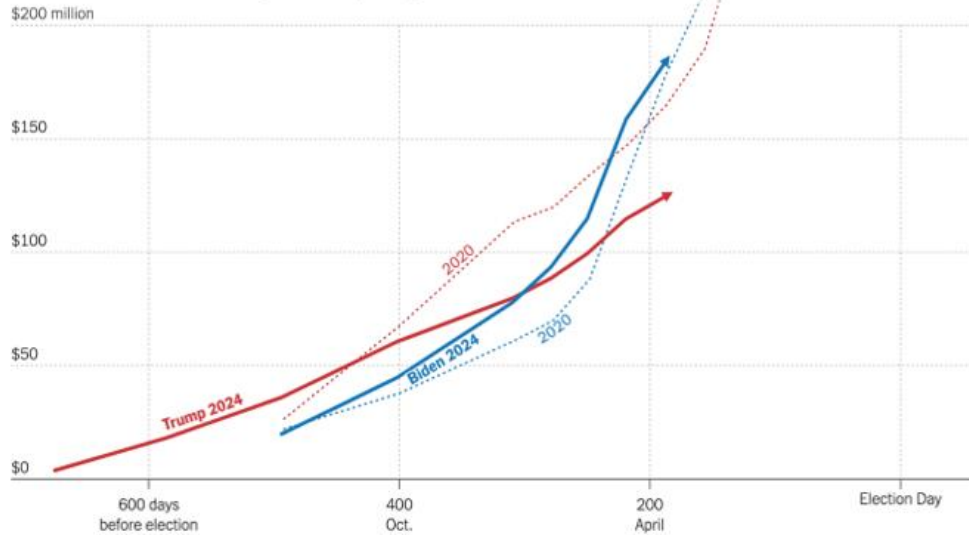

Figure 3: 2020 Campaign Contributions (New York Times, n.d.)

The 2024 Presidential election

During the 2024 United States presidential contest, the deep political party divisions remained evident as both leading party nominees talked about repairing the economy and foreign relations, plus addressing social concerns. 2024 documented a historic matchup between Presidential candidates Kamala Haris and Donald Trump. Figure 4 shows that Donald Trump won the election with 312 votes over Kamal Harris, who got 226 votes (CNN, n.d.). The presidential race focused on understanding inflation rates, boosting employment numbers, improving healthcare access, and controlling immigration with suitable international solutions. Urban and suburban voters chose Democratic candidates, but Republicans maintained their support from rural voters. Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Arizona, as swing states, decided which candidate would win the presidency. The 2024 voting results showed the existing political parties' differences and showed major issues voters selected on the ballot.
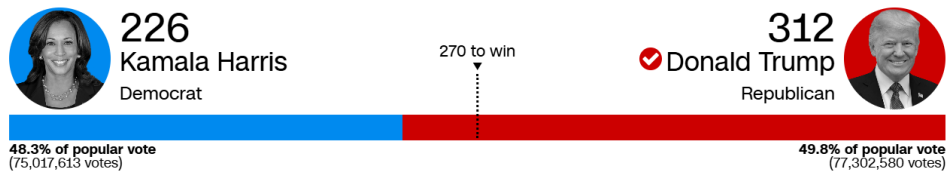
Figure 4: 2024 Presidential Elections results

Election security and public trust both gained high importance during the 2024 election cycle, and stakeholders made more efforts to fight misinformation while opening voting processes to make them more visible. Federal and state election administration teams used strong cybersecurity defenses to protect voting systems through tighter social media monitoring and secure voting networks.

Partisan sides continued to disagree about voting laws after election security upgrades as Republicans in states pushed for intense ID demands, but Democrats in states campaigned for more early voting choices (Kreitler & Olson, 2024). Many people discussed possible changes to the Electoral College system because experts wanted it to match the results of national popular voting better. Trust in election procedures split among Republicans and Democrats, who had starkly different voting confidence levels. The 2024 election revealed a continued struggle to keep elections safe and reachable while everyone worked together to rebuild confidence in the democratic system.

In the 2024 election, more money went towards campaigns and media spending because it had more potent effects on this election cycle. Both candidates set new financial donation records while their Super PAC contributors and corporate backers guided their political actions. Modern campaigns use digital ads and artificial intelligence-based online outreach methods to stay current with modern political strategies (Ziakis & Vlachopoulou, 2023). Ads on traditional TV channels and radio stations stayed important while the political struggle for votes moved online to popular platforms like TikTok and YouTube. People seek stricter limits on business donations because of worries about financial transparency. Under this election, digital ad spending increased while artificial intelligence helped engage voters, and campaign finance ethics remained a hot topic of debate. During the 2024 election, states watched election policies closely as they decided between increasing voting access and adding voting limits. Automatic voter registration rules went into effect across multiple states, plus extra rules against mail votes and early voting (Pomante, 2024). After the election ended, some candidates challenged and debated the outcome of closely disputed races

because of the attention paid to post-election reviews and election audits. Politicians developed nationwide voting rules because different states had varied election rules. The 2024 election results showed why America needs improved voting rules and revealed both voting system issues plus voter access changes in progress.

Comparison of the conduct of elections between 2012, 2016, 2020, and 2024

- **Similarities in the conduct of elections from 2012 to 2024**

Election organizers expanded mail-in voting options in US elections from 2012 up to 2024. adopting early voting and absentee ballots has become critical to running US elections effectively. In 2012, early voting replaced Election Day voting habits, with 37% of voters participating before November 6 (Pew Research Center, 2024). More American voters chose early voting in 2016, which led to higher turnout rates. Election mail-in voting reached its highest level during the 2020 election, with people using it more because of the pandemic (McGhee et al., 2022).

Digital platforms will enhance voting access through better systems for registration and obtaining voting information in the year 2024. The changing voting methods in government elections follow an ongoing effort to expand voting rights and Democracy through early and absent voting.

Nearly Four-in-Ten Voted Before Election Day

	Nov 2002 %	Nov 2004 %	Nov 2006 %	Nov 2008 %	Nov 2012 %
On Election Day	85	80	80	66	63
Before Election Day	15	20	20	34	37
In person	--	--	--	19	19
By mail	--	--	--	14	17
Another way/DK	--	--	--	1	*
	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Nov. 8-11, 2012 voter callback. Q40 & Q41.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Figure 5: 2012 Early Voting (Pew Research Center, 2024)

All US presidential elections from 2012 to 2024 show that battleground states play a significant role in deciding the election results. Florida and Ohio consistently attract election campaign attention because these states belong to the swing state category (Meade, 2021). Two major parties regularly put significant campaign efforts into these large electoral vote states to win them in elections. Obama made the Rust Belt region his main target during the 2012 election and won because of it (Ghilarducci & Tursini, 2024). In 2016, Trump took control of the big states in the Midwest to claim

his unexpected election victory. Biden gained his victory in the 2020 race by winning Pennsylvania and Michigan when he repeated the same state strategies used during previous elections. All major parties recognize that these states need to remain part of their election strategy plans in the coming 2024 elections. The presidential campaigns use battleground states as their top priority because these states determine the election results and drive how parties connect with voters.

- **Differences in the conduct of elections from 2012 to 2024**

The percentage of voting participants has shown large swings between the US elections of 2012 and 2024. Voter turnout in the 2016 elections fell compared to 2012 because analysts link this decrease to people losing interest in the presidential race. The voting numbers for the 2020 election were that people responded to mail-in voting and took action because of COVID-19 (McGhee et al., 2022). The 2024 election anticipated strong voter participation because organizers maintain their campaign efforts to enroll voters, plus they expand mail-in and early voting opportunities (Pomante, 2024). Throughout the years, voting rates have shown growth, particularly in recent elections, because new voting methods and public interest help people engage more with political processes. Modern elections rely heavily on technology, which has a more significant influence and has been steadily growing since 2012 until 2024. Russian hackers began interfering in America's voting mechanics, starting with the 2016 election (Davidson, 2021).

In 2020, election security problems resurfaced because voters and the media transmitted false claims about voting by mail and voter fraud, which led to legal cases and demonstrations. Since 2024, elections have faced security challenges, and states have taken action to protect voting systems through more substantial ID requirements and cyber defense measures (Tisler & Norden, 2023). Despite allowing voters to reach more people online, these platforms expose us to social media effects over our opinions plus possible untrue information. Technology has improved voting accessibility but has also created issues with election credibility and fake news distribution.
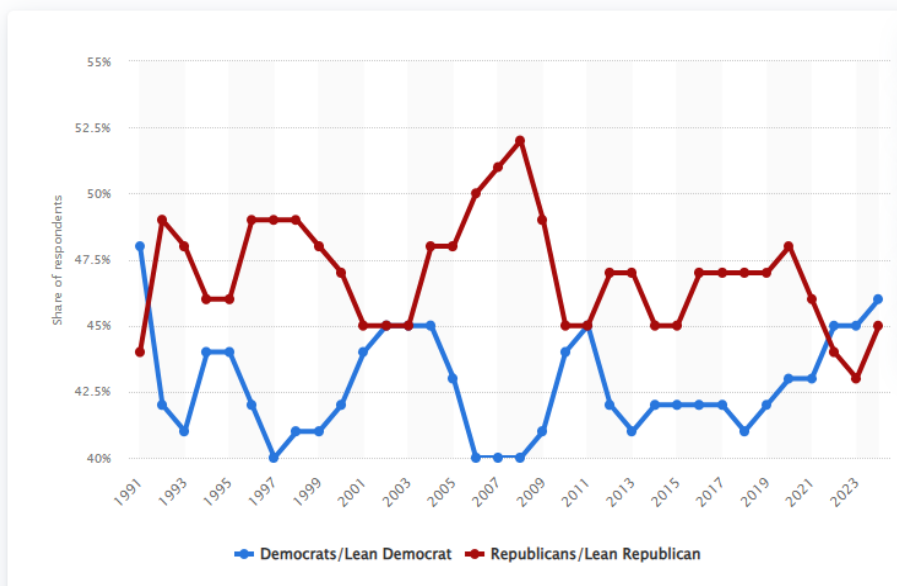
The major political parties, ideologies, and their impact on US development after Elections

- **The Ideology of the Democratic Party and Its Political Programs**

Democrats and Republicans are two political parties in the United States that have been alternating power. Figure 6 demonstrates that The Democratic Party has often led in party identification, but in 2022, more Americans identified with the Republican Party for the first time since both parties were equal at 45% in 2011 (Statista, 2025). The Democratic Party has often led in party identification, but in 2022, more Americans identified with the Republican Party for the first time since both parties were equal at 45% in

2011. As a party that supports progressive values, the Democrats push for better social justice and fairness in society while advocating larger government participation in economic matters. The Democratic National Committee chooses to advocate permanent changes to the healthcare system, plus educational and climate plans (Béland et al., 2023). These fundamental issues led voters to come out for the 2020 election decisively. Democrats achieved presidential victory because they pursued an economy that made healthcare affordable through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and invested in clean energy infrastructure (Béland et al., 2023). Healthcare protection and action against racial injustice will stand alongside economic recovery and pandemic treatment as key objectives for the Democratic Party in the next elections. The Democratic Party needs its devotion to progressive measures that improve society and the economy to keep winning elections.

The Democratic Party stays closely tied to American voters following every election cycle while striving to reunite different groups and build consensus. The US Constitution intends for political leaders to work together for national growth, so the Democratic Party continues to follow this practice through bipartisan initiatives. Despite substantial political differences after the 2020 election, President Joe Biden collaborated with Republican lawmakers to remedy the nation's broken infrastructure (Sulmicelli, 2023). Through this approach, the party acknowledges the need for strong economics and cooperation to drive the country forward. How the Democratic Party works with opposing party politicians will determine the country's future economic and political success. After the election, the Democratic Party worked together with other parties to develop the US economy and maintain national stability.

Figure 6: Two major political parties in the United States (Statista, 2025)

The Republican Party's Major Programs, Ideology, and Post-Election Relations

The Republican Party stands for conservative ways of thinking that control government power and protect personal freedom. The Republican National Committee says their party stands for lower taxes with decreased government rules plus support for historic values (Kerbel & White, 2023). The party supports freedom in the economy and defends national security as a non-negotiable principle. Voters in 2016 supported Republican leadership because they wanted to end the economic slowdown through business-oriented public administration (Tottser, 2022). The Republican Party will continue using tax breaks and military strength as core pillars to guide their 2024 platform because these ideas formed their 2016 platform. Republican Party gains this success through strict economic conservatism and maintaining robust national defense. Following every election, the Republican Party works to preserve its ties with voters and uphold political and economic stability just like the Democrats. Throughout Democratic presidencies, the Republican Party leads national policy discussions, especially within tax and security committees. After 2016, Republican lawmakers enacted the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act by minimizing business taxes with the expectation that it would boost economic growth (Michel, 2021). The Republican Party keeps directing the future of US monetary policy by putting its initiatives into action following election results that include intense competition for power. The Republican Party plans to stay linked with voters and then push for economic development through financial discipline and protect the nation from security risks.

The Impact of Party Ideologies on US Political and Economic Development

➢ The Influence of Democratic Ideology on US Development

Based on their progressive mindset, the Democratic Party is making positive changes to both politics and economics by focusing on fair treatment for all people and improving economic access. The US Constitution delegates the government to support public well-being, yet the Democratic Party has made healthcare and labor protection laws that help disadvantaged groups gain access (Emerson, 2021). Through Obamacare, Democrats improved healthcare access for millions of people as they pushed for wage growth and worker rights (Béland et al., 2023). These programs work toward better equality by fixing unequal systems and bringing about equal economic treatment. Through its progressive policies, the Democratic Party guides national development by working to give everyone equal chances in society.

➢ The Influence of Republican Ideology on US Development

The Republican Party works from its conservative beliefs to shape how US development proceeds in both financial growth and defense sectors. The

Constitution states defense protection and growing the economy are central government tasks that match what Republicans want to do through their support for national security and free market principles (**Erie, 2024)**. The Republicans support tax cuts and limited regulation to help businesses expand and hire people, according to many observers. When Republicans run the country, they lower corporate taxes and take steps to calm government regulations to boost the private sector. Despite ongoing debates, the party introduced these policies, which expanded the economy and strengthened national defense. By sticking to its conservative budget policies plus enduring support for strong national security, the Republican Party shaped how US politics and economics developed.

Long-Term Implications of Party Competition for US Political and Economic Growth

- **Democratic Policies on US Growth**

The Democratic Party works toward social fairness and economic fair participation, which will benefit the United States through sustained national development in the future. The US Constitution outlines America's federal purpose to promote public welfare through Democratic Party initiatives that enhance healthcare services and education opportunities while protecting the environment. The Affordable Care Act worked well to bring down the number of uninsured people, which enhanced their healthcare results (Béland et al., 2023). The party's dedication to climate change policies promotes lasting growth by building green economy sectors and hiring staff. The Democratic Party focuses on bringing everyone together while protecting the environment, which will lead to better long-term political and economic development in the United States.

- **Republican Policies on US Growth**

The Republican Party promotes market approaches and defends national security concepts, which influence how well America has developed politically and economically over time. The Constitution commands the government to safeguard the nation and advance the economic well-being of residents, which guides Republican Party policies (Popkin, 2021).

Through tax reductions and the removal of business regulations, the party wants to promote private sector expansion and business development. The policies brought about periods of better economy and new employment opportunities. The Republican Party strengthens US security through military investment, which creates economic stability across the nation. The Republican Party's economic and national security goals continue to affect US growth positively by building both economic progress and worldwide power.

The Alternation of Power Between Republicans and Democrats: Strengths and Weaknesses

- ### The Alternation of Power of the Democratic Party

Strengths: The Democratic Party demonstrated strong results when in charge, mainly by handling better social care programs, healthcare changes, and environmental protection. The US Constitution calls for better public health, so Democratic administrations focus on helping citizens receive quality medical care no matter their situation. The Affordable Care Act gained approval as a significant achievement during President Obama's presidency, helping to decrease the number of uninsured Americans (Béland et al., 2023). As part of their environmental policies, Democrats spend money on clean energy development. These abilities demonstrate how the party promotes equal opportunities and fair treatment for all. The Democratic Party performs best when it creates progressive rules that help both people who need assistance and protect our planet.

Weaknesses: Despite their solid achievements, the Democratic Party struggled to maintain unity among members and faced problems with economic decisions during their periods of governing power. The Democratic Party faces an essential dilemma between its ideological wings of progressivism and moderation (Polk & Karreth, 2024). The party's internal tensions during the Obama presidency prevented Congress from adopting a unified immigration solution. The Democratic Party wants to enhance social programs, yet these activities raise doubts about budget deficits. Differences among Democrats and the future affordability of large welfare programs drive most of the Democratic Party's current problems.

The Alternation of Power of the Republican Party

Strengths: The Republican Party showed its true strength through its dedication to handling public money wisely as well as making defense and tax changes during its time in government. Under the Constitutional requirement to protect the nation from threats, Republican leaders have always devoted more funds to military budgeting, which keeps the USA at the top of global powers status. The Republican Party tried to boost the economy through the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which lowered corporate taxes to attract investments and create more jobs (Wibisono, 2023). People authorize these policies because they believe they help economic growth periods emerge. The Republican Party achieves its best results by defending our national security while supporting free-market economic initiatives.

Weaknesses: During its periods of governance, the Republican Party maintained its social policy and healthcare weaknesses along with its core strengths. The party members who prefer small-government policies spark public discussions about their treatment of the weakest communities by

reducing healthcare and welfare services. The Republican Party meets criticism for worsening inequality because its stance on cutting social services goes against the government's job outlined in the US Constitution's preamble to serve the public good (Zacher, 2024). Because the party opposes developing a complete healthcare system, America continues to experience healthcare system problems. The Republican Party struggles to help disadvantaged populations because its healthcare and social service plans are not enough to meet their needs.

Comparing the Strengths and Weaknesses of the Two Parties

- **Similarities between the Democratic and Republican Parties' Strengths:** In matters of policy, each party has certain strengths shared between the Democratic and Republicans. Especially in areas of national security and economic growth, policy convergence takes hold. Under the US Constitution's responsibility to provide for the common defense, both parties stress strong military and national security, though they differ on methods to achieve such (Friedhoff, 2024). Another similar policy that both parties have implemented relates to the stimulation of economic growth. Democrats, in this area, focus on policies associated with social infrastructure, while Republicans believe in tax cuts and deregulation (Wallace et al., 2023). In terms of foreign policy, military interventions during the Obama presidency increased national security, while the Trump-Republican administration policies aimed at improving and strengthening defense spending. Therefore, the common focus of both parties is on national security and economic growth, though the approach may be different.

- **Differences between the Democratic and Republican Parties' Weaknesses:** The weaknesses in both the Democratic and Republican Parties underline some crucial ideological differences, especially in how they approach issues of social welfare and government intervention. The primary weakness of the Democratic Party consists of the division between progressives and moderates due to internal fighting, which inhibits legislative and party unity (Elinson, 2023). On the other hand, the Republican Party has earned negative points due to its reluctance to expand social services and its efforts to cut government spending that have sometimes been conveyed as substandard with respect to focusing on the needs of welfare groups. An example of this is healthcare reform, which the Democratic Party has supported and emphasized, whereas the opposition from the Republican Party has taken it to a continuous deliberation over healthcare access and affordability. In any case, there are weaknesses on the part of both parties, whereby Democrats face issues of internal unity, and Republicans have criticism regarding their very minimal social safety nets.

Exemplary methods to ensure peaceful elections: Lessons for other Countries

The key characteristics of peaceful elections are those whose very nature and process are regarded as just and transparent. The election process must be carried out with respect to democratic principles set by the United States Constitution for a manifestation of the people's will (Siburian, 2022). One best example that can be elaborated on is the use of voter registration to ensure every citizen's easy accessibility in terms of voter selection. Same-day registration and allowing early voting were developed in this direction under American law to encourage more significant numbers in elections: elections that must not only become participatory but, ultimately, nonviolent. The US system also stresses openness; for example, at every level, independent bodies monitor the country to prevent any form of manipulation. Thus, the transparency of elections and their conduct forms the basis for peaceful elections to make sure that all voices are heard and their results trusted by the public.

The education of voters in an election process is essential because it creates avenues through which the citizens will meaningfully participate in the democratic process. Efforts put in place to educate voters in the United States have created awareness among its citizens on how to register, where to vote, and how to use voting machines. These efforts can help give voters less mystery or confusion on Election Day. For example, in the US election of 2020, elaborate voter education efforts were mounted across the country, given the controversies generated by mail-in voting during this COVID-19 pandemic (McGhee et al., 2022). These campaigns ensured that the knowledge of the rules and procedures among the citizens kept the whole process of voting calm and peaceful. Therefore, broad voter education is the foundation of a peaceful election process since citizens are empowered to participate in it with confidence and responsibility.

Another strategy for ensuring peaceful elections is encouraging bipartisan collaboration in the protection of election integrity. The US Constitution requires the establishment of laws and systems that ensure the security of the electoral process, and bipartisan efforts help guarantee that these laws are not crafted to give an unfair advantage to one political party over another.

The result of such instances includes the passage of the bipartisan Help America Vote Act of 2002 to reform election processes and improve voting equipment after the contentious 2000 presidential election (Hasen, 2022). The fact that election reform resulted from bipartisan cooperation in Congress was an indicator of shared interests in more reliable and fair elections. Furthermore, election officials from major political parties make bipartisan

efforts to ensure that votes are counted as they should be and within the shortest time possible.

Bipartisan cooperation during an electoral process, therefore, provides increased transparency and faith in the outcome, and such helps resolve election disputes peacefully.

Another meaningful way in which peaceful elections are ensured involves the involvement of international election observers. In the United States, international observers are invited to monitor elections and ensure that they meet international standards for fairness and transparency. This practice, emulating what the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has been doing, helps reinforce the credibility of the election process.

For instance, OSCE election observers were present throughout the 2020 US presidential elections to ensure compliance with international guidelines on the elective process (Evans, 2021). As such, that provides an additional layer of accountability and deters any possible chances of election fraud or other associated misconduct. Therefore, the invitation of international observers instills confidence in the electoral process and reminds citizens that elections indeed have integrity, further helping to achieve a peaceful and democratic atmosphere.

Conclusion

The analysis of elections in the United States between the year 2012 and 2024 draws on a few key factors leading to peaceful, efficient elections: same-day registration and early voting laws that have made the conduct of elections in the country non-discriminatory, open, and transparent are very relevant in allowing participation by all electors. Voter education campaigns and bipartisan cooperation further support peaceful elections by informing citizens and ensuring that across the political divide, the integrity of the election is upheld. The strengths and weaknesses of the Democratic and Republican parties bring into light how ideologies influence their respective approaches to governance; both have a contribution to the development of the United States, despite the differences that exist between them. The peaceful transference of power between both parties in recent times is also proof of the strength of the democratic regime in America, even at the most polarized moments. It is wealth mentioning that international observers and the care for election security after events like the well-known 2000 election prove how other countries can learn from US methods so that their elections can continue to be held in fair and peaceful times. The US experience is a pointer to the importance of strong electoral systems, voter education, and bipartisan efforts in keeping the electoral process stable and democratic. Finally, reviewing and analyzing the literature on elections and former documents on United States of America's processes of electing Presidents have been chosen as the

respectable methodology by gathering the results of this academic work, which have been finally evaluated in a qualitative aspect. This has been highly descriptive.

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