

PRESIDENTIAL RESULTS BASED ON LATEST POLLING DATA

Updated October 31, 2008

For this last election projection, I will look at each state individually. Of course, the race is getting closer. No one really expected Obama to win by 8% to 10%. Best case scenario for McCain would be for this year to resemble 1968 and 1976. In both those elections, the losing candidate made dramatic gains in the final week so that their supporters said, "if we only had another week." But neither Humphrey nor Ford had another week, and neither does McCain. Barring some cataclysmic event, it should be a very exciting day for the Democrats on Tuesday. In fact, I believe that Obama's "safe" states should be enough to give him the election.

Safe McCain States: 19 States – 155 Electoral Votes

Alabama (9 electoral votes), Alaska (3), Arizona (10), Arkansas (6), Georgia (15), Idaho (4), Kansas (6), Kentucky (8), Louisiana (9), Mississippi (6), Nebraska (5), North Dakota (3), Oklahoma (7), South Carolina (8), South Dakota (3), Tennessee (11), Texas (34), Utah (5), Wyoming (3).

Safe Obama States: 22 States & DC – 273 Electoral Votes

California (55 electoral votes), Colorado (9), Connecticut (7), Delaware (3), Washington, DC (3), Hawaii (4), Illinois (21), Iowa (7), Maine (4), Maryland (10), Massachusetts (12), Michigan (17), Minnesota (10), New Hampshire (4), New Jersey (15), New Mexico (5), New York (31), Oregon (7), Pennsylvania (21), Rhode Island (4), Vermont (3), Washington (11), Wisconsin (10).

Battleground States: 9 States

Florida – 27 Electoral Votes

For a long time Florida has been going back and forth between the two candidates. However, the most recent polls have Obama opening things up a little. McCain could still win this, but more likely it will go to:

OBAMA

Indiana – 11 Electoral Votes

Usually a very red state in presidential elections, Indiana has remained competitive for the entire campaign. I still think it may be too much to ask for Obama to win here, so I suspect, the winner will be:

MCCAIN

Missouri – 11 Electoral Votes

This one has stayed within 1 or 2 points in most polls for months. If McCain is going to win any of the close states, this is the one. I tend to think that the winner here will be:

MCCAIN

Montana – 3 Electoral Votes

Some polls have this as very close, even tilting towards Obama, while others say it will be a Republican state. It is more likely to be:

MCCAIN

Nevada – 5 Electoral Votes

Like Florida, Nevada has been close but recently has edged more towards Obama. While much of Nevada is Republican, it still looks like it should be:

OBAMA

North Carolina – 15 Electoral Votes

Another state that has been nip and tuck for weeks. We're going out on a little limb (does that make it a branch) and predict the winner will be: OBAMA

Ohio – 20 Electoral Votes

Like most of the industrial Midwest, Obama is holding his lead here, but not by as much as in the neighboring states. But like Michigan, Wisconsin, etc., Ohio will go to: OBAMA

Virginia – 13 Electoral Votes

I have left this as a battleground state only because everyone says it should be. But it really is not. It will be a fairly easy win for: OBAMA

West Virginia – 5 Electoral Votes

This is very much like Montana, and as such, will probably go to: MCCAIN

SUMMARY

With the projections for the 9 Battleground States, the final totals may look like:

McCain Safe States	155 Electoral Votes
McCain Battleground States	<u>30 Electoral Votes</u>

McCain Total 185 Electoral Votes

Obama Safe States	273 Electoral Votes
Obama Battleground States	<u>80 Electoral Votes</u>

Obama Total 353 Electoral Votes

If the tide swings towards a landslide, Obama could get as many as 383 electoral votes. Or he could be as low as 273. Either way, Barack Obama should be our next President.

Of course, there are many states that could be a surprise. Undoubtedly, there will be some. We will just have to wait and see.