

Table 2-2 Popular Vote and House Seats Won by Party, 1946 - 2020

Year	Democratic candidates		Republican candidates		Change from last election <sup>a</sup>		Difference between Democratic percentage of seats and votes won
	Percentage of all votes <sup>b</sup>	Percentage of seats won <sup>c</sup>	Percentage of all votes <sup>b</sup>	Percentage of seats won <sup>c</sup>	Percentage of major party votes	Percentage of seats won <sup>c</sup>	
1946	44.3	43.3	53.5	56.7	6.4R	12.8R	-1.0
1948	51.6	60.6	45.4	39.4	7.9D	17.3D	9.0
1950	48.9	54.0	48.9	46.0	3.2R	6.6R	5.1
1952	49.2	49.1	49.3	50.9	0.1R	4.9R	-0.1
1954	52.1	53.3	47.0	46.7	2.6D	4.2D	1.2
1956	50.7	53.8	48.7	46.2	1.5R	0.5D	3.1
1958	55.5	64.9	43.6	35.1	5.0D	11.1D	9.4
1960	54.4	60.0	44.8	40.0	1.2R	4.9R	5.6
1962	52.1	59.4	47.1	40.6	2.3R	0.6R	7.3
1964	56.9	67.8	42.4	32.2	4.8D	8.4D	10.9
1966	50.5	57.0	48.0	43.0	6.0R	10.8R	6.5
1968	50.0	55.9	48.2	44.1	0.3R	1.1R	5.9
1970	53.0	58.6	44.5	41.4	3.4D	2.7D	5.6
1972	51.7	55.8	46.4	44.2	1.7R	2.8R	4.1
1974	57.1	66.9	40.5	33.1	5.8D	11.1D	9.8
1976	56.2	67.1	42.1	32.9	1.3R	0.2D	10.9
1978	53.4	63.7	44.7	36.3	2.8R	3.4R	10.3
1980	50.4	55.9	48.0	44.1	3.2R	7.8R	5.5
1982	55.2	61.8	43.3	38.2	5.2D	5.9D	6.6
1984	52.1	58.2	47.0	41.8	4.1R	3.6R	6.1
1986	54.5	59.3	44.6	40.7	2.4D	1.1D	4.8
1988	53.3	59.8	45.5	40.2	1.1R	0.5D	6.5
1990	52.9	61.4	45.0	38.4	0.1D	1.6D	8.5
1992	50.8	59.3	45.6	40.5	1.4R	2.1R	8.5
1994	45.4	46.9	52.4	52.9	6.3R	12.4R	1.5
1996	48.5	47.6	48.9	52.0	3.4D	0.7D	-0.9
1998	47.1	48.5	48.0	51.3	0.3R	0.9D	1.4
2000	47.0	48.7	47.3	50.8	0.3D	0.2D	1.7
2002	45.0	47.0	49.6	52.8	2.3R	2.0R	2.0
2004	46.6	46.4	49.2	53.4	1.1D	0.6R	-0.2
2006	52.0	53.6	45.6	46.4	5.4D	7.2D	1.6
2008	52.9	59.1	42.3	40.9	1.4D	5.5D	6.2
2010	44.8	44.4	51.4	55.6	9.0R	14.7R	-0.4
2012	48.3	46.2	46.9	53.8	4.1D	1.8D	-2.1
2014	45.5	43.2	50.6	56.8	3.4R	3.0R	-2.3
2016	47.3	44.6	48.2	55.4	2.2D	1.4D	-2.7

2018	53.2	54.1	44.5	45.9	4.9D	9.5D	0.9
2020	50.0	51.0	47.0	49.0	2.8R	3.1R	1.0

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Note: Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

- a. The data show the percentage-point increase over previous election in votes or seats won by Republicans (R) or Democrats (D).
- b. Republican and Democratic percentages of all votes excludes districts in which candidates ran unopposed and no vote was recorded.
- c. Total percentage of seats won does not equal 100% due to the election of independents and/or rounding.

Source: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774–1989 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1989); Congressional Quarterly Almanac (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, various years); National Journal, various issues; The Almanac of American Politics (Washington, D.C.: National Journal Group, various years); Federal Election Commission, <http://www.fec.gov> (various years).

Most recent update source: Tabulations of data from MIT Election Data + Science Lab, <https://electionlab.mit.edu>.