

EYES ON WASHINGTON

November 14, 2016

Overview of 2016 Elections

Donald Trump and Gov. Mike Pence defeated Secretary Hillary Clinton and Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) on Nov. 8, 2016, in a markedly anti-establishment and populist election. While early voting surged, Election Day voting fell. A total of 7.05 million ballots were cast this year, which is similar to the 7.07 million tallied in 2012. Ultimately, voter turnout only accounted for 55 percent of eligible voters. In this year's election, 6.9 million votes were cast for a third-party/other candidate compared to 2.4 million votes in 2012. Notably, Trump overwhelmingly won the white, working-class vote in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania – states that have gone to Democrats in the past six presidential elections. Clinton won 93 percent to Trump's 4 percent among black women, but only 80 percent to Trump's 13 percent among black men, which is lower than what President Barack Obama received four years ago. Additional voter demographics include:



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Demographic (percentage of vote)	Donald Trump (2016)	Hillary Clinton (2016)	Mitt Romney (2012)	Barack Obama (2012)
Men	53	41	54	46
Women	42	54	44	55
Ages 18-29	37	54	37	60
African Americans	8	88	7	93
Whites	58	37	59	39
Latinos	29	65	27	71
Whites Without College Degrees	67	28	61	36

In the U.S. Senate, Republicans maintained control, but Democrats narrowed their majority. Though there will be a runoff for the open Louisiana Senate seat in December, forecasts point to a Senate composition of 52 Republicans and 48 Democrats. This includes the two Independents who caucus with the Democrats. It also presumes the GOP candidate, John Kennedy, wins the Louisiana seat. The split, while giving Republicans the majority, puts the chamber in a precarious

position in light of the 60-vote filibuster requirement and forecasts a challenging road ahead for Senate leaders, especially on confirmation battles.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, Republicans also maintained control, which was expected. Republicans lost a net of six seats by picking up three seats and losing nine incumbent seats. The current split is 239 Republican seats and 193 Democratic seats, with three races outstanding (one in California and two in Louisiana) – 218 seats are needed for a chamber majority. New committee chairs in both chambers will not be officially announced until early next year.

Holland & Knight has created a [Presidential Transition Analysis Center](#) on our website where we will be regularly posting information on major developments. A [presentation on the election results and legislative forecast](#), as well as a video from the [Politico Post-Election Briefing](#) hosted by Holland & Knight, are also available.

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