

MINOR POLITICAL PARTIES

Major Parties

⦿ Republican Party

- Founded in 1854 with an anti-slavery focus
 - Abraham Lincoln—first Republican President
- Advocates smaller government
- Areas of support:
 - Business community
 - Why? Lower taxes, less regulation
 - Religious conservatives
 - Fiscal conservatives (smaller government)
 - Older voters

⦿ Democratic Party

- Dates from 1790s
 - Thomas Jefferson, first Democratic President
 - Democratic-Republicans
 - Wanted smaller national government
 - However, preferred agricultural interests to business interests
- Advocates using government to promote equality
- Areas of Support
 - Women, minorities
 - Younger voters
 - Union members

	2008	Group	Obama	McCain
	All Voters	Pct.	53%	45%
SEX	Men	47	49	48
	Women	53	56	43
RACE	White	74	43	55
	Black	13	95	4
	Hispanic	9	67	31
	Asian	2	62	35
	Other	3	66	31
AGE	18-29	18	66	32
	30-44	29	52	46
	45-64	37	50	49
	65 & over	16	45	53
INCOME	<\$15,000	6	73	25
	\$15,000-29,999	12	60	37
	\$30-49,999	19	55	43
	\$50-74,999	21	48	49
	\$75-99,999	15	51	48
	\$100,000 & over	26	49	49
UNION HOUSEHOLD	Yes	21	59	39
	No	79	51	47
REGION	East	21	59	40
	Midwest	24	54	44
	South	32	45	54

Minor Parties

- Reform Party
- Green Party
- Constitution Party
- Prohibition Party

Types of Minor Parties

Ideological Party



Single Issue Party



Economic Protest Party



Splinter Party



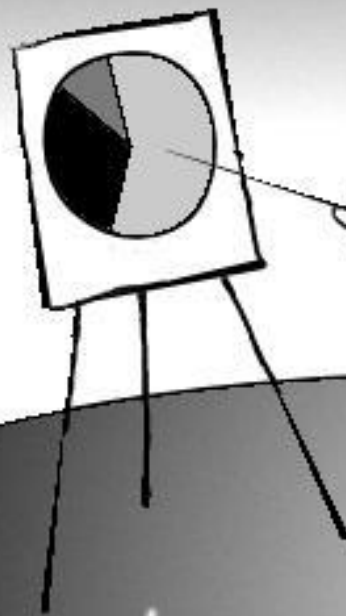
Third Party Impact on Presidential Elections

- Theodore Roosevelt ran for President in 1912 and took votes away from the Republican candidate, President Taft, allowing Democrat Woodrow Wilson to win with only 41.8 percent of the popular vote.

Ross Perot



You gotta pull the car over
to the side a' the road,
and look under the hood.



Chris Weigant

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Perot in 1992 Election

- 18% of the popular vote

Ralph Nader



Nader in the 2000 Election

- Ralph Nader (Green Party) ran to the left of Democrat Al Gore and received 97,488 popular votes in Florida.
- Republican George W. Bush won Florida by 537 votes. If Nader supporters had voted for Gore instead, Gore would have won Florida's 25 electoral votes, and he would have been elected President.

Nader on the 2000 election

- “Gore won, but the Republicans stole his victory in Florida. The Electoral College stole his victory nationally after he won the popular vote. The Supreme Court stole his victory. And 250,000 Democrats in Florida voted for Bush. We've got to stop playing the spoiler game and treating third-party candidates as second-class citizens.”