

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

# Count the Votes!

In the Electoral College system, each state gets a different number of votes. There are 538 votes in all. A candidate must win at least 270 of them to become President. This chart shows how states are likely to vote on Election Day 2008. Use the chart to answer the questions.

**Red States:**  
Almost sure to pick the Republican candidate

**Electoral Votes:**

Alabama	9
Alaska	3
Arizona	10
Arkansas	6
Georgia	15
Idaho	4
Indiana	11
Kansas	6
Kentucky	8
Louisiana	9
Mississippi	6
Montana	3
Nebraska	5
North Dakota	3
Oklahoma	7
South Carolina	8
South Dakota	3
Tennessee	11
Texas	34
Utah	5
West Virginia	5
Wyoming	3
Total number of expected votes	<b>184</b>

**Blue States:**  
Almost sure to pick the Democratic candidate

**Electoral Votes:**

California	55
Connecticut	7
Delaware	3
Hawaii	4
Illinois	21
Maine	4
Maryland	10
Massachusetts	12
Minnesota	10
New York	31
Oregon	7
Rhode Island	4
Vermont	3
Washington	11
Washington, D.C.*	3
Total number of expected votes	<b>185</b>

**Swing States:**  
These states are up for grabs. The vote could go either way!

**Electoral Votes:**

Colorado	9
Florida	27
Iowa	7
Michigan	17
Missouri	11
Nevada	5
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	15
New Mexico	5
North Carolina	15
Ohio	20
Pennsylvania	21
Virginia	13
Wisconsin	10
Total number of votes up for grabs	<b>169</b>

\*NOTE: Washington D.C. is not a state.

- Which state has the most electoral votes?  
 A Texas     B Florida     C California
- How many states are swing states?  
 A 10     B 14     C 22
- A swing state is a state where \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A the vote could go either way  
 B the vote will probably go to the Republican candidate  
 C the vote will probably go to the Democratic candidate
- How many electoral votes does your state have? \_\_\_\_\_.
- Is your state a red, blue, or swing state?
- Imagine that a Democratic candidate needs just 16 more electoral votes to win. He or she could win those votes by winning in \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A Nevada and New Mexico     B Colorado and Iowa     C Wisconsin and Nevada

