

# 1968

## Democrats (Hubert Humphrey)

- the Party was heavily divided over the issue of the Vietnam War
- during the primary season, LBJ announced his withdrawal from the race & candidate Robert Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles
- Democratic convention held in Chicago was marred by violence, with Chicago police battering student protesters outside the convention hall
- the Chicago riots hurt Humphrey as most Americans seemingly supported the police action
- tried to distance himself from LBJ, saying that he would cease bombing North Vietnam immediately
- criticized Wallace for feeding on racism, prejudice & intolerance
- tried to hold the Democratic coalition
- called for the maintenance of a strong national defense

PV = 31,275,166  
EV = 191

91st Congress -> House = 243; Senate = 57  
92nd Congress -> House = 254; Senate = 54

## Republicans (Richard Nixon)

- the former Vice-President, who once pledged not to re-enter politics, did so again
- pledged that he would restore "law & order" to America's streets
- pledged to show support for the "silent majority," those Americans who were "non-shouters" & "non-demonstrators"
- campaigned carefully, even to the point of turning down an invitation by Humphrey to a TV debate
- effectively used the TV "sound bite" to publicize his candidacy on the evening news programs
- stated that he had a "secret" plan to end the Vietnam War [which he admitted in 1983 was a "simple" lie]
- platform specifically stated that the failure of Vietnam belonged to the Democrats
- platform specifically rejected recognition of China
- pledged to end the draft
- made a brief appearance on the popular "Laugh-In" TV show to "sock it to 'em"

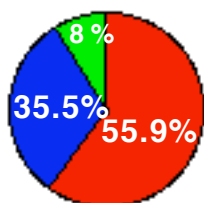
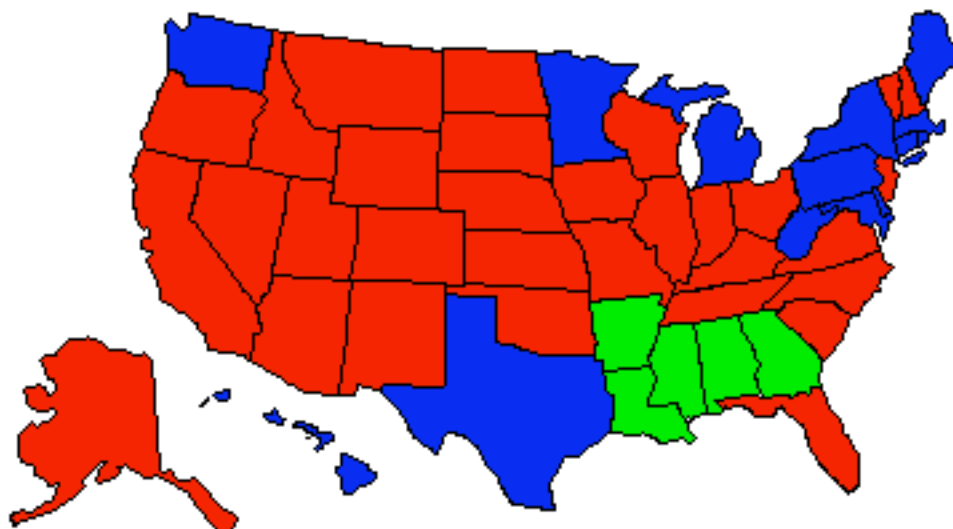
PV = 31,785,480  
EV = 301

91st Congress -> House = 192; Senate = 43  
92nd Congress -> House = 180; Senate = 44

## American Independent (George Wallace)

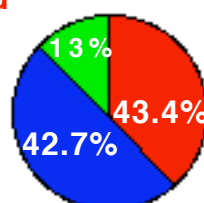
- the Democratic Governor of Alabama was a staunch segregationist
- competed against Nixon on the "law & order" issue
- competed against Humphrey in the North by appealing to "hard hats" fed up with campus protests
- lost support when his Vice-Presidential nominee Curtis LeMay suggested that we should nuke Vietnam
- platform suggested that negotiations to the end the Vietnam war should continue, but if they were to fail, a military conclusion would be inevitable

PV = 9,906,473  
EV = 46



Electoral Vote

### Nixon/Ford



Popular Vote