

Table 2-2 Popular Vote and House Seats Won by Party, 1946 - 2022

| Year | Democratic candidates                   |   | Republican candidates                   |   | Change from last election <sup>a</sup> |   | Difference between<br>Democratic<br>percentage of seats<br>and votes won |
|------|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
|      | Percentage of<br>all votes <sup>b</sup> | Percentage of<br>seats won <sup>c</sup> | Percentage of<br>all votes <sup>b</sup> | Percentage of<br>seats won <sup>c</sup> | Percentage of<br>major party<br>votes  | Percentage of<br>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 |
| 2022 | 47.4 | 49.0 | 50.0 | 51.0 | 2.9R | 2.1R | 1.6 |

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>.