

**CLAT 2021**

**US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2020**



## US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2020

- **Joe Biden, Presidential nominee of Democratic Party** has emerged as the **winner of 59<sup>th</sup> presidential election of United States** against his opponent former President of US, **Donald Trump** of Republican Party.
- Forty-eight years to the day after he was first elected a senator from Delaware, Joseph R. Biden Jr. addressed the nation for the first time as president-elect on Saturday night. In his victory speech, he emphasised on a message of unity and said the time has now come to “heal and restore the soul of America.” “I pledge to be a president who seeks not to divide but to unify. For all those of you who voted for President Trump, I understand the disappointment tonight. Now let’s give each other a chance. It’s time to put away the harsh rhetoric, lower the temperature, see each other again, listen to each other again. Let this grim era of demonization in America begin to end — here and now,” he said.
- **Kamala Harris, the first Black woman and first South Asian American woman to become vice president-elect**, began her victory speech by quoting the late congressman and civil rights leader John Lewis, who said, “Democracy is not a state, it’s not an act.” She also remembered her late mother and said, “While I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last.” “When our very democracy was on the ballot in this election and the very soul of America was at stake and the world watching, you ushered in a new day for America,” she added.
- **Election Day** – 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020

### Election Results

Electoral Votes needed to win – **270**

**Joe Biden** – 290 Electoral Votes, Vote% - **50.6%**, Vote Count – 7,51,96,516

**Donald Trump** – 214 Electoral Votes, Vote% - **47.7%**, Vote Count – 7,08,03,881

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## About JOE BIDEN – 46<sup>TH</sup> President of USA



- Born on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 1942 at Scranton, Pennsylvania, United States, the 77 years old Joe Biden has served in office of **US President Barack Obama as Vice President (2008 – 2016)**.
- Before entering politics of USA he worked briefly as an attorney. He holds distinction for being fifth youngest US Senator and longest serving senator of Delaware. He was presented with Presidential Medal of Freedom in the year 2017 by Barack Obama at close of his administration. He launched his campaign two years later for contesting US President Election. He received his education from St. Paul's Elementary School, St. Helena School, Archmere Academy. He attended University of Delaware. There he studied History, Political Science and also played Football. During these years he developed keen interest in politics.
- In 1965, he graduated from Syracuse University Law School. Next year, 1966 he married Neilia Hunter who died in traffic accident in December 1972 along with their daughter Naomi Biden. In 1968 he began his practice at a law firm in Wilmington; Delaware. He became member of Democratic Party and got elected to the New Castle County Council. He started his own Law Firm while serving as councilman in 1971.
- He married Dr. Jill Biden, the US former Second Lady in 1977. Their daughter Ashley was born in 1981. His son died battling brain cancer. His son Robert Hunter Biden born in 1970 is an American Lawyer and Investment Advisor.
- Joe Biden became Democratic presidential nominee in August, 2020. **On 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 he was declared as 46<sup>th</sup> elected President after winning Pennsylvania.**

*"America, I'm honored that you have chosen me to lead our great country"*

**Joe Biden (Victory Tweet)**

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## Awards & Honors

- The Chancellor Medal (1980) and the George Arents Pioneer Medal – Syracuse University – 2005
- Best of Congress Award – Working Mother Magazine – 2008
- Laetare Medal – University of Notre Dame – 2016
- Presidential Medal of Freedom with distinction – President Barrack Obama – 2017
- In December, 2018 University of Delaware renamed its school to Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration.

## About KAMALA HARRIS – First female Vice-President Elect



- **Kamala Harris, American Democratic politician was born on 20 October, 1964 in Oakland, California to Jamaican father and Indian mother.** She received her education from Notre-Dame-des-Neiges, Westmount High School (1981), Howard University (1986) and US Hastings College of the Law (1989).
- In 1990 she worked as deputy district attorney in California, district attorney of San Francisco (2004-2011), Attorney General of California (2011-2017) and US Senate (2017-present). Kamala Harris married Mr. Douglas Emhoff an American Lawyer in 2014.
- **On 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 she will assume office of Vice-President of US.**

## University Degrees

- **Howard University – Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Political Science and Economics – 1986**
- **University of California, Hastings College of the Law – Juris Doctor (JD) – 1989**

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## Honorary Degrees

- University of Southern California – Doctor of Laws (LL.D) – 2015
- Howard University – Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) – 2017

## Awards & Honors

- Thurgood Marshall Award – National Black Prosecutors Association – 2005
- 20 of America’s most Powerful Women – Newsweek Report – 2005
- One of the 34 Attorneys of the year – California Lawyer Magazine – 2008
- Top 75 women Litigators in the state and one of the top 100 Lawyers in the state – The Daily Journal – 2010
- 100 Most Influential People in the World – TIME – 2013
- Bipartisan Justice Award – the 20/20 Bipartisan Justice Center – 2016
- ECOS Environmental Award – 2018

## Books

- Smart On Crime: A Career Prosecutor’s Plan to Make Us Safer – 2009
- Superheroes Are Everywhere – 2019
- The Truths We Hold: An American Journey – 2019

*“I hope every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities”*

*Kamala Harris (Victory Tweet)*

## **How is the American President elected?**

### **Eligibility for becoming US President**

- A natural-born citizen of the USA
- A resident of the United States for 14 years
- Minimum Age of 35 Years

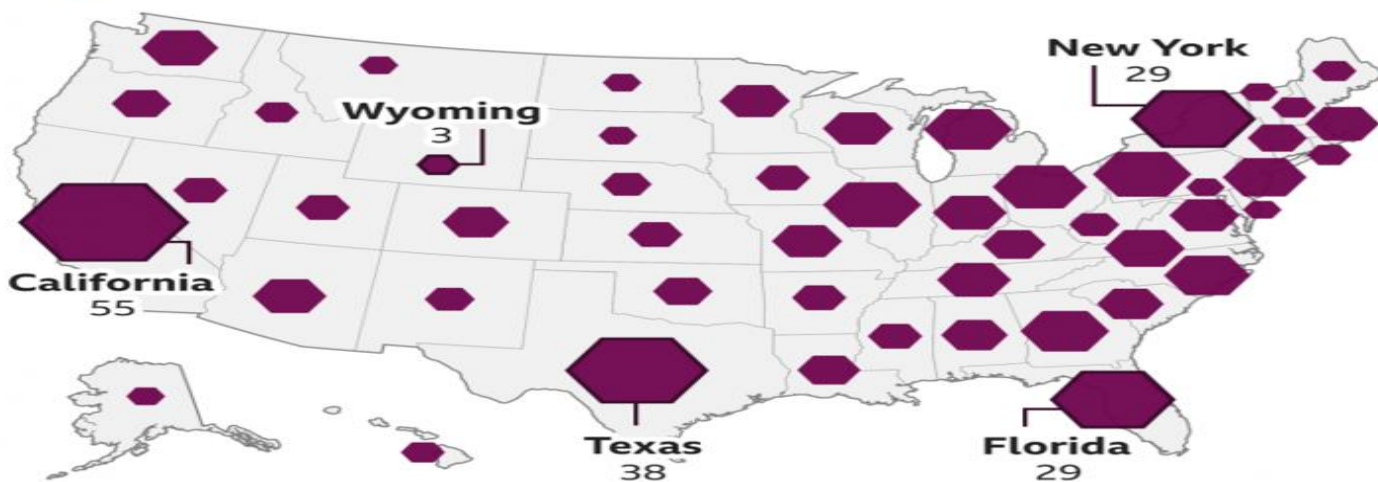
### **United States Electoral College**

**In every fourth year on First Tuesday of November voters elect President of the United States. These public votes determine *Electors* who then formally choose the President through *Electoral College*. The combined number of the State’s members of the U.S House of Representatives and Senate determine the number Electors a state receives.**

## US 2020 election: The electoral votes allocated to each state

270 out of 538 are needed to win the presidency

◆ Size shows electoral votes per state



Source: usa.gov

BBC

US have 538 Electors, each Elector with one Electoral Vote. In order to win Presidency a candidate needs majority of 270 Votes or more.

State	No. Of Votes	State	No. of Votes	State	No. of Votes
Alabama	9	Kentucky	8	North Dakota	3
Alaska	3	Louisiana	8	Ohio	18
Arizona	11	Maine	4	Oklahoma	7
Arkansas	6	Maryland	10	Oregon	7
California	55	Massachusetts	11	Pennsylvania	20
Colorado	9	Michigan	16	Rhode Island	4
Connecticut	9	Minnesota	10	South Carolina	9
Delaware	3	Mississippi	6	South Dakota	3
District of Columbia	3	Missouri	10	Tennessee	11
Florida	29	Montana	3	Texas	38
Georgia	16	Nebraska	5	Utah	6
Hawaii	4	Nevada	6	Vermont	3
Idaho	4	New Hampshire	4	Virginia	13
Illinois	20	New Jersey	14	Washington	12
Indiana	11	New Mexico	5	West Virginia	5
Iowa	6	New York	29	Wisconsin	10
Kansas	6	North Carolina	15	Wyoming	3

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### **In case, if no candidate gets a majority?**

- The House of Representatives, the lower house of US lawmakers, will then vote to elect the president.
- This has happened only once, when in 1824 four candidates split the electoral vote, denying any one of them a majority.
- With two parties dominating the US system, this is unlikely to happen today.

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