

ALASKA
Winner: REPUBLICAN

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Through thorough analysis of previous election years in Alaska, it is safe to say that the Alaskan ticket is the republican ticket. The states population make-up, voter registration and past elections are strong indicators that the upcoming election will result in a republican win in Alaska. Aside from a drastic change in social and political movement, it is safe to say that Alaska will vote Republican in November.

When we break down, and explain why Alaska votes Republican, we have to look at the actual population and socio-economical breakdown of the people in Alaska. The state is predominately un-inhabited, with an average of one person per square mile, and a majority of the population is divided into three cities; Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. (US Census. 2001) This rural way of life means less diversity in the population which is something that Democrats traditionally thrive on. This rural way of life also means that more people choose or are forced to live a life without government involvement, a trait that is key to the Republican platform. (Hagstrom. 2004) The population is majority white at 70 percent, with a 15 percent population of Native Americans and less than 10 percent for Asian, black and Hispanic races.(Alaska Census. 2000) This breakdown shows a very low minority percentage or population, which in turn are normal democrat constituents.

Another key factor in Republicans taking Alaska in November is the large percentage of Republican voters in Alaska. As recently as 2008, Alaska reported a 62 percent average of registered Republican voters. (US Census, 2008) This is almost 40 percent more than the number of registered Democrat voters at 32%. Traditionally, it is nearly impossible for Democrat candidates to swing registered Republican voters to the vote Democrat. Democrats depend on Independent or undecided votes to make up ground between them and Republican voters, but in Alaska these voters make up less than 10 percent of the population. (US Census, 2008) Unless the Republican candidate is unable to identify with traditional Republican values during his or her campaign, the Republicans should have no problem picking up Alaska in the presidential election in November.

Election results from previous years also favor Republicans in Alaska. Whether it is in presidential, gubernatorial or senatorial races, Republicans have been extremely successful in Alaska over the past twenty years. Alaska has voted Republican in the presidential election, dating back to the first George Bush in 1988. (Leip, 2008) Each election has resulted in over 50 percent of the vote going to the Republican candidate in these past elections. Dating back to 1990, Republicans have dominated the senate seats of Alaska, having been elected each election term during that span. What is more impressive is that each Republican senate candidate in those elections garnered over 60 percent of the vote, reaching almost 80 percent in the 2002 election. (CNN, 2002) In the past four gubernatorial elections only one Democrat has been able to win election, with a small margin in 1994. This candidate was unable to earn re-election for another term in 1998 and Democrats have not reached the governors office since. (Leip, 2008) As far as state senate and house elections go, they couldn't be more

Republican. The state senate has been ruled by Republicans for the past six years, never dropping below possession of ten of twenty seats. (Alaska Leg. 2000-2006) Parallel to that has been the state house which has also been dominated by Republicans over the past six years, sometimes doubling the amount of seats held by Democrats out of the forty seats available.

Without a doubt, Alaska will be going Republican this upcoming election. As long as the Republican candidate identifies with his or her strong constituent base in Alaska, then Alaska will be giving it's nine Electoral College votes to the red side.

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