

**ARKANSAS**  
**Winner: Democrat**

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After looking at the data for the past years in Arkansas, I have determined that in the coming 2008 presidential election the state will take there six electoral votes and go with the Democrats. Even though Arkansas has a tendency to flip from Democrat to Republican and Republican to Democrat, I believe this year will be no different coming off of the support from the 2004 election for a Republican. The state is in no way, shape or form a state that votes for the same party every election. There is a large portion of no affiliation registered voters, that could swing the vote either way but I think it is safe to say Arkansas will be a democratic state for the 2008 election.

As for the demographics there is an 80% White population with 15% African American, 3% Hispanic and 1% other (Arkansas Census Data 2000). Going off of those demographics one would assume there is a large Republican association but with the data results from previous elections it looks to be like the state is almost split 50/50. Every presidential election since 1988 has been close; neither candidate has every won by an overwhelming percentage of the popular vote. During the 2004 election Bush won by 54% and in 2000 won by 51% (Leip 2008). During the 1996 election Clinton won by 54% and in 1992 53%, one would think the governor of Arkansas would have won by a larger percentage than that (Leip 2008). In the 1988 election Bush senior won by an exceptional 56% the largest percentage out of five elections (Leip 2008). It seems Arkansas almost has a pattern in its presidential elections, in 1984 & 1988 it was a Republican winner, in 1992 & 1996 there was a Democrat winner and as for 2000 & 2004 it went back to Republican therefore helping give support to my prediction of a Democratic winner.

As for Arkansas leaders in the House of Representative and the Senate they are majority democratic right now as well. Arkansas's Senators hold six year terms and they are due for an election coming up this year. The Senator right now is a Democrat and won by 54% and I believe with an election this year they will elect another Democrat into office (The New York Times). As for the House of Representatives they have four representatives to elect every two years. In 1990 they had three representatives that were Democrats and one that was Republican (Lendy 1991). From 1992 through 1998 the state divided, two representatives from the Democratic party and two from the Republican (Anderson 1993, Carle 1995, 1997, Trandahl 1999). In 2000 the Democrats took back over the majority with three representatives leaving the Republicans hanging on with one representative in the third congressional district of Arkansas (Trandahl 2000, 2002 & The Green Papers 2005, 2007).

Arkansas on a state level is a straight democratic state. The past six years in both the state House and Senate it has been straight Democratic winners. In the Arkansas's Senate they have a total of 35 seats. Every year it is the same 27 seats going to the Democrats and eight going to the Republicans (State Vote). In the house there has been a little change over the past six years but not enough to alter from a majority Democratic house.

In 2000 and 2002 there were 70 seats to the Democrats and 30 to the Republicans (State Vote). In 2004 the Republicans lost two seats to the Democrats and in 2006 they lost three more (State Vote). If the movement continues it looks like this election they will loose a few more seats as well. In the data collection the Governor of Arkansas has been a Democrat three out of the five elections, giving more support to the notion that Arkansas is a strong Democratic State on State level elections.

Even though on a national level Arkansas tends to flip back and fourth from Republican to Democratic state on a state level they are concrete Democrats. This is why in the end during the 2008 presidential election you will be more than likely to see Arkansas as a Democratic supporting state.

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