

Arizona
Winner: Republican

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Recent, past elections have shown us that Arizona is a fairly red and Republican state. These elections and demographic make-up of the state prove to us that Arizona will most likely vote Republican in the November election. We know that the presumptive Republican nominee will be John McCain, and regardless of who the Democrat nominee will be, he will win. Arizona is McCain's home state, and he has been a United States Senator for a long time. Therefore, in November, Arizona will vote Republican.

Arizona has always been a red state, even though the latest voter registration statistics say that only 38.5% of active voters are Republican (State of Arizona Registration Report, 2008). Most of the state is also white, and the median household income is over \$40,000 (US Census Bureau). So most of these people that are of age to vote will vote Republican. And since most of the state is white, there is not much diversity, so the Democrats who like minorities are not likely to win big. Even though the percent number of registered Republicans and Democrats in Arizona are close, the state still votes Republican because of these demographics that I have just stated.

Another reason why Arizona will vote Republican in November is that in the past five presidential elections, they have voted for the Republican candidate three out of those five times. All three cases were landslide victories in both the popular election and Electoral College vote (Leip, 2005). For example, in the 2004 election George W. Bush won 50.73% and 53.2% of the popular vote and Electoral vote, respectively. Now, these were not exactly landslide victories, but he beat the Democratic candidate by more than 5% of the vote. The two years that Arizona voted for the Democratic candidate were the years that Bill Clinton was running, and in those two years he won in a landslide victory (Leip, 2005). Arizona, nonetheless, is still very much a Republican state at this level.

When taking a closer look at the state offices of Arizona, we notice another very red trend. Every Senator, and the majority of the House members are Republican. The Republican candidate has won in the race for Senator in the past 6 elections (Leip, 2005). Since Arizona has 8 congressional districts, some of those elected representatives are likely to be Democrat. For example, in the 2006 race, 6 of the 8 seats are held by Republicans, and the other 2 are held by Democrats. The Republicans have always won the majority of the House seats in the US Congress. At the state level, Republican state Senators and state House members hold the majority over the Democrats. The office of the governor, however, is a little different. The past 2 elections have yielded a Democratic governor. But prior to that, the office was held by a Republican (Leip, 2005). Needless to say, Arizona is very much a red state at the Congress level and state legislature level.

SOURCES

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U.S. Census Bureau. "Arizona Census Data." 2008. Available at <<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/04000.htm>>