



# COMPARISON BETWEEN INDIAN & US ELECTION PROCESS



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There are actually only a few similarities between the organization of the government in the two biggest functioning democracies around the world. Elections in the USA are therefore not quite the same as elections in India. United States follows the presidential form of the Government and India follows the parliamentary form. In the US presidential system, the President is both the chief executive of the government and the head of state. In India the Head of state is different from the Head of the government.

## Here are the main differences:

### USA

### IND

 <b>Political Parties</b>	US has two prominent parties that have the most power the Republican Party and the Democratic Party, both of which are built on a specific ideology. Although the Libertarian Party, Green Party, and other smaller parties exist in US but they are as big as the two major ones.	India, however, has many parties that operate on the different regional level.
 <b>Date of Election</b>	The date of the election is fixed that is the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in US.	No such date is fixed.
 <b>Management Authority</b>	There is no centralised election management body in US	India has Election Commission
 <b>Time of Election</b>	13 hours	8-9 hours
 <b>Vote Counting</b>	Counting begins as soon as voting is over in a particular state	counting is often held days or even weeks after voting
 <b>Voting System</b>	The voting systems are diverse in US— voting at polling stations on poll day, early voting in person, absentee voting by mail. The ballot design varies from state to state.	In India there is uniformity with EVMs being used generally.
 <b>Electoral System</b>	In the US Electoral College system, each state gets a certain number of electors based on its total number of representatives in Congress. Each elector casts one electoral vote following the general election; there are a total of 538 electoral votes. The candidate that gets more than half (270) wins the election. A state has one elector for each of its members of the House of Representatives, and one for each of the state's two senators.	Members of Lok Sabha are elected by being voted upon by all adult citizens of India, from a set of candidates who stand in their respective constituencies. The MPs of the party or alliance with majority seats choose their leader as the head of the government, who becomes Prime Minister of India.
 <b>Winner</b>	Winner-Take-All is the general criteria in US. So the candidate that gets the largest number of votes (not a majority) is declared to have won the state and gets all the electoral votes of that state. In US, one can win the popular vote and still lose the election.	In India, each seat in a particular state can go to different political party/individual and the winner needs to secure the maximum number of votes.
 <b>Others</b>	There is a complexity of the election process and the multiplicity of authorities in the U.S as in many states, a voter will be choosing not just the US president but 20 different contestants on a single ballot, including the member of the US Senate and the House of Representatives, state senate, governor, state attorney general, supreme court judge, among others.	In India direct elections are held only for members to Lok Sabha and indirect for Rajya Sabha, President, Vice President.