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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 11.9.20

[“National Exit Polls, 2020,” *New York Times*, 11.3.20.](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/11/03/us/elections/exit-polls-president.html)

1. What are three trends you see in the 2020 Exit Poll Data?
2. For each trend you identified, create a hypothesis to explain this outcome.
3. Based on the exit polls, what is the Biden coalition of supporters? How is it different from the Trump coalition?
4. Why are exit polls such an important tool for politicians, the media, and the American people?

Otterbein, [“How Pennsylvania Was Won,” Politico, 11.7.20.](https://www.politico.com/news/2020/11/07/how-pennsylvania-was-won-434974)

1. What is the significance of the State of Pennsylvania on the 2020 Election?
2. How did the Democratic Party perform on down ballot races compared to the Presidential race? What can explain this?
3. In what areas did President-Elect Biden outperform Secretary Clinton? Why do you think this is?
4. In what areas did President Trump outperform his 2016 performance? Why do you think this is?
5. In your opinion, will Democrats struggle if Trump is no longer on the ballot in Pennsylvania? Why or why not?

Cillizza, [“Why Georgia is about to become the center of the political universe,” CNN, 11.6.20.](https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/05/politics/georgia-senate-jon-ossoff-david-perdue-kelly-loeffler-raphael-warnock/index.html)

1. What is the significance of the two Senate races in Georgia on January 5?
2. How did the unique Georgia election rules create this situation? Do you support this policy? Why or why not?
3. Based on the outcome of the 2020 Elections, which candidates and party do you think has the advantage in these two runoffs? Why?
4. Should President-elect Biden get heavily involved in trying to win these runoffs? Why or why not?