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How has your town voted in key presidential races?

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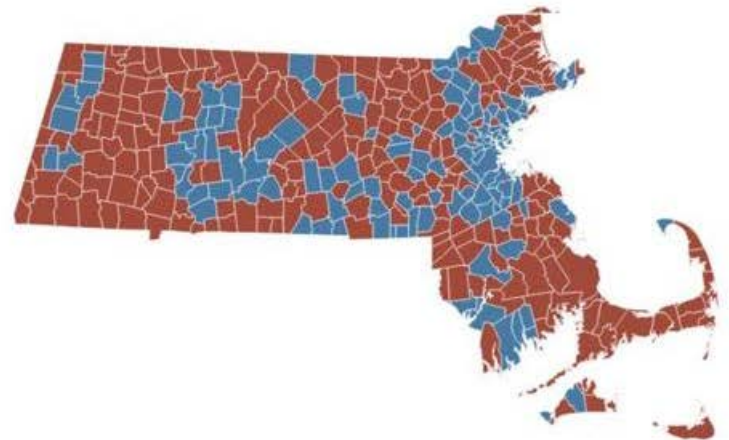
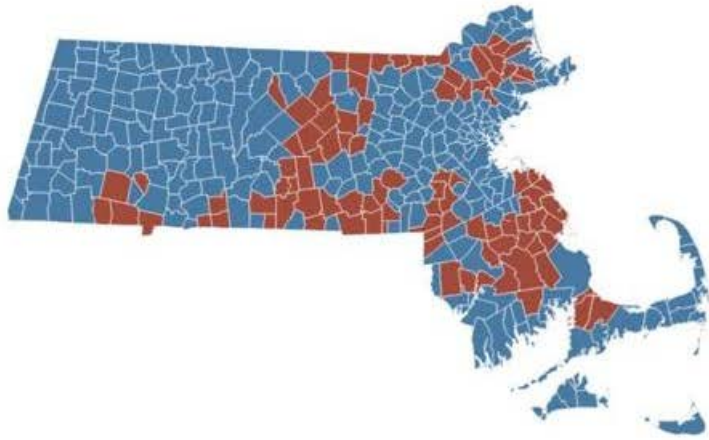
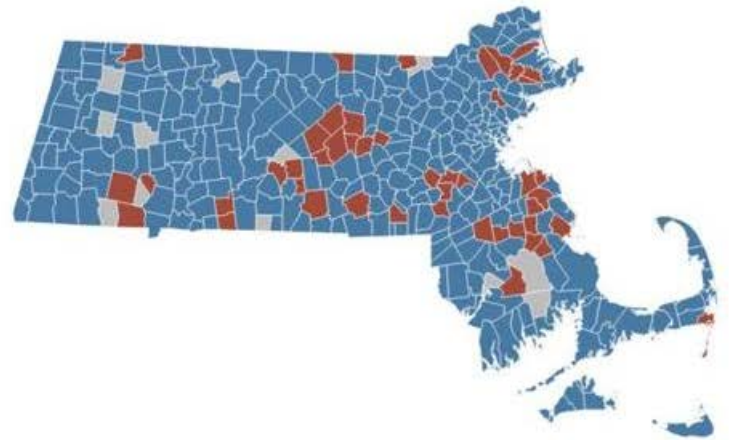
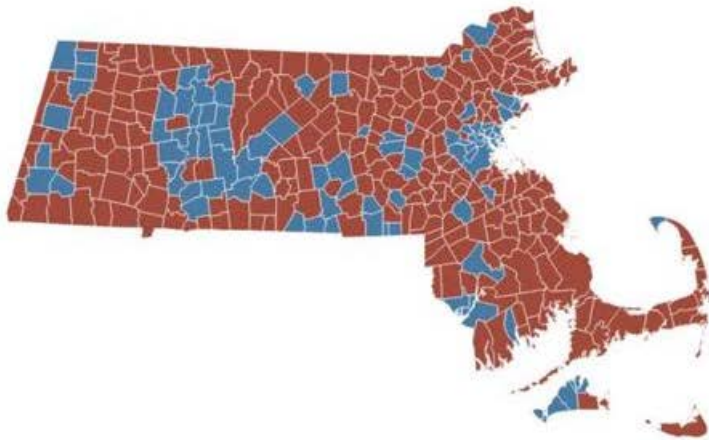
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By **Matt Rocheleau**

GLOBE STAFF OCTOBER 13, 2016

Massachusetts always votes for Democrats in presidential elections, right?

Not so fast.

Twice since 1972, the Bay State has backed the Republican ticket, joining the rest of the country in the “Reagan Revolution” of 1980 and 1984.

In 1988, Massachusetts turned blue again and showed its loyalty to favorite son and former governor Michael Dukakis in his unsuccessful bid against George H.W. Bush.



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The state then helped sweep Bill Clinton into office in 1992 and has stayed in the Democratic column ever since.

Statewide results in past presidential elections

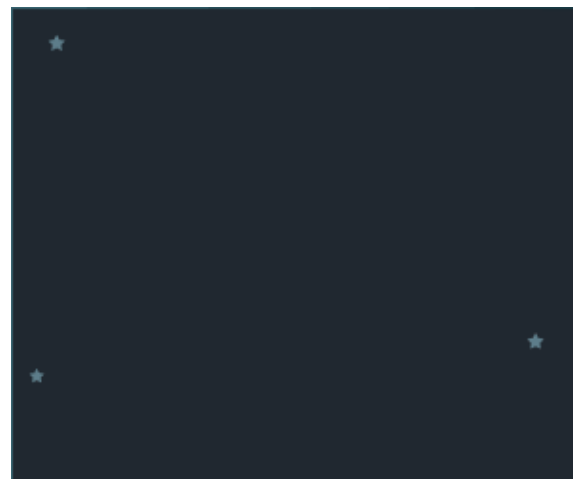
A look at how Massachusetts has voted in past presidential elections.

Town-by-town presidential election results

How has your community voted over the years?

These maps show how Massachusetts cities and towns voted in the watershed elections of 1980 and 1992 — as well as 2012, when former governor Mitt Romney challenged President Obama, and 1972, the earliest town-by-town election data available.

Blue represents the Democratic party, while red represents the Republican party. Gray, which appears only in the 1992 map, represents an independent ticket.



1972

Democratic ticket George McGovern and R. Sargent Shriver versus Republican ticket Richard M. Nixon and Spiro Agnew. McGovern-Shriver won the most votes overall in Massachusetts. Nixon-Agnew won the national election.



1980

Democratic ticket Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale versus Republican ticket Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. Reagan-Bush won the most votes overall in Massachusetts and also won the national election.



1992

Democratic ticket Bill Clinton and Al Gore versus Republican ticket George H.W. Bush and Dan Quayle versus independent ticket Ross Perot and James Stockdale. Clinton-Gore won the most votes overall in Massachusetts and also won the national election.



2012


Democratic ticket Barack Obama and Joe Biden versus Republican ticket Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan. Obama-Biden won the most votes overall in Massachusetts and also won the national election.



SOURCE: Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Elections Division
MATT ROCHELEAU/GLOBE STAFF

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at matthew.rocheleau@globe.com. Follow him on Twitter [@mrochele](https://twitter.com/mrochele)

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