



2020 Elections and Impact on Health IT Policy

November 12, 2020

Our Work

eHI conducts research,
education and advocacy
around critical issues to
support executives
transforming healthcare



eHealth Initiative Leadership



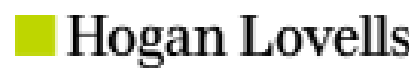
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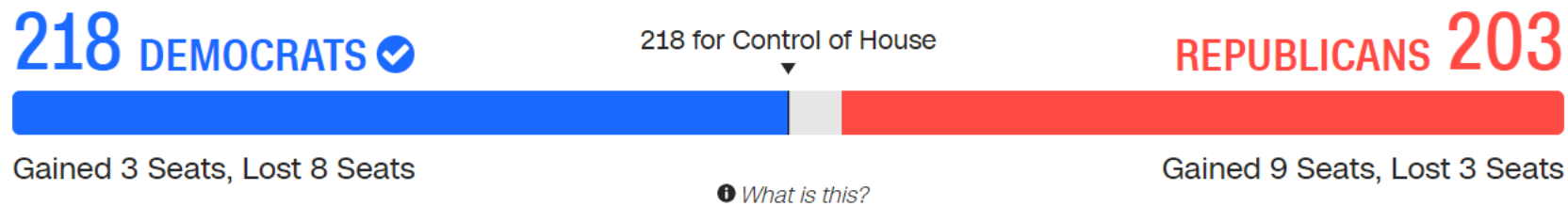
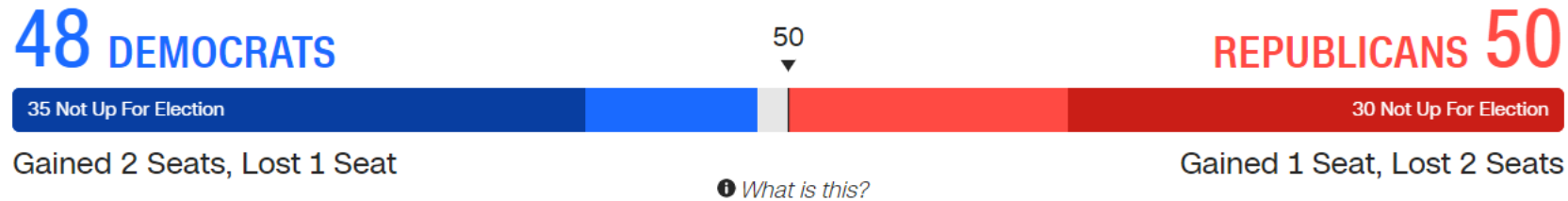
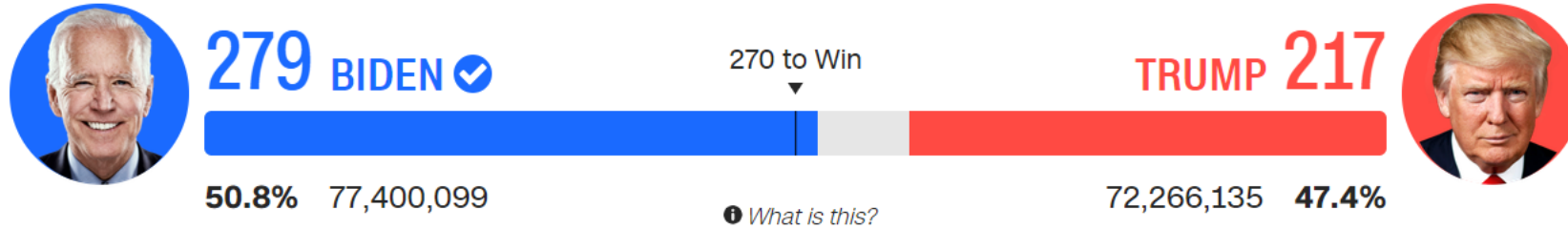
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EHNAC



Election Results Overview



Why Were People Voting? Who Voted?

Which one of these five issues mattered most in deciding how you voted for president?

Racial inequality 20% of voters	8	91
The coronavirus pandemic 17%	14	82
The economy 35%	82	17
Crime and safety 11%	71	28
Health care policy 11%	36	63

Who would better handle the coronavirus pandemic?

Joe Biden 51% of voters	5	92
Donald Trump 43%	93	7

Are you male or female?

Male 47% of voters	49%	48%
Female 53%	43	56

What is your racial or ethnic heritage?

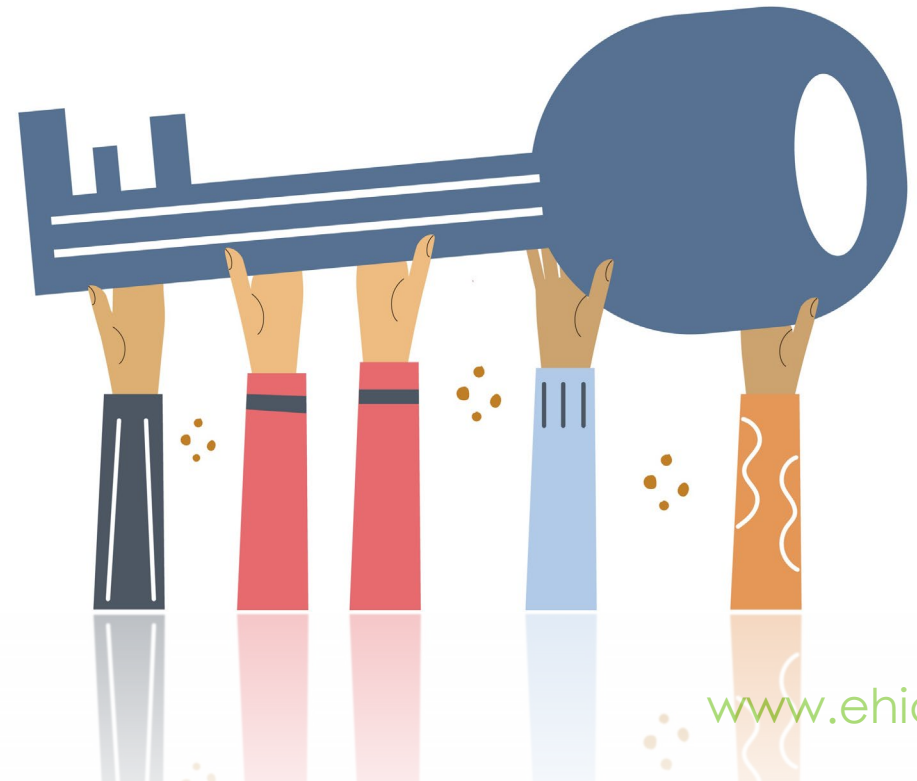
White 65% of voters	57	42
Black 12%	12	87
Hispanic/Latino 13%	32	66
Asian 3%	31	63
Other 6%	40	58



NYT Exit Poll Data

Key Takeaways

- Health care not top issue to voters, as was expected
- Even more division and gridlock in Congress
 - Both parties face internal reckoning between moderates and wings
- Major party leaders have decades of experience making deals with each other – does that matter in today's climate?



Impact on Health IT Policy



- Health IT issues have largely been bipartisan – interoperability, telehealth- but division in Congress means it will be difficult to move *any* legislation
- Like previous administrations, Biden Administration could move many issues via regulation



Lame Duck Session

- The current government funding bill expires on December 11th – includes Medicare/Medicaid extenders
- Will COVID relief talks resume?
- Will Congress make permanent telehealth changes?



Health IT in the 117th Congress

- Privacy
 - Discussions on broad privacy legislation likely to resume
 - Expect HIPAA carve-out, could include “health-ish” data
 - Main areas of partisan disagreement: enforcement and pre-emption
- Telehealth
 - Broad bipartisan support for expansion at Member level
 - Committee and leadership staff remain skeptical of full-scale expansion – want to see data
- Public health modernization
 - Lessons learned from COVID-19



Some of Trump's Regulatory Agenda was Bipartisan...

- Transparency
- Patient health data access and interoperability
- Telehealth
- Drug pricing



A Biden HHS

- Immediate focus on COVID-19
- With divided Congress, likely larger role for CMMI
- ACA remains unanswered question
 - Depends on SCOTUS decision, but at the least a Biden HHS will rebuild many ACA functions gutted by Trump Administration



Questions?

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