State-by-State Process Comparison – Based on the Process Used By Each State in 2004

The table below groups each state by the type of process it used for the 2004 nominating cycle. For the 2004 cycle, the DNC identified processes as one of three types: (1) state-run presidential primaries; (2) State Democratic Party-run presidential primaries; and (3) caucuses. Please note that the distinction between a Party-run primary and a caucus was sometimes blurred based on what the State Party called its system and the staff's analysis of the type of nominating event being conducted.

STATE	District-Level Sel'n	NOTES		
STATE PRESIDENTIAL	STATE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES			
some states, the ballot all candidates in accordance delegates are slated for p Party's procedures based	so includes district-level of with the Party's procedur presidential candidates in a d on the primary election re	r may not be held in conjunction with other state or local elections. In lelegate candidates that are subsequently allocated to the presidential es. Other states use pre-primary caucuses where district-level advance of the primary and then allocated in accordance with the esults. In post-primary caucus states, the Party meets after the primary presidential candidate received as a result of the primary.		
Alabama	Two-part Primary			
Arizona	Post-primary caucus	 2004 was the first year Arizona Democrats were able to participate in the state primary. In 2000, the State Party held a Party-run primary featuring Internet voting because the date of the state primary violated the window. In prior cycles, the state used a caucus system. 		
Arkansas	Post-primary caucus			
California	Pre-primary caucus			
Connecticut	Post-primary caucus			
Delaware	Post-primary caucus	 Delaware created its primary in 1996. However, in 1996 and 2000, the date of the primary – the Saturday immediately following New Hampshire – violated Rule 10.A. As a result, the State Party participated in the primary, but then held a caucus system in those cycles to determine the allocation of delegates to presidential candidates. For 2004, the state moved the date of the primary the window. 		
Florida	Post-primary caucus			
Georgia	Post-primary caucus			
Illinois	Two-part primary			
Indiana	Post-primary caucus			
Kentucky	Post-primary caucus			
Louisiana	Post-primary caucus			
Maryland	Two-part primary			
Massachusetts	Post-primary caucus			
Mississippi	Post-primary caucus			

STATE	District-Level Sel'n	NOTES
Missouri	Post-primary caucus	Missouri Democrats used a primary system in 1998, 2000, and 2004. In other cycles, the state has used a caucus system.
Montana	Post-primary caucus	
Nebraska	Post-primary caucus	
New Hampshire	Pre-primary caucus	
New Jersey	Two-part primary	
New York	Two-part primary	
Ohio	Pre-primary caucus	
Oklahoma	Post-primary caucus	
Oregon	Post-primary caucus	
Pennsylvania	Two-part primary	
Rhode Island	Two-part primary	
South Dakota	Pre-primary caucus	
Tennessee	Post-primary caucus	
Texas	Post-primary caucus	
Vermont	Post-primary caucus	
Virginia	Post-primary caucus	Virginia Democrats used a primary in 2004 for the first time since 1998. In other cycles the state has used a caucus system.
West Virginia	Two-part primary	
Wisconsin	Post-primary caucus	

PARTY-RUN PRIMARIES

Individuals cast ballots or sign caucus registration pledge forms at a central polling location. The cumulative vote totals determine the allocation of delegates among presidential preferences. There are no subsequent tiers or levels, i.e. no election from precinct level to county level. All components of this process are entirely administered and run by the State Democratic Party. (See descriptions above regarding the selection of district-level delegates).

Michigan	Post-primary caucus	 Because the state holds an "open" primary which conflicts with National Party rules on participation, Michigan Democrats can not participate in the state-funded presidential primary. The State Party sometimes calls its event a "firehouse primary" or even a "caucus."
South Carolina	Post-primary caucus	 The state government does not pay for either party's primary. In 2004 and 1992, the State Party conducted a Party-run primary. Other cycles the State Party used a caucus system.
Utah	Post-primary caucus	 In 2004, the State Party conducted a Party-run primary, because the state de-funded the presidential primary. In 2000, the state used a presidential primary. Prior to 2000, the state used a caucus system.

STATE	District-Level Sel'n	NOTES

CAUCUSES

These pure State Party run events feature multiple tiers of meetings. Often the first steps begins at the precinct or county level. At each stage, local delegates are elected to the next level. The proportionate share of support by the participants for the presidential candidates determines the number of delegates awarded to each candidate. For Caucus states, the "District-Level Section" column shows the step where the allocation of district-level delegates to presidential candidates is determined.

Alaska	State convention	
American Samoa	n/a	
Colorado	District convention	 State Democrats participated in the state primary in 1992, 1996, and 2000. For the 2004 cycle, the state de-funded the presidential primary and the State Party reverted to the traditional caucus process it had used prior to 1992.
Democrats Abroad		
District of Columbia	District caucus	 While called a "caucus" by District Democrats, the 2004 nominating event was actually a Party-run primary. The DC Democratic Party was required to used this system in 2004, after its traditional May primary was moved to January – which violated the window. The January primary was subsequently considered a non-binding beauty contest.
Guam		
Hawaii	State convention	
Idaho	State convention	
Iowa	District convention	
Kansas	District caucus	 ! The state conducted presidential primaries in 1980 and 1992. ! In both the 2000 and 2004 cycles, the state did not fund the presidential primary, and Kansas Democrats were forced to conduct a caucus process.
Maine	State convention	 Maine had traditionally used a caucus system until the 1996 cycle and routinely used a special exception from the window that allowed it to hold its first-tier caucuses the Saturday immediately following the New Hampshire primary. In 1996 and 2000, the state conducted a presidential primary. In 2004, Maine's timing exception in Rule 10 was removed, although ironically, Maine Democrats later decided to again use a caucus system.
Minnesota	District caucus	
Nevada	State convention	

STATE	District-Level Sel'n	NOTES
New Mexico	District convention	 While called a "caucus" by New Mexico Democrats, the 2004 nominating event was actually a Party-run primary. In using its "caucus" system for the first time in 2004, New Mexico Democrats abandoned the state's traditional June presidential primary which they had used since 1972.
North Carolina	District convention	 Because of litigation concerning state legislative district redistricting, the date of the 2004 state presidential primary, which included other state primary contests, was pushed back to after the 2004 Convention. Subsequently, the State Party used a caucus system for 2004. In all other presidential nominating cycles, North Carolina Democrats participated in the state's May presidential primary.
North Dakota	State convention	
Puerto Rico	District caucus	
Virgin Islands	n/a	
Washington	District caucus	 Washington State Democrats have tried to participate in the state presidential primary in 2000 and 2004. In 2000, the date of the primary was outside of the window and there were questions raised about who could participate in the primary. Subsequently, the State Party used its traditional caucus process. In 2004, the State Party wanted to use a combination primary / caucus system, like Texas. However, the DNC required the State Party to pick one sole method, and the state once again used its traditional caucus system, although the date of the primary was inside the window.
Wyoming	State convention	