ELECTION WORD PROBLEMS

NAME:

2016 ELECTORAL COLLEGE MAP

1. In the USA, the president is not directly elected by the citizens; instead they are elected by ***electors***. Above is a map of the USA with the number of electors or electoral votes for each state. What is the total number of electors?

2. In most states, the presidential candidate who gets the majority of the votes from the people in that particular state gets all of the electoral votes for that state. For example, if a candidate gets the most votes in Arizona he or she will get all 11 electoral votes. The goal is to get more than half of all the electoral votes in the USA. Use your answer in problem #1 to determine the minimum number of electoral votes a president needs to win?

3. Most people in the USA and the world feel the voting process for the President of the United States is outdated and does not accurately view the people's choice. One of the biggest concerns is that the electoral votes are not ***proportionate*** to each state's current population. Use California's population (approximately 40 million people) and Montana's population (about 1 million people) to show that the elector votes are not proportionate. On your own, look up the population of Michigan and Wyoming and compare their electoral votes to their population.

4. A candidate can actually win the presidency by only winning 11 states. Which 11 states would he or she need to win to receive more than half of the electoral votes? Why might this be a concern or problem if there are more than two people running for presidency?