

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BOOK

The main focus of this volume is to use the election results from the November General Election to assess political election patterns in the nation for Presidential Elections.

Important considerations in the use of these numbers are: a) they are for the Presidential Election only and no other results are included, and b) they are collected from the State Election Authorities and are believed to be the official, though not necessarily the final, or correct, numbers; and c) inconsistencies exist in the reporting, input and processing of results for minor party candidates.

In general, for each level of analysis, there are three types of factors provided for each of three different time frames.

### *The time frames provided for analysis are:*

1. *The 2004 Presidential Election, November 2d, 2004: results for Bush, Kerry, and others.*
2. *The 2000 Presidential Election, November 7th, 2000: results for Bush, Gore, Perot, and others.*
3. *Partisan Average, 1976-2004: major party partisan averages for the most recent elections, 8 including the 2004 election, based upon Democrat and Republican averages applied to a more recent turnout estimate.*

### FOR EACH TIME FRAME, THE FOLLOWING FACTORS ARE PROVIDED

- ⇒ TOTAL VOTES AND VOTES AND PERCENTAGES BY MAJOR PARTY CANDIDATE
- ⇒ MARGIN, BY UNIT, EXPRESSED AS A RAW NUMBER IN VOTES AS IT REALLY COUNTS
- ⇒ MARGIN, BY UNIT, EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE TO PROVIDE A RELATIVE PERSPECTIVE