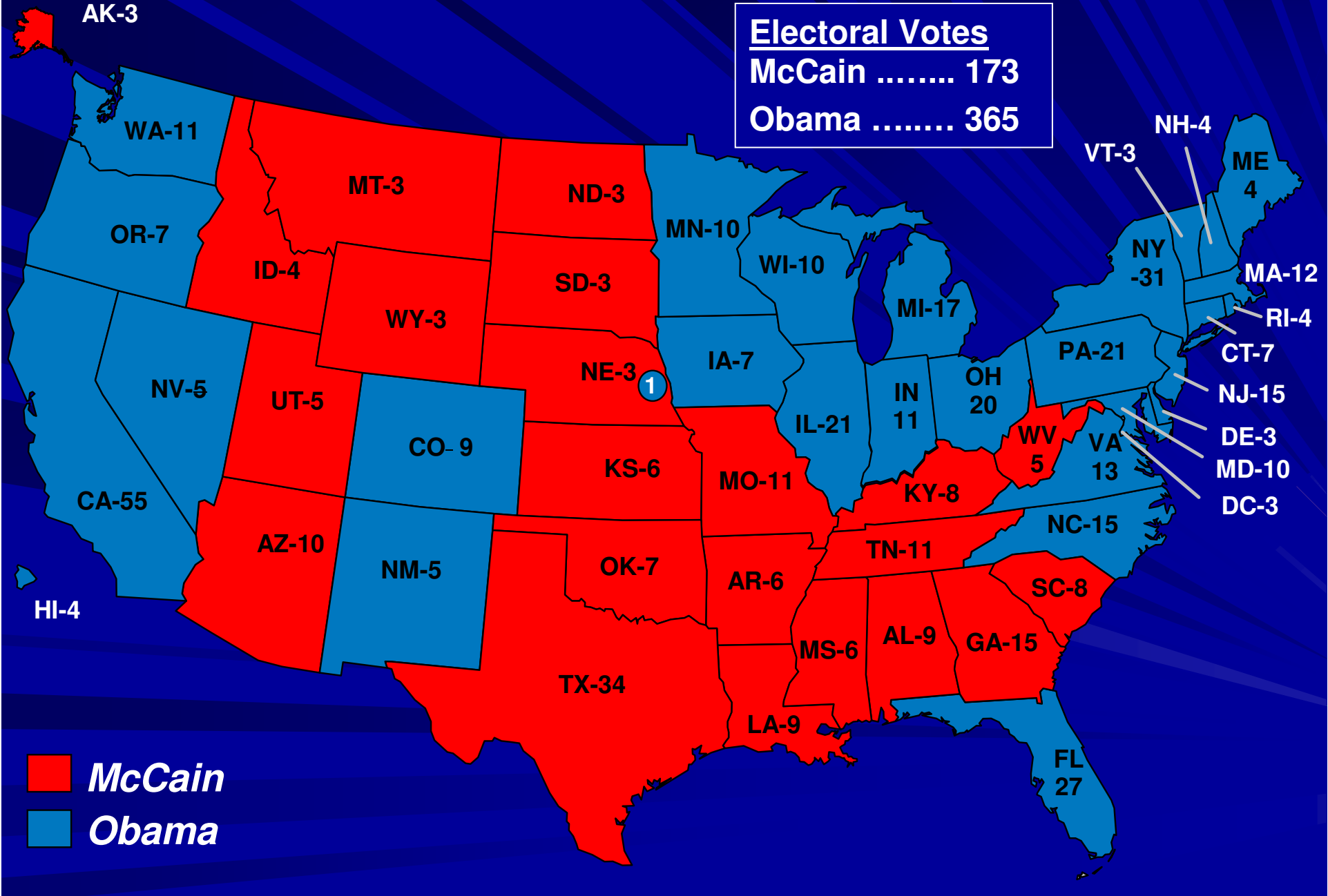


**After the Elections:
Big Changes Ahead**

Jim Wiesemeyer
Informa Economics

2008 Electoral Map

Electoral Votes
McCain 173
Obama 365



 **McCain**
 **Obama**

- NH-4
- VT-3
- ME-4
- MA-12
- RI-4
- CT-7
- NJ-15
- DE-3
- MD-10
- DC-3

Presidential Voting Patterns

- **Popular vote:** 53%, highest since Johnson in 1964
- **Latino vote:** 66%
 - Helped win Nevada, N.M., Colo., Va., Fla.
 - Registered Latinos up 20% since 2004
 - 76% of young Latinos backed Obama
 - Impact on immigration reform
- **Rural vote:** McCain 51% to 47% for Obama
 - Democratic Party gaining in rural sector*
- **Black vote:** 95% (Kerry 88% in 2004)
- **Other:**
 - 66% aged 18-29
 - 68% of first-time voters

Keys to Obama Administration

- **Which Obama?** Populist or pragmatic?
- **Cabinet:** How diverse?
- **Early agenda:** Stimulus, taxes, health care, energy, educ.
- **Long-term agenda:** Iraq, Afghanistan, global warming/cap & trade, Soc. Sec., budget deficit, immigration reform
- **Congressional Dems:** Can he control pent-up liberals?
-- Pelosi: *"The country must be governed from the middle."*
- **Labor unions:** Payback time, but how much?
- **Change:** How much, how and when?

USDA Secretary Possibilities

- **Getting close:** Need for geographic, ethnic balance
- **From Congress:** Reps. John **Salazar** (D-Colo.), Collin Peterson (D-Minn.), Stephanie Hereth Sandlin (D-S.D.), former Rep. Charlie Stenholm (D-Tex.), former Rep. Jill Long Thompson (D-Ind.), and Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-Ga.).
- **Others:** NFU Pres. Tom Buis; National Black Farmers Assn. leader John Boyd; former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack; State Ag leaders: Roger Johnson from N.D., Dennis Wolff from Pa.; Patty Judge, currently Iowa Lt. Governor; Farm Credit Admin. Commissioner Dallas Tonsager; John Sullivan, chairman of Illinois Senate Ag Committee; Marshall Matz, principal with law firm
- **Perspective:** Last two Ag Secretaries were surprises

Major Issues Ahead



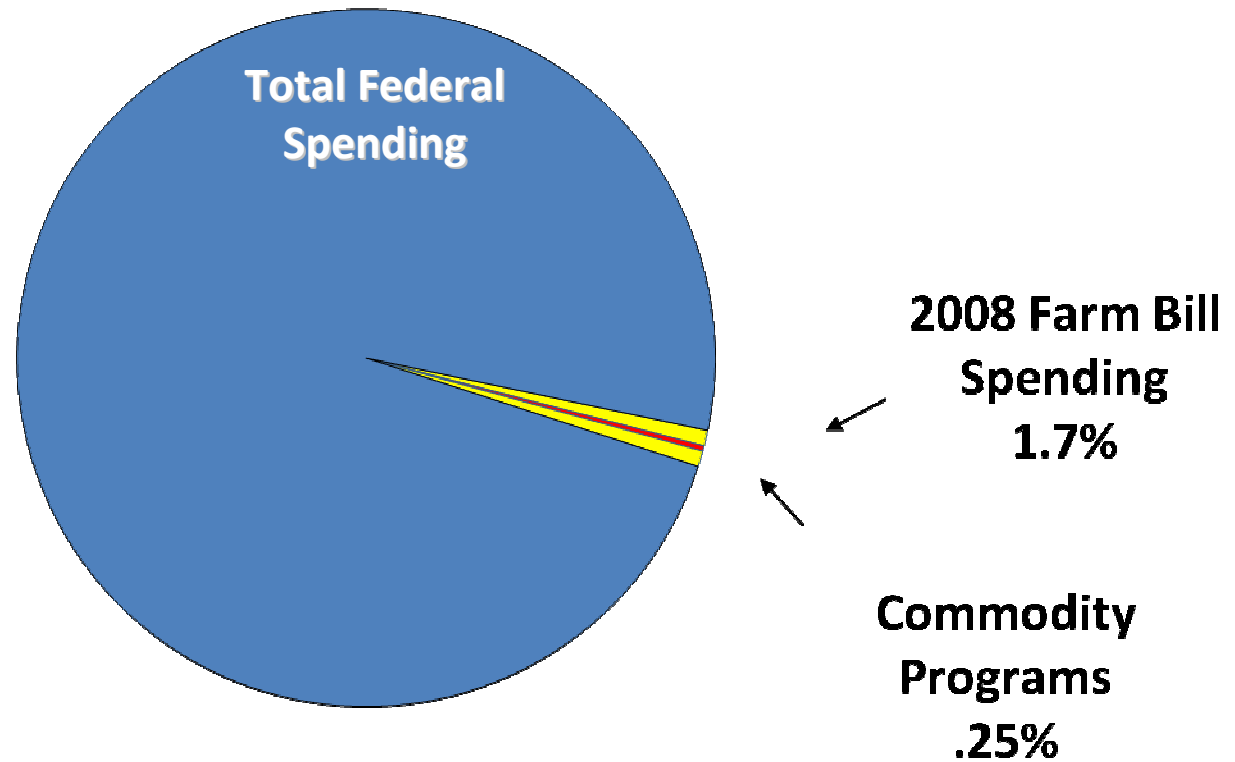
Impact on Agriculture

- **Personnel:** USDA, EPA, OMB, Energy, USTR, Justice
- **Farm bill implementation by USDA:** Leftovers/rules *soon*
 - Actively engaged/pay caps
 - ACRE
- **Congress:** Issues ahead
 - Futures trading/credit default swaps
 - USDA reorganization
 - Farm bill implementation oversight; 10-acre issue
 - Food safety reform
 - Budget cuts
 - Energy

Impact on Agriculture

- **Mergers:** More scrutiny at Justice Dept.
- **Livestock:**
 - Less \$ for EQIP?
 - Animal ID - a focus of Rep. Peterson
 - Ban on packer ownership of livestock?
- **Trade policy:** Little expected, but...

Farm Bill vs. Total Federal Spending



2002 vs. 2008 Farm Bill Spending

