

Elections of 1836, 1840, and 1844

Election of 1836

- Jackson does not run for a third term; Martin Van Buren, a Democrat, is elected
- Faced bitter opposition from the Whigs
- Was VP for Jackson → Jackson support helped Van Buren to win the election
- Took office in 1837; shortly after, the Panic of 1837 → HUGE ECONOMIC DEPRESSION (in part a reaction to the closing of the National Bank)

Election of 1840

- William Henry Harrison (Battle of Tippecanoe hero and a Whig) v. Van Buren
- Harrison elected, but died one month later
- John Tyler (VP) becomes president → Tyler did not support Whig philosophy (supported state rights like a Democrat)

Election of 1844

- James Polk, a Democrat, elected
- Polk is pro-slave and pro-annexation (to add a territory to one's own territory)
- Admits Texas as a state (December, 1845)