# Trump impeachment: Senate falls short of majority needed to convict

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**The US Senate has fallen short of the two-thirds majority needed to convict former President Donald Trump on a charge of incitement to insurrection over the Capitol riot on 6 January.**

A majority of senators - 57 to 43, including seven Republicans - voted to convict Mr Trump, 10 votes short of the 67 required for conviction.

After his acquittal[[1]](#footnote-1), Mr Trump released a statement denouncing the trial as "the greatest witch hunt in history".

This was Mr Trump's second impeachment.

If he had been convicted, the Senate could have voted to bar him from running for office ever again.

After the vote, the senior Republican in Congress, Senator Mitch McConnell said Mr Trump had been "responsible" for the assault on the Capitol and called it a "disgraceful, disgraceful dereliction of duty".

Earlier, he voted against conviction, saying it was unconstitutional now that Mr Trump was no longer president. Mr McConnell was instrumental[[2]](#footnote-2) in delaying Mr Trump's trial until after he left office, on 20 January.

However, Mr McConnell warned Mr Trump could still be held liable in court.

"He didn't get away with anything yet. Yet. We have a criminal justice system in this country, we have civil litigation and former presidents are not immune from being [held] accountable by either one," he said.

(…)

At its most basic level, this is a win for the former president. He is still eligible to run for president again in 2024, if he so chooses. His base, by all indications, is still largely intact. Both in the House of Representatives and in the Senate, most Republican officeholders opposed the impeachment proceedings. Those who broke ranks are already facing ferocious criticism and, in some cases, formal reprimands from their Republican constituents.

1. Acquittal, n. = frikendelse [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Instrumental, adj. = medvirkende, afgørende [↑](#footnote-ref-2)