

What Are the Odds?

Nobody asked but ...

Based on a 100% sample, we can expect to elect a good man without a destructive administration to the presidency once out of 44 attempts (2.27% of the time). This is Thomas Jefferson I'm talking about, and in actuality, he was not the ideal president — I just choose him because he was the greatest man who also happened to serve as president and who was not a flat out bad president. Now if we can loosen our standards a bit, we can also add a few men who were good men saddled with bad administrations. George Washington, John Adams, Grover Cleveland, Calvin Coolidge, Dwight Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan, although none at the towering stature of Thomas Jefferson. Another 13.64%. This means that 84.09% of the time, we can expect both a bad POTUS and a toxic administration. Have you got a better explanation for why we are where we are today?

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