



2020

LABOR DAY 2020 ELECTION PRIMER

A Look Ahead
to November

Introduction

As the saying goes, “Eight weeks before an election is a lifetime in politics.” If you have any doubts about the truth of this adage, we suggest speaking with “Presidents” Michael Dukakis or Hillary Clinton! Simply put, there are few, if any, slam dunks in politics. Elections continue to have the capacity to surprise and confound. When the Democratic primary process began with over 25 candidates, who would ever have thought that we would end up with an election between two of the oldest candidates ever to run for the office?

Current polling indicates that, if the election were held today, Vice President Biden is near or above the 270 electoral votes he needs to win election. These same polls say the Senate would flip, ever so narrowly, to Democratic control and the House Democratic majority would be relatively unchanged.

However Labor Day is certainly not Election Day (see Dukakis and Hillary mentions above). And now is, historically, when the race officially begins.

This Election Primer, the first in Dentons’ Election Series, sets the stage for the race to November. From the “top of the ticket” to the down-ballot congressional and state house contests across the country, we track the races that could change majorities in November. More detailed reports will be released as we get closer to election day. We hope this 10,000-foot view helps get you up to speed.

Polling on Labor Day vs Results			
	1980	1984	1988
Labor Day Polling	Carter 39% Reagan 39% Anderson 14%	Reagan 55% Mondale 39%	Bush 42% Dukakis 49%
Results	Reagan 50.7% Carter 41% Anderson 6%	Reagan 58.8% Mondale 40%	Bush 53% Dukakis 45%
	1992	1996	2000
Labor Day Polling	Clinton 52% Bush 42%	Clinton 55% Dole 34% Perot 6%	Gore 45% Bush 45% Nader 4%
Results	Clinton 49% Bush 37% Perot 14%	Clinton 49% Dole 40% Perot 8%	Gore 48% Bush 47% Nader 2%
	2004	2008	2012
Labor Day Polling	Bush 48% Kerry 46%	Obama 50% McCain 42%	Obama 47% Romney 46%
Results	Bush 50% Kerry 48%	Obama 52% McCain 45%	Obama 51% Romney 47%
	2016		2020
Labor Day Polling	Clinton 42% Trump 38% Johnson 8% Stein 3%		Trump 42% Biden 48%
Results	Trump 46% Clinton 48% Johnson 3% Stein 1%		????????

Contents

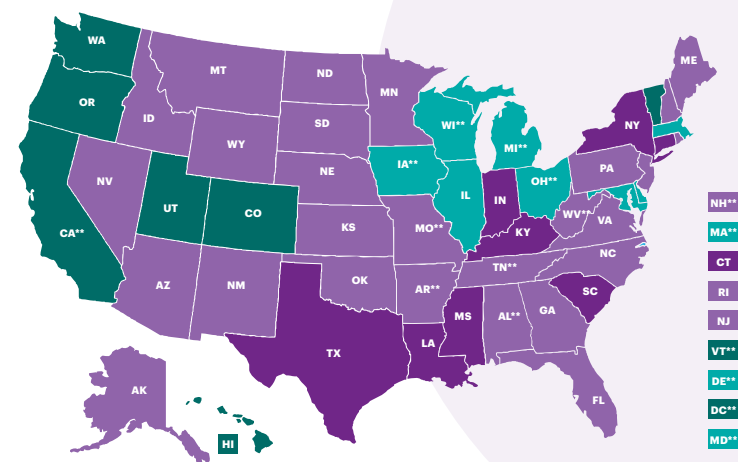
- 04** ... Voting in a Pandemic
- 05** ... President
- 07** ... Senate
- 09** ... House
- 11** ... Governor
- 12** ... Attorneys General
- 13** ... Battleground State Houses Race
- 14** ... A Look Ahead

DATES OF INTEREST

Date	Event
September 18, 2020	Early voting begins in 3 states
September 29, 2020	1st presidential debate (Cleveland, Ohio)
October 7, 2020	Vice presidential debate (Salt Lake City, Utah)
October 15, 2020	2nd presidential debate (Miami, Fla.)
October 22, 2020	3rd presidential debate (Nashville, Tenn.)
November 3, 2020	Election Day
December 14, 2020	Electoral College Electors sign seal and certify Certificate of Vote
On or Before January 3, 2021	Certificate of Vote transferred to Congress
January 6, 2021	Congress counts the electoral votes
January 20, 2021	Inauguration Day

Voting in a Pandemic

Vote by Mail Map of States



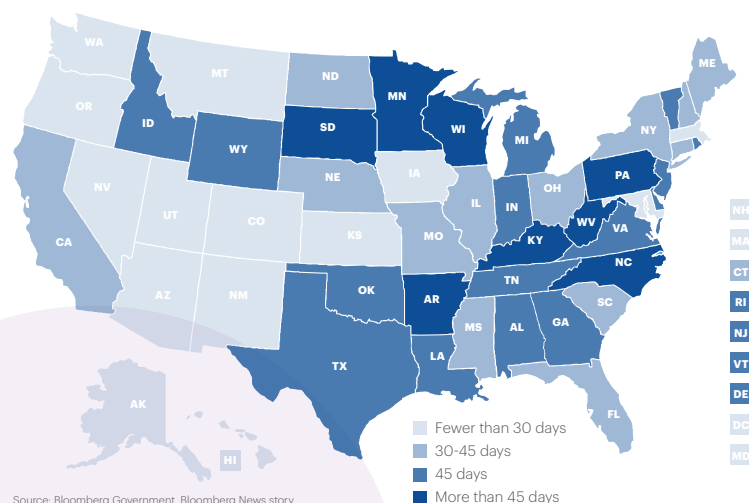
52 million voters	96 million voters	42m	43m
Need excuse beyond COVID-19 Fears	Can vote by mail*	Application to vote by mail	Ballot

*"Can vote by mail" includes states that don't require any excuse to vote absentee and states that will allow fear of the coronavirus as an excuse.

**States that changed due to the coronavirus

Starting Early

A number of battleground states – including North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin – will begin mailing out ballots in September



Source: Bloomberg Government, Bloomberg News story, "First Votes in the 2020 Election Will Be Cast in Six Weeks"

When Early Voting Starts

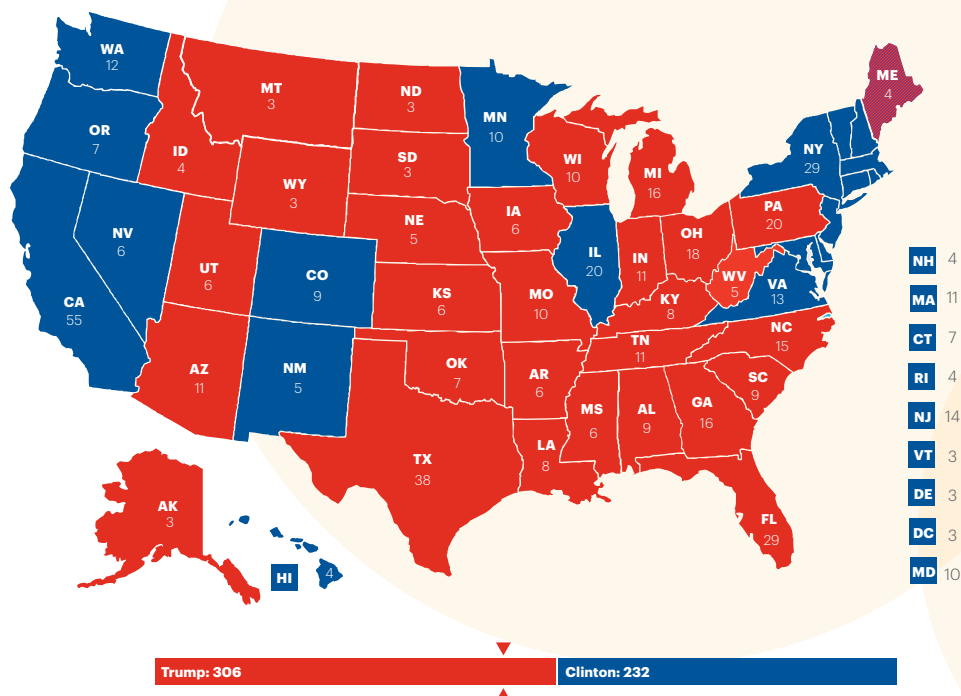
State	Early voting starts	Early voting ends
Alabama	N/A	N/A
Alaska	19-Oct	2-Nov
Arizona	7-Oct	30-Oct
Arkansas	19-Oct	3-Nov
California*	5-Oct	2-Nov
Colorado	19-Oct	2-Nov
Connecticut	N/A	N/A
DC	27-Oct	2-Nov
Delaware	N/A	N/A
Florida*	24-Oct	31-Oct
Georgia	12-Oct	30-Oct
Hawaii	24-Oct	2-Nov
Idaho †**	19-Oct	30-Oct
Illinois*	24-Sep	2-Nov
Indiana †	6-Oct	2-Nov
Iowa* †	5-Oct	2-Nov
Kansas*	14-Oct	2-Nov
Kentucky	13-Oct	2-Nov
Louisiana	20-Oct	27-Oct
Maine †	4-Oct	29-Oct
Maryland	26-Oct	2-Nov
Massachusetts	17-Oct	30-Oct
Michigan* †	19-Sep	2-Nov
Minnesota †	18-Sep	2-Nov
Mississippi	N/A	N/A
Missouri	N/A	N/A
Montana †	5-Oct	2-Nov
Nebraska	5-Oct	2-Nov
Nevada	17-Oct	30-Oct
New Hampshire	N/A	N/A
New Jersey †	19-Sep	2-Nov
New Mexico	6-Oct	31-Oct
New York	24-Oct	1-Nov
North Carolina	15-Oct	31-Oct
North Dakota*	19-Oct	2-Nov
Ohio †	6-Oct	2-Nov
Oklahoma †	29-Oct	31-Oct
Oregon	N/A	N/A
Pennsylvania †	14-Sep	Ballot must be returned by November 3
Rhode Island	N/A	N/A
South Carolina †***	5-Oct	2-Nov
South Dakota †	19-Sep	2-Nov
Tennessee	14-Oct	29-Oct
Texas	13-Oct	30-Oct
Utah*	20-Oct	30-Oct
Vermont †	19-Sep	2-Nov
Virginia	18-Sep	31-Oct
Washington	N/A	N/A
West Virginia	21-Oct	31-Oct
Wisconsin* †	20-Oct	1-Nov
Wyoming* †	18-Sep	2-Nov

Note: *Early voting dates vary by county / **Not all counties hold early voting / ***excuse required | † State only offers "in-person absentee" voting at county election offices | Highlighted states are sending mail ballots to all or most registered voters.

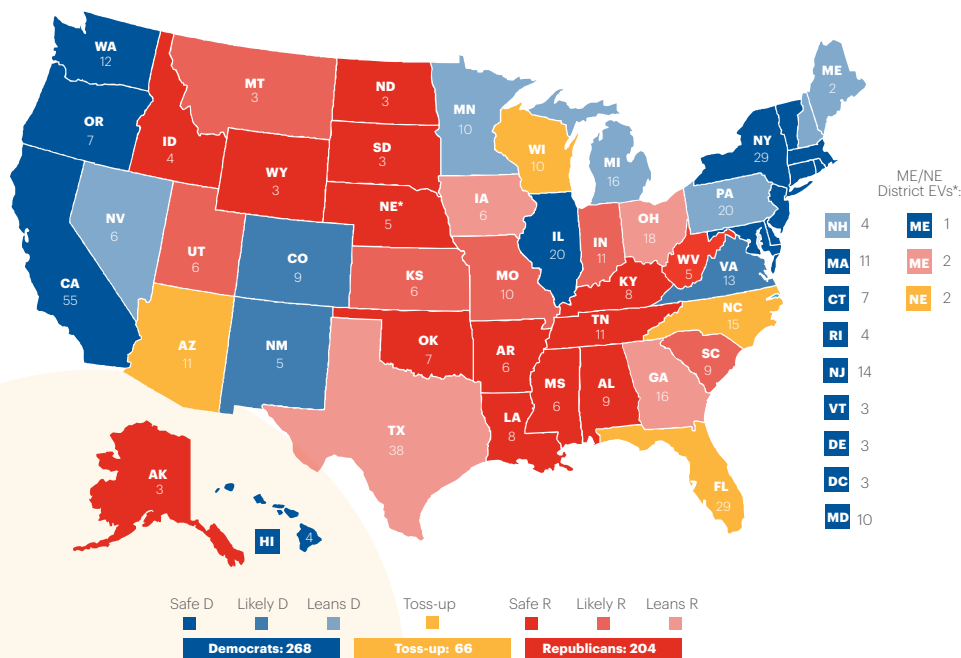
Source: Vote.org; NSCL

President

Map of 2016 Election Results



How the Map Looks Today



*Two states, Maine and Nebraska, award electoral votes by congressional districts (all others are awarded winner-take-all statewide). Nebraska's two statewide electoral votes, and two of its three districts, are rated Safe Republican. Maine's statewide votes are rated Likely Democrat. The ratings for Maine's two districts, and Nebraska's one competitive district, are listed separately.

Source: 2020 UVA Center for Politics

Is the Electoral Map shifting?

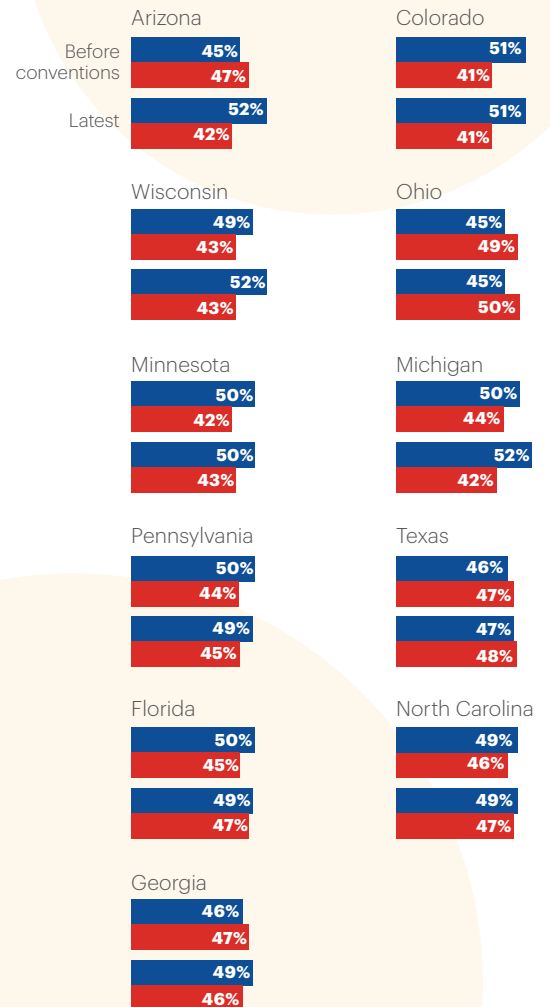
We dug into on how **16 battleground** states have voted relative to the country as a whole since 2000 — or how much more Republican or Democratic they are relative to the nation — and we found an electoral map undergoing a series of changes, some subtle and others more pronounced.

- **Iowa, Ohio, Maine** and **Michigan** were 2016 Swing States that moved sharply to the right
- **Minnesota, Nevada, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire** and **Wisconsin** moved slightly to the right in 2016
- **Arizona, Georgia** and **Texas** are Republican leaning states that shifted to the left in 2016
- **Colorado** and **Virginia** were once Republican states that now increasingly vote Democratic
- **Florida** and **North Carolina** remain “swingy”

2020 National Polling vs 2016 National Polling Pre Labor Day

2020					
Poll	Date	Sample	Biden (D)	Trump (R)	Spread
RCP Average	8/26 - 9/1	--	49.6	42.4	Biden +7.2
Economist/YouGov	8/30 - 9/1	1207 RV	51	40	Biden +11
IBD/TIPP	8/29 - 9/1	1033 RV	49	41	Biden +8
CNN	8/28 - 9/1	997 RV	51	43	Biden +8
Emerson	8/30 - 8/31	1567 LV	49	47	Biden +2
The Hill/HarrisX	8/29 - 8/31	2834 RV	46	40	Biden +6
Quinnipiac	8/28 - 8/31	1081 LV	52	42	Biden +10
USA Today/Suffolk	8/28 - 8/31	1000 RV	50	43	Biden +7
Rasmussen Reports	8/26 - 9/1	2500 LV	49	45	Biden +4
Grinnell/Selzer	8/26 - 8/30	827 LV	49	41	Biden +8
The Hill/HarrisX	8/25 - 8/28	2862 RV	47	38	Biden +9
2016					
Poll	Date	Sample	Clinton (D)	Trump (R)	Spread
Reuters/Ipsos	8/25 - 8/29	1404 LV	40	39	Clinton +1
Monmouth	8/25 - 8/28	689 LV	49	42	Clinton +7
USA Today/Suffolk	8/24 - 8/29	1000 LV	48	41	Clinton +7
NBC News/SM	8/22 - 8/28	24104 RV	48	42	Clinton +6
LA Times/USC	8/22 - 8/28	2460 LV	44	44	Tie
Reuters/Ipsos	8/20 - 8/24	1049 LV	42	35	Clinton +7
Economist/YouGov	8/19 - 8/23	906 RV	47	44	Clinton +3
Quinnipiac	8/18 - 8/24	1498 LV	51	41	Clinton +10

State Polling Post Conventions



Source: Morning Consult

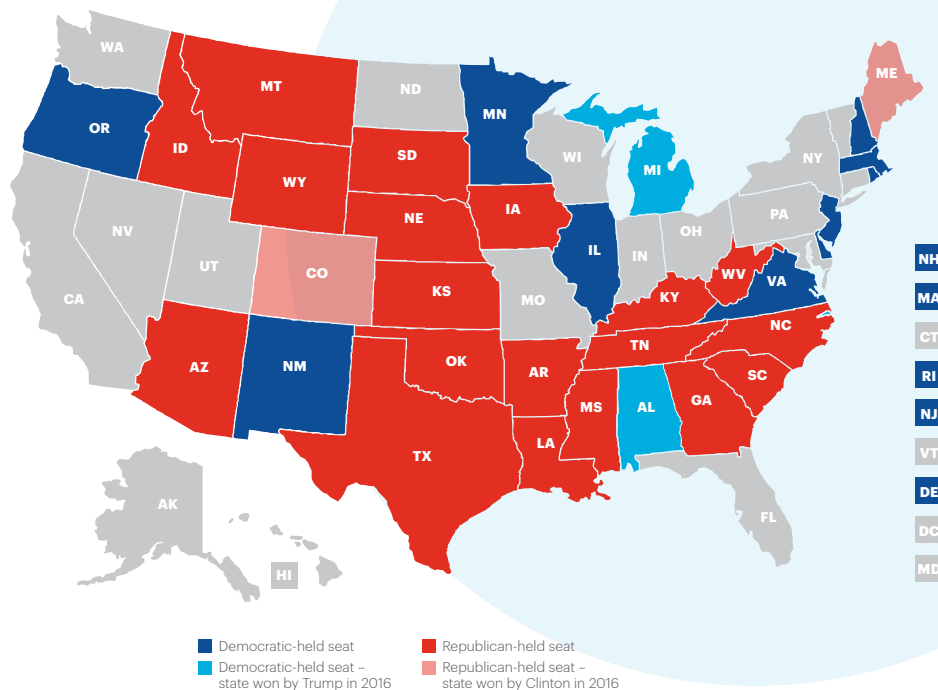


Yes, there are things that could tilt this race: shenanigans at the Postal Service, voter confusion about how to vote, states' inability to process and count ballots on time, to name a few. But the race has to get much closer before these can possibly make a difference in a few key states."

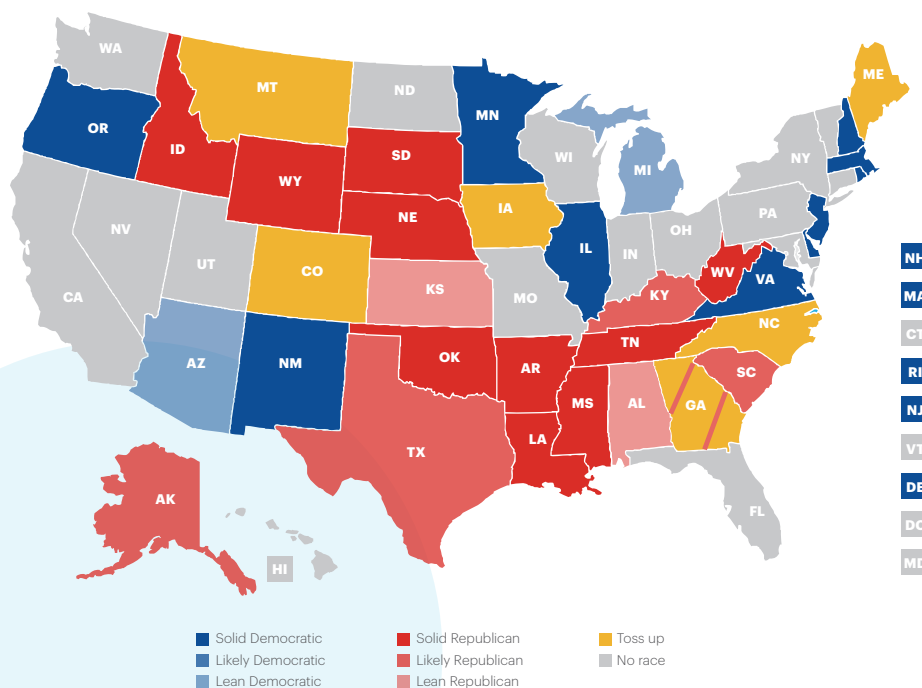
— Charlie Cook, Editor and Publisher of The Cook Political Report

Senate

States with Senate Races in 2020



Senate Forecast



Including the **special elections** in Arizona and Georgia, **Republicans** will be **defending 23 seats in 2020**, while the **Democratic Party** will be defending **12 seats**. Democrats will need to pick up **three or four seats to gain a majority**, depending on which party wins control of the vice presidency. The Senate currently features a **53-47 Republican majority**, and the seat likeliest to flip this fall is Alabama, held by Sen. Doug Jones (D). If that happens, **Democrats need to win at least four currently Republican seats** to forge a 50-50 tie that they hope a Democratic vice president would break in their favor.

How the Election Prognosticators see the Senate Races

Think of these women and men as Washington DC's version of the sports betting tout service. And in this town, it doesn't come with the negative connotations often found around a sports book. While they are professionals, they are in fact mortal and have missed a race or two over their time.

State	Cook Political Report	Inside Elections	Sabato's Crystal Ball
Alabama	Lean Republican	Lean Republican	Likely Republican
Alaska	Likely Republican	Likely Republican	Likely Republican
Arizona	Lean Democratic	Tilt Democratic	Lean Democratic
Arkansas	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Colorado	Toss-up	Tilt Democratic	Lean Democratic
Delaware	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
Georgia (Perdue)	Toss-up	Tilt Republican	Lean Republican
Georgia (Loeffler)	Lean Republican	Lean Republican	Likely Republican
Idaho	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Illinois	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
Iowa	Toss-up	Toss-up	Toss-up
Kansas	Lean Republican	Lean Republican	Likely Republican
Kentucky	Likely Republican	Solid Republican	Likely Republican
Louisiana	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Maine	Toss-up	Toss-up	Toss-up
Massachusetts	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
Michigan	Lean Democratic	Lean Democratic	Lean Democratic
Minnesota	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Likely Democratic
Mississippi	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Montana	Toss-up	Toss-up	Lean Republican
Nebraska	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
New Hampshire	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Likely Democratic
New Jersey	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
New Mexico	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Likely Democratic
North Carolina	Toss-up	Toss-up	Toss-up
Oklahoma	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Oregon	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
Rhode Island	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
South Carolina	Likely Republican	Likely Republican	Likely Republican
South Dakota	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Tennessee	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Texas	Likely Republican	Lean Republican	Likely Republican
Virginia	Solid Democratic	Solid Democratic	Safe Democratic
West Virginia	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican
Wyoming	Solid Republican	Solid Republican	Safe Republican



Our model currently predicts that Democrats have a 77.0% chance of controlling the Senate. There is an 11.8% chance of a tied (50-50) chamber.”

— Decision Desk HQ



House

2020 Battleground

Roughly 90 of the 435 House seats are seen as competitive this cycle. Democrats captured a net total of 41 seats in 2016. Less than a dozen of those Freshman members are considered to be in toss up races in 2020.

District	Incumbent	Challenger
TOSS UP		
CA-21	Cox	David Valadao
GA-06	McBath	Karen Handel
IA-01	Finkenauer	Ashley Hinson
IA-02	Open (Rita Hart)	Mariannetter Miller-Meeks
IA-03	Axne	David Young
ME-02	Golden	Dale Crafts
MN-07	Peterson	Michelle Fishbach
NY-11	Rose	Nicole Malliotakis
NY-22	Brindisi	Claudia Tenney
OK-05	Horn	Stephanie Bice
SC-01	Cunningham	Nancy Mace
VA-02	Luria	Scott Taylor
VA-07	Spangerger	Nick Freitas
CA-25	Garcias	Christy Smith
GA-07	Open (Rick McCormick)	Carolyn Bourdeaux
IL-13	Davis	Betsy Dirksen
IN-05	Open (Victoria Spartz)	Christina Hale
NE-02	Bacon	Kara Eastman
OH-01	Chabot	Kate Schroder
PA-10	Perry	Eugene DePasquale
TX-21	Roy	Wendy Davis
TX-22	Open (Troy Nehls)	Sri Preston Kulkarni
TX-24	Open (Beth Van Duyne)	Candace Valenzuela

District	Incumbent	Challenger
LIKELY		
CA-10	Harder	Ted Howze
CA-39	Cisneros	Young Kim
CA-45	Porter	Greg Rath
FL-27	Shalala	Maria Elvira Salazar
IL-06	Casten	Jeanne Ives
IL-17	Bustos	Ester Joy King
NC-02	Open (Alan Swain)	Deborah Ross
NC-06	Open (Lee Haywood)	Kathy Manning
NJ-05	Gottheimer	Frank Pallotta
NJ-11	Sherrill	Rosemary Becchi
NV-04	Horsford	Jim Marchant
NY-18	Maloney	Chele Farley
OR-04	DeFazio	Alek Skarlatos
PA-17	Lamb	Sean Parnell
WA-08	Schrier	Jesse Jensen
WI-03	Kind	Derrick Van Orden
AK-AL	Young	Alyse Galvin
CA-04	McClintock	Brynne Kennedy
CA-22	Nunes	Phil Arballo
CO-03	Open (Lauren Boebert)	Diane Mitsch Bush
FL-16	Buchanan	Margaret Good
KY-06	Barr	Josh Hicks
MI-06	Upton	Jon Hoadley
MN-08	Staubert	Quinn Nystrom
NC-09	Bishop	Cynthia Wallace
NY-01	Zeldin	Nancy Goroff
OH-12	Balderson	Alaina Shearer
TX-02	Crenshaw	Sima Ladjevardian
TX-03	Taylor	Lulu Seikaly
TX-06	Wright	Stephen Daniel
TX-25	Williams	Julie Oliver
TX-31	Carter	Donna Imam

District	Incumbent	Challenger
LEAN		
AZ-01	O'Halleran	Tiffany Shedd
CA-48	Poude	Michelle Steele
FL-26	Muscarsel-Powell	Carlos Gimenez
IL-14	Underwood	Jim Oberweis
KS-03	Davids	Amanda Adkins
MI-08	Slotkin	Paul Junge
MI-11	Stevens	Haley Stevens
MN-02	Craig	Tyler Listner
NH-01	Pappas	
NJ-07	Malinowsky	Thomas Kean Jr.
NV-03	Lee	Dan Rodimer
NY-19	Delgado	Kyle Van De Water
PA-07	Wild	Lisa Scheller
PA-08	Cartwright	Jim Bognet
TX-02	Fletcher	Wesley Hunt
TX-23	Open (Gina Ortiz Jones
TX-32	Allred	Genevieve Collins
UT-04	McAdams	Burgess Owens
AZ-06	Schweikert	Joan Greene
FL-15	Open (Scott Franklin)	Alan Cohn
KS-02	Watkins (Jake LaTurner)	Michelle De La Isla
MI-03	Open (Peter Meijer)	Hillary Scholten
MN-01	Hagedorn	Dan Feehan
MO-02	Wagner	Jill Schupp
MT-AL	Open (Matt Rosendale)	Kathleen Williams
NC-08	Hudson	Patricia Timmons-Goodson
NJ-02	Van Drew	Amy Kennedy
NY-02	Open (Andrew Garbarino)	Jackie Gordon
NY-24	Katko	Dana Balter
PA-01	Fitzpatrick	Christina Finello
TX-10	McCaul	Mike Siegel
VA-05	Open (Bob Good)	Cameron Webb
WA-03	Herrera-Beutler	Carolyn Long



In all likelihood, some Democratic incumbents will lose, but no Democratic incumbent is an outright underdog as of now — even members who hold seats that Trump won by double digits in 2018.”

— Kyle Kondik UVA Center for Politics

Congressional Comings & Goings

House	
Resignations, deaths & special elections	
CA-25 – Katie Hill (D) resigned Nov. 3, 2019; Mike Garcia (R) elected May 12, 2020	
CA-50 – Duncan Hunter (R) resigned Jan. 13, 2020; no special election	
GA-05 – John Lewis (D) died July 17, 2020; special election scheduled Sept. 29, 2020	
MD-07 – Elijah Cummings (D) died Oct. 17, 2019; Kweisi Mfume (D) elected April 28, 2020	
NC-03 – Walter Jones (R) died Feb. 10, 2019; Greg Murphy (R) elected Sept. 10, 2019	
NC-09 – Dan Bishop (R) elected Sept. 10, 2019 after seat wasn't filled in 2018 election	
NC-11 – Mark Meadows (R) resigned March 30, 2020; no special election scheduled	
NY-27 – Chris Collins (R) resigned Sept. 30, 2019; Chris Jacobs (R) elected June 23, 2020	
PA-12 – Tom Marino (R) resigned Jan. 23, 2019; Fred Keller (R) elected May 21, 2019	
TX-04 – John Ratcliffe (R) resigned May 22, 2020; no special election scheduled	
WI-07 – Sean Duffy resigned Sept. 23, 2019; Tom Tiffany (R) elected May 12, 2020	
Defeated in primary	
CO-03 – Scott Tipton (R)	VA-05 – Denver Riggleman (R)
IA-04 – Steve King (R)	MO-1 – Lacy Clay (D)
IL-03 – Dan Lipinski (D)	FL-15 Ross Spano
NY-16 – Eliot Engel (D)	
Not seeking re-election	
AL-02 – Martha Roby (R)	NC-06 – Mark Walker (R)
CA-53 – Susan Davis (D)	NY-02 – Peter King (R)
FL-03 – Ted Yoho (R)	NY-15 – José Serrano (D)
FL-19 – Francis Rooney (R)	NY-17 – Nita Lowey (D)
GA-07 – Rob Woodall (R)	OR-02 – Greg Walden (R)
GA-14 – Tom Graves (R)	TN-01 – Phil Roe (R)
HI-02 – Tulsi Gabbard (D)	TX-11 – Michael Conaway (R)
IA-02 – Dave Loebsack (D)	TX-13 – Mac Thornberry (R)
IL-15 – John Shimkus (R)	TX-17 – Bill Flores (R)
IN-01 – Pete Visclosky (D)	TX-22 – Pete Olson (R)
IN-05 – Susan Brooks (R)	TX-23 – Will Hurd (R)
LA-05 – Ralph Abraham (R)	TX-24 – Kenny Marchant (R)
MI-03 – Justin Amash (L)	UT-01 – Rob Bishop (R)
MI-10 – Paul Mitchell (R)	WI-05 – Jim Sensenbrenner (R)
NC-02 – George Holding (R)	
Seeking other office	
AL-01 – Bradley Byrne (R), Senate (lost in primary)	MT-AL – Greg Gianforte (R), governor
CA-08 – Paul Cook (R), elected in March to San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	NM-03 – Ben Ray Lujan (D), Senate
GA-09 – Doug Collins (R), Senate	KS-01 – Roger Marshall (R), Senate
KWA-10 – Denny Heck (D), lieutenant governor	MA-04 – Joe Kennedy (D), Senate (lost in primary)
Party switches	
NJ-02 – Jeff Van Drew switched from the Democratic to Republican party Jan. 7	

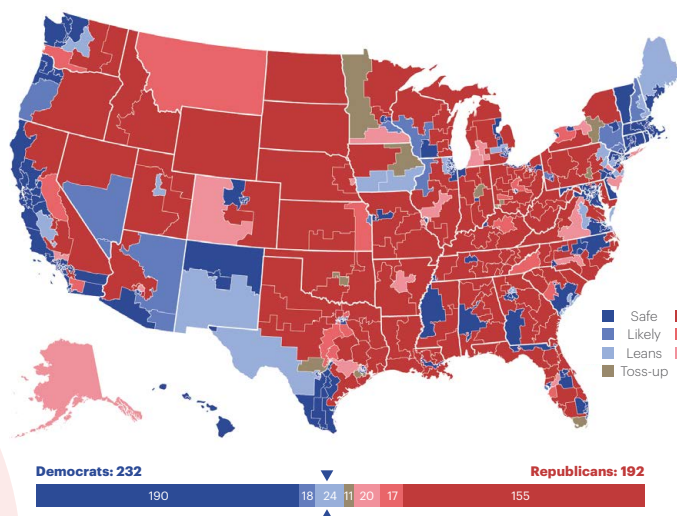
Source: Bloomberg Government, as of July 20

Win the Primary, Come to Congress

Democrat	Republican
GA-5 Nikema Williams*	AL-1 Jerry Carl
HI-2 Kai Kahele	AL-2 Barry Moore
IL-3 Marie Newman	CA-8 Jay Obernolte
IN-1 Frank Mrvan	GA-14 Marjorie Taylor
MO-1 Cori Bush	IL-15 Mary Miller
NM-5 Teresa Leger Fernandez	IA-4 Randy Feenstra
NY 15 Ritchie Torres	KS-1 Tracy Mann
NY-16 Jamaal Bowman	MI-10 Lisa McClain
NY-17 Mondelaire Jones	MT-AL Matt Rosendale
These candidates won their primaries in overwhelming "safe" districts. Barring a catastrophe they're in the 117th Congress Freshman Class.	NC-11 Madison Cawthorn
	OR-2 Cliff Benz
	TX-04 Pat Fallon
	TX-11 August Pfluger
	TX-13 Ronny L. Jackson
	TX-17 Pete Sessions
	UT-1 Blake Moore
	FL-6 - Michael Waltz
	WI-5 - Scott Fitzgerald

*Replaced John Lewis on the November ballot

Crystal Ball 2020 House Ratings



Source: 270toWin

Governor

Map of 2020 Governor Races

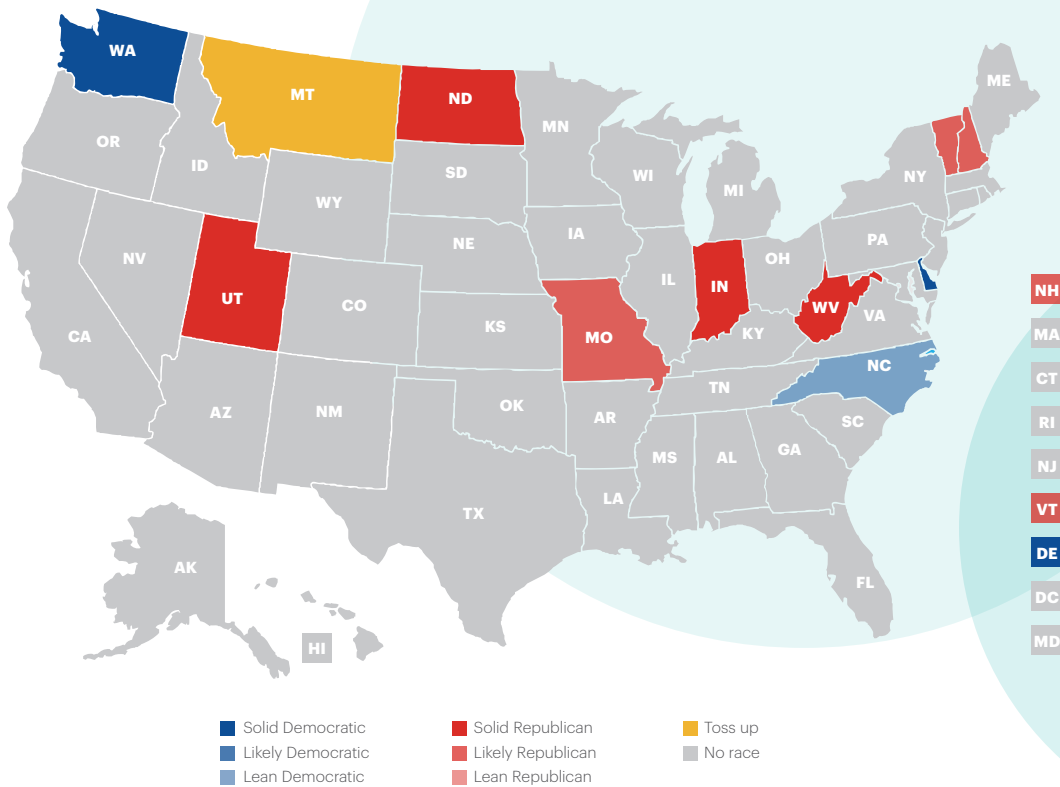


Chart of Governor Races

State	Incumbent	Challenger
DE	John Carney Jr.	Bryant Richardson
IN	Eric Holcomb	Woody Myers
MO	Mike Parson	Nicole Galloway
MT	Open (Cooney D)	Greg Gianforte
NH	Chris Sununu	Primary 9/8/2020
NC	Roy Cooper	Dan Forest
ND	Doug Burgum	Shelley Lenz
UT	Open (Spencer Cox)	Chris Peterson
VT	Phil Scott	David Zuckerman
WA	Jay Inslee	Loren Culp
WVA	Jim Justice	Ben Salango

- There are 11 governorships up in 2020; considerably fewer than in 2018
 - Seven are held by Republicans; four are held by Democrats
 - Each party is defending one open seat, with no incumbent
- Montana: Steve Bullock (D) is term-limited; LG Mike Cooney (D) faces Rep. Greg Gianforte (R)
- Utah: Gary Herbert (R) is retiring; LG Spencer Cox defeated ex-Gov. Jon Huntsman in primary
- West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice (R), elected in 2016 as a Democrat, won June 9 primary with 63% of the vote; faces Kanawha County Commissioner Ben Salango

Attorneys General

State attorneys general (“AGs”) are the chief law enforcement officers in their respective states and they are increasingly playing an important role in Federal legal and policy debates. During the Trump administration, Democrat AGs have challenged the administration on various legal matters, including environmental, healthcare and immigration disputes. This election cycle, the political landscape is fairly evenly matched, with Democrats and Republicans each defending five AG seats across the country.

2020 Attorney General Races		
State	Current Incumbent	Challenger
Indiana	Open (Todd Rokita)	Jonathan Weinzapel
Missouri	Eric Schmitt	Rich Finneran
Montana	Open (Austin Knudsen)	Raph Graybill
North Carolina	Josh Stein	Jim O'Neill
Oregon	Ellen Rosenblum	Michael Cross
Pennsylvania	Josh Shapiro	Heather Heidelbaugh
Utah	Sean Reyes	Greg Skordas
Vermont	T.J. Donovan	H. Brooke Paige
Washington	Bob Ferguson	Matt Larkin
West Virginia	Patrick Morrisey	Sam Petsonk



Battleground State House Races

State Houses Chart

There are 99 state legislative chambers across the 50 states. Eighty-six of those chambers are holding legislative elections in 2020. As of July, 2020, Republicans controlled 52.13% of all state legislative seats nationally, while Democrats held 46.82%. Republicans hold a majority in 59 chambers, and Democrats hold the majority in 39.

Heading into the 2020 elections, only 21 chambers appear to be battlegrounds that could result in a change in party control. Democrats have the majority in 11 of the battleground chambers while Republicans control nine. The other battleground chamber is the Alaska House, which is split under a power-sharing agreement, although Republicans have a 23-15 majority.

State legislative battleground chambers, 2020				
Chamber	Seats up in 2020	Margin	Majority share of seats	Last time party control changed
Alaska House of Representatives*	All 40	R+8	58%	2018
Arizona House of Representatives	All 60	R+2	52%	1966
Colorado State Senate	18 out of 35	D+3	54%	2018
Connecticut State Senate	All 36	D+8	61%	1996
Delaware State Senate	11 out of 21	D+3	57%	1974
Iowa House of Representatives	All 100	R+6	53%	2016
Kentucky House of Representatives	All 100	R+20	59%	2016
Maine State Senate	All 35	D+7	60%	2018
Maine House of Representatives	All 151	D+33	59%	2012
Michigan House of Representatives	All 110	R+6	53%	2010
Minnesota State Senate	All 67	R+3	52%	2016
Minnesota House of Representatives	All 134	D+16	56%	2018
Nebraska State Senate	25 out of 49	R+12	61%	Non-partisan
Nevada State Senate	10 out of 21	D+5	62%	2016
New Hampshire State Senate	All 24	D+4	58%	2018
New Hampshire House of Representatives	All 400	D+67	58%	2018
New Mexico House of Representatives	All 70	D+22	66%	2016
New York State Senate	All 63	D+18	63%	2018
North Carolina State Senate	All 50	R+8	58%	2010
North Carolina House of Representatives	All 120	R+10	54%	2010
Pennsylvania House of Representatives	All 203	R+17	54%	2010
West Virginia House of Delegates	All 100	R+17	58%	2014

Texas and Florida stand to gain the most seats



- 17 states' representation may be affected by the once-a-decade census
- Continues decades-long trend of the South and West gaining more seats
- California, projected to lose one of its 53 seats, would lose House seats for first time
- Florida is projected to have a larger delegation (29) than New York (26)
- Reapportionment would be released after the census and in effect for 2022 elections

Public Policy practice

Our national team includes lawyers and professionals with experience in federal, state and local government with specialists in public policy, law, business and public affairs. We help clients to anticipate, mitigate, and leverage matters of government through innovative, holistic public policy and regulation strategies. Our team blends core regulatory, legislative, and political experience across key industry sectors with practical guidance and a balanced perspective on domestic and global policy and regulatory initiatives that are important to you and your business.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PRACTICE

Our Federal Government Affairs practice is recognized for delivering timely guidance, substantive counsel—and, most importantly, results—on legislative and regulatory policy initiatives that accomplish priority outcomes for clients. We craft testimony, draft legislation, develop shareholder partnerships and identify opportunities to impact our clients goals. Our counsel and advice is shaped by the experience of our lobbyists, lawyers, and other professionals who have served in senior government positions. We have represented local governments on a variety of legislative and regulatory matters throughout the globe – whether as lawyers to government entities or as trusted partners in developing procurement programs for large municipalities.

STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL PRACTICE

Dentons State Attorneys General Practice is a full-service, nationwide practice to advise and assist clients when dealing with state attorneys general and their staff. The practice features bipartisan leadership from five former state attorneys general along with former deputy attorneys general, assistant attorneys general and chiefs of staff from some of the most active offices in the nation and top notch litigators experienced in defending lawsuits brought by state attorneys general. Our team helps clients develop and implement strategies to avoid becoming subjects of state attorneys general investigations—and when clients are subjects of investigations, the team works to achieve resolution or settlement short of litigation, as well as defending litigation.

DENTONS 50

DENTONS 50

Dentons 50, a full-service, 50-state public policy and advocacy network, offers unrivaled reach and depth in state capitols across the nation for clients in all industry sectors. Dentons 50 is a comprehensive, centralized resource for businesses with complex, multistate policy matters. Built on Dentons' already-strong state and local government affairs practices, and comprised of professionals with local expertise managing policy issues in centers of power at the state and local levels, Dentons 50 leverages top-tier government and public affairs resources to offer project management and on-the-ground support of multistate public policy and advocacy matters.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS

Our Local Government Solutions team encompasses former local government elected and appointed officials across the United States which allow our bipartisan team to work effectively to emerging policy initiatives and the needs of our clients. We have unparalleled experience in key categories for local governments including economic development, finance and infrastructure.

3D GLOBAL AFFAIRS

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Dentons 3D Global Affairs offers clients a best-in-industry suite of communications services, including the planning and execution of earned media strategies, both on and off-the-record; crisis management and mitigation strategies in both traditional and digital media environments; and the authoring of external and internal communications, including shareholder or donor correspondence, press advisories and talking points, speeches, and legislative fact sheets.

Contacts



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Please contact your usual Dentons relationship lawyer or professional, or any of the following members of our Public Policy team:



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ABOUT DENTONS

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