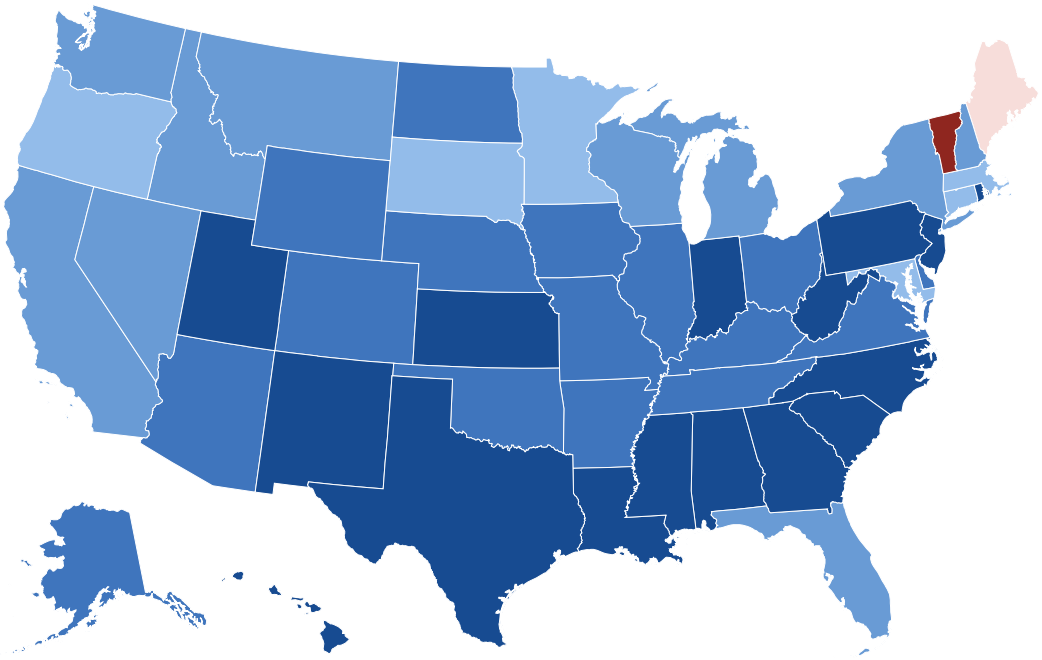
Call the Map

The 2026 election, state by state

What shifted, what changed hands and what it means, in all 50 states

Results as of November 13, 2026 at 6:38 PM EST 632 of 653 races decided 21 still open nationally



The map: each state by how far its counties moved from the 2024 presidential vote toward the Democrats (blue) or the Republicans (red).

Official counts as published at that hour (results data commit 6a2dbf6973). A race is decided when our results desk has called it, its state has marked its results official, or one candidate was on the ballot; the open races are counted for neither party. callthemap.com/results/report

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PART 1

The national picture

Democrats took both chambers of Congress and hold 29 governorships

On November 3 Democrats won control of the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House and finished with more governors than the Republicans. With 632 of the 653 races we follow called, they hold 55 Senate seats to the Republicans' 44, 254 House seats to 165, and 29 governorships to 20. They went into the election with 47, 215 and 24.

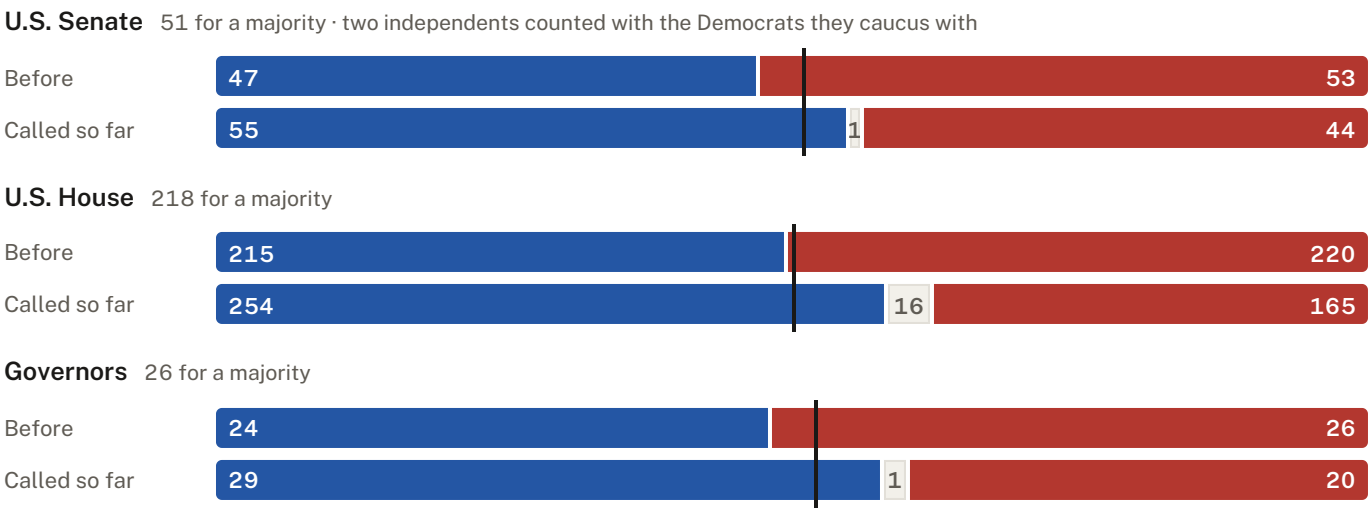
Eight Republican-held Senate seats are called for Democrats, in Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Texas, and no Democratic seat is called for a Republican. Nine of the Democratic winners ran in states Donald Trump won in 2024, the reddest of them Mississippi, which he took by 22.9 points. The Senate count includes the two independents who caucus with the Democrats. The one race still open is Alaska's, where the Democrat, Mary Peltola, leads by 2.3 points.

In the House, 44 seats are called as Democratic gains and three as Republican gains: the Texas 32nd District, the Maine 2nd District and the Tennessee 9th District, the last two by 1.6 and 1.1 points. Another 16 seats are still open, with Republicans ahead in eight of them and Democrats in eight; the majority, 218 seats, does not depend on them. Two of the open seats, Louisiana's 5th and 6th, go to runoffs on December 12.[1] In the nine states whose districts were redrawn after 2024 (Alabama, California, Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas and Utah), a gain is counted against the party that held the district of the same number, which is not always the same ground.

Democrats took governorships from Republicans in Georgia, Iowa, Nevada, Ohio and Texas and lost none. Republican governors won again in New Hampshire and Vermont, two states Kamala Harris carried,[2,3] and Republicans held Florida by 1.3 points, Tennessee by 2.5 and Alabama by 3.9. Democrats kept Kansas by 0.7. The one governor's race still open is Alaska's.

FIGURE 1

Seats called so far: Senate 55 Democrats to 44 Republicans, House 254 to 165, governors 29 to 20



Seats before the election and seats called as of November 13, 2026. The gap in the lower strip is the seats not yet called (1 Senate, 16 House, 1 governors); they are in neither party's count. Governors include the 36 offices on the ballot this year and the 14 that were not. Source: state election offices, read by Call the Map.

The vote moved 15 points toward the Democrats, and it moved almost everywhere

Democratic candidates for the House have 66.3 million votes to the Republicans' 49.9 million, a lead of 13.8 points of all votes cast. Republicans won the House vote by 2.7 points in 2024 and by 2.9 in the last midterm, 2022, so the swing is 16.5 points from one and 16.7 from the other. The raw figure flatters the Democrats a little: the count shows no Republican votes in 17 districts and no Democratic votes in two. In the 416 districts where the count sets a Democrat against a Republican, the Democratic lead is 11.7.

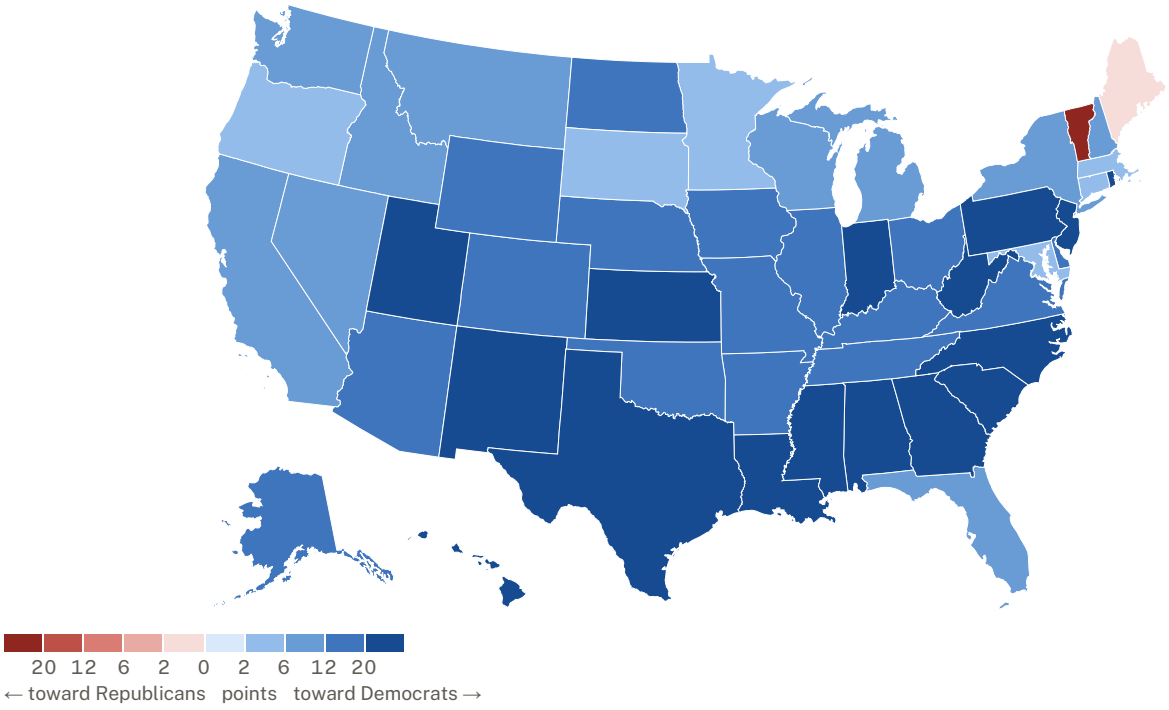
Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the answer is nearly the same. In the 3,112 counties we can compare, the top race on the ballot ran 15.2 points more Democratic than the presidential race had two years earlier: R+1.6 then, D+13.6 now. Of those counties, 2,985 moved toward the Democrats and 127 toward the Republicans. In 411 of the 416 contested House districts the Democrat ran ahead of Harris's margin there, by 14.6 points in the median district.

Every state we can measure moved toward the Democrats except Maine and Vermont, and in both the top race had a Republican incumbent in it. Maine's was the Senate race, in which Susan Collins, the Republican senator, lost by 6.1 points in a state her party's presidential nominee had lost by 6.9.[4] Vermont's was the governor's race, which the Republican governor, Phil Scott, won for a sixth term.[3] The comparison sets one office against another, and a candidate with a following of their own moves a state along with the national mood.

The South moved most: 19.0 points, against 13.6 in the Midwest, 12.9 in the Northeast and 12.6 in the West. Within it, Texas moved 25.8 points, Mississippi 23.7, North Carolina 22.9, South Carolina 22.4. Among the states we can measure, 15 that Trump carried gave the Democrats a win or a lead in the top race.

FIGURE 2

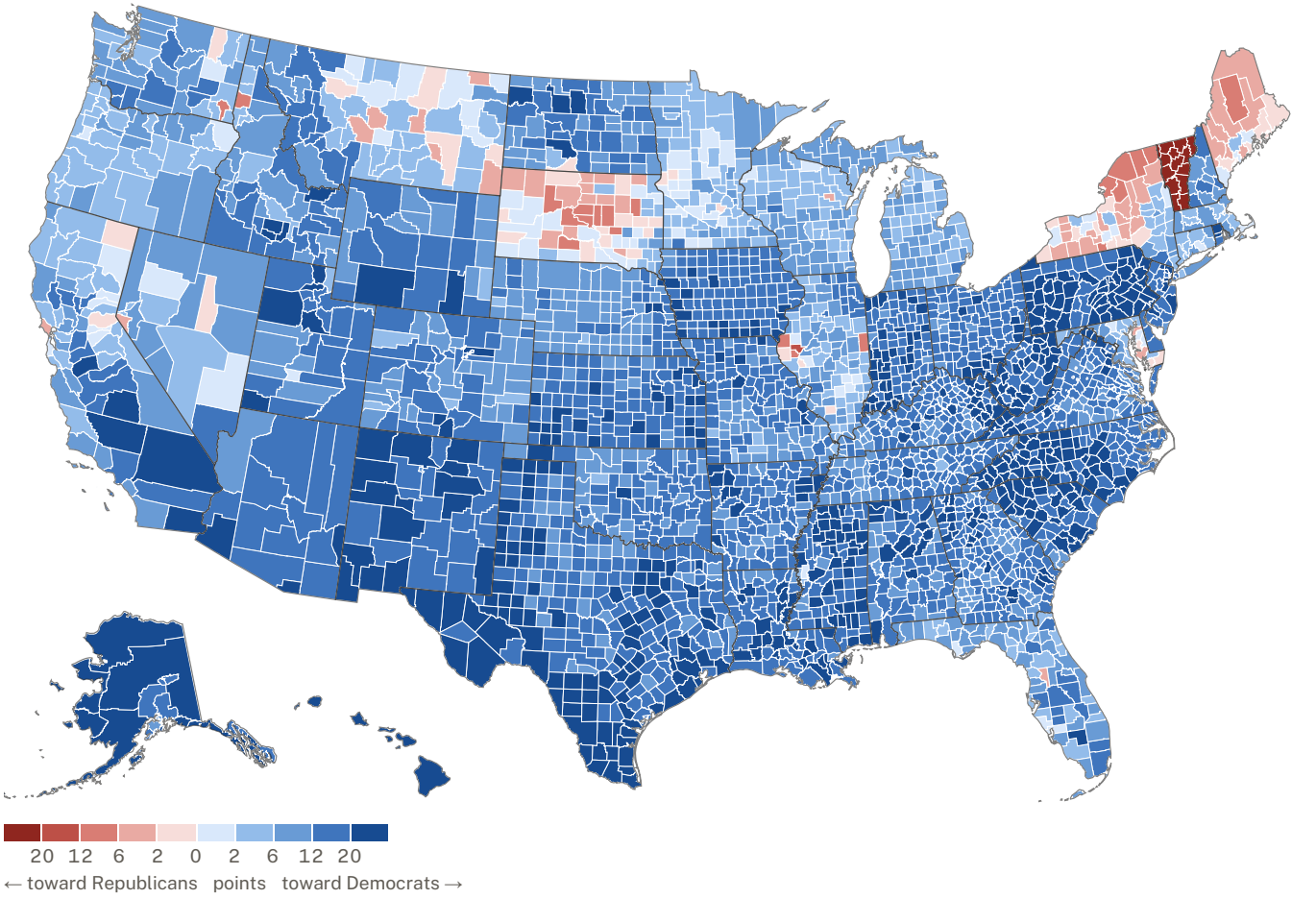
2,985 of 3,112 counties moved toward the Democrats, and so did 48 of the 50 states we can measure



Each state's move from its 2024 presidential margin to its 2026 margin in its top race (Senate, else governor, else the House vote), adding up its counties. Alaska is added up from its state house districts. Source: state election offices; 2024 county returns.

FIGURE 3

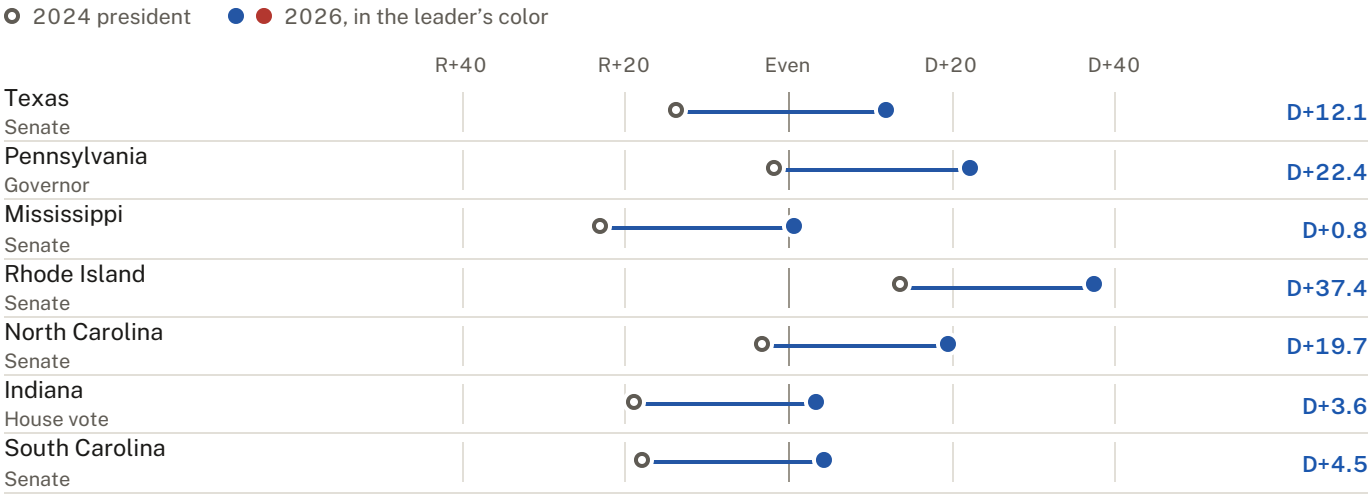
The move from 2024, county by county

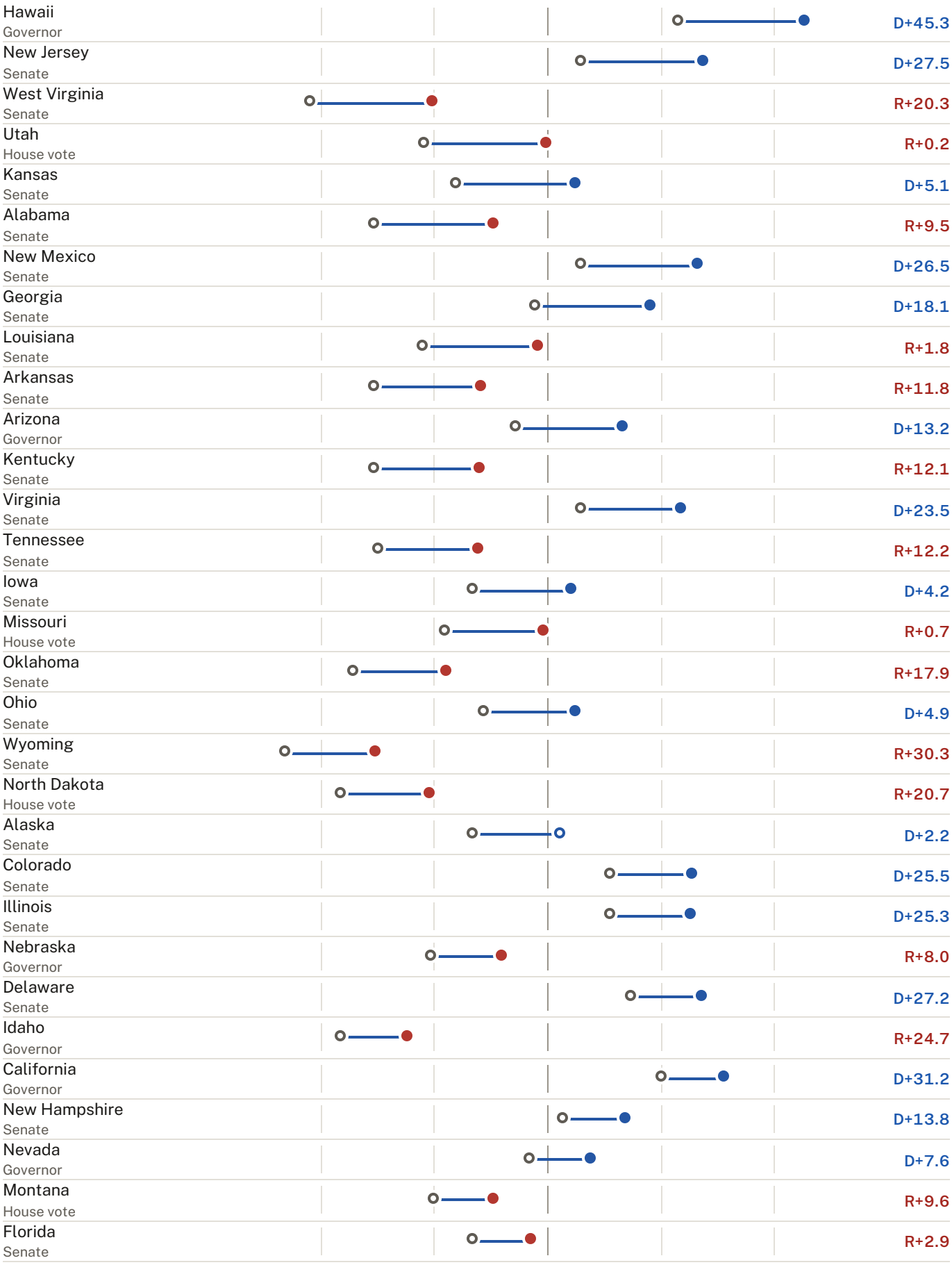


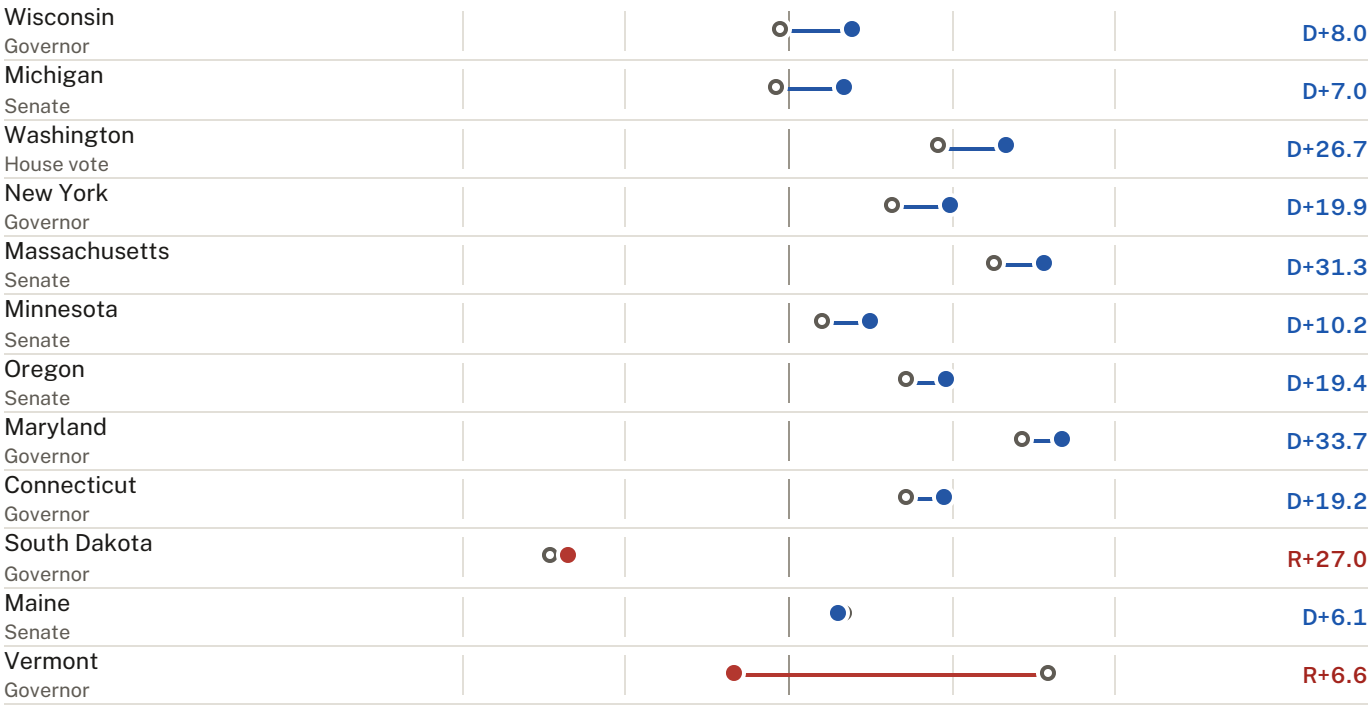
Each county's 2026 margin in its state's top race minus its 2024 presidential margin: 3,112 counties, and Alaska's 40 state house districts. One office is set against another, so a candidate's own following moves a state along with the national mood. Source: state election offices; 2024 county returns.

FIGURE 4

Where each state stood for president in 2024 and where its top race stands now




Hawaii
Governor
D+45.3
New Jersey
Senate
D+27.5
West Virginia
Senate
R+20.3
Utah
House vote
R+0.2
Kansas
Senate
D+5.1
Alabama
Senate
R+9.5
New Mexico
Senate
D+26.5
Georgia
Senate
D+18.1
Louisiana
Senate
R+1.8
Arkansas
Senate
R+11.8
Arizona
Governor
D+13.2
Kentucky
Senate
R+12.1
Virginia
Senate
D+23.5
Tennessee
Senate
R+12.2
Iowa
Senate
D+4.2
Missouri
House vote
R+0.7
Oklahoma
Senate
R+17.9
Ohio
Senate
D+4.9
Wyoming
Senate
R+30.3
North Dakota
House vote
R+20.7
Alaska
Senate
D+2.2
Colorado
Senate
D+25.5
Illinois
Senate
D+25.3
Nebraska
Governor
R+8.0
Delaware
Senate
D+27.2
Idaho
Governor
R+24.7
California
Governor
D+31.2
New Hampshire
Senate
D+13.8
Nevada
Governor
D+7.6
Montana
House vote
R+9.6
Florida
Senate
R+2.9



States in order of the size of the move, 50 of 50. Hollow dot: 2024 presidential margin in the compared counties. Filled dot: 2026 margin in the top race named under each state; a ring marks a race not yet called. Source: state election offices; 2024 county returns.

Who showed up: the Republican vote fell by a third

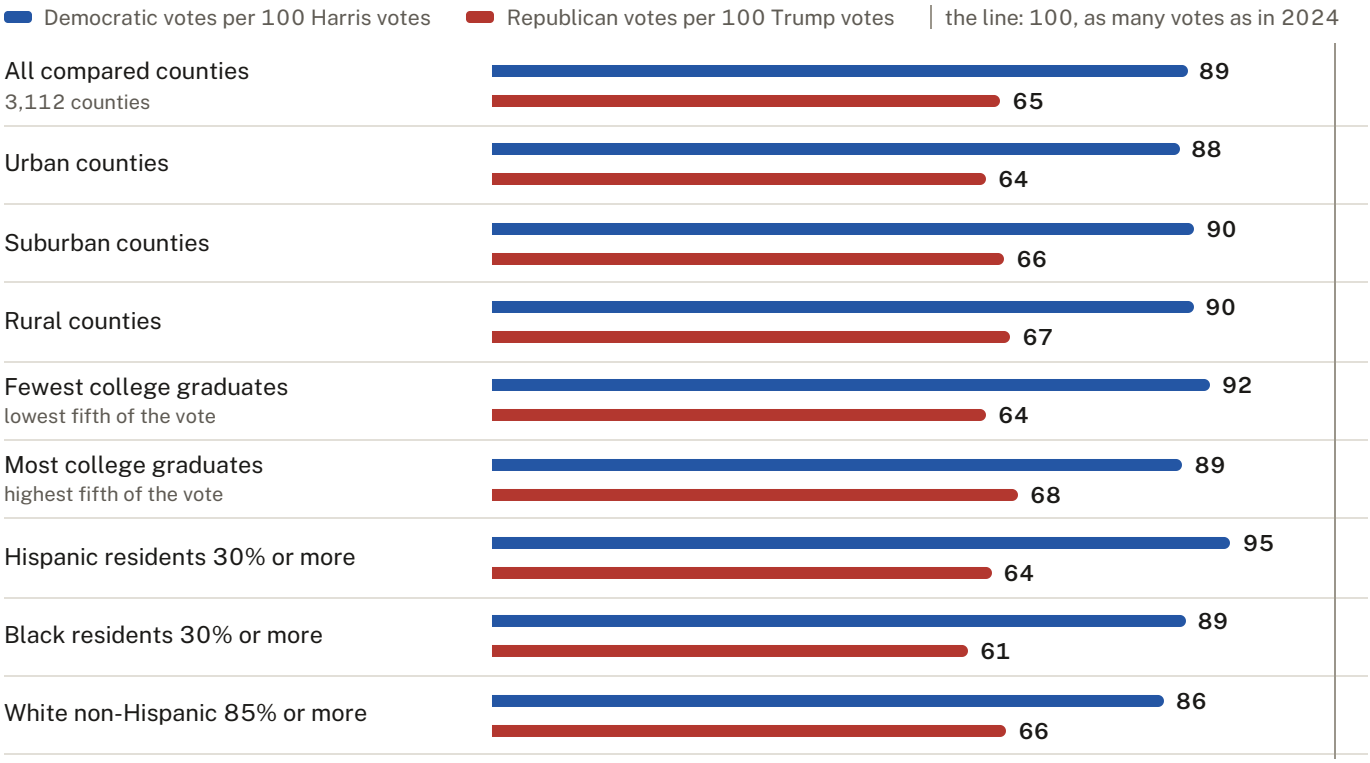
About 120 million votes have been counted in the most-voted contest in each state. That is 108% of the same figure for the 2022 midterm and 77% of the 2024 presidential vote, and the count is not finished. It already exceeds 2022 in 39 states.

The drop from 2024 was not shared evenly by the two parties. Democratic candidates in each county's top race drew 89 votes for every 100 Harris won in the same counties. Republican candidates drew 65 for every 100 of Trump's. A party's vote falls when its voters stay home and when they cross over, and county totals cannot tell the two apart. What they show is where the Republican vote went missing.

It fell in every group of counties we measure, and furthest where at least 30% of residents are Black: Republicans drew 61 votes per 100 of Trump's there. They drew 62 in the fifth of the vote cast in the lowest-income counties and 64 in the fifth with the fewest college graduates, in each case the fewest of the five fifths on that measure. Democrats held their vote best in counties where at least 30% of residents are Hispanic, at 95 per 100, in the fifth with the lowest median age, at 95, and across the South, at 94.[5]

FIGURE 5

Democrats drew 89 votes for every 100 Harris won; Republicans drew 65 for every 100 Trump won



A party's votes in each county's top race this year for every 100 its presidential nominee won there in 2024, added across 3,112 counties. The count is not finished everywhere, so both figures will rise a little. Source: state election offices; 2024 county returns.

The counties that moved most are younger, poorer and have fewer graduates

Sorted by who lives in them, the counties still vote as they have. The fifth of the vote cast in counties with the fewest college graduates went Republican by 17.7 points and the fifth with the most went Democratic by 37.4. But the move from 2024 was larger at the bottom of that ladder than at the top: 17.2 points against 12.0. Income runs the same way, from 18.2 points in the lowest-income fifth to 11.4 in the highest. So does age: the fifth of the vote cast in the counties with the lowest median age moved 19.5 points and the fifth with the highest 11.7.

Counties where at least 30% of residents are Hispanic moved 18.8 points, the most of our four groupings by race and ethnicity, and counties at least 30% Black moved 16.5. The counties that are at least 85% white and not Hispanic moved least of the four, 12.3. City, suburb and country moved nearly together: 14.8 points in urban counties, 15.4 in suburban ones and 13.9 in rural ones, where Republicans still won by 20.3. [5]

Part of this is a return. From 2020 to 2024 the same counties had moved 5.9 points toward the Republicans, and the heavily Hispanic counties had moved 10.1, the most of any group. This year 2,667 of the 2,778 counties that had moved right moved back toward the Democrats, and 2,804 of 3,112 counties finished more Democratic than they had been in the 2020 presidential race.

These are counts of places. A county with few graduates that moved 17 points has graduates in it, and nothing here says how any group of people voted. [5]

FIGURE 6

The move from 2024 by the kind of county

City, suburb, country

Urban 155 counties	14.8 pts → D
Suburban 738 counties	15.4 pts → D
Rural 2,219 counties	13.9 pts → D

College degrees

0–25% with a degree 2,016 counties	17.2 pts → D
25–33% with a degree 583 counties	15.6 pts → D
33–37% with a degree 189 counties	15.5 pts → D
37–45% with a degree 169 counties	12.6 pts → D
45–80% with a degree 155 counties	12.0 pts → D

Income

$25k–$65k 1,688 counties	18.2 pts → D
$65k–$74k 684 counties	15.5 pts → D
$74k–$85k 401 counties	15.5 pts → D
$86k–$100k 195 counties	14.4 pts → D
$100k–$179k 142 counties	11.4 pts → D

Age

Median age 21–36 387 counties	19.5 pts → D
Median age 36–38 229 counties	16.0 pts → D
Median age 38–40 419 counties	14.3 pts → D
Median age 40–42 645 counties	13.3 pts → D
Median age 42–69 1,432 counties	11.7 pts → D

Race and ethnicity

Black residents 30% or more 292 counties	16.5 pts → D
Hispanic residents 30% or more 241 counties	18.8 pts → D
White non-Hispanic 85% or more 1,321 counties	12.3 pts → D
Every other county 1,258 counties	14.2 pts → D

2024 vote

Trump by 40 or more 1,624 counties	15.9 pts → D
Trump by 20 to 40 644 counties	14.5 pts → D
Trump by under 20 393 counties	15.4 pts → D
Harris by under 20 240 counties	14.1 pts → D
Harris by 20 or more 211 counties	12.2 pts → D

Compared counties grouped by Census Bureau figures and each group's votes added together; fifths are fifths of the 2026 vote. These are places, not people: a county's move says nothing certain about how any group in it voted. Urban is 1,000 or more residents per square mile, suburban 100 to 999, rural under 100 (our cut). Source: state election offices; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2019–2023.

Tickets rarely split, and the two states that did elected Republican governors

Twenty states chose a senator and a governor on the same ballot with a Democrat and a Republican in both races. The same party won or leads both in all but two: New Hampshire and South Carolina, which each elected a Democratic senator and a Republican governor. In New Hampshire the Senate race went Democratic by 13.8 points and the governor's race Republican by 4.4; in South Carolina the two margins were 4.5 and 4.5.

The average gap between the two races was 7.3 points, and 55 of the 1,584 counties in those states chose a senator of one party and a governor of the other. The gaps ran in both directions. In Oklahoma and Tennessee the Democratic candidates for governor lost by 6.0 and 2.5 points while the party's Senate candidates lost by 17.9 and 12.2. In Georgia the Democrat won the Senate race by 18.1 and the governor's race by 8.7.

FIGURE 7

The Senate and the governor on one ballot: 55 of 1,584 counties chose different parties

State	Senate	Governor	Gap	Counties that split
Wyoming	R+30.3	R+53.6	23.3 pts	2 of 23
New Hampshire	D+13.8	R+4.4	18.2 pts	4 of 10
Oklahoma	R+17.9	R+6.0	11.9 pts	2 of 77
New Mexico	D+26.5	D+14.7	11.8 pts	3 of 33
Oregon	D+19.4	D+9.6	9.9 pts	4 of 36
Tennessee	R+12.2	R+2.5	9.7 pts	2 of 95
Georgia	D+18.1	D+8.7	9.4 pts	5 of 159
South Carolina	D+4.5	R+4.5	9.0 pts	7 of 46
Iowa	D+4.2	D+11.1	6.9 pts	13 of 99
Alabama	R+9.5	R+3.9	5.6 pts	1 of 67
Texas	D+12.1	D+7.2	4.9 pts	3 of 254
Kansas	D+5.1	D+0.7	4.4 pts	2 of 105
Massachusetts	D+31.3	D+27.3	4.0 pts	0 of 14
Michigan	D+7.0	D+10.7	3.8 pts	4 of 83
Arkansas	R+11.8	R+15.3	3.4 pts	0 of 75
Ohio	D+4.9	D+7.9	3.1 pts	0 of 88
Minnesota	D+10.2	D+12.9	2.7 pts	2 of 87
Colorado	D+25.5	D+27.9	2.4 pts	1 of 64
Florida	R+2.9	R+1.3	1.6 pts	0 of 67
Illinois	D+25.3	D+24.6	0.7 pts	0 of 102

The 20 states where both races paired a Democrat with a Republican. Margins are Democrat minus Republican in points of all votes. Source: state election offices.

What broke: the districts and states that vote one way for president and another for Congress

Before the election 22 Democrats sat in House districts that Trump carried in 2024, measured on this year's lines, and eight Republicans sat in districts Harris carried. Among the seats called so far there are 54 of the first kind and zero of the second.

The Senate had 10 Democrats from states Trump carried and will have at least 17. Its one Republican from a state Harris carried, Collins, lost. States whose two senators sit with different parties go from three to at least nine. Among governors, Democrats will lead at least 12 states Trump carried, up from seven, and Republicans lead two that Harris carried, as before.

On the ground, 263 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 voted Democratic in their top race, and 184 of them had voted for him in 2020 as well. The largest are Maricopa County, Arizona; Miami-Dade County, Florida; and Tarrant County, Texas. Ten counties went the other way, nine of them in Vermont.

The map itself did not break. Republicans carried 2,408 of the 3,112 counties and Democrats 704. The counties Trump won by forty points or more moved 15.9 toward the Democrats and still voted Republican by 38.0.

PART 2

Down the ballot

State legislatures: 11 chambers changed hands, all toward the Democrats

Our count settles control of 73 of the 98 state legislative chambers, 91 of which held regular elections. In the chambers on the ballot where it read every seat, Democrats gained a net 350 seats and Republicans lost 334. For the chambers we could not read in full we rely on local newsrooms and on Ballotpedia, cited in each state's section.

Put together, on the results reported so far, Republicans lost their majorities in 11 chambers: the Arizona Senate, Arizona House, Georgia House, Michigan House, New Hampshire Senate, New Hampshire House, North Carolina House, Pennsylvania Senate, Texas House, Wisconsin Senate and Wisconsin Assembly. Democrats also turned a tied Minnesota House into a majority. No chamber is reported to have moved to the Republicans. Ballotpedia's tally on November 5 listed ten of the eleven. The Georgia House came afterward, on Associated Press race calls, and still had three seats unresolved on November 9.[6,7,8]

Before the election Republicans held the governor's office and both chambers in 23 states and Democrats in 16, by Ballotpedia's count.[9] On the results reported so far, Democrats add six: Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Republicans lose five: Georgia, Iowa, New Hampshire, Ohio and Texas, where a Democratic governor or a Democratic chamber now sits across from them. That would leave 22 states under full Democratic control, 18 under Republican control and 10 divided. Arizona's Democratic trifecta is the first there in 60 years and Pennsylvania's the first in 33, Bolts reported.[10,11]

The quieter change is in supermajorities. Ballotpedia counts new Democratic supermajorities in the Colorado House, the Nevada Assembly, the New York Senate and the Vermont Senate, and the end of Republican ones in chambers that include both of Florida's and the Iowa House. Stateline adds the Indiana House.[6,10] None of these counts is final, and no source we read described a result as certified.

FIGURE 8

Legislative chambers that changed hands in our count

Chamber	Before	After, in our count
Arizona Senate	13 D, 17 R	20 D, 10 R
Arizona House	27 D, 33 R	37 D, 23 R
New Hampshire Senate	8 D, 16 R	15 D, 9 R
North Carolina House	47 D, 71 R, 2 independent	71 D, 48 R, 1 independent
Pennsylvania Senate	23 D, 27 R	26 D, 24 R
Wisconsin Senate	15 D, 18 R	17 D, 15 R 1 seat not read in our count
Wisconsin Assembly	45 D, 54 R	53 D, 46 R

Only chambers where control is settled in our count. Chambers our count could not read in full are listed in the text with their sources.
Source: state election offices.

Statewide offices: 27 went to the Democrats, one to the Republicans

We follow 147 statewide offices below governor that were on the ballot, and 144 of them are decided. Of those, 27 went from Republican to Democratic and one went the other way, a seat on Louisiana's Public Service Commission that John E. Atkins, a Republican, took from the Democrats by 18.3 points. Seven of the Democratic gains are in Georgia and six in Texas; in both, Democrats won every statewide office in our count. Ohio's attorney general, secretary of state and treasurer changed party, and so did Indiana's secretary of state and comptroller. The rest are attorney general in Iowa and Kansas, treasurer in Arizona and Wisconsin, lieutenant governor in Nevada and Vermont, controller in Nevada, the superintendent of public instruction in Arizona and a seat on California's Board of Equalization. Three are still open: Iowa's auditor and treasurer, where the leads are 0.6 and 0.6 points, and Arizona's Corporation Commission, which fills two seats. [12]

Who held each office before comes from our results index for attorney general, secretary of state and treasurer. For the other offices it comes from MultiState's list of officeholders as of July and, for seats on commissions and offices that list lacks, from the offices' own pages and local reporting. Every office counted as changing party was checked against a second source on November 13. One office whose holder was an appointee with no party on record, South Carolina's comptroller general, is counted as neither held nor flipped. [13]

In Indiana, Beau Bayh won the secretary of state's office by 9.1 points; Bolts reported that he will be the first Democrat to hold the office in three decades. Ballotpedia reports that Democrats also gained the elected schools chief in Arizona and Georgia. [11, 14]

FIGURE 9

Statewide executive offices below governor

Office	Elected	Held before	Called	Flipped to D	Flipped to R	Open
Attorney General	28	16 D, 12 R	21 D, 7 R	5	0	0
Secretary of State	26	13 D, 13 R	16 D, 10 R	3	0	0
Treasurer	23	10 D, 13 R	13 D, 9 R	3	0	1
Auditor	10	5 D, 5 R	4 D, 5 R	0	0	1
Lieutenant Governor	10	2 D, 8 R	6 D, 4 R	4	0	0
Public Service Commissioner	10	2 D, 8 R	2 D, 8 R	1	1	0
Comptroller	7	4 D, 2 R 1 with no party on file	6 D, 1 R	2	0	0
Superintendent of Public Instruction	7	0 D, 5 R, 2 other	1 D, 4 R, 1 other, 1 independent	1	0	0
Commissioner of Agriculture	6	0 D, 6 R	2 D, 4 R	2	0	0

Offices with five or more elections this year. "Held before" is the party of the previous holder, from our results index for attorney general, secretary of state and treasurer and otherwise from MultiState's July list of officeholders or the offices' own pages; nonpartisan holders are counted as other. Source: state election offices; MultiState; office websites.

State supreme courts: no majority changed, and two narrowed

Twenty-three states voted on supreme court seats in November, by Bolts's count, and no court's majority flipped. [15] In Texas, Democrats defeated four Republican incumbents, among them the chief justice, and a court that had been entirely Republican now has a 5-4 Republican majority. [15, 16] In Ohio, Justice Jennifer Brunner was

re-elected and Marilyn Zayas defeated Justice Daniel Hawkins, which narrows the Republican majority from 6-1 to 5-2.[15,17] Democratic justices kept their seats in Michigan and North Carolina, and Montana voters wrote nonpartisan judicial elections into the state constitution.[15,18]

Ballot measures: voters took positions from both parties

Our count holds 135 statewide measures in 34 states. It records the votes for and against, and a measure's fate depends on its state's rule. New Hampshire's Question 1, which would have removed the register of probate from the state constitution, drew 65% and failed: New Hampshire Public Radio reported that it needed a two-thirds majority.[19] What follows on outcomes comes from Ballotpedia, NPR and the Brennan Center's State Court Report.

On abortion, Nevada voters approved a constitutional right with 63.2% in unofficial results. Missouri voters defeated Amendment 3, which would have repealed the reproductive-freedom amendment they passed in 2024, and Idaho voters defeated a measure to put abortion rights into state law.[9,18,20] On voting rules, amendments requiring citizenship to vote passed in Arkansas, Kansas, South Dakota and West Virginia. Voter identification requirements passed in Nevada, North Carolina and Ohio and failed in Arizona, California and Colorado.[9,18,20,21]

Congressional maps were on the ballot in Missouri, Maryland and Colorado. Missouri voters rejected the map their legislature drew in 2025, 62% to 38%. Maryland voters approved an amendment that allows a congressional redraw. Colorado voters turned down an amendment that would have made it harder to redraw the state's congressional map before 2028.[18,21] The redrawing of House maps between censuses is the subject of a separate piece (callthemap.com/results/stories/the-redraws).

On taxes, North Carolina voters approved a lower cap on the income tax rate, Iowa voters approved a two-thirds legislative vote for income tax increases, and Washington voters kept the state's tax on household income over $1 million.[20] Massachusetts voters kept legal marijuana sales, with 75% voting against repeal.[18]

PART 3

Local results

A sample, and how it was chosen

We found no single count of the country's school boards, sheriffs and county commissions, so what follows is a sample. It was assembled on November 13 from four kinds of contest: the mayoral elections that Ballotpedia listed for November 3 in the 100 largest cities; the prosecutor and sheriff races that Bolts wrote up; school board and schools-chief results reported by Chalkbeat and Ballotpedia; and the local measures that KQED, NPR, Ballotpedia and the transit trade press treated as part of a national pattern. [22] It leaves out whatever could not be read that day, including Harris County, Texas, Cook County, Illinois, and Louisville. Nearly every figure in it comes from an unofficial count, and no source we read described a result as certified.

Each state's own section adds a second sample, the same four looks in every state: the seats on the state's highest court that were on the ballot, the mayor of the largest city that elected one on November 3, the chief prosecutor of the most populous county, and the board of the largest school district that voted. Researchers found a result for the court in 16 states, the mayor in 14, the prosecutor in 13 and the school board in 15. Where a state elects none of these in November, or not in 2026, its section says so from the state's own rules: that was the case for the court in 13 states. The rest are gaps in what could be read in a day, from pages that open without an account, and not evidence that nothing happened. In a few states the result found is the nearest one that was reported, a smaller city or district or a court race decided in the spring, and the section names it as such.

City halls: two big-city mayors lost

In Los Angeles, City Council member Nithya Raman defeated Mayor Karen Bass. NBC Los Angeles's count on November 13 had Raman at 54.8% with 98.9% of the vote counted, by its estimate; Bass had been the first Los Angeles incumbent forced into a runoff since 2005, Ballotpedia noted. [23, 24] In St. Petersburg, Florida, former Governor Charlie Crist defeated Mayor Kenneth Welch. [22] Washington, D.C., elected Janeese Lewis George to the seat Muriel Bowser is leaving, on the Associated Press's call as reported by FOX 5 DC, which described her as the first mayor of the capital associated with democratic socialist politics. [25]

Of the 15 mayoral elections in the 100 largest cities that day, Ballotpedia counts at least one office that changed party control, Reno's, where Democrat Kate Marshall was elected to succeed a nonpartisan mayor. Corpus Christi and Laredo go to runoffs, Corpus Christi's on December 12, and the races in Anaheim, Irvine and Santa Ana, California, were uncalled on November 9. [22, 26]

Counties: Tarrant changed hands, and two long-serving sheriffs lost

Tarrant County, Texas, which holds Fort Worth, moved from R+5.1 for president to D+19.2 in the Senate race. Its county government went with it. Democrat Alisa Simmons defeated the Republican county executive, Tim O'Hare, Democrats won a majority on the five-member commissioners court, and Democrat Tiffany Burks defeated the Republican district attorney. Bolts called Tarrant the Republicans' last urban stronghold in Texas. [27]

Two sheriffs whom Bolts had covered for their cooperation with federal immigration enforcement lost. In Frederick County, Maryland, Democrat Karl Bickel leads Sheriff Chuck Jenkins, who was seeking a sixth term, 59.18% to 40.70% in the state's unofficial count. In Alamance County, North Carolina, Shannon Long, a pastor who ran unaffiliated, defeated Sheriff Terry Johnson, a six-term Republican, by nearly five points. [28, 29, 30]

Among prosecutors, Democrat Amara Hunter defeated District Attorney Jim O'Neill, a Republican seeking a fifth term, by nearly nine points in Forsyth County, North Carolina, and Cedrick Frazier won the open race for Hennepin County attorney in Minnesota. [31, 32]

Schools: Chicago's first fully elected board, and a board that changed parties in Georgia

Chicago elected its whole school board for the first time, 21 seats. Jessica Biggs won the citywide race for board president. Chalkbeat reported on November 5 that candidates backed by school-choice groups were on track for 11 seats and that candidates endorsed by the Chicago Teachers Union could reach nine if their leads held, with four district races too close to call. [33, 34]

In Cobb County, Georgia, a Democrat defeated a Republican incumbent and the school board went from a 4-3 Republican majority to a 4-3 Democratic one. [22] The Texas State Board of Education stood at seven Democrats and seven Republicans with one district uncalled, in the count Ballotpedia published on November 9. [14] In Arizona, Democrat Teresa Leyba Ruiz won the office of superintendent of public instruction from the Republicans, by 6.6 points in our count. [14, 35]

Local measures: transit taxes passed and data centers lost

Twenty-two of 27 transit measures on the ballot passed, METRO Magazine reported. A regional sales tax for Bay Area transit had about 62% and Seattle's transit measure passed with 72%. The exceptions included Fresno County's transportation tax, which trailed with about 47%, and a Tempe, Arizona, measure that about 59% opposed. [36, 37]

Ballotpedia counted 41 local measures on data centers and found that voters took the restrictive side in 40 of them. Trenton, Ohio, banned data centers above 25 megawatts. The exception was Harwood, North Dakota, where 75% voted against restrictions, NPR reported. [6, 21] Oakland voters approved a strong-mayor charter with 73.8%. [6] Honolulu voters rejected ranked-choice voting on the same day that Longmont, Colorado, adopted it. [22]

PART 4

Who gained power

Where Democrats won the power to govern

Winning seats and winning the power to pass laws are different things, and the second happened in fewer places. On the results reported so far it happened in six states, where Democrats will hold the governor's office and both chambers: Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. In Arizona and Wisconsin they won both chambers from the Republicans in one night. In Pennsylvania they needed the Senate and took it 26 to 24. In Michigan and Minnesota the missing piece was the House, and in Nevada it was the governor's office, which Aaron Ford won by 7.6 points.[8, 10, 11, 38]

In five more states Democrats ended Republican control without gaining their own. Texas elected a Democratic governor, Gina Hinojosa, by 7.2 points, and Democrats to every other statewide executive office on the ballot, and Democrats lead for a majority of the state House, while the Senate stays Republican. Ohio and Iowa each elected a Democratic governor to face a Republican legislature. Georgia elected a Democratic governor and, on the calls so far, a Democratic House. New Hampshire kept its Republican governor and gave Democrats the legislature.[2, 6, 7, 10]

Counted by the offices decided in our count, the largest gains are in Texas, where Democrats won a Senate seat, the governor's office, six other statewide offices and two U.S. House seats; in Georgia, with the governor's office and seven other statewide offices; and in Ohio, with a Senate seat, the governor's office, three U.S. House seats and three other statewide offices: attorney general, secretary of state and treasurer.

Where Republicans held

Republicans won 13 Senate races, every one in a state Trump carried by 13 points or more. The closest were Louisiana, by 1.8, and Florida, by 2.9; in Nebraska the Republican beat an independent by 6.2. Trump's margin did not settle a seat: Republicans held Florida, which he carried by 13 points, and lost South Carolina, which he carried by 18.

Republican candidates for governor had close calls of their own. Marsha Blackburn won Tennessee with 45.5% of the vote and Tommy Tuberville won Alabama by 3.9 points, in states Trump carried by 30 and 31. The two Republican governors in states Harris carried both won again.[2, 3] Kelly Ayotte won New Hampshire by 4.4 points while her party's Senate candidate lost there by 13.8, and Phil Scott won Vermont by 6.6 in a state Trump lost by 32.

In the states, Republicans kept full control of 18 governments on the results so far, Florida among them, and no chamber is reported to have moved to them. Their three gains in the U.S. House came in districts Trump had carried and Democrats had held: the Texas 32nd District, which he won by 17.7 points, the Tennessee 9th District, by 20.9, and the Maine 2nd District, by 9.0. Florida moved 10.2 points against the South's 19.0, and there Republicans kept the Senate seat, the governor's office and both legislative chambers while losing their supermajorities in both.[6, 39]

PART 5

The map for 2028

The Senate seats up in 2028

The Senate class that faces voters in 2028 has 34 seats. After this election Democrats hold 16 of them and Republicans 18, counting the two special elections held this year, in Florida and Ohio, whose winners must run again in two years. [4]

Democrats will defend five of those seats in states Trump carried in 2024: Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Republicans will defend none in a state Harris carried, and two, in North Carolina and Wisconsin, in states Trump won by fewer than ten points.

FIGURE 10

The Senate seats up in 2028 as they stand after this election

State	Senator after this election	2024 president	
Alabama	Katie Boyd Britt (R)	R+30.6	
Alaska	Lisa Murkowski (R)	R+13.2	
Arizona	Mark Kelly (D)	R+5.5	
Arkansas	John Boozman (R)	R+30.6	
California	Alex Padilla (D)	D+20.1	
Colorado	Michael F. Bennet (D)	D+11.0	
Connecticut	Richard Blumenthal (D)	D+14.5	
Florida	Ashley Moody (R)	R+13.1	Special election, 2026
Georgia	Raphael G. Warnock (D)	R+2.2	
Hawaii	Brian Schatz (D)	D+23.1	
Idaho	Mike Crapo (R)	R+36.5	
Illinois	Tammy Duckworth (D)	D+11.0	
Indiana	Todd Young (R)	R+19.0	
Iowa	Chuck Grassley (R)	R+13.3	
Kansas	Jerry Moran (R)	R+16.1	
Kentucky	Rand Paul (R)	R+30.6	
Louisiana	John Kennedy (R)	R+22.0	
Maryland	Chris Van Hollen (D)	D+28.8	
Missouri	Eric Schmitt (R)	R+18.4	
Nevada	Catherine Cortez Masto (D)	R+3.1	
New Hampshire	Margaret Wood Hassan (D)	D+2.8	
New York	Charles E. Schumer (D)	D+12.7	
North Carolina	Ted Budd (R)	R+3.2	
North Dakota	John Hoeven (R)	R+36.8	

State	Senator after this election	2024 president	
Ohio	Sherrod Brown (D)	R+11.2	Special election, 2026
Oklahoma	James Lankford (R)	R+34.3	
Oregon	Ron Wyden (D)	D+14.4	
Pennsylvania	John Fetterman (D)	R+1.7	
South Carolina	Tim Scott (R)	R+17.9	
South Dakota	John Thune (R)	R+29.2	
Utah	Mike Lee (R)	R+21.6	
Vermont	Peter Welch (D)	D+31.8	
Washington	Patty Murray (D)	D+18.3	
Wisconsin	Ron Johnson (R)	R+0.9	

The 34 Senate seats on the ballot in 2028: 16 held by Democrats and 18 by Republicans. An asterisk marks a 2026 race not yet called. 2024 president is the statewide margin. Source: Senate roster (unitedstates/congress-legislators); state election offices.

Maps and election offices

In five states Republicans no longer hold both the legislature and the governor's office, which matters before 2028 wherever a legislature draws the maps and a governor can veto them. The state-by-state tally of who holds the pen is on our power page (callthemap.com/results/power), and the congressional maps redrawn since 2024 are covered in The redraws (callthemap.com/results/stories/the-redraws).

The offices that run elections changed too.[11] Democrats won the secretary of state's office from Republicans in Georgia, Indiana and Ohio.

PART 6

The 50 states

The table sorts by any column. Each state has its own page: what was on the ballot, what changed hands, how its regions and counties moved, the place that tells its story, and what the result changes in practice.

FIGURE 11

All 50 states at a glance

State	2024 president	2026 top race	Shift	U.S. House, called	Votes vs 2022	Votes vs 2024	Races open
Alabama	R+30.6	R+9.5 Senate	21.1 pts → D	2 D, 5 R	119%	75%	0
Alaska	R+13.2	D+2.2 Senate	15.4 pts → D	0 D, 0 R, 1 open	96%	75%	3
Arizona	R+5.5	D+13.2 Governor	18.7 pts → D	5 D, 3 R, 1 open	101%	76%	2
Arkansas	R+30.6	R+11.8 Senate	18.8 pts → D	0 D, 4 R	98%	75%	0
California	D+20.1	D+31.2 Governor	11.1 pts → D	47 D, 2 R, 3 open	116%	80%	3
Colorado	D+11.0	D+25.5 Senate	14.5 pts → D	6 D, 1 R, 1 open	107%	84%	1
Connecticut	D+14.5	D+19.2 Governor	4.6 pts → D	5 D, 0 R	102%	74%	0
Delaware	D+14.7	D+27.2 Senate	12.4 pts → D	1 D, 0 R	118%	74%	0
Florida	R+13.1	R+2.9 Senate	10.2 pts → D	8 D, 19 R, 1 open	107%	76%	1
Georgia	R+2.2	D+18.1 Senate	20.3 pts → D	5 D, 9 R	106%	80%	0
Hawaii	D+23.1	D+45.3 Governor	22.2 pts → D	2 D, 0 R	93%	74%	0
Idaho	R+36.5	R+24.7 Governor	11.9 pts → D	0 D, 2 R	121%	79%	0
Illinois	D+11.0	D+25.3 Senate	14.4 pts → D	14 D, 3 R	102%	75%	0
Indiana	R+18.8	D+3.6 House vote	22.4 pts → D	3 D, 6 R	104%	66%	0
Iowa	R+13.3	D+4.2 Senate	17.5 pts → D	3 D, 1 R	112%	83%	2
Kansas	R+16.1	D+5.1 Senate	21.2 pts → D	1 D, 3 R	109%	83%	0
Kentucky	R+30.6	R+12.1 Senate	18.5 pts → D	2 D, 4 R	96%	69%	0
Louisiana	R+22.0	R+1.8 Senate	20.2 pts → D	1 D, 3 R, 2 open	106%	73%	2

State	2024 president	2026 top race	Shift	U.S. House, called	Votes vs 2022	Votes vs 2024	Races open
Maine	D+6.9	D+6.1 Senate	0.8 pts → R	1 D, 1 R	104%	86%	0
Maryland	D+28.8	D+33.7 Governor	5.0 pts → D	7 D, 1 R	109%	72%	0
Massachusetts	D+25.3	D+31.3 Senate	5.9 pts → D	9 D, 0 R	106%	76%	0
Michigan	R+1.4	D+7.0 Senate	8.4 pts → D	9 D, 4 R	107%	84%	0
Minnesota	D+4.3	D+10.2 Senate	5.9 pts → D	4 D, 3 R, 1 open	113%	87%	1
Mississippi	R+22.9	D+0.8 Senate	23.7 pts → D	1 D, 3 R	137%	79%	0
Missouri	R+18.2	R+0.7 House vote	17.4 pts → D	3 D, 5 R	102%	70%	0
Montana	R+20.1	R+9.6 House vote	10.5 pts → D	1 D, 1 R	105%	81%	0
Nebraska	R+20.6	R+8.0 Governor	12.6 pts → D	1 D, 2 R	112%	80%	0
Nevada	R+3.1	D+7.6 Governor	10.7 pts → D	4 D, 0 R	107%	73%	0
New Hampshire	D+2.8	D+13.8 Senate	11.0 pts → D	2 D, 0 R	103%	78%	0
New Jersey	D+5.9	D+27.5 Senate	21.6 pts → D	11 D, 1 R	113%	69%	0
New Mexico	D+6.0	D+26.5 Senate	20.5 pts → D	3 D, 0 R	102%	79%	0
New York	D+12.7	D+19.9 Governor	7.2 pts → D	20 D, 6 R	103%	74%	0
North Carolina	R+3.2	D+19.7 Senate	22.9 pts → D	9 D, 1 R, 4 open	112%	74%	4
North Dakota	R+36.5	R+20.7 House vote	15.7 pts → D	0 D, 1 R	98%	64%	0
Ohio	R+11.2	D+4.9 Senate	16.1 pts → D	8 D, 7 R	111%	80%	0
Oklahoma	R+34.3	R+17.9 Senate	16.4 pts → D	0 D, 5 R	97%	72%	0
Oregon	D+14.4	D+19.4 Senate	5.0 pts → D	5 D, 1 R	101%	89%	0
Pennsylvania	R+1.7	D+22.4 Governor	24.1 pts → D	11 D, 6 R	93%	71%	0
Rhode Island	D+13.9	D+37.4 Senate	23.5 pts → D	2 D, 0 R	101%	71%	0
South Carolina	R+17.9	D+4.5 Senate	22.4 pts → D	2 D, 5 R	120%	80%	0
South Dakota	R+29.2	R+27.0 Governor	2.2 pts → D	0 D, 1 R	87%	71%	0

State	2024 president	2026 top race	Shift	U.S. House, called	Votes vs 2022	Votes vs 2024	Races open
Tennessee	R+29.7	R+12.2 Senate	17.6 pts → D	0 D, 8 R, 1 open	121%	69%	1
Texas	R+13.7	D+12.1 Senate	25.8 pts → D	14 D, 24 R	123%	87%	0
Utah	R+21.6	R+0.2 House vote	21.4 pts → D	1 D, 3 R	97%	69%	0
Vermont	D+31.8	R+6.6 Governor	38.4 pts → R	1 D, 0 R	110%	84%	0
Virginia	D+5.8	D+23.5 Senate	17.7 pts → D	8 D, 3 R	120%	82%	0
Washington	D+18.5	D+26.7 House vote	8.2 pts → D	8 D, 1 R, 1 open	103%	80%	1
West Virginia	R+41.9	R+20.3 Senate	21.5 pts → D	0 D, 2 R	97%	60%	0
Wisconsin	R+0.9	D+8.0 Governor	8.9 pts → D	4 D, 4 R	100%	78%	0
Wyoming	R+46.2	R+30.3 Senate	15.9 pts → D	0 D, 1 R	97%	71%	0

2024 president and 2026 top race are margins in the compared counties. Votes are the most-voted contest in each year: against 2022, the governor's race, Senate race or House vote, whichever drew most; against 2024, the presidential vote. Counts are still open in some states, so the turnout columns will rise. Source: state election offices; MIT Election Data and Science Lab for the 2022 House vote.

Alabama

South · 2024 president R+30.6

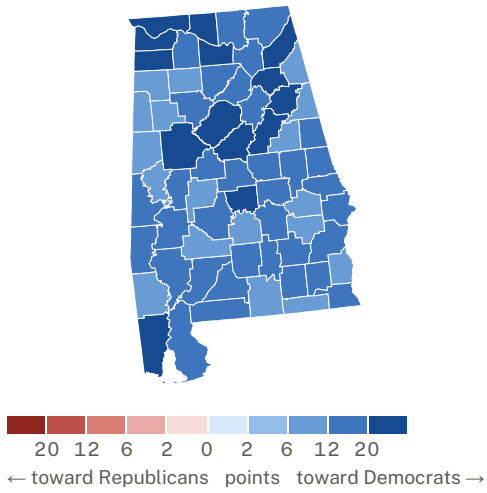
Republicans won every statewide office on the ballot in Alabama, the governorship by 3.9 points in a state Donald Trump carried by 30.6, and lost seats in both chambers of the Legislature.

Republican Barry Moore won the Senate race by 9.5 points over Democrat Everett Wess, keeping the seat in Republican hands. The governor's race was closer: Tommy Tuberville beat Democrat Doug Jones, 51.8% to 47.9%. Jones conceded the next day and called it the state's closest race for governor since 2002.[40] Republicans won all eight other statewide offices in our count, and the U.S. House delegation stayed at five Republicans and two Democrats. The closest House race was in the Fifth District, where Republican Dale W. Strong won by 6.5 points in a district Donald Trump carried by 28.8.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 21.1 points toward the Democrats, from R+30.6 to R+9.5. Most of the change came from one side. Wess drew 98 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Moore drew 63 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes cast came to 75% of the 2024 presidential total and 119% of the 2022 midterm's. Bill Britt, editor-in-chief of Alabama Political Reporter, put turnout at 43.96 percent, up from 38.60 percent in 2022, and counted 84 percent more straight-ticket Democratic ballots than in 2022.[41]

FIGURE 12

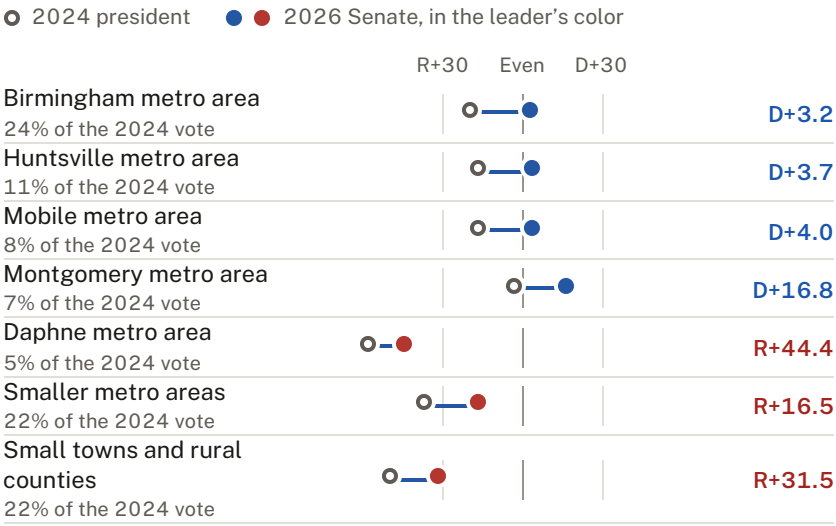
Alabama: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 13

Alabama by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Barry Moore (R) 54.7%, Everett Wess (D) 45.2%	R+9.5	21.1 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Tommy Tuberville (R) 51.8%, Doug Jones (D) 47.9%	R+3.9	26.7 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General R-held	Katherine Robertson (R) 54.9%, Jeff McLaughlin (D) 45.0%	R+10.0	20.6 pts → D	Hold
Auditor R-held	Andrew Sorrell (R) 55.2%, Violet Edwards (D) 44.7%	R+10.5	20.1 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Commissioner of Agriculture R-held	Corey Hill (R) 54.1%, Ron Sparks (D) 45.9%	R+8.2	22.4 pts → D	Hold
Lieutenant Governor R-held	John Wahl (R) 54.3%, Phillip Ensler (D) 45.6%	R+8.7	21.9 pts → D	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Matt Gentry (R) 55.1%, James O. Gordon (D) 44.8%	R+10.2	20.4 pts → D	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Jim Zig Zeigler (R) 54.7%, Sheila D. McNeil (D) 45.2%	R+9.5	21.1 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Caroleene Dobson (R) 54.6%, Wayne Rogers (D) 45.4%	R+9.2	21.4 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Young Boozer (R) 55.0%, Rosilyn Houston (D) 44.9%	R+10.0	20.6 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 7 seats. Before: 2 D, 5 R. Called: 2 D, 5 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
AL-01	Jerry Carl	R+18.1	R+35.4
AL-02	Shomari C. Figures	D+7.5	R+14.1
AL-03	Mike Rogers	R+27.9	R+45.9
AL-04	Robert B. Aderholt	R+49.7	R+65.3
AL-05	Dale W. Strong	R+6.5	R+28.8
AL-06	Gary Palmer	R+14.9	R+33.9
AL-07	Terri Sewell	D+38.8	D+17.5

Where it moved

Every region moved, and the big metro areas moved across the line. The Birmingham metro area, which cast 24% of the state's 2024 vote, went furthest: 23.1 points, from R+19.9 to D+3.2. The Huntsville and Mobile areas, both of which Trump carried by 16.4 points, finished at D+3.7 and D+4.0, and the Montgomery area went from R+3.1 to D+16.8. The Daphne metro area moved least, 13.8 points, and finished at R+44.4. The small towns and rural counties, 22% of the vote, went from R+50.0 to R+31.5.

Of the six counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Wess this year, Madison County, in the Huntsville metro area, is the largest. It went from R+9.0 to D+9.9 on 159,340 votes. The change reached the Legislature there. Both state Senate seats the Democrats gained are in districts largely within Madison County: Rudolph Valentino Drake won the open District 2 with 55.9%, and Jared Sluss defeated Republican Sen. Sam Givhan in District 7 by fewer than 600 votes in unofficial results, Alabama Political Reporter reported.[42] Talladega County had the widest swing on our list, 24.4 points, and still voted Republican, at R+9.4. Tuscaloosa County moved nearly as far and crossed over, to D+3.8. Jefferson County, which cast the most votes of any county, went from D+10.4 to D+31.0. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	35	8 D, 27 R	10 D, 24 R, 1 independent
House	105	29 D, 76 R	31 D, 74 R

Republicans keep the governorship and both chambers, with fewer seats in each. In our count the state Senate went from 27 Republicans and 8 Democrats to 24 Republicans, 10 Democrats and one independent, and the House from 76 Republicans to 74, against 31 Democrats. The losses do not touch the party's hold on

legislation. Under Article V, Section 125 of the state constitution a veto is overridden by a majority of the elected membership of each chamber, 53 votes in the House and 18 in the Senate, Alabama Political Reporter noted, and no supermajority is required. [43]

The people who draw the maps come from the same party as before. The Legislature draws both the congressional and the legislative maps and the governor may veto them, Ballotpedia says. [44, 45] The unofficial returns come from the office of the secretary of state, Wes Allen, and Republican Caroleene Dobson won this year's race for that office. [46, 47]

Before the vote, on October 16, Republican legislative leaders stood outside a Huntsville supermarket and promised to repeal the rest of the state's grocery tax, and Bill Britt wrote afterward that they have the votes to do it. [41] Senate Republicans elected April Weaver majority leader, the first woman to hold the post, and House Republicans nominated Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter for a second term. [48, 49]

On the ballot

Proposed Statewide Amendment 1	**65.4% yes** Passed
Proposed Statewide Amendment 2	**50.9% yes** Passed
Proposed Statewide Amendment 3	**62.6% yes** Passed
Proposed Statewide Amendment 4	**58.6% yes** Passed

A constitutional amendment proposed by the Legislature becomes part of the Alabama constitution if a simple majority of those voting approve it, the Alabama Law Institute's election handbook says. [50] All four on the ballot cleared that in unofficial returns, Alabama Political Reporter reported. [51] The narrowest was Amendment 2, at 50.9% yes, which lets neighboring county school systems merge voluntarily; it failed in 30 of the 67 counties. Amendment 1, at 65.4%, requires a special election when the lieutenant governor's office falls vacant in the first two years of a term and more than 60 days before the next general election, and lets the Legislature set the pay of the lieutenant governor and its own leaders. Amendment 3, at 62.6%, requires local school boards to adopt policies on daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and on student-led prayer, and Amendment 4, at 58.6%, requires public schools to play or perform the first stanza of "The Star-Spangled Banner" at least once a week. [51]

Closer to home

A seat on the state Supreme Court stayed Republican. Republican Greg Shaw, whom Ballotpedia lists as the incumbent, won Place 8 over Democrat AshLeigh Meyer Dunham; Alabama Political Reporter's tally of unofficial returns had him at 54.6 percent, and WBHM's results table showed a wider margin. [52, 53, 54] In Madison County, Democrat Brett Jones defeated Republican Sheriff Kevin Turner, 84,068 votes to 74,639 in unofficial returns, and Democrat Allison Montgomery won House District 25, which takes in parts of Madison and Limestone counties, over Republican Rep. Phillip Rigsby. [55]

What did not change

Republicans kept all 15 of the seats they held in our count, from the Senate seat to the Public Service Commission. Their narrowest wins were the governorship, by 3.9 points, and the Fifth Congressional District. Of 67 counties, 49 voted Republican in the Senate race. In the Legislature, Ledbetter wrote that "the Alabama

House GOP had won 20 of its 22 races" and had kept all five seats left open by departing Republican members.[56] Many seats were never contested: in 88 of the 140 legislative races only one candidate was on the ballot, Bill Britt wrote.[41]

What it sets up

Katie Boyd Britt's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted Republican by 30.6 points for president in 2024 and by 9.5 in this year's Senate race. The governor's office will not be on that ballot. The Alabama Law Institute's table of offices gives the governor a four-year term and a limit of two.[57] The House meets on January 12 for its organizational session and votes then on its speaker.[49]

Still open

One state Senate seat is headed to a recount. In District 10, which covers Etowah and Cherokee counties and part of DeKalb County, independent Jesse Battles finished the unofficial Election Day count 84 votes ahead of Republican Sen. Andrew Jones, and the lead later narrowed to 74 or 72. Battles took the oath of office on November 10. The results were to be canvassed on November 13. Under state law, Alabama Political Reporter and ABC 33/40 reported, a margin that close triggers an automatic recount unless the trailing candidate waives it, and Jones said he was waiting for the recount.[58, 59] If Battles sits with the Republicans, their caucus would number 25, Alabama Political Reporter wrote.[42]

Alaska

West · 2024 president R+13.2 · 3 races not called

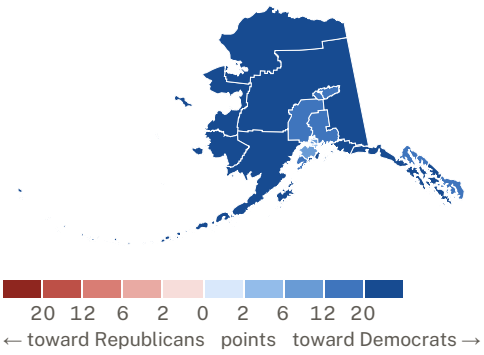
Democrats lead for both the Senate seat and the governorship in Alaska, a state Donald Trump carried by 13.2 points, and no race at the top of its ballot has been called.

Alaska has no called winners at the top of the ballot. In our count Democrat Mary Peltola leads Republican Sen. Dan Sullivan, 49.2% to 47.0%, for a Senate seat Republicans hold. Democrat Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins leads Republican Bernadette Wilson by 21.4 points for the governor's office, held now by Republican Mike Dunleavy. He is one of four candidates, and the other three are Republicans, Alaska Public Media reported.[60,61] For the state's single U.S. House seat, Republican Rep. Nick Begich III is ahead of Bill Hill, 48.6% to 41.2%.[61]

Trump carried Alaska by 13.2 points in 2024, and two years later a Democrat is ahead in the races for Senate and governor. These are ranked-choice contests, the leaders' first-choice shares are still changing as ballots arrive, and there is no final margin yet.[62] The comparison with the presidential vote below uses the first choices counted so far. The ballots counted so far in the Senate race, the most-voted contest, come to 75% of the 2024 presidential total and 96% of the 2022 midterm's.

FIGURE 14

Alaska: the move from 2024, district by district



Each district's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Mary Peltola (D) 49.2%, Dan Sullivan (R) 47.0%	D+2.3	—	*Not called*
Governor R-held	Jonathan S. "JKT" Kreiss-Tomkins (D) 50.2%, Bernadette M. Wilson (R) 28.7%	D+21.4	—	*Not called*

U.S. House: 1 seat. Before: 0 D, 1 R. Called: 0 D, 0 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
AK-AL	Nick Begich III not called	R+7.4	R+13.3

Where it moved

Our count sets the first choices for Peltola and Sullivan in the Senate race against the 2024 presidential vote in each of Alaska's 40 state House districts. Counted so far, the statewide margin has moved 15.4 points, from R+13.2 to D+2.2. Peltola drew 89 first-choice votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won, and Sullivan 65 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. Peltola is ahead in nine districts that voted for Trump, no district moved toward the Republicans, and Sullivan still leads in 15 of the 40. The race moved her way as the count went on: in the November 12 results she had 49% to his 46.8%, Alaska Public Media reported. [61]

House District 11, the largest of those nine districts, went from R+2.2 to D+1.8 on 7,353 votes. The widest swings came in House District 38 and House District 39, which Harris had carried by about a dozen points and where Peltola now leads by 60.8 and 54.7. House District 37 went from R+6.5 to D+27.5; that is the open seat Edgmon left to run for the Senate, which the Alaska Beacon named in early results as a possible Republican gain in the state House. [63] The three districts that cast the most votes all moved toward Peltola. House District 8 went from R+49.7 to R+40.0 and House District 25 from R+35.5 to R+20.3, while House District 9, which Harris carried by 2.4 points, gives Peltola a lead of 6.3.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	20	9 D, 11 R	*Not read in our count (10 of 20 seats)*
House	40	14 D, 21 R, 4 independent, 1 nonpartisan	*Not read in our count (40 of 40 seats)*

The Legislature is organized by caucus, and both chambers will again be run by bipartisan coalitions, with new leaders. Sen. Cathy Giessel, an Anchorage Republican, takes over as Senate president from the retiring Gary Stevens, and Rep. Calvin Schrage, an Anchorage independent, becomes House speaker in place of Bryce Edgmon, who ran for the Senate. [64] The Senate coalition had 14 of 20 members before the election. On November 13 it counted 11, after three Republicans signaled they would leave, and that figure assumes wins by Edgmon and Louise Stutes in races they led that had not been called. That would leave nine of the 20 senators outside it. In the House, where 21 seats make a majority, 20 had been called for the bipartisan caucus and six for the Republican caucus, with 14 outstanding. [60, 63]

Giessel listed affordability, access to jobs, energy and education as her priorities. "I've had brief conversations with Governor-elect Kreiss-Tomkins, and he seems to be completely aligned with … the focus of the Senate bipartisan coalition," she told Alaska's News Source in a story published November 12, using a title the count has not yet given him. Sen. Jesse Bjorkman, one of the Republicans leaving the coalition and the one described as the next minority leader, said in a written statement that Senate leadership was assembling the most liberal majority possible. [60] The Alaska Beacon's James Brooks told Alaska Public Media that the coalitions and Kreiss-Tomkins have said they are interested in funding education ahead of time, and that he would look for the return of a bill reviving a state pension for public employees and teachers, which passed this year and was vetoed by Dunleavy. [64]

A veto will be hard to override whoever is governor. The constitution has the two chambers meet in joint session: bills to raise revenue and appropriation bills become law over a veto by three-fourths of the membership of the Legislature, 45 of 60, and other bills by two-thirds, 40 of 60. No caucus is reported to hold that many seats. With one U.S. House seat, Alaska draws only legislative maps, and a five-member Redistricting Board does it: the governor appoints two members, and the Senate president, the House speaker and the chief justice one each. Elections are administered by the lieutenant governor, who is elected on the governor's ticket. [65] The Senate president and the House speaker will both be new in January, and so will the governor, whoever wins. [64]

On the ballot

Ballot Measure 3 (Citizenship Voting)	**68.9% yes** Passing
Ballot Measure 2 (Ranked Choice Voting)	**47.2% yes** Failing

A statewide question on the ballot is not settled either. Ballot Measure 2 would repeal Alaska's voting system. An initiative is enacted if a majority of the votes cast on it favor it, under the state constitution.[65] In the results released on November 12 the measure had slipped further behind, with "No" at 53% of the vote, Alaska Public Media reported.[61]

What did not change

What has held so far is the shape of the Legislature and the Republican lead for the U.S. House seat. Both chambers were run by bipartisan coalitions before the election and will be again, Alaska Public Media reported.[64] Begich leads by 7.4 points in our count for a seat his party holds. In the state House, the Alaska Beacon identified one district as a possible Republican gain in the early results: the open District 37 seat that Edgmon left to run for the Senate, pending the ranked-choice tabulation.[63] In our count no seat that either party held has yet been called for it.

What it sets up

Lisa Murkowski's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028; she is a Republican in a state that voted Republican by 13.2 points for president in 2024 and where this year's Senate race is not yet decided. The constitution bars anyone elected governor to two full successive terms from holding the office again until a full term has intervened.[65] The next governor will also have a hand in the next maps. The Redistricting Board is appointed in the year of each census, by September 1, and the governor names two of its five members; the next census year is 2030.[65]

Still open

The last ballots are counted on November 18, the deadline for ballots sent from overseas, and races without a majority are tabulated by ranking then. Officials plan to certify by November 25, and a recount must be requested within five days of certification, Alaska Public Media reported before the election.[61,62] Kreiss-Tomkins has declared victory. "Alaskans voted for change and for a government that works across party lines to move Alaska forward," he said in a statement. The Associated Press had not called the race when Alaska Public Media reported the November 12 results.[61]

Arizona

West · 2024 president R+5.5 · 2 races not called

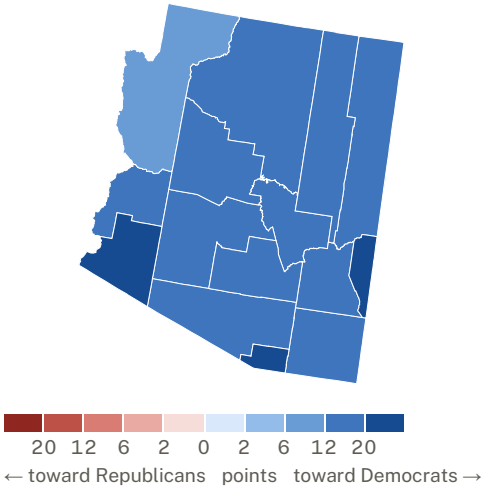
Arizona re-elected Governor Katie Hobbs by 13.2 points and gave Democrats both chambers of the Legislature, the party's first full control of state government since 1966.

Katie Hobbs beat Republican Andy Biggs, 55.6% to 42.4%, in a state Donald Trump carried by 5.5 points. Democrats also won the races for attorney general, secretary of state, superintendent of public instruction and treasurer, the last two taken from the Republicans. Republicans went in holding six of the state's nine U.S. House seats. Democrats have now won five: Amish Shah took the First District by 7.0 points, and JoAnna Mendoza beat Republican Juan Ciscomani in the Sixth by 8.1. Republicans have won three, two of them narrowly. Abraham Hamadeh held the Eighth District by 2.4 points and Mark Lamb won the Fifth by 3.4, in districts Trump carried by 15.8 and 19.7.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race ran 18.7 points more Democratic, from R+5.5 to D+13.2. Hobbs drew 91 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Biggs drew 62 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes cast for governor came to 76% of the 2024 presidential total and 101% of the 2022 total.

FIGURE 15

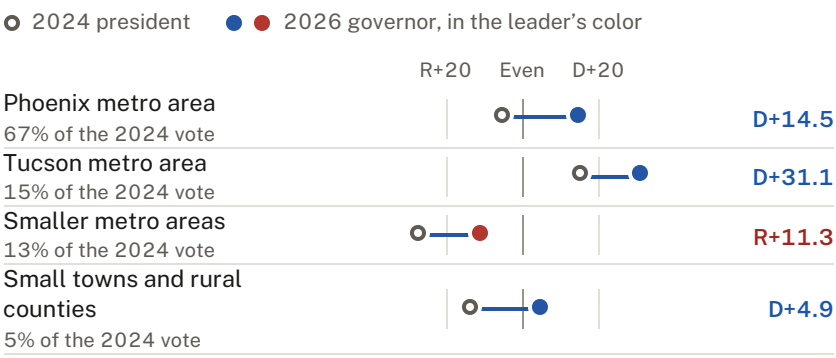
Arizona: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 16

Arizona by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Katie Hobbs (D) 55.6%, Andy Biggs (R) 42.4%	D+13.2	18.7 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Kris Mayes (D) 55.5%, Warren Petersen (R) 44.4%	D+11.1	16.6 pts → D	Hold
Corporation Commissioner R-held	Clara Pratte (D) 27.2% and Jonathon Hill (D) 26.1% in the two seats; next, Kevin Thompson (R) 23.3%	D+2.9	—	*Not called*
Secretary of State D-held	Adrian Fontes (D) 54.9%, Alexander Kolodin (R) 43.6%	D+11.3	16.8 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Superintendent of Public Instruction R-held	Teresa Leyba Ruiz (D) 53.2%, Kimberly Yee (R) 46.7%	D+6.6	12.1 pts → D	**Flip**
Treasurer R-held	Nick Mansour (D) 53.9%, Elijah Norton (R) 46.1%	D+7.8	13.3 pts → D	**Flip**

U.S. House: 9 seats. Before: 3 D, 6 R. Called: 5 D, 3 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
AZ-01	Amish Shah **FLIP**	D+7.0	R+3.1
AZ-02	Eli Crane not called	R+1.0	R+14.7
AZ-03	Yassamin Ansari	D+85.3	D+39.3
AZ-04	Greg Stanton	D+27.2	D+6.6
AZ-05	Mark Lamb	R+3.4	R+19.7
AZ-06	JoAnna Mendoza **FLIP**	D+8.1	R+0.7
AZ-07	Adelita Grijalva	D+43.9	D+21.8
AZ-08	Abraham "Abe" Hamadeh	R+2.4	R+15.8
AZ-09	Paul Gosar	R+14.9	R+30.6

Where it moved

The move was close to uniform. The Phoenix metro area, which cast 67% of the state's 2024 vote, moved furthest, 19.7 points, from R+5.2 to D+14.5. The Tucson area, already Democratic, moved least: 15.9 points, to D+31.1. The small towns and rural counties changed sides, from R+13.8 to D+4.9, and the smaller metro areas stayed Republican at R+11.3, down from R+27.5.

Maricopa County, which cast 60% of the state's votes, went from R+3.5 in 2024 to D+16.3 on 1,539,513 votes. It is one of two counties that changed sides. The other, Yuma County, moved 28.0 points, from R+20.4 to D+7.6. No county moved toward the Republicans. The legislative results show the same reach. Democrats won a state Senate seat in Gilbert's Legislative District 14, which Republican Warren Petersen carried by more than 20 points in 2024 and Democrat Stephanie Walsh won with 51%, KJZZ reported. [66]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	30	13 D, 17 R	20 D, 10 R
House	60	27 D, 33 R	37 D, 23 R

In unofficial results the state Senate went from 17 Republicans and 13 Democrats to 20 Democrats and 10 Republicans, and the House from a 33-seat Republican majority to 37 Democrats and 23 Republicans. With Hobbs re-elected, Democrats have their first trifecta in Arizona since 1966; Republicans had held the House for 60 years and the Senate since the early 1990s, the Associated Press reported. [67] Priya Sundareshan, a Tucson Democrat, was named Senate president-elect and takes the chair in January. [68]

The new majorities have two limits. A veto override takes two-thirds of the members elected to each house, 20 of 30 senators and 40 of 60 representatives; the Democrats' Senate seats reach that mark and their House seats do not, and the governor is of their own party. [69, 70] They do not get the maps. A five-member Independent Redistricting Commission draws congressional and legislative lines under the state constitution, and the Legislature may only make recommendations. [71] The secretary of state is elected to a four-year term, and Adrian Fontes, the Democratic incumbent, won another. [72, 73]

Hobbs named affordability, the border, water and public education as her priorities for a second term. "We've repealed the tax on rent. We've delivered historic tax cuts for Arizona families. But they're certainly telling us there's more to do," she told Arizona's Family on November 9. She will govern with a lieutenant governor from

outside her party: John Giles, a Republican and former mayor of Mesa, takes the newly created office. [74] Sundareshan listed lower costs, public education, water and rights as the Senate majority's aims, and Attorney General Kris Mayes said she wants the school voucher program held accountable. [67, 72]

On the ballot

Proposition 141	**51.0% yes** Passed	Proposition 317	**56.7% yes** Passed
Proposition 142	**40.1% yes** Failed	Proposition 318	**58.7% yes**
Proposition 144	**46.7% yes**	Proposition 319	**62.4% yes** Passed
Proposition 316	**62.1% yes** Passed	Proposition 320	**48.1% yes** Failed

An Arizona measure becomes law with a majority of the votes cast on it, and one that approves a tax needs sixty percent, under the state constitution. [75, 76] Voters approved five of the eight on the ballot and rejected three, the Arizona Capitol Times reported. [77] The closest to pass was Proposition 141, at 51.0% yes, which bans state and local taxes on drivers by the mile. The others approved cap local grocery taxes and require a vote to raise them (62.1%), designate drug cartels as terrorist organizations under state law (56.7%), extend the state's ban on transgender student athletes to private leagues (58.7%) and require voter authorization for new photo traffic enforcement (62.4%). [78]

The three that failed were Proposition 144, which would have required every voter, including those voting by mail, to show government-issued ID and drew 46.7% yes; Proposition 142, which would have tightened restrictions on diversity, equity and inclusion programs (40.1%); and Proposition 320, which would have required schools to spend 60% of operating money on classroom instruction (48.1%). [78]

Closer to home

Three judges appointed by former Gov. Doug Ducey were trailing in their retention votes in unofficial results: a Court of Appeals judge and Maricopa County Superior Court Judges Julie Mata and Michael Rassas, though Mata and Rassas met the state judicial performance commission's standards. Hobbs would appoint the Superior Court replacements from nominating-commission lists. [79] Ballotpedia lists the one Supreme Court justice on the ballot, John Lopez IV, as retained. [80] In Maricopa County, Sebastian Matta, a 19-year-old Democrat, won the race for Clerk of Superior Court with 53% over former state Sen. Jeff Dial and will lead about 670 employees. [81]

What did not change

Republicans kept three U.S. House seats they held, the Fifth, Eighth and Ninth Districts, the first two by 3.4 and 2.4 points. Of the state's 15 counties, nine still voted Republican for governor, though none moved toward the party from 2024. In the Legislature, Rep. Nick Kupper in District 25 and Sen. Janae Shamp in District 29 moved ahead in later counts after trailing on election night, and House Speaker Steve Montenegro held his District 29 seat; House Republicans later made him their minority leader, the Arizona Capitol Times reported. [69, 82]

What it sets up

Mark Kelly's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028. He is a Democrat in a state that voted Republican by 5.5 points for president in 2024 and Democratic by 13.2 in this year's race for governor. Hobbs begins a second four-year term, the length the constitution sets for the governor and the other executive officers. [73, 74] The next congressional and legislative maps will be the Independent Redistricting Commission's to draw, whatever the Legislature's majority is then. [71]

Still open

One U.S. House race is not called in our count. Republican Eli Crane leads Democrat Jonathan Nez by 1.0 points in the Second District; Arizona's Family reported that the Associated Press called the race for Crane on November 9.[83] The Corporation Commission, which regulates utility rates and which Republicans control entirely, had two seats open. Democrats Jonathon Hill and Clara Pratte had the most votes and Republican incumbent Kevin Thompson was third when Arizona's Family reported on November 6, with results not final.[12] One state House seat in Legislative District 27 goes to an automatic recount between two Republican incumbents, which does not change the party count.[84]

Arkansas

South · 2024 president R+30.6

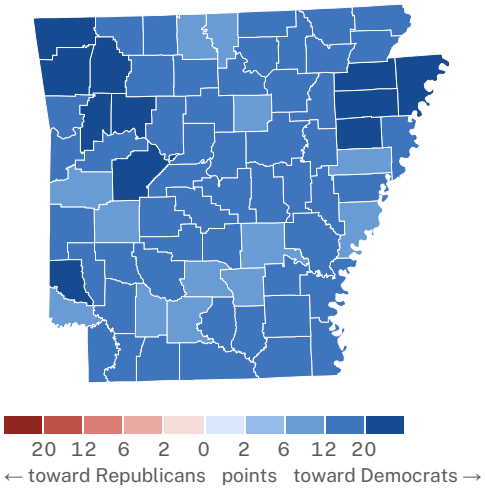
Republicans kept Arkansas's Senate seat and governorship, and Democrats gained enough state House seats to end the Republican supermajority that passed budgets without them.

Republican Tom Cotton won the Senate race over Democrat Hallie Shoffner, 54.2% to 42.4%, and Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders was re-elected by 15.3 points over Democrat Fred Love.[85] Republicans kept all four U.S. House seats and won the races for lieutenant governor, secretary of state and land commissioner. Three more Republican officers, the attorney general, the auditor and the treasurer, were re-elected without opposition, Talk Business & Politics reported.[85] The one close federal race was in the Second Congressional District, where Republican French Hill won by 1.7 points in a district Donald Trump had carried by 15.5. Trump carried the state by 30.6.

Set against that presidential vote, the Senate race moved 18.8 points toward the Democrats, from R+30.6 to R+11.8. Shoffner drew 95 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Cotton drew 63 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes cast came to 75% of the 2024 presidential total and 98% of the 2022 midterm's. The Arkansas Advocate reported that Democrats gained support in every county in the Senate and governor's races while losing both.[86]

FIGURE 17

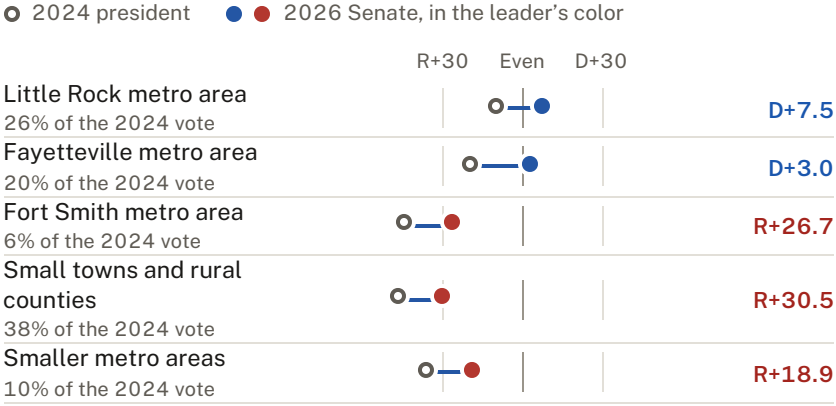
Arkansas: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 18

Arkansas by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Tom Cotton (R) 54.2%, Hallie Shoffner (D) 42.4%	R+11.8	18.8 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Sarah Huckabee Sanders (R) 53.9%, Fred Love (D) 38.6%	R+15.3	15.4 pts → D	Hold
Land Commissioner R-held	Cole Jester (R) 64.1%, Christopher Olson (L) 35.9%	R+28.1	—	Hold
Lieutenant Governor R-held	Leslie Rutledge (R) 63.9%, Michael Kalagias (L) 36.1%	R+27.8	—	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Kim Hammer (R) 55.8%, Kelly Grappe (D) 39.6%	R+16.3	14.4 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 4 seats. Before: 0 D, 4 R. Called: 0 D, 4 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
AR-01	Rick Crawford	R+34.4	R+45.0
AR-02	French Hill	R+1.7	R+15.5
AR-03	Steve Womack	R+13.4	R+24.9
AR-04	Bruce Westerman	R+31.0	R+39.6

Where it moved

The Fayetteville metro area moved furthest, 22.5 points, from R+19.5 to D+3.0; it cast 20% of the state's 2024 vote. The Little Rock area, 26% of the vote, went from R+10.1 to D+7.5. The small towns and rural counties are the largest block, 38%, and they moved least: Republican by 30.5 points, down from 46.9. The Fort Smith area finished at R+26.7, down from R+44.6.

Washington County, in the Fayetteville metro area, voted for Trump by 6.7 points and for Shoffner by 17.5, a move of 24.2 points on 76,041 votes. It is the larger of the two counties that changed sides. Benton County, the bigger county in the same metro area, moved 20.9 points and still went Republican, by 6.0. Trump had won it by 27.0. Craighead County, in the Jonesboro area, moved nearly as far as Washington County and finished at R+13.6. No county moved toward the Republicans. The legislative gains followed the same map: the Advocate reported that Democrats picked up at least 10 state House seats, concentrated in Benton, Washington and Pulaski counties. [86]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	35	6 D, 28 R	7 D, 28 R
House	100	20 D, 79 R	30 D, 71 R

Republicans keep the governorship and both chambers, and lose the House margin that let them pass spending bills alone. Most appropriation bills need a three-fourths vote, 75 of the 100 House members, KATV and the Arkansas Advocate reported. [86, 87] Talk Business & Politics and MultiState count Republicans at 70 House seats and Democrats at 30, up from 20, and KATV reported that House Democrats have not had this leverage in more than a decade. [87, 88, 89] Rep. David Ray, a Republican, said of the Democrats: "They should work in good faith with us and not just simply try to obstruct." [87]

The Senate changed by one seat. Democrat Allison Grigsby Sweatman won the open District 13, and Republicans hold 28 of 35 seats in our count, which Talk Business describes as still a supermajority. [88] When senators met on November 5 the Advocate counted 34 senators and senators-elect and one vacant seat; they chose Sen. Joshua Bryant, a Rogers Republican, as their next president pro tempore on a third round of voting. [90] House Speaker Brian Evans, a Republican, said of his own chamber: "The makeup of the House will be a little different in 2027 as compared to what it was in January of 2025. That could change some of the dynamics of the session." [86]

The offices that draw the maps stay Republican, with one new occupant. State legislative districts are drawn by the Board of Apportionment, which consists of the governor, the secretary of state and the attorney general. [91] Congressional districts are enacted by the General Assembly, subject to the governor's veto, which a majority in each chamber can override, by one redistricting group's summary of state law. [91, 92] Talk Business & Politics describes the secretary of state as the statewide official in charge of elections, and the office was open: Republican state Sen. Kim Hammer won it, succeeding Cole Jester, who ran for land commissioner and won that race. [85]

On the ballot

Issue No. 3	**49.3% yes** Failed
Issue No. 4	**56.4% yes** Passed
Issue No. 2	**70.8% yes** Passed
Issue No. 1	**69.1% yes** Passed

Amending the Arkansas constitution takes a majority of voters in a statewide election, the University of Arkansas extension service's voter guide says.[93] Three proposed amendments were on the ballot and two passed: Issue 1, which states that only U.S. citizens can vote in Arkansas elections, with 69.1% yes, and Issue 2, which restates the right to keep and bear arms, with 70.8%.[93,94,95,96] Issue 3 failed, at 49.3% yes. It would have let cities and counties create economic development districts able to issue bonds, lend money and give publicly funded grants to businesses and developers.[95,97] "We're not giving up. We're just going to regroup and figure out another game plan," said Randy Zook, the president of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, who chairs the ballot question committee that backed it.[98] Voters also approved Issue 4, up to $500 million in state bonds for water, waste disposal and pollution abatement, with 56.4% yes.[94,99]

Closer to home

Fort Smith's seven-person race for mayor on November 3 produced no majority. City Director Christina Catsavis led with 35% and Daniel Williams was second with 26%, in Sebastian County's final unofficial results, and the two meet in a runoff on December 1.[100] In Pulaski County, Democrat Andrew Eberly defeated Republican Rep. Karilyn Brown in House District 67 and Democrat Cassandra Mayes won the open House District 71; Rep. David Ray was the only Republican there to buck the trend, Talk Business reported.[88]

What did not change

Republicans kept all nine seats they held in our count. The narrowest was the Second Congressional District, by 1.7 points; after it came Cotton's Senate seat, by 11.8. Of 75 counties, 66 voted Republican in the Senate race, though none moved toward the party from 2024, and Democrats did not win a statewide office or a U.S. House seat. A spokesperson for Sanders, Sam Dubke, put it this way to the Advocate: "Arkansas remains one of the most conservative states in the union, with wide Republican majorities in both chambers of the legislature."[86]

What it sets up

John Boozman's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted Republican by 30.6 points for president in 2024 and by 11.8 in this year's Senate race. Sanders won a second four-year term, so the governor's office will not be on that ballot.[85] Nearer at hand, Fort Smith votes again on December 1, and Bryant's election as Senate leader needs final approval after senators are sworn in in January.[90,100] The session that follows will be the first in a decade in which appropriation bills need Democratic votes in the House.[86]

Still open

The legislative seat counts come from news reports and MultiState, and they differ at the edges. KATV's report said Democrats flipped at least nine House seats while quoting the Democratic leader at 30 seats; Talk Business reported ten seats gained and a 70 to 30 House, and MultiState a House that went from 80-20 to 70-30, counting a vacant seat Republicans last held.[87,88,89]

California

West · 2024 president D+20.1 · 3 races not called

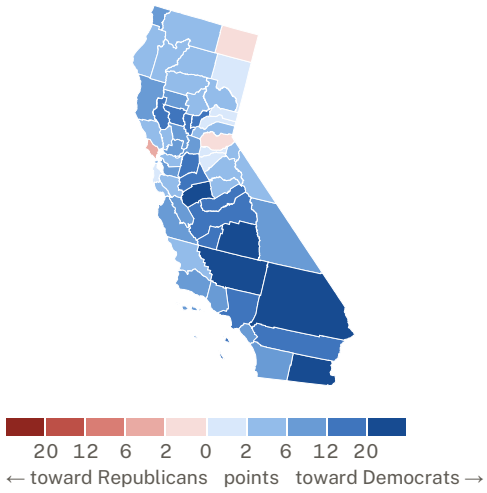
California elected Xavier Becerra governor by 31.2 points, and Republicans, who held nine of the state's U.S. House seats, have so far won two.

Democrat Xavier Becerra beat Republican Steve Hilton, 65.6% to 34.4%, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 20.1 points, and keeps the governor's office in his party's hands. Democrats also won the races for lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, controller, treasurer and insurance commissioner and all four seats on the Board of Equalization, one of them taken from the Republicans. In the U.S. House they won five districts that Republicans held, by the widest margin where Randy Villegas beat Republican David Valadao by 35.8 points in a district Donald Trump had carried by 1.8. Of 52 seats, 47 are called for Democrats and two for Republicans.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race ran 11.1 points more Democratic, from D+20.1 to D+31.2. Both parties drew fewer votes than in 2024, the Republicans by more: Becerra drew 90 votes for every 100 Harris won, and Hilton drew 72 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes counted for governor so far come to 80% of the 2024 presidential total and 116% of the 2022 total.

FIGURE 19

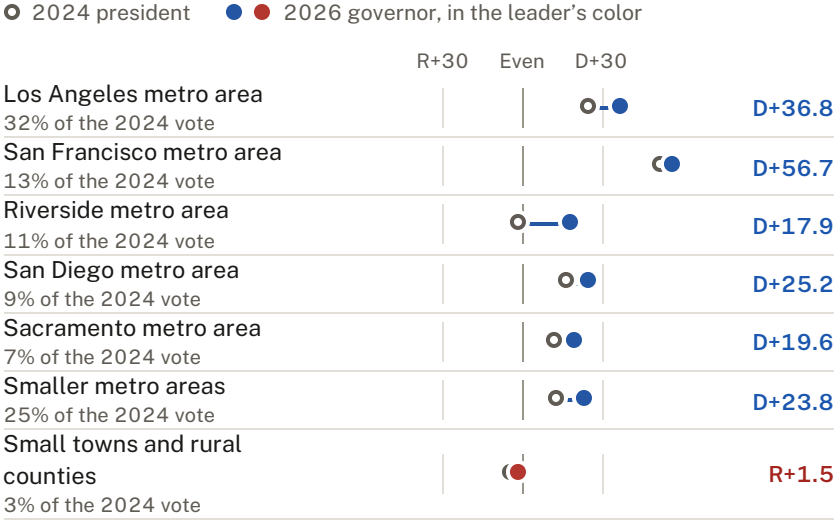
California: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 20

California by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Xavier Becerra (D) 65.6%, Steve Hilton (R) 34.4%	D+31.2	11.1 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Rob Bonta (D) 65.5%, Michael Gates (R) 34.5%	D+30.9	10.8 pts → D	Hold
Board of Equalization R-held	Nelson Esparza (D) 53.9%, Shannon Grove (R) 46.1%	D+7.9	—	**Flip**

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Board of Equalization D-held	Sally J. Lieber (D) 59.7%, John Pimentel (D) 40.3%	D+19.3	—	Hold
Board of Equalization D-held	Mike Gipson (D) 58.8%, Samuel P. Sukaton (D) 41.2%	D+17.6	—	Hold
Board of Equalization D-held	Tom Umberg (D) 56.5%, Denis Bilodeau (R) 43.5%	D+13.0	—	Hold
Controller D-held	Malia Cohen (D) 65.5%, Herb Morgan (R) 34.5%	D+31.0	10.9 pts → D	Hold
Insurance Commissioner D-held	Jane Kim (D) 54.2%, Ben Allen (D) 45.8%	D+8.3	—	Hold
Lieutenant Governor D-held	Fiona Ma (D) 65.5%, Gloria Romero (R) 34.5%	D+31.0	10.9 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	Shirley Weber (D) 66.5%, Don Wagner (R) 33.5%	D+33.0	12.9 pts → D	Hold
Superintendent of Public Instruction nonpartisan office	Richard Barrera (O) 59.0%, Sonja Shaw (O) 40.9%	+18.1	—	Won
Treasurer D-held	Eleni Kounalakis (D) 65.7%, Jennifer Hawks (R) 34.3%	D+31.3	11.2 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 52 seats. Before: 43 D, 9 R. Called: 47 D, 2 R, with 3 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
CA-01	Mike McGuire **FLIP**	D+14.2	D+12.3
CA-02	Jared Huffman	D+32.3	D+24.8
CA-03	Ami Bera **FLIP**	D+17.5	D+10.3
CA-04	Eric Jones not called	D+4.4	D+14.6
CA-05	Tom McClintock	R+11.7	R+20.7
CA-06	Richard Pan	D+18.4	D+8.4
CA-07	Doris Matsui	D+6.6	D+12.9
CA-08	John Garamendi	D+46.7	D+34.3
CA-09	Josh Harder	D+33.9	D+11.5
CA-10	Mark DeSaulnier	D+39.4	D+33.9
CA-11	Scott Wiener	D+6.7	D+68.9
CA-12	Lateefah Simon	D+61.2	D+75.7
CA-13	Adam Gray	D+24.4	D+0.5
CA-14	Aisha Wahab	D+15.2	D+35.3
CA-15	Kevin Mullin	D+59.8	D+48.4
CA-16	Sam Liccardo	D+55.8	D+48.7
CA-17	Ro Khanna	D+45.3	D+39.7
CA-18	Zoe Lofgren	D+46.4	D+28.6
CA-19	Jimmy Panetta	D+44.6	D+34.8
CA-20	Vince Fong	R+22.6	R+32.2
CA-21	Jim Costa	D+28.1	D+6.0
CA-22	Randy Villegas **FLIP**	D+35.8	R+1.8
CA-23	Jay Obernolte not called	R+1.6	R+19.4
CA-24	Salud Carbajal	D+32.9	D+25.1
CA-25	Raul Ruiz	D+31.6	D+5.8
CA-27	George Whitesides	D+28.3	D+9.8
CA-28	Judy Chu	D+39.1	D+25.5
CA-29	Luz Rivas	D+14.7	D+33.8
CA-30	Laura Friedman	D+55.1	D+40.4
CA-31	Gil Cisneros	D+32.6	D+12.3
CA-32	Brad Sherman	D+34.5	D+25.1
CA-33	Pete Aguilar	D+37.9	D+9.9
CA-34	Angela Gonzales-Torres	D+24.2	D+51.7
CA-35	Norma Torres	D+34.0	D+7.8
CA-36	Ted Lieu	D+45.9	D+39.4
CA-37	Sydney Kamlager-Dove	D+21.8	D+60.8
CA-38	Hilda Solis	D+34.8	D+12.5
CA-39	Mark Takano	D+36.5	D+9.6
CA-40	Ken Calvert not called	R+5.7	R+12.3
CA-41	Linda Sánchez **FLIP**	D+35.0	D+14.3
CA-42	Robert Garcia	D+23.8	D+13.2
CA-43	Maxine Waters	D+65.8	D+49.3
CA-44	Nanette Barragán	D+63.4	D+35.4
CA-45	Derek Tran	D+21.9	D+4.0
CA-46	Lou Correa	D+43.0	D+16.3
CA-47	Dave Min	D+17.1	D+10.2
CA-48	Marni von Wilpert **FLIP**	D+19.5	D+3.4
CA-49	Mike Levin	D+18.3	D+12.2
CA-50	Scott Peters	D+26.8	D+18.4
CA-51	Sara Jacobs	D+31.8	D+18.3

CA-26	Jacqui Irwin	D+25.8	D+15.3	CA-52	Juan Vargas	D+43.1	D+17.6

Where it moved

The gain was uneven. The Riverside metro area, which Trump had carried narrowly, moved furthest: 19.5 points, from R+1.7 to D+17.9, on 11% of the state's 2024 vote. The Los Angeles area, 32% of the vote, moved 12.1 points, to D+36.8. The San Francisco area, the most Democratic region, moved only 4.7, and the small towns and rural counties least of all: 3.0 points, from R+4.5 to R+1.5. They are the one region Hilton carried.

Of the 12 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Becerra this year, Riverside County is the largest. It went from R+1.3 to D+16.7 on 668,856 votes. San Bernardino County, in the same metro area, made nearly the same trip, from R+2.1 to D+19.1. Kern County, in the Bakersfield area, moved further still: 22.4 points, from R+21.1 to D+1.4. Not every county went the same way: El Dorado, Marin and Modoc counties moved toward the Republicans from 2024.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	40	30 D, 10 R	32 D, 8 R
Assembly	80	60 D, 19 R	68 D, 12 R

Democrats keep the governor's office and their supermajorities in both chambers of the Legislature, KQED and CalMatters reported.[101, 102] In our count they have 32 of 40 Senate seats, up from 30, and 68 of 80 Assembly seats, up from 60; no newsroom total we read confirmed those figures. Becerra said on election night: "As governor, my mission is straightforward, but not simple: Deliver a California we can afford, and defend a California that we can't afford to lose."[102]

Days later he stood in the Capitol rotunda with Senate President Pro Tem Monique Limón and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas and promised to govern with them. "We're going to work together. This will be a partnership," he said. None of the three has committed to concrete proposals, CalMatters reported, and lawmakers return in January to federal cuts to Medi-Cal that could cost more than 1 million people their coverage.[103] KQED reported that his January budget proposal will be the first window into his plans.[102]

The larger majority does not reach the maps. The Citizens Redistricting Commission, a 14-member body of five Republicans, five Democrats and four members of neither party, was created by voters in 2008 to draw district lines and given congressional districts in 2010, by its own account.[104] The secretary of state has until December 11 to certify the results.[105] In our count Democrat Shirley Weber won that office, keeping it in Democratic hands.

On the ballot

Proposition 39	**39.5%** yes Failed	Proposition 3	**60.7%** yes Passing
Proposition 38	**54.0%** yes Passing	Proposition 2	**61.2%** yes Passing
Proposition 37	**62.4%** yes Passing	Proposition 40	**47.6%** yes Failed
Proposition 5	**51.9%** yes Passed	Proposition 1	**61.0%** yes Passed
Proposition 4	**49.7%** yes Failing	Proposition 45	**43.6%** yes Failing

Proposition 44	**17.9% yes** Failing	Proposition 42	**51.4% yes** Passing
Proposition 43	**42.5% yes** Failing	Proposition 41	**44.9% yes** Failing

A statewide measure in California passes with a majority vote, the secretary of state's office says.[106] Voters faced 14 of them, and the fight over taxing wealth ran through three. Proposition 40, a one-time 5% tax on billionaires' net worth, failed with 47.6% yes.[107] Proposition 42, written by the tax's opponents to prohibit new state taxes on personal property such as business holdings and financial assets, passed, CalMatters reported; our count has it at 51.4%.[108] Voters did approve a tax on high incomes: Proposition 3, at 60.7% yes, makes permanent an income tax on individuals making more than $360,000 a year and sends the money to K-12 education.[107]

On elections, voters rejected Proposition 39, which would have required proof of citizenship at the polls or an identification number on mail ballots, with 39.5% yes. They approved Proposition 5, which splits a recall into two elections, one on removing the official and a later one on the replacement; CalMatters reported its approval on November 12, and our count has it at 51.9%.[107,109] They approved Proposition 1, up to $11.25 billion in borrowing for housing, at 61.0%, and Proposition 38, $8.4 billion for immunology research, at 54.0%. They rejected Proposition 45, which would have pared down the environmental review law known as CEQA, and Proposition 44, a spending rule for health clinics that drew 17.9% yes.[107]

Closer to home

Los Angeles voted out its mayor. City Councilmember Nithya Raman, a member of the Democratic Socialists of America, defeated Mayor Karen Bass, who conceded on November 5 with the count at 52% to 48%. LAist called it the first ouster of an incumbent from that office in nearly a quarter century.[110]

What did not change

Republicans kept two of the U.S. House seats they held: Tom McClintock won the Fifth District by 11.7 points and Vince Fong the Twentieth by 22.6, in districts Trump carried by 20.7 and 32.2. Hilton carried 21 of the state's 58 counties. In the Legislature the party shrank, from 10 senators to 8 and from 19 Assembly members to 12 in our count. CalMatters had framed the question as whether Republicans could hold the seats they flipped in 2024, and in partial counts the morning after the election Republican incumbents were trailing in at least two of them.[101]

What it sets up

Alex Padilla's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028. He is a Democrat in a state that voted Democratic by 20.1 points for president in 2024 and by 31.2 in this year's race for governor. Before then the results have to be made final: the secretary of state has until December 11 to certify them, and an approved initiative takes effect the fifth day after certification.[105,111] Proposition 42 will then stand in the way of any new state tax on wealth, and the backers of the defeated billionaire tax have vowed to keep pushing for one, CalMatters reported.[108]

Still open

Among the U.S. House seats, three are not called. In the Twenty-third District, Republican Jay Obernolte leads Democrat Tessa Lynn Hodge by 1.6 points. The other two are contests within a party: Democrat Eric Jones leads Democrat Mike Thompson by 4.4 points in the Fourth District, and Republican Ken Calvert leads Republican Young Kim by 5.7 in the Fortieth. Proposition 4, which would allow public financing of political campaigns, was trailing with nearly 50.6% opposed in CalMatters' count as of November 7 and had not been marked as decided; our count has it at 49.7% yes.[107]

Colorado

West · 2024 president D+11.0 · 1 race not called

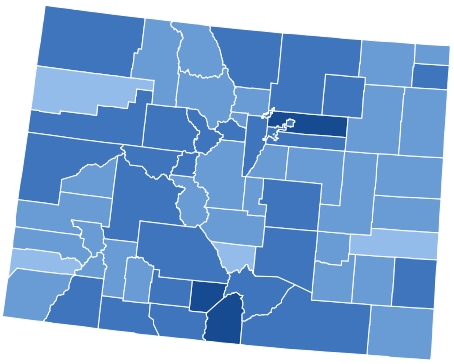
Colorado Democrats won two-thirds of both legislative chambers, enough to override a governor of their own party, and took at least two of the state's Republican-held U.S. House seats.

Democrat John Hickenlooper won the Senate race by 25.5 points over Republican Mark Baisley. Phil Weiser, the Democratic attorney general, won the open governor's race by 27.9 over Republican Victor Marx, after defeating U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet in the June primary.[112] Democrats also won the three other statewide offices on the ballot. The U.S. House delegation had been split, four seats to four. Democrats took two Republican seats: Manny Rutinel beat Republican Gabe Evans in the Eighth District by 14.7 points, and Jessica Killin beat Republican Jeff Crank in the Fifth by 4.7, in a district Donald Trump carried by 9.0. In the Fourth, which is not called, Democrat Eileen Laubacher leads Republican Lauren Boebert. In the First, Melat Kiros won the seat after defeating its 29-year Democratic incumbent in the primary.[112]

Kamala Harris carried Colorado by 11.0 points in 2024. Hickenlooper's margin was 14.5 points wider, D+25.5, and the U.S. House vote, all districts added together, went from D+11.8 to D+23.9. Hickenlooper drew 94 votes for every 100 Harris won here; Baisley drew 68 for every 100 of Trump's. The Senate race drew 84% as many votes as the 2024 presidential election and 107% of the 2022 midterm's.

FIGURE 21

Colorado: the move from 2024, county by county



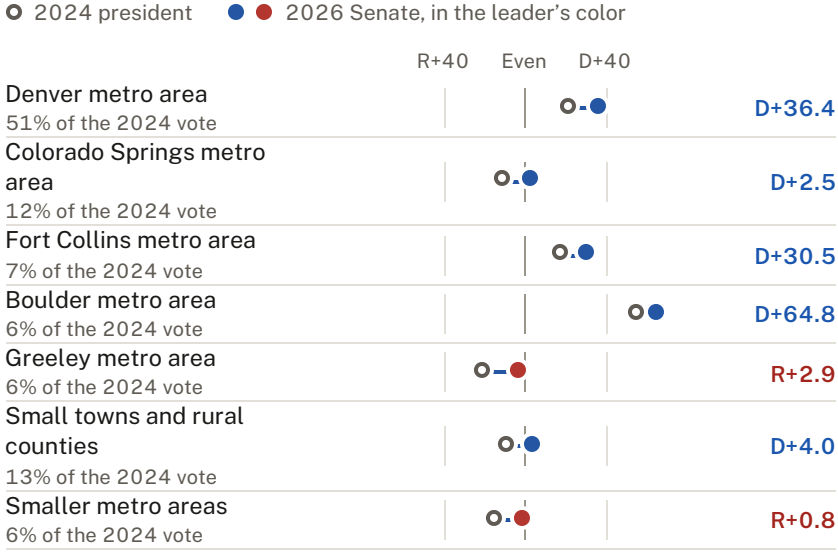
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 22

Colorado by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	John Hickenlooper (D) 60.5%, Mark Baisley (R) 35.0%	D+25.5	14.5 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Phil Weiser (D) 61.1%, Victor Marx (R) 33.2%	D+27.9	16.9 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Jena Griswold (D) 59.0%, Michael J. Allen (R) 41.0%	D+18.0	7.0 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	Amanda Gonzalez (D) 60.2%, James Wiley (R) 36.7%	D+23.5	12.5 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Jeff Bridges (D) 58.8%, Kevin Grantham (R) 38.5%	D+20.3	9.3 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 8 seats. Before: 4 D, 4 R. Called: 6 D, 1 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
CO-01	Melat Kiros	D+64.2	D+56.3
CO-02	Joe Neguse	D+51.3	D+39.9
CO-03	Jeff Hurd	R+1.8	R+9.7
CO-04	Eileen Laubacher not called	D+0.9	R+18.3
CO-05	Jessica Killin **FLIP**	D+4.7	R+9.0
CO-06	Jason Crow	D+34.6	D+19.9
CO-07	Brittany Pettersen	D+24.6	D+14.9
CO-08	Manny Rutinel **FLIP**	D+14.7	R+2.6

Where it moved

The Denver metro area, which casts 51% of the vote, went from D+21.4 to D+36.4. The Greeley area moved furthest, 18.1 points, from R+21.0 to R+2.9, and the Boulder area, already the most Democratic, moved least, 9.0. Two Republican parts of the state changed sides: the Colorado Springs area, from R+10.9 to D+2.5, and the small towns and rural counties, from R+9.3 to D+4.0.

El Paso County, in the Colorado Springs area, is the largest of the seven counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Hickenlooper this year. It went from R+9.8 to D+3.8 on 313,166 votes. The widest swing came in Adams County, in the Denver area: 22.9 points, from D+9.0 to D+31.9. Weld County moved 18.1 and stayed Republican by 2.9. Jefferson County went from D+19.5 to D+32.4 and Denver County from D+56.2 to D+70.4. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	35	23 D, 12 R	24 D, 11 R
House	65	43 D, 22 R	49 D, 16 R

Democrats have held the governorship and both chambers since 2019, and kept all three. The change is in the size of their majorities. Ballotpedia puts the margin needed to override a veto without minority votes at two-thirds of each chamber, 24 of 35 Senate seats and 44 of 65 House seats; Democrats went from one short in each chamber to supermajorities in both, which lawmakers say is a first for the state.[113,114] In our count they hold 24 Senate seats, exactly the line, and 49 House seats, up from 43. The Colorado Sun reported that the same margins let them put constitutional amendments on the ballot without Republican votes.[114]

Weiser will face a legislature of his own party that can override his vetoes, which the Colorado Sun reported could weaken his influence over the General Assembly. Asked about it on November 4, he said: “I believe that we can build a culture that brings everybody in and gets the best ideas.” Senate Democrats chose Sen. Dylan Roberts of Frisco as majority leader, and he pledged to repair a rift between progressives and moderates in the caucus.[114] House Democrats chose Rep. Jennifer Bacon as speaker-designate; she will be the first Black woman to serve as speaker of the Colorado House, the caucus said.[115]

The election left the maps and the voting where they were. Two independent commissions, established by Amendments Y and Z in 2018, draw the congressional and legislative districts, and the Colorado Supreme Court reviews the final plans.[116] Voters rejected Amendment 86, which would have required the congressional commission and the court to approve any change to congressional districts outside a scheduled redistricting year.[117,118] The secretary of state’s office was also open this year; Democrat Amanda Gonzalez won it, keeping it in Democratic hands.[112]

On the ballot

Amendment 81 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**44.7% yes** Failed
Amendment 82 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**46.3% yes**
Amendment 83 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**45.1% yes**
Amendment 84 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**36.6% yes** Failed
Amendment 85 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**51.1% yes** Failed
Amendment 86 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**46.9% yes** Failed
Amendment 87 (CONSTITUTIONAL)	**51.7% yes** Passed
Proposition NN (STATUTORY)	**57.0% yes** Passed
Proposition 132 (STATUTORY)	**52.6% yes** Passed
Proposition 133 (STATUTORY)	**62.1% yes** Passed
Proposition 134 (STATUTORY)	**52.2% yes** Passed
Proposition 135 (STATUTORY)	**51.9% yes** Passed
Proposition 136 (STATUTORY)	**47.2% yes** Failed
Proposition 137 (STATUTORY)	**52.0% yes** Passed

Colorado had 14 statewide measures, and voters approved seven. A statute needs a majority of the votes cast on it; a constitutional amendment put on the ballot by petition needs 55%, unless it only repeals part of the constitution.[118,119,120] Amendment 87, which replaces the flat income tax with graduated rates that raise taxes on incomes above about $500,000 a year, needed only a majority because it repeals constitutional language, and passed with 51.7% in our count. A rival measure to cap the income tax rate, Proposition 136, failed with 47.2%.[118,121] Proposition NN, which lets the state keep money that would otherwise be refunded under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and spend it on schools and early childhood programs, passed with 57.0%.[122]

Six proposed amendments failed, four of them led or backed by the conservative nonprofit Advance Colorado. Amendment 85, requiring plain-language ballot questions, won a majority, 51.1%, but not the 55% it needed; Amendment 84, which would have required ID numbers on mail ballots, drew the least support, 36.6%. Four conservative-backed statutes passed: Proposition 132 on fentanyl penalties, 133 on life sentences for child trafficking, 134 on sex-based school sports teams and 135 banning some gender-affirming surgeries for minors. Proposition 133 drew the most support of any measure, 62.1%. Because they are statutes, the legislature can change them. Proposition 137, sending outdoor gear tax money to conservation, also passed.[118,123]

Closer to home

Two Democratic incumbents won seats on the partisan State Board of Education, so Democrats keep their majority on the nine-member board, Chalkbeat Colorado reported.[124] Voters in the 13-county Front Range Passenger Rail District passed Ballot Issue 7A, a tax to build and run passenger rail service, 55.15% to 44.85%, according to a law firm's tally.[112] One Colorado Supreme Court justice, William W. Hood, stood for retention, and Ballotpedia lists him as retained.[125]

What did not change

Republicans held on to one seat of their own. Rep. Jeff Hurd kept the Third District by 1.8 points, in a district Trump carried by 9.7, and the Colorado Sun reported that he may be the state's only Republican in Congress.[114] Baisley carried 34 of the state's 64 counties. Four statutory measures backed by conservatives passed, on fentanyl, child trafficking, school sports and surgeries for minors.[118,123]

What it sets up

Michael F. Bennet's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028; the state voted Democratic by 11.0 points for president in 2024 and by 25.5 in this year's Senate race. Colorado's governor serves four years and may serve no more than two consecutive terms, so the office is next on the ballot in 2030.[126]

Still open

In the Fourth District, Eileen Laubacher leads Lauren Boebert by 0.9 points in our count, which has not called the race. FOX31 reported that counties have until November 25 to finish their canvass, also the deadline for a candidate to request a recount at the candidate's own expense. Under state law, it added, an automatic recount is required when the margin is 0.5% or less of the leader's vote, and a requested one must be finished by December 8. Boebert's campaign has said it expects a recount, which FOX31 noted is not a formal request.[127]

Connecticut

Northeast · 2024 president D+14.5

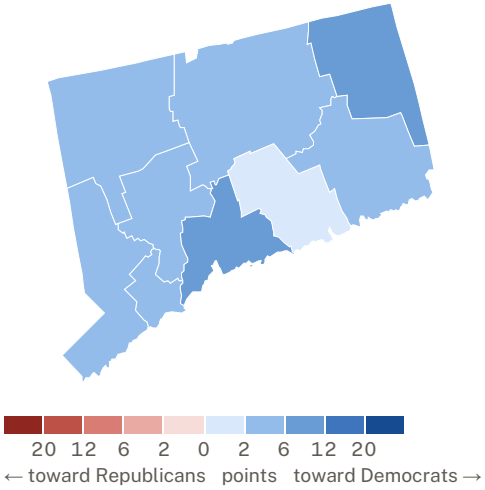
Connecticut gave Ned Lamont a third term and cut the Republicans in the state Senate from 11 seats to three, the smallest caucus in the chamber's history.

Ned Lamont won a third term as governor, 59.6% to 40.4% over Republican Ryan Fazio, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 14.5 points.[128] There was no U.S. Senate race. Democrats kept all five U.S. House seats; the closest was the Fifth District, where Jahana Hayes won by 15.7 points in a district Harris carried by 5.5. The four other statewide offices on the ballot also went to Democrats, a sweep CT Mirror reported on election night.[129]

With no Senate race, the governor's race is the one set against the 2024 presidential vote, and the change was modest. Lamont's margin, D+19.2, was 4.6 points wider than Harris's. Both parties drew fewer votes than they had for president: Lamont 78 for every 100 of Harris's, Fazio 71 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The race drew 74% as many votes as the 2024 presidential election and 102% of the 2022 midterm's. Down the ballot the shift was larger: the U.S. House vote, all districts added together, went from D+17.5 to D+27.0.

FIGURE 23

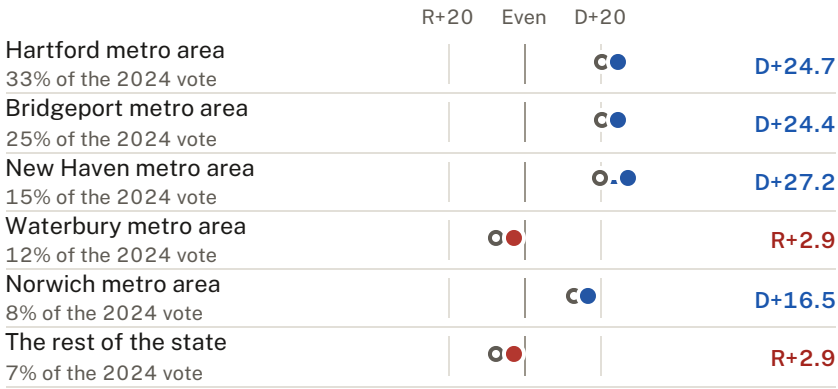
Connecticut: the move from 2024, planning region by planning region



Each planning region's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 24

Connecticut by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Ned Lamont (D) 59.6%, Ryan Fazio (R) 40.4%	D+19.2	4.6 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	William Tong (D) 63.2%, John Bolton (R) 36.8%	D+26.5	12.0 pts → D	Hold
Comptroller D-held	Sean Scanlon (D) 63.0%, Jennifer S. Tooker (R) 37.0%	D+26.0	11.5 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	Stephanie Thomas (D) 63.5%, Peter Lumaj (R) 36.5%	D+26.9	12.4 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Erick Russell (D) 60.3%, Fred Wilms (R) 39.7%	D+20.6	6.1 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 5 seats. Before: 5 D, 0 R. Called: 5 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
CT-01	Luke Bronin	D+36.3	D+22.7
CT-02	Joe Courtney	D+24.9	D+7.7
CT-03	Rosa L. DeLauro	D+25.6	D+14.0
CT-04	Jim Himes	D+33.1	D+23.1
CT-05	Jahana Hayes	D+15.7	D+5.5

Where it moved

The New Haven metro area moved most, 7.1 points, from D+20.1 to D+27.2. The Hartford area, which casts 33% of the vote, and the Bridgeport area moved about the same, 4.3 and 4.0 points. The Norwich area moved least, 3.6. The Waterbury area stayed Republican, but by 2.9 points instead of 7.4.

Of the state's nine planning regions, one changed sides. The Northwest Hills Planning Region, in the Torrington area, voted for Trump by 1.3 points and for Lamont by 1.8, on 50,257 votes. The South Central Connecticut Planning Region moved furthest, 7.1 points, to D+27.2. The Northeastern Connecticut Planning Region, in the Putnam area, moved 6.2 and stayed Republican at R+9.3. The Capitol Planning Region, the largest, went from D+21.9 to D+26.9. No planning region moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	36	25 D, 11 R	33 D, 3 R
House	151	102 D, 49 R	116 D, 35 R

The larger change came in the Legislature. Democrats went from 25 of 36 state Senate seats to 33, and from 102 of 151 House seats to 116, a House majority CT Mirror said had not been seen since just after Watergate.[130,131] The last Senate seat in doubt, the 34th District, went to Democrat Brandi Mandato after a recount of Wallingford's ballots, WFSB reported.[132,133] Senate Minority Leader Stephen Harding was among the Republicans who lost.[128] CT Mirror's town-by-town comparison found the largest shift in Fairfield, where the Democratic share rose 35 points and a Senate district changed hands, and called the result the party's worst showing in the state House since 1974 and its worst ever in the state Senate.[134]

A vetoed bill becomes law if two-thirds of the members of each house pass it again, 24 senators and 101 representatives, and Democrats were above that line before the election.[135] They have not overridden a Lamont veto, NBC Connecticut reported; a professor the station quoted, Jonathan Wharton, said progressive Democrats could push to tax the wealthy or loosen the state's fiscal guardrails, ideas Lamont has opposed.[136] Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff, endorsed by his caucus to become president pro tem, said: "We've been duly elected, and we have a mandate to improve affordability." House Majority Leader Jason Rojas said the numbers let House Democrats be more assertive with the governor, who says the state needs more taxpayers, not more taxes. The 2027 session convenes January 6.[130,131] Lamont described his third term this way: "Build on what we got. Early childhood education and bring down the cost of healthcare."[128]

The General Assembly draws both congressional and legislative districts, and a plan needs the votes of two-thirds of the members of each house, a margin Democrats now hold in both. If the legislature misses its deadline, a commission named by the four legislative leaders takes over. The Secretary of the State is elected every four years with the governor.[135] Democrat Stephanie Thomas, who held the office, won it again in our count.[129]

Closer to home

Connecticut does not elect its Supreme Court judges or its prosecutors. Supreme Court judges are nominated by the governor and appointed by the General Assembly for eight-year terms, and a commission appoints the state's attorney for each judicial district.[135] Mayors, first selectmen, town councils and boards of education may be up for election in odd-numbered years, according to the Secretary of the State.[137]

What did not change

Republicans had no U.S. House seat or statewide office to defend, CT Mirror noted, and Fazio carried two of the nine planning regions. Three Republicans remain in the state Senate: Rob Sampson, chosen as the next minority leader, Eric Berthel and Henri Martin. Their districts cover parts of Southington, Bristol, Watertown and 19 other municipalities in the Naugatuck Valley region, and CT Mirror describes all three as in west-central Connecticut.[134,138] House Republicans re-elected Vincent Candelora as their leader.[130]

What it sets up

Sen. Richard Blumenthal's seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted Democratic by 14.5 points for president in 2024 and by 19.2 for governor this year. On November 4 he said he had no formal announcement but looked forward to being on the ballot that year.[139] The governor and the other statewide officers are next elected in 2030; the term Lamont won runs from January 2027 to January 2031. After the 2030 census the General Assembly must appoint a reapportionment committee by February 15 of the following year and adopt a new plan by September 15.[135]

Delaware

South · 2024 president D+14.7

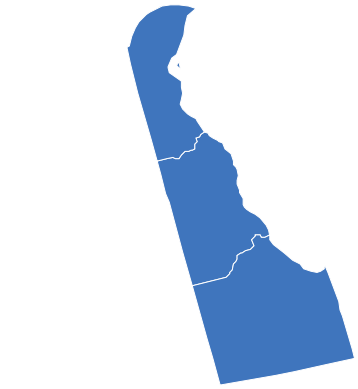
Delaware Democrats won two-thirds of the state House, which with their Senate majority lets them amend the state constitution without Republican votes or a vote of the people.

Democrat Chris Coons won a fourth term in the Senate by 27.2 points over Republican Michael Katz, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 14.7. Rep. Sarah McBride won a second term in the state's single U.S. House seat by 28.7 points. Attorney General Kathy Jennings and Auditor Lydia York held their offices, and Ted Lauzen, a political newcomer, defeated former Republican state Rep. Mike Ramone for treasurer.[140] The governorship was not on the ballot: Democrat Matt Meyer was sworn in on January 21, 2025, for a four-year term.[141,142,143]

Coons's margin was 12.4 points wider than Harris's, D+27.2, and the U.S. House vote went from D+15.7 to D+28.7. Coons drew 83 votes for every 100 Harris won here; Katz drew 64 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The Senate race drew 74% as many votes as the 2024 presidential election and 118% of the 2022 midterm's.

FIGURE 25

Delaware: the move from 2024, county by county



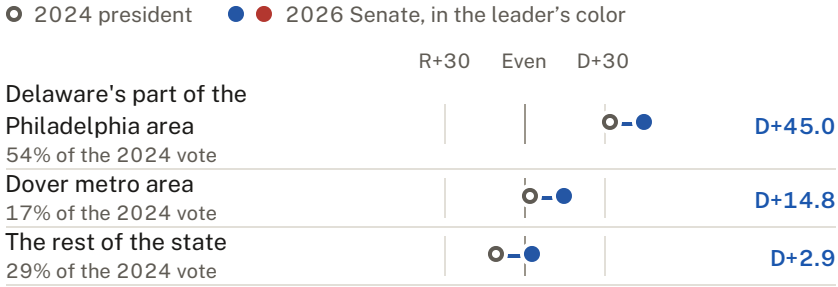
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 26

Delaware by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Chris Coons (D) 63.6%, Michael "dr. Mike" Katz (R) 36.4%	D+27.2	12.4 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Kathy Jennings (D) 63.6%, David C. "dave" Graham (R) 36.4%	D+27.3	12.5 pts → D	Hold
Auditor D-held	Lydia York (D) 60.4%, April Callaway (R) 34.7%	D+25.7	10.9 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Ted Lauzen (D) 62.4%, Michael Ramone (R) 37.6%	D+24.9	10.1 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 1 seat. Before: 1 D, 0 R. Called: 1 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
DE-AL	Sarah McBride	D+28.7	D+14.6

Where it moved

Delaware has three counties, and each moved by nearly the same amount. Delaware's part of the Philadelphia area, which casts 54% of the vote, went from D+32.6 to D+45.0, a move of 12.5 points. The Dover metro area moved 12.8, from D+2.0 to D+14.8. The rest of the state moved most, 13.9 points, and changed sides.

Sussex County was the only Delaware county Trump carried in 2024, by 11.0 points. This year it voted for Coons by 2.9, on 115,135 votes, 30% of the state's total. Kent County, in the Dover area, went from D+2.0 to D+14.8, and New Castle County, the largest, from D+32.6 to D+45.0. McBride said Democrats had won in all three counties for the first time since 2012.[140]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	21	15 D, 6 R	15 D, 6 R
House	41	27 D, 14 R	30 D, 11 R

Democrats already controlled both chambers. They went from 27 to 30 of the House's 41 seats, past two-thirds, and the Senate stayed at 15 Democrats and 6 Republicans, already above it, Spotlight Delaware reported.[144] The House gains came in District 34, where Annie Norman beat Republican Rep. Lyndon Yearick by about 150 votes, and in the open Districts 4 and 9, won by Gregg Lindner and Ayanna Khan-Flowers.[144,145,146] Under the constitution an amendment agreed to by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, in two successive General Assemblies with an election between them, becomes part of the constitution without a vote of the people. That is 28 representatives and 14 senators, and Democrats now have both.[146,147] Overriding a veto takes three-fifths, which they already had.[141] They still need Republican votes for the annual capital budget, the Bond Bill, which takes three-quarters.[144]

Democratic leaders have not said they will pass amendments on guns, but they do plan to change the constitution on voting and reproductive health, Spotlight Delaware reported, and House Majority Leader Kerri Evelyn Harris said she will keep pushing to let voters approve amendments after the legislature passes them. House Speaker Melissa Minor-Brown said Democrats do not have to ask Republicans for votes but will be "responsible lawmakers."[144] House Democrats kept her as speaker in a closed-door caucus vote on the night of November 4, after a challenge from Rep. Madinah Wilson-Anton, who was campaigning for the speakership.[145] Senate Democrats chose Sen. Bryan Townsend as president pro tempore, Sen. Stephanie Hansen as majority leader and Sen. Marie Pinkney as whip. Townsend named school funding, energy and health care prices as priorities.[148]

With one U.S. House seat, Delaware has no congressional map to draw. The General Assembly sets the boundaries of its own 41 House and 21 Senate districts in the state code, under criteria that include contiguous territory and nearly equal population.[149] The State Election Commissioner, who supervises the staff of the Department of Elections under the policies of the State Board of Elections, is appointed by the governor for four years and confirmed by the Senate; the office was not on the ballot.[150]

Closer to home

In New Castle County, Councilman David Tackett was elected recorder of deeds and Councilman Jea Street Sr. resigned, and the Department of Elections expects a special election for the County Council by the middle of December, Spotlight Delaware reported.[151] No high-court seat or school board was on the November ballot: Supreme Court justices are appointed by the governor with the consent of the Senate for 12-year terms, and school board members are elected each year on the second Tuesday of May.[152,153]

What did not change

Republicans held no statewide office or U.S. House seat to defend, and Katz carried none of the three counties. In the legislature they kept the 15th Senate District, open after a longtime senator's retirement, where Emily Thompson won with nearly 57%, and the 41st House District in Sussex County, where former Rep. John Atkins reclaimed his old seat with more than 53%. Rep. Mike Smith of Pike Creek won reelection with nearly 54% and is now the only Republican in any state or county office in New Castle County.[146] Rep. Jeffrey Spiegelman, a Republican from Clayton, said the smaller his caucus becomes, the harder it is to be heard.[144]

What it sets up

Neither of Delaware's U.S. Senate seats is on the ballot in 2028; the governorship is. Meyer took office in January 2025 for four years, and a governor may not be elected a third time.[141,142] Before then, any amendment the outgoing General Assembly passed once becomes part of the constitution if the next General Assembly agrees to it by two-thirds of all members elected to each house.[147] The special election for the New Castle County Council is expected by the middle of December.[151]

Florida

South · 2024 president R+13.1 · 1 race not called

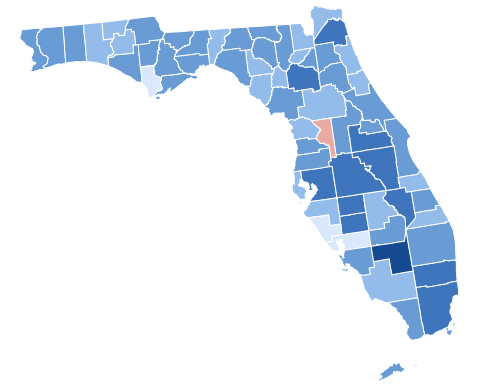
Republicans held Florida's Senate seat and governorship by fewer than three points each in a state Donald Trump carried by 13.1 points, and lost the two-thirds majority that let them run the state House alone.

Republican Ashley Moody won the Senate race over Democrat Angie Nixon, 50.9% to 48.0%. Republican Byron Donalds won the open governor's race over Democrat David Jolly by 1.3 points; the Associated Press called it on election night and Jolly acknowledged the loss.[154] Republicans kept all three Cabinet offices, the attorney general, the chief financial officer and the agriculture commissioner, each with about 51% of the vote.[39] No U.S. House seat that has been called changed hands. Republicans won 19 of the 20 they held, Democrats all eight of theirs, and the 27th District is not called in our count. Several were close: Democrat Darren Soto held the Ninth by 0.5 points in a district Trump carried by 17.5.

Measured against the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 10.2 points toward the Democrats, from R+13.1 to R+2.9. The House vote, all districts added together, went from R+15.8 to R+2.2. The Senate race drew 76% as many votes as the 2024 presidential election and 107% of the 2022 midterm's. Nixon drew 85 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Moody drew 69 for every 100 of Trump's.

FIGURE 27

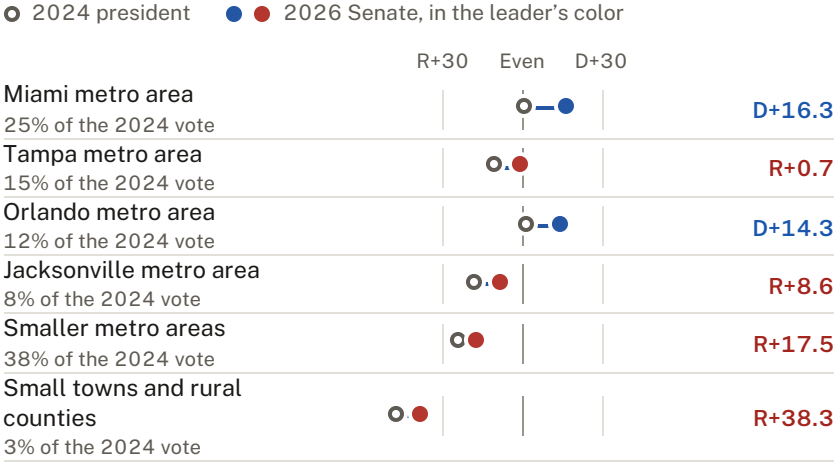
Florida: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 28

Florida by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Ashley Moody (R) 50.9%, Angie Nixon (D) 48.0%	R+2.9	10.2 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Byron Donalds (R) 50.0%, David Jolly (D) 48.7%	R+1.3	11.8 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General R-held	James Uthmeier (R) 50.9%, Jose Javier Rodriguez (D) 49.1%	R+1.8	11.3 pts → D	Hold
Commissioner of Agriculture R-held	Wilton Simpson (R) 51.0%, Joey Mendoza Atkins (D) 48.9%	R+2.1	11.0 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 28 seats. Before: 8 D, 20 R. Called: 8 D, 19 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
FL-01	Jimmy Patronis	R+26.9	R+36.6
FL-02	Austin Rogers	R+4.2	R+17.9
FL-03	Kat Cammack	R+12.1	R+20.7
FL-04	Aaron Bean	R+2.1	R+11.7
FL-05	John Rutherford	R+12.8	R+21.1
FL-06	Randy Fine	R+19.0	R+29.6
FL-07	Ryan Elijah	R+0.5	R+12.3
FL-08	Mike Haridopolos	R+6.3	R+16.0
FL-09	Darren Soto	D+0.5	R+17.5
FL-10	Maxwell Frost	no count	D+23.7
FL-11	Joe Strada	R+6.9	R+15.4
FL-12	Gus Bilirakis	R+6.8	R+15.2
FL-13	Anna Paulina Luna	R+0.8	R+13.1
FL-14	Kathy Castor	D+5.4	R+10.4
FL-15	Laurel Lee	R+8.6	R+19.6
FL-16	Sydney Gruters	R+4.2	R+13.5
FL-17	Greg Steube	R+18.3	R+21.7
FL-18	Scott Franklin	R+3.6	R+16.7
FL-19	Jim Schwartzel	R+23.5	R+29.7
FL-20	Debbie Wasserman Schultz	D+52.6	D+36.6
FL-21	Brian Mast	R+9.1	R+15.9
FL-22	Pia Dandiya	D+3.8	R+10.3
FL-23	Lois Frankel	D+31.3	D+13.6
FL-24	Oliver Gilbert	D+61.2	D+38.1
FL-25	Jared Moskowitz	D+4.6	R+9.0
FL-26	Mario Diaz-Balart	R+0.7	R+18.0
FL-27	Maria Elvira Salazar not called	R+0.4	R+14.3
FL-28	Carlos Giménez	R+7.2	R+25.0

Where it moved

The Miami metro area, which cast 25% of the 2024 vote, moved furthest: 15.2 points, from D+1.1 to D+16.3. The Orlando area went from D+1.2 to D+14.3, and the Tampa area from R+10.4 to R+0.7, nearly even. The move was smallest in the smaller metro areas, which cast 38% of the vote and went from R+24.2 to R+17.5, a move of 6.6 points. The small towns and rural counties went from R+47.8 to R+38.3.

Miami-Dade County is the largest of the seven counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Nixon this year. It went from R+11.4 to D+7.1 on 784,728 votes, a move of 18.6 points. Osceola County, in the Orlando area, swung further, 19.9 points, from R+1.5 to D+18.4. Broward County, also in the Miami area, went from D+17.0 to D+32.3, and Palm Beach County from D+0.8 to D+10.3. One county moved the other way: Sumter County went from R+37.6 to R+43.2.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	40	12 D, 27 R, 1 independent	*Not read in our count (2 of 40 seats)*
House	120	34 D, 84 R	*Not read in our count (28 of 120 seats)*

Republicans kept the governorship and both chambers of the Legislature, so their trifecta continues, but in the House they lost the margin that let them act alone. Unofficial results compiled by the law firm Greenberg Traurig put the House at 70 Republicans and 50 Democrats, below the 80 seats that make two-thirds.[39] WUSF reported on November 6 that Democrats had flipped at least 16 seats and that the 70-50 split depended on a 17th going their way in a recount.[155] The last uncalled race, House District 33 in Brevard County, went to a machine recount, and the Associated Press then declared Democrat Daniel McDow the winner over Republican Rep. Monique Miller, 36,428 votes to 36,142.[156,157] In the Senate Republicans hold 25 of 40 seats, also short of two-thirds, with one seat vacant.[155]

Under the constitution a vetoed bill becomes law only if each house passes it again by a two-thirds vote, and the Legislature can put a constitutional amendment on the ballot by a three-fifths vote of each house.[158] House Republicans no longer reach either mark alone: the three-fifths line is 72 seats, WUSF reported, and they now

need Democratic votes to override a veto or pass public records exemptions. Christine Hunschofsky, the House Democratic leader-designate, said on November 5: “It makes it important that on those really important bipartisan issues that we all come together and that our caucus also has a seat at the table.” [155]

The Legislature draws its own districts by joint resolution in the second year after each census, and the attorney general then asks the Florida Supreme Court to rule on them. [158] Congressional maps pass as ordinary bills that the governor can veto, according to Ballotpedia. [159] The secretary of state, who heads the Department of State and its Division of Elections, is appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, so the next appointment is Donalds’s. [160] In his victory remarks he spoke of the cost of living: “And my mission as Florida’s next governor is to make sure that they can build a great life here in the great state of Florida.” [154]

On the ballot

Amendment 3 - Increased Homestead Exemption; Lower Cap on Increases in Non-Homestead Property Assessments	**62.0% yes** Passed
Amendment 2 - Exemption of Tangible Personal Property on Agricultural Land from Taxation	**58.2% yes** Failed: short of the 60% it needs
Amendment 1 - Budget Stabilization Fund	**40.9% yes** Failing

A constitutional amendment in Florida takes effect only if at least sixty percent of those voting on it approve. [158] Amendment 3, which raises the homestead exemption from about $50,000 to $150,000 in 2027 and $250,000 in 2028, passed with 62.0% in our count. [161] Outgoing Gov. Ron DeSantis indicated that he would call a special session before his term ends to put it into effect. [39] Amendment 2, a property tax exemption for farm equipment and other agricultural property, won a majority, 58.2%, and still failed, under the 60% it needed. Amendment 1, which would have let lawmakers put more money into a reserve fund, drew 40.9%. [162]

Closer to home

Justice Carlos Muñiz, the only member of the Florida Supreme Court on the ballot, was retained with 57.72% of the vote, WLRN reported. [163] In St. Petersburg, former Gov. Charlie Crist defeated Mayor Ken Welch in a nonpartisan race between two registered Democrats. [164] Linda Cothiere won a runoff for a seat on the Miami-Dade County school board, one of three South Florida board seats decided in November runoffs. [165] Seminole County, where Republicans had won every state legislative race within its borders in 2024, voted Democratic in all but one this year, Spectrum News 13 reported. [166]

What did not change

Republicans won again in 23 of the seats they held, but several by very little. Ryan Elijah held the Seventh District by 0.5 points, Mario Diaz-Balart the 26th by 0.7 and Anna Paulina Luna the 13th by 0.8, in districts Trump had carried by 12.3, 18.0 and 13.1 points. Moody carried 54 of the state’s 67 counties, and Sumter County gave her a wider margin than it gave Trump. Donalds outspent Jolly about 10 to 1, Christian Casale of Suncoast Searchlight told WWSB. [167]

What it sets up

Ashley Moody’s seat will be on the ballot again in 2028; she won it this year by 2.9 points in a state that voted Republican by 13.1 for president in 2024. The governor is elected in even-numbered years that are not multiples of four, so Donalds’s office is next on the ballot in 2030. The Legislature must apportion the state again in the second year after the 2030 census. [158] State Senate District 39 is vacant and will be filled in a special election. [39]

Still open

Our count has not called the 27th District, where Republican Maria Elvira Salazar leads Democrat Eliott Rodriguez by 0.4 points. The margin, 1,090 votes before the recount, was inside the 0.5% that triggers an automatic machine recount, WLRN reported.[168] After the recount NBC News called the race for Salazar by 1,086 votes, NBC 6 reported on November 10.[169]

Georgia

South · 2024 president R+2.2

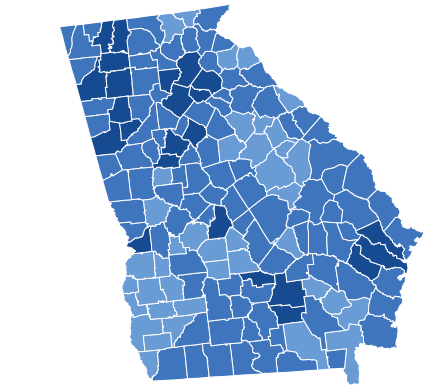
Georgia elected a Democratic governor and Democrats to seven other statewide offices Republicans held, and Democrats took the state House, while Republicans kept the state Senate 29 to 27.

Jon Ossoff kept his Senate seat, winning by 18.1 points over Republican Mike Collins, in a state Donald Trump carried by 2.2 points two years earlier. Keisha Lance Bottoms won the governor's office from the Republicans by 8.7 points over Rick Jackson; the Associated Press called the race after Jackson conceded.[170] Democrats won all eight other statewide offices on the ballot, seven of them from Republicans: lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, agriculture, insurance, labor and one of two Public Service Commission seats. The narrowest was agriculture commissioner, which Katherine E. Juhan-Arnold won by 7.7 points. No U.S. House seat changed hands. The delegation stays at nine Republicans and five Democrats, although Democratic candidates won the House vote statewide, D+12.4, after losing it in 2024, R+5.2.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 20.3 points toward the Democrats, from R+2.2 to D+18.1. Ossoff drew 97 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Collins drew 64 for every 100 of Trump's. The Senate race drew 80% as many votes as the 2024 presidential election and 106% of the 2022 midterm's.

FIGURE 29

Georgia: the move from 2024, county by county



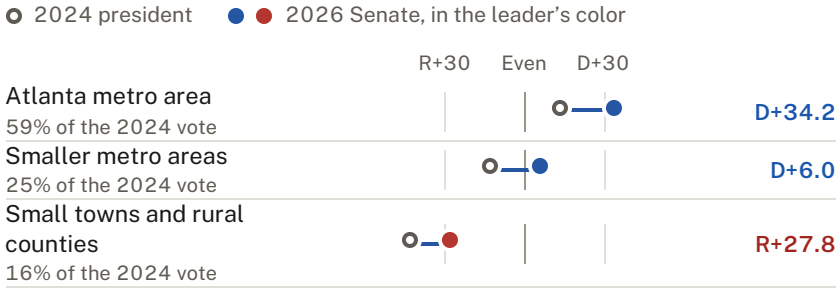
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 30

Georgia by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Jon Ossoff (D) 59.0%, Mike Collins (R) 41.0%	D+18.1	20.2 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Keisha Lance Bottoms (D) 54.3%, Rick Jackson (R) 45.7%	D+8.7	10.9 pts → D	**Flip**
Attorney General R-held	Tanya Miller (D) 55.6%, Brian Strickland (R) 44.4%	D+11.1	13.3 pts → D	**Flip**

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Commissioner of Agriculture R-held	Katherine E. Juhan-Arnold (D) 53.8%, Tyler Harper (R) 46.2%	D+7.7	9.9 pts → D	**Flip**
Insurance Commissioner R-held	Keisha Sean Waites (D) 54.3%, John King (R) 45.7%	D+8.6	10.8 pts → D	**Flip**
Labor Commissioner R-held	Nikki Porcher (D) 54.6%, Bárbara Rivera Holmes (R) 45.4%	D+9.3	11.5 pts → D	**Flip**
Lieutenant Governor R-held	Josh McLaurin (D) 56.0%, Greg Dolezal (R) 44.0%	D+11.9	14.1 pts → D	**Flip**
Public Service Commissioner D-held	Peter Hubbard (D) 56.4%, Fitz Johnson (R) 43.6%	D+12.8	15.0 pts → D	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Shelia Edwards (D) 55.3%, Josh Tolbert (R) 44.7%	D+10.7	12.9 pts → D	**Flip**
Secretary of State R-held	Penny Brown Reynolds (D) 55.7%, Tim Fleming (R) 44.3%	D+11.4	13.6 pts → D	**Flip**

U.S. House: 14 seats. Before: 5 D, 9 R. Called: 5 D, 9 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
GA-01	James "Jim" Kingston	R+2.8	R+15.2
GA-02	Sanford Bishop	D+21.6	D+8.6
GA-03	Brian Jack	R+17.2	R+28.9
GA-04	Henry "Hank" Johnson Jr.	D+65.3	D+52.4
GA-05	Nikema Williams	D+80.4	D+70.5
GA-06	Lucy McBath	D+61.8	D+48.9
GA-07	Rich McCormick	R+12.4	R+22.4

District	Winner	Margin	2024
GA-08	Austin Scott	R+20.8	R+29.9
GA-09	Andrew Clyde	R+18.6	R+33.9
GA-10	Houston Gaines	R+7.3	R+20.1
GA-11	John Cowan	R+10.7	R+23.0
GA-12	Rick W. Allen	R+4.2	R+13.6
GA-13	Jasmine Clark	D+59.7	D+41.8
GA-14	Clay Fuller	R+17.5	R+35.8

Where it moved

The move was large everywhere. Metro Atlanta, which cast 59% of the 2024 vote, moved 20.5 points, from D+13.7 to D+34.2. The smaller metro areas moved 19.2 and changed sides, from R+13.2 to D+6.0. The small towns and rural counties moved least, 15.5 points, and still voted Republican, R+27.8.

Houston County, in the Warner Robins metro area, is the largest of the 12 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Ossoff this year. It went from R+11.3 to D+8.8 on 64,918 votes. The widest swing among large counties came in Gwinnett County, 26.1 points, from D+16.5 to D+42.6. Paulding County, in the Atlanta area, moved 23.8 and finished at R+0.3, nearly even. Fulton County, the largest county, went from D+44.9 to D+59.3, and Cobb County from D+14.9 to D+34.2. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	56	22 D, 33 R	27 D, 29 R
House	180	81 D, 99 R	92 D, 88 R seats too close to call remain

Georgia has divided government for the first time in more than two decades, Atlanta News First reported.[171] Democrats netted 10 state House seats and hold at least 91 of 180 on Associated Press race calls, enough for a majority. Two House races were still uncalled and a third goes to a runoff, none of which can change control, the Georgia Recorder reported.[7] Republicans kept the Senate, though their majority shrank from 33 seats to

29 in our count. House Democrats, a minority for more than 20 years, nominated Carolyn Hugley for speaker. “After more than two decades of Republicans in control of all of state government, they’ve given Democrats the opportunity to lead and we intend to deliver,” she said. [7]

Overriding a veto takes two-thirds of the members of each house, Ballotpedia’s copy of the constitution says, and neither party is near that in either chamber. [172] Bottoms can veto bills without being overridden but needs the Republican Senate to pass her own program. She has said she wants to expand Medicaid and end the Georgia Pathways program. “Our goal is simple: to be ready to govern on day one,” she said on November 6 as she named a transition team. [173] The new lieutenant governor, Democrat Josh McLaurin, will preside over the Senate, which the Georgia Recorder said lets Democrats shape which bills reach a vote there; Atlanta News First reported that Republican senators may remove much of the office’s authority. [7,171]

The legislature draws congressional and legislative maps by simple majority and the governor can veto them, according to Ballotpedia, so each party can now block the other’s lines. [174] Outgoing Gov. Brian Kemp said he would not call a special session to redraw districts or limit the governor’s powers before Bottoms takes office. [173] The secretary of state’s office, which FOX 5 Atlanta called the state’s chief elections post, passes to Democrat Penny Brown Reynolds, who defeated Republican state Rep. Tim Fleming. It returns to the Democrats for the first time in roughly two decades, the station reported. [170]

On the ballot

Proposed Constitutional Amendment 1	**53.9% yes** Passed
Proposed Constitutional Amendment 2	**68.4% yes** Passed
Proposed Constitutional Amendment 3	**77.7% yes** Passed

Once two-thirds of the General Assembly has put an amendment on the ballot, it needs only a majority of the voters, News4JAX’s voters guide explains. [175] Voters approved all three. Amendment 1 raises the maximum acreage that qualifies for the conservation use property tax classification from 2,000 to 4,000 acres, and passed with 53.9%. Amendment 2 makes elections for probate judges nonpartisan, with 68.4%, and Amendment 3 creates a dedicated emergency 911 fund, with 77.7%. [176]

Closer to home

The Cobb County school board changed from a Republican to a Democratic majority on preliminary results, and Democrats appeared to win five of the seven Fulton County Commission seats, four of them open and the fifth held by the commission’s only Republican incumbent on the ballot, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. [177] Georgia’s Supreme Court seats were decided earlier, on May 19: Justices Sarah Warren and Charlie Bethel defeated two liberal challengers in officially nonpartisan races, and Justice Ben Land was unopposed, Bolts reported. [178]

What did not change

Republicans held all nine of their U.S. House seats, though their margins shrank. James “Jim” Kingston won the First District by 2.8 points where Trump had won by 15.2, and Rick W. Allen the 12th by 4.2. Collins carried 120 of the state’s 159 counties. Republicans kept their state Senate majority and took two state House districts Democrats had held, one in the Athens area and one in middle Georgia, the Georgia Recorder reported. [7]

What it sets up

Raphael G. Warnock's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted Republican by 2.2 points for president in 2024 and Democratic by 18.1 in this year's Senate race. Three more Georgia Supreme Court justices, all appointed by Republican governors, will be up for election in 2028, Bolts reported; when a justice resigns early, the governor appoints the replacement.[178] The general election runoff, including one state House race, is on December 1.[7,179]

Still open

The size of the House majority is not final. In our count Democrats lead in 92 districts and Republicans in 88. In House District 154 a secretary of state review added 388 votes from a Seminole County memory card that had not been uploaded, and the lead passed to the Republican incumbent; in District 103 the Democrat led by 35 votes, within the margin for a recount. Statewide certification was expected the week of November 16, the Georgia Recorder reported.[7]

Hawaii

West · 2024 president D+23.1

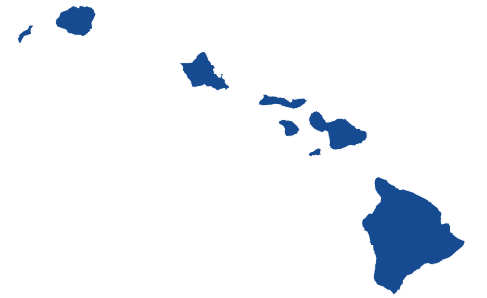
Hawaii re-elected Governor Josh Green by 45.3 points in a state Kamala Harris carried by 23.1, and elected the first Green Party member of its Legislature.

Gov. Josh Green, a Democrat, was re-elected by 45.3 points over Republican Gary Cordery. His running mate, Derek Kawakami, the mayor of Kauai County since 2018, becomes lieutenant governor.[180] There was no Senate race, and Democrats kept both of the state's U.S. House seats: Ed Case won by 48.9 points and Jill N. Tokuda by 33.0.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race ran 22.2 points further toward the Democrats, and most of the difference was on the Republican side. Green drew 89 votes for every 100 Harris won here; Cordery drew 54 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The votes counted for governor so far come to 93% of the 2022 total and 74% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 31

Hawaii: the move from 2024, county by county



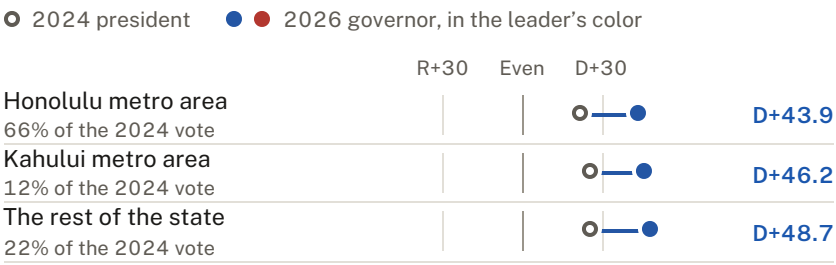
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 32

Hawaii by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Josh Green (D) 72.6%, Gary Cordery (R) 27.4%	D+45.3	22.2 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 2 D, 0 R. Called: 2 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
HI-01	Ed Case	D+48.9	D+24.5
HI-02	Jill N. Tokuda	D+33.0	D+21.5

Where it moved

The move was close to uniform across the islands. The Honolulu metro area, which cast 66% of the state's 2024 vote, went from D+21.7 to D+43.9, a move of 22.3 points. The Kahului metro area on Maui moved least, 20.4 points, from D+25.9 to D+46.2. The rest of the state moved most, 22.7 points, and ended at D+48.7.

No county changed sides: all four voted Democratic in both years, and none moved toward the Republicans. The largest move was in Kauai County, which went from D+19.5 to D+48.2, a change of 28.7 points on 23,952 votes. It is the county whose mayor was on the ticket as Green's running mate. [180] Honolulu County went from D+21.7 to D+43.9 on 249,618 votes, and Hawaii County from D+28.3 to D+48.9.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	25	21 D, 3 R	*Not read in our count (9 of 25 seats)*
House	51	41 D, 10 R	*Not read in our count (20 of 51 seats)*

Democrats keep the governor's office and both chambers. The Senate is unchanged, with Democrats holding 22 of 25 seats. In the House, Democrats went from 41 seats to 44 and Republicans from 10 to six, Honolulu Civil Beat reported; our count could not read every legislative district, so these totals are Civil Beat's. The Office of Elections issued its final count on November 10, and election contests can be filed with the Hawaii Supreme Court until November 23. [181, 182]

The remaining House seat went to Pa'ele Kiakona of the Green Party, who won District 14, in Lahaina, by 119 votes over Democrat Sne Patel. It was the first time a Green Party candidate was elected to the Hawaii Legislature, the Garden Island reported. The incumbent, Rep. Elle Cochran, had switched from Democrat to Republican in March and finished third. [181, 182] With six seats, House Republicans remain below the 11 that House rules require to force roll call votes on the floor, and Civil Beat reported that no Republican now holds a legislative seat representing the neighbor islands. [181] The constitution sets a veto override at two-thirds of all the members to which each house is entitled, which is 17 senators and 34 representatives. Democrats were past that mark in both chambers before the election and still are. [181, 183]

The election left the machinery of maps and elections where it was. A nine-member reapportionment commission draws both the legislative and the congressional districts, and its plans become law after publication. The Senate president and the House speaker each select two members, the minority parties in each house name a member who selects two more, and those eight choose the chair. Ron Kouchi remains Senate president. [181, 183] The chief election officer is not elected either: a nine-member Elections Commission, appointed by the presiding officers and minority leaders of the two houses, employs the officer and reviews the job after each general election. [184]

Green said the day after the election that housing would lead his second term, with more homes along the rail line and a plan to restore abandoned houses. "You'll see me announce some major additions to our housing team in the coming weeks," he told Hawaii News Now on November 4. He named the bonds voters had just approved as a way to pay for infrastructure in advance. [185]

On the ballot

Question #1	**63.0% yes** Passed
Question #2	**67.3% yes** Passed

Hawaii sets a higher bar for constitutional amendments than a majority of those who vote on them. An amendment needs a majority of the votes tallied on the question, and that majority must be at least 50 percent of all the votes cast in the election, so a ballot left blank on the question counts against it. [183, 186]

Both of this year's questions cleared it. Question 2 lets counties issue bonds, a form of tax-increment financing, to pay for infrastructure in designated districts. It drew 67.3% of the yes and no votes in our count and 61.7% of all ballots in the final official summary, where blank votes were 8.1%. Question 1 extends from 30 to 60 days the time the Senate has to consider a judicial appointment made when lawmakers are out of session or near the end of one. It drew 63.0% of the yes and no votes and 57.9% of all ballots.[186, 187]

Closer to home

Two counties elected mayors. In Maui County, Richard Bissen won with 54.8% of the vote to 42.5% for Yuki Lei Kashiwa Sugimura. In Kauai County, Council Chair Mel Rapozo won with 56.5% to 37.4% for Bernard Carvalho Jr.; he succeeds Kawakami and takes office on December 1.[180, 187] Neither the Hawaii Supreme Court nor a school board was on any ballot. The governor appoints justices from a commission's list with the consent of the Senate, the commission decides whether they are retained, and the governor appoints the single statewide Board of Education.[183]

What did not change

Republicans held none of the offices in our count before the election and won none. The closest of the Democratic wins was Jill N. Tokuda's, by 33.0 points, and no county voted Republican for governor. What Republicans kept was in the Legislature. They held all three of their Senate seats: in District 20, around Ewa Beach, Republican Bob McDermott beat Democrat Markus Owens 50.8% to 46.9%. In House District 42, Republican Rep. Diamond Garcia won by 3,002 votes to 2,872. Civil Beat reported that the party's House losses were seen less as part of the national movement toward the Democrats than as the product of local circumstances and familiar candidates.[181, 187]

What it sets up

Brian Schatz's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted D+23.1 for president in 2024 and D+45.3 for governor this year. The constitution bars anyone from being elected governor for more than two consecutive full terms, and Green was first elected in 2022, so he cannot be elected again when the office is next filled, in 2030.[180, 183] The Legislature convenes on January 20.[181] The districts used this year stay in place until the next reapportionment year, which the constitution fixes at every tenth year after 1981: the commission will be formed again in 2031.[183]

Idaho

West · 2024 president R+36.5

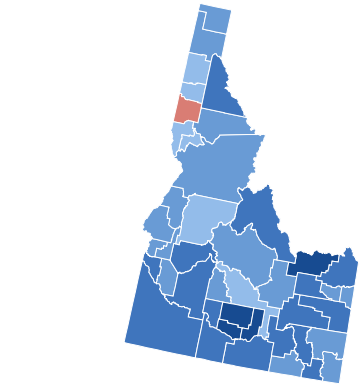
Idaho re-elected Governor Brad Little by 24.7 points and kept Republicans above two-thirds in both chambers, while Democrats swept the state's swing legislative districts.

Gov. Brad Little won a third term, 56.9% to 32.2% for Democrat Terri Pickens.[188] Republican Jim Risch won the Senate race with 56.5%; the runner-up, at 33.6%, was an independent, Todd Achilles. Republicans won all six other statewide offices on the ballot and kept both U.S. House seats, Russ Fulcher by 35.3 points and Mike Simpson by 11.4. Donald Trump carried Idaho by 36.5 points in 2024.

The governor's race was 11.9 points closer than that presidential vote. Pickens drew 84 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Little drew 67 for every 100 of Trump's. More people voted than in the last midterm: the votes counted for governor come to 121% of the 2022 total and 79% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 33

Idaho: the move from 2024, county by county



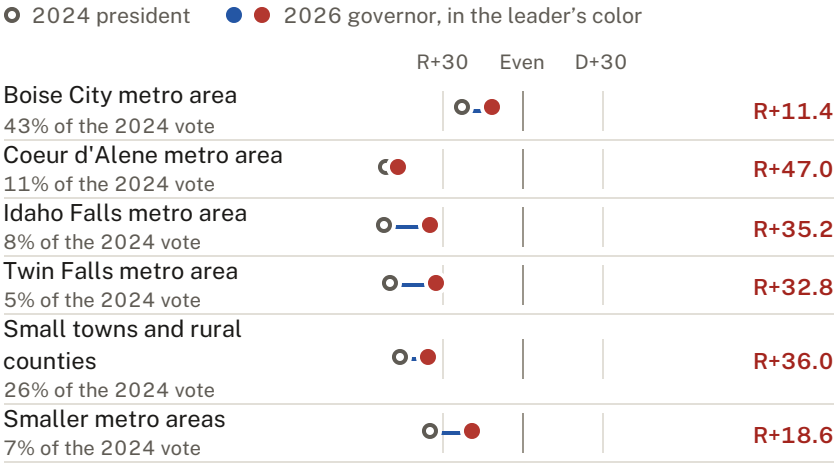
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 34

Idaho by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Jim Risch (R) 56.5%, Todd Achilles (I) 33.6%	R+22.9	—	Hold
Governor R-held	Brad Little (R) 56.9%, Terri Pickens (D) 32.2%	R+24.7	—	Hold
Attorney General R-held	Raul R. Labrador (R) 59.8%, Lori Hickman (D) 40.2%	R+19.6	16.9 pts → D	Hold
Controller R-held	Brandon D Woolf (R) 66.2%, Rakesh Mohan (D) 33.8%	R+32.3	4.2 pts → D	Hold
Lieutenant Governor R-held	Scott Bedke (R) 63.5%, Eric Myricks (D) 36.5%	R+26.9	9.6 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Phil McGrane (R) 67.3%, Shawn Keenan (D) 32.7%	R+34.7	1.8 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Superintendent of Public Instruction R-held	Debbie Critchfield (R) 61.5%, Becky Sundin Mitchell (D) 34.9%	R+26.6	9.9 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Julie A. Ellsworth (R) 65.4%, Kevin A Jones (D) 34.6%	R+30.9	5.6 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 0 D, 2 R. Called: 0 D, 2 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
ID-01	Russ Fulcher	R+35.3	R+45.0
ID-02	Mike Simpson	R+11.4	R+26.9

Where it moved

The Twin Falls and Idaho Falls areas moved furthest. The Twin Falls metro area went from R+49.7 to R+32.8, a move of 16.9 points, and the Idaho Falls area from R+51.9 to R+35.2, a move of 16.7. The Boise City metro area, which cast 43% of the state's 2024 vote, moved 11.2 points, from R+22.6 to R+11.4. The small towns and rural counties, with 26% of the vote, moved 10.5. The Coeur d'Alene area moved least: 4.9 points, from R+51.8 to R+47.0.

No county changed sides. The largest move among the bigger counties was in Bannock County, in the Pocatello area, which went from R+25.1 to R+5.1 on 31,841 votes. Pocatello's Legislative District 29 is one of the places where Democrats gained seats in the Legislature.[189] Ada County, in the Boise City area, cast more votes than any other county and went from R+10.3 to R+2.5; Canyon County, in the same metro area, went from R+46.6 to R+29.5. Latah County, in the Moscow area, was the only county that moved the other way, from R+8.0 to R+15.6 on 17,746 votes.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	35	6 D, 29 R	7 D, 28 R
House	70	9 D, 61 R	14 D, 56 R

Republicans keep the governorship and both chambers, with more than two-thirds of each: 28 of 35 Senate seats, down from 29, and 56 of 70 House seats, down from 61, in results not yet certified. Democrats hold 21 of the 105 seats, up from 15, after sweeping the districts Idaho Education News calls swing: 15 in west Boise, 26 in Blaine, Lincoln and Jerome counties, and 29 in Pocatello. "We need to come to Boise with a plan of action of the things we want to do, the things we want to fight for," said Rep.-elect Mary Shea, a Pocatello Democrat.[189]

The larger Democratic caucus does not change what Republicans can do alone. The constitution sets a veto override at two-thirds of the members present in each house, and the governor is of the majority's party.[190] The Legislature does not draw Idaho's maps. A commission of six, formed on the order of the secretary of state when a census or a court requires new districts, draws both the legislative and the congressional lines. The leaders of the two largest parties in each house each name one member and the two state party chairmen name the others, no member may hold elected or appointed office, and a plan needs two-thirds of the commission.[190]

The secretary of state, an elected office with a four-year term, is the state's top elected official in charge of elections, as the Idaho Capital Sun describes it, and Phil McGrane, a Republican, was re-elected.[190,191] "They believe in Idaho values, and they rightfully expect us to keep delivering," Little said of Idahoans when he spoke to supporters on election night.[191]

On the ballot

Idaho Constitutional Amendment: House Joint Resolution 4	**33.7% yes** Failed
Idaho Constitutional Amendment: House Joint Resolution 6	**63.1% yes** Passed
Proposition 1: Reproductive Freedom & Privacy Act	**44.1% yes** Failed
Advisory Question: House Bill 932	**No count yet**

A constitutional amendment sent to the ballot by the Legislature becomes part of the constitution if a majority of the electors ratify it.[190] One of the two on the ballot met that test. House Joint Resolution 6, which in Ballotpedia's summary designates English the official language of Idaho, drew 63.1% yes in our count. House Joint Resolution 4, which by the same summary would have given only the Legislature the authority to legalize marijuana and other psychoactive substances, drew 33.7% and failed.[192,193]

Voters also rejected Proposition 1, the Reproductive Freedom and Privacy Act, a citizen initiative that the Idaho Statesman reported would have legalized abortion up to fetal viability or in medical emergencies. It drew 44.1% yes in our count.[193,194] A fourth question was advisory and had no yes or no: it asked voters to choose an official state gun, and the Winchester Model 1873 led with about 31 percent in Spokane Public Radio's preliminary table.[193]

Closer to home

Latah County counted its ballots twice. Its clerk found that results from 2,343 ballots cast in early voting had been counted by a tabulation machine but never transferred to the reporting system. The county recounted every ballot on November 10, with the secretary of state's office helping to oversee it, and no outcome changed. The closest question, a plant facility levy for the Moscow School District, passed with 60.34% and needed 60%. In all, 18,104 ballots were cast in the county.[195,196] No seat on the Idaho Supreme Court was on the November ballot; Ballotpedia lists Idaho among the states that held their supreme court elections earlier in the year.[197]

What did not change

Republicans won again in all 10 of the offices in our count that they held, and Democrats won none. The narrowest of those wins was Mike Simpson's U.S. House seat, by 11.4 points, followed by Attorney General Raul R. Labrador's, by 19.6. Risch finished 22.9 points ahead of an independent and Little 24.7 ahead of a Democrat. Of the state's 44 counties, 42 voted Republican for governor, and Latah County moved toward the party. The abortion-rights initiative failed by about 12 points, and the Legislature remains more than two-thirds Republican in both chambers.[193]

What it sets up

Mike Crapo's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+36.5 for president in 2024 and R+24.7 for governor this year. The governor and the other statewide executive officers serve four-year terms under the constitution, so the offices filled this year will next be on the ballot in 2030. The districts stay as they are until a new federal census or a court decision calls for new ones and the secretary of state orders a new commission; the next census is the 2030 count.[190] After Proposition 1 failed, the group that sponsored it said it would ask lawmakers for exceptions to the abortion law in the coming session, the Idaho Statesman reported.[194]

Still open

The statewide results were still being checked. The State Board of Canvassers was to meet on November 13 to begin audits, with teams of auditors conducting hand recounts in randomly selected counties and precincts the following week. Latah County's commissioners were scheduled to certify their recounted results on November 12.[195,196]

Illinois

Midwest · 2024 president D+11.0

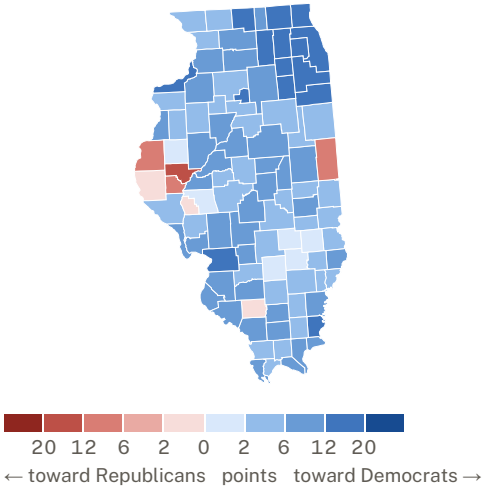
Illinois gave Governor JB Pritzker a third term by 24.6 points, and Democrats added seats to their three-fifths majorities in both legislative chambers.

Democrat Juliana Stratton won the Senate race by 25.3 points over Republican Don Tracy, keeping the seat for her party, and Gov. JB Pritzker won a third term by 24.6 over Republican Darren Bailey.[198] Kamala Harris had carried Illinois by 11.0. Democrats won the four other statewide offices on the ballot, all of which they already held. One has a new occupant: Margaret Croke won the comptroller's office, which Susana Mendoza gave up to run for mayor of Chicago.[199] No U.S. House seat changed hands. The delegation stayed at 14 Democrats and three Republicans, and the closest of the 17 races was decided by 17.6 points.

The Senate race ran 14.4 points ahead of Harris's margin. Stratton drew 84 votes for every 100 Harris won and Tracy drew 62 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. Turnout was a little above the last midterm's: the votes counted come to 102% of the 2022 total and 75% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 35

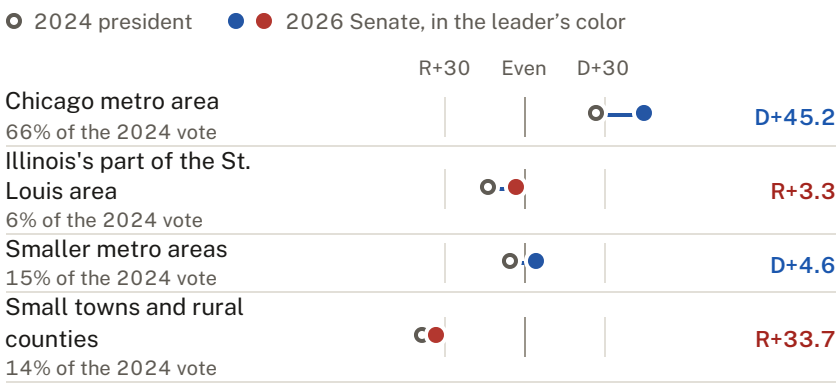
Illinois: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 36

Illinois by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Juliana Stratton (D) 61.9%, Don Tracy (R) 36.5%	D+25.3	14.4 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	JB Pritzker (D) 60.6%, Darren Bailey (R) 36.0%	D+24.6	13.7 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Kwame Raoul (D) 62.2%, Bob Fioretti (R) 37.8%	D+24.3	13.3 pts → D	Hold
Comptroller D-held	Margaret Croke (D) 61.6%, Bryan Drew (R) 38.4%	D+23.2	12.2 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	Alexi Giannoulias (D) 65.3%, Diane Harris (R) 34.7%	D+30.6	19.6 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Mike Frerichs (D) 62.7%, Max Solomon (R) 37.3%	D+25.4	14.4 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 17 seats. Before: 14 D, 3 R. Called: 14 D, 3 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
IL-01	Jonathan Jackson	D+44.8	D+31.6
IL-02	Donna Miller	D+47.1	D+32.7
IL-03	Delia Ramirez	D+54.8	D+31.0
IL-04	Patty Garcia	D+55.3	D+28.0
IL-05	Mike Quigley	D+54.2	D+36.6
IL-06	Sean Casten	D+25.8	D+5.4
IL-07	La Shawn Ford	D+78.6	D+64.5
IL-08	Melissa Bean	D+28.7	D+6.8
IL-09	Daniel K. Biss	D+53.7	D+36.1

District	Winner	Margin	2024
IL-10	Brad Schneider	D+40.7	D+21.8
IL-11	Bill Foster	D+28.6	D+11.3
IL-12	Mike Bost	R+39.0	R+43.0
IL-13	Nikki Budzinski	D+25.4	D+10.4
IL-14	Lauren Underwood	D+25.1	D+5.1
IL-15	Mary Miller	R+33.8	R+39.4
IL-16	Darin LaHood	R+17.6	R+22.5
IL-17	Eric Sorensen	D+20.3	D+4.7

Where it moved

The Chicago area moved furthest and the countryside least. The Chicago metro area, which cast 66% of the state's 2024 vote, went from D+27.3 to D+45.2, a move of 17.9 points; Tracy drew 55 votes there for every 100 of Trump's. Illinois's part of the St. Louis area moved 10.3 points and stayed Republican, at R+3.3. The smaller metro areas, with 15% of the vote, crossed over, from R+5.2 to D+4.6. The small towns and rural counties moved 4.8 points, from R+38.5 to R+33.7.

McHenry County, in the Chicago metro area, is the larger of the two counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Stratton this year. It went from R+5.3 to D+11.0 on 114,667 votes. Will County, in the same metro area, went from D+1.6 to D+19.3, and Kendall County from D+1.5 to D+19.9. The widest swing among the big counties was in the biggest: Cook County went from D+42.0 to D+60.9 on 1,538,797 votes. The other way, toward the Republicans, went seven counties, among them Adams and Vermilion.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	59	40 D, 19 R	45 D, 14 R
House	118	78 D, 40 R	83 D, 35 R

Democrats keep the governorship and both chambers, with larger majorities. In our count they went from 40 to 45 of 59 state Senate seats and from 78 to 83 of 118 House seats. Capitol News Illinois, on November 10, had the House at 84 Democrats to 34 Republicans and the Senate at 45 to 14, both records, with one Republican incumbent's race in each chamber not settled.[200] A veto override takes three-fifths of the members elected to each house, in Ballotpedia's reproduction of the state constitution, and Democrats held that margin in both chambers before the election.[201, 202] Senate President Don Harmon said on November 4: "We've fought to lower costs, improve healthcare and stop the Trump administration in its tracks."[202]

The House will have a new leader. Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch announced in the week after the election that he would not seek a fourth term in the post. House Democrats will choose his successor in January, immediately after the new General Assembly is sworn in, and the fall veto session begins on November 17.[203]

Democrats still hold both chambers and the governor's office, the posts that pass and sign the state's legislative maps. Under the constitution as Ballotpedia reproduces it, the General Assembly redraws the state Senate and House districts by law in the year after each census, and the bill goes to the governor. If no plan is in effect by June 30 of that year, the job passes to an eight-member commission with no more than four members from one party.[201]

On November 4, the day after the election, Pritzker announced a 200-point national agenda for congressional Democrats, among its items immigration reform, abortion rights and a higher federal minimum wage. [204] Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias won another term while running for mayor of Chicago in the municipal election of February 2027. [199]

Closer to home

Chicago elected all 21 members of its school board for the first time. Jessica Biggs, who was not endorsed by the Chicago Teachers Union, won the race for board president over the union's candidate, Hilario Dominguez, 49% to 31%, the Chicago Sun-Times reported. [198] Chalkbeat reported on November 5 that candidates backed by groups opposed to the union's influence on the board, Biggs among them, would hold 11 of the 21 seats, and that the union's endorsed candidates could reach nine. [205] By November 12 three close races had gone to union-backed candidates, and candidates backed by groups that favor school choice were left with a narrow majority. [206]

What did not change

Republicans kept the three U.S. House seats they held, the closest of them Darin LaHood's, by 17.6 points; Mary Miller won by 33.8 and Mike Bost by 39.0. Most of the map stayed Republican too: 86 of the state's 102 counties voted for Tracy, and the small towns and rural counties gave him a margin of 33.7 points. In the legislature the party had lost six House seats and five Senate seats by November 10. "Voters really were sending us a message about the way we govern," the state party chair, Bob Grogan, told Capitol News Illinois. [200]

What it sets up

Tammy Duckworth's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted D+11.0 for president in 2024 and D+25.3 in this year's Senate race. Two dates come sooner. House Democrats elect a speaker in January, and Chicago votes for mayor in February 2027 with the newly re-elected secretary of state among the candidates. [199, 203]

Still open

A few results were still unsettled. Capitol News Illinois reported on November 10 that the race of Republican Rep. Jeff Keicher was too close to call and that of Republican Sen. Dave Syverson was undecided; both had trailed on election night and were ahead by November 6. [199, 200] Our count has 35 Republicans in the House, one more than Capitol News Illinois counted. One Chicago school board race, District 6a, was undecided on November 12, with Isaiah White 145 votes ahead of the incumbent, Anusha Thotakura. The official proclamation of those results is scheduled for November 24. [206]

Indiana

Midwest · 2024 president R+19.0

Democrats won more votes than Republicans for the U.S. House in Indiana, a state Donald Trump carried by 19.0 points, took a congressional seat and two statewide offices, and cut the Republican majority in the state House to 54 seats of 100.

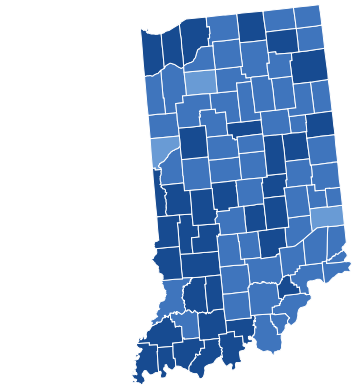
Indiana elected neither a senator nor a governor this year, so the widest measure of the state is its vote for the U.S. House, all nine districts added together. Democratic candidates won it by 3.6 points. Two years earlier Republicans had won the same vote by 19.7. One seat changed hands: Democrat J.D. Ford beat Republican Victoria Spartz by 3.3 points in a Republican-held district Trump had carried by 16.7. Republicans kept their other six seats and Democrats hold three.

Two of the three statewide offices on the ballot changed party. Democrat Beau Bayh won secretary of state by 9.1 points, and Democrat Jessica Bailey won comptroller by 2.5. Republican Daniel Elliott kept the treasurer's office by 2.1. Bayh's Republican opponent, Max Engling, conceded on election night, Indiana Public Media reported, and Ballotpedia records that Republicans had held the office since 1994. [207, 208]

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the House vote moved 22.4 points toward the Democrats. Democratic candidates drew 86 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, and Republicans drew 54 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes counted come to 104% of the 2022 total and 66% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 37

Indiana: the move from 2024, county by county



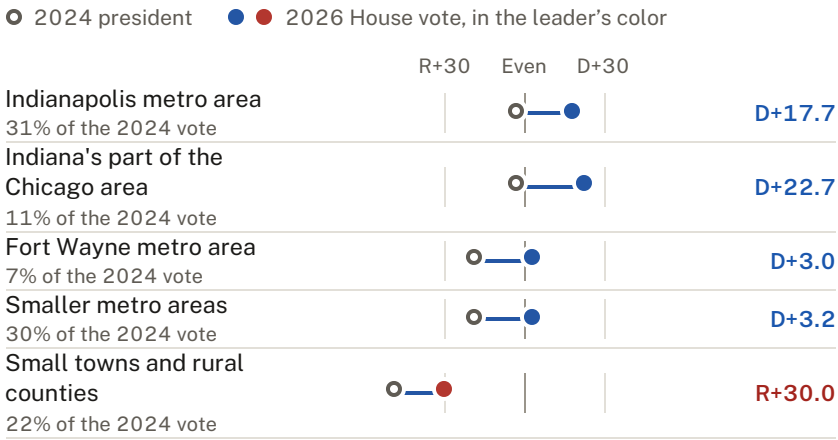
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the U.S. House vote, all districts added together minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 38

Indiana by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Comptroller R-held	Jessica Bailey (D) 49.8%, Elise Nieshalla (R) 47.3%	D+2.5	21.5 pts → D	**Flip**
Secretary of State R-held	Beau Bayh (D) 51.8%, Max Engling (R) 42.6%	D+9.1	28.1 pts → D	**Flip**
Treasurer R-held	Daniel Elliott (R) 51.0%, Coumba Kebe (D) 49.0%	R+2.1	16.9 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 9 seats. Before: 2 D, 7 R. Called: 3 D, 6 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
IN-01	Frank J. Mrvan	D+25.8	D+0.4
IN-02	Rudy Yakym	R+5.0	R+26.3
IN-03	Marlin A. Stutzman	R+9.7	R+30.9
IN-04	Jim Baird	R+8.5	R+29.1
IN-05	J.D. Ford **FLIP**	D+3.3	R+16.7
IN-06	Jefferson Shreve	R+10.2	R+32.3
IN-07	André Carson	D+56.6	D+41.1
IN-08	Mark Messmer	R+10.5	R+35.6
IN-09	Erin Houchin	R+10.6	R+29.6

Where it moved

Every region moved by at least 19.2 points. Indiana's part of the Chicago area moved furthest, 25.6 points, from R+2.9 to D+22.7. The Indianapolis metro area, which cast 31% of the state's 2024 vote, went from R+3.2 to D+17.7. The Fort Wayne area went from R+19.0 to D+3.0, and the smaller metro areas, with 30% of the vote, from R+18.6 to D+3.2. The small towns and rural counties moved least and still voted Republican by 30.0.

Hamilton County, in the Indianapolis metro area, is the largest of the 11 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Democratic House candidates this year. It went from R+6.1 to D+10.8 on 147,089 votes. WFYI, which calls the county a longtime Republican stronghold, found that Democrats won seven of the 10 state legislative seats that include it. One of the four Republican incumbents they beat was House Speaker Todd Huston, who lost District 37 to Democrat Lauren Cole by three points.[209] Smaller counties moved further and crossed the same line: Vigo County, around Terre Haute, went from R+18.1 to D+7.9, and Vanderburgh County, around Evansville, from R+12.6 to D+13.2. Among the larger counties, the widest swing was in Lake County, in the Chicago area, which went from D+5.6 to D+32.3. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	50	10 D, 40 R	15 D, 35 R
House	100	30 D, 69 R, 1 independent	46 D, 54 R

Republicans keep the governor's office, which was not on the ballot, and both chambers of the legislature, with smaller majorities. Our count has the state House at 54 Republicans and 46 Democrats, down from 69 Republicans, and the Senate at 35 to 15, down from 40. WFYI counts sixteen House seats lost, the speaker's among them.[210] Both chambers will have new Republican leaders: House Republicans nominated Rep. Ben Smaltz of Auburn for speaker, and Sen. Chris Garten is the Senate president pro tem-elect.[211, 212]

What Republicans lost in the House is the two-thirds mark. A veto is not what it protects: in the 1851 text of the constitution published by the Indiana Historical Bureau, a majority of all the members elected to each house overrides a veto, and two-thirds of each house makes a quorum to do business.[213, 214] With 54 of 100 House seats, Republicans can no longer supply that number alone. In the Senate, with 35 of 50, they are still above it. "We broke the supermajority tonight, and I think we're ready to be in the majority in two years," said Kristina Moorhead, the Democrat who won the state Senate seat Ford left to run for Congress.[208]

The election also changed who runs elections. Ballotpedia describes the secretary of state's office, which Bayh won, as the one that oversees them; the Republican incumbent, Diego Morales, had lost his party's nomination at its convention in June.[207] Gov. Mike Braun said he supports Bayh's effort to audit the office. "I view everything that happened on Tuesday as a golden opportunity and a wake-up call," Braun said two days after the election.[212]

On the ballot

Public Question #1: Constitutional Amendment	**58.4% yes** Passed
Public Question #2: Constitutional Amendment	**62.5% yes** Passed

Voters approved two constitutional amendments, by Ballotpedia's account. [215] In the 1851 text of the amendments article, a proposal agreed to by two successive General Assemblies becomes part of the constitution if a majority of the electors ratify it. [216] Public Question 1, with 58.4% voting yes in our count, lets courts deny bail where the proof is evident or the presumption of guilt strong and the state shows by clear and convincing evidence that no release conditions would protect another person or the community. Public Question 2, with 62.5%, lets city and town court judges live in the county where the court sits or in the nearest bordering county. [215]

Closer to home

In Marion County, which cast the most votes of any county in our count, Prosecutor Ryan Mears, a Democrat, won a third term by nearly 30 percentage points over Republican Philip Foust, whom Braun had endorsed on October 28. Democrat Kelvis Williams won the open sheriff's office by about 31 points. [217] Incumbents won four of the five Indianapolis Public Schools board seats on the ballot, and voters approved a $95 million referendum for the district and participating charter schools. The winners take office in January as responsibility for the district's buildings and transportation shifts to the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation, a body lawmakers created this year. [218]

In Hamilton County, Democrats defeated incumbents in three of four county council seats, and Charles Hollowell was elected sheriff. [209]

What did not change

Republicans won again in seven of the offices in our count that they held: the treasurer's office and six U.S. House seats. None was won by more than 10.6 points. Daniel Elliott's margin was 2.1 points, Rudy Yakym's 5.0 and Jim Baird's 8.5, and the House seats lie in districts Trump had carried by 26 to 36 points. Most of the map stayed Republican: 77 of 92 counties voted for the party's House candidates. In Hamilton County, Republican Christine Altman held her county commissioner seat by 323 votes. [209]

What it sets up

Todd Young's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+19.0 for president in 2024 and D+3.6 in this year's U.S. House vote. The governor's office will be on the same ballot: Braun is up for re-election in 2028, WFYI reported. [209] WFYI reported on November 13 that the chair of the Indiana Republican Party had stepped down. [210]

Still open

The results were unofficial and recounts were still possible. Candidates had until November 17 to file recount petitions and party chairs until November 20, WFYI reported on November 11. Democrats in Senate District 45 said they were considering one; Garten, the Republican who holds the seat, cited a margin of 297 votes. [217, 219]

Iowa

Midwest · 2024 president R+13.3 · 2 races not called

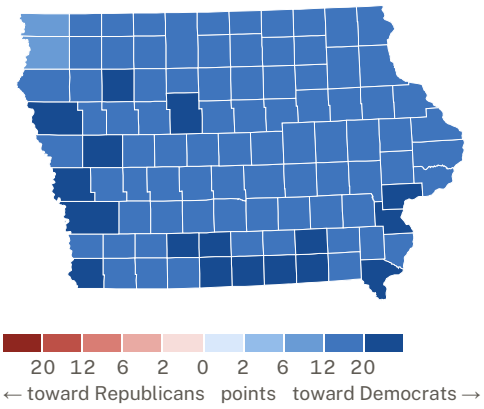
Iowa, which Donald Trump carried by 13.3 points, elected a Democratic senator and a Democratic governor and gave Democrats three of its four U.S. House seats, all of which Republicans had held.

Josh Turek won the Senate seat by 4.2 points over Republican Ashley Hinson, and Rob Sand won the governor's office by 11.1 over Zach Lahn. Both offices had been Republican, and Sand is the first Democrat elected governor since 2006, Iowa Public Radio reported.[220] All four U.S. House seats had been Republican too. Democrats took three of them: Christina Bohannan beat Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks by 9.6 points, Sarah Trone Garriott beat Rep. Zach Nunn by 7.3, and Lindsay James won by 4.0. Chris McGowan kept the fourth for the Republicans. Democrat Nate Willems beat the Republican incumbent for attorney general by 1.9 points, and Republican Paul D. Pate was re-elected secretary of state.[221]

The Senate vote stood 17.5 points to the left of the 2024 presidential vote, and almost all of that came from one side. Turek drew 97 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in Iowa. Hinson drew 68 for every 100 of Trump's. Turnout was above the last midterm's: the votes counted come to 112% of the 2022 total and 83% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 39

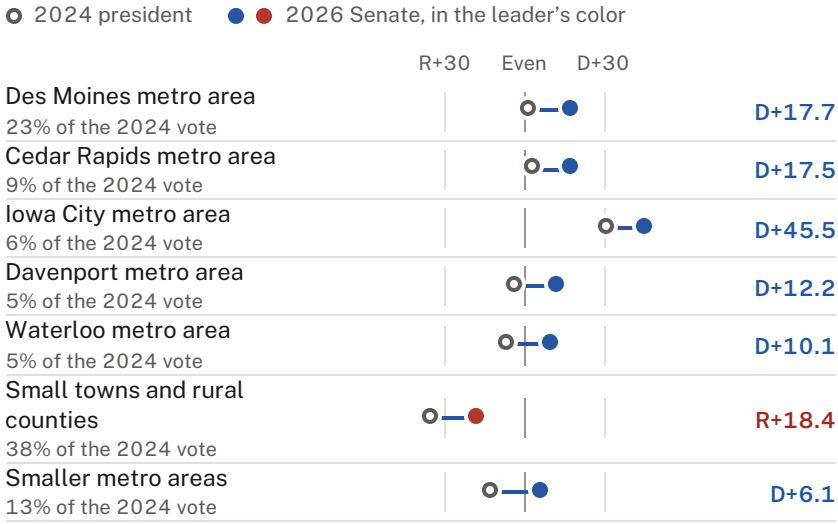
Iowa: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 40

Iowa by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Josh Turek (D) 50.5%, Ashley Hinson (R) 46.3%	D+4.2	17.5 pts → D	**Flip**
Governor R-held	Rob Sand (D) 55.5%, Zach Lahn (R) 44.4%	D+11.1	24.3 pts → D	**Flip**
Attorney General R-held	Nate Willems (D) 50.9%, Brenna Bird (R) 49.0%	D+1.9	15.1 pts → D	**Flip**
Auditor D-held	Taylor Wettach (D) 50.2%, Chris Cournoyer (R) 49.7%	D+0.6	13.9 pts → D	*Not called*
Secretary of State R-held	Paul D. Pate (R) 53.1%, Ryan Peterman (D) 46.8%	R+6.3	7.0 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Treasurer R-held	Roby Smith (R) 50.2%, John Norwood (D) 49.7%	R+0.6	12.7 pts → D	*Not called*

U.S. House: 4 seats. Before: 0 D, 4 R. Called: 3 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
IA-01	Christina Bohannan **FLIP**	D+9.6	R+8.4
IA-02	Lindsay James **FLIP**	D+4.0	R+9.9
IA-03	Sarah Trone Garriott **FLIP**	D+7.3	R+4.3
IA-04	Chris McGowan	R+18.1	R+31.1

Where it moved

The move was nearly the same everywhere. It was 16.1 points in the Des Moines metro area, which went from D+1.6 to D+17.7, and 17.1 in the small towns and rural counties that cast 38% of the vote, which went from R+35.5 to R+18.4. The smaller metro areas moved furthest, 18.8 points, and changed sides, from R+12.7 to D+6.1. So did the Waterloo area, which ended at D+10.1. The Cedar Rapids area moved least, 14.5 points.

Of the 10 counties that voted for Trump and then for Turek, Scott County, in the Davenport metro area, is the largest. It went from R+3.9 to D+12.2 on 73,665 votes. Muscatine County made the widest swing, from R+14.9 to D+7.3. Pottawattamie County, in the Omaha area, traveled almost as far to reach a near tie, from R+20.0 to D+0.2, and Woodbury County, around Sioux City, moved 20.9 points and stayed Republican by 2.1. Polk County, the largest county, went from D+10.9 to D+26.6. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	50	17 D, 32 R	18 D, 32 R
House	100	33 D, 67 R	44 D, 56 R

Republicans had held the governor's office and both chambers. They kept the chambers, so Iowa has divided state government from January for the first time since 2016.[222, 223] In our count Republicans hold 56 of 100 House seats, down from 67, and 32 of 50 Senate seats, where Democrats went from 17 to 18. Iowa Public Radio gave the same totals on November 9.[223]

The number that changed most is two-thirds. The constitution requires two-thirds of the members of each house to pass a bill over the governor's objections, and the 11 House seats Republicans lost cost them that margin there, Iowa Public Radio reported. They are short of it in the Senate as well.[223, 224] House Speaker Pat Grassley, whom House Republicans chose for another term, said of the incoming governor in a statement Iowa Public Radio reported on November 5: "Governor-elect Sand ran as a moderate. Now, we'll find out if he was being genuine."[222, 223]

At a transition press conference on November 9, Sand said any lawmaker who supports a bill he signs would be invited to the signing. "Credit given where credit is due," he said. He also said he intends to begin ending privatized Medicaid on his first day in office, and Iowa Public Radio reported his pledge to veto what he calls culture war bills. Lawmakers convene on January 11.[223]

Legislators do not draw the first draft of the maps. By statute the Legislative Services Agency delivers a plan of legislative and congressional districts to both chambers by April 1 of each year ending in one, and the chambers vote on it with no amendments except corrections. Under the constitution the state supreme court apportions the legislative districts if no plan is law by September 15 of that year.[224, 225] The secretary of state's office, which publishes the results, stays with Republican Paul D. Pate, who won another term.[221, 226]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment 1	**56.2% yes** Passed

A constitutional amendment becomes part of the Iowa constitution when a majority of the electors voting on it ratify it. [224] Constitutional Amendment 1 passed with 56.2% voting yes in our count, and the Associated Press called it. It requires two-thirds of the members elected to each house, 67 representatives and 34 senators, to pass a bill that raises the individual or corporate income tax rate or creates a new state tax on income. Taxes a local government imposes at its option are excluded. Until now such a bill needed a simple majority. [226] Neither party holds two-thirds of either chamber after this election.

What did not change

Republicans won again in two of the offices in our count that they held: Chris McGowan's U.S. House seat, by 18.1 points, and the secretary of state's office, by 6.3. They kept most of the map, with 84 of 99 counties voting for Hinson and the small towns and rural counties still Republican by 18.4 points. And they kept the legislature. In Bleeding Heartland's count their Senate majority shrank by one seat, after they defeated a Democratic incumbent in District 35, and House Republicans unanimously re-elected their leadership team. [221, 227] "Rob Sand's victory does not give him a blank check," the state party chair, Jeff Kaufmann, said in a written statement. [220]

What it sets up

Chuck Grassley's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+13.3 for president in 2024 and D+4.2 in this year's Senate race. The governor serves four years under the constitution, so the office Sand won will next be on the ballot in 2030. [224] One legislative seat will be filled sooner. Trone Garriott will step down from the state Senate to go to Congress, and Democrats will have to defend her District 14, in Dallas County, in a special election, Bleeding Heartland reported. [221] The agency's next plan is due by April 1, 2031, the next year ending in one. [225]

Still open

Our count has not called two statewide offices. Democrat Taylor Wettach leads for auditor by 0.6 points; his Republican opponent, Lt. Gov. Chris Cournoyer, conceded on November 4, Iowa Public Radio reported. [228] Republican Roby Smith leads for treasurer by 0.6 points. Iowa Public Radio reported that the Associated Press had not called that race and that the Democrat, John Norwood, had not conceded; Bleeding Heartland's figures have Smith ahead by 664,948 votes to 655,763. [221, 229] One legislative result is being recounted. In House District 19, Republican Rep. Brent Siegrist finished 39 votes ahead of Democrat Ben Larson, and the recount begins in Pottawattamie County on November 16. [230]

Kansas

Midwest · 2024 president R+16.1

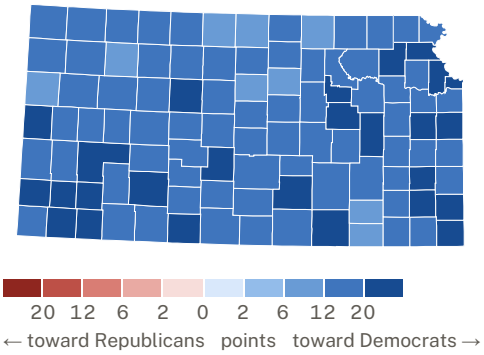
Kansas, which Donald Trump carried by 16.1 points, elected a Democrat to the U.S. Senate, kept a Democrat in the governor's office and cut the Republican majority in the state House from 88 seats to 68.

Democrat Adam Hamilton beat Republican Roger Marshall, 51.0% to 46.0%, for a seat Republicans held. KCTV5 reported that he is the first Democrat Kansas has elected to the U.S. Senate since 1932.[231] The governor's race took longer. Democrat Cindy Holscher finished 0.7 points ahead of Republican Ty Masterson; the Associated Press called it on November 12, Masterson conceded that day, and Holscher will succeed Laura Kelly, a Democrat who was term-limited. KCTV5 reported that no Democrat had ever before been elected to succeed another Democratic governor in Kansas.[231] Democrat Chris Mann took the attorney general's office from the Republican incumbent, Kris Kobach, in a rematch of 2022, and will be the first Democrat in the office since 2011, KCUR reported.[232] Republicans kept the other three statewide offices: Pat Proctor won secretary of state, Daniel Hawkins insurance commissioner and Steven Johnson treasurer. The U.S. House delegation did not change, at three Republicans and one Democrat.

Hamilton's margin stood 21.2 points to the left of Trump's in 2024, and he got there with more votes than Kamala Harris had: 103 for every 100 of hers, in a midterm. Marshall drew 67 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes counted come to 109% of the 2022 total and 83% of the 2024 presidential vote. The House vote moved the same way, to R+2.1 statewide from R+17.1 two years earlier.

FIGURE 41

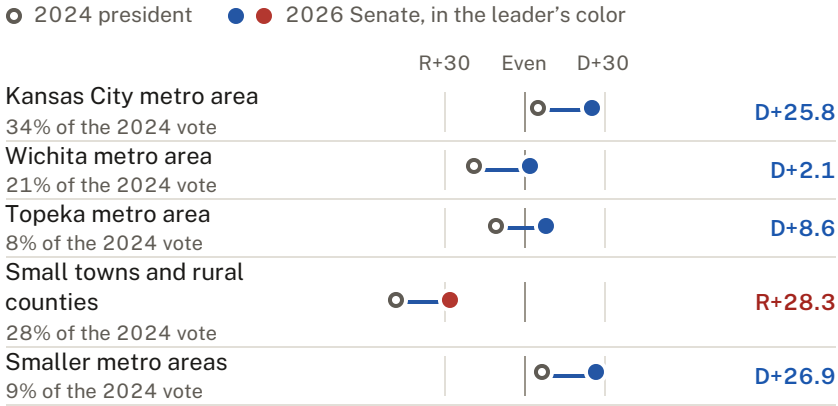
Kansas: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 42

Kansas by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Adam Hamilton (D) 51.0%, Roger Marshall (R) 46.0%	D+5.1	21.2 pts → D	**Flip**
Governor D-held	Cindy Holscher (D) 50.3%, Ty Masterson (R) 49.7%	D+0.7	16.8 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General R-held	Chris Mann (D) 50.6%, Kris Kobach (R) 49.4%	D+1.2	17.4 pts → D	**Flip**
Insurance Commissioner R-held	Daniel Hawkins (R) 49.0%, Dinah Sykes (D) 47.4%	R+1.6	14.5 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Pat Proctor (R) 48.3%, Jennifer Day (D) 47.5%	R+0.8	15.3 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Treasurer R-held	Steven Johnson (R) 51.2%, Juan Luengo (D) 44.3%	R+6.9	9.2 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 4 seats. Before: 1 D, 3 R. Called: 1 D, 3 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
KS-01	Tracey Mann	R+21.6	R+31.1
KS-02	Derek Schmidt	R+6.2	R+19.6
KS-03	Sharice Davids	D+21.2	D+4.1
KS-04	Ron Estes	R+9.5	R+23.1

Where it moved

Every part of the state moved by about the same amount. The Wichita area moved furthest, 21.0 points, and changed sides, from R+18.9 to D+2.1; it casts 21% of the vote. The Kansas City area, with 34%, went from D+4.9 to D+25.8. The Topeka area moved least, 19.2 points, and also changed sides, from R+10.6 to D+8.6. The small towns and rural counties, which cast 28% of the vote, went from R+48.5 to R+28.3.

Sedgwick County, in the Wichita metro area, is the largest of the six counties that voted for Trump and then for Hamilton. It went from R+13.8 to D+7.7 on 182,715 votes, 17% of those cast statewide. Wyandotte County, in the Kansas City area, made the widest swing, from D+23.9 to D+48.7. Lyon County, around Emporia, changed sides, and Crawford County, around Pittsburg, came within 1.3 points of doing so. No county moved toward the Republicans. The largest county, Johnson County, was already Democratic and went from D+8.5 to D+28.0. Most of the change in the state House came from there, where Democrats were in line to take up to 11 seats, the Johnson County Post reported. [233]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	40	9 D, 31 R	9 D, 31 R
House	125	37 D, 88 R	57 D, 68 R

The biggest change is in the state House. Republicans went from 88 seats to 68 of 125 on unofficial results, and Democrats needed only five seats to break the Republicans' two-thirds majority. [233, 234] The constitution requires two-thirds of the members of each house to override a veto, which is 84 representatives. [235, 236] House Republicans can no longer override a governor without Democratic votes, and the Kansas Reflector reported it would be their smallest working margin since 1992. [237] Our count shows the Senate unchanged at 31 Republicans and 9 Democrats. Government stays divided, with a Democratic governor facing Republican majorities in both chambers. A political scientist quoted by KCTV5 said Republicans will also need Democrats to send constitutional amendments to voters. [234]

The Legislature draws the congressional, legislative and State Board of Education districts by passing bills, which the governor may sign or veto; the Kansas Supreme Court then reviews the legislative maps. [238] A veto of a map would now need Democratic votes in the House to be overridden. The secretary of state is one of four constitutional officers chosen by voters every four years. [239] The outgoing secretary, Scott Schwab, announced close-race audits in six contests; KCTV5 reported that state law requires one when the election-night margin is 1% or less. [240] Proctor, a Republican, will succeed him.

Brandon Woodard, the House minority leader, said that "we have effectively shattered the Republican supermajority and restored balance to the Kansas Legislature." The Kansas Reflector reported the remark on November 5. [237] A House Democrat, Rep. Stephanie Sawyer Clayton, told KCTV5 that Democrats can work with

Republicans to have what she called a functional majority, and Rep. Rebecca Schmoe, a Republican, named property taxes as the issue the chamber has to address. [234, 241]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment - Citizen Clarification	**63.6% yes** Passed
Supreme Court Justices Amendment	**No count yet**

An amendment proposed by the Legislature becomes part of the Kansas Constitution when a majority of those voting on it vote yes. [242] The citizenship amendment, which modifies Section 1 of Article 5 of the constitution to say that only a U.S. citizen may vote in Kansas elections, passed with 63.6% voting yes in our count. [243] The other amendment in our count, on how supreme court justices are chosen, was decided at the August 4 primary, when voters rejected direct election of justices; the governor still appoints them from three names sent by a nominating commission. [244]

Closer to home

Five of the ten seats on the State Board of Education, which oversees public schools, were on the ballot. Democrat Amy Diediker won the open District 3 seat, which takes in parts of Johnson and Miami counties, with nearly 55% over Republican Jim McMullen, a seat that moves to the Democrats. Republicans won the other four, and the board will have six Republicans and four Democrats, the Johnson County Post reported. [245]

What did not change

Republicans won again in six of the offices in our count that they held, several by thin margins. They kept the secretary of state's office by 0.8 points with Pat Proctor, the insurance commissioner's by 1.6 with Daniel Hawkins, and the 2nd District by 6.2 with Derek Schmidt, where Trump had won by 19.6. Hamilton lost 94 of the state's 105 counties. Republicans also kept their House majority, and a political scientist quoted by the Johnson County Post cautioned against reading the result as a change in the state's partisan alignment. [233]

What it sets up

Jerry Moran's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+16.1 for president in 2024 and D+5.1 in this year's Senate race. Holscher is to be inaugurated on January 11, 2027. The constitution gives the governor four-year terms and bars election to more than two in a row, and the office will next be on the ballot in 2030. [231, 239] The Legislature must next reapportion its own districts at its regular session of 2032. [246]

Kentucky

South · 2024 president R+30.6

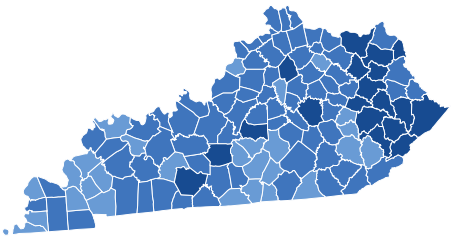
Republican Andy Barr kept Kentucky's Senate seat for his party by 12.1 points in a state Donald Trump carried by 30.6, while Democrats took a second U.S. House seat and won seats in both chambers of the legislature.

Andy Barr beat Democrat Charles Booker, 55.0% to 42.9%. The one federal office to change hands was the 6th Congressional District, where Democrat Zach Dembo beat Republican Ralph Alvarado by 9.4 points in a district Trump had carried by 14.9. The delegation is now four Republicans and two Democrats, from five and one. Morgan McGarvey kept the 3rd District for the Democrats by 40.7 points. Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear was not on the ballot, and neither were the other statewide constitutional officers, whom Kentucky elects every four years counting from 1895.[247, 248]

Barr's margin was 18.5 points narrower than Trump's. Both parties drew fewer votes than in 2024, Republicans far fewer: Charles Booker drew 87 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in Kentucky, and Barr 59 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes counted come to 96% of the 2022 total and 69% of the 2024 presidential vote. Republicans won the statewide House vote R+10.0, after R+46.2 in 2024.

FIGURE 43

Kentucky: the move from 2024, county by county



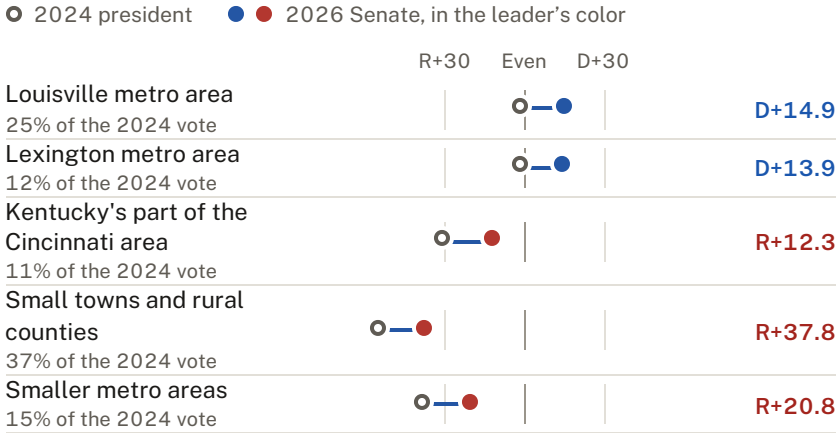
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 44

Kentucky by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Andy Barr (R) 55.0%, Charles Booker (D) 42.9%	R+12.1	18.5 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 6 seats. Before: 1 D, 5 R. Called: 2 D, 4 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
KY-01	James Comer	R+35.1	R+46.7
KY-02	Brett Guthrie	R+27.7	R+40.9
KY-03	Morgan McGarvey	D+40.7	D+18.8
KY-04	Ed Gallrein	R+13.4	R+35.3
KY-05	Hal Rogers	R+45.8	R+63.0

Where it moved

The narrowing was close to uniform. Kentucky's part of the Cincinnati area moved furthest, 18.7 points, from R+30.9 to R+12.3. The Lexington area moved least, 15.3 points, and that was enough to take it from R+1.4 to D+13.9. The Louisville area, which casts 25% of the vote, went from R+1.6 to D+14.9. The small towns and rural counties, with 37% of the vote, moved 17.6 points and stayed Republican at R+37.8.

Of Kentucky's 120 counties, only one voted for Trump in 2024 and for the Democrat this year: Franklin County, around Frankfort, went from R+4.9 to D+11.6 on 19,935 votes. Others moved further and stayed Republican. Pike County, around Pikeville, made the widest swing, 23.8 points, and still voted for Barr by 41.6. Kenton County, in the Cincinnati area, went from R+21.7 to R+2.3, and Scott County, near Lexington, from R+27.7 to R+6.6. The two largest counties, Jefferson County and Fayette County, moved less, to D+31.9 and D+31.6. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	38	6 D, 32 R	*Not read in our count (15 of 38 seats)*
House	100	20 D, 80 R	*Not read in our count (85 of 100 seats)*

Control of state government did not change: Beshear remains governor, and Republicans kept supermajorities in both chambers of the General Assembly.[247, 249, 250] The majorities shrank. Democrats took Senate Districts 6 and 36, which leaves the chamber at 30 Republicans and 8 Democrats by MultiState's count.[249, 250] In the House, Spectrum News and FOX19 reported seven Democratic gains, which would take an 80 to 20 chamber to 73 to 27; MultiState had it at 73 to 26 with one race still being counted.[247, 249, 250] The Republican incumbents Spectrum News named as losing House seats included Jared Bauman, Chris Lewis, Susan Witten, Matt Lockett and Ken Fleming, most of them in Louisville, and the gains came in suburban districts near Louisville, Lexington and in northern Kentucky.[249] Beshear said the nine seats were the first net gain for Kentucky Democrats in more than ten years.[247]

The arithmetic of vetoes is unchanged. Section 88 of the constitution lets a majority of all the members elected to each chamber override a governor, which is 51 votes in the House and 20 in the Senate, and Republicans remain far above both.[247, 251] The same majorities control the next legislative maps: the General Assembly redistricts its own seats every ten years, and a map is subject to the governor's veto and the same override.[251, 252] The secretary of state is elected statewide for four years at the same election as the governor, so that office was not on this ballot either.[248, 253]

Senate President Robert Stivers said national politics reached into state races and that Republicans would keep their course; he named the defeats of Sen. Julie Raque Adams and Majority Whip Jason Nemes as a loss of experience. "We're going to continue to do things that make this state grow," he told Spectrum News on November 5.[254] The new legislators take their seats when the session begins in January 2027.[249]

On the ballot

Amendment 1 Gubernatorial Pardons	**70.7% yes** Passed

An amendment the General Assembly proposes becomes part of the Kentucky Constitution when a majority of the votes cast for and against it are for it.[255] Voters narrowed the governor's own powers. Amendment 1 passed with 70.7% voting yes in our count; it bars a governor from issuing pardons or commuting sentences

from 60 days before a gubernatorial election until the fifth Tuesday after it. [256]

Closer to home

Louisville held its first mayoral election without party labels, after a 2024 change to state law, and Mayor Craig Greenberg won a second term over Shameka Parrish-Wright, by 130,671 votes to 96,272 in the Jefferson County clerk's unofficial summary. [257, 258] Democrat Sarah Martin had no opponent on the ballot for Jefferson County attorney. Five district seats on the Jefferson County school board were on the ballot, and two were close in the clerk's figures: Lillian Brents led Tim Shaughnessy in District 2 by 14,898 votes to 13,896 in a five-way race, and Kyle N. Killebrew led Carrie Donovan in District 5 by 9,940 to 9,053. [258]

What did not change

Republicans won again in five of the offices in our count that they held, and only two of those races were within 20 points: the Senate seat and the 4th District, where Ed Gallrein won by 13.4 points after Trump had won by 35.3. Barr carried 117 of the 120 counties. Republicans also kept their supermajorities in both chambers of the General Assembly, MultiState reported. [250]

What it sets up

Rand Paul's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+30.6 for president in 2024 and R+12.1 in this year's Senate race. Kentucky votes sooner than that. The governor and the other constitutional officers are elected every four years counting from 1895, so those offices will be on the ballot in November 2027; the governor serves four years and is ineligible for the four years after a second consecutive term. [248, 259, 260]

Still open

The House count is not final. MultiState listed one race as still being counted when it put the chamber at 73 Republicans and 26 Democrats. [250]

Louisiana

South · 2024 president R+22.0 · 2 races not called

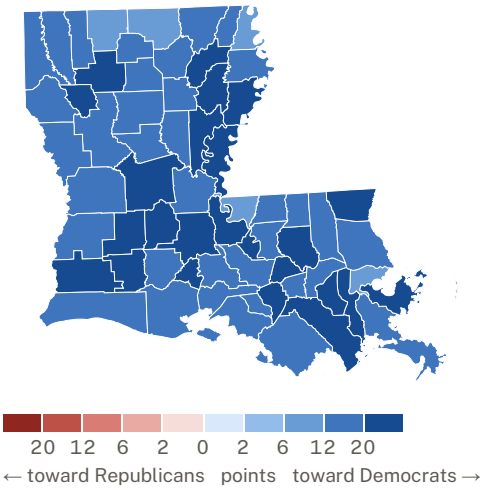
Republican Julia Letlow won Louisiana's Senate seat by 1.8 points in a state Donald Trump carried by 22.0, and two of the state's U.S. House seats go to a second round in December.

Julia Letlow beat Democrat Jamie Davis for the open Senate seat, 745,963 votes to 720,106, WWNO reported.[261] November 3 did not settle everything. The secretary of state's calendar lists it as the Senate general election and the first round of an open primary for the U.S. House and local offices; a House or local race not settled in the first round goes to the open general election on Saturday, December 12.[262, 263] Republicans won three of the six House seats in the first round and Democrats one, with Troy A. Carter, Sr. keeping the 2nd District.[1] Republicans also won both open seats on the Public Service Commission, Stephanie Hilferty in District 1 by 31.1 points and John E. Atkins in District 5 by 18.3.[264] Our count, like MultiState's table, marks District 5 as a seat taken from the Democrats.[265]

Letlow's margin was 20.2 points narrower than Trump's two years earlier. Davis drew 94 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in Louisiana, and Letlow drew 62 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes counted come to 106% of the 2022 total and 73% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 45

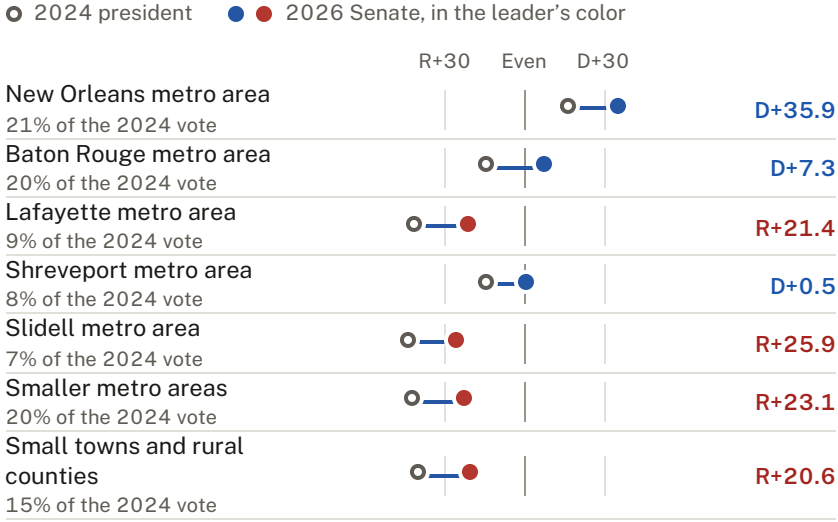
Louisiana: the move from 2024, parish by parish



Each parish's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 46

Louisiana by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Julia Letlow (R) 50.9%, Jamie Davis (D) 49.1%	R+1.8	20.3 pts → D	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Stephanie Hilferty (R) 58.9%, Connie Norris (D) 27.8%	R+31.1	—	Hold
Public Service Commissioner D-held	John E. Atkins (R) 59.2%, James Edward Green (D) 40.8%	R+18.3	—	**Flip**

U.S. House: 6 seats. Before: 2 D, 4 R. Called: 1 D, 3 R, with 2 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
LA-01	Steve Scalise	R+26.8	R+38.1
LA-02	Troy A. Carter, Sr.	D+64.8	D+47.5
LA-03	Clay Higgins	R+34.1	R+35.7
LA-04	Mike Johnson	R+35.5	R+33.7
LA-05	Patricia "Pat" Moore not called	D+0.7	R+33.5
LA-06	Chauna Banks not called	D+0.3	R+31.6

Where it moved

The move was close to even across the state. The Baton Rouge area moved furthest, 22.1 points, and changed sides, from R+14.8 to D+7.3; it casts 20% of the vote. The Shreveport area moved least, 14.9 points, and that took it to a near tie, D+0.5, from R+14.4. The New Orleans area went from D+16.9 to D+35.9. The small towns and rural parishes, with 15% of the vote, went from R+40.0 to R+20.6.

Of the eight parishes that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Davis this year, Jefferson Parish, in the New Orleans metro area, is the largest. It went from R+13.0 to D+7.4 on 130,879 votes, nearly as many as Orleans Parish, also in the New Orleans area, which was already D+67.0 and moved 10.2 points. The biggest moves came in parishes Letlow still carried. Ascension Parish, in the Baton Rouge area, went from R+33.9 to R+8.9. No parish moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	39	10 D, 28 R	Not on the ballot
House	105	32 D, 73 R	33 D, 72 R

Control of state government was not on the ballot. The constitution elects the governor and the other statewide officials for four years at the same time as the Legislature, and the secretary of state's calendar puts the next gubernatorial primary on October 9, 2027 and the general on November 20.[266, 267] Republicans keep the governor's office and both chambers. Our count has the House at 72 Republicans and 33 Democrats and the Senate at 28 to 10. A special primary for the 14th Senate District is set for December 12, with a special general on January 9, 2027.[262, 267] A veto is overridden by two-thirds of the elected members of each house, 70 representatives and 26 senators, and Republicans hold more than that in both.[268]

The Legislature redraws its own districts by the end of the year after each census is reported, and if it fails the state Supreme Court does it on the petition of any elector.[269] A map passed as a bill can be vetoed by the governor, subject to the same two-thirds override.[268] WAFB reports the 6th District was redrawn in May 2026 and that its Democratic incumbent, Cleo Fields, did not run in the new district.[1] Elections are run by the secretary of state, the chief election officer under the constitution, who is elected statewide with the governor. Nancy Landry was elected to the office in November 2023, and it was not on this ballot.[266, 270, 271]

On the ballot

CA No. 1 (ACT No. 39, 2026-RS - SB 180) -- Allows a one-time transfer of a property tax exemption for surviving spouse of a disabled veteran	**74.3% yes** Passing	CA No. 2 (ACT No. 273, 2026-RS - HB 521) -- Allows taxing authority to continue lower millage rate without losing ability to adjust to max rate	**42.0% yes** Failing

CA No. 3 (ACT No. 271, 2026-RS - HB 51) -- Prohibits release on bail for defendants who have been convicted of certain offenses against a child	**67.8% yes** Passing
CA No. 4 (ACT No. 414, 2026-RS - HB 225) -- Sets a lifetime term limit on a person who has served as governor more than one and one-half terms	**55.9% yes** Passing
CA No. 5 (ACT No. 606, 2026-RS - HB 27) -- Authorizes retirement systems to apply funds to any unfunded accrued liability, not only the oldest	**37.6% yes** Failing
CA No. 6 (ACT No. 274, 2026-RS - HB 514) -- Authorizes extension of an additional property tax exemption for owners who are 65 or older	**63.6% yes** Passing
CA No. 8 (ACT No. 277, 2026-RS - HB 192) -- Prohibits expropriation of property by a foreign adversary or an agent of a foreign adversary	**62.1% yes** Passing
CA No. 9 (ACT No. 220, 2025-RS - HB 300) -- Increases the income limit to qualify for the special assessment level for a homestead exemption	**58.2% yes** Passing
CA No. 10 (ACT No. 272, 2026-RS - HB 214) -- Allows property tax exemption of rehabilitated blighted property under conditions provided by law	**46.8% yes** Failing

A constitutional amendment passes with a majority of those voting on it, and one that directly affects five or fewer parishes also needs a majority in each of them.[272] Voters passed seven of ten amendments, WAFB reported.[273] Amendment 4, which passed with 55.9% in our count, bars anyone who has served at least one and a half terms as governor from being elected governor again; WAFB reports it keeps former governors John Bel Edwards and Bobby Jindal from seeking a third term. Amendment 3, at 67.8%, removes judges' authority to grant bail after conviction to people convicted of aggravated offenses against minors. Amendment 8, at 62.1%, prohibits expropriation of property by any country deemed a foreign adversary of the United States, and Amendment 7 allows public money to replace lead water lines, including on private property.[273]

Three property tax measures passed: Amendment 1 lets the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran move the exemption once to a new home, Amendment 6 lets cities and parishes grant more relief to people 65 and older, and Amendment 9 raises the income limit for the assessment freeze to below $150,000. Three failed. Amendment 2, which would have let taxing bodies keep a lower millage rate after reassessment, drew 42.0%; voters had rejected a similar measure in 2022. Amendment 5, on using one-time money for retirement system debt, drew 37.6%, and Amendment 10, a tax exemption for rehabilitated blighted property, 46.8%.[273]

Closer to home

In East Baton Rouge Parish, District Attorney Hillar Moore III, first elected in 2008, won another six-year term over Ryan Thompson, 58% to 42% on unofficial returns, in what WAFB called the first contested race for the office in nearly two decades; both are Democrats.[274] On the state school board, Republican Joseph Cao, whom Gov. Jeff Landry had appointed earlier in 2026, kept his seat with 63% over Democrat Angela Hershey.[275] In Shreveport, record turnout sent Mayor Tom Arceneaux and Caddo Parish Commissioner Stormy Gage-Watts to a December runoff, KSLA reported.[276]

What did not change

Republicans won again in five of the offices in our count that they held, and the Senate seat was the only close one. Steve Scalise, Clay Higgins and Mike Johnson won their House districts outright, by 26.8, 34.1 and 35.5 points; Johnson's margin was wider than Trump's 33.7 in his district. Letlow carried 49 parishes, and the small towns and rural parishes stayed Republican by 20.6 points.

What it sets up

John Kennedy's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+22.0 for president in 2024 and R+1.8 in this year's Senate race. The governor's office, the other statewide offices and the Legislature will be on the ballot first, in the fall of 2027, under the new limit on governors' terms.[266, 267, 273] Davis told

supporters on election night, “Jeff Landry, you’re on notice, buddy,” and WAFB reported that he hinted at a run for governor in 2027.[277]

Still open

Two U.S. House seats are decided on December 12, with early voting from November 28 to December 5.[1,262] In the 5th District, which Republicans hold, Democrat Patricia “Pat” Moore led a nine-candidate field with 17.9% and faces Republican Gabe Firment, who had 17.2%. In the 6th, which Democrats hold, Democrat Chauna Banks led Republican Blake Miguez, 19.4% to 19.2%, and a second Republican missed the runoff by 972 votes.[1]

Maine

Northeast · 2024 president D+6.9

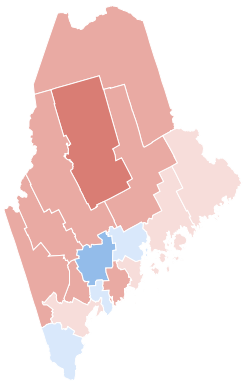
Maine elected Democrat Troy Jackson over Republican Susan Collins and gave Democrats 24 of 35 state Senate seats, while Republican Paul LePage took a U.S. House seat from the Democrats.

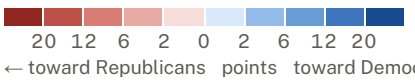
Troy Jackson won 53.1% to 46.9% and took a Senate seat Republicans had held. Hannah Pingree, a Democrat, won the governor's office with 54.4%, 16.9 points ahead of Republican Bobby Charles, the nearest of her opponents, and will succeed Janet Mills.[278, 279] The 2nd District went the other way. Former Gov. Paul LePage led after election day without a majority, Democrat Matt Dunlap conceded two days later, and the state's ranked-choice tabulation on November 12 confirmed LePage at 50.8% to 49.2%, a margin of 5,458 votes. He will be the only Republican member of Congress from New England.[280, 281, 282] Chellie Pingree kept the 1st District for the Democrats by 32.2 points, so the delegation is now split one and one.

Maine hardly moved. Kamala Harris carried it by 6.9 points and Jackson won it by 6.1, a difference of 0.8 toward the Republicans. Both parties drew fewer votes than in 2024, in nearly equal measure: Jackson drew 86 votes for every 100 of Harris's, Collins 88 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The votes counted come to 104% of the 2022 total and 86% of the 2024 presidential vote. The statewide House vote was D+16.2, against D+12.0 in 2024.

FIGURE 47

Maine: the move from 2024, county by county

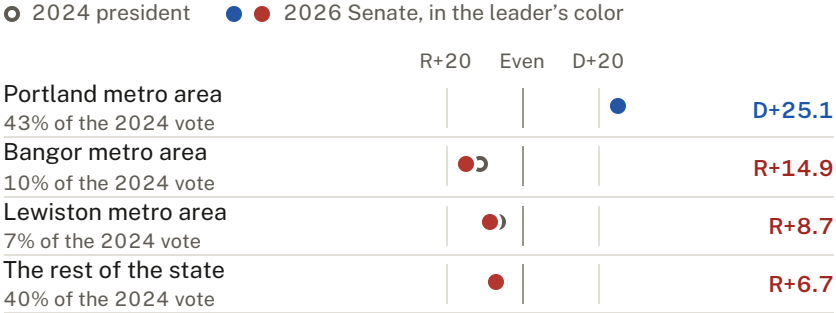




Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 48

Maine by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Troy Jackson (D) 53.1%, Susan Collins (R) 46.9%	D+6.1	0.8 pts → R	**Flip**
Governor D-held	Hannah Pingree (D) 54.4%, Bobby Charles (R) 37.5%	D+16.9	—	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 2 D, 0 R. Called: 1 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
ME-01	Chellie Pingree	D+32.2	D+21.5

Where it moved

Where the vote moved, it mostly moved toward Collins. The Bangor area went from R+10.9 to R+14.9, a shift of 4.0 points, and the Lewiston area from R+6.1 to R+8.7. The Portland area, which casts 43% of the vote, barely changed, at D+25.1 after D+25.3. The rest of the state went from R+5.9 to R+6.7.

No county changed sides in either direction, and 12 of the 16 moved toward the Republicans. Aroostook County made the biggest move among the larger counties, from R+26.2 to R+31.0 on 28,061 votes. Piscataquis County moved further, 7.3 points, to R+36.5. Cumberland County, the largest, went from D+36.3 to D+34.8. Kennebec County, around Augusta, moved the most toward Jackson and ended in a near tie, R+0.2.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	35	20 D, 14 R, 1 independent	24 D, 11 R
House	151	75 D, 73 R, 3 independent	88 D, 60 R, 3 independent

Democrats keep full control of state government, and their legislative majorities grew.[278, 279, 283] Our count has the Senate at 24 Democrats and 11 Republicans and the House at 88 Democrats, 60 Republicans and 3 independents; the Portland Press Herald puts one more House seat with the Republicans, and says the independents plan to caucus with the Democrats.[278] The Maine Constitution requires two-thirds of each house to pass a bill over a veto. Democrats now have that in the Senate and are short of it in the House, where two-thirds is 101 seats.[278, 284] Senate Democrats re-elected Mattie Daughtry as Senate president, and House Democrats said they would renominate Ryan Fecteau as speaker. “I’m incredibly proud of this supermajority, and it was not the result of national political environment,” Daughtry said in the Press Herald on November 6.[278]

Pingree has pledged to invest $100 million a year in housing, and she must send lawmakers a balanced budget proposal by early February, the Bangor Daily News reported.[279] Her first concern is heating. She and incoming legislative leaders are in early talks on an emergency bill to help low-income households pay for heat, to move soon after lawmakers convene in January if Congress does not add money to the federal heating aid program. “Right off the bat, I am very worried about the price of heating oil and just sort of basic safety for Maine people,” she told the Press Herald on November 12.[285]

The new majorities also choose the secretary of state. Maine voters do not elect a secretary of state: the Legislature chooses one every two years by joint ballot, and the lawmakers elected on November 3 meet on December 2 to pick the secretary of state, attorney general and treasurer. Secretary of State Shenna Bellows has said she will seek another term and had no challenger as of November 9.[279, 284, 286] Maps are drawn differently. An apportionment commission proposes legislative and congressional plans, and the Legislature must enact one by a two-thirds vote of each house, subject to the governor; if it fails, the Supreme Judicial Court draws the districts.[284] Judges other than probate judges are nominated by the governor and confirmed through a legislative committee and the Senate, so no seat on the Supreme Judicial Court was on the ballot; probate judges are elected by the voters of their counties.[284]

Closer to home

In Lewiston, Mayor Carl Sheline and former City Council President Rick LaChapelle go to a December runoff after neither won a majority in a five-way race, the Bangor Daily News reported.[287] In Portland, three newcomers won school board seats without opposition: Lucia Rico at large, Alexandra Reissman in District 4 and

Rich Leone in District 5. Former mayor Kate Snyder and Ilma López won City Council seats in ranked-choice counts, and the District 4 council race stood at 3,421 votes to 3,409 on November 4, with the trailing candidate exploring whether to request a recount. [288]

What did not change

Of the offices in our count, Republicans held only the Senate seat going in, and they lost it. They kept much of the map: Collins carried 9 of the 16 counties, and she carried the 2nd District area by double digits while losing statewide, the Press Herald reported. Republicans took House District 96 in Lewiston by a few dozen votes, the one legislative seat they gained. [278] [279] [289] They are left with their smallest state Senate caucus since 1984 and their smallest House caucus since 2018, and chose Sen. Trey Stewart and Rep. Kenneth Fredette to lead them. “We helped save Maine from the calamity that happened to the rest of the country,” the state party chairman, James Deyermond, said. [289]

What it sets up

Neither of Maine’s U.S. Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2028. Pingree’s four-year term begins in January 2027, and the office will next be on the ballot in 2030; a governor who has served two consecutive terms may not run for a third in a row. [284] The constitution sets the next redrawing of districts for 2031, ten years after 2021. [284]

Still open

A recount is pending in a Windham House race, where Republican Rep. Barbara Bagshaw lost to Bradley Youngs by 139 votes, 2,637 to 2,498, the Press Herald reported on November 9. [290] The Lewiston mayor’s runoff is also still to come, and in Portland the trailing District 4 council candidate was exploring a recount. [287] [288]

Maryland

South · 2024 president D+28.8

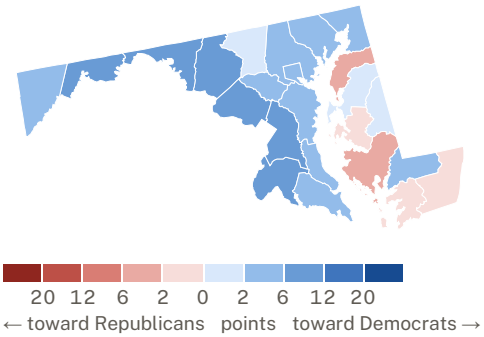
Maryland re-elected Gov. Wes Moore by 33.7 points, added to the Democratic majorities in the General Assembly and passed an amendment that takes congressional districts out of the constitution's districting rules.

Wes Moore won a second term over Republican Dan Cox, 64.7% to 31.0%.[291] Democrats kept the attorney general's and comptroller's offices, with Anthony G. Brown and Brooke Elizabeth Lierman, by 38.4 and 38.2 points. No U.S. House seat changed hands: the delegation stays at seven Democrats and one Republican. The closest race was the 1st District, where Andy Harris won by 4.9 points in a district Trump carried by 16.9. There was no Senate race.

Kamala Harris carried Maryland by 28.8 points in 2024, so Moore's margin in the governor's race is 5.0 points wider than hers in the presidential one. Both parties drew far fewer votes than in 2024: Moore had 74 for every 100 of Harris's, Cox 65 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The votes counted come to 109% of the 2022 total and 72% of the 2024 presidential vote. In the House races Democrats won the statewide vote D+39.5, against D+28.8 in 2024.

FIGURE 49

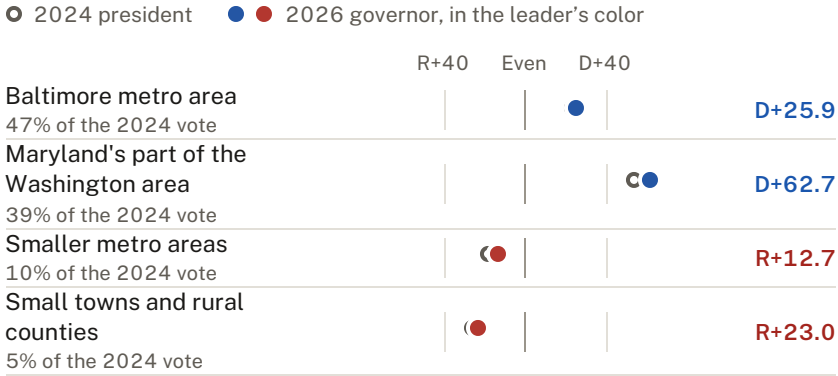
Maryland: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 50

Maryland by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Wes Moore (D) 64.7%, Dan Cox (R) 31.0%	D+33.7	5.0 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Anthony G. Brown (D) 69.1%, James B. Rutledge, III (R) 30.8%	D+38.4	9.6 pts → D	Hold
Comptroller D-held	Brooke Elizabeth Lierman (D) 69.1%, Sonya Dunn (R) 30.8%	D+38.2	9.5 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 8 seats. Before: 7 D, 1 R. Called: 7 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
MD-01	Andy Harris	R+4.9	R+16.9
MD-02	John "Johnny O" Olszewski, Jr.	D+29.9	D+18.5
MD-03	Sarah Elfreth	D+35.8	D+23.9

MD-04	Glenn F. Ivey	D+83.2	D+73.8
MD-05	Adrian Boafo	D+41.4	D+33.2
MD-06	April McClain Delaney	D+20.4	D+5.8
MD-07	Kweisi Mfume	D+69.7	D+59.0
MD-08	Jamie Raskin	D+68.2	D+56.6

Where it moved

The gain was uneven. Maryland's part of the Washington area, which casts 39% of the vote, moved 8.7 points toward the Democrats, from D+53.9 to D+62.7, and Cox drew only 55 votes there for every 100 of Trump's. The Baltimore area, with 47%, moved 2.5 points, to D+25.9. The smaller metro areas stayed Republican at R+12.7, and the small towns and rural counties at R+23.0.

No county changed sides. The largest move among the big counties came in the largest of them, Montgomery County, in the Washington area, which went from D+53.3 to D+63.6 on 352,533 votes, 16% of the state's total. Frederick County, also in the Washington area, went from D+8.8 to D+18.8, and Washington County, around Hagerstown, stayed Republican at R+13.1 after R+23.0. Baltimore County, the second largest, moved only 2.9 points. Five counties moved toward the Republicans, among them Worcester County, which went from R+22.0 to R+22.7.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	47	34 D, 13 R	35 D, 12 R
House of Delegates	141	102 D, 39 R	106 D, 35 R

Democrats keep the governor's office and both chambers of the General Assembly.[291] Our count has the Senate at 35 Democrats and 12 Republicans, from 34 and 13, and the House of Delegates at 106 to 35, from 102 to 39. The Senate change was District 4, where Democrat Lara Westdorp unseated Republican Sen. William Folden, and MultiState named two Republican delegates unseated by Democrats, Barry Beauchamp and Stuart Schmidt. A veto is overridden by three-fifths of the members elected to each house, 29 senators and 85 delegates, and Democrats were above that line before the election and remain above it.[291, 292]

For the General Assembly's own districts, the governor prepares a plan after each census, and it becomes law unless the legislature adopts its own by joint resolution by the 45th day of the session.[293] For Congress, Question 3 now says that nothing in the constitution sets criteria for a congressional plan.[294] The day after the election Moore said he was ready to work at once with legislative leaders on a new congressional map. "Any proposed map needs to be a map that is going to be a fair and representative map," he told FOX 5 DC on November 4.[295]

Maryland's State Administrator of Elections is chosen by the five-member State Board of Elections; the governor appoints the board with the Senate's consent, three members from the majority party and two from the minority. Jared DeMarinis has held the post since September 2023, and the election left the appointing governor and the confirming Senate in Democratic hands.[296] Moore also faces a structural budget deficit put at $3 billion in the coming session, FOX 5 DC reported, and he said the state can invest and still be fiscally disciplined.[295]

On the ballot

An amendment the General Assembly proposes is adopted when a majority of the votes cast on it are in favor. [297] All three passed. Question 3, referred to voters at an August special session, says the constitution's districting requirements apply only to General Assembly districts, sets no criteria for congressional districts and lets the legislature give the Supreme Court of Maryland original jurisdiction over a congressional plan. It drew 61.57% in the State Board of Elections' unofficial count, 1,294,745 to 808,005. [294, 298] The Supreme Court of Maryland had ruled 5 to 2 on September 3 that it could stay on the ballot. [291, 295] Question 1 requires the governor to include money in the proposed budget to pay for agreements between the state and its employees, and drew 75.90%; Question 2 lets the chair of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities fill vacancies temporarily with former members, and drew 68.11%. [298, 299, 300]

Closer to home

Justice Peter Killough of the Supreme Court of Maryland faced a yes-or-no vote on continuance in office in Circuit 4 and was kept with 86.66%, in the board's unofficial count. [301] In Montgomery County, which cast the most votes, Democrat Will Jawando won the county executive's office with 78.48% over Republican Esther Wells, and Democrat John McCarthy had no opponent on the ballot for state's attorney. The school board's at-large seat, filled without party labels, was close: Omar Lazo led Brenda M. Diaz 51.31% to 48.00%. [302] Patch reported that the Associated Press called the Baltimore County executive's race for Democrat Julian Jones, who will be the county's first Black executive. [303]

What did not change

Republicans won again in the one office in our count that they held, Andy Harris's U.S. House seat, by a margin much narrower than Trump's. They lost one state Senate seat, and in our count their delegates went from 39 to 35. They still carried 16 of the 24 counties, and the small towns and rural counties stayed Republican by 23.0 points, about where they were in 2024.

What it sets up

Chris Van Hollen's Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted D+28.8 for president in 2024 and D+33.7 in this year's governor's race. Moore cannot run in 2030: the constitution makes a governor who has served two consecutive elected terms ineligible for the next, and the office will be on the ballot in 2030. [292, 295] A new congressional map can come sooner, now that Question 3 has passed; the legislative districts will next be redrawn after the 2030 census, starting from a plan the governor prepares. [293, 294, 295]

Still open

The results are unofficial. Patch reported that local boards must certify by November 13 and the state by December 9. [303]

Massachusetts

Northeast · 2024 president D+25.3

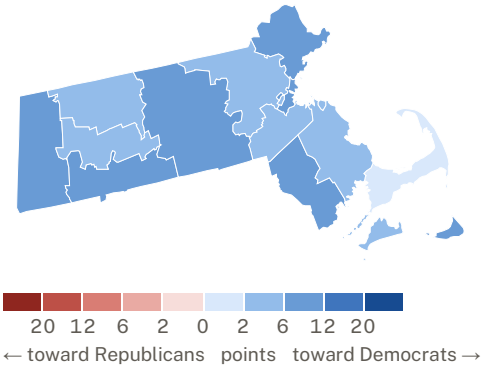
Massachusetts re-elected its Democratic senator and governor by wide margins, and on a ballot of nine questions its voters opened the Legislature to the public records law and approved registration on Election Day.

Edward J. Markey won a third term in the Senate over Republican John Deaton, 63.4% to 32.1%, and Gov. Maura Healey won a second four-year term over Republican Michael Roger Minogue, 62.0% to 34.7%. The Associated Press called the governor's race just as the polls closed.[304, 305] Democrats also kept every other statewide office, MultiState reported; our count has Andrea Joy Campbell as attorney general, William Francis Galvin as secretary of state and Deborah B. Goldberg as treasurer. All nine U.S. House seats stayed Democratic. James P. McGovern, Katherine M. Clark and Ayanna S. Pressley had no opponent on the ballot, and the North Shore elected Dan Koh, whom WBUR called the state's newest member of Congress.[304, 306]

Kamala Harris carried Massachusetts by 25.3 points in 2024. Markey won by 31.3 points, a result 5.9 points further toward the Democrats, while Healey's margin of 27.3 points was 1.9 points wider than Harris's. Markey drew 78 votes for every 100 of Harris's, and Deaton 67 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The governor's race drew 2,627,180 votes, 106% of the 2022 total and 76% of the 2024 presidential vote, on a count that is still open.

FIGURE 51

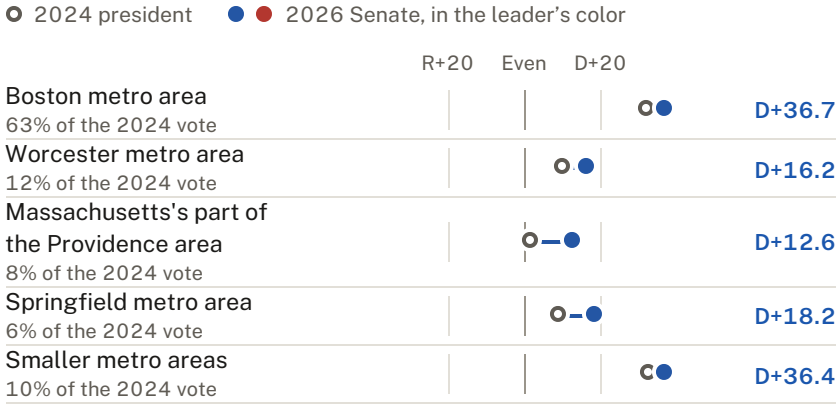
Massachusetts: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 52

Massachusetts by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Edward J. Markey (D) 63.4%, John Deaton (R) 32.1%	D+31.3	5.9 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Maura Healey (D) 62.0%, Michael Roger Minogue (R) 34.7%	D+27.3	1.9 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Andrea Joy Campbell (D) 65.6%, Michael C. Walsh (R) 34.4%	D+31.2	5.8 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	William Francis Galvin (D) 71.3%, Anne R. Brensley (R) 28.7%	D+42.5	17.2 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Deborah B. Goldberg (D) 65.9%, Elizabeth Dionne (R) 34.1%	D+31.9	6.5 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 9 seats. Before: 9 D, 0 R. Called: 9 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
MA-01	Richard E. Neal	D+30.9	D+13.6
MA-02	James P. McGovern	—	D+23.7
MA-03	Lori Loureiro Trahan	D+36.9	D+18.9
MA-04	Jake Auchincloss	D+32.8	D+19.6
MA-05	Katherine M. Clark	—	D+45.2
MA-06	Dan Koh	D+26.8	D+20.6
MA-07	Ayanna S. Pressley	—	D+63.5
MA-08	Stephen F. Lynch	D+42.6	D+26.3
MA-09	Bill Keating	D+21.7	D+10.7

Where it moved

The Boston area, which casts 63% of the vote, went from D+31.7 to D+36.7, a move of 5.1 points. The larger moves came where Democrats had been weakest. Massachusetts's part of the Providence area went from D+1.3 to D+12.6, and the Springfield area from D+8.9 to D+18.2. The Worcester area moved 6.2 points. The smaller metro areas, the most Democratic part of the state in 2024 at D+32.7, moved least, 3.7 points.

The Providence-area part is Bristol County, and no large county moved further. Harris carried it by 1.3 points; Markey carried it by 12.6, on 201,840 votes. Across that part of the Providence area Deaton drew 62 votes for every 100 of Trump's, his weakest showing in any region. Hampden County, around Springfield, went from D+8.9 to D+18.2, and Essex County, in the Boston area, from D+20.3 to D+29.1. The largest county, Middlesex County, moved only 4.7 points, from a much higher base. No county changed sides, and none of the 14 voted Republican in either year.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	40	35 D, 5 R	*Not read in our count (40 of 40 seats)*
House	160	132 D, 25 R, 1 independent	*Not read in our count (160 of 160 seats)*

Democrats keep the governor's office and large majorities in both chambers of the Legislature.[306, 307] The seat counts are provisional. MultiState's tracker has the Senate unchanged at 35 Democrats and 5 Republicans and the House at 137 Democrats, 21 Republicans and one independent, with one race still being counted; by those counts Democrats hold more than four-fifths of each chamber.[306] WBUR reported on November 9 that Republicans lost four House seats, among them the one held by the retiring minority leader, Brad Jones, and took one from a Democrat. Two of the new Democrats are 19 and 23 years old: Daniel Darris-O'Connor defeated Rep. Marc Lombardo of Billerica, and Jack Richardson of Falmouth defeated Rep. David Vieira, both of whom had been in office since 2011.[306, 307]

WBUR reported that the office of Secretary of State William Francis Galvin, re-elected in our count, says the election will likely be certified on the first Wednesday in December.[304] Before the election Healey had asked the Legislature for energy legislation and not received it, and WBUR reported that conference committees have until the session ends on January 5 to settle pending bills.[307]

The day after her re-election Healey named housing production, primary care and mental health services, new rules for social media and protecting workers as artificial intelligence spreads. "These are all things that we're going to be focused on out of the gate," she told reporters, according to The Boston Globe.[308]

On the ballot

Question 4 - Same-Day Voter Registration	**56.4% yes**
Question 8 - Eliminate Recreational Marijuana Sales	**24.4% yes** Failed
Question 6 - Nature for All Fund	**60.8% yes** Passed
Question 1 - Public Records Law for Legislature and Governor's Office	**85.9% yes** Passed

Question 7 - Limit on Required Lot Size for Single-Family Homes	**49.4% yes** Failed
Question 9 - Firearm Regulations Referendum	**67.3% yes** Passed

Question 2 - Collective Bargaining for Public Counsel Services Employees	**64.0% yes** Passed
Question 3 - Top-Two Primary Elections	**39.0% yes** Failed
Question 5 - Change State Tax Revenue Limit	**47.7% yes**

A law proposed by initiative passes in Massachusetts with a majority of those voting on it, so long as the yes votes equal at least 30 percent of all ballots cast; a law put to a referendum is repealed only if a majority votes no and the no votes reach that same 30 percent. [309, 310] Question 1, which extends the public records law to the Legislature and the governor's office, passed with 85.9% voting yes. Lawmakers have been working on a bill that could supersede it, and State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, who led the campaign, has pledged to sue if that bill becomes law. [304] Question 4 brings Election Day registration, with a provisional ballot cast at the polls, to state and municipal elections; it passed with 56.4% and takes effect January 1, 2028. Question 2, which lets employees of the state's public defender agency unionize, passed with 64.0%, and Question 6, a conservation fund paid for with sales tax on sporting goods, recreational vehicles and spending at golf courses, passed with 60.8%. [304]

Question 9 put the state's 2024 gun law to a referendum, and voters kept it: the yes side, which upholds the law, has 67.3% in our count. Question 8, an effort to repeal the legal recreational marijuana market, drew 24.4% yes and failed. So did Question 3, which would have created all-party primaries, at 39.0%; its supporters conceded just after 11 p.m. on election night. The closest of the nine was Question 7, which would have overridden local zoning to allow single-family homes on smaller lots. It failed at 49.4% yes, and the Associated Press called it on November 6. Question 5, which would have changed the state revenue cap so that taxpayer rebates come more often, also failed, at 47.7%. [304]

What did not change

Republicans held no office on the statewide ballot and no U.S. House seat before the election, and they won none; the closest House race was the Ninth District, which Bill Keating won by 21.7 points. Their one gain came in the state House, on the South Coast, where Jesse St. Gelais beat Democratic Rep. Steven Ouellette by 459 votes out of more than 17,500. [306, 307] Most incumbent legislators ran unopposed, WBUR reported. [307]

What it sets up

Neither of the state's Senate seats is on the 2028 ballot, and Markey says this term will be his last. [304] Healey told reporters she would serve all four years of hers. [308] Election Day registration takes effect January 1, 2028, so the presidential primary that March would be the first election it could apply to. [304] The Boston Globe reported that antiabortion activists have gathered enough signatures to temporarily halt the abortion law Healey signed over the summer and to put its repeal on the 2028 ballot. [308]

Still open

One state House race was uncalled on November 9: in a district that includes Wareham, Carver and part of Middleborough, Democrat Sarah Hewins led Republican Rep. John Gaskey by 89 votes. [307]

Michigan

Midwest · 2024 president R+1.4

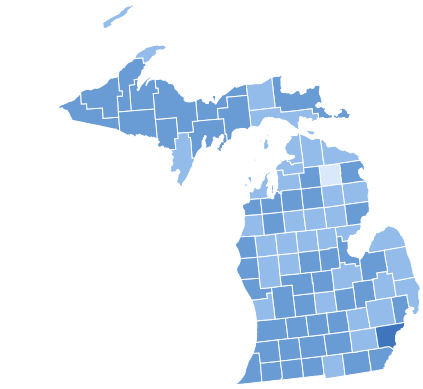
Michigan Democrats kept the governor's office and a U.S. Senate seat, won nine of the state's 13 U.S. House seats, up from six, and took the state House, which puts the governorship and both chambers of the Legislature in their hands.

Abdul El-Sayed won the Senate seat over Republican Mike Rogers by 7.0 points, and Jocelyn Benson won the governor's office over Republican John James by 10.7. Benson will be the state's 50th governor, succeeding the term-limited Gretchen Whitmer, and Bridge Michigan reported that El-Sayed is the first Muslim elected to the U.S. Senate.[311] Democrats also kept the offices of attorney general and secretary of state. In the U.S. House they took three seats from Republicans: Sean McCann defeated Rep. Bill Huizenga in the Fourth District, Will Lawrence defeated Rep. Tom Barrett in the Seventh, and Christina Hines won the open Tenth, which John James left to run for governor.[312] The margins were 1.8, 3.3 and 7.2 points. The delegation went from seven Republicans and six Democrats to nine Democrats and four Republicans.

Donald Trump carried Michigan by 1.4 points in 2024, and the Senate vote was 8.4 points to the left of that; Benson ran 12.2 points to the left of it. El-Sayed drew 92 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won, and Rogers 77 for every 100 of Trump's. Bridge Michigan reported more than 4.8 million ballots on unofficial results, which appears to be a midterm record.[313] In our count the Senate race drew 4,779,895 votes, 107% of the 2022 total and 84% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 53

Michigan: the move from 2024, county by county



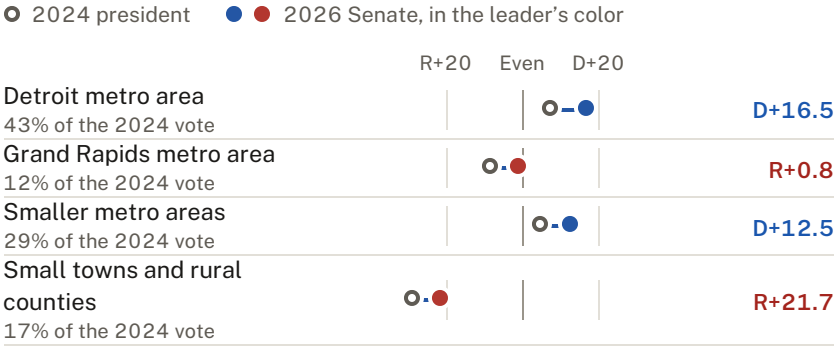
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 54

Michigan by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Abdul El-Sayed (D) 52.5%, Mike Rogers (R) 45.5%	D+7.0	8.4 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Jocelyn Benson (D) 54.5%, John James (R) 43.7%	D+10.7	12.2 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Eli Savit (D) 52.4%, Doug Lloyd (R) 44.2%	D+8.2	9.6 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Secretary of State D-held	Garlin Gilchrist II (D) 53.7%, Anthony Forlini (R) 43.5%	D+10.1	11.6 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 13 seats. Before: 6 D, 7 R. Called: 9 D, 4 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
MI-01	Jack Bergman	R+9.5	R+21.0
MI-02	John Moolenaar	R+24.5	R+29.8
MI-03	Hillary Scholten	D+15.7	D+7.8
MI-04	Sean McCann **FLIP**	D+1.8	R+5.5
MI-05	Tim Walberg	R+20.6	R+26.7
MI-06	Debbie Dingell	D+37.0	D+23.3
MI-07	William Lawrence **FLIP**	D+3.3	R+1.3
MI-08	Kristen McDonald Rivet	D+13.6	R+2.0
MI-09	Lisa McClain	R+27.9	R+32.0
MI-10	Christina Hines **FLIP**	D+7.2	R+6.5
MI-11	Jeremy Moss	D+24.0	D+16.0
MI-12	Rashida Tlaib	D+54.7	D+38.9
MI-13	Donavan McKinney	D+56.5	D+41.0

Where it moved

An Associated Press analysis cited by Bridge Michigan found that all 83 counties shifted toward the Democrats from 2024.[313] The Detroit area, which casts 43% of the vote, moved furthest, 9.4 points, from D+7.1 to D+16.5. The smaller metro areas went from D+4.6 to D+12.5, and the Grand Rapids area came within a point of changing sides, from R+8.2 to R+0.8. The small towns and rural counties moved least, 6.9 points, and still voted Republican by 21.7.

Saginaw County is the largest of the five counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for El-Sayed this year, and it did so narrowly: R+3.3 then, D+2.0 now, on 86,060 votes. A far bigger county moved more than twice as far and stopped just short. Macomb County, in the Detroit area, went from R+13.7 to R+1.8 on 419,030 votes. In the same metro area, Wayne County, the state's largest, moved 14.4 points, to D+43.3, and Oakland County only 3.7.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	38	20 D, 18 R	*Not read in our count (16 of 38 seats)*
House	110	52 D, 58 R	*Not read in our count (63 of 110 seats)*

Michigan had a Democratic governor, a Democratic Senate of 20 to 18 and a Republican House of 58 to 52. On unofficial results Democrats now hold all three: the Senate at 23 to 15 and the House at 63 to 47, which Bridge Michigan reported is the party's largest House majority since 1964. Democrats ousted 10 House incumbents.[314, 315] In the Senate, Theresa Brooks defeated Sen. Michael Webber in District 9 and Rep. Carol Glanville defeated Sen. Mark Huizenga in District 30; each Republican had won in 2022 by fewer than 800 votes.[315] Sen. Darrin Camilleri will be majority leader and Rep. Ranjeev Puri of Canton speaker.[314, 315] Neither majority reaches two-thirds of each house, which the constitution, as Ballotpedia reproduces it, requires to override a veto.[316]

The new majorities will not draw districts: Ballotpedia's text of the constitution gives congressional and legislative maps to a 13-member independent citizens commission.[316] Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist II won the secretary of state's office, which Benson leaves for the governorship.[317, 318] Voters also approved Proposal 2, which bars monopoly electric utilities, companies with more than $250,000 in state contracts and people close to them from giving to Michigan politicians, with more than 80% of the vote. The Mackinac Center for Public Policy and, separately, DTE Energy and Consumers Energy have sued in federal court to block it, naming the secretary of state among the defendants.[318, 319]

“We have an historic trifecta that we’re excited about, because I’m going to Lansing not to play political games, but to get things done,” Benson said on November 4, FOX 2 Detroit reported. [320] Bridge Michigan lists among her campaign proposals a healthcare affordability board, a change in how the state sets energy rates, a $5,000 caregiver tax credit and a $60,000 minimum teacher salary, and notes that she has not said how the costly items would be paid for. [321] Camilleri said voters had given Democrats a mandate on the cost of living, and Puri said the party would try to lower costs and grow the state’s population. [314, 315]

Closer to home

Bridge Michigan reported that the vote kept Democrats in control of the state Supreme Court, the university boards and the State Board of Education. [315] On that board, Democratic incumbents Judith Pritchett and Tiffany Tilley won new eight-year terms, keeping a 6-2 majority on the body that hires the state superintendent. [322] In Detroit, voters filled five of the seven seats on the board of the Detroit Public Schools Community District, the state’s largest. Chalkbeat reported that the vote was partly a referendum on Superintendent Nikolai Vitti’s nine-year tenure: two of the new members are his critics, though his most vocal critics were not elected. [323]

What did not change

Republicans kept four of the seven U.S. House seats they held. The narrowest was the First District, where Jack Bergman won by 9.5 points; Tim Walberg, John Moolenaar and Lisa McClain won by more than 20. Rogers carried 69 of the state’s 83 counties. In the Legislature Republicans held several close House seats, including Speaker Matt Hall’s 42nd District, and in the Senate won the open 38th District in the Upper Peninsula and re-elected Sen. John Damoose in the 37th, according to the Honigman law firm’s post-election report. [38] The state party chairman, Jim Runestad, said Michigan had gone better for Republicans than the nation; a party consultant called it the party’s worst performance in the state since its founding. [324]

What it sets up

Neither of Michigan’s Senate seats is on the 2028 ballot. The new House majority was elected for the two-year session that begins in January. [314] Proposal 2 faces its two federal lawsuits. [318] The Republican Party’s leadership is contested: its vice chair called for a new chair with a plan to win in 2028, and Bridge Michigan reported other names being floated, among them Hall. [324]

Minnesota

Midwest · 2024 president D+4.3 · 1 race not called

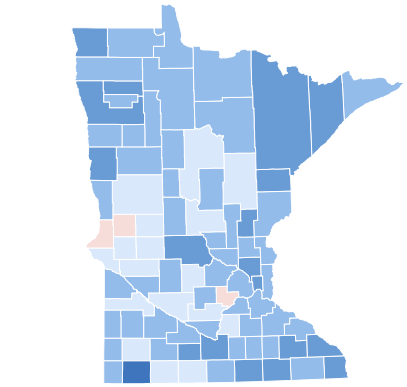
Minnesota Democrats won the Senate seat and the governor's office by 10.2 and 12.9 points and turned a tied state House into a majority of 77 seats to 57.

Peggy Flanagan won the Senate seat over Republican Michele Tafoya, 53.7% to 43.5%, and Amy Klobuchar won the governor's office over Republican Lisa Demuth, 55.5% to 42.6%. Democrats held both offices already, and all five constitutional offices stayed with them, the House's news service reported.[325] In our count Keith Ellison won the attorney general's office by 8.8 points and Secretary of State Steve Simon was re-elected by 12.9; Zack Filipovich won the auditor's office.[326] The U.S. House delegation was split four to four. Democrats have won four seats and Republicans three, and the last, the First District, is not called.

Kamala Harris carried Minnesota by 4.3 points, and Flanagan's margin was 5.9 points wider; Klobuchar's was 8.6 points wider. Flanagan drew 92 votes for every 100 of Harris's, and Tafoya 81 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The Senate race drew 2,832,773 votes, 113% of the 2022 total and 87% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 55

Minnesota: the move from 2024, county by county



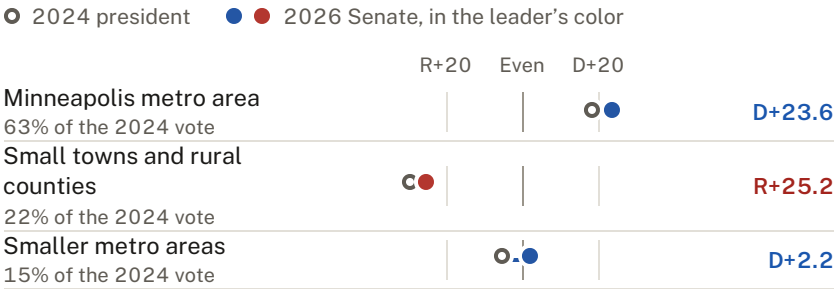
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 56

Minnesota by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Peggy Flanagan (D) 53.7%, Michele Tafoya (R) 43.5%	D+10.2	5.9 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Amy Klobuchar (D) 55.5%, Lisa Demuth (R) 42.6%	D+12.9	8.6 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Keith Ellison (D) 54.3%, Ronald J. Schutz (R) 45.5%	D+8.8	4.5 pts → D	Hold
Auditor D-held	Zack Filipovich (D) 52.9%, Scott Jensen (R) 44.2%	D+8.8	4.5 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	Steve Simon (D) 54.7%, Tad Jude (R) 41.8%	D+12.9	8.7 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 8 seats. Before: 4 D, 4 R. Called: 4 D, 3 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024

MN-01	Jake Johnson not called	D+0.1	R+11.9
MN-02	Matt Little	D+14.3	D+5.8
MN-03	Kelly Morrison	D+28.2	D+21.2
MN-04	Betty McCollum	D+46.3	D+35.6
MN-05	Ilhan Omar	D+60.3	D+62.0
MN-06	Tom Emmer	R+11.6	R+19.6
MN-07	Michelle Fischbach	R+29.9	R+36.2
MN-08	Pete Stauber	R+6.2	R+14.2

Where it moved

The Minneapolis area, with 63% of the vote, went from D+18.4 to D+23.6, a move of 5.2 points. The smaller metro areas moved furthest, 7.5 points, and changed sides, from R+5.3 to D+2.2. The small towns and rural counties moved least, 4.0 points, and still voted Republican by 25.2.

The largest of the six counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Flanagan this year is Anoka County, in the Minneapolis metro area. It went from R+4.4 to D+1.9 on 181,948 votes. Blue Earth County, around Mankato, made the same crossing with more room, from R+1.2 to D+7.0. St. Louis County, around Duluth, moved 8.6 points. Hennepin County, the largest county, moved only 3.3, while Ramsey County moved 8.2. A county in Anoka's own metro area went the other way: Carver County was R+5.4 in 2024 and R+7.0 this year.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	67	34 D, 33 R	39 D, 28 R
House	134	67 D, 66 R	77 D, 57 R

Democrats held the governor's office and the Senate before the election, and the House was tied at 67, run under a power-sharing agreement.[8, 327] Now they hold both chambers, 39 to 28 in the Senate and 77 to 57 in the House, and with Klobuchar they control state government. The House majority is the largest since an 87-47 majority in 2009 and 2010, and Democrats flipped House districts around Duluth, Mankato and Winona as well as several in the Twin Cities, the House's news service reported. Eleven incumbents lost, all but one of them Republicans.[325, 328, 329] Both majorities are short of the two-thirds a veto override takes, which is 45 senators and 90 representatives.[330]

The constitution gives the Legislature the power to draw congressional and legislative districts at its first session after each federal census, and a bill passes over a governor's veto only with two-thirds of each house.[330] The secretary of state, one of five executive officers the voters elect, chairs the State Canvassing Board, which certifies results.[325, 326, 330]

"We will be laser-focused on making life more affordable for Minnesotans," said Zack Stephenson, whom House Democrats chose as speaker-designate at the end of election week; Senate Majority Leader Erin Murphy also named the cost of living a top priority.[327] Klobuchar named a 14-member transition team on November 4, chaired by former human services commissioner Cindy Jesson.[331]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment 1	**75.6% yes**

A constitutional amendment in Minnesota is ratified only if a majority of everyone voting in the election votes for it, so a ballot left blank on the question counts as a no.[330, 332] The one amendment on the ballot raises the yearly distribution from the Permanent School Fund from 2.5% to 4.5%, about $33 more per student. It drew

75.6% of the yes and no votes in our count, and KAXE reported that voters approved it; the first larger payment comes in July 2027. [332]

Closer to home

In Hennepin County, state Rep. Cedrick Frazier, a Democrat, beat former acting U.S. Attorney Anders Folk by less than 2 percentage points in the unofficial tally for the open county attorney's seat left by Mary Moriarty. MPR News reported that Frazier will be the county's first African American county attorney. [333] On the same ballot as the school fund amendment, voters backed school board incumbents and rejected most districts' requests for tax increases: 30 percent of operating referendums passed, MPR reported. In St. Paul nearly 80 percent approved an ordinance that lets renters take a rent reduction or reimbursement for repairs costing up to $500 or half their rent, whichever is more, after giving the landlord two weeks' notice. [331]

What did not change

Republicans kept three U.S. House seats. The narrowest was the Eighth District, which Pete Stauber won by 6.2 points; Tom Emmer won the Sixth by 11.6 and Michelle Fischbach the Seventh by 29.9. Tafoya carried 72 of the 87 counties, and three moved toward the Republicans from 2024. In the Legislature Democrats go into the session with an 11-vote edge in the Senate and a 20-vote cushion in the House, MPR reported; Rep. Harry Niska, their House leader, said the caucus's feeling was resolve. [334] Rep. Nolan West of Blaine led House District 32A by 22 votes of 23,644, a margin that qualifies for a recount paid for by the state. [325]

What it sets up

Neither of Minnesota's Senate seats is on the 2028 ballot as a regular election. Klobuchar will resign from the Senate to become governor but has not said when, and MPR reported she seemed to signal that she, not Gov. Tim Walz, will make the temporary appointment. [331] State law fills a Senate vacancy for the rest of the term by a special election at the next November election, counting November of an odd-numbered year, if the vacancy comes at least 11 weeks before the primary that precedes it. [335] The governor's term is four years and House members serve two, so the new House majority is the next to face the voters, in 2028. The session begins January 12, 2027. [328, 330]

Still open

The First Congressional District, which a Republican holds, is not called: Democrat Jake Johnson leads Republican Rep. Brad Finstad by 0.1 points in our count. As of November 9 the secretary of state's results showed Johnson 322 votes ahead with every precinct reporting, and the Associated Press had not called the race. The State Canvassing Board meets November 19 to make results official, and a recount cannot be requested until after that. [336] MPR News reported that Finstad asked for a recount on November 5; state law provides a recount at public cost when the margin is within 0.25 percent. [326] Two state Senate races and House District 32A were also headed for recounts, though the Democrats keep both majorities whatever they show. [325, 328]

Mississippi

South · 2024 president R+22.9

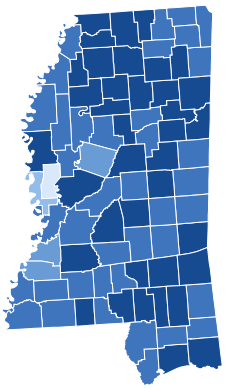
Mississippi, which Donald Trump carried by 22.9 points, elected Democrat Scott Colom to the U.S. Senate over Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, by 0.8 points in our count.

The Associated Press called the Senate race for Scott Colom on November 11, more than a week after Election Day, and Hyde-Smith conceded the same day in a video statement. An independent, Ty Pinkins, drew about 2% of the vote.[337, 338] Colom is the first Democrat Mississippi has elected to the U.S. Senate since 1982, and Gov. Tate Reeves and the state Republican chairman, Mike Hurst, congratulated him.[339, 340, 341] In our count he has 49.3% to Hyde-Smith's 48.6%. The four U.S. House seats stayed as they were, three Republican and one Democratic, though the Republican lead in the statewide House vote fell from 39.8 points in 2024 to 4.4.

The Senate vote was 23.7 points to the left of the 2024 presidential vote, and the two parties got there differently. Colom drew more votes than Kamala Harris received, 103 for every 100 of hers, while Hyde-Smith drew 63 for every 100 of Trump's. The race drew 970,870 votes, 137% of the 2022 total and 79% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 57

Mississippi: the move from 2024, county by county



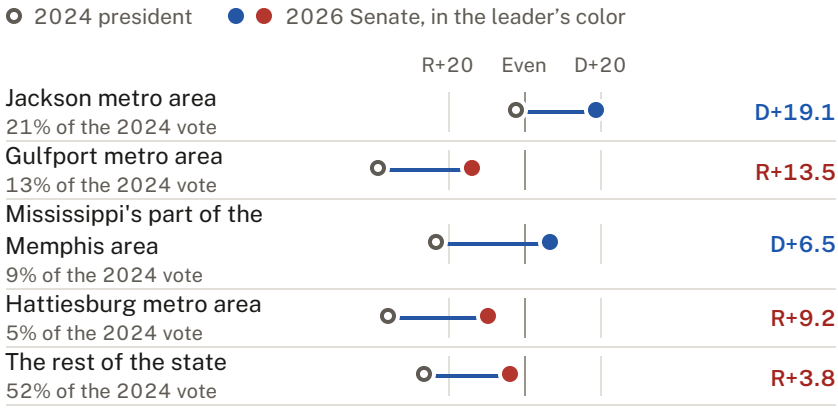
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 58

Mississippi by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Scott Colom (D) 49.3%, Cindy Hyde-Smith (R) 48.6%	D+0.8	—	**Flip**

U.S. House: 4 seats. Before: 1 D, 3 R. Called: 1 D, 3 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
MS-01	Trent Kelly	R+17.3	R+36.6
MS-02	Bennie Thompson	D+38.1	D+20.1
MS-03	Michael Guest	R+15.9	R+28.7

Where it moved

The Jackson area, with 21% of the vote, went from R+2.2 to D+19.1. Mississippi's part of the Memphis area moved furthest, 29.4 points, from R+22.9 to D+6.5, and there Hyde-Smith drew only 55 votes for every 100 of Trump's. The Gulfport and Hattiesburg areas stayed Republican, at R+13.5 and R+9.2. The 62 counties outside the four metro areas, which cast 52% of the vote, went from R+26.4 to R+3.8.

DeSoto County, in the Memphis area, is the largest of the 19 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Colom this year, and no large county moved further. It went from R+24.1 to D+7.4 on 55,730 votes. Forrest County, around Hattiesburg, went from R+17.9 to D+10.5, and Panola County from R+14.8 to D+13.1. Hinds County, the largest by votes, widened its Democratic margin from D+46.1 to D+61.1. Harrison County, around Gulfport, stayed Republican at R+3.2 after R+28.9.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	52	18 D, 34 R	Not on the ballot
House	122	41 D, 77 R, 2 independent	Not on the ballot

Nothing in state government changed hands. The governor and the other statewide officers are elected in 2023 and every fourth year after, so none was on this ballot.[342] Ballotpedia's listing shows no regular legislative elections in 2026, and Republicans hold 34 of 52 Senate seats and 77 of 122 House seats in our count, short of the two-thirds of each house that a veto override takes under the constitution as Ballotpedia quotes it.[343] By Ballotpedia's account the Legislature draws both sets of maps; a congressional map is ordinary legislation the governor can veto, while legislative maps pass by joint resolution and are not subject to veto.[344]

Colom won with less than half the vote. The runoff that the Mississippi Code requires when no candidate has a majority applies to "the state officers", and a 2023 opinion of the attorney general reads that term as the eight statewide offices from governor to commissioner of insurance; United States senator is not among them.[342] Mississippi has no automatic recount, and the secretary of state's office says candidates cannot request one.[339, 345] Counties send their certified results to the office of Secretary of State Michael Watson, and they had until November 13 to do so; mail-in absentee ballots could arrive within five business days of Election Day, and affidavit ballots had to be processed in that time.[346, 347]

"Mississippi has bestowed on me the honor of a lifetime and I'll spend every minute doing everything I can to be worthy of that trust," Colom said in a statement on November 12. He campaigned on lowering costs for families, saving Mississippi hospitals and bringing jobs to the state, WLOX reported.[337, 338] After the election figures in both parties spoke for early voting, which Mississippi allows only to voters with an excuse; a bill for 15 days of no-excuse early voting from the Senate elections chairman, Republican Jeremy England, passed the Senate and stalled in the House.[348]

Closer to home

In Hinds County a five-candidate special election for district attorney, held after the previous district attorney resigned, goes to a runoff on December 1 between Darla Palmer, who led with nearly 27% of the vote, and Gwen Agho, with 23%.[349] On election-night returns, WLOX reported, the race for Hancock County sheriff was also headed to a December 1 runoff after no candidate passed 50%; Eddie Peterson led with 29.2% and Tommy Bethea was second with 18.4%.[350]

What did not change

Republicans kept their three U.S. House seats. The narrowest was the Third District, which Michael Guest won by 15.9 points; Trent Kelly won the First by 17.3 and Mike Ezell the Fourth by 24.7. All three margins were far narrower than Trump's in those districts in 2024. Hyde-Smith carried 43 of the 82 counties, and none moved toward the Republicans. Hurst said Republicans respect the voters' decision. [341]

What it sets up

Neither of Mississippi's Senate seats is on the 2028 ballot. Colom takes his seat in January. [351] The next statewide election is on November 2, 2027, for governor and the other state offices; Reeves is finishing his second term and cannot run again. State Auditor Shad White announced for governor on November 9, joining a Republican field that includes Attorney General Lynn Fitch and former House Speaker Philip Gunn. [352] Watson is leaving the secretary of state's office to run for lieutenant governor. [353]

Still open

The Hinds County district attorney will be chosen in a runoff on December 1, and the Hancock County sheriff's race was headed to a runoff the same day. [349, 350]

Missouri

Midwest · 2024 president R+18.4

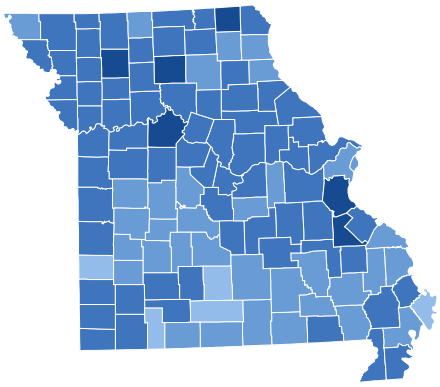
Missouri Republicans lost a U.S. House seat and their two-thirds majorities in both chambers of the legislature, and voters rejected a new congressional map and an amendment that would have banned most abortions.

Missouri had no Senate race and no governor's race, so the widest measure of the state is its vote for the U.S. House, all eight districts added together. Republicans won it by 0.7 points. In 2024 they had won it by 20.0, and Donald Trump had carried the state by 18.4. One seat changed hands: in the Second District, Democrat Fred Wellman beat Republican Ann Wagner, a seven-term incumbent, by 4.9 points in a district Trump had carried by 7.8. Wellman won St. Louis County by 14 points and cut Wagner's lead in St. Charles County from roughly 16,000 votes in 2024 to about 4,000.[354] The delegation went from six Republicans and two Democrats to five and three.

Compared with the 2024 presidential vote in the same districts, the House vote moved 17.4 points toward the Democrats, from R+18.2 to R+0.7. Democratic candidates drew 84 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, Republicans 59 for every 100 of Trump's. The House vote came to 2,092,534, 102% of the 2022 total and 70% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 59

Missouri: the move from 2024, county by county



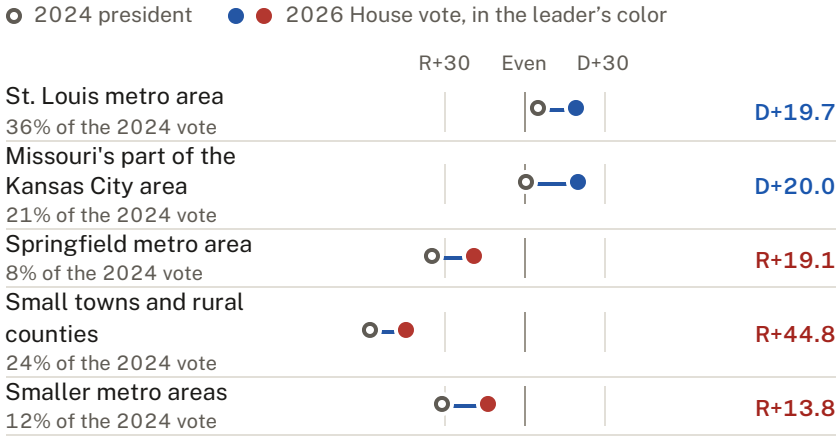
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the U.S. House vote, all districts added together minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 60

Missouri by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

U.S. House: 8 seats. Before: 2 D, 6 R. Called: 3 D, 5 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
MO-01	Wesley Bell	D+67.5	D+56.7
MO-02	Fred Wellman **FLIP**	D+4.9	R+7.8
MO-03	Bob Onder	R+8.5	R+26.4
MO-04	Mark Alford	R+25.9	R+41.7

MO-05	Emanuel Cleaver	D+41.4	D+22.9
MO-06	Chris Stigall	R+19.7	R+38.3
MO-07	Eric Burlison	R+26.8	R+42.0
MO-08	Jason Smith	R+38.6	R+53.2

Where it moved

Missouri's part of the Kansas City area moved furthest, 19.1 points, from D+0.9 to D+20.0. The St. Louis area, which casts 36% of the vote, went from D+5.3 to D+19.7. The Springfield area and the smaller metro areas stayed Republican but by far less, at R+19.1 and R+13.8. The small towns and rural counties moved least, 13.2 points, and still voted Republican by 44.8.

Clay County, in the Kansas City area, is the larger of the two counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Democratic House candidates this year. It went from R+5.6 to D+14.4 on 96,290 votes. Jefferson County, in the St. Louis area, moved 20.8 points, from R+36.3 to R+15.5. A bigger county came close to changing sides: St. Charles County, also in the St. Louis area, went from R+16.8 to R+1.2 on 164,075 votes.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	34	10 D, 23 R	12 D, 22 R
House	163	52 D, 106 R	68 D, 95 R

Republicans keep both chambers and, with a governor's office that was not on the ballot, control of state government.[355] What they lost is the two-thirds margin in both chambers, which they had held since 2012. They now have 95 of 163 House seats, after a Democratic gain of 16, and 22 of 34 Senate seats, after a gain of two; an override takes two-thirds of the elected members of each house.[355, 356, 357] The Missouri Independent reported that 95 is the party's lowest House total since 2008, and that House Republicans can no longer override a veto or pass a bill that takes effect immediately without Democratic votes.[358] In the Senate, Rep. Betsy Fogle won a Springfield-based district Republicans had held for more than 80 years, and Rep. Keri Ingle defeated House Speaker Jon Patterson in eastern Jackson County.[354]

Republicans chose Alex Riley of Springfield as House speaker, Jason Bean as Senate president pro tem and Nick Schroer as Senate majority leader; Democrats chose Stephen Webber to lead in the Senate, and Ashley Aune leads House Democrats. "We're not a super minority anymore," Webber said.[359, 360] The Missouri Independent reported that every major policy initiative Republicans put before voters since Gov. Mike Kehoe took office has been defeated.[358]

The legislature draws congressional districts by law, and such a law is subject to referendum. State House and Senate districts are drawn by two bipartisan citizens commissions whose members the governor appoints from lists the two major parties submit.[360, 361, 362, 363] Secretary of State Denny Hoskins was not on the ballot; the office is elected at presidential elections.[364, 365]

On the ballot

Amendment 7	**40.5% yes** Failed
Amendment 6	**57.8% yes** Passing
Proposition A	**40.5% yes** Failing

Amendment 3	**47.8% yes** Failed
Amendment 8	**53.1% yes** Passed

A constitutional amendment in Missouri takes effect if a majority of the votes cast on it are in favor.[366] Voters rejected Amendment 3, placed on the ballot by the legislature, which would have banned most abortions, undoing the 2024 initiative, and written a ban on gender-affirming care for minors into the constitution; it drew 47.8% yes in our count.[367] They rejected Proposition A, which asked whether to use the congressional map drawn in a 2025 special session to make the Kansas City-area 5th District a Republican seat, with 40.5% yes; a referendum petition had kept that map from taking effect, and this year's election used the 2022 map.[368]

Amendment 6, which requires an 80% vote in both chambers for the legislature to change laws passed by initiative and bars it from re-enacting policies voters rejected by referendum, passed with 57.8%.[364, 369] Amendment 8, which requires every county to elect a sheriff every four years, with exemptions in the St. Louis area, and lets only the attorney general move to remove one, passed with 53.1%. Amendment 7, which would have created a public endowment called the Show-Me Prosperity Fund without putting money in it, failed with 40.5% yes.[368, 370] The News Tribune's table gives somewhat different shares, but the same outcomes.[370]

Closer to home

Voters retained Paul C. Wilson on the Missouri Supreme Court with 62.8% yes, in the News Tribune's table of unofficial results.[371] In St. Louis County, Democrat Jake Zimmerman defeated Republican Councilman Dennis Hancock for county executive, 65% to 33%, and Democrats widened their majority on the county council. Melissa Price Smith, the Democrat appointed prosecutor after Wesley Bell resigned to take his seat in Congress, won a full term with 83% of the vote over a Libertarian.[372] In Jackson County, Democrat Stacy Lake defeated Republican Alan Rohlfing for county executive.[373]

What did not change

Republicans kept five of their six U.S. House seats. The narrowest was the Third District, which Bob Onder won by 8.5 points; Trump had carried it by 26.4. Republican House candidates carried 109 of the 115 counties, and Republican Scott Fitzpatrick won the state auditor's race with 50.2% to Democrat Quentin Wilson's 47.2% in the News Tribune's unofficial table.[371] The Missouri Independent reported that in the legislature Democrats mainly won seats in suburbs next to districts they already held. Seventeen House Republicans won by fewer than 10 percentage points, and the new majority leader, Darin Chappell, was re-elected in Greene County with 70%, 15 points narrower than in 2024.[358, 359]

What it sets up

Sen. Eric Schmitt's seat is on the 2028 ballot, in a state Trump carried by 18.4 points and whose House vote this year was R+0.7. The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer and attorney general are elected at presidential elections, so all five offices will be on the 2028 ballot as well, and every seat in the 163-member House is elected again.[362, 365] The incoming Senate president pro tem, Jason Bean, said redistricting is probably at the bottom of his caucus's list, and St. Louis Public Radio reported that a congressional map redrawn without a court order could again be blocked by a referendum petition before the 2028 elections.[360]

Montana

West · 2024 president R+19.9

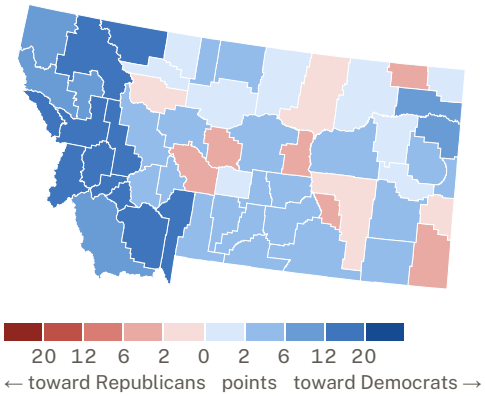
Democrats took one of Montana's two U.S. House seats from the Republicans, who kept the Senate seat, the Public Service Commission and, by the Flathead Beacon's count, both chambers of the Legislature.

Republican Kurt Alme won the Senate seat, which Republicans already held, with 48.2% of the vote in a state Donald Trump carried by 19.9 points two years earlier. The runner-up was an independent, Seth Bodnar, who finished 10.4 points behind at 37.7% and conceded on election night; the Democrat, Alani Bankhead, ran third.[374] The House delegation went from two Republicans to one Democrat and one Republican. In the western district, Democrat Sam Forstag beat Republican Aaron Flint by 3.9 points where Trump had won by 11.6. Republican Troy Downing held the eastern district by 25.8.[375, 376] Republicans also won both Public Service Commission seats on the ballot, Annie Bukacek by 5.4 points and Jeff Pattison by 30.7.[377]

Montana had no governor's race this year, so the comparison with 2024 rests on the U.S. House vote. With both districts added together, Republican candidates won it by 9.6 points, down from 18.9 in 2024 and 10.5 points better for Democrats than that year's presidential result. Democratic House candidates drew 89 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Republicans drew 72 for every 100 of Trump's. The Senate race, the most-voted contest, drew 489,119 votes in our count, 105% of the 2022 figure and 81% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 61

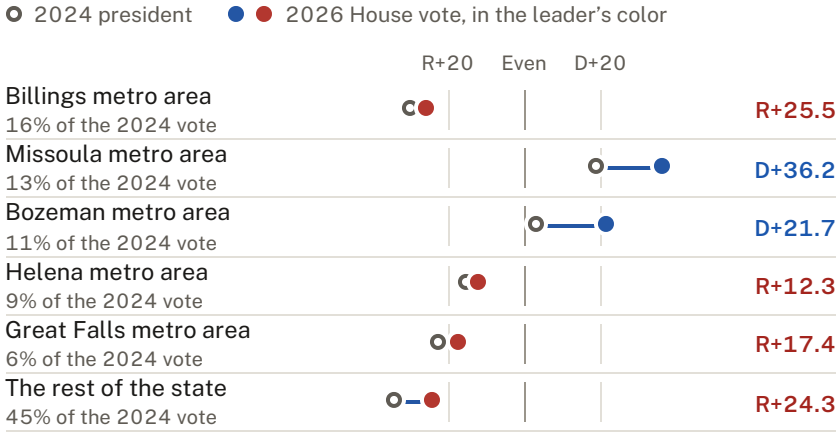
Montana: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the U.S. House vote, all districts added together minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 62

Montana by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Kurt Alme (R) 48.2%, Seth Bodnar (I) 37.7%	R+10.4	—	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Jeff Pattison (R) 65.3%, Angeline Cheek (D) 34.7%	R+30.7	—	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Annie Bukacek (R) 52.7%, Kevin Hamm (D) 47.3%	R+5.4	—	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 0 D, 2 R. Called: 1 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
MT-01	Sam Forstag **FLIP**	D+3.9	R+11.6
MT-02	Troy Downing	R+25.8	R+29.8

Where it moved

The movement was concentrated in two places. The Bozeman area, which casts 11% of the vote, moved 18.5 points, from D+3.2 to D+21.7, and the Missoula area moved 17.1, from D+19.0 to D+36.2. The other cities barely shifted. The Helena area moved 3.0 points, to R+12.3, the Billings area moved 4.4 and the Great Falls area 5.2. The counties outside the five metro areas, which cast 45% of the vote, moved 9.8 points, from R+34.2 to R+24.3.

Big Horn County was the one county of 56 that changed sides. It voted for Trump by 1.8 points and for a Democrat for the U.S. House by 3.9, on 3,473 votes. The bigger movements came in places Democrats already carried. Silver Bow County, around Butte, swung furthest, from D+7.1 to D+27.0. Gallatin County, in the Bozeman area, went from D+3.2 to D+21.7 on 57,787 votes. Yellowstone County, in the Billings area, cast more votes than any other county and stayed Republican by 22.6 points. Another 10 counties moved the other way, toward the Republicans, Rosebud and Teton among them.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	50	18 D, 32 R	*Not read in our count (25 of 50 seats)*
House	100	42 D, 58 R	*Not read in our count (100 of 100 seats)*

Republicans kept full control of state government. The governor's office was not on the ballot, and the party held both chambers with smaller majorities: 30 of 50 Senate seats, down from 32, and 56 of 100 House seats, down from 58, in the Flathead Beacon's report of November 8.[375] The totals are the Beacon's; our count could not read every legislative district. The Montana Constitution lets the Legislature override a veto when two-thirds of the members present in each house approve the bill, and neither Republican majority reaches two-thirds of its chamber, as neither did before the election.[375, 378]

The election changed nothing about who draws the maps or runs the elections. The constitution gives congressional and legislative districts to a commission of five citizens, none of whom may be public officials; its final plans are filed with the secretary of state and become law.[379] State law makes the secretary of state the chief election officer, and Republican Christi Jacobsen won a second term in that office in 2024.[380, 381]

The change inside the majority came a week later. On November 11 House Republicans chose Rep. Katie Zolnikov of Billings as speaker over the sitting speaker, Brandon Ler, and she said her focus would be on "lowering taxes, limiting government and strengthening Montana families."[382] Senate Republicans renominated Matt Regier as Senate president, and Democrats chose Sen. Laura Smith of Helena and Rep. SJ Howell of Missoula as minority leaders.[382] The full chambers vote when the session opens on January 4.[382, 383] The governor has emphasized a flat income tax as a priority for 2027, the Beacon reported.[375]

On the ballot

Ci-132 Constitutional Initiative No. 132	**68.2% yes** Passed
Ci-133 Constitutional Initiative No. 133	**65.4% yes** Passed
I-194 Initiative No. 194	**65.6% yes** Passed

A ballot issue in Montana passes with a majority of those voting on it, and that holds for a constitutional initiative as well as a statute.[384, 385] Voters approved all three statewide measures by about two to one.[376] CI-132, which adds to the constitution that judicial elections shall remain nonpartisan, drew 68.2% yes in our count.[376] CI-133, at 65.4%, adds a right to initiative and referendum to the constitution's Declaration of Rights. I-194, at 65.6%, is a statute that restricts corporate spending on candidates, parties and ballot issues from January 1, 2027.[376]

Closer to home

A seat on the Supreme Court went to Flathead County District Judge Amy Eddy, who replaces Justice Beth Baker, on the court since 2011. Her opponent, Dan Wilson, had the endorsement and financial backing of the Montana Republican Party, Montana Free Press reported.[386]

In Yellowstone County, which cast more votes than any other, County Attorney Scott Twito was unopposed for a fifth term when he resigned on October 25 to become interim U.S. attorney for Montana. His name stayed on the ballot, and Yellowstone Public Radio reported before the election that if he won, county commissioners would appoint someone to hold the office until the election of November 2028.[387] No mayor or school board was on the ballot: state law puts municipal elections in odd-numbered years and school elections in May.[388, 389] In Cascade County, Democrat Steve Keller defeated a first-term Republican representative by 46 votes, one of the Democrats' four legislative pickups, the Flathead Beacon reported.[375]

What did not change

Republicans kept four of the seats they were defending in our count and lost one, the western House district. The narrowest was Annie Bukacek's seat on the Public Service Commission, at 5.4 points, and the five-member commission, which regulates utilities, stays entirely Republican, as it has been since 2012.[377] Kurt Alme finished 10.4 points ahead of an independent in a race where the Democrat ran third. In the eastern House district, which Trump carried by 29.8 points, the Republican margin was 25.8. Republican House candidates carried 50 of the state's 56 counties, and the Billings area, the largest metro area, stayed Republican at R+25.5.

What it sets up

Neither of Montana's Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2028. The state that voted Republican for president by 19.9 points in 2024 voted Republican for the U.S. House by 9.6 this year, and it will send one member of each party to the House in January. The Montana Constitution keeps off the ballot any candidate for governor who, at the end of the current term, will have served eight or more years in any 16-year period.[390]

Nebraska

Midwest · 2024 president R+20.6

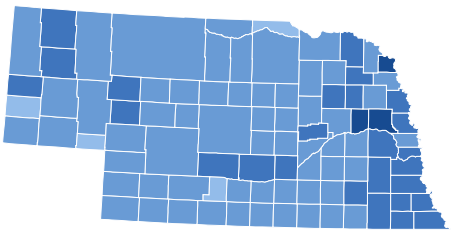
Nebraska Republicans held every statewide office on the ballot but lost a U.S. House seat and, on an unofficial count, the seats they need to end a filibuster on their own.

Sen. Pete Ricketts was re-elected with 50.1% of the vote, 6.2 points ahead of an independent, Dan Osborn.[391] Gov. Jim Pillen, also a Republican, beat Democrat Lynne Walz by 8.0 points. Donald Trump had carried Nebraska by 20.6 two years earlier. Republicans won all four of the other statewide offices, and the U.S. House delegation went from three Republicans to two Republicans and one Democrat. In the 2nd District, which Kamala Harris carried by 4.6 points, Democrat Denise Powell beat Republican Brinker Harding by 15.9 for a seat Republicans had held. In the 1st, which Trump carried by 12.9, Republican Mike Flood won by 3.5.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race moved 12.6 points toward the Democrats. Walz drew 87 votes for every 100 Harris won here. Pillen drew 68 for every 100 of Trump's. The governor's race drew 755,863 votes in our count, 112% of the 2022 figure and 80% of the 2024 presidential vote. Republican candidates won the U.S. House vote, all districts added together, by 12.4 points, down from 27.2 in 2024.

FIGURE 63

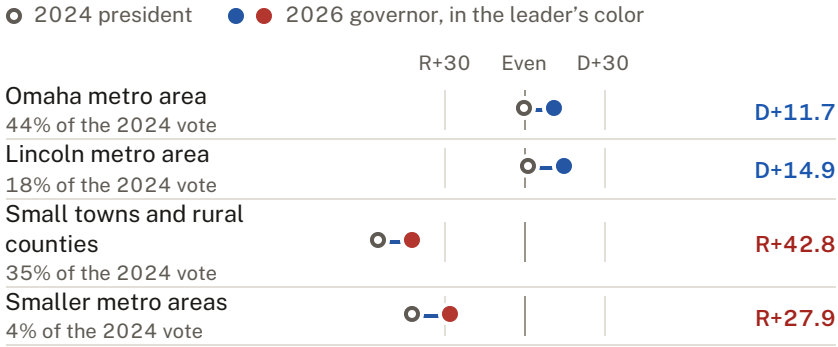
Nebraska: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 64

Nebraska by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Pete Ricketts (R) 50.1%, Dan Osborn (I) 43.9%	R+6.2	—	Hold
Governor R-held	Jim Pillen (R) 50.5%, Lynne Walz (D) 42.5%	R+8.0	12.6 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General R-held	Mike Hilgers (R) 56.0%, Jocelyn Brasher (D) 44.0%	R+12.1	8.5 pts → D	Hold
Auditor R-held	Mike Foley (R) 74.6%, John Knight (O) 25.4%	R+49.1	—	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Scott Petersen (R) 53.7%, Sarah J. Slattery (D) 40.6%	R+13.1	7.5 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Joey Spellerberg (R) 58.4%, Daniel Ebers (D) 41.6%	R+16.8	3.8 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 3 seats. Before: 0 D, 3 R. Called: 1 D, 2 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024

NE-01	Mike Flood	R+3.5	R+12.9
NE-02	Denise Powell **FLIP**	D+15.9	D+4.6
NE-03	Adrian Smith	R+51.1	R+53.1

Where it moved

The state moved nearly the same distance everywhere. The Omaha area, which casts 44% of the vote, moved least, 12.0 points, and that was enough to change its side: it went from R+0.3 to D+11.7. The Lincoln area moved 13.4, from D+1.5 to D+14.9. The small towns and rural counties, with 35% of the vote, moved 12.3 and still voted Republican by 42.8 points. The smaller metro areas moved furthest, 14.2 points, from R+42.1 to R+27.9.

Of the state's 93 counties, one changed sides: Sarpy County, in the Omaha metro area. It voted for Trump by 11.7 points and for Walz by 2.4, on 79,646 votes, about 11% of the state's total. Douglas County, the largest county and also in the Omaha area, went from D+10.2 to D+21.1, and Lancaster County, around Lincoln, from D+4.3 to D+17.9. Dodge County, around Fremont, moved furthest of the larger counties, from R+32.6 to R+10.7. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Nebraska's one-chamber Legislature is officially nonpartisan. Candidates run without party labels, and newsrooms describe control by the senators' party registration. By that measure Republicans held 33 of 49 seats before the election, exactly the 33 votes it takes to end a filibuster. Nebraska Public Media reported on November 4 that they would have only 30 afterward, which would leave them needing Democrats or independents to end debate on contested bills.[392, 393, 394, 395] Registered Democrats flipped several seats, in districts that take in Bennington, Ralston and parts of Omaha, KMTV reported. One of the new senators is Democrat Christy Knorr, who defeated Republican Sen. Merv Riepe in District 12.[393, 394] "Hopefully, it means that we're going to be willing to work together more, and reach across the aisle more," she told KMTV.[394]

Pillen stays in office, so Republicans keep the governorship and a majority of registered senators.[393, 394] He has said he will work on building relationships with the Legislature, KMTV reported.[394] The new Legislature's first decision is its speaker. Sen. Kathleen Kauth has said she will seek the post, and Sen. Mike Jacobson, a Republican, was said to be interested as well.[393, 395] Jacobson said, in KOLN's report of November 4, that "when one party doesn't have the super majority, I think you can get more done."[395]

The secretary of state's office stays Republican and changes hands. Scott Petersen, who defeated the longtime secretary of state, Bob Evnen, in the Republican primary, won the general election by 13.1 points.[396]

On the ballot

Proposed Amendment No. 1	**18.6% yes** Failed
Initiative Measure 440	**45.1% yes** Failed
Initiative Measure 441	**45.5% yes** Failed
Initiative Measure 442	**67.8% yes** Passed

Voters rejected three of the four statewide measures and approved one, in WOWT's reports of the unofficial results. Amendment 1, which would have let state senators serve three consecutive four-year terms, drew 18.6% yes in our count.[396, 397] Initiative Measures 440 and 441 would have authorized online sports gambling and set the rules and taxes for it; they drew 45.1% and 45.5% yes.[391] Initiative Measure 442 passed with

67.8%. It puts in the constitution a bar on students whose biological sex is male playing on female sports teams, a rule already in state law that the amendment makes harder to amend or repeal, the Flatwater Free Press wrote in its voter guide. [396, 397, 398]

Closer to home

The movement in Omaha reached county offices. WOWT reported Democrat Mark Martinez the winner of the Douglas County sheriff's race over the incumbent, Aaron Hanson, who congratulated him on election night; Martinez takes office in January once the results are official. [399, 400] No justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court faced a retention vote this year, the Nebraska Examiner reported, though 48 judges of other courts did. [401]

What did not change

Republicans kept eight of the seats they were defending in our count and lost one, the 2nd District. Their narrowest win was the 1st District, at 3.5 points. Pete Ricketts's 6.2 points over an independent came next, then Jim Pillen's 8.0; Attorney General Mike Hilgers won another term by 12.1, and Auditor Mike Foley was re-elected. [396] In the 3rd District the Republican margin was 51.1 points, where Trump's had been 53.1. Pillen carried 90 of the 93 counties.

What it sets up

Neither of Nebraska's Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2028. The state that voted Republican for president by 20.6 points in 2024 re-elected its Republican governor by 8.0, and it will send a Democrat to the U.S. House from the 2nd District in January. In Lincoln, the 49 senators will first have to choose their speaker, in a chamber where the largest party can no longer end debate alone if the unofficial count holds. [393, 394, 395]

Still open

The Legislature's final makeup is not settled. In west Omaha's District 4, Republican Sen. Brad von Gillern trailed independent Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek in unofficial results, and Nebraska Public Media gave no totals for Democrats or independents. [392, 393, 395] In the Douglas County attorney's race, Democrat Makayla Danner led the Republican incumbent, Don Kleine, who has held the office for 19 years, by 13,168 votes in WOWT's results of November 6. The station called the gap likely insurmountable, with three more releases of ballots planned. [399, 402]

Nevada

West · 2024 president R+3.1

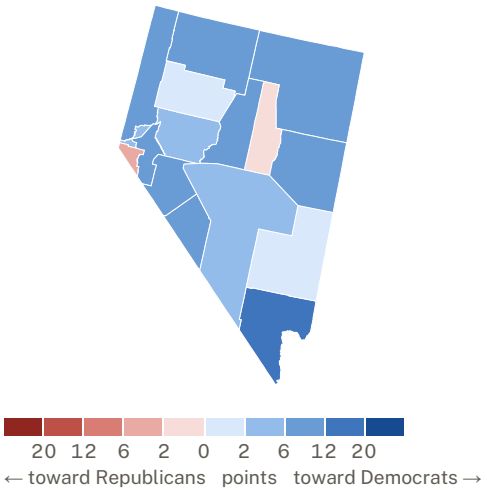
Democrats won Nevada's governorship and every other statewide office, all four U.S. House seats and a two-thirds majority in the Assembly.

Attorney General Aaron Ford, a Democrat, defeated the Republican governor, Joe Lombardo, 51.6% to 44.0%, in a state Donald Trump carried by 3.1 points in 2024.[403] Democrats won all five of the other statewide offices, two of them, lieutenant governor and controller, from Republicans. They also took the only U.S. House seat they did not hold: in the 2nd District, which Trump carried by 13.9 points, Teresa Benitez-Thompson beat Republican Dave Flippo by 5.8. Democrats kept their other three seats by 21.5, 21.5 and 22.7 points, in districts the 2024 presidential vote had split by 2.3 points or less. The state Senate stayed at 13 Democrats and 8 Republicans, and the Democratic majority in the Assembly grew from 27 of 42 seats to 32.

Against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race moved 10.7 points toward the Democrats. Ford drew 80 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, and Lombardo drew 64 for every 100 of Trump's. The race drew 1,091,332 votes in our count, 107% of the 2022 figure and 73% of the 2024 presidential vote. Democratic candidates won the U.S. House vote, all districts added together, by 17.1 points; Republicans had won it by 11.1 in 2024.

FIGURE 65

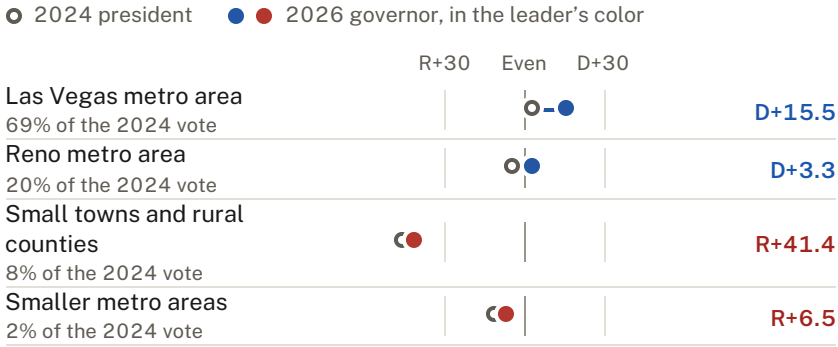
Nevada: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 66

Nevada by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor R-held	Aaron Ford (D) 51.6%, Joe Lombardo (R) 44.0%	D+7.6	10.7 pts → D	**Flip**
Attorney General D-held	Nicole Cannizzaro (D) 56.4%, Adriana Guzmán Fralick (R) 41.4%	D+15.0	18.1 pts → D	Hold
Controller R-held	Michael MacDougall (D) 55.5%, Andy Matthews (R) 44.5%	D+10.9	14.0 pts → D	**Flip**

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Lieutenant Governor R-held	Sandra Jauregui (D) 54.4%, Stavros Anthony (R) 41.0%	D+13.4	16.5 pts → D	**Flip**
Secretary of State D-held	Cisco Aguilar (D) 57.0%, Jim Marchant (R) 39.3%	D+17.7	20.8 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Tya Mathis-Coleman (D) 55.1%, Drew Johnson (R) 42.9%	D+12.2	15.3 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 4 seats. Before: 3 D, 1 R. Called: 4 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NV-01	Dina Titus	D+21.5	D+2.2
NV-02	Teresa Benitez-Thompson **FLIP**	D+5.8	R+13.9
NV-03	Susie Lee	D+21.5	R+0.7
NV-04	Steven Horsford	D+22.7	D+2.3

Where it moved

The move was largest where most Nevadans live. The Las Vegas area, which casts 69% of the vote, moved 12.9 points, from D+2.6 to D+15.5. The Reno area, with 20% of the vote, moved 7.8 and changed sides, from R+4.5 to D+3.3. The small towns and rural counties moved least, 4.6 points, and still voted Republican by 41.4.

Clark County, which is the whole of the Las Vegas metro area, cast 68% of Nevada's votes and moved further than any other large county, from D+2.6 to D+15.5 on 741,428 votes. Washoe County, in the Reno area, went from D+1.0 to D+8.6. Elko County moved 11.1 points and still voted Republican by 45.5. None of the state's 17 counties changed sides, and two moved toward the Republicans: Douglas County, which went from R+32.9 to R+35.5, and Eureka County.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	21	13 D, 8 R	13 D, 8 R
Assembly	42	27 D, 15 R	32 D, 10 R

Nevada goes from divided government to full Democratic control. The party already held both chambers and now has the governorship.[403] Democrats won all six statewide constitutional offices for the first time since 1962, and Ford will be the state's first Black governor, the Nevada Independent reported.[403,404] The Nevada Constitution, as Ballotpedia reproduces it, requires two-thirds of the members elected to each house to override a veto, and the same share to pass a bill that raises public revenue.[405] Democrats now have that in the Assembly, where 28 seats are needed and they will hold 32 of 42, and remain one seat short in the Senate, where they hold 13 of 21 and need 14.[403,406]

The same constitution, in Ballotpedia's reproduction, makes it the Legislature's duty after each census to apportion legislative seats by law, and a law goes to the governor.[405] That governor will now be a Democrat. The secretary of state's office did not change hands: Secretary of State Cisco Aguilar, a Democrat, defeated Jim Marchant, the Republican he also beat in 2022.[404]

Ford campaigned against Lombardo's record number of vetoes of bills the Democratic Legislature had passed.[404] "We're going to tackle affordability starting on day one. We're going to tackle the high cost of housing. We're going to build more homes. We're going to open the doors for first-time home buyers," he said in his victory speech, and he said he would declare an affordability emergency directing state agencies to find savings for residents.[407] The Legislature convenes on February 1, 2027.[406] A law firm's client alert reports

that Elaine Marzola will be Assembly speaker and Sen. Edgar Flores the Senate majority leader; the current majority leader, Nicole Cannizzaro, was elected attorney general, and Clark County officials appoint her replacement in the Senate. [404, 408]

On the ballot

Question 7	**62.2% yes** Passed
Question 6	**63.5% yes** Passed

Both statewide questions were constitutional amendments on their second trip to the ballot. Question 6 passed in 2024 and needed approval again this year to become part of the constitution, the Nevada Independent reported. [409] It puts the state's existing abortion law, which permits the procedure through 24 weeks of pregnancy, into the constitution, and drew 63.5% yes in our count. Question 7, which requires photo identification to vote in person and an identifying number with a mail ballot, also passed for the second time, with 62.2%. [409]

Closer to home

Democrats will hold a 4-1 majority on the Washoe County Commission, the first time they have held a majority of its seats, the Nevada Independent reported. [406, 410] Reno elected a new mayor for the first time in a dozen years: Kate Marshall, a former state treasurer and lieutenant governor, whose campaign focused on scrutiny of the city's spending and opposition to data centers within city limits. [409] In Clark County, Democrat Minja Yan won a County Commission seat over a Republican Assembly member and a former state senator, and Assembly member Daniele Monroe-Moreno, a Democrat, was elected mayor of North Las Vegas. [403, 409]

On the Clark County School Board, the Nevada Independent called three races for the incumbents: Brenda Zamora and Linda Cavazos over challengers backed by the county chapter of Moms for Liberty, and Irene Bustamante Adams. Had the two challengers won, four trustees would have been aligned with the group. [411] Two seats on the Supreme Court were on the nonpartisan ballot, and Ballotpedia lists both incumbents, Kris Pickering and Douglas Herndon, as winners. [412]

What did not change

No Republican-held seat in our count stayed Republican. What the party kept was in the Legislature and the rural counties. Republicans held Senate Districts 16 and 20, which left Democrats one seat short of two-thirds in that chamber, and the Legislature will have eight Republican senators and 10 Republican Assembly members. [406, 408, 409] Lombardo carried 15 of the 17 counties, and the small towns and rural counties gave him a margin of 41.4 points where Trump's had been 46.0. In Henderson, a nonpartisan office stayed with Mayor Michelle Romero, a registered Republican, who won re-election by more than 20 points, while a Democrat took a seat on the City Council. [413] Washoe County's district attorney-elect, Wes Duncan, is a Republican, the Nevada Independent reported. [406]

What it sets up

The next Senate seat on the ballot is Catherine Cortez Masto's, in 2028, in a state that voted Republican for president by 3.1 points in 2024 and Democratic for governor by 7.6 this year. Nevada holds its presidential primary on February 1, 2028, a year to the day after the new Legislature convenes. [406] Before then, Senate Democrats choose a new leader, and Clark County officials fill the Senate seat Cannizzaro leaves. [404]

New Hampshire

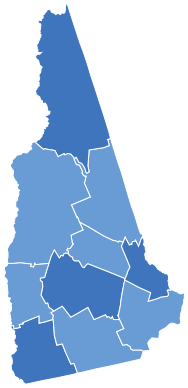
New Hampshire re-elected its Republican governor by 4.4 points, elected a Democratic senator by 13.8 and gave Democrats both chambers of the Legislature.

Democrat Chris Pappas won the Senate seat, which Democrats already held, by 13.8 points over Republican John E. Sununu. Gov. Kelly Ayotte, a Republican, was re-elected by 4.4 over Democrat Cinde Warmington. [2] Kamala Harris carried the state by 2.8 points in 2024. Democrats kept both U.S. House seats, Stefany Shaheen by 14.1 points and Maggie Goodlander by 20.0. The state Senate went from 16 Republicans and 8 Democrats to 15 Democrats and 9 Republicans in our count, and Democrats won all five seats on the Executive Council, where they had held one. [2, 414]

Compared with the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 11.0 points toward the Democrats. Pappas drew 85 votes for every 100 Harris won here, and Sununu drew 68 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The governor's race ran the other way: Ayotte's margin was 7.2 points better for Republicans than the presidential result, on the same ballots. The Senate race drew 637,981 votes in our count, 103% of the 2022 figure and 78% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 67

New Hampshire: the move from 2024, county by county



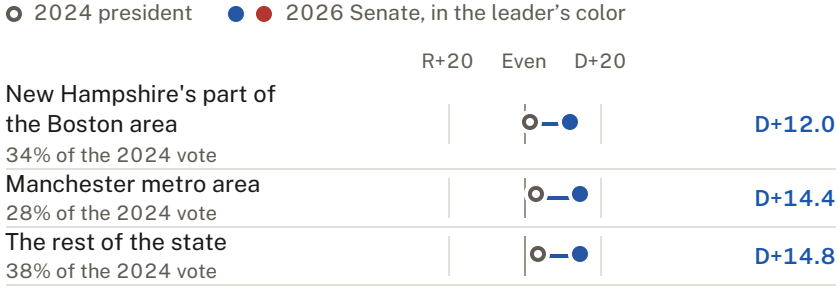
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 68

New Hampshire by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Chris Pappas (D) 55.9%, John E. Sununu (R) 42.1%	D+13.8	11.0 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Kelly Ayotte (R) 51.4%, Cinde Warmington (D) 47.0%	R+4.4	7.2 pts → R	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 2 D, 0 R. Called: 2 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NH-01	Stefany Shaheen	D+14.1	D+2.0
NH-02	Maggie Goodlander	D+20.0	D+3.5

Where it moved

The state moved by nearly the same amount everywhere. New Hampshire's part of the Boston area, which casts 34% of the vote, moved 10.5 points, from D+1.5 to D+12.0. The Manchester area moved 11.5, from D+2.9 to D+14.4, and the rest of the state, with 38% of the vote, moved 11.0, from D+3.8 to D+14.8.

Of the three counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Pappas this year, Rockingham County, in New Hampshire's part of the Boston area, is the largest. It went from R+2.4 to D+7.0 on 158,594 votes, 25% of the state's total. Hillsborough County, around Manchester, cast more votes than any other county and went from D+2.9 to D+14.4. Strafford County moved furthest, 13.6 points, to D+25.6. Coos County moved nearly as far and stayed Republican, by 1.3 points where Trump had won it by 13.8.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	24	8 D, 16 R	15 D, 9 R
House	386	173 D, 211 R, 2 independent	*Not read in our count (203 of 386 seats)*

Republicans lost full control of state government: Ayotte stays, and Democrats took both chambers.[2,414] The House clerk's unofficial count, reported by NHPR, gives Democrats 292 of the 400 House seats, with 107 Republicans and one independent; the Boston Globe reported 291 Democrats from the clerk's preliminary count.[2,414] More than half of that majority will be new lawmakers, NHPR reported.[415] A veto can be overridden with a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate, as the Keene Sentinel states the rule. Either House figure is above two-thirds. In the Senate, 15 of 24 seats is one short, so Democrats would likely need at least one Republican vote to complete an override.[414,416]

The Executive Council changed more completely than either chamber. Democrats won all five seats, up from one; the Associated Press called the last of them, District 1, for Democrat Luz Bay over Joe Kenney on November 6.[2,414,417] The new majorities will also choose who runs elections. The secretary of state is elected by the full House and Senate in December; the incumbent, David Scanlan, in the job since 2022, is seeking another two-year term, and NHPR reported that several Democrats are considering a challenge.[418]

House Democrats nominated Rep. Alexis Simpson of Exeter for speaker on November 12, by 200 votes to 75 over Rep. Jim Maggiore, and the full House votes on December 2.[415] "We know that people are struggling, needing lower property taxes, needing more affordable housing, needing to lower the cost of childcare, and to find accessible, affordable childcare throughout the state," she said after the caucus vote.[415] One early test is a bill to legalize marijuana, which a Democratic representative plans to sponsor and which Ayotte has long opposed.[416]

On the ballot

Question No. 1: Constitutional Amendment Question	**64.8% yes** Failed
Question No. 2: HB 1300	**58.9% yes** Passed

The two questions on every ballot followed different rules. A constitutional amendment needs a two-thirds majority, as NHPR states the rule, and Question 1, which would have removed the register of probate from the constitution, drew 64.8% yes in our count and failed.[19] Question 2 was a local question asked in every city and town at once: a cap on annual increases in local school taxes that applies only in the communities that passed it by 60 percent.[419] Its statewide yes share, 58.9%, decides nothing.

Closer to home

The school tax cap was settled town by town. Voters in at least 113 communities passed it, NHPR reported, citing WMUR. It narrowly failed in Manchester, where 59.8 percent supported it, and in Bedford, at 59.2 percent. Where it passed, the cap can still be overridden at the annual school district meeting. [419]

What did not change

The governorship was the one Republican-held office in our count that stayed Republican. Ayotte won by 4.4 points on a ballot where the Republican candidate for Senate lost by 13.8, and she kept her office while her party lost both chambers and the Executive Council majority. [2] "I believe in our state and our people, and together we will work to make life more affordable for everyone," she said, WCAX reported on November 4. [420] In the Senate race, two of the state's 10 counties voted Republican, and none moved toward the Republicans from 2024. Democrats, for their part, fell one seat short of two-thirds in the state Senate, which NHPR described as just shy of a veto-proof majority. [414]

What it sets up

The next Senate seat on the ballot is Margaret Wood Hassan's, in 2028, in a state that voted Democratic for president by 2.8 points in 2024 and Democratic for Senate by 13.8 this year. Before that, the House chooses its speaker on December 2, and the House and Senate together elect a secretary of state at the start of the session in December. [415, 418]

Still open

The House clerk's figures are unofficial, our own count could not read every district, and the clerk said recounts were likely. [2, 414] Simpson is the Democratic caucus's nominee for speaker, and the office is not hers until the full House votes. [415]

New Jersey

Northeast · 2024 president D+5.9

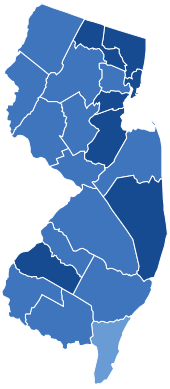
Democrats went from nine to 11 of New Jersey's 12 U.S. House seats, and Cory Booker was re-elected to the Senate by 27.5 points.

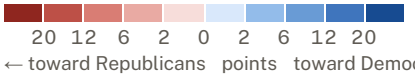
Sen. Cory Booker, a Democrat, won a third full term, 62.4% to 34.9% over Republican Justin Murphy, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 5.9 points.[421] The change was in the House, where Democrats defeated two Republican incumbents. In the 7th District, which Donald Trump carried by 1.2 points, Rebecca Bennett beat Rep. Thomas Kean Jr. by 16.5. In the 2nd, which Trump carried by 12.4, Cape May Mayor Zack Mullock beat Rep. Jeff Van Drew by 2.7.[421,422,423] Democrats kept all nine seats they held. In the 9th District, which Trump had carried by 1.1 points, Nellie Pou won by 34.9, and in the 8th no Republican appeared on the ballot against Rep. Rob Menendez.[424]

Booker's margin was 21.6 points wider than Harris's, and turnout made most of the difference. He drew 83 votes for every 100 she won here. Murphy drew 52 for every 100 of Trump's. The Senate race drew 2,947,148 votes in our count, 113% of the 2022 midterm figure and 69% of the 2024 presidential vote. Democratic candidates won the U.S. House vote statewide by 28.3 points, up from 7.1 in 2024.

FIGURE 69

New Jersey: the move from 2024, county by county

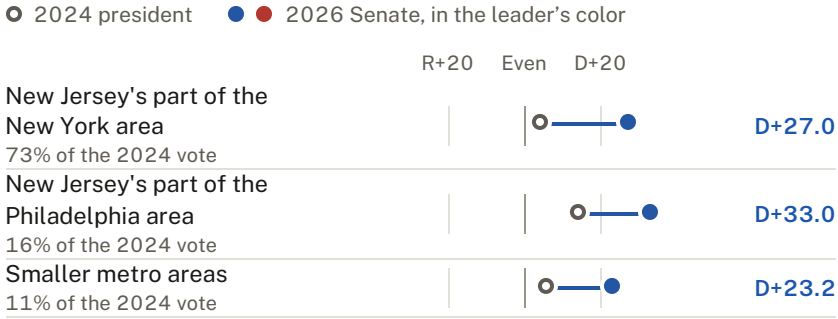




Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 70

New Jersey by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Cory Booker (D) 62.4%, Justin Murphy (R) 34.9%	D+27.5	21.6 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 12 seats. Before: 9 D, 3 R. Called: 11 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NJ-01	Donald Norcross	D+40.7	D+18.5
NJ-02	Zack Mullock **FLIP**	D+2.7	R+12.4
NJ-03	Herb Conaway	D+27.5	D+8.3

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NJ-07	Rebecca Bennett **FLIP**	D+16.5	R+1.2
NJ-08	Rob Menendez	D+83.7	D+24.2
NJ-09	Nellie Pou	D+34.9	R+1.1

NJ-04	Chris Smith	R+18.0	R+29.8
NJ-05	Josh Gottheimer	D+27.9	D+1.5
NJ-06	Frank Pallone	D+38.7	D+6.4
NJ-10	LaMonica McIver	D+69.2	D+50.4
NJ-11	Analilia Mejia	D+22.5	D+8.7
NJ-12	Adam Hamawy	D+42.6	D+23.9

Where it moved

Every part of the state moved by double digits. New Jersey's part of the New York area, which casts 73% of the vote, moved furthest, 22.8 points, from D+4.2 to D+27.0. The counties in the Philadelphia area, which were the most Democratic part of the state in 2024, moved 18.8 points, from D+14.2 to D+33.0. The smaller metro areas moved least, 17.5 points, to D+23.2.

The largest of the seven counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Booker this year is Monmouth County, in New Jersey's part of the New York area. It went from R+11.4 to D+6.4 on 236,197 votes. Passaic County crossed the same line and went much further, from R+2.9 to D+27.9. Hudson County moved furthest of all, 31.7 points, to D+59.7. Bergen County, which cast more votes than any other county, went from D+3.4 to D+24.5. Ocean County stayed Republican, by 8.3 points where Trump had won it by 36.0.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	40	25 D, 15 R	Not on the ballot
General Assembly	80	57 D, 23 R	Not on the ballot

Nothing in state government was on the statewide ballot. The Division of Elections' page for the 2026 general election lists results for two offices, U.S. Senate and U.S. House, and the governor's race was held the year before.[424, 425] The governor, Mikie Sherrill, is a Democrat.[426] Neither chamber of the Legislature was up, and in our count Democrats hold 25 of 40 seats in the state Senate and 57 of 80 in the lower chamber, as they did before.

What the election changed is the delegation New Jersey sends to the U.S. House, which will have one Republican where it had three. The 11-1 balance is the one the 2018 midterms produced, Insider NJ noted.[424] Among the 11 Democrats are Bennett and Mullock, who defeated incumbents; Adam Hamawy, who succeeds the retiring Bonnie Watson Coleman in the 12th District and will be the first Muslim from New Jersey to serve in Congress; and Analilia Mejia in the 11th, elected to her first full term after winning a special election.[422, 427] The new Congress is sworn in on January 3, 2027.[422]

The Republican vote fell much further than the Democratic vote. Turnout stood at 44.8 percent of registered voters at midday on November 11, against 55 percent in the 2018 midterms and 51 percent in the 2025 governor's race, Colleen O'Dea reported for Insider NJ, and Republican candidates for federal office received almost 20 percent fewer votes than in 2018.[424] "Turnout in this cycle was definitely lower than in 2018, and even seems to have been a shade lower than we saw in the governor's race last year," Dan Cassino, a professor of government and politics at Fairleigh Dickinson University, said in her report; he put the difference down to lower turnout among registered Republicans.[424] By county, turnout ranged from 35 percent in Hudson to 58 percent in Hunterdon.[424]

Closer to home

Trenton's mayor goes into a runoff from second place. In the election on November 3, police detective Corey McNair finished first in a field of six with 37.12% of the vote, and Mayor Reed Gusciora was second with 23.25%, in unofficial Mercer County results. The two meet on December 8, in the capital's first mayoral runoff

since 2018.[428] On October 15 Gov. Mikie Sherrill announced her nominees for the Morris and Hunterdon county prosecutors, who begin five-year terms if the state Senate approves them.[429]

What did not change

Republicans kept one of the three House seats they held. In the 4th District, which Trump carried by 29.8 points, Rep. Chris Smith won by 18.0; he was re-elected to a 24th term and will be the only Republican representing New Jersey in Congress, NJ Spotlight News reported.[427] The seat they came closest to keeping was the 2nd, lost by 2.7 points. In the Senate race, five of the state's 21 counties voted Republican; Trump had carried those and seven more. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it sets up

Neither of New Jersey's Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2028. The state that voted Democratic for president by 5.9 points in 2024 voted Democratic for Senate by 27.5 this year, with a Republican vote that was 52 for every 100 of Trump's. The members elected on November 3 take their seats on January 3, 2027.[422]

Still open

The count was not finished on November 11. County officials were still tallying some mail-in and provisional ballots that day, Insider NJ reported, with 2.99 million votes counted and turnout unlikely to rise much above 47 percent.[424] In Trenton, McNair and Gusciora meet in the mayoral runoff on December 8.[428]

New Mexico

West · 2024 president D+6.0

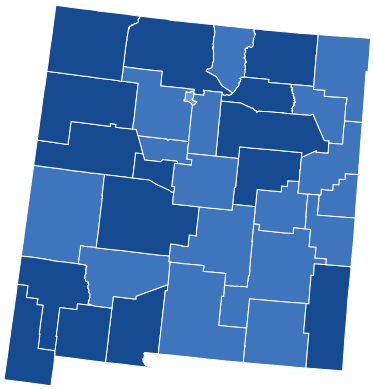
Deb Haaland kept New Mexico's governorship for the Democrats by 14.7 points, and her party reached two-thirds of the state House.

Democrat Deb Haaland won the open governor's race over Republican Gregg Hull, 57.4% to 42.6%, keeping the office in her party.[430] Democrat Ben Ray Luján won the Senate race by 26.5 points over Republican Larry Marker, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 6.0 points in 2024. Democrats kept all three U.S. House seats, among them the 2nd District, which Donald Trump carried by 1.8 points and Gabe Vasquez held by 17.5. They also won all five of the other statewide offices on the ballot. The attorney general, auditor and treasurer won new terms, and Democrats took the open offices of secretary of state and land commissioner, each by about 20 points or more.[431] No statewide office changed party. In our count Democrats hold 47 of the 70 state House seats, up from 43.

Measured against the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 20.5 points toward the Democrats, and the governor's race, the closer contest, moved 8.7. Luján drew 96 votes for every 100 Harris won here; Marker drew 63 for every 100 of Trump's. The vote for governor, the most-voted contest, came to 102% of the 2022 total and 79% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 71

New Mexico: the move from 2024, county by county



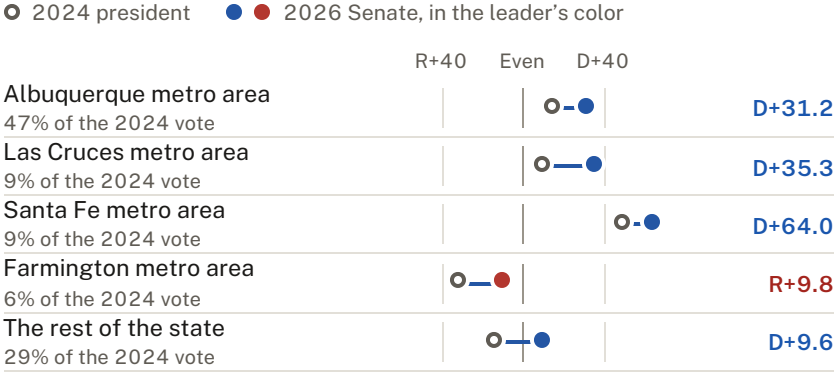
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 72

New Mexico by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Ben Ray Luján (D) 63.3%, Larry Marker (R) 36.7%	D+26.5	20.5 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Deb Haaland (D) 57.4%, Gregg Hull (R) 42.6%	D+14.7	8.7 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Raul Torrez (D) 63.0%, Samuel Isaiah Kane Sr. (R) 37.0%	D+26.0	20.0 pts → D	Hold
Auditor D-held	Joseph M Maestas (D) 60.5%, Joshua James Ryan Lawrence (R) 39.5%	D+21.1	15.1 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Land Commissioner D-held	Juan De Jesus Sanchez III (D) 60.7%, Michael Jack Perry (R) 39.3%	D+21.4	15.4 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	Amanda López Askin (D) 60.9%, Ramona L Goolsby (R) 39.1%	D+21.9	15.9 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Laura M Montoya (D) 59.8%, James F Ellison (R) 40.2%	D+19.6	13.6 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 3 seats. Before: 3 D, 0 R. Called: 3 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NM-01	Melanie Stansbury	D+27.3	D+12.7
NM-02	Gabe Vasquez	D+17.5	R+1.8
NM-03	Teresa Leger Fernandez	D+23.3	D+5.2

Where it moved

Every part of the state moved the same way. The Albuquerque area, which casts 47% of the vote, went from D+14.3 to D+31.2, a move of 16.9 points. The Las Cruces area moved furthest, 25.5 points, to D+35.3, and the Santa Fe area least, 15.1 points, from a start of D+48.9. The Farmington area stayed Republican, at R+9.8 where it had been R+31.7. The 26 counties outside the four metro areas, which cast 29% of the vote, changed sides, from R+14.4 to D+9.6.

Valencia County, in the Albuquerque metro area, is the largest of the five counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Luján this year. It went from R+16.4 to D+6.5 on 26,150 votes. The widest move among the state's larger counties was in McKinley County, around Gallup, which went from D+24.5 to D+57.4. Bernalillo County, the largest in the state, went from D+21.0 to D+38.0. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	42	26 D, 16 R	26 D, 16 R
House	70	43 D, 26 R	47 D, 23 R

Democrats keep the governorship and both chambers, with a bigger House majority.[430, 431, 432] They defeated four Republican incumbents, among them Rep. Rebecca Dow, the House Republican caucus chairwoman. They lost one seat, in a district where their incumbent dropped out too late to be replaced and the Republican ran unopposed.[431, 432] The Albuquerque Journal reports that the 47-to-23 split gives Democrats a two-thirds majority in the chamber, their largest since 1994. An override takes two-thirds of the members present and voting in each house, and with all 70 members voting, 47 is the smallest number that reaches it.[431, 432, 433] The next governor is of the same party, and House Speaker Javier Martínez said it was "way too early" to say whether the override power would come into play, MultiState reports.[431] The Senate stayed at 26 Democrats and 16 Republicans. It was not on the ballot apart from one special election, in District 33, which the appointed Republican senator won.[431]

Haaland is the first Native American woman elected governor of a U.S. state, the Albuquerque Journal reported. She takes office January 1, and a 60-day legislative session opens January 19. She and Lt. Gov.-elect Stephanie Garcia Richard indicated they would seek stopgap money from the Legislature to blunt federal changes to Medicaid and food assistance. "We will have to work hard to make sure New Mexicans can have affordable healthcare," Haaland said. At a news conference in Albuquerque the day after the election, Garcia Richard said she had begun talks with Democratic legislative leaders and named new rules for large data centers as one subject.[430]

The constitution lets the Legislature reapportion its own membership by statute once after each census, and a statute goes to the governor for approval or veto.[433] Both remain Democratic. The secretary of state, one of the executive officers elected statewide to four-year terms, also remains a Democrat: Amanda López Askin won the open office over Republican Ramona Goolsby.[431, 433, 434]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment 4	**63.5% yes** Passed	Constitutional Amendment 3	**70.0% yes** Passed
Bond Question 3	**64.3% yes** Passed	Bond Question 2	**66.0% yes** Passing
Constitutional Amendment 2	**64.8% yes** Passed	Constitutional Amendment 1	**75.1% yes** Passed
Bond Question 1	**69.6% yes** Passing		

A constitutional amendment passes in New Mexico with a majority of those voting on it, unless it restricts certain voting or education rights, which takes three-fourths. A state bond law needs a majority of the votes cast on it.[433] All seven statewide measures passed.[431] Amendment 4, with 63.5% yes, lets legislators collect a salary beginning in 2029, limited to the state's median household income, about $68,000 now. New Mexico had been the only state that paid its legislators none.[431, 435] Amendment 1 drew the most support, 75.1%. It ends the governor's pocket veto: a bill the governor does not act on becomes law, and every veto must come with a message. It passed over the opposition of the outgoing governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham.[430, 431, 435]

Amendment 2, with 64.8% yes, removes the requirement that school elections be held separately from partisan ones. Amendment 3, with 70.0%, creates nominating committees that give the governor lists of nominees for the nonstudent seats on the boards of regents of state universities. The largest of the three bond questions, Bond Question 3, provides $352.2 million for higher education and for special and tribal schools, including $116 million toward a new University of New Mexico School of Medicine building. It drew 64.3%. The other two bond questions pay for senior centers and libraries.[435]

Closer to home

Retention on the state Supreme Court takes at least 57 percent of the vote on the question.[433] Ballotpedia's table of candidates lists two justices, David K. Thomson and Shannon Bacon, as standing for retention this year and as having won.[436] In Sandoval County, the home of the Republican nominee for governor, Democrats won the contested county offices in unofficial results, including a county commission seat by 7,983 votes to 7,649.[430, 434]

What did not change

Republicans held none of the statewide offices or U.S. House seats on the ballot and won none. What they kept was on the map and in the Legislature. In the Senate race, 15 of the state's 33 counties still voted Republican, and the Farmington area did by 9.8 points. Rep. Nicole Chavez kept House District 31 in Albuquerque by about 5 points in one of the state's most expensive races, Rep. Joshua Hernandez held District 60 by about 3, and Republicans still have 16 of the 42 Senate seats.[431, 432, 434]

What it sets up

Neither of New Mexico's U.S. Senate seats is on the ballot in 2028. The governor and the other statewide executive officers serve four-year terms, so those offices come up again in 2030, and an officer who has served two terms must sit out a full term before holding the same office again.[433] The legislators chosen in 2028 will be the first to draw a salary, since Amendment 4 takes effect with the Legislature seated in 2029.[431, 435]

New York

Northeast · 2024 president D+12.7

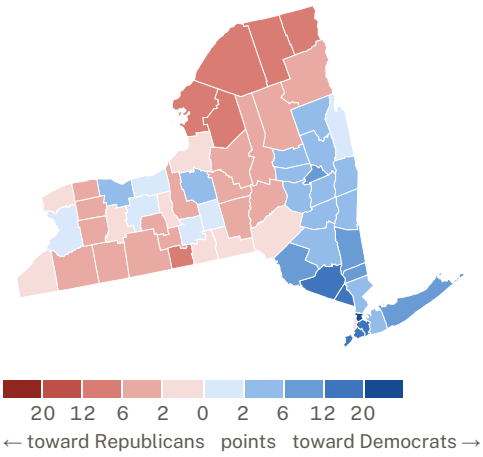
Kathy Hochul won a second full term as governor by 19.9 points, and New York Democrats regained a two-thirds majority in the state Senate while keeping theirs in the Assembly.

Gov. Kathy Hochul, a Democrat, won a second full term, 59.8% to 39.9%, over Republican Bruce Blakeman, the Nassau County executive.[437, 438] Kamala Harris carried the state by 12.7 points in 2024. Democrats Letitia James and Thomas DiNapoli won new terms as attorney general and comptroller, and Hochul's running mate, Adrienne Adams, won the open office of lieutenant governor, so no statewide office changed party.[438] Democrats held 19 of the state's 26 U.S. House seats before the election and Republicans seven; Democrats won 20 and Republicans six. The one seat that changed hands is the 17th District, which Harris carried by 0.6 points. Democrat Cait Conley beat Republican Mike Lawler there by 6.0.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race moved 7.2 points toward the Democrats. Hochul drew 79 votes for every 100 Harris won here; Blakeman drew 68 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The vote for governor came to 103% of the 2022 total and 74% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 73

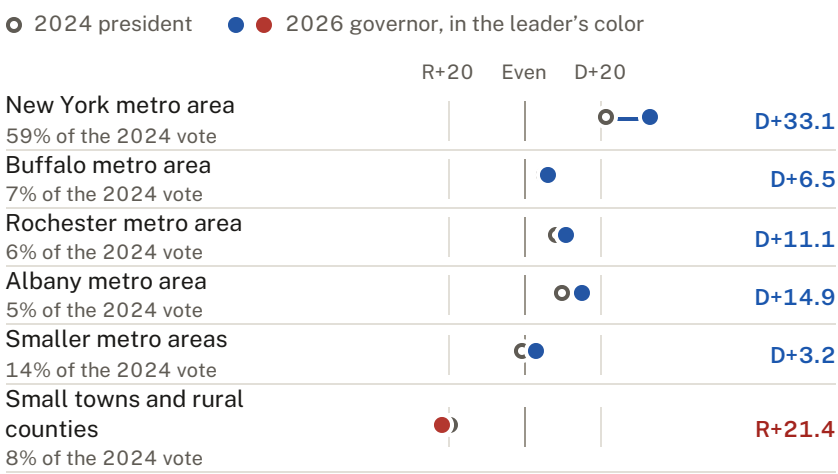
New York: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 74

New York by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Kathy Hochul (D) 59.8%, Bruce Blakeman (R) 39.9%	D+19.9	7.2 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Letitia James (D) 60.2%, Saritha Komatireddy (R) 39.7%	D+20.6	7.9 pts → D	Hold
Comptroller D-held	Thomas DiNapoli (D) 64.7%, Joseph Hernandez (R) 35.3%	D+29.4	16.7 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 26 seats. Before: 19 D, 7 R. Called: 20 D, 6 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NY-01	Nick LaLota	R+2.2	R+9.9
NY-02	Andrew Garbarino	R+2.3	R+13.7

District	Winner	Margin	2024
NY-14	Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	D+56.7	D+31.6
NY-15	Ritchie Torres	D+66.1	D+47.6

NY-03	Tom Suozzi	D+10.3	R+4.2
NY-04	Laura Gillen	D+13.4	D+1.3
NY-05	Gregory Meeks	D+61.2	D+41.7
NY-06	Grace Meng	D+38.0	D+6.4
NY-07	Claire Valdez	D+68.3	D+46.0
NY-08	Hakeem Jeffries	D+59.3	D+43.6
NY-09	Yvette Clarke	D+65.1	D+40.4
NY-10	Brad Lander	D+67.3	D+60.4
NY-11	Nicole Malliotakis	R+12.3	R+24.2
NY-12	Micah Lasher	D+57.2	D+63.3
NY-13	Darializa Avila Chevalier	D+76.2	D+58.8
NY-16	George Latimer	D+51.8	D+32.5
NY-17	Cait Conley **FLIP**	D+6.0	D+0.6
NY-18	Pat Ryan	D+25.8	D+3.3
NY-19	Josh Riley	D+14.7	D+1.8
NY-20	Paul Tonko	D+27.4	D+14.0
NY-21	Anthony Constantino	R+1.8	R+20.2
NY-22	John Mannion	D+17.0	D+7.5
NY-23	Nick Langworthy	R+20.4	R+20.7
NY-24	Claudia Tenney	R+20.7	R+22.7
NY-25	Joseph Morelle	D+26.0	D+18.2
NY-26	Tim Kennedy	D+32.0	D+19.1

Where it moved

Most of the movement was in one region. The New York metro area, which casts 59% of the vote, went from D+21.6 to D+33.1, a move of 11.5 points. In the other large metro areas the change was small: 4.9 points in the Albany area, 2.5 around Rochester and 1.3 around Buffalo, which finished at D+6.5. The smaller metro areas, with 14% of the vote, crossed from R+0.3 to D+3.2. The small towns and rural counties moved the other way, 1.8 points toward the Republicans, to R+21.4.

Of the four counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Hochul this year, Suffolk County, in the New York metro area, is the largest. It went from R+10.0 to D+0.8 on 538,227 votes. Rockland County crossed over by more, from R+11.8 to D+7.1. Within the metro area, Queens County moved 19.6 points and Bronx County 21.1, while New York County finished at D+64.6, almost exactly where it was. Across the state, 31 of the 62 counties moved toward the Republicans. Among the larger ones Oneida County, around Utica, moved furthest, from R+21.3 to R+24.3. One county that voted for Harris voted for Blakeman.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	63	41 D, 22 R	48 D, 15 R
Assembly	150	103 D, 47 R	111 D, 39 R

Democrats kept the governorship and both chambers, with larger majorities in each. Before the election they held 41 of the 63 Senate seats and 103 of the 150 in the Assembly. They unseated six Republican senators, among them Jim Tedisco in the Capital Region, who had served 34 years in the Assembly before joining the Senate, and have won at least 47 seats. Our count, which includes a seat now headed to a recount, has 48.[438,439] In the Assembly our count has 111 Democrats and 39 Republicans. Bob Turner, who chairs the political science department at Skidmore College, told WAMC the Democratic total would be 111 or 112, which he called the largest majority in state history.[439]

The constitution lets the Legislature pass a bill over a veto with two-thirds of the members elected to each house.[440] A law firm's election summary puts that at 42 senators and 100 Assembly members, so Democrats regained the margin in the Senate and kept it in the Assembly, and the two chambers can now override a governor of their own party.[437,441,442] Lawmakers have never tried to override one of Hochul's vetoes, MultiState reports.[438] "I think our conference will flex its muscles in the budget negotiations," state Sen. Shelley Mayer, a Democrat, said in WAMC's report of November 10. Assemblymember Sarah Clark of Rochester said lawmakers should raise taxes on wealthy New Yorkers to help offset federal cuts; WAMC reported that Hochul resisted such increases when the Legislature proposed them before.[441]

Two-thirds is also the number that governs the next maps. An independent redistricting commission prepares the state Senate, Assembly and congressional plans every ten years and sends them to the Legislature, and what the Legislature approves goes to the governor. When the Assembly speaker and the Senate's temporary president belong to the same party, approving the commission's legislation takes two-thirds of the members elected to each house.[443] Democrats have the majority in both chambers. Elections are administered by the State Board of Elections, a bipartisan agency in the executive department.[444] No office that runs elections was among the statewide offices on the ballot.

Closer to home

New York City voters approved all five proposals on the city ballot. They cover outdoor dining, city contracting, street safety work, construction permits and the city's rainy-day fund, as NY1 describes them.[445] No seat on the Court of Appeals was on the ballot: the governor appoints its judges, with the advice and consent of the Senate, from candidates a nominating commission recommends.[446]

What did not change

Republicans kept six of their seven U.S. House seats, three of them narrowly. Anthony Constantino won the 21st District by 1.8 points where Trump had won by 20.2, and Nick LaLota and Andrew Garbarino held the 1st and 2nd by 2.2 and 2.3. Blakeman carried 41 of the 62 counties, and the small towns and rural counties gave him a wider margin than they gave Trump. In the Legislature, Republicans held the open Senate District 7 by about 4 points and gained one Assembly seat, the open District 119, by about 5.[438]

What it sets up

The Senate seat held by Democrat Charles E. Schumer is the next one on the ballot, in 2028, in a state that voted D+12.7 for president in 2024 and D+19.9 for governor this year. The governor serves four years, so the office Hochul won comes up again in 2030. Senators and Assembly members are chosen for two years, which puts every legislative seat, and the two-thirds majorities, back before the voters in 2028.[447, 448]

Still open

One state Senate seat is unsettled. In District 43, which takes in Rensselaer County and parts of Albany and Washington counties, Democrat Devin Lander said on November 12 that he led Republican Sen. Jake Ashby by 335 votes of more than 121,000, and declared victory. State law requires an automatic recount when the margin is under half a percent. Ashby has not conceded, and some Albany County mail ballots can still arrive in the week of November 16.[439] MultiState's tally showed Democrats leading two Republican Assembly members, in Districts 49 and 126, in races still being counted.[438]

North Carolina

South · 2024 president R+3.2 · 4 races not called

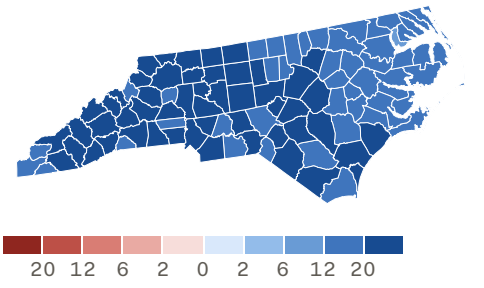
Roy Cooper won a Republican-held Senate seat by 19.7 points, and North Carolina Democrats took the state House and went from four U.S. House seats to at least nine.

Democrat Roy Cooper beat Republican Michael Whatley for the Senate, 58.8% to 39.1%, in a state Donald Trump carried by 3.2 points two years earlier. Republicans had held the seat, and 10 of the 14 U.S. House seats. In our count Democrats have won nine and Republicans one, with four not called. The widest Democratic gain was in the 11th District, which Jamie Ager won by 15.8 points. The others, in the 6th, 9th, 13th and 14th districts, were each decided by 2.5 points or less, where Trump had won by at least 14.8. Democrats also won the state House, which Republicans had held 71 to 49 in the law firm Williams Mullen's election report.[449]

Measured against the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 22.9 points toward the Democrats. Cooper drew 91 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Whatley drew 57 for every 100 of Trump's. The Senate vote came to 112% of the 2022 total and 74% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 75

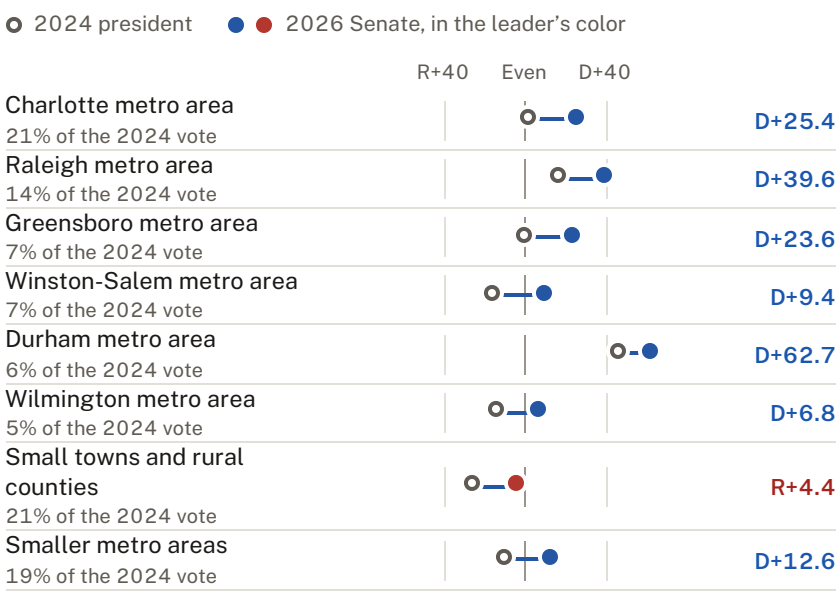
North Carolina: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 76

North Carolina by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Roy Cooper (D) 58.8%, Michael Whatley (R) 39.1%	D+19.7	22.9 pts → D	**Flip**

U.S. House: 14 seats. Before: 4 D, 10 R. Called: 9 D, 1 R, with 4 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
NC-01	Don Davis	D+3.4	R+11.4
NC-02	Deborah K. Ross	D+51.6	D+33.5
NC-03	Raymond Smith not called	D+0.1	R+13.4
NC-08	Mark Harris	R+1.7	R+19.1
NC-09	Richard N. Ojeda II **FLIP**	D+2.3	R+15.6
NC-10	Pat Harrigan not called	R+0.8	R+17.4

NC-04	Valerie P. Foushee	D+60.2	D+44.9
NC-05	Chuck Hubbard not called	D+0.1	R+17.5
NC-06	Cyril Jefferson **FLIP**	D+2.4	R+16.9
NC-07	David Rouzer not called	R+0.7	R+13.7
NC-11	Jamie Ager **FLIP**	D+15.8	R+9.4
NC-12	Alma S. Adams	D+62.5	D+45.9
NC-13	Paul Barringer **FLIP**	D+2.5	R+16.3
NC-14	Lakesha Womack **FLIP**	D+2.3	R+14.8

Where it moved

Every region moved toward the Democrats. The Charlotte area, which casts 21% of the vote, went from D+2.1 to D+25.4, and the Raleigh area from D+16.4 to D+39.6. The Winston-Salem area moved furthest, 25.1 points, and changed sides, from R+15.7 to D+9.4; so did the Wilmington area and the smaller metro areas. The Durham area, which started at D+46.1, moved least, 16.6 points. The small towns and rural counties, with 21% of the vote, stayed Republican, by 4.4 points where the margin had been 25.3.

Johnston County, in the Raleigh metro area, is the largest of the 22 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Cooper this year. It went from R+21.5 to D+6.2 on 89,195 votes. The two largest counties, Wake County and Mecklenburg County, moved 21.8 and 20.7 points, to D+47.3 and D+53.6. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	50	20 D, 30 R	24 D, 26 R seats too close to call remain
House	120	47 D, 71 R, 2 independent	71 D, 48 R, 1 independent

Government stays divided, on new terms. Democrats won the state House for the first time since 2010, which gives Democratic Gov. Josh Stein a chamber that can sustain his vetoes. Republicans, who held both chambers, keep an unofficial 26-to-24 majority in the Senate.[450, 451] They went in with 30 of 50 Senate seats, exactly the three-fifths an override takes, and lost four.[449, 451, 452] In the House, our count has 71 Democrats, 48 Republicans and one unaffiliated member, as Williams Mullen does; a Nelson Mullins table has one fewer Democrat. Seventy-one is one short of three-fifths of the chamber, which the unaffiliated member-elect, April Montgomery, could supply, Nelson Mullins notes.[449, 450] All 18 legislative incumbents who lost were Republicans.[451]

The new majority does not take over until January. The current legislature serves until December 31, with a veto-proof Republican majority in the Senate and what Republicans call a working supermajority in the House, and is scheduled to return on November 16 for a lame-duck session. As of November 11 its leaders had released no agenda, WUNC reported. Rep. Robert Reives, the House Democratic leader and incoming speaker, said a session like those that followed past elections would signal no interest in working with his caucus. “I don’t want business as usual,” he said.[453] He has named oversight of private-school vouchers and the decriminalization of marijuana among the issues the House may take up.[454]

The House result also changes who can draw maps. The General Assembly draws the legislative and congressional districts by bill, and the constitution exempts those bills from the governor’s veto: they become law once each house has passed them.[452] From January a map needs a Democratic House and the Senate to agree. Elections are run by the State Board of Elections, whose members the state auditor appoints from lists submitted by the chairs of the two largest parties.[455]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment - Property Tax Levy Limit	**60.4% yes** Passed

Constitutional Amendment - Maximum Income Tax Rate of 3.5%	**61.9% yes** Passed
Constitutional Amendment - Require Photo Id for Voting	**59.6% yes** Passed

An amendment the General Assembly sends to the voters takes effect if a majority of the votes cast on it are in favor. [456] All three on the ballot passed. One lowers the highest income tax rate the constitution allows from 7% to 3.5%, starting with the 2027 tax year, and drew 61.9% yes. Another extends the photo identification requirement to every method of voting, including by mail, and drew 59.6%. The last, with 60.4%, requires the legislature to pass laws limiting increases in local governments' property tax levies. [449, 450, 451]

Closer to home

Democratic Justice Anita Earls won a second eight-year term on the state Supreme Court over Republican Sarah Stevens. [450] In Raleigh, Mayor Janet Cowell won a second term, the first for the office to run four years in place of two. "I hope we have a very productive next four years," she said on election night. [457] In Wake County, former U.S. Rep. Wiley Nickel, a Democrat, faced no opponent for district attorney and takes the office next year. [453, 458]

Wake County voters also filled four of the nine seats on the board of the state's largest public school district, electing Jasmine Zavala, Christina Gordon, Maddie Segal and Tyler Swanson, and approved a $680 million school bond. [459] In Asheville, council member Kim Roney defeated Mayor Esther Manheimer by roughly 7,000 votes in unofficial results, which gives the city its first new mayor in 13 years. [460]

What did not change

Republicans kept one of the two chambers they held, by the unofficial count, and their majorities on the state Supreme Court, 5-2, and the Court of Appeals, 12-3, though Democrats won every appellate race on the ballot. [450] Of the 10 U.S. House seats they held, our count has called one for them: the 8th District, which Mark Harris won by 1.7 points where Trump had won by 19.1. In the Senate race 56 of the state's 100 counties still voted Republican. All three amendments the Republican legislature sent to the ballot passed. [450, 451]

What it sets up

Republican Ted Budd's Senate seat is next on the ballot, in 2028, in a state that voted R+3.2 for president in 2024 and D+19.7 for Senate this year. The governorship is on the ballot the same year: the constitution sets the election every four years, and no one may be elected to more than two consecutive terms. [461] State Court Report writes that ideological control of the state Supreme Court will also be before voters in 2028. [462]

Still open

All four uncalled U.S. House races are within a point in our count. In the 3rd District, Democrat Raymond Smith leads Republican Rep. Greg Murphy by 0.1 points. Murphy led until provisional ballots were counted on November 10 and, WUNC reported, conceded the next morning. [463, 464] In the 5th, Democrat Chuck Hubbard leads Rep. Virginia Foxx, an 11-term Republican, by 0.1. Republicans David Rouzer and Pat Harrigan lead in the 7th and 10th. Recount requests are due by noon on November 17, and the State Board of Elections certifies the results on November 24. [464]

The state Senate majority rests on District 24, where Republican Sen. Danny Britt's lead of fewer than 300 votes is inside the recount margin. A Britt loss would tie the chamber 25-25, with Lt. Gov. Rachel Hunt holding the tie-breaking vote, Nelson Mullins writes. [449, 450]

North Dakota

Midwest · 2024 president R+36.8

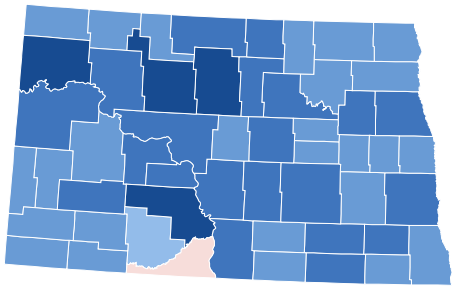
North Dakota Republicans kept the U.S. House seat and their legislative supermajorities and won all but one of the statewide offices on the ballot, while their margin in the U.S. House race fell from 38.9 points to 20.7.

North Dakota had no race for Senate or governor. Its one U.S. House seat stayed Republican: Rep. Julie Fedorchak won a second term by 20.7 points over Trygve Hammer of the Democratic-NPL, in a rematch of 2024, when the Republican margin was 38.9.[465] Donald Trump carried the state by 36.8 points. Republicans won all but one of the seven statewide offices on the ballot, and every statewide incumbent on the ballot won, among them Attorney General Drew Wrigley and Secretary of State Michael Howe.[465, 466] The exception is not a party office. Levi Bachmeier, whom Gov. Kelly Armstrong had appointed superintendent of public instruction, won election to that nonpartisan post.[465]

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the House race moved 15.7 points toward the Democrats. Hammer drew 76 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, and Fedorchak drew 55 for every 100 of Trump's. The House vote came to 98% of the 2022 total and 64% of the 2024 presidential vote. InForum reported that less than 40% of eligible North Dakotans voted, the lowest turnout in roughly half a century, and that the state did not follow the Democratic gains elsewhere in the country, with Republicans keeping their hold on statewide politics.[467]

FIGURE 77

North Dakota: the move from 2024, county by county



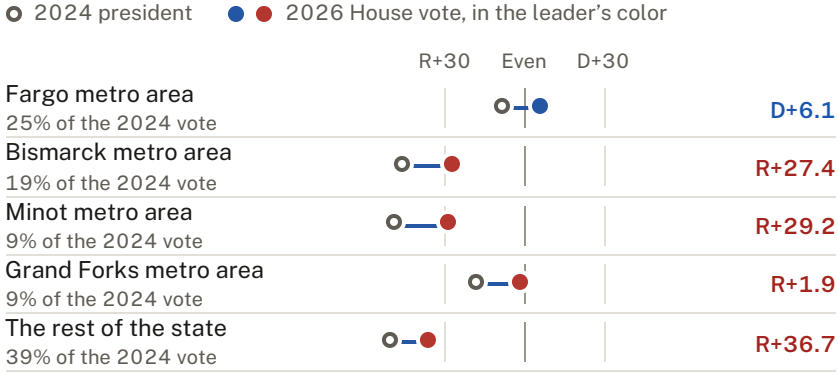
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the U.S. House vote, all districts added together minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 78

North Dakota by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Attorney General R-held	Drew Wrigley (R) 63.8%, Tim Lamb (D) 36.0%	R+27.8	9.0 pts → D	Hold
Commissioner of Agriculture R-held	Doug Goehring (R) 62.7%, Vern Thompson (D) 37.1%	R+25.6	11.1 pts → D	Hold
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Sheri Haugen-Hoffart (R) 61.2%, John M Pederson (D) 38.6%	R+22.6	14.2 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Public Service Commissioner R-held	Jill Kringstad (R) 61.7%, Scot Kelsh (D) 38.1%	R+23.6	13.1 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Michael Howe (R) 62.0%, Ryan Braunberger (D) 37.9%	R+24.1	12.6 pts → D	Hold
Superintendent of Public Instruction nonpartisan office	Levi Bachmeier (I) 62.7%, Tracy Layne Foss (I) 36.7%	+26.0	—	Won
Tax Commissioner R-held	Brian Kroshus (R) 63.8%, Mark Nelson (D) 36.1%	R+27.7	9.1 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 1 seat. Before: 0 D, 1 R. Called: 0 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
ND-AL	Julie Fedorchak	R+20.7	R+36.5

Where it moved

The Fargo area, which casts 25% of the vote, changed sides, from R+8.4 to D+6.1. The Minot and Bismarck areas moved furthest, 20.0 and 18.5 points, and stayed Republican by 29.2 and 27.4. The Grand Forks area went from R+18.0 to R+1.9. The rest of the state, 45 counties with 39% of the vote, moved least, 14.0 points, and finished at R+36.7.

Of the state's 53 counties, one changed sides: Cass County, around Fargo. It voted for Trump by 8.4 points and for the Democratic House candidate by 6.1, on 58,506 votes, 25% of the state's total. Grand Forks County nearly followed: it went from R+18.0 to R+1.9. The widest swing among the larger counties was in Williams County, around Williston, which moved 23.5 points and still voted Republican by 44.0. Only Sioux County moved toward the Republicans. Fargo and Grand Forks are also where Democrats gained legislative seats.[468]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	47	5 D, 42 R	6 D, 41 R
House	93	11 D, 82 R	14 D, 78 R

No chamber and no statewide office changed hands. The governor's office, held by a Republican, was not on the ballot, so Republicans keep full control of state government, and they kept supermajorities in both chambers: 80 of 94 House seats and 41 of 47 Senate seats in the North Dakota Monitor's count of November 12. MultiState had them at 83 and 42 before the election.[466, 468, 469] Overriding a veto takes two-thirds of the members elected to each house, a mark Republicans pass with room to spare in both.[470] The Democratic gains came in Fargo and Grand Forks. Mary Adams defeated Republican Sen. Jeff Barta in District 43, Democrats won House seats in Districts 41 and 43, and Nicole Derenne won a special election for a District 42 House seat. One District 41 seat was decided by 33 votes, and the results are unofficial.[468, 469] Republicans took one Democratic-held House seat, in Fargo's District 11.[466]

House Republicans chose Rep. Robin Weisz as majority leader and nominated Rep. Brandy Pyle for speaker; Senate Republicans re-elected Sen. David Hogue as majority leader. Lawmakers take office December 1.[469] The Legislative Assembly also divides the state into legislative districts, the governor may veto the bills it passes, and the state's single U.S. House seat is elected at large, so the election changed nothing in who draws the lines.[470, 471] The secretary of state, an elected office, stays with Republican Michael Howe, who defeated Ryan Braunberger of the Democratic-NPL.[465, 470]

On the ballot

Constitutional Measure No. 1 relating to the threshold for approving a constitutional amendment from a simple majority to sixty percent	**43.5% yes** Failing
Initiated Constitutional Measure No. 2 relating to funding of school lunches	**49.4% yes** Failing

A constitutional measure passes in North Dakota with a majority of the votes cast on it, whether the Legislative Assembly proposes it or voters initiate it.[471, 472] Voters rejected both on the ballot. Measure 1 would have raised that bar to 60 percent for future amendments, and drew 43.5% yes.[466, 473] Measure 2, an initiated measure, would have required public schools to provide a free breakfast and a free lunch to all students each school day, regardless of income. It fell just short of a majority, with 49.4% yes, in complete but unofficial results.[466, 473, 474]

Gov. Kelly Armstrong said he does not anticipate a large push by Republican lawmakers to revisit a universal school-meals program. “I just think it’s a little harder politically today than it would have been even six months ago,” he said, the North Dakota Monitor reported. Democratic Rep. LaurieBeth Hager of Fargo said she will bring free school meals back as a bill.[474]

Closer to home

Ballotpedia lists two seats on the state Supreme Court on the nonpartisan ballot: Justice Jerod Tufte defeated Ariston Johnson, and Justice Douglas Bahr won a special election.[475]

What did not change

Republicans won again in all seven of the partisan seats they held on the statewide ballot. The narrowest was the U.S. House race, at 20.7 points; the next were the two Public Service Commission seats, at 22.6 and 23.6. Fedorchak carried 50 of the 53 counties. Democrats won no statewide office and, by the Monitor’s count, remain below one-fifth of each legislative chamber.[469]

What it sets up

Republican John Hoeven’s Senate seat is next on the ballot, in 2028, in a state that voted R+36.8 for president in 2024 and R+20.7 in this year’s House race. The governorship comes up the same year: the constitution counts four-year terms from 2000 and bars anyone from being elected governor more than twice.[470, 476] Legislative term limits, which voters approved in 2022, begin to remove incumbents in 2028, and both Republican floor leaders, Hogue and Weisz, reach their chambers’ limit then.[468, 469]

Ohio

Midwest · 2024 president R+11.2

Democrats won Ohio's governorship and a U.S. Senate seat, both from Republicans, and enough state House seats to sustain the new governor's vetoes.

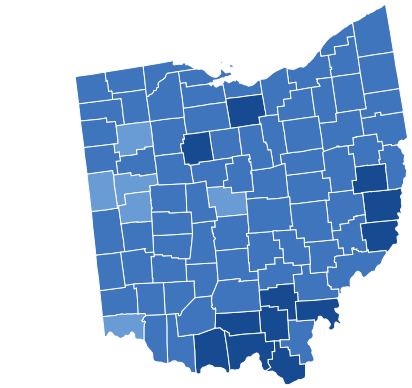
Democrat Sherrod Brown beat Republican Jon Husted for the Senate by 4.9 points, and Democrat Amy Acton beat Republican Vivek Ramaswamy for governor by 7.9. Republicans had held both offices, in a state Donald Trump carried by 11.2 points two years earlier. Acton's win ends 16 years of Republican governors, and she will be the state's first woman and first Jewish governor, MultiState reports.[477] The U.S. House delegation went from 10 Republicans and five Democrats to eight Democrats and seven Republicans. Democrats Brian Poindexter, Don Leonard and Kristina Knickerbocker won Republican seats by 9.9, 6.6 and 1.6 points, each in a district Trump had carried.

Three more Republican offices went to Democrats, each by less than the Senate race. Allison Russo won secretary of state by 3.5 points, Seth Walsh won treasurer by 1.1 and John J. Kulewicz won attorney general by 0.6. The Republican candidates for attorney general and treasurer, Keith Faber and Jay Edwards, conceded. MultiState calls these the Democrats' first down-ballot wins since 2008. Republican Frank LaRose, the outgoing secretary of state, won the race for auditor by 1.6 points, the one statewide office his party kept.[477]

Compared with the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 16.1 points toward the Democrats, and the governor's race 19.1. Brown drew 91 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Husted drew 65 for every 100 of Trump's. The Senate vote came to 111% of the 2022 total and 80% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 79

Ohio: the move from 2024, county by county



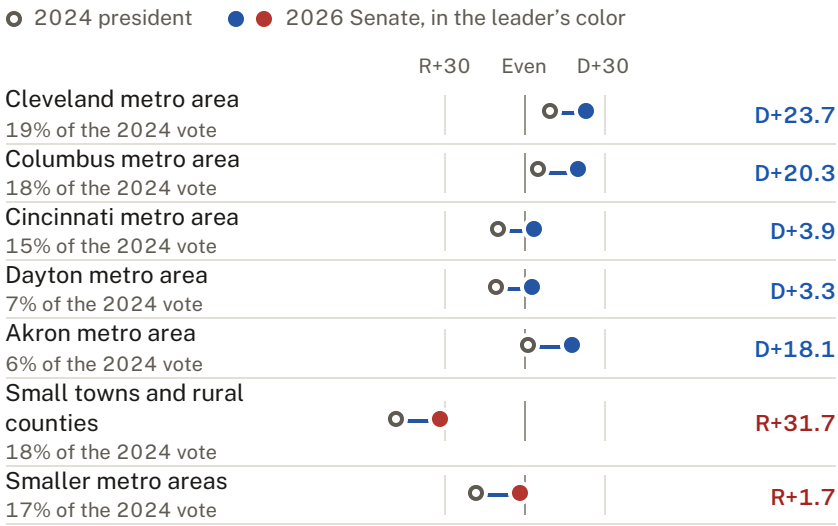
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← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 80

Ohio by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Sherrod Brown (D) 50.0%, Jon Husted (R) 45.1%	D+4.9	16.1 pts → D	**Flip**
Governor R-held	Amy Acton (D) 52.3%, Vivek Ramaswamy (R) 44.4%	D+7.9	19.1 pts → D	**Flip**

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Attorney General R-held	John J. Kulewicz (D) 50.3%, Keith Faber (R) 49.7%	D+0.6	11.8 pts → D	**Flip**
Auditor R-held	Frank LaRose (R) 50.8%, Annette Blackwell (D) 49.2%	R+1.6	9.6 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Allison Russo (D) 50.3%, Robert Sprague (R) 46.8%	D+3.5	14.7 pts → D	**Flip**
Treasurer R-held	Seth Walsh (D) 50.6%, Jay Edwards (R) 49.4%	D+1.1	12.3 pts → D	**Flip**

U.S. House: 15 seats. Before: 5 D, 10 R. Called: 8 D, 7 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
OH-01	Greg Landsman	D+11.4	R+2.5
OH-02	David J. Taylor	R+28.5	R+41.4
OH-03	Joyce Beatty	D+54.4	D+39.6
OH-04	Jim Jordan	R+33.2	R+41.9
OH-05	Bob Latta	R+11.7	R+23.4
OH-06	Michael A. Rulli	R+20.8	R+34.0
OH-07	Brian Poindexter **FLIP**	D+9.9	R+10.9
OH-08	Warren Davidson	R+4.3	R+15.4
OH-09	Marcy Kaptur	D+5.5	R+10.4
OH-10	Kristina Knickerbocker **FLIP**	D+1.6	R+7.7
OH-11	Shontel M. Brown	D+67.1	D+54.1
OH-12	Troy Balderson	R+18.8	R+29.6
OH-13	Emilia Sykes	D+21.6	D+3.2
OH-14	David P. Joyce	R+10.1	R+20.0
OH-15	Don Leonard **FLIP**	D+6.6	R+9.9

Where it moved

The regions moved within a few points of one another. The Cleveland and Columbus areas, with 19% and 18% of the vote, went to D+23.7 and D+20.3. The Cincinnati area moved least, 13.7 points, and changed sides all the same, from R+9.8 to D+3.9, as did the Dayton area, to D+3.3. The small towns and rural counties moved furthest, 17.0 points, and stayed Republican at R+31.7. The smaller metro areas finished at R+1.7, from R+18.3.

The largest of the eight counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Brown this year is Lorain County, in the Cleveland metro area. It went from R+5.7 to D+11.2 on 129,818 votes. Two counties Trump had carried by more crossed with it: Trumbull County, in the Youngstown area, went from R+16.8 to D+2.6, and Portage County, near Akron, from R+15.5 to D+2.7. The three largest counties moved less than the state did, Hamilton County least at 10.5 points. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	33	9 D, 24 R	11 D, 22 R
House	99	34 D, 65 R	43 D, 56 R

Republicans no longer control all of state government. They keep both chambers, with 22 of 33 Senate seats and, in our count, 56 of 99 House seats, down from 65. A veto override takes three-fifths of the members elected to each chamber, which is 60 votes in the House and 20 in the Senate.[477, 478] Republicans lost that margin in the House, where Ballotpedia says they had held it since the 2012 election, and cannot reach it even if they win every race still being counted, so they cannot override Acton without Democratic votes.[477, 479, 480] “She will be an equal partner with the legislature because she can veto any bill that comes out of the legislature, and we can now sustain that veto,” House Minority Leader Dani Isaacsohn told News 5 Cleveland on November 4.[480]

The outgoing legislature, which still has the three-fifths margin in both chambers, meets in a lame-duck session before Acton takes office in January.[481, 482] Some Republican lawmakers have talked of reducing the new executives’ roles, News 5 reported, and one representative is introducing a resolution to lower the override

threshold from 60 votes to 50, an idea House Speaker Matt Huffman and Senate President Rob McColley both questioned.[483, 484] The outgoing Republican governor, Mike DeWine, rejected the proposals. “I don’t think any governor is going to approve anything, whether you’re Democrat or Republican, that would dramatically change the powers of the governor,” he told News 5.[483]

The election also changed who sits on the body that draws legislative maps. The Ohio Redistricting Commission has seven members: the governor, the auditor, the secretary of state and four legislative appointees, two named by each party’s leaders.[485] Republicans held all three statewide seats. Democrats now have two of them, with Acton and Russo, and LaRose keeps the auditor’s seat for Republicans.[477] Congressional maps are the General Assembly’s to draw first, by a bill that needs three-fifths of each house and at least half the members of each of the two largest parties.[486] As secretary of state, Russo also becomes the state’s top election official.[487]

On the ballot

State Issue 3 To require voters to present photo identification in order to vote	**65.3% yes** Passing

A constitutional amendment passes in Ohio with a majority of those voting on it.[488, 489] Issue 3, the only statewide measure, passed with 65.3% yes. It writes the state’s voter identification requirement into the constitution: photo ID to vote in person, and photo ID or a signature with another identifier to vote absentee. It changes nothing in current practice and means a future change to the requirement would need another statewide vote.[477, 490]

Closer to home

Democrats won both state Supreme Court seats on the ballot. Justice Jennifer Brunner, who had been the court’s last remaining Democrat, defeated Republican Colleen O’Donnell, and Marilyn Zayas, an appeals court judge from Hamilton County, defeated Republican Justice Daniel Hawkins. Republicans are left with a 5-2 majority.[491]

What did not change

Republicans kept eight of the seats they held on this ballot: the auditor’s office and seven U.S. House seats. The narrowest was the auditor’s race, at 1.6 points. Next was the 8th District, where Warren Davidson won by 4.3 in a district Trump carried by 15.4. Husted carried 73 of the state’s 88 counties, and the small towns and rural counties still voted Republican by 31.7 points. Republicans also kept both legislative chambers and their majority on the Supreme Court, and held the open Senate District 13 by about 1 point.[477, 480]

What it sets up

The seat Brown won is on the ballot again in 2028. This was a special election for the seat JD Vance left to become vice president, and it comes up for a full six-year term then.[492] Brown won it by 4.9 points in a state that voted R+11.2 for president in 2024. The governor serves a four-year term and may hold the office for no more than two in succession.[493] State Court Report writes that ideological control of the Ohio Supreme Court will be before voters in 2028.[491]

Still open

The state House count is not final. Our count has 56 Republicans and 43 Democrats; MultiState’s tally stood at 53 to 42 with four Republican-held seats still being counted.[477] Republicans led by 19, 56 and 126 votes in Districts 29, 44 and 75, each inside the margin for an automatic recount, News 5 Cleveland reported.[480]

Oklahoma

South · 2024 president R+34.3

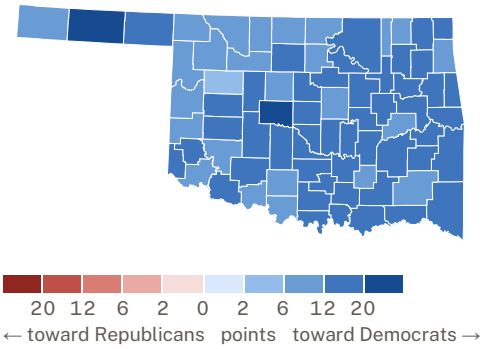
Republicans won every statewide office in Oklahoma, but the open governorship by only 6.0 points in a state Donald Trump carried by 34.3, and Democrats gained six seats in the state House.

Republican Mike Mazzei won the open race for governor over Democrat Cyndi Munson, 51.9% to 45.9%.[494, 495] Republican Kevin Hern won the Senate race by 17.9 points over Democrat N'Kiyla Jasmine Thomas. Republicans won all seven of the other statewide offices on the ballot, from lieutenant governor, where T. W. Shannon won by 15.6 points, and attorney general, where Jon Echols won by 10.7, to the corporation, insurance and labor commissioners and the superintendent of public instruction. Republicans had held every one of them. They also kept all five U.S. House seats, two of them narrowly: Stephanie Bice won the 5th District by 1.3 points, in a district Trump carried by 17.7, and Mark Tedford won the 1st by 4.6, where Trump's margin was 21.4.

Trump carried Oklahoma by 34.3 points in 2024. Set against that, the Senate race moved 16.4 points toward the Democrats and the governor's race 28.3. Republican candidates for the U.S. House won the statewide House vote by 17.0 points, against 34.1 in 2024. The governor's race, the most-voted contest, drew 1,120,930 votes in our count, 97% of the 2022 midterm turnout and 72% of the 2024 presidential vote. The drop fell mostly on one side: Thomas drew 88 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, and Hern drew 62 for every 100 of Trump's.

FIGURE 81

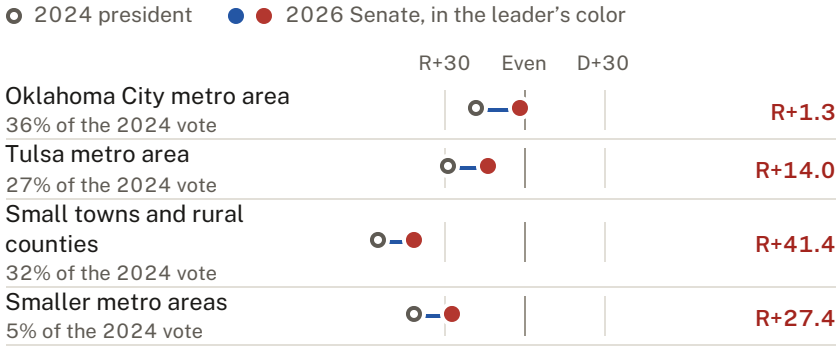
Oklahoma: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 82

Oklahoma by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Kevin Hern (R) 57.2%, N'Kiyla Jasmine Thomas (D) 39.3%	R+17.9	16.4 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Mike Mazzei (R) 51.9%, Cyndi Munson (D) 45.9%	R+6.0	28.3 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General R-held	Jon Echols (R) 55.3%, Nick Coffey (D) 44.7%	R+10.7	23.6 pts → D	Hold
Corporation Commissioner R-held	Brad Boles (R) 58.4%, Rhonda Eastman (D) 41.6%	R+16.8	17.4 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Insurance Commissioner R-held	Bob Sullivan (R) 59.1%, Craig MacIntyre (D) 40.9%	R+18.2	16.1 pts → D	Hold
Labor Commissioner R-held	Kevin West (R) 55.9%, Kevin Dawson (D) 39.3%	R+16.6	17.7 pts → D	Hold
Lieutenant Governor R-held	T. W. Shannon (R) 57.8%, Kelly Forbes (D) 42.2%	R+15.6	18.7 pts → D	Hold
Superintendent of Public Instruction R-held	Robert Franklin (R) 66.0%, Jennettie Marshall (D) 34.0%	R+32.0	2.2 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Cindy Byrd (R) 75.4%, Kiefer Perry (L) 24.6%	R+50.8	—	Hold

U.S. House: 5 seats. Before: 0 D, 5 R. Called: 0 D, 5 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
OK-01	Mark Tedford	R+4.6	R+21.4
OK-02	Josh Brecheen	R+39.0	R+55.1
OK-03	Frank Lucas	R+27.9	R+45.3
OK-04	Tom Cole	R+18.1	R+33.0
OK-05	Stephanie Bice	R+1.3	R+17.7

Where it moved

The Oklahoma City area, which casts 36% of the vote, moved furthest, 16.8 points, from R+18.1 to R+1.3, close to an even split. The Tulsa area, with 27% of the vote, went from R+28.9 to R+14.0. The small towns and rural counties, 32% of the vote, moved least, 14.2 points, and stayed Republican by 41.4.

Oklahoma County, in the Oklahoma City metro area, is the larger of the two counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for the Democrat in this year's Senate race. It went from R+1.7 to D+13.6 on 228,519 votes, 20% of the state's total. In the governor's race Munson carried it by nearly 25 points while losing statewide, The Frontier reported.[496] The other county to cross over was Cleveland County, in the same metro area, which went from R+14.9 to D+1.1. Tulsa County came within 1.3 points of joining them, from R+15.2. The widest swing was in Canadian County, in the Oklahoma City metro area, which moved 20.5 points and still voted Republican by 19.9. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	48	8 D, 39 R	*Not read in our count (10 of 48 seats)*
House	101	19 D, 81 R	*Not read in our count (46 of 101 seats)*

Republicans keep the governorship and large majorities in both chambers.[494] The change was in the state House, where Democrats gained more ground than in any election in more than two decades, KGOU reported.[497] Our count could not read every legislative district. MultiState's count has the House at 75 Republicans and 26 Democrats, from 81 and 20, and The Frontier also has Republicans at 75 of 101 seats.[495, 496] Four of the six Democratic gains came from defeating incumbents in the Oklahoma City area; a fifth was in Tulsa, where District 75 was decided by 542 votes, and the sixth was an open seat in Comanche County, won 50% to 49%.[496] Senate Democrats kept all eight of their seats.[497] News 9 has Republicans at 39 of 48 Senate seats with one vacancy; MultiState has them at 40.[494, 495]

The House margin matters for one threshold. The constitution lets a vetoed bill become law with two-thirds of the members elected to each chamber, and keeps a three-fourths vote for emergency bills.[498] At 75 seats Republicans remain above two-thirds and fall one short of three-fourths, which The Frontier reports they also need to pass revenue-raising bills without a statewide vote; they had 81 before the election.[495, 496, 499] House Speaker Kyle Hilbert said in a statement that the results reaffirmed a Republican supermajority in the House.[497] The Legislature draws congressional and legislative districts, and Republicans kept both chambers.[494, 500] The secretary of the State Election Board, by law the secretary of the state Senate, runs elections; Paul Ziriax has held the post since 2009, and the governor appoints the board's members from lists the two largest parties supply, with the Senate's consent.[501]

"Like, here's how we make life more affordable, and here's how we can change the tax code to get more high-paying jobs," Mazzei said in a News 9 interview published November 6. The station reported that he believes a no-income-tax day and abolishing property taxes for seniors and veterans will draw business to the state, and that he will require every state agency to send him a financial report every 90 days.[502]

On the ballot

State Question 847	**45.7% yes** Failed
State Question 845	**27.5% yes** Failed

A constitutional amendment the Legislature sends to voters takes a majority of those voting on it.[503, 504] Both state questions failed. State Question 845 would have removed the Judicial Nominating Commission's partisan requirements, changed who selects its members and let them serve consecutive terms; it drew 27.5% yes.[497, 505] State Question 847 would have lowered the state's caps on yearly property tax growth, 3% for homestead and agricultural property and 5% for other real property, by more than a point each beginning in 2027, and drew 45.7%. The mayors of Tulsa and Oklahoma City opposed it.[497, 506]

Closer to home

Oklahoma County voters rejected a sales tax to build and run a new county jail, with more than 62% voting no, on the same day the county voted Democratic for Senate. Voters had approved a $260 million bond for the jail in 2022; KGOU reports the jail is now estimated to cost about $860 million, and the tax would have filled the shortfall.[497] In Yukon, voters elected Joe Phillips mayor in a recall election with more than 80% of the vote.[497, 507] Oklahoma City had re-elected Mayor David Holt in February, and the state's boards of education held their 2026 elections in February and April, not on November 3.[508, 509]

What did not change

Republicans kept all 14 of the seats they held, the closest of them the 5th District by 1.3 points and the 1st by 4.6. The other three Republican House winners won by double digits, Josh Brecheen by 39.0 points in the 2nd. In the Senate race 75 of the state's 77 counties voted Republican, and the small towns and rural counties, 32% of the vote, stayed Republican by 41.4 points. Republicans kept two-thirds of both chambers, enough to override a veto without a Democratic vote.[494, 498]

What it sets up

Hern takes his Senate seat as soon as the results are certified, without waiting for January, to finish the rest of Markwayne Mullin's term, KGOU reported, citing an attorney general's opinion.[497] The next Senate seat on the ballot, in 2028, is Republican James Lankford's, in a state that voted R+34.3 for president in 2024 and R+17.9 in this year's Senate race. The governor serves a four-year term and no one may serve more than eight years in all, so the office Mazzei won is next on the ballot in 2030.[498]

Oregon

West · 2024 president D+14.4

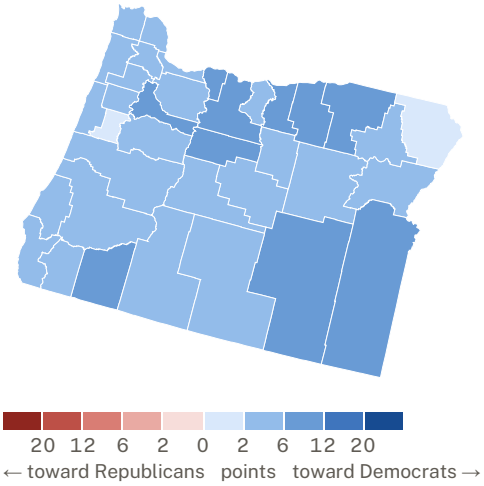
Oregon re-elected Democratic Gov. Tina Kotek by 9.6 points, and Democrats, on unofficial counts, added to the legislative supermajorities they already held.

Gov. Tina Kotek, a Democrat, was re-elected over Republican Christine Drazan, 53.3% to 43.7%.[510] Democrat Jeff Merkley won the Senate race by 19.4 points over Republican David Brock Smith, keeping the seat for the Democrats. Kamala Harris carried Oregon by 14.4 points in 2024. No U.S. House seat changed hands, and the delegation remains five Democrats and one Republican. The closest House race was the 5th District, where Janelle S Bynum won by 9.8 points in a district Harris carried by 8.6; Val Hoyle won the 4th by 10.8. Democratic candidates won the statewide House vote by 18.4 points, against 11.1 in 2024.

The two statewide races moved in opposite directions from the presidential vote. Merkley's margin was 5.0 points wider than Harris's, and Kotek's was 4.8 points narrower. The governor's race, the most-voted contest, drew 1,966,357 votes in our count, 101% of the 2022 total and 89% of the 2024 presidential vote. Merkley drew 92 votes for every 100 Harris won, and David Brock Smith drew 83 for every 100 of Donald Trump's.

FIGURE 83

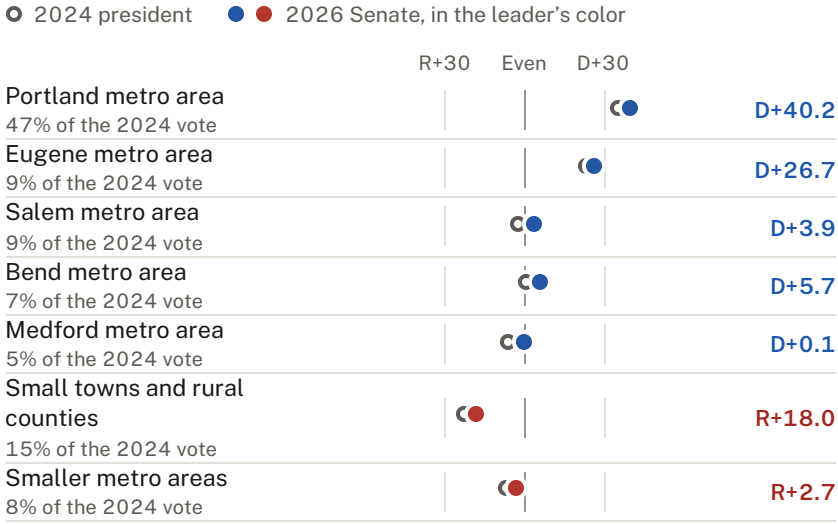
Oregon: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 84

Oregon by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Jeff Merkley (D) 58.0%, David Brock Smith (R) 38.6%	D+19.4	5.0 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Tina Kotek (D) 53.3%, Christine Drazan (R) 43.7%	D+9.6	4.8 pts → R	Hold

U.S. House: 6 seats. Before: 5 D, 1 R. Called: 5 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
OR-01	Suzanne Bonamici	D+42.6	D+38.1
OR-02	Cliff Bentz	R+23.1	R+27.2
OR-03	Maxine E Dexter	D+54.9	D+46.4

OR-04	Val Hoyle	D+10.8	D+12.1
OR-05	Janelle S Bynum	D+9.8	D+8.6
OR-06	Andrea Salinas	D+16.7	D+11.4

Where it moved

Every part of the state moved toward the Democrats in the Senate race. The Portland area, which casts 47% of the vote, moved 4.3 points, from D+35.9 to D+40.2, and the Eugene area moved least, 3.5. The Medford area moved furthest, 6.5 points, from R+6.4 to D+0.1, and the Salem area moved 6.3, from R+2.4 to D+3.9. The small towns and rural counties, 15% of the vote, went from R+22.9 to R+18.0.

Marion County, in the Salem area, is the largest of the four counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Merkley this year. It went from R+2.0 to D+5.4 on 138,082 votes, the widest move of any large county. It is also where Democrats made two of their three legislative gains: Virginia Stapleton defeated Republican Tracy Cramer for a state Senate seat, and Michael Welsh defeated Rep. Kevin Mannix to flip a House seat, both in Marion County districts. [511] Jackson County, around Medford, barely crossed, from R+6.4 to D+0.1. The three Portland-area counties that cast the most votes all moved less than the state did: Multnomah County went from D+62.1 to D+66.7, Washington County to D+37.9 and Clackamas County to D+12.8.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	30	18 D, 12 R	*Not read in our count (15 of 30 seats)*
House	60	37 D, 23 R	*Not read in our count (60 of 60 seats)*

Democrats keep the governorship and both chambers. [511, 512] Our count could not read every legislative district. Willamette Week's unofficial results of November 9, with nearly all votes counted, give Democrats 19 of 30 Senate seats and 39 of 60 House seats, a gain of one and two. The paper describes the supermajority as the 60% needed to pass tax policy in each chamber, which Democrats already met and now clear with seats to spare in both. Republicans did not flip a single legislative district. The third Democratic gain came in a Columbia River Gorge district, where Hank Sanders defeated Republican Scott Hege for the House seat Rep. Jeff Helfrich gave up; Helfrich won the Senate seat Drazan left to run for governor, over Democrat Nicole Bassett. Rep. Cyrus Javadi, who changed his affiliation from Republican to Democrat in 2025, was re-elected on the north coast. [511] On January 12 Democrats will have held the governor's office for 40 years, OPB noted. [510]

Oregon's secretary of state, an elected constitutional officer, is its chief elections officer. Tobias Read holds the office, and it was not on this year's ballot in our count, so the election did not change who runs elections. [513, 514] In Washington, D.C., the change runs through the Senate: with the chamber controlled by Democrats, OPB reported, Ron Wyden is in line to chair the Finance Committee, and Merkley is the ranking senator on the Budget Committee. [510]

Kotek set out her second-term plans to reporters on November 6, OPB reported: affordable housing production, slowing increases in health care costs, K-12 school results and groundwork for universal free preschool. She plans bills to recast Business Oregon as a Department of Commerce, to move the Oregon State Hospital out from under the Oregon Health Authority and to regulate data centers. "My call to the Legislature is that they need to do a bill around data center oversight and standards in the first 60 days of session," she said. She must send lawmakers a proposed budget by December 1, and the session begins January 19. [512]

Closer to home

In Multnomah County, which OPB calls the state's most populous, the race for county chair was counted by ranked choice, a system voters adopted in 2022, and OPB called it the first to use the system in four years. Commissioner Shannon Singleton led with 49.43% of first choices; once Sharon Meieran was eliminated, she had 56.2% to Julia Brim-Edwards's 43.8% in the tally OPB reported on November 4. The office is nonpartisan, and all three candidates are registered Democrats. [515, 516] Portland voters rejected a charter amendment that would have let residents decide 2% of the city's discretionary budget, with 62.78% voting no. [515]

In Bend, Mayor Melanie Kebler had 68.83% of the vote in OPB's count of November 4. In Clackamas County, James Rhodes, appointed interim sheriff in July, led Brad O'Neil 52.84% to 47.16% in OPB's count of November 7 for the rest of the former sheriff's term; both had said their first job was to renew the county's public safety levy, which goes back to voters in May. [510, 515, 517]

What did not change

Republicans kept the one House seat they held: Cliff Bentz won the 2nd District by 23.1 points, in a district Trump carried by 27.2. In the Senate race 23 of the state's 36 counties still voted Republican, among them Umatilla County, which moved 6.1 points and still voted Republican by 31.7. No county moved toward the Republicans. In the Legislature they defended some swing seats, Willamette Week reported, among them a Senate district spanning Scappoose, Astoria and Tillamook, where Clatsop County Commissioner Courtney Bangs defeated Rachel Armitage. [511]

What it sets up

The next Senate seat on the ballot, in 2028, is Democrat Ron Wyden's, in a state that voted D+14.4 for president in 2024 and D+19.4 in this year's Senate race. The constitution limits a governor to eight years in any twelve-year period, and Kotek has now won her second term, so she cannot run again when the office is next on the ballot. [512, 518]

Still open

Two county races were not settled in the pages we read. The race for Washington County chair was within a few hundred votes on November 11, with Nafisa Fai at 50.08% and Pam Treece at 49.92% in OPB's count, and no page read reports a winner or a recount. No page read says the Multnomah County chair result is final. [515, 516]

Pennsylvania

Northeast · 2024 president R+1.7

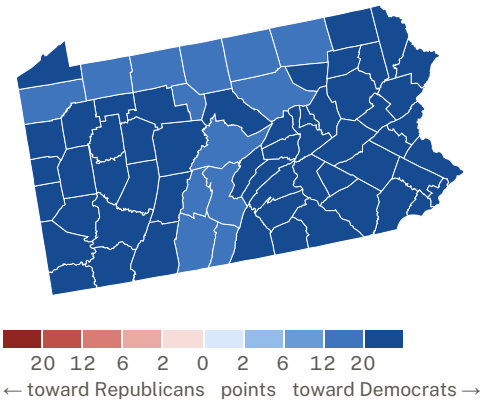
Josh Shapiro was re-elected governor of Pennsylvania by 22.4 points and Democrats won the state Senate, putting the governor's office and both chambers of the legislature in the same party's hands.

Josh Shapiro won 60.5% of the vote to 38.2% for the Republican, Stacy Garrity, in a state Donald Trump carried by 1.7 points two years earlier. There was no U.S. Senate race. Republicans held 10 of the 17 U.S. House seats before the election and Democrats hold 11 after it. Every seat that changed hands had been Republican-held. In the First District, Bob Harvie beat Brian Fitzpatrick by 5.7 points. In the Seventh, which Trump carried by 3.2, Bob Brooks beat Ryan Mackenzie by 12.4. In the Eighth, a Trump district by 8.3 points, Paige Cognetti beat Rob Bresnahan by 9.0, and in the Tenth Janelle Stelson beat Scott Perry by 10.4.

Measured against the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race moved 24.1 points toward the Democrats. The U.S. House vote, which compares the same office across years, went from R+2.1 in 2024 to D+13.6. The governor's race drew 5,012,874 votes in our count, 93% of the 2022 total and 71% of the 2024 presidential vote, and most of the drop came on one side. Shapiro drew 89 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here. Garrity drew 54 for every 100 of Trump's.

FIGURE 85

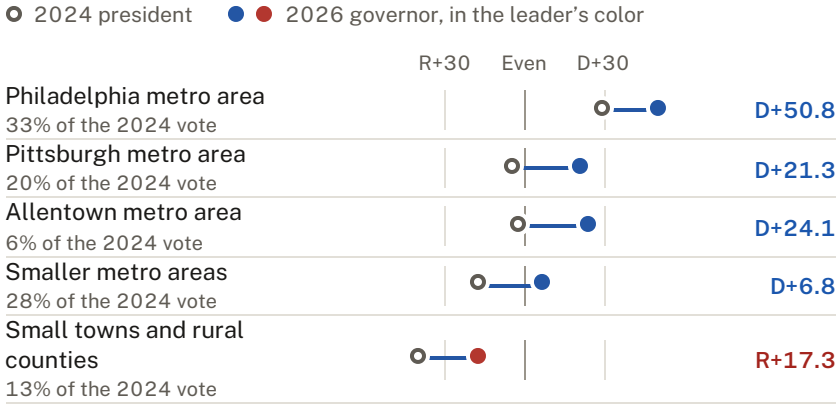
Pennsylvania: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 86

Pennsylvania by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	Josh Shapiro (D) 60.5%, Stacy Garrity (R) 38.2%	D+22.4	24.1 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 17 seats. Before: 7 D, 10 R. Called: 11 D, 6 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
PA-01	Bob Harvie **FLIP**	D+5.7	D+0.3
PA-02	Brendan Boyle	D+61.7	D+35.3
PA-03	Chris Rabb	D+87.2	D+76.3

District	Winner	Margin	2024
PA-10	Janelle Stelson **FLIP**	D+10.4	R+5.2
PA-11	Lloyd Smucker	R+10.8	R+21.0
PA-12	Summer Lee	D+31.3	D+18.9

PA-04	Madeleine Dean	D+34.4	D+15.6
PA-05	Mary Gay Scanlon	D+44.4	D+28.2
PA-06	Chrissy Houlahan	D+29.0	D+11.2
PA-07	Bob Brooks **FLIP**	D+12.4	R+3.2
PA-08	Paige Cognetti **FLIP**	D+9.0	R+8.3
PA-09	Dan Meuser	R+22.9	R+37.3
PA-13	John Joyce	R+34.9	R+44.8
PA-14	Guy Reschenthaler	R+15.0	R+32.8
PA-15	Glenn Thompson	R+27.6	R+37.3
PA-16	Mike Kelly	R+7.7	R+22.4
PA-17	Chris Deluzio	D+25.8	D+5.4

Where it moved

The race moved almost evenly across the state. The Allentown area moved furthest, 26.7 points, from R+2.6 to D+24.1, and the Pittsburgh area, which casts 20% of the vote, moved 25.7, from R+4.5 to D+21.3. The Philadelphia area, 33% of the vote and already the most Democratic, moved least, 21.8 points, to D+50.8. The smaller metro areas, 28% of the vote, went from R+17.3 to D+6.8, and the small towns and rural counties moved 22.6 points and still voted Republican by 17.3.

Of the 11 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Shapiro this year, Bucks County, in the Philadelphia metro area, is the largest. It moved from R+0.1 to D+25.9 on 305,486 votes. The widest swings came around Scranton: Lackawanna County moved 30.1 points, and Luzerne County, which Trump won by 19.2, went to Shapiro by 9.1. Washington County, in the Pittsburgh area, went from R+25.5 to D+2.6. Shapiro carried Montour, Washington and Lancaster counties, all of which he had lost in 2022, Spotlight PA's reporters said.[519] Allegheny County, the largest county by votes cast, went from D+20.3 to D+43.9. No county went the other way.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	50	23 D, 27 R	26 D, 24 R
House	203	102 D, 100 R	113 D, 89 R, 1 other

Democrats won the state Senate 26 to 24. They defeated four Republican incumbents and lost one seat of their own in Lancaster County, where Republican Tom Jones beat Sen. James Malone, WHYY reported. Republicans had held the Senate majority since 1978, apart from an interruption in 1993.[520] Democrats also kept the state House. Our count has them in 113 of its 203 seats and Republicans in 89, and those totals are unofficial until the results are certified. With Shapiro re-elected, Democrats hold both chambers and the governor's office for the first time since 1993.[521] Sen. Maria Collett will be Senate majority leader next session, and Joanna McClinton remains House speaker, Votebeat reported.[522] An override of a governor's veto takes two-thirds of all members elected to each chamber, 34 senators and 136 representatives, and no party is near that.[523]

Congressional districts are drawn by a bill that passes both chambers and is signed by the governor, so the whole process now runs through Democrats. State House and Senate districts are drawn by a five-member commission: the four caucus floor leaders or their deputies, and a chair they select or, if they cannot agree, the state Supreme Court selects.[524] Elections are run by the secretary of the commonwealth, whom the governor appoints and the Senate confirms; Al Schmidt has held the office since Shapiro appointed him in 2023.[525] Election law is among the things the new majority may change, Votebeat reported: a House bill that died in the Senate last year would have created early in-person voting, required at least two mail-ballot drop boxes in every county and given counties more time to prepare mail ballots for counting.[522]

"We will raise the minimum wage. We will make sure that women have a right to reproductive freedom here in this commonwealth. We will build more housing. We will allow survivors of abuse the ability to confront their abusers in court," Shapiro told reporters at the governor's mansion the day after the election, WHYY reported.

Budgets have been late every year under divided control, and McClinton said that would end. [520] Raising the minimum wage is to be the first bill of 2027, Spotlight PA's reporters said. [519]

Closer to home

No mayor, district attorney, school board or judge was on the ballot: Pennsylvania fills judicial, county and local offices in odd-numbered years. [526] Philadelphia voters approved both city charter questions in unofficial results. One lets the city award contracts of $75,000 to $500,000 to small, local businesses even when their bids are not the lowest, and passed with 78.8%; the other establishes Creative Philadelphia, the city's arts and culture office, under the Home Rule Charter. [527] In the suburbs, Democrats ousted every Republican state legislator in Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties, a first, WHYY reported from unofficial results; two Republicans remain in the state House from Bucks County. [528]

What did not change

Republicans kept six of the 10 U.S. House seats they held, the closest of them the 16th, where Mike Kelly won by 7.7 points in a district Trump carried by 22.4, and the 11th, where Lloyd Smucker won by 10.8. In the governor's race 47 of the state's 67 counties still voted Republican. The party's one gain in the state Senate was Jones's seat in Lancaster County. [520] Spotlight PA's reporters counted roughly three Republican state representatives left in southeastern Pennsylvania and a single Republican state senator in Philadelphia and its suburbs. [519]

What it sets up

The next Senate seat on the ballot, in 2028, is Democrat John Fetterman's, in a state that voted R+1.7 for president in 2024 and D+22.4 in this year's governor's race. The governor may serve two terms in a row, so Shapiro's office will be open when it is next on the ballot in 2030. [523, 529] Writing abortion access into the state constitution, one of the Democrats' stated aims, takes passage in two legislative sessions back to back and then a referendum, Spotlight PA's reporters said. [519]

Rhode Island

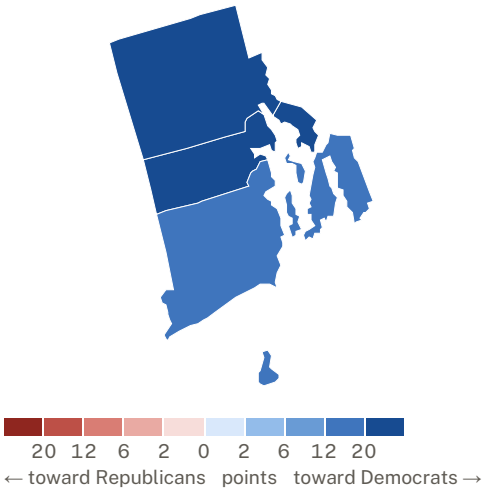
Rhode Island elected Democrat Helena Buonanno Foulkes governor and gave her party 36 of 38 state Senate seats, while voters rejected two state bond questions.

Helena Buonanno Foulkes won the governor's office with 57.7% of the vote. Her nearest rival was an independent, Kenneth Block, at 27.8%. In the U.S. Senate race, Democrat John F. Reed beat Republican Raymond T. McKay by 37.5 points. Democrats won all four of the other statewide offices on the ballot, all of which they held. The closest was lieutenant governor, where Sabina Matos won by 19.0 points; Kimberly Ahern won the attorney general's race by 33.0 and James A. Diossa the treasurer's by 30.7. Democrats kept both U.S. House seats: Gabriel Amo won the First District by 41.1 points and Seth Magaziner the Second by 24.1, in a district Harris carried by 6.8.

Kamala Harris carried Rhode Island by 13.9 points in 2024, which puts the Senate result 23.5 points to the left of the presidential one. The Senate race drew 360,406 votes in our count, 101% of the 2022 total and 71% of the 2024 presidential vote. Both parties' candidates drew fewer votes than their presidential nominees had, and the Republican fell much further. Reed drew 84 votes for every 100 Harris won here; McKay drew 49 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The U.S. House vote, the same office in both years, went from D+23.3 to D+31.9.

FIGURE 87

Rhode Island: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	John F. Reed (D) 66.8%, Raymond T. McKay (R) 29.3%	D+37.5	23.7 pts → D	Hold
Governor D-held	Helena Buonanno Foulkes (D) 57.7%, Kenneth Block (I) 27.8%	D+30.0	—	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Kimberly Ahern (D) 66.4%, Alan Leonard Gordon (R) 33.4%	D+33.0	19.1 pts → D	Hold
Lieutenant Governor D-held	Sabina Matos (D) 59.3%, John J. Loughlin, II (R) 40.4%	D+19.0	5.1 pts → D	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Secretary of State D-held	Gregg M. Amore (D) 95.7%, Write-in (O) 4.3%	D+91.4	—	Hold
Treasurer D-held	James A. Diossa (D) 65.2%, Micholas A. Credle (R) 34.6%	D+30.7	16.8 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 2 D, 0 R. Called: 2 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
RI-01	Gabriel Amo	D+41.1	D+22.1
RI-02	Seth Magaziner	D+24.1	D+6.8

Where it moved

The whole state lies in the Providence metro area, so the comparison runs county by county. Providence County cast 51% of the state's vote and moved farther than any other county, 26.2 points, from D+14.4 for president to D+40.6 for Senate.

Kent County shows the size of the move where the parties had been close. Harris carried it by 1.9 points and Reed by 25.5. Washington County went from D+15.0 to D+33.7, and Bristol County moved 20.6 points to D+46.9. None of the state's five counties changed sides, and none moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	38	34 D, 4 R	36 D, 2 R
House	75	64 D, 10 R, 1 independent	66 D, 8 R, 1 independent

Control did not change. Democrats keep the governor's office, where Foulkes succeeds a Democrat, and both chambers of the General Assembly.[530, 531] The opposition got smaller. Republicans lost two of their four state Senate seats and two of their 10 House seats, one of them to Allan Fung, a former mayor of Cranston and twice the Republican nominee for governor, who ran as an independent and won a three-way race with 39%, the Boston Globe reported. The House Republican leader said the caucus would not invite Fung to join it. Republicans are left with 10 of the legislature's 113 seats.[530] On unofficial results Democrats hold 36 of 38 Senate seats and 66 of 75 House seats, more than four-fifths of each chamber.[530]

Two of the Democratic wins involved major field operations by Reclaim RI, a left-wing group, and the Working Families Party, Reclaim RI's co-chair, Daniel Denvir, told the Globe. Nelly Burdette beat Republican Sen. Thomas J. Paolino of Lincoln, 43.4% to 38.9% in a race with two independents, and in House District 49 the House's lone independent, Jon Brien, lost to Democrat Veronicka Vega, 51.4% to 47.7%. In Senate District 34 Samantha R. Wilcox beat Republican Sen. Elaine J. Morgan, 52.6% to 47.3%.[530] "We might be fewer in numbers, but we are not going to be quieter in our conviction," said Senate Minority Leader Jessica de la Cruz, whose caucus went from four members to two.[530]

The secretary of state, elected by popular vote, is Rhode Island's chief elections officer. Gregg M. Amore, sworn into office on January 3, 2023, won again this year in our count, and a secretary may serve only two consecutive terms.[532] The Judicial Nominating Commission screens applicants for vacancies on every court in the state and sends the governor three to five names for each.[533]

On the ballot

1. Higher Education Facilities - $275,000,000	**60.0% yes** Passed

2. Housing and Homeownership - $120,000,000	**61.3% yes** Passed
3. Economic Development - $100,000,000	**47.7% yes** Failed
4. Cultural Economy - $50,000,000	**49.4% yes** Failed
5. Green Economy Bonds - $55,000,000	**67.1% yes** Passed

The same voters refused two requests to borrow. A $100 million economic development bond, which included $45 million that opponents said could subsidize data centers, drew 47.7% in favor and failed. So did a $50 million bond to build a State History Center and fund historical preservation grants, at 49.4%. They were the first state bond requests voters turned down since 2006, the Boston Globe reported. [531] The other three, for higher education, housing and the green economy, passed with yes shares of 60.0%, 61.3% and 67.1% in our count. [531]

“The people have spoken, and my sense is that people are frustrated with how we’ve been spending money,” Foulkes said, in remarks the Boston Globe published on November 5; she pointed out that the state budget had grown 40 percent in five years. The state’s Life Science Hub, which the economic development bond would have supported, has about $9 million left of an initial $45 million, and its president, Bob Cormier, told the Globe he was fairly optimistic about support in the next budget under Foulkes. [531]

Closer to home

Providence elected David Morales mayor. The Democrat, a democratic socialist, won more than 80% of the vote against Republican David Talan, Ocean State Media reported. He had beaten Mayor Brett Smiley in the September Democratic primary, and Smiley declined to endorse him. Morales will be the youngest mayor the city has elected, and he has vowed to reintroduce the rent stabilization ordinance Smiley vetoed. [534] Early in his term he must hire a public safety commissioner and a fire chief and negotiate a firefighters’ contract that expires June 30, the Globe reported. [535]

What did not change

Republicans held no statewide office or U.S. House seat in Rhode Island, and they won none this year. The narrowest Democratic win statewide was the lieutenant governor’s race, by 19.0 points, and no county voted Republican. What the party kept was in the legislature: two Senate seats and eight House seats after the election, and no Republican gain was reported anywhere. [530]

What it sets up

Neither of Rhode Island’s U.S. Senate seats is on the ballot in 2028. The office of secretary of state, the state’s chief elections officer, will be open when it is next on the ballot, because Amore has now won the two consecutive terms the law allows. [532] Foulkes takes office with a legislature in which Republicans hold two of 38 Senate seats and eight of 75 House seats.

South Carolina

South · 2024 president R+17.9

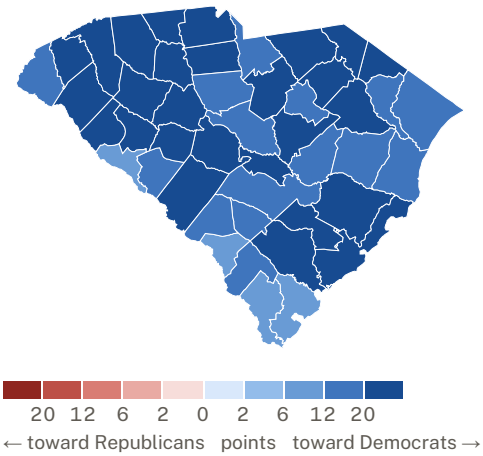
South Carolina split its ballot: Democrat Annie Andrews took a Republican-held U.S. Senate seat by 4.5 points while Republican Alan Wilson won the governor's office by 4.5.

Annie Andrews won the Senate seat with 51.1% of the vote to 46.6% for the Republican, Darline Graham, in a state Donald Trump carried by 17.9 points in 2024. On the same ballot Alan Wilson beat the Democrat, Jermaine Johnson, for governor, 51.6% to 47.1%, and Republicans won all six of the other statewide offices, every one by single digits: Ellen Weaver won the superintendent's race by 2.8 points, Mike Burkhold the comptroller general's by 4.1, David Stumbo the attorney general's by 4.7 and Curtis Loftis the treasurer's by 5.1; the agriculture commissioner and the secretary of state won by 5.9 and 6.0. Democrats gained one U.S. House seat. In the First District Nancy Lacore beat Jenny Costa Honeycutt by 1.0 points, in a district Trump carried by 12.9, and Lacore said on November 4 that Honeycutt's campaign had called to concede; she takes the seat held by Rep. Nancy Mace.[536] In the Second, Rep. Joe Wilson won a 15th term by 2,926 votes after a state-mandated recount, and the AP called the race on November 11.[537]

The Senate race finished 22.4 points to the left of the 2024 presidential vote, and the U.S. House vote went from R+20.6 to R+2.6. Turnout was high for a midterm. By 4:30 p.m. on Election Day 1,797,335 South Carolinians had voted, the State Election Commission said, more than the 1,726,527 of 2018, the previous high for a governor's election.[538] The Senate race drew 2,041,487 votes in our count, 120% of the 2022 total and 80% of the 2024 presidential vote. Andrews drew 102 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in the state, more than Harris herself. Graham drew 64 for every 100 of Trump's.

FIGURE 88

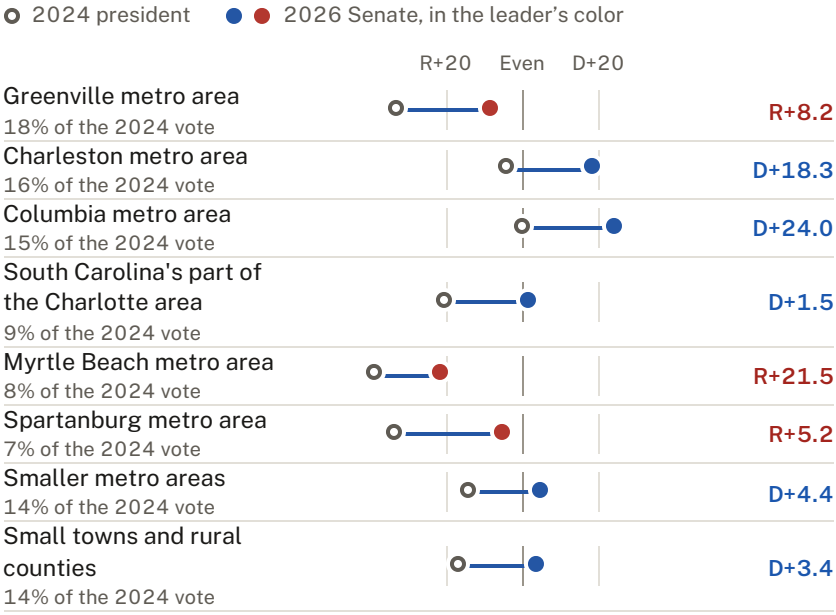
South Carolina: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 89

South Carolina by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Annie Andrews (D) 51.1%, Darline Graham (R) 46.6%	D+4.5	22.4 pts → D	**Flip**
Governor R-held	Alan Wilson (R) 51.6%, Jermaine Johnson (D) 47.1%	R+4.5	13.4 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General R-held	David Stumbo (R) 52.3%, Richard Hricik (D) 47.6%	R+4.7	13.2 pts → D	Hold
Commissioner of Agriculture R-held	Cody Simpson (R) 51.6%, DeShawn Blanding (D) 45.7%	R+5.9	11.9 pts → D	Hold
Comptroller	Mike Burkhold (R) 52.1%, Tiffany Boozer (D) 47.9%	R+4.1	13.7 pts → D	Won
Secretary of State R-held	Mark Hammond (R) 53.0%, Jason Belton (D) 47.0%	R+6.0	11.9 pts → D	Hold
Superintendent of Public Instruction R-held	Ellen Weaver (R) 51.0%, Sylvia Wright (D) 48.2%	R+2.8	15.1 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Curtis Loftis (R) 52.5%, Vincent Coe (D) 47.4%	R+5.1	12.8 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 7 seats. Before: 1 D, 6 R. Called: 2 D, 5 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
SC-01	Nancy Lacore **FLIP**	D+1.0	R+12.9
SC-02	Joe Wilson	R+1.0	R+13.6
SC-03	Sheri Biggs	R+29.3	R+42.5
SC-04	William Timmons	R+6.1	R+23.1
SC-05	Wes Climer	R+5.7	R+22.6
SC-06	James E Jim Clyburn	D+38.7	D+23.0
SC-07	Russell Fry	R+13.5	R+26.0

Where it moved

Every region moved by double digits. The Spartanburg area moved furthest, 28.4 points, from R+33.6 to R+5.2, and the Greenville area, which casts 18% of the vote, moved 24.8, to R+8.2; both still voted Republican. The Charleston area went from R+4.3 to D+18.3, the Columbia area from D+0.2 to D+24.0, and the state's part of the Charlotte area crossed over, from R+20.4 to D+1.5. The Myrtle Beach area moved least, 17.1 points, and stayed Republican by 21.5. The small towns and rural counties went from R+16.9 to D+3.4.

The largest of the 13 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Andrews this year is Greenville County. It went from R+22.2 to D+2.2 and cast 215,533 votes, 11% of the state's total. Spartanburg County moved farther, 28.9 points, and stayed Republican: Trump had carried it by 33.6, and Graham carried it by 4.7. Kershaw County, in the Columbia area, came within 1.1 points of crossing, and Lexington County went from R+33.5 to R+7.7. Charleston County went from D+5.7 to D+26.1. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	46	12 D, 34 R	12 D, 34 R
House	124	35 D, 89 R	45 D, 79 R

Republicans keep the governor's office and majorities in both chambers of the General Assembly. [539, 540] They lost their two-thirds of the House. Republicans fell from 89 to 79 of 124 seats, a net Democratic gain of 10, and Live 5 News reported that the Republican House supermajority had ended. [539, 541] Two state House seats went to recounts. In Lexington County, Democrat Joe Madge beat Republican Micah Caskey, who had been chosen to become majority leader, 7,263 to 7,157 in a recount finalized November 11; in Greenville County, Republican David Vaughan won District 27 by 32 votes. [542, 543] The state Democratic Party spent nearly $1 million on House races, which Live 5 News called unprecedented for the party. [539]

The state constitution requires two-thirds of each house to pass a bill over a governor's veto, and two-thirds of the members elected to each house, 83 in the House, to propose a constitutional amendment. By the seat counts, House Republicans can no longer send an amendment to voters without Democratic votes. [541, 544] Senators serve four-year terms, and the only state Senate contest on the results page kept by MultiState, a government relations firm, was a special election, won by Republican James Burns. Republicans retain control of the chamber. [539, 541, 544] Elections are run by the State Election Commission's executive director, Conway Belangia; the commission appoints the director with the Senate's consent, and the governor appoints its five members, so the incoming governor makes those appointments. [545]

Wilson said affordability will guide his administration. "Everything we do, our North Star, will be to make our state more affordable for South Carolina families," he said at his first transition news conference. Among his top priorities he named authority for governors to suspend the gas tax in times of crisis, and he said that power needs guardrails. [540] In an interview with WIS he restated his campaign promise to eliminate the state income tax, named finishing the V.C. Summer nuclear work as a priority and said he has working relationships with Democratic legislators. [546]

Closer to home

Charleston County voters approved continuing the half-cent transportation sales tax, with 65% in favor. Live 5 News reported it will raise more than $4 billion over 25 years for roads, public transit and the greenbelt program, including a rapid transit line from North Charleston to downtown Charleston. [547] In Greenville County, Councilman Kyle Long held County Council District 28 by 11 votes over Democrat Thomas Sanders after a recount completed November 10. [543] No Supreme Court seat was on the ballot: the General Assembly elects the justices. [544]

What did not change

Republicans kept 11 of the seats they held. Their closest wins were the Second District, by 1.0 points, the superintendent's office, by 2.8, and the governor's office, by 4.5. In the 4th District William Timmons won by 6.1 points where Trump's margin was 23.1, and in the 5th Wes Climer won by 5.7. In the Senate race 21 of the state's 46 counties still voted Republican. Two of their wins came only after recounts: state House District 27, by 32 votes, and the Second Congressional District, a hold, by 2,926. [537, 543]

What it sets up

The next Senate seat on the ballot, in 2028, is Republican Tim Scott's, in a state that voted R+17.9 for president in 2024 and D+4.5 in this year's Senate race. Wilson and Lt. Gov.-elect Reichenbach are to be sworn in on January 13, 2027. The constitution bars anyone from being elected to more than two successive terms as governor, and the office is next on the ballot in 2030. [544, 548]

South Dakota

Midwest · 2024 president R+29.2

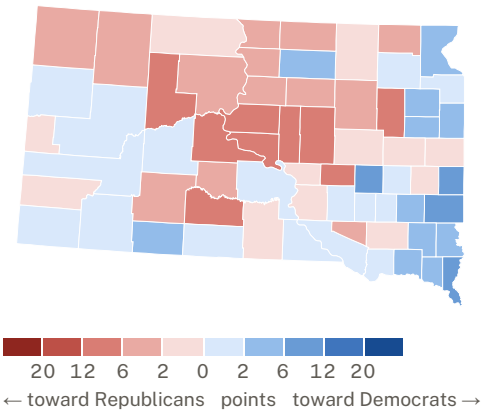
South Dakota Republicans kept the governor's office, a U.S. Senate seat and supermajorities in the Legislature, where Democrats gained seats.

Larry Rhoden, the Republican governor, won his first full term by 27.0 points over Democrat Dan Ahlers, after serving out the remainder of Kristi Noem's term.[549] Republican Mike Rounds won the U.S. Senate race with 60.5% of the vote against an independent, Brian L Bengs. Marty Jackley kept the state's one U.S. House seat for the Republicans by 28.0 points, and Republicans won the three other statewide offices in our count: Heather Baxter for secretary of state, Melissa Hull for treasurer and Catherine Barranco for auditor. None of the six seats changed party.

Donald Trump carried South Dakota by 29.2 points in 2024, and Rhoden's margin in the governor's race, the contest set against the presidential vote here, was 2.2 points smaller. Both candidates drew fewer votes than their party's 2024 nominee, Rhoden more so: Ahlers drew 76 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, Rhoden 71 for every 100 of Trump's. Turnout, measured by the most-voted contest, was 87% of 2022's and 71% of the 2024 presidential vote. In the U.S. House race, the margin went from R+44.1 in the 2024 House race to R+28.0 this year.

FIGURE 90

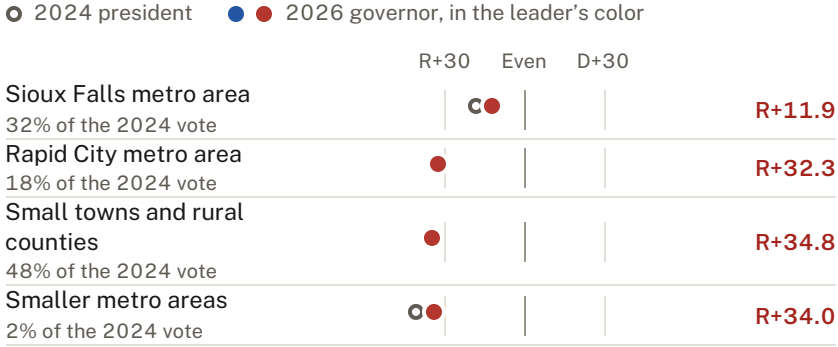
South Dakota: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 91

South Dakota by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Mike Rounds (R) 60.5%, Brian L Bengs (I) 39.5%	R+21.0	—	Hold
Governor R-held	Larry Rhoden (R) 63.5%, Dan Ahlers (D) 36.5%	R+27.0	2.2 pts → D	Hold
Auditor R-held	Catherine Barranco (R) 62.5%, Tom Cool (D) 37.5%	R+25.1	4.1 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State R-held	Heather Baxter (R) 58.4%, Terrence Davis (D) 36.1%	R+22.3	6.9 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Melissa Hull (R) 62.4%, Margaret Kuipers (D) 37.6%	R+24.9	4.3 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 1 seat. Before: 0 D, 1 R. Called: 0 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
SD-AL	Marty Jackley	R+28.0	R+29.1

Where it moved

Nearly all of the movement came from one corner of the state. The Sioux Falls metro area, which casts 32% of the vote, went from R+18.4 to R+11.9, a move of 6.5 points toward the Democrats. The Rapid City metro area, with 18% of the vote, hardly moved: R+32.6 in 2024, R+32.3 this year. The small towns and rural counties, which cast 48%, close to half the total, moved 0.2 of a point toward the Republicans, from R+34.7 to R+34.8.

Minnehaha County, in the Sioux Falls area, cast 22% of the state's vote and moved more than any other large county, from R+12.7 to R+5.2. Lincoln County, also in the Sioux Falls area, went from R+26.5 to R+21.8. Hughes County, in the Pierre area, moved nearly as far as Minnehaha in the other direction, from R+30.1 to R+37.6, on 6,519 votes to Minnehaha's 66,466. It was one of 34 counties, more than half of the state's 66, that moved toward the Republicans. No county changed sides.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	35	3 D, 32 R	*Not read in our count (35 of 35 seats)*
House	70	5 D, 65 R	*Not read in our count (37 of 70 seats)*

No office and no chamber changed hands. Republicans keep the governor's office and supermajorities in both chambers, South Dakota Public Broadcasting reported.[549] Our count could not read most legislative districts. South Dakota Searchlight's count from November 4 gives Republicans 33 of 35 Senate seats, one more than before, and 59 of 70 House seats, six fewer. Democrats hold 12 of the 105 seats, up from eight. Their gains, all in Sioux Falls-area districts, were the first time the party gained legislative seats in a general election since 2008, Searchlight reported. Evangeline Poor Bear, elected to the House, is the first independent to win a legislative seat since 2010, both outlets reported.[549, 550] A veto override takes two-thirds of all members of each house, and Republicans remain far above that line in both.[551]

What changed is who leads the majority. Both Republican caucuses replaced their leaders after the election. KOTA described business-focused Republicans taking over from the populist leaders chosen after the fight over a carbon pipeline: Casey Crabtree returns as Senate majority leader, Taylor Rehfeldt becomes House majority leader and Mike Stevens was nominated for speaker. Sen. Amber Hulse, the incoming assistant majority leader, told the station: "it's kind of a different — I guess you could say — ideology of Republicans." The constitution requires a two-thirds vote on bills that appropriate money, KOTA reported, and Rep. Nicole Uhre-Balk, a Rapid City Democrat, said the party's 10 House seats could give it more influence as a voting bloc when the Republican supermajority divides on a bill. Senate Democrats are down to two, Liz Larson and Erik Muckey, both of Sioux Falls. Larson, who remains minority leader, said the caucus will rely on bipartisan agreements.[552]

The Legislature draws its own districts. The constitution requires a new apportionment every ten years, finished by December 1 of the year it is due, and gives the job to the state Supreme Court if lawmakers fail to do it.[553] Voters fill the secretary of state's office at the same election as the governor's. Heather Baxter, a Republican, won it by 22.3 points over Democrat Terrence Davis and Libertarian Tamara Lesnar.[554, 555] Rhoden will deliver his budget address for fiscal 2028 to a joint session of the Legislature on December 8.[549]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment I: An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution that Repeals Expanded Medicaid Coverage if Federal Funding for the Program Drops below 90%.	**44.2% yes** Failing

Constitutional Amendment J: An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution Clarifying that an Individual Must Be a Citizen of the United States to be Eligible to Vote.	**61.5% yes** Passing
Constitutional Amendment K: An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution Establishing the Trust for Unclaimed Property Fund.	**60.9% yes** Passing
Constitutional Amendment L: An Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution Requiring that a Proposed Constitutional Amendment or Revision Receive an Affirmative Vote of Sixty Percent of the Votes Cast.	**42.4% yes** Failing

All four questions on the statewide ballot were constitutional amendments, and an amendment is adopted only when a majority of the votes cast on it approve. [556] Two failed. Amendment I, which would have ended expanded Medicaid coverage if federal funding for it fell below 90 percent, drew 44.2% in favor. Amendment L, which would have raised the vote needed to adopt a constitutional amendment from a majority to 60 percent, drew 42.4%. [549, 554]

Two passed, and both finished just above the 60 percent line that Amendment L would have set. Amendment J, which writes into the constitution that a voter must be a U.S. citizen, drew 61.5%. Amendment K, which creates a trust fund from the state's unclaimed property money, drew 60.9%. [549, 554]

Closer to home

The county that moved furthest toward the Democrats kept its election administrator. In Minnehaha County, Auditor Leah Anderson was re-elected with 53 percent of the vote over challenger Curt Deedrich. The auditor runs the county's elections, and Minnehaha and Lincoln counties together cast close to a third of the state's ballots, Sioux Falls Simplified reported. [557]

What did not change

Republicans won again in all six of the seats in our count that they held, and none was close. Their narrowest win was the Senate race, where Rounds finished 21.0 points ahead of an independent; against a Democrat the narrowest was Heather Baxter's for secretary of state. Republicans carried 61 of the 66 counties in the governor's race, and Pennington County, in the Rapid City area, stayed at R+25.5, within a point of its 2024 margin. In the Legislature, Republicans added a Senate seat while losing six in the House, and 52 Republican seats had no opponent, Searchlight reported. [549, 550]

What it sets up

The Senate seat held by Republican John Thune will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+29.2 for president in 2024 and R+27.0 for governor this year. The governor's office will not be. Governors are elected to four-year terms in nonpresidential years, and no one may be elected to more than two consecutive terms. [558] The legislative districts are next due to be redrawn in 2031. [553]

Still open

The legislative totals are provisional. Reports from November 4 listed possible recounts in Senate Districts 11 and 12 and House Districts 3, 9 and 11. [550, 559] In Senate District 11, Republican Chris Karr had 4,209 votes to Democrat Aaron Matson's 4,175 on election night. In District 12, Republican Kari Shanard-Koenders had 4,009 to Democrat Joe Zweifel's 3,877. Sioux Falls Simplified wrote that Democrats could gain two more Sioux Falls-area seats depending on how recounts came out. [559]

Tennessee

South · 2024 president R+29.7 · 1 race not called

Republican Marsha Blackburn won the Tennessee governor's race by 2.5 points in a state Donald Trump carried by 29.7, Republicans took the state's only Democratic-held U.S. House seat, and another House seat is still uncalled.

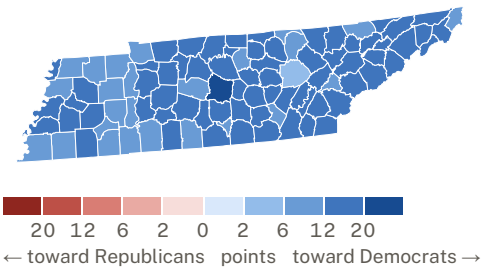
Marsha Blackburn won the governor's office with 45.5% of the vote to 43.0% for the Democrat, Jerri Green. Neither reached a majority; independent candidates took the rest. Blackburn, a U.S. senator, succeeds Gov. Bill Lee, who had reached his term limit, and is the first woman elected governor of Tennessee, WSMV reported.[560] The Senate race was not as close: Republican Bill Hagerty beat Democrat Marquita Bradshaw by 12.2 points.

Republicans held eight of the state's nine U.S. House seats before the election and have won eight, but the list changed. In the Ninth District, the only seat Democrats held, Republican Brent Taylor beat Democrat Justin Pearson by 1.1 points. It was the first election on a congressional map redrawn in a special session in May, which split Memphis among three districts, WSMV reported.[561] The Fourth District, a Republican-held seat, is not called.

Measured in the Senate race, Tennessee moved 17.6 points toward the Democrats from the 2024 presidential vote. Measured in the governor's race, it moved 27.2. Both parties drew fewer votes than in 2024, Republicans far fewer: Bradshaw drew 84 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in the state, and Hagerty drew 58 for every 100 of Trump's. Turnout, measured by the governor's race, the most-voted contest, was 121% of 2022's and 69% of the 2024 presidential vote. Republican candidates won the U.S. House vote statewide by 9.1 points, down from 31.0 in 2024.

FIGURE 92

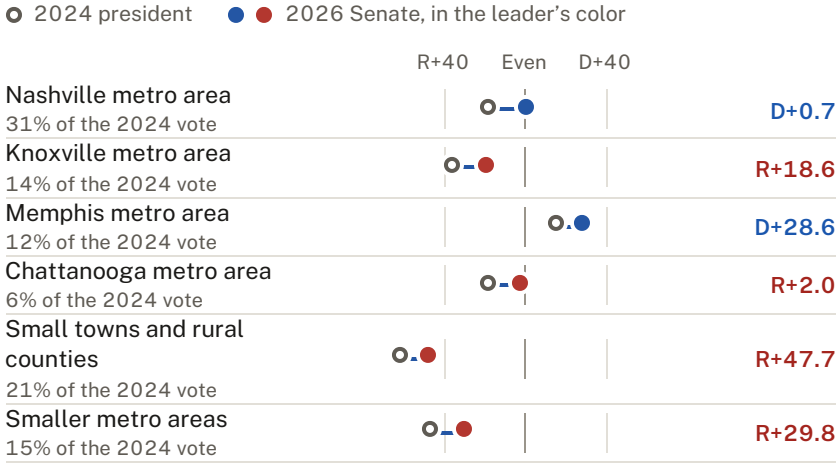
Tennessee: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 93

Tennessee by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Bill Hagerty (R) 55.1%, Marquita Bradshaw (D) 42.9%	R+12.2	17.6 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Marsha Blackburn (R) 45.5%, Jerri Green (D) 43.0%	R+2.5	27.2 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 9 seats. Before: 1 D, 8 R. Called: 0 D, 8 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
TN-01	Diana Harshbarger	R+30.8	R+57.0
TN-02	Tim Burchett	R+16.6	R+33.5
TN-03	Chuck Fleischmann	R+17.4	R+35.3
TN-04	Victoria Broderick not called	D+0.1	R+23.7
TN-05	Charlie Hatcher	R+4.9	R+22.8
TN-06	Johnny Garrett	R+3.3	R+26.2
TN-07	Matt Van Epps	R+2.2	R+22.2
TN-08	David Kustoff	R+5.3	R+19.9
TN-09	Brent Taylor **FLIP**	R+1.1	R+20.9

Where it moved

Every region moved the same way, by 13.0 to 18.2 points. The Nashville metro area, which casts 31% of the vote, moved furthest and changed sides: R+17.5 for president, D+0.7 for Senate. The Chattanooga metro area went from R+18.2 to R+2.0, and the Knoxville metro area from R+35.5 to R+18.6. The Memphis metro area, already Democratic, moved least and finished at D+28.6. The small towns and rural counties, with 21% of the vote, moved 13.3 points and still voted Republican by 47.7.

Hamilton County, in the Chattanooga area, is the largest of the three counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Bradshaw, who lost statewide, this year. It went from R+13.0 to D+2.6 on 124,252 votes. Rutherford County, in the Nashville area, moved farther, 22.0 points, and finished at D+0.2. Montgomery County, in the Clarksville area, finished at D+0.1. Knox County nearly joined them: Trump won it by 19.5 points and Hagerty by 1.9.

In the governor's race Knox did join them. WSMV counted five counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Green this year, on unofficial results: Madison, Montgomery, Hamilton, Knox and Rutherford. Republicans flipped none. [562]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	33	6 D, 27 R	6 D, 27 R
House	99	24 D, 75 R	*Not read in our count (3 of 99 seats)*

Republicans keep the governor's office and both chambers of the General Assembly, so control of the state's government does not change. The state Senate stayed at 27 Republicans and 6 Democrats. In the House, six seats flipped from Republicans to Democrats, three of them in Rutherford County, WPLN reported. [563] Ballotpedia's count has Republicans falling from 75 seats to 69 of 99, with 29 Democrats; our own count could not read three districts. [564] A veto override takes a majority of all the members elected to each house, according to the constitution's text as Ballotpedia publishes it. [565] Ballotpedia says Republicans would have had to lose six Senate seats and 10 House seats to lose the ability to refer constitutional amendments without Democratic votes. [564]

Blackburn is to be sworn in on January 16. At a news conference with Lee the day after the election she named the cost of living as a top issue, along with housing permitting, workforce housing and childcare, and described a review of the state budget for unfilled positions and underused programs. "Tennesseans have been very specific that the cost of living is going to be a top issue for them and getting that cost of living down," she said. [566]

By Ballotpedia's summary, the legislature draws both the congressional and the state legislative maps, and the governor can veto them. [567]

On the ballot

Voters approved three constitutional amendments. An amendment in Tennessee has to do more than win its own question: as WSMV described the rule, it needs more yes votes than no votes, and its yes votes must be more than half of all the votes cast in the governor's race. [568] Amendment 1 lets judges deny bail to people accused of some of the most violent crimes; the constitution already required that for people accused of a capital offense. Amendment 2 bans a statewide property tax, which Tennessee has not levied for more than 75 years. Amendment 3, known as Marsy's Law, expands the rights of crime victims during the judicial process. WSMV reported that all three passed. [569, 570]

Closer to home

Clarksville chose Mark Riggins as mayor in a three-way race. He beat Wanda Smith by 1,010 votes; Brian Zacharias was the other candidate, Clarksville Now reported. [571] Montgomery County, in the Clarksville area, went from R+18.4 to D+0.1 in the Senate race.

What did not change

Republicans won again in nine of the seats they held, the governor's office and the Senate seat among them, but by much less than Trump's margins. Three U.S. House districts that voted for Trump by more than twenty points were held by fewer than five: Matt Van Epps won the Seventh by 2.2, Johnny Garrett the Sixth by 3.3 and Charlie Hatcher the Fifth by 4.9. Republicans carried 89 of the 95 counties in the Senate race, though no county moved toward them. The state Senate did not change, and by Ballotpedia's count House Republicans still hold more than two-thirds of that chamber. [564, 572] Democrats won no statewide office and no U.S. House seat that has been called.

What it sets up

Neither of Tennessee's Senate seats is scheduled to be on the ballot in 2028, but one may be there anyway. Blackburn will leave her U.S. Senate seat to become governor and, as governor, will appoint her successor. WSMV, citing congress.gov, reported that the appointee serves until a special election at the next regularly scheduled general election, in 2028. The Associated Press described the appointee as serving out the rest of her term, which ends in January 2031. [560, 573] The state voted R+29.7 for president in 2024 and R+12.2 in this year's Senate race.

Still open

The Fourth District is not called in our count. Democrat Victoria Broderick leads Republican Rep. Scott DesJarlais by 0.1 points, 48.9% to 48.7%, in a district Trump carried by 23.7. WSMV put the gap at 280 votes on the secretary of state's unofficial count. Tennessee law has no automatic recount and does not let a candidate request one, the station reported; a recount can come only if a candidate contests the election. [561, 574]

Texas

South · 2024 president R+13.7

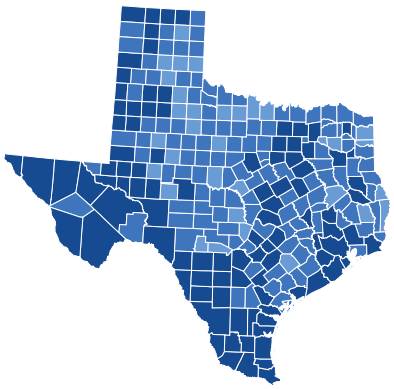
Democrats won the U.S. Senate seat, the governorship and every other statewide executive office on the Texas ballot, and lead for a majority in the state House; Republicans kept the state Senate.

James Talarico won a Republican-held U.S. Senate seat by 12.1 points over Ken Paxton, in a state Donald Trump carried by 13.7 two years earlier. Gina Hinojosa beat Republican Greg Abbott for governor by 7.2, and Democrats won all six of the other statewide executive offices, each of them held by a Republican: attorney general, lieutenant governor, comptroller, agriculture commissioner, land commissioner and the seat on the Railroad Commission that was on the ballot.[13, 575, 576, 577] The U.S. House delegation hardly changed. Bobby Pulido and Katy Padilla Stout won Republican-held seats for the Democrats, by 24.7 and 8.2 points, and Republican Jace Yarbrough took a Democratic-held seat by 2.9, the only one of five redrawn seats that Republicans carried, FOX 4 reported.[578] That leaves 24 Republicans and 14 Democrats, although Democratic candidates won the House vote statewide by 5.7 points.

The Senate race finished 25.8 points to the left of the 2024 presidential vote. Talarico drew 113 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in Texas, more than Harris did, and Paxton drew 66 for every 100 of Trump's. Turnout, measured by the governor's race, the most-voted contest, was 123% of 2022's and 87% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 94

Texas: the move from 2024, county by county



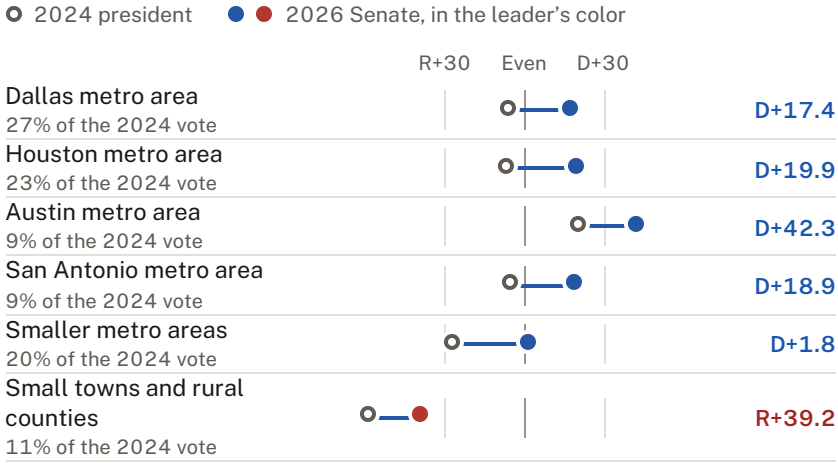
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← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 95

Texas by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	James Talarico (D) 55.1%, Ken Paxton (R) 43.0%	D+12.1	25.8 pts → D	**Flip**
Governor R-held	Gina Hinojosa (D) 52.8%, Greg Abbott (R) 45.6%	D+7.2	20.9 pts → D	**Flip**
Attorney General R-held	Nathan Johnson (D) 52.4%, Mayes Middleton (R) 45.9%	D+6.5	20.2 pts → D	**Flip**

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Commissioner of Agriculture R-held	Clayton Tucker (D) 51.3%, Nate Sheets (R) 46.6%	D+4.7	18.4 pts → D	**Flip**
Comptroller R-held	Sarah Eckhardt (D) 51.3%, Don Huffines (R) 46.1%	D+5.2	18.9 pts → D	**Flip**
Land Commissioner R-held	Benjamin Flores (D) 51.5%, Dawn Buckingham (R) 46.9%	D+4.5	18.2 pts → D	**Flip**
Lieutenant Governor R-held	Vikki Goodwin (D) 51.7%, Dan Patrick (R) 45.6%	D+6.1	19.8 pts → D	**Flip**
Railroad Commissioner R-held	Jon Rosenthal (D) 52.5%, Bo French (R) 45.5%	D+7.0	20.7 pts → D	**Flip**

U.S. House: 38 seats. Before: 13 D, 25 R. Called: 14 D, 24 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
TX-01	Nathaniel Moran	R+38.1	R+48.7
TX-02	Steve Toth	R+1.9	R+22.6
TX-03	Keith Self	R+5.5	R+23.4
TX-04	Pat Fallon	R+12.1	R+24.5
TX-05	Lance Gooden	R+2.9	R+21.3
TX-06	Jake Ellzey	R+4.3	R+22.7
TX-07	Lizzie Pannill Fletcher	D+43.3	D+23.5
TX-08	Jessica Hart Steinmann	R+6.4	R+27.3
TX-09	Leticia Gutierrez	D+15.1	R+19.6
TX-10	Chris Gober	R+7.5	R+22.4
TX-11	August Pfluger	R+19.0	R+33.9
TX-12	Craig Goldman	R+6.2	R+23.6
TX-13	Ronny Jackson	R+30.4	R+45.5
TX-14	Randy Weber	R+8.0	R+24.0
TX-15	Bobby Pulido **FLIP**	D+24.7	R+17.6
TX-16	Veronica Escobar	D+41.6	D+16.2
TX-17	Pete Sessions	R+7.1	R+21.4
TX-18	Christian Dashaun Menefee	D+72.1	D+54.3
TX-19	Tom Sell	R+39.0	R+50.9
TX-20	Joaquin Castro	D+55.2	D+28.1
TX-21	Mark Teixeira	R+8.9	R+21.5
TX-22	Trever Nehls	R+3.6	R+22.1
TX-23	Katy Padilla Stout **FLIP**	D+8.2	R+14.6
TX-24	Beth Van Duyne	R+6.8	R+16.0
TX-25	Roger Williams	R+7.4	R+23.7
TX-26	Brandon Gill	R+10.3	R+23.5
TX-27	Michael Cloud	R+2.3	R+21.0
TX-28	Henry Cuellar	D+36.1	R+10.2
TX-29	Sylvia Garcia	D+59.9	D+30.1
TX-30	Frederick D. Haynes III	D+65.3	D+46.6
TX-31	John Carter	R+8.9	R+21.6
TX-32	Jace Yarbrough **FLIP**	R+2.9	R+17.7
TX-33	Colin Allred	D+57.0	D+32.5
TX-34	Vicente Gonzalez	D+15.8	R+10.0
TX-35	Johnny C. Garcia	D+11.0	R+10.3
TX-36	Brian Babin	R+7.1	R+24.6
TX-37	Greg Casar	D+67.5	D+56.2
TX-38	Jon Bonck	R+4.2	R+20.8

Where it moved

Every part of the state moved, between 19.5 and 29.3 points. The smaller metro areas, which cast 20% of the vote, moved furthest and changed sides, from R+27.6 to D+1.8. The Dallas and Houston metro areas, together about half the vote, went from R+6.4 and R+6.9 to D+17.4 and D+19.9. The small towns and rural counties moved least and stayed Republican by 39.2 points.

The largest of the 28 counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Talarico this year is Tarrant County, in the Dallas metro area. It went from R+5.1 to D+19.2 on 728,630 votes. The widest swing outside the smallest counties was in Hidalgo County, in the McAllen area, which moved 49.3 points, from R+2.9 to D+46.5. Harris County, which casts more votes than any other county, went from D+5.5 to D+32.9. No county moved toward the Republicans. Collin County backed Democrats in statewide contests for the first time in decades, FOX 4 reported. [578]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	31	12 D, 18 R	12 D, 19 R
House	150	62 D, 87 R	83 D, 67 R seats too close to call remain

Texas goes from Republican control of the governorship and both chambers to divided government. Hinojosa won the governor's office and, on unofficial results, Democrats won a majority of the state House: 83 of 150 seats, up from 62, if the results hold, the Texas Tribune reported on November 4. On November 7 the Tribune wrote that Democrats were poised to control more than 80 seats, with some races not officially called because of thin margins, in what would be their first House majority since 2003.[579, 580] Republicans kept the Senate, 19 to 12.[579, 581] The constitution requires a two-thirds vote in each chamber to override a veto, and neither party holds two-thirds of either.[579, 582]

"I look forward to working with Republican leaders in the legislature," Hinojosa said at a news conference on November 5. In her victory speech she had promised to remove Mike Morath as commissioner of the Texas Education Agency on the day she is sworn in. Lt. Gov.-elect Vikki Goodwin will preside over the Senate, but the extent of her powers depends on rules approved by the senators, who are majority-Republican, Community Impact reported.[581] The House elects its speaker on January 12, 2027. Rep. Senfronia Thompson, a Houston Democrat, said on November 6 that a majority of the House had pledged to her, after her only rival, Rep. Eddie Morales Jr., withdrew and endorsed her.[580, 581] Rep. Christina Morales, who chairs the House Democrats' campaign arm, listed expanding Medicaid, repealing school vouchers and repealing immigration-related legislation as goals for a Democratic House.[579]

Redistricting plans pass the Legislature as bills, and the governor can veto them. If the Legislature does not redraw state House or Senate seats, a five-member board does: the lieutenant governor, House speaker, attorney general, comptroller and land commissioner.[583] Democrats won each of the statewide offices on that board. The office that runs elections changes hands too. The secretary of state, whose Elections Division administers the Texas Election Code, is appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and serves during the governor's term, so the next one will be Hinojosa's choice, subject to a Senate with a Republican majority.[582, 584]

Closer to home

Democrats won all four Texas Supreme Court seats on the ballot, with Maggie Ellis defeating Chief Justice Jimmy Blacklock, so the nine-member court goes from all-Republican to a 5-4 Republican majority. They won the three seats on the ballot for the Court of Criminal Appeals, which keeps a 6-3 Republican majority, and all three seats on the statewide 15th Court of Appeals.[585] On the 15-member State Board of Education, which sets curriculum for more than five million public school students, Democrats appeared in position to double their seats from four to eight, Houston Public Media reported. The eighth depends on District 8, where Democrat Dana Van de Walker led Republican incumbent Audrey Young by a little more than 500 votes; without that race each party holds seven, the Texas Tribune reported.[586, 587]

In Tarrant County, which the Texas Tribune describes as having been the largest Republican-controlled county in Texas, Democrat Alisa Simmons declared victory over Republican County Judge Tim O'Hare. Simmons would be its first Democratic county judge since 1986, the Tribune reported. Democrat Tiffany Burks defeated the Republican district attorney, Phil Sorrells, and Democrats are set for a 4-1 majority on the commissioners court.[588] In Harris County, Democrat Letitia Plummer won the race for county judge over Republican Orlando Sanchez, 60.93 percent to 39.05 percent on unofficial results, Community Impact reported.[589]

What did not change

Republicans won again in 23 of the U.S. House seats they held, every one of them by less than Trump's margin in the district. Steve Toth won the Second District by 1.9 points and Michael Cloud the Twenty-seventh by 2.3, in districts Trump carried by 22.6 and 21.0. Republicans carried 214 of the state's 254 counties in the Senate race. They kept the state Senate, took the Thirty-second Congressional District from the Democrats and will hold 24 U.S. House seats, a net loss of one, FOX 4 reported. [578] , [579]

What it sets up

Neither of Texas's U.S. Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2028, and the governor's office will not be either: the constitution sets a four-year term. [582] The state voted R+13.7 for president in 2024 and D+12.1 in this year's Senate race. The same constitution has the Legislature redraw state Senate and House districts at its first regular session after each census is published. [582]

Still open

The state House majority is not final. Our count has Democrats ahead in 83 districts and Republicans in 67. The Tribune reported that provisional and mail ballots and recounts could change the total, and that the status of House District 93 was unclear. [579] As of November 7 some races had not been officially called. [580]

Utah

West · 2024 president R+21.6

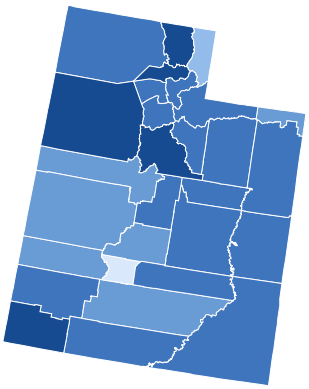
Utah elected a Democrat to Congress on court-ordered district lines, and Republicans lost their two-thirds majority in the state House.

Utah had no race for Senate or governor, so its U.S. House vote, all districts added together, is the statewide measure. Republican candidates won it by 0.2 points. In 2024 they won it by 30.3. The election was held on court-ordered boundaries that followed an anti-gerrymandering lawsuit, and one of the four districts elected a Democrat.[590] Ben McAdams won that seat by 43.9 points; the delegation had been entirely Republican. Republicans won the other three: Blake D. Moore by 7.4 points, Mike Kennedy by 14.5 and Celeste Maloy by 21.0. The Associated Press called the Second and Fourth districts on November 5, two days after the election, the Fourth last.[591]

Against the 2024 presidential vote, which Donald Trump won here by 21.6 points, the House vote moved 21.4 points toward the Democrats. Both parties drew fewer votes than their presidential candidates had, Republicans far fewer: Democratic House candidates drew 85 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won in Utah, and Republican candidates 55 for every 100 of Trump's. Turnout in the House races was 97% of 2022's and 69% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 96

Utah: the move from 2024, county by county



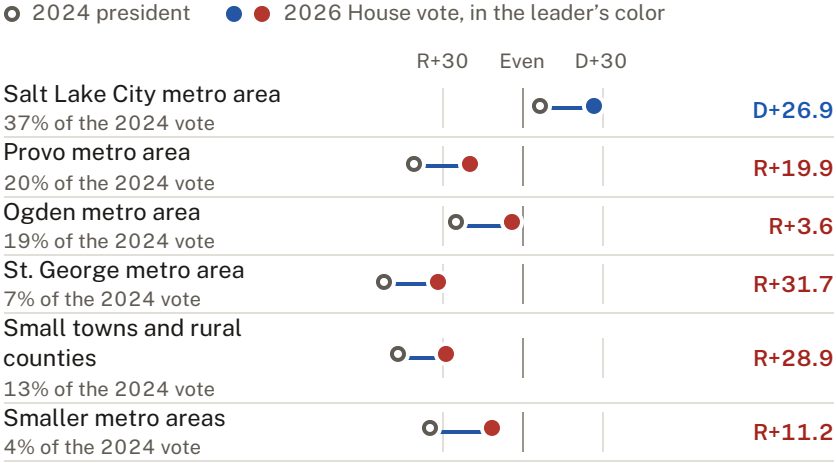
20 12 6 2 0 2 6 12 20

← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the U.S. House vote, all districts added together minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 97

Utah by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

U.S. House: 4 seats. Before: 0 D, 4 R. Called: 1 D, 3 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
UT-01	Ben McAdams **FLIP**	D+43.9	D+23.7
UT-02	Blake D. Moore	R+7.4	R+29.1
UT-03	Celeste Maloy	R+21.0	R+41.4
UT-04	Mike Kennedy	R+14.5	R+32.6

Where it moved

The move was close to uniform: every region shifted between 17.9 and 23.5 points. The Salt Lake City metro area, which casts 37% of the vote, went from D+7.0 to D+26.9. The Provo metro area, with 20%, stayed Republican at R+19.9, about half its 2024 margin of R+40.8. The Ogden metro area came closest to changing sides, from R+25.3 to R+3.6. The small towns and rural counties moved least and still moved 17.9 points, to R+28.9.

Weber County, in the Ogden area, was the only county to change sides. Trump carried it by 23.6 points and Democratic House candidates carried it by 1.6. Salt Lake County, which casts more votes than any other, went from D+10.2 to D+29.6. Utah County, in the Provo area, stayed Republican by 19.1, down from 40.1, and Davis County, in the Ogden area, by 5.6, down from 25.0. No county moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	29	6 D, 22 R, 1 other	8 D, 21 R
House	75	14 D, 61 R	28 D, 45 R, 2 other

Republicans kept majorities in both chambers of the Legislature and two-thirds of the Senate.[590, 592] In the House they lost the two-thirds majority they had held for about three decades, the Deseret News reported; the Salt Lake Tribune dates the party's veto-proof hold on both chambers to 1998.[593, 594, 595] On provisional counts they fell from 61 of 75 seats to 45, with 28 Democrats and two unaffiliated members.[592] A veto override takes two-thirds of the members elected to each house, which is 50 in the House.[596] Placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot takes the same two-thirds, by Ballotpedia's account, so House Republicans can no longer do either without votes from outside their caucus.[597]

The Senate majority leader, Kirk Cullimore, lost his seat to Democrat Shana Anderson, and Senate Republicans chose Sen. Evan Vickers as Senate president. House Speaker Mike Schultz, re-elected by his caucus, said the majority will focus on education funding, data center transparency and the Great Salt Lake.[593, 594] Gov. Spencer Cox, a Republican, said state leaders need to change how they deal with constituents, citing redistricting, a since-repealed ban on public-sector collective bargaining and attempts to restrict citizen ballot measures. In prepared remarks on November 9 he said: "I want to spend more time listening to Utahns."[593]

The constitution gives the Legislature the job of dividing the state into congressional and legislative districts, no later than the general session after it receives each census.[598] This year's congressional map came from a court order instead.[590] Elections belong to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor under state law. Lt. Gov. Deidre Henderson holds that office, which carries a four-year term.[599, 600]

On the ballot

Constitutional Amendment A	**61.1% yes** Passed
Constitutional Amendment B	**38.7% yes** Failed

Both statewide questions were constitutional amendments, which are adopted if a majority of those voting on them approve.[601] Amendment B, which would have required citizen initiatives that affect taxes to pass with 60 percent of the vote, drew 38.7% in favor and failed; the Associated Press called it on election night, KUER reported. Amendment A, which removes the requirement that proposed constitutional amendments be published in newspapers before an election, drew 61.1% and passed, a result called two days later.[602]

Closer to home

Associate Chief Justice Jill Pohlman, the highest-ranking member of the Utah Supreme Court since the chief justice resigned earlier in the year, was on track to be retained with more than three-quarters of the vote after some Republicans urged voters to remove her, KSL reported in the Deseret News. [591] In Salt Lake County, the Democratic district attorney, Sim Gill, claimed victory for another term; he had 66.3 percent to Republican Kent Davis's 33.7 percent in unofficial returns the morning after the election, the Salt Lake Tribune reported. [603]

On the 15-member State Board of Education, election-night returns showed three seats moving to Democrats, which would give them five, the Salt Lake Tribune reported. KUER reported two days later that Democrats had flipped seats on the board and on the Salt Lake County Council, and that two unaffiliated candidates, Patrick Belmont and Sergio Sotelo, had been declared winners of House seats over Republican opponents. [604, 605]

What did not change

Republicans won again in the three U.S. House seats in our count that they held. The closest was Blake D. Moore's, by 7.4 points in a district Trump carried by 29.1. They kept majorities in both chambers and two-thirds of the Senate, and the three Republican U.S. House incumbents won, Utah News Dispatch reported. [590, 592] The governor's office was not on the ballot. In the House vote 25 of 29 counties voted Republican, and the Provo and St. George metro areas did so by 19.9 and 31.7 points.

What it sets up

The Senate seat held by Republican Mike Lee will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+21.6 for president in 2024 and R+0.2 in this year's House vote. The governor's office will be too. Statewide executive officers serve four-year terms, and Cox, who has about two years left, has said he will not run again in 2028, the Salt Lake Tribune wrote. [600, 606] The constitution has the Legislature redraw congressional and legislative districts after each census. [598]

Still open

The legislative counts are provisional and the canvass is pending. Our Senate count of 21 Republicans and 8 Democrats includes District 11, where Republican Brooks Benson led the Forward Party incumbent, Sen. Emily Buss, by 512 votes on November 9. Three House districts had margins of a few hundred votes. [590, 592]

Vermont

Northeast · 2024 president D+31.8

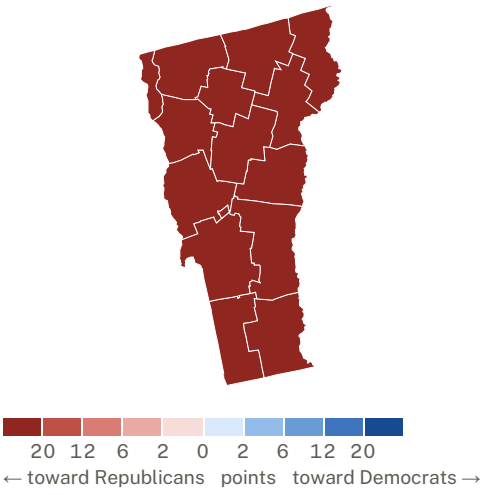
Vermont re-elected its Republican governor by 6.6 points and, on preliminary counts, gave Democrats enough legislative seats to override his vetoes.

Phil Scott won a sixth two-year term, 52.4% to 45.8%, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 31.8 points.[607] He was the only Republican to win a statewide race, Seven Days reported.[608] Democrats took all five other statewide offices on the ballot and kept the state's single U.S. House seat, which Becca Balint won by 34.4 points. One office changed party. Democrat Molly Gray, who was lieutenant governor from 2021 to 2023, defeated the Republican incumbent, John Rodgers, by 25.7 points; Rodgers conceded at 9:29 p.m. on election night. Scott had endorsed him and appeared in a television ad for him, Vermont Public reported.[609, 610]

Vermont's swing toward the Republicans is mostly a matter of which race is compared. With no Senate race this year, Vermont's top race is the governor's, and Scott's 6.6-point win is set against a presidential result 38.4 points to its left. Scott drew 136 votes for every 100 Donald Trump won here; his Democratic opponent, Amanda Janoo, drew 60 for every 100 of Harris's. The U.S. House vote is the steadier guide: D+34.4 this year, D+34.8 in 2022. Turnout in the governor's race was 110% of 2022's and 84% of the 2024 presidential vote.

FIGURE 98

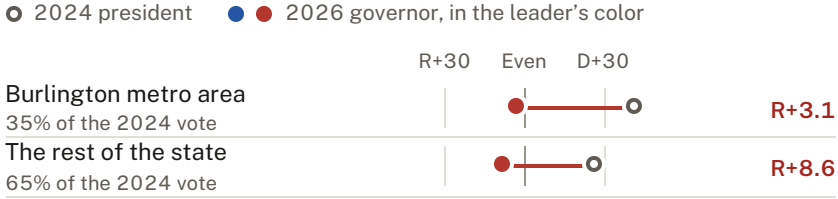
Vermont: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 99

Vermont by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor R-held	Phil Scott (R) 52.4%, Amanda Janoo (D) 45.8%	R+6.6	38.4 pts → R	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Charity R. Clark (D) 67.7%, Edwin Howell Kemon (R) 32.1%	D+35.7	3.9 pts → D	Hold
Auditor D-held	Tim Ashe (D) 69.1%, Ivar Kronick (R) 30.8%	D+38.3	6.5 pts → D	Hold
Lieutenant Governor R-held	Molly Gray (D) 62.8%, John S. Rodgers (R) 37.1%	D+25.7	6.1 pts → R	**Flip**

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Secretary of State D-held	Sarah Copeland Hanzas (D) 59.2%, H. Brooke Paige (R) 32.6%	D+26.6	5.1 pts → R	Hold
Treasurer D-held	Mike Pieciak (D) 62.3%, Lynn Lafleur (R) 31.1%	D+31.2	0.6 pts → R	Hold

U.S. House: 1 seat. Before: 1 D, 0 R. Called: 1 D, 0 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
VT-AL	Becca Balint	D+34.4	D+31.9

Where it moved

Scott ran furthest ahead of Trump where Democrats are strongest. The Burlington metro area, which casts 35% of the vote, voted for Harris by 41.9 points and for Scott by 3.1, a difference of 44.9. There he drew 158 votes for every 100 of Trump's. The rest of the state went from D+26.4 for president to R+8.6 for governor, a difference of 34.9.

Windsor County voted for Harris by 35.6 points and for Scott by 2.1, the largest of the nine counties, out of 14, that split that way. Chittenden County, in the Burlington area, casts more votes than any other county. It moved 47.0 points toward Scott and still went Democratic, by 6.6. So did Washington County, by 1.1. The widest gap between the two races was in Grand Isle County: D+21.1 for president, R+28.6 for governor.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	30	17 D, 13 R	*Not read in our count (16 of 30 seats)*
House	150	90 D, 57 R, 3 independent	*Not read in our count (109 of 150 seats)*

Scott now faces a Legislature that can make law without him. Vermont's constitution requires two-thirds of the members present in each house to override a veto, and on preliminary results Democrats reached that mark in both: 102 of 150 seats in the House and 20 of 30 in the Senate, where the margin is exact and holds only if every Democrat votes together or a senator from outside the caucus joins them.[608, 611, 612] Our count could not read most Vermont legislative districts, so these totals are Seven Days' and Vermont Public's, and they are not final. The Senate will also have a Progressive and an independent, and a Democratic lieutenant governor will preside over it, Seven Days reported.[608]

The Democrats who would use the margin have spoken carefully about it. Sen. Andrew Perchlik, a candidate for Senate president pro tempore, said: "It opens the window a little wider than it has been in the last session." House Majority Leader Lori Houghton, a candidate for speaker, said she prefers bipartisan work with the Scott administration and objected to the governor's description of the Legislature.[611] In her victory speech Gray said she would keep pressing for universal primary care and affordable housing.[609]

The General Assembly draws the legislative districts and must revise them at the session after each census. It may set up a legislative apportionment board to advise it, and the Supreme Court may order a reapportionment if it fails to act. With one U.S. House seat, the state has no congressional map.[612] The secretary of state is chosen by the voters every two years, at the same election as the governor. Sarah Copeland Hanzas, a Democrat, was re-elected by 26.6 points over Republican H. Brooke Paige.[3, 612]

On the ballot

Voters approved two constitutional amendments. An amendment is adopted when a majority of the voters voting on it approve.[612] Proposal 3 adds a right to collective bargaining for employees and passed with 74 percent of the vote. Proposal 4 adds a guarantee of equal protection under the law and passed with 79 percent, WAMC reported.[607,613]

Closer to home

Vermont's justices do not face the voters. At the end of each six-year term a justice's continuance is put to the General Assembly, and the justice stays unless a majority of the members voting are against.[612] In Chittenden County, State's Attorney Sarah George, a Democrat, was re-elected with 65 percent to 35 percent for Republican Jace Laquerre on unofficial results. It was one of only three contested state's attorney races in the state, Vermont Public reported, and her new four-year term begins in February.[614]

What did not change

What held for the Republicans was Scott. He carried 11 of the 14 counties, and in every one of the 14 he ran ahead of Trump's 2024 margin. After expressing disappointment that Republicans lost seats in the Legislature, he said in his victory speech: "Tonight, I extend an invitation to legislative leaders: let's find ways to make meaningful progress on the challenges we face."[607] The Senate Republican leader said his party was disappointed with the legislative result.[608] What held for the Democrats was everything below the governor. They won again in the five seats in our count that they already had; of those with a Republican runner-up, the closest was the secretary of state's race, at 26.6 points.

What it sets up

Vermont's governor, lieutenant governor and treasurer serve two-year terms, so those offices will be on the ballot again in 2028.[612] So will the U.S. Senate seat held by Democrat Peter Welch, in a state that voted D+31.8 for president in 2024 and R+6.6 for governor this year. The legislative districts are next revised at the session after the next census.[612]

Still open

The legislative totals are preliminary. Seven Days reported that a House race in Hardwick, led by the Republican incumbent by eight votes, was likely headed to a recount, and that a Democrat led a race in southern Franklin County by two votes.[608]

Virginia

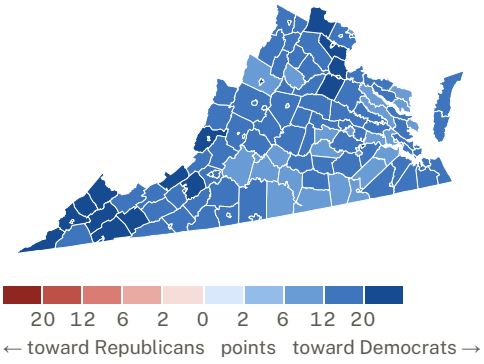
Virginia voters approved a constitutional right to reproductive freedom and two other amendments, and Democrats went from six to eight of the state's 11 U.S. House seats.

Mark R. Warner won the Senate race for the Democrats, 61.6% to 38.1% over Republican Bert Mizusawa, in a state Kamala Harris carried by 5.8 points. There was no race for governor: Abigail Spanberger won that office in November 2025, and a Virginia governor serves four years.[615, 616] Democrats took Republican-held U.S. House seats in the First District, where Shannon L. Taylor beat Robert J. "Rob" Wittman by 2.9 points, and the Second, where Elaine G. Luria beat Jen A. Kiggans by 9.0. The delegation now has eight Democrats and three Republicans.

Warner's margin was 17.7 points wider than Harris's in 2024. The Senate race drew 82% as many votes as that presidential election and 120% of the 2022 total. Warner drew 96 votes for every 100 Harris won, and Mizusawa drew 67 for every 100 of Donald Trump's. The U.S. House vote, all districts added together, went from D+3.8 to D+19.7.

FIGURE 100

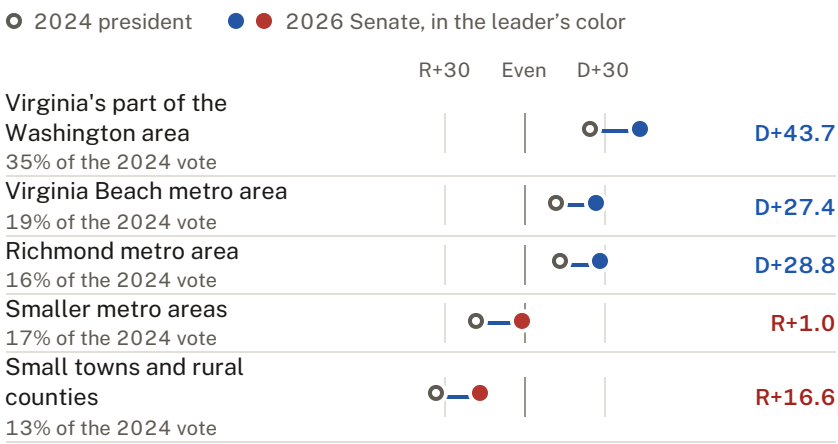
Virginia: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 101

Virginia by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate D-held	Mark R. Warner (D) 61.6%, Bert Mizusawa (R) 38.1%	D+23.5	17.7 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 11 seats. Before: 6 D, 5 R. Called: 8 D, 3 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
VA-01	Shannon L. Taylor **FLIP**	D+2.9	R+5.1
VA-02	Elaine G. Luria **FLIP**	D+9.0	R+0.7
VA-03	Robert C. "Bobby" Scott	D+49.3	D+34.5
VA-04	Jennifer L. McClellan	D+46.9	D+32.8
VA-05	John J. McGuire III	R+1.6	R+12.0
VA-06	Ben L. Cline	R+10.2	R+23.6

District	Winner	Margin	2024
VA-07	Eugene S. Vindman	D+22.6	D+2.8
VA-08	Donald S. Beyer, Jr.	D+61.7	D+49.6
VA-09	H. Morgan Griffith	R+30.8	R+43.3
VA-10	Suhas Subramanyam	D+25.3	D+8.5
VA-11	James R. Walkinshaw	D+50.3	D+34.6

Where it moved

Virginia's part of the Washington area, which casts 35% of the vote, moved furthest: 19.2 points, from D+24.6 to D+43.7. The Virginia Beach metro area moved least, 15.3 points, and still went from D+12.2 to D+27.4. The smaller metro areas went from R+18.0 to R+1.0, close to even, and the small towns and rural counties from R+33.3 to R+16.6.

Spotsylvania County, in the Washington area, is the largest of the 11 counties and cities that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Warner this year. It went from R+8.6 to D+11.9 on 63,057 votes. The widest swing among large localities was in Prince William County, in the same area: 25.4 points, to D+43.3. Loudoun County, also in the Washington area, moved 21.9. Fairfax County, the largest locality, went from D+35.0 to D+52.6, and Virginia Beach city, which Harris carried by 2.6 points, went to Warner by 18.6. None of the state's 133 counties and cities moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	40	21 D, 19 R	Not on the ballot
House of Delegates	100	63 D, 36 R	Not on the ballot

Control of state government was not at stake. Democrats came out of the November 2025 election holding the governorship and both chambers of the General Assembly, the Commonwealth Times reported then, and neither chamber was up for regular election this year.[615] Our count has the Senate at 21 Democrats to 19 Republicans and the House of Delegates at 63 to 36. Overriding a veto takes two-thirds of the members present in each house, a margin neither party holds.[617]

The election did not change who draws the maps or who runs the voting. Under the constitution as the state publishes it, a sixteen-member Virginia Redistricting Commission draws congressional and legislative districts, the General Assembly votes on its plans without amending them, those bills are exempt from the constitution's section on the governor's veto, and the Supreme Court of Virginia draws the districts if the process fails.[618] The Department of Elections is headed by a Commissioner of Elections, whom the governor appoints to a four-year term subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. This year's results are unofficial until they are certified on December 7, WHRO reported.[619,620]

On November 10 Spanberger and the Democratic leaders of both chambers presented an agenda for the 2027 session. It includes a medical debt forgiveness program run with nonprofits, support for housing near transit, investment in solar and more transparency in the approval of data centers, Radio IQ reported. "These proposals are the next step in our work to create a stronger, safer and more affordable Commonwealth," Spanberger said.[621]

On the ballot

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 1	**62.9% yes** Passing
Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 2	**57.9% yes** Passing
Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 3	**56.9% yes** Passing

An amendment the General Assembly has passed becomes part of the constitution if a majority of those voting on it vote in favor, and all three questions cleared that line.[622] The General Assembly had referred them largely along party lines, according to Cardinal News.[623] Question 1, approved with 62.9% in our count, adds a state

constitutional right to reproductive freedom. VPM reports that it allows abortion through the second trimester, lowers barriers in the third, and protects contraception and fertility care. [624] Patch reported that the Department of Elections has scheduled the amendments to take effect January 1, 2027. [625]

Question 2, approved with 57.9%, repeals the constitution's definition of marriage as between one man and one woman. VPM notes that the vote changes nothing in the immediate term and that the amendment also writes Loving v. Virginia into the constitution. Question 3, approved with 56.9%, restores voting rights to people convicted of felonies when they are released from incarceration and creates what VPM calls a fundamental right to vote. [624]

Closer to home

In Newport News, Mayor Phil Jones won a second term with 70% of the vote, WHRO reported. [626] In Roanoke, Democrat Raekwon Moore led a seven-candidate field for City Council with 16,408 votes on election night, and after late ballots were counted fourth place was separated by five votes, according to the Roanoke Rambler. [627] Virginia voters did not choose high-court judges or county prosecutors this year. Justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia are chosen by a majority vote of each house of the General Assembly. [628] County voters elect commonwealth's attorneys every four years counting from November 1995, a cycle that falls next in 2027. [629]

What did not change

Republicans kept three of the five U.S. House seats they held. The closest was the Fifth District, which Trump carried by 12.0 points in 2024 and John J. McGuire III held by 1.6. The Associated Press called the race two days after the election with 98% of the vote counted, and Democrat Tom Perriello conceded that evening. Cardinal News called the margin a significant swing left in a district that has been solidly Republican. [630] Ben L. Cline won the Sixth by 10.2 points and H. Morgan Griffith the Ninth by 30.8. Mizusawa carried 79 of the 133 counties and cities. The small towns and rural counties, which cast 13% of the vote, still voted Republican by 16.6 points.

What it sets up

Neither of Virginia's U.S. Senate seats is on the ballot in 2028. The governor's office is next on the ballot in 2029, and the race will have no incumbent: the constitution makes a governor ineligible for the term that follows the one she was elected to. [615, 616] The redistricting commission is convened in 2020 and every ten years after that, which puts its next scheduled meeting in 2030. [618] Democrats will defend eight U.S. House seats in 2028, two of them won this year by 2.9 and 9.0 points.

Still open

The reproductive freedom amendment may not be certified on schedule. The Founding Freedoms Law Center, the legal arm of the Family Foundation of Virginia, sued in Tazewell County Circuit Court on April 30 and asked for a preliminary injunction to stop certification, WSLS reported. [631] The case was set to go before a judge there on November 13, according to WDBJ. [632] Patch reported that a separate challenge to the marriage amendment involves a Prince William County pastor represented by the same group. [625]

Washington

West · 2024 president D+18.3 · 1 race not called

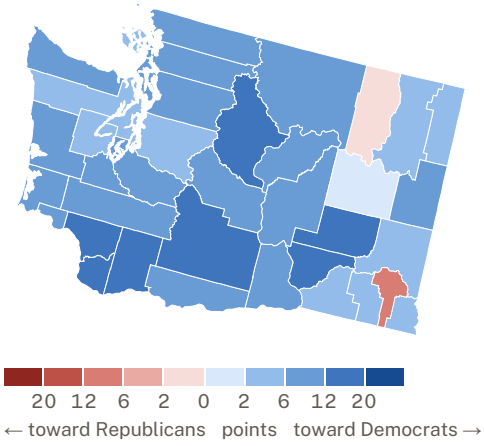
Washington Democrats reached two-thirds of the state House, and voters kept the state's income tax on high earners.

Washington had no race for Senate or governor, and five seats on the state Supreme Court were the only statewide offices on the ballot.[633] The broadest measure of the parties is the U.S. House vote, all districts added together, which Democratic candidates won by 26.7 points, up from 14.9 in 2024. Democrats held eight of the state's 10 U.S. House seats and won all eight again, among them the Third District, which Donald Trump carried by 3.3 points in 2024 and Marie Gluesenkamp Perez held by 8.3. Republicans held the Fourth District, where Amanda McKinney won by 8.1 points. The Fifth, also Republican-held, is not called.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the House vote moved 8.2 points toward the Democrats. It drew 80% as many votes as the presidential race and 103% of the 2022 total. Democratic candidates drew 88 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won. Republicans drew 75 for every 100 of Trump's.

FIGURE 102

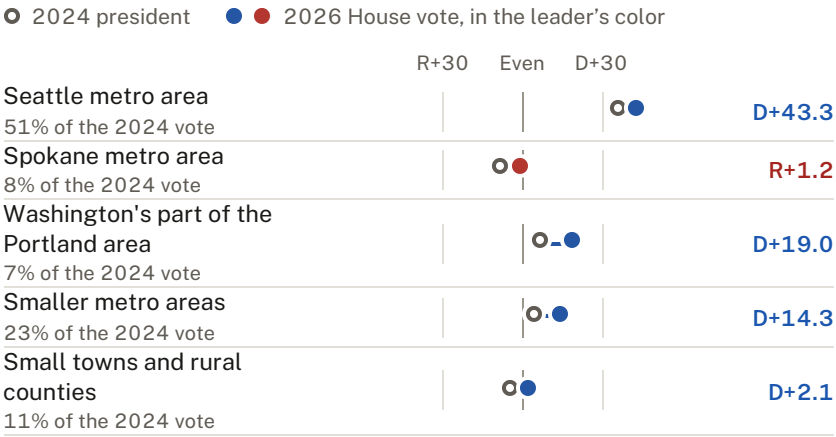
Washington: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the U.S. House vote, all districts added together minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 103

Washington by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

U.S. House: 10 seats. Before: 8 D, 2 R. Called: 8 D, 1 R, with 1 not called.

District	Winner or leader	Margin	2024
WA-01	Suzan DelBene	D+35.1	D+29.0
WA-02	Rick Larsen	D+33.5	D+23.8
WA-03	Marie Gluesenkamp Perez	D+8.3	R+3.3
WA-04	Amanda McKinney	R+8.1	R+20.7
WA-05	Michael Baumgartner not called	R+4.4	R+10.8
WA-06	Emily Randall	D+25.3	D+19.4
WA-07	Pramila Jayapal	D+75.5	D+75.8
WA-08	Kim Schrier	D+14.2	D+5.9
WA-09	Adam Smith	D+51.9	D+41.7
WA-10	Marilyn Strickland	D+28.3	D+18.3

Where it moved

The move was largest in Washington's part of the Portland area, which casts 7% of the vote and went from D+6.5 to D+19.0, a shift of 12.5 points. The Seattle metro area, which casts 51%, moved 7.3 points, from D+36.1 to D+43.3. The small towns and rural counties moved least, 7.0 points, and that was enough to change their side: they went from R+4.9 to D+2.1.

Spokane County is the largest of the seven counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Democratic House candidates this year. It moved from R+5.0 to D+2.0 on 234,318 votes. The widest swing outside the smallest counties was in Yakima County, which went from R+14.3 to D+3.7. King County, the largest county, moved 4.6 points, to D+56.9. Ferry County and Garfield County were the only counties that moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	49	30 D, 19 R	30 D, 19 R
House	98	59 D, 39 R	69 D, 29 R

Democrats kept both chambers of the Legislature, and the governor's office was not on the ballot.[633, 634] The change is in the size of the House majority. Our count has Democrats at 69 of 98 seats, up from 59. Two-thirds is 66, a mark House Democrats last reached in 1949, according to the Washington State Standard.[635] Their gains include four seats in the 17th and 18th districts in southwest Washington, which Republicans had long held, and two in Yakima in the 14th District, where the Standard credits in part a court-ordered redistricting.[634, 635] In the Senate our count shows the chamber unchanged at 30 to 19; KUOW reported on November 9 that Democrats flipped one seat and would need two more for two-thirds.[634]

The constitution sets a veto override at two-thirds of the members present in each house, and amending a voter-approved initiative within two years of its passage takes two-thirds of all members elected to each house. Democrats lack that in the Senate. A House supermajority alone allows procedural changes and the expulsion of a member, KUOW reported.[634, 636]

The election did not change who draws the maps or who runs elections. A commission set up in each year ending in one draws congressional and legislative districts, with four voting members named by the legislative leaders of the two largest parties. The Legislature may amend its plan only by a two-thirds vote of each house, and the plan is not subject to the governor's veto.[636] The secretary of state, an elected officer with a four-year term who was not on this year's ballot, is the chief election officer and certifies the results on December 3, FOX 13 Seattle reported.[633, 636, 637, 638]

On the ballot

Initiative Measure No. IP26-645	**42.0% yes** Failed
Initiative Measure No. IL26-001	**47.6% yes** Failing
Initiative Measure No. IL26-638	**56.0% yes** Passed

An initiative becomes law in Washington if it is approved by a majority of the votes cast on it, provided the vote on the measure equals at least one-third of all votes cast in the election.[636] Let's Go Washington, a conservative-backed campaign, was behind three initiatives on the ballot. Initiative 645 would have repealed the state's 9.9% tax on household income over $1 million. It had 42.0% in favor in our count and failed, and the repeal campaign conceded.[639, 640]

Initiative 638, which keeps transgender athletes out of girls' K-12 school sports and requires documentation before a student can compete, passed with 56.0% in our count; the Associated Press called it on November 4.[640,641] Initiative 001, which would have expanded parents' access to classroom materials, counseling records and medical information, had 47.6% in favor in our count, short of a majority. FOX 13 Seattle reported on November 5 that it was failing.[640,642]

Closer to home

Four of the five Supreme Court candidates backed by Democratic groups won by double-digit margins: Justices Colleen Melody and Theo Angelis keep their seats, Chief Justice Debra Stephens won another term, and King County Superior Court Judge Jaime Hawk joins the court. In the fifth race King County Superior Court Judge Sean O'Donnell, whose side was supported by the state Republican Party, claimed victory over appeals court Judge Ian Birk on November 11 with a lead of 39,000 votes and fewer than 100,000 ballots left to count statewide.[633]

In King County, Prosecuting Attorney Leesa Manion, first elected in 2022, was the only candidate listed for the office in the county's posted count.[643,644] Seattle's Proposition 1, which doubles the city's transit sales tax rate, was on pace to pass with 72.6% approval, FOX 13 Seattle reported on November 4.[638] No mayor or school board was up: state law puts city, town and district general elections in odd-numbered years.[645]

What did not change

Republicans have kept one of the two U.S. House seats they held and lead in the other. The one they have won is the Fourth District, which Trump carried by 20.7 points and Amanda McKinney won by 8.1. Republican House candidates carried 19 of the state's 39 counties. The Spokane metro area went from R+8.5 to R+1.2. Of the three initiatives backed by Let's Go Washington, the one on girls' sports passed. In the one close Supreme Court race, the candidate supported by the state Republican Party claimed victory.[633,639,641]

What it sets up

Patty Murray's U.S. Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted D+18.3 for president in 2024 and D+26.7 in this year's House vote. By KUOW's account, Senate Democrats in Olympia would need to flip two more seats for two-thirds, which is not possible before the 2028 election.[634] The income tax that voters kept still faces a court challenge, which KUOW reports is likely to be decided next year by the state Supreme Court.[639] The next redistricting commission will be established in January 2031.[636]

Still open

Call the Map has not called the Fifth District. Republican Michael Baumgartner leads Democrat Carmela Conroy by 4.4 points in a district Trump carried by 10.8. On election night KUOW described Baumgartner as in a tight race even in typically red Eastern Washington.[646]

West Virginia

South · 2024 president R+41.9

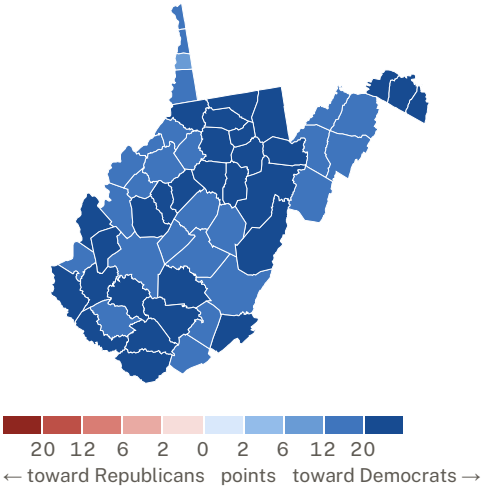
Republicans held West Virginia's U.S. Senate seat and their legislative supermajorities, while Democrats went from nine seats to 21 in the House of Delegates.

Shelley Moore Capito won a third term in the Senate for the Republicans, 58.3% to 37.9% over Democrat Rachel Fetty Anderson.[647] Republicans also kept both U.S. House seats: Carol Miller won the First District by 17.4 points and Riley Moore the Second by 18.7. Donald Trump carried the state by 41.9 points in 2024. Capito's margin was 20.3. The governor's office was not on the ballot, and the one statewide question, a constitutional amendment on citizenship and voting, had 79.5% in favor.

Set against the 2024 presidential vote, the Senate race moved 21.5 points toward the Democrats, and the two parties did not shrink alike. The race drew 60% as many votes as the 2024 presidential race and 97% of the 2022 total. Anderson drew 81 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here, and Capito drew 50 for every 100 of Trump's. The U.S. House vote went from R+40.9 to R+18.1.

FIGURE 104

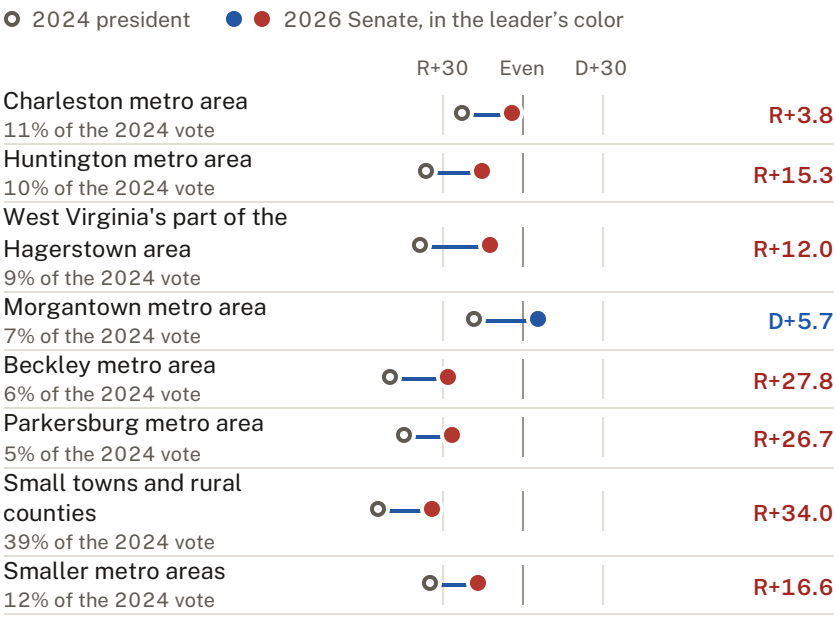
West Virginia: the move from 2024, county by county



Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 105

West Virginia by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Shelley Moore Capito (R) 58.3%, Rachel Fetty Anderson (D) 37.9%	R+20.3	21.5 pts → D	Hold

U.S. House: 2 seats. Before: 0 D, 2 R. Called: 0 D, 2 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
WV-01	Carol Miller	R+17.4	R+44.0
WV-02	Riley Moore	R+18.7	R+39.4

Where it moved

The shift was widest in West Virginia's part of the Hagerstown area, which casts 9% of the vote and went from R+38.6 to R+12.0, a move of 26.5 points. It was narrowest in the Parkersburg metro area, at 17.8 points, from R+44.6 to R+26.7. The Morgantown metro area changed sides, going from R+18.0 to D+5.7, and the Charleston metro area came close, from R+22.9 to R+3.8. The small towns and rural counties, which cast 39% of the vote, moved 20.6 points and still voted Republican by 34.0.

The largest of the three counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Anderson this year is Kanawha County, in the Charleston area. It went from R+17.4 to D+0.7 on 47,941 votes. Monongalia County, in the Morgantown area, went from R+4.4 to D+17.6. Berkeley County, in the Hagerstown area, moved farther than either, 27.7 points, and stayed Republican by 8.1. No county moved toward the Republicans, and Capito carried 52 of the state's 55.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	34	2 D, 32 R	4 D, 30 R
House of Delegates	100	9 D, 90 R	21 D, 79 R

Control stayed with Republicans, who keep the governor's office and supermajorities in both chambers of the Legislature.[648] Our count has the Senate at 30 Republicans to four Democrats, where it had been 32 to two, and the House of Delegates at 79 to 21. A veto of an ordinary bill is overridden by a majority of the members elected to each house, and budget and appropriation bills take two-thirds. Republicans remain above both thresholds.[649]

What the Democrats gained is procedure. With 10% of the members present they can demand roll-call votes, and because suspending the rule that bills be read on three days takes four-fifths of lawmakers, they can potentially prevent bills from being fast-tracked, Mountain State Spotlight reported. "We're coming back, and we're going to pick up more seats next time," said Del. Mike Pushkin, the state Democratic Party chair.[647]

Republican incumbents lost seats in both chambers. In the Senate, Democrat John Williams, a member of the House of Delegates, beat Sen. Mike Oliverio, and Democrat Richie Robb beat Sen. Anne Charnock. In the House, Democrat Dennis Rempel took the seat of the Finance chair, Vernon Criss, whom Gov. Patrick Morrisey had targeted in the May primary and who then mounted a write-in campaign. Steve Williams, a former mayor of Huntington and the Democratic candidate for governor in 2024, defeated two-term Republican Patrick Lucas. Many Republicans faced fallout for supporting HB 2014, a 2025 law that took away local control of data center development, according to Mountain State Spotlight.[647]

Neither the drawing of maps nor the running of elections changed hands. The constitution assigns senatorial districts to the Legislature and says the arrangement of delegate districts is declared by law. The secretary of state, one of six executive officers with four-year terms, is Kris Warner.[649, 650] Morrisey said the day after the election that voters want legislators to "stop all the nonsense and the politics and focus on better roads, clean water" and affordability.[651] House Speaker Roger Hanshaw said on November 12 that he anticipates work on revising the public school funding formula once the regular session begins in January, MetroNews reported.[652]

On the ballot

Amendment No 1: Citizenship Requirement to Vote in West Virginia Elections Amendment	**79.5% yes** Passing

A constitutional amendment proposed by the Legislature is ratified if a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question approve it.[649] Amendment 1 provides that in all West Virginia elections only citizens of the United States who are citizens of the state are qualified to vote. A MetroNews commentary before the election noted that state law already prevents noncitizens from voting.[653] The amendment had 79.5% in favor in our count, well past the majority it needed.

What did not change

Republicans won again in all three of the federal seats they held, and none was close: the narrowest was the First District, which Trump carried by 44.0 points and Carol Miller won by 17.4. Republican incumbents prevailed in the Senate race and both congressional contests, as MetroNews's Hoppy Kercheval put it, while Democrats' gains left them with four of 34 state Senate seats.[654] In the Northern Panhandle, Sen. Laura Chapman defeated Del. Shawn Fluharty, who left the House of Delegates to challenge her.[647] The Beckley and Parkersburg metro areas voted Republican by 27.8 and 26.7 points.

What it sets up

Neither of West Virginia's U.S. Senate seats is on the ballot in 2028. All 100 House of Delegates seats and half the state Senate will be: delegates serve two-year terms and senators four. The constitution bars a governor who has served all or part of two consecutive terms from the term that follows.[649] In Washington, with Democrats taking the U.S. Senate, West Virginia will not have a senator in the majority for the first time since the 2003 to 2007 period, MetroNews reported, and Capito said Republicans are trying to strengthen their appeal to voters.[655]

Wisconsin

Midwest · 2024 president R+0.9

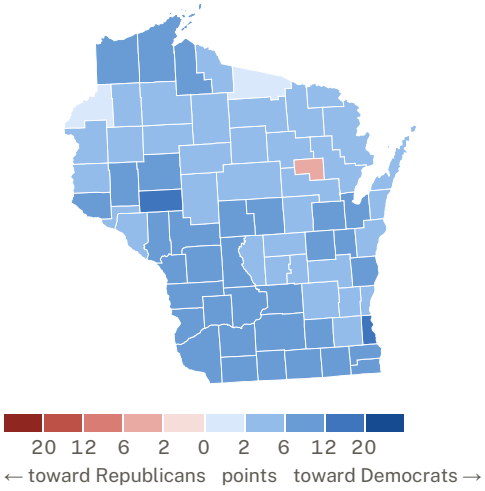
Democrats won the Wisconsin governorship and both chambers of the Legislature, giving them full control of state government.

David Crowley, a Democrat and the Milwaukee County executive, won the governor's office by 8.0 points over Republican Tom Tiffany, in a state Donald Trump carried by 0.9 in 2024. He succeeds a Democrat, Tony Evers, and will be the state's first Black governor.[656, 657, 658, 659] Democrats won the three other statewide offices on the ballot. Josh Kaul won the attorney general's office and JoCasta Zamarripa the secretary of state's, both already in Democratic hands. The treasurer's office changed party: Yee Xiong won it by 3.6 points, the narrowest of the party's statewide wins, and will be the first Hmong statewide elected officer in the country, Wisconsin Watch reported.[659] Democrats also took Republican-held U.S. House seats. Mitchell Berman beat Bryan Steil by 3.9 points and Rebecca Cooke beat Derrick Van Orden by 6.6 in a rematch of 2024. Berman will be the first Democrat to represent the First District in more than 30 years, WPR reported.[660] The delegation, which had six Republicans and two Democrats, is now split four to four.

Compared with the 2024 presidential vote, the governor's race moved 8.9 points toward the Democrats. It drew 78% as many votes as the presidential race and 100% of the 2022 total. Crowley drew 86 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here. Tiffany drew 72 for every 100 of Trump's.

FIGURE 106

Wisconsin: the move from 2024, county by county



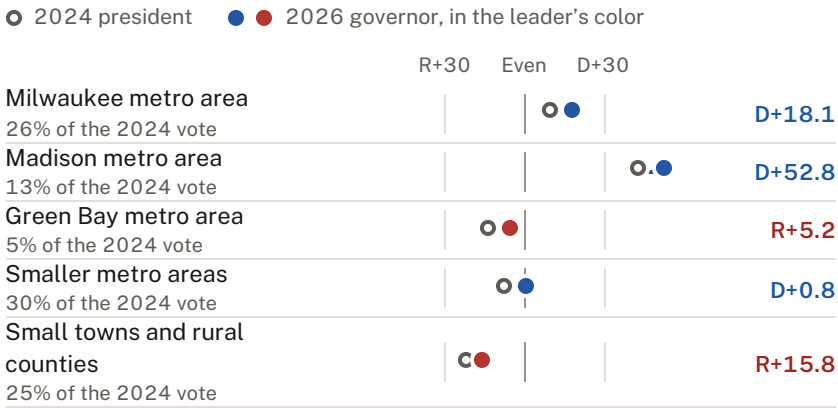
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← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the governor's race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 107

Wisconsin by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Governor D-held	David Crowley (D) 54.0%, Tom Tiffany (R) 46.0%	D+8.0	8.9 pts → D	Hold
Attorney General D-held	Josh Kaul (D) 54.6%, Eric Toney (R) 45.4%	D+9.3	10.1 pts → D	Hold
Secretary of State D-held	JoCasta Zamarripa (D) 50.6%, Jay Schroeder (R) 45.6%	D+5.0	5.9 pts → D	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Yee Xiong (D) 51.8%, John Leiber (R) 48.2%	D+3.6	4.4 pts → D	**Flip**

U.S. House: 8 seats. Before: 2 D, 6 R. Called: 4 D, 4 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
WI-01	Mitchell Berman **FLIP**	D+3.9	R+4.5
WI-02	Mark Pocan	—	D+39.7
WI-03	Rebecca Cooke **FLIP**	D+6.6	R+7.3
WI-04	Gwen Moore	D+62.5	D+51.2
WI-05	Scott Fitzgerald	R+18.1	R+21.9
WI-06	Glenn Grothman	R+9.4	R+16.3
WI-07	Michael Alfonso	R+13.8	R+22.3
WI-08	Tony Wied	R+7.8	R+16.1

Where it moved

The Madison metro area moved furthest, 9.7 points, from D+43.1 to D+52.8. The Milwaukee metro area, which casts 26% of the vote, went from D+9.4 to D+18.1. The smaller metro areas, which cast 30%, changed sides, from R+8.0 to D+0.8. The small towns and rural counties, with 25% of the vote, moved least, 6.4 points, and voted Republican by 15.8.

Of the seven counties that voted for Trump in 2024 and for Crowley this year, Brown County, in the Green Bay area, is the largest. It went from R+7.5 to D+2.2 on 114,357 votes. Kenosha County went from R+6.2 to D+5.7. The widest swing among large counties was in Milwaukee County, where Crowley is county executive, at 13.5 points.[658] Waukesha County, in the same metro area, moved 4.6 and stayed Republican by 15.2. Menominee County was the only county that moved toward the Republicans.

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	33	15 D, 18 R	*Not read in our count (1 of 33 seats)*
Assembly	99	45 D, 54 R	53 D, 46 R

Democrats last held the governorship and both chambers from 2009 to 2011, Spectrum News 1 reported.[661] On unofficial results compiled by the AP they won the Senate 18 to 15, the reverse of the Republican majority before the election, and our count has the Assembly at 53 Democrats to 46 Republicans, where Republicans had held 54 seats. Sen. Howard Marklein, the Republican co-chair of the Legislature's budget committee, lost his seat to Rep. Jenna Jacobson, a Democrat.[656] On November 10 Democrats chose Sen. Dianne Hesselbein as Senate majority leader and Rep. Greta Neubauer as Assembly speaker. Neubauer will be the first woman to serve as speaker, WPR reported. Republicans chose Sen. Julian Bradley and Rep. Tyler August as minority leaders.[662]

One party now holds both the Legislature and the governor's office. The constitution has the Legislature redraw legislative districts at its first session after each census, and every bill the Legislature passes is presented to the governor, by Ballotpedia's reproduction of the text. Ballotpedia reports that the Wisconsin Supreme Court ordered the state to draw new maps in a 4-3 decision in December 2023.[663,664,665] The administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission is Meagan Wolfe, WPR reported.[666] Democrats' top priorities in election law include more election funding and letting clerks process absentee ballots on the Monday before an election, Votebeat reported.[667]

Crowley takes the oath of office on January 4, 2027.[668] He told WPR two days after the election: "First and foremost, we have to tackle the affordability crisis." He tied that to school funding, property taxes and healthcare, and named repealing the minimum markup law on gasoline.[658] Hesselbein listed fully

funding public schools, reining in property taxes and standing with organized labor among the Senate majority's priorities. [661] WPR reported that both new leaders were evasive when asked about the details of upcoming bills. [662]

On the ballot

Question 2 - Prohibit Closing Places of Worship During Emergencies	**48.1% yes** Failed
Question 1 - Prohibit Partial Veto to Create or Increase Taxes or Fees	**50.7% yes** Passed
Question 3 - Prohibit Government Discrimination or Preferential Treatment	**56.5% yes** Passed

The same voters approved two of three constitutional amendments written by Republican legislators. An amendment reaches the ballot after lawmakers pass it in two consecutive two-year sessions, Wisconsin Watch reported. Question 1 bars the governor from using the partial veto to create or increase a tax or fee. It passed narrowly, with 50.7% in favor in our count, and it does not apply to vetoes already made. Question 3, which bars government and public educational institutions from discriminating against or giving preferential treatment to people based on race, ethnicity, nationality or sex, passed with 56.5%. Question 2, which would have barred public officials from banning gatherings in places of worship during a state of emergency, failed with 48.1% in favor. [657]

Closer to home

School funding was on local ballots across the state. Voters approved 44 of the 79 school referendums put to them, WPR reported, a result that gives some districts a financial lifeline and leaves others facing cuts. [669]

What did not change

Republicans kept four of the six U.S. House seats they held. The closest was the Eighth District, which Tony Wied won by 7.8 points, followed by the Sixth, where Glenn Grothman won by 9.4. Tiffany carried 52 of the state's 72 counties. He ran ahead of the party's 2022 nominee for governor in western and central counties, Wisconsin Watch's data report found: in Lafayette County he won 56.4% of the vote, 5.4 points better than 2022. [670] The partial veto amendment that passed was a Republican measure, and it will bind a Democratic governor. [657]

What it sets up

Ron Johnson's U.S. Senate seat will be on the ballot in 2028, in a state that voted R+0.9 for president in 2024 and D+8.0 for governor this year. Before then comes a statewide election in April 2027 for an open ten-year seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, where conservative Justice Annette Ziegler is not seeking a third term and liberals hold a 5-2 majority. Crowley's first two-year budget is due by the last Tuesday in January unless the Legislature grants more time. A special election on December 15 fills the office of Waukesha County executive, and the only two candidates are Republican legislators, so the winner will leave the Legislature. [668]

Wyoming

West · 2024 president R+46.2

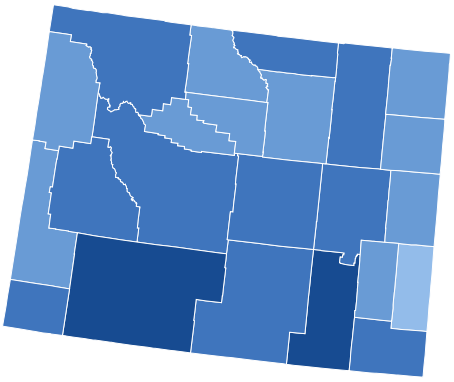
Wyoming elected Republican Eric Barlow governor and kept every statewide office Republican, though Harriet Hageman won the Senate race by a margin 15.9 points narrower than Donald Trump's in 2024.

Eric Barlow won the open governor's race with 68.1% of the vote. He defeated the Constitution Party candidate, Rebecca Bextel, who was second with 16.7%, and Democrat Kenneth Casner.[671] Republican Harriet Hageman won the U.S. Senate race by 30.3 points over Democrat James Byrd, and Secretary of State Chuck Gray won the state's one U.S. House seat by 20.7.[671,672] Republicans won all four of the other statewide offices: Robert Short for secretary of state, Steve Harshman for superintendent of public instruction, and Curt Meier for treasurer and Kristi Racines for auditor, who had no general election opponent.[671] The secretary of state's office lists the results as official.[673]

Trump carried Wyoming by 46.2 points in 2024, and Hageman's margin was 15.9 points smaller. Byrd drew 94 votes for every 100 Kamala Harris won here; Hageman drew 63 for every 100 of Trump's. The votes counted come to 97% of the 2022 total and 71% of the 2024 presidential vote. Gray's House margin, R+20.7, was narrower still. Ryan Williamson, a political scientist at the University of Wyoming, told WyoFile the swing was historically large and that what it means is still up in the air.[674]

FIGURE 108

Wyoming: the move from 2024, county by county



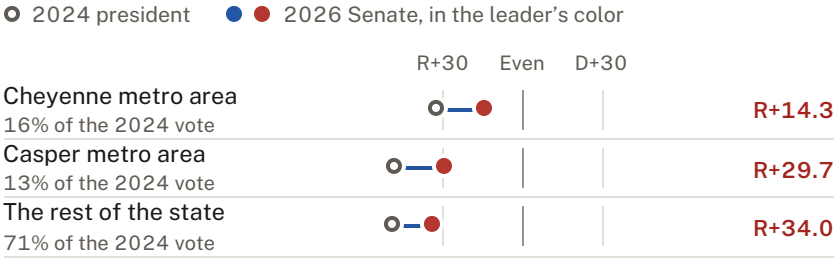
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← toward Republicans points toward Democrats →

Each county's 2026 margin in the Senate race minus its 2024 presidential margin. Source: state election office; 2024 presidential returns.

FIGURE 109

Wyoming by region: 2024 president to 2026



Metro areas are the Office of Management and Budget's July 2023 definitions; an area with 5% or more of the state's 2024 vote stands alone. Source: state election office; 2024 county returns.

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Senate R-held	Harriet Hageman (R) 64.9%, James Byrd (D) 34.6%	R+30.3	15.9 pts → D	Hold
Governor R-held	Eric Barlow (R) 68.1%, Rebecca Bextel (O) 16.7%	R+53.6	7.3 pts → R	Hold
Auditor R-held	Kristi Racines (R) 98.4%, Write-in (O) 1.6%	R+96.8	—	Hold

Office	Result	Margin	Against 2024 president	
Secretary of State R-held	Robert Short (R) 67.6%, Bryan McCarty (D) 23.7%	R+43.9	2.3 pts → D	Hold
Superintendent of Public Instruction R-held	Steve Harshman (R) 74.4%, Ana Cordova (D) 24.7%	R+49.8	3.5 pts → R	Hold
Treasurer R-held	Curt Meier (R) 98.0%, Write-in (O) 2.0%	R+95.9	—	Hold

U.S. House: 1 seat. Before: 0 D, 1 R. Called: 0 D, 1 R.

District	Winner	Margin	2024
WY-AL	Chuck Gray	R+20.7	R+45.8

Where it moved

The two metro areas moved most. The Casper area went from R+48.6 to R+29.7, a move of 18.9 points, and the Cheyenne area from R+32.4 to R+14.3. The rest of the state, which casts 71% of the vote, moved least, 14.9 points, and stayed Republican at R+34.0.

Albany County, in the Laramie area, was the only county to change sides in the Senate race, going from R+3.2 to D+16.9 on 13,220 votes. Sweetwater County, in the Rock Springs area, moved farther, 21.7 points, and still voted Republican by 31.5. Laramie County, the largest, went from R+32.4 to R+14.3. No county moved toward the Republicans. The governor's race looked different: Barlow won every county, each with at least 59 percent, at 93 percent of votes counted, Cowboy State Daily reported.[675]

What it changes

Chamber	Seats	Before	After, in our count
Senate	31	2 D, 29 R	*Not read in our count (17 of 31 seats)*
House	62	6 D, 56 R	*Not read in our count (62 of 62 seats)*

Republicans keep the governor's office and both chambers of the Legislature, with two-thirds majorities in each. Our count could not read most Wyoming legislative districts. A client alert from the law firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, written on November 4 pending official certification, has the Senate unchanged at 29 Republicans and two Democrats and the House at 55 Republicans and seven Democrats. A veto is overridden by two-thirds of the members elected to each house.[671,676] The one Democratic gain was House District 11, an open seat a Republican had held, where Britney Tennant beat Republican Dan McIntosh and Libertarian Ryan Shollenberger by 54 votes.[671,677] Another change inside the majority came before November. In the August 18 primary the Wyoming Freedom Caucus lost 13 House incumbents and its House majority, and WyoFile estimated it would have about 10 reliable House votes and five in the Senate in January.[678]

Barlow named Erin Taylor his chief of staff and Walter Eggers as his nominee for attorney general, who needs Senate confirmation. "Wyoming deserves a government that listens, spends responsibly and delivers dependable service," he said, WyoFile reported on November 10.[679] The Legislature convenes on January 13, 2027, with 28 House members in their first term, and the Brownstein alert says Sen. Tara Nethercott, the majority floor leader, will likely become Senate president.[671]

The Legislature draws the maps. The constitution has it reapportion its own seats at the first budget session after each federal census and draw congressional districts when Congress makes a new apportionment, and the state has one House seat.[676] Elections pass to Robert Short, the Republican who won the open secretary of state's office that Gray is leaving for Congress.[671,672]

On the ballot

A citizen initiative in Wyoming is enacted only if the votes for it exceed half of all those voting in the general election, so a ballot left blank on the question counts against it.[676, 680, 681] Proposition One, the first initiative on the Wyoming ballot in 30 years, would have exempted half of a primary residence's assessed value from property tax. It failed, 80,047 votes for and 105,209 against in the secretary of state's official summary.[671, 680, 681]

Closer to home

Voters kept both Wyoming Supreme Court justices who stood for retention. The secretary of state's official summary has Bridget Hill at 122,319 yes to 38,535 no and Robert C. Jarosh at 119,945 yes to 38,904 no; justices serve eight-year terms.[676, 682]

What did not change

Republicans won again in all seven of the offices in our count that they held, the closest of them the House seat, by 20.7 points. Their Senate candidate carried 21 of the 23 counties. Democrats won no statewide office, and Republicans kept their supermajority, the Brownstein alert says.[671] WyoFile reported that Republicans swept Wyoming but that voters there swung left compared with 2024.[674]

What it sets up

Neither of Wyoming's U.S. Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2028. Barlow is set to be inaugurated on January 4, and the governor's four-year term puts the office back on the ballot in 2030.[671, 676, 679] The party system changes sooner. Because Bextel drew more than the 10% of the vote that state law requires, the Constitution Party is set to become Wyoming's third major party, which means it will choose its candidates in the primary election instead of at a convention, WyoFile reported.[683] The Legislature will next redraw its districts at the first budget session after the next federal census.[676]

PART 7

Limits

What is still being counted

Of the 653 races we follow, 21 were not called when this report's data was fixed, on November 13, 2026: one for the Senate, one for governor, 16 for the House and the rest for statewide offices. None of them is counted in a party's seats in this report. Where a sentence says a candidate leads, the race is open.

No result used here was described as certified in the sources we read. Vote totals will rise, and the turnout comparisons will rise with them. KTTC reported three legislative recounts still to come in Minnesota, and two U.S. House races in Louisiana go to runoffs on December 12.[1,328] Our count could not read every legislative seat: 25 of 98 chambers are incomplete in it, and for those the seat totals in this report are other people's, with their names attached.

What one election cannot show

The comparison at the center of this report sets a midterm against a presidential election and one office against another. The electorate was about three-quarters the size of 2024's, and it was a different electorate. A county's move adds together people who switched sides and people who voted in only one of the two elections, and county returns cannot divide it. Nothing here measures how any group of voters behaved.

Candidates matter to the comparison as well. A governor with a following of his own makes a state look as if it lurched, as in Vermont. The state sections name the race each comparison uses.

The research on what the results change was done on November 13 and November 14, ten and eleven days after the election, from pages that could be opened without an account. Each state's section and the national text were then checked, claim by claim, by a reader who had not written them, against the count and the cited pages. The National Conference of State Legislatures' pages could not be opened at all, and nothing here is quoted from them. Each citation was reopened by a script that looked for the quoted passage on the page. Ballotpedia's main site and a few newsrooms refused that script; where a claim rests on such a page, the claim says whose count it is.

PART 8

How this was figured

The figures

Vote counts are each state's election office, read by Call the Map, with civicAPI's aggregation of the same official counts where an office could not be read. Every computed figure in this report comes from the counts as published on November 13, 2026, at one fixed version of our results data (6a2dbf6973), by a script that is rerun when the counts change. A margin is the Democrat's votes minus the Republican's as a share of all votes cast. A shift is a place's margin this year in its state's top race, which is the Senate race, or else the governor's, or else the House vote added across districts, minus its margin for president in 2024. In Idaho, Montana, Nebraska and South Dakota, where an independent finished second for the Senate, the next race in that order is used.

A county is compared once its count reaches a quarter of its 2024 presidential vote; 3,112 counties pass. Alaska counts its votes by its 40 state house districts, not by borough, so its own section compares those districts, using the first choices for the Democrat and the Republican in its Senate race, and the national county figures leave it out. County characteristics are the Census Bureau's American Community Survey estimates for 2019 to 2023: education, race and ethnicity, median household income, median age and density. Fifths are fifths of this year's vote. Urban, suburban and rural are our own cut by density. Metro areas inside a state are the Office of Management and Budget's 2023 definitions. The 2022 and 2024 House votes are the MIT Election Data and Science Lab's returns, with blank and exhausted ballots left out. [5, 684, 685]

A race counts as called here when our results desk has called it, when the state's election office marks its results official, as Wyoming's does for seven races, or when one candidate was on the ballot, as in four U.S. House districts. Nothing in this report compares a result with anyone's prediction of it.

Sources

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