Inside Elections
With Nathan L. Gonzales

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# 2026 Election Recap: Bigger, Bluer Than Expected

By Nathan L. Gonzales, Jacob Rubashkin & Inshara Ali

Elections can be humbling. And the 2026 midterm results are just the latest example.

In 2024, Republicans enjoyed one of their best cycles in modern history, capturing the White House and the Senate and retaining their House majority. Losing to Donald Trump twice, and even finishing behind in the national popular vote, should have been a humbling moment for the Democrats.

Now, just two years later, Democrats rode in on a wave that was bigger and bluer than anyone anticipated as Republican gains over the last few years were wiped out in a single night. What Republicans thought was a permanent realignment of the party coalitions crumbled under the weight of an unpopular war in the Middle East and voter frustrations over the president's economic policies.

Not only did Democrats gain majorities in the House and Senate, a half-dozen governorships and more than 500 state legislative seats, they did so with stunning margins — both in individual races and total numbers — and in some very red Republican territory.

It should be a humbling moment for Republicans, particularly because this midterm outcome was not inevitable. Without Trump's war with Iran, tariffs on friendly countries and aggressive immigration enforcement, Republicans would have held the Senate and had a chance to hold the House. Instead, the president's policies fractured the 2024 coalition, specifically squeezing Hispanic voters and rural White voters in agriculture communities.

Rather than make subsequent policy changes, it looks like Republicans are going to stay the course in the face of voter repudiation. Speaker Mike Johnson said voters made a mistake, and House Republicans chose firebrand Rep. Jim Jordan as their new leader. Trump is publicly defending his policies and elevated Stephen Miller to chief of staff when his guidance helped lead to the president's slumping job approval rating.

It is a humbling moment for *Inside Elections*. While we've been projecting anything from a good to great Democratic cycle for months, our pre-election projections understated what happened. We expected Democrats to gain between four and six Senate seats when they'll likely gain nine. And we expected Democrats to gain between 20 and 30 House seats when that number will be closer to 45. We identified late-breaking movement in Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and North Carolina but didn't capture the full scope of the Republican collapse.

## Balance of Power

| | | Democratic | Republican | Uncalled |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| HOUSE | 119th Congress | 215 | **220** | |
| | 120th Congress | **255** | 168 | 12 |
| | Likely Outcome | | *D+41-45* | |
| SENATE | 119th Congress | 47 | **53** | |
| | 120th Congress | **55** | 44 | 1 |
| | Likely Outcome | | *D+8-9* | |
| GOVERNOR | 2025 Results | 24 | **26** | |
| | 2026 Results | **28** | 20 | 2 |
| | Likely Outcome | | *D+6* | |

Even though our analysis was directionally correct, and the miss could be credited to a potentially once-in-a-generation election, the results are an opportunity to re-evaluate our processes. It's wise to continue to diversify our sources and potentially give greater weight to preceding special election and early vote trends.

Polling continues to be a challenge. While polls correctly pointed to significant Democratic gains, even in traditionally Republican places, the margins were often off significantly. Pollsters, either consciously or sub-consciously, incorrectly assumed a more conservative electorate would emerge on Election Day. We may have done the same.

In dozens of close races, undecided voters looked disproportionately Republican. It wasn't unreasonable to assume that they would break toward GOP candidates in the final moments. Instead, undecided voters broke as they normally do, against the party on the defensive, leading to sweeping Democratic wins.

To be clear, this was not an anti-incumbent election. Voters were focused on incumbents of the party in power. With a handful of close races yet to be called, Democrats are poised to defeat 35 Republican House incumbents and six GOP senators, while Republicans didn't defeat a single Democratic incumbent in either chamber.

There will be plenty of time to analyze the outcomes in the weeks and months ahead, but there are at least a few more initial lessons:

**Trump is a political mortal.** Despite the pervasive narrative that normal political rules don't apply to the president, 2026 showed that is simply not true. Sure, he was a surprise victor in 2016, but as an unpopular sitting president in 2018, his party lost a net of 40 House seats. When he ran for re-election in 2020, again as an unpopular president, he lost. When he got to run against an unpopular Democratic administration in 2024, he won again. And when his job approval rating sank to historic lows, his party was routed in the 2026 midterms.

**Redistricting flopped for Republicans.** The GOP started a war

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that they could not finish. Not only did the party not gain any seats in Texas, Florida or Alabama, but they lost seats in North Carolina and Ohio. The Tar Heel State was a total debacle for Republicans as Roy Cooper's 20-point Senate victory nearly led to the defeat of all but one House Republican. Rep. Tim Moore lost a district he drew for himself. Republicans relied too much on the 2024 coalition turning out in 2026 and got burned.

**The Trump coalition collapsed.** The coalition that brought Republicans to the mountaintop didn't stick around very long as the party lost ground among a host of key demographic groups that were supposed to be a permanent part of its voter bloc. Trump finished behind Kamala Harris by just 11 points among voters aged 18-29. Republican candidates lost those voters by 47 points, according to the exit polls. Trump finished 5 points behind Harris among Latino voters, but Republicans lost them by 27 points this year. Trump lagged Harris by just 3 points among independent voters, but Republicans lost them by 17 points this week. Trump bested Harris among male voters by 12 points in 2024, but Republicans ran even with Democrats with this group on Tuesday. Republicans even lost ground among voters without a college degree. Trump was +13 against Harris in 2024, but Republicans were just +4 in the midterms.

**Candidate quality is only a fraction of the story.** Republicans can try to blame their candidates or campaigns, whether it's Ken Paxton in Texas, Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith in Mississippi or Sen. Roger Marshall in Kansas, but all of them probably would have won in a political environment in which the president was even modestly popular. Without Trump's self-inflicted policy wounds, candidate quality would not have mattered as much for Republicans, and they could have exploited Democrats with vulnerabilities, including Abdul El-Sayed in Michigan. Gina Hinojosa's victory over GOP Greg Abbott, and every other statewide Democrat winning in Texas, is proof that Republican problems extend beyond Paxton's baggage.

**Personal brands matter until they don't.** Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, and Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania and Mike Lawler of New York came into the cycle with stellar reputations about bucking partisan trends, but all of them were defeated, and their races weren't even particularly close. Independent and moderate brands matter less when voters are determined to send a message.

**There are no permanent coalitions.** Just last year, the narrative was that Democrats would never be in control again. Now that narrative has swung wildly in the other direction: because Democrats did so well and won in so many Republican states including Texas, it will take multiple cycles for the GOP to regain the House and Senate majorities and that they no longer have a serious path in the Electoral College. But it's OK to take a deep breath.

One of the biggest takeaways from this election is that the party coalitions are much more tenuous than advertised. Particularly in a time of economic uncertainty, voters aren't wedded to either party. It looks like Democrats are going to win Senate races in seven states that were rated as Solid Republican at the beginning of the cycle. Things can change, and they can change quickly.

A lot will depend on how both parties interpret the results, because midterms can be poor predictors. If Trump and the Republicans stay the course, this could be similar to the two-cycle waves of 2006 and 2008 that ultimately ushered in Barack Obama with congressional majorities. Or, if voter sentiment and economic conditions improve, 2028 could look like 2012, when Democrats bounced back from the 2010 Republican wave.

Overall, 2026 was one of the most dominant elections in modern history. But if Democrats take the results as a mandate and invitation to push too far to the left, then it won't be long before voters humble them once again. IE

## Uncalled Races

**Races Still Uncalled by the Associated Press as of 9am ET on Nov. 12, 2026**

| Race | Leading Candidate | Vote | Second Place Candidate | Vote | Rating |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AK Sen | Mary Peltola (D) | 48.9% | Dan Sullivan* (R) | 47.3% | Toss-up |
| AK Gov | Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins (D) | 49.8% | Bernadette Wilson (R) | 29% | Tilt D |
| KS Gov | Cindy Holscher (D) | 50.3% | Ty Masterson (R) | 49.7% | Tilt R |
| AK-AL | Nick Begich* (R) | 49% | Bill Hill (I) | 40.9% | Likely R |
| CA-04 | Eric Jones (D) | 52.1% | Mike Thompson* (D) | 47.9% | Solid D |
| CA-23 | Jay Obernolte* (R) | 50.9% | Tessa Lynn Hodge (D) | 49.1% | Solid R |
| CO-04 | Eileen Laubacher (D) | 48.8% | Lauren Boebert* (R) | 47.9% | Likely R |
| LA-05◆ | Pat Moore (D) | 17.9% | Gabe Firment (R) | 17.2% | Solid R |
| LA-06◆ | Chauna Banks (D) | 19.4% | Blake Miguez (R) | 19.2% | Solid R |
| ME-02 | Paul LePage (R) | 49.9% | Matt Dunlap (D) | 48.3% | Lean R |
| MN-01 | Jake Johnson (D) | 50.0% | Brad Finstad* (R) | 49.9% | Lean R |
| NC-03 | Raymond Smith (D) | 49.4% | Greg Murphy* (R) | 49.3% | Likely R |
| NC-05 | Chuck Hubbard (D) | 48.7% | Virginia Foxx* (R) | 48.6% | Solid R |
| NC-07 | David Rouzer* (R) | 49.9% | Kimberly Hardy (D) | 49.2% | Solid R |
| NC-10 | Pat Harrigan* (R) | 49.6% | Ashley Bell (D) | 48.8% | Solid R |
| TN-04 | Victoria Broderick (D) | 48.9% | Scott DesJarlais* (R) | 48.7% | Solid R |

**Incumbent ◆Runoff*

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# 2026: Race-by-Race Senate Results

By Jacob Rubashkin

**Alaska.** Former Democratic Rep. Mary Peltola has a narrow lead over GOP Sen. Dan Sullivan, 49-48 percent, with 15 percent of the vote left to count. The Democrat is well-positioned, as many of the late-arriving ballots are from the farther reaches of the state where she's strongest. But it's still possible the race will head to ranked choice voting on November 18.



Courtesy US House

**Mary Peltola**

**Arkansas.** As expected, Democratic seed farmer Hallie Shoffner put up a valiant effort against GOP Sen. Tom Cotton. Her 12-point loss was the best performance for an Arkansas statewide Democrat in 12 years; Cotton looks wise to have taken her seriously from the start of the race.

**Florida.** Appointed Republican Sen. Ashley Moody's 51-48 percent win over Democrat Angie Nixon was a rare bright spot for Republicans; Nixon and her allies are smarting over national Democrats' reluctance to invest in Florida.

**Georgia.** Democratic Sen. Jon Ossoff's 18-point drubbing of GOP Rep. Mike Collins is an exclamation point on 12 years of Democratic efforts to turn Georgia blue. Ossoff won, 59-41 percent, which was more than enough to usher in an entire statewide slate and flip the state House.

**Iowa.** Democratic state Rep. Josh Turek defeated GOP Rep. Ashley Hinson by 4 points, 50-46 percent. Hinson was considered one of the Senate GOP's best candidates but the environment was too difficult for Iowa Republicans, and Turek had strength in the western part of the state.

**Kansas.** GOP Sen. Roger Marshall's unenthusiastic campaign and inability to answer attacks on his record as a physician cost him re-election against Democratic pastor Adam Hamilton, who performed well across the state but especially in majority-Hispanic counties in the southwest. Hamilton won, 51-46 percent, to become the first Democratic senator from Kansas in nearly 100 years.

**Louisiana.** Rep. Julia Letlow narrowly avoided disaster, edging past Democratic farmer Jamie Davis, 51-49 percent, after Republican groups rushed money to save her prospects in the closing weeks of the race.

**Maine.** Partisanship caught up to longtime GOP Sen. Susan Collins, who lost to Democratic state Sen. Troy Jackson, 50-46 percent. She still outperformed the state's Baseline by a few points, but that wasn't enough to secure a sixth term.

## Senate Incumbents Defeated

**GENERAL ELECTION**

| State | Name | Party | District | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alaska | Dan Sullivan* | R | Mississippi | Cindy Hyde-Smith | R |
| Kansas | Roger Marshall | R | Ohio | Jon Husted | R |
| Maine | Susan Collins | R | South Carolina | Darline Graham | R |

**PRIMARY ELECTION**

| State | Name | Party | District | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Louisiana | Bill Cassidy | R | Texas | John Cornyn | R |

**Yet to be called by the AP*

## 2026 Senate Final Results

Winning candidate in Bold

| State | GOP Candidate | GOP Vote | Dem Candidate | Dem Vote | Pre-Election Rating |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AK* | Sullivan | 47 | **Peltola** | 49 | Toss-up |
| FL | **Moody** | 51 | Nixon | 48 | Likely Republican |
| GA | Collins | 41 | **Ossoff** | 59 | Likely Democratic |
| IA | Hinson | 46 | **Turek** | 51 | Toss-up |
| KS | Marshall | 46 | **Hamilton** | 51 | Toss-up |
| LA | **Letlow** | 51 | Davis | 49 | Likely Republican |
| ME | Collins | 47 | **Jackson** | 53 | Toss-up |
| MI | Rogers | 45 | **El-Sayed** | 53 | Tilt Democratic |
| MN | Tafoya | 44 | **Flanagan** | 54 | Lean Democratic |
| MS | Hyde-Smith | 48.7 | **Colom** | 49.2 | Likely Republican |
| NE | **Ricketts** | 50 | Osborn (I) | 44 | Tilt Republican |
| NH | Sununu | 42 | **Pappas** | 56 | Tilt Democratic |
| NC | Whatley | 39 | **Cooper** | 59 | Lean Democratic |
| OH | Husted | 45 | **Brown** | 50 | Tilt Democratic |
| SC | Graham | 47 | **Andrews** | 51 | Tilt Republican |
| TX | Paxton | 43 | **Talarico** | 55 | Tilt Democratic |

**Uncalled*
*Source: AP*

**Michigan.** For months, Democratic doctor and former public health official Abdul El-Sayed said he would beat former GOP Rep. Mike Rogers by 7 points. The final result? El-Sayed over Rogers by 7 points, 52.5 to 45.5 percent.



Courtesy Colom Campaign

**Scott Colom**

**Mississippi.** Democrat Scott Colom, the district attorney for the state's 16th Judicial District, defeated Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith in the biggest upset of the cycle. Colom's 49.2-48.7 percent victory makes him the first Black senator from Mississippi since Reconstruction; his seat was once held by staunch segregationist James Eastland.

**Montana.** Democrats likely squandered a real opportunity to flip Montana GOP Sen. Steve Daines' open seat by not fielding a credible candidate of their own. Instead, some Democrats backed independent Seth Bodnar while others stuck with the party's actual nominee, veteran Alani Bankhead. The result: Republican Kurt Alme won with a 48 percent plurality, even as Bodnar and Bankhead combined for 50 percent of the vote.

**Nebraska.** Independent mechanic Dan Osborn was unable to im-

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prove upon his 2024 performance, falling to GOP Sen. Pete Ricketts by 6 points, 50-44 percent. In retrospect, Osborn might have been better off running as a Democrat.

**Ohio.** Former Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown's aggressive summer campaign targeting GOP Sen. Jon Husted on data centers and the Epstein files set the tone of the race, which Brown won, 50-45 percent. A late investment by cryptocurrency groups, which had tanked Brown in his 2024 re-election, wasn't enough to pull Husted across the finish line.



*Courtesy Brown Campaign*

**Sherrod Brown**

**South Dakota.** Independent Brian Bengs did a lot better than when he ran for Senate as a Democrat in 2022, but he still lost by 22 points, 61-39 percent, to GOP Sen. Mike Rounds.

**South Carolina.** Appointed Sen. Darline Graham's political inexperience, contentious primary against Upstate Rep. Ralph Norman, and uninspired general election campaign ultimately doomed her in her race against pediatrician Annie Andrews. Andrews, who won 51-47 percent, is the first Democrat to win a Senate race since Fritz Hollings in 1998.

**Texas.** Republicans' worst fears about state Attorney General Ken Paxton came to pass, as the embattled GOP nominee lost to Democratic state Rep. James Talarico by an astounding 12 points. Paxton, who had stomped Sen. John Cornyn in the GOP primary on the strength of a Trump endorsement, couldn't get close to Talarico even as outside GOP groups poured hundreds of millions of dollars into the state. The hits didn't stick to Talarico, and the result was a Democratic sweep of every statewide race on the ballot. **IE**

## New Senators

| State | Name | Party | State | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AL | Barry Moore | R | MS | Scott Colom | D |
| AK | Mary Peltola* | D | MT | Kurt Alme | R |
| IL | Juliana Stratton | D | NH | Chris Pappas | D |
| IA | Josh Turek | D | NC | Roy Cooper | D |
| KS | Adam Hamilton | D | OH | Sherrod Brown | D |
| KY | Andy Barr | R | OK | Kevin Hern | R |
| LA | Julia Letlow | R | SC | Annie Andrews | D |
| MI | Abdul El-Sayed | D | TX | James Talarico | D |
| MN | Peggy Flanagan | D | WY | Harriet Hageman | R |

**Yet to be called by the AP*

# 2026 Race-by-Race House Results

By Jacob Rubashkin and Inshara Ali

### Alabama.

**2nd District (Montgomery and southeastern Alabama).** Despite GOP redistricting efforts to defeat him, Democratic Rep. Shomari Figures beat GOP state Rep. Rhett Marques, 54-46 percent.

### Alaska.

**At-large.** Republican Nick Begich III was the favorite heading into Election Day, and though the race hasn't been called by the AP yet because so many votes are left to count, he is leading independent Bill Hill by 8 points, 49-41 percent.

### Arizona.

**1st District (Northeastern Phoenix and Scottsdale).** Physician Amish Shah won in his second attempt for this seat, running 7 points ahead of former NFL kicker Jay Feely, 52-45 percent.

**2nd District (Northeastern Arizona).** In a rematch from last cycle, GOP incumbent Eli Crane staved off a challenge from Jonathan Nez, 50-49 percent, largely thanks to Republican strongholds in Yavapai and Gila counties.

**6th District (Southeastern Arizona and eastern Tucson area).** Democrat JoAnna Mendoza defeated two-term incumbent Juan Ciscomani, 53-45 percent, in a district Democrats have been eyeing since the Republican took office.

### Arkansas.

**2nd District (Greater Little Rock)**. Financial Services chairman French Hill ground out a 2-point win over Democratic urban planner and minister Chris Jones, 51-49 percent, as Democrats showed some flashes of renewed strength in the Razorback State.



*Courtesy Jones Campaign*

**Eric Jones**

### California.

**4th District (Wine Country).** At 78 percent of the vote counted, political newcomer Eric Jones is leading 28-year incumbent Democratic Rep. Mike Thompson by 8,189 votes.

**7th District (Southern Sacramento and suburbs).** Mai Vang, the 41-year-old progressive, came up just short in her race against longtime incumbent Doris Matsui, losing 53-47 percent.

**6th District (Northern Sacramento and suburbs).** Rep. Kevin Kiley's decision to leave the Republican party to run as an independent was not enough to save him from losing his seat to former physician and Democratic state Sen. Richard Pan, who won 59-41 percent.

**13th District (Mid-Central Valley).** Democratic incumbent Adam Gray defeated his GOP challenger Kevin Lincoln, 62-38 percent — a much larger margin than his 2024 victory of just 187 votes.

**22nd District (Southern Central Valley and eastern Bakersfield area).** Democrat Randy Villegas successfully flipped the closely watched Latino-majority district, defeating GOP incumbent David

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Valadao 68-32 percent. Early in the race, Democratic strategists were concerned about Villegas being electable. Instead, he enjoyed the largest victory against an incumbent House member in modern political history.

**23rd District (Mojave Desert region of San Bernardino County).** Jay Obernolte leads Democratic social worker Tessa Lynn Hodge by 1.8 points in a race that hasn't been called by the AP yet. If he holds on, Obernolte can thank Democrats for making his district 2 points more Republican in their mid-decade redraw.

**34th District (Downtown Los Angeles and nearby neighborhoods).** Progressive Angela Gonzalez-Torres defeated Democratic incumbent Jimmy Gomez, 62-38 percent, after a damaging House ethics investigation and a $1 million push against him from a pro-AI regulation group.



Courtesy US House

**Ken Calvert**

**40th District (Eastern Orange County).** GOP Rep. Ken Calvert emerged victorious in a rare intraparty fight against Rep. Young Kim, 53-47 percent, after Democratic-led redistricting scrambled their original districts.

**48th District (Southern Riverside County and inland San Diego County).** Democrat Marni von Wilpert flipped the redrawn seat held by retiring GOP Rep. Darrell Issa, winning 60 percent to her GOP challenger Jim Desmond's 40 percent.

## Colorado.

**3rd District (Pueblo area and Western Slope).** GOP incumbent Jeff Hurd held on to his seat, defeating Dwayne L. Romero 49-47 percent. If Democrat Eileen Laubacher maintains her lead in the 4th, Hurd could be the state's only Republican representation in Congress.

**4th District (Eastern Colorado and Denver exurbs).** While the election has yet to be called by the AP, Democrat Eileen Laubacher has declared victory in the race against GOP incumbent Lauren Boebert, who trailed the Democrat in spending leading up to Election Day. Laubacher currently has a lead of 3,362 votes with 98 percent of votes counted.

**5th District (Colorado Springs area).** Democrat Jessica Killin unseated Republican Jeff Crank, 51-46 percent, marking the first win for Democrats in the district since its creation in 1973.

**8th District (Northern Denver suburbs and Greeley area).** Democrat Manny Rutinel flipped the 8th back into Democratic hands, earning 55 percent of the vote to incumbent Gabe Evans' 41 percent.

## Florida.

**4th District (Jacksonville and southwestern suburbs).** Democratic attorney LaShonda Holloway nearly pulled off an upset over GOP Rep. Aaron Bean, thanks to high Black voter turnout and a strong performance from Jacksonville state Rep. Angie Nixon in the Senate race. Bean was saved by his performance in Nassau County, the mili-

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# New House Members

| District | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|
| AL-01 | Jerry Carl | R |
| AZ-01 | Amish Shah | D |
| AZ-05 | Mark Lamb | R |
| AZ-06 | JoAnna Mendoza | D |
| CA-01 | Mike McGuire | D |
| CA-04 | Eric Jones* | D |
| CA-06 | Richard Pan | D |
| CA-11 | Scott Wiener | D |
| CA-22 | Randy Villegas | D |
| CA-26 | Jacqui Irwin | D |
| CA-34 | Angela Gonzales-Torres | D |
| CA-38 | Hilda Solis | D |
| CA-48 | Marni von Wilpert | D |
| CO-01 | Melat Kiros | D |
| CO-04 | Eileen Laubacher* | D |
| CO-05 | Jessica Killin | D |
| CO-08 | Manny Rutinel | D |
| CT-01 | Luke Bronin | D |
| FL-02 | Austin Rogers | R |
| FL-07 | Ryan Elijah | R |
| FL-11 | Joe Strada | R |
| FL-16 | Sydney Gruters | R |
| FL-19 | Jim Schwartzel | R |
| FL-22 | Pia Dandiya | D |
| FL-24 | Oliver Gilbert | D |
| GA-01 | Jim Kingston | R |
| GA-10 | Houston Gaines | R |
| GA-11 | John Cowan | R |
| GA-13 | Jasmine Clark | D |
| IA-01 | Christina Bohannan | D |
| IA-02 | Lindsay James | D |
| IA-03 | Sarah Trone Garriott | D |
| IA-04 | Chris McGowan | R |
| IL-02 | Donna Miller | D |
| IL-04 | Patty Garcia | D |
| IL-07 | La Shawn Ford | D |
| IL-08 | Melissa Bean | D |
| IL-09 | Daniel Biss | D |
| IN-05 | J.D. Ford | D |
| KY-04 | Ed Gallrein | R |
| KY-06 | Zach Dembo | D |
| MA-06 | Dan Koh | D |
| MD-05 | Adrian Boafo | D |
| ME-02 | Paul LePage* | R |
| MI-04 | Sean McCann | D |
| MI-07 | William Lawrence | D |
| MI-10 | Christina Hines | D |
| MI-11 | Jeremy Moss | D |
| MI-13 | Donavan McKinney | D |
| MN-01 | Jake Johnson* | D |
| MN-02 | Matt Little | D |
| MO-02 | Fred Wellman | D |
| MO-06 | Chris Stigall | R |
| MT-01 | Sam Forstag | D |
| NE-02 | Denise Powell | D |
| NH-01 | Stefany Shaheen | D |
| NJ-02 | Zack Mullock | D |
| NJ-07 | Rebecca Bennett | D |
| NJ-12 | Adam Hamawy | D |
| NV-02 | Teresa Benitez-Thompson | D |
| NY-07 | Claire Valdez | D |
| NY-10 | Brad Lander | D |
| NY-12 | Micah Lasher | D |
| NY-13 | Darializa Avila Chevalier | D |
| NY-17 | Cait Conley | D |
| NY-21 | Anthony Constantino | R |
| NC-03 | Raymond Smith* | D |
| NC-05 | Chuck Hubbard* | D |
| NC-06 | Cyril Jefferson | D |
| NC-09 | Richard Ojeda | D |
| NC-11 | Jamie Ager | D |
| NC-13 | Paul Barringer | D |
| NC-14 | LaKesha Womack | D |
| OH-07 | Brian Poindexter | D |
| OH-10 | Kristina Knickerbocker | D |
| OH-15 | Don Leonard | D |
| OK-01 | Mark Tedford | R |
| PA-01 | Bob Harvie | D |
| PA-03 | Chris Rabb | D |
| PA-07 | Bob Brooks | D |
| PA-08 | Paige Cognetti | D |
| PA-10 | Janelle Stelson | D |
| SC-01 | Nancy Lacore | D |
| SC-05 | Wes Climer | R |
| SD-AL | Marty Jackley | R |
| TN-04 | Victoria Broderick* | D |
| TN-05 | Charlie Hatcher | R |
| TN-06 | Johnny Garrett | R |
| TN-09 | Brent Taylor | R |
| TX-02 | Steve Toth | R |
| TX-08 | Jessica Steinmann | R |
| TX-09 | Leticia Gutierrez | D |
| TX-10 | Chris Gober | R |
| TX-15 | Bobby Pulido | D |
| TX-19 | Tom Sell | R |
| TX-21 | Mark Teixeira | R |
| TX-22 | Trever Nehls | R |
| TX-23 | Katy Padilla Stout | D |
| TX-30 | Frederick Haynes III | D |
| TX-32 | Jace Yarbrough | R |
| TX-33 | Colin Allred | D |
| TX-35 | Johnny Garcia | D |
| TX-38 | Jon Bonck | R |
| UT-01 | Ben McAdams | D |
| VA-01 | Shannon Taylor | D |
| VA-02 | Elaine Luria | D |
| WA-04 | Amanda McKinney | R |
| WI-01 | Mitchell Berman | D |
| WI-03 | Rebecca Cooke | D |
| WI-07 | Michael Alfonso | R |
| WY-AL | Chuck Gray | R |

**Yet to be called by the AP*

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tary-heavy and 84 percent white enclave north of Jacksonville, which barely shifted leftward from the 2024 presidential margin.

**7th District (Northern Orlando suburbs and part of Daytona Beach area).** Republicans just barely held on to this open seat, with Republican Ryan Elijah eking out a 0.5 percent lead over Democrat Bale Dalton. Embattled GOP Rep. Cory Mills probably would have lost, had he made it out of the primary.

**9th District (Orlando suburbs and south-central Florida).** Democratic Rep. Darren Soto narrowly defeated Republican Dan Green, 50.3-49.7 percent, despite Republicans targeting his district in their redraw.

**13th (Part of St. Petersburg and suburbs).** GOP Rep. Anna Paulina Luna will serve a third term after defeating Democrat Leela Gray by less than a percentage point.

**14th District (South Tampa and eastern suburbs).** Kathy Castor beat Republican-led efforts to carve Democratic voters out of her district, earning 51 percent of the vote to former state Rep. Mike Beltran's 46 percent. While a blue wave and Castor's nonpartisan efforts in Congress carried her to victory, less favorable conditions could have flipped the district red.



*Courtesy Castor Campaign*

**Kathy Castor**

**16th District (South St. Petersburg and southeastern Tampa Bay).** Sydney Gruters, the wife of RNC chairman Joe Gruters, won a 51-47 percent victory over former Sarasota Mayor Kelly Kirschner in a race that saw the Republican launch ugly, AI-generated ads against her Democratic opponent.

**22nd District (Inland Palm Beach and western suburbs to the Marco Island area across the Everglades).** Democrat Pia Dandiya won the open seat redrawn to elect a Republican, defeating Casey Askar, 52-48 percent.

**25th District (Coastal Boca Raton to Miami Beach area).** Jared Moskowitz will serve a third term after a tough fight against former Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer, earning 51 percent to Singer's 47 percent.

**26th District (West Hialeah and Broward suburbs).** Republican Mario Diaz-Balart has long been one of the top overperformers in the House Republican conference. That strength was just enough to save him this year, after GOP mapmakers raided his district for Republican voters to send elsewhere in South Florida, leaving it far more Democratic-friendly than in previous cycles. Diaz-Balart beat Democrat Nicole Locklin by 0.8 points, or 1,704 votes, as the Democratic candidates for Senate and governor narrowly won the district.

**27th District (Miami and southern suburbs).** Maria Elvira Salazar's high-profile break from Trump on immigration issues may have been the key to her narrow, 50.2-49.8 percent victory over newscaster Eliott Rodriguez.

## Indiana.

**1st District (Northwestern Indiana).** Democrat Frank Mrvan won re-election by 26 points over Republican Barb Regnitz in a district that voted just barely for Kamala Harris two years ago.

**5th District (Northern Indianapolis suburbs and part of central Indiana).** Eagle-eyed election watchers knew Democrats were in for a good night when this district reported returns early on Election Night and state Rep. JD Ford was outperforming Kamala Harris in the wealthy, educated Indianapolis suburbs by more than 20 points. Ultimately, Ford beat Rep. Victoria Spartz by 4 points, 52-48 percent.

## Iowa.

**1st District (Southeastern Iowa).** It took GOP Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks four attempts to get to Congress. It only took her opponent Christina Bohannan three. Bohannan finally got the better of Miller-Meeks, 53-43 percent, in their third face-off.

**2nd District (Northeastern Iowa).** Chaplain and Democratic state legislator Lindsey James defeated Republican former state Rep. Joe Mitchell, 50-46 percent, even though Mitchell awarded Trump with the "Man of the Century" award a few weeks before Election Day.

**3rd District (Des Moines and southwestern Iowa).** Democratic State Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott flipped crucial Dallas County, Iowa en route to a 54-46 percent win over GOP Rep. Zach Nunn.

## Kansas.

**2nd District (Topeka, Kansas City, and parts of eastern Kansas).** The favorable Democratic environment was not enough for Democrat Don Coover to unseat Republican Derek Schmidt, who defeated the rancher 51-45 percent.

**4th District (Wichita and south central Kansas).** Incumbent Ron Estes fought off a challenge from Democrat Katy Tyndell, 54-44 percent. But every county in the district shifted several points leftward compared to 2024.

## Kentucky.

**6th District (Greater Lexington area).** Attorney and veteran Zach Dembo emerged victorious over former state Sen. Ralph Alvarado, 53-43 percent, in a district Trump won by 15 points and Senator-elect Andy Barr won by 26 in 2024.

## Maine.

**2nd District (Northern Maine).** Former Republican Gov. Paul LePage is clinging to a slight lead of 5,420 votes over Democrat Matt Dunlap in a seat Republicans have eyed since Democratic Rep. Jared Golden announced he would not seek re-election. Over 6,000 voters left at least their first choice blank in this race, so the state will run its ranked-choice tabulation before certifying a winner.

## Michigan.

**1st District (Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula).** Incumbent Jack Bergman beat Democrat Callie Barr, 54-44 percent, despite the Democrat's spending advantage in the weeks leading up to the election.

**3rd District (Grand Rapids and Muskegon areas).** In a better cycle for Republicans, meteorologist Terri DeBoer might have given Rep. Hillary Scholten a scare. But 2026 wasn't that year, and Scholten won, 57-41 percent.

**4th District (Southwestern Michigan).** Democratic state Sen. Sean McCann denied Republican Bill Huizenga a ninth term in the Kalamazoo-based district, 50-48 percent.

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*Continued from page 6*

**7th District (Lansing area and northwestern Detroit exurbs).** Sunrise Movement co-founder William Lawrence emerged victorious in the most expensive House race in political advertising, earning 51 percent of the vote to GOP Rep. Tom Barrett's 48 percent.

**10th District (Macomb County).** Former Macomb County assistant prosecutor Christina Hines, a Democrat, flipped the open seat left by GOP Rep. John James, defeating the Trump-endorsed Mike Bouchard Jr., 52-45 percent.

## Minnesota.

**1st District (Southern Minnesota).** A recount is likely in the contest between GOP incumbent Brad Finstad and Democratic teacher Jake Johnson, who currently holds a slight lead of 321 votes.

**2nd District (Southern Minneapolis-St. Paul suburbs).** Progressive former state Sen. Matt Little beat Republican Eric Pratt, 57-43 percent, in the contest to replace outgoing DFL Rep. Angie Craig.

## Missouri.

**2nd District (Western St. Louis suburbs and exurbs).** Army veteran Fred Wellman, who worked as the executive director of the anti-Trump Lincoln Project, beat longtime incumbent Ann Wagner, 51-46 percent, thanks to strength in the St. Louis suburbs. National Democrats avoided this district after back-to-back failures in 2018 and 2020 and a redraw ahead of 2022.



Courtesy Forstag Campaign

**Sam Forstag**

## Montana.

**1st District (Western Montana).** Smokejumper Sam Forstag is already one of the most popular members of the incoming Democratic class after defeating radio host Aaron Flint, 50-47 percent.

## Nebraska.

**1st District (Lincoln and rural eastern Nebraska).** GOP Rep. Mike Flood benefitted from a smaller swing in Nebraska than in other parts of the country, as he fended off former State Department official Chris Backemeyer, 50-47 percent.

**2nd District (Greater Omaha area).** Democrats were arguably favored to flip this district from the minute Rep. Don Bacon announced he wouldn't run for re-election. In the end, political organizer Denise Powell breezed past Republican Omaha Councilman Brinker Harding, 57-41 percent.

## North Carolina.

**1st District (Inland northeastern North Carolina).** Despite Republicans redrawing his district to be significantly more Republican, Democratic Rep. Don Davis held on for a 50-47 percent victory over 2024 opponent Laurie Buckhout.

**3rd District (Coastal eastern North Carolina).** Democrat Raymond Smith holds a slight lead over incumbent Greg Murphy of 293 votes. Ballots cast by military and overseas citizen voters in the state may be counted if received by Thursday, so minor changes are still possible, but Murphy has conceded (after previously declaring victory).

**5th District (Greensboro and northwestern North Carolina).** Democrat Chuck Hubbard holds a lead of just 335 votes over GOP incumbent Virginia Foxx, or 0.1 percent, after provisional votes were counted earlier this week. The powerful House Rules Committee chairwoman could be the victim of one of 2026's most surprising upsets.

**6th District (Central Piedmont region).** In one of the night's most surprising upsets, GOP Rep. Addison McDowell lost to High Point Mayor Cyril Jefferson, 51-49 percent.

**7th District (Wilmington and southeastern North Carolina).** The AP has yet to call the race but Rep. David Rouzer looks likely to avoid losing in an upset to Democrat Kimberly Hardy; he leads, 49.9 percent to 49.2 percent, an advantage of 2,270 votes.

**9th District (Eastern Piedmont region and part of the Fayetteville area).** As chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, Rep. Richard Hudson was responsible for electing Republicans across the country, but was caught by surprise in his own seat, losing to former West Virginia state Sen. Richard Ojeda, 51-49 percent.

**10th District (Winston-Salem and western Piedmont region).** Republican Pat Harrigan looks like he'll narrowly retain his seat after

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# Defeated House Incumbents

**GENERAL ELECTION**

| District | Name | Party | District | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AZ-06 | Juan Ciscomani | R | NC-03 | Greg Murphy* | R |
| CA-01 | James Gallagher | R | NC-05 | Virginia Foxx* | R |
| CA-04 | Mike Thompson* | D | NC-06 | Addison McDowell | R |
| CA-06 | Kevin Kiley | I | NC-09 | Richard Hudson | R |
| CA-22 | David Valadao | R | NC-13 | Brad Knott | R |
| CA-34 | Jimmy Gomez | D | NC-14 | Tim Moore | R |
| CA-40 | Young Kim | R | NY-17 | Mike Lawler | R |
| CO-04 | Lauren Boebert* | R | OH-07 | Max Miller | R |
| CO-05 | Jeff Crank | R | OH-10 | Mike Turner | R |
| CO-08 | Gabe Evans | R | OH-15 | Mike Carey | R |
| IA-01 | Mariannette Miller-Meeks | R | PA-01 | Brian Fitzpatrick | R |
| IA-03 | Zach Nunn | R | PA-07 | Ryan Mackenzie | R |
| IN-05 | Victoria Spartz | R | PA-08 | Rob Bresnahan | R |
| MI-04 | Bill Huizenga | R | PA-10 | Scott Perry | R |
| MI-07 | Tom Barrett | R | TN-04 | Scott DesJarlais* | R |
| MN-01 | Brad Finstad* | R | TX-15 | Monica De La Cruz | R |
| MO-02 | Ann Wagner | R | VA-01 | Rob Wittman | R |
| NJ-02 | Jeff Van Drew | R | WI-01 | Bryan Steil | R |
| NJ-07 | Tom Kean Jr. | R | WI-03 | Derrick Van Orden | R |

**PRIMARY ELECTION**

| District | Name | Party | District | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CO-01 | Diana DeGette | D | NY-13 | Adriano Espaillat | D |
| CT-01 | John Larson | D | TN-05 | Andy Ogles | R |
| FL-07 | Cory Mills | R | TX-02 | Dan Crenshaw | R |
| KY-04 | Thomas Massie | R | TX-23 | Tony Gonzales | R |
| MI-13 | Shri Thanedar | D | TX-18 | Al Green | D |
| NY-10 | Dan Goldman | D | TX-33 | Julie Johnson | D |

**Yet to be called by the AP*

*Continued from page 7*

edging past Democrat Ashley Bell, 49.6 percent to 48.8 percent. The AP hasn't called the race yet.

**11th District (Western North Carolina).** Democratic farmer Jamie Ager romped to a 57-41 percent victory over state Rep. Jennifer Balkcom. Ager was the only North Carolina Democrat to outperform Roy Cooper at the top of the ticket and was one of the top overperformers anywhere in the country.

**13th District (Raleigh exurbs and nearby rural areas).** GOP Rep. Brad Knott lost to Democratic attorney Paul Barringer, 51-48 percent, in a race that showed signs of competitiveness late.

**14th District (Western Charlotte and western foothills).** As state House Speaker in 2024, Republican Tim Moore drew this district specifically so he could run for it. But two years later, he was caught off-guard by Democrat Lakesha Womack, a business consultant and minister he outspent $2 million to $55,000.

## New Hampshire.

**1st District (Eastern New Hampshire).** A late and bitter primary didn't prevent former Portsmouth Councillor Stefany Shaheen from putting up a 14-point win over Republican Anthony DiLorenzo, a wealthy car dealer who self-funded his campaign.

**2nd District (Western and northern New Hampshire).** Democratic Rep. Maggie Goodlander won a rematch against Lily Tang Williams by 20 points, 59-39 percent, after winning by just 6 points two years prior.

## New Jersey.

**2nd District (South Jersey Shore).** Cape May Mayor Zack Mullock stunned GOP Rep. Jeff Van Drew, 51-48 percent, on election night. The 41-year-old mayor, who comes from a prominent local family that owns the beach town's most famous hotel, says he had to look up a congressman's salary the day after he won. The party-switching congressman came in on a Democratic wave and lost in a Democratic wave.

**7th District (Southwestern New York City suburbs and exurbs).** Rep. Tom Kean, Jr. had been an underdog against helicopter pilot Rebecca Bennett for most of the year, but the scope of his 16-point loss, 57-41 percent, was surprising nonetheless. He lost every county in the district, including two he won by more than 20 points two years ago.

## New Mexico.

**2nd District (Southern New Mexico and western Albuquerque area).** Republicans had high hopes for former undercover narcotics officer Greg Cunningham. But a big swing back to Democrats among Hispanic voters put this race well out of reach, and Democratic Rep. Gabe Vasquez won by 18 points, 59-41 percent.

## New York.

**1st District (Eastern Long Island and north shore of Suffolk County).** Democrat Chris Gallant came within 2 points of ousting GOP Rep. Nick LaLota; the outcome might have been different if Gallant's past nude and pornographic modeling hadn't come to light in the closing weeks of the race.

**2nd District (South shore of Suffolk County).** Former Suffolk County Executive Pat Halpin nearly blindsided GOP Rep. Anthony Garbarino, falling just 4 points short, 52-48 percent.

**3rd District (Northern Nassau County).** Former state Rep. Mike LiPetri came close to defeating Democrat Tom Suozzi two years ago, but this time around he fell 10 points short, losing 55-45 percent.

**4th District (Southern Nassau County).** GOP nominee Jeanine Driscoll, a local tax receiver, never really got off the ground against Rep. Laura Gillen, after local Republicans anointed her the nominee earlier this year. Gillen won, 56-43 percent.

**17th District (Lower Hudson Valley).** Special forces veteran Cait Conley overcame early stumbles in her campaign to oust moderate GOP Rep. Mike Lawler, 53-47 percent.



*Courtesy Constantino Campaign*

**Anthony Constantino**

**21st District (North Country and part of Albany area).** Sticker Mule CEO Anthony Constantino came close to throwing away this deeply Republican seat with his antics that gave Democratic dairy farmer Blake Gendebien an opening. Constantino won, 51-49 percent, and hasn't let up since, calling on Donald Trump to free Diddy from prison and sparring with Nassau County Executive/2026 GOP gubernatorial nominee Bruce Blakeman online.

## Nevada.

**1st District (Eastern Las Vegas area).** Democrat Dina Titus easily dispatched state Sen. Carrie Buck, a highly touted GOP recruit, 59-38 percent.

**2nd District (Reno area and northern Nevada).** Despite polling that showed a significant chunk of the vote headed to an independent candidate, Democrat Teresa Benitez-Thompson won with an outright majority over Republican David Flippo, 50-44 percent in the open seat. She is the first Democrat to ever represent this seat.

**3rd District (Southwestern Las Vegas area).** Democratic Rep. Susie Lee hung a 22-point drubbing over composer Marty O'Donnell, 60-38 percent, just two years after Trump narrowly carried the 3rd District.

**4th District (Northern Las Vegas area and rural central Nevada).** Republican telecom entrepreneur Cody Whipple's challenge to Rep. Steven Horsford never really took off — he lost, 60-38 percent.

## Ohio.

**1st District (Cincinnati plus Warren and Clinton counties).** Though this seat was redrawn to be more Republican, former CIA officer Eric Conroy struggled to get anything going against Rep. Greg Landsman, losing 54-43 percent to the second-term Democrat.

**7th District (Southern Cleveland suburbs).** Voters were in little mood to reward Rep. Max Miller after learning of the accusations of domestic violence made against him by his ex-wife, Emily Moreno. Miller lost by 10 points, 55-45 percent, to Democrat Brian Poindexter.

**9th District (Northwest Ohio).** The district was redrawn to be more Republican but Marcy Kaptur's margin over GOP challenger Derek Merrin only got larger; she won the rematch, 53-47 percent.

**10th District (Dayton area).** This late-breaking race put an exclamation point on Democrats' big night in the Buckeye State as oncology nurse and veteran Kristina Knickerbocker ousted former House

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Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Turner, 49-48 percent.

**15th District (Southwestern Columbus area).** Don Leonard is a liberal college professor who was arrested at a protest last year but voters didn't mind all that. Leonard won a comfortable victory over Republican Mike Carey, 52-45 percent.

## Oklahoma.

**5th District (Oklahoma City area).** GOP Rep. Stephanie Bice was right to take her race seriously; her late efforts against teacher Jena Nelson may have saved her re-election as she eked out a 1.3-point win over the Democrat. At the top of the ticket, Democrat Cyndi Munson carried this seat by around 10 points in the gubernatorial race.

## Pennsylvania.

**1st District (Northern Philadelphia suburbs).** Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick had long defied the partisan lean of his district but this year was too much for the moderate Republican, who lost to Bucks County Commissioner Bob Harvie, 53-47 percent, as Gov. Josh Shapiro won the district by more than 25 points.

**7th District (Lehigh Valley).** GOP Rep. Ryan Mackenzie was always one of the most vulnerable Republicans in Congress after his narrow 2024 win. The final margin against firefighter Bob Brooks wasn't even close; the Democrat won, 56-44 percent.

**8th District (Scranton/Wilkes-Barre and northeastern Pennsylvania).** While this district had looked like it was trending away from Democrats, GOP Rep. Rob Bresnahan's stock trading gave Democratic Scranton Mayor Paige Cognetti an opening. She ran through it, to the tune of a 55-46 percent victory.

**10th District (Harrisburg and York areas).** Former House Freedom Caucus Chairman Scott Perry found himself on the wrong side of the changing district's politics, losing a rematch to newscaster Janelle Stelson by a hefty 10 points, 55-45 percent.

## South Carolina.

**1st District (Coastal South Carolina and Charleston suburbs).** Retired Vice Admiral Nancy Lacore was fired by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth last year. Now she'll be returning to Washington after defeating Republican Charleston councilwoman Jenny Costa Honeycutt, 49.7-48.6 percent.

**2nd District (Columbia suburbs and southwestern South Carolina).** In one of Election Night's most surprising results, longtime GOP Rep. Joe Wilson only narrowly beat Democratic veteran Zyon Khalifa, 49.8-48.8 percent.

## Tennessee.

**4th District (Southern Middle Tennessee and part of Nashville).** The most shocking House result of the cycle may be Democrat Victoria Broderick's 280-vote lead over longtime GOP Rep. Scott DesJarlais. Though the AP hasn't called the race yet, Broderick's likely win would be a remarkable turnaround from her 43-point loss to DesJarlais two years ago, before the district was redrawn as part of Tennessee Republicans' gerrymander. If Broderick wins, she'll represent the most Republican district of any Democratic member.

**9th District (Part of Memphis and rural southern Tennessee).** Democratic state Rep. Justin Pearson very nearly kept this district in the Democratic column despite a redraw that turned it into a Trump +20 seat. Pearson lost to GOP state Sen. Brent Taylor by 1 point, 49.6-48.5 percent.

## Texas.

**2nd District (Northern Houston suburbs).** Republican Steve Toth defeated Democrat Shaun Finnie, 51-49 percent, in a district Trump would have won by 21 points under the new lines.

**9th District (Houston suburbs).** One of the largest swings from the 2024 president race was in this suburban seat, which Trump would have won by 18 points after Texas Republicans redrew it last year. Democrat Leticia Gutierrez, a government relations director at a local anti-pollution nonprofit, resoundingly defeated Republican veteran Alex Mealer, 58-42 percent. That's despite Mealer outspending Gutierrez by 12-to-1 and outside groups spending on behalf of the Republican, once seen as a rising star in the party.

**15th District (McAllen in the Rio Grande Valley to the outer San Antonio metro area).** Tejano music star Bobby Pulido blew past incumbent Monica De La Cruz, 62-38 percent, as South Texas Hispanics swung hard back toward Democrats.

**23rd District (San Antonio suburbs to El Paso suburbs).** Even though the district would have voted for Trump by nearly 20 points, and even though Democrat Katy Padilla Stout was never able to raise enough money to run a robust campaign or attract significant outside investment, the political winds were too great for Republican Brandon Herrera to overcome. Padilla Stout won a healthy 8-point victory, 52-44 percent, over the controversial YouTuber, flipping this perennial Democratic target for the first time in over a decade.

**28th District (Laredo and eastern San Antonio suburbs).** Democrat Henry Cuellar's 66-30 percent demolition of Webb County Judge Tano Tijerina represents the largest swing of any district in the country between the 2024 presidential results and the 2026 House results.



*Courtesy Yarbrough Campaign*

**Jace Yarbrough**

**32nd District (Northern Dallas east to Longview).** The flood of outside GOP money into this race in the closing weeks probably helped Republican Jace Yarbrough avert disaster. Despite the district being redrawn into a seat Trump won by nearly 20 points, Yarbrough finished just 2 points ahead of Democrat Dan Barrios, 52-49 percent.

**34th District (Eastern Rio Grande Valley).** Though he had to introduce himself to more conservative voters in Corpus Christi, Vicente Gonzalez didn't have to wait long on Tuesday evening to know he had defeated Republican attorney Eric Flores, a top GOP recruit. Gonzalez won, 56-40 percent.

**35th District (San Antonio suburbs).** One of five seats Republicans redrew to oust a Democrat, the 35th didn't behave as GOP mapmakers expected this cycle. Bexar Sheriff's Deputy Johnny Garcia, the Democrat, beat Republican veteran Carlos De La Cruz by 10 points, 55-45 percent.

## Virginia.

**1st District (Western Chesapeake Bay and suburbs north and west of Richmond).** GOP Rep. Rob Wittman lost to Henrico Commonwealth's Attorney Shannon Taylor, 51-49 percent, as Taylor dominated

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in the Richmond suburbs.

**2nd District (Suburban Hampton Roads).** The 2nd will change hands a sixth time in 10 elections, as former Democratic Rep. Elaine Luria ousted Republican incumbent Jen Kiggans, 53-44 percent. Kiggans had defeated Luria four years ago by a more narrow margin.



*Courtesy Taylor Campaign*

**Shannon Taylor**

**5th District (Charlottesville and western Southside Virginia).** GOP Rep. John McGuire fended off a late surge by former Rep. Tom Perriello, winning 50-48 percent.

## Washington.

**3rd District (Southwestern Washington).** Despite persistent issues with voters in her own party, Democrat Marie Gluesenkamp Perez won a comfortable victory over state Sen. John Braun, who Republican strategists saw as one of their strongest nominees. Gluesenkamp Perez's 9-point win, 54-45 percent, is her largest yet.

**5th District (Eastern Washington).** First-term Rep. Michael Baumgartner beat Spokane County Democratic Chairwoman Carmela Conroy, 52-48 percent, in a race that attracted little attention.

## Wisconsin.

**1st District (Southeastern Wisconsin).** ER nurse Mitchell Berman was outspent by Rep. Bryan Steil, $6.3 million to $1.6 million, but a strong performance by Democratic gubernatorial nominee David Crowley at the top of the ticket helped Berman en route to a 52-48 percent victory.

**3rd District (Southwestern Wisconsin).** Boutique owner Rebecca Cooke avenged her narrow 2024 loss against GOP Rep. Derrick Van Orden with a 52-46 percent victory this cycle.

## Wyoming

**At-Large District.** State Secretary of State Chuck Gray won by 20 points, 54-34 percent, but his relative weakness as a candidate was evident as compared to the 31-point and 52-point wins by the other two Republicans on the ticket. Ultimately, while Democrat Lisa Kinney put forth the best performance for a Wyoming House Democrat since 2008, not enough votes scattered to the minor party candidates to make her competitive. IE

Inside Elections Podcast

**Episode 83:** Nathan, Jacob, Inshara and Bradley break down the 2026 midterm results including the fights for the House and Senate and which states shifted the most according to Baseline.

**Episode 82:** Nathan, Jacob and Inshara are joined by Erin Covey of The Cook Political Report and Kirk Bado of National Journal for pre-election predictions, reflections and the biggest surprise in Look What I Found history.

# 2026 Statewide Baselines

| State | Democratic Baseline | GOP Baseline | Difference |
|---|---|---|---|
| WY | 25.0 | 71.4 | R+46.4 |
| ND | 31.6 | 66.3 | R+34.6 |
| WV | 32.4 | 65.8 | R+33.4 |
| ID | 31.9 | 65.2 | R+33.3 |
| SD | 34.2 | 64.2 | R+30.0 |
| AR | 34.0 | 63.5 | R+29.5 |
| UT | 32.9 | 60.4 | R+27.5 |
| LA | 36.5 | 62.4 | R+26.0 |
| OK | 36.6 | 61.1 | R+24.4 |
| TN | 36.8 | 61.1 | R+24.2 |
| KY | 39.3 | 59.6 | R+20.3 |
| NE | 39.0 | 58.6 | R+19.6 |
| AL | 40.3 | 59.2 | R+18.8 |
| MO | 39.7 | 57.7 | R+18.0 |
| MT | 40.1 | 57.3 | R+17.3 |
| MS | 41.7 | 57.7 | R+16.0 |
| IN | 41.5 | 56.1 | R+14.6 |
| AK | 42.7 | 53.1 | R+10.4 |
| SC | 44.4 | 54.7 | R+10.4 |
| FL | 44.6 | 54.8 | R+10.2 |
| KS | 44.2 | 53.2 | R+9.0 |
| OH | 45.6 | 53.3 | R+7.8 |
| TX | 45.8 | 53.0 | R+7.2 |
| IA | 46.4 | 52.7 | R+6.3 |
| NC | 49.1 | 50.3 | R+1.2 |
| PA | 49.2 | 48.5 | D+0.8 |
| WI | 50.0 | 48.6 | D+1.4 |
| GA | 50.5 | 49.0 | D+1.4 |
| AZ | 51.2 | 48.2 | D+2.9 |
| NH | 51.3 | 47.1 | D+4.2 |
| NV | 50.8 | 45.8 | D+5.0 |
| MI | 51.7 | 46.1 | D+5.5 |
| MN | 52.4 | 45.2 | D+7.2 |
| VA | 53.6 | 45.8 | D+7.9 |
| ME | 54.6 | 43.7 | D+10.9 |
| NM | 55.0 | 43.8 | D+11.1 |
| NJ | 55.1 | 43.3 | D+11.8 |
| OR | 54.3 | 42.0 | D+12.4 |
| WA | 57.2 | 42.4 | D+14.8 |
| CO | 56.4 | 40.9 | D+15.5 |
| NY | 57.9 | 41.0 | D+16.9 |
| DE | 58.3 | 40.7 | D+17.7 |
| IL | 58.0 | 40.1 | D+17.9 |
| CT | 58.7 | 40.4 | D+18.3 |
| VT | 58.8 | 36.8 | D+22.0 |
| RI | 60.8 | 38.2 | D+22.6 |
| CA | 61.6 | 38.0 | D+23.6 |
| MA | 64.0 | 34.2 | D+29.8 |
| MD | 64.8 | 33.9 | D+30.8 |
| HI | 67.0 | 31.1 | D+35.9 |

*Sources: Inside Elections; Bradley Wascher; Associated Press; DecisionDeskHQ; Candidates in American General Elections (CAGE)*

# Governors: Democrats Break Republican Strongholds in Historic Midterm Wave

By Inshara Ali

For the first time in 16 years, Democrats will hold a majority of governorships nationwide. A blue wave fueled by opposition to the president and economic anxieties helped Democrats flip at least five seats in states Donald Trump carried in 2024: Georgia, Iowa, Nevada, Ohio and Texas.

Republicans entered Election Day with 26 governors to the Democrats' 24, with a total of 19 incumbents leaving office. The count now stands at 28 Democratic governors to 20 Republican, with Alaska and Kansas still being counted but with Democrats ahead. Democrats also held battlegrounds in Arizona, Michigan, Oregon and Wisconsin while Republicans kept 12 governorships, including Florida, Tennessee and South Carolina.

Midterms usually punish the president's party, and this one fit the pattern. What stands out is where the damage landed and how the winners ran.

## New Governors

| State | Name | Party | State | Name | Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AL | Tommy Tuberville | R | NV | Aaron Ford | D |
| AK | Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins* | D | NM | Deb Haaland | D |
| CA | Xavier Becerra | D | OH | Amy Acton | D |
| CO | Phil Weiser | D | OK | Mike Mazzei | R |
| FL | Byron Donalds | R | RI | Helena Foulkes | D |
| GA | Keisha Lance Bottoms | D | SC | Alan Wilson | R |
| IA | Rob Sand | D | TN | Marsha Blackburn | R |
| KS | Cindy Holscher* | D | TX | Gina Hinojosa | D |
| ME | Hannah Pingree | D | WI | David Crowley | D |
| MI | Jocelyn Benson | D | WY | Eric Barlow | R |
| MN | Amy Klobuchar | D | | | |

**Yet to be called by the AP*

### Long Republican streaks ended in red-leaning states

The deepest breaks came in Texas, Ohio and Iowa, where Republicans had held governorships for decades. Iowa hadn't elected a Democrat since Chet Culver in 2006. Ohio's last Democratic governor was Ted Strickland, who won that same year. Texas Democrats hadn't won the governorship since Ann Richards in 1990.



Courtesy Bottoms Campaign

**Keisha Lance Bottoms**

Each state carried its own grievance. Iowa's Rob Sand beat Republican Zach Lahn, 56 to 45 percent, in a state Trump won by 13 points. Sand's anti-establishment, bipartisan focus appealed to the state hit hard by tariffs and high energy costs, leading him to victory in 25 counties — including Dubuque and Lee counties, where Trump won handily in 2024.

In Ohio, Amy Acton became the first Democrat to win the governorship in 20 years and the first woman ever elected to it. Her victory came despite more than $100 million in spending against her and a late ad from the Ramaswamy campaign featuring her estranged mother. The ad drew condemnation from Ohio Republicans, including outgoing Gov. Mike DeWine, who endorsed Ramaswamy earlier this year, and was even followed by a late surge in donations to the Democrat's campaign.

In Texas, Gina Hinojosa denied Gov. Greg Abbott a record-setting fourth term, making him the first Texas incumbent to lose re-election since Richards. Every Texas county shifted left in this race, including the Latino-heavy border counties that helped power Trump's 2024 coalition, where Hinojosa made her biggest gains over Harris.

The governor-elect avoided partisan issues and focused instead on public education, the cost of living and the impact of data centers in the state. "There's just no winning the culture war," Hinojosa told *The New Yorker* last month. "My agenda is not a Democratic agenda. It's a populist agenda."

### A historic night for Black candidates in the Sun Belt and Great Lakes

Georgia, Nevada and Wisconsin were battlegrounds Democrats either flipped or held, and the winners made history. In Georgia, Keisha Lance Bottoms beat billionaire Rick Jackson, 54 to 46 percent. Bottoms will be Georgia's first Democratic governor in over 20 years and the nation's first Black woman governor. Democrat Aaron Ford unseated Gov. Joe Lombardo in Nevada and is the first Black governor elected west of the Mississippi. In Wisconsin, David Crowley beat Rep. Tom Tiffany, whose campaign outspent him twofold. Together with Maryland's Wes Moore and Florida's Byron Donalds — the first Black Republican governor since Reconstruction — they will make five Black governors serving at once, a first in U.S. history.

### The wave's limits

Not every state was won over by Tuesday's blue wave. In New Hampshire, Gov. Kelly Ayotte won a second term over Democrat Cinde Warmington, 51 to 47 percent, even as Democrat Chris Pappas beat former Sen. John Sununu for the Senate by 14 points. Donalds won Florida by a single point, while Tennessee's Marsha Blackburn won by 3 points and Alabama's Tommy Tuberville won by 4 points.

Taken together, this year's results suggest more than a typical midterm rebuke of the party in power. Democrats made gains in states where the party has struggled for years, and carved out success from campaigns centered on economic populism over party orthodoxy and national partisan fights. Whether the gains mark the beginning of a broader Democratic recovery or simply a backlash against the current administration remains to be seen. IE

# 2026 House Results

## Results in Non-Solid Races and Solid Flips

| District | GOP Candidate | GOP Vote | DEM Candidate | DEM Vote | Final Rating |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AK-AL* | **Begich** | 49% | Hill (I) | 44% | Likely Republican |
| AL-02 | Marques | 46% | **Figures** | 54% | Tilt Republican |
| AR-02 | **Hill** | 51% | Jones | 49% | Likely Republican |
| AZ-01 | Feely | 45% | **Shah** | 52% | Tilt Democratic |
| AZ-02 | **Crane** | 50% | Nez | 49% | Lean Republican |
| AZ-06 | Ciscomani | 45% | **Mendoza** | 53% | Tilt Democratic |
| CA-01 | Gallagher | 44% | **McGuire** | 56% | Solid Democratic |
| CA-06 | Kiley (I) | 41% | **Pan** | 59% | Likely Democratic |
| CA-13 | Lincoln | 38% | **Gray** | 62% | Tilt Democratic |
| CA-22 | Valadao | 32% | **Villegas** | 68% | Toss-up |
| CA-23* | **Obernolte** | 51% | Hodge | 49% | Solid Republican |
| CA-48 | Desmond | 40% | **von Wilpert** | 60% | Tilt Democratic |
| CO-03 | **Hurd** | 49% | Romero | 47% | Likely Republican |
| CO-04* | Boebert | 48% | **Laubacher** | 49% | Likely Republican |
| CO-05 | Crank | 46% | **Killin** | 51% | Toss-up |
| CO-08 | Evans | 41% | **Rutinel** | 55% | Tilt Democratic |
| FL-07 | **Elijah** | 50% | Dalton | 49% | Likely Republican |
| FL-09 | Green | 50% | **Soto** | 50% | Likely Republican |
| FL-13 | **Luna** | 49% | Gray | 49% | Lean Republican |
| FL-14 | Beltran | 46% | **Castor** | 51% | Tilt Democratic |
| FL-16 | **Gruters** | 51% | Kirschner | 47% | Likely Republican |
| FL-22 | Askar | 48% | **Dandiya** | 52% | Toss-up |
| FL-25 | Singer | 47% | **Moskowitz** | 51% | Tilt Democratic |
| FL-27 | **Salazar** | 50% | Rodriguez | 50% | Lean Republican |
| IA-01 | Miller-Meeks | 43% | **Bohannan** | 53% | Tilt Democratic |
| IA-02 | Mitchell | 46% | **James** | 50% | Toss-up |
| IA-03 | Nunn | 46% | **Garriott** | 54% | Tilt Democratic |
| IN-01 | Regnitz | 37% | **Mrvan** | 63% | Likely Democratic |
| IN-05 | Spartz | 48% | **Ford** | 52% | Likely Republican |
| KS-02 | **Schmidt** | 51% | Coover | 45% | Likely Republican |
| KY-06 | Alvarado | 43% | **Dembo** | 53% | Toss-up |
| ME-02* | **LePage** | 51% | Dunlap | 49% | Lean Republican |
| MI-03 | DeBoer | 41% | **Scholten** | 57% | Likely Democratic |
| MI-04 | Huizenga | 48% | **McCann** | 50% | Toss-up |
| MI-07 | Barrett | 48% | **Lawrence** | 51% | Toss-up |
| MI-10 | Bouchard | 45% | **Hines** | 52% | Tilt Republican |
| MN-01* | Finstad | 50% | **Johnson** | 50% | Lean Republican |
| MN-02 | Pratt | 43% | **Little** | 57% | Likely Democratic |
| MO-02 | Wagner | 46% | **Wellman** | 51% | Solid Republican |
| MT-01 | Flint | 47% | **Forstag** | 50% | Toss-up |
| NC-01 | Buckhout | 47% | **Davis** | 50% | Tilt Democratic |
| NC-03* | Murphy | 49% | **Smith** | 49% | Likely Republican |
| NC-05* | Foxx | 49% | **Hubbard** | 49% | Solid Republican |
| NC-06 | McDowell | 49% | **Jefferson** | 51% | Solid Republican |
| NC-07* | **Rouzer** | 50% | Hardy | 49% | Solid Republican |
| NC-09 | Hudson | 49% | **Ojeda** | 51% | Likely Republican |
| NC-10* | **Harrigan** | 50% | Bell | 49% | Solid Republican |
| NC-11 | Balkcom | 41% | **Ager** | 57% | Tilt Democratic |
| NC-13 | Knott | 48% | **Barringer** | 51% | Likely Republican |
| NC-14 | Moore | 49% | **Womack** | 51% | Solid Republican |
| NE-01 | **Flood** | 50% | Backemeyer | 46% | Likely Republican |
| NE-02 | Harding | 40% | **Powell** | 57% | Lean Democratic |
| NH-01 | DiLorenzo | 43% | **Shaheen** | 57% | Lean Democratic |
| NJ-02 | Van Drew | 48% | **Mullock** | 51% | Likely Republican |
| NJ-07 | Kean Jr. | 41% | **Bennett** | 57% | Tilt Democratic |
| NM-02 | Cunningham | 41% | **Vasquez** | 59% | Tilt Democratic |
| NV-01 | Buck | 38% | **Titus** | 59% | Lean Democratic |
| NV-02 | Flippo | 44% | **Benitez-Thompson** | 50% | Tilt Republican |
| NV-03 | O'Donnell | 38% | **Lee** | 60% | Lean Democratic |
| NV-04 | Whipple | 38% | **Horsford** | 60% | Likely Democratic |
| NY-03 | LiPetri | 45% | **Suozzi** | 55% | Lean Democratic |
| NY-04 | Driscoll | 43% | **Gillen** | 56% | Tilt Democratic |
| NY-17 | Lawler | 47% | **Conley** | 53% | Toss-up |
| NY-21 | **Constantino** | 51% | Gendebien | 49% | Lean Republican |
| OH-01 | Conroy | 43% | **Landsman** | 54% | Lean Democratic |
| OH-07 | Miller | 45% | **Poindexter** | 55% | Tilt Democratic |
| OH-09 | Merrin | 47% | **Kaptur** | 53% | Tilt Democratic |
| OH-10 | Turner | 48% | **Knickerbocker** | 49% | Lean Republican |
| OH-15 | Carey | 45% | **Leonard** | 52% | Lean Republican |
| OK-05 | **Bice** | 49% | Nelson | 48% | Likely Republican |
| PA-01 | Fitzpatrick | 47% | **Harvie** | 53% | Toss-up |
| PA-07 | Mackenzie | 44% | **Brooks** | 56% | Tilt Democratic |
| PA-08 | Bresnahan | 46% | **Cognetti** | 54% | Tilt Democratic |
| PA-10 | Perry | 45% | **Stelson** | 55% | Tilt Democratic |
| SC-01 | Honeycutt | 49% | **Lacore** | 50% | Tilt Republican |
| TN-04* | DesJarlais | 49% | **Broderick** | 49% | Solid Republican |
| TN-09 | **Taylor** | 50% | Pearson | 49% | Likely Republican |
| TX-09 | Mealer | 42% | **Gutierrez** | 58% | Lean Republican |
| TX-15 | De La Cruz | 38% | **Pulido** | 62% | Tilt Democratic |
| TX-23 | Herrera | 44% | **Stout** | 52% | Likely Republican |
| TX-28 | Tijerina | 30% | **Cuellar** | 66% | Lean Democratic |
| TX-32 | **Yarbrough** | 51% | Barrios | 49% | Solid Republican |
| TX-34 | Flores | 40% | **Gonzalez** | 56% | Toss-up |
| TX-35 | De La Cruz | 45% | **Garcia** | 55% | Toss-up |
| UT-01 | Owen | 26% | **McAdams** | 70% | Solid Democratic |
| VA-01 | Wittman | 48% | **Taylor** | 51% | Tilt Republican |
| VA-02 | Kiggans | 44% | **Luria** | 53% | Tilt Democratic |
| VA-05 | **McGuire** | 50% | Perriello | 48% | Lean Republican |
| WA-03 | Braun | 45% | **Gluesenkamp Perez** | 54% | Toss-up |
| WA-05 | **Baumgartner** | 52% | Conroy | 48% | Likely Republican |
| WI-01 | Steil | 48% | **Berman** | 52% | Lean Republican |
| WI-03 | Van Orden | 46% | **Cooke** | 52% | Tilt Democratic |
| WY-AL | **Gray** | 54% | Kinney | 33% | Likely Republican |

*Source: AP, Cook Political Report Popular Vote Tracker*
**Yet to be called by the AP  Winning candidate in Bold*