

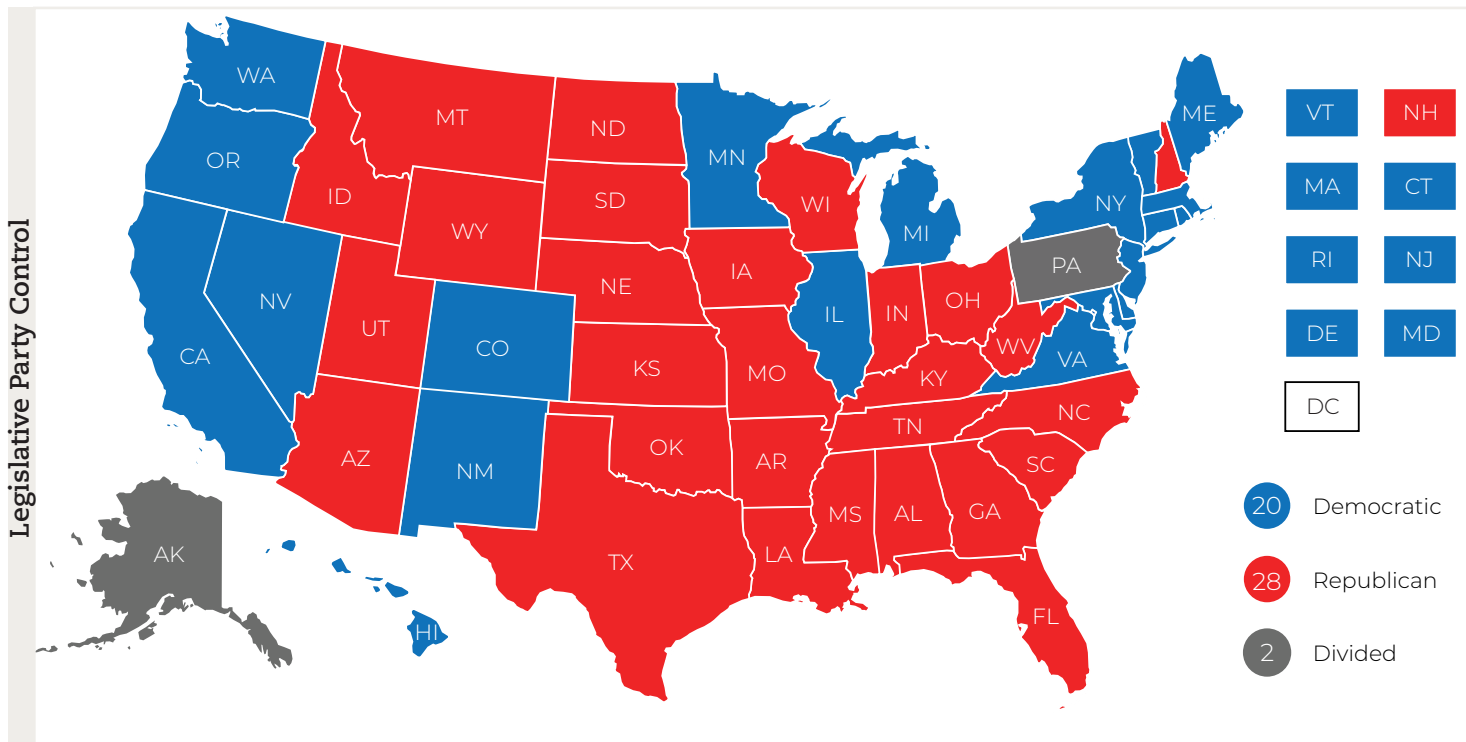
# 2024 ELECTIONS PREVIEW

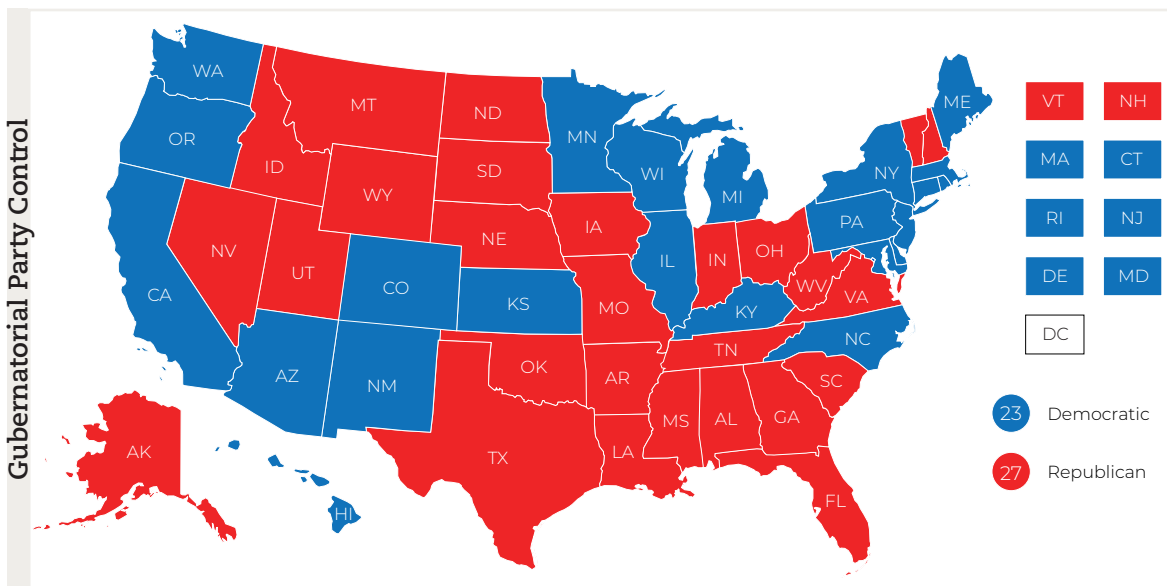
While 44 states are holding legislative elections this year, only about a quarter of those elections look to be competitive. The Democrats are looking to pick up where they left off in 2022, when they flipped three chambers and established four new trifectas, and take control of chambers in **Arizona**, **New Hampshire** and **Wisconsin**. Democrats are eager to flip both chambers in Arizona and Wisconsin, which would result in new trifectas for the party. In New Hampshire, Democrats are trying to end the Republican trifecta by flipping the House. Republicans, on the other hand, are going after the Democratic trifectas in **Michigan** and **Minnesota**. Both parties are making aggressive plays in the perennial battleground state of **Pennsylvania**, where Democrats are fighting to retain their one-seat majority in the House. With a nail-biting presidential race looming over every race this year, both individual elections and legislative majorities alike could be decided by razor-thin margins.

What follows is a look at a highlighted selection of this year's most contentious races that are most likely to alter their state's political dynamic.

03	THE NORTHEAST
05	THE SOUTHEAST
07	THE MIDWEST
10	THE NORTHWEST
13	THE SOUTHWEST

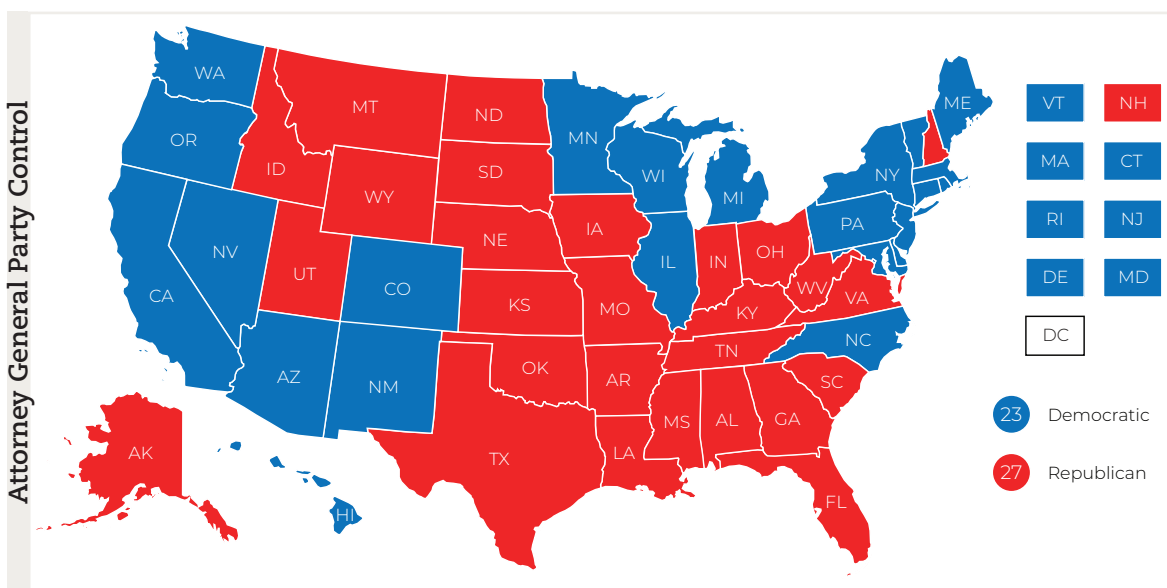
## PRE-ELECTION STATE PARTY CONTROL





It's a slow year for gubernatorial elections, with only 11 states holding elections for the governor's seat. Of those 11 states, three are currently held by Democrats and eight by Republicans. All eyes will be on **New Hampshire**, where Democrats are looking to pick up a seat after popular Republican Gov. Chris Sununu declined to seek a fifth term. Republicans' best chance for a pickup seemed to be in **North Carolina**, with Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper ineligible to run due to term limits. That chance, however, is slipping away with Republican Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson swamped by controversy.

As for attorney general races, only 10 states will hold elections for that office. Of those 10, five are held by Democrats and five by Republicans. The most competitive races look to be in **North Carolina** and **Pennsylvania**, where both parties are competing for open seats. It's also worth keeping an eye on states like **Oregon** and **Washington**, where Republicans are hoping to capitalize on public safety concerns to win open races.





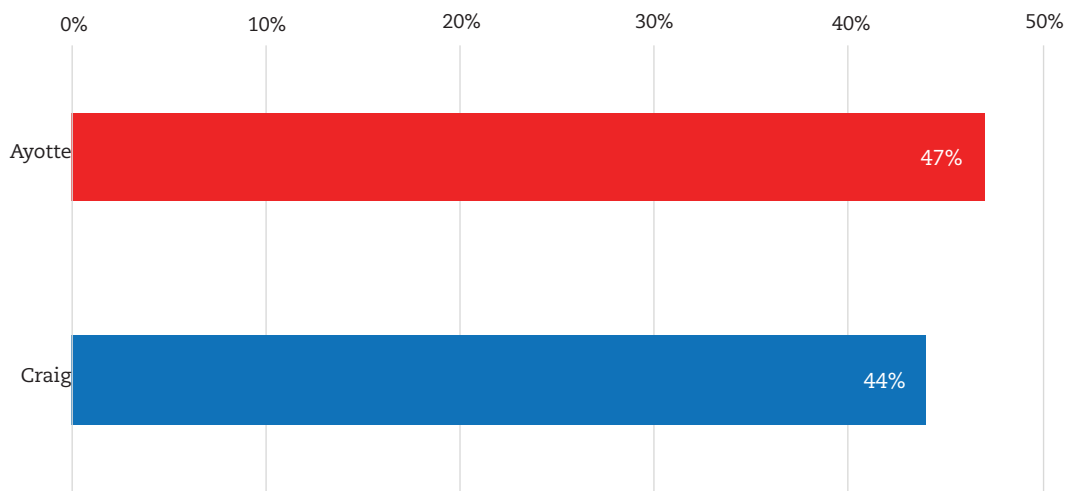
## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Executive Elections

#### Governor

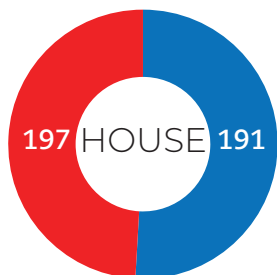
With Republican Gov. Chris Sununu deciding not to seek another term, the race for governor is wide open. Republicans have a top-notch candidate with former U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Democrats have nominated former Manchester Mayor Joyce Craig. The race is expected to be one of the closest in the country, with polling showing a tight race and both candidates raking in millions in donations, reports [WMUR](#). If Ayotte wins, and the Republicans can hold the legislature, the GOP trifecta will remain in place.

SAINT ANSLEM COLLEGE SURVEY CENTER  
October 1 - October 2



[Source](#)

### Legislative Elections



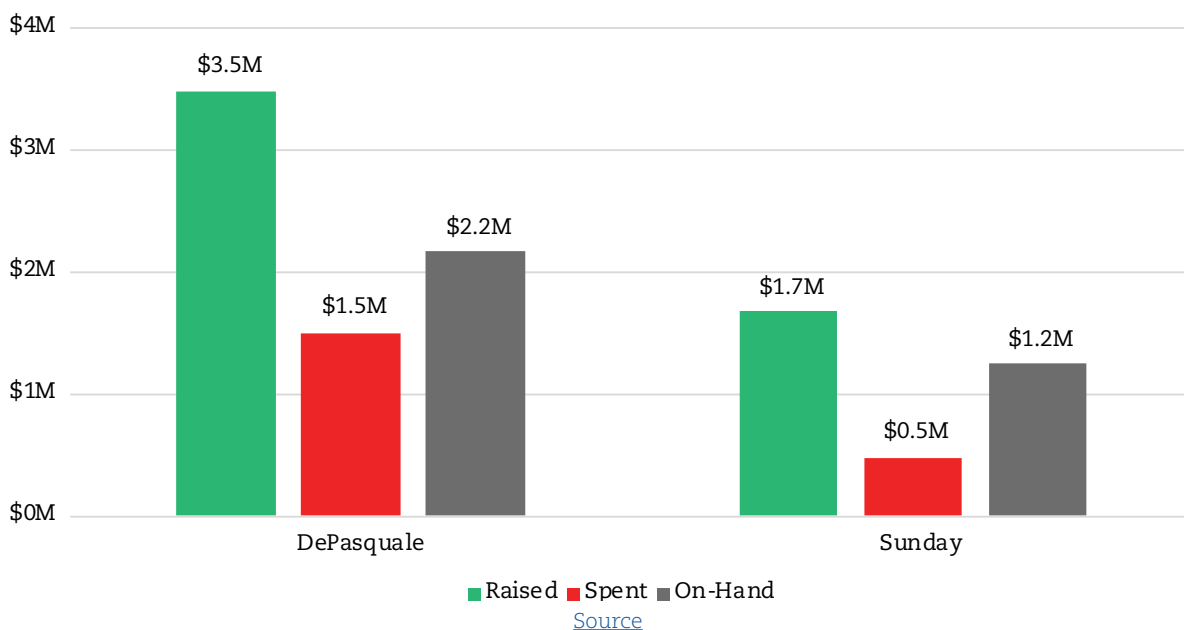
After making gains in the House in 2022, Democrats are on the hunt to win a majority in the House and end the Republican trifecta. With 400 seats up for election, Democrats only need to pick up a handful of seats to take the majority. In an interview with [Seacoast online](#), Dean Spiliotes, a political science professor at Southern New Hampshire University, noted that while the House is the more likely of the two chambers to flip, it is also particularly difficult to predict. With the chamber flipping five times since 2008, the House will continue to be as mercurial as ever in 2024.

## PENNSYLVANIA Executive Elections

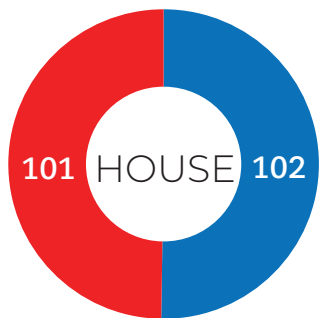
### Attorney General

Democratic Attorney General Michelle Henry is not seeking re-election. Instead, Democrats have nominated former state Auditor General Eugene DePasquale, who will face Republican York County District Attorney Dave Sunday. With an August poll from [Emerson College Polling](#) showing a dead heat, DePasquale has outraised and outspent Sunday. Both candidates, however, are being supported by outside spending, with [PennLive](#) reporting \$5.5 million in PAC spending on behalf of Sunday from June 11 through October 1.

### PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL RACE FUNDRAISING *as of September 2024*



### Legislative Elections



As one of the only two states with split partisan control of its chambers, Pennsylvania was bound to be a battleground in the fight for legislative control. With [Spotlight PA](#) reporting that the Senate is likely to remain under Republican control, both parties are focusing their resources on the House. Democrats are trying to hang on to their one-seat majority, while Republicans are looking to gain full control of the legislature to act as a check on Democratic Gov. Josh Shapiro. At many levels, Pennsylvania is the state to watch this election.



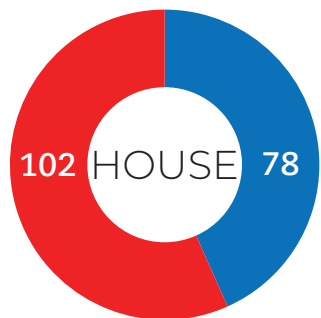
# THE SOUTHEAST



AL, AR, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV

## GEORGIA

### Legislative Elections



With all 180 House seats up for election, Democrats are hoping to continue their decade-long streak of gaining seats, according to [The Center Square](#). With the current strong Republican majority, it is unlikely that Democrats will flip the 13 seats they need to take control, but they may continue to chip away at the Republicans' majority.

## NORTH CAROLINA

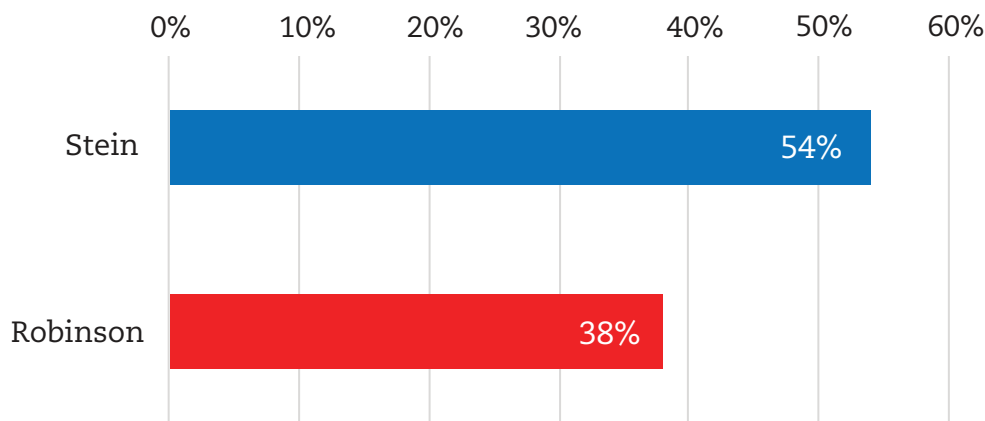
### Executive Elections

#### Governor

Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper is not running in 2024 due to term limits. Democratic Attorney General Josh Stein is running against Republican Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson. Lieutenant Governor Robinson's campaign was severely wounded after reports came out in September regarding the candidate's online activities and controversial statements he made on internet forums.

Even prior to the bombshell reporting, Attorney General Stein was outraising and outpolling Robinson. [WXII](#) reported in August that both candidates had been setting campaign fundraising records, though Stein was already well out in front with nearly \$33 million raised at the time to Robinson's \$16 million. It is likely the office will remain under Democratic control. With both legislative chambers controlled by Republicans, however, the GOP will largely remain in control of the state.

THE WASHINGTON POST  
September 25 - September 29

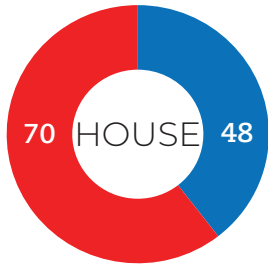
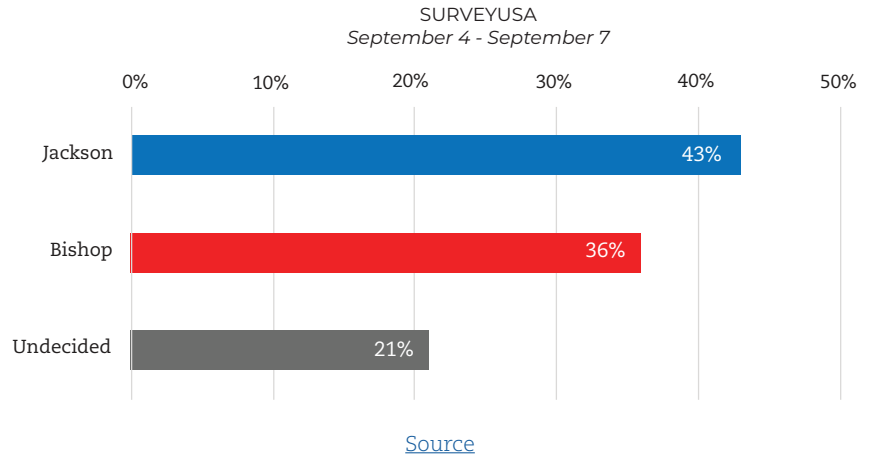


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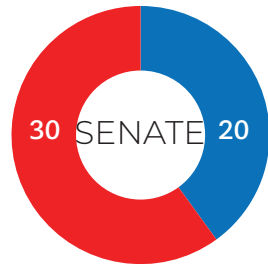


## Attorney General

With Democratic Attorney General Josh Stein running for governor, there is an open race for attorney general. Democratic U.S. Rep. Jeff Jackson filed to run after his district was re-drawn with a Republican majority. He will face a fellow member of Congress in Republican U.S. Rep. Dan Bishop. In addition to a polling lead, Representative Jackson has a historical advantage: the past five state attorneys general have been Democrats, according to [StarNews Online](#). As of late August, Jackson had raised more than \$7 million, compared to Bishop's nearly \$3 million, reports [The Daily Tar Heel](#).



\*Two vacant seats.

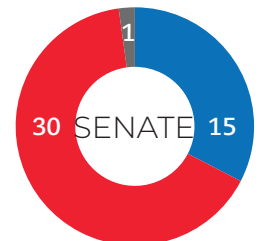


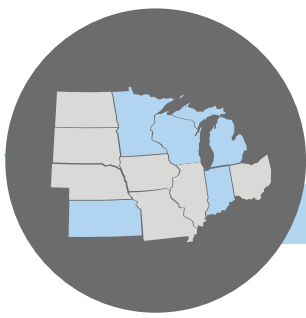
## Legislative Elections

All 120 House seats and 50 Senate seats are up for election this year. Currently, Republicans hold single-seat supermajorities in both chambers. The new legislative maps approved by Republicans in 2023 should help the GOP retain their supermajorities. According to analysis by the [John Locke Foundation](#), the new Senate map has 28 Republican-leaning seats, 17 Democratic-leaning seats and five toss-up seats, while the House map creates 69 Republican-leaning seats, 48 Democratic-leaning seats and three toss-up seats. Republicans have to win two toss-up seats in the Senate and all three toss-up seats in the House to maintain their veto-proof supermajorities.

## SOUTH CAROLINA Legislative Elections

Republicans are one seat shy of a supermajority in the Senate. With all 46 seats up for election, only 22 are being contested by a major party candidate. The chamber will almost certainly remain a Republican majority and possibly an even stronger majority. Republicans currently hold a trifecta in the state, so a veto-proof majority will be a little more than a show of strength for the GOP.

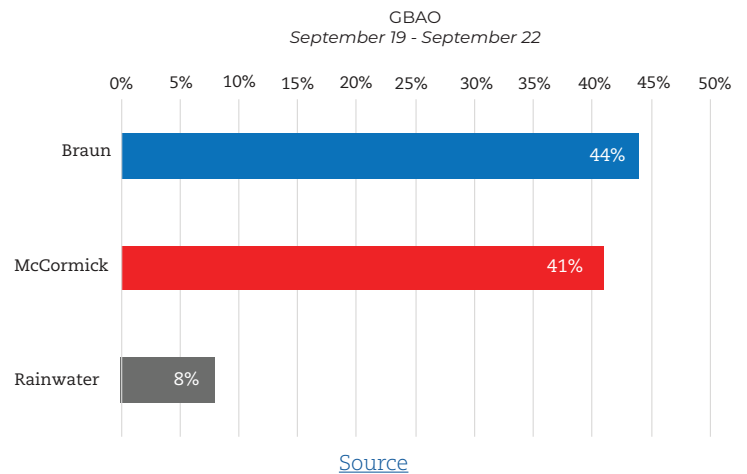




## INDIANA Executive Elections

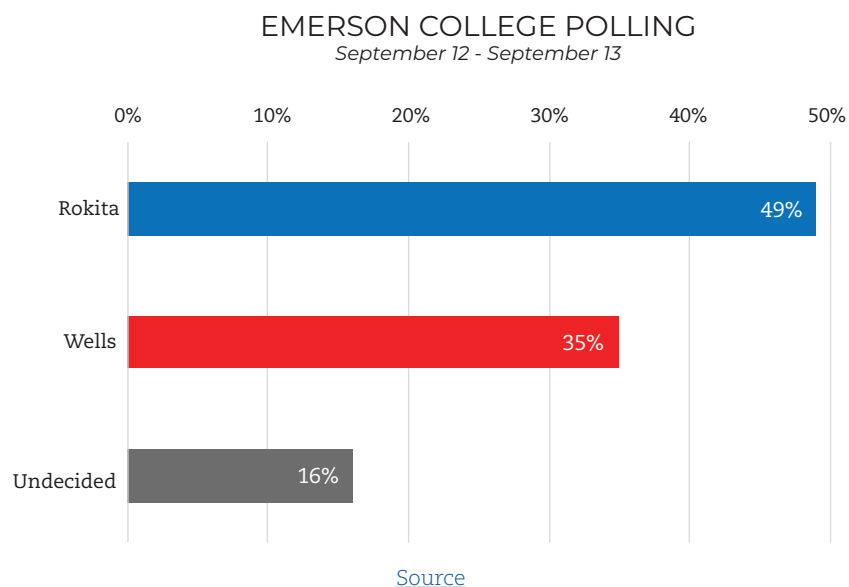
### Governor

Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb is ineligible to run for re-election due to term limits. The race for governor will instead be between Republican U.S. Sen. Mike Braun and Democratic former state Superintendent Jennifer McCormick, with Libertarian Donald Rainwater also running. [WXIN](#) reports that McCormick has closed what was once a much larger gap between her and Senator Braun and is now “within striking distance.” Braun still holds a lead in the race, but he is currently polling behind other Republican nominees for statewide office, [Indy Politics](#) reports. Braun’s controversial running mate, pastor Micah Beckwith, could be one explanation for his shrinking lead, reports [WFYI](#).



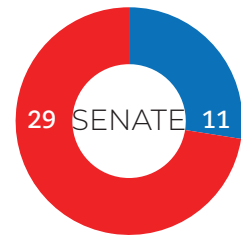
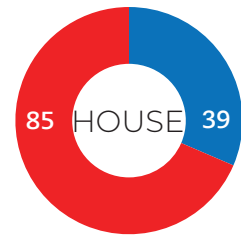
### Attorney General

Republican incumbent Attorney General Todd Rokita is running for re-election against Democratic challenger Destiny Wells. Despite the more than \$1 million fundraising gap Attorney General Rokita holds over his competitor, as reported by [WFYI](#), internal polling from the Wells campaign has the two competitors within the margin of error. Other pollsters, like [Emerson College Polling](#), still consider this race firmly in favor of Rokita, although with a large number of undecideds.

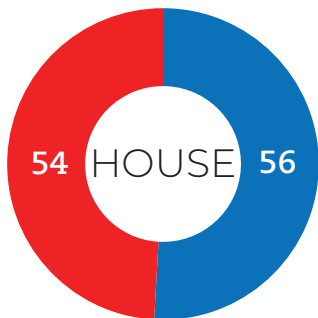


## KANSAS Legislative Elections

Democrats are making an aggressive play to end the Republican supermajorities, which are a thorn in the side of Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly. Democrats need to flip either two seats in the House or three in the Senate to break the Republican veto-proof majority. According to [The Topeka Capital-Journal](#), districts like those in Johnson County have over half of the competitive races for both chambers. Those like Senate District 10 will be important to Democrats attempting to weaken or break the Republican supermajority. Governor Kelly has been more involved than ever in the legislative elections, raising close to \$1 million for Democratic House and Senate candidates, reports the [Kansas Reflector](#).

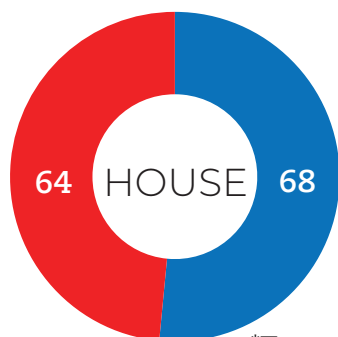


## MICHIGAN Legislative Elections



Democrats are hoping to hold on to their narrow control of the House, and by extension, a state government trifecta, with all 110 House seats up for election in 2024. According to [Politico](#), Michigan Republicans are hopeful that a strong performance by former Republican President Donald Trump will provide momentum to down ballot candidates and flip the two seats they need to take control of the chamber. The Michigan GOP, however, has been beset by infighting and poor fundraising culminating in the January ouster of then party chair Kristina Karamo, [The Detroit News](#) reports.

## MINNESOTA Legislative Elections



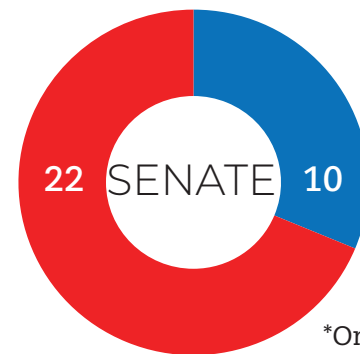
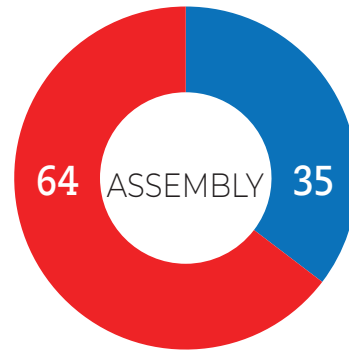
The House elections are shaping up to be highly competitive, with all 134 seats up for grabs and control of the chamber in play. According to [The Minnesota Star Tribune](#), Republicans need a net gain of just four seats to flip control from the Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party. The DFL has held a trifecta for two years now, which Republicans are looking to end. Roughly 15 districts are considered highly competitive, making the election a key battleground.

\*Two vacant seats.



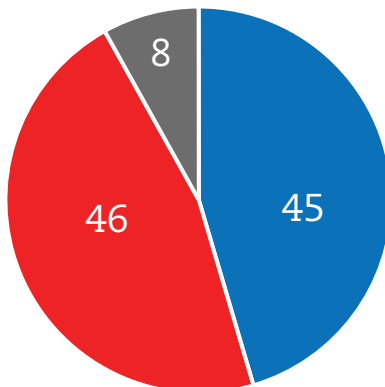
## WISCONSIN Legislative Elections

Earlier this year, Democratic Gov. Tony Evers signed into law new state legislative maps that could significantly weaken the Republican's long held electoral advantage. According to the [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#), the new maps create 45 Democratic-leaning seats in the Assembly and 46 Republican-leaning seats, with eight districts likely to be toss-ups. In the Senate, 14 seats are Democratic leaning, while 15 are Republican leaning, with four toss-up districts. Democrats aren't letting this new opportunity pass them by, contesting 97 of the 99 Assembly seats and all 16 of the Senate seats up for election this cycle, reports [WPR](#). With Governor Evers in office until 2027, Republicans are eager to hold on to the legislature to serve as a check on the Democratic governor.

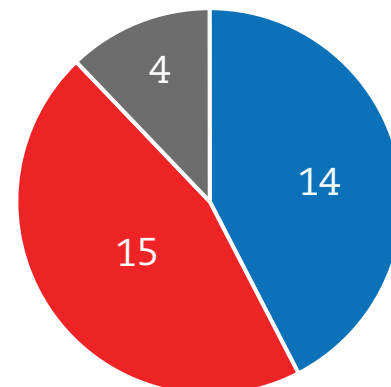


\*One vacant seat

### Assembly District Partisan Tilt

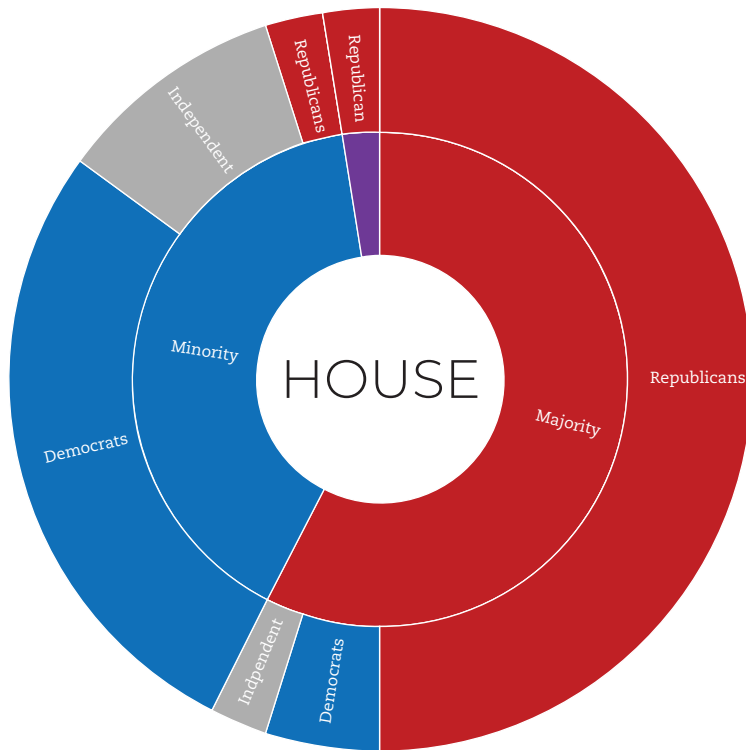


### Senate District Partisan Tilt



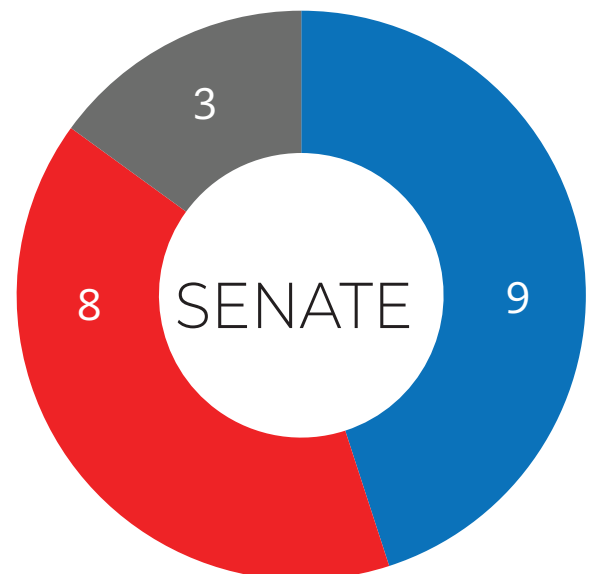


## ALASKA Legislative Elections



All 40 House seats and 10 of 20 Senate seats are up for election, though major shifts in party control are not expected. The House is currently controlled by Republicans through a nominal 22-13-4-1 coalition with Democrats, Independents and one non-partisan representative. November has this balance in question, following the 2023 appointment of Rep. Cathy Tilton, R-Anchorage, to House Speaker, reports the [Anchorage Daily News](#); Representative Tilton's appointment marks the first Republican-led caucus since 2017. According to the [Alaska Beacon](#), even one flipped seat could shift the balance of the coalition.

In contrast, Alaska's Senate is likely to remain in steady control of a bi-partisan coalition after the election, reports [News From The States](#). With both chambers controlled by fragile cross-partisan coalitions, Alaska is always a state to watch on election day.



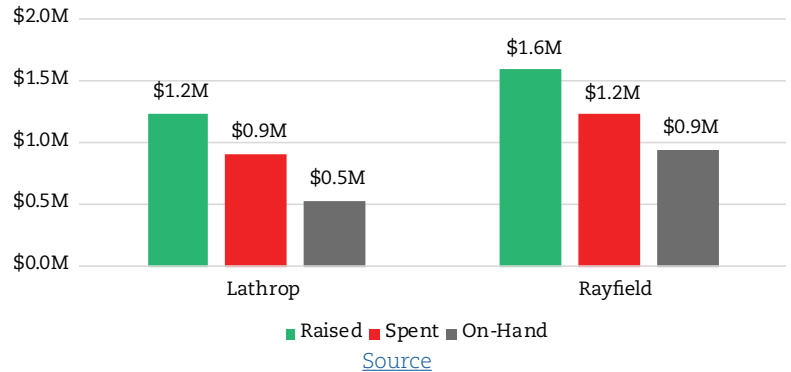
## OREGON

### Executive Elections

#### Attorney General

The two candidates battling to replace Democratic Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum are former Democratic House Speaker Dan Rayfield and former Republican Deputy District Attorney Will Lathrop. Rayfield has the fundraising edge, but it's a small one. With no incumbent running and a strong candidate in Lathrop, Republicans see this race as their chance to breakthrough at the state level, reports [OPB](#).

OREGON ATTORNEY GENERAL RACE FUNDRAISING  
as of October 2024



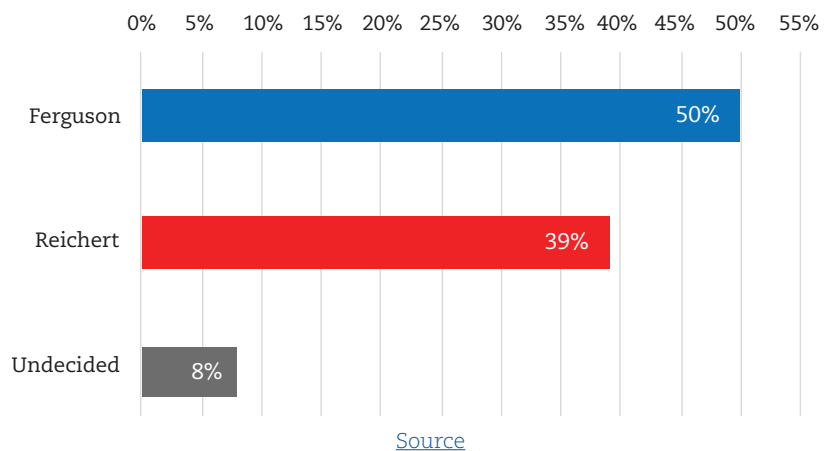
## WASHINGTON

### Executive Elections

#### Governor

With Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee declining to run for a fourth term, the gubernatorial race will see Democratic Attorney General Bob Ferguson face off against former Republican U.S. Rep. Dave Reichert. According to [The Seattle Times](#), Attorney General Ferguson and his supporters are significantly outspending Reichert in advertising. Ferguson's campaign and Democratic super PACs have booked over \$2.4 million worth of airtime. In contrast, Reichert's campaign has spent just \$29,000. While Ferguson seems likely to keep the governor's seat in Democratic hands, there is still a significant number of undecided voters that make this a close race.

CASCADE PBS  
September 3 - September 6

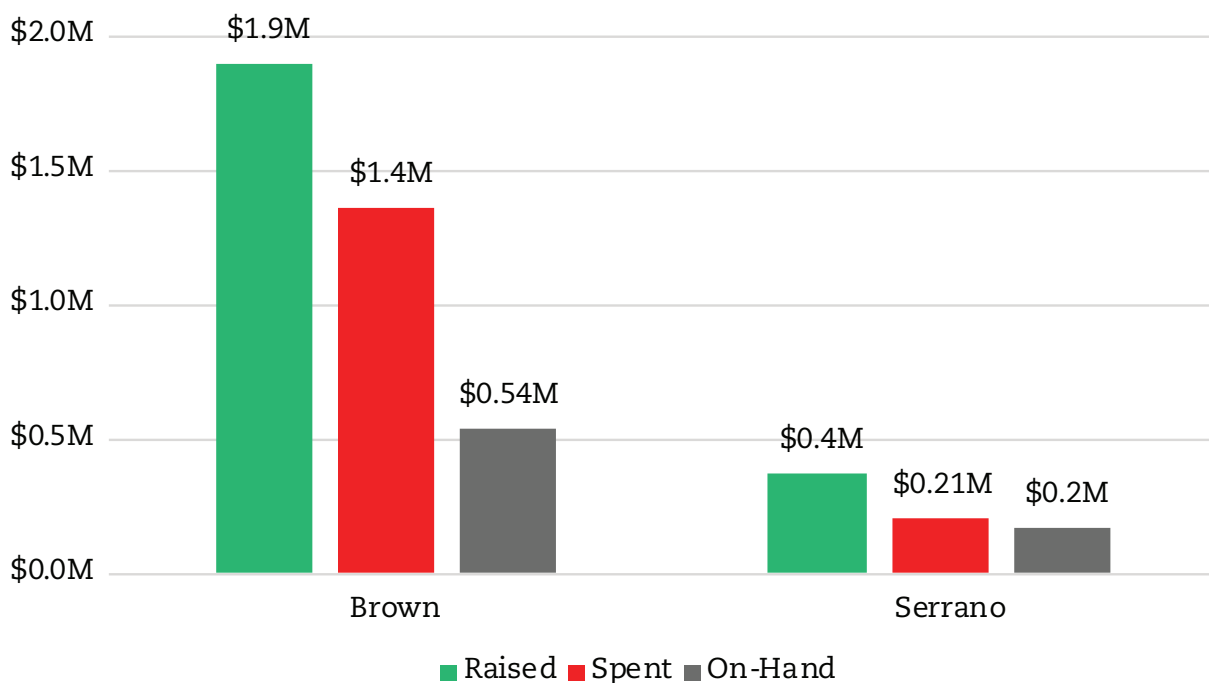


 States that conduct all elections by mail.

## Attorney General

Democratic incumbent Attorney General Bob Ferguson is running for governor, which makes this the first open election for the attorney general seat in 12 years. Democrat Nick Brown, a former U.S. attorney, will compete for the seat against Republican Pete Serrano, the mayor of Pasco. According to [The Spokesman-Review](#), Brown has been significantly out-raising Serrano coming into the election.

WASHINGTON ATTORNEY GENERAL RACE FUNDRAISING  
as of October 2024

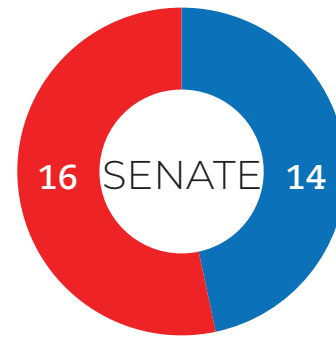
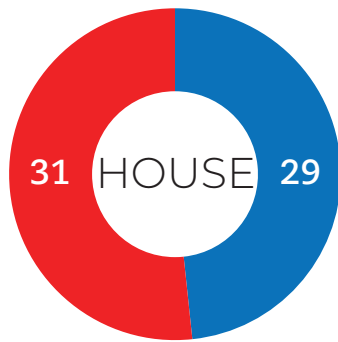


[Source](#)



## ARIZONA Legislative Elections

With Arizona Republicans holding slim two-seat majorities in both the House and Senate, Democrats are hopeful they could flip both chambers giving them a trifecta, something that hasn't happened since 1966. All 60 seats in the House and 30 seats in the Senate are up this cycle. Abortion has been a key issue following a controversial state supreme court ruling that required a Civil War-era abortion ban to be enforced. While the legislature ultimately repealed the ban, Democrats are targeting Republicans who voted against the bill, [NPR](#) reports.



## NEVADA ✉ Legislative Elections

Nevada Democrats will try to simultaneously protect their single-seat Assembly supermajority while picking up the one seat they need to establish a veto-proof majority in the Senate, reports the [Nevada Current](#). Republicans are on the defense, as they try to stop Democrats from getting supermajorities in both chambers and give Republican Gov. Joe Lombardo some breathing room. If Democrats win the seats they need, they will be able to override Governor Lombardo's vetoes.

