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2024 Election Night Guide

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Publication

2024 ELECTION NIGHT GUIDE

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Political Law Group
Government Law & Strategies Group

Frederick K. Lowell, Retired Partner
Emily B. Erlingsson, Special Counsel Political Law Group

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A collection of election facts, statistics and analysis. Not an advocacy piece.

Four Embarcadero Center, 22nd Floor
San Francisco, California 94111
Tel: 415.983.1000
Fax: 415.983.1200

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Political Law Group

Emily B. Erlingsson, Special Counsel and Political Law Group Leader

Nicole Steinberg, Associate

Bridget C. Scharn, Senior Legal Analyst

Frederick K. Lowell, Retired Partner

Government Law & Strategies Group

Elizabeth V. Moeller, Partner and Government Law & Strategies Group Leader

Brian E. Finch, Partner

Craig J. Saperstein, Partner

Matthew Oresman, Partner

Aimee P. Ghosh, Partner

The Hon. Greg Laughlin, Senior Counsel

The Hon. Lacy Clay, Senior Policy Advisor

The Hon. Jerry McNerney, Senior Policy Advisor

Yvette P. Cravins, Senior Counsel

Justin S. Rubin, Senior Counsel

Rachel Gorsky Bombach, Senior Policy Advisor

John M. Thomas, Senior Policy Advisor

Johnna Purcell, Associate

Amaris Trozzo, Associate

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Presidential Election Fact Sheet

Needed to Elect:	270 Electoral Votes	
11 largest states: (268)	California (54)	Illinois (19)
	Texas (40)	Ohio (17)
	New York (28)	Georgia (16)
	Florida (30)	North Carolina (16)
	Pennsylvania (19)	Michigan (15)
		New Jersey (14)

3 Most Democratic States in 2020:

District of Columbia (3)	Vermont (3)
	Massachusetts (11)

3 Most Republican States in 2020:

Wyoming (3)	West Virginia (4)
	Oklahoma (7)

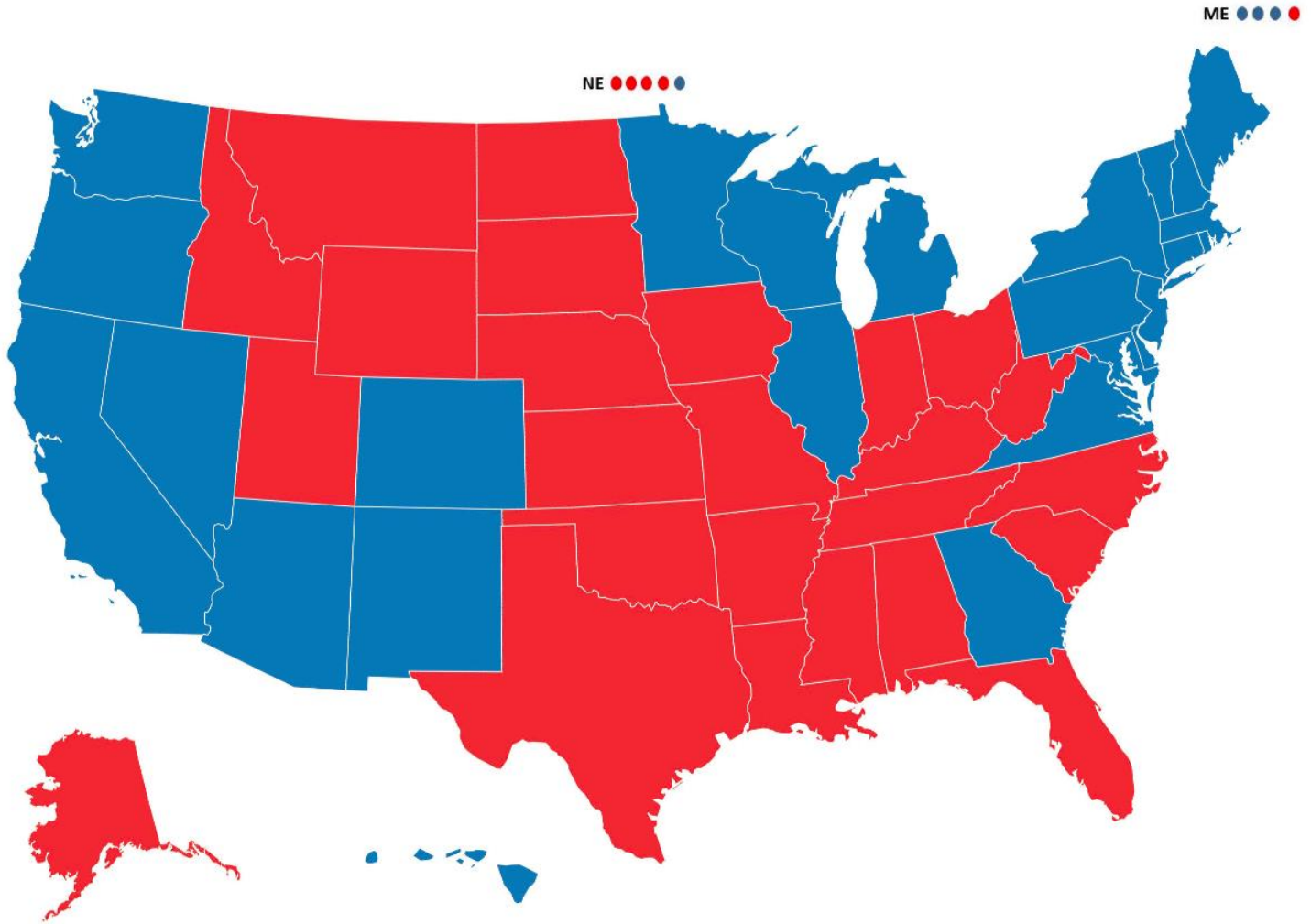
Presidential Election Year Results

<u>2020</u>	Biden (D)	306	<u>1992</u>	Clinton (D)	370
	Trump (R)	232		Bush (R)	168
				Perot (I)	0
<u>2016</u>	Clinton (D)**	232	<u>1988</u>	Dukakis (D)	112
	Trump (R)	306		Bush (R)	426
<u>2012</u>	Obama (D)	332	<u>1984</u>	Mondale (D)	13
	Romney (R)	206		Reagan (R)	525
<u>2008</u>	Obama (D)	365	<u>1980</u>	Carter (D)	49
	McCain (R)	173		Reagan (R)	489
<u>2004*</u>	Kerry (D)	252		Anderson (I)	0
	Bush (R)	286	<u>1976</u>	Carter (D)	297
<u>2000*</u>	Gore (D)	267		Ford (R)	241
	Bush (R)	271	<u>1972*</u>	McGovern (D)	17
<u>1996</u>	Clinton (D)	379		Nixon (R)	521
	Dole (R)	159	<u>1968*</u>	Humphrey (D)	191
	Perot (I)	0		Nixon (R)	302
				Wallace (AI)	45

*In each of these elections, one elector defected so that the actual totals were: 1968: 191-301-46; 1972: 17-520-1; 2000: 266-271-1; and in 2004: 251-286-1.

** In 2016, seven electors defected so that the result was 227 – 304 – 7.

2020 Presidential Election



Presidential Races – Northeast

Northeast

State	68	72	76	80	84	88	92	96	00	04	08	12	16	20
Connecticut (7)	D	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
D.C. (3)	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Delaware (3)	R	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Maine (4)	D	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D (3) R (1)	D (3) R (1)
Maryland (10)	D	R	D	D	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Mass. (11)	D	D	D	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
N. Hampshire (4)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	R	D	D	D	D	D
New Jersey (14)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
New York (28)	D	R	D	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Penn. (19)	D	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	R	D
Rhode Island (4)	D	R	D	D	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont (3)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D

Northeast: 110 Electoral Votes

Presidential Races – Midwest

Midwest

State	68	72	76	80	84	88	92	96	00	04	08	12	16	20
Illinois (19)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Indiana (11)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	R
Iowa (6)	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	R	D	D	R	R
Kansas (6)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Michigan (15)	D	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	R	D
Minnesota (10)	D	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Missouri (10)	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R
Nebraska (5)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R (4) D (1)
North Dakota (3)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Ohio (17)	R	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	R	R	D	D	R	R
Oklahoma (7)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
South Dakota (3)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Wisconsin (10)	R	R	D	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	R	D

Midwest: 122 Electoral Votes

Presidential Races – South

South

State	68	72	76	80	84	88	92	96	00	04	08	12	16	20
Alabama (9)	AI	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Arkansas (6)	AI	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	R	R	R	R	R	R
Florida (30)	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	D	D	R	R
Georgia (16)	AI	R	D	D	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	D
Kentucky (8)	R	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	R	R	R	R	R	R
Louisiana (8)	AI	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	R	R	R	R	R	R
Mississippi (6)	AI	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
N. Carolina (16)	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	R
S. Carolina (9)	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Tennessee (11)	R	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	R	R	R	R	R	R
Texas (40)	D	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Virginia (13)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D
W. Virginia (4)	D	R	D	D	R	R	D	D	R	R	R	R	R	R

South: 176 Electoral Votes

Presidential Races – West

West

State	68	72	76	80	84	88	92	96	00	04	08	12	16	20
Alaska (3)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Arizona (11)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	D
California (54)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Colorado (10)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	R	D	D	D	D
Hawaii (4)	D	R	D	D	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Idaho (4)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Montana (4)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Nevada (6)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	R	R	D	D	D	D
New Mexico (5)	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	R	D	D	D	D
Oregon (7)	R	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Utah (6)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Washington (12)	D	R	R	R	R	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Wyoming (3)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

West: 130 Electoral Votes

2024 Fact Sheet

Current Party Strengths

	D	R	Ind	Vacancies
U.S. Senate	47	49	4*	0
U.S. House	212	220	0	3
Governors	23	27	0	0

(*Vote with the Democrats)

Recent “Wave” Elections for the U.S. House and U.S. Senate

Year	Party in White		House Result	Senate Result	Type
	House				
1974	Republicans	- 49	- 4	STMT	
1980	Democrats	- 34	- 12*	PRES	
1994	Democrats	- 52*	- 8*	FTMT	
2006	Republicans	- 31*	- 6*	STMT	
2010	Democrats	- 63*	- 6	FTMT	
2014	Democrats	- 13	- 9*	STMT	
2018	Republicans	- 40*	+ 2	FTMT	

PRES = Presidential Election Year

FTMT = First Term, Mid-term Election

STMT = Second Term, Mid-term Election

*control shift

2024 Election Analysis

As of October 31, 2024, national polls show the Harris/Walz ticket effectively tied with Trump/Vance. State polls, particularly in battleground states, portend a tight electoral college race.

In effect, the trend which began in 2016 is continuing—namely a contest not just between the two major parties but also between two sub parties within the major parties. The tea party/Trump Republicans are now flanked by the so-called “progressive” wing of the Democratic party. It is not clear where the less ideological Democrats, Republicans and independents fit into this political uncivil war, but what they do will probably determine the election results. Neither ticket is particularly popular, and more voters than usual may be casting votes against a ticket rather than for it. Voter turnout will be key.

The country has reached new heights of polarization with the unfavorability ratings of each candidate likely exceeding the victor’s winning margin. Former President Trump has proven to be the most divisive factor in the election with one set of voters intent on his defeat and another equally intent on his returning to the White House. Immigration and the economy are wild cards. The sudden emergence of Harris seems to have helped more than hurt the Democrats.

While polls are more accurate today than in 1936 or 1948—when Landon and Dewey were the projected winners, respectively—some polls still fail to adequately detect late shifts in voter opinion and to account for difficult factors such as the likely voter turnout and “soft” support among those expressing a preference for one candidate over the other. In 2024, the polls have not been particularly volatile.

Barring a late weekend shift toward Trump or Harris, accumulating the necessary 270 electoral votes for victory is a strategic task for both the Trump/Vance and Harris/Walz tickets, since Harris can only afford to lose 36 of Biden’s 2020 electoral votes and Trump must “flip” 38 of them while retaining all of the states he won four years ago. The seven most crucial states, as in 2016 and 2020, are Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Interestingly, the race may again be decided in the Midwest, where the Democrats are hoping that their traditional “Blue Wall” will hold.

The Republicans are favored to win the Senate and hold the House by a thin margin. That margin could change if one of the candidates wins comfortably. Little change is expected in the nation's governorships.

Presidential Race

State-By-State Analysis

The following comments are based on national and state polls and reports available as of October 30, 2024. The number in parenthesis represents each state's number of electoral votes.

- Alabama **(9)** Solid for Trump.
- Alaska **(3)** The 49th State hasn't voted Democratic since 1964 and won't this time either.
- Arizona **(11)** Arizona was once a solid red state, but it is now a "purple" state and could go either way. Close Senate race, with the Democrats ahead.
- Arkansas **(6)** Once one of the most Democratic states in the South, but it's GOP territory now.
- California **(54)** Democrats are set to sweep California again and haul in the largest electoral vote stash in the country. Safe for Harris in her home state.
- Colorado **(10)** Harris ahead.
- Connecticut **(7)** Safe for Harris. The days when the GOP could carry Connecticut (1972-1988) are long gone.
- Delaware **(3)** Solid for Harris in Biden's home state.
- District of Columbia **(3)** The most reliable three electoral votes for the Democrats anywhere in the nation.
- Florida **(30)** With its rich 30 electoral-vote prize, Florida, the most controversial state in 2000, is crucial for Trump. Obama and Trump each won it twice. Trump is ahead. Republicans should hold the Senate seat.
- Georgia **(16)** Georgia's 16 electoral votes should belong to the GOP, but Biden won here in 2020 and Trump is only slightly ahead.
- Hawaii **(4)** A Democratic stronghold that Harris should win easily.

Idaho	(4) Trump all the way.
Illinois	(19) A landslide for Harris.
Indiana	(11) One of the very few industrial midwestern states that used to be reliably Republican and which, in 2008, voted for the Democratic ticket for the first time since 1964 (as did North Carolina and Virginia). Romney regained it in 2012, and Trump won it in 2016 and 2020. Indiana reports early in the evening, and if the Republican ticket gets in trouble here, Harris is headed to the White House.
Iowa	(6) A true swing state. Trump ahead.
Kansas	(6) Traditionally Republican. Trump in the lead.
Kentucky	(8) Trump ahead.
Louisiana	(8) Trump/Vance.
Maine	(4) Harris ahead. This is one of two states which apportion its electoral vote by Congressional District, and Trump won one electoral vote here in 2020.
Maryland	(10) This is one of the most Democratic states in the nation, and the Democratic ticket owns it. Interesting Senate race, however.
Massachusetts	(11) A Harris love fest.
Michigan	(15) Crucial for both candidates once again, and at this point a tie. If Trump wins here, it means the “Blue Wall” has cracked.
Minnesota	(10) Another strongly Democratic state that has voted Democratic in every presidential election since 1976. Harris is ahead in Walz’s base.
Mississippi	(6) This Deep South state is a GOP stronghold; Trump is ahead.

Missouri	(10) Missouri used to be considered something of a bellwether state. Clinton won the state in 1996, but the Republicans won it after that. Trump is in the lead.
Montana	(4) Trump is ahead. Republicans likely to pick up a Senate seat here.
Nebraska	(5) Trump/Vance, but Nebraska is the other state which apportions its electoral votes by Congressional district, and the Democrats won one electoral vote here in 2020.
Nevada	(6) A toss-up. Close Senate race.
New Hampshire	(4) Unlike the rest of New England, a close race. But Harris is ahead. Close race for governor.
New Jersey	(14) Harris/Walz.
New Mexico	(5) Once a toss-up state, but no longer. Harris leads.
New York	(28) Harris should win New York's 28 electoral votes in a landslide.
North Carolina	(16) Obama won it in 2008, Romney in 2012. Trump in 2016 and 2020. Too close to call this year. Governor's race favors the Democrats.
North Dakota	(3) The Republican ticket will win again.
Ohio	(17) Trump has to win here again. GOP ahead in Vance's home state. Tight Senate race.
Oklahoma	(7) An ultraconservative state where Trump is way ahead.
Oregon	(8) Solid for Harris.
Pennsylvania	(19) Another state both Trump and Harris need to win to accumulate 270 electoral votes. This is a major battleground state. Trump slightly ahead; Senate race tight.
Rhode Island	(4) Harris all the way.
South Carolina	(9) Trump/Vance.

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South Dakota	(3) Trump ahead.
Tennessee	(11) Al Gore's home state is now a GOP stronghold. Trump should win.
Texas	(40) The reverse mirror image of California, but this year Trump is only moderately ahead. Senator Cruz in a close race.
Utah	(6) Utah has proved to be one of the three most Republican states in the Union in recent presidential elections. Trump ahead.
Vermont	(3) Once a New England Republican bastion, Vermont votes Democratic these days. The Republican governor should be re-elected, however.
Virginia	(13) Virginia was once the most Republican state in the South. Until 2008, the last time a Democrat carried it was LBJ in 1964. It is now evolving into a swing purple state. Obama won here in 2008 and 2012. Clinton and Biden carried it in 2016 and 2020, respectively. Harris in the lead.
Washington	(12) Harris is ahead.
West Virginia	(4) This once strongly Democratic state votes Republican now, and it will go to the GOP again. The GOP should pick up Senator Manchin's Senate seat.
Wisconsin	(10) Wisconsin is competitive. Trump won here in 2016, Biden in 2020. Tight race. Another close Senate race.
Wyoming	(3) Trump/Vance country.

SENATE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND GOVERNOR RACES

Senate

The current lineup in the U.S. Senate is 51 Democrats (including four independents who vote with the Democrats) and 49 Republicans. Twenty-eight Democrats and 38 Republicans are not up for election this year.

There are 34 seats up for election, 23 held by Democrats and 11 held by Republicans. Fifteen Democratic seats and all 11 Republican seats are considered by most analysts to be “safe.” If that is true, then the analysis of which party will control the Senate in the next Congress centers on the eight contested Democratic seats.

There seems to be general agreement that the Republicans will take a seat from the Democrats in West Virginia. This brings the total to 42 Democrats and 50 Republicans.

The remaining seven races are close, particularly in Ohio.

The battle for the Senate thus comes down to Arizona, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. All seven are Democratic seats. The Republican is ahead in Montana, and the Democrat in Arizona and Nevada. The remaining races are close.

The Democrats need to win all seven seats to reach 50 and Senate control if Harris wins. Best guess: the Republicans win the Senate and gain two to four seats. If only one, then the GOP will only control the Senate if Trump wins.

Watch Maryland, Nebraska and Texas for possible upsets.

U.S. House of Representatives

The House elected in 2022 yielded 222 Republicans and 213 Democrats. At this point, however, it is a stalemate with a slight edge to the Republicans in the heavily gerrymandered House.

Governor

This cycle offers 11 races for governor. The current lineup nationally is 27 Republicans, 23 Democrats.

Twenty Democrats and 19 Republicans are not up for election this year. Thus, the Democrats are defending three and the Republicans eight chairs.

Two Democratic chairs and six Republican chairs are considered “safe.” If so, then the 50-state count, including chairs not up this year, begins at 22 Democrats and 25 Republicans.

The Republicans appear to be ahead in Vermont and the Democrats in North Carolina. If this is true, the count goes to 23 Democratic chairs and 26 Republican chairs.

That leaves one close race: New Hampshire, which is currently held by the Republicans.

Best guess, the count remains unchanged with 27 Republicans and 23 Democrats.

2024 U.S. SENATE RACES

Northeast

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)	(I)
Connecticut	(D)	Murphy*	Corey	
Delaware	(D)	Rochester*	Hansen	
Maine	(I)	Costello	Kouzounas	King*
Maryland	(D)	Alsobrooks	Hogan	
Massachusetts	(D)	Warren*	Deaton	
New Jersey	(D)	Kim	Bashaw	
New York	(D)	Gillibrand*	Sapraicone	
Pennsylvania	(D)	Casey*	McCormick	
Rhode Island	(D)	Whitehouse*	Morgan	
Vermont	(I)	N/A	Malloy	Sanders*

Total seats: 10 (D-8; R-0; I-2)

*Incumbent

Midwest

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)	(I)
Indiana	(R)	McCray	Banks	
Michigan	(D)	Slotkin	Rogers	
Minnesota	(D)	Klobucher*	White	
Missouri	(R)	Kunce	Hawley*	
Nebraska	(R)	N/A	Fisher*	Osborn
Nebraska – 2**	(R)	Love	Ricketts*	
North Dakota	(R)	Christiansen	Cramer*	
Ohio	(D)	Brown*	Moreno	
Wisconsin	(D)	Baldwin*	Hovde	

Total seats: 9 (D-4; R-5)

*Incumbent

**Special election to fill the seat vacated by Ben Sasse.

2024 U.S. SENATE RACES

South

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)
Florida	(R)	Mucarsel-Powell	Scott*
Mississippi	(R)	Pinkins	Wicker*
Tennessee	(R)	Johnson	Blackburn*
Texas	(R)	Allred	Cruz*
Virginia	(D)	Kaine*	Cao
West Virginia	(I)	Elliott	Justice

Total seats: 6 (D-1; R-4; I-1)

*Incumbent

West

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)
Arizona	(I)	Gallego	Lake
California	(D)	Schiff	Garvey
Hawaii	(D)	Hirono*	McDermott
Montana	(D)	Tester*	Sheehy
Nevada	(D)	Rosen*	Brown
New Mexico	(D)	Heinrich*	Domenici
Utah	(R)	Gleich	Curtis
Washington	(D)	Cantwell*	Garcia
Wyoming	(R)	Morrow	Barrasso*

Total seats: 9 (D-6; R-2; I-1)

*Incumbent

2024 Gubernatorial Races – Northeast, Midwest, South, West

Northeast

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)
Delaware	(D)	Meyer	Ramone
New Hampshire	(R)	Craig	Ayotte
Vermont	(R)	Charlestin	Scott*
Total seats: 3 (D-1; R-2)			

Midwest

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)
Indiana	(R)	McCormick	Braun
Missouri	(R)	Quade	Kehoe
North Dakota	(R)	Piepkorn	Armstrong
Total seats: 3 (D-0; R-3)			

South

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)
North Carolina	(D)	Stein	Robinson
West Virginia	(R)	Williams	Morrissey
(Total seats: 2 (D-1; R-1)			

West

State	Incumbent Party	(D)	(R)
Montana	(R)	Busse	Gianforte*
Utah	(R)	King	Cox*
Washington	(D)	Ferguson	Reichert
Total seats: 3 (D-1; R-2)			

*Incumbent