

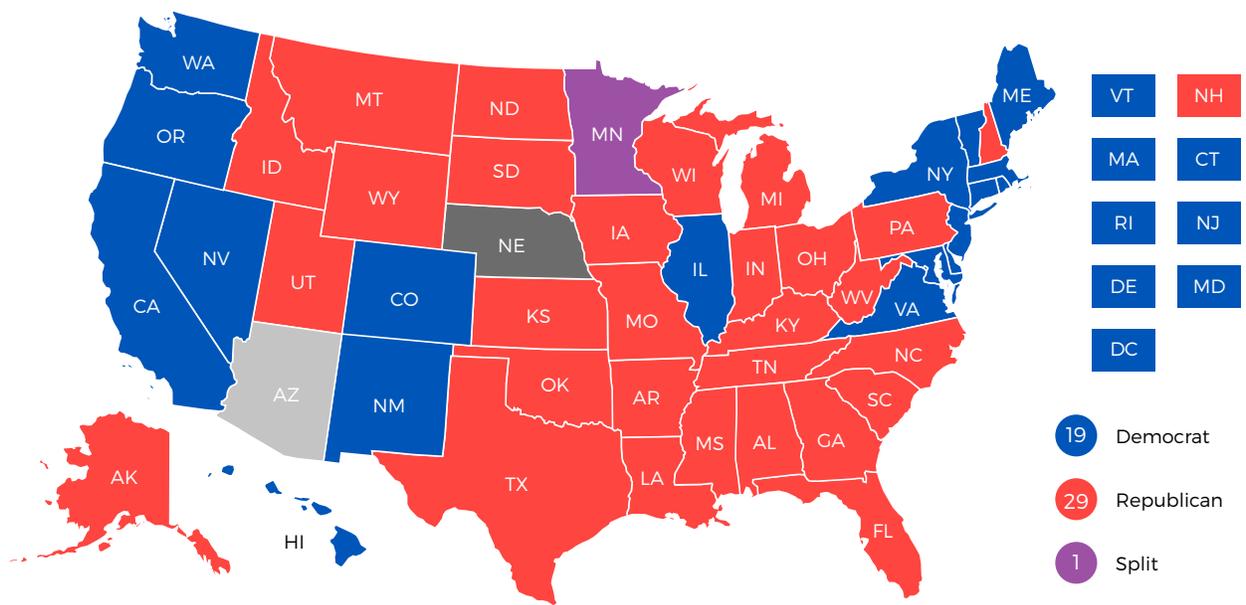
FOCUS

ELECTIONS 2020

LEGISLATIVE

The stakes were high for state legislatures going into election night. With redistricting on the horizon, both parties were looking to flip chambers, create trifectas and break the opposing party's trifectas. According to [The Hill](#), the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee spent over \$50 million on flipping state legislative seats. The Republican State Leadership Conference spent even more. In the end, Republicans look likely to win a trifecta in **Alaska** and **New Hampshire** and to make gains across the country, including in blue states like **Maine**, **Nevada** and **New York**. While Democrats were unable to achieve their lofty goals of winning the **Michigan** House or **Texas** House, they did manage to create a supermajority in both chambers in **Delaware**. Overall, likely only three chambers flipped party hands, the Alaska House and both chambers in New Hampshire. For a year when Democrats were looking to make major gains, the status quo is good for Republicans.

POST-ELECTION LEGISLATIVE PARTY COMPOSITION



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ALASKA

With votes still to be counted, Republicans have won or are leading in nine Senate districts, while Democrats have won or lead in two districts, according to [unofficial results](#) from the Alaska Division of Elections. Republicans are on track to keep control of the Senate.

In the House, Republicans have won or are leading in 29 districts, while Democrats have won or are leading in eight. Independent and nonpartisan candidates have won or are leading in three districts. Six Democratic incumbents are trailing their Republican challengers. There are still many votes to be counted, but these early numbers look promising for Republicans who need 21 seats to control the chamber, reports [Alaska Public Media](#).

ARIZONA

All 30 seats in the Senate and all 60 seats in the House were up. Republicans have been in complete control of the state since 2009, but Democrats are hoping to end that majority, [AZCentral](#) reports. Republicans controlled the Senate 17-13 and the House 31-29. As of November 5, there are still five races that have not been called, with Democrats controlling 13 of the seats and Republicans at 12. It is also still too early to know the fate of the House, with Democrats controlling 23 seats to Republicans' 13 – leaving 24 seats still undecided. Democrats are feeling hopeful about District 28, where the number of registered Democratic voters have increased over the last few years. The incumbent, Sen. Kate Brophy McGee, R-Phoenix, won the seat in 2018 by a few hundred votes. This year's election was a rematch between Senator Brophy McGee and her 2018 opponent Christine Marsh. The race is still too close to call, with Marsh holding 51.4 percent and Brophy McGee at 48.6 percent with 64.9 percent of the district reporting, according to [AZCentral](#). House District 4, where Republicans felt they had a slight change to flip the seat, ended up re-electing House Minority Leader Charlene Fernandez, D-Yuma, with 39.9 percent of the vote.

ARKANSAS

The legislature will go into the 2021 legislative session with a slightly redder tint than in 2020. In the Senate, where 17 seats were up for election, Republicans won 15 while Democrats won only two, according to the [secretary of state](#). Of these 15 victories, Republicans managed to flip two Democratic seats, which will bring their overall control of the chamber to 28-7, expanding on their existing supermajority.

In the House, Republicans also inched forward slightly with their control of the lower chamber, per results from the [secretary of state](#). Republicans were able to flip three Democratic seats in the House, taking a 78-22 lead in the lower chamber and expanding their supermajority.



CALIFORNIA

Secretary of State Alex Padilla has said that full election results could take days or weeks to get a full count. As of Wednesday morning, many races had not yet been decided. All 80 Assembly seats and 20 out of the 40 Senate seats were up for grabs. Of the 80 Assembly seats, currently 61 are Democrat and 17 are Republican.

One of the races that highlights the increasingly Democratic demographics of all parts of California is that of Sen. John Mooralach, R-Costa Mesa, who represents District 37 in Orange County, which has been a Republican stronghold for 26 years. However, Orange County has changed from majority-Republican to newly minority-Republican. Democrat Dave Min currently holds the lead at 52 percent to Mooralach's 48 percent, [The New York Times](#) reports.

In District 29, Sen. Ling Ling Chang, R-Los Angeles, faced off against an old challenger, former state Sen. Josh Newman who won the seat in 2016 but lost it in a recall election in 2018 to Chang. As of Wednesday morning Newman holds 52 percent of the vote to Chang's 48 percent, [The New York Times](#) reports. Also, Sen. Scott Wilk, R-Santa Clarita, one of the last Republican spots in very blue California was facing a tough challenge from Democrat Kipp Mueller. As of Wednesday morning, Wilk holds 50.1 percent of the vote to Mueller's 49.9 percent.

COLORADO

In the House, 33 seats were won by Democrats and 17 were won by Republicans, according to the [secretary of state](#). Certain elections, like in districts 13, 20, 21 and 43 have not yet been decided but are leaning Republican. Competitive races in districts 25, 27, 37 and 38 all have Democrats leading. In the Senate, of the 18 seats up for election 10 have been won by Democrats and two by Republicans. Certain races, like in districts 8 and 25, are currently too close to call. With races still being called, it is expected that Democrats will maintain their trifecta.

CONNECTICUT

In the Senate, Democrats increased their majority to 22-14. In the House, the current breakdown stands at 91 Democrats and 60 Republicans. Many state-level races have not been called as of Wednesday morning.

In District 111, Democrat Aimee Berger-Girvalo is facing off against Republican Bob Herbert, and the results were not yet available as of Wednesday morning. The local Senate seat for that district flipped blue in 2018. The same story is playing out in another seat. Rep. Gail Lavielle, R-Weston, is not seeking another term in increasingly democratic District 143. Democrat Stephanie Thomas, who narrowly lost against Representative Lavielle in 2018, is currently leading with 55 percent to Patrizia Zucaro's 45 percent, according to [The New York Times](#).



DELAWARE

Democrats now enjoy a supermajority in both chambers after flipping two Republican held seats, [Delaware Public Media](#) reports. As predicted, the competition for Senate District 7 between Sen. Anthony Delcollo, R-Elsmere, and Spiros Mantzavinos, D-Hockessin, was close but Mantzavinos won the race by a little over 500 votes. The other Democratic gain occurred in Senate District 5 where Senate Minority Whip Cathy Cloutier, R-Heatherbrooke, was defeated by Democrat Kyle Evans Gay. Also noteworthy is the Senate District 1 victory of Sarah McBride who becomes the nation's first transgender state senator.

In the House, Democrats failed to flip several Republican held seats they were targeting, reports [Delaware Public Media](#). With no net change in their majority Democrats still control the chamber 26-15, according to the [secretary of state](#).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Council held a race for an At-Large position, which was taken by Democrat Robert White. Democrat Brooke Pinto beat out four other challengers and won Ward 2. Ward 4 was won by Democrat Janesse Lewis George over Republican Perry Redd. In Ward 7, Democratic incumbent Vincent Gray won after running unopposed and Ward 8 incumbent Democrat Trayon White won with 78.26 percent of the vote, according to the [Board of Elections](#).

FLORIDA

Republican's held onto their trifecta in the state. They went into the night with a 23-17 majority in the Senate, and as of Wednesday morning, Sen. Jose Javier Rodriguez, D-Miami, held only a very thin lead over his Republican challenger Ileana Garcia, according to [The Tampa Bay Times](#).

Of the four "close" races in House districts 9, 25, 37 and 39, all were won by the Republicans. The District 9 contest was won by former Rep. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, over Democrat Patricia Sigman, according to [The Tampa Bay Times](#). The District 39 contest was won by Ana Maria Rodriguez, R-Miami-Dade, over former Rep. Javier Fernandez, D-South Miami, after both candidates raised millions of dollars in campaign and PAC contributions.

GEORGIA

Georgia will see little partisan change in the legislature this year, according to the [secretary of state](#). In the Senate, Democrats made a minor gain of one seat, leaving overall partisan balance in the chamber at 22 Democrats and 34 Republicans. In the House, Democrats lost a seat, meaning the lower chamber will see a 104-76 Republican balance of power in the coming session.



HAWAII

Thirteen out of the 25 Senate seats and all 51 House seats were up for election. Democrats have held a trifecta since 2011. According to [The New York Times](#), most incumbents won their seats again and Democrats will continue to dominate the legislature.

IDAHO

Republicans will maintain a trifecta in a solid Republican state as expected. Of the 35 seats up for election in the Senate, Republicans were able to secure 27, according to unofficial results from the [Elections Department](#). While some races have still not yet been decided, Republicans will still easily maintain a majority. The story is similar in the House. With all 70 seats up, Republicans were able to secure 57 seats to the Democrats' 12, with one race still uncalled, according to unofficial results.

ILLINOIS

In the Senate, Democrats nearly ran the table, winning 19 of 21 seats up for election and flipping one Republican held seat, pushing their overall supermajority in the upper chamber to 41-18 in the coming legislative session, reports the [secretary of state](#).

In the House, however, Democrats saw their majority slightly slip from 74-44 to 72-46, one vote above the threshold for supermajority status, according to the [secretary of state](#).

INDIANA

As expected, Republicans retained large majorities in both chambers. As of publication, there are numerous undecided races including five Senate districts and approximately a dozen House races, the [Indianapolis Star](#) reports. While final numbers are not available Republicans are certain to retain majorities in both chambers as they have won at least 69 of the decided House seats and 16 of the 23 decided Senate seats so far this cycle, [WTHR](#) reports. One of the closest races is Senate District 30 where incumbent Sen. John Ruckelshaus, R-Indianapolis, trails former city comptroller Fady Qaddoura by two percent. On the House side, Rep. Terry Goodin, D-Crothersville, lost his bid for re-election to Republican Zach Payne.



IOWA

Republicans will hold their trifecta in the state, according to [The New York Times](#). All 100 House seats were up for election and 25 of the 50 Senate seats were up as well. Republicans won 19 of the 25 Senate seats. Democrats won four seats, with two races currently too close to call. In the House, Republicans have secured another majority with 56 out of the 100 seats. Democrats hold 40 seats, with four races currently too close to call.

KANSAS

Republicans will maintain supermajorities in both chambers, according to the secretary of state's [unofficial results](#). Republican will grow their supermajority in the House to 86 seats, up from 84, leaving Democrats with 36 seats. In the Senate, Republicans will hold their supermajority at 29 seats, with Democrats holding 11. With supermajorities in both chambers, Republicans will be able to override any vetoes from Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly, reports the [Topeka Capital-Journal](#).

KENTUCKY

It was a banner night for Republicans who may have picked up as many as 10 seats in the House and could control as many as 70 seats when all of the votes are tallied, the [Lexington Herald-Leader](#) reports. Republicans ousted a number of Democratic incumbents including a district where Rep. Jim Glenn, D-Owensboro, lost his seat once again to former Rep. DJ Johnson. Other seats that Republicans flipped include districts 11, 48, 91, 93, 96 and 100. In the Senate, leadership believes that Republicans will likely occupy 30 seats in the upper chamber, including the Senate District 7 contest to replace Sen. Julian Carroll, D-Frankfort, where Republican Adrienne Southworth defeated Democrat Joe Graviss.

MAINE

Republicans were able to make inroads in the House, while losing ground in the Senate. In the House, Democrats saw their majority shrink from 87-56 to 80-67, with four Independents. Republicans saw a large nine seat gain in the lower chamber. In the Senate, Democrats managed to gain one seat, moving their majority slightly from 20-14 to 22-13, reports the [Bangor Daily News](#).



MASSACHUSETTS

All 40 seats in the Senate and all 160 seats in the House were up for election. Democrats currently control the Senate 36-4 and the House 127-31. Democrats have controlled both chambers of the legislature since 1992. In 2018, 130 seats went unchallenged, according to the [Secretary of the Commonwealth](#). As of November 5, it is still too early to be sure of the final balance of the legislature, but it seems clear that Democrats will continue their control. Incumbent Sen. Susan Moran, D-Plymouth and Barnstable, defeated Republican James McMahon III, securing her a full term in a seat she previously won in a special election in May, reports [WCVB](#).

MICHIGAN

Democrats had high hopes to flip the House for the first time in a decade but appear to have come up short. While returns are still trickling in, Democrats needed to pick up four seats to flip the chamber but appear to have picked up just one seat, despite flipping two districts, including District 38 where Democrat Kelly Breen defeated Republican Chase Turner. Republicans were able to pick up a seat after Timothy Beson defeated Rep. Brian Elder, D-Bay City, by a wide margin. Republicans are also hoping to flip District 48 where David Martin narrowly leads Rep. Cheryl Kennedy, D-Davidson, the [Detroit News](#) reports.

MINNESOTA

All 67 Senate seats and 134 House seats are up for election this year. Currently, the legislature is split – Republicans narrowly control the Senate 35-32 and Democrats control the House 75-59. If Democrats are able to flip three seats, they will have a trifecta in the state. As of November 5, final control of the legislature is still undecided. According to [The New York Times](#), Democrats were able to flip Senate District 44, but the four other hopeful districts are still too close to call. Sen. Justin Eichorn, R-Grand Rapids, was able to hold onto his seat in District 5 where he won in 2016 by just over 500 votes. House District 5A, where incumbent Rep. John Persell, D-Bemidji, is again competing against Republican Matt Bliss who won the seat in 2016, is still too close to call.

MISSOURI

According to the [secretary of state](#), of the 17 Senate seats up for election, Republicans were able to secure 10 seats and will maintain their majority in the chamber. Of the tight Senate races expected in districts 1, 15 and 19, only District 1 was flipped to a Democratic candidate. The House races were less close. Of the 163 House seats up for election, 113 seats were won by Republicans and 46 seats were won by Democrats. Races in districts 21, 34, 99 and 135 have still not been decided. Republicans will maintain a trifecta in the state.



MONTANA

While some results have yet to see their conclusion officially called, both the House and Senate will likely remain under firm Republican control, reports by [The New York Times](#), and with Greg Gianforte winning the governorship, this cements Montana as a new Republican trifecta.

NEBRASKA

Twenty-five of the 49 Senate seats were up for election. While nominally nonpartisan, Republicans technically have control over the state's unicameral body, 30-18 with one Independent. In order to keep their veto-proof majority, Republicans needed to maintain every seat. None of the races have been officially called as of November 5, according to the [secretary of state](#). Senate District 29, a competitive race between Republican Jacob Campbell and Democrat Eliot Bostar, has not been called yet, but Bostar currently has 53 percent of vote to Campbell's 46 percent.

NEVADA

Democrats are trailing in three key Senate contests and, if results hold, will ultimately lose control of the chamber. Among the closest races is District 6 where Senate Majority Leader Nicole Cannizzaro, D-Las Vegas, is trailing Republican April Becker by 550 votes as of Wednesday morning. Republicans also lead in District 5 where Republican Carrie Buck faces Democrat Kristee Watson and District 15 where incumbent Sen. Heidi Gansert, R-Reno, faces Democrat Wendy Jauregui-Jackins. Control of the Assembly is not at stake but Republicans are likely to flip two seats in order to break the Democrats supermajority, the [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) reports. In District 2, Republican Heidi Kasama defeated Democrat Radhika Kunnel. In a District 4 rematch, Rep. Connie Munk, D-Las Vegas, lost to Republican Richard McArthur.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Republicans are set to flip the Senate. Democrats have won 10 Senate districts, while Republicans have won or are leading in 14, according to data from [WMUR](#). Democrats currently control the chamber 14-10. This would return Republicans to the majority after Democrats won it in 2018.

In the House, where all 400 legislative seats are up, Republicans are also on track to win control. Republicans have won or are leading in 211 races, while Democrats have won or are leading in 187. This would also result in shift back from 2018, when Democrats won control.



NEW MEXICO

All 42 Senate seats were up for election, as well as all 70 House seats. Democrats currently have a trifecta in the state. According to [KRQE](#), five moderate Democratic incumbents lost primary challenges to more liberal opponents which may pave the way for some of Democratic Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham's agenda. Democrats are expected to maintain or possibly expand their majority in the Senate. The final control of the legislature is still undecided as of November 5. In Senate District 35, Republican Crystal Diamond beat out Democrat Neomi Martinez Parra for the open seat with 58 percent of the vote. Senate District 30, where Democrat Pamela Cordova is running against Republican Joshua Sanchez, is still uncalled.

NEW YORK

Republicans had a big night in the Empire State – while they were not able to take control of either chamber they were able to deprive Assembly Democrats of their supermajority by flipping 11 seats, pushing control of the chamber to 96 Democrats, 53 Republicans and one Independent, according to the [Board of Elections](#).

Democrats also had a tough night in the Senate, losing four seats, while the GOP gained seven, including from previously vacant seats. Democrats had hoped to take supermajority status during this election, but instead saw their large majority shrink significantly.

NORTH CAROLINA

According to early results from the [Board of Elections](#), Republicans were able to hold onto their majority in the House with 69 Republican victories to the Democrats' 49; a net gain of five seats for Republicans. While the majority was in reach for Democrats, they were unable to secure this victory in the Senate. Republicans maintained control of the Senate, winning 27 seats to the Democrats' 22.

NORTH DAKOTA

The Senate gained two Republicans, after toppling incumbent Democratic Senators John Grabinger and Larry Robinson. The House had 46 of their 94 seats up for grabs, but Democrats gained no ground. Republicans gained a larger lead in the Senate and kept control of all statewide offices, according to the [Associated Press](#). In House District 8, Republican Rep. David Adhal, who died on October 5 from COVID-19, has won the seat, according to the [secretary of state](#). Adhal's death occurred too late for his name to be removed from the state ballot, so Republicans will be able to appoint a replacement.



OHIO

Republicans have expanded their majority in the House with a net gain of two seats. They now have a 70-29 supermajority in the lower chamber. According to [The Columbus Dispatch](#), while Democrats held several suburban seats they end up losing three seats in the northeastern part of the state. Former House Speaker Larry Householder, R-Glenford, easily won re-election with no major party challenge despite being charged as part of a \$61 million bribery scheme. Republicans may also pick up an additional seat in the Senate where they defeated Sen. Sean O'Brien, D-Bazetta, but face a challenge in the Senate District 16 contest where Sen. Stephanie Kunze, R-Hillard, leads Democrat Crystal Lett by just 41 votes.

OREGON

Democrats will continue to enjoy supermajorities in both chambers after losing just one seat in the Assembly and with no change in the Senate, the [Portland Tribune](#) reports. In the House, Republicans lost incumbent Rep. Cherri Helt, R-Bend, who lost to Democrat Jason Kropf. Helt was the only incumbent in the House to lose re-election. Republicans meanwhile flipped the District 9 seat being vacated by Rep. Cady McKeown, D-Coos Bay, and District 32 being vacated by Tiffany Mitchell, D-Astoria. In the Senate, Democrats will likely continue to hold an 18-12 supermajority after there appeared to be no net change of seats. Sen. Denyc Boyles, R-Salem, currently trails Democrat Deb Patterson 50 percent to 47 percent.

PENNSYLVANIA

While final results are not expected until November 6, Democrats have won or are leading in seven Senate races, while Republicans have won or are leading in 18, reports [The New York Times](#). A few uncalled races are close, but they would not be enough for Democrats to win control of the chamber. Republicans will remain the majority in the Senate.

All 203 House seats were up and Democrats have won or are leading in 81, while Republicans have won or are leading in 122. There are still a lot of votes to be counted, but Republicans are likely to hold onto their majority in the House.

RHODE ISLAND

The legislature will largely remain in Democratic hands, according to the [Board of Elections](#). Republicans made minor gains in each chamber, moving from a 66-8 minority in the House to a 65-9 minority. In the Senate, Republicans gained two seats, moving from a 33-5 minority to a 31-7 minority.



SOUTH CAROLINA

Republicans remain in total control of the Palmetto State, but they failed, however, to capture supermajority status in the legislature. In the House, Republicans gained three seats, moving their majority to 81-43, one shy of supermajority status, according to the [Election Commission](#).

In the Senate, Republicans gained two seats, shy of the four seats they needed to gain a supermajority in the upper chamber. Following the election, Republicans will hold a 29-16 majority in the upper chamber.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Republicans are on track to grow their majorities in the House and Senate, according to the secretary of state's [unofficial results](#). Republicans have won or are leading in 33 Senate seats compared to two for Democrats. If this holds, it would be a three-seat pickup for Republicans. In the House, Republicans have won or are leading in 66 races and Democrats have won or are leading in four. This would also mean gains for Republicans, for an increase of three seats.

TENNESSEE

Republicans handily defended their control of the Senate with victories in 14 of the 16 seats up for election. District 22, a district that was expected to be a closer race, resulted in a solid Republican victory by Bill Powers over Democrat Ronnie Glynn, reports the [Leaf Chronicle](#). With Republican victories being reported by the [secretary of state](#) in 68 of the 99 seats up for election, Republicans will maintain their supermajority in the House and trifecta in the state.

TEXAS

After Democrats have fallen short in districts that they expected to flip, it is expected that Republicans will maintain control of the House, according to the [Elections Division](#). In order to gain control of the chamber, Democrats required a net gain of nine seats. Those wins did not appear to materialize after being far behind in key races in Collin, Tarrant and Harris counties, reports [The Dallas Morning News](#). Democrats were still able to defend gains that they had made in Dallas County in 2018 that were considered vulnerable positions. Republicans will maintain their lead in the Senate, with Republicans winning eight of the 15 races reported. One race, District 19, is still too close to report a victor, although it does appear that incumbent Sen. Pete Flores, R-Pleasanton, is behind in the race to Sen. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, reports [The Texas Tribune](#).



UTAH

Republicans are on track to keep control of the Senate, winning or leading in 13 out of the 15 seats that were up for election, according to [Utah Election Preliminary Results](#). Two Democratic incumbents are leading in their races.

In the House, Democrats are on track to win 19 seats, which would represent a three-seat pickup. Republicans would hold a 56-19 majority, down from 59-16.

VERMONT

Democrats are expected to maintain firm control of the House and Senate. Republican Gov. Phil Scott's re-election win will prevent a Democratic trifecta in the state, but Republicans picked off enough seats from Democrats and Progressives, including House Speaker Mitzi Johnson, D-Grand Isle, to end their supermajority, reports the [Secretary of State's](#) office.

VIRGINIA

The House had only seat open in a special election on November 3. According to unofficial results from the [Department of Elections](#), William Wiley, R-Winchester, is leading Irina Khanin, D-Winchester, with 28,186 votes to 15,715 votes. With absentee ballots accepted until November 6, results will not be certified until November 16.

WASHINGTON

Going into the election, Democrats held a trifecta with a 57-41 majority in the House, a 29-20 majority in the Senate and control of the governor's office. According to [The New York Times](#), Democrats will likely maintain control of both chambers and with Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee's re-election to a third term, Washington will remain a Democratic trifecta.

WEST VIRGINIA

Before the election, 58 House seats were held by Republicans while 41 were held by Democrats with one Independent. In the Senate, there were 20 Republicans and 14 Democrats. As reported by [The New York Times](#), Republicans will maintain strong majorities in both chambers and will maintain control the governor's office to hold a Republican trifecta.



WISCONSIN

Before the election, Republicans in the Assembly held a 65-35 majority, with one vacant seat. In the Senate the Republicans have an 18-13 majority, with two vacancies. According to [The New York Times](#), Republicans will likely maintain a narrow edge in both chambers. The state, however, will remain divided as the governorship is controlled by Democrat Tony Evers.

WYOMING

The legislature will remain in Republican hands. Republicans swept the Senate races, winning all 15 seats that were up, according to the secretary of state's [unofficial summary](#). Republican John Kolb defeated Sen. Liisa Anselmi-Dalton, D-Rock Springs, bringing the Republican majority to 28-2.

Republicans also made gains in the House, according to the secretary of state's [unofficial summary](#). Republicans won or are leading in 51 races, with Democrats winning or leading in seven. Independent Rep. Jim-Coscoe won his campaign for re-election and Libertarian Marshall Burt defeated Rep. Stan Blake, D-Green River. Burt is the first Libertarian candidate in the country to win a statehouse seat since 2002, reports the [Casper Star Tribune](#).