

FOCUS

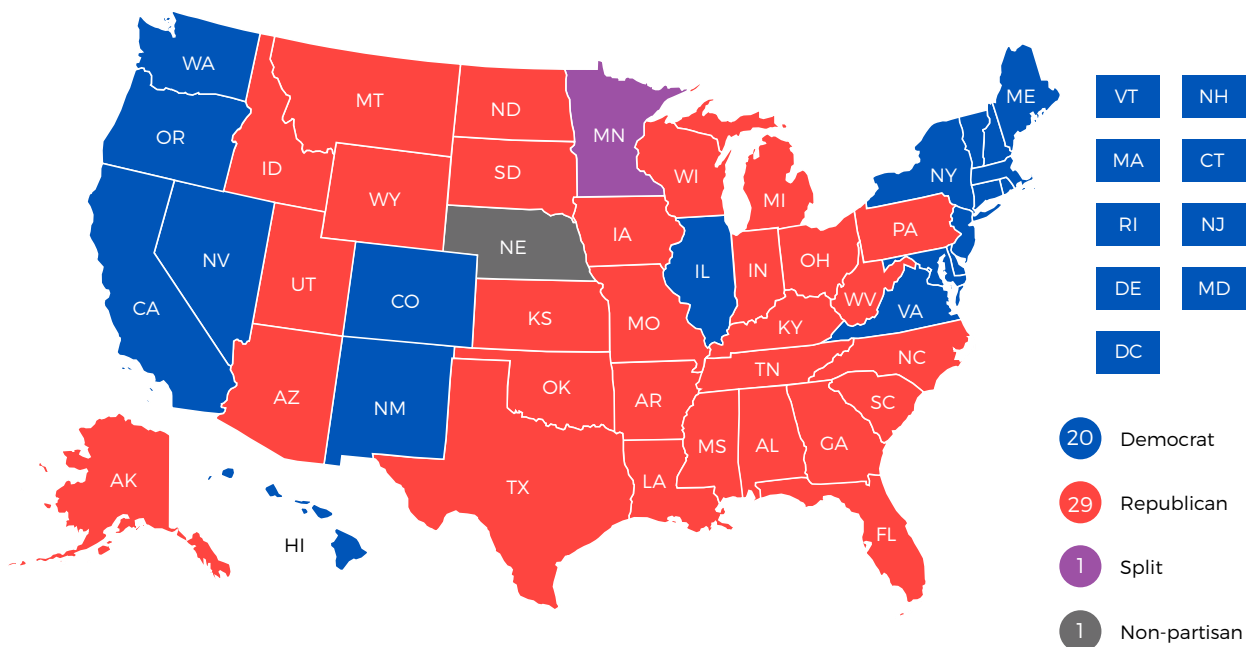
ELECTIONS

2020

LEGISLATIVE

With high interest in races up and down the ballot this cycle Democrats hope to build on gains made in 2018 and make further inroads in state legislatures across the country. Currently Republicans control 29 state legislatures outright, 30 if you count nominally nonpartisan **Nebraska**, compared to 19 for the Democrats with **Minnesota** under divided control, [NCSL](#) reports. Control of state legislatures takes on an added importance this year as redistricting fights and the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic take center stage. According to [The Washington Post](#), Democrats are hoping to flip several chambers including the Minnesota Senate, **North Carolina** House and Senate, **Pennsylvania** House and **Texas** House among others. While Republicans will likely be playing defense this cycle, they are expected to regain control of the **Alaska** House, currently run by a coalition, and are likely to easily hold on to total control of legislatures in key battleground states such as **Florida**, **Ohio** and **Wisconsin**.

PRE-ELECTION LEGISLATIVE PARTY COMPOSITION





ALASKA

All 40 House seats and 11 of the 20 Senate seats are up for election. The legislature is currently under divided control, with Republicans leading the Senate and a coalition of Democrats, Independents and moderate Republicans controlling the House. But with two Republican defections from the House's ruling coalition and two Republican members losing their primaries to more conservative opponents, Republicans are favored to take control of the House, reports the [Anchorage Daily News](#). This would give Republicans a trifecta in state government.

ARIZONA

All 30 seats in the Senate and all 60 seats in the House are up this year. Republicans have been in complete control of the state since 2009, but Democrats are hoping to end that majority, [AZCentral](#) reports. Republicans control the Senate 17-13 and the House 31-29. 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 will be a rematch between Senator Brophy McGee and her 2018 opponent Christine Marsh. Republicans are vying to pick up a seat in House District 4, a mostly reliable Democratic area. John Joel is hoping to unseat either Rep. Geraldine Peten, D-Goodyear, or House Minority Leader Charlene Fernandez, D-Yuma.

ARKANSAS

All 100 seats of the House and 17 of the Senate's 35 seats are up for election, according to the [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#). Currently, Republicans control a 75-23 supermajority in the House, with two vacancies. In the Senate, they control a 26-9 supermajority. The best that Democrats can hope for in this now deep-red state is to strip away at the depth of the current Republican supermajorities, though how successful they will be remains to be seen. During the 2018 legislative elections, which were also seen as a "blue wave" year, Republicans actually increased their majorities in both the House and the Senate by one seat. Arkansas remains a lock for the GOP across the board in 2020.

CALIFORNIA

All 80 Assembly seats and 20 out of the 40 Senate seats are up for grabs. Of the 80 Assembly seats, currently 61 are Democrat and 17 are Republican. Two incumbents were defeated in the March primaries, Rep. Tyler Diep, R-Westminster, and Rep. William Brough, R-Dana Point, [Voice of OC](#) reports. Eight incumbents have decided to retire, leaving open seats.



While Republicans are already a minority in the Senate, they could lose even more seats in 2020. Sen. John Moorlach, R-Costa Mesa, represents District 37 that has been a Republican stronghold for 26 years. However, Orange County has changed from majority-Republican to newly minority-Republican. Moorlach's challenger, Democrat Dave Min, is posing quite a threat, [Cal Matters](#) reports.

In District 29, Sen. Ling Ling Chang, R-Los Angeles, is facing 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. Sen. Scott Wilk, R-Santa Clarita, one of the last Republican spots in very blue California is facing a tough challenge from Democrat Kipp Mueller. District 21 is rapidly changing and in a rise of anti-Trump sentiment Wilk may lose the seat that he won by six points in 2016.

COLORADO

In the House, currently made up of 41 Democrats and 24 Republicans, all 65 seats are up for election, according to the [Colorado Secretary of State](#), but 13 of these seat openings are due to either term limits or because House members have decided to run for Senate positions instead. Five House districts that are considered the most competitive are districts 25, 27, 37, 38 and 47, reports [Colorado Politics](#). It is expected that Democrats will maintain control of the House.

In the Senate, 18 of the 35 seats are up for election. Currently Democrats hold a 19 to 16 advantage. Republicans would need to win three of the battleground seats as well as one non-battleground seat to take control of the Senate.

CONNECTICUT

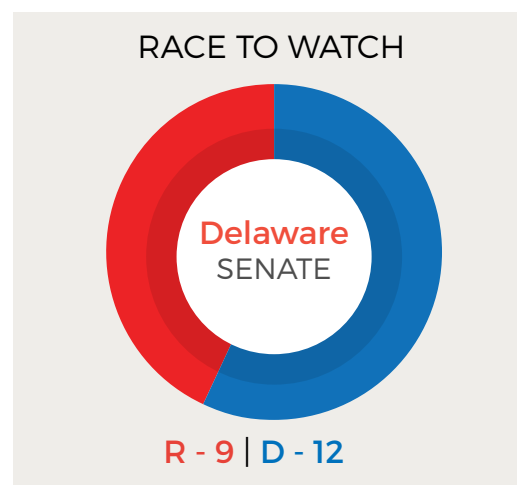
All 36 Senate seats and all 151 House seats are up. In the Senate, Democrats have a 22 to 14 majority. In the House, the current breakdown stands at 91 Democrats and 60 Republicans. Sixteen House incumbents are retiring, leaving completely open seats. It is unlikely that Democrats will lose their majority. Given the positive public support Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont earned in his handling of COVID-19 in the state, it does not seem like Republicans are likely to pick up many seats, [CT News Junkie](#) reports.

The District 111 seat held by Rep. John Frey, R-Ridgefield, is now up for grabs as Ridgefield is not seeking another term. In a district that has gone further left in the last few cycles, Democrat Aimee Berger-Girvalo is facing off against Republican Bob Herbert. 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 facing off against a new Republican challenger, Patrizia Zucaro. The general belief is that the state Republican party has far fewer opportunities to pick up seats in 2020 than they have in previous years.



DELAWARE

The Senate has emerged as a contest to watch this election cycle with 11 of the chamber's 21 seats up for election. Currently Democrats hold a 12-9 majority in the chamber meaning Republicans only need to flip two seats in order to take control and break a Democratic trifecta. During the primaries, held on September 15, Senate President Pro Temp David McBride, D-Wilmington, was defeated by social worker Marie Pinkney in District 13, [The Associated Press](#) reports. According to [Delaware Public Media](#), another closely watched race is the District 7 contest between Sen. Anthony Delcollo, R-Elsmere, and Spiros Mantzavinos, D-Hockessin. Republicans narrowly won the seat in 2016 when Senator Delcollo defeated former Senate President Patricia Blevins by just 282 votes.



On the House side, Democrats currently hold a 26-15 majority in the chamber with all 41 seats up for election. Democrats are likely to maintain a strong majority in the House but according to [Delaware Public Media](#) one of the races to watch is in District 9 where Rep. Kevin Hensley, R-Townsend, faces a challenge from Democrat Debbie Harrington, a retired army veteran, who has the backing of Democratic Gov. John Carney.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Council has races for an at-large position, as well as in wards 2, 4, 7 and 8. There are 25 candidates for the at-large seat and five are vying for Ward 2. Ward 4 is between Democrat Janesse Lewis George and Republican Perry Redd. In Ward 7 Democratic incumbent Vincent Gray is running unopposed and for Ward 8 the incumbent Democrat Trayon White is coming up against three challengers.

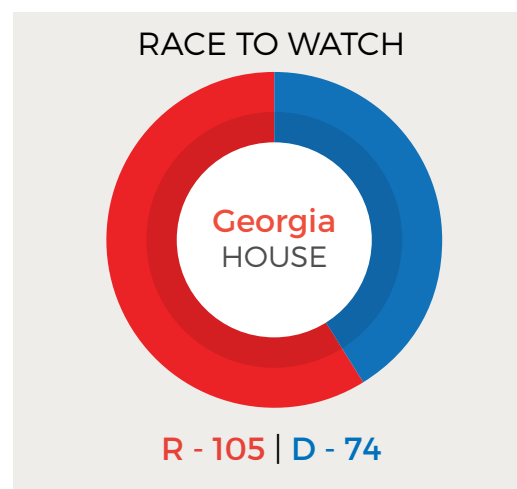
FLORIDA

Republicans hold a trifecta in the state. Half of the 40 seats in the Senate, the odd-numbered districts, are up for re-election and Republicans currently hold 23 of the seats. Democrats would need to gain four seats to take control of the chamber. According to the [Florida Times-Union](#), four races are being considered “close” races, including districts 9, 25, 37 and 39. Only one is currently held by a Democrat. The District 9 contest, one of the most expensive in state history, features former Rep. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, and Democrat Patricia Sigman, a labor and employment lawyer, [WKMG](#) reports. According to the [Miami Herald](#), another close race is the District 39 contest where Rep. Ana Maria Rodriguez, R-Doral, faces former Rep. Javier Fernandez, D-South Miami, with both candidates raising millions of dollars in campaign and PAC contributions.



GEORGIA

All 56 seats in the Senate are up for grabs this year, as well as all 180 seats in the House. In both chambers, Democrats see a chance to break the unified hold Republicans have held on state government since 2005. In the House, where Republicans currently hold a 105-74 advantage, Democrats need to gain 16 seats to gain control of the lower chamber, on top of defending the 11 seats they picked up in 2018, according to the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#). In the Senate, Democrats need to win eight seats in order to take control of the upper chamber. With Georgia trending blue in the last several election cycles, these chambers are two to watch in 2020.



HAWAII

Thirteen out of the 25 Senate seats and all 51 House seats are up for election. Democrats have held a trifecta since 2011. According to the [Honolulu Civil Beat](#), most incumbents should easily be re-elected and Democrats should continue to dominate the legislature.

IDAHO

All 35 seats in the Senate are up. Currently, the Senate is made up of 28 Republicans and seven Democrats. All 70 seats are up in the House, which is made up of 56 Republicans and 14 Democrats. With the last 25 years of state government being Republican trifectas, Idaho is considered a solid Republican state.

ILLINOIS

In the Senate, 20 of 59 seats are up for election. Democrats currently hold a 40-19 supermajority in the chamber; only three-fifths is required for a supermajority in Illinois. Eight of these seats have Democratic incumbents running unopposed, with an additional seven having Democratic incumbents running against Republican challengers. Republicans are running unopposed in two seats, districts 37 and 58, both currently held by retiring Republicans, reports the [Chicago Sun-Times](#). While the GOP would only need to capture five seats to end the Democratic supermajority in the upper chamber, the current slate of challenges makes that look quite unlikely, meaning that Democrats will likely retain their supermajority in the Senate.



All 118 House seats are up for election. Democrats currently control the chamber 74-44, maintaining a narrow four seat supermajority. With Republicans within sniffing distance of breaking the Democratic stranglehold on power in the state, Democrats are, however, running effectively unopposed in 51 seats, putting significant constraints on the ability of the Republican party to pick up seats. Taking away the supermajority in the House would be a major gain for the GOP in one of the deepest blue states out there, making this chamber one to watch in 2020.

INDIANA

Republicans currently hold supermajorities in both chambers with a 67-33 seat advantage in the House and a 40-10 advantage in the Senate, according to [NCSL](#). All 100 House seats are up this cycle and Republicans are expected to retain a large majority in the chamber with few close races; however, competitive races for congress and Republican President Donald Trump's declining popularity may boost Democratic hopes in certain districts, the [Indianapolis Business Journal](#) reports. Republicans hope to pick up House District 7 which has been in Democratic hands for over 40 years. Democrats held the seat by a mere 700 votes in 2018 after which Rep. Joe Taylor, D-South Bend, then resigned to accept a position with the United Auto Workers union. Now incumbent Rep. Ross Deal, D-Mishawaka, faces South Bend common council member Jake Teshka, the [South Bend Tribune](#) reports. In House District 5, Rep. Dale DeVon, R-Granger, faces a rematch from cardiologist Don Westerhausen who came within 466 votes of taking the seat in 2018, the [South Bend Tribune](#) reports. Republicans are likewise expected to retain a large majority in the Senate, but Democrats are hopeful to pick up seats, including Senate District 30 where incumbent Sen. John Ruckelshaus, R-Indianapolis, is facing former city comptroller Fady Qaddoura in a district that voted against Donald Trump and Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb in the previous election.

IOWA

Republicans currently hold a trifecta in the state. All 100 House seats are up for election and 25 of the 50 Senate seats are up as well. Republicans maintain a narrow House majority of 53-47 while also maintaining a strong Senate majority of 32-18. Democrats are in position to take control of the House and make Iowa a divided government in 2020. According to the [Globe Gazette](#), national interest in Democratic efforts to take the House have drawn widespread attention. The article states that the House is one of the chambers most likely to flip in the 2020 general election.



KANSAS

Republicans maintain strong control over both chambers of the legislature even with the governorship in Democratic hands. All 125 seats in the House and 40 seats in the Senate are up for election. Currently, Republicans maintain a House majority of 84-41 and a Senate majority of 29-11. According to the [Topeka Capital-Journal](#), while the House maintains a Republican supermajority that can override Governor Laura Kelly's vetoes, the chamber is only one Democratic vote away from losing that majority. This would force the majority party to work with Democratic lawmakers not only on legislative issues but on the upcoming Congressional re-districting process. So, while Republicans still maintain strong control over both chambers, even a small change in the control of the House could have significant implications.

KENTUCKY

Republicans currently hold a 61-39 supermajority in the House heading into the election. While Democrats are unlikely to flip the chamber, they are hopeful that they can pick up the two seats required to break the Republican supermajority. According to the [Lexington Herald-Leader](#), races to watch include a District 33 contest between Rep. Jason Nemes, R-Anchorage, and Democrat Margaret Plattner, a retired Navy sailor and the former Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. President Donald Trump took the district by eight points in 2016 but Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear won the district by 14 points last year. Democrats are also hoping to pick up District 29 where teacher Suzanne Kugler is facing Rep. Kevin Bratcher, R-Louisville, with that district again splitting the ticket between Trump and Beshear in separate elections. District 13 will feature a rematch of an extremely close 2018 contest that saw Rep. Jim Glenn, D-Owensboro, regain his seat from former Rep. DJ Johnson, R-Owensboro, by just one vote.

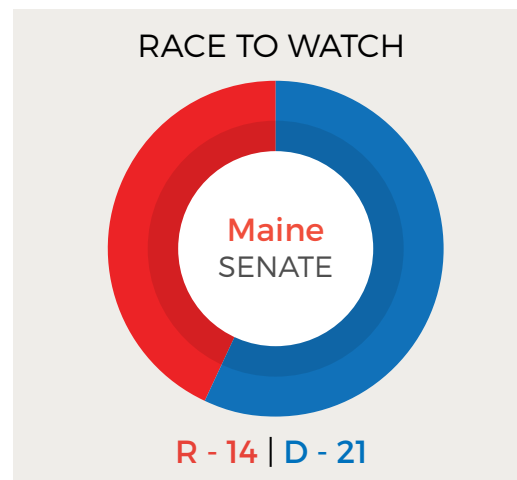
In the Senate, Republicans currently enjoy a 28-10 supermajority with 19 seats up for election this cycle. According to the [Lexington Herald-Leader](#), Republicans are guaranteed to keep control of the chamber as Democrats are not contesting all 19 seats. Noteworthy races include a District 21 contest to succeed Sen. Albert Robinson, R-London, who lost the Republican primary to attorney Brandon Jackson Storm who will now face electrician Walter Trebolo, III. In District 31, Democrats are hoping to win back a seat they held for 50 years by unseating Sen. Phillip Wheeler, R-Pikeville, who won a 2019 special election by just over 500 votes. Wheeler faces attorney Glenn Martin Hammond of Pikeville.



MAINE

All 151 seats in the House are up for election, alongside all 35 seats in the Senate. Democrats currently control both chambers, with a 21-14 majority in the Senate and an 87-56 majority in the House, with six Independent representatives and two vacant seats.

After winning control of the Senate in 2018, Democrats are looking to hold their new prize and make gains to ensure the safety of the legislature's upper chamber. In order to flip control, Republicans would need to win back five seats this election. On the other hand, if Democrats can flip four seats, they will gain supermajority status. With seven retiring senators, and as many battleground races where results are expected to be close, the Senate is one of the most highly watched chambers this legislative cycle.



The race for the House will not be nearly as competitive, as Democrats have held control of the House since 2012, and currently hold a comfortable majority. Additionally, at least 24 Democrats are running unopposed, according to the [Portland Press Herald](#). Republicans, in contrast, are only running unopposed in 10 races. Democrats would need to flip 13 seats to gain supermajority status, which seems as unlikely as Republicans flipping 16 seats to gain control of the chamber.

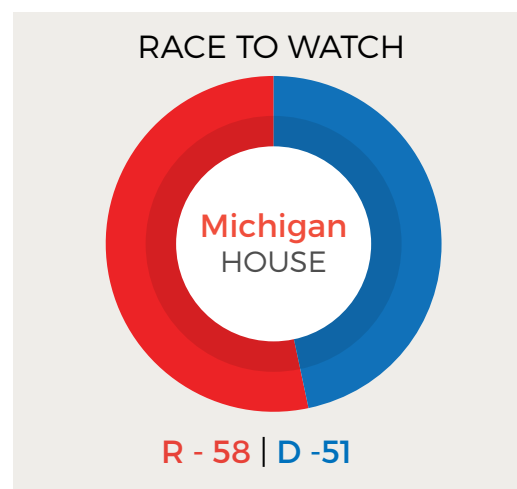
MASSACHUSETTS

All 40 seats in the Senate and all 160 seats in the House are 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](#). Incumbent Sen. Susan Moran, D-Plymouth and Barnstable, and Republican James McMahon, III will be competing again for her seat. Senator Moran defeated McMahon in a special election in May; now they're vying for a full term, reports [Barnstable Patriot](#).



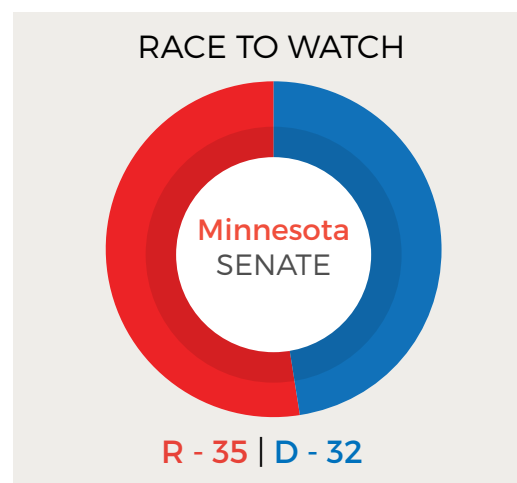
MICHIGAN

All 110 seats in the House are up in what is likely to be one of the most closely watched nationwide elections. Democrats are hoping to pick up five seats to flip the chamber, which is currently controlled by a 58-51 Republican majority. According to the [Detroit Patch](#), while Democrats technically need just four seats to take the chamber they are aiming for five as Rep. Karen Whitsett, D-Detroit, has sided with House Republicans on a number of key issues. One of the key races is District 45, being vacated by term-limited Rep. Michael Webber, R-Rochester Hills, where Republican city councilor Mark Tisdel faces Democratic school board member Barbara Anness. Tisdel has been endorsed by Oakland County Sherriff Mike Bouchard and U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop while Anness has the backing of Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden and his running mate California Sen. Kamala Harris. Democrats are also hoping to pick up seats in districts 38, 39 and 43 among others. Republicans meanwhile are hoping to pick up seats in several districts including District 25 and District 96 where they hope President Donald Trump's popularity will boost down ballot candidates. No seats in the Senate are up this cycle.



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. According to [Minn Post](#), there are six Senate districts that Democrats are hopeful they can flip – districts 5, 14, 26, 34, 44 and 56. District 5 went to Sen. Justin Eichorn, R-Grand Rapids, in 2016 by just over 500 votes. Senator Eichorn's opponent is the well-liked mayor of Bemidji, Rita Albrecht. House District 5A could prove to be an interesting race with incumbent Rep. John Persell, D-Bemidji, again competing against Republican Matt Bliss who won the seat in 2016. Bliss went on to lose the seat to Representative Persell in 2018 by 11 votes.





MISSOURI

Half of the 34 Senate seats are up for election, according to the [Secretary of State](#). Of the 17 seats, six are sought after by incumbents. The Senate currently has 23 Republicans, eight Democrats and three vacancies. It is expected that the Senate will maintain a Republican majority even with three close Senate races looming in districts 1, 15 and 19, reports [The Missouri Times](#). All 163 House seats are up; the current makeup of the House is 113 Republicans, 48 Democrats and two vacancies. Both the House and Senate have been Republican controlled for the last 17 years and this solid red state is expected to maintain those Republican majorities.

MONTANA

Both the House and Senate are under firm Republican control. Democratic Gov. Steve Bullock though prevents the state from being a trifecta. However, with Governor Bullock stepping down due to term limits, there is an opportunity for a Republican trifecta to come to fruition. Senate Republicans control 30 of the 50 total Senate seats while they also control 57 of the 100 House seats. [FiveThirtyEight](#) lists Montana as a strong contender for a Republican trifecta if Republicans take the governorship.

NEBRASKA

Twenty-five of the 49 Senate seats are 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 will need to maintain every seat. Senate District 29 is proving to be a competitive race between Republican Jacob Campbell and Democrat Eliot Bostar – the seat is currently held by term limited Sen. Kate Bolz, D-South Lincoln. According to [Lincoln Journal Star](#), there are 11,078 registered Republicans, 10,159 Democrats and 6,041 nonpartisans in the district, making the voter turnout the main priority of the campaigns.

NEVADA

Democrats are expected to maintain control of both chambers of the legislature this year and hope to expand their majorities. In 2018, Democrats fell one vote short of a supermajority in the Senate which is required to raise taxes under the state constitution. According to the [Nevada Appeal](#), Democrats are targeting the District 15 seat held by Sen. Heidi Gansert, R-Reno, who faces county appraiser Wendy Jauregui-Jackins in a district where Democrats recently became the largest voting bloc. Republicans are targeting the open District 5 seat being vacated by the term limited Sen. Joyce Woodhouse, D-Henderson,



where Republican Carrie Buck, a charter school executive, who narrowly lost to Woodhouse in 2016 is seeking the seat again. Republicans are also trying once again to unseat Senate Majority Leader Nicole Cannizzaro, D-Las Vegas, who narrowly won her seat in 2016 and survived a recall attempt. Cannizzaro is facing Republican April Becker in a race where both candidates have raised well over \$300,000.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

All 424 legislative seats are up for election in 2020. The Democrats currently control both chambers. Republicans would need to win 44 seats in the House but only three seats in the Senate to win control, according to [FiveThirtyEight](#). While probably a stretch for Republicans, the House is known for drastic changes in party control depending on the mood of the electorate. If Republicans hope to take back the Senate then they must flip the District 24 seat held by incumbent Sen. Tom Sherman, D-Rye, who faces businessman Lou Gargiulo who has the endorsement of Republican Gov. Chris Sununu, [Seacoast Online](#) reports.

NEW MEXICO

All 42 Senate seats are 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. Close races include Senate District 35 where Democrat Neomi Martinez Parra faces Republican Crystal Diamond for the open seat. Another hotly contested race is the open seat in Senate District 30 where Democrat Pamela Cordova is running against Republican Joshua Sanchez.

NEW YORK

Everything is up for grabs in the Empire State this year – all 63 seats in the Senate, alongside all 150 seats in the Assembly. This is likely the state to watch, as a shift further left in the state would have major political implications going forward.

In the Assembly, Democrats currently control a narrow supermajority, with 103 seats to the GOP's 42, with one Independent representative and four vacant seats. If Republicans can flip five Assembly seats, they will rob Democrats of their supermajority in the chamber. On the other hand, Democrats see an opportunity to further expand their already huge majority.



In the Senate, Democrats are looking to expand on their gains from 2018, when they took control of the upper chamber from Republicans for the first time since 2010. Not only did they take control of the chamber they took it by a 40-20 margin, just shy of a supermajority, with three seats vacant. In 2020, Democrats are looking to take supermajority control of the chamber, and only need to flip two seats to do so, reports [City & State New York](#). Doing so would give Democrats the power to override any of the governor's vetoes, and would also give them total control of redistricting, which requires a two-thirds majority in the state.

NORTH CAROLINA

All 120 House seats are up for election in 2020. Currently, the House is composed of 55 Democrats, 64 Republicans and one vacancy. All 50 seats in the Senate are up for election as well, with 21 Democrats and 28 Republicans currently in office with one vacancy. While the majority is within reach for Democrats, it is expected that Republicans will continue to hold both chambers, reports [The 74](#).

NORTH DAKOTA

The Senate has 23 of the chamber's 47 seats up this year. Currently it is controlled by Republicans, who hold 37 seats. The House has 46 of their 94 seats up for grabs. Republicans currently hold 79 of those seats. Party control of the House and Senate are not expected to change greatly, [KFYR](#) reports. The Republican candidate for District 8, David Adhal, died on October 5 from COVID-19, [The Bismarck Tribune](#) reports. Adhal's death occurred too late for his name to be removed from the state ballot, so in the event that he should win, Republicans would be able to appoint someone to that district.

OHIO

Republicans currently hold a 68-31 supermajority in the House with all 99 seats up for election this cycle. Democrats are aiming to pick up a handful of seats in the House and Senate hoping energy at the top of the ticket translates to success down the ballot but they are unlikely to win control of either chamber, [WYSO](#) reports. In District 16, Rep. Dave Greenspan, R-Westlake, is in a close race against Democrat Monique Smith. In mailers Smith has tried to tie Greenspan to a nuclear bailout scandal involving former House Speaker Larry Householder, R-Glenford, which has been a common attack from many Democratic candidates this season, the [Statehouse News Bureau](#) reports. Householder who was stripped of the Speaker position after being charged in a \$61 million bribery scheme is likely to retain his House seat as his district is reliably Republican. In 2018, Democrats flipped six House seats which Republicans are now aiming to take back this cycle, including District 19 where Rep. Mary Lightbody, D-Websterville, is facing Republican Meredith Freedhoff.



In the Senate 16 seats are up and four of the five open seats feature current House members looking to move to the upper chamber. Republicans currently hold a 24-9 majority in the upper chamber and are likely to retain majority status.

OKLAHOMA

All 126 seats are up but only 51 are contested races. Republicans currently hold the Senate 38-9 and the House 77-23. The Republicans are guaranteed control of the House because 56 Republican incumbents, enough to establish a majority, are running unopposed. Few Senate races are expected to be competitive, although Democrats are looking to pick up a seat or two in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa areas, reports the [Oklahoma Policy Institute](#).

OREGON

Democrats enjoy supermajorities in both chambers. In the House, where all 60 seats are up for election, Democrats currently control 38 seats compared to just 22 for Republicans. Democrats would need to pick up just two seats to meet the threshold that allows Democrats to conduct business when Republicans are not present, ending the effectiveness of walkouts that have occurred in recent years. Both parties are optimistic about the prospect of picking up additional seats with Republicans setting their sights high in open coastal districts being vacated by Democratic incumbents including District 9 where Republican Gerald Wright, a retired teacher, faces Democrat Cal Mukumoto, the former chair of the state's parks and recreation commission and in District 32 where local business owner Democrat Debbie Boothe-Schmidt faces Republican Suzanne Weber, who serves as the Mayor of Tillamook. Democrats are optimistic about the prospect of finally flipping District 54, currently represented by Rep. Cheri Helt, R-Bend, which overwhelmingly voted for Hillary Clinton in 2016. On the Senate side Democrats similarly need to pick up two seats in order to end the walkouts as they currently hold an 18-12 advantage. Democrats hope to flip Senate District 27 currently held by Sen. Tim Kopp, R-Bend, who faces Eileen Kelly, a Navy veteran. One of the highest profile races is Senate District 10 where Sen. Denyc Boyles, R-Salem, faces Congregational minister Deb Patterson. According to [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#), both candidates have raised upwards of \$800,000 each making it the state's most expensive legislative contest.

PENNSYLVANIA

All 203 House seats and 25 of the Senate's 50 seats are up for election. Republicans currently have a 110-93 Republican majority in the House and control the Senate where they have a 28-21 majority, with one Independent who caucuses with the GOP, reports [The Morning Call](#). Despite these slim margins, winning control of even one chamber may be out of reach for Democrats. [WHYY](#) reports that Democrats would have to win several



tough races while holding onto vulnerable seats in order to reach a majority. Democrats won 11 House seats and five Senate seats in 2016, picking up most of the low-hanging fruit districts. A landslide victory in the state at the presidential level could pull control of the statehouse with it, but a closer election could leave a majority up in the air.

RHODE ISLAND

All 75 seats in the House and 38 seats in the Senate are up. The Democratic party currently has overwhelming control of both chambers, holding a 66-8 advantage in the House, with one Independent, and a 33-5 advantage in the Senate. Republicans have little chance of breaking the supermajority in either chamber. With over half of the races being unopposed this year, according to [WPRI](#), there is likely to be little change in the balance of power.

SOUTH CAROLINA

All 86 House seats and 46 Senate seats are up for election. In the Senate, Republicans have a 27-19 advantage, alongside a 78-45 advantage in the House, with one seat vacant.

In order to capture a supermajority in the House, Republicans would need to flip an additional four seats, which may be a tall order given the expectation of a “blue wave” election this year. Similarly, Republicans would need to capture four seats in the Senate to gain supermajority status as well. According to [The Post and Courier](#), both parties are hoping to make inroads in the state capitol this year, though a major shift in power is unlikely.

SOUTH DAKOTA

All 70 House seats and 35 Senate seats are up for election. According to [KELO](#), Republicans currently enjoy supermajorities in both chambers leading 59-11 in the House and 30-5 in Senate. Republicans are confident in their ability to retain two-thirds majorities in both chambers and have already begun jostling for leadership positions. Senate Republican Leader Kris Langer, R-Del Rapids, withdrew her candidacy, leaving the position open for the upcoming session. Sen. Gary Cammack, R-Union Center, and Sen. John Wiik, R-Bigstone City, are likely candidates for the position. Current President Pro Tem Brock Greenfield, R-Clark, may be facing a challenge from Sen. Lee Schoenbeck, R-Watertown.

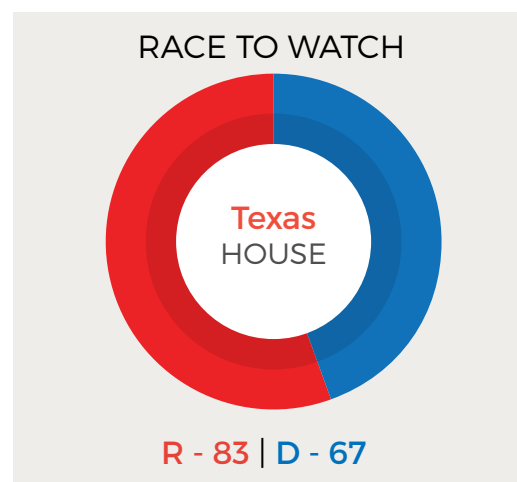
TENNESSEE

In the Senate, 16 of the 33 seats are up this year. Republicans currently hold a 28-5 majority. Senate districts 10 and 20, which encompass the cities of both Chattanooga and Nashville, are noted as being especially costly, reports the [Chattanooga Times Free Press](#). All 99 seats in the House are up. Republicans currently hold a 73-26 supermajority.



TEXAS

All 150 seats in the House are up for election; Republicans currently hold an 83-67 majority. Although Republicans have controlled the House since 2003, Democrats hope to use an anti-Trump surge to flip the House this year, [The New York Times](#) reports. For redistricting in particular, the race for control of the House will be especially important as the majority party in 2021 will have the opportunity to draw U.S. House districts, reports [The Hill](#), which could have implications for control in future elections. If the House remains red, it is expected that Republicans will keep a trifecta. In the Senate, 16 of the chamber's 31 total seats are up for election. According to [Politico](#), it is expected that the Senate will remain red.



UTAH

All 75 House seats and 15 out of 29 Senate seats are up. Republicans currently control both chambers, with a 23-6 majority in the Senate and a 59-16 majority in the House. [The Cook Political Report](#) rates both chambers as solid Republican.

VERMONT

According to [VTDigger](#), Democrats are expected to hold onto both chambers securely this cycle. In the House, Democrats currently hold a 94-44 seat majority, with 12 Independents. The Senate make up is 22 Democrats, six Republicans and two Independents. Republican Gov. Phil Scott prevents a Democratic trifecta in the state, which Democrats are looking to change in the 2020 gubernatorial elections.

WASHINGTON

Democrats currently have 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 [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#), several House and Senate races should be watched closely. Senate districts 10, 16 and 28 and House and Senate District 19 and more are all witnessing a massive influx of campaign dollars in support of both Republican and Democratic candidates. Legislative candidates have spent a total of \$22 million on their races, not including outside support. This is compared to \$18 million spent by statewide candidates.



WEST VIRGINIA

In the House, 58 seats are held by Republicans, while 41 are held by Democrats and one Independent. In the Senate, there are 20 Republicans and 14 Democrats. According to [The Weirton Daily Times](#), campaign funds are flowing into Senate races in a bid to flip the chamber to Democratic control. This push to regain the majority would not only bring an end to the state's Republican trifecta but bring Democrats back to state legislating. Supporting political groups on both sides of the aisle are pouring campaign funds to support and prevent this Democratic takeover in the Senate.

WISCONSIN

In the House, Republicans hold a 65-35 majority, with one vacant seat. In the Senate the Republicans have an 18-13 majority, with two vacancies. The government, however, is divided with Republican control of the legislature and the governorship held by Democrat Tony Evers. According to [Wisconsin Public Radio](#), three key Senate races and three seats in the House could determine whether the Republicans secure a veto-proof majority against Governor Evers. Senate and House elections in several districts all hold importance for control of the legislature this upcoming election, especially with the prospect of a Republican supermajority.

WYOMING

All 60 House seats and 15 out of 30 Senate seats are up for election. Republicans have a strong grip on the legislature, with a 27-3 majority in the Senate and a 50-9 majority, with one Independent, in the House. [The Cook Political Report](#) rates both the House and Senate as solid Republican. According to the [Casper Star-Tribune](#), this election could represent a watershed moment for the state's Libertarian party which aims to capitalize on infighting within the Republican party.