







### Joe Stewart

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@joeytwogloves





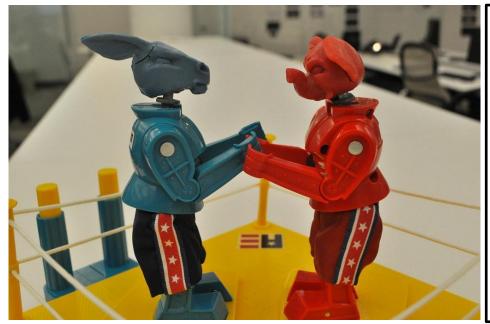
North Carolina continues to grow.

West v. East political divide replaced by Urban v. Rural with Suburbs the battleground.

North Carolina continues to diversify.

Our Esse is not TO BE best in 'Sleepy South,' but rather TO BE a globally competitive part of the world.





Partisan identities and ideological definitions change.

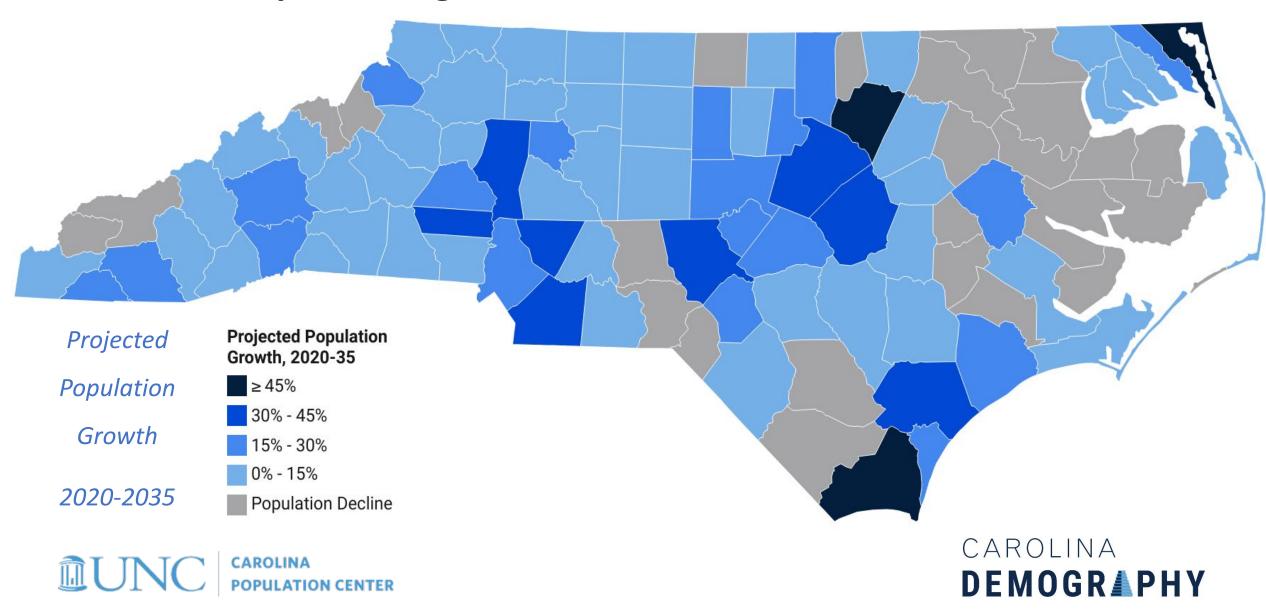
Younger generation North
Carolina voters think
about public policy issues
differently, and consume
political content in very
different ways.



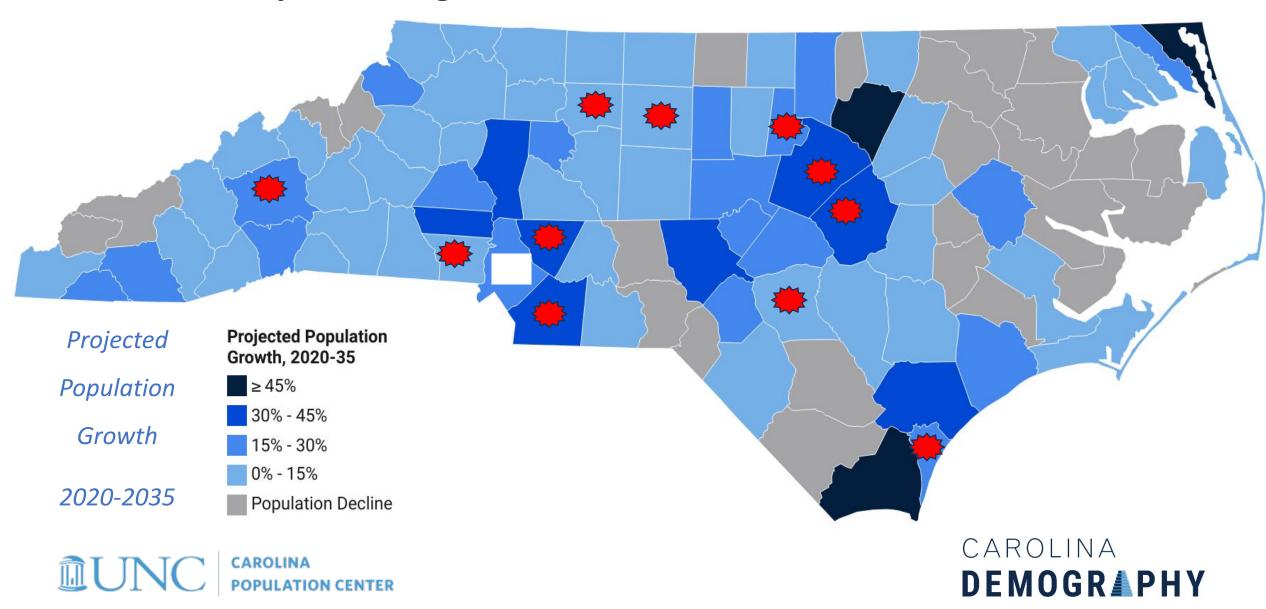
Continued technology-driven change.

George Jetson turns 3 years old in 2025.

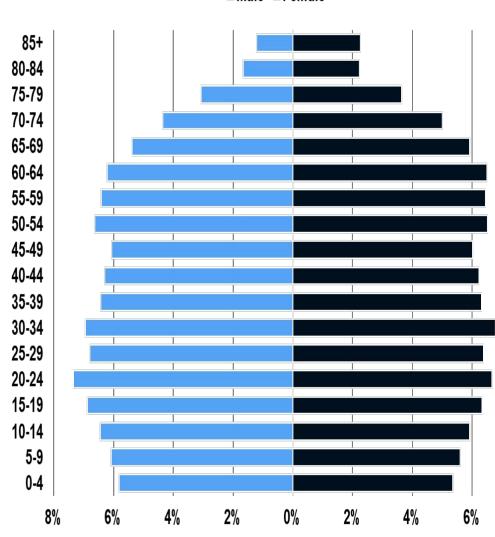
#### Population growth will continue to be uneven



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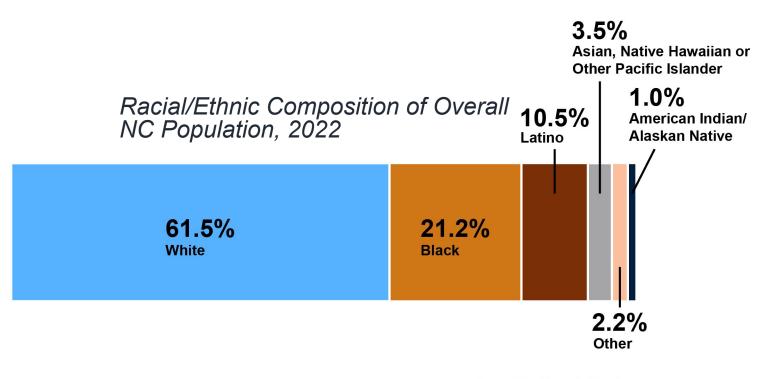


# Population age structure by sex, 2022 • Male • Female



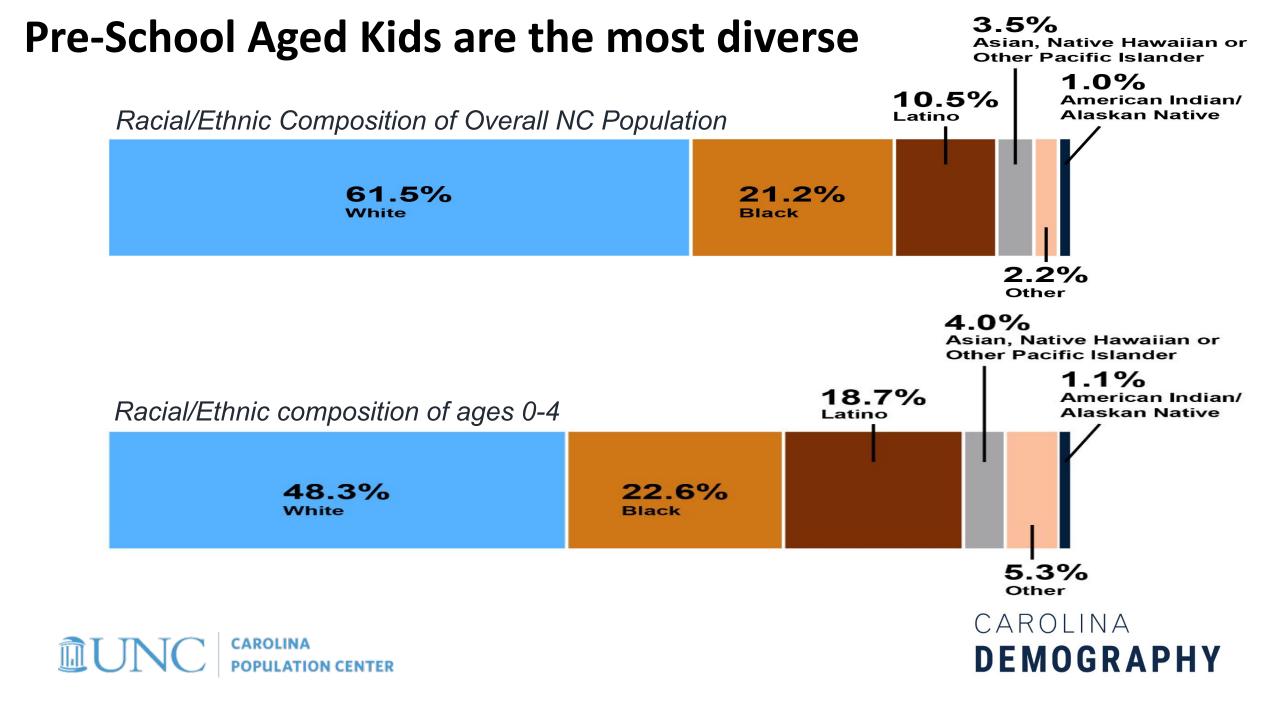
Median Age 39.3

## We are getting older and more diverse

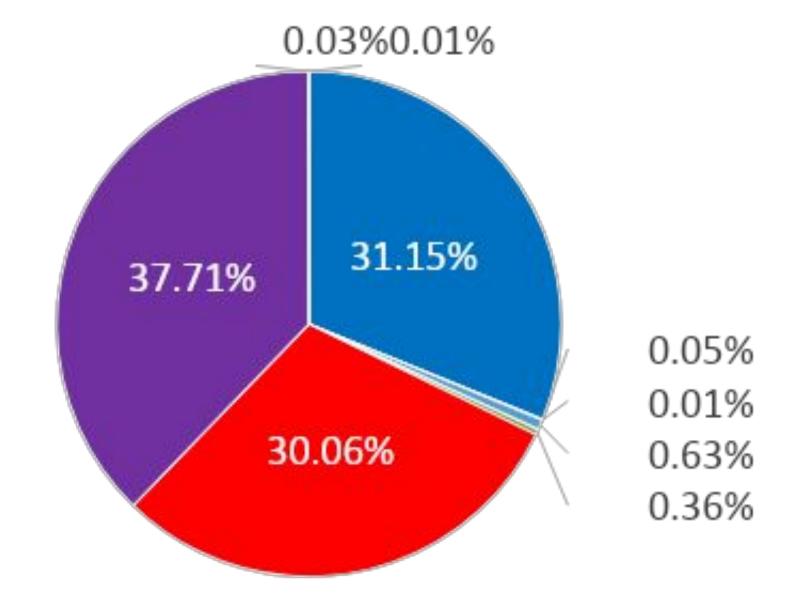




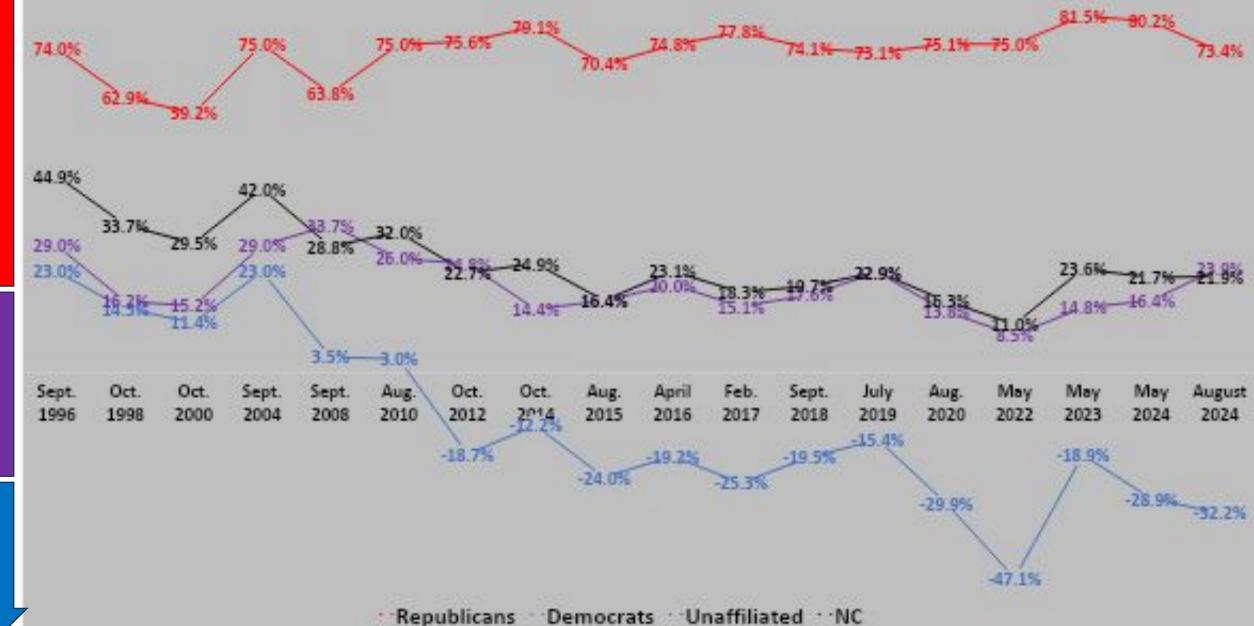
CAROLINA **DEMOGRAPHY** 



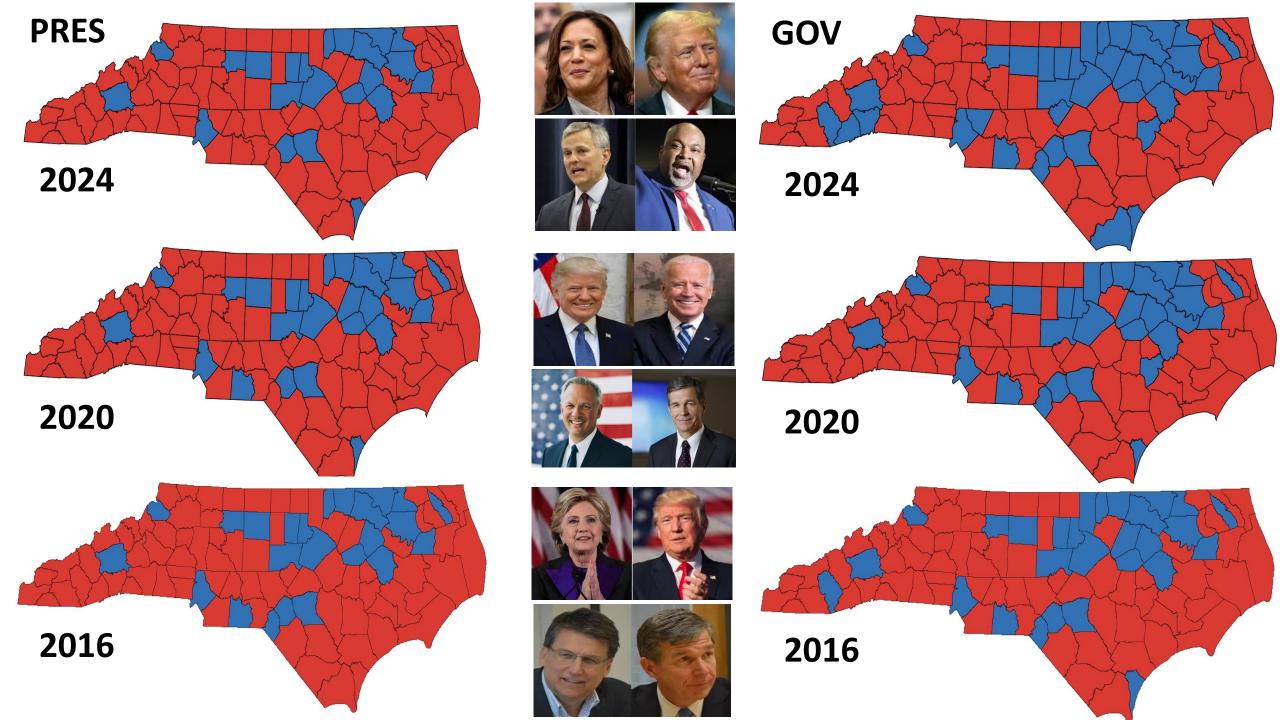
Partisan
Affiliation
among
NC Voters
2025



#### Ideological shift (courtesy Capital Communications)

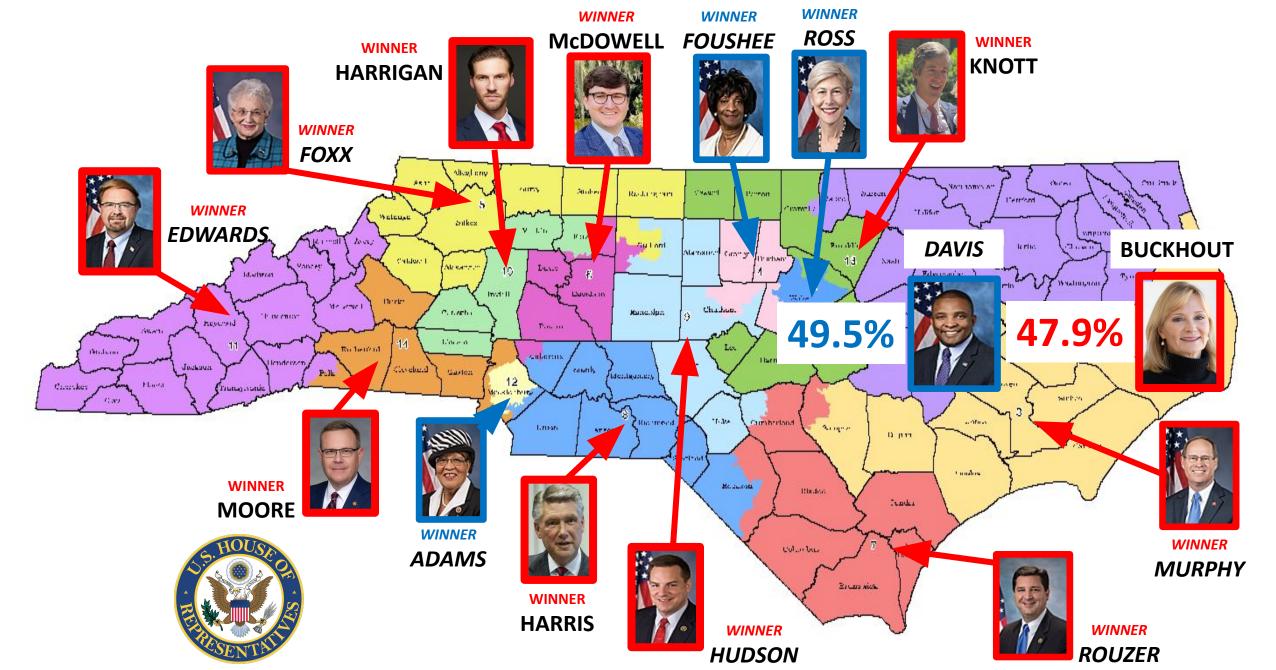


NC VOTER S	WHITE	BLACK	AM INDIAN	HISP	ASIAN	PAC ISLAND	MULT	OTHER	UND
	62.0%	19.1%	0.7%	3.9%	1.6%	0.0%	0.5%	3.7%	8.4%
FORE	FOREIGN BORN PARENTS COUNTRY OF								Y OF
				∧DI	GIN			U.2	
			7		Mexico		0.	45	
The state of the s				India		0.09	5 2		
					Honduras	s		3	
					El Salvad	lor	<b>-</b> 43		
					China		33		
					Vietnam		0354		
Less than 4% 4-8% 8-12%					Guatema	la	0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35 2.5		
					Philippin	es			
					Dominica	an Republi	c ■ 010 22		
					Germany	,	6.3 19		
	12% or more			US Censu	Other				0.4
				OJ CEIISU	is buildau		1 1 1	1 1 1	0.4



OFFICE	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
US SEN		REP	DEM		REP	REP	
GOV	DEM	DEM	DEM	REP	DEM	DEM	DEM*
LT GOV	DEM	DEM	DEM	REP	REP	REP	DEM*
SEC OF STATE	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM (I)
AUDITOR	DEM	REP	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	REP*
TREASURER	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	REP	REP	REP*
SUPERINTENDENT	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	REP	REP	DEM*
ATTY GEN	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM*
AGRICULTURE	REP	REP	REP	REP	REP	REP	REP (I)
LABOR	REP	REP	REP	REP	REP	REP	REP*
INSURANCE	DEM	DEM	DEM	DEM	REP	REP	REP (I)

#### 2024 CONGRESSIONAL RACES IN NORTH CAROLINA: 10 – 4



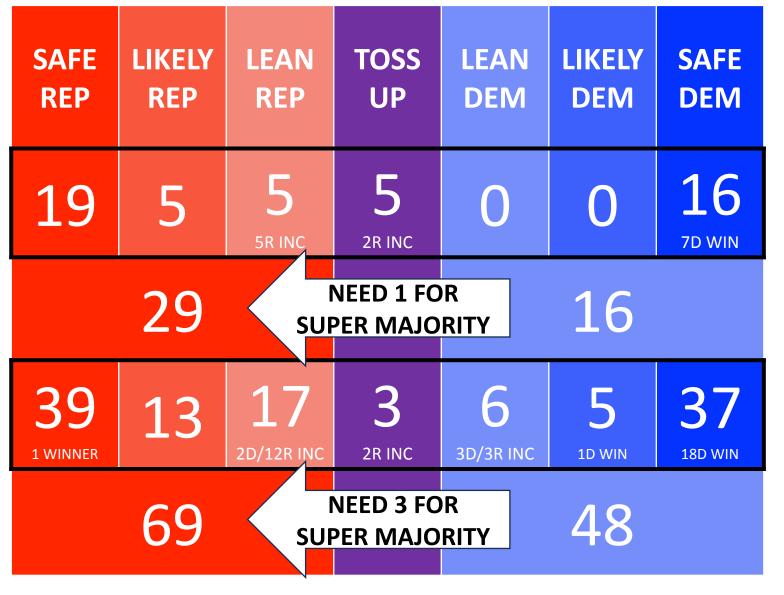


30 - 20



**71 - 49** 





FOR 2024: very likely GOP has a majority in both the House and Senate of the NC General Assembly following the 2024 election, and a definite possibility GOP has a super majority in one or both chambers.



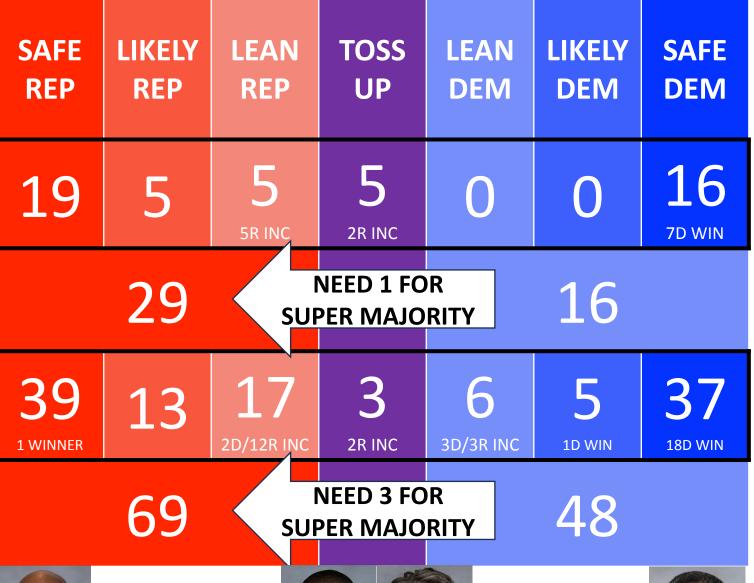
30 - 20



71 - 49



FOR 2025: GOP super majority in Senate and a 'practical' super majority in the House.





Willingham

**Brockman** 



Cunningham

**Pierce** 



**The Unusual** 

**✓** Former president running again

✔ Presumptive nominee drops out before nominating convention

✓ Oldest President v. First Women / South Asian

Who are the 'up-and-coming' political figures in US?

The Unusual	Former president running again  Presumptive nominee drops out before nominating convention  Oldest President v. First Women / South Asian	Who are the 'up-and-coming' political figures in US?
Voter Attitudes	<ul> <li>✓ DEMS/REPS willing to 'cross over' in low single digits</li> <li>✓ Record number of 'voting against the other person' voters</li> <li>✓ 2024: 73.0% 2020: 75.4% 2016: 69.0% 2012: 68.4%</li> </ul>	Continued shift in traditional meaning of DEM & REP?

The Unusual	<ul> <li>Former president running again</li> <li>Presumptive nominee drops out before nominating convention</li> <li>Oldest President v. First Women / South Asian</li> </ul>	Who are the 'up-and-coming' political figures in US?
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Issues of Interest	<ul> <li>Economy, Crime, Southern Boarder remained key concerns</li> <li>Abortion was used by DEMS to motivate women voters</li> <li>Turns out, young voters are interested in economic issues, too</li> </ul>	Do horrific array of international concerns become issues for 2026?

Former president running again

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Segment Shifts	<ul> <li>✔ Black men, Hispanic voters moved toward GOP</li> <li>✔ Educational attainment / urban v. rural continue as dividing lines</li> <li>✔ Will younger voters want to see more younger candidates?</li> </ul>	What's impact of continued diversification of NC voter pop?

	actors in the 2024 Elections	
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Presumptive nominee drops out before nominating convention **Oldest President v. First Women / South Asian** 

**Continued shift in** 

traditional

meaning of DEM

**& REP?** 

Do horrific array

of international

NC voter pop?

Reagan won 49

states in 1984.

Voter **Attitudes** 

**Issues of** 

Interest

**Segment Shifts** 

**Battlegrounds** 

2024: 73.0% 2020: 75.4% 2016: 69.0% 2012: 68.4%

DEMS/REPS willing to 'cross over' in low single digits

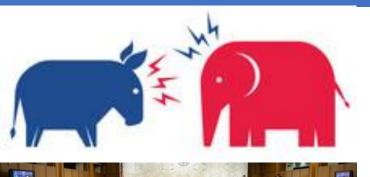
Record number of 'voting against the other person' voters

**Economy, Crime, Southern Boarder remained key concerns** ✓ Abortion was used by DEMS to motivate women voters

concerns become Turns out, young voters are interested in economic issues, too issues for 2026? What's impact of Black men, Hispanic voters moved toward GOP continued diversification of

**Educational attainment / urban v. rural continue as dividing lines** 

Will younger voters want to see more younger candidates? Total Trump margin in Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin was 774,706



Can DEM Gov Stein & GOP led NC Gen Assembly get along?

First up: Cabinet
Secretary
confirmations.



2026
Will Thom Tillis
face GOP primary?

Will Wiley Nickel face DEM primary?







Midterm elections have historically been bad for the party in control of the White House.





BIG ISSUES: State budget structural imbalance, continued ideological stress within both parties, NC continues to grow and diversify.

#### Los Angeles Times

How the devastating Los Angeles fires could deepen California's home insurance crisis





#### **ECONOMY**

## 'A little heartburn': Jobs blowout stokes inflation concern with Trump poised to return

The government reported another blowout jobs number, but the danger for Trump will be if the economy falters even slightly from the sky-high hopes that investors have for his administration.



President-elect Donald Trump repeatedly claimed that prices — and interest rates — would come down if he were elected back to the White House. | Angelina Katsanis/POLITICO

#### North Korea learning from fighting with Russia against Ukraine, US warns

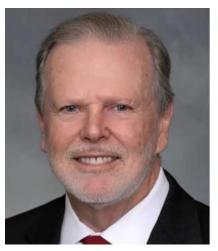
Diplomatic and military ties with Moscow making Pyongyang 'more capable of waging war', official says



Russia has forged closer diplomatic and military ties with North Korea since Moscow invaded Ukraine in February 2022. Photograph: Vladimir Smirnov/AFP/Getty Images

North Korea is benefiting from its troops fighting alongside Russia against Ukraine, gaining experience that makes Pyongyang "more capable of waging war against its neighbours" a senior US official has warned.













egie Endowment Report:

Disaster-Related Misinformation Isn't Unique to Helene and Milton

The conspiracy playbook focuses on undermining confidence in government and dividing



Anierical NCORR director booted as NCGA allocates \$50 million to mismanaged agency with mandatory audits



Commission **Board Chair Matt** Calabria resigns for Helene-related role in the



