

Inside Elections

with

Nathan L. Gonzales

Nonpartisan Analysis

MARCH 10, 2025

VOLUME 9, NO. 5

2026 House Overview: The Fight of the Cycle

By Nathan L. Gonzales and Jacob Rubashkin

The GOP majority in the House is at risk and will likely be the most consequential battle in 2026, while Senate Republicans might be insulated from a midterm backlash.

Typically, midterm elections go poorly for the president's party, particularly in the House. Winning parties prematurely declare a mandate, overreach, and voters respond by sending more members of the "out" party to Washington as a check and balance.

With President Donald Trump's aggressive first few weeks in office, history may repeat itself. Support for Trump's policies on government efficiency, tariffs, and foreign policy will wane if his actions start to hurt people's everyday lives. Economic decline or instability and questions about national security, will likely excite Democratic voters, turn off independents, and temper GOP enthusiasm. Republicans already faced the challenge of turning out Trump voters when Trump isn't on the ballot.

Democrats need a net gain of three seats for a House majority, but they've already captured most of the low-hanging fruit. Just three Republicans represent districts where Kamala Harris finished ahead of Trump, whose win was powered by a shift in political coalitions that left 13 Democrats in districts carried by the president. And if Trump's actions result in economic prosperity, voters will be more satisfied with the status quo and it will be hard for Democrats to make the case that change is necessary.

But there could be increased tension between Trump and Republicans on Capitol Hill as the president pushes generational change in government without the accountability GOP candidates will face from voters in 2026.

The initial list of vulnerable House districts is roughly the same size as the end of the 2024 cycle and nearly evenly divided between Republican and Democratic seats. But that could change in size and partisan makeup if the national political environment begins to favor either party.

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2026 House Ratings

Toss-Up (3D, 7R)

AZ 6 (Ciscomani, R)	MI 7 (Barrett, R)
CA 13 (Gray, D)	NC 1 (Davis, D)
CA 45 (Tran, D)	NY 17 (Lawler, R)
CO 8 (Evans, R)	PA 7 (Mackenzie, R)
IA 1 (Miller-Meeks, R)	VA 2 (Kiggans, R)

Tilt Democratic (7D)

CA 47 (Min, D)
ME 2 (Golden, D)
MI 8 (McDonald Rivet, D)
NM 2 (Vasquez, D)
NY 4 (Gillen, D)
TX 34 (Gonzalez, D)
WA 3 (Perez, D)

Tilt Republican (6R)

AZ 1 (Schweikert, R)
MI 10 (James, R)
NE 2 (Bacon, R)
NJ 7 (Kean Jr., R)
PA 10 (Perry, R)
WI 3 (Van Orden, R)

Lean Democratic (17D)

CA 21 (Costa, D)	NV 1 (Titus, D)
CA 27 (Whitesides, D)	NV 3 (Lee, D)
CA 49 (Levin, D)	NV 4 (Horsford, D)
CA 9 (Harder, D)	NY 19 (Riley, D)
FL 23 (Moskowitz, D)	NY 3 (Suoizzi, D)
IN 1 (Mrvan, D)	OR 5 (Bynum, D)
MN 2 (Craig, DFL)	TX 28 (Cuellar, D)
NH 1 (Pappas, D)	VA 7 (Vindman, D)
NJ 9 (Pou, D)	

Lean Republican (5R)

CA 22 (Valadao, R)
CA 40 (Kim, R)
CA 41 (Calvert, R)
IA 3 (Nunn, R)
PA 8 (Bresnahan, R)

Likely Democratic (7D)

CA 25 (Ruiz, D)
IL 17 (Sorensen, D)
MI 3 (Scholten, D)
NH 2 (Goodlander, D)
NY 18 (Ryan, D)
NY 22 (Mannion, D)
PA 17 (Deluzio, D)

Likely Republican (12R)

AK AL (Begich, R)	NY 21 (Stefanik, R)
AZ 2 (Crane, R)	PA 1 (Fitzpatrick, R)
CA 3 (Kiley, R)	TX 15 (De La Cruz, R)
CO 5 (Crank, R)	VA 1 (Wittman, R)
FL 13 (Luna, R)	WI 1 (Steil, R)
IA 2 (Hinson, R)	
MI 4 (Huizenga, R)	

Pending New Map (3D)

		GOP	DEM
OH 1 (Landsman, D)	Solid	180	176
OH 9 (Kaptur, D)	Likely/Lean/Tilt	23	31
OH 13 (Sykes, D)	Total	203	207
	Toss-up		10
	Ohio map TBD		15
	Needed for majority		218

CALENDAR

March 18	Major League Baseball Opening Day
April 1	Florida's 1st & 6th Special General Elections
April 3	Virginia Candidate Filing Deadline
June 10	New Jersey Gubernatorial Primary

Report Shorts

Alabama Senate. GOP Sen. Tommy Tuberville is telling colleagues that he is interested in running for governor, according to *Punchbowl News*. That would set off a competitive GOP race to replace him in the Senate. Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth, state Attorney General Steve Marshall, state House Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter, former Reps. Bradley Byrne (who finished third in the primary to Tuberville in 2020) and Jerry Carl (who lost a redistricting-related primary in 2024), 2022 Senate candidate Mike Durant, and 2024 2nd District nominee Caroleene Dobson. Solid Republican.

Colorado Governor. The *Colorado Sun* reported that Sen. Michael Bennet is seriously considering a run for governor next year. State Attorney General Phil Weiser is already in the race, and state Secretary of State Jena Griswold and Rep. Joe Neguse have been considering bids as well. Solid Democratic.

Louisiana Senate. State Treasurer John Fleming released a poll conducted Feb. 24-26 by JMC Analytics showing him leading Sen. Bill Cassidy by 13 points, 40-27 percent, in the GOP primary. Fleming's lead narrows to just 2 points, 29-27 percent, when two other candidates are included. Cassidy continues to work to navigate the fallout from his vote to convict Donald Trump in 2021. Solid Republican.

Michigan Governor. A Feb 17-19 National Research Inc. poll commissioned by GOPAC found Rep. John James leading a hypothetical GOP gubernatorial primary by 21 points over state Sen. Aric Nesbitt, 38-17 percent, with former state Attorney General Mike Cox at 10 percent. James has not announced his 2026 plans. Battleground.

North Carolina Senate. A poll from North Carolina-based Democratic pollster Public Policy Polling finds Sen. Thom Tillis trailing former Gov. Roy Cooper in a potential 2026 matchup, 47-43 percent. Cooper has not indicated if he will run in 2026 but is being heavily recruited by Senate Democrats. Some in Trump's orbit are agitating for a primary challenge against Tillis. Battleground.

Texas Senate. Rep. Wesley Hunt floated a primary bid against Sen. John Cornyn to *Politico*, joining state Attorney General Ken Paxton in publicly poking the senior senator ahead of his 2026 re-election. A protracted and messy GOP primary is one of several ingredients

2026 Senate Ratings

BATTLEGROUND

Democratic-Held (4)

Jon Ossoff (D-Ga.)
MI Open (Gary Peters, D)
Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.)
MN Open (Tina Smith, DFL)

Republican-Held (2)

Susan Collins (R-Maine)
Thom Tillis (R-N.C.)

Solid Democratic (9)

John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.)
Chris Coons (D-Del.)
Dick Durbin (D-Ill.)
Ed Markey (D-Mass.)
Cory Booker (D-N.J.)
Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.)
Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.)
Jack Reed (D-R.I.)
Mark Warner (D-Va.)

Solid Republican (20)

Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.)
Dan Sullivan (R-Ak.)
Tom Cotton (R-Ark.)
Ashley Moody (R-Fla.)
Jim Risch (R-Idaho)
Joni Ernst (R-Iowa)
Roger Marshall (R-Kan.)
KY Open (McConnell, R)
Bill Cassidy (R-La.)
Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.)
Steve Daines (R-Mont.)
Pete Ricketts (R-Neb.)
Jon Husted (R-Ohio)
Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)
Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.)
Mike Rounds (R-S.D.)
Bill Hagerty (R-Tenn.)
John Cornyn (R-Texas)
Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.V.)
Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.)

Democrats might need to make this race interesting after faceplanting in Texas last cycle. Solid Republican.

Virginia Governor. GOP pollster Cygnal's Feb. 26-27 survey of the Virginia governor's race found Democrat Abigail Spanberger with a 6-point lead over Lt. Gov. Winsome Earle-Sears, 46-40 percent. While Sears is the likely GOP nominee, former state Sen. Amanda Chase and former state Del. Dave LaRock are attempting to petition onto the primary ballot as well. Tilt Democratic. IE

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Alabama.

2nd District (Mobile, Montgomery, and eastern Black Belt), Shomari Figures, D, elected 55%. Harris 54%. There's little appetite among Republicans to take on Figures unless court decisions allow Alabama to redraw its congressional map. Solid Democratic.

Alaska.

At-Large, Nick Begich, R, elected 51%. Trump 55%. Unless former Rep. Mary Peltola runs for her old seat, Begich begins with a clear advantage in his re-election campaign. Peltola is also weighing bids for Senate and governor. If she doesn't run for the House, Democrats could still field a credible candidate, such as former Lt. Gov. Valerie Davidson, now the president of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. Like Peltola, Davidson is Yup'ik and has deep ties to the state's Native community. Likely Republican.

Arizona.

1st District (Northeastern Phoenix and Scottsdale) David Schweikert, R, re-elected 52%. Trump 51%. Schweikert has proven an elusive target for Democrats despite his legal issues and a series of strong fundraisers running against him.

A crowded primary could be brewing yet again as 2024 nominee Amish Shah, a former state representative, prepares to launch a bid even though national Democrats were disappointed with his 2024



Marlene Galán-Woods

Courtesy Galán-Woods Campaign

campaign. Former newscaster Marlene Galán Woods, who placed a close third in the 2024 primary, just launched another bid. Former Arizona state party chairman Andrei Cherny doesn't look likely to run, but current DNC member and voting rights attorney Mark Robert Gordon is a potential candidate. Looming over the field is the prospect of a run by Jimmy McCain, an Army veteran and son of the late Arizona Sen. John McCain. Tilt Republican.

2nd District (Northeastern Arizona) Eli Crane, R, re-elected 54%. Trump 57%. Former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez is seriously considering another run after coming 9 points short in 2024, but could also run for any number of statewide positions up for grabs next year. Nez proved a strong fundraiser but this district begins on the periphery of the battleground. Likely Republican

4th District (Eastern Phoenix suburbs of Mesa and Tempe) Greg Stanton, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 52%. By the numbers, this district has the ingredients for a competitive race, but Republicans don't appear to have a challenger and are not talking up the race. Solid Democratic.

5th District (Southeastern Phoenix suburbs of Gilbert and Chandler) Open; Andy Biggs, R, running for governor. Trump 59%. Former state Rep. Travis Grantham was the first candidate to jump into the race after Biggs announced his gubernatorial bid, but he won't have the field to himself. State Sen. Jake Hoffman looks likely to run as well; Hoffman is under indictment for his role as one of the fake electors who

attempted to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. Pinal County Sheriff Mark Lamb is another prospective candidate and an early February survey from a friendly pollster found him well in the lead. State Rep. Justin Olson, who ran a longshot bid for Senate in 2022, could also run. Solid Republican.

6th District (Southeastern Arizona and eastern Tucson area) Juan Ciscomani, R, re-elected 50%. Trump 49.7%. Jo Mendoza, who served as a drill sergeant in the Marines, is the first Democrat to announce her campaign. Former Rep. Kirsten Engel, the Democratic nominee in 2022 and 2024, is not expected to run again. Toss-up.

7th District (Southwestern Arizona and western Tucson area) Open; Raúl Grijalva, D, not seeking re-election. Harris 60%. Grijalva was diagnosed with cancer last year and said in October that 2024 would be his last election. He has also missed every vote in Congress since the first day of the session. The two most discussed names in the Democratic primary are Tucson Mayor Regina Romero, whose name was also linked to the 2020 and 2024 Senate races, and Grijalva's daughter Adelita, who is a Pima County supervisor. Solid Democratic.

9th District (Western Arizona and western Phoenix exurbs) Paul Gosar, R, re-elected 65%. Trump 65%. Health challenges earn Gosar a spot on retirement watch. Republicans will have no issue holding his seat if he does leave Congress. Solid Republican.

California.

3rd District (Northeastern Sacramento suburbs and Lake Tahoe to Death Valley) Kevin Kiley, R, re-elected 56%. Trump 50%. Kiley significantly overperformed Trump in this vast district, and though the president only carried it by 4 points it begins outside the battleground for 2026. A strong nominee and a favorable political environment could put it on the map for Democrats but other California seats are higher priorities. Likely Republican.

9th District (Stockton area) Josh Harder, D, re-elected 52%. Trump 49%. Stockton Mayor Kevin Lincoln appears likely to run again after coming up 4 points short in 2024. Republicans hope that Democrats' issues in the Central Valley persist in the midterms. Lean Democratic.

13th District (Mid-Central Valley) Adam Gray, D, elected 50%. Trump 51%. Former Rep. John Duarte doesn't appear likely to make a comeback bid. Gray is a top target for Republicans after winning one of the closest races in the country in 2024 but they'll need a strong recruit. Toss-up.

21st District (Fresno area) Jim Costa, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 51%. An unexpectedly close 2024 race against an unheralded Republican opponent has earned Costa a spot on initial GOP target lists. The 72-year-old Costa lost a high-profile battle for top Democrat on the House Agriculture Committee. Republicans need a more credible candidate. Lean Democratic.

22nd District (Southern Central Valley and eastern Bakersfield area) David Valadao, R, re-elected 53%. Trump 52%. After two cycles of nominating state Assemblyman Rudy Salas, Democrats are back to basics on candidate recruitment in this Central Valley seat that swung hard toward Republicans in 2024. Valadao has proven his ability to win tough elections, but his lone blemish on his electoral record is losing re-election in a Trump midterm. He'll have to be on watch to avoid a more conservative primary challenger boxing him out of the general election, as nearly happened in 2022. Lean Republican.

25th District (Eastern Riverside County and Imperial County) Raul Ruiz, D, re-elected 56%. Harris 50%. Significant swings among Hispanic

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voters at the top of the ticket moved this district from a Biden +15 seat in 2020 to a Harris +2.5 seat in 2024. While Ruiz handily outperformed the presidential ballot, he had the benefit of running against an unheralded and underfunded opponent. Republicans will try to recruit someone more credible this time and look to give Ruiz his first real challenge in over a decade. Likely Democratic.

27th District (Santa Clarita, Lancaster, and Palmdale in northern Los Angeles County) George Whitesides, D, elected 51%. Harris 51%. GOP operatives believe that former Rep. Mike Garcia's unique profile as a Hispanic fighter pilot allowed them to hold onto this district for longer than its underlying partisanship would have indicated. Now that he's out of office and unlikely to run again, that means Whitesides is less of a target. Any GOP recruit would need to be a strong fundraiser or have the capacity to self-fund. Lean Democratic.

40th District (Eastern Orange County) Young Kim, R, re-elected 55%. Trump 49.5%. Two Democrats are already running; attorney and Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce leader Christina Gagnier and art dealer Esther Kim Varet. And 2022 nominee Joe Kerr, a former fire chief, has filed paperwork for a 2026 bid. Any Democrat will face an uphill battle against Kim, and will need to raise a significant amount of money to compete in the expensive district and convince national Democrats to invest in the race. Lean Republican.

41st District (Southern Riverside suburbs to Palm Springs) Ken Calvert, R, re-elected 52%. Trump 52%. Former federal prosecutor Will Rollins isn't likely to run for a third time after falling short in 2024, leaving Democrats with a wide-open field. Singer/songwriter Tim Myers, who played bass for OneRepublic from 2002 to 2007, has been making calls about running; he has made feints at several Southern California congressional districts in the past few cycles. A more conventional Democratic candidate might be state Sen. Sabrina Cervantes, who represents Riverside County and has won several tough races since 2016. Lean Republican.

45th District (Western Orange County) Derek Tran, D, elected 50%. Harris 49%. Last cycle, all the drama was on the Democratic side, as Tran pulled off a primary upset and general election squeaker. This year, it may be the

GOP's turn for drama. Former Rep. Michelle Steel is contemplating another run after losing to Tran by 653 votes, but Orange County Supervisor Janet Nguyen has made no secret of her interest in the seat and has closer ties to the tight-knit Vietnamese American community that helped Tran win last year. Assemblyman Tri Ta is another possibility. Toss-up.

47th District (Coastal Orange County and Irvine) Dave Min, D, elected 51%. Harris 50%. Republicans felt they had a good shot at Min in 2024 with a well-funded, tested nominee in Scott Baugh and a favorable environment. But Min won and overperformed the top of the ticket.

Potential GOP candidates include state Sen. Tony Strickland, 2022 comptroller nominee Lanhee Chen, 2022 gubernatorial candidate Jenny Rae Le Roux. Tilt Democratic.



Janet Nguyen

Courtesy Nguyen for Supervisor

49th District (Coastal southern Orange and northern San Diego counties) Mike Levin, D, re-elected 52%. Harris 52%. Matt Gunderson, the auto dealer and former state Senate candidate who ran against Levin last cycle, could run again. But this district is at the bottom of the target list for California Republicans for now. Lean Democratic.

Colorado.

3rd District (Pueblo area and Western Slope) Jeff Hurd, R, elected 51%. Trump 54%. Two-time Democratic nominee Adam Frisch is now the leader of a super PAC supporting moderate Democratic candidates after losing a bid for DNC vice chair. This district is less attractive to Democrats now that it's no longer represented by controversial Republican Lauren Boebert but could become competitive if the national environment shifts toward Democrats. Solid Republican.

5th District (Colorado Springs area) Jeff Crank, R, elected 55%. Trump 53%. The 5th is still GOP-leaning territory but Trump's support has continued to wane, from a 22-point win in 2016 to a 10-point win in 2020 and a 9-point win in 2024. That's a promising trendline for Democrats but they likely need an apolitical candidate with a military background to put this district in contention this cycle. Likely Republican.

8th District (Northern Denver suburbs and Greeley area) Gabe Evans, R, elected 49%. Trump 49.6%. State Rep. Manny Rutinel is already in the race but will most likely not have the field to himself. Former Rep. Yadira Caraveo, who lost to Evans by 0.8 percent in 2024, is considering another bid. But national Democratic strategists are skeptical she will run again especially after her publicized treatment for depression last year. Toss-up.

Connecticut.

5th District (Northern Fairfield County and northwestern Connecticut) Jahana Hayes, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 52%. After two cycles of intense targeting by Republicans, this district will probably see less attention in 2026. Former state Sen. George Logan looks less likely to run after two consecutive bids, and in a midterm with a Republican president, the seat is less attractive to Republicans. Solid Democratic.

Florida.

1st District (Pensacola area) Vacant; Matt Gaetz, R, resigned. Trump 68%. An April 1 special election will send former Florida chief financial officer Jimmy Patronis to Congress, but the margin could tell us something about the national environment. Solid Republican.

3rd District (North central Florida) Kat Cammack, R, re-elected 62%. Trump 60%. Cammack has made noise about running for a statewide office next year, which would set off a competitive GOP primary. Solid Republican.

7th District (Northern Orlando suburbs and part of Daytona Beach area) Cory Mills, R, re-elected 57%. Trump 56%. The Trump-appointed interim U.S. Attorney for DC declined to issue an arrest warrant for Mills after a woman called police and made accusations of domestic violence she later retracted. But the story isn't over yet, with an ongoing internal investigation into officers' handling of the incident that could reveal details and explain three conflicting police reports, one of which said Mills (who has a wife and kids in Florida) told the woman to lie about her injuries. 2024 Democratic nominee Jennifer Adams looks likely to run again but Democrats may look for other options as well. Solid Republican.

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13th District (Part of St. Petersburg and suburbs) Anna Paulina Luna, R, re-elected 55%. Trump 55%. Democratic strategists still believe Luna's unique profile — she is heading up a committee to investigate the JFK assassination and said she'd like to interview the (deceased) members of the Warren Commission — makes her their best chance at beating an incumbent in Florida. But 2024 nominee Whitney Fox appears unlikely to run. The dream candidate for Democrats is John Kirby, the retired admiral who served as Biden's national security spokesman. But Kirby has rebuffed recruitment efforts in years past. Likely Republican.

19th District (Fort Myers and Cape Coral area) Open; Byron Donalds, R, running for governor. Trump 64%. Donalds' gubernatorial run will set up a messy GOP primary to succeed him, and several former fringe political players have already poked their heads up in the district. Jim Oberweis, the dairy magnate and perennial candidate for House and Senate in Illinois, was the first to file to run. Former North Carolina Rep. Madison Cawthorn, who courted controversy in his one term in Congress before he



Madison Cawthorn

Tom Williams/CQ Roll Call

lost a primary, has said he's interested in running. Former New York Rep. Chris Collins, who resigned after being convicted of financial crimes (he was later pardoned by Trump) could run. Two other unsuccessful Illinois congressional candidates, Catalina Lauf and Jack Lombardi, could also run. Lauf, who lost a 2022 race in Illinois' 11th District, now lives in Florida and has been mentioned as a potential candidate by Rep. Anna Paulina Luna. More conventional potential candidates include former state Rep. Spencer Roach and Lee County Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass. Solid Republican.

20th District (Inland Fort Lauderdale and Palm Beach areas) Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick, D, re-elected unopposed. Harris 69%. There is an open House Ethics Committee investigation into Cherfilus-McCormick's campaign and official spending, and the state of Florida is suing her family's health care company alleging it accepted \$5.8 million in improper payments from the state for Covid-19 services in 2021. So far, only community activist and perennial candidate Elijah Manley has launched a primary bid against her, but Cherfilus-McCormick's troubles could earn her a challenge from a more formidable opponent. Solid Democratic.

23rd District (Coastal Fort Lauderdale area) Jared Moskowitz, D, re-elected 52%. Harris 50%. When Florida Republicans drew an aggressive gerrymander in 2022, this seat was not considered a target. But Florida's abrupt rightward shift in 2022 and 2024 has placed a target on Moskowitz's back and this could develop into a real race if Republicans field someone more credible than perennial candidate Joe Kaufman. Former state Rep. George Moraitis is already in the race, and state Rep. Chip LaMarca, who succeeded him, is also in the conversation. Moskowitz could also run for governor or Senate, though he has said for now that he's focused on running for re-election. Lean Democratic.

27th District (Miami and southern suburbs) María Elvira Salazar, R, re-elected 60%. Trump 57%. Barring a major shift in the national

environment, Democrats have given up hope of flipping this district — one of the Sunshine State's most competitive just a few years ago. Solid Republican.

Georgia.

6th District (Part of northeastern Atlanta suburbs) Lucy McBath, D, re-elected 75%. Harris 75%. McBath took the first steps toward an anticipated gubernatorial run, setting up an open Democratic primary that will almost certainly determine the next member of Congress from the district. Former Cobb County Commissioner Jerica Richardson and former Rep. Mandisha Thomas ran against McBath in the 2024 primary and could run again (though Richardson just lost a high-profile case that resulted in her being removed from her position). Many other Democrats will take a look at this seat if McBath continues on her bid, including potentially state Sen. Sonya Halpern. Solid Democratic.

13th District (Western and southern Atlanta suburbs) David Scott, D, re-elected 72%. Harris 71%. Scott lost his high-profile role as top Democrat on the Agriculture Committee in December after years of questions about the 79-year-old's health and ability to lead. He and his staff also berated a reporter for taking a picture of the congressman in a wheelchair at the Capitol. State Sen. Emanuel Jones, an Army veteran and auto dealer, has already launched a Democratic primary bid. Solid Democratic.

Illinois.

7th District (West Side and downtown Chicago) Danny Davis, D, re-elected 83%. Harris 82%. At 83 and in questionable health (*Inside Elections* reported Davis' campaign used AI to make the congressman appear younger and more robust), Davis is a prime target for a challenge from a younger Democrat — especially after barely clearing 50 percent in his last two primaries. But if a passel of ambitious Cook County politicians can't decide who gets to take him on, he could win against a fractured field. Solid Democratic.

17th District (North-central Illinois cities from Rockford to Quad Cities area to Bloomington) Eric Sorensen, D, re-elected 54%. Harris 51%. Few Democrats inspire more derision from GOP political operatives than Sorensen and his active social media presence. But the former meteorologist has established himself in this twisty, gerrymandered district and is unlikely to be a GOP target in his third race. Likely Democratic.

Indiana.

1st District (Northwestern Indiana) Frank Mrvan, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 49.6%. Republicans continue to believe that the trend in this district is highly favorable; it voted for Hillary Clinton in 2016 by 12 points, Joe Biden in 2020 by 8 points, and Harris in 2024 by a fraction of a percent. But the last two House candidates have been unable to take advantage of those shifts. GOP operatives would like to recruit someone in the mold of 2024 nominee Randy Niemeyer, whose blue collar background and political last name made him compelling on paper. Niemeyer himself doesn't look like he's running again. Lean Democratic.

Iowa.

1st District (Southeastern Iowa) Mariannette Miller-Meeks, R, re-elected 50%. Trump 54%. Former state Rep. Christina Bohannon, the Democratic nominee in 2022 and 2024, appears likely to make a third

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attempt at the seat after falling short by a few hundred votes last year. Miller-Meeks continues to have serious problems with her base, and faces a primary challenge from David Pautsch, the Davenport ad agency owner who spent just \$38,000 in the 2024 primary but still came within 12 points of beating her. Toss-up.

2nd District (Northeastern Iowa) Ashley Hinson, R, re-elected 57%. Trump 54%. Democrats passed on targeting this district last cycle but are actively recruiting this year. State Rep. Lindsay James represents Dubuque and has a compelling background as an ordained Presbyterian minister — she succeeded Abby Finkenauer, the last Democrat to hold this seat, in the state legislature. Kevin Techau, who served as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa in the Obama Administration and is a retired Air Force colonel, is also seriously considering a bid. Likely Republican.

3rd District (Des Moines and southwestern Iowa) Zach Nunn, R, re-elected 52%. Trump 52%. Lanon Baccam, the Army veteran and Biden administration official who ran in 2024, doesn't seem likely to run again. State House Minority Leader Jennifer Konfrst and state Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott are the most-discussed names on the Democratic side. Trone Garriott is a Lutheran minister. Lean Republican.

Kansas.

3rd District (Kansas City suburbs) Sharice Davids, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 51%. Davids has earned a reputation as a tough competitor and extracts a grudging respect from Republicans, who don't see her as a serious target this cycle. Solid Democratic.

Kentucky.

6th District (Greater Lexington area) Andy Barr, R, re-elected 63%. Trump 57%. If Barr runs for Senate to succeed the retiring Mitch McConnell, there could be competitive primaries on both sides of the aisle. Republican state Rep. Ryan Dotson has said he's in if Barr is out, and state Reps. Deanna Frazier Gordon and Matt Lockett told the *Lexington Herald Leader* they'd be interested as well. State Sen. Amanda Mays Bledsoe and former state Senate Majority Leader Damon Thayer are also potential contenders.

On the Democratic side, there could be interest if the national environment improves. State party executive director Morgan Eaves has put her name in the mix, as has former state Rep. Cherlynn Stevenson. Molly Crain, who ran for state Senate in 2024, is another potential candidate. Lt. Gov. Jaqueline Coleman is more interested in running for governor in 2027. Solid Republican.

Maine.

2nd District (Northern Maine) Jared Golden, D, re-elected 50%. Trump 54%. Even in a favorable environment, this seat would be hard for Democrats to hold if Golden chooses to run for governor. National GOP strategists were left dissatisfied by state Rep. Austin Theriault's 2024 campaign, believing he hewed too closely to the political center instead of running to the right against Golden. Former Gov. Paul LePage might run. State Rep. Laurel Libby floated a bid in 2024 but could also run for governor; she was recently censured by the state House after posting a photo and personal details of a minor athlete she said was trans on social media.

If Golden runs for governor, former state Sen. Troy Jackson might run on the Democratic side; he sought this seat unsuccessfully in 2014. But

we would rate the race initially as Tilt Republican. Assuming Golden runs for re-election, this race is Tilt Democratic,

Maryland.

6th District (Western Maryland and northwestern D.C. exurbs) April McClain Delaney, D, elected 53%. Harris 51%. Former state Rep. Neil Parrott filed to run for this seat for a fourth time. Parrott has gotten closer each time he's run but that doesn't mean this district is a priority for Republicans. Even with former Gov. Larry Hogan on the ticket in 2024, Parrott underperformed the other Republicans on the ticket. Solid Democratic.

Michigan.

3rd District (Grand Rapids and Muskegon areas) Hillary Scholten, D, re-elected 54%. Harris 53%. Republicans would need a strong candidate to seriously challenge Scholten, who has the political wind at her back due to political shifts in Western Michigan. It's not clear one will emerge. Likely Democratic.

4th District (Southwestern Michigan) Bill Huizenga, R, re-elected 55%. Trump 52%. If Huizenga runs for the open Senate seat some Democrats believe this district could be an opportunity. National strategists would prefer an alternative to 2024 nominee Jessica Swartz. State Rep. Matt Longjohn was the Democratic nominee for the previous version of this district in 2018 and is interested in running again. Likely Republican.

7th District (Lansing area and northwestern Detroit exurbs) Tom Barrett, R, elected 50%. Trump 49.8%. In 2024, former state Sen. Curtis



Courtesy Michigan Senate Democrats

Sarah Anthony

Hertel cleared the Democratic primary field but lost the general election. There may be a more competitive primary process this time. State Sen. Sarah Anthony is the first name discussed among Democrats but it's not obvious she wants

to run. State Reps. Angela Witwer and Julie Brixie are also potential candidates. And former University of Michigan basketball player Jon Horford, who lost a close state House primary in 2022, could run as well (he's the brother of NBA player Al Horford). Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum is preparing a bid for state secretary of state, not running for Congress. Toss-up.

8th District (Flint and Tri-Cities areas) Kristen McDonald Rivet, D, elected 51%. Trump 50%. Republicans may have a better shot at this seat with a different candidate than Paul Junge, who lost congressional races in 2020, 2022, and 2024, but national GOP strategists say this district might be more difficult in a midterm year. State Rep. Timmy Beson is generating the most buzz on the ground. State Rep. Bill Schuette, the son of the former state attorney general, is another possibility, though he seems more intent on winning a state senate seat. Tilt Democratic.

10th District (Macomb County) John James, R, re-elected 51%. Trump 52%. National Democratic strategists are cautiously optimistic

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that former Macomb County Judge Carl Marlinga will forgo a third run for this seat, allowing the party to nominate a candidate with less baggage. That's especially true if James makes a long-anticipated bid for governor, giving Democrats a shot at flipping an open seat. Army veteran Alex Hawkins is already in the race, and Christina Hines, who ran for Macomb County prosecutor in 2024, is taking steps toward running as well. State Sen. Kevin Hertel (whose brother Curtis ran for the 7th District in 2024 and is now the state party chairman) and state Sen. Veronica Klinefelt could run, as could Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel and Connect Macomb CEO Stacy Ziarko. Tilt Republican.

11th District (Northwestern Detroit suburbs) Haley Stevens, D, re-elected 58%. Harris 57%. If Stevens pushes ahead with a Senate bid, there could be a crowded Democratic primary to replace her. While some national Democratic strategists would prefer state Sen. Mallory McMorrow to run here, she seems intent on pursuing a Senate bid. State Senate President Pro Temp Jeremy Moss, who represents Southfield, and University of Michigan Regent Jordan Acker are two potential Democratic candidates. Solid Democratic.

13th District (Detroit and southwestern suburbs) Shri Thanedar, D, re-elected 69%. Harris 69%. One of House Democrats' more eccentric members, Thanedar will probably face another primary challenge. *Politico* reports that state Rep. Donovan McKinney and former state House Speaker Joe Tate are considering bids. And former state Sen. Adam Hollier, who placed second in the 2022 primary for this seat — and who attempted to run last cycle but failed to gather enough valid signatures — could run again as well. Solid Democratic.

Minnesota.

2nd District (Southern Minneapolis-St. Paul suburbs) Angie Craig, DFL, re-elected 56%. Harris 52%. If Craig runs for Senate or governor, Republicans feel they have a path to win back this leftward-trending district. Marine veteran Tyler Kistner would seriously consider running for an open seat — he lost close races to Craig in 2020 and 2022. And 2024 nominee Joe Teirab, an Army veteran and former federal prosecutor, could run as well, but he could have trouble navigating a GOP primary after frustrating conservatives last cycle. State Sen. Lindsey Port and former state Sen. Melisa López Franzen are two potential DFL candidates. Lean Democratic.

Montana.

1st District (Western Montana) Ryan Zinke, R, re-elected 52%. Trump 54%. A \$4.4 million investment from House Majority PAC didn't help 2024 nominee Monica Tranel improve upon her 2022 performance in this district, and neither did Sen. Jon Tester carrying the seat at the top of the ticket in his statewide loss. State Sen. Cora Neumann ran in 2022 and could take another look, but Democrats aren't optimistic about winning the seat at this early stage. Solid Republican.

Nebraska.

2nd District (Greater Omaha Area) Don Bacon, R, re-elected 51%. Harris 52%. It's been more than a decade since the Democratic nomination for this district has been so wide open. State Sen. Tony Vargas is unlikely to run a third time, 2018/2020 nominee Kara Eastman has left the state, former Rep. Brad Ashford, the last Democrat to hold the seat, died in 2022, and his wife Ann is one of Bacon's biggest backers. Democrats are licking their wounds in this district — the most

Democratic seat still represented by a Republican — and working to fend off the potential candidacy of independent Dan Osborn, the union leader who ran for Senate in 2024. An independent bid by Osborn could serve as a spoiler if Democrats also field a candidate, which state party chairwoman Jane Kleeb has said they intend to do. Denise Blaya Powell, the co-founder of Women Who Run Nebraska, a group that encourages progressive women to run for office, is a potential candidate. Tilt Republican.

Nevada.

1st District (Eastern Las Vegas area) Dina Titus, D, re-elected 52%. Harris 50%. Titus is a fixture on retirement watch lists but Republicans have yet to capitalize on her newly competitive district. A strong candidate could put this race into contention but the Nevada GOP has struggled to field competitive House candidates in recent years. Lean Democratic

3rd District (Southwestern Las Vegas area) Susie Lee, D, re-elected 51%. Trump 49.5%. The most competitive of Nevada's four districts, the 3rd voted narrowly for Trump in 2024 and will get some attention from Republicans because of it. 2024 nominee Drew Johnson, who beat a candidate preferred by state and national Republican leadership in the primary, could run again. Lean Democratic.

4th District (Northern Las Vegas area and rural central Nevada) Steven Horsford, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 50%. This district attracts the least attention of the Nevada races but has the ingredients to get competitive in a bad year for Democrats. Lean Democratic

New Hampshire.

1st District (Eastern New Hampshire) Chris Pappas, D, re-elected 54%. Harris 50%. A brutally late primary advantages incumbents and means the GOP field may not develop for a year or longer. If Republicans target a New Hampshire district it's more likely to be this one. If Democratic Sen. Jeanne Shaheen doesn't run for re-election and Pappas runs to succeed her, an open seat here would be more competitive. Lean Democratic.

2nd District (Western and northern New Hampshire) Maggie Goodlander, D, elected 53%. Harris 51%. Goodlander won her first term by a slightly more narrow margin than Pappas, but on paper this district is a bit stronger for Democrats. Likely Democratic.

New Jersey.

7th District (Southwestern New York City suburbs and exurbs) Tom Kean Jr., R, re-elected 52%. Trump 49.6%. Former Navy helicopter pilot Rebecca Bennett is challenging Kean and looking to follow the path of Mikie Sherrill, a former Navy helicopter pilot who was first elected to Congress in a Trump midterm (2018) and is now running for governor. Former Summit council president Greg Vartan is also running for the nomination after briefly campaigning last year. Tilt Republican.

9th District (Urban North Jersey and western New York City suburbs) Nellie Pou, D, elected 51%. Trump 49%. One of the biggest surprises of the 2024 election was Trump carrying this plurality Hispanic seat after losing it by nearly 20 points in 2020. Republicans would love to make this seat a pickup target but they'll need a better candidate than three-time nominee Billy Premph, an Air Force veteran and Q-Anon follower. There's no real GOP bench in this district that wasn't on anyone's radar until four months ago. Lean Democratic.

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New Mexico.

2nd District (Southern New Mexico and western Albuquerque area) Gabe Vasquez, D, re-elected 52%. Trump 50%. For the first time in a decade Republicans will not nominate Yvette Herrell as their standard-bearer for this seat. Herrell lost in 2018, won in 2020, lost in 2022 and again in 2024 and is unlikely to run. The Hispanic-majority district is going to be competitive but the GOP is back to the drawing board on candidates. Tilt Democratic.

New York.

1st District (Eastern Long Island and north shore of Suffolk County) Nick LaLota, R, re-elected 55%. Trump 54%. Democrats have tried all sorts of different candidates to win this district, most recently former CNN anchor John Avlon, whose well-funded campaign couldn't overcome the area's political trendline. The answer may be in Errol Toulon Jr., the first Black sheriff of Suffolk County and the last remaining Democrat in countywide office. But it's not clear Toulon, a former corrections officer who was also recruited in 2022, is interested in running. Solid Republican.

3rd District (Northern Nassau County) Tom Suozzi, D, re-elected 52%. Trump 51%. Former state Rep. Mike LiPetri came unexpectedly close to beating Suozzi

in 2024, holding the incumbent to a 3.6-point win just months after he had won a much more expensive and high-profile special election by 8 points. LiPetri looks likely to run again and may get a little more

attention from national Republicans than last cycle, when CLF made a small investment late in the race. But the expensive nature of the New York media market and Suozzi's deep ties to the district may ward off significant outside involvement. Lean Democratic.

4th District (Southern Nassau County) Laura Gillen, D, elected 51%. Harris 50%. Former Rep. Anthony D'Esposito, who lost to Gillen by 2 points in 2024, is considering a rubber match in 2026. But he's also angling for an appointment in the Trump administration. If D'Esposito doesn't run, Hempstead Town Supervisor Don Clavin (who beat Gillen to earn that spot in 2019) and state Sen. Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick are two names to watch. Tilt Democratic.

17th District (Lower Hudson Valley) Mike Lawler, R, re-elected 52%. Harris 49.9%. Lawler is eyeing a bid for governor, but regardless of what he does this seat will be a top target for Democrats in 2026. Rockland County Legislator Beth Davidson is already in the race and received an early endorsement from former Rep. Mondaire Jones. Local nonprofit CEO Jessica Reinmann is also running. Management consultant Neal Zuckerman, who serves on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority board and is a West Point alumnus, is another potential candidate, as is Cait Conley, an Army special operations veteran who most recently worked as a national security official in the Biden Administration. Also in the mix is Tarrytown village trustee Effie Phillips-Staley.



Mike LiPetri

Courtesy LiPetri Campaign

On the Republican side, Lawler's most natural successor would be state Assemblyman Matt Slater. Clarkstown Town Supervisor George Hoehmann and Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne are also potential candidates. Toss-up.

18th District (Upper Hudson Valley) Pat Ryan, D, re-elected 57%. Harris 51%. Ryan's large margin of victory over a highly touted GOP recruit last cycle makes him a less attractive target this cycle. Insurance salesman and Fishkill town board member John Forman is a potential GOP candidate. Likely Democratic.

19th District (Southeastern upstate New York) Josh Riley, D, elected 51%. Harris 50%. A three-match between Riley and former Rep. Marc Molinaro is probably off the table after Molinaro was picked by Trump to head up the Federal Transit Administration. Republicans are just beginning to scour the district for potential recruits. Lean Democratic.

21st District (North Country and part of Albany area) Elise Stefanik, R, re-elected 62%. Trump 60%. The Senate is slow-walking Stefanik's confirmation as U.N. ambassador, and she probably won't resign until early April. That would set up an early July special election for the seat, with party leaders, not voters, selecting the nominees. Democrats picked dairy farmer Blake Gendebien, while Republicans may not make a choice for another month. Potential candidates include state Assemblyman Chris Tague, state Sen. Dan Stec, Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin, 2020/2022 congressional candidate Liz Joy, maple syrup producer Josh Parker, and several others. Read more about this race in the February 20 issue of *Inside Elections*. Likely Republican.

22nd District (Syracuse and Utica areas) John Mannion, D, elected 55%. Harris 54%. Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon would be a dream candidate for Republicans but it's not clear he's interested in running. Former state Assemblyman John Salka could run. Likely Democratic.

North Carolina.

1st District (Inland northeastern North Carolina) Don Davis, D, re-elected 49.5%. Trump 51%. Laurie Buckhout, the 2024 nominee who lost to Davis by less than 2 points, could run again though GOP strategists are skeptical she will take the plunge. Rocky Mount Mayor Sandy Roberson, who placed second in the 2022 GOP primary, is seriously considering another run. And state Sen. Bobby Hanig, who represents the heavily Republican eastern part of the district, could also run. Sandy Smith, the 2022 nominee who narrowly lost the 2024 nomination to Buckhout, may also run — she would be Republicans' weakest candidate and national Republicans have spent money against her in primaries before. Toss-up.

Ohio.

Ohio lawmakers have the opportunity to redraw their state's congressional map before the 2026 election. That process will be controlled by the GOP, which will look to boost its chances in at least the 9th and 13th districts, currently represented by Democrats Marcy Kaptur and Emilia Sykes. 1st District Democratic Rep. Greg Landsman has a more favorable and compact district and is less of a target. But Republicans may be wary of stretching their voters too thin and opening up members currently in safe seats surrounding the 9th and 13th districts to the possibility of a competitive race.

In the 9th, several Republicans will look at running, including former

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state Rep. Craig Reidel (who has run twice) and state Rep. Josh Williams, who met with Republican leadership to discuss a bid this week. State Rep. Haraz Ghanbari, an Army veteran, is also considering a bid. In the 13th, former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, the 2022 nominee, appears poised to run again.

On the GOP side, Rep. Mike Turner was publicly kneecapped by House Speaker Mike Johnson, who removed him from his powerful position as chairman of the Intelligence Committee, and while he has said he's running for re-election there's a chance he doesn't.

We are withholding ratings until the new map is drawn, but Republicans could be on track to gain one or two seats in Ohio next year.

Oregon.

4th District (Southern Willamette Valley and southern coast) Val Hoyle, D, re-elected 51%. Harris 54%. Hoyle's modest winning percentage masked her 8-point victory over Republican Monique DeSpain in 2024. Republicans thought allegations of misconduct during her time as labor commissioner would imperil Hoyle, but that just wasn't the case. Republicans need a strong challenger and good political environment, both of which are unclear right now. Solid Democratic.

5th District (Southern Portland suburbs and central Oregon) Janelle Bynum, D, elected 48%. Harris 52%. Democrats feared that GOP Rep. Lori Chavez DeRemer would win re-election and then challenge Democratic Sen. Jeff Merkley in 2026 in a good GOP environment with a Democrat in the White House. Instead, Bynum defeated DeRemer, Trump is in the White House, DeRemer joined his cabinet, and Republicans are focused elsewhere. Lean Democratic.

6th District (Salem area, Dallas and southwestern Portland suburbs) Andrea Salinas, D, re-elected 53%. Harris 54%. This district could be competitive with the right circumstances (good GOP political environment and strong challenger), but neither of those factors look like reality at this early stage. Solid Democratic.

Pennsylvania.

1st District (Northern Philadelphia suburbs) Brian Fitzpatrick, R, re-elected 56%. Harris 49.7%. Despite being one of just three Republicans in a district carried by Harris, Fitzpatrick is a low priority for Democrats. Bucks County Commissioner Bob Harvie is making moves to run. Likely Republican.

7th District (Lehigh Valley) Ryan Mackenzie, R, elected 51%. Trump 51%. Northampton County Executive Lamont McClure kicked off the Democratic primary by launching his campaign last week. The attorney has twice won the swing county in odd-year elections. But he may not have the primary field to himself. Former Rep. Susan Wild, who narrowly lost to Mackenzie in 2024, is considering another run but doesn't seem to be in a rush to make a decision. Anna Thomas, an environmental advocate from Bethlehem Township who lost two close state House races in 2022 and 2024 may look at running as well. Toss-up.

8th District (Scranton/Wilkes-Barre and northeastern Pennsylvania) Rob Bresnahan, R, elected 51%. Trump 54%. Former Rep. Matt Cartwright has expressed interest in a rematch after Bresnahan narrowly defeated him in 2024. If he does run, he'll clear the Democratic primary field. If he doesn't run, some Democrats see this district as trending away quickly. An attempt to recruit former Lackawanna county commissioner/Penn State quarterback Matt McGloin ended when McGloin took a football coaching job at Boston

College. Scranton Mayor Paige Cagnetti could be a compelling candidate for Democrats. Lean Republican.

10th District (Harrisburg and York areas) Scott Perry, R, re-elected 51%. Trump 52%. Former WGAL newscaster Janelle Stelson is seriously considering running again after coming a few points short of Perry in 2024 but outperforming the top of the ticket. If she runs, she won't have to navigate a competitive primary like she did last year, and she'll have the advantage of popular Democratic Gov. Josh Shapiro on the ballot as well. Tilt Republican.

17th District (Western and northern Pittsburgh suburbs) Chris Deluzio, D, re-elected 54%. Harris 52%. Deluzio isn't a priority for Republicans this cycle, who didn't invest in this district last year either. Likely Democratic.

South Carolina.

1st District (Coastal South Carolina and Charleston suburbs) Nancy Mace, R, re-elected 58%. Trump 56%. Mace is almost certainly running for governor next year, and there could be a crowded Republican primary to succeed her. After redistricting this seat got less attractive to Democrats, though state Rep. Spencer Wetmore could take a look at running. Solid Republican.

Tennessee.

6th District (Eastern Nashville and eastern suburbs and rural areas) Open; John Rose, R, running for governor. Trump 67%. With Rose waging a longshot bid for governor (Sen. Marsha Blackburn is the favorite), there's opportunity for new and old faces to emerge in the district. State Reps. Ryan Williams and Johnny Garrett could run, but so might Van Hilleary, who represented the area in Congress from 1995 to 2003 and has worked as Rose's chief of staff since 2018. Solid Republican.

Texas.

15th District (McAllen in the Rio Grande Valley to the outer San Antonio metro area) Monica De La Cruz, R, re-elected 57%. Trump



Courtesy Bobby Pulido

Bobby Pulido

59%. Tejano music star Bobby Pulido is taking steps to run against De La Cruz. He would begin the race with built-in name recognition and an apolitical biography. But national Democrats are likely to tread carefully in this district that has

rapidly shifted toward Republicans over the past three election cycles. Likely Republican.

18th District (Parts of central and northern Houston) Vacant; Sylvester Turner, D, died. Harris 69%. The 70-year-old congressman passed away after attending Trump's speech to the joint session of Congress on Tuesday night. Special elections in Texas are conducted using a Louisiana system, so all candidates run in the same primary and if no one gets more than 50 percent of the vote then the top-two vote getters advance to a runoff. The next Texas election day is May 3, but GOP Gov. Greg Abbott could drag his feet to deprive House Democrats

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of a vote for longer. Solid Democratic.

28th District (Laredo and eastern San Antonio suburbs) Henry Cuellar, D, re-elected 53%. Trump 53%. Cuellar continues to beguile friend and foe alike as he navigates a federal indictment on corruption charges and the changing politics of his district, once a Democratic bastion but now GOP-leaning. Some Democratic strategists believe he's angling for a pardon from Trump and might switch parties to secure one. Others think he'll stick with the Democrats. Operatives from both sides agree that the substance of the corruption charges doesn't hurt him in the district. If Republicans can't persuade Cuellar to switch parties, they'll try to run a Hispanic Republican against him this time, potentially Webb County Judge Tano Tijerina, who switched parties last year. Lean Democratic.

34th District (Eastern Rio Grande Valley) Vicente Gonzalez, D, re-elected 51%. Trump 52%. Former Rep. Mayra Flores is making noises about running after falling a few points short of Gonzalez in 2022 and 2024, but national Republicans are looking for a fresh candidate to take advantage of the favorable political trend in the district. Tilt Democratic.

Utah.

Ongoing litigation could result in new maps, potentially drawn by an independent commission, for the Beehive State ahead of the 2026 elections. If that happens, there's a chance that a Salt Lake City-based district could be competitive for Democrats, who held a previous version of that seat for 16 years in the 2000s and 2010s.

Virginia.

1st District (Western Chesapeake Bay and suburbs north and west of Richmond) Rob Wittman, R, re-elected 56%. Trump 52%. This district has steadily marched leftward, from voting for Trump by 13 points in 2016 to 6 points in 2020 and 4 points in 2024. So far, Wittman has managed to float above the partisan shift and outran Trump by 9 points last year, but Democrats are interested in taking a more serious run at him this cycle, with House Majority PAC placing him on its initial target list. But a candidate might not emerge for a while because of the state races in 2025; one potential contender named by Democratic sources, Henrico County Commonwealth's Attorney Shannon Taylor, is currently running for state attorney general. Likely Republican.

2nd District (Suburban Hampton Roads) Jen Kiggans, R, re-elected 51%. Trump 49.3%. Toss-up. Navy veteran Missy Cotter Smasal struggled to fundraise and never caught up to Kiggans in this swing district, which voted for Trump by a fraction of a point. She looks unlikely to run again. Democrats are looking for a candidate who can appeal to the district's two main constituencies: military-heavy Virginia Beach and predominantly Black and rural Southside. That might be state Del. Michael Feggans, an Air Force veteran who ousted a Republican in one of 2023's most competitive state legislative races, or state Sen. Aaron Rouse, a former football standout at Virginia Tech who succeeded Kiggans in the state Senate. But the focus on the 2025 gubernatorial and legislative elections in Virginia may delay this race's development. Toss-up.

7th District (Southern D.C. exurbs) Eugene Vindman, D, elected 51%. Harris 50%. Lean Democratic. Neither leading GOP candidate from 2024 is interested in running again, and Vindman has quickly become one of Democrats' most formidable fundraisers. GOP efforts to fire federal workers could be especially salient in this district. Lean Democratic.

10th District (Southwestern D.C. suburbs and exurbs) Suhas Subramanyam, D, elected 52%. Harris 53%. While the 10th hosted surprisingly close races in 2022 and 2024 it's not a focus for Republicans this cycle, who are perhaps wary of blowback to the mass firing of federal workers — many of whom live in this district. Solid Democratic.

Washington.

3rd District (Southwestern Washington) Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, D, re-elected 52%. Trump 49.9%. Two-time GOP nominee Joe Kent probably won't be his party's standard-bearer again after Trump nominated him to lead the National Counterterrorism Center. That's a



Bill Clark/CQ Roll Call

Marie Gluesenkamp Perez

welcome relief for Republicans who watched him struggle to raise money and explain his ties to white supremacists. While Gluesenkamp Perez will be a top target, this district is moving toward Democrats faster than most seats around

the country, and the sophomore representative has quickly carved out a moderate image in the national and local media. The congresswoman will likely have another tough race against someone without Kent's baggage. Camas City Councilwoman Leslie Lewallen, who placed third in the 2024 all-party primary, might run again. State Senate Minority Leader John Braun is another potential GOP candidate. Tilt Democratic.

4th District (Central Washington) Dan Newhouse, R, re-elected 53%. Trump 59%. Former NASCAR driver Jerrod Sessler is making a third attempt to oust Newhouse. Sessler, also a Republican, lost in the all-party primary in 2020 and in the general election in 2022. Newhouse is one of two Republicans left in Congress who voted to impeach President Trump. Solid Republican.

8th District (Eastern Seattle suburbs and part of Central Washington) Kim Schrier, D, re-elected 54%. Harris 51%. Commercial banker Carmen Goers was outspent 20-to-1 by Schrier in 2024 and only lost by 8 points, so a better-funded and organized GOP candidate might be able to make this district more competitive, but there isn't much appetite among Republicans to take on Schrier. Solid Democratic.

Wisconsin.

1st District (Southeastern Wisconsin) Bryan Steil, R, re-elected 54%. Trump 51%. If Democrats can maintain control of the Wisconsin state Supreme Court following this April's election, party strategists believe that there's a good chance the panel orders a redraw of the Badger State's congressional map. If that happens, Steil's district will be a prime target to make more Democratic and he could attract a credible contender. Likely Republican.

3rd District (Southwestern Wisconsin) Derrick Van Orden, R, re-elected 51%. Trump 53%. Democrats are excited about the prospect of 2024 nominee Rebecca Cooke running again. The political fundraiser, who focused more on her work waitressing and running a boutique goods store, overperformed both Harris and Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin in the 3rd District. Tilt Republican.

