

# STATE AND LOCAL MIDTERM ELECTIONS UPDATE

November 5, 2018

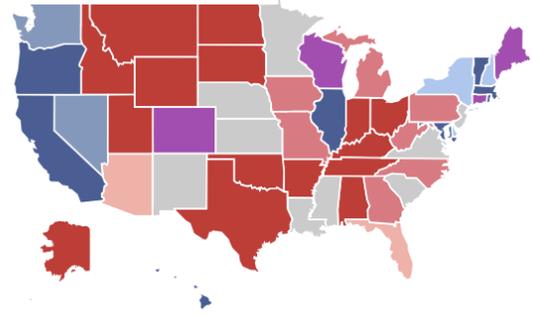
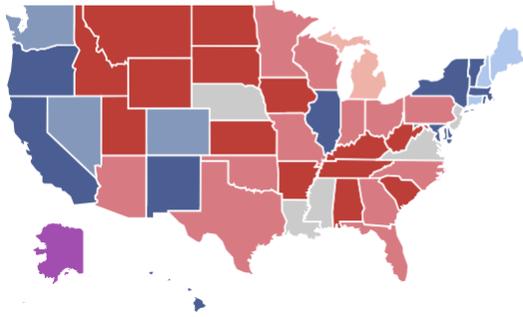
The 2018 midterm elections follow the Republican Party's significant gains in state legislative elections from 2010 through 2016. Republicans currently control 67 of 99 legislative chambers and 4,134 of 7,383 legislative seats, but the president's party loses on average 350 state legislative seats in the midterms. Of the 7,383 legislative seats, 6,073 are up for election tomorrow, as are 87 of the 99 legislative chambers.

## House of Representatives: 45 chambers at stake

## Senate: 42 chambers at stake

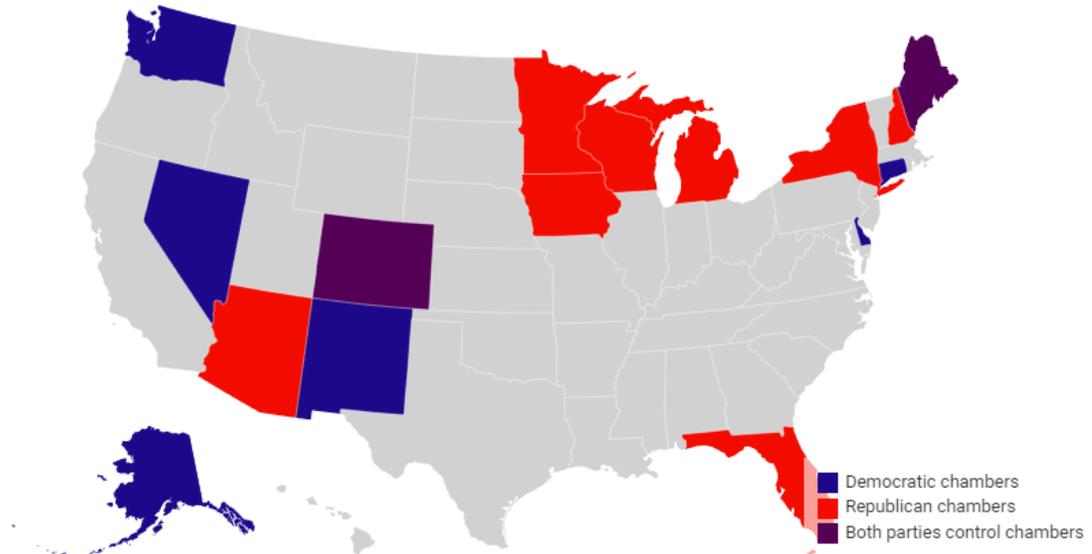
■ No Election  
 ■ Safe Democratic  
 ■ Likely Democratic  
 ■ Lean Democratic  
■ Tossup  
 ■ Safe Republican  
 ■ Likely Republican  
 ■ Lean Republican

■ No Election  
 ■ Safe Democratic  
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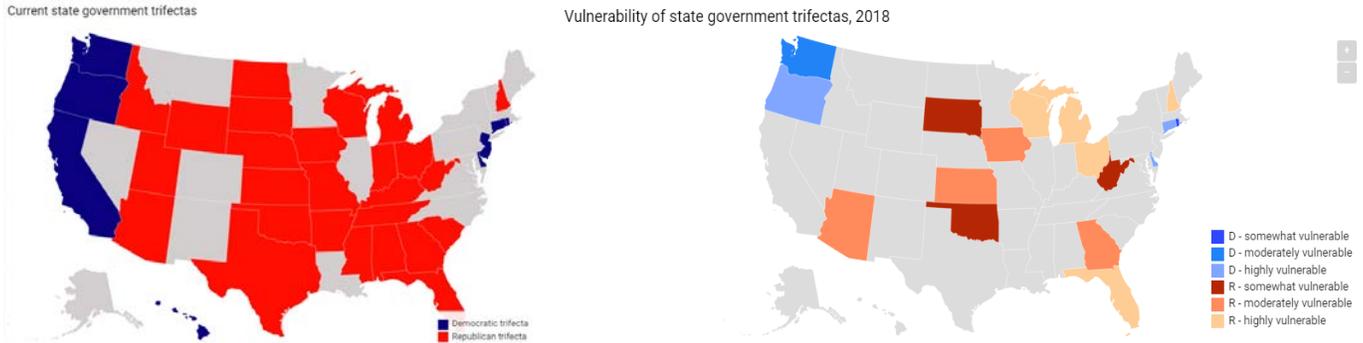
Ballotpedia has identified 22 battleground chambers for this year's midterm races, 10 controlled by Democrats and 12 controlled by Republicans. It is worth noting though that even if Democrats were to take control of all 12 Republican battleground chambers – or even the 14 identified by *Governing* – they would still be left with a significant advantage ahead of Democrats.

States with battleground chambers in 2018



Additionally, Ballotpedia's analysis shows that 18 of the country's 34 trifectas in which the same party holds the governorship, a majority in the state senate, and a majority in the state house are at least somewhat

vulnerable. Of those five are Democratic trifectas and 13 are Republican. Interestingly, 70 percent of Americans live in a state with a government trifecta.

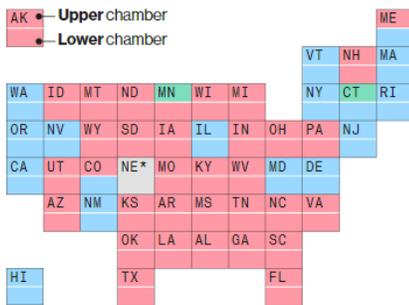


We also know that much of the post-2020 redistricting efforts will be impacted by the results of this year's midterm races. It is estimated that roughly one-eighth of the state legislators responsible for redistricting will be elected in 2018.

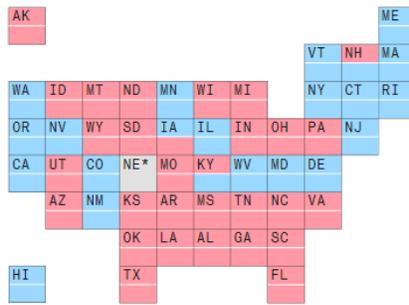
**State legislature control**

DEMOCRAT REPUBLICAN TIE

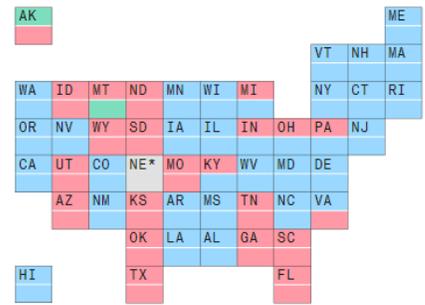
2018



2014



2010

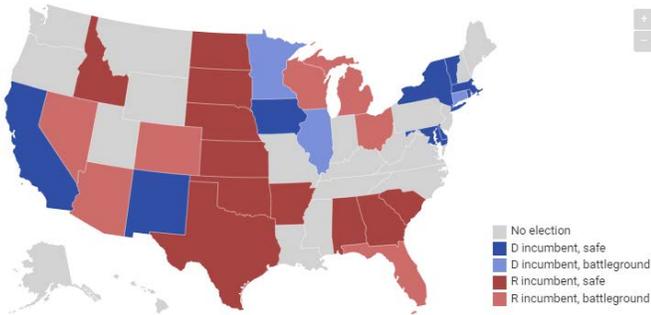


Source: Bloomberg

Bloomberg reports that the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee is targeting 17 seats that it says could flip eight state legislative chambers. They need just one seat in states such as Maine, Colorado and Minnesota. They've identified five races in Florida that Democrats must win to take control of the state senate. *Governing* reports that Republicans currently have 11 chambers at risk of flipping party control, compared to just four for the Democrats. And of the competitive chambers that are held by Republicans, three lean Democratic (NH House/Senate, NY Senate); three are tossups (CO Senate, ME Senate, WI Senate); and five lean Republican (AZ Senate, FL Senate, Iowa House, MI House, MN House). Of those held by Democrats, none are considered to lean Republican, and only one is listed as a tossup (AK House). Three lean Democrat (CT House, DE Senate, ME House). *Governing's* analysis suggests there are two tied chambers (CT Senate, MN Senate), that Connecticut is a tossup and Minnesota leans Republican.



to 10 seats. The most likely outcome is that Democrats will gain between six and eight seats. Anything over eight seats is a sign that there was a strong blue tide.”

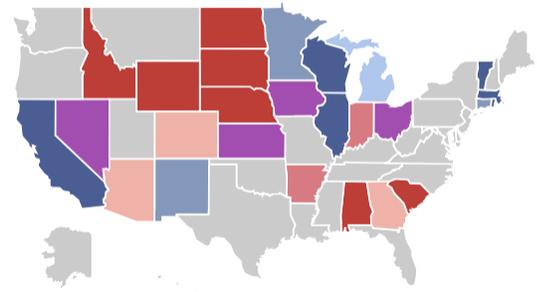
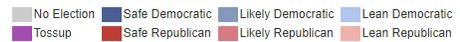


State Attorneys General Races

Additionally, the midterms are shaping up to significantly impact state attorneys general. Currently, the GOP holds 27 attorneys general offices, the Democrats hold 22 and there is one nonpartisan seat appointed by Alaska’s independent governor. 30 states will hold elections for their attorneys general tomorrow – 18 held by Republicans and 12 by Democrats – and ten have been identified by Ballotpedia as battleground races. These states include Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, Ohio, and Wisconsin. All of these states with

the exception of Arizona and Wisconsin have open attorneys general seats. *Governing’s* analysis also includes Georgia and South Carolina on the list of vulnerable attorneys general races.

*Governing* also has noted that the 2018 midterms present Democrats with a more favorable playing field in open races for secretaries of state. According to their analysis, Republicans have to defend a total of eight open seats – Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, Ohio, and South Dakota – whereas Democrats have to defend none. Eight of the 26 races are believed to be competitive with two ranked as leaning Republican, five as tossups, and one as leaning Democratic.



Secretaries of State Races

Lastly, below are the latest and final Real Clear Politics average polling for the top gubernatorial races we will be reporting for the 2018 midterm races:

<b>Arizona</b>	<i>Ducey (R) +13.4</i>	<b>Iowa</b>	<i>Hubbell (D) +0.7</i>	<b>Nevada</b>	<i>Laxalt (R) +1.0</i>
<b>Alaska</b>	<i>Dunleavy +5.8</i>	<b>Kansas</b>	<i>Kobach (R) +0.8</i>	<b>Ohio</b>	<i>Cordray (D) +4.7</i>
<b>Colorado</b>	<i>Polis (D) +6.5</i>	<b>Maine</b>	<i>Mills (D) +8.0</i>	<b>Oregon</b>	<i>Brown (D) +4.3</i>
<b>Florida</b>	<i>Gillum (D) +2.7</i>	<b>Michigan</b>	<i>Whitmer (D) +9.2</i>	<b>S. Dakota</b>	<i>Noem (R) +1.5</i>
<b>Georgia</b>	<i>Kemp (R) +2.8</i>	<b>Minnesota</b>	<i>Walz (D) +7.0</i>	<b>Tennessee</b>	<i>Lee (R) +13.8</i>