

ELECTION BRIEFING BOOK

A GUIDE TO THE 2012 ELECTION

NBC NEWS POLITICAL UNIT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview 2

2012: What's at stake 3

2012: State of play 3

Fast Facts 4

NBC News Battleground Map 5

The Path to 270 6

What if there's a tie? 9

The Money Race 10

Past Election Results (1980-2008) 13

Voter Turnout (1980-2010) 14

2008 Exit Polls 15

Decision 2012: How We Got Here 17

The Candidates on the Issues 20

Viewer's Guide 25

7:00 PM (6): Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia 26

7:30 PM (3): North Carolina, Ohio, West Virginia 27

8:00 PM (17): Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee 28

8:30 PM (1): Arkansas 32

9:00 PM (14): Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming 32

10:00 PM (4): Iowa, Montana, Nevada, Utah 36

11:00 PM (5): California, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington 37

1:00 AM (1): Alaska 38

Senate 39

House 76

Governors 78

The States 92

Key Ballot Measures 145

OVERVIEW:

2012: What's at stake, state of play, fast facts, NBC battleground map, path to 270, voter turnout, money race, Decision 2012 timeline, candidates on the issues

2012: WHAT'S AT STAKE

This year's election might not have the same huge rallies of four years ago. Or the unbridled energy and excitement. Or even Sarah Palin. But it could very well be a more consequential election – with so much at stake on Nov. 6.

The winner of the presidential contest between President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney could determine the fate of the Bush tax cuts (Romney wants to extend them all; Obama wants to extend them only for families making less than $250,000). The outcome also could decide the future of entitlement programs like Medicare and Medicaid (Obama wants to tinker with them; Romney wants to substantially overhaul them). And the race could impact the implementation of the 2010 federal health-care law (Romney wants to repeal it; Obama wants to keep it).

What's more, the winner could potentially fill as many as two or three Supreme Court vacancies – with Ruth Bader Ginsburg at age 79, Anthony Kennedy and Antonin Scalia at 76, and Stephen Breyer at 74 – which could change the court's political composition. Furthermore, whichever party wins the presidential contest will likely hold the upper hand in the "fiscal cliff" negotiations, which will begin immediately after the ballots are counted.

And Election Day 2012 will decide the balance of power in the U.S. Senate (currently controlled by the Democrats) and the U.S. House (controlled by the Republicans), as well as the party that sits in governors' mansions across the country.

2012: STATE OF PLAY

Presidency. This is a race to 270 electoral votes. Throughout the contest, President Obama has enjoyed more paths to 270 than Mitt Romney. But the Republican nominee's recent momentum has closed the gap in many of the top swing states, potentially making the race as close as the 2000 and 2004 presidential contests. A note: If there is a 269-269 electoral-vote tie, which has never happened before, the new House of Representatives would determine the election's outcome.

Senate. In the U.S. Senate, Democrats (and the independents who caucus with them) hold a 53-47 majority in the chamber. To win back control, Republicans must net four seats if Obama wins re-election or three seats if he doesn't. The reason: The vice president gets to break a 50-50 tie.

House. Following large gains in 2010, Republicans hold a 240-190 majority in the chamber (with five vacancies). This means Democrats must pick up a net of 25 seats to win back control – a doable but unlikely feat due in large part to redistricting. Both parties tried to use the once-in-a-decade process to their advantage. Republicans were better able to strengthen their incumbents and weaken opponents, but not to the level many observers predicted at the outset.

FAST FACTS

- If Obama is re-elected, it would be the first time since Jefferson, Madison, Monroe that Americans have elected three two-term presidents in a row.
- If President Obama loses, he will join Jimmy Carter as the only incumbent Democrat to lose re-election since the turn of the 20th century.
- Only once since the turn of the 20th century has a sitting president lost re-election after taking over from the opposite party four years earlier. That happened in 1980 when Ronald Reagan defeated Jimmy Carter.
- This is the first presidential election since World War II without a candidate on either ticket who has served in the military.
- This presidential election marks two-straight cycles without a southerner on the ticket. The last presidential election before 2008 without a southerner was 1972.
- This is the first presidential election since 1984 without a sitting or recently resigned U.S. senator on the ticket.[1]
- This is not Mitt Romney's first run for president, a trait he shares with every non-incumbent Republican nominee since 1968 – other than George W. Bush in 2000.
- Romney is unlikely to win Michigan, the state where he was born. Bob Dole is the only Republican nominee since Reagan to win the state in which he was born.
- This is the first election since 1972 – before the post-Watergate campaign-finance reforms – in which neither candidate has accepted public funds.
- Iowa and New Mexico are the only two states that have voted for successively different candidates in the past three presidential elections. They both voted for Gore (2000), Bush (2004) and Obama (2008).
- Of the seven NBC News toss-up states, five have been decided by single digit margins in the last five presidential elections. Those states are Colorado, Ohio, Virginia, Florida and New Hampshire.
- So far in this election cycle, outside groups have spent $787 million, up from $301 million in 2008 and $200 million in 2004.
- Ten U.S. senators are not seeking re-election this cycle – the most retirements since 1996. In addition, Republican Sen. Dick Lugar of Indiana was defeated in his state's primary, meaning at least 11 new faces will join the Senate next January.[2]
- Since 1832, at least one state with 10+ electoral votes has flipped from the previous cycle in 43 of 45 presidential elections. Indiana (and its 11 electoral votes) seems assured to flip this November, while Florida (29), Ohio (18), North Carolina (15), Virginia (13), and Wisconsin (10) remain candidates as well. (Via Univ. of Minnesota's Smart Politics)

[1] Bob Dole resigned his U.S. Senate seat in June 1996 in order to focus on the presidential race.
[2] Technically two candidates would not be entirely new if they won. Nebraska's Bob Kerrey (D) and Virginia's George Allen (R) have both served in the Senate previously, but are not sitting Senators.


NBC NEWS
DECISION 2012
NBC NEWS BATTLEGROUND MAP
270
243
206
WA 12
OR 7
CA 55
NV 6
ID 4
MT 3
WY 3
UT 6
AZ 11
CO 9
NM 5
ND 3
SD 3
NE 5
KS 6
OK 7
TX 38
MN 10
IA 6
MO 10
AR 6
LA 8
WI 10
IL 20
MS 6
MI 16
IN 11
KY 8
TN 11
AL 9
OH 18
WV 5
GA 16
FL 29
SC 9
NC 15
VA 13
PA 20
NY 29
VT 3
4 ME
NH 4
MA 11
RI 4
CT 7
NJ 14
DE 3
MD 10
DC 3
HI 4
AK 3

THE PATH TO 270

Bush 2004 victory

Bush (286): Alabama (9), Alaska (3), Arizona (10), Arkansas (6), Colorado (9), Florida (27), Georgia (15), Idaho (4), Indiana (11), Iowa (7), Kansas (6), Kentucky (8), Louisiana (9), Mississippi (6), Missouri (11), Montana (3), Nebraska (5), Nevada (5), New Mexico (5), North Carolina (15), North Dakota (3), Ohio (20), Oklahoma (7), South Carolina (8), South Dakota (3), Tennessee (11), Texas (34), Utah (5), Virginia (13), West Virginia (5), Wyoming (3)

Kerry (251): California (55), Connecticut (7), Delaware (3), District of Columbia (3), Hawaii (4), Illinois (21), Maine (4), Maryland (10), Massachusetts (12), Michigan (17), Minnesota (9), New Hampshire (4), New Jersey (15), New York (31), Oregon (7), Pennsylvania (21), Rhode Island (4), Vermont (3), Washington (11), Wisconsin (10)

*John Kerry's electoral vote total *should* have added up to 252, but a Minnesota Democratic elector cast a presidential ballot for Democratic *vice*-presidential candidate John Edwards, presumably a mistake.

Obama 2008 victory

Obama (365): California (55), Colorado (9), Connecticut (7), Delaware (3), District of Columbia (3), Florida (27), Hawaii (4), Illinois (21), Indiana (11), Iowa (7), Maine (4), Maryland (10), Massachusetts (12), Michigan (17), Minnesota (10), Nebraska (1), Nevada (5), New Hampshire (4), New Jersey (15), New Mexico (5), New York (31), North Carolina (15), Ohio (20), Oregon (7), Pennsylvania (21), Rhode Island (4), Vermont (3), Virginia (13), Washington (11), Wisconsin (10)

McCain (173): Alabama (9), Alaska (3), Arizona (10), Arkansas (6), Georgia (15), Idaho (4), Kansas (6), Kentucky (8), Louisiana (9), Mississippi (6), Missouri (11), Montana (3), Nebraska (4), North Dakota (3), Oklahoma (7), South Carolina (8), South Dakota (3), Tennessee (11), Texas (34), Utah (5), West Virginia (5), Wyoming (3)

A note on the 2012 electoral map

A state's electoral vote total is determined by the total members in its Congressional delegation (i.e. a state's U.S. House Representatives plus its two Senators).

Every decade, the House reapportions the distribution of Representatives based on population changes reflected in the U.S. Census, thus shifting the electoral map. The 2012 election will be the first election that reflects the population changes observed in the 2010 Census.

2012 Electoral Changes

2008 Obama States
- Florida (+2)*
- Nevada (+1)*
- Washington (+1)
- Iowa (-1)*
- Illinois (-1)
- Massachusetts (-1)
- Michigan (-1)
- New Jersey (-1)
- Pennsylvania (-1)
- New York (-2)
- Ohio (-2)*

2008 McCain States
- Texas (+4)
- Arizona (+1)
- Georgia (+1)
- So. Carolina (+1)
- Utah (+1)
- Louisiana (-1)
- Missouri (-1)

**Indicates toss-up state*

President Obama

GO BIG… If Obama wins all of Kerry's states from 2004 (246 EV) plus New Mexico (5), where he's favored, and two of the three battleground states of Florida (29), Ohio (18) and Virginia (13) – a.k.a. FLOHVA – Obama would easily surpass 270 electoral votes.

WINNING WITHOUT FLOHVA… If Obama holds all the Kerry states (246) plus New Mexico (5) and combines the small swing states – New Hampshire (4), Nevada (6), Colorado (9), Iowa (6) – it gets the president to 272, a scenario in which Obama could win the presidency *without* winning Florida, Ohio or Virginia.

But if Obama loses *any* of the non-FLOHVA swing states – Colorado (9), Iowa (6), Nevada (6), New Hampshire (4), or Wisconsin (10) – he *must* win either Florida, Ohio, or Virginia.

OHIO PLUS (OUTSIDE THE MIDWEST). Begin with the assumption Obama holds all the Kerry states (246) plus New Mexico (5), which gets him to 251. Add Ohio (18) and that still would not be enough. In fact, it brings us to the dreaded tie scenario of 269-269. Therefore, Obama would then need to add just *one* of the following:

- **Big states.** Virginia (13), Florida (29) or North Carolina (15).
- **Small states.** Iowa (6), Colorado (9) or Nevada (6), all of which were won by both Obama in 2008 *and* Bush in 2004. Obama is favored in Nevada, making this scenario his most likely path past 270. It underscores why Ohio is so important.

THE MIDWEST FIREWALL. In addition to the Kerry states plus New Mexico, Obama could surpass 270 electoral votes by simply winning Iowa (6), Ohio (18), and Wisconsin (10). And polls show that Obama might be running the strongest in these three states. But Romney simply picking off just one of these states breaks this firewall.

THE HISPANIC FIREWALL. In poll after poll, Obama has fared very well with Hispanics, even outpacing his 2008 numbers in some cases. The trio of Western swing states where Hispanic populations are high – Nevada (6), Colorado (9), New Mexico (5) – have a combined 20 electoral votes. That's *more* than Ohio (18) or Virginia (13). But with the Kerry states, the Hispanic firewall only gets him to 266. He would still need one more state – e.g. Iowa (6) or Ohio (18) – to get past 270.

Governor Romney

THE TRADITIONAL, GO BIG… In this scenario – the most likely winning scenario for Romney – he begins by holding the traditional red states. If he sweeps the big states of Florida (29), Ohio (18) and Virginia (13) and adds just one more swing state, he crosses 270.

WINNING WITHOUT FLOHVA? It's very difficult for Romney. There's almost no scenario we can come up with that gives Romney a victory without winning *at least one* of the FLOHVA states. Even if you give him Wisconsin (10), Michigan (16), Nevada (6), Colorado (9) and New Hampshire (4), where he owns a home, Romney is still only at 257. All of those states plus Pennsylvania (20) would put Romney just over the top at 273, but polls show Obama ahead in Pennsylvania and the Romney campaign is not spending money there on advertising. Neither is it in Michigan, making a scenario in which Romney wins without FLOHVA nearly impossible.

CAN ROMNEY WIN WITH JUST ONE OF FLOHVA? Yes, but it's a narrow path. And he would likely have to do it with the one state being Florida (29). To get there, Romney would also have to pick off Colorado (9) and Nevada (6) in the West, Wisconsin (10) and Iowa (6) in the industrial Midwest, and New Hampshire (4). That scenario would bring Romney to 270 on the nose.

FLORIDA A MUST-WIN FOR ROMNEY? If you give Florida (29) to Obama, Romney's prospects significantly dwindle. If Romney wins every toss-up state but Florida – meaning he wins Colorado (9), Iowa (6), New Hampshire (4), North Carolina (15), Ohio (18), Virginia (13) and Wisconsin (10) – he is still only at 266. He would then need to win at least one state that currently leans Obama, meaning he would need to win Nevada (6), New Mexico (5), Michigan (16), Pennsylvania (20) or Minnesota (10) – a very tall order.

THE INDUSTRIAL MIDWEST. The industrial Midwest is very important for Romney. If Romney wins Florida (29) and Virginia (13), it brings him to 269. If Romney doesn't win Nevada (6) or Colorado (9), he would then need at least one industrial Midwest swing state – Wisconsin (10), Michigan (16), Iowa (6), Ohio (18) – to get over the top and break the tie.

WHAT IF THERE'S A TIE?

By Pete Williams

With 538 presidential electors, it takes 50% plus one to win, or 270 electoral votes, because the 12th Amendment requires a candidate to get a majority to be elected.

But with an even number of electors, a 269-269 tie is possible. It's also possible that a presidential elector becomes "faithless," failing to vote as pledged and depriving a candidate of a majority.

A federal law sets the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December (this year, Dec. 17) as the date for the electors to meet and vote. Federal law also sets Jan. 6 as the date for the votes to be counted before a joint session of Congress. Because that's a Sunday in 2013, custom calls for the votes to be counted on Monday Jan. 7. Note it's the new Congress that does the counting, because new members will have been sworn in on Jan. 3.

If neither candidate gets at least 270 electoral votes, the 12th Amendment specifies what happens next, a procedure called a contingent election:

- The House chooses the president, with each state getting one vote and 26 needed to win. If the House were to tie 25-25, it would have to continue voting until a candidate received a majority, because there is no tie-breaking procedure in the House. Though the Constitution is silent on how each state determines its vote, it would be based on a decision of each state's House delegation. Based on the state of House races across the country, a tie would likely favor Mitt Romney barring unexpectedly large pickups for House Democrats.
- The Senate chooses the vice president, with each senator getting one vote and 51 needed to win. If the Senate were to tie 50-50, scholars and parliamentary experts agree the sitting vice president (as Senate president) would break the tie.
- Because Washington, DC is not a state, it would not participate in a contingent election, even though it has three presidential electors.

The full House has chosen the president twice, in 1801 (Thomas Jefferson over John Adams and Aaron Burr) and 1825 (John Quincy Adams over William Crawford and Andrew Jackson). The 1801 election preceded the 12th Amendment and the system used today.

The full Senate has chosen the vice president only once, in 1837 (Richard Johnson over Francis Granger to be Martin Van Buren's vice president).

Since the founding, several presidential electors have been "faithless." The most recent were in 1988, when a West Virginia elector voted for Michael Dukakis's running mate, Lloyd Bentsen, for president instead of Dukakis; in 2000, when a Washington, DC elector abstained instead of voting for Al Gore; and in 2004, when a Minnesota elector voted for John Edwards for both president and vice president. No faithless elector has ever affected an election's outcome.

THE MONEY RACE

Note: The data provided is current as of 1:00 pm ET on Oct. 24, 2012. The data provided is for the general election and it dates back to the week of March 19, when general election ads began running in earnest. Update memos will be sent around as we get closer to the election and the numbers change.

Fundraising

Romney campaign
Total receipts: $361 million
Total spent: $298 million
Cash on hand: $63 million
Debts: $5 million
Candidate contribution: $52,500

Obama campaign
Total receipts: $567 million
Total spent: $470 million
Cash on hand: $99 million
Debts: $2.6 million

Ad Spending

Overall: $883 million
Team Romney (includes outside groups): $510 million
Team Obama (includes outside groups): $373 million

Total spending by the campaigns: $490 million
Obama campaign: $312 million
Romney campaign: $178 million

Total outside spending: $393 million (45% of total)
Outside spending supporting Obama: $61 million
Outside spending supporting Romney: $332 million

Just how much money comes from outside groups?
The $393 million spent on just TV and radio ads surpasses the record for *total* spending – for things like mailers, staff, and keeping the lights on – by outside groups in previous cycles. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, when all expenditures for outside groups are taken into account, they've spent $728 million so far.

Outside spending through the years:

2012 - $728 million	2000 - $51 million
2010 - $295 million	1998 - $15 million
2008 - $302 million	1996 - $18 million
2006 - $69 million	1994 - $10 million
2004 - $200 million	1992 – $19 million
2002 - $27 million	1990 - $7 million

Source: Center for Responsive Politics

Total TV/Radio spending by advertiser

Obama campaign.....$312 million
Romney campaign .....$178 million
Restore Our Future (pro-Romney) .....$83 million
American Crossroads (pro-Romney) .....$79 million
Crossroads GPS (pro-Romney).....$61million
Priorities USA (pro-Obama).....$55 million
Americans for Prosperity (pro-Romney) .....$46 million
Republican National Committee (pro-Romney) .....$28 million
Americans for Job Security (pro-Romney).....$11 million
American Future Fund (pro-Romney).....$7 million
Concerned Women for America (pro-Romney).....$4.8 million
National Rifle Association (pro-Romney).....$4 million
Tom Petterfy (pro-Romney).....$2.8 million
SEIU (pro-Obama) .....$2.5 million
American Energy Alliance (pro-Romney) .....$2.5 million
Planned Parenthood (pro-Obama).....$1.5 million
Secure America Now (pro-Romney) .....$1.2 million
League of Conservation Voters (pro-Obama) .....$1.1 million
Priorities/League of Conservation Voters (pro-Obama).....$1 million
Women Speak Out (pro-Romney) $300,000
MoveOn.org (pro-Obama) $280,000
*Jill Stein (Green Party candidate) $111,000

Top states

1. Ohio $181 million
2. Florida $177 million
3. Virginia $132 million
4. Colorado $77 million
5. North Carolina $69 million
6. Iowa $69 million
7. Nevada $54 million
8. New Hampshire $39 million
9. Wisconsin $37 million
10. Pennsylvania $19 million ($0 from Romney campaign)
11. Michigan $15 million ($0 from either campaign)
12. Minnesota $6 million
13. Maine $134,000 (all Restore Our Future)
14. New Mexico $49,000

The Swing Markets (won by Bush and Obama)

There are just 17 "swing" markets, won by both Bush and Obama. The campaigns are only playing in 15 of those. The missing two are both in Michigan.

Here are the swing markets (alphabetically by state):

- Orlando-Daytona Beach, FL
- Tampa-St. Petersburg-Sarasota, FL
- Des Moines, IA
- Grand Rapids-Kalamazoo, MI
- Lansing, MI
- Reno, NV
- Raleigh-Durham, NC
- Columbus, OH
- Toledo, OH
- Charlottesville, VA
- Norfolk-Portsmouth-Newport News, VA
- Richmond-Petersburg, VA
- Green Bay, WI
- Milwaukee, WI

Ad spending by month

Ad spending really picked up after Labor Day and the conventions. In just a month and a half, more than half of all ad spending took place with $457 million in ads booked since then.

October	$320 million*
September	$136 million
August	$128 million
July	$143 million
June	$84 million
May	$55 million
April	$17 million

*__Note:__ The figures for Oct. include $12 million spent on ads for the first week of November *so far*.

PAST ELECTION RESULTS (1980-2008)

1980:		
(R) Ronald Reagan/George Bush	43,903,230 (50.8%)	489 electoral votes
(D) James Carter/Walter Mondale	35,480,115 (41%)	49 electoral votes
1984:		
(R) Ronald Reagan/George Bush	54,455,472 (58.8%)	525 electoral votes
(D) Walter Mondale/Geraldine Ferraro	37,577,352 (40.6%)	13 electoral votes
1988:		
(R) George Bush/Danforth Quayle	48,886,597 (53.4%)	426 electoral votes
(D) Michael Dukakis/Lloyd Bentsen	41,809,476 (45.7%)	111 electoral votes
1992:		
(D) William Clinton/Albert Gore	44,909,806 (43%)	370 electoral votes
(R) George Bush/Danforth Quayle	39,104,550 (37.5%)	168 electoral votes
(Ref.) Ross Perot/James Stockdale	19,743,821 (19%)	0 electoral votes
1996:		
(D) William Clinton/Albert Gore	47,400,125 (49.2%)	379 electoral votes
(R) Robert Dole/Jack Kemp	39,198,755 (40.7%)	159 electoral votes
(Ref.) Ross Perot/Pat Choate	8,085,402 (8.4%)	0 electoral votes
2000:		
(R) George W. Bush/Richard Cheney	50,460,110 (47.9%)	271 electoral votes
(D) Albert Gore/Joseph Lieberman	51,003,926 (48.4%)	266 electoral votes
(G) Ralph Nader/Winona LaDuke	2,883,105 (2.7%)	0 electoral votes
2004:		
(R) George W. Bush/Richard Cheney	62,040,610 (50.7%)	286 electoral votes
(D) John Kerry/John Edwards	59,028,439 (48.2%)	251 electoral votes
2008:		
(D) Barack Obama/Joseph Biden	69,499,428 (52.9%)	365 electoral votes
(R) John McCain/Sarah Palin	59,950,323 (45.6%)	173 electoral votes

Source: Dave Leip's Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections

VOTER TURNOUT (1980-2010)

The 2008 presidential election set a record for voter turnout. With margins razor thin in many battleground states, turnout could be a deciding factor.

With Obama performing better in polls among the wider universe of registered voters than likely voters, a larger turnout would probably benefit the president while a smaller turnout would help Romney.

FAST FACT...

A record **133 million** voted in the **2008** presidential election.

2010 set the midterm turnout record, when **86 million** went to the polls.

Midterm Elections

YEAR	TURNOUT %	TOTAL TURNOUT
2010	41.0%	90 million
2006	40.4%	86 million
2002	39.5%	80 million
1998	38.1%	75 million
1994	41.1%	75 million
1990	38.4%	68 million
1986	38.1%	65 million
1982	42.1%	68 million
AVG	**39.7%**	

Presidential Elections

YEAR	TURNOUT %	TOTAL TURNOUT
2008	61.6%	133 million
2004	60.1%	124 million
2000	54.2%	107 million
1996	51.7%	96 million
1992	58.1%	104 million
1988	52.8%	92 million
1984	55.2%	93 million
1980	54.2%	87 million
AVG	**56%**	

Source: George Mason University, United States Elections Project

2008 EXIT POLLS

	2008	2004
Gender		
Men	Obama 49-48 (47% of total)	Bush 55-44 (46% of total)
Women	Obama 56-43 (53% of total)	Kerry 51-48 (54% of total)
Key subgroups		
Suburban women	Obama 52-46 (26% of total)	Tie 50-40 (24% of total)
Women – not married	Obama 70-29 (20% of total)	Kerry 62-37 (22% of total)
Men – married	McCain 53-46 (33% of total)	Bush 60-39 (30% of total)
White working-class men (non-college, income < $50K)	McCain 53-44 (8% of total)	Bush 57-42 (9% of total)
	2008	**2004**
Race		
White	McCain 55-43 (74% of total)	Bush 58-41 (77% of total)
Black	Obama 95-4 (13% of total)	Kerry 88-11 (11% of total)
Hispanic	Obama 67-31 (9% of total)	Kerry 58-40 (8% of total)
Asian	Obama 62-35 (2% of total)	Kerry 56-44 (2% of total)
Other	Obama 66-31 (3% of total)	Kerry 54-40 (2% of total)
	2008	**2004**
Age		
18-29	Obama 66-32 (18% of total)	Kerry 54-45 (17% of total)
30-44	Obama 52-46 (29% of total)	Bush 53-46 (29% of total)
45-64	Obama 50-49 (37% of total)	Bush 52-47 (38% of total)
65+	McCain 53-45 (16% of total)	Bush 52-47 (16% of total)
	2008	**2004**
Education		
No high school diploma	Obama 63-35 (4% of total)	Kerry 50-49 (4% of total)
High school graduate	Obama 52-46 (20% of total)	Bush 52-47 (22% of total)
Some college/assoc. degree	Obama 51-47 (31% of total)	Bush 54-46 (32% of total)
College graduate	Obama 50-48 (28% of total)	Bush 52-46 (26% of total)
Post-graduate study	Obama 58-40 (17% of total)	Kerry 55-44 (16% of total)
No College Degree	Obama 53-46 (56% of total)	Bush 53-47 (58% of total)
College Graduate	Obama 53-45 (44% of total)	Tie 49-49 (42% of total)
	2008	**2004**
Income		
Under $30,000	Obama 65-33 (18 % of total)	Kerry 59-40 (23% of total)
$30-50,000	Obama 55-43 (19% of total)	Kerry 50-49 (22% of total)
$50-100,000	Tie 49-49 (36% of total)	Bush 56-44 (37% of total)
$100-200,000	McCain 51-48 (20% of total)	Bush 57-42(15% of total)
Over $200,000	Obama 52-46 (6% of total)	Bush 63-35 (3% of total)

	2008	2004
Party identification		
Democrat	Obama 89-10 (39% of total)	Kerry 89-11 (37% of total)
Republican	McCain 90-9 (32% of total)	Bush 93-6 (37% of total)
Independent	Obama 52-44 (29% of total)	Kerry 49-48 (26% of total)
	2008	**2004**
Ideology		
Liberal	Obama 89-10 (22% of total)	Kerry 85-13 (21% of total)
Moderate	Obama 60-39 (44% of total)	Kerry 54-45 (45% of total)
Conservative	McCain 78-20 (34% of total)	Bush 84-15 (34% of total)
	2008	**2004**
RELIGION		
Protestant/other Christian	McCain 54-45 (54% of total)	Bush 59-40 (54% of total)
Catholic	Obama 54-45 (27% of total)	Bush 52-47 (27% of total)
Jewish	Obama 78-21 (2% of total)	Kerry 74-25 (3% of total)
Other	Obama 73-22 (6% of total)	Kerry 74-23 (7% of total)
None	Obama 75-23 (12% of total)	Kerry 67-31 (10% of total)
Key subgroups		
White evangelical	McCain 74-24 (26% of total)	Bush 78-21 (23% of total)
Attend religious services at least weekly	McCain 55-43 (40% of total)	Bush 61-39 (41% of total)
	2008	**2004**
Condition of nation's economy		
Excellent/good	McCain 72-26 (7% of total)	Bush 87-13 (47% of total)
Not so good	McCain 59-40 (44% of total)	Kerry 72-26 (35% of total)
Poor	Obama 66-31 (49% of total)	Kerry 92-6 (17% of total)
	2008	**2004**
FAMILY FINANCIAL SITUATION COMPARED TO FOUR YEARS AGO		
Better	McCain 60-37 (24% of total)	Bush 80-19 (32% of total)
Worse	Obama 71-28 (42% of total)	Kerry 79-20 (28% of total)
Same	McCain 53-45 (34% of total)	Kerry 50-49 (39% of total)

DECISION 2012: HOW WE GOT HERE

2011 New year, new Congress

Jan. 5: The 112th Congress – with Republicans now in control of the House – begins.

Jan. 8: 22-year-old Jared Lee Loughner kills six and injures others, including Rep. Gabby Giffords (D), in Tucson, AZ. Four days later, President Obama delivers a speech in Tucson honoring the victims and calling for civility.

2011 Spring: Springtime spending spats

Mar. 19: Western forces begin air strikes in Libya against forces loyal to Moammar Khaddafy.

Apr. 4: President Obama files paperwork to launch re-election campaign.

Apr. 5: Then-House Budget Committee Chair Paul Ryan unveils GOP budget, entitled "The Path to Prosperity," which would overhaul Medicare and other federal entitlement programs.

Apr. 27: Obama releases his long-form birth certificate to silence "birther" critics, including Donald Trump.

May 1: Obama announces in televised speech that Osama bin Laden is dead.

May 5: GOP presidential candidates participate in first debate in SC.

2011 Summer: Debt hits the ceiling, candidates hit the trail

Jun. 2: In a speech to supporters gathered at a farm in New Hampshire, Mitt Romney officially announces his presidential bid.

Jul. 31: After months of contentious on-again, off-again negotiations, Congress and White House reach deal on raising the debt the ceiling.

Aug. 5: S&P downgrades U.S. debt in the wake of the fractious debt-ceiling debate

2011 Fall/Winter: Campaign heats up, blazes toward Iowa

Nov. 9: GOP candidates participate in their ninth debate in MI – where Texas Gov. Rick Perry has his "oops" moment, during which Perry fails to recall the third of three federal agencies he is in favor or eliminating.

Dec. 3: Herman Cain suspends his presidential campaign – about a week after a woman alleged having a 13-year affair with him.

Dec. 10: GOP candidates participate in their 12th debate in IA, during which Romney offers Perry his $10,000 bet.

2012 Winter/Spring: The GOP primary gets underway

Jan. 3: By the narrowest of margins, Romney wins the Iowa caucuses – but it is later determined that Rick Santorum actually won.

Jan. 10: Romney triumphs in the New Hampshire primary.

Jan. 21: Gingrich wins the South Carolina primary.

Jan. 31: Romney wins the Florida primary.

Feb. 28: In a very close primary contest, Romney edges Santorum in Romney's native state of Michigan, 41%-38%. Romney also wins in Arizona.

Mar. 6: On Super Tuesday, Romney wins Alaska, Idaho, Massachusetts, Ohio, Vermont, and Virginia; Santorum wins North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Tennessee; and Gingrich wins Georgia.

Apr. 10: Days after losing the Wisconsin primary to Romney, Santorum suspends his presidential campaign, effectively bringing the GOP nomination fight to an end.

2012 Summer: Shifting toward the general election

May 1: On anniversary of bin Laden's death, Obama makes surprise visit to Afghanistan to sign security agreement calling for the withdrawal all U.S. combat troops by the end of 2014.

May 9: Obama says he personally supports gay marriage, after opposing it in his 2008 campaign.

Jun. 5: Gov. Scott Walker (R) defeats Tom Barrett (D) in Wisconsin recall race.

Jun. 8: Republicans pounce on Obama saying, "The private sector is doing fine" at White House news conference.

Jun. 15: Obama announces that his administration would no longer deport young illegal immigrants who have graduated from high school, served in the military, and have a clean criminal record.

Jun. 28: In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court rules the federal health-care law constitutional.

Jul. 13: At campaign rally in Roanoke, VA, Obama delivers the "You didn't build that" line, and the Romney camp seized on it days later. "If you were successful, somebody along the line gave you some help," he said. "There was a great teacher somewhere in your life. Somebody helped to create this unbelievable American system that we have that allowed you to thrive. Somebody invested in roads and bridges. If you've got a business – you didn't build that. Somebody else made that happen."

Jul. 25: Romney embarks on his overseas trip to England, Israel, and Poland, which receives very mixed reviews.

Aug. 11: Mitt Romney announces Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan as his VP pick.

Aug. 19: Rep. Todd Akin, the GOP's Senate nominee in Missouri, explains his opposition to abortion in cases of rape, saying that pregnancies by rape are rare. "If it's a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down."

2012 Fall: The home stretch

Aug. 30: Romney delivers convention speech, from Tampa, FL, accepting the Republican Party's presidential nomination.

Sep. 6: Obama delivers convention speech, from Charlotte, NC, accepting Democratic Party's presidential nomination.

Sep. 11: Romney fires off statement blasting the U.S. embassy in Egypt condemning the "efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims." Romney said in the statement: "It's disgraceful that the Obama administration's first response was not to condemn attacks on our diplomatic missions, but to sympathize with those who waged the attacks." But the original embassy statement was issued before the attacks on the U.S. embassies in Egypt and Libya.

Sep. 17: A surreptitiously recorded video of Romney – from a fundraiser in May – shows Romney telling wealthy donors that "47%" of the country that doesn't pay income taxes, that is dependent on government and that believes "they are victims" will vote for Obama no matter what." He adds in the video, "My job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives." Romney later holds a press conference, where he said his comments were "not elegantly stated" but also stood behind his remarks. He later calls his remarks "completely wrong.

Oct. 3: In Colorado, the presidential candidates face off in first debate, in which Romney delivers a strong performance and Obama a lackluster one.

Oct. 11: In Kentucky, Biden and Ryan debate.

Oct. 16: Rebounding from his first performance, Obama largely outshines Romney in their second debate from New York.

Oct. 22: Obama and Romney participate in their final debate – on foreign policy – from Florida.

THE CANDIDATES ON THE ISSUES

Abortion

ROMNEY: Although maintaining he personally didn't favor abortion, said he supported Roe v. Wade in his 1994 and 2002 bids for office. But during his '08 presidential bid, stressed his opposition to abortion, except in the cases of rape, incest, or to save the mother's life. And in 2012, said that he wanted the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade.

OBAMA: Has been a consistent supporter of abortion rights, and has used the issue of reproductive rights to hit Romney, especially in the Northern Virginia and Denver media markets.

Critics have accused the federal health-care law of using taxpayer dollars to fund abortions – a charge the White House denies; Obama even issued an executive order to ensure federal funds aren't being used to pay for abortion services.

Critics also argued that the health-care law's mandate that insurance plans provide free access to contraception violates the religious beliefs of Catholic institutions. The law exempts churches from this requirement, but it doesn't exempt religious-affiliated institutions (like universities, charities, and hospitals). In Feb. 2012, Obama announced a compromise where women who work for these religious-affiliated groups would have contraception coverage, but would obtain it directly through their insurers.

Afghanistan

ROMNEY: Has not articulated a clear position on Afghanistan. Repeatedly spoke out against issuing timelines, saying they showed President Obama's "naiveté." But then endorsed a 2014 drawdown – the same timeline issued by the president. Also during a GOP presidential primary debate, raised eyebrows when he said, "But I also think we've learned that our troops shouldn't go off and try and fight a war of independence for another nation. Only the Afghanis can win Afghanistan's independence from the Taliban." Yet in later debates, said he wouldn't negotiate with the Taliban; in fact, he said he would beat them. But that would only require a longer U.S. commitment in Afghanistan.

OBAMA: In 2009, the president announced a surge of some 30,000 U.S. troops to Afghanistan. Three years later, the U.S. said troops would be drawn down by 2014 – but the president also signed an agreement committing to work with Afghanis as they move to secure their own country through 2024. Also part of that agreement, the U.S. will get access to Afghan facilities, but the U.S. will not seek permanent bases there. But Afghanistan has seen an uptick in violence, and NATO forces have been faced with the problem of their security forces being killed and targeted by soldiers in Afghan uniforms.

Economy

ROMNEY: According to the economic plan he unveiled in Sept. 2011 and the major economic speech he delivered in Feb. 2012, Romney wants to cut individual tax rates (a 20% reduction in marginal taxes), corporate tax rates (to 25%), and taxes on capital gains and dividends.

In addition, he advocates reducing regulations, increasing domestic energy production, and expanding free trade. And he believes that economic growth requires spending discipline – supporting a cap on spending and a constitutional amendment to balance the budget.

Most recently, Romney has boiled down his economic message to five principles: 1) take advantage of domestic energy resources, 2) give Americans the job skills they need, 3) forge new trade agreements, 4) balance the budget, and 5) reduce taxes.

OBAMA: His signature economic measure was the $787 billion stimulus, which non-partisan observers (like the Congressional Budget Office) believe reduced unemployment and increased economic growth – but which also didn't lead to an economic boom.

In Aug. 2012, the unemployment rate was at 8.1%, which is below where it was during Obama's first full month in office (and down from its high of 10.0% in Aug. 2009). The unemployment rate has been above 8% for 43-straight months.

In Sept. 2011 – after the bruising debt-ceiling showdown – Obama introduced his American Jobs Act, which included extending the payroll tax cut and unemployment insurance, giving tax cuts to small businesses that hire new workers, and investing in transportation and new schools. Congress did pass some of the measures (like the payroll tax cut and unemployment insurance) but didn't act on others.

Health care

ROMNEY: His plan in Massachusetts is widely regarded as the blueprint for the president's national plan. (He recently acknowledged being the "grandfather of Obamacare.") Romney doesn't back away from his plan, but has drawn a very fine distinction – that it was good at a state level, but shouldn't be implemented at a federal one.

If elected, Romney vows to repeal the Affordable Care Act and replace it with narrower provisions like reforming medical malpractice rules and making sure people with preexisting conditions are not dropped from their health insurance. The last provision landed Romney in some controversy when, on Meet the Press, he said, "I'm not getting rid of all of healthcare reform. Of course, there are a number of things that I like in healthcare reform that I'm going to put in place." He later walked that back, saying, "ObamaCare must be repealed – in its entirety." But added that he would push a plan that included not allowing people to "be dropped from their insurance if they get ill."

OBAMA: It took a lot of political capital – and may have cost Democrats the U.S. House in 2010 – but President Obama's Affordable Care Act represents his biggest domestic achievement. It then became the subject of state-based lawsuits and then upheld by a narrow 5-4 majority by the U.S. Supreme Court. At the heart of those cases is the so-called individual mandate, which requires all adults to have health insurance. Obama's support for a mandate might have been his biggest flip-flop. He campaigned against it for nearly two years and then implemented it as president. Though Republicans have derisively termed the Affordable Care Act "ObamaCare," the president now fully embraces the moniker.

Immigration

ROMNEY: During his GOP presidential primary fights in 2007-2008 and 2011-2012, opposed comprehensive immigration reform, even though he seemed to endorse a path to citizenship in a 2006 interview. He also advocated building a wall building a fence/wall between the U.S. and Mexico. But after President Obama announced his administration's policy to no longer deport qualified young illegal immigrants, Romney said he would work to achieve a long-term solution to immigration. (Yet Romney refused to say whether he would overturn this executive action if he wins the White House.

Also during the '12 primary season, Romney said he would veto the DREAM Act; he touted the endorsement of Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach (who helped co-author Arizona's controversial immigration law); and he called for the "self-deportation" of illegal immigrants, saying: "People decide they can do better by going home because they can`t find work here because they don`t have legal documentation to allow them to work here."

OBAMA: In 2008, campaigned on passing comprehensive immigration reform, but was unable to achieve that – blaming opposition from congressional Republicans (including some who previously backed comprehensive immigration reform).

Also tried to pass the DREAM Act – an effort to give some children of illegal immigrants a chance at legal status – but the legislation wasn't able to get the 60 votes in the Senate needed to clear a procedural hurdle.

After his administration had overseen a record number of illegal immigrant deportations, Obama announced on June 15, 2012 that it would no longer deport young illegal immigrants who have graduated from high school, served in the military, and have a clean criminal record – a modification of the DREAM Act.

Iran

ROMNEY: Has taken an especially harsh tone toward Obama on this issue, calling it perhaps the president's "biggest failure." Says Obama's policies have not prevented Iran from pursuing development of a nuclear weapon. Because of the threat Iran poses to Israel, the subject of Iran was a hot topic in the OP presidential primary.

Romney's plan toward Iran involves: 1) demonstrating military strength and readiness; 2) increasing military and intelligence coordination with Israel to be "ready to deal with Iran"; 3) pursuing a fifth round of sanctions; 4) indicting Ahmadinejad for "genocide under Article III of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide"; and 5) supporting the Iranian opposition.

OBAMA: Under President Obama, the U.S. pursued diplomatic avenues with Iran, then tough sanctions through the United Nations, and even a degree of cyber war. (The U.S. was reportedly involved in attacking the computer system of one of Iran's nuclear facilities.) The president has had a strained relationship at times with Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu, in part, because of the president's early insistence that Israel halt settlement expansion as a condition to the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Netanyahu has called for the U.S. to set "red lines" against Iran – something the White House and State Department have declined to do.

Medicare

ROMNEY: Has essentially endorsed the latest version of the Ryan budget plan, which substantially transforms Medicare by giving future seniors a payment – Democrats call it a "voucher," Republicans call it "premium support" – to purchase health insurance. Under Ryan's plan, seniors would have the choice of buying private insurance or through Medicare's traditional fee-for-service model.

In 2011, the Congressional Budget Office said the original Ryan plan – which didn't provide the choice of remaining in Medicare – would force most seniors to pay more for their health care than under the current Medicare system.

Romney stresses that any Medicare changes would apply to future seniors (starting in 2022) and that lower-income seniors would receive more generous benefits. But he also advocates raising Medicare's eligibility age.

Romney also has issued a counterattack to Democratic charges that the Romney-Ryan plan would substantially transform Medicare – he has accused Obama of raiding $716 billion from the program to pay for the health-care law.

OBAMA: Instead of substantially transforming Medicare – as Romney and the Republicans advocate – Obama supports making tweaks to shore up the program. Those tweaks include asking wealthy seniors to pay more and reducing subsidies to drug companies. But his biggest reform came with the health-care law, which created the Independent Payment Advisory Board (whose members are chosen by the president and confirmed by the Senate) to identify additional savings in Medicare.

The health-care law also found $716 billion in Medicare savings (primarily in payments to providers and insurers, not in payments to beneficiaries), which extended the solvency of the program's trust fund until 2024.

During the debt-ceiling talks, according to the Huffington Post, Obama offered to increase Medicare's eligibility age from 65 to 67 to get Republicans to accept increased tax revenues

Social Security

ROMNEY: Advocates raising the retirement age for future seniors to shore up Social Security's finances. Wants poor recipients to receive more generous benefits, and thinks wealthier recipients should receive less.

OBAMA: Has called for a bipartisan approach to shoring up Social Security's finances. Backs raising the income cap on Social Security taxes (now at about $107,000) as a way to get more revenues for the program. Opposes increasing the retirement age.

Syria

ROMNEY: Has called for the overthrow of the Assad regime, beginning with the U.S. and allies arming the rebels. Romney's plan boils down to: 1) arming the rebels; 2) pushing for sanctions at UN; 3) involving Saudi Arabia and Turkey to leverage political pressure to protect civilians; and 4) saying the U.S. would support a post-Assad regime.

OBAMA: As he did with Libya, Obama made the decision not to get the U.S. overtly involved with military action in Syria. He instead opted to give the "Annan peace process" a chance to work. But when it looked destined for failure, as government-led violence increased, Obama called for Assad to step down and approved of clandestine support for the opposition – though the extent of that support remains unclear. Obama said the use or movement of chemical weapons by Syria, however, would be a "red line." That could change his "calculus" on whether to send in troops.

VIEWER'S GUIDE:

A hot races quick guide of what to watch as the polls close

VIEWER'S GUIDE: What to watch as the polls close across the country

The following is an hour-by-hour, state-by-state, race-by-race, condensed guide of what to watch as the polls close. With each race, we provide ratings from the Cook Political Report:

- **SOLID**: These races are not considered competitive and are not likely to become closely contested.
- **LIKELY**: These seats are not considered competitive at this point but have the potential to become engaged.
- **LEAN**: These are considered competitive races but one party has an advantage.
- **TOSS UP**: These are the most competitive races; either party has a good chance of winning.

POLL CLOSING TIMES

All times are Eastern Time. Some states have multiple time zones. NBC News will not call a race until all polls close in that state, even if the majority of polls close in an earlier time zone.

7:00 pm (6): Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia
7:30 pm (3): North Carolina, Ohio, West Virginia
8:00 pm (16): Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, DC, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee
8:30 pm (1): Arkansas
9:00pm (14): Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming
10:00pm (4): Iowa, Montana, Nevada, Utah
11:00 pm (5): California, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington
1:00am (1): Alaska

7:00 PM (6): Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia

GEORGIA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Nathan Deal (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R) is up in 2014. Sen. Johnny Isakson (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 14.
    - **GA-12:** Redistricting made this race much more difficult for incumbent **John Barrow (D)**, who faces off against Georgia **State Sen. Lee Anderson (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP.

INDIANA

- **Governor:** Conservative star **Mike Pence (R)** is leaving the House of Representatives to run for Indiana governor. He faces **John Gregg (D),** former Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives. The seat is open due to term limits on current Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels (R). Cook Political Rating: LIKELY R
- **Senate: Tea Party-backed** Indiana Treasurer **Richard Mourdock (R)** defeated six-term incumbent Sen. Dick Lugar (R) in an insurgent primary battle. But Mourdock recently stirred controversy in a debate by saying that "even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that is something that God intended to happen." Mourdock later tried to clarify, saying he did not think god intended for rape to happen, but his non-incumbent status and controversial remark give the Democratic nominee, **Rep. Joe Donnelly (D)**, a shot at picking up the seat. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 9.
    - **IN-8:** Freshman **Rep. Larry Bucshon (R)** faces Democratic challenger **Dave Crooks (D)**, a former state Rep. and radio talk show host. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R

Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont, No. Carolina 7:00/7:30 PM ET

KENTUCKY

- **Governor:** No election. The second and final term of Gov. Steve Beshear (D) ends in 2015.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Mitch McConnell (R), the Senate Republican Leader, is up in 2014. Freshman Sen. Rand Paul (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 6.
    - **KY-6:** Four-term incumbent **Rep. Ben Chandler (D)** was one of the few white southern Democrats to survive the 2010 wave. He faces off in a rematch against attorney **Andy Barr (R)**, whom Chandler beat by only 647 votes last time around. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP.

SOUTH CAROLINA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Nikki Haley (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Lindsey Graham (R) is up in 2014. Sen. Jim DeMint (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 7.

VERMONT

- **Governor:** After one two-year term, incumbent **Gov. Peter Shumlin (D)** is up for re-election. He faces state Sen. **Randy Brock (R).** Given Vermont's solidly blue hue and the fact that it is a presidential year, Brock will be hard pressed to make this a competitive contest. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **Senate:** First-term incumbent **Sen. Bernie Sanders (I)** runs as an independent but caucuses with Democrats. As such, no Democrat even filed to challenge him in November. Sanders will face **John MacGovern (R)**, a former member of the Massachusetts state legislature. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 1.

VIRGINIA

- **Presidential battleground:** As Virginia goes, so goes the nation? In 2008, Obama won the state by a 53%-46% margin – exactly matching Obama's national win. The same could likely hold true in 2012.
- **Governor:** No election. Due to term limits, the seat – currently held by Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) – is up in 2013.
- **Senate:** Two former Virginia governors face off for the seat vacated by retiring Sen. Jim Webb (D) in what has emerged as one of the nation's most hotly contested Senate races. **Tim Kaine (D)** is a former governor and former Democratic National Committee chairman. **George Allen (R)** is a former governor and a former Senator from Virginia. Allen held the Senate seat he's running for, but lost to Sen. Webb in 2006. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 11.

7:30 PM (3): North Carolina, Ohio, West Virginia

NORTH CAROLINA

- **Presidential battleground:** Obama barely carried the state in 2008, and it's probably Romney's easiest toss-up state to flip from blue to red in 2012. But polls in the state still show a close contest between Romney and Obama.
- **Governor:** Current North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue (D) opted not to seek re-election, leaving the North Carolina gubernatorial seat open. The Republican nominee **is former Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory (R)**, who narrowly lost the 2008 gubernatorial contest. The Democratic nominee is **Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Kay Hagan (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Richard Burr (R) is up in 2016.

N. Carolina (cont.), Ohio, W. Virginia, Alabama, Conn. 7:30/8:00 PM ET

- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 13.
    - **NC-7**: **Rep. Mike McIntyre (D)** was one of the few white Southern Democrats to survive 2010. He faces a tough race against state Sen. **David Rouzer (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

OHIO



- **Presidential battleground**: No Republican has ever won the presidency without winning the Buckeye State. But Ohio, according to the polls, has been more of a challenge for Romney than any other battleground state.
- **Governor:** No election. Gov. John Kasich (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Incumbent first-term **Sen. Sherrod Brown (D)** faces a tough challenge from state Treasurer **Josh Mandel (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 16.
    - **OH-6:** Freshman **Rep. Bill Johnson (R)** faces former **Rep. Charlie Wilson (D)**, the two-term Democrat Johnson narrowly unseated in 2010. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
    - **OH-16:** Ohio's 16th district essentially has two incumbents: two current members of Congress, **Rep. Jim Renacci (R)** and **Rep. Betty Sutton (D),** are running against each other due to their districts being merged as part of redistricting. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

WEST VIRGINIA

- **Governor**: **Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D)** became governor in Nov. 2010 after then-Gov. Joe Manchin (D) resigned to assume West Virginia's junior U.S. Senate seat. On Election Day, Tomblin faces businessman **Bill Maloney (R)**, his Republican challenger from the 2011 special election to fill the remainder of Manchin's term. Tomblin won that race 50 to 47. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D.
- **Senate: Sen. Joe Manchin (D)** faces Republican businessman **John Raese (R)**, whom Manchin defeated in a 2010 special election to fill the seat of the late Sen. Robert Byrd (D). Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 3.

8:00 PM (17): Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee

ALABAMA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Robert Bentley is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Richard Shelby (R) is up in 2016. Sen. Jeff Sessions (R) is up in 2014.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 7.

CONNECTICUT

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) is up in 2104.
- **Senate:** Democratic **Rep. Chris Murphy (D)** faces off against 2010 Senate nominee and former World Wrestling Entertainment CEO **Linda McMahon (R)** to fill the open seat of retiring Sen. Joe Lieberman (I). Lieberman ran as an independent but caucuses with the Democrats, making Connecticut a possible pickup for Republicans. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 5.
    - **CT-5**: Connecticut's 5th district is open due to Rep. Chris Murphy (D) running for Senate. Former state Rep. **Elizabeth Esty (D)** faces off against liberal GOP state Sen. **Andrew Roraback (R).** Cook Political Rating: LEAN D

Delaware, Florida, Illinois 8:00 PM ET

DELAWARE

- **Governor:** Incumbent **Gov. Jack Markell (D)** faces nominal opposition from Republican businessman **Jeff Cragg (R)**. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **Senate:** Incumbent **Sen. Tom Carper (D)** should have no trouble fending off a challenge from businessman **Kevin Wade (R)**. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 1.

FLORIDA



- **Presidential battleground:** This state is absolutely a must-win for Romney, and the polling so far shows it to be a toss-up with a perhaps a slight advantage to Romney.
- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Rick Scott (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Two-term incumbent **Sen. Bill Nelson (D)** faces current **Rep. Connie Mack (R)**, known for being married to Sonny Bono's widow, Rep. Mary Bono (R), and for being the great-grandson of Cornelius McGillicuddy, who owned and managed the Philadelphia Athletics for 50 years. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D.
- **House:** 5 races to watch out of 27.
  - **FL-2: Rep. Steve Southerland (R)** faces fmr. state **Sen. Al Lawson (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **FL-10**: In a race that just recently tightened, **Rep. Dan Webster (R)** faces retired Orlando police chief **Val Demings (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **FL-18:** Freshman **Rep. Allen West (R)**, a prominent face of the Tea Party, faces construction executive **Patrick Murphy (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **FL-22:** Florida's 22nd district is a new seat to emerge out of the state's redistricting process. Former state House Minority Leader and West Palm Beach Mayor **Lois Frankel (D)** is slightly favored over GOP state Rep. **Adam Hasner (R),** who dropped running for U.S. Senate to run and brought $600,000 with him. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
  - **FL-26:** Freshman **Rep. David Rivera (R)** faces challenger **Joe Garcia (D)**, who ran as the Democrats' nominee for the seat in 2008 and 2010. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D

ILLINOIS

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Pat Quinn (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Dick Durbin (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Mark Kirk (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 6 races to watch out of 18.
  - **IL-08:** Freshman **Rep. Joe Walsh (R)** was swept into Congress in 2010 and quickly made headlines as one of the most controversial Republican critics of the president. Democrats in the Illinois legislature redistricted him into a heavily Democratic district and he is expected to lose to Iraq war veteran **Tammy Duckworth (D).** Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
  - **IL-10:** No House Republican represents a more Democratic district than incumbent **Rep. Bob Dold (R)**, who has raised over $2 million and emphasizes his support for Planned Parenthood and Israel. But after redistricting took away his best precincts, he's an underdog against businessman **Brad Schneider (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **IL-11:** Seven-term **Rep. Judy Biggert (R)** faces an uphill battle after the Illinois legislature redrew her district and packed it with Democrats. Biggert, who is pro-choice and has a crossover record, faces deep-pocketed physicist and former Democratic Rep. **Bill Foster (D).** Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **IL-12:** Current Rep. Jerry Costello (D) is retiring, leaving this seat open. After their first candidate dropped out, Democrats are fielding retired Illinois National Guard **Gen. (Ret.) Bill Enyart (D)**, who has been playing catch up to 29-year-old GOP lumber businessman **Jason Plummer (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **IL-13:** Current Rep. Tim Johnson (R) announced he was retiring *after* the state's primary, sending republicans scrambling to find a candidate. They picked **Rodney Davis (R)**, a former top aide to Rep. John Shimkus (R). Democrats are running physician **David Gill (D)**, a perennial loser against Johnson. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **IL-17:** Incumbent **Rep. Bobby Schilling (R)**, a former pizza shop owner who took this seat from Democrats in 2010, faces an uphill battle holding off **Cheri Bustos (D),** a former East Moline alderwoman and TV reporter who benefits from the 17th CD's strong Democratic lean post-redistricting. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri 8:00 PM ET

MAINE

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Paul LePage (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** With three-term Sen. Olympic Snowe (R) retiring, Maine could determine the balance of power in the Senate. Former two-term Gov. **Angus King (I)** is running as an independent and currently leads in statewide polls. But King has said he will not decide which party he'll caucus with until he is elected. National Democrats are confident King will caucus with them and are not backing the Democratic nominee, state Sen. **Cynthia Dill (D)**. The Republican nominee, Maine Secretary of State **Charlie Summers (R)**, is hoping King and Dill will split enough votes to leave him on top. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 2.

MARYLAND

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Martin O'Malley (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Incumbent **Sen. Ben Cardin (D)** should have no problem heading off challenger **Dan Bongino (R)**, a former Secret Service agent. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 6.

MASSACHUSETTS

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Deval Patrick (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No Senate race this cycle is as high profile as the Bay State's race for Ted Kennedy's old seat. **Sen. Scott Brown (R)**, who won an upset victory in a January 2010 special election for the seat, faces Harvard professor **Elizabeth Warren (D)**, known for her role in establishing the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:**
  - **MA-6:** Incumbent **Rep. John Tierney (D)** has been bogged down by a negative story about his wife's involvement in her brother's illegal offshore gambling enterprise. He faces state Sen. **Richard Tisei (R).** Cook Political Rating: LEAN R

MISSISSIPPI

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Phil Bryant (R) is up in 2015.
- **Senate: Sen. Roger Wicker (R)** will have little trouble fending off a challenge from **Al Gore Jr. (D)**, a retired Methodist minister and Army chaplain said to be a distant relative of Vice President Al Gore. Cook Political Rating: SOLID R
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 4.

MISSOURI

- **Governor:** Incumbent **Gov. Jay Nixon (D)** is slightly favored to fend off a challenge from businessman **Dave Spence (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
- **Senate:** In one of the country's most talked-about Senate races, Republicans had **Sen. Claire McCaskill (D)** as one of their top targets for Senate pickups until her challenger, **U.S. Rep. Todd Akin (R)**, set off a firestorm after using the phrase "legitimate rape" in an interview discussing abortion. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 8.

New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania 8:00 PM ET

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- **Presidential battleground**: It's next door to Romney's home state of Massachusetts, but New Hampshire – according to most public polls – has been a challenge for him until late, when Romney has narrowed the gap.
- **Governor:** New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch (D) is retiring, setting up a close race between former state Sen. **Maggie Hassan (D)** and attorney and 2010 Senate nominee **Ovide Lamontagne (R)** to replace him. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Jeane Shaheen (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 2.
  - **NH-1: Rep. Frank Guinta (R)**, former Mayor of Manchester, faces **former Rep. Carol Shea-Porter (D)**, whom Guinta unseated in 2010. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **NH-2:** Current **Rep. Charlie Bass (R)** was first elected in 1994, defeated in 2006 and then elected again in 2010. He faces attorney **Ann McLane Kuster (D)**, whom he defeated for this seat in 2010. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D

NEW JERSEY

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Chris Christie (R) is up in 2013.
- **Senate: Sen. Bob Menendez (D)** is unlikely to face too much resistance despite having a strong opponent in state Sen. **Joe Kyrillos (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 12.
  - **NJ-3: Rep. Jon Runyan (R)**, a former Philadelphia Eagles offensive lineman, snagged this seat from Democrat John Adler in 2010. Adler died unexpectedly in 2011 from complications arising from staph infection, but Adler's wife, former Cherry Hill, NJ Councilwoman **Shelley Adler (D)**, is running to take back his seat. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R

OKLAHOMA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Mary Fallin (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Jim Inhofe (R) is up in 2014. Sen. Tom Coburn (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 5.

PENNSYLVANIA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Tom Corbett (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Bob Casey (D)** appears to be in good shape in his re-election bid. But the Republican candidate, **Tom Smith (R),** is a self-made coal businessman who has been willing to put millions of his own money into the campaign. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 18.
  - **PA-8**: Republicans shored up the district of **Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick (R)** by about a point in the state's redistricting process. Fitzpatrick, who served in the House for one term before losing his seat in 2006 and then regaining it in 2010, still faces a tough challenge from attorney **Kathryn Boockvar (D).** Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **PA-12: Rep. Mark Critz (D)** won this seat in a May 2010 special election after the death of longtime Congressman John Murtha, for whom Critz worked. Critz survived the 2010 midterms, but he is vulnerable to a challenge from attorney **Keith Rothfus (R)** after GOP-led redistricting made his district more conservative. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

Rhode Is., Tenn., Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado 8:00/8:30/9:00 PM ET

RHODE ISLAND

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Lincoln Chafee (I) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D)** should not have too much trouble defeating his Republican challenger, software executive **Barry Hinckley (R)**. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 2.
  - **RI-1**: **Rep. David Cicilline (D)** has faced lots of recent bad press about his mismanagement of Providence finances when he served as the city's mayor. He hopes his district's solid blue leaning will help fend off a challenge from Rhode Island State Police Superintendent **Brendan Doherty (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D

TENNESSEE

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Bill Haslam (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Bob Corker (R)**, who narrowly beat then-U.S. Rep. Harold Ford (D) for this Senate seat in 2006, should have no trouble this time around. The Democratic nominee, self-described author and anti-gay rights activist **Mark Clayton (D)**, has been disavowed by the state Democratic Party for his affiliation with a D.C.-based advocacy organization that the Southern Poverty Law Center has labeled an active anti-gay group. Cook Political Rating: SOLID R
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 9.

8:30 PM (1): Arkansas

ARKANSAS

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Mike Beebe (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Mark Pryor (D) is up in 2014. Sen. John Boozman (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 4.

9:00 PM (14): Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming

ARIZONA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Jan Brewer (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Arizona voters haven't elected a Democrat to the U.S. Senate since 1988, but Democrats are pursuing the seat, left open by retiring three-term Sen. Jon Kyl (R). Republicans nominated **U.S. Rep. Jeff Flake (R)**, a popular House member from outside Phoenix. Flake will face **fmr. U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 8.
  - **AZ-1:** Arizona's 1st District is one of the state's new districts. Former **Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D)**, who lost her previous House seat in 2010, will face off against **former state Sen. Jonathan Paton (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **AZ-9**: Another new Congressional District for Arizona, the 9th District comprises a well-educated, liberal-leaning area around Tempe and East Phoenix. State Sen. **Kyrsten Sinema (D)** and fmr. Paradise Valley Mayor **Vernon Parker (R)** are fighting it out for the new seat. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D

COLORADO



- **Presidential battleground**: Obama won this state by nearly 9 percentage points in 2008, but it is shaping up to be one of the most competitive of all presidential battlegrounds in 2012.
- **Governor:** No election. Gov. John Hickenlooper (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Mark Udall (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Michael Bennet (D) is up in 2016.

Colorado (cont.), Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota 9:00 PM ET

- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 7.
  - **CO-3: Rep. Scott Tipton (R)** ousted three-term Democrat John Salazar in 2010, but he now faces a challenge from the state House Minority Leader **Sal Pace (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **CO-6: Rep. Mike Coffman (R)** was hurt when redistricting moved GOP-leaning Douglas County out of his district. He faces a challenge from state Rep. **Joe Milosi (D)** for one of the Democrats' top House targets out West. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

KANSAS

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Sam Brownback (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Pat Roberts (R) is up in 2014. Sen. Jerry Moran (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 4.

LOUISIANA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Bobby Jindal's (R) 2nd term ends in 2015.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Mary Landrieu (D) is up in 2014. Sen. David Vitter (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 6.

MICHIGAN

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Rick Snyder (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D)** faces fmr. Rep. **Peter Hoekstra (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 14.
  - **MI-1:** Freshman **Rep. Dan Benishek (R)** faces a rematch against his 2010 opponent, fmr. state Rep. **Gary McDowell (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **MI-11:** In a strange series of events, this seat is currently vacant. Then-Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R), who launched a failed bid for the GOP presidential nomination this year, botched the signatures on his petition to get on the ballot and then abruptly resigned less than a month before the Republican primary. Republicans ended up nominating a libertarian reindeer farmer and Santa impersonator named **Kerry Bentivolio (R)**. The mess gives the Democratic nominee, physician and Canton Township Trustee **Syed Taj (D)**, a shot at what would have otherwise been a safe Republican seat. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R

MINNESOTA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Mark Dayton (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D)** will face state Rep. **Kurt Bills (R)** in her bid for a second term. Polling gives Klobuchar a healthy advantage over the unknown and underfunded Bills. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 8.
  - **MN-6:** Former GOP presidential candidate **Rep. Michelle Bachmann's (R)** faces hotel businessman **Jim Graves (D)**, the strongest challenger Bachmann has faced since being elected in 2006. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **MN-8:** Freshman Rep. Chip Cravaack (R) pulled off one of the biggest upsets of 2010 when he defeated 36-year Democratic incumbent James Oberstar (D) in a district that had not been in GOP hands since the Truman administration. Cravaack now faces businessman and **former Rep. Rick Nolan (D)**, who served in the House for three terms in the 1970s. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

Nebraska, New Mexico, New York 9:00 PM ET

NEBRASKA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Dave Heineman (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Two-term Sen. Ben Nelson (D) is retiring, leaving Nebraska a prime target for Republicans to pick up a Senate seat. Democrats have nominated former Nebraska Gov. and Sen. (and 1992 presidential candidate) **Bob Kerrey (D)** to try to hold the seat. He faces state Sen. **Debra Fischer (R)**, who, despite little name recognition, will benefit from Nebraska's conservative electorate. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY R
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 3.

NEW MEXICO

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Susana Martinez (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** The retirement of five-term Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D) leaves this seat open. New Mexico's Democratic tilt will make it difficult for former U.S. Rep. **Heather Wilson (R)** to top **U.S. Rep. Martin Heinrich (D)**, despite both candidates running strong races. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 3.

NEW YORK

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D)** laid to rest any doubts about her appeal as a statewide candidate when she won a special election in 2010 with 63 percent of the vote. She has only continued to solidify her position and approaches November with $10.5 million in the bank and a healthy lead over Republican attorney **Wendy Long (R)**. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 7 races to watch out of 27.
  - **NY-1:** This will be a rematch between **Rep. Tim Bishop (D)** and businessman **Randy Altschuler (R)**, whom Bishop narrowly beat in 2010. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **NY-11**: An upset 2010 victor, former FBI agent **Rep. Michael Grimm (R)** faces real estate investor and former actor **Mark Murphy (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **NY-18**: Freshman **Rep. Nan Hayworth (R)**, who has made a name for herself with an uncompromising, Tea Party style, faces former Clinton White House Staff Secretary **Sean Patrick Maloney (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **NY-19**: After redistricting, more than half freshman **Rep. Chris Gibson's (R)** district is new territory. He will have a tough battle against former CIA counsel **Julian Schreibman (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **NY-21**: **Rep. Bill Owens (D)** won this seat in a special election after then-Rep. John McHugh (R), who had represented the 23rd District since 1993, accepted President Obama's offer to become secretary of the Army. Owens has since benefitted from ideological battles between New York Republicans and the New York Conservative Party. This cycle, conservatives have united behind the 2010 Republican nominee, investment banker **Matt Doheny (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
  - **NY-24**: An unlikely winner in 2010, **Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle (R)** will face an uphill battle in a rematch against **former Rep. Dan Maffei (D)**, who lost to Buerkle by less than 1,000 votes last cycle. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **NY-27**: After then- Rep. Chris Lee (R) resigned following revelations he solicited sex on Craigslist, **Rep. Kathy Hochul (D)** won this seat in a May 2011 special election by hammering the Ryan budget as a Republican attack on Medicare. She faces former Erie County Executive **Chris Collins (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming 9:00 PM ET

North Dakota

- **Governor: Gov. Jack Dalrymple (R)** became Governor in Dec. 2010 when then-Gov. John Hoeven resigned to become the state's junior U.S. senator. The Democratic nominee, state Senate Minority Leader **Ryan Taylor (D)**, is unlikely to make this a truly competitive race in this solidly red state in a presidential year. Cook Political Rating: SOLID R
- **Senate:** With four-term Sen. Kent Conrad (D) retiring, former North Dakota Attorney General **Heidi Heitkamp (D)** is giving the state's at-large **U.S. Rep. Rick Berg (R)** a run for his money in a state that is usually red. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** No race to watch out of 1.

South Dakota

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Dennis Daugaard (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Tim Johnson (D) is up in 2014. Sen. John Thune (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** No race to watch out of 1.

Texas

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Rick Perry (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** The real race to replace three-term Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R) came in the Republican primary, when Tea Party favorite and fmr. Texas Solicitor General **Ted Cruz (R)** defeated Lt. Gov David Dewhurst (R) in a run-off. Cruz is all but assured victory in November against fmr. state Rep. **Paul Sadler (D)**. Cook Political Rating: SOLID R
- **House:** 2 race to watch out of 36.
  - **TX-14:** In the seat left open by the retirement of Rep. Ron Paul (R), state Rep. **Randy Weber (R)** faces **Nick Lampson (D),** a former U.S. Rep. who has lost and then come back to win a congressional seat twice before. The only other Rep. to serve three non-consecutive House terms? Ron Paul. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **TX-23**: **Rep. Francisco Canseco (R)** snagged this seat in 2010 from five-term Rep. Ciro Rodriguez (D) to become one of five new Hispanic Republicans elected in the House last cycle. He faces state **Rep. Pete Gallego (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

Wisconsin



- **Presidential battleground:** Obama won this state by nearly 14 percentage points in 2008 (though John Kerry barely carried it in '04). This time around, it promises to be much closer, due to Wisconsin's Paul Ryan being on the GOP ticket and the party's success in recent elections there.
- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Scott Walker (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Wisconsin has a very competitive race with Republicans looking to pick up a seat following the retirement of four-term Sen. Herb Kohl (D). **Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D)** faces Wisconsin's popular **fmr. Gov. Tommy Thompson (R)**, who survived a divisive ideological primary to emerge as the GOP candidate. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 8.
  - **WI-7**: A former lumberjack champion, MTV Real World star and Ashland County prosecutor, **Rep. Sean Duffy (R)** won this hallowed Democratic seat that was left open by Democratic stalwart and House Appropriations Committee chairman Rep. David Obey (D), who retired after representing the district for 40 years. Duffy faces **Pat Kreitlow (D)**, a former news anchor and former state Senator. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **WI-8**: Democrats hope business consultant **Jamie Wall (D)** can defeat freshman **Rep. Reid Ribble (R)** in this Green Bay district that tends to get swept away by the national tide. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY R

Wyoming

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Matt Mead (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. John Barrasso (R)** should coast to victory against Democratic nominee **Tim Chesnut (D)**, commissioner of Wyoming's Albany County.
- **House:** No race to watch out of 1.

10:00 PM (4): Iowa, Montana, Nevada, Utah

IOWA

- **Presidential battleground**: Before the debates began, Obama enjoyed an advantage in the Hawkeye State. Although polls tightened for a time, recent surveys have found Obama to be in a stronger position than Romney.
- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Terry Branstad (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Tom Harkin (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 3 races to watch out of 4.
  - **IA-2: Rep. Dave Loebsack (D)** finds himself in a slightly more competitive district after redistricting. He faces **John Archer (R)**, the well-connected counsel for John Deere. Cook Political Rating: LIKELY D
  - **IA-3:** Iowa's new 3rd District merges the old 3rd and 4th Districts into one. The race features a showdown between two sitting congressmen: **Rep. Leonard Boswell (D)** and **Rep. Tom Latham (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R
  - **IA-4**: This race features five-term incumbent and conservative stalwart **Rep. Steve King (R)** and **Christie Vilsack (D)**, wife of fmr. Iowa Gov. and current Agriculture Secy. Tom Vilsack. Cook Political Rating: LEAN R

MONTANA

- **Governor:** Current Gov. Brian Schweitzer (D) is term-limited, leaving the state's gubernatorial seat open. Montana Attorney General **Steve Bullock (D)** goes up against fmr. U.S. Rep. **Rick Hill (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **Senate: Sen. Jon Tester (D)** won this seat in the 2006 Democratic wave. Now he faces a tough challenge from Montana's at-large **U.S. Rep. Denny Rehberg (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** No race to watch out of 1.

NEVADA

- **Presidential battleground**: At 11.8% (Sep.), Nevada has the nation's highest unemployment rate. But it also has a sizable Latino population, which could boost Obama like it did Harry Reid in 2010.
- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Brian Sandoval (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Dean Heller (R)**, a former congressman from Nevada, was appointed to the seat after Sen. John Ensign (R) resigned in advance of a harshly critical Senate Ethics Committee report on his extramarital affair with the wife of a former aide and allegations of hush-money. Heller defends his seat for the first time against **Rep. Shelley Berkley (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **House:** 2 races to watch out of 4.
  - **NV-3**: The race between **Rep. Joe Heck (R)** and state Assembly Speaker **John Oceguera (D)** has been brewing for almost a year, and is already living up to its billing as the fiercest, tightest race in the state. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **NV-4:** The 4th District is a new seat in Nevada's delegation. The race features state Sen. **Steven Horsford (D)** and perennial GOP candidate **Danny Tarkanian (R)**, son of former UNLV basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

UTAH

- **Governor: Gov. Gary Herbert (R)** took office in 2009 when then-Governor and future presidential candidate Jon Huntsman (R) resigned to become the U.S. Ambassador to China. Herbert defended the seat in a 2010 special election and now faces **Peter Cooke (D)**, a retired U.S. Army Reserve general and a well-respected businessman. Herbert is expected to win. Cook Political Rating: SOLID R
- **Senate:** The primary was much more important than the general election in this race. Six-term **Sen. Orrin Hatch (R)** fended off an insurgent primary challenge from Tea Party-backed former state Sen. Dan Liljenquist (R). Hatch is expected to win easily against fmr. state Senate Minority Leader **Scott Howell (D).** Cook Political Rating: SOLID R

Utah (cont.), California, Hawaii, Idaho 10:00/11:00 PM ET

- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 4.
  - **UT-4:** The lone Democrat in Utah's congressional delegation, **Rep. Jim Matheson (D)** is facing one of the most buzzed-about House candidates this cycle – **Mia Love (R)**, the female, Mormon, African-American mayor of Saratoga Springs. Love would make history as the first black female Republican in Congress. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

11:00 PM (5): California, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

CALIFORNIA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Jerry Brown (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate: Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D)** shouldn't have much trouble winning a fourth Senate term over challenger **Elizabeth Emken (R)**, a former candidate for U.S. House and former executive at the autism advocacy group, Autism Speaks. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 8 races to watch out of 53.
  - **CA-7:** Redistricting slightly hurt incumbent **Rep. Dan Lungren (R),** who faces a rematch against his 2010 opponent, well-funded Democratic physician **Ami Bera (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **CA-9:** Despite being in a strong blue district, **Rep. Jerry McNerney (D)** is facing a strong campaign run by his 25-year-old opponent, **Ricky Gill (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **CA-10: Rep. Jeff Denham (R)** is running a tough campaign against opponent **Jose Hernandez (D)**, a former migrant worker turned engineer and NASA astronaut who has received lots of national press. Denham grabbed headlines this year for a report that he swam naked in the Sea of Galilee during a Republican congressional trip to Israel. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **CA-24:** Though still favored, **Rep. Lois Capps (D)** is facing her first tough challenge in more than a decade from fmr. Lt. Gov. **Abel Maldonado (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **CA-26:** The 26th District is an open seat with Rep. Elton Gallegly (R) retiring. State Sen. **Tony Strickland (R)** goes up against state Assemblywoman **Julia Brownley (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **CA-36: Rep. Mary Bono Mack (R)** faces a challenge from emergency room physician **Paul Ruiz (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
  - **CA-41:** In a new district that includes some of the most Democratic areas of Riverside County, Riverside College Trustee **Mark Takano (D)** goes up against GOP Riverside Supervisor **John Tavaglione (R).** Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
  - **CA-52: Rep. Brian Bilbray (R)** faces a challenge from self-funding centrist San Diego Port Commissioner **Scott Peters (D)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP

HAWAII

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Neil Abercrombie (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** Despite Hawaii's solidly blue leanings, the retirement of three-term Sen. Daniel Akaka (D) has left an open seat with a race turning out to be surprisingly competitive. The Republican nominee is fmr. Gov. **Linda Lingle (R)**, who faces **U.S. Rep. Mazie Hirono (D)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 2.

IDAHO

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Butch Otter (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Jim Risch (R) is up in 2014. Sen. Mike Crapo (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 2.

Oregon, Washington, Alaska 10:00 PM/1:00 AM ET

OREGON

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. John Kitzhaber (D) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Jeff Merkley (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Ron Wyden (D) is up in 2016.
- **House:** 0 races to watch out of 5.

WASHINGTON

- **Governor:** Polls are tight in the race for this gubernatorial seat left open by the retirement of Washington Gov. Christine Gregoire (D). Fmr. Rep. **Jay Inslee (D)** left the U.S. House to focus on the race against state Attorney General **Rob McKenna (R)**. Cook Political Rating: TOSS UP
- **Senate: Sen. Maria Cantwell (D)** is not expected to have too much trouble beating state Sen. **Michael Baumgartner (R)** for re-election for a third term. Cook Political Rating: SOLID D
- **House:** 1 race to watch out of 10.
  - **WA-1**: Rep. Jay Inslee (D) is leaving this seat to run for governor. Self-funding former Microsoft executive **Suzan DelBene (D)** faces off against fmr. state Rep. **John Koster (R)**. Cook Political Rating: LEAN D

1:00 AM (1): Alaska

ALASKA

- **Governor:** No election. Gov. Sean Parnell (R) is up in 2014.
- **Senate:** No election. Sen. Mark Begich (D) is up in 2014. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R) is up in 2016.
- **House:** No race to watch out of 1.

SENATE

SENATE OVERVIEW

Battle for the Senate

Democrats currently hold a 51-47 majority in the U.S. Senate, with both independents (Joe Lieberman and Bernie Sanders) also caucusing with the party. That means Republicans must pick up a net gain of four seats if Obama wins re-election – and three if he doesn't – to win back control of the chamber. The reason: The vice president gets to cast the tie-breaking vote in a 50-50 Senate.

FAST FACT…

Last cycle, there were six appointed senators defending their seats for the first time. This cycle, there is only one (Dean Heller; R-NV).

When the 2012 cycle began, the odds of an upcoming GOP majority looked strong. After all, 23 Democratic-held seats are up this cycle, versus just 10 Republican-held seats; Democrats had seven retirements to four for the GOP; and incumbents like Jon Tester and Claire McCaskill were facing uphill contests for re-election.

But Democrats caught two big breaks. First, Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) announced her retirement, giving the Democrats an excellent shot at flipping the seat. (Former Gov. Angus King, an independent, is the favorite to succeed Snowe, and he's expected to caucus with the Democrats, although that's not a sure thing.) Second, in Missouri's Senate contest, Republican nominee Todd Akin boosted McCaskill's chances of winning when he explained his opposition to abortion in cases of rape, saying that pregnancies by rape are rare. "If it's a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down." Indiana Republican hopeful Richard Mourdock stirred similar controversy when he said in a debate that "even when life begins with that horrible situation of rape, that is something that God intended to happen." Mourdock later clarified, saying he did not mean to say that God intended rape to take place. On top of these developments, the political prospects for Obama and other Democratic Senate candidates have improved since earlier this summer.

So here is the challenge Republicans now face: If Obama wins re-election, they will need to pick up four Senate seats to get the majority. And here are their best chances (in order): Nebraska, Montana, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Virginia, Connecticut, Ohio, Florida, New Mexico, and Missouri. If you assume that King wins in Maine and caucuses with the Democrats, then Republicans must win five of these 10 races. And if Elizabeth Warren wins in Massachusetts, then the GOP has to win six.

But keep this in mind about Senate control: Assuming King wins in Maine, it's very possible we won't know which party will hold the majority until King decides with which party he will caucus.

By the numbers

Current breakdown: **51** D, **47** R, **2** Ind. (both caucus with the Democrats)

- **33** Senate races
- **11** open seats
- **1** appointed senator (Dean Heller; R-NV)

STATE	PARTY/INCUMBENT	COOK RATING
Arizona	R-OPEN-Kyl	TOSS UP
California	D-Feinstein	SOLID D
Connecticut	I-OPEN-Lieberman	TOSS UP
Delaware	D-Carper	SOLID D
Florida	D-Nelson	LEAN D
Hawaii	D-OPEN-Akaka	LEAN D
Indiana	R-OPEN-Lugar	TOSS UP
Maine	R-OPEN-Snowe	TOSS UP
Maryland	D-Cardin	SOLID D
Massachusetts	R-Brown	TOSS UP
Michigan	D-Stabenow	LIKELY D
Minnesota	D-Klobuchar	SOLID D
Mississippi	R-Wicker	SOLID R
Missouri	D-McCaskill	LIKELY D
Montana	D-Tester	TOSS UP
Nebraska	D-OPEN-Nelson	LIKELY R
Nevada	R-Heller	TOSS UP
New Jersey	D-Menendez	LIKELY D
New Mexico	D-OPEN-Bingaman	LEAN D
New York	D-Gillibrand	SOLID D
North Dakota	D-OPEN-Conrad	TOSS UP
Ohio	D-Brown	LEAN D
Pennsylvania	D-Casey	LEAN D
Rhode Island	D-Whitehouse	SOLID D
Tennessee	R-Corker	SOLID R
Texas	R-OPEN-Hutchison	SOLID R
Utah	R-Hatch	SOLID R
Vermont	I-Sanders	SOLID D
Virginia	D-OPEN-Webb	TOSS UP
Washington	D-Cantwell	SOLID D
West Virginia	D-Manchin	LIKELY D
Wisconsin	D-OPEN-Kohl	TOSS UP
Wyoming	R-Barrasso	SOLID R

FIRST READ'S
TOP TAKEOVERS
(by likelihood of party switch)

1. Nebraska (D)*
2. Maine (R)*
3. Montana (D)
4. North Dakota (D)*
5. Massachusetts (R)
6. Wisconsin (D)*
7. Virginia (D)*
8. Nevada (R)
9. Connecticut (D)*
10. Indiana (R)*

11. Ohio (D)
12. Florida (D)
13. New Mexico (D)
14. Missouri (D)
15. Arizona (R)*
16. Hawaii (D)*
17. New Jersey (D)
18. Michigan (D)
19. Pennsylvania (D)
20. Texas (R)*

**Indicates open seat*

#15 ARIZONA (R-Open-Kyl) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Arizona voters haven't elected a Democrat to the U.S. Senate since 1988, but Democrats are pursuing the seat, left open by retiring three-term Sen. Jon Kyl (R). Republicans nominated U.S. Rep. Jeff Flake (R), a popular House member from outside Phoenix. Flake will face fmr. U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona (D). Polls show the race getting increasingly competitive heading into November and things have gotten nasty on the TV airwaves.

Past election result: Jon Kyl (R) 53%, Jim Pederson (D) 44%

U.S. Rep. Jeff Flake (R)



Age: 49, b. Dec. 31, 1962 , Snowflake, AZ
Home: Mesa, AZ
Education: Brigham Young U. (B.A. 1986, M.A. 1987)
Religion: Mormon
Family: Married (Cheryl); 5 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2001-present; Exec. dir., The Goldwater Inst., 1992-99; Owner, Interface Pub. Affairs, 1990-92; Exec. dir., Fndtn. for Democracy (Namibia), 1989-90; Pub. policy exec., Shipley, Smoak & Henry, 1987-89

NOTABLE FACTS

- Born and raised on a ranch in Snowflake, AZ – a town named, in part, after his great-great-grandfather.
- Did missionary work in South Africa and Zimbabwe; later moved to Namibia to run the Foundation for Democracy, a democracy promotion group.
- Despite a conservative voting record, Flake has broken with the GOP on things like pushing to lift travel restriction to Cuba, opposing sanctions against Sudan and, until Flake ran for Senate, supporting immigration reform.

Richard Carmona (D), fmr. U.S. Surgeon Gen.



Age: 63, b. Nov. 22, 1949, New York, NY
Home: Tucson, AZ
Education: City U. of NY- Bronx Comm. Coll. (A.A. 1973); U. of Cal.–San Fran. (B.S. 1977, M.S. 1979); U. of Ariz. (M.P.H. 1998)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Wife (Diana); 4 children (two daughters, two sons)
Military: U.S. Army, 1967-71
Career: Vice Chairman, Canyon Ranch, 2006-present; U.S. surgeon general, 2002-2006; clinical prof., U. of Ariz., 1985-2002; chair, Ariz. Southrn. Reg. Emgncy. Med. Sys., 1990-2002; dep. sheriff, Pima County, 1986-2002; CEO, Pima Health Care Sys., 1997-1999; CEO, Kino Cty. Comm. Hsptl., 1995-96; dir. of trauma services, Tucson Med. Ctr., 1985-93

NOTABLE FACTS

- The son of Puerto Rican immigrants, Carmona grew up poor in Harlem.
- Dropped out of high school but got his GED while serving in the Army.
- Awarded two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, and a combat medical badge for his service as a combat medic with Army Special Forces in Vietnam.
- Once rescued a man on a cliff by rappelling from a helicopter.

CALIFORNIA (D-Feinstein) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Three-term Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D) should have no trouble winning a fourth Senate term over challenger Elizabeth Emken (R), a former candidate for U.S. House and former executive at the autism advocacy group, Autism Speaks.

Past election result: Dianne Feinstein (D) 59%, Dick Mountjoy (R) 35%

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D)



First elected 1992
Age: 79, b. June 22, 1933, San Francisco, CA
Home: San Francisco, CA
Education: Stanford U. (B.A. 1955)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Married (Richard C. Blum); 4 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 1993-present; San Francisco mayor, 1978–88; San Francisco Bd. of Supervisors, 1970–78 (Pres., 1970–71, 1974–75, 1978); CA Women's Parole Bd., 1960–66

NOTABLE FACTS

- After Feinstein sent him a paper she wrote on the justice system, CA Gov. Pat Brown appointed her to the state Women's Parole Board when she was just 27 years old.
- Feinstein, the first female chair of the Sen. Intel. Committee, is among lawmakers who vowed to pursue leaks they believe came from the Obama administration on the use of drones and cyber wars.
- Feinstein was in San Francisco's City Hall when Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were murdered – Feinstein was the person who found Milk's body.

Elizabeth Emken (R), fmr. exec., Autism Speaks



Age: 49, b. April 4, 1963, Bellflower, CA
Home: Danville, CA
Education: U.C.L.A (B.A. 1984)
Religion: Christian
Family: Married (Craig Swartz); 3 children (2 daughters, 1 adult son with autism)
Career: Pub. affairs consultant, 2010-present; candidate, U.S. House of Reps., 2010; VP of Govt. Relations, Autism Speaks, 2007-09; Legislative consultant, Cure Autism Now, 1997-2006; mgmt. and corp. operations, IBM, 1984-96

NOTABLE FACTS

- Became an autism activist after her son, Alex, was diagnosed with autism.
- Ran unsuccessfully in 2010 for Congress in California's 11th District, finishing last among four candidates in the GOP primary.

#9 CONNECTICUT (I-Open-Lieberman) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Democratic Rep. Chris Murphy (D) faces off against 2010 Senate nominee and former World Wrestling Entertainment CEO Linda McMahon (R), who showed a willingness to self-fund by spending millions of her own money in her 2010 run for senate. This race is to fill the open seat of retiring Sen. Joe Lieberman (I). Lieberman ran as an independent but caucuses with the Democrats, making Connecticut a possible pickup for Republicans.

Past election results:
2006: Joe Lieberman (I) 50%, Ned Lamont (D) 40%, Alan Schlesinger (R) 10%
2010: Richard Blumenthal (D) 55%, Linda McMahon (R) 43%

U.S. Rep. Chris Murphy (D)



Age: 39, b. Aug. 3, 1973, White Plains, NY
Home: Cheshire, CT
Education: Attended Exeter College, England (1994-95); Williams Col., (B.A. 1996); U. of CT (J.D. 2002)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Cathy Holahan); 2 sons (Owen, Rider)
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2007-present; CT Senate, 2002-06; CT House of Reps., 1998-2002; Southington zoning commission, 1997-99; Practicing atty., 2002-06

NOTABLE FACTS

- After college, lived in a converted Southington, CT funeral home that later became the basis for the 2009 horror film, *The Haunting of Connecticut*.
- First elected to Congress in 2006, defeating 24-year-incumbent Rep. Nancy Johnson (R).
- Both sides of Murphy's family go back four generations in Connecticut.

Linda McMahon (R), fmr. WWE CEO



Age: 64, b. Oct. 4, 1948, New Bern, NC
Home: Greenwich, CT
Education: East Carolina Univ. (B.S./Teacher Cert.–French, 1969)
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Married (Vince); 2 children (Shane, Stephanie)
Career: Appointed, CT Board of Education, 2009; Fmr. CEO, World Wrestling Entertainment, 1997-09

NOTABLE FACTS

- Ran unsuccessfully for U.S. Senate in 2010, losing to Sen. Dick Blumenthal (D), 55% to 43% despite significantly outspending him.
- Wife of Vince McMahon, founder of the former World Wrestling Federation, now World Wrestling Entertainment.
- The McMahons filed for bankruptcy decades ago for a failed non-wrestling business.
- Faced criticism for lax drug testing in WWE; accused of tipping off a doctor of an FBI steroid investigation.

DELAWARE (D-Carper) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Two-term incumbent Sen. Tom Carper (D) should have no trouble fending off a challenge from businessman Kevin Wade (R).

Past election result: Tom Carper (D) 70%, Jan Ting (R) 29%

Sen. Tom Carper (D)



First elected 2000
Age: 65, b. Jan. 23, 1947, Beckley, WV
Home: Wilmington, DE
Education: OH St. U. (B.A. 1968); U. of DE (M.B.A. 1975)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Martha); 2 sons (Christopher, Ben).
Military: Navy, 1968–73 (Vietnam); Naval Reserves, 1973–91.
Career: U.S. Senate, 2001-present; DE Gov. 1993-2001; U.S. House of Reps., 1983–93; DE treas., 1976–82; Industrial devel. specialist, DE Div. of Econ. Devel., 1975–76

NOTABLE FACTS

- During Vietnam, served as a Navy mission commander piloting planes that hunted submarines.
- Co-Chair of the moderate group, Third Way.
- During college worked on the 1968 presidential campaign of Sen. Eugene McCarthy.

Kevin Wade (R), business owner



Age: 60, b. Dec. 28, 1951, Reading, PA
Home: New Castle, DE
Education: Univ. of DE-Wilmington (B.S. 1982)
Religion: Methodist
Family: Married (Gail); 1 daughter
Career: Pres. and founder, Philadelphia Control Systems Inc., 1982-present

NOTABLE FACTS

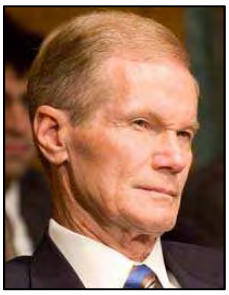
- Grew up in a PA factory town and went to work in a steel mill three days after his high school graduation.
- Worked in DuPont's engineering department during college.
- Served as New Castle Cty. Chairman for Rudy Giuliani's 2008 presidential campaign.

#12 FLORIDA (D-Nelson) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: Two-term incumbent Sen. Bill Nelson (D) faces current Rep. Connie Mack (R), known for being married to Sonny Bono's widow, Rep. Mary Bono (R), and for being the great-grandson of Cornelius McGillicuddy, who owned and managed the Philadelphia Athletics for 50 years.

Past election result: Bill Nelson (D) 60%, Katherine Harris (R) 38%

Sen. Bill Nelson (D)



First elected 2000
Age: 70, b. Sept. 29, 1942, Miami, FL
Home: Orlando, FL
Education: Yale U. (B.A. 1965); U. of VA (J.D. 1968)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Grace Cavert); 2 children
Military: U.S. Army, 1968-70; U.S. Army Reserves, 1965-71
Career: U.S. Senate, 2001-present; FL treasurer, insurance comm. & fire marshal, 1994-2000; U.S. House of Reps., 1978-90; FL House of Reps., 1972-78; Practicing atty., 1970-79, 1991-94; Legis. asst., FL Gov. Reubin Askew, 1971; Crew member, Space Shuttle *Columbia*, 1986

NOTABLE FACTS

- In Jan. 1986, Nelson spent six days orbiting Earth as a payload specialist aboard the space shuttle *Columbia* – just two weeks before the space shuttle *Challenger* exploded during takeoff.
- Nelson's father, a lawyer and investor in Melbourne, FL, died when Nelson was 14 years old.

U.S. Rep. Connie Mack (R)



Age: 45, b. Aug. 12, 1967, Fort Myers, FL
Home: Fort Myers, FL
Education: U. of FL (B.S. 1993)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Mary Bono Mack); 4 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2005-present; FL House, 2000-03; Marketing consultant, 1994-2004

NOTABLE FACTS

- Great-grandson of Cornelius McGillicuddy, longtime owner and manager of the Philadelphia Athletics (now the Oakland Athletics).
- Husband of Rep. Mary Bono-Mack, GOP congresswoman from Calif. and widow of Sonny Bono.
- His father – Connie Mack III – held the same Congressional seat for three terms in the 1980s and went on to be U.S. senator. The man who won the seat after Mack III retired is Connie's opponent in this race Sen. Bill Nelson.

#16 HAWAII (D-Open-Akaka) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: Despite Hawaii's solidly blue leanings, the retirement of three-term Sen. Daniel Akaka (D) has left an open seat with a race that is turning out to be surprisingly competitive. The Republican nominee is fmr. Gov. Linda Lingle (R), who faces U.S. Rep. Mazie Hirono (D).

Past election result: Daniel Akaka (D) 61%, Cynthia Thielen (R) 37%

U.S. Rep. Mazie Hirono (D)



Age (on election day): 65, b. Nov. 3, 1947, Fukushima, Japan
Home: Honolulu, HI
Education: U. of HI (B.A. 1970); Georgetown U. (J.D. 1978)
Religion: Buddhist
Family: Married (Leighton Kim Oshima); 1 child
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2007-present; HI lt. gov. 1994-2002; Practicing atty., 1984-88; HI House of Reps., 1980-94; HI Dep. atty. gen., 1978-80

NOTABLE FACTS

- Election day is just 3 days after her 65th birthday
- Born in Fukushima, Japan and came to Hawaii when she was 8 years old
- First female immigrant of Asian ancestry to be sworn into Congressional office.
- Would be the first Buddhist elected to the U.S. Senate.

Linda Lingle (R), fmr. HI Gov.



Age: 59, b. June 4, 1953, St. Louis, MO
Home: Honolulu, HI
Education: Cal. St. U.–Northridge (B.A. 1975)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Divorced
Career: HI Gov., 2002-10; Mayor, Maui Cnty., 1990-98; Maui Cnty. Cncl., 1980-90; Founder and editor, Moloka'i Free Press, 1977-80

NOTABLE FACTS

- Lingle beat Rep. Hirono in Hawaii's 2002 race for governor.
- First female governor in Hawaii history and the only Republican elected there in the last 50 years.
- As part of this race, secured her own cable channel sandwiched between CNN and FOX that runs around-the-clock information on Lingle and her campaign.

#10 INDIANA (R-Open-Lugar) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: About the race: Tea Party-backed Indiana Treasurer Richard Mourdock (R) defeated six-term incumbent Sen. Dick Lugar (R) in an insurgent primary battle. But because of Mourdock's uncompromising style, moderate Democratic congressman Joe Donnelly has led narrowly in several polls in this conservative-leaning state. Mourdock recently stirred controversy in a debate by saying that "even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that is something that God intended to happen." Mourdock later tried to clarify, saying he did not think God intended for rape to happen. Mourdock's non-incumbent, non-traditional status – Lugar hasn't even appeared with Mourdock or cut an ad for him – and the controversial remark give the Democratic nominee, Rep. Joe Donnelly (D), a shot at picking up the seat.

Past election result: Richard Lugar (R) 87%, Steve Osborn (Lib) 13%

U.S. Rep. Joe Donnelly (D)



Age: 57, b. Sept. 29, 1955, Massapequa, NY
Home: Granger, IN
Education: U. of Notre Dame (B.A. 1977, J.D. 1981)
Religion: Catholic.
Family: Married (Jill); 2 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps. 2007-present; Mishawaka Marian High School Board, 1997-2001; Owner, Marking Solutions, 1996-2006; Practicing atty., 1981-96

NOTABLE FACTS

- Shares a birthday (Sept. 29) with Florida Sen. Bill Nelson (D), who is up for election this year.
- Donnelly is anti-abortion, opposes same sex marriage and is part of the fiscally conservative Democratic Blue Dog Coalition.
- Owned and operated a printing and rubber stamp company for 10 years.

Richard Mourdock (R), Indiana Treasurer



Age: b. Oct. 8, 1951, Wauseon, OH
Home: Darmstadt, IN
Education: Defiance Coll. (B.A. 1973); Ball State Univ. (1975)
Religion: Christian
Family: Wife (Marilyn)
Career: IN St. Treas., 2007-present; principal, R.E. Mourdock and Assoc., 2000-2006; Vanderburgh Cty. Brd. of Commsnrs., 1995-2002; exec., Koester Co., 1984-2000; geologist, Standard Oil Co., 1979-1984; field geologist, AMAX Coal Co., 1975-1979

NOTABLE FACTS

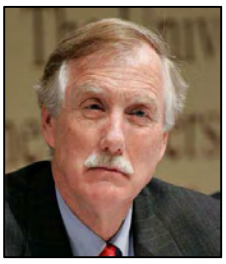
- Defeated six-term Sen. Dick Lugar (R) 61% to 49% in the state's Republican primary back in May.
- Mourdock is a pilot, has run in eight marathons, and used to build and race "open modified" race cars.
- Before being elected treasurer, lost three races for Congress, between 1988 and 1992.
- Filed a lawsuit to block the Chrysler auto bailout that went all the way to the Supreme Court.

#2 MAINE (R-Open-Snowe) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: With three-term Sen. Olympic Snowe (R) retiring, Maine could determine the balance of power in the Senate. Former two-term Gov. Angus King (I) is running as an independent and currently leads in statewide polls. But King has said he will not decide which party he'll caucus with until he is elected. National Democrats are confident King will caucus with them and are not backing the Democratic nominee, state Sen. Cynthia Dill (D). The Republican nominee, Maine Secretary of State Charlie Summers (R), is hoping King and Dill will split enough votes to leave him on top.

Past election result: Olympia Snowe (R) 74%, Jean Hay Bright (D) 21%, William Slavick (I) 5%

Angus King (I), fmr. ME Gov.



Age: 68, b. Mar. 31, 1944, Alexandria, VA
Home: Brunswick, ME
Education: Dartmouth Coll. (B.A. 1966) Univ. of VA (J.D. 1969)
Religion: Episcopalian
Family: Married (Mary Herman); 5 children (Angus III, Duncan, James, Ben, Molly)
Career: Co-founder and co-owner, Independence Wind, 2007-12; ME Gov., 1995-2003; Fndr. & Pres., NE Energy Mgmt. Inc., 1989-94; VP & Gen. Cnsl., Swift River/Hafslund Co., 1983-89; TV talk show host, 1975-93; Practicing atty., 1975-83; Chief Cnsl., U.S. Sen. William Hathaway (D), 1972-75; Staff Atty., Pine Tree Legal Assistance, 1969-72

NOTABLE FACTS

- Spent almost 20 years as host of the public affairs show "Maine Watch" on the Maine Public Broadcasting Network.
- After his governorship, took an 15,000-mile RV trip through 34 states with his wife and two of his kids.
- King, an independent, has not announced which party he will caucus with. But national Democrats are sitting the race out, hoping he will caucus with them.

Charlie Summers (R), Maine Sec. of State



Age: 52, b. Dec. 26, 1959, Danville, IL
Home: Scarborough, ME
Education: Univ. of Ill. (B.S. 1984)
Religion: Methodist
Family: Married (Ruth); 3 children (Tricia, Chas, Thomas)
Military: Lt.-Cmdr., Public Affairs, U.S. Navy Reserve, 1996-present
Career: ME Sec. of State, 2010-present; New Eng. Reg. Admin., U.S. Sm. Bus. Admin., 2005-07; Candidate for U.S. House of Reps., 2004, 2008; State dir., U.S. Sen. Olympia Snowe, 1995-04; Owner, Charlie's Beverage Warehouse, 1992-95; ME Senate, 1990-94

NOTABLE FACTS

- His father ran a hotel and restaurant in Illinois, where Summers worked growing up.
- His first wife died in a car accident in 1982 after the couple moved to Maine from Illinois, leaving him to raise their two children.
- Served in Iraq and Afghanistan with the U.S. Navy Reserve.
- In Afghanistan, served as asst. to Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Cynthia Dill (D), ME state Sen.



Age: 47, b. Jan. 6, 1965, Carmel, NY
Home: Cape Elizabeth, ME
Education: Univ. of VT (B.A. 1987); Northeastern U. (J.D. 1990)
Religion: Congregationalist
Family: Married (Tom Clarke); 2 children (Isabel, Harrison)
Career: ME Senate, 2011-present; ME House of Reps., 2006-11; Cape Elizabeth Twn. Cncl., 2006-08; Practicing atty., 1990-present

NOTABLE FACTS

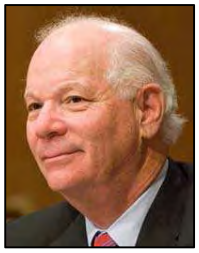
- Founded Friends of the Maine Woods in 2011, a state group advocating for the study and creation of a Maine Woods National Park.
- Supports the president's health care overhaul, the Affordable Care Act, but thinks it should have gone even further by implementing a single-payer system.
- National Democrats have not backed Dill, hoping King will caucus with them if he wins.

MARYLAND (D-Cardin) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Incumbent Sen. Ben Cardin (D) should have no problem heading off challenger Dan Bongino (R), a former Secret Service agent.

Past election result: Ben Cardin (D) 54%, Michael Steele 44%

Sen. Ben Cardin (D)



First elected 2006
Age: 69, b. Oct. 5, 1943, Baltimore, MD
Home: Baltimore, MD
Education: U. of Pittsburgh (B.A. 1964); U. of MD (LL.B., J.D. 1967)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Married (Myrna); 2 children (1 deceased)
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 1987-2007; MD House of Dels., 1966–86 (Speaker, 1979–86; Chmn., Ways & Means Committee, MD, 1974-79); MD Legal Services Corp., 1988-95; Practicing atty., 1967–86

NOTABLE FACTS

- In his 2006 Senate campaign, defeated then-Lt. Gov. Michael Steele (R), who went on to head the Republican National Committee for two years following the 2008 election.
- The son and nephew of state legislators, Cardin was elected to the state House at the age of 23—as soon as he was eligible to run.
- Cardin was part of the House committee that brought ethics charges against then-Speaker Newt Gingrich, which resulted in Gingrich eventually being reprimanded and penalized $300,000 for admitted ethics violations.

Dan Bongino (R), fmr. Secret Service Agent



Age: 37, b. Dec. 4, 1974, New York, NY
Home: Severna Park, MD
Education: City U. of NY (B.A., M.A.); Penn. St. Univ. (M.B.A.)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Paula); 2 children (Isabel, Amelia)
Career: U.S. Secret Service, 1999-2008 (Pres. Protection Div., 2006-2008; Secret Agt., 1999-2002); New York Police Dept., 1995-99

NOTABLE FACTS

- Met his wife, Paula, on a blind date at a New York restaurant two weeks before September 11, 2001.
- Served in the presidential protection division for President Bush and President Obama.

#5 MASSACHUSETTS (R-Brown) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: No Senate race this cycle is as high profile as the Bay State's race for Ted Kennedy's old seat. The race is also shaping up to be the most expensive Senate race in Massachusetts history. Sen. Scott Brown (R), who won an upset victory in a January 2010 special election for the seat, faces Harvard professor Elizabeth Warren (D), known for her role in establishing the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Past election result (2010 Special): Scott Brown (R) 52%, Martha Coakley (D)

Sen. Scott Brown (R)



First elected 2010 (special election)
Age: 53, b. Sept. 12, 1959 , Wakefield, MA
Home: Wrentham, MA
Education: Tufts U. (B.A. 1981); Boston Coll. (J.D. 1985)
Religion: Reformed Christian
Family: Married (Gail Huff); 2 daughters
Military: Col., Army Natl. Guard, JAG Corps, 1979-present
Career: U.S. Senate, 2010-present; MA Senate, 2004-10; MA House, 1999-2004; Wrentham town assessor; Wrentham town selectman; Practicing attorney, 1985-present

NOTABLE FACTS

- Revealed in his 2011 memoir, "Against All Odds," that he had been molested as a boy at a summer camp on Cape Cod.
- Scored nearly 1,000 points on the Tufts University basketball team.
- Won a 2010 special election to fill the seat left vacant by the death of longtime Democratic Sen. Edward Kennedy.
- Helped pay his law school bills by posing for a centerfold in the June 1982 edition of Cosmopolitan, a gig he got after his sister entered him into a contest to appear in the magazine. (Link: http://bit.ly/3vJ3WL)

Elizabeth Warren (D), law prof. and consumer advocate



Age: 63, b. June 22, 1949, Oklahoma City, OK
Home: Cambridge, MA
Education: Attended George Wash. Univ.; Univ. of Houston (B.S. 1970); Rutgers University (J.D. 1976)
Religion: Methodist
Family: Second marriage (Bruce Mann); 2 children (Amelia, Alex)
Career: Asst. to the Pres. on Consumer Fin. Protection Bur., 2010-11; law prof., Harvard Univ., 1992-present; fmr. law prof., Univ. of Houston, Univ. of Michigan, Univ. of Penn., Univ. of Texas

NOTABLE FACTS

- Warren's father sold carpeting and worked as a maintenance man; her mother answered phones at Sears.
- Warren began waiting tables in her aunt's Mexican restaurant when she was 13.
- Headed the Congressional Oversight Panel for TARP, a panel charged with reviewing the nation's financial markets and regulatory system and reporting back to Congress.
- Tapped by Pres. Obama to set up the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, but Republicans blocked her from heading the agency.

#18 MICHIGAN (D-Stabenow) Cook Rating: LIKELY D

About the race: Two-term incumbent Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D) showed anemic approval ratings for months, giving Republicans and former Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R) optimism that Michigan could be a potential pickup this cycle. But Hoekstra has failed to gain ground on Stabenow and unless the presidential race gets more competitive in Michigan, Stabenow should enjoy a strong showing in November.

Past election result: Debbie Stabenow (D) 57%, Mike Bouchard (R) 41%

Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D)



First elected 2000
Age: 62, b. April 29, 1950, Gladwin, MI
Home: Lansing, MI
Education: Mich. St. U. (B.A. 1972, M.S.W. 1975)
Religion: United Methodist
Family: Divorced; 2 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2001-present; U.S. House of Reps 1997-2001; Consultant & co–founder, MI Leadership Inst., 1995–96; MI Senate, 1990–94; MI House of Reps., 1978–90; Ingham Cnty. Commissioner, 1975–78

NOTABLE FACTS

- Chair of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee.
- Grew up in Clare, MI where her father was an Oldsmobile dealer and her mother was a nurse.
- As a young woman, marched in antiwar rallies during Vietnam and volunteered for George McGovern's 1972 presidential campaign.

Peter Hoekstra (R), fmr. U.S. Rep.



Age: 59, b. Oct. 30, 1953, Groningen, Netherlands
Home: Holland, MI
Education: Hope Col. (B.A. 1975); U. of MI (M.B.A. 1977)
Religion: Reformed Church of America
Family: Married (Diane); 3 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 1993-2011; Furniture exec., Herman Miller Co., 1977–92

NOTABLE FACTS

- Born in Groningen, Netherlands; immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1957.
- Ran unsuccessfully for the Republican nomination for Michigan governor in 2010.
- A reliable conservative, Hoekstra helped develop the GOP's 1994 Contract with America.

MINNESOTA (D-Klobuchar) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D) will face state Rep. Kurt Bills (R) in her bid for a second term. Polling gives Klobuchar a healthy advantage over the unknown and underfunded Bills.

Past election result: Amy Klobuchar 58%, Mark Kennedy (R) 38%

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D)



First elected 2006
Age: 52, b. May 25, 1960, Plymouth, MN
Home: Minneapolis, MN
Education: Yale U. (B.A. 1982); U. of Chicago (J.D. 1985)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (John Bessler); 1 daughter
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; Hennepin Cnty. atty., 1998-2006; Practicing atty., 1985-98

NOTABLE FACTS

- Daughter of longtime *Minneapolis Star Tribune* columnist Jim Klobuchar.
- Struck a rare alliance with Rep. Michele Bachmann supporting federal funding for a replacement to the St. Croix River Bridge connecting Minnesota and Wisconsin at Stillwater.
- Has made a point to visit each of the state's 87 counties during every year of her Senate term.
- Her first job was working as a carhop at A&W.

Kurt Bills (R), MN state Sen.



Age: 42, b. Jan. 8, 1970, Sauk Prarie, WI
Home: Rosemount, MN
Education: Winona St. Univ. (B.S., B.A., M.A.)
Religion: Christian
Family: Married (Cindy); 4 children (Kyla, Cassandra, Hayden, Olivia)
Career: MN House of Reps., 2010-present; Rosemont City Cncl., 2008-10; Teacher, Rosemount H.S., 1996-present

NOTABLE FACTS

- Longtime economics teacher and wrestling coach at Rosemount High School.
- Spoke in support of Ron Paul during the GOP presidential primaries.
- Made a late entrance into the Senate race after it failed to attract a number of big-name GOP prospects including former Gov. Tim Pawlenty, former Sen. Norm Coleman, U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann.

MISSISSIPPI (R-Wicker) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: Sen. Roger Wicker (R) will have little trouble fending off a challenge from Al Gore Jr. (D), a retired Methodist minister and Army chaplain said to be a distant relative of Vice President Al Gore.

Past election result: Roger Wicker (R) 55%, Ronnie Musgrove (D) 45%

Sen. Roger Wicker (R)



Appointed Dec. 2007; First elected 2008
Age: 61, b. July 5, 1951, Pontotoc, MS
Home: Tupelo, MS
Education: U. of Miss. (B.A. 1973, J.D. 1975)
Religion: Baptist
Family: Married (Gayle); 3 children
Military: Air Force, 1976–80; Air Force Reserve, 1980–2004
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; U.S. House of Reps., 1995-2007; MS Senate, 1987–94; Tupelo city judge pro tem, 1986–87; Lee Cnty. public defender, 1984–87; Practicing atty., 1982–94; Staff, U.S. House Rules Cmte., 1980–82; Bd. of Visitors, U.S. Naval Academy, 2005

NOTABLE FACTS

- Appointed to the Senate in late 2007 by Gov. Haley Barbour to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Trent Lott.
- Served as a U.S. House page and campaign worker in the first congressional race of Thad Cochran, now his fellow U.S. Senator from Mississippi.
- Served as student body president at Ole Miss during college.

Albert Gore, Jr. (D), fmr. Oktibbeha Cty. Dem. Party chair



Age: 82, b. April 28, 1930, Toccopola, MS
Home: Starkville, MS
Education: Millsaps College (B.A.); Duke University (M.Div.)
Religion: Methodist
Family: First wife deceased; Remarried (Bobbie); 2 children, 2 step-children
Military: Col. (Ret.), Chaplain, U.S. Army Spc. Forces
Career: Fmr. Chmn., Oktibbeha Cty. Dem. Party; Retired Methodist minister

NOTABLE FACTS

- Says he thinks he is distantly related to former Vice President Al Gore, but does not know how.
- Has said he is not accepting donations from PACs and is running a "low-key campaign," mostly using his own money.
- At 82 years old, Gore is making his first run for elected office.

#14 MISSOURI (D-McCaskill) Cook Rating: LIKELY D

About the race: In one of the country's most talked-about Senate races, Republicans had Sen. Claire McCaskill (D) as one of their top targets for Senate pickups until her challenger, U.S. Rep. Todd Akin (R), set off a firestorm after using the phrase "legitimate rape" in an interview discussing abortion.

Past election result: Claire McCaskill (D) 50%, Jim Talent (R) 47%

Sen. Claire McCaskill (D)



First elected 2006
Age: 59, b. July 24, 1953, Rolla, MO
Home: St. Louis, MO
Education: U. of MO (B.S. 1975, J.D. 1978)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Joseph Shepard); 7 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; MO auditor, 1998-2006; Jackson Cnty. prosecutor, 1992-98; Jackson Cnty. legislature, 1990-92; Practicing atty., 1983-92; MO House of Reps., 1982-88; Asst. Jackson Cnty. prosecutor, 1978-82; Law clerk, MO Court of Appeals, 1978

NOTABLE FACTS

- McCaskill's father served for a time as state insurance commissioner and her mother was the first female city council member in the town of Columbia, MO.
- Considered a potential running mate for President Obama in 2008.
- Lost a 2004 gubernatorial race to GOP Secy. of State, Matt Blunt (R), son of Sen. Roy Blunt (R). The elder Blunt is now her colleague in the Senate.

U.S. Rep. Todd Akin (R)



Age: 65, b. July 5, 1947, New York, NY
Home: Town and Country, MO
Education: Worcester Polytech Inst. (MA), (B.S. 1971); Covenant Theological Seminary (MO), (M. Div. 1985)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Lulli); 6 children (Wynn, Perry, Micah, Ezra, Hannah, Abigail)
Military: Army Reserves 1972-80
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2001-present; MO House of Reps., 1988-2000; Mgmt. dir., Laclede Steel, 1977-80; Marketing mgr., IBM, 1974-78

NOTABLE FACTS

- Still lives in his boyhood home, a 60-year-old farmhouse in Town and Country, MO.
- Ignored calls to quit the race from Republicans, including Mitt Romney and all five living Republicans who have represented Missouri in the U.S. Senate.
- Started in politics in 1987, when Gov. John Ashcroft (R) (and future U.S. Atty. Gen.) appointed him to the Bicentennial Commission of the U.S. Constitution.

#3 MONTANA (D-Tester) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Sen. Jon Tester (D) won this seat in the 2006 Democratic wave. Now he faces a tough challenge from Montana's at-large U.S. Rep. Denny Rehberg (R).

Past election result: Jon Tester 49%, Conrad Burns (R) 48%

Sen. Jon Tester (D)

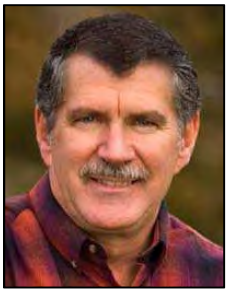


First elected 2006
Age: 56, b. Aug. 21, 1956, Havre, MT
Home: Big Sandy, MT
Education: U. of Great Falls (B.S. 1978)
Religion: Christian
Family: Married (Sharla); 2 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; MT Senate, 1998-2006 (MT Senate pres., 2005-06); Big Sandy Schl. Bd., 1982-92; Music teacher, Big Sandy Schl. Dist., 1978-80; Custom butcher, T-Bone Farms, 1978-98; Farmer, T-Bone Farms, 1978-present

NOTABLE FACTS

- Grew up on the same prairie land his grandparents homesteaded almost a century ago.
- Lost three fingers on his left hand in a meat grinder accident as a child.
- His hometown, Big Sandy, is home to Big Bud 747, the largest farm tractor in the world.
- Still runs his family's farm, which grows organic wheat, barley, lentils, peas, millet, buckwheat, alfalfa and hay.

U.S. Rep. Dennis "Denny" Rehberg (R)



Age: 57, b. Oct. 5, 1955, Billings, MT
Home: Billings, MT
Education: Wash. St. U. (B.A. 1977)
Religion: Episcopalian
Family: Married (Jan); 3 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2001-present; MT lt. gov., 1991-96; MT House of Reps., 1984-90; Rancher, 1982-present; Leg. asst., U.S. Rep. Ron Marlenee, 1979-82

NOTABLE FACTS

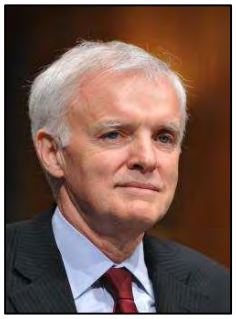
- Began his political career right out of college as a staffer for Montana Rep. Ron Marlenee (R) in 1979.
- Rehberg's father, Jack, is a former legislator and longtime GOP activist involved in redrawing legislative districts after the 1990 and 2000 census counts.
- This is Rehberg's second run for the U.S. Senate; he lost a close race in 1996 to incumbent Sen. Max Baucus.

#1 NEBRASKA (D-Open-Ben Nelson) Cook Rating: LIKELY R

About the race: Two-term Sen. Ben Nelson (D) is retiring, leaving Nebraska a prime target for Republicans to pick up a Senate seat. Democrats have nominated former Nebraska Gov. and Sen. (and 1992 presidential candidate) Bob Kerrey (D) to try to hold the seat. He faces state Sen. Debra Fischer (R), who, despite little name recognition, will benefit from Nebraska's conservative electorate.

Past election result: Ben Nelson (D) 64%, Pete Rickets (R) 36%

Bob Kerrey (D), fmr. NE Gov., fmr. U.S. Sen.



Age: 69, b. Aug 27, 1943, Lincoln, NE
Home: Omaha, NE
Education: U. of Neb. (B.S. 1966)
Religion: First Methodist Church
Family: Married (Sarah Paley); 2 children (Benjamin, Lindsey)
Military: U.S. Navy SEAL, 1966-69 (Vietnam)
Career: Pres., The New School, 2001-10; Presidential candidate, 1992; U.S. Senate, 1988-2000; NE Gov., 1983-1987; Small bus. owner/restaurateur, 1972-present

NOTABLE FACTS

- As a Navy SEAL in Vietnam, directed an attack after losing part of his right leg in a grenade blast, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.
- Was a registered Republican for 14 years but switched to the Democratic Party in 1978.
- Served on the 9/11 Commission.
- GOP Super PACs have already spent more than $1 million on ads criticizing Kerrey's recent residency in New York City.
- Dated actress Debra Winger for a time while he was Nebraska Governor.

Debra Fischer (R), NE state Sen.



Age: 61, b. March 1, 1951, Lincoln, NE
Home: Valentine, NE
Education: U. of Neb. (B.S. 1988)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Bruce); 3 children (Adam, Morgan, Luke)
Career: NE Senate, 2004-present; Valentine School Brd., 1990-2004; Rancher, Sunny Slope Ranch, 1972-present

NOTABLE FACTS

- Known for lining up numerous advocates to speak at hearings in favor of bills she supported, who some lawmakers dubbed "Fischer's army."
- Beat out state Attorney General Jon Bruning and state Treasurer Don Stenberg in the GOP primary despite both being better known and better financed.
- In the primary, garnered endorsements from Sarah Palin. Marco Rubio, John McCain and Herman Cain.

#8 NEVADA (R-Heller) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Sen. Dean Heller (R), a former congressman from Nevada, was appointed to the seat after Sen. John Ensign (R) resigned in advance of a harshly critical Senate Ethics Committee report on his extramarital affair with the wife of a former aide and allegations of hush-money. Heller defends his seat for the first time against Rep. Shelley Berkley (D).

Past election result: John Ensign (R) 55%, Jack Carter (D) 41%

Sen. Dean Heller (R)



Appointed May 2011
Age: 52, b. May 10, 1960, Castro Valley, CA
Home: Carson City, NV
Education: Univ. of So. Calif. (B.A. 1985)
Religion: Mormon
Family: Married (Lynne); 4 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2011-present; U.S. House of Reps., 2007-11; NV sec. of state, 1994-2006; NV Assembly, 1990-94; Public funds rep., Bank of America, 1990-95; Chief deputy state treas., 1988-90; Stockbroker, 1983-88

NOTABLE FACTS

- Got his first taste of politics as a boy when his newspaper route included deliveries at the Nevada state Capitol in Carson City.
- In his first House primary in 2006, Heller defeated Sharron Angle, who went on to challenge Sen. Maj. Leader Harry Reid in 2010.
- Heller is the only appointed Senator facing his first election this cycle.

U.S. Rep. Shelley Berkley (D)



Age: 61, b. Jan. 20, 1951, New York (Manhattan), NY
Home: Las Vegas, NV
Education: U.N.L.V. (B.A. 1972); U. of San Diego (J.D. 1976)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Married (Larry Lehrner); 4 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 1999-present; Regent, Univ. & Commnty. Col. System of NV, 1990-98; Chair, NV Hotel & Motel Assn., 1994; VP, Sands Hotel, 1989-98; NV Assembly, 1982-84; Cnsl., SW Gas Corp., 1977-82

NOTABLE FACTS

- Born on Manhattan's Lower East Side but moved to Las Vegas as a child.
- Berkley's mother, an artist, was held in Auschwitz during World War II and painted watercolors of Gypsies and other prisoners for Nazi doctor Josef Mengele.
- Faced controversy in her first congressional race over a taped phone conversation in which she seemed to advise Sands owner Sheldon Adelson, now a GOP mega-donor, to trade campaign contributions for favors.

#16 NEW JERSEY (D-Menendez) Cook Rating: LIKELY D

About the race: Sen. Bob Menendez (D) is unlikely to face too much resistance despite having a strong opponent in state Sen. Joe Kyrillos (R).

Past election result: Robert Menendez (D) 53%, Thomas Kean Jr. (R) 44%

Sen. Robert "Bob" Menendez (D)



Appointed Jan. 2006; First elected 2006
Age: 58, b. Jan. 1, 1954, New York, NY
Home: North Bergen, NJ
Education: St. Peter's Col. (B.A. 1976); Rutgers Law Schl. (J.D. 1979)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Divorced; 2 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2006-present; U.S. House of Reps., 1993-2006; NJ Senate, 1991–92; NJ Assembly, 1987–91; Union City mayor, 1986–92; Practicing atty., 1980-92; Union City Bd. of Ed., 1974–82

NOTABLE FACTS

- Appointed to the Senate in 2006 by then-Gov. Jon Corzine, who vacated the seat to become governor.
- As 2010 chair of the committee in charge of electing Democrats to the Senate, Menendez is credited with holding the Democratic Senate majority despite an overwhelming Republican wave.
- Got into politics early, winning election to the Union City, NJ school board at age 20.

Joe Kyrillos (R), NJ state Sen.



Age: 52, b. April 12, 1960, Kearny, NJ
Home: Middletown, NJ
Education: Hobart Coll. (B.A. 1982); Boston Univ. (M.S. 1983)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Susan Doctorian); 2 children (Max, Georgia)
Career: Adviser, Newport Capital, 2009-present; Chair, NJ Repub. Cmte., 2001-04; NJ Senate, 1992-present (Maj. Ldr., 1997-2001, Min. Ldr., 2002-03); NJ Gen. Assembly, 1988-91; Spec. asst., U.S. Interior Secy., 1985-87; staffer, Reagan-Bush campaign (1984)

NOTABLE FACTS

- Chaired Chris Christie's 2009 campaign for governor and served as New Jersey state chair for Mitt Romney's 2008 presidential campaign.
- A close ally of Gov. Christie, Kyrillos is a longtime New Jersey Republican insider.
- Ran for U.S. House in 1992, but lost.
- Mitt Romney headlined a fundraiser for Kyrillos in April.
- Made headlines for vocally opposing reality TV star Nicole 'Snooki' Polizzi's 2011 appearance at Rutgers University, for which she was paid $32,000.

#13 NEW MEXICO (D-Open-Bingaman) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: The retirement of five-term Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D) leaves this seat open. New Mexico's Democratic tilt will make it difficult for former U.S. Rep. Heather Wilson (R) to top U.S. Rep. Martin Heinrich (D), despite both candidates running strong races.

Past election result: Jeff Bingaman (D) 71%, Allen McCulloch (R) 29%

U.S. Rep. Martin Heinrich (D)



Age: 41, b. Oct. 17, 1971, Fallon, NV
Home: Albuquerque, NM
Education: U. of MO (B.S.E. 1995)
Religion: Lutheran
Family: Married (Julie); 2 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2009-present; Albuquerque City Cncl., 2004-07 (Pres., 2006-07); New Mexico National Resources Trustee; Exec. Dir., Cottonwood Gulch Foundation

NOTABLE FACTS

- The son of an electrician and factory worker, Heinrich has positioned himself as a defender of working-class New Mexicans in this campaign.
- Was elected in New Mexico's 1st Congressional District in 2008, the first Democrat to win the Albuquerque-area district in 40 years.
- After college, worked for a time running the Cottonwood Gulch Foundation, which runs wilderness adventure expeditions in the Southwest.

Heather Wilson (R), fmr. U.S. Rep.



Age: 51, b. Dec. 30, 1960, Keene, NH
Home: Albuquerque, NM
Education: U.S. Air Force Academy (B.S. 1982); Oxford Univ. (M.A. 1984; PhD, 1985)
Religion: Methodist
Family: Married (Jay Hone); 3 children (Scott, Joshua, Caitlin)
Military: Officer, U.S. Air Force, 1978-89; Defense Planning Officer, NATO, 1978-89
Career: U.S House of Reps. 1998-2008; Secy., New Mexico Dept. of Children, Youth and Families, 1995-98; Pres. and founder, Keystone International, 1991-95; Dir. Def. Policy and Arms Ctrl., Natl. Sec. Cncl., 1989-91

NOTABLE FACTS

- Graduated from the Air Force Academy and went on to be a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford.
- Ran unsuccessfully to fill the seat of retiring Senator Pete Domenici (R) in 2008, but lost in a bruising Republican primary to congressman Steve Pearce.
- Served on the National Security Council during the George H.W. Bush administration before she turned 30

NEW YORK (D-Gillibrand) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D) laid to rest any doubts about her appeal as a statewide candidate when she won a special election in 2010 with 63 percent of the vote. She has only continued to solidify her position and approaches November with $10.5 million in the bank and a healthy lead over Republican attorney Wendy Long (R).

Past election result: Kirsten Gillibrand (D) 63%, Joseph DioGuardi (R) 35%

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D)



Appointed Jan. 2009; First elected 2010
Age: 45, b. Dec. 9, 1966, Albany, NY
Home: Hudson, NY
Education: Dartmouth Coll. (A.B. 1988); U.C.L.A. (J.D. 1991)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Jonathan); 2 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2009-present; U.S. House of Reps., 2007-09; Practicing atty., 1991-2006; Special counsel, HUD, 2000

NOTABLE FACTS

- Sixth member of Congress to have a child while serving
- Appointed by Gov. David Paterson to fill Hillary Clinton's Senate seat in 2009
- Father is an attorney and lobbyist with ties to a top aide to former Gov. George Pataki (R); grandmother was a prominent Democratic activist in Albany
- Briefly served as a special counsel for Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo

Wendy Long (R), conservative atty.



Age: 52, b. Jun 21, 1960, Worcester, MA
Home: New York City, NY
Education: Dartmouth Coll. (A.B. 1982); Northwestern U. (J.D. 1995)
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Married (Arthur); 2 children (Arthur, Mado)
Career: Practicing attorney (Kirkland & Ellis, LLP); chief cnsl., Judicial Confirmation Network (now Judicial Crisis Network), 2005-10; clerk, U.S. Supreme Court (Thomas), 1997-98; clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals (Judge Ralph Winter, 2nd Circuit); press secy., Sen. William L. Armstrong (R-CO); press secy., Sen. Gordon Humphrey (R-NH)

NOTABLE FACTS

- Teaches Roman Catholic catechism in New York City for the Narnia program.
- Member of the New York City Parks Mounted Auxiliary Unit.
- As part of her work with the Judicial Confirmation Network, lobbied heavily in favor of confirming Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito as well as against the confirmation of Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

#4 NORTH DAKOTA (D-Open-Conrad) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: With four-term Sen. Kent Conrad (D) retiring, former North Dakota Attorney General Heidi Heitkamp (D) is giving the state's at-large U.S. Rep. Rick Berg (R) a run for his money in a state that is usually dependably red.

Past election result: Kent Conrad (D) 69%, Dwight Grotberg (R) 30%

Heidi Heitkamp (D), fmr. ND Atty. Gen.



Age (on election day): 57, b. Oct. 30, 1955, Mantador, ND
Home: Mandan, ND
Education: Univ. of No. Dakota (B.A., 1977); Lewis & Clark Law School (J.D. 1980)
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Married (Darwin); 2 children (Ali, Nathan)
Career: Brd. of Dir., Dakota Gasification Co., 2001-present; ND atty. gen., 1993-2000; ND tax commsnr., 1986-92; attorney, ND Tax Commission, 1981-86.; attorney, Environ. Protection Agncy., 1980-81

NOTABLE FACTS

- Has six brothers and sisters, including her brother Joel, a talk radio host in Fargo, ND and a former Dem. state sen.
- Seeking to replace retiring 26-year Sen. Kent Conrad (D) . She also replaced him as tax commissioner in 1986 when he first won this Senate seat.
- Heitkamp's Senate bid is the sixth statewide race of her career. Her first race was in 1984, when she lost to incumbent state auditor Robert Peterson (R).

U.S. Rep. Rick Berg (R)



Age: 53, b. Aug. 16, 1959, Maddock, ND
Home: Fargo, ND
Education: ND St. Univ. (B.S. 1981)
Religion: Lutheran
Family: Married (Tracy Martin); 1 child
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2011-present; ND House, 1984-2010 (speaker, 1993; maj. ldr., 2003-09); Founder, broker, Goldmark Schlossman Commercial Real Estate Svcs, 1981-2006

NOTABLE FACTS

- Went to No. Dakota St. College on a wrestling scholarship.
- Spent his summers growing up hauling bales, custom harvesting, and working cattle.
- Decided to run for Congress soon after the House passed the health care overhaul bill in Nov. 2009.

#11 OHIO (D-Brown) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: Incumbent first-term Sen. Sherrod Brown (D) faces a tough challenge from state Treasurer Josh Mandel (R). Brown enjoys an advantage over Mandel, an effective fundraiser and campaigner, but the seat is not safe by any measure given how close the presidential race is in Ohio and given the fact that outside Republican groups are spending lots of money on advertising in this Senate race.

Past election result: Sherrod Brown (D) 56%, Mike DeWine (R) 44%

Sen. Sherrod Brown (D)



First elected 2006
Age: 59, b. Nov. 9, 1952, Mansfield, OH
Home: Avon, OH
Education: Yale U. (B.A. 1974); OH St. U. (M.A. 1979, M.A. 1981)
Religion: Lutheran
Family: Married (Connie Schultz); 4 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; U.S. House of Reps., 1993-2007; OH secy. of state, 1982-90; OH House of Reps., 1974-82; Prof., Ohio State-Mansfield, 1979, 1981, 1991

NOTABLE FACTS

- Turns 60 years old the Friday after the election.
- Got his interest in politics from his mother, Emily, who grew up in Georgia and was active in the civil rights movement through her work as the president of the local YWCA.
- His father, Charles Brown, was a registered Republican until Sen. Brown ran for public office.

Josh Mandel (R), Ohio Treasurer



Age: 35, b. Sept. 27, 1977, Cleveland, OH
Home: Beachwood, OH
Education: OH St. U. (B.A. 2000); Case Wstrn. Rsrv. U. (J.D. 2003)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Married (Ilana Mandel)
Military: U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, 2000-08
Career: OH Treas., 2011-present; OH House, 2007-10; Lyndhurst City Council, 2004-06

NOTABLE FACTS

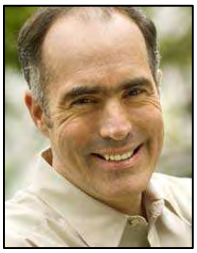
- In his eight years in the Marine Corps Reserves, served two tours in Iraq's Anbar Province as an Intelligence Specialist.
- Grandson of Jewish immigrants who braved World War II persecution in Poland and Italy.
- Played quarterback in high school for Beachwood High School in Cleveland.

#19 PENNSYLVANIA (D-Casey) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: Sen. Bob Casey (D) appeared to be in good shape in his re-election bid, but the Republican candidate, Tom Smith (R), is a self-made coal businessman who has been willing to put millions of his own money into the campaign. The race has quietly become competitive, with polls showing the race within single digits going into November.

Past election result: Robert Casey, Jr. (D) 59%, Rick Santorum (R) 41%

Sen. Robert "Bob" Casey, Jr. (D)



First elected 2006
Age: 52, b. April 13, 1960, Scranton, PA
Home: Scranton, PA
Education: Col. of the Holy Cross (B.A. 1982); Catholic U. (J.D. 1988)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Terese); 4 daughters (Elyse, Caroline, Julia, Marena)
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; PA st. treas., 2004-06; PA aud. gen., 1996-2004; Practicing atty., 1988-96

NOTABLE FACTS

- Delivered a crushing 18-point defeat to future presidential candidate Sen. Rick Santorum (R) in the 2006 race for this seat.
- Grew up in the same area of Scranton, PA as Vice President Joe Biden, though Biden moved away two years before Casey's birth.
- Casey's father, Robert Casey Sr., served two terms as Pennsylvania Governor.
- After college, taught fifth grade and coached eighth grade basketball in an inner-city Philadelphia school for the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Tom Smith (R), self-made coal co. owner



Age: 65, b. Oct. 20, 1947, Kittaning
Home: Shelocta, PA
Education: Elderton High School (1965)
Religion: Lutheran
Family: Married (Saundy); 7 children
Career: Owner, coal businesses, 1989-2010; Plumcreek Township Board of Supervisors, 1974-81; worked in the coal mines after high school

NOTABLE FACTS

- After he sold his coal businesses in 2010, returned to the family farm about 40 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, where he still lives.
- Spent millions of his own money to win a five-way Republican primary in April.
- Despite being a longtime conservative, Smith didn't join the Republican Party until two months before he declared his Senate candidacy.

RHODE ISLAND (D-Whitehouse) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D) should not have too much trouble defeating his Republican challenger, software executive Barry Hinckley (R).

Past election result: Sheldon Whitehouse (D) 54%, Lincoln Chaffee 46%

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D)



First elected 2006
Age: 57, b. Oct. 20, 1955, New York, NY
Home: Providence, RI
Education: Yale U. (B.A. 1978); U. of VA (J.D. 1982)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Sandra); 2 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; Practicing atty., 2003-2006; RI Atty. Gen., 1998-2002; U.S. atty. for RI, 1994-1998; Director, RI Dept. of Business Regulation, 1992-1994; Policy director, Gov. Bruce Sundlun, 1992; Legal counsel, Gov. Bruce Sundlun, 1991; RI spec. asst. atty. gen., 1984-90

NOTABLE FACTS

- Whitehouse is a descendant of Charles Crocker, one of California's "Big Four" men who built the Central Pacific Railroad.
- With diplomats for a father and grandfather, Whitehouse spent much of his upbringing overseas in countries like Cambodia, South Africa and the Philippines.
- Ran for governor in 2002, but lost in the Democratic primary by 926 votes.

Barry Hinckley (R), software entrepreneur



Age: 46, b. Apr. 18, 1966, Ellsworth, ME
Home: Newport, RI
Education: Univ. of CO (B.A.)
Religion: Protestant
Career: Co-founder and pres., Bullhorn Software, 1999-2009; sales and mgmt., GTE Internetworking (fmrly. BBN Technologies)

NOTABLE FACTS

- Named one of Boston Bus. Journal's "40 under 40" successful businessmen in 2005.
- A descendant of Col. James Barrett, who commanded the Minutemen that fought the British at Concord.
- In July 2011, rode his bicycle through all 39 of Rhode Island's cities and towns on a "Ride4Jobs" to draw attention to what he calls a "jobs crisis."
- An avid pilot and former professional sailboat racer.

TENNESSEE (R-Corker) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: Sen. Bob Corker (R), who narrowly beat then-U.S. Rep. Harold Ford (D) for this Senate seat in 2006, should have no trouble this time around. The Democratic nominee, self-described author and anti-gay rights activist Mark Clayton (D), has been disavowed by the state Democratic Party for his affiliation with a D.C.-based advocacy group that the Southern Poverty Law Center has labeled an active anti-gay group.

Past election result: Bob Corker (R) 51%, Harold Ford, Jr. (D) 48%

Sen. Bob Corker (R)



First elected 2006
Age: 60, b. Aug. 24, 1952, Orangeburg, SC
Home: Chattanooga, TN
Education: U. of Tenn. (B.S. 1974)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Elizabeth); 2 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; Chattanooga mayor, 2001-05; Commissioner, TN Dept. of Fin. and Admin., 1995-96; Owner, Corker Group, 1982-2006; Owner, Bencor Corp., 1978-90

NOTABLE FACTS

- At age 40, sold the successful construction company he founded just a few years out of college.
- Narrowly defeated Rep. Harold Ford, Jr. 51% to 48% in the 2006 race for this seat.
- Helped create Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise, a non-profit organization designed to get low-income families into affordable housing.
- Jobs growing up included picking up trash, bagging ice and working construction.

Mark Clayton (D), activist



Age: 36, b. Aug. 27, 1976, Mobile, AL
Home: Whites Creek, TN
Education: Pensacola Christian College (B.A. 2002)
Religion: Christian
Family: Single
Career: Currently works for a moving company but has worked numerous jobs including selling life insurance, siding and roofs; unpaid Vice Pres., Public Advocate of the U.S. (D.C.-based conservative advocacy group); U.S. Senate candidate, 2008

NOTABLE FACTS

- Began training to be an aircraft electrician in the U.S. Army Reserve but left.
- Lives in a 1920s-era farmhouse in Whites Creek, TN with his dog, Saint.
- Has been disavowed by the state party for his role as an unpaid Vice President of the group Public Advocate of the United States, which is labeled an anti-gay group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

#20 TEXAS (R-Open-Hutchison) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: The real race to replace three-term Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R) came in the Republican primary, when Tea Party favorite and fmr. Texas Solicitor General Ted Cruz (R) defeated Lt. Gov David Dewhurst (R) in a run-off. Cruz is all but assured victory in November against fmr. state Rep. Paul Sadler (D).

Past election result: Kay Bailey Hutchison (R) 62%, Barbara Radnofsky (D) 36%

Ted Cruz (R), fmr. TX Solicitor Gen.



Age: 41, b. Dec. 22, 1970, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Home: Houston, TX
Education: Princeton Univ. (A.B. 1992); Harvard Univ. (J.D. 1995)
Religion: Baptist
Family: Married (Heidi); 2 daughters
Career: Practicing atty., 1997-present; law professor, Univ. of Texas, 2004-2009; TX Solicitor Gen., 2003-08; Dir., Office of Policy Planning, Fed. Trade Commsn., 2001-03; U.S. Assoc. Depty. Atty. Gen., 2001; clerk, U.S. Supreme Court (Chief Just. Rehnquist), 1996-97; Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals (Judge J. Michael Luttig, 4th Circuit), 1995-96

NOTABLE FACTS

- Born in Calgary in the Canadian province of Alberta, where his parents worked in the oil industry.
- His father, Rafael, was born in Cuba and fought with Fidel Castro's rebels before they triumphed and embraced communism.
- At Harvard Law, was editor of the Law Review and founder of the Latino Law Review.

Paul Sadler (D), fmr. TX state Rep.



Age: 57, b. May 12, 1955, Freer, TX
Home: Henderson, TX
Education: Baylor Univ. (B.B.A., 1977; J.D. 1979)
Religion: Baptist
Family: Married (Sherri); 5 children
Career: Exec. dir., Wind Coalition; 2008-2012; TX House of Reps., 1991-2003; practicing atty.

NOTABLE FACTS

- A moderate who served as chair of the House Public Education Committee in the Texas statehouse, Sadler was on Texas Monthly's "10 Best" list in four of the six sessions he served.
- Worked with then-Gov. George W. Bush while serving in the Texas statehouse and drew praise from him for effective work.

UTAH (R-Hatch) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: The primary was much more important than the general election in this race. Six-term Sen. Orrin Hatch (R) fended off an insurgent primary challenge from Tea Party-backed former state Sen. Dan Liljenquist (R). Hatch is expected to win easily against fmr. state Senate Minority Leader Scott Howell (D).

Past election result: Orrin Hatch (R) 63%, Pete Ashdown (D) 31%

Sen. Orrin Hatch (R)

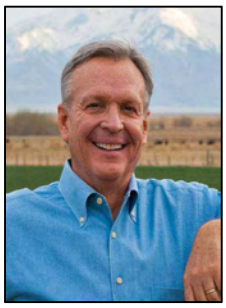


First elected 1976
Age: 78, b. March 22, 1934, Pittsburgh, PA
Home: Salt Lake City, UT
Education: Brigham Young U. (B.S. 1959); U. of Pittsburgh (J.D. 1962)
Religion: Mormon
Family: Married (Elaine); 6 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 1977-present; Practicing atty., 1962–76

NOTABLE FACTS

- Hatch's family lost their home during the Great Depression and lived for a time in a shelter with no plumbing made of salvaged wood and metal.
- Worked his way through BYU as a janitor a metal lather (his father's profession).
- Hatch is the longest serving Republican in the Senate other than Richard Lugar (IN), who is leaving the Senate after suffering a primary defeat earlier this year.

Scott Howell (D), fmr. IBM executive



Age: 59, b. Sep. 28, 1953, Provo, UT
Home: Salt Lake City, UT
Education: Attended Dixie St. Coll.; Univ. of Utah (B.S. 1978)
Religion: Mormon
Family: Married (Linda); 4 children (Bryan, Bradley, Jason, Jeffrey)
Career: IBM, 1978-2012 (last position was exec. of Public Sector Operations); candidate, U.S. Senate, 2000; UT Sen., 1990-2000 (Dem. Ldr., 1992-2000);

NOTABLE FACTS

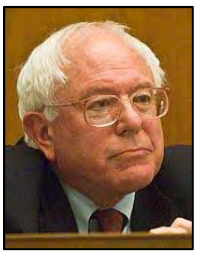
- The son of educators, Howell's father was a school principal and his mother a kindergarten teacher.
- Went to junior college on a football scholarship before spending two years in England as a Mormon missionary.
- Hired during his college junior year, Howell spent 34 years with IBM.

VERMONT (I-Sanders) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: First-term incumbent Sen. Bernie Sanders (I) runs as an independent but caucuses with Democrats. As such, no Democrat even filed to challenge him in November. Sanders will face John MacGovern (R), a former member of the Massachusetts state legislature.

Past election result: Bernie Sanders (I) 65%, Richard Tarrant (R) 32%

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I)

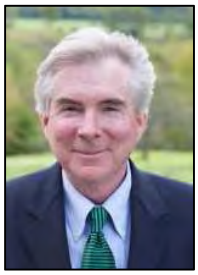


First elected 2006
Age: 71, b. Sept. 8, 1941, New York, NY
Home: Burlington, VT
Education: Attended Brooklyn Col.; U. of Chicago (B.A. 1964)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Married (Jane O'Meara Sanders); 4 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; U.S. House of Reps., 1991-2007; Burlington mayor, 1981-89; Dir., Amer. People's Historical Soc., 1977-81; Lecturer, Harvard U., 1989; Prof., Hamilton Col., 1990; Writer

NOTABLE FACTS

- Grew up in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, the son of a paint salesman who emigrated from Poland; his mother died when he was a teenager.
- Moved to Vermont as part of the hippie migration of 1968 and worked as a carpenter.
- In 1972, Sanders ran for U.S. Senate in Vermont as part of the socialist Liberty Union Party but lost, winning just 2% of the vote.

John MacGovern (R), fmr. MA state Rep.



Age: 61, b. Jul 14, 1951, Cambridge, MA
Home: Windsor, VT
Education: Dartmouth Coll. (B.A. 1980)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Fiona)
Career: Small business owner; MA House of Reps., 1983-90

NOTABLE FACTS

- Born in Cambridge, MA and raised on a dairy farm in Harvard, MA.
- Self-described co-founder of conservative Dartmouth newspaper, *The Dartmouth Review*.
- Currently runs the Hanover Institute, which he describes as an independent group of Dartmouth alumni formed to protect their voice in an expanded governing board.

#7 VIRGINIA (D-Open-Webb) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Two former Virginia governors face off for the seat vacated by retiring Sen. Jim Webb (D) in what has emerged as one of the nation's most hotly contested Senate races. George Allen (R) actually used to hold the Senate seat he's currently seeking but lost to Sen. Webb in 2006. Allen blew a double digit lead in the polls following the release of a videotape of an Allen campaign rally during which he called a Webb campaign tracker of Indian descent the name "macaca," a term many perceived as a racial slur.

Past election result: Jim Webb (D) 50%, George Allen (R) 49%

Tim Kaine (D), fmr. VA Gov.



Age: 54, b. Feb. 26, 1958, St. Paul, MN
Home: Richmond, VA
Education: Univ. of Missouri (B.A. 1979); Harvard U. (J.D. 1983)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Anne Holton); 3 children (Nat, Woody, Annella)
Career: Chairman, Dem. Natl. Cmte., 2009-11; VA Gov., 2005-09; VA Lt. Gov., 2001-05; Richmond Mayor, 1998-2001; Richmond City Cncl., 1994-98; Practicing atty., 1983-2000

NOTABLE FACTS

- Took a nine-month break midway through Harvard Law School to teach at a Jesuit mission in Honduras.
- His wife, Anne Holton, is the daughter of Linwood Holton, Virginia's first Republican governor since Reconstruction.

George Allen (R), fmr. VA Gov., fmr. U.S. Sen.



Age: 60, b. Mar. 8, 1952, Whittier, CA
Home: Mount Vernon, VA
Education: Univ. of VA (B.A. 1974; J.D. 1977)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Susan Brown); 3 children (Tyler, Forrest, Brooke)
Career: U.S. Senate, 2001-07; VA Gov., 1993-97; U.S. House of Reps., 1991-92; VA House of Delegates, 1982-91; Practicing atty., 1977-91, 1998-99

NOTABLE FACTS

- One of only seven Virginians to serve as governor and U.S. Senator. Others include Pres. James Monroe and current Sen. Mark Warner (D).
- Thought to be a 2008 presidential hopeful before losing his Senate seat in 2006.
- Upset by current Sen. Jim Webb (D) in 2006 after Allen was videotaped at a rally calling a Webb campaign tracker of Indian descent the name "macaca," which many perceived as a racial slur.

WASHINGTON (D-Cantwell) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Sen. Maria Cantwell (D) is not expected to have too much trouble beating state Sen. Michael Baumgartner (R) for re-election for a third term.

Past election result: Maria Cantwell (D) 57%, Mike McGavick (R) 40%

Sen. Maria Cantwell (D)



First elected 2000
Age: 54, b. Oct. 13, 1958, Indianapolis, IN
Home: Edmonds, WA
Education: Miami U. (OH), (B.A. 1980)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Single.
Career: U.S. Senate, 2001-present; RealNetworks, 1995-2000; U.S. House of Reps., 1993-95; WA House of Reps., 1986-92; Owner, Cantwell & Assoc. PR firm, 1985-91

NOTABLE FACTS

- Cantwell's father Paul was a construction worker, county commissioner, city councilman and state legislator in Indianapolis, where she grew up.
- Worked for the 1982 gubernatorial campaign of Cleveland mayor and future TV personality Jerry Springer.
- After serving in the U.S. House, joined a startup that would become RealNetworks and make her a millionaire.

Michael Baumgartner (R), WA state Sen.



Age: 36, b. Dec. 13, 1975, Pullman, WA
Home: Spokane, WA
Education: Wash. St. Univ. (B.A. 1999); Harvard Univ. (M.P.A. 2002)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Eleanor); son (Conrad); expecting a second child in late 2012
Career: WA Senate, 2011-present; Counternarcotics advsr. (Afghanistan), Civilian Police Intl., 2008-09; Econ. officer, U.S. State Dept., 2007-08; Econ. devel. advsr., Office of the Crown Prince of Dubai, 2002-06; volunteer teacher (Mozambique), 1999-2000

NOTABLE FACTS

- During college, worked two summers as a Forestry Sciences Aid helping conduct fire ecosystem research with the U.S. Forest Service.
- After college, spent 12 months as a volunteer with a group of Jesuit Priests in Beira, Mozambique.
- Met his wife Eleanor while serving as an advisor on a counternarcotics team in Afghanistan's Helmand province.

WEST VIRGINIA (D-Manchin) Cook Rating: LIKELY D

About the race: Sen. Joe Manchin (D) faces Republican businessman John Raese (R), whom Manchin defeated 53% to 43% in a 2010 special election to fill the seat of the late Sen. Robert Byrd (D).

Past election result: Joe Manchin 53%, John Raese (R) 43%

Sen. Joe Manchin (D)



First elected 2010
Age: 65, b. Aug. 24, 1947, Farmington, WV
Home: Marion County, WV
Education: WV U. (B.S. 1970)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Gayle); 3 children (Heather, Joseph IV, Brooke)
Career: U.S. Senate, 2010-present; WV gov., 2005-10; WV sec. of state, 2000-04; Owner, Enersystems, 1989-2000; WV Senate 1986-96; WV House, 1982-84; Co-owner, Manchin's Carpet and Tile, 1968-82

NOTABLE FACTS

- Went to West Virginia U. on a football scholarship but his career was cut short because of injury.
- Chair of the National Governors Association.
- As governor, signed into law stricter coal-mining standards.
- Is not backing either President Obama or Governor Romney in the presidential election.

John Raese (R), mining co. owner



Age: 62, b. April, 10, 1950
Home: Morgantown, WV
Education: WV U. (B.S. 1973)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Elizabeth); 2 children (Jane, Agnes)
Career: CEO/Pres., Greer Steel Co., present; VP, Morgantown Dominion-Post, WV Newspaper Publishing Company, present; Chair, WV Radio Corp, present; Chairman, WV GOP, 1986-88

NOTABLE FACTS

- This race is a rematch: Raese lost to Manchin 53% to 43% in a 2010 special election to fill the seat of the late Sen. Robert Byrd (R).
- Inherited his mining companies from his late grandmother.
- Homes in Morgantown, WV; Telluride, CO; and Palm Beach, FL.
- Father, Richard Raese, coached West Virginia U. to the NIT college basketball championship in 1942.
- Ran for Senate in 1984 and in 2006 and for governor in 1988.

#6 WISCONSIN (D-Open-Kohl) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Wisconsin has a very competitive race with Republicans looking to pick up a seat following the retirement of four-term Sen. Herb Kohl (D). Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D) faces Wisconsin's popular fmr. Gov. Tommy Thompson (R), who survived a divisive ideological primary to emerge as the GOP candidate.

Past election result: Herb Kohl (D) 67%, Robert Lorge (R) 29%

U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D)



Age: 50, b. Feb. 11, 1962, Madison, WI
Home: Madison, WI
Education: Smith Col. (A.B. 1984); U. of WI (J.D. 1989)
Religion: No religious affiliation
Family: Single
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 1999-present; WI Assembly, 1992-98; Practicing atty., 1989-92; Dane Cnty. Bd. of Supervisors, 1986-94

NOTABLE FACTS

- Elected to the Wisconsin Assembly at 30 years old, the youngest woman in state legislature.
- First openly gay female non-incumbent elected to Congress and the first woman elected to the U.S. House by Wisconsin voters.
- In 2011, joined protesters in Madison objecting to Republican Gov. Scott Walker's proposal curbing collective bargaining rights for public workers.

Tommy Thompson (R), fmr. WI Gov.



Age: 70, b. Nov. 19, 1941, Elroy, WI
Home: Madison, WI
Education: U. of WI (B.A. 1963; J.D. 1966)
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Married (Sue Ann); 2 daughters (Tommi, Kelli), 1 son (Jason)
Career: Presidential candidate, 2008; U.S. HHS Secy., 2001-05; WI Gov., 1987-2001; Chmn., Repub. Govs. Assn., 1991-92, 1995-96; WI Assembly, 1966-86 (Floor Ldr., 1981-86); Practicing atty, 1966-present

NOTABLE FACTS

- Grew up in Elroy, WI, where his father ran a gas station and general store and his mother taught school.
- In 1979, Thompson ran for Congress in Wisconsin's 6th District but was defeated in the GOP primary by Tom Petri, who holds the seat still today.
- As Wisconsin Governor, created the state's popular BadgerCare program, which provides low-cost medical and prescription drug benefits to seniors.

WYOMING (R-Barrasso) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: Sen. John Barrasso (R) should coast to victory against Democratic nominee Tim Chesnut (D), commissioner of Wyoming's Albany County.

Past election result: John Barrasso (R) 73%, Nick Carter (D) 27%

Sen. John Barrasso (R)



Appointed Jun. 2007
Age: 60, b. July 21, 1952, Reading, PA
Home: Casper, WY
Education: Georgetown U. (B.A. 1974, M.D. 1978)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Bobbi); 3 children
Career: U.S. Senate, 2007-present; WY Senate, 2002-07; Chief of staff, WY Medical Center, 2003-05; RNC Committeeman, 1992-96; Orthopedic surgeon 1983-2007

NOTABLE FACTS

- Grew up in Reading, Pa., the son of a World War II veteran who made a living as a cement finisher.
- Growing up, Barrasso's father took the family to Washington every four years for the president's inauguration.
- After moving his medical practice to Wyoming in the 1980s, Barraso also was a local radio and television personality, dispensing practical medical advice on news programs and in public service announcements.

Tim Chesnut (D), Albany Cty. Commissioner



Age: 46, b. Mar. 20, 1966, Laramie, WY
Home: Laramie, WY
Education: Attended Univ. of WY
Family: Single
Career: Albany Cty. Cmmsnr., 1998-present; freelance photographer; radio host; motivational speaker; worked as a photographer, sports writer, Laramie Boomerang for 15 years

NOTABLE FACTS

- Has multiple sclerosis, which Chesnut says often requires him to use a wheelchair.
- Running under the slogan "Chesnut is the best nut for Senate."
- Has been a member of 11 different boards and commissions, including Guthrie Family Foundation in Laramie and Albany County Fair Board.

HOUSE

HOUSE OVERVIEW

After Republicans took back control of the U.S. House in 2010 by winning a modern-era record 63 seats, Democrats are hoping to cut into that majority. Currently, Republicans hold a 240-190 majority (five House seats are vacant). Democrats need a net-gain of 25 seats to win control of the chamber.

FAST FACT…

There are 25 Republican-held seats rated toss up or worse, while there are just 16 seats in the same position for Democrats.

Analysts, however, predict that is unlikely to happen. Democrats are instead favored to pick up a handful of seats, anywhere from mid-single digits to low-teens on a very good day. Democrats are on offense in more seats than Republicans, but Republicans are likely to pick off some Democratic seats as well, making the number of seats Democrats have to win closer to 35 to 40.

Every 10 years, states redraw their congressional-seat boundaries. That has meant some incumbent-versus-incumbent races, but it hasn't impacted the playing field very much in one partisan direction or another. At the outset of redistricting, it was thought that Republicans could gain an advantage, but it turned out that Democrats wound up with a very slight one, perhaps helping a handful of their seats.

By the numbers: Current breakdown: **240** R, **190** D, **5** vacancies (2R, 3D)

- **430** members up for re-election (all seats are up every two years but five House seats are currently vacant)
- **218** needed for control
- **25** is the net number of seats Democrats need to net to take back the House

GOP seats in danger (25)

DIST.	INCUMBENT	COOK RATING
AZ-01	NEW SEAT	TOSS UP
CA-07	Lungren	TOSS UP
CA-10	Denham	TOSS UP
CA-26	OPEN	TOSS UP
CA-36	Bono Mack	TOSS UP
CA-52	Bilbray	TOSS UP
CO-06	Coffman	TOSS UP
FL-18	West	TOSS UP
FL-26	Rivera	TOSS UP
IL-08	Walsh	LIKELY D
IL-10	Dold	LEAN D
IL-11	Biggert	LEAN D
IL-13	OPEN	TOSS UP
IL-17	Schilling	TOSS UP
MD-06	Bartlett	LIKELY D
MI-01	Benishek	TOSS UP
MN-08	Cravaack	TOSS UP
NH-01	Guinta	TOSS UP
NH-02	Bass	LEAN D
NV-03	Heck	TOSS UP
NY-18	Hayworth	TOSS UP
NY-19	Gibson	TOSS UP
NY-24	Buerkle	LEAN D
OH-16	MERGED	TOSS UP
TX-23	Canseco	TOSS UP

Dem seats in danger (16)

DIST.	INCUMBENT	COOK RATING
AR-04	OPEN	LIKELY R
GA-12	Barrow	TOSS UP
IA-03	MERGED	LEAN R
IL-12	OPEN	TOSS UP
IN-02	OPEN	LIKELY R
KY-06	Chandler	TOSS UP
MA-06	Tierney	LEAN R
NC-07	McIntyre	TOSS UP
NC-08	Kissell	LIKELY R
NC-11	OPEN	LIKELY R
NC-13	OPEN	LIKELY R
NV-05	NEW SEAT	TOSS UP
NY-27	Hochul	TOSS UP
OK-02	OPEN	LIKELY R
PA-12	Critz	TOSS UP
UT-04	Matheson	TOSS UP

GOVERNORS

GOVERNORS OVERVIEW

Republicans control 29 governorships across the country with Democrats holding 20 and an independent in control of one (Lincoln Chafee, Rhode Island).

FAST FACT…
Only three Republican governors are up for re-election this cycle.

This year, there are 11 total governors' races – eight of which are currently held by Democrats, three by Republicans. According to the Cook Political Report, the GOP is favored to pick up one or two more governorships. The races to watch: North Carolina, Montana, New Hampshire, and Washington state.

FAST FACT…
Every gubernatorial race rated competitive this cycle by the Cook Political Report is over a seat currently held by a Democrat.

Of those, North Carolina is the most likely pick-up opportunity for Republicans with the candidate there ahead by double-digits in most polling. The races in Montana and New Hampshire are dead heats. And in Washington state, the Republican candidate has the challenge of needing to outperform the Republican presidential standard-bearer.

By the numbers: Current breakdown: **29** R, **20** D, **1** I

- **11** Governors races
- **6** competitive races
- **5** open seats

STATE	PARTY/INCUMBENT	COOK RATING
Delaware	D-Markell	SOLID D
Indiana	R-OPEN-Daniels	LIKELY R
Missouri	D-Nixon	LEAN D
Montana	D-OPEN-Schweitzer	TOSS UP
New Hampshire	D-OPEN-Lynch	TOSS UP
North Carolina	D-OPEN-Perdue	LEAN R
North Dakota	R-Dalrymple	SOLID R
Utah	R-Herbert	SOLID R
Vermont	D-Shumlin	SOLID D
Washington	D-OPEN-Gregoire	TOSS UP
West Virginia	D-Tomblin	LEAN D

DELAWARE (D-Markell) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: Incumbent Gov. Jack Markell (D) faces nominal opposition from Republican Jeff Cragg (R), a Wilmington small business owner.

Past election result: Jack Markell (D) 68%, William Lee (R) 32%

Gov. Jack Markell (D)



First elected 2008
Age: 51, b. Nov. 26, 1960, Newark, DE
Home: Wilmington, DE
Education: Brown U. (B.A. 1981); U. of Chicago (M.B.A. 1985)
Religion: Jewish
Family: Married (Carla); 2 children
Career: DE Gov., 2009-present; DE treas., 1999-2008; V.P. Comcast, 1996-1998; Sr. v.p., Nextel, 1989-95; Assoc., McKinsey & Co., Inc., 1986-1988; Officer, First Natl. Bank Chicago, 1982-86

NOTABLE FACTS

- Coined the name Nextel, while helping grow the telecom startup.
- Won the Democratic nomination for governor in 2008 despite not having the backing of the state party establishment.
- Under Markell, Delaware, along with Tennessee, won one of the first grants under the "Race to the Top" education reform plan.

Jeff Cragg (R), small bus. owner



Age: 51, b. Feb. 18, 1961, Evanston, IL
Home: Wilmington, DE
Education: Carleton Coll. (B.A. 1983)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Terry); 4 children
Career: Owner, Mailboxes Etc. business in Wilmington, 2000-present; New Castle Cty. Brd. of Electns., 1999-2000; long career in insurance industry with companies like Northwestern National Life, Mutual of Omaha and Provident Indemnity Life

NOTABLE FACTS

- Played defensive tackle on the Carleton College football team.
- In addition to owning a Mailboxes, Etc. business in Wilmington, he has bought and rehabilitated real estate properties.
- Ran for state insurance commissioner in 2004 but withdrew after the state party endorsed another candidate.

INDIANA (R-Open-Daniels) Cook Rating: LIKELY R

About the race: Conservative star Mike Pence (R) is leaving the House of Representatives to run for Indiana governor. He faces John Gregg (D), former Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives. The seat is open due to term limits on current Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels (R).

Past election result: Mitch Daniels 58%, Jill Thompson 40%

U.S. Rep. Mike Pence (R)



Age: 53, b. June 7, 1959, Columbus, IN
Home: Columbus, IN
Education: Hanover Col. (B.A. 1981); Indiana Univ. (J.D. 1986)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Karen); 3 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 2001-present; Host, pub. affairs TV, UPN-23, 1995-99; Radio broadcaster, Network Indiana, 1992-99; Pres., IN Policy Review Fndt., 1991-93; Practicing atty., 1986-91

NOTABLE FACTS

- For a time, broadcast *The Mike Pence Show*, a syndicated conservative talk-radio program.
- One of just 25 House Republicans to oppose the 2003 GOP Medicare prescription drug bill.
- A longtime conservative, Pence quickly joined the House Tea Party Caucus when it formed in 2010.
- Challenged John Boehner for Republican leader after the 2006 midterms.
- Speculated to be a potential 2012 (or 2016) presidential candidate.

John Gregg (D), fmr. IN House Spkr.



Age: 58, b. Sep. 6, 1954, Linton, IN
Home: Sandborn, IN
Education: Vicennes Univ. (A.S. 1974); Indiana Univ. (B.A. 1976); Indiana St. Univ. (M.P.A. 1978); Indiana Univ. (J.D. 1984)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Divorced; 2 children (John, Hunter)
Career: Lobbyist, 2002-present; Interim President, Vincennes Univ., 2003-04; IN House, 1986-2002 (Spkr., 1996-2002); Practicing atty., 1985-present; Govt. Affairs Rep., AMAX Coal Co., 1979-85; Real Estate Coord., Peabody Coal Co., 1978-79; Precinct committeeman, 1974-80

NOTABLE FACTS

- Diagnosed with and treated for prostate cancer in 2004. As of May of this year, he was cancer-free.
- Represents a strong but dwindling population of southern Indiana Democrats who are social conservatives and economic populists.
- In an attempt to balance his ticket, picked one of Indiana's most liberal lawmakers, state Sen. Min. Ldr. Vi Simpson, as his running mate.

MISSOURI (D-Nixon) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: Incumbent Gov. Jay Nixon (D) is slightly favored to fend off a challenge from self-made businessman Dave Spence (R).

Past election result: Jay Nixon (D) 58%, Kenny Hulshof (R) 39%

Gov. Jay Nixon (D)



First elected 2008
Age: 56, b. Feb. 13, 1956, DeSoto, MO
Home: Jefferson City, MO
Education: U. of MO (B.A., 1978, J.D., 1981)
Religion: Methodist
Family: Married (Georganne); 2 children
Career: MO Gov., 2009-present; MO atty. gen., 1992-2008; MO Senate, 1986-1992; Practicing atty., 1981-1992

NOTABLE FACTS

- Growing up in DeSoto, MO, Nixon's mother was president of the DeSoto school board and his father was the city's mayor.
- Ran twice unsuccessfully for U.S. Senate in 1988 and 1998.
- Touts a number of conservatives points in this campaign including $1.8 billion in spending cuts and adamant opposition to new taxes
- Played an active role in coordinating the response to the deadly tornado that hit Joplin in May 2011.

Dave Spence (R), owner, plastic bottle manufacturer



Age: 54, b. Feb. 28, 1958, St. Louis, MO
Home: Ladue, MO
Education: U. of MO (B.S. 1981)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Suzie) 4 children (Logan, Tierney, Paige, Kelley)
Career: Pres. and CEO, Alpha Packaging, 1984-2011

NOTABLE FACTS

- Bought the plastic bottle manufacturer Alpha Packaging when he was 26 years old and grew it significantly until leaving in 2011 to run for governor.
- Made extra money mowing lawns before going to work at age 14 sweeping floors at his father's business.
- His father's house was auctioned off to pay off a loan after his father's business went under while Spence was growing up.

MONTANA (D-Open-Schweitzer) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Current Gov. Brian Schweitzer (D) is term-limited, leaving the state's gubernatorial seat open. Montana Attorney General Steve Bullock (D) goes up against fmr. U.S. Rep. Rick Hill (R) is what has become a tight race.

Past election result: Brian Schweitzer (D) 65%, Roy Brown (R) 33%

Steve Bullock (D), MT Atty. Gen.



Age: 46, b. Apr. 11, 1966, Missoula, MT
Home: Helena, MT
Education: Claremont McKenna Coll. (B.A. 1988); Columbia Univ. (J.D. 1994)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Lisa); 3 children (Caroline, Alexandria, Cameron)
Career: MT Atty. Gen., 2008-present; Adjunct prof., George Wash. Univ. School of Law, 2001-04; MT Atty. Gen. office, 1997-2001; Chief legal cnsl., MT Secy. of State, 1996-97; Analyst, United Pac. Life/Financial, 1988-90

NOTABLE FACTS

- Student body president at Helena High School.
- As a child, delivered the newspaper to the governor's mansion as part of his paper route.
- Gained national attention for his role in defending Montana limits on corporate political spending.
- Decided not to sign a brief against the 2010 Affordable Care Act, which a number of other attorneys general signed.

Rick Hill (R), fmr. U.S. Rep.



Age: 65, b. Dec. 30, 1946, Grand Rapids, MI
Home: Helena, MT
Education: St. Cloud Univ. (B.A. 1968); Concord School of Law (J.D. 2005)
Religion: Christian
Family: Married (Betti); 3 sons (Todd, Corey, Mike)
Career: U.S. House of Reps. 1997-2000; Chmn. MT state workers' compensation fund, 1993-96; Legislative liaison, Gov. Marc Racicot (R), 1993; Chmn., MT Republican Party, 1991-92; owner, R.A. Hill & Co., 1984-92; partner, Montana Intl. Insurance, 1973-84; Surety bond mngr., St. Paul Companies, 1971-77

NOTABLE FACTS

- Overcame a bought of polio as a child.
- Often speaks about growing up in a small apartment in the back of his father's repair shop.
- Faced an uphill fundraising battle in the general election after spending much of his campaign funds in a tough seven-way Republican primary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE (D-Open-Lynch) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch (D) is retiring, setting up a close race between former state Sen. Maggie Hassan (D) and attorney and 2010 Senate nominee Ovide Lamontagne (R) to replace him.

Past election result (2010): John Lynch (D) 53%, John Stephen (R) 45%

Margaret "Maggie" Hassan (D), fmr. NH state Sen.



Age: 54, b. Feb. 27, 1958, Boston, MA
Home: Exeter, NH
Education: Brown U. (B.A., 1980); Northeastern U. (J.D., 1985)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Thomas); 2 children (Ben, Margie)
Career: NH Senate, 2004-10 (Maj. Ldr., 2010); Asst. Gen. Cnsl., Brigham and WaWarren's Hosp., 1993-96; Practicing atty., 1985-present; Mass. Dept. of Soc. Services, 1980-82

NOTABLE FACTS

- Mother to an adult son (Ben) with cerebral palsy.
- Her husband Tom is principal of the famous prep school Phillips Exeter Academy.
- While serving in the New Hampshire senate, played a large part in the state's 2009 law legalizing same-sex unions.

Ovide Lamontagne (R), attorney, fmr. NH Gov. nominee



Age: 55, b. Sep. 22, 1957, Manchester, NH
Home: Manchester, NH
Education: Catholic U. (B.A., 1979); U. of Wyoming (J.D., 1985)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Bettie); 3 children (2 adopted daughters; 1 special needs foster son)
Career: GOP Gov. nominee, 1996; Chmn., St. Brd. of Edu., 1993-96; Legal cnsl., NH Senate, 1991; Practicing atty., 1986-present

NOTABLE FACTS

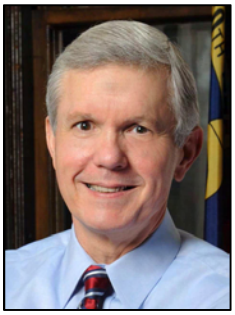
- With his wife Bettie, Lamontagne is father to an adult, special needs foster son.
- After college, taught high school in Maryland and Wyoming.
- Lost a 1996 bid for governor to now-Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D).
- Lost by only 1,500 votes in the 2010 GOP Senate primary to current New Hampshire Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R).

NORTH CAROLINA (D-Open-Perdue) Cook Rating: LEAN R

About the race: Current North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue (D) opted not to seek re-election, leaving the gubernatorial seat open. The Republican nominee is former Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory (R), who narrowly lost the 2008 gubernatorial contest. The Democratic nominee is Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton (D).

Past election result: Bev Perdue (D) 50%, Pat McCrory 47%, Michael Munger (Lib) 3%

Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton (D)



Age: 63, b. May 21, 1949, Rutherfordton, NC
Home: Rutherfordton, NC
Education: U. of No. Carolina (B.S., 1972; J.D., 1975)
Religion: Methodist
Family: Married (Lucille); 2 children (Brian, Elizabeth)
Career: NC Lt. Gov., 2008-present; NC Senate, 1997-2008; Rutherford Cty. Atty., 1986-96; Practicing atty., 1977-2000; Clerk, U.S. Dist. Ct., 1975-77; Audit Dept., Union Trust Co., 1971-72

NOTABLE FACTS

- Served in the North Carolina Senate for 12 years in the seat once held by his late father, who died when Dalton was 8 years old.
- Played quarterback for his high school's football team.
- Spent most of his life as a country lawyer managing a small law firm in Rutherfordton, NC.

Pat McCrory (R), fmr. Charlotte mayor



Age: 56, b. Oct. 17, 1956, Columbus, OH
Home: Charlotte, NC
Education: Catawba Coll. (B.A. 1978)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Ann)
Career: Partner, McCrory & Co., 2009-present; Senr. Dir. Strategic Initiatives, Moore & Van Allen, PLLC., 2010-present; Charlotte Mayor, 1995-2009; Charlotte Cty. Cncl., 1989-95; Various mgmt.. positions, Duke Energy, 1979-2008

NOTABLE FACTS

- Served for nearly 15 years as mayor of Charlotte, longer than any mayor in the city's history.
- Once worked as a basketball referee.
- McCrory's father was mayor pro tempore in the Columbus, OH suburb of Worthington.
- Student body president at Ragsdale High School in Jamestown, NC.

NORTH DAKOTA (R-Dalrymple) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: Gov. Jack Dalrymple (R) became governor in Dec. 2010 when then-Gov. John Hoeven resigned to become the state's junior U.S. senator. The Democratic nominee, state Senate Minority Leader Ryan Taylor (D), is unlikely to make this a competitive race for this solidly red state in a presidential year.

Past election result: John Hoeven (R) 74%, Tim Mathern (D) 24%

Gov. Jack Dalrymple (R)



Assumed office Dec. 2010
Age: 64, b. Oct. 16, 1948, Minneapolis, MN
Home: Bismarck, ND
Education: Yale U. (B.A. 1970)
Family: Married (Betsy); 4 children
Career: ND Gov., 2010-present; ND lt. gov, 2000-2010; ND House, 1985-2000; Chmn., ND Trade Office; Chmn., Gov. Commission on Education Improvement

NOTABLE FACTS

- Great-grandson Oliver Dalrymple, one of North Dakota's most famous and prominent farmers.
- Played ice hockey for Yale.
- Returned to North Dakota after college to help manage the family's farming operations and land holdings.
- Ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate in 1992 against Democratic Sen. Kent Conrad.
- Became governor after his predecessor Gov. John Hoeven (R) resigned to become U.S. Senator.

Ryan Taylor (D), ND state Sen.



Age: 42, b. Jul. 22, 1970, Minot, ND
Home: Towner, ND
Education: No. Dakota St. Univ. (B.A. 1992)
Religion: Lutheran
Family: Married (Nikki); 3 children
Career: ND Senate, 1992-present (Dem. Ldr., 2011-present); Rancher, Taylor Ranch; Author of "Cowboy Logic" a syndicated newspaper column; formerly sold veterinary supplies, wrote freelance, and did event speeches

NOTABLE FACTS

- Returned home to manage the family ranch with his father, Marshall, who was suffering from Parkinson's disease.
- Has run three marathons, most recently in Fargo in May 2012.
- Rarely seen not wearing his white cowboy hat.
- Raises Angus cattle on more than 2,900 acres of land.

UTAH (R-Herbert) Cook Rating: SOLID R

About the race: Gov. Gary Herbert (R) took office in 2009 when then-Governor and future presidential candidate Jon Huntsman (R) resigned to become the U.S. Ambassador to China. Herbert defended the seat in a 2010 special election and now faces Peter Cooke (D), a retired U.S. Army Reserve general and a well-respected businessman. Herbert is expected to win.

Past election result: Gary Herbert (R)64%, Peter Corroon (D) 32%

Gov. Gary Herbert (R)



Assumed office Aug. 2009
Age: 65, b. May 7, 1947, American Fork, UT
Home: Orem, UT
Education: Attended Brigham Young U. (1968-1970)
Religion: Mormon
Family: Married (Jeanette); 6 children
Military: UT National Guard, 1970-76
Career: UT Gov., 2009-present; UT Lt. Gov., 2005-09; UT Cnty. Commissioner, 1990-2004; Co-owner, The Kids Connection, 1985-2008; Realtor, Herbert & Associates Realtors

NOTABLE FACTS

- After high school, served his two-year Mormon mission in the Washington D.C. area
- Became governor after Jon Huntsman resigned to become U.S. ambassador to China.
- Left BYU before graduating to forma real estate firm, Herbert and Assoc.
- Unsuccessfully sought the Republican nomination for governor in 2003, but eventually accepted Jon Huntsman's invitation to be his nominee for lieutenant governor.

Peter Cooke (D), real estate devel. exec.



Age: 63, b. Mar. 7, 1949, Miami, FL
Home: Salt Lake City, UT
Education: Utah St. Univ. (B.A. 1971; M.A. 1973); Army War College (1999)
Religion: Mormon
Family: Married (Heather); 5 children
Military: Maj. Gen. (Ret.), U.S. Army Reserve, 1971-2009
Career: Owner and CEO, PSC Development and Evergreene Mgmt. Group; fmr. UT Dir. Of Econ. Devel.

NOTABLE FACTS

- Grew up in New Jersey, Florida, Thailand, Puerto Rico and Germany as part of different assignment his father took as a Pan Am Airlines maintenance worker.
- Cooke is a gourmet cook, skier, scuba diver, mountain climber, cyclist and runner who has completed four marathons.
- In 2009, retired as a 2-Star Major General in the Army Reserve.

VERMONT (D-Shumlin) Cook Rating: SOLID D

About the race: After one two-year term, incumbent Gov. Peter Shumlin (D) is up for re-election. He faces state Sen. Randy Brock (R). Given Vermont's solidly blue hue and the fact that it is a presidential year, Brock will be hard pressed to make this a competitive contest.

Past election result: Peter Shumlin (D) 49%, Brian Dubie (R) 48%

Gov. Peter Shumlin (D)



First elected 2010
Age: 56, b. March 24, 1956, Brattleboro, VT
Home: Montpelier, VT
Education: Wesleyan U. (B.A. 1979)
Religion: No religious affiliation
Family: Separated; 2 daughters (Olivia, Rebecca)
Career: VT Gov., 2011-present; VT Senate, 1992-2002, 2006-11; VT House, 1990-92; Putney Select Board, 1980-90; Co-dir., Putney Student Travel, 2003-06; Partner, dairy farm

NOTABLE FACTS

- Suffered from dyslexia as a child, a problem that forced him to work on being articulate—something he said helped him later in politics.
- Won his first election to the Putney select board at age 24.
- His student travel company helped 1,300 high school students participate in more than 50 programs around the world this year.

Randy Brock (R), VT state Sen.



Age: 69, b. Sep. 28, 1943, Philadelphia, PA
Home: Swanton, VT
Education: Middlebury Coll. (B.A.); Yale U. (M.A.)
Religion: Protestant
Family: Married (Andrea); 1 daughter
Military: Capt., Mil. Police, U.S. Army (Vietnam)
Career: VT Senate, 2009-present; VT auditor of accounts, 2005-07; VP, Risk Oversight, Fidelity Investments,

NOTABLE FACTS

- Earned a Bronze Star for his service in the U.S. Army
- Was appointed by Pres. George W. Bush to the Board of Visitors to West Point.
- Lost a 2006 bid for re-election as state auditor that he initially thought he won after a recount showed he lost by 102 votes.

WASHINGTON (D-Open-Gregoire) Cook Rating: TOSS UP

About the race: Washington voters haven't elected a Republican governor since 1980, but polls are tighter than the state's Democratic tilt would otherwise suggest in the race for the seat left open by retiring Gov. Christine Gregoire (D). Fmr. Rep. Jay Inslee (D) recently left the U.S. House to focus on the race against the state's Attorney General Rob McKenna (R).

Past election result: Christine Gregoire (D) 53%, Dino Rossi (R) 47%

Jay Inslee (D), fmr. U.S. Rep.



Age: 61, b. Feb. 9, 1951, Seattle, WA
Home: Bainbridge Island, WA
Education: Stanford U. (1969-70); U. of WA (B.A. 1973); Willamette U. (J.D. 1976)
Religion: Christian
Family: Married (Trudi); 3 children
Career: U.S. House of Reps., 1992-94, 1998-2012; Regional dir., U.S. Dept. of H.H.S., 1997-98; WA House of Reps., 1988-92; Practicing atty., 1976-92, 1995-96

NOTABLE FACTS

- A fifth-generation Washingtonian, Inslee's father was a high school teacher in Seattle and his mother was a sales clerk at Sears.
- Inslee's former jobs include driving cement trucks, running jackhammers and painting houses.
- Has emphasized clean energy as an issue and co-wrote the book, "Apollo's Fire: Igniting America's Clean-Energy Economy."

Rob McKenna (R), WA Atty. Gen.



Age: 50, b. Oct. 1, 1962, Ft. Sam Houston, TX
Home: Bellevue, WA
Education: U. of WA (B.A. 1985); U. of Chi. (J.D. 1988)
Religion: Catholic
Family: Married (Marilyn); 4 children
Career: WA Atty. Gen., 2004-present; King Cty. Council, 1995-2004; Practicing atty., 1988-96

NOTABLE FACTS

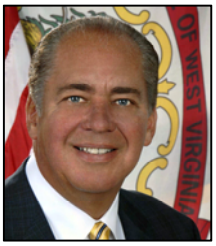
- The son of an Army officer, McKenna lived in places from Germany to Bangkok growing up.
- Served as student body president his senior year at the University of Washington.
- Served as president of the National Association of Attorneys General (2011-12).

WEST VIRGINIA (D-Tomblin) Cook Rating: LEAN D

About the race: Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D) became governor in Nov. 2010 after then-Gov. Joe Manchin (D) resigned to assume West Virginia's junior U.S. Senate seat. On Election Day, Tomblin faces businessman Bill Maloney (R), his Republican challenger from the 2011 special election to fill the remainder of Manchin's term. Tomblin won that race 50% to 47%.

Past election result (2011 Special): Earl Ray Tomblin (D) 50%, Bill Maloney (R) 47%

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D)



Assumed office Nov. 2010; First elected 2011
Age: 60, b. March 15, 1952, Chapmanville, WV
Home: Charleston, WV
Education: West Va. Univ. (B.S. 1974); Marshall U. (M.B.A. 1975)
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Married (Joanne); Son (Brent)
Career: WV Gov., 2010-present; WV Senate, 1980-2010 (Senate pres., 1995-2010); WV House, 1974-80; Restaurant owner; farmer

NOTABLE FACTS

- Generally stays away from national politics and has let it be known that he is not happy with President Obama.
- Sold eggs and rabbits, mowed lawns, and bussed tables at his parents' restaurant to earn money growing up.
- Longest-serving state Senate president in West Virginia history.

William "Bill" Maloney (R), coal businessman



Age: 54, b. Oct. 2, 1958, New York, NY
Home: Morgantown, WV
Education: Lehigh Univ. (B.A. 1980)
Religion: Christian
Family: Married (Sharon); 2 daughters
Career: WV Gov. candidate, 2011; Owner, Cow Run Energy, LLC, 2006-present; Owner, Drill Leader, LLC, 2006-present; Co-founder and exec., No. American Drillers, No. American Pump and Supply Co., Shaft Drillers International, 1984-2006

NOTABLE FACTS

- Was part of a team that helped develop the successful rescue plan that saved 33 trapped Chilean miners in 2010.
- According to his campaign, Maloney grew his drilling company, North American Drillers, from a two-person business to become the world leader in large-diameter shaft drilling.
- Continues to work and consult in the energy sector as the owner of two companies, Cow Run Energy and Drill Leader.

A NOTE ON SOURCES

For the candidates' biographical information as well as information on each race, we relied on the Cook Political Report, the Associated Press Election Guide, National Journal's Almanac of American Politics, reputable newspapers, and our own reporting.

THE STATES:

What's on the ballot, nicknames, demographics, current leadership, and voting history

ALABAMA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
AL-1		Jo Bonner*	Solid R
AL-2	Therese Ford	Martha Roby*	Solid R
AL-3	John Harris	Mike Rogers*	Solid R
AL-4	Daniel Boman	Robert Aderholt*	Solid R
AL-5	Charlie Holley	Mo Brooks*	Solid R
AL-6	Penny Bailey	Spencer Bachus*	Solid R
AL-7	Terri Sewell*	Don Chamberlain	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Heart of Dixie
Capital: Montgomery
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 4,779,736
White: 67%
Black: 26%
Hispanic: 3.9%
Asian: 1.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Robert Bentley (R)
Sec. of State: Beth Chapman (R)

U.S. Senators:
Richard Shelby (R)
Jeff Sessions (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,586,282

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,176,394 (62%)
Kerry 693,933 (37%)

2008:
McCain 1,266,546 (60%)
Obama 813,479 (39%)

ALASKA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
AK-AL	Sharon Cissna	Don Young*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: The Last Frontier
Capital: Juneau
Polls Close: 1 AM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 710,231
White: 64.1%
Black: 3.1%
Hispanic: 5.5%
Asian: 5.3%
Native American: 14.4%

Current Leadership
Governor: Sean Parnell (R)
Lt. Gov.: Mead Treadwell (R)

U.S. Senators:
Lisa Murkowski (R)
Mark Begich (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 499, 341

Party ID:
R: 126,486 (25.9%)
D: 74,802 (15.3%)
Other: 286,287 (58.7%)

Presidential:
2008:
McCain 193,841 (59%)
Obama 123,594 (38%)

2004:
Bush 190,889 (61%)
Kerry 111,025 (36%)
Nader 5,069 (2%)

ARIZONA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Richard Carmona	Jeff Flake	Toss Up
HOUSE			
AZ-1	Ann Kirkpatrick*	Jonathan Paton	Toss Up
AZ-2	Ron Barber*	Martha McSally	Likely D
AZ-3	Raul Grijalva*	Gabriela Saucedo Mercer	Solid D
AZ-4	Johnnie Robinson	Paul Gosar*	Solid R
AZ-5^	Spencer Morgan	Matt Salmon	Solid R
AZ-6	Matt Jette	David Schweikert*	Solid R
AZ-7	Ed Pastor*	Scott Fistler	Solid D
AZ-8	Gene Scharer	Trent Franks*	Solid R
AZ -9^	Kyrsten Sinema	Vernon Parker	Lean D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Grand Canyon State
Capital: Phoenix
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 6,392,017
White: 57.8%
Black: 3.7%
Hispanic: 29.6%
Native American: 4%
Asian: 2.7%

Current Leadership
Governor: Jan Brewer (R)
Sec. of State: Ken Bennett (R)
U.S. Senators:
John McCain (R)
Jon Kyl (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 3,100, 575

Party ID:
R: 1,131,802 (36%)
D: 1,002,937 (31.9%)
Other: 1,011,679 (32.2%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,104,294 (55%)
Kerry 893,524 (44%)

2008:
McCain 1,230,111 (54%)
Obama 1,034,707 (45%)

ARKANSAS

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
AR-1	Scott Ellington	Rick Crawford*	Solid R
AR-2	Herb Rule	Tim Griffin*	Solid R
AR-3		Steve Womack*	Solid R
AR-4^	Gene Jeffress	Tom Cotton	Likely R

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Medical Marijuana – Voters in Arkansas and will be asked to vote on the legalization of marijuana, for medical use, in their state. In this measure, the state outlines what type of medical conditions qualifies an individual to use marijuana without criminal penalties.

Arkansas Qualifications – "Cancer, Glaucoma, positive status for Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), Hepatitis C, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Tourette's Disease, Crohn's Disease, ulcerative colitis, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Fibromyalgia, agitation of Alzheimer's Disease or the treatment of these conditions.

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: The Natural State
Capital: Little Rock
Polls Close: 8:30 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 2,915,918
White: 74.5%
Black: 15.3%
Hispanic: 6.4%
Asian: 1.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Mike Beebe (D)
Sec. of State: Mark Martin (R)

U.S. Senators:
Mark Pryor (D)
John Boozman (R)

Voting Data:

Registered Voters: 1,566,523

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 572,898 (54%)
Kerry 469,953 (45%)

2008:
McCain 638,017 (59%)
Obama 422,310 (39%)

CALIFORNIA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Dianne Feinstein*	Elizabeth Emken	Likely D
HOUSE			
CA-1^	Jim Reed	Doug LaMalfa	Solid R
CA-2^	Jared Huffman	Daniel Roberts	Solid D
CA-3	John Garamendi*	Kim Vann	Likely D
CA-4	Jack Uppal	Tom McClintock*	Solid R
CA-5	Mike Thompson*	Randy Loftin	Solid D
CA-6	Doris Matsui*	Joseph McCray	Solid D
CA-7	Ami Bera	Dan Lungren*	Toss Up
CA-8^		Paul Cook Greg Imus	Solid R
CA-9	Jerry McNerney*	Ricky Gill	Lean D
CA-10	Jose Hernandez	Jeff Denham*	Toss Up
CA-11	George Miller*	Virginia Fuller	Solid D
CA-12	Nancy Pelosi*	John Dennis	Solid D
CA-13	Barbara Lee*		Solid D
CA-14	Jackie Speier*	Debbie Bacigalupi	Solid D
CA-15	Pete Stark* Eric Swalwell		Solid D
CA-16	Jim Costa*	Brian Whelan	Solid D
CA-17	Mike Honda*	Evelyn Li	Solid D
CA-18	Anna Eshoo*	Dave Chapman	Solid D
CA-19^	Zoe Lofgren	Robert Murray	Solid D
CA-20	Sam Farr*	Jeff Taylor	Solid D
CA-21^	John Hernandez	David Valadao	Likely R
CA-22	Otto Lee	Devin Nunes*	Solid R
CA-23		Kevin McCarthy*	Solid R
CA-24	Lois Capps*	Abel Maldonado	Lean D
CA-25	Lee Rogers	Buck McKeon*	Solid R
CA-26	Julia Brownley	Tony Strickland	Toss Up
CA-27	Judy Chu*	Jack Orswell	Solid D
CA-28	Adam Schiff*	Phil Jennerjahn	Solid D
CA-29^	Tony Cardenas		Solid D
CA-30	Brad Sherman* Howard Berman*		Solid D
CA-31		Gary Miller* Bob Dutton	Solid R
CA-32	Grace Napolitano*	David Miller	Solid D

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Golden State
Capital: Sacramento
Polls Close: 11:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 37,253,956
White: 40.1%
Black: 5.8%
Hispanic: 37.6%
Asian: 12.8%

Current Leadership
Governor: Jerry Brown (D)
Sec. of State: Debra Bowen (D)

U.S. Senators:
Dianne Feinstein (D)
Barbara Boxer (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 17,153,699

Party ID:
D: 7,620,240 (44.1%)
R: 5,361,875 (31%)
Other: 4,303,768 (24.9%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 6,745,485 (54%)
Bush 5,509,826 (44%)

2008:
Obama 8,274,473 (61%)
McCain 5,011,781 (37%)

CA-33^	Henry Waxman*		Solid D
CA-34	Xavier Becerra*	Stephen Smith	Solid D
CA-35	Joe Baca*	Gloria McLeod	Solid D
CA-36	Raul Ruiz	Mary Bono Mack*	Toss Up
CA-37	Karen Bass*	Morgan Osbourne	Solid D
CA-38	Linda Sanchez*	Benjamin Campos	Solid D
CA-39	Jay Chen	Ed Royce*	Solid R
CA-40	Lucille Roybal-Allard* David Sanchez		Solid D
CA-41^	Mark Takano	John Tavaglione	Lean D
CA-42	Michael Williamson	Ken Calvert*	Solid R
CA-43	Maxine Waters* Bob Flores		Solid D
CA-44	Janice Hahn* Laura Richardson*		Solid D
CA-45	Sukhee Kang	John Campbell*	Solid R
CA-46	Loretta Sanchez*	Jerry Hayden	Solid D
CA-47^	Alan Lowenthal	Gary Delong	Likely D
CA-48	Ron Varasteh	Dana Rohrabacher*	Solid R
CA-49	Jerry Tetalman	Darrell Issa*	Solid R
CA-50	David Secor	Duncan D. Hunter*	Solid R
CA-51^	Juan Vargas	Michael Crimmins	Solid D
CA-52	Scott Peters	Brian Bilbray*	Toss Up
CA-53	Susan Davis*	Nick Popaditch	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Campaign Finance Reform – Proposition 32 aims to make key changes to campaign finance laws in California. If passed, neither unions nor corporations would be allowed to donate directly to state and local political candidates, employee payroll deductions could not be used for "political purposes", and the law would prohibit government contractors from donating to candidates who've helped them secure a contract. Opponents of this reform are fearful that if the law passes the voices of Super PACs and special interest groups will be louder than ever before and the issues important to voters would be overlooked.

Capital Punishment – Californians will have the chance to abolish the death penalty as the maximum punishment for murder when they go to the polls in November. If passed, Proposition 34 would make the maximum criminal punishment in the state life in prison with no possibility for parole. According to an official report put out by the state's Legislative Analyst, if the amendment passes it would save the state $130 million annually.

COLORADO

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
CO-1	Diana DeGette*	Danny Stroud	Solid D
CO-2	Jared Polis*	Kevin Lundberg	Solid D
CO-3	Sal Pace	Scott Tipton*	Lean R
CO-4	Brandon Shaffer	Cory Gardner*	Solid R
CO-5		Doug Lamborn*	Solid R
CO-6	Joe Miklosi	Mike Coffman*	Toss Up
CO-7	Ed Perlmutter*	Joe Coors	Likely D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Marijuana Legalization - In Colorado, voters will decide whether or not recreational usage of marijuana should legal for all people 21-years-of-age and older and taxed/regulated in the same way as alcohol.

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Centennial State
Capital: Denver
Polls Close: 9 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 5,029,196
White: 70%
Black: 3.8%
Hispanic: 20.7%
Asian: 2.7%

Current Leadership
Governor: John Hickenlooper (D)
Sec. of State: Scott Gessler (R)

U.S. Senators:
Mark Udall (D)
Michael Bennet (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 3,381,963

Party ID:
R: 874,962 (35.3%)
D: 812,389 (32.8%)
Other: 789,851 (31.9%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,101,255 (52%)
Kerry 1,001,732 (47%)

2008:
Obama 1,288,576 (54%)
McCain 1,073,589 (45%)

CONNECTICUT

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Chris Murphy	Linda McMahon	Toss Up
HOUSE			
CT-1	John Larson*	John Decker	Solid D
CT-2	Joe Coutney*	Paul Formica	Solid D
CT-3	Rosa DeLauro*	Wayne Winsley	Solid D
CT-4	Jim Himes*	Steve Obsitnik	Solid D
CT-5^	Elizabeth Esty	Andrew Roraback	Lean D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Constitution State
Capital: Hartford
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 3,574,097
White: 71.2%
Black: 9.4%
Hispanic: 13.4%
Asian: 3.8%

Current Leadership
Governor: Dannel Malloy (D)
Sec. of State: Denise Merrill (D)

U.S. Senators:
Joe Lieberman (I)
Richard Blumenthal (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,121,442

Party ID (2011):
D: 784,280 (37%)
R: 431,721 (20%)
Other: 905,441 (43%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 857,488 (54%)
Bush 693,826 (44%)

2008:
Obama 997,772 (61%)
McCain 629,428 (38%)

DELAWARE

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV	Jack Markell*	Jeff Crag	Solid D
SEN	Tom Carper*	Kevin Wade	Solid D
HOUSE			
DE-AL	John Carney*	Tom Kovach	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: First State
Capital: Dover
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 897, 934
White: 65.3%
Black: 20.8%
Hispanic: 8.2%
Asian: 3.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Jack Markell (D)
Sec. of State: Jeffrey Bullock (D)

U.S. Senators:
Thomas Carper (D)
Christopher Coons (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 623,292

Party ID:
D: 295,139 (47%)
R: 180,014 (29%)
Other: 148,139 (24%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 200,152 (53%)
Bush 171,660 (46%)

2008:
Obama 255,459 (62%)
McCain 152,374 (37%)

FLORIDA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Bill Nelson*	Connie Mack	Lean D
HOUSE			
FL-1	Jim Bryan	Jeff Miller*	Solid R
FL-2	Al Lawson	Steve Southerland*	Likely R
FL-3^	Jaques Gaillot	Ted Yoho	Solid R
FL-4		Ander Crenshaw*	Solid R
FL-5	Corrine Brown*	LeAnne Kolb	Solid D
FL-6^	Heather Beaven	Ron Desantis	Solid R
FL-7	Jason Kendall	John Mica*	Solid R
FL-8	Shannon Roberts	Bill Posey*	Solid R
FL-9^	Alan Grayson	Todd Long	Likely D
FL-10	Val Demings	Dan Webster*	Lean R
FL-11	David Werder	Rich Nugent*	Solid R
FL-12^	Jonathan Snow	Gus Bilirakis*	Solid R
FL-13	Jessica Ehrlich	Bill Young*	Solid R
FL-14	Kathy Castor*	Evelio Otero	Solid D
FL-15	Unopposed	Dennis Ross*	Solid R
FL-16	Keith Fitzgerald	Vern Buchanan*	Likely R
FL-17	William Bronson	Tom Rooney*	Solid R
FL-18	Patrick Murphy	Allen West*	Toss Up
FL-19^	Jim Roach	Trey Radel	Solid R
FL-20	Alcee Hastings*		Solid D
FL-21	Ted Deutch*		Solid D
FL-22^	Lois Frankel	Adam Hasner	Likely D
FL-23	Debbie Wasserman Schultz*	Karen Harrington	Solid D
FL-24	Frederica Wilson*	Unopposed	Solid D
FL-25		Mario Diaz-Balart*	Solid R
FL-26	Joe Garcia	David Rivera*	Lean D
FL -27	Manny Yevancey	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Sunshine State
Capital: Tallahassee
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 18,801,310
White: 57.9%
Black: 15.2%
Hispanic: 22.5%
Asian: 2.4%

Current Leadership
Governor: Rick Scott (R)
Sec. of State: Ken Detzner (R)

U.S. Senators:
Bill Nelson (D)
Marco Rubio (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 11,483,461

Party ID:
D: 4,593,324 (40%)
R: 4,147,530 (36%)
Other: 2,742,607 (24%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 3,964,522 (52%
Kerry 3,583,544 (47%)

2008:
Obama 4,282,074 (51%)
McCain 4,045,624 (48%)

Key Ballot Measures

Public Funding for Abortion – Voters in Florida will decide on a constitutional amendment that would ban the use public funds for abortions, unless the abortion is performed in order to save the mother's life. The amendment also notes, in regards to abortion, that the state's constitution cannot be interpreted to be broader in scope than that of the United States Constitution. The amendment must receive 60% voter approval to be adopted.

Religious Funding – If passed, Amendment 8 would allow public funds in Florida to be used by religious organizations providing public services. The amendment would repeal what is currently known in Florida as the "Blaine Amendment" which prohibits state funding of religious organizations and religious schools. The amendment must receive 60% voter approval to be adopted.

GEORGIA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
GA-1	Lesli Messinger	Jack Kingston*	Solid R
GA-2	Sanford Bishop*	John House	Solid D
GA-3	Unopposed	Lynn Westmoreland*	Solid R
GA-4	Hank Johnson*	Chris Vaughn	Solid D
GA-5	John Lewis*	Howard Stopeck	Solid D
GA-6	Jeff Kazanow	Tom Price*	Solid R
GA-7	Steve Reilly	Rob Woodall*	Solid R
GA-8	Unopposed	Austin Scott*	Solid R
GA-9^	Jody Cooley	Doug Collins	Solid R
GA-10		Paul Broun*	Solid R
GA-11	Patrick Thompson	Phil Gingery*	Solid R
GA-12	John Barrow*	Lee Anderson	Toss Up
GA-13	David Scott*	Shahid Malik	Solid D
GA-14	Danny Grant	Tom Graves*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Peach State
Capital: Atlanta
Polls Close: 7:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 9,687,653
White: 55.9%
Black: 30%
Hispanic: 8.8%
Asian: 3.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Nathan Deal (R)
Sec. of State: Brian Kemp (R)

U.S. Senators:
Saxby Chambliss (R)
Johnny Isakson (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 5,804,812

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,914,254 (58%)
Kerry 1,366,149 (41%)

2008:
McCain 2,048,759 (52%)
Obama 1,844,123 (47%)

HAWAII

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Mazie Hirono	Linda Lingle	Lean D
HOUSE			
HI-1	Colleen Hanabusa*	Charles Djou	Solid D
HI-2^	Tusi Gabbard	Kawika Crowley	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Aloha State
Capital: Honolulu
Polls Close: 12:00 AM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 1,360,301
White: 22.7%
Asian: 37.7%
Hawaiian: 9.4%
Hispanic: 8.9%
Black: 1.5%

Current Leadership
Governor: Neil Abercrombie (D)
Lt. Governor: Brian Schatz (D)

U.S. Senators:
Daniel Inouye (D)
Daniel Akaka (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 690,748

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 231,708 (54%)
Bush 194,191 (45%)

2008:
Obama 325,871 (72%)
McCain 120,566 (27%)

IDAHO

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
ID-1	Jimmy Farris	Raul Labrador*	Solid R
ID-2	Nicole LeFavour	Mike Simpson*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Gem State
Capital: Boise
Polls Close: 11:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 1,567,582
White: 84%
Black: 0.6%
Hispanic: 11.2%
Asian: 1.2%
Native American: 1.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: C.L. "Butch" Otter (R)
Sec. of State: Ben Ysursa (R)

U.S. Senators:
Mike Crapo (R)
Jim Risch (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 762,997

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 409,235 (68%)
Kerry 181,098 (30%)

2008:
McCain 403,012 (62%)
Obama 236,440 (36%)

ILLINOIS

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
IL-01	Bobby Rush*	Donald Peloquin	Solid D
IL-02	Jesse Jackson*	Brian Woodworth	Solid D
IL-03	Daniel Lipinski*	Richard Grabowski	Solid D
IL-04	Luis Gutierrez*	Hector Conception	Solid D
IL-05	Mike Quigley*	Dan Schmitt	Solid D
IL-06	Leslie Coolidge	Peter Roskam*	Solid R
IL-07	Danny Davis*	Rita Zak	Solid D
IL-08	Tammy Duckworth	Joe Walsh*	Likely D
IL-09	Jan Schakowsky*	Timothy Wolfe	Solid D
IL-10	Brad Schneider	Bob Dold*	Lean D
IL-11	Bill Foster	Judy Biggert*	Toss Up
IL-12^	William Enyart	Jason Plummer	Toss Up
IL-13^	David Gill	Rodney Davis	Toss Up
IL-14	Dennis Anderson	Randy Hultgren*	Solid R
IL-15	Angela Michael	John Shimkus*	Solid R
IL-16	Wanda Rohl	Asdam Kinzinger*	Solid R
IL-17	Cheri Bustos	Bobby Schilling*	Toss Up
IL-18	Steve Waterworth	Aaron Schock*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Prairie State
Capital: Springfield
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 12,830,632
White: 63.7%
Black: 14.3%
Hispanic: 15.8%
Asian: 4.5%

Current Leadership
Governor: Pat Quinn (D)
Sec. of State: Jesse White (D)

U.S. Senators:
Richard Durbin (D)
Mark Kirk (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 7,304,333

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 2,891,550 (55%)
Bush 2,345,946 (44%)

2008:
Obama 3,419,348 (62%)
McCain 2,031,179 (37%)

INDIANA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV^	John Gregg	Mike Pence	Likely R
SEN^	Joe Donnelly	Richard Murdock	Toss Up
HOUSE			
IN-1	Peter Visclosky*	Joel Phelps	Solid D
IN-2^	Brendan Mullen	Jackie Walorski	Likely R
IN-3	Kevin Boyd	Marlin Stutzman	Solid R
IN-4	Tara Nelson	Todd Rokita*	Solid R
IN-5^	Scott Reske	Susan Brooks	Solid R
IN-6^	Bradley Bookout	Luke Messer	Solid R
IN-7	Andre Carson*	Carlos May	Solid D
IN-8	Dave Crooks	Larry Bucshon*	Lean R
IN-9	Shelli Yoder	Todd Young*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Hoosier State
Capital: Indianapolis
Polls Close: 7:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 6,483,802
White: 81.5%
Black: 9%
Hispanic: 6%
Asian: 1.6%

Current Leadership
Governor: Mitch Daniels (R)
Sec. of State: Connie Lawson (R)

U.S. Senators:
Richard Lugar (R)
Dan Coats (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 4,409,890

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,479,438 (60%)
Kerry 969,011 (39%)

2008:
Obama 1,374,039 (50%)
McCain 1,345,648 (49%)

IOWA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
IA-1	Bruce Braley*	Ben Lange	Likely D
IA-2	David Loebsack*	John Archer	Likely D
IA-3	Leonard Boswell*	Tom Latham*	Lean R
IA-4	Christie Vilsack	Steve King*	Lean R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Hawkeye State
Capital: Des Moines
Polls Close: 10:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 3,046,355
White: 88.7%
Black: 2.9%
Hispanic: 5%
Asian: 1.7%

Current Leadership
Governor: Terry Branstad (R)
Sec. of State: Matt Schultz (R)

U.S. Senators:
Charles Grassley (R)
Tom Harkin (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,154,464

Party ID:
No Party Registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 751,957 (50%)
Kerry 741,898 (49%)

2008:
Obama 828,940 (54%)
McCain 682,379 (44%)

KANSAS

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
KS-1	Unopposed	Tim Huelskamp*	Solid R
KS-2	Tobias Schlingensiepen	Lynn Jenkins*	Solid R
KS-3		Kevin Yoder*	Solid R
KS-4	Robert Tillman	Mike Pompeo*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Sunflower State
Capital: Topeka
Polls Close: 10:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 2,853,118
White: 78.2%
Black: 5.7%
Hispanic: 10.5%
Asian: 2.3%

Current Leadership
Governor: Sam Brownback (R)
Sec. of State: Kris Kobach (R)

U.S. Senators:
Pat Roberts (R)
Jerry Moran (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 1,719,469

Party ID (2010):
R: 744,975 (43.7%)
D: 460,318 (27%)
Other: 501,505 (29.4%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 736,456 (62%)
Kerry 434,993 (37%)

2008:
McCain 699,655 (57%)
Obama 514,765 (42%)

KENTUCKY

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
KY-1	Charles Hatchett	Ed Whitefield*	Solid R
KY-2	David Williams	Brett Guthrie*	Solid R
KY-3	John Yarmuth*	Brooks Wicker	Solid D
KY-4^	Bill Adkins	Thomas Massie	Solid R
KY-5	Kenneth Stepp	Hal Rogers*	Solid R
KY-6	Ben Chandler*	Andy Barr	Toss Up

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Bluegrass State
Capital: Frankfort
Polls Close: 7:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 4,339,367
White: 86.3%
Black: 7.7%
Hispanic: 3.1%
Asian: 1.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Steve Beshear (D)
Sec. of State: Alison Lundergan Grimes (R)

U.S. Senators:
Mitch McConnell (R)
Rand Paul (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 3,012,175

Party ID (2012):
D: 1,655,118 (55%)
Republican: 1,140,635 (38%)
Other: 214,422 (7%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,069,439 (60%)
Kerry 712, 733 (40%)

2008:
McCain 1,048,462 (57%)
Obama 751,985 (41%)

LOUISIANA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
LA-01	Vinny Mendoza	Steve Scalise*	Solid R
LA-02	Cedric Richmond* Gary Landrieu	Dwayne Bailey	Solid D
LA-03^		Jeff Landry* Charles Boustany*	Solid R
LA-04		John Fleming*	Solid R
LA-05		Rodney Alexander*	Solid R
LA-06	Rufus Craig	Bill Cassidy*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Pelican State
Capital: Baton Rouge
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 4,533,372
White: 60.3%
Black: 31.8%
Hispanic: 4.2%
Asian: 1.5%

Current Leadership
Governor: Bobby Jindal (R)
Sec. of State: Tom Schedler (R)

U.S. Senators:
Mary Landrieu (D)
David Vitter (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,897,286

Party ID:
D: 1,400,668 (48%)
R: 795,674 (27%)
Other: 700,944 (24%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,102,169 (57%)
Kerry 820,299 (42%)

2008:
McCain 1,148,275 (59%)
Obama 782,989 (40%)

MAINE

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Cynthia Dill Angus King (I)	Charlie Summers	Toss Up
HOUSE			
ME-1	Chellie Pingree*	Jon Courtney	Solid D
ME-2	Michael Michaud*	Kevin Raye	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Same-sex marriage – This November voters in Maine will decide whether or not same-sex marriages will be recognized in their state. Question 1 asks voters: "Do you want to allow the state of Maine to issue marriage licenses for same-sex couples?" This ballot initiative would allow same-sex couples to receive a marriage license, but would not require religious officials to perform a marriage if it is against their beliefs. This is an effort to re-recognize same sex marriages in the state. In May 2009, then Governor John Baldacci (D) signed into law the "freedom to marry" bill, which was repealed by voters that November.

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Pine Tree State
Capital: Augusta
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 1,328,361
White: 94.4%
Black: 1.1%
Hispanic: 1.3%
Asian: 1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Paul Lepage (R)
Secretary of State: Charles Summers (R)

U.S. Senators:
Olympia Snowe (R)
Susan Collins (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 914,435

Party ID: (2010)
D: 324,630 (33%)
R: 273,305 (28%)
I: N/A

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 396,842 (54%)
Bush 330,201 (45%)

2008:
Obama 421,923 (58%)
McCain 295,273 (40%)

MARYLAND

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Ben Cardin*	Daniel Bongino	Solid D
HOUSE			
MD-1	Wendy Rosen	Andy Harris*	Solid R
MD-2	C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger*	Nancy Jacbos	Solid D
MD-3	John Sarbanes*	Eric Knowles	Solid D
MD-4	Donna Edwards*	Faith Loudon	Solid D
MD-5	Steny Hoyer*	Tony O'Donnell	Solid D
MD-6	John Delaney	Roscoe Bartlett*	Likely D
MD-7	Elijah Cummings*	Frank Mirabile	Solid D
MD-8	Chris Van Hollen*	Ken Timmerman	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Same-sex marriage - Voters in Maryland will be asked to either uphold or dismiss their state marriage equality law. In March, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley (D) signed into law a bill legalizing same-sex marriage. Opponents of the new law fired back in June, gaining enough signatures to put the issue before voters this November.

Immigration - In 2011, the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 167 which is commonly referred to as the "Maryland Dream Act." The law allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at Maryland community colleges if they graduated high school in the state and their parents file taxes in Maryland. After completing two years at a community college, the students can then transfer to a state-university, while still paying the in-state tuition rate. This November voters will decide if in-state tuition rates for undocumented students will stay or go?

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Old Line State
Capital: Annapolis
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 5,773,552
White: 54.7%
Black: 29%
Hispanic: 8.2%
Asian: 5.5%

Current Leadership
Governor: Martin O'Malley (D)
Secretary of State: John McDonough (D)

U.S. Senators:
Barbara Mikulski (D)
Ben Cardin (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 3,563,971

Party ID: (2010)
D: 1,934,133 (57%)
R: 905,208 (26%)
Other: 486,973 (14%)
Total: 3,416,058

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 1,334,493 (56%)
Bush 1,024,703 (43%)

2008:
Obama 1,629,467 (62%)
McCain 959,862 (36%)

MASSACHUSETTS

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Elizabeth Warren	Scott Brown*	Toss Up
HOUSE			
MA-1	Richard Neal*	*Unopposed*	Solid D
MA-2	Jim McGovern*	*Unopposed*	Solid D
MA-3	Niki Tsongas*	Jon Golnik	Solid D
MA-4^	Joe Kennedy	Sean Bielat	Solid D
MA-5	Ed Markey*	Tom Tierney	Solid D
MA-6	John Tierney*	Richard Tisei	Lean R
MA-7	Mike Capuano*		Solid D
MA-8	Stephen Lynch*	Joe Selvaggi	Solid D
MA-9	Bill Keating*	Adam Chaprales	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Medical Marijuana – Voters in Massachusetts will be asked to vote on the legalization of marijuana, for medical use, in their state. In this measure, the state outlines what type of medical conditions qualifies an individual to use marijuana without criminal penalties.
Massachusetts Qualifications: "To qualify, a patient must have been diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition, such as cancer, glaucoma, HIV-positive status or AIDS, hepatitis C, Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease, ALS, or multiple sclerosis."

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Bay State
Capital: Boston
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 6,547,629
White: 76.1%
Black: 6%
Hispanic: 9.6%
Asian: 5.3%

Current Leadership
Governor: Deval Patrick (D)
Sec. of State: William Galvin (D)

U.S. Senators:
John Kerry (D)
Scott Brown (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 4,180,918

Party ID:
Democrats: 1,486,648 (36%)
Republicans: 471,829 (11%)
Other: 2,222,441 (53%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 1,803,800 (62%)
Bush 1,071,109 (37%)

2008:
Obama 1,904,097 (62%)
McCain 1,108,854 (36%)

MICHIGAN

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Debbie Stabenow*	Peter Hoekstra	Likely D
HOUSE			
MI-1	Gary McDowell	Dan Benishek*	Toss Up
MI-2	Willie German	Bill Huizenga*	Solid R
MI-3	Steve Pestka	Justin Amash*	Likely R
MI-4	Debra Wirth	Dave Camp*	Solid R
MI-5^	Dan Kildee	Jim Slezak	Solid D
MI-6	Mike O'Brien	Fred Upton*	Solid R
MI-7	Kurt Haskell	Tim Walberg	Solid R
MI-8	Lance Enderle	Mike Rogers*	Solid R
MI-9	Sandy Levin*	Don Volaric	Solid D
MI-10	Chuck Stadler	Candice Miller*	Solid R
MI-11^	Syed Taj	Kerry Bentivolio	Lean R
MI-12	John Dingell*	Cynthia Kallgren	Solid D
MI-13	John Conyers*	Harry Sawicki	Solid D
MI-14	Gary Peters*	John Hauler	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Collective Bargaining – The "Protect our Jobs" ballot proposal in Michigan aims to amend the state's constitution in order to create a constitutionally-protected right to collectively bargain for public and private workers. If passed, the measure would also reverse many controversial labor-laws in the state that have been passed recently. Examples:

a. Ban against payroll deductions for public school employee union dues
b. Ban on graduate student unionization

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Great Lakes State
Capital: Lansing
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 9,883,640
White: 76.6%
Black: 14%
Hispanic: 4.4%
Asian: 2.4%

Current Leadership
Governor: Rick Snyder (R)
Secretary of State: Ruth Johnson (R)

U.S. Senators:
Carl Levin (D)
Debbie Stabenow (D)

Voting Data:
Registered voters: 7,454,553

Party ID:
No party registration

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 2,479,183 (51%)
Bush 2,313,746 (48%)

2008:
Obama 2,872,579 (57%)
McCain 2,048,639 (41%)

MINNESOTA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Amy Klobuchar*	Kurt Bills	Solid D
HOUSE			
MN-1	Tim Walz*	Allen Quist	Solid D
MN-2	Mike Obermueller	John Kline*	Likely R
MN-3	Brian Barnes	Erik Paulsen*	Solid R
MN-4	Betty McCollum*	Tony Hernandez	Solid D
MN-5	Keith Ellison*	Chris Fields	Solid D
MN-6	Jim Graves	Michele Bachmann*	Lean R
MN-7	Collin Peterson*	Lee Byberg	Solid D
MN-8	Richard Nolan	Chip Cravaack	Toss Up

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Same-sex marriage – In Minnesota, voters will decide whether or not to pass a proposed state constitutional amendment that defines marriage as only being between one man and one woman. Currently, same-sex marriages are not recognized in the state. A poll conducted in June of this year by Public Policy Polling showed that 43% of voters support the proposed amendment, while 49% oppose the measure.

Voter ID Law – Voters in Minnesota will decide if voters in future elections will be required to show a government-issued photo ID before voting. The measure also requires that the state make photo IDs available to those without a government-issued ID, at no charge.

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: North Star State
Capital: St. Paul
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 5,303,925
White: 83.1%
Black: 5.1%
Hispanic: 4.7%
Asian: 4%

Current Leadership
Governor: Mark Dayton (R)
Secretary of State:
Mark Ritchie (D)

U.S. Senators:
Amy Kloubuchar (D)
Al Franken (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 3,059,234

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 1,445,014 (51%)
Bush 1,346,695 (48%)

2008:
Obama 1,573,354 (54%)
McCain 1,275,409 (44%)

MISSISSIPPI

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Albert Gore Jr.	Roger Wicker*	Solid R
HOUSE			
MS-1	Brad Morris	Alan Nunnelee*	Solid R
MS-2	Bennie Thompson*	Bill Marcy	Solid D
MS-3		Gregg Harper*	Solid R
MS-4	Michael Herrington	Steven Palazzo*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Magnolia State
Capital: Jackson
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population : 2,967,297
White: 58%
Black: 36.9%
Hispanic: 2.7%
Asian: 0.9%

Current Leadership
Governor: Phil Bryant (R)
Secretary of State: Delbert Hosemann (R)

U.S. Senators:
Thad Cochran (R)
Roger Wicker (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters:
1,794,042 (2010)

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential
2004:
Bush 684,981 (59%)
Kerry 457,766 (40%)

2008:
McCain 724,597 (56%)
Obama 554,662 (43%)

MISSOURI

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV	Jay Nixon*	Dave Spence	Lean D
SEN	Claire McCaskill*	Todd Akin	Likely D
HOUSE			
MO-1	Lacy Clay*	Robyn Hamlin	Solid D
MO-2^	Glenn Koenen	Ann Wagner	Solid R
MO-3	Eric Mayer	Blaine Luetkemeyer*	Solid R
MO-4	Teresa Hensley	Vicky Hartzler*	Solid R
MO-5	Emanuel Cleaver*	Jacob Turk	Solid D
MO-6	Kyle Yarber	Sam Graves*	Solid R
MO-7	Jim Evans	Billy Long*	Solid R
MO-8	Jack Rushin	Jo Ann Emerson*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Show Me State
Capital: Jefferson City
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 5,988,927
White: 81%
Black: 11.5%
Hispanic: 3.5%
Asian: 1.6%

Current Leadership
Governor: Jay Nixon (D)
Secretary of State: Robin Carnahan (D)

U.S. Senators:
Roy Blunt (R)
Claire McCaskill (D)

Voting Data:
Registered voters:
4,137,545 (2010)

Party ID:
No party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,455,713 (53%)
Kerry 1,259,171 (46%)

2008:
McCain 1,445,814 (49.43%)
Obama 1,441,911 (49.29%)

MONTANA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV^	Steve Bullock	Rick Hill	Toss Up
SEN	John Tester	Dennis Rehberg	Toss Up
HOUSE			
MT-AL^	Kim Gillan	Steve Daines*	Likely R

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Medical Marijuana - Medical marijuana usage is currently legal in Montana. If referendum IR-124 is approved, the state's current medical marijuana program would be revamped and include new restrictions such as:

> "permitting patients to grow marijuana or designate a provider; limiting each marijuana provider to three patients; prohibiting marijuana providers from accepting anything of value in exchange for services or products; granting local governments authority to regulate marijuana providers; establishing specific standards for demonstrating chronic pain; and reviewing the practices of doctors who certify marijuana use for 25 or more patients in a 12-month period."

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Treasure State
Capital: Helena
Polls Close: 10:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 989,415
White: 87.8%
Black: 0.4%
Hispanic: 2.9%
Asian: 0.6%

Current Leadership
Governor: Brian Schweitzer (D)
Secretary of State: Linda McCulloch (D)

U.S. Senators:
Max Baucus (D)
Jon Tester (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 658,903

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 266,063 (59%)
Kerry 173,710 (39%)

2008:
McCain 242,763 (50%)
Obama 231,667 (47%) Paul 10,638 (2%)

NEBRASKA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Bob Kerrey	Deb Fisher	Likely R
HOUSE			
NE-1	Korey Reiman	Jeff Fortenberry*	Solid R
NE-2	John Ewing	Lee Terry*	Solid R
NE-3	Mark Sullivan	Adrian Smith*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Cornhusker State
Capital: Lincoln
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 1,826,341
White: 82.1%
Black: 4.4%
Hispanic: 9.2%
Asian: 1.7%

Current Leadership
Governor: Dave Heineman (R)
Secretary of State: John Gale (R)

U.S. Senators:
Ben Nelson (D)
Mike Johanns (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 1,142,247 (2010)

Party ID: (2010)
D: 380,321 (33%)
R: 549,105 (48%)
Other: 212,821(19%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 512,814 (66%)
Kerry 254,328 (33%)

2008:
McCain 452,979 (57%)
Obama 333,319 (42%)

NEVADA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Shelley Berkley	Dean Heller*	Toss Up
HOUSE			
NV-1^	Diana Titus	Christopher Edwards	Solid D
NV-2	Samuel Koepnick	Mark Amodei*	Solid R
NV-3	John Oceguera	Joe Heck*	Toss Up
NV-4^	Steven Horsford	Danny Tarkanian	Toss UP

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Silver State
Capital: Carson City
Polls Close: 10:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population (2010): 2,700,551
White: 54.1%
Black: 7.7%
Hispanic: 26.5%
Asian: 7.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Brian Sandoval (R)
Secretary of State:
Ross Miller (D)

U.S. Senators:
Harry Reid (D)
Dean Heller (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters:
1,500,818

Party ID:
D: 635,419 (42%)
R: 504,974 (34%)
Other: 360,425 (24%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 418,690 (50%)
Kerry 397,190 (48%)

2008:
Obama 533,736 (55%)
McCain 412,827 (43%)

NEW HAMPSHIRE

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV^	Maggie Hassan	Ovide Lamontage	Toss Up
HOUSE			
NH-1	Carol Shea-Porter	Frank Guinta*	Toss Up
NH-2	Ann McLane Kuster	Charlie Bass*	Lean D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Granite State
Capital: Concord
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 1,316,470
White: 92.3%
Black: 1.0%
Hispanic: 2.8%
Asian: 2.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: John Lynch (R)
Secretary of State: William Gardner (D)

U.S. Senators:
Kelly Ayotte (R)
Jeanne Shaheen (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 791,434

Party ID:
D: 224,915 (28%)
R: 258, 714 (33%)
Other: 307,805 (39%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 340,511 (50%)
Bush 331,237 (49%)

2008:
Obama 384,826 (54%)
McCain 316,534 (45%)

NEW JERSEY

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Bob Menendez*	Joe Kyrillos	Likely D
HOUSE			
NJ-1	Rob Andrews*	Greg Horton	Solid D
NJ-2	Cassandra Shober	Frank LoBiondo*	Solid R
NJ-3	Shelley Adler	Jon Runyan*	Lean R
NJ-4	Brian Froelich	Chris Smith*	Solid R
NJ-5	Adam Gussen	Scott Garrett*	Solid R
NJ-6	Frank Pallone*	Anna Little	Solid D
NJ-7	Upendra Chivukula	Leonard Lance*	Solid R
NJ-8	Albio Sires*	Maria Karczewski	Solid D
NJ-9	Bill Pascrell*	Shmuley Boteach	Solid D
NJ-10^	Donald Payne, Jr.	Brian Kelemen	Solid D
NJ-11	John Arvanites	Rodney Frelinghuysen*	Solid R
NJ-12	Rush Holt*	Eric Beck	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Garden State
Capital: Trenton
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 8,791,894
White: 59.3%
Black: 12.8%
Hispanic: 17.7%
Asian: 8.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Chris Christie (R)
Secretary of State/Lt. Governor: Kim Guadagno (R)

U.S. Senators:
Frank Lautenberg (D)
Robert Menendez (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters:
5,497,322

Party ID: (2010)
D: 1,787,480 (33%)
R: 1,084,757 (20%)
Other: 2,625,085 (47%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 1,911,430 (53%)
Bush 1,670,003 (46%)

2008:
Obama 2,215,422 (57%)
McCain 1,613,207 (42%)

NEW MEXICO

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Martin Heinrich	Heather Wilson	Lean D
HOUSE			
NM-1^	Michelle Lujan Grisham	Janice Arnold-Jones	Solid D
NM-2	Evelyn Erhard	Steve Pearce*	Solid R
NM-3	Ben Lujan*	Jefferson Byrd	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Land of Enchantment
Capital: Santa Fe
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 2,059,179
White: 40.5%
Black: 1.7%
Hispanic: 46.3%
Asian: 1.3%

Current Leadership
Governor: Susana Martinez (R)
Secretary of State:
Dianna Duran (R)

U.S. Senators:
Jeff Bingaman (D)
Tom Udall (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters:
1,228,028

Party ID:
D: 586,696 (48%)
R: 388,511 (32%)
Other: 252,821 (20%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 376,930 (50%)
Kerry 370,942 (49%)

2008:
Obama 384,826 (54%)
McCain 316,534 (45%)

NEW YORK

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Kristen Gillibrand*	Wendy Long	Solid D
HOUSE			
NY-1	Tim Bishop*	Randy Altschuler	Lean D
NY-2	Vivianne Falcone	Peter King*	Solid R
NY-3	Steve Israel*	Stephen Labate	Solid D
NY-4	Carolyn McCarthy*	Francis Becker	Solid D
NY-5	Gregory Meeks*	Allan Jennings	Solid D
NY-6^	Grace Meng	Daniel Halloran	Solid D
NY-7	Nydia Velazquez*		Solid D
NY-8^	Hakeem Jeffries	Alan Bellone	Solid D
NY-9	Yvette Clarke*	Daniel Cavanagh	Solid D
NY-10	Jerrold Nadler*	Michael Chan	Solid D
NY-11	Mark Murphy	Mike Grimm*	Lean R
NY-12	Carolyn Maloney*	Christopher Wight	Solid D
NY-13	Charles Rangel*		Solid D
NY-14	Joe Crowley*	William Gibbons	Solid D
NY-15	Jose Serrano*	Frank Della Valle	Solid D
NY-16	Eliot Engel*	Joseph McLaughlin	Solid D
NY-17	Nita Lowey*	Joe Carvin	Solid D
NY-18	Sean Maloney	Nan Hayworth	Toss Up
NY-19	Julian Schreibman	Christopher Gibson*	Toss Up
NY-20	Paul Tonko*	Robert Dieterich	Solid D
NY-21	Bill Owens*	Matthew Doheny	Likely D
NY-22	Dan Lamb	Richard Hanna*	Solid R
NY-23	Nate Shinagawa	Thomas Reed*	Solid R
NY-24	Daniel Maffei	Ann Marie Buerkle*	Lean D
NY-25	Louise Slaughter*	Maggie Brooks	Likely D
NY-26	Brian Higgins*	Michael Madigan	Solid D
NY-27	Kathy Hochul*	Chris Collins	Toss Up

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Empire State
Capital: Albany
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 19,378,102
White: 58.3%
Black: 14.4%
Hispanic: 17.6%
Asian: 7.3%

Current Leadership
Governor: Andrew Cuomo (D)
Secretary of State:
Cesar Perales (D)

U.S. Senators:
Charles Schumer (D)
Kirsten Gillibrand (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 11,477,613

Party ID:
D: 5,649,934 (49%)
R: 2,826,913 (24%)
Other: 3,000,766 (25%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 4,314,280 (58%)
Bush 2,962,567 (40%)

2008:
Obama 4,804,701 (63%)
McCain 2,752,728 (36%)

NORTH CAROLINA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV^	Walter Dalton	Pat McCrory	Lean R
HOUSE			
NC-1	G.K. Butterfield*	Pete DiLauro	Solid D
NC-2	Steve Wilkins	Renee Ellmers*	Solid R
NC-3	Erik Anderson	Walter Jones*	Solid R
NC-4	David Price*	Timothy D'Annunzio	Solid D
NC-5	Elisabeth Motsinger	Virginia Foxx*	Solid R
NC-6	Anthony Foriest	Howard Coble*	Solid R
NC-7	Mike McIntyre*	David Rouzer	Toss Up
NC-8	Larry Kissell*	Richard Hudson	Likely R
NC-9^	Jennifer Roberts	Robert Pittenger	Solid R
NC-10	Patsy Keever	Patrick McHenry*	Solid R
NC-11^	Hayden Rogers	Mark Meadows	Likely R
NC-12	Mel Watt*	Jack Brosch	Solid D
NC-13^	Charles Malone	George Holding	Likely R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Tar Heel State
Capital: Raleigh
Polls Close: 7:30 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 9,535,483
White: 65.3%
Black: 21.2%
Hispanic: 8.4%
Asian: 2.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Bev Perdue (D)
Secretary of State:
Elaine Marshall (D)

U.S. Senators:
Richard Burr (R)
Kay Hagan (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters:
6,452,501

Party ID:
D: 2,776,963 (43%)
R: 2,077,999 (32%)
Other: 1,667,539 (25%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,961,166 (56%)
Kerry 1,525,849 (44%)

2008:
Obama 2,142,651 (50%)
McCain 2,128,474 (49%)

NORTH DAKOTA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV	Ryan Taylor	Jack Dalrymple*	Solid R
SEN^	Heidi Heitkamp	Rick Berg	Toss Up
HOUSE			
ND-AL^	Pam Gulleson	Kevin Cramer	Likely R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Peace Garden State
Capital: Bismarck
Polls Close: 11:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 672,591
White: 88.9%
Black: 1.1%
Hispanic: 2%
Asian: 1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Jack Dalrymple (R)
Secretary of State: Al Jaeger (R)

U.S. Senators:
Kent Conrad (D)
John Hoeven (D)

Voting Data:
State does not keep voter registration records.

Party ID:
No Party ID.

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 196,651 (63%)
Kerry 111,052 (35%)

2008:
McCain 168,601 (53%)
Obama 141,278 (45%)

OHIO

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Sherrod Brown*	Josh Mandel	Lean D
HOUSE			
OH-1	Jeff Sinnard	Steve Chabot*	Solid R
OH-2^	William Smith	Brad Wenstrup	Solid R
OH-3^	Joyce Beatty	Chris Long	Solid D
OH-4	Jim Slone	Jim Jordan*	Solid R
OH-5	Angela Zimmann	Bob Latta*	Solid R
OH-6	Charlie Wilson	Bill Johnson*	Lean R
OH-7	Joyce Healy-Abrams	Bob Gibbs	LikelyR
OH-8	*Unopposed*	John Boehner*	Solid R
OH-9	Marcy Kaptur*	Samuel Wurzelbacher	Solid D
OH-10	Sharen Neuhardt	Mike Turner*	Solid R
OH-11	Marcia Fudge*	*Unopposed*	Solid D
OH-12	Jim Reese	Pat Tiberi*	Solid R
OH-13	Tim Ryan*	Marisha Agana	Solid D
OH-14^	Dale Blanchard	David Joyce	Solid R
OH-15	Pat Lang	Steve Stivers*	Solid R
OH-16	Betty Sutton*	Jim Renacci*	Toss Up

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Buckeye State
Capital: Columbus
Polls Close: 7:30 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 11,536,504
White: 81.1%
Black: 12%
Hispanic: 3.1%
Asian: 1%

Current Leadership
Governor: John Kasich (R)
Secretary of State:
John Husted (R)

U.S. Senators:
Sherrod Brown (D)
Rob Portman (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 7,772,180

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 2,859,764 (51%)
Kerry 2,741,165 (49%)

2008:
Obama 2,940,044 (52%)
McCain 2,677,820 (47%)

OKLAHOMA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
OK-1^	John Olson	Jim Bridenstine	Solid R
OK-2^	Rob Wallace	Markwayne Mullin	Likely R
OK-3	Timothy Murray	Frank Lucas*	Solid R
OK-4	Donna Bebo	Tom Cole*	Solid R
OK-5	Tom Guild	James Lankford	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Affirmative Action – State Question #759 will appear on ballots across Oklahoma in November and asks voters whether or not affirmative action programs in the state should be banned. The three areas targeted by the amendment are employment, education, and contracting. If passed, the ban on affirmative action programs would extend to the state, its agencies, counties, cities, towns, school districts, and other subdivisions.

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Sooner State
Capital: Oklahoma City
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 3,751,351
White: 68.7%
Black: 7.3%
Hispanic: 8.9%
Asian: 1.7%
Native American: 8.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Mary Fallin (R)
Secretary of State:
Glen Coffee (R)

U.S. Senators:
James Inhofe (R)
Tom Coburn (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,000,610

Party ID:
D: 943,283 (47%)
R: 828,257 (41%)
Other: 229,070 (11%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 959,792 (66%)
Kerry 503,966 (34%)

2008:
McCain 960,165 (66%)
Obama 502,496 (34%)

OREGON

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
OR-1	Suzanne Bonamici*	Delinda Morgan	Solid D
OR-2	Joyce Segers	Greg Walden*	Solid R
OR-3	Earl Blumenauer*	Ronald Green	Solid D
OR-4	Pete DeFazio*	Art Robinson	Solid D
OR-5	Kurt Schrader*	Fred Thompson	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Marijuana– In Oregon, voters will decide whether or not recreational usage of marijuana should legal for all people 21-years-of-age and older and taxed/regulated in the same way as alcohol.

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Beaver State
Capital: Salem
Polls Close: 11:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 3,831,074
White: 78.5%
Black: 1.7%
Hispanic: 11.7%
Asian: 3.6%
Native American: 1.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: John Kitzhaber (D)
Secretary of State:
Kate Brown (D)

U.S. Senators:
Ron Wyden (D)
Jeff Merkley (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,203,272

Party ID:
D: 863,322 (42%)
R: 664,123 (32%)
Other: 541,353 (26%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 943,163 (51%)
Bush 866,831 (47%)

2008:
Obama 1,037,291 (57%)
McCain 738,475 (40%)

PENNSYLVANIA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Bob Casey*	Tom Smith	Lean D
HOUSE			
PA-1	Robert Brady*	John Featherman	Solid D
PA-2	Chaka Fattah*	Robert Mansfield	Solid D
PA-3	Missa Eaton *	Mike Kelly*	Solid R
PA-4^	Harry Perkinson	Scott Perry	Solid R
PA-5	Charles Dumas	Glenn Thompson*	Solid R
PA-6	Manan Trivedi	Jim Gerlach*	Likely R
PA-7	George Badey	Patrick Meehan*	Solid R
PA-8	Kathy Boockvar	Mike Fitzpatrick*	Lean R
PA-9	Karen Ramsburg	Bill Shuster*	Solid R
PA-10	Philip Scollo	Tom Marino*	Solid R
PA-11	Gene Stilp	Lou Barletta*	Solid R
PA-12	Mark Critz*	Keith Rothfus	Toss Up
PA-13	Allyson Schwartz*	Joe Rooney	Solid D
PA-14	Mike Doyle*	Hans Lessmann	Solid D
PA-15	Rick Daugherty	Charles Dent*	Solid R
PA-16	Aryanna Strader	Joseph Pitts*	Solid R
PA-17^	Matthew Cartwright	Laureen Cummings	Solid D
PA-18	Larry Maggi	Tim Murphy*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Keystone State
Capital: Harrisburg
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 12,702,379
White: 79.5%
Black: 10.4%
Hispanic: 5.7%
Asian: 2.7%

Current Leadership
Governor: Tom Corbett (R)
Secretary of State:
Carol Aichele (R)

U.S. Senators:
Robert Casey, Jr. (D)
Pat Toomey (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 8,351,247

Party ID:
D: 4,185,377 (50%)
R: 3,099,371 (37%)
Other: 1,066,499 (13%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 2,938,095 (51%)
Bush 2,793,847 (48%)

2008:
Obama 3,276,363 (54%)
McCain 2,655,885 (44%)

RHODE ISLAND

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Sheldon Whitehouse	Barry Hinckley	Solid D
HOUSE			
RI-1^	David Cicilline*	Brendan Doherty	Lean D
RI-2	James Langevin*	Michael Riley	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Ocean State
Capital: Providence
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 1,052,567
White: 76.4%
Black: 4.9%
Hispanic: 12.4%
Asian: 2.8%

Current Leadership
Governor: Lincoln Chafee (I)
Secretary of State:
Ralph Mollis (D)

U.S. Senators:
Jack Reed (D)
Sheldon Whitehouse (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 699,626 (2010)

Party ID: (2010)
D: 286,626 (41%)
R: 72,603 (10%)
Other: 340,081 (49%)

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 259,760 (59%)
Bush 169,046 (39%)

2008:
Obama 269,571 (62%)
McCain165, 391 (35%)

SOUTH CAROLINA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
SC-1	Bobbie Rose	Tim Scott*	Solid R
SC-2	*Unopposed*	Joe Wilson*	Solid R
SC-3	Brian Doyle	Jeff Duncan*	Solid R
SC-4	Deb Morrow	Trey Gowdy*	Solid R
SC-5	Joyce Knott	Mick Mulvaney*	Solid R
SC-6	Jim Clyburn*	*Unopposed*	Solid D
SC-7^	Gloria Bromell Tinubu	Tom Rice	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: The Palmetto State
Capital: Columbia
Polls Close: 7 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 4,625,364
White: 64.1%
Black: 27.7%
Hispanic: 5.1%
Asian: 1.3%

Current Leadership
Governor: Nikki Haley (R)
Secretary of State:
Mark Hammond (R)

U.S. Senators:
Lindsey Graham (R)
Jim DeMint (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 2,762,735

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 937,974 (58%)
Kerry 661,699 (41%)

2008:
McCain 1,034,896 (54%)
Obama 864,449 (45%)

SOUTH DAKOTA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
HOUSE			
SD-AL	Matt Varliek	Kristi Noem*	Likely R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Mt. Rushmore State
Capital: Pierre
Polls Close: 9 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 814,180
White: 84.7%
Black: 1.2%
Hispanic: 2.7%
Asian: 0.9%
Native American: 8.5%

Current Leadership
Governor: Dennis Daugaard (R)
Secretary of State:
Jason Grant (R)

U.S. Senators:
Tim Johnson (D)
John Thune (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 527,017

Party ID:
D: 189,045 (36%)
R: 242,487 (46%)
Other: 95,485 (18%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 232,584 (60%)
Kerry 149,244 (38%)

2008:
McCain 203,054 (53%)
Obama 170,924 (45%)

TENNESSEE

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Mark Clayton	Bob Corker*	Solid R
HOUSE			
TN-1	Allan Woodruff	Phil Roe*	Solid R
TN-2	Troy Goodale	John Duncan*	Solid R
TN-3	Mary Headrick	Chuck Fleischmann*	Solid R
TN-4	Eric Stewart	Scott DesJarlais	Likely R
TN-5	Jim Cooper*	Brad Staats	Solid D
TN-6		Diane Black*	Solid R
TN-7	Credo Amouzouvik	Marsha Blackburn*	Solid R
TN-8	Timothy Dixon	Steve Fincher*	Solid R
TN-9	Steve Cohen*	George Flinn	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Volunteer State
Capital: Nashville
Polls Close: 8:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 6,346,105
White: 75.6%
Black: 16.5%
Hispanic: 4.6%
Asian: 1.4%

Current Leadership
Governor: Bill Haslam (R)
Secretary of State:
Trey Hargett (R)

U.S. Senators:
Lamar Alexander (R)
Bob Corker (R)

Voting Data:
Voter Registration:
3,447,163 (2011)

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,384,375 (57%)
Kerry 1,036,477 (43%)

2008:
McCain 1,479,178 (57%)
Obama 1,087,437 (42%)

TEXAS

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Paul Sadler	Ted Cruz	Solid R
HOUSE			
TX-1	Shirley McKellar	Louie Gohmert*	Solid R
TX-2	Jim Dougherty	Ted Poe*	Solid R
TX-3		Sam Johnson*	Solid R
TX-4	VaLinda Hathcox	Ralph Hall*	Solid R
TX-5	Linda Mrosko	Jeb Hensarling*	Solid R
TX-6	Kenneth Sanders	Joe Barton*	Solid R
TX-7	James Cargas	John Culberson*	Solid R
TX-8	Neil Burns	Kevin Brady*	Solid R
TX-9	Al Green*	Steve Mueller	Solid D
TX-10	Tawana Cadien	Michael McCaul*	Solid R
TX-11	Jim Riley	Mike Conaway*	Solid R
TX-12	Dave Robinson	Kay Granger*	Solid R
TX-13		Mac Thornberry*	Solid R
TX-14^	Nick Lampson	Randy Weber	Lean R
TX-15	Ruben Hinojosa*	Dale Brueggemann	Solid D
TX-16^	Beto O'Rourke	Barbara Carrasco	Solid D
TX-17		Bill Flores*	Solid R
TX-18	Sheila Jackson Lee*	Sean Seibert	Solid D
TX-19		Randy Neugebauer*	Solid R
TX-20^	Joaquin Castro	David Rosa	Solid D
TX-21	Candace Duval	Lamar Smith*	Solid R
TX-22	Kesha Rogers	Pete Olson*	Solid R
TX-23	Pete Gallego	Quico Canseco*	Toss Up
TX-24	Tim Rusk	Kenny Marchant*	Solid R
TX-25^	Elaine Henderson	Roger Williams	Solid R
TX-26	David Sanchez	Michael Burgess*	Solid R
TX-27	Rose Meza Harrison	Blake Farenthold*	Solid R
TX-28	Henry Cuellar*	William Hayward	Solid D
TX-29	Gene Green*		Solid D
TX-30	Eddie Johnson*	Travis Washington	Solid D
TX-31	Stephen Wyman	John Carter	Solid R
TX-32	Katherine Savers McGovern	Pete Sessions*	Solid R
TX-33^	Marc Veasey	Chuck Bradley	Solid D
TX-34^	Filemon Vela	Jessica Puente Bradshaw	Solid D
TX-35	Lloyd Doggett*	Susan Narvaiz	Solid D
TX-36^	Max Martin	Steve Stockman	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Lone Star State
Capital: Austin
Polls Close: 9 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 25,145,561
White: 45.3%
Black: 11.5%
Hispanic: 37.6%
Asian: 3.8%

Current Leadership
Governor: Rick Perry (R)
Secretary of State:
Hope Andrade (R)

U.S. Senators:
Kay Bailey Hutchison (R)
John Cornyn (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 13,065,425

Party ID:
No party registration

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 4,526,917 (61%)
Kerry 2,832,704 (38%)

2008:
McCain 4,479,328 (55%)
Obama 3,528,633 (44%)

UTAH

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV	Peter Cooke	Gary Herbert*	Solid R
SEN^	Scott Howell	Orrin Hatch*	Solid R
HOUSE			
UT-1	Donna McAleer	Rob Bishop*	Solid R
UT-2^	Jay Seegmiller	Chris Stewart	Solid R
UT-3	Soren Simonsen	Jason Chaffetz*	Solid R
UT-4	Jim Matheson*	Mia Love	Toss Up

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Beehive State
Capital: Salt Lake City
Polls Close: 10:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 2,763,885
White: 80.4%
Black: 0.9%
Hispanic: 13%
Asian: 2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Gary Herbert (R)
Lt. Governor: Greg Bell (R)

U.S. Senators:
Orrin Hatch (R)
Mike Lee (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 1,458,057

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 663,742 (72%)
Kerry 241,199 (26%)

2008:
McCain 596,030 (63%)
Obama 327,670 (34%)

VERMONT

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV	Peter Shumlin*	Randy Brock	Solid D
SEN	Bernie Sanders (I)	John MacGovern	Solid D
HOUSE			
VT-AL	Peter Welch*	Mark Donka	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Green Mountain State
Capital: Montpelier
Polls Close: 7:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 620,589
White: 95.4%
Hispanic: 1.3%
Asian: 1.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Peter Shumlin (D)
Secretary of State:
Jim Condos (D)

U.S. Senators:
Patrick Leahy (D)
Bernie Sanders (I)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 444,550

Party ID
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 184,067 (59%)
Bush 121,180 (39%)

2008:
Obama 219,262 (67%)
McCain 98,974 (30%)

VIRGINIA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Tim Kaine	George Allen	Toss Up
HOUSE			
VA-1	Adam Cook	Rob Wittman*	Solid R
VA-2	Paul Hirschbiel	Scott Rigell	Likely R
VA-3	Bobby Scott*	Dean Longo	Solid D
VA-4	Ella Ward	J. Randy Forbes*	Solid R
VA-5	John Wade Douglass	Robert Hurt*	Solid R
VA-6	Andy Schmookler	Bob Goodlatte*	Solid R
VA-7	Wayne Powell	Eric Cantor*	Solid R
VA-8	Jim Moran*	J. Patrick Murray	Solid D
VA-9	Anthony Flaccavento	Morgan Griffith*	Solid R
VA-10	Kristin Cabral	Frank Wolf*	Solid R
VA-11	Gerry Connolly*	Chris Perkins	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Old Dominion State
Capital: Richmond
Polls Close: 7:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: **8,001024**
White: **64.8%**
Black: **19%**
Hispanic: **7.9%**
Asian: **5.5%**

Current Leadership
Governor: Bob McDonnell (R)
Sec. of State: Janet Polarek (R)

U.S. Senators:
Jim Webb (D)
Mark Warner (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 5,159,562

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 1,716,959 (54%)
Kerry 1,454,742 (45%)

2008:
Obama 1,959,532 (53%)
McCain 1,725,005 (46%)

WASHINGTON

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV^	Jay Inslee	Rob McKenna	Toss Up
SEN	Maria Cantwell*	Michael Baumgartner	Solid D
HOUSE			
WA-1^	Suzan DelBene	John Koster	Lean D
WA-2	Rick Larsen*	Dan Matthews	Solid D
WA-3	Jon Haughen	Jaime Herrera*	Solid R
WA-4	Mary Baechler	Doc Hastings*	Solid R
WA-5	Rich Cowan	Cathy Rodgers*	Solid R
WA-6^	Derek Kilmer	Bill Driscoll	Likely D
WA-7	Jim McDermott*	Ron Bemis	Solid D
WA-8	Karen Porterfield	Dave Reichert*	Solid R
WA-9	Adam Smith*	Jim Postma	Solid D
WA-10^	Denny Heck	Dick Muri	Solid D

*incumbent
^open seat

Key Ballot Measures

Same-sex marriage – Voters in Washington will be asked to either uphold or dismiss their state's marriage equality law. Same-sex marriages were legalized in Washington last February when Governor Christine Gregoire (D) signed the "Marriage Equality" bill. However, the law could be overturned this fall when it faces a referendum vote in the November election.

Marijuana – In Washington, voters will decide whether or not recreational usage of marijuana should legal for all people 21-years-of-age and older and taxed/regulated in the same way as alcohol.

THE SIDEBAR…

Nickname: Evergreen State
Capital: Olympia
Polls Close: 11:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 6,724,540
White: 72.5%
Black: 3.4%
Hispanic: 11.2%
Asian: 7.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Christine Gregoire (D)
Sec. of State: Sam Reed (R)

U.S. Senators:
Patty Murray (D)
Maria Cantwell (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 4,184,600

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 1,510,201 (53%)
Bush 1,304,894 (46%)

2008:
Obama 1,750,848 (58%)
McCain 1,229,216 (40%)

WEST VIRGINIA

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
GOV	Earl Ray Tomblin*	Bill Maloney	Lean D
SEN	Joe Manchin*	John Raese	Likely D
HOUSE			
WV-1^	Sue Thorn	David McKinley	Solid R
WV-2	Howard Swint	Shelley Capito*	Solid R
WV-3	Nick Rahall*	Rick Snuffer	Likely D

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Mountain State
Capital: Charleston
Polls Close: 7:30 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 1,852,994
White: 93.2%
Black: 3.4%
Hispanic: 1.2%

Current Leadership
Governor: Earl Ray Tomblin (D)
Secretary of State:
Natalie Tennant (D)

U.S. Senators:
Jay Rockefeller (D)
Joe Manchin (D)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 1,230,585

Party ID:
D: 638,086 (51.90%)
R: 353,179 (28.70%)
Other: 239,320 (19.4)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 423,778 (56%)
Kerry 326,541 (43%)

2008:
McCain 397,466 (56%)
Obama 303,857 (43%)

WISCONSIN

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN^	Tammy Baldwin	Tommy Thompson	Toss Up
HOUSE			
WI-1	Rob Zerban	Paul Ryan*	Solid R
WI-2^	Mark Pocan	Chad Lee	Solid D
WI-3	Ron Kind*	Ray Boland	Solid D
WI-4	Gwen Moore*	Dan Sebring	Solid D
WI-5	Dave Heaster	Jim Sensenbrenner*	Solid R
WI-6	Joe Kallas	Tom Petri*	Solid R
WI-7	Pat Kreitlow	Sean Duffy*	Lean R
WI-8	Jamie Wall	Reid Ribble*	LikelyR

*incumbent
^open seat

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Badger State
Capital: Madison
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 5,686,986
White: 83.3%
Black: 6.2%
Hispanic: 5.9%
Asian: 2.3%

Current Leadership
Governor: Scott Walker (R)
Secretary of State:
Doug La Follette (D)

U.S. Senators:
Herb Kohl (D)
Ron Johnson (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 3,453,902

Party ID:
No Party ID

Presidential:
2004:
Kerry 1,489,504 (50%)
Bush 1,478,120 (49%)

2008:
Obama 1,677,211 (56%)
McCain 1,262,393 (42%)

WYOMING

On the Ballot

RACE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	RATING
SEN	Tim Chestnut	John Burrasso*	Solid R
HOUSE			
WY-AL	Chris Henrichsen	Cynthia Lummis*	Solid R

*incumbent
^open seat

SOURCES: Secretaries of State and Boards of Elections for each state, The Almanac of American Politics 2010, The Green Papers, National Association of Secretaries of State, George Mason University Turnout project.

THE SIDEBAR...

Nickname: Cowboy State
Capital: Cheyenne
Polls Close: 9:00 PM ET

Demographics
Population: 563,626
White: 85.9%
Black: 0.8%
Hispanic: 8.9%
Asian: 0.3%
Native American: 2.1%

Current Leadership
Governor: Matt Mead (R)
Secretary of State:
Max Maxfield (R)

U.S. Senators:
Michael Enzi (R)
John Barrasso (R)

Voting Data:
Registered Voters: 228,401

Party ID:
D: 48,731 (21%)
R: 154,399 (68%)
Other: 25,271 (11%)

Presidential:
2004:
Bush 167,629 (69%)
Kerry 70,776 (29%)

2008:
McCain 164,958 (65%)
Obama 82,868 (33%)

KEY BALLOT MEASURES

KEY BALLOT MEASURES

On Election Day, all eyes will be on the race for the White House, but in several states that won't be the only contest worth watching. Across the country, voters will also face decisions about local referendums and amendments to their state constitutions on a variety of policy issues – from gay marriage and marijuana legalization to reproductive rights. Indeed, according to the left-leaning Ballot Initiative Strategy Center, voters will decide the fate of more than 130 ballot measures on Nov. 6. Here are some of the more closely watched ones:

1. **LEGALIZING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE (MAINE, MARYLAND, WASHINGTON STATE):**

   Voters in Maryland and Washington will be asked to either uphold or dismiss their state's marriage-equality laws. In March, Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley (D) signed into law a bill legalizing same-sex marriage. Opponents of the new law fired back in June, gaining enough signatures to put the issue before voters this November. Similarly, same-sex marriages were legalized in Washington last February when Gov. Christine Gregoire (D) signed the "Marriage Equality" bill. However, the law could be overturned this fall when it faces a referendum vote in the November election. If either of these measures is passed, it would be the first time in U.S. history that a ballot measure in support of same-sex marriage would win a statewide popular vote.

2. **BANNING GAY MARRIAGE (MINNESOTA):**

   Voters will decide whether or not to pass a proposed state constitutional amendment that defines marriage as being between only one man and one woman. Currently, same-sex marriages are not recognized in the state.

3. **LEGALIZING MARIJUANA (ARKANSAS, MASS., OREGON, COLORADO, WASH. ST.):**

   Voters in both Arkansas and Massachusetts will be asked to vote on the legalization of marijuana – for medical use – in their states. In these measures, both states outline what type of medical conditions qualifies an individual to use marijuana without criminal penalties. Voters in Colorado, Oregon, and Washington will decide whether or not recreational usage of marijuana should legal for all people 21 and older, and taxed/regulated in the same way as alcohol currently is.

4. **ADOPTING MARYLAND'S "DREAM ACT":**

   In 2011, the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 167, which is commonly referred to as the "Maryland Dream Act." The law allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at Maryland community colleges if they graduate high school in the state and their parents file taxes in Maryland. After completing two years at a community college, the students can then transfer to a state university, while still paying the in-state tuition rate. This current ballot measure will decide if this law stays or goes.

5. **ENACTING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM (CALIFORNIA):**

   Proposition 32 aims to make key changes to campaign finance laws in California. If passed, neither unions nor corporations would be allowed to donate directly to state and local political candidates; employee payroll deductions could not be used for "political purposes"; and the law would prohibit government contractors from donating to candidates who've helped them secure a contract. Opponents of this reform are fearful that, if the ballot proposition passes, the voices of Super PACs and special interest groups will be louder than ever before.

6. **OUTLAWING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION (OKLAHOMA):**

   State Question #759 will appear on ballots across Oklahoma in November, and it asks voters whether or not affirmative action programs in the state should be banned. The three areas targeted by the amendment are employment, education, and contracting. If passed, the ban on affirmative action programs would extend to the state, its agencies, counties, cities, towns, school districts, and other subdivisions.

7. **BANNING FEDERAL FUNDS FOR ABORTIONS (FLORIDA):**

   Voters in Florida will decide on a constitutional amendment that would ban the use public funds for abortions, unless it's performed in order to save the mother's life. The amendment also notes, in regards to abortion, that the state's constitution – when it comes to abortion – cannot be interpreted to be broader in scope than the United States Constitution. The amendment must receive 60% voter approval to be adopted.

8. **ABOLISHING THE DEATH PENALTY (CALIFORNIA):**

   Californians will have the chance to abolish the death penalty as the maximum punishment for murder. If passed, Proposition 34 would make the maximum criminal punishment in the state life in prison with no possibility for parole. According to an official report put out by the state's Legislative Analyst, if the amendment passes it would save the state $130 million annually.

9. **REQUIRING VOTER ID (MINNESOTA):**

   The state will decide if voters in future elections will be required to show a government-issued photo ID before voting. The measure also requires that the state make photo IDs available to those without a government-issued ID, at no charge.

10. **RELIGIOUS FUNDING (FLORIDA):**

    If passed, Amendment 8 would allow public funds in Florida to be used by religious organizations that provide public services. The amendment would repeal what is currently known in Florida as the "Blaine Amendment," which prohibits state funding of religious organizations and religious schools. The amendment must receive 60% voter approval to be adopted.