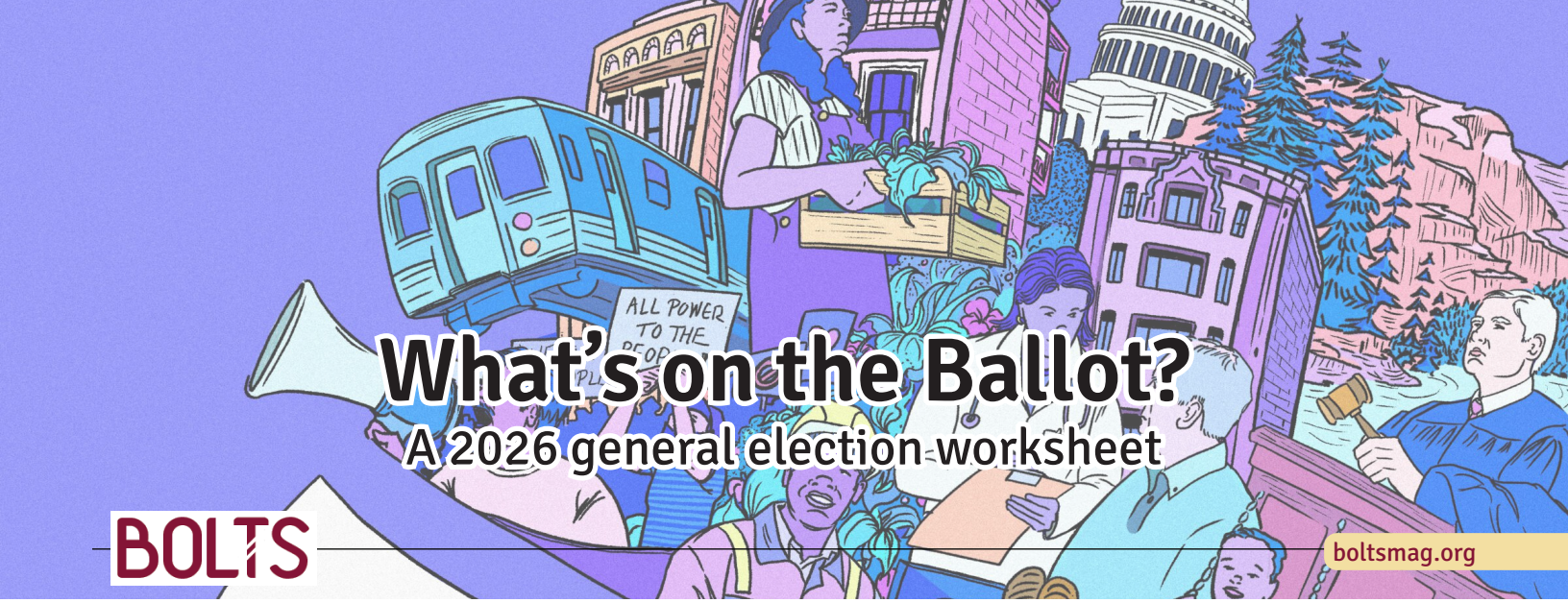


What's on the Ballot?

A 2026 general election worksheet

BOLTS

boltsmag.org

Voters are deciding the fate of thousands of ballot measures and public offices in November, from Congress and governors to mayors and county sheriffs. *Bolts* has identified over 670 elections to watch closely up and down the ballot and why they matter.

On our website, you can access an online version of this worksheet that contains more links and information about these races. We will update that page with results on and after Election Night.

Bolts also has guides to races for supreme court, for state election chiefs, and for prosecutor and sheriff. We cover individual contests that affect voting rights and criminal justice. And to stay up to date on results and future elections, be sure to sign up to our newsletter.

— Daniel Nichanian, *Bolts* Editor-in-Chief

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15 County leadership
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The Big Board

U.S. Senate

Control ◯ Democrats ◯ Republicans

Seats that flipped _____

New composition _____ Dem seats _____ GOP seats _____ Swing

U.S. House

Control ◯ Democrats ◯ Republicans

New composition _____ Dem seats _____ GOP seats _____ Swing

State governments

How many states are controlled by each party? _____ Dem control _____ GOP control _____ Split control

Noteworthy shifts _____

Feel free to note the results you care about most!

Referendums

Abortion access in Missouri	Billionaires' tax in California	Rights restoration in Virginia	Marijuana in Massachusetts
Pick measures you care about:			

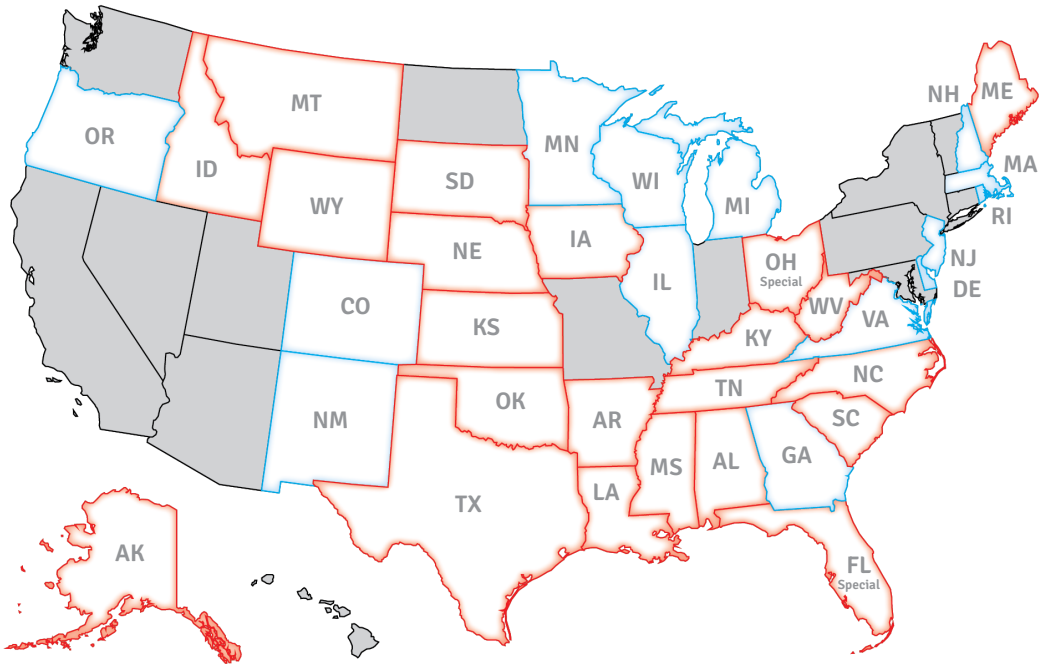
Local offices

Los Angeles mayor	Tarrant County judge (executive)	Orange County (Cali.) board	Cobb County school board
Pick offices you care about:			

State offices

Iowa governor	Ohio governor	Texas governor	Georgia utility commission	North Carolina supreme court
Pick offices you care about:				

U.S. Senate

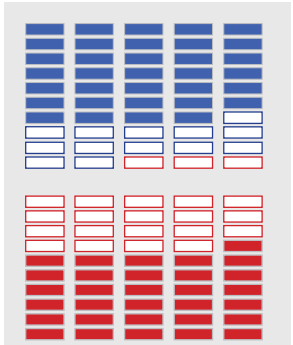


Seats won by:	Up for election	Not up	New total
Democrats		34	
Republicans		31	

Net swing

Control D R

The Senate



Democrats and two independents who caucus with them currently hold 47 seats; Republicans hold 53 seats. This fall, 22 Republican seats and 13 Democratic seats are on the ballot. To win control of the Senate, Democrats need to secure a total of 51, or a gain of four, while the GOP needs a total of 50 because the vice-president, Republican JD Vance, has the authority to break ties.

Currently Democratic held (13)

	Winner	Pick up by GOP?
Colorado		
Delaware		
Georgia		
Illinois		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
Oregon		
Rhode Island		
Virginia		

Currently Republican held (22)

	Winner	Pick up by Dems?
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arkansas		
Florida		
*Special election**		
Idaho		
Iowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Mississippi		
Montana		
Nebraska		
North Carolina		
Ohio		
*Special election**		
Oklahoma		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
West Virginia		
Wyoming		

** Will serve only a two-year term. Seat up for re-election in 2028.*

U.S. House

Seats won by:

Democrats **Republicans**

Net swing

Control D R

The GOP won 220 seats in 2024; Democrats won 215. Democrats need a net swing of 3 seats to take control.

This page lists the districts vulnerable to a flip, defined as districts that are not rated safe for a party by just one of Cook Political, Sabato's Crystal Ball, and Inside Elections

Assuming the incumbent party retains all seats not on this page, Democrats have a starting point of 178 seats and the GOP of 156 seats—that's before accounting for the seats on this page. 218 seats are needed for majority.

Dem-held districts that redistricting made more vulnerable

	Winner	GOP pick up?		Winner	GOP pick up?		Winner	GOP pick up?
AL-02		○	LA-06		○	TX-09		○
FL-09		○	NC-01		○	TX-28		○
FL-14		○	OH-01		○	TX-32		○
FL-22		○	OH-09		○	TX-34		○
FL-25		○	TN-09		○	TX-35		○

Other Dem-held districts that the GOP may flip

	Winner	GOP pick up?		Winner	GOP pick up?		Winner	GOP pick up?
CA-13		○	NH-01		○	NY-04		○
CA-21		○	NH-02		○	NY-19		○
CA-45		○	NJ-09		○	OH-13		○
IN-01		○	NM-02		○	OR-05		○
ME-02		○	NV-01		○	VA-07		○
MI-03		○	NV-03		○	WA-03		○
MI-08		○	NV-04		○			
MN-02		○	NY-03		○			

GOP-held districts that redistricting made more vulnerable

	Winner	Dem pick up?		Winner	Dem pick up?		Winner	Dem pick up?
CA-01		○	CA-22		○	CA-48		○
CA-06		○	CA-41		○	UT-01		○

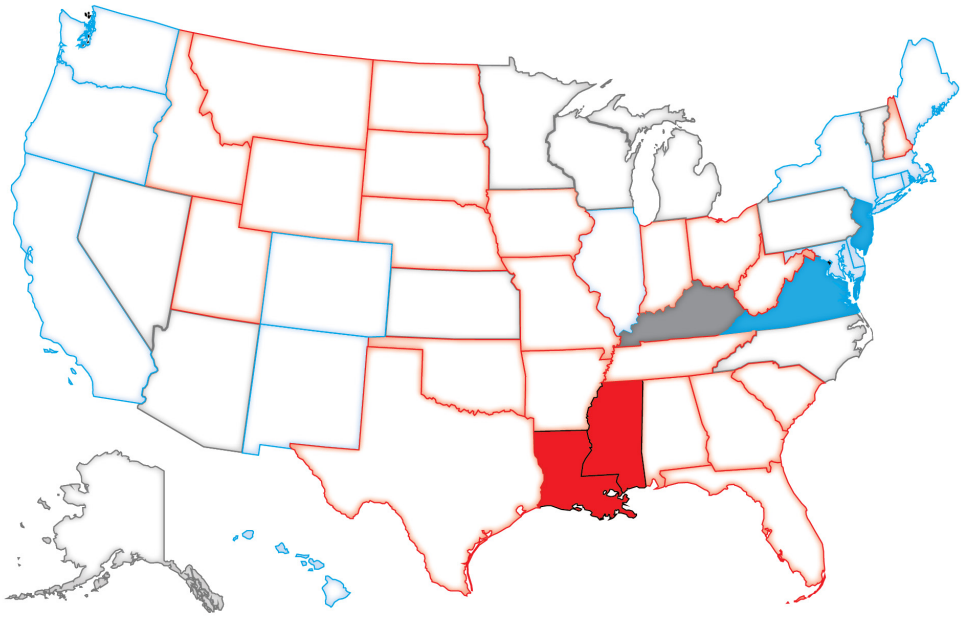
Other GOP-held districts that Democrats may flip

	Winner	Dem pick up?		Winner	Dem pick up?		Winner	Dem pick up?		Winner	Dem pick up?
AK-AL		○	IA-01		○	NC-05		○	OH-15		○
AR-02		○	IA-02		○	NC-09		○	OK-05		○
AZ-01		○	IA-03		○	NC-11		○	PA-01		○
AZ-02		○	IN-05		○	NC-13		○	PA-07		○
AZ-06		○	KS-02		○	NE-01		○	PA-08		○
CO-03		○	KY-06		○	NE-02		○	PA-10		○
CO-04		○	MD-01		○	NJ-02		○	SC-01		○
CO-05		○	MI-04		○	NJ-07		○	TX-15		○
CO-08		○	MI-07		○	NV-02		○	TX-23		○
FL-07		○	MI-10		○	NY-01		○	VA-01		○
FL-12		○	MN-01		○	NY-17		○	VA-02		○
FL-13		○	MO-02		○	NY-21		○	VA-05		○
FL-16		○	MT-01		○	OH-07		○	WA-05		○
FL-27		○	NC-03		○	OH-10		○	WI-01		○
									WI-03		○
									WY-AL		○

Due to its 'top 2' election system, California is hosting same-party general elections. Noteworthy contests between Democrats are CA-07, CA-11, CA-14, and CA-34. CA-40 features two Republicans.

Trifectas

Will one party control a state's government?



Democratic trifectas
Current: 16
Post election?

Republican trifectas
Current: 23
Post election?

Split
Current: 11
Post election?

Current status

Democratic trifecta | GOP trifecta | Split

A party runs a state if it controls its governorship and legislative chambers. Some or all of these offices are on the ballot in all but four states. Fill in the rest as the results are announced; any governorship or chamber that mathematically could flip has been left blank.

Currently a Democratic trifecta

	Governor	House	Senate	Trifecta?
CA				
CO				
CT				
DE	●			
IL				
HI				
MA				
MD				
ME				
NJ	●	●	●	●
NM			●	
NY				
OR				
RI				
VA	●	●	●	●
WA	●			

Currently a Republican trifecta

	Governor	House	Senate	Trifecta?
AL				
AR				
FL				
GA				
ID				
IN	●			
IA				
LA	●	●	●	●
MS	●	●	●	●
MO	●			
MT	●			
NE				
NH				
ND	●			
OK				
OH				
SC			●	
SD				
TN				
TX				
UT	●			
WV	●			
WY				

Currently split

	Governor	House	Senate	Trifecta?
AK				
AZ				
KS			●	
KY	●		●	
MI				
MN				
NC	●			
NV				
PA				
VT				
WI				

Two states, New Jersey and Virginia, are already sure to remain under Democratic control as the relevant offices are not on the ballot at all. Two states, Louisiana and Mississippi, are certain to remain under GOP control as relevant offices are not on the ballot at all. One state, Kentucky, is certain to remain split; the Democratic governor is not on the ballot, while the GOP is certain to retain the state Senate based on the seats that are not up for grabs.

Governors

Dem-held: Will it flip to GOP?

	Winner	Pick up by GOP?		Winner	Pick up by GOP?
AZ		○	MA		○
CA		○	MI		○
CO		○	MN		○
CT		○	NM		○
HI		○	NY		○
IL		○	OR		○
KS		○	PA		○
ME		○	RI		○
MD		○	WI		○

GOP-held: Will it flip to Dems?

	Winner	Pick up by Dems?		Winner	Pick up by Dems?
AL		○	NH		○
AK		○	OH		○
AR		○	OK		○
FL		○	SC		○
GA		○	SD		○
ID		○	TN		○
IA		○	TX		○
NE		○	VT		○
NV		○	WY		○

Currently held by:	Up for election	Not up
Democrat	18	6
Republican	18	8

All gubernatorial races in 2026 are listed here.

Control of state legislative chambers

This is our selection of the key chambers to watch because they may flip, or because a supermajority is at stake.

Currently GOP-held: Will it flip to Dems?

	Result	Flip?		Result	Flip?
AZ Senate		○	NC Senate		○
AZ House		○	NC House		○
GA Senate		○	PA Senate		○
GA House		○	TX Senate		○
MI House		○	TX House		○
NH Senate		○	WI Senate		○
NH House		○	WI House		○

Currently Dem-held: Will it flip to GOP?

	Result	Flip?		Result	Flip?
ME Senate		○	MN Senate		○
ME House		○	PA House		○
MI Senate		○			

Currently under bipartisan control: Will it flip to GOP?

	Result	Flip?
AK Senate		○
AK House		○

Both chambers are held by a coalition of Democrats and moderate Republicans, with most Republicans in the minority.

Currently tied: What majority?

	Result
MN House	

Currently GOP-held: Will they win a supermajority?

	Result		Result
KS House		NE Senate	
FL Senate		NC Senate	
FL House		NC House	
IA Senate		OH House	
IA House			

Currently Dem-held: Will they win a supermajority?

	Result		Result
CA Senate		NV Senate	
CA House		NV House	
CO Senate		NY Senate	
CO House		OR Senate	
DE Senate		OR House	
DE House		VT Senate	
IL Senate		VT House	
IL House		WA House	

On the online version of this guide, you can explore our state-by-state selection of the pivotal districts that will affect these chambers.

Referendums

Abortion rights

Result

ID ☐ Prop 1 would reverse Idaho's abortion ban.

MO ☐ Amendment 3 would overturn a 2024 referendum and restore a near total abortion ban; it also includes a ban on gender-affirming care for minors.

NV ☐ Question 6 would codify a right to abortion in the state constitution.

VA ☐ Question 1 would codify a right to abortion in the state constitution.

Education

AL ☐ One measure would require that schools conduct the pledge of allegiance every day and allow for student-led prayers; another would require a weekly performance or broadcast of "The Star-Spangled Banner" in schools.

NH ☐ New Hampshire Republicans have required that every city and town across the state vote on whether they want to cap local property taxes spent on school funding.

ND ☐ Measure 2 would require public schools to provide free breakfast and lunch to students.

TX ☐ San Antonio: The city is asking residents to renew a sales tax that funds the city's early childhood education program.

School districts. *Many school and college districts nationwide are voting on bonds to finance their school systems. Measures that stand out by virtue of their size include the Cypress-Fairbanks school district in the Houston region, in Texas; the Dearborn school district, in Southeast Michigan; and the Los Rios Community College District in the Sacramento region, in California.*

Transportation

Result

CA ☐ Bay Area: With the Regional Transit Measure, five counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara) are voting on setting up a sales tax dedicated to funding the region's various public transit systems over the next 14 years.

CA ☐ San Francisco: Measure H would raise revenue through a parcel tax to fund the operations of San Francisco's Muni public transit system.

CA ☐ San Francisco: Measure G would bring back cars to the Upper Great Highway.

CA ☐ Fresno: Measure S would renew a sales tax dedicated to transportation for the next 25 years.

CA ☐ Riverside County: Measure A would renew a sales tax to fund transportation in Riverside County.

CO ☐ Voters in 13 counties are deciding Measure 7A, a sales tax measure, that would raise hundreds of millions of dollars annually for train service linking Denver, Fort Collins, and Pueblo. (This takes place within the Front Range Passenger Rail District.)

KS ☐ Lawrence: This measure would increase the sales tax dedicated to public transit in the city.

NC ☐ Charlotte: This bond measure would authorize $280 million of funding for transportation.

OH ☐ Stark County: This measure would extend the sales tax that supports local public transit operations.

SC ☐ Charleston: This measure would renew a local sales tax dedicated to transportation for both road projects and public transit.

SC ☐ Greenville: This measure would authorize a sales tax for road improvements in Greenville.

WA ☐ Pierce County: Prop 1 would increase a local sales tax dedicated to funding public transit.

WA ☐ Seattle: Proposition 1 would increase the sales tax dedicated to Seattle public transit.

LGBTQ+ rights

AZ ☐ Prop 318 would bar schools, athletic associations, and youth recreational groups from allowing people to use a bathroom or locker room that differs from the sex they were assigned at birth.

CO ☐ A conservative group has championed Props 134 and 135 to bar trans kids from school sports and bar gender-affirming procedures on minors.

NE ☐ This measure would ban trans girls from participating in girls' or women's sports teams.

VA ☐ Virginia's constitution includes language that bans same-sex marriage. Question 2 would repeal it.

WA ☐ One measure would require that parents be notified when students receive medical or mental health services in schools; some supporters are framing it as a matter of not letting minors discuss transitioning without the awareness of their parents. Another measure would ban trans girls from girls' or women's sports teams.

See also: *A non-discrimination measure in Vermont (see 'other topics') includes sexual orientation and gender identity , even as it touches on matters beyond LGBTQ+ rights.*

Referendums

Law enforcement

Criminal justice

Result

CO ☐ Prop 133 would require a sentence of life without parole for anyone convicted of child sex trafficking.

KY ☐ This measure would limit the powers of a governor to issue commutations or pardons in the final months of his term.

TN ☐ Dubbed Marsy's Law, Amendment 3 would enshrine a set of victims' rights in Tennessee's constitution.

IN ☐
LA ☐
TN ☐

These states are all considering constitutional amendments to prohibit bail in certain circumstances.

IA ☐ Johnson County
MO ☐ Boone County
MT ☐ Yellowstone County
NC ☐ Union County
OK ☐ Oklahoma County

Measures in these localities would fund the construction of new or expanded jails via sales taxes or bonds.

Immigration enforcement

CO ☐ Amendment 81, sponsored by a conservative group, would require local authorities in Colorado to collaborate with ICE.

HI ☐ Honolulu: This measure would restrict the Honolulu police from assisting with federal immigration enforcement.

Policing

Result

AZ ☐ Prop 319 would ban cities from setting up new traffic camera systems that use photo enforcement.

ME ☐ York: Voters in this small town are considering whether to ban automated license plate readers, including Flock cameras.

MO ☐ Missourians will vote on a measure that would codify into the state constitution that sheriffs must be elected.

TX ☐ Dallas: Prop A would authorize $400 million in bonds to fund law enforcement, including training facilities and equipment.

TX ☐ League City: Voters are considering whether they want to end their use of Flock cameras.

WA ☐ Pierce County: Amendment 53 would end sheriff elections in Washington's second largest county; it would also cut short the term of the sitting, right-wing sheriff, *Bolts* reports.

Drug policy

AZ ☐ Prop 317 would label drug cartels as terrorist organizations.

CO ☐ Prop 132 would significantly ramp up charging and sentencing for offenses tied to fentanyl.

ID ☐ HJR 4 would say that no future citizen-initiated measure can legalize marijuana, other narcotics.

MA ☐ Question 8 would repeal marijuana legalization.

TX ☐ Houston: This measure would instruct the police department to deprioritize the enforcement of marijuana offenses.

Housing

CA ☐ Prop 1 and Prop 37 touch on the housing crisis. Prop 1 would authorize more than $11 billion in bonds for affordable housing. Prop 37 would authorize up to $25 billion in bonds to set up a program to offer fixed-rate mortgages to middle-class borrowers.

CA ☐ Redwood City
CA ☐ San Pablo

Two Bay Area cities are deciding measures to impose rent control and make evictions harder.

CA ☐ San Francisco: Prop C would expand the Housing Trust Fund, which is used to finance affordable housing projects. Prop I would require that the city dedicate the revenue it gets from taxing high-end real estate deals to subsidized housing.

CA ☐ Oakland: Banks that foreclose on a home currently do not have to pay a real estate tax in Oakland. This measure would change that for big banks.

CA ☐ Berkeley: This measure would strengthen the rights of tenants.

MA ☐ Question 7 would force localities to accept the construction of single-family housing on most lots.

NC ☐ Charlotte: North Carolina's largest city is deciding whether to authorize $125 million of bonds to fund affordable housing.

Referendums

Election law

Ballot access

Result

AK ☐
AZ ☐
AR ☐
KS ☐
WV ☐

These five states are all voting on amending their constitutions to specify only citizens can vote; no locality in any of these states currently allows non-citizen voting in their local elections.

AZ ☐ Prop 144 would add into the constitution that voters must show photo ID; state law already requires it.

CA ☐ Prop 39 would require voters to provide a photo ID.

CA ☐ Culver City: This measure would lower the voting age for local elections to 16, *Bolts* reports.

CO ☐ Amendment 84 would create new requirements for voters to provide an ID number to vote by mail.

MA ☐ Question 4 would allow same-day voter registration on Election Day.

NV ☐ Question 7 would codify into the state constitution that Nevadans must provide a photo ID to vote.

NC ☐ This measure would enshrine into the state constitution that voters must share a photo ID even when they vote by mail; state law already requires this.

OH ☐ Issue 3 would add into the state constitution that voters must show a photo ID; this is in state law.

VA ☐ Question 3 would restore voting rights when people exit prison, *Bolts* reports; the constitution currently provides lifetime disenfranchisement for any felony.

Direct democracy

CA ☐ Prop D, championed by the mayor, would make it harder for citizen initiatives to make the ballot by quadrupling the number of signatures they need.

CO ☐ Amendment 85 would set a constitutional requirement that ballot initiatives be written at an eighth-grade reading level.

MO ☐
MT ☐

Amendment 6 in Missouri and CI-133 in Montana would entrench in the state constitution a right to direct democracy and add new protections for the initiative process, Bolts reports.

ND ☐
SD ☐

Measure 1 in North Dakota and Amendment L in South Dakota would raise the bar on direct democracy by requiring that a supermajority of voters approve constitutional amendments. Learn more in Bolts.

WA ☐ Pierce County: Amendment 55 would make it easier to qualify local initiatives by extending the time organizers have to collect signatures.

Design of elections

Result

AK ☐ Measure 2 would repeal Alaska's election system that combines an all-party primary and ranked-choice voting.

CA ☐ Prop 4 would lift a 1988 ban on the public financing of election campaigns.

CA ☐ If Prop 5 passes, a successful recall would leave the office vacant until a subsequent election.

CA ☐ Whittier: This LA-area city is deciding whether to reschedule local elections to coincide with higher-turnout races, as promised by Democrats who swept local elections here this spring, as *Bolts* reported. Another measure would introduce term limits.

CA ☐ Irvine
CO ☐ Longmont
HI ☐ Honolulu

These localities are voting on whether to adopt ranked-choice voting.

GA ☐ All judge candidates in Georgia run in nonpartisan elections—except for probate judges. This measure would end that exception.

MA ☐ Question 3 would adopt a "top-two" election system.

MT ☐ CI-132 would enshrine into Montana's constitution that judicial contests must be nonpartisan.

MT ☐ I-194 seeks to find a way around the U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United* ruling to bar corporations from spending money on election campaigns.

NM ☐ This measure would repeal the requirement that school board elections must be scheduled at a different time than partisan races.

OH ☐ Columbus: Two competing measures would overhaul city government and add district-based contests, with a split on whether to eliminate all at-large elections.

OR ☐ Deschutes County: This measure would replace an at-large system with district-based representation.

TX ☐ Austin: Prop G would require that popular initiatives be placed on the ballot in November of even years.

Redistricting

CA ☐ San Mateo County: Measure U would create an independent redistricting commission.

CO ☐ Amendment 86 is a conservative effort to block a possible effort by Democrats to redistrict the state.

MD ☐ Question 3, backed by Democrats, would loosen constitutional requirements around redistricting.

MO ☐ Prop A would block the congressional gerrymander the GOP adopted in late 2025.

Referendums

Taxation

Result

AZ ☐ Prop 141 and Prop 316 are GOP-sponsored measures to limit taxes. One would cap future taxes on groceries at 2 percent. The other would ban a mileage-based tax on car drivers.

AZ ☐ Tempe: Prop 424 would create a new sales tax of 0.5 percent to be distributed to various services including police, public transit, and schools.

CA ☐ Prop 40, the so-called billionaire's tax proposal, would impose a one-time tax of 5 percent on individuals whose net worth exceeds $1 billion.

CA ☐ Prop 41 and Prop 42 would make it harder to pass new taxes. Prop 41 would require the state auditor to review new taxes; Prop 42 would ban taxes on the ownership of personal assets. Either measure would nullify Prop 40 if they receive more 'yes' votes.

CA ☐ Prop 2 would give the state more flexibility to save surplus revenue in reserves rather than refunding it.

CA ☐ Prop 3 would make permanent the higher taxes on high earners first approved in 2012.

CA ☐ Prop 43 would make it harder for localities to create special taxes by requiring that such taxes be approved by two-thirds of voters.

CA ☐ Berkeley: The city is voting on several tax measures to increase revenue; one would increase the sales tax by 0.5 percent and the other would double its first-in-the-nation tax on sodas.

CO ☐ Two conflicting measures on the income tax are on Colorado's ballot. Amendment 87 would increase the tax rate on people earning over $500,000 or the top 3 percent of earners in the state. Prop 136 would cap income taxes at the current highest rate.

CO ☐ Prop NN and Prop 137 would both relax the requirements of Colorado's Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, a 1992 measure requiring that revenue raised above a certain threshold be returned to taxpayers.

FL ☐ The state is voting on two measures that would limit taxes. One would increase the homestead tax exemption; the other would exempt some property from property taxes.

IA ☐ Amendment 1 would make it harder for lawmakers to hike Iowa's individual or corporate income tax.

MO ☐ Amendment 7 would create a new permanent fund with the goal of generating enough revenue over time to replace all taxes in the state.

NC ☐ Two measures are meant to limit taxes. One would cap the state income tax to 3.5 percent; the second would instruct lawmakers to pass new limits on how much localities can raise via property taxes.

Result

OK ☐ Question 847 would change how property taxes are assessed in a way that would slow down their growth.

TN ☐ Amendment 2 would create a constitutional ban on a state property tax.

UT ☐ Amendment B would impose a threshold of 60 percent on popular initiatives that create new taxes.

VA ☐ Dozens of jurisdictions in Virginia are voting on a one percent sales tax to fund projects tied to schools or transportation.

WA ☐ This measure would repeal the so-called millionaire's tax that is set to go into effect in 2029.

WY ☐ Initiative 1 would reduce property taxes by creating a large exemption.

See also: *If a tax measure on the ballot this fall is dedicated to a specific category such as housing, education, or transit, you can find it in those sections.*

Governance

CA ☐ Oakland: This measure would change the structure of Oakland's government to a "strong mayor" model.

CA ☐ San Francisco: Mayor David Lurie is championing Measure E and Measure F to centralize and strengthen the powers of the San Francisco mayor and city administrator.

HI ☐ Honolulu: This measure would allow permanent residents who are not U.S. citizens to serve on public commissions and boards.

MA ☐ Question 1 would subject the governor's office and the state legislature to open records law.

MT ☐ Bozeman: A set of measures would reform the city government based on the recommendations of a panel set up by residents in 2024, as *Bolts* reported at the time.

NM ☐ This measure would eliminate the governor's so-called pocket veto.

NE ☐ This measure would loosen the state's term limits.

OK ☐ Question 845 would change the structure of the judicial nominating commission to give the GOP-run legislature more control over who sits on it.

OR ☐ Portland: Measure 26-267 would set up a participatory budgeting process for residents to decide how to allocate 2 percent of the city budget.

WI ☐ This measure would limit Wisconsin governors' unusually strong "partial veto" powers.

Referendums

Climate and energy

Result

CA ☐ Prop 45 would speed up the process for environmental review with the goal of streamlining developments.

CA ☐ Los Angeles: Amendment PRK would increase the minimum budget of the city's parks department by 50 percent.

CO ☐ Amendment 82 would enshrine a "right to natural gas" into Colorado's constitution.

MA ☐ Question 6 would set up a state fund to bolster environmental conservation efforts.

MI ☐ Ann Arbor: This measure would set up a municipal electric utility owned by the local government.

Parks. *Many jurisdictions are voting on bond measures for public parks. Some that stick out by virtue of their size include Austin ($260 million), Fairfax County ($180 million), and Palm Beach County ($280 million).*

Guns

AR ☐ Issue 2 would amend the state constitution to enshrine a right to "keep and bear arms."

ID ☐ Lawmakers are asking voters to choose their state's official gun amid a list of options.

MA ☐ Question 9 would repeal new gun control rules adopted by the state in 2024.

Labor

Result

CA ☐ Alameda County: This measure would raise the minimum wage to $30.

MD ☐ Question 1 would require Maryland to budget the necessary funds to fulfill its obligations as part of collective bargaining agreements.

VT ☐ Prop 3 would enshrine into the state constitution a right for workers to organize into unions.

Data centers

As backlash spreads against data centers, Ballotpedia is tracking local measures that will affect their construction. They've identified proposals in many towns to block new data centers, including in Alhambra, California, Edgewater, Florida, and Urbana, Ohio. Many other towns, such as Emporia, Kansas, and North Berwick, Maine, may restrict large or high impact data centers.

Other topics

Result

AZ ☐
WI ☐

Arizona and Wisconsin are voting on similar measures, advanced by GOP lawmakers, that would ban public institutions from implementing DEI policies and ban the consideration of race and ethnicity when deciding matters like employment or college admission.

CA ☐ If Prop 38 passes, the state would borrow $8.4 billion to fund immunology research. CalMatters reports that the state would likely have to give a large chunk of the money to a research center co-founded by the chief backer of Prop 38.

CA ☐ Berkeley
CA ☐ San Francisco

These measures are asking voters whether they want to set the groundwork for a public bank.

CO ☐ Amendment 83 would enshrine in the state constitution that people have a fundamental right to fish and hunt.

CO ☐ Denver
DC ☐ Washington, D.C.

Both cities are voting on measures to ban the sale of foie gras and force-feeding birds.

ID ☐ HJR 6 would declare that English is Idaho's official language.

MI ☐ Proposal 1 would convene a constitutional convention that would review the state constitution.

NY ☐ New York City: Measures 3 and 4 would reduce administrative steps for street improvement projects like bike lanes or for the approval of building construction projects.

SD ☐ Amendment I would repeal the Medicaid expansion approved by voters in 2022 if federal reimbursement rates ever dip below 90 percent.

VT ☐ Prop 4 would add into the state constitution a ban on discriminating on the basis of race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, and more.

WA ☐ Pierce County: Amendment 57 would expand the ban on discrimination set in the county's charter.

WI ☐ This measure, advanced by GOP lawmakers, would ban the state from closing churches even in a time of emergency, a reaction to restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

State supreme courts

Result

AL ☐ A GOP justice who voted with the court's majority in 2024 to hold that frozen embryos are children seeks reelection. He faces a Democrat who says opposition to the ruling inspired her to run.

AZ ☐ John Lopez IV, the GOP-appointed justice who wrote the state supreme court's ruling in 2024 banning nearly all abortions in the state, is up for retention.

CA ☐ Two justices appointed by Democratic governors are up for retention.

FL ☐ Carlos Muñiz, a conservative justice who voted to uphold Florida's six-week abortion ban, is up for retention.

KS ☐ Conservatives failed this summer to upend the structure of this state supreme court. They have another shot to affect the court's composition; two justices chosen by Democratic governors are up for retention.

MI ☐ Two Democratic justices face Republican challengers; Democrats' majority on the court is safe even if they lose both seats.

MO ☐ Justice Paul Wilson, appointed by a Democratic governor, faces retention a few months after joining his colleagues in blocking a GOP gerrymander.

MT ☐ This supreme court kept its liberal lean in 2024 but conservatives have another opportunity to shift it to the right this year. The race is nonpartisan but the two candidates have support from opposing ideological factions.

NC ☐ A Democratic justice, who used to work as a voting rights lawyer, is up for reelection against a former Republican lawmaker, *Bolts* reports.

OH ☐ Justices Jennifer Brunner, the last Democrat left on this court, and Dan Hawkins, a Republican, are running for reelection.

TX ☐ Republicans are defending four seats on the state supreme court and three on the court of criminal appeals, Texas' two high courts.

UT ☐ Justice Jill Pohlman, who has drawn Republican ire, is up for retention.

WA ☐ Five of the nine seats on this supreme court are on the ballot—it's the only state where a majority of a court is up at once. Four of the races pit candidates backed by the two major parties; the fifth features two candidates with Democratic backing.

Bolts' state-by-state guide to state supreme court elections walks you through every race in the country this year, including some that are not selected on this list: Read it here on Bolts.

State attorneys general

Result

AZ ☐ Democratic incumbent Kris Mayes faces Republican Warren Petersen, president of the Arizona Senate.

CO ☐ To replace an outgoing Democrat, Democrats nominated Jena Griswold, the Colorado secretary of state. She faces Michael Allen, a Republican DA.

FL ☐ James Uthmeier, appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis last year, is the GOP nominee against Democratic state Senator José Javier Rodríguez.

GA ☐ The GOP incumbent ran for governor, and two lawmakers are battling to replace him, Democrat Tanya Miller and Republican Brian Strickland.

IA ☐ GOP incumbent Brenna Bird flipped this office in 2022 and faces Democratic attorney Nate Willems.

KS ☐ Republican incumbent Kris Kobach, a nationally prominent conservative figure, faces a rematch against Chris Mann, a Democratic lawyer.

MI ☐ To replace the term-limited Democratic incumbent, two local prosecutors are facing off: Democrat Eli Savit and Republican Doug Lloyd.

MN ☐ Democratic incumbent Keith Ellison, a prominent progressive, faces Republican lawyer Ron Schutz.

NY ☐ Democratic incumbent Letitia James, a prominent Trump antagonist, faces Republican lawyer Saritha Komatireddy.

NV ☐ The Democratic incumbent is running for governor; to replace him, Republican Adriana Guzmán Fralick faces Democrat Nicole Cannizzaro.

OH ☐ The GOP incumbent is not seeking reelection, and Democrat John Kulewicz faces Republican Keith Faber to replace him.

TX ☐ This office has been in Ken Paxton's hands for 12 years; two state senators hope to replace him.

WI ☐ Democratic incumbent Josh Kaul faces Republican Eric Toney, a local DA, in a rematch of 2022.

State appellate courts

KY ☐ Governor Andy Beshear, a Democrat, appointed Will Moynahan to a seat on the Court of Appeals and is now helping him win a full term. In District 5, Moynahan faces Lucy VanMeter, a lower-court judge.

MS ☐ This Court of Appeals race is the only election this fall that'll affect Mississippi's government. In District 1, John Weddle, an appointee of GOP Governor Tate Reeves, faces Derek Hopson, a personal injury lawyer who has the backing of the Southern Poverty Legal Center Action Fund, a civil rights group.

NC ☐ Republicans dominate North Carolina's Court of Appeals, with 12 of 15 of its judges. This fall, all three of Democrats' seats are up—and none of the GOP's. All elections are statewide.

Who will run your elections?

Voters in 35 states will decide their next chief elections officials, who will oversee the 2028 cycle. Read our state-by-state guide to each of them here.

In most cases, the chief elections official is the secretary of state—learn about these races below.

State secretaries of state

Result

AZ ☐ Democratic incumbent Adrian Fontes faces Alexander Kolodin, an ultraconservative state lawmaker who tried to overturn Biden's win in 2020.

CO ☐ Amanda Gonzalez, a former voting rights advocate who now runs elections in Jefferson County, faces Republican James Wiley, who used to head the state's Libertarian Party.

GA ☐ Republican Brad Raffensperger, who rebuffed Trump's request to "find" votes after the 2020 election, is retiring. Democrat Penny Brown Reynolds and Republican Tim Flemming are facing off to replace him.

IN ☐ Indianapolis' former GOP mayor is now running as an independent against a Republican who ousted the incumbent at a party convention, and a Democrat whose father and grandfather were U.S. senators.

KS ☐ Two former state lawmakers are facing off in an open race, Republican Pat Proctor and Democrat Jennifer Day.

NE ☐ Republican Scott Petersen, who ousted the incumbent Republican in the May primary, faces Democrat Sarah Slattery as well as Bob Krist, a former state senator running via the America First Party.

NV ☐ Jim Marchant, who already ran in 2022 as part of a nationwide slate of election deniers, is seeking a rematch against Democratic incumbent Cisco Aguilar.

NM ☐ To replace the outgoing Democratic incumbent, Democrat Amanda López Askin faces Republican Ramona Goolsby.

OH ☐ The outgoing Republican cannot run for reelection. Republican Robert Sprague, currently Ohio's treasurer, faces Democratic lawmaker Allison Russo.

SD ☐ GOP incumbent Monae Johnson was ousted in a party convention by Heather Baxer, who faces Democrat Terrance Davis.

In some states, secretaries of state are appointed by the governor; we'll be watching the governor's elections in Florida and Texas in particular for that purpose.

Other state executive officials

Result

AZ ☐ **School superintendent**. Incumbent Tom Horne was ousted in the GOP primary by Treasurer Kimberly Yee, who ran against him from the right. She now faces Democrat Teresa Ruiz.

AZ ☐ **Treasurer**. To replace Yee as treasurer, Democrat Nick Mansour faces Republican Elijah Norton.

CA ☐ **Superintendent of public instruction**. In the only statewide race where party labels will not appear on the ballot, Richard Barrera is backed by Democrats and Sonja Shaw by the GOP.

GA ☐ **Five statewide offices**. Democrats have had no foothold in state government in two decades now but they're hoping for gains this fall. Besides the races for governor, AG, and secretary of state, watch the open election for lieutenant governor, and four Republican incumbents' reelection bids for agriculture commissioner, insurance commissioner, labor commissioner, and school superintendent.

IA ☐ **Auditor**. The only Democrat who holds statewide office in Iowa, Auditor Rob Sand, is running for governor rather than seeking reelection, and the GOP hopes to flip the office.

KS ☐ **Insurance commissioner**. Two legislative leaders are duking it out in this open race. House Speaker Daniel Hawkins, a Republican, faces Senate Minority Leader Dinah Sykes, a Democrat.

MN ☐ **Auditor**. State Senator Scott Jensen, the GOP nominee for governor in 2022, is running for this open seat against Democratic accountant Zack Filipovich.

MO ☐ **Auditor**. GOP incumbent Scott Fitzpatrick is seeking reelection against Democrat Quentin Wilson.

NV ☐ **Lieutenant governor, controller, and treasurer**. GOP incumbents are up for reelection for lieutenant governor and controller, while Democrats are defending the treasurer's office in an open race.

OH ☐ **Auditor and treasurer**. The GOP is defending these two offices in open races. The auditor race features Republican Frank LaRose, who is secretary of state and faces Democrat Mayor Annette Blackwell.

TX ☐ **Agriculture commissioner**. Nate Sheets, a wealthy ranch owner, ousted an incumbent beset by scandals in the GOP primary and now faces Democrat Clayton Tucker.

TX ☐ **Lieutenant governor**. Unusually, this is one of the most important roles in the state government. Dan Patrick, the GOP incumbent, faces Vikki Goodwin, a Democratic lawmaker.

WI ☐ **Lieutenant governor**. This office is typically viewed as a jumping board for higher office, though both of the most recent office holders faceplanted in Wisconsin's most recent governor's race—dropping out in the final weeks of the race.

WI ☐ **Treasurer**. This is currently the only statewide office that Wisconsin Republicans hold, but the GOP incumbent is up for reelection.

State boards of education

State boards of education decide the standards and policies that school districts must follow; we are watching contests in five states.

Result

CO ☐ Democrats only hold a narrow, 5-4 majority on Colorado's board of education. On the ballot this fall are two heavily blue districts held by Democrats, and the competitive GOP-held District 3.

KS ☐ Five of the board's 10 seats are on the ballot, and all are currently GOP-held. All five GOP incumbents are retiring rather than running for reelection.

MI ☐ Democrats have a 6-2 majority, and are defending both seats in play this year. One of the two GOP candidates is Bree Moeggenberg, chair of a local Moms for Liberty chapter who has self-published a book titled "Pronouns. Pronouns. Pronouns. NOT SHMONOUNS."

NE ☐ The Nebraska Board of Education is split equally between the parties. This fall, the GOP is defending three districts and Democrats are defending one.

TX ☐ There are eight elections for the Texas Board of Education, most of which are in staunchly Republican areas. District 2, which covers the Gulf Coast, may be vulnerable to a Democratic flip.

Other state boards

CA ☐ **Board of Equalization** Districts 1 and 4. California is the only state where voters elect the body responsible for supervising taxes; the board was stripped of many of its powers last decade but the campaigns still draw millions of dollars of outside spending. Democrats have a 3-1 majority and are defending District 4, while the GOP is defending District 1, which covers the state's interior.

NH ☐ **Executive Council**. This five-member council, which has some power over nominations and gubernatorial policies, is currently under Republican control in part thanks to GOP-drawn maps. Democrats are challenging all four GOP seats this fall.

TX ☐ **Railroad Commission**. This agency supervises the state's energy industry, though a race for one of its three seats has drawn a lot of national attention due to racist statements by Republican nominee Bo French. He faces Democrat Jon Rosenthal.

State utility commissions

Some states have elected agencies that regulate utility services and energy providers; this can include having authority over hikes in electricity rates or shaping investments in clean energy. We're watching five states where a seat may flip. The other states with elections for their utility commission this fall are: Alabama, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Result

AZ ☐ Arizona's corporation commission is currently all GOP, but two of five seats are at play in a statewide election. Note that the far-right faction of Arizona politics already ousted a GOP incumbent in the July primary, while another is still seeking reelection.

GA ☐ The Georgia GOP could lose its longtime majority on a utility commission that has been beset by controversy, in part for approving hikes in electricity rates. Two seats are at play this year in statewide contests, and Democrats would take a 3-2 majority if they win both.

LA ☐ Republicans are defending District 1 in very red territory; Democrats are defending District 5, in northwest Louisiana.

MT ☐ A Republican gerrymander has produced an all-GOP utility commission in Montana. Of the two seats now in play, watch District 5 in western Montana.

NE ☐ Nebraska's public service commission is all-GOP. But the sole seat at play this year is located in Douglas County, which is home to Omaha and the state's bluest area.

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Local prosecutors

Result

CA ☐ Los Angeles: City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto was ousted in the primary, finishing behind a challenger to her left and another to her right and setting up a major clash over the direction of this influential office, as *Bolts* reports.

LA ☐ East Baton Route Parish: In Louisiana's most populous parish, a longtime DA faces a prominent defense attorney in his first contested race since 2008.

LA ☐ Ouachita and Morehouse parishes: A judge who last year vacated the conviction of a man who spent decades on death row is now running to take over the office that prosecuted the case, *Bolts* reports.

ME ☐ Cumberland County: As Portland's reform-minded Democratic DA seeks a second term, she faces a former DA who held the office for 28 years and is now seeking a comeback.

MN ☐ Hennepin County (Minneapolis): The retirement of Mary Moriarty, one of the county's more visible progressive prosecutors, has sparked a race between a candidate aligned with her legacy and another who wants to quickly turn the page.

MT ☐ Gallatin County: As she runs for reelection, this Democratic prosecutor has clashed with Montana GOP officials over her refusal to share some information with ICE.

NE ☐ Douglas County (Omaha): Omaha's GOP prosecutor, who in recent years has pushed for more punitive state legislation, is seeking reelection.

NC ☐ Forsyth County: A prominent foe of criminal justice reform in North Carolina, Republican DA Jim O'Neill, is running for a fifth term in a blue-leaning county.

TX ☐ Tarrant County: Fort Worth's Republican DA has flexed his office's authority to police elections and democracy, and now faces a Democratic challenger who has denounced efforts to police the vote.

TX ☐ Fort Bend: A Democratic DA is seeking reelection against a GOP challenger who is making the case the office should be more punitive.

WA ☐ Spokane County: An independent candidate is challenging the Republican incumbent to lead an office known for a punitive approach to prosecution.

Read Bolts' guide to the 25 most pivotal elections for prosecutor and sheriffs to learn more about these offices, which have wide powers over incarceration, conditions of detention, and cooperation with ICE.

Sheriffs

Result

CA ☐ Los Angeles County: Alex Villanueva, whose term as sheriff was beset by scandals, is running for his old job back against Robert Luna, who defeated him in 2022.

CO ☐ El Paso County: In Colorado's most populous county, a GOP sheriff who has sued against immigrant protections is seeking reelection.

IL ☐ Sangamon County (Springfield): When a Sangamon County sheriff's deputy killed Sonya Massey in 2024, it sparked nationwide protests and a yearlong citizen commission that recommended reforms, as *Bolts* reports. The sheriff's race this fall will decide who would implement reforms.

KY ☐ Jefferson County: The open race for sheriff in Kentucky's largest county, home to Louisville, features a Republican nominee with a history of allegations of violent behavior, according to the *Courier-Journal*.

MD ☐ Frederick County: Frederick County's longtime GOP sheriff, notorious for anti-immigrant practices and rhetoric, is running for reelection, as *Bolts* reports.

MD ☐ Wicomico County: This Maryland sheriff who has tried to partner with ICE is running for reelection against a challenger critical of the federal agency.

NE ☐ Douglas County: Omaha's GOP sheriff seeks reelection after a term in which he championed tough-on-crime legislation and tried to convince county officials to partner with ICE.

NY ☐ Broome, Orange, and Otsego counties: Pro-ICE Republican sheriffs in these three counties are running for reelection; two face a Democratic, while the other already lost in the GOP primary but remains on the ballot as the Conservative Party nominee.

NC ☐ Alamance County: A sheriff who has long faced accusations of racism and illegal policing tactics is up for a seventh term against an independent who says he wants to rebuild trust with immigrant communities, as *Bolts* reports.

NC ☐ Buncombe County: Asheville's Democratic sheriff faces a GOP challenger in a context of recurring clashes with the Republican legislature.

WI ☐ Sauk and Winnebago counties: These counties joined ICE's 287(g) program. Democratic candidates who are running for sheriff say they'd terminate the contracts, *Bolts* and *Wisconsin Watch* report.

WA ☐ Pierce County (Tacoma): Sheriff Keith Swank, a controversial right-wing sheriff, would see his term cut short if voters pass a ballot measure ending sheriff elections, as *Bolts* reports.

WA ☐ Klickitat County: A prominent "constitutional sheriff" is retiring, but his legacy may endure, as *Bolts* and *InvestigateWest* report.

WI ☐ Racine County: A GOP sheriff is retiring after targeting election workers for years as part of investigations into the 2020 election.

County leaders: County executives and commissioners

Result

CA ☐ Orange County: Control of the nation's sixth most populous county is on the line. The GOP could flip the board of supervisors if their candidates win one of two races on the ballot this fall.

CA ☐ Sacramento County: Epidemiologist Flojaune Cofer narrowly lost Sacramento's mayoral race two years ago after running a progressive platform; she is now running to join the county's board of supervisors.

CA ☐ Santa Barbara: An AI-generated ad attacking candidate Ricardo Valencia with a stereotypical Latino accent sparked accusations of racism this spring; Valencia now faces a runoff.

CA ☐ San Francisco County: The centrist faction of San Francisco politics has built a strong advantage in recent years; five races for the county board of supervisors will test their advantage this fall.

FL ☐ Hillsborough County: Trump in 2024 was the first Republican to carry this county in 20 years, and the GOP secured a 5-2 majority on the county commission. Democrats have a shot at flipping it this fall.

FL ☐ Miami-Dade County: The GOP gained a majority on the county commission of Florida's most populous county in 2025 when the commission selected Republican Vicki Lopez to replace an outgoing Democrat. Lopez is now running for reelection.

FL ☐ Palm Beach County: Democrats have a 4-3 edge on the county commission, and could expand their edge as two GOP incumbents face challengers.

FL ☐ Pinellas County: The GOP is certain to keep its majority on the board of this swing county, home to St. Petersburg. But Democrats, who are down 6-1 overall, are challenging two GOP commissioners.

FL ☐ Orange County: The county, home to Orlando, is electing a replacement for the retiring Democratic mayor (equivalent of a county executive).

IL ☐ DuPage County: In Illinois' second most populous county, Democrats won the office of county chair in 2022—for the first time in at least 75 years. They are defending the office this fall.

IL ☐ Will County: Voters in Will County elected an equally divided board back in 2022, and they did it again in 2024. Can one of the parties break the logjam this year and gain outright control?

MD ☐ Baltimore County: In this county, home to the suburbs of Baltimore but not the city itself, Democrats only have a 4-3 majority on the county council. The county expanded the council by two spots, and all nine of those seats are now up this fall.

NJ ☐ Atlantic County: In Atlantic County, one of New Jersey's swingiest, the GOP enjoys an 8-1 edge since 2024, but three Republicans are up for reelection.

NJ ☐ Cumberland and Gloucester counties: Each party is defending control of a populous county in South Jersey: Democrats have a narrow edge in Gloucester County, and Republicans in Cumberland County.

Result

NM ☐ Sandoval County: Sandoval County, New Mexico's third most populous, votes Democratic in federal races but the GOP has a 3-2 majority on the county board. Democrats have a shot at flipping the board.

NV ☐ Washoe County: The GOP could lose its governing majority in Nevada's second most populous county, home to Reno. It has a 3-2 edge on the board and is defending two seats; Democrats are defending one.

NY ☐ Putnam County: Could divisions on the right help Democrats flip the executive office in this red-leaning county? The Conservative Party has broken with the GOP incumbent, who also faces a Democrat.

NY ☐ Onondaga County: In the county home to Syracuse, Democrats won the legislature in 2025 for the first time in half a century but must now defend it.

OH ☐ Lorain County: Lorain County has seen one of Ohio's longest public sector strikes this year, and the United Auto Workers is now targeting one of the local commissioners, Republican Jeff Riddle.

OH ☐ Montgomery County: Democrats have a 2-1 edge on the county board of this populous county, home to Dayton, but the GOP could flip control.

OR ☐ Deschutes County: Democrats are already certain to flip this county board due to their performance in the May primaries. The question this fall is whether they can sweep every single seat on the board.

OR ☐ Multnomah and Washington counties: Oregon's most populous counties are electing new chairs. The leading candidates are aligned with Democrats but have distinct coalitions.

TX ☐ Fort Bend County: The local county judge (in Texas, that's the equivalent of a county executive) switched parties to join the GOP in 2025—an announcement that came shortly after he was indicted for money laundering. He has since lost the GOP primary. Democrats want to gain back the office.

TX ☐ Harris County: In the nation's third most populous county, Democrat Lina Hidalgo, a progressive, is not running for reelection as county judge.

TX ☐ Tarrant County: In this county home to Fort Worth, the GOP is defending a 3-2 majority on the commission. The GOP county judge is running for reelection and each party is defending one commissioner seat.

TX ☐ Collin, Denton, and Williamson counties: Democrats hope to make inroads in Texas' populous suburbs. Can that translate downballot? Watch the reelection bids of GOP county judges in these three counties.

TX ☐ Cameron County: This South Texas county swung dramatically to the GOP in 2024 but Democrats still hold the entire commission. The office of county judge and two commissioner seats are on the ballot.

WA ☐ Clallam and Clark counties: Democrats are at risk of losing their governing majorities in populous Clark County and more sparsely populated Clallam County.

Local school boards

Result

CA ☐ Riverside County: Conservatives could lose their majority on the Temecula Valley Unified School District's board, which has approved outing LGBTQ+ students to their parents and tried to remove mentions of Harvey Milk from school materials.

CA ☐ Santa Clara County: In the Franklin-McKinley School District, where conservatives have pushed against inclusive policies, an incumbent backed by Moms for Liberty is seeking reelection this fall.

CA ☐ San Diego County: Conservatives could lose their majority on the Grossmont Union High School District's board, which, among other things, has pushed against practices that were perceived as too inclusive of LGBTQ+ students and tried to loosen restrictions on school prayer.

CA ☐ Yolo County: Beth Bourne, described by the *Sacramento Bee* as "one of the most prominent anti-transgender activists in California," is running for a seat on the Davis Joint Unified School District's board.

FL ☐ Brevard County: This red county is home to Moms for Liberty CEO Tina Descovich. The group got one win here in the August primary, and is now backing two more candidates in these runoffs.

FL ☐ Broward County: Governor Ron DeSantis removed four elected members of Broward County's school board in 2022 and appointed their replacements; voters have since ousted several of his appointees, and the final one faces voters this fall.

FL ☐ Pinellas County: Two conservative incumbents prevailed in this populous, swing county in the August primary; Democrats hope to gain the third and final seat that's up this year.

FL ☐ Sarasota County: Bridget Ziegler, who co-founded Moms for Liberty in 2021, is not running for reelection to the Sarasota County school board, and vorers are choosing her replacement. Note that conservatives already lost control of the board in the August primaries.

GA ☐ Cobb County: In Georgia's second largest school district, the GOP could lose its narrow 4-3 majority on the school board, which in recent years has drawn protests, for instance for removing LGBTQ+-themed books from school libraries.

Result

IL ☐ Chicago: This is the first time Chicago is electing a full school board, with 21 seats on the ballot. The Chicago Teachers Union, a progressive force, has endorsed a slate, as has the SEIU, while a committee tied to business groups is opposing some CTU candidates.

MD ☐ Frederick County: A conservative slate is looking to gain control of this school board; one candidate drew attention in 2022 for checking out LGBTQ+-themed books from public libraries to ensure they would not be available to others.

MN ☐ Washington County: In the Forest Lake school district, the conservative majority has drawn scrutiny for debating policies such as allowing students to wear symbols such as swastikas in school. A conservative slate is facing off against its critics.

NV ☐ Clark County: In this county, home to Las Vegas, the conservative group Moms for Liberty is backing two candidates to oust Democratic-aligned incumbents.

NV ☐ Washoe County: Right-wing activists have fought to gain influence on this board for years; this fall, a conservative is running who in the past has testified against drag queen story hours in a public library.

NC ☐ Wake County: In North Carolina's largest county, Democrats have a 7-2 majority after the GOP failed to make up ground in 2024; they are defending three seats this year.

RI ☐ Chariho School District: This school district has seen heated confrontations in recent years as Moms for Liberty activists push against inclusive school policies; the board is tightly divided and half of the seats are up for grabs this year.

TX ☐ Montgomery County: Ultraconservatives control the Conroe District's school board, and they've moved at a large scale to ban books from libraries. A slate critical of the sitting majority is looking to gain ground.

TX ☐ Midland County: The conservative majority on the Midland school board recently renamed a high school after Robert E. Lee, five years after the district's decision to remove Lee's name from the school. The fights around that decision have shaped several races for the board.

Local judges

IL ☐ Cook County: Dozens of local judges are up for retention in Chicagoland. Explore *Injustice Watch*'s guide to the records of each judge.

IN ☐ Marion County: *The Indiana Citizen* reports on a local judge in the state's capital county who faces disciplinary investigations for failing to handle his cases in a timely manner.

LA ☐ Caddo Parish: *Verite News* reports on a local judge race that features controversial prosecutor Hugo Holland, an outspoken champion of the death penalty with a history of racist statements and allegations of misconduct in capital cases.

OH ☐ Sandusky County: Jon Ickes, a local judge on this county's court of common pleas, was barred from practicing law by the Ohio Supreme Court but he remains on the ballot, *Signal Ohio* reports.

City leaders: Mayors and city council

Result

AZ ☐ Phoenix: A right-wing slate, which is calling itself the "Take Back Phoenix" slate, is running for four city council seats in play.

AZ ☐ Scottsdale: The right-wing bloc that runs Scottsdale's city council could lose a seat this fall.

AZ ☐ South Tucson: Progressive city councilors have faced opposition over initiatives to help homeless people. Two of them face runoffs.

CA ☐ Los Angeles: Mayor Karen Bass faces Nithya Raman, a city councilor. Both are Democrats, and Raman has support from DSA. Also, while most city council elections were resolved in the primary, two runoffs will help determine the ideological balance of power in Los Angeles in districts 3 and 9.

CA ☐ Alhambra and Monterey Park: In these two LA suburbs, residents who have been active in fighting data center construction are now running for city council, *Pasadena Star-News* reports.

CA ☐ Carlsbad, Chula Vista, and Escondido: GOP mayors are running for reelection in these populous San Diego suburbs versus Democratic-backed challengers.

CA ☐ Chico: In 2024, conservatives retained a 4-3 majority in the council of this Northern California city. Progressives could flip the council this fall.

CA ☐ Fontana and Richmond: Besides LA, democratic socialists are looking to win several mayor's offices in California, such as in Fontana and Richmond.

CA ☐ Huntington Beach: This GOP-run city in Orange County has often defied the state government. Four out of the council's seven seats are on the ballot this year, and Democrats are looking to flip control.

CA ☐ Oakland: Mayor Barbara Lee is running for reelection against several challengers to her right, while the roles are flipped for a city council race in which an incumbent faces a DSA-endorsed challenger.

CA ☐ San Diego: Voters in this populous Democratic-governed city are choosing four city councilors, including a District 2 race between a Democrat and a former Republican now running as an independent.

DC ☐ Washington, D.C.: Janeese Lewis George, a democratic socialist, won a competitive Democratic primary to replace Mayor Muriel Bowser. The general election will be decided via ranked-choice voting, as will a contested at-large council seat.

FL ☐ St. Petersburg: Charlie Crist, GOP governor turned Democratic congressmember, is challenging St. Petersburg Mayor Ken Welch.

FL ☐ Tallahassee: This city council is split between a bloc of three centrists and two progressives. Three contests this fall (for mayor and two council seats) will determine which faction has an edge.

KY ☐ Lexington: While Lexington voted for Kamala Harris in 2024, Mayor Linda Gorton is a Republican. She faces Raquel Carter, a Democrat.

Result

KY ☐ Louisville: Democratic Mayor Craig Greenberg faces Shameka Parrish Wright, a progressive city council member. The governing council is also in play. and Republicans are hoping they can flip it.

NE ☐ Bellevue: In Nebraska's third most populous city, and the largest with a mayor's race, Republican Mayor Rusty Hike faces Democrat Kevin Pflager.

NV ☐ Reno, North Las Vegas, and Henderson: Nevada's second, third, and fourth biggest cities are choosing mayors. Reno has the only race that pits a Democratic-backed candidate, former Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall, and a GOP-backed one, Kathleen Taylor. In North Las Vegas, a Democratic lawmaker faces a councilmember who is now a Democrat but used to be affiliated to the GOP. In Henderson, the GOP mayor faces a former police chief.

NC ☐ Asheville: A progressive city council member is challenging Asheville's mayor; both are Democrats.

NY ☐ Pine Planes: This is the smallest town on this guide but it illustrates the backlash against surveillance. The town's GOP supervisor has faced local pushback upon revelations that he ordered Flock cameras installed without the awareness of the governing board. He faces a Democratic member of the board.

OR ☐ Portland: Portland's 12-member city council is equally divided between a moderate faction aligned with the mayor and a progressive or socialist bloc. Half the council is on the ballot this fall.

TX ☐ Corpus Christi: The city council suspended Mayor Paulette Guajardo for a month in August on charges of misconduct and perjury. Guajardo is now running for reelection against a crowded field.

VA ☐ Lynchburg: Republicans have a 6-1 majority on this city council, but Democrats could flip it if their candidates sweep the on the ballot.

WA ☐ Seattle: The centrist faction of city politics has held the North Seattle-based District 5 since 2023, but the left-leaning faction is looking to take it over.

WV ☐ Charleston: Mayor Amy Shuler Goodwin, a Democrat, is running against Republican Brian Hunt.

Other local officials

CA ☐ Berkeley: The Berkeley Tenants Convention and the local DSA chapter are backing a slate of candidates for the local board that's tasked with monitoring rents and tenants' rights, hoping to build on the success of a similar effort in 2024.

NE ☐ Omaha: Clean energy advocates are vying for control of the public utility that serves 900,000 people in the Omaha region.

OR ☐ Clackamas County: A conservative who says he doesn't trust the election system and wants Oregon to revert to in-person voting is running for clerk, the job that oversees elections.



Illustration by Verónica Martinez for *Bolts*