

2016 Election Forecast



ML
STRATEGIES

The Presidential Race



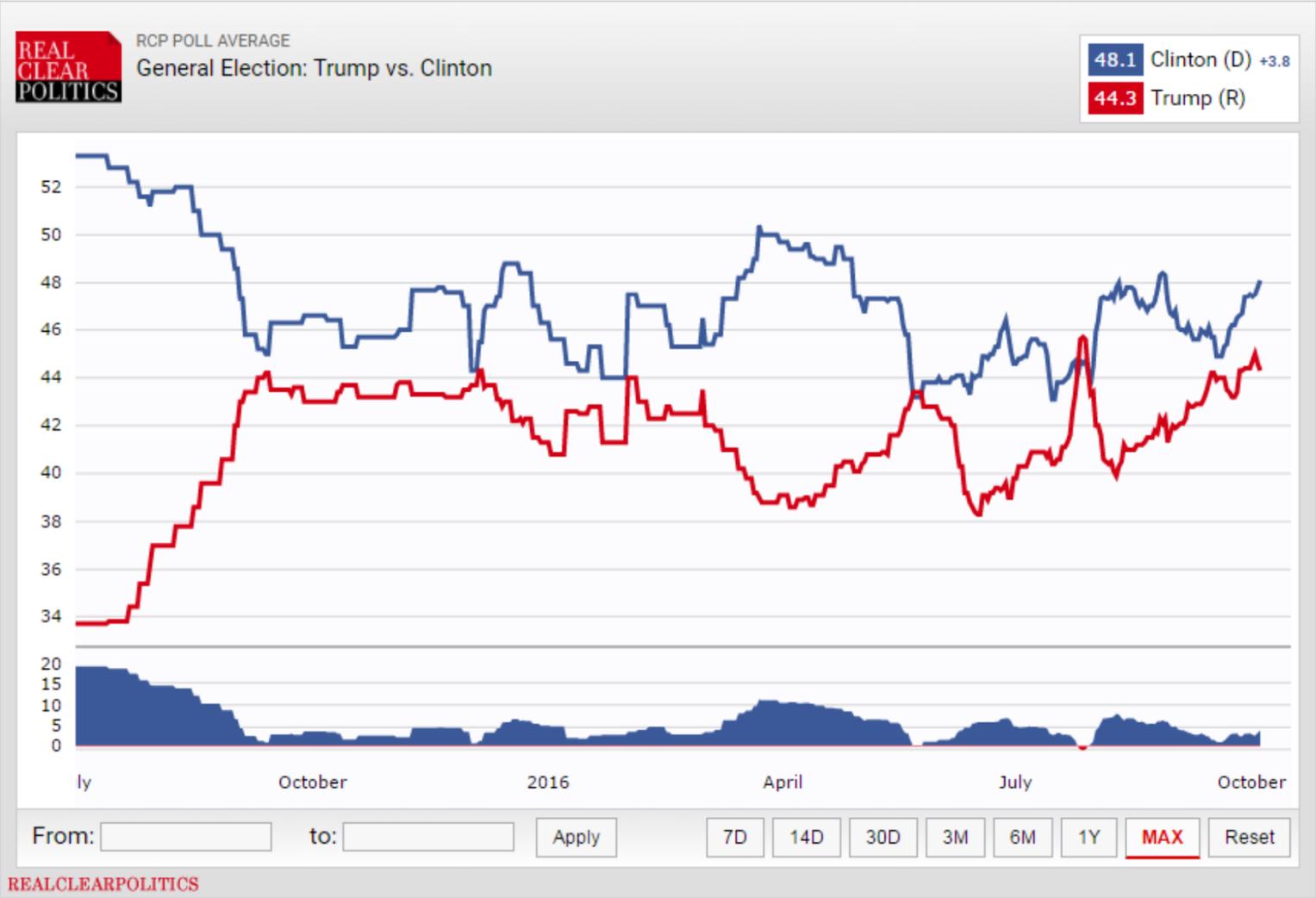
The Latest Polls

Real Clear Politics
10/4/16

Polling Data						
Poll	Date	Sample	MoE	Clinton (D)	Trump (R)	Spread
RCP Average	9/22 - 10/3	--	--	48.1	44.3	Clinton +3.8
CBS News	9/28 - 10/2	1217 LV	4.0	49	43	Clinton +6
CNN/ORC	9/28 - 10/2	1213 LV	3.0	51	45	Clinton +6
Economist/YouGov	10/1 - 10/3	911 RV	3.9	48	43	Clinton +5
LA Times/USC Tracking	9/27 - 10/3	2275 LV	4.5	43	47	Trump +4
NBC News/SM	9/26 - 10/2	26925 LV	1.0	50	44	Clinton +6
FOX News	9/27 - 9/29	911 LV	3.0	49	44	Clinton +5
PPP (D)	9/27 - 9/28	933 LV	3.2	49	45	Clinton +4
Gravis	9/27 - 9/27	3386 RV	1.7	50	50	Tie
Reuters/Ipsos	9/22 - 9/26	1041 LV	3.5	44	38	Clinton +6

All General Election: Trump vs. Clinton Polling Data

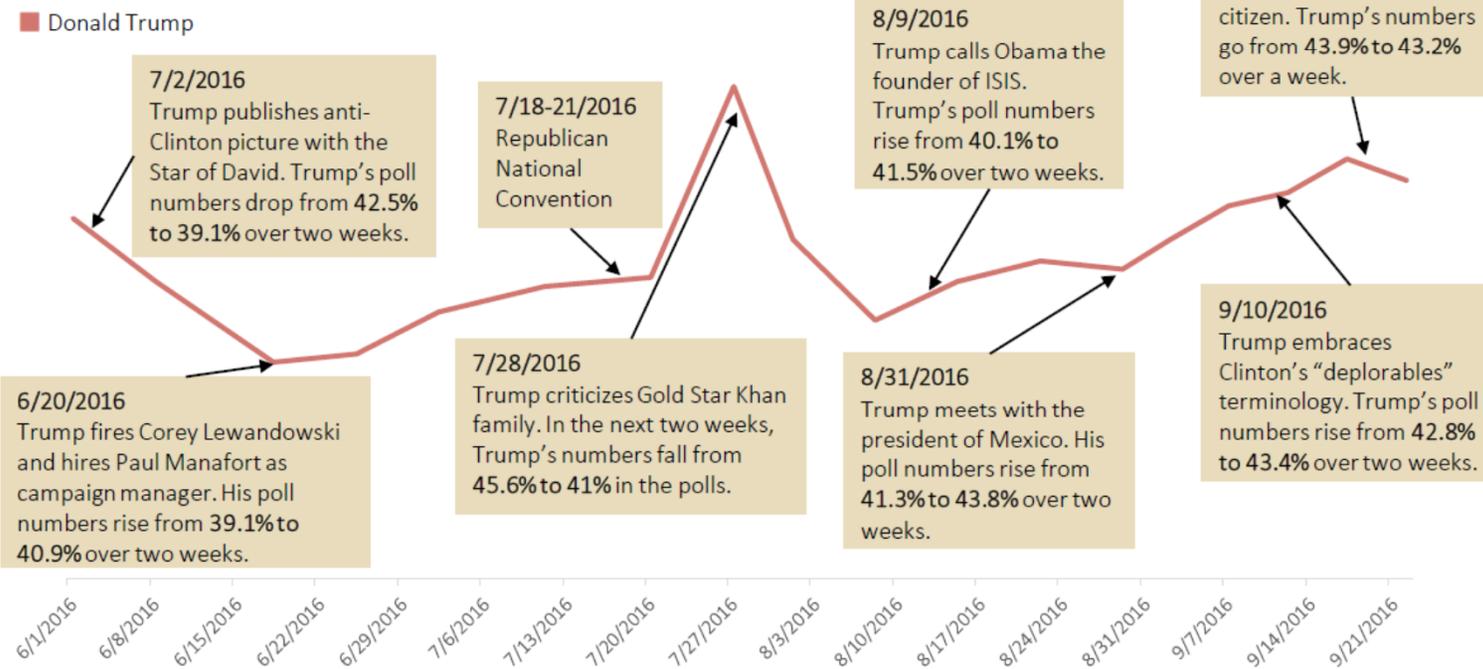
Real Clear Politics 10/4/16



Following a bumpy convention season, Trump's poll numbers slowly rise

Major moments in Trump's campaign from 7/1/2016 to 9/26/2016

RealClearPolitics National Polling Average in a 2-way matchup with Clinton

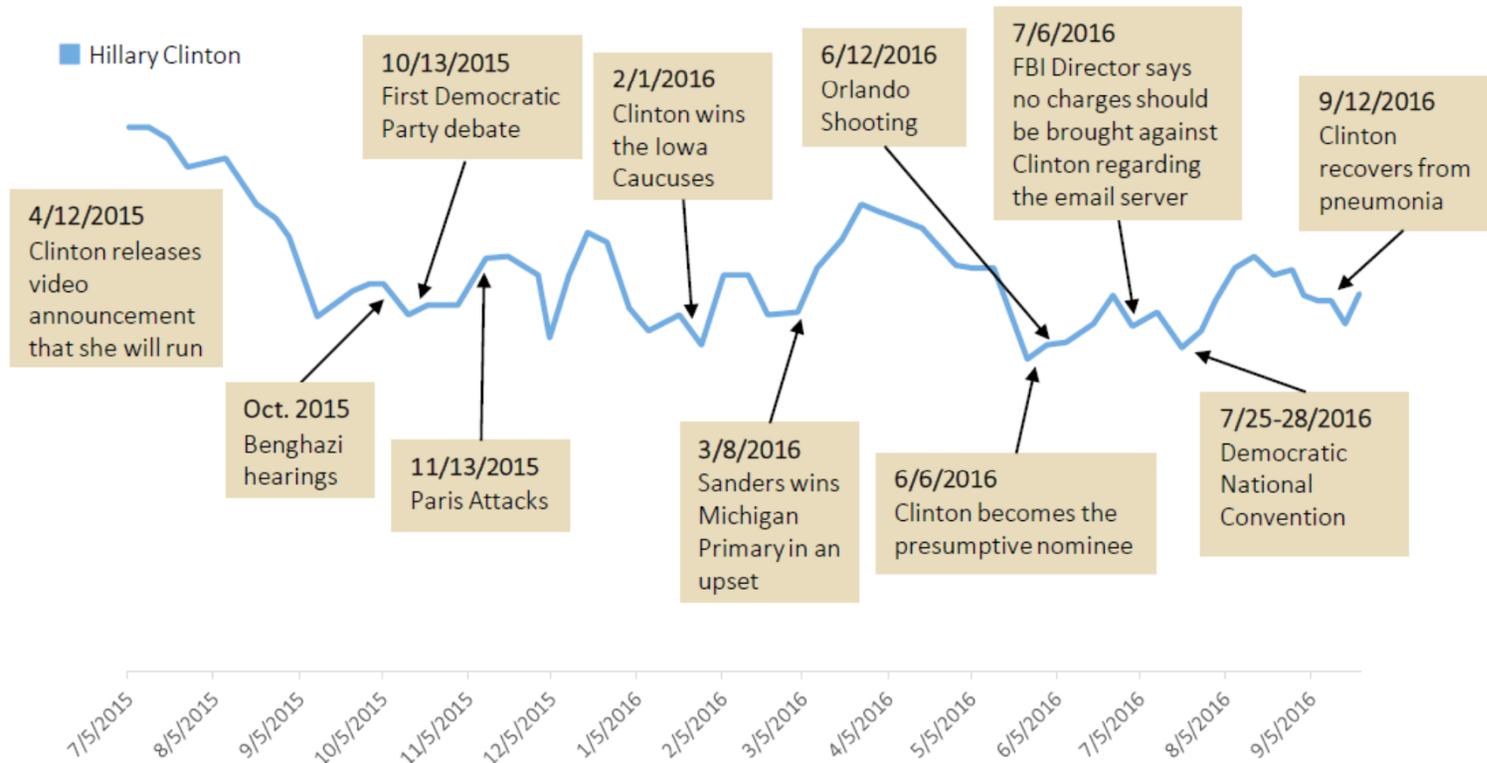


Sources: Katie Smith, "The rise of Trump: 26 weeks that changed 2016," USA Today, December 20, 2015; James Fallows, "The daily Trump: filling a time capsule," The Atlantic, September 8, 2016; Becket Adams, "A working timeline of Donald Trump's campaign for the GOP nomination," Washington Examiner, May 7, 2016; RealClearPolitics 2-way polling average, September 22, 2016

Clinton's poll numbers have remained around the mid-40s since late 2015

Major moments from the past year of Clinton's campaign

RealClearPolitics National Polling Average in a 2-way matchup with Trump



Sources: Eliza Collins, "12 quotable moments from Hillary Clinton's primary campaign," USA Today, June 7, 2016; Clare Foran, "The end of a political revolution," The Atlantic, July 6, 2016; RealClearPolitics 2-way polling average, September 22, 2016

How much each state matters

Two measures help capture how important a state and its voters will be in determining the next president: “Tipping-point chance” is the probability that a state will provide the decisive vote in the Electoral College. “Voter power index” is the relative likelihood that an individual voter in a state will determine the Electoral College winner.

Tipping-point chance

Florida	19.0%	
Pennsylvania	12.5	
Michigan	10.2	
North Carolina	8.0	
Ohio	7.1	
Minnesota	6.3	
Virginia	5.7	
Wisconsin	5.4	
Colorado	4.8	
Nevada	3.1	

Voter power index

New Hampshire	5.0	
Nevada	3.8	
New Mexico	3.5	
Pennsylvania	2.9	
Michigan	2.8	
Minnesota	2.8	
Florida	2.7	
Rhode Island	2.4	
Colorado	2.3	
Wisconsin	2.3	

The Electoral Map

237 Clinton/Kaine

Toss Ups
136

Trump/Pence **165**

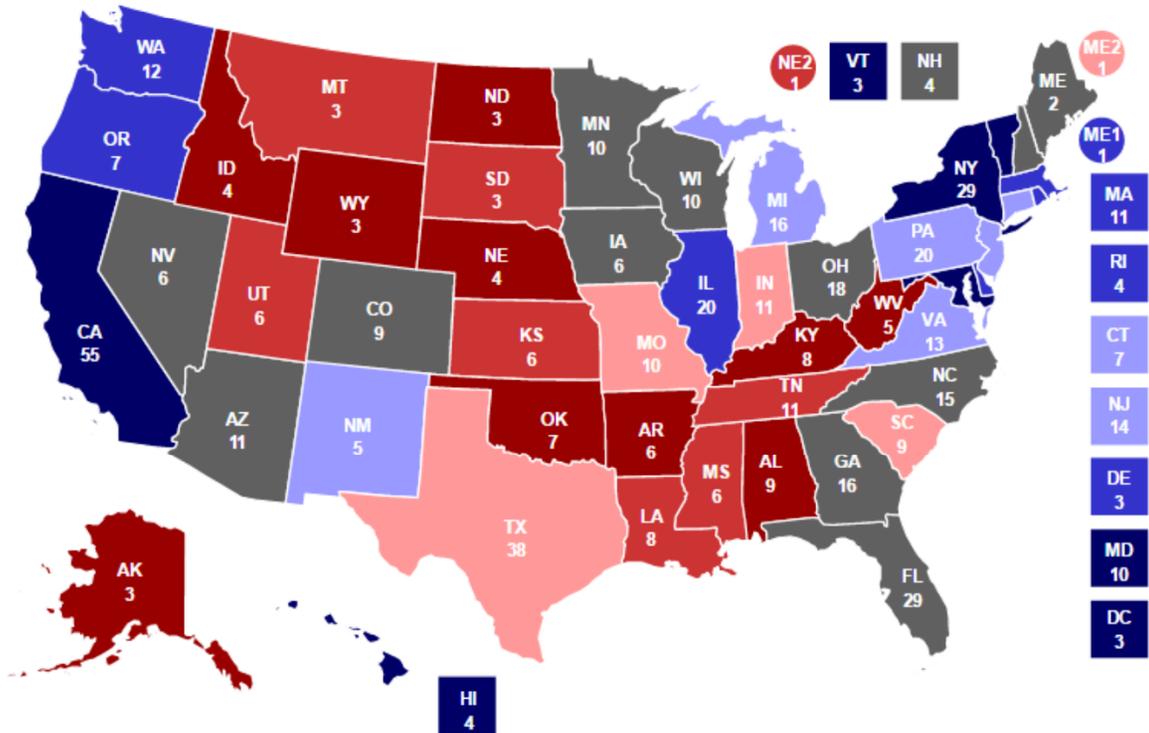


270 Electoral Votes Needed To Win (Create Your Own Map)

Recent Elections: 2012 | 2008 | 2004 | 2000 | 1996 | 1992 | 1988 | 1984 | 1980 | 1976 | 1972

Likely Clinton (58)	Leans Clinton (75)	Toss Up (136)	Leans Trump (69)	Likely Trump (44)
Illinois (20) Oregon (7) Washington (12) Massachusetts (11) Rhode Island (4) Delaware (3) Maine CD1 (1) Solid Clinton	Michigan (16) ◀ Pennsylvania (20) Virginia (13) New Mexico (5) New Jersey (14) Connecticut (7)	Florida (29) Ohio (18) North Carolina (15) ▶ New Hampshire (4) Colorado (9) Nevada (6) Minnesota (10) Wisconsin (10) Iowa (8) Maine (2) Arizona (11) Georgia (16)	Indiana (11) Maine CD2 (1) South Carolina (9) Texas (38) Missouri (10)	Louisiana (8) Utah (8) Mississippi (6) Montana (3) South Dakota (3) Tennessee (11) Kansas (6) Nebraska CD2 (1) Solid Trump

CLINTON/KAINE		TRUMP/PENCE	
	Solid		Solid
	Likely		Likely
	Leans		Leans
	Toss up		Toss up



Real Clear Politics
10/6/16

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Cook ratings point to close race in presidential election

Cook Political Report: electoral college ratings

Solid D	Likely D	Lean D	Toss Up	Lean R	Likely R	Solid R
16 STATES	3 STATES*	4 STATES	5 STATES*	2 STATES	3 STATES	18 STATES
California (55) Connecticut (7) Delaware (3) D.C. (3) Hawaii (4) Illinois (20) Maine-01 (1) Maryland (10) Massachusetts (11) New Jersey (14) New Mexico (5) New York (29) Oregon (7) Rhode Island (4) Vermont (3) Washington (12)	Maine-AL (2) Minnesota (10) Virginia (13)	Michigan (16) New Hampshire (4) Pennsylvania (20) Wisconsin (10) Colorado (9)	Florida (29) Nebraska-02 (1) Nevada (6) North Carolina (15) Ohio (18)	Arizona (11) Georgia (16) Iowa (6) Maine-02 (1)	Indiana (11) Missouri (10) Utah (6)	Alabama (9) Alaska (3) Arkansas (6) Idaho (4) Kansas (6) Kentucky (8) Louisiana (8) Mississippi (6) Montana (3) Nebraska-AL (2) Nebraska-01 (1) Nebraska-03 (1) North Dakota (3) Oklahoma (7) South Carolina (9) South Dakota (3) Tennessee (11) Texas (38) West Virginia (5) Wyoming (3)
188 EV	25 EV	59 EV	70 EV	33 EV	27 EV	136 EV

*Maine and Nebraska split their electoral votes

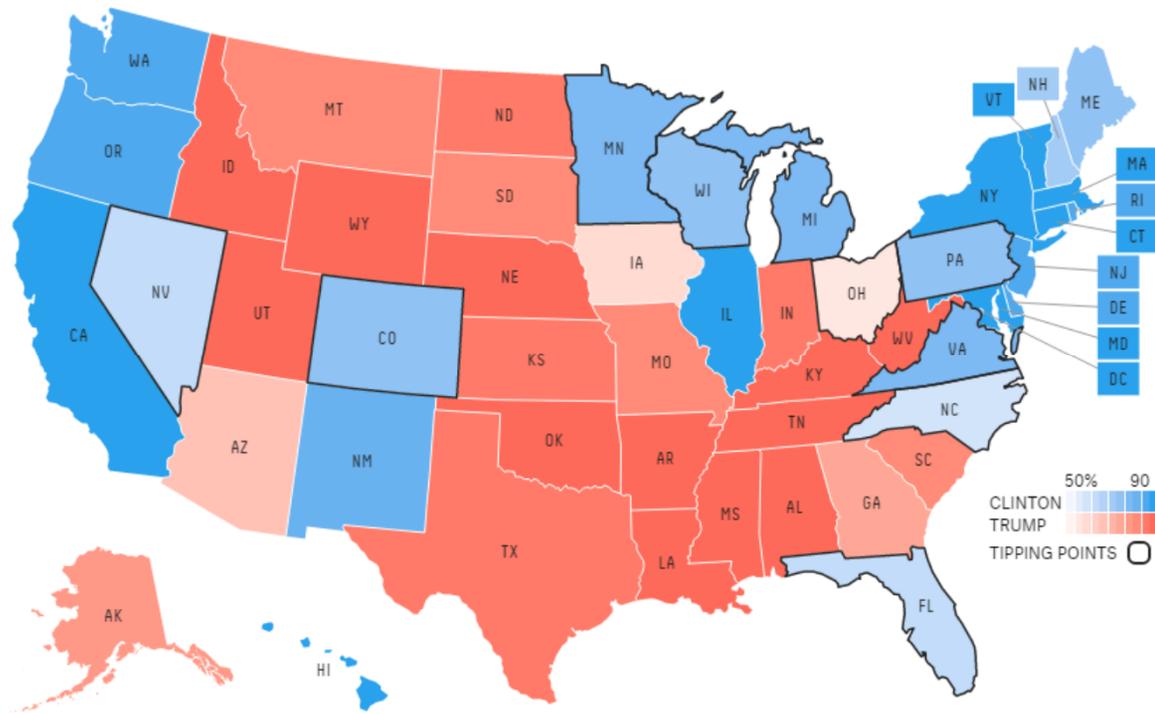
Source: Cook Political Report Electoral College Ratings, September 30, 2016.

Crazy and not-so-crazy scenarios

Here are the chances we'll see these election outcomes.

Electoral College deadlock no candidate gets 270 electoral votes	0.5%
Recount at least one decisive state within 0.5 ppt	6.5%
Clinton wins popular vote	77.8%
Trump wins popular vote	22.2%
Clinton wins popular vote but loses Electoral College	6.5%
Trump wins popular vote but loses Electoral College	1.1%
Johnson wins at least one electoral vote	1.6%
Clinton majority wins at least 50 percent of the vote	24.7%
Trump majority wins at least 50 percent of the vote	3.1%
Clinton landslide double-digit popular vote margin	11.5%
Trump landslide double-digit popular vote margin	0.8%
Map exactly the same as in 2012	0.5%
Clinton wins at least one state Mitt Romney won in 2012	70.6%
Trump wins at least one state President Obama won in 2012	74.9%

Chance of winning



Electoral votes

■ Hillary Clinton	308.8
■ Donald Trump	228.9
■ Gary Johnson	0.2

Popular vote

■ Hillary Clinton	47.7%
■ Donald Trump	43.9%
■ Gary Johnson	7.1%

Not All Presidential Landslides Were Accompanied by Equally Strong Down-Ballot Gains

How Other Presidential Landslides Affected Down-Ballot Voting

President	Down-Ballot Effect
Ronald Reagan 1980	President Reagan won the 1980 election against President Carter with a 10-point 51-41 lead and carried 44 states. This resulted in a 34-seat gain for Republicans in the House and a 12-seat gain in the Senate.
Lyndon B. Johnson 1964	President Johnson beat Barry Goldwater by 22 points, 61-39 percent. He carried 44 states. This resulted in a 37-seat gain for Democrats in the House, but only a single-seat gain in the Senate.
Richard Nixon 1972	President Nixon won his campaign against George McGovern by a 23 point lead at 61-38 percent. Nixon carried a whopping 49 states. However, Republicans only gained 12 House seats and suffered a 2-seat loss in the Senate.
Ronald Reagan 1984	President Reagan beat Walter Mondale by 18 points, 59-41 percent. Reagan also carried 49 states. However, Republicans only experienced a 14-seat gain in the House and a 2-seat loss in the Senate.

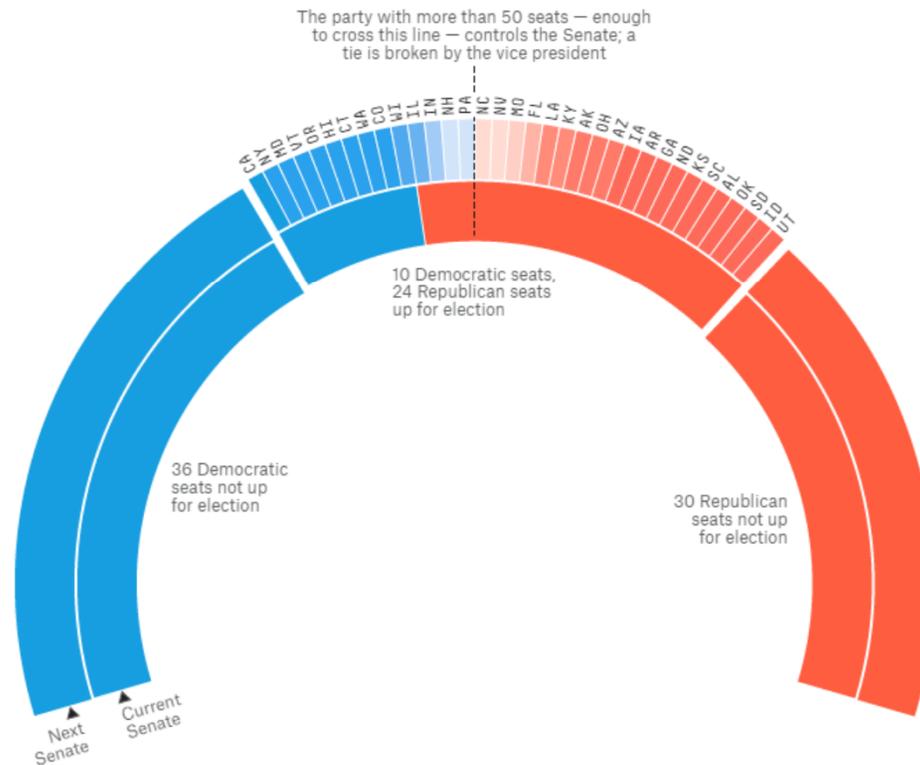
Analysis

- Historically, it appears that a high-margin victory at the top of the ticket does not necessarily indicate high-margin victories throughout.
- However, it is important to note that today people are doing more straight-ticket voting and less ticket-splitting than they were in the past.

Senate Races to Watch

What the next Senate might look like

More than twice as many Republican seats are up for election this year as Democratic seats, giving Democrats more opportunities to build a majority. To win control of the chamber, they'll need to net four additional seats — if they win the presidency. Without the White House, they'll need five.



Indiana

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Of the five battleground states, Indiana is Democrats' best chance at a pick up. Even Bayh won two terms as governor and two terms as senator with relative ease before a five-year hiatus from elected office. But Republicans are putting up a fight with ads mocking Bayh's Senate retirement, questioning his ties to Indiana, and criticizing his work as a consultant for a Washington lobbying firm. The race has tightened in recent weeks, but Bayh still has the advantage as the son of former Senator Birch Bayh and as a moderate known for working well with Republicans.

Democrat: Evan Bayh

Republican: Todd Young

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Democratic

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (54%-44%)

New Hampshire

Republican Held- Possible Party Turnover

The clash of titans -- New Hampshire's popular Democratic governor, Maggie Hassan, versus the state's popular GOP senator, Kelly Ayotte, -- remains a toss-up and is likely to stay that way until Election Day. Hassan currently trails Ayotte in fundraising, but Ayotte has struggled throughout the race to distance herself from Trump. So far she is outperforming Trump in several state polls, but she also faces reelection during a presidential year when down-ballot Democrats are typically favored.

Democrat: Maggie Hassan

Republican: Sen. Kelly Ayotte

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (52%-46%)

North Carolina

Republican Held - Possible Party Turnover

Deborah Ross, the Democratic challenger to Sen. Richard Burr, outraised the vulnerable GOP incumbent in the first and second quarters of 2016, and raked in nearly \$4.3 million from July through September. The large haul signals Democrats' support for Ross, whom they now believe can win this seat. Burr has a negative job approval rating but has a high floor of support thanks to the state's reddish hue/

Democrat: Deborah Ross

Republican: Sen. Richard Burr

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (51%-48%)

Pennsylvania

Republican Held - Possible Party Turnover

Polls in early September had Democrat Katie McGinty and Republican Senator Pat Toomey neck-and-neck, though Toomey has pulled ahead in recent weeks. At least \$57.5 million in outside money has been spent in this election, making it the most expensive race in the country. The question remains as to what effect the presidential race will have on the down-ballot contests. Toomey has tried to distance himself from Donald Trump in a state that tends to go blue in presidential election years.

Democrat: Katie McGinty

Republican: Sen. Pat Toomey

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (52%-47%)

Nevada

Democratic Held - Possible Party Turnover

Nevada is an open seat thanks to Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid's retirement and will be pivotal in the Democrats' quest to take back the Senate.

Republican recruit Rep. Joe Heck is currently ahead in the polls. Heck is a brigadier general and doctor who has held a swing district outside Las Vegas for three terms. He's up against former state Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto, whom Reid recruited but who has struggled to catch fire.

Democrat: Catherine Cortez Masto

Republican: Joe Heck

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (52%-46%)

Missouri

Republican Held - Potential Upset

Missouri is a traditionally Republican state, which many political onlookers believe will stay red this year. But the state has one of the Democratic Party's most interesting recruits, 35-year-old Secretary of State and Afghanistan War veteran Jason Kander. Recent polls show Blunt and Kander in a dead heat, with Blunt underperforming Donald Trump in the state. A Democratic win here would be an upset, but it's possible.

Democrat: Jason Kander

Republican: Sen. Roy Blunt

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (54%-44%)

Florida

Republican Held – Likely to Remain

Democrats hoped to have a shot at unseating Sen. Marco Rubio after his exit from the presidential race, but his lead over rival Patrick Murphy has only grown since he announced his bid for reelection. Murphy is backed by President Barack Obama, but Rubio and outside GOP groups have spent millions of dollars in TV ads hammering Murphy for embellishing his resume and questioning his credibility. It appears the Republican incumbent isn't being dragged down in Florida by Donald Trump and will hold onto his seat.

Democrat: Patrick Murphy

Republican: Sen. Marco Rubio

Rothenberg Political Report: Leans Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (50%-49%)

Ohio

Republican Held – Likely to Remain

Democrats hoped Governor Ted Strickland would give incumbent Senator Rob Portman a run for his money, banking on the fact that Ohio tends to lean a little more Democratic in presidential election years. But Portman quickly built a lead, and Democratic groups have stopped spending money in the state, a clear sign that they are conceding.

Democrat: Ted Strickland

Republican: Sen. Rob Portman

Rothenberg Political Report:
Republican Favored

Cook Political Report: Leans
Republican

Larry Sabato: Safe Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Barack
Obama (50%-48%)

Illinois

Republican Held - Likely Party Turnover

Democrats are likely to pick up a Senate seat in Illinois where Rep. Tammy Duckworth has built a sizable lead. Sen. Mark Kirk started the race as an underdog, struggling to insulate himself from Donald Trump in a blue-leaning state. Like Ohio, Democratic groups have diverted some resources from Illinois, but in this case signals confidence rather than defeat.

Democrat: Tammy Duckworth

Republican: Sen. Mark Kirk

Rothenberg Political Report: Leans Democratic

Cook Political Report: Leans Democratic

Larry Sabato: Likely Democratic

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (57%-41%)

Wisconsin

Republican Held - Likely Party Turnover

Trump's nomination was not good news for Sen. Ron Johnson's hopes to hang on in a blue-leaning state in a presidential year. Democrat Russ Feingold's lead has grown in recent weeks, and both Democrat and Republican Senate campaign groups announced in early October that they would axe hundreds of thousands of dollars in planned advertising in Wisconsin. Johnson still stands to benefit from new spending by outside groups, but Feingold is expected to win the seat.

Democrat: Russ Feingold

Republican: Sen. Ron Johnson

Rothenberg Political Report: Leans Democratic

Cook Political Report: Leans Democratic

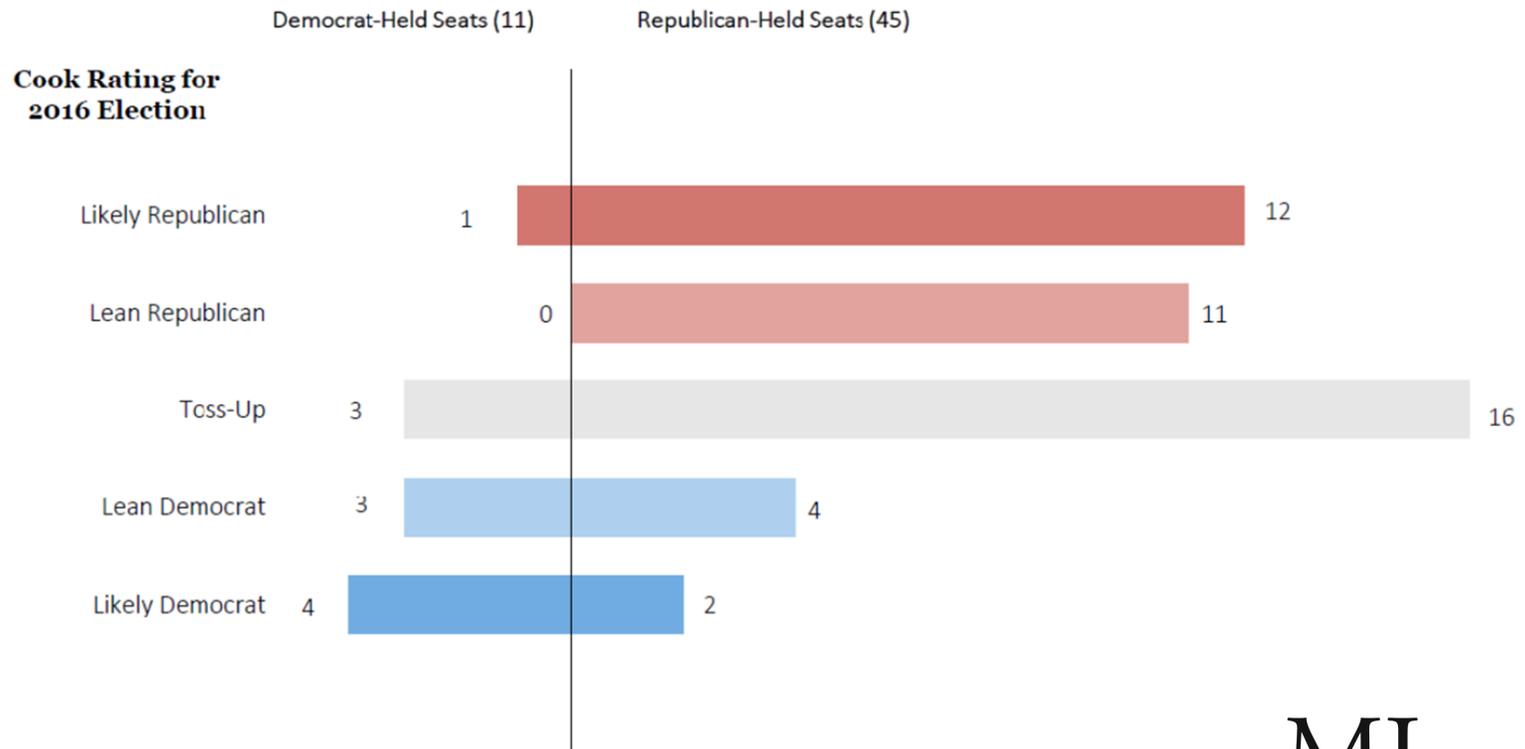
Larry Sabato: Likely Democratic

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (53%-46%)

House Races to Watch

Republicans Have More at Stake in 2016, But Aren't Expected to See Big Losses in the House

House Seats in Play in 2016, by *Cook Political Report* Rating



Florida's 13th District

Republican Held - Likely Party Turnover

Rep. David Jolly is the underdog in this race. He is on the outs with the NRCC after he criticized its expectations for fundraising, and – even worse for him – he represents a district that became far more Democratic after redistricting. However, Jolly is mounting a spirited campaign against Charlie Crist in this Tampa-area district. Crist is running as a run-of-the-mill Democrat, but Jolly is trying to expose the onetime Republican governor as a charlatan. If Jolly wins this seat, then Republicans almost certainly had a good night.

Democrat: Charlie Crist

Republican: Rep. David Jolly

Rothenberg Political Report: Leans Democrat

Cook Political Report: Leans Democrat

Larry Sabato: Leans Democrat

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (54%-43%)

Iowa's 1st District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Rep. Rod Blum (R) won in an upset two years ago to succeed Bruce Braley who vacated the seat to run for the Senate. Political onlookers expected he'd build a moderate voting record to hold this light blue seat, but instead he joined the Freedom Caucus and voted to the right of other vulnerable members of his party. Yet, Blum may win next month against former city councilwoman Monica Vernon. While Trump is a drag for most Republicans, he may help Blum in this working-class district in northeastern Iowa.

Democrat: Monica Vernon

Republican: Rep. Rod Blum

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Democratic

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Democratic

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (56%-42%)

New Hampshire's 1st District

Republican Held - Possible Party Turnover

Embattled Rep. Frank Guinta will have to overcome his campaign finance mishap in his already competitive seat. An FEC investigation found that he accepted an illegal donation from his parents, and he has since agreed to pay back the loan. There have been calls for Guinta to resign, even from high-ranking Republicans like Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R-N.H.). It is the congressman's fourth rematch with former Rep. Carol Shea-Porter. This swing district went to Obama in 2008 and again in 2012, by a one-point margin.

Democrat: Carol Shea-Porter

Republican: Rep. Frank Guinta

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilt Democrat

Cook Political Report: Leans Democratic

Larry Sabato: Leans Democratic

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (50%-48%)

Florida's 18th District

Democratic Held - Possible Party Turnover

Back in March, Rep. Patrick Murphy (D) launched a Senate run, opening up his toss-up seat that narrowly voted for Obama in 2008 and Romney in 2012. Several candidates vowed to self-fund \$1 million to help jumpstart their campaigns including millionaire businessman Randy Perkins, a Democrat. Perkins is pitted against Republican Brian Mast, an army veteran who lost both his legs in Afghanistan.

Democrat: Randy Perkins

Republican: Brian Mast

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney
(51%-47%)

Minnesota's 2nd District

Republican Held - Possible Party Turnover

In September, Rep. John Kline (R) decided to vacate his swing-seat and retire from Congress. It's a critical seat for Democrats if they expect to make gains in the House. The Republican-controlled seat went to Obama in both 2008 and 2012. Controversial clips from Republican Jason Lewis' career as a conservative talk show host are shaping his race against Democrat Angie Craig for a rare open House seat in the tight southern Minnesota swing district.

Democrat: Angie Craig

Republican: Jason Lewis

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Democratic

Cook Political Report: Leans Democratic

Larry Sabato: Leans Democratic

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (49.1%-49%)

Arizona's 1st District

Democratic Held - Possible Party Turnover

Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D) decided to run for Senate in 2016, opening up her competitive seat in an expansive district where Native Americans make up 23 percent of the population. This is a voter bloc that historically votes Democratic. But with an open seat, Republicans see a chance to grab it. Tom O'Halleran, a Republican-turned-Democrat and former State Senator, has secured endorsements from prominent party leaders, including Kirkpatrick herself. He's pitted against Republican Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu.

Democrat: Tom O'Halleran

Republican: Paul Babeu

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Democratic

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Democratic

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (61%-36%)

Texas' 23rd District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

The Texas 23rd is one of the most competitive districts in the country. It has changed hands every cycle since it was last redrawn in 2011. Pete Gallego, a Democrat, is trying to take the seat from Republican Will Hurd, who two years ago defeated Gallego. About 70% of the residents are Hispanic, but while Latinos in Texas seem to favor Democratic candidates, their lack of participation may be part of the reason Republicans continue to control the state.

Democrat: Pete Gallego

Republican: Rep. Will Hurd

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (50%-48%)

New York's 19th District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Zephyr Teachout and John Faso are running to fill the seat vacated by Rep. Chris Gibson (R). Political observers initially viewed Faso, a former state assemblyman, as the favorite because they thought Teachout, a Sanders-supporting carpetbagger from New York City, was a poor fit for this Hudson Valley district. However, Teachout has run a good campaign focusing on local issues and her battles against political corruption. Faso has heavily outspent her, but Teachout should at least keep the race close.

Democrat: Zephyr Teachout

Republican: John Faso

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (52%-45%)

Florida's 26th District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

In 2014, Rep. Carlos Curbelo unseated incumbent Joe Garcia. Now, Garcia is seeking a rematch. He won a contested primary over an opponent backed by the party establishment. Now, Garcia is hoping that he can ride on Clinton's coattails to win this heavily Hispanic district outside Miami. However, the gaffe-prone Democrat faces an able opponent in Curbelo, a Rubio ally who has relentlessly criticized Trump (to whom he even likened to Hugo Chavez).

Democrat: Joe Garcia

Republican: Rep. Carlos Curbelo

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (55%-43%)

Nevada's 3rd District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Jacky Rosen and Danny Tarkanian are running to replace incumbent Joe Heck (R), who is running for the Senate. After struggling to recruit a candidate for this seat, Democrats coalesced around Rosen, a computer programmer and former synagogue president. She lucked out when Republicans' preferred candidate lost to Tarkanian, a gaffe-prone, perennial candidate. The fate of this race will likely depend on the outcome of the presidential race, which should be close in this swingy district south of Las Vegas.

Democrat: Jacky Rosen

Republican: Danny Tarkanian

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (49%-48%)

Pennsylvania's 8th District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Retiring Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick (R) has tapped his brother, Brian Fitzpatrick, to succeed him in this district based in swingy Bucks County outside Philadelphia. Republicans hope their candidate's name recognition will help him defeat Democratic State Representative Steve Santarsiero. An internal poll released by Fitzpatrick gave Clinton a 42-37 lead in the district, and Fitzpatrick has so far declined to fully endorse Trump due to his unpopularity.

Democrat: Steve Santarsiero

Republican: Brian Fitzpatrick

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (49.4%-49.3%)

Maine's 2nd District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Rep. Bruce Poliquin faces Emily Cain, whom he narrowly beat in 2014. Political observers initially pegged Poliquin as the underdog this cycle, as the 2nd is historically Democratic. However, Trump is expected to carry the district, as his populist message is resonating in this working-class district based in northern Maine. Poliquin is leading in most polls, a clear sign that he is benefiting from Trump's coattails. Poliquin, who has not endorsed Trump, has also run a (strong) campaign touting his moderate voting record.

Republican: Rep. Bruce Poliquin

Democrat: Emily Ann Cain

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Leans Republican

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Republican Winner: Barack Obama (52%-44%)

Michigan's 1st District

Republican Held – Possible Party Turnover

Representative Dan Benishek is vacating this seat in northern Michigan to honor his self-imposed term limit. The 1st is historically Democratic – Bart Stupak represented it for 18 years – but it now leans Republican. Democrats hope the district reverts to form to elect its former state party chairman, Lon Johnson. However, Trump may dash their hopes. His expected victory in the 1st may throw this race to Johnson's opponent, retired general, Jack Bergman.

Democrat: Lon Johnson

Republican: Jack Bergman

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Leans Republican

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (53%-45%)

Nebraska's 2nd District

Democratic Held - Possible Party Turnover

Ashford is the most vulnerable Democratic incumbent. Trump will likely carry his district, which is anchored in Omaha. Ashford, a longtime state legislator who was once a Republican, is selling himself as a moderate to appeal to independents and disaffected Republicans. To this end, he's touting his opposition to the Iran Deal and his endorsements from the Chamber. After receiving flak for lackluster fundraising, Ashford has outraised his opponent, Don Bacon, a retired Air Force general, by nearly 10-to-1.

Democrat: Rep. Brad Ashford

Republican: Don Bacon

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Democrat

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Democrat

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (52%-45%)

New York's 3rd District

Democratic Held – Potential Upset

The race to fill Rep. Steve Israel's open seat pits two heavyweights: former Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi and state senator Jack Martins. The NRCC allocated over \$1 million to this race, even though Suozzi has carved out a steady lead in the polls. Anchored in Long Island's North Shore, the 3rd may be a bellwether in the presidential election. Clinton may outperform in this suburban district but so could Trump, as New Yorkers may be taken by his brashness. The outcome of their race will likely affect who succeeds Steve Israel.

Democrat: Tom Suozzi

Republican: Jack Martins

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Democrat

Cook Political Report: Lean Democrat

Larry Sabato: Leans Democrat

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (50%-48%)

Florida's 7th District

Republican Held – Potential Upset

Since winning his first congressional race in 1992, Rep. John Mica has never won reelection with less than 58% of the vote. However, Florida's recent redistricting has increased the number of Democratic voters in the 7th. Mica is also 73, and Democrats have contrasted his age and long tenure in the House with Stephanie Murphy's youth and compelling refugee story. While Mica's seat was considered safe as recently as this summer, recent DCCC polling has Murphy within the margin of error.

Democrat: Stephanie Murphy

Republican: Rep. John Mica

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Tie (49.4%-49.4%)

New York's 1st District

Republican Held – Potential Upset

Rep. Lee Zeldin is a staunch conservative who is one of Trump's most vocal supporters in Congress. Zeldin defeated a Democratic incumbent by ten points in 2014 but is expected to have a closer race this cycle against Town Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst. They are battling to represent the easternmost district in Long Island, which includes tony enclaves such as Southampton and working-class hamlets such as Mastic. The district may be one of the few in the Northeast where Donald Trump outpolls Mitt Romney.

Democrat: Anna Throne-Holst

Republican: Rep. Lee Zeldin

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Leans Republican

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (49.6%-49.1%)

New Jersey's 5th District

Republican Held – Potential Upset

Rep. Scott Garrett hasn't had a competitive election since defeating Marge Roukema in a primary in 2002. However, now he's locked in a tight race against Josh Gottheimer, a former speechwriter to President Bill Clinton. Gottheimer has hammered Garrett for his controversial statements on gay marriage and for his Tea Party sympathies. Garrett is now being outspent, but he should not be counted out, as the district, which straddles across the northwest corner of NJ, leans Republican.

Democrat: Josh Gottheimer

Republican: Rep. Scott Garrett

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (51%-47%)

Minnesota's 8th District

Democratic Held – Potential Upset

Minnesota's 8th District is a historically working-class district with strong populist sentiments. Like other districts in the Rust Belt, the 8th has lost thousands of manufacturing and mining jobs. Trade, and the TPP specifically, are unpopular here, and Trump easily won the district in the state's caucus (even as Rubio prevailed statewide). Nolan's chances may depend on his ability to balance his support from both environmentalists and miners, two core constituencies.

Democrat: Rep. Rick Nolan

Republican: Stewart Mills

Rothenberg Political Report:
Democrat Favored

Cook Political Report: Leans
Democrat

Larry Sabato: Leans Democrat

Last Presidential Winner: Barack
Obama (51%-46%)

California's 25th District

Republican Held – Potential Upset

An increase in registered Democratic voters in California's 25th District has convinced Democratic operatives that the long-time Republican held district has become winnable. Republican Rep. Stephen Knight's failure to respond quickly to a natural gas leak last winter that affected thousands has been repeatedly criticized by Democrat Bryan Caforio, and may shape the race. However, Knight holds a strong fundraising advantage and has received greater support from outside PACs.

Democrat: Bryan Caforio

Republican: Rep. Stephen Knight

Rothenberg Political Report:
Republican Favored

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (49%-47%)

Virginia's 10th District

Republican Held – Potential Upset

Freshman Rep. Barbara Comstock is another Republican candidate who has refused to disclose if she plans to vote for Trump. Loudon county, the richest county in the U.S., is the epicenter of the 10th district. Loudon traditionally votes red, but its high number of college-educated voters and an influx of minorities has occasionally tipped it blue, making it an important bellwether in the race. Comstock, who focuses much of her rhetoric on faith and family, strikes a cord with the district's many rural voters.

Democrat: LuAnn Bennett

Republican: Rep. Barbara Comstock

Rothenberg Political Report: Leans Republican

Cook Political Report: Leans Republican

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Mitt Romney (50%-49%)

Colorado's 6th District

Republican Held - Potential Upset

Rep. Mike Coffman represents a toss-up district in a state that was the tipping point in both the 2008 and 2012 presidential election. Americans for Prosperity, a conservative group backed by the Koch brothers, launched a campaign this summer to aid Coffman's reelection bid, but Morgan Carroll, a liberal state senator from the area whom Democrats insist is a better candidate than those who came before her, has also raised more than \$1 million.

Democrat: Morgan Carroll

Republican: Rep. Mike Coffman

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (51%-46%)

Illinois' 10th District

Republican Held - Potential Upset

Rep. Bob Dold is considered a more moderate Republican, voting against repealing ObamaCare and supporting a resolution that calls for action on climate change. He represents a toss-up district that voted for Obama in 2008 and 2012 by wide margins and has gone back-and-forth in tight elections between Dold and former Rep. Brad Schneider in 2012 and 2014.

Democrat: Brad Schneider

Republican: Bob Dold

Rothenberg Political Report: Tossup

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (57%-41%)

Iowa's 3rd District

Republican Held - Potential Upset

Democrats and Republicans disagree over the competitiveness of this race. Democrats think the battle for this Des Moines-area district is a tossup. However, Republicans are confident Rep. David Young, a former Chief of Staff to Senator Grassley, will win a second term. Young has laid low in Congress, but he has nabbed headlines on his work on agriculture and VA issues that could benefit him. The open question is whether Trump, who has polled well in Iowa, can win this part-rural, part-suburban seat.

Republican: Rep. David Young

Democrat: Jim Mowrer

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilt Republican

Cook Political Report: Tossup

Larry Sabato: Leans Republican

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (51%-47%)

New York's 24th District

Republican Held - Potential Upset

In 2014, Rep. John Katko stunned the political class when he beat an incumbent by nearly 20 points in this Syracuse-based district. Since then, Katko has treaded carefully, opposing a repeal of the ACA and criticizing Donald Trump. His opponent, Colleen Deacon, was a staffer to Senator Gillibrand who was backed by the party establishment in her primary. Deacon's hoping to capitalize on the district's partisan bent, but Katko may get a boost from Trump, who's polling well in distressed areas like central NY.

Democrat: Colleen Deacon

Republican: Rep. John Katko

Rothenberg Political Report: Tilts Republican

Cook Political Report: Leans Republican

Larry Sabato: Tossup

Last Presidential Winner: Barack Obama (57%-41%)