



MID-TERM ELECTIONS, 2010



SELECTED WEBSITES AND ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

Midterm elections are elections in the United States in which members of Congress are elected, but not the President.

On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every even-numbered year, on **November 2, 2010**, elections are held for all 435 members of the United States House of Representatives and 37 of the 100 members of the United States Senate.

Presidential elections occur only every four years. Those elections for Congress that do not coincide with Presidential races are called midterm elections, because they occur about midway through a Presidential term.

After the **2008 elections** and their subsequent events, the Senate is composed of 57 **Democrats**, 41 **Republicans**, and two **Independents** who caucus with the Democrats. Of the remaining seats currently up for election in 2010, 19 are held by Democrats (seven of whom are retiring) and 18 are held by Republicans (seven of whom are retiring).

34 of the **50 U.S. states** elect their governors to four-year terms during midterm elections, while **Vermont** and **New Hampshire** elect governors to two-year terms in midterm and presidential elections. Thus, 36 governors are elected during midterm elections. In 2010 Utah will hold a special gubernatorial election, but that state usually holds them in the same year as presidential elections.

Midterm elections for the House, Senate, and gubernatorial elections (governorships) are scheduled for **November 2, 2010**. See also: Democrats Abroad / Republicans Abroad

<u>The Constitution</u>	<u>Federal Government</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>
<u>Cabinet</u>	<u>Congress</u>	<u>Senate</u>	<u>Congressional Districts</u>
<u>President of the Senate</u> / <u>President pro tempore</u>		<u>Majority Leader</u> / <u>Minority Leader</u>	
<u>House of Representatives</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>U.S. state: Federal States of the U.S.</u>	

Governors: Campaign 2010: Governors races - Of the 50 **Governors** of US states, 36 are up for election. Most terms are for 4 years, some will be for two years, as mandated by each state's constitution In 2010 UT will hold a special gubernatorial election.

United States House of Representatives: Campaign 2010: House Races - All terms 2 years
United States Senate: Campaign 2010: Senate Races - All terms are for six years.

The Tea Party – Tea Party Supporters: Who They are and What They Believe / Tea Party Set to Win Enough Races for Wide Influence *New York Times* online, October 14, 2010 / **The Faces of the Tea Party Movement**



News/Blogs:

[Election news resources](#)

[The Cook Political Report – National Overview](#)

[Political Wire - Facebook](#)

[Decision 2010: MSNBC.com](#)

[Washington Post – Mid-Term Elections](#)

[BBC NEWS – Q&A: U.S. Mid-Term Elections 2010](#)

[The Green Papers: U.S. Midterm Elections 2010](#)

[RealClearPolitics / Polls](#)

[ABC News](#) - breaking political news / [CBS](#) politics news

[Congressional Primaries and Filing Deadlines](#)

[CNN Politics – Elections 2010: What’s at Stake; Why Mid-Terms Matter](#)

[CNN America Votes 2008 / Washington Post elections news](#)

[Connect to Washington Post’s Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, etc.](#) / [The Plum Line](#)

[Political Blog Network: 11 States and Growing](#) / [Right Wing Blog Watch Roundup](#)

[Best Blogs – Politics & Elections / The Washington Note: Latest Blog Posts](#)

[NewsWatch: White House. Blogging the President with Julie Mason](#) at *Chron.com*

Polling

[Playing Defense in a Recession: Republicans in 1982 vs. Democrats today](#) - Prior to Barack Obama and the Democrats, Ronald Reagan and the Republicans faced a similar challenge in the midterm election of 1982... but a Democratic landslide was averted that could have put a stop to the "Reagan Revolution" before it was barely underway. How did it happen? - Crystal Ball

[All Politics Is National: Using the Generic Ballot to Forecast the 2010 State Legislative Elections](#) - Eighty-eight of the nation’s 99 state legislative chambers are up for election this year. And while these state legislative elections are less glamorous and attract far less media attention than elections for federal offices, their results will have important consequences for the direction of public policy in the states. - Crystal Ball

[Election 2010: Senate Balance Of Power](#): October 20 - Senate Balance of Power: Current projections suggest that the Democrats would hold 48 seats after Election Day while the Republicans would hold 47. Dems 48 GOP 46 Toss-Ups 6.

[Election 2010: Gubernatorial Scorecard](#): October 20 - Governor Scorecard: GOP 28 Dems 13 Toss-Ups 9. Voters will elect governors in 37 states this November. Nineteen of those governorships are now held by Democrats, while Republicans sit in the governor’s chair in 18 of the states.

[More States “Competitive” in Terms of Party Identification](#) Gallup, July 26, 2010.

[Legislature Lowdown: State Legislatures in Play as Redistricting Looms](#) by Tim Storey. *Sabato’s Crystal Ball*, July 22, 2010.

[Voters Rate Political Parties’ Ideologies](#) *Pew Res. Center for People & the Press*, July 16’10.

[Poll Finds Americans in an Anti-Incumbent Mood](#) *Washington Post*, April 28, 2010.

[Latest Election Polls](#) – *RealClearPolitics*



Articles/Reports:

The Midterm Election Campaign: 20 Days Left – Hot House and Senate Races. Briefing by Alexander Burns, POLITICO reporter and political analyst on major television and radio shows; at the Foreign Press Center, *U.S. Dept of State*, October 13, 2010.

A Retrospective on House Midterm Elections Briefing by Dr Fred Beuttler, Deputy House Historian, U.S. House of Representatives; at the *Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State*, October 12, 2010.

For Democrats, Even “Safe” Seats are Shaky *New York Times* online, October 11, 2010.

GOP Poised to Make Gains in Races for Governor *New York Times* online, October 10, 2010.

Campaign Cash: The Independent Fundraising Gold Rush since ‘Citizens United’ Ruling by Peter H. Stone. *Center for Public Integrity*, October 4, 2010.

Campaign Takedown Troubles: How Meritless Copyright Claims Threaten Online Political Speech *Center for Democracy & Technology*, September 2010. 19p.

Earmarks Could Help Candidates in Midterm; Palin and Tea Party Connections Could Hurt *Pew Research Center for the People & the Press*. August 2, 2010.

Candidates with a record of bringing government projects and money to their districts may have an edge.

Report to Congress on EAC’s Efforts to Establish Guideleines for Remote Electronic Absentee Voting Systems *U.S. Election Assistance Commission*. April 26, 2010. *Note:* 234p.

The EAC is developing guidelines for voting systems that are remote electronic absentee systems. These systems will support the voting needs of overseas citizens and uniformed service members.

Improving State Voter Registration Databases: Final Report *National Research Council*. 2010.

The report outlines several actions that are needed to help make voter registration databases capable of sharing information within state agencies and across state lines.

Battle for the House Current projections for swing seats for the November 2010 U.S. House of Representatives election; by Real Clear Politics.

American Culture and the Muslim World by Peter Skerry. *Brookings*, June, 2010.

As the 2010 congressional elections approach and the midpoint of Obama’s four-year term looms, it is a good time to reassess.

Hope and Experience: Election Reform through the Lens of the AEI-Brookings Election Reform Project by John Fortier, Thomas Mann, & Norman Ornstein, *AEI-Brookings Election Reform Project*, June 29, 2010.

The state of election administration in the U. S. almost a decade after the 2000 presidential election, and suggestions as to how additional changes in technology, election law and administrative practices might further strengthen the American election process.

On June 17, **AEI's Election Watch** team convened for the first session of its fifteen season. **Michael Barone, Karlyn Bowman, John C. Fortier, Henry Olsen, and Norman J. Ornstein** looked ahead to future contests, sorted through the election results thus far, and perused all the polls for what they reveal about the mood. **[Watch video](#) | [Download audio](#) | [Read summary](#)**



Preparing for the Worst: Democrats' Fears of 2010 Midterm Elections by Charles E. Cook, Jr., April 2010.

As Washington and the nation's political establishment sifts through the results of the astonishing Republican victory in the Massachusetts Senate race to fill the seat held by the late Edward Kennedy, Republicans hope and Democrats fear that 2010 will be another landslide midterm election along the lines of the Democratic debacle in 1994 and the Republican disaster of 2006. A Democratic loss of the U.S. House is very possible, and while Democrats likely will not lose their majority in the Senate, they could suffer substantial losses.

Obama Launches DNC "Vote 2010" Midterm Election Effort - Political April 26, 2010.

As President Obama focuses on the DNC's midterm election strategy, he is hoping to bring back some of that 2008 electoral magic. But it won't be easy given the current mood and outlook of the electorate, says David Charlian.

Washington Hold 'Em: The New Era in U.S. Politics by Charles E. Cook, Jr. - October 2009.

With few exceptions, midterm elections are not contests between the two major political parties or even ideology, but are referenda on the president and the president's party. Two years into a new presidency, the public is afforded the opportunity to express their approval or disapproval of their new leader and the direction charted by the new president. Their vote can signal either ratification or call for a midcourse correction. But, to every rule there are a few exceptions, says Cook.

Other Resources:

Mid-Term Elections 2010 – some online resources compiled by the *Foreign Press Center, U.S. Dept of State*

The Election Reform Project / **The 2010 Election**

Library of Congress Resources - bibliography, some hyperlinks / **Project Vote Smart**

Printable Maps: Congressional Districts, 111th Congress (2009-2011)

Find a Boundary Map for any Congressional district, plus data profile of the current Member

State Election Laws and Administration / **State Election Directors** / **State Election Officials**

Federal Voting Assistance Program / **U.S. Elections Procedures** / **Survey of Local Election Officials**

Election Administration and Voting Survey FAQ

USG Documents - 2010 Publications

- **Ben's guide to Government: the election process**
- **2010 Congressional pre-election reporting dates**
- **2010 Congressional Reporting Dates**
- **Voting Rights Act Reauthorization** / **Help America Vote Act**
- **Federal Election Commission - Timely Tips**
- **Laws, Rules, & Standards of Conduct Governing Campaign Activity**
- **Party Financial Activity Summarized**
- **Senate Election Law Guidebook 2008** / **Senators Whose Term Expires in 2011**
- **An International Perspective: Voting Rights are Human Rights**

American Reference Center, U.S. Embassy, P.O. Box 1190, Wellington

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The U.S. Department of State assumes no responsibility for the content and availability of the resources listed above. All links were active at **October 21, 2010**.

No recommendation is made in respect of non-U.S. Government web sites listed.

