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The U.S. Midterm Elections

Every two years, U.S. citizens elect members of the U.S. House of Representatives to two-year terms and about one-third of their U.S. senators, who serve six-year terms. Voters also will select a number of state and local elections where governors, state representatives, and mayors are elected.

The United States Senate

- The US Senate is composed of 100 senators—two from each of the 50 states.
- Senators serve for 6 years before facing reelection.
- About 1/3 of all senators are elected every two years.
- 51 senators are needed to hold a “senate majority.” The party that holds a senate majority chooses the Senate Majority Leader and gets to decide the Senate’s agenda.
- The current Senate line-up is 53 Democrats, 45 Republicans, and 2 independents that caucus with Democrats.

2014 US Senate Races

- There are 36 Senate races on the ballot in 2014.
- To win the majority, Republicans would have to score a net gain of six seats. Democrats are defending 21 of these seats.

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The United States House of Representatives

- The US House of Representatives consists of 435 representatives elected by district. Districts are divided between the states based on population. Thus, a densely-populated state like California has 53 representatives, while a sparsely-populated state like Montana has only 1 representative.
- Every 10 years, when the national census is taken, the districts are redistributed among states and redrawn to reflect changes in population.
- All representatives are elected for 2-years terms.
- The party that holds the House majority (at least 218 representatives) chooses the Speaker of the House. Like the Senate Majority Leader, the Speaker of the House directs the House agenda.

2014 United States House of Representatives Races

- The Current House breakdown is 233 Republicans, 199 Democrats, and 3 vacancies.
- Democrats need a net gain of 17 seats to reach a majority in 2014.

Governors

- There are 36 gubernatorial elections this year.
- Current Governors: 21 Democrats and 29 Republicans
- Of the 36 races, 22 are held by Republicans and 14 by Democrats.

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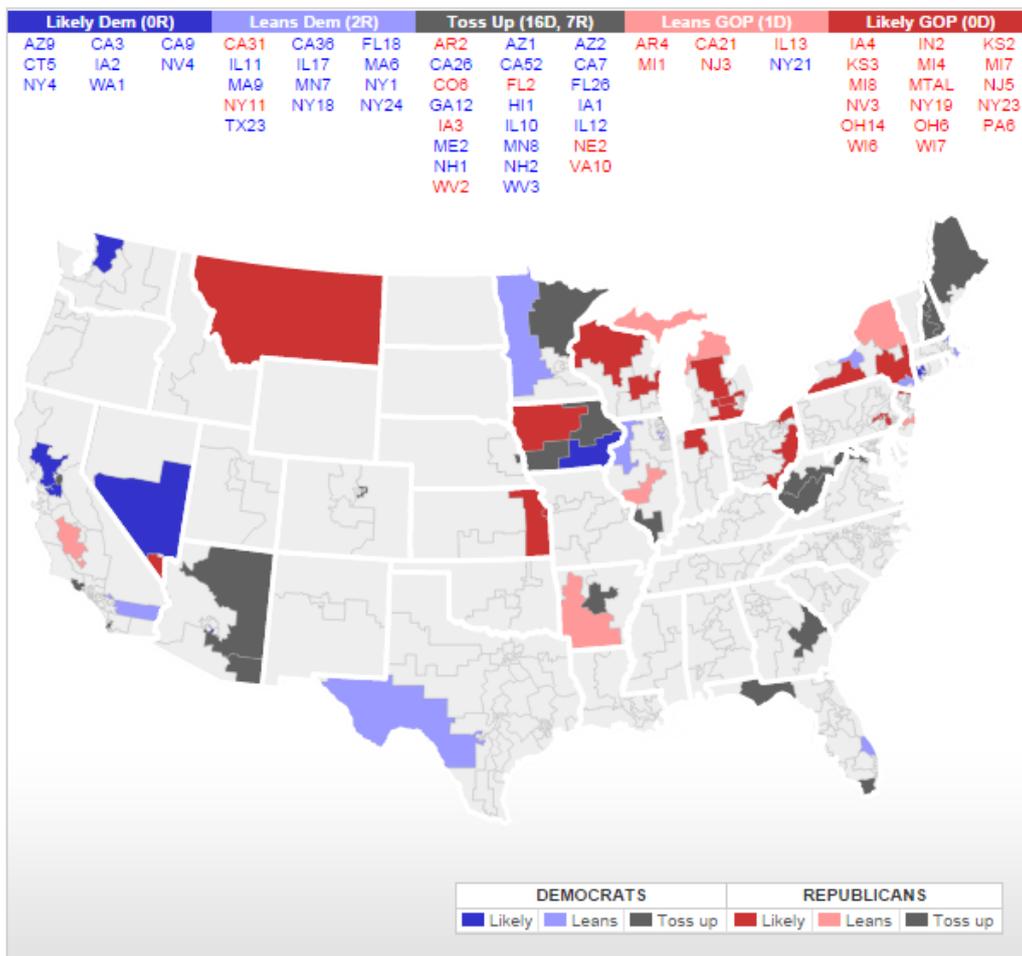
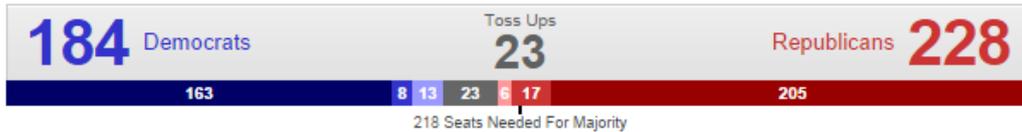
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BATTLE FOR THE HOUSE

Current House: 233 Republicans | 199 Democrats | 3 Vacancies

SENATE MAP · SENATE NO TOSS UPS · HOUSE MAP · GOVERNORS MAP · GOVERNORS NO TOSS UPS



Source: <http://www.realclearpolitics.com> (As of October 28, 2014)

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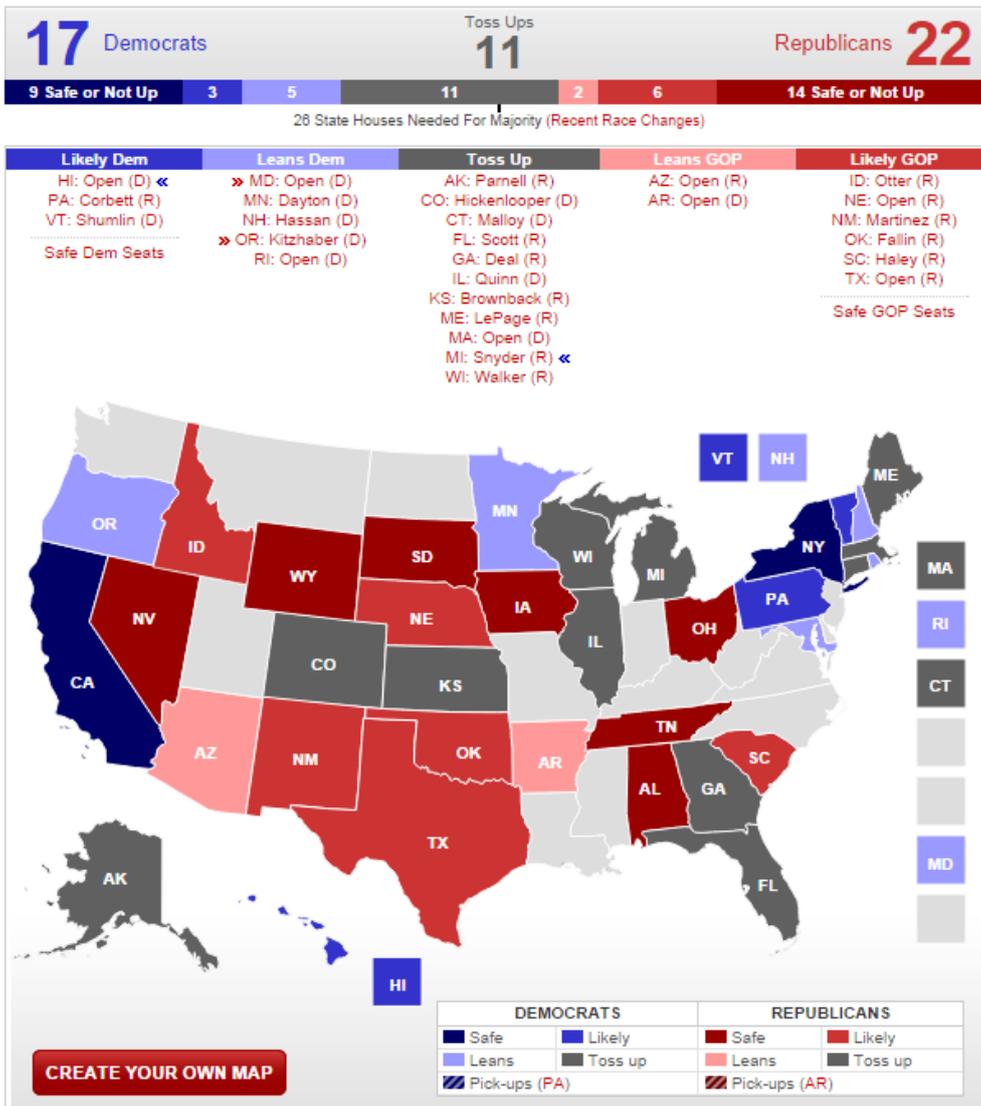
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2014 GOVERNOR RACES

Current Governors: 21 Democrats | 29 Republicans

SENATE MAP · SENATE NO TOSS UPS · HOUSE MAP · GOVERNORS MAP · GOVERNORS NO TOSS UPS



Source: <http://www.realclearpolitics.com> (As of October 28, 2014)

Sources:

- [U.S. Elections in Brief. Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. 2012.](#)
- [RealClearPolitics. Com](#)
- [The Cook Political Report](#)

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