LIVE Updated Nov. 4, 2026, 3:48 p.m. ET

Midterm Elections Live Updates: Democrats Vow to Use Majority to Check Trump

Representative Hakeem Jeffries, expected to be the next House speaker, said his party would focus on affordability after a remarkable power shift in Congress. President Trump, speaking at the White House, focused on his renovation projects, not the midterms.

Senate results ›

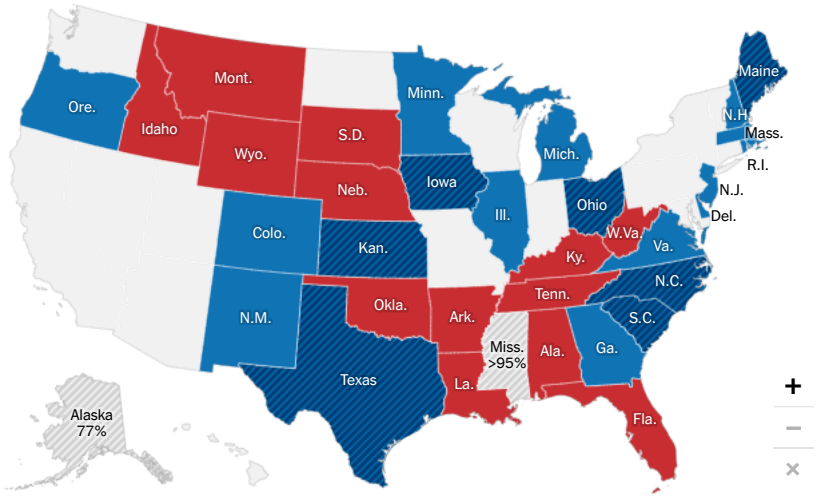
54		**44**
Dem.	50	Rep.

House results ›

237		**139**
Dem.	218	Rep.

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Updated Nov. 4, 2026, 3:26 p.m. ET
Catie Edmondson

Here's the latest.

Democrats on Wednesday afternoon were on track to secure at least a 50-seat majority in the House and had captured solid control of the Senate after notching seismic victories across the country that left Republicans searching for a path forward in a drastically reordered Washington.

Triumphant as the scale of their wins came into sharper focus, Democrats vowed to take quick action to challenge President Trump and to aggressively investigate him and his administration. "The days of the House of Representatives functioning like a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Trump administration are over," promised Representative Hakeem Jeffries, Democrat of New York and the minority leader.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 3:48 p.m. ET
Patricia Mazzei Reporting from South Carolina

The race for Florida's 27th Congressional District, in Miami-Dade County, remains too close to call, according to The Associated Press. Representative María Elvira Salazar, a Republican, leads Eliott Rodriguez, her Democratic challenger, by 0.46 percentage points, which, if it holds, could meet Florida's threshold for an automatic machine recount, which is half a percentage point.

On Wednesday, the elections supervisor in the county said her office was still dealing with 202 mail ballots in the race with signature discrepancies, which voters have until Thursday afternoon to cure. The elections office is also reviewing provisional ballots, her office said. The local canvassing board will handle those matters in a meeting on Friday. If needed, the Florida secretary of state could order a recount by Saturday.



Nov. 4, 2026, 3:33 p.m. ET
Soumya Karlamangla Reporting from California

Representative Jimmy Gomez, a California Democrat who has been in Congress for almost a decade and was accused of sexual misconduct this summer, has lost his House seat representing part of Los Angeles, according to The Associated Press. He was defeated by Angela Gonzales-Torres, an anti-establishment candidate from his own party endorsed by the Democratic Socialists of America.

California 34th Congressional District Election Results ›

Analysis From Our Reporters

By Peter Baker, Alexandra Ostasiewicz, Nikolay Nikolov, Thomas Vollkommer, Rafaela Balster, James Surdam, Edward Vega and Rachel Buigas-Lopez

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Nov. 4, 2026, 3:21 p.m. ET
Erica L. Green White House reporter

A day after a stinging midterm defeat, Trump focuses on his ballroom.

President Trump visited the construction site of the White House ballroom on Wednesday. It was his first public appearance since his party's defeat in the midterm elections on Tuesday. Doug Mills/The New York Times

As his party reeled from a resounding defeat in the midterm elections, President Trump made an impromptu appearance on Wednesday at the White House, where he defended two of what he considers to be legacy-defining projects: his ballroom and the war in Iran.

Mr. Trump's appearance at the ballroom's construction site — his first comments to reporters since the American electorate delivered a sharp rebuke of his party and policies — was a ceremony to celebrate the raising of the final steel beam atop the structure. He delivered extensive remarks detailing the progress of the project before adding his signature to the beam. He never mentioned the results of the midterms.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 3:11 p.m. ET
David W. Chen

The Democratic wave swept statehouses across the country.

Statehouses that once seemed out of reach, like the Wisconsin Capitol in Madison, above, were swept up in Tuesday's Democratic wave. Jamie Kelter Davis for The New York Times

The Democratic surge on Tuesday netted at least 330 state legislative seats, from New Hampshire to Arizona, giving the Democrats full control of 22 state governments and making them the majority in a dozen statehouse chambers where they had been the minority party.

And while Washington remains divided, Democrats will have the power to make policy on health care, voting and taxation in state capitals that for years have been far beyond their control, such as Texas, Georgia and North Carolina.

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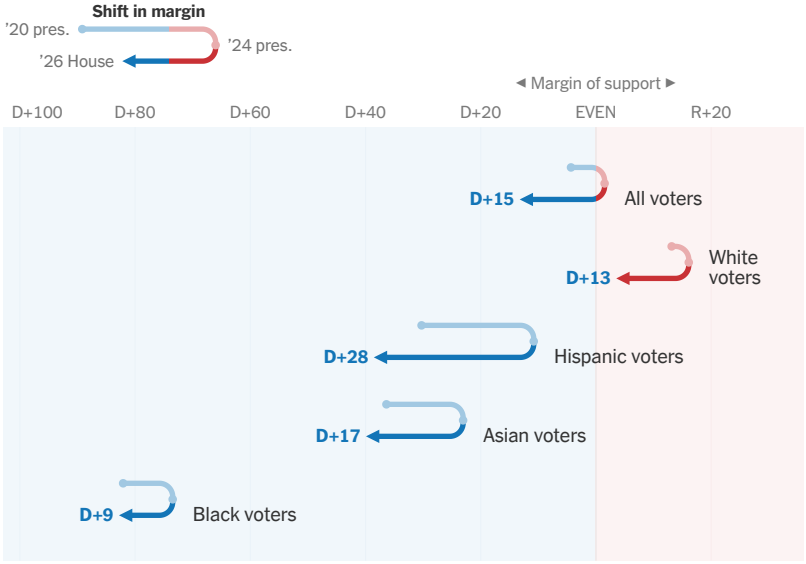
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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:54 p.m. ET
Allison McCann

Voters across every major demographic group — race, age, gender and education — made a drastic swing left in Tuesday's election, reversing the broad shift in support that Republicans saw in 2024.

The reversal was most notable among young voters and voters of color, particularly Hispanic voters, who swung toward the Democratic Party by nearly 30 percentage points. Democrats also made sizable gains among groups typically seen as stalwarts of the Republican base — white voters without a college degree and older voters — both of which swung left.



Source: Preliminary data on U.S. House vote shifts from Times Voter Trends. The New York Times



Nov. 4, 2026, 2:53 p.m. ET
Max Bearak

Why doesn't Mississippi allow election recounts?

An unusual situation is brewing in Mississippi, the only state in the country with no legal provision that allows for a recount of votes in a statewide election.

The Democratic candidate for Senate, Scott Colom, leads the Republican incumbent, Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, by 65 votes as of Wednesday afternoon — an incredibly tight race that would trigger an automatic recount in dozens of other states.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:47 p.m. ET
Michael Gold Congressional reporter

Representative Richard Hudson, the North Carolina Republican who is the chairman of House Republicans' campaign arm, conceded his election in a statement on Wednesday. Though The Associated Press has not called his race, Hudson currently trails by about 2 percentage points.

Hudson, who oversaw his party's efforts to help House Republicans keep their majority, said in a statement that "the voters of North Carolina's 9th District made their choice, and I respect it." His loss reflected the extent of Republicans' troubles on Election Day: Trump carried his district by about 16 points in the 2024 presidential election.

Kenny Holston/The New York Times

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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:35 p.m. ET
David Gelles

Trump's energy policies helped trigger the rout.

President Trump made affordable and abundant oil a major part of his administration's message the past few years. The president at the White House ballroom on Wednesday. Doug Mills/The New York Times

President Trump spent much of the past two years promising to bring down energy prices.

Instead, his war with Iran, as well as other policies, drove up the cost of gasoline, diesel and electricity. At the same time his administration worked to thwart efforts to fight climate change, blocking renewable energy investments that could have reduced the country's reliance on fossil fuels or brought down costs.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:20 p.m. ET
Evan Reynolds and Jillian Vordick

Democrats will hold at least 54 seats in the Senate in the next Congress, the party's largest majority since at least 2012, and at least 237 seats in the House, with the potential for that number to grow significantly once more races are called. If Democrats end up with more than 257 seats, it would be the largest majority for either party in that chamber since 1992.

Jillian Vordick/The New York Times



Nov. 4, 2026, 2:12 p.m. ET
Caroline Soler Election data reporter

Black voters remained the backbone of the Democratic coalition across the South in this year's election. House Democratic candidates won Black voters by a margin of roughly 80 percentage points nationwide, according to Times Voter Trends. That was an increase from 2024, when the Democrats' presidential candidate, Kamala Harris, won Black voters by about 70 points.

The Democrats expanded their overwhelming margins among Black voters in several Southern states, among them Mississippi, South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, Louisiana and Alabama.

But some of the more striking movement came among white voters, who shifted toward Democrats by 12 points in Mississippi, 15 points in Alabama and 19 points in North Carolina.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:09 p.m. ET
Reid J. Epstein

How Trump's audacious Republican redistricting push backfired.

An Ohio map designed to shift two seats to Republicans may have handed two more to Democrats. Maddie McGarvey for The New York Times

Starting last summer, President Trump pushed Republicans to engage in an extraordinary mid-decade redistricting project to overhaul congressional maps in favor of the G.O.P. The goal was to protect a House majority during his final two years in office.

It did not work.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:07 p.m. ET
Bayliss Wagner Reporting from Iowa

William Lawrence, a Democrat and climate activist, scored a marquee victory for the ascendant progressive movement, ousting Representative Tom Barrett, a first-term Republican, to flip a battleground seat in central Michigan, according to The Associated Press. Lawrence campaigned on expanding access to government-funded health care and opposing data centers, issues that progressives have argued could energize working-class voters, not just in Democratic primaries but also in general elections.

Kristen Norman/Associated Press



Nov. 4, 2026, 2:06 p.m. ET
Sally Goldenberg Reporting from New York City

Laura Gillen, a one-term Democratic incumbent, fended off a challenge from the Republican Jeanine Driscoll, the receiver of taxes for the town of Hempstead, according to The Associated Press. Gillen will continue to represent New York's Fourth Congressional District, which includes portions of Nassau County on Long Island.

Formerly the town supervisor in Hempstead, Gillen narrowly defeated a Republican incumbent, Anthony D'Esposito, to flip the seat in 2024.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 2:06 p.m. ET
Sally Goldenberg Reporting from New York City

Tom Suozzi, a Democratic incumbent, won re-election in New York's Third Congressional District, defeating the Republican Mike LiPetri, according to The Associated Press. In 2024, Suozzi narrowly won a tough battle for the Long Island district, which includes a small portion of Queens.

Suozzi was first elected to the district in 2016, vacated his seat to run for governor in 2022 and reclaimed it two years ago. Both candidates emphasized bipartisanship on the campaign trail this year.

Haiyun Jiang/The New York Times



Nov. 4, 2026, 2:06 p.m. ET
Annie Karni Congressional reporter

Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, the two-term Democrat from a conservative-leaning rural district in Washington State, won her re-election bid, according to The Associated Press. She holds on to one of the most competitive seats in the country, defeating a Republican who had tried to distance himself from President Trump in a bid to appeal to independent voters.

Michigan 7th District

William Lawrence, a Democrat, wins this Lansing district, flipping a Republican-held seat.

1 hour ago The Associated Press

New York 3rd District

Tom Suozzi wins

1 hour ago The Associated Press

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Nov. 4, 2026, 1:42 p.m. ET
Michael Gold Congressional reporter

Representative Steve Scalise of Louisiana, the No. 2 House Republican, announced that he would run to be the minority leader in the next Congress. Scalise, who has been in House Republican leadership since 2014, emphasized his experience in a letter to his colleagues. He called for "substantive changes to the way our conference operates," arguing that the G.O.P. needed to be more unified in its approach.

Scalise's announcement will pit him once again against Representative Jim Jordan, the firebrand, hard-line conservative from Ohio. Both men ran for speaker in 2023, but neither of them was able to secure the necessary support to win.

Alex Kent/The New York Times



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:39 p.m. ET
Emily Cochrane Reporting from Tennessee

Senator Marsha Blackburn, the governor-elect of Tennessee, declined to say on Wednesday whom she will name to fill her vacant seat in the Senate, calling it a conversation for another day. Rumors have circulated in recent days about who might get the nod. One possibility is Pete Hegseth, the current Pentagon chief who is a Tennessee resident.

George Walker IV/Associated Press



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:36 p.m. ET
Chris Cameron Reporting from Washington

Trump ended his public appearance at the White House after about half an hour, during which he focused on renovation projects and appeared to have little interest in discussing the midterms. He did not mention the Republican defeat last night in his remarks until asked by reporters afterward, then defended his campaign strategy. He supported Vice President JD Vance's social media post that said the Iran War was responsible for Republicans' electoral loss, but the president also repeatedly suggested he had no regrets on the war, and would do it all again.

"As far as that war is concerned, I would have done nothing different," he said.



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:27 p.m. ET
Rick Rojas Reporting from Atlanta

Georgia's governor nixes rushed redistricting before the G.O.P. loses power.

Keisha Lance Bottoms at a victory party in Atlanta on Tuesday. Nicole Craine for The New York Times

Gov. Brian Kemp of Georgia shut down speculation on Wednesday that he would call a special legislative session to rush through new congressional maps favorable to Republicans or weaken the powers of his office before his Democratic successor, Keisha Lance Bottoms, could assume it.

"The voters of our state have spoken," Mr. Kemp, a two-term Republican incumbent leaving office because of term limits, said in a statement on Wednesday morning. "As long as I'm governor, we will always respect the results of secure, accessible, and fair elections, and also abide by the laws and constitution of our state."

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Nov. 4, 2026, 1:24 p.m. ET
Erica L. Green White House reporter

Trump said that he was not considering replacing Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. "I think he's doing a very good job," he said.



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:22 p.m. ET
Shawn McCreesh White House reporter

After several minutes of watching a beam being lifted to the ceiling, Trump went back to taking questions. He was asked if he knew Vice President JD Vance was going to make the lengthy, critical post he made this morning. “I know how he feels about it, I think it was fine,” he said, calling the post “good.” He said he had spoken to Vance but did not elaborate much.

Trump said he couldn’t predict who would run for president in 2028. “Maybe he won’t run, I don’t know who’s going to run,” he said.

Doug Mills/The New York Times

California 22nd District

Randy Villegas, a Democrat, wins this Central Valley district.

2 hours ago The Associated Press



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:16 p.m. ET
Shawn McCreesh White House reporter

Trump just stopped taking questions abruptly. “Watch the beam go up,” he said as he walked away to another point inside the construction site. He then pointed at the ceiling, and said to no one in particular, “now envision chandeliers.”

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Nov. 4, 2026, 1:15 p.m. ET
Erica L. Green White House reporter

Trump defended his decision to give a speech at the Lincoln Memorial reflecting pool on the eve of the election, which many saw as an out-of-touch closing argument to voters. He said it wasn’t meant to be an election speech, but a “ribbon-cutting” of sorts.

Anna Rose Layden for The New York Times



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:14 p.m. ET
Chris Cameron Reporting from Washington

Trump spoke ambiguously of his future relationship with the Democrat-controlled Congress that was just elected. “I’ll get along probably with the Democrats unless they want to be destructive,” he said, noting he had “the power to veto.” Trump said much the same thing last night, saying in an interview with The Times that he was looking forward to working with Democrats, but also posting an image with the word “VETO” shortly after.



Nov. 4, 2026, 1:12 p.m. ET
Shawn McCreesh White House reporter

Trump, asked if he had any regrets about the way he closed out the campaign, said he did not. “You couldn’t transfer that love” from his rallies onto candidates, he said.

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Nov. 4, 2026, 12:00 p.m. ET
Tyler Pager Tyler Pager covers the White House. He reported from Washington.

Vance, in a break with Trump, blames the Iran war for Republicans' losses.

"The reason we lost is the war," Vice President JD Vance wrote in a social media post, adding, "If you'd like to argue it was worth it, that losing the Senate for the next 6 years was worth it, then do so." Kenny Holston/The New York Times

Vice President JD Vance on Wednesday placed the blame for Republicans' wipeout in the midterm elections squarely on the war with Iran, in a remarkable break from President Trump's defense of his decision to attack.

In a more than 600-word post on social media, Mr. Vance also offered a broader critique of the Trump administration's agenda and messaging in what appeared to be an effort to separate himself from the president.

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