

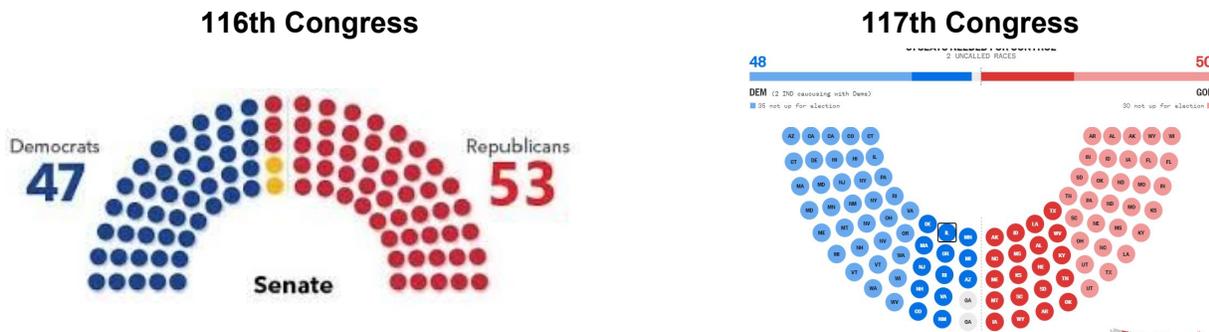
YWCA USA INITIAL ANALYSIS OF 2020 ELECTION RESULTS

November 18, 2020

This memo provides a brief overview of the outcomes of federal congressional races, changes in gubernatorial and legislative control at state levels, “notable firsts” with respect to diversity in representation, and select ballot measures that relate to YWCA policy priorities. **This document is intended for internal, YWCA use only. Please do not distribute outside of the YWCA network.** Questions should be directed to Caitlin Lowry, Policy & Advocacy Manager, at advocacy@ywca.org.

FEDERAL CONGRESSIONAL OUTCOMES

U.S. Senate Updates



(Images from Bloomberg Law and NBC)

With various races still undecided, the balance of the U.S. Senate for the 117th Congress is yet to be determined. Of the information available, at time of publication, we can confirm that the Senate will be represented by 50 Republicans, 46 Democrats, and 2 Independents who caucus with the Democrats. The Senate seat held by Sen. Doug Jones (D-AL) flipped from Democratic to Republican control, while the Senate seats held by Martha McSally (R-AZ) and Cory Gardner (R-CO) flipped from Republican to Democratic control. Two Georgia Senate races will be decided in a runoff election to be held on January 5, 2021 between John Ossoff (D) and David Perdue* (R), and Raphael Warnock (D) and Kelly Loeffler* (R). Deadline to register to vote and participate in the Georgia run-off election is December 7, 2020.

The following Democratic candidates either won or maintained their seat in the following states. *indicates that the candidate is an incumbent

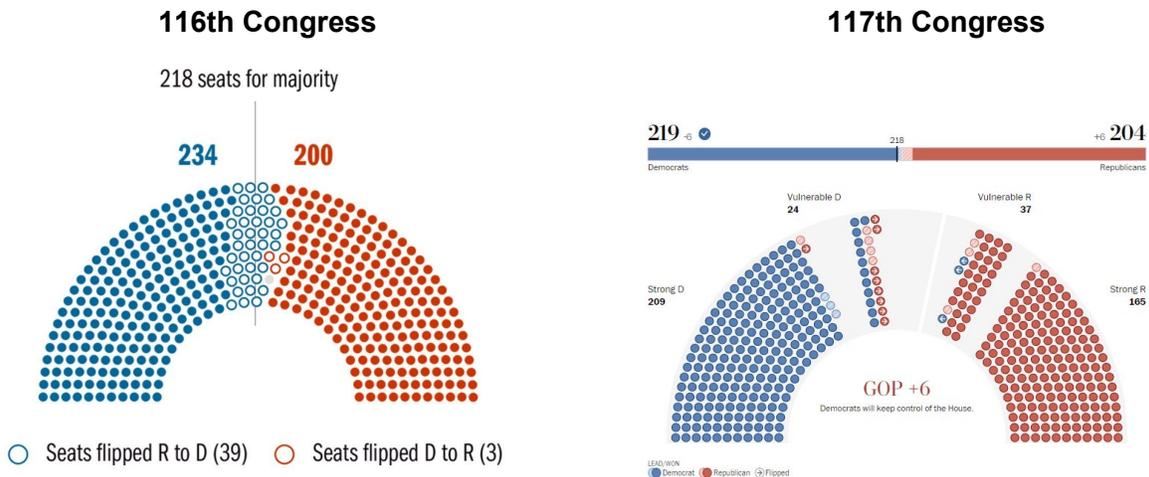
- Mark Kelly (D-Arizona)
- John Hickenlooper (D-Colorado)
- *Chris Coons (D-Delaware)
- *Dick Durbin (D-Illinois)
- *Ed Markey (D-Massachusetts)
- *Gary Peters (D-Michigan)
- *Tina Smith (D-Minnesota)

- *Jeanne Shaheen (D-New Hampshire)
- *Cory Booker (D-New Jersey)
- Ben Ray Lujan (D-New Mexico)
- *Jeff Merkely (D-Oregon)
- *Jack Reed (D-Rhode Island)
- *Mark Warner (D-Virginia)

The following Republican candidates either won or maintained their seat in the following states. *indicates that the candidate is an incumbent

- Tommy Tuberville (R-Alabama)
- *Tom Cotton (R-Arkansas)
- *Joni Ernst (R-Iowa)
- *Jim Risch (R-Idaho)
- *Bill Cassidy (R-Louisiana)
- Roger Marshall (R-Kansas)
- *Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky)
- *Susan Collins (R-Maine)
- *Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Mississippi)
- *Steve Daines (R-Montana)
- *Ben Sasse (R-Nebraska)
- *Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma)
- *Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina)
- *Mike Rounds (R-South Dakota)
- Bill Hagerty (R-Tennessee)
- *John Cornyn (R-Texas)
- *Shelly Moore Capito (R-West Virginia)
- Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyoming)

U.S. House of Representatives Updates: Democrats Maintain Control



(Images from National Association of Counties and Washington Post)

As of Wednesday, November 18, 2020, 12 House races have yet to be called. Despite the outstanding elections, we can confirm that the lower chamber will be controlled by 219 Democrats and 204 Republicans. While Democrats lost a number of seats, they will maintain control of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Diversity Progress in Congress

Three hundred and sixteen women sought congressional or gubernatorial seats during the 2020 election and as of Wednesday, November 18, 124 had won their seats. This includes 117 women in the House and 7 women in the Senate. Among these races were 48 women of color who were elected to the House.

We anticipate that the 117th Congress will boast *at least* 141 women: 24 Senators and 117 Representatives, 51 of whom will be women of color.

- Women will be at least 26.9% of all members of the U.S. House. Women are currently 23.2% of House members in 2020.
- Women will be at least 24% of all members of the Senate. Women are currently 26% of all members of the Senate.

With 5 races involving female candidates still too close to call - 4 in the House and 1 in the Senate - the 117th Congress has already surpassed records for women's congressional representation with:

- 124 Women serving in Congress overall
- 117 Women serving in the House
- 25 Black women serving in the House
- 48 Women of color serving in Congress overall
- 37 Republican women serving in Congress

The 2020 election also saw a host of other records and historic firsts, including:

- New Mexico became the first state to elect all women of color as its House delegation
- A record number of LGBTQ individuals—at least 11—will serve in Congress
- First Republican woman to represent Minnesota in the U.S. House since 2015: Michelle Fischbach from the 7th District
- First woman of color and first Black woman to serve in the U.S. Congress from Missouri: Cori Bush from the 1st District
- First Latina to serve in the U.S. Congress and U.S. House from New Mexico: Teresa Leger Fernandez from the 3rd District
- First woman to serve in the U.S. Senate from Wyoming: Cynthia Lummis
- First Republican woman to serve in the U.S. Congress from South Carolina. First woman to represent South Carolina in Congress since 1993: Nancy Mace in the 1st District

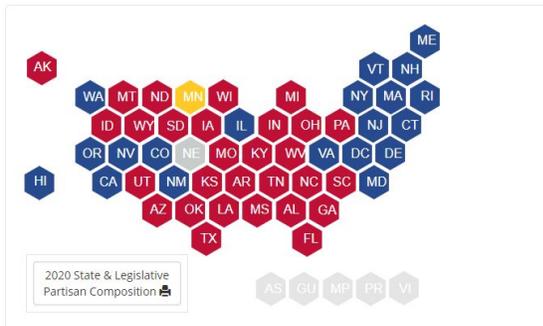
- First Republican woman to serve in the U.S. House from Iowa: Ashley Hinson from the 1st District
- First LGBTQ Black member of Congress: Mondaire Jones in New York, 17th District
- First Republican woman to represent Oklahoma in the U.S. Congress since 2011, and the first Iranian American to serve in Congress: Stephanie Bice in 5th District
- First transgender state senator: Sarah McBride, serving in Delaware
- First Black woman to serve in the U.S. Congress and U.S. House from Washington: Marilyn Strickland in 10th District. Strickland identifies as Black and Korean American
- First LGBTQ Afro-Latinx Member of Congress: Ritchie Torres, serving in New York, 1st District
- First Indigenous transgender legislator elected to a state legislature: Stephanie Byers, serving in the Kansas House
- First Republican Native American woman in Congress: Yvette Herrell, serving in New Mexico, 2nd District
- First nonbinary legislator in the U.S.: Mauree Turner, serving in the Oklahoma House
- Youngest member of Congress, at age 25: Madison Crawthorn, serving in North Carolina, 11th District

2020 STATE LEGISLATURES AND GUBERNATORIAL SEATS

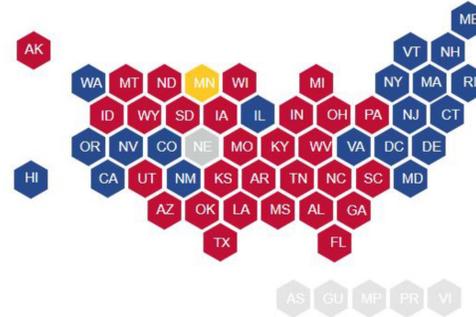
Gubernatorial: Eleven states and two territories had gubernatorial seats up for election in 2020, with 10 incumbent governors eligible to run for re-election and three governors who were not eligible nor seeking reelection. One state (Montana) whose gubernatorial seat was formerly held by a Democrat flipped to Republican control.

State Legislature: New Hampshire Senate and House moved from Democratic control to Republican control - after both went the other way in 2018. After a narrow election, Republicans have retained their majorities in the Arizona State Legislature.

Pre-Election



Post-Election



(Images from the National Conference of State Legislatures)

SELECT STATE BALLOT MEASURES

Of the many ballot measures across the country in 2020, the following are of particular note:

Civil Rights

- California - declined a ballot measure to repeal Proposition 209, which prohibited discrimination / preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, education, and contracting
- Nevada - passed a ballot measure to recognize the marriage of couples regardless of gender
- Utah - passed a ballot measure to make language in the state constitution gender neutral

Criminal Justice Reform

- California - declined a ballot measure to replace cash bail with risk assessments for suspects awaiting trial
- Michigan - declined a ballot measure to require a search warrant to access a person's electronic data
- Nebraska - passed a ballot measure repealing language allowing slavery or involuntary servitude as criminal punishments
- Oklahoma - declined a ballot measure to prohibit a convicted person's former felony convictions from being used to calculate future punishments and provide for sentence modifications of eligible persons

Economic Security

- Nebraska - passed a ballot measure to cap payday loan rates

Housing

- California - passed a ballot measure to expand local governments' power to use rent control

Medicaid

- Oklahoma - passed a ballot measure during the primary to expand Medicaid under the ACA
- Oklahoma - passed a ballot measure during the primary to expand Medicaid to certain low-income adults between 18-65 with incomes below 133% of the FPL

Minimum Wage

- Florida - passed a ballot measure to increase the state minimum wage to \$15 by 2026

Paid Leave

- Colorado - passed a ballot measure to establish a program for paid medical and family leave

Racial Justice

- Mississippi - passed a ballot measure to change the Mississippi flag to remove confederate iconography
- Rhode Island - passed a ballot measure to remove "Providence Plantations" from the official state name
- Passed a ballot measure to repeal a constitutional exception on the ban of slavery that allowed for slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime

Reproductive Health Care

- Colorado - declined a ballot measure to prohibit abortion after 22 weeks gestation
- Louisiana - passed a ballot measure stating that there is no right to abortion or abortion funding in the state constitution
- Washington - passed a ballot measure repealed a senate bill prohibiting sexual health education in public schools

Voting Rights

- California - passed a ballot measure to restore the right to vote to people convicted of felonies on parole
- Colorado - passed a ballot measure to amend the state Constitution to limit voting to "only a citizen" of the U.S.
- Florida - passed a ballot measure to amend the state Constitution to limit voting to "only U.S. citizens"
- Massachusetts - passed a ballot measure to enact a ranked choice voting system
- Missouri - passed a ballot measure eliminating the state demographer and switching to a governor appointed bipartisan commission for redistricting; alters the criteria used to draw district maps

- New Jersey - passed a ballot measure to delay the state legislative redistricting process and use new districts if census data is received after February 15
- Utah - passed a ballot measure specifying that legislator qualifications apply at the time of election or appointment (rather than assumption of office)
- Virginia - passed a ballot measure to create a redistricting commission to draw congressional and state legislative districts