FROM § EACH

FIRST YEAR · WEDNESDAY, 04 NOVEMBER 2026 — THE RETURNS · FREE, FOREVER — EVERY CLAIM LINKED

THE RETURNS · UPDATED THROUGH THE COUNT · AS OF 6:04 A.M. ET

At first light the dog got up.
The fox heard the chain fall.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

Trump loses the House and the Senate.

The new Congress takes the gavels in 60 days. He keeps the nuclear codes for 808.

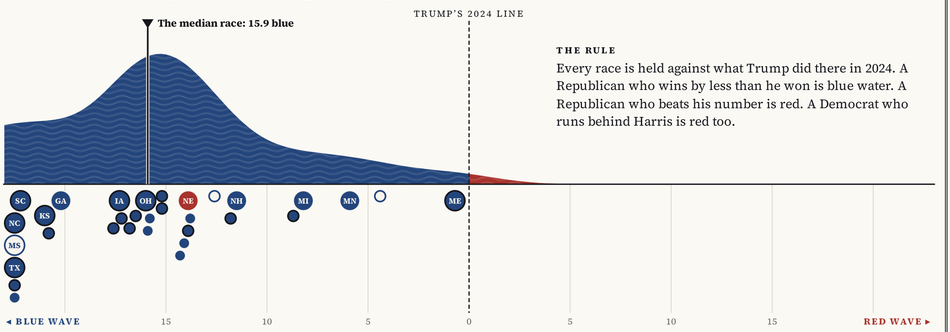
THE WAVE METER

BLUE WAVE

The median race ran **15.9 points** blue of Trump's 2024 margin.

32 of 32 races in ran blue of his 2024 number

1 Republican won and still ran behind him



A dot is a race: large Senate, small House. The wave is the same races, drawn as a crest. Democrat won · Republican won · Seat flipped · Still counting

THE RULE

Every race is held against what Trump did there in 2024. A Republican who wins by less than he won is blue water. A Republican who beats his number is red. A Democrat who runs behind Harris is red too.

THE TIDE TABLE

The same rule, every midterm since 2006: the national House vote against the last presidential margin. It has not once run toward the president's party.

2006	2010	2014	2018	2022	2026
10.5 blue	14.1 red	9.6 red	6.5 blue	7.2 red	counting
against Bush	against Obama	against Obama	against Trump	against Biden	against Trump

THE SENATE

54 to **44** — *Democrats held 47*

51 controls

Democrats take the chamber. 2 still out, hollow.

THE HOUSE

231 to **144** — *Democrats held 215*

218 controls

Democrats take the chamber. 60 still out, hollow.

The Senate, all fourteen on the card

STATE	WINNER	MARGIN	2024	THE TIDE		
Texas	D Talarico over Paxton	D+11.7	Trump +13.7	25.4 blue	FLIP
Mississippi	Colom leads Hyde-Smith	Even	Trump +22.9	22.9 blue	COUNTING
North Carolina	D Cooper over Whatley	D+19.6	Trump +3.2	22.8 blue	FLIP
South Carolina	D Andrews over D. Graham	D+4.4	Trump +17.8	22.2 blue	FLIP
Kansas	D Hamilton over Marshall	D+4.8	Trump +16.2	21.0 blue	FLIP
Georgia	D Ossoff over M. Collins	D+18.0	Trump +2.2	20.2 blue	HOLD
Iowa	D Turek over Hinson	D+4.1	Trump +13.2	17.3 blue	FLIP
Ohio	D Brown over Husted	D+4.8	Trump +11.2	16.0 blue	FLIP
Nebraska	R Ricketts over Osborn	R+6.6	Trump +20.5	13.9 blue	HOLD
Alaska	R Sullivan leads Peltola	R+0.8	Trump +13.1	12.3 blue	COUNTING
New Hampshire	D Pappas over Sununu	D+14.3	Harris +2.8	11.5 blue	HOLD
Michigan	D El-Sayed over Rogers	D+6.8	Trump +1.4	8.2 blue	HOLD
Minnesota	D Flanagan over Tafoya	D+10.1	Harris +4.2	5.9 blue	HOLD
Maine	D Jackson over S. Collins	D+7.7	Harris +7.0	0.7 blue	FLIP

Called races only carry a Hold or a Flip. Each name links to the call.

The House, the twenty-three on the card

SEAT	WINNER	MARGIN	2024	THE TIDE		
CA-22†	D Villegas	D+31.2	Trump +1.8	33.0 blue	COUNTING
TX-34†	D V. Gonzalez	D+15.8	Trump +10.1	25.9 blue	HOLD
NC-11	D Ager	D+15.8	Trump +9.5	25.3 blue	FLIP
OH-7†	D Poindexter	D+9.8	Trump +11.0	20.8 blue	FLIP
IA-1	D Bohannan	D+9.2	Trump +8.4	17.6 blue	FLIP
PA-8	D Cognetti	D+8.8	Trump +8.4	17.2 blue	FLIP
NJ-7	D Bennett	D+15.7	Trump +1.1	16.8 blue	FLIP
CO-8	D Rutinel	D+14.7	Trump +1.8	16.5 blue	FLIP
OH-9†	D Kaptur	D+5.4	Trump +10.5	15.9 blue	HOLD
FL-14†	D Castor	D+5.3	Trump +10.5	15.8 blue	HOLD
PA-10	D Stelson	D+10.0	Trump +5.2	15.2 blue	FLIP
PA-7	D Brooks	D+12.0	Trump +3.2	15.2 blue	FLIP
NC-1†	D Davis	D+2.8	Trump +11.5	14.3 blue	HOLD
AZ-1	D Shah	D+11.1	Trump +3.1	14.2 blue	COUNTING
WA-3	D Gluesenkamp Perez	D+10.8	Trump +3.3	14.1 blue	HOLD
WI-3	D Cooke	D+6.6	Trump +7.3	13.9 blue	FLIP
FL-25†	D Moskowitz	D+4.7	Trump +9.1	13.8 blue	HOLD
MI-10	D Hines	D+6.1	Trump +6.5	12.6 blue	COUNTING
IA-3	D Trone Garriott	D+7.4	Trump +4.4	11.8 blue	FLIP
AZ-6	D Mendoza	D+8.0	Trump +0.7	8.7 blue	COUNTING
VA-2	D Luria	D+8.5	Trump +0.2	8.7 blue	FLIP
MI-7	D Lawrence	D+3.2	Trump +1.2	4.4 blue	COUNTING
NY-17	D Conley	D+4.5	Harris +0.5	4.0 blue	COUNTING

† Redrawn since 2024. The baseline is Trump's margin on the new lines, so the map cannot grade itself. The full form: the Politics page.

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

THE HOUSE IS A PARK

Chapter 10: Consider a Sewer

Consider a sewer. Not yours — the ones Congress voted in the autumn of 1972, when it passed the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments on the fourth of October over a veto. Section 207 authorized "not to exceed" five billion dollars for sewage treatment works in fiscal 1973, six billion in 1974, seven in 1975. On the twenty-second of November the president directed the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to allot no more than two billion of the five and three of the six. On the eighteenth of February 1975 the Supreme Court held that the Act "does not permit the Administrator to allot to the States under § 205(a) less than the entire amounts authorized." The word for…

… Continued on the Investigative Reporting page

FROM THE CORNER

DUTCH

Collins voted the ICE funding through, then stood at a podium touting a $50 billion relief fund for a health care crisis her own record helped create, and five weeks after that vote one of ICE's officers killed a man in Biddeford. That isn't constituent service, that's an arsonist invoicing the fire department for the water. Because she funded the match, the department had the overtime to answer that call, and the only paperwork that ever reaches your mailbox afterward is the thank-you letter with her name still printed on the relief check.

⁂

On Susan Collins declares independence from Trump four weeks before Maine declares it from her. *— the column, by Mort*

THE WORD

§81 — 03 NOVEMBER 2026

On Election Day

DEMOCRAT — REPUBLICAN



23RD OF 38 — ***THE DOCUMENT***

"Election Day. I've got two files and they're both about how hard we make this. First file: we vote on a working Tuesday, more than sixty percent of elections worldwide are on a weekend, we come in twenty-third of thirty-eight in turnout, and twenty-six percent of nonvoters said they were too busy with work or school. Move it to a rest day and the research says turnout goes up five or six points. Second file: nine states passed twelve new restrictions in the first four months of this year, on top of thirty-one from last year still in force today. Sorry, one thing before you go. The first file is a problem nobody fixed in two hundred years. The second one took eighteen months. We move fast when we want to." — Lou

… Continued on Page W81

The rest of the paper is still printing: today's stories, Page A2 · the wire.

"Nothing up there is a conspiracy. That's the part that should worry you — it's all on the record, filed, stamped, and in a couple of cases notarized."

— Sal

HELP WANTED FDA food inspectors, all shifts. Bring your own magnifying glass. *Check the popsicles for glass.* — **Classifieds**

HELP WANTED Librarians, to unshelve 22,810 books across 451 districts. *Start with the one about banning books.* — **Classifieds**

HELP WANTED Crypto cops, recently disbanded. Reapply after the family bank clears. *Bring your own handcuffs; we sold ours.* — **Classifieds**

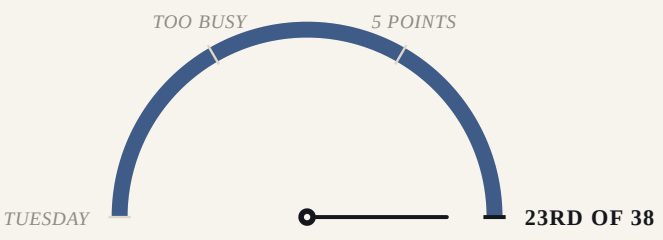
"Nothing here is a scandal. A scandal requires surprise, and I can assure you nobody involved was surprised."

— Chip

On Election Day

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



23RD OF 38

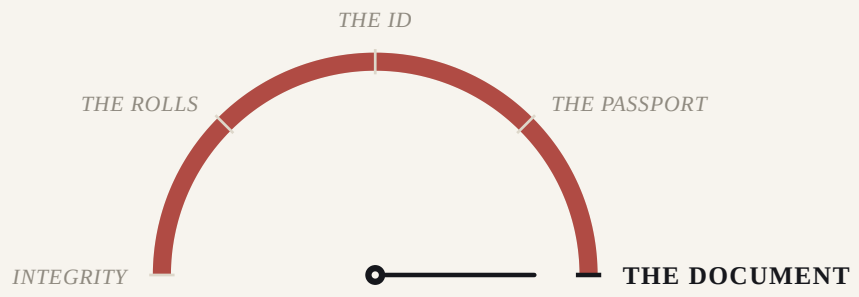
Before any of this year's laws, the oldest obstacle was the date itself. The United States ranks 23rd of 38 OECD countries in voter turnout, and most of the countries above it vote on a weekend or on a declared public holiday [1]. More than sixty percent of elections worldwide are held on a weekend, Sunday most commonly [2]. Twenty-six percent of Americans who did not vote gave the reason as being too busy — work, school, obligations [1]. An analysis of thousands of international elections found turnout rises on average five to six points when a national election moves from a weekday to a rest day [2].

So the fix is known, it is measured, and it has been introduced: the Election Day Act would make today a federal holiday, and no bill of its kind has ever cleared Congress [3]. Tuesday was chosen in the 1840s around a farm calendar and a day's travel to the county seat. It has outlived the horse. Both of today's files are about how many hours a person has to spend to cast one vote — and only one of the two got a legislature's attention this year. Polls are open. Go stand in the line.

SOURCES

1. The United States ranks 23rd of 38 OECD countries in turnout, most of which vote on a weekend or national holiday; 26 percent of American nonvoters reported being too busy because of work or school — Institute for Responsive Government, What Other Countries Can Teach Us About Turnout ↑
2. More than 60 percent of elections worldwide are held on a weekend, Sunday most commonly; an analysis of thousands of international elections found turnout rises five to six points on average when polling moves from a weekday to a rest day — The Conversation ↑
3. The Election Day Act, H.R. 154, 119th Congress, would establish Election Day as a federal holiday; no bill of this kind has cleared Congress — Congress.gov ↑

REPUBLICAN



THE DOCUMENT

The case for tightening is that a vote counted wrong cancels a vote cast right, and no one who has ever run an election disputes that the rolls need maintaining. What is worth putting on the record today is the size and speed of what was actually enacted. Between 1 January and 1 May 2026, at least nine states enacted twelve restrictive voting laws, nine of which are in force at the polls today [1]. Seventeen states enacted thirty-two such laws across 2025, of which thirty-one are in effect for this election [2].

The sharpest of them is documentary proof of citizenship. South Dakota and Utah now require every registrant to produce a document such as a passport or a birth certificate; Florida, Kentucky and Mississippi require it of some voters [1]. A passport is a document a person acquires only if they travel, and a birth certificate is one many people have to send away for. That is the trade being made, and it should be named honestly: a paper requirement at the front of registration, paid for in the registrations that do not happen.

SOURCES

1. At least 9 states enacted 12 restrictive voting laws between 1 January and 1 May 2026, 9 in effect for the November election; South Dakota and Utah require documentary proof of citizenship from all registrants, and Florida, Kentucky and Mississippi from some voters — Brennan Center for Justice, State Voting Laws Roundup: May 2026 ↑
2. 17 states enacted 32 restrictive voting laws in 2025, 31 of them in effect for the 2026 midterms — Brennan Center for Justice, State Voting Laws Roundup: 2025 in Review ↑

"Election Day. I've got two files and they're both about how hard we make this. First file: we vote on a working Tuesday, more than sixty percent of elections worldwide are on a weekend, we come in twenty-third of thirty-eight in turnout, and twenty-six percent of nonvoters said they were too busy with work or school. Move it to a rest day and the research says turnout goes up five or six points. Second file: nine states passed twelve new restrictions in the first four months of this year, on top of thirty-one from last year still in force today. Sorry, one thing before you go. The first file is a problem nobody fixed in two hundred years. The second one took eighteen months. We move fast when we want to." — Lou

"It's Tuesday. Go vote. And while you're standing in that line on your lunch break, remember that we're the ones who picked Tuesday — a farm calendar from the eighteen hundreds, kept because nobody ever moved it. Sixty percent of the world votes on a weekend. We rank twenty-third out of thirty-eight. A quarter of the people who don't vote say they were at work. There's a bill to make today a holiday. There's always a bill. Go vote anyway, that's the whole point, they're counting on the line being annoying."

— Sal

"Election Day has been Tuesday since 1845 and that continuity is part of what makes it meaningful, and I'd add that if someone genuinely cannot find time to vote across a two-week early voting window, the issue may be one of priorities rather than of access."

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎