


2018 Election Results: What Happened and What It All Means for Immigration

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About the National Immigration Forum

Founded in 1982, the National Immigration Forum advocates for the value of immigrants and immigration to our nation. In service to this mission, the Forum promotes responsible federal immigration policies, addressing today's economic and national security needs while honoring the ideals of our Founding Fathers, who created America as a land of opportunity.

For 35 years, the Forum has worked to advance sound federal immigration solutions through its policy expertise, communications outreach and coalition building work, which forges powerful alliances of diverse constituencies across the country to build consensus on the important role of immigrants in America.



Forum Projects and Programs

- Bibles, Badges and Business for Immigration Reform
- Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force
- Veterans for New Americans
- New American Workforce
- Skills and Opportunity for the New American Workforce

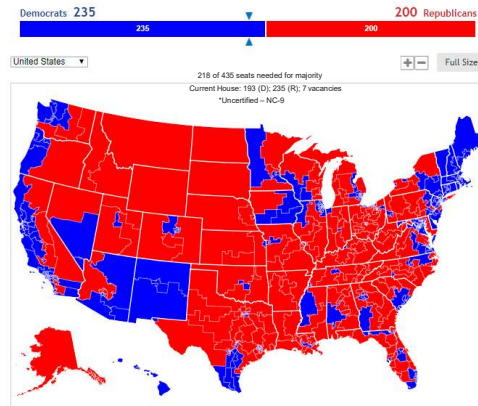


Current Forum Policy Goals

1. Promoting Sound Border Security Policies
2. Ensuring Balanced Enforcement of Immigration Laws
3. Improving Pathways to Citizenship
4. Ensuring New Americans Have Opportunities to Reach Their Fullest Potential
5. Advancing Opportunities for New Americans to Gain Critical Skills



2018 House Election Results



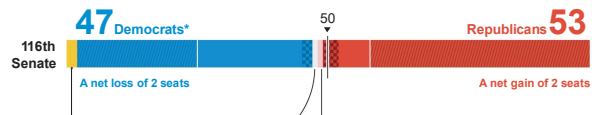
Source: www.270towin.com

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2018 Senate Election Results

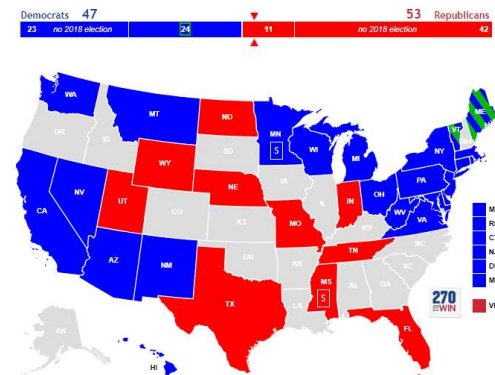
Current 115th Senate 49 (D+I), 51 (R)



*Includes two Independents, Bernie Sanders (Vt.) and Angus King (Maine), who caucus with the Democrats

Source: The Associated Press

2018 Senate Election Results



Source: www.270towin.com

2018 Election Statistics

House Popular Vote in 2018 Demonstrated Record Levels of Turnout for Both Parties

- Democrats: 60.2 million (53.3 %)
- Republicans: 50.8 million (44.9 %) → Democratic margin of victory: 8.4%

Previous Record – Republicans in 2010

- 44.5 million votes (6.6% margin of victory)
- In 2018, Republicans had a record turnout and still lost 40 House seats!

*Sources: Dave Wasserman, Cook Political Report, <https://www.cookpolitical.com/>



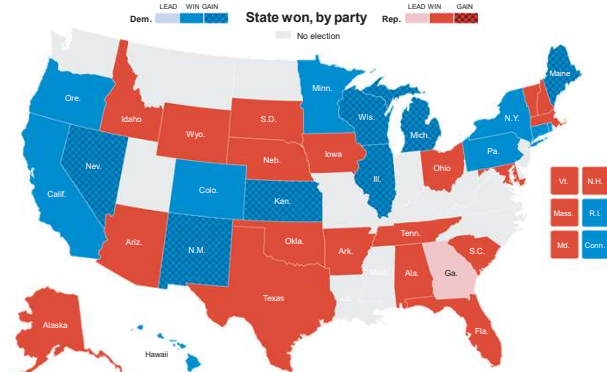
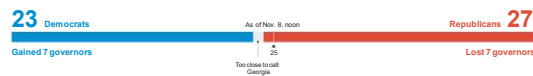
2018 Results in the States

- Democrats netted 7 governorships, including defeating GOP incumbents in WI and IL
- Democrats netted approximately 250 state legislative seats and picked up 6 “trifectas”
- 7 chambers flipped, all but 1 to Democrats
 - CO, ME, NH, NY Senate to Dems
 - MN and NH House to Dems
 - AK House to Republicans (by 1 vote!)

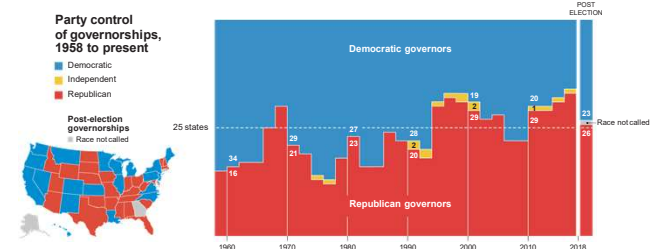
*Sources: NY Times, “Republicans Dominate State Politics. But Democrats Made a Dent This Year.” The Upshot, Nov. 10, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/11/10/upshot/republicans-dominate-state-politics-but-democrats-made-a-dent.html>; Ballotpedia, “State legislative elections, 2018,” November 2018, https://ballotpedia.org/State_legislative_elections_2018



2018 Governor Election Results



Party control of governorships, 1958 to present



Immigration as an Election Issue

- Immigration was front and center at close of 2018 campaign
- President Trump focused on caravan
- Closing ad on immigrants and crime
- CNN Exit Polling:
 - Immigration rated as the #2 issue behind health care and 75% of immigration voters voted Republican.
 - BUT voters who made up minds in last few days went 53-41 for the Democratic House candidate.
- The immigration issue mobilized voters in both parties
- Record high midterm turnout for both parties
- Unclear whether turning out immigration-skeptical base saved seats or turned off swing voters



November 6: Tough Night for Prominent Anti-Immigration Voices

- Controversial anti-immigrant voices lost
 - Kelly (D) defeated Kobach (R) in KS Gov.
 - Kaine (D) defeated Stewart (R) in VA Sen.
 - Casey (D) defeated Barletta (R) in PA Sen.
 - Spanberger (D) defeated Brat (R) in VA-7
- Oregon's "Anti-Sanctuary" ballot initiative lost by a huge margin – 62% - 37%.



But Pro-Immigration Republican Moderates Also Fared Poorly

- Noteworthy Republican immigration champions were defeated: Coffman (CO-6), Curbelo (FL-26), Denham (CA-10), Taylor (VA-2), Valadao (CA-21)
- A handful of Republicans who are immigration champions won reelection: Diaz-Balart (FL-25), Hurd (TX-23), Newhouse (WA-4)
- Several noteworthy pro-immigration Republicans retired: Flake (AZ-Sen.), Corker (TN-Sen.), Dent (PA-7), and Ros-Lehtinen (FL-27)



Other Noteworthy Races

- Immigration as key issue in 2 big Democratic wins:
 - Sinema (D) defeated McSally (R) in AZ Sen.
 - Rosen (D) defeated Heller (R) in NV Sen.
- But some Republicans did win key statewide races where they drew contrasts on immigration:
 - Cruz (R) defeated O'Rourke (D) in TX Sen.
 - Abbott (R) defeated Valdez (D) in TX Gov.
 - Hawley (R) defeated McCaskell (D) in MO Sen.
 - Kemp (R) defeated Abrams (D) in GA Gov.



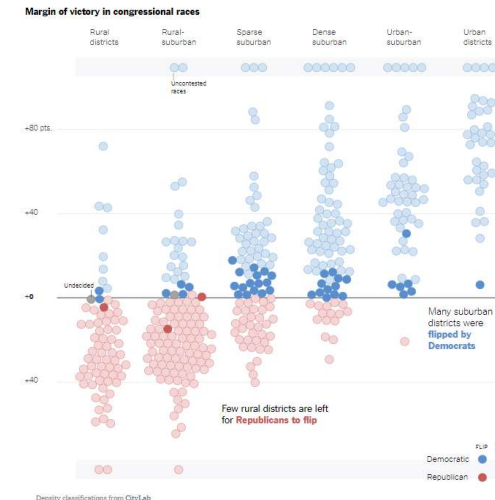
A Growing Geographic and Demographic Divide

- 2018 reflected a clear divide in terms of geography
 - Democrats dominated in urban areas and flipped suburban areas
 - Republicans remained dominant in rural areas and exurbs, especially in the Deep South
- By 2040, approximately 70 percent of Americans will live in the 15 largest states.

Source: Phillip Bump, "By 2040 two-thirds of Americans will be represented by 30 percent of the Senate," The Washington Post, November 28, 2017, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/politics/wp/2017/11/28/by-2040-two-thirds-of-americans-will-be-represented-by-30-percent-of-the-senate/?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-senate-term%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-senate-term%3Ahomepage%2Fstory.

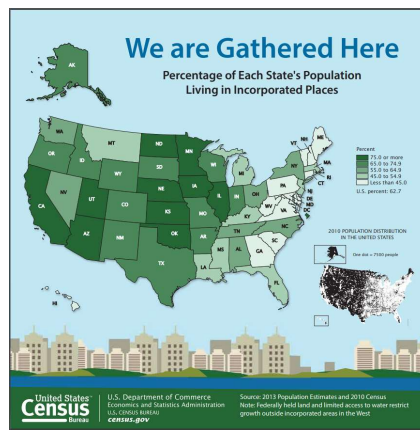


Democrats grew more dominant in the suburbs in 2018



Source: "The Suburbs Are Changing, But Not in All the Ways Liberals Hope," New York Times, Nov. 26, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/26/upshot/suburbs-changing-midterms-democrats-hopes.html>.

U.S. Cities are Home to 62.7 Percent of the U.S. Population, but Comprise Just 3.5 Percent of Land Area



U.S. Census Bureau, March 4, 2015, <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2015/cb15-33.html>

Diversity Is a Growing Political Fault Line



Dave Wasserman

@Redistrict

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Another way of looking at it: in January, House Dems will represent:

- 79% of all Asians
- 72% of all Latinos
- 66% of all African-Americans
- 66% of all Clinton voters
- 60% of all college grads
- 54% of all House seats
- 45% of all whites
- 39% of all Trump voters
- 20% of America's land area

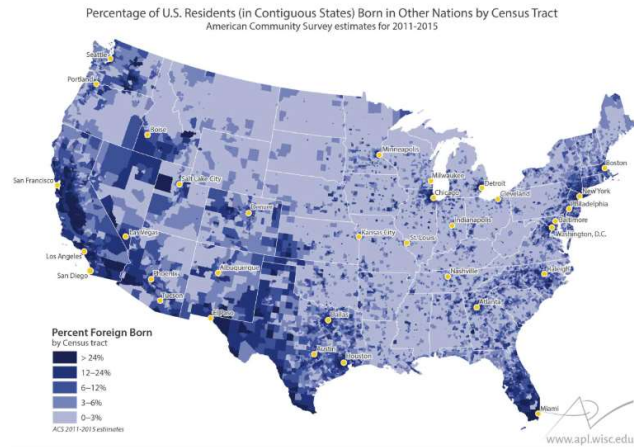
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2,106 Retweets 5,977 Likes



Source: Dave Wasserman, Cook Political Report (via Twitter)





Wiscontext, Oct. 24, 2017, <https://www.wiscontext.org/changing-faces-wisconsin-foreign-born-residents>

Three Fears Drive This Divide

1. CULTURE: Are immigrants and refugees isolating or integrating?
2. SECURITY: Are immigrants and refugees threats or protectors?
3. ECONOMY: Are immigrants and refugees takers or givers?

Source: The National Immigration Forum and More In Common, "Out of Many One, A Defining Moment for American Immigration," October 2018, <https://immigrationforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/OMOFinalDigitalFullReport.pdf>



Coming Together

- Common American values and ideals.
- America is special.
- Pursue freedom, equality and the American dream.
- Get to know immigrants.
- We all want the best for our families.
- History as a land of opportunity and hope.



What to Expect in the 116th Congress

- Democratic House will prioritize Dreamers and TPS.
- Republican Senate may try to tie Dreamers/TPS to border security, enforcement.
- The Trump administration wants wall, cuts to legal immigration, and the scaling back of asylum.



Possible Immigration Developments

- Shutdown in December?
- Will the Courts end DACA, TPS?
- The 2020 Election?

The background of the slide is a dark blue image of a person holding up an American flag. The image is overlaid with a pattern of red and white geometric shapes, primarily triangles, in the corners and along the edges.

Questions?