



2024 ELECTION SUMMARY:

LIKELY REPUBLICAN TRIFECTA

Political Realignment is Real

November 6, 2024



To: CLIENT DISTRIBUTION
From: Porterfield, Fettig & Sears, LLC
Re: 2024 Election Results and Outlook for the Lame Duck
Date: November 6, 2024

Donald Trump won a decisive White House victory and will be the 47th President of the United States. He is currently on track to win all swing states. Trump has secured the Electoral College and is likely to be the first Republican in 20 years to win the popular vote. Trump is the only other president besides Grover Cleveland in 1892 to be elected for two nonconsecutive terms.

Issues such as the economy, inflation and immigration helped Trump win with a multiracial coalition that resulted in gains in every state from his 2016 and 2020 Presidential runs. This fundamentally realigns political allegiances going forward, particularly with Latinos, union voters, and expanding rural support. Exit polls demonstrated that Americans are unhappy with where the country is going and voted decisively for change.

It appears the Republicans will have a unified government in 2025, having won the White House, the Senate and likely the House (although a number of races are still outstanding).

Election Results Overview

Topline Takeaways:

- The United States voted decisively for change.
- Political realignment is real and traditional voting blocs are no longer assumed.
- Unified government increases the likelihood of reconciliation and comprehensive tax legislation.
- A unified government will increase Trump's ability to put his preferred nominees and personnel in place.
- Trump is expected to have an aggressive agenda on Executive Orders, as well as rulemakings and guidance from regulators to roll back Biden policies.
- Russell 2000 is currently trading up 2 to 3x's other indices, confirming the belief that Republican policies will benefit smaller businesses.
- Bond yields, bitcoin, and dollar are surging, complicating Federal Reserve rate cutting plans.

First One Hundred Days: Trump is prepared to move expeditiously on his agenda. We expect a flurry of Executive Orders to reverse Biden Administration policies. Given a Republican Senate, we expect swift action to move Cabinet level nominations and critical regulatory agency heads.

Major Policy Items for the 119th Congress: Tax, trade, financial regulatory relief, digital assets, housing, energy policy, immigration, food safety, and drug pricing.



A Closer Look

**For consistency purposes, we are using the AP election results.*

Senate:

Republicans have flipped 3 Senate seats: WV, MT, OH. PA has not officially been called, but all indications are that incumbent Senator Casey (D-PA) will lose his race. This will give Republicans at least a 53 seat majority, with two races still outstanding.

- **Races too close to call:**
 - **Nevada:** Republican challenger Sam Brown is leading Democrat incumbent Jacky Rosen by under 1,000 votes (47.3% to 47.2%) with 84% reporting.
 - **Arizona:** Democrat Ruben Gallego is leading Republican Kari Lake by nearly 62,000 votes (50.4% to 47.7%) with 60% reporting.
- **Swing states where Democrats are likely to win:** WI, MI
- **New Senators for the 119th Congress:** As of now, there look to be at least 11 new Senators in 2025 – 6 Republicans and 5 Democrats. This number will increase once the Arizona race is decided. There have not been this many newly elected Senators since 2015. This is the fifth time that Senate control has shifted since 2000.
 - The list of new Senators includes: Jim Justice (R-WV), Tim Sheehy (R-MT), Bernie Moreno (R-OH), Dave McCormick (R-PA), Jim Banks (R-IN), John Curtis (R-UT), Angela Alsobrooks (D-MD), Adam Schiff (D-CA), Elissa Slotkin (D-MI), Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), and Andy Kim (D-NJ).
 - With Senator JD Vance (R-OH) becoming VP, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine will also have to appoint a new Senator for Ohio.

House:

The current number of races called puts Republicans ahead of Democrats in the House 199 to 181, with 55 races yet to be called.

Republicans have picked up 5 seats, with a 6th very likely.

- **MI-07:** Tom Barrett won the open seat that was vacated by Elissa Slotkin.
- **NC-06:** Addison McDowell won this seat that became more Republican-friendly after redistricting. Incumbent Kathy Manning did not seek reelection.
- **NC-13:** Brad Knott won this seat that became more Republican-friendly after redistricting. Incumbent Wiley Nickel did not seek reelection.
- **NC-14:** Tim Moore won this seat that became more Republican-friendly after redistricting. Incumbent Jeff Jackson did not seek re-election and instead ran for NC Attorney General. The AG race has now been called in his favor.
- **PA-07:** Challenger Ryan Mackenzie has defeated incumbent Susan Wild. Wild has conceded.
- **PA-08:** This race has not been officially called, but challenger Robert Bresnahan leads incumbent Matt Cartwright by 2% with 99% reporting.

Democrats have picked up 3 seats:

- **AL-02:** Shomari Figures won a seat that became more Democratic-friendly after redistricting.



- **NY-19:** Democrat Josh Riley defeated Republican incumbent Marc Molinaro.
- **NY-22:** Democrat John Mannion defeated Republican incumbent Brandon Williams.

Key toss-up districts still too close to call:

- **NY-04:** Republican incumbent Anthony D’Esposito is currently losing to challenger Laura Gillen (49.1% to 50.9% with over 98% reporting.)
- **ME-02:** Democratic incumbent Jared Golden is leading challenger Austin Theriault (50.9% to 48.8% with over 74% reporting.)
- **OH-09:** Democratic incumbent Marcy Kaptur leads challenger Derek Merrin (48.1% to 47.8% with 99% reporting.)
- **CA-13:** Republican Incumbent John Duarte leads challenger Adam Gray (51.4% to 48.6% with 52% reporting.)
- **CA-41:** Republican incumbent Ken Calvert leads challenger Will Rollins (50.5% to 49.5% with 69% reporting.)
- **IA-02:** Republican incumbent Mariannette Miller-Meeks is slightly leading challenger Christina Bohannon (50% to 50% and just over 500 votes with 97% reporting.)
- **AK-at Large:** Democratic incumbent Mary Peltola is around 11,000 votes behind challenger Nick Begich. (45.3% to 49.7% with 76% reporting.)
- **CA-27:** Republican incumbent Mike Garcia is leading Democratic challenger George Whitesides (51.2% to 48.8% with 67% reporting.)
- **AZ-01:** Republican incumbent David Schweikert is leading Democratic challenger Amish Shah (50.8% to 49.2% with 60% reporting.)
- **OR-05:** Republican incumbent Lori Chavez-DeRemer is currently trailing Democratic challenger Janelle Bynum (45.5% to 47.7% with 69% reporting.)

Best guess on House makeup for the 119th Congress: At this juncture, including the outstanding races, Republicans look likely to hold a 2-4 seat majority in the House. As a reminder, the makeup of the House in the 118th Congress currently stands at 220-212 with 3 vacancies. Tony Wied (R-WI), who took over Mike Gallagher’s seat (R-WI), will be sworn in next week to boost the current makeup to 221-212 (4 seat majority).

Governor races: The 2024 election included 11 governor’s races on the ballot (8R; 3D). Only one of these races, New Hampshire, was viewed as a toss-up and since Kelly Ayotte (R) won, there will be no change in party control as a result of governor races. Of these 11 governor seats, 8 of them will be new governors.

Lame Duck Session Schedule

Nov. 12-15, 18-22 – In session

Week of Nov. 12 – Freshman Member Orientation

Nov. 13 – Senate and House Republican Leadership Elections (scheduled)



Nov. 14 – House Republican Conference Rules Amendment Forum & Organizing Conference for Rules

Nov. 15 – House Republican Conference Rules and Steering Committee Structure Ratification

Nov. 25-29 – Thanksgiving recess

Dec. 2-Dec. 20 – In Session

Week of Dec. 2 or Dec. 9 – House Republican Committee Leadership Elections (targeted)

Week of Dec. 2 – Senate and possible House Democratic leadership elections

Dec. 19 – House target adjournment

Dec. 20 – Senate target adjournment

Expiring Programs:

- **Dec. 20** – Current government funding expires
 - National Flood Insurance Program expires.
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) expires.
- **Dec. 31** – More program expirations:
 - Telehealth flexibilities and other health care extenders expire.
 - End of the crop year. Farm commodity support programs under the Farm Bill extension expire.

Lame Duck

House:

It will take several days before the final make-up of the House is solidified, but Republicans seem likely to hold their majority by a slim margin. If they hold the majority, there are two scenarios that may manifest during the remaining weeks of the 118th Congress:

- With a Republican trifecta on the horizon, Speaker Johnson is likely to stick to his plans to punt FY25 funding discussions into the first quarter of the new year, allowing House and Senate Republicans to work with the new Administration to draft appropriations bills more in line with conservative priorities. This scenario also bodes well for Speaker Johnson's campaign for re-election as the top Republican in the House, which will be decided on Jan. 3, 2025 when the new Congress convenes.

Under this scenario, the National Defense Authorization Act is still likely to move through both chambers before the end of the year. A supplemental disaster assistance package could still materialize in the lame duck as Republican members in North Carolina and Florida may press the Speaker to move disaster relief before the end of 2024. A legislative package pertaining to China may still move as well, however



Republicans could consider holding this until the start of the new Congress when they control both chambers and the White House. Extensions of the National Flood Insurance Program, Farm Bill programs and telehealth extenders are still likely to ride along the Continuing Resolution. Items like FIT-21, Stablecoin legislation, SAFER Banking, and RECOUP could be held into the 119th Congress.

- However, assessing the deadlines impacting the first two-quarters of his second term, President-elect Trump may call on Speaker Johnson to clear FY25 appropriations funding and raise the debt ceiling before the turn of the new Congress. Trump may wish to clear funding legislation and the debt ceiling prior to taking office as they present two immediate and significant obstacles to his 100-day agenda and House Republicans' ability to begin the reconciliation process for tax legislation. This will likely put the Speaker in a difficult position within the Republican Conference as he seeks the Speaker's gavel for the 119th Congress, however Trump may provide the top-cover needed for the Speaker leading up to the Jan. 3, 2025 vote for Speaker of the House.

Senate:

Given that the courts will likely be viewed by Democrats as their biggest firewall against President-elect Trump and the Republican agenda, it seems likely Leader Schumer will prioritize judicial appointments for the remainder of the lame duck session.

It is also possible Leader Schumer will move to expedite pending confirmation votes, including Caroline Crenshaw's reappointment as an SEC commissioner, Gordon Ito's nomination to be the FSOC insurance expert, and Christy Goldsmith Romero's nomination to be FDIC Chair during the lame duck session.

Schumer's leverage heading into the lame duck has been significantly reduced following last night's results. In the unlikely event that Republicans do not hold their majority in the House, this would obviously change the lame duck dynamic.