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With a little over a month before the November elections, Democrats appear to have momentum on their side, from the perspectives of both polling and fundraising. Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden maintains solid leads in most of the swing states that are likely to decide the race for the White House, and now has more cash on hand than President Trump. In the battle for control of Congress, meanwhile, political analyst Charlie Cook says Democrats “seem to have an edge in the Senate and a lock on the House.”

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## Mine the Vote!

The looming general elections will be a marked inflection point in the future of American mining. Will we see anti-mining and higher tax policies, as well as an aggressive regulatory agenda, or support for bipartisan policies that help to enable affordable American energy and a robust domestic mineral supply?

The ongoing global pandemic has altered work dynamics and reinforced employer communications as the most credible source of information for employees. According to the 2020 Edelman Trust Barometer, since the start of the pandemic “my employer” was the most trusted institution by 18 points over business and NGOs, and by 27 points over government and media.

The NMA provides a tool that makes it easy to reach out to employees, vendors, and community partners: Mine the Vote provides valuable information about:

- Voter registration
- Early voting
- Absentee ballots
- Polling locations

NMA has prepared a brief message that can be customized to invite employees, vendors, and partners to utilize the Mine the Vote platform. NMA is offering the following materials upon request:

- Mine the Vote posters that can be displayed on bulletin boards at headquarters and operations sites;
- Flyers that can be handed out at company and community events; and
- Hard hat stickers.

To request materials or to get more information on the Mine the Vote platform, please contact Matthew Roper at [mroper@nma.org](mailto:mroper@nma.org) or (202) 463-2663.

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## 2020 U.S. Presidential Election Update

In a turnabout from earlier phases of the campaign, Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden headed into the home stretch with a [significant financial advantage](#) over President Trump.

*The New York Times* published an interactive graphic enabling readers to speculate on “the battleground states Biden and Trump [need to win 270](#).”

Political analyst Charlie Cook [created a “Swingometer”](#) that allows you to adjust sliders to see how shifts in turnout and support among five demographic groups could swing the Electoral College.

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## 2020 Electoral College Ratings

Political analyst Charlie Cook has made five changes to his electoral Electoral College ratings since the last *Political Update*—three of which have moved in former Vice President Joe Biden’s favor and two of which have moved in President Trump’s favor. Shifting in Biden’s favor, Arizona has moved from Toss Up to Lean D, while both Iowa and Ohio have moved from Lean R to Toss Up. Shifting in President Trump’s favor, Nevada has moved from Likely D to Lean D, while Florida has moved from Lean D to Toss Up. The net effect is that former Vice President

Joe Biden now has 290 votes among states that are Lean, Likely, or Solid D; President Trump now has 163 votes among states that are Lean, Likely, or Solid R. There are 270 electoral votes required to win the presidency.

Solid D (188)	Likely D (24)	Lean D (78)	Toss Up (85)	Lean R (38)	Likely R (48)	Solid R (77)
CA (55)	CO (9)	AZ (11)	FL (29)	TX (38)	AK (3)	AL (9)
CT (7)	ME (2)	MI (16)	GA (16)		IN (11)	AR (6)
DC (3)	VA (13)	MN (10)	IA (6)		KS (6)	ID (4)
DE (3)		NE-02 (1)	ME-02 (1)		MO (10)	KY (8)
HI (4)		NH (4)	NC (15)		MT (3)	LA (8)
IL (20)		NV (6)	OH (18)		SC (9)	MS (6)
MA (11)		PA (20)			UT (6)	ND (3)
MD (10)		WI (10)				NE (2)
ME-01 (1)						NE-01 (1)
NJ (14)						NE-03 (1)
NM (5)						OK (7)
NY (29)						SD (3)
OR (7)						TN (11)
RI (4)						WV (5)
VT (3)						WY (3)
WA (12)						

Source: Cook Political Report, September 29, 2020.

## Departing Members List

Resigned	
House Member	Terms Served
Chris Collins, R-NY	4th term
Sean Duffy, R-WI	5th term
Duncan Hunter, R-CA	6th term
Tom Marino, R-PA	5th term
Katie Hill, D-CA	1st term
Mark Meadows, R-NC	4th term
John Ratcliffe, R-TX	3rd term

Resigned	
Senate Member	Terms Served
Johnny Isakson, R-GA	3rd term

Running for Other Office	
House Member	Terms Served
Greg Gianforte, R-MT	2nd term
Ben Ray Lujan, D-NM	6th term
Roger Marshall, R-KS	2nd term

Defeated	
House Member	Terms Served

Retiring	
House Member	Terms Served
Rob Bishop, R-UT	9th term
Susan Brooks, R-IN	4th term
Mike Conaway, R-TX	8th term
Paul Cook, R-CA	4th term
Bill Flores, R-TX	5th term
Will Hurd, R-TX	2nd term
Kenny Marchant, R-TX	8th term
Nita Lowey, D-NY	16th term
Paul Mitchell, R-MI	2nd term
Pete Olson, R-TX	6th term
Martha Roby, R-AL	5th term
Francis Rooney, R-FL	2nd term
Jim Sensenbrenner, R-WI	9th term
John Shimkus, R-IL	12th term
Mac Thornberry, R-TX	13th term
Rob Woodall, R-GA	5th term
Susan Davis, D-CA	10th term
Dave Loebsack, D-IA	7th term
José Serrano, D-NY	16th term
Greg Walden, R-OR	11th term

Dan Lipinski, D-IL	8th term
Steve King, R-IA	9th term
Denver Riggleman, R-VA	1st term
Joe Kennedy, D-MA	4th term
Scott Tipton, R-CO	5th term
Steve Watkins, R-KS	1st term
Lacy Clay, D-MO	10th term
Eliot Engel, D-NY	16th term
Ross Spano, R-FL	1st term
Bradley Byrne, R-AL	3rd term

Tom Graves, R-GA	5th term
George Holding, R-NC	4th term
Pete King, R-NY	14th term
Phil Roe, R-TN	6th term
Mark Walker, R-NC	3rd term
Ted Yoho, R-FL	4th term
Denny Heck, D-WA	4th term
Pete Visclosky, D-IN	18th term
Ralph Abraham, R-LA	3rd term
Tulsi Gabbard, D-HI	4th term
Justin Amash, L-MI	5th term

Retiring	
Senate Member	Terms Served
Lamar Alexander, R-TN	3rd term
Mike Enzi, R-WY	4th term
Pat Roberts, R-KS	4th term
Tom Udall, D-NM	2nd term

Deceased	
House Member	Terms Served
Walter Jones Jr., R-NC	12th term
Elijah Cummings, D-MD	13th term
John Lewis, D-GA	17th term

Source: *LegiStorm*, September 23, 2020.

## U.S. Senate Updates

Former Rep. **Cynthia Lummis** (R-WY-AL) [won the Republican nomination](#) for Wyoming's open Senate seat.

Senator **Ed Markey** (D-MA) [fended off a primary challenge](#) from Rep. **Joe Kennedy** (D-MA-04).

## 2020 Senate Race Rankings

Since the last *Political Update*, Charlie Cook has revised his outlook on two Senate races—both shifting in Democrats' favor. Gardner (CO) moves from Toss Up to Lean D, and Graham (SC) moves from Likely R to Lean R. Democrats need a net gain of three seats to win the majority if Joe Biden wins the presidency, and four if he does not. Currently, Cook rates five races as toss-ups and says “the most likely outcome is a Democratic gain of between two and six seats.”

Solid D	Likely D	Lean D	Toss Up	Lean R	Likely R	Solid R
Coons (DE)		McSally (AZ)	Perdue (GA)	Jones (AL)	Sullivan (AK)	Cotton (AR)
Durbin (IL)		Gardner (CO)	Ernst (IA)	Loeffler (GA)	McConnell (KY)	Risch (ID)
Markey (MA)		Peters (MI)	Collins (ME)	Open, KS (Roberts)	Cornyn (TX)	Cassidy (LA)
Smith (MN)			Daines (MT)	Graham (SC)		Hyde-Smith (MS)
Shaheen (NH)			Tillis (NC)			Sasse (NE)
Booker (NJ)						Inhofe (OK)
Open, NM (Udall)						Rounds (SD)

Merkley (OR)						Open, TN (Alexander)
Reed (RI)						Moore Capito (WV)
Warner (VA)						Open, WY (Enzi)

Source: Cook Political Report, September 23, 2020.

## U.S. House Updates

Rep. **Ross Spano** (R-FL-15) [lost his primary bid](#) for reelection.

Republicans were [generally pleased](#) with the results of other Florida primary elections in competitive House districts.

*Kansas City Star* noted that the four Republican winners of House primary elections there [all have career connections](#) to former governors Jeff Colyer and Sam Brownback.

State Senator **Stephanie Bice** [won the Republican nomination](#) to challenge vulnerable freshman Rep. **Kendra Horn** (D-OK-05).

Republican primary voters in New Hampshire [favored Trump-backed candidates](#).

Rep. **Tom Graves** (R-GA-14), who is not seeking reelection, announced he will [resign and retire in October](#).

House Ways & Means Committee Chairman **Richard Neal** (D-MA-01) [fended off a primary challenger](#).

*Roll Call* pointed out both parties are fielding candidates in key races who [lost previous election bids](#).

*Washington Post* published its predictions of the House seats [most likely to flip](#).

## 2020 House Race Rankings

The current composition of the House of Representatives is 232 Democrats, 198 Republicans, 1 Libertarian, and 4 vacancies. Republicans need a net gain of 17 seats in November to retake the majority in the next Congress.

Since the last issue of *Political Update*, Charlie Cook has changed his outlook on 26 races, 20 of which have moved in Democrats' favor. Citing President Trump's weak standing in suburban districts, as well as a wave of Republican retirements,

Cook says that currently the most likely outcome is a net Democratic gain of between zero and 10 seats.

Likely D	Lean D	Toss Up D	Toss Up R	Lean R	Likely R
CA-10 Harder	AZ-01 O'Halleran	CA-21 Cox	AZ-06 Schweikert	AK-AL Young	CA-04 McClintock
CA-39 Cisneros	CA-48 Rouda	FL-26 Mucarsel-Powell	CA-25 Garcia	AR-02 Hill	CA-22 Nunes
FL-27 Shalala	GA-06 McBath	IA-01 Finkenauer	IN-05 Open (Brooks)	CO-03 Open (Tipton)	CA-50 Vacant
IL-14 Underwood	GA-07 Open (Woodall)	IA-02 Open (Loebsack)	MO-02 Wagner	FL-15 Open (Spano)	FL-16 Buchanan
IL-17 Bustos	MI-08 Slotkin	IA-03 Axne	NE-02 Bacon	IL-13 Davis	FL-18 Mast
KS-03 Davids	MI-11 Stevens	MN-07 Peterson	NJ-02 Van Drew	MI-03 Open (Amash)	KS-02 Open (Watkins)
ME-02 Golden	MN-02 Craig	NM-02 Torres Small	NY-02 Open (King)	MI-06 Upton	KY-06 Barr
NC-02 Open (Holding)	NJ-03 Kim	NY-11 Rose	OH-01 Chabot	MN-01 Hagedorn	NC-09 Bishop
NC-06 Open (Walker)	NJ-07 Malinowski	NY-22 Brindisi	PA-10 Perry	MT-AL Open (Gianforte)	NC-11 Vacant
NH-01 Pappas	NV-03 Lee	OK-05 Horn	TX-21 Roy	NC-08 Hudson	OH-10 Turner
NJ-05 Gottheimer	PA-07 Wild	UT-04 McAdams	TX-22 Open (Olson)	NY-01 Zeldin	OH-12 Balderson
NV-04 Horsford	PA-08 Cartwright	VA-02 Luria	TX-24 Open (Marchant)	NY-24 Katko	TX-02 Crenshaw
NY-18 Maloney	PA-17 Lamb	VA-07 Spanberger	VA-05 Open (Riggelman)	PA-01 Fitzpatrick	TX-06 Wright
NY-19 Delgado	SC-01 Cunningham			TX-03 Taylor	TX-25 Williams
OR-04 DeFazio	TX-07 Fletcher			TX-10 McCaul	TX-31 Carter
TX-32 Allred	TX-23 Open (Hurd)				WA-03 Herrera Beutler
WA-08 Schrier	WI-03 Kind				

### Summary:

Solid Seats: Democrats 190, Republicans 154

Likely/Lean Seats: Democrats 30, Republicans 30

Toss Up or Worse: Democrats 13, Republicans 17

Source: Cook Political Report, September 29, 2020.

## 2020 Governor Race Rankings

Political analyst Charlie Cook has changed his outlook on two races since the last *Political Update*. Parson (MO) has moved from Likely R to Lean R, while Scott (VT) has moved from Likely R to Solid R. Republicans' best chance to flip a governor's seat remains in Montana, where the race between Rep. Greg Gianforte (R) and Lieutenant Governor Mike Cooney (D) is rated a toss-up. Democrats' best hope for

flipping a seat is in Missouri, where the race between incumbent Mike Parson (R) and state auditor Nicole Galloway (D) is rated Lean R.

Solid D	Likely D	Lean D	Toss Up	Lean R	Likely R	Solid R
Carney (DE)		Cooper (NC)	Bullock, Open (MT)	Parson (MO)	Sununu (NH)	Holcomb (IN)
Inslee (WA)						Burgum (ND)
						Herbert, Open (UT)
						Scott (VT)
						Justice (WV)

Source: Cook Political Report, September 15, 2020.

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**Questions? Comments?** Feel free to contact Ryan Jackson, Senior Vice President, Government & Political Affairs, at [RJackson@nma.org](mailto:RJackson@nma.org). *Thank you for your continued support of the Political Action Committees of the National Mining Association!*



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