2022 Election Overview
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2022 Legislative Elections

It’s all about MORE

More Races
364 more races than 2020

More Competition
Redistricting = Change

More Legislators
3 new state legislators beginning in 2023

More Variables
Ukraine, POTUS coattails, COVID, Education, Roe ...
But first, a look at how we got here
Legislative Seats Held by Party, 1900 - 2022
Legislatures Held by Party, 1900 - 2022
The Origin of Our Politics: 2010 Midterms

Republican Flips  
22

Democratic Flips  
0
Recent Changes: 2018 - 2019

Republican Flips: 0
Democratic Flips: 9
Recent Changes: 2020 - 2021

Republican Flips: 2
Democratic Flips: 0
Current Legislative Party Composition

- Republican (30)
- Democratic (17)
- Divided (3)
Current State Control

- Republican (23)
- Democratic (15)
- Divided (12)
2022 State Elections

- **Leg + Governor (36)**
- **Leg only (10)**
- **None (4)**
2022 Competitive Chambers (as of May)

- **Both chambers (7)**: AK, AZ, HI, MT, ND, SD, WY
- **House only (2)**: CA, NV
- **Senate only (5)**: DE, DC, MD, NE, TN

Legend:
- Green: Both chambers (7)
- Orange: House only (2)
- Blue: Senate only (5)
2022 Competitive Chambers by Party

Democratic (12)

Republican (9)
Why They’re Competitive

Closely Divided
- Alaska House
- Arizona House & Senate
- Colorado Senate
- Nevada House & Senate
- Oregon Senate
- Washington Senate

Historically Swingy
- Connecticut Senate
- Delaware Senate
- Maine House & Senate
- Minnesota House & Senate
- New Hampshire House & Senate

Redistricting Changes
- Michigan House & Senate
- New Mexico House & Senate
- Pennsylvania House & Senate
2022 Competitive Governorships by Party

Source: Cook Political Report with Amy Walter (Leans and Toss-Ups)
Key Trends in 2022

○ **Rural vs. Urban**—long simmering, exacerbated by redistricting

○ **Red Wave?**—recent polling suggests GOP voters more energized. Will that hold?

○ **New Faces**—over 30 legislative leaders are stepping aside

○ **Issue Overload?**—Ukraine, abortion, COVID, inflation, education, racial justice, economic concerns...

○ **Who Has Bigger Coattails?**—Biden or Trump?
When Voters Legislate:
Statewide Ballot Measures in 2022
Ballot Measures Types

- Legislative Referrals
- Citizen Initiatives
- Popular Referenda
Assessing the Initiative Process

**PROS**
- Addresses issues not tackled by officials
- More engaged citizenry
- Higher voter turnout
- A check on government that holds elected officials accountable

**CONS**
- Policy not vetted by the legislative process
- Unintended consequences
- Spending is unlimited and hard to track
- Voter information can be inadequate
- Not always just “citizens”…
Ballot Measures by Type, 2012-2022
2022 Ballot Measures (so far)

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<td>Popular Referenda</td>
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California: dialysis clinics
Montana: infants born alive medical care
Oregon: right to healthcare
South Dakota: Medicaid expansion
Tobacco and Drugs

- Tobacco: California
- Marijuana: Maryland & South Dakota
- Psilocybin: Colorado
Gambling

California and Colorado
Civil and Criminal Justice

13th Amendment
Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Slavery/Servitude
Louisiana, Oregon, Tennessee & Vermont

Bail
Alabama & Ohio

Other Notables
Alabama & Montana
Illinois: constitutional right to collective bargaining
Nevada: minimum wage increase
Tennessee: “right-to-work” amendment
Education

Tuition
Arizona

Funding
California, Colorado, Idaho, Massachusetts & New Mexico

Oversight
West Virginia
Taxes

Property taxes
- Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas & West Virginia

Transportation
- California & Massachusetts

Other notables
- Colorado & Arizona
- Alabama: broadband, public lands
- Nebraska: air travel
- New Mexico: household services, public libraries, senior citizen facilities
- New York: water and climate change

Infrastructure
Legislatures

**Session**
Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky & Utah

**Oversight**
Kansas, Louisiana & West Virginia

**Penalties**
Georgia & Oregon

**Eligibility**
Maryland & Tennessee

**Term Limits**
Michigan
State Government

- Arizona: lieutenant governor
- Tennessee: gubernatorial line of succession
- Louisiana, Missouri & South Dakota: state funds
○ Alabama: no changes within six months of an election
○ Arizona: voter ID changes
○ Connecticut: early in-person voting
○ Nevada: open top-five primaries and ranked-choice voting
○ Louisiana & Ohio: prohibit non-citizens from voting
Direct Democracy

- Arizona, Arkansas & South Dakota: raise vote threshold
- Arizona: single-subject rule, allow legislative changes to invalid measures
- Colorado: provide income tax information for relevant initiatives
- Florida: abolish Constitution Revision Commission
Other Notable Measures

- Gun rights in Iowa; gun control in Oregon
- Equal Rights Amendment in Nevada
- Religion-related measures in Arkansas and West Virginia
- A brand-new constitution in Alabama
Questions?

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