Five of seven governors' seats most likely to flip are held by Democrats

Based on Headlines From National Journal's Hotline

Hotline's 2016 gubernatorial rankings

1. North Carolina: Attorney General Cooper is a top Democratic recruit and leads in polling and fundraising. McCrory's embrace of legislation seen as anti-LGBT may hurt his chances. *Incumbent: Pat McCrory (R)*

Challenger: Roy Cooper (D)

2. Indiana: Gregg, the Democratic nominee for the second straight election, is not well known, but is leading public polls.

Incumbent: Mike Pence (R) (retiring)

Challenger: John Grand (D) Fric Holsomb (R)

Challenger: John Gregg (D), Eric Holcomb (R)

3. Missouri: Republican-turned-Democratic state Attorney General Koster has run an impressive campaign, appealing to conservatives and expanding his base.

Incumbent: Jay Nixon (D) (retiring)
Challenger: Chris Koster (D), Eric Greitens (R)

4. Vermont: Despite Clinton's wide lead in the state, the Republican Governors

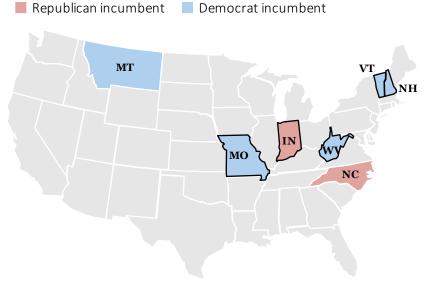
Association is bolstering Scott with record spending.

Incumbent: Peter Shumlin (D) (retiring)
Challenger: Sue Minter (D), Phil Scott (R)

5. New Hampshire: New Hampshire will be a swing state in the Presidential and Senate elections, which will have an effect on these lower profile candidates.

Incumbent: Maggie Hassan (D) (retiring)

Challengers: Colin Van Ostern (D), Chris Sununu (R)



*Outlined states have open races

6. Montana: The state's limited polling show the candidates tied, but Trump is likely to win the state, which might make it difficult for Bullock to secure a second term.

Incumbent: Steve Bullock (D)
Challenger: Greg Gianforte (R)

7. West Virginia: Democrat Justice leads in polling and fundraising.

Incumbent: Earl Ray Tomblin (D) (Retiring)
Challenger: Jim Justice (D), Bill Cole (R)

Source: Zach Cohen, "Hotline's 2016 governor race rankings," National Journal, October 25, 2016.

Which governors' seats are most likely to flip? Based on Headlines From

Hotline's 2016 gubernatorial rankings

State

Incumbent

Challenger

National Journal's Hotline

Cook Political Report Rating

Toss Up

1. North Carolina



Pat McCrory

Roy Cooper

2. Indiana

Open

Eric Holcomb

John Gregg

Toss Up

3. Missouri

Open



Eric Greitens



Chris Koster

Toss Up

4. Vermont

Open



Phill Scott



Sue Minter

Toss Up

5. New Hampshire

Open

Chris Sununu

Colin Van Ostern

Toss Up

Source: Zach Cohen, "Hotline's 2016 governor race rankings," National Journal, September 19, 2016; Cook Political Report, 2016. Images from National Journal Almanac and campaign web pages.