

2018 Senate races and beyond

Cook Political Report ratings

Updated April 9, 2018

Producer

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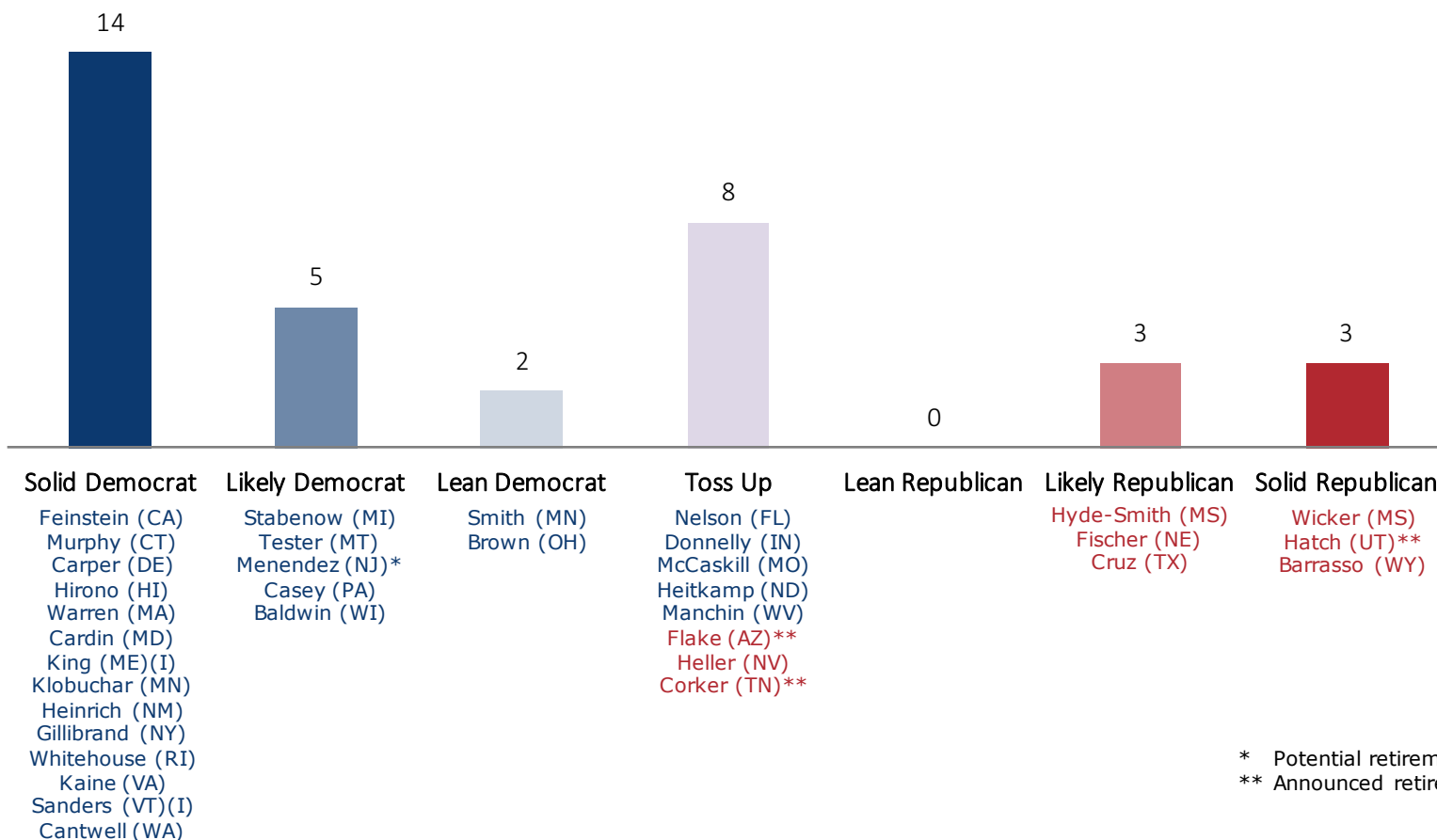
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Alistair Taylor

Senate Dems are defending 26 seats in 2018, four toss-ups

Breakdown of 2018 Senate races

THE COOK POLITICAL REPORT

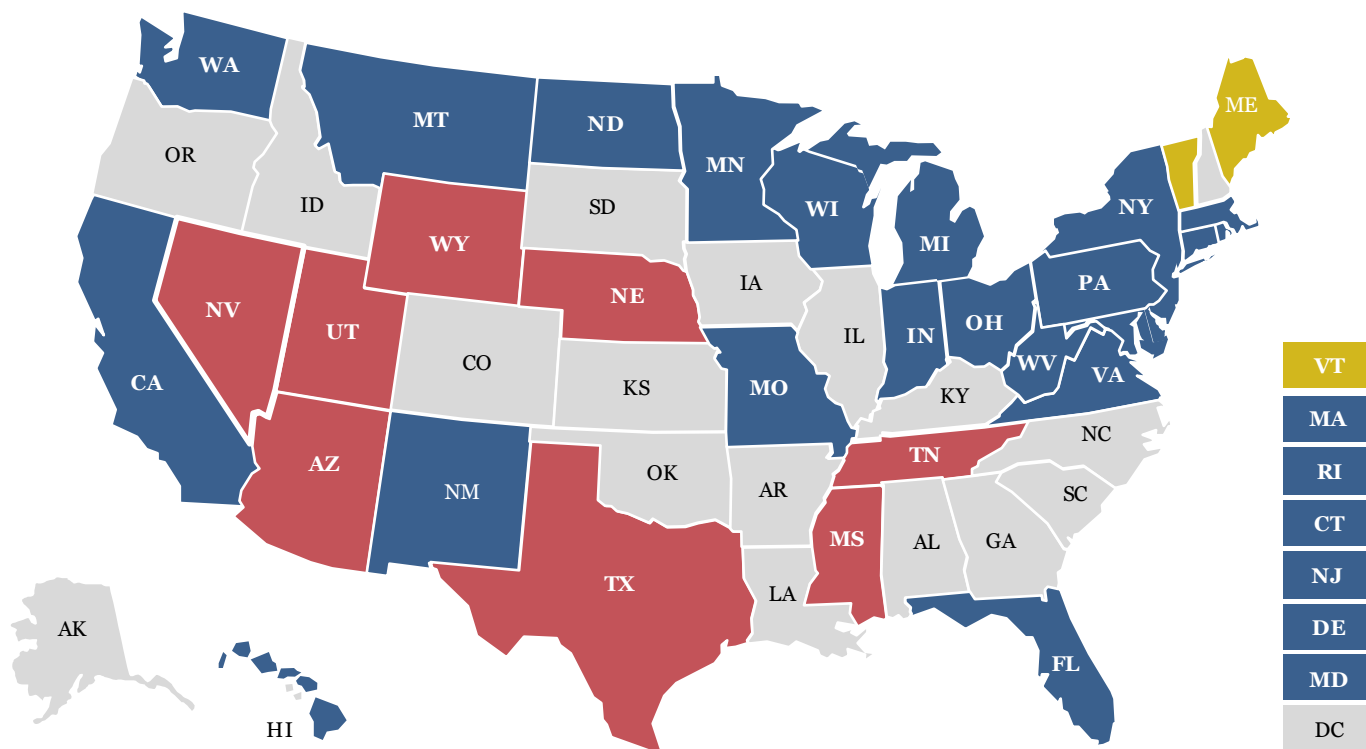


Source: The Cook Political Report, April 5, 2018.

26 seats up for election in 2018 are held by Democrats and Independents out of a total of 34

States with U.S. Senate seats up for election

■ Republican held seat ■ Democrat held seat ■ Independent held seat

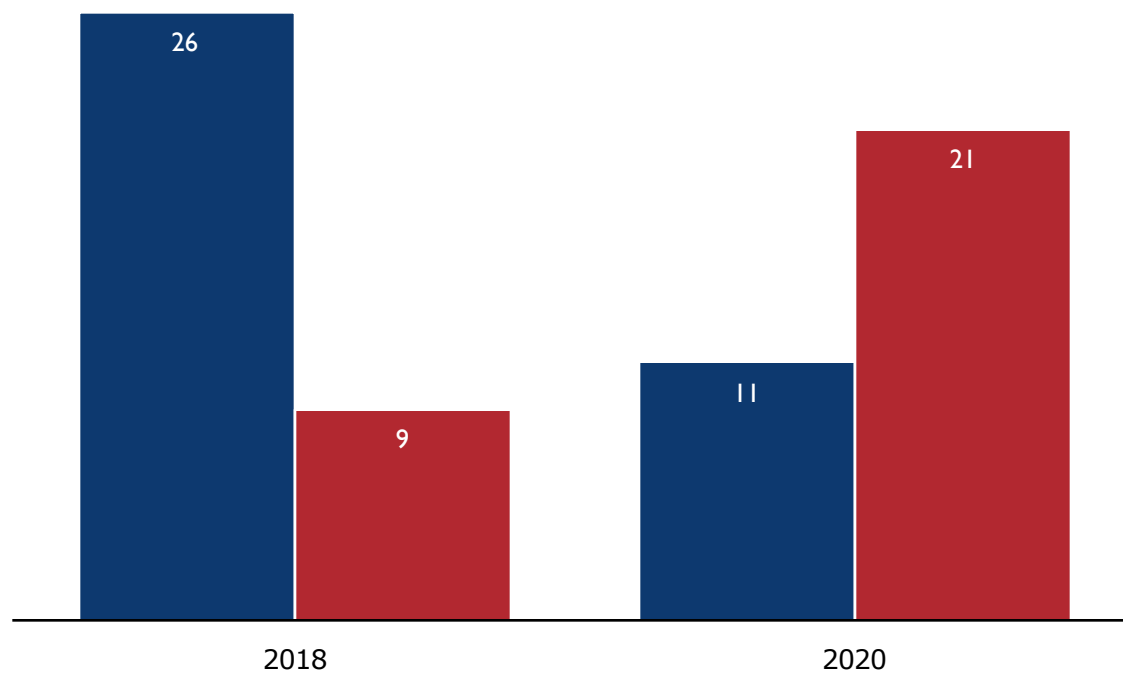


Sources: Charlie Cook, "Will History Hold in 2018 Midterms?" The Cook Political Report, January 9, 2017, National Journal Research, 2017.

Democrats, Republicans will take turns playing defense in upcoming elections

Senate seats in play, by election year

■ Republican seats ■ Democrat seats



Source: The Cook Political Report, 2017.

Retirements from the Senate open seats to costly primaries and potentially contentious general elections

Senators retiring and not seeking reelection in 2018



Bob Corker
(R-TN)

- Senator Corker has been an outspoken critic of President Trump
- Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) announced her candidacy
- Former Democratic TN governor Phil Bredesen (2003-2011) also announced his candidacy



Thad Cochran
(R-MS)

- Cochran, 80, chairs the Appropriations Committee and has been absent from the Senate for long stretches over the past year
- His resignation means both of Mississippi's Senate seats will be on the ballot come November



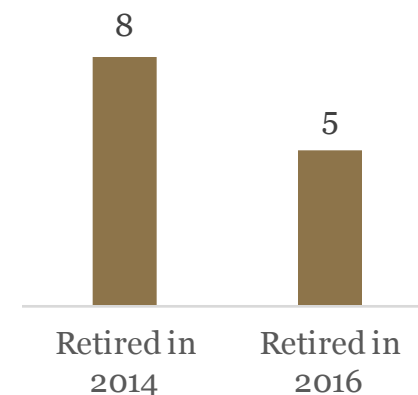
Orrin Hatch
(R-UT)

- Senator Hatch announced his retirement after initially deciding to run
- Former MA governor and presidential candidate Mitt Romney announced he was running for the open seat in mid-February



Jeff Flake
(R-AZ)

- Senator Flake decided not to run in light of low polling numbers and a strong challenge by State Rep. Kelli Ward
- Competitive Republican primary between Rep. Martha McSally (R-AZ02), Kelli Ward and former sheriff Joe Arpaio
- Rep. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ09) is considered the Democratic frontrunner



Sources: National Journal Research 2017.

2018 Senate races by 2016 presidential performance

Senate seats in play, by election year

Clinton + 15 or greater	Clinton +5 to +14.9	Clinton +4.9 to Trump +4.9	Trump +5 to +14.9	Trump +15 or greater
DEMOCRATS (26)				
Feinstein (CA) +16.2 Hirono (HI) +32.2 Cardin (MD) +25.2 Warren (MA) +27.3 Gillibrand (NY) +21.3 Whitehouse (RI) +15.6 Sanders (VT)(I) +28.5 Cantwell (WA) +16.2	Murphy (CT) +13.3 Carper (DE) +11.5 Menendez (NJ) +13.2 Heinrich (NM) +8.3	King (ME)(I) D +2.7 Klobuchar (MN) D +1.5 Smith (MN) D +1.5 Kaine (VA) D +4.9 Stabenow (MI) R +0.3 Nelson (FL) R +1.3 Baldwin (WI) R +1 Casey (PA) R +1.2	Brown (OH) +8.6	Donnelly (IN) +19.3 McCaskill (MO) +19.1 Tester (MT) +20.5 Heitkamp (ND) +36.3 Manchin (WV) +42.2
REPUBLICANS (9)				
		Heller (NV) +2.4 Flake (AZ) +4.1	Cruz (TX) +9.2	Fischer (NE) +226.3 Corker (TN) +26.2 Hatch (UT) +18.1 Wicker (MS) +18.6 Hyde-Smith (MS) +18.6 Barrasso (WY) +47.6

Source: "2016 Senate election results," Politico, December 13, 2016.

2020 Senate races by 2016 presidential performance

Senate seats in play, by election year

Clinton + 15 or greater	Clinton +5 to +14.9	Clinton +4.9 to Trump +4.9	Trump +5 to +14.9	Trump +15 or greater
DEMOCRATS (11)				
Coons (DE) +11.5 Durbin (IL) +16 Markey (MA) +27.3 Booker (NJ) +13.2 Reed (RI) +15.6	Franken (MN) +8.3 Shaheen (NH) +6 T. Udall (NM) +0.4 Merkley (OR) +10.6	Warner (VA) D+4.9 Peters (MI) R+0.3		
REPUBLICANS (21)				
		Gardner (CO) D+2.8 Collins (ME) D+2.7 Tillis (NC) R+3.8	Perdue (GA) +5.7 Ernst (IA) +9.6 Graham (SC) +14.1 Cornyn (TX) +9.2	Sullivan (AK) +27.4 Cotton (AR) +26.6 Risch (ID) +31.6 Roberts (KS) +21 McConnell (KY) +25.3 Hyde-Smith (MS) +18.6 Daines (MT) +20.5 Cassidy (LA) +19.7 Sasse (NE) +26.1 Inhofe (OK) +36.4 Rounds (SD) +29.8 Alexander (TN) +26.2 Capito (WV) +42.2 Enzi (WY) +47.6

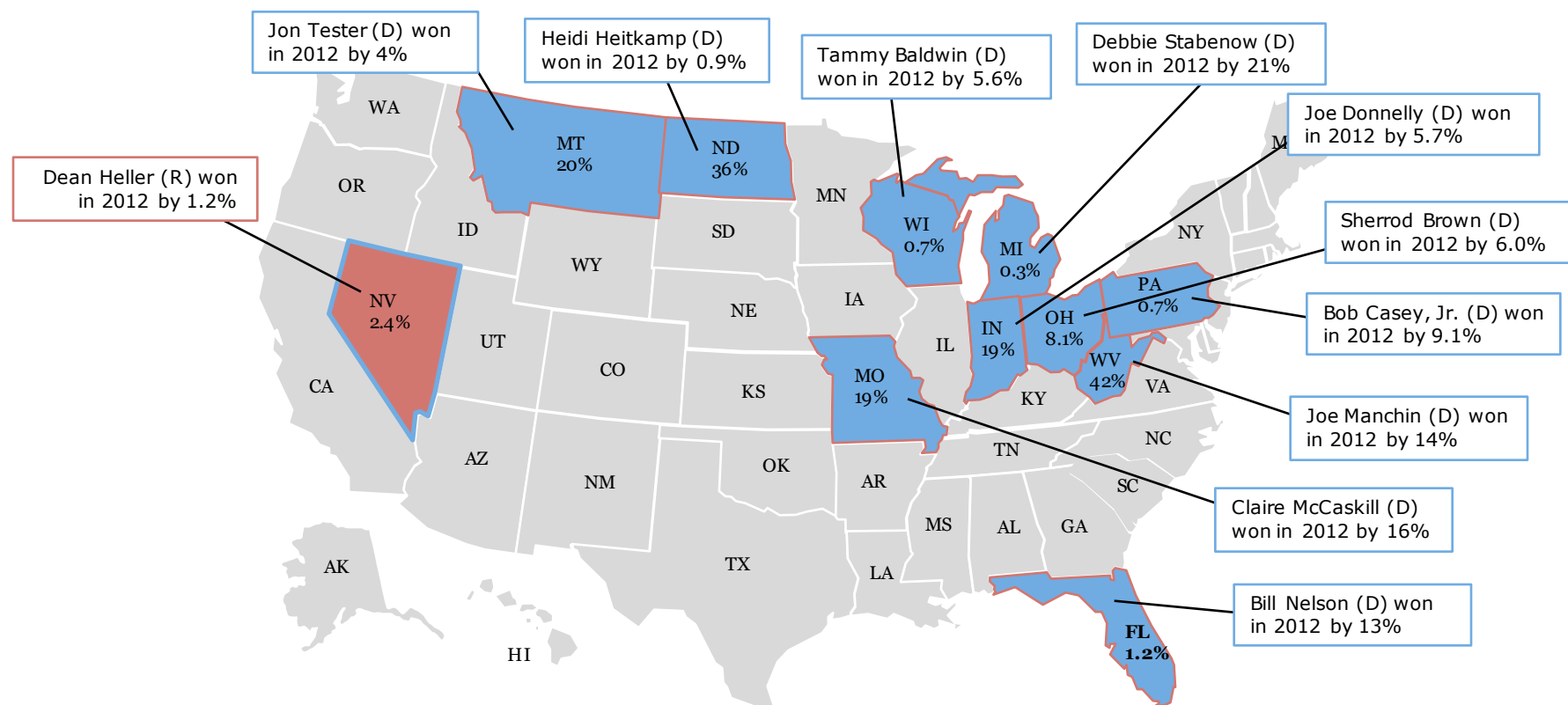
Source: "2016 Senate election results," Politico, December 13, 2016.

Of the 26 Democratic senators up for re-election, Trump won 10 of their states – and five by double digits

Senators up for re-election in states won by the opposing party's 2016 presidential candidate

PERCENTS INSIDE THE STATE REPRESENT BY HOW MUCH THE OTHER PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WON IN 2016

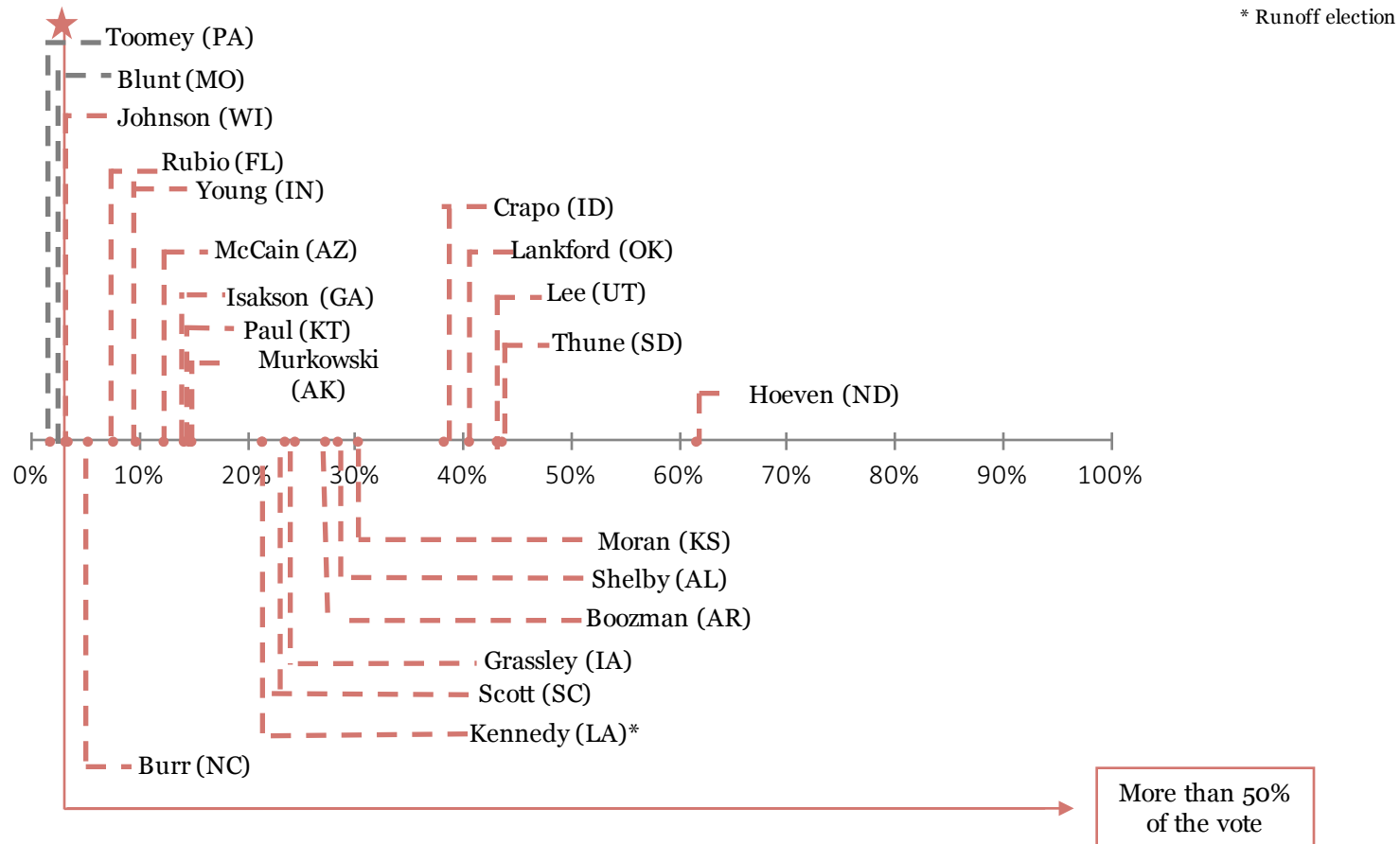
■ Clinton victory
 ■ Trump victory
 ■ Democratic senator up for re-election
 ■ Republican senator up for re-election



Sources: National Journal Research, 2017.

Two GOP senators won with less than 50% of the vote in 2016

Margin of victory of GOP senators in the 2016 election

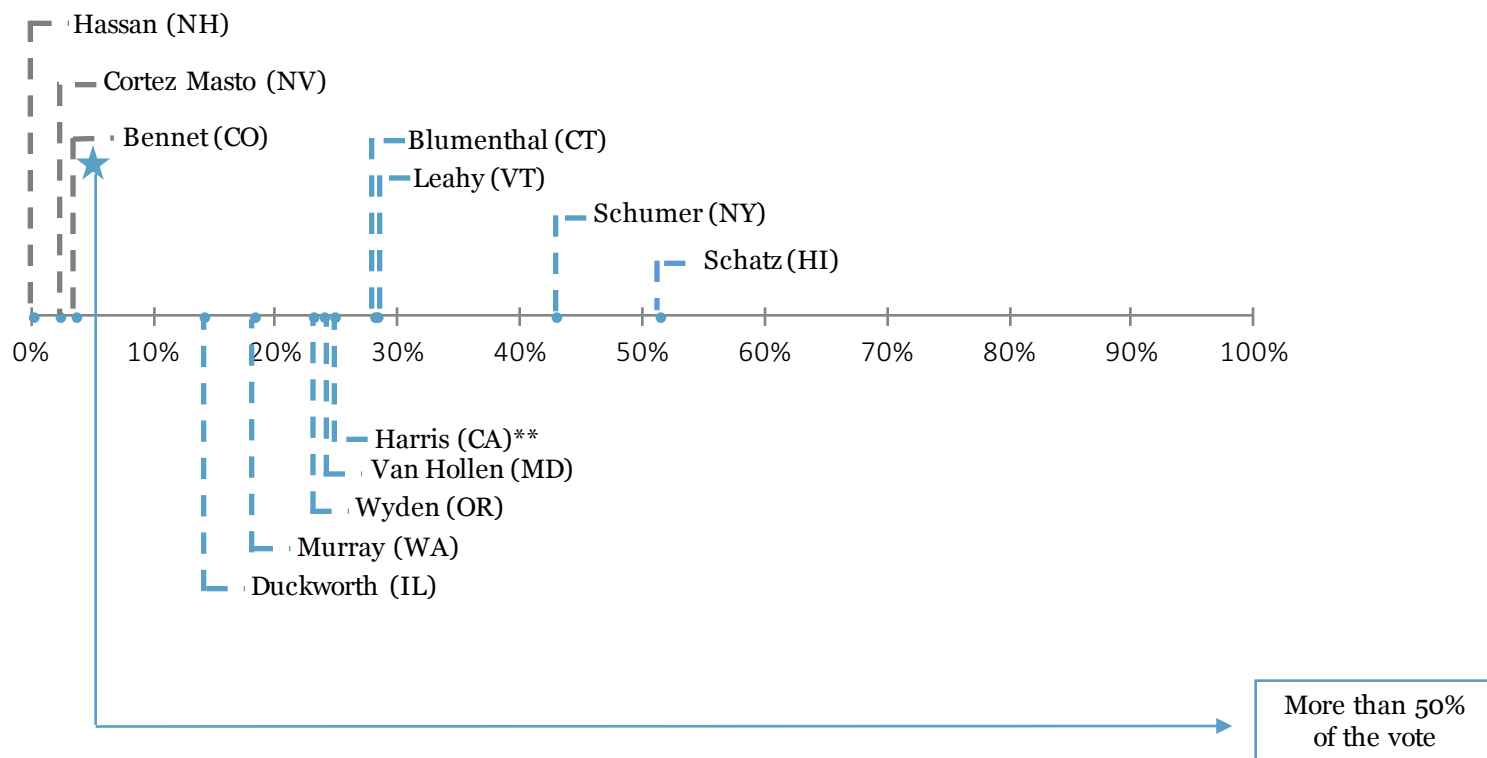


Source: "2016 Senate election results," Politico, December 13, 2016.

Three Democratic senators won with less than 50% of the vote

Margin of victory of Democratic senators in the 2016 election

** Top two primary system



Source: "2016 Senate election results," Politico, December 13, 2016.

Breakdown of current senators

Number of Senate seats in the 115th Congress, by party

■ Republican seats ■ Democrat seats ■ Independent seats



Source: "2016 Senate election results," Politico, December 13, 2016; "115th Congress (2017-2019)" United States Senate, 2018.