

Senate 2018 races

Cook Political Report ratings

Updated September 11, 2018

Producer

Presentation Center

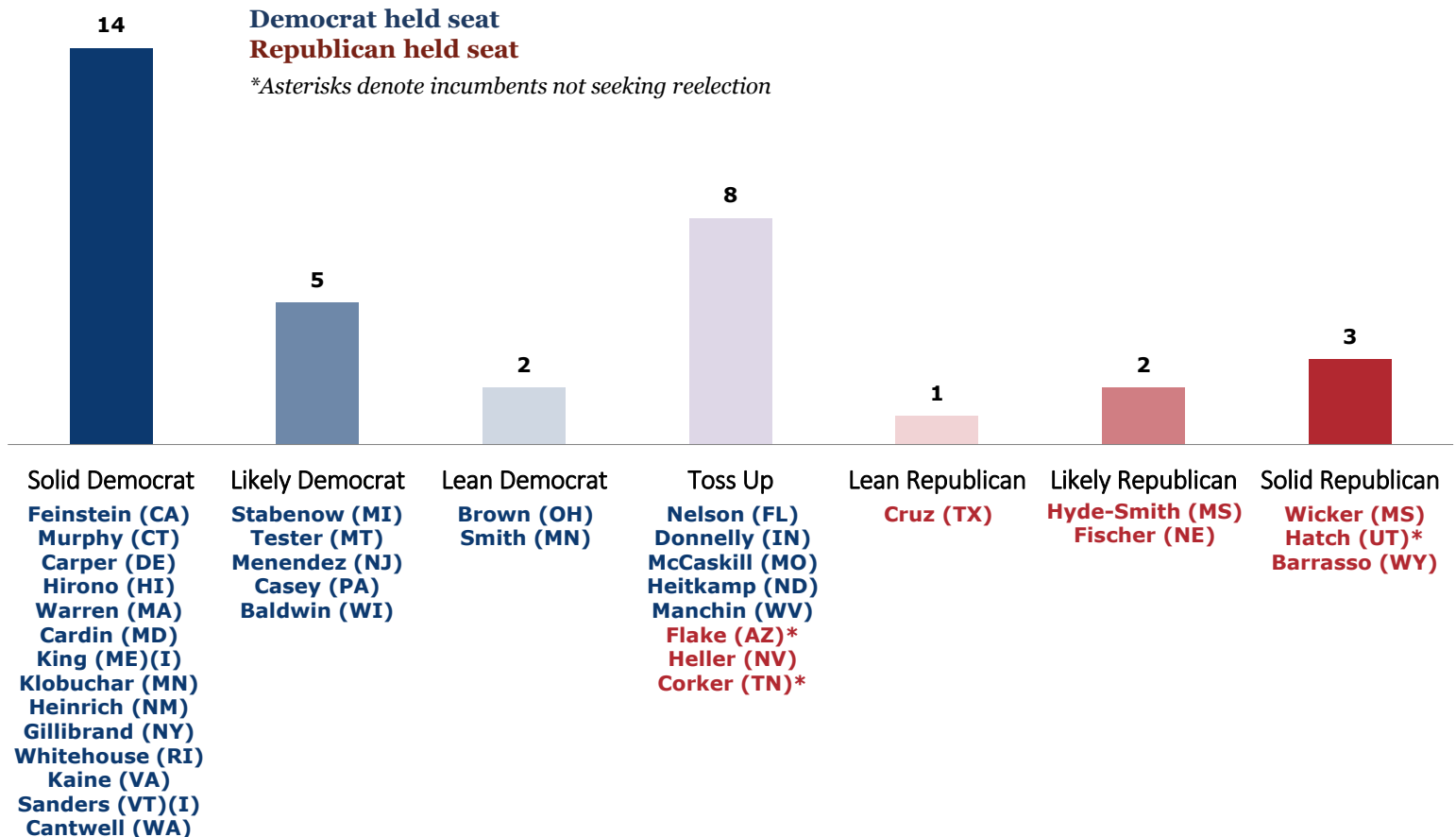
Director

Alistair Taylor

Control of the Senate will depend on the eight “Toss Up” seats

Cook Political Report ratings

ALL 2018 SENATE RACES

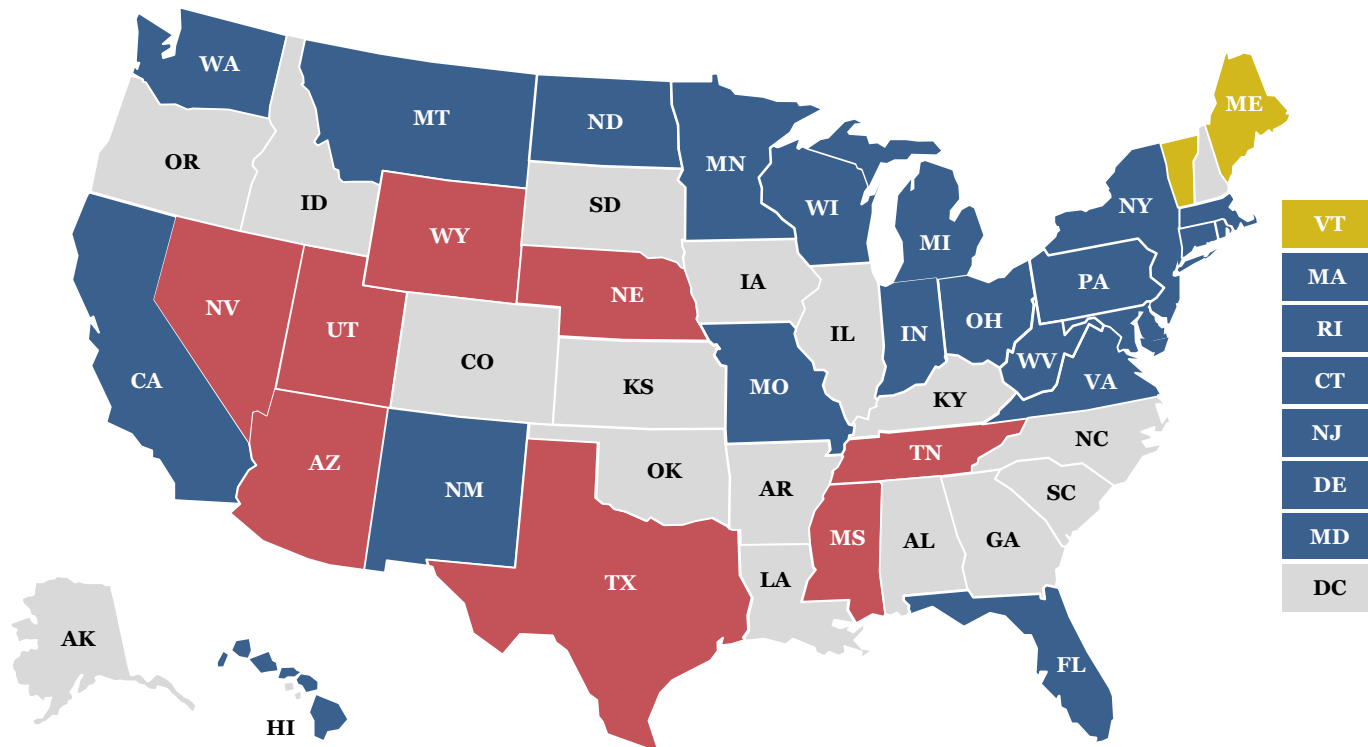


Source: The Cook Political Report, 2018.

26 seats 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

■ Democratic-held seat ■ Republican 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.

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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)

- Corker is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and a frequent critic of Trump
- Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) is the Republican frontrunner to replace him
- Former TN governor Phil Bredesen (D) also announced his candidacy



Jeff Flake
(R-AZ)

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



Orrin Hatch
(R-UT)

- Hatch announced his retirement after initially deciding to run for an eighth term
- Former MA governor and presidential candidate Mitt Romney announced he was running for the open seat in mid-February and is expected to win nomination and the seat



Thad Cochran
(R-MS)

- Cochran announced his resignation effective April 1, due to health concerns
- Gov. Phil Bryant (R) appointed Ag Commissioner Cindy Hyde-Smith, a former Democrat, to fill the seat until a Nov. 2018 special election
- She will be challenged by hard-right State Senator Chris McDaniel (R)
- Mike Espy (D), a former US secretary of agriculture, intends to run
- Both Mississippi Senate seats will be on the ballot in November



Al Franken
(D-MN)

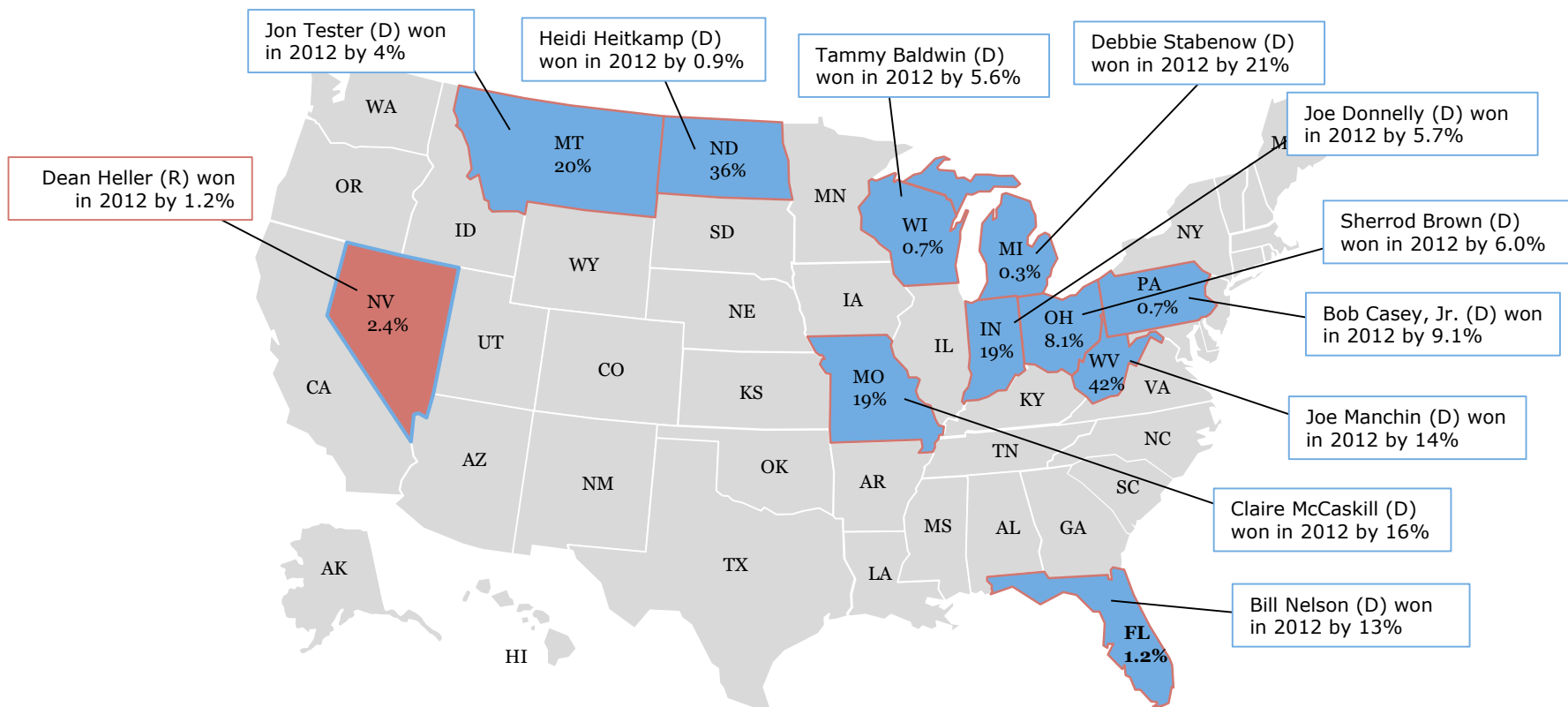
- Franken resigned on January 2nd amid a sexual harassment scandal
- He was replaced by Tina Smith (D) who will run in November to finish his term
- Both Minnesota Senate seats will be on the ballot in November

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.

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

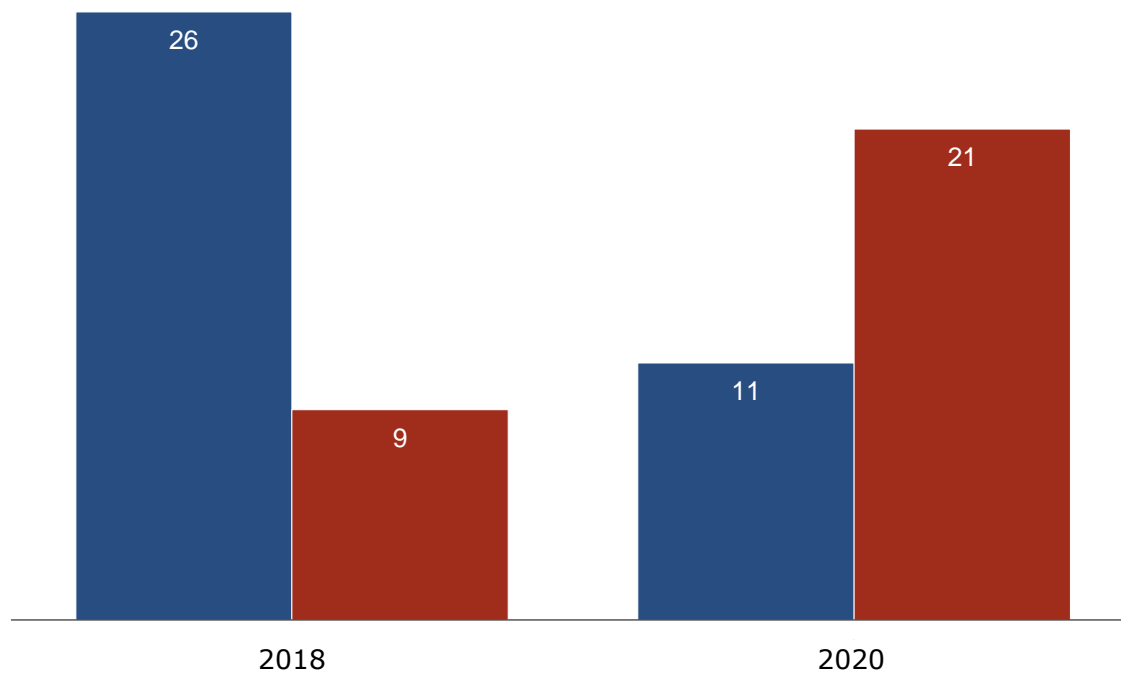
Clinton + 15 or greater	Clinton +5 to +14.9	Clinton +4.9 to Trump +4.9	Trump +5 to +14.9	Trump +15 or greater
DEMOCRATS (11)				
Coons (DE) +11.5 Durbin (IL) +16 Markey (MA) +27.3 Booker (NJ) +13.2 Reed (RI) +15.6	Franken (MN) +8.3 Shaheen (NH) +6 T. Udall (NM) +0.4 Merkley (OR) +10.6	Warner (VA) D+4.9 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.

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.

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