

Live Updates: Trump 'Almost There,' Leading in 5 of 7 Remaining States

This is, without a doubt, the most important election for the history of our nation. And while much of the attention is focused on the presidential election, there are other races across the country that will play a vital role in tonight's overall outcome.

Senate

In the Senate, there are 34 seats up for grabs. Currently, Republicans hold a 54-46 majority. Of those seats being contested, the GOP is currently leading in 14 races and Democrats are leading in nine. Eleven seats are considered "toss-up" races.

House

As is the case every two years, all 435 seats in the House of Representatives are up for re-election. Currently, the Republican Party holds a 246-189 majority. The experts say there are currently 48 contested races—of those, the GOP holds a 30-18 advantage in the polls.

Statewide Races

There are statewide races on the ballots across the country tonight. As the outcomes merit, we will report on surprising or otherwise newsworthy results as they come in.

We will be updating this article throughout the evening. Keep checking back regularly to stay informed.

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12:30 a.m. EST: Donald Trump is on the cusp of winning the presidency, picking up Georgia, and Iowa to surpass 250 electoral votes. He now leads Hillary Clinton in five of the seven remaining states: New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Arizona, and Alaska.

Clinton, on the other hand, leads in Maine and Minnesota.

Meanwhile, the Republican Party appears poised to retain the majority in the Senate, although it will lose seats. Meanwhile, in the House, the GOP has achieved the 218 seats needed for a majority.

11:30 p.m. EST: Trump has won Idaho and Utah, while Clinton picked up California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii. While Clinton has narrowed the Electoral College math some, her pathway to the presidency has narrowed substantially.

Trump now leads, 222-209, and leads in Georgia (16 EV), New Hampshire (4 EV), Michigan (16 EV), Wisconsin (10 EV), Iowa (6 EV), and Arizona (11 EV). Clinton leads only in Nevada (6 EV), Minnesota (10 EV), Pennsylvania (20 EV), and Maine (4 EV).

Alaska is expected to give its three electoral votes to Trump after its Aleutian Islands precincts close at 1 a.m. EST. If the current leads hold, Trump will win the presidency with 288 electoral votes.

11 p.m. EST: With the polls closed now in all but Alaska, Donald Trump saw his electoral vote lead increase to 212-131 by picking up Florida and North Carolina. Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, picked up Colorado.

Trump now needs just 58 electoral votes to win the White House. He's currently leading in Georgia (16 EV), New Hampshire (4 EV), Michigan (16 EV), Wisconsin (10), Idaho (4),

Nevada (6 EV), Utah (6 EV), and Arizona (11 EV) for the possibility of 73 electoral votes—plenty to win.

Returns have yet to be reported from Washington, Oregon, California, and Hawaii.

10:30 p.m. EST: Trump has won Montana. Clinton, meanwhile, picked up Virginia. The electoral vote is now 150-122 for Trump, who holds a 1.4 million marker lead in the popular vote.

In the races for control of Congress, Republicans hold a 13-5 lead in the 34 contested Senate races, giving them a 45-42 lead in total seats won. Meanwhile, the GOP holds a 161-114 lead in the House races.

In gubernatorial races, Republicans have won three governorships and are leading in three others. Democrats, on the other hand, have won two and are leading in two other races. The polls are still open in two other races.

9:30 p.m. EST: The “battle” for the House is now well underway. Republicans currently hold a 103-77 lead in declared seats with 218 needed to retain their majority. In the Senate, the GOP is tied with Democrats, 42-42, with 16 races yet to be declared.

In the presidential race, Trump picked up Arkansas and Louisiana, while Clinton gained Connecticut. Trump now leads the electoral vote, 147-104. He also leads the popular vote by more than 1.5 million votes.

Trump is leading in New Hampshire, Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Ohio, Michigan, and Minnesota. Meanwhile, Clinton leads in Maine, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and New Mexico—narrowly in each one.

9 p.m. EST: The polls are now closed in all but seven states, and Trump continues to lead in the states that have been declared so far. Clinton picked up Illinois, New York, and Rhode Island, while Trump grabbed wins in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, and Wyoming. Trump now leads, 133-97, in the electoral vote.

Here's a rundown of the states that have not yet been declared:

- Maine—Trump leads, 50-43
- New Hampshire—Clinton leads, 52-42
- Connecticut—Clinton leads, 65-31
- Pennsylvania—Clinton leads, 76-21
- Ohio—Clinton leads, 49-47
- Virginia—Trump leads, 50-45
- North Carolina—Clinton leads, 50-48
- Georgia—Trump leads, 61-36
- Florida—Trump leads, 49-48
- Arkansas—Trump leads, 53-42
- Michigan—Clinton leads, 50-45

We can also report the following updates on the Senate races:

- Arkansas—John Boozman (R) is leading
- Georgia—Johnny Isakson (R) is leading
- Illinois—Tammy Duckworth (D) is leading
- Indiana—Todd Young (R) has been declared the winner
- Kansas—Jerry Moran (R) is leading
- Missouri—Jason Kander (D) is leading
- New Hampshire—Maggie Hassan (D) is leading
- North Carolina—Richard Burr (R) is leading
- North Dakota—Richard Hoeven (R) is leading
- Pennsylvania—Katie McGinty (D) is leading

The next round of states to close their polls will be:

- Iowa (6 EV)
- Montana (3 EV)
- Nevada (6 EV)
- Utah (6 EV)

8:30 p.m. EST: The polls are now closed in Arkansas and several new states have been declared in the presidential election. Trump has won the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, giving him a 76-44 lead in the electoral vote. He leads the popular vote, 50-46 percent.

We can now also report the following Senate races:

- Alabama—Richard Selby (R) is leading
- Connecticut—Richard Blumenthal (D) has been declared the winner
- Florida—Marco Rubio (R) has been declared the winner
- Georgia—Johnny Isakson (R) is leading
- Indiana—Todd Young (R) is leading
- Kansas—Jerry Moran (R) is leading
- Kentucky—Rand Paul (R) has been declared the winner
- Maryland—Chris Van Hollen (D) has been declared the winner
- Missouri—Jason Kander (D) is leading
- New Hampshire—Maggie Hassan (D) is leading
- North Carolina—Deborah Ross (D) is leading
- Ohio—Rob Portman (R) has been declared the winner
- Oklahoma—James Lankford (R) has been declared the winner
- Pennsylvania—Pat Toomey (R) is leading
- South Carolina—Tim Scott (R) has been declared the winner
- Vermont—Patrick Leahy (D) has been declared the winner

8 p.m. EST: Polls have now closed in half of the states, as well as the District of Columbia, and the electoral map is

really beginning to take shape. Trump has taken Missouri, Oklahoma and South Carolina, while Clinton has won the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware.

Trump leads the electoral vote, 50-44, and the popular vote, 50-47 percent.

Polls in Arkansas close at 8:30 p.m. The next round of states after that to close their polls (at 9 p.m.) will be:

- Arizona (11 EV)
- Colorado (9 EV)
- Kansas (6 EV)
- Louisiana (8 EV)
- Michigan (16 EV)
- Minnesota (10 EV)
- Nebraska (5 EV)
- New Mexico (5 EV)
- New York (29 EV)
- South Dakota (3 EV)
- Texas (38 EV)
- Wisconsin (10 EV)
- Wyoming (3 EV)

7:30 p.m. EST: Polls have now closed in the second round of states. Donald Trump has been declared the winner of West Virginia based entirely on exit polling data. He now leads the popular vote, 55-41 percent, and the electoral vote, 24-3. Here's a rundown of the current undeclared states:

- Virginia (13 EV)—Trump leads, 57-38
- Georgia (16 EV)—Trump leads, 73-25
- South Carolina (9 EV)—Trump leads, 51-48

The next round of states to have the polls close (at 8 p.m. EST) are:

- Alabama (9 EV)
- Connecticut (7 EV)
- Delaware (3 EV)
- District of Columbia (3 EV)
- Florida (29 EV)
- Illinois (20 EV)
- Maine (4 EV)
- Maryland (10 EV)
- Massachusetts (11 EV)
- Mississippi (6 EV)
- Missouri (10 EV)
- New Jersey (14 EV)
- Oklahoma (7 EV)
- Pennsylvania (20 EV)
- Rhode Island (4 EV)
- Tennessee (11 EV)

7 p.m. EST: Polls have now closed in the first round of states. The Associated Press immediately declared Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump the winner in Indiana and Kentucky—states where most of the polls closed at 6 p.m. He's currently leading the overall popular vote, 65-31 percent.

Hillary Clinton was declared the winner in Vermont, giving her three electoral votes. There were concerns she could be hurt by home-state support of her primary challenger, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) from disaffected liberal-progressives.

Trump was leading his Democratic Party counterpart, Hillary Clinton, 62-34 in Indiana with percent of the polls reporting. He leads 65-30 in Kentucky with percent reporting. He now has 19 electoral votes—270 are needed to win.

The next wave of states closing their polls will be at 7:30 p.m., when the following states will stop voting:

- North Carolina (15 EV)

- Ohio (18 EV)
- West Virginia (5 EV)

6 p.m. EST: The first polls close in 60 minutes in the following states:

- Georgia (16 EV)
- Indiana (11 EV)
- Kentucky (7 EV)
- New Hampshire (4 EV)
- South Carolina (9 EV)
- Vermont (3 EV)
- Virginia (13 EV)