

State of Play PENNSYLVANIA MIDTERMS

The rights of Pennsylvanians are under threat with extremists running for statewide office and the state General Assembly. Abortion rights, book bans, voting rights, and public education are just some of the key issues at stake. Election deniers are running for office and threatening our democracy.

This guide is a snapshot of who is running and who matters.



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State Legislature

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

Extreme Republicans control both chambers of the Pennsylvania state legislature. If the GOP retains a majority, they will refuse any common sense measures to keep kids safe from gun violence in schools and pass an agenda to make our schools less safe and welcoming for our kids. A Democratic governor is NOT enough to protect reproductive rights in Pennsylvania. Abortion remains legal in Pennsylvania up to 24 weeks of pregnancy, but the state legislature is controlled by Republicns who want a constitutional amendment to ban all abortions. They also want to regulate IVF and contraceptive treatments. If Republicans retain the majority in the legislature, they will pass the amendment in January and put it on the ballot in 2023. A governor cannot veto this and a complete abortion ban will be enshrined in the Pennsylvania Constitution.

If GOP retains majority core rights of Pennsylvanians are threatened



28 REPUBLICANS 21 DEMOCRATS

Current Situation

28 Republicans and 21 Democrats, with 1 Independent.

25 seat are up for election.

113 REPUBLICANS
89 DEMOCRATS

All 202 seats are up for election, plus 1 vacancy, for a **total of 203 seats**



Democrats need 5 Senate seats and 12 House seats to flip the legislature



Governor

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

The governor has the power to veto bills passed by the legislature, sign bills into law, and serves as the state's chief executive. They outline a policy direction for the state and establish the cabinet of state officials who will have a large impact on state affairs throughout the governor's term. Additionally, the governor appoints the Secretary of State, our chief election official. The Secretary of State can shape Pennsylvania's election laws and decide whether or not to certify election results

Current Situation

Attorney General Josh Shapiro is running to replace Governor Tom Wolf, who cannot run for reelection this year. His opponent, State Senator Doug Mastriano, is one of the most extreme Republican candidates anywhere in the country.

Immediately following his election to the state senate, Doug Mastriano introduced a bill that would ban all abortions after 6 weeks. He was at Trump's rally preceding the Capital Riot and has claimed that climate change is not real. He also wore a Confederate Army uniform in a faculty photo.

Josh Shapiro

Doug Mastriano











HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

U.S. House

All of the 435 elected officials who represent each state in the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, DC are up for election every 2 years.

Democrats now have an overall slim majority 220 - 211 in the House (with 4 vacancies).

U.S. Senate

2 Senators represent every state and they serve for 6 years. The Senate is split 50-50 but Democrats have a slight majority now because VP Harris can offer a tie-breaking vote.

There are 48 Democrats with 2 Independents who vote with the Democrats and 50 Republicans.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

If Republicans gain control of the House, they will pass a national abortion ban.

- They also have vowed to hold Biden impeachment hearings for the Justice Department's actions to recover classified docs that Trump took to Mar-a-Lago.
- House Republicans have voted against lowering the price of insulin for Americans, protecting birth control and abortion access, marriage equality, and interracial marriage.

Current Situation



For the U.S. Senate, Pennsylvania Lt. Governor John Fetterman is running against Republican extremist Mehmet Oz.

Mehmet Oz might be the deciding vote for a national abortion ban. He believes that the government should control pregnancies and has called abortion "murder." He is also against common-sense gun reform.







Voter Deadlines

As soon as ballots are ready, you can request, recieve, vote, and cast your mail-in or absentee ballot all in one visit to your county election board or other officially designated site. With this option, there is no need for mail at all, and you can cast your vote at your convenience. Learn more about voting early in-person.

September: Absentee ballots can be requested.

October 24th: This is the last day to register to vote or update your voter registration.

November 1st: Applications for a mail-in or absentee ballot must be recieved by your county election board by 5 pm.

November 8th: Election Day! Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm. Completed mail-in and absentee ballots must be recieved by your county electon office by 8 pm — postmarks are not enough.

Voters may return their voted mail-in or absentee ballot to their county election board by mail, during that office's business hours, or another officially designated location or drop box. Make sure to follow all directions for completing and sealing your ballot. Don't forget the inner secrecy envelope!

