

THE COOK POLITICAL REPORT

2021/2022 Governors At-A-Glance

This list of potential candidates for the 2021/2022 elections is highly speculative and contains names that have been mentioned as either publicly or privately considering candidacies, or worthy of consideration as candidates or recruiting prospects by the parties or interest groups. The numerical key indicating our assessment of each person's likelihood of running is obviously important, given the "long and dirty" nature of this list, which will be updated each week.

STATE AND RATING	INCUMBENT	LAST WIN %	2020 MARGIN	POTENTIAL AND ANNOUNCED (✓) CANDIDATES
Ala. SOLID R	Kay Ivey (R)	59.5%	+25.6 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> • Doug Jones, frm. U.S. Sen.
Alaska SOLID R	Mike Dunleavy (R)	51.4%	+10.0 Trump	<u>Republicans:</u> • Valerie Nurr'araaluk Davidson, frm. Lt. Gov.
Ariz. TOSS UP	OPEN (R) <i>Ducey is term-limited</i>	56.0%	+0.3 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> • Marco Lopez, Nogales mayor checked • Charlene Fernandez, state House minority leader • Kate Gallego, Phoenix mayor • Katie Hobbs, Secretary of State • Greg Stanton, U.S. Rep <u>Republicans:</u> • Kirk Adams, frm. State House Speaker • Andy Biggs, U.S. Rep. • Mark Brnovich, Attorney General • Matt Salmon, frm. U.S. Rep. • Karrin Taylor Robson, Regents member • Kimberly Yee, Treasurer
Ark. SOLID R	OPEN (R) <i>Hutchinson is term-limited</i>	65.3%	+27.6 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> • James Russell, businessman ✓ • Supha Xayprasith-Mays, businesswoman ✓ • Larry Jegley, Pulaski County prosecutor <u>Republicans:</u> • Sarah Huckabee Sanders, frm. Trump WH press secretary ✓ • Leslie Rutledge, st. Attorney General ✓ • Davy Carter, speaker of the state House • Jim Hendren, st. Sen. Pro Tempore
Calif. SOLID D	Gavin Newsom (D)	61.9%	+29.4 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> • John Cox, '18 Gov. nom. ✓ • Kevin Faulconer, frm. San Diego mayor ✓ • Rhonda Furin, '20 CA-45 cand. ✓ • Errol Webber, '20 CA-37 nom. ✓ • Richard Grenell, frm. Acting Director of National Intelligence • Caitlyn Jenner, frm. Olympian/reality TV star
Colo. SOLID D	Jared Polis (D)	53.4%	+13.5 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> • Laurie Clark, entrepreneur ✓ • Benjamin Huseman, Commerce City mayor ✓ • Greg Lopez, frm. Mayor of Parker ✓ • Heidi Ganahl, University of Colorado Regent • Cory Gardner, frm. U.S. Sen.
Conn. SOLID D	Ned Lamont (D)	49.4%	+20.1 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> • Themis Klarides, frm. st. House minority leader • Bob Stefanowski, '18 Gov. nom. • David Stemerman, businessman/'18 Gov. cand. • Erin Stewart, New Britain mayor

Fla. LEAN R	Ron DeSantis (R)	49.6%	+3.4 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlie Crist, U.S. Rep./frmr. GOP Governor checked • Jane Castor, Tampa mayor • Val Demings, U.S. Rep. • Ted Deutch, U.S. Rep. • Buddy Dyer, Orlando mayor • Nikki Fried, Agriculture commissioner • Dan Gelber, Miami Beach mayor • Gwen Graham, frmr. U.S. Rep./2018 gov. candidate • Rick Kriseman, St. Petersburg mayor • Stephanie Murphy, U.S. Rep.
Ga. LEAN R	Brian Kemp (R)	50.2%	+0.3 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stacey Abrams, '18 Gov. nom. <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vernon Jones, frmr. Dem state rep./Trump activist ✓ • Kandiss Taylor, teacher, 2020 Sen. candidate ✓
Hawaii SOLID D	OPEN (D) <i>Ige is term-limited</i>	62.7%	+29.5 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirk Caldwell, frmr. Honolulu mayor • Donovan Dela Cruz, st. Sen. • Josh Green, Lt. Gov. • Colleen Hanabusa, frmr. U.S. Rep. • Jill Tokuda, frmr. st. Sen. <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marissa Kerns, '18 Lt. Gov. nom. • Andria Tupola, '18 Gov. nom.
Idaho SOLID R	Brad Little (R)	59.8%	+30.8 Trump	
Ill. SOLID D	J.B. Pritzker (D)	54.4%	+16.9 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darren Bailey, st. Rep. ✓ • Paul Schimpf, frmr. st. Sen. ✓ • Paul Schimpf, frmr. st. Sen. ✓ • Jason Barickman, st. Sen. ✓ • Bill Brady, frmr. st. Senate minority leader • Rodney Davis, U.S. Rep. • Adam Kinzinger, U.S. Rep. • Richard Porter, attorney • Todd Ricketts, Chicago Cubs co-owner
Iowa LIKELY R	Kim Reynolds (R)	50.3%	+8.2 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Geltz, teacher ✓ • Cindy Axne, U.S. Rep. • Mark Nolte, Economic Development Group President • Rob Sand, st. Auditor
Kan. TOSS UP	Laura Kelly (D)	48.0%	+15.1 Trump	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Colyer, frmr. Governor • Kris Kobach, frmr. Sec. of State/2018 Gov. nom. • Ron Ryckman, st. House Speaker • Derek Schmidt, st. Attorney General • Susan Wagle, frmr. st. Sen. President
Maine LIKELY D	Janet Mills (D)	50.9%	+18.6 Trump	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul LePage, frmr. Gov. ✓ • Bruce Poliquin, frmr. U.S. Rep.

Md. **OPEN (R)**
LEAN D Hogan is term-limited

55.4% +32.5
Biden

Democrats:

- Rushern Baker, frmr. Prince George County Executive ✓
- Jon Baron, policy executive ✓
- Peter Franchot, Md. Comptroller ✓
- Ashwani Jain, frmr. Obama WH aide ✓
- Calvin Ball III, Howard County Executive
- Anthony Brown, U.S. Rep./frmr. Lt. Gov.
- John Delaney, frmr. Rep.
- Doug Gansler, frmr. Atty. Gen.
- Ben Jealous, 2018 Gov. nominee/frmr. NAACP pres.
- John B. King Jr. , frmr. Obama secretary of education
- Kweisi Mfume, U.S. Rep./frmr. NAACP pres.
- Wes Moore, author/activist
- Martin O'Malley, frmr. Governor
- John Olszewski, Baltimore County Executive
- Tom Perez, frmr. DNC chairman
- Steuart Pittman, Anne Arundel County Executive
- John Sarbanes, U.S. Rep.
- David Trone, U.S. Rep.
- Ken Ulman, frmr. Howard County Executive
- Mary Washington, state Sen.

Republicans:

- Robin Ficker, frmr. st. Del. ✓
- Kelly Schulz, Secretary of Commerce ✓
- Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, st. Natural Resources secretary
- Andy Harris, U.S. Rep.
- J.B. Jennings, state Senate minority leader
- Kimberly Klacik, 2020 MD-07 nominee
- Steve Schuh, frmr. Anne Arundel County executive
- Christopher Shank, chief legislative officer to Gov. Hogan
- Michael Steele, frmr. Lt. Gov/frmr RNC chairman

Mass. **Charlie Baker (R)**
SOLID R

66.6% +15.4
Trump

Democrats:

- Danielle Allen, Harvard professor ✓
- Katherine Clark, U.S. Rep.
- Mo Cowan, frmr. U.S. Sen.
- Joseph Curatone, Somerville mayor
- Ben Downing, frmr. st. Sen.
- Maura Healy, st. Attorney General
- Joe Kennedy III, frmr. U.S. Rep.
- Alex Morse, Holyoke mayor
- Seth Moulton, U.S. Rep.

Republicans:

- Geoff Diehl, frmr. st. Rep.
- Karyn Polito, Lt. Gov.

Mich **Gretchen Whitmer (D)**
LEAN D

53.3% +2.8
Biden

Republicans:

- James Craig, Detroit Police chief ✓
- Tom Barrett, st. Sen.
- Jack Bergman, U.S. Rep.
- Lee Chatfield, frmr. st. House speaker
- Patrick Colbeck, frmr. st. Sen./2018 candidate
- Tudor Dixon, conservative radio host
- John James , 2018 & 2020 U.S. Sen. nominee
- Lisa McClain, U.S. Rep.
- Jack O'Malley, st. Rep.
- Kevin Rinke, businessman

Minn. LIKELY D	Tim Walz (D)	53.8%	+7.1 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Birk, retired Vikings NFL center • Jennifer Carnahan, Minnesota GOP chairwoman • Kurt Daudt, st. House minority leader • Paul Gazelka, st. Sen. majority leader • Karin Housley, '18 U.S. Sen. nom. • Scott Jensen, st. Sen. • Mike Lindell, My Pillow founder/Trump activist
Neb. SOLID R	OPEN (R) <i>Ricketts is term-limited</i>	59.0%	+19.2 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob Krist, '18 Gov. nom. <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Herbster, agriculture entrepreneur ✓ • Brett Lindstrom, st. Sen. ✓ • Jim Pillen, U. of Nebraska Board of Regents mem. ✓ • Tim Clare, University of Nebraska Board of Regents chairman • Mike Foley, Lt. Gov. • Greg Ibach, frmr. Trump USDA official • Charlie Janssen, st. Auditor • Lou Ann Linehan, st. Sen. • Bryan Slone, Nebraska Chamber of Commerce president • Jean Stothert, Omaha mayor
Nev. LIKELY D	Steve Sisolak (D)	49.4%	+2.4 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Clark County Commission chair <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Amodei, U.S. Rep. • Heidi Gansert, st. Sen. • Dean Heller, frmr. U.S. Sen. • Mark Hutchison, frmr. Lt. Gov. • Ben Kieckhefer, st. Sen. • Adam Laxalt, 2018 gov. nominee/frmr Atty. Gen. • John Jay Lee, North Las Vegas mayor • Joe Lombardo, Clark County Sheriff • Derek Stevens, businessman
N.H. SOLID R	Chris Sununu (R)	65.1%	+7.4 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly Ayotte, frmr. U.S. Sen. • Corey Lewandowski, frmr. Trump campaign manager
N.J. SOLID D *2021 race*	Phil Murphy (D)	56.0%	+15.9 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Ciattarelli, frmr. st. Assemblyman ✓ • Brian Levine, frmr. Somerset County Freeholder ✓ • Phil Rizzo, pastor • Hirsch Singh, businessman
N.M. SOLID D	Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)	57.2%	+10.8 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jay Block, Sandoval County Commissioner ✓ • Rebecca Dow, st. Rep. • Steve Pearce, 2018 gov. nominee/frmr. U.S. Rep. • Mark Ronchetti, 2020 U.S. Sen. nominee • John Sanchez, frmr. Lt. Gov.

N.Y. SOLID D	Andrew Cuomo (D)	59.6%	+14.6 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob Astorino, 2014 Gov. nominee ✓ • Mike Carpinelli, Lewis County Sheriff ✓ • Derrick Gibson, auto shop owner ✓ • Lee Zeldin, U.S. Rep. ✓ • Chris Gibson, frmr. U.S. Rep. • John Katko, U.S. Rep. • Marc Molinaro, 2018 Gov. nominee • George Pataki, frmr. Governor • Elise Stefanik, U.S. Rep. • Harry Wilson, businessman
Ohio LIKELY R	Mike DeWine (R)	50.4%	+8.0 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nan Whaley, Dayton mayor ✓ • John Cranley, Cincinnati mayor • Zach Klein, Columbus City atty. • Josh Mandel, 2014 Sen. nominee/frmr. state Treasurer • David Pepper, frmr. Ohio Dem. Party chairman • Emilia Sykes, state House minority leader <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warren Davidson, U.S. Rep. • Jim Renacci, '18 Sen. nom./frmr. U.S. Rep. • Mary Taylor, frmr. Lt. Gov.
Okla. SOLID R	Kevin Stitt (R)	54.3%	+33.1 Trump	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ervin Yen, frmr. st. Sen./physician
Ore. SOLID D	OPEN (D) <i>Brown is term-limited</i>	50.1%	+16.1 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rukaiyah Adams, Meyer Memorial Trust CIO • Shermia Fagan, Secretary of State • Val Hoyle, State Labor Commissioner • Deborah Kafoury, Multnomah County Commission chair • Tina Kotek, state House Speaker • Lynn Peterson, Metro Council President • Tobias Read, st. Treasurer • Ellen Rosenblum, Attorney General • Ted Wheeler, Portland mayor <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bud Pierce, '16 nom./physician ✓ • Stan Pulliam, Sandy mayor ✓ • Paul Romero, Navy veteran ✓ • Tim Knopp, st. Sen. • Julie Parrish, frmr. state Rep.
Pa. TOSS UP	OPEN (D) <i>Wolf is term-limited</i>	57.8%	+1.2 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Kenney, Philadelphia mayor • Josh Shapiro, st. AG • Joe Torsella, frmr. st. Treasurer <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Bartos, 2018 Lt. Gov. nominee ✓ • Jason Monn, frmr. Corry mayor ✓ • Lou Barletta, 2018 U.S. Sen. nominee/frmr. U.S. Rep. • Camera Barlotta, st. Sen. • Jim Cawley, frmr. Lt. Gov. • Jake Corman, state Senate majority leader • Laureen Cummings, frmr. Lackawanna County Commissioner • Mike Kelly, U.S. Rep. • Doug Mastriano, state Sen. • Dave Reed, frmr. state House majority leader • Mike Turazai, frmr. state House speaker • Scott Wagner, 2018 gov. nominee/frmr. state Sen.

R.I. SOLID D	Daniel McKee (D)	52.6%	+20.8 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Brown, frmr. Secretary of State • David Cicilline, U.S. Rep. • James Diossa, Central Falls mayor • Brendan Doherty, frmr. state police superintendent • Jorge Elozara, Providence mayor • Nellie Gorbea, Secretary of State • Jeff Grybowski, energy executive • Jim Langevin, U.S. Rep. • Seth Magaziner, Treasurer • Luis Daniel Munoz, physician • Peter Neronha, Attorney General <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Block, businessman • Giovanni Feroce, frmr. st. Sen. • Blake Filppi, state House minority leader • Allan Fung, 2014 & 2018 Gov. nominee • Jeff Grybowski, businessman • Paul Vaccaro, Oakland Beach mayor
S.C. LIKELY R	Henry McMaster (R)	54.0%	+11.7 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Cunningham, frmr. U.S. Rep. ✓ • Stephen Benjamin, Columbia mayor • Marlon Kimpson, state Sen. • Mia McCleod, state Sen. • Mandy Powers Norrell, frmr. state Rep. • Todd Rutherford, state House minority leader • Bakari Sellers, frmr. state Rep./CNN commentator <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine Templeton, frmr. cabinet member/'18 cand. • John Warren, mortgage executive/'18 cand.
S.D. SOLID R	Kristi Noem (R)	51.0%	+26.2 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billie Sutton, '18 Gov. nom. <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marty Jackley, frmr. st. AG
Tenn. SOLID R	Bill Lee (R)	59.6%	+20.5 Trump	
Texas LIKELY R	Greg Abbott (R)	55.8%	+5.6 Trump	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eric Johnson, Dallas mayor • Beto O'Rourke, '18 U.S. Sen. nom./frmr. U.S. Rep. <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Holsome, Rusk City Councilman ✓ • Don Huffines, frmr. st. Sen. ✓ • Chad Prather, comedian ✓ • Dan Crenshaw, U.S. Rep. • Sid Miller, state Agriculture Commissioner • Allen West, state GOP chairman/frmr. U.S. Rep. from FL
Va. LIKELY D *2021 race*	OPEN (D) <i>Northam is term-limited</i>	53.9%	+10.1 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Carroll Foy, frmr. st. Del. ✓ • Lee Carter, st. Del. ✓ • Justin Fairfax, Lt. Gov. ✓ • Terry McAuliffe, frmr. Gov. ✓ • Jennifer McClellan, st. Sen. ✓ <u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glenn Youngkin, frmr. Carlyle Group CEO ✓

Vt. SOLID R	Phil Scott (R)	68.5%	+35.4 Biden	<u>Democrats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• T.J. Donovan, st. Attorney General• Molly Gray, Lt. Gov.• Beverly Powell, st. Sen.
Wis. LEAN D	Tony Evers (D)	49.5%	+0.6 Biden	<u>Republicans:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sean Duffy, frmr. U.S. Rep.• Paul Farrow, Waukesha County Executive• Ron Johnson, U.S. Sen.• Chris Kapenga, st. Sen. president• Rebecca Kleefisch, frmr. Lt. Gov.• Kevin Nicholson, Iraq & Afghanistan war veteran• Reince Priebus, frmr. RNC chairman
Wyo. SOLID R	Mark Gordon (R)	67.1%	+43.4 Trump	
