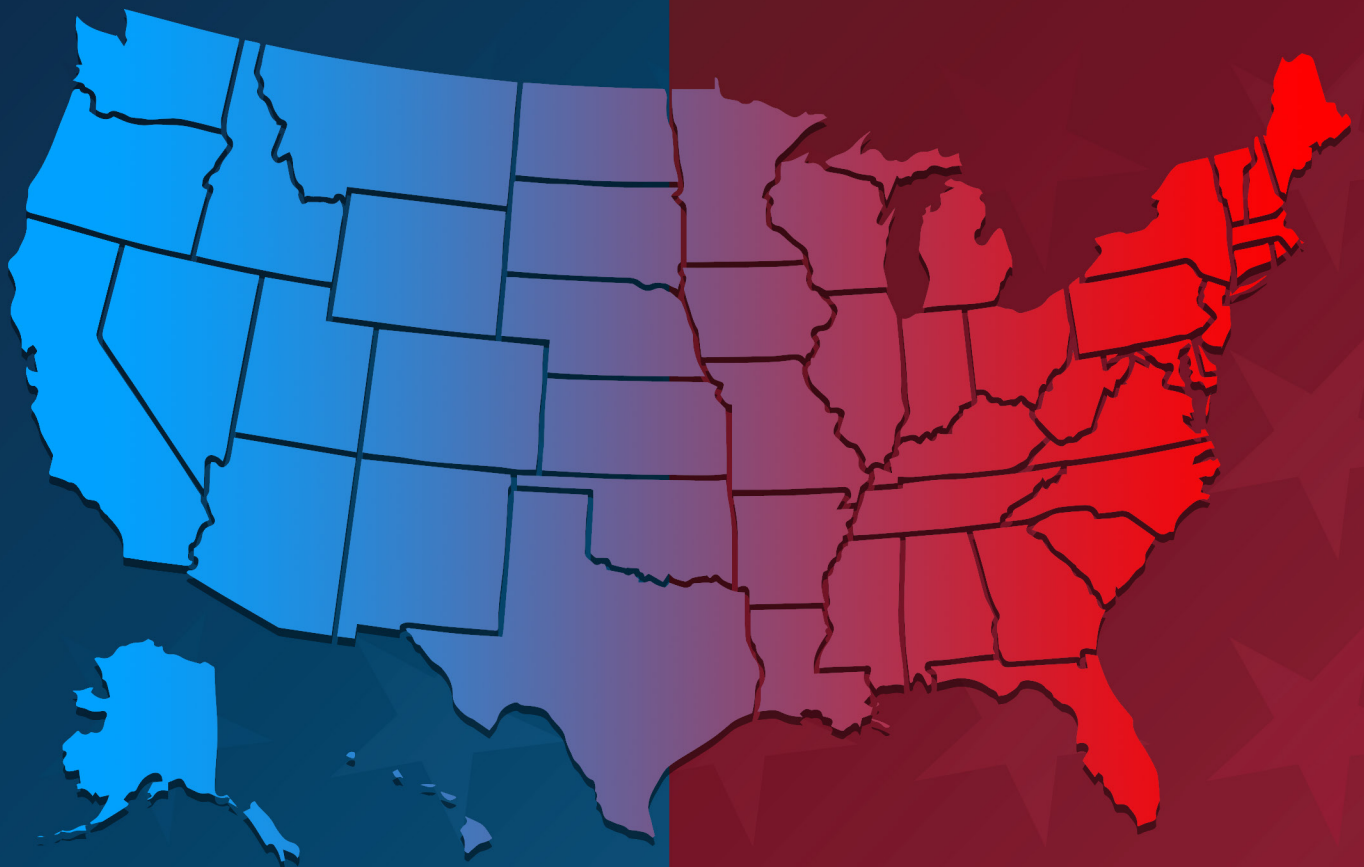


ELECTION REPORT 2020

The Most Important Election In U.S. History



ELECTION REPORT 2020

THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION IN U.S. HISTORY

It could be considered folly to try to handicap the 2020 U.S. election, especially with four weeks still remaining *prior* to the vote. Our news cycle, which at one time took place over weeks or days to play out, now happens moment to moment. Change no longer happens *gradually*, it occurs *suddenly*. We hope this report will allow you to embrace the change that is imminent. It's why we chose to focus on the election through a slightly different lens; Money. While our world is rapidly changing, fortunately for the moment the underlying value our money is changing at a slower pace. The results that unfold over the next several months will heavily impact the speed at which the value of the U.S. dollar changes in the future. It's why this election is ultimately so important.

Our issue makes a statement on the overall state of the union and breaks down the Senate races in the key battleground states most critical to the election. We do so in an effort to introduce the candidates from the perspective of money; how much

they have raised, who supports them, and what are the trends in the betting lines heading in each of their races into October. We believe this data could ultimately be far more valuable than ordinary polling. Rather than attempt to *predict* the election, we focus instead on *agendas* and seek to find the answers to the questions that will most impact our financial future positively, and or, negatively.

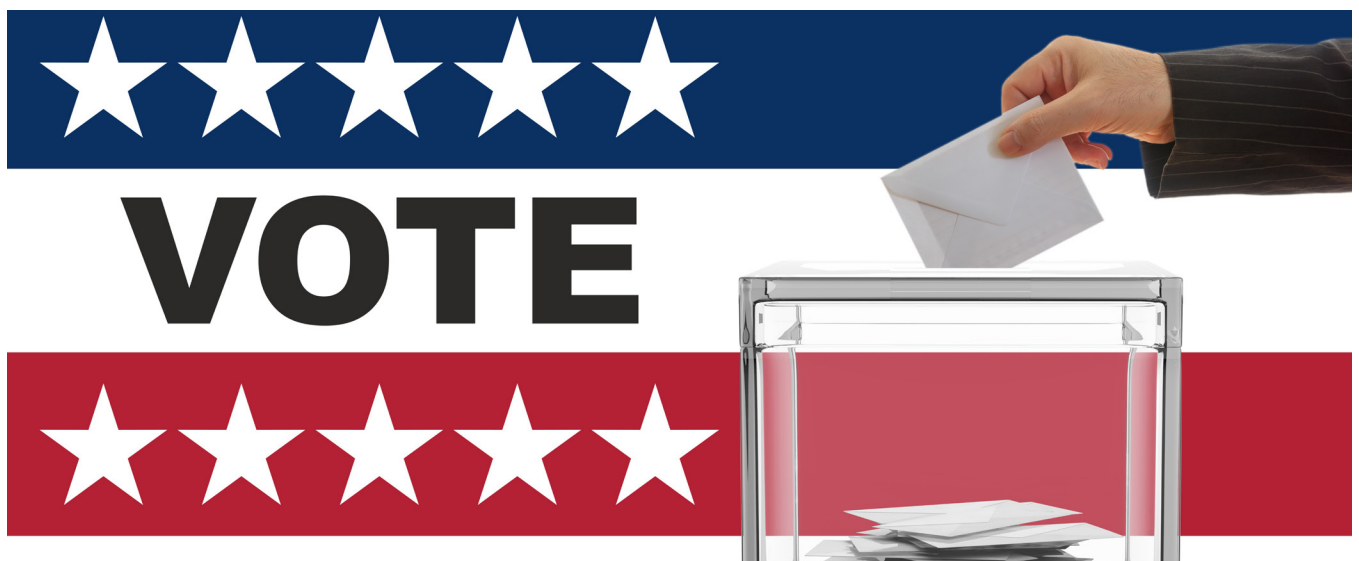
Senate Republicans, who hold a 52-48 majority and are defending 23 seats, compared to just 12 being defended by Democrats and can't afford to lose more than 2 seats. Conservatives want to avoid a blue wave, which would allow for more speedy changes in policy in the corporate tax code, the individual tax code, and greater regulation and larger fiscal deficits. Unfortunately for Republicans, demographics of the electorate are not in their favor. Ultimately, Trump has carried the Republican party and this election will be no different.

It used to be "the economy" that was the main referendum for our national election. The Fed has changed that

and have made the virus and the economy, one in the same. Jerome Powell has openly stated that "the economy will only be as strong as the underlying health situation." Therefore, in addition to covering the money behind the scenes, our report attempts to find the trend in the attitudes towards the pandemic, and how these attitudes could impact individual races for President as well as key state Senate races. The recent news of the president contracting the Covid-19 virus unfortunately increases the chances of the Senate turning blue.

What does it mean when our people openly wish for the physical ill being of the President? What does the fractured nature of our country say about the future underlying value of our money? How will this election impact the ideal of the American concept? What political result will most impact the central bankers and their policies? These are critical questions because money is no longer a tangible thing. It's an idea, an attitude, and one based on faith.

-Adam Baratta

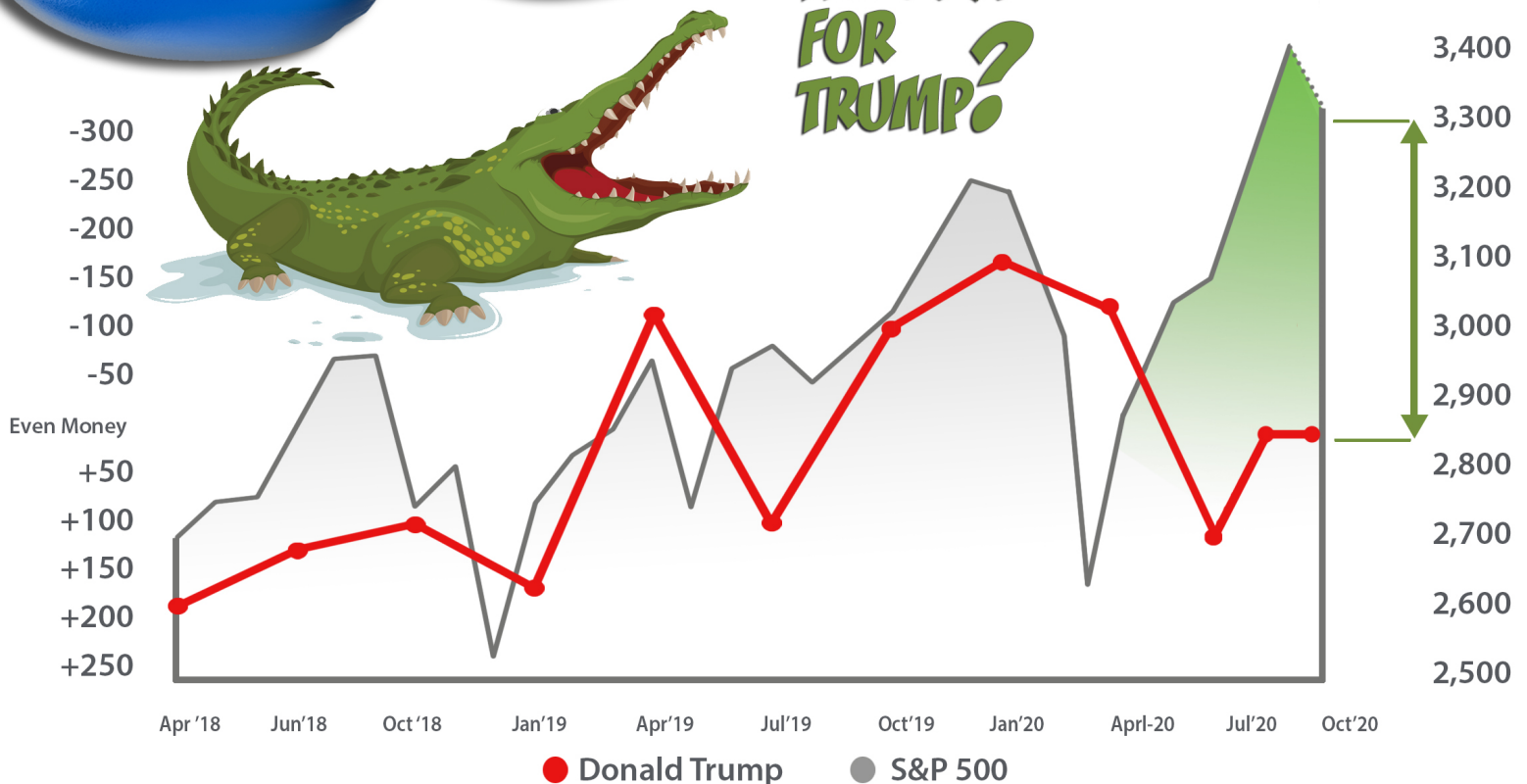


US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2020

ODDS TO WIN

The betting line on Trump's re-election "odds to win" has moved hand in glove with the S&P 500. Over the past two years whenever the stock market index has risen, the betting odds on Trump have risen. That trend has been broken. Since the bottom in March, while the equities markets have reclaimed all of the losses, Trump's odds of winning have plummeted. For those to "follow the money", this trend could spell big trouble for Trump.

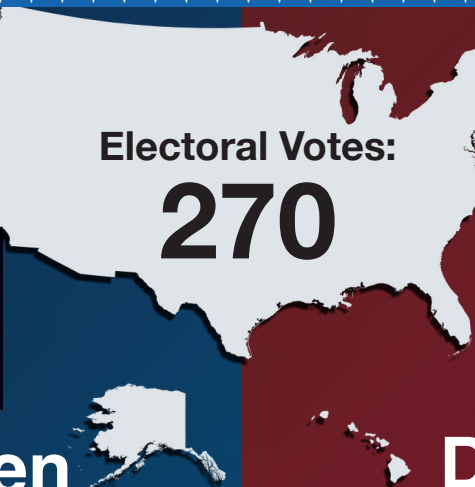
**TROUBLE
FOR
TRUMP?**



USA

Presidential Race 2020


Population size: **331M**
 Last five elections: 
 Traditionally leans: *Democratic*



Joseph R. Biden

Age: 78
Profession: 47th Vice President of US
Amount Raised: \$258,170,051 (01/1/20 - 7/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$175,741,599

Cash on Hand: \$82,428,452
Top Industry: Securities & Investments
Top Contributor: Democracy PAC

Political Leaning:  Moderate Left

Donald J. Trump

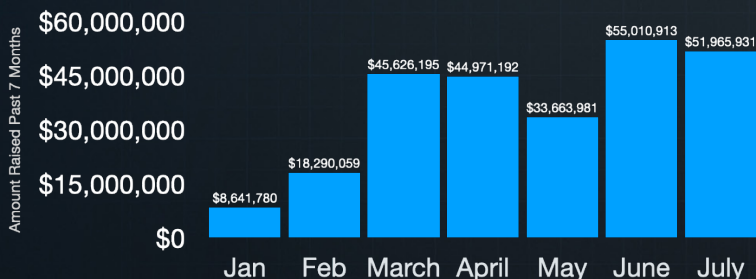
Incumbent Since 2016

Age: 74
Profession: 45th President of US
Amount Raised: \$469,876,398 (01/1/20 - 7/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$349,325,479

Cash on Hand: \$120,550,919
Top Industry: Retired
Top Contributor: GH Palmer Assoc

Political Leaning:  Conservative Right

Biden for President. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Donald J. Trump for President. Inc. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Biden is favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Biden	-162	\$162	\$100
Trump	+138	\$100	\$138

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Our Prediction:

To be revealed in November 1st
 Full Faith and Credit
 Newsletter

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RESEARCH



ELECTION REPORT 2020

BET ON THE DESIRED OUTCOME - CHAOS

While the financial world looked on in early January of this year and saw a stock market at all time highs, and a president that had been enjoying his highest ratings in office who was destined to win a second term, I personally was watching a scrambling Federal Reserve desperately trying to fill the liquidity holes in the system. While Trump was openly claiming “greatest economy of all time,” I was focused on the truth, and that the underlying plumbing of the monetary system was broken. The Federal Reserve was working overtime behind the scenes to keep the banking system functioning. Covid-19 was not the reason for the Fed to pump money into the system. They had secretly and continuously been pumping \$50 billion per month for six months prior to any mention of coronavirus. Covid simply gave the Fed the cover necessary to turn on the faucets full blast. My focus on the situation was higher than most, I had just prepared a presentation and written a book on the specific subject.

In January of this year I was offered the opportunity to be a keynote speaker at the VRIC, the Vancouver Resources Investment Conference. My 15 minute talk was based on a webinar I had been preparing for called *The Black Swan* and was based on the book I was about to submit to my publisher titled *The Great Devaluation*. For the book I had been researching the repeating asset bubbles of human history and why mankind seems to continue to make the same mistakes over and over again. In my studies I encountered a fabulous

book, *Immoderate Greatness, Why Civilizations Fail*, by William Ophuls. The book turned on a lightbulb that I had been unable to connect before reading. Ophuls argued that mankind has a blindspot that keeps them from recognizing exponential growth as it's occurring. I tell this background because I believe that story is everything. When we are focused on the *right story* we can seize the lucky moment when opportunity meets preparation.

In my presentation I had compared the debt of the United States to a deadly virus that was growing exponentially. Over the last 50 years, since Nixon turned the dollar into a fiat currency, our debt has quite literally exploded exponentially higher. Trump is on pace to double the debt of Obama, who doubled the debt of Bush, who doubled the debt of Clinton. I suggested that our debt has hit what is called an asymptote, and is therefore too late to contain. An asymptote is a curve along an X and Y axis that at some point shoots toward infinity. The asymptote *feels like* a black swan that feels like it comes suddenly out of nowhere. In reality black swans are completely predictable when witnessed through the appropriate perspective.

Consider the man who has a massive coronary on his 75th birthday. The attack doesn't come because he ate birthday cake. The heart attack is the build up of decades of poor choices. The suddenness of the attack is the black swan, the asymptote. This is what can best be described as happening gradually then suddenly.

That speech and webinar have gone

viral and have been seen by over one million people. Despite the knowledge that our national debt has been an identifiable problem for decades, something quite unexpected has occurred in the last six months. Since the COVID crisis has become a reality, the Federal Reserve has taken actions that are expedient rather than based on principles and values. Their near immediate moves which cut rates to zero percent and then nearly doubling their balance were downright shocking to most. All in a matter of just a few months. A month before the coronavirus was on the radar I had predicted that the Fed's would be forced to expand their balance sheet to \$20 trillion by the year 2025. I broke it down in my 18,000 word *Black Swan Report*. People thought that prediction was crazy when I made it. A month later the presentation went viral. Everything that I had been predicting was happening in real time. I knew exactly how to play it.

There is a saying about football that goes the following way, “Fans watch the ball, the smart money watches the line of scrimmage.” This is perhaps a good analogy for what I saw happening with our politics, our social networks, and our investment landscape unfolding today. We fans of this game are emotional after all. We have become a nation *emotionally* divided. We have deep feelings about Trump, the Virus, the Protests, the Economy, the Supreme Court and the hypocrisy that has become the norm in our political situation. Emotion colors our perspective and clouds what should perhaps be the primary focus

ELECTION REPORT 2020

as investors. We are so busy fighting one another that we've forgotten to fight for what really matters. While we have all been watching the ball, we have completely ignored the fact that the Federal Reserve has literally moved the line of scrimmage 50 yards down the field.

For this reason, as we look forward into the election season our focus will remain on the most powerful institution in the world, the Federal Reserve. Our Special Election Report and trade revealed herein are focused on this aspect of the story. For those who have been caught up in the emotional roller coaster of politics, allow me to shift your focus to a story you'll want to pay close attention to, the line of scrimmage.

On March 3, 2020 the Federal Reserve unexpectedly announced an "emergency" rate cut. The markets tumbled in response to their actions. Investors went running for the exits so fast that the Fed were soon forced to cut rates again, this time to zero percent in another "emergency" move just twelve days later on March 15th. Shortly thereafter the Fed added over \$3.2 trillion to their balance sheet, nearly doubling its size within a matter of weeks! To put that into some perspective, it had taken the Federal Reserve eleven years to increase the balance sheet \$3.2 trillion. This was an unprecedented action that was entirely predictable. Believe it or not was NOT taken because of the Covid-19 crisis.

"Fans watch the ball, the smart money watches the line of scrimmage."

What you may find interesting is that these moves happened well be-

fore any government shutdowns. The Fed yelled fire and everyone ran. While we were all running for the exits and losing our head the Fed really stepped into overdrive and created lending facilities and swap lines and an alphabet soup of new programs designed to keep the desperate economy afloat. Their initial saving actions were so well received by Wall Street, the media and Congress, that the Fed felt emboldened to go for the gusto and test the limits of their power and decided to buy the junk bonds of insolvent companies. We've called them heroes for stepping up and saving the day.

Really? Are we to honestly believe that in just two weeks the "greatest economy of all time" as Trump has consistently boasted, literally fell apart at the seams? Doesn't that seem a bit extreme? Did the entire financial system really blow up in a matter of hours? Since these reckless actions, and while we have been busy patting the Fed on the back for pumping trillions of dollars into the system, we have forgotten to be outraged at their biggest offense. We have called the arsonists to put out a fire of their own making and have given them praise for doing so.

The results of these actions have created the biggest asset bubble in human history. They have exposed the differences between the real economy where tens of millions are unemployed, and Wall Street mirage, where stocks have risen to all-time highs and have put valuations at their highest levels in human history. Their actions have witnessed the S&P 500 soar, up over 50% from the bottom just six months ago. The Nasdaq has benefitted even more, up over 63%. These fantastical equity valuations betray another story. Just this past week Disney laid off 28,000 workers,

the airlines laid off 32,000 employees and the major banks have laid off large portions of their workforces. Over 50 million people have applied for unemployment benefits in the last six months as we face an economic crisis last seen in the Great Depression.

The Federal Reserve has literally moved the line of scrimmage 50 yards down the field.

We now have a Debt to GDP ratio at war time levels of 136%, only seen in this country once before during World War Two. We are facing a Warren Buffet market cap to GDP overvaluation indicator of 173%, which is astoundingly 20% higher than the ridiculous overvaluations of the Dot-Com boom. Our economy is suffering through a massive financial crisis. The false feedback loop of the "all-time stock market highs" are fake news that represent the challenges we face as a nation. Is the economy in great shape because stocks are soaring? Or are we in deep trouble because this reality has only created an even deeper divide? These challenges and the answers to these questions will be on full display for all the world to see as we head into the most contentious time in American history.

One interesting data point to consider. The most consistent trend in the presidential election is the performance of the S&P 500 in the ninety days prior to the vote. Anytime the S&P 500 has been higher, the incumbent has reigned victorious 87% of the time in history and 93% of the time in the last 30 years. On August 3rd, the S&P 500 stood at 3300 points. This would seem to be the magellan line for Trump's chances. But

ELECTION REPORT 2020

an interesting trend has developed. Trump's betting odds have gone hand in glove with the level of the S&P 500. That is until Covid. Since the bottom in March, the S&P 500 has exploded higher and at the same time Trump's betting odds have diminished. We believe that reality has occurred because we all now know it's really the Federal Reserve that controls the stock market, not Donald Trump.

Are we to honestly believe that in just two weeks the "greatest economy of all time" literally fell apart?

Elections have long been about the economy. This election will be no different. The Federal Reserve consistently points out that the economy will only be as good as the underlying health of the nation. This argument puts the coronavirus crisis front and center and no doubt why the virus is the most important item for 63% of the country heading into the election. This election will become a referendum on Covid-19. The fact that the president wants to keep the economy open puts him at odds with the Fed's agenda. Trump's contraction of a virus he has long seemed to downplay won't likely help his case heading into November 3rd. However, rather than focus on all of the opposing storylines about the virus, I'll instead focus your attention on what I believe to be the agenda of the all important Fed. This in the end is all that really matters.

When you can see an accident just before it occurs, insurance becomes an opportunity.

The moves that the Federal Reserve took in March were entirely predictable. When you can see an accident just before it occurs, insurance becomes an opportunity. For those that have read my book, *The Great Devaluation*, or saw my presentation called *The Black Swan*, the Federal Reserve's moves weren't ones that should be seen as heroic. These were moves designed to cover up the reality of their situation. My insight into this exact moment has helped me to increase my personal net wealth by over \$2.2 million dollars in the span of six short months. I believe continuing to focus on the Federal Reserve in the midst of election volatility presents another *event trade*. It's one I will detail later in this report. Until then allow me to continue to lay out the backstory so you may better understand my perspective.

Which sounds more reasonable? That the entire financial system could collapse in a matter of weeks, or, that these dramatic central bank moves served to cover up a banking system that was already dramatically overleveraged, one where the only solution was to pump more liquidity into the system? I was certain I knew the answer. Even more than that I've believed that the Federal Reserve was actively trying to keep Donald Trump from being re-elected. Before dismissing that idea as crazy for the conspiracy of it all, allow me to make the case for why I believe this to be true.

For those unfamiliar with my writings I am quite certain that gold will outperform all paper assets over the next decade and why I have been buying physical gold every month since my first book, *Gold Is A Better Way* was published. I am so confident in this position that our firm Advantage Gold is the only company in the

country to put our entire pension in physical metals. I was not only buying physical gold in my retirement account, I was doing it with after tax money as well. By March of this year I had accumulated an additional 900 ounces of physical gold which I stored privately. When the Fed dropped rates from .75% to 0% in mid March, I called my partners and told them it was time to get aggressive. This surprised them since I've been steadfast about staying away from the paper markets and only buying physical gold. The Fed's drastic moves encouraged me to believe that it was finally Druckenmiller time.

I've believed that the Federal Reserve was actively trying to keep Donald Trump from being re-elected.

Stanley Druckenmiller is among the greatest investors of our day. He tells a story about when he was working for George Soros in his early years as a young trader. Druckenmiller had identified a trade that he was certain was a winner and began allocating capital toward the trade. At first the trade moved against him. Believing he was right he doubled and then tripled down on the position. He soon realized after continuing to invest more into the trade that he had put about 25% of the entire firm's assets into this one trade. Upon realizing this, he recognized he needed to explain the situation to Soros. He was certain Soros was going to fire him when he found out how much money he had in one trade. When he told him what had happened Soros yelled at him, "What's the matter with you!!!! Are you a moron??? And just as Druckenmiller thought he was

ELECTION REPORT 2020

going to be fired, Soros said, “When you see a trade this good you don’t put 25% of your money in, you put 200% of your money in!”

Then came the opportunity. In the span of just a few weeks the Fed doubled the size of the balance sheet! What I found alarming was that nobody else seemed alarmed. I decided I may never have as good an opportunity as I did in that moment. I was witnessing an asymptote occur in real time and decided to take advantage. What is so important about the balance sheet and the way it grows you may ask?

The balance sheet expansion of the Federal Reserve has occurred gradually then suddenly. From 1980 to 2008, over the course of 28 years the Fed’s balance sheet increased *fivefold* from \$150 billion to roughly \$800 billion. From 2008 to 2019, the Fed’s balance sheet increased another fivefold, this time in only 11 years. Then, in less than one year, I watched as the Fed has literally doubled their balance sheet from \$3.6 trillion to \$7.2 trillion today. I began writing about what I was seeing. It was happening in warp speed and in real time. This put the Brentwood Research team on the map. Our *Full Faith and Credit* newsletters began becoming required reading. Brentwood Research has since been in the front line of nearly every move that has happened in the last six months. Our particular focus on the Federal Reserve has helped us identify the speed of the inflationary shift the book predicts. In the last six months our newsletter has transitioned from a macro letter telling a big picture story, to one that is being read by traders and shorter thinking investors.

I saw the trade as an event, and approached it accordingly. The first thing I did was look at when the last

Fed meeting was before the election. I was only further emboldened when I saw that date was September, 16th which also happens to be my birthday. Rather than buy *out of the money* options I decided to buy *in the money* calls, which were more expensive, but allow for greater optionality when the market moves for or against. Initially I sold \$100,000 of my physical metals to get down on \$1560 October gold calls @ 110.

“When you see a trade this good you don’t put 25% of your money in, you put 200% of your money in!”

I had made the decision before placing the trade that I was going to hold the position until the Fed’s meeting on my birthday on September 16th, or until gold hit \$2500 and silver hit \$30, whichever came first. The early weeks of the trade were challenging. Gold initially dropped from to under \$1400. Just like Druckenmiller my trade initially moved against me in a big way. Committed, I saw this as an opportunity which allowed me to buy back in at much better pricing. I bought more gold calls as the price dropped to below 80, and even more when they dropped again from there. In May, as the CARES package was rolled out in earnest I got very bullish on silver. This was when it was below \$16 per ounce. I bought out of the money December calls at \$18. Our *Full Faith and Credit Issue, Euphoria, Inflation and Why I Love Silver* is required reading for anyone looking to understand why silver will likely hit \$100 per ounce in the coming years. When it was all said and done I ended up selling another \$350,000 worth of my physical gold holdings in order

to get more deeply entrenched in the position. Just like Druckenmiller that amounted to about 25% of my overall physical metal holdings.

When the price of gold and silver began moving aggressively higher, the options that I had acquired quickly quadrupled in value. This allowed me to cash out with *double* the initial investment and free roll with over \$1,000,000. My birthday eventually happened before my target prices. Silver got close and traded above \$29, gold hit highs of \$2070 before falling back. Of course had I sold at these peaks I would have maxed out the trade. As it turned out, what began with about \$450,000 ended with me taking out \$2,650,000. I left \$150,000 in the account to take a starting position in the trade I lay out at the end of this report. I still believe had a second CARES stimulus package been passed my targets for gold and silver would have been met.

Of course hindsight is 20/20. I wish now I had not been a moron in the way Soros argues. Had I gone all in on this trade and liquidated all of my metals I would have netted roughly \$10 million. I am not a gambler, however. That instinct is one I have learned provides guaranteed losses. I have tried to approach everything I do with an eye toward the long term. Which is why, since closing the trade I have bought 750 ounces of physical gold, bought a house, and paid taxes. The summary is that I was able to take roughly 300 ounces of gold in March, and turn it into 750 ounces six months later. I explain this in depth in an effort to highlight one aspect of the trade that warrants focus in the current environment. “What seems crazy in normal times becomes necessary in a crisis.”

These are crazy times indeed. I believe a monetary reset is coming and

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will happen suddenly when it does. Those that have argued that a monetary reset sounds crazy probably haven't asked themselves if it sounds crazy to run deficits and debts that can never be repaid? Or, if it seems crazy that the Federal Reserve nearly doubled its balance sheet from \$3.6 trillion to \$7 trillion in less than one year? Or, if it's crazy that a Republican administration would directly deposit money into the bank accounts of every citizen in the country, enact a moratorium on evictions, and then put an extra \$600 per week as a bonus for being unemployed? To me a reset sounds a lot more logical than all of the above listed crazy things that have already occurred. Is it crazier than a political environment that has been strategically positioned from both sides to ensure a constitutional crisis? We live in crazy times, which means we can expect crazy solutions. In fact, we can bet on it.

The massive liquidity that the Fed threw at the crisis has been extreme. What most people see as heroic, I see as cover up. Even more than that I believe today that their actions were designed to get Donald Trump removed from the White House. What I've seen since has only furthered that conviction. While this is something I cannot prove, I offer the Fed's own statements as evidence. Jerome Powell has argued that "the economy will only be as good as the health crisis goes" And "so long as people are afraid to engage in economic activity, the economy would continue to suffer." Those statements, when married with the statements of other Fed governors show a true bias towards the blue left. Neil Kashkari, the head of the Minneapolis Fed, went on national TV on Sunday morning's popular tv show *Face the Nation* in August and said "we need to shut the country

down so that we can get our testing right, and that we can get our tracing right." These open positions are in direct opposition to the positions of Trump and the conservative Governors and Congressman who have backed Trump's moves to reopen the economy. It appears the Fed wants to shut the economy down. I believe doing so allows them to not only "cover their crime" of the last few decades, but also get the additional benefit of laying it all at the feet of Donald Trump while doing so.

I believe investors who are familiar with the phrase "Don't fight the Fed" will want to take heed. The Fed is the most powerful institution in the world. If they want Trump out it could be a bad idea to bet against them. I know this sounds like a conspiracy theory, and may be dismissed as being so, however, do recognize other realities. In a world where neither party can find one ounce of agreement with the other side, we are unanimous about one thing, The Federal Reserve. The central bank is seen by both sides as heroic. Everyone agrees with the Federal Reserve. They are like Moses who parted the red sea, even though Republicans float firmly on one side and Democrats float firmly on the other never to cross in the middle.

The Fed's bias is evident in the multiple nominations Trump has proposed for the Board of the Federal Reserve that have been dismissed by both Democrats and Republicans. Trump's most recent selection is a gold bug named Judy Shelton. Bet a lot of money that she will not be confirmed. Does it seem odd that the President, who has universal support from Republicans on virtually every issue can't get a Fed governor accepted by his own party? Not if the more important Federal Reserve has feel-

ings otherwise.

Why would the Fed want Trump out? Do remember that Trump has openly and relentlessly attacked the Federal Reserve over the last two years. Trump understands their power and wishes it for himself. This is why the Fed sees Trump as a threat to their independence. You can be sure they are in the ears of the Senate explaining why Trump's picks cannot be confirmed. They truly fear that once in, Trump could make one of his new picks the Fed Chief. Don't take my word for it. Rather, let's listen to the words of the Federal Reserve themselves. Or better still, watch our Telly award winning documentary on the goldisabetterway.com platform that lays it all out in detail.

One thing to be very aware of over the next few months is what the Fed says and does throughout this election period. We at Brentwood Research will be monitoring this closely and will relay what we see as it occurs to our subscribers in our monthly *Full Faith and Credit* newsletters and special updates. One thing we can be certain for in the long term. With interest rates at the zero lower bound for eternity, we can expect more and more stimulus packages in the coming months and years. The Federal Reserve is sending a beacon of a signal to Congress to pass more stimulus packages while rates are at 0% for the next four years and when their own inflation targets tell everyone we won't hit 2% until 2024. Fiscal spending is coming like a tidal wave. This, despite the Fed's promises will have a massive inflationary impact, especially on the value of dollars versus gold. It's why we will continue to buy physical gold and silver and reshape our long term portfolio to prepare for the great devaluation.

In the short term we will closely

ELECTION REPORT 2020

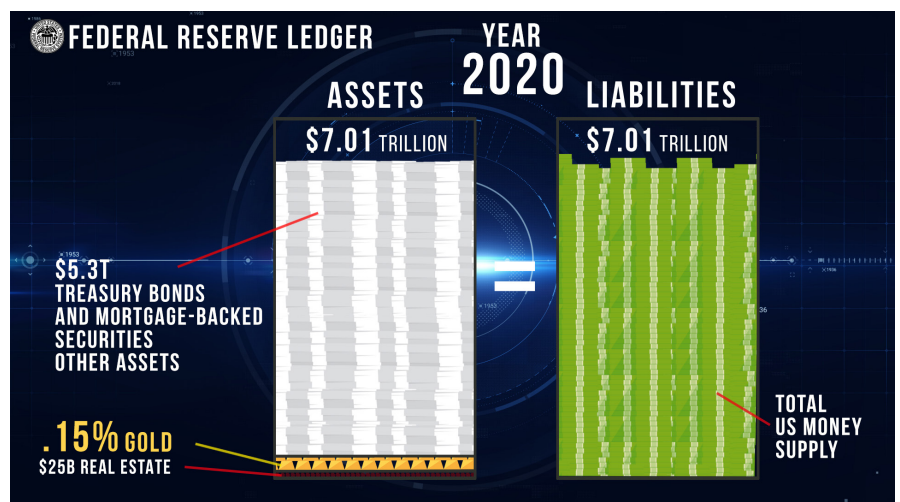
watch the Federal Reserve and see how they respond to the chaos of the election. Our bet is that they will stay incredibly supportive and continue to prop up markets likely to be dealing with extreme volatility. In the end we believe that the Fed actually desires a blue wave. One where the House, the Senate and the Presidency all turn blue. This reality will help speed them to their ultimate target of Modern Monetary Theory, allowing for a complete and utter reset while they continue playing the hero over Trump.

While everyone else gets caught up watching the ball we at Brentwood Research will be staying true to the focus that got us here. We believe events that occur in the coming months could very well occur suddenly. This is the number one reason to acquire as much physical gold now as possible. Who knows? In the future we may not be able to get it at all. Of course that's when we will need it the most.

A sudden change is what we are preparing for. The supercycle from which we've built our entire model is ninety years long. Consider that four score and seven years ago, in 1933, an election occurred in the middle of a crisis. The results featured a blue wave and a slew of new and progressive Senators and Congressman. Back then they were eager to make a difference in their newly acquired office. Did they ever! In their very first week in office the new congress decided to shut down banks for seven days. When they reopened they did so with FDIC insurance. Soon this new Congress passed the New Deal which launched a massive social spending spree, and then they passed Glass Steagall, a banking act that limited the amount of risk the banking system would be permitted to take on. Within a year, these same politicians made the ownership of

gold illegal, and then in one signature, repriced gold in an instant. Back then this amounted to a 40% overnight devaluation of the currency.

Is it hard to imagine a similar blue wave today, all happening inside a health crisis, where the economy needs to be shut down so we can get our testing right and our tracing right? Would it be too crazy to consider that Wall Street be shut down for a week? These are the openly stated goals of our existing Federal Reserve. We believe that the odds are tilted in that direction and why we need to prepare in advance for that potential outcome. After all, haven't we learned by now, don't fight the Fed?



Senate Race Alabama

Population size: **4.9M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Republican*



Electoral
Votes:
9



Doug Jones

Incumbent Since 2017

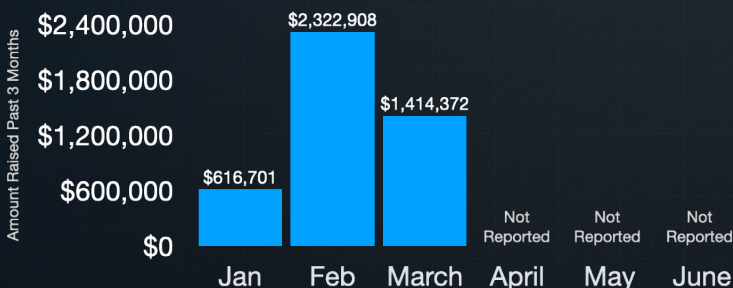
Age: 66
Profession: Politician / Attorney
Amount Raised: \$14,476,477 (1/1/20 - 3/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$5,693,373
Cash on Hand: \$8,783,104
Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
Top Contributor: Doug Jones Victory Fund

Political Leaning:



Moderate Left

Doug Jones for Senate Committee 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Republicans are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	+450	\$100	\$450
Repubilcans	-800	\$800	\$100

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Tommy Tuberville

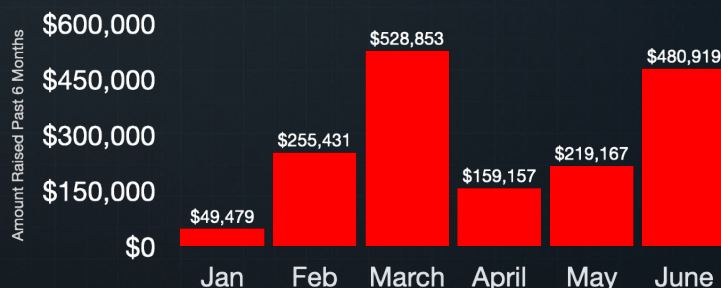
Age: 65
Profession: AU Football Coach
Amount Raised: \$4,148,599 (1/1/20 - 6/18/20)
Amount Spent: \$3,597,314
Cash on Hand: \$551,285
Top Industry: Real Estate
Top Contributor: PAC of Alabama Farmers

Political Leaning:



Conservative Right

Tuberville for Senate, Inc. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction:

● **Tommy Tuberville**
WINS

**BRENTWOOD
RESEARCH**

ELECTION REPORT 2020

Alabama

The 2020 race for US Senator of Alabama offers hope to a Republican Party seeking to maintain control of the United States Senate.

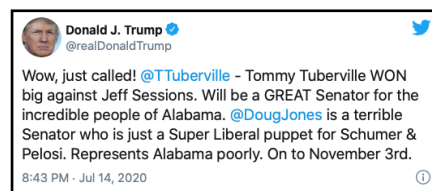
Known as a stronghold of the Confederacy as well as the birthplace of the Civil Rights Movement, Alabama joined the Union in 1819, as the twenty-second state. Known primarily as a producer of cotton, modern America has seen Alabama shift towards an industrial economy. Major automotive manufacturers Mercedes Benz, Honda, Hyundai, and Toyota all have facilities in the state, as well as over 90 suppliers and three original equipment manufacturers. The state's largest employer is the Redstone Arsenal US Army Base, which is a centerpiece of the Army's missile program. Redstone caters to nearly 40,000 employees and contractors per day. Other top job producers are Walmart, as well as the University of Alabama system of schools and hospitals.

Alabama does not register voters by political party, but Republicans dominate the landscape in both Federal and Statewide elections. No Democratic Presidential candidate has carried Alabama since Jimmy Carter in 1976. The current senior US Senator from Alabama, Richard Shelby, was elected as a Democrat in 1986, but switched his allegiance in 1994 after a Republican midterm wave.

The current junior Senator, Doug Jones, a Democrat, scored a surprising special election victory in 2017, after Senator Jeff Sessions left his seat for a presidential appointment as US Attorney General. Jones had the fortune of running against a scandal

ridden Roy Moore, who still gave Jones all that he could handle in the election. In the end, Jones narrowly squeaked it out.

Jones may not be so lucky as he vies for a full term as Senator. His opponent is none other than Tommy Tuberville, the vaunted former head football coach of Auburn University. Tuberville, the coach turned businessman and hedge fund partner, has hitched his wagon to President Donald Trump, and his agenda is in lock step with the President. Tuberville seeks to cash in on Trump's massive popularity in Alabama and in the deep south in general. Tuberville is not reinventing the wheel, and he seems to be reaping the reward. He thwarted former Senator Jeff Session's comeback bid, resoundingly beating the Trump castaway by over twenty-five points.

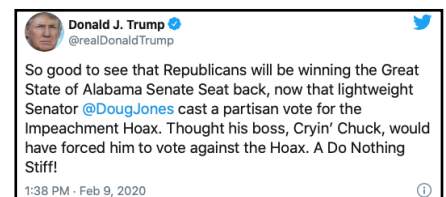


Coach Tommy's strategy has been to begin and end with President Trump. He argues, in person and in a series of television ads, that a vote for his opponent is a vote against the president. Mister Tuberville plans to keep Mr. Trump front and center until the general election, and is constantly reminding voters of moments like Mr. Jones's vote against Brett M. Kavanaugh, Mr. Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court, in 2018, as well as his vote against the president during his impeachment trial.

Tuberville, holds a massive and commanding advantage in this race. In latest polling, he holds a 52-35 lead over Jones, and his mirror Trump strategy seems to be perfectly executed, as Trump holds a 56-38 lead in the polls over challenger Joe Biden.

While the Covid-19 crisis will affect voters in some states, Alabama seems not to be one of them. Just days ago, after the reopening of the University of Alabama, the state recorded over 550 cases of the virus – more than the country of Canada. Alabamians shrug it off, and their support for Coach Tommy and for President Trump has not waned a bit, even as bars and gathering spots have been closed to the public. Their support is absolute.

Jones has a sizable cash advantage over Tuberville, but, at this point, it's probably moot. Jones has raised \$14.3 million, spent \$7.6 million, and has \$8.7 million in cash on hand, while Tuberville has raised nearly \$3.4 million, has spent \$2.8 million, and has around \$551,000 in cash on hand.



This one is all but over, and without some kind of major gaffe, expect Tommy Tuberville to win in a landslide and become the junior United States Senator from Alabama.

Senate Race Arizona

Population size: **7.27M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Swing*



Electoral
Votes:

11



Mark Kelly

Age: 56
Profession: American Astronaut
Amount Raised: \$44,029,439 (1/1/19 - 3/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$20,090,846

Cash on Hand: \$23,938,593
Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
Top Contributor: Naaral Pro-Choice America

Political Leaning:



Martha McSally

Incumbent Since 2019

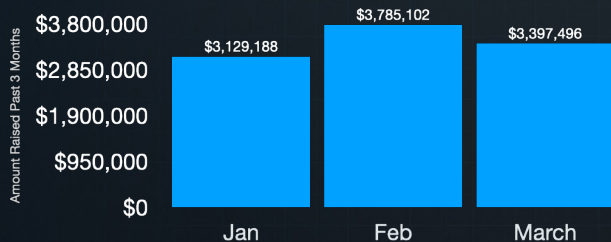
Age: 54
Profession: Politician / Air Force
Amount Raised: \$18,956,946 (1/1/19 - 3/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$8,704,883

Cash on Hand: \$10,252,063
Top Industry: Oil & Gas
Top Contributor: National Republican Cmt.

Political Leaning:



Mark Kelly Victory Fund 2020 Contribution Receipts.



McSally for Senate, Inc. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Democrats are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	-600	\$600	\$100
Repubilcans	+450	\$100	\$450

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Our Prediction: ●●

● **Mark Kelly**
WINS

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ELECTION REPORT 2020

Arizona

In this hotly contested race for US Senate, both candidates will have to get their heads out of the clouds as they fly towards election day.

While retired Air Force Colonel and former fighter pilot Martha McSally currently holds this seat, she is in the dogfight of her life against former Astronaut, war vet, and test pilot, Mark Kelly, to retain it.

McSally, a Republican, narrowly lost the 2018 Senate race to a Democrat, Krysten Sinema, and heard rumblings that it wasn't that she didn't have enough time to appeal to voters, as she has attributed the loss, but that her leaving her moderate and centrist views in favor of defining herself as a Trump disciple opened the door for the first Democratic Senatorial victory in thirty years.

McSally was given a second bite of the apple after the 2018 death of Senator John McCain, when Republican Governor, Doug Ducey, in 2019, appointed Colonel McSally to the open seat.



Now, Senator McSally, who proclaimed on the third day of the RNC that she is "fighting everyday for freedoms, Constitution, and future" finds that her lock step with the President may expose her to Arizona's ire over President Trump's handling of Covid-19. Ducey also governed in lock step with Trump's guidance

on handling the virus, blocking local lawmakers from mandating the wearing of masks, and he suspiciously accelerated the reopening of barber shops, salons, and restaurants one day before Trump was scheduled to visit an Arizona mask manufacturing plant. Many said that Ducey's decisions were based on appeasing Trump, who also had an upcoming rally scheduled at an Arizona mega-church.

With little restrictions in place, Covid cases soared out of control in Arizona. Arizona's Covid cases grew exponentially and filled the state's hospitals to capacity. Kelly who enjoyed a slim 3 percentage point lead in March, saw his lead at the polls grow to 13 points.

Ducey eventually backtracked, giving mayors and local authorities the power to do as they saw fit, but like Covid on a lung, the damage with the electorate was already done. Covid cases have retreated with new local control, and Arizona is moving toward being a model state, but Kelly's lead still sits anywhere from 5 to 11 percent, and Biden leads Trump by 4 to 6 points.

Whereas McSally is equated with Trump, Kelly, the husband of former Congresswoman Gabby Gifford, has been known to have an aversion to partisan politics. He has lived mostly as an independent, perhaps making him more palatable with independents as well as some conservatives and moderate Democrats. Independent voters make up about 33 percent of Arizona's electorate, and they voted mostly Democrat in the recent August primaries. He says that

he is running for Senator "because Washington is broken and Arizonans deserve independent leadership focused on solving the problems we face".

President Trump's nomination to replace Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court could hinge on the winner of this election.



If Mark Kelly wins, he would look to be seated in the Senate as early as Nov. 30, six weeks before the other winners are sworn in, according to elections experts. Mr. Kelly currently leads the incumbent, who has vowed support for any nominee, in the polls. There are many ifs: If the Arizona results can be rapidly certified, and if Senate Republicans hold a confirmation vote in the postelection lame-duck session and if three Republicans defect, Mr. Kelly could cast the deciding vote to defeat Mr. Trump's pick to the high court.

The winner in this race may just rocket their party to a majority in the US Senate, so there's no wonder why massive amounts of money are being raised, and spent, to secure this seat. Kelly has raised roughly \$45 million dollars, and still has \$22 million on hand, while McSally has raised \$30 million dollars with roughly \$10 million still in hand. This race is a long way from over, but it is leaning, or maybe even tilting, blue.

Senate Race Colorado

Population size: **5.79M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Swing*




Electoral
Votes:
9



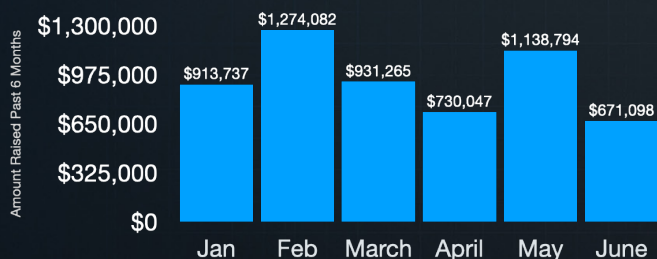
John Hickenlooper

Age: 68
 Profession: Former Governor
 Amount Raised: \$12,640,422 (1/1/19 - 6/10/20)
 Amount Spent: \$6,718,886

Cash on Hand: \$5,921,536
 Top Industry: Real Estate
 Top Contributor: Shared Purpose Pac

Political Leaning:  Moderate Left

Hickenlooper for Colorado 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Democrats are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	-700	\$700	\$100
Repubilcans	+400	\$100	\$400


Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Cory Gardner

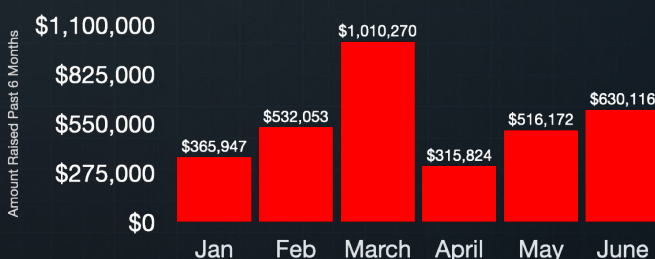
Incumbent Since 2015


Age: 45
 Profession: Politician / Attorney
 Amount Raised: \$17,201,173 (1/1/19 - 6/10/20)
 Amount Spent: \$6,512,825

Cash on Hand: \$10,688,348
 Top Industry: Oil & Gas
 Top Contributor: Votesane Pac

Political Leaning:  Moderate Right

Cory Gardner for State Senate, Inc. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction: 

● John Hickenlooper
WINS

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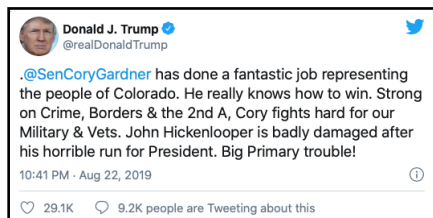


ELECTION REPORT 2020

Colorado

When John Denver, in his iconic song “Rocky Mountain High”, sang “Now his life is full of wonder but his heart still knows some fear”, he may have been singing about US Senator Cory Gardner, as Gardner finds himself between a Rocky Mountain and a hard place, going into November’s general election.

In a state that has moved further away from supporting President Trump, Gardner has to decide whether to jump on that bandwagon, or ride with the President until the wheels fall off. After saying, in 2016, that he would “not support someone who brags about degrading and assaulting women”, Gardner declared that he did not vote for Trump, but instead, wrote in his support for Mike Pence. Something’s changed in the four years since. Garner and Trump have become besties, and Gardner now has an open line of communication with the President, and they speak on the phone regularly. Gardner has voted with Trump 89 percent of the time, and was an early endorser for Trump’s 2020 bid.



Gardner is facing a much tougher opponent than Democrat candidate John Hickenlooper. Trump’s popularity has fallen 16 percent since 2017, leaving Gardner running against a growing sentiment in Colorado that

Trump is bad for the country, and those associated with Trump are bad too. Since 2018, Colorado has only elected two Republicans to statewide office, and while Gardner has, at times, criticized the President, he has stopped short of divorcing him altogether. He has been cautious about alienating Colorado Republicans, who overwhelmingly support Trump with an over 80 percent approval rating. Those same Republicans rate Gardner’s approval at just below 60 percent. Now here’s the kicker that causes the fear in Gardner’s heart – Republicans comprise only 28 percent of Colorado’s electorate. He knows that he cannot win with Republican support alone, and if he abandons Trump, he knows that he cannot win without them.

John Hickenlooper, a businessman turned politician, is the Democrat nominee. He held two terms as mayor of Denver and until his failed Presidential run in 2019, served as Governor of Colorado. Elected statewide in 2010 and 2014, both strong GOP red wave years, Coloradoans know Hickenlooper as an effective and pragmatic politician, and he may be made out of Teflon. Hickenlooper has slipped several controversies, including an ethics charge related to private airplane trips, and defeated his Senate primary opponent by over 20 points. When asked why he decided to run, he said, “I look at how dysfunctional Washington is, and I know I’ve criticize it relentlessly, and I can either take cheap shots and poke at it or actually try and be part of the solution.”

The death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg has caused both candidates to reverse

course on their 2016 positions. Hickenlooper, who advocated for Obama’s nominee, Merrick Garland, now says that no appointment should be made until after the general election. Gardner, who opposed Garland’s appointment, now says that the situation is different, and that President Trump’s appointment should be brought to a vote.



It seems that in a state with only 10 percent unemployment, low covid numbers, robust tax revenue generated from marijuana sales, and two more than decent candidates, this race will come down to one question. Trump or no Trump? Keep an eye out on the home stretch, as Gardner’s \$10.5 million cash may close the gap and drown out Hickenlooper’s \$4.6 million.

With 3.9 million Coloradoans registered to vote, Democrats comprise 30 percent and unaffiliated voters make up 40 percent. 18 percent of Democrats and 31 percent of unaffiliated voters view Gardner favorably, while only 6 percent Dems and 30 percent unaffiliated have a favorable view of Trump. As Trump goes, so goes Gardner. It’s simple math, but the hardest equation for Gardner to solve. Look for a Blue victory.

Senate Race Georgia

Population size: **10.62M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Republican*



Electoral
Votes:
16



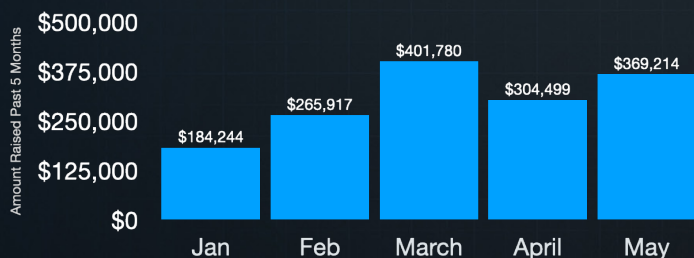
Jon Ossoff

Age: 33
Profession: Journalist
Amount Raised: \$7,311,041 (1/1/19 - 5/27/20)
Amount Spent: \$4,783,920

Cash on Hand: \$2,527,121
Top Industry: Candidate Committees
Top Contributor: Ossoff Thomas Campaign

Political Leaning:  **Progressive Left**

Jon Ossoff for Senate. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Republicans are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	-250	\$250	\$100
Repubilcans	+175	\$100	\$175

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

David Perdue

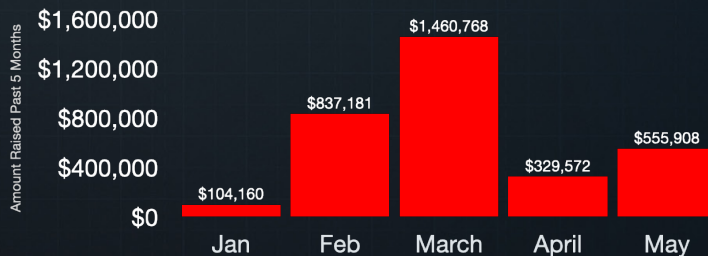
Incumbent Since 2015

Age: 45
Profession: Politician / Businessman
Amount Raised: \$14,869,107 (1/1/19 - 5/27/20)
Amount Spent: \$4,179,226

Cash on Hand: \$10,689,881
Top Industry: Leadership PACs
Top Contributor: Perdue Victory Campaign

Political Leaning:  **Conservative Right**

Perdue For Senate. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction:



To be revealed in November 1st
 Full Faith and Credit
 Newsletter

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ELECTION REPORT 2020

Georgia

Okay, take a minute to get a pad and a pen. There's so much going on in Georgia and their US Senate races that you're going to want to take notes. Ready? Buckle up. Here we go.

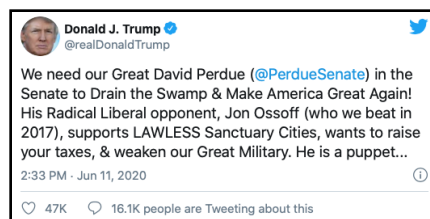
Georgia is a state in transition. Considered a Republican stronghold for the last few decades, Georgia is slowly but surely turning.....purple.

Like much of the South, Georgia was reliably Democratic for most of the 1900's. Even in the nail biting Presidential election of 1960, John F. Kennedy got 62.5% of the Georgian vote, which was more than the 60.2 % he garnered in his home state of Massachusetts. By the 1990's, though, Georgia was in play. The Georgian Republican shift was born in the suburbs of Atlanta, while predominately white, rural Georgia, solidified, and established, the Republicans as the predominate force. No Democratic Presidential candidate has carried Georgia since Bill Clinton in 1992, and he was the first, and last, since Georgia's own Jimmy Carter, in 1980. Republicans scratched and clawed for control throughout the 1990's and fully broke through in the early 2000's. In 2002, Peach State Republicans won both the Governor's Mansion and defeated an incumbent Democratic US Senator. Two years later, they flipped the second Senate seat, and, like four other Southern states, open Senate seats turned red.

Fast forward to 2020. Democrats have spent the last twenty years trying to chip away at the Republican grasp, and it seems to be working. While George W. Bush won Georgia by double digits in both 2000 and 2004, Barack Obama only lost to

John McCain by 5% in 2008 and, in 2012, by 7% to Mitt Romney. Hillary Clinton, in 2016, maintained but still lost by 5% to Trump. While she didn't win, Clinton's performance opened eyes to the demographic swing in the suburbs of Atlanta. She carried both Cobb and Gwinett Counties, districts that Romney easily carried in 2012, and, by a mere 1.5%, Clinton narrowly lost the 6th Congressional District, which anchors the state's GOP coalition.

Georgia now finds itself in a tug of war between the Atlanta metropolitan region and the rest of the state. In 2010, the Atlanta area accounted for about 45% of Georgia's electorate. By 2018, Black, Latino, and Asian citizens, who tend to be Democratic voters, spurred a population growth in the Atlanta metro area and increased that number to almost 53%. Georgia is now split almost 50/50 red and blue.



As the only state with two US Senate seats up for grabs, fortunes for both parties can be made or lost in the Peach State.

Senior US Senator David Perdue finds himself in a hootenanny with Democratic challenger John Ossoff. Perdue, who won election in 2014, has considered himself a co-pilot to President Trump. "I influence this president", he said. He has been one

of Trump's staunchest allies in Washington, and relishes his relationship and access to the President. Perdue has never publicly separated from Trump, and legislatively, he's voted with the president a staggering 95% of the time.

Perdue's opponent, John Ossoff, sees the Perdue-Trump alliance as a weakness and has based his campaign on exploiting it. "What Trump is doing to America is wrong. And we all recognize it's wrong," Ossoff said in an interview. He has vowed to fight for civil rights, to legalize marijuana, guarantee health care for all, and extend tuition-free higher education. All are programs that Perdue has labeled as "socialist".



Good, bad, or ugly, Perdue has stuck his pole in the ground and flown the Trump flag. That loyalty means that he goes as Trump goes, and in a state that is wrought with Covid-19 issues and a changing electorate, Perdue has seen his lead shrink, and has given Democrats great hope of flipping it blue.

Latest polls in Georgia show a statistical dead heat between Trump and Biden, and unsurprisingly, polls also show a statistical dead heat between Perdue, who has \$10.6 million cash on hand and Ossoff who has \$2.5 million on hand.

BUT WAIT. THERE'S MORE!!

ELECTION REPORT 2020

Georgia (Special Election)

Due to health concerns, US Senator Johnny Isakson resigned from office effective December 31, 2019. Governor Brian Kemp appointed Kelly Loeffler to serve as Isakson's replacement, from January 6, 2020, until a special election on November 3, 2020.

One of Kemp's criteria for choosing Loeffler was that she and her husband could help self fund the special election campaign. The couple, worth north of \$500 million, has so far spent \$20 million out of their own pockets.

Loeffler is running in Georgia's "Jungle Primary". She and her opponents are all dropped in the forest, and whoever wins the battle is the king or queen of the jungle. Any candidate that pays their filing fees can join, and it is a non-partisan battle royal. All candidates are placed on the same ballot, and if one candidate does not secure more than 50% of the votes, the top two vote getters move on to a runoff election on January 5, 2021. Whew. You still with me? Okay. Good.

Both Loeffler and her Republican challenger, Congressman Doug Collins, claim to be chosen one. Before Kemp appointed Loeffler, Trump threw his heft behind Collins to be the choice, but he has since warmed to Loeffler as she has proven her loyalty to his agenda. Both of the Republicans have drawn support from local law enforcement officials, conservative groups and prominent state and national Republican leaders. The only clear difference is experience. Loeffler paints herself as an outsider and not a career politician, while Col-

lins calls on his legislative record and experience as an advantage over his competition.

Loeffler and Collins, both Trump disciples, and both the front-runners to move on to a January run-off election, may believe that the only way to win over Republican voters is to try to out-Trump each other, and both candidates are relentlessly touting their ties to Trump. Loeffler has run ads comparing herself to Attila the Hun, and she touts her "100% Trump voting record". Collins has taken to calling himself "President Trump's top defender and preferred pick in this race." What this race makes clear is that ideologically, both Collins and Loeffler believe that the tough, hard-nosed conservatism that Trump has invented over the past five years is the way into the hearts of Georgia Republicans.

After the sudden passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Loeffler and Collins each rushed to beat the other to the punch as they both cited a push to restrict abortion as a reason to vote on a Supreme Court pick from Trump before the election.

Collins tweeted that Republicans have "our best chance in decades to strike down Roe V. Wade" following that by referring to the vacancy directly and saying, "Let's take it," Collins also wrote, "@realdonaldtrump is going to nominate a pro-life conservative and the Senate needs to do their job and confirm without delay." Loeffler, not to be outdone, advocated for anti-abortion policies and reiterated her support for gun rights. The GOP senator said Trump should put

forward a "strict constructionist" for the court, and added that the position should go to someone who "will protect innocent life, who will bring those Second Amendment cases and make sure that we're protecting our right to bear arms in this country."

"I look forward to supporting @realdonaldtrump's strong, strict constructionist nominee who will protect life, the 2nd Amendment, and conservative values," she tweeted last weekend.

On the other side, Rev. Ralph Warnock seems to be the Democratic favorite. Warnock leads the Ebenezer Baptist Church, the church once helmed by Martin Luther King Jr. He has racked up major endorsements both locally and nationally, and despite close polling to Democrat Matt Liebman, son of former US Senator Joe Lieberman, Warnock has greatly outpaced him recently with fundraising. Democrats feel that the party will rally behind Warnock, make him the only Dem in the field, and give Collins and Loeffler a strong challenge for the seat.

The race to be the most Trump-y between Loeffler and Collins is, at the minute, quite close. A recently released poll showed Loeffler leading the way with 23.5% followed by Collins at 20.5% and Rev. Raphael Warnock, at 20.3%.

At last report, Loeffler has \$7 million cash on hand, Warnock \$2.8 million, and Collins \$2.6 million.

With November fast approaching and so much at stake, it's no wonder that both Republicans and Democrats go to sleep at night with Georgia on their minds.

Senate Race Iowa

Population size: **3.51M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Swing*




Electoral
Votes:

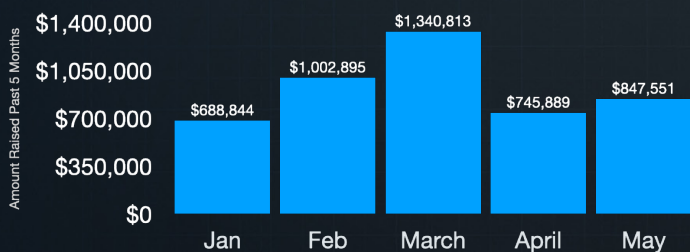
6

Theresa Greenfield

Age: 56
Profession: Real Estate Agent
Amount Raised: \$11,608,138 (01/1/20 - 6/30/20)
Amount Spent: \$5,956,918
Cash on Hand: \$5,651,280
Top Industry: Securities & Investments
Top Contributor: Democratic Senatorial Campaign

Political Leaning:  **Progressive Left**

Theresa Greenfield for Iowa. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Democrats are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	-137	\$137	\$100
Republicans	+100	\$100	\$100

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

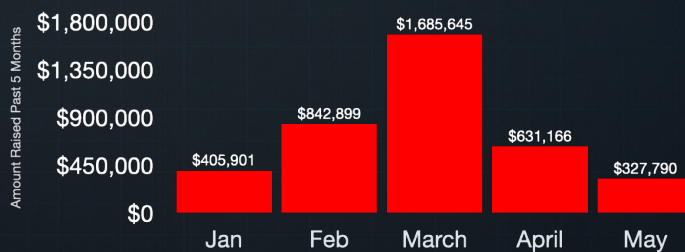
Joni Ernst


Incumbent Since 2015

Age: 50
Profession: Politician / Veteran
Amount Raised: \$14,595,516 (01/1/20 - 6/30/20)
Amount Spent: \$5,488,547
Cash on Hand: \$9,106,969
Top Industry: Leadership PACs
Top Contributor: Keep the Senate Red

Political Leaning:  **Conservative Right**

Joni for Iowa. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction: 

Theresa Greenfield
WINS

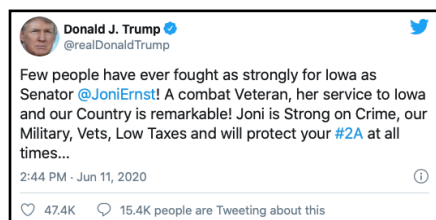
 **BRENTWOOD**
 RESEARCH

ELECTION REPORT 2020

Iowa

When, in 2014, Democratic US Senator Tom Harkin announced his retirement after thirty years in office, both Democrats and Republicans had to decide their next play. Republicans looked at their hand, pulled their ace, Joni Ernst, slammed the card and smiled across the table.

Ernst, the farm girl turned military commander turned Iraq War veteran, was a natural. A political outsider, a natural leader, and full of credentials, Ernst showed Iowans the best of themselves. “She seemed like Iowa,” said David Axelrod, a former adviser to President Barack Obama. Ernst’s battle cry was that she would “make ‘em squeal” and take a knife to Federal spending, the same way she castrated hogs on her family’s farm. Iowans loved her, and Ernst won the US Senate seat election by 9%.



Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and now, in 2020, Democrats look at their cards, and raise the bet with a farm girl of their own.

Theresa Greenfield, a political newcomer, also grew up on a pig farm, came from humble roots, scrapped, and worked hard to overcome circumstance. Greenfield previewed her scrappy side when asked about Ernst’s time on The Hill, saying, “The bottom line is nobody’s squealing except Iowans.”

Iowan’s frustration is rooted in

Ernst’s devotion to President Trump. After pledging to be independent and different, Ernst has voted with Trump over 91% of the time, and Ernst is seen as cozying up to Trump, even as his trade practices and tariffs have decimated Iowa’s agriculture based economy. U.S. farm exports to China, which hit a record \$25.9 billion in 2012, plummeted in 2018 to \$9.1 billion. Soybean exports to China fell to a 12-year low of \$3.1 billion.

Ernst also sided with Trump’s handling of Covid-19, a position that Iowans overwhelmingly disagree with. After famously deriding Barack Obama’s 2014 handling of the ebola virus, a threat which resulted in two deaths, Ernst labeled Obama’s response as “failed leadership”. When asked if she, after 180,000 American deaths due to Covid, would condemn Trump in the same way she did Obama, Ernst replied, “No, I think that the president is stepping forward.”

Most recently, Ernst raised eyebrows and eventually backtracked after repeating a debunked conspiracy theory trumpeted by the President, which surmised that Covid deaths were being greatly exaggerated and that health care professionals were gaining monetarily by overstating the numbers. Both Trump and Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds are feeling the heat in the state, as they share a meager 28% approval rating on their response and handling of Covid.

Another parallel shared by Ernst and Trump is gender gap. Women in Iowa prefer Greenfield to Ernst by 20%. Greenfield’s story has resonated with women. Her family went belly

up when she was a child, her husband died in an accident at work, she had to rely on social security death benefits to keep food on the table while she navigated without him, and she turned tragedy into triumph by graduating college and becoming an urban planner.



Surprisingly enough, Ernst and Greenfield don’t differ greatly on the question of filling the Justice Ginsburg Supreme Court seat. Ernst serves on the powerful Judiciary Committee, and is in favor of an immediate vote. While Greenfield is in favor of waiting until after the election, she knows that the confirmation is moving forward and has called on Democratic Senators to meet with the nominee and carefully get to know her.

Greenfield has \$5 million on hand. Ernst has \$9 million of cash, an overall approval rating of 43% and a disapproval rating of 53%. Her numbers closely track Trump’s 45% approval and 53% disapproval in the state.

Polls show Ernst trailing Greenfield by 3% and Trump leading Biden by 1.7%. Both are within the margin of error. While we believe Trump will carry Iowa, we aren’t as confident he can pull Ernst along for the ride and that Iowa is in deep jeopardy of turning back to blue. This race will stay competitive until the end, and, when all the cards are shown, each party hopes to have a royal flush.

Senate Race Kansas

Population size: **2.91M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Republican*




**Electoral
Votes:
6**



Dr. Barbara Bollier

Age: 62
Profession: Physician
Amount Raised: \$8,183,940 (01/1/20 - 7/10/20)
Amount Spent: \$4,020,046

Cash on Hand: \$4,163,894
Top Industry: Health Professionals
Top Contributor: Justice 2020

Political Leaning:  **Moderate Left**

Dr. Roger Marshall

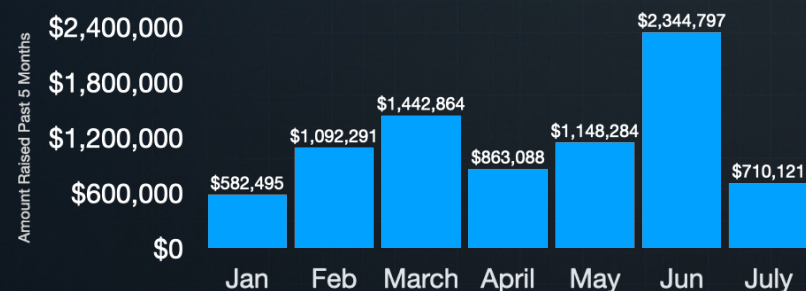
Incumbent Since 2017

Age: 60
Profession: Politician / Physician
Amount Raised: \$1,290,578 (1/1/19 - 8/10/20)
Amount Spent: \$283,956

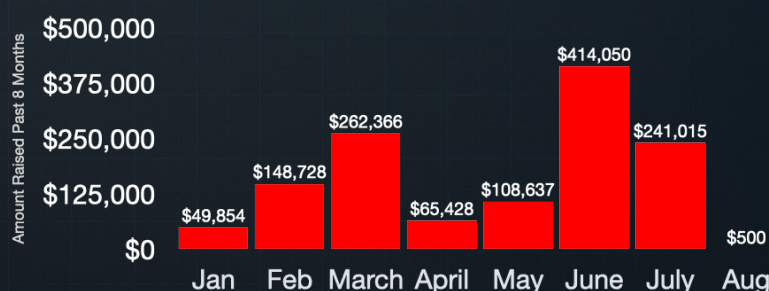
Cash on Hand: \$1,006,622
Top Industry: Health Professionals
Top Contributor: Marshall Campaign CMTE

Political Leaning:  **Conservative Right**

Bollier for Kansas. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Marshall for Senate. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Republicans are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	+225	\$100	\$225
Repubilcans	-300	\$300	\$100

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Our Prediction: 

**● Dr. Roger Marshall
WINS**

 **BRENTWOOD
RESEARCH**



ELECTION REPORT 2020

Kansas

Kansas has not elected a Democrat to the US Senate since 1932, but don't tell State Senator, Dr. Barbara Bollier, that it can't happen. The former Anesthesiologist is looking to defeat Congressman and practicing OB-GYN, Dr. Roger Marshall, for the open seat, and put the Republican winning streak to sleep.

Democrats, who in deep red Kansas rarely win key elections, have turned to the former moderate Republican, now moderate Democrat, Bollier, to pull off an unlikely win for the open seat. In 2018, after growing tired of Republican opposition to Medicaid expansion, and a displeasure with their lack of balanced budgets, Dr. Bollier switched parties to be "an independent voice and work hard to listen to the people and bring their ideas and needs forward in a bipartisan fashion, cooperating and working together." She campaigned to expand the state's Medicaid program, to allow Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices, and outlaw "surprise" medical bills.

Republican candidate, Marshall, a staunch mainstream conservative, was elected to Congress in 2017. During his primary bid for Senate, Marshall touted that he had delivered on the three promises he made when elected to Congress: "Get Kansas a seat back on the Agriculture Committee, help write a Farm Bill that protects crop insurance, and jumpstart the economy by rolling back regulation and passing a tax cuts bill."

Defeating Marshall will be no small feat. Kansas is home to 1.74 million voters, 45% of whom are Republican, 25% Democrat, and 30% unaffiliated.

Republican presidential candidates have pitched a shut out since 1968, and Donald Trump defeated Hillary Clinton 56% to 35% in 2016.

Marshall made a name for himself in Washington by being one of President Trump's staunchest supporters. He has voted with the president 98% of the time, and that kind of loyalty was rewarded with a phone call from the Commander in Chief after Marshall won the GOP primary.



That lock step with Trump could also be the undoing for Marshall. In May 2020, polls showed him with an 11 point lead in a head to head match up with Bollier. Since then, the public's approval of Trump's handling of the pandemic has tumbled almost 15%, and, correspondingly, Marshall's lead has shrunk to 1%.

The two candidates differ completely on how to handle the pandemic. Bollier advocates a strict policy of masks, social distancing, and closures when necessary. She adheres to a reliance on science, and thinks that local leaders should have a say so in what is best for their communities. Bollier has not gone as far as advocating for a state wide shut down or mask mandate, but she has run a largely virtual campaign, and when in person, has been insistent on masks and social distancing.

Marshall, on the other hand, has taken his cues from the president. He has attended several events where masks

and distancing weren't followed, and after a recent indoor speech, he said "I tell you what, if I walk into rural Kansas with a mask on, people look at me like I've got three eyes or something, right?" He's taking an anti-malaria drug promoted by Trump, even as medical experts warn the risks outweigh the benefits..

Still, Bollier could find it difficult to take advantage. While more than 80% of Democrats say they are very concerned about the effect of the pandemic, that drops to 60% among independents, and 35% among Republicans, who see it as more of a government control and economic issue than a health care issue.

The open Ginsburg Supreme Court seat has reignited the abortion debate in Kansas.

Marshall, whose congressional district spans western Kansas, has sponsored legislation restricting abortion and was supported in his contentious GOP primary by anti-abortion groups.

The congressman says that he opposes abortion in all cases, including when the woman is a victim of rape or incest. He has stated that this belief, however, does not preclude him from voting on legislation that restricts abortion but makes these exceptions.

Money will definitely be a factor in deciding this race. At last report, Bollier held a commanding advantage over Marshall in both fundraising and cash on hand. She last reported a cash holding of \$4.1 million, to Marshall's \$1 million cash. It won't likely matter in the end. Kansas will continue to remain red.

Senate Race Maine

Population size: **1.3 M**
 Last five elections: ● ● ● ● ●
 Traditionally leans: *Democratic*




Electoral
Votes:

4

Sarah Gideon

Age: 48
Profession: House of Representatives
Amount Raised: \$24,231,062 (01/1/20 - 6/20/20)
Amount Spent: \$18,826,749

Cash on Hand: \$5,404,313
Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
Top Contributor: Brady - Prevent Gun Violence

Political Leaning:  **Progressive Left**

Sarah Gideon for Maine. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Democrats are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	-300	\$300	\$100
Republicans	+225	\$100	\$225

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com



Susan Collins

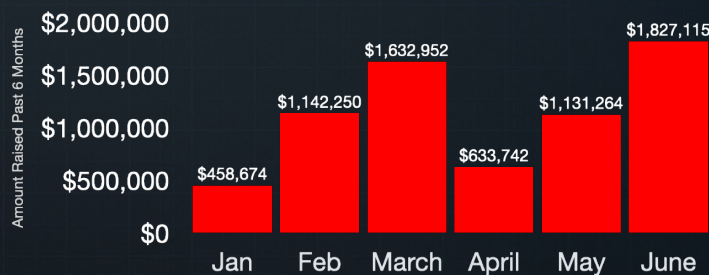
Incumbent Since 1996

Age: 67
Profession: Career Politician
Amount Raised: \$16,886,779 (01/1/20 - 6/20/20)
Amount Spent: \$11,304,620

Cash on Hand: \$5,582,159
Top Industry: Securities & Investments
Top Contributor: Keep the State Red

Political Leaning:  **Moderate Right / Centrist**

Collins for Senator. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction: 

Sarah Gideon
WINS

 **BRENTWOOD**
 RESEARCH

ELECTION REPORT 2020

Maine

Four term US Senator Susan Collins is in the fight of her political life as she finds herself in the hero's quandary – conflict of action versus conflict of being.

During her initial run for US Senator, Maine's Susan Collins famously said "I do support term limits and I have pledged that if I'm elected, I will only serve two terms regardless of whether a term limits law or a constitutional amendment passes or not. Twelve years is long enough to be in public service and make a contribution and then come home and let someone else take your place." That was 1996, and, in 2020, as she runs for her fifth term, Collins finds herself being confronted by her own words and actions, as Mainers head to the polls.

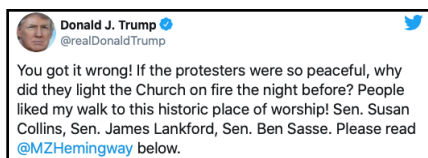
Term limits aren't the only subject about which the citizens of Maine have beef with Collins. For decades, Collins cultivated her political brand as an independent, moderate New England Republican who supported abortion access and LGBTQ rights.

But Trump winning the presidency in 2016 and taking over the GOP made it much more difficult for Collins to walk the razor's edge between being a member of the Republican party and maintaining her own brand of bipartisan politics.

Collins appears caught in a miserable position. She's the only remaining Republican senator in New England, torn between an unrelentingly loyal caucus, Trump's fanatic base, and a liberalish Maine constituency, all during a period of enormously high stakes. But it's not like Collins wound up in this mess by pure happenstance.

Maine is an extremely rural state, and has a lengthy history of political independence. Its 1.3 million residents are spread among 495 towns. Forty percent of voters are not registered either as Democrats or Republicans, and they are quick to point out that even if they were affiliated with a party, they would rarely vote a straight ticket. In 2008, Obama won Maine by 17 points, while Collins won reelection by 23 points.

Now, in the time of Trump, it alarms Mainers that Collins voted with her party 90.5% of the time during the 115th Congress — 2017-2018.



Collins opponent, Sara Gideon, has served four terms in Maine's House of Representatives, with two terms as speaker. Gideon's foray into electoral politics began less than a decade ago, when the mother of three came home to an answering machine message urging her husband Ben to run for town council. Gideon decided it was a job she could do instead.

She has been especially alarmed at Collins' voting record during the Trump era, "feeling increasingly like at the moment that we needed a senator to stand up for us the most, that we needed this as a country, that we needed this as human beings. Particularly as women, I felt that she was just not rising to that task and not standing up for us." This may be a veiled reference to Collins' most controversial move to date, her vote to

confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the US Supreme Court.

The death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg ignited fresh debate about the Supreme Court nomination process. Gideon accuses Collins of rubber-stamping 181 of President Donald Trump's judicial nominees. She said the Supreme Court is about to take up the Affordable Care Act and potentially take health care away during a pandemic.

Collins said Gideon has refused to rule out "packing the court" and noted that she has opposed some of Trump's judicial nominees. Gideon and Collins both agree that the current vacancy on the court shouldn't be filled until after the election.

Collins ship seems to be sinking under the Trump Titanic's wake in Maine. Presidential hopeful, Joe Biden, is leading the polls by 14%. Collins, for the first time in her career, finds herself behind in the polls, and trails Gideon anywhere from 1-4%.

Gideon has out-raised Collins, \$23 million to \$16 million in their latest reported fundraising, but outside money will surely have an affect on this race. Already slated to be the most expensive in Maine's history, both sides brace for attack ads from PACs as they come down the final stretch.

Both Republicans and Democrats are ready to break the piggy bank to win this key election. What it will come down to is whether the citizens of Maine still feel like Susan Collins is one of them.

Senate Race Michigan

Population size: **9.98 M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Democratic*

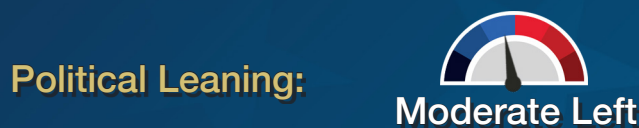


Gary Peters

Incumbent Since 2017

Age: 61
Profession: Politician
Amount Raised: \$21,015,762 (01/1/20 - 3/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$8,992,628

Cash on Hand: \$12,022,548
Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
Top Contributor: Majority 2020



Peters for Michigan. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



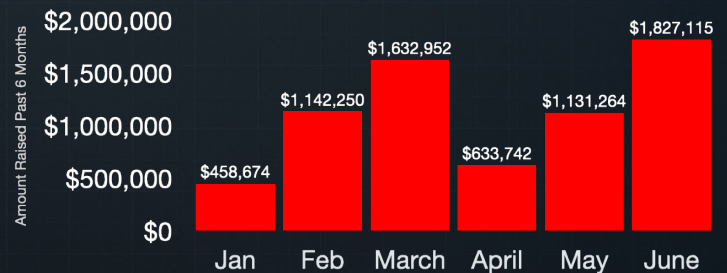
John James

Age: 39
Profession: Businessman / Veteran
Amount Raised: \$19,513,961 (01/1/20 - 6/20/20)
Amount Spent: \$10,230,233

Cash on Hand: \$9,283,728
Top Industry: Real Estate
Top Contributor: Winsome Leaders I



John James for Senator. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	N/A	N/A	N/A
Repubilcans	N/A	N/A	N/A

Our Prediction: ●●

**Gary Peters
WINS**

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

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RESEARCH**



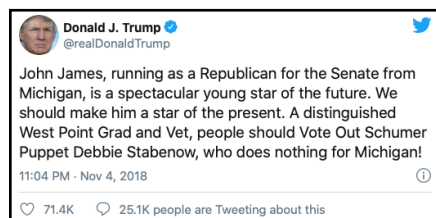
ELECTION REPORT 2020

Michigan

Long ago, a recording artist was asked why he signed such a bad contract. He responded, “I didn’t sign a bad deal, I signed the only deal.”

John James may be singing the same song as he fights to become US Senator from Michigan, the state that birthed Motown.

John James signed up for the only deal that was available to him, as the Republican candidate for US Senate. Unfortunately for him, it’s a bad deal, for a good candidate, at the wrong time.



James, a Black Republican, is on his second bite of the apple, having lost a 2018 Senate run to Debbie Stabenow. James is a loyalist to the Republican playbook, refusing to contrast himself with President Donald Trump or criticize him in any significant way, in the hopes of shoring up support from Trump’s base. The US Army veteran and combat aviation officer finds himself in the unenviable position of having to emphasize his bonafide conservative beliefs, manage his association with Trump, and still try to appeal to Black voters.

Roughly 80% of African Americans self-identify as Democrat, and while James’ approach has largely been to focus on collective issues -- those that unite Michiganders -- he is aware of the unique challenges faced by Black voters in his state. He said one thing

is clear, the corona virus has impacted communities of color disproportionately. “We saw here in Michigan, where an African American population that represents roughly 14% of the population ... yet over 40% of the deaths have been African American.” That’s bad news for a candidate who supports Trump, especially as Trump’s handling of the Corona Virus has reached an all time low, with voters giving him a paltry 35% approval rating. In a state where Corona Virus cases have spiked over the last several weeks, any connection to Trump could spell doom.

James’ incumbent opponent, Gary Peters, is quick to connect the two, “My opponent supports Donald Trump, he has said, ‘2,000,’” Peters said. “That’s a pretty big percentage to support somebody and certainly on a variety of issues, there is a clear difference between where I am ... and where my opponent is.”

Peters first won the seat in 2014 when he defeated Terri Lynn Land, a popular, well-funded Republican and former secretary of state, by 14 points. He is one of only two Democratic senators up for reelection this cycle in a state that Trump won in 2016, which put Michigan’s Senate seat in the GOP’s crosshairs in the hopes of retaining their majority. Peters has seemingly served Michigan well, and was ranked the fourth most effective Democratic senator over 2017 and 2018. The Lugar Center at Georgetown University ranked him the third most bipartisan Democratic senator for 2019. Peters also served in the U.S. House before winning the Senate seat in 2014.

Peters and James have voiced differing positions on the fight over President Donald Trump’s Supreme Court pick. Peters says, “voters should have their voices heard” in the fall presidential election, and no nomination to succeed the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg should be made until the next presidential term begins. James said Peters should “fairly and honestly evaluate the nominee on his or her merits,” regardless of when one is put forward, and “not on the basis of party politics.” He has yet to address the timing of the vote.



James will have to severely outperform Trump if he has any shot at winning. In recent polling, Joe Biden, with 50%, leads Trump’s 42%. Couple that with Trump’s 56% disapproval rating in Michigan, and the odds get longer for James.

Both sides have ample cash at hand for the home stretch. Peters holds a slight advantage, with \$11.5 million cash on hand, to James’ \$9.2 million. Money won’t be the deciding factor down the stretch and it’ll be the red team singing the blues.

James has put up a valiant effort, but we “Heard it Through the Grapevine” that this election is probably going to the Democrats. James is hoping that it’s “Just My Imagination”. We’ll see on November 4th.

Montana

Population size: **1.06 M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Republican*



Electoral
Votes:
3



Stephen Bullock

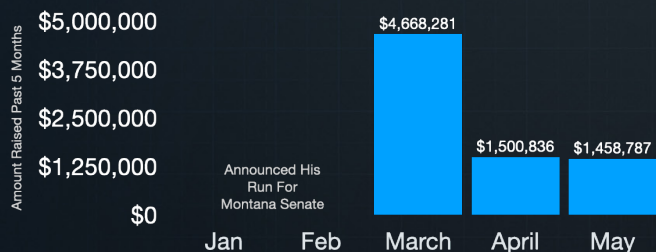
Age: 54
 Profession: Governor of Montana
 Amount Raised: \$11,161,376 (3/1/20 - 5/13/20)
 Amount Spent: \$3,572,704

Cash on Hand: \$7,588,672
 Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
 Top Contributor: Montana Democratic Party

Political Leaning:



Montanans for Bullock. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Republicans are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	+138	\$100	\$138
Repubilcans	-187	\$187	\$100

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Steve Daines

Incumbent Since 2015

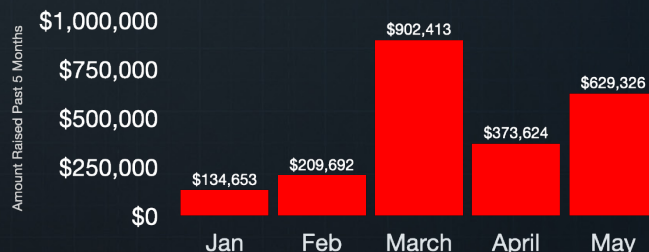
Age: 57
 Profession: House of Representatives
 Amount Raised: \$13,000,051 (01/19/20 - 5/13/20)
 Amount Spent: \$5,857,362

Cash on Hand: \$7,142,689
 Top Industry: Oil and Gas
 Top Contributor: National Republican Senatorial

Political Leaning:



Steve Daines for Montana Inc.. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction: ●●●●●

● **Steve Daines**
WINS

BRENTWOOD
RESEARCH

ELECTION REPORT 2020

Montana

Montanans must be colorblind. Sure, they all agree that when they look up in Big Sky Country, they see beautiful blue, but when it comes to politics, some see red, some see purple, and some see lines that are blurring so quickly that they can't make them out.

Traditionally, Montana has been reliably Republican at the presidential level, but has elected several Democrats statewide. The state has voted Republican in every presidential election since the 1960s with the exception of Bill Clinton in 1992. Montanans, though, are stubbornly independent, and are ticket splitters. In 2012, when Mitt Romney carried the state by 13% over Obama, Montana elected a Democrat as Governor. In 2016, when Trump carried the state by 20% over Hillary Clinton, Montanans reelected the same Governor.

The dynamics of federal and state-level races are quite different, and it is far more complicated to unseat an incumbent Senator than it is to win an open gubernatorial race. That's the good news for Republican incumbent Steve Daines.

Daines, a businessman and former US House Representative for Montana, was first elected to the seat in 2014 and is now seeking a second term. He's trumpeting tax cuts he pushed for small businesses in the 2017 GOP tax-cut law, relief from a long ban on beef exports to China and he co-sponsored the Great American Outdoors Act, which helped permanently funnel federal royalties from oil and gas drilling to conservation. Couple his legislative wins in Washington with his close alliance with the

president, and Daines was supposed to coast to reelection in November. Democrats had a field of nobodies, and Daines was crushing them all in the polls.

Then the Governor walked across the hall. Yes, THAT governor. The Democratic one that was twice elected, even when Montanans were voting for Romney and Trump.

Recruited by both Obama and Shumer, Governor Steve Bullock walked across that hallway, submitted his filing papers for the US Senate race, and became the only sitting U.S. governor running for the Senate. Facing mandatory term limits, the most popular politician in Montana said, "We decided that this wasn't a time to be on the sidelines." That's the bad news for incumbent Steve Daines.

Like most elections, Covid response has taken center stage as a referendum on how Trump has responded to the virus, which has exploded to about 5,000 cases, the highest percentage increases in recent weeks. As a sitting governor, Bullock decided early on to err on the side of caution. He shut down Montana sooner than many states, and when cases upticked in July, he ordered a mask mandate. He has been lauded for taking decisive action and his approval rating has remained high. The pandemic has challenged Daines because of Trump's inaction and the stalemate on Capitol Hill over new relief. The senator is banking that voters will look closely at his legislative record, and choose conservatism on a ballot in a state where Trump signs are scattered everywhere.

Montana voters have already started

casting ballots but Daines is still in favor of President Donald Trump replacing Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg before the 2020 election. Daines was vehemently against the 2016 nomination of Merrick Garland, but looks at this appointment through a different lens. He said "clear differences" exist between 2016 and 2020 to justify the nomination, citing that Obama was a lame-duck president barred by term limits from seeking re-election. He points to the consolidation and consensus between a current president who's running for reelection, and a Senate that is in agreement with that president. Gov. Steve Bullock said Ginsburg's replacement should not take place until after Inauguration Day. "Four years ago, Senator Daines said 'let the people speak,'" Bullock said, "Montanans should be able to count on their senator to keep his word."



Daines leads Bullock 50% to 47% in the U.S. Senate race among all Montana voters, but AARP recently released a poll that says that with voters over 50, incumbent Sen. Steve Daines trails Gov. Steve Bullock 48% to 49%. Trump leads Biden by 7% in Montana. Bullock broke an all-time quarterly fundraising record for Senate races in Montana, bringing in \$7.7 million in 2020's second quarter compared to \$4.8 million for Daines. Still, the sky is blue, the sun will shine, but it's clear, this one is a toss up.

Senate Race

North Carolina

Population size: **10.49 M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Swing*



Electoral Votes:

15



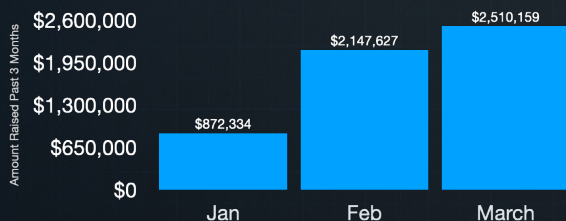
Cal Cunningham III

Age: 46
Profession: Politician / Lawyer
Amount Raised: \$15,119,926 (01/1/20 - 3/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$8,502,743
Cash on Hand: \$6,617,183
Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
Top Contributor: US Democrats Senate Campaign

Political Leaning:



Cal for NC. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Thom Tillis

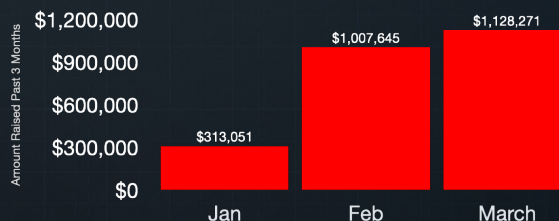
Incumbent Since 2015

Age: 59
Profession: Career Politician
Amount Raised: \$14,334,771 (01/1/20 - 3/31/20)
Amount Spent: \$7,452,367
Cash on Hand: \$6,882,404
Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
Top Contributor: Thomas Tillis Campaign CMTE

Political Leaning:



Thom Tillis Committee. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Democrats are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	-225	\$225	\$100
Repubilcans	+163	\$100	\$163

Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Our Prediction: ●●●

Cal Cunningham
WINS

BRENTWOOD
 RESEARCH

ELECTION REPORT 2020

North Carolina

Anne Bronte said “The ties that bind us to life are tougher than you imagine, or than any one can who has not felt how roughly they may be pulled without breaking.” A more simple man said, “Birds of a feather flock together.” Either way you put it, in the race for US Senate in North Carolina, affiliations may have as much sway as agenda.

GOP Senator Thom Tillis knows this more than anyone. First elected in 2014 during a Republican wave, he has had to tread carefully and temper his association with President Trump, as he fights for a second term. The swing-state senator finds himself having to measure his distance to a president who is loved by die-hard conservatives but is sometimes cringe-worthy to the many moderates who will likely determine the outcome of the election. It’s a tightrope that Tillis has walked fairly adeptly. “Tillis has been very strategic running the campaign he needs to run to by picking up those crucial voters in suburban areas,” Democratic consultant Brad Crone said. “When it’s a disadvantage to align with Trump, he’s distanced himself.”

Trump recently touched down in NC, and declared that Tillis, “has been by my side,” but at that exact moment, Tillis, unlike Trump and most in attendance, was wearing a mask and appearing to adhere to the scientists’ opinions on handling Covid-19, something many conservatives have chosen to downplay. And while Tillis has preached mask use, he went maskless in a crowd at the president’s Republican nomination speech. Tillis later apologized. Tillis’ Trump

affiliation has gotten even trickier at times. After angering the Republican base last year by publicly opposing Trump’s emergency declaration to fund a U.S.-Mexico border wall, he seemingly changed his mind in order to please Trump, who, months later, endorsed him for reelection. Tillis was also one of Trump’s strongest defenders during impeachment.



Tillis’ dance has not been lost on his opponent, Cal Cunningham. Cunningham, an Iraq War veteran and former state legislator said, “He’s here in-state talking one game, and he goes to Washington and does something different.” Cunningham hopes to peg Tillis to Trump’s Corona response at every turn, and when asked about Trump’s pandemic response, Cunningham said there had been “an unprecedented failure of leadership” and blamed Tillis for failing to act quickly.

Cunningham has been careful to not tie Tillis and Trump in other matters, perhaps in fear that he would anger some, energize others, or maybe because he doesn’t want to be tied to the leaders of his party either. Tillis tried to tie Cunningham to national Democrats throughout their first debate. He called Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, Cunningham’s “running mate.” He said Cunningham’s comments about

the coronavirus vaccine were the same as Democratic vice presidential candidate Kamala Harris’.

Cunningham’s desire is to keep the focus on health care and the pandemic, and continue his cautious approach to Trump in a state his strategist said is “as purple as you could get in 2020.” “If we do what we’re supposed to do, it’s going to be about North Carolina and we’re going to stay out of the national food fight as much as possible,” Cunningham said.

With one third of North Carolina’s voters being ticket-splitting independents, the Senate winner will have to secure his party’s base and attract unaffiliated voters, especially in affluent Raleigh and Charlotte counties.

The North Carolina race is currently the most expensive Senate race in the country, with all candidates and outsiders spending \$68 million, and that amount will balloon well past \$100 million as the election draws near. Republicans have \$36 million in advertising booked between now and Election Day, \$10 million less than the Democrats, in a contest where Cunningham’s campaign has a cash advantage over Tillis.

Trump currently trails Biden by 1-2% in North Carolina, while Cunningham has seen his commanding lead in the polls shrink away. He now leads with 42% to Tillis’ 37%. One Republican voter summed it up. She’s committed to Trump, but when it comes to the Senate race, she said “Probably when I actually get to the polls, that’s when I’ll decide.”

The winner of this race could determine control of the Senate, so stayed tuned. Tillis seems to be on his way out.

Senate Race

South Carolina

Population size: **5.14 M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Republican*



Electoral
Votes:


9



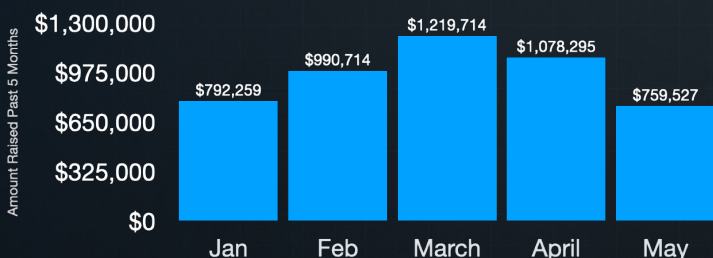
Jamie Harrison

Age: 44
 Profession: DNC Chair
 Amount Raised: \$28,996,588 (1/1/20 - 5/20/20)
 Amount Spent: \$18,730,533

Cash on Hand: \$10,266,055
 Top Industry: Lawyers & Lobbyists
 Top Contributor: Bridge Pac

Political Leaning:  Progressive Left

Jamie Harrison for US Senate. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Republicans are favored to win based on the following line bet:

Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	+200	\$100	\$200
Repubilcans	-275	\$275	\$100


Source: Federal Election Commission / Bookies.com

Lindsey Graham

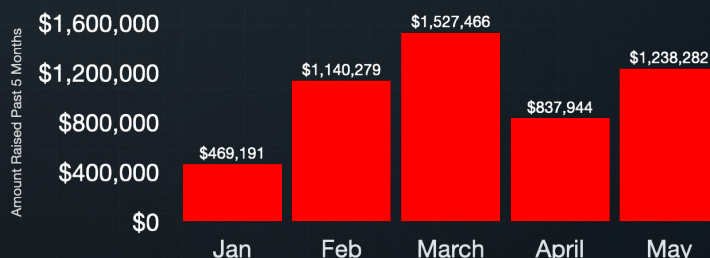
Incumbent Since 2002

Age: 39
 Profession: Politician / Air Force
 Amount Raised: \$26,176,021 (1/1/20 - 5/20/20)
 Amount Spent: \$12,239,777

Cash on Hand: \$13,936,243
 Top Industry: Candidate Committees
 Top Contributor: Team Graham, Inc.

Political Leaning:  Moderate Right

Team Graham, Inc. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Our Prediction: 

● Lindsey Graham

WINS

 BRENTWOOD
RESEARCH

ELECTION REPORT 2020

South Carolina

In the famous children's story, "The Tortoise and the Hare", the fleet footed hare, in its race against the tortoise, gets out to a commanding lead, then in a bout of overconfidence, falls asleep before crossing the finish line, only to get passed and defeated by the slow and steady tortoise. In South Carolina's US Senate race, the title of the story may be "The Tortoise is the Har-rison", as contender Jaime Harrison has slowly but surely caught up to incumbent Lindsey Graham.

Harrison entered the race in early 2019, and many thought that the first Black leader of South Carolina's Democratic Party was wasting his time. Polls showed him trailing by 25-30%, there was no money in the coffers, and the hill looked too steep to climb. Harrison said, "When I first got into this race and people told me that I couldn't do this, my whole statement to them is 'Watch me,' and that's exactly what we're doing." Harrison set out to build an infrastructure, share his story, and establish himself to South Carolinians.

A year and a half later, Harrison and Graham are all tied up with about six weeks left until the election.

Senator Graham finds himself in the first real test of his tenure. The three-term veteran won his 2014 election by 16%, but in 2020 48% of voters support Graham, 48% support Harrison, with only 3% saying they are still unsure. He is underperforming his party's nominee, as Trump leads Biden 51% to 44%.

Graham's problem could stem from his relationship with the president. Many in the state ask "who is Lindsey Graham?" after his transition from

one of the most outspoken critics of Trump during the 2016 campaign, to one of his staunchest allies in the Senate. Graham's metamorphosis mimics the changes in the mainstream Republican Party, which has married itself to the president and his message. In ruby-red South Carolina, he has stuck close to the Republican president, and his popularity in the small corners of conservatism has never been higher. Graham is now the most popular Republican in South Carolina. He used to be the least.

Overall, Harrison gets more positive reviews than Graham. 47% of South Carolinians say they have a favorable view of Harrison, while 34 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him. Graham's favorability is slightly underwater, with 44 percent reporting a favorable view of him and 49 percent saying they see him unfavorably.

Graham has touted law and order as the "defining issue of the election." South Carolina voters agree with him, as 23 percent cited it as their most important issue when deciding who to vote for in the Senate contest. That issue was followed by the economy at 22 percent, the coronavirus pandemic at 12 percent, racial inequality at 12 percent and the U.S. Supreme Court at 11 percent.

This Senate contest may be the race most impacted by the recent death of Supreme Court Justice Ginsburg, and for Graham, the vacancy arrived at an opportune time. Republicans hope, and some Democrats acknowledge, it will help the three-term incumbent consolidate his support among conservatives. Conservatives outnumber liberals in South Carolina, and con-

servatives care about the court. The opening could create an advantage for Sen. Graham, who chairs the Senate Judiciary committee, as he will be front and center at any confirmation hearings. He has made clear his intentions to quickly push through President Trump's nominee.

Graham will be gifted the spotlight during the most critical period of the race against Harrison, and that could help him offset his financial disadvantage.

This election may come down to the money game, and the donor class has really taken to Harrison. After recent polls were published showing a dead heat, Harrison's campaign marked two back-to-back fundraising days of \$1 million apiece, bringing his total fundraising to over \$30 million.

It's an unheard sum for a Democrat competing in a conservative state, and matches what Graham has raised in his pursuit of his fourth term. It also dwarfs the \$10 million figure that Harrison previously thought was necessary to win.

Super PACs and the national organizations are waiting on the sidelines with massive ad buys waiting to be unleashed, and they hope the blitzes will sway the few undecideds in the state.

The tortoise, Harrison, may not win this election, but he has certainly commanded the attention of Graham, the hare. There is no more sleeping before the finish, which is a scant month and a half away.

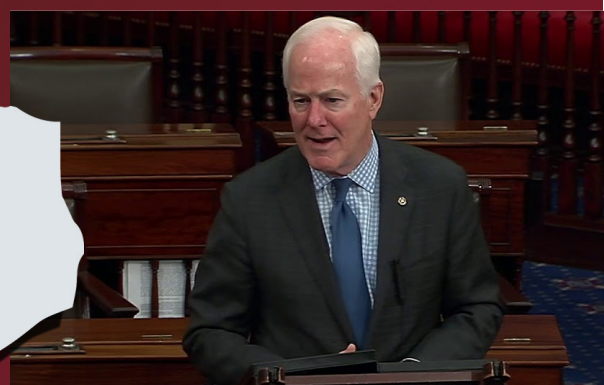
Texas

Population size: **29 M**
 Last five elections: ●●●●●
 Traditionally leans: *Republican*



Electoral
Votes:


38



Mary Hegar (MJ)

Age: 44
 Profession: Airforce
 Amount Raised: \$6,605,955 (1/1/20 - 6/30/20)
 Amount Spent: \$5,703,874

Cash on Hand: \$902,092
 Top Industry: Securities & Investments
 Top Contributor: US Democratic Campaign

Political Leaning:  **Progressive Left**

John Cornyn

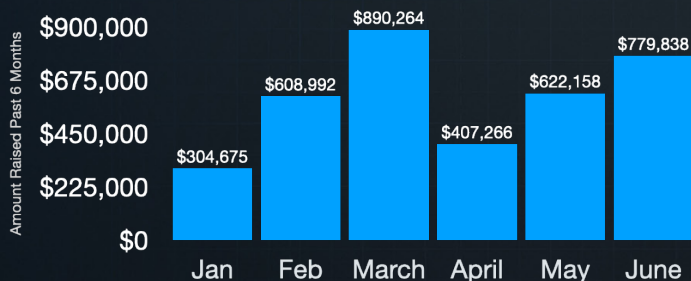
Incumbent Since 2002

Age: 68
 Profession: Politician / Attorney
 Amount Raised: \$22,399,848 (1/1/20 - 3/31/20)
 Amount Spent: \$7,889,528

Cash on Hand: \$14,510,320
 Top Industry: Leadership PACs
 Top Contributor: McConnell Cornyn Leadership

Political Leaning:  **Conservative Right**

MJ for Texas. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Texans for Senator. 2020 Contribution Receipts.



Party	Odds	Wager	Win
Democrats	N/A	N/A	N/A
Repubilcans	N/A	N/A	N/A

Our Prediction: 

John Cornyn
WINS

ELECTION REPORT 2020

Texas

embership has its privileges, and as a three term US Senator, Republican John Cornyn has reaped the rewards. He sits on the Finance, Judiciary, and Intelligence committees, all of which are the most powerful Senate subsections, and he has held party leadership positions since 2013.

As he faces re-election for his fourth term, Cornyn is dealing with something he isn't used to – a tightening race.

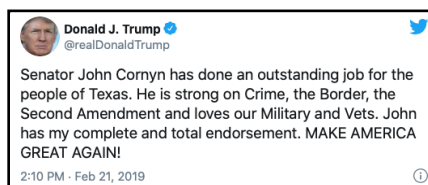
Texas has been a Republican bastion for decades, hasn't elected a Democrat statewide since 1994, and there is no doubt that Cornyn remains the heavy favorite in this Senate race. But the popular Senator has seen his lead shrink in recent polling and, if nothing else, the numbers have made him pay attention to his words and actions as the race heads down the final stretch.

As he embarks on the final several weeks of his quest for a fourth term, Cornyn is pitching himself as a "steady hand on the wheel" who has the experience and gravitas to guide Texas through turbulence.

He has focused his run for reelection with more appeals to the political center "The thing I enjoy the most about my job is actually solving hard problems, and sometimes it takes years to actually pass legislation, but ... we're kind of in a precarious time, not just in our state, because of the pandemic, but in the nation, and ... so I think a steady hand on the wheel is even more important than usual," Cornyn said during an interview earlier this month. Cornyn's ad campaign touts "Thoughtful. Leadership. For Texas." The commercials have been focused

on the coronavirus relief package he voted for early on in the pandemic, his work to reduce the rape kit backlog in Texas, and most recently, his support for protecting "Dreamers," young people brought to the country illegally as children.

Cornyn has been a staunch supporter of Trump. Having voted with the President 95% of the time, he spoke at the RNC and declared that Trump will win Texas "because he has me." That is good news for Trump, and hopefully good news for both.



As the president's approval shrinks in Texas, so does Cornyn's commanding lead over Democratic candidate MJ Hegar. Having started 2020 ahead by double digits, Cornyn has watched it shrink to a less comfortable, but still strong 6-8% lead. Many feel that his proximity to the mercurial head of the party may be costing him support, even in the reddest of red states.

Cornyn dismisses that characterization and despite recently having to spend time cleaning up after Trump's long shadow, Cornyn is still a solid defender. Recently, when the president was criticized for his handling of the early stages of the pandemic, Cornyn came to his rescue, and said "I understand the intention that he didn't want to panic the American people. That's not what leaders do," Cornyn said. "In retrospect, I think he might have been able to handle that in a way

that both didn't panic the American people but also gave them accurate information." Hegar, who has long accused Cornyn of enabling Trump, said, "Being upfront and laying out the facts could have saved countless lives and massively reduced the damage done to our economy."

Hegar is a political neophyte, but, after losing a 2018 Congressional race, her story was intriguing enough to narrowly win the Democratic primary. Her problem right now is that most Texans don't know her, and there may not be enough money or time to change that.

Last reports had her cash position at \$1 million, while Cornyn sits on \$14.5 million. Ad buys in Texas are expensive, and expect her to be drowned out on the airwaves.

For the first time in recently history, Texas Republicans will at least have to run through the finish line. Trump seems to be in real trouble in Texas, holding a slim .8% lead over Biden, but while Cornyn may have received a wake up call, expect him to easily win this one. This one is so easy to call we couldn't even fill up the space.

THE "EVENT" TRADE

THE TRADE

Buy Dollar Index Puts (March 2021) @ 95. - The cost per option contract, as of Sunday, September 27th, is \$1950 per contract. The dollar index is currently trading at 94.55. The March contract expires on March 5th, 2021. This means the breakeven for the trade is 93. Each point below 93 represents \$1000 of upside per contract. Any close above 95 would be a complete loss on the option contract. ***We believe this trade could return 5X within the next 180 days*** with a dollar index that closes at 83 by March 3rd, 2021.

We believe that when the long term construct meets the short term environment we are presented with great opportunity to take advantage and capitalize. In these times we can shift our actions from the alligator who waits, to the one who pounces. When these two mindsets converge, especially during times when volatility can be expected, and, as the band of expected outcomes widens, it allows for greater opportunities in options pricing and therefore better opportunities for event trading.

Most trading systems are seeking to trade "in and out" in daily trades where one will hold a stock for less than a day, an hour, or even a minute. They are based on the trading signals that respond to trends and "levels." This type of trading relies on momentum and price fluctuations to make short term profits. The approach for these traders is to make small low risk trades that limit the losses. This approach also limits the upside. For anyone who's attempted to trade with this strategy over longer periods of time losses will be very familiar. It's nearly impossible for anyone but the

very best day traders in the world to achieve success trading over longer periods of time. The numbers are depressing; 80% of all day traders lose money, 10% break even and only 10% will make any money. Day trading requires tremendous focus, awareness and discipline and information. As loyalists to the long term story, day trading is not something that we do not recommend.

An event trade is the antithesis of day trading and relies on story and outcome rather than momentum and price fluctuations. To explain the difference, consider the example of a football game. As we know, one has forever been able to place a bet on the final score of the game and the winner. Today, due to advances in technology and "in game" betting, one can also bet on every individual play within a game. The difference is the event trader bets on the final outcome, while the day trader cares less about outcome and only cares about the moment, play by play. While the exceptional day trader may be able to predict more of the short term outcomes than not and therefore create a "net" winner over time, they will also encounter a great deal of losing bets along the way. It's why day traders must have incredible discipline, incredible feel, incredible knowledge of the way markets move, and incredible moment to moment information that provides an edge. This is a zero sum game and is only recommended for true professionals with appropriate tools and high speed information.

An event trade takes the moment to moment risk away and seeks to gain opportunity on the conclusion rather than the momentum. Imagine that you were certain that the final score of the Super Bowl was going to be 31-30. Let's say that the oddsmakers have made the over/under (+/- 58 points).

A bet on the over would therefore be a winning bet. A bet on the under 58 would be a loser in this scenario. Now suppose that with ten minutes left in the 4th quarter the game is tied 3-3. The day trader who has been betting on the trend of every play may be up or down. It offers the story gambler a completely different opportunity set. At this stage in the game the pricing on the over total will have dramatically changed, providing the over bettor a massively leveraged bet should he still believe in the final score.

So long as certainty remains about the conclusion, the low score with little time remaining in the game allows for a new opportunity to buy the option at a far better price and therefore leverage the gains. The opposite is also true. If the score is 28-27 at the end of the first quarter, the event trader can exit the position with large gains and even "free roll" to the conclusion. For an event trader the key to everything is the conclusion. Every great event trade starts with a story and an understanding of the calendar. The following dates are ones that we will be closely watching and are already set on the calendar. We expect volatility in pricing to provide optionality for the trade around the following key calendar dates.

THE ELECTION TRADE KEY CALENDAR DATES

-Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020. -
National Election Day
-Wednesday, November 4th, 2020
Federal Reserve Meeting
-Monday December 14th, 2020 -
Electoral College Cast Ballots
-Wednesday, December 16th, 2020
Federal Reserve Meeting
-Sunday January 3th, 2021 -
New Congress Seated
-Wednesday, January 6th, 2021 -
First Fed Meeting of New Administration

THE "EVENT" TRADE

There are five major dates and items that we are looking at when considering this election trade. As time progresses we will receive more and more clarification on each of the individual dominoes and perspectives. We are also very aware that unplanned events will likely also occur that will hinder or support our ultimate conclusion. Because our focus will be on the day to day pricing of the option, we will be paying close attention in order to take advantage of any large directional move. We will update our readers with the progression of the trade in each month's FFC newsletter. Should we see information that we deem noteworthy that needs immediate attention we will update our subscribers accordingly.

OCTOBER 30th - NO CANDY FOR HALLOWEEN

Our first major assumption is that by the end of October there will be tremendous volatility within the paper markets. We believe that this volatility could occur to the downside for equities for three main reasons:

#1 - No Stimulus.

The closer we get to the election, the harder it becomes for Congress to agree to another major stimulus package. This particular area is one that the Republicans may look back on with regret. One of the key components to re-election for any incumbent is the performance of the stock market heading into the election. The story is actually quite simple in this regard and it all comes down to the last ninety day before the election. Incumbents with a stock market that has been higher during this span of time have won 93% of the time. It's little wonder why the stock market has become such a focus for Trump.

He knows if it's higher his chances increase significantly. The math is simple here, on August 3rd the S&P 500 stood at an even 3300 points. Should the market be higher on November 3rd, Trump's odds of winning are significantly better.

One of the easiest correlations to make about the recent performance of the stock market is that Congressional stimulus is highly supportive. When the CARES Act was passed, markets boomed and detangled from the underlying reality of the economy where millions of workers are unemployed. The major lesson that we have all now learned is that stimulus matters more to the height of the stock market than anything else. Which is why when the remaining conservative Republicans in the Senate pushed back on the Democrats proposal for \$3 trillion in new stimulus we took note. The Republican approach of a skinny stimulus bill has dramatically hurt the performance of the stock market in September. We believe that had a stimulus package been agreed to that the S&P 500 could have eclipsed 3800 points.

Not passing a bill at all has been a big disappointment to the market. The S&P 500 peaked at 3600 points in early September and has struggled mostly because of the lack of expected stimulus. It seems Trump is aware of the situation and why he has urged the Republicans to "go for the higher number" when it comes to the stimulus package. The window of opportunity for going for the bigger number seems to be closed. With only weeks left before the election, and given the heightened fight over the Supreme Court nomination taking center stage, it seems we will need to wait until after the election for more stimulus. The success of our trade will be determined by the future of a stimu-

lus package. While we don't expect stimulus to be voted on until after November 3rd, we do believe a massive package to be forthcoming once the new administration has been decided. Once that stimulus comes we expect it to be highly supportive of equities.

#2 - Institutional Money and Foreign Investment Repositioning.

One of the major supports for the U.S. equity market over the past four years has been foreign capital flows. We believe we will see asset managers and institutional investors moving away from risk. As this occurs we expect to see the equity markets further pressured in later October. In the shorter term this could put pressure on our dollar short as naturally when investors sell stocks, they are initially forced into dollars. For this reason, and true to the recent upsurge in the dollar that has taken momentum away from the gold and silver trade, we could see further strengthening of the dollar as investors move to cash prior to the election.

This however is where it all becomes even more interesting. The election risk includes a very real possibility that we could see a constitutional crisis unfold, one where the election results are challenged, in doubt and uncertain for a longer period of time than even Bush v Gore in 2000. Those of us who remember the constitutional crisis of 20 years ago would do well to remember that in the weeks after the election the S&P 500 dropped 12% in three weeks. Back then a constitutional crisis was unexpected and a bigger shock. Today, we believe a constitutional crisis has a decent probability. More importantly, we believe that many other investors are prepared for a similarly contested outcome. Now that state-run elector-

THE “EVENT” TRADE

al systems are in chaos in the midst of a pandemic, with no assurances the conditions for normal voting behavior will return by November, the odds of a contested general election (not just by Trump, but by elements of both parties) have gone up. Election law expert Rick Hasen is among the hundreds of experts sounding the alarm. “[I]f the pandemic is still limiting our ability to move freely about society in the fall, the amount of absentee balloting is going to explode whether Congress mandates an expansion of absentee balloting or not [it didn’t!]. We have already seen the huge growth in absentee ballot requests for Wisconsin’s April 7 primary, along with legal challenges surrounding the state’s voter ID law. Vote by mail is an important step in ensuring that even if the virus keeps people away from physical polling places, millions of Americans will have a means of avoiding disenfranchisement. But it is not perfect. Vote-by-mail ballots are more likely to be rejected than other ballots because of problems like signature mismatches. We also know that rejection rates for signature mismatches can disproportionately affect minority voters. Some states do not alert a voter whose ballot has been rejected about the rejection, failing to give the voter a chance to cure something like a purported signature mismatch. Signature matching is also a notoriously subjective endeavor. Even before the coronavirus pandemic, the issue has led to litigation over whether those voters are being unconstitutionally denied their right to vote. Some disabled voters, meanwhile, may need to vote at physical polling places because they lack the physical ability to fill out a ballot at home. These voters too risk disenfranchisement. And in the 11 states without online voter reg-

istration, even registering to vote in time for the election may pose a great challenge if government offices are closed or maintaining only limited hours.”

In short, our election system is bound to be more chaotic than at any time in history. This is made all the more volatile due to the Supreme Court vacancy left by Justice Ginsberg’s death in September. Given Trump’s comments that he will distrust any result where he loses, a constitutional crisis appears to now be a strategy for the Republicans. Hundreds of lawsuits have already been prepared for this eventuality. Most importantly, and despite what may ultimately occur, it seems that money managers can easily see the risks associated with the short term. We believe this will be a major headwind in October and could see a heavy move from institutional investors away from US equities and the dollar.

#3 - Rising Cases and Deaths.

Since the beginning of the pandemic in January we have paid particular attention to the trajectory of COVID 19 both in the United States as well as around the world. From the outset we expected that a warm weather summer would see the trend in the number of cases decline, and that the fall would present a much bigger challenge as people move from outdoor living to indoors. We also identified Memorial Day and Labor Day as two important dates to watch.

Memorial Day this year occurred as lockdowns were being lifted. The combination led to a dramatic rise in the increased number of cases three weeks later and led to a rise in deaths seven weeks after. We believe that Labor Day always presented a big risk, especially as it coincided with the return to school of high school

and colleges around the country. As we write this in late September we are witnessing this exact trend play out. New cases in the U.S. which had dropped to lows of 22,000 per day in early September had risen off to about new cases a day for much of the last weeks of summer, and have begun rising significantly into late September hitting daily case counts of 50,000 per day. Just as the trend in hospitalizations and death rose six weeks after Memorial Day, we expect that heading into the end of October we will see a significant increase in hospitalizations and death. Trump’s, and his inner teams’ contraction of the virus throw even more support to our early expectations.

We believe the advice from even the most conservative mayors and governors will be that Halloween as a door to door event will need to be universally canceled. It’s hard to imagine that parents will want to send their children door to door in that environment. In fact, it is fairly likely that by October 30th we will not only see Halloween canceled, it will also coincide with runaway increases at college campuses and could witness college deans sending locking down their campuses and sending students home.

The rising numbers from overseas in Europe are also indicative of a trend higher in cases. Should that trend continue it will likely lead to higher rates of hospitalizations at the most inopportune time politically for the existing administration. This is something that needs attention in the most important swing states, namely Florida and Texas, and the move from republican governors Ron Desantis and Greg Abbott who have taken more aggressive reopening actions. Should cases level off these actions could propel the conservative cause, should

THE "EVENT" TRADE

cases rise into the beginning of November these actions could have the opposite effect and become a drag on the republican turnout and vote.

Conclusion: Should October go accordingly, we believe the likelihood is that the S&P 500 will be lower, not higher, from current levels of 3350 points. Given that 3300 is the magellan line to follow, a no candy October, and one where the S&P 500 is significantly lower puts pressure on Donald Trump and the Republicans chances on November 3rd. A higher than 3300 points on the S&P likely has a more positive impact for the GOP. We believe that our short position will still be in great stead at this moment given that the uncertain election will be just days away.

NOVEMBER 4th- THE GREAT UNKNOWN & DIVIDE

Wednesday, November 4th will be among the most important dates in United States history. At this point in time, and for the first time ever, we will not know the winner of the election for both the President, as well as many of the Congressional and Senate races. Each of these main branches of government will ultimately be decided by mail in ballots, that for the first time ever, guarantee that the election results will not be finalized for many of the contests on November 3rd.

Over 80 million people are expected to vote by mail in this election. Ten states are offering universal mail in voting. While most states require that the vote be counted on election day, several swing states, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Michigan all allow for votes to be counted after election day so long as the ballot is postmarked by November 3rd. Making matters all the worse are that many

of the states offering a mail in option are doing so for the first time and lack the appropriate infrastructure and experience to warrant much confidence in the process. Lawsuits have been prepared in 43 different states regarding mail in ballots which will only serve to add confusion as many of the rules regarding mail in voting are still in flux at this late date.

Because the majority of mail in votes are expected to be heavily tilted toward in favor of the Democrats, many experts are predicting a "Red Mirage." In this situation the early vote on election day will favor the Republican ticket and Donald Trump only to find as mail in votes continue being counted that the advantage will swing back toward the democrats. We have seen this situation play out multiple times in Senate and Congressional elections in the recent past. Getting a final tally that we can trust is one of the biggest variables surrounding this election. Three main questions will need to be answered. Number One - Is there a clear winner? Number Two - If not, how long before the final result is known? And Number Three - will the people accept the results?

Can you imagine a situation where FOX calls the election for Trump or for a Republican Senator and CNN calls it the opposite way? At a time when information will be most critical, we are systematically positioned to doubt everything. The feedback loops of the media which have continued to drive each party to the edges, coupled with the social media explosion where fake news headlines get six times more clicks than real news, put the number one value of democracy we regard as Americans in doubt. That value is that every citizen has a vote that will be counted, and that the will of the majority will be authentically counted. We believe

that on November 4th, despite the reality that we may have a declarable winner, that the people of the United States will continue to doubt the veracity of the election. This unfortunate reality is one we have anticipated, and plays well into the logic of the dollar short.

The Presidential race as voted on by the electoral college will be very close. So close in fact that neither side is likely to concede. Hilary Clinton went on record in August saying that Biden should not concede no matter what. Biden's lack of concession, while a guess, is not the same challenge we face on the other side with Trump. Trump has gone on record to and has promised that any result that has him losing is one that will have meant the election was tampered with and stolen. This is why we are quite optimistic about the trend of the trade at this moment. A disputed election, which at this stage is a high probability, means greater uncertainty and supports a weakening dollar, especially should that uncertainty continue for a long period of time.

The faster the resolution, the more likely the trade could turn against us in the early moments. A decisive victory for either side that allows these races to be called with high certainty results in an environment with less volatility. A big sweep in the form of a red or blue wave for either party could put significant momentum behind the value of the dollar. A tight race will indicate higher odds of a constitutional crisis which we expect would be heavily dollar negative. We expect the latter, and while the presidential election may be easier to call, we expect that multiple Senate races will be too close to call. Of course the stakes are monumental. We believe that the longer the length of time between November 3rd, and the ul-

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timate day of the final decision, the more dramatic the dollar slide could be. At this stage of the trade we will be looking for a big short term drop or rise to take advantage of.

DECEMBER 1st- THE GREAT ROTATION

By this time the winner of the election should be known. We believe that three of the possible four outcomes at this stage are tilted in favor of our trade. A blue or red wave we expect will keep equity markets elevated and the risks to the dollar strengthening versus weakening would be tilted in our favor. A unanimous color means a certainty, and supports the overall structure of the equity market. The biggest risk we see to the dollar short is an equity market that collapses. A wave in the direction of either color should avoid that reality.

The third scenario is one where both the presidential and congressional elections are still in doubt. This eventuality will mean a slate of lawsuits and political maneuvering. Teams of lawyers have already gamed out the tit for tat moves that each side could and are likely to make in a contested election. The result of these mock situations has resulted in an inevitable dead end. The U.S constitution simply doesn't make account for all of the variables that will play out. If there is ongoing doubt about the vote at this stage, we would expect to see the dollar slide significantly. An ongoing constitutional crisis at this later date could provide the most leverage for our trade and dollar short. The color purple, in which the branches of government are split, in our opinion, would be least beneficial to our dollar short position. We also believe that the color purple on December 1st is the least likely scenario. Regard-

less of outcome we believe that early December could witness the biggest market moves for our short position.

A blue wave we believe will see dramatic monetary repositioning. It indicates a long term trend toward higher taxes on the wealthy, higher taxes on corporations, and higher wages for low wage workers. None of these eventualities are likely to be supportive of the existing structure of the equity market for the long term. However, while many financial pundits today predict that a blue wave will cause massive selling for the above mentioned reasons, a projection only further reinforced by Trump at every turn as he warns Americans that the stock market will collapse if he is not re-elected, we at Brentwood Research have the opposite expectation. Much like the red wave that happened in 2016, a red or blue wave could mean a big move higher in certain parts for the stock market and economy. Markets love certainty, even certainty that comes from a result that many investors today may fear.

What will more likely occur in a blue wave is volatility from repositioning as investment flows away from technology and other areas of the market that have been outperformers, and into more dollar devaluation assets like commodities and precious metals. Our bet is that massive stimulus expectations will keep the markets elevated. A blue wave also does wonders for the long term expectations for infrastructure spending that is so desperately needed in our country today. An index surprise to the upside is our base expectation. A blue wave could see the dollar weaken significantly as massive stimulus packages will become the near term expectation.

The color purple, where the Senate stays red, the House stays blue will be

the biggest headwind for our dollar short as we sit here today. A constitutional crisis, a blue wave and a red wave all ensure extremes. Extreme uncertainty, or extreme certainty. The thing we believe, and the reason for our dollar short to begin with, is that a massive stimulus package will be voted on in the early stages of the next administration. Keep in mind Pelosi wants to go for a bigger number, Trump wants to go for the bigger number, Biden wants to go for the bigger number and rest assuredly, the Fed wants to go for a bigger number. This is why despite what happens in the election we are very bearish long term for the dollar. The color purple probably provides the most headwind for our trade as it impedes the speed for ongoing stimulus.

DECEMBER 16th- THE PELOSI PLOT

This date is absolutely one to watch should the election still be undecided. The Electoral College is officially meant to pass their votes on December 14th. If for some reason the electoral college is unable to provide a definitive winner, the rules for the chain of power become quite interesting. In the event the electoral college cannot make a determination, or if the candidates are mathematically tied, either by actual count, or by political maneuvering, the rules state that the role of the president would then be assumed by the Speaker of the House, which happens to be Nancy Pelosi.

We can only imagine how big the move down would be in the dollar in this situation. An outcry by Trump and the right would deafen any chance of a peaceful transition. It's unthinkable for many in this country that Pelosi would become the President and the fallout from this even-

THE “EVENT” TRADE

tuality is not a difficult one to game out. A no decision from the College of Cardinals would be a terrifying situation for our country that would likely lead to civil war. This is not our base case. However, as the election nears closer, and the political wranglings heat up we see the odds of this potentiality at about 10%.

To make it all the more interesting the Federal Reserve will announce their policy decision on Wednesday December 16th. That meeting, very much like the results of the September meeting, will have a giant impact on the near term future. In a crisis we can expect the Fed to pull out all the stops and unleash a liquidity hose on the markets. It's far too soon to game out any real move at this stage. Just know that this is the last meeting of the year. Over the last four years this meeting has been big for gold, and has been dollar negative. We expect this year to be no different.

**JANUARY 20th-
WHAT SEEMS CRAZY IN
NORMAL TIMES BECOMES
NECESSARY IN A CRISIS**

At this stage in the dollar short option trade we expect to either be heavily in the money, or heavily out. Rather than speculate specifically about what could transpire, we lean heavily on what has happened in the past and our overarching theory of the supercycle.

Four score and seven years ago we were in an identical boat in many ways to the one we are floating in today. A decade of monetary manipulation had led to a big asset bubble, that when it collapsed resulted in The Great Depression. This time before the collapse the Federal Reserve swept in and saved the day by dump-

ing a massive amount of liquidity on the market. It's an awful lot of water, and why we believe that we will be shown a fire.

In 1933 a blue administration took office. They did so in the middle of a crisis. Their actions in the first days in office are a reminder of how quickly things can change. In 1933, a group of new senators and representatives, led by Franklin D. Roosevelt, made dramatic changes in their first days in office. They closed the banks for seven days and when they reopened, did so with FDIC insurance for all deposits. Soon after the Glass Steagall Act was passed and a New Deal was presented and passed into law. Of course the final move, and one we have watched closely for a long time, was the recall of gold and repricing of the value of the dollar, a forty percent overnight devaluation.

Since November of 2019 we have been projecting a long term slide for the dollar. We presented the world at our Dollar Slide Webinar why the dollar would drop in the next seven years from its position then. At that time the dollar index was at 103. Today the dollar index is at 94.5. The U.S dollar has slid roughly ten percent in less than a year. These things happen gradually, then suddenly. We believe that a new administration, taking office against the backdrop of a crisis along with a supportive Federal Reserve looking for a cover for their “crime,” we could see extreme actions taken to intentionally and directly devalue the dollar by 40% overnight. This would put the dollar somewhere in the 65 range.

The overnight dollar devaluation, should that play out, would likely mean a minimum of 15X on the trade to the upside in just six months. The beauty of the trade, and one that we will continue to hope for, is that if we

are wrong it means that everything has gone better than feared, and that the power of the democracy of the United States, while impacted negatively, has survived the most volatile months in United States history.

***** Please note, trading is risky. The position we are taking and have recommended could return a complete loss. It is critical that before placing any trade you are aware of the risks and understand that you could lose every dollar allocated. and Look for our ongoing blog with trade updates where we will follow the momentum of the and any news we see that could be impactful.*