

# Special Arizona Reports: 2020 General Election Results

November 3, 2020

Arizona once again found itself as a battle groud state both on the national and local stages. President Trump personally visited our great state seven times over the last several months, and although, Vice President Biden only made one trip to AZ, he outspent Trump nearly 2 to 1. Arizona's heighten visability nationally trickled down to our legislative races, with spending reaching nearly \$20 million total. An outrageous spend, which Arizona has never seen before.

Arizona has enjoyed early voting since 1992, and althouth there was a national fear over "vote by mail" Arizona saw a record number of ballots cast early, with \$2.5 million people returning their ballot before the polls opened today. Arionza, like the entire country, experienced high voter turnout and high voter engagement. This election is said to be the most consequential in a lifetime and although that seems to be said about every election, it certainly seems true by the sheer voter engagement in the process. President Trump and former Vice President Biden have certainly engaged their bases and the fight to the finish seems to be on the independent voter.

The sexiness of the national election will have the worlds attention, but we can not forget that most decisions that effect a persons everyday life are local. Heading into the 2020 election season Republicans had control of the Governor's Office, State Senate and State House. Governor Doug Ducey is serving in his last term as Governor and is not on the ballot, and therefore a Republican will continue to sit at the helm of our state. The Republicans held a two seat lead in the Senate with 17 Republicans to 13 Democrats, and in the House they lead with 31 Republicans to 29 Democrats. As of this report, some of these races are yet be "called". At the time of this there are still Arizona ballots that need to be counted. The last drop included in this report was 3:00AM, which moved Republicans ahead in many races. In the legislature the seats still in play in the House of Representatives are as follows 4, 6, 20 and 21 are all races we feel are still too close to call. In the Senate, districts 17 and 20 are still to close to call. Below is a comprehensive list of races from the Presidency on down to the State Legislature with a bit more explanation in the legislative districts races.

However, as it stands this morning, Repebulicans still have control of both the House and Senate. Althought the Senate looks to have lost one seat. In the House, Democrats gained one seat but lost another, leaving Republicans with a one seat edge. This could change as the day goes on depending on how many ballots are left to be counted and who those votes were cast for.

An \* indicates the incumbent.

# **Federal**

# **U.S. Presidency**

Trump (R)*	1,317,468	47.63%
Biden (D)	1,410,977	51.01%

#### U.S. Senate

The Arizona Senate race, along with a few other states will decide the control of the U.S. Senate. Senator McSally, who was appointed to the late Senator McCain's seat is facing challenger Mark Kelly. This has been one of the most expensive Senate races in history. It appears that Mark Kelly has beat Senator McSally, making both of Arizona's U.S. Senate seats now represented by Democrats.

McSally (R)*	1,300,119	47.37%
Kelly (D)	1,444,645	52.63%

# U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 1

First term incumbent Democrat Tom O'Halleran faced a challenge from newcomer Republican Tiffany Shedd. This was a hotly contested race and in the end Congressman O'Halleran retained his seat.

O'Halleran (D)*	158,312	52.37%
Shedd (R)	143,996	47.63%

# U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 2

Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick has retained her seat.

Kirkpatrick (D)*	189,084	56.97%
Martin (R)	142,830	43.03%

# U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 3

In this heavily leaning Democrat district, Congressman Raul Grijalva has retained his seat.

Grijalva (D)*	140,231	66.01%
Wood (R)	72,210	33.99%

# U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 4

In this heavily leaning Republican district, Congressman Paul Gosar has retained his seat.

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DiSanto (D)	103,573	32.35%
Gosar (R)*	216,566	67.65%

#### U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 5

In this heavily leaning Republican district, Congressman Andy Biggs has retained his seat.

Biggs (R)*	191,132	55.94%
Greene (D)	150,512	44.06%

# U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 6

This is a stabily Republican district although the Democrats have spent millions this cycle trying to flip the seat. While Hiral Tipirneni is currently leading, Congressman Schweikert has been closely that gap as votes continue to be counted.

Schweikert (R)*	167,761	49.74%
Tipirneni (D)	169,543	50.26%

# U.S. Representative in Congress - District No. 7

In this heavily leaning Democrat district, Congressman Ruben Gallego has retained his seat.

Gallego (D)*	121.086	77.63%
Barnett (R)	34,887	22.37%

#### U.S. Representative in Congress – District No. 8

In this heavily leaning Republican district, Congresswoman Debbie Lesko has retained her seat.

Lesko (R)*	185,205	56.81%
Muscato (D)	140.810	43.19%

# U.S. Representative in Congress – District No. 9

In this heavily leaning Democrat district, Congressman Greg Stanton has retained his seat.

Giles (R)	94,383	35.39%
Stanton (D)*	172,292	64.61%

# **Statewide**

# **Corporation Commission**

Three of the five seats on the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) were up for grabs. Although primarily a utility rate-setting body, the ACC has become more political in recent years. Three Democrats and three Republicans vied for the seats. This race is too close to call for two of the available seats, however Anna Tovar has enough of a lead for us to say she has secured one of those seats.

Marquez Peterson (R)*	1,163,597	16.98%
Mundell (D)	1,112,017	16.23%
O'Connor (R)	1,153,009	16.82%
Sloan (R)	1,109,595	16.19%
Stanfield (D)	1,083,950	15.82%
Tovar (D)	1,230,848	17.96%

# **Legislature**

As noted above, this legislative election cycle has been the most expensive in Arizona's history by far. Most of the money spent in the highly contested legislative districts is money received from out of state donors. Currently, Republicans hold a 31-29 majority in the House and a 17-13 majority in the Senate. Democrats have worked hard to flip control of both bodies this cycle. Many believed the House would flip to Democrat control and the Senate would stay in Republican control and actually be more conservative than it has been in some time. At this moment, however, we will have to wait a bit longer to see which party will reside on the second floor.

An \* indicates the incumbent.

#### **Legislative District 1**

This district has two open seats in the House. As one of the districts with the most lopsided Republican registration advantage, current Senate President, former Senator Judy Burges and newcomer Quan Nguyen were expected to win.

Senate	Fann (R)*	85,843	70.3%
	Carillo (D)	36,262	29.7%
House	Burges (R)	74,696	39.71%
	Nguyen (R)	70,744	37.62%
	Stahl (D)	42,656	22.67%

Current Senator Andrea Dalessandro and current Representative Rosanna Gabaldon were attempting to switch seats as both have reached their four term (eight year) limit. As a heavily Democrat district, the outcome of this election was not really in question. Incumbents Representative Gabaldon, Senator Dalessandro and Representative Hernandez won their re-election campaigns.

Senate	Gabaldón (D)*	47,139	61.69%
	Workman (R)	29,276	38.31%
House	D. Hernandez (D)*	42,033	37.48%
	Dalessandro (D)	40,347	35.98%
	McEwen (R)	29,759	26.54%

#### **Legislative District 3**

With no competition, the three incumbents in this district will return for another term.

Senate	Gonzales (D)*	54,505	100.0%
House	A. Hernandez (D)*	42,918	50.14%
	Cano (D)*	42,679	49.86%

#### **Legislative District 4**

LD 4 shows a majority Democrat registration, but independents are a close second. As such, they play a significant role in the election outcome. Newcomer Joel John mounted a significant threat to incumbent Rep. Gerae Peten. This district is one of just a couple of districts where the Republican had potential to pick up a seat. Incumbents Senator Lisa Otondo and House Minority Leader Charlene Fernandez secured the votes to win the election. Who will take the second House seat is still yet to be seen, but looks like Joel John will unseat Peten. This races has flipped back and forth throughout the night, so we have not called it yet.

Senate	Angry (R) <mark>Otondo (D)*</mark>	23,815 32,991	41.92% 58.08%
House	Fernandez (D)*	33,864	39.92%
	John (R)	26,186	30.87%
	Peten (D)*	24.785	39.92

#### **Legislative District 5**

With no competition, incumbents Representative Biasiucci and Representative Cobb will return for another term. Incumbent Senator Borrelli faced two Democrat write-in candidates this general election, but in this heavily Republican district he was able to easily secure his re-election.

Senate	Borrelli (R)*	65,095	100.0%
House	Biasiucci (R)*	45,624	45.76%
	Cobb (R)*	54,069	54.24%

# **Legislative District 6**

LD 6 is probably the most hotly contested district top to bottom. In terms of campaign spending, this district has seen amounts unheard of in Arizona. Some of that from the candidates themselves, but much more from outside sources spending through Independent Expenditure committees. Estimates put total spending around \$4 million. Newcomer Wendy Rogers knocked of incumbent

Senator Sylvia Allen in the primary, and she looks to have pulled out a win in the general election as well. On the House side, incumbent Walt Blackman has won his re-election and the second seat is looks to be going to returner Brenda Barto.

Senate	Rogers (R)	55,825	53.03%
	French (D)	49,448	46.97%
House	Babbot (I)	35,584	19.68%
	Barton (R)	47.071	26.04%
	Blackman (R)*	51,334	28.39%
	Evans (D)	46,804	25.89%

#### Legislative District 7

LD 7 includes most of Apache and Navajo Counties. Residents there do not often elect Republicans. And this year will be no different. The incumbents Senator Peshlakai, Representative Teller and Representative Tsosie will return for another term.

Senate	Peshlakai (D)*	53,061	100.0%
House	Parks (R)	20,760	18.37%
	Peelman (R)	19,375	17.15%
	Teller (D)*	32,652	28.90%
	Tsosie (D)*	40,214	35.59%

# **Legislative District 8**

This district encompasses most of Pinal County. As demographics morph, LD 8 sees an almost equal independent and Republican voter registration, with Democrats only four points behind. As of this report, all three Republican incumbents won.

Senate	McGuire (D)	29,105	43.10%
	Shope (R)*	38,428	56.90%
House	Cook (R)*	34,314	35.01%
	Girard (D)	30,218	30.83%
	Pratt (R)*	33,473	34.15%

#### **Legislative District 9**

LD 9 in Tucson is a heavily Democrat district. Sen. Victoria Steele is uncontested and will serve another term. On the House side, some Republicans held out hope that Brendon Lyons could claim a seat. That appears unlikely to happen and results show incumbents Senator Steele, Representaive Friese and Representative Powers Hannley will be returning for another term.

Senate	Steele (D)*	76,132	100.0%
House	Friese (D)*	60,275	37.31%
	Lyons (R)	41,307	25.57%
	Powers Hannley (D)*	59,982	37.13%

# **Legislative District 10**

Current Rep. Kirsten Engel is seeking the open Senate seat and will take it in this heavily Democrat Tucson district. On the House side incumbent Representative Domingo DeGrazia and newcomer Stephanie Stahl Hamilton appear to be keeping this district safe for the Democrats.

Senate	Engel (D)	61,669	60.18%
	Wadsack (R)	40,800	39.82%
House	DeGrazia (D)*	55,013	29.32%
	Gummere (R)	37,134	19.79%
	Hicks (R)	40,662	21.67%
	Stahl Hamilton (D)	54,842	29.23%

This District has been a Republican stronghold for quite some time although the number of votes Felipe Perez was able to obtain in the primary election caused some to worry among Republicans. In the end this district was able to stay in Republican control with incumbents Senator Leach, Representative Mark Finchem and Representative Bret Roberts winning their re-election bids.

Senate	Leach (R)*	60,588	53.05%
	Mendoza (D)	53,623	46.95%
House	Finchem (R)*	57,217	33.83%
	Perez (D)	54,028	31.94%
	Roberts (R)*	57,887	34.23%

# **Legislative District 12**

This Gilbert/Queen Creek district is solidly Republican. Current Representative Warren Petersen will be moving from the House to the Senate to replace retired lawmaker Eddie Farnsworth. Incumbent Representative Travis Grantham and newcomer Jake Hoffman will slide into victory this general election.

Senate	Petersen (R)*	68,585	58.41%
	Robinson (D)	48,834	41.59%
House	Grantham (R)*	68,914	50.32%
	Hoffman (R)	68,036	49.68%

# **Legislative District 13**

Senator Sine Kerr was uncontested and will return for another term. Incumbent Representatives Tim Dunn and Joanne Osborne were ultimately able to pull off another victory.

Senate	Kerr (R)*	70,501	100.0%
House	Dunn (R)*	54,138	37.14%
	Osborne (R)*	53,300	36.56%
	Sandoval (D)	38,333	26.30%

# **Legislative District 14**

LD 14 is another solidly Republican district covering Southeast Arizona. Incumbents Senator David Gowan and Representatives Gail Griffin and Becky Nutt will return for another two years.

Senate	Gowan (R)*	53,863	62.26%
	Karp (D)	32,654	37.74%
House	Beach-Moschetti (D)	29,813	18.81%

Griffin (R)*	50,823	32.07%
Maestas (D)	27,324	17.24%
Nutt (R)*	50,537	31.89%

Following a hotly contested primary, current Representative Nancy Barto will go back to the Senate after vacating her House seat to run against current Senator Heather Carter. Newcomers Steve Kaiser and Justin Wilmeth were expected to have an easy ride into the House seats. However, unknown Democrat candidate Dybvig is within stricking district.

Senate	Barto (R)*	64,519	100.0%
House	Dybvig (D)	47,178	30.92%
	Kaiser (R)	54,788	35.91%
	Wilmeth (R)	50,597	33.16%

# **Legislative District 16**

Current Representative Kelly Townsend will be moving from the House to the Senate this cycle to replace outgoing Senator David Farnsworth. On the House side incumbent Representative John Fillmore will return without question and newcomer Jaqueline Parker will take the seat vacated by Rep. Townsend.

Senate	Townsend (R)*	71,754	100.0%
House	Fillmore (R)*	51,672	35.22%
	Hunter (D)	38,922	26.53%
	Parker (R)	56,133	38.26%

# **Legislative District 17**

For years this district has been very conservative, however Democrats have gained in registration over the last few cycles and is represented by Democrat Jennifer Pawlik and Republican Jeff Weninger, both of which look to have been reelected. In the Senate, over a million dollars was spent in the Senate race against Senator J.D. Mesnard who has a slight lead at the time of this report.

Senate	Kurdoglu (D)	51,726	49.33%
	Mesnard (R)*	53,138	50.67%
House	Harris (R)	46,346	31.64%
	Pawlik (D)*	52,668	35.96%
	Weninger (R)*	47,458	32.40%

# **Legislative District 18**

This south Tempe/Ahwatukee district, which was once solidly Republican is now showing a slight Democrat registration advantage. Incumbent Sen. Sean Bowie will return to his Senate seat. On the House side, former Republican lawmaker Bob Robson was hoping to make a comeback. However, incumbent Representatives Jennifer Jermaine and Mitzi Epstein were able to secure enough votes to win their re-election and return to the House for another term.

Senate	Bowie (D)*	63,159	60.46%
	Sharer (R)	41,312	39.54%
House	Epstein (D)*	56,476	29.75%

Hawker (R)	35,528	18.72%
Jermaine (D)*	57,890	30.50%
Robson (R)	39,912	21.03%

With no challenger, incumbents Senator Lupe Contreras, Representatives Diego Espinoza and Lorenzo Sierra will return to the legislature for another term.

Senate	Contreras (D)*	35,623	100.0%
House	Espinoza (D)*	33,101	52.63%
	Sierra (D)*	29,794	47.37%

# **Legislative District 20**

District 20 has been on the Democrat's radar for a few cycles now as a potential district where they hoped to pick up one or more seats. The registration in this district is nearly a threeway split among Democrats, Republicans and Independents. In the House, Democrats appear to have gained a seat in the House, but the Senate is still too close to call.

Senate	Boyer (R)*	40,221	50.38%
	Ervin (D)	39,611	49.62%
House	Bolick (R)*	37,826	32.71%
	Kern (R)*	36,220	31.32%
	Schwiebert (D)	41,608	35.98%

# **Legislative District 21**

LD 21 is a district that the Democrats have targeted in trying to secure one of the seats in the House of Representatives. The District has a Republican voter registration advantage, but the gap with the indpendents has been closing. Democrats trail Republicans by about nine percentage points. Representaive Payne is in the top five candidates in money spent against him, totaling \$730,872. On the other hand, newcomer Democrat Kathy Knecht is in the top five in money spent in her favor, totaling \$423,380. This has been one of the top ten most expensive districts in the state this election. Senator Rick Gray was unopposed and will return to the Senate. However he's seatmates are still undetermined.

Senate	Gray (R)*	61,646	100.0%
House	Knecht (D)	43,287	32.36%
	Payne (R)*	43,331	32.39%
	Pingerelli (R)	47,146	35.25%

#### **Legislative District 22**

The Republicans hold a significant voter registration advantage in this district. This made the path to success for incumbents Senator David Livingston and Representatives Frank Carroll and Ben Toma a little easier than many other districts.

Senate	Livingston (R)* Tyree (D)	<b>77,174</b> 48,799	61.26% 38.74%
House	Carroll (R)* Garcia (D)	<b>73,221</b> 47,171	30.85% 19.88%

Honne (D)	43,235	18.22%
Toma (R)*	73,688	31.05%

With newcomer Joseph Chaplik beating incumbent Representative Jay Lawrence in the primary election, Legislative District 23 began to draw attention as a potentially competitive general election race between Republican candidate Chaplik and Democrat candidate Eric Kurland, especially after write-in candidate Joe Romack (R) entered the race. Ultimately, Chaplik was able to secure enough votes to join incumbents Senator Michelle Ugenti-Rita and Representative John Kavanagh in representing the district at the legislature.

Senate	Blattman (D)	54,858	43.43%
	Ugenti-Rita (R)*	71,466	56.57%
House	Chaplik (R)	64,519	33.73%
	Kavanagh (R)*	69,294	36.23%
	Kurland (D)	57,457	30.04%

#### **Legislative District 24**

Prior the primary race, it looked as if there would be no general election race in this district, however three Republican candidates successfully became write-in candidates for the general election to challenge the current incumbents. The Democrats hold a significant voter registration in this district. This advantage proved too steep for the challengers and incumbents Senator Lela Alston and Representatives Jennifer Longdon and Amish Shah secured enough votes to win their reelections.

Senate	Alston (D)*	54,519	72.36%
	Michaels (R)	20,826	27.64%
House	Alger (R)	17,989	13.04%
	Cushman (R)	19,927	14.44%
	Longdon (D)*	49,412	35.82%
	Shah (D)*	50,631	36.70%

#### **Legislative District 25**

Legislative District 25 has a strong Republican voter registration advantage of 15 percent over the Democrats. This advantage worked in the incumbents favor as incumbents Senator Tyler Pace, current Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers, and Representative Michelle Udall were all reelected to another term.

Senate	Pace (R)*	53,429	58.94%
	Weigel (D)	37,220	41.06%
House	Bowers (R)*	48,613	34.60%
	Hug (D)	38,435	27.39%
	Udall (R)*	53,406	38.01%

# **Legislative District 26**

Democrats hold a slight (2%) voter registration advantage over independents in this district. But Republicans tail by over 18%. Independents have historically supported the Democrat candidates in the district. This once again proved to be true and incumbents Senator Juan Mendez and Representative Athena Salman will be joined by newcomer Melody Hernandez in representing the

district.

Senate	Chin (R)	17,869	31.81%
	Mendez (D)*	38,309	68.19%
House	M. Hernandez (D)	35,876	34.75%
	Loughrige (R)	16,064	15.60%
	Salman (D)*	34,931	33.92%
	Sifuentes (R)	16,186	15.72%

# **Legislative District 27**

The outcome of the election in LD 27 was really never in doubt as Democrats hold a significant registration advantage. The 35% of registered independent voters have historically mostly supported the Democrat candidates. Incumbents Senator Rebecca Rios, Representative Reginald Bolding and Representative Diego Rodriguez were re-elected.

Senate	Rios (D)*	44,484	77.55%
	Shreves (R)	12,878	22.45%
House	Bolding (D)*	34,356	39.44%
	Peña (R)	15,074	17.30%
	Rodriguez (D)*	37,678	43.25%

# **Legislative District 28**

This race was seen as one of the best targets in the Senate races by the Democrats, in part because they were able to secure both House seats in the 2018 election. Additionally, Ms. Marsh secured more votes than Senator Brophy McGee in the primary election, which made it draw even more attention in the general. Senator Brophy McGee had \$598,253 in independent expenditures spent against her and \$497,467 spent in her favor. Ms. Marsh had \$326,126 in independent expenditures spent against her compared to the \$229,462 spent in support of her. This places this race in the top ten most expensive legislative races of the year. The votes are still being counted in this district, however, it appears that Christine Marsh will likely win.

Senate	Brophy McGee (R)*	46,466	47.48%
	Marsh (D)	51,389	52.52%
T.T.	D (D)	20.124	21 100/
House	Bowers (R)	38,124	21.10%
	Butler (D)*	52,115	28.84%
	Jackson (R)	40,825	22.59%
	Lieberman (D)*	49,640	27.47%

# **Legislative District 29**

Although the incumbent Democrat legislators all faced Republican challengers this election, their significant voter registration advantage was too much to overcome. Incumbents Senator Martin Quezada, Representative Richard Andrade, and Representative Cesar Chavez all were re-elected.

Senate	Quezada (D)*	30,658	70.35%
	Wilson (R)	12,920	29.65%
House	Andrade (D)*	24,076	31.57%
	Bragg (R)	11,813	15.49%
	Chavez (D)*	28,857	37.83%
	Fokszanskyj-Conti (R)	11,526	15.11%

The incumbent legislators did not face any challengers this election cycle and Senator Tony Navarrete and Representatives Robert Meza and Raquel Terán will all be returning to the Capitol to continue representing their district.

Senate	Navarrete (D)*	32,631	100.0%
House	Meza (D)*	23,819	47.43%
	Terán (D)*	26,401	52.57%

# **Ballot Measures**

# Smart and Safe Arizona Act – Prop 207

This Act permits limited possession, transfer, cultivation, and use of marijuana (as defined) by individuals 21 years old or older; protects employer and property owner rights; bans smoking in public places; imposes a 16% excise tax on marijuana to fund public safety, community colleges, infrastructure, and public health and community programs; authorizes state and local regulations for the safe sale and production of marijuana by a limited number of licensees; requires impairment to the slightest degree for marijuana DUIs; transfers monies from the Medical Marijuana Fund; permits expungement of some marijuana violations; and prescribes penalties for violations.

YES	1,596,548	59.58%
NO	1,071,255	40.15%

# **Invest in Education Act – Prop 208**

The Invest in Education Act provides additional funding for public education by establishing a 3.5% surcharge on taxable income above \$250,000 annually for single persons or married persons filing separately, and on taxable income above \$500,000 annually for married persons filing jointly or head of household filers; dedicates additional revenue to (a) hire and increase salaries for teachers, classroom support personnel and student support services personnel, (b) mentoring and retention programs for new classroom teachers, (c) career training and post-secondary preparation programs, (d) Arizona Teachers Academy; amends the Arizona Teachers Academy statute; requires annual accounting of additional revenue.

YES	1,395,128	52.56%
NO	1,259,272	47.44%