



Julie Fedorchak of North Dakota will serve in the House of Representatives.

LOOKING AHEAD
The next major US election—the midterm elections, which are held halfway through a President’s term—will take place in November 2026.

Josh Stein is North Carolina’s newly elected governor.

Making history in Georgia



On Election Day, Bryce Berry (above), a Democrat, was elected to Georgia’s General Assembly. Berry, a 23-year-old teacher, will be the youngest person to serve in Georgia’s state legislature. He called his victory “an incredible honor” and said improving Georgia’s education system will be a top priority.

Senate, House, and governor results

As states work to finish counting votes from this year’s election, Republicans have won control of the Senate (one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws) and are expected to retain a majority of seats in the House of Representatives (the other half of Congress). Historic wins for governors also took place.

What happened in the Senate?

The Senate, which is made up of two elected officials from each state who serve six-year terms, had 34 seats up for election. Republicans won enough to have the majority of seats, at 53, while 47 lawmakers will vote with the Democrats. The Senate was controlled by the Democrats before the election, and control will now switch parties. The current Majority Leader, Chuck Schumer, a

Democrat, will become the Minority Leader, and Republicans will choose a new Majority Leader.

What happened in the House?

Going into the election, Republicans held a slim majority of seats in the House, which is made up of 435 officials who are elected by districts in their state every two years. When *The Week Junior* went to press on November 12, Republicans were leading with 214 seats to the Democrats’ 205 seats, with 16 races to be called. In one noteworthy result, North Dakota became the 49th state to elect a woman to Congress when Republican Julie Fedorchak won her race. (Mississippi is the only state that hasn’t elected a woman.) If Republicans keep control, the current Speaker of the House, Mike Johnson, has asked his party to reelect him.

What happened with governor races?

Republicans won eight of the 11 governor races that took place. With the election of Republican Kelly Ayotte in New Hampshire, 13 women will now serve as governor at the same time, a new record. North Carolina made history by electing its first Jewish governor, Democrat Josh Stein.

What else happened?

In some states, people voted on proposals to raise the minimum wage. An increase to \$15 an hour was approved by Missouri residents to begin in 2026 and by Alaska residents to take effect in 2027. In California, where an increase to \$18 an hour was proposed, votes were still being counted at press time and experts said the measure appeared likely to fail.



WORD OF THE WEEK

SKELF

The University of Reading in the UK has been studying the dance patterns of snowflakes. There are many different words to describe snowflakes, and many of them come from the language of Scots. For example, a “skelf” is a particularly large snowflake, while a *flindrikin* is a very light snow shower.



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

November 22, 1995

Toy Story arrives in theaters

On November 22, 1995, *Toy Story*, the first fully computer-animated movie, was released. Previously, animated films had been made using hand-drawn sketches. Disney worked with Pixar, a new studio, to produce the film, which was about toys that come to life when humans aren’t around. The movie was a hit, earning nearly \$400 million at the box office and leading to three successful sequels.

