AFOS Analytics
Global Political Risk Intelligence

CLOSING REPORT · VERSION 1.0, NOV 6, 2026

US 2026: prediction market, polls and press in the midterm elections

What three instruments said about control of Congress, from April 14 to the November 3 election, set beside the projected result.

Senate 54 × 44, House 250 × 162
projected seats, Democrats × Republicans (NBC, Nov 6): Democratic control of both chambers; 2 Senate and 23 House races uncalled

94.50 and 76.50
Democratic price in the House and in the Senate on the eve, certified on Nov 2 at 22:06 UTC

D+7.66
poll average on the eve; D+7.73 on election day, 37 polls from 27 pollsters

US$ 77.26 million
in 253,081 aggressor (taker) orders from 41,569 wallets in the three control markets

14 and 15
editions of the US Weekly and the US Tradeoff published before the result

987
articles from 19 outlets archived over 99 days, from Jul 30 to Nov 5

Part I: the election through the count. **Part II:** the days after the result, through Nov 6, 2026. **Annex:** the projected result. **Version 1.0:** the states are still certifying and the national House vote is still being counted; the comparison of the poll average with the popular vote comes in version 1.1, with the official count.
Open data: huggingface.co/datasets/AFOS-Analytics1/usa-2026-midterms-divergence. A contract price is not vote intention or electoral probability: it is the amount that self-selected participants paid. Wallets are cited without address or nickname.

Summary

From April to November 2026 AFOS recorded, side by side, Polymarket prices on control of the House and the Senate, national House vote polls (the so-called generic ballot) and the coverage of a fixed list of outlets, in a public dashboard, a weekly edition for voters and a weekly technical reading. This report brings these series together and sets them beside the result. It describes what each instrument showed; it does not rank the instruments.

1. **The Senate market changed favorite; the House market did not.** The Democratic Senate contract closed below 50 on 99 of 199 days since Apr 14, with the lowest close, 41.50, on Jun 29, and closed ahead from Aug 30 onward. The House contract never closed below 85.50 from the start of its series, on Jul 29.
2. **The polls had the Democrats ahead the whole time, in a narrow range.** The AFOS average, as published each day, stayed between D+5.00 and D+8.11 from Jul 30 to Nov 4. On the eve it was D+7.66; on election day, D+7.73, with polls ranging from D+3 to D+12.
3. **Market and polls pointed the same way, and the result went that way.** On the eve, the contract paid 94.50 on the Democrats in the House and 76.50 in the Senate, and the poll average was D+7.66. The Democrats won both chambers. One result does not grade a price: 76.50 left about a one-in-four chance for the other side.
4. **The Senate seats market got the range right.** At the Nov 2 close, the brackets summed to 104.30%, within our 95 to 105 gate, and put 57.50% on 47 Republican seats or fewer. There are 44 projected, and at most 46 if Alaska and Mississippi go to the Republicans.
5. **On election night, the Senate price reached 0.99 before the networks projected control.** At 6 p.m. in New York, when the first polls closed, the Democratic Senate contract was at 0.76. At 9:54 p.m., when South Carolina was projected, it was at 0.992. The networks projected Senate control at 11:38 p.m.
6. **The money that reached the count on each side met opposite fates.** Among the 180 highest-weight wallets with a verified result, the 42 that reached the count with exposure in favor of the Democrats all won, totaling US$ 2.92 million; the 39 that reached it in favor of the Republicans all lost, totaling −US$ 3.75 million.

How to read. A contract price runs from 0 to 100 (or from 0 to 1 per share) and pays in full to whoever is right. It is not vote intention. The poll average is a lead in points of the House vote. The two measure different things and are not subtracted: one is the probability paid for control of a chamber, the other is a vote margin, and in 2012 the Democrats got more votes and fewer seats.

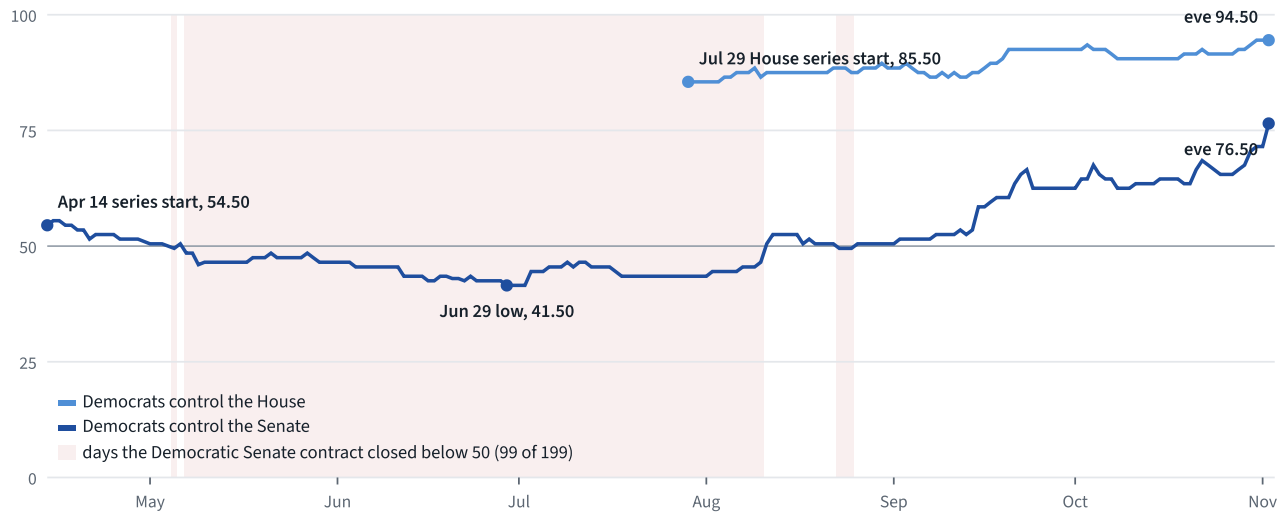
1 What was monitored, and how

Instrument	Source	How it entered the series
Prediction market	Polymarket: House control, Senate control, election held on schedule, and the distributions of seats, governorships, turnout and margin	Reading every 30 minutes stored in a database; price published only after two readings 8 minutes apart agree within 0.20 point. A distribution enters only when the brackets sum to 95% to 105%.
Polls	National generic ballot, read from the public Wikipedia index and checked against each pollster's release	552 polls published in the data file. Simple average of one poll per pollster per wave, in a 30-day window, with likely voters over registered voters over adults. The window closes on election day.
Press	Fixed list of US outlets, through their own feeds or Google News	987 articles archived daily, from 19 outlets; 14 Weekly editions, with each claim linked to the article.
Result	Projections by NBC News, the AP and other networks	In version 1.0, projection; state certification comes through November and December.

The US has no mandatory poll registration, unlike Brazil, where the TSE registers each one. So the AFOS average states its rule: it counts only the question with the party label. Polls that give the names of the district candidates, or that ask which party the voter prefers to control Congress, are listed in the data file and left out of the average, by a decision recorded on Nov 2.

2 The market: House and Senate

Figure 1. Daily Democratic close in the control contracts, Apr 14 to Nov 2



Last point stored each day (UTC). Source: Polymarket, series stored by AFOS (public database backup). The Senate series starts on Apr 14 and the House series on Jul 29, when collection of that contract was switched on.

The two contracts told different stories. The House contract was the most stable of the cycle: it opened the series at 85.50, rose one point at a time to 92.50 on Sep 20 and ended the eve at 94.50. The Senate contract was the one that moved: it started at 54.50, fell to 41.50 on Jun 29, returned to 50 in August and, from Aug 30 on, closed only with the Democrats ahead, up to 76.50 on the eve, the highest close in the series.

Before the AFOS series began, the flow study, which reads the platform's own history since the markets were created on Jul 11, 2025, records the Democratic House contract at 0.68 at the open, with an hourly low of

0.565, and the Senate contract at 0.29, with a low of 0.235.

The largest one-day moves in the Senate

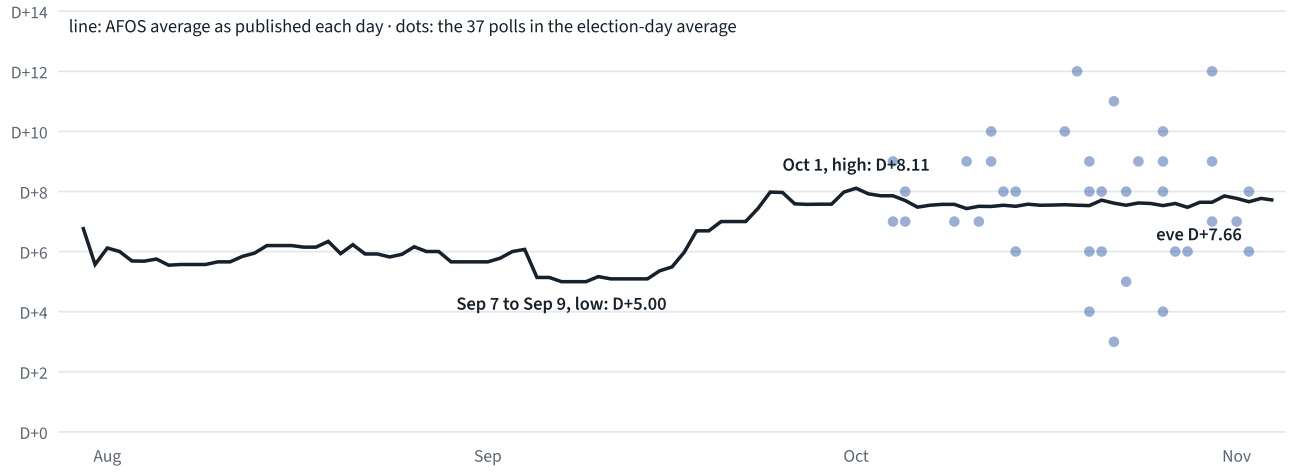
Day	Democrats, from	to	What was public
Aug 11	46.50	50.50	First close with the Democrats ahead since May.
Sep 15	53.50	58.50	Week in which the poll average rose again, from D+5.09 to D+5.98 in three days.
Sep 24	66.50	62.50	Correction after two weeks of gains.
Oct 4	64.50	67.50	Early October, with the poll average at its highest level of the cycle (D+8.11 on Oct 1).
Nov 2	71.50	76.50	Eve: the highest close in the series.

The right-hand column says what was public, not the cause of the move. The order in time and the size are measured; the causal link is not.

The third published contract, on the election being held on schedule, stayed between 95.50 (Aug 18) and 99.70 (Nov 2) and resolved yes. The five published prices totaled US$ 96.22 million traded through resolution, according to the platform's cumulative volume.

3 The polls

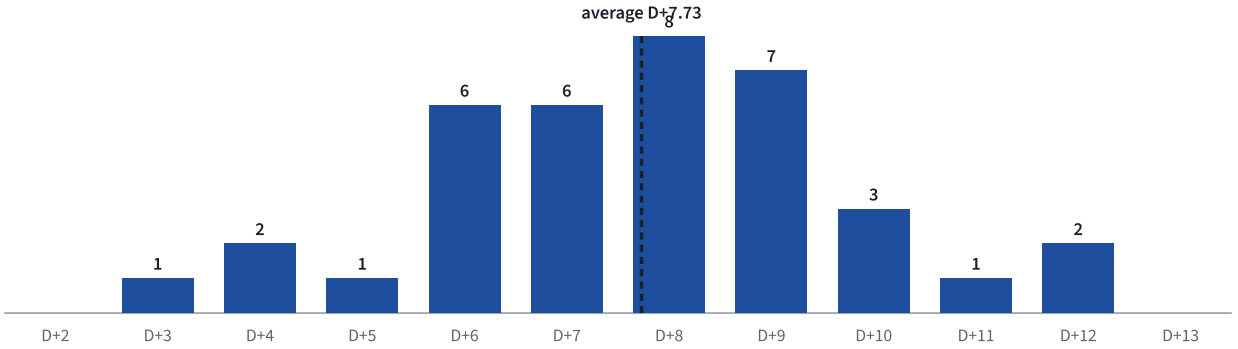
Figure 2. AFOS generic ballot average, as published each day, Jul 30 to Nov 4



Each point on the line is the average the dashboard published that day, under that day's rule: the window moved with the calendar and the control-question rule came in on Nov 2. Blue dots: the 37 polls that make up the election-day average, by field end date. Source: AFOS data file, us-polls-data.json, and history in the database.

The polls gave the Democrats the lead throughout the period, and the average moved little: from D+6.82 on Jul 30 to D+5.00 in early September and back to near D+8 in October. The September move coincides with the rise in the Senate contract (section 2).

Figure 3. The 37 polls in the election-day average, by Democratic lead



One poll per pollster per wave, fieldwork from Oct 4 to Nov 2. Lead in whole points, as published. The lowest was Targoz Market Research (D+3); the highest, Big Data Poll and Reuters/Ipsos (D+12).

	Eve (Nov 2)	Election day (Nov 3)
AFOS average	D+7.66	D+7.73 (D 51.20 × R 43.47)
Polls and pollsters	recorded in the eve post	37 polls from 27 pollsters
Likely voters / registered		29 polls, D+7.45 / 8 polls, D+8.75
Range of polls		D+3 to D+12
National House vote	being counted; the comparison comes with the official count, in version 1.1	

Between the eve and election day six polls came in (John Zogby Strategies, Reuters/Ipsos, Focaldata, Big Data Poll, YouGov and Rasmussen Reports) and one left, Hart Research with Public Opinion Strategies, which asked which party the voter prefers to control Congress.

4 Market and polls side by side

The two instruments measure different things, and AFOS never subtracts one from the other. What can be compared is direction and timing. On direction, the two agreed throughout the second half of the year: polls with the Democrats ahead, control contracts with the Democrats favored in the House since the start of the series and in the Senate since Aug 30.

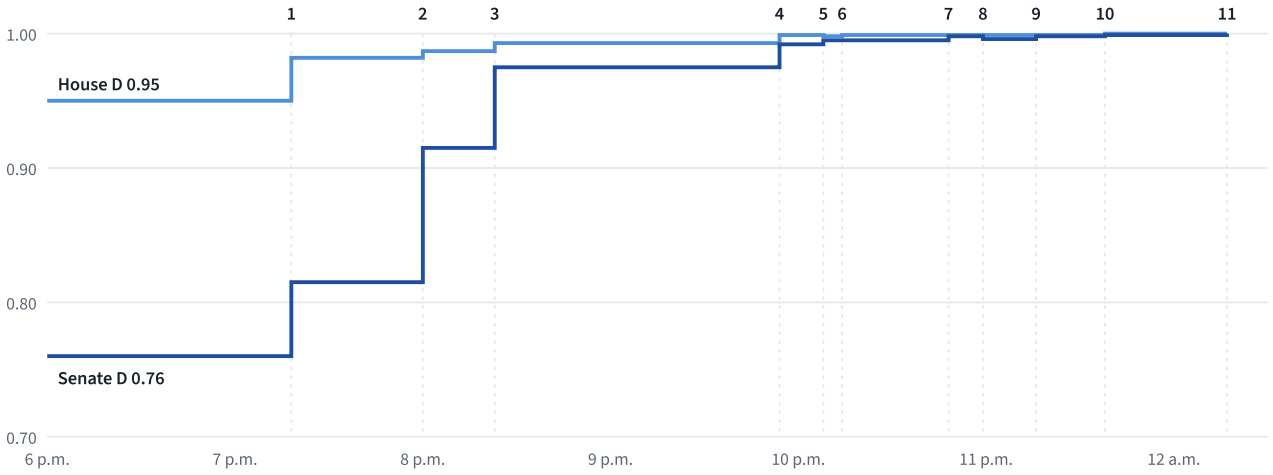
Snapshot	House D	Senate D	Poll average
End of July (Jul 31)	85.50	43.50	D+5.57
End of August (Aug 31)	88.50	50.50	D+5.66
End of September (Sep 30)	92.50	62.50	D+7.98
End of October (Oct 31)	94.50	71.50	D+7.85
Eve (Nov 2, 22:06 UTC)	94.50	76.50	D+7.66

Prices: daily close, except the eve, which is the certified reading. Average: as published that day. They are different objects; the table shows the path of each, not a distance.

On timing, they parted. The poll average stood practically still in October, near D+7.5, while the Senate contract rose from 62.50 to 76.50. The same national lead can be worth very different things for each chamber, because the 2026 Senate was decided in a few states and the House in hundreds of districts, and the Senate seats market showed this: on the eve, it put 57.50% on 47 Republican seats or fewer.

5 Election night

Figure 4. Democratic price in the House and the Senate in the minute before each call, Nov 3, New York time



Source: AFOS flow study, from Polymarket price history (one point per minute). Calls: 1 Georgia, Ossoff (7:18 p.m.); 2 New Hampshire, Pappas (8 p.m.); 3 North Carolina, Cooper, first flipped seat (8:23 p.m.); 4 South Carolina, Andrews (9:54 p.m.); 5 NBC projects the House (10:08 p.m., approx.); 6 Texas, Talarico (10:14 p.m.); 7 Kansas, Hamilton (10:48 p.m.); 8 Ohio, Sherrod Brown (10:59 p.m.); 9 Iowa, Turek (11:16 p.m.); 10 networks project the Senate (11:38 p.m., approx.); 11 Maine, Troy Jackson (12:17 a.m. on Nov 4). Time of the first publication found, not of the on-air announcement.

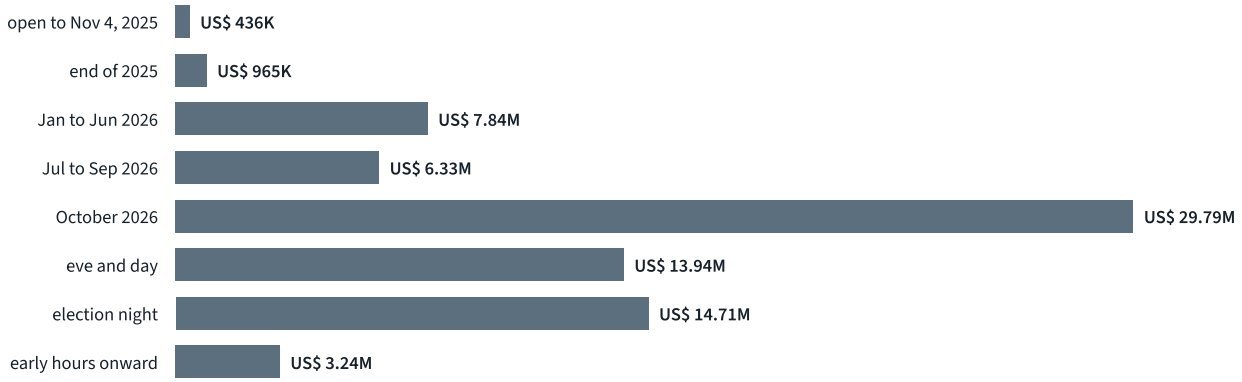
The first polls closed at 6 p.m. in New York, with the Democratic contract at 0.95 in the House and 0.76 in the Senate. At 8:23 p.m., when North Carolina became the first Senate seat projected as flipped, the Senate was at 0.975. When NBC projected the House, around 10:08 p.m., both were already above 0.99. Between 5:30 p.m. on Nov 3 and 12:30 a.m. on Nov 4, there were 18,689 aggressor (taker) orders, totaling US$ 15.36 million, from 3,364 wallets.

The AFOS capture lock certified the Democrats in the House at 98.20 at 00:35 UTC (7:35 p.m. in New York). In the Senate, the book moved faster than two readings eight minutes apart could confirm, and the lock only certified 98.65 at 01:52 UTC (8:52 p.m. in New York), after four attempts. No uncertified reading was published.

6 The money: the flow study

Using Polymarket's public data, AFOS reconstructed who traded the three control markets (House, Senate and the "balance of power" market, which pays on combinations of the two chambers) from their creation, on Jul 11, 2025, to resolution. The rule is the same as in the Brazil studies: **flow is not impact**, and the study does not identify people or attribute intent, coordination or prior knowledge.

Figure 5. Volume of aggressor (taker) orders by phase, across the three markets



Aggressor (taker) orders are those that cross the book. Total: US$ 77.26 million in 253,081 orders from 41,569 wallets (House US$ 35.32 million, Senate US$ 16.18 million, balance of power US$ 25.76 million). This count is not the same as the cumulative volume the platform displays. Source: AFOS flow study, Polymarket Data API.

October was the highest-volume phase, with US$ 29.79 million. Election night, from 6 p.m. to midnight on Nov 3, moved US$ 14.71 million in six hours, almost as much as the whole eve and election day up to 6 p.m., and had 1,098 wallets that had never traded in these markets.

Who won and who lost

The study looked closely at 183 wallets, chosen by a fixed rule (those with the largest balance and volume in each phase and over the period), and verified the result of 180. Of these, 88 won, totaling US$ 3.65 million, 90 lost, totaling −US$ 5.09 million, and 2 ended at zero. The position each one held at 6 p.m. on Nov 3 explains almost everything:

Position at the count	Wallets	Combined result	Won
In favor of the Democrats	42	US$ 2.92 million	42 of 42
In favor of the Republicans	39	−US$ 3.75 million	0 of 39
Split the chambers (one party in each)	4	−US$ 437 thousand	0 of 4
Debuted on the eve or on the day	26	−US$ 211 thousand	14 of 25
Traded mainly during the count	7	US$ 35.0 thousand	6 of 7

Patterns assigned by rule, in the study's order; four other smaller categories total 65 wallets. In two rows the number that won is counted over the wallets with a verified result.

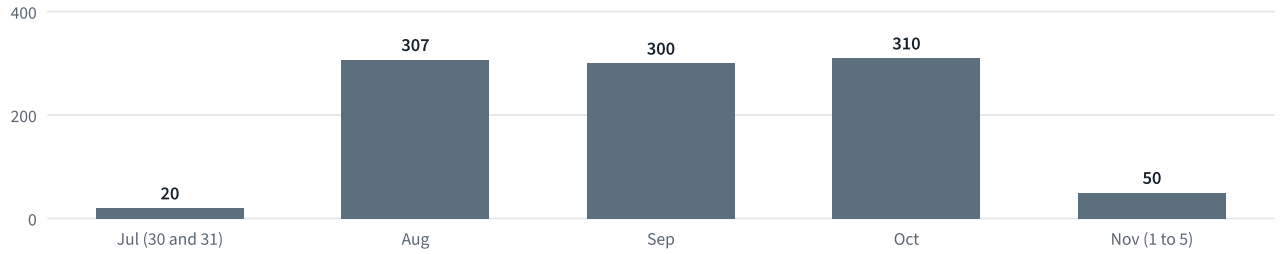
The largest gain, of US$ 807 thousand, went to a wallet that debuted on Sep 11, 2026 and made 15,183 trades in 38 days, with 72% of its volume in passive orders. It bought US$ 13.86 million, mainly shares that paid if the Republicans did not end up with the House or with both chambers, at prices from 0.91 to 0.94. At 6 p.m. on Nov 3, it stood to take US$ 798 thousand if the Democrats won both chambers and to lose from US$ 7.26 million to US$ 8.52 million if the Republicans ended up with the House. It risked a lot to earn little per share, and the night marked US$ 569 thousand of that result.

The largest loss, of −US$ 753 thousand, came from a wallet that debuted on Oct 31, three days before the election, and in four days bought US$ 753 thousand of a single type of share: the one that paid if the Democrats did not win both chambers, at prices between 0.30 and 0.23. It would have taken US$ 1.98 million in any of the other three scenarios. It lost everything it put in.

The study describes what each wallet did; it does not identify people and does not attribute intent, coordination, prior knowledge or crime. In this report wallets appear without address or nickname. The study went through an independent review with 290 checks: 259 passed, 27 had caveats and 4 failed and were corrected before the final version.

7 The press

Figure 6. Articles archived per month, fixed list of US outlets



AFOS daily archive, Jul 30 to Nov 5, 987 articles from 19 outlets. Those that appeared most: The New York Times (152), Fox News (114), The Hill (112), The Guardian (89) and The Washington Post (86).

The press entered the series as a record of what was published each day, not as a forecast, and AFOS does not classify outlets by leaning. Three themes ran through the cycle in the 14 Weekly editions: House redistricting in several states, with rulings from state courts and the Supreme Court; the dispute over certification of the Alaska Senate result, with a Justice Department suit rejected by a federal judge on Nov 1; and, in the last week, early turnout, with more than 50 million votes cast before the day, according to the Guardian.

Two rules stayed fixed: a high-impact fact enters only with two sources from different groups, and every claim in the Weekly carries the outlet and the date.

8 Method and limitations

- **Price.** Published only after two readings agree; the closing series uses the last point stored each day, and the series stores a point when the price moves. Cumulative volume comes from the platform; the flow study volume counts only aggressor (taker) orders, and the two do not add up.
- **Polls.** Public index checked against the primary source. Different polls do not form a series: methodology, sample and question vary. The rule for the average changed over the cycle, always with a date and a reason, and figure 2 shows each day's average under that day's rule.
- **Result.** Network projections, not certification. The national House vote is still being counted, especially in the West.
- **Wallets.** Polymarket public data. The study universe is 183 of 41,569 wallets; there is no order book history; call times taken from aggregators are marked as approximate.

9 What the divergence showed

Agreeing is not confirming, and being right is not either. In Brazil, a month earlier, market and polls pointed the same way in the runoff and the ballot box went the other way. In the US, the two pointed the same way and the result went that way. Each case is a single result. What makes it possible to say how far

each instrument strayed, and when, is having the record of all three published before the result, with date and time.

A national margin does not tell the size of each chamber. The poll average stood almost still in October, and the Senate contract rose 14 points in the same month. The seats market showed why: Senate control depended on a few state races, and the same national lead was worth more or less depending on them.

The price is fast, not infallible. On election night, the Senate contract went from 0.76 to 0.99 in less than four hours, before the networks projected control. On the eve, the same contract still left a one-in-four chance for the Republicans. It reacts quickly to what arrives; it does not know in advance.

The side decided the money. Among the highest-weight wallets, all that reached the count in favor of the Democrats won and all that reached it in favor of the Republicans lost. The largest loss came from a wallet that entered three days before the election; the largest gain, from one that risked millions to earn cents per share.

> **The closing message.** In 2026, market, polls and press were on the same side in the US, and the result went that way. This does not prove that one of them knew more: it proves that the record, made beforehand, allows checking. The comparison still missing, that of the poll average with the national vote, awaits the official count.

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10 Data and sources

The data are in the AFOS-Analytics1/usa-2026-midterms-divergence dataset on Hugging Face: contract and distribution prices, polls with their primary source, the press archive and the distribution coherence gate.

1. Polymarket, Gamma API, Data API v2 and CLOB.
2. Wikipedia, "2026 United States elections polling", as an index; each pollster's release as the primary source.
3. NBC News, House and Senate results, updated at 1:33 p.m. (New York) on Nov 6, 2026.
4. AFOS Weekly, editions No. 1 to No. 14 (Aug 6 to Nov 5, 2026); AFOS Tradeoff US, No. 1 to No. 15.
5. AFOS, flow study of the congressional control markets (data through Nov 6, 2026), internal use, with independent review.

AFOS Analytics · closing report on the 2026 US midterm elections · Nov 6, 2026. This document is a descriptive analysis of public data. It is not an election poll, it is not investment advice and it does not allege coordination, manipulation or wrongdoing. Corrections: contact@afos-analytics.com.

What happened after the count

This part records the reactions to the result in the three days after the election: from the president, the congressional leadership, foreign governments, the press outside the US, the markets and polling experts. Each statement comes with who said it, where and when, as published by the cited outlet. Almost all came through outlets, not through the original channel; when a statement was translated, this is stated.

11 Trump's acceptance and reaction

In the early hours of Nov 4, by phone to Fox News, President Donald Trump accepted the result: "Yeah, sure, I'll accept. Why wouldn't I?" He said he was "a little bit surprised" and attributed part of the defeat to the war with Iran and the price of gasoline (ABC7, ABC News blog, Nov 4). On Truth Social, he wrote that he was not on the ballot and that, if he had been, "we would have won in a landslide" (Euronews, Nov 4).

The same day, according to AFP, he said he would do it all again in Iran, called "largely true" Vice President JD Vance's reading that the war cost them Congress, "because it drove the gasoline up", and said he will get along with the Democrats (France 24, Nov 4). The White House posted a photo of him in the Oval Office with a caption that the Italian agency ANSA translated as "warning: he is still your president" (ANSA, Nov 5; original text not seen).

On Nov 5, in the Oval Office, Trump said "Our elections are so crooked, you have no idea" (France 24/AFP, Nov 6; Il Sole 24 Ore records "so rigged"). In the sources read, the remark is not tied to the congressional races: France 24 links it to the Los Angeles mayoral result, and Il Sole says he did not specify the election. The same day, on Truth Social, he asked that the votes cast for other candidates in Alaska, among them a minor candidate also named Dan Sullivan, be "immediately given to the REAL Dan Sullivan" (France 24, Nov 6). The Alaska Senate race still had no projection.

12 The congressional leadership

Who	What they said	Where and when
Hakeem Jeffries, House Democratic leader	"It wasn't simply a blue wave. It was an American tsunami."	Press conference in Washington, Nov 4 (Spectrum News)
Chuck Schumer, Senate Democratic leader	"Against all odds, we Democrats have won the Senate"; "Relief is on the way"; promised investigations and "legislative razor wire" when Trump defies the law.	Early hours and press conference of Nov 4 (CBS News)
Mike Johnson, Speaker of the House	"To every American disappointed by tonight's results, I mean, I am disappointed, too."	Shreveport, Louisiana, night of Nov 3 (ABC News)
John Thune, Senate Republican leader	"Thankfully, we still have President Trump in the White House, and we'll work with him to stop the worst impulses of Democrat extremism."	X, Nov 4 (CBS News)
Barack Obama, former president	"Tonight, the American people sent a clear message: they want a politics that brings people together rather than divides them".	X, Nov 4 (IBTimes UK)

13 Foreign governments

The reaction from abroad split into three tones: declared relief in Western Europe and Canada, caution from those who depend on the relationship with Washington, and the reading that nothing changes in Moscow, Beijing and Tehran.

Country or organization	Who and what they said	Source
United Kingdom	Prime Minister Andy Burnham: "The world has an opportunity now to unite around the issue that is affecting us all, and that's the cost of living".	AP via The Globe and Mail, Nov 4; CBS and SBS record the same remark, with a different location (Antigua or London)
Germany	Chancellor Friedrich Merz: "Trump hat auch in den letzten zwei Jahren weitgehend am Kongress vorbei regiert. Warum sollte das jetzt anders sein?" ("Over the last two years, too, Trump governed largely by going around Congress. Why would it be different now?")	t-online, SPD forum, Nov 4
France	Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot: "very good news" for American democracy (translated from French).	SBS, Nov 5
Spain	Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez: "It happened in Brazil. It just happened in the U.S. And it will happen soon in Spain".	X, via AP and Público, Nov 4
Italy	Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani: "Noi rispettiamo sempre e comunque la volontà del popolo americano." ("We always respect the will of the American people, no matter what.")	ANSA, Nov 5
Canada	Ontario Premier Doug Ford: "I was doing cartwheels down the street"; Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre: the result "demonstrates that Americans hate tariffs". No statement from Prime Minister Mark Carney was found.	AP via The Globe and Mail, Nov 4
Mexico	President Claudia Sheinbaum: "hay que esperar" ("we must wait"); "Nos da gusto que mexicano-estadunidenses hayan triunfado" ("We are glad that Mexican Americans won").	Press conference of Nov 4 (Proyecto Puente)
Brazil	No statement from the Planalto as of Nov 4. Minister José Guimarães (SRI), on X: "Derrota de Trump é uma vitória do mundo democrático." ("Trump's defeat is a victory for the democratic world.")	Poder360, Nov 4
European Union	High Representative Kaja Kallas: "Let's see what happens now, but elections have results."	SBS, Nov 5
NATO	Secretary General Mark Rutte said he had sent Trump a note: "Keep your chin up, and let's move on."	Bloomberg, via LIGA.net, Nov 5
Ukraine	President Volodymyr Zelensky: "We need to raise the issue of the $16 billion that was previously agreed upon but not provided to Ukraine".	Kyiv Independent, Nov 6
Russia	Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov: "President Trump remains in office, and we sincerely hope he will continue his peacemaking efforts as well"; the change in Congress is "an internal U.S. matter" (translated from Russian).	Meduza, Nov 5
China	Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning: "The midterm elections are an internal affair of the United States"; "China is willing to continue working with the US".	RTHK, Nov 4

Iran	Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, on X: "Americans said NO TO WAR, and we endorse this message".	CBS News and Al Jazeera, Nov 4
Israel	Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had not commented as of the afternoon of Nov 4; opposition leaders blamed him for the strain with the Democrats.	Times of Israel/Reuters, Nov 4
South Korea	The Presidential Office: "We do not believe the outcome of any particular election will affect the South Korea-US alliance".	Korea Herald, Nov 5
Japan	Chief Cabinet Secretary Minoru Kihara: the alliance with the US is "the cornerstone of Japan's foreign and security policy".	Al Jazeera, Nov 4
South Africa	President Cyril Ramaphosa: "the people of America have spoken".	CBS News, Nov 4

No statement on the result was found from Emmanuel Macron, Narendra Modi, Anthony Albanese, Xi Jinping or Vladimir Putin.

14 Other public figures

Elon Musk, whose spending in the election outlets estimate at between US$ 442 million and nearly half a billion dollars, wrote on X in the early hours of Nov 4: "Guess my election-interfering space lasers didn't work this time" (Click2Houston, with AFP). Tesla and SpaceX fell more than 3% that day (CNBC). Pope Leo XIV voted by mail, according to the Vatican, and spoke of the duty to vote at the Nov 4 audience, without commenting on the result.

15 The international press

Outlet	Headline	Date
Al Jazeera (Qatar)	"'Seismic shift': World reacts to US midterm election results"	Nov 4
France 24 / AFP (France)	"Trump tries to brush off midterms rout as Democrats celebrate"	Nov 4
Euronews (EU)	"Democrats take control of US Congress in rejection of Trump"	Nov 4
ANSA (Italy)	"Midterm: uno tsunami blu, l'America boccia Trump" ("a blue tsunami, America rejects Trump")	Nov 4 and 5
RTBF (Belgium)	"vague démocrate au Congrès, revers cinglant pour Donald Trump" ("Democratic wave in Congress, a stinging setback for Donald Trump")	Nov 4
SBS News (Australia)	"'World coming together': Global leaders react to the US midterm election"	Nov 5
RTHK (Hong Kong)	"China 'will continue working with US' after midterms"	Nov 4
Times of Israel	"After midterms, opposition leaders accuse Netanyahu of harming relationship with US"	Nov 4
Kyiv Independent (Ukraine)	"Ukraine has not received $16 billion in previously agreed US aid, Zelensky says"	Nov 6
Korea Herald (South Korea)	"US midterm outcome won't affect alliance, Cheong Wa Dae says"	Nov 5
Público (Spain)	live coverage of the results	Nov 4
Poder360 (Brazil)	"Governistas reagem à vitória democrata e citam influência de Lula nos EUA" ("Government allies react to the Democratic win and cite Lula's influence in the US")	Nov 4

The headlines repeated three words: "tsunami", "rejection" and "setback". AFOS does not classify the outlets; the table records what each one published, on open pages that were read. Some of the major European outlets (Guardian, BBC, Financial Times, Le Monde, Der Spiegel, El País) block automated reading, and their absence here does not mean they did not cover it.

16 The markets

On Wednesday, Nov 4, US stocks rose sharply, and the Dow Jones gained about 1,500 points, while oil fell more than 8%; CNBC linked the drop in oil to the administration's acknowledgment of the weight of the war with Iran in the defeat. On Thursday, Nov 5, there was a reversal led by technology and artificial intelligence companies: the Dow fell 1,833 points and the Nasdaq 5.5% (CBS News, Nov 6).

Prediction markets became news in their own right. CNBC, which discloses a commercial relationship and a minority stake in Kalshi, published on Nov 4 that they "cement their status", with Polymarket saying it had anticipated ten key races a median of 31 minutes before the TV networks; the same article recalled that these markets got the Brazilian runoff wrong, and quoted Michelle Kendler-Kretsch, of the Anti-Corruption Data Collective: "Risks and vulnerabilities didn't change overnight just because the markets were accurate this time around." Kalshi says it traded more than US$ 2.5 billion on the midterms, a figure from the company itself and not comparable with those in this report.

17 The experts and poll accuracy

The debate over the polls began the next morning. Fox News summed it up in its Nov 4 headline: this time, the underestimated side was not the Republicans. In the same article, the two partners in the Fox News Poll agreed on direction: Democrat Chris Anderson said that "Polls probably, on average, undercounted Democrats significantly", and Republican Daron Shaw that "If we're talking about the direction of the polls, they were clearly correct" and that "we probably underestimated Democratic vote share by a couple of points" (Nov 4). Newsweek measured, against the AP count as of the afternoon of Nov 4, gaps of up to 9.5 points between the final aggregator average and the result in state races, such as the Texas and Georgia Senate races.

AFOS does not measure poll accuracy by state race, and does not set its national average against a partial count. The election-day average was D+7.73 and the eve average D+7.66; the comparison with the national House vote comes with the official count, in version 1.1 of this report.

18 Note to the reader

This is version 1.0, closed on Nov 6, 2026. State certification, the Alaska and Mississippi Senate races and the national House vote were still open. Version 1.1 will bring the official result, the comparison of the poll average with the national vote and any correction, with the old and the new value.

ANNEX

The projected result

NBC News figures, updated at 1:33 p.m. (New York) on Nov 6, 2026. These are network projections, not certification: the states certify through November and December, and version 1.1 will bring the official result.

Sources: NBC News, House and Senate results (nbcnews.com/politics/2026-elections), Nov 6, 2026, 1:33 p.m. ET; projection times: AFOS flow study, with the first publication found for each call; contract resolution: Polymarket.

Who won

The Democrats won control of the House and the Senate. The networks projected the House around 10:08 p.m. on Nov 3 (NBC News) and the Senate around 11:38 p.m. (ABC News), New York time; the AP called the Senate around 11:40 p.m. and the House between 1:25 a.m. and 1:51 a.m. on Nov 4. The Polymarket contracts resolved on Nov 4, the House at 13:34 UTC.

House of Representatives

	Seats
Democrats, projected	250
Republicans, projected	162
No projection	23
Majority	218
NBC estimate for the final total	259 D × 176 R
Flipped seats	42 to the Democrats, 2 to the Republicans

Senate

	Seats
Democrats	54
Republicans	44
No projection	2
Seats flipped to the Democrats	7: North Carolina, South Carolina, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Ohio (special) and Texas

No projection	Democrat	Republican	Counted
Mississippi	Scott Colom 49.1%	Cindy Hyde-Smith 48.8%	96.3%
Alaska	Mary Peltola 48.2%	Dan Sullivan 47.9%	74.1%

What AFOS recorded on the eve, beside the result

Record of Nov 2, 22:06 UTC	Projected result
House: Democrats 94.50	Democratic control
Senate: Democrats 76.50	Democratic control
Senate seats: 57.50% on 47 Republican or fewer (brackets summing to 104.30%)	44 Republican projected, at most 46
Poll average: D+7.66 (election day: D+7.73)	national House vote being counted; comparison in version 1.1