

## Colorado 2026 Primary Election Results

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Colorado completed its primary elections on Tuesday, June 30. The contests unfolded against a dynamic backdrop, with the state's increasingly blue and unaffiliated electorate reacting to a second Trump term. More locally, a wide swathe of Colorado's Democratic electorate are also railing against Gov. Jared Polis' (D) decision to pardon former Mesa County Clerk and election denier Tina Peters.

Overall, Democratic progressives were able to channel what appeared to be growing angst against perceived "establishment" candidates for a series of notable wins. Sitting Attorney General Phil Weiser defeated senior U.S. Senator Michael Bennet to run in the November election. As well, political newcomer and self-described Democratic Socialist Melat Kiros surpassed 29-year incumbent Dianna DeGette in the 1st Congressional District.

Also, with Colorado opening its primaries to unaffiliated voters several years ago—the largest voting bloc in the state—they again heavily influenced a number of key contests. Unaffiliated registrations now represent 50.5% of active registrations, and candidates for statewide office in particular expressed the need to appeal to those voters. That segment of the electorate will also be a deciding factor in the general election, which is only four months away.

The following is a summary of the results from the primaries for federal, statewide and state legislative seats.

### CONTRIBUTORS:

- [Douglas J. Friednash](#), Shareholder
- [Melissa Kuipers Blake](#), Shareholder
- [Sarah M. Mercer](#), Shareholder
- [Sloane L. Whelan](#), Senior Policy Advisor
- [Logan Fry](#), Policy Advisor
- [Jia D. Meeks](#), Policy Advisor and Associate
- [Cooper Reveley](#), Senior Policy Advisor
- [Josh Friednash](#), Policy Analyst
- [Sydney Ziegler](#), Policy Analyst
- [Donovan McMahon](#), Policy Analyst

### LEGEND

\* denotes a race where the incumbent faces a primary

(i) indicates an incumbent

**Safe R District**

**Safe D District**

**Competitive seat**

# Brownstein

## FEDERAL

In Tuesday's contests, Coloradans chose general election candidates for one U.S. Senate seat and for five seats in the state's delegation to the U.S. House. In three of those races, established incumbents faced primary challengers on both sides of the aisle from the more fundamental sides of their base, with junior U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper (D) fending off state Sen. Julie Gonzales (D) and Rep. Jeff Hurd (R-CD-3) prevailing against former state Rep. Ron Hanks. Conversely, the "dean" of the state's congressional delegation, DeGette, was upset by DSA-endorsed Melat Kiros in the 1st Congressional District.

## U.S. SENATE

- Sitting U.S. Sen. **John Hickenlooper** (i) defeated state Sen. **Julie Gonzales** in the Democratic primary.
- State Sen. **Mark Baisley** ran uncontested in the Republican primary.

## U.S. CONGRESS

### CD-1\*: Denver

- Upstart DSA challenger **Melat Kiros** defeated **Diana DeGette** (i) and CU Regent Wanda James.
- **Christy Peterson** ran uncontested in the GOP primary.

### CD-2: Boulder and Larimer Counties

- **Joe Neguse** (i), the fourth-highest Democrat in the House ranks, was unopposed in the Democratic primary.
- **Kelley Dennison** prevailed against **Christina Blunt** in the Republican primary.

### CD-3\*: Western Slope and Southwestern Colorado

- Sitting Rep. **Jeff Hurd** prevailed against former state Rep. **Ron Hanks**.
- **Dwayne Romero** defeated Alex Kelloff in the Democratic primary.

### CD-4: Douglas County and Eastern Plains

- Incumbent Rep. **Lauren Boebert** ran uncontested in the GOP primary.
- **Eileen Laubacher** ran uncontested in the Democratic primary.

### CD-5: Colorado Springs and El Paso County

- GOP incumbent **Jeff Crank** ran unopposed in a historically solid Republican district.
- **Jessica Killin** defeated Joe Reagan in the Democratic primary.

### CD-6: Arapahoe County

- Sitting Rep. **Jason Crow** ran uncontested in the Democratic primary.
- **Jason Clark** also ran unopposed in the GOP primary.

### CD-7: Jefferson County

- Incumbent Rep. **Brittany Pettersen** was unopposed in the Democratic primary.
- **Timothy Bennett** was unopposed in the Republican primary contest

### CD 8: Weld and Adams Counties

- First-term incumbent **Gabe Evans** ran uncontested in a Republican primary that could help decide the balance of power in the U.S. House.
- State Democratic lawmakers **Shannon Bird** and **Manny Rutinel** faced off in the Democratic primary, with Rutinel prevailing.

## STATE

After several months as the presumptive frontrunner, senior U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet (D) was upset by sitting state Attorney General Phil Weiser (D) in the Democratic gubernatorial primary by what appears to be a 10-point win. As the campaign wore on, Bennet was increasingly styled by Weiser as the establishment candidate, with Weiser campaigning with a “Weiser for Governor, Bennet for Senate” tagline. While other mainstream Democratic candidates—like current Secretary of State Jena Griswold in the four-way race for attorney general—strolled to victory on election night, that progressive-versus-establishment paradigm played out in a series down-ballot state legislative races. GOP primaries were thematically similar, with more moderate or “establishment” Republican legislative candidates being forced to stave off challenges from the further-right contingent of the party.

### GOVERNOR

- Current AG **Phil Weiser** upset U.S. Sen. **Michael Bennet** in a closely watched Democratic primary.
- As of Thursday morning, the race was too close to call. Sitting state Sen. **Barb Kirkmeyer** is running against political newcomer **Victor Marx** and Rep. **Scott Bottoms** in the GOP primary.

### ATTORNEY GENERAL

- Sitting Secretary of State **Jena Griswold** won a four-way Democratic primary race for Attorney General, beating out **Hetal Doshi**, **Michael Dougherty** and **David Seligman**.
- El Paso County DA **Michael Allen** defeated **David Willson** in the Republican primary.

### SECRETARY OF STATE

- Jefferson County Clerk **Amanda Gonzalez** defeated sitting state Sen. **Jessie Danielson** in the Democratic primary.
- **James Wiley** was unopposed in the Republican primary.

### STATE TREASURER

- State Sen. **Jeff Bridges** ran unopposed in the Democratic contest.
- Former state Senate President and current Fremont County Commissioner **Kevin Grantham** faced no challengers in the GOP primary.

### STATE SENATE

The state Senate has a staggered election schedule for four-year terms. With a two-term limit, about half of Colorado’s state senators are up for election every two years. There are 21 Senate seats up for election in 2026. However, only five of those seats had a primary election on Tuesday.

**SD 3: Pueblo:** Democrats Aaron Gutierrez vs. Taylor Voss

- **RESULT:** Aaron Gutierrez

*Aaron Gutierrez will face Dana Charles in what is expected to be a competitive race.*

**SD 9\*: El Paso County:** Republicans Lynda Zamora Wilson (i) vs. Terri Carver

- **RESULT:** Terri Carver

*Terri Carver will face William Delano Moses III in the November general election in what has traditionally been a safe GOP seat.*

**SD 21\*: Commerce City and Adams County:** Democrats Adrienne Benavidez (i) vs. Alex Ryckman

- **RESULT:** Adrienne Benavidez

*Adrienne Benavidez will face Frederick Alfred Jr. for a seat that favors Democrats in November.*

**SD 27: Central Arapahoe County and Northeast Douglas County:** Republicans Danielle Lammon vs. Darryl Gibbs

- **RESULT:** Danielle Lammon

*Danielle Lammon will face incumbent Tom Sullivan (i) in November for a seat favoring Democrats.*

**SD 34: Northeast Denver:** Democrats Chela Garcia Irlando vs. Andrés Carrera

- **RESULT:** Chela Garcia Irlando

*Chela Garcia Irlando will face Jack Daus in the general election. This seat strongly favors Democrats and is being vacated by U.S. Senate challenger Julie Gonzales (D), who is term-limited.*

## STATE HOUSE

**HD 5: North and Central Denver:** Democrats Justine Sandoval vs. Sterling Simms

- **RESULT:** Justine Sandoval

*Safe Democratic seat. Justine Sandoval will face Republican Johnnie Johnson in the general election.*

**HD 6\*: Central and East Denver:** Democrats Sean Camacho (i) vs. Iris Halpern

- **RESULT:** Iris Halpern

*Safe Democratic seat. Iris Halpern will face Republican challenger Kathleen Angel in November.*

**HD 9: Southeast Denver:** Democrats Monica VanBuskirk vs. Neal Walia

- **RESULT:** Monica VanBuskirk

*Monica VanBuskirk will face Republican Tom Cowick in the general election; current Rep. Emily Sirota (D) is term-limited and seeking election to the state Senate.*

**HD 13: Summit, Park, Lake, Chaffee, Grand, and Jackson Counties:** Democrats Chris Floyd vs. Consuelo Redhorse

**RESULT:** Consuelo Redhorse

*Consuelo Redhorse will face Republican Miguel Martinez in November to replace the term-limited House Speaker Julie McCluskie (D).*

**HD 14\*: Northwest El Paso County:** Republicans Ava Flanell (i) vs. Troy Vanderhule

- **RESULT:** Ava Flanell

*Ava Flanell (i) will face Democrat Sarah Emery in the general election in a seat that favors the GOP.*

**HD 16: Central El Paso County:** Republicans Jill Haffley vs. Jamie Koch

- **RESULT:** Jill Haffley

*Jill Haffley will face Stephanie Vigil in what is likely to be a highly competitive general election. Vigil is seeking to regain the seat she lost by a handful of votes to outgoing Rep. Rebecca Keltie (R).*

**HD 17\*: Central El Paso County:** Democrats Regina English (i) vs. Chauncy Johnson

- **RESULT:** Regina English

*Regina English (i) will face Laura Martin in a seat that favors Democrats.*

**HD 19: South Boulder and Weld Counties:** Democrats Anil Pesarmelli vs. Jillaire McMillan vs. Colton Jonjak Plahn

- **RESULT:** Jillaire McMillan

*Jillaire McMillan will face a competitive general election against Republican Dan Woog (i), who regained his seat in 2024 after a close loss in a prior cycle.*

**HD 21: Fountain and El Paso County:** Republicans Alexander Africa v. Brenda Delgado Miller

- **RESULT:** Brenda Delgado Miller

*Brenda Delgado Miller will face Michelle Tweed in November; sitting Rep. Mary Bradfield (R) did not make the ballot.*

**HD 31\*: Thornton and Adams County:** Democrats Jacque Phillips (i) vs. Gabriel Cervantes

- **RESULT:** Gabriel Cervantes

*Gabriel Cervantes will face Republican Ray Roll in the November contest.*

**HD 32: Commerce City and Adams County:** Republicans Michelle Lee vs. Damon Scordo

- **RESULT:** Michelle Lee

*Michelle Lee will face Democrat Chris VanDijk; incumbent Democratic state Rep. Manny Rutinel is vying to challenge Congressman Gabe Evans (R) in CD-8.*

**HD 33\*: Broomfield and Adams Counties:** Democrats Kenny Van Nguyen (i) vs. Heidi Henkel

- **RESULT:** Kenny Van Nguyen

*Kenny Van Nguyen (i) will defend his seat against challenger Nate Jorgensen in the November general election in a race that favors Democrats.*

**HD 41\*: North and Central Arapahoe County:** Democrats Jamie Jackson (i) vs. Anne Keke

- **RESULT:** Jamie Jackson

*Safe Democrat seat. There is no Republican candidate so the primary winner will be in the General Assembly in 2027.*

**HD 42\*: Northwest Arapahoe County:** Democrats Mandy Lindsay (i) vs. Sarah Woodson

- **RESULT:** Sarah Woodson

*Safe Democrat seat. There is no Republican candidate so Sarah Woodson will be elected to the General Assembly in 2027.*

**HD 44\*: Douglas County:** Republicans Anthony Hartsook (i) vs. Bob Davis

- **RESULT:** Anthony Hartsook

*Anthony Hartsook (i) will look to defend his seat from Democratic challenger Richard Bowness for what is a safe Republican seat.*

**HD 51: Southeast Larimer County:** Republicans Amy Parks vs. Nancy Rumfelt

- **RESULT:** Amy Parks

*District leans Republican. Amy Parks will face Democrat Jackie Marsh for the seat currently held by Rep. Ron Weinberg (R), who is stepping away from the legislature.*

**HD 54: Delta and Mesa Counties:** Republicans Nina Anderson vs. Jason Bias

- **RESULT:** Jason Bias

*Safe GOP seat. Jason Bias will face Democrat Mallory Martin for the seat currently held recently by Rep. Matt Soper (R), who is term-limited.*

**HD 60: Teller, East Chaffee, Fremont, and Custer Counties:** Republicans Michelle Gray vs. Matthew Alexander

- **RESULT:** Matthew Alexander

*Stable Republican seat. Matthew Alexander will face Democrat Kathryn Green in the general election for a seat currently held by Rep. Stephanie Luck (R), who is stepping away from the legislature.*

We will continue to monitor the general election races as they develop in advance of Nov. 3. Because Colorado's voting happens through mail-in and drop-off ballots, expect heavy campaigning in the late summer and early fall before voters receive their ballots in mid-October.

**DISCLAIMER:** *Please note that these results reflect votes counted as of July 1. These outcomes are unofficial until results are certified.*

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