



THE BIG PICTURE 2004 CYCLE Hot Races



Election cycle: 2004 

NOTE: This list of hot races was compiled from four sources: the Cook Political Report (C), Congressional Quarterly (Q), Ron Faucheux of Campaigns and Elections Magazine (F), and Stuart Rothenberg of Roll Call (R). You can see by the letters below which source picked each race as one to watch. For more on some of the most competitive races of the year, check out the Center's newsletter, [Capital Eye](#).

Alaska Senate Race

Tony Knowles (D)	 \$5,835,949	Lisa Murkowski (R) was appointed to this seat by her father - she faces a strong opponent in former governor Tony Knowles (D). Murkowski has received over \$200,000 in leadership PAC contributions, while Knowles has received over \$100,000. (C F S)
Lisa Murkowski (R)	 \$5,702,709	
*WINNER!		
Marc Joseph Millican (3)	\$187,850	
James L. Sykes (3)	\$15,247	
Scott A. Kohlhaas (L)	\$0	
Ted Gianoutsos (I)	\$0	
Jerry Sanders (3)	\$0	

Arizona District 01

Rick Renzi (R)	 \$2,358,748	The Democrats cleared a path for former Flagstaff mayor Paul Babbitt, so incumbent Rick Renzi (R) faces a strong challenge. This is a swing district. (C F S)
*WINNER!		
Paul Babbitt (D)	 \$1,298,530	
John Crockett (L)	\$0	

California District 20

Jim Costa	██████████	\$1,913,507	The Democrat Jim Costa is favored, but this may be the Republicans' only chance at a pickup in California. (C F)
(D) WINNER!			
Roy Ashburn	██████████	\$1,123,782	
(R)			

Colorado District 03

John Salazar	██████████	\$1,661,486	The Democrats got John Salazar, their favored candidate. Opposing him is Greg Walcher (R), a state official and former congressional aide. Both candidates have raised over \$2 million each. (C F S)
(D) WINNER!			
Greg Walcher	██████████	\$1,638,304	
(R)			
Jim Krug		\$0	
(I)			

Colorado District 07

Bob Beauprez	██████████	\$2,967,373	The incumbent, Beauprez (R) is considered vulnerable due to the nature of the district - he declined to run for Senate in order to hold this seat. He has received over \$250,000 in combined leadership PAC and candidate committee contributions. (C F S)
(R) *WINNER!			
David Jeffrey Thomas	██████████	\$1,156,413	
(D)			
Clyde J. Harkins		\$0	
(3)			

Colorado Senate Race

Ken Salazar	██████████	\$9,925,778	Ken Salazar is the Dems' preferred candidate. Pete Coors (R) is part of the Coors family, but has not relied primarily on self funding for this
(D) WINNER!			
Peter Coors	██████████	\$7,642,839	
(R)			
John Heckman		\$0	

(I)		race. Salazar leads in fundraising. (C F S)
Daniel Masias (I)	\$0	
Victor Good (3)	\$0	
Dwight Henson (I)	\$0	
Richard Randall (L)	\$0	
John Harris (I)	\$0	
Finn Gotaas (I)	\$0	
Douglas 'Dayhorse' Campbell (3)	\$0	

Connecticut District 02

Rob Simmons (R)	\$2,539,577	Incumbent Rob Simmons (R) faces a strong challenger, Jim Sullivan (D), but Simmons has raised over a million already (C F)
* WINNER!		
James M. Sullivan (D)	\$1,031,238	
David Rae Lyon (I)	\$4,380	

Florida Senate Race

Mel Martinez (R) WINNER!	\$12,472,141	This is an open seat race between Betty Castor (D), a former university president and Mel Martinez, a trial lawyer and former Secretary of HUD under George W. Bush. (C F S)
Betty Castor (D)	\$11,357,532	
Dennis Bradley (3)	\$10,731	
Rachele Fruit (3)	\$0	
Nancy Travis (I)	\$0	
Piotr Blass (I)	\$0	

Mark Stuftt \$0 (I)	
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Georgia District 03

Jim Marshall (D) * WINNER! Calder Clay (R)	\$1,325,027 \$952,684	Jim Marshall (D) has a rematch with Calder Clay (R) whom he narrowly beat in 2002 (C F S)
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Georgia District 12

Max Burns (R)* John Barrow (D) WINNER!	\$2,796,150 \$1,852,598	Max Burns (R) was a surprise victor in 2002 against a flawed opponent in a heavily Democratic district. He has raised a lot of money for 2004. However, the Dems' preferred candidate, John Barrow, got the nomination. (C F S)
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Iowa District 03

Leonard L. Boswell (D) * WINNER! Stan Thompson (R)	\$1,556,335 \$856,740	Incumbent Leonard Boswell (D) faces a rematch with Stan Thompson (R). Boswell is well ahead in fundraising. (C)
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Illinois District 08

Melissa Bean (D) WINNER! Phil Crane (R)*	\$1,603,230 \$1,594,634	Phil Crane (R) has received \$90,500 from candidate committees and leadership PACs - a possible sign of concern by party leaders. Melissa
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	Bean (D), the challenger, ran surprisingly well in 2002 and is far better funded this time. (C F S)
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Indiana District 08

Jon Paul [REDACTED] \$1,507,445 Jennings (D)	Hostettler's (R) opponent, Jon Jennings, has raised a lot of money and is culturally conservative, a good fit for the district. (C F S)
John [REDACTED] \$480,210 Hostettler (R)	
* WINNER	
Mark \$0 Garvin (L)	

Indiana District 09

Baron Hill [REDACTED] \$1,625,332 (D)*	Incumbent Baron Hill (D) had a close re-election in 2002, and Mike Sodrel (R), his 2002 opponent, has returned for a re-match. (C S)
Michael E. [REDACTED] \$1,321,773 Sodrel (R) WINNER	
Alan Cox \$0 (L)	

Kansas District 03

Dennis [REDACTED] \$2,312,590 Moore (D)	Once again, Dennis Moore (D) is defending himself in a Republican-leaning district (C F S)
* WINNER	
Kris [REDACTED] \$1,234,591 Kobach (R)	
Milack \$0 Talia (I)	
Richard \$0 Wells (3)	
Joe \$0 Bellis (L)	

Kentucky District 03

Anne M. ██████████ \$3,339,733 Northup (R) * WINNER! Tony ██████████ \$1,221,093 Miller (D) George \$0 Dick (L)	This is a swing district and Northup has always been vulnerable, but has won consistently since 1996. (C F S)
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Kentucky District 04

Geoff ██████████ \$2,604,553 Davis (R) WINNER! Nick ██████████ \$1,452,947 Clooney (D) Michael \$0 Evan Slider (I)	This is a strong pickup opportunity for the Republicans following the retirement of Ken Lucas. The 2002 Republican nominee, Geoff Davis, is running against Nick Clooney, a TV news anchor and father of actor George Clooney. (C F S)
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Kentucky Senate Race

Jim ██████████ \$6,527,005 Bunning (R) * WINNER! Daniel ██████████ \$2,888,124 Mongiardo (D)	This was not supposed to be a competitive race but Senator Bunning's recent troubles and eccentric behavior have made it competitive. (C F S)
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Louisiana District 03

Billy ██████████ \$1,781,138 Tauzin III (R) Charles J. ██████████ \$1,754,028 Melancon (D) WINNER! Craig F. ██████████ \$989,945 Romero (R)	This race is likely to go to a runoff (C F S)
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Damon J. Baldone (D)	\$257,510	
Charmaine Degruise Caccioppi (D)	\$256,812	
Kevin Dale Chiasson (R)	\$11,472	

Louisiana District 07

Charles W. Boustany Jr (R) WINNER!	\$2,590,450	Physician Charles Boustany (R) seems to be the party favorite - he has raised over \$111,000 from GOP candidates and leadership PACs. (C F S)
Willie Landry Mount (D)	\$1,480,940	
Donald Ray Cravins, Sr (D)	\$212,316	
David G. Thibodaux (R)	\$68,305	
Malcolm Carriere (D)	\$0	

Louisiana Senate Race

David Vitter (R) WINNER!	\$7,192,566	The major candidates are Chris John (D) and David Vitter (R). Chris John is the preferred candidate of the Democratic leadership, but John Kennedy (D) could beat him in the open primary. (C F S)
Chris John (D)	\$4,721,987	
John Neely Kennedy (D)	\$1,879,879	
Arthur Morrell (D)	\$68,653	
Sam Houston Melton Jr. (D)	\$0	
R. A.	\$0	

"Skip" Galan (I) Richard \$0 Fontanesi (I)	
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Minnesota District 06

Mark ██████████ \$2,548,403 Kennedy (R) * WINNER!	The DCCC targeted this race recently. Incumbent Mark Kennedy (R) has received over \$130,000 from Republican candidate committees and leadership PACs (C)
Patty ██████████ \$1,972,867 Wetterling (D)	

North Carolina District 11

Charles ██████████ \$1,573,474 H. Taylor (R) * WINNER!	Challenger Patricia Kever (D) has out-raised incumbent Charles Taylor. (C)
Patricia ██████████ \$1,220,183 Kever (D)	

North Carolina Senate Race

Erskine B. ██████████ \$13,407,656 Bowles (D)	Burr (R) has received over a quarter million from Republican candidate committees and leadership PACs. His opponent, Erskine Bowles, had been leading in polls but the race has tightened up. (C F S)
Richard ██████████ \$11,298,523 Burr (R) WINNER!	
Tom \$0 Bailey (L)	

New Mexico District 01

	Heather Wilson (R)
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Heather [REDACTED] \$3,395,281 Wilson (R) * WINNER!	has raised nearly \$190,000 in leadership PAC contributions as well as over \$48,000 in candidate committee money. The district is historically competitive. (C)
Richard [REDACTED] \$2,090,137 M. Romero (D)	

Nevada District 03

Jon [REDACTED] \$2,762,871 Porter (R) * WINNER!	Tom Gallagher (D) has done well in fundraising, but incumbent Jon Porter (R) leads in the polls and is favored to win. (C)
Tom [REDACTED] \$2,141,750 Gallagher (D)	
Pete \$0 Anthony O'Neil (I)	
Richard \$0 Wayne O'Dell (3)	
Joseph \$0 P. Silvestri (L)	

New York District 01

Timothy [REDACTED] \$1,990,911 H. Bishop (D) * WINNER!	Tim Bishop (D) is favored but this district has a history of close elections and changing party control. The GOP leaders have only given \$35,000 in leadership PAC and candidate committee contributions to Bill Manger (R). (C S)
William [REDACTED] \$1,399,597 Manger (R)	
William \$0 Bogardt (3)	

New York District 27

Nancy A [REDACTED] \$1,627,410 Naples (R)	A district that favored Gore but has a Republican representative, Roll
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Brian M. [REDACTED] \$1,357,911 Higgins (D)	Call rates this open seat a toss up. This is one of the Democrats' best shots at a pickup; the DCCC targeted this race recently (C F S)
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New York District 29

John R. [REDACTED] \$998,927 Kuhl Jr (R) WINNER!	This race may be more competitive than expected. John Kuhl's (R) divorce records - including threats of violence - were unexpectedly leaked, causing damage to his reputation and potentially improving the chances of opponent Samara Barend (D). (C)
Samara [REDACTED] \$627,952 Barend (D)	
Mark W. [REDACTED] \$260,951 Assini (3)	
John [REDACTED] \$0 Ciampoli (3)	

Oklahoma Senate Race

Brad R. [REDACTED] \$6,287,637 Carson (D)	Roll Call rates this a tossup. The Democrats have Rep. Brad Carson, while the GOP has former member of Congress Tom Coburn (R). The state favors Republicans but Coburn has made a number of controversial statements. (C F S)
Tom [REDACTED] \$5,041,228 Coburn (R) WINNER!	
Sheila [REDACTED] \$0 Bilyeu (I)	

Oregon District 01

David [REDACTED] \$2,217,063 Wu (D) * WINNER!	Revelations of a sexual assault charge made against incumbent David Wu (D) when he was in college have made this race more
Goli [REDACTED] \$2,188,078 Yazdi Ameri (R)	

Dean O. Wolf (3) \$0	competitive. (C S)
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Pennsylvania District 06

Jim Gerlach (R) *WINNER! \$2,357,299	The DCCC targeted this race recently. Incumbent Jim Gerlach (R) won narrowly in 2002, and GOP leaders have contributed over \$200,000 in leadership PAC and candidate committee contributions. Both he and opponent Lois Murphy have raised over \$1 million. (C S)
Lois Murphy (D) \$1,947,140	

Pennsylvania District 08

Michael G. Fitzpatrick (R) WINNER! \$1,269,364	The DCCC targeted this race when the incumbent dropped out. Ginny Schrader (D) got considerable support and fundraising from the web. Opponent Michael Fitzpatrick (R) has over \$70,000 in candidate committee and leadership PAC contributions. (C F)
Virginia Waters Schrader (D) \$619,605	
Erich G. Lukas (3) \$0	
Arthur L. Farnsworth (L) \$0	

Pennsylvania District 13

Allyson Schwartz (D) WINNER! \$4,597,032	Probably the most competitive of any of the PA races. Allyson Schwartz (D) and Melissa Brown (R) face off in an open seat contest - the incumbent Joe
Melissa Brown (R) \$1,953,561	
Chuck Moulton (L) \$0	

John McDermott (3) \$0	Hoeffel is running for the Senate (C F S)
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Pennsylvania District 15

Charles Wieder Dent (R) WINNER! \$2,043,738	The Republican candidate Charlie Dent is strong, but this is a marginal and open district. (C F S)
Joseph Edward Driscoll (D) \$1,820,879	
Richard J. Piotrowski (L) \$0	
Greta Browne (3) \$0	

South Carolina Senate Race

James W. DeMint (R) WINNER! \$9,042,388	Congressman Jim DeMint (R) is slightly favored in this race and has raised far more money, but Inez Tenenbaum (D) is still competitive. Recent gaffes by DeMint may have helped Tenenbaum close in the polls. (C S)
Inez Tenenbaum (D) \$6,280,668	
Patrick A. Tyndall (3) \$13,324	
Tee Ferguson (3) \$0	
Efia Nwangaza (3) \$0	
Rebekah E. Sutherland (L) \$0	

South Dakota District 01

Stephanie Herseth (D) *WINNER! \$4,031,986	Special election won by Stephanie Herseth, but Diedrich is back for the general. The NRA switched
Larry William \$2,555,183	

Diedrich (R)		endorsement from Diedrich to Herseth for the general election. (C F S)
Terry Begay (L)	\$0	

South Dakota Senate Race

Tom Daschle (D)*	██████████ \$21,104,508	Minority Leader Daschle is defending his seat against John Thune, one of the strongest Republican challengers. (C F S)
John Thune (R) WINNER!	██████████ \$16,247,089	

Texas District 01

Louis B. Gohmert Jr (R) WINNER!	██████████ \$1,868,200	Roll Call suggests that Max Sandlin is the most vulnerable of all the TX Dems; his fundraising has been modest and opponent Louis Gohmert (R) is strong. (C F S)
Max Sandlin (D)*	██████████ \$1,700,223	
Dean L. Tucker (L)	\$0	

Texas District 02

Nick Lampson (D)*	██████████ \$2,381,206	The new district has a GOP tilt. However, Nick Lampson (D) represented half of it before and is well ahead of his opponent in fundraising (C F S)
Ted Poe (R) WINNER!	██████████ \$1,671,523	
Sandi Saulsbury (L)	\$0	

Texas District 17

Chet Edwards (D) * WINNER!	██████████ \$2,628,597	Redistricting made this district GOP leaning, leaving Chet Edwards (D) vulnerable. The
Arlene Wohlgemuth (R)	██████████ \$2,586,253	

Clyde L. Garland (L) \$0	challenger, Arlene Wohlgemuth (R), has received over \$200,000 in leadership PAC and candidate committee contributions. (C F S)
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Texas District 19

Randy Neugebauer (R)* WINNER! ██████████ \$2,994,489	Two incumbents - Charlie Stenholm (D) and Randy Neugebauer (R) - are facing off here. The district favors Republicans. (C F S)
Charles W. Stenholm (D)* ██████████ \$2,420,674	
Richard Peterson (L) \$0	

Texas District 32

Martin Frost (D)* ██████████ \$4,623,104	Two incumbents face off thanks to redistricting - Martin Frost (D) and Pete Sessions (R). Frost is at a disadvantage in a strongly GOP district. Both have raised over \$4 million. (C S)
Pete Sessions (R) * WINNER! ██████████ \$4,504,380	
Michael D. Needleman (L) \$0	

Utah District 02

Jim Matheson (D) * WINNER! ██████████ \$1,966,015	Jim Matheson (D) is a strong candidate with good fundraising, but the district is strongly Republican. Matheson has received over \$100,000 from Dem candidate committees and leadership PACs while his opponent, John Swallow
John Swallow (R) ██████████ \$1,477,450	
Jeremy Paul Petersen (3) \$0	
Ronald R. Amos \$0	

(3) Patrick Diehl (3) \$0	received nearly \$70,000. (C F S)
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Virginia District 02

Thelma Drake (R) WINNER! \$828,326	The incumbent dropped out amid allegations of homosexuality, making the race unexpectedly competitive. David Ashe (D) is an ex-Marine and Iraq war veteran. Thelma Drake (R) is a realtor and member of the Virginia House of Delegates. (F)
David Ashe (D) \$450,759	

Washington District 05

Cathy McMorris (R) WINNER! \$1,655,761	The district is Republican leaning but open this cycle. State Representative Cathy McMorris (R) faces Dan Barbieri (D), a former CEO of West Coast Hospitality Corp and Commissioner for the Economic Development Board. The DCCC targeted this race recently. (C F S)
Donald K. Barbieri (D) \$1,630,053	

Washington District 08

Dave Reichert (R) WINNER! \$1,578,632	Another Washington Republican-leaning seat that is open. David Reichert (R), King County Sheriff known for the capture of the Green River killer, is facing David
Dave Ross (D) \$1,453,019	
Spencer Garrett (L) \$0	

	Ross (D), a radio talk show host. Reichert is ahead in fundraising but even in cash on hand. (C F S)
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Wisconsin Senate Race

Russell [REDACTED] \$10,973,294 D. Feingold (D) *WINNER!	Tim Michels (R) is a strong candidate, but Russ Feingold is favored to win. (C S)
Tim J. [REDACTED] \$5,533,163 Michels (R)	
Arif \$4,874 Khan (L)	
Eugene \$0 A. Hem (I)	

*Incumbent