# 2020 North Carolina House Races

### District 1

Parts of six different counties, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington, are included in the First District. Republican incumbent Edward Goodwin is trying to hold the seat against Democratic challenger Emily Bunch Nicholson, a teacher and Assistant Director for the Northeastern Workforce Development Board.

## **District 2**

This district, covering parts of Granville and Person counties, finds Republican incumbent Larry Yarborough up against Democratic challenger Cindy Deporter. This district is politically very moderate and therefore of strong interest to both parties.

### District 3

This all-Craven County district will have a new Representative after incumbent Michael Speciale decided not to seek another term. Speciale had served in the US Marines, and now fellow Republican and US Army veteran Steve Tyson wants to replace him. Former Superintendent Dorothea Downing White will try to take the seat for the Democrats.

### **District 4**

Incumbent Republican Jimmy Dixon will try to hold his seat, which represents parts of Duplin and Onslow counties, against community college professor Christopher Schulte.

## **District 5**

Businessman Howard Hunter III, a Democrat, will defend his seat against GOP challenger Marcia Morgan, an educator and US Army veteran, for this seat representing parts of Gates, Hertford, and Pasquotank counties.

### District 6

This district represents parts of four different counties, Currituck, Dare, Hyde and Pamlico. Incumbent Republican Bobby Hanig is trying to hold onto the seat against a challenge from Democrat Tommy Fulcher.

## District 7

This district, representing parts of Franklin and Nash counties, will have a new Representative in 2021. Republican incumbent Lisa Stone Barnes chose to run for a state Senate seat instead, leaving homebuilder and developer Matthew Winslow hoping to succeed her out of the GOP and physician Phil Stover trying to flip the district to the red team.

# **District 8**

This all-Pitt County district pits Democratic incumbent Kandie Smith against GOP challenger Tony Moore, a member of the Winterville Town Council who has run for State Senate seats before as a candidate of both parties.

Another all-Pitt district and one that is expected to be very competitive. The Republicans need to defend this seat after former Rep. Greg Murphy won a special election to the U.S. House of Representatives. Perrin Jones, another Republican and an anesthesiologist by trade, was appointed to fill the seat he vacated. However, he faces a strong challenge from local architect Brian Farkas, who is trying to take the seat for the Democrats.

## **District 10**

This district encompasses parts of Greene, Johnston and Wayne counties and includes the incumbent Majority Leader of the House, Republican John Bell. Bell is being challenged by Carl Martin, a credible candidate who is Chair of the Wayne County Democratic Party, but should be able to retain his seat.

## District 11

This all-Wake County district has a strong blue lean, like several other Wake districts. Democratic incumbent Allison Dahle is nevertheless facing two challengers, Republican Clark Pope and Libertarian Adrian Lee Travers.

#### District 12

This district, which includes parts of Lenoir and Pitt counties, is one where the Democrats are trying to steal a march on their rivals. Incumbent Republican Chris Humphrey will face challenger Virginia Cox-Daugherty, a retired educator, in the general election. The district is considered to lean red, but disenchantment with GOP policies at the national level could make a difference.

# **District 13**

This district covers parts of Carteret and Jones counties. Republican incumbent Pat McElraft, a real estate broker, is being challenged by the Director of Auxiliary Services and College Stores at Elon University, Buck Bayliff.

## **District 14**

GOP incumbent George Cleveland is defending this Onslow County seat against Democrat Marcy Wofford. Ms. Wofford has an education background and is also serving as the First Vice-Chair of the Onslow County Democratic Party.

### **District 15**

This is also an all-Onslow district, where retired minister Phil Shepard is seeking another term as a Republican. Challenger Carolyn Gomaa previously served as the Chair of the Onslow County Democratic Party and President of the Onslow County Political Action Committee.

### District 16

Republican incumbent and former Sheriff Carson Smith, faces a challenge from retired educator Debbi Fintak for this seat that covers parts of Columbus and Pender counties.

Frank Iler, who served as Chairman of the Brunswick County Republican Party before winning his House seat, will face educator and Democratic candidate Tom Simmons.

# **District 18**

Incumbent Deb Butler, an attorney, will try to hold her seat representing parts of Brunswick and New Hanover counties. Her GOP challenger is Warren Kennedy, a retired sergeant from the Wilmington Police.

#### District 19

Redistricting forced the incumbent to run in another district for 2020 and this one, entirely in New Hanover County, is up for grabs.

Republican Charlie Miller, a Chief Deputy with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, will face Marcia Morgan, an educator and U.S. Army veteran, in a seat that the Democrats are hoping to pick off.

## **District 20**

This is a key race on the House side of things. Republican incumbent Holly Grange chose not to seek another term to this "purple" New Hanover County district, instead running for Lt. Governor. The current GOP Representative in District 19, Ted Davis, will instead run in District 20 thanks to redistricting which moved his home into that district. However, Davis will get a stiff challenge from Democratic candidate Adam Ericson, who teaches and coaches at New Hanover High School.

### District 21

Democratic incumbent Raymond Smith will defend his seat covering parts of Sampson and Wayne counties against challenger Brent Heath, a Regional Director of the N.C. Department of Insurance.

### District 22

This district, which covers parts of Bladen and Sampson counties, will find GOP incumbent William Brisson, a farmer, trying to hang onto his seat against retired Democratic judge Albert Kirby Jr.

# **District 23**

Republican challenger Claiborne Holtzman, a former minister and businessman, will try to unseat Democratic incumbent Shelly Willingham, a real estate consultant, in this district that covers sections of Edgecombe and Martin counties.

### District 24

Longtime Rep. Jean Farmer-Butterfield was appointed to the Employment Security Board of Review in July, meaning she had to give up her House seat. Retired educator Linda Cooper-Suggs was appointed to replace her and hopes to hold the seat for the Democrats. Retired US Navy veteran Mick Rankin has other ideas and would like to flip this Wilson County district to the red column.

This all-Nash County district finds pastor James Gailliard trying to hold his seat for the Democrats against fellow clergyman John Check, a Methodist minister running on the GOP ticket.

### District 26

This conservative-leaning district of Johnston County will see a rematch of a 2018 race. Republican incumbent Donna White, a registered nurse and political veteran in Johnston County, is again being challenged by Democrat Linda Bennett.

#### District 27

This district covering parts of Halifax and Northampton counties is seeing a third run for office by Republican Warren Scott Nail, who had run for the Senate twice before. For the third time to be a charm, he'll have to unseat Democratic incumbent Michael Wray.

## **District 28**

Republican incumbent Larry Strickland is hoping to retain his seat, representing parts of Harnett and Johnston counties, against Democratic challenger Corey Stephens.

#### District 29

No suspense to be found in this all-Durham district. Democratic incumbent Vernetta Alston (D) is running unopposed. She will win her first full term after replacing fellow Democrat MaryAnn Black, who died in March.

## **District 30**

Another all-Durham district that no Republicans bothered to contest. However, Democratic incumbent Marcia Morey does have an opponent in Libertarian Gavin Bell.

### District 31

This Durham County district is solid blue, but incumbent Zack Hawkins does have two opponents. Republican Steven Sosebee Jr. is in the race, along with Libertarian Party mainstay Sean Haugh, who is no stranger to supporters of that party. He ran for the U.S. Senate in 2002, 2014 and 2016.

### **District 32**

Another strongly blue district, covering parts of Granville, Vance, and Warren counties. Democratic incumbent Terry Garrison should handle Republican David Woodson's challenge.

### **District 33**

This all-Wake County district is solid blue, and Democratic incumbent Rosa Gill should retain her seat even though she has two opponents in Republican Frann Sarpolus and Libertarian Sammie Brooks.

Wake County contains some conservative districts among the sea of blue, and this is one of them. Republican incumbent Pat Hurley is expected to see off the challenge of Democrat Susie Scott and retain her seat.

### District 35

This Wake County district is a target for Republicans. Challenger Fred Von Canon and Libertarian candidate Michael Nelson are both running against Democratic incumbent Terence Everitt in a district that is considered centrist.

# **District 36**

This Wake district has Democratic incumbent Julie von Heaven favored over challengers Kim Coley, a Republican, and Libertarian Bruce Basson.

## **District 37**

Another Wake district with three people on the ballot. Democrat Sydney Batch is seeking a second term against Republican Erin Pare and Libertarian Liam Leaver.

### **District 38**

This seat has long been held by Democrats, but there is no incumbent and a three-way race under way to fill the seat held by Yvonne Lewis Holley as she pursues the office of Lt. Governor. Democrat Abe Jones is the favorite, but will have to beat Republican Kenneth Bagnal and Libertarian Richard Haygood.

### District 39

House Minority Leader Darren Jackson has a walkover, with no one challenging his bid for a seventh term in this Wake County district.

## **District 40**

A more competitive Wake County district in which incumbent Democrat Joe John is being challenged by the GOP's Gerard Falzon.

### District 41

A three-way Wake County race between Democratic incumbent Gale Adcock, Republican Scott Populorum and Libertarian Guy Meilleur.

#### District 42

This Cumberland County district will see retired principal and incumbent Democrat Marvin Lucas take on Republican Jon Blake, a retired former Green Beret who works in the defense industry.

## **District 43**

This Cumberland County district already had one surprise when incumbent Elmer Floyd lost the Democratic primary to Fayetteville State University professor Kimberly Hardy by just 743 votes. Now Hardy will face Republican nominee Diane Wheatley, co-owner of a small business and a former nurse. This district is strongly blue, so Hardy will probably retain it for her party.

This Cumberland district is held by a Republican, attorney William Richardson. He will try to retain his seat against Democratic challenger Heather Holmes.

### **District 45**

There are major stakes in this election, which involves a Cumberland district that was redrawn after a court challenge. The Republicans will want to hold this seat for GOP power broker John Szoka, the Conference Chair and Finance Committee Senior Chair. However, the district is more favorable to the blue team now and Democratic challenger Frances Vinell Jackson, a government planner and professor at Fayetteville Technical Community College, has a shot to pull the upset.

## **District 46**

Incumbent Republican Brenden Jones will try to hold this district of Columbus and Robeson counties against challenger Tim Heath.

### **District 47**

Two longtime educators are squaring off in this all-Robeson County district. Republican Olivia Oxendine, a member of the State Board of Education, is challenging Democratic incumbent Charles Graham, who is himself a retired educator.

# **District 48**

This district of Hoke and Scotland counties pits Baptist minister and Democratic incumbent Garland Pierce against Republican challenger Johnny Boyles.

## District 49

This Wake County race features Democratic incumbent Cynthia Ball against Republican David Robertson and Libertarian Cap Hayes.

## **District 50**

This very left-leaning district of Caswell and Orange counties will be a Democratic walkover for incumbent Graig Meyer, a strong fundraiser for his party that no one chose to challenge in 2020.

# District 51

This district of Harnett and Lee counties pits Republican incumbent John Sauls, a minister by trade, against US Army veteran Jason Cain.

## District 52

Incumbent Republican Jamie Boles takes on Democrat Lowell Simon in a Moore County race that Boles is expected to win.

### **District 53**

This Harnett County district will be under new leadership in 2021. Current House Rules Chair David Lewis is retiring. Fellow Republican Howard Penny is the party's candidate to succeed him, but he must first beat Democrat Sally Weeks Benson (D), a retired US Navy officer.

Parts of Chatham and Durham counties are covered by District 54, in which Democrat Robert Rieves is trying to hold off Republican challenger George Gilson Jr.

### District 55

This one may have been decided in the courtroom. This district of Anson and Union counties was redrawn after a challenge. Democratic challenger Gloria Harrington Overcash now has a real chance to knock off GOP incumbent Mark Brody.

# **District 56**

Democrat Verla Insko represents a very liberal part of Orange County and neither the GOP nor the Libertarians chose to contest this seat.

## **District 57**

This is a strongly left-leaning part of Guilford County and incumbent Ashton Clemmons is strongly favored to keep the seat against Republican Chris Meadows.

#### **District 58**

Democratic incumbent Amos Quick is a big favorite to down Republican challenger Clinton Honey in this blue Guilford district.

# **District 59**

Incumbent Republican Jon Hardister and Democratic challenger Nicole Quick are squaring off in a Guilford County race that could go either way.

## **District 60**

Democrat Cecil Brockman is favored to hold his Guilford County district against Republican challenger Frank Ragsdale.

## District 61

Democrat Pricey Harrison has held this seat for a long time, and it's a deep blue district of Guilford County that the Republicans decided not to contest in 2020.

# **District 62**

Prominent House Republican John Faircloth is favored to retain his Guilford County seat against Democratic challenger Brandon Gray.

## District 63

Republican Stephen Ross is a respected member of the GOP contingent in the House, but his Alamance County district leans slightly blue and he is facing a difficult race against Democratic challenger Ricky Hurtado.

### **District 64**

Incumbent Republican Dennis Riddell is trying to hold this Alamance County district against Democratic challenger Eric Henry.

Incumbent Republican Jerry Carter takes on Democrat Amanda Joann Bell for this Rockingham County seat.

# **District 66**

This district covers parts of Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties. Democrat Scott Brewer was appointed last year and will take on Republican Ben Moss for a full term.

## **District 67**

Incumbent Republican Wayne Sasser holds a district made up of deep red parts of Cabarrus and Stanly counties. The Democrats aren't bothering to challenge him in 2020.

### District 68

Incumbent Craig Horn gave up this Union County seat to seek election as Superintendent of Public Education. Republican David Willis and Democrat Ericka McKnight are battling to succeed him.

### District 69

Incumbent Republican Dean Arp is expected to retain his Union County seat against Democrat Pam De Maria.

### District 70

This Randolph County district is very right-leaning and incumbent Republican Pat Hurley is expected to defeat challenger Susie Scott.

## District 71

Incumbent Democrat Evelyn Terry has no opposition in this Forsyth County district.

## District 72

There is no incumbent in this Forsyth district, which both parties are contesting. Democrat Amber Baker squares off with Republican Dan Lawlor.

## **District 73**

This district covers parts of Forsyth and Yadkin counties and is in the red-leaning part of the region. Democratic challenger William Stinson has a tough road to unseat GOP incumbent Lee Zachary.

## **District 74**

An all-Forsyth district in a competitive part of that county. Expect a closely-contested race between Republican Jeff Zenger and Democrat Dan Hesse in a race with no incumbent.

# **District 75**

Another all-Forsyth district, and one including a GOP power broker in incumbent Donny Lambeth (R), the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee. Democrat Elisabeth Motsinger would like to make the House have to choose a new chair for that committee.

This district covers a centrist part of Rowan County and is a Democratic target. Republican incumbent Harry Warren will try to see off the challenge of Al Heggins.

## **District 77**

This is a more conservative district covering parts of Davie and Rowan counties. Republican Julia Howard, chair of the House Finance committee, is heavily favored over Democrat Barbara Howard.

#### District 78

This district is solid red, covering parts of Moore and Randolph counties, and GOP incumbent Allen McNeill is expected to beat off a challenge from Democrat Jim Meredith.

## District 79

This district of Beaufort and Craven counties will see Republican incumbent Keith Kidwell facing Nick Blount, who has been both Second Vice-Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party and the Chocowinity Democratic Precinct Chair.

### **District 80**

This district of Davidson County is strongly red, but has seen some wild goings-on. Former House member Sam Watford had to hold off another ex-Representative in Roger Younts to become the Republican candidate, and now faces Democrat Wendy Sellars for the seat.

# **District 81**

Another red-leaning Davidson district sees GOP incumbent Larry Potts as a heavy favorite over Robert Lewis Jordan.

### **District 82**

Long-time Republican representative Linda Johnson passed away in February and Kristin Baker was appointed to replace her. Baker will seek a full term of her own in this Cabarrus County district against Democrat Aimy Steele.

## **District 83**

This district of Cabarrus and Rowan counties features a conservative stalwart in Larry Pittman, who is trying to hold a district that is only slightly red-leaning against a challenge from Democrat Gail Young.

## **District 84**

This Iredell County district has Republican incumbent Jeffrey McNeely up against Democrat Gayle Wesley Harris, a retired banker from Statesville.

This district covering parts of Avery, McDowell and Mitchell counties has some big names in the race. Republican Josh Dobson vacated the seat to seek the office of Commissioner of Labor, and two prominent McDowell County politicians stepped into the race, former Sheriff Dudley Greene on the GOP side & Ted Remington, the First V-Chair of the McDowell Co. Democratic Party.

### **District 86**

This all-Burke County district sees Republican Hugh Blackwell trying to retain his seat against challenger Cecelia Surratt.

#### **District 87**

GOP incumbent Destin Hall, the Co-Chair of the House Rules Committee, faces a challenge from Democrat Corie Schreiber in this Caldwell County district.

### **District 88**

Democratic incumbent Mary Belk is expected to keep this all-Mecklenburg district's seat against Republican challenger David Tondreau.

# **District 89**

This district covers Catawba County and will have Republican incumbent Mitchell Setzer seeking a 12th term against Democrat Greg Cranford. Setzer had been unopposed in every election since 2008 until Cranford challenged him two years ago. However, Setzer remains a heavy favorite.

## **District 90**

House Speaker Pro-Temp Sarah Stevens will face a challenge to keep her seat in this district, which covers parts of Alleghany, Surry and Wilkes counties. Political rookie Beth Shaw, a local businesses woman is challenging her for the Democrats.

### District 91

Incumbent Republican Kyle Hall has represented this district, which includes parts of Rockingham, Stokes and Surry counties, since 2015. Hall is not expected to have any trouble holding off a challenge from Democrat Rita Cruise in this strongly red district.

## **District 92**

This Mecklenburg district will have a new Representative. Democrat Chaz Beasley decided to pursue his party's nomination for Lt. Governor instead. This means that either Republican Jerry Munden or Democrat Terry Brown will take over in January.

### **District 93**

This Ashe County district has Democratic incumbent Ray Russell seeking another term against GOP challenger Ray Pickett.

This district, covering parts of Alexander and Wilkes counties, finds Republican incumbent Jeffrey Elmore unopposed.

# **District 95**

Republican incumbent John Fraley is retiring. The GOP tagged Grey Mills as his successor, and he is favored to win this conservative Iredell County district over Democrat Amanda Brown Kotis.

#### District 96

Republican incumbent Jay Adams, a real estate broker, hopes to hold this Catawba County seat against Democratic businesswoman Kimberly Bost.

## **District 97**

Incumbent Republican Jason Saine is expected to prevail against Democrat Greg McBryde in this conservative Lincoln County district.

### **District 98**

This Mecklenburg district features a rematch of a 2018 race. Republican challenger John Bradford had held the seat for two terms before Democrat Christy Clark downed him by 415 votes two years ago. Bradford is hoping to win the seat back.

# **District 99**

Democratic incumbent Nasif Majeed has a Republican challenger in Russell Rowe for this Mecklenburg seat.

# **District 100**

Another all-Mecklenburg district with a Democratic incumbent. John Autry will try to keep the seat against political newcomer Kalle Thompson.

## District 101

This Mecklenburg district has Democratic incumbent Carolyn Logan taking on Republican Steve Mauney.

# District 102

Democrat Becky Carney is trying to hold onto her Mecklenburg County seat against Republican challenger Kyle Kirby.

# District 103

This district, which includes part of suburban Mecklenburg County, is one of the most competitive in the state. It features a rematch this fall. Former Representative Bill Brawley was unseated by Democrat Rachel Hunt in 2018 by a mere 68 votes. Brawley wants his seat back and another barnburner is anticipated.

This Mecklenburg County district finds Republican challenger Don Pomeroy facing an uphill battle to unseat Democrat Brandon Lofton.

# **District 105**

One of several strong blue districts in Mecklenburg County. Incumbent Democrat Wesley Harris faces Republican challenger Amy Bynum.

## District 106

This is a deep blue Mecklenburg County district where the Republicans didn't even bother fielding a candidate against incumbent Democrat Carla Cunningham. Neither did any third party.

## District 107

Incumbent Democrat Kelly Alexander is a heavy favorite to defend her Mecklenburg County seat against GOP challenger Richard Rivette.

# **District 108**

This all-Gaston County district's seat is held by GOP House power-broker John Torbett, who will try to hold his position against challenger Daniel Caudill.

### District 109

Incumbent Dana Bumgardner will try to hold this all-Gaston County district against Democratic challenger Susan Maxon.

### District 110

This solid red district covering parts of Cleveland and Gaston counties wasn't even contested by the Democrats. GOP incumbent Kelly Hastings, a realtor, has a walkover to what will be her sixth term in the House.

### District 111

This is the district of House Speaker Tim Moore, an attorney who is strongly favored to retain his seat. The district covers parts of Cleveland County. Republican Moore is being challenged by political rookie Jennifer Childers.

# District 112

Another district that leans Republican, including parts of Burke and Rutherford counties. GOP incumbent David Rogers, an attorney, is being challenged by Democrat Ed Hallyburton, a businessman who has served as Chairman of the Burke County Planning Board.

### District 113

A year ago, Republican Jake Johnson became the youngest member of the NC House when he was appointed to fill a vacancy in this district, which covers parts of Henderson, Polk and Transylvania counties. He will seek his first full term against business owner and Democratic challenger Samuel Edney.

One of a number of seats held by the Democrats in blue-leaning Buncombe County, it is currently held by Democrat Susan Fisher, who is seeking her ninth term. She is being challenged by Republican Tim Hyatt and Libertarian Lyndon Smith.

### District 115

This all-Buncombe district finds Democratic incumbent John Ager, a land manager, being challenged by U.S. Army Reserve officer Mark Crawford.

#### District 116

Incumbent Democrat Brian Turner will be challenged by Republican Eric Burns in this Buncombe County district.

## District 117

This all-Henderson County district will have a new representative after Republican incumbent Chuck McGrady decided not to run for re-election. Fellow Republican Tim Moffitt, who has served in the House before, will face Democrat Josh Remillard.

### **District 118**

Current Rep. Michelle Presnell is retiring at the end of the year, so this district, which covers parts of Haywood, Madison, and Yancey counties, is getting a new representative. Vying for the seat are Democrat Alan Jones, a staff representative for the United Steel Workers International Union; and Republican Mark Pless, a Haywood County Commissioner.

### District 119

This district, which covers parts of Haywood, Jackson, and Swain counties, will see a rematch of a 2018 battle. Incumbent Democrat Joe Sam Queen unseated Republican Mike Clampitt in a close race two years ago. This is nothing new for voters. They have been battling each other for nearly a decade, and if Clampitt wins, it would be the second time he has taken the seat from Queen.

### District 120

This district, which represents parts of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, and Macon counties, had been in the hands of Republican Kevin Corbin until he decided he would seek a seat in the NC Senate instead. The local GOP tabbed Karl Gillespie, President of the Macon County Farm Bureau, to take his place, but he will have to defeat school psychologist Susan Landis to get it.