

## 2020 North Carolina Senate Races

### District 1

This district includes Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington counties. Challenger Tess Judge (D), who surprised everyone in a 2018 race for a House seat where she came up just short, is challenging incumbent Bob Steinburg (R) this time.

### District 2

This district covers Carteret, Craven, and Pamlico counties. Incumbent Norman Sanderson (R), a heavy hitter in the Senate who is the current Joint Caucus leader and a retired small business owner, faces a challenge from small business owner and political activist Libbie Griffin (D).

### District 3

This district, which includes Beaufort, Bertie, Martin, Northampton, Vance, and Warren counties, will have a new state Senator. Incumbent Erica Smith chose not to run for re-election in favor of making a run at the Democratic nomination for the US Senate, which she lost to Cal Cunningham. Hoping to succeed her and keep the seat for the Democrats is Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore (D), a former educator and Bertie County Commissioner. Trying to flip the seat to the red column is Thomas Hester Jr., a Republican who currently serves on the Vance County Board of Commissioners.

### District 4

This district, which encompasses Edgecombe, Halifax, and Wilson counties, finds Democratic incumbent Toby Fitch (D), an attorney and retired Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, being challenged by a fellow attorney, Republican Sammy Davis Webb.

### District 5

This district covers Greene and Pitt counties. It pits two former educators against one other. Incumbent Democrat Don Davis will try to keep his seat against challenger Karen Kozel.

### District 6

This district, which includes Jones and Onslow counties, features a bellwether race. Republican Harry Brown, the majority leader and Rules Committee Vice Chair, is stepping down, and the GOP has tapped Jacksonville Mayor Pro-Temp Michael Lazzara as his successor. Hoping to upset those plans and paint this longtime red district blue is retired U.S. Marine Corps officer turned executive Ike Johnson.

### District 7

This district, which includes Lenoir and Wayne counties, finds Republican incumbent Jim Perry (R), an aviation industry executive, facing a challenge from Democrat Donna Lake, a professor at the ECU College of Nursing.

**District 8**

This district, including Bladen, Brunswick, New Hanover, and Pender counties, finds Republican power broker Bill Rabon, a veterinarian by profession, vying to retain his seat against Democratic challenger David Sink, an educator.

**District 9**

This district includes another portion of New Hanover County. Former Wilmington Mayor Harper Peterson (D) will face a rematch with Michael Lee, the Republican that he narrowly unseated for this Senate seat two years ago. It is expected to be just as close this time.

**District 10**

This district, which includes sections of Duplin, Johnston and Sampson counties, finds GOP incumbent Brent Jackson, a farmer by trade, trying to hold off a challenge from Democrat Vernon Moore, who is retired from the U.S. Air Force.

**District 11**

This district, which covers parts of Johnston and Nash counties, will get a new Senator. Rick Horner will be retiring at the end of this term, and his Republican Party has chosen current Rep. Lisa Stone Barnes to succeed him. However, she faces a formidable challenge from former State Senator Allen Wellons, a Democrat who has been active in North Carolina politics for more than two decades.

**District 12**

Sections of Harnett, Johnston and Lee counties are covered by this district. Republican incumbent Jim Burgin (R), an insurance company president, faces a challenge from John Kirkman, the chairman of the Lee County Democratic Party.

**District 13**

Voters in Columbus and Robeson counties will choose between retaining Republican incumbent Danny Britt, an attorney, and his challenger, Democrat Barbara Yates-Lockamy, an educator.

**District 14**

One of a number of districts encompassing part of Wake County, this should be one of the safest seats in the state. Longtime political heavy hitter Dan Blue, the Senate Minority Leader, is expected to keep this seat safely Blue in more ways than one. But that hasn't prevented Republican Alan David Michael (R) and Libertarian Justin Walczak from challenging him.

**District 15**

Another Wake County district with a Democratic power broker. Democratic Whip Jay Chaudhuri is expected to handle challenges from Republican both Mario Lomuscio and Libertarian Kat McDonald.

**District 16**

Democratic incumbent Wiley Nickel is facing a challenge from Republican Will Marsh in this Wake County district.

**District 17**

This Wake district is currently held by a Democrat, Sam Searcy, but is considered more competitive than some of the others. Searcy is trying to retain his seat against Republican Mark Cavaliero and Libertarian Travis Groo.

**District 18**

This should be a strongly competitive race. Incumbent Republican John Alexander had held the seat in a Wake district that usually leans slightly blue. The GOP is trying to keep the seat with Larry Norman, while Democrat Sarah Crawford is trying to flip it, with Libertarian Jason Loeback as the wild-card.

**District 19**

This district, covering parts of Cumberland County, is another rematch of a 2018 race. Republican Wesley Meredith had served four terms in office before he was narrowly defeated by Democrat Kirk deViere, the owner of a marketing, advertising, and PR agency. DeViere is trying to keep the seat in what is expected to be another close race.

**District 20**

This Durham County district will have a new Senator. Democrat Floyd McKissick resigned, and Natalie Murdock is trying to keep it for her party. Hoping to paint it red against long odds is John Tarantino.

**District 21**

Voters in parts of Cumberland and Hoke counties will have a choice between incumbent Ben Clark (D), who served in the US Air Force and is a professor at North Carolina A&T, or Republican challenger and fellow veteran Sev Palacios, a retired U.S. Marine.

**District 22**

Parts of Durham, Granville and Person counties have a choice between heavily favored incumbent Democrat Mike Woodard and two challengers, Republican Rick Padgett and Libertarian Ray Ubinger.

**District 23**

Incumbent Democrat Valerie Foushee is strongly favored to prevail in this district, which includes left-leaning parts of Chatham and Orange Counties, against challenger Tom Glendinning.

**District 24**

This district covering parts of Alamance and Guilford counties is considered politically moderate and capable of being won by either side. Republican incumbent Rick Gunn is stepping down,

with his compatriot Amy Galey trying to hold the seat against Democrat J.D. Wooten.

**District 25**

This is also a very competitive district, currently held by the GOP in the form of incumbent Tom McInnis. He faces a strong challenge from Helen Probst Mills to keep representing parts of Anson, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties.

**District 26**

This district, including parts of Guilford and Randolph counties, found out back in July that it would have a new senator. Incumbent Jerry Tillman (R) decided to retire, and Randolph County Republican Party chairman Dave Craven, a banker, took his place. Craven will have to defend his seat against Democratic challenger Jane Ledwell Gant.

**District 27**

Considered one of the most centrist districts in the state, this all-Guilford County district sees Democratic incumbent Michael Garrett facing a challenge from Sebastian King, a former formerly a legislative aide in the General Assembly.

**District 28**

In this heavily Democratic-leaning district of Guilford County, incumbent Gladys Robinson is strongly favored to retain her seat against GOP challenger Devin King.

**District 29**

This district, which represents Davidson and Montgomery counties, saw a surprise in the March 3 GOP primary, where challenger Steven Jarvis unseated Republican incumbent Eddie Gallimore. Because this is a strongly right-leaning county, Jarvis is a strong favorite to go on and beat Democratic candidate Duskin Lassiter.

**District 30**

Sections of Caswell, Rockingham, Stokes, and Surry counties, one of the more conservative parts of the state, have one of the Senate's heavy hitters representing them in President Pro Tempore Phil Berger. Berger is unlikely to face much of a challenge from Democrat Wally White.

**District 31**

This district, covering parts of Davie and Forsyth counties, is considered middle-of-the-road politically and can be won by either party. Republican incumbent Joyce Krawiec will try to hold off challenger Terri Elizabeth LeGrand and retain her seat.

**District 32**

This all-Forsyth district is in the hands of Democratic incumbent Paul Lowe, who will try to keep his seat against GOP challenger Ven Challa.

**District 33**

This district, including sections of Rowan and Stanly counties, leans strongly conservative and therefore Republican. Incumbent Carl Ford is expected to beat off a challenge from Democrat

Tarsha Ellis.

**District 34**

Influential Republican Vickie Sawyer is expected to keep her seat against a challenge from Democratic rookie Barry Templeton in this district that includes parts of Iredell and Yadkin counties.

**District 35**

This district is all in right-leaning Union County, with incumbent Republican Todd Johnson favored over Democratic challenger Jose Santiago.

**District 36**

Parts of Cabarrus and Union counties are included in this district, where GOP incumbent Paul Newton faces Democratic challenger Marcus Singleton.

**District 37**

Another key race in the Senate, in a part of Mecklenburg County which generally favors Democrats by a mere two percentage points. Incumbent Democrat Jeff Jackson will take that in a three-way race against Republican Sonja Nichols and Libertarian Jeff Scott.

**District 38**

This all-Mecklenburg district features incumbent Democrat Mujtaba Mohammed and Republican challenger Jack Brosch.

**District 39**

The GOP is on the defensive in this all-Mecklenburg district that will get a new senator. Republican Dan Bishop stepped up to the U.S. House of Representatives, leaving Democrat DeAndrea Salvador (D) and Republican Joshua Niday (R) to fight for this district that is considered just barely blue.

**District 40**

This all-Mecklenburg district is in a part of the county that is deep blue. Incumbent Democrat Joyce Waddell is strongly favored over GOP challenger Bobby Shields.

**District 41**

Another strongly blue district of Mecklenburg County, so much that the Republicans chose not to even run a candidate. However, Democratic incumbent Natasha Marcus is facing a challenge from the right-leaning Constitution Party and candidate Christopher Cole.

**District 42**

Voters in parts of Alexander and Catawba counties will have a new Senator. Republican Andy Wells is vacating the seat, with businessman H. Dean Proctor his prospective successor from the GOP. Political rookie Tina Miles is seeking to turn the district blue.

**District 43**

This all-Gaston County district features GOP incumbent Kathy Harrington facing a challenge from Democrat William Young.

**District 44**

This district, in conservative Cleveland, Gaston and Lincoln counties, appears to be safe for incumbent Republican Ted Alexander against Democratic challenger David Lee Lattimore.

**District 45**

The Democrats have put forward first-time candidate Jeanne Supin in their effort to unseat incumbent Republican Denna Ballard in this district, which features all or part of five different counties—Alleghany, Ashe, Surry, Watauga, and Wilkes.

**District 46**

Sections of Avery, Burke, and Caldwell counties are covered by this district. Republican incumbent Warren Daniel (R), an attorney with a long history of service in the legislature, is being challenged by businessman Edward Phifer III.

**District 47**

This is another district where the GOP is defending the seat with an incumbent. Current Senate Deputy President Pro Tempore Ralph Hise beat off a challenge from Democrat David Wheeler in 2018 and will have to do so again this year to keep his seat. This district covers parts of six different North Carolina counties, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, and Yancey.

**District 48**

Democratic challenger Brian Caskey is looking to move up politically, as he is the current Mayor Pro Tempore of Mills River, a town in a three-country district covering parts of Buncombe, Henderson, and Transylvania counties. But he has an uphill climb to unseat Chuck Edwards, a Republican businessman seeking his third term.

**District 49**

This district is in a left-leaning part of Buncombe County, and will have a new Senator. Incumbent Democrat Terry Van Duyn vacated her seat to seek the nomination for Lt. Governor and came up short. The state Democratic Party tabbed attorney Julie Mayfield to succeed her. Trying to make sure that doesn't happen is retiree Bob Penland.

**District 50**

Seven different counties of western North Carolina (Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, and Swain) are represented at least in part by this district, which will have a new Senator. Republican Kevin Corbin wants to move up from the House, but will have to get past Democratic rookie Victoria Fox to claim the seat.