**HALFWAY TO
NOVEMBER**

The Rhodes Cook Letter

June 2006

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Halfway to November: Some Shades of '94 in Primary Results

Halfway through the primary season not one congressional incumbent has been defeated. It is hardly a sign, one would think, of an angry electorate ready to toss out incumbents by the boat load this fall, particularly those of the president's party.

Yet for all its seeming quietness, the 2006 primary season is shaping up much like that of 1994, which preceded the massive voter revolt that November which turned the Congress from Democratic to Republican.

There were few obvious signs in the congressional primaries a dozen years ago of the carnage that would follow. Two years earlier, the combination of new district lines, the House banking scandal, and the independent presidential candidacy of Ross Perot that loosed many voters from their traditional moorings had produced a turbulent primary season in which a post-World War II record 19 House incumbents had gone down to primary defeat (as well as one senator).

But the 1994 primaries had a "back to normalcy" look to it. Through June that year, only two House incumbents had lost their bids for renomination. And by the time the primary season was over, the number of House casualties had reached only four. In addition, not a single senator had been beaten.

Yet down in the weeds that spring and summer emerged a pattern that proved prescient for the fall – namely, that it was the members of the president's party that were having the most trouble winning renomination. Of the 53 senators and representatives renominated with less than 75% of their party's primary vote in 1994, 36 were Democrats.

A similar trend is developing in this year's primary season. Of the 20 members of Congress held to less than 75% thus far this primary season, 14 are Republicans.

Losing 25% of the vote may seem like a modest loss for an incumbent, and it would be in a general election. But a primary is different. The turnout is much lower than in a general election and it tends to be dominated by those who represent the party's most active and interested members. In an era when both parties are marshalling their base vote, losing even a fraction can spell the difference between victory and defeat in the fall.

In 1994, nearly one out of every four Democratic representatives (eight out of 34) that received less than 75% of their party's primary vote went on to lose their seats in November. It was a group that included both backbenchers and congressional heavyweights. Among the latter were Jack Brooks of Texas, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and Dan Rostenkowski, head of Ways and Means. To boot, House Speaker Thomas Foley, received a warning shot in Washington's primary that September when nearly twice as many votes were cast for the Republican candidates in his district as were cast for Foley on the Democratic side. The speaker, like Brooks and Rostenkowski, was ousted in November.

Shades of '94: Incumbents in President's Party Drawing Most Primary Opposition

Congressional incumbents (senators and representatives) renominated with less than 75% of their party's primary vote

Too Soon to Tell

Yet it is way too soon for Democrats on Capitol Hill to begin contemplating the spoils of victory. Based on a review of primary and special election voting thus far this year, one can produce as compelling a case for a Republican victory this fall as a Democratic one.

A case in point: What is the message from the closely watched California 50th special election June 6?

On one hand, the come-from-behind victory of Republican Brian Bilbray shows that the GOP still knows how to do the fundraising, targeted messaging and get out the vote work needed to win critical elections – something that the Republicans have done effectively throughout the Bush presidency.

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On the surface, there is little drama in the 2006 primary season. But there was little in 1994 either, as only a handful of gubernatorial and congressional incumbents were defeated. But down in the weeds that spring and summer emerged a pattern that proved prescient for the fall – namely, that members of the president's party were having the most trouble winning renomination. A similar trend is developing in this year's primary season. Of the 20 members of Congress who have received less than 75% of their party's primary vote thus far this year, 14 are Republicans. In the entire 1994 primary season, 36 of the 53 sub-75% congressional winners were Democrats. The 1994 totals are based on official results published in America Votes 21 (Congressional Quarterly). The 2006 totals are based on a combination of official and nearly complete but unofficial returns.

	1994		2006 (through June)	
	Total	(Democrats)	Total	(Republicans)
Incumbents Defeated in Primaries:				
Governors	2	(1)	0	-
Senators	0	-	0	-
Representatives	4	(3)	0	-
Incumbents renominated with less than 75% of Primary Vote:				
Governors	9	(5)	5	(3)
Senators	4	(3)	2	(2)
Representatives	49	(33)	18	(12)

Gubernatorial and Congressional Incumbents: Breaking a Sweat in the '06 Primaries

No congressional or gubernatorial incumbent has lost in the first half of the 2006 primary season. But through June, 20 members of Congress - two senators and 18 House members - as well as five governors, had been held to less than 75% of their party's primary vote. To be sure, many were easy winners. Yet for an incumbent to lose 25% or more of their party's primary vote is not a good sign in an age of base voting. The primary vote percentages below are based on nearly complete, but unofficial returns. @ indicates that the incumbent took office after the last election. A pound sign (#) indicates that Tom DeLay resigned his House seat in June.

Gubernatorial and congressional incumbents who have received less than 75% of their party's primary vote:

Governors

Senators

House of Representatives

GOVERNORS

	Terms	'06 Primary %	'04 Pres. Winner in State
Dave Heineman, R-Neb.	@	50.3%	Bush by 33%
Ted Kulongoski, D-Ore.	1	53.6%	Kerry by 4%
Mark Sanford, R-S.C.	1	64.8%	Bush by 17%
Bob Riley, R-Ala.	1	66.6%	Bush by 26%
Rod Blagojevich, D-Ill.	1	70.1%	Kerry by 10%

SENATORS

	Terms	'06 Primary %	'04 Pres. Winner in District
Mike DeWine, R-Ohio	2	71.8%	Bush by 2%
Conrad Burns, R-Mont.	3	72.2%	Bush by 21%

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

	Terms	'06 Primary %	'04 Pres. Winner in District
Jean Schmidt, R-Ohio 2	@	47.8%	Bush by 28%
Bob Filner, D-Calif. 51	7	51.4%	Kerry by 7%
Henry Cuellar, D-Texas 28	1	53.0%	Bush by 6%
Daniel Lipinski, D-Ill. 3	1	54.6%	Kerry by 18%
Chris Cannon, R-Utah 3	5	56.2%	Bush by 57%
Don Sherwood, R-Pa. 10	4	56.5%	Bush by 20%
Ralph Regula, R-Ohio 16	17	58.3%	Bush by 8%
Richard Pombo, R-Calif. 11	7	61.7%	Bush by 9%
Tom DeLay, R-Texas 22#	11	62.0%	Bush by 28%
Jane Harman, D-Calif. 36	6	62.5%	Kerry by 19%
Bennie Thompson, D-Miss. 2	6	64.6%	Kerry by 19%
David Dreier, R-Calif. 26	13	65.0%	Bush by 11%
Lynn Woolsey, D-Calif. 6	7	66.0%	Kerry by 42%
John Doolittle, R-Calif. 4	8	67.0%	Bush by 24%
Bob Ney, R-Ohio 18	6	68.4%	Bush by 14%
Chris Chocola, R-Ind. 2	2	70.1%	Bush by 13%
Mark Souder, R-Ind. 3	6	71.3%	Bush by 37%
Steve Buyer, R-Ind. 4	7	72.9%	Bush by 39%

Source: *The Almanac of American Politics 2006* (National Journal) for congressional terms served as well as the 2004 presidential winners by district and their margin of victory.

(Continued from Page 4)

On the other hand, it was the third straight special congressional election in the past year where the GOP winner failed to reach 52% of the vote in a strongly Republican district, and raises the prospect that a much higher than usual number of marginal and even GOP-leaning districts could be in play this fall.

A second case in point: What is the resonance of the ethics issue, which Democrats once saw as their ace in the hole?

It certainly seems to be of dubious value as a national campaign theme, in part because the Democrats have some tainted members of their own and key White House strategist Karl Rove has avoided prosecution. If there was any doubt that the issue would be tough to sell, it was dispelled in the GOP's special election victory in the San Diego-area district that was formerly held by the recently convicted Republican incumbent, Randy "Duke" Cunningham. There, the case for a tougher immigration policy (championed by Bilbray) trumped "the culture of (congressional) corruption" theme that was propounded by Democrats and their candidate, Francine Busby.

Yet while the ethics issue has yet to claim any casualties, DeLay notwithstanding, or appears to have national resonance as a winning campaign issue for the Democrats, it could be a powerful factor in selected districts and ultimately lead to the defeat of several vulnerable Republicans.

A number of ethically tainted Republicans have already seen a large part of the GOP base in their district look for other alternatives. It is a group of legislators that includes Ney, Pombo, Rep. John

Special House Elections in 2005-06

Those that thought Democrat Francine Busby missed her best chance to win the special election in the California 50th in round one were right. She finished far ahead in the first-round vote April 11 with 44% of the vote, but was short of the majority needed to win the seat outright. In the June 6 runoff, the number of ballots cast for Busby actually declined by nearly 1,000 from April. Meanwhile, Republican Brian Bilbray picked up more than 40,000 votes, consolidating the vote that had been divided among a plethora of Republican candidates in round one. A comparison of the first round and runoff results are presented below. The April vote is official; the June vote is nearly complete but unofficial.

		April 11 Special	June 6 Runoff	Change				
	Brian Bilbray (R)	20,952	64,554	+ 43,602				
	Francine Busby (D)	60,010	59,021	- 989				
	Others	56,241	6,841	- 49,400				
	Total Vote	137,203	130,416	-6,787				
District	Former Member	New Member	Election	Turnout	Dem.	Rep.	Other	'04 Pres. Winner
California 5	Robert Matsui (D)	Doris Matsui (D)	March 8, 2005	82,396	68.2%	-	-	Kerry by 23%
Ohio 2	Rob Portman (R)	Jean Schmidt (R)	Aug. 2, 2005	115,576	48.4%	51.6%	-	Bush by 28%
California 48	Christopher Cox (R)	John Campbell (R)	Dec. 6, 2005	103,948	27.8%	44.4%	27.8%	Bush by 18%
California 50	Randy "Duke" Cunningham (R)	Brian Bilbray (R)	June 6, 2006	130,416	45.3%	49.5%	5.2%	Bush by 11%
Vacancies to be filled:								
New Jersey 13	Robert Menendez (D)	-	Nov. 7, 2006					Kerry by 38%
Texas 22	Tom DeLay (R)	-						Bush by 28%

Source: *The Almanac of American Politics 2006* (National Journal) for the 2004 presidential winners by district and their margins of victory.

Doolittle of California and Sen. Conrad Burns of Montana. All have been tied in some way to convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff. All lost at least 25% of the Republican primary vote in their state or district, with Pombo losing nearly 40% to a pair of opponents led by former Rep. Pete McCloskey, best known for his anti-Vietnam war challenge to President Nixon in the Republican presidential primaries of 1972.

A third case in point: What is happening with the “hot button” issues – such as immigration and the Iraq war?

The Changing Composition of the 109th Congress

The June 6 special election runoff in California's 50th District will probably be the last congressional vacancy to be filled before November. A special election in the New Jersey 13th to fill the seat of Democrat Robert Menendez (who left the House in January when he was appointed to the Senate) will be held in conjunction with the Nov. 7 general election. The winner is expected to be Democrat Albio Sires, former speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly and mayor of West New York, who has no Republican opposition in the election to fill the vacancy for the remaining weeks of the 109th Congress. Meanwhile, President Bush continues to tap the ranks of his former Republican gubernatorial colleagues to fill posts in his administration. Mike Johanns of Nebraska became secretary of agriculture in early 2005, while Dirk Kempthorne of Idaho joined the Cabinet this spring as secretary of interior.

Date and Event	House of Representatives				Senate		
	Reps.	Dems.	Ind.	Vac.	Reps.	Dems.	Ind.
2004 ELECTION	232	202	1		55	44	1
Jan. 1, 2005 - Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif. 5) dies of pneumonia complicated by a rare blood disorder.	232	201	1	1			
March 8, 2005 - Special election in Calif. 5th won by his widow, Doris Matsui (D).	232	202	1				
April 29, 2005 - Rep. Rob Portman (R-Ohio 2) resigns to become U.S. trade representative.	231	202	1	1			
Aug. 2, 2005 - Special election in Ohio 2nd won by Jean Schmidt (R).	232	202	1				
Aug. 2, 2005 - Rep. Christopher Cox (R-Calif. 48) resigns to become chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).	231	202	1	1			
Dec. 1, 2005 - Rep. Randy “Duke” Cunningham (R-Calif. 50) formally resigns after pleading guilty to accepting bribes and tax evasion.	230	202	1	2			
Dec. 6, 2005 - Special election in Calif. 48th won by John Campbell (R).	231	202	1	1			
Jan. 17, 2006 - Sen. Jon Corzine (D-N.J.) resigns to become governor of New Jersey. Rep. Robert Menendez (D-N.J. 13), appointed by Corzine to be his successor, is sworn in as senator on Jan. 18.	231	201	1	2	55	44	1
June 6, 2006 - Special election in Calif. 50th won by Brian Bilbray (R).	232	201	1	1			
June 9, 2006 - Rep. Tom DeLay (R-Texas 22) resigns his seat after indictment last September on money laundering charges.	231	201	1	2			
... AND THE GOVERNORSHIPS							
	Reps.		Dems.				
2004 ELECTION	28		22				
Jan. 20, 2005 - Gov. Mike Johanns (R-Neb.) resigns to become secretary of agriculture. Lt. Gov. Dave Heineman (R) is sworn in Jan. 21 to succeed him.	28				22		
Nov 8, 2005 - U.S. Sen. Jon Corzine (D) elected governor of New Jersey to succeed Acting Gov. Richard Codey (D), who is retiring. Lt. Gov. Tim Kaine (D) elected governor of Virginia to succeed Gov. Mark Warner (D), who could not seek reelection.	28				22		
May 26, 2006 - Gov. Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho) resigns to become secretary of interior. Lt. Gov. Jim Risch (R) is sworn in the same day to succeed him.	28				22		

Voting on both issues has taken place on multiple levels, although immigration is still largely an issue that roils the Republican Party, while the Iraq war bedevils the Democrats. The partisan implication of each issue for the fall is still unclear.

In recent months, there have been a variety of contests from coast to coast that have focused on immigration. In early May, there was a highly publicized vote in Herndon, Va., a suburb of Washington, D.C., that saw the victory of anti-illegal immigration forces on the issue of a town-operated work center for day laborers. The mayor and a pair of council members who had champi-

Connecticut Democratic Convention: Lieberman's Antiwar Challenger Forces August Senate Primary

	Districts where Lieberman won at least 70% of the convention vote
	Districts where Lieberman won 60% - 69% of the convention vote
	Districts where Lieberman won less than 60% of the convention vote

May 19, 2006			
	Delegate Votes	%	Communities Won
Joseph I. Lieberman*	1,004	66.5%	88
Ned Lamont	505	33.5%	62
Note: The vote was tied in 15 communities, and four communities were not represented at the convention.

Incumbent Joseph I. Lieberman won his party's Senate endorsement at the Connecticut Democratic state convention May 19. But his antiwar challenger, Greenwich entrepreneur Ned Lamont, easily surpassed the 15% threshold required to force a primary Aug. 8. The primary will be restricted to registered Democrats. To Lieberman's advantage, the largest number of Democratic voters are found in the two districts where he ran best among convention delegates, the Hartford-based 1st and the New Haven-based 3rd.

District	Delegate Votes	Lieberman	Lamont	'04 Pres. Winner	Registered Democrats
1	359	72%	28%	Kerry by 21%	156,784
2	310	58%	42%	Kerry by 10%	119,995
3	302	81%	19%	Kerry by 14%	145,529
4	279	62%	38%	Kerry by 6%	116,004
5	259	56%	44%	Kerry by 0%	114,743
Total	1,509	67%	33%	Kerry by 10%	653,055

Source: Connecticut Democratic Party for the vote on the party's U.S. Senate endorsement; the office of the Connecticut secretary of state for the number of registered Democrats, based on active voters as of Oct. 25, 2005.

oned the facility were ousted. In early June, Republican Bilbray won the closely watched special election in the California 50th on a “secure the borders” theme. But momentum on the issue may have shifted in late June, when Republican Rep. Chris Cannon of Utah, who was generally supportive of President Bush’s more nuanced immigration policy, beat back a well-funded primary challenger who favored a crackdown on illegal immigration.

As for the Iraq war, there were a series of “bring the troops home” referendums across Wisconsin in early April. Basically, Democratic communities favored the antiwar position; Republican communities did not. Since then, the issue has largely been fought out in the Democratic primaries in ways both direct and subtle. As an example of the latter, the party’s primary voters in the suburban Chicago district being vacated by Republican Henry Hyde nominated an Iraq war veteran to carry the Democratic banner. However, when given the opportunity to do likewise, Democrats in Kentucky’s Louisville-based district did not. Meanwhile, in Southern California, Rep. Jane Harman, the ranking minority member on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, lost nearly 40% of the Democratic primary vote in her district to an antiwar challenger.

The issue is expected to come to a head in Connecticut on August 8, when Democratic primary voters choose between incumbent Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman and wealthy Greenwich businessman Ned Lamont, whose candidacy is built around opposition to Lieberman’s outspoken support of President Bush’s Iraq policy. Lamont won one-third of the votes at the Democratic state convention in May, well above the 15% that he needed to force a primary.

In what may be a demographic preview of the primary, Lieberman won big among delegates from “old line” Democratic cities, such as Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury. Lamont carried affluent suburbs near New York City, such as Darien, Greenwich and New Canaan, as well as Mansfield (Storrs), the home of the University of Connecticut.

Meanwhile, the gay marriage ban continues to draw support from both Republican and Democratic voters wherever it appears on the ballot. In Alabama, 81% of voters approved the ban in June balloting. It won 90% support in historically Republican Winston County, 83% in suburban Shelby County outside Birmingham, 76% in populous Jefferson County (Birmingham) as well as academic-oriented Lee County (the home of Auburn University), and drew 70% support in Macon County (Tuskegee), which in the last census was 85% black, the second-highest share of any county in the country.

Yet thus far, the gay marriage issue has been primarily a manifestation of “red state” politics. Outside the Republican heartland of the South, the Plains states and the Mountain West, only voters in three states – Ohio, Michigan and Oregon – have cast a ballot on the issue.

Political Pragmatism

With the stakes high, the leaders in both parties are actively engaged this year in shaping their midterm tickets. For President Bush, it is nothing new. Throughout his presidency, Bush has not been shy about interjecting the White House into party primaries, something that many presidents in the past were loath to do.

This year, Bush has already taken an active role in bailing out several embattled congressional incumbents, including Pennsylvania’s Don Sherwood, who faced a difficult primary after admit-

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The Gay Marriage Ban Redux: State-by-State Votes, 2004-06

States that backed a gay marriage ban with 70% or more of the vote

States that passed a gay marriage ban with less than 70%

With Alabama's passage of a gay marriage ban June 6, the measure now stands 16-and-0 at the polls. Half of the votes thus far have taken place in Southern states, where support for the measure has been the most overwhelming. All but two states that have voted on the ban were carried by George W. Bush in the 2004 presidential election. Still, while the issue is seen as an arrow in the Republican quiver, the pro-ban position has gained bipartisan support wherever it has been on the ballot. In Alabama, for instance, the gay marriage ban attracted more than a quarter million more votes than the entire number cast in the Republican gubernatorial primary the same day. All results below except for Alabama are based on official returns.

	Region	Election Date	% for Ban	'04 Presidential Winner	Gay Marriage Ban (Actual Vote)		Counties Carried	
					For	Against	For	Against
Pre-November 2004								
Missouri	Midwest	8/3/04	70.6%	Bush (53%)	1,055,771	439,529	115	1
Louisiana	South	9/18/04	77.8%	Bush (57%)	619,908	177,067	64	0
November 2004								
Arkansas	South	11/2/04	75.0%	Bush (54%)	753,770	251,914	75	0
Georgia	South	11/2/04	76.2%	Bush (58%)	2,454,912	768,703	159	0
Kentucky	South	11/2/04	74.6%	Bush (60%)	1,222,125	417,097	120	0
Michigan	Midwest	11/2/04	58.6%	Kerry (51%)	2,681,137	1,892,551	81	2
Mississippi	South	11/2/04	86.0%	Bush (59%)	957,104	155,648	82	0
Montana	West	11/2/04	66.6%	Bush (59%)	295,070	148,263	56	0
North Dakota	Midwest	11/2/04	73.2%	Bush (63%)	223,572	81,716	53	0
Ohio	Midwest	11/2/04	61.7%	Bush (51%)	3,329,335	2,065,462	87	1
Oklahoma	South	11/2/04	75.6%	Bush (66%)	1,075,216	347,303	77	0
Oregon	West	11/2/04	56.6%	Kerry (51%)	1,028,546	787,556	34	2
Utah	West	11/2/04	65.9%	Bush (72%)	593,297	307,488	27	2
Post-November 2004								
Kansas	Midwest	4/5/05	69.9%	Bush (62%)	417,627	179,432	104	1
Texas	South	11/8/05	76.3%	Bush (61%)	1,723,782	536,913	253	1
Alabama	South	6/6/06	81.1%	Bush (62%)	735,057	170,777	67	0
Running Total			68.7%		19,166,229	8,727,419	1,454	10

ting to an extramarital affair, and Utah's Chris Cannon, who looked favorably on the president's immigration policy against a primary challenger who emphasized the need for tighter border security. In both cases, the president recorded phone messages on behalf of the incumbent, and in both cases the incumbent prevailed.

Democratic congressional leaders also have been actively engaged in the nominating process in a bid to field what they believe are the most electable Democrats. In Ohio, they pressured prominent Iraq war veteran Paul Hackett to drop out of the Senate race in favor of Rep. Sherrod Brown. In Pennsylvania, they lined up early behind the pro-life state Treasurer Bob Casey Jr., overriding the objections of anti-abortion activists to his candidacy. And in Virginia, the chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, Charles Schumer, made a primary-eve endorsement of former Reagan Navy secretary, James Webb, over a candidate who had been chairman of the Fairfax County Democratic Party. Webb won the primary narrowly.

Looking for Voters

Ultimately, the 2006 election will be decided by who votes, and thus far the nominating stage of the process has not significantly engaged the voters. Although more ballots were cast in the 2004 presidential election than any other in the nation's history, fewer voters have turned out for the primaries thus far this year than in 1994, when the size of the electorate was smaller.

At least that is the case when one compares the gubernatorial primary turnouts in the nine states that held contested Democratic and Republican primaries in both 1994 and 2006. In six of the states, the number of primary ballots cast this year is down from a dozen years ago, with a particularly severe falloff among the Democrats.

Gauging Voter Interest: Gubernatorial Primary Turnouts Down Thus Far From '94

If there is a "throw the bums out" attitude stirring across the land, it has not been reflected in high voter turnouts in the primaries. In the nine states that have voted thus far in which both parties held contested gubernatorial primaries in 1994 and 2006, six report fewer ballots cast this year than 12 years ago. States where primary turnouts (in actual numbers) have fallen include California, Illinois and Texas. States where turnout has gone up are smaller ones. In the aggregate, the combined Democratic and Republican gubernatorial primary turnout figure in these nine states is down roughly 700,000 votes. Contested primaries are those with at least two candidates on the ballot. States such as Ohio and Pennsylvania are not included in the tally because they did not hold contested Democratic and Republican gubernatorial primaries in both 1994 and 2006.

Gubernatorial voting is tracked because governors' races traditionally attract more voters in midterm election years than other races on the ballot. In this and the chart that follow, the 1994 totals are based on official returns published in *America Votes 21* (Congressional Quarterly). Primary turnouts for 2006 reflect a mix of official and nearly complete but unofficial returns.

State	Combined Dem.-Rep. Primary Turnouts		
	1994	2006	Change, 1994-2006
Alabama	916,038	924,782	+ 8,744
California	4,357,161	4,280,833	- 76,328
Idaho	176,688	167,618	- 9,070
Illinois	1,794,357	1,680,207	- 114,150
Maine	191,632	122,092	- 69,540
Nebraska	297,748	349,238	+ 51,490
Oregon	556,446	619,731	+ 63,285
South Carolina	515,165	385,624	- 129,541
Texas	1,594,284	1,164,521	- 429,763
Total	10,399,519	9,694,646	- 704,873

But at the moment it is less a nationwide problem for the Democrats than one focused in the South, where Republicans continue to consolidate their new-found hegemony. In South Carolina, where the Democratic and Republican gubernatorial primary turnouts were roughly equal in 1994, the GOP turnout was nearly twice as large this year. In Alabama, where the Democratic primary turnout for governor in 1994 was more than three times as large as the Republicans, the two parties were virtually even this year. And in Texas, where the Democrats had almost twice as many primary voters as the Republicans in 1994, the turnout advantage swung to the GOP in 2006.

But while the comparative size of primary turnouts can help shed light on the basic partisan leanings of a state, it is of limited value in predicting the outcome of races in November. And there is probably no more prominent an example of that than the Texas gubernatorial race in 1994, where in spite of the Democrats' large turnout advantage in the primary, it was a Republican, George W. Bush, who won in the fall.

Battle of the Ballots: A Comparison of Democratic and Republican Gubernatorial Primary Turnouts in 1994 and 2006

When compared to 1994, Democratic primary turnout thus far this year is down, while Republican primary turnout is up a bit. At least that is the case when comparing gubernatorial primary turnouts in the nine states that have voted through June in which contested primaries in both parties were held in both 1994 and 2006. What it all means for November, however, is another matter. In 1994, only three of the nine governorships in these states were ultimately won that fall by the party whose primary had the higher number of primary ballots cast in the spring.

State	1994				2006			Change, 1994-2006	
	'94 Primary Turnouts		Party that drew most Primary Ballots	Party that won seat in Nov. '94	'06 Primary Turnouts		Party that drew most Primary Ballots		
	Dems.	Reps.			Dems.	Reps.		Dems.	Reps.
Alabama	703,567	212,471	D	R	465,023	459,759	D	- 238,544	+ 247,288
California	2,295,370	2,061,791	D	R	2,432,375	1,848,458	D	+ 137,005	- 213,333
Idaho	57,797	118,891	R	R	30,443	137,175	R	- 27,354	+ 18,284
Illinois	1,099,025	695,332	D	R	944,397	735,810	D	-154,628	+ 40,478
Maine	101,177	90,455	D	D	52,614	69,478	R	- 48,563	- 20,977
Nebraska	115,115	182,633	R	D	74,263	274,975	R	- 40,852	+ 92,342
Oregon	283,136	273,310	D	D	319,177	300,554	D	+ 36,041	+ 27,244
South Caro- lina	261,446	253,719	D	R	138,343	247,281	R	- 123,103	- 6,438
Texas	1,036,944	557,340	D	R	508,602	655,919	R	- 528,342	+ 98,579
Total	5,953,577	4,445,942	D		4,965,237	4,729,409	D	- 988,340	+ 283,467

APPENDIX:

May-June 2006 Gubernatorial, Senate Primary Results

Following are results from Democratic and Republican primaries held in May and June for governor and U.S. Senate. Results are included for all candidates who received at least 10% of their party's primary vote, and are based on a mix of official and nearly complete but unofficial returns, as of June 23. Incumbents are listed in bold. Percentages do not always add to 100 due to rounding. A pound sign (#) indicates the candidates that qualified for the Democratic Senate runoff in Mississippi. An asterisk (*) indicates that the gubernatorial primary winner in New Mexico has withdrawn from the race and been replaced on the fall ballot.

May 2nd Primaries

INDIANA (Primary - May 2)

Richard Lugar has a free ride to a sixth term in the Senate. He drew no opposition in the Republican primary and no Democratic challenger in the general election. As usual, though, Indiana will have a large complement of competitive House races in November. Three Republican incumbents have already received warning shots, as each lost more than 25% of their party's primary vote.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
No candidate				RICHARD LUGAR	INCUMBENT	393,960	100%

NORTH CAROLINA (Primary - May 2)

There is neither a gubernatorial or Senate race in the Tarheel State this year. The state's most closely watched House race is expected to be in the mountainous western district (the 11th) pitting veteran GOP Rep. Charles Taylor against Democrat Heath Shuler, a former college football star. Each won solid primary victories.

OHIO (Primary - May 2)

Hotly contested races for governor and Senate are expected this fall, but only the Republican race for governor produced a close primary vote. There, the state's socially conservative secretary of state, Kenneth Blackwell, defeated state Attorney General Jim Petro by a margin of a dozen percentage points. Petro won Ohio's two most populous counties, Cuyahoga (Cleveland) and Franklin (Columbus). But Blackwell's strength in the smaller cities and rural Ohio carried him to a comfortable victory. No congressional incumbents suffered primary losses. But the taint of Republican ethics lapses, both in Washington and Columbus, tended to pose primary problems for a slew of GOP incumbents. Sen. Mike DeWine lost nearly 30% of the primary vote to a pair of political unknowns. At the House level, Bob Ney, linked to Jack Abramoff, lost more than 30% of the Republican primary vote cast in his district. Octogenarian Ralph Regula lost more than 40%. And controversial newcomer Jean Schmidt lost more than 50% (but still won her multi-candidate primary race).

GOVERNOR

OPEN SEAT ... Incumbent: Bob Taft (R)

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Ted Strickland	U.S. Representative	619,760	79%	Kenneth Blackwell	OH Secretary of State	452,961	56%
Bryan Flannery	Ex-State Representative	<u>163,284</u>	21%	Jim Petro	OH Attorney General	<u>359,427</u>	44%
Total Vote		783,044		Total Vote		812,388	

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Sherrod Brown	U.S. Representative	572,319	78%	MIKE DeWINE	INCUMBENT	555,962	72%
Merrill Keiser	Truck driver	<u>160,940</u>	22%	David Smith	Financial analyst	112,427	15%
				William Pierce	Engineer	<u>105,734</u>	14%
Total Vote		733,259		Total Vote		774,123

May 9th Primaries

- States with gubernatorial and Senate races
- States with Senate race

NEBRASKA (Primary - May 9)

While the focus of attention this fall will be on the Senate race featuring Democratic incumbent Ben Nelson, the spotlight this spring was on the Republican primary for governor. It pitted incumbent Dave Heineman, who assumed the governorship in early 2005 when Mike Johanns became secretary of agriculture, against legendary former University of Nebraska football coach (and U.S. representative) Tom Osborne. It was considered Osborne's race to lose, and he did. Heineman positioned himself to the right of Osborne on social issues ranging from abortion to illegal immigration, and picked up endorsements from the National Rifle Association, Nebraska Right to Life and the Nebraska Farm Bureau, as well as Nebraska's senior senator, Chuck Hagel. Osborne carried the state's two most populous counties, Douglas (Omaha) and Lancaster (Lincoln), the latter the site of the University of Nebraska. But Heineman dominated in Nebraska's vast rural sector, even carrying a majority of the counties in Osborne's western Nebraska congressional district (the 3rd).

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
David Hahn	Lawyer	68,004	92%	DAVE HEINEMAN	INCUMBENT	138,216	50%
Other	-	<u>6,259</u>	8%	Tom Osborne	U.S. Representative	121,973	44%
				Other	-	<u>14,786</u>	5%
Total Vote		74,263		Total Vote		274,975	

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
BEN NELSON	INCUMBENT	92,501	100%	Pete Ricketts	Businessman	129,643	48%
				Don Stenberg	Ex-NE Attorney General	96,496	36%
				David Kramer	Ex-NE GOP Chairman	<u>43,815</u>	16%
				Total Vote		269,954	

WEST VIRGINIA (Primary - May 9)

Sen. Robert Byrd is approaching age 90, but he has yet to wear out his welcome with West Virginia voters. Byrd's winning percentage nearly matched his age in the Democratic Senate primary. But he will have a much tougher race this fall against wealthy businessman John Raese, a decisive winner in the Republican primary. In his last race in 1988, Raese lost the GOP gubernatorial primary to incumbent Arch Moore by barely 5 percentage points. Although he is under an ethics cloud, Democratic Rep. Alan Mollohan did not have a primary challenge this year.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
ROBERT BYRD	INCUMBENT	159,154	86%	John Raese	Businessman	47,408	58%
Billy Lee Hendricks	Musician	<u>26,609</u>	14%	Hiram Lewis	Lawyer	18,496	23%
				Others	-	<u>15,421</u>	19%
Total Vote		185,763		Total Vote		81,325	

May 16th Primaries

- States with gubernatorial and Senate races
- States with gubernatorial race
- * States with House races only

KENTUCKY (Primary - May 16)

The strategy of national Democrats to field Iraq war veterans this year as congressional candidates met resistance in Kentucky, where voters in the Louisville-based 3rd District chose John Yarmuth, a political commentator and founder of a weekly newspaper, over Andrew Horne, a lawyer and Iraq war vet. Meanwhile, two former Democratic House members are mounting comeback bids. In the 4th District, Ken Lucas was without primary opposition in his bid to oust freshman Republican Rep. Geoff Davis. In the 1st District, Tom Barlow easily won a three-way primary for the right to challenge GOP Rep. Ed Whitfield.

OREGON (Primary - May 16)

Gubernatorial primaries in both parties involved candidates that opposed each other in 2002. As was the case four years earlier, Ted Kulongoski (now the incumbent) defeated Jim Hill (the African-American former state treasurer) in the Democratic primary. But the outcome of the Republican primary was the opposite of 2002, with Portland lawyer and former school board chair Ron Saxton defeating Kevin Mannix, a favorite of the state's right-to-life movement. Neither Saxton or Kulongoski, however, showed overwhelming vote-getting appeal in their primaries. With Oregon weathering an economic downturn and the public employees union lined up in opposition, Kulongoski won a bare majority of the Democratic primary vote. He received less than a majority in several major counties, including Lane (Eugene) and Marion (Salem).

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC

Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
TED KULONGOSKI	INCUMBENT	170,944	54%
Jim Hill	Ex-OR State Treasurer	92,439	29%
Pete Sorenson	Lane County Commissioner	51,346	16%
Write-ins	-	<u>4,448</u>	1%
Total Vote		319,177	

REPUBLICAN

Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Ron Saxton	Ex-Portland school board chairman	125,286	42%
Kevin Mannix	Ex-State Senator, OR GOP chairman	89,553	30%
Jason Atkinson	State Senator	67,057	22%
Others	-	<u>18,658</u>	6%
Total Vote		300,554	

PENNSYLVANIA (Primary - May 16)

As in neighboring Ohio, Pennsylvania is expected to have hotly contested gubernatorial and Senate contests this fall, as well as a slew of competitive congressional races. But the lead story from the primary was the defeat of 17 state legislative incumbents, most of them Republicans, including the president and majority leader of the state Senate. The voter revolt was spawned by lingering anger over the legislature's clandestine passage of a pay raise in 2005. Although the legislative pay raise was subsequently rolled back, it did not mute a sizable voter insurgency directed at Pennsylvania's political establishment. Meanwhile, ethics problems of a different nature are bedeviling Republican Rep. Don Sherwood, who after admitting to an extramarital affair, was held to 56% of the Republican primary vote in his northeast Pennsylvania congressional district (the 10th) by a political unknown who spent virtually nothing. In the Democratic Senate primary, state Treasurer Bob Casey Jr. drew 84% of the vote. Opposed to Casey's anti-abortion views, the National Organization for Women (NOW) endorsed one of Casey's opponents, lawyer Alan Sandals, who finished with 7%. The opposition to Casey, as it was, proved greatest in more socially liberal areas, such as the Philadelphia suburbs and Centre County (home of Penn State University).

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC

Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
ED RENDELL	INCUMBENT	644,444	100%

REPUBLICAN

Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Lynn Swann	Ex-sportscaster, pro football player	572,375	100%

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC

Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Bob Casey Jr.	PA State Treasurer	618,928	84%
Others	-	<u>113,689</u>	16%
Total Vote		732,617	

REPUBLICAN

Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
RICK SANTORUM	INCUMBENT	550,595	100%

May 23th Primaries

States with gubernatorial race

ARKANSAS (Primary - May 23)

There should be a spirited governor's race this fall between former Republican Rep. Asa Hutchinson and Democratic state Attorney General Mike Beebe. Neither candidate had primary opposition, although Beebe escaped an intra-party challenge when former Clinton administration official Bill Halter aborted a gubernatorial race to make a run for lieutenant governor.

GOVERNOR

OPEN SEAT ... Incumbent: Mike Huckabee (R)

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Mike Beebe	AR Attorney General	Unopposed	-	Asa Hutchinson	Ex-U.S. Representative, DEA director	Unopposed	-

IDAHO (Primary - May 23)

GOP Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's move to Washington this spring to become secretary of interior in the Bush administration has set off an unusual round of musical chairs back in his home state. Kempthorne was succeeded by his lieutenant governor, Jim Risch, who will be running this fall for his old job against former Democratic Rep. Larry LaRocco, rather than his new job as Idaho's chief executive. Meanwhile, Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter has the inside track for the governorship, having won the Republican primary handily.

GOVERNOR

OPEN SEAT ... Incumbent: Dirk Kempthorne (R)

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Jerry Brady	Newspaper publisher	25,261	83%	C.L. "Butch" Otter	U.S. Representative	96,045	70%
Lee Chaney	Welder	<u>5,182</u>	17%	Dan Adamson	Lawyer, businessman	29,093	21%
				Others	-	<u>12,037</u>	9%
Total Vote		30,443		Total Vote		137,175	

June 6th Primaries

	States with gubernatorial and Senate races
	States with gubernatorial race
	States with Senate race

ALABAMA (Primary - June 6)

Social conservatives had mixed success in the June 6 primary. A gay marriage ban passed with 81% of the vote, a percentage topped only by Mississippi among the 16 states that have approved the measure at the ballot box. But by a margin of 2-to-1, Republican primary voters favored Gov. Bob Riley over ex-state Supreme Court chief justice, Roy Moore, who had drawn national attention by placing a monument of the Ten Commandments in his court building. Moore carried 14 (of Alabama's 67) counties, but none of the more populous ones. Riley will face Lt. Gov. Lucy Baxley in the fall. She easily blunted the comeback bid of former Gov. Don Siegelman, who was under indictment on racketeering and conspiracy charges as he campaigned for his old post.

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Lucy Baxley	Lt. Governor	278,417	60%	BOB RILEY	INCUMBENT	306,383	67%
Don Siegelman	Ex-Governor	169,253	36%	Ray Moore	Ex-AL Supreme Court chief justice	<u>153,376</u>	33%
Others	-	<u>17,353</u>	4%				
Total Vote		465,023		Total Vote		459,759	

CALIFORNIA (Primary - June 6)

Primary voters in the nation's most populous state gave mixed signals about what they think of their incumbents. Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein easily dispatched nominal opposition. But six House members – three Democrats and three Republicans – were renominated with less than 75% of their party's primary vote. The "troubled six" were scattered across the state, from Democrat Bob Filner, who represents a Hispanic-majority district along the Mexican border, to Republican John Doolittle – a major beneficiary of Jack Abramoff contributions – whose constituency is a geographically expansive district in California's northeast corner. The closely contested Democratic gubernatorial primary featured a party insider in state Treasurer Phil Angelides (who once served as Democratic state chairman) against a successful entrepreneur in state Controller Steve Westly (who made a fortune as a founder of eBay). Westly won the heart of the Silicon Valley and much of California's interior. But Angelides won the state's major Democratic building blocks, Los Angeles County and the bulk of the San Francisco Bay area, to score a 5 percentage point victory statewide.

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Phil Angelides	CA State Treasurer	1,169,990	48%	ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER	INCUMBENT	1,663,520	90%
Steve Westly	CA State Controller	1,048,068	43%	Others	-	<u>184,938</u>	10%
Others	-	<u>214,317</u>	9%				
Total Vote		2,432,375		Total Vote		1,848,458	

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
DIANNE FEINSTEIN	INCUMBENT	2,111,557	87%	Dick Mountjoy	Ex-State Senator	1,506,662	100%
Others	-	<u>316,441</u>	13%				
Total Vote		2,427,998					

IOWA (Primary - June 6)

An open gubernatorial chair and an open House seat headline the political docket in Iowa this year. For the governorship, Democratic primary voters nominated Secretary of State Chet Culver, son of former Sen. John Culver. Republicans ratified the selection of Jim Nussle, the House Budget Committee chairman, who ran unopposed in the GOP primary. Nussle's run for the governorship has produced an open seat in his northeast Iowa district (the 1st). Both the Democrats and Republicans nominated political newcomers in a district that the Democrats carried in the 2004 presidential voting.

GOVERNOR

OPEN SEAT ... Incumbent: Tom Vilsack (D)

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Chet Culver	IA Secretary of State	57,274	39%	Jim Nussle	U.S. Representative	Unopposed	
Mike Blouin	Ex-IA economic development director	50,058	34%				
Ed Fallon	State Representative	38,012	26%				
Other	-	<u>1,484</u>	1%				
Total Vote		146,828					

MISSISSIPPI (Primary - June 6; Runoff - June 27)

The spotlight in the primary was on the Democratic contest in the state's lone majority-black district (the 2nd) between two of the Delta's more prominent politicians, Rep. Bennie Thompson and state Rep. Chuck Espy. The latter was a nephew of Mike Espy, the Delta congressman before Thompson who left Capitol Hill to become secretary of agriculture in the Clinton administration. Thompson won the June 6 primary handily, although the younger Espy took more than one-third of the vote and carried five counties, including the one that contains the city of Vicksburg. Meanwhile, an African-American state representative, Erik Fleming, won the Democratic Senate nomination in a late June runoff that drew only 25,000 voters, hardly a rousing start for his uphill challenge to veteran Republican Sen. Trent Lott.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Erik Fleming #	State Representative	44,275	44%	TRENT LOTT	INCUMBENT	Unopposed	
Bill Bowlin #	Business consultant	22,586	22%				
James O'Keefe	Businessman	19,900	20%				
Catherine Starr	Retiree	<u>14,041</u>	14%				
Total Vote		100,802					
RUNOFF							
Erik Fleming	State Representative	15,300	63%				
Bill Bowlin	Business consultant	<u>8,843</u>	37%				
Total Vote		24,143					

MONTANA (Primary - June 6)

The primaries for U.S. Senate featured a surprise on the Democratic side and a cakewalk on the Republican side, where incumbent Conrad Burns rolled over his nearest challenger by a margin of more than 3-to-1. Burns is seen as vulnerable this fall, having received tens of thousands of dollars from Jack Abramoff and his associates (much of which was subsequently returned) as well as posting a modest 51% reelection victory in 2000. But Burns did not take his primary lightly and spent heavily to overwhelm his opponent, the state Senate minority leader. In the Democratic primary, state Senate President Jon Tester scored an unexpectedly one-sided victory over state Auditor John Morrison, who had admitted to having an extramarital affair.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Jon Tester	State Senate President	64,464	61%	CONRAD BURNS	INCUMBENT	68,511	72%
John Morrison	MT State Auditor	37,516	35%	Bob Keenan	State Senate Minority Leader	20,970	22%
Others	-	<u>3,972</u>	4%	Others	-	<u>5,130</u>	5%
Total Vote		105,952		Total Vote		94,611	

NEW JERSEY (Primary - June 6)

Both Democratic Sen. Robert Menendez and Republican state Sen. Tom Kean Jr. decisively defeated little-known primary opposition en route to their fall face-off. Kean, a son of the popular former governor and 9/11 Commission chairman, took three-fourths of the Republican primary vote against a conservative challenger who had ties to the state's pro-life movement. Menendez, who was recently appointed to his Senate seat by Democratic Gov. Jon Corzine, won an even larger percentage of the Democratic primary vote against a perennial candidate who was the functional equivalent of a "none of the above" line.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
ROBERT MENENDEZ	INCUMBENT	154,839	84%	Thomas Kean Jr.	State Senator	127,691	75%
James Kelly	-	<u>29,315</u>	16%	John Ginty	Financial data analyst	<u>42,411</u>	25%
Total Vote		184,154		Total Vote		170,102	

NEW MEXICO (Primary - June 6)

In the primary, Republicans picked their Senate nominee, Allen McCulloch, a urologist and political newcomer. Several days later, state GOP leaders selected former Republican state chairman John Dendahl as their gubernatorial candidate to replace the under-funded J.R. Damron, who withdrew from the race after running unopposed in the primary. The switch is noted by an asterisk (*) in the chart below. Damron had no opposition on the primary ballot, nor had the two Democratic incumbents, Gov. Bill Richardson and Sen. Jeff Bingaman.

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
BILL RICHARDSON	INCUMBENT	106,776	99%	J.R. Damron*	Physician	53,594	99%
Write-ins	-	<u>744</u>	1%	Write-ins	-	<u>380</u>	1%
Total Vote		107,520		Total Vote		53,974	

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
JEFF BINGAMAN	INCUMBENT	113,848	100%	Allen McCulloch	Urologist	29,436	51%
				Joseph Carraro	State Senator	18,229	32%
				David Pfeffer	Ex-Santa Fe city councilor	<u>9,953</u>	17%
				Total Vote		57,618	

SOUTH DAKOTA (Primary - June 6)

Nowhere should the debate on abortion be hotter this year than in South Dakota, with the first repercussions already felt in the state's primary. After Republican Gov. Mike Rounds signed legislation earlier this year banning all abortions except for when the mother's life is endangered, four GOP state senators who opposed the measure were primary casualties. Opponents of the anti-abortion law, though, have gathered enough signatures to force a voter referendum on it in November. Meanwhile, Democrats nominated retired surgeon and former state legislator Jack Billion to take on Rounds, who ran unopposed in the Republican primary.

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Jack Billion	Es-State Representative	22,527	62%	MICHAEL ROUNDS	INCUMBENT	Unopposed	
Dennis Wiese	Ex-SD Farmers Union leader	<u>13,862</u>	38%				
Total Vote		36,389					

June 13th Primaries

States with gubernatorial and Senate races
States with gubernatorial race
States with Senate race

MAINE (Primary - June 13)

Democrat Jean Hay Bright narrowly defeated a fellow anti-Iraq war Democrat in the party's Senate primary, winning the right to take on incumbent Olympia Snowe, who was unopposed in the Republican primary. Bright had the endorsement of former Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich, who finished a strong third in the Maine caucuses two years ago with 16% of the vote. State Sen. Chandler Woodcock, a social conservative, emerged a narrow winner in the Republican gubernatorial primary, a contest in which the top two finishers ran campaigns that were publicly financed. They each received \$200,000 from the state after showing their ability to raise private funds. This fall, Woodcock will face Gov. John Baldacci, who lost nearly 25% of the Democratic primary vote to a political unknown who he outraised by a margin of more than 100-to-1, according to pre-primary spending reports.

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
JOHN BALDACCI	INCUMBENT	39,835	76%	Chandler Woodcock	State Senator	26,813	39%
Christopher Miller	Web site developer	<u>12,779</u>	24%	Peter Mills	State Senator	24,488	35%
				David Emery	Ex-U.S. Representative	<u>18,177</u>	26%
Total Vote		52,614		Total Vote		69,478	

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Jean Hay Bright	Writer and organic farmer	22,360	51%	OLYMPIA SNOWE	INCUMBENT	Unopposed	
Eric Mehnert	Civil rights lawyer	<u>21,760</u>	49%				
Total Vote		44,120					

NORTH DAKOTA (Primary - June 13)

North Dakota is the only state in 'Red America' with wall-to-wall Democratic representation in Congress. It is a situation that at least Democratic voters seem to be happy. Neither Sen. Kent Conrad nor Rep. Earl Pomeroy (the state's at-large member) drew primary opposition, nor for that matter did their Republican opponents.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
KENT CONRAD	INCUMBENT	58,231	100%	Dwight Grotberg	Farmer	40,645	100%

SOUTH CAROLINA (Primary - June 13)

The Democratic and Republican primary winners for governor each won nearly two-thirds of their party's primary vote. But state Sen. Tommy Moore's victory in the three-way Democratic contest was arguably more impressive than incumbent's Mark Sanford's vote in the two-way Republican contest. South Carolina Republicans are experiencing the infighting that comes with majority status, as the GOP now controls most of the state constitutional offices as well as both houses of the state legislature. Critics faulted Sanford for failing to get along with the Republican legislature. And in the primary, he lost Lexington County, a Republican stronghold outside the state capital of Columbia, to his challenger, Oscar Lovelace. The governor also nearly lost Richland County, which includes Columbia. In the Republican contest for lieutenant governor, the incumbent, Andre Bauer, was defeated in a runoff by Mike Campbell, the son of the late GOP governor.

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Tommy Moore	State Senator	88,092	64%	MARK SANFORD	INCUMBENT	160,238	65%
Frank Willis	Florence mayor	42,317	31%	Oscar Lovelace	Physician	<u>87,043</u>	35%
Other	-	<u>7,934</u>	6%				
Total Vote		138,343		Total Vote		247,281	

VIRGINIA (Primary - June 13)

The Democratic Senate primary was billed as a test of Harris Miller's party loyalty versus James Webb's greater electability (or at least perceived electability) against Republican incumbent George Allen. Miller was a former Fairfax County Democratic chairman with ties to former Democratic Gov. Mark Warner. Webb, a former Marine and secretary of the navy in the Reagan administration, drew considerable support from national Democratic leaders, including a primary-eve endorsement from the head of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, Sen. Charles Schumer of New York. In the end, Webb secured his narrow victory in the populous suburbs of Northern Virginia, with an 8,000-vote advantage in Fairfax County alone. Statewide turnout, however, was down more than 100,000 from the Virginia Democrats' last Senate primary in 1994.

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
James Webb	Ex-Navy secretary (Reagan)	83,298	53%	GEORGE ALLEN	INCUMBENT	Unopposed	
Harris Miller	Information technology lobbyist	<u>72,486</u>	47%				
Total Vote		155,784					

Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch probably cleared his biggest hurdle to reelection at the Utah GOP state convention in May, where he won 78% of the delegate vote. That was enough to avoid a primary and send him directly to the general election, where he is a prohibitive favorite. But Republican Rep. Chris Cannon was not so fortunate. He lost, 52%-to-48%, at the state convention to wealthy real estate developer John Jacob, and was forced into a primary in the strongly Republican, Provo-based 3rd District for the second straight election. In 2004, Cannon drew 58% of the vote against a primary challenger who accused the incumbent of being soft on immigration. This time, he won 56% against an opponent who pounded the same theme. Cannon was helped at the end by an endorsement from President Bush and some controversial statements from Jacob, who among other things, claimed that some recent financial reverses that he had suffered were the work of Satan.

June 27th Primaries

States with Senate race

UTAH (Primary - June 27)

SENATE

DEMOCRATIC				REPUBLICAN			
Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%	Candidates	Occupation	Votes	%
Pete Ashdown	Computer specialist	Unopposed		ORRIN HATCH	INCUMBENT	Unopposed	

FOR THE RECORD:

2006 Gubernatorial Primaries: A Recap through June

Of the 36 governorships up this year, major party nominations had been determined by the end of June in 15 of the states involved. The results in this chart and the one that follows for Senate races are based on a mix of official and nearly complete but unofficial primary returns. A dash (-) indicates that no vote was recorded or is readily available. Incumbents are indicated in **bold** and with an asterisk (*).

	DEMOCRATS			REPUBLICANS			'04 Pres. Winner
	Turnout	Winner	% of Primary Vote	Turnout	Winner	% of Primary Vote	
Alabama	465,023	Lucy Baxley	60%	459,759	Bob Riley*	67%	Bush by 26%
Arkansas (Open)	-	Mike Beebe	Unopposed	-	Asa Hutchinson	Unopposed	Bush by 10%
California	2,432,375	Phil Angelides	48%	1,848,458	Arnold Schwarzenegger*	90%	Kerry by 10%
Idaho (Open)	30,443	Jerry Brady	83%	137,175	C.L. "Butch" Otter	70%	Bush by 38%
Illinois	944,397	Rod Blagojevich*	71%	735,810	Judy Baar Topinka	38%	Kerry by 10%
Iowa (Open)	146,828	Chet Culver	39%	-	Jim Nussle	Unopposed	Bush by 0.7%
Maine	52,614	John Baldacci*	76%	69,478	Chandler Woodcock	39%	Kerry by 9%
Nebraska	74,263	David Hahn	92%	274,975	Dave Heineman*	50%	Bush by 33%
New Mexico	107,520	Bill Richardson*	99%	53,974	John Dendahl#	-	Bush by 0.8%
Ohio (Open)	783,044	Ted Strickland	79%	812,388	Ken Blackwell	56%	Bush by 2%
Oregon	319,177	Ted Kulongoski*	54%	300,554	Ron Saxton	42%	Kerry by 4%
Pennsylvania	644,444	Ed Rendell*	100%	572,375	Lynn Swann	100%	Kerry by 3%
South Carolina	138,343	Tommy Moore	64%	247,281	Mark Sanford*	65%	Bush by 17%
South Dakota	36,389	Jack Billion	62%	-	Michael Rounds*	Unopposed	Bush by 21%
Texas	508,602	Chris Bell	64%	655,919	Rick Perry*	84%	Bush by 23%

Note: The pound sign (#) indicates that J.R. Damron won the New Mexico Republican gubernatorial primary with 99% of the vote. He withdrew from the race after the primary and was replaced by John Dendahl.

2006 Senate Primaries: A Recap through June

Of the 33 Senate seats up in 2006, major party nominations had been decided by the end of June in 15 of the states involved.

	DEMOCRATS			REPUBLICANS			'04 Pres. Winner
	Turnout	Winner	% of Vote	Turnout	Winner	% of Vote	
California	2,427,998	Dianne Feinstein*	87%	1,506,662	Dick Mountjoy	100%	Kerry by 10%
Indiana	-	(No candidate)	-	393,960	Richard Lugar*	100%	Bush by 21%
Maine	44,120	Jean Hay Bright	51%	-	Olympia Snowe*	Unopposed	Kerry by 9%
Mississippi	100,802	Erik Fleming	44%/63%#	-	Trent Lott*	Unopposed	Bush by 20%
Montana	105,952	Jon Tester	61%	94,611	Conrad Burns*	72%	Bush by 21%
Nebraska	92,501	Ben Nelson*	100%	269,954	Pete Ricketts	48%	Bush by 33%
New Jersey	184,154	Robert Menendez*	84%	170,102	Thomas Kean Jr.	75%	Kerry by 7%
New Mexico	113,848	Jeff Bingaman*	100%	57,618	Allen McCulloch	51%	Bush by 0.8%
North Dakota	58,231	Kent Conrad*	100%	40,645	Dwight Grotberg	100%	Bush by 27%
Ohio	733,259	Sherrod Brown	78%	774,123	Mike DeWine*	72%	Bush by 2%
Pennsylvania	732,617	Bob Casey Jr.	84%	550,595	Rick Santorum*	100%	Kerry by 3%
Texas	500,785	Barbara Radnofsky	44% / 63%#	627,163	Kay Bailey Hutchison*	100%	Bush by 23%
Utah	-	Pete Ashdown	Unopposed	-	Orrin Hatch*	-	Bush by 46%
Virginia	155,784	James Webb	53%	-	George Allen*	Unopposed	Bush by 8%
West Virginia	185,763	Robert Byrd*	86%	81,325	John Raese	58%	Bush by 13%

Note: The pound sign (#) indicates that runoffs were required in Mississippi and Texas to decide the Democratic Senate nominations. In Texas, Democrat Barbara Radnofsky was forced into an April 11 runoff, which she won with 60% of the 207,450 ballots cast. In Mississippi, Democrat Erik Fleming was forced into a June 27 runoff, which he won with 63% of the 24,143 ballots cast (based on nearly complete but unofficial returns). In each state, the Democratic turnout reflects the number of votes cast in the primary.

Governorships Up

2006 Primary Calendar: Heading Towards September Climax

The second half of the 2006 primary season begins slowly. Two states vote in late July, followed by nine more in August. A flurry of primaries concludes the nominating season in September, with nine states voting on Sept. 12 alone. The following chart lists this year's dates for primaries and runoff elections, the latter required in several Southern states when the leading primary finisher does not win a certain percentage of the vote (usually 50%). An asterisk (*) notes the unique situation in Louisiana, where there is no primary per se. Candidates from all parties run together on the Nov. 7 ballot with a runoff Dec. 9 if necessary. A pound sign (#) indicates incumbents who assumed their office since the last election. Republicans are indicated in **BOLD**. Incumbents not seeking reelection are indicated in *italics*.

Senate Seats Up

	'06 Primary Date	House Seats			Seats Up		Sub-55% House Winners in Nov. '04
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Governors	Senators	
Texas	March 7/April 11 (Runoff)	21	11		Rick Perry (R)	Kay Bailey Hutchison (R)	TX 17 - Edwards (D) 51%; TX 32 - Sessions (R) 54%
Illinois	March 21	9	10		Rod Blagojevich (D)		IL 8 - Bean (D) 52%
Indiana	May 2	7	2			Richard Lugar (R)	IN 2 - Chocoma (R) 54%; IN 7 - Carson (D) 54%; IN 8 - Hostettler (R) 53%; IN 9 - Sodrel (R) 49%
North Carolina	May 2/May 30 (Runoff)	7	6				NC 11 - Taylor (R) 55%
Ohio	May 2	12	6		Bob Taft (R)	Mike DeWine (R)	OH 2 - Schmidt (R) 52%#
Nebraska	May 9	3			Dave Heineman (R)#	Ben Nelson (D)	NE 1 - Fortenberry (R) 54%
West Virginia	May 9	1	2			Robert Byrd (D)	
Kentucky	May 16	5	1				KY 4 - G. Davis (R) 54%
Oregon	May 16	1	4		Ted Kulongoski (D)		OR 5 - Hooley (D) 53%
Pennsylvania	May 16	12	7		Ed Rendell (D)	Rick Santorum (R)	PA 6 - Gerlach (R) 51%
Arkansas	May 23/June 13 (Runoff)	1	3		Mike Huckabee (R)		
Idaho	May 23	2			Dirk Kempthorne (R)		
Alabama	June 6/June 27 (Runoff)	5	2		Bob Riley (R)		
California	June 6	20	33		Arnold Schwarzenegger (R)	Dianne Feinstein (D)	CA 20 - Costa (D) 53%; CA 26 - Dreier (R) 54%
Iowa	June 6	4	1		<i>Tom Vilsack (D)</i>		
Mississippi	June 6/June 27 (Runoff)	2	2			Trent Lott (R)	
Montana	June 6	1				Conrad Burns (R)	
New Jersey	June 6	6	7			Robert Menendez (D)#	
New Mexico	June 6	2	1		Bill Richardson (D)	Jeff Bingaman (D)	NM 1 - Wilson (R) 54%
South Dakota	June 6/June 20 (Runoff)		1		Mike Rounds (R)		SD AL - Herseth (D) 53%

	'06 Primary Date	House Seats			Seats Up		Sub-55% House Winners in Nov. '04
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Governors	Senators	
Maine	June 13		2		John Baldacci (D)	Olympia Snowe (R)	
North Dakota	June 13		1			Kent Conrad (D)	
South Carolina	June 13/June 27 (Runoff)	4	2		Mark Sanford (R)		
Virginia	June 13	8	3			George Allen (R)	
Utah	June 27	2	1			Orrin Hatch (R)	UT 2 - Matheson (D) 55%
Georgia	July 18/Aug. 8 (Runoff)	7	6		Sonny Perdue (R)		GA 12 - Barrow (D) 52%
Oklahoma	July 25/Aug. 22 (Runoff)	4	1		Brad Henry (D)		
Kansas	Aug. 1	3	1		Kathleen Sebelius (D)		KS 3 - Moore (D) 55%
Tennessee	Aug. 3	4	5		Phil Bredesen (D)	Bill Frist (R)	TN 4 - L. Davis (D) 55%
Colorado	Aug. 8	4	3		Bill Owens (R)		CO 3 - Salazar (D) 51%; CO 4 - Musgrave (R) 51%; CO 7 - Beauprez (R) 55%
Connecticut	Aug. 8	3	2		M. Jodi Rell (R)#	Joe Lieberman (D)	CT 2 - Simmons (R) 54%; CT 4 - Shays (R) 52%
Michigan	Aug. 8	9	6		Jennifer Granholm (D)	Debbie Stabenow (D)	
Missouri	Aug. 8	5	4			Jim Talent (R)	MO 3 - Carnahan (D) 53%
Nevada	Aug. 15	2	1		Kenny Guinn (R)	John Ensign (R)	NV 3 - Porter (R) 54%
Alaska	Aug. 22	1			Frank Murkowski (R)		
Wyoming	Aug. 22	1			Dave Freudenthal (D)	Craig Thomas (R)	
Florida	Sept. 5	18	7		Jeb Bush (R)	Bill Nelson (D)	
Arizona	Sept. 12	6	2		Jane Napolitano (D)	Jon Kyl (R)	
Delaware	Sept. 12	1				Thomas Carper (D)	
Maryland	Sept. 12	2	6		Robert Ehrlich (R)	<i>Paul Sarbanes (D)</i>	
Minnesota	Sept. 12	4	4		Tim Pawlenty (R)	<i>Mark Dayton (D)</i>	MN 6 - Kennedy (R) 54%
New Hampshire	Sept. 12	2			John Lynch (D)		
New York	Sept. 12	9	20		George Pataki (R)	Hillary Rodham Clinton (D)	NY 27 - Higgins (D) 51%; NY 29 - Kuhl (R) 51%
Rhode Island	Sept. 12		2		Donald Carcieri (R)	Lincoln Chafee (R)	
Vermont	Sept. 12			1	Jim Douglas (R)	<i>James Jeffords (Ind.)</i>	
Wisconsin	Sept. 12	4	4		James Doyle (D)	Herb Kohl (D)	
Massachusetts	Sept. 19		10		Mitt Romney (R)	Edward Kennedy (D)	
Washington	Sept. 19	3	6			Maria Cantwell (D)	WA 8 - Reichert (R) 52%
Hawaii	Sept. 23		2		Linda Lingle (R)	Daniel Akaka (D)	
Louisiana*	Nov. 7/Dec. 9 (Runoff)	5	2				LA 3 - Melancon (D) 50%
At Stake in 2006		232	202	1	36 Up (22 R, 14 D)	33 Up (15 R, 17 D, 1 Ind.)	

Source: Federal Election Commission (for the calendar); *America Votes 26* (for the breakdown of House seats and the results of 2004 House races); The Cook Political Report (for retiring governors and members of Congress).

Note: The partisan House totals include a Republican vacancy in Texas and a Democratic vacancy in New Jersey that are attributed to the party that held the seat at the beginning of the 109th Congress.