



Expanding the Playing Field:
Competition Rises for State Legislative Seats in 2006

A Report from the Thomas Jefferson Program in Public Policy
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The growing interest in American politics and the possibility of a surge in Democratic support may be felt at another level of election on November 7, affecting the balance of power in state politics in dramatic ways. We have collected data demonstrating that competition for seats in the nation's state legislatures has increased this year over what should have been the high level of inter-party contests in 2002.

Gathering data on elections for the more than 6,000 state legislative seats up for election this year, our report shows that overall competition has increased, but that the increase is due to additional Democratic candidacies. The changes are not large, but they are consistent with other data in the 2006 election and they provide some clues about what to expect in state politics and policy in the coming years. State legislative elections will be held in all but four states this year, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey and Virginia. All of these states elect their legislators in odd-numbered years. Nebraska will hold legislative elections on November 7, but the elections are officially non-partisan.

Using information compiled from official state candidate rosters and news media reports, we find that two-party competition exists in just over 63 percent of state legislative contests, up from 61 percent in 2002, or more than 100 additional two-party contests. What makes this result surprising is that generally the first election cycle following reapportionment generates higher levels of competition, as incumbents find themselves in new areas where they may be unfamiliar to voters, and challengers feel that they have a better chance of winning in a reconfigured

district.

One theory to explain the rise in contested districts may be the implementation of “term limits” on state legislators in a number of states, since races involving no incumbent generally attract more competition and term limits increase the number of such districts.

However, in 2006 the increased competition has a decidedly partisan tint to it, as the growth in competition is being fueled by a surge in Democratic candidacies. Fewer districts this year have only one major party candidate seeking election, but the number of Democrats running unopposed for state legislative seats has actually increased. Fewer than 15 percent of legislative seats have only a Republican candidate in a race for the state legislature, while more than 20 percent of legislative districts feature Democrats uncontested by Republicans. The resulting Democratic advantage represents a widening of the narrow recruitment gap between the parties in 2002.

Among the trends seen are:

State differences

The highest level of competition can be found in states along the northern tier of the United States and states with a tradition of participatory democracy. The states which have 80 percent or more of their seats contested include Michigan (96.6%), Maine (95.7), Minnesota (95.5%), Ohio (92.2%), California (88.0%), Montana (84%) and Oregon (84%), North Dakota (83.3%), Hawaii (82.81%), South Dakota (81.90) and Colorado (80.7%). New Hampshire, with an enormous 424 seats up for election, falls just below the line, with 79.7% contested.

The lowest levels of competition can be found in Southern and one-party states such as South Carolina (25.0%), Massachusetts (27%), Arkansas (27.3%), Georgia (28%), Wyoming (34.7%), New Mexico (40.0%), Kentucky (43.7%), Texas (46.4%), Tennessee (46.5%), Rhode Island (48.7%) and North Carolina (48.8%). These states all had two major party nominees in fewer than half of all seats.

Biggest Changes from 2002

All but one state saw a change in competitiveness between 2002 and 2006, with North Carolina having the same number of contests in both years. But the national increase occurred while 23 states showed more two party contests and 21 states showed fewer. Generally, the

states with less competition in 2002 declined more this year, but the pattern was not consistent. The states with the sharpest drops were Georgia (down 32% from 2002), Nevada (off 28%) and Wyoming (21%). Florida (up 61%), Kansas (40%) and Indiana (37%) led the states with increased party competitiveness.

Redistricting in Georgia, which tended to strengthen Republican incumbents and even caused a flurry of party-switching among legislators probably accounts for decreased competition there. Florida has become a symbol of party parity since the 2000 Presidential election, and may simply be finding reflection of its partisan division in more effective candidate recruitment. In Kansas, a popular Democratic Governor and factional divisions within the GOP have fostered party conversions which have expanded the Democratic base and made them more competitive. Indiana's Republican Governor has been losing popularity this year, giving Democrats a better shot at success in what has recently been a closely divided state legislature.

Partisan Patterns

The relatively small increase in competition also contains more significant indications of state legislative elections following the same trend of more Democratic activism in a year where the electoral environment seems to be a drag on Republican prospects. That drag appears to have been evident to strategic candidates for state legislative seats. In contests for the U.S. House of Representatives, Democrats comprise about 80 percent of unopposed candidates this year, as 40 members of the current minority party will gain election next week without an opponent. Only 10 GOP candidates can depend on election due to lack of opposition.

For the state legislatures, the numbers are not nearly so lopsided, but Democrats do enjoy a healthy advantage over the GOP in uncontested races. That same advantage applied in 2002, as 1,088 Republicans and 1205 Democrats had free passes to their legislative offices. This year, only 920 Republicans avoided Democratic opponents, while 1255 Democrats have no major party challengers. The Democratic 335 seat advantage translates into seven seats per legislature, almost 5 seats more per state than their modest advantage in 2002.

Implications of Increased Competitiveness

The increased competition by Democrats for state legislative seats does not guarantee that the party will build on its narrow advantage in state legislative membership. Voters will decide

next week whether to add to the slim majority Democrats currently enjoy. However, candidate recruitment certainly is an essential precursor to party gains, since you can't win seats you don't contest. Current national and state polling suggest that 2006 will produce significant gains for Democrats running for Congress and the nation's governorships, and it is reasonable to expect that Democratic success may carry down the ballot to legislative seats. Past elections demonstrate just such a tendency. A report by the National Conference of State Legislatures recently pointed out that the GOP won 500 additional seats in the 1994 election.

NCSL's Tim Storey notes that 13 legislative chambers with elections this November are currently controlled by fewer than 5 votes each, suggesting the possibility of significant party change. Even states unlikely to see changes in party control may experience major shifts in the party balance of the legislature. The changing balance will produce the likelihood of new policy initiatives or attempts to revisit old ones. But one thing is clear: competition has rebounded in state legislative elections in 2006.

2006 Information

# of Senate Seats	# of House Seats	Total Seats	# of 2 Party Races-Senate	# of 2 Party Races-House	# of Unopposed Republicans-Senate	# of Unopposed Democrats-Senate	# of Unopposed Republicans-House	# of Unopposed Democrats-House	Check Total	
Total	1,256	4,881	6,137	822	3,047	151	205	769	1,050	6,044

2002 Information

Totals	1,358	4,877	6,235	823	3,003	206	225	882	980	6,119
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State Election Party Competition Summary Information

	2006	2002	% Change
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Total Seats Up For Election	6,137	6,235	
% of Seats Contested by 2 Parties	63.04%	61.36%	2.74%
% of Seats Contested by Republicans Only	14.99%	17.45%	-14.09%
% of Seats Contested by Democrats Only	20.45%	19.33%	5.81%
Senate Seats Only	1,256	1,358	
% of Seats Contested by 2 Parties	65.45%	60.60%	7.99%
% of Seats Contested by Republicans Only	12.02%	15.17%	-20.75%
% of Seats Contested by Democrats Only	16.32%	16.57%	-1.49%
House Seats Only	4,881	4,877	
% of Seats Contested by 2 Parties	62.43%	61.57%	1.38%
% of Seats Contested by Republicans Only	15.75%	18.08%	-12.88%
% of Seats Contested by Democrats Only	21.51%	20.09%	7.06%

State Election Party Competition By State

	% of Seats Contested By Both Parties			% of Seats Contested By Republicans Only			% of Seats Contested By Democrats Only		
	2006	2002	% Change	2006	2002	% Change	2006	2002	% Change
Michigan	96.62%	99.32%	-2.72%	0.00%	0.68%	-100.00%	3.38%	0.00%	100.00%
Maine	95.70%	83.33%	14.84%	1.08%	6.45%	-83.33%	3.23%	10.22%	-68.42%
Minnesota	95.52%	94.03%	1.59%	2.49%	1.99%	25.00%	1.99%	3.98%	-50.00%
Ohio	92.24%	84.48%	9.18%	5.17%	11.21%	-53.85%	2.59%	4.31%	-40.00%
California	88.00%	86.00%	2.33%	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%	10.00%	12.00%	-16.67%
Montana	84.00%	72.80%	15.38%	3.20%	8.00%	-60.00%	12.80%	3.20%	300.00%
Oregon	84.00%	77.33%	8.62%	5.33%	5.33%	0.00%	10.67%	17.33%	-38.46%
North Dakota	83.33%	88.00%	-5.30%	12.50%	6.67%	87.50%	4.17%	5.33%	-21.88%
Hawaii	82.81%	98.33%	-15.78%	3.13%	0.00%	N/A	14.06%	1.67%	743.75%
South Dakota	81.90%	61.90%	32.31%	14.29%	35.24%	-59.46%	3.81%	2.86%	33.33%
Colorado	80.72%	69.51%	16.13%	2.41%	19.51%	-87.65%	16.87%	10.98%	53.68%
New Hampshire	79.72%	77.59%	2.74%	4.48%	6.60%	-32.14%	6.84%	1.65%	314.29%
Utah	74.73%	61.54%	21.43%	21.98%	35.16%	-37.50%	3.30%	3.30%	0.00%
West Virginia	74.36%	66.67%	11.54%	6.84%	5.13%	33.33%	18.80%	28.21%	-33.33%
Washington	72.13%	64.75%	11.39%	12.30%	18.85%	-34.78%	15.57%	16.39%	-5.00%
New York	70.28%	71.23%	-1.32%	6.60%	13.88%	-51.72%	23.11%	15.09%	53.13%
Alaska	68.00%	54.55%	24.67%	18.00%	36.36%	-50.50%	14.00%	9.09%	54.00%
Pennsylvania	67.98%	60.53%	12.32%	11.40%	14.91%	-23.53%	17.98%	19.74%	-8.89%
Indiana	67.20%	48.80%	37.70%	17.60%	33.60%	-47.62%	15.20%	17.60%	-13.64%
Maryland	66.49%	69.15%	-3.85%	5.32%	3.72%	42.86%	28.19%	27.13%	3.92%
Wisconsin	66.38%	50.86%	30.51%	12.07%	25.86%	-53.33%	21.55%	23.28%	-7.41%
Connecticut	65.78%	68.98%	-4.65%	16.04%	15.51%	3.45%	18.18%	15.51%	17.24%
Missouri	64.44%	72.22%	-10.77%	11.67%	9.44%	23.53%	23.89%	18.33%	30.30%
Arizona	62.22%	50.00%	24.44%	22.22%	24.44%	-9.09%	15.56%	25.56%	-39.13%
Iowa	61.60%	65.19%	-5.50%	16.00%	17.78%	-10.00%	22.40%	17.04%	31.48%
Kansas	61.60%	44.00%	40.00%	20.00%	35.20%	-43.18%	18.40%	20.80%	-11.54%
Florida	56.43%	35.00%	61.22%	28.57%	42.50%	-32.77%	15.00%	22.50%	-33.33%
Idaho	56.19%	70.48%	-20.27%	33.33%	25.71%	29.63%	10.48%	3.81%	175.00%
Delaware	55.77%	53.23%	4.78%	17.31%	24.19%	-28.46%	26.92%	22.58%	19.23%
Vermont	55.00%	60.00%	-8.33%	10.00%	21.67%	-53.85%	22.78%	17.78%	28.13%
Oklahoma	54.40%	52.00%	4.62%	23.20%	22.40%	3.57%	22.40%	25.60%	-12.50%
Nevada	52.83%	73.58%	-28.21%	13.21%	13.21%	0.00%	33.96%	13.21%	157.14%
Illinois	52.23%	57.63%	-9.37%	22.29%	17.51%	27.29%	25.48%	24.86%	2.49%
Alabama	50.71%	50.71%	0.00%	20.00%	21.43%	-6.67%	27.86%	27.86%	0.00%
North Carolina	48.82%	60.00%	-18.63%	24.71%	21.18%	16.67%	26.47%	18.82%	40.63%
Rhode Island	48.67%	50.44%	-3.51%	5.31%	7.08%	-25.00%	46.02%	42.48%	8.33%
Tennessee	46.55%	55.17%	-15.63%	25.86%	25.00%	3.45%	27.59%	19.83%	39.13%
Texas	46.39%	43.09%	7.64%	26.51%	32.04%	-17.28%	27.11%	24.86%	9.04%
Kentucky	43.70%	37.82%	15.56%	25.21%	21.85%	15.38%	31.09%	40.34%	-22.92%
New Mexico	40.00%	42.86%	-6.67%	17.14%	14.29%	20.00%	41.43%	42.86%	-3.33%
Wyoming	34.67%	44.00%	-21.21%	49.33%	46.67%	5.71%	16.00%	9.33%	71.43%
Georgia	27.97%	41.53%	-32.65%	41.53%	26.69%	55.56%	30.51%	31.78%	-4.00%
Arkansas	27.35%	32.59%	-16.08%	18.80%	14.81%	26.92%	53.85%	52.59%	2.38%
Massachusetts	27.00%	31.50%	-14.29%	8.50%	7.50%	13.33%	64.50%	61.00%	5.74%
South Carolina	25.00%	26.61%	-6.06%	45.97%	41.94%	9.62%	29.03%	31.45%	-7.69%
Nebraska	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	N/A
Louisiana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mississippi	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	N/A	100.00%	N/A	N/A	0.00%	N/A	N/A	0.00%	N/A

NOTE: Table is sorted by greatest level of party competition in 2006 election

State Election Party Competition By State: Senate Only

	% of Senate Seats Contested By Both			% of Senate Seats Contested By Republicans Only			% of Senate Seats Contested By Democrats Only		
	2006	2002	% Change	2006	2002	% Change	2006	2002	% Change
Michigan	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	N/A
Ohio	100.00%	88.24%	13.33%	0.00%	5.88%	-100.00%	0.00%	5.88%	-100.00%
Maine	97.14%	88.57%	9.68%	2.86%	8.57%	-66.67%	0.00%	2.86%	-100.00%
Minnesota	94.03%	94.03%	0.00%	4.48%	1.49%	200.00%	1.49%	4.48%	-66.67%
Utah	93.75%	62.50%	50.00%	0.00%	31.25%	-100.00%	6.25%	6.25%	0.00%
Oregon	93.33%	93.33%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	6.67%	6.67%	0.00%
New Hampshire	91.67%	95.83%	-4.35%	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	N/A
Colorado	88.89%	70.59%	25.93%	0.00%	17.65%	-100.00%	11.11%	11.76%	-5.56%
Montana	88.00%	72.00%	22.22%	0.00%	20.00%	-100.00%	12.00%	8.00%	50.00%
North Dakota	87.50%	88.46%	-1.09%	8.33%	3.85%	116.67%	4.17%	7.69%	-45.83%
Connecticut	83.33%	77.78%	7.14%	8.33%	11.11%	-25.00%	8.33%	11.11%	-25.00%
Alaska	80.00%	80.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	-50.00%	10.00%	0.00%	100.00%
South Dakota	80.00%	51.43%	55.56%	17.14%	42.86%	-60.00%	2.86%	5.71%	-50.00%
Washington	79.17%	45.83%	72.73%	4.17%	25.00%	-83.33%	16.67%	29.17%	-42.86%
Vermont	76.67%	83.33%	-8.00%	0.00%	13.33%	-100.00%	6.67%	3.33%	100.00%
Missouri	76.47%	70.59%	8.33%	11.76%	11.76%	0.00%	11.76%	17.65%	-33.33%
Wisconsin	76.47%	70.59%	8.33%	11.76%	11.76%	0.00%	11.76%	17.65%	-33.33%
California	75.00%	70.00%	7.14%	5.00%	10.00%	-50.00%	20.00%	20.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	75.00%	54.17%	38.45%	16.67%	12.50%	33.36%	8.37%	33.33%	-74.89%
Arizona	73.33%	40.00%	83.33%	10.00%	23.33%	-57.14%	16.67%	36.67%	-54.55%
Indiana	72.00%	44.00%	63.64%	20.00%	40.00%	-50.00%	8.00%	16.00%	-50.00%
Pennsylvania	72.00%	76.00%	-5.26%	4.00%	8.00%	-50.00%	24.00%	8.00%	200.00%
West Virginia	70.59%	70.59%	0.00%	5.88%	0.00%	100.00%	23.53%	29.41%	-20.00%
New York	69.35%	69.35%	0.00%	11.29%	25.81%	-56.25%	19.35%	4.84%	300.00%
Maryland	65.96%	65.96%	0.00%	8.51%	6.38%	33.33%	25.53%	27.66%	-7.69%
Alabama	65.71%	57.14%	15.00%	17.14%	20.00%	-14.29%	17.14%	22.86%	-25.00%
Illinois	64.10%	49.15%	30.42%	20.51%	16.95%	21.03%	15.38%	33.90%	-54.62%
Idaho	62.86%	77.14%	-18.52%	28.57%	22.86%	25.00%	8.57%	0.00%	100.00%
Florida	60.00%	35.00%	71.43%	30.00%	42.50%	-29.41%	10.00%	22.50%	-55.56%
Tennessee	58.82%	64.71%	-9.09%	23.53%	17.65%	33.33%	17.65%	17.65%	0.00%
North Carolina	56.00%	78.00%	-28.21%	20.00%	10.00%	100.00%	24.00%	12.00%	100.00%
Hawaii	53.85%	100.00%	-46.15%	7.69%	0.00%	100.00%	38.46%	0.00%	100.00%
Rhode Island	52.63%	60.53%	-13.04%	0.00%	5.26%	-100.00%	47.37%	34.21%	38.46%
Iowa	52.00%	74.29%	-30.00%	20.00%	11.43%	75.00%	28.00%	14.29%	96.00%
Wyoming	46.67%	26.67%	75.00%	26.67%	60.00%	-55.56%	26.67%	13.33%	100.00%
Delaware	45.45%	57.14%	-20.45%	9.09%	14.29%	-36.36%	45.45%	28.57%	59.09%
Texas	43.75%	35.48%	23.30%	43.75%	35.48%	23.30%	12.50%	29.03%	-56.94%
Kentucky	42.11%	63.16%	-33.33%	36.84%	31.58%	16.67%	21.05%	5.26%	300.00%
Georgia	41.07%	48.21%	-14.81%	33.93%	25.00%	35.71%	25.00%	26.79%	-6.67%
Nevada	36.36%	63.64%	-42.86%	36.36%	18.18%	100.00%	27.27%	18.18%	50.00%
Massachusetts	32.50%	32.50%	0.00%	10.00%	7.50%	33.33%	57.50%	60.00%	-4.17%
Arkansas	17.65%	34.29%	-48.53%	5.88%	11.43%	-48.53%	76.47%	54.29%	40.87%
Nebraska	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Kansas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Louisiana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mississippi	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Mexico	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Carolina	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	N/A	100.00%	-100.00%	N/A	0.00%	N/A	N/A	0.00%	N/A

NOTE: Table is sorted by greatest level of party competition in 2006 election

State Election Party Competition By State: House Only

	% of House Seats Contested By Both			% of House Seats Contested By Republicans Only			% of House Seats Contested By Democrats Only		
	2006	2002	% Change	2006	2002	% Change	2006	2002	% Change
Minnesota	96.27%	62.69%	53.57%	1.49%	2.24%	-33.33%	2.24%	3.73%	-40.00%
Michigan	95.45%	73.65%	29.61%	0.00%	0.91%	-100.00%	4.55%	0.00%	100.00%
Maine	95.36%	66.67%	43.05%	0.66%	5.96%	-88.89%	3.97%	11.92%	-66.67%
California	91.25%	72.00%	26.74%	1.25%	0.00%	100.00%	7.50%	10.00%	-25.00%
Ohio	90.91%	71.55%	27.05%	6.06%	12.12%	-50.00%	3.03%	4.04%	-25.00%
Hawaii	90.20%	73.33%	22.99%	1.96%	0.00%	100.00%	7.84%	2.22%	252.94%
Montana	83.00%	58.40%	42.12%	4.00%	5.00%	-20.00%	13.00%	2.00%	550.00%
South Dakota	82.86%	44.76%	85.11%	12.86%	31.43%	-59.09%	4.29%	1.43%	200.00%
Oregon	81.67%	58.67%	39.20%	6.67%	6.67%	0.00%	11.67%	20.00%	-41.67%
North Dakota	81.25%	57.33%	41.72%	14.58%	8.16%	78.65%	4.17%	4.08%	2.08%
New Hampshire	79.00%	72.17%	9.46%	4.75%	7.00%	-32.14%	7.25%	1.75%	314.29%
Colorado	78.46%	54.88%	42.97%	3.08%	20.00%	-84.62%	18.46%	10.77%	71.43%
West Virginia	75.00%	56.41%	32.95%	7.00%	6.00%	16.67%	18.00%	28.00%	-35.71%
New York	70.67%	50.94%	38.72%	4.67%	8.67%	-46.15%	24.67%	19.33%	27.59%
Utah	70.67%	50.55%	39.80%	26.67%	36.00%	-25.93%	2.67%	2.67%	0.00%
Washington	70.41%	55.74%	26.32%	14.29%	17.35%	-17.65%	15.31%	13.27%	15.38%
Pennsylvania	67.49%	52.19%	29.30%	12.32%	15.76%	-21.88%	17.24%	21.18%	-18.60%
Maryland	66.67%	52.66%	26.60%	4.26%	50.00%	-29.08%	29.08%	26.95%	7.89%
Indiana	66.00%	40.00%	65.00%	17.00%	32.00%	-46.88%	17.00%	18.00%	-5.56%
Alaska	65.00%	32.73%	98.61%	20.00%	42.50%	-52.94%	15.00%	12.50%	20.00%
Wisconsin	64.65%	40.52%	59.55%	12.12%	28.28%	-57.14%	23.23%	24.24%	-4.17%
Iowa	64.00%	45.93%	39.35%	15.00%	20.00%	-25.00%	21.00%	18.00%	16.67%
Missouri	63.19%	65.56%	-3.61%	11.66%	9.20%	26.67%	25.15%	18.40%	36.67%
Kansas	61.60%	44.00%	40.00%	20.00%	35.20%	-43.18%	18.40%	20.80%	-11.54%
Connecticut	61.59%	54.01%	14.03%	17.88%	16.56%	8.00%	20.53%	16.56%	24.00%
Delaware	58.54%	33.87%	72.82%	19.51%	29.27%	-33.33%	21.95%	19.51%	12.50%
Nevada	57.14%	60.38%	-5.36%	7.14%	11.90%	-40.00%	35.71%	11.90%	200.00%
Arizona	56.67%	36.67%	54.55%	28.33%	25.00%	13.33%	15.00%	20.00%	-25.00%
Florida	55.83%	26.25%	112.70%	28.33%	42.50%	-33.33%	15.83%	22.50%	-29.63%
Idaho	52.86%	44.76%	18.09%	35.71%	27.14%	31.58%	11.43%	5.71%	100.00%
Vermont	50.67%	46.11%	9.88%	12.00%	23.33%	-48.57%	26.00%	20.67%	25.81%
Oklahoma	49.50%	41.60%	18.99%	24.75%	24.75%	0.00%	25.74%	23.76%	8.33%
Illinois	48.31%	41.24%	17.12%	22.88%	17.80%	28.57%	28.81%	20.34%	41.67%
Rhode Island	46.67%	30.09%	55.10%	8.00%	8.00%	0.00%	45.33%	46.67%	-2.86%
Texas	46.67%	37.02%	26.07%	24.67%	31.33%	-21.28%	28.67%	24.00%	19.44%
North Carolina	45.83%	37.06%	23.68%	26.67%	25.83%	3.23%	27.50%	21.67%	26.92%
Alabama	45.71%	36.43%	25.49%	20.95%	21.90%	-4.35%	31.43%	29.52%	6.45%
Tennessee	44.44%	45.69%	-2.73%	26.26%	26.26%	0.00%	29.29%	20.20%	45.00%
Kentucky	44.00%	27.73%	58.67%	23.00%	20.00%	15.00%	33.00%	47.00%	-29.79%
New Mexico	40.00%	42.86%	-6.67%	17.14%	14.29%	20.00%	41.43%	42.86%	-3.33%
Wyoming	31.67%	38.67%	-18.10%	55.00%	43.33%	26.92%	13.33%	8.33%	60.00%
Arkansas	29.00%	23.70%	22.34%	21.00%	16.00%	31.25%	50.00%	52.00%	-3.85%
Massachusetts	25.63%	25.00%	2.50%	8.13%	7.50%	8.33%	66.25%	61.25%	8.16%
South Carolina	25.00%	26.61%	-6.06%	45.97%	41.94%	9.62%	29.03%	31.45%	-7.69%
Georgia	23.89%	30.08%	-20.59%	43.89%	27.22%	61.22%	32.22%	33.33%	-3.33%
Louisiana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mississippi	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nebraska	N/A	0.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	N/A	50.00%	-100.00%	N/A	0.00%	N/A	N/A	0.00%	N/A

NOTE: Table is sorted by greatest level of party competition in 2006 election