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THE ISSUE · MIDTERMS 2026 · 5–6 NOV

THE 2026 MIDTERMS, IN DATA

Democrats won the House vote by 12 to 14 points, the widest midterm margin since 1974. Five stories on who moved it, why, where it won seats, and who filled the hall.

OPEN DATA PDF Markdown JSON

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AI-generated image (Google Gemini) for illustration. Not a photograph of a real event or of any real person.

HOUSE POPULAR VOTE

D+12–14

Widest midterm margin since 1974. Final polls said about D+9.

HOUSE SEATS

256–60

43 seats flipped to D, 2 to R (CBS, 5 Nov). 218 for a majority.

SENATE

54–56

7 R seats flipped (IA, KS, ME, NC, OH, SC, TX). AK and MS still counting.

TURNOUT

48.8%

122.7m ballots. Second-highest midterm turnout in a century.

TRUMP APPROVAL

37%

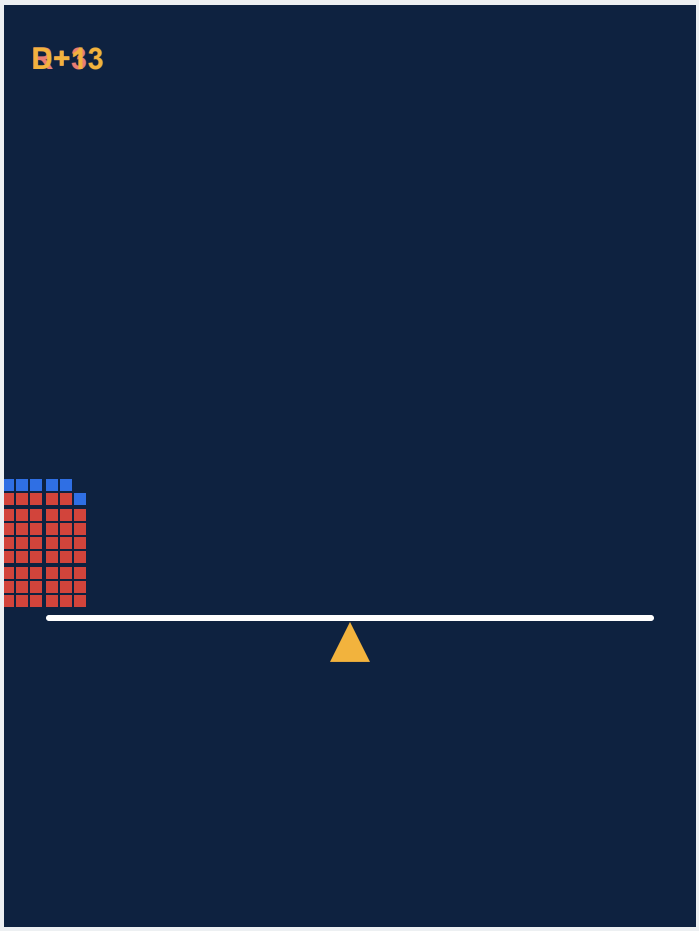
Lowest midterm approval for a president since at least 2006.

AD SPENDING

$11.2bn

A record. Republicans outspent Democrats, $5.18bn to $4.77bn.

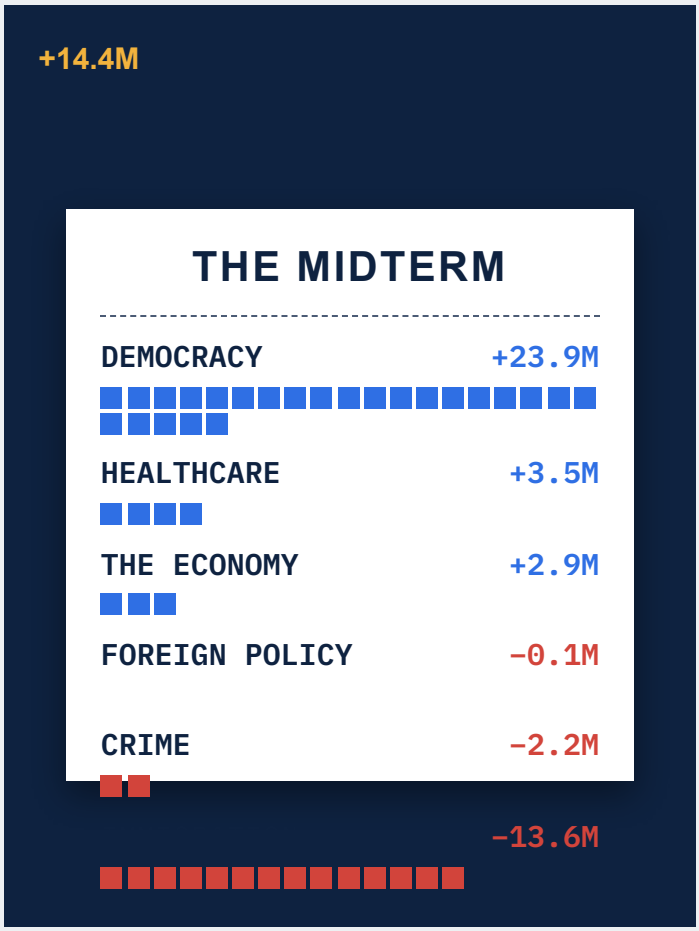
IN THIS ISSUE



STORY 1 · GROUPS · 2.5D

WEIGHT TRANSFER

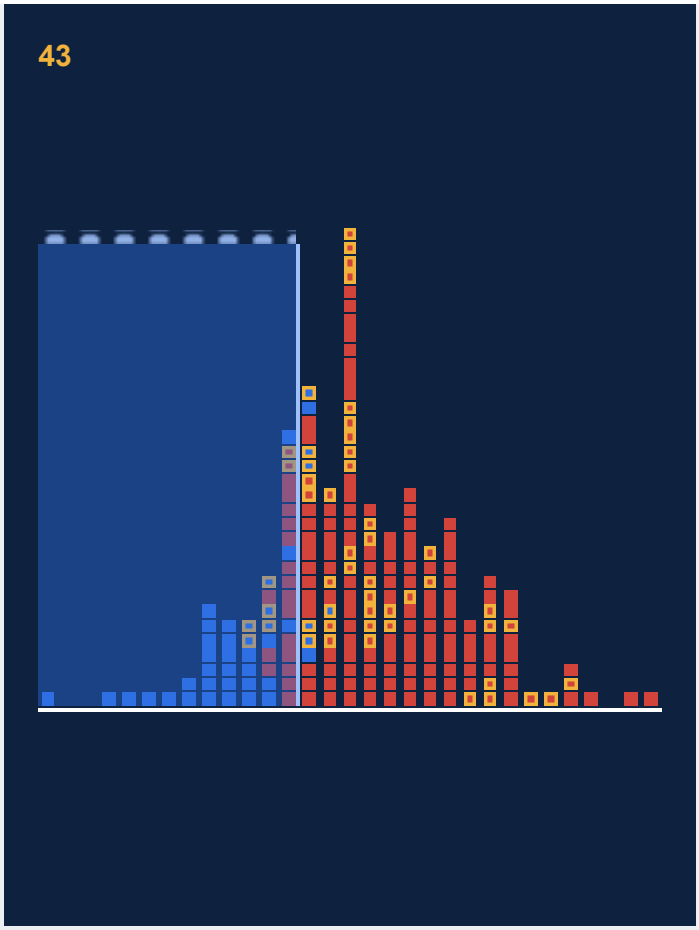
Young and Hispanic voters moved furthest. The national balance moved mostly because white voters, men and people in their 30s and 40s moved, because there are more of them.



STORY 2 · MOTIVE · 2D

THE RECEIPT

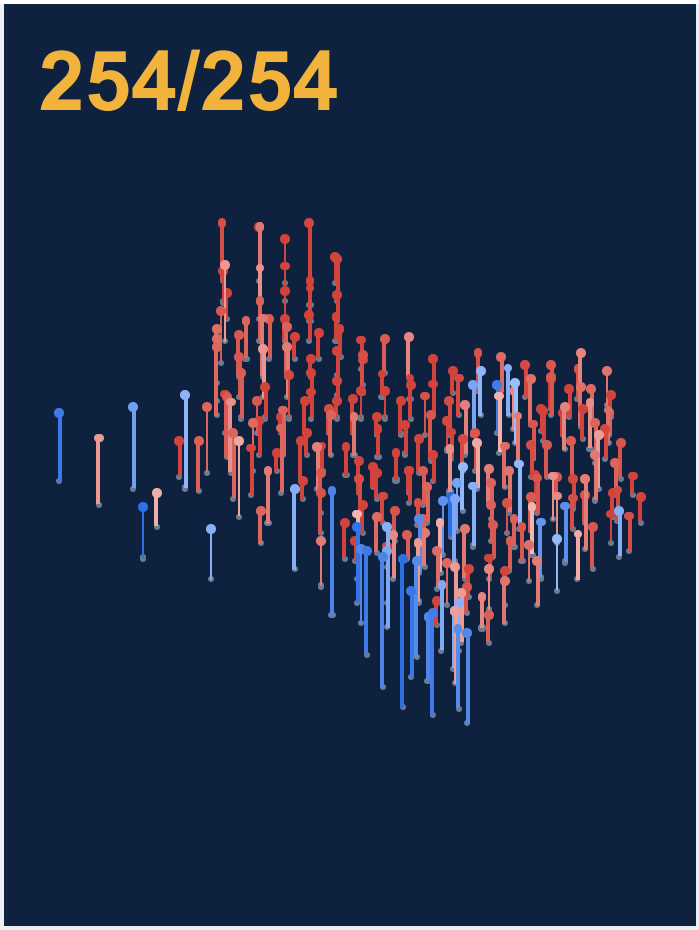
Voters handed the president an itemised bill: tariffs, Iran, prices, enforcement. The news covered the items in a different order from the one voters ranked them in.



STORY 3 · SEATS · 3D

THE BLUE WAVE

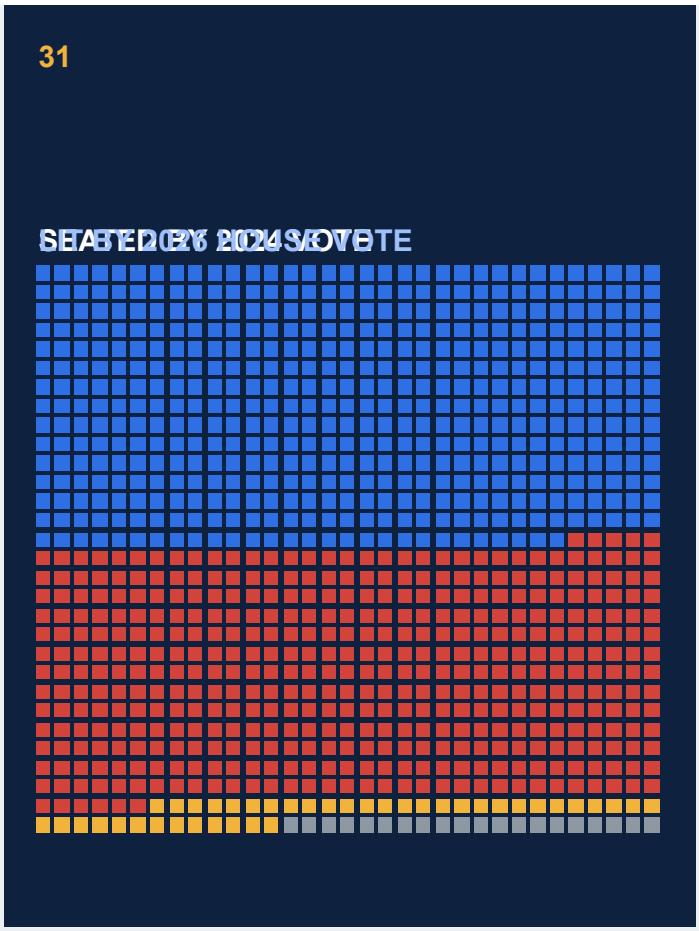
Democrats took every Republican seat Trump won by less than ten points, and a few the tide should never have reached. Most of those few were in states that had just redrawn their maps to add Republican seats.



STORY 4 · PLACE · 3D

THE BORDERLANDS

Texas swung 26 points in two years and every one of its 254 counties moved the same way. The border moved furthest.



STORY 5 · TURNOUT · 3D

WHO WON THE CONVENTION

About six points of the Democrats' margin came from who showed up. The rest came from voters who changed sides or were voting for the first time.



FEATURE · WHO WON

MANY STREAMS, ONE CHAMBER

The heritage and gender of this year's winners, and how much they won by.



BRAND TRUTH · BRANTOPIC

THE MIDTERMS AS A BRAND

Twelve media claims checked against the data: 9 stand, 2 fail, 1 is weak.

> WHY THIS GAZETTE EXISTS
>
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