

dakota
county
regional

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DAKOTA COUNTY
ADVOCACY AND ISSUES
FORUM

*ELECTIONS WRAP UP AND
IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS*



2024 ELECTION RESULTS

BRIAN COOK

MINNESOTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

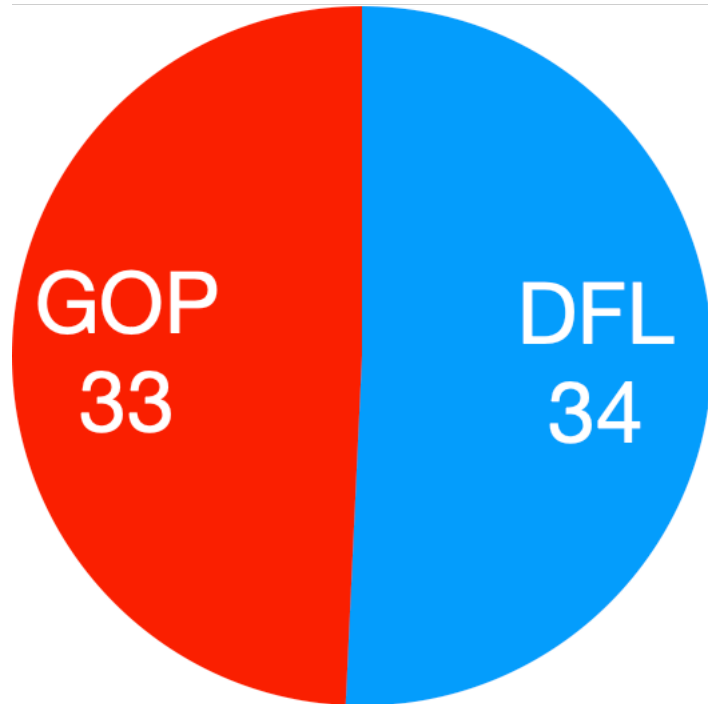
**MINNESOTA
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

GROWING MINNESOTA

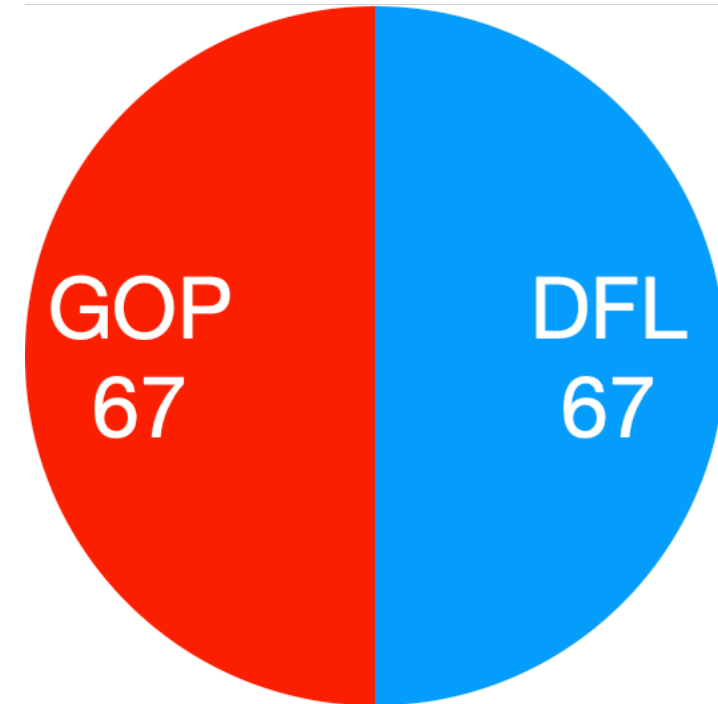
MINNESOTA IS DIVIDED

WHAT HAPPENED

Minnesota Senate



Minnesota House



STATEWIDE RESULTS

President

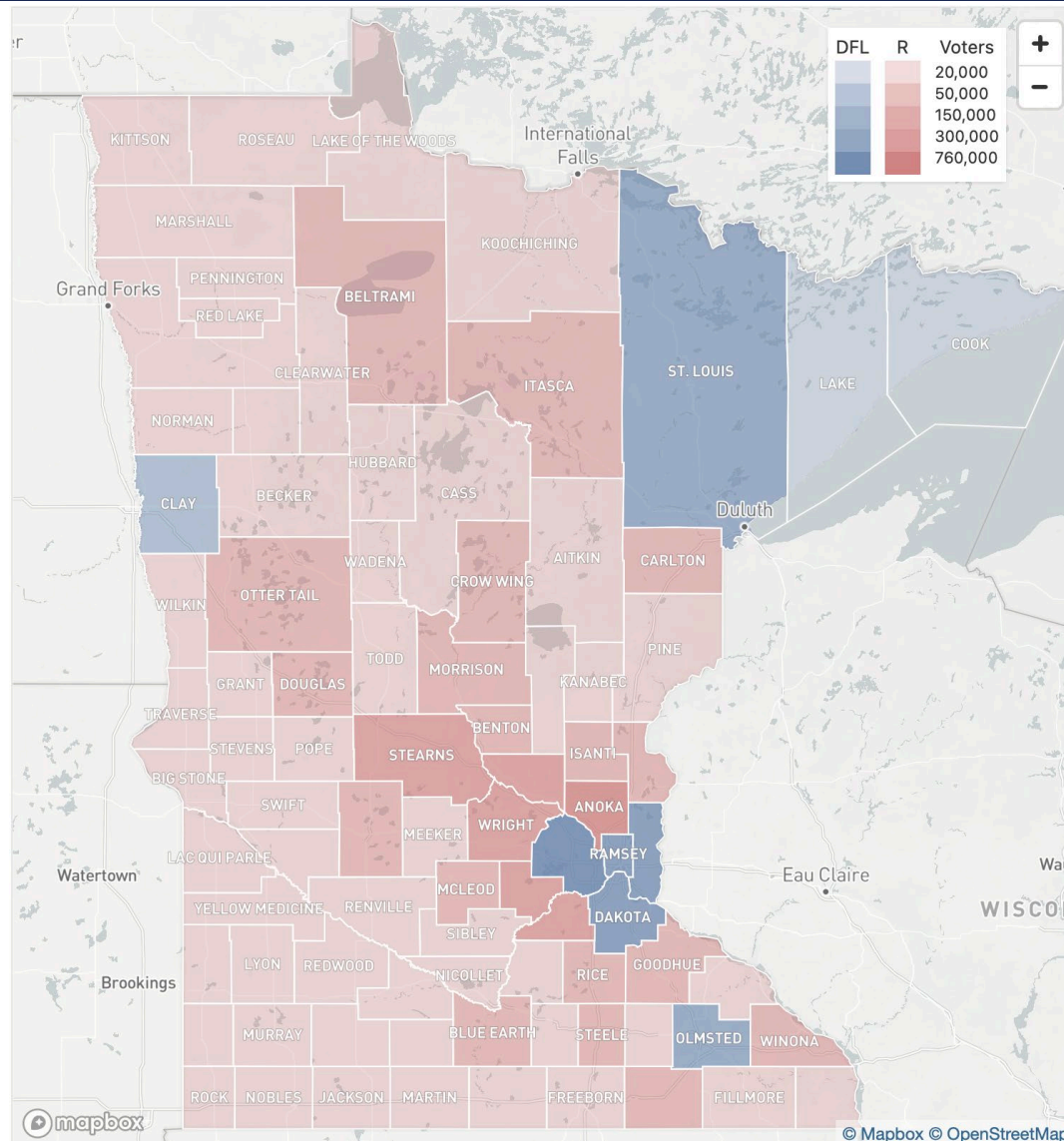
- DFL: Kamala Harris: 50.89%
- GOP: Donald Trump: 46.65%

US Senate

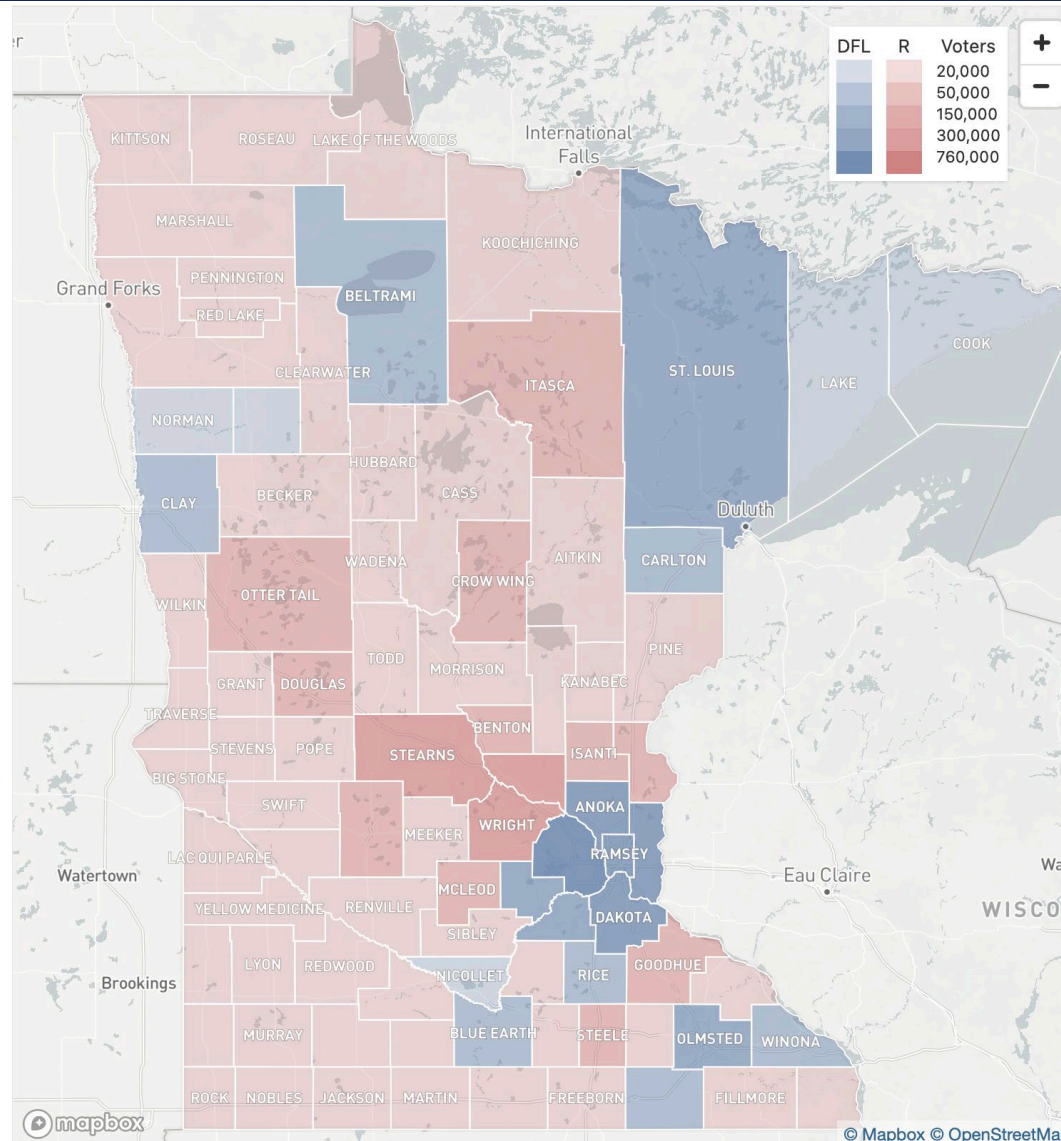
- DFL: Amy Klobuchar: 56.20%
- GOP: Royce White: 40.49%

- **2020 Turnout: 79.76%**
- **2024 Turnout: Around 76%**

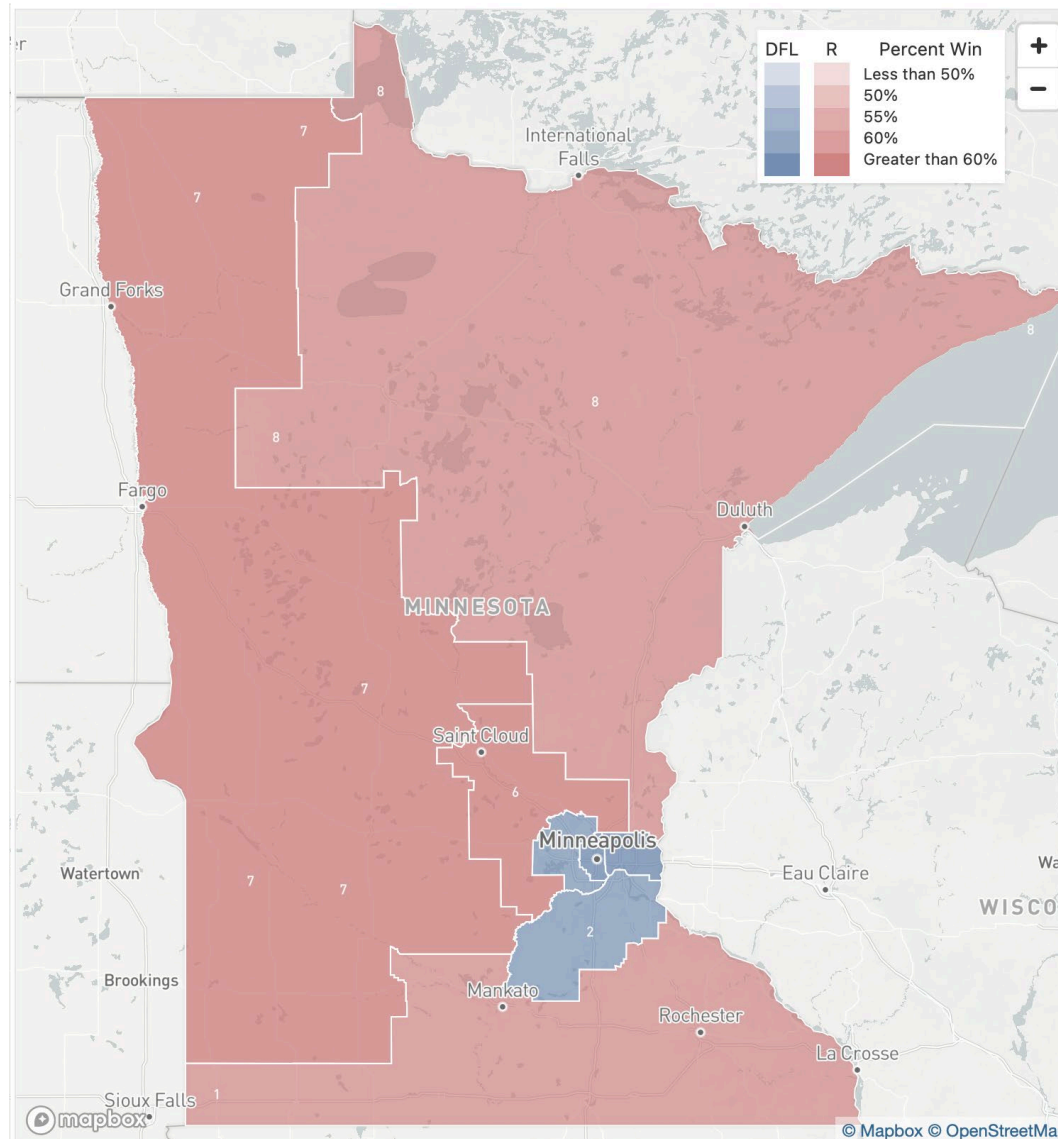
PRESIDENT



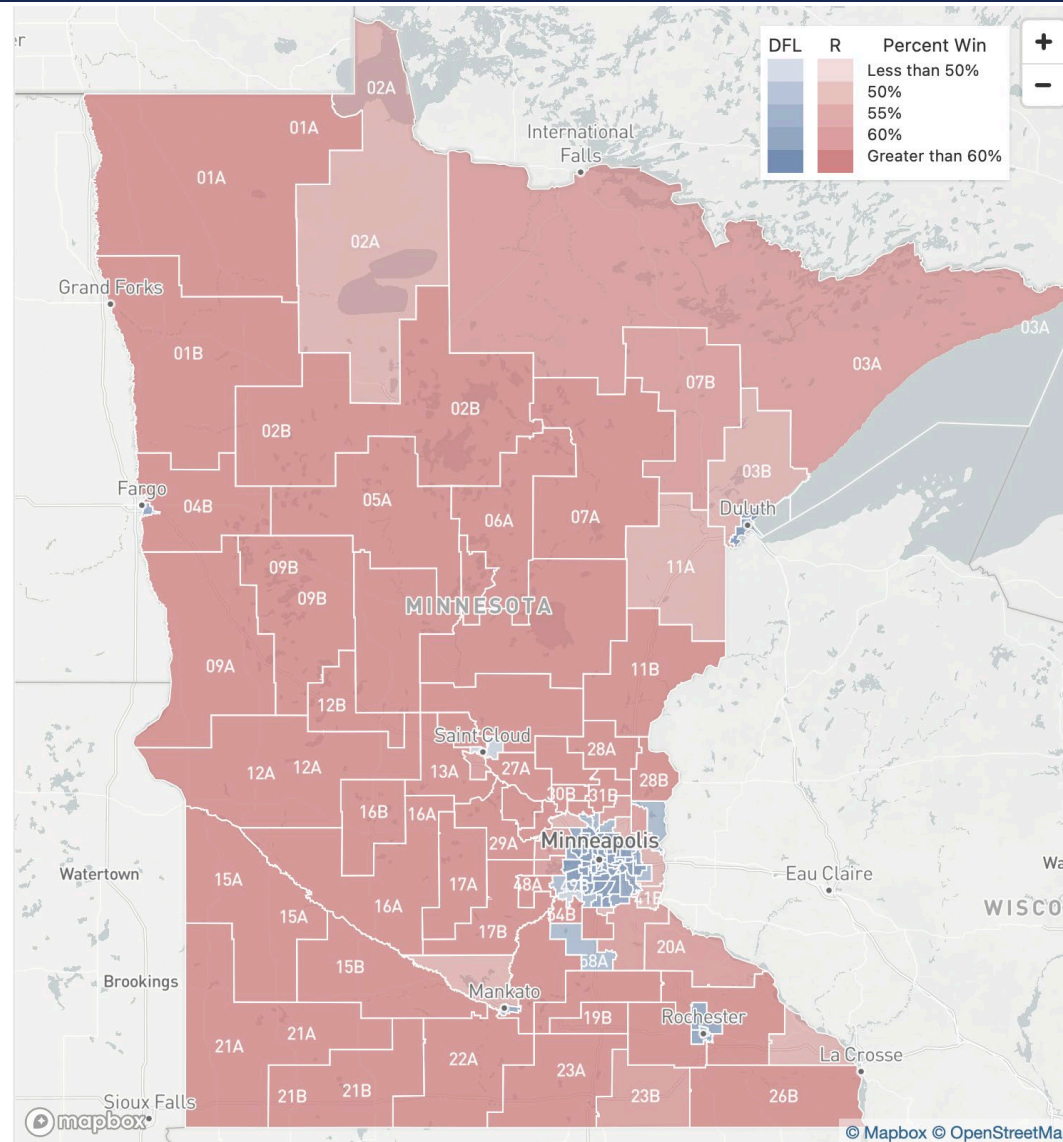
US SENATE



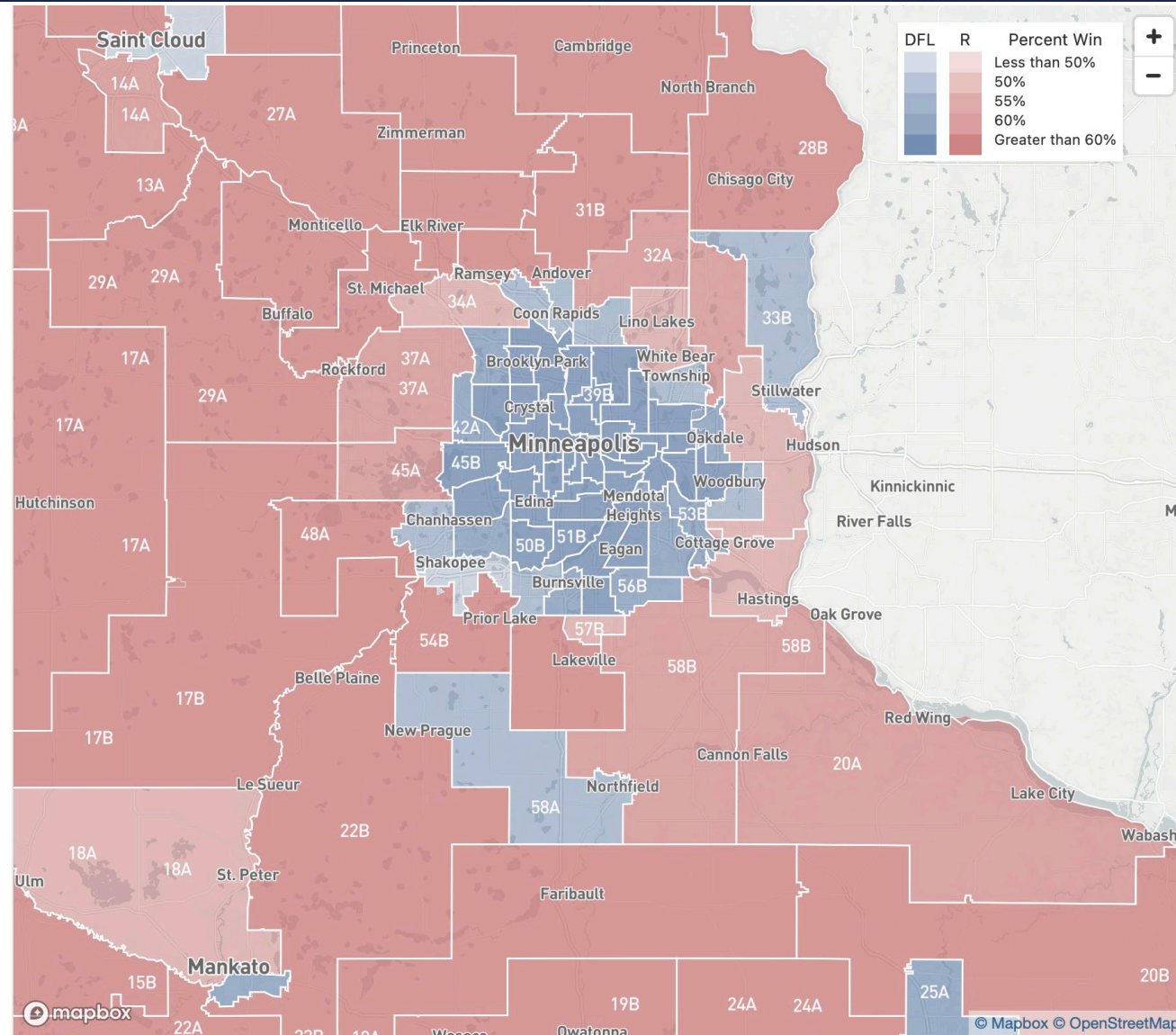
US HOUSE



MINNESOTA HOUSE



MINNESOTA HOUSE – CLOSER IN



HOW DID WE GET HERE

HISTORIC MN HOUSE CONTROL

YEAR	HOUSE CONTROL	SEAT CHANGE	PRESIDENTIAL WINNER
2024	TIE 67-67	+3 GOP	Trump
2022	DFL 70-64	No Change	
2020	DFL 70-64	+5 GOP	Biden
2018	DFL 75-59	+18 DFL	
2016	GOP 77-57	+5 GOP	Trump
2014	GOP 72-62	+12 GOP	
2012	DFL 74-70	+12 DFL	Obama
2010	GOP 72-62	+25 GOP	
2008	DFL 87-47	+2 DFL	Obama

HISTORIC TRUMP RESULTS

2016

- DFL: Hillary Clinton: 46.44%
- GOP: Donald Trump: 44.92%

2020

- DFL: Joe Biden: 52.40%
- GOP: Donald Trump: 45.28%

2024

- DFL: Kamala Harris: 50.89%
- GOP: Donald Trump: 46.65%

HISTORIC KLOBUCHAR RESULTS

2006

- DFL: Amy Klobuchar: 58.06%
- GOP: Mark Kennedy: 37.94%

2012

- DFL: Amy Klobuchar: 65.23%
- GOP: Kurt Bills: 30.53%

2018

- DFL: Amy Klobuchar: 60.31%
- GOP: Jim Newberger: 36.21%

2024

- DFL: Amy Klobuchar: 56.20%
- GOP: Royce White: 40.49%

WHAT ISSUES ANIMATED VOTERS?

Democrats

- ✓ Inflation Costs – Corporate Role
- ✓ Abortion Access
- ✓ Trump

Republicans

- ✓ Inflation/Costs – Government Role
- ✓ Immigration
- ✓ Balance

Competitive Seats

Greater MN (8)

Arrowhead (Skraba)
Hermantown (Zeleznikar)
Iron Range (Open) - FLIP
Cloquet (Dotseth)
Saint Cloud (Perryman)
Saint Cloud (Wolgamott)
Saint Peter (Brand) - FLIP
Winona (Open) - FLIP

Suburbs (11)

Blaine (Norris)
Stillwater (Hill)
Champlin (Nadeau)
Coon Rapids (Stephenson)
Coon Rapids (Open)
Cottage Grove (Open)
Hastings (Open)
Lake Minnetonka (Myers)
Chanhassen (Rehm)
Shakopee (Tabke)
Lakeville (Witte)

Flipped Districts

- 3 districts flipped from DFL to GOP
- All in Greater MN
 - Iron Range (3,126 votes)
 - Winona (1,325 votes)
 - North Mankato (802 votes)
- 2 open seats, 1 incumbent defeated
- No GOP-held seats lost

Close House Races

- 9 districts won by less than 700 votes (14 in 2022)
 - 4 won by GOP, 5 won by DFL
- GOP won their closest seat by 159 votes (Hermantown)
- DFL won their closest seat by 14 votes (Shakopee)

Explosion in Spending

- In 2022, the most expensive MN House race was in Saint Cloud: \$885,000
- In 2024, 10 seats had crossed that amount (8 over \$1 million)
- So far, the most expensive House race was in Hermantown: \$1,334,000
- DFL outspending GOP approximately 4:1

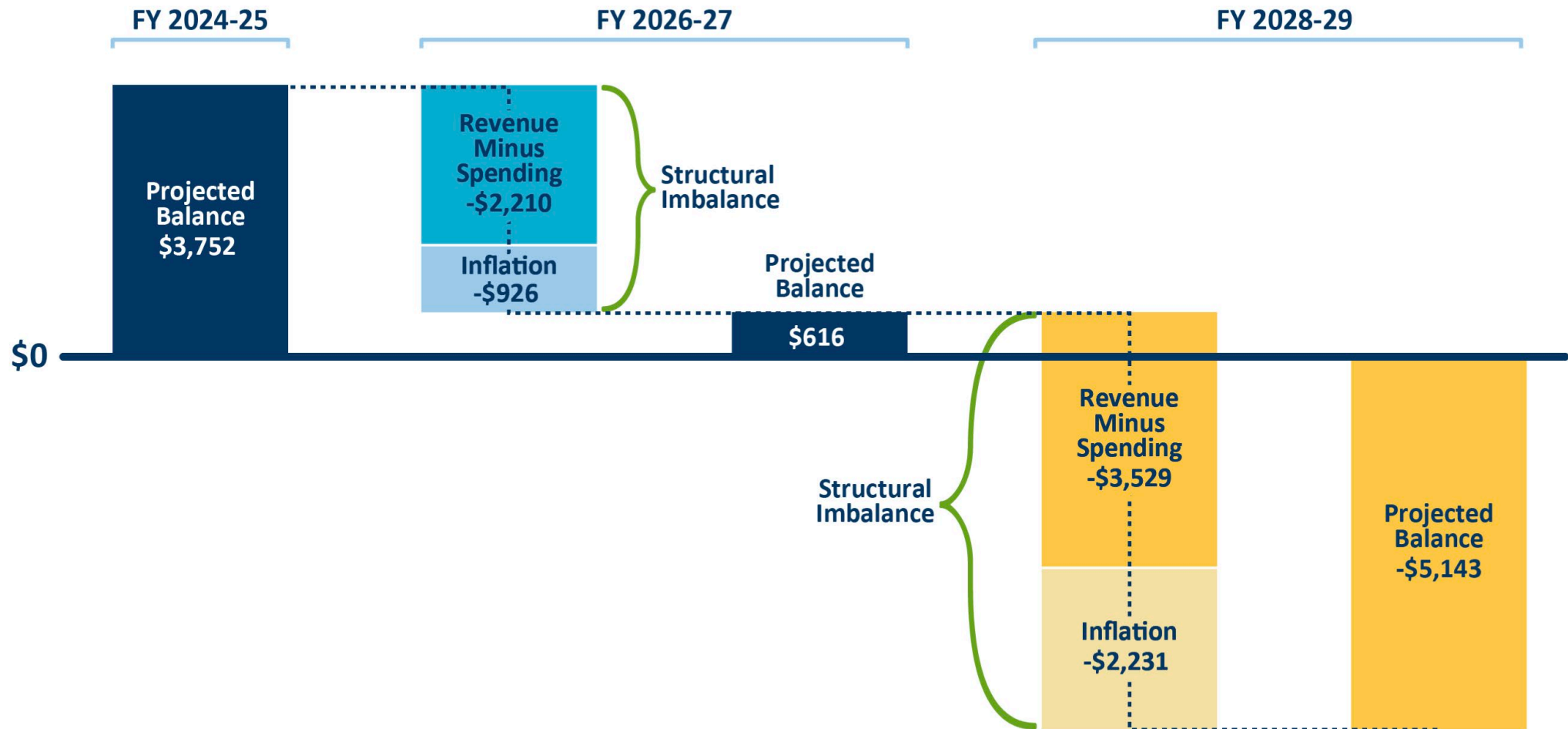
SO NOW WHAT?

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- First House tie since 1979
- 22 new members (14 GOP, 6 DFL)
- 57 DFL members never in minority, 47 GOP members never in majority
- Senate continues its narrow 34-33 split

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

(\$ millions)



Who is on the ballot

- US Senate (Smith)
- All 8 US House Seats
- All MN Constitutional Offices (Governor/LG, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor)
- All 134 MN House Seats
- All 67 MN Senate Seats

2026 HOUSE ELECTION

- 6 GOPers in Harris seats: Hermantown, Champlin, Lino Lakes, Cottage Grove, Lake Minnetonka, Lakeville
- 1 DFLer in a Trump seat: Saint Cloud
- 21 seats where the winner had less than 55% of the vote: 11 DFL, 10 GOP (down from 28 in 2022)

2026 SENATE ELECTION

- 4 GOPers in Harris seats: Stillwater, Coon Rapids, Maple Grove, Chanhassen
- 3 DFLers in Trump seats: Arrowhead, Moorhead, Saint Cloud
- 13 seats where the winner had less than 55% of the vote: 6 DFL, 7 GOP

Key Dates

- January 14, 2025: MN Legislature Starts
- May 19, 2025: MN Legislature Constitutional Ending Deadline
- Prior to March 1, 2026: Precinct Caucuses
- August 11, 2026: State Primary
- November 3, 2026: General Election