Early Vote Day Report

Day 17 of 17 · Data through Saturday, Oct. 31, 2026*

2,816,821
ballots cast so far, in person and by mail

+31%
more than at this point in 2022 (2,152,378)

35.7%
of registered voters have voted (29.0% in 2022)

Open the live dashboard →
Every county and district, updated each morning

Snapshot

After 17 days of early voting, North Carolinians have cast 2,816,821 ballots in person and by mail, 31% more than at the same point in 2022. 46.3% of registered Democrats have voted, against 31.6% of registered Republicans, a 14.7-point turnout edge. At this point in 2022 the gap was 2.5. 193,380 voted in person on Saturday, 14% more than on 2022's seventeenth day of early voting (169,019).

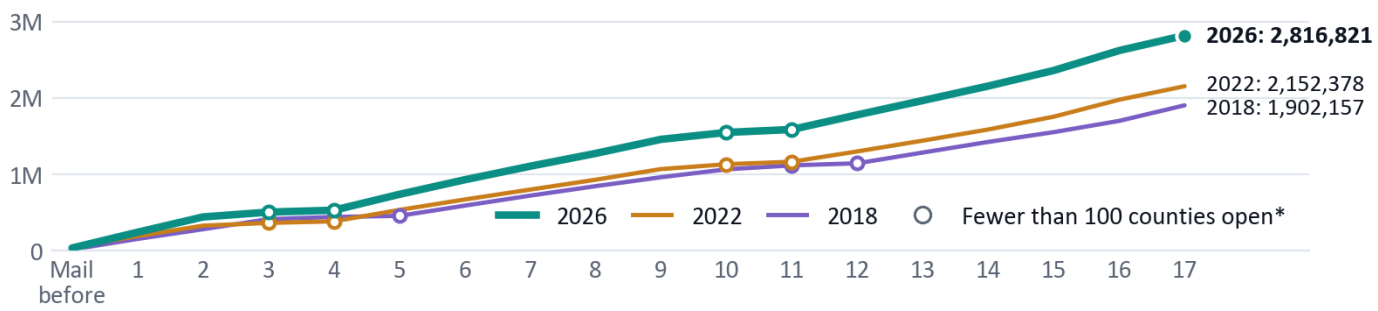
What 17 days of early voting show

- **Democrats' ballot lead grew every day.** It stands at 343,549, against 147,251 at this point in 2022. 66% of it came in the first seven days, but the last six days still added 57,373, against 48,929 in the same days of 2022.
- **Unaffiliated voters drove the growth.** 990,783 have voted, up 52% from this point in 2022 and more than half of all the growth in ballots. They out-voted Democrats on each of the last four days.
- **Occasional voters came out, mostly not Republicans.** Among sporadic and unlikely voters, Democrats more than doubled from this point in 2022 (254,918) and unaffiliated voters nearly did (247,525), while Republicans fell 9% (108,761). Republican base voters ran ahead of 2022, 45.8% to 41.8%. Ballots from voters under 30 are up 79%, Black voters 48% and Hispanic voters 190%, against 31% overall.

What it means for election night

- **The first numbers Tuesday will not be the last.** Early and mail votes post first, and they will come in quickly. In 2022, registered Republicans out-voted registered Democrats by 177,807 on Election Day, erasing the 147,251-ballot lead Democrats took out of early voting. Polls close at 7:30 p.m. Follow the count at elections.majorityrisingnc.org.
- **Republicans would need a far bigger Election Day than 2022's.** To erase a 343,549-ballot lead, they would have to out-vote Democrats by 93% more than in 2022. They have the voters to try: 742,260 Republican base voters have not voted, against 412,366 Democrats. Unaffiliated voters, 35% of ballots, decide the rest; those with a primary record lean Democratic, 305,406 to 217,864.

Ballots cast, day by day



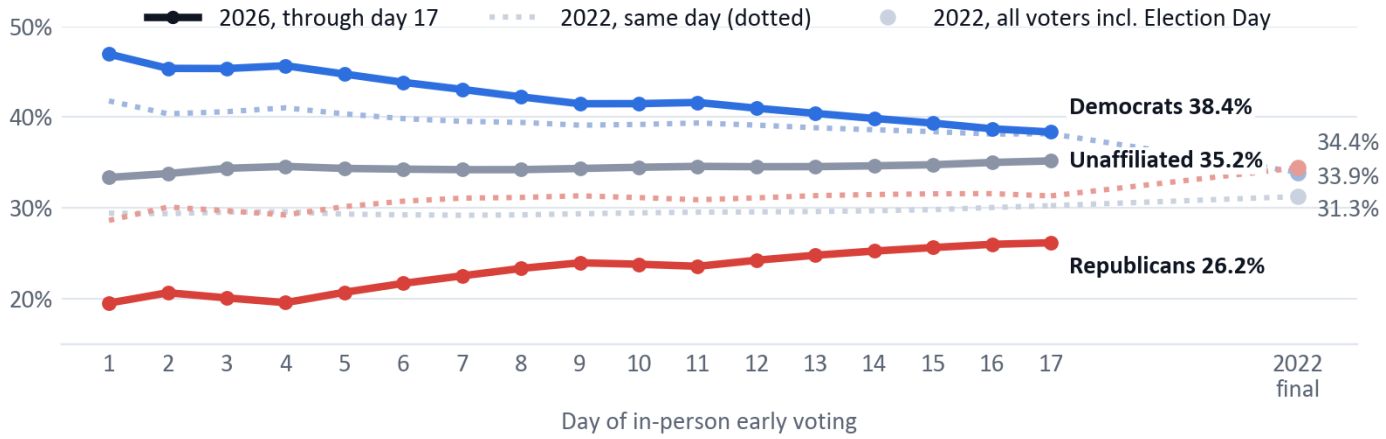
Day by day

	2026			2022, same day			2018, same day	
Day	Date	In person	All so far	Date	In person	All so far	Date	All so far
17	Sat. Oct. 31	193,380	**2,816,821**	Sat. Nov. 5	169,019	2,152,378	Fri. Nov. 2	1,902,157
16	Fri. Oct. 30	255,367	**2,619,495**	Fri. Nov. 4	212,679	1,975,607	Thu. Nov. 1	1,698,431
15	Thu. Oct. 29	198,338	**2,358,437**	Thu. Nov. 3	157,145	1,753,484	Wed. Oct. 31	1,551,049
14	Wed. Oct. 28	184,012	**2,154,795**	Wed. Nov. 2	138,863	1,585,988	Tue. Oct. 30	1,423,079
13	Tue. Oct. 27	182,168	**1,965,283**	Tue. Nov. 1	135,209	1,440,100	Mon. Oct. 29	1,284,225
12	Mon. Oct. 26	186,192	**1,777,927**	Mon. Oct. 31	125,987	1,298,679	Sun. Oct. 28*	1,143,059
11	Sun. Oct. 25*	38,460	**1,586,099**	Sun. Oct. 30*	32,765	1,163,784	Sat. Oct. 27*	1,116,168

All so far: every accepted ballot, in person and by mail. *Fewer than 100 counties open: Sun. Oct. 25, 15 (2022: 31). Earlier days are in the dashboard's day-by-day table.

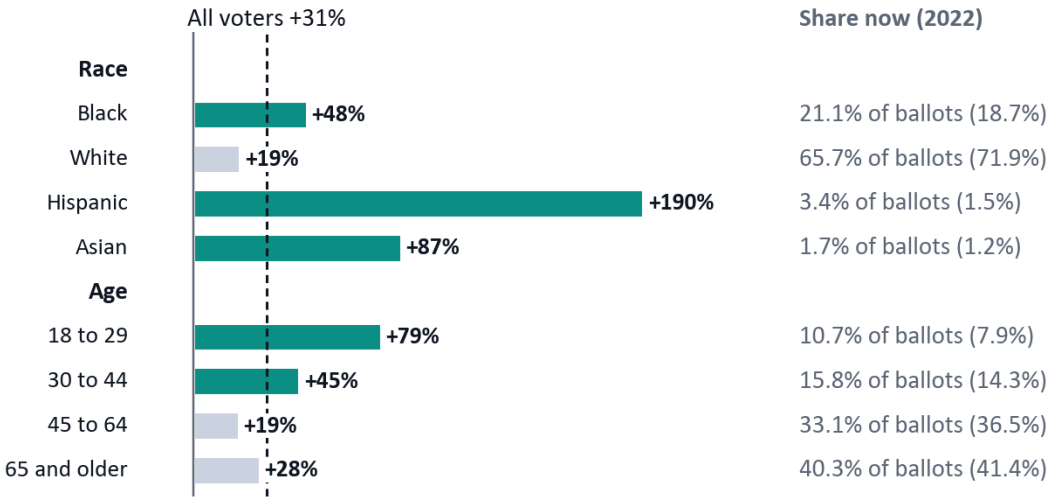
Who is voting: the party mix, day by day

Each party's share of all ballots cast so far, this year against the same day in 2022. The last point shows 2022's full electorate, after Election Day.



Who is growing fastest since 2022, by race and age

Change in ballots from the same point in 2022. Teal bars are growing faster than the electorate as a whole. Race as registered with the State Board of Elections; Hispanic is any race.



Who is voting: party by how often they vote

Voters so far by party of registration and by their record in the last two general elections. Base: voted in both 2022 and 2024. Sporadic: voted in one of the two. Unlikely: new to the rolls, or voted in neither. Under each count: the share of that group's registered voters who have voted, and the same share at this point in 2022.

	BASE	SPORADIC	UNLIKELY
DEMOCRAT	**Democrat Base** **825,518** 29.3% of all ballots +41,501 on Saturday **66.7%** of 1,237,884 registered 2022, same point: 47.8%	**Democrat Sporadic** **159,890** 5.7% of all ballots +16,716 on Saturday **30.4%** of 526,595 registered 2022, same point: 14.2%	**Democrat Unlikely** **95,028** 3.4% of all ballots +8,194 on Saturday **16.7%** of 569,413 registered 2022, same point: 10.5%
UNAFFILIATED	**Unaffiliated Base** **743,253** 26.4% of all ballots +47,016 on Saturday **52.4%** of 1,417,817 registered 2022, same point: 40.7%	**Unaffiliated Sporadic** **146,444** 5.2% of all ballots +16,538 on Saturday **22.2%** of 658,746 registered 2022, same point: 14.3%	**Unaffiliated Unlikely** **101,081** 3.6% of all ballots +10,332 on Saturday **9.2%** of 1,093,945 registered 2022, same point: 6.7%
REPUBLICAN	**Republican Base** **628,130** 22.3% of all ballots +44,122 on Saturday **45.8%** of 1,370,390 registered 2022, same point: 41.8%	**Republican Sporadic** **73,128** 2.6% of all ballots +8,543 on Saturday **14.5%** of 504,969 registered 2022, same point: 17.2%	**Republican Unlikely** **35,633** 1.3% of all ballots +3,430 on Saturday **7.8%** of 455,061 registered 2022, same point: 9.3%

Base also takes in a voter who voted in the only one of the two elections they were registered for. Registered: the current voter file (7,886,545 registered); 2022 sorts the 2022 rolls the same way by the 2018 and 2020 elections. +N on Saturday: ballots dated that day. Other parties (8,707 voters) are not shown.

The unaffiliated row, by the primary ballots they have taken

The 990,778 unaffiliated voters so far, sorted by which party's primary ballot they took in the five statewide primaries from 2018 to 2026.



Strong lean: at least two more of one party's primary ballots than the other's. Light lean: one primary ballot, one party. Mixed: both parties, no clear pattern. Tested on voters who later joined a party: strong lean named the right party 97% of the time, light lean about 92%.

Seats to watch: turnout by party

Every contested seat that leaned within 10 points either way in the 2024 statewide races. For each, the share of its registered Democrats (● blue), unaffiliated voters (○ grey) and Republicans (● red) who have voted so far. **This is turnout by party registration, not votes for a candidate and not a forecast.** Statewide, 46.3% of Democrats, 31.3% of unaffiliated voters and 31.6% of Republicans have voted. Democrats and Republicans are 14.7 points apart; at this point in 2022 they were 2.5 points apart.

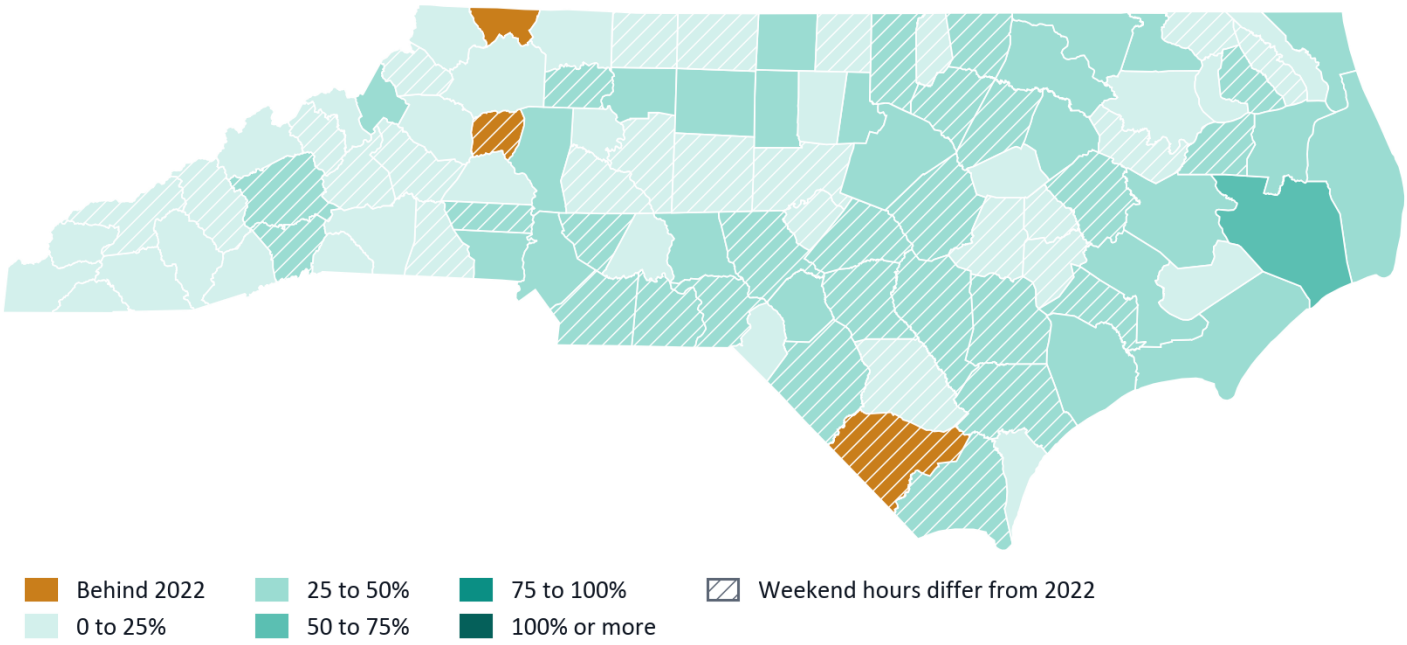


		2024 lean	Dem minus Rep	Same, 2022	Ballots	vs. same point in 2022
Statewide			+14.7	+2.5	2,816,821	+31%
Senate						
SD-13	Grafstein (D)	D+4.4	+17.7	+7.5	72,384	+38%
SD-18	Fatmi (D)	R+0.8	+16.9	+7.3	67,697	+40%
SD-42	Bradley (D)	D+3.3	+17.2	+4.2	66,707	+26%
SD-11	Barnes (R)	R+0.8	+11.8	+0.0	62,047	+33%
SD-7	Lee (R)	R+4.6	+13.4	+4.7	62,677	+24%
SD-4	Newton (R)	R+7.3	+10.1	-1.1	49,671	+22%
SD-34	Open seat	R+6.8	+14.6	+0.9	49,547	+49%
SD-24	Britt (R)	R+8.8	+13.7	+5.8	35,223	+31%
House						
HD-115	Prather (D)	R+0.5	+25.6	+12.2	30,838	+27%
HD-74	Zenger (R)	R+8.1	+16.2	+7.0	29,891	+28%
HD-35	Schietzelt (R)	R+3.3	+20.0	+9.2	31,425	+50%
HD-105	Cotham (R)	R+1.9	+18.2	+5.0	30,612	+30%
HD-37	Paré (R)	R+2.4	+15.8	+6.1	34,137	+42%
HD-25	Chesser (R)	D+2.6	+11.9	-2.0	27,346	+32%
HD-59	Branson (R)	R+8.0	+16.9	+4.0	28,559	+32%
HD-98	Helfrich (D)	D+0.9	+18.2	+6.2	27,409	+24%
HD-20	Open seat	R+9.6	+15.0	+5.5	29,450	+20%
HD-62	Blust (R)	R+6.3	+12.5	+0.6	29,804	+27%
HD-26	White (R)	R+10.0	+18.3	+4.3	28,495	+39%
HD-7	Open seat	R+9.9	+14.4	+5.0	26,897	+38%
HD-64	Riddell (R)	R+6.1	+16.0	+1.3	23,525	+34%
HD-32	Cohn (D)	D+3.1	+8.8	-0.5	24,656	+25%
HD-9	Reeder (R)	R+7.0	+12.1	+0.9	24,564	+23%
HD-82	Echevarria (R)	R+7.5	+18.2	+5.6	22,748	+55%
HD-63	Open seat	R+6.1	+9.8	-0.7	22,145	+28%
HD-12	Humphrey (R)	R+7.6	+12.4	-0.6	19,187	+15%
HD-48	Pierce (D)	D+4.6	+18.5	+9.0	18,294	+30%
HD-43	Wheatley (R)	R+9.7	+16.4	+5.3	19,641	+29%
HD-5	Ward (R)	R+4.8	+17.1	+6.7	19,244	+16%
HD-24	Pittman (D)	D+1.7	+11.1	-1.0	20,105	+23%
HD-73	Almond (R)	R+5.0	+13.3	-0.3	19,965	+51%

Seats are listed by the share of Democrats who have voted, highest first. Beside each: its sitting member, or open if the member is not running. 2024 lean: how the district voted in the 2024 statewide races. Dem minus Rep: the blue dot minus the red dot, in points; Same, 2022: that gap at this point in 2022, on today's district lines. Ballots: all ballots cast in the district so far; the bar is the change from the same point in 2022. Full district pages: dashboard.majorityrisingnc.org/early-voting.

Counties: ballots against the same point in 2022

97 of 100 counties are ahead of their 2022 pace.



Fastest growth: Cabarrus +48%, Hertford +47%, Mecklenburg +46%, Duplin +44%, Currituck +44%, Wake +43%.

Behind 2022: Alexander -14%, Columbus -6%, Alleghany -2%.

Hatched counties had different weekend hours from 2022 (open on Saturday or Sunday in one year but not the other), so their comparison tilts with the calendar. Click a county name for its page on the dashboard.

See every county on the live dashboard →

Methodology

Ballots are every accepted ballot in the State Board of Elections' absentee file, posted each morning; our totals must match the State Board's own state and county count files for that morning. 2022 and 2018 come from the State Board's final files, each year lined up by its own first day of in-person early voting; every county counts as open on a weekday, and on a weekend day when it has in-person ballots dated that day; days with fewer than 100 counties open carry an asterisk. Party, race and age are as registered (party is registration, not a vote; Hispanic is any race), and turnout rates divide a group's ballots by its registered voters. Base, sporadic and unlikely come from the State Board's voter history: the last two general elections. 2022's final electorate is everyone in its voter history file, by party on the 2022 rolls. Districts are the ones printed on each ballot; 2022 ballots are placed on today's lines through precincts, and district lean is the 2024 statewide races. No percent change is shown when the earlier year had fewer than 100 ballots.