

CQ's Exclusive Senate Race Rankings — Democratic Seats

There are no changes this week in Congressional Quarterly's rankings of this year's 14 contests for Senate seats held by Democratic incumbents. The rankings are subject to change at any time. "No Clear Favorite" means neither party has a definite lead. "Leans Democratic" means that party has an edge, but the contest appears competitive. "Democrat Favored" means that party has a definite lead, but an upset cannot be completely ruled out. "Safe Democratic" means that party appears certain to win.

State	Incumbent	First Won	1996 Vote	Contenders
No Clear Favorite				
SOUTH DAKOTA	Tim Johnson	1996	51-49%	R: Rep. John Thune (nominated in June 4 primary)
Leans Democratic				
GEORGIA (Primary Aug. 20)	Max Cleland	1996	49-48%	R: Rep. Saxby Chambliss; state Rep. Bob Irvin
IOWA	Tom Harkin	1984	52-47%	R: Rep. Greg Ganske (nominated in June 4 primary)
MINNESOTA	Paul Wellstone	1990	50-41%	R: Ex-St. Paul Mayor/'98 nominee for governor Norm Coleman
MISSOURI (Primary Aug. 6)	Jean Carnahan	*	*	R: Ex-Rep./'00 nominee for governor James M. Talent
Democrat Favored				
LOUISIANA	Mary L. Landrieu	1996	50.2-49.8%	R: State Elections Comm. Suzanne Haik Terrell; Rep. John Cooksey; state Rep. Tony Perkins
MONTANA	Max Baucus	1978	50-45%	R: State Sen. Mike Taylor (nominated in June 4 primary)
NEW JERSEY	Robert G. Torricelli	1996	53-43%	R: Businessman Douglas Forrester (nominated in June 4 primary)
Safe Democratic				
DELAWARE	Joseph R. Biden Jr.	1972	60-38%	R: Businessman/'96 Senate nominee Raymond J. Clatworthy
ILLINOIS	Richard J. Durbin	1996	56-41%	R: State Rep. Jim Durkin (nominated in March 19 primary)
MASSACHUSETTS	John Kerry	1984	52-45%	I: Libertarian nominee Michael Cloud
MICHIGAN	Carl Levin	1978	58-40%	R: State Rep. Andrew Raczkowski
RHODE ISLAND	Jack Reed	1996	63-35%	R: '00 2nd District House nominee Robert G. Tingle
WEST VIRGINIA	John D. Rockefeller IV	1984	77-23%	R: Ex-state Sen./'88 Senate nominee Jay Wolfe (nominated in May 14 primary)

* Jean Carnahan was appointed effective January 2001 to fill the seat won by her husband, Mel Carnahan. The Democratic Senate nominee in 2000 and governor of Missouri, Mel Carnahan, died in an October 2000 plane crash but was nonetheless elected by Missouri voters, 50 percent to 48 percent, over Republican Sen. John Ashcroft (1995-2001) that November. Missouri law requires a November 2002 special election to fill out the remaining four years of the term Mel Carnahan won.