

Election 2022 & pre-2023 Legislative Session

Fast Fact:

The Minnesota Legislative Session begins on January 3, 2023.

The last time the DFL controlled the Office of the Governor, the Minnesota House of Representatives and the Minnesota Senate was in 2013 – a decade ago.

Election night brought surprising results, even for political insiders. Traditionally, in a mid-term year, the party in the White House loses a significant number of seats. With President Biden and Governor Tim Walz in office, pundits thought it likely the Minnesota House would flip to Republican control, the Minnesota Senate would remain in Republican control, and the constitutional offices would be in toss up territory. Instead, Walz won the Governor's race, the Minnesota House remains in DFL control, the Minnesota Senate flipped to DFL control and all constitutional officers remain democrats.

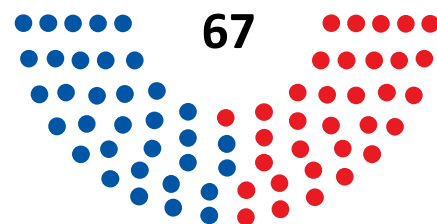
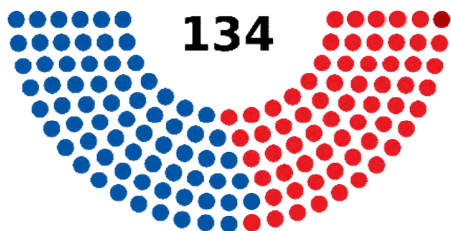


Statewide Offices Election Results *DFL incumbents won all races*

- Governor Tim Walz defeated Scott Jenson
- Attorney General Keith Ellison defeated Jim Shultz
- State Auditor Judy Blaha defeated Ryan Wilson
- Secretary of State Steve Simon defeated Kim Crocket

Minnesota Senate
34 Democrats and 33 Republicans

Minnesota House of Representatives
70 Democrats and 64 Republicans.



The previous House Caucuses were:
69 Democrats, 58 Republicans, 6 New House Republicans and one member House Republican Freedom Caucus

The previous Senate Caucuses were:
34 Republicans, 31 Democrats plus two independents who caucused with the Republicans.

Razor thin majority margins and the role of the caucus

A legislative caucus is a voluntary association of members with the same policy goals and priorities. Traditionally there are two major party caucuses – Republican and Democrat. However, sometimes, like in 2022, there are splits in the caucuses which can make a difference. The caucus with the most members sets the agenda for the session.

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What's Next?

November 2022

- Chairs of Committees announced
- November financial forecast for the State of Minnesota

**Set by MN Statute [M.S. 16A](#)*

December 2022

- Governor preparing budget recommendations
- Committee Membership announced

January 2023

- Legislature convenes January 3, 2023
- First bill introductions
- Governor's budget must be delivered to the legislature

**Set by MN Statute [M.S. 16A](#)*

May 2023

- Legislature must adjourn by May 22, 2023

**Set by the State Constitution [MN State Const.](#)*



People may wonder what happens the budget surplus, the bonding bill and other policy issues from last session.

The remainder of the issues from last session will start anew. There is no “carry over” legislation from last year. Any 2022 bill will need to be introduced as a new bill in 2023.

There is a high likelihood there will be a bonding bill and some form of tax cuts. But they will look different than the ones created last session. It's too early to tell how different.

The DFL leaders have pointed to education funding and paid family leave as issues they will prioritize.

The Administration will have no problem confirming Commissioner's in the Senate. This likely will embolden the State Agencies in pursuit of the Governor's agenda.

2023 Leaders

Senate Majority Leader

- Kari Dziejic (DFL – Minneapolis)

Senate Minority Leader

- Mark Johnson – (R – East Grand Forks)

House Speaker

- Melissa Hortman (DFL – Brooklyn Park)

House Minority Leader

- Lisa Demuth (R – Cold Spring)

Fast Fact:

Over one-third of House Members will be new to the Minnesota Legislature.

