

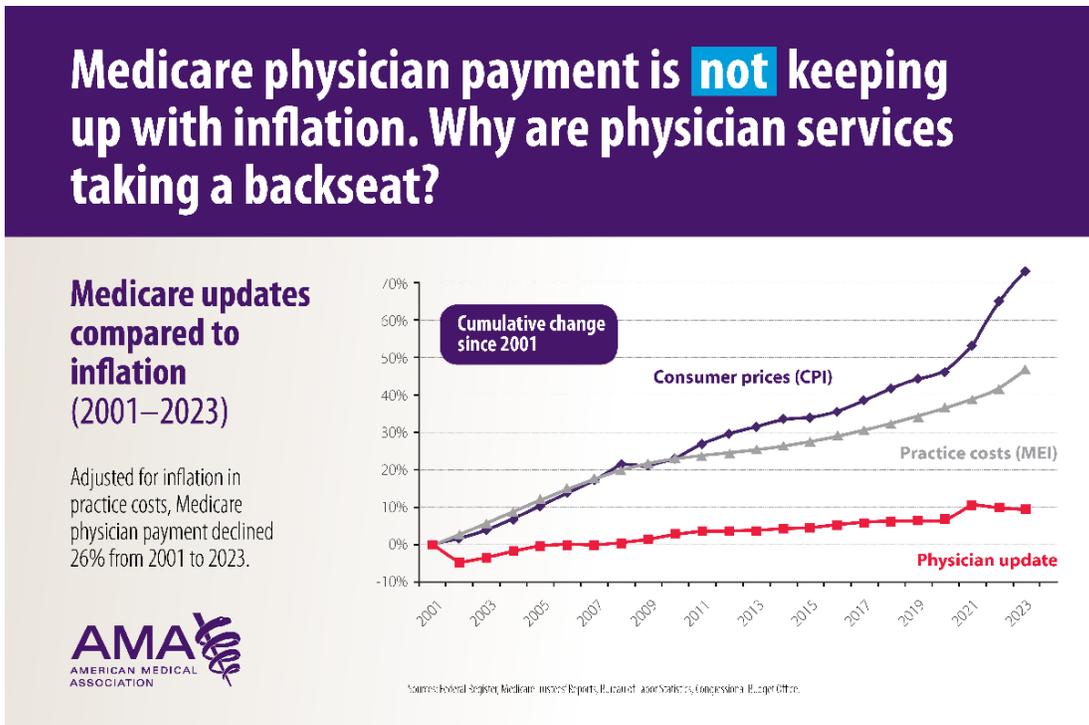
Welcome to the summer edition of the AMA's Very Influential Physician (VIP) Insider. Read on for details about these topics:

- Learn how you can get involved in the fight to #FixMedicareNow
- What activities help promote Members' visibility most in the district?
- Sabato's Crystal Ball – 2024 House and Senate ratings

### Learn how you can get involved in the fight to #FixMedicareNow

Get all the information and resources you need to make your voice heard in your advocacy to Congress at the AMA's new [Fix Medicare Now website](#). Ensure Congress works to address the critical issues physicians—and their patients—face due to the flawed Medicare physician payment system.

Did you know that physicians are the only providers whose Medicare payments do not automatically receive an annual inflationary update and as a result, Medicare physician payments have lagged 26% behind the rate of inflation growth since 2001?



During this current period of record inflation and coming on the heels of a highly disruptive pandemic, this statutory flaw often amplifies the impact of other payment policy changes like "budget neutrality" adjustments, performance incentives, and so forth.

The AMA has been fighting for Medicare physician payment reform for well over a decade, and the system remains on an unsustainable path. Temporary patches and ongoing cuts to the Medicare physician payment system have left patient access to care at serious risk.

Please visit [fixmedicarenow.org](https://fixmedicarenow.org) today and learn more about the broken physician payment system and what Congress can do to fix it. This includes confronting payment inequities, injecting more financial stability into physician practices, and allowing them to invest in new ways of providing care – all of which will ultimately ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have access to high-quality care.

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### **Resources to support your advocacy**

The AMA's new "Medicare basics" series is intended to provide relatively straightforward explanations for policymakers and physician advocates about elements of the payment system and why they are in need of reform.

- [Medicare physician payment adequacy: Budget neutrality](#) (PDF)
- [Merit-based Incentive Payment System \(MIPS\)](#) (PDF)
- [The Medicare Economic Index](#) (PDF)
- [Advancing value-based care with alternative payment models](#) (PDF)

As a reminder, the following charts are also available to let members of Congress know that the Medicare physician payment system needs reform to become a more sustainable, value-based system that better meets the needs of patients and physicians:

- [Medicare provider updates for 2023](#) (PDF)
- [Medicare updates compared to inflation \(with comparison\)](#) (PDF)
- [Medicare updates compared to inflation \(without comparison\)](#) (PDF)
- [Key measures of practice expense in the Medicare Economic Index](#) (PDF)
- [Medicare spending per enrollee](#) (PDF)
- [Real \(inflation-adjusted\) Medicare physician spending per enrollee](#) (PDF)

All of these resources—and more—can be found on the Fix Medicare Now website.

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### **What Activities Help Promote Members' Visibility Most in the District?**

Our partners at The Congressional Management Foundation (CMF) wanted to identify the activities that Members use most to be visible in their districts or states. To find out, CMF asked House District Directors the following question:

*"When your Member is trying to be visible throughout the district, how important are the following activities?"*

**What they learned:** When Members want to be visible in their districts and states, the bigger

the audience – the better! District directors who responded to the survey said activities, including speeches to large groups (98%), events where the media is present (96%), community events (95%), and site visits (95%) are "somewhat important" or "very important" for enhancing the legislator's visibility.

Scheduling how Members spend their time in the district is a delicate balance. Members of Congress (even high-ranking ones) know they need to be consistently visible in their districts if they want to keep their jobs. Yet Members feel smaller venues, like meetings, are more important for understanding constituents' views and opinions. Being politicians, Members want to say "yes" to scheduling requests for both public and private engagements. Yet if forced to choose between conflicting invitations to speak in public or meet privately with a few constituents, many Members will opt to accept the invitation that promises to put them in the public eye.

Many advocacy groups encourage their supporters to meet privately with their Members of Congress during congressional recesses. Constituents who provide options (i.e. numerous dates and times) when making their scheduling requests improve their odds for getting an audience with their Members.

Source: Partnership for a More Perfect Union, Copyright Congressional Management Foundation, <http://CongressFoundation.org>. Used with permission.

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## **Sabato's Crystal Ball – 2024 House and Senate ratings**

By Larry [Sabato](#)

### **2024 House Ratings**

Republicans		
TOSS-UP (10)	LEANS REPUBLICAN (10)	LIKELY REPUBLICAN (13)
David Schweikert (AZ-1)	Juan Ciscomani (AZ-6)	Kevin Kiley (CA-3)
John Duarte (CA-13)	Ken Calvert (CA-41)	Young Kim (CA-40)
Mike Garcia (CA-27)	Michelle Steel (CA-45)	Anna Paulina Luna (FL-13)
David Valadao (CA-22)	Lauren Boebert (CO-3)	María Elvira Salazar (FL-27)
Anthony D'Esposito (NY-4)	Zach Nunn (IA-3)	Ashley Hinson (IA-2)
Mike Lawler (NY-17)	John James (MI-10)	M. Miller-Meeks (IA-1)
Marc Molinaro (NY-19)	Ryan Zinke (MT-1)	Nick LaLota (NY-1)
George Santos (NY-3)	Don Bacon (NE-2)	Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-1)
Brandon Williams (NY-22)	Tom Kean Jr. (NJ-7)	Scott Perry (PA-10)
L. Chavez-DeRemer (OR-5)	Jen Kiggans (VA-2)	Andy Ogles (TN-5)
		Monica De La Cruz (TX-15)
		Bryan Steil (WI-1)
		Derrick Van Orden (WI-3)

**Total seats rated Safe Republican: 188**

**Total seats rated Safe, Likely, or Leans R: 211**

Democrats		
TOSS-UP (12)	LEANS DEMOCRATIC (12)	LIKELY DEMOCRATIC (16)
CA-47 Open (Porter)	Mary Peltola (AK-AL)	AL-? New*
MI-7 Open (Slotkin)	Yadira Caraveo (CO-8)	Josh Harder (CA-9)
Don Davis (NC-1)	Jahana Hayes (CT-5)	Mike Levin (CA-49)
Jeff Jackson (NC-14)	Frank Mrvan (IN-1)	Lauren Underwood (IL-14)
Kathy Manning (NC-6)	Eric Sorensen (IL-17)	Sharice Davids (KS-3)
Wiley Nickel (NC-13)	Jared Golden (ME-2)	Hillary Scholten (MI-3)
Marcy Kaptur (OH-9)	Dan Kildee (MI-8)	Annie Kuster (NH-2)
Greg Landsman (OH-1)	Angie Craig (MN-2)	Chris Pappas (NH-1)
Emilia Sykes (OH-13)	Gabe Vasquez (NM-2)	Susie Lee (NV-3)
Matt Cartwright (PA-8)	Pat Ryan (NY-18)	Steven Horsford (NV-4)
Susan Wild (PA-7)	Chris Deluzio (PA-17)	Dina Titus (NV-1)
M. Gluesenkamp Perez (WA-3)	Kim Schrier (WA-8)	Val Hoyle (OR-4)
		Andrea Salinas (OR-6)
		Henry Cuellar (TX-28)
		Vicente Gonzalez (TX-34)
		Abigail Spanberger (VA-7)

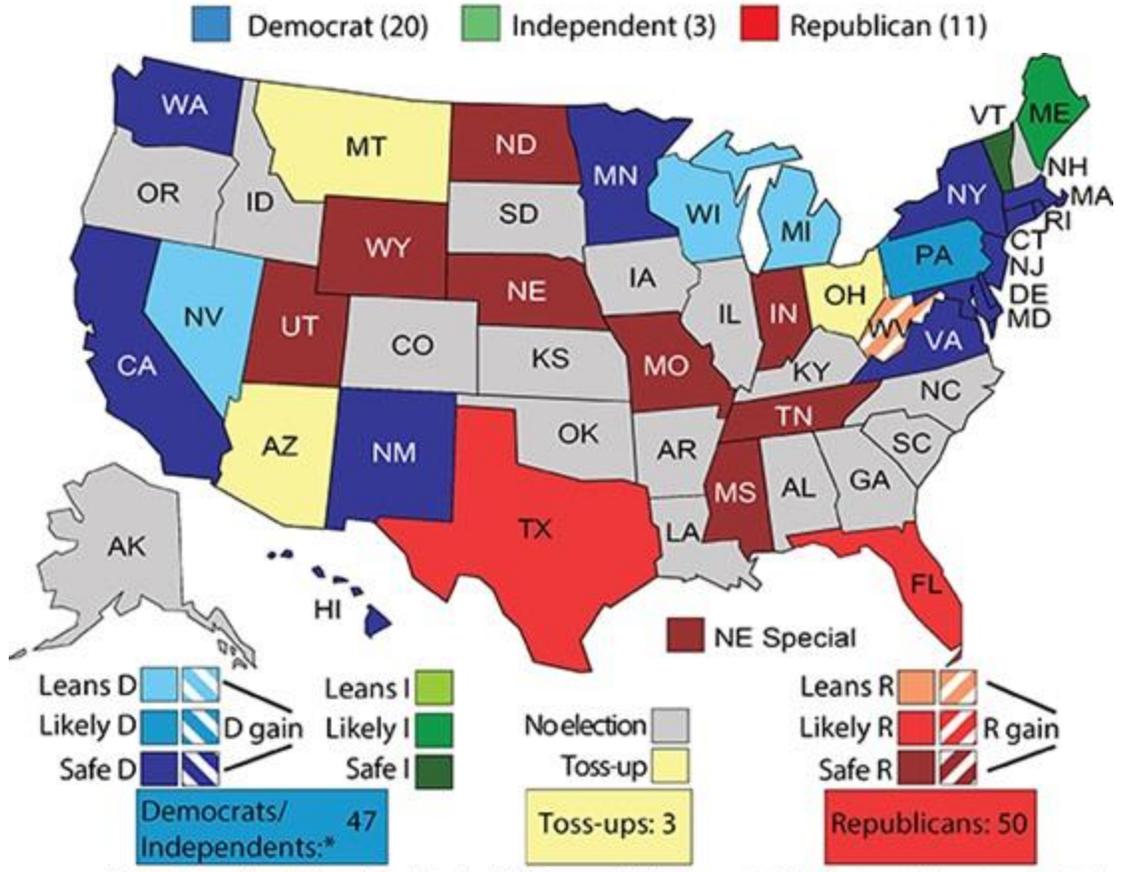
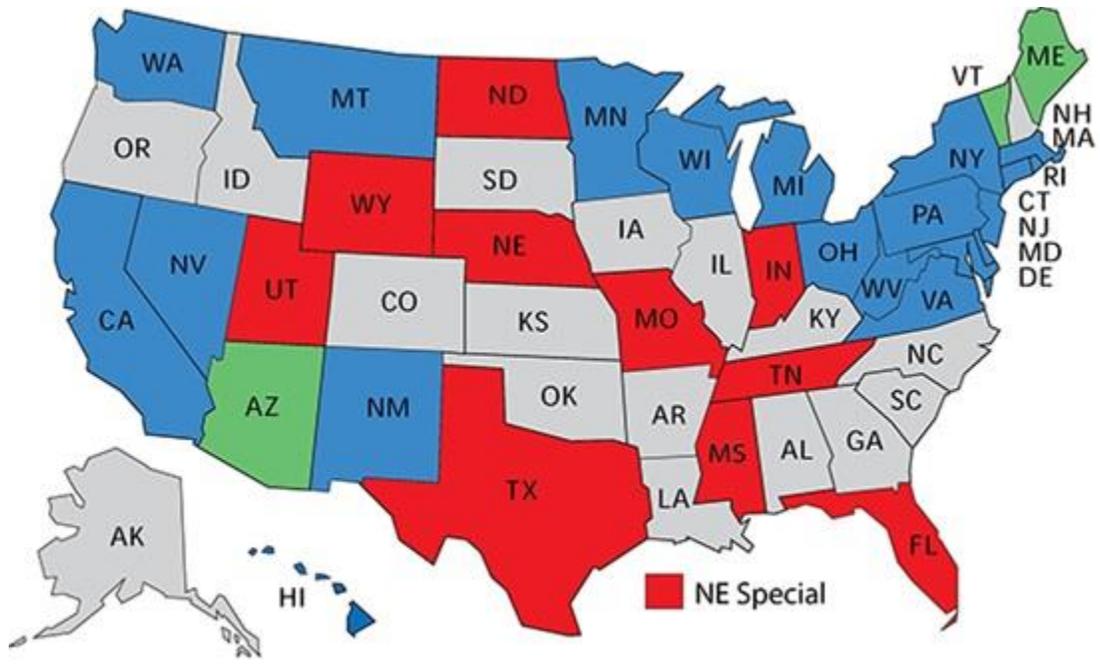
**Total seats rated Safe Democratic: 174**

**Total seats rated Safe, Likely, or Leans D: 202**

\*Placeholder rating that assumes Democrats will be favored to win a second, undetermined district in Alabama following the U.S. Supreme Court's *Allen v. Milligan* decision on June 8, 2023.

<b>BIDEN-DISTRICT REPUBLICANS (18)</b>								
District	Member	Biden	Trump	Biden margin	R vote	D vote	R margin	Difference
AZ-1	David Schweikert	50.1	48.6	1.5	50.4	49.6	0.8	2.3
AZ-6	Juan Ciscomani	49.3	49.2	0.1	50.7	49.3	1.4	1.5
CA-13	John Duarte	54.3	43.4	10.9	50.2	49.8	0.4	11.3
CA-22	David Valadao	55.3	42.3	13.0	51.7	48.3	3.4	16.4
CA-27	Mike Garcia	55.1	42.7	12.4	53.2	46.8	6.4	18.8
CA-40	Young Kim	49.9	48.0	1.9	56.8	43.2	13.6	15.5
CA-45	Michelle Steel	52.1	46.0	6.1	52.4	47.6	4.8	10.9
NE-2	Don Bacon	52.2	45.8	6.4	51.5	48.5	3.0	9.4
NJ-7	Tom Kean	51.1	47.3	3.8	51.6	48.4	3.2	7.0
NY-1	Nick LaLota	49.5	49.3	0.2	55.9	44.1	11.8	12.0
NY-3	George Santos	53.6	45.4	8.2	54.1	45.9	8.2	16.4
NY-4	Anthony D'Esposito	56.8	42.2	14.6	51.8	48.2	3.6	18.2
NY-17	Mike Lawler	54.5	44.4	10.1	50.3	49.7	0.6	10.7
NY-19	Marc Molinaro	51.3	46.7	4.6	51.1	48.9	2.2	6.8
NY-22	Brandon Williams	52.6	45.2	7.4	50.8	49.2	1.6	9.0
OR-5	Lori Chavez-DeRemer	53.2	44.4	8.8	51.1	48.9	2.2	11.0
PA-1	Brian Fitzpatrick	51.8	47.2	4.6	55.0	45.0	10.0	14.6
VA-2	Jen Kiggans	50.1	48.2	1.9	51.7	48.3	3.4	5.3
<b>TRUMP-DISTRICT DEMOCRATS (5)</b>								
District	Member	Biden	Trump	Trump margin	D vote	R vote	D margin	Difference
AK-AL	Mary Peltola	43.0	53.1	10.1	54.9	45.1	9.8	19.9
ME-2	Jared Golden	45.5	51.6	6.1	53.1	46.9	6.2	12.3
OH-9	Marcy Kaptur	47.7	50.6	2.9	56.5	43.5	13.0	15.9
PA-8	Matt Cartwright	48.0	50.9	2.9	51.2	48.8	2.4	5.3
WA-3	Marie Gluesenkamp Perez	46.6	50.8	4.2	50.4	49.6	0.8	5.0

2024 Senate Ratings



Notes: \*Angus King (I-ME) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) caucus with the Democrats in the Senate, so their seats are counted in the Democratic column.

Advocacy calendar

# JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AMA Events
Senate in Session
House in Session
Both Chambers in Session

State Work Periods
District Work Periods
Both Work Periods

Be sure to follow all the AMA's Physician Grassroots Network social media accounts for all the latest news on physician advocacy and what you can do to make sure your voice is heard on Capitol Hill.



[AMA Advocacy](#)



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