Five of seven governors' seats most likely to flip are held by Democrats

Hotline's 2016 gubernatorial rankings

1. Missouri: Republican-turned-Democratic state Attorney General Koster was a top Democrat recruit, but Greitens is banking on Trump's coattails leading him to win.

Incumbent: Jay Nixon (D) (retiring)

Challenger: Chris Koster (D), Eric Greitens (R)

2. North Carolina: Attorney General Cooper has a lead in polling and fundraising. McCrory's embrace of legislation seen as anti-LGBT may hurt his chances.

Incumbent: Pat McCrory (R)
Challenger: Roy Cooper (D)

3. New Hampshire: New Hampshire will be a swing state in the Presidential and Senate elections, which will have an effect on these lower profile candidates.

Incumbent: Maggie Hassan (D) (retiring)

Challengers: Colin Van Ostern (D), Chris Sununu (R)

4. Vermont: Bernie Sanders's home state is solidly Democratic but also has a penchant for electing moderate Republican governors.

Incumbent: Peter Shumlin (D) (retiring)
Challenger: Sue Minter (D), Phill Scott (R)

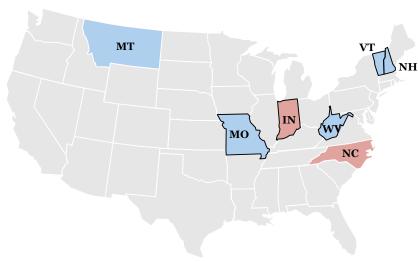
5. Indiana: Both candidates are not yet well known. Gregg enjoys an early lead in polling, but the race is still the Republicans' to lose.

Incumbent: Mike Pence (R) (retiring)

Challenger: John Gregg (D), Eric Holcomb (R)

Republican incumbent

Democrat incumbent



*Outlined states have open races

6. West Virginia: Democrat Justice leads in polling and fundraising.

Incumbent: Earl Ray Tomblin (D) (Retiring)
Challenger: Jim Justice (D), Bill Cole (R)

7. Montana: There has been no credible polling, but Bullock is doing everything right to win a second term.

Incumbent: Steve Bullock (D)
Challenger: Greg Gianforte (R)

Source: Zach Cohen, "Hotline's 2016 governor race rankings," National Journal, September 19, 2016.

National Journal's Hotline

Which governors' seats are most likely to flip?

Based on Headlines From

Hotline's 2016 gubernatorial rankings

Incumbent Challenger Cook Political Report Rating State Open Toss Up 1. Missouri Chris Koster **Eric Greitens** Toss Up 2. North Carolina Pat McCrory Roy Cooper 3. New Hampshire Toss Up Open Chris Sununu Colin Van Ostern Toss Up Open 4. Vermont Phill Scott Sue Minter Open Toss Up 5. Indiana Eric Holcomb John Gregg

Source: Zach Cohen, "Hotline's 2016 governor race rankings," National Journal, September 19, 2016; Cook Political Report, 2016. Images from National Journal Almanac and campaign web pages.