

Before the vote

Two elections.

One business landscape.

*Centre for Risk Analysis
Strategic Intelligence Briefing*

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25 August 2026



The chess board: SA Local Elections

257

municipalities (8 metros, 205 local, 44 district)

674

registered parties nationally; 312 eligible to contest the 4 Nov 2026 poll

29.2 million

registered voters (August 2026); 59.4% of those eligible (46.5m eligible)

70

hung councils, up from 27 in 2016

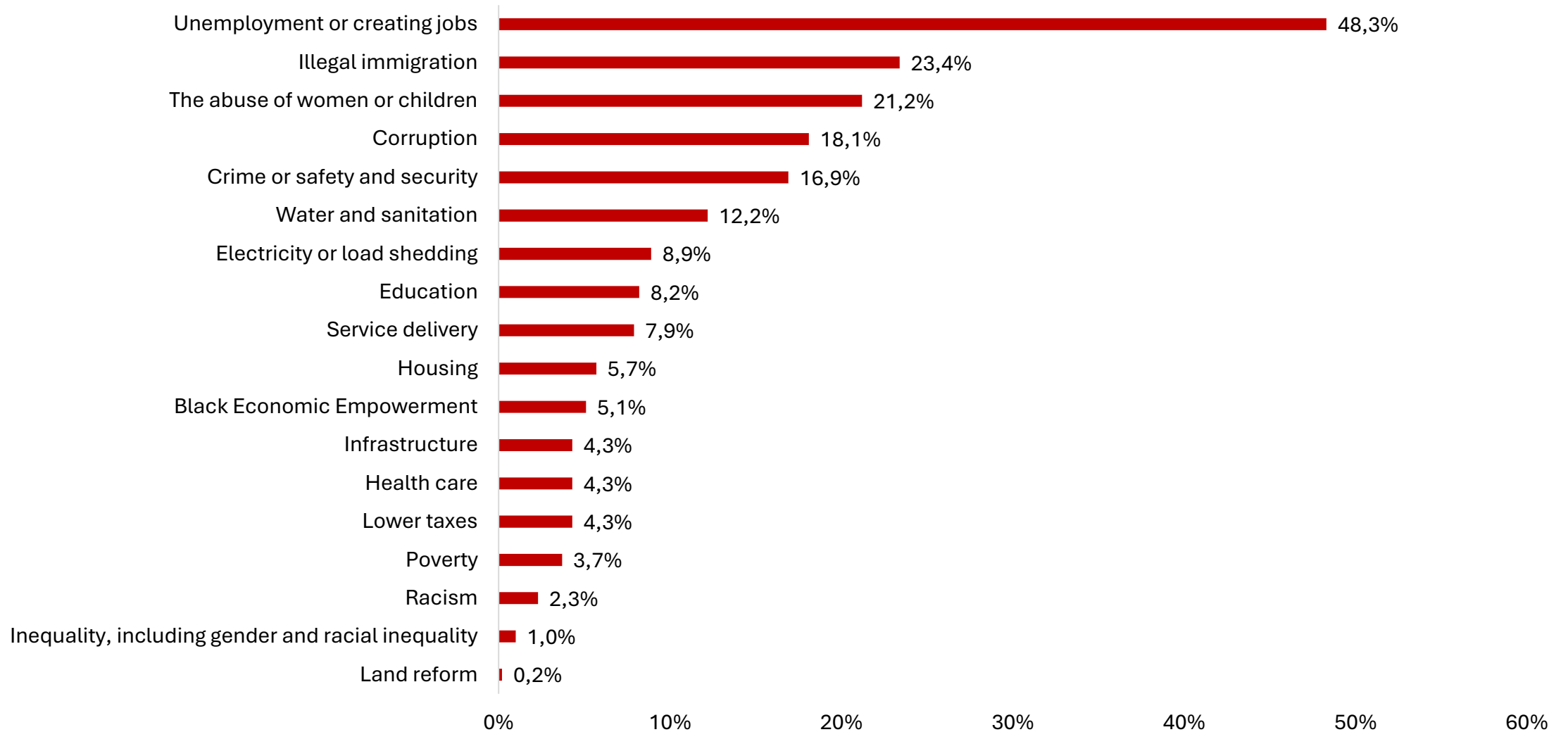
122

ANC-run municipalities (including ANC-led coalitions)

12

DA-run municipalities; ±38 with coalitions

What are the 2 issues you think should be the top priorities for the government?

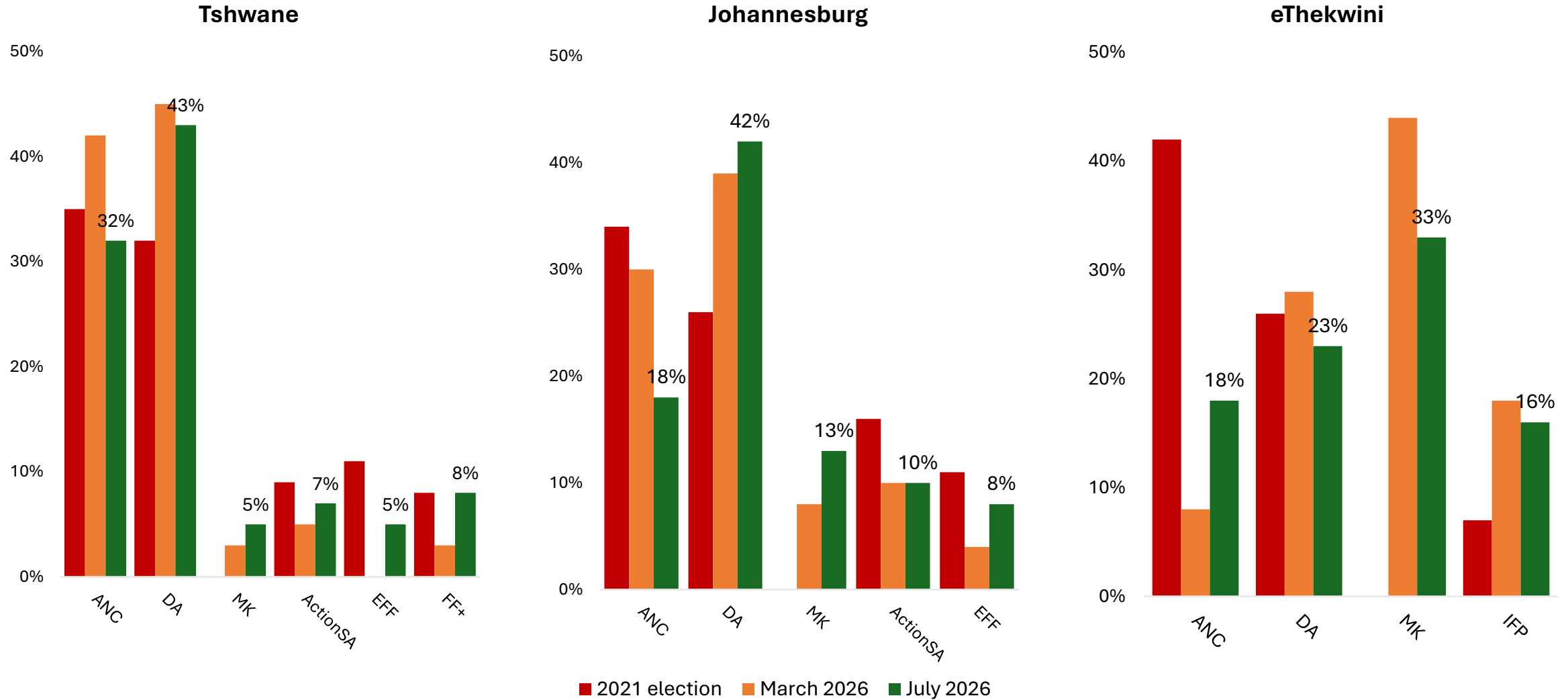


Source: CRA Mar 2026

Methodology: 9 - 20 March 2026. Sample: N=1038. Registered voters only. Margin of Error: ±3%. Confidence Level: 95%

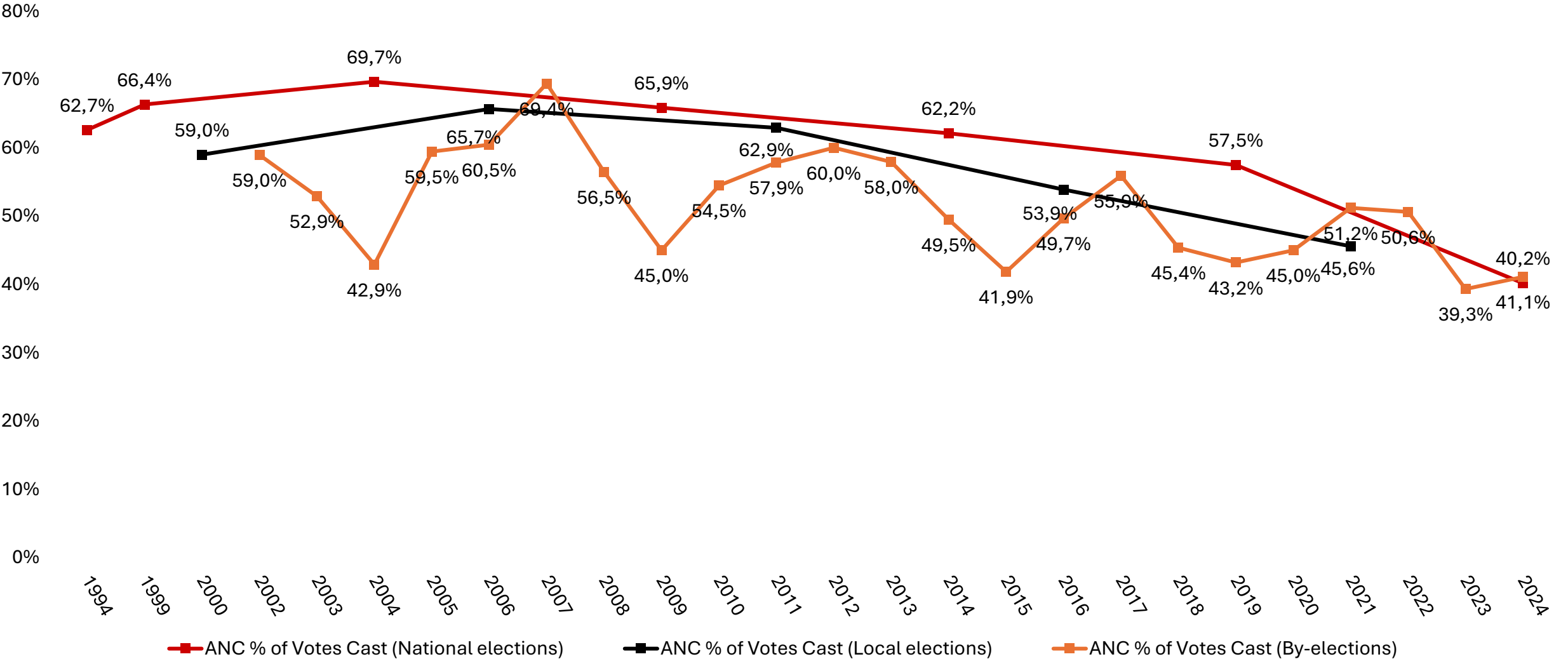
*Numbers do not add up to 100% because undecided and uncertain responses have been left out for purposes of clearer data visualisation

ANC support can no longer be taken for granted



Sources: IEC; SRF March 2026 and July 2026 polling. MK did not contest the 2021 local election.

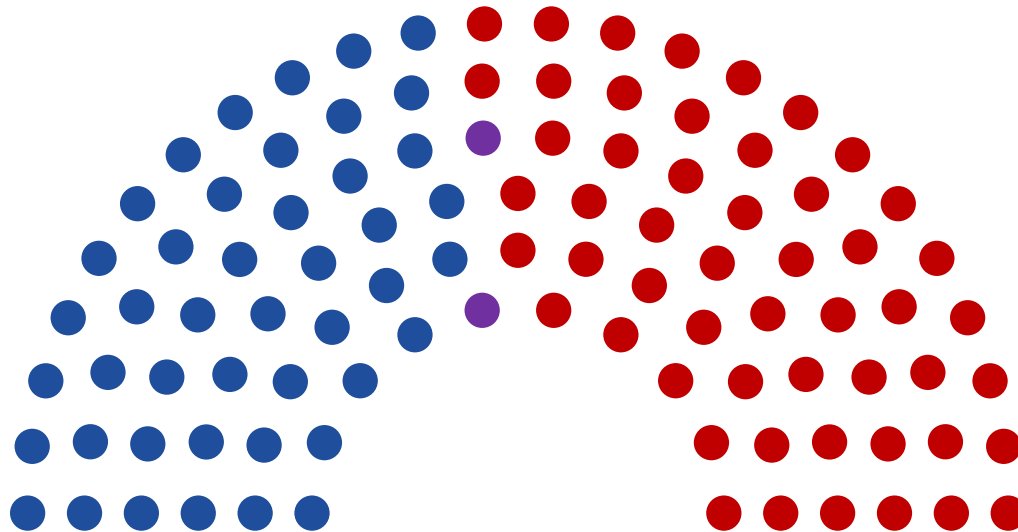
ANC Electoral Performance: National vs Local vs By-Elections Elections, 1994-2024



Source: Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC); author calculations.
Note: 1994 had no formal voter roll; % of registered voters uses estimated eligible voting-age population (~21.7M).

US Congress balance of power

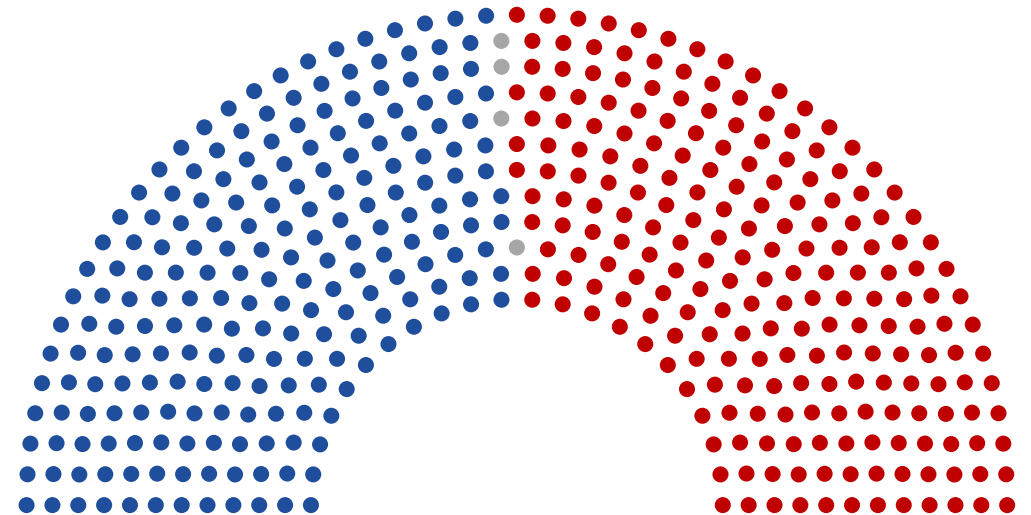
Senate



D-45 R-53

35 seats contested; Republicans defending 22

House



D-212 R-219

*2 Independent senators caucus with Democrats

*4 vacancies in the House

Most competitive Senate races (35 contested in total)

Where Democrats are confident

- Democrats need incumbent Senator Jon Ossoff to win back his seat in Georgia which is a very purple state these days
- Hoping to hold seats where Democrats are retiring: New Hampshire; Michigan; Minnesota
- Hoping to flip North Carolina where they are running a strong candidate: former Governor Roy Cooper who won the governorship back in 2016 & 2020 when Trump won the state

Where Republicans are confident

- Republicans need to hold on to Iowa where Senator Joni Ernst is retiring
- They also need to keep hold of **Texas** which is becoming more of a question mark, although GOP remain confident after a messy primary which threw out a 4-term incumbent John Cornyn in favour of Trump's pick AG Ken Paxton. Dem James Talarico is a serious competitor.

Toss ups

- Alaska
- Ohio
- Michigan
- Maine

4 Senate toss ups

Michigan

- Abdul El-Sayed vs Mike Rogers

Alaska

- Mary Peltola vs Dan Sullivan
- Should have been safe for GOP; last time voted for a Democrat President was 1964
- Another Dan Sullivan is running for the race – big oops!
- Peltola is the first woman and person born in Alaska to represent the state in the House of Representatives

Maine

- Troy Jackson vs Susan Collins
- Democrats trying to beat a five-term Senator
- Collins continues to win the seat despite Maine voting for a Democrat President in every election since 1992

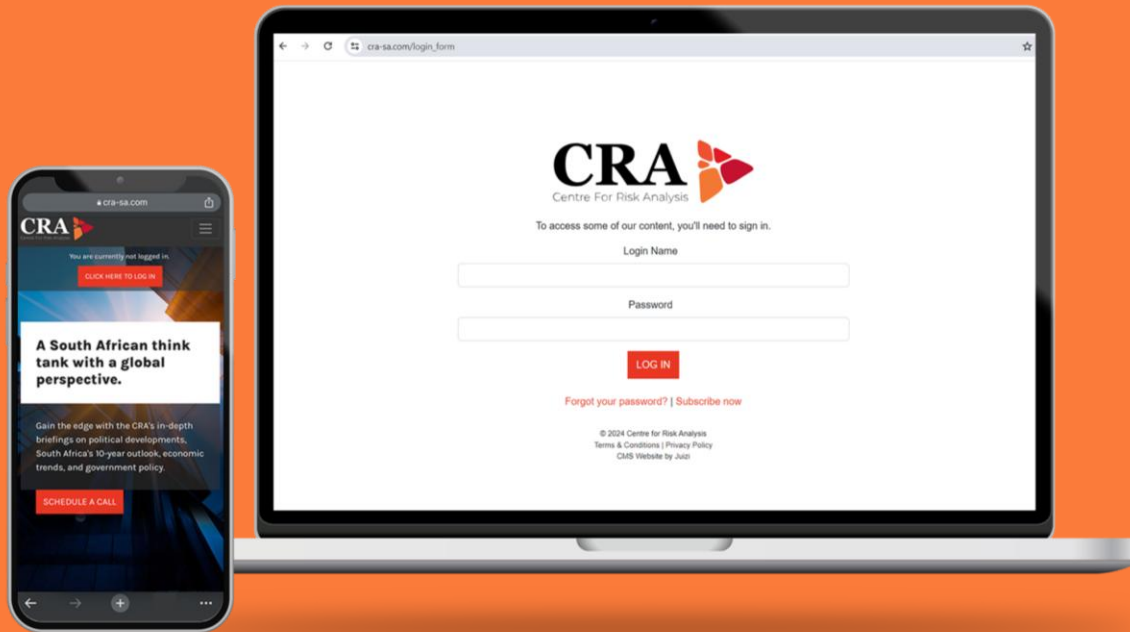
Ohio

- Sherrod Brown vs Jon Husted
- Husted, current Senator going against Brown the former Senator
- Fox News poll has Brown 8+ points over Husted

Bills introduced in Congress

- **H.R.2607 AFRIKANER (Asylum for Farmers and Refugees in Crisis and Necessary Emigration Resettlement) Act** – Introduced by Rep. Troy E. Nehls of Texas
- **H.R.2633 U.S.-South Africa Bilateral Relations Review Act of 2025** – Introduced by Rep. Ronny Jackson of Texas
- **H.R.4051 Addressing Hostile and Antisemitic Conduct by the Republic of South Africa Act of 2025** – Introduced by Rep. Greg Steube of Florida
- **S.2751 U.S.-South Africa Bilateral Relations Review Act** – Introduced by Sen. John Kennedy of Louisiana
- **S.2958 AGOA Extension and Bilateral Engagement Act of 2025** – Introduced by Sen. John Kennedy of Louisiana

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