



Written by [Bob Adelman](#) on September 8, 2021

## Biden's Falling Approval Numbers Are Putting Congress Into Play for Republicans in 2022

Remington Research Group, a reputable [GOP-aligned](#) polling outfit with a "B" rating from [FiveThirtyEight](#), discovered in its latest survey of seven "middle-of-the-road" congressional districts that "the left's 'Build Back Better' agenda is toxic." This downturn in approval will likely cost the seven Democrats presently representing those districts their jobs next November.

In every district polled, Joe Biden's approval rating is underwater, averaging 46%. When matched against a "generic" Republican candidate, they are expected to lose by an average of six percentage points.



AP Images

This is a microcosm of Biden's approval rating nationally. The eight most recent polls recorded at RealClear Politics [show](#) Biden's approval between 43 and 47 percent, the lowest of his administration so far. FiveThirtyEight's [poll averages](#) similarly have his deficit at 4.1 points as of Sept. 8.

Most vulnerable is the razor-thin eight-seat Democrat majority in the House of Representatives. A loss of just five seats next November would turn control back to the Republicans.

According to Sean Trende, [a political analyst](#) at RealClear Politics, the party in power typically loses around 30 seats in the House and two to four seats in the Senate. But, says Trende, "the most important predictor of a party's performance in a midterm is the president's job approval rating ... abysmal elections for parties in power have occurred when the president was generally unpopular."

As Biden's approval rating continues to drop, the likelihood of losses for Democrats in the midterms increases. At 50% approval, Democrats in the Senate would expect to break even. "At 46%," wrote Trende, "Democrats ... only retain control about four percent of the time."

In the House, Biden's continuing dismal performance would, per Trende, cost the Democrats upwards of 25 seats. "If he declines much further, however, it could turn into an ugly rout."

In the Senate, there are five Republican senators with targets on their backs: Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), Richard Burr (R-N.C.), Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.). They painted those targets themselves either by voting to impeach President Trump or supporting the "bipartisan" infrastructure spending bill. Each is taking the easy way out by retiring.

The vacuum in each case is being filled by what Politico calls "Trump acolytes": those "who have made loyalty to the former president a cornerstone of their campaigns." For example, former Republican Missouri state Senator John Lamping said that Senator Roy Blunt "is a super-super insider and that's not what the base wants. No one is running to be a Roy Blunt senator. They're running to be a Donald Trump senator."

Three other Republican senators are in jeopardy as well: John Thune (R-S.D.), Lisa Murkowski (R-



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Alaska), and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa). They have not yet formally announced their candidacies and could be replaced by Trump “acolytes,” turning the Senate an even darker red.

Biden’s approval ratings are dropping due to his Afghanistan withdrawal disaster, a southern border inundated with illegal immigration, and inflation. Add to that rampant crime in big cities and the economy struggling to find workers, and it’s not at all difficult to see why Biden’s numbers are flagging.

The GOP has other advantages going into the November 2022 midterms: the party controls the redistricting process for 187 House seats, with the Democrats controlling just 75. Biden is unlikely to be an asset on the campaign trail, and his hapless Vice President Kamala Harris is too toxic to put in front of a microphone.

Assuming the Republicans regain control of both houses of Congress in 2022, the next questions must be: will it make any difference? Will those campaigning on the Trump platform of “Make America Great Again” keep their promises and begin the long, arduous path to restoring the Republic? Will they hew to their oaths of office to support and defend the Constitution? Will they make serious efforts to reverse the damage being done by the Democrats? Or will they become invisible in the freedom fight currently raging across the land?

That’s the role of the John Birch Society: creating an informed electorate who will not only select statesmen who promise to keep their oaths but hold them to those promises when they fall away. For more information on how to get involved in the freedom fight, go to [JBS.org](https://jbs.org).



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