Incumbents are typically favored to win, even in difficult districts in a wave election

Incumbents Are Tough to Beat, Even in a Wave

Winning percentage for incumbents representing the president's party in 2006 and 2010, by their party's advantage in Cook P.V.I. Incumbent Incumbent Defeated. Survives 24 76% C+7 or greater 37 63 C+3 to C+7 61 39 C+1 to C+3 35 65 I+1 to C+1 25 **75** I+1 to I+3 18 82 I+3 to I+5 93 I+5 to I+10 100 I+10 or greater