

# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4

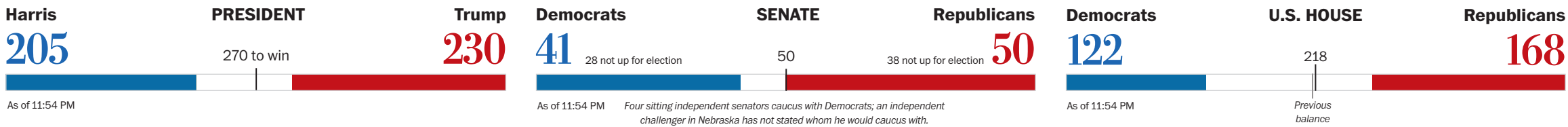
Partly sunny 81/64 • Tomorrow: Showers 76/52 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024 • \$3

# Trump gains ground

## HARRIS CAMPAIGN PINS HOPES ON ‘BLUE WALL’ AS PATH TO VICTORY NARROWS



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST



DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/THE WASHINGTON POST



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Supporters of Republican nominee Donald Trump cheer as results are announced Tuesday night in West Palm Beach, Florida. Trump and his wife, Melania, visit his campaign headquarters in West Palm Beach. Democratic nominee Kamala Harris works a phone bank at party headquarters in downtown D.C.**

## North Carolina is the first battleground to be decided

BY TYLER PAGER AND HANNAH KNOWLES

Former president Donald Trump was projected to win North Carolina and was showing strength in Georgia late Tuesday, narrowing Vice President Kamala Harris's path to winning the White House even as votes were still being counted across the country.

The results, though not finalized, put pressure on Harris to sweep Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan and a single congressional district in Nebraska — with aides saying the “blue wall” states remained her best, and possibly only, route to defeating Trump and becoming the nation's first female president.

But some Democrats close to the Harris campaign were growing more pessimistic about Harris's prospects in the hours after the polls closed late Tuesday.

The final result, which could hinge on just thousands of votes across the seven battleground states, may take days to

SEE ELECTION ON AA10

## Alsobrooks rises to Senate in historic win

BY ERIN COX AND KATIE SHEPHERD

Democrat Angela Alsobrooks was projected to win Maryland's unexpectedly competitive Senate race Tuesday, according to the Associated Press and Edison Research, extinguishing Republican hopes that popular former governor Larry Hogan could wrestle away the reliably blue seat and help deliver control of the chamber to his party.

Alsobrooks, 53, emerged from the costliest race in state history as the first the Black person elected to the Senate from Maryland and will become one of just a handful of Black women to ever serve in the chamber.

“As divided as we may feel in America, I still believe there is no

SEE MARYLAND ON AA12

## Netanyahu fires defense minister, a fierce critic of his war strategy

BY SHIRA RUBIN AND LIOR SOROKA

TEL AVIV — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Tuesday dismissed Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, one of the most vocal and prominent critics of his war strategy and the country's primary interlocutor with the Biden administration on military matters amid a widening conflict in the Middle East.

“In the midst of war, full trust between the prime minister and the defense minister is needed more than ever,” Netanyahu said in a video posted to X. “In recent months, this trust has eroded.” Netanyahu said he decided to

end Gallant's tenure on Tuesday, and that he would be replaced by Foreign Minister Israel Katz, a close ally with little military experience. He added that Gideon Saar, a former Netanyahu disciple, would replace Katz as foreign minister.

The surprise late-night announcement, released as Washington and much of the rest of the world was preoccupied with the U.S. presidential election, sent shock waves across Israel. Thousands of protesters turned out in Tel Aviv, and prominent

SEE GALLANT ON A8

**Netanyahu ally:** Ex-aide accused of leak to derail hostage deal. **A9**

## Jitters, and relief, on a mostly smooth final day of voting

This story is by Amy Gardner, Patrick Marley, Robert Klemko, Shaven Boburg and Yvonne Wingett Sanchez

America voted on Tuesday. In public schools and church basements, on tribal reservations and at kitchen tables, tens of millions of voters cast ballots with few hiccups on the final day of what can now be called election season in the most divisive and high-stakes presidential contest in U.S. history.

Many if not most Americans voted ahead of Election Day this

**Senate:** Republicans close in on control of chamber. **AA2**

year, solidifying the popularity and convenience of voting early or by mail and contributing to the smoothness of the day, with only scattered problems at polling locations.

In a race expected to hinge on the outcome in seven battleground states, the year's novel voting patterns left Republicans and Democrats feeling less certain about the results Tuesday as they more nervously tracked voter turnout, line lengths and other ordinary problems that surface when millions

SEE VOTING ON AA11

**House:** GOP's razor-thin majority hangs in the balance. **AA3**

## A tall hurdle for next president: Leading a nation split in two



Dan Balz

THE TAKE

Harris or Donald Trump, will then face the daunting challenge of trying to govern a nation whose citizens see the world in dramatically diverging ways.

At their best, elections help resolve disagreements about how to deal with the nation's

Two very different Americas went to the polls Tuesday, and only one will emerge victorious. The 47th president, whether Kamala Harris or Donald Trump, will then face the daunting challenge of trying to govern a nation whose citizens see the world in dramatically diverging ways.

**Turnout:** Women spoke loudly, exit polls showed. **AA7**

biggest problems. They are carried out peacefully and harmoniously, with competing coalitions respecting what the other side brings to the debate. When they are over, the losers accept the outcome.

But these are anything but normal times. For the third time in as many elections, Americans were put through the wringer in a campaign that exposed the rawest edges of a changing society. The general election that pitted Harris, the Democratic vice president, against Trump,

SEE TAKE ON AA4

**Bomb hoaxes:** Officials blame Russia for false threats. **AA14**



Head online for the latest coverage: Full results were not available at press time. [washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

BUSINESS NEWS.....A12  
COMICS.....C5  
OBITUARIES.....B5

OPINION PAGES.....A15  
TELEVISION.....C4  
WORLD NEWS.....A6

CONTENT © 2024  
The Washington Post / Year 147, No. 54027

