

News From The States

COUNTDOWN '24

Thanks for being here and [supporting our work](#).

By **Robin Opsahl**, [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

We hope you all had a good Thanksgiving!

This year, the Republican National Committee has hosted three GOP presidential debates — and frontrunner former President Donald Trump has skipped all three. Before the 2024 presidential nominating cycle begins, there are still a few debates left on the docket:

- The RNC will hold its fourth [Republican Presidential Debate](#) in Tuscaloosa, Alabama on Dec. 6.
- Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican presidential candidate, and California Gov. Gavin Newsom — rising political stars who lead two of the nation's most populous and diverse states — [will debate Nov. 30 in Georgia](#).
- Presidential debates for the Republican and Democratic nominees ahead of the 2024 general election are also in the works, with the nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates [scheduling its first debate](#) for Sept. 16, 2024 in San Marcos, Texas.

TOP IMPACT *What to read this week*

[Voting rights advocates decry 'calamitous ruling' on Voting Rights Act](#)



(Photo by Carl Payne for States Newsroom)

Following a federal court ruling limiting the scope of the Voting Rights Act, Michigan officials say the urgency has only increased to pass state-level legislation to protect minority voters.

A three-judge panel of the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that only the United States attorney general can enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA), and thus private individuals can't sue under Section 2 of the VRA, which prohibits abridging the right to vote on the basis of race. While GOP Arkansas Attorney General Tim Griffin — a member of the redistricting board — praised the decision in a statement as “a victory for our citizens and for the rule of law,” voting rights advocates argue it is the opposite of that. | [Michigan Advance](#)

Where the 2024 presidential candidates stand on Indigenous issues

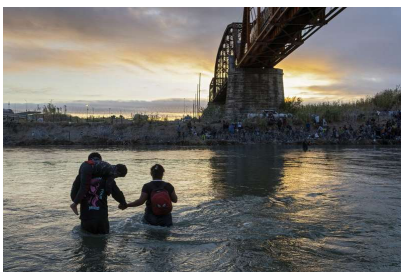


(Photo by Samuel Corum/Getty Images)

While Republican, Democratic and Independent presidential hopefuls speak about their views on the campaign trail, most candidates don't publicly mention what their policies are for tribal nations, leaving voters to speculate what it could be from past legislations, social media posts, comments and speeches.

The presidential race is stacked this election, but the two frontrunners remain President Joe Biden and Trump. But some experts say the difference between the top two contenders is stark when it comes to tribal nations. | [Source NM](#)

BIG PICTURE *Election coverage across the country*



(Photo by John Moore/Getty Images)

- **Trump immigration policies set the tone for most of the GOP presidential field** | [News from the States](#)
- **Bob Vander Plaats endorses Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for president** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **Anti-abortion groups shrug off election losses, look to courts, statehouses for path forward** | [Louisiana Illuminator](#)
- **Instagram moms organize for gun control, abortion and democracy** | [Wisconsin Examiner](#)

Campaign trail

- **Kamala Harris to visit Houston for Hispanic outreach event** | [Texas Tribune](#)
- **Donald Trump cheered on field at Clemson-USC rivalry game** | [South Carolina Daily Gazette](#)

- **DeSantis supporters' ad buy emphasizes high-profile Iowa endorsements** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **Christie says he plans to stay in GOP race through convention** | [CNN](#)
- **How Dean Phillips could change the electoral math for Republicans in New Hampshire** | [Politico](#)

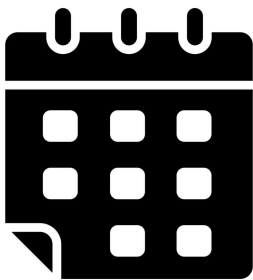
Courts

- **Colorado Supreme Court schedules hearing in Trump 14th Amendment case** | [Colorado Newswire](#)
- **Federal appeals court dismisses Arkansas redistricting lawsuit** | [Arkansas Advocate](#)
- **Voting groups fear court ruling on Arkansas maps hurts chances to challenge election laws** | [Georgia Recorder](#)
- **Wisconsin Supreme Court hears oral arguments in case over political maps** | [Wisconsin Examiner](#)
- **New policy leads to settlement in ballot petitioner rights lawsuit** | [South Dakota Searchlight](#)

Elections

- **How U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson helped derail a fight against election lies** | [News from the States](#)
- **Mohave County votes against illegally hand counting the 2024 election, again** | [AZ Mirror](#)
- **Signature collection can begin anew after Ohio redistricting amendment passes next step** | [Ohio Capital Journal](#)
- **Here Are the Members of Congress Giving Up Their Seats, Setting Up a 2024 Fight** | [New York Times](#)
- **A growing series of alarms blaring in federal courtrooms, less than a year before 2024 presidential election** | [CBS News](#)

COMING UP Calendar of events



- **Dec. 6, 2023, TUSCALOOSA, AL** | The fourth Republican presidential debate.
- **Dec. 6, 2023, COLORADO** | Scheduled oral arguments [will begin in the Colorado Supreme Court](#) for a case over whether Trump should be barred from the state's 2024 primary ballot.
- **Sept. 16, 2024, SAN MARCOS, TX** | The [first scheduled debate](#) between the Democratic and Republican presidential nominees for the 2024 general election.

Follow state-level coverage of Election 2024 anytime at [News From The States](#). Send tips and thoughts to ropsahl@iowacapitaldispatch.com, and follow them on Twitter [@robinlopsahl](#)

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