

AZ-01 District Primer

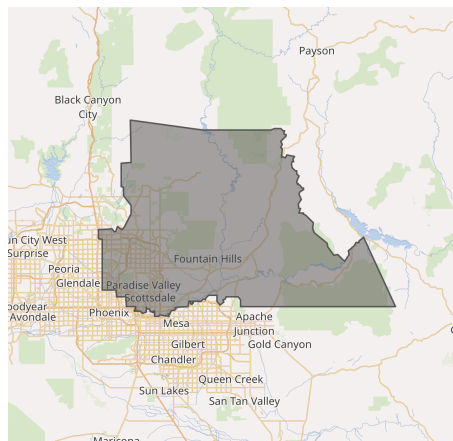
In 2024, Republican David Schweikert won this seat by 16,572 votes. Dems lost this district by just 80 votes per precinct. If we can persuade just 81 voters per precinct, we can win this year. With your help, we're going to **FLIP** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
Filing Deadline: April 6
Primary: August 4
Midterms: November 3

Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
Harris: 216,232 (48%) Trump: 230,237 (51%)	Schweikert (R): 225,538 (52%) Shah (D): 208,966 (48%)	Schweikert (R): 182,356 (50.4%) Hodge (D): 179,141 (49.6%)

District Facts & Stats



Citizenry

The wealthiest CD in Arizona, AZ-01 is predominantly white, affluent, and well educated, with many professionals, veterans, and retirees. 9% of residents live below the poverty line. 10% of households are Spanish-speaking. Since redistricting in 2023, the district no longer includes the Yavapai Nation; Native Americans account for 1.6% of the population in the district. There are many swing voters in the district.

The Local Vibe

Schweikert has been notably absent from town halls. In protest, residents convened an “Empty Chair” town hall in April 2025, with 400 attendees. In September 2025, Schweikert announced his intention to run for governor in 2026.

In June 2025, a No Kings rally drew 20,000 in Phoenix.

Banner Health, the district’s largest employer, is building a comprehensive medical campus in Scottsdale expected to employ 2500 people.

Largest Cities

- Scottsdale: 234,394
- NE Phoenix: ~120,000
- Fountain Hills: 12,502

Geography

Located in northeastern Maricopa County, the district encompasses NE Phoenix as well as Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, and Paradise Valley, mixing urban and affluent suburban communities. Located in a desert, the district depends for most of its water on rivers, including the Colorado, and these sources are dwindling.

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Key Issues

- **Threats to jobs and benefits:** Federal budget cuts threaten veterans' benefits and the loss of approximately 63,000 jobs in the green energy sector.
 - **Water's getting scarce:** The cuts included grants critical for improving water infrastructure. Unauthorized "wildcat" real estate developments have put additional pressure on the water supply.
 - **Phoenix schools in trouble:** Cuts to DEI funding resulted in the loss of a \$16 million grant to the Osborn School District in Phoenix, raising alarms about reduced educational resources and community investment.
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About the Candidates

Rep. David Schweikert is not seeking re-election to Congress and instead plans to run for governor. The primary is on August 4, and leading candidates from both parties for this open seat are listed on this page.

GOP Candidates

Former Arizona Cardinals kicker **Jay Feely** focuses on MAGA priorities of border security, conservative economic policies, and traditional rights with a personal narrative of bringing discipline from sports to politics.

GOP chairwoman **Gina Swoboda** is running on a platform focused on party infrastructure, economic conservatism, and border security; she employs MAGA-aligned messaging.

Both Feely and Swoboda were endorsed by Trump in January 2026. Other GOP candidates include businessman **John Trobough**, veteran and former federal prosecutor **Jason Duey**, and Rep. **Joseph Chaplik** from Scottsdale.

Democratic Challengers

A physician and public health expert, **Amish Shah** has served in the Arizona House of Representatives and narrowly lost to Schweikert in the last election. He founded the Arizona Vegetarian Food Festival and has been a stalwart supporter of abortion rights and an advocate for cheaper, better medical care, including lower prices for lifesaving drugs like insulin. Shah has significant experience on the campaign trail as well as strong name recognition in the district. He is known for his personal outreach. In his last campaign, he visited the homes of more than fifteen thousand district residents.

The daughter of Cuban refugees, former broadcast journalist, and mother of five, **Marlene Galán Woods** has long championed the district's women and children. With her late husband, Grant Woods, a former AZ Attorney General, she founded the Mesa Arts Academy for area students; she has also served as President of the East Valley School Board, and she spearheaded fundraising in support of the new Phoenix Children's Museum. In 2022, she chaired the campaign of Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes. She supports women's rights, including the right to choose, and is a vocal critic of politicians like Kari Lake who use their media reach to spread misinformation. If elected, she will be the first Latina woman to represent AZ-01 in Congress. Her twenty-year career in broadcast journalism, notably as a TV anchor, makes her a familiar face as well as a strong communicator.

Other Democratic candidates include activist and attorney **Mark Robert Gordon**, entrepreneurs **Jonathan Treble** and **Rick McCartney**, and administrative law judge **Brian del Vecchio**.

The contrast: Unlike the Democratic hopefuls, who are focused on the positive changes they can effect for the district's residents in direct response to local concerns, all the GOP candidates take their cues, from politics to policy, from messaging emanating from Trump and MAGA in DC.

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