

PA-10 District Primer

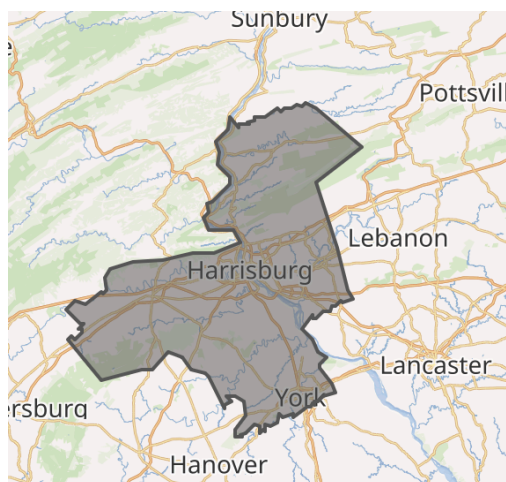
In 2024, Republican Scott Perry won this seat by 5,133 votes. *That's close!* Dems lost this district by just over one vote per precinct. If we can persuade just two voters per precinct, we can win this year. With your help, we're going to **FLIP** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
Filing Deadline: March 10
Primary: May 19
Midterms: November 3

Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
Trump: 214,297 (52%) Harris: 192,758 (46.8%)	Perry (R): 205,567 (50.5%) Stelson (D): 200,434 (49.3%)	Perry (R): 169,331 (53.8%) Daniels (D): 145,215 (46.2%)

District Facts & Stats



Largest Cities

- Harrisburg: 50,000
- York: 44,800
- Mechanicsburg: 93,000

Geography

The district is centered on Harrisburg, the state capitol, and covers parts of York, and Cumberland counties plus all of Dauphin. It is a mix of small cities, suburbs and rural areas. The Harrisburg/York area is more densely populated than the northern and western areas.

Citizenry

The district (pop. 764,864) is predominantly white, with 6% fewer foreign-born individuals and 10% more veterans than national averages. The district has more federal government employees (13,000) than any other district in PA, and includes a major IRS office, Defense Logistics Agency, and a VA medical center. There are also more than 2,000 farms in the district, 95% of which are family-owned. 25% of them hire farm labor.

The Local Vibe

With heavy employment in healthcare and government, the district is vulnerable to the loss of federal funding due to DOGE and OBBA cuts. Medicaid cuts were projected to affect 146,000 individuals in the district.

Two ICE detention centers with a total capacity of 9000 beds are planned in Tremont and Bern Twps; while neither is in the district, both are located about an hour northeast of Harrisburg. Residents, including those in nearby PA-10, are alarmed. Gov. Shapiro (D) has vowed to block any moves by the federal government to build the centers.

Between 5,000 and 6,000 people joined the No Kings Rally in Harrisburg, and another 2,000 joined in York in October 2025.

Rep. Scott Perry ignores his constituents; he hasn't held a town hall since 2019.

Key Issues

- **Threats to jobs and benefits:** Federal budget cuts threaten local jobs, veterans' benefits, and Medicaid.
 - **Affordability:** Rents are rising in Harrisburg and York, and higher gas and fuel prices due to Trump's war in Iran are further squeezing residents.
 - **Agriculture:** Erratic tariffs, increased fertilizer costs, and lack of support for combatting avian flu create risks for family farmers in the district.
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About the Candidates

Scott Perry | Republican Incumbent

Scott Perry was born in California and moved to PA as a child. He enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1980, flew combat missions in Iraq, and left the service in 2019 as a Brigadier General. He graduated from Penn State in 1991, and co-founded a mechanical contracting business.

He's represented PA in the House of Representatives since 2012, first in the PA-04 and then in the PA-10 after boundaries were redrawn in 2018.

Perry is a hard-core MAGA Republican. He was the chair of the Freedom Caucus from 2021 to 2023. He has been vocally supportive of DOGE's cuts, and was reportedly involved in efforts to overturn the 2020 election, including the fake elector scheme. He has also called for the impeachment of federal judges who've ruled against the Trump administration and has alienated veterans by saying that Democrats with military records are serving purely for political reasons. He's also a climate denier, and he is firmly anti-reproductive freedom.

Janelle Stelson | Democratic Challenger

Janelle Stelson moved to Harrisburg from Seattle in the 1980s and had a long career in local news, co-anchoring the News 8 program in Lancaster PA from 1997 to 2023. She ran against Perry in 2024 and lost by only 5,133 votes.

Stelson is a centrist Democrat who has focused on cost-of-living issues, including reducing health costs and complexity, banning surprise billing for ambulance trips, and removing medical debt from credit reports. She supports vocational training, raising PA's minimum wage, and rolling back Trump's tariffs in order to bolster small businesses in her district. She also is prioritizing supporting family farms and combatting avian flu.

The contrast: Scott Perry is joined at the hip to Donald Trump. He is a full-on MAGA cultist who prioritizes Trump's political survival over the needs of district residents. Stelson is a centrist Democrat focused on the kitchen-table issues that matter to her constituents; she is a proven, effective, pragmatic leader who seeks bipartisan solutions.