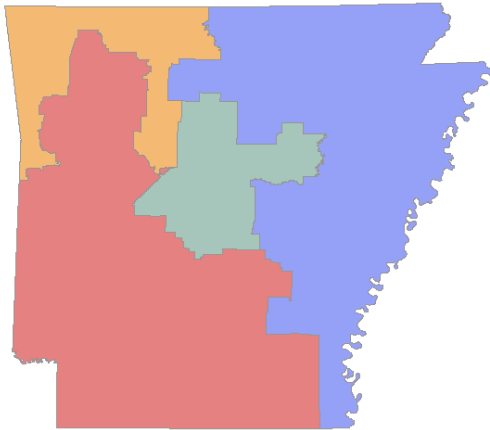


Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Signed into law by Gov. Mike Beebe on April 14, 2011.

2012 Projections (4R, 0D)*

All four of Arkansas' House seats are now strongly Republican. The state's three incumbent Republican House members, all first elected in the 2010 wave year, are expected to win re-election in their districts.

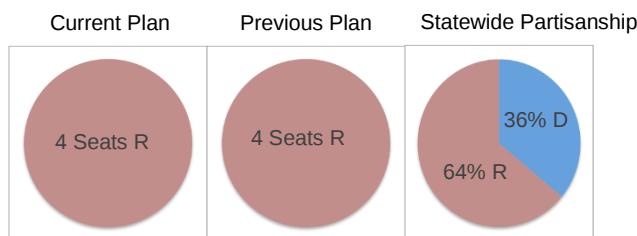
Arkansas' sole Democrat in the House, Rep. Mike Ross of the 4th District, is retiring, leaving one open seat for the 2012 general election. The district has a strong Republican lean.

As a result, a state that as recently as 2008 elected three House Democrats is likely to be swept by the GOP in 2012.

* See details and the fair voting alternative on the following pages.

Arkansas' Redistricting Map Compared to the Previous Lines

New Redistricting Plan Maintains Political Distortion



Partisan percentages and projections are based on an interpretation of the 2008 presidential election.

Competition and Voting Rights in Arkansas

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	0% (0/4)	0% (0/4)
Racial Minority Voting Strength*	0%	0%

* Measures the percentage of eligible voters of a racial minority in districts where their racial group is a majority of eligible voters. Voters might not choose to vote for a candidate of their same race.

Redistricting Process in Arkansas

Arkansas kept its number of U.S. House Members at four through the 2010 Census and subsequent redistricting process.

The state legislature is responsible for congressional redistricting. The deadline for completing the plan was set for April 1, 2011, the last day of the legislative session. The state senate, however, failed to vote on the plan in time, and had to pass a resolution to allow legislators to complete the process.

The final plan passed with bipartisan support in both chambers, but an error in the map forced legislators to return to fix the error. Gov. Beebe backed the plan, calling it the "status quo."

In one odd case, one household was literally split between two districts, with the wife represented in the 3rd District while the husband was placed in the 4th District.

U.S. House Elections in Arkansas

Arkansas' primaries were held on May 22. None of the three incumbents running for re-election faced a primary challenger.

The state's election history shows that U.S. House incumbents typically coast to re-election. The last incumbent to lose a re-election bid was in 2000.

No women have represented Arkansas in the U.S. House since Blanche Lincoln served from 1993-1997.

No racial minorities have ever been elected to the House from Arkansas, even though 15 percent of the state's population is black. Arkansas is also the only southern state to lack a majority-minority district.

View redistricting alternatives at FairVotingUS.com

FairVote.org // [@fairvote](https://twitter.com/fairvote) // (301) 270-4616 // info@fairvote.org

2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN ARKANSAS

September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for Arkansas' new congressional districts. Incumbents are listed according to the districts in which they are running in 2012, with the 2010 district partisanship connected to that incumbent.

District	Incumbent	Party	Year First Elected	Last Election Winning %	2010 District Partisanship (D% / R%)	2012 District Partisanship (D% / R%)	2012 District Projection	2012 Election Projection
1	Rick Crawford	R	2010	52%	36 / 64	37 / 63	Strong R	Likely R
2	Tim Griffin	R	2010	58%	41 / 59	42 / 58	Strong R	Likely R
3	Steve Womack	R	2010	72%	31 / 69	31 / 69	Strong R	Safe R
4	OPEN* (Mike Ross)	D			37 / 63	35 / 65	Strong R	Likely R

*Arkansas' 4th District is open following incumbent Rep. Mike Ross' decision to retire.

Arkansas' Fair Voting Plan



Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisanship Projection: 2R, 1D, 1?
A (CDs – 1, 2, 3, 4)	4	728,980	20%	36 / 64	2R, 1D, 1?

* plus 1 vote

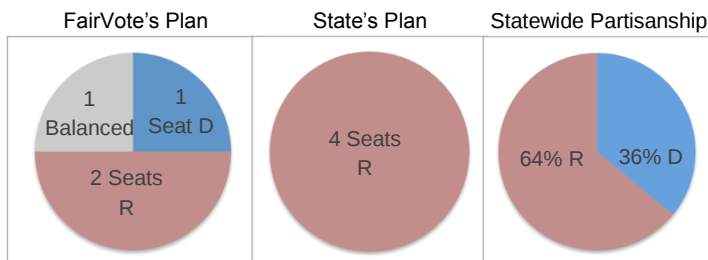
How Does Fair Voting Work?

Fair voting describes American forms of proportional representation that uphold electoral traditions and are based on voting for candidates. They ensure meaningfully contested elections and provide voters with more accurate representation.

Instead of four individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these one-seat districts into one statewide “super-district” with four representatives. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a fifth of voters will win in a four-seat district.

Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to Arkansas' Redistricting Plan

More Accurate Political Representation*



* Partisan percentages and projections are based on an interpretation of the 2008 presidential election similar to the Partisan Voting Index. They do not account for other candidate-based factors like incumbency.

Meaningful Elections and Representation

	FairVote's Plan	State's Plan
District Competition	100% (1/1)	0% (0/4)
Shared Representation*	100% (1/1)	0% (0/4)

* Shared representation indicates districts represented by both Democrats and Republicans – which enables more accurate congressional representation for most voters.

Benefits of a Fair Voting Plan

Shared representation of different views: Supporters of both major parties elect candidates everywhere, with accurate balance of that district's left, right, and center.

More voter choice: Better chance for third parties, independents and major party innovators, as there is a lower threshold for candidates to win a seat.

More competition: With voters having a range of choices, candidates must compete to win voter support.

Better representation of racial minorities: Lower threshold for racial minority candidates to earn seats, even when not geographically concentrated. More voters of all races are in a position to elect candidates.

More women: More women likely to run and win. Single-member districts often stifle potential candidacies.

View more fair voting plans at FairVotingUS.com

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