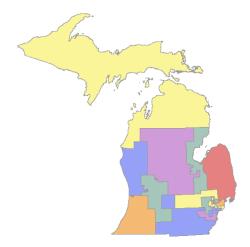


2011 REDISTRICTING AND 2012 ELECTIONS IN MICHIGAN

September 2012

Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder on Aug. 9, 2011.

2012 Projections (5R, 5D, 4?)*

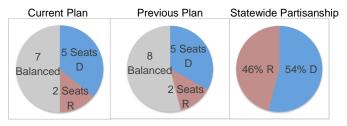
Michigan Republicans had complete control of redistricting in 2011, and made a daring choice: reduce Democrats to five seats and try to keep all nine seats for a near 2-1 edge in a state favored to back Democrats in the presidential race.

The result is risky for the Republicans. We project five Democratic wins (four safe) and five Republican wins (only two safe). Seven Republicans represent districts that have less than a 54%-46% GOP lean. They may keep all these seats with their current incumbents or when the partisan tide is even, but have created real opportunities for Democrats during the 2010's.

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

Michigan's Redistricting Map Compared to the Previous Lines

New Redistricting Plan and the Political Landscape



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

Competition and Voting Rights in Michigan

	Current Plan	Previous Plan	
District Competition	50% (7/14)	53% (8/15)	
African American Voting Strength*	58%	46%	

* Measures the percentage of eligible African American voters in districts where they represent a majority of eligible voters. Voters might not choose to vote for a candidate of their same race.

Redistricting Process in Michigan

The 2010 Census revealed that Michigan was the only state to lose population, and it lost one congressional seat. The legislature is responsible for redistricting in Michigan. With majorities in both houses, a Republican governor, and control of the state's supreme court, Republicans had a chance to be bold in seeking partisan advantage.

The Republican plan drew Reps. Gary Peters and Sander Levin, two Democratic incumbents, into the same district. Peters eventually decided to run against freshman incumbent Hansen Clarke in the 14th District.

Democrats were critical of the plan, with Sander Levin calling it "a mockery of the right to a meaningful vote," and drawing attention to the strange shape of many of the districts. However, the legislature adopted the plan, the governor signed it, and the Department of Justice pre-cleared it under the Voting Rights Act.

U.S. House Elections in Michigan

Incumbents are seeking re-election in 12 of 14 seats, and six incumbents did not face a challenger in the August 7 primaries. Redistricting forced Democratic incumbents Gary Peters and Hansen Clarke to compete in the 14th District primary; Peters was the winner.

Michigan incumbents enjoy great success. In the last 20 years, incumbents have won 97% of their re-election bids (134 of 138 elections). Nearly three quarters of those victories have been landslide wins of 20%.

Republicans in 2006 won 60% of seats with only 45% of the vote, but after losing two seats in 2008, regained 60% of seats with a majority of the vote.

Michigan's delegation only includes one woman, Candice Miller. With Clarke's defeat, the state will likely only have one African American representative – John Conyers.



2012 ELECTIONS IN MICHIGAN

September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for Michigan's 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	Dan Benishek	R	2010	52%	47 / 53	47 / 53	Balanced	None
2	Bill Huizenga	R	2010	65%	45 / 55	45 / 55	Lean R	Likely R
3	Justin Amash	R	2010	60%	46 / 54	47 / 53	Balanced	None
4	Dave Camp	R	1990	66%	47 / 53	47 / 53	Balanced	Safe R
5	OPEN (Dale Kildee)	D			61 / 39	60 / 40	Strong D	Safe D
6	Fred Upton	R	1986	62%	51 / 49	52 / 48	Balanced	Likely R
7	Tim Walberg	R	2010	50%	49 / 51	48 / 52	Balanced	None
8	Mike Rogers	R	2000	64%	50 / 50	49 / 51	Balanced	Likely R
9	Sander Levin	D	1982	61%	62 / 38	55 / 45	Lean D	Likely D
10	Candice Miller	R	2002	72%	45 / 55	45 / 55	Lean R	Safe R
11	OPEN (T. McCotter)**	R			51 / 49	47 / 53	Balanced	None
12	John Dingell	D	1955	57%	63 / 37	64 / 36	Strong D	Safe D
13	John Conyers	D	1964	77%	82 / 18	80 / 20	Strong D	Safe D
14	Gary Peters*	D	2008	50%	53 / 47	77 / 23	Strong D	Safe D
15	ELIMINATED (John Dingell)	D						

^{*} Michigan lost one seat after reapportionment, which forced two incumbents – Hansen Clarke and Gary Peters – to face off in the same district. Clarke lost the race in the August 7 primary.

^{**} Rep. Thaddeus McCotter had originally intended to return to Congress but was unable to get on the 2012 ballot. On July 6, 2012, McCotter announced his immediate resignation from Congress.



MICHIGAN REDISTRICTING & THE FAIR VOTING ALTERNATIVE

September 2012



Michigan's Fair Voting Plan

Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisan Projection: 5R, 7D, 2?
A (CDs - 1,4,8)	3	705,974	25%	48 / 52	1R, 1D, 1?
B (CDs – 2,3,6)	3	705,974	25%	48 / 52	1R, 1D, 1?
C (CDs - 5,9,10,11,14)	5	705,974	16.7%	57 / 43	2R, 3D
D (CDs - 7,12,13)	3	705,974	25%	63 / 37	1R, 2D

* plus 1 vote

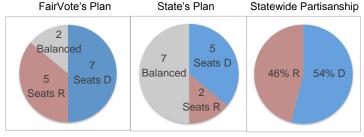
How Does Fair Voting Work?

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 14 individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into four larger "super-districts" with three or five representatives. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a quarter of voters in a three-seat district will win a seat. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a sixth of voters will win in a five-seat district.

Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to Michigan's 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% (4/4)	50% (7/14)
Shared Representation*	100% (4/4)	0% (0/14)

^{*} 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.