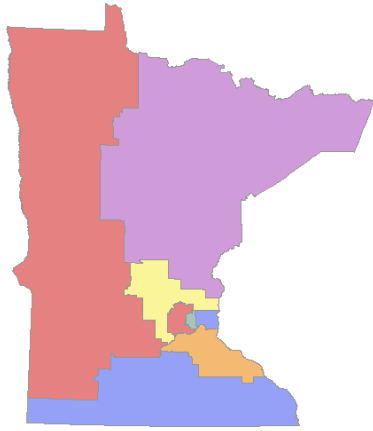


Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Released by judicial panel on Feb. 21, 2012.

2012 Projections (1R, 3D, 4?)*

Neither major party has won more than five of Minnesota's eight seats since the 2000 election. Expect that close partisan division to continue in 2012, although we project only one safe Republican win and three Democratic-Farmer-Labor wins.

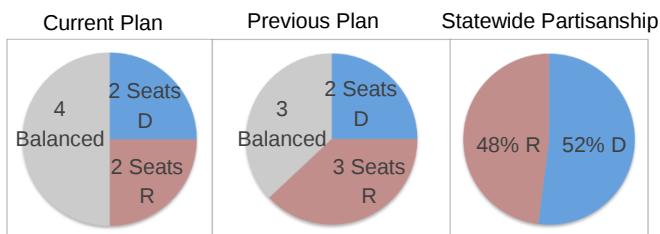
Of the three Republican-held seats and the one Democratic-held seat where we do not make a projection, only first-term GOP incumbent Chip Cravaack seems particularly vulnerable.

GOP presidential candidate Michele Bachmann ran far below her district's partisanship in 2010 despite the political winds blowing Republican, but her district remains strongly Republican.

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

Minnesota'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 Minnesota

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	50% (4/8)	37.5% (3/8)
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.

The Redistricting Process in Minnesota

The state legislature controls redistricting in Minnesota; however, the governor can veto the plan. Hearings are held by the House Redistricting Committee, state supreme court judges and Minnesota Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Democrats are in the minority in the legislature and attacked the Republican plan as a gerrymander that disproportionately displaced Democrats. Democratic Governor Mark Dayton vetoed the plan.

As a result, the state supreme court appointed a panel of judges to draw lines. After first developing and publicizing criteria to guide its work, the panel issued congressional and state legislative plans on February 21, 2012.

U.S. House Elections in Minnesota

All eight of Minnesota's U.S. House incumbents won their August 14 primaries, and three faced no challengers. In general elections in 1994-2010, 68 of 73 incumbents won, with never more than loss in any given election year. Of 34 incumbent wins since 2002, 26 victories were by at least 20 points.

The state consistently runs near the top of FairVote's Democracy Index, finishing second in 2010. That placement is tied to high turnout, more close races than many states and relatively fair party representation. Since 2000, the party divide has never been greater than 5-3.

There are two women House Members – Betty McCollum (D) of District 4 and Michele Bachmann (R) of District 6. African American Keith Ellison (DFL) is the state's only racial minority in the House.

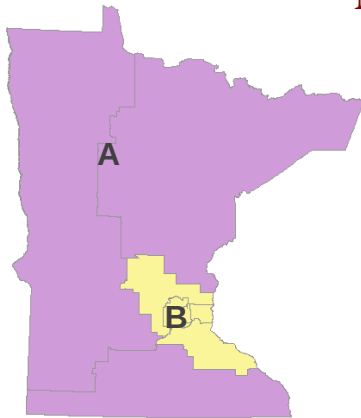
2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN MINNESOTA

September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for Minnesota'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	Timothy Walz	D	2006	49%	48 / 52	48 / 52	Balanced	None
2	John Kline	R	2002	63%	45 / 55	48 / 52	Balanced	Likely R
3	Erik Paulsen	R	2008	59%	49 / 51	48 / 52	Balanced	None
4	Betty McCollum	D	2000	59%	61 / 39	60 / 40	Strong D	Safe D
5	Keith Ellison	D	2006	68%	71 / 29	71 / 29	Strong D	Safe D
6	Michele Bachmann	R	2006	53%	42 / 58	41 / 59	Strong R	None
7	Collin Peterson	D	1990	55%	45 / 55	45 / 55	Lean R	Likely D
8	Chip Cravaack	R	2010	48%	50 / 50	51 / 49	Balanced	None

Minnesota's Fair Voting Plan



Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisan Projection: 3R, 3D, 2?
A (CDs - 1,7,8)	3	662,991	25%	48 / 52	1R, 1D, 1?
B (CDs - 3,4,5,6)	5	662,990	16.7%	54 / 46	2R, 2D, 1?

* plus 1 vote

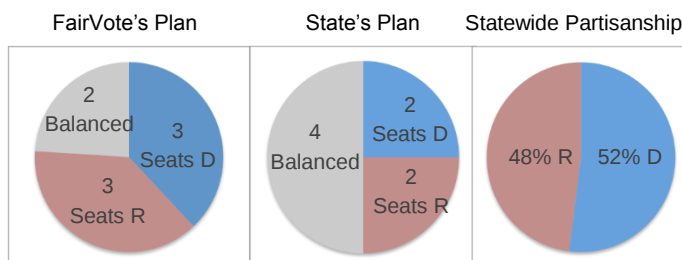
How Does Fair Voting Work?

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 eight individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into two 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 Minnesota'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% (2/2)	50% (4/8)
Shared Representation*	100% (2/2)	0% (0/8)

* 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

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