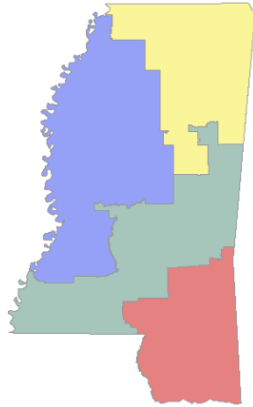


Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Issued by a panel of federal court judges on Dec. 20, 2011.

2012 Projections (3R, 1D)*

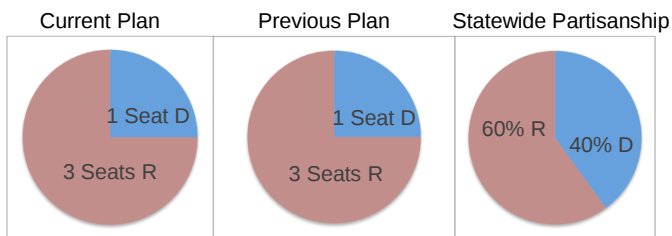
Democrats held all five of Mississippi's seats in 1992, and won three of four in the 2008 elections. But after 2010, a year in which Republicans knocked out two Democratic incumbents in heavily Republican districts, it seems unlikely that Democrats will win more than one seat any time soon. It would require a very weak Republican nominee in one of their three strongholds.

We project all four incumbents will be re-elected. The three Republican incumbents are all running in districts with a partisanship that is at least 65% Republican, and Democrat Bennie Thompson's district is 61% Democratic.

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

Mississippi's 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 Mississippi

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	0% (0/4)	0% (0/4)
African American Voting Strength*	43%	40%

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

Redistricting Process in Mississippi

The state legislative Standing Joint Reapportionment Committee is responsible for state redistricting plans. The public is allowed to submit proposals for redistricting maps.

The legislative committee failed to create the state's redistricting map prior to the end of the 2011 legislative session. As a result, the map was instead drawn by a panel of three federal court judges. The panel redrew Mississippi's four congressional districts, leaving them largely the same from the districts in the previous redistricting cycle, and allowing the state to enact its redistricting plan without the need for separate approval from the DOJ under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

U.S. House Elections in Mississippi

Mississippi's primaries were held on March 13, and all four incumbents won their respective primaries.

In 2010, two Democratic incumbents lost their bids for reelection, a highly unusual outcome, as no incumbent had lost a seat since 1986. While Democrats have never won fewer than four House seats, they are now likely locked into having only one seat for some time to come.

Mississippi has never elected a woman to represent the state in the House. One African American serves in the delegation; Mississippi has never elected more than one black member at any time, though the state has the highest percentage of African American voters in the nation.

View redistricting alternatives at FairVotingUS.com

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

2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN MISSISSIPPI

September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for Mississippi'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	Alan Nunnelee	R	2010	55%	34 / 66	33 / 67	Strong R	Safe R
2	Bennie Thompson	D	1993	61%	62 / 38	61 / 39	Strong D	Safe D
3	Gregg Harper	R	2008	68%	34 / 66	35 / 65	Strong R	Safe R
4	Steven Palazzo	R	2010	52%	28 / 72	28 / 72	Strong R	Safe R

Mississippi's Fair Voting Plan



Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisan Projection: 4R, 2D, 1?
A (CDs - 1,2,3,4)	4	741,824	20%	40 / 60	2R, 1D, 1?

* plus 1 vote

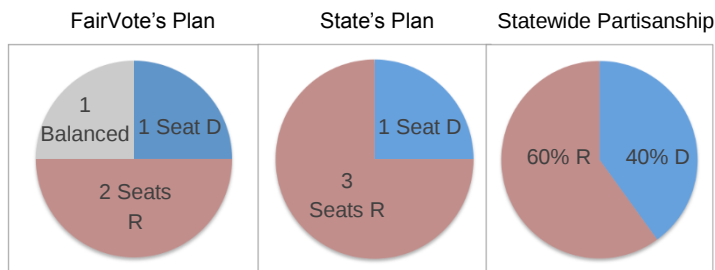
How Does Fair Voting Work?

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 districts into one larger "super-district." 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 Mississippi'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% (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.

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