

Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Signed into law by Gov. Dave Heineman on May 26, 2011.

2012 Projections (3R, 0D)*

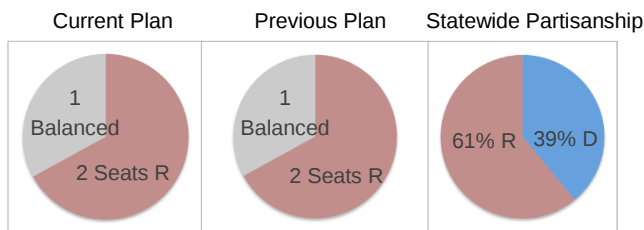
Nebraska has had monopoly Republican representation in the House since sweeping all three seats in 1994. The 2nd Congressional District, represented by Lee Terry since 1999, remains potentially competitive, but likely only as an open seat or in the presidential race. Barack Obama won an electoral vote by carrying the district in 2008, as Nebraska is one of two states that allocates electoral votes by outcome in districts as well as statewide.

The 1st and 3rd Districts are heavily Republican.

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

Nebraska's Redistricting Map Compared to the Previous Lines

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 Nebraska

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	33% (1/3)	33% (1/3)
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 Nebraska

Redistricting in Nebraska is controlled by a legislative subcommittee. Committee members come from the state senate, and are selected by the Legislature Executive Board.

Three potential maps were introduced in the first week of redistricting, two by Democrats and one by Republicans. The central difference in the maps was how they would break up Sarpy County, a heavily Republican county. The Republican plan ultimately won out, moving western Sarpy County into the Republican-controlled 2nd District. The move made the district for Republican incumbent Rep. Lee Terry marginally safer.

U.S. House Elections in Nebraska

Nebraska's primaries took place on May 15, 2012. House incumbents easily moved onto the general election, with all winning by margins greater than two-to-one.

These results mirror the unwavering success of incumbents in U.S. House elections in Nebraska. In the past thirty years, only one incumbent has lost re-election.

Nebraska's congressional delegation has also been remarkably homogenous. No woman has represented the state since 1988, and Nebraska has never sent a racial minority candidate to the U.S. House. Democrats have not won since the 1992 election, even though Democratic candidates won 44% of the statewide vote in 2006.



The Center for
Voting and
Democracy

2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN NEBRASKA *September 2012*

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for Nebraska'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	Jeff Fortenberry	R	2004	71%	41 / 59	41 / 59	Strong R	Safe R
2	Lee Terry	R	1998	61%	47 / 53	47 / 53	Balanced	Likely R
3	Adrian Smith	R	2006	70%	27 / 73	28 / 72	Strong R	Safe R

Nebraska's Fair Voting Plan

A

Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisan Projection: 2R, 1D
A (CDs - 1,2,3)	3	608,780	25%	39 / 61	2R, 1D

* plus 1 vote

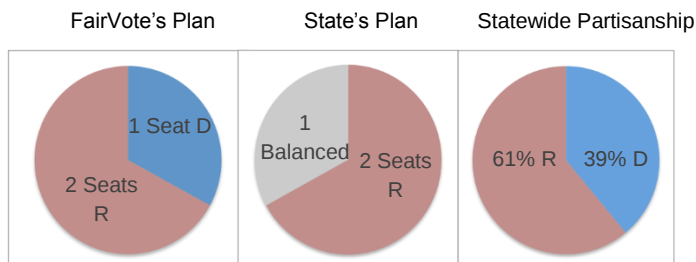
How Does Fair Voting Work?

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 three 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 quarter of voters in a three-seat district will win a seat.

Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to Nebraska'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)	33% (1/3)
Shared Representation*	100% (1/1)	0% (0/3)

* 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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