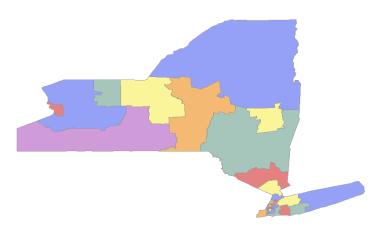


# 2011-2012 REDISTRICTING AND ELECTIONS IN NEW YORK

September 2012

### **Final Congressional Redistricting Plan**



Ordered by a federal court three-judge panel on March 19, 2012.

#### 2012 Projections (1R, 15D, 11?)\*

New York State court-drawn plan creates far more competitive districts than is typical – nine of 27 districts fall within a 46% to 54% partisanship range. These districts create real opportunities for many voters to change their representation.

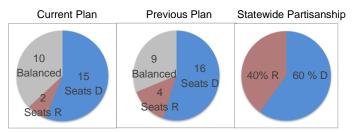
These new opportunities for Republicans also come with peril. The plan's only strong GOP district is represented by Democrat Kathy Hochul. With only one more "lean GOP" district, Democrats in a strong year would have the chance to sweep every seat. In 2012 only Peter King is projected as a likely Republican winner.

Over half (15) of seats are locked down for Democrats, with three more "lean Dem" districts.

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

### New York'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 New York

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	% (10/27)	% (9/27)
African American Voting Strength*	27%	26%
Latino Voting Strength*	25%	13%
Asian Voting Strength*	0%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> 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 New York**

New York's redistricting process is controlled by the legislature, with a redistricting commission having an advisory role. Despite a challenge from New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, New York lost two districts as a result of the 2010 census.

New York's GOP-run senate and Democratic-controlled assembly could not reach a timely decision on drawing districts. A federal court ultimately developed its own plan, which was approved on March 19, 2012.

The plan creates an unusual number of politically balanced districts – both creating new opportunities for Republicans, but also potentially putting their representation at risk.

#### **U.S. House Elections in New York**

New York's primaries were held on June 26. Nineteen of 25 House incumbents seeking re-election ran unopposed. Four other incumbents won by margins of at least 50%.

New York's general elections for the House have largely been uncompetitive. In every election from 1982 to 2010, more than half of House races were won by landslide margins of at least 20 percentage points.

Republicans held 12 seats after 2000, then only three seats after 2008 and now hold nine seats. Among eligible voters, only 21% voted for a winning candidate in 2010.

Eight House members are women. Six are people of color, including four African Americans and two Latinos.

# Voting and Democracy 2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN NEW YORK September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for New York'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	Tim Bishop	D	2002	50%	48 / 52	48 / 52	Balanced	None
2	Peter King	R	1992	72%	44 / 56	48 / 52	Balanced	Likely R
3	Steve Israel	D	2000	56%	53 / 47	50 / 50	Balanced	None
4	Carolyn McCarthy	D	1996	54%	55 / 45	52 / 48	Balanced	None
5	Gregory Meeks	D	1998	88%	85 / 15	82 / 18	Strong D	Safe D
6	OPEN (G. Meeks*)	D			85 / 15	60 / 40	Strong D	Safe D
7	Nydia Velazquez	D	1992	94%	83 / 17	81 / 19	Strong D	Safe D
8	Ed Towns	D	1982	91%	87 / 13	82 / 18	Strong D	Safe D
9	Yvette Clarke	D	2006	91%	87 / 13	80 / 20	Strong D	Safe D
10	Jerrold Nadler	D	1992	75%	70 / 30	72 / 28	Strong D	Safe D
11	Michael Grimm	R	2010	51%	45 / 55	45 / 55	Lean R	None
12	Carolyn Maloney	D	1992	75%	75 / 25	77 / 23	Strong D	Safe D
13	Charles Rangel	D	1970	80%	90 / 10	90 / 10	Strong D	Safe D
14	Joseph Crowley	D	1998	81%	76 / 24	73 / 27	Strong D	Safe D
15	Jose Serrano	D	1990	96%	91 / 9	91 / 9	Strong D	Safe D
16	Eliot Engel	D	1988	73%	68 / 32	69 / 31	Strong D	Safe D
17	Nita Lowey	D	1988	62%	58 / 42	55 / 45	Lean D	Safe D
18	Nan Hayworth	R	2010	53%	48 / 52	49 / 51	Balanced	None
19	Chris Gibson	R	2010	55%	48 / 52	50 / 50	Balanced	None
20	Paul Tonko	D	2008	59%	55 / 45	56 / 44	Lean D	Safe D
21	Bill Owens	D	2008	48%	49 / 51	49 / 51	Balanced	None
22	Richard Hanna	R	2010	53%	48 / 52	46 / 54	Balanced	None

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
23	Tom Reed*	R	2010	56%	45 / 55	47 / 53	Balanced	None
24	Ann Marie Buerkle	R	2010	50%	53 / 47	53 / 47	Balanced	None
25	Louise Slaughter*	D	1986	65%	66 / 34	56 / 44	Lean D	Safe D
26	Brian Higgins	D	2004	61%	51 / 49	60 / 40	Strong D	Safe D
27	Kathy Hochul	D	2011	47%	43 / 57	42 / 58	Strong R	None
28	ELIMINATED (L. Slaughter)*	D						
29	ELIMINATED (Tom Reed)*	R						

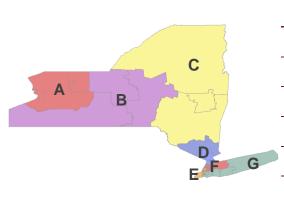
<sup>\*</sup>New York lost two seats after the 2010 Census. Rep. Louise Slaughter is now running for the seat in District 25 and Rep. Tom Reed is now running for the seat in District 23. Democrat Gary Ackerman represented District 5, which has a 60% Democratic partisanship. He has retired, as has Democrat Maurice Hinchey, formerly in District 22. Republican Bob Turner from District 9 ran for Senate after major changes in his district.



# New York Redistricting & THE FAIR VOTING ALTERNATIVE

September 2012

#### **New York's Fair Voting Plan**



Super-District (w/current Cong.Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisan Projection: 8R, 15D, 4?
A (CDs - 25,26,27)	3	717,707	25%	53 / 48	1R, 1D, 1?
B (CDs – 22,23,24)	3	717,707	25%	49 / 51	1R, 1D, 1?
C (CDs – 19,20,21)	3	717,708	25%	52 / 48	1R, 1D, 1?
D (CDs – 16,17,18)	3	717,707	25%	57 / 43	1R, 2D
E (CDs – 7,9,10,11,12)	5	717,708	16.7%	71 / 29	1R, 4D
F (CDs – 3,6,13,14,15)	5	717,707	16.7%	70 / 30	1R, 3D, 1?
G (CDs – 1,2,4,5,8)	5	717,708	16.7%	60 / 40	2R, 3D

\* plus 1 vote

State's Plan

#### **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.

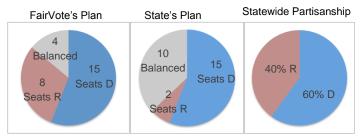
Instead of 27 individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into one seven larger "super-districts" with three or five representatives. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a quarter of voters in a three-seat district will win a seat. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than one sixth of voters in a five-seat district will win a seat.

# Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to New York's Redistricting Plan

More Accurate Political Representation\*

**Meaningful Elections and Representation** 

FairVote's Plan



<b>5</b> 1 1 1 1		
District Competition	100% (7/7)	37% (10/27)
Shared Representation*	100% (7/7)	0% (0/27)

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

# **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

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