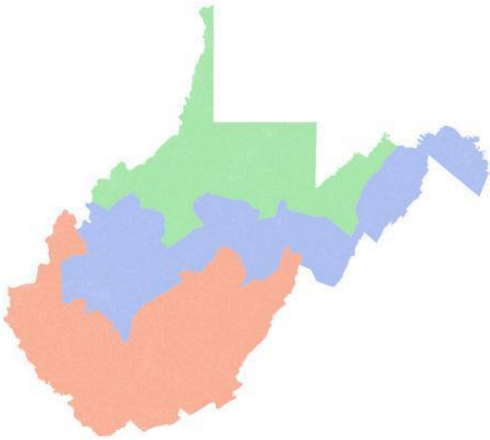


Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Signed into law by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin on Aug. 18, 2011.

2012 Projections (1R, 0D, 2?)*

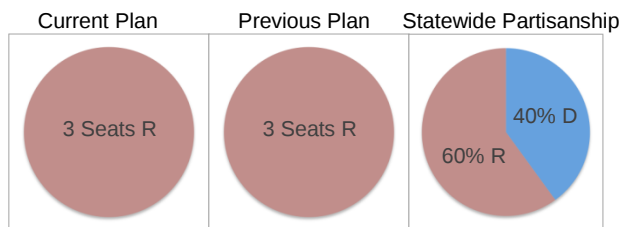
West Virginia has experienced one of the most pronounced partisan shifts in presidential elections among any state in the country, moving from a Democratic leaning state to a safely Republican state over the past 20 years.

Unlike in many states, that shift has yet to take effect fully down ballot. Democrats hold both U.S. Senate seats, the governor's mansion and the state legislature. They also won two of three House seats for most of the 2000's, but lost an open seat in 2010. While all three House districts are strongly Republican, Democrat Nick Rahall has represented his district since 1976 and won with 56% in 2010. We only project the GOP's Shelley Moore Capito as a sure winner in 2012.

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

West Virginia's Redistricting Map Compared to the Previous Lines

New Redistricting Plan Distorts Political Landscape



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

Competition and Voting Rights in West Virginia

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	0% (0/3)	0% (0/3)
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 West Virginia

The West Virginia state legislature is responsible for redistricting. Democrats control the state legislature and the governor's seat.

West Virginia continues to have three House districts. The West Virginia Senate Redistricting Committee submitted a new map that moved one county from the 2nd district to the 3rd district to account for the shifts in population, and the plan was approved by the state legislature with little opposition.

The congressional redistricting plan was challenged in federal court, based on unequal population. Although a panel of federal judges found the map unconstitutional on that basis, the Supreme Court stayed that ruling for 2012 – allowing congressional races to go on as scheduled.

U.S. House Elections in West Virginia

West Virginia held its congressional primary on May 8th. Two of the three incumbents ran unopposed in the primary, and Rep. Shelley Capito earned 80% of the vote.

West Virginia's November elections for U.S. House historically have been largely uncompetitive. In 2010, one incumbent lost a bid for re-election in the primary. The previous time an incumbent lost in either the primary or the general election was two decades ago, in 1992.

Currently, there is one woman in West Virginia's congressional delegation. The state has never elected a racial minority candidate to the U.S. House.

2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA

September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for West Virginia'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	David McKinley	R	2010	50%	39 / 61	39 / 61	Strong R	None
2	Shelley Moore Capito	R	2000	68%	41 / 59	41 / 59	Strong R	Safe R
3	Nick Rahall	D	1976	56%	39 / 61	40 / 60	Strong R	None

West Virginia's Fair Voting Plan



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	617,665	25%	40 / 60	2R, 1D

* plus 1 vote

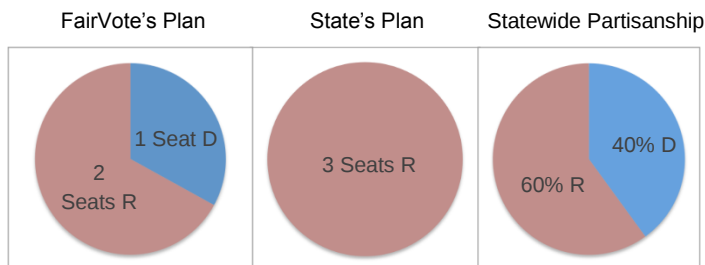
How Does Fair Voting Work?

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 street district will win a seat.

Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to West Virginia'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% (0/3)
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

FairVote.org // Tweet @fairvote // (301) 270-4616 // info@fairvote.org