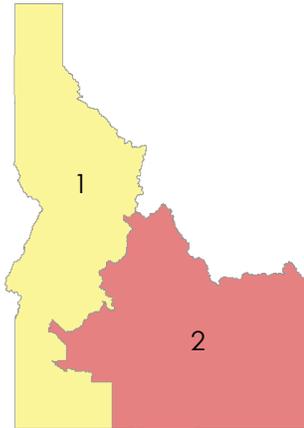
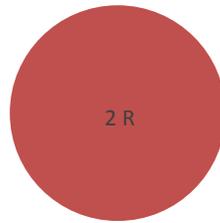
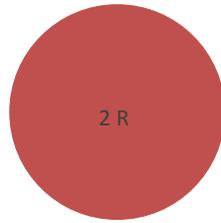
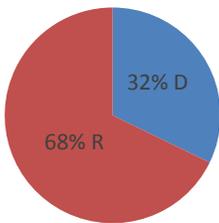


## Current Congressional District Map



## Representation

Statewide Partisanship    Current Delegation    2014 Projections



*Partisanship is a measure of voters' underlying preference for Democrats or Republicans. See our Methodology section to learn how Partisanship is determined.*

## District Competitiveness

Majority Partisanship	Swing (50-<53%)	Lean (53-<58%)	Safe (58%+)
Districts	0	0	2

## Redistricting

Idaho uses a bipartisan commission to redistrict. Members of the commission are appointed by state legislators and both major parties. The commission is required to hold public meetings in different parts of the state, and the commission's website allows members of the public to submit their own redistricting proposals.

After months of gridlock in the most recent redistricting process, a new congressional map passed through the commission by a 4-2 vote on October 17, 2011. Republicans charged that Democrats delayed the process in order to gain leverage, but Democrat Ron Beitelspacher eventually crossed the aisle to approve the map.

## 2014 Projections: 2 R, 0 D

Idaho is one of the most Republican-leaning states in presidential elections, and its congressional delegation reflects this reality. The state has not elected a Democrat to the U.S. Senate since 1974, and both House seats have been held by Republicans since 1995 with the exception of Walt Minnick, who represented the 1<sup>st</sup> district for one term after winning narrowly in 2008. Republicans are likely to sweep House elections in Idaho in 2014 and for the foreseeable future.

**Date 2014 Projections Announced:** April 2013

**2012 Projections:** 2 R, 0 D. Both projections accurate

**Races to Watch:** None.

**Strongest Candidate:** Simpson (ID-2, R): -2.7% POAC\*

**Weakest Candidate:** Labrador (ID-1, R): -7.1% POAC

\*POAC (Performance Over Average Candidate) is a measure of the quality of a winning candidate's campaign. It compares how well a winner did relative to what would be projected for a generic candidate of the same party and incumbency status. See our Methodology section to learn how POAC is determined.

## Race and Gender in the U.S. House

Both of Idaho's congressional districts are majority white, but the 1<sup>st</sup> congressional district is represented by Raul Labrador, who is a Latino Republican.

The state has elected two women to the U.S. House in its history: Gracie Pfof, who served from 1953-1963, and Helen Chenoweth, who served from 1995-2001.

## Dubious Democracy

**Idaho's Democracy Index Ranking: 39<sup>th</sup> (of 50)**

Idaho's low ranking in the index stems in part from the fact that both of the state's U.S. House elections were won by landslide margins in 2012, with an average margin of victory of 31%. The percentage of Idaho voters who voted for a winning candidate in the 2012 U.S. House elections, 37%, is near the national average. In 2012, Republican candidates for the House received 64% of the congressional vote but 100% of the seats; with only two seats in the state, such distortions are typical.

Idaho's electoral history shows that incumbents typically coast to reelection. Only two incumbents have lost their reelection bids since 1994: Democrat Walt Minnick's upset win in 2008 and subsequent defeat in 2010.

**View redistricting alternatives at [FairVotingUS.com](http://FairVotingUS.com)**

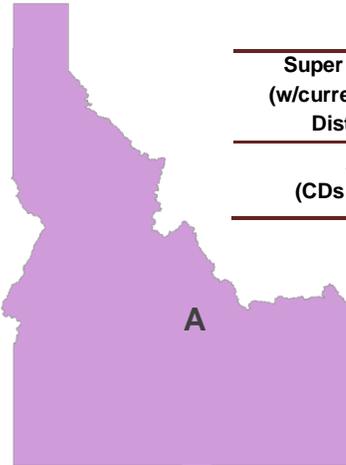
Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Idaho's two U.S. House districts. All metrics in this table are further explained in the Methodology section of this report.

**Partisanship** is an indicator of voters' underlying preference for Democrats or Republicans. It is determined by measuring how the district voted for president in 2012 relative to the presidential candidates' national averages. Developed by FairVote in 1997 and adapted by Charlie Cook for the Cook Partisan Voting Index, this definition of partisanship is based on only the most recent presidential election.

**Performance Over Average Candidate (POAC)** is an indicator of how well the winner did compared to a hypothetical generic candidate of the same district, incumbency status, and party, based on their winning percentages in 2010 and 2012. A high POAC suggests that the winner appealed to independents and voters from other parties in addition to voters from his or her own party. A low POAC suggests that the winner did not draw many votes from independents and other parties.

District	Incumbent	Party	Race/Gender	Year First Elected	2012 2-Party Winning Percentage	POAC	District Partisanship (D)	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projection
1	Labrador, Raul	R	Latino/M	2010	67.2%	-7.1%	31.7%	33.3%	Safe R
2	Simpson, Mike	R	White/M	1998	65.2%	-2.7%	32.6%	31.4%	Safe R

## Idaho's Fair Representation Voting Plan



Super District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win (plus 1 vote)	Partisanship (D/R %)	Current Rep.: 2 R	Super District Rep.: 1 R, 0 D, 1 ?
A (CDs – 1, 2)	2	777,252	33.3%	32 / 68	2 R	1 R, 0 D, 1 ?

**Partisan and Racial Impact:** While it is limited by the fact that Idaho only has two congressional seats, this fair voting plan would allow Democrats a chance to win one of those seats in a strong Democratic year. The threshold is too high for Latino voters to elect a preferred candidate on their own, but Raul Labrador is a Latino Republican who has won with strong white voter support under the current plan and would likely continue to be elected under a fair voting system.

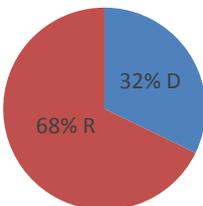
## How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

Fair representation voting methods such as ranked choice voting describe American forms of proportional representation with a history in local and state elections. They uphold American electoral traditions, such as voting for candidates rather than parties. They ensure all voters participate in competitive elections and ensure more accurate representation, with the majority of voters likely to elect most seats and backers of both major parties likely to elect preferred candidates.

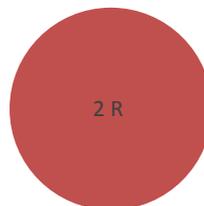
Instead of two individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into one larger "super district." Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a third of voters will win.

## Comparing a Fair Representation Voting Plan to Idaho's Current Districts

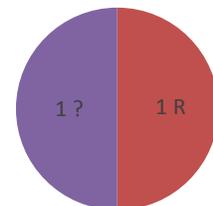
Statewide Partisanship



2014 Projections



FairVote's Plan



Partisanship is an indicator of voters' underlying preference for Democrats or Republicans. See our Methodology section to learn how Partisanship is determined.

## Benefits of a Fair Representation Voting Plan

**More accurate representation:** Congressional delegations more faithfully reflect the preferences of all voters. Supporters of both major parties elect candidates in each district, with accurate balance of each district's left, right, and center.

**More voter choice and competition:** Third parties, independents and major party innovators have better chances, as there is a lower threshold for candidates to win a seat. Because voters have a range of choices, candidates must compete to win voter support.

**Better representation of racial minorities:** Racial minority candidates have a lower threshold to earn seats, even when not geographically concentrated. More voters of all races are in a position to elect candidates.

**More women:** More women are likely to run and win. Single-member districts often stifle potential candidates.

View more fair voting plans at [FairVotingUS.com](http://FairVotingUS.com)