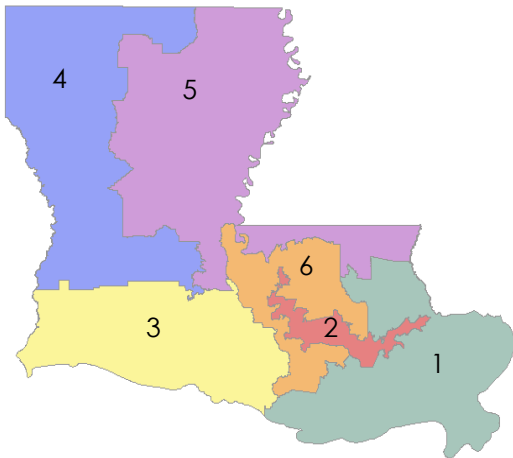
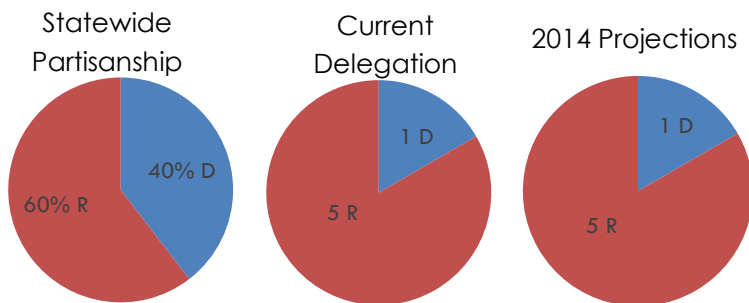




Current Congressional District Map



Representation



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	6

Redistricting

The Louisiana State Legislature is responsible for redistricting. The 2010 Census showed that Louisiana was the third-slowest growing state in the nation in the 2000s, resulting in the loss of one House seat. In April 2011, Louisiana passed a redistricting plan that pitted two Republican incumbents against one another – the relatively moderate Charles Boustany and Tea Party-backed Jeff Landry. (Boustany won.)

On August 1, 2011, the Department of Justice pre-cleared the redistricting map, in spite of a joint letter from the NAACP, the Legislative Black Caucus, and the Urban League pointing out that the map failed to create a second majority-minority district in Shreveport.

View redistricting alternatives at FairVotingUS.com

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

2014 Projections: 5 R, 1 D

Louisiana's districts are among the easiest to project in the country, as each has lopsided partisan support for one of the two major parties. All of the state's six districts have at least a 60% partisanship in favor of the majority party.

The only source of electoral intrigue in Louisiana comes from its "Cajun primary" system, a variation of the Top Two primary used in California. The system was first instituted in 1978, and returned in 2012 after a brief hiatus in 2008 and 2010. The Cajun primary requires candidates of all parties to run together in the November general election, and if no candidate wins a majority of the votes, a December runoff occurs between the top two finishers. Only one race went to a runoff in 2012, as two incumbent Republicans faced off in Louisiana's third district after their districts were drawn together in redistricting.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

2012 Projections: 5 R, 1 D. All projections accurate.

Races to Watch: None.

Strongest Candidate: Richmond (LA-2, D): 3.3% POAC*

Weakest Candidate: Fleming (LA-4, R): -5.0% 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

Only two women have served in Louisiana's U.S. House delegation in its history, the most recent being Democrat Lindy Boggs (2nd district), who retired in 1991. Although 32% of Louisiana's residents are African Americans, only one district (17% of the total districts) has a majority African American population. This district (LA-2) is represented by an African American, Cedric Richmond.

Dubious Democracy

Louisiana's Democracy Index Ranking: 49th (of 50)

An utter lack of competitiveness and very poor turnout combine to give Louisiana the nation's second worst Democracy Index score. In 2012, Louisiana ranked 48th in voter turnout (45.3%), 47th in average margin of victory (46.6%), and tied for last place in the proportion of its elections won by landslide margins (100%).

House elections in Louisiana are so uncompetitive that Democrats did not bother to field a candidate in three of the state's six districts in 2012.



2014 ELECTIONS IN LOUISIANA

July 2014

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Louisiana's six 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 Winning Percentage ¹	POAC	District Partisanship (Dem)	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projection
1	Scalise, Steve	R	White/M	2008 ²	66.6% ³	-5.0%	26.1%	24.0%	Safe R
2	Richmond, Cedric	D	Black/M	2010	55.2% ⁴	3.3%	74.6%	79.5%	Safe D
3	Boustany, Charles	R	White/M	2004	60.9% ⁵	0.0%	31.2%	27.4%	Safe R
4	Fleming, John	R	White/M	2008	75.3% ⁶	-5.6%	38.4%	36.5%	Safe R
5	McAllister, Vance	R	White/M	2013	59.6%	--	36.4%	35.8%	Safe R
6	OPEN (Cassidy, Bill)	R	White/M	2008	79.4% ⁷	-4.3%	31.0%	31.0%	Safe R

¹ Because Louisiana's Cajun primary system allows multiple candidates of each party to run on Election Day, Louisiana candidates' vote percentages cannot be easily translated into two-party margins of victory. Listed here are the winners' percentage of the vote, regardless of whether that candidate faced more than one major party candidate or faced only candidates from the same major party.

² Scalise was originally elected in a May 2008 special election to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Bobby Jindal, who had been elected Governor of Louisiana.

³ Scalise earned a majority of the vote in the primary round, defeating fellow Republican Gary King in addition to a Democrat and two independent candidates.

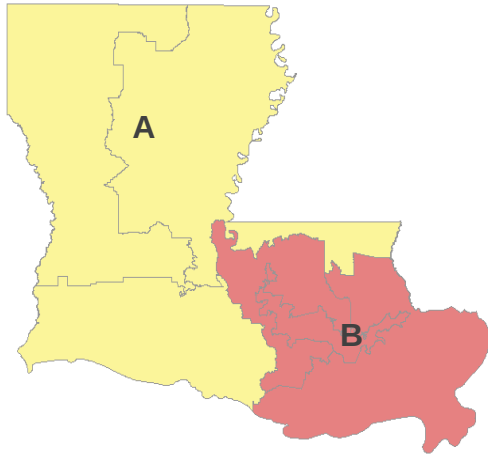
⁴ Richmond earned a majority of the vote in the primary round, defeating four other candidates, including a fellow Democrat and two Republicans.

⁵ Boustany did not earn a majority of the vote in the primary round, but ultimately defeated fellow Republican incumbent Jeff Landry in the general election.

⁶ Fleming's only opposition was Libertarian candidate Randall Lord.

⁷ Cassidy defeated Libertarian candidate Rufus Craig and independent candidate Richard Torregano, earning a majority of the vote in the primary round.

Louisiana'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.: 5 R, 1 D	Super District Rep.: 4 R, 2 D
A (CDs - 3,4,5)	3	755,594	25%	35 / 65	3 R, 0 D	2 R, 1 D
B (CDs - 1,2,6)	3	755,530	25%	44 / 56	2 R, 1 D	2 R, 1 D

Partisan and Racial Impact: Instead of having 6 lopsided districts that distort representation, this fair representation voting plan would provide fairer partisan representation and give black and white voters in each super district the ability to elect candidates of choice. We project four GOP wins and two Democratic wins, with two preferred candidates elected by black voters.

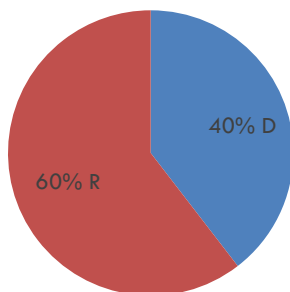
How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

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

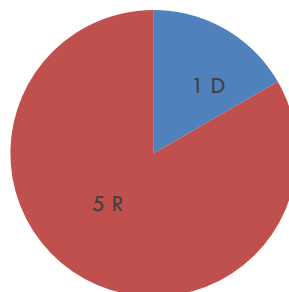
Our plan combines Louisiana's six congressional districts into two "super districts" with three representatives each. In a three-seat district, a candidate that wins the support of more than a quarter of voters will win a seat.

Comparing a Fair Representation Voting Plan to Louisiana's Current Districts

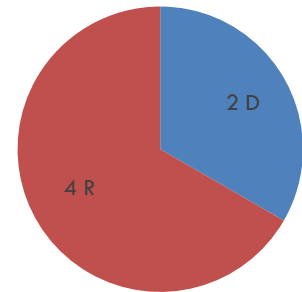
Statewide Partisanship



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

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