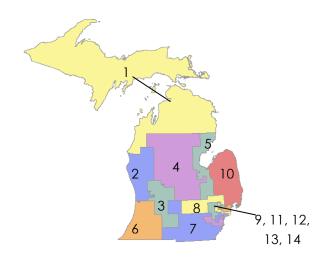
2014 ELECTIONS IN MICHIGAN

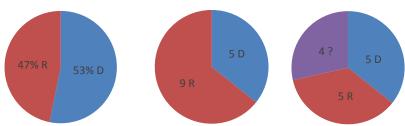
August 2014

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	Swing	Lean	Safe
Partisanship	(50-<53%)	(53-<58%)	(58%+)
Districts	1	8	5

Redistricting

With control of all three branches of state government in 2011, Republicans sought to press their partisan advantage during redistricting. Michigan was to lose one House seat after the 2010 Census, so the Republican plan drew Democratic incumbents Gary Peters and Sander Levin into the same district.

Democrats were critical of the plan, with Levin calling it "a mockery of the right to a meaningful vote" and drawing attention to the strange shape of several districts. However, the Department of Justice pre-cleared the plan under the Voting Rights Act, and it became law before the 2012 elections.

2014 Projections: 5 R, 5 D, 4?

The Republican-drawn redistricting plan prioritized increasing the number of Republican-leaning districts over shoring up support for existing Republican incumbents. This strategy worked in their favor, as no Republican incumbents were defeated and Republicans increased their majority in Michigan's delegation from 8-7 to 9-5 in 2012, even as Barack Obama won the state by nearly 10% of the popular vote.

We project all but one Republican incumbent (and all Democrats) to win with little difficulty in 2014.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

2012 Projections: 5 R, 5 D, 4 ? All projections accurate

Races to watch: Dan Benishek (MI-1, R). Though there are several Michigan Republicans in districts that are more Democratic than Benishek's, he is likely the most vulnerable after winning re-election by just 0.6% in 2012.

Strongest Candidate: Miller (MI-10, R): 10.4% POAC*

Weakest Candidate: Benishek (MI-1, R): -4.4% 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

Two of Michigan's fourteen districts are majority black, a proportion roughly equal to the state's 14.3% minority population. One of Michigan's representatives is African American: John Conyers (MI-13). The other majority black district is represented by Gary Peters, who will be running for Senate in 2014.

Candice Miller (MI-10) is the only female member of the House.

Dubious Democracy

Michigan Democracy Index Ranking: 9th (of 50)

Michigan ranks highly in voter turnout (10th) and in the portion of eligible voters casting ballots for winning candidates (13th). The state scores more poorly in measures of competition, such as its average margin of victory (27.9%) and the prevalence of landslide elections (64.3% of 2012 races). Since 1992, incumbents have won 97% of their re-election bids, and nearly three quarters of those victories have been landslide wins of 20% or more.

Michigan's delegation is very distorted in partisan terms, as Republicans hold 64% of the state's U.S. House seats despite Democrats' 6% advantage in statewide partisanship.



2014 ELECTIONS IN MICHIGAN

August 2014

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Michigan's fourteen U.S. House districts. 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.

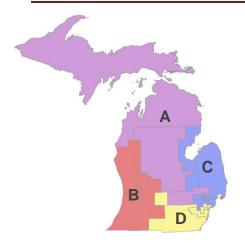
District	Incumbent	Party	Race/ Gender	Year First Elected	2012 2-Party Winning Percentage	POAC	District Partisanship (Dem)	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projection
1	Benishek, Dan	R	White/M	2010	50.3%	-4.4%	43.9%	44.5%	No projection
2	Huizenga, Bill	R	White/M	2010	64.1%	5.8%	41.6%	33.8%	Safe R
3	Amash, Justin	R	White/M	2010	54.4%	0.2%	44.4%	41.1%	Safe R
4	OPEN (Camp, David)	R	White/M	1990	65.3%	7.2%	44.1%	44.1%	No Projection
5	Kildee, Dan	D	White/M	2012	67.4%	6.1%	59.3%	60.9%	Safe D
6	Upton, Fred	R	White/M	1986	56.2%	4.2%	47.4%	40.5%	Safe R
7	Walberg, Tim	R	White/M	2010	55.4%	1.0%	46.5%	42.1%	Likely R
8	OPEN (Rogers, Mike J.)	R	White/M	2000	61.1%	5.9%	46.5%	46.5%	No Projection
9	Levin, Sander	D	White/M	1982	64.5%	1.4%	55.7%	60.9%	Safe D
10	Miller, Candice	R	White/F	2002	69.8%	10.4%	42.3%	29.7%	Safe R

District	Incumbent	Party	Race/ Gender	Year First Elected	2012 2-Party Winning Percentage	POAC	District Partisanship (Dem)	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projected Competition
11	OPEN (Bentivolio, Kerry)	R	White/M	2012¹	53.4%	1.2%	45.4%	45.4%	No Projection
12	OPEN (Dingell, John)	D	White/M	1955	70.1%	-3.1%	64.8%	64.8%	Safe D
13	Conyers, John	D	Black/M	1964	85.9%	-3.9%	83.5%	84.0%	Safe D
14	OPEN (Peters, Gary)	D	White/M	2012	84.0%	-0.2%	79.3%	79.3%	Safe D

¹ Bentivolio ran in both a special election and a general election on Election Day 2012. He lost the special election under old district lines to David Curson, who served the remainder of Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's term, but won the general election against Syed Taj.

Michigan'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.: 9 D, 5 R	Super District Rep.: 7 R, 7 D
A (CDs - 1,4,8)	3	705,974	25%	45 / 55	3 R	2 R, 1 D
B (CDs - 2,3,6)	3	705,974	25%	44 / 56	3 R	2 R, 1 D
C (CDs - 5,9,10,11,14)	5	705,974	16.7%	56 / 44	2 R, 3 D	2 R, 3 D
D (CDs - 7,12,13)	3	705,974	25%	64 / 36	1 R, 2 D	1 R, 2 D



Political and Racial Impact: This fair voting plan would restore partisan balance to Michigan's distorted congressional delegation. We project each party would win 7 seats, while voters would have meaningful choices within parties as well. Black voters would be guaranteed the ability to elect one candidate of choice in super district C and could help elect a second in super district D.

How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

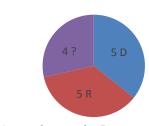
Fair representation voting methods such as ranked choice voting describe
American forms of proportional representation with a history in local and state elections.
They uphold American electoral traditions, such as voting for candidates rather than parties. They ensure all voters participate in competitive 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 14 individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into four 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 a sixth of voters will win in a five-seat district.

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

2014 Projections







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.