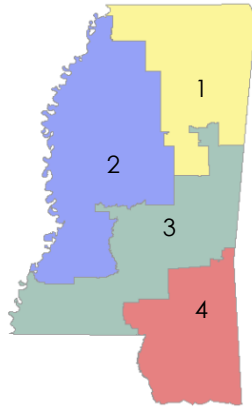


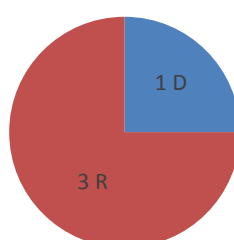
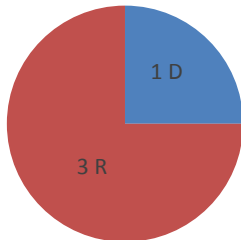
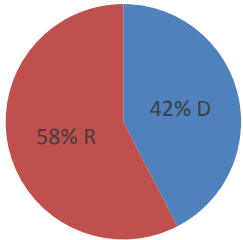


Current Congressional District Map



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	4

Redistricting

The state legislative Standing Joint Reapportionment Committee is responsible for state redistricting plans in Mississippi. The public is allowed to submit proposals for redistricting maps.

Because the legislature was divided in partisan control during redistricting, the legislative committee failed to create a new map during the 2011 legislative session. As a result, the map was instead drawn by a panel of three federal court judges. The panel left the state's four districts largely the same as they had been in the previous redistricting cycle, and allowed the state to enact its redistricting plan without the need for separate approval from the DOJ under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

2014 Projections: 3 R, 1 D

Democrats held all five of Mississippi's seats in 1992, and won three of four seats as recently as 2008. In 2010, Republicans defeated the two Democratic incumbents who represented heavily Republican districts. Now, Mississippi has three districts represented by Republicans in with partisanship of at least 65% Republican, making it highly unlikely that Democrats can win two seats, let alone a majority, for years to come.

FairVote projects that all four incumbents will be re-elected in 2014 by margins of at least 25%.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

2012 Projections: 3 R, 1 D. All projections accurate.

Races to Watch: None

Strongest Candidate: Thompson (MS-2, D): -2.0% POAC*

Weakest Candidate: Palazzo (MS-4, R): -11.0% 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

The second congressional district is majority black and is represented by the state's only black Member, Bennie Thompson. Although Mississippi has the highest African-American population in the country (37.5%), no more than one African American House Member has ever represented the state at the same time. In addition, no woman has ever been elected to represent Mississippi in Congress.

Dubious Democracy

Mississippi Democracy Index Ranking: 30th (of 50)

Mississippi's low ranking can be attributed to its high average margin of victory (38.7%) and below average voter turnout in House races (56.1%). All of the 2012 House elections in the state were won by landslide margins.

Mississippi's ranking is bolstered somewhat by the relatively large portion of voters who cast ballots for winning candidates, a function of its uncompetitive elections.

Democrats are underrepresented in Mississippi, as they make up 42% of the state's voters but have no chance to win a second seat in the delegation.

View redistricting alternatives at FairVotingUS.com

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

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Mississippi's four 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	District Partisanship (Dem)	POAC	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projection
1	Nunnelee, Alan	R	White/M	2010	62.1%	35.6%	-6.1%	36.8%	Safe R
2	Thompson, Bennie	D	Black/M	1993	68.4%	64.8%	-2.0%	66.8%	Safe D
3	Harper, Gregg	R	White/M	2008	100.0%	37.6%	-2.7%	35.6%	Safe R
4	Palazzo, Steven	R	White/M	2010	69.0%	29.9%	-11.0%	34.1%	Safe R

Mississippi's Fair Representation Voting Plan

Super District (w/ current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win (plus one vote)	Partisanship (D/R %)	Current Rep.: 3 R, 1 D	Super District Rep.: 2 R, 1 D, 1 ?
A (CDs - 1,2,3,4)	4	741,824	20%	42 / 58	3 R, 1 D	2 R, 1 D, 1 ?



Partisan and Racial Impact: Instead of having four lopsided districts that distort partisan representation, this at-large fair voting plan would put all voters in a competitive election. We project that Republicans would win at least two seats, Democrats would win one, and the third seat would swing between the parties. African American voters would have the voting power to elect one candidate of choice and opportunity to contribute to the election of a second candidate.

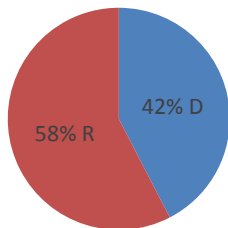
How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

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.

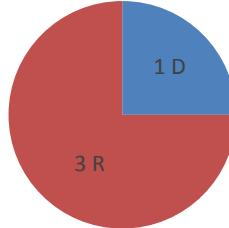
Instead of four individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into one larger "super district." Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a fifth of voters will be sure to win in a four-seat district.

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

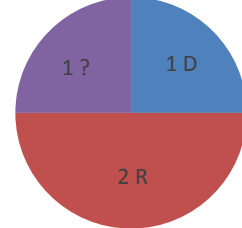
Statewide Partisanship



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

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