

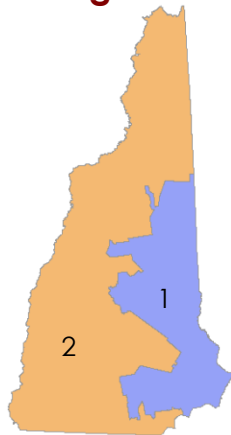


The Center for
Voting and
Democracy

2014 ELECTIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

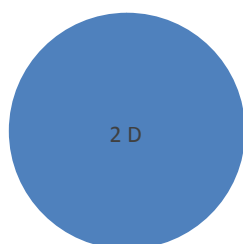
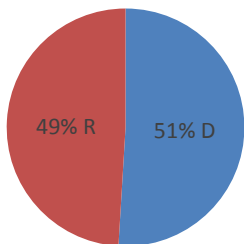
July 2014

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	2	0	0

Redistricting

New Hampshire's redistricting authority falls to the state legislature. With Republican supermajorities in both houses in 2011, the legislature had override power in the case of a veto by the Democratic governor.

Because both House Members were first-term Republicans seeking reelection, the redistricting process was relatively uncontroversial, aside from a brief intra-party fight over which district would have a few Republican-leaning towns. With minor changes to the pre-existing district lines, the plan was approved by the full redistricting committee on March 12, 2012. Democratic governor John Lynch later signed the plan into law in April.

2014 Projections: 0 R, 0 D, 2 ?

Both of New Hampshire's House districts are competitive, with partisanship of 49% and 53% Democratic. Republicans won both seats in their 2010 wave election but Democrats retook them in 2012, with Carol Shea-Porter winning back her old NH-1 seat and Annie Kuster winning in NH-2.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

2012 Projections: 0 R, 0 D, 2 ?

Races to Watch: Shea-Porter (NH-1, D). As Shea-Porter's district leans slightly Republican and she only won by 5% in the Democrat-favoring year of 2012, her reelection is far from assured.

Strongest candidate: Kuster (NH-2, D): +2.1% POAC*

Weakest candidate: Shea-Porter (NH1, D): -2.5% 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

In 2012, New Hampshire became just the second state with more than one district to elect an all female delegation to the U.S. House (after Hawaii in 2010). It is the first state where women hold all U.S. House and Senate seats. Prior to Carol Shea-Porter's win in 2006, however, New Hampshire had never elected a female House Member.

New Hampshire has never elected a member of a racial minority to the U.S. House. Minority voting power is weak in the state, as the population is 94.4% white.

Dubious Democracy

New Hampshire's Democracy Index Ranking: 21st (of 50)

New Hampshire scores very well in some measures of democracy and very poorly in others. Because both of the state's districts have highly balanced partisanship, it ranks first in the nation in measures of competitiveness, with a low average margin of victory (4.3%) and no landslide races.

This balanced partisanship, combined with the state's small delegation, carries the potential for large distortions in representation. New Hampshire ranks last in the nation in seats-to-votes ratio, as Republicans are shut out of its delegation, and 36th in the proportion of eligible voters who cast ballots for winning candidates (33.6%).

View redistricting alternatives at FairVotingUS.com

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



The Center for
Voting and
Democracy

2014 ELECTIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

July 2014

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for New Hampshire'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.

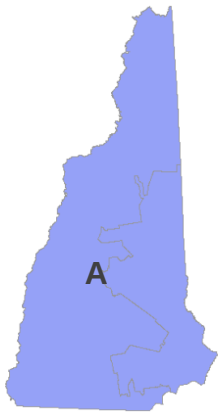
Performance Over Average Candidate (POAC) is an indicator of how well the winner did compared to a hypothetical generic candidate of the same district, incumbency status, and party, based on their winning percentages in 2010 and 2012. A high POAC suggests that the winner appealed to independents and 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 (Dem)	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projection
1	Shea-Porter, Carol	D	White/F	2012 ¹	52.0%	-2.5%	48.9%	51.20%	No Projection
2	Kuster, Annie	D	White/F	2012	52.5%	2.1%	52.9%	53.90%	No Projection

¹ Shea-Porter was first elected in 2006, but she lost her re-election campaign in 2010. She returned to the House after defeating Rep. Frank Guinta in 2012. Because Shea-Porter had already served in the same district for two terms and had many of the same advantages as Guinta in 2012, the 2012 race was treated as "open seat" for the purposes of her POAC score.



New Hampshire'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.: 2 D	Super District Rep.: 1 R, 1 D
A (CDs - 1,2)	2	658,235	33.3%	51 / 49	2 D	1 R, 1 D

Partisan and Racial Impact: This fair voting plan would ensure that both parties would win a seat in New Hampshire's delegation, with independent voters able to hold incumbents accountable. It would prevent the instability in the delegation that has been common in recent elections, where one party is often left without representation. Racial minorities make up less than six percent of the state's adult population, and would not have the voting power to elect preferred candidates.

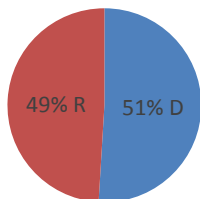
How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

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 in a two-seat district will win a seat.

Comparing a Fair Representation Voting Plan to New Hampshire's Current Districts

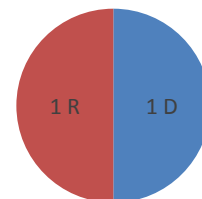
Statewide Partisanship



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