

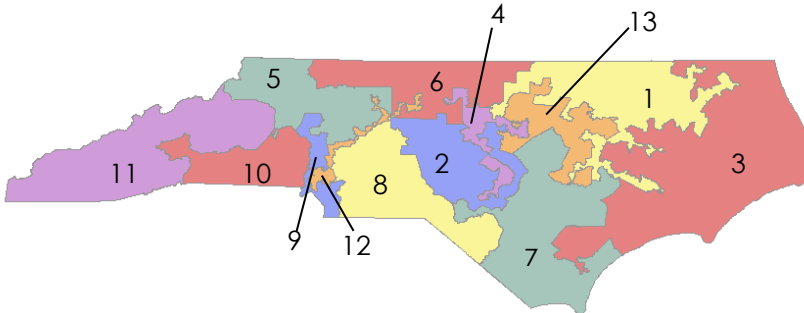


The Center for
Voting and
Democracy

2014 ELECTIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA

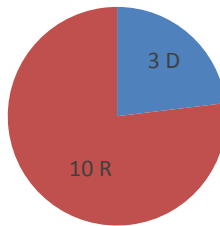
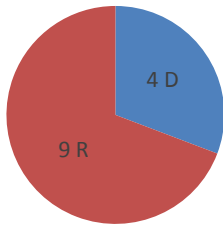
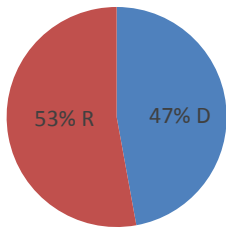
July 2014

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	0	1	12

Redistricting

In 2010, Republicans won both legislative chambers for the first time since Reconstruction, giving it control of redistricting, as the governor has no veto power over redistricting maps. GOP leaders seized the opportunity to craft what is perhaps the most startling partisan gerrymander in the nation in their favor

The legislature passed the plan in July 2011, and the DOJ pre-cleared it in November 2011. State lawsuits allege that the plan includes districts that are overly racially gerrymandered, divide too many counties and split an excessive number of precincts. The lawsuits have lost in lower court, but are on appeal as of October 2013.

2014 Projections: 10 R, 3 D

Despite North Carolina's increasing parity in statewide elections, Republicans have a super-majority partisanship advantage in 10 of 13 House districts – the most extreme partisan gerrymander in the nation. 10 districts have a Republican partisanship of between 57% and 64%, while 3 districts have a packed partisanship of 69% to 77% Democratic. Every district other than Mike McIntyre's 7th will be safe for its incumbent in 2014.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

2012 Projections: 8 R, 3 D, 2 ? All projections accurate.

Races to Watch: None

Strongest candidate: Holding (NC-13, R): +1.1% POAC*

Weakest candidate: Foxx (NC-5, R): -7.0% 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

North Carolina's two majority-minority districts are represented by African-American congressmen G.K. Butterfield and Mel Watt. Still, African-Americans are underrepresented in North Carolina's House delegation, as they make up 22.1% of the state's population, but just 15.4% of the delegation.

Just two of North Carolina's 13 representatives are women: Virginia Foxx and Renee Ellmers. In total, five women have served as Members of North Carolina's congressional delegation in the state's history.

Dubious Democracy

North Carolina's Democracy Index Ranking: 7th (of 50)

Despite its grotesquely gerrymandered districts and the resulting partisan bias, North Carolina ranks 7th in the Democracy Index. This high ranking is due largely to the state's 62.9% turnout in 2012 (boosted by the fact that it was a presidential swing state), good for 9th in the country. As a result of that turnout, an above-average percentage of eligible voters (38.3%) voted for a winning candidate.

The effectiveness of the Republican gerrymander kept margins of victory and the number of landslides relatively low without being low enough to risk any losses, further contributing to North Carolina's rank.

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2014 ELECTIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA

July 2014

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for North Carolina's 13 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 Projected Competition
1	Butterfield, G.K.	D	Black/M	2004 ¹	76.7%	0.2%	69.6%	73.6%	Safe D
2	Ellmers, Renee	R	White/F	2010	57.4%	-2.4%	40.3%	38.9%	Safe R
3	Jones, Walter	R	White/M	1994	63.1%	0.2%	39.6%	35.6%	Safe R
4	Price, David	D	White/M	1996 ²	74.5%	-2.8%	70.1%	71.7%	Safe D
5	Foxx, Virginia	R	White/F	2004	57.5%	-7.0%	38.4%	40.5%	Safe R
6	OPEN (Coble, Howard)	R	White/M	1984	60.9%	-0.9%	39.9%	39.9%	Safe R
7	OPEN (McIntyre, Mike)	D	White/M	1996	50.1%	7.1%	38.4%	38.4%	Safe R
8	Hudson, Richard	R	White/M	2012	54.0%	0.0%	39.5%	38.9%	Safe R

¹ Butterfield was elected in a July 2004 special election to fill the seat of the resigning Rep. Frank Balance.

² Price first represented the 4th district from 1987-1995. His only electoral defeat since his first election came at the hands of Republican Fred Heineman in the 1994 Republican Revolution, but Price won a re-match two years later.

9	Pittenger, Robert	R	White/M	2012	53.1%	-3.5%	41.4%	41.2%	Safe R
10	McHenry, Patrick	R	White/M	2004	57.0%	-5.1%	39.5%	40.2%	Safe R
11	Meadows, Mark	R	White/M	2012	57.4%	-4.1%	36.5%	36.5%	Safe R
12	Vacant ³	(D)	--	--	--	--	76.9%	78.0%	Safe D
13	Holding, George	R	White/M	2012	56.8%	1.1%	42.3%	41.4%	Safe R

³ The seat was left vacant after Democrat Melvin Watt resigned to become Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The seat will not be filled until the general election.



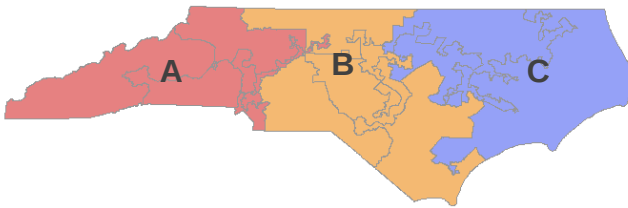
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FAIR VOTING IN NORTH CAROLINA

July 2014

North Carolina'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 R, 3 D, 1 vacant	Super District Rep.: 7 R, 5 D, 1?
A (CDs - 5,9,10,11,12)	5	733,499	16.7%	46 / 54	4 R, 1 vacant	3 R, 2 D
B (CDs - 2,4,6,7,8)	5	733,499	16.7%	46 / 54	3 R, 2 D	3 R, 2 D
C (CDs - 1,3,13)	3	733,499	25%	51 / 49	2 R, 1 D	1 R, 1 D, 1 ?



Partisan and Racial Impact: This fair voting plan would result in shared representation by race and by party. African Americans could elect candidates of choice in each district, in proportion to their share of the statewide electorate. The plan would also ensure a far fairer partisan balance, as Democrats would be likely to win between five and six seats compared to just three or four under the current plan. Backers of each party would have a wider variety of choices within their party as well.

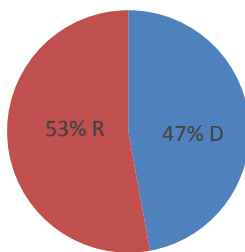
How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

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.

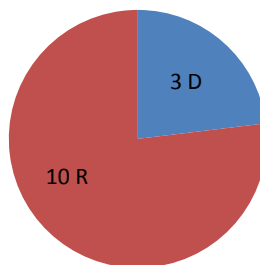
Instead of 13 individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into three larger "super districts" with three or five representatives. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a quarter of voters in a three-seat district will win a seat. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a sixth of voters will win in a five-seat district.

Comparing a Fair Representation Voting Plan to North Carolina's Current Districts

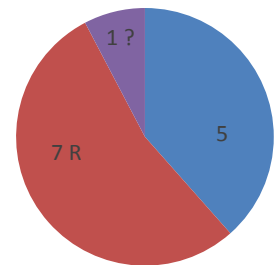
Statewide Partisanship



2014 Projections



FairVote's Plan



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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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