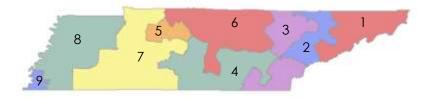


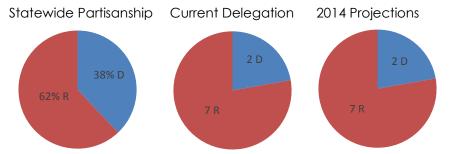
2014 ELECTIONS IN TENNESSEE

July 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	0	1	8	

Redistricting

Following the 2010 elections, the Republican majority in the state legislature was charged with redrawing the congressional district lines. Although the public was officially allowed to provide input into the process, the map was drawn with the primary purpose of cementing the 7-2 seat advantage that Republicans held after the 2010 election.

In January 2012, the House introduced a map with nine safe districts, seven safe for Republican incumbents and two secure for Democrats. The map was promptly approved by both chambers in the state legislature with little controversy, and Governor Bill Haslam signed the map into law on January 26.

2014 Projections: 7 R, 2 D

The election in 2014 is very likely to maintain the status quo in Tennessee's congressional delegation, with Republicans once again winning seven of nine seats. All of Tennessee's congressional districts but one have partisanship exceeding 65% in favor of the majority party.

The exception is Democrat Jim Cooper's 5th District, which voted for Obama at 5% above his national average in 2012. Cooper won re-election by a margin of 33% in 2012, however, meaning that the district is effectively out of reach for Republicans.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.2012 Projections: 7 R, 2 D. All projections accurate.

Races to Watch: None

Strongest Candidate: Duncan (TN-2, R): +7.8% POAC*

Weakest Candidate: DesJarlais (TN-4, R): -11.5% 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

All of Tennessee's districts are majority white except the 9th, which is represented by Democrat Steve Cohen. No racial minorities have served in Tennessee's delegation since 2006, when Harold Ford, Jr. left the 9th District to run unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate. The 9th District had previously been held by his father, Harold Ford, Sr., from 1975-1997.

Two women, Diane Black and Marsha Blackburn, are currently members of the Tennessee delegation.

Dubious Democracy

Tennessee's Democracy Index Ranking: 47th (of 50)

Tennessee's poor ranking is largely a result of the lack of competition in any of its 2012 congressional races. All incumbents won re-election by landslide margins of at least 20% except for Scott DesJarlais, who faced allegations of extramarital affairs and violent behavior during his general election campaign but still won by 12%.

Also troubling is the state's low voter turnout, which at 48.5% is among the worst in the country. As a result, only 34% of eligible voters voted for a winning candidate in 2012. Tennessee also does a poor job of accurately translating voter preferences into seats, as Democrats hold only 22% of congressional seats despite their 38% statewide support.



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Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Tennessee's nine 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	Roe, Phil	R	White/M	2008	79.3%	0.7%	24.6%	20.0%	Safe R
2	Duncan, John	R	White/M	1988	78.3%	6.8%	29.9%	20.5%	Safe R
3	Fleischmann, Chuck	R	White/M	2010	63.4%	-4.0%	34.0%	33.8%	Safe R
4	DesJarlais, Scott	R	White/M	2010	55.8%	-11.5%	32.0%	38.5%	Safe R
5	Cooper, Jim	D	White/M	2002 ¹	66.6%	4.4%	54.8%	62.5%	Safe D
6	Black, Diane	R	White/F	2010	100.0%	-0.2%	28.3%	24.6%	Safe R
7	Blackburn, Marsha	R	White/F	2002	74.8%	0.5%	31.7%	26.8%	Safe R
8	Fincher, Steve	R	White/M	2010	70.6%	-2.0%	31.4%	29.1%	Safe R
9	Cohen, Steve	D	White/M	2006	75.9%	-3.6%	76.8%	76.9%	Safe D

¹ Cooper also served as the U.S. representative from Tennessee's fourth congressional district from 1983-1995.

Tennessee'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.: 7 R, 2 D	Super District Rep.: 6 R, 3 D
A (CDs - 5,7,8,9)	4	705,123	20%	48 / 52	2 R, 2 D	2 R, 2 D
B (CDs - 1,2,3,4,6)	5	705,123	16.7%	30 / 70	5 R	4 R, 1 D



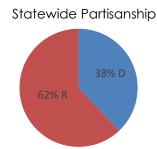
Partisan and Racial Impact: Instead of having nine lopsided districts that distort representation, this fair voting plan would provide competitive elections and fairer partisan representation to every voter in the state. We project six seats would typically be won by Republicans and three by Democrats, though one additional seat would be winnable by Democrats in a wave year. Black voters would have the ability to elect one preferred candidate in super district A.

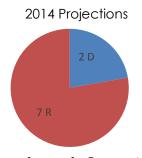
How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

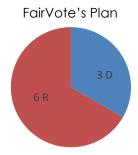
Fair representation voting methods such as ranked choice voting describe American forms of proportional representation with a history in local and state elections. They uphold American electoral traditions, such as voting for candidates rather than parties. They ensure all voters participate in competitive 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 nine individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into two larger "super districts" with four or five representatives. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than one fifth of voters in a four-seat district will win a seat. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than one sixth of voters will win in a five-seat district.

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







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 Representation Fair 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