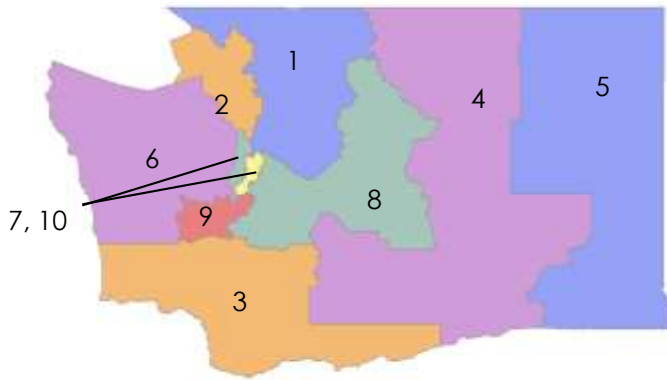


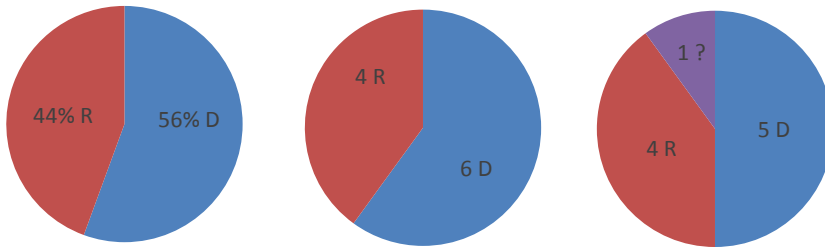


Current Congressional District Map



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	4	4

Redistricting

In Washington, a bipartisan redistricting commission comprised of members appointed by the legislature is responsible for redistricting. There was some debate regarding what to do with the new district Washington gained following the 2010 census. Organizations like Win/Win Network and the ACLU advocated for a majority-minority district, but the commission ultimately decided against the creation of such a district because it would divide the city of Seattle.

The commission proposed its final map to the legislature on January 1, 2012. The legislature then made minor changes to the maps, within its authority to make alterations affecting less than 2% of a district's population.

2014 Projections: 4 R, 5 D, 1 ?

Washington is unusual in that its current delegation accurately represents the statewide party preferences of voters. That is likely to continue in 2014, as Democrats are projected to win five seats and favored to win a sixth. The state also has a relatively high number of potentially competitive districts, with six of ten favoring the majority party by less than 58%.

That said, we only project one seat to be competitive in 2014. All other incumbents won by at least 17% in 2012.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

2012 Projections: 2 R, 4 D, 4 ? All projections accurate.

Races to Watch: DelBene (WA-1, D). DelBene is a freshman in a 53% Democratic district, and slightly underperformed the average Democrat in 2012. She is likely to win in 2014 barring a Republican wave, however.

Strongest candidate: Reichert (WA-8), +1.8% POAC*

Weakest candidate: McDermott (WA-7, D), -2.7% 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 Washington's districts are majority-white. However, the state's 3rd district is currently represented by a Latino woman, Republican Jaime Herrera Beutler.

Beutler is one of three women in the Washington congressional delegation, and at least one woman has served in that delegation since 1989. No African-American has ever been elected to the House from the state of Washington.

Dubious Democracy

Washington's Democracy Index Ranking: 5th (of 50)

Washington's can credit its high ranking to its ability to effectively translate voter preferences into seat distribution. Republicans make up about 44% of the state's voters and hold 40% of the congressional seats.

The state also had a high turnout rate of 61.6% and a relatively high percentage of eligible voters who voted for winning candidates (39.1%) in 2012. While Washington was slightly above average in indexes measuring competitiveness in 2012, not a single incumbent has been defeated in a general election since 1998.

View redistricting alternatives at FairVotingUS.com

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Washington's ten 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.

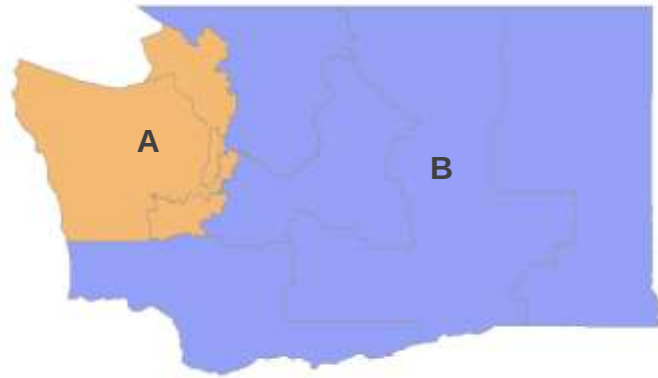
Performance Over Average Candidate (POAC) is an indicator of how well the winner did compared to a hypothetical generic candidate of the same district, incumbency status, and party, based on their winning percentages in 2010 and 2012. A high POAC suggests that the winner appealed to independents and 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	DelBene, Suzan	D	White/F	2012 ¹	53.9%	-1.3%	53.5%	54.0%	No projection
2	Larsen, Rick	D	White/M	2000	61.1%	-3.5%	58.7%	59.4%	Safe D
3	Herrera Beutler, Jaime	R	Latino/F	2010	60.4%	1.8%	47.2%	41.3%	Safe R
4	OPEN (Hastings, Doc)	R	White/M	1994	66.2%	-1.2%	37.2%	37.2%	Safe R
5	McMorris Rodgers, Cathy	R	White/F	2004	61.9%	0.7%	43.2%	38.4%	Safe R
6	Kilmer, Derek	D	White/M	2012	59.0%	1.5%	55.5%	56.4%	Likely D
7	McDermott, Jim	D	White/M	1988	79.7%	-2.7%	78.6%	79.7%	Safe D
8	Reichert, David	R	White/M	2004	59.7%	1.8%	48.9%	42.8%	Likely R
9	Smith, Adam	D	White/M	1996	71.6%	-2.0%	67.4%	69.5%	Safe D
10	Heck, Denny	D	White/M	2012	58.6%	0.9%	55.7%	56.5%	Likely D

¹ DelBene ran for two elections on Election Day in 2012: one a special election to fill the seat previously held by Rep. Jay Inslee, who was running for governor, and the other a general election to fill the same seat in the 113th Congress. The special election was held using pre-redistricting lines and the general election using post-redistricting lines. DelBene won both elections.

Washington'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.: 4 R, 6 D	Super District Rep.: 4 R, 5 D, 1 ?
A (CDs – 2, 6, 7, 9, 10)	5	672,455	16.7%	64 / 36	1 R, 4 D	1 R, 3 D, 1 ?
B (CDs - 1, 3, 4, 5, 8)	5	672,453	16.7%	47 / 53	3 R, 2 D	3 R, 2 D



Partisan and Racial Impact: This fair voting plan will preserve Washington's fair partisan balance in its congressional delegation. It will also give every voter in the state the ability to be represented a candidate of the major party of their choice, while providing third parties and independents the chance to win a seat in both districts if they can surpass the threshold of election. In both super districts, a coalition of racial minority groups would be able to elect a candidate of choice.

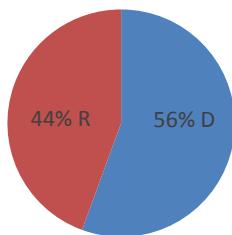
How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

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.

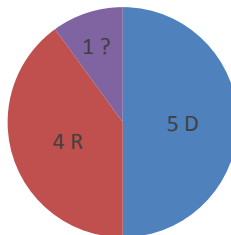
Instead of ten individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into two larger "super districts" with five representatives each. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than one sixth of voters will win in a five-seat district.

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

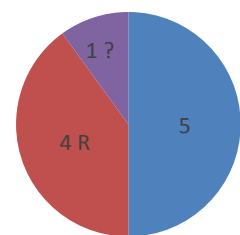
Statewide Partisanship



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