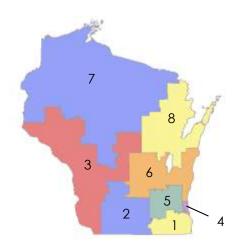
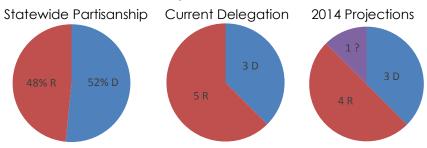
## **Current Congressional District Map**



## 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	5	3	

## **Redistricting**

Wisconsin's redistricting authority falls to the state legislature, subject to a gubernatorial veto. With a Republican governor and majorities in both Houses, Republicans had complete control over redistricting in 2011.

The legislature's redistricting plan passed along party lines and was signed into law in August 2011. Democrats criticized the plan as a partisan power grab, and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett (D) was called for a nonpartisan authority to take over the process.

### 2014 Projections: 4 R, 3 D, 1 ?

Wisconsin appeared to have a relatively competitive congressional map heading in to the 2012 election, with four districts within 4% of even partisanship. Following the election, however, it now seems that all of these districts were drawn to be just outside the realm of vulnerability. All eight of Wisconsin's incumbents won by at least 10 points in 2012, and we project eight incumbent victories again in 2014.

The map favors Republicans, who have a two-seat majority in Wisconsin's congressional delegation despite making up a minority of the state's voters. Only in the event of a very anti-incumbent, anti-Republican year do Democrats have a chance at threatening Republicans Sean Duffy, Reid Ribble, or Paul Ryan.

Date 2014 Projections Announced: April 2013.

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

Races to watch: None

Strongest candidate: Ryan (WI-1, R): 4.2% POAC\*

Weakest candidate: Moore (WI-4, D): -4.2% 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

Although all of Wisconsin's districts are majority white, Gwen Moore, an African-American, has represented the Milwaukee-based 4<sup>th</sup> district since 2004. Following the 2012 election of former Rep. Tammy Baldwin to the U.S. Senate, Moore was left as the only woman in Wisconsin's House delegation.

## **Dubious Democracy**

#### Wisconsin's Democracy Index Ranking: 4th (of 50)

Wisconsin's 4<sup>th</sup> place ranking is primarily the result of the relatively high percentage of its eligible voters (42.4%) who are represented in Congress by a candidate for whom they voted.

The state is held back by its mediocre degree of competitiveness, as its incumbents won by an average margin of 25.9% in 2012 and 62.5% of those races were landslides. Moreover, Wisconsin does an inadequate job of translating voter preferences into representation; Democratic congressional candidates received a majority of votes in the 2012 election but won only 37.5% of House seats.



# **2014 ELECTIONS IN WISCONSIN**

July 2014

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for Wisconsin's eight 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	Ryan, Paul	R	White/M	1998	55.9%	4.2%	46.0%	39.4%	Safe R
2	Pocan, Mark	D	White/M	2012	68.0%	-0.9%	67.0%	67.5%	Safe D
3	Kind, Ron	D	White/M	1996	64.1%	0.2%	53.6%	58.2%	Safe D
4	Moore, Gwen	D	Black/F	2004	74.4%	-4.2%	73.8%	73.8%	Safe D
5	Sensenbrenner, Jim	R	White/M	1978	67.9%	1.5%	36.3%	31.2%	Safe R
6	OPEN (Petri, Tom)	R	White/M	1979	62.2%	6.7%	44.4%	44.4%	No Projection
7	Duffy, Sean	R	White/M	2010	56.2%	1.6%	46.5%	41.6%	Likely R
8	Ribble, Reid	R	White/M	2010	56.0%	3.1%	46.2%	40.4%	Safe R



# FAIR VOTING IN WISCONSIN

## Wisconsin'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 District Rep.: 5 R, 3 D	Super District Rep.: 3 R, 4 D, 1 ?
A (CDs - 3,7,8)	3	710,873	25%	49 / 51	2 R, 1 D	1 R, 1 D, 1 ?
B (CDs - 1,2,4,5,6)	5	710,873	17%	53 / 47	3 R, 2 D	2 R, 3 D



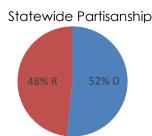
**Partisan and Racial Impact:** This fair voting plan would accurately represent the slight Democratic lean of Wisconsin, as we project that Democrats would typically win four seats, Republicans three, and one seat would swing between the parties. A coalition of racial minority voters would have the ability to elect a candidate of choice in super district A.

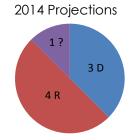
## **How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?**

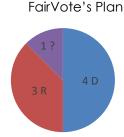
Fair representation voting methods such as ranked choice voting describe American forms of proportional representation with a history in local and state elections. They uphold American electoral traditions, such as voting for candidates rather than parties. They ensure all voters participate in competitive 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 eight individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into two 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 Wisconsin'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 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.