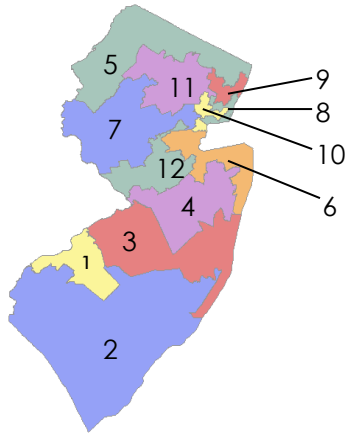
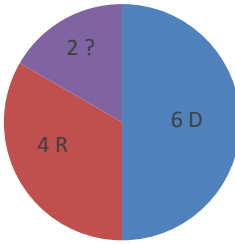
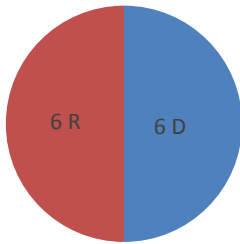
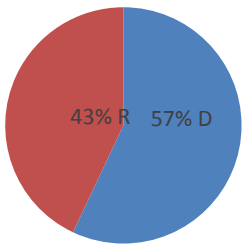


## Current Congressional District Map



## 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	6

## Redistricting

New Jersey lost one seat as a result of the 2010 Census, reducing its number of congressional districts from 13 to 12. The state's redistricting process is controlled by the New Jersey Redistricting Commission. The NJRC is a bipartisan commission comprised of twelve members, and a possible thirteenth member appointed by the state Supreme Court. Traditionally the commission has protected most House incumbents, and did so again in 2011.

A lawsuit was brought challenging this redistricting process as unconstitutional, but was dismissed by a trial court. That decision was affirmed by the Third Circuit in September 2012.

## 2014 Projections: 4 R, 6 D, 2 ?

New Jersey's congressional delegation is evenly split at 6-6 between the two major parties, and is likely to stay that way in 2014 despite the state's 57% Democratic partisanship. Half of its seats are permanently safe with a partisanship of at least 58% for one party, and four more are out of reach in the short term. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> districts were drawn with balanced partisanship in 2011, though the 2<sup>nd</sup> has a strong Republican incumbent.

**Date 2014 Projections Announced:** April 2013.

**2012 Projections:** 5 R, 6 D, 1 ?. All projections accurate.

**Races to Watch:** Jon Runyan's retirement from NJ-3 creates a toss-up open seat race in an even partisanship district.

**Strongest candidate:** LoBiondo (NJ-2, R): +9.5% POAC\*

**Weakest candidate:** Pallone (NJ-6, D): 0.2% 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

Women are dramatically underrepresented in New Jersey, as all 12 House seats are currently held by men. The last female House Member was Marge Roukema, who retired in 2003.

Nine districts are majority white, and 10 have white representatives. The 8<sup>th</sup> district is majority Latino and is represented by Latino Albio Sires. The 10<sup>th</sup> district is majority black and is represented by African American Donald Payne, Jr., who won a special election to replace his father in 2012.

## Dubious Democracy

**New Jersey's Democracy Index Ranking: 15<sup>th</sup> (of 50)**

New Jersey's Democracy Index ranking is bolstered by its high degree of proportionality, as its even 6-6 House seat split between the parties is close to the 56% to 44% two-party vote split in 2012 House races statewide.

New Jersey did not fare as well in competitiveness or representation. The average margin of victory was 32.8% and seven of its 12 races were won by landslide margins in 2012. Only 35.8% of New Jersey's eligible voters cast votes for a winning House candidate in 2012, in part because only 55.8% of eligible voters turned out to the polls.

**View redistricting alternatives at [FairVotingUS.com](http://FairVotingUS.com)**

Listed below are recent election results and 2014 election projections for New Jersey's twelve 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.

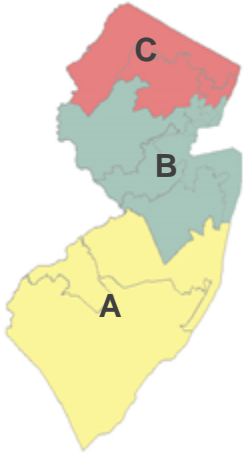
District	Incumbent	Party	Race/Gender	Year First Elected	2012 2-Party Winning Percentage	POAC	District Partisanship (Dem)	2014 Projected Dem %	2014 Projection
1	Vacant <sup>1</sup>	(D)	--	--	--	--	63.7%	67.8%	Safe D
2	LoBiondo, Frank	R	White/M	1994	58.9%	9.5%	52.1%	40.4%	No Projection
3	OPEN (Runyan, Jon)	R	White/M	2010	54.5%	1.7%	50.4%	50.4%	No Projection
4	Smith, Chris	R	White/M	1980	64.4%	6.1%	43.3%	34.5%	Safe R
5	Garrett, Scott	R	White/M	2002	56.3%	0.2%	46.5%	42.5%	Likely R
6	Pallone, Frank	D	White/M	1988	64.3%	-2.1%	60.1%	62.0%	Safe D
7	Lance, Leonard	R	White/M	2008	58.8%	0.1%	45.0%	40.8%	Safe R
8	Sires, Albio	D	Latino/M	2006 <sup>2</sup>	80.5%	0.4%	76.9%	80.5%	Safe D
9	Pascrell, Bill	D	White/M	1996	74.7%	2.1%	66.8%	72.3%	Safe D
10	Payne, Jr. Donald	D	Black/M	2012 <sup>3</sup>	89.2%	1.0%	86.3%	87.1%	Safe D
11	Frelinghuysen, Rodney	R	White/M	1994	59.5%	2.3%	45.2%	39.4%	Safe R
12	OPEN (Holt, Rush)	D	White/M	1998	70.1%	-1.7%	65.1%	65.1%	Safe D

<sup>1</sup> Representative Rob Andrews resigned from his seat, which will not be filled until the general election.

<sup>2</sup> Sires first took office immediately after the 2006 general election, as he won the special election to complete the final months of Bob Menendez's term in addition to the normal congressional race in the 13<sup>th</sup> district.

<sup>3</sup> Payne ran simultaneously in a special election to take over his deceased father's seat and in the general election for the same seat in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress on Election Day, 2012. He was unopposed in the special election race.

## New Jersey'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.: 6 D, 5 R, 1 vacant	Super District Rep.: 4 R, 6 D, 2 ?
A (CDs - 1,2,3,4)	4	732,658	20%	52 / 48	3 R, 1 vacant	2 R, 2 D
B (CDs - 6,7,8,10,12)	5	732,658	16.7%	65 / 35	1 R, 4 D	1 R, 3 D, 1 ?
C (CDs - 5,9,11)	3	732,658	25%	51 / 49	2 R, 1 D	1 R, 1 D, 1 ?

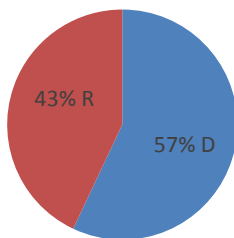
**Partisan and Racial Impact:** This fair voting plan would provide fair representation to New Jersey, as it would reflect the overall Democratic advantage in the state while still giving Republicans the chance to win half of its seats, as they did in 2012. We project that there would be six Democratic seats, four Republican seats, and two highly competitive swing seats, as well as more choice for voters within the parties. Black and Latino voters would each be able to elect candidates of their choice in super district B.

## How Does Fair Representation Voting Work?

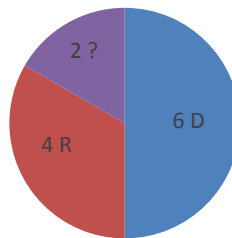
Fair representation voting methods such as ranked choice voting describe American forms of proportional representation with a history in local and state elections. They uphold American electoral traditions, such as voting for candidates rather than parties. They ensure all voters participate in competitive 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.

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

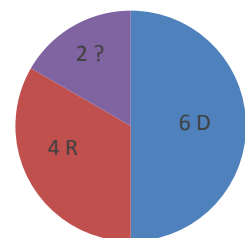
Statewide Partisanship



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](http://FairVotingUS.com)

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