



HBS REPORTS ★ NATIONAL REDISTRICTING

The Lines That Could Decide 2026

A state-by-state analysis of congressional redistricting activity and what it means for the 2026 election cycle.





16

**STATES
WITH ACTIVE
REDISTRICTING**

1

**SUPREME COURT
CASE SHAPING
THEM ALL**

435

**CONGRESSIONAL
SEATS AT STAKE**

MARCH 13, 2026

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Now officially into primary voting season, many but not all redistricting questions have been answered.

This edition of HBS Reports is a recap of the 16 states where redistricting has occurred or a potential redraw still exists.

We begin the national overview with the **LOUISIANA redistricting situation**. The state's current map is before the US Supreme Court (*Louisiana v. Callais*) and depending upon how the justices eventually rule, wholesale redistricting around the country could be launched before the decade ends. It appeared the Court might issue their ruling at the end of February and then again in early March, but such did not happen.

The eventual ruling could affect several states, and many more depending upon how far the court will go in using this case as a landmark redistricting ruling. The lengthy wait for a decision, however, suggests that most states will be hard-pressed to comply within the 2026 election cycle. It is probable that at least Louisiana will be forced to redraw for the current election should the SCOTUS justices rule against the state's current map.

With that background, we look at the other 15 states where 2025-2026 redistricting is a factor.

ANDY BLUNT
Executive Chairman



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ALABAMA

The Alabama delegation stands at 5R-2D, and this change came about when the 2021 map was struck down as a racial gerrymander under the same reasoning as Louisiana's plan.

Should the Supreme Court declare the current Louisiana map illegal in the *Callais* case, Alabama's map would also be affected, but the ruling would likely be too late to change the map for the 2026 election since candidate filing has already closed. Should the justices rule in *Callais*' favor, Alabama would then follow suit with their own redraw, but most likely for the 2028 election. A redraw would mean a one seat Republican gain.

CALIFORNIA

Responding to Texas redistricting, Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) led the move to redraw the California map to neutralize the theoretical five seats the Republicans said they would gain under their new redistricting map.

The California system required voter approval to usurp the California Citizens Redistricting Commission plan, and the people approved the new gerrymandered map in a November 4, 2025, special election vote.

The map projects to gain five Democratic seats and relegate the Republicans to just four of 52 districts. Gaining five may be a stretch under the new map, but a Democratic increase of three to four seats is highly likely.

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FLORIDA

Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) says he will call the legislature back into special session in April to redraw the Sunshine State congressional map. The Republican goal is to convert at least two more seats to the Republican column, thus bringing the delegation total to 22R-6D. The Florida primary is not until August 18th with a candidate filing deadline of April 24th. Redistricting here is likely, but the final outcome remains unclear.

GEORGIA

Redistricting is complete in the Peach State, and only minor changes were made. The map did not alter the 9R-5D party division. Georgia is another state, however, that would be affected by a landmark ruling on the Louisiana case since all five Democratic seats have minority representatives.

INDIANA

Despite pressure from the White House, the Indiana Senate did not approve the 9R-0D map that the state House passed, meaning the 2021 map remains in effect. The current Indiana party division is 7R-2D.

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KANSAS

Despite repeated attempts, the Kansas Republican leaders have been unable to convince 2/3 of the legislature to call a special session.

Republicans have veto proof numbers in both houses, but so far have fallen short of amassing enough support to summon the members back into session. With an August 4th primary and a June 1st candidate filing deadline, there is still time for Kansas to take action but doing so at this point must be considered a long shot.

If they earn the opportunity to redistrict, the Republican leadership will target US Rep. Sharice Davids' (D-Roeland Park/Kansas City) 3rd District to make a 4R-0D delegation. Rep. Davids has promised to challenge Sen. Roger Marshall (R) if her House district is drawn as unwinnable for a Democrat.

MARYLAND

Most Maryland Democratic leaders want to redraw the state's congressional map to create an 8D-0R delegation, but state Senate President Bill Ferguson (D-Baltimore) is standing in the way. He says such legislation will not be heard in the Senate. He further stated that drawing an 8D-0R map would endanger two Democratic incumbents. Unless Sen. Ferguson changes his mind, Maryland redistricting will not occur.

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MISSOURI

The Missouri Legislature and Governor have completed redistricting, and the result will likely be a one seat Republican gain at Rep. Emanuel Cleaver's (D-Kansas City) expense. Redistricting opponents have filed petition signatures to secure a ballot initiative to negate the plan, however. Enough signatures have been filed to qualify the measure, but the state must certify the validity of the names. The verification process is ongoing.

Therefore, it remains to be seen if the new map will be in effect for the 2026 election. Missouri has an August 4th primary and a March 31st candidate filing deadline.

NEBRASKA

Gov. Jim Pillen (R) attempted to convince a majority of the unicameral legislature membership to redistrict for the purpose of adding Republicans to the state's Omaha-based 2nd District, the electorate of which has supported the Democratic presidential candidate in three of the last four presidential elections, but to no avail. The Nebraska primary is May 12th and the candidate filing period for federal offices is complete, so redistricting in this state will not occur in the 2026 election cycle.

NEW YORK

A New York judge originally declared the state's Staten Island anchored 11th District as a racial gerrymander and ordered the state's redistricting commission to draw a new area map by February 6th. The district's GOP Congresswoman, Rep. Nicole Malliotakis, appealed the decision and the initial ruling has been stayed, which is consistent with New York judicial procedure. The Congresswoman also filed a stay motion before the US Supreme Court.

Responding to her motion, SCOTUS stayed the New York procedure. Justice Samuel Alito stated in releasing the stay decision that race can only be used for drawing districts under very narrow circumstances. Many believe Justice Alito's statement is a prelude to the eventual Louisiana ruling. For New York in the 2026 election, the stay means the current map will remain in place.

A redraw would certainly have endangered Rep. Malliotakis' re-election chances. The local judge used the New York Voting Rights Act to justify his decision. This marks the first time that a state voting rights act has been used to challenge a federal district. The SCOTUS stay ruling suggests the court majority did not agree with the local judge's reasoning.

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NORTH CAROLINA

Congressional redistricting is complete in the Tar Heel State because only the legislature has map drawing power in North Carolina. The new map could yield the Republicans one more seat, Rep. Don Davis' (D-Snow Hill) 1st District, and he clearly becomes the most politically vulnerable member of the delegation. With the completed redraw, the state delegation could become 11R-3D.

OHIO

Because of a unique redistricting law, Ohio was forced to redraw its congressional map. Under the state's legal procedure, if the elected official redistricting commission does not unanimously approve a map, and the legislature fails to pass the plan with three-fifths vote in each chamber, a majority passed map in the state House and Senate can stand for only two elections. Such was the case with the 2021 draw, so the congressional plan had to be reconfigured for 2026 and beyond.

For the 2025 redraw, the redistricting commission unanimously approved a new map, meaning the plan was automatically adopted. Under the new draw, Republicans will have a strong chance of unseating veteran Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo), with a possible run at Cincinnati Congressman Greg Landsman (D) whose 1st District now becomes significantly more Republican. Rep. Emilia Sykes' (D-Akron) 13th District that was expected to become a major Republican conversion target, was made more Democratic under the new draw.

TEXAS

The national redistricting push started in the Lone Star State. The Justice Department informing Gov. Greg Abbott (R) that several congressional seats in the Texas delegation were illegal because of a Galveston County court decision that was affirmed by an en banc 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling, resulted in a controversial redraw. Republicans seized upon the opportunity and created a map that they say will render the party five seats and take the Texas congressional delegation to 30R-8D.

Similar to the California map, gaining five seats may be a stretch. For the plan to produce such a GOP gain, the Republican congressional candidates would have to attain a Hispanic support level similar to what President Trump recorded in the 2024 election. Obviously, such is not guaranteed. Therefore, the Republican increase is likely in the three to five seat range.

UTAH

During the latter part of 2025, a Utah judge, in a decision that the state Supreme Court affirmed, declared the congressional map illegal. The judge ruled that the legislature ignored certain voter adopted criteria for constructing the districts. The end result is a new map that creates a Salt Lake City anchored Democratic district. A recent Republican federal appeal of this decision was also dismissed.

The legal action means that the Utah delegation will move from 4R-0D to 3R-1D and initially forced Reps. Celeste Maloy (R-Cedar City) and Mike Kennedy (R-Alpine) into a paired 3rd District Republican primary. The two were saved the intra-party pairing when three-term incumbent Burgess Owens (R-Salt Lake City) announced that he will not seek re-election in 2026.

The Owens retirement means that Rep. Maloy will run in District 3 and Mr. Kennedy in District 4. The new Salt Lake City anchored Democratic seat is District 1. Rep. Blake Moore (R-Salt Lake City) will seek re-election in the new northern Utah District 2.

VIRGINIA

The Old Dominion was fast becoming the national redistricting wild card, and the situation remains fluid. With the Democratic takeover of state government in the 2025 election, the new Democratic legislature and Governor engineered placing the redistricting issue before the voters in a statewide special election targeted for April 21st.

Republicans believed they had a legal argument to stop the referendum and were proven correct. On January 28th, a Virginia circuit court judge ruled that the legislature improperly passed the redistricting referendum.

Democrats appealed to the state Supreme Court, and while the justices indicated they will hear the case later have allowed the referendum to proceed. The legislature and Governor then passed legislation moving the candidate filing deadline to May 26th and the primary from June 16th to August 4th. Democrats are moving forward as if the new map will take effect, which is probably how this convoluted situation will end.

The Old Dominion redistricting outcome will be devastating to Republicans if the proposed map outline ultimately delivers a 10D-1R partisan split as reported. The current map features a 6D-5R partisan division.

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