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California Leads Resistance as Trump Sends Troops Into American Cities

By Marisa Lagos X Oct 9, 2025 Updated 9:24 am PT Save Article



California v. Trump

Joanna Tice Jen, PhD



San Francisco Chronicle Sign in



NO KINGS PROTESTS

No Kings protests: Thousands in Bay Area march in day of action against



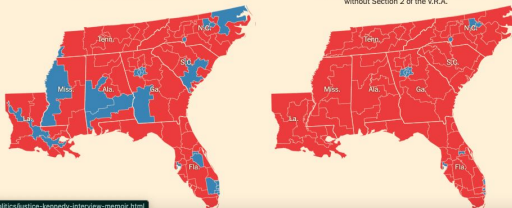
The Supreme Court Case That Could Hand the House to Republicans

Democrats would be in danger of losing around a dozen majority-minority districts across the South if the court struck down part of the Voting Rights Act.

The New York Times

110

Plausible redistricting scenario
Republicans gain 12 more seats, including nine without Section 2 of the VRA.



Federal shutdown stalls legal battles between California, Trump administration



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Los Angeles Times

Agenda

1. Status of national and state court cases against the Trump administration
2. History and terminology behind Prop 50
3. Presentation of maps, arguments and funding for and against Prop 50
4. Consequences of:
 - a. Voting Rights Act case before the Supreme Court
 - b. The federal government shut-down
5. Audience Q&A

National court cases

Tracking the lawsuits against the Trump administration

Last updated Oct 17, 2025, 1:10 PM

Hundreds of lawsuits have been filed during President Donald Trump's second administration. The suits challenge his executive orders as well as actions taken by his administration, including Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency or DOGE. The courts have agreed to block the president in a number of cases, and the administration is seeking appeals as well.



EXECUTIVE ACTION STATUS

■ Partially or fully blocked 139 ■ Court left in effect 93 ■ Pending 94

Resistance state: Tracking California's lawsuits against the new Trump administration



Governor Newsom secures federal court victory, Trump's use of National Guard in Los Angeles illegal

What you need to know: A court ruled that Trump is breaking the law — again.

Sacramento, California – In a major rebuke of Donald Trump, a federal court has granted California's injunction blocking Trump's illegal use of the U.S. military as a domestic police force. The ruling makes clear: Trump is breaking the law by trying to create a national police force with himself as its chief.

"Today, the court sided with democracy and the Constitution. No president is a king — not even Trump — and no president can trample a state's power to protect its people. As the court today ruled, Trump is breaking the law by 'creating a national police force with the President as its chief.' That's exactly what we've been warning about for months. There is no rampant lawlessness in California, and in fact, crime rates are higher in Republican-led states. Trump's attempt to use federal troops as his personal police force is illegal, authoritarian, and must be stopped in every courtroom across this



**Attorney General of
California: Rob Bonta**

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HIGHER EDUCATION

California faces steepest cuts as Trump ends diversity grants. How one college is faring



BY ADAM ECHELMAN

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

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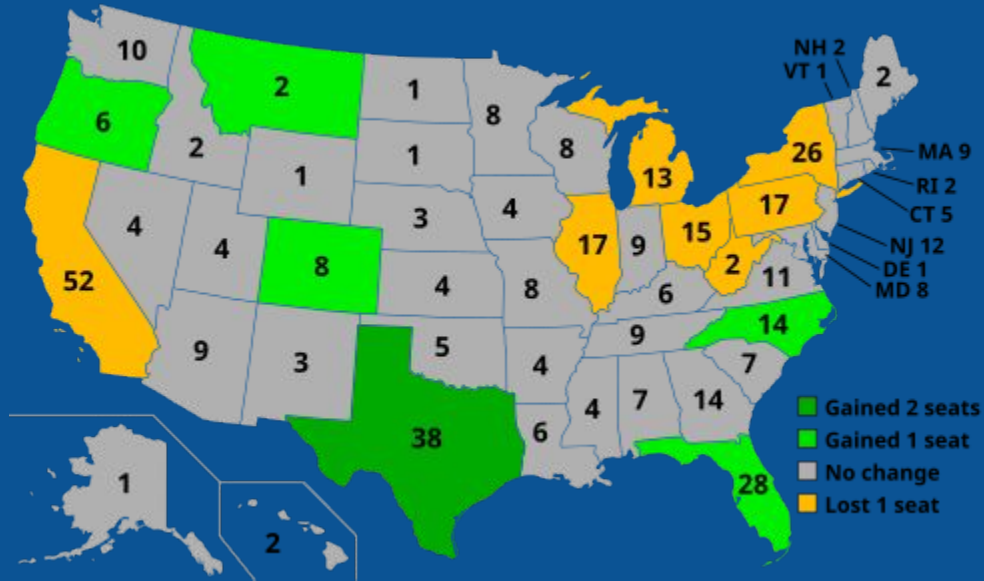
**PROP 50: THE
ELECTION
RIGGING
RESPONSE ACT**



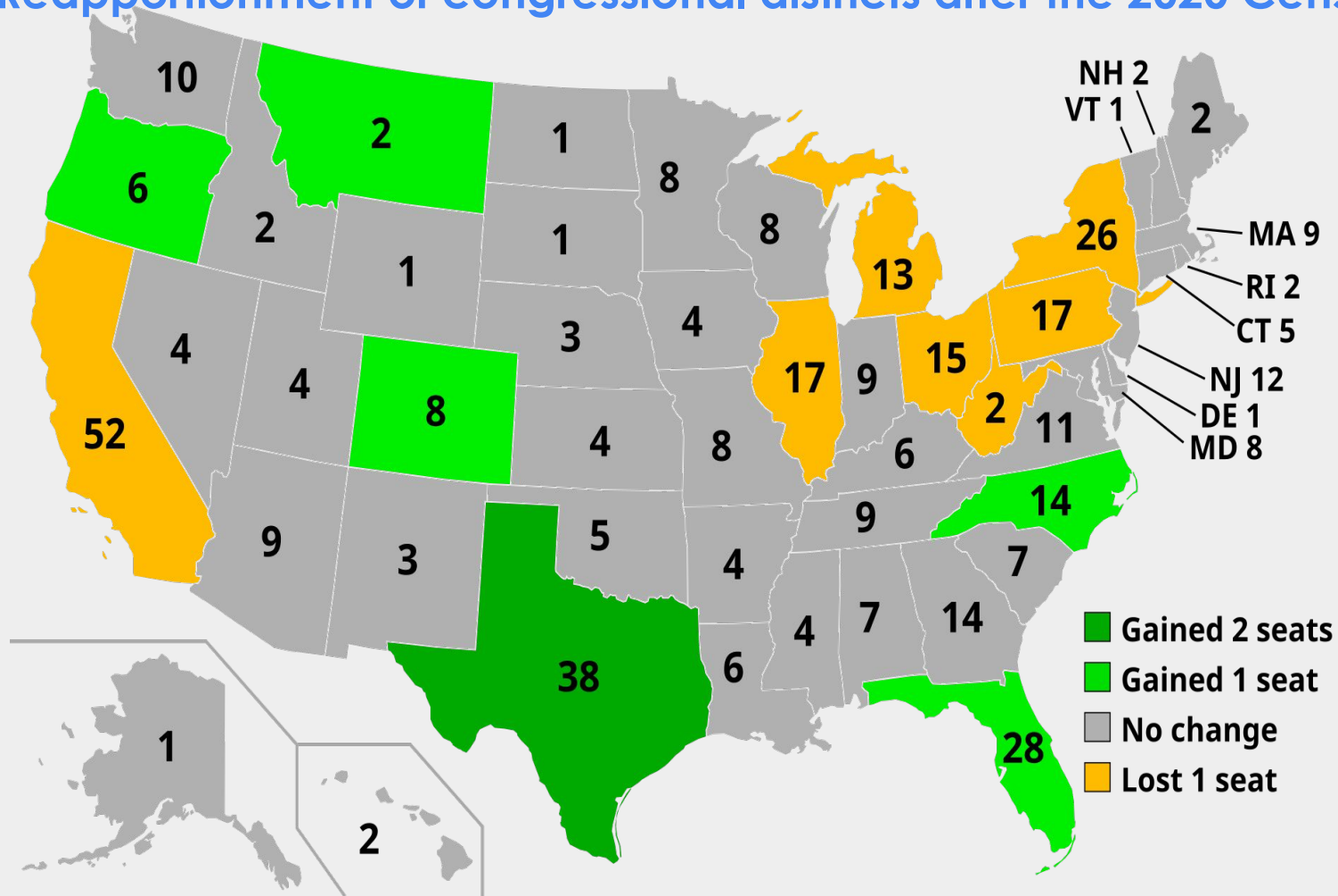
Redistricting

- Every ten years after the Census
- Necessary to ensure equality between 435 House districts
- Average of 761,169 citizens per district
- Based on the 14th Amendment and
- the 1964 Supreme Court case, *Wesberry v. Sanders*

Reapportionment of congressional districts after the 2020 Census



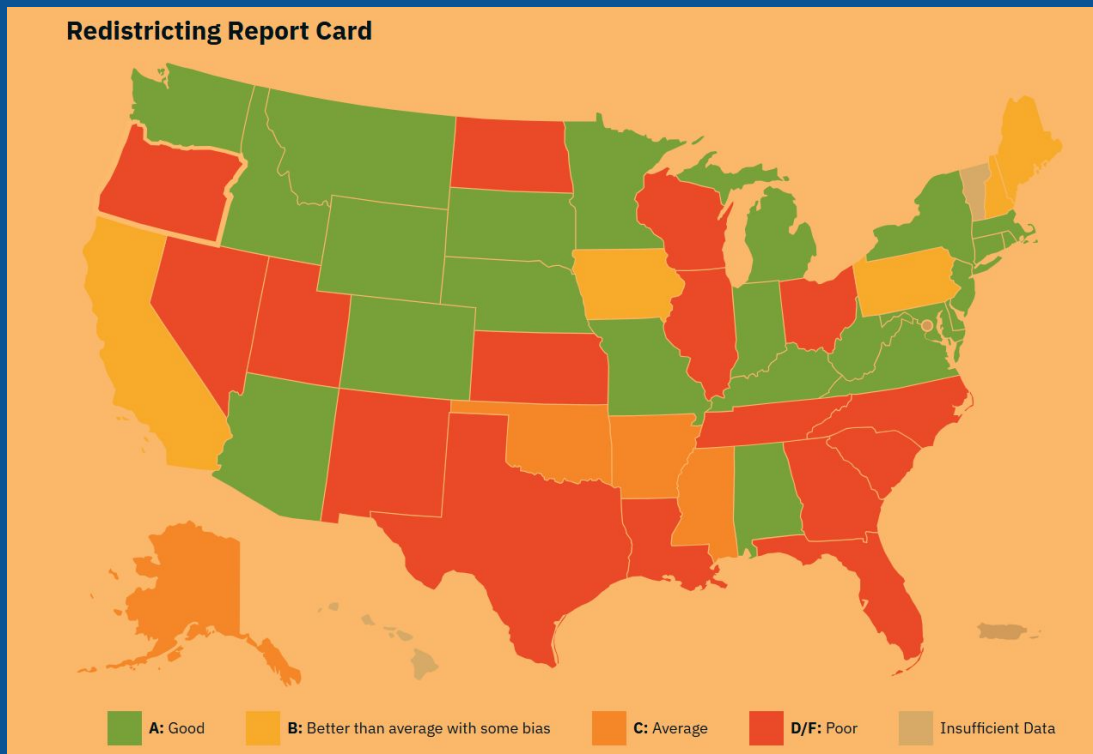
Reapportionment of congressional districts after the 2020 Census

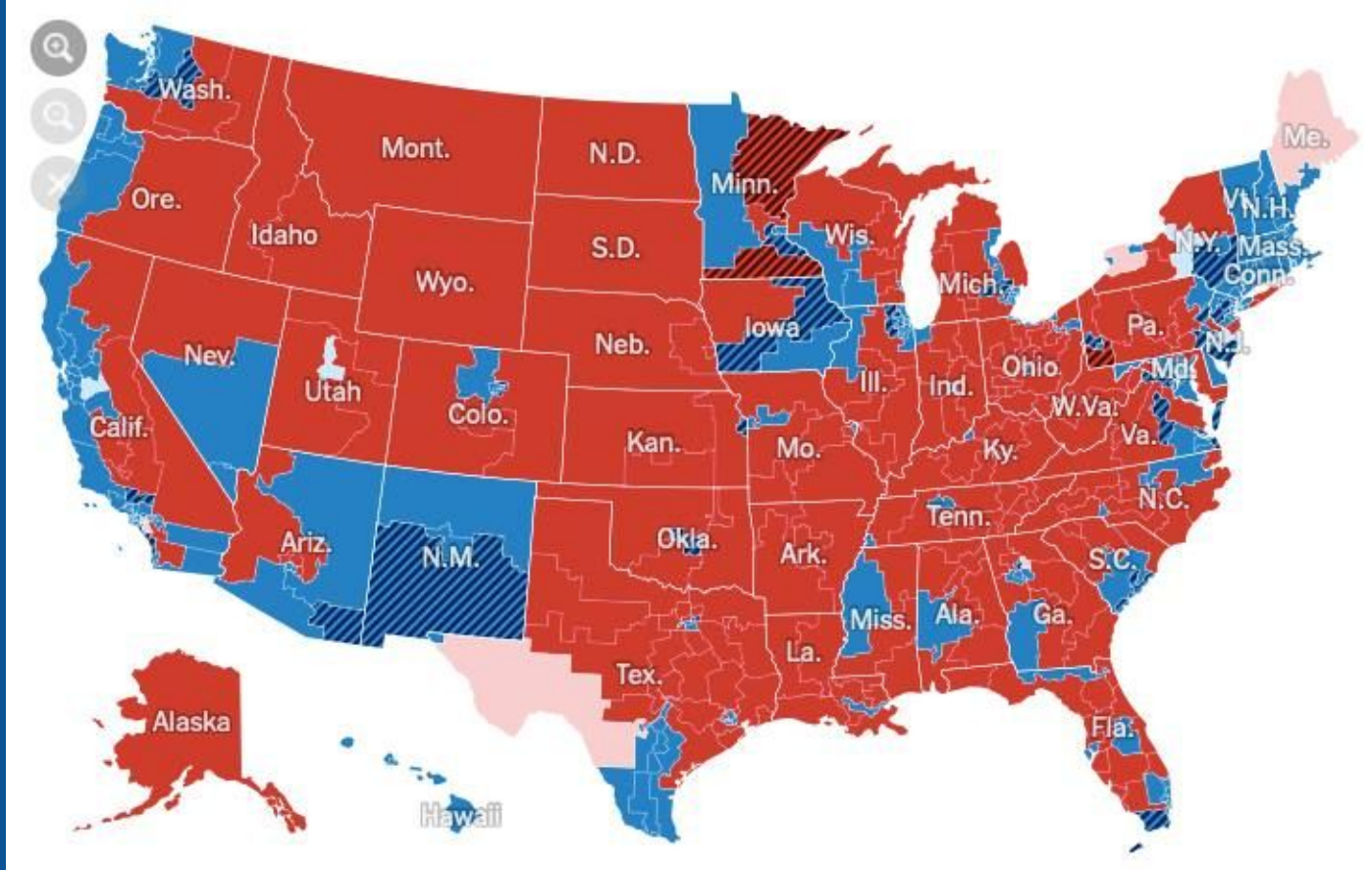


Gerrymandering

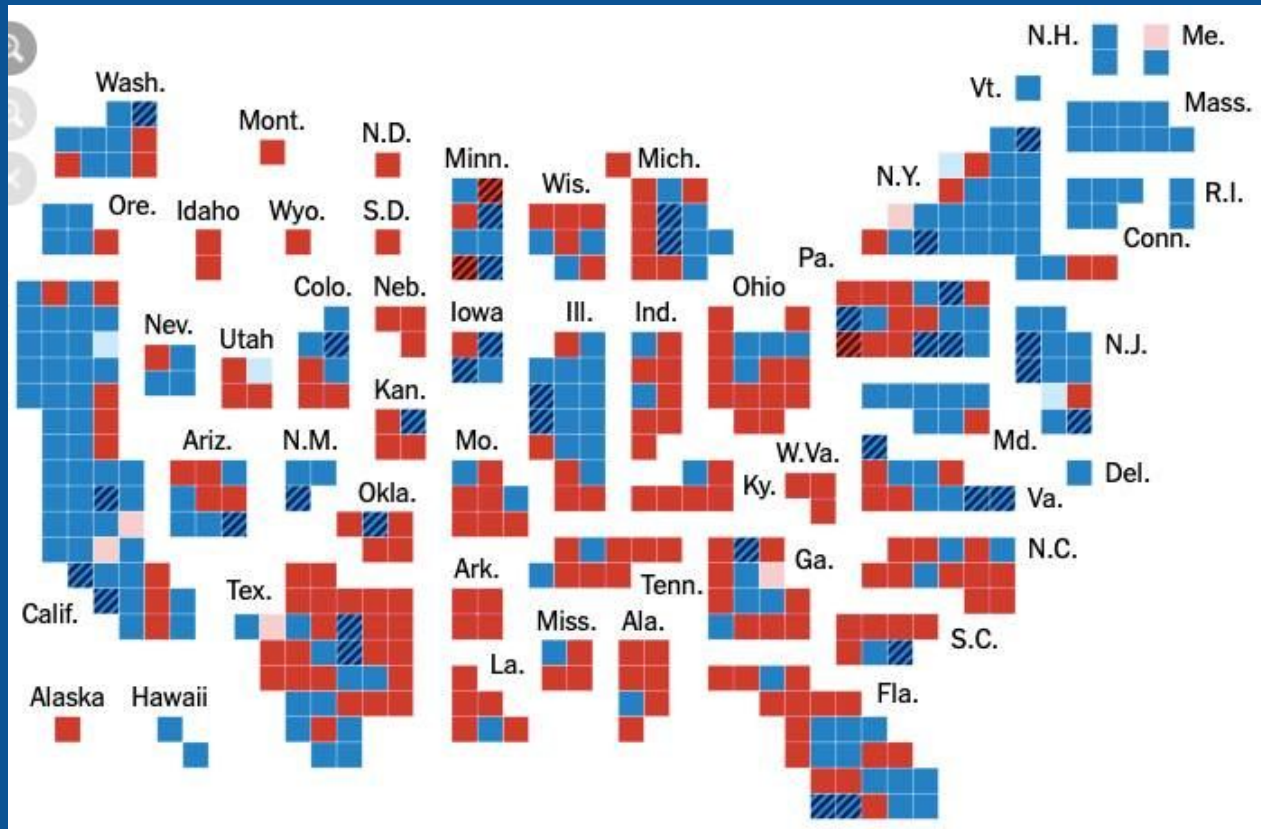
<https://www.princeton.edu/news/2017/09/25/gerrymandering-when-does-redistricting-leave-voters-without-voice>

- “The drawing of electoral districts in such a way as to give advantage to one political party” (Lowi et al, 149).





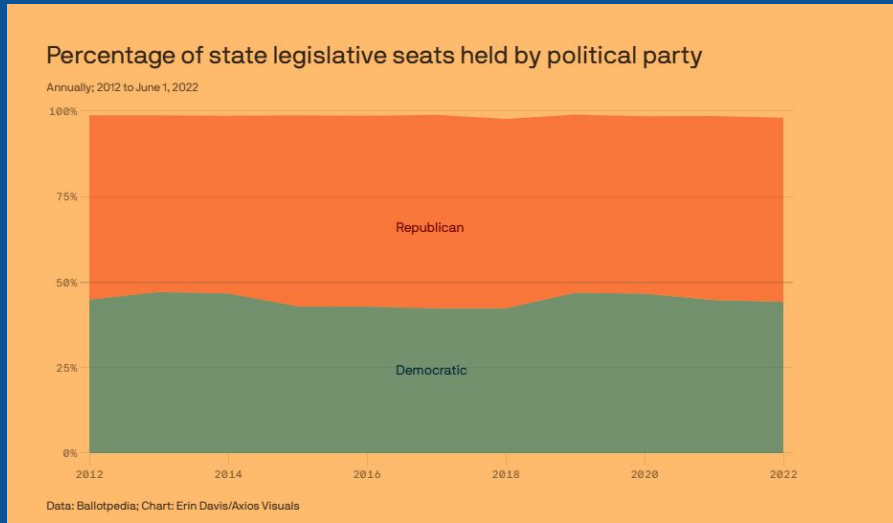
House districts by party after 2020 census (mapped geographically)



House Districts by party after the 2020 census (mapped by number of actual districts)

National effects of gerrymandering

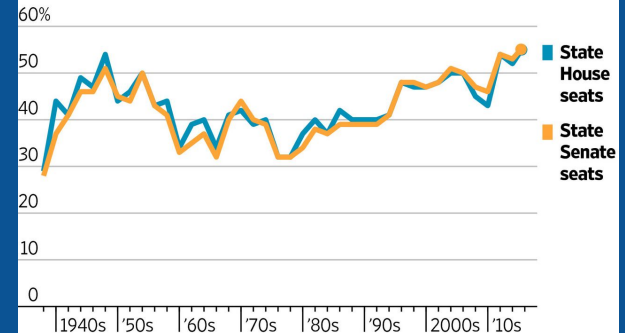
“The current [2025] congressional district map favors the Republican Party, which gained control of the majority of the state governments in the 2010 elections and was able to dominate the redistricting process after the 2010 census. Since that time, the GOP has been able to win a higher percentage of congressional seats than its share of the popular vote might warrant” (Lowi et al. 149).



State of the States

The GOP in recent elections has increased its dominance in state legislatures.

Republicans' share of state offices



Sources: WSJ analysis of data from Council of State Governments; National Conference of State Legislatures

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

The Struggle to Stop Gerrymandering and its Effects

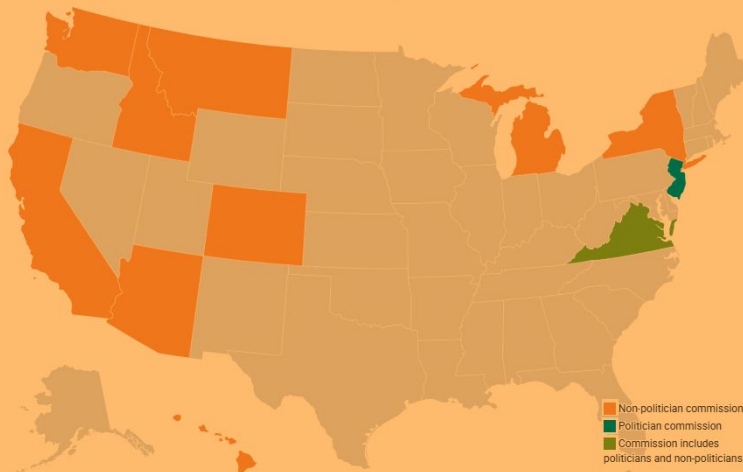
- Some states create redistricting commissions in the last fifteen years
- *Rucho v. Common Cause* (2019 Supreme Court case)

Use in congressional and state legislative redistricting

Redistricting commissions for congressional districts

The map below shows the **11** states that use commissions for congressional redistricting, including states with hybrid methods. Nine of these are non-politician commissions. One state, New Jersey, has a politician commission, and one state, Virginia, has an equal number of politicians and non-politicians.

Redistricting commissions in the United States for congressional districts



2019 in the case *Rucho v. Common Cause* that while partisan gerrymandering may be "incompatible with democratic principles", the federal courts cannot review such allegations, as they present nonjusticiable political questions outside the jurisdiction of these courts.^[2]

Redistricting in California

- Before 1964, rampant gerrymandering in California
- 1964: *Reynolds v. Sims*
- 1970's: bipartisan gerrymandering to protect incumbents
- 1970, 1990: California Supreme Court appointed special masters
- 2000: more bipartisan gerrymandering
- 2008: Proposition 11 created California Citizens Redistricting Commission
- 2010 and 2020 redistricting successfully completed by the Commission

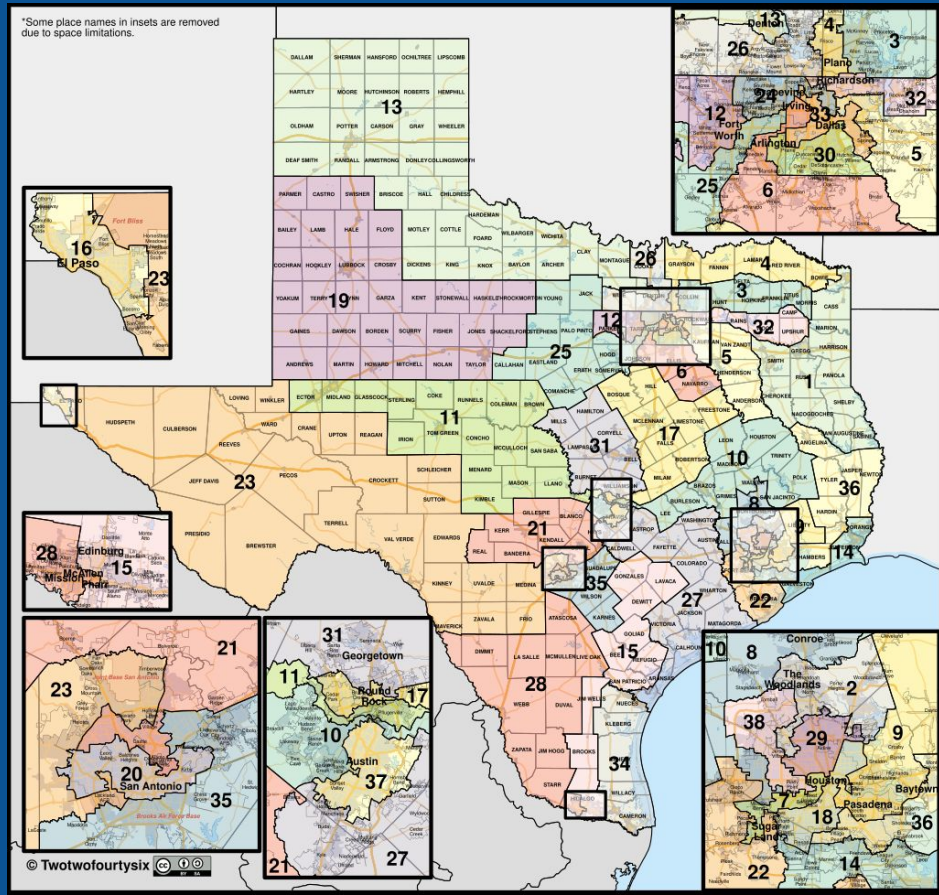
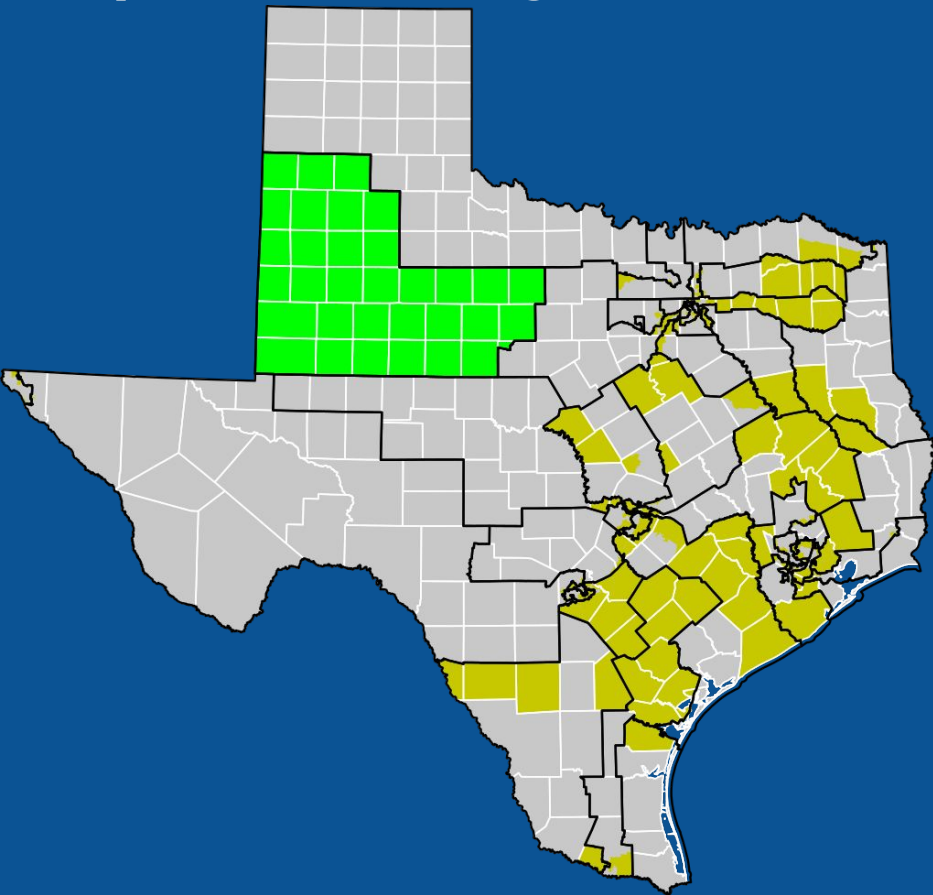
2025 Mid-Decade Redistricting War: 1) Trump directs Texas

“President Trump’s political team is encouraging Republican leaders in Texas to examine how House district lines in the state could be redrawn ahead of next year’s midterm elections to try to save the party’s endangered majority, according to people in Texas and Washington who are familiar with the effort...

But a person close to the president, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to talk publicly, nevertheless urged a “ruthless” approach and said Mr. Trump would welcome any chance to pick up seats in the midterms. The president would pay close attention to those in his party who help or hurt that effort, the person warned...

[The Trump administration strategy of encouraging Texas to gerrymander now] appeared to be driven in part by President Trump’s concern that the Republican Party could lose its slim majority in the House, derailing the second half of his term and empowering Democratic investigations of his administration” (Goodman and Goldmacher, June 9th, 2025).

2025 Mid-Decade Redistricting War: 2) Texas passes gerrymandered map



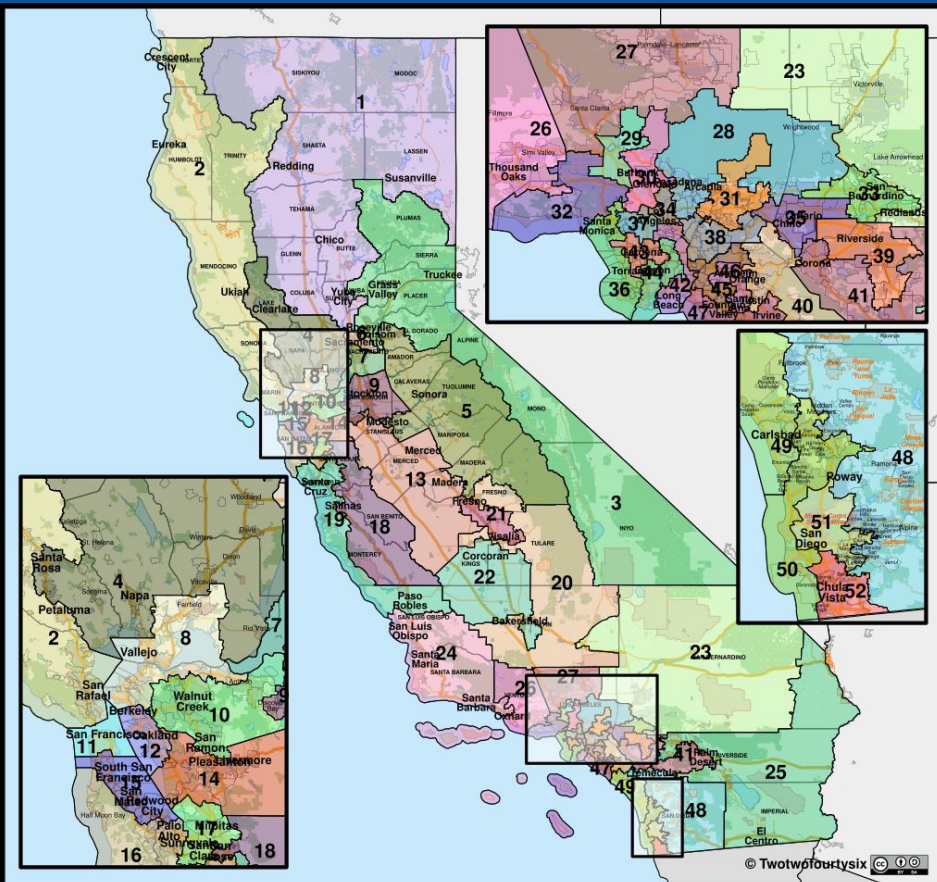
2025 Mid-Decade Redistricting War:

3) Prop 50: The Election Rigging Response Act:

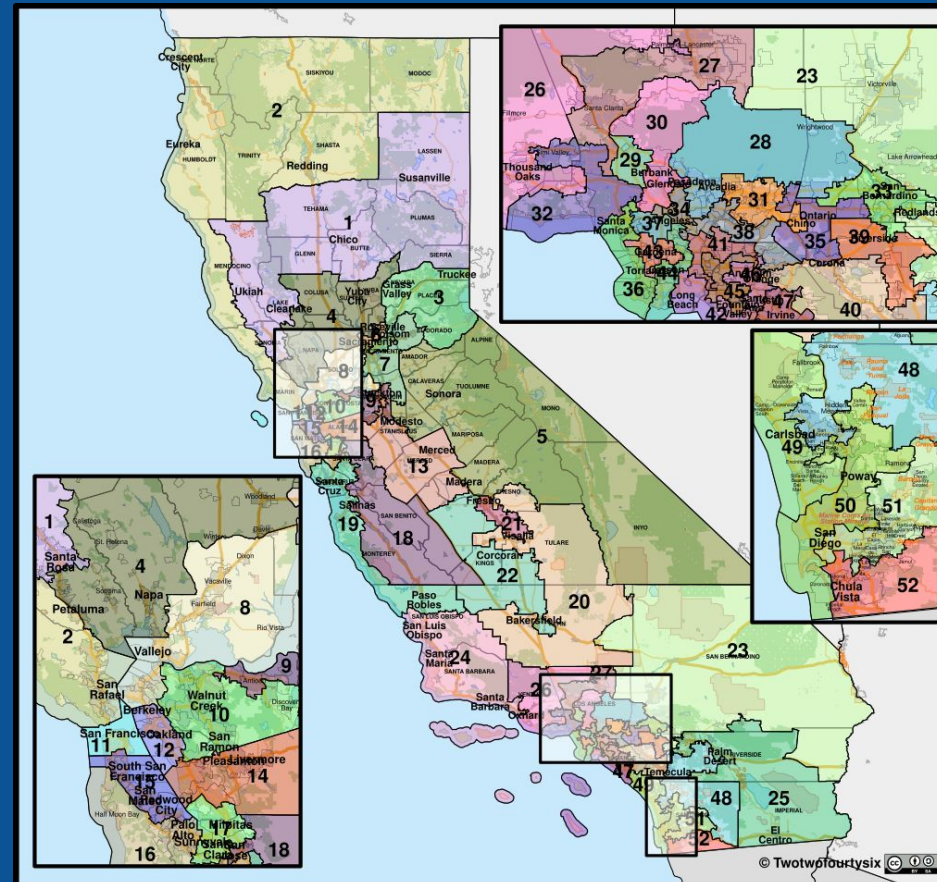
California asks the voters about temporary elimination of the Commission in order to gerrymander prior to 2026 midterms (Special Election November 4th)



Without Prop 50:



With Prop 50:



No vote = continue with commission created maps = CA House delegation 43 Democrats, 9 Republicans

Justifications:

- Prevent gerrymandering in the state
- Maintain representation of Republican minority in the state (ex. Modoc County)

Note: Allows artificially high House representation of GOP at 50.6% compared to 46% popular vote, according to polling

Yes vote = Temporarily suspend Citizens Redistricting Commission maps = CA congressional House delegation = 48 Democrats, 4 Republicans

Justifications:

- Protects progressive gains made on climate change, science, education, women's rights, BIPOC and LGBTQ+ rights
- Protects democracy in all 50 states by giving Democrats House representation close to popular support (46%)

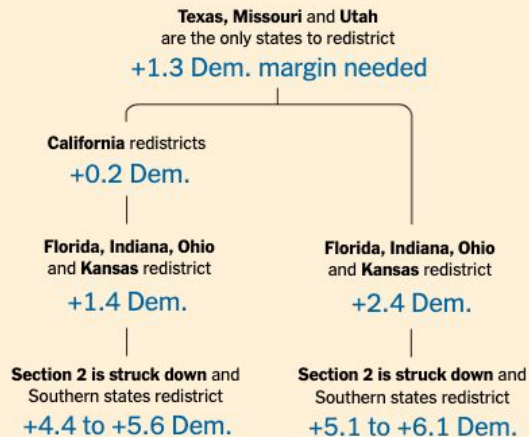
Voting Rights Act case before the Supreme Court



Will Supreme Court Gut Voting Rights Act & Weaken Electoral Power of Black Americans?

How can Democrats win the House if states redraw districts?

Democrats would probably need to win the national popular vote by these percentage-point margins if ...



The Supreme Court Case That Could Hand the House to Republicans

Democrats would be in danger of losing around a dozen majority-minority districts across the South if the court struck down part of the Voting Rights Act.

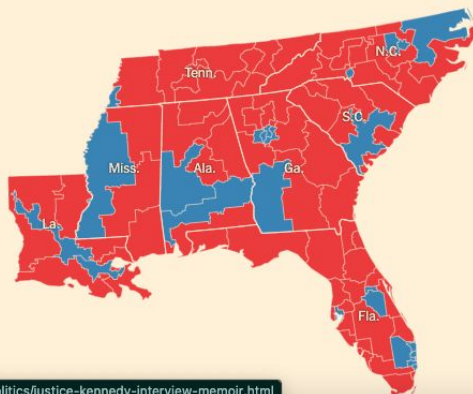
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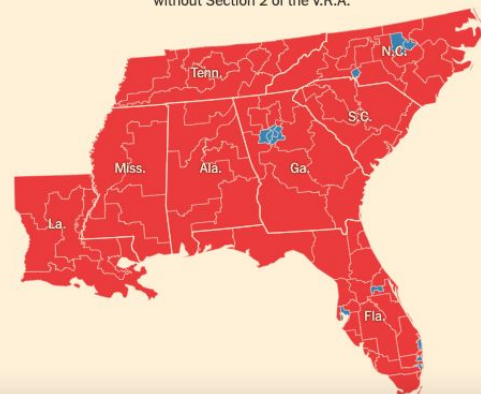
Current map

Democrats hold **24 seats** in these states



Plausible redistricting scenario

Republicans gain **12 more seats**, including nine without Section 2 of the V.R.A.



Consequences of the shut down

Federal shutdown stalls legal battles between California, Trump administration



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