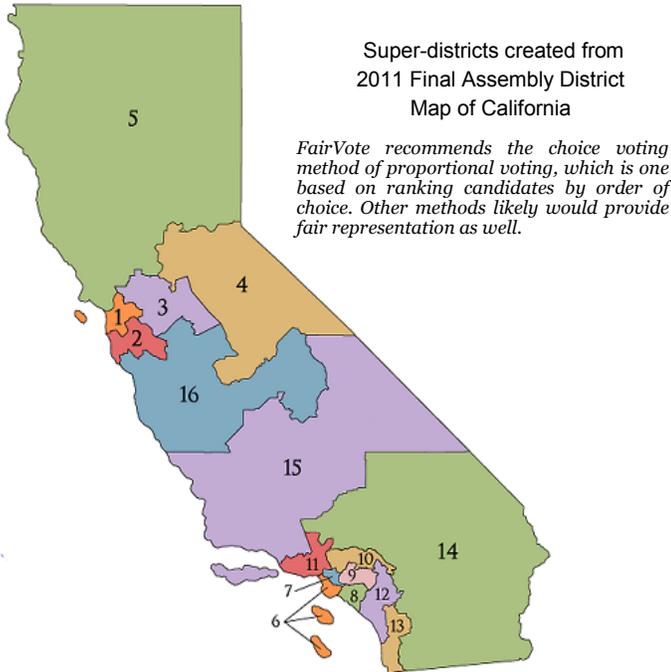


Fair Voting Plan for California State Assembly



Fair Voting Means More Accurate Political Representation

	Statewide Partisanship*	California's Plan: Projected Seats	Fair Voting Plan: Projected Seats
Democrats	58.3%	60% (37 Safe + 11 Lean)	55% (38 Safe + 6 Lean)
Republicans	41.7%	24% (13 Safe + 6 Lean)	35% (27 Safe + 1 Lean)
No Lean	-	16% (13)	10% (8)

* The partisan percentages and projections are based on an interpretation of the 2008 presidential election. Calculations do not account for incumbency advantage.

Problems with Winner-Take-All System

- **Lack of representation:** Since a candidate can win with just 50% + 1 of the vote, the other half of a district can be poorly represented.
- **Uncompetitive elections:** In districts with a strong incumbent or a clear majority in favor of one party, there is little chance for other candidates to compete seriously for the seat.
- **Unrepresented communities:** With only one seat up for grabs, racial minorities and women can be left unrepresented. Fewer women run.
- **Low voter participation:** Less reason to vote when so many elections are uncontested.

How Does Fair Voting Work?

Fair voting is an American form of proportional representation, which upholds electoral traditions while delivering meaningful elections and providing voters with more accurate representation.

Instead of 80 individual State Assembly districts, our fair voting plan combines these one-seat districts into larger "super-districts" with five representatives apiece. Under this plan, any candidate receiving strong support from at least 17% of voters is sure to win a seat.

Fair Voting Results in Fair, Meaningful Elections

	California's Plan	Fair Voting Plan
District Competitiveness	16% (16/80)	100% (16/16)
Shared Representation	0% (0/80)	94% (15/16)

Fair Voting Expands Voting Power of Racial Minorities*

	Statewide CVAP†	California's Plan: Voting Power	Fair Voting Plan: Voting Power
White	57.9%	65% (48 + 4 opportunities)	59% (44 + 3 opportunities)
Black	6.4%	0% (0)	3% (2)
Latino	21.6%	18% (14)	20% (13 + 3 opportunities)
Asian	12.1%	1% (1)	5% (4)
???	-	16% (13)	14% (11)

* Voters might not necessarily vote for a candidate of their same race. Rather, voting power measures the ability of voters from different racial groups to elect strongly preferred candidates.

† CVAP = citizen voting age population

Benefits of a Fair Voting Plan

- **Shared representation of different views:** Supporters of both major parties elect candidates everywhere, with accurate balance of left, right, and center.
- **More voter choice:** Better chance for third parties and independents, as there is a lower threshold for candidates to win a seat.
- **More competition:** With voters having a range of choices, candidates must compete to win voter support.
- **Better representation of racial minority communities:** Lower threshold for racial minority candidates to earn seats, even when not geographically concentrated.
- **More women:** More women likely to run and win.