



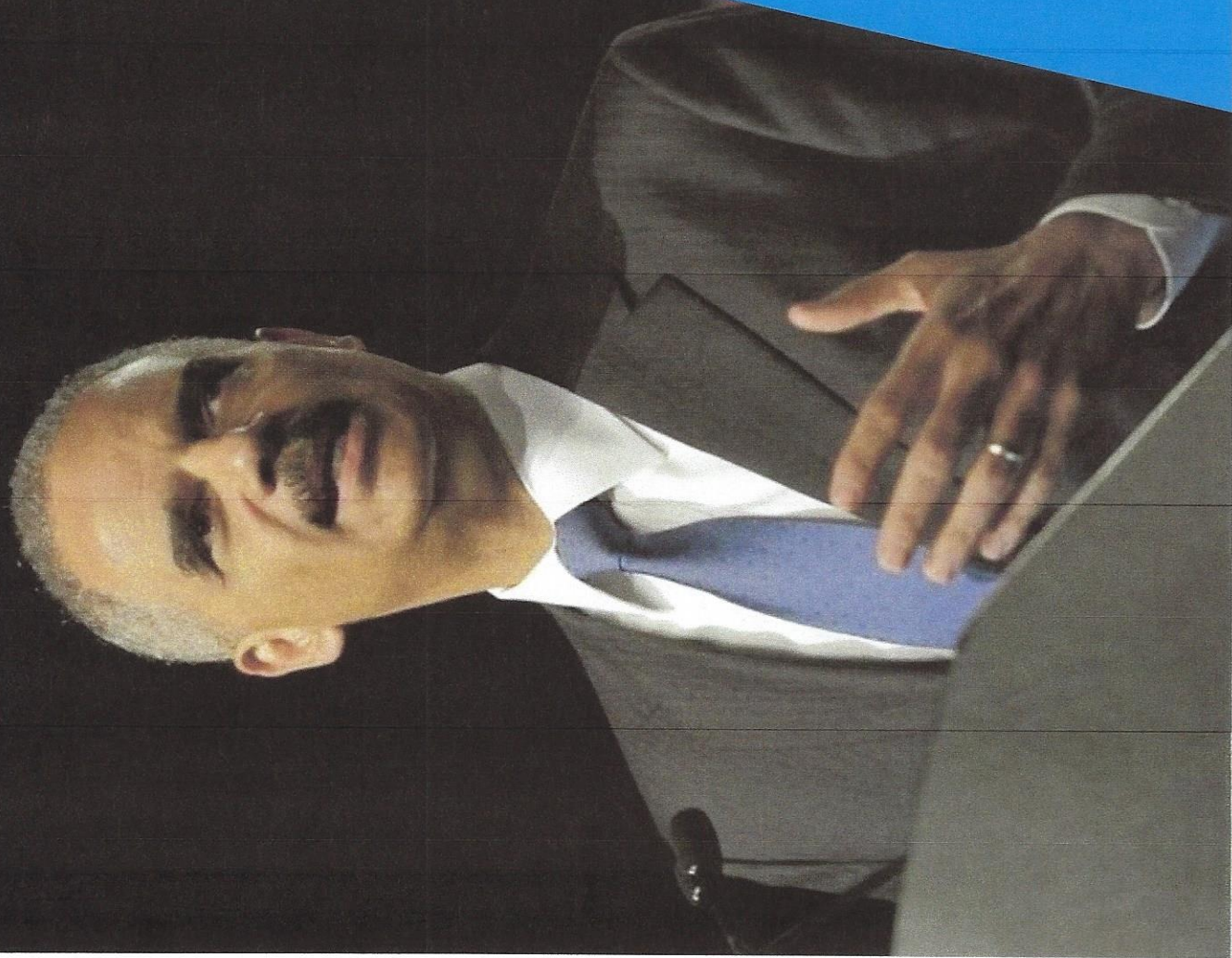
Pre-Reading Material

For Wednesday Afternoon Session, *Voting Matters*, with Attorney General Eric Holder and Valerie Jarrett

- National Democratic Redistricting Committee

**NATIONAL
DEMOCRATIC
REDISTRICTING
COMMITTEE**





**“WITH FAIR MAPS
AND A MORE JUST
ELECTORAL SYSTEM,
WE CAN HAVE
LEADERS WHO ARE
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TACKLE THE IMPORTANT
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COUNTRY AND BE MORE
RESPONSIVE TO THE
NEEDS AND DESIRES OF
THE PEOPLE THEY WERE
ELECTED TO REPRESENT.”**

—ERIC H. HOLDER, JR., NDRC CHAIRMAN

We are at a turning point in America: will we continue to have a rigged political system that benefits the politicians, or will we have a government that truly represents the will of the people?

With the census in 2020 and redistricting in 2021, what happens over the next few years will help determine the next decade of our nation's politics.

In too many states, politicians are picking their voters instead of the other way around, creating a government that is simply not working for average Americans. This is happening because the 2010 elections gave Republicans the power to draw the vast majority of congressional and state legislative districts in this country, and they used that power to gerrymander themselves into safe seats while locking voters out of the electoral process. Year after year, Republicans have been able to gain a disproportionate number of seats compared to the number of votes they receive.

We must start now to ensure this does not happen again. The decennial Census takes place in 2020 and the redistricting process will begin right after in 2021. The future of our democracy truly depends on our work over the next few years.

We must build on the success of the 2018 midterms and continue to fundamentally shift the direction of our country towards fair elections, and fair districts, that represent the will of the people.

Since launching in late 2016, the National Democratic Redistricting Committee (NDRC), chaired by Eric H. Holder, Jr., the 82nd Attorney General of the United States, remains the only

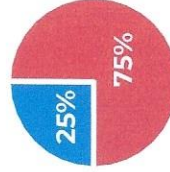
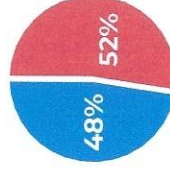
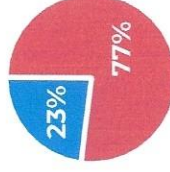
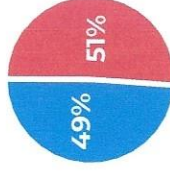
Votes ≠ Representation

North Carolina

Ohio

2018 Congressional Results

2018 Congressional Results



Votes

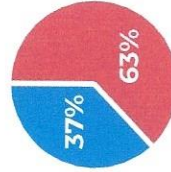
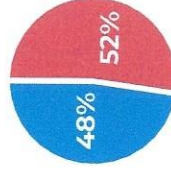
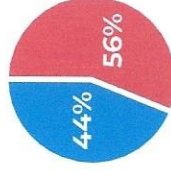
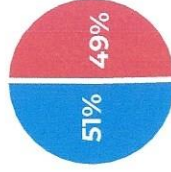
Seats

Votes

Seats

2018 State Legislative Results

2018 State Legislative Results



Votes

Seats

Votes

Seats

organization with a comprehensive strategy for fair redistricting, a proven track record of success, and a blueprint for moving forward.

Our mission is to build and execute a comprehensive, state-by-state redistricting plan that will result in a fair Census in 2020 and fair maps in 2021 so that we have a more representative democracy for the next decade.

Our proven strategy has four main components:

- **Litigation:** Through the National Redistricting Foundation (NRF), our 501(c)(3) affiliate, we have a proactive litigation strategy focused on preventing and reversing

invidious gerrymandering by initiating legal challenges that will result in more just and representative electoral districts, and more fair election processes to ensure that voters are treated and counted equally and their prerogatives realized. In 2019 and 2020, we will challenge voting and election restrictions that suppress the ability of voters to elect the representatives of their choice—a bedrock principle of our redistricting ethos.

- **Infrastructure:** We engage, activate, and educate volunteers and partner organizations to be a part of our mission: building lasting grassroots power to advocate for fairness. We have also performed a landscape analysis of current technology so that we can develop the data and mapping software needed to achieve fair maps.
- **Reform:** We invest in ballot initiatives and legislative reform efforts to make the redistricting process more fair. We monitor and respond to potential changes in the mapping processes in states across the country, including fighting against efforts to make the process more partisan.
- **Electoral:** We focus on shifting the balance of power by electing Democrats at the state and local level to ensure they have a seat at the table when new maps get drawn in 2021.

2017-2018 Cycle Outcomes

Since launching, the NDRC and its affiliates created the first comprehensive strategy for redistricting and have already made significant gains in a number of states. To achieve the best results, we take a customized approach to every state and use every tool at our disposal to improve the redistricting process.

- **Litigation:** The National Redistricting Foundation (NRF), the NDRC's 501(c)(3) affiliate, has supported 13 lawsuits, including






six that are still ongoing. The active lawsuits include challenging congressional maps in Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana that violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act; challenging state legislative maps in North Carolina for violating the state constitution; challenging racially gerrymandered districts in Virginia's House of Delegates; and challenging the administration's reckless and discriminatory decision to put a citizenship question on the 2020 Census.

- **Infrastructure:** Alongside our affiliates, we partnered with organizations like Organizing for Action (OFA) and MobilizeAmerica to channel grassroots enthusiasm into key redistricting targets. We also completed a landscape analysis of the mapping and data tools needed for a fair redistricting process so that we can serve as the technology clearing house for state legislators and engaged citizens in the years ahead.
- **Reform:** We teamed up with our affiliates to support the passage of ballot initiatives and reforms that advanced fair redistricting reform in five states: Colorado, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, and Utah. We also successfully partnered with advocates in Arizona to defeat a proposal by Republicans in the legislature to make the state's independent redistricting commission more partisan.
- **Political:** The NDRC and the National Redistricting Action Fund (NRAF), our 501(c)(4) affiliate, spent more than \$13 million to support candidates running for state and local offices in our redistricting target states. We won 61% of our target races, which helped shift the balance of power away from Republicans in key redistricting states. Our work included running positive digital advertisements that boosted the name ID of down-ballot candidates, investing in local groups that are focused on building organizing power in communities of color, and closing budget gaps in key races to help candidates run field and digital programs.

Our Chairman, Eric H. Holder, Jr., traveled to 24 states to speak with advocates and convene meetings on redistricting and key issues facing constituents. He helped shine a spotlight on candidates in key redistricting races and was an active surrogate promoting get-out-the-vote efforts.

In the 2018 midterm elections, Democrats and independent commissions gained more control over the redistricting process and shifted the map-drawing power in states where one party had full control over the process, making progress in a number of states.

Shift in control over redistricting process by # of U.S. House seats

	After 2011 Redistricting	Post-2018 Midterms
Republicans	213 	179
Democrats	44 	76
Independent Commissions	88 	113
Mixed control	83 	60
Single-member districts (no redistricting)	7 	7

These are significant gains but we still have more work to do—and not a lot of time. We have the blueprint for success at the state level, but our task will not be easy.

2019-2020 Cycle Plan

- **Litigation:** The National Redistricting Foundation (NRF) will continue to pursue existing cases while expanding its focus on the fight for voting rights more broadly, to ensure that voters are able to elect the candidates of their choice through a fair and equitable electoral process.
- **Infrastructure:** In February 2019, NRAF launched All On The

Line, an advocacy campaign driven by grassroots organizers and focused on ensuring an accurate census count in 2020 and a fair redistricting process in 2021. Following our landscape analysis, we are now building the state-of-the-art data and mapping technology that state legislators and advocates will need to create fair maps in 2021.

- **Reform:** We will continue to partner with our affiliates to support and promote legislation at the state and federal levels that seeks to reform the redistricting process and will work with advocates in the states to propose and pass new ballot initiatives. We will also fight any attempt that seeks to roll back the progress we have made or make the redistricting process more partisan.
- **Political:** The NDRC and the NRAF have already identified our 12 electoral target states for 2019 and 2020. Building off what we learned in 2018, we will continue to support digital advertising programs, field efforts, and shine a spotlight on the races that matter for redistricting.

Organization & Structure

This collaboration will enable the NDRC to guide the strategy and raise the resources to change the maps and level the political playing field in America.

Contact

For more information, or to learn more about our work, please contact Amanda McTyre, NDRC's finance director.

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**“I’M MAKING
REDISTRICITING
A TOP PRIORITY,
BECAUSE THERE
IS NO ISSUE IT
DOESN’T TOUCH.
THERE IS NO BETTER
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BEND THE GREAT
ARC OF HISTORY
TOWARD JUSTICE.”**

— PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA