THE NUIFC REDISTRICTING UPDATE

A SNAPSHOT OF TEXAS REDISTRICTING

WHERE WE ARE

On October 25th, 2021 Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed into law the final set of Texas Redistricting maps, which is widely agreed to advantage the Republican party. The map creates 24 solid or likely Republican seats, 13 solid or likely Democratic seats and one swing seat (the 15th District) in the Rio Grande Valley. For comparison, Texas’s congressional delegation currently comprises 23 Republicans and 13 Democrats, so this map doesn’t boost Republicans’ gains in the state as much as it protects its incumbents.

One of the most alarming data points come in how the new districts breakdown along racial lines. People of color accounted for 95% Texas’ population growth over the past 10 years. Yet, when lawmakers met to redraw the state’s congressional maps, they actually created more white-majority districts.

Overall, the plan has an efficiency gap of 15.3 percentage points in Republicans’ favor (going by 2020 presidential results), and its median seat is 12.0 points redder than Texas as a whole going by FiveThirtyEight’s partisan lean, making it even more advantageous for the GOP than the state’s current congressional map.

It’s because of patterns like that the Texas maps are being challenged in court by a variety of different groups. The state Democratic party has begun a lawsuit and another lawsuit was recently opened by a group of elected officials on behalf of mostly Hispanic constituencies arguing these maps violate rules around keep together communities of interest.

NEW TEXAS MAPS

**POLITICAL BREAKDOWN OF NEW MAPS**

**Congressional:**
- 38 CDs: projected to be 24R-13D with one toss-up district

**State House:**
- 150 Districts: A lot of toss-ups but a projected range is between 90/82R- 60/68D

**State Senate:**
- 31 Districts: projected to be 20R-11D with one competitive district, LD 27 (slight lean D)

**MAP SHOWS MINORITY VOTER POPULATION**

**MAP SHOWS PARTISAN VOTER SPLIT**

*DATA FROM U.S. CENSUS BUREAU & FIVETHIRTYEIGHT.COM & PRINCETON GERRYMANDER PROJECT & LOCAL NEWSOURCES*