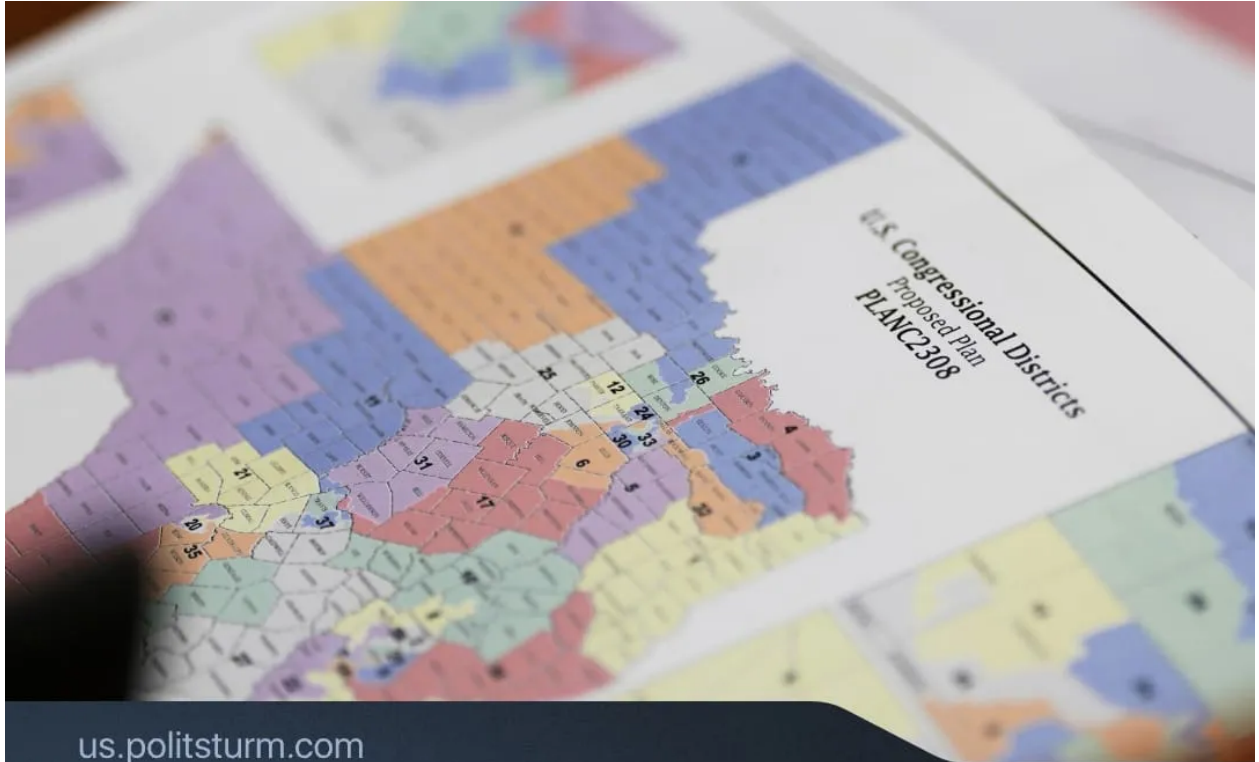


# Republicans Redraw the Electoral Map as Trump's Support Collapses



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1 min read

As Trump's approval rating hits 35%, Republicans have completed a major push to redraw the electoral map.

Details. Republicans have [completed redistricting](#) in 8 states ahead of the 2026 midterms, redrawing electoral district boundaries to favour Republican candidates. Congressional maps are normally only revised after a census, with the next due in 2030. The effort was openly [encouraged](#) by Donald Trump to strengthen Republican electoral prospects before 2026.

- ▶ In Texas, Republicans [redrew](#) districts to potentially secure 5 additional House seats. The maps [faced](#) legal challenges over minority representation and voting rights, but courts ultimately allowed the redistricting to proceed while appeals continue.
- ▶ Similar disputes [emerged](#) in Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, North Carolina, Florida, Ohio, and Missouri, where Republicans also [completed](#) their redistricting efforts, potentially securing 11 House seats.
- ▶ Democrats have also [pursued](#) their own gerrymandering measures. In California and Utah, Democrats secured redistricting efforts, potentially securing 6 House seats in the midterms.
- ▶ Current [projections](#) suggest Republicans are likely to benefit most from the new maps, potentially gaining enough seats to counteract growing dissatisfaction with the party.

Context. [Gerrymandering](#) is the manipulation of electoral district boundaries for political advantage. The two main methods are "cracking," splitting opposition voters across districts, and "packing," concentrating them into a few to waste votes. Both major US parties have historically used these tactics, though the current push is primarily Republican-led.

- ▶ Donald Trump currently [has](#) an approval rating of around 35%, lower than both Joe Biden at the same point in office and Trump's own first term. [Inflation](#), concerns over jobs and [economic growth](#), and opposition to the war with Iran have become major drivers of declining support.
- ▶ The 2019 Supreme Court [ruling](#) in *Rucho v. Common Cause* largely closed federal courts to partisan gerrymandering challenges, allowing the current wave of redistricting to proceed through largely legal channels.