

Maryland District Map — Equal Partisan Districts

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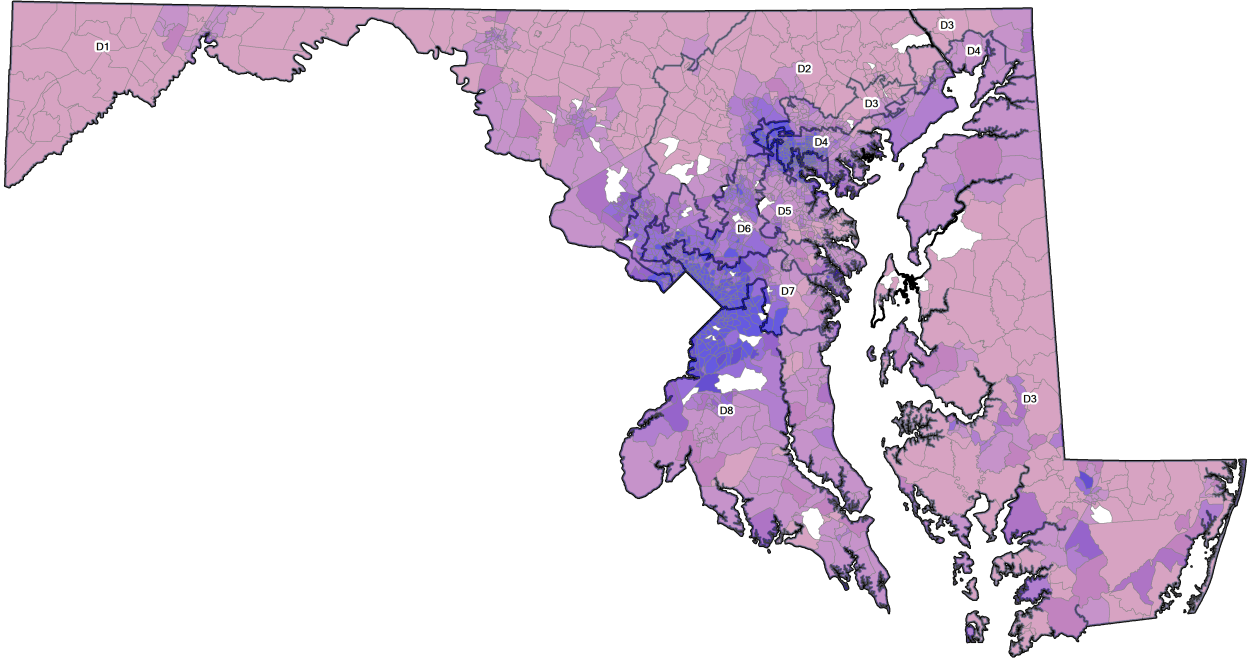


Figure 1: MD Districts drawn competitively w/ US Senate Election Data from 2006

- Light Pink/Purple == More Republican
- Blue == More Democratic
- Magenta == Closer Split

In Maryland, a state which has been blue for over 50 years and even overcame the 1980 election as a blue state, there is a lot of Democratic political activism potentially because of its proximity to D.C. In this redistricting plan, partisanship is measured based on results of the past elections, which include that of the 2008 House Election, 2006 Senate Race, and Party Registration Data (also CompDvote not sure what this was). These sources were used as they are the most accurate methods of determining how a region may vote in forthcoming elections and using a multitude of voting data can help configure shapes that have equal proportions of support. In order to create a fairer advantage for both parties, I have taken large the Democratic areas in Baltimore and the surrounding area, D.C. suburbs and satellite cities and combined them with more rural areas of Maryland such as the western MD which shares borders with rural VA and WV. There is a large minority population in the democratic areas and the largest population is of Black Americans who strongly vote democratic. The more rural areas are less diverse and consist of a majority republican base. Combining the likes of the two by diluting the democratic influence with republican voters helps balance out the district giving both parties a shot. This will enable both parties to have a chance at turning over tuning the control of a previously blue or red district, in theory if all registered and eligible citizen who voted in previous elections turn out.

Figure 2: Partisan Make up of Competitive Districts

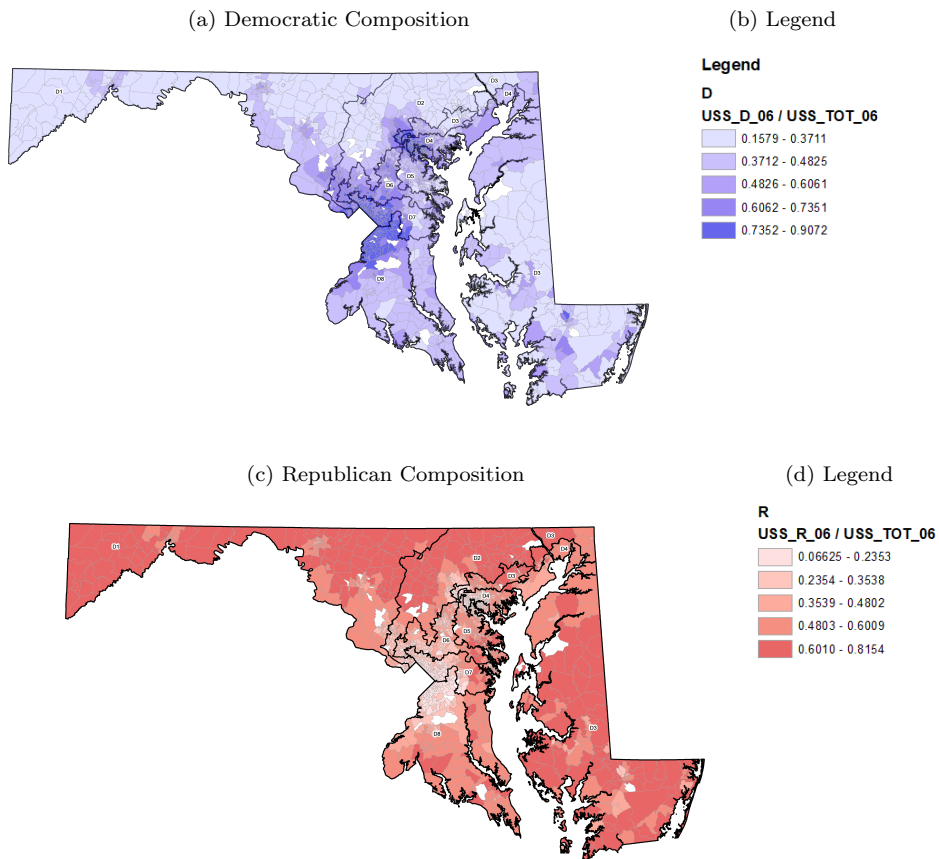


Figure 3: Boundaries of Competitive Districts

(a) Competitive Districts Heat Map

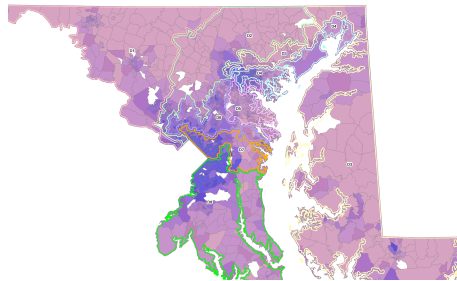


Figure 4: Boundaries of Competitive Districts

(a) Competitive Districts as Blocks

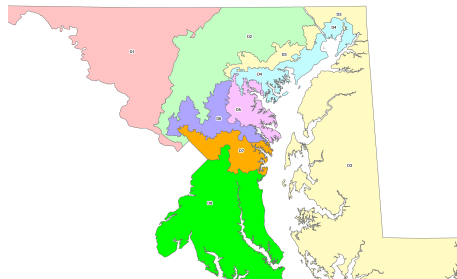


Table 1: Dem Rep Composition of Districts: Dividing up areas to to dilute the Democrat influence to increase competitiveness

Dist.	Total	Tot Dev	Tot. Dev %	House R 08 %	House D 08 %
D1	721438	-91	-0.01	19.32	19.81
D2	721156	-373	-0.05	18.93	23.63
D3	722295	766	0.11	16.87	24.2
D4	721864	335	0.05	6.91	29.2
D5	721957	428	0.06	10.43	25.19
D6	722553	1024	0.14	11.18	28.89
D7	720357	-1172	-0.16	5.96	28.99
D8	720611	-918	-0.13	8.3	36.06
Comp D%	Comp R%	Senate D 06 %	Senate R 06 %	Regstr. D %	Regstr. R %
13.1	13.74	12.85	14.86	17.05	17.24
16.58	15.46	16.01	16.59	20.23	18.4
14.4	15.35	13.3	17.14	18.36	18.62
17.32	7.76	16.17	9.25	22.7	8.68
14.87	9.69	13.78	11.1	19.57	11.32
19.16	10.09	18.71	11	24.41	11.46
17.43	5.86	16.5	7.05	23.55	6.58
17.88	8.19	16.6	10	27.6	9.45

$787182/.5*721529 = 2.18$, it is estimated that $\bar{2}$ districts can be drawn to be strictly competitive, and in this plan I have drawn districts 1, 2, and 3 which encompass the panhandle/western, central, and the eastern parts of the state, that are separated by 2, .58, and 3.8 points respectively (using Senate D/R Data). This reveals that these districts can be contested by republicans, however, there is still a high margin that these districts would go to the democrats. Moreover, using registration data, these districts are even closer with .19, 2, and .36 points separating them. Moreover, the House, Senate and Registration data being extremely close bolsters the argument of these districts competitiveness as they are closely matched in percentages and reflected in 3 mediums. After analyzing the population disparities within Maryland in regards to partisanship, it is obvious that there are major differences in the number of Registered Democrats and Registered Republicans, and there are about 11% more politically active registered democrats. However, the election data from the 2006 Senate Race, 54.2% for Ben Cardin (D) and 44.2% for Michael Steele(R), reveals that there is still a large underrepresented/unregistered base of republican voters. Overall, this plan increases republicans chances overcoming the Democratic stronghold but does not explicitly indicate that they will win seats, it simply exemplifies and balances the true number of Republicans into more districts (weakening democrats chances), or at least the political active ones of the population that are eligible to vote and would weaken any argument that the current legislature explicitly manipulated the districts in their favor.