

Kind's district one of the most purple in the country, analysis finds

Posted on Monday, Apr 10, 2017

U.S. Rep. Ron Kind has one of the most purple congressional districts in the country, according to a [new analysis](#) from the Cook Political Report comparing how districts voted in the last two presidential races.

Kind's district was one of eight in the country that broke "even" under the publication's partisan voting index, a measure of how strongly a district leans Dem or Republican compared to the rest of the nation. The seven other districts that got that designation were one in Washington, two in Oregon, one in Florida and three in California.

Kind's 3rd Congressional District, which covers the southwestern and western parts of the state, supported President Trump over candidate Hillary Clinton by a five-point margin in the 2016 general. But the district in 2012 went for former President Obama over candidate Mitt Romney by 11 points.

The state's two other Dem districts backed Clinton by similar margins than their 2012 support of Obama.

In the southern part of the state, U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan's 2nd Congressional District supported Clinton over Trump by a 36-point margin, and Obama over Romney by a 38-point margin. That district's PVI is plus-18 for Dems, meaning that in the 2012 and 2016 presidential elections, the district went 18 points more Democratic than the national average.

And U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore's 4th Congressional District covering Milwaukee and some of its suburbs delivered both Clinton and Obama a 52-point victory each over their opponents. That district's PVI is plus-25 for Dems.

Meanwhile, three other Wisconsin congressional districts that went for Romney in 2012 increased their support for Trump in 2016. Those districts are represented by U.S. Reps. Glenn Grothman, Sean Duffy and Mike Gallagher, and they put up double-digit point increases for Trump over Clinton compared with Romney over

Obama.

Grothman's 6th Congressional District, covering part of eastern Wisconsin, delivered Trump a 17-point victory last fall compared to only a seven-point victory for Romney in 2012. Duffy's 7th Congressional District, in northern Wisconsin, supported Trump over Clinton by 20 points, compared to Romney over Obama by only three points. And Gallagher's 8th Congressional District, in northeastern Wisconsin, gave Trump a 17-point win in the 2016 general compared to a four-point win for Romney in the last presidential race.

Grothman's and Duffy's districts both have a PVI of plus-8 for Republicans, while Gallagher's has a plus-7 in the same direction.

U.S. Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner's 5th Congressional District was the only one in Wisconsin that showed a decreased support for the Republican presidential nominee in 2016. That district, covering Washington and Jefferson counties and parts of others, gave Trump a 20-point margin of victory in the fall general, and Romney a 24-point margin of victory in 2012. Its PVI is plus-13 for Republicans.

Showing the smallest margin of increased GOP presidential support was House Speaker Paul Ryan's 1st Congressional District, located in southeastern Wisconsin. The district, which has a plus-5 PVI for Republicans, supported Trump over Clinton by 10 points, and Romney over Obama by four points.