



State Courts On the Power Map: Action Checklist & Resources

State Courts on the Power Map addresses the critical need to understand and navigate courts at the state level as key decision-makers in our collective fight to win racial, gender, and reproductive justice as we work to achieve our long-term vision of achieving a multi-racial democracy free from systems of oppression.

Get to Know Your State Courts & the Political Landscape

- **Learn more about** [abortion protections, restrictions, and bans in each state](#)
- **Your State Constitution**
What protections are already in place for rights extending beyond access to abortion care?
Where do rights need to be strengthened?
- **Your State Supreme Court:**
 - Who sits on the bench?
 - How have they decided on major cases?
 - [How are justices selected?](#)
 - [How are justices evaluated?](#)
- **Your State Landscape:**
 - Are organizations already working on the ground to strengthen and diversify the courts? Who are they and what do they stand for?
 - Who are the opponents of democracy on the ground who are working to undermine the courts?
 - Are there cases moving forward in the courts on abortion access, gender justice, redistricting, voting rights, and/or other issues?
 - Are there ballot initiatives moving forward to expand or eliminate constitutional rights by amending your state constitution or undermining the power of the courts?
 - Is there legislation moving forward to expand or eliminate rights in your state constitution?

Identify Opportunities & Challenges

- **Judicial Elections:**
 - Do you have judicial elections coming up?
 - Who are the candidates?
 - What do they stand for?
 - Are judicial candidates that stand for democracy under attack by the Right?
- **Legislation moving forward:**
 - Are there bills moving forward to undermine the power of the courts?
 - Are there bills moving forward to strengthen and diversify the courts?

Take Action: Ways to get State Courts on the Power Map

- **Engage your community**
[Re-Think Media Fair Courts Messaging Guide](#)
- **Vote in Judicial Elections**
[Engage in judicial elections if you have them in your state](#)
- **Get Involved**
Get involved in legislative campaigns to protect, strengthen and diversity the courts
- **Support diversity in the courts**
Cultivate judicial candidates who reflect the communities they serve and stand for justice