
Rep. Angie Craig represents Minnesota’s Second Congressional District. She is fighting for working families - and for a Minnesota where every member of every family gets a fair shot. That means a future with lower health care costs and opportunities for career skills and technical training for 21st century jobs. She'll work with anybody - and take on the Washington establishment - to get things done for her constituents.

Rep. Craig learned the value of hard work from her mother, a single mom who raised three children while earning her teaching degree. She too worked two jobs to help put herself through college. Years later, she moved to Minnesota and fell in love with the strong communities and quality of life. She and her wife Cheryl Greene have four sons – three who have already graduated from college or tech school and one graduating from Rosemount High School in 2021. They lived in Eagan for nearly a decade and recently moved to Prior Lake. Angie attends church in Apple Valley and is a Rotarian who has served on several local community boards over the years. She is a small business investor, the former head of Global HR and Corporate Relations for a major Minnesota manufacturer, and a former newspaper reporter.

In Congress, Rep. Craig is fighting to make sure career skills and technical education is an option for every young person; to lower the cost of healthcare and to work toward a solution that expands health care to many more Americans; for infrastructure investments that benefit our communities – big and small; and for policies that reward people for their hard work – especially family farmers and small business owners. She plans to pursue these priorities through her appointments on the House Committees on Agriculture, Energy and Commerce and Small Business. But she knows she can’t do it alone. Through regular town hall meetings and work in the district, Rep. Craig hopes to hear from you directly about how she can help deliver economic opportunity to every Minnesotan.
Twin Cities' South Suburbs

Population
- Total: 681,358
- Land area: 2,438
- Pop. sq mi: 279.5
- Born in state: 67.6%

Age Groups
- Under 18: 25.7%
- 18-24: 21.3%
- 25-64: 54.3%
- Over 64: 11.7%

Race and Ethnicity
- White: 82.9%
- Black: 3.0%
- Latino: 5.6%
- Asian: 4.5%
- Two races: 2.5%
- Other: 0.5%

Income
- Median Income: $75,564 (50 out of 435)
- Under $50,000: 31.1%
- $50,000-$99,999: 34.1%
- $100,000-$199,999: 28.1%
- $200,000 or more: 6.7%
- Poverty Rate: 7.4%

Education
- H.S grad or less: 29.3%
- Some college: 21.7%
- College Degree, 4 yr: 21.7%
- Post grad: 11.3%

Health Insurance
- With health insurance coverage: 94.0%

Public Assistance
- Cash public assistance income: 2.7%
- Food stamp/SNAP benefits: 5.3%

Work
- White Collar: 41.1%
- Sales and Service: 39.8%
- Blue Collar: 19.1%
- Government: 11.3%

Military
- Veteran: 8.3%
- Active Duty: 0.1%

Cook Partisan Voting Index: R+2

Drive south from the Twin Cities and one encounters big-box stores, catering to the youngish families that live nearby in new housing developments and who work in managerial, business and technical careers. Many come from elsewhere, attracted by Minnesota's strong economy and pleasant living (provided they can tolerate its cold winters). They have turned places such as Eagan, Lakeville, Apple Valley, Mendota Heights and Burnsville in Dakota County into fast-growing suburbs. The upscale suburbs of Scott County grew by an impressive 58 percent since 2000. Dakota, which with 415,000 remains about triple the size of Scott, has grown by 17 percent during that time. In recent years, these suburban areas have begun to see an influx of lower-income residents, attracted by the good schools and low crime rates. Money magazine listed Northfield among the nation's best places to retire. In his book Shot All to Hell, Mark Gardner wrote about Northfield's previous claim to fame, when it was the site in 1876 of the final bank robbery attempt of Jesse James and his gang.

This area has been attractive to the corporate world. After Lockheed Martin closed its Eagan plant in 2013, several prominent businesses filled the space, including the headquarters of the Minnesota Vikings in the NFL. Tech support company Stream Global Services relocated its office from Boston in 2012, and was purchased in 2014 by Cincinnati-based Convergys, a corporate rival. Drive farther south on Interstate 35 and U.S. 52 - a little farther every year - and suddenly you are in farm country. This area is the home of Carleton College and its late professor-turned-liberal-senator, Paul Wellstone.

These suburbs and hamlets make up the 2nd Congressional District of Minnesota. Like several districts in the state, this has become a battleground. Dakota County, just south of St. Paul, casts about 60 percent of the votes in the district; historically, Dakota was marginally Democratic, although today it is more of a swing county. Neighboring Scott County has the highest median income in the state, and is rapidly growing and heavily Republican, though it casts about one-third as many votes as Dakota. Donald Trump won this district by one percentage point-more than 4,000 votes. In 2012, President Barack Obama took the district by 226 votes.

Peter is a proud fourth generation West Michigander, born and raised in Grand Rapids. Peter's grandfather, Fred Meijer, instilled in Peter a love for West Michigan and inspired him to pursue a path of purpose and service.

After graduating high school, Peter enlisted in the Army reserves and deployed to Iraq as a non-commissioned officer, postponing his studies to serve with an intelligence unit at joint US-Iraqi bases in the Baghdad area.

After returning from Iraq in 2011 and finishing his studies at Columbia University, Peter joined Team Rubicon, a veteran-based disaster response organization. With Team Rubicon, Peter led humanitarian efforts in South Sudan dealing with a refugee crisis. He also led operations in New York after Superstorm Sandy, Oklahoma after a series of devastating tornadoes, and in the Philippines after Super Typhoon Yolanda.

While in the Philippines, Peter accepted a job with a conflict analysis NGO in Afghanistan.

Peter ran the NGO's advisory operations in southern Afghanistan from Kandahar City, managing a large team to help aid workers safely provide relief to the Afghan people. Peter last served as acting Deputy Director for Afghanistan, delivering emergency assistance to aid workers after kidnappings and targeted killings.

After leaving Afghanistan, Peter pursued his MBA at New York University then returned to Michigan to work in urban redevelopment and real estate. A passion for service, and for West Michigan, compelled Peter to continue to serve his community by running for Congress.

With the support of his family and wife Gabriella, Peter Meijer was sworn in as the Congressman for Michigan's 3rd Congressional District on January 3rd, 2021.
Grand Rapids is Michigan's second-largest city and the center of its most prosperous metropolitan area. It grew as a center for turning the hardwood forests of northern Michigan into furniture. By the early 20th century, Grand Rapids was the leading furniture manufacturer in the nation. The Great Depression knocked the bottom out of the residential furniture market, and many manufacturers moved to North Carolina, where labor was cheaper. So Grand Rapids reinvented itself. It went into office furniture, and today three of the nation's largest office furniture manufacturers - Steelcase, Haworth and Herman Miller - are located in its metropolitan area.

It also capitalized on a knack for sales. Rich DeVos and Jay Van Andel started Amway, the direct sales empire, which has had about 90 percent of its sales abroad. With nearly $10 billion in revenues in 2016, Amway was the largest direct-selling company in the world; China has been its largest market. DeVos's son Dick later ran the business and was the unsuccessful Republican nominee for governor of Michigan in 2006. Dick's wife Betsy DeVos became active in state and national Republican politics and the charter-school movement before she became Education Secretary for President Donald Trump. The Grand Rapids area is a center for machine tools, Husqvarna shoes, and Bissell carpet sweepers. Fifty years ago, Grand Rapids and its up-and-coming businesses were outshone by Detroit and the auto industry. Today, while Detroit struggles to stay afloat, more diversified Grand Rapids chugs along. The metropolitan area had the nation's ninth-fastest growing economy in 2014 and has led the state.

Politically, the Grand Rapids area has been the center of Michigan Republicanism for much of the last century; cultural conservatism and a belief in market economics run deep among the descendants of the pious Dutch immigrants who settled in western Michigan in the 1870s. It has also produced national Republican leaders. The conversion of Sen. Arthur Vandenberg from isolationism to internationalism during World War II provided key support for the foreign policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman; he chaired the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1947-48. Another was Gerald Ford, who rose to House Republican leader in 1965, vice president in 1973, and then president after Richard Nixon resigned in 1974. A Democratic win in the special election to replace Ford - the first for a Democrat here since 1910 - was part of a string of five special election pickups for the Democrats in early 1974 that helped convince Republicans that Nixon needed to resign, and which presaged the Democratic landslide later that year. The election of the local Democrat did not last long.

The 3rd Congressional District of Michigan can be thought of in three distinct parts. The first is the city of Grand Rapids itself, which constitutes about 25 percent of the population and has become heavily Democratic. The second includes most of the remainder of Kent, Ionia and Barry counties, and a small portion of Montcalm County. This part of the district, which includes a majority of its residents, is heavily Republican. The third part of the district is Calhoun County, which tends to vote close to the national average and is centered on Battle Creek, where sanitarium operator W.K. Kellogg invented corn flakes as a health food and where the Air National Guard base has become a prominent site for the Defense Department's cybersecurity operations. The net result is a district that leans Republican; Donald Trump won 51%-42% in 2016. He had his final rally of the campaign in Grand Rapids, after midnight on Election Day.
Jason Grumet, Founder & President

Jason Grumet, founder and president of the Bipartisan Policy Center, is respected on both sides of the aisle for his innovative approach to improving government effectiveness and impacting public policy.

Over the last decade, BPC has combined the best ideas from both parties to promote health, security, and opportunity for all Americans. Under Grumet's leadership, BPC has harnessed the power of collaboration to advocate for principled and politically viable policy solutions to major policy challenges facing our country. In the 116th Congress, BPC played a significant role in successful legislative efforts to secure key provisions in coronavirus relief packages enacted into law, strengthen key early childhood programs, accelerate the development of low-carbon energy technologies, expand access to quality health care and retirement savings, and improve the nation's response to the migration crisis at the southern border.

In 2001, Grumet founded and directed the National Commission on Energy Policy, which produced a comprehensive set of policy recommendations many of which were incorporated into the 2005 Energy Policy Act. Grumet led the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management where he expanded the organization's technical and advocacy capabilities and increased its presence in national policy discussions.

Grumet regularly authors commentaries and editorials in national publications, as well as participates in various broadcast interviews on major cable news networks. He frequently speaks at national forums, testifies before Congress, and is regularly sought out by policymakers and business leaders.

Grumet's first book, City of Rivals: Restoring the Glorious Mess of American Democracy, was released in September 2014.

Grumet received a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University and J.D. from Harvard University.
Jonathan Perman, Co-Director, American Congressional Exchange

Jonathan is the founder of the American Congressional Exchange (ACE) and has worked with his colleagues at the Bipartisan Policy Center since 2017 to develop and scale the initiative.

He began his career in Washington in the 1980s, first working for the Northeast-Midwest Congressional Coalition and Institute and then as a professional staff member for the U.S. Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Energy, Nuclear Proliferation, and Government Processes. During his time in Washington, Jonathan also performed with and wrote lyrics for the renowned Capitol Steps musical political satire group.

From 1988-1992, Jonathan served as director of governmental affairs for The Greater New Haven, CT Chamber of Commerce and then became the executive director of The Evanston, IL Chamber of Commerce (1992-2010).

In 2006, he founded The Perman Group, a public affairs and public policy consultancy based in Chicago, and from which ACE was originally created.

Jonathan is an accomplished corporate and government/public affairs executive and civic leader with a proven record of providing expertise and guidance to businesses, non-profit institutions, governmental bodies, and professional and trade organizations.

He is a graduate of Macalester College, St. Paul, MN, holds a Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) from the University of Michigan, and still plays ice hockey at least once a week.
John Richter, Director of the Congress Project

John Richter is Director of BPC’s Congress Project. He has more than 23 years of experience in the legislative arena. Throughout that time, Richter worked for former Senator Olympia Snowe (R-Maine), serving in numerous capacities in her office, including as speechwriter, deputy legislative director, and for nearly ten years as chief of staff until her departure from the Senate in 2013.

As a top advisor for an active, engaged, and prominent moderate voice in the Senate, Richter was closely involved in every major policy debate over nearly two decades. He brings a frontline understanding of how our current government works, and the changes necessary for Congress to once again function effectively. He was involved in BPC’s Commission on Political Reform and directs a number of initiatives at BPC designed to enhance congressional capacity-building including the Senate Legislative Directors Convening Series, the American Congressional Exchange, BPC’s Legislative Action Awards, the Healthy Congress Index, and a House freshman-sophomore class chiefs of staff convening series.

Richter holds a B.A. in political science from Bates College in Lewiston, ME.
Steve Scully, Senior Vice President of Communications

Steve Scully has interviewed every president since Gerald Ford. In his three-decade career at C-SPAN, he has served as political editor, host, and senior executive producer of C-SPAN's programming, including the Washington Journal, Road to the White House series and its podcast 'The Weekly.' In addition to his work at C-SPAN, Scully served as adjunct faculty at the University of California-D.C Program and completed his Terker Fellowship (2019-21) at George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs last month. He previously served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Denver, Pace University and George Mason University.

Scully chaired the Jefferson Educational Society Global summit in his hometown of Erie, Pa. for the past 11 years. Scully served nine years on the White House Correspondents’ Association, including as president from 2006-07. In 2019, he was named to the Pennsylvania Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Scully earned his Master of Science degree in journalism from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism in Evanston, Illinois, graduating magna cum laude. Prior to that, he received his Bachelor of Arts in communications and political science from American University.