

Ohio Congressional Districts and Delegations during the Civil War Period

Daniel H. Reigle, DReigle@cinci.rr.com

Originally published in the *Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal*, X (2006), #3

Under Article I of the U.S. Constitution, the number of members of the U.S. House of Representatives is to be apportioned among the states on the basis of their population as determined every ten years, beginning with the enumeration (census) of 1790. Accordingly, the number of Congressional districts in each state is subject to change as a result of the census every ten years.

During the Civil War era, Ohio had 21 Congressional seats as a result of the 1850 Census, and was reduced to 19 seats after the 1860 Census. After each census, the state legislature was responsible for reapportionment of its districts, and the new apportionment and districts took effect with the elections of 1852 and 1862. During the Civil War period, therefore, Ohio's Congressional delegation included 21 Representatives through the 37th Congress until the expiration of its term on 3 March 1863. The nineteen Representatives under the 1860 apportionment were elected in November 1862, took office in March 1863, and opened their first Session in December 1863. (See "Elections and Terms of Office During the Civil War Period for Ohio and U.S. Offices" in Issue #2 this year.)

Understanding of the politics of the Civil War era often requires a knowledge of the composition of each Congressional district and knowledge of the men who represented each district. In addition, some Civil War records, especially those related to the Provost Marshal General's Bureau and draft records, are organized by Congressional district, so knowledge of the district is required for locating the records. (See *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives*, p. 144). Accordingly, the following tables list the composition of the Congressional districts under the 1850 and 1860 apportionments, the party alignments for the four Congresses during the Civil War period, and an alphabetical list of the men who served during those four Congresses.

Ohio Congressional Districts under the Sixth Apportionment (1850 Census, 1852-1862)

District	Counties
1	Hamilton (first, second, third, fourth, fifth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, and thirteenth wards of the city of Cincinnati; Fulton, Spencer, Columbia, Anderson, Sycamore, Symmes, and Eastern precinct of Mill Creek townships in Hamilton County).
2	Hamilton (sixth, seventh, eighth, twelfth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth wards of the city of Cincinnati; Storrs, Delhi, Green, Miami, Whitewater, Crosby, Colerain, Springfield, and balance of Mill Creek townships in Hamilton County).
3	Butler, Preble, Montgomery
4	Miami, Darke, Shelby, Auglaize, Mercer, Allen
5	Van Wert, Paulding, Putnam, Defiance, Williams, Fulton, Lucas, Wood, Henry, Hancock
6	Clermont, Brown, Highland, Adams
7	Warren, Clinton, Greene, Fayette, Madison
8	Clark, Champaign, Logan, Union, Delaware
9	Hardin, Marion, Wyandot, Crawford, Seneca, Sandusky, Ottawa
10	Scioto, Lawrence, Gallia, Jackson, Pike, Ross
11	Fairfield, Hocking, Perry, Athens, Vinton, Meigs

12	Franklin, Licking, Pickaway
13	Morrow, Richland, Huron, Erie
14	Lorain, Medina, Wayne, Ashland
15	Tuscarawas, Coshocton, Knox, Holmes
16	Morgan, Washington, Muskingum
17	Belmont, Guernsey, Monroe, Noble
18	Portage, Stark, Summit
19	Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga
20	Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning
21	Columbiana, Jefferson, Carroll, Harrison

Ohio Congressional Districts under the Seventh Apportionment (1860 Census, 1862-1872)

District	Counties
1	Hamilton (first, second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh, ninth, tenth, eleventh, thirteenth, and seventeenth wards of the city of Cincinnati; townships of Anderson, Columbia, Spencer, Symmes, and Sycamore; the corporation of Reading; and the northeast and southeast precincts of Mill Creek township).
2	Hamilton (sixth, eighth, twelfth, fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth wards of the city of Cincinnati; townships of Springfield, Colerain, Greene, Storrs, Delhi, Miami, Whitewater, Harrison, and Crosby; the corporations of Harrison, Clifton, and Glendale; and the Western, Corryville, and Lick Run precincts of Mill Creek township).
3	Montgomery, Preble, Butler, Warren
4	Darke, Shelby, Logan, Champaign, Miami
5	Van Wert, Mercer, Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, Hancock, Wyandot
6	Clermont, Brown, Highland, Clinton, Fayette
7	Greene, Clark, Madison, Franklin
8	Union, Delaware, Marion, Morrow, Richland
9	Crawford, Huron, Seneca, Erie, Sandusky, Ottawa
10	Wood, Henry, Putnam, Lucas, Paulding, Defiance, Fulton, Williams
11	Adams, Scioto, Lawrence, Gallia, Jackson, Vinton
12	Pike, Ross, Hocking, Pickaway, Fairfield, Perry
13	Licking, Muskingum, Coshocton, Knox
14	Holmes, Ashland, Wayne, Medina, Lorain

15	Meigs, Athens, Washington, Morgan, Monroe
16	Guernsey, Belmont, Noble, Harrison, Tuscarawas
17	Jefferson, Carroll, Columbiana, Stark
18	Cuyahoga, Summit, Lake, Mahoning
19	Geauga, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Portage

Number of House Seats and Party Representation in Ohio Delegation in 36th-39th Congresses

<u>Congress (Year of Election)</u>	<u>Number of Ohio Seats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Other Parties</u>
36 (1858)	21	15	6	1-Free Soil (included in Republican count)
37 (1860)	21	13	8	1-Union (included in Republican count)
38 (1862)	19	5	14	
39 (1864)	19	17	2	

Ohio Delegation in US House of Representatives and Their Districts, 36th through 39th Congresses

<u>Representative</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Congress</u>	<u>District</u>
Allen, William	Democrat	36	4
		37	4
Ashley, James Mitchell	Republican	36	5
		37	5
		38	10
		39	10
Bingham, John Armor	Republican	36	21
		37	21
		39	16
Blake, Harrison Gray Otis	Republican	36 (replaced Spink)	14
		37	14
Bliss, George	Democrat	38	14
Buckland, Ralph Pomeroy	Republican	39	9
Bundy, Hezekiah Sanford	Republican	39	11
Carey, John	Republican	36	9
		37	
Clarke, Reader Wright	Republican	39	6

Corwin, Thomas	Republican	36 37 (resigned)	7 7
Cox, Samuel Sullivan	Democrat	36 37 38	12 12 7
Cutler, William Parker	Republican	37	16
Delano, Columbus	Republican	39	13
Eckley, Ephraim Ralph	Republican	38 39	17 17
Edgerton, Sidney	Republican	36 37	18 18
Eggleston, Benjamin	Republican	39	1
Finck, William Edward	Democrat	38 39	12 12
Garfield, James Abram	Republican	38 39	19 19
Gurley, John Addison	Republican	36 37	2 2
Harrison, Richard Almgill	Union-Republican	37 (replaced Corwin)	7
Hayes, Rutherford Birchard	Republican	39	2
Helmick, William	Republican	36	15
Horton, Valentine Baxter	Republican	37	11
Howard, William	Democrat	36	6
Hubbell, James Randolph	Republican	39	8
Hutchins, Wells Andrews	Democrat	38	11
Hutchins, John	Republican	36 37	20 20
Johnston, William	Democrat	38	8
Lawrence, William	Republican	39	4
LeBlond, Francis Celeste	Democrat	38 39	5 5
Long, Alexander	Democrat	38	2
Martin, Charles Drake	Democrat	36	11
McKinney, John Franklin	Democrat	38	4

Morris, James Remley	Democrat	37 38	17 15
Noble, Warren Perry	Democrat	37 38	9 9
Nugen, Robert Hunter	Democrat	37	15
O'Neill, John	Democrat	38	13
Pendleton, George Hunt	Democrat	36 37 38	1 1 1
Plants, Tobias Avery	Republican	39	15
Riddle, Albert Gallatin	Republican	37	19
Schenck, Robert Cumming	Republican	38 39	3 3
Shellabarger, Samuel	Republican	37 39	8 7
Sherman, John	Republican	36 37 (resigned for US Senate)	13 13
Spalding, Rufus Paine	Republican	38 39	18 18
Spink, Cyrus	Republican	36 (died)	14
Stanton, Benjamin	Republican	36	8
Theaker, Thomas Clarke	Republican	36	17
Tompkins, Cydnor Bailey	Republican	36	16
Trimble, Carey Allen	Republican	36 37	10 10
Vallandigham, Clement Laird	Democrat	36 37	3 3
Wade, Edward	Free Soil- Republican	36	19
Welker, Martin	Republican	39	14
White, Chilton Allen	Democrat	37 38	6 6
White, Joseph Worthington	Democrat	38	16
Worcester, Samuel Thomas	Republican	37 (replaced Sherman)	13

References

“An Act to apportion the State of Ohio into Congressional Districts, April 30, 1852.” *Acts of a General Nature Passed by the Fiftieth General Assembly of the State of Ohio: Begun and Held in the City of Columbus, January 5, 1852: And in the Fiftieth Year of Said State.* Columbus: Osgood & Blake, Printers, 1852. Vol. L, pp. 207-209.

“An Act to apportion the state of Ohio into Congressional Districts, April 25, 1862.” *Acts of a General Nature and Local Laws and Joint Resolutions Passed by the Fifty-fifth General Assembly of the State of Ohio at its First Session Begun and Held in the City of Columbus, January 6, 1862: And in the Fifty-ninth Year of Said State.* Columbus: Richard Nevins, State Printer, 1862. Vol. LIX, pp. 64-65.

Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-Present. 36th to 39th Congresses. Accessed 4 July 2004, online at <<http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp>>.

Eales, Anne Bruner, and Robert M. Kvasnicka. *Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States.* Third Edition. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000. P. 144.

Guide to U.S. Elections. Fifth Edition. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2005. Volume II, pp. 932, 935, 938, 941.

Reigle, Daniel H. “Elections and Terms of Office During the Civil War Period for Ohio and U.S. Offices.” *Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal*, Vol. X, No. 2.

Smith, Joseph P. *History of the Republican Party in Ohio.* Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1898. Two volumes. Vol. I, pp. 84-85, 128-129, 150-151, 195-196.

Taylor, Wm. A. *Ohio in Congress from 1803 to 1901 with Notes and Sketches of Senators and Representatives and Other Historical Data and Incidents.* Columbus, OH: The XX. Century Publishing Co., 1900. Pp. 126-127.