



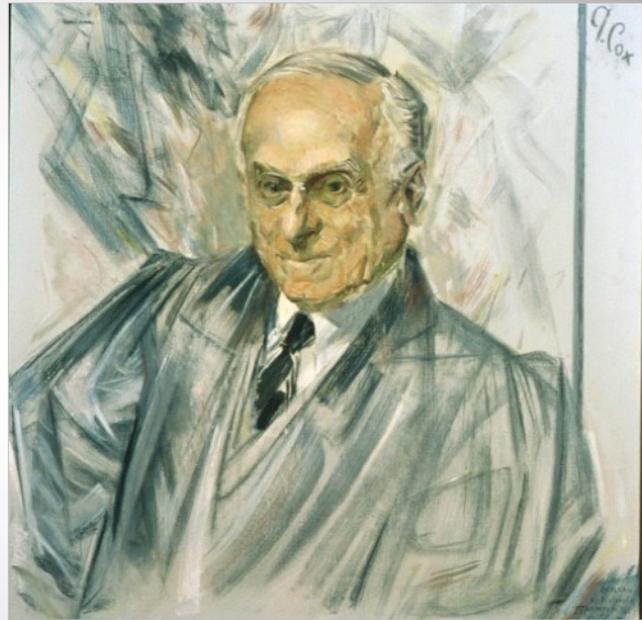
GEOCIVICS: REDISTRICTING AND THE AMERICAN ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Rebecca Theobald, PhD
GeoCivics, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
University of Colorado Colorado Springs

National Council for Geographic Education
Webinar
14 January 2026

The Court held that the Illinois districts were constitutional, largely because existing laws imposed no requirements "as to the compactness, contiguity and equality in population of districts." In a plurality opinion, Frankfurter declined to involve the Court in the districting process, arguing that the political nature of apportionment precluded judicial intervention. "The remedy for unfairness in districting is to secure State legislatures that will apportion properly, or to invoke the ample powers of Congress."

Colegrove v. Green
Associate Justice
Felix Frankfurter



<https://www.oyez.org/cases/1940-1955/328us549>

Home About How to Use This Website State Resources Redistricting Geography Civics

GeoCivics

Take the 2025 version of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Civics test designed for residents who wish to become citizens. What additional information do you think might have been included? Find a copy of the test through uscis.gov/citizenship.

Communicating with people drawing lines in your community? Revisit "6 Tips for Making Effective Comments at a Redistricting Hearing", Peter Miller, *Brennan Center for Justice*, 26 August 2021

"How Can We Combat Gerrymandering?", Madeleine Greenberg, *Campaign Legal Center*, 7 August 2025

"Don't expect Colorado to join the redistricting arms race", Kyle Cooke, *Rocky Mountain PBS*, 5 August 2025

"Geography Beyond Boundaries: Teaching Redistricting as an Entry Point to the Broader Discipline of Geography", Chris Fowler, *The Geography Teacher*, published online 24 July 2024

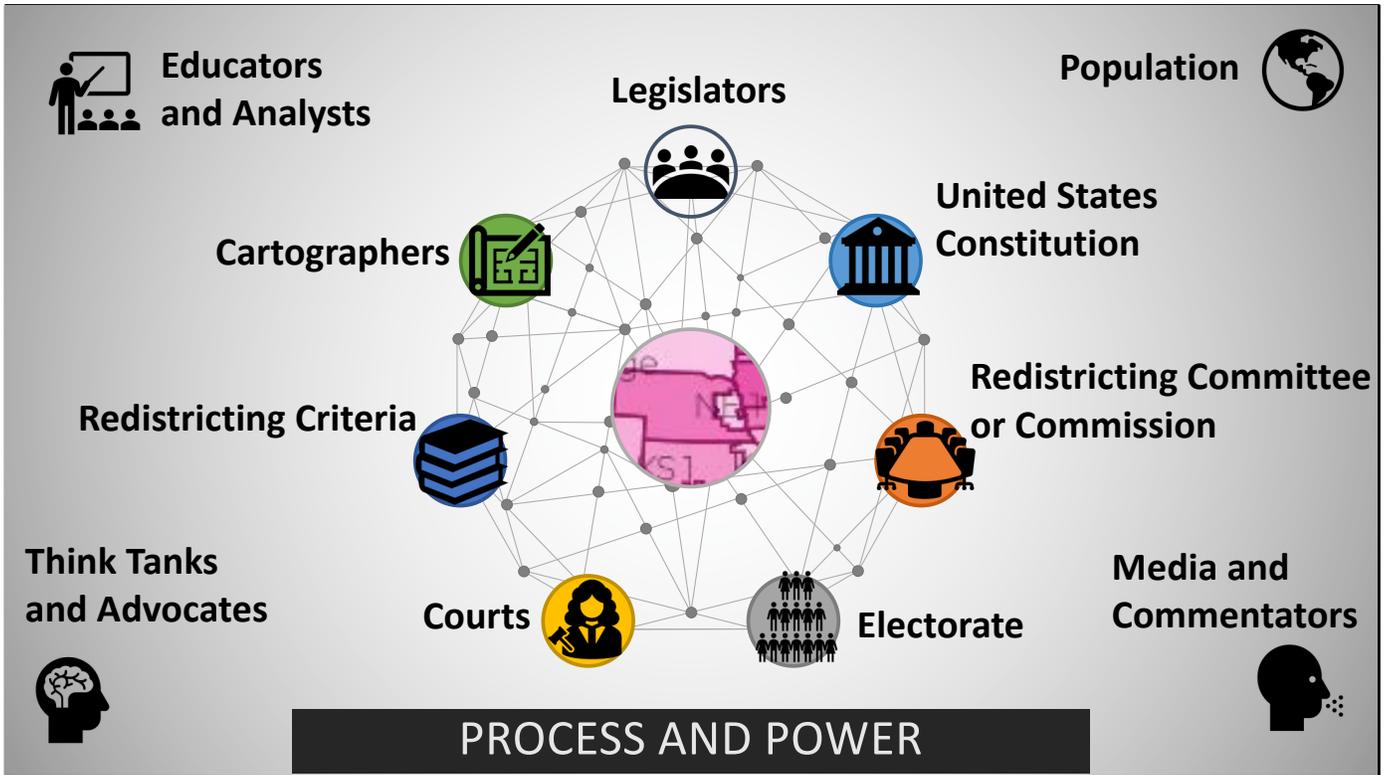


Teachers	→	Community Members	→
Students	→	College Instructors	→

<https://geocivics.uccs.edu/>

WEBINAR





<https://redistricting.ils.edu/redistricting-101/who-draws-the-lines/>

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<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map>

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/moore-v-harper-explained>



<https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/18/australia/australia-government-hack-state-actor-intl/index.html>
<https://www.travelandleisure.com/culture-design/architecture-design/britain-house-of-commons-parliament-secret-hidden-door>
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Diet-Japanese-government>
<https://washington.org/DC-faqs-for-visitors/how-can-i-tour-capitol-how-can-i-see-congress-session>

HB21-1047

County Commissioner Districts Gerrymandering

Concerning the drawing of voting districts by county governments.

SESSION: 2021 Regular Session

SUBJECTS: Elections & Redistricting, Local Government

BILL SUMMARY

The act establishes the process used by county commissioner redistricting commissions (commissions) to divide counties that have any number of their county commissioners not elected by the voters of the whole county into county commissioner districts. In these counties, the act:

- Recommends the establishment of independent county commissioner redistricting commissions and provides criteria to consider when creating these independent commissions;

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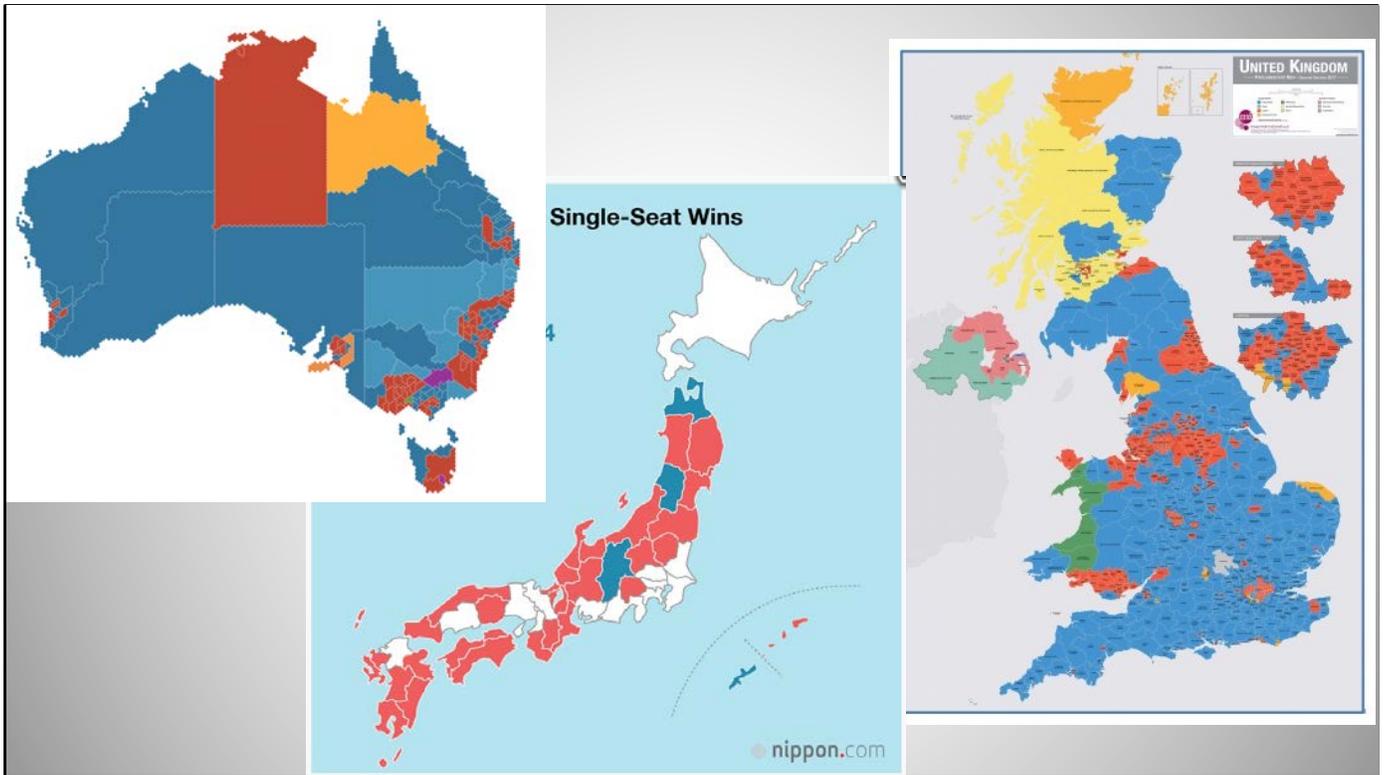
House

**State, Civic, Military, &
Veterans Affairs**

Senate

**State, Veterans, & Military
Affairs**

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1047>



<https://www.mapsinternational.co.uk/large-uk-parliamentary-constituency-boundary-wall-map-december-2019-results-raster-digital.html>

<https://www.nippon.com/en/japan-data/h01380/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/ng-interactive/2022/may/17/australia-election-2022-federal-key-seats-interactive-seat-explorer-map-australian-electoral-divisions-marginal-to-watch>

Britain | Constituency cartography

The map for the next British election has been redrawn

It makes Labour's job of winning tougher



IMAGE: GETTY IMAGES

The
Economist

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2024/01/16/the-map-for-the-next-british-election-has-been-redrawn>

An official website of the United States Government [Here's how you know](#)

Newsroom Business Employees Job Seekers Students Travelers Visas | f X Instagram YouTube Facebook Email

 U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

POLICY ISSUES COUNTRIES & AREAS BUREAUS & OFFICES ABOUT

FPC Home About Us Thematic Programming Co-Ops **Briefings** Reporting Tours Credentials & Visas Contact Us 2017-2021 Archive

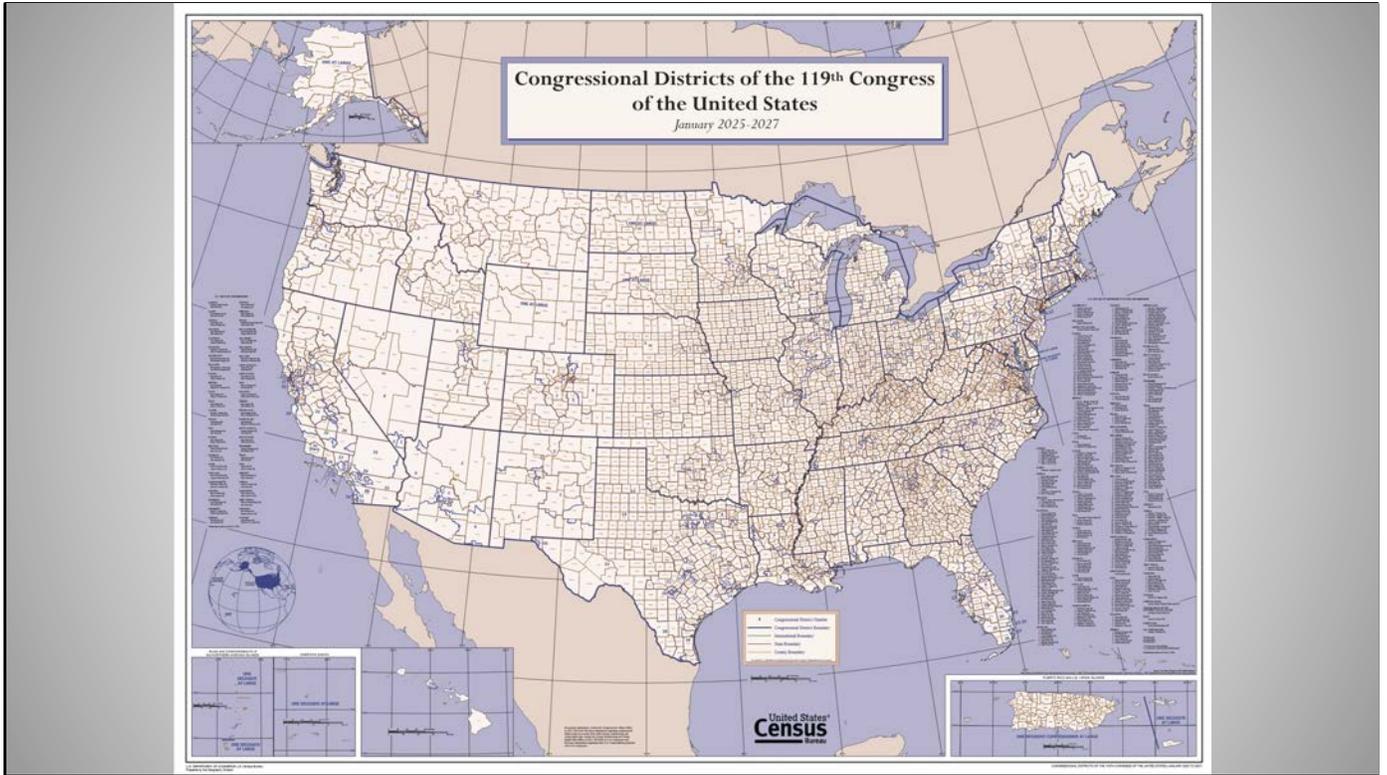
[Home](#) > [Foreign Press Centers](#) > Briefings – Foreign Press Centers

★ ★ ★

Briefings – Foreign Press Centers

Every year, the Foreign Press Centers host dozens of experts from the private, public, and academic sector for on-the-record briefings on a variety of relevant topics. Read transcripts, watch videos and see photos from past briefings at the Foreign Press Centers.

<https://www.state.gov/briefings-foreign-press-centers/>



https://www2.census.gov/geo/maps/cong_dist/uswall/cd119/CD119_US_WallMap.pdf





Wisconsin Fair Maps Coalition Celebrates the Wisconsin Supreme Court's Stand for Fair Maps!

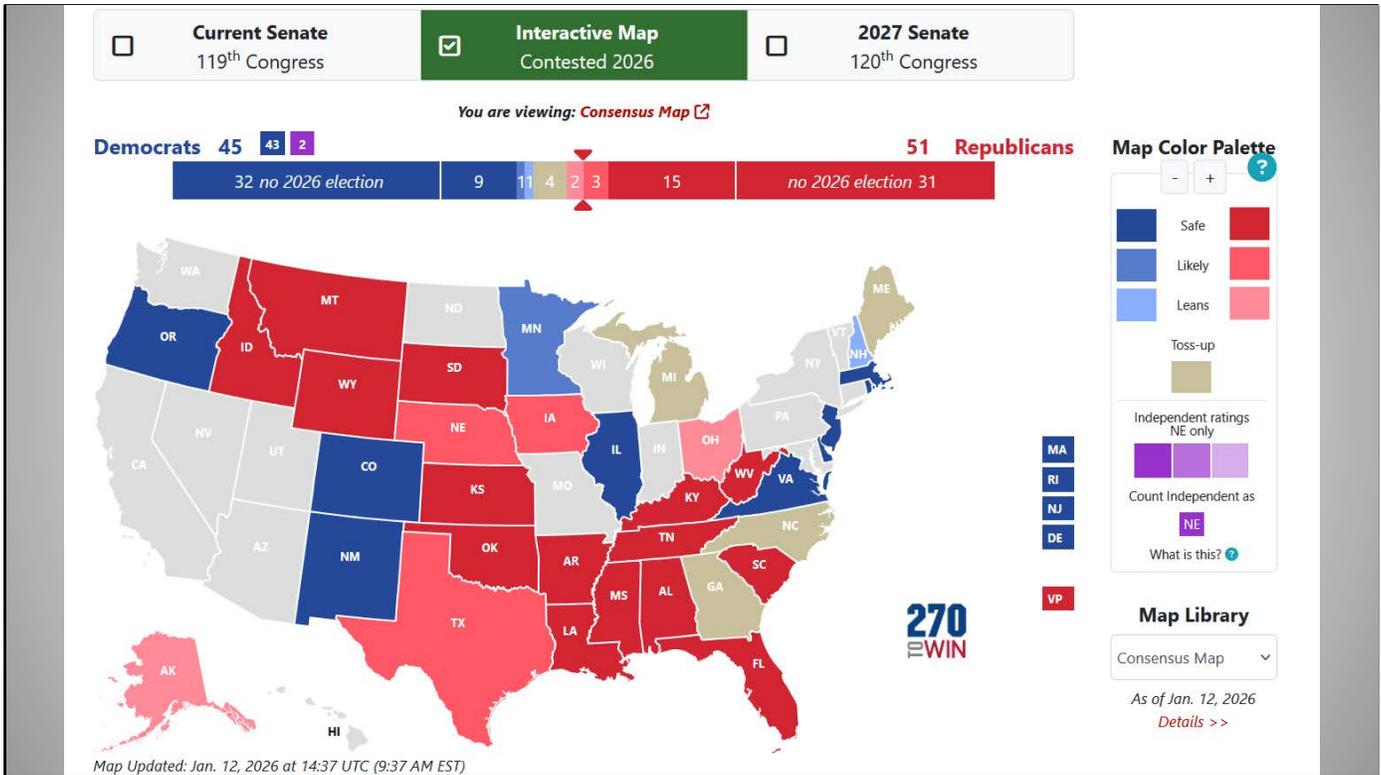
Raise a glass, Wisconsin, for a hard fought victory! Let our cheers echo through every corner of our state, a chorus to honor the courageous stand of our Wisconsin Supreme Court in [Clarke v. Wisconsin Elections Commission](#), a resounding triumph for **fair maps and the very heart of our democracy!**

For 12 years, the specter of gerrymandering haunted our elections, casting a shadow over the voices of countless citizens. Politicians, drunk on the power of manipulated maps, dared to silence the will of the people, carving communities to disenfranchise, packing power into districts like warped funhouse mirrors. But for now, that shadow is lifted. Let us not forget, without proper legislation, this decision will only continue to serve as a stepping stone towards the right path.

<https://www.fairmapswi.com/>



<https://fairvote.org/our-reforms/ranked-choice-voting/>



<https://www.270towin.com/2026-senate-election/>
<https://www.cookpolitical.com/ratings/senate-race-ratings>

Massachusetts 1812



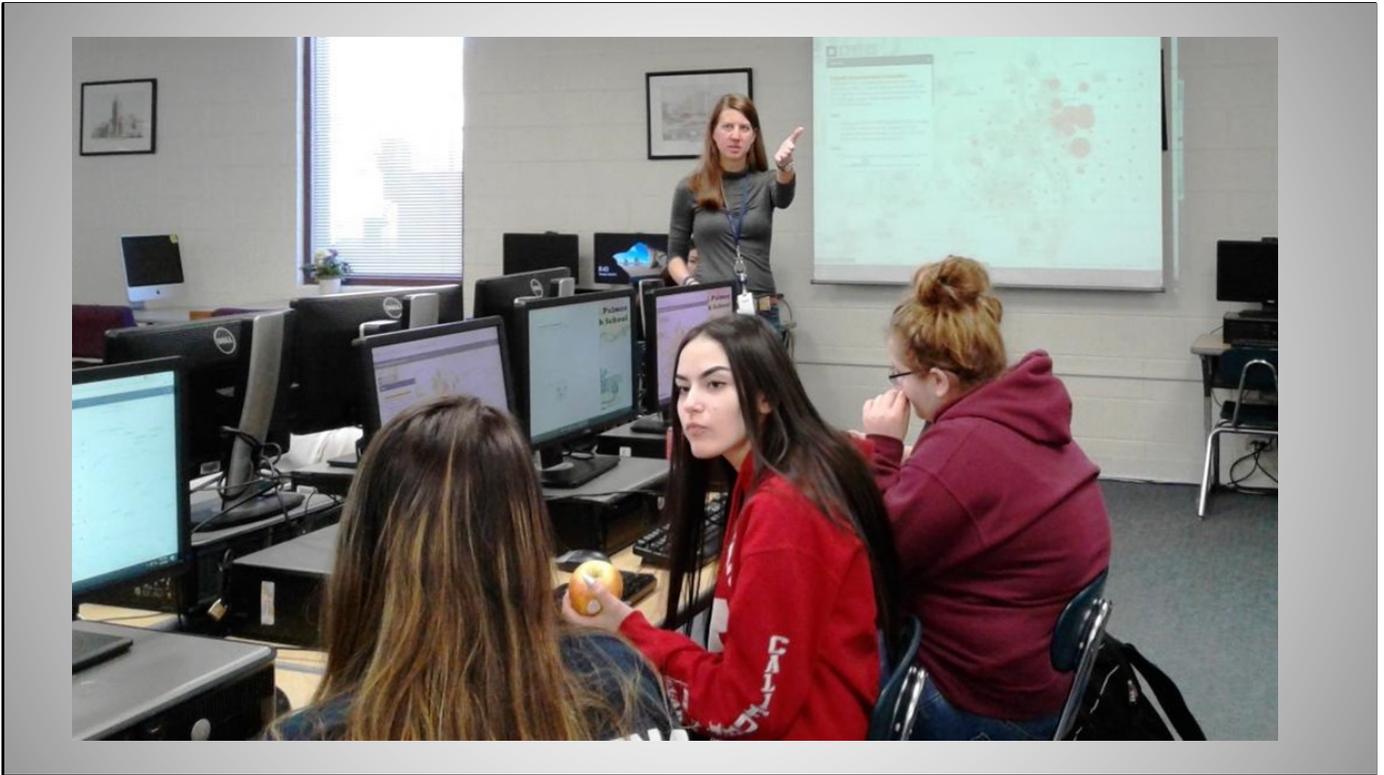
	Federalists	Republicans
Votes	51,766	50,164
Legislators	11	29

For more details about how to interpret primary sources, visit the Arizona Geographic Alliance website: <https://geoalliance.asu.edu/geolens>. Examine the original newspaper with this cartoon: <https://blogs.loc.gov/law/2017/02/elbridge-gerry-and-the-monstrous-gerrymander/>

What is the primary message of this political cartoon?

What region of the United States does this cartoon represent? What clues does the cartoon give you?

What additional information do you need to interpret this image?



Palmer High School, Colorado Springs



El Paso County Redistricting Commission, 27 July 2023



DEFINITIONS

CONSTITUTE

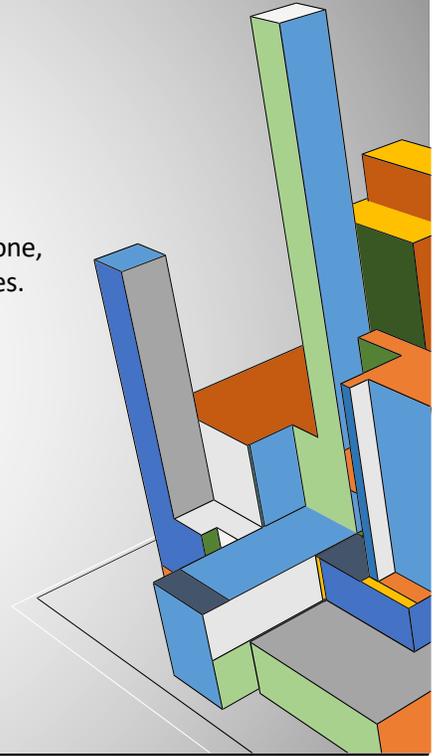
- to appoint to an office or function; make or create.
- to establish (laws, an institution, etc.).
- to give legal form to (an assembly, court, etc.).
- to create or be tantamount to.

FAIR

- free from bias, dishonesty, or injustice.
- legitimately sought, pursued, done, given, etc.; proper under the rules.

MAP

a representation, usually on a flat surface, as of the features of an area of the earth or a portion of the heavens, showing them in their respective forms, sizes, and relationships according to some convention of representation.





El Paso County Commissioner Redistricting

**July 10, 2023 @ 5:30pm
Cheyenne Mountain High School
1200 Cresta Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80906**



Presented By: Steve Schleiker, El Paso County Clerk & Recorder



WHO DECIDES HOW TO DRAW THE LINES WHERE?

https://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/post-launch-images/2019/11/sln_nov26_2/16x9_m.jpg?mw=1290&hash=E4D54DD8D5CE706D5589BBE8468BC612

<http://www.pacourts.us/assets/images/setting-2177-960x325/image-5262.jpg?cb=7970e7>

<https://storage.googleapis.com/afs-prod/media/62277e0bec864f74b2c77e7df7e9477f/800.jpeg>

<https://assets.elpasoco.com/wp-content/uploads/NewsReleasePhotos/NR-2019/Judy-Sherbak-Holliday-Retirement-Proclamation-staff-group-photo-web.jpg>

https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.countynewscenter.com%2Ffirst-members-selected-for-countys-new-redistricting-commission%2F&psig=AOvVaw02jvwjjNfS_T2tGRKR7ELr&ust=1620508843023000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAcQjRxqFwoTCNDk-4zAuPACFQAAAAAdAAAAABAJ

<https://s1.ibtimes.com/sites/www.ibtimes.com/files/styles/embed/public/2020/10/15/voters-wait-in-line-to-cast-their-ballots.jpg>

<https://cdn.americanprogress.org/content/uploads/2018/08/31062509/GettyImages-812645822-copy.jpg>



What comes up for fair districts in Florida? Map of county fairs.



**Wednesday
July 5, 2023
4:00-7:00 pm
Columbine Hall 329
UCCS**

The El Paso County Redistricting Commission seeks public input as part of the redistricting process.

Explore the online mapping tool offered by the County under guidance of geographic information educators.

FREE
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YOU'RE INVITED TO AN
EL PASO COUNTY REDISTRICTING
OPEN HOUSE

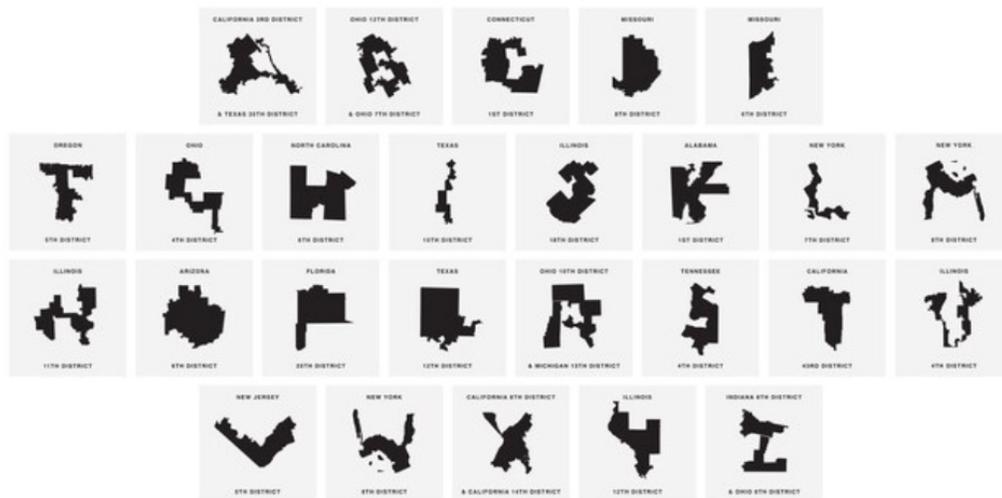
Hosted by the UCCS
Dept. of Geography and Environmental Studies

UCCS
COLLEGE OF
**LETTERS, ARTS
& SCIENCES**

Questions?
Contact Rebecca Theobald at
geocivics50@gmail.com
or call 719-255-5217.

Visit the GeoCivics website
(<https://geocivics.uccs.edu>) for
additional background
information.

University of Colorado Colorado Springs Open House



A font made of gerrymandered congressional districts, whose contorted shapes resemble the alphabet. (UglyGerry) (UglyGerry)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2019/08/02/how-do-you-spell-gerrymandering-is-bad-with-font-made-out-preposterous-districts/>
<https://www.commart.com/project/30179/ugly-gerry>

COLORADO SPRINGS
COLORADO CITY USA

Now 47° | High 50° | Low 35°

City of Colorado Springs launches 2024 City Council redistricting

ALERTS City Council's Annual Report to the Citizens

Home > News

Published on March 25, 2024

The City of Colorado Springs has launched its 2024 Council District redistricting process. Every four years, the City Clerk is required by City Charter to set the six Council District boundaries to ensure districts remain comparable in population as the City changes in population.

"Redistricting is the critical process of adjusting Council Districts to help ensuring that each Colorado Springs resident has an equal voice in their city government," said City Clerk Sarah Johnson. "We're excited to launch this important process and will soon share details on public meetings where residents can share thoughts on the district maps."

The districts were last re-aligned in 2020 and the City Clerk is now reviewing the districts ahead of the 2025 General Municipal Election. Districts must be substantially equal in population, contiguous, and comply with Voting Rights Act and other pertinent laws. The plan is not approved by the Mayor or City Council.

City Council is in the process of appointing a volunteers District Process Advisory Committee. The committee will serve as an advisory body to educate the public, assist the City Clerk, and advise City Council on the districting process. The committee will hold at least one public meeting in each council district to solicit public input.

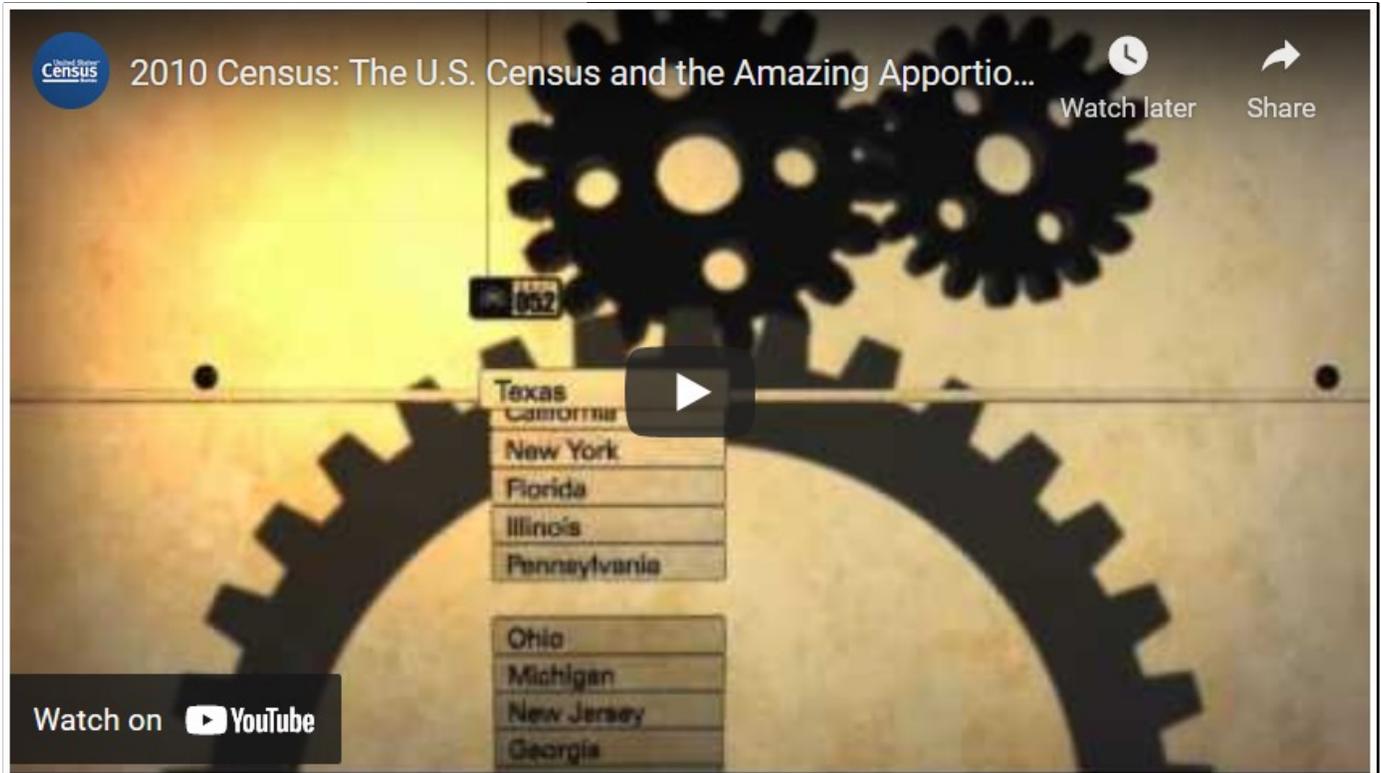
The City Clerk will release a preliminary district report and map in October after the committee gathers citizen comments. After further opportunity for public input, the City Clerk will prepare the final district report on setting the district boundaries no earlier than November 4 and no later than December 2.

More information will be available throughout the process at [ColoradoSprings.Gov/2024Redistricting](https://coloradosprings.gov/2024Redistricting).

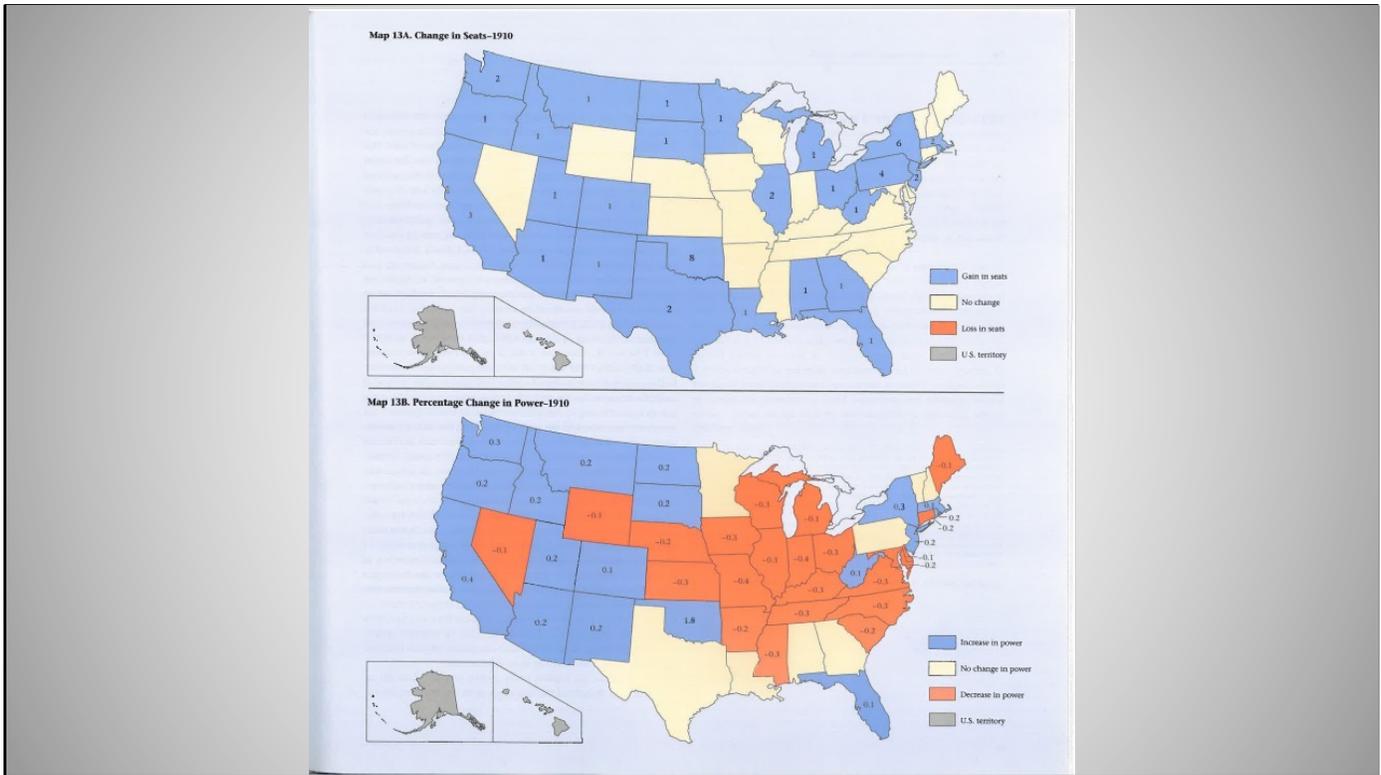
<https://coloradosprings.gov/news/city-colorado-springs-launches-2024-city-council-redistricting>



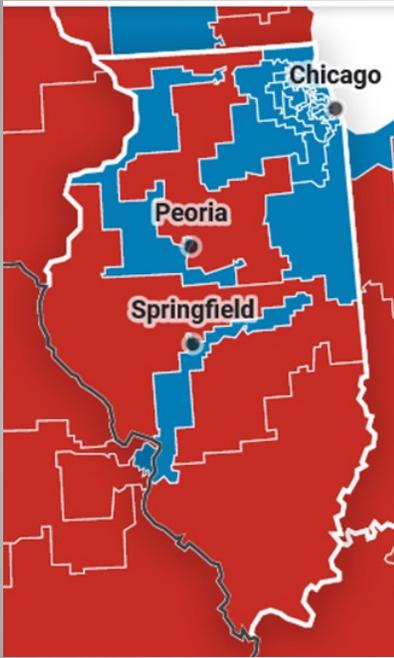
<https://museum.archives.gov/sites/default/files/2019-02/constitution-full-3W1A7495.JPG>



<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/videos/apportionment-machine.html>



Martis, Kenneth C. and Gregory A. Elmes. 1993. *The Historical Atlas of State Power in Congress, 1790-1990*. Congressional Quarterly, Inc.: Washington DC.



Illinois Democrats get desired result with help of gerrymandered map

"Election Day was a very good day for Democratic cartographers," said John Shaw, director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and Southern Illinois University Carbondale. "They found a way to slice and dice Illinois in a way that provided the 14-3 split that they dreamed of."

"And the truth is Illinois is probably more of a 55-45 state for Democrats now, but they used the maps in a creative and aggressive way to lock in a very solid Democratic majority in the Illinois congressional delegation," he said.

The Pantagraph, November 12, 2022

- https://pantagraph.com/news/state-and-regional/illinois-democrats-get-desired-result-with-help-of-gerrymandered-map/article_7656f64e-61fc-11ed-9c23-f720d9092a5d.html



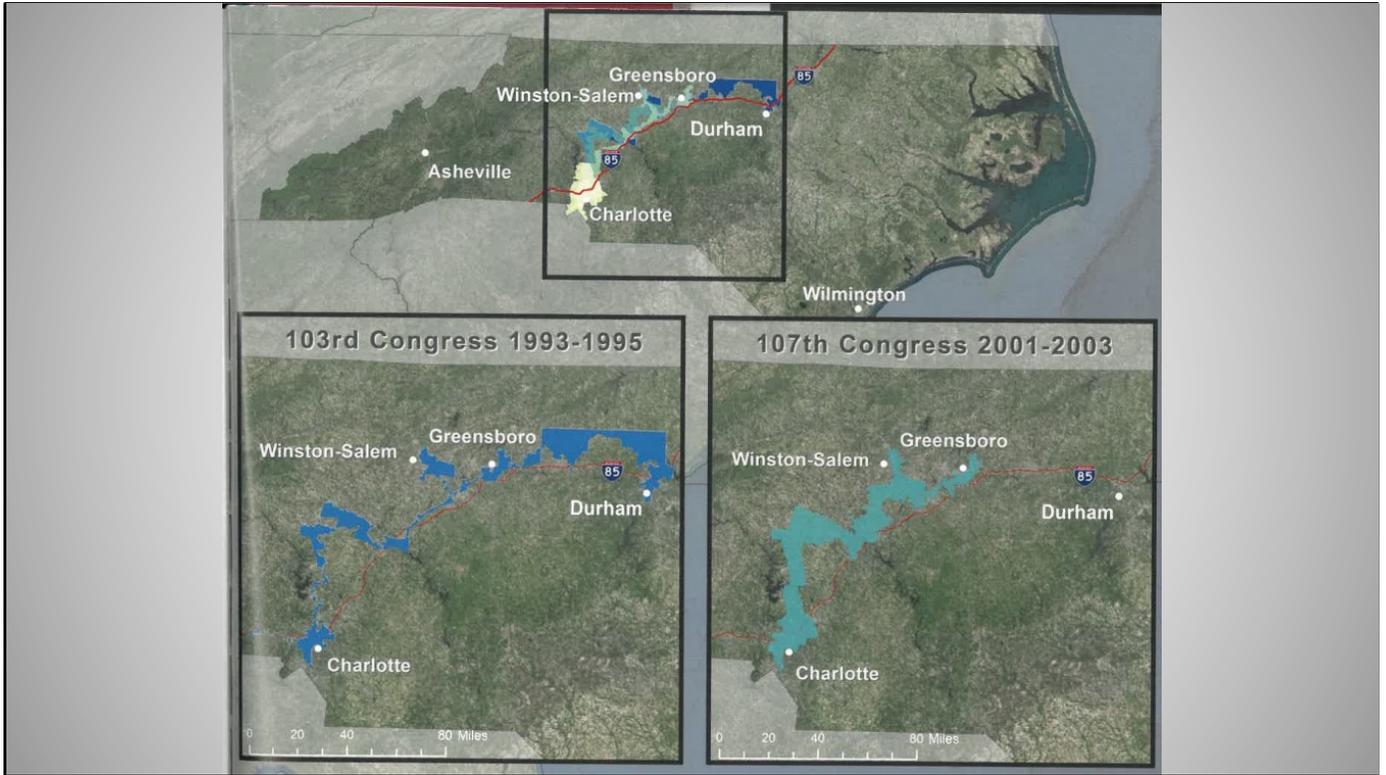
<https://drawthelinespa.org/about-us/flushes-of-insight-exercise>
How do you decide where to draw the lines?

Federal

- Districts must have equal population
- No violation of Voting Rights Act

State and Local

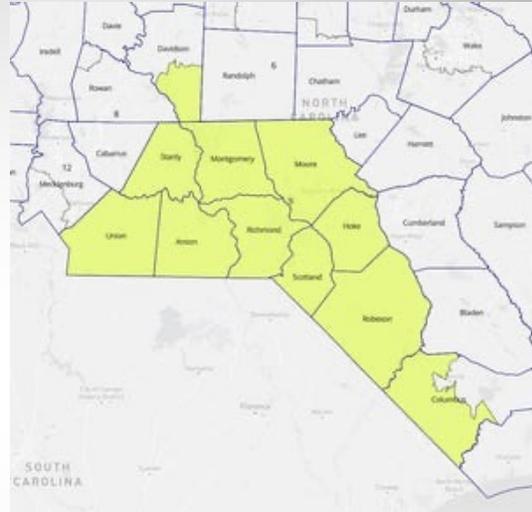
- Varies depending on jurisdiction
- May be required or suggested



<http://www.america100maps.com/>

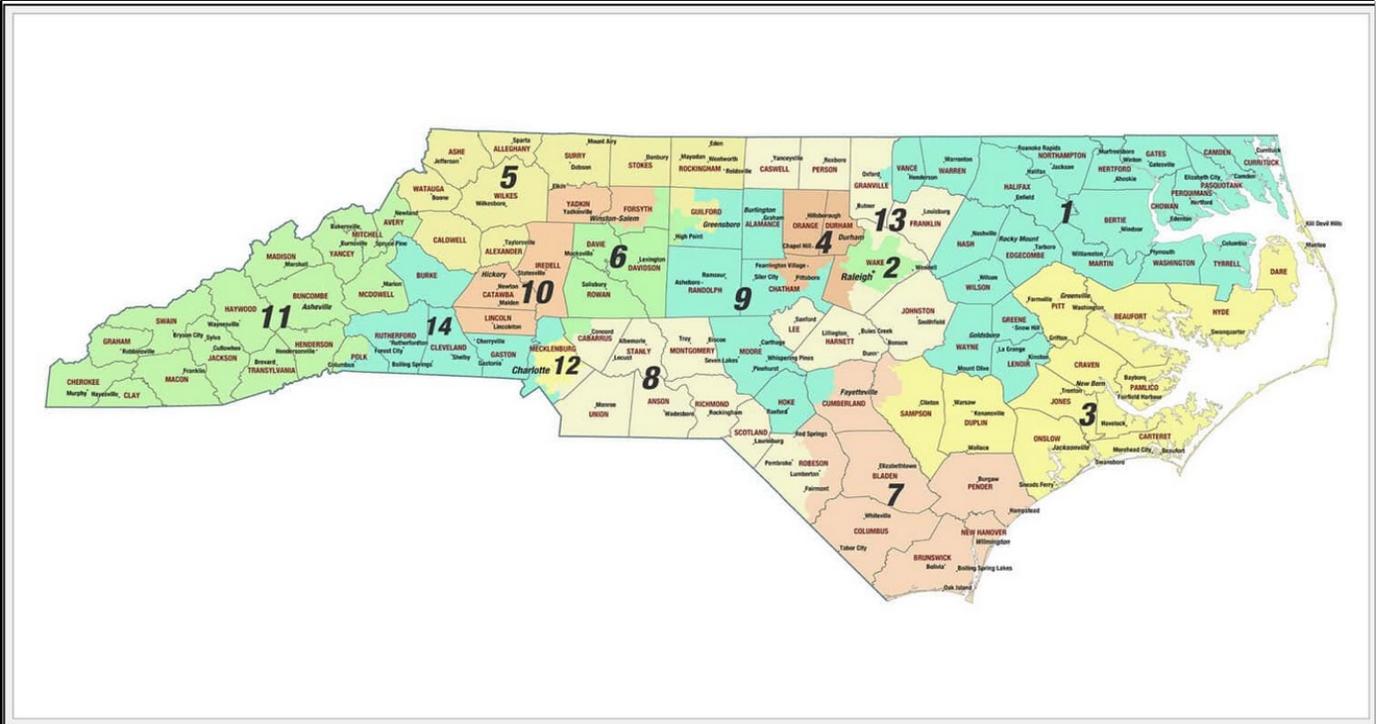


Under the newly enacted Congressional districts, the Fayetteville-Fort Bragg community of Cumberland, Harnett, Moore and Hoke counties is split into three districts. Fayetteville in Cumberland County is put into a district with Wilmington in coastal New Hanover County. Screenshot From Dave's Redistricting App



If approved in court, North Carolina's new 9th Congressional District would run from Davidson County in the central Piedmont region down to the Charlotte suburbs in Union County and then across the state to the farmland of Columbus County in the southeast corner. Screenshot From Dave's Redistricting App

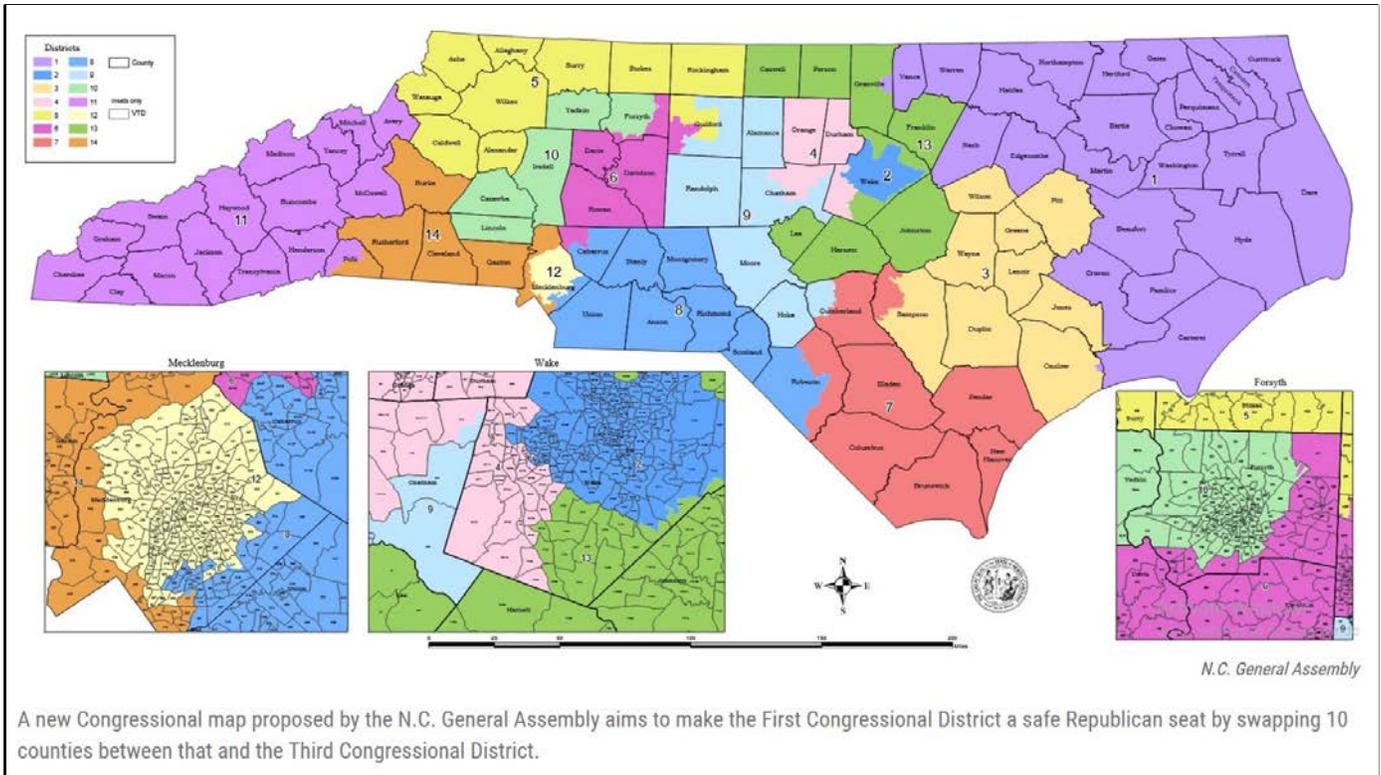
- <https://www.fayobserver.com/story/news/2022/02/21/nc-elections-2022-redistricting-maps-fair-vote-gerrymandering-congress-ncga/6804181001/>



NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS 119TH CONGRESS

MAPSHOP

<https://www.mapshop.com/north-carolina-congressional-districts-wall-map/>



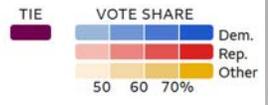
<https://www.insideelections.com/news/article/a-detailed-analysis-of-north-carolinas-new-congressional-map>

https://www.thecentersquare.com/north_carolina/article_a03bcf66-afed-45fa-9b38-561d80efa253.html

<https://www.wunc.org/politics/2025-10-22/nc-republicans-pass-new-congressional-map-its-meant-to-help-them-pick-up-a-seat>

US presidential race

CANDIDATE	PARTY	VOTES	PCT.	E.V.
✓ Donald Trump	Rep.	6,393,597	56.1%	40
Kamala Harris	Dem.	4,835,250	42.5%	0
Jill Stein	Other	82,701	0.7%	0
Chase Oliver	Other	68,557	0.6%	0
Write-ins	Other	8,569	0.1%	0



Trump on Texas redistricting: 'We are entitled to 5 more seats'

Democrats are trying to block the redraw in the state by denying the state legislature a quorum.



President Donald Trump had remained quiet on the state's redrawn map since it was introduced, despite brewing commotion over the Republican partisan gerrymander. | Taron Katopodis/Getty Images

By SISELLE RUSHIYIH EWING
08/05/2025 10:18 AM EDT

President Donald Trump on Tuesday said Republicans were "entitled to five more seats" in Texas, in one of his first public comments on the state's new proposed congressional map.

Party	U.S. Senate	U.S. House	Total
Democratic	0	12	12
Republican	2	25	27
Independent	0	0	0
Vacancies	0	1	1
Total	2	38	40

Party 119th Congress House Percentage

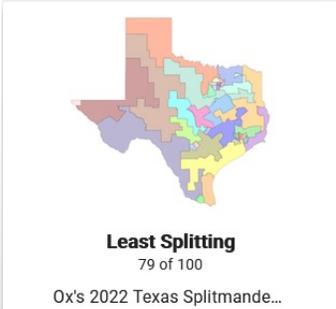
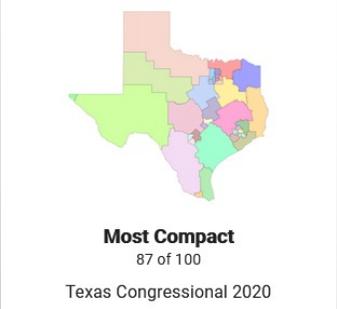
Democratic	31.6%
Republican	65.8%
Vacant	02.6%

<https://www.bbc.com/news/election/2024/us/states/tx>

<https://www.politico.com/news/2025/08/05/trump-texas-redistricting-00493624>

https://ballotpedia.org/United_States_congressional_delegations_from_Texas

SAMPLE MAPS PRIORITIZING DIFFERENT CRITERIA



<https://davesredistricting.org/maps#state::TX>



Brian Munoz / St. Louis Public Radio

A large screen displays Missouri congressional maps during a special legislative session on Sept. 8 at the Capitol in Jefferson City.

<https://www.stlpr.org/government-politics-issues/2025-11-26/federal-judge-weighting-legality-of-attempt-to-block-missouris-new-congressional-map>



Fair Districts at the Ohio Statehouse
Fair Districts Election Coalition



REDISTRICTING ACTIVITIES

https://coga.uccs.edu/colorado_giant_map

LODESTONE

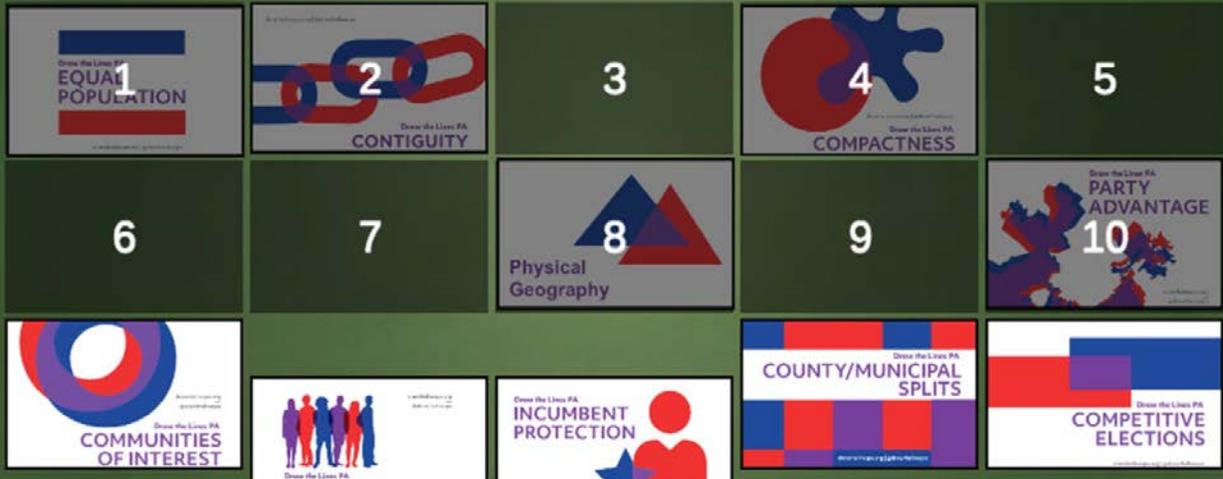
Criteria for Redistricting



https://m.media-amazon.com/images/I/71rkMoSCzIL._AC_UF894,1000_QL80_.jpg

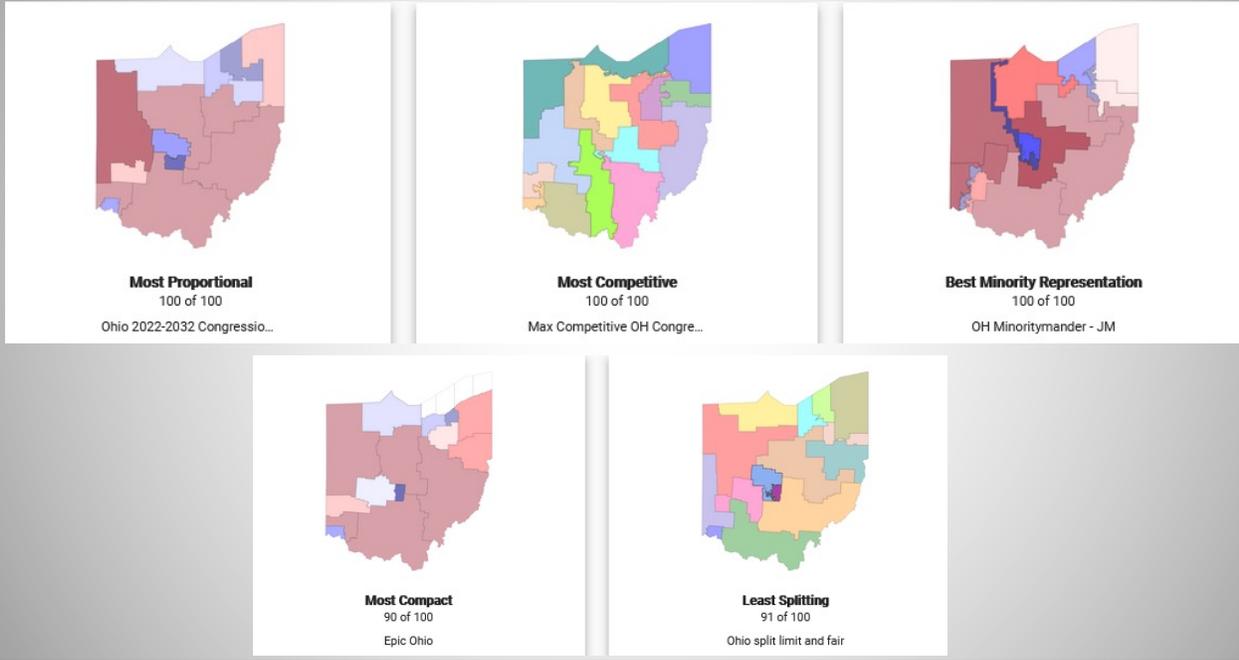
Prioritize what you think is important when creating a voting map!

(Click and drag the cards around the screen)



<https://geocivics.itch.io/prioritizing-districts>

SAMPLE MAPS PRIORITIZING DIFFERENT CRITERIA



<https://davesredistricting.org/maps#state::AR>

DRAW AND DESCRIBE YOUR COMMUNITY

 representable

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MAPPING AMERICA

One community at a time.

[GET STARTED](#)

-OR-

[VIEW & EXPORT MAPS](#)

[JOIN AS AN ORG](#)

<https://www.representable.org/>

Economic or Environmental Interests ^

Use these questions to think more about how you would describe your community...

- Where are residents employed?
- If there are environmental concerns in your community, what are they?

Examples of economic or environmental interests: Tourism industry, agricultural workers, mining town, manufacturing center, polluted natural resource, unemployment problem, etc.

ex. My community is located near a river. Fishing is the main industry. We experience seasonal unemployment. Water pollution of the river is a common concern of ours.

Community Needs and Concerns ^

Use these questions to think more about how you would describe your community...

- What should politicians and/or map drawers know about your community?
- What are the needs of your community?
- Is there anything else you want to tell us about your community?

Examples of needs or concerns: Keep community in the same district or separate into multiple districts, shared policy concerns, need for a social service, relationship to other nearby communities, issues with current district lines

Central Colorado Springs

Download this map

Map downloads include the community information below.

- GeoJSON
- PDF
- CSV

Or copy the link to this page to share.

Community Information

Community Activities and Services

Cultural or Historical Interests

Economic or Environmental Interests

Community Needs and Concerns

sustainability and environmental protection The people who live in Colorado Springs have diverse interests and concerns, even if those views are not always demonstrated by elected officials.

Data Layers

- CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS
- STATE HOUSE DISTRICTS
- 5-DIGIT POSTCODE AREAS
- SCHOOL DISTRICTS
- STATE SENATE DISTRICTS
- COUNTIES
- 2010 CENSUS BLOCK GROUPS
- 2010 CENSUS TRIBAL BOUNDARIES

Election Data +

Demographics +

UPLOAD A DISTRICT PLAN OR CUSTOM LAYER AS A GEOJSON FILE



esri Products Solutions Support & Services Stories About

Esri Redistricting Overview Free Trial Pricing Launch Redistricting

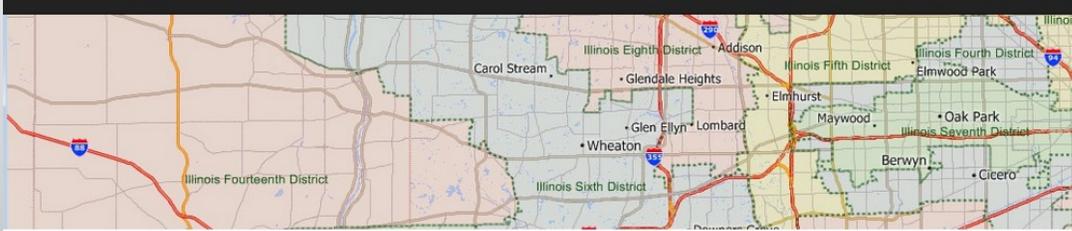
Esri Redistricting

Bringing clarity to the redistricting process



Caliper **Maptitude** For Redistricting

Caliper Maptitude TransCAD TransModeler



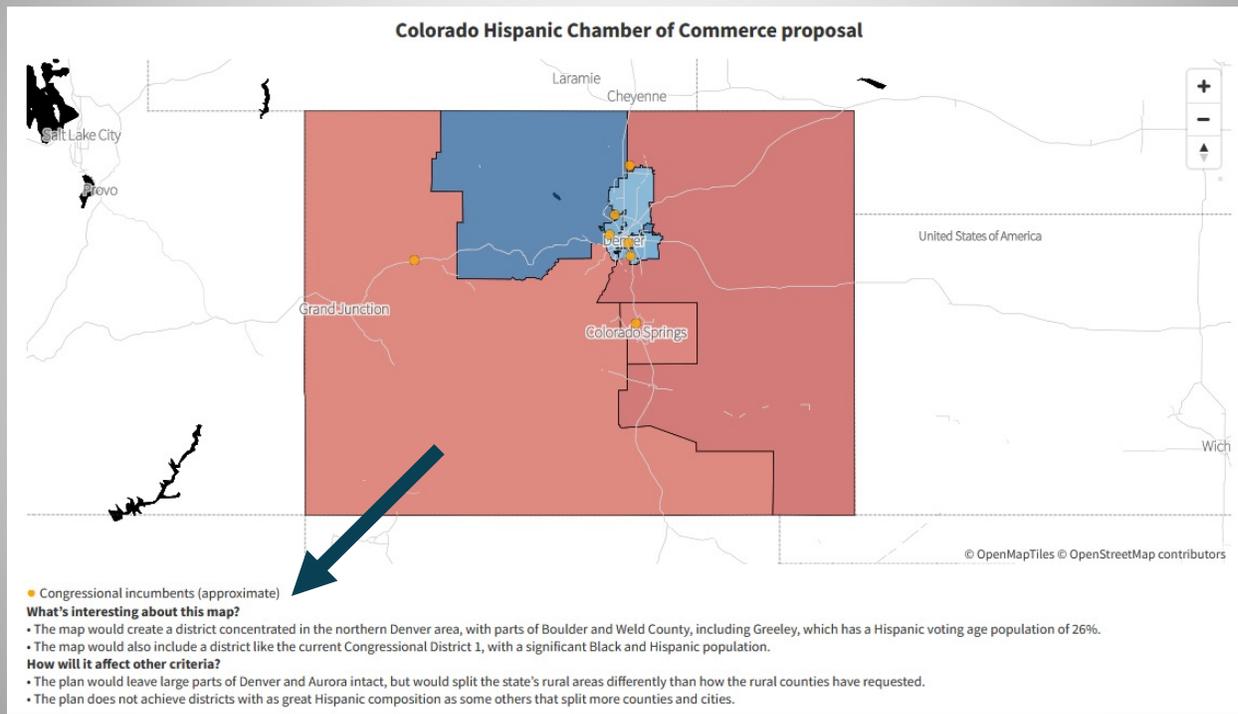


- <https://geocivics.uccs.edu/geography/geospatialtechnology>
- <https://redistricting.ils.edu/>
- https://ballotpedia.org/State-by-state_redistricting_procedures
- <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#home>
- <https://districtr.org/>
- <https://planscore.org/about/>
- <https://www.ncsl.org/research/redistricting.aspx>
- <https://www.redistrictingandyou.org/#map=3.5/38.5/-103>
- <https://redistrictingdatahub.org/>
- <https://gerrymander.princeton.edu/>
- <https://www.representable.org/>
- <http://www.redistrictinggame.org/>
- <http://www.publicmapping.org/>
- <https://openprecincts.org/>

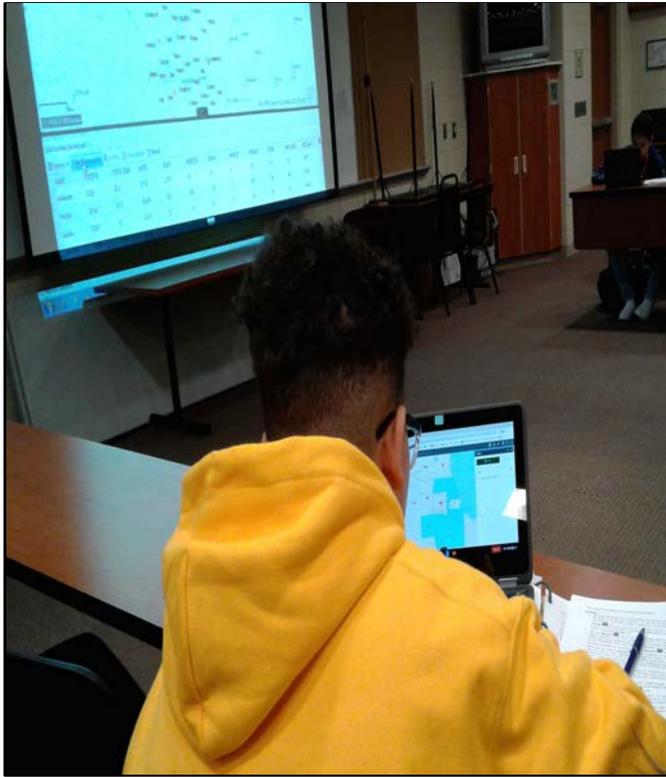


<https://alabamareflector.com/2025/11/21/alabamas-court-ordered-senate-map-was-drawn-by-a-ua-freshman/>

COMPETING CRITERIA



https://gazette.com/colorado-redistricting-competing-criteria-voting-rights-act-competitiveness-communities-of-interest/article_88fbb755-aac7-5360-ac15-1c586ff41c2a.html



ANALYSIS AND ACTION

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT



Significant Supreme Court Cases Relating to Population		
Year	Case	Significance
1962	<i>Baker v. Carr</i>	State legislative apportionment and redistricting plans are justiciable by federal courts—unequal representation violates the Fourteenth Amendment Equal Protection Clause
1964	<i>Wesberry v. Sanders</i>	Congressional redistricting plans are justiciable by federal courts and must contain nearly equal populations—one person’s vote should be worth as much as another’s
1964	<i>Reynolds v. Sims</i>	Each house of a state’s bicameral legislature must be apportioned based on population and districts should contain nearly equal populations—one person, one vote principle

Significant Supreme Court Cases Relating to Partisanship		
Year	Case	Significance
2018	<i>Gill v. Whitford</i>	Plaintiffs lacked standing and the case was remanded; case was significant for efforts to employ a partisan gerrymandering measure, the efficiency gap—Chief Justice Roberts referred to methodology as “sociological gobbledygook,” dashing hopes of reaching an acceptable standard to measure partisan gerrymandering
2019	<i>Rucho v. Common Cause</i>	Partisan gerrymandering is not justiciable; opinion consolidated with <i>Lamone v. Benisek</i> (2019); racial gerrymandering and one person, one vote claims remain justiciable
2013	<i>Shelby County v. Holder</i>	Preclearance requirements in § 5 of Voting Rights Act no longer apply—all states may change voting laws without prior approval

<https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/significant-supreme-court-cases-in-the-2022-2023-term>

The State of Louisiana

Literacy Test (This test is to be given to anyone who cannot prove a fifth grade education.)

Do what you are told to do in each statement, nothing more, nothing less. Be careful as one wrong answer denotes failure of the test. You have 10 minutes to complete the test.

1. Draw a line around the number or letter of this sentence.
2. Draw a line under the last word in this line.
3. Cross out the longest word in this line.
4. Draw a line around the shortest word in this line.
5. Circle the first, first letter of the alphabet in this line.
6. In the space below draw three circles, one inside (engulfed by) the other.

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS CARD

Form No. 5

Applicant must correctly answer any four of the following six questions so as to evidence an elemental knowledge of the Constitution and Government, an attachment thereto, and a simple understanding of the obligations of citizenship under a republican form of government.

1. The legislative branch of the State government—
 - a. makes the laws for the State.
 - b. tries cases in the courts.
 - c. explains the laws.
2. Limits are placed on the right to vote by the—
 - a. National Government.
 - b. States.
 - c. courts.
3. The powers granted to the National Government in the Constitution are called—
 - a. delegated powers.
 - b. denied powers.
 - c. the final authority.

SAMPLE

(35)

SAMPLE

"B"

1. Has the following part of the U. S. Constitution been changed?
"Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed." No
2. Which of the following is one of the duties of the United States Internal Revenue Service?
 passing legislation
 x collection of income taxes
 giving welfare checks
3. There are three main types of city government in Alabama. Name one. Mayor Council
4. Law requires that "In God we trust" be placed on all money issued in the United States. True.

"C"

1. Does the population of the state affect the amount of individual or corporate income taxes which may be levied on its citizens? No.
2. Who pays members of Congress for their services, their home states or the United States? United States
3. How many senators are elected from each state? Two
4. If the United States is a party in a suit can the case be heard in a federal court? Yes.

https://www.al.com/news/2015/08/voting_rights_act_turns_50_cou.html

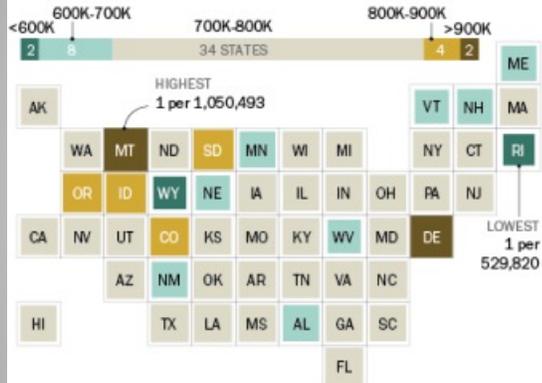
<https://www.propublica.org/article/literacy-tests-voting-rights-georgia-election>

<https://www.boston.com/news/local-news/2014/11/08/the-louisiana-literacy-test-may-be-ancient-history-but-not-the-hypocrisy-behind-it/>

MALAPPORTIONMENT

Wide range of representation ratios across states

Number of people represented by one lawmaker



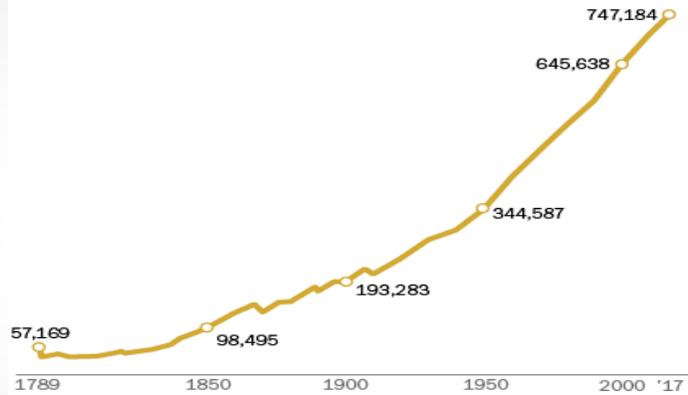
Note: Data as of July 1, 2017. Representation ratio calculated as the ratio of voting members of the U.S. House of Representatives to resident population estimates of represented states.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The number of people per representative has grown dramatically since nation's founding

Number of people represented by one U.S. House member



Note: States admitted in close time proximity to each other are analyzed together. Although a slave was considered three-fifths of a person for apportionment until 1868, figures above are based on an equal count of total population in all represented states.

Source: Decennial census (for years in which census-based reapportionment took effect, typically third year after each census); Census Bureau intercensal population estimates (for 1907 and 1959); Pew Research Center estimates (all other years).

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/05/31/u-s-population-keeps-growing-but-house-of-representatives-is-same-size-as-in-taft-era/ft_18-05-18_representationratios_states/



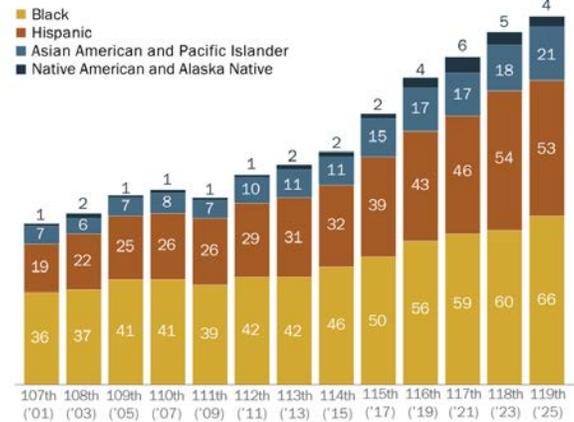
<https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/02/07/the-changing-face-of-congress/>

DO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LOOK LIKE THE PEOPLE WHO VOTE FOR THEM?

Pew Research Center

119th Congress has most racial and ethnic diversity in history

Number of non-White U.S. House and Senate members, by race/ethnicity



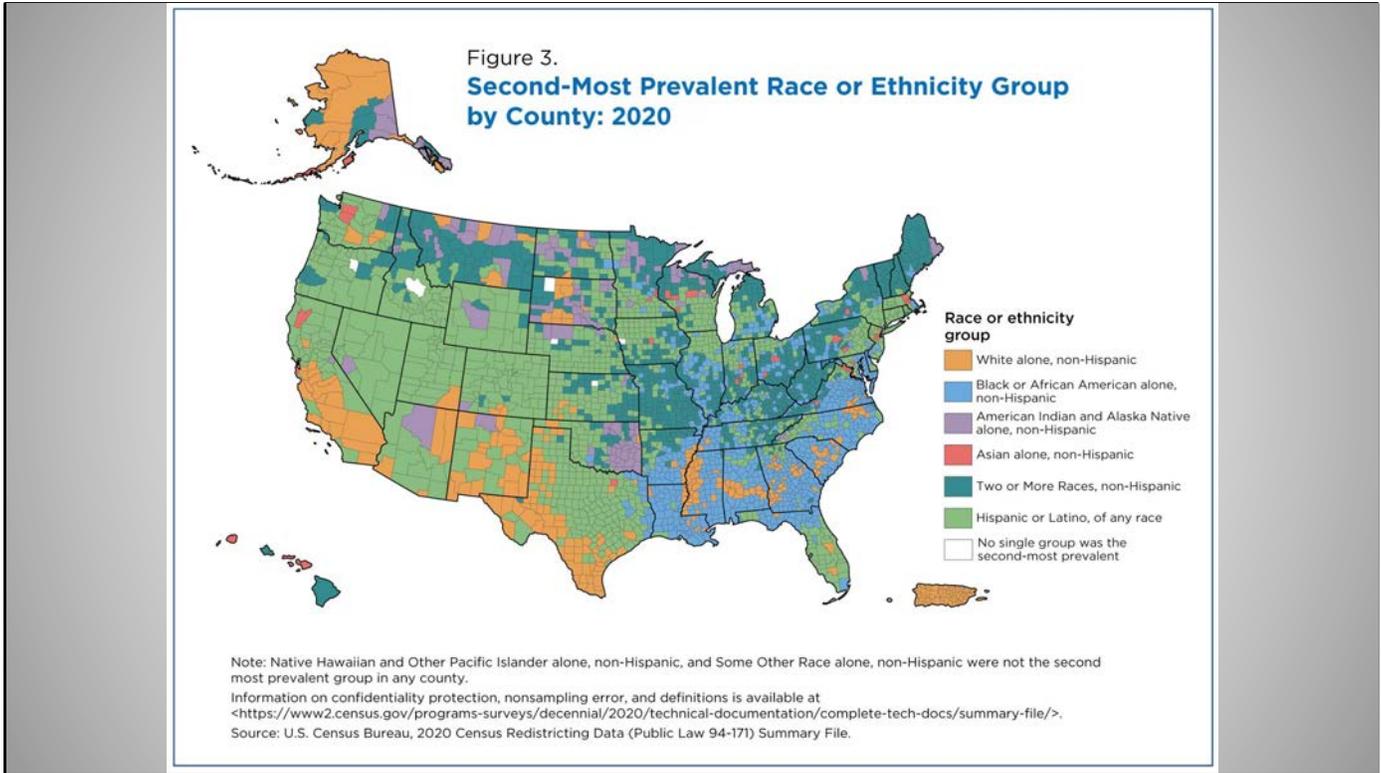
Note: Excludes nonvoting delegates and commissioners. Figures for the 119th Congress reflect members seated as of Jan. 3, 2025. Categories are single-race only; Hispanics are of any race. Multiracial members are counted in each applicable group. There are no Alaska Native or Pacific Islander members in the 119th Congress.

Source: Congressional Research Service, CQ Roll Call, Brookings Institution.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Breakdown	Number (Party)
Total Senate	100 (45D, 53R, 2I)
Women in the Senate	26 (16D, 10R)
Total House	435 (215D, 220R)
Women in the House	125 (94D, 31R), plus 4 (2D, 2R) Delegates

<https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/01/21/119th-congress-brings-new-growth-in-racial-ethnic-diversity-to-capitol-hill/>
<https://cawp.rutgers.edu/facts/levels-office/congress/women-serving-119th-congress-2025-2027>



<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/08/2020-united-states-population-more-racially-ethnically-diverse-than-2010.html>

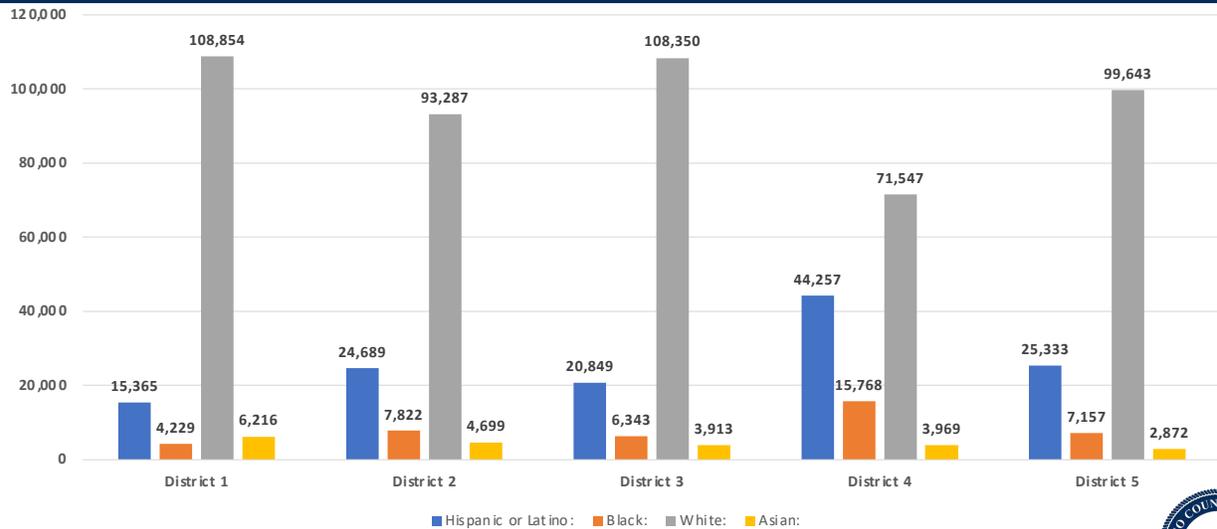
Map Option (8) Summary

2nd Criteria: Communities of Interest & Compactness:

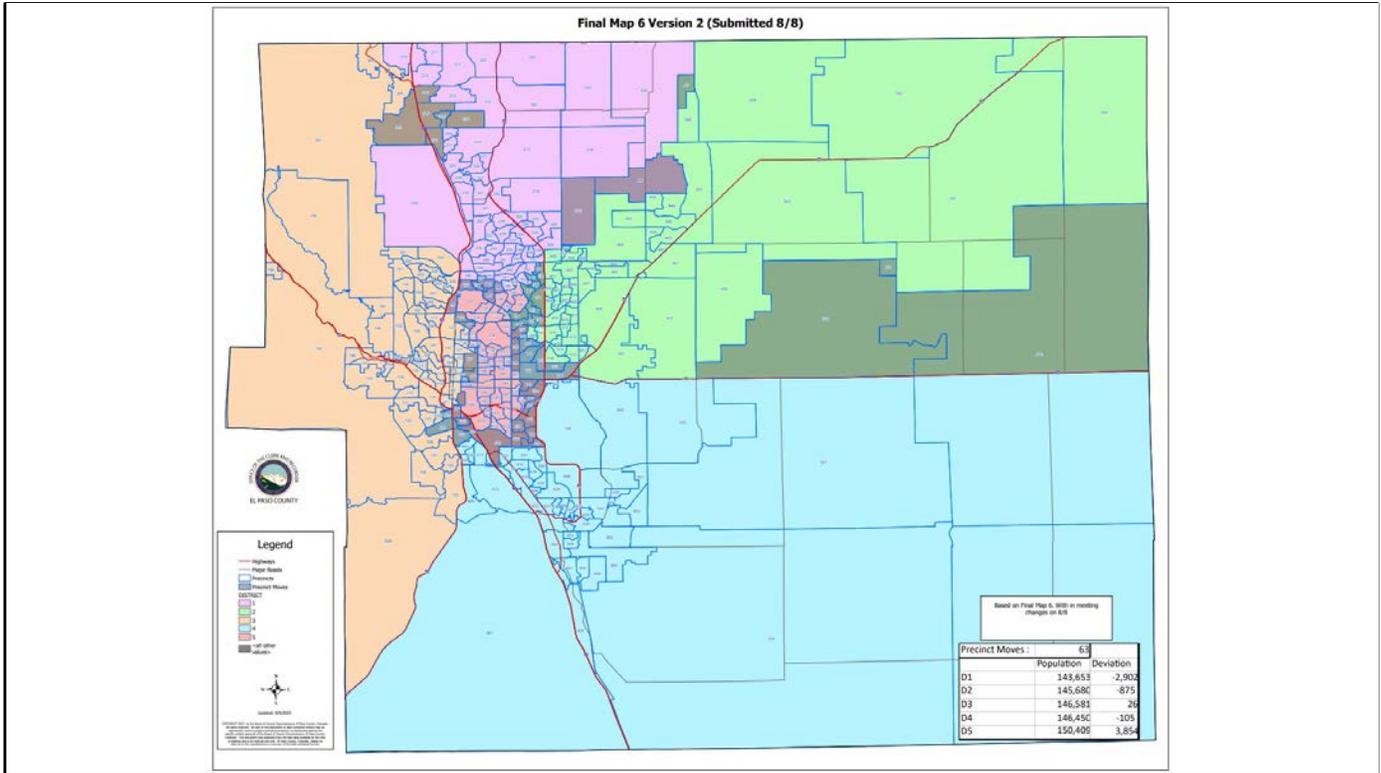
- The proposed map keeps most municipalities whole within one Commissioner District, except City of Colorado Springs.
 - Communities of Interest are the 5 Military Installations, Falcon, Southeast Colorado Springs, Monument, Palmer Lake, and the Wildland Urban Interface.
 - The Districts are sufficiently compact.
 - Map proposed by Commissioner's Bremer and Geitner at the July 6th meeting, adjustment to Precincts were made for Precinct splits. Precincts 163, 134, 180, and 181 stayed in their original districts due to population.
 - Districts 1, and 2 are under population target deviation to allow for future growth. District 5 is underpopulated.
-



Map Option (8) Total Population Racial Ethnicity – Commissioner’s Bremer & Geitner:

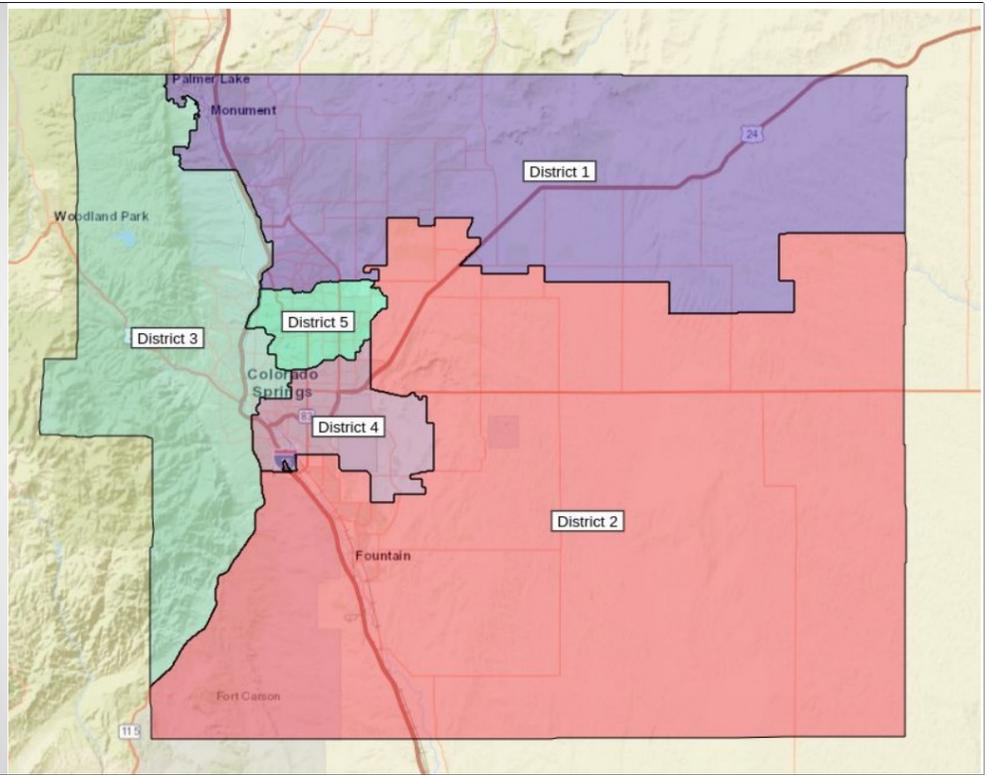


El Paso County, Commissioner Redistricting, July 10, 2023 @ 5:30pm,
Cheyenne Mountain High School, 1200 Cresta Rd., Colorado Springs, CO
80906



<https://www.elpasoco.com/redistricting/>

Citizen Proposed Map



MAP DESCRIPTION, CARLOS PEREZ

- Unites the Southeast Colorado Springs large and compact urban minority population
- Unites the Tri-Lakes suburban / large lot residential area (and anticipates a municipal annexation by the Town of Monument)
- Keeps the Black Forest whole (with exception of SE precinct near the Falcon regional center)
- Moves the USAFA into the westside district
- Provides three Commissioner districts with a military base in their district
- Prioritizes keeping named Colorado Springs neighborhoods whole
- Keeps the Falcon regional center whole
- Creates two districts that represent the small towns and rural Eastern Plains
- Keeps Fountain, Security, Widefield and Fort Carson together
- Strives to keep managed lands together
- Strives to use major roadways and geographical features as boundaries
- Reduces the population within the allowed deviation for the eastern districts (1, 2, 4) to accommodate for growth
- Thereafter, creates two politically competitive districts

Carlos Perez



Geospatial Technology



Which geospatial technology tool is right for you?

Online
Redistricting
Tools

Website

Cost

Purpose

Coverage

Source

<https://geocivics.uccs.edu/geography/geospatialtechnology>
Redistricting Game is no longer operable



Princeton Gerrymandering Project

<https://gerrymander.princeton.edu/redistricting-report-card-methodology>

District Builder

<https://medium.com/districtbuilder/tutorial-how-to-evaluate-your-map-583ccc0b6b69>

ArcGIS

<https://learn.arcgis.com/en/paths/analyze-and-review-plans-with-esri-redistricting/>

Plan Score, Campaign Legal Center

<https://planscore.campaignlegal.org/#!2020-ushouse>

The Cook Political Report

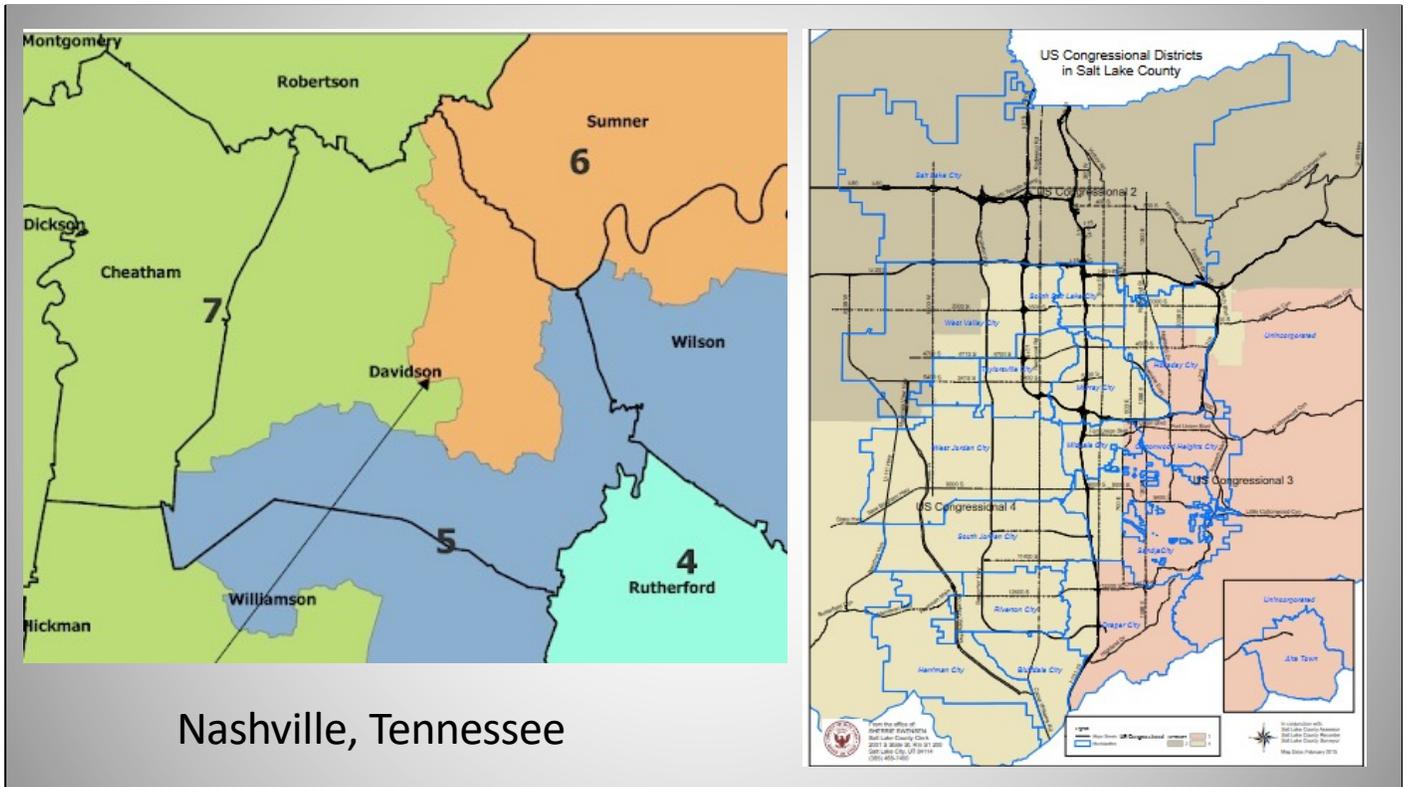
<https://www.cookpolitical.com/redistricting>

FiveThirtyEight

<https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/how-fivethirteights-redistricting-tracker-works/>

Washington Post

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/politics/redistricting-scorecard/>



<https://vanderbilthustler.com/2022/01/24/gerrymandering-nashville-legislative-redistricting-proposal-splits-the-city-sparks-protest/>
<https://publicintegrity.org/politics/elections/who-counts/utah-voters-want-independent-redistricting-gop-lawmakers-are-fighting-it/>
<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/07/06/republicans-redistricting-doom-democrats-498232>
https://slco.org/globalassets/1-site-files/clerk/elections/maps/congress/congressional_all.pdf

Ohio 2021 Second Draft Republican State House Map (9/15/21)

Redistricting Report Card

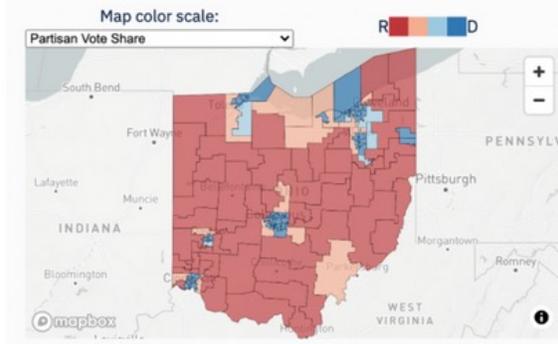


Select a map to view its report card and metric dashboard

Ohio 2021 Second Draft Republican State House Map

ABOUT ▾ HOW WE WIN ▾ GET INVOLVED ▾ ELECTION HUB

Ohio 2021 Second Draft Republican State House Map released on 9/15/21



Partisan Fairness

F

Significant advantage to Republicans

Competitiveness

C

Similarly competitive relative to other maps that could have been drawn

Geographic Features

C

Non-compact districts, typical number of county splits

A: Good for the category

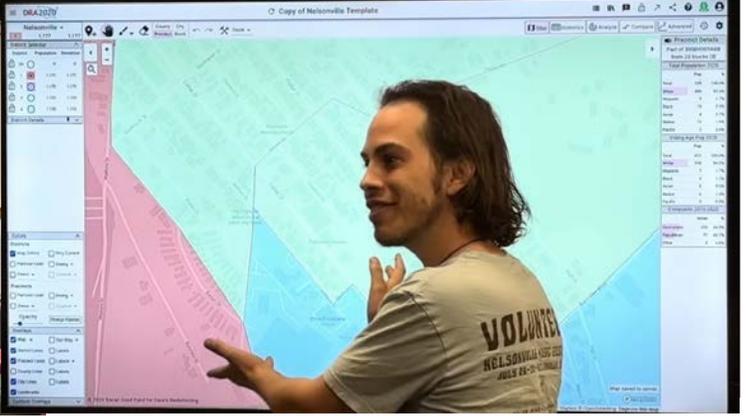
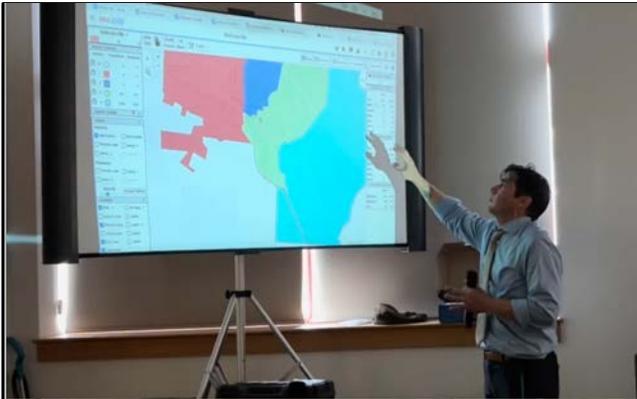
B: Better than average for the category, but bias still exists

C: Average for the category, could be better, but also could be worse

F: Poor for the category, could be much better

Overall Grade: F

<https://act.represent.us/sign/redistricting-report-card-colorado-ohio-maps-highlight-stark-contrast-states-methods>



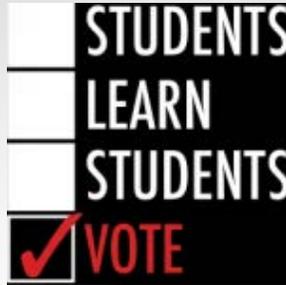


<https://www.voanews.com/a/turkey-s-opposition-appears-set-to-retain-key-cities-preliminary-local-election-results-show/7550890.html>

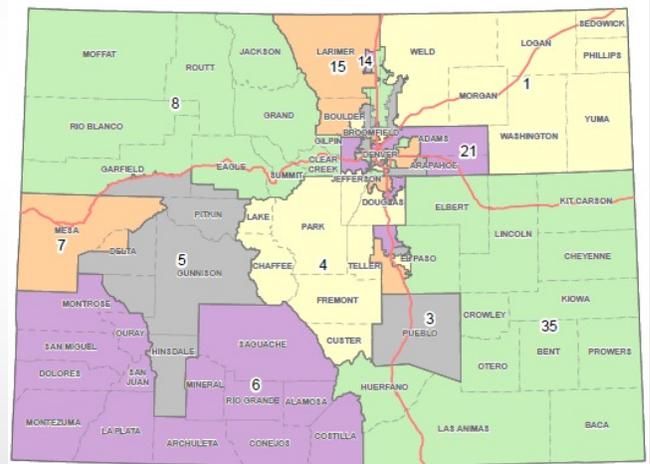
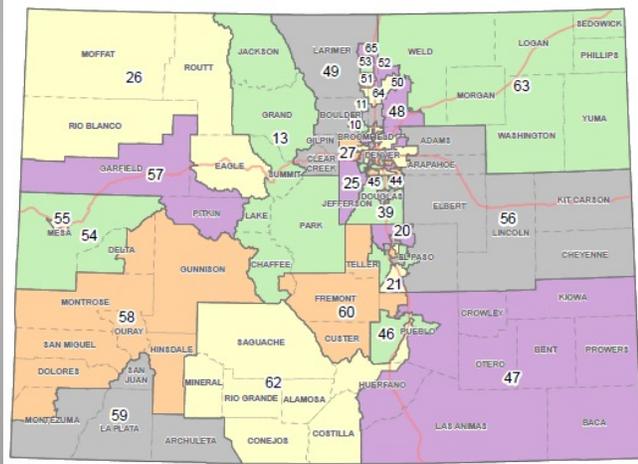


ACTIVITIES RUN BY
HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR
MASHPEE, MASSACHUSETTS

More interest from a number of individuals and organizations



COLORADO STATE HOUSE AND SENATE APPROVED PLANS

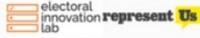


<https://redistricting.colorado.gov/content/house-final-approved>

<https://redistricting.colorado.gov/content/senate-final-approved-errata>

Colorado 2021 Second Draft Commission Congressional Map (9/15/21)

Redistricting Report Card

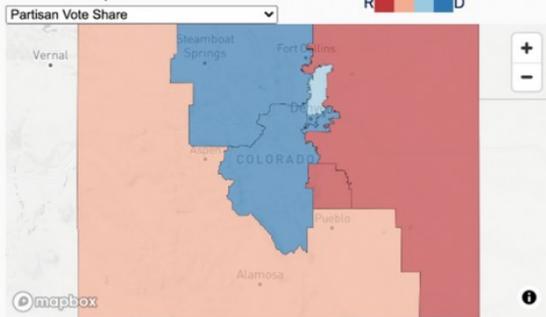


Colorado 2021 Second Draft Commission Congressional Map

Colorado 2021 Second Draft Commission Congressional Map released on 9/15/21

Private, unpublished report card

Map color scale:



Select a map to view its report card and metric dashboard

Colorado 2021 Second Draft Commission Congressional Map

Overall Grade

A

Partisan Fairness

A

No advantage

Competitiveness

C

Similarly competitive relative to other maps that could have been drawn

Geographic Features

C

Compact districts, more county splits than typical

A: Good for the category

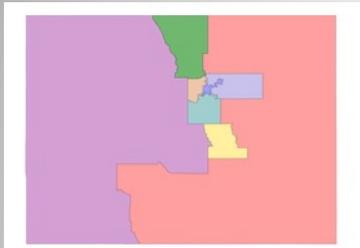
B: Better than average for the category, but bias still exists

C: Average for the category, could be better, but also could be worse

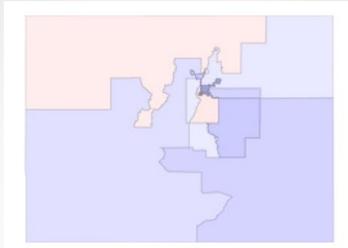
F: Poor for the category, could be much better

<https://gerrymander.princeton.edu/redistricting-report-card/?planId=recT5HmyimzPdcZFb>

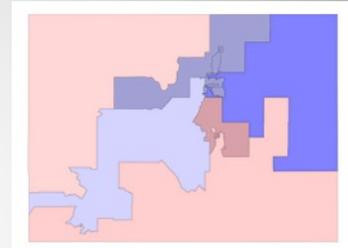
SAMPLE MAPS PRIORITIZING DIFFERENT CRITERIA



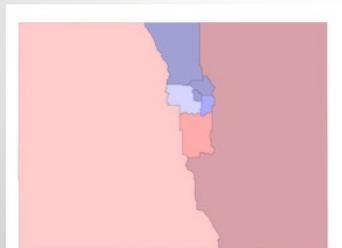
Most Proportional



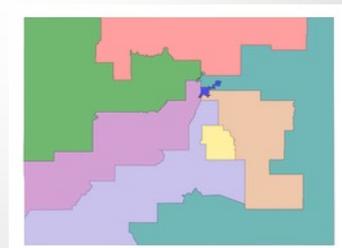
Most Competitive



Best Minority Representation

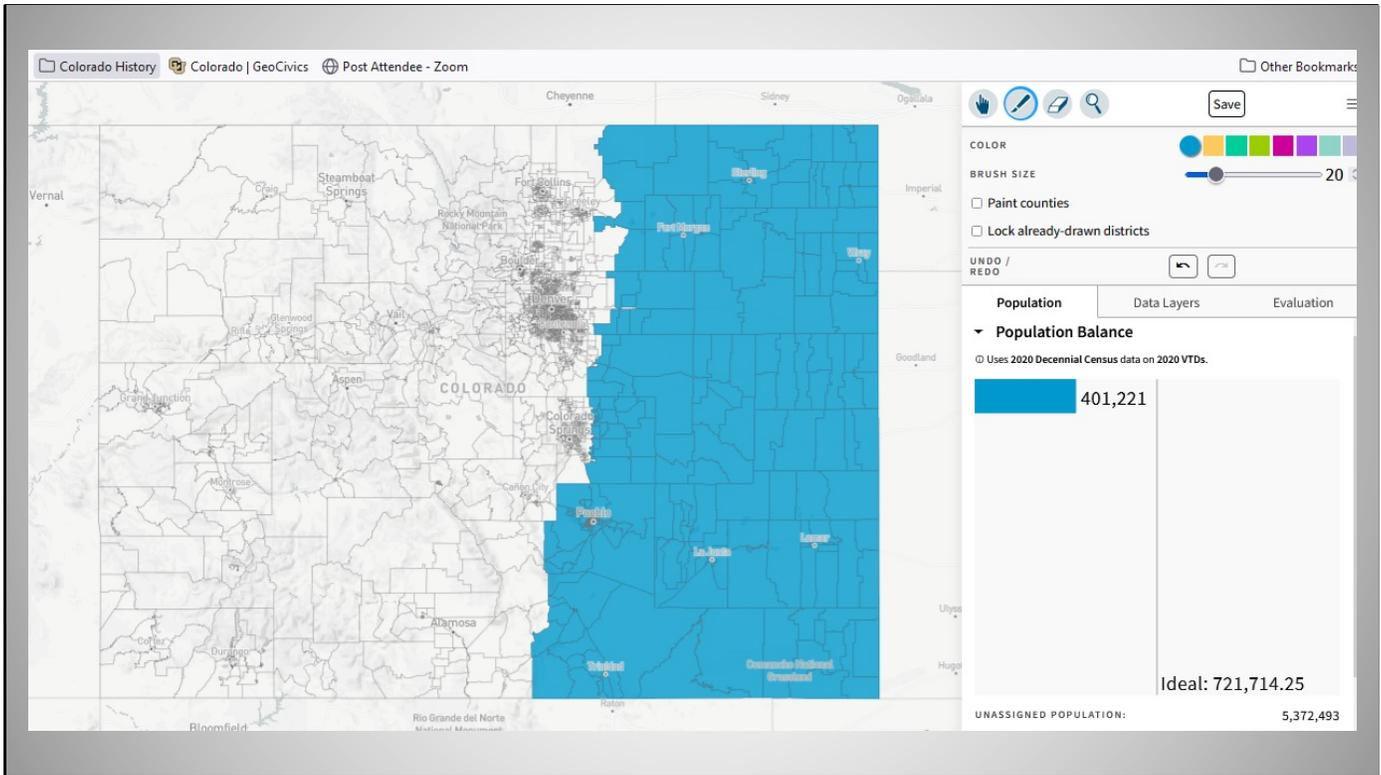


Most Compact



Least Splitting

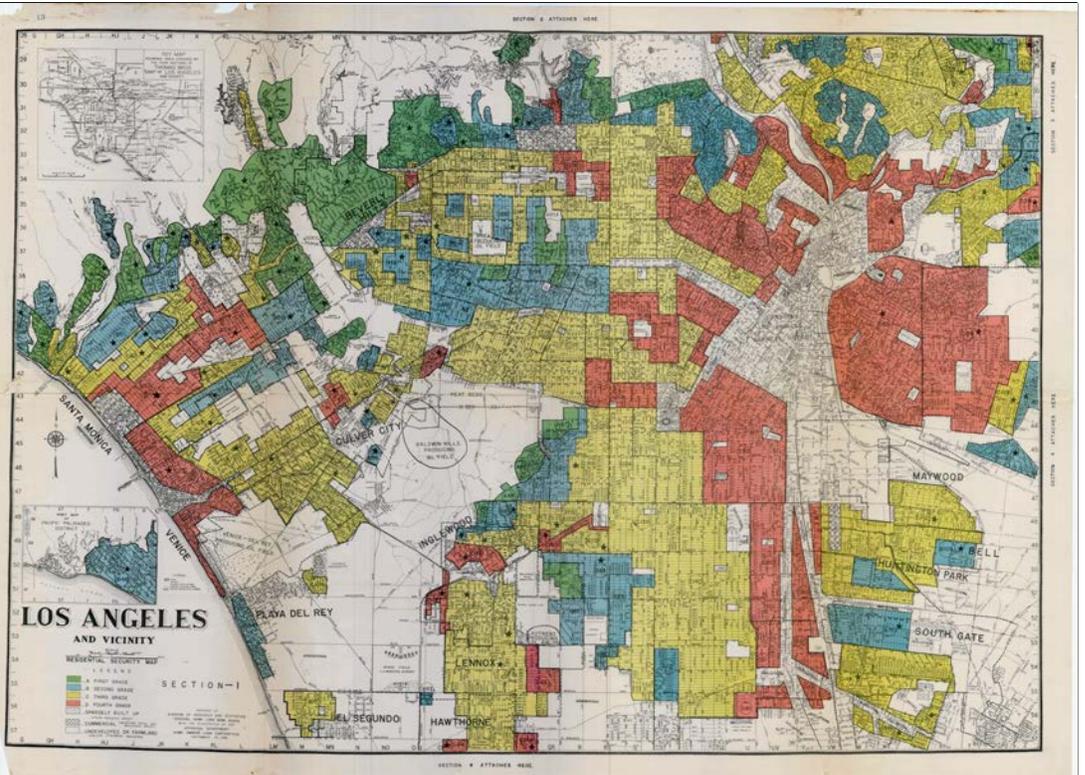
<https://davesredistricting.org/maps#state::CO>



<https://districtr.org/>

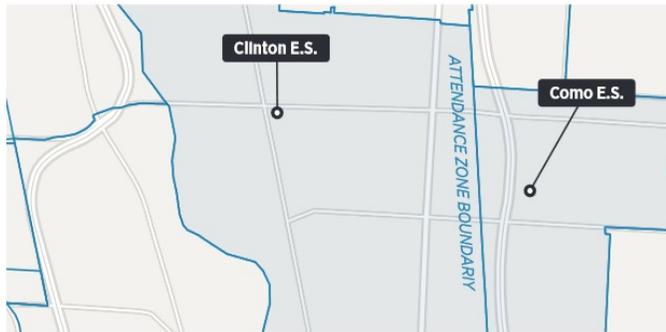
Districtr is one example of a free online mapping program to guide non-experts in drawing electoral districts.

1939
Home
Owners
Loan
Corporation

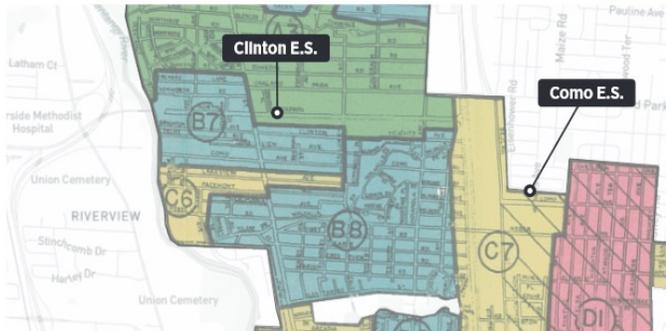


<https://www.kcet.org/shows/lost-la/segregation-in-the-city-of-angels-a-1939-map-of-housing-inequality-in-la>

Due to school attendance zones, if a child lives east of I-71, they would attend Como Elementary. A child living further west would attend Clinton Elementary.



Maps created by the federal government in the 1930s used for mortgage redlining show a similar divide. High-performing Clinton Elementary falls within the green area categorized as "Best" for mortgage loans, while Como Elementary falls within the yellow area categorized as "Definitely Declining."

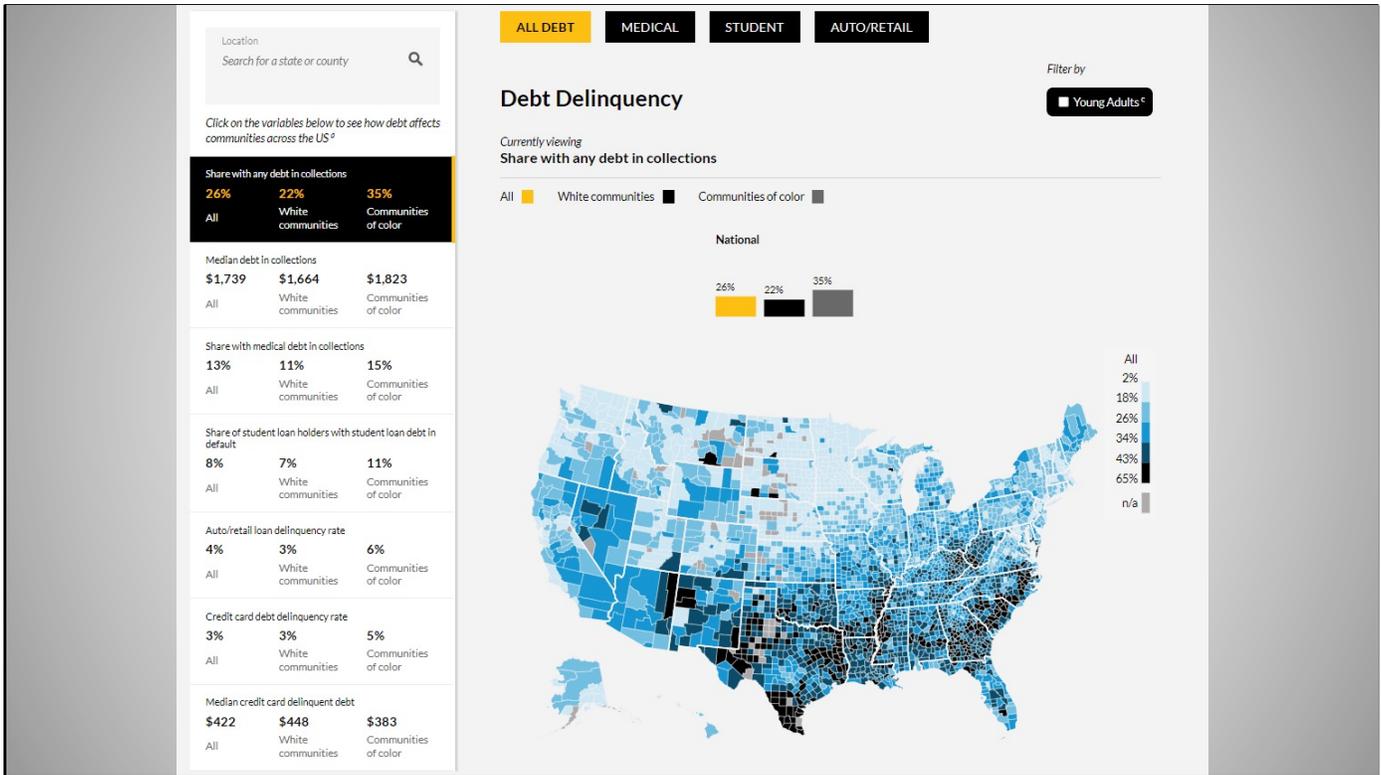


SOURCES: Tim DeRoche, *A Fine Line: How Most American Kids Are Kept Out of the Best Public Schools* (Los Angeles: Redtail Press, 2020); "Mapping Inequality," <https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/> (accessed March 4, 2021); and Heritage Foundation research.

BG3594 heritage.org

EDUCATION AND REDLINING

<https://www.heritage.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/BG3594.pdf>



<https://apps.urban.org/features/debt-interactive-map/?type=overall&variable=totcoll>

HOW POWERFUL ARE MAPMAKERS?

How many elected officials and members of the general public understand GIS?

DATA AND GEOGRAPHY

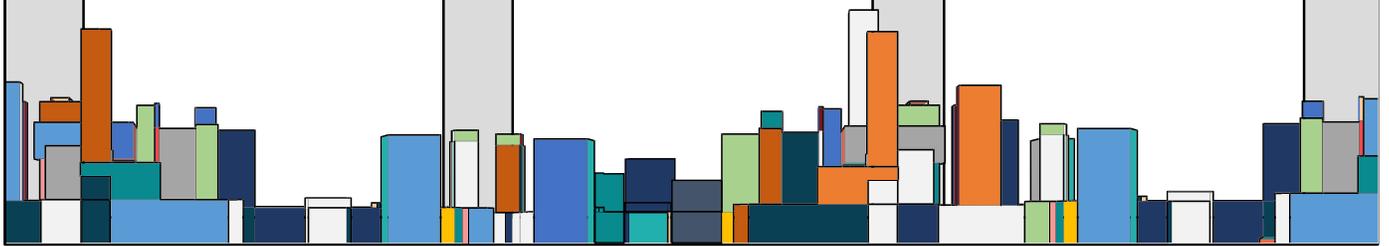
Use files of racial makeup, voting patterns, demographics, and student residences. Geocode information leading to craft districts with specific characteristics.

WHO VOTES FOR YOU?

Are there populations who would be more or less favorable to your candidacy?
How can you include or exclude those populations?

WHO VOTES WITH YOU?

Do you know your neighbors?
How large is your district? What do you agree on?
What do you disagree about?



Knowledge about voter identification laws and information about who might not have valid IDs
Geocode information leading to craft districts with specific characteristics – transparent?

EXPLAIN YOUR COMMUNITY



[HOW TO USE](#)

[JUMP TO THE MAP](#)

[ABOUT DISTRICTR](#)

[WHAT'S NEW?](#)



You draw the lines.

Districtr is a free, public web tool for districting and community identification, brought to you by the MGGG Redistricting Lab.

- Districtr is one example of a free online mapping program to guide non-experts in drawing electoral districts.

Gov. Mike DeWine skips redistricting hearing to attend Bengals training camp

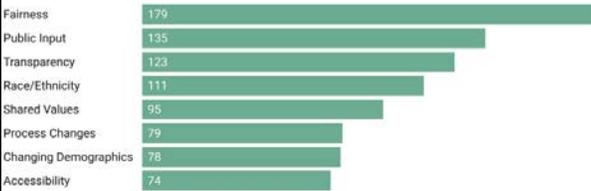
Jessie Balmert Cincinnati Enquirer

Published 5:00 p.m. ET Aug. 23, 2021 | Updated 5:24 p.m. ET Aug. 23, 2021

[View Comments](#)



Public Comment Themes



Created with Datawrapper

Fairness in the mapmaking process was the most common request during 18 hours of public comment during legislative town halls in recent weeks.

Negotiations broke down Friday between members of Virginia's bipartisan redistricting commission after Democrats and Republicans failed to agree on which proposed maps they should use as a starting point.



The map approved by the Arkansas Legislature this week. Screen shot: Arkansas Legislature

Arkansas lawmakers have redrawn the state's congressional districts. Critics say will result in less voting power for Black people living in Little Rock.

- The new map splits Pulaski County, the state's largest by population, into three districts. It's been in the 2nd congressional district since the 1960s.



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INTRODUCE EVERYONE TO ONLINE MAPPING



REPRESENTATION

Primary reason for the decennial census - counting everyone, once, in the right place

One person, one vote

Dual system of congressional representation



https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/technical-documentation/questionnaires.2020_Census.html

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/about/top-questions-about-the-survey.html>

<https://www.rollcall.com/2021/11/04/senate-confirms-new-census-bureau-director/>

GeoCivics: Redistricting of the people, by the people, and for the people

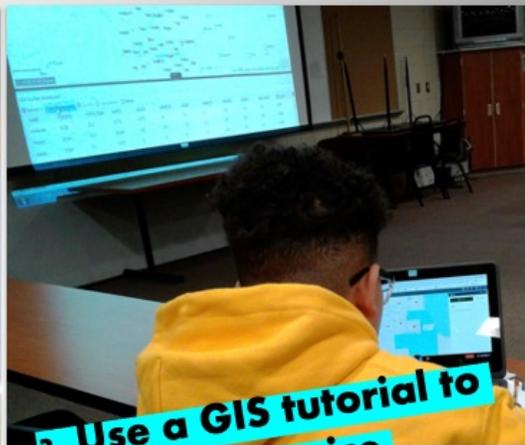
1. Experience history on the map



2. Learn the rules



3. Use a GIS tutorial to make your voice heard



Visit geocivics.uccs.edu for resources

GeoCivics

How can I engage with REDISTRICTING?

- 1.** **UNDERSTAND the US Census and the process for apportionment and redistricting**
 - Watch videos from the [U.S. Census](#) and [GeoCivics](#)
 - Listen to the TEDx Talk, [Redistricting of the people, by the people, and for the people](#)
 - Explore [your state's 'On the Move' lesson](#)
 - Answer [questions about reapportionment and redistricting](#) from Retro Report
- 2.** **KNOW THE RULES - be knowledgeable about YOUR state's redistricting process**
 - Begin research on [Ballotpedia](#)
 - Investigate state redistricting criteria defined by the [National Conference of State Legislatures](#)
- 3.** **DISCUSS key criteria for drawing electoral districts**
 - Do the [Flashes of Insight](#) activity online or use Draw The Lines PA's [flashcards](#)
 - Read observations about mapping in [Political Geography](#)
- 4.** **EXPLAIN your community**
 - Draw and describe your community on [Representable.org](#) or [DistrictR](#)
- 5.** **CREATE your own congressional, state legislative, or local districts using free online mapping tool**
 - [DistrictR](#), [Dave's Redistricting App](#), [District Builder](#)
 - Watch this [video](#) from the [Redistricting Data Hub](#) about how to draw local electoral districts
- 6.** **CRITIQUE existing maps**
 - Upload a map that you or somebody else created on [PlanScore.org](#). Explore the Princeton Gerrymandering Project's [redistricting report card](#). Investigate [Redist](#) algorithms and tools. Read the [Election Policy Progress Report](#) from the Institute for Responsive Government for different years.
- 7.** **SHARE your knowledge**
 - Encourage your family and friends to be active participants in the redistricting process

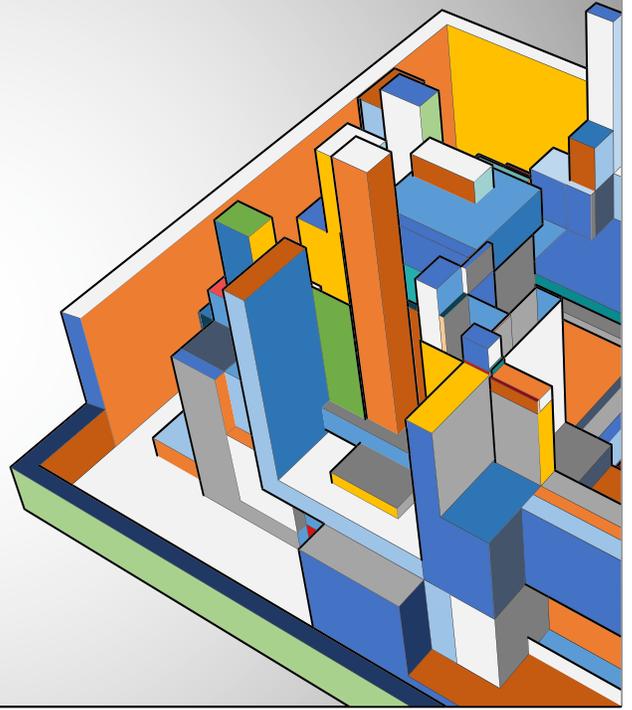
<https://geocivics.uccs.edu/>

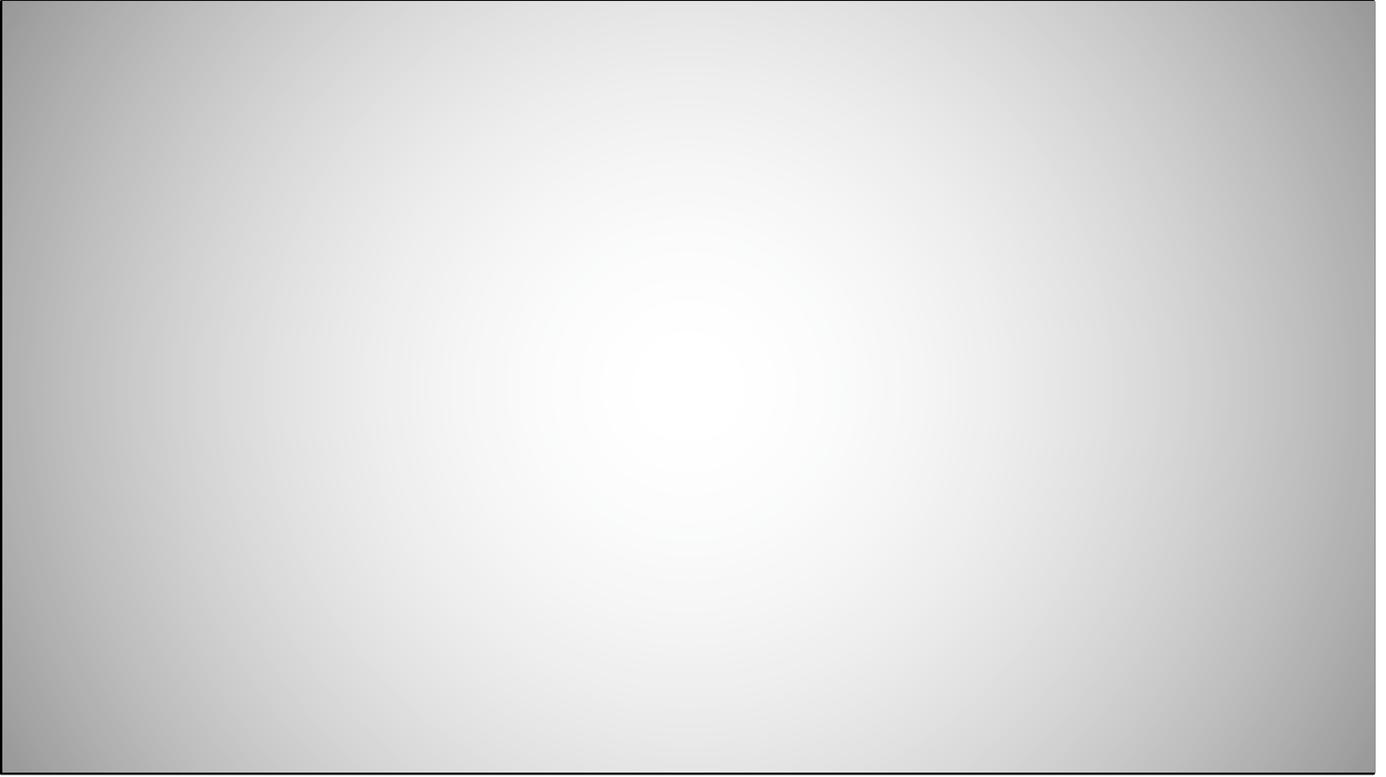
<https://geocivics.uccs.edu/>

THANK YOU

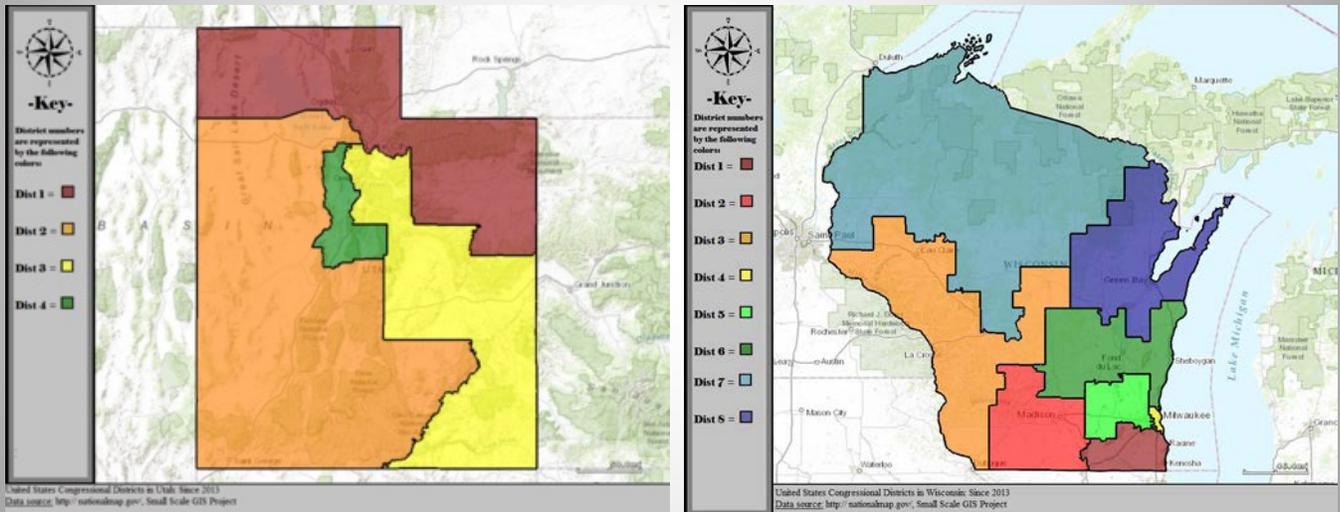


QUESTIONS?





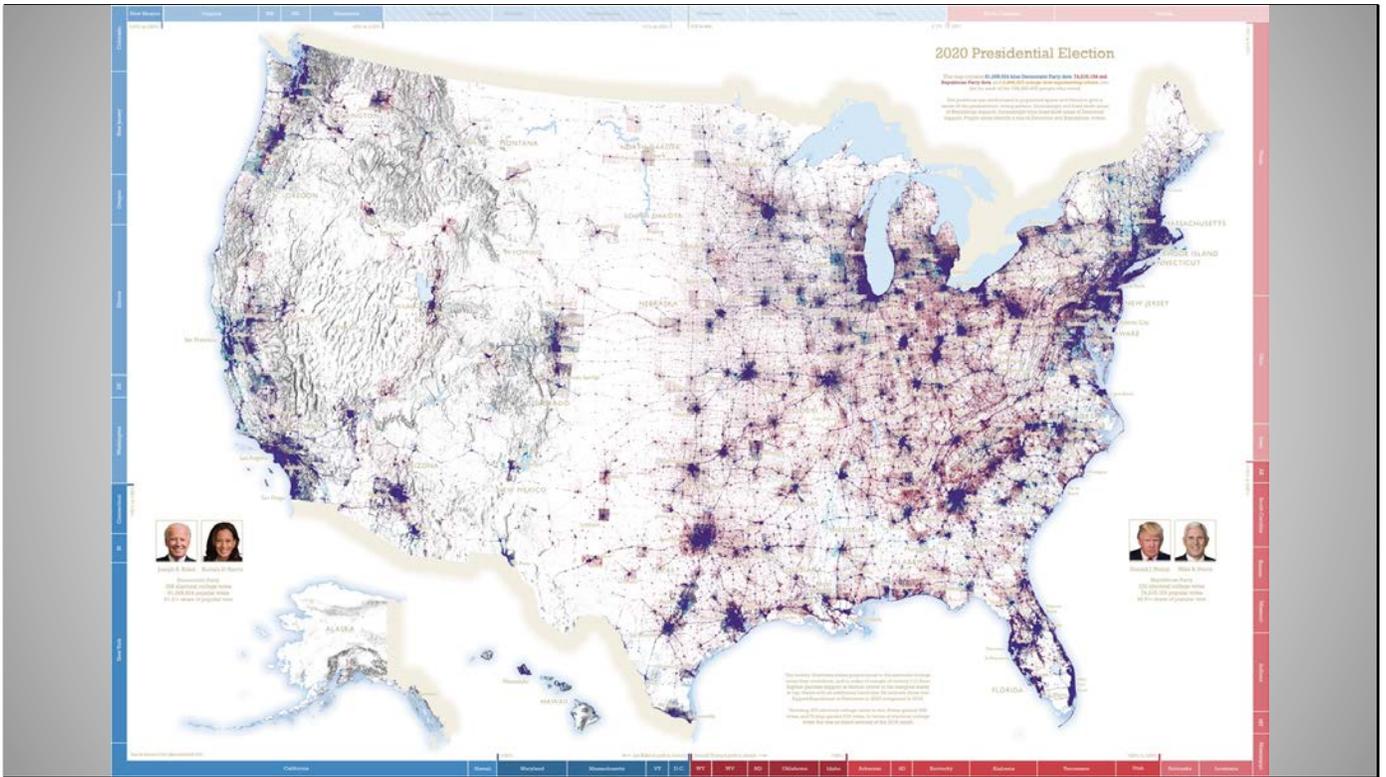
IMPORTANCE OF FAIR REPRESENTATION AND TRANSPARENCY



Discuss the 2010 Utah case study: <https://www.esri.com/en-us/arcgis/products/esri-redistricting/overview/redistricting-utah-case-study>. Review issues in Wisconsin: <https://www.wisd.org/reforms/support-fair-voting-maps>. Does gerrymandering only take place at the federal level or can it happen at the state and local levels as well?

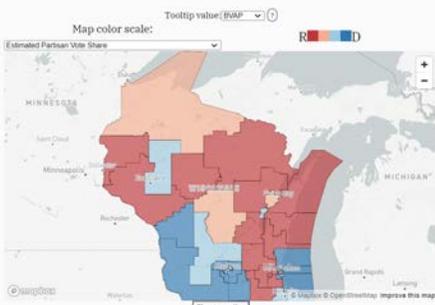
HOW TO ARRIVE AT REPRESENTATION





<https://carto.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=2d739563a49f4fa3998549f6d87e0937>

Wisconsin 2021 People's Commission Final Senate Map



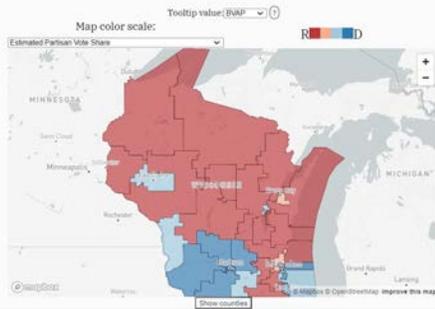
OVERALL GRADE

A

Scroll down to see more information about the grade

REDISTRICTING REPORT CARD

Wisconsin 2024 Senate - Wright Proposal



OVERALL GRADE

A

Scroll down to see more information about the grade

Gerrymandering Project

Redistricting Report Card

[Learn more about the Wisconsin redistricting process](#)
[View Communities of Interest on Representative](#)
Wisconsin 2021 State Senate Plan SB621 (Wisc. S.Ct. Final 3/15/2022)
[Link to plan source](#) | [Download Map Data](#) | [Download Score Data](#)

Wisconsin 2021 State Legislative State Senate Draft Plan SB621

Analysis of the Plans

Map color scale: R B D

Overall Grade F

Partisan Fairness F Significant Republican advantage.

Competitiveness C Similarly competitive relative to other maps that could have been drawn

Geographic Features C Compact districts, more county splits than typical

A: Good for the category
 B: Better than average for the category, but bias still exists
 C: Average for the category, could be better, but also could be worse
 F: Poor for the category, could be much better

Metrics

Partisan Fairness F Advantage: Republican

Frequency of Democratic wins - out of 33 districts

Geographic Features C

Compactness (Avg. Reock) 0.422

<https://gerrymander.princeton.edu/reforms/WI>



REDISTRICTING CRITERIA

Federal Requirements

- Districts must have equal population
- No violation of Voting Rights Act

State and Local Guidelines

- Varies depending on jurisdiction
- May be required or suggested

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/redistricting/redistricting-criteria.aspx>

Explore the many values that can be prioritized when

Contiguity



Districts should be contiguous, no one part should be disconnected from the rest, and no connections strike you as minimal or absurd.



Draw the Lines | www.drawthelinespa.org

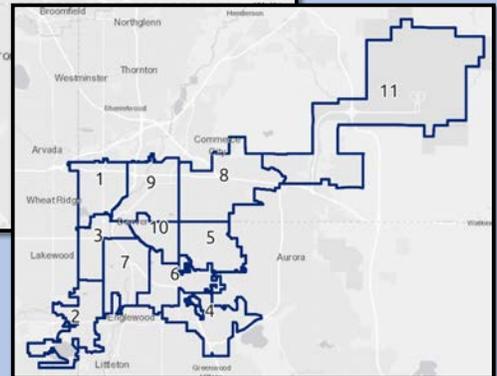
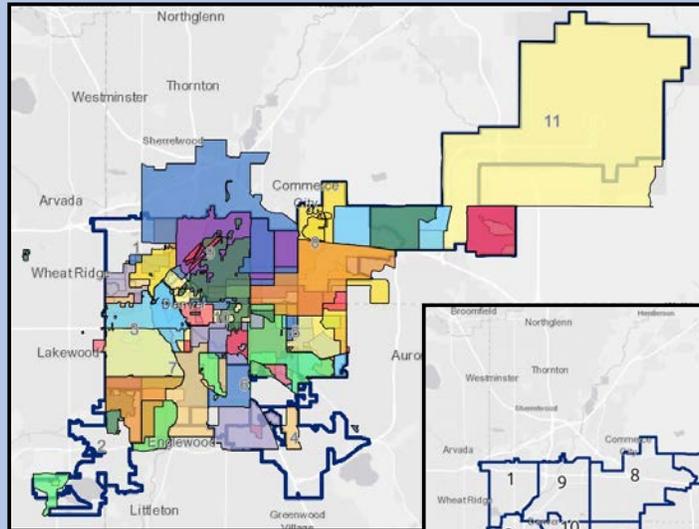
<https://geocivics.itch.io/prioritizing-districts>

Oct31 COI count: 122

Mapping drive ended Dec1

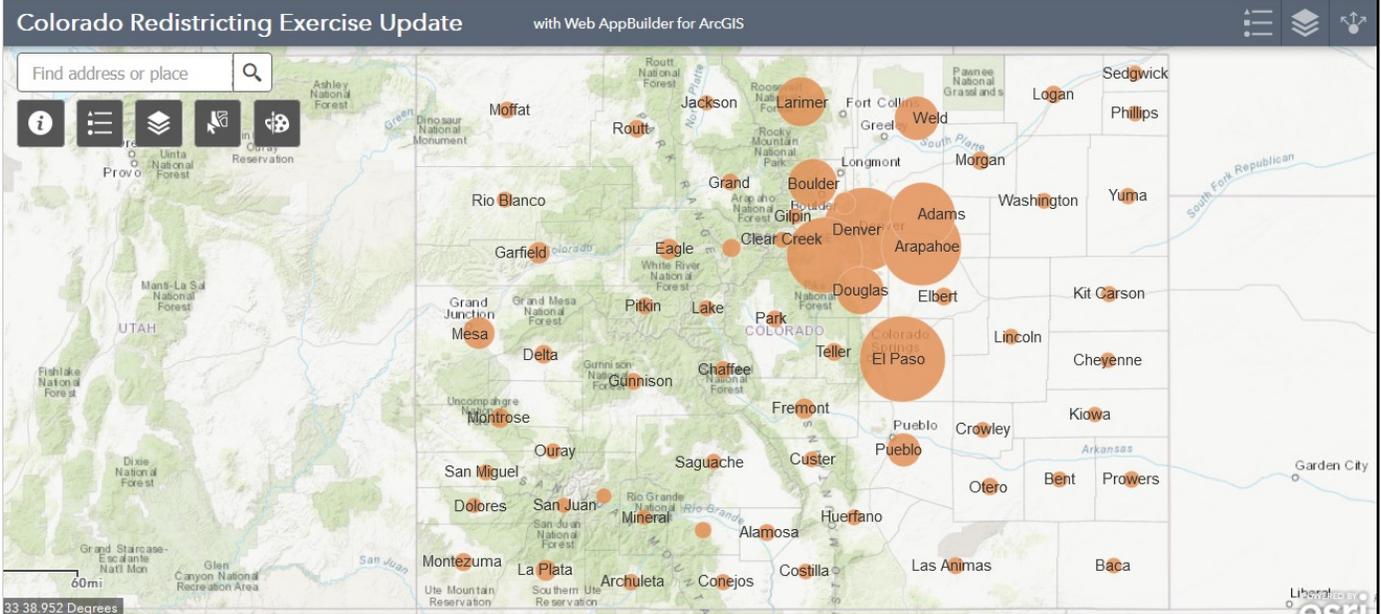
- ☐ Processing ~30 more COIs

How do we make sense of this for redistricting authorities? There is no precedent.

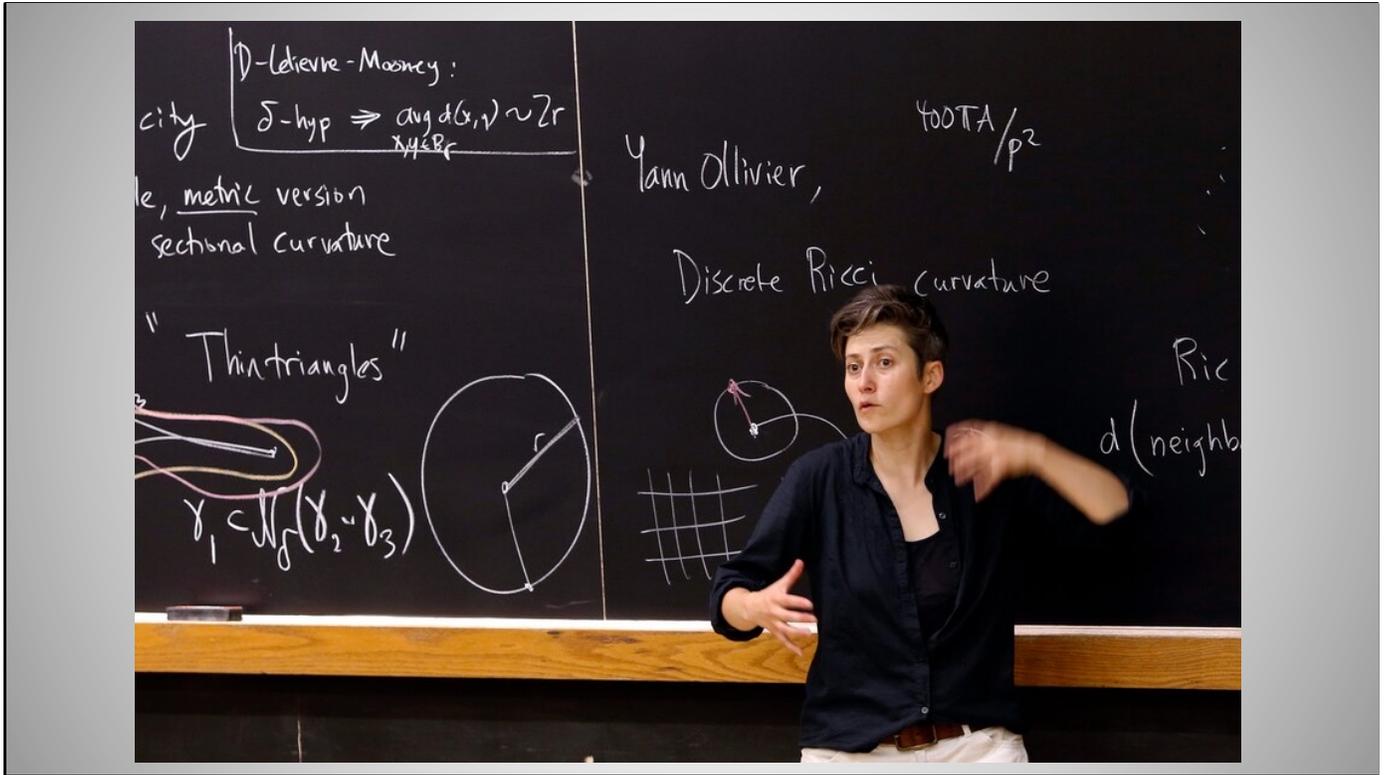


Threshold: Any 2 or more COIs with shared geography and common interests

INTRODUCTORY REDISTRICTING EXERCISES



<https://geocivics.uccs.edu/stateresources>



https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/virginia-redistricting-gerrymandering-math-geometry/2021/09/03/8003790e-0b4c-11ec-aea1-42a8138f132a_story.html