ALL ON THE LINE

OHIO'S PATH TO FAIR MAPS

What is All On The Line?

A 501(c)(4) campaign to bring citizens across every issue together to win on redistricting in 2021.

Our mission is to raise awareness about the harmful impact gerrymandering has on federal and state policymaking, create and encourage participation in activities that defend democratic ideals, and increase grassroots engagement in every step of the redistricting process.



Agenda

The Problem

What does gerrymandering look like in Ohio?

The Solution

Organizing for Fair Maps
Learning Ohio's redistricting process

What We Can Do to Win on Redistricting
Census Update
Redistricting Work with AOTL



WHAT DOES GERRYMANDERING LOOK LIKE IN OHIO?



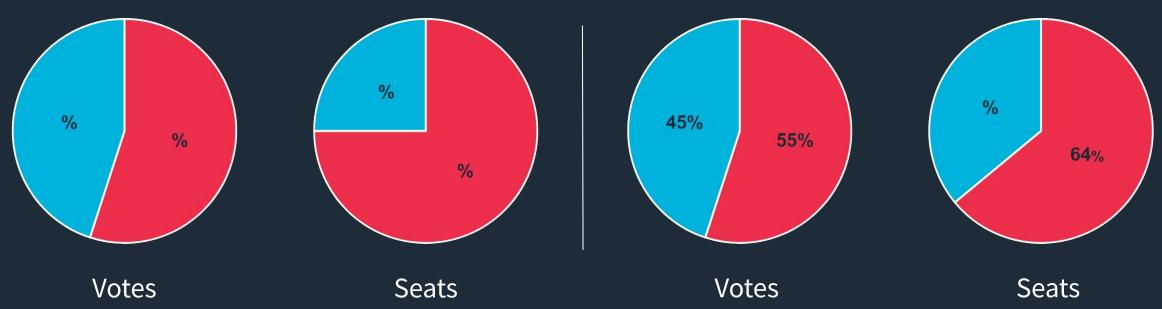




VOTING # REPRESENTATION







Providing access to affordable health care. Reducing the gun violence that plagues our schools and communities. Protecting voting rights. Achieving equal pay. Solving the urgent threat of climate change.



THE PROBLEM

Our elected officials aren't accountable to the public because they have manipulated the redistricting process to gerrymander or pick their voters and ensure their victory.

"Vote them out" doesn't work when the system is broken.



THE SOLUTION

Organize.

We need to increase public engagement around the redistricting process to advocate for fair maps that don't harm the political voice of key communities and build transparency into the map drawing process.



OHIO'S REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Who Runs The Maps?

- A new seven-member Redistricting Commission draws the state legislative maps
- The Ohio General Assembly and (if needed) the Redistricting Commission draw the congressional maps
- The Ohio Supreme Court has original jurisdiction (or first review) for all future state legislative and congressional maps



Ohio's State Legislative Map-Drawing Process

A seven-member Redistricting Commission is responsible for drawing Ohio's state legislative maps. The Commission has the following members: The Ohio Governor, Auditor, Secretary of State, and nominees from the following legislative leaders: The Speaker of the House, House Minority Leader, Senate President, and Senate Minority Leader. The nominees of the legislative leaders are not required to be legislators themselves.

Step 1 Step 2 Step 3 & 3A

Adoption Deadline: September 1, 2021

Required Support: At least four or more members, including both Democrats

Map Duration: 10 years

Public Hearings Required: At least three or more hearings (AFTER introduction, BEFORE adoption)

If no plan is adopted by September 1, a proposed plan must be introduced on that same day via a simple majority vote of the Commission and a final map must be adopted by September 15 (see Step 2) Adoption Deadline: September 15, 2021

Required Support: At least four or more members, including both Democrats

Map Duration: 10 years (if passed with bipartisan support)

Public Hearings Required: One (with public testimony and Commission amendments)

Step 3: Applies to ANY adopted map that does not have the requisite bipartisan support (that is, without *both* Democrats' support)

Required Support: Four members (a simple majority, no bipartisan benchmark)

Map Duration: Four years

For rules on drawing the gap map (that is, the map that lasts the remaining six years of the decade), go to Step 3A

Step 3A: This option applies ONLY to four-year maps approved by a simple majority, without bipartisan support

Required Support: At least four or more members (whether bipartisan or not)

Map Duration: Six years

If the Commission adopts a four-year map (as detailed in Step 3 above), the Commission must reconvene no earlier than July 1, 2025 to draw a gap six-year map. The same rules as in Step 1 or 2 will apply here as appropriate.



Criteria for State Legislative Maps

- Contiguity and compactness
- District boundaries should be created using county, municipal, and township boundaries
- Where possible, House districts should NOT split counties more than once
- District population cannot vary greater than 5% from its representation ratio
- No maps that (dis)favor one party over the other
- State legislative maps must have representational fairness based on the preferences of Ohio's voters from the preceding decade – that is, the overall percentage of favorable seats for each party should match the percentage of votes they've received over the last 10 years
- Nest three contiguous House seats into each Senate district



Ohio's State Congressional Map-Drawing Process

The Ohio legislature is *primarily* responsible for drawing the congressional maps, though the Redistricting Commission is also involved in drawing the map in certain circumstances.

Step 1 Step 2 Step 3 Step 4 & 4A

Adoption Deadline: September 30, 2021

Authority: Ohio Legislature - Ohio governor can veto

Required Support: At least 60% in each chamber with at least 50% support of Democrats

Map Duration: 10 years

Public Hearings Required:

At least two before map adoption, public submissions allowed

Adoption Deadline: October 31, 2021

> **Authority:** Redistricting Commission

Required Support: At least four or more members, including both Democrats

Map Duration: 10 years

Public Hearings Required:

At least two before map adoption, public submissions allowed

Adoption Deadline:

November 30, 2021

Authority: Ohio Legislature - Ohio governor can veto

Required Support: At least 60% in each chamber and with at least 1/3 of Democrats

Map Duration: 10 years

Public Hearings Required:

At least two before adoption, public submissions allowed Adoption Deadline: November 30, 2021

Authority: Ohio Legislature - Ohio governor can veto

Required Support: At least 50% of legislature (simple majority required, no bipartisan benchmark)

Map Duration: 4 years

Public Hearings Required: At least two before adoption, public submissions allowed

Special rules: A statement with an explanation of how the proposed map meets the following criteria: no undue partisan favor, no undue community splitting, and must attempt compactness

Step 4A: This option applies ONLY to four-year maps passed with a simple majority without bipartisan support

Authority: Ohio Legislature (with governor veto possible); Ohio Redistricting Commission (if necessary)

Required Support: Same as above

Map Duration: 6 years

Public Hearings Required: At least two before adoption, public submissions allowed. If the Ohio Legislature adopts a four-year map (as detailed in Option 4), in 2025, the Ohio Legislature (and Redistricting Commission as needed) will reconvene to engage in the districting process through Steps 1 - 4. All the same date deadlines apply (September 30, October 31, and November 30, respectively) and the map, once passed, will remain effective for the remainder of the decade.



Criteria for Congressional Maps

- Contiguity and compactness (these are both <u>required</u> for any map passed with bipartisan support)
- New rules about splitting up counties map drawers can choose which counties to split:
 - 65 **must** be kept whole
 - 18 **may** be split once
 - 5 may be split twice
- New rules about splitting major cities:
 - Columbus must be split (it's too big to fit into one district)
 - Cleveland and Cincinnati **CANNOT** be split
 - Akron, Dayton, and Toledo should NOT but can be split
- Map drawing authority shall attempt to include AT LEAST one whole county in each CD
 - This requirement does NOT apply to a CD entirely contained within one county OR to a CD that can't meet this criterion while also complying with federal law (e.g. the Voting Rights Act)
- Maps passed with a simple legislative majority must meet the following additional criteria:
 - No partisan gerrymanders
 - No undue splitting of political subdivisions (preferencing counties, then townships, then cities)
 - Map drawers must <u>attempt</u> compactness
 - Include a statement explaining how the preceding criteria were met



Public Engagement Opportunities

BEFORE THE PROCESS STARTS

Town halls before the process begins – summer 2021

DURING THE PROCESS

- Public hearings must be held after maps are proposed, but before maps are adopted.
 - At least three public hearings for state legislative maps
 - At least two public hearings for congressional maps
- Publicly-proposed maps
 - For the congressional redraw process, the public can propose maps for consideration



Update on the Census Data

Update To Data Release Timeline

- The US Census Bureau will release data in legacy format to Ohio by August 16, 2021
- This is about 4.5 months later than we normally would have gotten our redistricting data

Different Proposals to Deal With Census Delay

- Ask the Ohio Supreme Court to extend the deadlines
- Move back the primary date to account for extended deadlines

Urge Action Now on Our Redistricting Process

- Governor Mike Dewine needs to convene the Redistricting Commission, the entity responsible for drawing our state legislature maps.
- The Ohio legislature needs to pass a public submission bill to set up how members of the public can submit
 maps to our map drawers and that provide, if needed, safeguards to our process to preserve transparency and
 public input opportunities



THE PATH TO GETTING FAIR MAPS STARTS NOW

We need your help to build the grassroots infrastructure necessary to secure fair maps in 2021.



What can we do now?

- Virtual Redistricting U trainings
- Join our monthly volunteer calls
- Help us demand virtual testimony for all legislative hearings
- Use our Letter to the Editor tool to submit a note to your local newspaper about virtual testimony and/or democracy reform

