



What is redistricting?

Every 10 years following the [U.S. Census](#), Ohio state legislators use the results to redraw districts for the Ohio House, Ohio Senate, and Ohio's Congressional representatives.

What is the Ohio Redistricting Commission?

The [Ohio Redistricting Commission](#) is a seven-member group tasked with redrawing Ohio's 99 House districts and 33 Senate districts. Under specific circumstances, the Commission must also redraw the state's congressional districts.

Who are the members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission?

The Commission [includes](#):

- The Governor
- The Auditor
- The Secretary of State
- One individual appointed by the Senate President
- One individual appointed by the Speaker of the House
- One individual appointed by the Senate Minority Leader
- One individual appointed by the House Minority Leader

How did the Ohio Redistricting Commission begin?

In 2015 and 2018, Ohio voters overwhelmingly supported amending the Ohio Constitution to create the bipartisan Commission. Through, the Commission is tasked with drawing state legislative maps each decade. The Commission must also draw the congressional map if the Ohio General Assembly is unable to adopt a map with bipartisan support by the assigned deadline.

How does the public engage with the Commission during the redistricting process?

During the redistricting process, the Commission must release their draft maps for comment and public review. With each map proposed, they must hold at least two public hearings to receive feedback from constituents. The public may submit either written or in-person testimony at these hearings. They may also create and submit their own maps for consideration by the Commission.



How does the Commission adopt new Legislative maps?

The redrawing of the state house and senate maps only occurs within the Ohio Redistricting Commission, and the goal is for a bipartisan majority of the Commission to vote in favor of them. Those maps will then be enacted for ten years. If the Commission cannot reach a bipartisan agreement on the legislative maps, but still passes them with a simple majority, those maps will only be in effect for four years. After four years, the redistricting process starts over again, deviating from the typical mapmaking timeline.

How does the Commission adopt a new congressional map?

The process for redrawing a new congressional map starts with the Ohio General Assembly. If the OGA cannot pass a new map with bipartisan support, the responsibility then moves to the Ohio Redistricting Commission. The Commission poses a map before holding a vote. If the Commission's map does not receive a bipartisan vote, the OGA has another opportunity to propose a map. This time, the OGA can pass either a map for 10 years with bipartisan support or a temporary four-year map with a simple majority.

How does redistricting impact Ohioans?

Redrawing maps allows our districts to reflect the shifts and growth in the state population, as well as our communities' growing diversity. By completing the redistricting process in a lawful equitable manner and rejecting partisan gerrymandering, lawmakers elected to office can accurately and fairly represent their districts and constituents.

What is gerrymandering?

Gerrymandering is when district maps are manipulatively drawn to favor one political party over the other. When maps are gerrymandered, politicians are choosing their voters, rather than the other way around. This results in the disconnection between legislators and the constituents they are meant to represent.