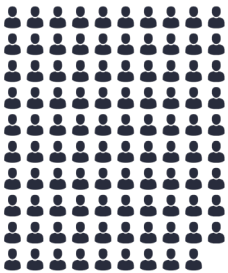


STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

99

HOUSE SEATS



33

SENATE SEATS



WHO DRAWS THE DISTRICTS?

POLITICIAN APPOINTEE COMMISSION

Effective 2021:

- Political appointee commission (Ohio Redistricting Commission)
- Governor, state auditor, secretary of state, legislative majority and minority leaders each select one member

HOW ARE DISTRICTS DRAWN?

Process

Effective 2021:

- Political appointee commission draws the lines
- At least four commissioners, including two from each party, must vote to approve a district plan
- If a final plan has not been adopted by Sept. 1, then a proposed plan shall be introduced on that date, a public hearing shall be held during which amendments may be proposed, then a final plan shall be adopted before Sept. 15 of that year
- If at least four commissioners, including two from each party, approve the plan, it is put in place for 10 years
- If at least four commissioners, without bipartisan support, approve the plan, it is put in place for four years
- Governor cannot veto the plan
- State Supreme Court has exclusive, original jurisdiction over redistricting plans

State-Level Criteria

Ranked: No

Effective 2021:

- Contiguity for House
- Compactness
- District boundaries shall be created using boundaries of counties, municipalities, and townships
- Where feasible, House districts shall not split a county more than once
- District population shall not vary more than 5 percent from ratio of representation
- Shall not be drawn primarily to favor or disfavor a political party
- Statewide proportional seat share of political parties should "correspond closely" to statewide election results
- Nest House districts within Senate districts
- State Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in cases arising under Ohio Constitution relating to reapportionment

Public Hearings

Effective 2021:

- Must hold at least three public hearings before final plans are published



Timing

Effective 2021:

- Final plan must be adopted by Sept. 1 in a year ending in 1
- If a final plan has not been adopted by Sept. 1, then a proposed plan shall be introduced on that date, a public hearing shall be held during which amendments may be proposed, then a final plan shall be adopted before Sept. 15 of that year
 - » If a final plan is adopted via this backup procedure, then a new district plan shall be adopted by a reconvened commission after July 1 of the year following the year the commission ceased to be active

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

16
SEATS



through 2020.
Projected after the
reapportionment: 15

WHO DRAWS THE DISTRICTS?

STATE LEGISLATURE *or* BACKUP COMMISSION

Effective 2021:

- Legislature or Backup Commission
- Political appointee commission that draws Ohio's legislative districts (see above) serves as the backup commission

HOW ARE DISTRICTS DRAWN?

Process

Effective 2021

- Legislature draws the lines
 - » At least 60 percent of both the state House and Senate must approve the plan with the support of at least half of the members of each major political party in each chamber
 - » A plan passed with these margins becomes law and cannot be changed until after the following census
 - » The Legislature has until Sept. 30 to pass a plan
- Backup commission draws the lines
 - » If the Legislature does not pass a plan by Sept. 30 with the required support, the backup commission draws the lines
 - » At least four commissioners, including two from each party, must vote to approve a district plan
 - » A plan passed with these margins becomes law and cannot be changed until after the following census
 - » The backup commission has until Oct. 31 to pass a plan
- Legislature draws the lines (second attempt)
 - » If the backup commission does not pass a plan by Oct. 31 with the required support, the Legislature takes a second attempt at drawing the lines
 - » A plan that is approved by 60 percent of both the state House and Senate including the support of at least one-third of the members of each major political party becomes law and cannot be changed until after the following census

- » A plan that is approved by a simple majority or insufficient bipartisan support becomes law for four years after which the redistricting process repeats and is subject to a partisan fairness provision
- » The Legislature has until Nov. 30 to pass a plan in its second attempt
- Governor can veto the plan if it is passed by the Legislature
- State Supreme Court has exclusive, original jurisdiction over redistricting plans

**State-Level
Criteria**
Ranked: No

- Effective 2021:
- Contiguity
 - Compactness
 - 65 counties must be kept whole, 18 counties may be split once, 5 counties may be split twice, and other specific rules regarding the splitting of counties
 - If the map passed with less than 60 percent support in each chamber or less than one-third support from both major parties in each chamber, then the plan may not unduly favor or disfavor a political party or its incumbents

**Public
Hearings**

- Effective 2021:
- Legislature and backup commission shall allow for the submission of proposed plans for consideration
 - A joint committee of the Legislature and the backup commission must hold at least two public committee hearings concerning a proposed plan prior to passage

Timing

- Effective 2021:
- Legislature has until Sept. 30 to pass a plan before backup commission attempts to pass a plan
 - Backup commission has until Oct. 31 to pass a plan before Legislature gets second attempt to pass a plan
 - Legislature has until Nov. 30 for its second attempt to pass a plan

Click [here](#) for a version with citations