The FairMaps California Local Redistricting Toolkit

Toolkit Contents

I. What is redistricting and why do we do it?

Depending on how the government is organized, lawmakers can either represent a whole geographic area or they can represent a part of an area that we call a "**district**." For example, U.S. Senators from California represent everyone in the state, but U.S Representatives in Congress are elected by residents of a specific election district.

Every ten years after the federal census, district lines must be adjusted to ensure that each district contains the same number of residents. This process is called **redistricting:** the redrawing of election district boundaries.

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The U.S. Constitution requires that every American receive as close to equal representation as possible in government - for example, one congressional district shouldn't include more people than another congressional district. As time passes, the population of election districts can change dramatically, leaving some people overrepresented and others underrepresented in government. Redistricting equalizes the population between districts to help reach the ideal of equal representation.

Federal congressional and state legislative districts are redrawn by the state - either by the legislature or by some form of commission. Local redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of local election districts, such as county supervisor, school board, or city council districts. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that local governments must redistrict at least once every ten years. This local redistricting is generally done using data from the federal census about who, how many, and where people live in California.[1]

Redistricting determines which communities are placed together into a district and whether communities are split up across different districts. The decisions made during the redistricting process determine whether residents have fair representation in government and whether their representatives will reflect their interests.

Gerrymandering happens when the election district boundaries are drawn in a way that gives a particular set of people - like a political party or racial group, an unfair political advantage over another. The League of Women Voters opposes gerrymandering.

Democracy depends on voters having the opportunity to choose their representatives. When elected officials redraw the lines of their own districts, they get to design their own territory and choose who their voters are. This distorts representative democracy. It can lead to manipulation of various types. Racially discriminatory manipulation weakens the voting strength of targeted minority communities. Partisan manipulation favors one political party over another.

The League of Women Voters believes that to be fair, districts should be drawn in a transparent manner by politically independent special commissions that use unbiased criteria to help keep communities intact and to ensure that everyone is equally represented.

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[1] For more information about the U.S. Census check online at census.ca.gov.

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A Historical Note:
The League of Women Voters of California & State Redistricting

Each state lawmaker and House of Representatives member represents people who live in a specific election "district." These lines were traditionally drawn by the state legislature. In 2008, California voters adopted the Voters FIRST Act. Since then, every 10 years, after the U.S. Census, the California Citizens Redistricting Commission adjusts the boundary lines for California's Congressional districts and state legislative districts to make sure each district has about the same number of people (a process called "redistricting").

The League of Women Voters of California was a leader in the movement to create California's independent Citizens Redistricting Commission in order to ensure that the process is transparent, equitable, and free of discrimination; that community members can provide input to shape district maps; that partisanship is minimized; and that our election district maps are drawn fairly. Furthermore, we built in rules to guarantee that Commission members reflect California's diversity.

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II. What are the rules for local redistricting?

Local redistricting involves any county, city, school district, community college district, or special district that is divided into districts or divisions. These local governments are required to review their current district boundaries and redistrict based on new population figures from the census. Beyond that, the rules vary for each government agency – whether city, county, school board, or special district. Some of the rules for the process are set by state law and some local governments adopt their own custom-made rules.

The League of Women Voters' goal is to ensure that districts are drawn in a way that will keep communities together. Keeping communities whole, in a single political district, increases communities' ability to influence or even determine who gets elected to represent that district. This also makes it more likely that representatives will listen to the community and be responsive to its needs.

While there are rules for state-level redistricting in California, similar criteria to guide decision-making, and requirements to ensure a transparent and open public process, do not necessarily apply at the local level. See the table of California Local Redistricting Rules referenced in Section VII below to check the rules for each form of local government.

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A. Who gets to draw the new local election districts?

District boundaries are usually drawn by "**incumbents**," meaning those elected politicians who are currently in office. Many incumbents will be running for re-election in the same districts where they are drawing the lines. So, for example, in most cities the current city council gets to decide on the new council districts that will be used for the next decade. There are a few exceptions, where local independent commissions have been adopted, which are discussed in Section D below.
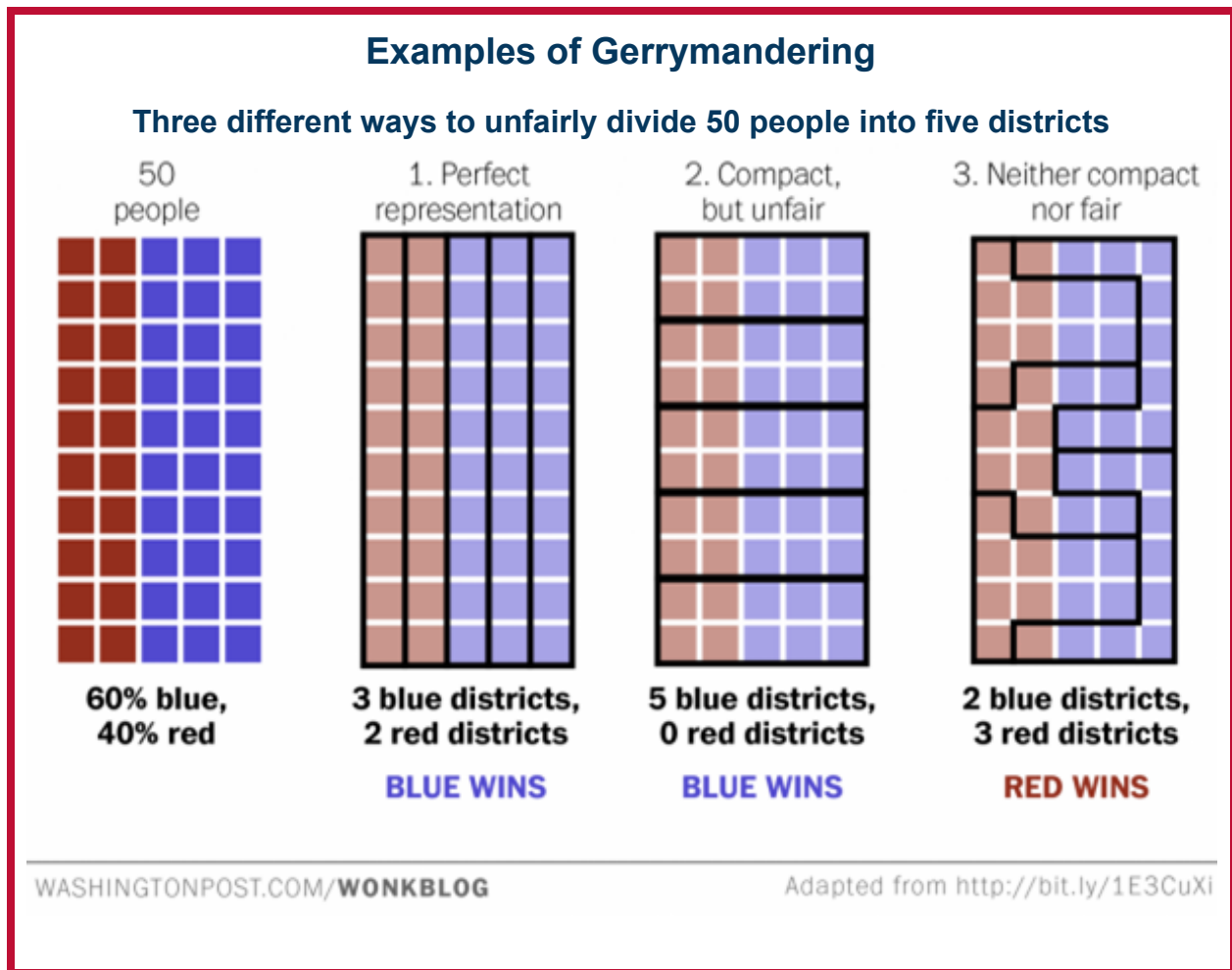
B. Why is politician-controlled redistricting a problem?

Putting elected officials in charge of drawing their own districts creates an incentive for those officials to draw districts that are favorable either to them or to their political allies. This sometimes leads to districts that are purposefully drawn to enhance the influence of certain groups and/or to reduce the influence of other groups - for example racial and ethnic minorities or members of a favored political party. This is referred to as "gerrymandering."

Two of the most common techniques for gerrymandering are "cracking" and "packing." "**Cracking**" is when a targeted group is split up into multiple districts to dilute its voting power, so members of that group cannot elect a representative in any district. "**Packing**" is when a targeted group is over-concentrated into a single district to reduce its voting power in other districts, so members of that group end up with fewer representatives than their votes deserve. The "Examples of Gerrymandering" graphic on the next page illustrates how geographic areas could be unfairly divided.

Examples of Gerrymandering

Three different ways to unfairly divide 50 people into five districts

50 people	1. Perfect representation	2. Compact, but unfair	3. Neither compact nor fair
60% blue, 40% red	3 blue districts, 2 red districts	5 blue districts, 0 red districts	2 blue districts, 3 red districts
	BLUE WINS	**BLUE WINS**	**RED WINS**

WASHINGTONPOST.COM/**WONKBLOG**   Adapted from http://bit.ly/1E3CuXi

Please note that odd-looking districts **do not** necessarily equal gerrymandering, and simple looking districts do not always mean good representation has been achieved. Districts need to reflect communities, and communities may have a wide variety of geographic boundaries.

C. What are the rules for local redistricting?

The rules for local redistricting vary. For an annotated list of the rules check the table of California Local Redistricting Rules referenced in Section VII below.

Note that each type of local California government -- county, city, school district, special district – has different rules and different timelines for the redistricting process.

A new law, the Fair Maps Act (AB 849 Bonta), passed in 2019, establishes criteria and timelines for city and county redistricting in California. These requirements **do not** apply to school boards or special districts. In 2020, these rules were further refined by AB 1276 (Bonta).

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D. Exceptions: local governments with independent commissions

Some local governments have adopted local commissions. Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and San Diego counties have independent commissions,along with the cities of Berkeley, Chula Vista, Escondido, Long Beach, Modesto, Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Barbara. In addition, many local governments, like the cities of Los Angeles and San Jose, have citizen advisory commissions to recommend new district lines to the governing board.

Many of these cities and counties are recruiting applicants to serve on their local commissions during 2020. To find out more about how to engage with the local commissions in these areas, contact the local League of Women Voters in that area or email your question to redistricting@lwvc.org.

III. What is the timeline for local redistricting?

Local redistricting will begin sometime after the release of U.S. Census data, which must occur by April 1 of the year following the census. In 2021, because of the delays in collecting the census data, the release of the data will also be delayed. . The deadline for completion of local redistricting will vary by the type of jurisdiction (e.g. city council vs. school board) and by when they hold their next local election after the release of census data (e.g. whether local elections are consolidated with either the state primary election or the state general election). Check the table of California Local Redistricting Rules in Section VII below for details about timelines. This table includes information about delayed timelines for 2021 due to the delay in the release of the census data. Note that under state law, California's charter cities[2] have the ability to adopt their own timeline for redistricting.

IV. Beyond the law: options to deal with potential gerrymandering

Beyond ensuring that each local government complies with the rules that apply to it (which we definitely want to do!) local groups can advocate for more transparency and more representative districts. State law now provides a floor - a base level of requirements for jurisdictions. We can advocate for a better process than just complying with the law.

How to Advocate for a Fair Mapping Process

Meet with Elected Officials. Remind the relevant elected officials of the laws governing their redistricting, and that you are watching and care about the process. Advocate for them to request or allocate sufficient funds to support outreach efforts. Check out this Public Participation Guide for Elections Officials that was designed for the

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[2] For more information on Charter cities check cacities.org/Resources/Charter-Cities.

implementation of another law, the Voter's Choice Act. Many of the principles apply to any situation involving public civic engagement.

Public Meetings. Make sure that you show up and are prepared to make brief comments and provide feedback. Coordinate with other people and groups to strengthen the impact of your engagement. For 2021, there are new regulations about public meetings during a health crisis. These regulations recognize that not everyone will have access to the technology to be able to participate remotely, and require local governments to provide some way for everyone to be able to submit their comments and maps.

Write and use social media! Get the word out to the community and to elected officials. Common tools are:
- Letters to elected officials
- Articles in the media
- Op-eds and letters to the editor of news publications
- Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - use the hashtag #FairMaps and #FairMaps(Jurisdiction's name)

Encourage the Use of Redistricting Best Practices. Ask elected officials not to just comply with the law, but to apply "best practices" to their process. These include:
- **Enhanced Outreach**. Better public outreach and increasing the number of hearings will improve both transparency and the diversity of community voices involved in the process. For example, you can suggest:
    - A dedicated web page be created for public redistricting information.
    - An easy, online way to submit written feedback be provided.
        - For example, show them this elegant online portal that San Mateo County created for Voter's Choice Act feedback.
    - Plain-language outreach materials are developed, translated in all languages commonly spoken in the community, and distributed through channels such as mailings, print media, radio public service announcements, social media, handouts sent home with school children, and community based organizations.[3]
    - More hearings are scheduled than required.
    - Hearings be dedicated to redistricting and not held in tandem with other time-consuming matters.
    - Hearings are held at varied times, including weekends and evenings, to help engage members of the public who can't attend hearings during traditional business hours.
    - Remote access be made available through video or phone conferencing.
    - Proceedings be videotaped and posted on a public website.

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[3] The Best Practices Manual for Official Voter Information Guides and the Center for Civic Design (civicdesign.org) offer excellent ideas for well-designed, plain-language materials. These ideas can be applied more broadly than the voting context.

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- **Targeted Outreach**. Encourage outreach to underrepresented communities including language-minorities, youth, people of color, and people with disabilities. For example, you can suggest:
    - Hearings should be held in diverse neighborhoods, near public transit and good parking, at different times of the day and/or days of the week.
    - Translated materials, simultaneous language translation, and American Sign Language interpretation be provided.
    - Childcare and food be offered.
    - All hearing spaces are ADA-compliant and accessible to people with disabilities.
- **Ranked criteria**. Redistricting requires making choices among competing interests, which opens the door to manipulation. Applying criteria that are ranked in order of priority (like those mandated for California state, county, and city redistricting) minimizes opportunities for abuse and helps to promote a process that will result in a more representative democracy.

Collaborate with other community-based organizations.
- Work together to elevate underrepresented groups and ensure that a diversity of voices is present in the redistricting process.
- Join forces to train people in the community as to how to participate effectively.
- Encourage residents to identify and define the boundaries of their communities and ask that the decision-making body not split their community.
- Create a plan to review maps together, show up and speak at public meetings, and submit feedback.

Many community members, especially those who have been historically underrepresented in our electorate, have never had the opportunity to provide formal public feedback. Terms of art like "public comment," "speaker's card," and "adjourn" may be novel. Approaching a microphone in front of an imposing dais could feel intimidating. Local Leagues are uniquely well-suited to offer coaching and support but must also be cognizant of the need to step back and help promote the voices of a diversity of leaders.

Engage with your local redistricting commission, if your city or county has one (see Section II.D. above).
- Work with community groups to recruit applicants to your local commission, with the goal of establishing a commission that is representative of your city or county's demographics.
- Consider applying to the commission yourself or inviting any of your colleagues who are committed to fair redistricting to apply.

V. Resource List

- [Redistricting and Transparency: Recommendations for Redistricting Authorities and Community Organizations](#), Brennan Center, bit.ly/BrennanRedistricting.

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- [All About Redistricting](#), Professor Justin Levitt, Loyola Law School, redistricting.lls.edu.

- [Strong Rules for Creating Maps](#), Brennan Center, bit.ly/StrongRedistrictingRules.

- Local redistricting resources: [localredistricting.org/research,](#) localredistricting.org

- Redistricting Best Practices: [Guide to Best Practices in Districting,](#) bit.ly/BestRedistrictingPracticesAAAJ-ALC

- [Online outreach material for specific local redistricting commissions](#)

VI. Background: the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA)

The California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) was signed into law in 2002. It builds on the Voting Rights Act enacted in 1965. In particular, the CVRA provides that at-large elections may not be used in local elections if they dilute the votes of a minority group – if, in effect, the minority group is unable to elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of the election. A voter – or group of voters – may sue to enforce this act. You can learn more about the CVRA [here](#). (*Note:* this document is out of date, but provides basic background.)

Over the years since its passage, there have been an increased number of lawsuits and complaints based on the CVRA. As a result, more local governments are using district elections. Whether a jurisdiction engages in districting (establishing districts for the first time) or redistricting, the criteria for drawing the district lines are the same; however, some of the requirements for public participation and outreach may differ. Jurisdictions that recently districted using 2010 Census data must still engage in the redistricting process once the 2020 Census data is released.

VII. California Local Redistricting Rules

See the two-page chart [online](#) or printed beginning on the next page.

Updated October 2020

California Redistricting Rules

"E minus a #" means Election Day minus the number of days noted.

Unless otherwise designated, the current elected body (board of supervisors, city council, school board, etc.) is responsible for drawing the new district lines.

Code sections may be found at leginfo.legislature.ca.gov

	Time Frame for Redistricting*	Mid-Cycle Redistricting	Remedies if Government Misses Deadlines	Criteria Applied to Drawing District Lines	Transparency & Public Engagement
All Jurisdictions - 2031 and beyond	**General Blackout from E-125** No redistricting can be done during the period from 125 days before Election Day, up through Election Day.	NOT APPLICABLE	NOT APPLICABLE	NOT APPLICABLE	For all local government jurisdictions in the process of transitioning from at-large to by-district elections, special transparency rules apply that include: • Two hearings prior to issuing the first draft map. • Two hearings after the draft map is issued. • Seven-day posting requirement for the draft map. • Seven-day posting requirement prior to the adoption of the final map.
State - 2031 and beyond **Federal Congressional, State Legislative, & Board of Equalization Districts**	August 15, 2021 Done by the independent **California Citizens Redistricting Commission**. To find out more check wedrawthelines.ca.gov	Mid-cycle redistricting is not allowed at the state level.	The Supreme Court appoints a Special Master and then adopts new maps.	• **Equal Population** - Districts must be of equal population to comply with the U.S. Constitution. • **Voting Rights Act** - Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. • **Geographic Contiguity** - Districts must be contiguous so that all parts of the district are connected to each other. • **Communities of Interest Preservation** - Districts must respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest, and minimize their division, to the extent possible. • **Geographic Compactness** - Districts should be geographically compact, that is, have a fairly regular shape. • **Political Boundaries** - Where practicable each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts. Board of Equalization districts shall be composed of 10 complete and adjacent State Senate Districts. • **Prohibit Favoritism** - Districts shall not be drawn to favor or discriminate against an incumbent, candidate, or political party. California Constitution article XXI CA Government Code, sections 8251 - 8253.6	**Strict transparency and public engagement requirements for the whole process.** Details are outlined in the government code cited below. **For the Commission application and selection process:** State Auditor's Office conducts outreach program to alert the public to the application process and encourage the submission of applications by a diverse pool of qualified applicants with specific requirements. Entire process of selection, including interviews, conducted in public, and available online. 2 CA Code of Regulations, section 60840. **For the Commission's work:** CA Constitution mandates open and transparent process. Commission must: • Comply with Bagley-Keene Act (all meetings noticed 14 days in advance except meeting in August to adopt final maps) • Public access to all records • Promote public input by all means California Constitution article XXI CA Government Code, sections 8251 - 8253.6
State - 2021 only **Federal Congressional, State Legislative, & Board of Equalization Districts**	December 15, 2021 Done by the independent **California Citizens Redistricting Commission**. To find out more check wedrawthelines.ca.gov	Mid-cycle redistricting is not allowed at the state level.	The Supreme Court appoints a Special Master and then adopts new maps.	• **Equal Population** - Districts must be of equal population to comply with the U.S. Constitution. • **Voting Rights Act** - Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. • **Geographic Contiguity** - Districts must be contiguous so that all parts of the district are connected to each other. • **Communities of Interest Preservation** - Districts must respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest, and minimize their division, to the extent possible. • **Geographic Compactness** - Districts should be geographically compact, that is, have a fairly regular shape. • **Political Boundaries** - Where practicable each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts. Board of Equalization districts shall be composed of 10 complete and adjacent State Senate Districts. • **Prohibit Favoritism** - Districts shall not be drawn to favor or discriminate against an incumbent, candidate, or political party. California Constitution article XXI CA Government Code, sections 8251 - 8253.6	**Strict transparency and public engagement requirements for the whole process.** Details are outlined in the government code cited below. **For the Commission application and selection process:** State Auditor's Office conducts outreach program to alert the public to the application process and encourage the submission of applications by a diverse pool of qualified applicants with specific requirements. Entire process of selection, including interviews, conducted in public, and available online. 2 CA Code of Regulations, section 60840. **For the Commission's work:** CA Constitution mandates open and transparent process. Commission must: • Comply with Bagley-Keene Act (all meetings noticed 14 days in advance except meeting in August to adopt final maps) • Public access to all records • Promote public input by all means California Constitution article XXI CA Government Code, sections 8251 - 8253.6

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	Time Frame for Redistricting*	Mid-Cycle Redistricting	Remedies if Government Misses Deadlines	Criteria Applied to Drawing District Lines	Transparency & Public Engagement
Counties - 2031 and beyond **Supervisor Districts**	No earlier than August 1, 2021; no later than E-205. CA Election Code, section 21501.	Board may redistrict mid-cycle with Department of Finance data or after conducting a county census.	The Superior Court; may appoint a Special Master. CA Election Code, section 21509.	• **Equal Population** of each district required • **Voting Rights Act & California Voting Rights Act** must be followed. • **Population** is adjusted to count incarcerated people at their home address not their prison address Then the following in order of priority: 1. Geographic Contiguity to the extent practicable. Areas that meet only at the points of adjoining corners are not contiguous. Areas that are separated by water and not connected by a bridge, tunnel, or regular ferry service are not contiguous. 2. Communities of Interest Preservation to the extent practicable. A "community of Interest" is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single supervisorial district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. 3. Geographic Integrity of a city or census designated place shall be respected to the extent practicable. 4. Geographic Compactness should be encouraged to the extent practicable, where it doesn't conflict with previous criteria, and in a manner to ensure that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations. 5. Easily Identifiable by Residents To the extend practicable, districts shall be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, including streets. 6. Prohibit Favoritism No partisan favoritism or discrimination. CA Election Code, sections 21500, 21601, and 21621.	**Hearing & Map Requirements.** • One hearing prior to issuing first draft map. • Two hearings after draft map issued. • One hearing or workshop on weekend or weeknight after 6 PM. • Hearings must be accessible to people with disabilities. • Hearing notices published five days beforehand; three days if election is less than 179 days away. • Draft maps posted online seven days before adoption of final map; five days if election is less than 179 days away. • If available, draft maps submitted by county/city must include total population, citizen voting age population (CVAP), and racial & ethnic characteristics of CVAP in each proposed district. • Block level census data must be available for at least three weeks before release of any draft map; if the data is available for more than 59 days and less than 90 days, then this is reduced to one week **Outreach.** Board/Council's good faith outreach required to reach underrepresented and non-English speaking communities. • Disseminate info through media, good government, and community orgs, including those serving language minorities. • Live translation required if requested 72 hours in advance; or 48 hours if hearing is scheduled less than five days before notice. • Dedicated internet web page with info in English and any languages in which county is required to produce ballots. Must post explanation of process and opportunities for engagement, calendar, hearing notices, maps under consideration, and final map. • Public comment and map drafts may be submitted in writing or electronically and must be made publicly available. CA Election Code, sections 21507-21508.
Counties - 2021 only **Supervisor Districts**	No earlier than August 1, 2021 If next election is between January & June 2022, then no later than E-174. If next election is after July 1 2022, then no later than E-205 CA Election Code, section 21501.	Board may redistrict mid-cycle with Department of Finance data or after conducting a county census.	The Superior Court; may appoint a Special Master. CA Election Code, section 21509.	• **Equal Population** of each district required • **Voting Rights Act & California Voting Rights Act** must be followed. • **Population** is adjusted to count incarcerated people at their home address not their prison address Then the following *in order of priority*: 1. **Geographic Contiguity** to the extent practicable. Areas that meet only at the points of adjoining corners are not contiguous. Areas that are separated by water and not connected by a bridge, tunnel, or regular ferry service are not contiguous. 2. **Communities of Interest Preservation** to the extent practicable. A "community of Interest" is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single supervisorial district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. 3. **Geographic Integrity** of a city or census designated place shall be respected to the extent practicable. 4. **Geographic Compactness** should be encouraged to the extent practicable, where it doesn't conflict with previous criteria, and in a manner to ensure that nearby areas of population are not bypassed in favor of more distant populations. 5. **Easily Identifiable by Residents** To the extend practicable, districts shall be bounded by natural and artificial barriers, including streets. 6. **Prohibit Favoritism** No partisan favoritism or discrimination. CA Election Code, sections 21500, 21601, and 21621.	**Hearing & Map Requirements.** • One hearing prior to issuing first draft map. • Two hearings after draft map issued. • One hearing or workshop on weekend or weeknight after 6 PM. • Hearings must be accessible to people with disabilities. • Hearing notices published five days beforehand; three days if election is less than 179 days away. • Draft maps posted online seven days before adoption of final map; five days if election is less than 179 days away. • If available, draft maps submitted by county/city must include total population, citizen voting age population (CVAP), and racial & ethnic characteristics of CVAP in each proposed district. • Block level censusdata must be available for at least three weeks before release of any draft map; if the data is available for more than 59 days and less than 90 days, then this is reduced to one week Outreach. Board/Council's good faith outreach required to reach underrepresented and non-English speaking communities. • Disseminate info through media, good government, and community orgs, including those serving language minorities. • Live translation required if requested 72 hours in advance; or 48 hours if hearing is scheduled less than five days before notice. • Dedicated internet web page with info in English and any languages in which county is required to produce ballots. Must post explanation of process and opportunities for engagement, calendar, hearing notices, maps under consideration, and final map. • Public comment and map drafts may be submitted in writing or electronically and must be made publicly available. CA Election Code, sections 21507-21508.

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General Law Cities - 2031 and beyond **Council Districts**	No earlier than August 1, 2021; no later than E-205. CA Election Code, section 21602.	Council must redistrict mid-cycle where annexation or consolidation makes the districts unequal.	The Superior Court may appoint a Special Master. CA Election Code, section 21609	**Same as Counties. See above.**	**Same as Counties (see above) with one caveat:** In-language requirements extended to languages spoken by residents with limited English proficiency who constitute 3 percent or more of the city's total population. CA Election Code, sections 21607-21608
General Law Cities - 2021 only **Council Districts**	No earlier than August 1, 2021; no later than E-174 if the next election is before July 1, 2022; no later than E-205 if next election is July 1 2022 or later. CA Election Code, section 21602.	Council must redistrict mid-cycle where annexation or consolidation makes the districts unequal.	The Superior Court may appoint a Special Master. CA Election Code, section 21609	**Same as Counties. See above.**	**Same as Counties (see above) with one caveat:** In-language requirements extended to languages spoken by residents with limited English proficiency who constitute 3 percent or more of the city's total population. CA Election Code, sections 21607-21608
Charter Cities - 2031 and beyond **Council Districts**	No earlier than August 1, 2021; no later than E-205. CA Election Code, section 21622.	Council may redistrict mid-cycle, if authorized in city charter.	The Superior Court may appoint a Special Master. CA Election Code, section 21629	**Same as General Law Cities. See above.** **Important Caveat:** **Charter Cities may adopt their own independent redistricting criteria**	**Same as General Law Cities (see above)** CA Election Code, sections 21627-21628
Charter Cities - 2021 only **Council Districts**	No earlier than August 1, 2021; no later than E-174 if the next election is before July 1, 2022; no later than E-205 if next election is July 1 2022 or later. CA Election Code, section 21622.	Council may redistrict mid-cycle, if authorized in city charter.	The Superior Court may appoint a Special Master. CA Election Code, section 21629	**Same as General Law Cities. See above.** **Important Caveat:** **Charter Cities may adopt their own independent redistricting criteria**	**Same as General Law Cities (see above)** CA Election Code, sections 21627-21628
County Boards of Education	Not Applicable	County Committee on School District Organizations (CCSDO) may, by 2/3 vote, redistrict anytime on request by the County Board. CA Education Code, sections 1002; 4000 - 4014	Remedy uncertain	• **Equal Population** "As equal as may be." • **Voting Rights Act** - Silent on requirement to comply. Discretionary Criteria that may be considered. No ranking of criteria. • **Topography** • **Geography** • **Cohesiveness, Contiguity, and Compactness** of the territory • **Communities of Interest** CA Education Code, section 1002	No public hearing required.
School Boards	Feb. 28, 2022 (E-120) CA Education Code, section 5019	The CCSDO may redistrict anytime on its own initiative or if a citizen petition qualifies. CA Education Code, section 5019	The County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) draws districts. CA Education Code, section 5019.5	• **Equal Population** "As nearly as may be … same proportion" • **Voting Rights Act** - Silent on requirement to comply. CA Education Code, section 5019.5	**Hearings** - One public hearing is required. CA Education Code, section 5019

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Community Colleges	Feb. 28, 2022 (E-120) CA Education Code, section 5019	The CCSDO may redistrict anytime on its own initiative or if a citizen petition qualifies. CA Education Code, section 5019	The County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) draws districts. CA Education Code, section 5019.5	• **Equal Population** "As nearly as may be … same proportion" • **Voting Rights Act** - Silent on requirement to comply. CA Education Code, section 5019.5	**Hearings** - One public hearing is required. CA Education Code, section 5019
Special Districts	E-180 CA Election Code, section 22000	May redistrict anytime by 2/3 vote. CA Election Code, section 22000	Use existing unequal districts (unchanged).	• **Equal Population** - equal "as far as practicable." • **Voting Rights Act** - Must comply **Discretionary Criteria that may be considered**. No ranking of criteria. • **Topography** • **Geography** • **Cohesiveness, Contiguity, and Compactness** of the territory • **Communities of Interest** CA Election Code, section 22000	**Hearings** - One public hearing is required. CA Election Code, section 22001