

FAIR DISTRICTS



Redistricting 101

Fair Districts is led by League of Women Voters of Ohio & Common Cause Ohio.

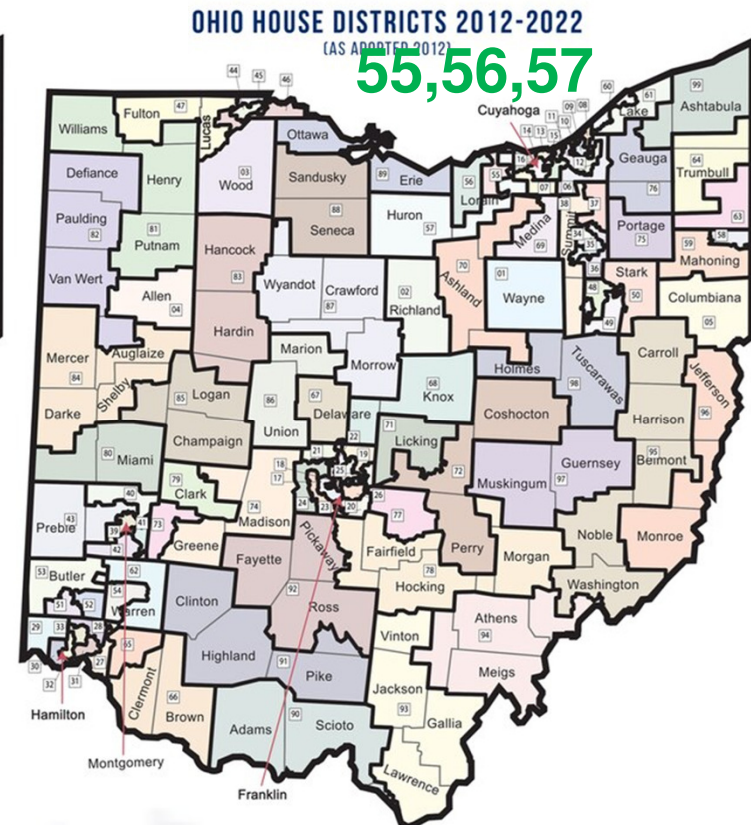
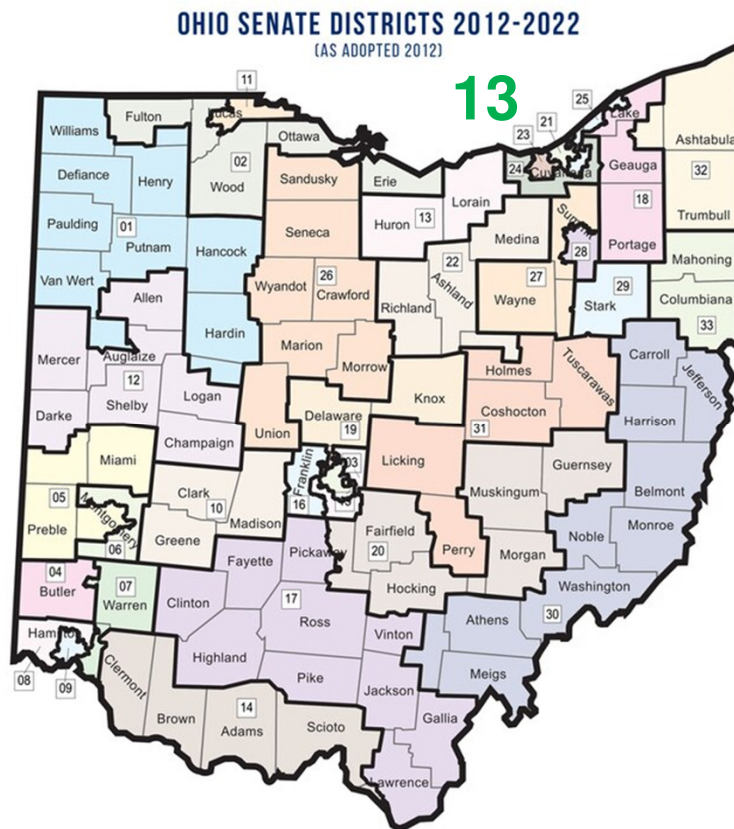
A large, irregular collage of numerous small photographs showing various people and groups participating in the "Vote YES on May 8" campaign. The photos depict individuals holding signs, standing in front of maps, and participating in public events. The signs prominently feature the text "Vote YES on May 8" and "Issue 1". The collage is set against a white background with a decorative, torn-edge border.

Informed Citizens Can Help



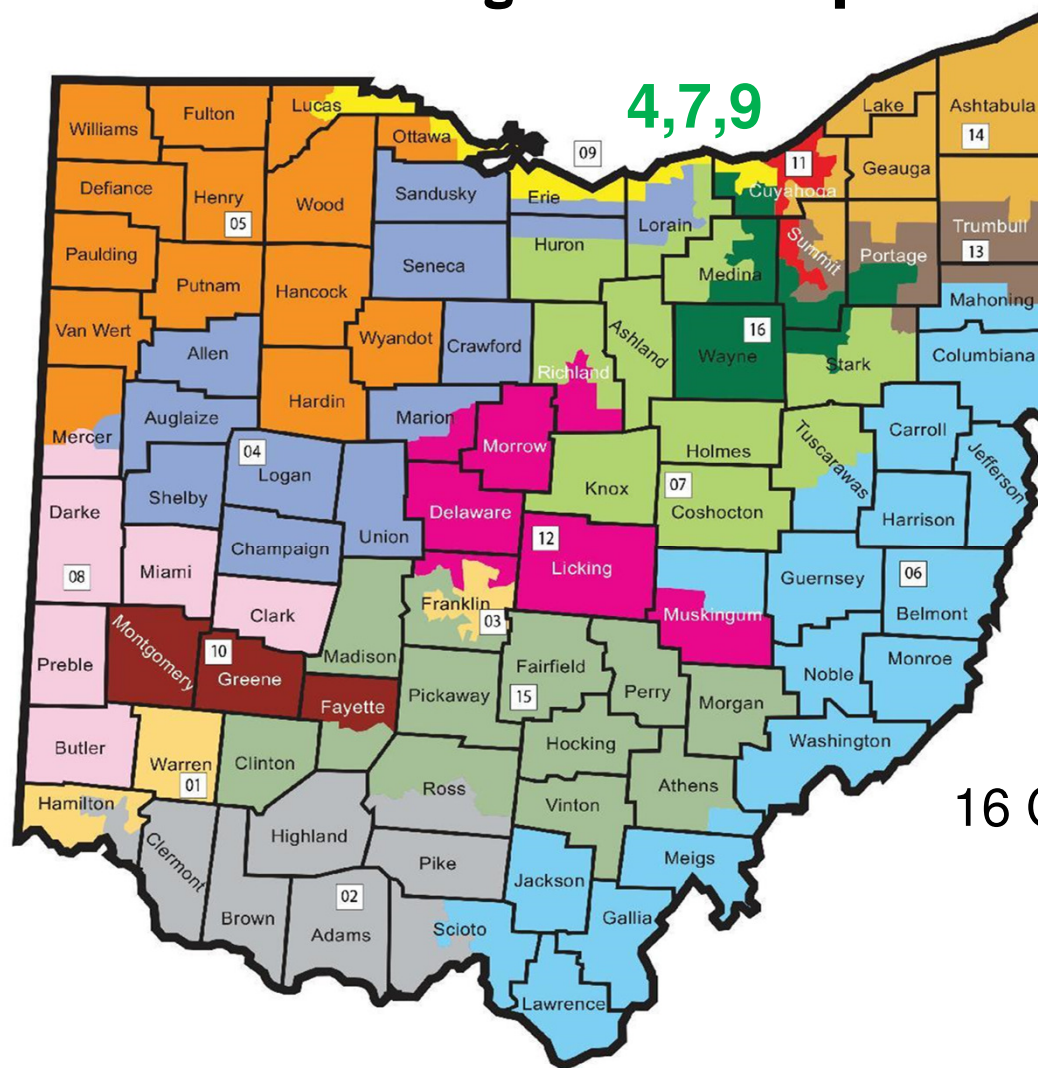
1. What is the current situation with district maps?
2. What is redistricting and reapportionment?
3. Why is it important to have fair districts?
4. What are the new rules for drawing district maps?
5. What is going on with the 2020 Census data?
6. How can you help to ensure Ohio gets fair maps?

Ohio House & Ohio Senate Districts



33 Senators and 99 Representatives,
per the Ohio Constitution.

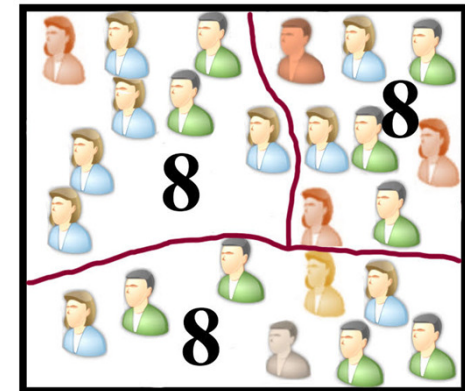
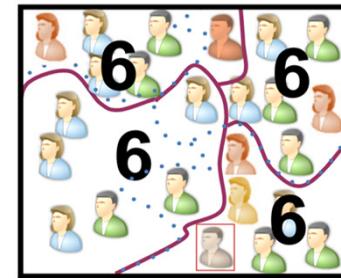
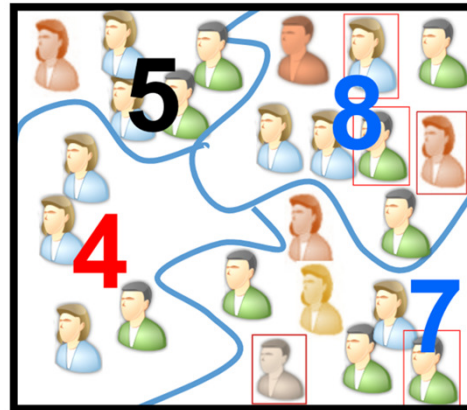
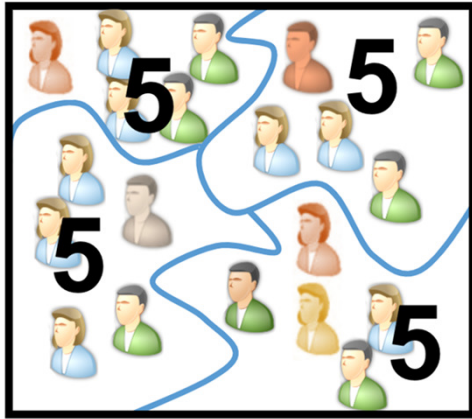
Ohio's Congressional Map 2012-2021



16 Congressional Districts
12 reliably Republican
4 reliably Democrat

What is Redistricting?

Redrawing district lines every ten years to reestablish population equality.



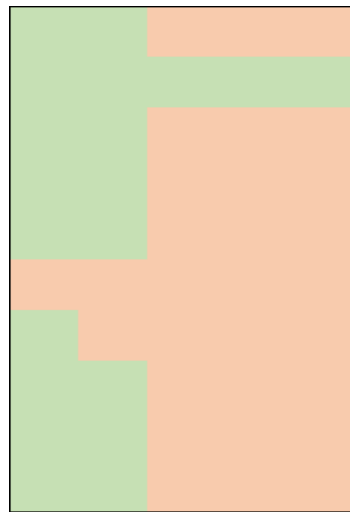
What is Reapportionment ?

Each state gets a # of representatives determined by # persons in the state.

Ohio will change from 16 to 15 Congressional Districts

Drawing District Lines


POPULATION



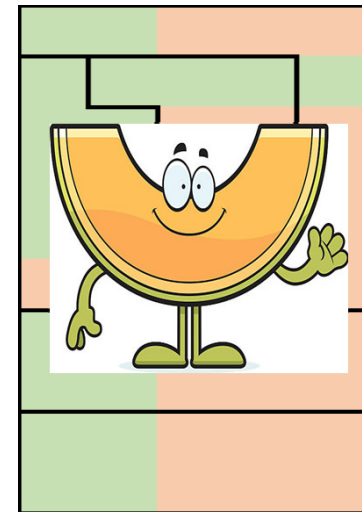
30  : 20  Split
in party affiliation

MAP #1



2  : 3  Split
of 5 Districts

MAP #2



4  : 1  Split
of 5 Districts

The worst excesses of map-making is called gerrymandering.

What's so bad about Gerrymandering?

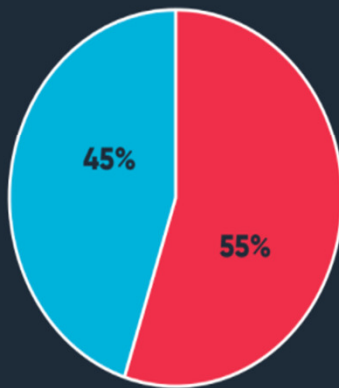


Elbridge Gerry, MA Gov.
MA Senate 1812

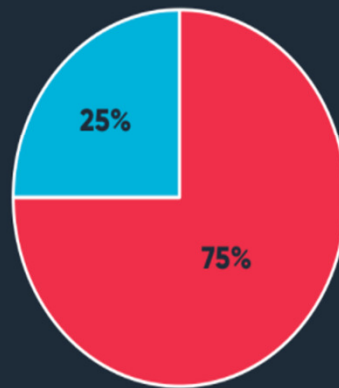
- Creates “safe” districts and ***predictable election outcomes***
- Predictable outcomes create ***unresponsive elected officials***
- The primary become the important contest and competitive primaries benefit ***extreme candidates***
- Extreme candidates who cannot compromise lead to ***dysfunctional government***
- Dysfunctional government ***serves no one***

VOTING ≠ REPRESENTATION

2012-2020 Congressional Results

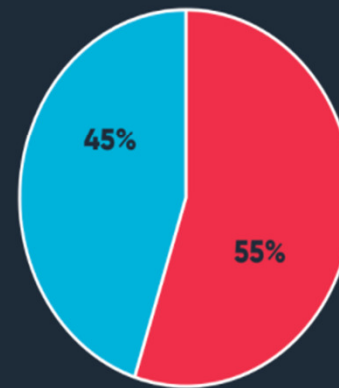


Votes

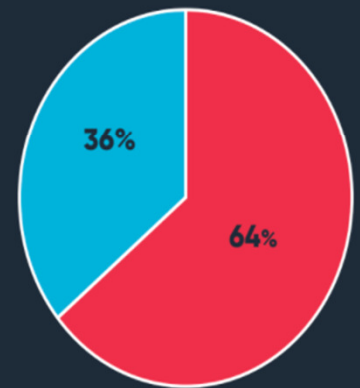


Seats

2012-2020 State House Results



Votes



Seats

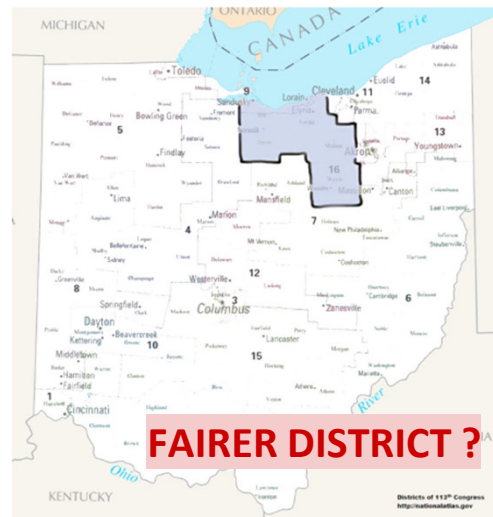


Our current gerrymandered 4th District ...

Very different needs/interests across district

Difficult for Representative to meet with all citizens

Non-competitive district in General Election



Our District could be constructed to ...

Allow you to vote with fellow County residents

Include citizens with more similar needs

Easier for Representative to meet with District residents

Competitive District where more moderate candidates
have better chance of winning



Ohioans Want Fair Maps

- State legislative (2015) and Congressional (2018) redistricting reform passed overwhelmingly, >70% of the vote, passed in ALL 88 of Ohio's counties
- New Rules established for both State and Federal redistricting

Visit <https://www.commoncause.org/ohio/resource/our-new-redistricting-process-in-ohio/>
for all the details of the new redistricting rules



New Rules for Drawing Statehouse Districts

- **Nesting:** Each Ohio Senate district must consist of three contiguous Ohio House districts.
- **Anti-gerrymandering rule:** No plan shall be drawn to favor or disfavor a political party.
- **Representational fairness:** The statewide proportion of districts whose voters favor each political party must correspond closely to the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio.
- **A bipartisan *Redistricting Commission* makes the maps.**



Ohio Redistricting Commission

- Governor Mike DeWine
- Auditor Keith Faber
- Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose
- Appointee by Speaker Bob Cupp
- Appointee by House Minority Leader Emilia Sykes
- Appointee by Senate President Matt Huffman
- Appointee by Minority Leader Kenny Yuko



New Rules for Drawing Congressional Districts

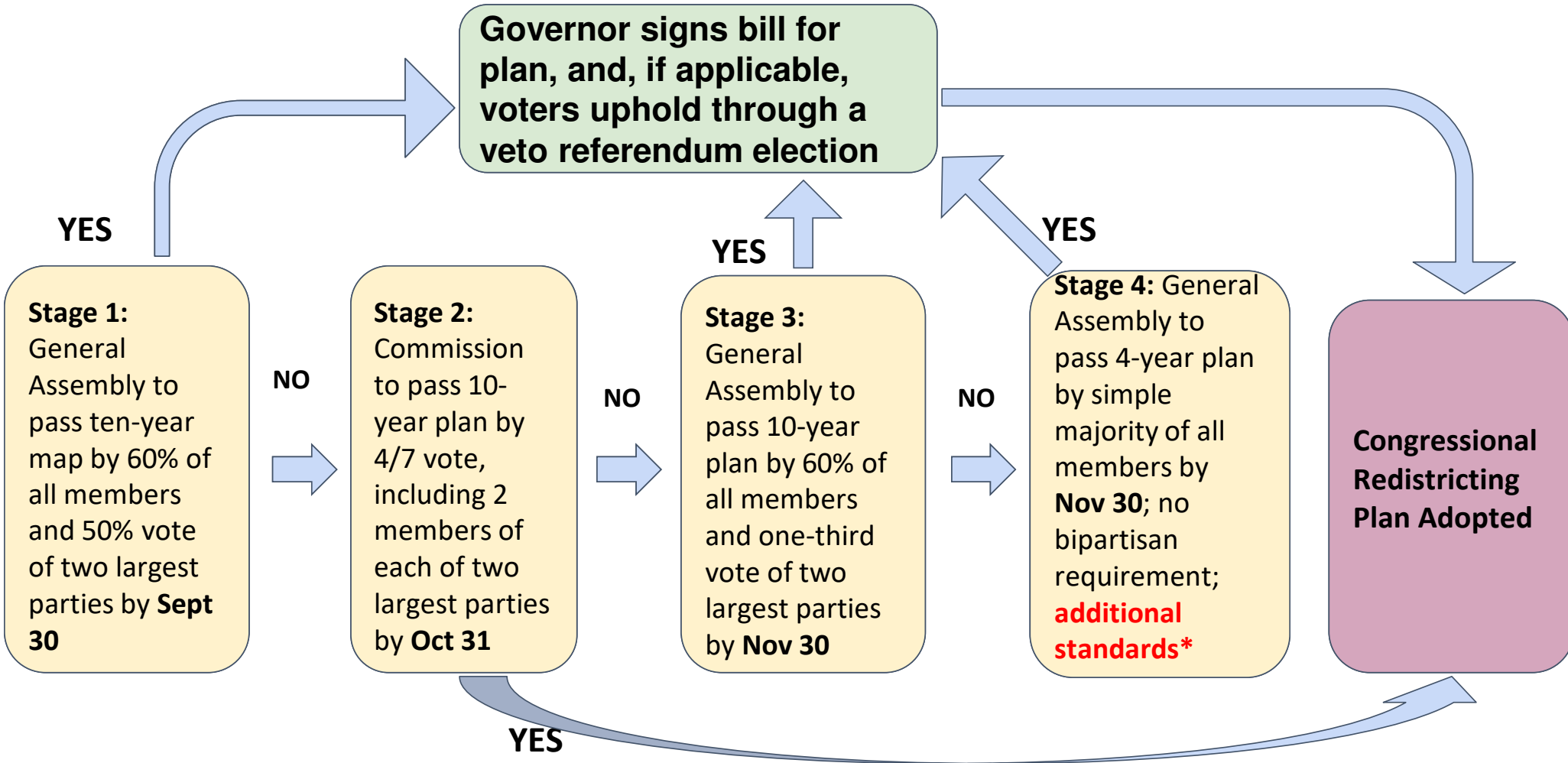
The rules rein in worst of gerrymandering through:

- limits on splits of counties
- transparency
- public participation
- bipartisan mapmaking

- Congressional redistricting emphasizes **counties** as political building blocks.
- Of Ohio's 88 counties:
 - at least **65** counties shall be contained entirely within a district,
 - up to **18** counties may be split not more than once,
 - up to **5** counties may be split not more than twice.

Ohio's legislators will use these rules to draw congressional maps with the bipartisan *Redistricting Commission* as back-up if they cannot reach a compromise

Ohio's new method for adopting Congressional Maps





2020 U.S.CENSUS

POPULATION

How is the population changing and growing?

- In 2020, 331 million people lived in the United States.
- The population grew by 1.2 million from 2019 to 2020, with 41% of growth from immigration.
- According to preliminary data, the 2020 death rate was the highest since 1943.
- The population is getting older.
- More people are living alone.
- The absolute number of non-Hispanic white people has decreased every year since 2017.

2020 U.S.CENSUS

More specific data necessary for creating new districts is required by law to be sent to states by 1 April.

But Census Bureau says 2020 data won't be available until late August.

Ohio U. will prepare data for map-making (Sept ?)





2020 U.S.CENSUS

Problems for Ohio

Ohio Constitution requires a state map by 1 September and a Congressional map by 30 September.

Possible solutions:

- Accelerate / compress process
- Change the Ohio Constitution
- Seek leniency from Ohio Supreme Court
- Alter primary election dates in 2022



Fair Districts' Response

- Mapmakers should not wait for the data to host public hearings or use this new timeline as an excuse to limit transparency, public participation, or bipartisanship.
- Do as much as we can now; adjust later
- Let Ohio mapmakers know that Ohioans still want Fair Maps, transparency, and public participation.

100 days to get everything in place

Your Response; We need your help

- Get Involved
- Stay informed
- Spread the word
- Watchdogging:
 - Hold legislators and the Ohio Redistricting Commission accountable
- Write a Letter to the Editor
- Send Postcards / Emails to your legislators





Thank you!

Visit fairdistrictsohio.org
for more information

Ways to be involved: bit.ly/FairDistrictsJoinUs

Post-presentation:

[Evaluation to be completed by the audience members](#)

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