

Pulling Back the Curtain on Redistricting

About the Public Mapping Project

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Quick Start Guide](#)
- [Redistricting Resources](#)

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DistrictBuilder

The Public Mapping Project

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Joyce Foundation
Judy Ford Wason Center
for Public Policy at
Christopher Newport Univ.

Michael McDonald
George Mason University
Brookings Institution

Micah Altman
Harvard University
Brookings Institution

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Robert Cheetham
Azavea

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Public Mapping Project Goals

- ▶ Identify principles for transparency in redistricting
- ▶ Identify barriers to participation in redistricting
- ▶ Enable the public to draw maps of the communities and redistricting plans for their states
- ▶ Provide public input for accepting redistricting authorities
- ▶ Inform the public debate about redistricting criteria
- ▶ Provide maps for courts where litigation occurs

Four Pillars to Public Mapping

Software Development

Public Mapping Project
publicmapping.org

Data Collection

The Election Data Archive
dvn.iq.harvard.edu/dvn/dv/eda

Public Education

Gerrymandering: Documentary Film
gerrymanderingmovie.com/

Brennan Center for Justice
www.brennancenter.org

Dissemination

Ongoing through state partners like the Midwest Democracy Network, Brookings Institution, and other organizations

Advisory Board

Mike Fortner	Illinois state Representative, 95th District
Carling Dinkler	John Tanner's office, Tennessee 8th Congressional District
Mary Wilson	Past President, League of Women Voters
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Karin Mac Donald	Director, Statewide Database, Institute for Government Studies, UC Berkeley
Thomas E. Mann	Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution
Norman J. Ornstein	Senior Fellow, The American Enterprise Institute

Transparency Principles

- ▶ All redistricting plans should include sufficient information such that the public can verify, reproduce, and evaluate a plan.
- ▶ The criteria used to evaluate plans and districts should be documented.

Transparency Principles

Endorsements

- Americans for Redistricting Reform
- Brennan Center for Justice
- Campaign Legal Center
- Center for Governmental Studies
- Center for Voting and Democracy
- Common Cause
- Demos
- League of Women Voters of the United States

Dissemination

- Principles posted on Brookings website
- Michael P. McDonald and Micah Altman. "Pulling Back the Curtain on Redistricting."
The Washington Post, July 9, 2010.

More Information at www.publicmapping.org

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- Home
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- News
 - Public Mapping Project News
 - News from the States
- Congressional Redistricting Forecast
- Educational Materials
- Resources
 - National
 - State
 - Software
- Contact
- FAQ

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We seek to change this power balance by making it possible for the public to draw the boundaries of their communities and to generate redistricting plans for their state and localities -- through their web-browsers. The Public Mapping Project is developing District Builder, an [open source software redistricting application](#) designed to give the public transparent, accessible, and easy-to-use on-line mapping tools.

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We are providing [access to a prototype](#). In order to manage the number of users, we are limiting full access to the prototype to the media and non-profit organizations that may wish to incorporate the software into their work. If you wish to receive an account, please send an e-mail with your contact information and affiliation to support@publicmapping.org. We regret not being able to allow general public access to the prototype, but we plan to announce soon several partnerships that will enable public access in many states.

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- [Gerrymandering Movie Blog](#)
- [Open Democrats](#)
- [Open Geography](#)
- [The Rose Institute](#)
- [Washington Post's Mapping the Future](#)

Partners

- [Virginia Redistricting Competition](#)

News

- [Gerrymandering Documentary on DVD](#)
- Want to learn more about redistricting? The [Gerrymandering documentary](#) now available on DVD provides an entertaining overview.

DistrictBuilder

Now...Public Access Redistricting

DistrictBuilder

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◆ Open Data

◆ Open Access

◆ Open Source

Choose Your Legislative Body

Step 1: Plan

Step 2: Draw

Step 3: Evaluate

Step 4: Share

Choose a Plan. Start Drawing.

1. Select Legislative Body

Congressional

- Congressional
- State House of Representatives
- State Senate

2. Select Plan Type

Template

Shared

My Plans

Upload Plan

3. Select Plan

Name	Author	Last Edited
Blank	Admin	01/05/2011 11:55 AM
Congressional	Admin	01/05/2011 3:04 PM

Page 1 of 1 View 1 - 2 of 2

Plan Details

Name

Description

Owner:

Edited:

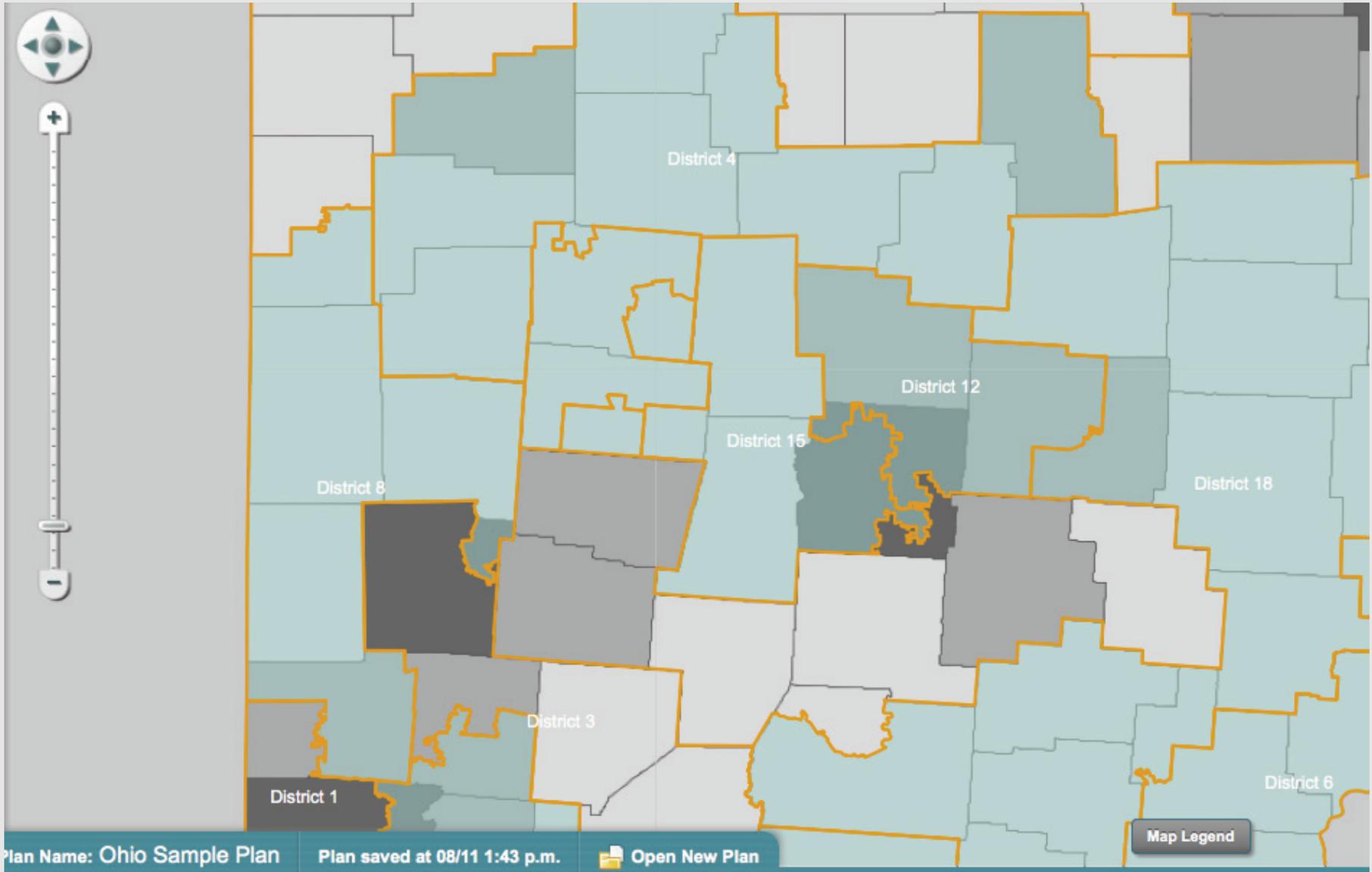
Shared:

of Districts:

4. Name your new plan:

Start Drawing

Look Around – Get the Picture



Drill Down – Get The Facts



Get the Details

Current District **Demographics**

Ohio Sample Plan

Black 1,125,832
Hispanic 132,504
Total Population 9,112,769

Dist.	Black	Hispanic	Total Population
1	176,865	6,655	614,876
11	352,517	13,279	608,306
12	136,998	9,531	598,554
14	16,495	8,087	600,518
15	43,579	13,464	593,103
16	33,563	5,286	615,396
17	74,706	9,943	599,227
18	14,630	3,757	609,056
2	26,516	5,582	594,176
3	109,234	6,557	609,387
4	35,935	7,440	620,680
5	8,692	23,528	617,397

Current District **Geography**

Ohio Sample Plan

Black 1,125,832
Hispanic 132,504
Total Population 9,112,769

Dist.	Total Population	Contiguity	Compactness
1	614,876	✓	57.97%
11	608,306	✓	57.09%
12	598,554	✓	52.10%
14	600,518	✓	61.11%
15	593,103	✓	46.70%
16	615,396	✓	58.09%
17	599,227	✓	45.69%
18	609,056	✓	40.43%
2	594,176	✓	48.57%
3	609,387	✓	46.39%
4	620,680	✓	53.85%
5	617,397	✓	50.57%
6	609,595	✓	33.82%
7	609,595	✓	33.82%
8	609,595	✓	33.82%
9	609,595	✓	33.82%
10	609,595	✓	33.82%
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92	609,595	✓	33.82%
93	609,595	✓	33.82%
94	609,595	✓	33.82%
95	609,595	✓	33.82%
96	609,595	✓	33.82%
97	609,595	✓	33.82%
98	609,595	✓	33.82%
99	609,595	✓	33.82%
100	609,595	✓	33.82%

Population

- Over target
- Under target
- Meets target

Contiguity

- ✓ Contiguous
- ! Non-contiguous

Stats Legend

Make A Plan

Step 1: Draw **Step 2: Evaluate** Step 3: Share

Map Tools Selecting Tools Assigning Tools History

EDIT MAP SETTINGS Current District: **Geography**

Assign districts currently selected on map by choosing district from drop down list

Delaware / Census Tract 116 / Block 4041
Black: 0
Hispanic: 1
Tot. Pop.: 125

District 15 District 18

Plan Name: Ohio Sample Plan Plan saved at 08/11 1:43 p.m. Open New Plan Map Legend

Investigate the Results

District Builder My Account | Logout

Step 1: Plan | **Step 2: Draw** | **Step 3: Evaluate** | **Step 4: Share**

Introduction to the reporting tool
Select the plan statistics you'd like included in a comprehensive report on your redistricting plan. After you've made your selections click "Create and Preview Report" to view the final report.

Population

- Voting Age Population
- Voting Age Population - White
- Voting Age Population - Black
- Voting Age Population - Hispanic

Compactness

- Compactness - Length/Width
- Compactness - Bounding Circle

Spatial Analysis

- Contiguity
- Unassigned Blocks

Racial Composition

- Majority Black
- Majority Hispanic

Party Control

- Democratic Votes
- Republican Votes

Split Geographies

- County Splits
- Tract Splits

17	District 17	88,184	0.140	FALSE
18	District 18	132,708	0.210	FALSE

District Splits			
	District	County Splits	Tract Splits
1	District 1	2	112
2	District 2	3	77
3	District 3	2	111
4	District 4	1	81
5	District 5	4	66
6	District 6	4	83
7	District 7	2	92
8	District 8	3	73
9	District 9	2	125

[Create and Preview Report](#)

[Open report in a new window](#)

[Go to Share Plan options](#)

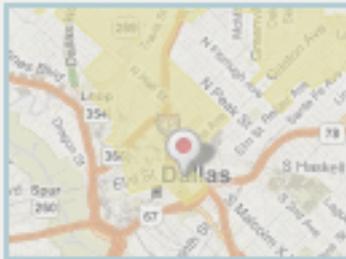
Congressional Plan Name: This is it | Plan saved 11/22 at 1:38

Spread the Word

- ▶ Share your plans with others
- ▶ Have a contest
- ▶ Mash up and plug in



Lily Lillison I'm changing my local districts for the better! You can too!



Redistricting Dallas in 2011

Source: www.redistrictdallas.com

Check out the plans I just drew for a newly redistricted Dallas city council district #14. Using tools on www.redistrictdallas.com you can draw your own district and submit your plans to the "Redistricting Dallas in 2011" contest.

 2 hours ago · [Comment](#) · [Like](#) · [Share](#)



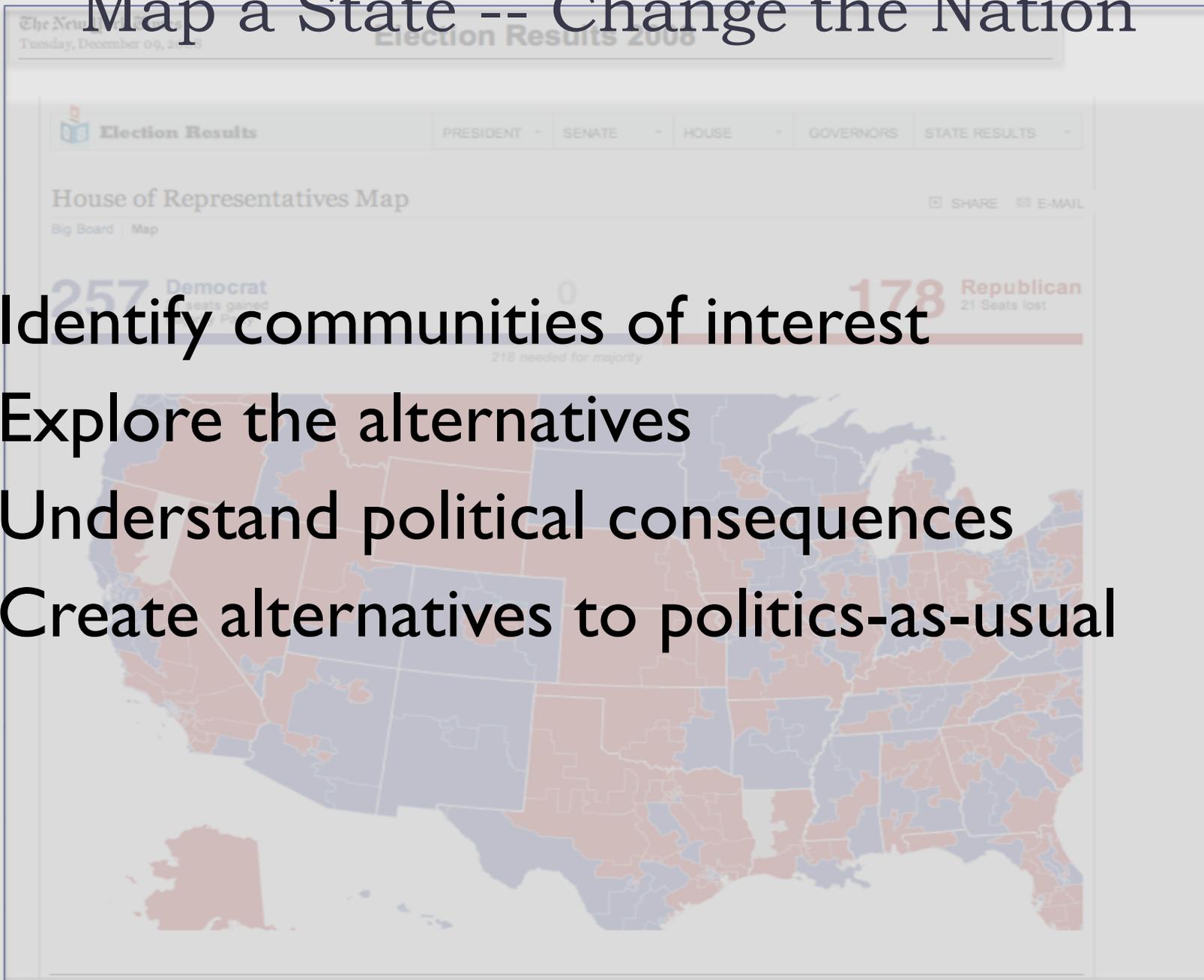
LoveMyLillies I'm changing my local districts for the better! Check out my plan: <http://bit.ly/476c>

8 minutes ago from Tweetie



Map a State -- Change the Nation

- ▶ Identify communities of interest
- ▶ Explore the alternatives
- ▶ Understand political consequences
- ▶ Create alternatives to politics-as-usual



Public Mapping Software – Features

Powered by Open Source

▶ Create

- ▶ Create districts and plans
- ▶ Identify communities*

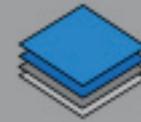
▶ Evaluate

- ▶ Visualize
- ▶ Summarize
 - ▶ Population balance
 - ▶ Geographic compactness
 - ▶ Completeness and contiguity

▶ Report in depth

▶ Share

- ▶ Import & export plans
- ▶ Publish a plan
- ▶ Run a contest*



OpenLayers

geodjango



GeoServer

PostGIS



PostgreSQL

ubuntu®

* *Coming soon*

More Information at www.publicmapping.org

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