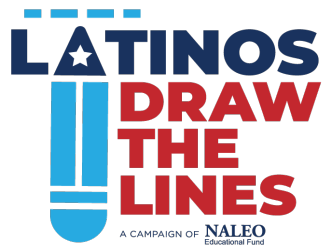


Redistricting for California's Future

Ensuring the Fair Representation of Latinos and All Californians

April 22, 2021

Jacqueline Coto
State Director of Civic Engagement Policy



NALEO Educational Fund

The nation's leading 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that facilitates full Latino participation in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.

Established in 1981, NALEO Educational Fund is governed by a 15-member Board of Directors.

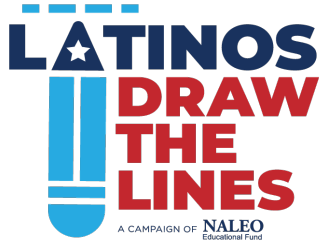
LEADERSHIP



CHAIR

**Hon. Mara Candelaria
Reardon**

Indiana State Representative



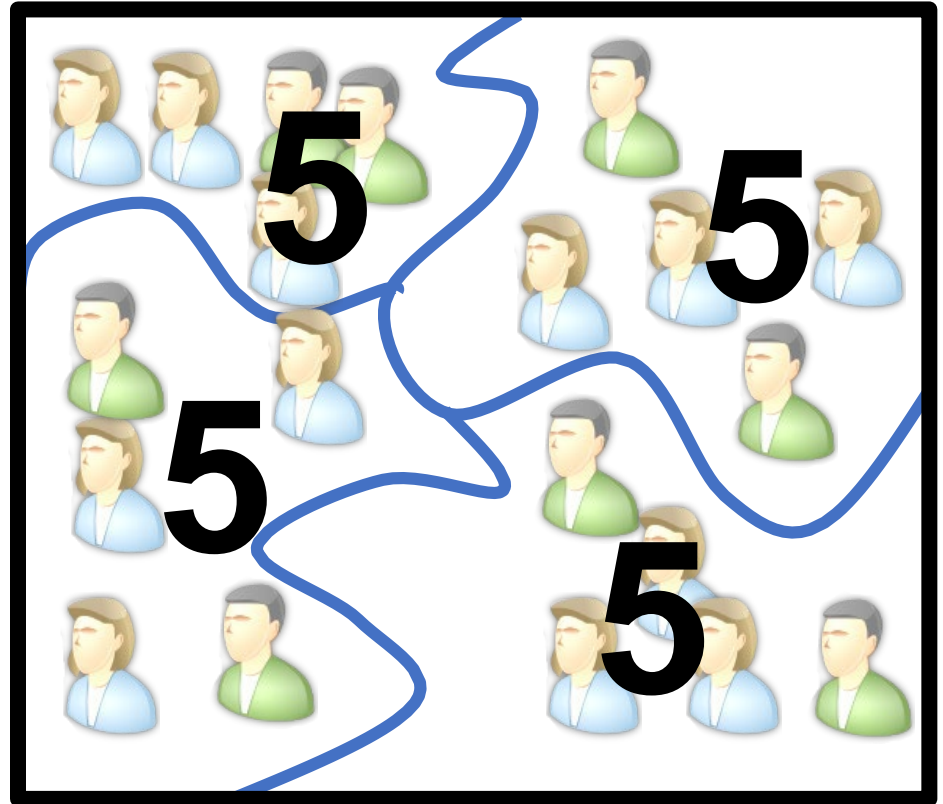
Presentation Overview

The *Redistricting for California's Future* webinar will cover:

- Why redistricting is important for the Latino community;
- How the California Citizens Redistricting Commission will conduct this process, including the redistricting timeline and criteria; and
- How community members can become involved in the California redistricting process

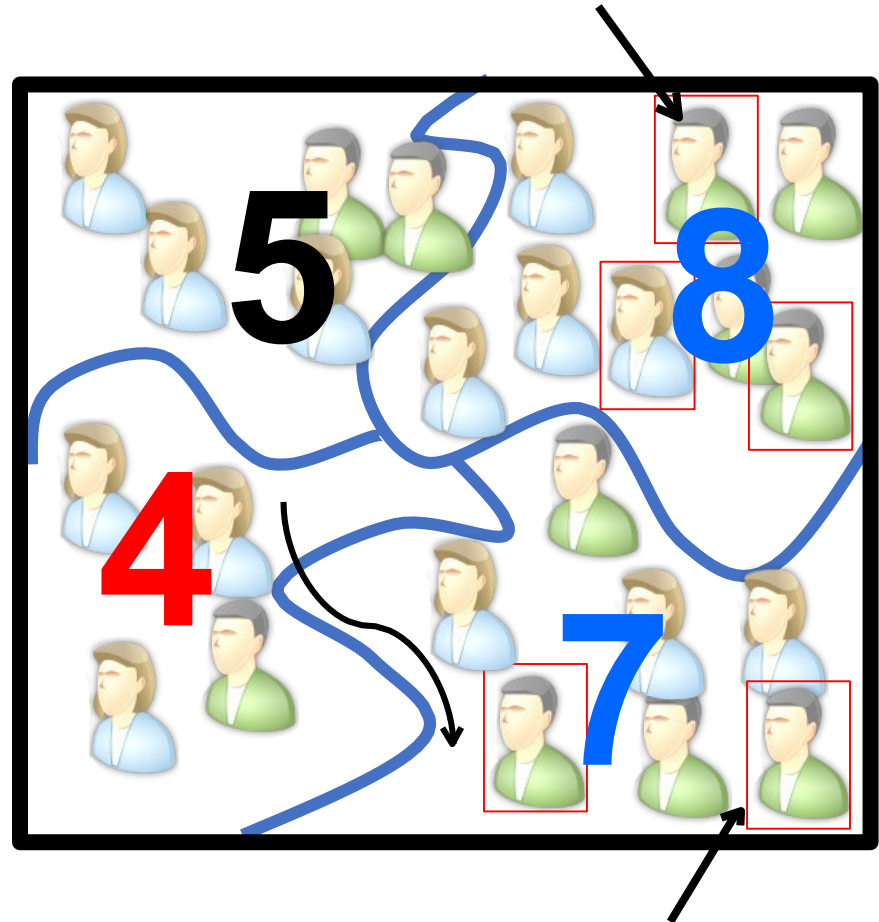
What is redistricting?

- After Census 2020, our nation will have new information about the size of the population in each state and in every community
- We use this information to draw the lines for Congressional seats, state and local government districts
- Each district must have the same number of residents



What is redistricting?

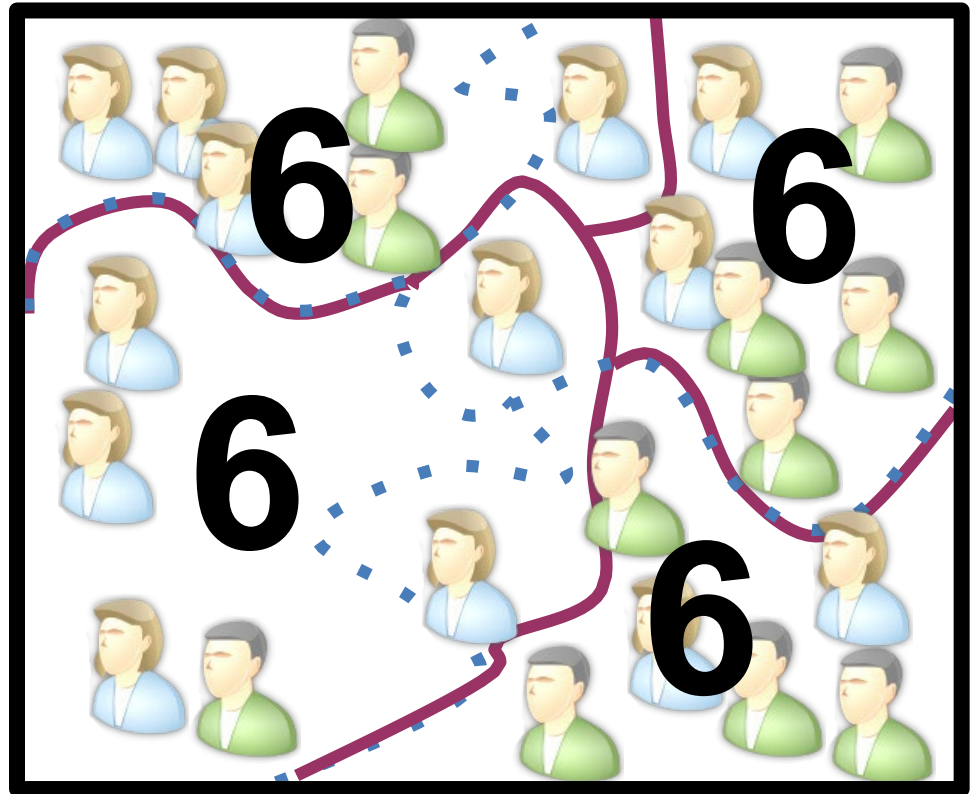
- Over time, districts become uneven in size.



What is redistricting?

Every ten years, the district lines have to be redrawn to make each district even in size again.

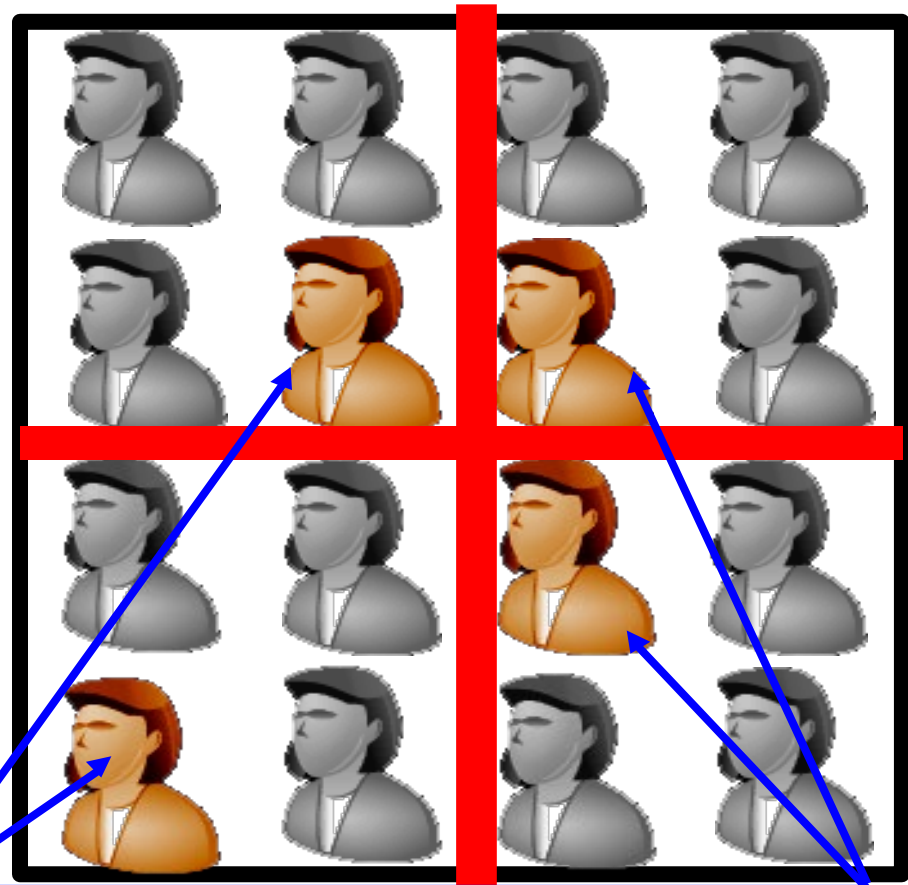
Based on
decennial
Census data



Why does redistricting matter?

- Redistricting affects whether different population groups have a say in the outcome of elections.

Example #1 →



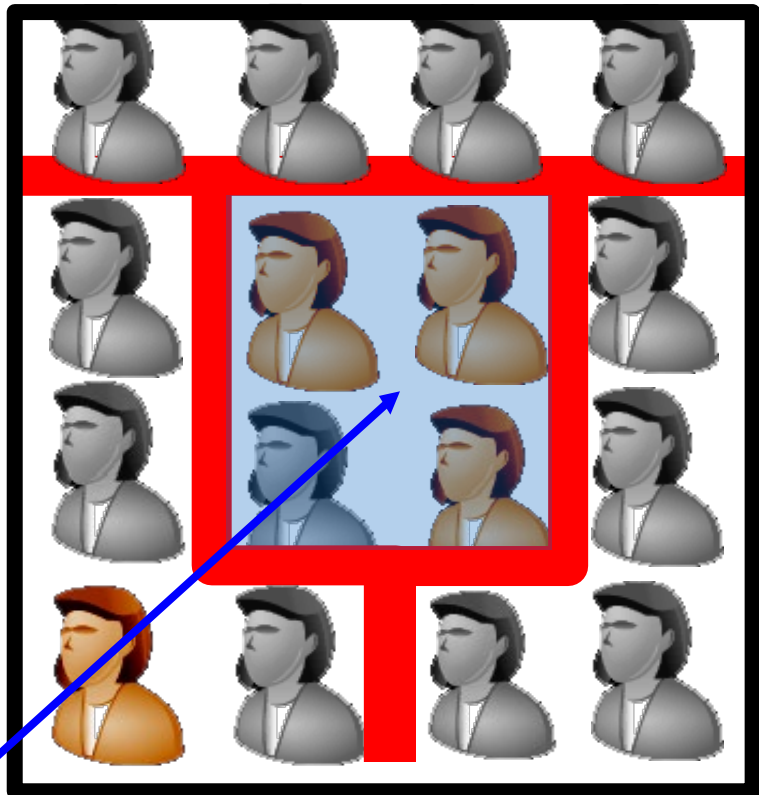
Latinos make up only
 $\frac{1}{4}$ in all four districts

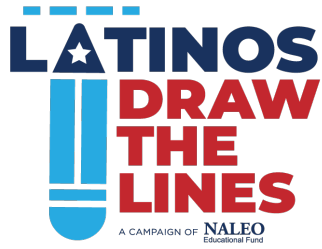
Why does redistricting matter?

- Redistricting affects whether different population groups have a say in the outcome of elections.

Example #2 →

Latinos make up
 $\frac{3}{4}$ in one district





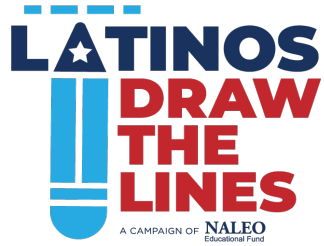
Role of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission

- Voters First Act in 2008

Must draw maps for:

- U.S. House of Representatives (*53 districts)
- State Senate (40 districts)
- State Assembly (80 districts)
- State Board of Equalization (4 districts)

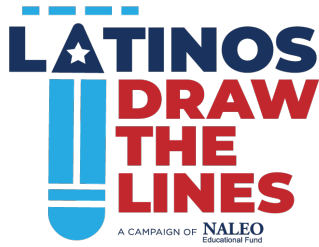




California Citizens Redistricting Commission 14 Members

▪ Isra Ahmad , San Jose, No Party Preference	▪ Sara Sadhwani , La Cañada Flintridge, Democrat
▪ Linda Akutagawa , Huntington Beach, No Party Preference	▪ Patricia S. Sinay , Encinitas, Democrat
▪ Jane Andersen , Berkeley, Republican	▪ Derric Taylor , Los Angeles, Republican
▪ Alicia Fernández , Clarksburg, Republican	▪ Pedro Toledo , Petaluma, No Party Preference
▪ Neal Fornaciari , Tracy, Republican	▪ Trena Turner , Stockton, Democrat
▪ J. Ray Kennedy , Morongo Valley, Democrat	▪ Angela Vázquez , Los Angeles, Democrat
▪ Antonio Le Mons , Studio City, No Party Preference	▪ Russell Yee , Oakland, Republican





Criteria for drawing district maps

In order of priority:

1. Equal Population

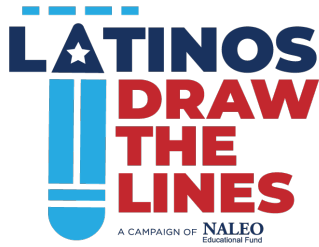
Generally, districts must be of equal population to comply with the United States Constitution.

2. Voting Rights Act

Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure under-represented groups have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.

3. Contiguity

Districts must be drawn so that all parts of the district are connected with each other.



Criteria for drawing district maps (continued)

In order of priority:

4. Localities, Neighborhoods and Communities of Interest

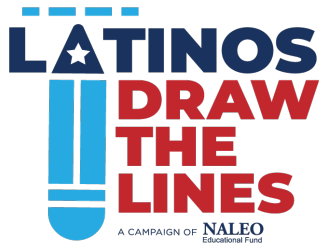
Districts must keep cities, counties, neighborhoods, and Communities of Interest together.

5. Geographically Compact

Districts should be geographically compact so that nearby areas of population of the district are not bypassed for more distant populations.

6. Nesting

Where practicable, each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts. Board of Equalization Districts should be comprised of 10 complete and adjacent Senate Districts.



Compliance with the Voting Rights Act

- Section 2 – Generally prohibits discrimination in any voting practice that results in the denial of the right of any citizen to vote on account of race, color, or membership in a language minority group.
- In California, VRA litigation used to prohibit redistricting plans that dilute Latinos' right to a meaningful opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.
- Successful VRA cases brought against redistrictings in Los Angeles County (1991) and Kern County (2018).
- VRA compliance is determined by a complex combination of demographic, geographic, voting, and historical data and factors.



Communities of Interest

- A community of interest (COI) is a neighborhood, community, or group of people who have common policy concerns and would benefit from being maintained in a single district.
- COIs can be defined in many ways:



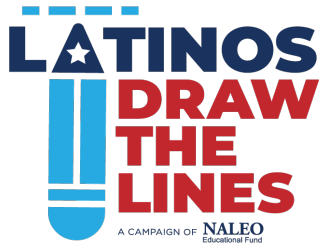
Shared ancestry,
history, language



Transportation
routes, geographic
features, cultural
centers or events

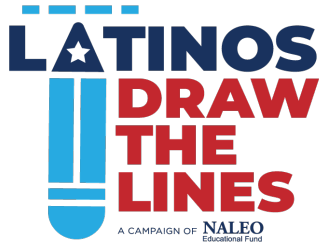


Community members
who come together
to advocate for
neighborhood issues



Map requirements which prevent undue partisan or political influence

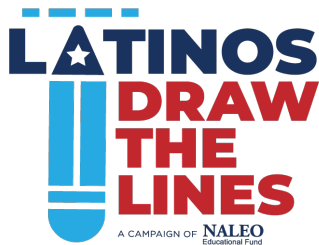
- COIs do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.
- Place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map.
- Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party.
- Elected officials can promote participation in California's redistricting process, but not in a manner than violates these prohibitions:
 - Can educate community members about the importance of redistricting and the redistricting process.
 - Can inform community members about hearings and opportunities to participate.



How does the Commission Learn About Communities of Interest?

- Personal testimony
- Written description
- Boundary maps
- Online COI platform drawmycacomunity.org
- **Local community members define their COIs!**
Communities tell their own stories about what neighbors share in common, and what makes their community unique





Tentative Timeline

- **February-May:** Education presentations
- **June-August:** *Public input meetings (COIs)
- **September 30:** Expected Census data delivered to California
- **TBD:** Commission conducts line-drawing before release of draft maps
- **TBD:** Community groups draw maps for submission to Commission
- **TBD:** Commission posts first round of draft maps
- **TBD:** Public comment on draft maps, additional line-drawing
- **TBD:** Commission approves and releases final maps
- **TBD:** Final maps to Secretary of State

*** Timeline may change given Census Data delay**

Emerging Issues

- Impact of delay of Census data delivery:
 - Election officials need approved district lines well in advance of the June 7, 2022 primary
 - Concern that Commission will shorten time for public comment on draft maps to approve maps in timely manner
 - Impact on local redistricting

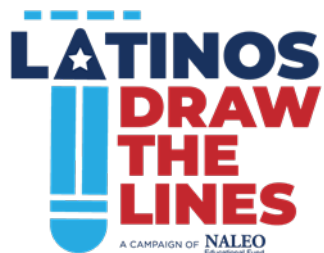
- COVID-19 pandemic impact:
 - Accessibility of virtual hearings
 - Ability to organize community members during pandemic





How you can partner with us on redistricting efforts:

- Receive and send out updates on the redistricting process
- Co-host a webinar on the basics of redistricting
- Co-host Community of Interest workshops/trainings
- Participate in advocacy with the Commission



Thank You



CONTACT US

Jacqueline Coto

State Director of Civic Engagement Policy
jcoto@naleo.org

Rosalind Gold

Chief Public Policy Officer
rgold@naleo.org

Giovany Hernandez

California Redistricting Program Manager
ghernandez@naleo.org

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#LatinosDrawtheLines

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