

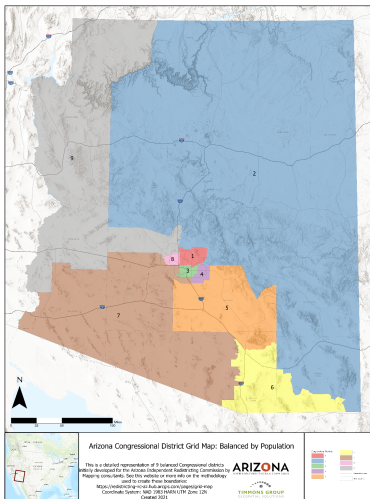
ARIZONA

INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

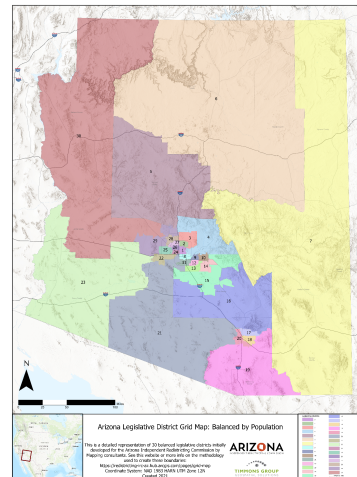
NEWSLETTER Volume VII

October 8, 2021

TOP STORY



Congressional grid maps adopted on Sept 14, 2021



Legislative grid maps adopted on Sept 14, 2021

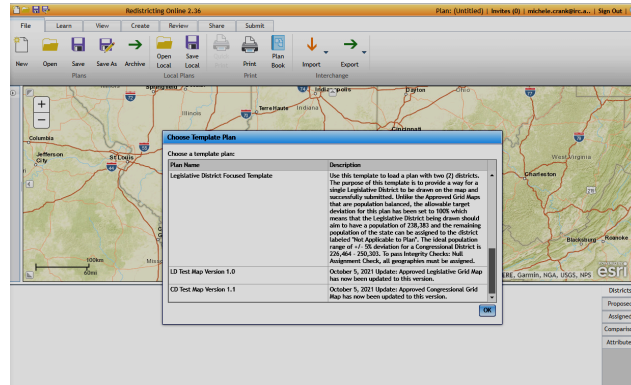
Oct. 4-5, 2021, the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) commissioners started the decision-making process for the Draft Maps. To begin making changes to the Grid Maps (adopted on 9/14/2021), the Commissioners are meeting in-person to discuss and deliberate each consideration. They are relying on the six constitutional criteria from the Arizona Constitution, including the reports by the mapping and legal consultants, public testimony and data collected from over 53 public hearings, and public comments and maps submitted online. The current adjustments are posted on the Redistricting system at <https://maps.azredistricting.gov/redistricting/>.

Follow these steps to review these changes:

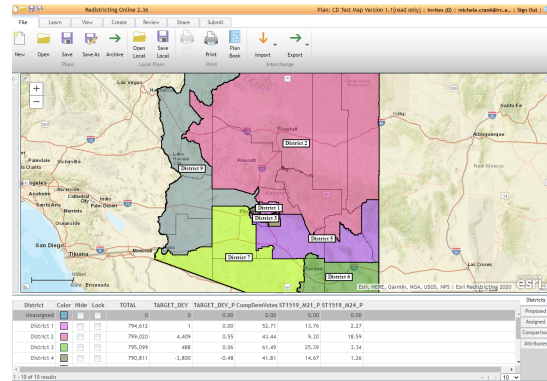
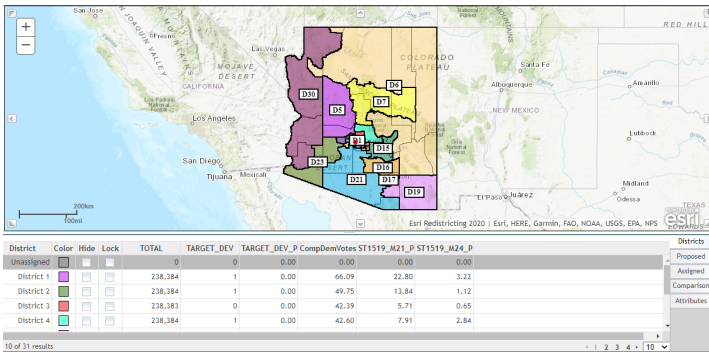
1. Create an account with the AZ Redistricting System by going to the homepage or sign into the system.



2. The choose a template plan screen will appear. Double click on “LD Test Map Version 1.0 or CD Test Map Version 1.1



3. Select the version you want to review (keep in mind these are not adopted maps - they will change again).



As a reminder, these maps are **NOT** the final Draft Maps, but starting points for additional discussions. Chairwoman Erika Neuberg reminds the public “we are still accepting comments and map submissions, through various methods. Please stay involved.”

The public is also encouraged to follow the timelines established for the mapping process during the decision meetings.

DATE/TIME/LOCATION	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
Friday, October 15, 2021 Monday, October 18, 2021 Tuesday, October 19, 2021 Wednesday, October 20, 2021 Thursday, October 21, 2021 (potential adoption) *Thursday, October 28, 2021 *Friday, October 29, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Observe in-person or live stream (information will be on the agenda posted 48 hours before meeting) ● Public comments made electronically (link information will be the on agenda)

DID YOU KNOW?

How to use AZ Redistricting Mapping Tool



Here is a description of the numbered tabs at the top of this page that will guide you in the process of creating districts.

1| Learn This is the page you are on now and is the first step in the process.

2| Create Use the select tools and choose geographies to make district assignments. As you make assignments, the goal is to create balanced populations between districts.

3| Review View tables/charts that show the distribution of population within the districts you have created. The tables/charts are updated as you select and move populations between districts.

4| Share The share features allow you to invite friends and colleagues to view and /or comment on your plan. You can also invite others to build a plan together.

Additional ways to submit comments and maps.

- 1. Present at public hearing meetings. Make sure you bring a copy of your comment and maps for submittal to staff**
- 2. Submit your comments on IRC website - public comments**
- 3. Email comments and maps to ircadmin@azdoa.gov.**

IN THE NEWS

Be Heard:

Your Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission is Hard at Work Drawing Elected Leaders' Boundaries

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am the Independent, politically unaffiliated Chair of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission. My colleagues and I are tasked with redrawing Arizona's congressional and state legislative district lines, a process that occurs every ten years, and serves as the boundaries from which our state

and federal representatives seek elected office to represent us, individually and collectively.

Your AIRC has been hard at work preparing for the consequential next step of drawing draft maps. We have built a talented and diverse staff whose members share deep state knowledge and speak the same languages as the communities they are reaching out to. We have gathered academics, demographers, legal consultants, mapping consultants, and others who,

in a relatively short time, have seamlessly collaborated to advise us on meeting our obligations under the United States and Arizona Constitutions. We have studied our state's racial and ethnic diversity, migration trends, economic drivers, natural resources, and comments from the citizens as to what links us together as communities of interest. We hope the general public continues to take advantage of the trove of civic-minded information provided on the AIRC's website under the newsroom link!

Since this past Summer, we have engaged in an extensive listening tour to identify our state’s various “communities of interest” and hear from citizens as to what they believe is important in drawing district lines. I was honored to attend each of the 19 public hearings to date across 47 locations and thank the over 1,000 dedicated citizens who participated.

To be honest, I did not know what to expect at these meetings; we so often see rancor, negativity, and political extremism on traditional and social media. I am proud to say, however, that civic engagement in Arizona is strong. Time and again, individuals, diverse in so many ways, took turns respectfully and passionately expressing their views. We heard about the responsiveness (or lack thereof) of our local, state, and federal elected leaders. We learned of historical, geographical, and economic connections, such as the Copper Corridor, that unite us. We were reminded that political compromise is still possible, such as in Yuma, where Republican leaders spoke so positively of their Democratic colleagues, and vice versa. They demonstrated how to turn division into an asset by capitalizing on additional representation. We heard from rural

communities fearful that urban growth will impinge on their way of life. And we were reminded that too many minority communities still feel marginalized in their political representation.

Much work remains. The AIRC will continue to hold public meetings throughout the process. The maps will be drawn in a transparent manner in accordance with our Constitutions. You can follow each and every step of the map-drawing process live; up-to-date information with instructions for how to participate can be found on our website or social media platforms. Citizens can submit maps, leaving no room for interpretation as to what is important to you as to the constitutional criteria. You do not need to attend a meeting to submit your comments; simply visit irc.az.gov and you will be directed to the appropriate links. The AIRC is open 24/7 for feedback in the language that is most comfortable for you to express your thoughts. Please consider attending an upcoming hearing, or at minimum taking the time to share your feedback. Our sincere goal is for all citizens of Arizona to be heard and counted. We are committed to conducting a transparent, ethical process that fosters as much

confidence-building and trust as possible. I appreciate that there is still much to learn, and take seriously our obligation to protect every citizen’s right to representation. We have a once-in-a-decade opportunity to draw legislative and congressional maps that reflect the rich and diverse interests of our citizenry and of our shared home, Arizona. On behalf of all the IRC Commissioners, I look forward to hearing from you.



Erika Schupak Neuberg is an Independent and was unanimously elected by her peers to be the volunteer Chair of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission, responsible for the once-a-decade process of redrawing Arizona’s congressional and legislative boundaries. She is a graduate of Colorado College, and earned a master’s degree and doctorate in psychology from Arizona State University.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Join the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 9:00 am for the regular business meeting. [Agenda 10.12.21](#) View the meeting here: [Watch Live YouTube 10.12.21](#) Public comment is open during the meeting and may be submitted electronically here: [Public Comment 10.12.21](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Arizona IRC 2021 Redistricting mapping system training series: groups. How do we **create a group**? How do we add content to a group and how do we accept a group invitation if you are an end user and someone is inviting you to collaborate with them inside their group? Learn more: <https://bit.ly/IRCGroupSharing>
- Arizona IRC 2021 Redistricting mapping system training series: **submitting a single district**. We've created focus templates that will allow individuals to draw a single district with a maximum population deviation of up to 100%, which will allow individuals to draw a single district without having to work the entire statewide grid map. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/IRCHowToSubmitASingleDistrict>
- Arizona IRC 2021 Redistricting mapping system training series: learn how to **export a redistricting plan** from a third party software and import into the IRC Redistricting System. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/IRCImportTextFile>

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***MISSION:** The Independent Redistricting Commission's mission is to redraw Arizona's congressional and legislative districts to reflect the results of the most recent census. The concept of one-person, one-vote dictates that districts should be roughly equal in population. Other factors to be considered are the federal Voting Rights Act, district shape, geographical features, respect for communities of interest and potential competitiveness. The state Constitution requires the commissioners – two Republicans, two Democrats and an independent chairperson – to start from scratch rather than redraw existing districts.*

A new Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission was appointed in January 2021 to adopt new congressional and legislative districts for Arizona.



Read more on our website: <https://irc.az.gov/>

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