

To begin the mapping process, the Commissioners developed map-drawing criteria that will be used to sift and winnow the 2020 U.S. Census data. The process moves the data through a funnel of four group standards that will lead to the ultimate goal of drawing fair district maps for Wisconsin.

This criteria was developed by the Commissioners after hearing from more than 1,000 Wisconsinites, representing 65 counties and 245 municipalities, as well as engaging 18 redistricting experts from across the U.S. and Wisconsin.

The full map criteria explanation is available for the public to view at Wisconsin.gov/Peoplesmaps.

2020 U.S. Census Data

GROUP 1: Traditional Districting Principles

- Federal requirements: One-Person, One-Vote and the Voting Rights Act
- Districts will be compact.
- Every part of a district will remain connected to every other part without crossing district lines.
- Counties and municipalities will remain intact whenever possible.

GROUP 2: Communities of Interest

A Community of Interest (COI) may include people with common economic, ethnic, cultural, or other bonds such as unique environmental, transportation, or educational concerns. While COIs represent common interests that are often linked to public policy issues. COIs cannot be formed to promote a particular political party, candidate, or jurisdiction.

GROUP 3: Population Tuning

Mapping will attempt to equalize the population of the districts as nearly as possible, even aiming for deviation of not more than one person in congressional maps.

GROUP 4: Partisan Fairness

Among the mapping plans that satisfy all higher priorities, a preference will be given to plans that tend to lead to proportional outcomes, defined as the share of representation for each party roughly equal to statewide share of support. Results from the last five years of statewide elections will be used in assessment of this criterion.

GROUP 1

GROUP 2

GROUP 3

GROUP 4

Funneling through these groups of criteria will lead to better redistricting outcomes:

Fair Maps

Responsive Representation

Voices of ALL Wisconsinites are Heard