

9-20-2021

September 20 Roundtable Update

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Redistricting Webinar: September 28 at 4 pm

On Tuesday, September 28 at 4 pm, the New York Census and Redistricting Institute will be hosting a webinar on Redistricting: Working With Census Data. This webinar will feature Dr. John Mollenkopf (CUNY Center for Urban Research), Steve Romalewski (CUNY Mapping Center), Jan Vink (Cornell University Program on Applied Demographics, and Jose Galarza (Redistricting Data Hub). You can register here: www.nyls.edu/CensusRSVP

N.Y. Independent Redistricting Commission September 9, 2021 Meeting

On Thursday, September 9, the state Independent Redistricting Commission announced that Redistricting Partners, a non-partisan California-based consulting firm, has been retained to draw the draft New York State congressional and state legislative districts. Redistricting Partners will be working with a sub-vendor, Redistricting Insights, to complete its map drawing.

The Commission met on September 15 and released two sets of draft maps prepared separately by the Democratic and Republican commissioners. The draft maps are available for downloading at <https://nyirc.gov/draft-plans> Maps are identified by letters (Democratic proposal) and names (Republican proposal). While the downloads include maps of statewide and individual districts, GIS software will be needed to take a granular look at the districts with accompanying data.

The Commission will hold a series of 14 hearings across the state from mid-October through late November. The first hearing will be in Buffalo on October 20 and the last in Suffolk County on November 23. A complete list of hearing dates and locations can be found at <https://nyirc.gov/meetings>.

Please see the attached list for a full summary of the September 15 meeting.

Unity Map Coalition Critical of Redistricting Commission

In a joint statement, the Unity Map Coalition noted its disappointment in the Redistricting Commission's failure to develop one set of redistricting plans. The Unity Coalition includes Latino Justice, the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the Center for Law and Social Justice. It represents the unified interests of the state's major Black, Hispanic, and Asian American voting rights advocacy organizations. Read the Coalition's statement here: bit.ly/3kdkshh

Public Mapping Project

This Fall, New York's congressional and state legislative district lines will be redrawn. Do you want to help determine the new lines? New York Law School's N.Y. Census & Redistricting

Institute is organizing a statewide Public Mapping Project where student and public interest organization teams are being organized to use free online software and data (along with training) to draw model maps that can be submitted to the state. To join, please visit <https://app.districtbuilder.org/o/nyls>. Please contact Marissa Zanfardino for a copy of the rules for the contest. You can access the recording of the District Builder Training here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XIRkJq8c6SWkPC96IZFAKDTAVBpP0yl/view>

Additional Online Redistricting Resources

The **Digital Commons at New York Law School** will provide all redistricting publications by Jeff Wice and other members of the New York Census and Redistricting Institute. Use the digital commons as a comprehensive source of all redistricting publications, past and present. Access the digital commons here: <https://digitalcommons.nyls.edu/ny-census-and-redistricting-institute/>

RedistrictingOnline is presenting redistricting information from all 50 states (including law, data, news, policy, and research). In collaboration with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and New York Law School, we have created this nonpartisan, multimedia, knowledge hub to give redistricting a trusted, permanent home on the web. Use RedistrictingOnline as your link to all things redistricting on the Internet. On this website, you can learn the basics, explore advanced topics, keep up with the news, and monitor redistricting developments in all 50 states. Access the website here: <https://redistrictingonline.org/>

New York Census Data and Tools

Redistricting and You: The CUNY Graduate Center Mapping Service's Redistricting and You website shows current congressional and state legislative district populations with their new 2020 census data numbers. Information on the racial & ethnic composition of the districts is also available. www.redistrictingandyou.org

State Demographic Data: Cornell University's Program on Applied Demographics (PAD) has posted detailed information with regional charts and a county map showing the state's population changes from 2010-2020 by county, region, race, and ethnicity. <https://pad.human.cornell.edu/census2020/index.cfm#pl>

Empire Center: The Empire Center has developed a sortable web tool of population changes for New York's counties, cities, towns, and villages, Access it here: <https://www.empirecenter.org/publications/heres-a-tool-for-sorting-out-new-yorks-local-population-trends/>

Redistricting Primer and Informational Webinars

Please contact Jeff Wice (by reply email) if you would like to schedule an informational webinar on the state's redistricting process. Webinars usually take 45 minutes to one hour. A copy of the N.Y. Census & Redistricting Institute's basic primer on how New York redistricts can be accessed and downloaded here: <https://www.nyls.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/NYCRI-Redistricting-Primer-PDF-0521-v1r6-locked.pdf>