

## Phase 2 Mapping

The Washington State Redistricting Commission is pleased to unveil our Phase 2 mapping tool. This tool allows the public the opportunity to draw legislative and congressional districts using the 2020 census results. Please contact Daniel Pailthorp, [daniel.pailthorp@redistricting.wa.gov](mailto:daniel.pailthorp@redistricting.wa.gov), and Justin Bennett, [justin.bennett@redistricting.wa.gov](mailto:justin.bennett@redistricting.wa.gov), with any questions or if you are in need of technical support.

# Making a Map

## 1 – Make an account

- Go to <https://washington.mydistricting.com/legdistricting/washington>
- Register for an account
- Login to the tool

## 2- Understanding the Tabs

- Dashboard: This tab allows you to message other users and staff with questions. Please contact only Justin Bennett – Administrator– [justin.bennett@redistricting.wa.gov](mailto:justin.bennett@redistricting.wa.gov) and Daniel Pailthorp – Administrator – [daniel.pailthorp@redistricting.wa.gov](mailto:daniel.pailthorp@redistricting.wa.gov) with your questions.
- Plan Manager: This tab is where you create or import a map. When you have created maps, you will see them here.
- Plan Editor: This tab is where map drawing occurs, once you have made a plan via the *plan manager* tab.
- Reports: After you have made a map, this tab will allow you to see population data and comments made by others on your map.

## 3 – Making a Map

- Select the *Plan Manager* tab on the left of your screen.
- Click *Create Plan* (green button at top right).



- Assign a name and description to the plan.

## 4 - Selecting your Plan Type (Data Set)

- There are three options for your data.
  - Congressional – Is for drawing a congressional map
  - House – Is for drawing a legislative map, there is no difference between “House” and “Senate”

- Senate – Is for drawing a legislative map, there is no difference between “House” and “Senate”
- The commission recommends not checking the *start with blank plan* so that you have less work to do to make your map

### 5 – Accessing your map

- To access and edit your map, return to the *Plan Manager* tab and, on the right side of your screen, select *Open*.
- When you click on *Validate*, the program will check the map to confirm that all geographies (I.e., census blocks) are assigned and that each district is made up of contiguous geographies.
- The *Submit* function is only possible after the plan is validated. Submitting your map indicates to the Commission that you have finished editing and that this map should be considered. **This action cannot be undone, and you cannot access your map after submission.**

### 6- Understanding the Columns

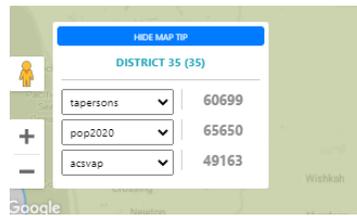
										Estimated Demographic Population											
										2010 Population		Worst 2020 population estimates		Best 2020 population estimates							
Color	#	Name	Parts	SQMi	Target	Deviation	Pop 2010	ACS Tot. Pop	OFM 2020 Est.	ACS White	ACS Black	ACS Native AM/ALSK	ACS Asian	ACS HAWA/PAC	ACS Hispanic	ACS Voting Age					
	3	District 3	1	32	137,236	-10 (-0.01%)	137,226	137,207	142,588	114,893	3,295	2,737	4,257	773	9,584	105,108					
	4	District 4	1	320	137,236	29 (0.02%)	137,265	153,100	156,503	138,801	1,415	1,440	2,824	575	8,382	114,184					
	5	District 5	1	785	137,236	3 (0%)	137,239	158,521	160,667	126,719	2,024	421	16,788	244	10,286	107,646					
	6	District 6	1	372	137,236	-38 (-0.03%)	137,198	151,914	155,529	130,700	3,607	2,084	3,702	1,371	8,490	115,239					
	7	District 7	1	8,600	137,236	21 (0.015%)	137,267	142,500	140,080	126,100	486	4,407	1,482	173	0,078	108,151					

- Name: The district name, which is editable
- Parts: Number of separate parts of that district
- SQMi: Square miles
- Target: For legislative maps, the target district number is 157,251 and for congressional maps, it is 770,528
- Deviation: The difference between the total population of a district and the target population
- Total Population: Total population for the purposes of redistricting
- White: The population who select “white” as a racial category in the Census
- Black: The population who select “black” as a racial category in the Census
- Native AM/ALSK: The population who select “Native American/Alaskan” as a racial category in the Census
- Asian: The population who select “Asian” as a racial category in the Census
- HAW/PI: The population who select “Hawaiian/Pacific Islander” as a racial category in the Census
- Hispanic: The population who select “Hispanic” as an ethnic category

- Others: The population who select non of the previous categories as the racial or ethnic category

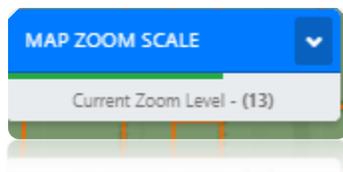
## 7 – Comparing data in the tool

- In the bottom left corner of your map screen, there is a small *folded brochure*.
- Once the *folded brochure* is opened, you can select three different data sources to compare for whatever geographies you have selected or are hovering over, such as counties, precincts, or census blocks. The available options mirror the columns in the data table below the map.



## 8 – Selecting Geographies

- There are three levels of geographies that can be selected: counties, precincts, or [census blocks](#). Precincts are defined areas with less than 1,500 active registered voters and is the smallest geographic level at which votes are tabulated in Washington. [Census Blocks](#) are the building blocks of the US Census. Each block may or may not contain residents. Blocks are usually bounded by geographic features, such as water or a street, or invisible boundaries, such as city limits. Census blocks are the smallest geographic area the public or Commissioners can use to draw districts. There are 195,574 census blocks in Washington State.
  - Depending on your Zoom level (top right corner of map) you will view either counties, precincts, or census blocks boundaries, county boundaries are **blue**, precincts are **orange**, and census blocks are **green**.
  - Counties are visible from zoom levels 1-10, precincts are visible 11-15, and census blocks are visible 15+
  - Please allow time to load at the higher zoom levels



- You are able to select whatever category of geography according to your zoom level.
- Be aware, if you select a type of geography and then change your map zoom level you will not be able to select a different type of geography at the same time.

## 9 – Assigning Geographies

- Once you have selected a single or several geographies, you then can either assign them to a district by:

1. First, selecting the district you would like to assign them to by **clicking that particular district row in the table below.**
2. Then click *assign* on the bottom right of the map -



- Click *unassign* does just that and will make those geographies white and add their population totals to the first row in the table below “unassigned”

## 10 – When You’re Finished with Your Map

- Once you’re finished assigning all geographies to the district, select *validate* in the *Plan Manager* or in the *Plan Editor* screen.
- *Validate* first checks that all geographies are attached in a district. Second, it checks to see if your plan’s deviation is acceptable. Ignore this second part as this check is tied to the underlying 2010 census data, something that cannot be edited at this time.
- The *Submit* function is only possible after the plan is validated. Submitting your map indicates to the Commission that you have finished editing and that this map should be considered. **This action cannot be undone, and you cannot access your map after submission.**

# Mapping Best Practices

## What constitutes a map acceptable to the commission? (RCW [44.05.090](#))

1. Population must as equal as practicable.
  - a. There is no legal standard for congressional or legislative district population parity. Based on legal precedent in state and Federal courts , it is recommended that deviation from target populations between congressional districts remain under 1 percent and deviation for legislative districts remain under 5 percent.
  - b. For congressional districts, the target population should be 765,620 if you are using the 2020 OFM estimates.
  - c. For legislative districts, the target population should be 156,249 if you are using the 2020 OFM estimates.
2. Maps should be contiguous
  - a. Inherent in the mapping tool and as stated in statute, all districts should be made up of contiguous territory.
    - i. According to RCW 44.05.090 - *Land areas may be deemed contiguous if they share a common land border or are connected by a ferry, highway, bridge, or tunnel. Areas separated by geographical boundaries or artificial barriers that prevent transportation within a district should not be deemed contiguous.*
3. Partial maps are acceptable
  - a. Your map does not need to cover the entire state. You are welcome to draw a portion of the state with a single or several districts.
  - b. Because the mapping tool software requires all geographies to be assigned prior to *validation*, if you would like to draw only one or a few districts, you're welcome to assign all other geographies to a single district just to meet that software requirement. The commission will still consider the areas you chose to map.

## How to make my map more likely to affect the final maps?

- The Washington State Constitution and RCW [44.05.090](#) lays out several standards for the Commission to consider and attempt to follow. It is recommended that all public maps do so as well:
  - Boundaries should try to follow *local political subdivisions*, such as counties, cities, school districts, etc.
  - Boundaries should try to follow *recognized communities of interest* although there is no definition in statute of this standard.

- Districts should be made up of *convenient, contiguous, and compact territory* although exceptions are allowable if the territory is accessible by ferry or other transportation means.
- *The commission's plan shall not be drawn purposely to favor or discriminate against any political party or group, and* the commission plan is also subject to provisions of the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- Precincts should, whenever possible, *be wholly within a single legislative district*; and it is recommended that you concentrate on drawing on the precinct level for the most part in order to avoid the significant division of precincts. Since the underlying data is based on 2010 geographies, the precincts in the mapping tool may not line up with current precinct boundaries.