Redistricting Rules: Texas Timeline

- **Apportm’t data** 4.30.21
- **Redistricting data** 9.30.21
- **Candidate Filing** 12.13.21
- **Primary Election** 03.01.22

- **Deadline for state leg maps (end of session)** 05.31.21
- **Deadline for back up commission to enact maps** 10.31.21

If legislature fails to enact a plan by end of legislative session, a commission (Lt. Gov, House Speaker, Attorney Gen, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commr of General Land Office) must enact redistricting plan within 150 days of the conclusion of session. Id. art. III, § 28.

Created by Common Cause
**Redistricting Rules: Texas Proposed Timeline**

**Proposed 3 mo. Oct 1-Dec 31:**
- Process data, hold hearings, complete maps

**Court and County process**

**At least 5 months:**
- Public hearings to take communities of interest testimony

- Move Leg session to finish state leg maps 12.31.21
- Move Candidate Filing 2.22
- Move Primary Election Apr or May

**PROPOSED ADJUSTED TIMELINE**

- Apportm’t data 4.30.21
- Raw Redistricting data 8.15.21
- Redistrict’g data 9.30.21
Redistricting Rules: Texas Rules

Who draws the lines?

- Congressional lines are **drawn by the state legislature** as a statute and are subject to a gubernatorial veto.

- State legislative lines are **drawn by the state legislature**, but if the state legislature fails to pass a plan, it goes to a 5-member backup commission (Tex. Const. art. III, § 28).
What are the mapping rules?

- Federal **equal population** requirements and adherence to the **Voting Rights Act** and constitutional rules on race

- State legislative districts must be as **equal in population** as possible (Tex. Const. Art. III, § 26)

- State legislative districts must be **contiguous** and **preserve whole counties** when possible (Tex. Const. Art. III, §§ 25-26)