

Redistricting and ACS Data

March 22, 2011

Jerry Deichert

UNO Center for Public Affairs Research

Redistricting

- Overview
- Nebraska Legislature Web Site
- Nebraska Statutes Relating to Redistricting
- Sources of Information
 - Census Geography
 - Maps
 - Population Data
- Internet Demonstration

Overview

- The United States Constitution requires a census every 10 years to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Overview

- Apportionment of Congress is only half the process of distributing political power.
- Virtually all states rely on the census numbers for redistricting, the redrawing of political districts within the states after apportionment.
- These areas must meet the "one-person-one-vote" requirements of the Supreme Court.

Overview

- In 1975, Congress responded to the needs of state legislatures by enacting P.L. 94-171. Under this law, the Census Bureau has a responsibility to "work closely" with officials in the individual states before each census.
- Under the provisions of P.L. 94-171, the data needed for redistricting are delivered to the majority and minority leaders of each legislature, as well as to each governor.

Nebraska Legislature Web Site

- <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/>



- Home
- About the Legislature
- Bills and Laws
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- Glossary of terms
- Legislative Divisions
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- Session Information
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- For Agencies and Lobbyists
- For Citizens
- For Journalists
- For Students and Teachers

The 102nd Legislature, 1st Regular Session, is not in session today.
check the calendar to see legislative activity

Recent Legislative Information

- Priority Bill Listing - 2011
- Introduced Legislation Index by Section - 2011
- Introduced Legislation Index by Subject - 2011
- Appropriations Committee Preliminary Report (2-17-2011)
- State Vacancy Reports - (1-18-2011)
- Introduced Legislation - 2011
- Senator List - 2011
- Committee List - 2011
- A Legislator's Guide to Nebraska State Agencies - 2011
- LR542 Listing of Options

News from the Unicameral Update

- New economic development program advances
- Registration open for the Unicameral Youth Legislature
- Statute of limitations for child sexual assault victims could increase
- Inmates could be required to pay incarceration costs
- Repeal of campaign finance law proposed
- Bill would establish new minimum energy standard
- Bill terminating Energy Conservation Improvement Fund advances
- Medicaid cost containment bill advanced
- Bills would add residency and name change restrictions for sexual predators
- Redistricting resolution considered

Search Current Bills

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[Friday, March 18, 2011](#)

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Public Counsel Reports

These reports are prepared by the Office of Public Counsel, also known as the State Ombudsman's Office, and include the office's annual reports.

[Public Counsel Reports](#)

Redistricting Reports

These reports include newsletters outlining the redistricting process and related information. Newsletters are prepared by the Legislative Research Office, while other materials come from a variety of sources within the Legislature.

[Redistricting Reports](#)

Registered Lobbyists

These reports are lists of lobbyists currently registered in Nebraska with the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature.

[Lists of Registered Lobbyists](#)

Revisor of Statutes Reports

These reports include information on recent operative dates of legislation, statutory section number assignments, and reissue and supplement volumes of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.

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Redistricting Newsletters

- [October 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)

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Nebraska Statutes Relating to Redistricting

- Neb. Rev. St. § 32-553. Political subdivisions; redistrict; when; procedure.
- Neb. Rev. St. § 32-554. City, village, village, county, or school district; elections at large or by district or ward; procedure.
- Neb. Rev. St. § 32-555. City, village, village, county, or school district; failure to redistrict; county attorney or election commissioner; duties; penalty.

Neb. Rev. St. § 32-553

- Districts shall be **substantially equal** in population as determined by the **most recent federal decennial census**

Neb. Rev. St. § 32-553

- Any such political subdivision.....shall, if necessary, to maintain substantial population equality as required by this subsection, have new district boundaries drawn within **six months** after the passage and approval of the legislative bill providing for reestablishing legislative districts.

Substantially Equal

- US Supreme Court has articulated two equal-population standards:
 - Strict population equality for Congressional Districts
 - The 'ten percent rule' for state legislative districts and other districts

Ten Percent Rule

- As applied to redistricting, the Supreme Court has interpreted the 14th Amendment to require that a state make a good-faith effort to create population equality among its districts.
- Generally, the equal-population requirement for state legislative and other districts is satisfied as long as the population of the smallest district and the population of the largest district do not vary by more than 10 percent.

Example Using Platte County

- Platte County 2010 Population 32,237
- Number of County Supervisors 7
- Ideal Population Per District
 - $32,237 / 7 = 4,605$
- Smallest District
 - $.95 * 4,605 = 4,375$
- Largest District
 - $1.05 * 4,605 = 4,836$

Neb. Rev. St. § 32-554

- Rules on changing
 - from nominating and electing the members of governing board by district or ward to at large or
 - from nominating and electing the members of governing board at large to by district or ward

Neb. Rev. St. § 32-555

- If the governing body fails to draw district boundaries by the date(s) established, the county attorney of the county in which the board is located shall file an action in the district court for the purpose of ordering the board to draw district boundaries.

Neb. Rev. St. § 32-555

- If within six months after the receipt of such order the board does not comply, the members of the board shall be subject to removal and the court shall order the Secretary of State to draw district boundaries.

Neb. Rev. St. § 32-555

- If the county attorney fails to file the action required,
 - He or she shall be subject to removal from office.
 - Any citizen within the jurisdiction of the governing board may file the action. The court shall order the board to pay any costs and attorney's fees involved in such action.

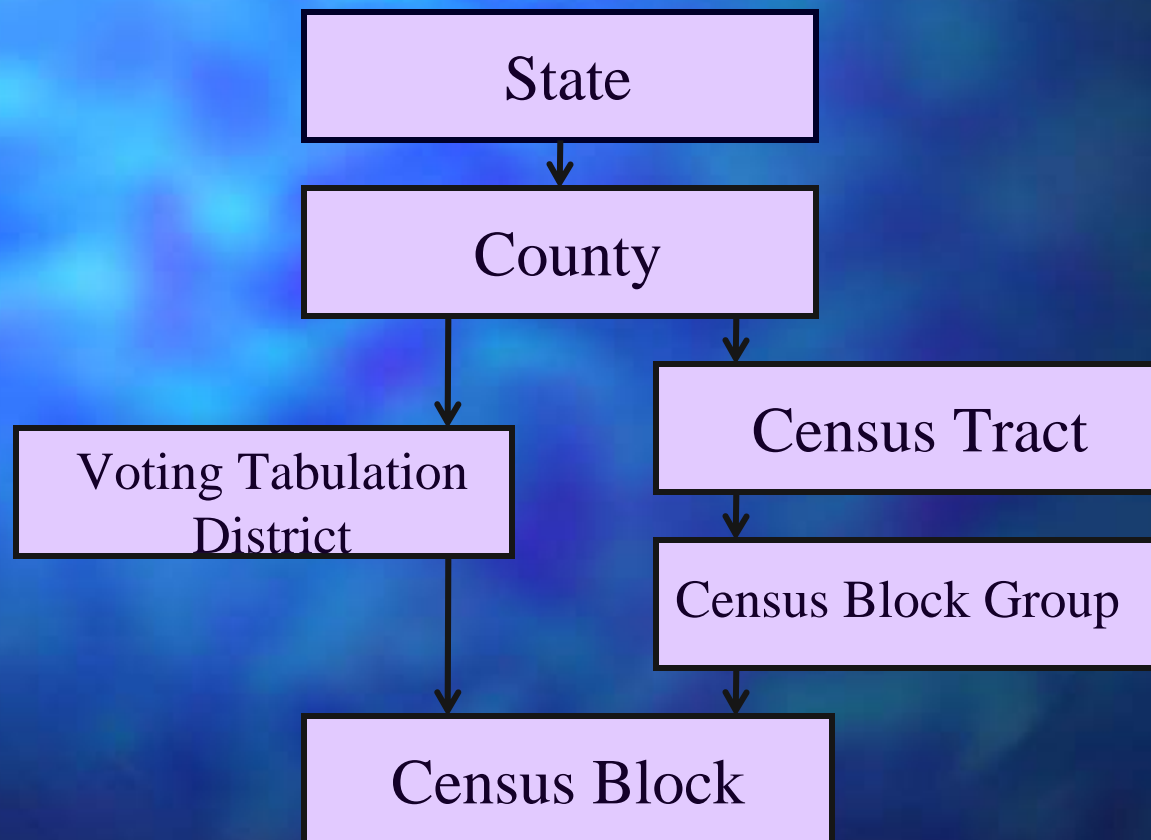
Redistricting committee hears comments on guidelines, Lincoln Journal-Star, Mar. 17, 2011

- Most of the attention Wednesday on guidelines for drawing new boundaries for congressional, legislative and other districts centered around how much over or under the ideal population each should be allowed.
 - For the time being, the guidelines allow the Legislature's Redistricting Committee to go 5 percent up or down when working out the new boundaries.
 - That was the guideline used 10 years ago when boundaries were redrawn. Ten years before that, the leeway was 2 percent.
 - Other proposed guidelines include these.
 - Follow county lines whenever practical.
 - Give no favor to political party or affiliations of registered voters.
 - Retain the voting strength of any minority population.
- The committee has tentatively set public hearings on redistricting plans for the week of May 9.

Census Geography

- Census 2010 data are available for:
 - Nebraska
 - Congressional Districts
 - American Indian and Alaska Native Areas
 - Counties
 - Cities, towns, and townships
 - Voting Districts
 - Census tracts, small neighborhood-size areas
 - Block groups, groups of census blocks, generally containing 800 to 1,000 people.
 - Blocks

Census Geography and How It Is Nested



Maps

- PDF files—these are files that can be viewed and printed from the Census Bureau's web site
 - Voting District
 - Census Tract
 - Block
- Electronic—requires mapping software

Census Bureau Website

<http://www.census.gov/>

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Data Finders

Population Clocks
U.S. 311,007,621
World 6,906,598,714
21:20 UTC (EST+5) Mar 18, 2011

Population Finder*
* Does not currently contain 2010 data
city/ town, county, or zip
or state
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Find An Area Profile with **QuickFacts**
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U.S. Census Bureau Maps and Cartographic Resources

- [WHAT'S NEW](#) - Lists the most recent products or services.
- ➔ • [MAP PRODUCTS](#) - Links to publicly available printed maps and free, downloadable maps in Portable Document Format [PDF]. Ordering information for printed maps and PDF maps on CD-ROM and DVD is also provided.
- ➔ • [BOUNDARY FILES](#) - Provides access to generalized, digital files suitable for use with a Geographic Information System (G.I.S.) as a base for medium to small-scale thematic mapping.
- [ON-LINE MAPPING](#) - Links to the American FactFinder which includes a mapping application derived from Census Bureau base map data.
- [RELATED SITES](#) - Lists other resources on the Bureau's Web site.
- [CONTACT](#) - Send us questions and/or comments. Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).
- [SITE MAP](#) - Site layout in text-only form.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Geography Division
Cartographic Products Management Branch
Created: September 12, 2001*

Census Bureau Map Products

Welcome to the Census Bureau Map Products page. Census Bureau maps are organized into two categories: [Reference Maps](#) and [Thematic Maps](#). Select the description link located beneath each map title to access more information about each map. To view or download maps, select a vintage. Note: The maps listed on this Web page are designed to be viewed with ADOBE Reader versions 4 and 5. If you do not have ADOBE Reader, you can download it for free from [ADOBE](#).

- How to [Find the Maps you Need](#)
- How to [Print Large Format PDF Map Files](#) [PDF]
- [Viewing Tips for PDF Map Files](#) Contains plotter specification information
- [Viewing the thumbnail images](#) for the 1990 Census Tract PDF Map files.

REFERENCE MAPS ([description](#))

2010 Census Reference

- [Census Tract Reference Maps](#)
- [P.L.94-171 County Block Maps](#)
- [P.L.94-171 VTD/SLD Reference Maps](#)
- [School District Reference Maps](#)
- [2010 Census Local Census Offices with Type of Enumeration Areas](#)

Boundary and Annexation Survey Maps

- [2011](#)

Census Geography (2000 and 1990)

- American Indian Tribal Census Tract Outline Maps:
[Description](#) [2000](#)
- American Indian/Alaska Native/Hawaiian Home Land Block Maps:
[Description](#) [2000](#)
- Census Block Maps: [\(Also available on DVD\)](#)
[Description](#) [2000](#) | [1990](#)
- Census Tract Outline Maps: [\(Also available on DVD\)](#)
[Description](#) [2000](#) | [1990](#)

General Reference

Population Data

- Printed—none available
- Internet—files can be downloaded from the Census Bureau's web site
- DVD—available from the Census Bureau with built in extraction software; our office can provide copies
- Excel Extract—available for individual county; prepared by our office

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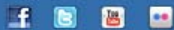
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* Does not currently contain 2010 data

city/ town, county, or zip

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- 2010 Census Mail Participation Rate Map
- Road Tour Blog

Redistricting Data, First Look at Local 2010 Census Results

Data Release Process:

- 1. Pre-release announcement** — A week ahead, we'll announce which states to anticipate the following week. (Subscribe to receive the media advisories [[media](#) | [non-media](#)].)
- 2. Shipment to State Leadership** — We'll ship the data to the state leadership (ex. governor, majority and minority leaders) first, as required by law. We will also issue a media advisory notifying media when we ship the data to each state.
- 3. Confirmation, FTP Site and News Release** — The following day, we'll confirm the state leaders' receipt of the data. We will then release the full data set to our [FTP download site](#) and post a news release and [custom tables](#) [XLS] with top line data for that state. ([Tech tips](#))
- 4. Full Data Set in American FactFinder within 24 Hours** — Within 24 hours, the data will also be available on [American FactFinder](#), the Census Bureau's online data search tool.

Release Information

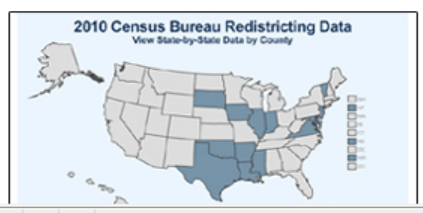
Contact:
[Public Information Office](#)
301-763-3030

Which States are Next:

- [Maine](#)
- [Massachusetts](#)
- [Michigan](#)
- [New Hampshire](#)
- [New York](#)
- [Rhode Island](#)
- [South Carolina](#)
- [West Virginia](#)
- [District of Columbia](#)
- [Puerto Rico](#)

Which States Have Been Released:

- (see [Interactive Map Widget](#))
- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Alabama | • Montana |
| • Alaska | • Nebraska |
| • Arkansas | • Nevada |
| • Arizona | • New Jersey |
| • California | • New Mexico |
| • Colorado | • North Carolina |
| • Connecticut | • North Dakota |
| • Delaware | • Ohio |
| • Florida | • Oklahoma |
| • Georgia | • Oregon |



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0FILE_STRUCTURE.doc	08-Feb-2011 13:25	668K	
0FILE_STRUCTURE.pdf	08-Feb-2011 13:34	270K	
0GEOID_Construction_for_Matching.pdf	11-Feb-2011 11:43	74K	
0README_PL.doc	08-Mar-2011 15:30	97K	
0README_PL.pdf	08-Mar-2011 15:30	48K	
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Alaska/	16-Mar-2011 14:03	-	
Arizona/	10-Mar-2011 15:01	-	
Arkansas/	10-Feb-2011 15:09	-	
California/	08-Mar-2011 15:34	-	
Colorado/	23-Feb-2011 15:00	-	
Connecticut/	09-Mar-2011 14:10	-	
Delaware/	02-Mar-2011 14:00	-	
Florida/	17-Mar-2011 14:00	-	
Georgia/	17-Mar-2011 14:01	-	
Hawaii/	24-Feb-2011 15:09	-	
Idaho/	10-Mar-2011 15:00	-	
Illinois/	15-Feb-2011 15:11	-	
Indiana/	10-Feb-2011 13:46	-	
Iowa/	10-Feb-2011 15:08	-	
Kansas/	03-Mar-2011 15:00	-	
Kentucky/	17-Mar-2011 14:03	-	
Louisiana/	03-Feb-2011 14:24	-	
Maryland/	09-Feb-2011 13:00	-	
Minnesota/	16-Mar-2011 14:01	-	
Mississippi/	03-Feb-2011 14:18	-	
Missouri/	24-Feb-2011 15:00	-	



Scroll down for Nebraska

U.S. Census Bureau

AMERICAN FactFinder



The NEW American FactFinder is now available!

The transition from the legacy American FactFinder to the NEW American FactFinder will continue through the fall of 2011. Data on the legacy FactFinder will be moved to the NEW FactFinder in the coming months. [Frequently Asked Questions](#) »

The legacy American FactFinder will be discontinued in the fall of 2011.



for data from
Census 2010 (beginning in February 2011)
and **Census 2000**
go to
factfinder2.census.gov

[Learn more](#) about the New American FactFinder

For information about the release of data from the 2010 Census, see the [2010 Census Data Products release schedule](#)



for data from the
American Community Survey,
the **Economic Census**,
and **Population Estimates**
go to
factfinder.census.gov

Decennial Census and American Community Survey

- Check ACS and 2010 Census questionnaires to see if data were collected
- Population: age, household relationship, gender, race, Hispanic origin, marital status
- Housing: owner/renter, vacancy, units in structure, rooms, value
- Social Characteristics: place of birth, education, ancestry, language spoken in home, veteran status, disability status
- Economic Characteristics: labor force, place of work, year last worked, occupation, income
- Depth of data you can collect may be limited by geography to ensure privacy
 - Underlined items are only data available on the 2010 Census

Nebraska ACS Data

- Full implementation in 2005, all counties surveyed.
 - Annual data for areas with 65,000+ people
 - Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster Counties; Lincoln, Omaha; etc.
 - 3-year aggregate data for areas with 20,000+ people
 - Cass, Hall, Madison Counties; Bellevue, Grand Island, Norfolk; etc.
 - 5-year aggregate for areas with under 20,000 people
 - 2005-2009 aggregate released mid-December 2010
 - All counties, cities, villages, census tracts, block groups

Point Estimates, MOE and Confidence Intervals

- The ACS data provide point estimates for various characteristics. ACS data also include a margin of error (MOE) for finding a lower and upper bound.
 - Why?
 - The ACS is a sample and subject to sampling error.
 - Are the data representative of the entire population?
 - Census 2000 long form also a sample—1 in 6 sampling rate made sampling error small and MOE was not released.
- Adding and subtracting the MOE to/from the point estimate creates a range called a confidence interval.
 - ACS displays the MOE for a 90% confidence interval.

ACS Note

The ACS is not designed to count the population – use other sources for population counts. The ACS provides characteristics of the people living in an area.