

Fair & Equitable Maps In Michigan: Why Redistricting Matters to You



What is “redistricting”?

Every ten years, each state is required to draw new legislative maps. For Michigan, these maps include congressional districts (for our representatives in congress) and state legislative districts (for our state representatives and state senators).

Why is redistricting important?

Our legislative maps determine the political landscape in Michigan. **Redistricting is an opportunity to ensure that voters can elect leaders who truly reflect the diverse communities they represent** and who will champion the issues and concerns of Michigan’s citizens and communities, both in Lansing and in Washington D.C.

Who draws Michigan’s legislative maps?

Until 2021, Michigan’s maps were drawn by our state legislature. This process was not transparent and resulted in some of the most unfair maps in the country, actively silencing the voices of many of Michigan’s historically marginalized communities. Thanks to a state constitutional amendment that Michigan voters passed in 2018 (Proposal 2 of 2018), **Michigan’s legislative maps are now drawn by Michigan’s Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC).**

What is Michigan’s Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission?

The MICRC is a group of 13 everyday citizens called “Commissioners,” who are selected using a process designed to provide for a balanced, independent, and transparent map-drawing process. Four Commissioners are affiliated with the Democrats, four are affiliated with the Republicans, and five are not affiliated with any political party.

Was Promote the Vote Involved with the 2021 Redistricting Process?

Yes. **Promote the Vote was the only statewide coalition of civil rights organizations that collaborated to produce fair, equitable maps at each level, [submitting six maps](#) during the 2021 redistricting process.** Organizations in the PTV coalition share a rich history and deep investment in protecting and defending voting rights, which includes [ensuring that Michiganders have fair, equitable maps](#). Fair, inclusive maps mean our communities are represented by leaders who know us and who will fight for the resources that our children and families need to thrive.

Questions? Need more information?

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