

D4: Gerrymandering and Solutions

Class Prep Assignment

Due at the beginning of next class

Apportionment determines how many representatives are given to each state. Then each state draws the districts that elect one representative each.

Watch the videos and look for the following information.

1. How often does redistricting happen?

2. What are the two rules for drawing district lines?
 - 1.
 - 2.

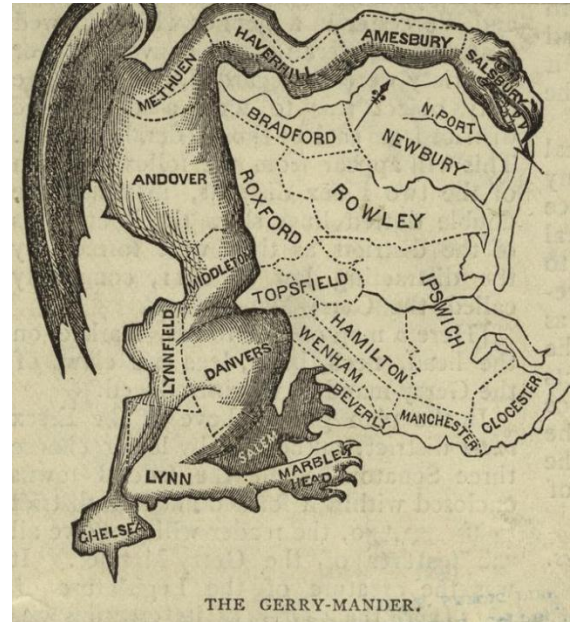
3. Who determines where the district lines are drawn?

4. There are two types of gerrymandering.

What is cracking?

What is packing?

5. What is gerrymandering?



How to Measure Gerrymandering: The Efficiency Gap

Example 1. The votes are shown for five districts in a hypothetical state. Determine the number of seats won and calculate the efficiency gap.

Election Results:

	District	D Votes	R Votes	D Wasted Votes	R Wasted Votes
Democrats win	1	75	25		
_____ seats	2	60	40		
	3	43	57		
Republicans win	4	48	52		
_____ seats	5	49	51		
	Total				

$$\text{Efficiency Gap} = \frac{\text{Party A Wasted Votes} - \text{Party B Wasted Votes}}{\text{Total Votes}} =$$

A maximum efficiency gap of _____% is currently being proposed.

Adapted from: [https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/legal-work/How the Efficiency Gap Standard Works.pdf](https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/legal-work/How%20the%20Efficiency%20Gap%20Standard%20Works.pdf)

Another Solution to Gerrymandering – Fair Representation (with Ranked Choice Voting)

Instead of 3 districts that elect 1 representatives each, we

would have _____ district that elects _____ representatives.

The representation would be more _____ to the population.

More information

Democracy vs. Math: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/29/magazine/the-new-front-in-the-gerrymandering-wars-democracy-vs-math.html>

Efficiency Gap Infographics for each state: <https://www.azavea.com/blog/2017/07/19/gerrymandered-states-ranked-efficiency-gap-seat-advantage/>

Article about project REDMAP (REDstricting Majority Project): <https://qz.com/1009713/gerrymandering-definition-guide-to-understanding-gill-v-whitford-supreme-court-case/>