

REDISTRICTING 101

WHAT IS REDISTRICTING?

Where you vote, and who you vote for, is determined by the state legislative and U.S. Congressional districts you live in. **The U.S. Constitution requires districts to have equal population.** Because populations change over time, the federal government conducts a census **every 10 years** and the states use the updated population data to redraw its district lines.

In a fair system, this process ensures that each vote counts the same and that voters' voices are heard.

HOW DO YOU GERRYMANDER?

Political parties pay consultants who use your personal information to predict how you'll vote. The party is able to choose its voters in each district with almost surgical precision to get the election results it wants over the next decade.

For example, take a simplified micro-state with only 24 voters. 12 vote for **PURPLE**-party candidates and 12 vote for **ORANGE**-party candidates. If we drew 4 districts with 6 voters each, the seats should come out to 2 **PURPLE** and 2 **ORANGE**, right?

But... if the **PURPLE** party draws the maps, they can pack a bunch of **ORANGE** voters into one district and then win the remaining districts because there are so few **ORANGE** voters left. **PURPLE** wins 3 out of the 4 seats - even though they have the same number of votes overall.

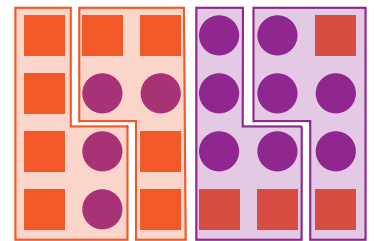
And if the **ORANGE** party controls the redistricting process, they can manipulate the outcome for themselves. It's called gerrymandering. It happens when politicians choose their voters and manipulate lines that don't reflect the will of voters.

WHAT IS GERRYMANDERING?

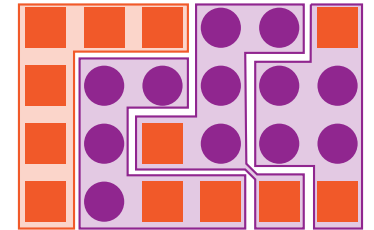
When one political party controls the redistricting process, they can rig elections in their favor.

Gerrymandering happens when politicians manipulate district lines in a way that gives their chosen candidates and their political party an unfair advantage in future elections.

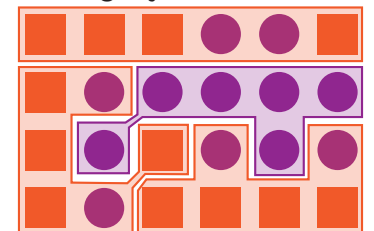
Fair maps - **PURPLE** and **ORANGE** each win 2 seats



PURPLE gerrymanders to win 3-1



ORANGE gerrymanders to win 3-1



HOW DO WE GET FAIR LINES?

In 2018, 61% of Michigan voters passed **Proposal 2**, which created a **fair, impartial, and transparent redistricting process where voters - not politicians - draw the lines.** Now, you can help shape Michigan's future.

- ▶ **LEARN MORE** about how you can participate in Michigan's next redistricting process at: vnp.vote/DRAWTHELINE
- ▶ **VOLUNTEER** to in your community at: vnp.vote/VOLUNTEER
- ▶ **CONTRIBUTE** to help educate more voters about Michigan's new redistricting process at: vnp.vote/DONATE