

City of Albuquerque

Redistricting Committee

Redistricting Principles

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Presented by:

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Principles of Districting

- ▣ Equal population
- ▣ Minority Voting Rights
- ▣ Compactness
- ▣ Contiguity
- ▣ Communities of interest

Constitutional Mandate to Redistrict

Gray v. Sanders, 1963
“One person, one vote”



We the People

- Congress: as equal as possible
- State legislature, other entities: 10% spread, if there's a good reason

Who Gets Counted?

Everyone, including, but not limited to:

- ▣ Adults
- ▣ Children
- ▣ Citizens
- ▣ College students in dorms
- ▣ Prisoners
- ▣ Non-citizens
 - Undocumented immigrants
 - Foreign students
 - Foreign workers (e.g. German Air Force at Holloman AFB)

Equal Population

- Equal population = equal representation
 - One person, one-vote principle
 - Ideal population = total population / # of districts
 - Example using 2000 Census
 - City of Albuquerque: $448,607 / 9 = 49,845$

Equal Population (continued)

- Districts must be “substantially equal”
 - No more than 10% total deviation
 - Within $\pm 5\%$ of the ideal population
 - City of Albuquerque example, 2000 Census
 - Population of each district
 - $49,845 \pm 2,492$ range: 47,353 – 52,337

Minority Voting Strength

- ❑ Give the minority population an opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice
- ❑ Do not dilute voting strength of ethnic/language minority groups (Voting Rights Act, Section 2):
 - Native Americans
 - African Americans
 - Hispanics
- ❑ Do not create districts in which race is the predominant criterion in subordination of traditional districting principles (Shaw v. Reno, 509 U.S. 630 (1993))

Minority Voting Strength – cont.

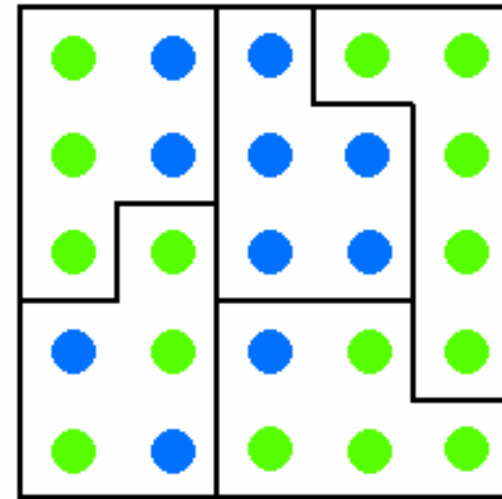
- Three criteria that need to meet to require single-member districts under federal case law (Thornburg v. Gingles, 478 U.S. 30 (1986))
 - Minority population is compact and large enough to constitute a majority in a single-member district
 - Minority population is politically cohesive
 - Bloc voting by White population

Minority Voting Strength Dilution

- ▣ Packing
- ▣ Cracking

Dilute through Packing

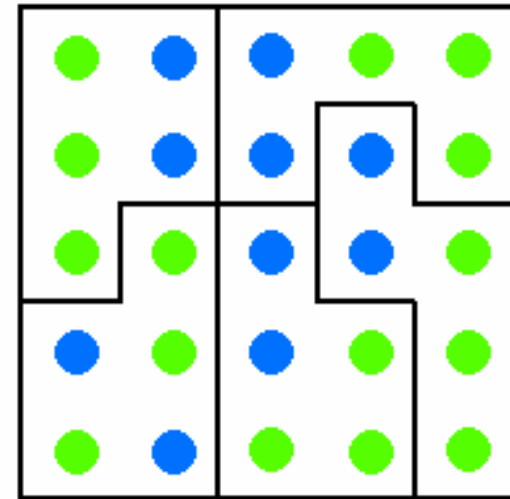
- ❑ Concentrate as much of a minority group into as few districts as possible to minimize the number of districts in which the minority could elect a candidate of their choice
- ❑ Avoid packing



- Blue – minority areas

Dilute Through Cracking

- ❑ Split up a minority into as many districts as possible to minimize influence in any given district
- ❑ Avoid cracking

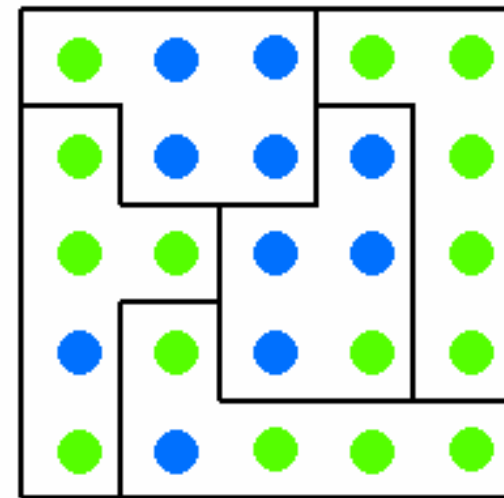


- Blue – minority areas

Neither Packed nor Cracked

- In the example, provides two minority districts whereby the minority group has a chance to elect a candidate of their choice

■ Blue – minority areas

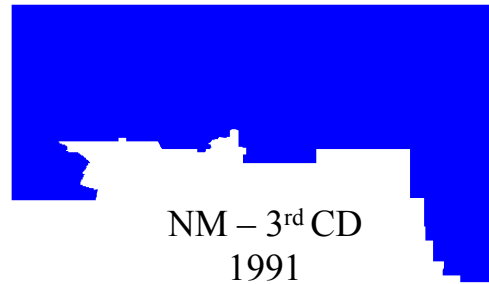


Compactness

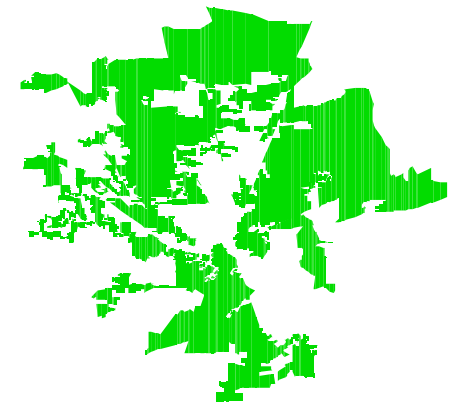
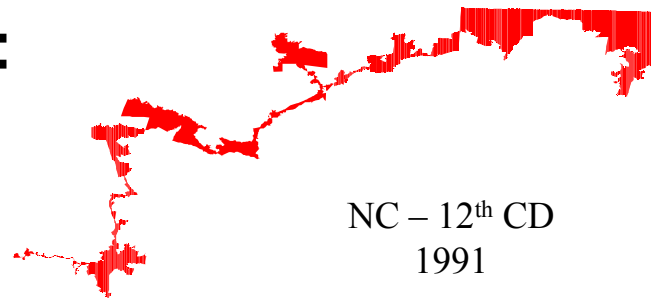
- ❑ Different ways to measure compactness
 - None are perfect
- ❑ Refers to shape, not geographic size
 - Could have a very large district in area that is compact in shape
- ❑ A jurisdiction's irregular outer boundary can affect the compactness measures of a district

Compactness

□ Compact:



□ Not Compact:



Compactness (continued)



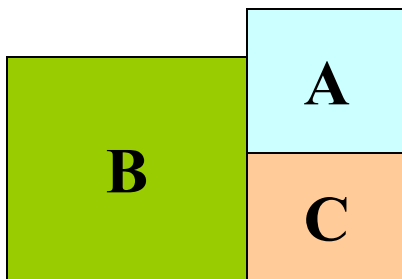
Compactness (continued)



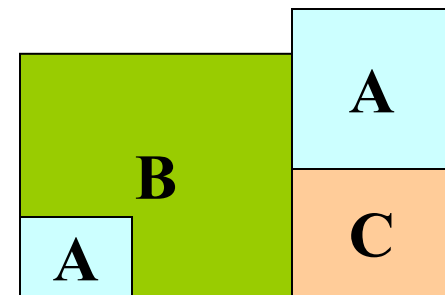
Contiguity

- ❑ No islands of territory
- ❑ One distinct part, not two or more

❑ Contiguous:



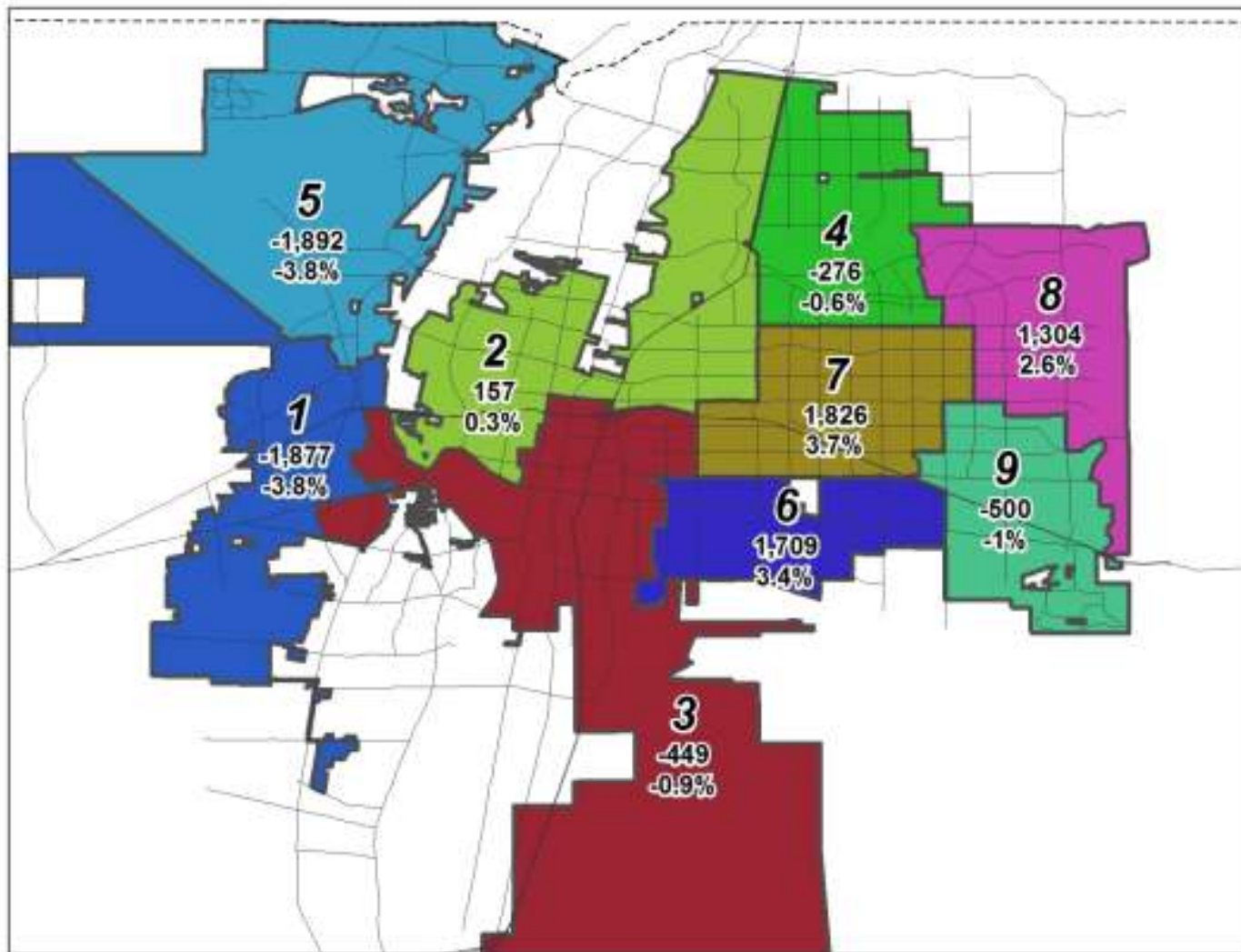
Not Contiguous:



Communities of Interest

- ❑ All other factors which determine where and how a district boundary could be drawn
- ❑ Includes, but not limited to:
 - Neighborhoods
 - Cultural / historical traditions
 - Respecting political subdivisions (e.g. avoid precinct splits)
 - Maintaining core of existing districts / incumbent residency
 - Geographic boundaries
- ❑ Can be considered as long as previous districting principles are not violated

City Council 2001 to 2010



Current Districts – 2000 Census

District	Pop	Deviation	Hispanic	Non - Hispanic Origin							
				White	Native American	Black	Asian	2 Or More Races			
1	47,968	-1,877 -3.8%	33,705 70.3%	10,161 21.2%	1,442 3.0%	1,618 3.4%	334 0.7%	640 1.3%			
Adult:	32,407		21,704 67.0%	7,970 24.6%	967 3.0%	1,110 3.4%	277 0.9%	333 1.0%			
2	50,002	157 0.3%	28,113 56.2%	17,693 35.4%	1,984 4.0%	902 1.6%	483 1.0%	739 1.5%			
Adult:	37,671		19,806 52.6%	14,880 39.5%	1,431 3.8%	634 1.7%	381 1.0%	479 1.3%			
3	49,396	-449 -0.9%	27,527 55.7%	16,070 32.5%	1,776 3.6%	1,895 3.8%	1,166 2.4%	821 1.7%			
Adult:	38,425		19,545 50.9%	14,373 37.4%	1,371 3.6%	1,495 3.9%	946 2.5%	582 1.5%			
4	49,569	-276 -0.6%	12,055 24.3%	32,585 65.7%	1,388 2.8%	951 1.9%	1,543 3.1%	909 1.8%			
Adult:	38,100		8,637 22.7%	25,949 68.1%	1,042 2.7%	710 1.9%	1,135 3.0%	533 1.4%			
5	47,953	-1,892 -3.8%	18,065 37.7%	25,270 52.7%	1,607 3.4%	1,288 2.7%	715 1.5%	888 1.9%			
Adult:	34,062		11,825 34.7%	19,028 55.9%	1,202 3.5%	902 2.6%	659 1.6%	467 1.4%			
6	51,554	1,709 3.4%	21,946 42.6%	22,266 43.2%	2,907 5.6%	1,889 3.7%	1,392 2.7%	1,023 2.0%			
Adult:	39,456		14,880 37.7%	19,394 49.2%	1,994 5.1%	1,372 3.5%	1,082 2.7%	632 1.6%			
7	51,671	1,826 3.7%	14,050 27.2%	33,129 64.1%	1,234 2.4%	1,163 2.3%	1,157 2.2%	855 1.7%			
Adult:	40,787		10,034 24.6%	27,536 67.5%	897 2.2%	844 2.1%	889 2.2%	520 1.3%			
8	51,149	1,304 2.6%	9,061 17.7%	38,034 74.4%	774 1.5%	942 1.8%	1,361 2.7%	830 1.6%			
Adult:	40,218		6,515 16.2%	30,811 76.6%	590 1.5%	718 1.8%	1,025 2.5%	463 1.2%			
9	49,345	-500 -1.0%	14,553 29.5%	28,687 58.1%	1,701 3.4%	1,728 3.5%	1,538 3.1%	1,033 2.1%			
Adult:	37,389		9,809 26.2%	23,397 62.6%	1,179 3.2%	1,160 3.1%	1,195 3.2%	572 1.5%			
Totals	448,607	Ideal: 49,845	179,075 39.9%	223,895 49.9%	14,813 3.3%	12,376 2.8%	9,689 2.2%	7,738 1.7%			
Adult:	338,515		122,755 36.3%	183,338 54.2%	10,673 3.2%	8,945 2.6%	7,489 2.2%	4,581 1.4%			

Thank you

Questions?

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