

WHERE THE LINES ARE DRAWN (STATE LAW, 2000)

	State legislative districts						Congressional districts	
	Population deviation	Compactness	Political boundaries	Communities of interest	No partisan favoritism	Encourage competition	Nesting	
AK		YES		YES			YES	1 congressional district
AL		yes	YES	yes				mostly same as state districts
AR			YES					
AZ		PERIM	YES	YES		YES	YES	same as state districts
CA		YES	YES	YES	YES		IF POSS.	mostly same as state districts
CO	<5%	PERIM	YES	YES				
CT			YES					
DE					yes			1 congressional district
FL								
GA			yes					same as state districts
HI		YES	YES	YES	YES		IF POSS.	same as state districts
IA	<5%	mult.	yes		yes		yes	same as state districts
ID		yes	YES	yes	yes		yes	same as state districts
IL		YES					YES	
IN								
KS		yes	yes	yes				same as state districts
KY			YES					different from state districts
LA			yes					same as state districts
MA			YES					
MD		YES	YES					
ME		YES	YES	yes				mostly same as state districts
MI		spread	YES					same as state districts
MN	<2%	yes	yes	yes			YES	same as state districts
MO		YES	YES	yes				mostly same as state districts

A “yes” above indicates that the state imposes the designated type of limit on its districts; a blank space indicates no express limit in that category. **BOLD CAPS** indicates a constitutional limit; standard typeface indicates a statutory limit; and gray typeface indicates voluntary guidelines. In most states that have limits like requiring compactness, following political boundaries, and preserving communities of interest, these limits must be followed only as closely “as is practicable,” leaving substantial flexibility to the redistricting body to serve other goals as well. And in every state, such standards are always subordinate to federal equal population limits and to the federal Voting Rights Act.

State legislative districts

Congressional districts

	Population deviation	Compactness	Political boundaries	Communities of interest	No partisan favoritism	Encourage competition	Nesting	
MS		yes	yes					
MT	<1%	spread	yes	yes	yes		YES	1 congressional district
NC		YES	YES	YES				
ND		YES	yes				yes	1 congressional district
NE		YES	YES		yes			same as state districts
NH			YES					
NJ		YES	YES				YES	
NM		yes	yes	yes				same as state districts
NV								
NY		YES	YES				IF POSS.	
OH		YES	YES				YES	
OK		YES	YES	YES				
OR			yes	yes	yes		YES	same as state districts
PA		YES	YES					
RI		YES	YES					
SC		yes	yes	yes				same as state districts
SD		YES	yes	yes			YES	1 congressional district
TN			YES					
TX			YES					
UT	<8%	yes						same as state districts
VA	<4%	YES		yes				same as state districts
VT		YES	YES	yes				1 congressional district
WA		YES	YES	yes	YES	yes	yes	same as state districts
WI		YES	YES	yes			YES	
WV		YES	YES	yes				
WY		yes	yes	yes			if poss.	1 congressional district

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