



DRAFT-- POSSIBLE TIMELINE FOR 2019-2023 MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION WORK

This document is a draft timeline based on the meetings held by the 2009-2013 Districting and Apportionment Commission and that commission's adopted work plan. It was drafted by staff for informational purposes only. This commission can revise and adopt its own timeline at future meetings.

Date	Event/Action
Fall 2019 - Spring 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSD staff test/purchase redistricting software • Commission organizational and informational meetings
April 1, 2020 Spring 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal decennial census • Commission review of districting criteria • Public hearings on criteria (if wanted) • Adopt districting criteria • Other commission discussion of timelines, work processes
Spring 2020 to Fall 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss/adopt operational guidelines (timelines and processes) for Congressional redistricting • [optional] Discuss operational guidelines (timelines and processes) for state legislative redistricting
By April 1, 2021 (likely earlier) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The previous commission received Census data on March 15, 2011. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census figures available; congressional redistricting triggered
By 90 days from receipt of Census data (Spring 2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create/discuss draft congressional plans • Hold at least one public hearing and adopt congressional plan • File plan with secretary of state

Date	Event/Action
Late Spring 2021 through 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of Census data and state legislative population changes • Discuss/adopt operational guidelines (timelines and processes) for state legislative redistricting • Begin legislative redistricting • Adopt public hearing schedule and hold hearings • Tentative adoption of House plan • Pair House districts to create Senate districts • Assign holdover senators to districts
Late 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory public hearing at Capitol in Helena on state legislative plan
By 10th Legislative Day, 2023 Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit legislative redistricting plan to Legislature for review
Within 30 days of submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislature must return plan to commission with recommendations
Within 30 days of return from Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission votes on final plan • Files plan with secretary of state • Plan becomes law • Commission dissolved

- The new congressional districts would be used in the 2022 elections and provide representation starting in early 2023.
- The new legislative districts would be used in the 2024 elections and provide representation starting in early 2025.

Potential deadlines for Congressional plan

The commission has 90 days from the receipt of the Census data to finalize a congressional plan. The following possible deadlines are based on various hypothetical Census data arrival dates. They are intended only to give the commissioners a sense of the timeline for completing that plan.

Arrival of Census Data	Final Day to Submit Congressional Districts
Feb. 15, 2021 (Monday)	May 16, 2021 (Sunday)
March 1, 2021 (Monday)	May 29, 2021 (Saturday)
March 15, 2021 (Monday)	June 13, 2021 (Sunday)
March 31, 2021 (Wednesday)	June 29, 2021 (Tuesday)