



# Reallocating Inmate Data for Redistricting

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Strengthening  
the legislative  
institution.

Serving 7,383  
legislators and  
25,000 staff.

## People reside where they “eat and sleep.”

For inmates, this means they are counted by the census as residents of wherever they are incarcerated on Census Day.

This is true even if they are in transit.

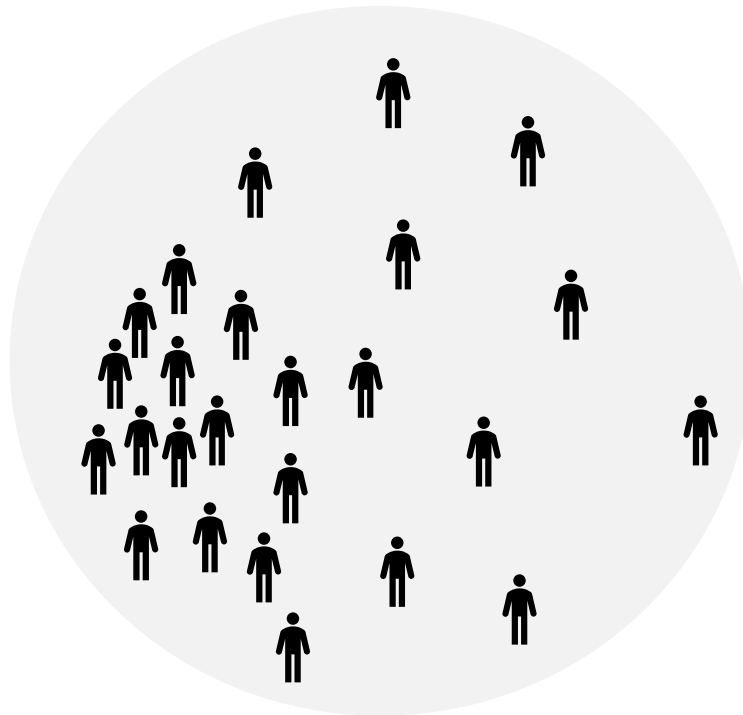


## Census Definition of Residence

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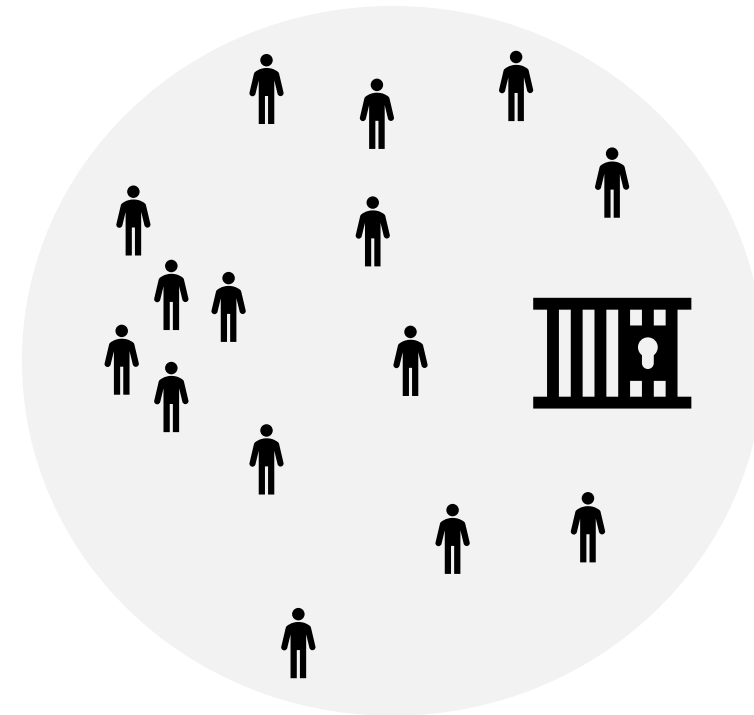
# Hypothetical Impact of Census Policy

District A



25 Voters

District B



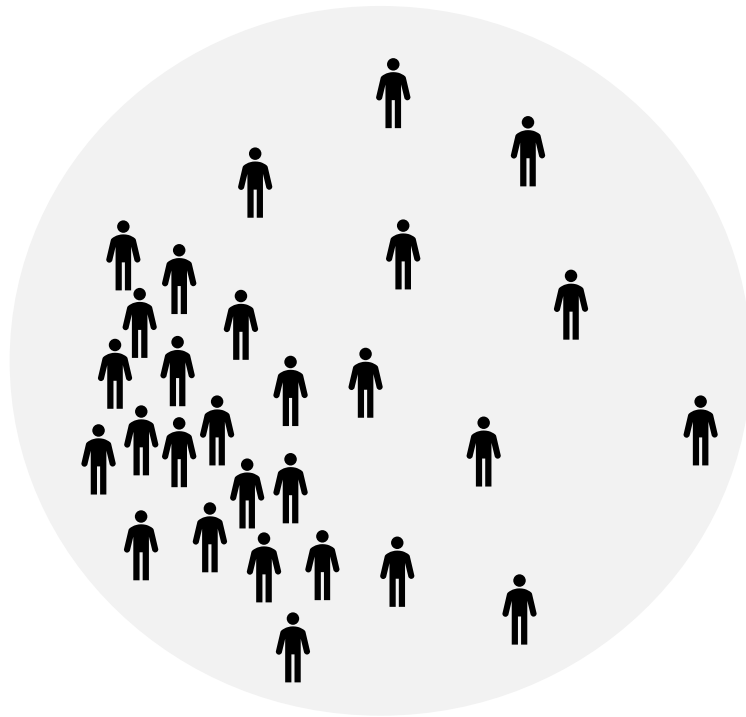
15 Voters + 10 Inmates

# Exacerbating Racial Disparities?



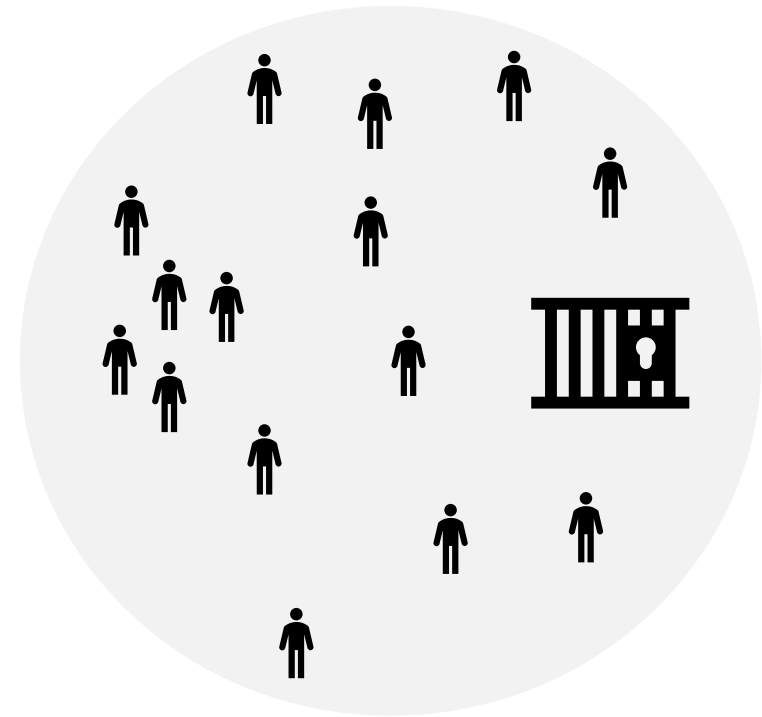
# Solution: Reallocate Inmate Data

District A



28 Voters

District B



15 Voters



# How it Works: Distinctions

## Jurisdiction

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- Federal inmates
  - Inmates in custody of federal government
  - Includes inmates briefly in state or county-run facilities under federal contracts
- State inmates
  - Inmates in custody of state, county or municipal governments
  - Includes temporary or permanent placement

## Action

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- Reallocation
  - State matches its own record of inmate to record in census file
- Exclusion
  - In absence of record of inmate's last known address, state removes record of inmate for purposes of redistricting
- None
  - In absence of record of inmate's last known address, state counts inmate as resident of incarceration facility for purposes of redistricting



# State Inmates: No Record Available

For inmates who previously resided out-of-state, or last known address is unknown

## No Alteration of Census Data

- Colorado
- Virginia
- Connecticut (only for inmates serving life sentences without possibility of parole)

## Removed from Dataset

- California
- Delaware
- Illinois (beginning 2030)
- Maryland
- New Jersey
- New York
- Washington

## Other

- Law doesn't specify which action to take (Nevada)
- Counted as generic residents of state, similar to overseas residents (Connecticut)

# Federal Inmates



## In-State

- Count at last known address
  - Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia
- Exclude from all district populations
  - California, New York
- Not addressed in law
  - Colorado, Nevada, Washington



## Out-of-State/Unknown

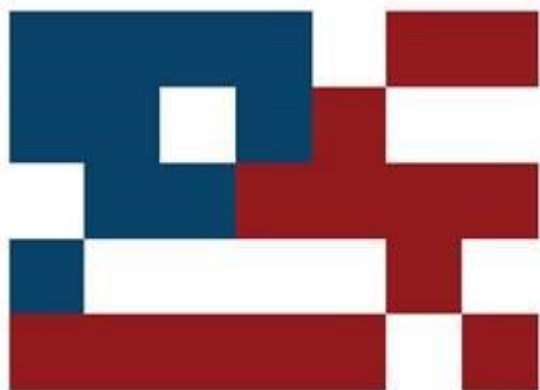
- Exclude from all district populations
  - California, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York
- No action
  - Virginia
- Counted as generic residents of states, as are overseas residents
  - Connecticut
- Not addressed in law
  - Colorado, Nevada, Washington

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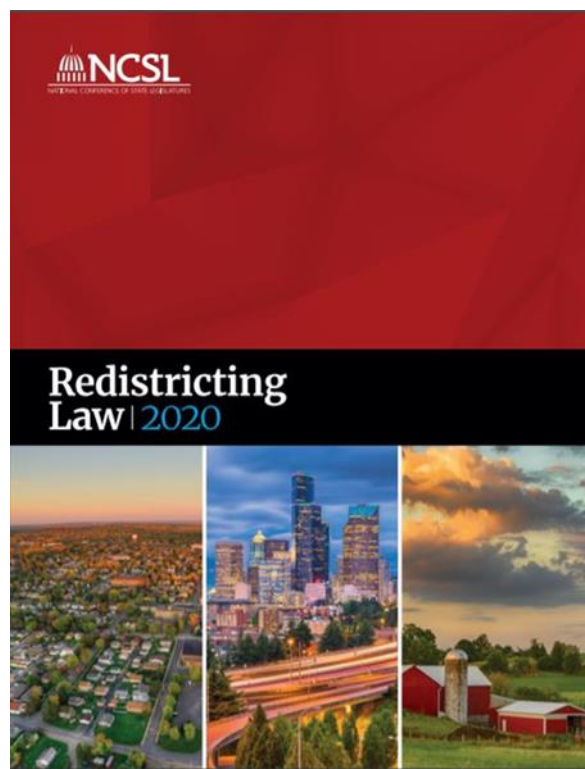


# NCSL's Redistricting Team



**Research Requests**

*We are always available!*



**THANK YOU!**

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