

Drawing the Line 2001

Redistricting in Virginia



Number 2

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Redistricting Underway: Census Counts, Public Hearings, Special Session

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Census 2000

One Set of Numbers — Not Two

Virginia's General Assembly and local governing bodies will redraw election districts based on the official 2000 Census redistricting counts—one set of numbers based on the actual population counts.

On March 1, a special committee of the Census Bureau recommended that one set of Census numbers—the actual counts—be released as the official numbers for redistricting. The committee concluded that the Bureau's efforts to improve the actual counts by statistical adjustments had not yet proved successful. The Secretary of Commerce confirmed the committee's findings on March 6 and authorized the release of one set redistricting population numbers based on the actual counts.

Redistricting Data for Virginia

The Census Bureau sent Virginia officials the redistricting population numbers on March 7 and posted the numbers on its website on March 8. The three tables that follow show the total population for Virginia's current House of Delegates, Senate, and Congressional districts.

There is a wide variance in populations from the ideal district populations of 70,785 (House), 176,963 (Senate), and 643,501 (Congressional). The plus to minus deviation range for the House is +78.7% to -36.2%; for the Senate, +48.5% to -22.8%; and for Congress, +18.8% to -13.4%. Courts have accepted a +5% to -5% deviation for state legislative districts, but little or no deviation for Congressional districts.

The main website for information on Virginia redistricting data and plans is:

<http://dlsGIS.state.va.us/>

Census population statistics are also available through:

- ◆ The State Data Center:
<http://www.vec.state.va.us/pdf/2000census.pdf>
- ◆ The Census Bureau:
http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2001/tables/redist_va.html
- ◆ The Census Bureau's American FactFinder:
<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>

TABLE 1: House of Delegates Districts**Ideal District Population: 70,785****Total Virginia Population: 7,078,515**

District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal	Percent Deviation	District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal	Percent Deviation
1	61,742	-9,043	-12.8	51	74,060	+3,275	+4.6
2	63,856	-6,929	-9.8	52	81,772	+10,987	+15.5
3	59,676	-11,109	-15.7	53	72,521	+1,736	+2.5
4	68,470	-2,315	-3.3	54	88,820	+18,035	+25.5
5	65,026	-5,759	-8.1	55	86,320	+15,535	+21.9
6	66,451	-4,334	-6.1	56	83,391	+12,606	+17.8
7	61,971	-8,814	-12.5	57	65,107	-5,678	-8.0
8	65,573	-5,212	-7.4	58	82,837	+12,052	+17.0
9	73,107	+2,322	+3.3	59	69,873	-912	-1.3
10	65,882	-4,903	-6.9	60	64,799	-5,986	-8.5
11	65,630	-5,155	-7.3	61	67,963	-2,822	-4.0
12	68,737	-2,048	-2.9	62	69,491	-1,294	-1.8
13	93,346	+22,561	31.9	63	59,772	-11,013	-15.6
14	68,927	-1,858	-2.6	64	71,068	+283	+0.4
15	70,983	+198	+0.3	65	83,452	+12,667	+17.9
16	61,959	-8,826	-12.5	66	90,343	+19,558	+27.6
17	61,831	-8,954	-12.6	67	90,871	+20,086	+28.4
18	64,104	-6,681	-9.4	68	67,704	-3,081	-4.4
19	76,436	+5,651	+8.0	69	62,682	-8,103	-11.4
20	60,360	-10,425	-14.7	70	59,875	-10,910	-15.4
21	67,070	-3,715	-5.2	71	57,910	-12,875	-18.2
22	68,254	-2,531	-3.6	72	80,749	+9,964	+14.1
23	60,741	-10,044	-14.2	73	83,880	+13,095	+18.5
24	71,884	+1,099	+1.6	74	66,287	-4,498	-6.4
25	72,137	+1,352	+1.9	75	65,717	-5,068	-7.2
26	78,532	+7,747	+10.9	76	74,724	+3,939	+5.6
27	70,713	72	0	77	67,258	-3,527	-5.0
28	92,446	+21,661	+30.6	78	91,663	+20,878	+29.5
29	79,795	+9,010	+12.7	79	71,380	+595	+0.8
30	78,014	+7,229	+10.2	80	51,524	-19,261	-27.2
31	72,819	+2,034	+2.9	81	63,697	-7,088	-10.0
32	126,496	+55,711	+78.7	82	64,139	-6,646	-9.4
33	81,987	+11,202	+15.8	83	67,380	-3,405	-4.8
34	75,006	+4,221	+6.0	84	79,958	+9,173	+13.0
35	68,244	-2,541	-3.6	85	64,196	-6,589	-9.3
36	83,956	+13,171	+18.6	86	45,130	-25,655	-36.2
37	66,183	-4,602	-6.5	87	49,877	-20,908	-29.5
38	68,433	-2,352	-3.3	88	57,734	-13,051	-18.4
39	67,421	-3,364	-4.8	89	55,887	-14,898	-21.0
40	85,006	+14,221	+20.1	90	58,008	-12,777	-18.1
41	63,280	-7,505	-10.6	91	64,799	-5,986	-8.5
42	65,399	-5,386	-7.6	92	60,313	10,472	-14.8
43	82,825	+12,040	+17.0	93	74,347	+3,562	+5.0
44	65,226	-5,559	-7.9	94	64,567	-6,218	-8.8
45	63,856	-6,929	-9.8	95	61,021	-9,764	-13.8
46	73,341	+2,556	+3.6	96	78,182	+7,397	+10.4
47	68,489	-2,296	-3.2	97	80,843	+10,058	+14.2
48	70,999	+214	+0.3	98	72,329	+1,544	+2.2
49	66,103	-4,682	-6.6	99	68,266	-2,519	-3.6
50	77,060	+6,275	+8.9	100	68,247	-2,538	-3.6

As of the March 8 release of the Census data, each of these sites began providing information to the public on the 2000 Census data and will be adding information to these sites as the Census data is displayed and as redistricting plans are drawn and made public.

Special Session

When the General Assembly adjourned the Regular 2001 Session on February 24, it also con-

vened in a special session for redistricting. Under the terms of House Joint Resolution 905, the General Assembly immediately recessed until April 5, following the veto session April 4. The resolution set the April 5 date in anticipation of release of the Census data by March 9 and to allow time to bring the data online in the legislature’s redistricting computer system. The real work on redistricting will be underway shortly and action by the legislature on state legislative districts is expected in early April.

Public Hearings

The Privileges and Elections Committees of the House and Senate will hold five joint hearings throughout the Commonwealth on March 30 and 31 and on April 2. In a news release March 9, the committee chairmen announced that joint panels of the two Committees will meet:

Friday, March 30

7:00 p.m.
 Portsmouth City Council Chambers
 801 Crawford Street — 6th Floor
 Portsmouth, Virginia

Saturday, March 31

10:00 a.m.
 Annandale Campus/NVA Community College
 Forum Room
 8333 Little River Turnpike
 Annandale, Virginia

10:00 a.m.
 Roanoke City Council Chambers
 Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building
 215 Church Avenue, SW, 4th Floor
 Roanoke, Virginia

7:00 p.m.
 Southwest Virginia Community College
 U.S. Route 19
 Near Richlands and Claypool Hill, Virginia

Monday, April 2

7:00 p.m.
 General Assembly Building
 House Room D
 Ninth and Broad Streets
 Richmond, Virginia

TABLE 2: Senate Districts
Ideal District Population: 176,963
Total Virginia Population: 7,078,515

District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal	Percent Deviation	District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal	Percent Deviation
1	189,763	+12,800	+7.2	21	159,193	-17,770	-10.0
2	149,888	-27,075	-15.3	22	164,070	-12,893	-7.3
3	181,082	+4,119	+2.3	23	167,870	-9,093	-5.1
4	199,611	+22,648	+12.8	24	174,606	-2,357	-1.3
5	143,643	-33,320	-18.8	25	174,319	-2,644	-1.5
6	136,556	-40,407	-22.8	26	189,401	+12,438	+7.0
7	152,111	-24,852	-14.0	27	182,380	+5,417	+3.1
8	167,639	-9,324	-5.3	28	215,826	+38,863	+22.0
9	149,110	-27,853	-15.7	29	209,172	+32,209	+18.2
10	168,182	-8,781	-5.0	30	174,712	-2,251	-1.3
11	194,188	+17,225	+9.7	31	174,500	-2,463	-1.4
12	190,575	+13,612	+7.7	32	177,755	+792	+0.4
13	176,293	-670	-0.4	33	262,751	+85,788	+48.5
14	220,607	+43,644	+24.7	34	175,317	-1,646	-0.9
15	170,373	-6,590	-3.7	35	158,737	-18,226	-10.3
16	146,924	-30,039	-17.0	36	184,196	+7,233	+4.1
17	208,658	+31,695	+17.9	37	221,044	+44,081	+24.9
18	159,437	-17,526	-9.9	38	150,973	-25,990	-14.7
19	157,197	-19,766	-11.2	39	170,581	-6,382	-3.6
20	168,010	-8,953	-5.1	40	161,265	-15,698	-8.9

TABLE 3: Congressional Districts
Ideal District Population: 643,501
Total Virginia Population: 7,078,515

District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal	Percent Deviation
1	709,060	+65,559	+9.2
2	574,058	-69,443	-12.1
3	567,683	-75,818	-13.4
4	645,733	+2,232	+0.3
5	620,104	-23,397	-3.8
6	609,802	-33,699	-5.5
7	699,196	+55,695	+8.0
8	627,849	-15,652	-2.5
9	582,943	-60,558	-10.4
10	792,534	+149,033	+18.8
11	649,553	+6,052	+0.9

Drawing the Line 2001 reports periodically on significant developments in the 2001 redistricting process in Virginia. Published by the Division of Legislative Services.

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