

New Mexico 2021 Redistricting: Least Change Plan

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Date: September 28, 2021

This perfect population map aims to follow New Mexico's current district lines as closely as possible while complying with all relevant federal and state laws. District 1 grew slightly, taking small areas around Paradise Hills from District 3 and taking the rest of Bernalillo County and a small portion of Valencia County from District 2. This preserves the core of District 1 in Bernalillo County while remedying the other two districts' overpopulation. There were no other changes.

New Mexico is a state with high Hispanic and Native populations. As such, all three of these districts are majority-minority. District 1 is 48.6% Hispanic and 8.2% Native. District 2 is 55.1% Hispanic and 7.2% Native. District 3 is 39.5% Hispanic and 21.9% Native. Citizen voting age population in each district decreases the percentages significantly, however all three are still majority-minority by these metrics and there should be no conflict with the Voting Rights Act (see Planscore analysis for CVAP figures). None of these districts' demographic compositions have changed significantly between the current map and this proposed one, preserving compliance with the Voting Rights Act.

New Mexican law requires that districts comply with federal law, attempt to preserve communities of interest, must not use partisan data except in complying with the Voting Rights Act, and must not split precincts. This map satisfies all categories except the final one. 19 precincts are split in this map in order to achieve perfect population equality, and therefore the map would not be compliant with that portion of state law.