

Utah Redistricting
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31 January 2022

Good Government Plan

In Utah's redistricting process, I prioritized to bring Good Government principles to the redrawing of the congressional districts. Consequently, I was razor-cognizant of the various counties, towns, and various landmarks. Utah is broken into four congressional districts and each district requires an approximate population of 817,904 people to satisfy the population equality principle. While majority of counties consist a population below the district's required population, Salt Lake County has a population above one million people. As a result, Salt Lake County needs to be broken to satisfy the population equality principle.

Though, the division of Salt Lake County remains a contentious and politicized issue in Utah. In the current redistricting cycle, Utah Legislature has proposed splitting the county in four parts. Hence, in my redistricting plan, I attempt to minimize the split to halves without attempting to dilute the concentrated population into different districts. Similarly, I have respected majority of the county lines and not protruded many counties to be split between two districts; this has occurred in only three instances in my plan: Davis County, Salt Lake County, and Utah County. Both Salt Lake County and Utah County held large populations that needed to be broken up and Davis County was broken to reach population equality.

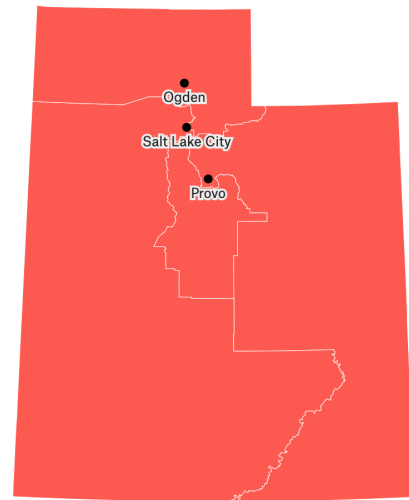
The concentration of Utah's population in select counties posed the greatest challenge for the redistricting process. Constantly, I was left in a dilemma to choose between splitting a county to meet the population equality principle as most of the state's population was concentrated in two counties. Though, I was able to successfully divy these two counties into two parts and reach population equality with a 0% deviation in all four congressional districts.

District 1 covers the upper region of the state and splits Davis County with District 3 due to the large body of water and to satisfy the population equality principle. District 2 mostly comprises of Salt Lake County and some rural areas. District 3 contains some concentration of population, but mostly consists of rural areas. Similarly, District 4 contains an Indian Reservation and rural areas. This is comparison between the 2010 map, current approved map, and my suggested map:

2010:



Current Proposal:



My proposal:

