



WASHINGTON CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

MAP NARRATIVE

This narrative applies to the following map on Dave's Redistricting App. This is the official submission of the League of Women Voters of Washington.

Recommended Map:

<https://davesredistricting.org/join/fb321178-e606-4897-b421-38bd313cf305>

Additional Example Map: (developed before Colville Tribes press release)

<https://davesredistricting.org/join/163fbd3a-f48e-49b0-88f8-780cd5af99c2>

You will find current congressional districts and tribal lands as overlays on the maps to aid analysis. Questions about these maps should be directed to: Alison McCaffree, amccaffree@lwwva.org, LWVWA Redistricting Issue Chair, 253-720-6813. Please find more information and additional details at lwwva.org/maps.

We started our maps using ideas from the community. We did not start from existing districts. We have ranked the criteria in Washington State law and have prioritized the maps in the following way:

1. Contiguous & Equal Population
2. Keep Communities of Interest together
 - a. Consolidate each native reservation and surrounding tribal populations into single districts or distribute into multiple according to the expressed wishes of tribal members or representatives
 - b. Known racial & ethnic communities (Latinx, Black, AAPI, etc.)
 - c. Build majority black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) districts where possible
 - d. Identified areas of shared economic, environmental and transportation common interests
 - e. Identified rural, suburban, and urban communities
3. Provide fair and effective representation
4. Create districts that are compact and convenient.
5. Minimize splitting Political Boundaries - county, city, and other municipalities
6. Encourage electoral competition at district, region, and state level; Do not favor incumbent or party interests

For our purposes we define a community of interest as an area with recognized similarities of legislative concerns, including but not limited to racial, ethnic, geographic, governmental, regional, social, cultural, partisan, economic or historic interests. While we have prioritized racial and ethnic communities, we recognize that not everyone in each group thinks or votes the same way. Our focus has been on giving those communities who have historically been underrepresented enough voting power to have a chance to decide their own representatives.

Below are descriptions by region of the feedback we received that we were able to incorporate, and that which we were not able to address. We hope this gives insight into the tradeoffs made in each area.

Eastern Washington

Our recommended version of eastern Washington maintains the vertical orientation of CD4 & CD5. We are doing this to honor the request of the Colville Tribes to maintain its current division in both CDs.

We are presenting to you a second version of eastern Washington congressional district CD4 and CD5 with horizontal position - which had widespread support in our network. Differences between the two maps in Western Washington are incidental.

Draft 7E (Recommended)

Desired qualities accomplished

- Maintains the greatest number of people in their current district.
- CD4 and CD5 follow mainly county lines.
- Yakama Nation and its historic lands to the north are both in CD4.
- Maintains Colville Tribes in CD4 and CD5 as requested.
- Unites Walla Walla County and connects it to Tri-Cities, assisting economic ties in CD4 and growing Latinx population in both Walla Walla and Pasco.

Not accomplished/undesired results

- CD4 and CD5 remain difficult to drive from end to end.
- While we maintain Moses Lake in one CD. The map splits Moses Lake and Othello from the rest of Grant County.
- Splits Franklin County along rural/urban divide.
- Yakama Fishing Villages along Columbia River are divided from the Yakama Nation main reservation.

Draft 7C (Advisory)

The following are the advantages to a horizontal solution to CD4 and CD5:

- Connects water basins that are at the heart of agriculture and economic viability. Allows the combining of the Snake River and its confluence to the Columbia River - key for transportation, jobs, and hydropower.
- Unites a Health District that is common to Walla Walla, Benton, Franklin, Yakima, Columbia, and Kittitas Counties.
- Unites common environmental concerns in the south part of the state focused on less rainfall in the Columbia plateau.
- Travel is much easier in CD4 along Hwy 12 and I-82.
- More compact and convenient lines – i.e., a more elegant solution.

Southwest and South-Central Washington

Congressional districts in Central Washington are driven by the necessity to cross the Cascades due to population distribution yet continue to tie communities of interest together.

Draft 7E (Recommended)

Desired qualities accomplished

- CD8 has “over the mountain” identify as desired by many in Chelan and Kittitas Counties.
- More E. King Co population in CD8.
- CD3 remains in Klickitat County except for the Yakama Reservation and Trout Lake.
- Clark Co, Cowlitz Co, Wahkiakum Co, Lewis Co., and Skamania Co tied together and whole.

Not accomplished/undesired results

- CD8 is large and touches many different communities - remains a swing district.
- CD3 stretches into Thurston Co (undesirable).
- Pacific Co not tied to rest of SW WA and put with CD6.
- Splits Kittitas County.

Puget Sound

The most urban and fastest growing region, Seattle and King Co were divided to maximize representation of people of color and those with low to middle income levels in CD 9. This solution maintains a cohesive urban congressional district in CD7.

District 7

This district connects downtown Seattle with parts of Snohomish Co and Vashon Island. Having Seattle residents in two CDs was considered desirable for added representation.

Desired qualities accomplished

- Unites Seattle historic Central District in CD7.
- Vashon Island tied to West Seattle.
- Edmonds and Shoreline tied to Seattle’s urban center.

Not accomplished/undesired results

- Splits Kenmore north of Lake Washington.
- Awkward connection between downtown Seattle, West Seattle and Vashon Island.

District 9

Maintained as a majority BIPOC district, District 9 is drawn to recognize the migration of communities of color with low and middle incomes out of central Seattle and to S. King Co areas like Auburn*.

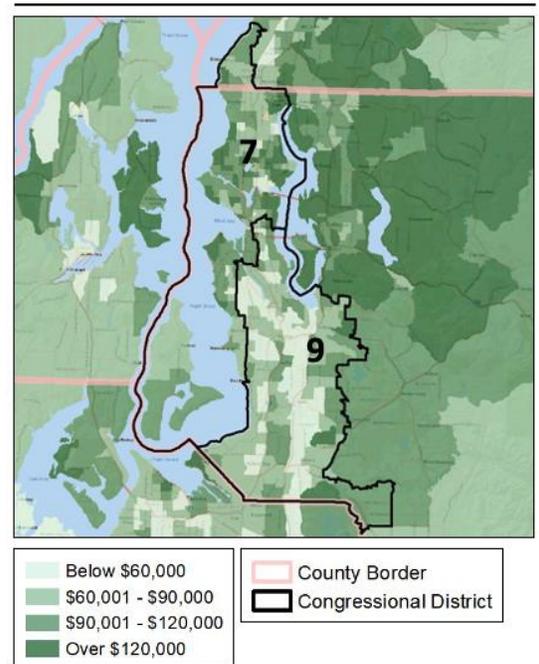
* Chart courtesy of More Equitable Democracy and the Redistricting Justice Coalition using 2019 ACS data.

Desired qualities accomplished

- Adds White Center’s largely Latinx community to CD9.
- Unites Muckleshoot reservation in one LD.
- Adds increasing BIPOC population East Kent and East Auburn to a majority BIPOC district.
- Takes the Pierce Co/King Co border as CD9 southern border.

Not accomplished/undesired results

- Splits Burien and West Seattle.



South Sound Area + Olympic Peninsula

Growing population in south sound drives CD6 larger geographically. CD10 unites the two major south sound cities.

Desired qualities accomplished

- Unites Coastal counties all in CD6.
- Tacoma residents in CD6 have needs similar to other urban centers in the Olympic Peninsula like Bremerton and Port Townsend, and also have common conservation interests.
- Tacoma is split only in two CDs.
- Puyallup and Nisqually reservations in CD10.

Not accomplished/undesired results

- Awkward lines around CD6 and CD10 in eastern Olympia area.

Northwest WA

While growth in population in the I-5 corridor moves CD1 West, we prioritized the desires of residents to unite certain cities and growth areas. We maintain CD2 as a coastal district and CD1 as inland.

Desired qualities accomplished

- Arlington and growth areas to the east are in CD2.
- Mount Vernon and Sedro Woolley united with rest of Skagit Valley in CD1.



- City of Bellingham in CD2.
- Island Population and coastal cities united in CD2.
- Snohomish County cities previously in CD2 remain.

Not accomplished/undesired results

- North Central King Co in CD1 because of needs to balance population.