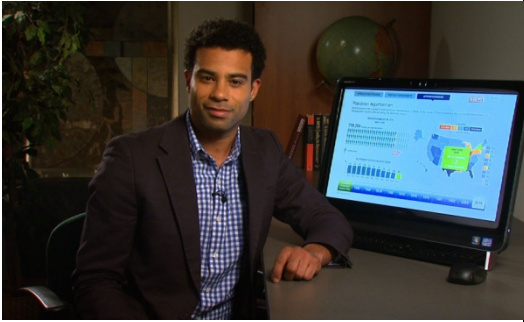
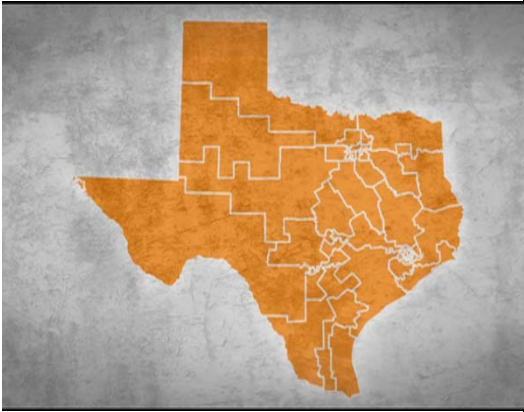






# the.News

## Redistricting: Drawing the Lines





Winter 2012

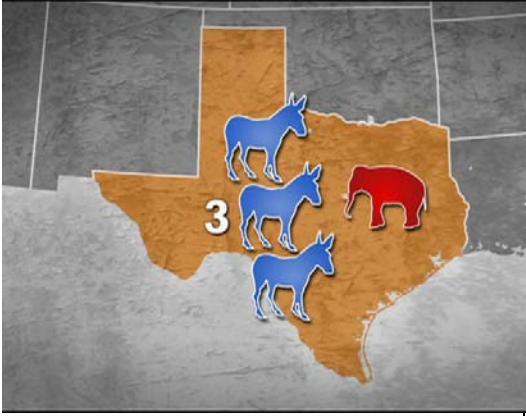


1.		Animated Open	
2.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HAS RULED IN A CASE THAT MAY HAVE FAR-REACHING EFFECTS ON HOW WE GET TO CHOOSE OUR REPRESENTATIVES. THE CASE CONCERNS A PROCESS CALLED REDISTRICTING, AND THE SPECIFIC FACTS INVOLVE A PLAN BY THE STATE OF TEXAS TO CREATE FOUR NEW CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. THE DISPUTE WAS OVER WHICH POLITICAL PARTY WILL CONTROL THOSE SEATS. KEESHA GASKINS EXPLAINS...</p>	00: 10
3.	 <p><b>Keesha Gaskins</b> Senior Counsel Brennan Center for Justice</p>	<p><b>Keesha Gaskins:</b> How we elect our representatives is how we run our government. America is a representative democracy, which means how we put those representatives in office is absolutely essential to how our democracy works.</p>	00: 37
4.	 <p><b>REAPPORTIONMENT</b></p>	<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> THE CONSTITUTION CREATED THE SENATE WITH TWO MEMBERS FROM EACH STATE... THE SIZE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN FIXED AT 435 SEATS FOR THE PAST CENTURY... DIVIDED AFTER EVERY CENSUS TO REFLECT EACH STATE'S POPULATION. THIS PROCESS IS CALLED REAPPORTIONMENT.</p>	00: 50


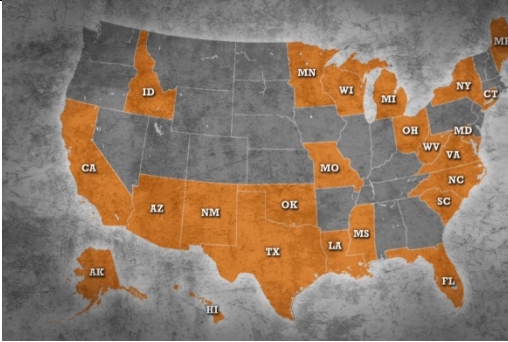
5.		<p><b>Antonio O/C:</b>  AS THIS INTERACTIVE MAP ON THE CENSUS BUREAUS' WEBSITE SHOWS... TEXAS WILL GAIN FOUR NEW SEATS BECAUSE ITS POPULATION ROSE DRAMATICALLY FROM 2000 TO 2010...<b>IN CONTRAST...</b> TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM NEW YORK, WILL LOSE THEIR SEATS IN CONGRESS BECAUSE THEIR STATE'S POPULATION DECLINED.</p>	01:09
6.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b>  SINCE EACH HOUSE MEMBER REPRESENTS A SINGLE AREA OF HIS OR HER STATE... CALLED A DISTRICT... TEXAS OFFICIALS HAVE TO <b>FORMULATE</b> A NEW MAP OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEWCOMERS. THIS IS CALLED REDISTRICTING. IN MOST STATES, REDISTRICTING IS WORKED OUT BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR. BUT WHEN ONE PARTY IS SOLIDLY IN CONTROL, IT MAY REDRAW THE MAP IN SUCH A WAY AS TO VIRTUALLY GUARANTEE ITS CANDIDATES WILL BE ELECTED...</p>	01:29
7.		<p><b>Keesha Gaskins:</b>  I think political parties are incredibly duplicitous in the redistricting process. Obviously it is those lines that determine who and how people are elected. So political parties spend a lot of time engaging in a lot of activities to try to ensure a political advantage for one side or the other. And there hasn't really been an effective test as to when that behavior simply goes too far.</p>	01:59

8.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> FOR EXAMPLE, A PLAN CAN SPLIT A COMMUNITY INTO MULTIPLE DISTRICTS TO MAKE SURE IT CAN'T ELECT THE CANDIDATE OF ITS CHOICE. THIS TECHNIQUE IS CALLED CRACKING. OR, A PLAN CAN TAKE ALL THE VOTERS THAT FAVOR THE OPPOSING PARTY AND LUMP THEM ALL IN ONE DISTRICT TO LESSEN THEIR IMPACT ON SURROUNDING DISTRICTS. THIS IS CALLED PACKING. AND WHEN RACE IS INVOLVED, IT'S CALLED BLEACHING.</p>	02:25
9.		<p><b>NAT SOT: Video</b></p>	02:52
10.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> THE INVESTIGATIVE NEWS ORGANIZATION PRO PUBLICA HAS PRODUCED A MUSIC VIDEO ABOUT ALL THIS...</p>	02:58
11.		<p><b>SOT: Music Video</b></p>	03:05
12.	 <p>Lois Beckett Reporter, Pro Publica</p>	<p><b>Lois Beckett:</b> Redistricting is pretty complicated and politicians like to take advantage of that. They think it's too complicated for voters to understand so they can sometimes do it in the back rooms to manipulate things so they can win seats without our really knowing that they're gonna do it. So we wanted to do a redistricting song and a music video and to kind of break it down and show the kinds of stuff that's being pulled behind the scenes.</p>	03:11

13.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b>        MOST QUESTIONABLE REDISTRICTING SCHEMES ARE KNOWN AS GERRYMANDERING. IT GOT ITS NAME IN THE EARLY 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WHEN THE MASSACHUSETTES GOVERNOR, ELBRIDGE GERRY, SIGNED A REDISTRICTING PLAN THAT UNFAIRLY FAVORED HIS PARTY OVER THE RIVAL FEDERALISTS. THE NEWLY DRAWN DISTRICT LOOKED SOMETHING LIKE A SALADMANDER, PROMPTING SOME CRITICS TO CALL IT A "GERRYMANDER."</p>	03:29
14.		<p><b>Lois Beckett:</b>        Gerrymandering has been around since the days of the founding fathers. You might think the founding fathers were all good and responsible guys but actually they were totally fighting and trying to outmaneuver each other. And so for instance back in the early 1800s, Patrick Henry tried to redraw district lines so that James Madison wouldn't be elected to office. And that's what happens today. You see districts shaped in really strange ways in order to get just the right amount of voters so that a certain politician will be able to win office or a certain politician will be drawn out so they can't win.</p>	03:52

15.	 <p>U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson Signs Voting Rights Act 1965</p>	<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> ALL REDISTRICTING PLANS MUST COMPLY WITH THE CONSTITUTION'S 14<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT GUARANTEE OF EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW. AND SOME STATES WITH A HISTORY OF DISCRIMINATION MUST COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965. THAT LAW REQUIRES THAT ALL NEW REDISTRICTING PLANS FIRST BE CLEARED BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON.</p>	04:22
16.	 <p>Michelle Davis Senior Policy Analyst, Maryland Legislature</p>	<p><b>Michelle Davis:</b> Under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, there are list of states who must have any voting change, and not just a redistricting map, but any change in their voting procedure cleared by the Justice Department. And most of the states on the list are southern states who had a history of denying the voting franchise to minority voters.</p>	04:46
17.	 <p>PACKING</p>	<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> THE REDISTRICTING PLAN WORKED OUT BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR IN TEXAS CREATED ONE DISTRICT WHICH WOULD PACK IN MANY OF THE STATE'S NEW HISPANIC VOTERS. THAT DISTRICT WOULD LIKELY VOTE DEMOCRATIC. THE THREE OTHER NEW DISTRICTS IN THE PLAN WOULD BE IN PREDOMINATELY REPUBLICAN AREAS.</p>	05:14
18.		<p><b>Michelle Davis:</b> The big question is if Latino voters accounted for much of the increase in Texas' population//@17:12 then you might say that at least some of those four new districts should be Latino districts. Okay?</p>	05:33

19.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b>  AFTER THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OBJECTED, THE PLAN WAS REVIEWED BY A THREE JUDGE PANEL IN SAN ANTONIO. THEY DREW UP AN INTERIM SCHEME WHICH WOULD GIVE THE DEMOCRATS 3 OF THE FOUR NEW DISTRICTS. NOW IT WAS THE REPUBLICANS TURN TO OBJECT, AND THAT'S WHY THE DISPUTE IS NOW BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT, WHICH IS STRUGGLING TO SETTLE IT BEFORE THE STATE PRIMARIES NOW SCHEDULED FOR APRIL.</p>	05:50
20.		<p><b>Antonio O/C:</b>  HERE IN MARYLAND, IT'S THE DEMOCRATS WHO ARE ACCUSED OF GERRYMANDERING. UNDER THEIR NEW PLAN, A LARGE INFLUX OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN VOTERS HAS BEEN SPREAD OUT AMONG MULTIPLE DISTRICTS TO HELP ELECT WHITE DEMOCRATS. BUT SPLITTING UP THESE MINORITY VOTERS MEANS THEY WON'T HAVE THEIR OWN DISTRICT WHERE THEY COULD ELECT THE CANDIDATE OF THEIR CHOICE. IF YOU REMEMBER THE SONG, SOME PEOPLE CALL THAT "CRACKING."</p>	06:16
21.	 <p>Aaron C. Davis  Reporter, The Washington Post</p>	<p><b>Aaron C. Davis:</b>  In Maryland, you have a state controlled by Democrats. Democratic governor, Democratic Senate, Democratic House, and they're all big supporters of President Obama. And they want to do everything they can for 2012 to help him also if he gets reelected to have a majority in the House of Representatives.</p>	06:41

22.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> AARON C. DAVIS HAS COVERED MARYLAND'S DISPUTE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST NEWSPAPER.</p>	07:01
23.		<p><b>Aaron C. Davis:</b> So they set out in the process to get rid of one of the two Republicans who now represent the state. They swapped out 350,000 rural voters for 350,000 suburban Washington DC voters who are mostly Democrats. And that has now created a competitive district where they think a Democrat can win, just outside of Washington DC. If congress is supposed to be a Democratic representation, equal representation of what exists across the country, it doesn't look that way in Maryland and it doesn't look that way in a lot of states where control is a partisan process.</p>	07:07
24.		<p><b>NAT SOT: Song up and under</b></p>	07:41
26.		<p><b>Antonio V/O:</b> RIGHT NOW, LEGAL CHALLENGES TO REDISTRICTING PLANS ARE PENDING IN ABOUT TWO DOZEN STATES, THOUGH NONE IN NEBRASKA. AND DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT THE NEXT CENSUS IS JUST EIGHT YEARS AWAY. ANTONIO NEVES FOR THE DOT NEWS.</p>	07:46