



Summary

My [New York City Council 2022 redistricting proposal](#) keeps districts compact, unites previously divided neighborhoods, and adjusts for population growth and the emergence of new communities. Each of the 51 districts is within less than 1,000 people of the 172,631 population target per district.

The [racial breakdowns](#) of the current map and my proposed map are below:

Race	2020 NYC total population	Current map's districts			Proposed map's districts		
		Total	Majority	Plurality	Total	Majority	Plurality
White	32%	18 (35%)	11	7	16 (31%)	11	5
Hispanic	29%	15 (29%)	9	6	16 (31%)	9	7
Black	24%	12 (24%)	10	2	12 (24%)	11	1
Asian	14%	6 (12%)	1	5	7 (14%)	3	4

Under the current maps, there are 31 districts where one racial group has a majority. There are also 20 so-called “coalition” districts where various minority groups make up a majority of the population. While coalition districts are useful, they can also split racial groups unnecessarily. For example, the current map only has a single Asian majority district but five where Asian New Yorkers are a plurality. As of the 2020 census, Asians make up 14% of the population but only have at least a plurality in 12% of seats.

My proposed map decreases the number of white districts by two and creates one additional Latino and Asian district each. This brings the breakdown in line with the city’s demographics, with equal numbers of white and Hispanic districts. In addition, my map adds one more Black majority district and two more Asian majority districts.

In drawing this map, I paid special attention to keeping neighborhoods and communities of interest together. Here were some of my priorities:

- Draw a Lower Manhattan district that keeps racial minorities and public housing together.
- Re-sort East Queens districts so both East Asian and South Asian voters can elect the candidates of their choice.
- Ensure that neighborhoods like Bayside, Douglaston, Fresh Meadows, Kensington, Richmond Hill, South Ozone Park, and Woodhaven are no longer divided.
- Create a majority-Asian district in South Brooklyn in line with the increase in the Chinese population in the last decade.

City Charter Compliance

While drawing districts, I followed [the criteria laid out in the City Charter](#). I list those below and explain how my proposed map complies:

1. Prioritize these criteria in the following order:
 - a. The largest and smallest district cannot have a larger difference in population than 10% of the average population of all districts. **Yes; 1,940 is far smaller than the 17,263 maximum difference allowed.**
 - b. Protect racial and language minority groups. **Yes; see below.**
 - c. Keep neighborhoods and communities “of common interest and association” together. **Yes; see below.**
 - d. Draw compact districts that cannot be more than “twice as long as [they are] wide. **Mostly; some districts may violate this rule by being too skinny, but only do so to comply with (b) and (c).**
 - e. Don’t cross borough lines. **Mostly; while only two districts crossed borough lines in the current map, the proposed map has five districts that do so. However, in each case this is only done to maintain roughly equivalent populations, mostly because of population growth in Manhattan over the last decade.**
 - f. Don’t separate voters of one party into different districts. **Yes; and if it seems like this has been done, it is completely inadvertent so as to comply with (b) and (c).**
 - g. Minimize the total length of all districts. **Yes; the districts are as compact as possible while complying with previous criteria.**

2. Districts must be contiguous, and any district that crosses over water must do so over a bridge, tunnel, tramway, or ferry. **Yes; all districts are contiguous and the ones that cross over water do so over bridges or the Staten Island Ferry.**
3. No more than one district can include territory from two specific boroughs. **Yes; unfortunately this meant there was no way to connect the Bangladeshi communities of City Line and Ozone Park without disturbing District 34's connection of Bushwick and Ridgewood. This also requires a Brooklyn/Manhattan district when a second Bronx/Queens district would be more appropriate. I believe this requirement is too stringent and should be amended.**

The Districts

Manhattan

District 1

Currently overpopulated by almost 13,000. Battery Park City had to be drawn into Staten Island's District 49 to maintain population equity, and District 3 gained Washington Square Park and the area immediately surrounding it.

In addition, in the current map Latino and Black voters in public housing are split across Districts 1 and 2, leaving the former near-majority white. Since these developments are so close to one another, they should be considered a community of interest and kept in a single district. Therefore, I moved Vladeck, Baruch, Wald, and Riis Houses from District 2 to District 1, increasing the latter's Asian, Latino, and Black populations in the process. District 1 remains plurality white but is now much more diverse.

District 2

Currently had a population difference of less than 1,000 of the target. The district loses the aforementioned public housing developments to District 1 and gains more of the Flatiron District. It remains majority white.

District 3

Currently overpopulated by almost 30,000. To rectify this, the district loses Columbus Circle and the blocks adjacent to it that sit on the border of Hell's Kitchen and the

Upper West Side to District 6. But District 3 does gain District 1's Washington Square Park and the area immediately surrounding it. It remains majority white.

District 4

Currently overpopulated by more than 11,000. It loses Tudor City and the surrounding area to District 33 via the East River Ferry. District 4 remains majority white.

District 5

Currently overpopulated by almost 9,000. The district expands slightly north into District 8. Most significantly, Roosevelt Island is given to District 26 in Queens. The two land masses are connected by the Queensboro Bridge as well as the E Train. Roosevelt Island is also now nearly plurality-Asian, making it a good fit for inclusion with the plurality-Asian District 26. Crossing the border here is the only way to account for Manhattan's population increase. District 5 remains majority white.

District 6

Currently overpopulated by almost 9,000. In addition to gaining population from District 5, District 6 cedes territory above W 95th St to District 7. District 6 It remains majority white.

District 7

Currently underpopulated by almost 8,000. To make up for this loss, District 7 gains more of the Upper West Side from District 6, while giving some areas of Washington Heights to District 10. In doing so, it becomes slightly less diverse but remains plurality Latino (36% Latino, 34% white, 23% Black).

District 8 (+The Bronx)

Currently overpopulated by over 4,000. To counteract this (in addition to losing some territory to District 5), District 8's Bronx portion becomes more compact, giving its jagged edges to District 16. It remains majority Latino.

District 9

Currently overpopulated by almost 5,000. The district barely changes and remains majority Black.

District 10

Currently underpopulated by more than 14,000. This is made up for by taking more of Washington Heights from District 7. It remains majority Latino.

The Bronx

District 11

Currently underpopulated by more than 7,000. The district gives its part of Wakefield to District 12 and gains more of Kingsbridge from District 14. This makes District 11 more compact and majority Latino for the first time.

District 12

Currently overpopulated by almost 4,000. The district barely changes, only gaining a piece of Wakefield from District 11 and losing territory below E Gun Hill Road to District 13. The district remains majority Black.

District 13

Currently underpopulated by about 5,500. The district barely changes and remains plurality Latino.

District 14

Currently underpopulated by over 4,000. The district loses part of Kingsbridge to District 11 but gains territory from District 16, uniting Morris Heights into a single district in the process. The district remains majority Latino.

District 15

Currently overpopulated by about 1,500. Thus, the district barely changes and remains majority Latino.

District 16

Currently underpopulated by about 2,500. While losing its portion of Morris Heights to District 14, District 16 now encompasses and rounds out the jagged edges of the current Districts 8 and 17, making for a more compact district. It remains majority Latino and near-majority Black at the same time.

District 17

Currently had a population difference of less than 1,000 of the target. It remains mostly the same aside from taking Bronx River Houses from District 18. It remains majority Latino.

District 18

Currently overpopulated by almost 9,000. It remains mostly the same aside from giving Bronx River Houses to District 18 to maintain population equity. It remains majority Latino while also keeping Parkchester's growing South Asian within a single district.

Queens

District 19

This is a new district created from the southern portions of current Districts 23 and 24, as well as parts of District 27. It combines the South Asian communities of Briarwood, Jamaica Hills, and Jamaica Estates (mostly Bangladeshi); Hollis and Queens Village (mostly Indo-Caribbean); and Bellerose, Glen Oaks, and Floral Park (mostly Punjabi). These neighborhoods have been voting for South Asian candidates for several years now—they only have to be placed in the same district so that they can together elect a candidate of their choice.

The new District 19 strictly follows a northern border of the Grand Central Parkway and a southern border of Jamaica Avenue, only occasionally deviating at the western end to get the final correct population. The district encompasses the key Hillside Avenue, which has become a hallmark of South Asian businesses and culture in New York City, from the Van Wyck Expressway all the way to the Nassau County border.

The current map divides the South Asian community in two and has them consistently outvoted by other groups. Grand Central and Jamaica Avenue are firm dividing lines for where South Asians begin and other groups end. My proposed District 19, which is near-majority Asian, would finally allow South Asians in Eastern Queens to elect the candidate of their choice.

District 20

Currently had a population difference of less than 1,000 of the target. It only swaps a few precincts with District 23. District 20 remains majority Asian.

District 21

Currently underpopulated by about 1,500. The district barely changes, only taking a few precincts of East Elmhurst from District 22. It remains majority Latino.

District 22 (+The Bronx)

Currently underpopulated by about 13,000. It loses a few precincts of East Elmhurst to District 21, as they make more sense in that district. It also takes population from District 26 above 34th Ave, including Woodside Houses. District 22 remains plurality white.

District 23

Currently underpopulated by about 12,000. This district loses everything below Grand Central Parkway in order to create the new District 19. District 23 then moves north to unite neighborhoods like Bayside, Douglaston, and Fresh Meadows. It moves from plurality Asian to majority Asian.

District 24

Currently underpopulated by about 7,000. The district loses everything below Grand Central Parkway in order to create the new District 19, as well as its piece of Fresh Meadows. It then extends north via Flushing Meadows Park to take in College Point, Whitestone, and Bensonhurst, in a similar manner to Assembly District 27. It also takes Kew Gardens from District 29. The district would now be plurality white.

District 25

Currently underpopulated by about 1,500. The district barely changes and remains plurality Asian.

District 26 (+Manhattan)

Currently overpopulated by over 11,000. The district loses Woodside Houses to District 22 and gains Roosevelt Island from Manhattan's District 5. The two land masses are connected by the Queensboro Bridge as well as the E Train. Roosevelt Island is also now nearly plurality-Asian, making it a good fit for inclusion with the plurality-Asian District 26. Crossing the border here is the only way to account for Manhattan's population increase. District 26 remains plurality Asian.

District 27

Currently had a population difference of less than 1,000 of the target. The district trades a few precincts above and below Jamaica Avenue with the new District 19, and expands slightly into District 31. District 27 remains majority Black.

District 28

Currently overpopulated by almost 10,000. The district east of the Van Wyck Expressway is mostly unchanged, just taking some more population from District 31 along the Belt Parkway. District 28 currently crosses the Van Wyck to include parts of Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park, cutting that community across multiple districts by traversing a natural border. To keep neighborhoods whole, my map proposes that District 28 leave the Van Wyck border intact and instead extend to Howard Beach, Lindenwood, and Ozone Park. These neighborhoods are also adjacent to JFK Airport, so combining them into a single district makes sense. District 28 would become majority Black, instead of just a plurality.

District 29

Currently underpopulated by over 8,000. The district loses its share of Richmond Hill to District 32 in order to keep that neighborhood whole, as well as Kew Gardens to District 24. It instead extends into Asian parts of Maspeth, matching the growing Asian populations of Forest Hills. It remains plurality white.

District 30

Currently underpopulated by about 5,500. The district loses a piece of Maspeth to District 29 and gains Latinos in Woodhaven and Ridgewood from Districts 32 and 34, respectively. This unites Woodhaven into a single district while moving towards Ridgewood being in one district as well. Keeping Latino populations from these neighborhoods in a single district is essential, considering that they all border Forest Park. District 30 would become plurality Latino.

District 31

Currently had a population difference of less than 1,000 of the target. The district unites the Rockaway Peninsula and surrounding islands, including Broad Channel. To do this, it loses some population in Southeast Queens to districts 27 and 28. District 31 remains majority Black.

District 32

This is a new district created from the portions of Richmond Hill, South Ozone Park, and Ozone Park currently held in Districts 28, 29, and 32. Currently, these neighborhoods are splintered across three different districts, dividing the community's borders and splitting Indo-Caribbean and Punjabi voters. This district follows most natural boundaries, including the Van Wyck Expressway, the Belt Parkway, Atlantic Avenue, Woodhaven Boulevard, and Forest Park. Crucially, the district finally unites Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park. District 32 also extends into Ozone Park to include the growing Bangladeshi community in this plurality Asian district.

Brooklyn

District 33 (+Manhattan)

Currently overpopulated by over 35,000, the most of any district in the city. This is remedied by Districts 34, 38, and 39 extending slightly into District 33's current boundaries. District 33 also follows the East River Ferry to connect to Tudor City and the surrounding area in District 4. It remains majority white.

District 34 (+Queens)

Currently underpopulated by almost 6,000. The district swaps North and South Bushwick with District 37 to keep more Black voters together while losing part of Ridgewood. It also expands into Williamsburg and the outlying edges of Greenpoint in District 33. It remains plurality Latino.

District 35

Currently overpopulated by about 5,000. It stays almost entirely the same and remains plurality Black.

District 36

Currently underpopulated by about 5,000. It stays almost entirely the same and remains majority Black.

District 37

Currently underpopulated by about 10,000. The district swaps North and South Bushwick with District 34 to keep more Black voters together and extends into more of East New York and City Line, keeping the growing Bangladeshi community together in the process. It goes from majority Latino to just below 50%, but is now almost 40% Black as well.

District 38

Currently overpopulated by about 5,000. The district loses Sunset Park's Chinatown to create a majority Asian district and expands into District 39's Carroll Gardens, Gowanus, and South Slope as well as a small piece of District 33. The district shifts from plurality Asian to plurality Latino.

District 39

Currently overpopulated by about 1,500. The district loses Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus to District 38 but expands into Kensington, uniting the neighborhood and its diverse communities into a single district. It remains majority white.

District 40

Currently underpopulated by over 17,000, the most in the city. Because of this and losing Kensington to District 39, the district has to extend further south into Midwood. This allows the district to remain majority Black.

District 41

Currently underpopulated by more than 9,000. The district barely changes and remains majority Black.

District 42

Currently underpopulated by almost 6,000. The district loses part of East New York to District 37 and gains a chunk of District 46's Canarsie. It remains majority Black.

District 43

Currently overpopulated by almost 12,000. The district trades Asian parts of Dyker Heights in exchange for Coney Island from District 47. It remains plurality white.

District 44

Currently had a population difference of less than 1,000 of the target. The district loses a piece of Midwood to District 40 and extends further south. It remains majority white.

District 45

Currently underpopulated by almost 16,000. Similarly to District 40, the district has to extend further south to make up for this. It remains majority Black.

District 46

Currently overpopulated by more than 4,000. The district loses part of Canarsie to District 42 and extends slightly into District 48's Sheepshead Bay. It remains majority Black.

District 47

Currently overpopulated by more than 5,000. A majority Asian district was created by combining portions of several districts, primarily the Chinatowns of District 38's Sunset Park, District 43's Dyker Heights, and District 47's Bensonhurst. All three districts took other parts of the current District 47 to make this possible.

District 48

Currently overpopulated by almost 8,000. The northern part of the district is given to District 45 while District 48 now extends west into Gravesend. It remains majority white.

Staten Island

District 49 (+Manhattan)

Currently underpopulated by almost 2,000. Since all three Staten Island districts lost population, District 51 had to expand into 50, and District 50 had to expand into 49. To remedy this as well as to partially solve Manhattan's overpopulation, District 49 extends via the Staten Island Ferry to grab Battery Park City in Lower Manhattan, just like the new Assembly District 61. It remains plurality Latino.

District 50

Currently underpopulated by more than 7,000. It extends into District 49 and remains majority white.

District 51

Currently underpopulated by more than 13,000. It extends into District 50 and remains majority white.