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April 5, 2022

Dear Voters:

The attached information may be helpful to you in understanding the processes of reapportionment and redistricting.

As a result of reapportionment and redistricting, precinct lines may also be affected. It is possible that a voter could be assigned to a new precinct, go to a new polling place and be in a new district with a new set of elected officials.

The Supervisor of Elections' team compiles new districts information from the U.S. Congress, State Senate, State House, County Commission, School Board and Municipalities to update the voting registration system.

When the process of updating the voting registration system is finalized, all voters will be issued a new voter information card to reflect the changes.

Sincerely,

Joe Scott
Supervisor of Elections

FLORIDA REDISTRICTING 2022

The Florida Constitution directs the Legislature to redraw district boundaries at its Regular Session in the second year following each decennial census. Before and during the 2022 Regular Session, which began on January 11, 2022, the Legislature held interim committee meetings, at which time the committees met to workshop draft plans and to receive feedback from members and the public regarding the redistricting process.

On February 3, 2022, the Florida Legislature passed CS/SJR 100, which contains state house ([H000H8013](#)) and state senate ([S027S8058](#)) districts for the qualification, nomination, and election of members of the Florida Legislature in the primary and general elections held in 2022 and thereafter.

On March 3, 2022, the Florida Supreme Court deemed the state house and state senate maps valid pursuant to their constitutional review.

On March 4, 2022, the Florida Legislature passed CS/SB 102, which contains the congressional districts ([H000C8019](#)) to serve for the qualification, nomination, and election of members to the U.S. House of Representatives in the primary and general elections held in 2022 and thereafter. The bill contains a secondary map ([H000C8015](#)) to become effective should Congressional District 5 of the primary map be invalidated.

Having concluded the process of redrawing legislative and congressional districts, submissions of redistricting plans will no longer be accepted.

Though the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the U.S. Census Bureau's delivery of population and demographic data, the Florida Legislature completed its redistricting process within its required timeframe, inclusive of committee stops, public input opportunities, and time for discussion and debate in each of the legislative chambers.

Reapportionment and Redistricting

After each decennial Census the Legislature redraws the districts from which Florida voters elect their state representatives, state senators, and members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Redistricting is the redrawing of congressional and state legislative districts to adjust for uneven growth rates in different parts of the state. Districts determine which voters participate in which elections.

Reapportionment is the redistribution of seats in the United States House of Representatives among the 50 states, based on the decennial census. Each state gets at least one seat. Effective with elections in 2022 Florida gets 28 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives, an increase of one from last decade. Two U.S. Senators represent the entire state.

Redistricting Law

The Voting Rights Act requires the creation of a district that performs for racial and language minorities where (1) a minority population is geographically compact and sufficiently numerous to be a majority in a single district; (2) the minority population is politically cohesive; (3) the majority votes sufficiently as a bloc to enable it usually to defeat the minority-preferred candidate; and (4) under all of the circumstances, the minority population has less opportunity than others to participate in the political process and elect representatives of its choice.

The Voting Rights Act also prohibits purposeful discrimination and protects against retrogression—or backsliding—in the ability of racial and language minorities to elect representatives of their choice. Prior to the 2013 U.S. Supreme Court case *Shelby County v. Holder*, which negated the coverage formula in the Act, these requirements applied only to certain counties in Florida: Collier, Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough, and Monroe. Districts containing parts of these covered jurisdictions had to be submitted to and precleared by a federal court or the United States Department of Justice before the redistricting plan could be enforced. The *Shelby County* decision means the preclearance process established by the Voting Rights Act is no longer in effect, but it does not affect the validity of the diminishment standard in the Florida Constitution.

[Article III, Section 16](#) of the State Constitution requires the Legislature to divide the state into 30 to 40 contiguous senatorial districts and 80 to 120 contiguous house districts. A district is contiguous if all of its territory is in actual contact, uninterrupted by the territory of another district. Contact at a corner or right angle is insufficient, but territory may cross bodies of water. The Constitution allows state legislative districts to overlap, either partially or entirely.

In November 2010, the voters added amendments to the State Constitution in [Article III, Sections 20 and 21](#). These Amendments prohibit line-drawing that intentionally favors or disfavors a political party or an incumbent. The Amendments also afford protection to racial and language minorities. Districts may not be drawn (1) with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal

opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process; or (2) to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice. Finally, unless it would conflict with the standards described above, the Amendments require that district populations be as nearly equal as practicable, and that districts be compact and, where feasible, follow existing political and geographical boundaries.

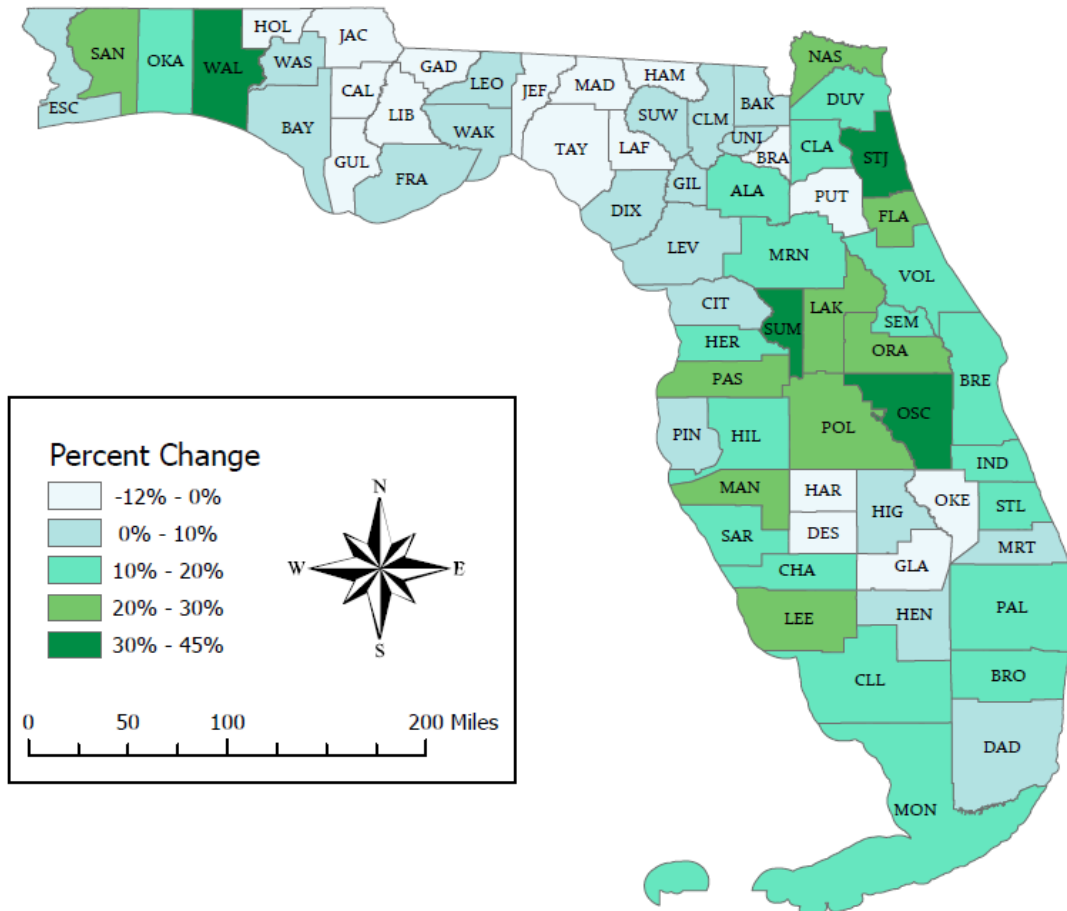
Redistricting Timeline

- April 26, 2021: Census Bureau releases statewide population totals for apportioning the seats in the U.S. House of Representatives
- August 12, 2021: Census Bureau publishes tabular population, demographic, and housing data for all 50 states
- September 16, 2021: Census Bureau formally delivers formatted PL 94-171 Redistricting Data to the states
- September 2021 – December 2021: Interim committee meetings
- January 11, 2022: 2022 Regular Session convenes
- January 13, 2022: Senate Committee on Reapportionment favorably recommends CS/SJR 100 relating to state senate districts and CS/SB 102 relating to congressional districts
- January 20, 2022: Senate passes CS/SJR 100 containing Senate Plan S027S8058 and CS/SB 102 containing Congressional Plan S035C8060
- February 1, 2022: Governor DeSantis requests an advisory opinion from the Florida Supreme Court regarding congressional redistricting
- February 2, 2022: House passes CS/SJR 100 as amended to include House Plan H000H8013
- February 3, 2022: Senate passes CS/SJR 100 containing House Plan H000H8013 and Senate Plan S027S8058
- February 9, 2022: Attorney General petitions the Florida Supreme Court for a declaratory judgment to determine the validity of SJR 100, pursuant to Article III, Section 16(c) of the Florida Constitution
- February 10, 2022: Florida Supreme Court denies the Governor's request for an advisory opinion regarding congressional redistricting
- March 3, 2022:
 - Florida Supreme Court rules the state house and state senate maps are valid pursuant to their constitutional review
 - House amends CS/SB 102, replacing Senate Congressional Plan S035C8060 with Plans H000C8019 and H000C8015

- Plan H000C8019, the “primary” plan, serves as the map for elections beginning in 2022 and thereafter unless Congressional District 5 is invalidated by a court, in which case, Plan H000C8015, the “secondary” plan, would take immediate effect

- March 4, 2022: House and Senate pass CS/SB 102 containing Plans H000C8019 and H000C8015
- March 11, 2022: 60th Day of 2022 Regular Session
- June 13 - 17, 2022: Qualifying for state and federal offices
- July 9, 2022: Primary Election overseas ballot mailing
- August 23, 2022: Primary Election
- September 24, 2022: General Election overseas ballot mailing
- November 8, 2022: General Election

FLORIDA COUNTIES – PERCENT CHANGE IN POPULATION FROM 2010 - 2020



GLOSSARY

- **Apportionment**

The redistribution of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives among the 50 states, based on the decennial census. Effective with elections in 2022, Florida gets 28 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives, an increase of one from last decade. This process is also commonly referred to as *Reapportionment*.

- **Benchmark Plan**

The last legally enforceable redistricting plan in force or effect. A proposed redistricting plan is compared to benchmark plan to analyze its compliance with protections for racial and language minorities under federal and state law.

- **Boundaries**

- *Geographic*

Easily ascertainable and commonly understood features, such as rivers, railways, and primary and secondary roads. Primary and secondary roads include interstates, U.S. highways, and state highways.

- *Political*

Boundaries of a county or incorporated municipality (city, town, or village).

- **Census Block**

The smallest level of census geography used by the U.S. Census Bureau to collect census data. Census blocks are formed by streets, roads, bodies of water, other physical features and legal boundaries shown on U.S. Census Bureau maps.

- **County**

The primary legal divisions of most states are termed counties. County subdivisions are the primary divisions of states for the reporting of decennial census data.

- **Decennial Census**

A complete count or enumeration of the population. The federal census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution in Article 1, Section 2 to be conducted every 10 years.

- **Districts**
Districts determine which voters participate in which elections.
- **Majority-Minority District**
A district in which a racial or language minority group comprises a majority (50% plus 1 or more) of the voting-age population of the district.
- **Geographic Information System (GIS)**
Computer system used to capture, store, analyze, manage, and present all types of geographical data. In the redistricting context, GIS is used to locate and aggregate population and demographic data into districts.
- **Ideal Population**
The total state population divided by the number of districts.
- **Precinct**
An area created by election officials to group voters for assignment to a designated polling place so that an election can be conducted. Precinct boundaries may change over the course of a decade.
- **U. S. Census Bureau**
The bureau contained within the U.S. Department of Commerce that conducts the decennial census as well as numerous ongoing projects for the federal government. The mission for the Bureau is to “Count Everyone Once, Only Once and in the Right Place” in the decennial census.
- **Voting Age Population (VAP)**
The number of people at least 18 years of age.

REFERENCES

- www.floridaredistricting.gov
- www.flsenate.gov/Session/Redistricting
- [Redistricting & U.S. Census Bureau Overview \(myfloridahouse.gov\)](http://myfloridahouse.gov)