

Minnesota Redistricting 2021-22

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Zoom

February 28, 2022

Introduction

- Why is redistricting necessary?
- When does it happen?
- Who drew the maps?
- What is their impact?

Definitions

- Reapportionment

- ▶ Assigning seats in a legislative body to established districts
 - Don't change district boundaries
 - Change number of members per district

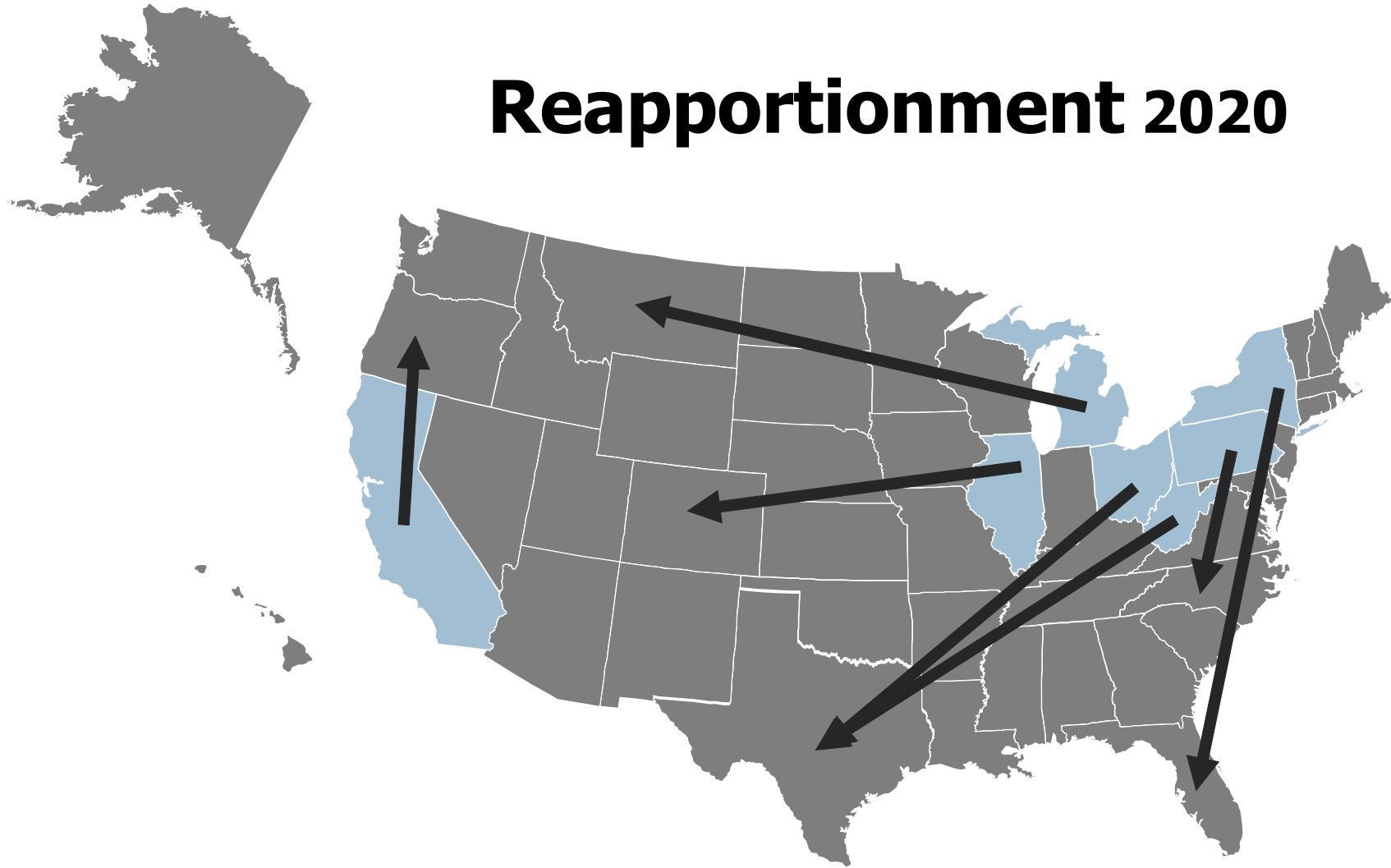
- Redistricting

- ▶ Redrawing district boundaries
 - Don't change number of members per district
 - Change district boundaries

Why Redistrict?

- Reapportionment of Congressional Seats

Reapportionment 2020



Census Bureau - April 26, 2021

Why Redistrict?

- Population Shifts within State

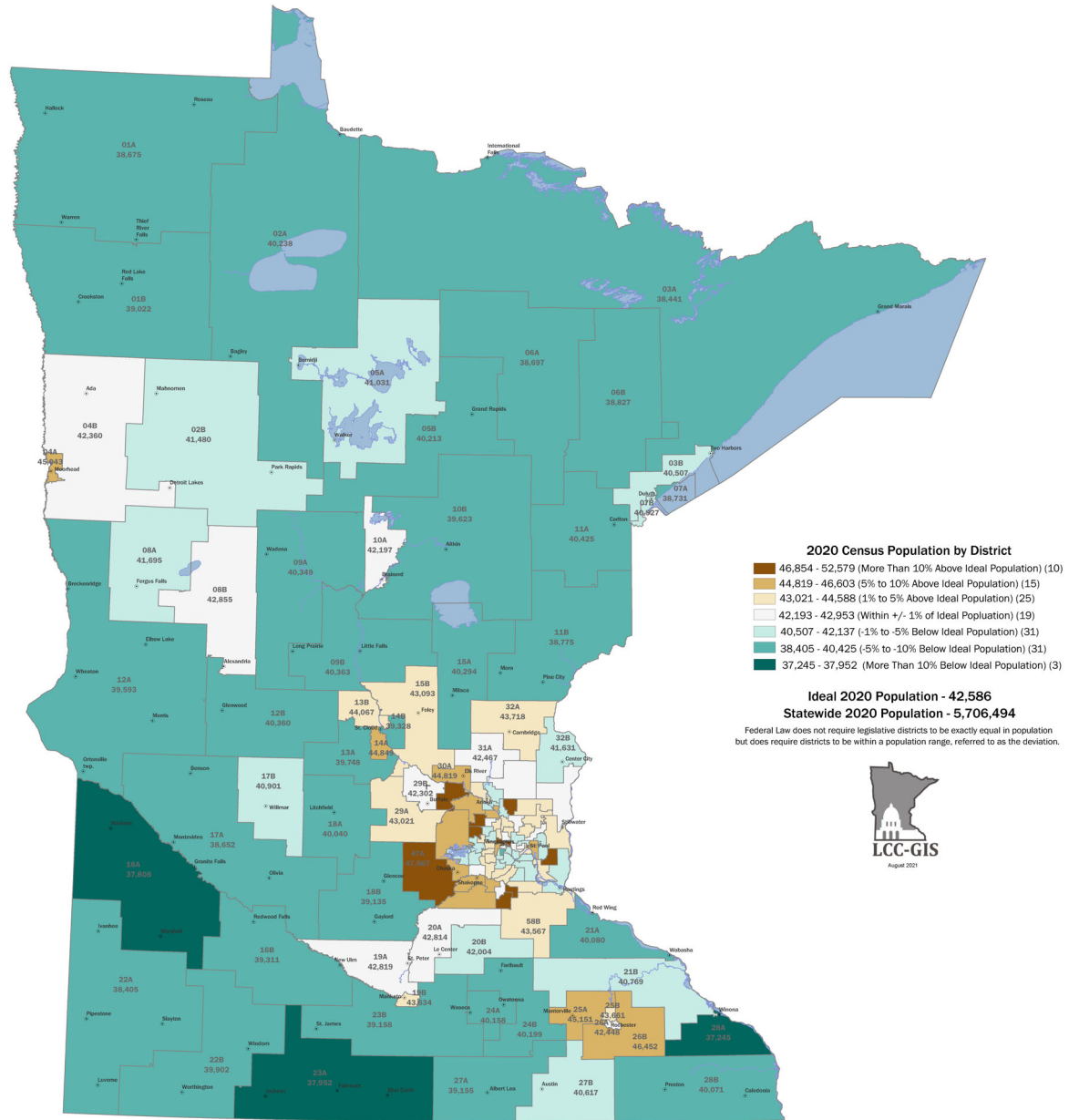
Equal Population

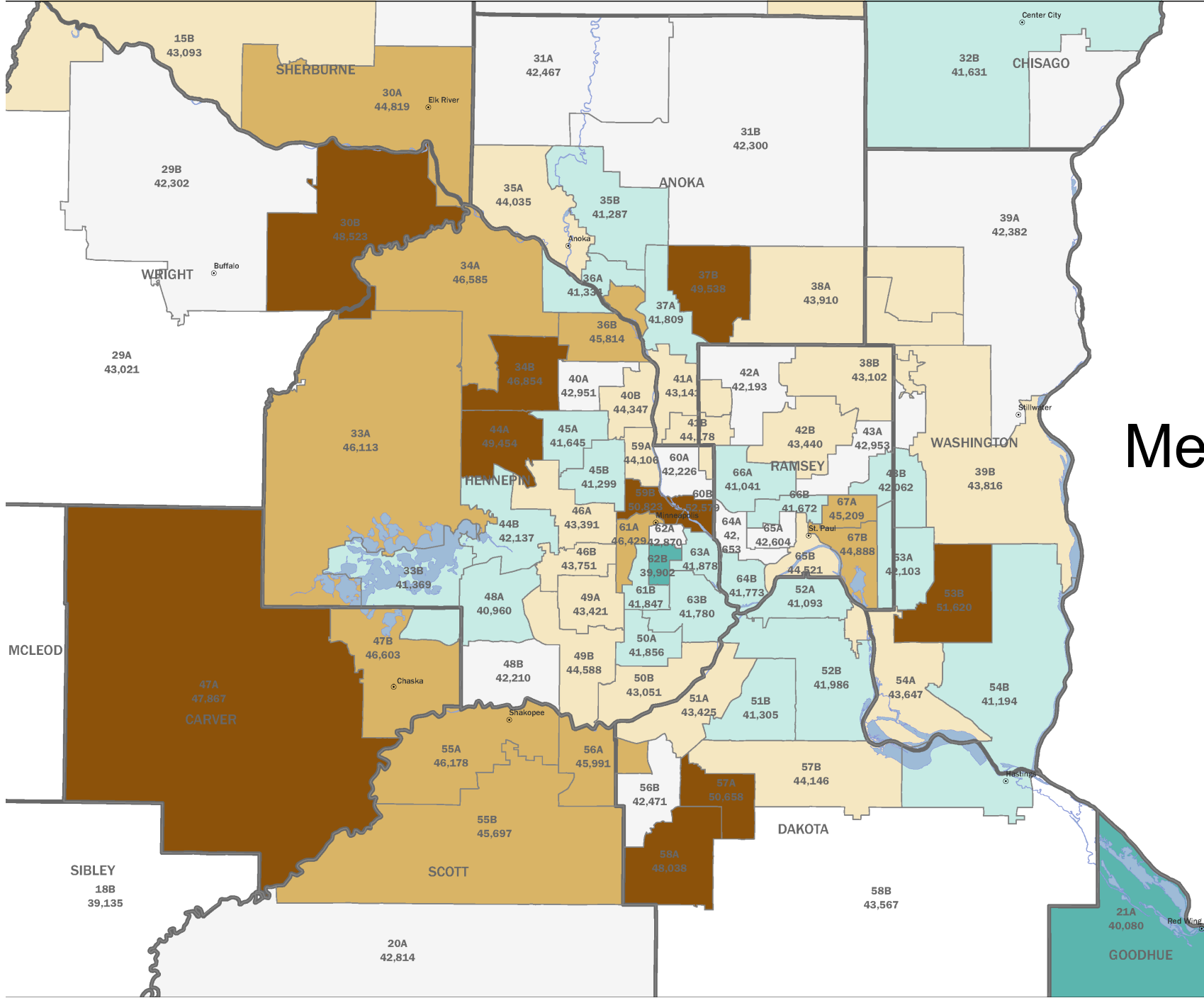
The Facts of Life

- Absolute Numbers are Less Important than Relative Numbers
- Growth Slower than Average
 - ▶ Area Will Grow
- Growth Faster than Average
 - ▶ Area Will Shrink

2020 Minnesota House District Population

2020 Census Data from the Minnesota State Demographic Center





Metro

When Does It Happen?

2020 Census

- **Census Day**
 - ▶ April 1, 2020
- **Congressional reapportionment**
 - ▶ State totals only
 - ▶ Number of congressional districts
 - ▶ By December 31, 2020 (April 26, 2021)
- **Redistricting**
 - ▶ Block populations
 - ▶ By March 31, 2021 (August 12, 2021)

Minnesota Redistricting Timetable

Congress & Legislature

- Legislative and congressional districts
 - ▶ 25 weeks before state primary
 - February 15, 2022

Minnesota Constitution

Article IV, § 23

- Legislature has power to redraw congressional & legislative districts at its first session after each census to equalize populations

Legislature's History of Failure

140 Years of Failure

- 1881 - Last time legislature enacted a legislative plan on time without court assistance
- Courts have been drawing plans for decades
 - Legislative since 1972
 - Congressional since 1982
- Divided government

What Did We Hope to Accomplish?

Wattson v. Simon

- Equal representation for all citizens
- Minorities have an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice
- The political party that wins the most votes statewide elects the most members to a legislative body

2021

Who Drew the Maps?

Wattson v. Simon

- Minnesota Supreme Court asked to appoint Special Redistricting Panel
 - *Wattson v. Simon* complaint (Feb. 19)
 - *Anderson* (Rep.) notice to intervene (Mar. 15)
 - *Sachs v. Simon* (DFL) complaint (Apr. 26)
 - *Corrie* (BIPOC) notice to intervene (July 15)
- Court consolidates *Sachs* with *Wattson*
 - Order (May 20, 2021)

Wattson v. Simon

Timetable

- Panel appointed - June 30, 2021
- Public testimony - October 11-26
- Principles adopted - November 18
- Plans submitted - December 7
- Responses to plans - December 17
- Oral argument on plans - January 4, 2022

Wattson v. Simon

Principles

- Population equality
 - ▶ Congressional - as equal as practicable
 - ▶ Legislative - 2%, plus or minus

Wattson v. Simon

Principles

- **Minority representation**
 - ▶ No purpose or effect to deny or abridge the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice

Wattson v. Simon

Principles

- Not divide American Indian reservations more than necessary
- Convenient contiguous territory
- Not divide counties, cities or towns more than necessary
- Preserve communities of interest

Wattson v. Simon

Principles

- Compact territory
- Not draw districts with purpose of protecting, promoting, or defeating an incumbent, candidate, or political party
- Not consider
 - Incumbent residences
 - Election results

Special Redistricting Panel

Plans Adopted

- Least change plans (core of prior district)
 - ▶ Congress - 93% (Anderson 96%)
 - ▶ Senate - 79% (Wattson 78%)
 - ▶ House - 72% (Anderson 75%)
- Minority districts
 - ▶ Majority-minority - 1 more senate & house
 - ▶ Minority-opportunity
 - 1 more senate
 - 2 more house

Special Redistricting Panel

Plans Adopted

- **Partisan split**
 - ▶ Congress: 4 DFL - 4 Republican
 - ▶ Senate: 36 DFL - 31 Republican
 - ▶ House: 75 DFL - 59 Republican
- **Competitive districts**
 - ▶ Congress: 3 (1 fewer than 2020)
 - ▶ Senate: 17 (1 more than 2020)
 - ▶ House: 22 (6 fewer than 2020)

Minnesota Redistricting Timetable

Local Government

- Precincts and city wards
 - March 29, 2022
- County commissioner, school, park, hospital, and soil & water conservation districts
 - April 26, 2022

Minnesota Redistricting Timetable

Candidates

- Legislative candidates establish residency in districts
 - ▶ 6 months before Election Day - May 8, 2022
- Candidate filing deadline
 - ▶ May 31, 2022
- State primary
 - ▶ August 9, 2022
- Election Day
 - ▶ Nov. 8, 2022