

REPRISE: Redistricting 2022 What School Districts Need to Know and Need to Do

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Overview

- Redistricting Laws
- Important Dates
- Fiscal Considerations
- Principles of Redistricting
- Overview of Census Data

State Law re Timing

Redistricting Occurs in 2022 for School Districts

- No earlier than January 1, 2022, no later than December 31, 2022
- NMSA § 1-3-13(E) “In the calendar year following the receipt of the results of a federal decennial census, ***each local public body*** subject to districting and whose governing body members are elected at the regular local election ***shall create or redraw districts for the local public body***”.

State Law re Population Distribution

Individual board member districts shall be nearly equal in population (within 5% of the mean)

- For example: 100,000 total population = 20,000 per member district = range of +/- 1,000 per district
- NMSA § 1-3-13(F) “A local public body shall establish districts in which ***the number of persons in each district***, as shown in the most recent federal decennial census, ***is as nearly equal in population as practical, but within five percent of the mean.***”

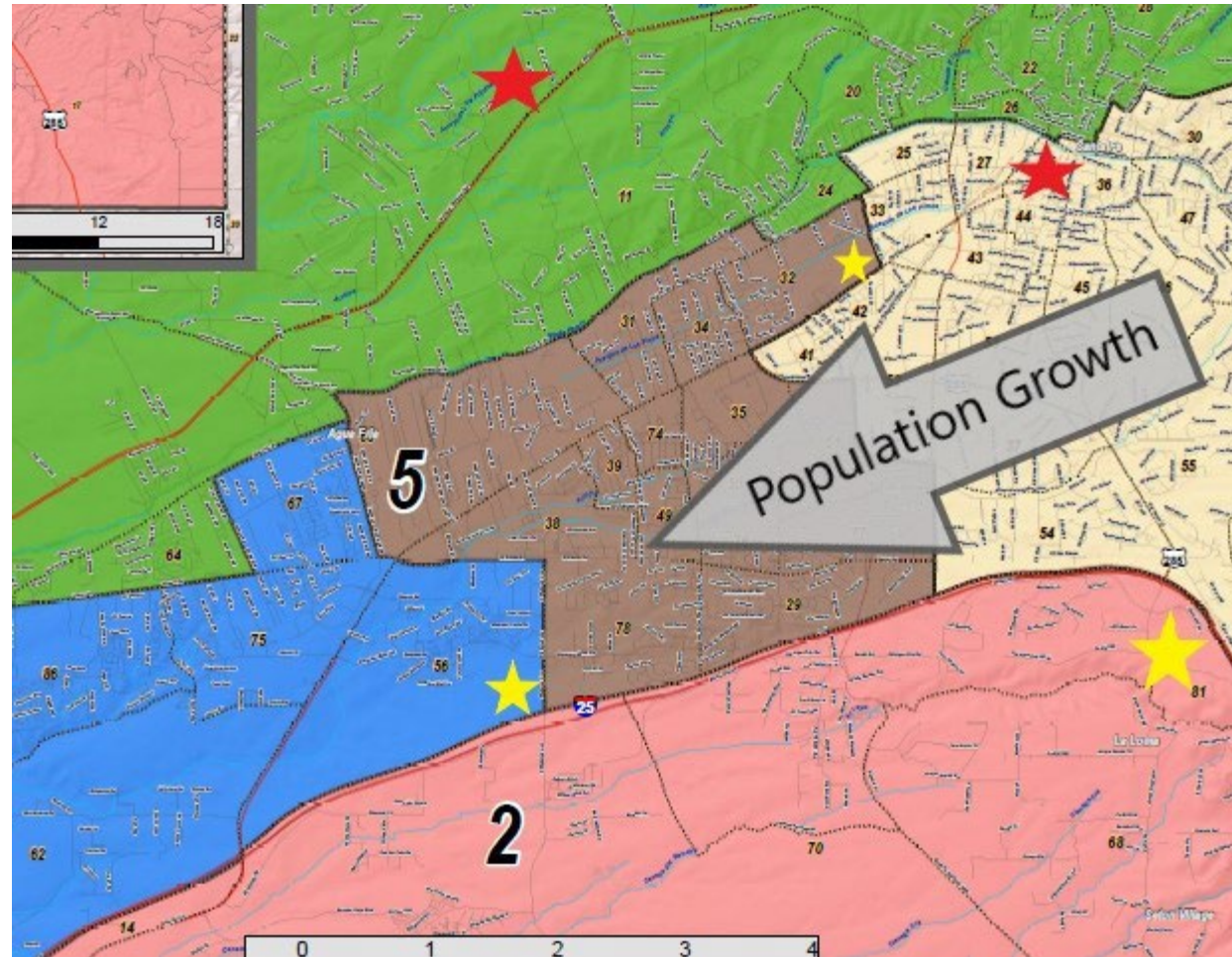
Important Dates

- **Early 2021** - Census data collection complete
- **Fall 2021** - Redistricting data delivered to the State
- **November 2021** - School Board Elections
- **Jan-Dec 2022** - School District Redistricting
- **November 2023** – School Board Elections

Fiscal Considerations

- Budgeting for FY 2021-22:
 - Redistricting consultant services typically range from \$15,000 to \$30,000
 - Begin procurement process in advance of services
- Cost differences:
 - Number of proposed maps requested
 - Number of public sessions and meetings to review maps
 - Number of revised maps
- Areas of controversy that may increase debate/sessions:
 - New district boundaries that contain 2 or more existing board members
 - Combining new constituencies or dramatically different areas

Example: Potential member overlap



Principles of Redistricting*

- Equal Population
- Preserve Minority Voting Rights
- Compactness
- Contiguity
- Communities of Interest

*Content for this and the following slides is obtained in part from the January 18, 2021 presentation to the New Mexico Legislative Council by Research & Polling, Inc. Content used with permission.

Population Considerations

- Who is counted in a census?
 - Adults
 - Children
 - Citizens
 - College students in dorms
 - Foreign students
 - Documented and undocumented immigrants
 - Prisoners
- Is there population growth or decline in certain area?
 - Aging neighborhoods (children grown up and moved out)
 - New residential construction
 - New employers
 - Closing businesses or industries

2020
New Mexico
Population

2020 CENSUS

2,117,522

CHANGE (2010 TO 2020)

58,343

% CHANGE

2.8%

2020
New Mexico
Population
Change

1990-2000

20.1%

2000-2010

13.2%

2010-2020

2.8%

NM Counties with Increasing Population

County	2020 Population	Population Change 2010-2020	% Population Change 2000 - 2010	% Population Change 2010 - 2020
Eddy	62,314	8,485	4.2%	15.8%
Lea	74,455	9,728	16.6%	15.0%
Sandoval	148,834	17,273	46.3%	13.1%
Los Alamos	19,419	1,469	-2.1%	8.2%
Santa Fe	154,823	10,653	11.5%	7.4%
Otero	67,839	4,042	2.4%	6.3%
Doña Ana	219,561	10,328	19.8%	4.9%
Taos	34,489	1,552	9.9%	4.7%
Bernalillo	676,444	13,880	19.0%	2.1%
McKinley	72,902	1,410	-4.4%	2.0%
Rio Arriba	40,246	117	-2.3%	0.3%

NM Counties with Decreasing Population

County	2020 Population	Population Change 2010-2020	% Population Change 2000 - 2010	% Population Change 2010 - 2020
Cibola	27,172	-41	6.3%	-0.2%
Valencia	76,205	-364	15.7%	-0.5%
Chaves	65,157	-488	6.9%	-0.7%
Lincoln	20,269	-228	5.6%	-1.1%
Quay	8,746	-295	-11.0%	-3.3%
Roosevelt	19,191	-655	10.1%	-3.3%
Sierra	11,576	-412	-9.7%	-3.4%
Catron	3,579	-146	5.1%	-3.9%
Grant	28,185	-1,329	-4.8%	-4.5%
Guadalupe	4,452	-235	0.1%	-5.0%
Harding	657	-38	-14.2%	-5.5%
San Juan	121,661	-8,383	14.3%	-6.4%
Socorro	16,595	-1,271	-1.2%	-7.1%
San Miguel	27,201	-2,192	-2.4%	-7.5%
Torrance	15,045	-1,338	-3.1%	-8.2%
Colfax	12,387	-1,363	-3.1%	-9.9%
Union	4,079	-470	9.0%	-10.3%
Mora	4,189	-692	-5.8%	-14.2%
Hidalgo	4,178	-716	-17.5%	-14.6%
De Baca	1,698	-324	-9.7%	-16.0%
New Mexico	2,117,522	58,343	13.2%	2.8%

Voting District Population Constitutional Mandates

- Several Court decisions starting in the 1960's to the present:
 - “One Person, One Vote”
 - Equal population in a voting district = Equal representation
- What is “equal population”?
 - For school districts no more than plus or minus 5% of the ideal population for a school board district
- Example:
 - Population of all persons in school district boundaries = 50,000
 - Divided by 5 school board member districts = 10,000 persons
 - Board member districts may be no larger than 10,500 and no smaller than 9,500 persons

Other Required and Optional Considerations

- **Give minority population an opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice**
 - Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics
 - Compact and large enough to constitute a majority in a single-member district
 - Maintain political cohesiveness of minority population
 - No dilution of minority voting strength
 - No racial gerrymandering
- **Districts should have a compact geographic shape**
- **District should be contiguous** – not divided into dispersed pieces
- **Districts should keep together communities of interest**
 - Neighborhoods
 - Geographic boundaries
 - Respect cultural or historic traditions
- **Other:** try to maintain core of existing districts, avoid pairing incumbents

Questions / Review

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- Timelines
- Fiscal Considerations
- Principles of Redistricting
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