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CONSIDERATIONS, A VIRTUAL
WORKSHOP WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH
COUNTY COUNCIL AND **ELECTRONIC**
VIRTUAL ACCESS FOR THE PUBLIC.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (843) 717-3696



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

**Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936**

January 13, 2022

AGENDA

5:30 P.M.

AGENDA

Call to Order by Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark

Clerk's Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Invocation

Welcome Guest: Mr. Frank Rainwater, Executive Director of Mapping and Operations.

Discussion on the Redistricting of Jasper County Council Districts

Discussion of the Schedule for Adoption

Adjourn

***Special Accommodations Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities*
(843) 717-3696**

Agenda – 01.13.2022

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
JASPER COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021 - 28

RESOLUTION OF JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CRITERIA TO BE USED FOR THE
REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICTS AS
TO POPULATION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL
DECENNIAL CENSUS AS REQUIRED BY S.C. CODE ANN. § 4-9-90**

WHEREAS, the Jasper County Council (“County Council”) is responsible for County Council district redistricting (the “Redistricting Plan”) in conjunction with the 2020 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, Jasper County is committed to approving criteria to redistrict Jasper County (the “County”) pursuant to § 4-9-90 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976 as amended), so as to reapportion as to population within a reasonable time prior to the next scheduled general election following the adoption by the State of South Carolina of the federal decennial census in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the County must meet redistricting standards as follows:

- (i) Adhere to the court ordered constitutional requirement of one person, one vote (County Councils must adhere to a state law of population variance under 10%);
- (ii) Adherence to the 1965 Voting Rights Act, as amended and as interpreted by court decisions;
- (iii) Solicit public input;
- (iv) Ensure that parts of the districts are contiguous;
- (v) To the extent practicable, ensure that the districts are geographically compact;
- (vi) Respect Communities of Interest;

- (vii) Attempt to maintain constituent consistency;
- (viii) Seek to avoid splitting voting precincts, and,
- (ix) Exclude the prison population when redrawing the districts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Jasper County, South Carolina that:

1. County Council hereby adopts the above criteria (i) through (viii) for the purpose of redistricting the Council Districts to meet the current requirements of the census and to meet the standards and requirements imposed by Federal and State law.

2. County Council hereby authorizes its members, managers, department heads, personnel and agents to perform all necessary actions and duties, including utilizing the resources and expertise of the South Carolina Department of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, in order to meet the redistricting criteria herein described in order to accomplish the redistricting of Jasper County.

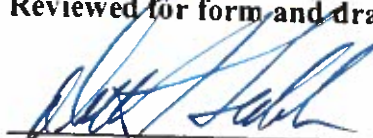
ADOPTED THIS THE 6th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021, AND EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.


Barbara B. Clark, Chairwoman

ATTEST:


Wanda Simmons, Clerk to Council

Reviewed for form and draftsmanship by the Jasper County Attorney.


David L. Tedder

12-6-2021
Date

REDISTRICTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Q: WHAT IS REDISTRICTING AND HOW DOES IT DIFFER FROM REAPPORTIONMENT?

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the lines of districts from which public officials are elected. It typically takes place after each census to accommodate population changes over the previous decade. Redistricting affects all jurisdictions that have single-member elections, whether for members of Congress, state legislatures, county councils, city councils, school boards, etc. and seeks to equalize population among districts.

Reapportionment is the reallocation of congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives based on total state population. Like with redistricting, it is performed after the release of the state population totals based on the latest decennial census, which was the 2020 Census.

Q: WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT REDISTRICTING?

Simply put: It's about your vote having the same impact as others.

One of the greatest rights the people of South Carolina have is to elect their own representatives to conduct the business of their government. Redistricting is the process to maximize that right. By engaging in the redistricting process, communities may have a better opportunity to express their interests in establishing districts for the next ten years.

Q: WHEN SHOULD REDISTRICTING BE COMPLETED?

S.C. Code of Laws §4-9-90 requires counties to redistrict within a reasonable time prior to the next general election following the federal decennial census. There is no corresponding statute for other political subdivisions but similar constitutional principles apply.

Ordinarily, redistricting is to be accomplished before the start of the next election's filing period. If the redistricting simply cannot be accomplished before the start of the next election's filing period, the federal courts have generally allowed those elections to go forward using the prior maps – provided that the government has a “reasonably conceived plan” for timely completion of the new maps. The delay of the release of the 2020 census may impact the ability to accomplish this before November 2022.

Q: HOW IS REDISTRICTING COMPLETED?

Generally, redistricting is an action just like a bill or ordinance and follows the same legislative process. Council must adopt the criteria that describes the key factors to be considered in the plan and discuss the plan at two or more meetings.

Q: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REDRAWING THE LINES OF THE VARIOUS ELECTORAL DISTRICTS?

The responsibility varies for electoral districts at the federal, state and local levels. The following lists examples of common electoral districts and the entities responsible for redrawing the boundaries:

- U.S. Congress - Districts are drawn by the S.C. General Assembly.
- S.C. House of Representatives and Senate - Each legislative body draws its own districts.
- County Council - Districts are drawn by the County Council.
- City Council - Districts are drawn by the City Council.
- School Districts - Districts are drawn by the S.C. General Assembly.

Q: WHY DO WE REDRAW THE LINES?

The U.S. Constitution, the S.C. Constitution and state law, among other authorities, require South Carolina to redraw electoral lines. Redistricting also is the fair and equitable thing to do to ensure people have effective representation in the various levels of government as populations change and communities grow and shrink. Ideally, redistricting enhances participation and representation in our democracy.

Q: WHAT CRITERIA ARE USED TO REDRAW ELECTION DISTRICT LINES?

The criteria used for redistricting include:

- Districts must be of equal population, or as nearly as practical, to comply with the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and the principle of "one person, one vote."
- Districts must comply with the federal Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.
- Districts must be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.
- Districts must minimize the division of voting precincts, cities, counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent possible.
- Districts should be geographically compact so that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
- Districts must comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

Q: WHAT ARE "COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST"?

A community of interest is not a set standard for defining districts but is considered as part of the traditional redistricting principles. A community of interest could be a neighborhood, community, or group of people that has common policy concerns, as well as social and economic interests, and would benefit from being maintained in a single district. Another way of understanding a community of interest is that it is simply a way

for a community to tell its own story about what residents share in common, and what makes it unique when compared to surrounding communities. Many times, multiple communities may exist in an area or cross traditional boundaries like schools and voting precincts. Keeping communities of interest together is an important principle in redistricting and participating in a public hearing helps to ensure that communities are not left out of the political process.

Q: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE S.C. REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE (RFA) IN REDISTRICTING?

RFA provides state and local governments with services performed in accordance with redistricting laws and principles. However, RFA does not provide legal advice or representation.

Q: HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

As part of the legislative process, public hearings are a key part of the process and redistricting is no exception. Public hearings are often held to allow for a more informal but detailed explanation of the proposed changes. Attending and participating in these events or contacting your representatives about redistricting are key ways to be informed and involved.

In the S.C. General Assembly, redistricting bills go through the legislative process, which typically allows for public testimony. County and city councils are required to have public hearings before final approval of redistricting measures.

Q: WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON REDISTRICTING?

For more information on redistricting in South Carolina, please visit our website: rfa.sc.gov.

RFA REDISTRICTING PROCESS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

- Process, data, and plans are to be transparent
- RFA to provide clear and detailed documentation to Council and the public

1. PROJECT INITIATION

- Local Government requests consultation or redistricting services from RFA
- RFA sends Local Government a confirmation letter
- Council may adopt a resolution engaging RFA (optional)

2. PRIOR TO RELEASE OF THE 2020 CENSUS DATA AND BEFORE PROJECT IS STARTED, LOCAL GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE TO RFA:

- A designated liaison
- Notice of potential issues that may affect project timeline (filing deadline, next election)
- Names and residential street addresses of incumbents
- Council will coordinate and verify that RFA has the GIS data accurately reflecting current districts

3. COUNCIL HAS THREE OPTIONS FOR MOVING FORWARD DEPENDING OF THE LEVEL OF RFA INVOLVEMENT AND THE SPEED AT WHICH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED:

- **OPTION 1:** Council may conduct its own redistricting and use RFA in a consulting role as appropriate.
- **OPTION 2:** RFA can create a Benchmark Report, criteria, and council can then draft its own plan.
- **OPTION 3:** Council may first review the Benchmark Report created by RFA then adopt a set of criteria and request RFA to create a preliminary redistricting plan based on these criteria. This option has the largest time commitment.

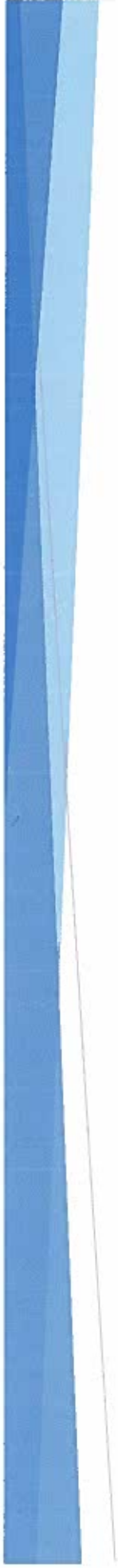
4. RFA WILL COORDINATE A TENTATIVE ACTION PLAN AND PROJECT TIMELINE BASED ON THE OPTION SELECTED.

FURTHER STEPS ARE DETERMINED BASED ON THE PLAN SELECTED; THE STEPS OUTLINED BELOW ARE BASED ON OPTION 3.

5. AT THE REQUEST OF COUNCIL AND WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 2020 CENSUS DATA IS RELEASED RFA WILL:

- Create a Benchmark Report showing the new population in the current districts and notating the population adjustments needed in each district to achieve the one person, one vote standard and an appropriate acceptable deviation standard

- Provide statistical analyses and guidelines to consider to comply with the Voting Rights Act, specifically Section 2
 - Provide a proposed set of traditional redistricting principles
6. BENCHMARK PLAN RELEASE:
- RFA will share the Benchmark Report with Council for review prior to the public meeting.
7. AT THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING
- RFA will provide a briefing for Council and the public on redistricting
 - Traditional Redistricting Principles
 - Constitutional and Statutory Requirements
 - RFA will provide a report to include:
 - A proposed set of criteria determined by either Council or RFA
 - An analysis (Benchmark Report) of existing districts with 2020 Census data
 - RFA will solicit feedback from Council and the public on key issues, including communities of interest
8. AFTER THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING
- Local Government liaison will notify RFA of key issues to consider when drafting the preliminary plan.
 - RFA will provide the liaison with the preliminary plan
 - Liaison will share solicited feedback from Council
 - RFA will amend the plan to best achieve the constitutional requirements and local preferences.
9. AT THE SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT MEETING(S)
- Council can decide when the plan should be presented at a public meeting
 - Final plan presented for Council to adopt (RFA may or may not need to attend)
10. AFTER ADOPTION
- Council will provide a letter notifying RFA of adoption of the plan
 - Council will notify local voter registration office and other affected entities



2020 REDISTRICTING BENCHMARK REPORT

JASPER COUNTY

REPORT PREPARED BY:
South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs
Rembert Dennis Building, Room 419
1000 Assembly Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803)-734-3793
www.rfa.sc.gov
December 1, 2021

**REDISTRICTING REPORT 2020
PRESENTED TO: JASPER COUNTY**

The South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) has prepared the following analysis and accompanying maps regarding the redistricting for Jasper County Council.

RFA strives to release data that is complete, accurate, and useful. However, we ask that you notify us, either by email (redistricting@rfa.sc.gov) or phone (803-734-3793), of any discrepancies.

ITEMS TO NOTE PRIOR TO REVIEWING THIS REPORT:

- The 2020 Census presents new challenges regarding redistricting as the data below the state level will be affected by the U.S. Census Bureau's efforts with respect to differential privacy. The Bureau has stated that the total population in each state will be "as enumerated," but that all other levels of geography could have some variance from the raw data. This variance is referred to by the Census Bureau as "injecting noise" into the data and is an attempt to improve privacy. The bureau has indicated that no "noise" will be injected into the state total population, but it is likely that noise will be injected for every other level of geography. More noise is injected as the geography levels get smaller. In other words, population counts at the county, city, or block level may not be "as enumerated".
- In determining total population, RFA recommends and has excluded the prison population from the analysis in order to avoid prison gerrymandering concerns. However, the final decision to include or exclude the prison population is at the discretion of Council.
- Race is defined following the guidance provided in OMB Bulletin No. 00-02 which allocates population counts of a "minority race and white" category to the minority race. In Tables 2 and 3, NH DOJ Black is the sum of Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic Black and White as recommended by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PRELIMINARY PLAN:

In developing a preliminary plan, RFA recommends following constitutional and statutory provisions:

- The requirement of “one person, one vote” under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and accepted variances.
- The Voting Rights Act, primarily Section 2, which protects the interest of the racial minority population.
- Other applicable court decisions and federal and state law.

Further, RFA recommends the following set of traditional redistricting principles be considered:

- Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
- Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
- Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

2020 CENSUS BENCHMARK REPORT

The population of Jasper County, including the prison population, has increased 16.2% from 24,777 to 28,791. However, based on recent court decisions, RFA recommends excluding the prison population of 927 to better reflect 'one person, one vote'.

The Benchmark Report noted a deviation range of 74.17% (the sum of the highest deviation, 50.9% and the absolute value of the lowest deviation | -23.27% |) which is above the maximum range of 10%. RFA recommends a deviation range of 5%.

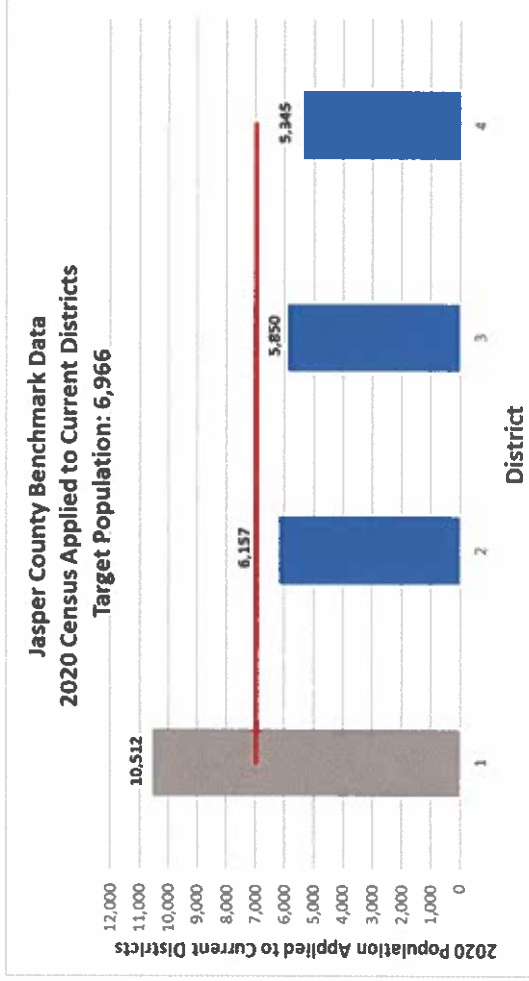
The following table and chart show which districts are (under-) or over-populated indicating adjustments may be necessary to stay within the allowable deviation range.

TABLE 1: 2020 CENSUS COUNTS APPLIED TO CURRENT DISTRICTS

CHART 1:

Note: The population of 927 housed at Ridgeland Correctional Institute was removed for this analysis

District	2020 Census	Goal	Over/(Under)	% Deviation
1	10,512	6,966	3,546	50.90%
2	6,157	6,966	(809)	-11.61%
3	5,850	6,966	(1,116)	-16.02%
4	5,345	6,966	(1,621)	-23.27%
Lowest	-23.27%			
Highest	50.90%			
Range	74.17%			



MAP 1:
Current County
Council District Lines and
Addresses of Incumbents

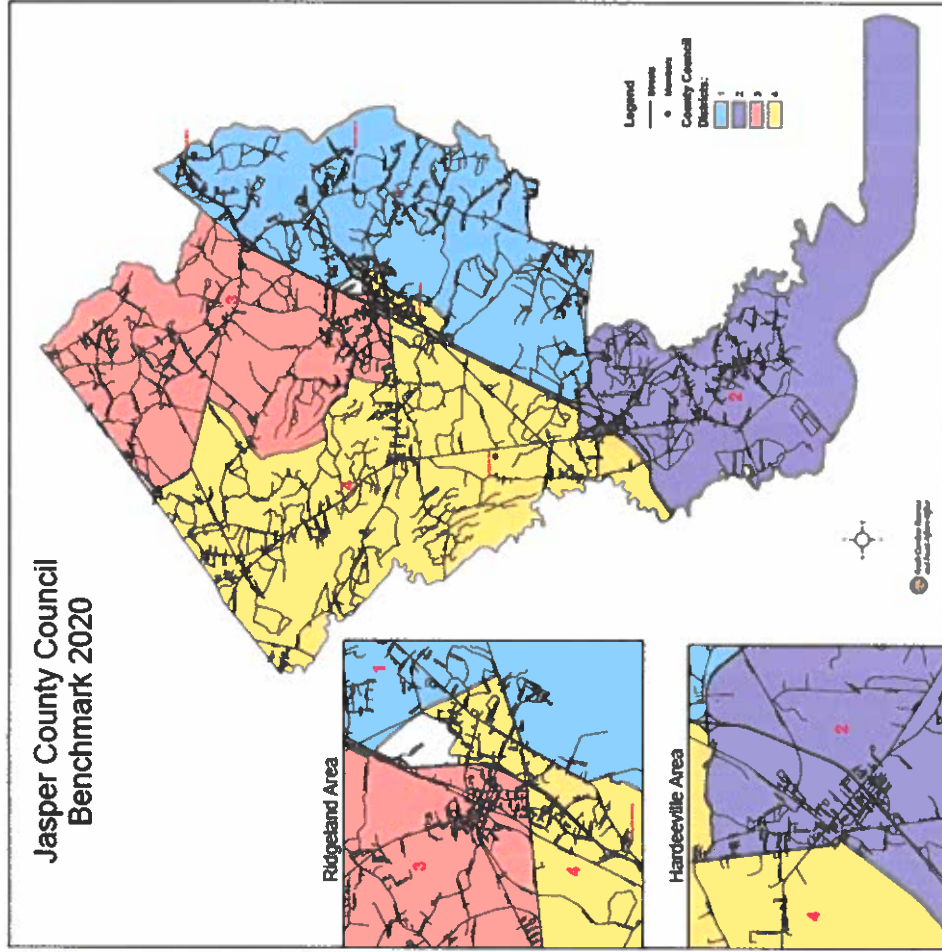


TABLE 2: TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE *RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total	Hispani		NH		% NH		NH DOJ		% NH		NH Other		% NH Other	
		c	VAP	White	Hispanic	White	Black*	White	Black*	Black	Other	Black	Other	Black	Other
1	10,512	1,309	1,810	6,321	12.45%	1,952	2,614	60.13%	2,614	24.87%	268	2.55%	268	2.55%	
2	6,157	1,810	1,952	3,112	29.40%	1,442	2,184	31.70%	2,184	35.47%	211	3.43%	211	3.43%	
3	5,850	901	1,020	3,112	15.40%	1,442	1,655	53.20%	1,655	28.29%	182	3.11%	182	3.11%	
4	5,345	1,020	1,442	12,827	19.08%	12,827	9,169	26.98%	9,169	50.81%	167	3.12%	167	3.12%	
Total	27,864	5,040	5,850	12,827	18.09%	12,827	9,169	46.03%	9,169	32.91%	828	2.97%	828	2.97%	

Tract 950203, Block 4009 population of 927 housed at Ridgeland was removed from this analysis

TABLE 3: VOTING AGE POPULATION BY RACE *RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total	Hispani		NH		% NH		NH DOJ		% NH		NH Other		% NH Other	
		c VAP	VAP	White	Hispanic	White	Black*	White	Black*	Black	Other	Black	Other	Black	Other
1	9,012	911	1,124	5,882	10.11%	1,698	1,996	65.27%	1,996	22.15%	223	2.47%	223	2.47%	
2	4,614	1,124	1,204	2,603	24.36%	2,086	1,641	36.80%	1,641	35.57%	151	3.27%	151	3.27%	
3	4,522	561	608	11,387	12.41%	11,387	6,947	57.56%	6,947	31.33%	637	2.87%	637	2.87%	
4	4,027	608	1,204	2,086	15.10%	2,086	1,224	29.90%	1,224	27.07%	134	2.96%	134	2.96%	
Total	22,175	3,204	3,204	11,387	14.45%	11,387	6,947	51.35%	6,947	31.33%	637	2.87%	637	2.87%	

Tract 950203, Block 4009 population of 927 housed at Ridgeland was removed from this analysis

RFA ANALYSIS RESULTS:

Preliminary results of our analysis indicate there does appear to be racially polarized voting in Jasper County but more time is needed prior to making a recommendation.

Voting data was analyzed to determine compliance with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

- The results of the analysis are not absolute due to the limitations of the data; therefore, conclusions are to be used only as a precautionary measure.
- The following techniques were used:
 - Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis (Appendix C) – This technique focuses on two aggregate variables and the relationship between them.

RFA RECOMMENDATIONS:

- RFA requests Council conduct a public meeting to discuss this report and solicit feedback from the public.
- RFA recommends Council adopt, through either a resolution or acceptance of this plan, the following traditional redistricting principles:
 - Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
 - Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- RFA recommends Council consider excluding prison population when redrawing the districts.
- RFA recommends Council give careful consideration to minority districts for compliance with Section 2 criteria of the Voting Rights Act.
- Because of the potential effects of differential privacy, RFA recommends Council adopt a deviation range of 5%.

APPENDIX A – POPULATION TREND (INCLUDES PRISON POPULATION)

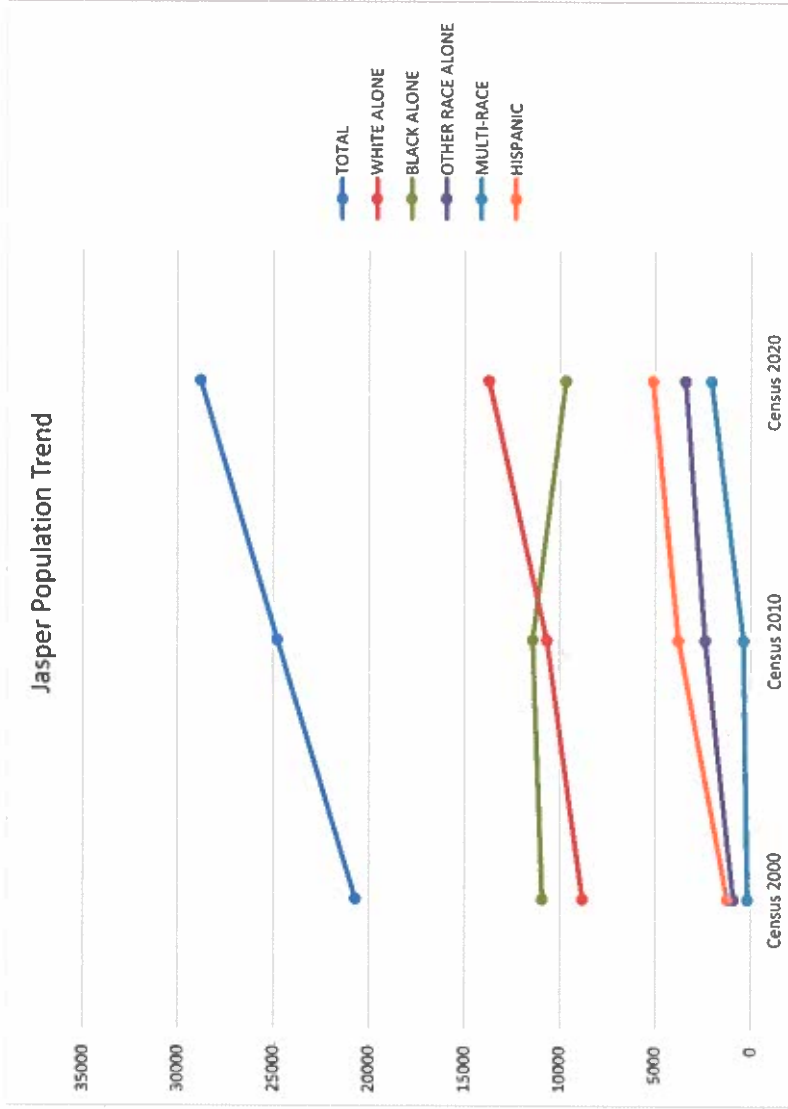
TABLE A-1 PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2010 TO 2020 BY DETAILED RACE CATEGORIES

DOJ Definitions*	Year	Total Pop	White Alone	Black Alone	Other Single Race	Multiple Race	Percent of Total	Hispanic or Latino Population	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic White*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Black*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Asian*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Some Other Race*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Multiple Race*	Percent of Total
County	2010	24,777	10,658	43.02%	2,361	9.53%	3,752	15.14%	9,263	37.39%	11,401	46.01%	88	0.36%	182	0.73%	8	0.03%	27	0.11%	56	0.23%	
JASPER	2020	28,791	13,715	47.64%	3,395	11.79%	5,079	17.64%	13,056	45.35%	9,823	34.12%	287	1.00%	232	0.81%	26	0.09%	186	0.65%	102	0.35%	
Percent Change		16.20%	28.95%	-15.44%	43.80%	478.41%	35.37%	40.95%	-13.64%	226.14%	27.47%	225.00%	588.85%	82.14%									

TABLE A-2 PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2010 TO 2020 BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORIES

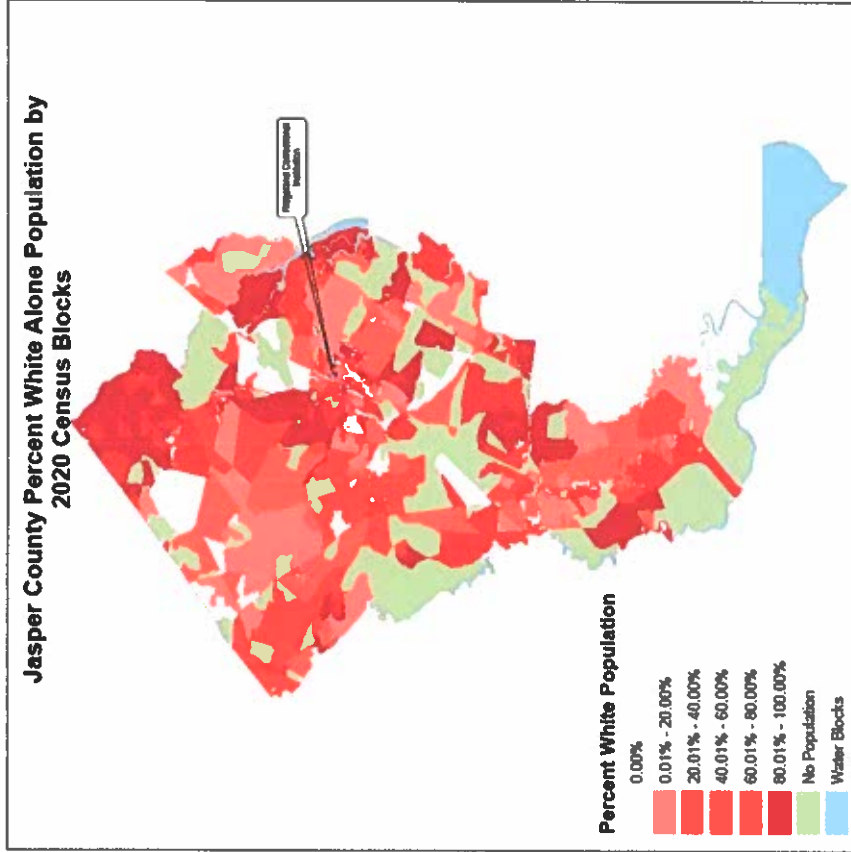
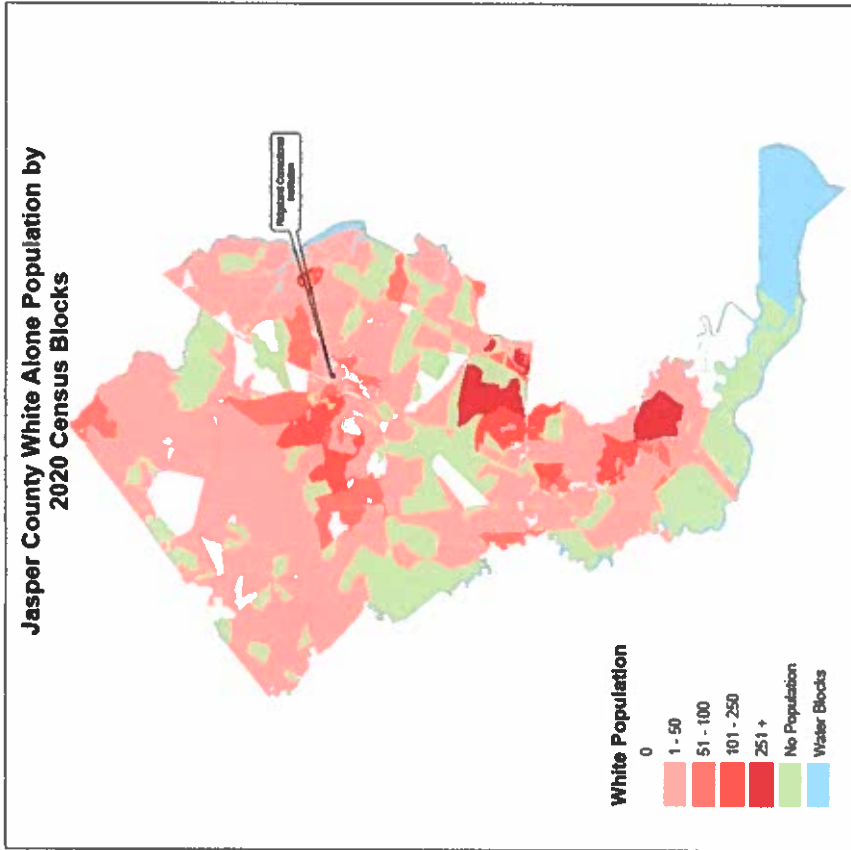
County	Year	Total Population	White Alone	Black Alone	Other Single Race	Multiple Race	Percent of Total	Hispanic or Latino Population	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic White*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Black*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Asian*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Some Other Race*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Multiple Race*	Percent of Total
JASPER	2010	24,777	10,658	43.02%	2,361	9.53%	3,752	15.14%	9,263	37.39%	11,401	46.01%	88	0.36%	182	0.73%	8	0.03%	27	0.11%	56	0.23%	
JASPER	2020	28,791	13,715	47.64%	3,395	11.79%	5,079	17.64%	13,056	45.35%	9,823	34.12%	287	1.00%	232	0.81%	26	0.09%	186	0.65%	102	0.35%	
Percent Change		16.20%	28.68%	-15.44%	43.80%	478.41%	35.37%	40.95%	-13.64%	226.14%	27.47%	225.00%	588.85%	82.14%									

CHART A-1 POPULATION TREND BY SINGLE RACE, 2000 - 2020

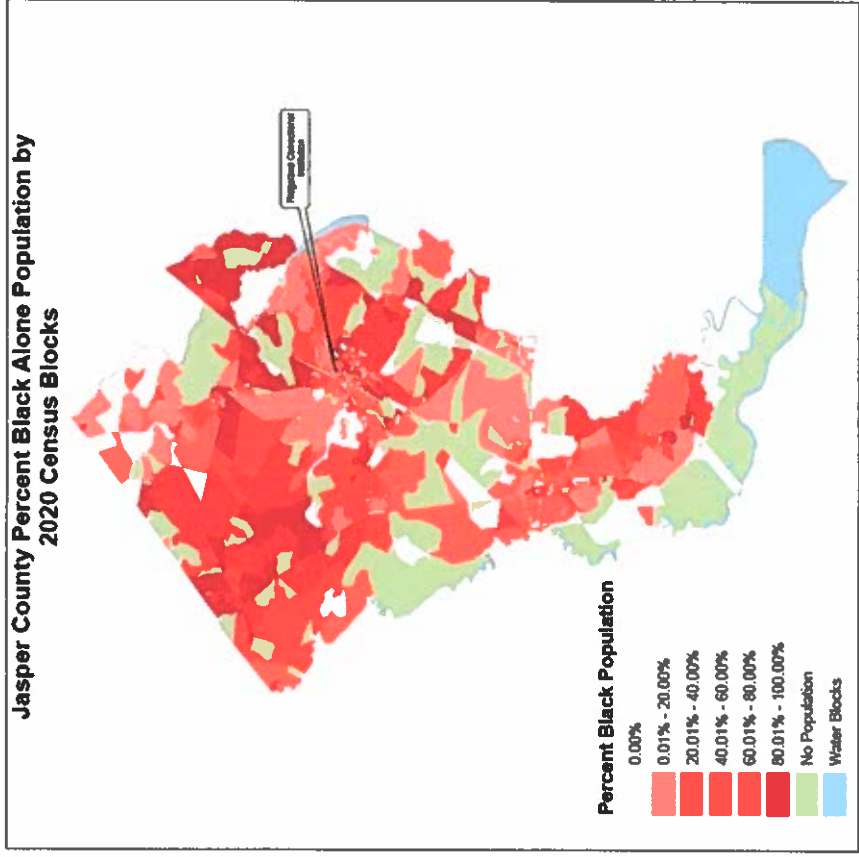
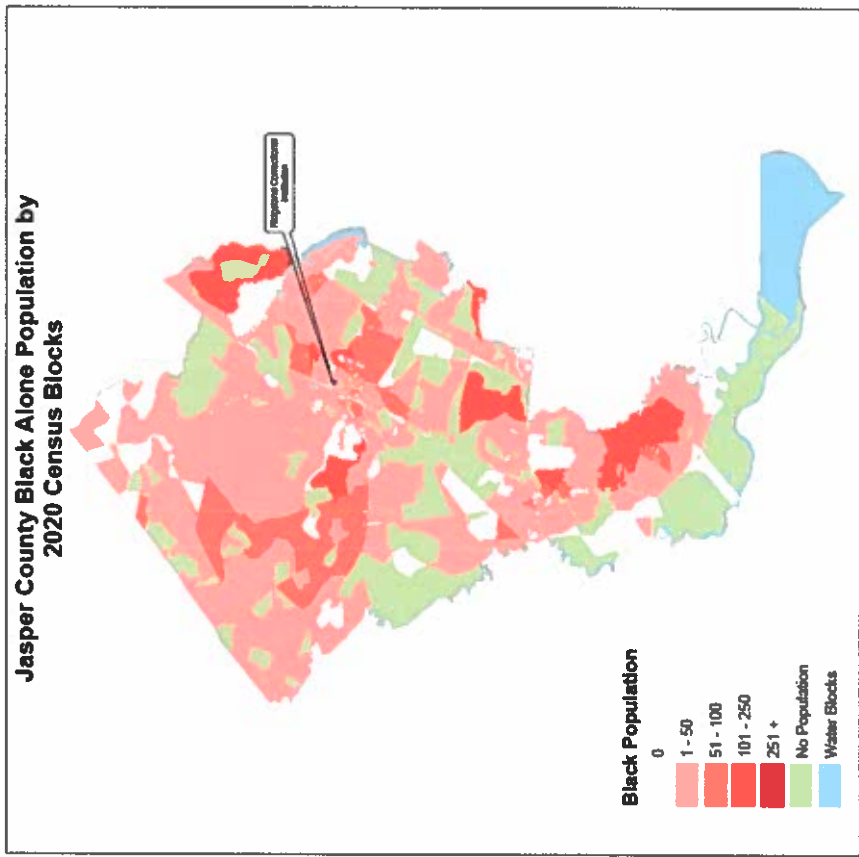


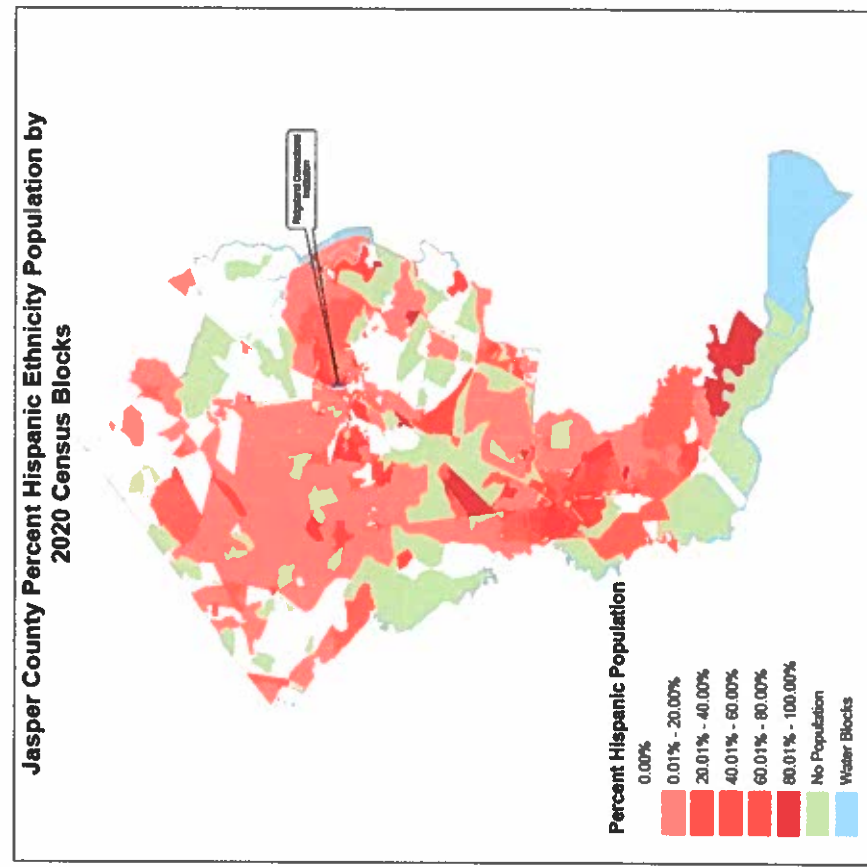
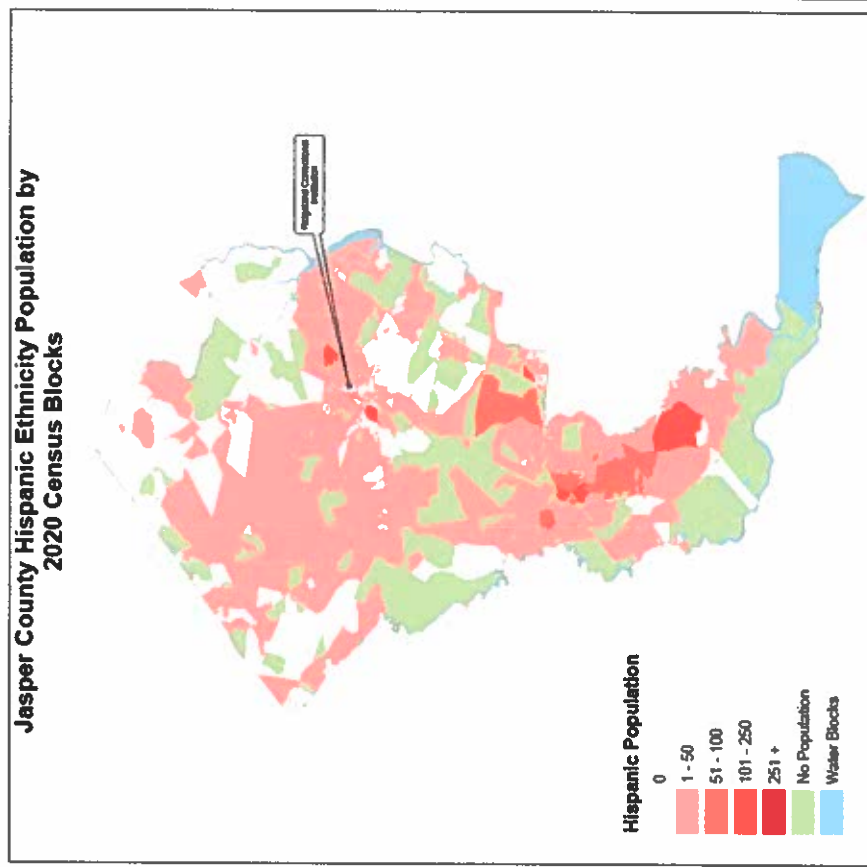
APPENDIX B - MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORIES (CORRESPONDS WITH TABLE A-2)

MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - WHITE



MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - BLACK





APPENDIX C - VOTING ANALYSIS, BIVARIATE ECOLOGICAL REGRESSION ANALYSIS

