

# City of Texas City 2021 Redistricting

## Initial Assessment

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# REDISTRICTING

## Applicable Law

### Three Principles, plus

“One person – one vote”  
(equal population)

Voting Rights Act § 2  
(nondiscrimination)

*Shaw v. Reno*  
(limits use of race)

**Plus, as diagnostic tool:**  
Voting Rights Act § 5  
(retrogression)

# Redistricting

## One Person - One Vote

§ U.S. Constitution – single-member districts must have *approximately equal populations*

§ Rule of thumb: **total deviation < 10%**

- Compare most populous and least populous districts to “ideal”-sized district
- Add both departures from ideal together

<u>District</u>	<u>Ideal district</u>	<u>District total pop.</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Deviation</u>
A	10,000	11,000	1000	+ 10.0 percent
B	10,000	10,750	750	+ 7.5 percent
C	10,000	10,250	250	+ 2.5 percent
D	10,000	8,000	- 2000	- 20.0 percent
<hr/>				
Totals:	40,000	40,000	net= 0	net= 0 percent

Total maximum deviation = difference between most populous and least populous districts = 10 percent + 20 percent = 30 percent.

## Example Deviation Calculation

# Available Census Data

## PL94-171 File

- n “Census block” level
- n Total population
- n VAP  
(voting age  
population)
- n Race
- n Hispanic origin



# What Population Do You Use?

## Total Population

- To determine one person - one vote

## VAP

(Voting Age Population)

- To measure voting rights issues

## Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act

- No discrimination on basis of race or language minority status
- Generally, avoid *cracking or packing*
- *Cracking or fracturing* is dividing minority voters to fragment their voting power.
- *Packing* is concentrating minority voters when dividing them would permit the group to elect their candidates of choice in more than one district
- Other practices can also violate Section 2

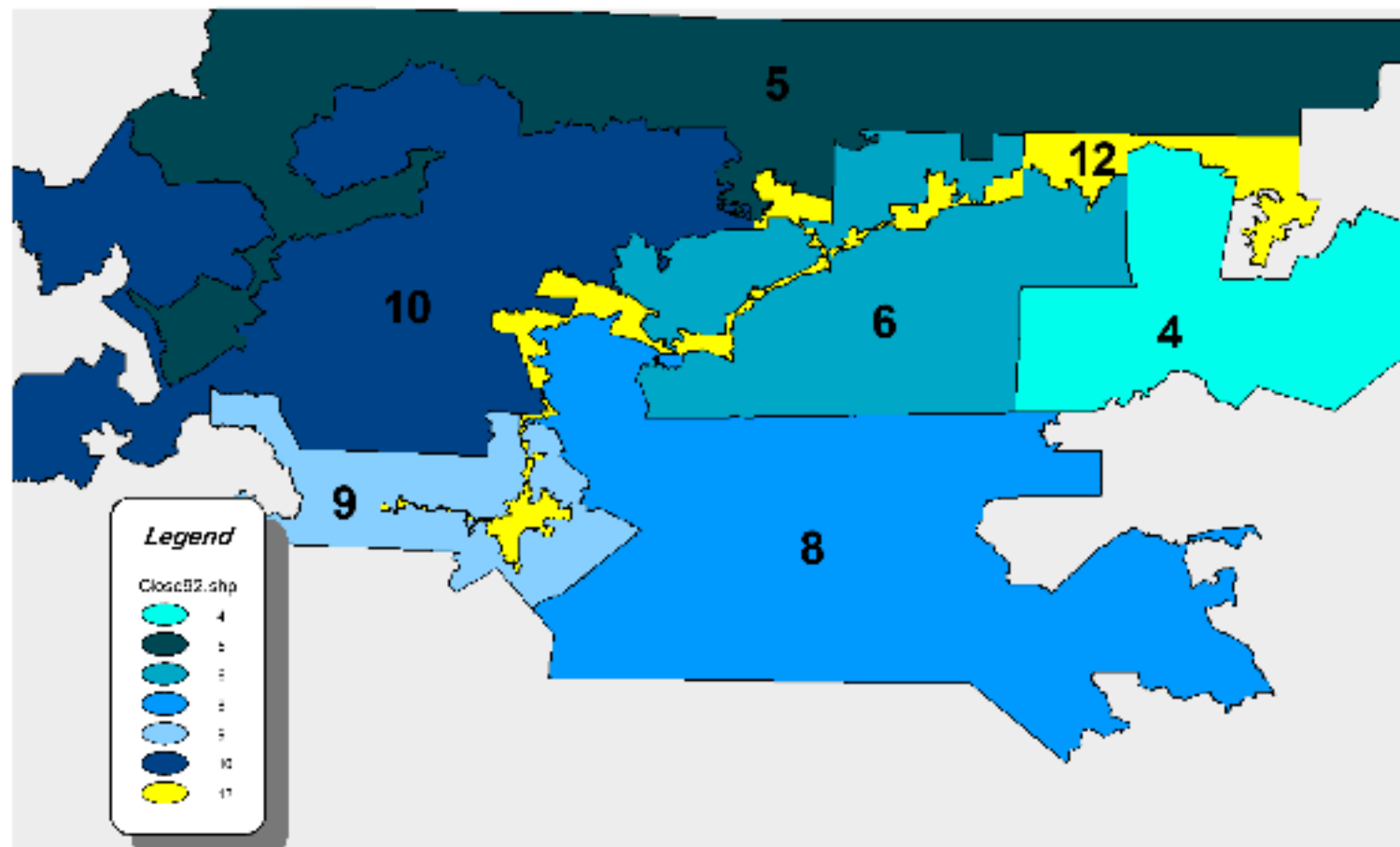
# 14th Amendment (*Shaw v. Reno*)

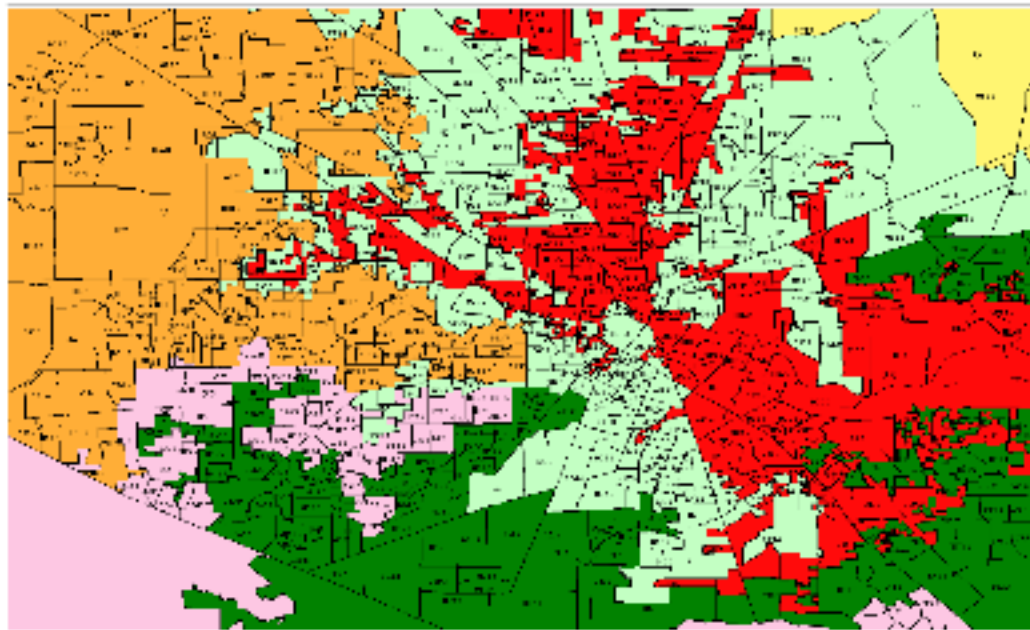
Limits race-based decision making, including redistricting

Was race the predominant consideration in drawing a redistricting plan?

If so, is the plan a *narrowly tailored* means of addressing a *compelling governmental interest*?

## CLOSE UP OF NORTH CAROLINA 1992 PLAN A



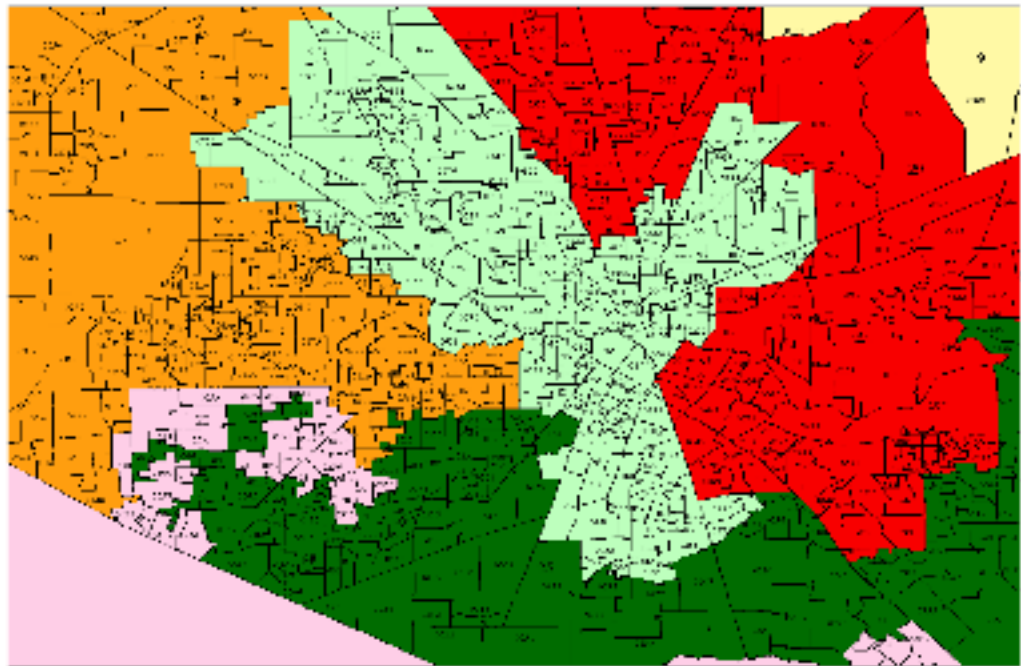


Central Harris County  
PLAN 1597

*Bush v. Vera*

AFTER

BEFORE



Central Harris County  
PLAN 766

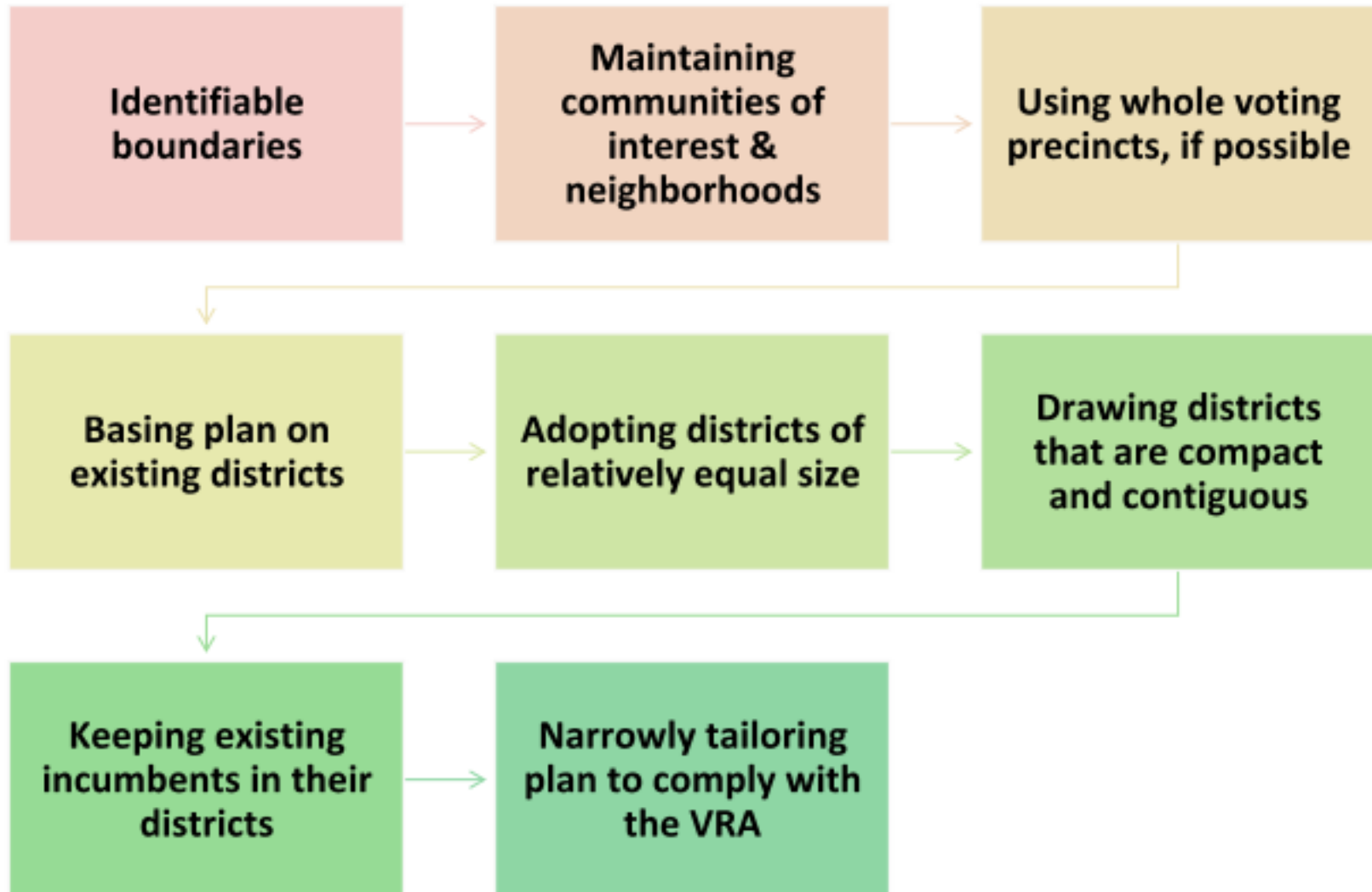
# Redistricting Standards under Shaw-Reno Line of Cases

- § Usually, race may not be the predominant factor to the subordination of traditional districting principles
- § But it is OK to be aware of race and to consider race *to satisfy Section 2 and Section 5*
- § To “narrowly tailor,” use race no more than necessary
- § Bizarrely-shaped districts not unconstitutional per se
  - Bizarre shape may be evidence that race predominated

# Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act

- § Preclearance no longer required (*Shelby County v. Holder* (2013))
- § Section 5 standard is “retrogression”
  - § Are minorities worse off under the new system?
  - § Still a useful diagnostic tool to identify potential Section 2 issues
- § No discriminatory purpose or effect

# Adopt Criteria



# Steps To Balancing Conflicting Legal Obligations In Redistricting

**Plan ahead**

- Build a record

**Be Aware**

- Of legal obligations and responsibilities

**Adopt**

- Criteria that reflect traditional redistricting principles, including consideration of race to the extent required to meet obligations under the Voting Rights Act

**Pay Attention**

# Steps To Balancing Conflicting Legal Obligations In Redistricting



Analyze the final plan in terms of how well it conforms to the adopted criteria



Make sure the analysis is considered by the City Council before plan adoption



Avoid districts that are not compact

# Plan Development Elements

Initial Assessment

Adopt plan criteria, guidelines

Develop illustrative plan(s)

Public comment / hearing

Analyze comments

Adopt final plan

Implementation



## **Proposed Redistricting Time Line**

TBD - Present Initial Assessment

TBD - First Drawing Workshop

TBD - Second Drawing Workshop

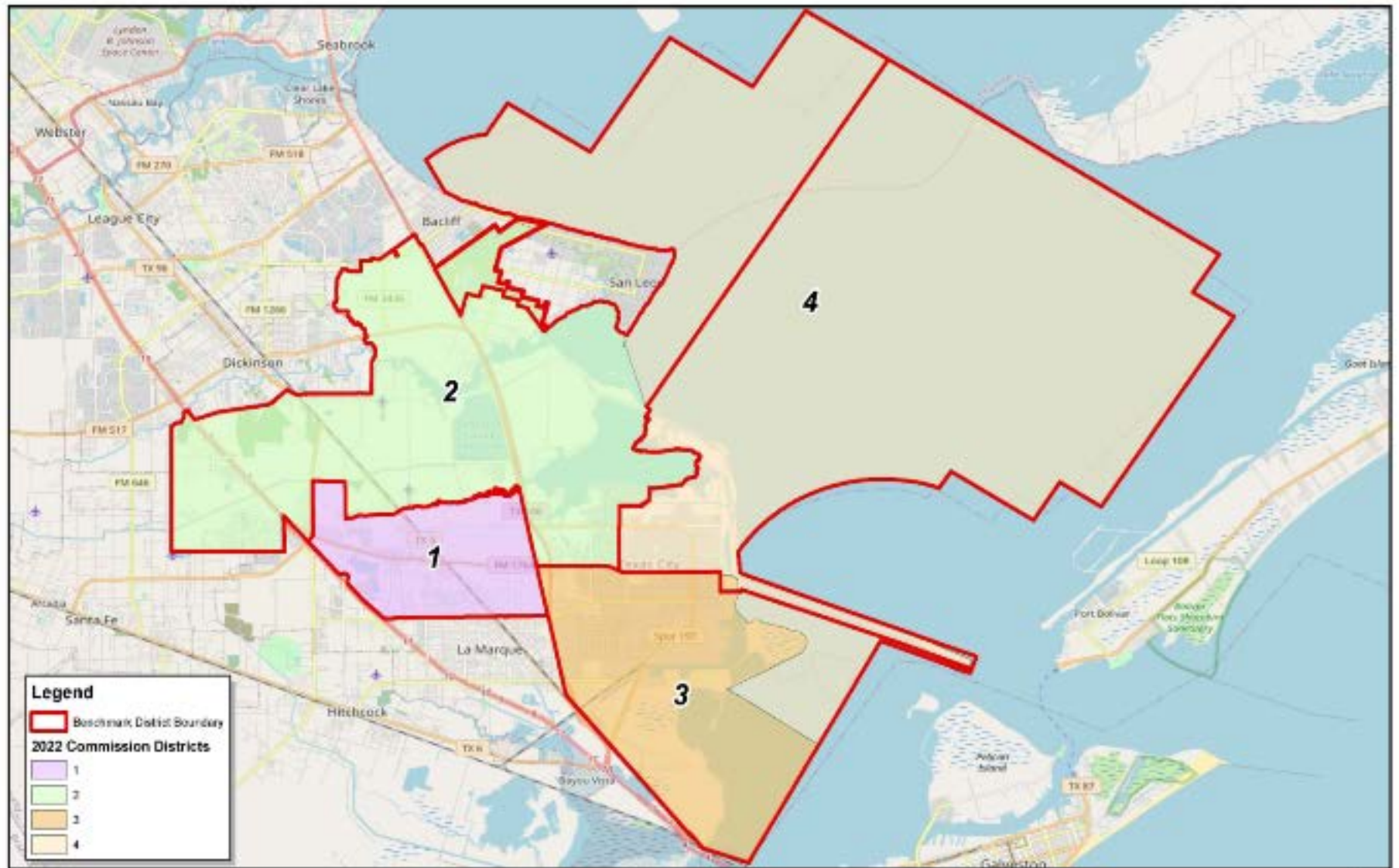
TBD - Final Adoption



# City of Texas City

## 2011 Benchmark with 2020 Census Data

# Current City Commission Districts



**Legend**

- Benchmark District Boundary
- 2022 Commission Districts
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4



## Texas City Commission Districts 2022 Initial Assessment

Created: 3/31/2022  
Differences between the Benchmark Boundary and the 2021 Census Geography.

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Data Source: Roads, Water and other features obtained from the 2020 Tigerline file, U.S. Census Bureau



**City of Texas City**  
**Overall Deviation For Current City Commission Districts**  
**Using 2020 Census Data**

**Texas City Commission Districts - 2022 Initial Assessment**



**Demographics Report - Summary 2020 Census Total Population**

Plan Last Edited on: 3/30/2022 5:27:03 PM

District	Persons	Ideal Size	Deviation	Hispanic % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic White % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic Black % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic Asian % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic Other % of Total Population
<b>1</b>	15,087	13,020	15.88%	22.59%	23.88%	48.21%	1.28%	4.12%
<b>2</b>	14,220	13,020	9.22%	30.41%	44.32%	18.87%	2.23%	4.16%
<b>3</b>	10,521	13,020	-19.19%	40.18%	30.94%	24.95%	0.55%	3.38%
<b>4</b>	12,250	13,020	-5.91%	33.94%	48.02%	12.67%	1.03%	4.33%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	52,078			30.95%	36.57%	27.14%	1.33%	4.03%

**Ideal Size: 52078 / 4 = 13020**

**Total Population: 52,078**

**Overall Deviation: 35.07%**

*Some percentages may be subject to rounding errors.*

**City of Texas City**  
**Overall Deviation For Current City Commission Districts**  
**Using 2020 Census Data**

**Texas City Commission Districts - 2022 Initial Assessment**



**Demographics Report - Summary 2020 Census Voting Age Population**

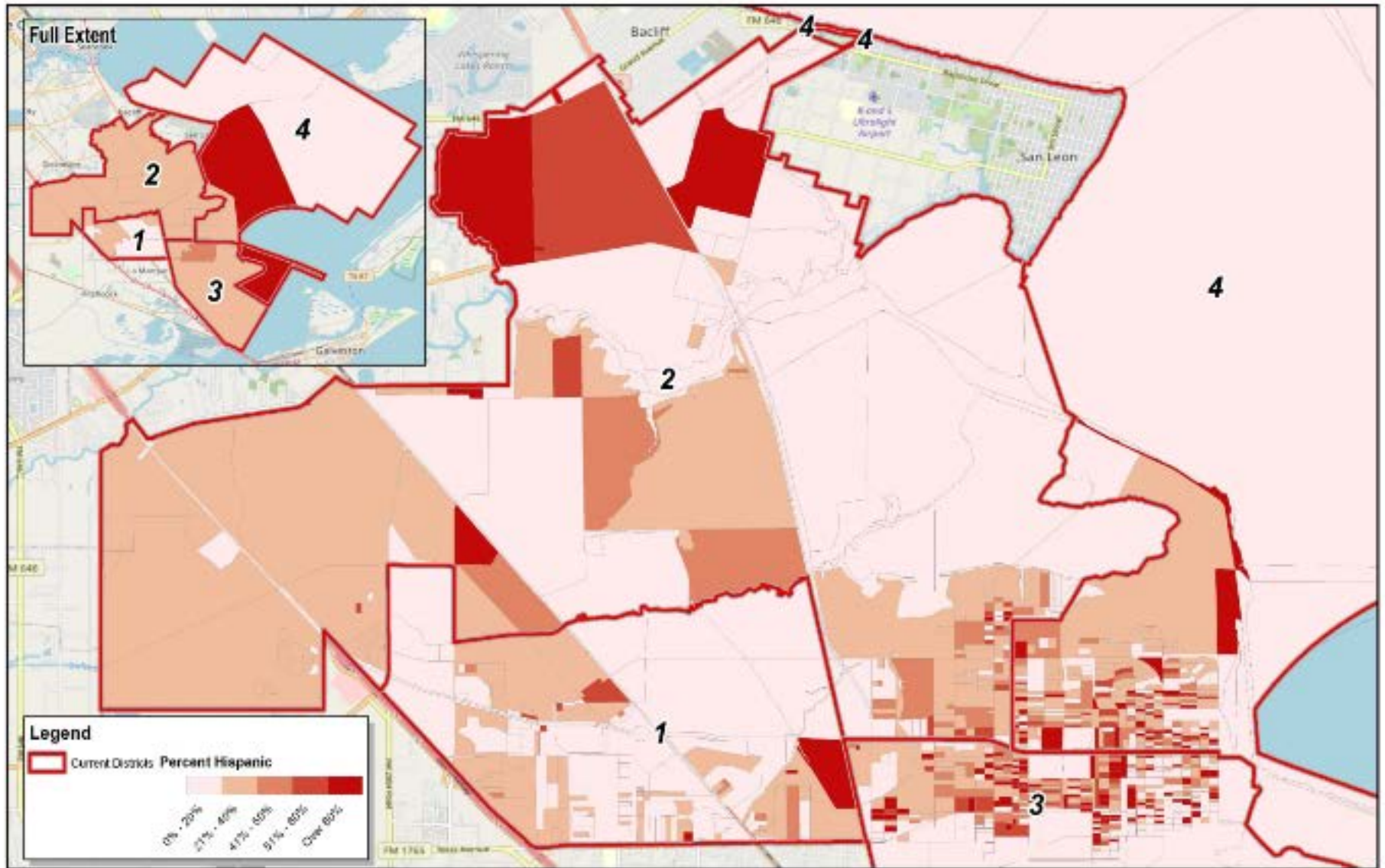
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District	Total VAP*		Hispanic % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Anglo % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Black % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Asian % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Other % of Total VAP
<b>1</b>	<b>11,279</b>		19.83%	26.61%	48.44%	1.38%	3.83%
<b>2</b>	<b>11,011</b>		27.45%	48.15%	18.46%	2.35%	3.58%
<b>3</b>	<b>7,694</b>		37.31%	34.05%	25.23%	0.61%	2.79%
<b>4</b>	<b>9,262</b>		30.66%	52.87%	11.62%	1.13%	3.71%
	<b>39,246</b>		<b>27.95%</b>	<b>40.31%</b>	<b>26.79%</b>	<b>1.44%</b>	<b>3.53%</b>

\* VAP - Voting Age Population

*Some percentages may be subject to rounding errors.*

# Thematic Maps



**Texas City Commission Districts - 2022 Initial Assessment  
Percent Hispanic by 2020 Census Block**

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Data Source: Roads, Water and other  
features obtained from the 2020  
Tiger/line files, U.S. Census Bureau

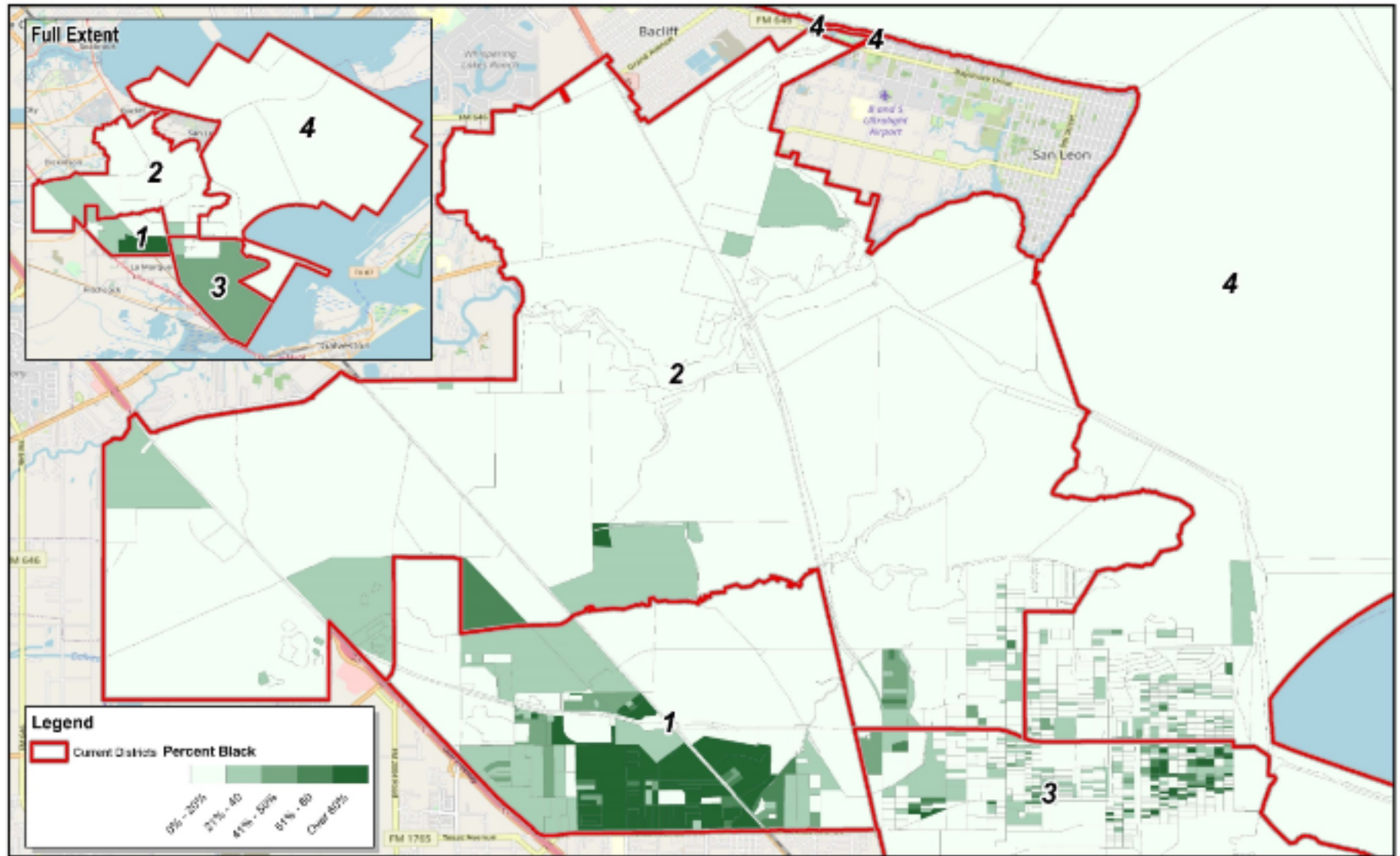


0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Created: 3/31/2022

Differences between the Beachmax Boundary and the 2021 Census Geography.

# Thematic Maps



**Texas City Commission Districts - 2022 Initial Assessment  
Percent Black by 2020 Census Block**

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Created: 3/31/2022

Differences between the Benchmark Boundary and the 2021 Census Geography.

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