



Via Electronic Mail

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners
City of Ft. Pierce

FROM: Kurt Spitzer

DATE: April 13, 2022

RE: Comparison of Data from Census Website with that used by KSA

The purpose of this Memorandum is to discuss the potential reasons for differences in population data used by KSA in the redistricting process with that which may be obtained from the website of the [US Bureau of the Census](#), as some have questioned the discrepancy of 111 people.

KSA uses Public Law (P.L.) 94-171 data as compiled by and made available by the Census Bureau. PL 94-171 was enacted by Congress in December 1975 and requires the Bureau to provide states with the data necessary to conduct legislative redistricting and to furnish tabulations of population to each state within one year of Census day.

The discrepancy between the Census Bureau's 2020 population estimates for the City of Ft. Pierce and our estimates is due to the fact that the boundaries for the Census Bureau's "place boundary" for the City and the boundary provided by the City to KSA are not coterminous and are different from one another. When comparing the two boundaries, the city-provided boundary is larger by both area and population.

Following the boundary provided by the City, we tabulated a total population of 47,408 in the 1,350 census blocks. According to the [decennial census redistricting data](#) based on the Bureau's place boundary for Ft. Pierce, the total population is 47,297. But there are 34 census blocks that are within the city-provided boundary for Ft. Pierce (total of 1,350 blocks) that fell outside the census bureau's place boundary for Ft. Pierce (total of 1,316 blocks). The total population within those 34 blocks is approximately 111 according to the 2020 decennial census redistricting data, including a total Black or African American population of 37 and total white population of 53. The 111-person discrepancy in the total population is thus attributable to the difference in the boundaries of the City. See attached map depicting the Issue Blocks.

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One possible explanation for this discrepancy is that the Census Bureau does not have the most up-to-date boundary for the City of Ft. Pierce, perhaps due to annexations into the City after April 1, 2020 (Census “day”) if not before that date.

It is important to note that there may even be discrepancies in population data for the City on different pages of the Bureau’s website. You may see and compare data for the City as found on the following webpages of the Bureau of the Census: [Census Table](#) (referenced above); [QuickFacts](#); and, the [American Community Survey](#) (ACS). So, we advise caution when referencing data.

KSA Correction

During the course of this exercise in reviewing census data and boundaries, we discovered a minor error made early on in the process. When the project was initiated, there was discussion with City staff as to whether that area roughly described as east of Highway 615 and south and west of Belcher Canal that includes Francis Sweet Magnet Elementary School should be included in the City. It was determined that the census block encompassing that area was NOT part of the City and that data should not be included in the population of the City nor that of District 1.

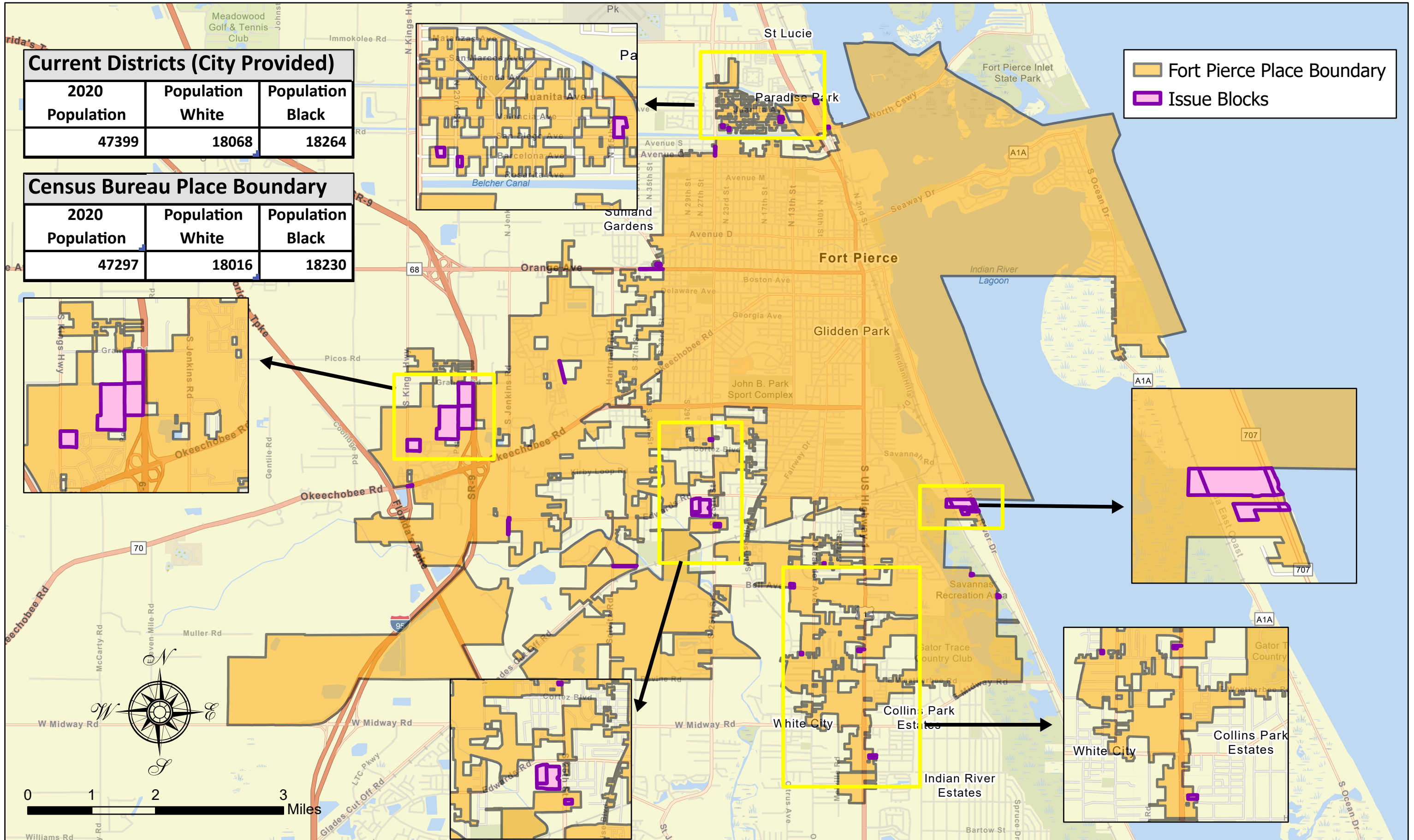
The boundary was adjusted accordingly but we failed to make corresponding adjustments to the database. That has been corrected now.

There are a total of nine (9) people residing in that block. The total population of the City and of District 1 has been reduced accordingly. The “discrepancy” between the published Census data and that used by KSA is now 102 people. There are no statistically significant changes that occur as a result of the update. Updated maps are attached.



Fort Pierce

Issue Blocks (difference between CB and city provided boundary)



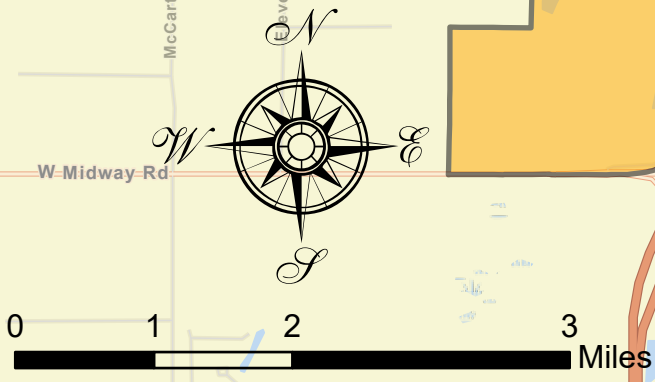
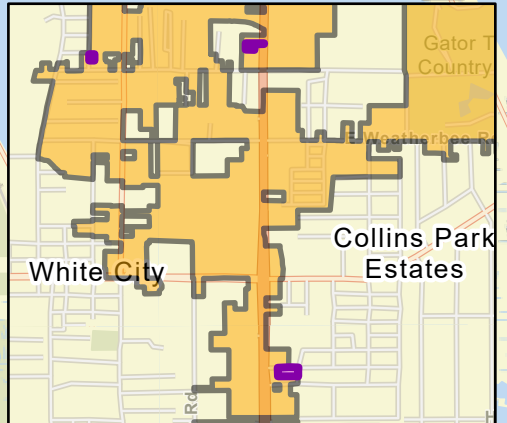
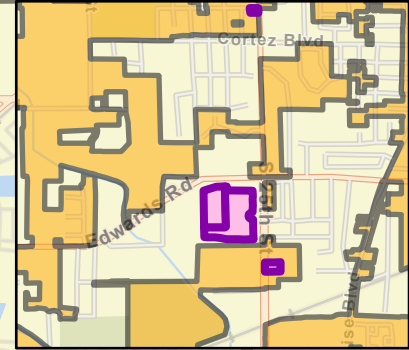
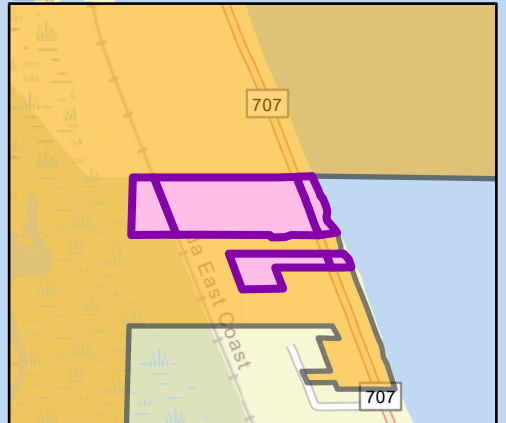
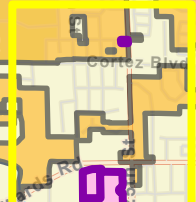
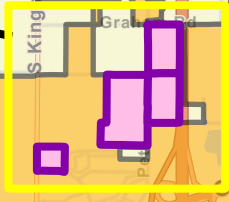
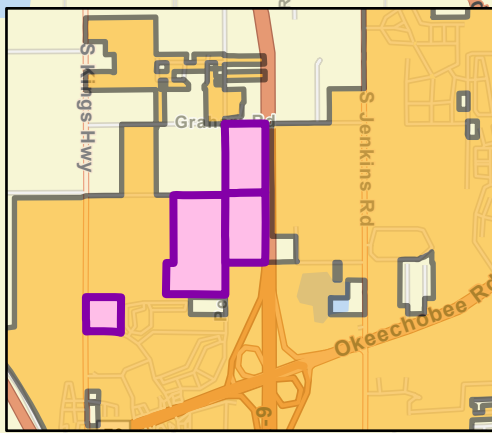
Current Districts (City Provided)

2020 Population	Population White	Population Black
47399	18068	18264

Census Bureau Place Boundary

2020 Population	Population White	Population Black
47297	18016	18230

Fort Pierce Place Boundary
 Issue Blocks

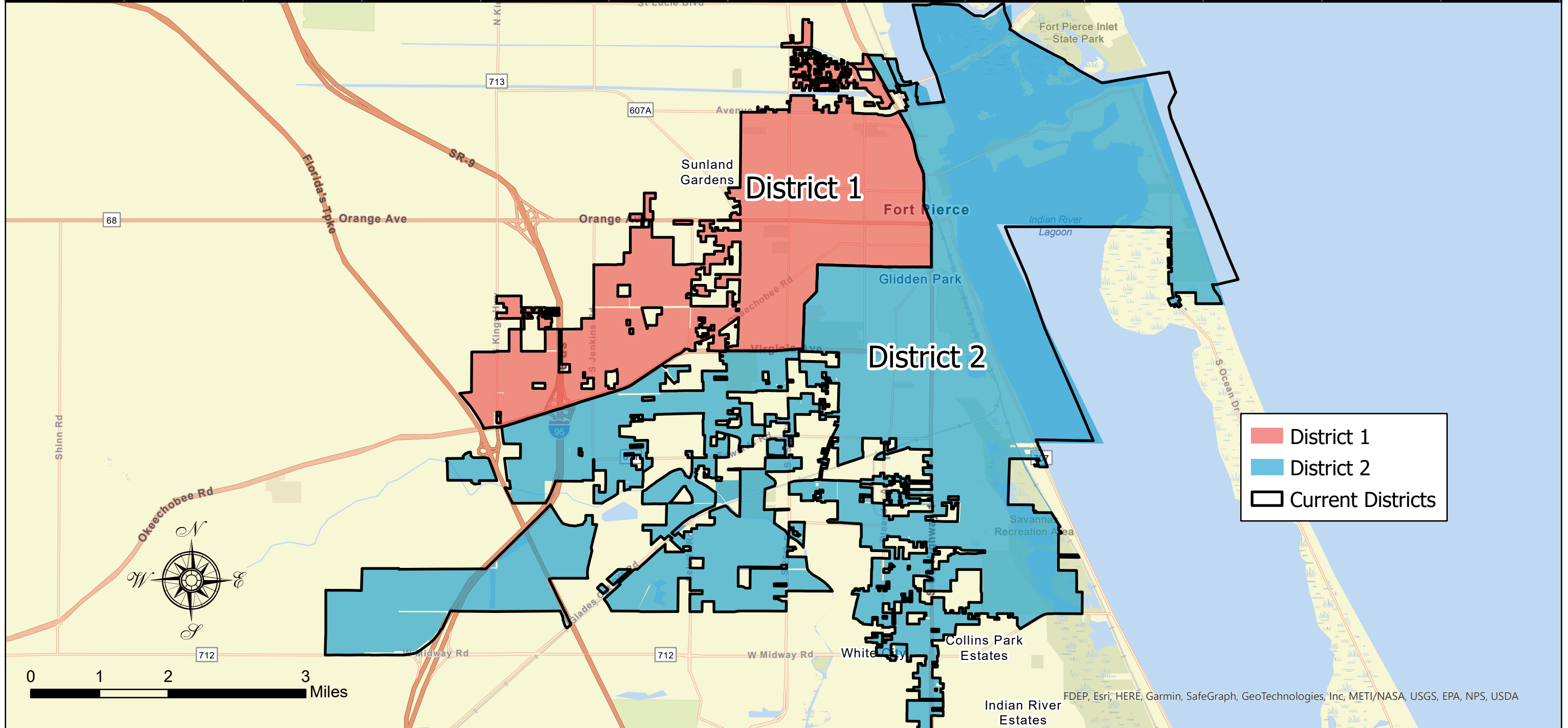




Fort Pierce Current Districts



DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23699.5	22212	-1487.5	-6.3%	4231	19%	13444	61%	4537	20%	4782	22%
District 2	23699.5	25187	1487.5	6.3%	13837	55%	4820	19%	6530	26%	6837	27%
Totals	47399	47399	0	0	18068	-	18264	-	11067	-	11619	-



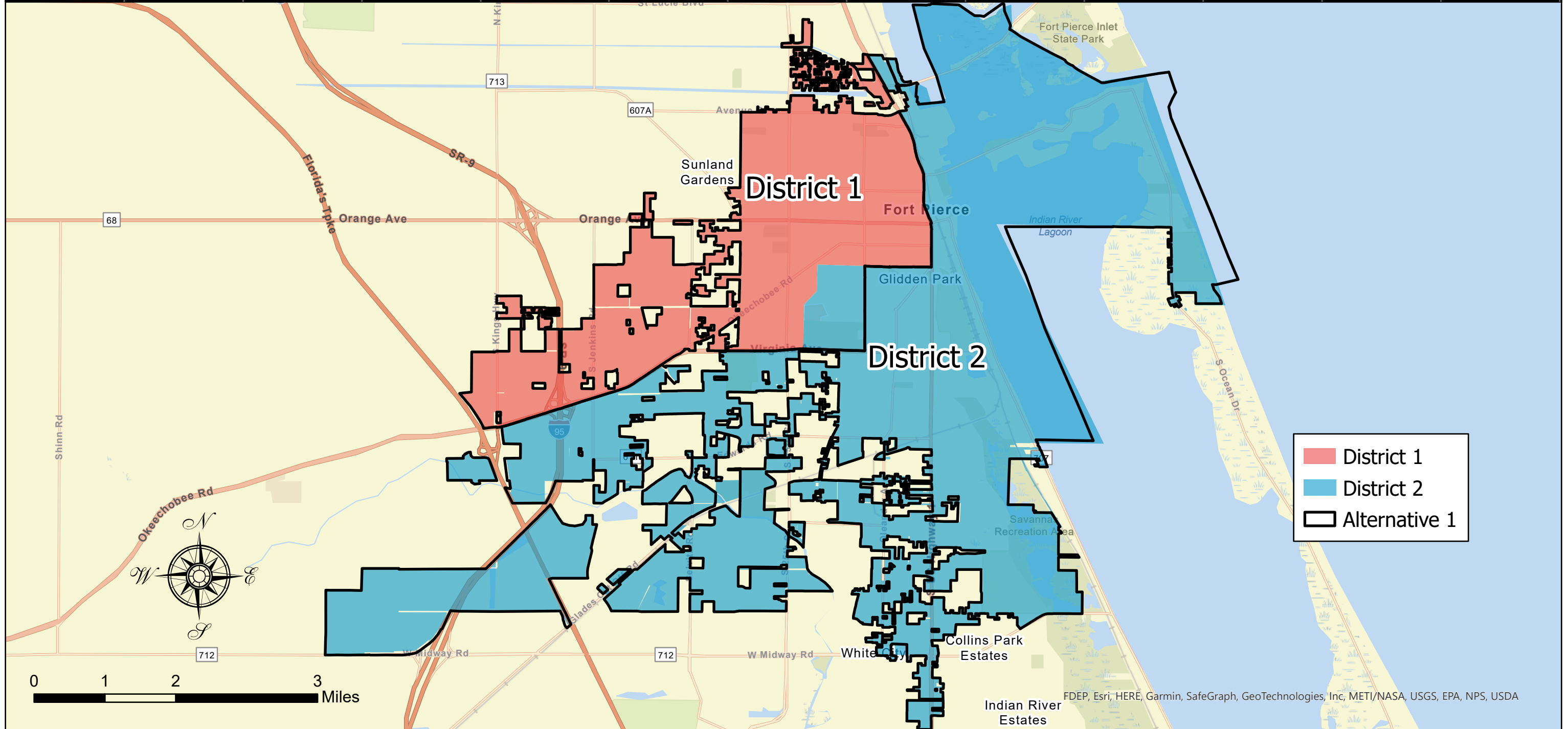
FDEP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA



Fort Pierce Districts Alternative 1



DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23699.5	23799	99.5	0.4%	5047	21%	13908	58%	4844	20%	5150	22%
District 2	23699.5	23600	-99.5	-0.4%	13021	55%	4356	18%	6223	26%	6469	27%
Totals	47399	47399	0	0	18068	-	18264	-	11067	-	11619	-



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