REDISTRICTING UPDATE

TN Comptroller of the Treasury Office of Local Government 10/27/20

REDISTRICTING

Tennessee's Liaison for Redistricting

- Maintain all county commission district and voting precinct data/maps
- Block Boundary Suggestion Program (BBSP)
- Voting District Project (VDP)

Tennessee's Liaison for Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)

- > Annexations
- > De-Annexations
- > State Certifying Officer designated by the Governor

REDISTRICTING

- Where we are now
- Redistricting timeline
- State's preparation
- What to think about



OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local Redistricting

- Phase 1 Block Boundary Suggestion Program (BBSP)
- Phase 2 Voting District Project (VTD Verification)
- Phase 3 Redistricting Time!
- Phase 4 Collection of Post-2020 Census Redistricting Plans (2022-23)
- Phase 5 Evaluation of the 2020 Census Redistricting

 Data Program and Recommendations for 2030 (2022-24)

REDISTRICTING



LOCAL REDISTRICTING

Why do we do it?

- Before 1960, Tennessee had not redistricted since 1901.
- Baker v Carr Began in Memphis and went to the US Supreme Court. The Plaintiff was Charles Baker, and the Defendant was the Secretary of State for Tennessee, Joe Carr.
- Baker v. Carr laid the framework for the Voting Rights Act, Equal Representation and Reapportionment, and "One Man, One Vote."
- Baker v. Carr fundamentally altered the nature of political representation in America, requiring not just <u>Tennessee</u> but nearly every state to redistrict during the 1960s.

REDISTRICTING

Redistricting is Not Optional!

- All 95 counties will have to complete redistricting. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-1-111)
- All counties will have to modify their district boundaries to adjust to population deviations.
- **♥** Voting precincts will need to be reconfigured.



LOCAL REDISTRICTING

Why is it Important?

- Essential to representative government
 - > 1,626 County Commissioners
 - > 849 County Commission Districts
 - > 1,954 Voting Precincts
 - > 3.9 Million Registered Voters
 - > 99 House Districts
 - > 33 Senate Districts
 - > 9 Congressional Districts
- The way district lines are drawn affects how elected officials represent constituents' interests.

TIMELINE

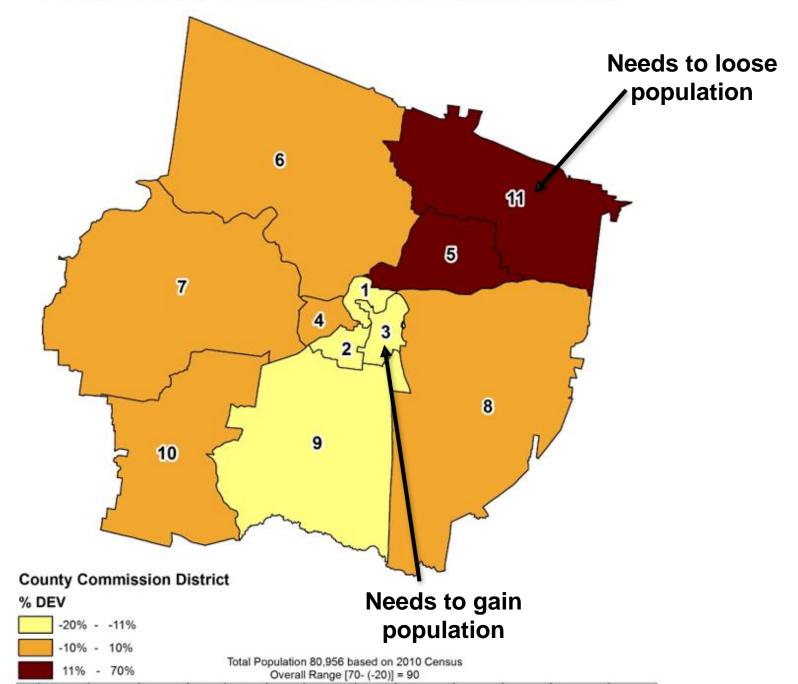
- December 2020 March 2021 Geography data released
- ♣ April 2021 PL 94-171 data released
- May 2021 − Local redistricting kick-off
- December 31, 2021 Local redistricting deadline
- January 2022 Legislature releases their redistricting plan (House, Senate, Congress)

We Prepare!

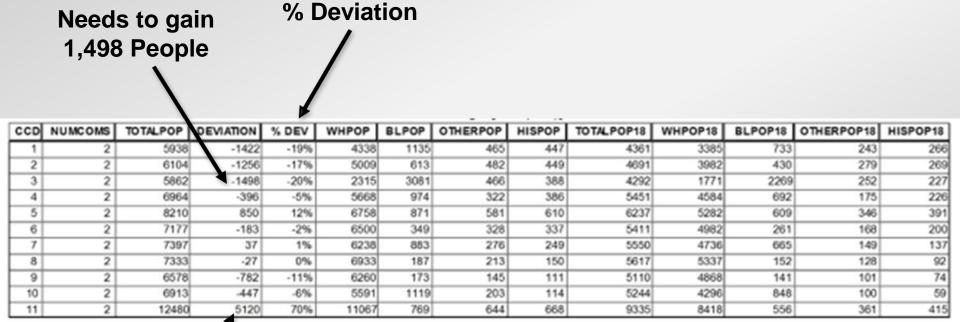
- We handle all the processing (Geography, Population Data, etc....)
 - > 1.2 Million pieces of data
- Census Products
 - > Maps
 - Population Figures



Example of County Commission Districts and Population Summary



Statistics



Needs to loose 5,120 People

We rely on Technology

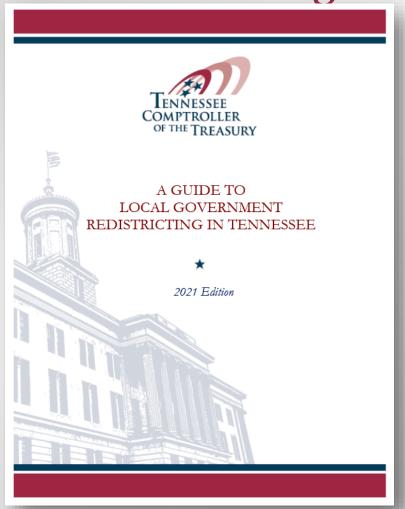


We provide the technology

- > We have a ESRI Desktop extension.
- > We are exploring a web-based redistricting option.

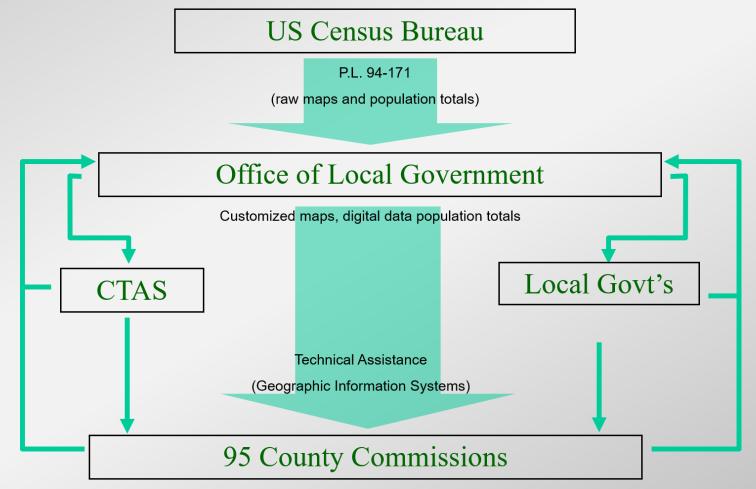


Guide to Local Redistricting Coming Soon



LOCAL REDISTRICTING FLOW

We partner with local governments & County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS)



What level of assistance will you need?

- Someone internally in your county assisting
 - Ideal if you have a GIS Department
 - Ideal if you have a Tech Savvy Person
- CTAS representative assisting
 - Ideal if you do not have a GIS Department
 - Ideal if you have a good working relationship with CTAS
- Our office assisting
 - Ideal if the following options are not best for your county

- Start thinking about forming a Redistricting Committee. (Spring 2021)
 - > Although this committee is not a statutory requirement, most counties find that it greatly facilitates the process.
 - Membership in the county legislative body is not required to serve on the reapportionment committee, and the inclusion of others is often helpful. We recommend including the Administrator of Elections in the redistricting process.

- Start thinking about the makeup of the County Commission Districts.
 - Now is the time to decide if changes are needed in the number of districts and commissioners.
 - Remember, what gets adopted stays in place for the next 10 years.



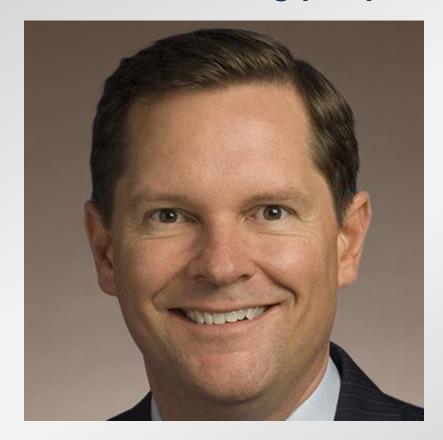
What should you be thinking about?

- Remember a County's Redistricting plan is composed of multiple parts.
 - > County Commission Districts
 - > Highway Districts
 - > School Board Districts
 - > Constable Districts
 - > Voting Precincts



WHO DOES LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING?

Tennessee's congressional and state legislative district lines are drawn by the state legislature, generally by the controlling party.





MORE INFORMATION

Office of Local Government Redistricting Website:

https://comptroller.tn.gov/officefunctions/pa/gisredistricting/redistricting.html

© Census Bureau's 2020 Website:

https://www.census.gov/programssurveys/decennial-census/about/rdo.html

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QUESTIONS?

