From:

Chris Kaiser < ckaiser@laaclu.org>

Sent:

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 9:08 AM

To:

House & Governmental Affairs; Marinovich, Lauren

Subject:

ACLU of Louisiana Redistricting Data - Shreveport

Attachments:

ACLU of Louisiana - Shreveport Road Show Oct 20 2021.pdf; ACLU of Louisiana -

Shreveport Demographic Summary.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Committee Members,

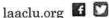
Attached, please find district-level demographic data for Shreveport-area legislative districts and a map of Census tracts relevant to redistricting in the Shreveport metro area.

Thank you,

Chris Kaiser

Pronouns: he, him, his

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October 20, 2021

Joint Committee on Governmental Affairs submitted via electronic mail to: h&ga@legis.la.gov marinovichl@legis.la.gov

Members of the House and Senate Governmental Affairs Committees,

Based on data from the 2020 Census, the legislature will soon redraw district maps for Louisiana's congressional districts, the Louisiana House and Senate, the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Public Services Commission.

Equal access to political representation is a cornerstone of our democracy. That is why the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment requires states to balance their populations across electoral districts. It is also why Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act prohibits states from drawing district lines with the intent or the effect of diluting the voting strength of people of color. Accordingly, the legislature has a duty to ensure that any maps it adopts comply with the principle of "one person, one vote," as required by the Equal Protection Clause¹ and Section 2's "nationwide ban on racial discrimination in voting."

The redistricting process will lay the foundation of our state's democracy for the next decade. We urge you to carry out your duties with fair and equal representation for all people in Louisiana as your highest priority.

It is imperative that Black voters have an equal opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. To ensure this, the legislature must take care that Black voters' communities of common interest are respected and maintained by the new district maps. Maps that unnecessarily divide minority voters or artificially concentrate them into a single district may dilute their voting strength, depriving them of a fair opportunity to elect candidates who align with their policy preferences. Therefore, before adopting new maps, the legislature must carefully consider how the population and racial demographics of each district have changed since 2010.



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Alanah Odoms Executive Director

¹ Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533, 565–68 (1964); id. at 558 (quoting Gray v. Sanders, 372 U.S. 368, 381 (1963)) ('The conception of political equality from the Declaration of Independence, to Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, to the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Nineteenth Amendments can mean only one thing—one person, one vote."); see U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1 ("No State shall . . . deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.").

² Shelby Cty., Ala. v. Holder, 570 U.S. 529, 557 (2013); 52 U.S.C. § 10301(a) ("No voting qualification or prerequisite to voting or standard, practice, or procedure shall be imposed or applied... in a manner which results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color....").

Based on 2020 Census data, we know that many of our current districts must change, especially those that have lost significant population. At the same time, the law requires that you ensure a fair opportunity for the state's growing Black population to elect their candidates of choice. Fair maps must adequately reflect and balance these realities.

To that end, the ACLU of Louisiana has conducted a comprehensive analysis of the 2020 Census data, including (1) Louisiana's overall population changes from 2010 to 2020, (2) summaries of population and demographic shifts in each road show region, and (3) population and demographic changes broken down by parish and legislative district. This information is crucial to understand whether electoral districts provide fair and equal access to representation, with due consideration for maintaining communities of interest,³ or whether they improperly dilute the voting strength of minority voters. A summary of the Shreveport metro area is attached.

Throughout this process, your obligations under the Constitution and Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act must guide your decisions. To ensure non-dilution of minority voting strength in Louisiana, we urge you to consider the information contained in the appended regional summary. Please use this information to draw maps that fairly represent the people of Louisiana.

Respectfully,

/s/ Alanah Odoms
Alanah Odoms, Executive Director
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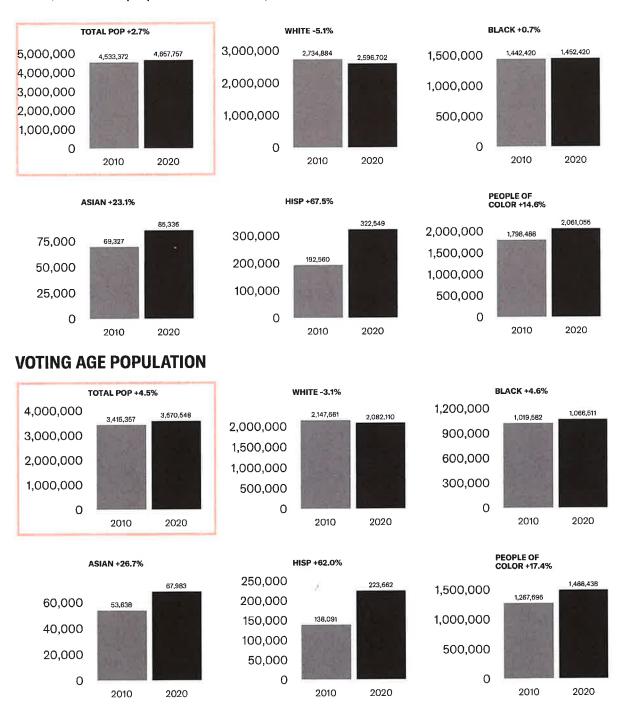
Alanah Odoms
Executive Director

³ Joint Rule 21(H), HCR 90, 2021 R.S. ("All redistricting plans shall respect the established boundaries of parishes, municipalities, and other political subdivisions and natural geography of this state to the extent practicable. However, this criterion is subordinate to and shall not be used to undermine the maintenance of communities of interest within the same district to the extent practicable." (emphasis added).

Louisiana: Statewide Demographics

OVERALL POPULATION

The overall population of the state of **Louisiana** grew by about **3%** between 2010 and 2020. The number of Black people in Louisiana increased by almost **1%**, the population of Asian people increased by **23%**, and the population of Hispanics increased by **68%**.



Note: White, Black and Asian categories include people who identified as non-Hispanic and one race only. "People of color" include those who identified as anything except non-Hispanic white alone. **Sources:** 2010 Census and 2020 Census

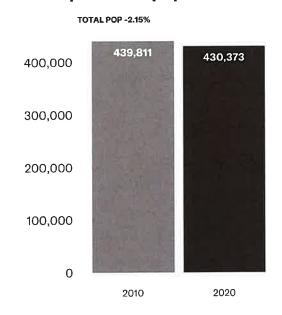


Louisiana: Greater Shreveport Area

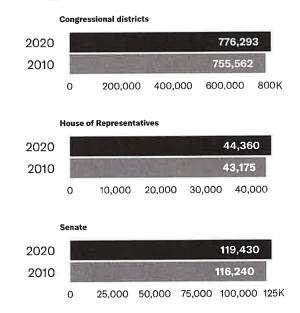
OVERALL POPULATION

The overall population of **the Shreveport area** (made up by Bossier, Caddo, De Soto, and Webster parishes) shrank by **2%** between 2010 and 2020.

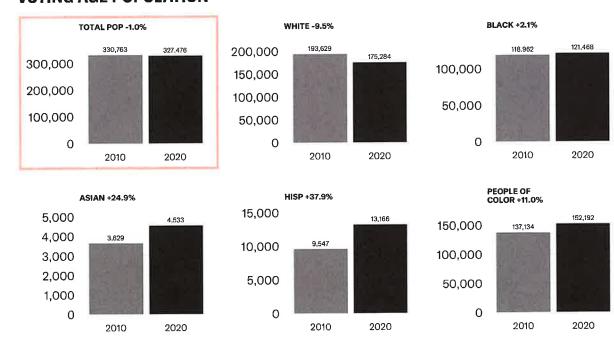
Shreveport area pop.



Ideal size of districts



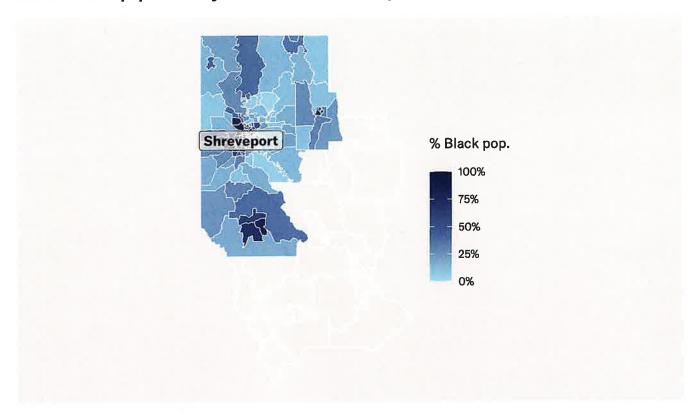
VOTING AGE POPULATION



Sources: 2010 and 2020 Census



FIGURE 1: Black population by Census tract in Shreveport area



Note: Darker blue tracts indicate areas with higher proportions people who identify as non-Hispanic and Black or any part Black.

TABLE 1: Change in voting-age population (2010 - 2020) by House District [Ordered by total number of person of color (non-white) voting-age population added]

House District	Representative	Change in person of color (non-white) voting-age pop.	Change in white voting-age pop.			
HD8	Crews	+2,949 (+27.1%)	-1,963 (-7.3%)			
HD5	Seabaugh	+2,294 (+19.5%)	-6,013 (-22.8%)			
HD9	Horton	+1,848 (+19.5%)	-4,400 (-15.2%) -6,544 (-21.3%)			
HD6	Pressly	+632 (+7.2%)				
HD1	McCormick	-830 (-8.4%)	-7,262 (-24.2%)			
HD4	Glover	-3,851 (-14.8%)	-5,287 (-42.5%)			
HD2	Jenkins	-5,298 (-19.8%)	-4,115 (-36.2%)			
HD3	Phelps	-5,810 (-19.6%)	-2,985 (-57.8%)			

TABLE 2: Change in voting-age population (2010 - 2020) by Senate District [Ordered by total number of person of color (non-white) voting-age population added]

Senate District	Senator	Change in person of color (non-white) voting-age pop.	Change in white voting-age pop.			
SD37	Peacock	+5,733 (+20.5%)	-13,362 (-20.7%)			
SD38	Milligan	+4,085 (+11.5%)	-11,858 (-20.7%)			
SD36	Mills	+2,444 (+10.0%)	-5,025 (-7.6%)			
SD39	Tarver	-7,474 (-12.1%)	-5,683 (-19.9%)			



Sources: 2010 and 2020 Census

Appendix Table A: Voting-age population in House Districts by race

House District	POC- VAP 2010	POC- VAP 2020	Black- VAP 2010	Black- VAP 2020	Hisp- VAP 2010	Hisp- VAP 2020	Asian- VAP 2010	Asian- VAP 2020	White- VAP 2010	White- VAP 2020	Overall- VAP 2010	Overall- VAP 2020
HD1	9,905	9,075	8,441	6,645	755	865	136	132	29,961	22,699	39,866	31,774
HD2	26,720	21,422	23,949	18,405	1,816	1,621	329	361	11,358	7,243	38,078	28,665
HD3	29,715	23,905	28,709	22,676	475	481	133	82	5,166	2,181	34,881	26,086
HD4	26,045	22,194	24,633	20,381	697	817	213	160	12,449	7,162	38,494	29,356
HD5	11,751	14,045	9,093	10,540	1,022	1,095	1,014	1,181	26,367	20,354	38,118	34,399
HD6	8,741	9,373	5,885	5,456	1,335	1,586	843	760	30,664	24,120	39,405	33,493
HD8	10,866	13,815	7,389	8,526	2,083	2,705	725	933	26,965	25,002	37,831	38,817
HD9	9,493	11,341	6,371	6,296	1,833	2,454	555	605	28,951	24,551	38,444	35,892

Appendix Table B: Voting-age population in Senate Districts by race

Senate District	POC- VAP 2010	POC- VAP 2020	Black- VAP 2010	Black- VAP 2020	Hisp- VAP 2010	Hisp- VAP 2020	Asian- VAP 2010	Asian- VAP 2020	White- VAP 2010	White- VAP 2020	Overall- VAP 2010	Overall ^a VAP 2020
SD36	24,467	26,911	20,667	19,564	1,971	2,823	623	806	66,308	61,283	90,775	88,194
SD37	28,032	33,765	19,384	21,403	4,889	6,148	2,049	2,337	64,552	51,190	92,584	84,955
SD38	35,545	39,630	30,744	32,714	2,256	2,595	1,070	1,101	57,418	45,560	92,963	85,190
SD39	61,916	54,442	59,123	49,918	1,334	1,709	340	298	28,572	22,889	90,488	77,331

Sources: 2010 and 2020 Census

