

2021-2022 State and Local Redistricting Timeline and Responsibilities

This document describes the timeline and general division of responsibilities for enactment of new congressional, legislative, and local election district boundaries following the 2020 Census.

Date	Event
January 1, 2020	All precinct and boundary lines frozen until completion of legislative and congressional redistricting, with limited exceptions. <i>Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.14, subd. 3</i>
April 1, 2020	Official date of the U.S. Census.
December 31, 2020 April 26, 2021	Initial statewide population totals released by U.S. Census Bureau, along with the apportionment of Congressional seats to each state.
April 1, 2021 August 12, 2021	Comprehensive block-level census totals released by U.S. Census Bureau. These are the data that contain the level of detail necessary to create new districts.
February 8, 2022	Last day to conduct a local special election prior to the state primary election. <i>Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.135, subd. 4; 205.10, subd. 3a; 205A.05, subd. 1a.</i>
February 15, 2022	Deadline for legislature to draw, debate, and enact new congressional and legislative districts.¹
March 29, 2022 (or within 60 days following enactment of legislative districts, if earlier)	Deadline for reestablishment or redistricting of municipal precincts (and wards, where applicable); additional local redistricting may begin upon adoption of new precinct boundaries. <i>Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.14, subd. 3; 204B.135, subd. 2</i>
April 26, 2022 (or within 80 days following enactment of legislative districts, if earlier)	Deadline for adoption of new local government election districts (except in certain cities with elections in 2021). <i>Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.135, subd. 2</i>
May 17, 2022 – May 31, 2022	Candidate filing period for federal, state, and county offices filled at the state general election. <i>Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.09, subd. 1</i>
August 9, 2022 November 8, 2022	State Primary and State General Elections. Candidates are elected based on the newly-drawn districts.

¹ This deadline is an aspirational “policy” of the legislature. See Minn. Stat. § 204B.14, subd. 1a.

Key Legislative Responsibilities

The state constitution requires the legislature to enact new congressional and state legislative district boundaries following each decennial census. The work must comply with principles established in federal and state law, including certain provisions of both the federal and state constitutions. The legislature may choose to adopt additional principles and procedures to guide its work. Congressional and state legislative district plans are subject to approval or veto by the governor.

Key County Responsibilities

The county board is responsible for redistricting county commissioner districts. Commissioner districts must be redrawn within 80 days of completion of the legislative and congressional redistricting plans or at least 15 weeks prior to the state primary election, whichever is earlier. The county board is also responsible for redistricting any precincts located within unorganized territory within the county. The county auditor coordinates redistricting processes with cities, townships, school districts, and the secretary of state.

- Standards for creating county commissioner districts: Minn. Stat. sec. 375.025
- Authorization for county to levy a special tax to cover redistricting expenses, with certain limitations: Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.135, subd. 5
- Authority for voters to seek a court order, possibly including appointment of a redistricting commission, if county board is not sufficiently diligent in conducting its work: Minn. Stat. sec. 375.025, subd. 2

Key City, Town, and School District Responsibilities

All cities and towns are required to either reestablish their existing precinct boundaries, or redraw them to conform to statutory requirements, within 60 days of enactment of the legislative and congressional redistricting plans. If a new legislative or congressional boundary splits an existing precinct within the city or township, that jurisdiction must redraw the precinct boundaries to eliminate the split.

In a school district electing board members by district, the district boundaries must be confirmed or redrawn within 80 days of enactment of the legislative and congressional redistricting plans.

Cities with wards and a 2021 municipal election must reestablish ward and precinct boundaries before that election occurs, and may revise them again in 2022 if necessary to conform to new congressional and legislative boundaries.

- Standards for creating precincts: Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.14
- Standards for creating wards: Minn. Stat. sec. 205.84; 204B.135, subd. 1
- Standards for creating school board district boundaries: Minn. Stat. sec. 205A.12, subds. 4 and 6
- Deadlines for cities with wards and a 2021 municipal election: Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.135, subd. 1
- Suspension of pay for mayor and city council if redistricting is not complete: Minn. Stat. sec. 205.84, subd. 2
- Suspension of pay for school board members if redistricting is not complete: Minn. Stat. sec. 205A.12, subd. 6
- First class cities with a four year, non-staggered council (if ward population changes by five percent or more): Minn. Stat. sec. 205.84, subd. 1 (b)
- Authority for voters to seek court order to conduct redistricting, or to revise adopted redistricting plan: Minn. Stat. sec. 204B.135, subd. 3



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