Hobbs Municipal Schools

Board of Education Redistricting

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RESEARCH
&POLLING
INC

About Us

- Research & Polling, Inc. has 40 years of redistricting experience
  - Staff has over 80 years combined redistricting experience

- Over 160 redistricting projects for state and local governments
  - Hobbs Municipal Schools
  - New Mexico Junior College
  - City of Hobbs

Who Redistricts?

Elected Body	Authority to Redistrict

U.S. House of Representatives
 	
New Mexico Legislature
    State House
    State Senate
 	
Public Education Commission
	State Legislature / Governor

County Commission	County Commission
City Council/Commission	City Council/Commission
School Board	**School Board**

Redistricting

- ## What is redistricting?
  - Adjustment of election district boundaries resulting in districts with equal population

- ## Why redistrict?
  - Population changes over the past 10 years
  - NM statutes

- ## When redistrict?
  - Calendar year following release of Decennial Census data

Principles of Districting

- Equal population

- Minority Voting Rights

- Compactness

- Contiguity

- Communities of interest

Who gets Counted?

- Everyone, including, but not limited to:
  - Adults
  - Children
  - College students in dorms
  - Prisoners
  - Non-citizens
    - Documented immigrants
    - Undocumented immigrants
    - Foreign students

- Where are people counted?
  - At the place where they live and sleep most of the time

Equal Population

- ❑ "One person, one vote"
  - ◼ Equal population = equal representation

- ❑ Congressional districts: as equal as "practicable"

- ❑ Board districts
  - ◼ Substantially equal
    - ❑ Population deviation of no more than $\pm$ 5%

Ideal Population

□ Ideal population = Total pop. / # of districts

□ Districts must be "substantially equal"
  ▪ Within ±5% of the ideal population

	5 Districts
Total Population	51,527
Ideal Population	10,251
+/-5%	+/- 512
Range	9,739 – 10,763

Minority Voting Rights

- Do not dilute voting strength of ethnic/language minority groups (Voting Rights Act, Section 2):
  - Hispanic
  - African American
  - Native American
  - Asian

- Give the minority population an opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice
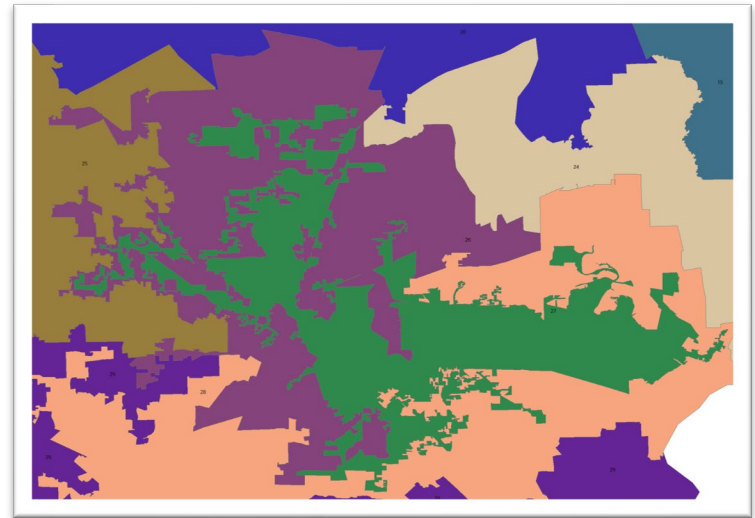
Minority Voting Rights

- Do not create districts in which race is the predominant criterion in subordination of traditional districting principles (Shaw v. Reno, 509 U.S. 630 (1993))
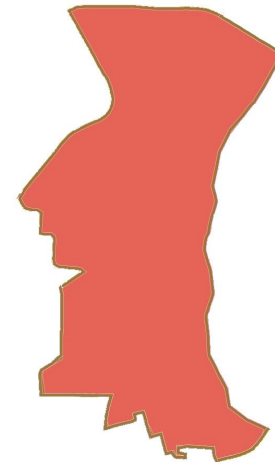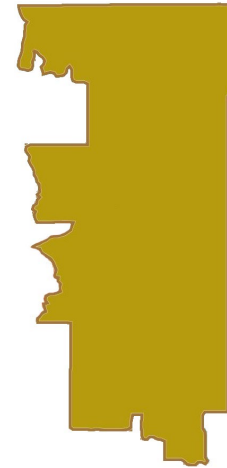
NC – 12th CD
1991
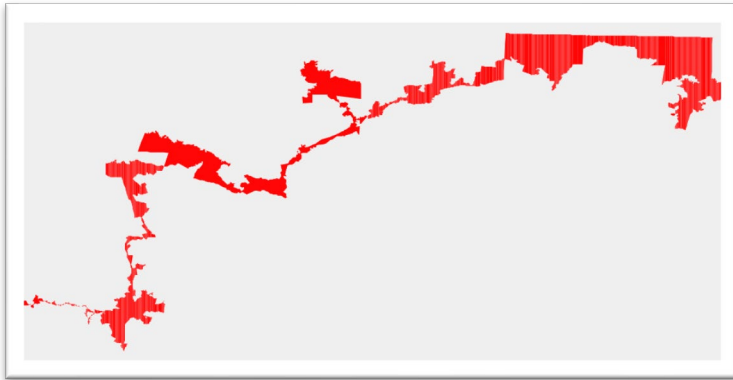
TX – 18th CD (light purple)
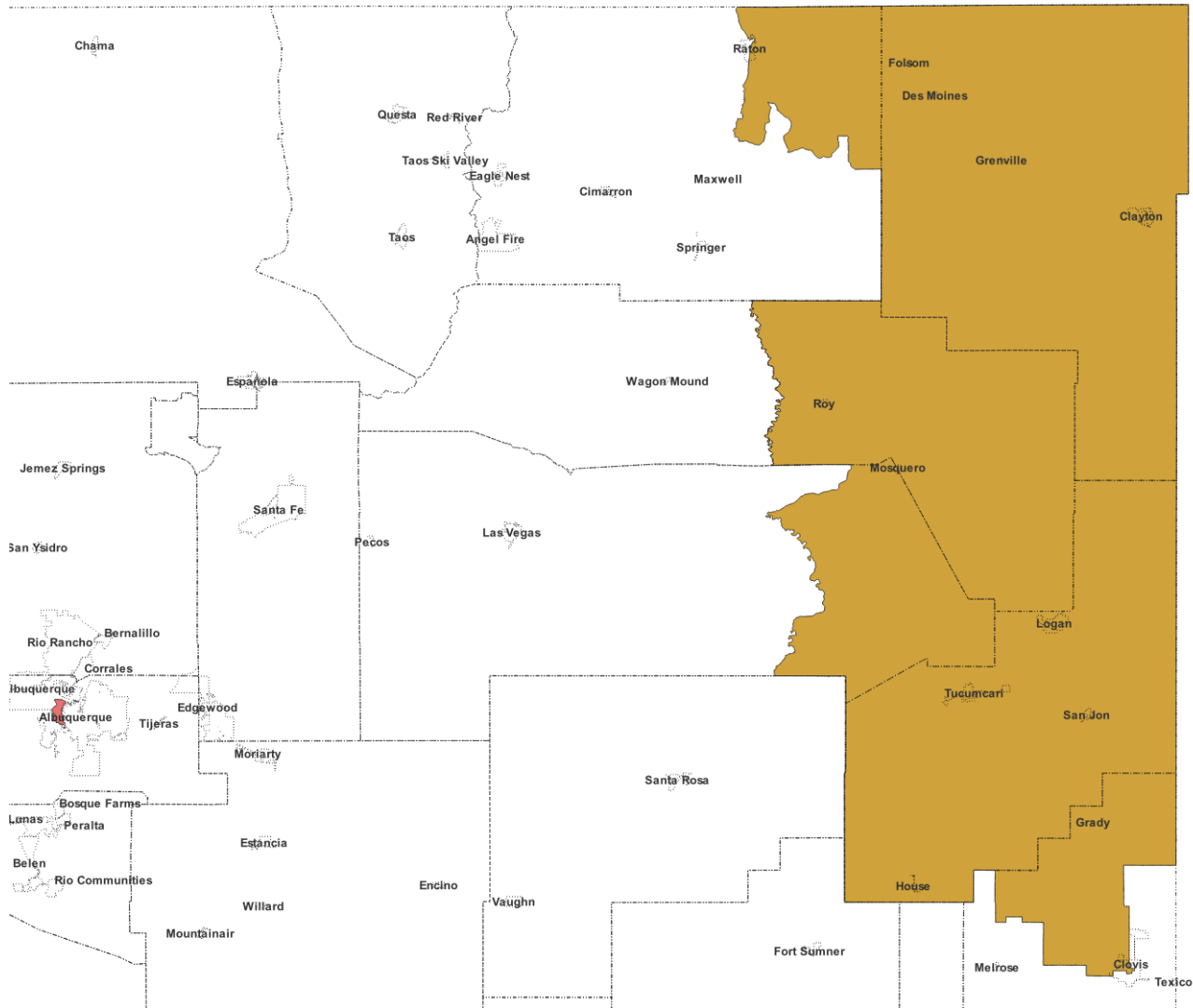1991

Shaw v. Reno

Bush v. Vera

Compactness

- Different ways to measure compactness
  - None are perfect

- Refers to shape, not geographic size
  - Could have a very large district in area that is compact in shape

- Compactness of a district can be affected by:
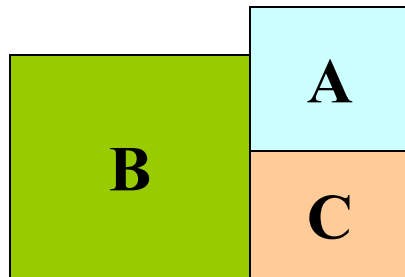 - A jurisdiction's irregular outer boundary
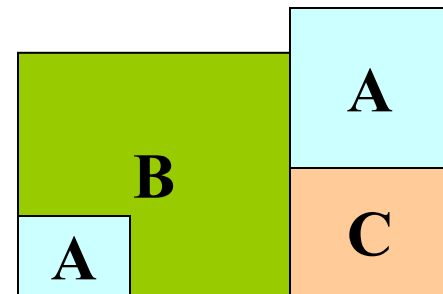
Compactness

Contiguity

- No islands of territory

- One distinct part, not two or more

- Contiguous: Not Contiguous:

Communities of Interest

- Other factors which may determine where a district boundary could be drawn
  - Respecting political subdivisions / neighborhoods / geographic boundaries

  - Respect cultural/historical traditions

  - Maintaining core of existing districts

  - Avoid pairing incumbents

- Can be considered as long as previous districting principles are respected

Concepts are Rarely Perfect

- Many factors are considered
  - Factors may work against each other

- Any single district cannot be looked at in a vacuum
  - Changing one district may impact others

Redistricting Process

- Public meeting(s)
  - ABCs of redistricting
  - Public input
  - Show plans
  - Gather input about plans
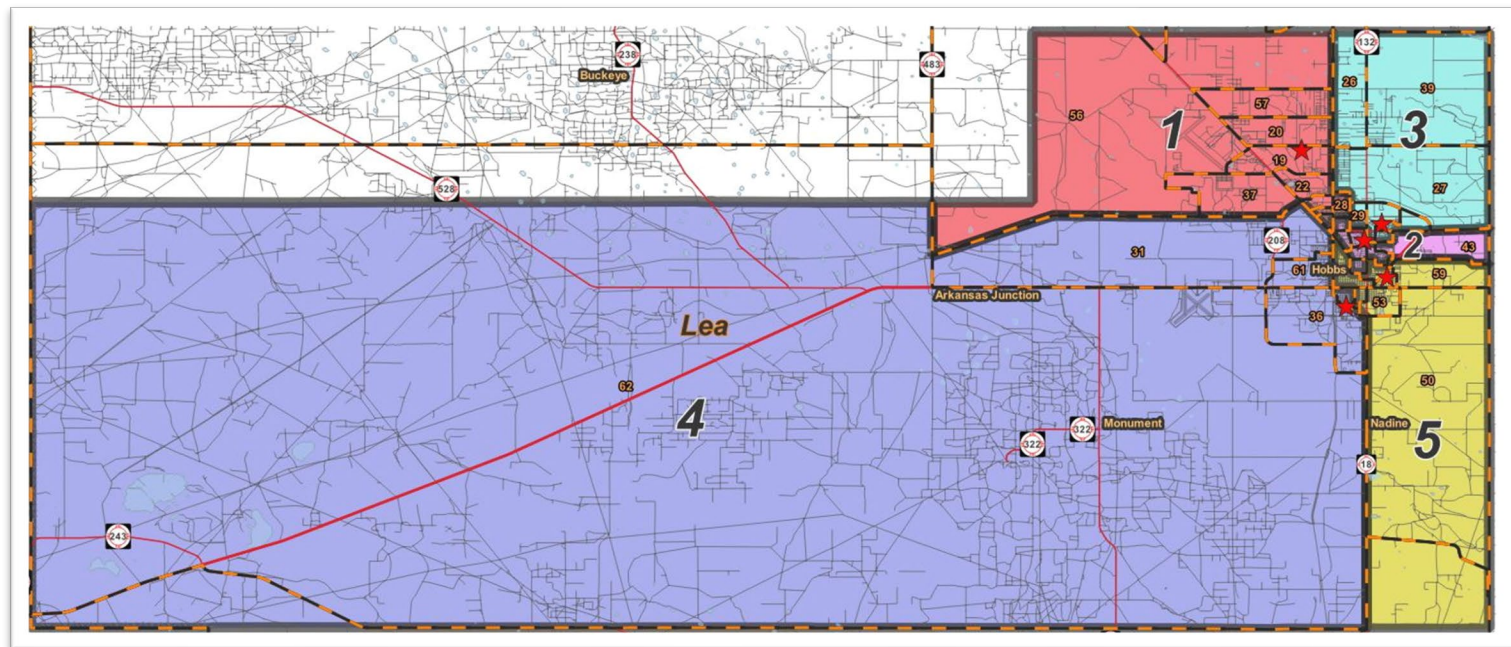 - Revise plan(s), if needed
  - Adopt a plan

- Following plan adoption
  - County clerk assigns voters to correct districts
  - Election resolution
  - Filing date
  - Election

Current Districts

Current Districts

District	Total Pop	Dev.	% Dev.	Effect
1	12,379	2,128	20.8%	Shrink
2	9,452	-799	-7.8%	Grow
3	11,202	951	9.3%	Shrink
4	8,477	-1,774	-17.3%	Grow
5	9,747	-504	-4.9%	Might change

Concepts

Thank you

Questions?