



# Geographic Planning & Demographic Services

Reapportionments | Census | Economic Analysis | Geocoding

## MEMORANDUM

### E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board District Demographics

#### Current Nine-Member Districts:

The current nine-member election plan was approved by a majority vote of the Board in 2014. At that time the Board voted to reduce its membership from 11 single member districts to 9 single member districts and approved a plan to put that into effect for the Fall 2014 election cycle. That plan is the last legal plan in effect and the plan upon which it must be determined whether redistricting is required.

At the time the plan was adopted, the 2010 census counts were used. Chart 1 shows the demographics of the plan.

Chart 1

E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board 2014 9-Member Plan with 2010 Demographics										
District	Population	White	% White	NH AP Blk	% NH AP Blk	18+ Pop	18+ Wht	% 18+ Wht	NH18+ AP Blk	% NH18+ AP Blk
1	43605	24391	55.9%	15453	35.4%	33291	20469	61.5%	10081	30.3%
2	39707	7628	19.2%	31543	79.4%	28482	6343	22.3%	21774	76.4%
3	41664	1299	3.1%	39961	95.9%	30673	1162	3.8%	29210	95.2%
4	42880	6689	15.6%	32871	76.7%	30797	5927	19.2%	22472	73.0%
5	42274	17666	41.8%	23118	54.7%	32903	15092	45.9%	16608	50.5%
6	39890	30548	76.6%	6756	16.9%	29764	23617	79.3%	4387	14.7%
7	43744	32691	74.7%	6464	14.8%	37917	29129	76.8%	4812	12.7%
8	42561	27552	64.7%	11906	28.0%	33489	22735	67.9%	8379	25.0%
9	40736	26960	66.2%	10877	26.7%	32673	22811	69.8%	7704	23.6%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>377,061</b>	<b>175,424</b>	<b>46.5%</b>	<b>178,949</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>289,989</b>	<b>147,285</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>125,427</b>	<b>43.3%</b>

As part of establishing the foundation for the upcoming changes necessary to rebalance the election district populations, Chart 2 shows the 2020 population counts for the current nine member districts.

Chart 2

E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board 2020 Determinations with Current 9 Member Districts													
District	Ideal Value	Population	Deviation	% Deviation	White	% White	NH AP Blk	% NH AP Blk	18+ Pop	18+ Wht	% 18+ Wht	NH18+ AP Blk	% NH18+ AP Blk
1	43019	45770	2751	6.4%	17532	38.3%	20128	44.0%	34824	15061	43.2%	13847	39.8%
2	43019	37260	-5759	-13.4%	5897	15.8%	30374	81.5%	27884	4933	17.7%	22225	79.7%
3	43019	36152	-6867	-16.0%	1145	3.2%	34263	94.8%	27619	1048	3.8%	25964	94.0%
4	43019	40871	-2148	-5.0%	3777	9.2%	32937	80.6%	30341	3407	11.2%	24105	79.4%
5	43019	40884	-2135	-5.0%	16956	41.5%	20583	50.3%	32692	14498	44.3%	15617	47.8%
6	43019	43653	634	1.5%	28430	65.1%	8772	20.1%	33633	23073	68.6%	6087	18.1%
7	43019	53230	10211	23.7%	34051	64.0%	11340	21.3%	46334	30465	65.8%	9430	20.4%
8	43019	47365	4346	10.1%	27312	57.7%	13041	27.5%	37560	22675	60.4%	9770	26.0%
9	43019	41984	-1035	-2.4%	23137	55.1%	12543	29.9%	33244	19562	58.8%	9111	27.4%
<b>Totals</b>		<b>387,169</b>			<b>158,237</b>	<b>40.9%</b>	<b>183,981</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>304,131</b>	<b>134,722</b>	<b>44.3%</b>	<b>136,156</b>	<b>44.8%</b>

Chart 2 shows that several districts are outside the desired +/-5% population deviation which means that the district boundaries will need to be adjusted to either add population to a district or reduce the population to balance the totals. The adjustments will need to be made that will also be responsive to the minority representation in the District.

When you compare the demographics for each district from 2010 to 2020, you can readily see how the districts performed and the extent to which they changed. Using SB District 5 as an example, in the 2014 plan, the 2010 counts constituted 54.7% any part Black. That same district in 2020 had 50.3% any part Black. That indicates SB-5 dropped by 4.4% between the 2010 and 2020 census counts. As another example, SB-1 had a 35.4% any part Black ratio while in 2020 it increased to 44%, an 8.6% increase.

**Previous 11-Member Districts:**

The Board requested some information regarding the previous 11-member districts that were reapportioned and approved following the 2010 census cycle but never put into effect for the following 2014 election cycle. Based on the best available district boundary file, Chart 3 shows the demographics of the 11-member plan based on the 2010 census counts.

Chart 3

E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board 2010 11 Member Districts with 2010 Demographics										
District	Population	White	% White	NH AP Blk	% NH AP Blk	18+ Pop	18+ Wht	% 18+ Wht	NH18+ AP Blk	% NH18+ AP Blk
1	36465	21611	59.3%	11884	32.6%	28468	18001	63.2%	8223	28.9%
2	31893	4724	14.8%	26262	82.3%	22929	4122	18.0%	18156	79.2%
3	31222	1301	4.2%	29611	94.8%	22676	1187	5.2%	21246	93.7%
4	33069	4261	12.9%	26232	79.3%	23380	3742	16.0%	17815	76.2%
5	31829	7144	22.4%	23849	74.9%	23978	6203	25.9%	17114	71.4%
6	28481	9499	33.4%	16524	58.0%	23420	9055	38.7%	12200	52.1%
7	35418	28037	79.2%	4828	13.6%	29991	24371	81.3%	3469	11.6%
8	40081	24962	62.3%	12173	30.4%	31061	20390	65.6%	8446	27.2%
9	34541	26910	77.9%	5787	16.8%	28542	22803	79.9%	4343	15.2%
10	39890	30548	76.6%	6756	16.9%	29764	23617	79.3%	4387	14.7%
11	33911	16206	47.8%	15033	44.3%	25580	13611	53.2%	10039	39.2%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>376,800</b>	<b>175,203</b>	<b>46.5%</b>	<b>178,939</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>289,789</b>	<b>147,102</b>	<b>50.8%</b>	<b>125,438</b>	<b>43.3%</b>

Chart 4 shows an example of what the 11-member district demographics would be with the 2020 census counts.

Chart 4

E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board 2010 11 Member Districts with 2020 Demographics										
District	Population	White	% White	NH AP Blk	% NH AP Blk	18+ Pop	18+ Wht	% 18+ Wht	NH18+ AP Blk	% NH18+ AP Blk
1	38865	17559	45.2%	14765	38.0%	30109	14793	49.1%	10607	35.2%
2	30865	2780	9.0%	26894	87.1%	22982	2475	10.8%	19702	85.7%
3	27778	1083	3.9%	26044	93.8%	21180	1012	4.8%	19629	92.7%
4	30436	2447	8.0%	24634	80.9%	22387	2204	9.8%	17867	79.8%
5	29141	6344	21.8%	21092	72.4%	22485	5466	24.3%	15769	70.1%
6	30086	11816	39.3%	16094	53.5%	26038	11381	43.7%	12739	48.9%
7	42076	27330	65.0%	8062	19.2%	35409	23644	66.8%	6400	18.1%
8	44466	24932	56.1%	12820	28.8%	34909	20545	58.9%	9518	27.3%
9	35132	23936	68.1%	7530	21.4%	28731	20215	70.4%	5716	19.9%
10	43653	28430	65.1%	8772	20.1%	33633	23073	68.6%	6087	18.1%
11	34671	11580	33.4%	17274	49.8%	26268	9914	37.7%	12122	46.1%
Totals	387,169	158,237	40.9%	183,981	47.5%	304,131	134,722	44.3%	136,156	44.8%

**Proportionality:**

There have been some discussions among the community regarding the proportionality of the District representation between White and Black. Reviewing proportionality is a proper step to take prior to developing the new election plan, particularly where the overall demographics have been changing. The next chart shows the ratio of majority White to majority Black districts based on the nine member districts using the 2010 census and the 2020 census counts.

Chart 5

E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board White/Black Representation Proportionality - 9 Members							
Census	Total Pop	White	% White	Black	% Black	White Districts	Black Districts
2010	376800	175203	46.5%	178939	47.5%	4.2	4.3
2020	387169	158237	40.9%	183981	47.5%	3.7	4.3

Just as a way of information, the next chart shows the proportionality using the earlier 11 member districts.

Chart 6

E. Baton Rouge Parish School Board White/Black Representation Proportionality - 11 Members							
Census	Total Pop	White	% White	Black	% Black	White Districts	Black Districts
2010	376800	175203	46.5%	178939	47.5%	5.1	5.2
2020	387169	158237	40.9%	183981	47.5%	4.5	5.2

The ratio of Black districts has remained constant from 2010 to 2020 for both the current 9-member plan and the earlier 11-member plan. As a percentage of ideal representation on the Board, it remains unchanged.

The current 9-member election plan has three super-majority minority districts with a fourth at 50% any part Black.<sup>1</sup> This underperforms the proportionality ratio in an ideal situation.

The White district ratio has dropped from 2010 to 2020 under both plans. The difference is the increase in Other races that has displaced the White population over the past 10 years. With the Other non-Black population making up the difference, the remaining seats on the Board remain the same. In summary, the overall proportionality of the Board seats remains unchanged in an ideal situation.

With the ratios as discussed, the ideal balance on the Board would be four majority-minority Black districts, four majority White districts, and one district close to a 50/50 ratio. The ability to achieve this proportionality will depend on the 2020 census counts and the census/precinct boundaries. The Board is limited to a maximum of three precinct splits per district with no precinct being divided between more than two districts as well as following established traditional redistricting principals.

**Effect on Redistricting:**

At this point, the 2020 demographics of the District show it remains bifurcated. The north part of the District is heavily weighted with the Black population counts while the south part of the District is heavily weighted with the White population counts. The area roughly between Government St. and Florida Ave. leans towards a 50/50 ratio.

The redistricting process will involve an analysis of the demographic profile of the population and counts in relation to the actual census block and precinct geography. This will establish the options available for the election district configurations. Adherence to the traditional redistricting principals found in Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and as interpreted by various Supreme Court opinions and applicable State statutes will be the guidelines we will follow as we explore the development of a plan that best represents the School District as a whole.

With this background information in hand, we now know where we have been, where we currently are, and where we need to strive to get to from a demographic standpoint as we move forward on the election plan development. I look forward to our work sessions in the upcoming redistricting workshops.



**Mike Hefner, Chief Demographer**

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<sup>1</sup> That district, SB-5, is currently being represented by a minority member.