

Rochester City Council 2022 Redistricting



City of Rochester, NY
Rochester City Council

What is redistricting?

- Rochester's City Council is comprised of **4 District Members** and 5 At-Large Members.
- The **4 District Seats** are subject to redistricting, which is based on decennial US Census data.
- Redistricting is the process of redrawing the lines of City Council's **4 Districts**.

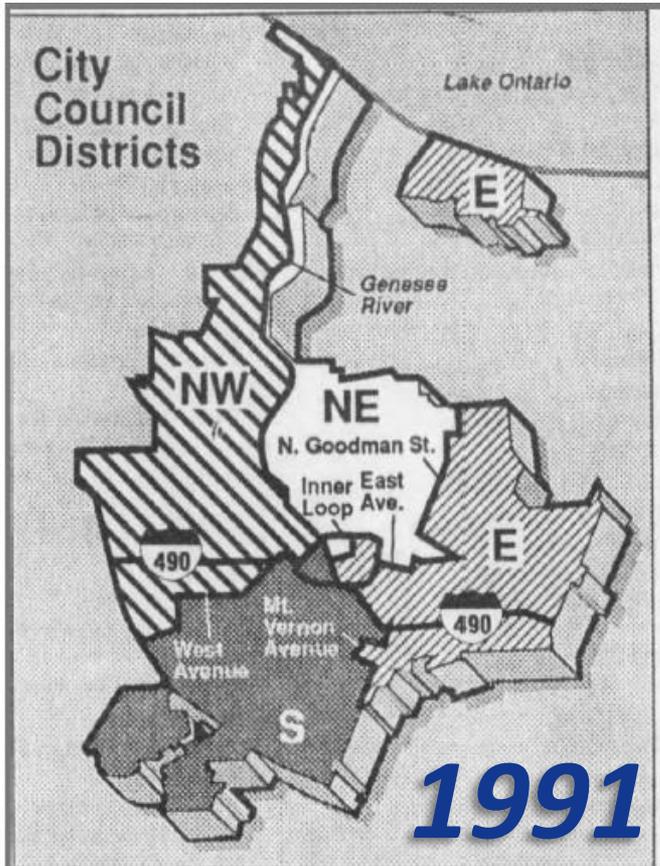
How is a district determined?

- Every 10 years, the US Census counts the city's population.
- The U.S. Supreme Court declared that equality of voting— one person, one vote—means that "the weight and worth of the citizens' votes as nearly as is practicable must be the same."
- The principle of "one person, one vote" applies to Rochester City Council District Seats based on the Sanders decision.
- *Note – Although the above quote says "citizens" and mentions voting, district size is determined solely on population – it does not matter if those counted are citizens of the US, registered voters, etc.*

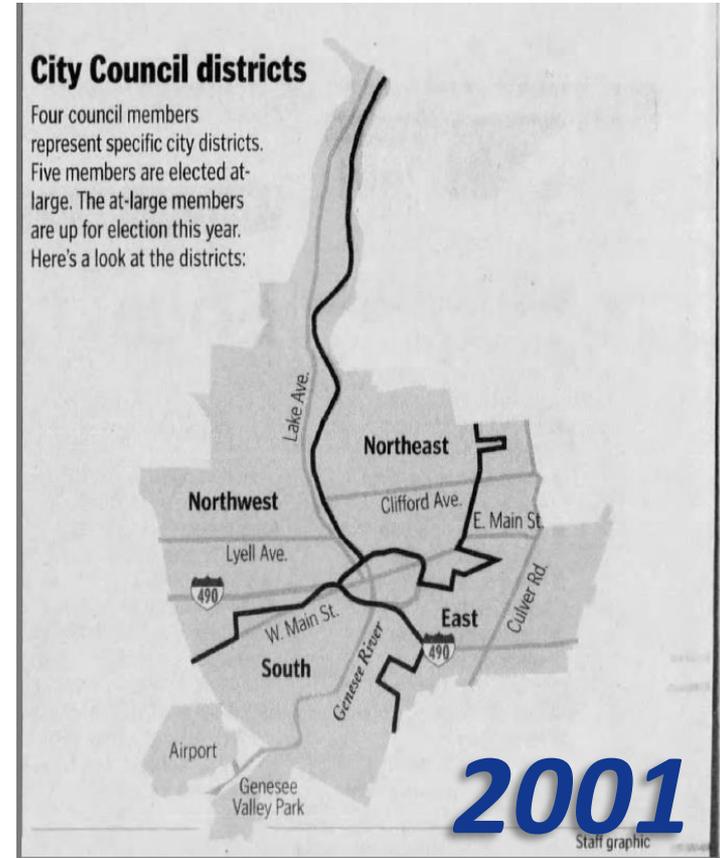
How is a district determined?

- Under “one person, one vote” the total population of a jurisdiction is divided by the number of Districts within it – that number is considered the “ideal District population.”
- Preferably, districts should not vary by more than +/- 3% of the ideal number.
- Adjustments to the Districts are made by moving smaller areas from one District to another.
- Historically, Rochester’s 4 City Council Districts have been quadrant-based and have changed minimally every 10 years during the redistricting process.

Rochester's Past Districts



Graphic from the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, 1991

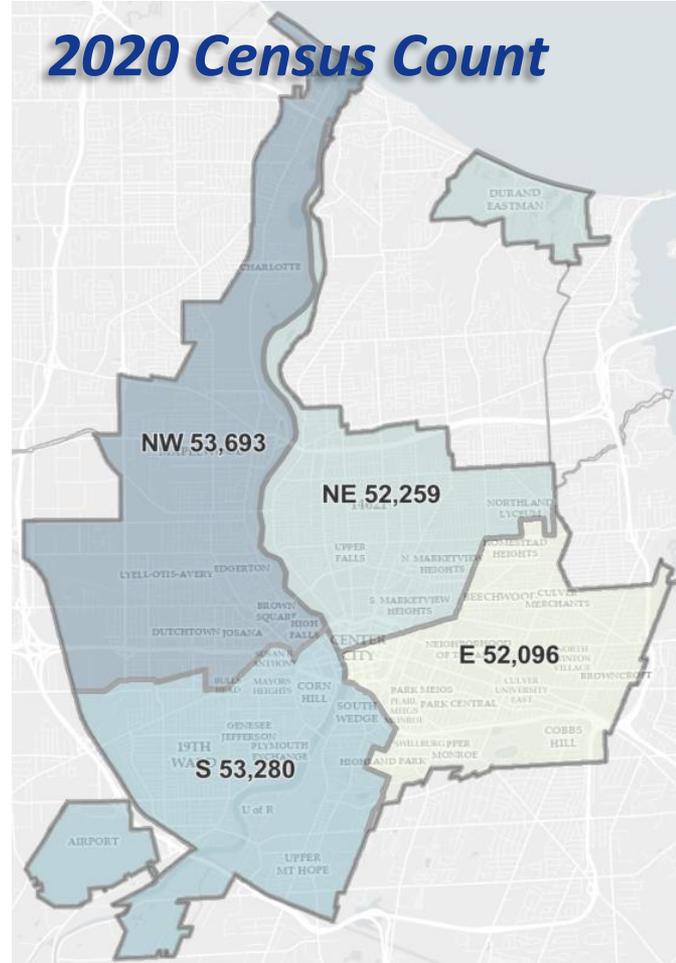
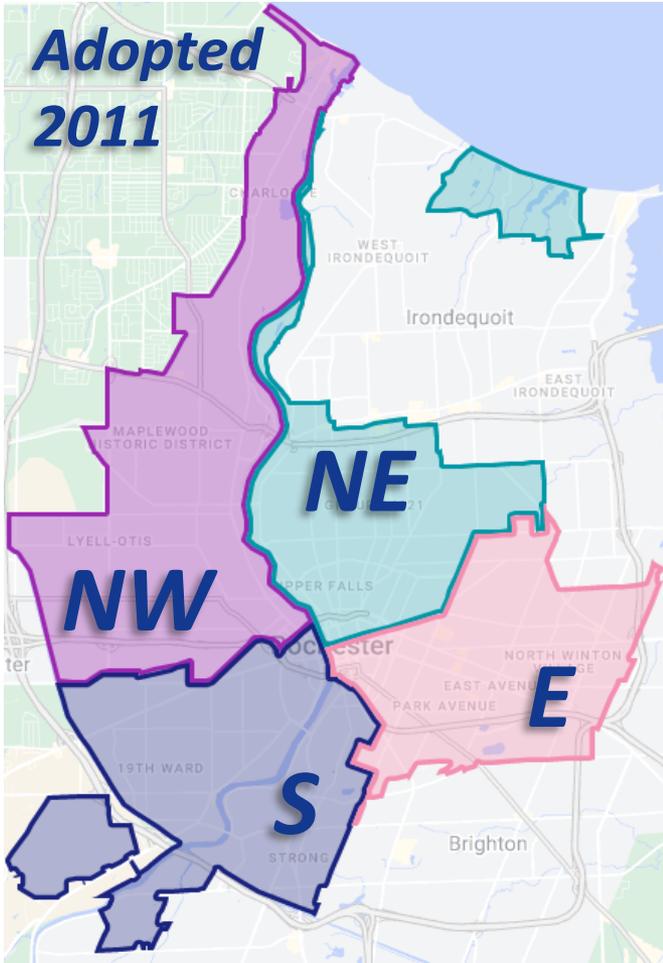


Graphic from the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, 2001

District Population Trends

District	Adopted in 1991 <i>Ideal District – 57,909 Total Population – 231,636</i>		Adopted in 2002 <i>Ideal District – 54,936 Total Population – 219,744</i>		Adopted in 2011 <i>Ideal District – 52,641 Total Population – 210,564</i>	
	<i>Actual Population</i>	<i>Variance from ideal</i>	<i>Actual Population</i>	<i>Variance from ideal</i>	<i>Actual Population</i>	<i>Variance from ideal</i>
Northeast	58,565	656 (1.1%)	55,644	708 (1.28%)	53,137	-1,451 (-2.8%)
East	57,701	-208 (-0.4%)	54,650	-286 (-0.52%)	52,309	1,615 (3.8%)
South	57,316	-593 (-1.0%)	54,770	-166 (-0.30%)	52,379	-262 (0.5%)
Northwest	58,052	143 (0.25%)	54,680	-256 (-0.47%)	52,740	99 (-0.5%)

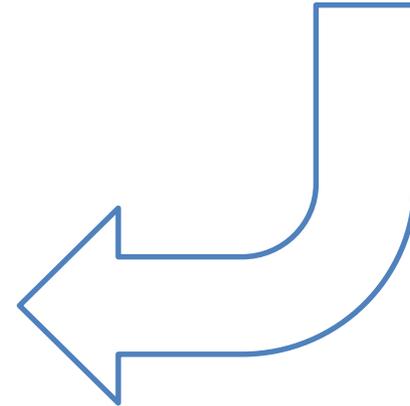
Rochester's Current Districts



District Population Trends

District	Adopted in 1991 <i>Ideal District – 57,909</i>		Adopted in 2002 <i>Ideal District – 54,936</i>		Adopted in 2011 <i>Ideal District – 52,641</i>		2021 Census Count (211,328 total) <i>Ideal District – 52,832</i>	
	Actual Population	Variance from ideal	Actual Population	Variance from ideal	Actual Population	Variance from ideal	Actual Population	Variance from ideal
Northeast	58,565	656 (1.1%)	55,644	708 (1.28%)	53,137	-1,451 (-2.8%)	52,259	573 (1.09%)
East	57,701	-208 (-0.4%)	54,650	-286 (-0.52%)	52,309	1,615 (3.8%)	52,096	736 (1.04%)
South	57,316	-593 (-1.0%)	54,770	-166 (-0.30%)	52,379	-262 (0.5%)	53,280	-448 (-0.84%)
Northwest	58,052	143 (0.25%)	54,680	-256 (-0.47%)	52,740	99 (-0.5%)	53,693	-861 (-1.62%)

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South	53,280	-448 (-0.84%)
Northwest	53,693	-861 (-1.62%)



How can you get involved?

- Take a short survey [here](#)
 - You can take the survey online at any Rochester Public Library until October 1
 - Your personal information will not be shared; data collected will be anonymized
- Attend upcoming public input sessions hosted by the League of Women Voters in partnership with City Council
 - This short informational presentation will be provided
 - Councilmembers will be present to hear directly from you!



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How can you get involved?

- First Public Input Session – *in-person or on Zoom* (Streamed on [YouTube](#))
 - **When:** Wednesday, September 28, beginning at 6PM
 - **Where:** Central Library at 115 South Ave - 3rd floor of the Rundel Building at the Kusler-Cox Auditorium
- Second Public Input Session – *in-person or on Zoom* (Streamed on [YouTube](#))
 - **When:** Saturday, October 1, beginning at 11AM
 - **Where:** Central Library at 115 South Ave - 3rd floor of the Rundel Building at the Kusler-Cox Auditorium
- Parking and bus line information [here](#)

Next Steps

- After these public input sessions, City Council will publish a report outlining all of the input received.
- A redistricting proposal will be submitted to the public and City Council after this report is published.
- After this legislation is proposed, City Council will seek additional comments from the community at a public hearing, and after receiving that citizen input, will act on the proposed plan.
- The new districts must be approved by City Council prior to 2023.



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