

Influencing the process

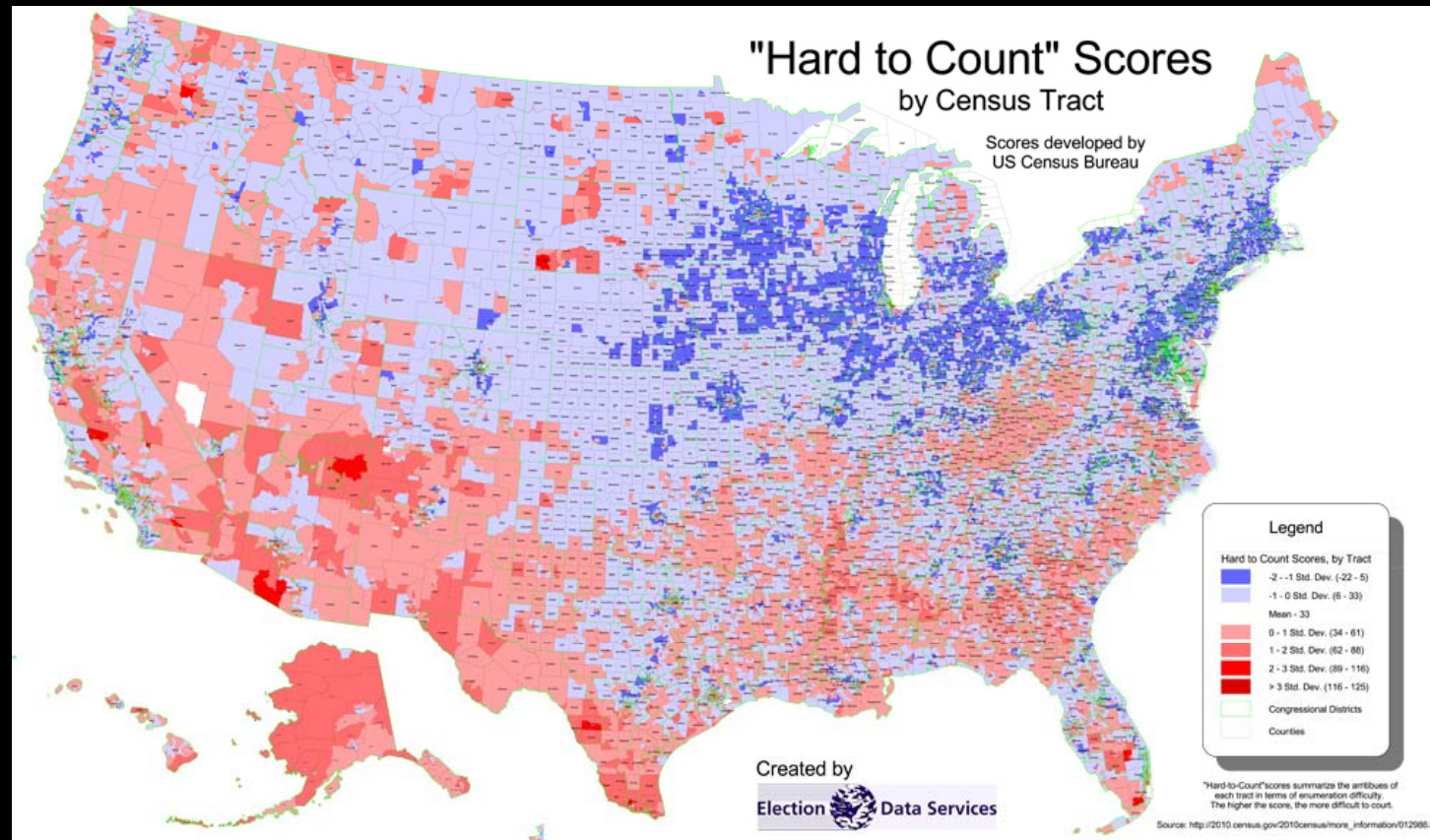
Tangible next steps

- Census
- Redistricting

Influencing the census

- Educate your community
- Recruit census takers
- Become a census partner
- Staff a help center
- Focus on “hard to count” areas

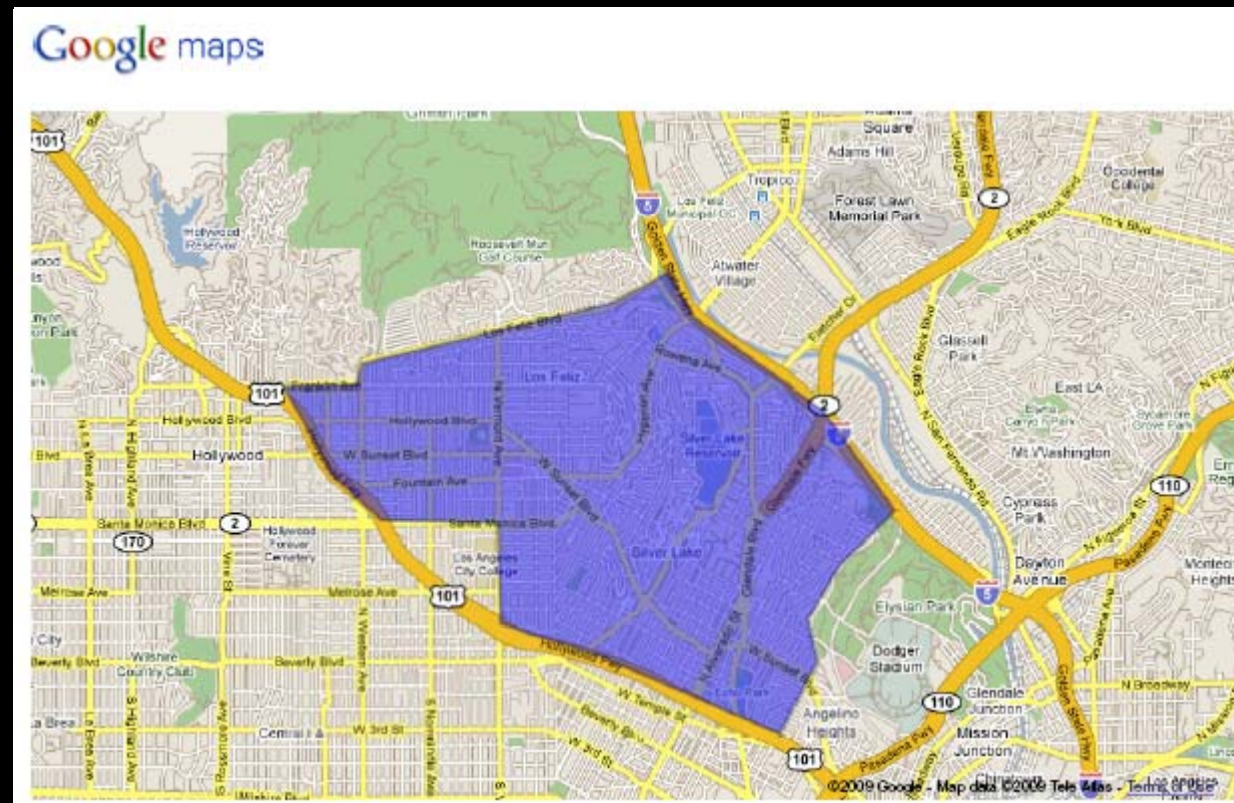
2000 population in hard-to-count areas



Influencing redistricting (short-term)

- Educate your community
(what? when? why? who? where?)
- Identify and map community boundaries
- Attend hearings
- Present alternative maps
- Don't forget local districts

Mapping community boundaries

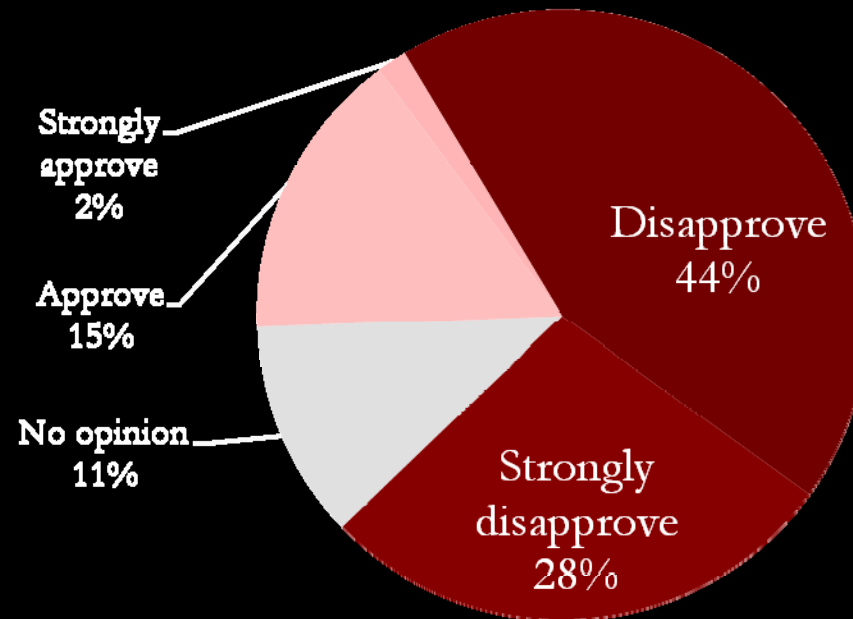


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Influencing redistricting (long-term)

There is hunger for change

Current IL redistricting process



Influencing redistricting (long-term)

Principles for effective redistricting

1. Meaningful independence
2. Meaningful diversity
3. Meaningful guidance
4. Meaningful transparency

Meaningful independence

1

- One of the players shouldn't also be the umpire
- That means staff, too
- This is not the same as taking politics out of redistricting
- Legislature can still have a role
 - Select those who draw the lines
 - Review (and tweak) lines afterward

Meaningful diversity

2

- Those who draw the lines should reflect the state
- Need sufficient size
- Need political incentive to choose diverse membership
- Needs to be expressly stated

Meaningful guidance

3

- Criteria that reflect basic goals
- Enough flexibility to accommodate local exceptions
- Communities of interest
- Statewide majority is legislative majority

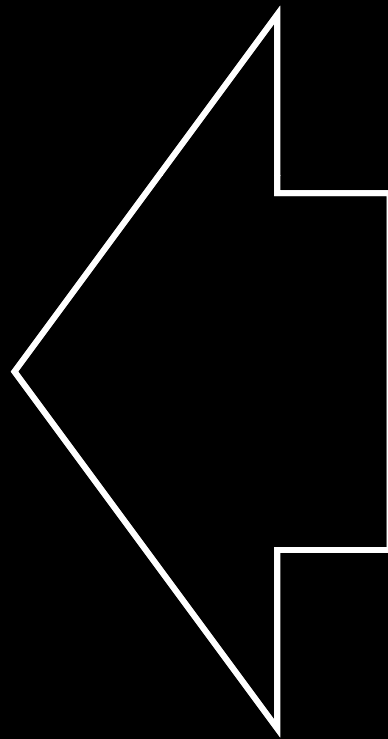
Meaningful transparency

4

- Multiple opportunities for meaningful public input
- Data and tools to facilitate response
- Some explanation from redistricting body

Training others

- What?
- When?
- Why?
- Who?
- Where?
- How?



What is the process
in your state?

Where are the points
of access?

Further information

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www.brennancenter.org
- Midwest Democracy Network
www.midwestdemocracynetwork.org