Texas Redistricting: 2010s Timeline

2010


February 10, 2010 The House Redistricting Committee met to consider matters relating to the upcoming 2010 Census, including a presentation from the U.S. Census Bureau, and population estimates used to forecast Congressional apportionment and redistricting:
- EDS “2009 Reapportionment Analysis”
- Polidata “Apportionment in 2010: 2009 Estimates”
- 2008 ACS congressional deviation based on 35 districts

Additional 2008 county and population maps were also made available:
- By county
- With house districts
- With senate districts
- With congressional districts
- With congressional districts compared to state rate of growth

April 1, 2010 Census Day.

April 6, 2010 The Texas Legislative Council published a new report, Texas Population Change Since 2000 for Redistricting. Maps of 2009 population change by county and by county with senate and with house districts overlaid are also available.

Summer-Fall 2010 Regional outreach hearings are held in selected cities.

June 2, 2010 The House Committee on Redistricting and the House Committee on Judiciay and Civil Jurisprudence met jointly to consider recent legal, technological, and demographic developments, including a presentation from the Office of the State Demographer, relating to upcoming redistricting.


July 2010 For the 2011 redistricting cycle, the plans used to elect officeholders in 2010 are designated as Plan S100 (senate), Plan H100 (house), Plan C100 (congressional), and Plan E100 (SBOE). Subsequent plans that are made public in each category will be numbered sequentially beginning with 101.

September 1, 2010 The Senate Select Committee on Redistricting met to hear invited testimony on state demographics, council preparations for 2011 redistricting, and current legal issues.

September 14, 2010 The Texas Legislative Council published a slide show on Texas 2011 Redistricting.

October 18, 2010 The Census Bureau 2009 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates included population estimates for U.S. Congressional Districts. This map shows the estimated deviation for current Texas congressional districts based on 35 congressional districts.
December 21, 2010  U.S. Census Bureau delivers 2010 state population totals for apportionment, showing that Texas has 25,145,561 people, has grown by 20.6 percent since 2000, and has gained four new congressional seats, for a total of 36.

The 2010 Census counted 25,145,561 people in Texas. Based on this number, the ideal population of a Texas congressional district is 698,488, the ideal senate district is 811,147, the ideal state house district is 167,637, and the ideal State Board of Education district is 1,676,371.

2011

January 11, 2011  82nd Legislature convenes.


February 10, 2011  A lawsuit has been filed, Teuber et al v. State of Texas et al, Cause No. 4:11-cv-00059, challenging the congressional, legislative, and State Board of Education districts and the 2010 census numbers that must be used to draw new districts.


February 17, 2011  U.S. Census Bureau delivers the 2010 Census PL 94-171 block level population data for Texas.

Census 2010 population maps that show how much each current congressional, senate, house, and State Board of Education district deviates from the ideal district size, maps with the percent population changes by county, and population reports are available.

March-June 2011  Public hearings on redistricting are held during session.

March 1, 2011  The House Committee on Redistricting met to consider recent 2010 Census data, and the Texas Legislative Council gave a presentation on the county line rule.

April 5, 2011  The Mexican American Legislative Caucus (MALC) filed a lawsuit against the State of Texas (MALC v. Texas) challenging the existing plans for the Texas Senate and House, the U.S. House members from Texas, and the State Board of Education and seeking to prohibit the use of census data in drawing new districts to the extent it discriminates against Latinos.

April 8, 2011  The Texas Legislative Council published an Addendum on Citizenship Data for the Data for 2011 Redistricting in Texas publication.

April 19, 2011  The House Committee on Redistricting adopts C.S.H.B. 150 (PlanH153).

April 28, 2011  The House of Representatives passed H.B. 150 to engrossment.

Spring-Summer 2011  Lawsuits are filed in federal and state courts.
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May 5, 2011  The Texas Legislature passes the State Board of Education redistricting bill, H.B. 600 (PlanE120).

May 9, 2011  Mexican American Legislative Caucus (MALC) v. Perry -- plaintiffs bring suit in Federal District Court for the Western District of Texas challenging:
1. the use of the 2010 federal census without adjustment for an undercount to draw districts in that it dilutes Latino voting strength;
2. the allocation of Texas House seats to counties under the state's whole county provision of the state constitution and the population deviations among districts in the newly adopted plan for the Texas House;
3. population deviations in existing districts for congress, the legislature, and SBOE as well as in the newly adopted Texas House plan; and
4. the statewide election of members to the Railroad Commission as violative of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

May 13, 2011  The Senate Select Committe on Redistricting adopted C.S.S.B. 31, (PlanS125).

May 17, 2011  The Texas Senate passed S.B. 31 (PlanS148) to engrossment.

May 18, 2011  The State Board of Education redistricting bill, H.B. 600 (Plan E120), is filed with the Texas secretary of state without the governor's signature.

May 21, 2011  The Texas Legislature passes the senate redistricting bill, S.B. 31 (PlanS148), and the house redistricting bill, H.B. 150 (PlanH283).

May 30, 2011  82nd Legislature, Regular Session, adjourns sine die.

May 31, 2011  82nd Legislature, 1st Called Session, convenes.

June 6, 2011  The senate passed S.B. 4 (PlanC141) to engrossment.

June 15, 2011  The house of representatives passed S.B. 4 as amended (PlanC185).

June 17, 2011  The governor signs S.B. 31, relating to the composition of districts for the election of members to the Texas Senate (PlanS148), and H.B. 150, relating to the composition of districts for the election of members to the Texas House of Representatives (PlanH283).

June 20, 2011  The Texas Legislature passes the congressional redistricting bill, S.B. 4 (PlanC185).

June 29, 2011  82nd Legislature, 1st Called Session, adjourns sine die.

July 18, 2011  The governor signs S.B. 4, relating to the composition of the congressional districts for the State of Texas (PlanC185).

July 19, 2011  The Texas Attorney General petitions the D.C. court for a declaratory judgment (Texas v. United States) validating the Texas congressional, state senate, state house, and State Board of Education redistricting plans.

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September 1, 2011  The trial for the consolidated redistricting cases begins in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, on September 6, 2011, at 8:00 a.m., in San Antonio.

September 6, 2011  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas starts hearings on the consolidated house and congressional lawsuits, Perez v. Perry.

September 19, 2011  The U.S. Department of Justice does not oppose declaratory judgment granting preclearance to state senate (PlanS148) and State Board of Education (PlanE120) maps under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

September 22, 2011  U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, enters a declaratory judgment and orders that the State Board of Education plan (PlanE120) may be implemented.

September 23, 2011  U.S. Department of Justice and other parties in the Texas v. United States preclearance suit for the congressional and legislative plans filed in the federal District Court for the District of Columbia identify the districts and other matters believed in issue in the suit.

September 28, 2011  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas sets November 14, 2011, as the date for the trial on the senate plan, Davis v. Perry (trial is not held).

Davis v. Perry, a suit challenging the Texas Senate map, is set for trial on Monday, November 14, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. before the federal District Court for the Western District of Texas in San Antonio.

October 4, 2011  Federal District Court for the Western District of Texas changes the hearing to consider remedial Texas House and Congressional plans for Monday, October 31, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. and sets the hearing to consider a remedial Texas Senate plan to begin immediately after the hearing on the Texas House and Congressional plans.

November 4, 2011  Federal District Court for the Western District of Texas issues an order changing the beginning of the candidate filing period to November 28 and changing the residency requirements in preparation for the release of court-ordered maps.

November 8, 2011  The federal District Court for the District of Columbia denies summary judgment; the federal District Court for the Western District of Texas will have to issue interim state senate, state house, and Texas congressional district maps.

November 23, 2011  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas orders an interim senate plan (PlanS164) and orders an interim house plan (PlanH302).

November 26, 2011  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas orders an interim congressional plan (PlanC220).
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November 28, 2011  The Texas attorney general files a request for a stay on the use of the interim senate and house plans with the U.S. Supreme Court.

November 30, 2011  The Texas attorney general files a request for a stay on the use of the interim congressional plan with the U.S. Supreme Court.

December 9, 2011  The U.S. Supreme Court grants the requests for a stay on the use of the court-ordered interim plans for the Texas Senate, the Texas House of Representatives, and the Texas delegation to the U.S. Congress.

December 13, 2011  The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia scheduled a hearing on Texas v. Holder for January 17 to 26 in Washington, D.C.

December 16, 2011  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas ordered a revised election schedule, including changing the primary election date from March 6, 2012, to April 3, 2012.

2012


January 20, 2012  The U.S. Supreme Court vacates the District Court for the Western District of Texas' orders implementing interim plans and remands the cases for further proceedings.

February 8, 2012  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas hears the senate redistricting lawsuit, Davis v. Perry.

The trial for the senate redistricting case, Davis v. Perry, was held in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, on February 8, 2012, in San Antonio.

February 28, 2012  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas orders interim senate (PlanS172), interim house (PlanH309), and interim congressional (PlanC235) plans.

March 1, 2012  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas ordered a revised election schedule for the 2012 primary elections.

March 9, 2012  Filing deadline for 2012 primary elections.

March 19, 2012  The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issues its opinions for the interim senate (PlanS172), interim house (PlanH309), and interim congressional (PlanC235) plans.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issued an amended election schedule for the 2012 primary elections.

May 29, 2012  Primary elections.

July 31, 2012  Runoff elections.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 28, 2012</td>
<td>The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued an opinion in <em>Texas v. United States</em> denying Texas preclearance on the 2011 legislatively enacted senate plan (PlanS148), house plan (PlanH283), and congressional plan (PlanC185).</td>
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<td>November 6, 2012</td>
<td>General election.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2013</strong></td>
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<td>January 8, 2013</td>
<td>83rd Legislature convenes; redistricting is not taken up during regular session.</td>
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<td>May 24, 2013</td>
<td>A hearing on the consolidated congressional and house and on the senate redistricting cases begins in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at 9:00 a.m., in San Antonio.</td>
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<td>May 27, 2013</td>
<td>83rd Legislature adjourns sine die.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>83rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, convenes to “consider legislation which ratifies and adopts the interim redistricting plans ordered by the federal district court as the permanent plans for districts used to elect members to the Texas House of Representatives, Texas Senate, and United States House of Representatives.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28, 2013</td>
<td>The <strong>House Select Committee on Redistricting</strong> will hold a public hearing on Friday, May 31, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. and on Saturday, June 1, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. Both meetings will be in E1.004, Capitol Extension Auditorium, in Austin.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The <strong>Senate Select Committee on Redistricting</strong> will meet in a public hearing on Thursday, May 30, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. in E1.004, Capitol Extension Auditorium, in Austin.</td>
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<td>May 31, 2013</td>
<td>The Senate Select Committee on Redistricting will meet in a public hearing on Thursday, June 6, 2013, and on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, Both meetings will be held at 9:00 a.m. in E1.036, Finance Room, in Austin.</td>
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<td>June 4, 2013</td>
<td>The <strong>House Committee on Redistricting</strong> will meet in a public hearing on Thursday, June 6, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. in Dallas, Texas, at DART Headquarters, Board Room-First Floor, on Monday, June 10, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. in San Antonio, Texas, at the VIA Metro Center, Terry Eskridge Community Room, and on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. in Houston, Texas, at the University of Houston, Michael J. Cemo Hall.</td>
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<td>June 5, 2013</td>
<td>The <strong>Senate Select Committee on Redistricting</strong> will meet in a public hearing on Friday, June 7, 2013, at 5:00 p.m. in Corpus Christi, Texas, at Texas A&amp;M University-Corpus Christi, University Center, Lone Star Ballroom, and on Saturday, June 8, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. in Houston, Texas, at the University of Houston, Michael J. Cemo Hall.</td>
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<td>June 12, 2013</td>
<td>The Senate Select Committee on Redistricting adopts S.B. 2 (PlanS172), S.B. 3 (PlanH309), and S.B. 4 (PlanC235). The <strong>House Select Committee on Redistricting</strong> will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 17, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. in E1.030, Capitol Extension, in Austin.</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>June 14, 2013</td>
<td>The Texas Senate passes S.B. 2, the senate plan (PlanS172), S.B. 3, the house plan (PlanH309), and S.B. 4, the congressional plan (PlanC235).</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18, 2013</td>
<td>The House Select Committee on Redistricting will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. in E1.030, Capitol Extension, in Austin.</td>
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<td>June 21, 2013</td>
<td>The Texas House of Representatives passes S.B. 3 as amended (PlanH358) and passes S.B. 2 (PlanS172) and S.B. 4 (PlanC235) to enrollment.</td>
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<td>June 23, 2013</td>
<td>The Texas Senate concurs in House amendments to S.B. 3 (PlanH358) and reports S.B. 3 to enrollment.</td>
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<td>June 25, 2013</td>
<td>83rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, adjourns sine die.</td>
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<td>June 26, 2013</td>
<td>The governor signs S.B. 2, relating to the composition of districts for the election of members of the Texas Senate (PlanS172), S.B. 3, relating to the composition of districts for the election of members of the Texas House of Representatives (PlanH358), and S.B. 4, relating to the composition of districts for the election of members of the United States House of Representatives (PlanC235).</td>
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<td>September 5, 2013</td>
<td>The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas entered a final judgment on the state senate map (PlanS172). This allows S.B. 2 (83rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2013) to be used for elections to state senate districts.</td>
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<td>September 6, 2013</td>
<td>The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas enters an order denying a request by the State of Texas to dismiss claims about the 2011 house and congressional maps on grounds of mootness, orders the 2013 enacted congressional (PlanC235) and state house (PlanH358) maps to be used as interim plans for the 2014 elections, and does not make any changes to the election schedule for 2014.</td>
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<td>October 18, 2013</td>
<td>The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issues a scheduling order setting July 14, 2014, for the commencement of the trial on all remaining claims relating to 2011 redistricting plans and 2013 redistricting plans in Perez v. Perry.</td>
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<td>March 14, 2014</td>
<td>Primary elections.</td>
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<td>April 21, 2014</td>
<td>Evenwel v. Perry, challenging Texas Senate Districts (PlanS172), is filed.</td>
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<td>May 27, 2014</td>
<td>Runoff elections.</td>
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<td>June 6, 2014</td>
<td>The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas hears evidence in Perez v. Perry regarding the 2011 state house of representatives districts (PlanH283).</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25, 2014</td>
<td>The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, Austin Division, hears Evenwel v. Perry.</td>
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</table>
The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas hears evidence in Perez v. Perry regarding the 2011 state house districts (PlanH283).

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas will hear closing arguments in the 2011 state house of representatives portion of Perez v. Perry and hold a pretrial conference for the 2011 congressional portion of Perez v. Perry in San Antonio at 8:30 a.m.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas hears evidence in Perez v. Perry regarding the 2011 congressional districts (PlanC185).

Trial briefs for the portion of Perez v. Perry involving the 2011 state house and congressional plans were filed with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

General Election.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, Austin Division, dismisses the Evenwel v. Perry challenge to the senate map.

Post-trial reply briefs for the portion of Perez v. Perry involving the 2011 state house and congressional plans and advisories regarding the applicability of the pending U.S. Supreme Court decision on the Alabama redistricting cases were filed with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

2015

84th Legislature convenes.

The U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear an appeal in Evenwel v. Abbott, a one-person, one vote case involving the population used in the creation of Texas Senate districts.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas entered an order denying a request by Perez v. Perry plaintiffs for a preliminary injunction on implementation of the 2013 enacted congressional (PlanC235) and state house (PlanH358) plans for the 2016 election cycle, ordered that these plans are to be used as interim plans for the 2016 elections, and did not make any changes to the 2016 election schedule.

The U.S. Supreme Court heard the appeal in Evenwel v. Abbott on whether the three-judge district court correctly held that the “one-person, one-vote” principle under the Equal Protection Clause allows states to equalize total population and not voter population when apportioning state legislative districts.

2016

The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas’ judgment in Evenwel v. Abbott upholding the use of total population when drawing legislative districts.
2017

March 10, 2017  The three-judge panel for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issued an opinion and related findings of fact in Perez v. Abbott regarding the 2011 legislatively enacted congressional plan (PlanC185).

April 20, 2017  The three-judge panel for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issued an opinion and related findings of fact in Perez v. Abbott regarding the 2011 legislatively enacted house plan (PlanH283).

August 15, 2017  The three-judge panel for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issued an opinion and related findings of fact in Perez v. Abbott regarding the 2013 legislatively enacted congressional plan (PlanC235) holding that Congressional Districts 27 and 35 violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and the Fourteenth Amendment.

August 24, 2017  The three-judge panel for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas issued an opinion in Perez v. Abbott regarding the 2013 legislatively enacted state house plan (PlanH358) finding violations in the configurations of House Districts 32, 34, 54, 55, 90, 93, 103, 104, and 105.

August 25, 2017  The State of Texas filed a request for a stay on the district court’s order on the congressional plan (PlanC235) pending appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court.

August 30, 2017  The State of Texas filed a request for a stay on the district court’s order on the state house plan (PlanH358) pending appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court.

September 12, 2017  The U.S. Supreme Court granted the state’s requests to stay the district court’s orders on the state house (PlanH358) and congressional (PlanC235) plans pending appeal.

2018

January 12, 2018  The U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear the state’s appeals of the district court’s opinions on the state house plan (PlanH358) and congressional plan (PlanC235). Oral arguments are subsequently set for April 24, 2018.