Maricopa County

2021 Redistricting & Reprecincting Update

Maricopa County’s Role in Redistricting & Proposed Justice Court and Voting Precincts Changes
Agenda
Redistricting & Reprecinting

- Welcome!
- Maricopa’s Role in Redistricting
- What is Reprecincting?
- Public Input - Website Functionality
- Justice Court Methodology
- Voting Precinct Methodology
- Review Precinct Changes - Exhibits
- Questions and Answers
Welcome!
Reprecincting

Voting precincts are the geographic areas used to report election results and serve as one of the many building blocks the County uses to determine what’s on your ballot and prepare for elections. Reprecincting happens when the geographic boundary lines of the precinct are redrawn to align with changes to federal, state and local district lines, to accommodate population growth and to evenly distribute population among precincts.

While the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission is responsible for redrawing Congressional and Legislative district lines every 10 years after the U.S. Census is released, Maricopa County is responsible for updating voting precinct, Justice Court precinct and Board of Supervisor district boundaries (A.R.S. §§ 16-411 and 22-101).

Voting Precincts

State law requires that the Board of Supervisors establish a “convenient number” of precincts when drawing the boundaries. Each voting precinct can only have one Congressional, Legislative, Supervisorsal, Community College and Special Health Care District and the lines cannot “split” a precinct between two of the same type of district.

Below are maps of the changes to voting precincts in Maricopa County since 2006. Click on the icon to view the map.
Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC)
- Congressional (9) & Legislative (30) Districts (Article IV, Part 2 Section 1)
- Late 2021 / Early 2022

Board of Supervisor (BOS) Districts (ARS § 11-212)
- Community College & Special Health Care Districts
  (ARS §§ 15-1411, 45-5501)
- July 1, 2022 (SB1107)

Other Districts
- 6 Cities and Towns (ARS § 9-473)
- 3 School & Technical Districts (ARS §§ 15-441 - 15-469)
- Late 2021 / Early 2022 Precincts
- Voting Precincts & Justice Court Precincts (ARS §§ 16-411, 22-101)
- October 1, 2021 (Updated in February 2022)
JUSTICE COURT PRECINCT LINES

Boundary Change Proposal
JUDICIAL PRODUCTIVITY CREDITS (JPC)

- A measure of judicial workload based on case type
- It doesn’t just determine salaries
- ARS 22-125
  - H. The judicial productivity credits for a justice court precinct shall not exceed twelve hundred credits. If the total judicial productivity credits of a justice court precinct exceed twelve hundred credits, the county board of supervisors shall create sufficient courts, or redraw the justice court precinct boundaries according to section 22-101, in order to reduce the judicial productivity credits for any precinct which exceeds that limit.
  - There are currently 2 precincts that have exceeded the twelve hundred credits. Another six that exceed one thousand.
PROBLEM

- Workload is unbalanced across the Maricopa County Justice Precincts
- Eviction caseload exceedingly high in Country Meadows
- Manistee and Country Meadows precincts exceed the maximum 1200 JPC proscribed by ARS 22-125
- Constable workload not determined by JPCs – balancing considerations are different
IMBALANCE

Perfect Balance = 900 JPC / Court

Target Range 800 to 1000
Balance workloads by changes to Justice Precincts boundaries

• A.R.S. 22-101 A

• Justice precincts; formation, change or abolishment; jurisdiction

• A. The board of supervisors shall divide the county into justice precincts and name or number them, and may change or abolish any justice precinct or redistrict the county, but abolishment of a precinct shall not take effect until expiration of the term of office of the justice and constable then in office.
DATA MODEL

- Model JPC 2022 and beyond
- 2020 Covid-19 Skew downward
  - Evictions
  - Traffic
- Eventual return to normal
  - Pent up evictions
  - Regular traffic enforcement
- Use calendar year 2019 for model
GOALS

• Balance top 5 high and low courts
• Balance other courts as opportunities arise
ADJUSTMENT PARAMETERS

• Transfer voting precinct whole
• Do not take away a court’s home precinct.
• Do not take away a precinct where the elected official resides.
• Justice Precincts must be contiguous
STRATEGY

- Use adjoining precincts to adjust both the high and low courts
- Minimize complex adjustments over multiple precincts
- Target range for JPC’s between 800 and 1,000 based on historical data
- Find equitable solutions acceptable to judicial officers and constables
TACTICS

- Statistical Approach
- JPC by Precinct Data Analysis
- Process of Elimination
- Obvious Choices & Common Sense
- Keep it Simple
## Expected Balance

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JUSTICE COURT PRECINCT CHANGES

QUESTIONS?
KEY GOALS & PRIORITIES

For Updated Voting Precincts

- Why are voting precincts important?
  - Building blocks for the Election
  - Provide for a smooth In-Person Voting Experience
  - Helps with ballot building / Guides what on a voter’s ballots
  - Reporting Results

- Goals & Priorities
  - Adjust precinct boundaries to accommodate population growth
  - Create sufficient precincts to support in-person voting operations
  - Ensure voting precinct lines do not go through a homes/buildings
  - Align voting precincts to newly drawn Justice Court Precincts
Voting Precinct Information
New Boundaries Designed to Improve Operations

- Voting Precincts
  - Last updated in 2018
  - Considering 133 Total Changes (Countywide)
    - 73 - With over 5,000 voters
    - 32 - that go through homes or buildings
    - 40 - Align Voting Precincts with Justice Court Precincts
      - *12 – Include a combination of factors and are counted more than once
    - 2018: 748 Vs 2021: 834 (Adding 86)
  - Effective January 2, 2022 (Updated as needed)
Voting Precinct Changes

Example: Current Precinct Exceeds 5,000 Voters
Voting Precinct Changes

Example: Current Lines Going Through Homes
Voting Precinct Changes

Example: Aligned Precinct to Justice Court Boundary
Determining Voting Locations

- Previously used locations
- Location size & availability
- In-person voter trends
- Geographic coverage