

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY DECLARING THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARDS OF ALASKA STATUTE 29.20.060.

AGENDA OF: January 4, 2022

Assembly Action:
approved under the consent agenda. 01/04/22
KBJ

MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: Present to the Assembly for consideration.

APPROVED BY MICHAEL BROWN, BOROUGH MANAGER: *MB*

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator - P. Graham	<i>PG</i>	
	Finance Director	<i>CF</i>	
	Borough Attorney	<i>NS</i>	
	Borough Clerk	<i>KBJ 12.23.21</i>	<i>RSK</i>

ATTACHMENT (S): Fiscal Note: YES _____ NO X
IM 21-032 - Reapportionment process (3 pp)
Current Assembly District Maps (7 pp)
2010/2020 Census Data Comparisons (1 pp)
Resolution Serial No. 22-004 (pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:
This resolution is being forwarded to fulfill the requirements of State law. State law directs that "Not later than two months after adoption of a final state redistricting plan under art. VI, sec. 10, Constitution of the State of Alaska, the assembly shall determine and declare by resolution whether the existing apportionment of the assembly meets the standards of AS 29.20.060 Alaska Statute 29.20.060 states that Assembly composition and apportionment shall be consistent with the equal representation standards of the Constitution of the United States.

BACHGROUND:
In accordance with State statutes, the Borough must determine if Assembly districts are consistent with the equal representation

standard of the Constitution of the United States. Ideally, each Assembly district would contain exactly 1/7 of the overall Borough population.

In 2011, the Assembly districts were reapportioned based on the total population of 88,995 and a target population per district of 12,714 resulting in a total deviation of 52.98 percent; after reapportionment the total deviation was reduced to 5.82 percent, as shown in the table below:

2010 Population & Deviation by District After Reapportionment			
Assembly District	Population	Difference from Target Population (12,714)	Deviation
1	12,362	-352	-2.77%
2	12,783	69	.55%
3	12,648	-66	-.52%
4	12,375	-339	-2.66%
5	12,882	168	1.32%
6	13,101	387	3.05%
7	12,844	130	1.03%

APPORTIONMENT STATUTORY ITEMS:

Alaska Statute 29.20.080(a) states that not later than two months after adoption of a final State redistricting plan, the Assembly must determine if the existing apportionment of Assembly districts meets State and Federal standards. In anticipation of this requirement, Information Memorandum Serial No. 21-032 was presented to the Assembly, on February 16, 2021, outlining the process that would be used to reapportion Assembly districts based on 2020 Census Data.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and its associated shutdowns the release of the Redistricting data files from the 2020 Census, originally set for release in March 2021, were delayed until August 12, 2021, and therefore the State redistricting process was not completed until November 12, 2021.

Alaska Statute 29.20.070(b) states: Not later than the first regular election that occurs after adoption of a final State redistricting plan under art. VI, sec. 10, Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Assembly shall propose and submit to the voters of the Borough, at that regular election or at a special election called for the purpose, one or more forms of assembly representation. The forms of representation that the Assembly may submit to the voters are:

(1) Election of members of the assembly at large by the voters throughout the borough;

(2) Election of members of the assembly by district, including

(A) Election at large by the voters throughout the borough, but with a requirement that a candidate live in an election district established by the borough for election of assembly members; or

(B) Election from election districts established by the borough for the election of assembly members by the voters of a district;

(3) Election of members of the assembly both at large and by district.

Alaska Statute 29.20.110 states that a change in assembly apportionment or composition under Alaska Statute 29.20.080 is effective beginning with the first regular election for members of the assembly that is held more than 60 days after approval of the reapportionment ordinance by the voters.

2020 APPORTIONMENT ANALYSIS:

The 2020 decennial census determined the population for the Borough to be 107,081. When this number is divided by the current number of Assembly districts, the target population for each Assembly district, to assure that residents are equally represented, is 15,297. Using data released by the U.S. Census Bureau on August 12, 2021, staff has made a preliminary determination of the population for each current Assembly district as of April 2020:

2020 Population & Deviation by District			
Assembly District	Population	Difference from Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	14,022	-1,275	-8.33%
2	14,031	-1,266	-8.28%
3	15,206	-91	-0.59%
4	14,940	-357	-2.33%
5	17,738	2,441	15.96%
6	16,564	1,267	8.28%
7	14,580	-717	-4.69%

There is at present an estimated total deviation of 24.29 percent between the population of the district with the largest population, District 5, and the district with the smallest population, District 1. This information is the basis for the resolution declaring the apportionment of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough out of compliance with State and Federal statutes.

With the adoption of the resolution, staff will begin the process of redrawing the Assembly districts using the criteria shown in Informational Memorandum Serial No. 21-032.

In 2021 the Clerk budgeted for a special election to take place to reapportion the Assembly Districts. The Alaska State Division of Elections will be redrawing precinct boundaries within the next couple of months and these new precinct boundaries will be in place for the 2022 Regular Borough Elections. To avoid having precincts split by Assembly District boundaries in 2022, it is important to that the reapportionment election occur earlier.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Adoption of the resolution declaring Borough Assembly districts out of compliance with the standards of AS 29.20.060.

SUBJECT: INFORMING THE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROCESS TO REAPPORTION ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS BASED ON 2020 CENSUS DATA.

AGENDA OF: February 16, 2021

Assembly Action:

Presented to the Assembly. 2-16-21 KBJ

MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

APPROVED BY MICHAEL BROWN, BOROUGH MANAGER: MB

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator - P. Graham	PG	
	Finance Director	CX	
	Borough Attorney	NS	
	Borough Clerk	JAM	2/8/21 KBJ

ATTACHMENT(S): Fiscal Note: YES NO

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

AS 29.20.060(a) states that Assembly composition and apportionment shall be consistent with the equal representation standards of the Constitution of the United States.

AS 29.20.070(b) states that not later than the first regular election that occurs after adoption of a final state redistricting plan, the Assembly shall propose and submit to the voters of the Borough one or more forms of Assembly representation.

AS 29.20.080(a) states that not later than two months after adoption of a final state redistricting plan, the Assembly shall determine if the existing apportionment of assembly districts meets state and federal standards.

In December 2010, the Assembly outlined the process for the 2011 reapportionment. The process was:

"The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly shall act as the sole entity to reapportion Borough Assembly District for the 2010 census. The assembly shall hold work sessions, special meetings and/or work as a committee of the whole

as needed in cooperation with the Clerk and other staff to reapportion Assembly Districts."

The Assembly directed the Clerk to work with a staff member from Planning and GIS to develop a reapportionment plan for the existing form of composition. Staff developed the reapportionment plan and brought it back to the Assembly for review and discussion.

After a minor adjustment, the Assembly adopted Ordinance Serial No. 11-083 providing for the Composition, Form of Representation and Apportionment of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly, and placing the Question on the ballot.

2021 REAPPORTIONMENT PROCESS PROPOSAL

The Borough Clerk and Administration proposes to follow the same process as was used in 2011. The benefits of such proposal are:

- Less expensive - less staff time, and with COVID, less costs associated with meetings
- Better results - as was proven in the 2011 process, the Borough Clerk and Staff followed the required standards without political influence
- Criteria developed during the 2011 process worked well and will work for the current reapportionment.
- Some of the staff that completed the work on the 2011 Reapportionment are still here, and that knowledge will be useful in the upcoming process;
- Technology has improved enough that an online public involvement process will allow more input in the process than previously allowed.

REAPPORTIONMENT CRITERIA

The establishment of criteria, intended to guide how the districts are created, is vital to a smooth and transparent process. Staff will use the criteria below, which was the starting point for the 2011 process:

- 1) Form of Composition: Seven members each of whom will be elected from a district by the voters of the district;
- 2) Existing districts should be used as a foundation to create new districts;
- 3) Keep existing Assembly members within their current districts, if possible;
- 4) Districts should be designed to avoid future under-representation;
- 5) Preserve all municipal boundaries;
- 6) Preserve communities of common interest, where possible;
- 7) Create compact districts;
- 8) Follow natural features or major transportation links;

RS22-004
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9) Districts should meet the state requirement to be within 5% plus or minus (total 10% deviation) of the target population.

Using the above criteria, staff will draft a reapportionment plan and bring to the Assembly for review.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The public will have access to information on the reapportionment process with the launch of a website. Our citizens will find general information on what reapportionment is, along with some general information on state redistricting. The website will share the apportionment plan drafts, and when it is completed, will include the final plan that will be placed on the ballot for the voters. This site will provide a timeline for the process along with links to the State Statutes and Borough code on redistricting and reapportionment along with links to other sources of information.

RS 22-004
IM 22-012

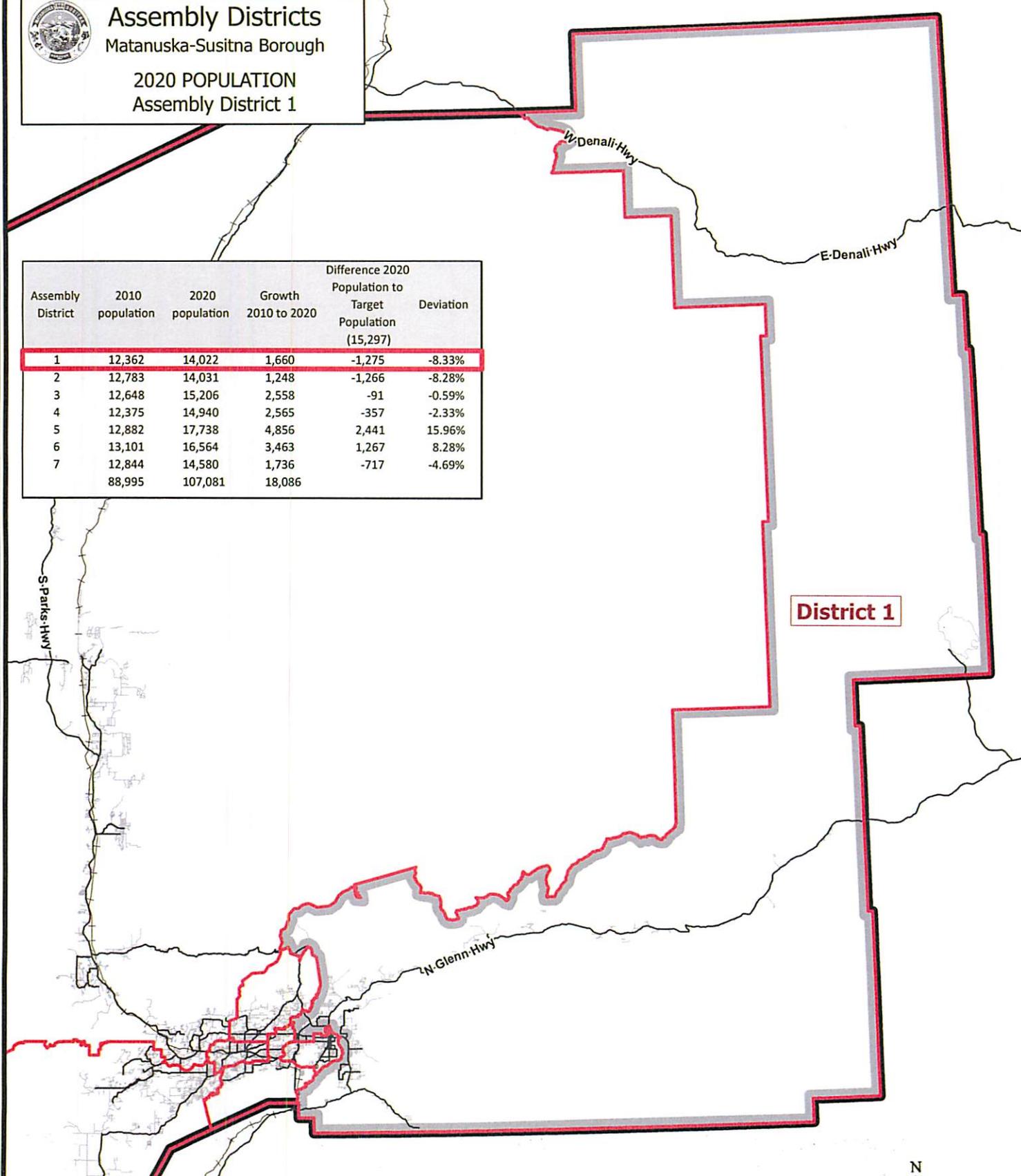


Assembly Districts

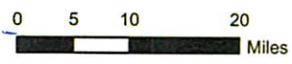
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

2020 POPULATION
Assembly District 1

Assembly District	2010 population	2020 population	Growth 2010 to 2020	Difference 2020 Population to Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	12,362	14,022	1,660	-1,275	-8.33%
2	12,783	14,031	1,248	-1,266	-8.28%
3	12,648	15,206	2,558	-91	-0.59%
4	12,375	14,940	2,565	-357	-2.33%
5	12,882	17,738	4,856	2,441	15.96%
6	13,101	16,564	3,463	1,267	8.28%
7	12,844	14,580	1,736	-717	-4.69%
	88,995	107,081	18,086		



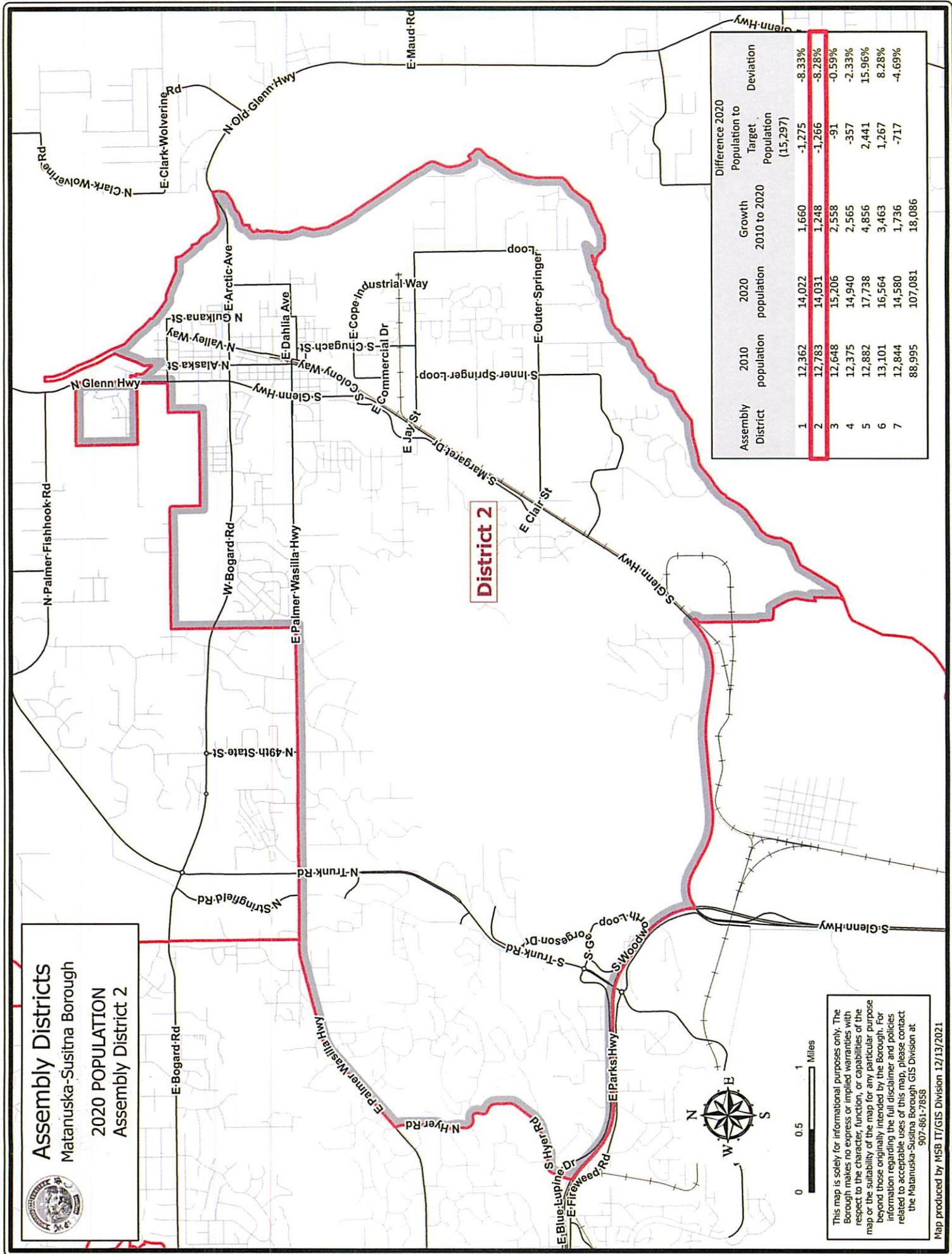
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Assembly Districts
 Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 2020 POPULATION
 Assembly District 2



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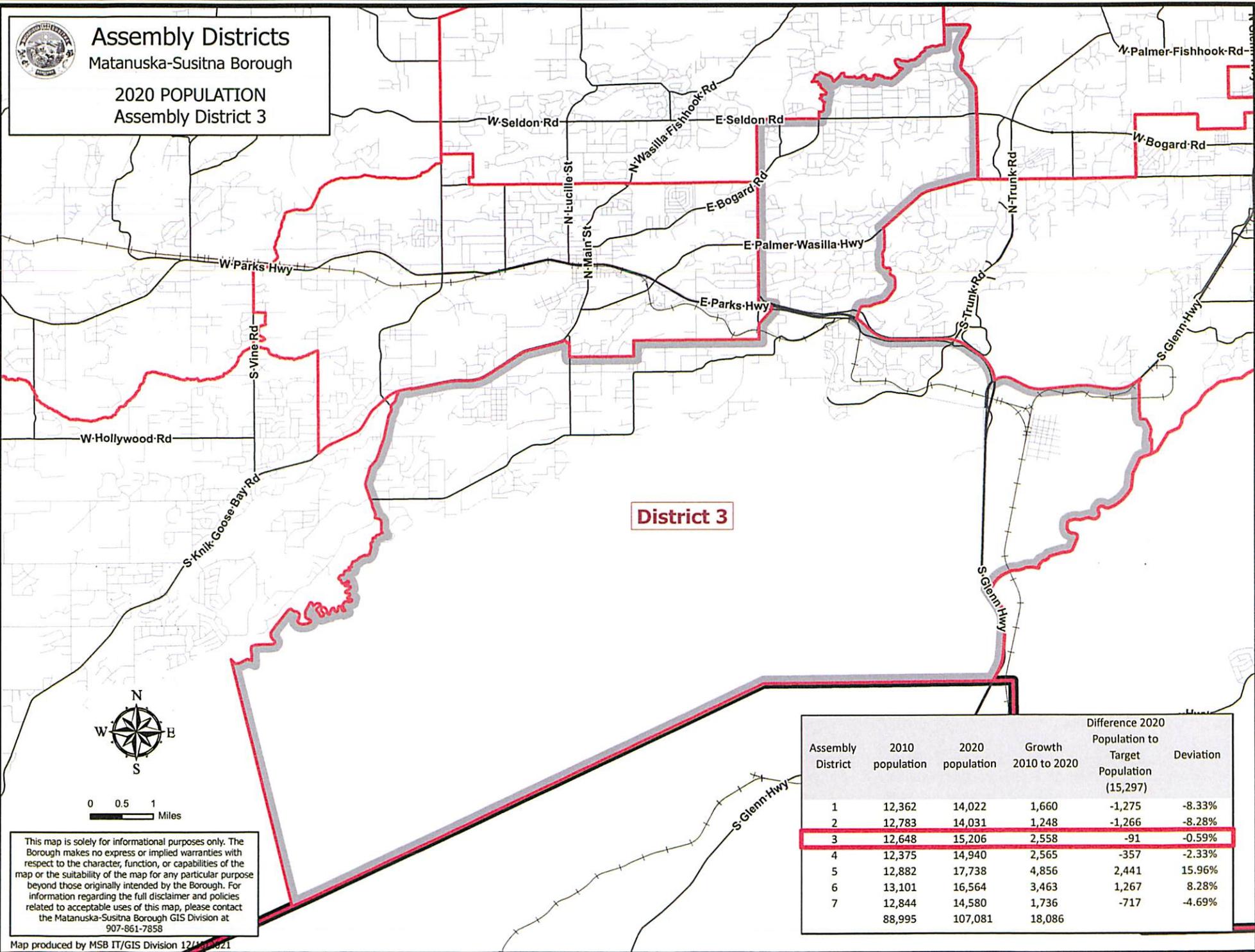
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Assembly Districts

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

2020 POPULATION
Assembly District 3



District 3



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Assembly District	2010 population	2020 population	Growth 2010 to 2020	Difference 2020 Population to Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	12,362	14,022	1,660	-1,275	-8.33%
2	12,783	14,031	1,248	-1,266	-8.28%
3	12,648	15,206	2,558	-91	-0.59%
4	12,375	14,940	2,565	-357	-2.33%
5	12,882	17,738	4,856	2,441	15.96%
6	13,101	16,564	3,463	1,267	8.28%
7	12,844	14,580	1,736	-717	-4.69%
	88,995	107,081	18,086		

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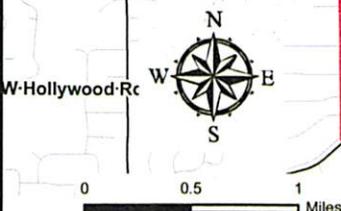
Assembly Districts

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

2020 POPULATION
Assembly District 4

District 4

RS 22-804
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Assembly District	2010 population	2020 population	Growth 2010 to 2020	Difference 2020 Population to Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	12,362	14,022	1,660	-1,275	-8.33%
2	12,783	14,031	1,248	-1,266	-8.28%
3	12,648	15,206	2,558	-91	-0.59%
4	12,375	14,940	2,565	-357	-2.33%
5	12,882	17,738	4,856	2,441	15.96%
6	13,101	16,564	3,463	1,267	8.28%
7	12,844	14,580	1,736	-717	-4.69%
Total	88,995	107,081	18,086		



Assembly Districts

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

2020 POPULATION
Assembly District 5

Assembly District	2010 population	2020 population	Growth 2010 to 2020	Difference 2020 Population to Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	12,362	14,022	1,660	-1,275	-8.33%
2	12,783	14,031	1,248	-1,266	-8.28%
3	12,648	15,206	2,558	-91	-0.59%
4	12,375	14,940	2,565	-357	-2.33%
5	12,882	17,738	4,856	2,441	15.96%
6	13,101	16,564	3,463	1,267	8.28%
7	12,844	14,580	1,736	-717	-4.69%
	88,995	107,081	18,086		

District 5

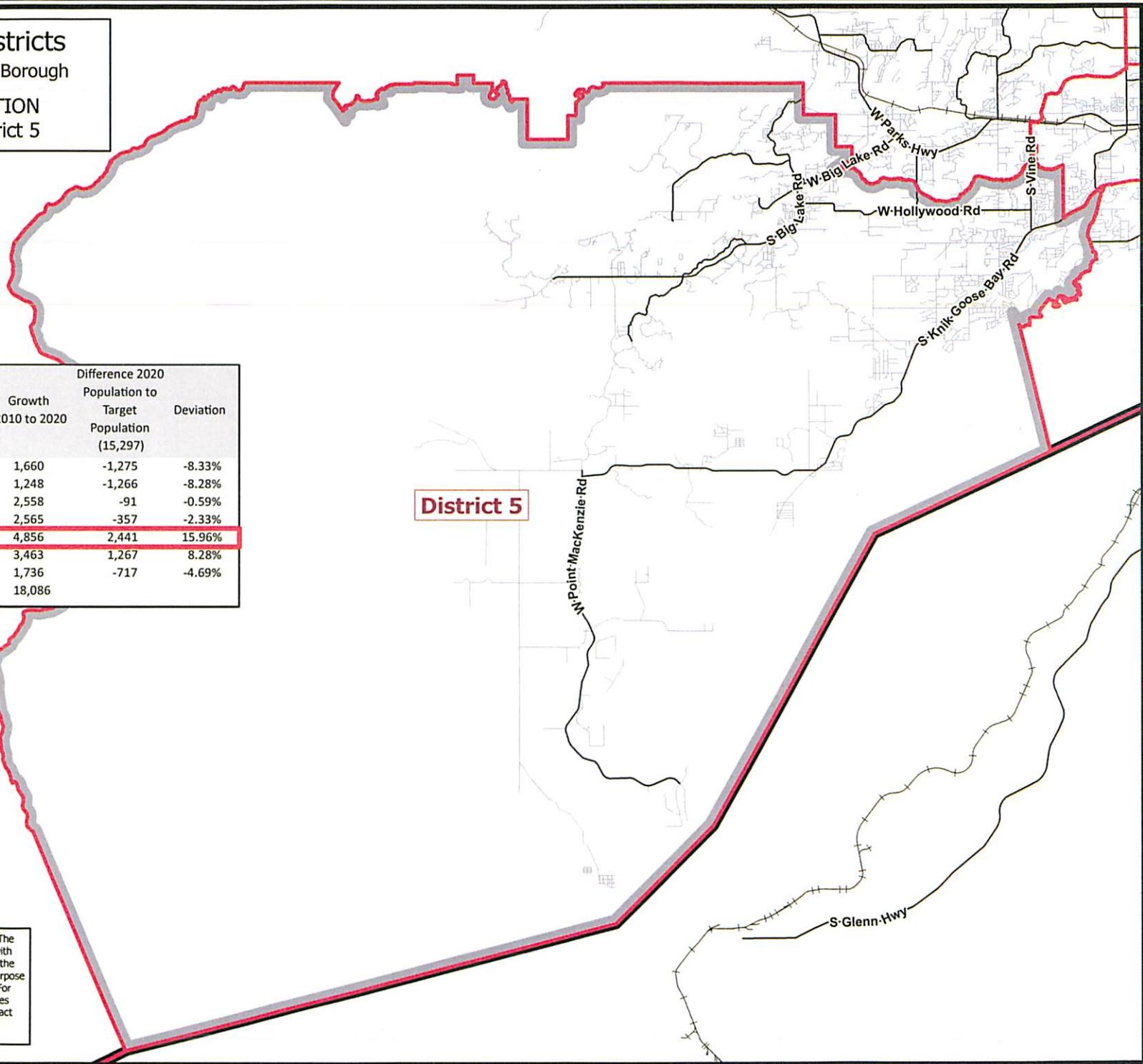


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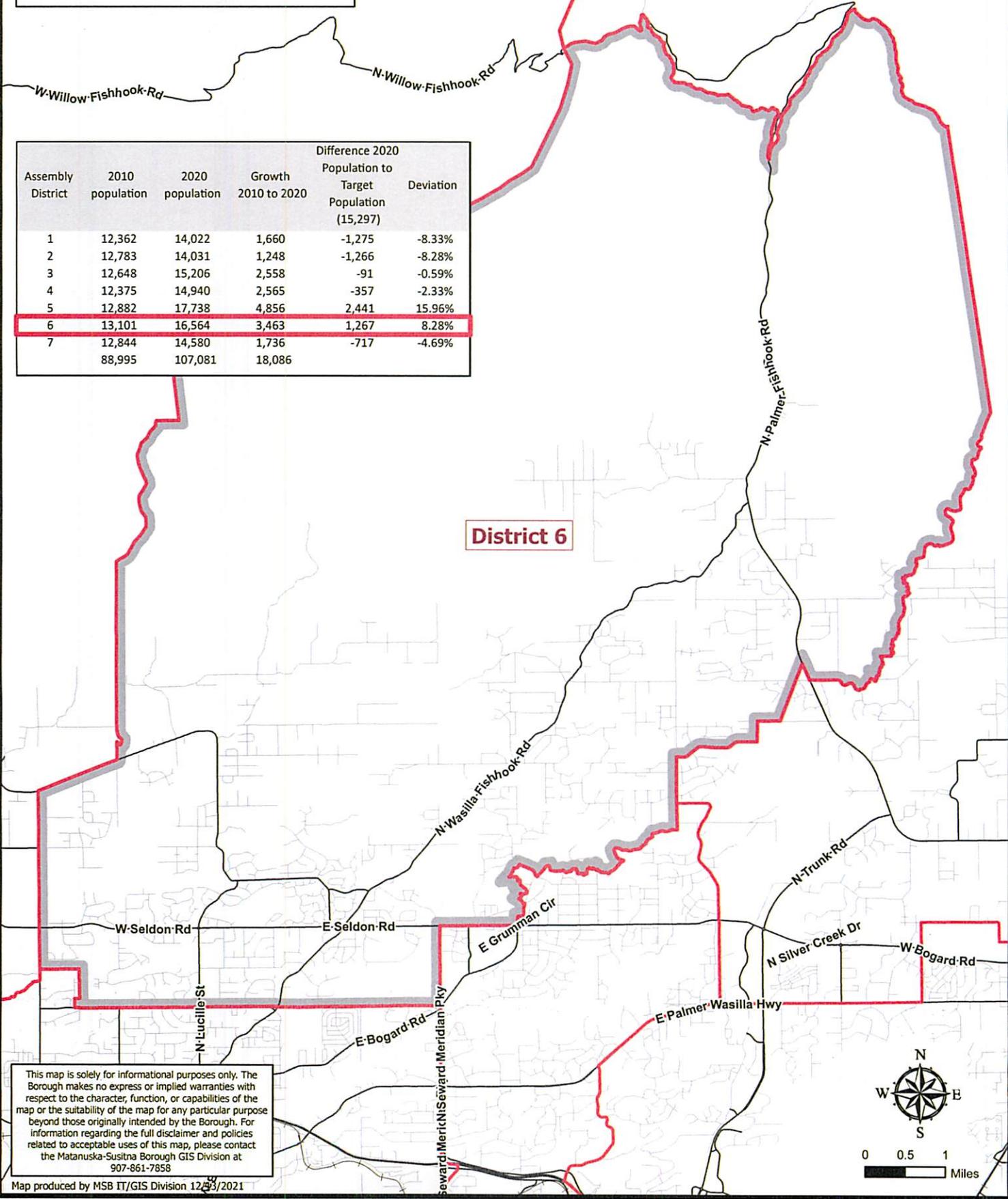




Assembly Districts
 Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 2020 POPULATION
 Assembly District 6

Assembly District	2010 population	2020 population	Growth 2010 to 2020	Difference 2020 Population to Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	12,362	14,022	1,660	-1,275	-8.33%
2	12,783	14,031	1,248	-1,266	-8.28%
3	12,648	15,206	2,558	-91	-0.59%
4	12,375	14,940	2,565	-357	-2.33%
5	12,882	17,738	4,856	2,441	15.96%
6	13,101	16,564	3,463	1,267	8.28%
7	12,844	14,580	1,736	-717	-4.69%
	88,995	107,081	18,086		

District 6



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Assembly Districts

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

2020 POPULATION
Assembly District 7

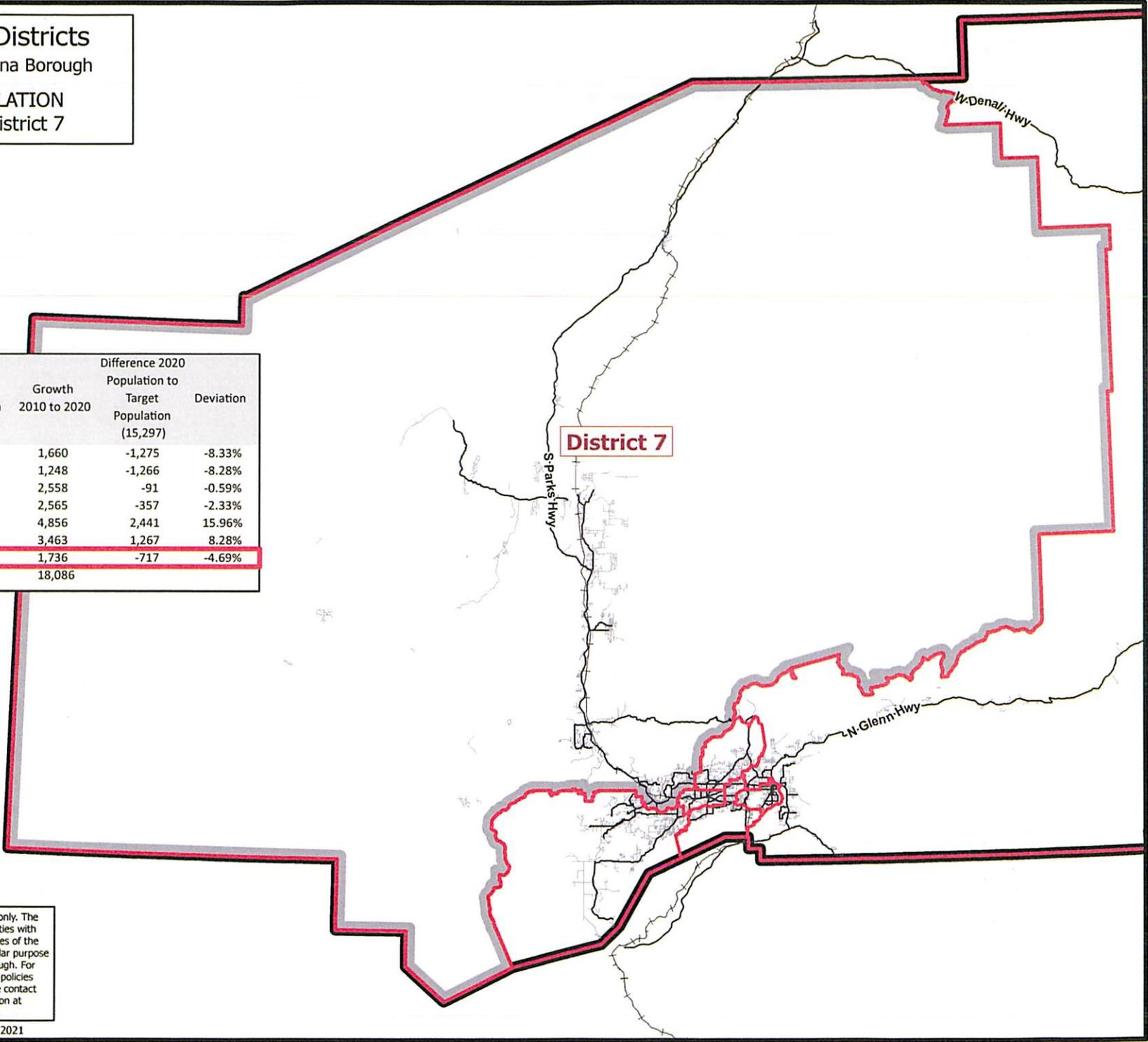
Assembly District	2010 population	2020 population	Growth 2010 to 2020	Difference 2020 Population to Target Population (15,297)	Deviation
1	12,362	14,022	1,660	-1,275	-8.33%
2	12,783	14,031	1,248	-1,266	-8.28%
3	12,648	15,206	2,558	-91	-0.59%
4	12,375	14,940	2,565	-357	-2.33%
5	12,882	17,738	4,856	2,441	15.96%
6	13,101	16,564	3,463	1,267	8.28%
7	12,844	14,580	1,736	-717	-4.69%
	88,995	107,081	18,086		



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2010 and 2020 Census Data Comparisons
 2010 Final Reapportionment
 2020 Before Reapportionment

2010 Final Assembly Districts

District	Population	Difference	Deviation	%American Indian and Alaska Native	Total American Indian and Alaska Native
1	12,362	-352	-2.77%	9.28%	1147
2	12,783	69	0.55%	10.35%	1323
3	12,648	-66	-0.52%	9.30%	1176
4	12,375	-339	-2.66%	10.15%	1256
5	12,882	168	1.32%	11.08%	1427
6	13,101	387	3.05%	8.21%	1076
7	12,844	130	1.03%	9.59%	1232
	88,995				

2020 Before Reapportionment

District	Population	Difference	Deviation	%American Indian and Alaska Native	Total American Indian and Alaska Native	% Hispanic or Latino	Total Hispanic or Latino
1	14,022	-1,275	-8.33%	4.71%	661	3.40%	477
2	14,031	-1,266	-8.28%	6.93%	972	5.85%	821
3	15,206	-91	-0.59%	5.49%	835	5.69%	865
4	14,940	-357	-2.33%	7.20%	1076	5.93%	886
5	17,738	2,441	15.96%	9.66%	1713	4.83%	857
6	16,564	1,267	8.28%	5.22%	865	4.97%	824
7	14,580	-717	-4.69%	4.95%	722	3.53%	514
	107,081						

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