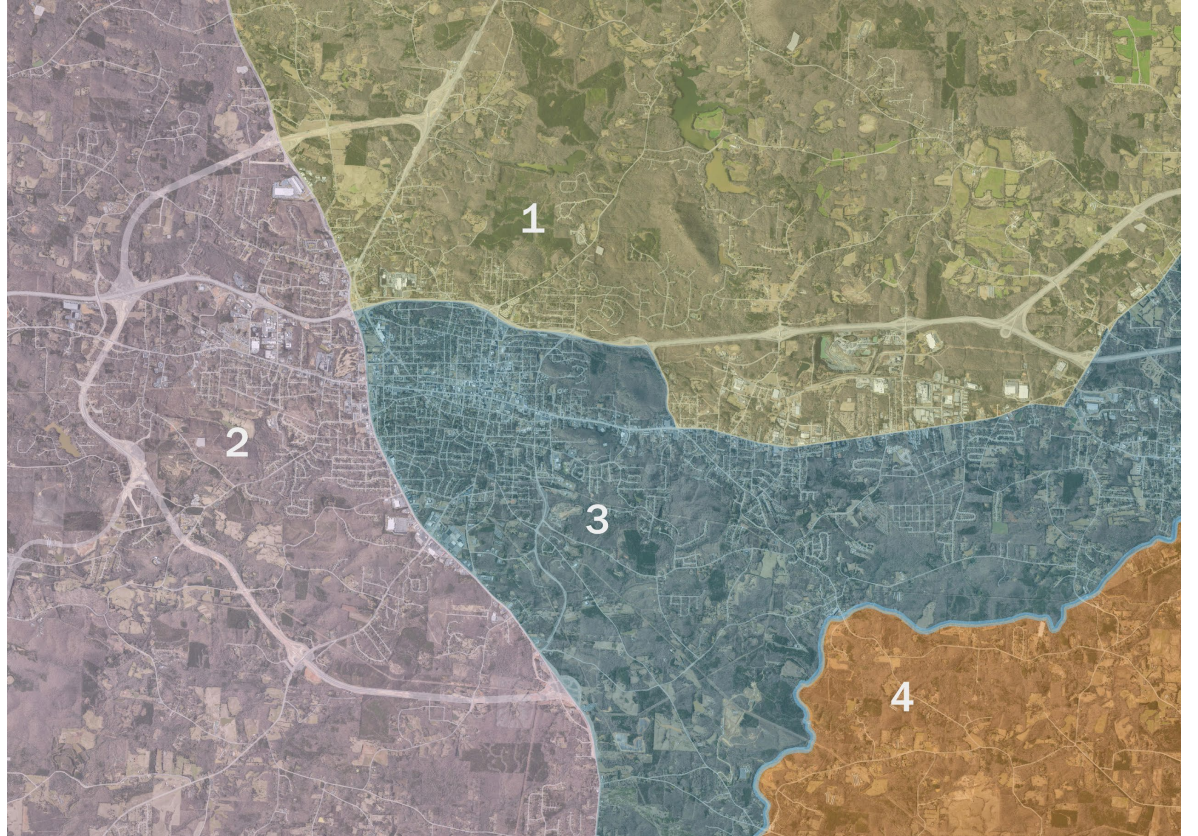


# Currituck County Electoral Changes and Redistricting

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## **NC General Statute 153A-58**

**A county may alter its structure by selecting one or a combination of the options provided in the statute.**

- Minimum of 3 commissioners; no maximum**
- 2-year, 4-year, or staggered 4-year terms**
  - Caveat: can only have combination of 2- and 4-year terms IF there is an odd number of commissioners, the members are elected countywide (residency districts or at-large), and the chair is elected by the board**

**A county may alter its structure by selecting one or a combination of the options provided in the statute. Modes of election:**

- **At-large (Candidate can reside anywhere in county; elected countywide)**
- **Residency districts (Candidate must reside in the district; elected countywide)**
- **Electoral districts (Candidate must reside in and is elected by district)**
- **Blended districts (Candidate must reside in the district, is elected by district at the primary, and is elected countywide at the general election) (this is rare in NC)**

### **3 additional notes:**

**If a combination of at-large and electoral districts is chosen, no more than half of the seats can be elected at-large.**

**The Board can also select how the chair is selected: either from among the members for a one-year term or as a separate office voted on by the entire county.**

**Redistricting does not affect the unexpired term of any commissioner. Because current terms are staggered, any new resolution needs to state which seats up for election and when.**



1. Determine preferred structure and redistricting plan
2. Public hearing on proposed plan
3. Pass a resolution that (a) describes the proposed change in structure and (b) calls for a special election in Currituck county
4. If the referendum passes, the changes are implemented at the next primary and general election
5. If the referendum fails, no changes are implemented, and the resolution becomes void



## One-person, one-vote

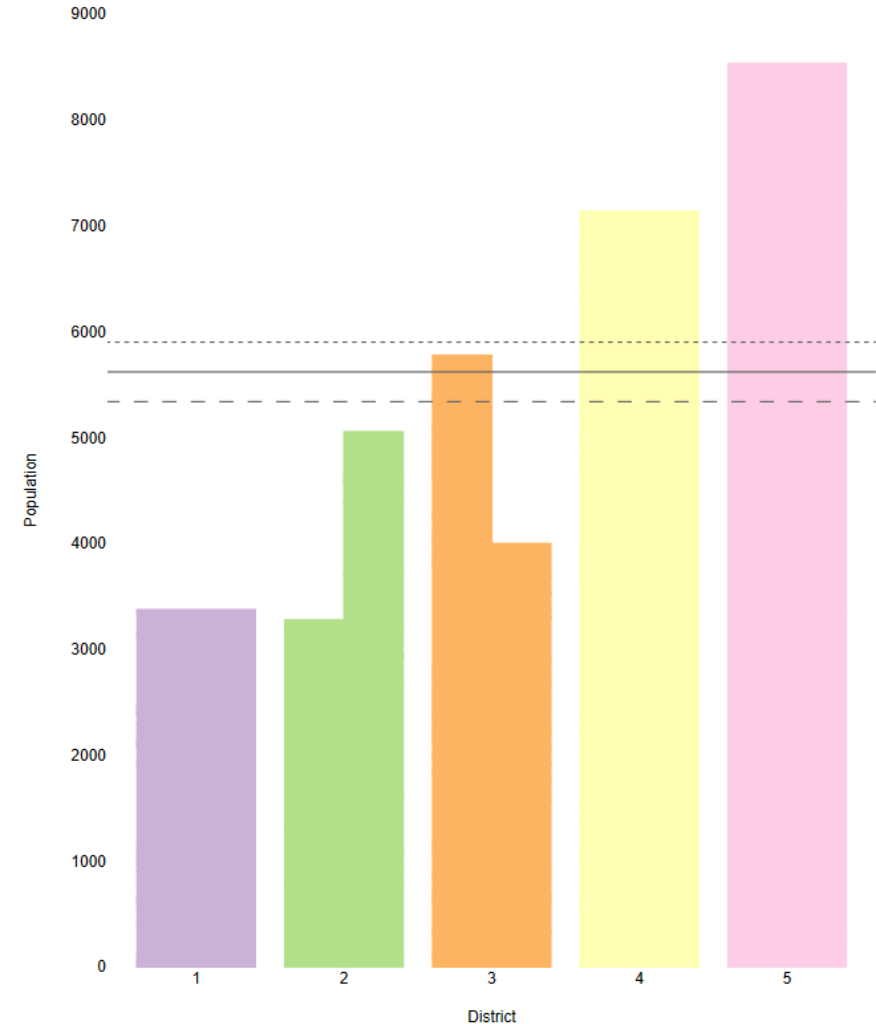
**$28,100 \div 5 = 5,620$  (ideal)**

**5% of 5,620 = 281**

**+5% = 5,901 (upper bound)**

**-5% = 5,339 (lower bound)**

# Current District Population



- Chart showing estimated populations for current residency districts.
- Solid line is ideal district population; dashed and dotted lines are -5% and +5% respectively.
- We can't calculate populations for Districts 2 and 3 because of divided census blocks, so the two values shown are a theoretical maximum and minimum. The correct value is somewhere in between.



# Guiding Principles/Criteria

- Instructions to demographer
- Required guiding principles
- Optional guiding principles
  - What is important to Currituck county and its residents?
  - What should we know about Currituck county?
- Contract: 3 alternative plans; additional price for more plans





# Required Guiding Principles

1. To comply with one-person, one-vote constitutional principles, every district's total population should be within plus or minus 5% of the ideal district size.
2. Minority voting strength should not be diluted, but race should not unnecessarily predominate.
3. Contiguity. "[E]ach district shall be composed of territory within a continuous boundary. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-22(c).
  - Note: connections using census blocks that are entirely water are considered consistent with contiguity. Further, "travel contiguity" is not a requirement.



# Optional Guiding Principles

1. In order to minimize voter confusion, districts should retain their current configuration, to the extent possible (“core preservation”)
2. Alternatively, the existing district lines should not be considered except to the extent legally required (“blank slate”)
3. Avoid the pairing of incumbents in the same district
4. Follow natural boundaries and physical features, such as roads or waterways, to the extent possible



# Optional Guiding Principles

5. Recognize and respect neighborhood boundaries
6. Recognize and respect communities of interest, to be defined by the Board with public input
7. Consider areas of potential future population growth/decline
8. Use precincts as building blocks for the districts, to the extent possible
9. Districts should be reasonably compact, to the extent possible

# Consider Shopping for a Vehicle ...











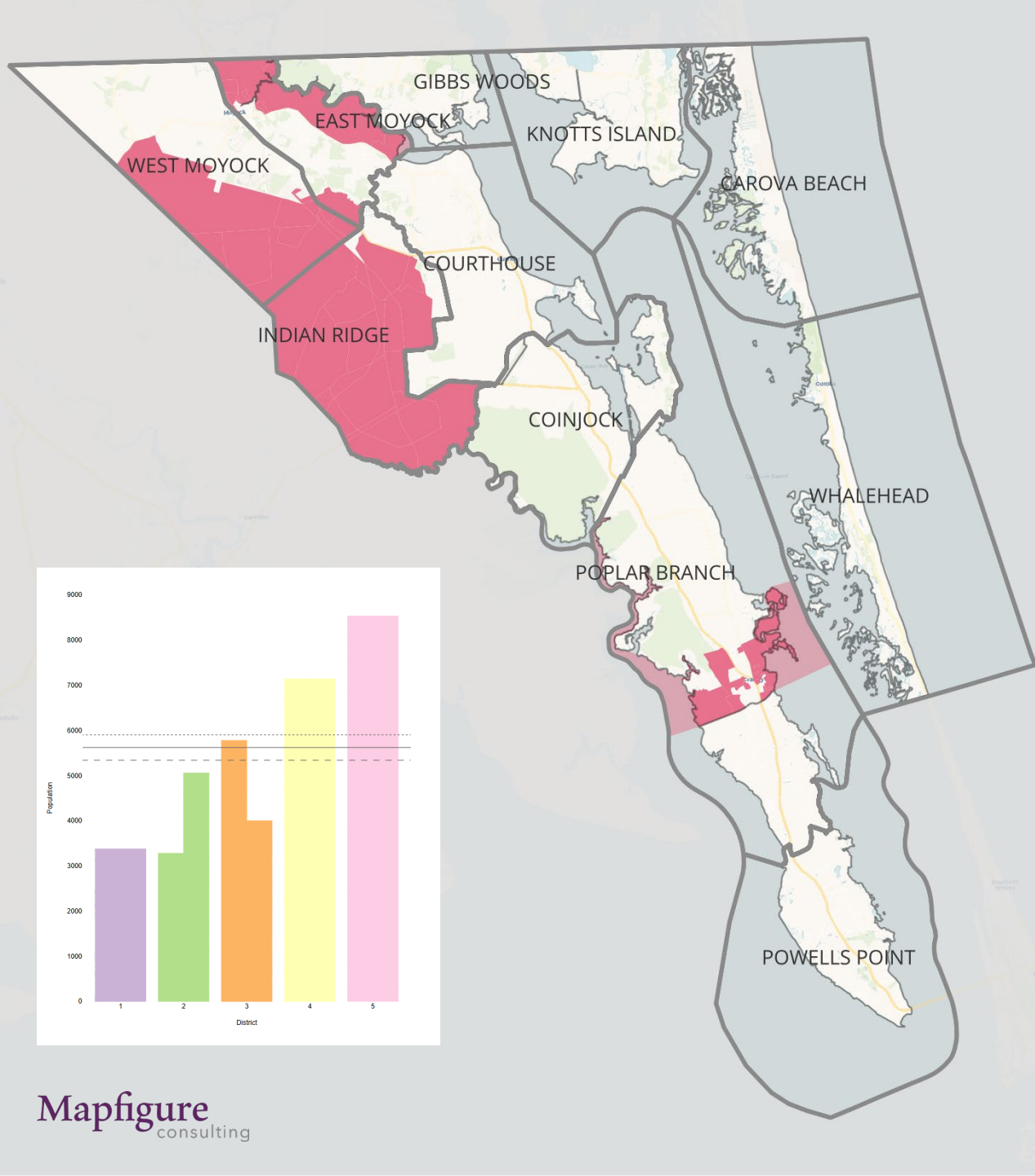






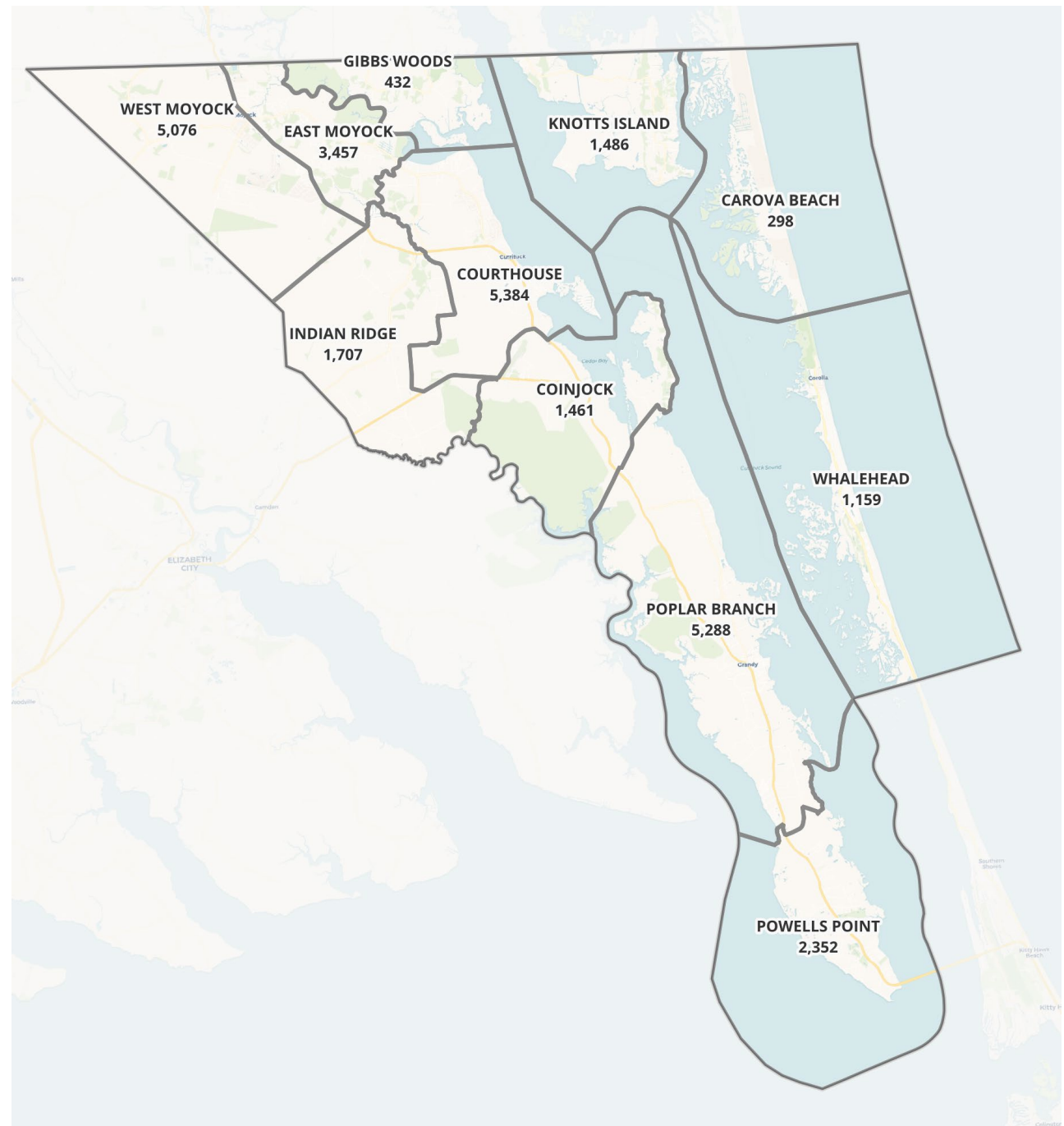






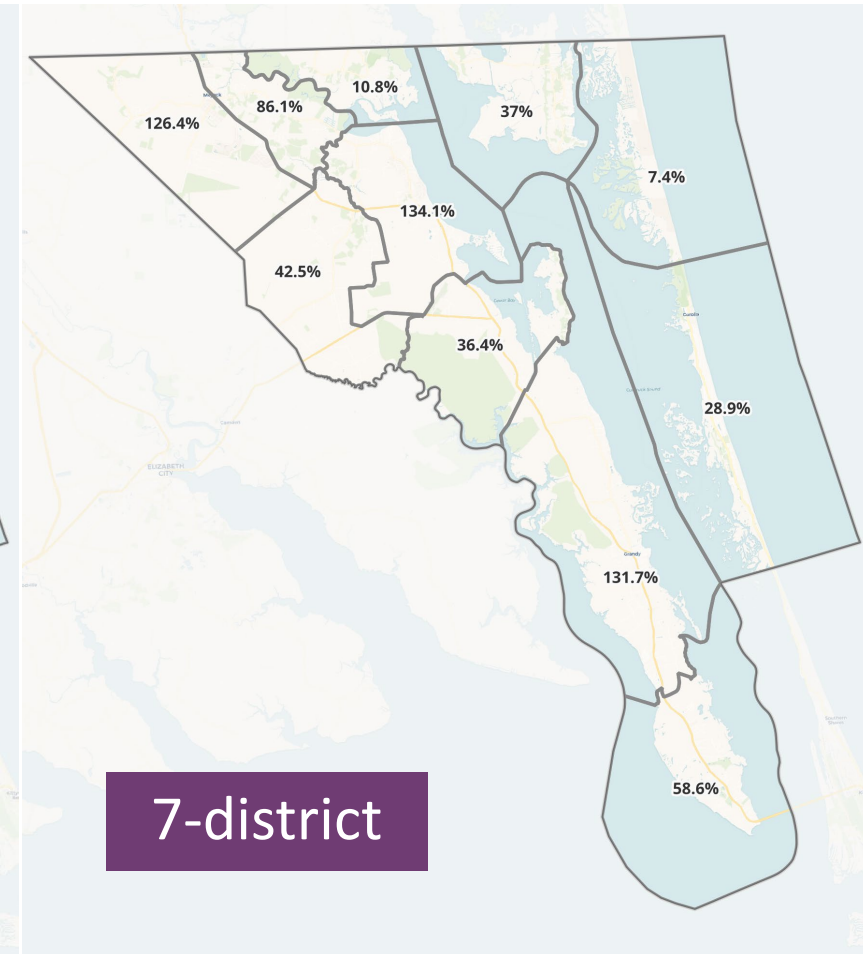
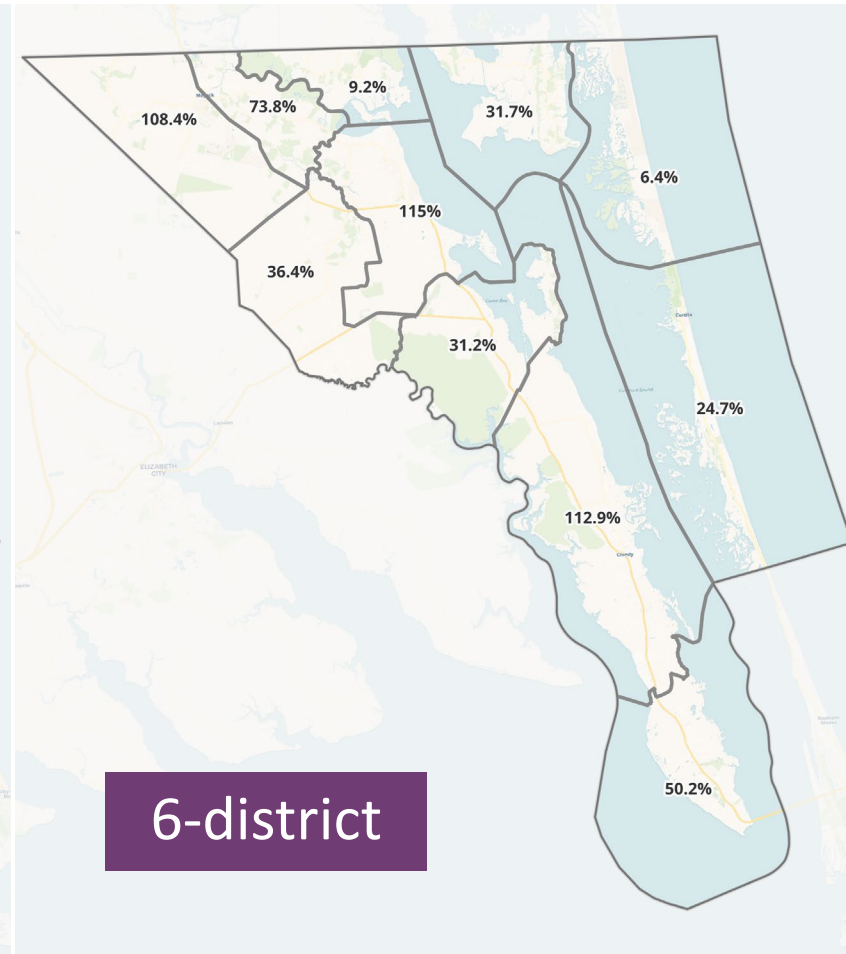
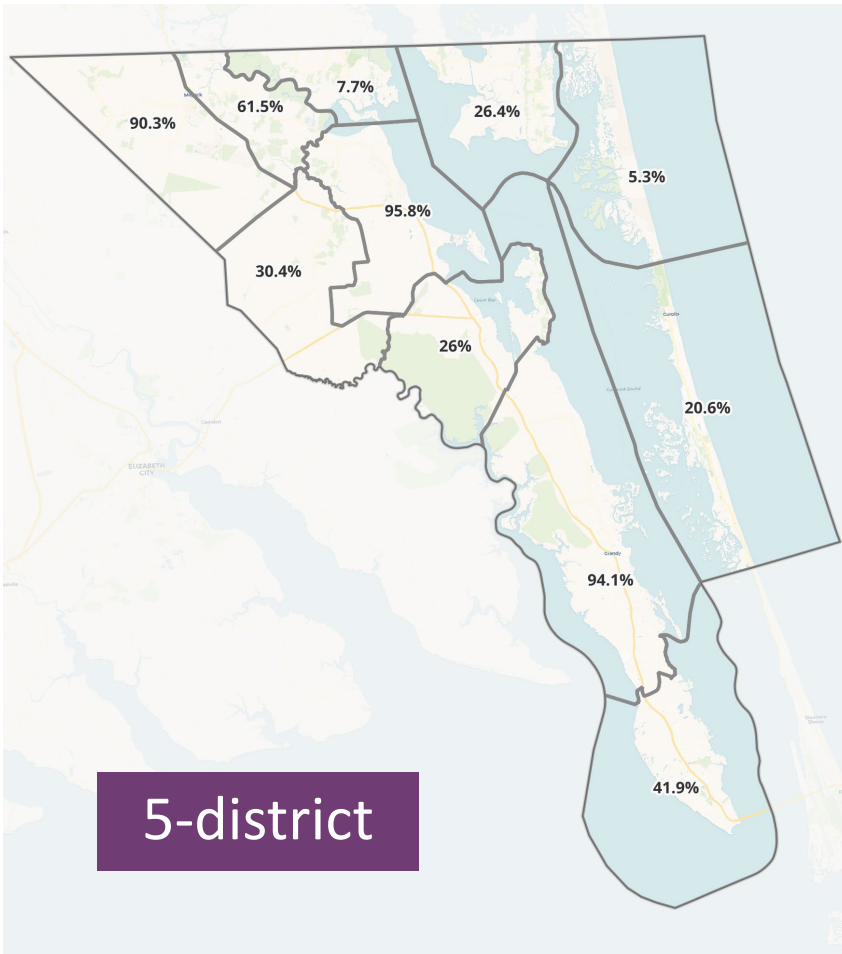
- The map at left shows in red the areas that would be reassigned under one possible *minimize change* approach (keeping the number of districts at five).
- Even keeping changes to a minimum, about 5,000 people would have to be in different districts. (The exact number can't be calculated because current residency districts divide census blocks.)
- A true minimum change map would mean:
  - At least five traversals of precincts by district boundaries
  - Populations for districts 4 and 5 would be at the highest end of the permissible population range, hence even more overpopulated when recent/new development is counted in the 2030 census.
- Note that a plan with 6 or 7 districts would—by necessity—require more population to be reassigned.

The map at right shows the 2020 census population count for each of the current Currituck County precincts.





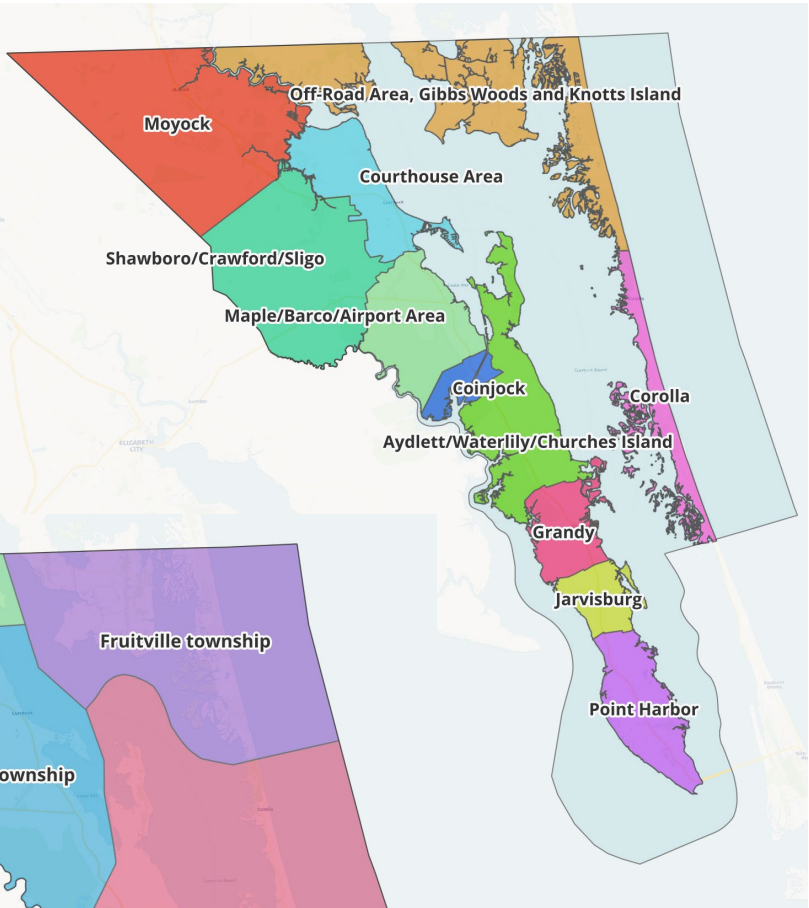
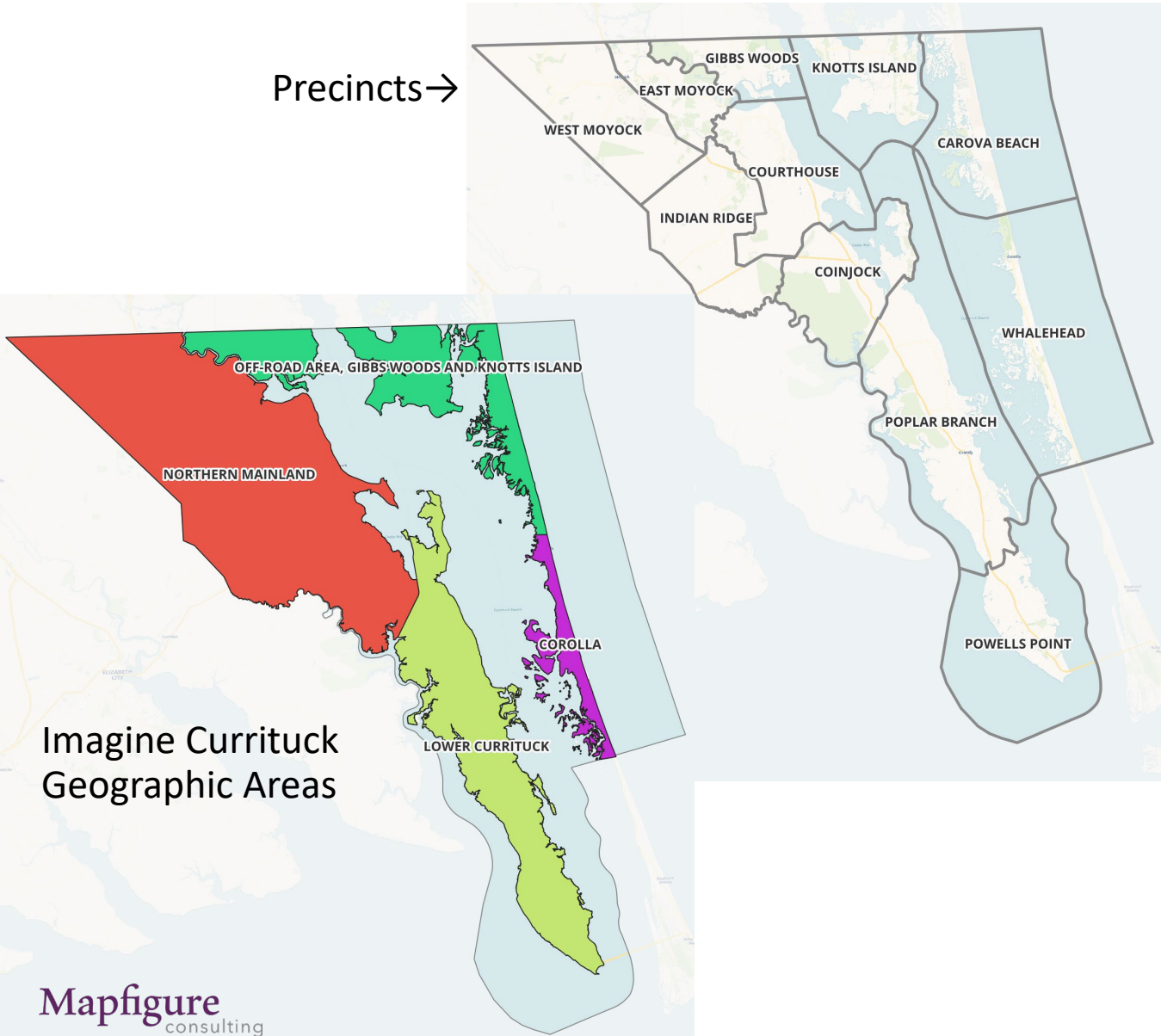
The maps below show, for 5-, 6-, and 7-district board compositions, what percentage of an ideal district population each precinct's population represents.



# Context & Naming:

Imagine Currituck  
Geographic Subareas →

Precincts→



Townships





# Questions/Discussion

(Including Poplar Branch/Grandy question)

Link to interactive map is [here](#) if needed.