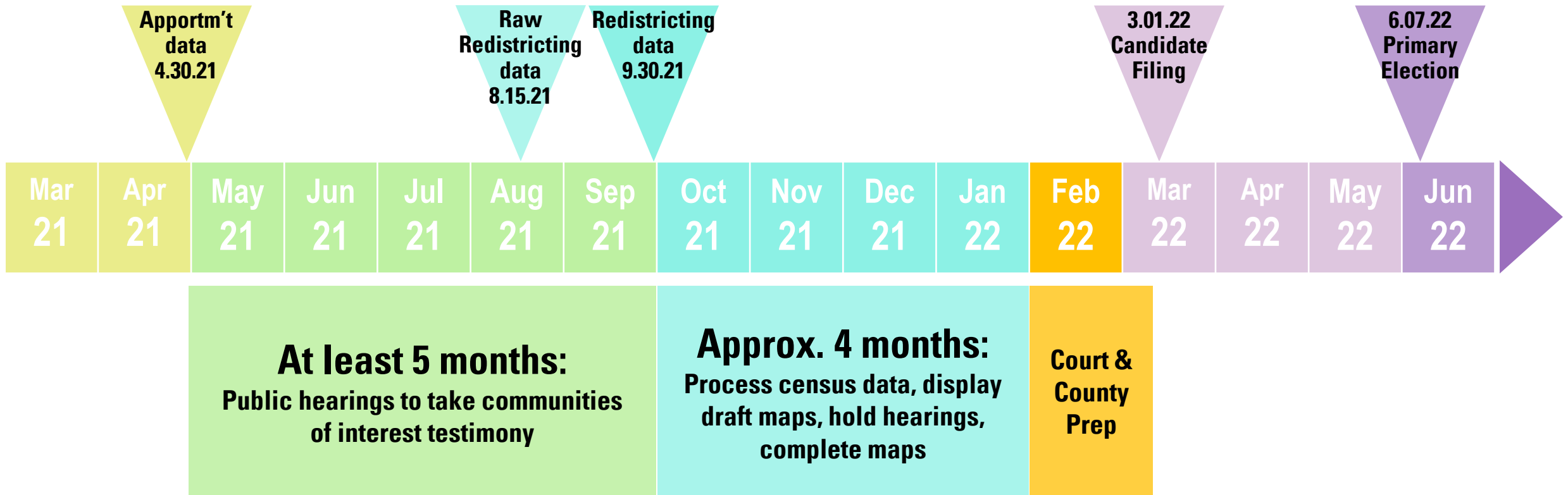
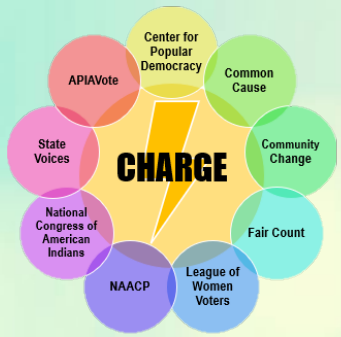


Redistricting Rules: Mississippi (Cong)

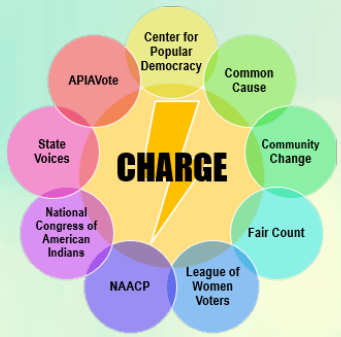




Redistricting Rules: Mississippi Rules

Who draws the lines?

- ▶ Congressional lines are **drawn by the state legislature** as a statute, subject to a gubernatorial veto
- ▶ State legislative lines are **drawn by the state legislature** and passed as a joint resolution, which is not subject to gubernatorial veto (Miss. Const. art. XIII, § 254)
- ▶ For both plans, the legislature is assisted by a 20-member joint legislative committee: the chair and vice-chair of the state House and state Senate elections committees, two state Representatives from each of the four congressional districts, appointed by the Speaker of the House, and two state Senators from each congressional districts, appointed by the Lieutenant Governor (Miss. Code §§ 5-3-91, 5-3-121)
- ▶ If the legislature fails to pass a state legislative plan, those lines are drawn by a five-member commission, consisting of the Chief Justice of the state Supreme Court, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the majority leaders of the House and Senate (Miss. Const. art. XIII, § 254)



Redistricting Rules: Mississippi Rules

What are the mapping rules?

- ▶ Federal **equal population** requirements and adherence to the **Voting Rights Act** and constitutional rules on race
- ▶ State legislative districts must be contiguous, compact, and cross political boundaries as little as possible (county lines and election districts are prioritized above other political boundaries) (Miss. Const. art. XIII, § 254, Miss. Code. § 5-3-101)
- ▶ Floterial (or overlapping) districts are acceptable under state law (Connor v. Johnson, 330 F. Supp. 506, 507 (S.D. Miss. 1971))