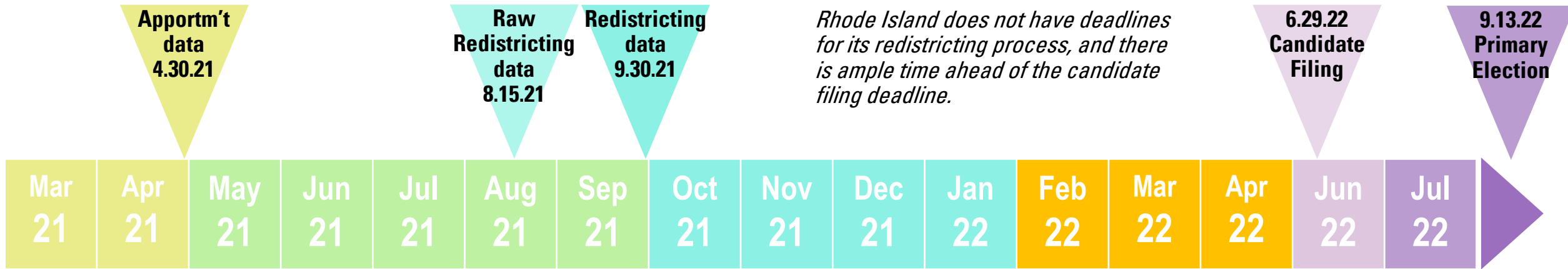
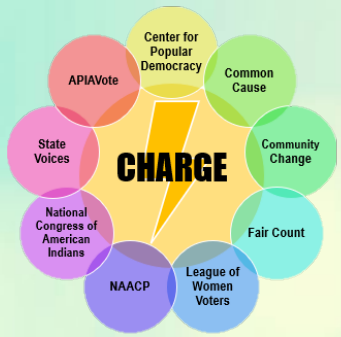




# Redistricting Rules: Rhode Island Timeline

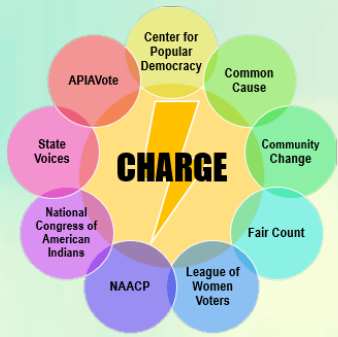




# Redistricting Rules: Rhode Island Rules

## Who draws the lines?

- ▶ Congressional and State Legislature lines are **drawn by the state legislature** and are subject to **gubernatorial veto**
- ▶ This year, an 18-member advisory committee was established to assist with redistricting and prepare redistricting plans for a vote by the General Assembly. The members are chosen by the Senate and House majority and minority leaders. (Senate Bill 852 of 2021)



# Redistricting Rules: Rhode Island Rules

## What are the mapping rules?

- ▶ Federal **equal population** requirements and adherence to the **Voting Rights Act** and constitutional rules on race
- ▶ State legislative and congressional districts must be as equal in population as possible (R.I. Const. art. VII, § 1, art. VIII, § 1)
- ▶ Likewise, state legislative districts must be as compact as possible (R.I. Const. art. VII, § 1, art. VIII, § 1) and the advisory commission is required to make congressional districts as compact as possible
- ▶ By statute, districts must be contiguous and reflect natural, geographical, and municipal lines where possible. Maps must respect "the right of all Rhode Islanders to fair representation and equal access to the political process." To the extent possible, congressional and state legislature maps should coincide.