



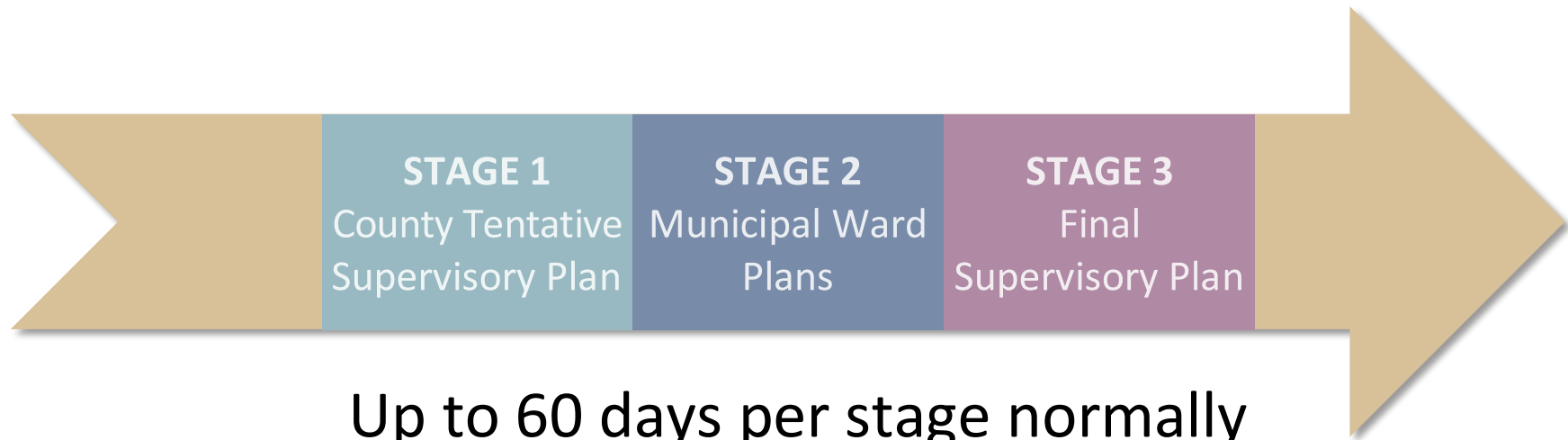
2021 Winnebago County Local Redistricting

Local Redistricting **IS NOT** State Legislative Redistricting

Local Redistricting – Defined in Wisconsin State Statute

County Supervisory Plans – Wisconsin Statute 59.10(3)b

Municipal Ward Plans – Wisconsin Statute 5.15



Up to 60 days per stage normally

The 2021 timeline is compressed because of a delay in receiving Census data.

Federal Requirements

Equal population

Equal Representation

Equal Protection Clause - 14th amendment of US Constitution

[Redistricting in Wisconsin 2020: The LRB Guidebook](#) – page 5-9

Minority Protection

Racial gerrymandering - 14th amendment of US Constitution

[Redistricting in Wisconsin 2020: The LRB Guidebook](#) – page 5-11

Voting Rights act of 1965 - redistricting that results in minority

“vote dilution” can be legally challenged.

[Redistricting in Wisconsin 2020: The LRB Guidebook](#) – page 11-14

Equal population

Figure 1. **Statistical terminology for redistricting**

Ideal population = total population ÷ number of districts

Example: 5,000,000 total population ÷ 50 districts = 100,000 ideal population

Absolute deviation¹ = district population – ideal population

Example: 99,000 district population – 100,000 ideal population = –1,000 absolute deviation

Relative deviation¹ = absolute deviation ÷ ideal population

Example: –1,000 absolute deviation ÷ 100,000 ideal population = –1% relative deviation

Overall range² = largest positive absolute deviation + largest negative absolute deviation

Example: +2,000 largest positive deviation + –1,000 largest negative deviation (ignoring + and – signs) = 3,000 or 3% of the ideal district size

1. Used in the calculation of deviation for individual districts

2. Used in the calculation of deviation for entire plan and is typically expressed as a percentage

Traditional Redistricting Principals

Compactness

Minimize the distance between all parts of a district



compact



not compact

Contiguity

All areas within a district should be physically adjacent



contiguous



noncontiguous

Preservation of communities of interest

3. Preservation of communities of interest

Respecting communities of interest in a redistricting plan means attempting to group like-minded or similar people so that they may elect a representative of their choice who reflects their common values in a manner relevant to legislative representation. This principle is distinct from federal requirements relating to the protection of racial and language minority groups in a redistricting plan. However, when communities of interest align with a specific population's racial or ethnic characteristics, care must be taken to ensure that legitimate political considerations, and not race, predominate in drawing a district's boundaries, unless necessary to comply with the VRA. Otherwise, a court might find that the district constitutes an unconstitutional racial gerrymander.⁶⁵

In Wisconsin, municipalities are required by statute to take into account communities of interest in drawing ward boundaries.⁶⁶

Preservation of the unity of political subdivisions

4. Preservation of the unity of political subdivisions

Respecting the unity of political subdivisions means drawing district boundaries in such a way as to avoid crossing existing political boundaries. This principle both simplifies the administration of elections and helps to clearly identify for voters the specific district in which they live. In many ways this principle goes hand in hand with the effort to preserve communities of interest. However, strictly adhering to the boundaries of political subdivisions in a redistricting plan often makes it more difficult to satisfy equal population requirements. Consequently, this principle, while by no means obsolete, was followed much more meticulously in Wisconsin, and elsewhere, before the advent of one person, one vote.⁶⁷

In Wisconsin, assembly districts must “be bounded by county, precinct, town or ward lines.”⁶⁸ Additionally, county supervisory districts must generally consist of whole wards or municipalities, city aldermanic districts must consist of whole wards, and wards may not cross municipal or county lines.⁶⁹