2020 REDISTRICTING BENCHMARK REPORT

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD

REPORT PREPARED BY:
South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs
Rembert Dennis Building, Room 419
1000 Assembly Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803)-734-3793

October 13, 2021

REDISTRICTING REPORT 2020
PRESENTED TO: TOWN OF HILTON HEAD

The South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) has prepared the following analysis and accompanying maps regarding the redistricting for the Town of Hilton Head Council.

RFA strives to release data that is complete, accurate, and useful. However, we ask that you notify us, either by email (redistricting@rfa.sc.gov) or phone (803-734-3793), of any discrepancies.

ITEMS TO NOTE PRIOR TO REVIEWING THIS REPORT:

- The 2020 Census presents new challenges regarding redistricting as the data below the state level will be affected by the U.S. Census Bureau's efforts with respect to differential privacy. The Bureau has stated that the total population in each state will be "as enumerated," but that all other levels of geography could have some variance from the raw data. This variance is referred to by the Census Bureau as "injecting noise" into the data and is an attempt to improve privacy. The bureau has indicated that no "noise" will be injected into the state total population, but it is likely that noise will be injected for every other level of geography. More noise is injected as the geography levels get smaller. In other words, population counts at the county, city, or block level may not be "as enumerated".
- Race is defined following the guidance provided in OMB Bulletin No. 00-02 which allocates population counts of a "minority race and white" category to the minority race. In Tables 2 and 3, NH DOJ Black is the sum of Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic Black and White as recommended by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Considerations for Preliminary Plan:

In developing a preliminary plan, RFA recommends following constitutional and statutory provisions:

- The requirement of "one person, one vote" under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and accepted variances.
- The Voting Rights Act, primarily Section 2, which protects the interest of the racial minority population.
- Other applicable court decisions and federal and state law.

Further, RFA recommends the following set of traditional redistricting principles be considered:

- Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
- Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
- Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

2020 Census Benchmark Report

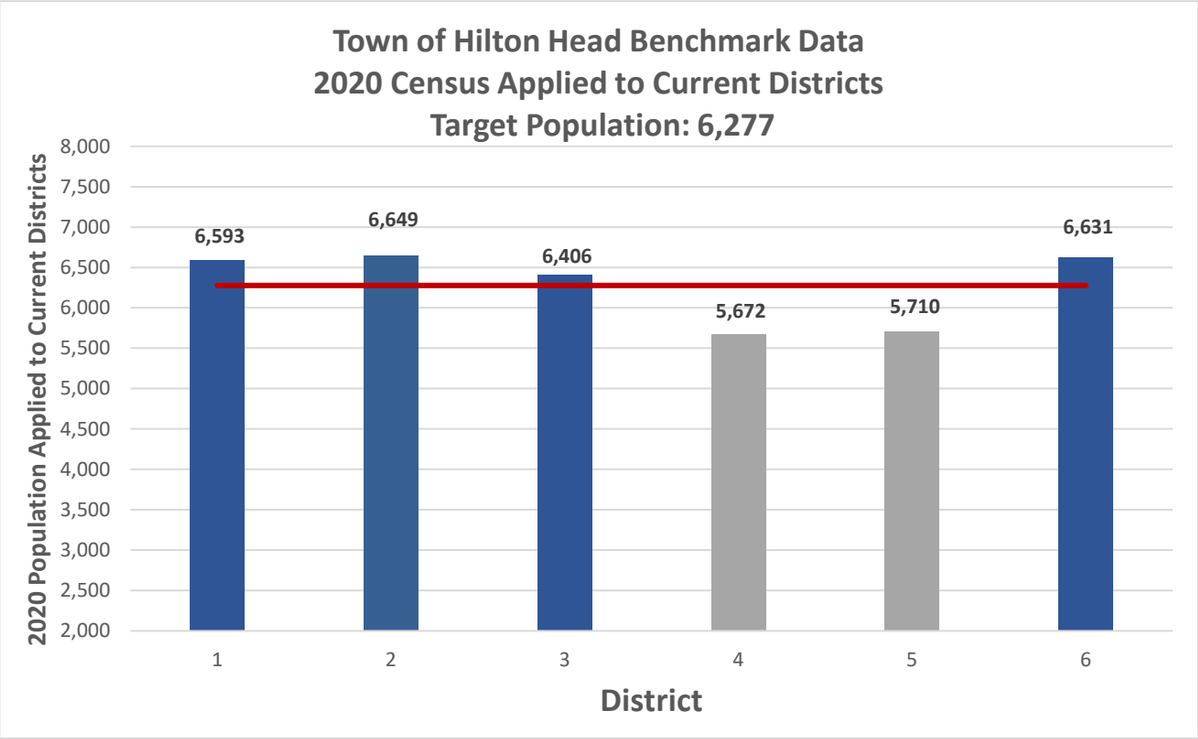
The population of the Town of Hilton Head has increased 1.5% from 37,099 to 37,661. As a result, the ideal district changed from 6,183 to 6,277. The Benchmark Report noted a deviation range of 15.57% (the sum of the highest deviation, 5.93%, and the absolute value of the lowest deviation |-9.64%|) which is above the maximum range of 10%. RFA recommends a deviation range of 5%.

The following table and chart show which districts are (under-) or over-populated indicating potential adjustments needed to be within the allowable deviation range.

TABLE 1: 2020 CENSUS COUNTS APPLIED TO CURRENT DISTRICTS

District	2020 Census	Goal	Over/(Under)	% Deviation
1	6,593	6,277	316	5.04%
2	6,649	6,277	372	5.93%
3	6,406	6,277	129	2.06%
4	5,672	6,277	(605)	-9.64%
5	5,710	6,277	(567)	-9.03%
6	6,631	6,277	354	5.64%
Lowest	-9.64%			
Highest	5.93%			
Range	15.57%			

CHART 1:



MAP 1:

Current (as of 2010 redistricting) Town Council District Lines and Addresses of Incumbents

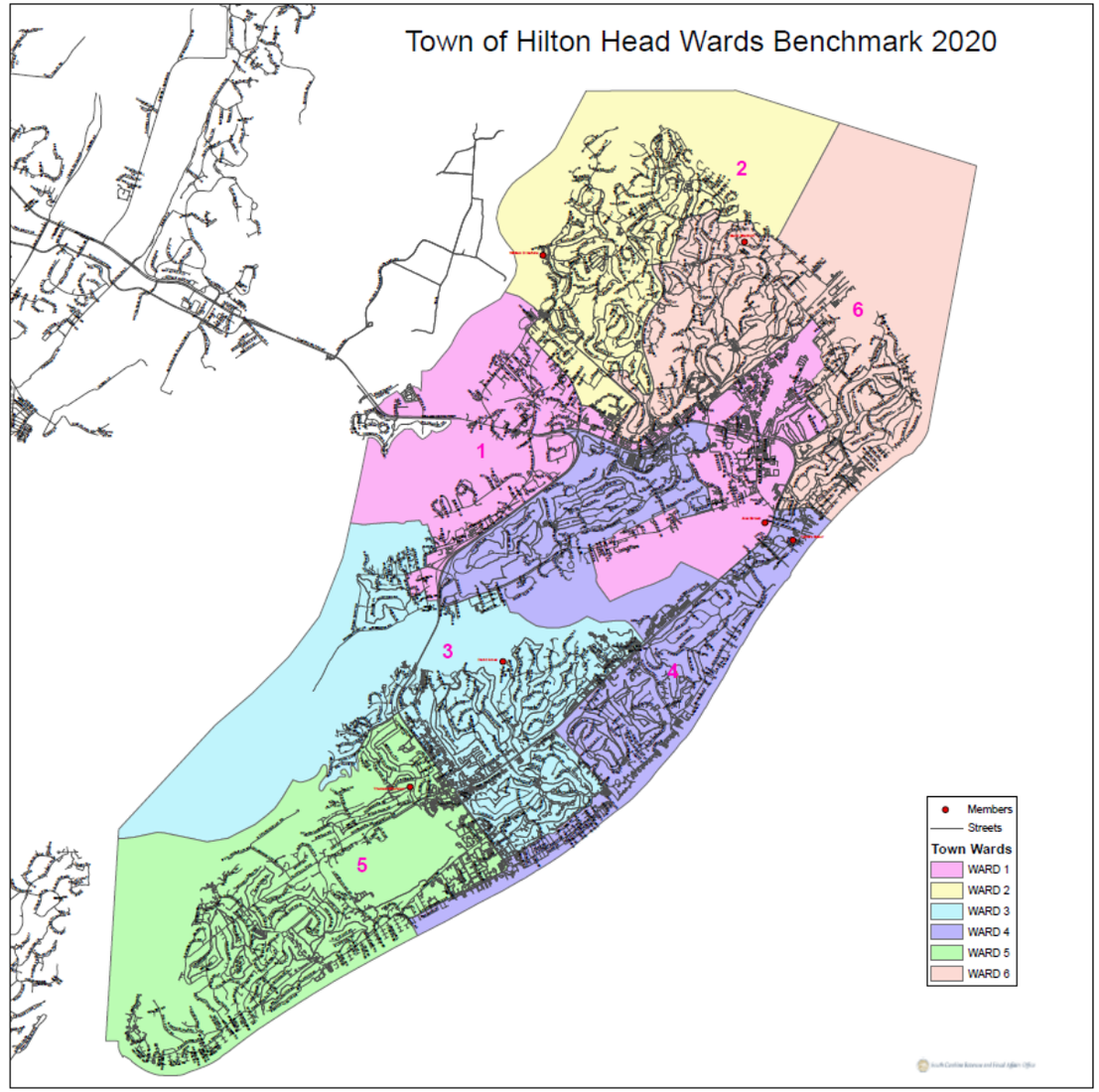


TABLE 2: TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE *RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total	Hispanic	% Hispanic	NH White	% NH White	NH DOJ Black*	% NH DOJ Black	NH Other Race	% NH Other Race
1	6,593	2,309	35.02%	2,661	40.36%	1,411	21.40%	212	3.22%
2	6,649	458	6.89%	5,863	88.18%	137	2.06%	191	2.87%
3	6,406	374	5.84%	5,687	88.78%	189	2.95%	156	2.44%
4	5,672	434	7.65%	4,820	84.98%	223	3.93%	195	3.44%
5	5,710	436	7.64%	5,024	87.99%	99	1.73%	151	2.64%
6	6,631	1,034	15.59%	5,095	76.84%	265	4.00%	237	3.57%
Total	37,661	5,045	13.40%	29,150	77.40%	2,324	6.17%	1,142	3.03%

TABLE 3: VOTING AGE POPULATION BY RACE *RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total VAP	Hispanic VAP	% Hispanic VAP	NH White VAP	% NH White VAP	NH DOJ Black* VAP	% NH DOJ Black VAP	NH Other Race VAP	% NH Other Race VAP
1	4,913	1,481	30.14%	2,238	45.55%	1,023	20.82%	171	3.48%
2	5,860	304	5.19%	5,309	90.60%	102	1.74%	145	2.47%
3	5,732	251	4.38%	5,183	90.42%	163	2.84%	135	2.36%
4	5,214	316	6.06%	4,550	87.27%	184	3.53%	164	3.15%
5	5,240	312	5.95%	4,712	89.92%	85	1.62%	131	2.50%
6	5,671	679	11.97%	4,601	81.13%	211	3.72%	180	3.17%
Total	32,630	3,343	10.25%	26,593	81.50%	1,768	5.42%	926	2.84%

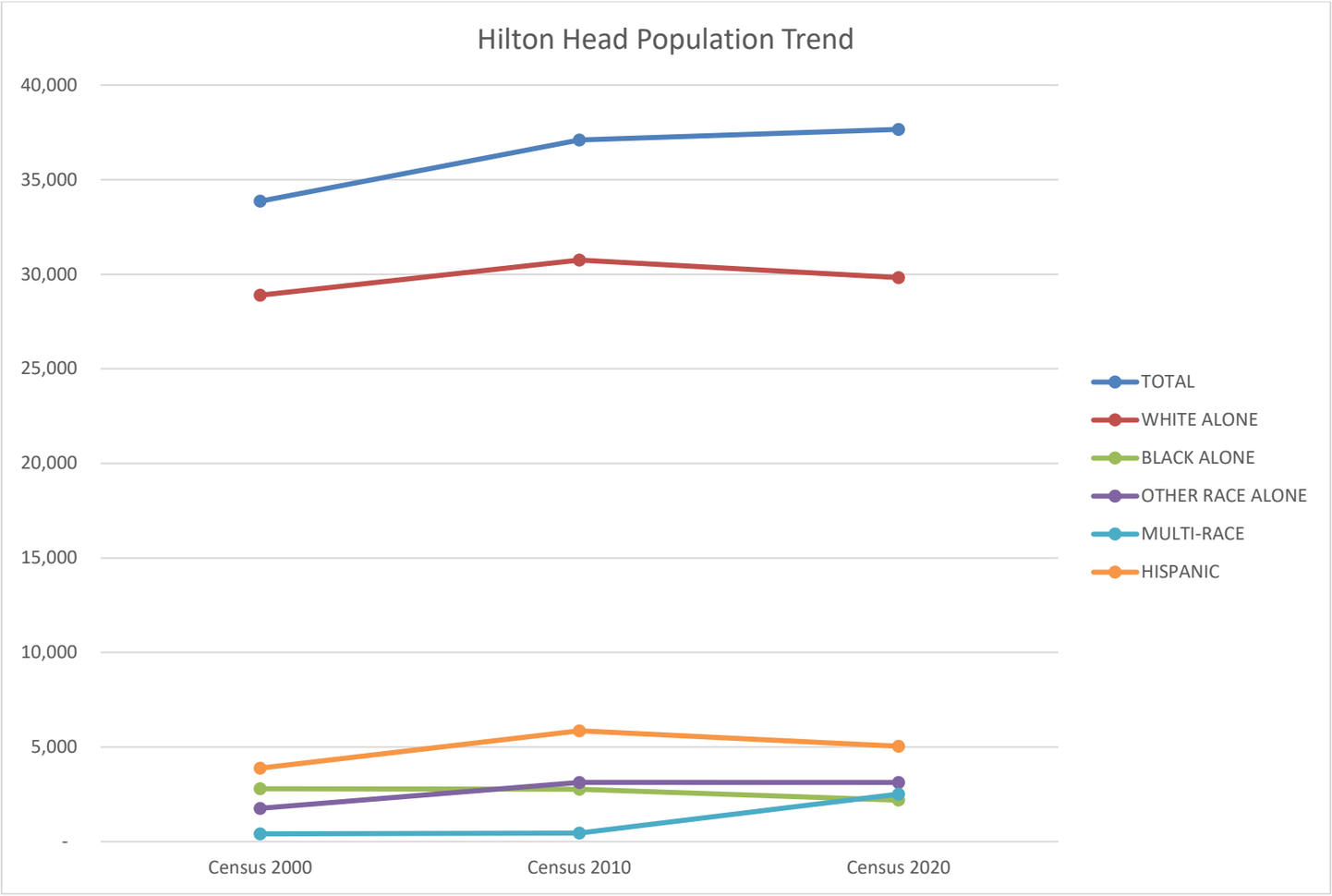
RFA Analysis Results:

Due to data limitations, RFA has not yet completed the voting analysis. If the data becomes available, we will provide the results to Council.

RFA Recommendations:

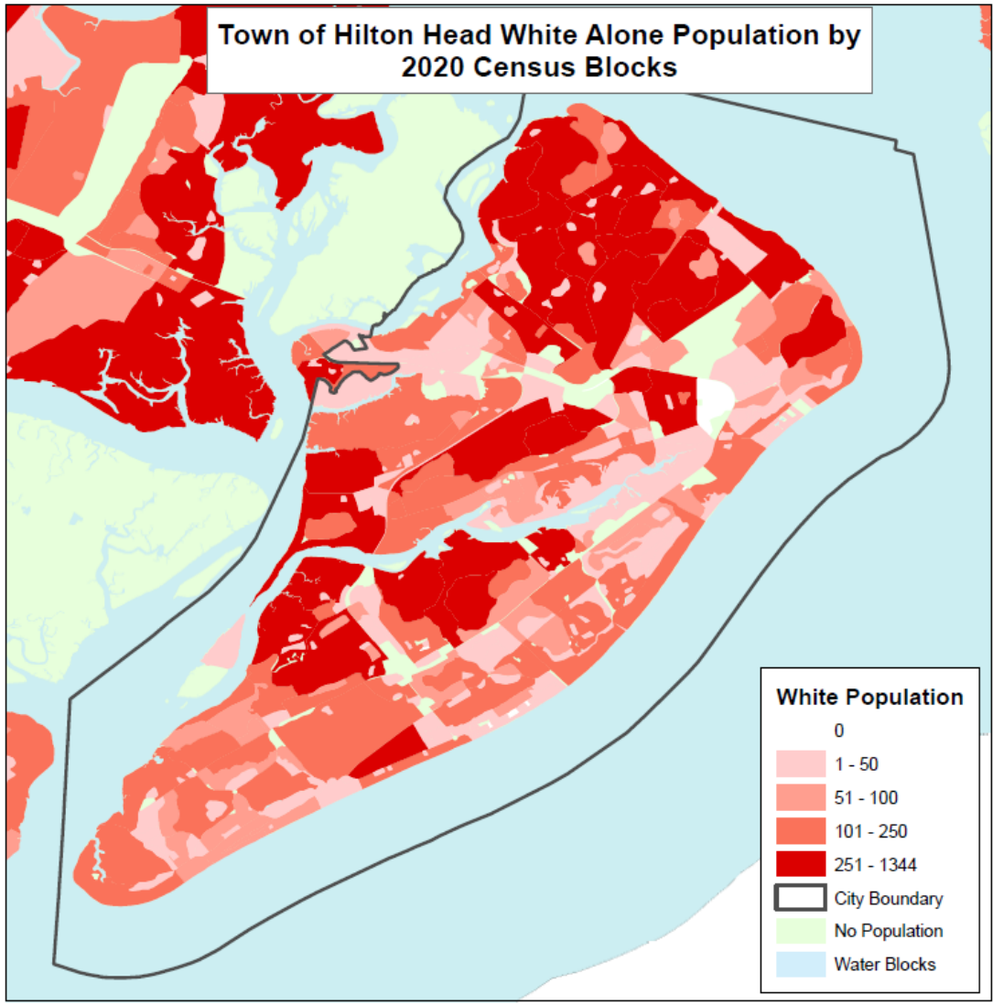
- RFA requests Council conduct a public meeting to discuss this report and solicit feedback from the public.
- RFA recommends Council adopt, through either a resolution or acceptance of this plan, the following traditional redistricting principles:
  - Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
  - Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
  - Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
  - Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.
  - Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- RFA recommends Council give careful consideration to minority districts for compliance with Section 2 criteria of the Voting Rights Act.
- Because of the potential effects of differential privacy, RFA recommends Council adopt a deviation range of 5%.

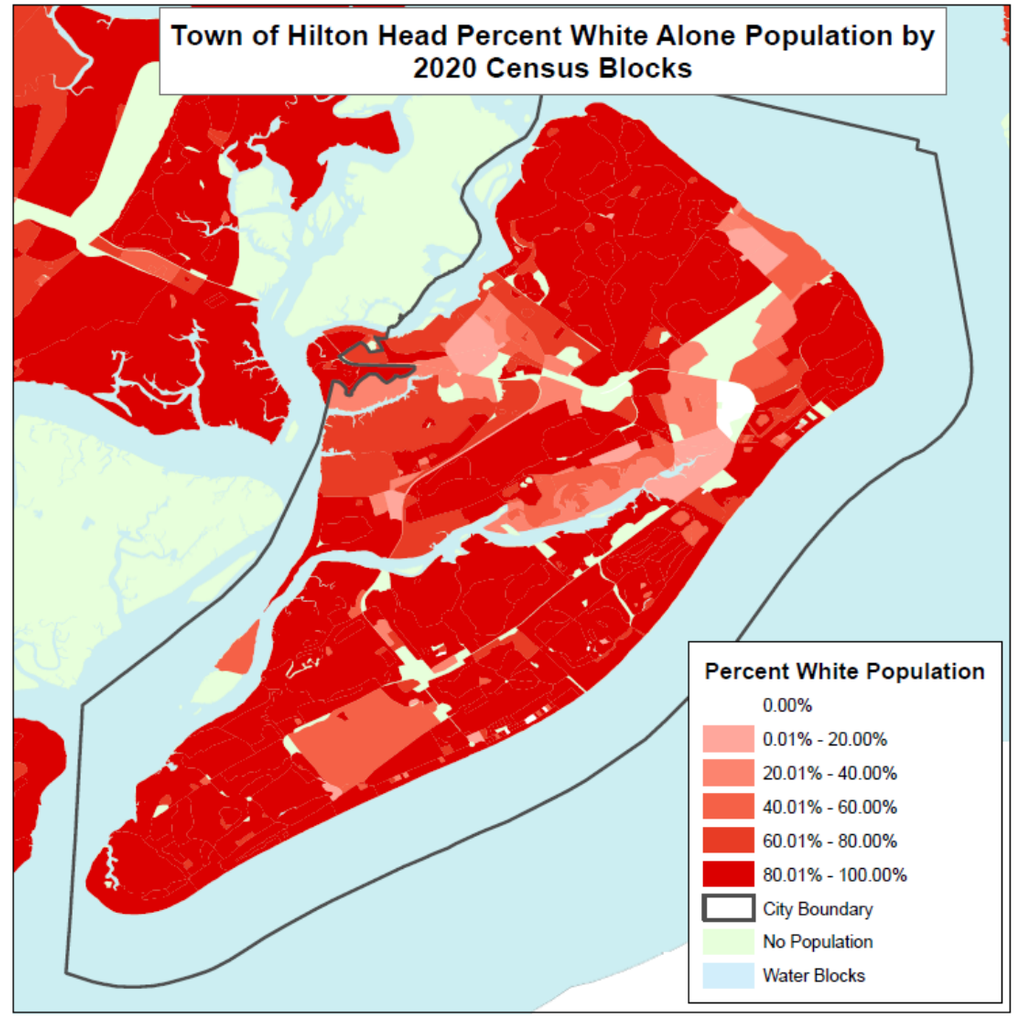
CHART A-1 POPULATION TREND BY SINGLE RACE, 2000 - 2020



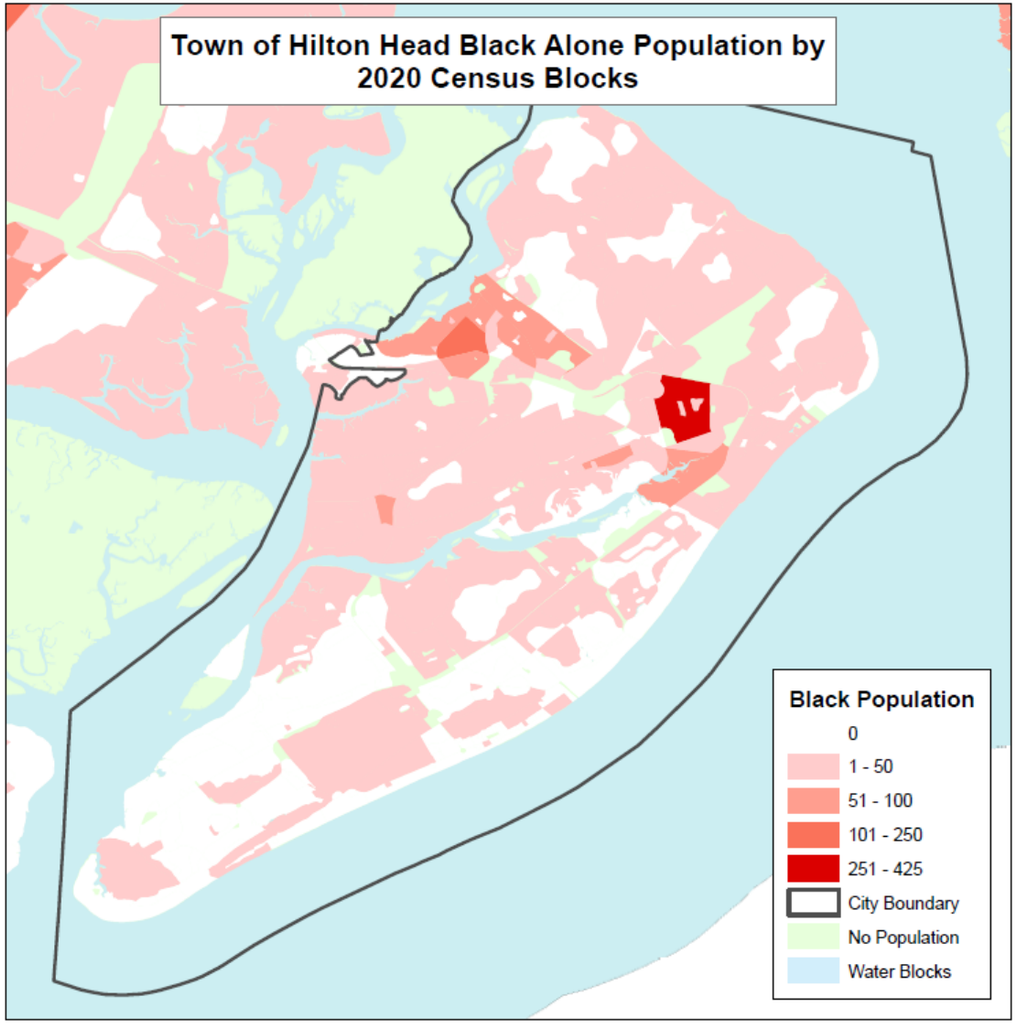
APPENDIX B – MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORIES (CORRESPONDS WITH TABLE A-2)

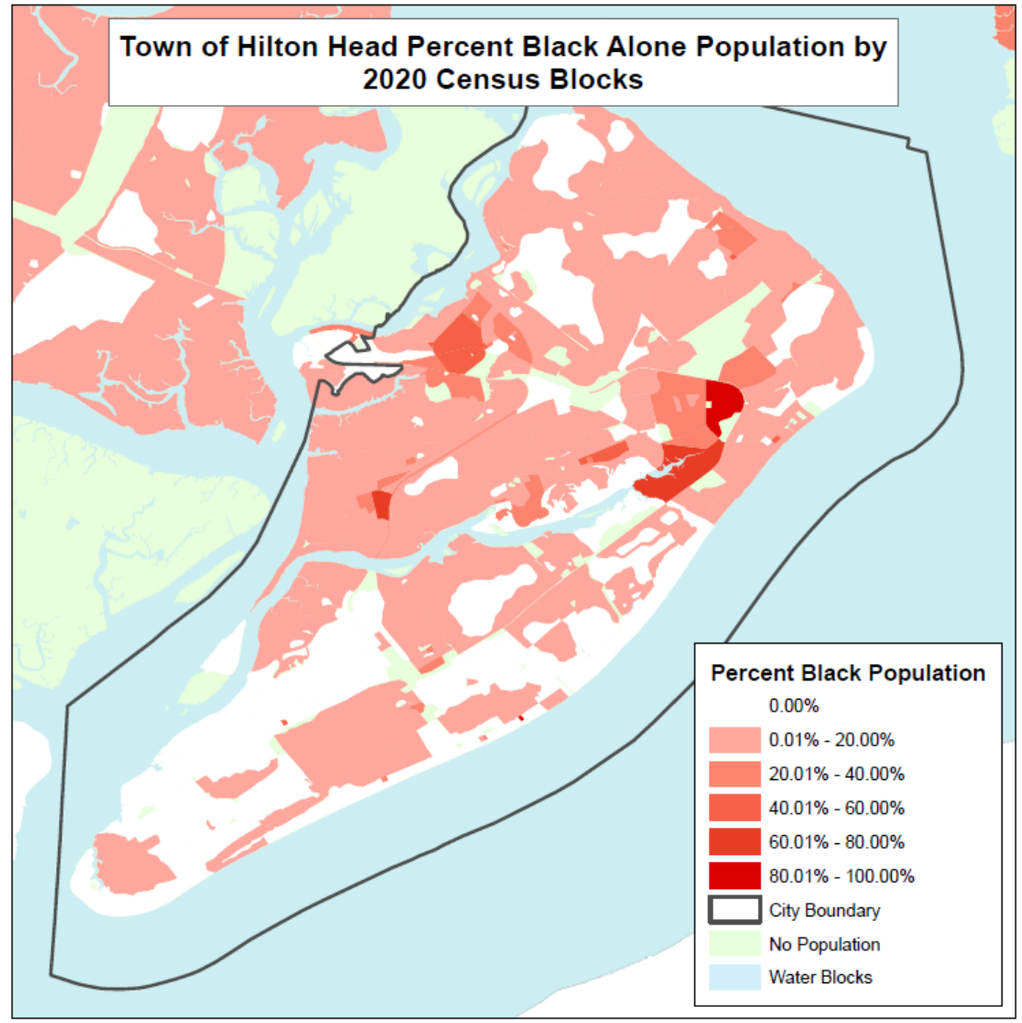
MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - WHITE

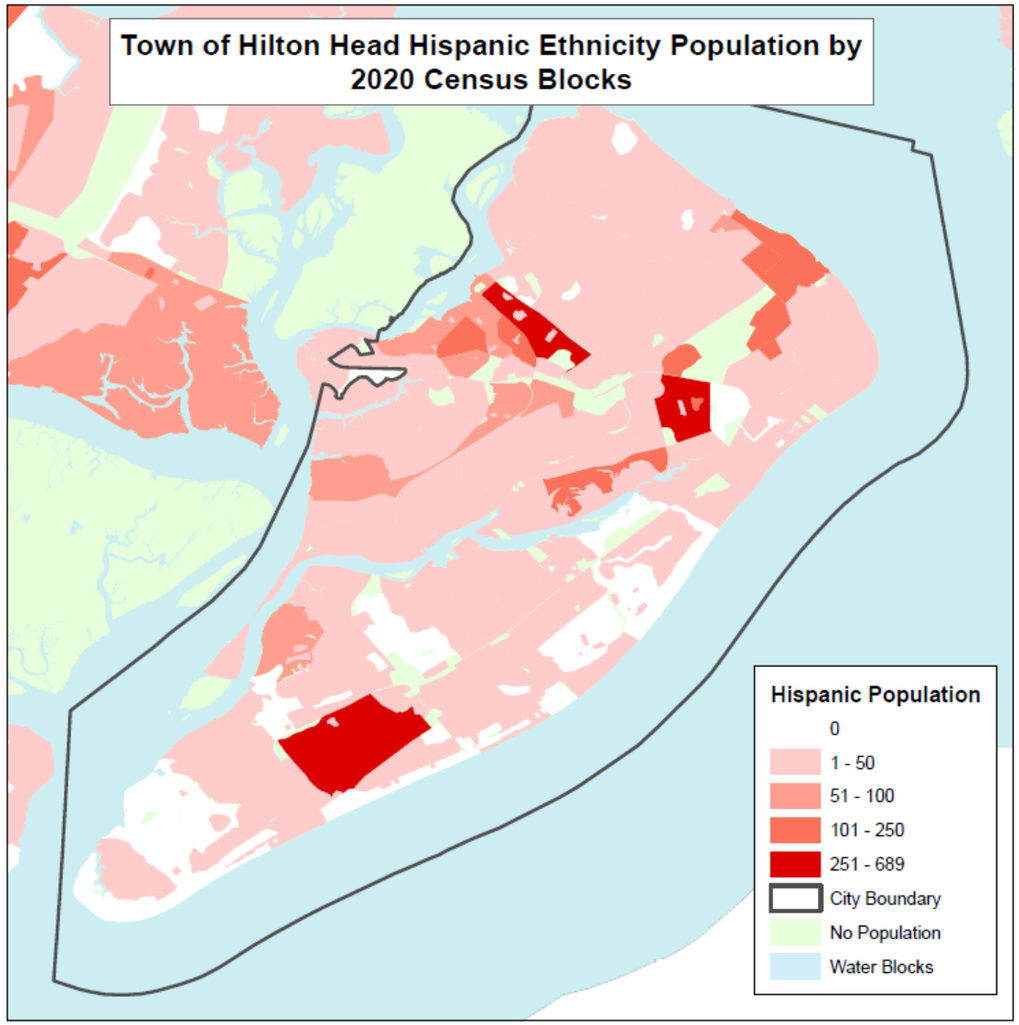


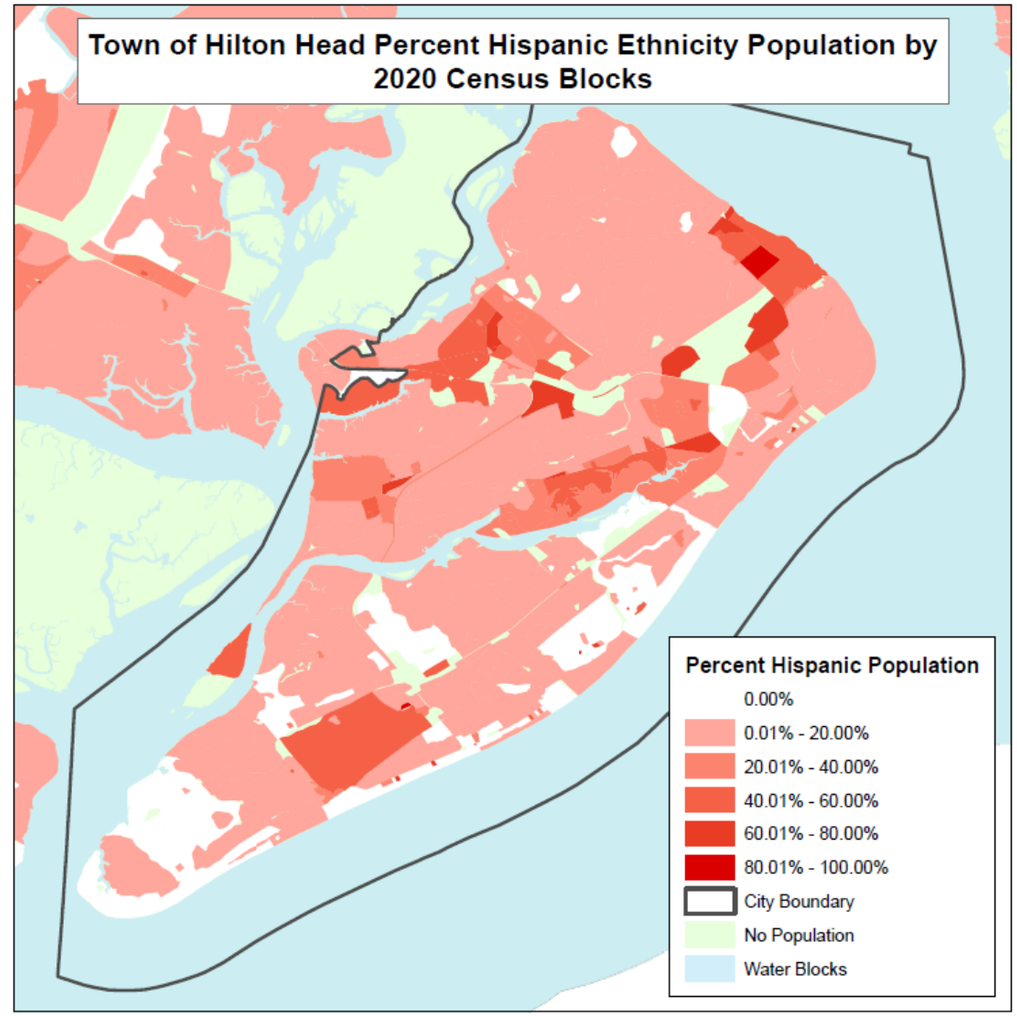


MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - BLACK






Town of Hilton Head Hispanic Ethnicity Population by 2020 Census Blocks
Hispanic Population
0
1 - 50
51 - 100
101 - 250
251 - 689
City Boundary
No Population
Water Blocks


Town of Hilton Head Percent Hispanic Ethnicity Population by 2020 Census Blocks
Percent Hispanic Population
0.00%
0.01% - 20.00%
20.01% - 40.00%
40.01% - 60.00%
60.01% - 80.00%
80.01% - 100.00%
City Boundary
No Population
Water Blocks