

NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION HEARINGS



CENTER FOR LAW AND
SOCIAL JUSTICE

AT MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE,
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Bronx County

Tuesday, November 9th at 3PM
BronxWorks Gymnasium
1130 Grand Concourse Bronx, NY 10456

Kings County (Brooklyn)

Tuesday, November 16th at 3PM
Medgar Evers College (CUNY) 2nd floor dining hall
1650 Bedford Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11225

New York County (Manhattan)

Wednesday, November 10th at 3PM
Hunter College (CUNY) Kaye Playhouse
695 Park Avenue New York, NY 10065

Queens County

Wednesday, November 17th at 3PM
York College (CUNY) Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center
94-45 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard Jamaica, NY 11451

Richmond County (Staten Island)

Monday, November 15th at 3PM
Catholic Charities of Staten Island CYO Center at Mount Loretto
6541 Hylan Boulevard Staten Island, NY 10309

**Register to testify, submit written testimony, or submit your own maps at
nyirc.gov/participate**



YOUR TESTIMONY IN 3 MINUTES

1 INTRODUCTION [1 MINUTE]

DESCRIBE WHO YOU ARE, WHAT ORGANIZATION OR COMMUNITY YOU REPRESENT AND WHERE.

"Good afternoon members of the NY State Independent Redistricting Commission and thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is _____ and I am speaking on behalf of [Insert your organization name]. I am a resident of [Insert your community] which is located in [insert your community name, county and boundaries]"

2 ALL ABOUT THE MAPS [2 MINUTES]

DESCRIBE AND DETAIL 2-3 ARGUMENTS ON HOW THE PROPOSED WILL IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY.

This is where you want to spend majority of your testimony time. The goal is to explain how any of the proposed maps will impact your community, the work of your organization and the ability of your community to receive the resources and supports it needs. Tell the Commission if you support or oppose existing specific map proposals and/or what you are in support of specific map proposals

- "The current map of my community..."
- "The commission's proposed [Letters/Names] maps will..."
- "The proposed maps drawn by the Unity Map Coalition will..."
- "Finally, I [support/do not support] the Commission's mapping in my community because..."

3 CLOSE [15 SECONDS]

"Commissioners I urge you to [repeat your main argument]. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to testify today."



TALKING POINTS

- Over the last decade, the total population for people of African descent in NYC has increased from 2,192,344 to 2,195,000.
- The Bronx saw an increase for most communities of interest among people of African descent – Black multiracial, Black alone or African American, and Continental Africans – but saw a significant decrease in its Black West Indian population.
- Continental African populations also experienced a decline, with Brooklyn accounting for approximately 68% of this decline, followed by Queens, Manhattan, and Staten Island.
- The Black West Indian population decreased by 135,749. Brooklyn accounted for 54% of this decline, followed by the Bronx coming in at a distant second with approximately 23% of the fall, and Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island accounting for the remaining 23% of NYC’s Black West-Indian population decline.

BROOKLYN

- Three out of the four categories of the people of African descent discussed in the CLSJ Report on People of African Descent in NYC (Black West Indians, Continental Africans, and multiracial Blacks) plateaued in the middle of the decade, while the African American population continued to increase. Community districts that do not ordinarily have large populations of people of African descent also made noteworthy gains.

MANHATTAN

- Manhattan had a minimal population shift, with Central Harlem retaining its majority for people of African descent. Like Brooklyn, Manhattan saw an increase for people of African descent in community districts that are not “traditionally” considered home for them.

QUEENS

- Queens witnessed slight population shifts for people of African descent in most of its community districts; and like other counties, increases in community districts that have not “traditionally” been home to people of African descent.

STATEN ISLAND

- Staten Island gained a significant headcount for people of African descent throughout the decade in one of its community districts, with the other two districts witnessing a minimal decrease.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [People of African Descent in NYC: Communities of Interest Report](#)
- [UNITY Coalition Maps](#)
- [NYS Independent Redistricting Commission Proposed Maps](#)