

Fair Districts GA Town Hall

“It’s Showtime!”

October 25, 2021



Agenda

- Welcome
- Co-sponsor: ACLU of Georgia
- Evaluation of proposed Congressional maps
- ACLU preview of State House & Senate
- What to expect in special session
- How you can support fair maps



Georgia Legislative Black Caucus “Advocacy Partner of the Year”



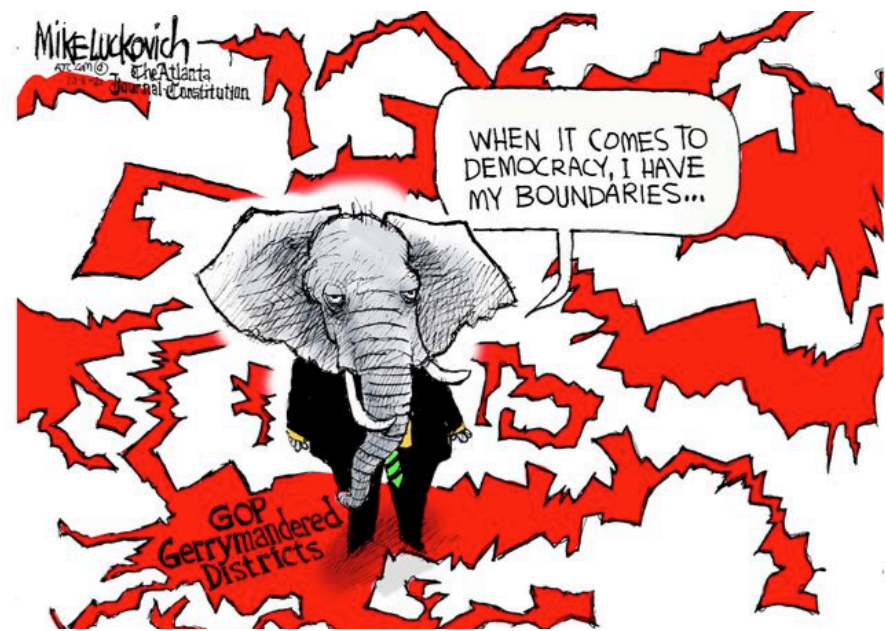
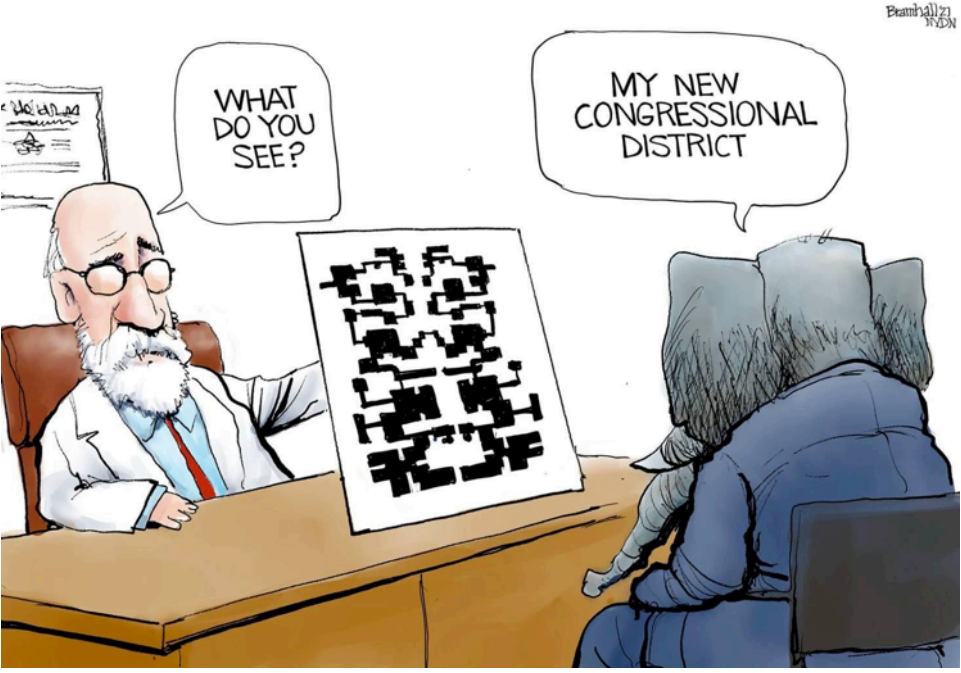
**Redistricting
Partner**



**Voting Rights
Partner**



Evaluation of the Proposed Congressional Map(s)

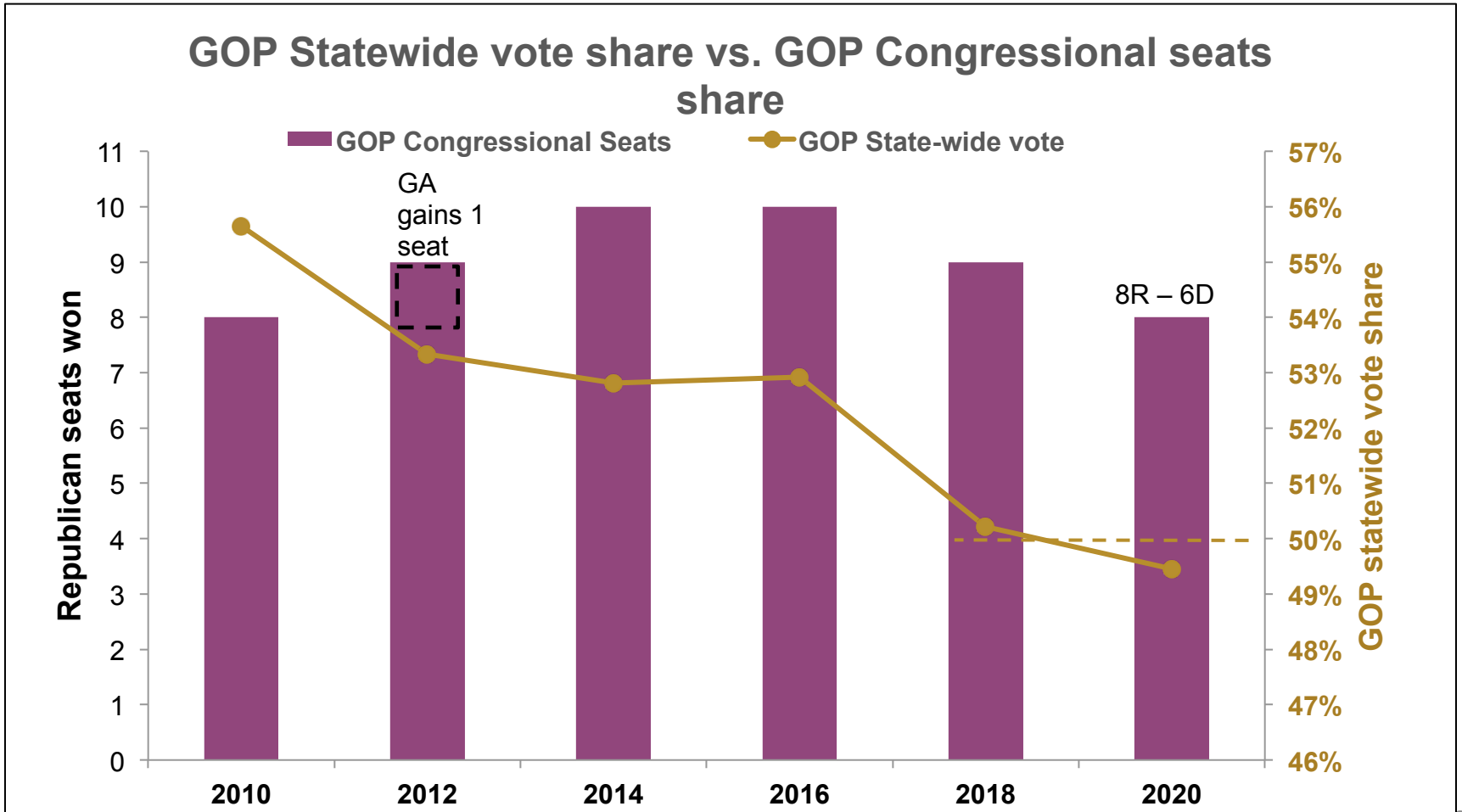


What Do We Mean By Fair Maps?



- **Respect voters' political preferences**
 - Reflect the natural political preferences of voters distributed across the state
 - Allow for competition
- **Reflect Georgia's diversity**
 - Provide sufficient majority-minority districts / comply with the Voting Rights Act
 - Preserve minority opportunity / influence districts
- **Honor communities of interest**

Partisan gap narrowing in Congressional races since 2010





Fair Districts GA / Princeton Gerrymandering Project Partnership



Provide independent, non-partisan benchmarks / fairness tests to show what to expect in a fair map

Previously: Phase 1

20-year history

- Last 2 redistricting cycles
- Mid-cycle redistricting

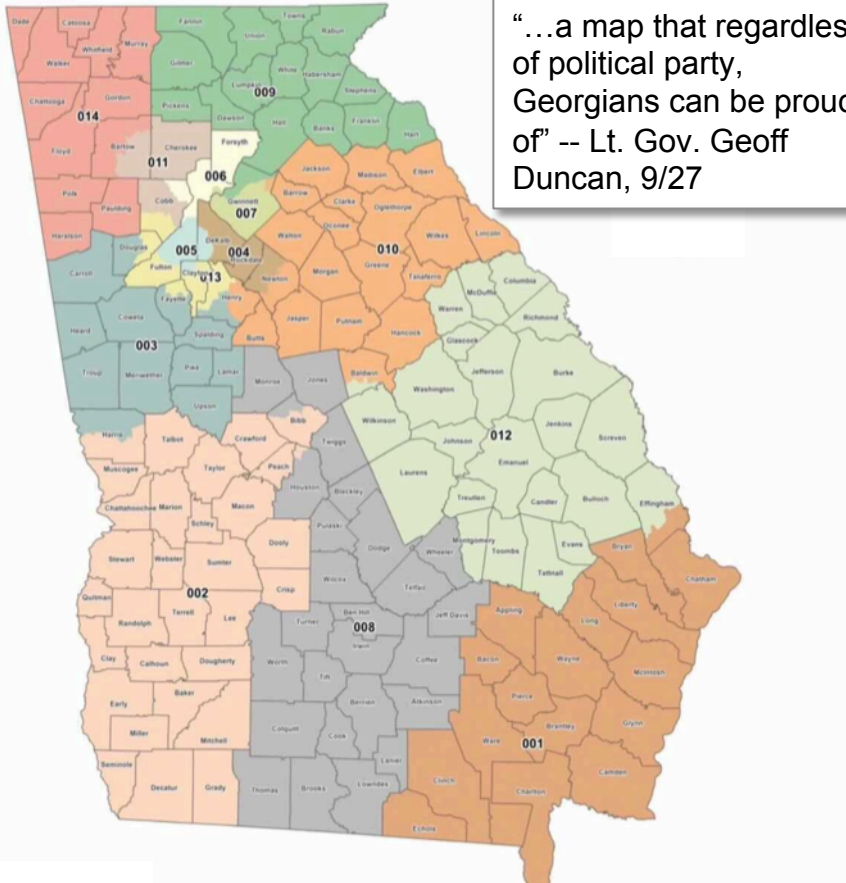
Today: Phase 2

Evaluation of proposed maps

- Based on 2020 census

	Partisan balance	Competitive districts	Minority representation
State House	?	?	?
State Senate	?	?	?
Congress	?	?	?

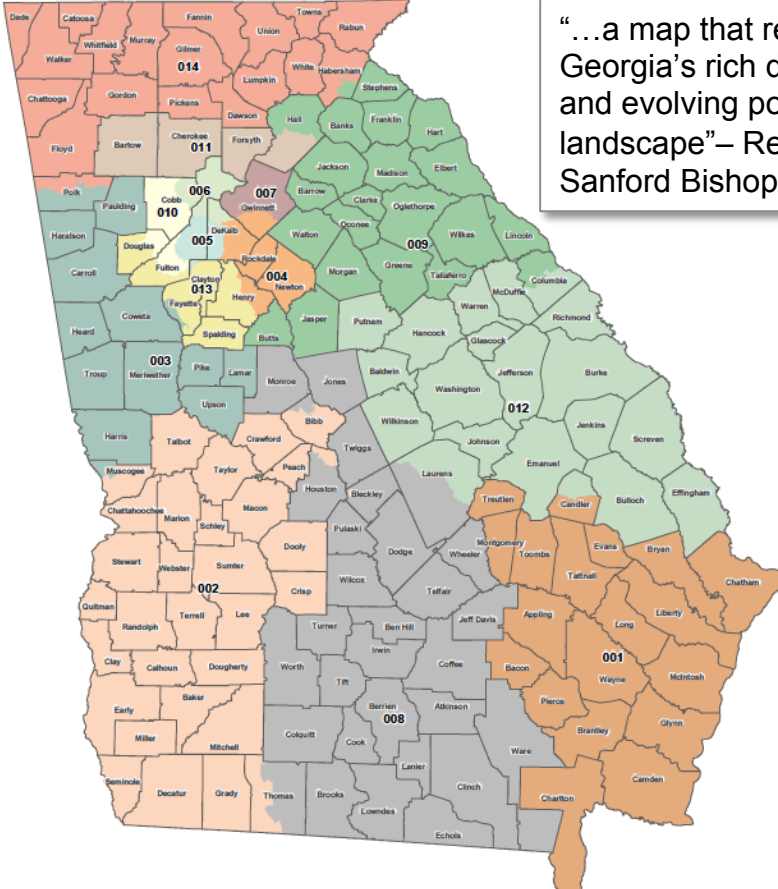
We now have two proposed Congressional maps representing partisan choices



“...a map that regardless of political party, Georgians can be proud of” -- Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan, 9/27

10/25/2021

Sept 27 Committee chair proposal (GOP)

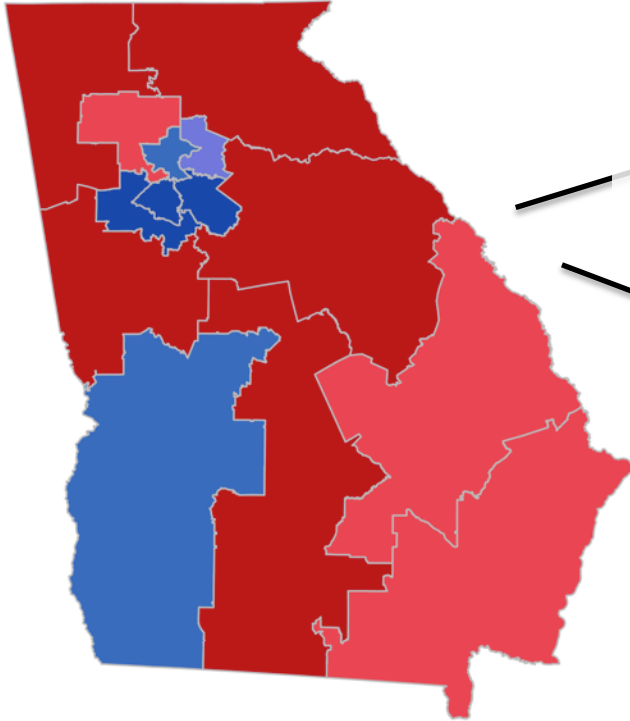


“...a map that recognizes Georgia’s rich diversity and evolving political landscape”-- Rep. Sanford Bishop, 10/21

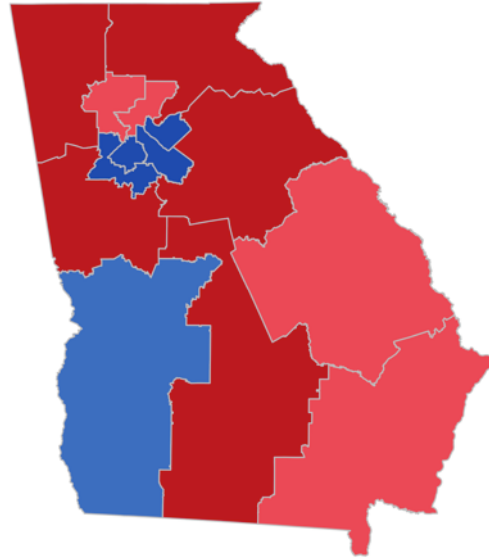
Oct 21 Democratic Caucus proposal (Dem)

Partisan balance in proposed maps

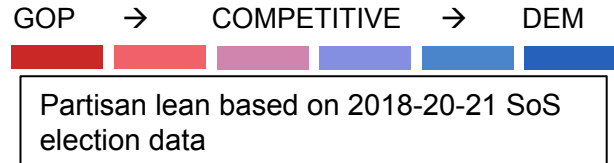
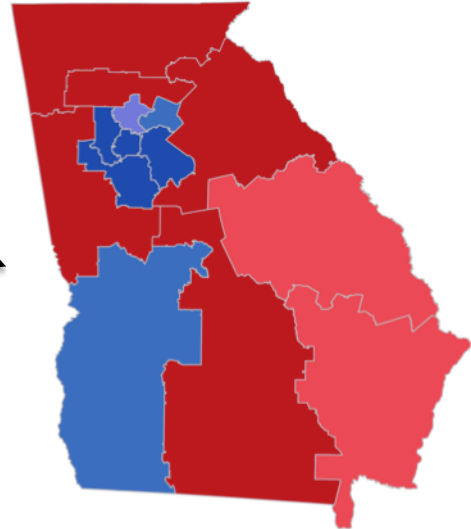
Current map with
2018-21 partisan lean
6D and **8R**



GOP
proposal:
5D and **9R**



Dem
proposal:
7D and **7R**





Congress 2011 vs. 2021:



Partisan gap narrows; proposed maps favor parties

2021

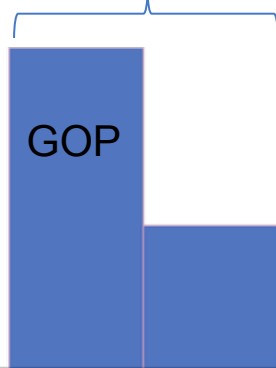
>98% of simulated maps would have produced

5 - 6

Democratic districts in 2018-21 elections

Natural Democratic distribution:

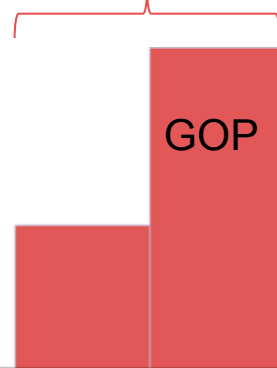
-1 → -2



Dem

Natural Republican distribution:

+1 → +2



GOP

>98% of simulated maps would have produced

8 - 9

GOP districts in 2018-21 elections

2011

>98% of simulated maps would have produced

4 - 5

Democratic districts in 2012 election

Natural Democratic distribution:

-2 → -3



Natural Republican distribution:

+2 → +3



>98% of simulated maps would have produced

9 - 10

GOP districts in 2012 election

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

7 seats = even split



Proposed Congressional maps favor respective parties in a swing state



Metric	2020 election	PGP benchmark (98% of 1M maps)	GOP proposed map		Dem proposed map	
			Districts	What changes?	Districts	What changes?
Partisan lean	8R – 6D	8R – 6D or 9R – 5D	9R – 5D	GA06 flips (55% D → 54% R)	7R – 7D	New GA10 Dem district in Metro Atlanta Merges old GA10 into GA09 & 14
Competitive districts (46.5% - 53.5%)	1 (GA07)	0 – 3	0	GA07 safer (53% D → 62% D)	1	GA06 54% D → 53% D GA07 53% D → 58% D

Source: PGP simulation using 2020 census and 2016-18-20 SoS election data

Proposed GOP Congressional map shifts one district D[R]

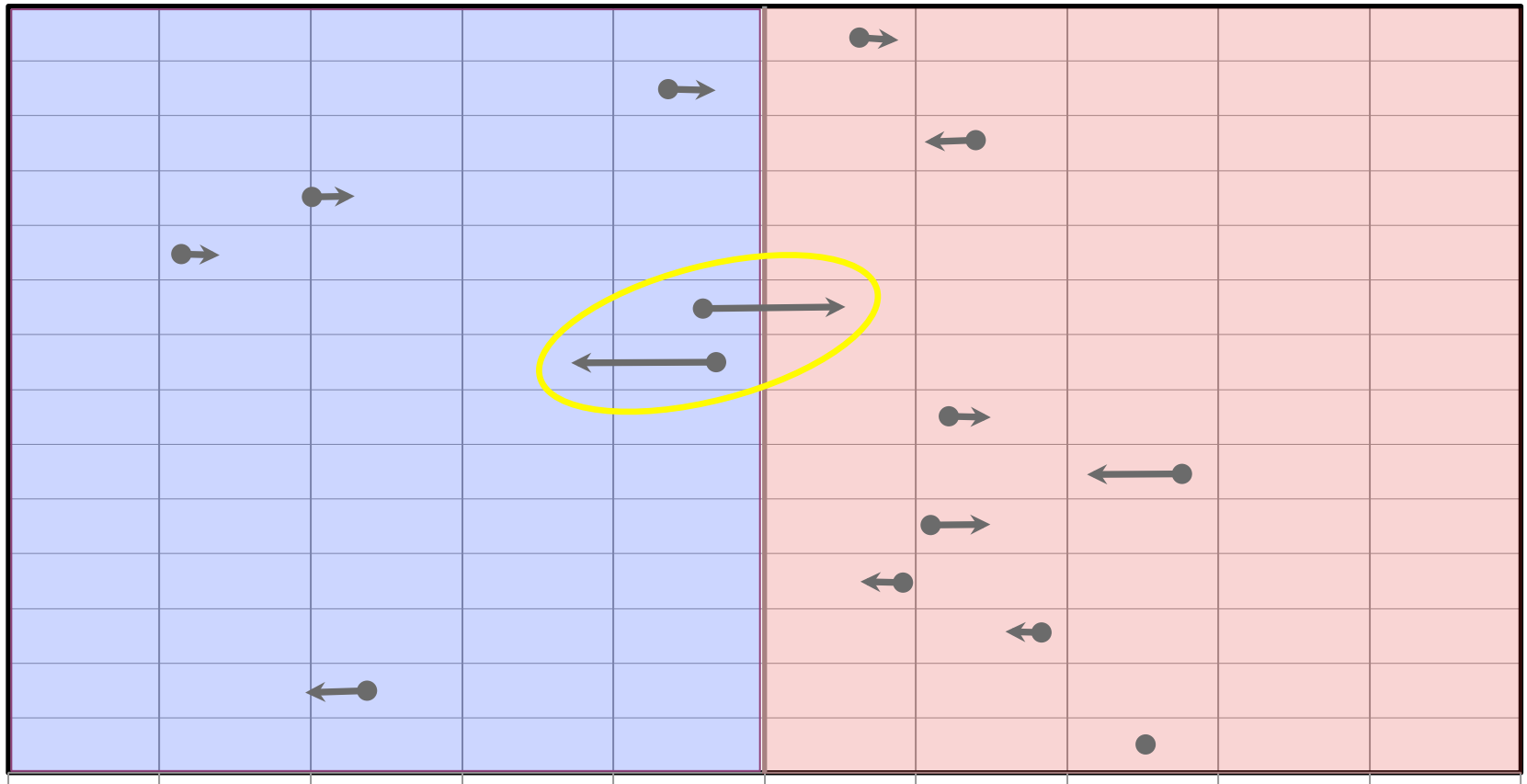


old new
● →

Democratic leaning

Republican leaning

- CD01
- CD02
- CD03
- CD04
- CD05
- CD06
- CD07
- CD08
- CD09
- CD10
- CD11
- CD12
- CD13
- CD14



100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

(partisan lean based on 2018-20-21 statewide elections, PGP simulation)



Proposed Dem Congressional map provides better minority representation; both maps have fewer Black districts



Metric	Existing map	PGP benchmark	GOP proposed map		Dem proposed map	
			Districts	What changed?	Districts	What changed?
Black majority	4	4	3	GA02: 51% → 47%	2	GA02: 51% → 49% GA05: 52% → 47%
Minority coalition	1	1	2	GA02 moved from Black majority to coalition	4	GA02 & GA05 move from Black majority to coalition Adds GA10, retains GA07
Minority influence (37% - 50%)	4	?	3	GA06: 42% → 36% Retains GA01, GA08, GA12	4	Retains 4 current: GA01, GA06, GA08, GA12



Barack Obama ✓
@BarackObama

And in Georgia, Republicans released a congressional map that decreases the voting power of communities of color – including African Americans in a historically Black district – and ignores how the state has changed.

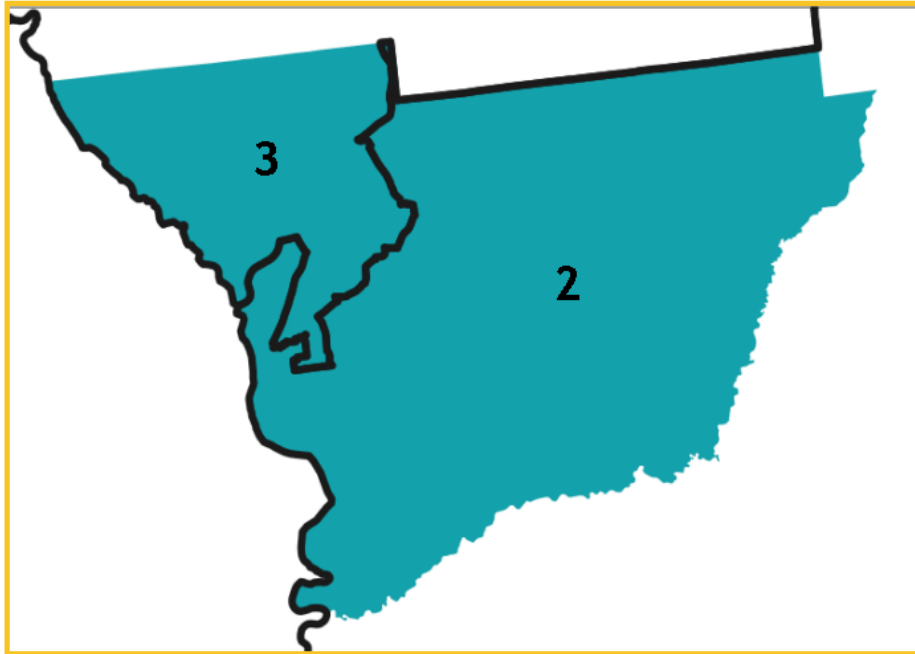
3:01 PM · Oct 5, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

Source: PGP simulation using 2020 census

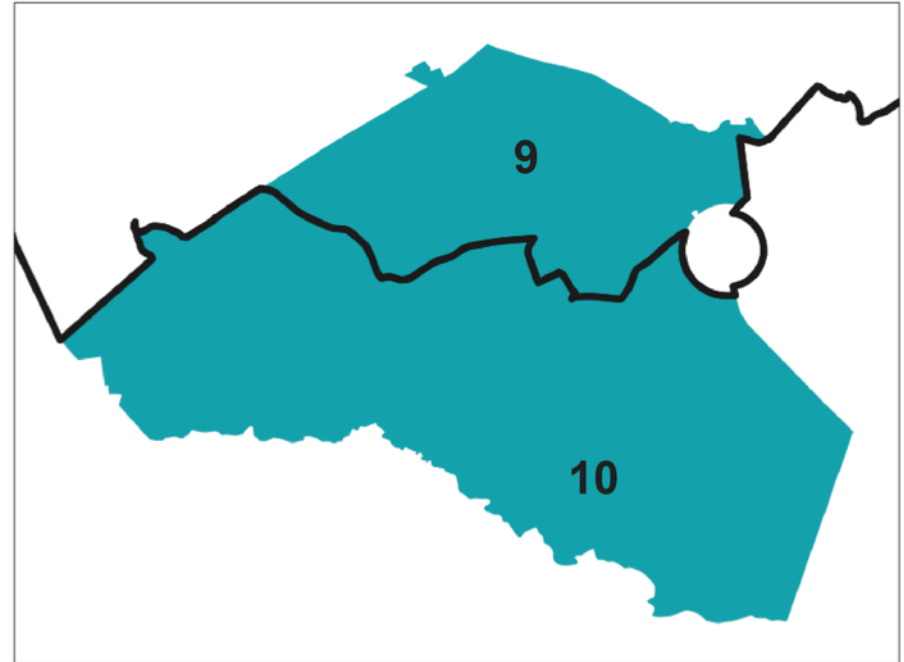
GOP Congressional map fixes 2 split cities; Dem map fixes Athens only



Muscogee County, Georgia



Athens-Clarke Co. (Congress, 2011)



Columbus / Muscogee and Athens / Clark are both split in 2011 map

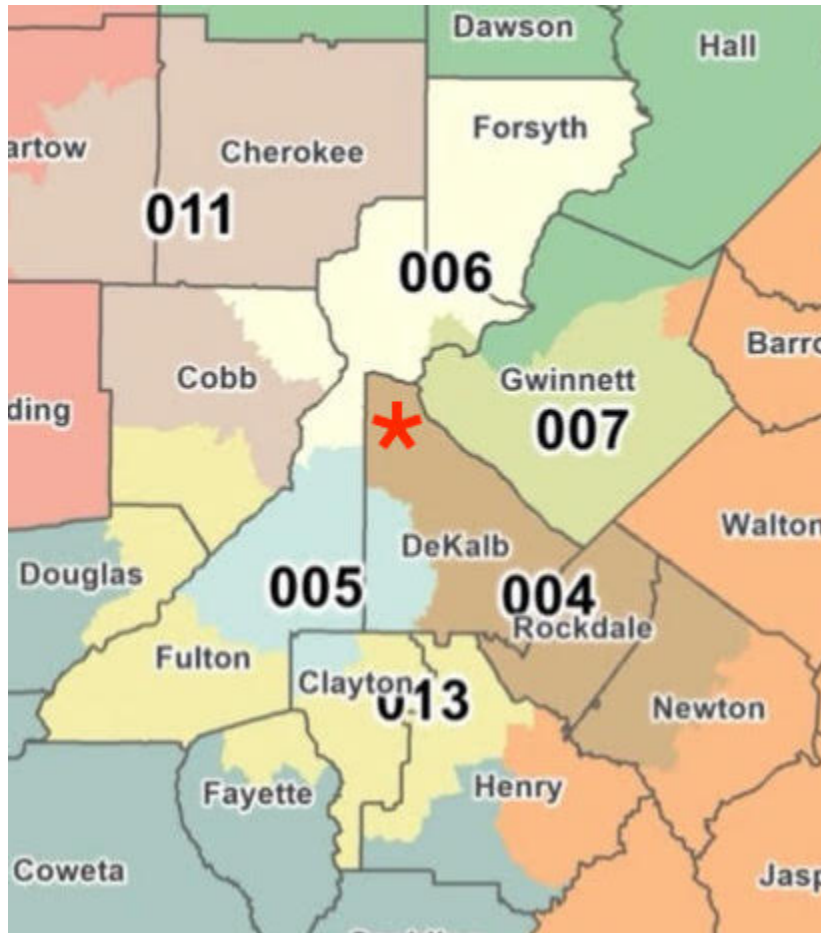
ACLU of Georgia Mission

- The ACLU of Georgia enhances and defends the civil liberties and rights of all Georgians through legal action, legislative and community advocacy, and civic education and engagement.
- We are an inclusive, nonpartisan, and statewide organization powered by our members, donors and active volunteers.
- We are a cross-functional team of experts across offices.
- We envision a world where the civil rights and civil liberties of all Georgians are fully realized and protected.

What We Are Advocating

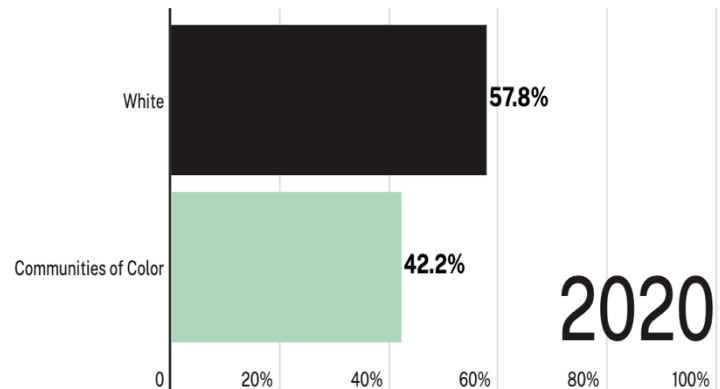
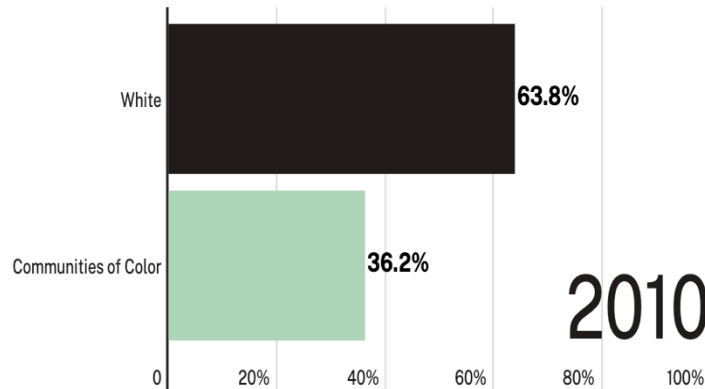
We are advocating for the following during the redistricting process:

1. Transparency.
2. *Meaningful* public input.
3. Maps that reflect the diversity of our state.



Vasu & David Districts 6- \rightarrow 4

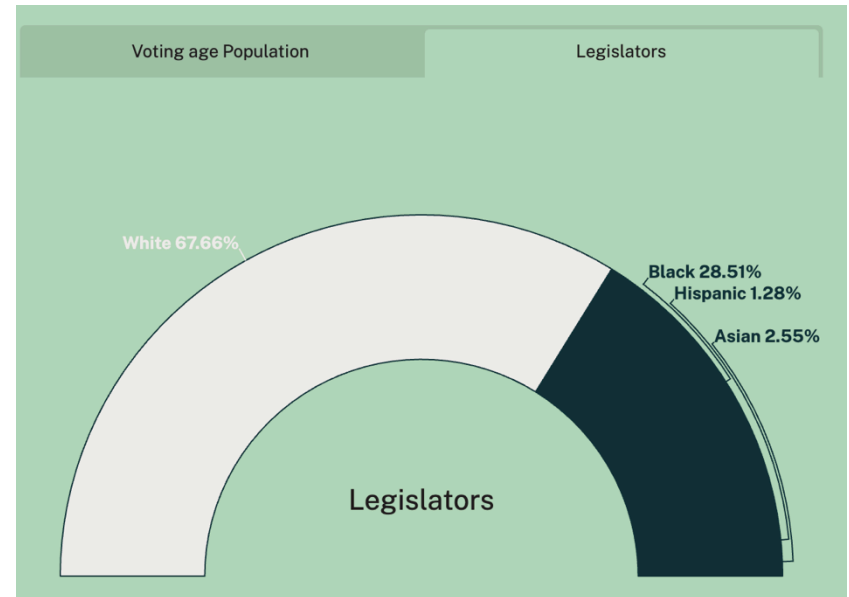
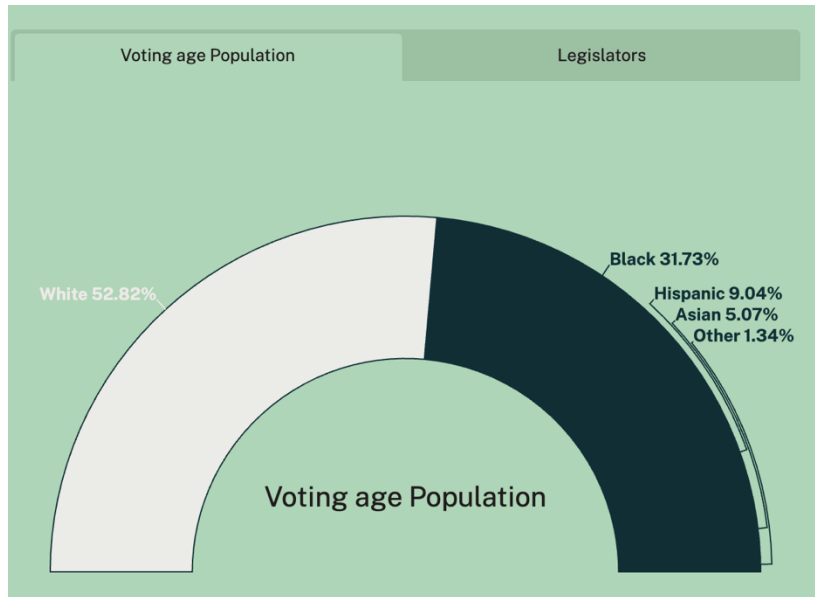
National Demographic Changes 2010-2020



Source: 2010 and 2020 Census Data

Community of Color Underrepresentation

Communities of color in **Georgia** have grown since 2010. People of color in Georgia make up **47 percent** of the voting-age population, yet the current demographic makeup of the Georgia legislature is **32 percent** non-white.



Georgia Demographic Changes 2010-2020

Total Population	Percent Change
Total	+10.6%
Non-Hispanic White	-1.0%
Black	+12.6%
Asian	+52.6%
Hispanic	+31.6%

Voting Age Pop.	Percent Change
Total	+14.2%
Non-Hispanic White	+2.4%
Black	+18.8%
Asian	+57.0%
Hispanic	+37.8%

Source: 2010 and 2020 Census Data

Trends in Georgia

- ALL of Georgia's growth in overall population can be attributed to Georgians of color.
- Growth among Georgians of color has taken place primarily in Atlanta metro area.
- The concentration of this growth poses unique challenges to drawing maps that fairly reflect the voting strength of voters of color.

Source: 2010 and 2020 Census Data

Legal Requirements for Redistricting

- The maps that are drafted in the upcoming Special Session must comply with the following sources of law:
 - Voting Rights Act of 1965, §2 -- people of color must have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect candidates of choice.
 - U.S. Constitution
 - One Person One Vote
 - Racial Gerrymandering Prohibition

What can we expect in 2021?

2011 Special Session

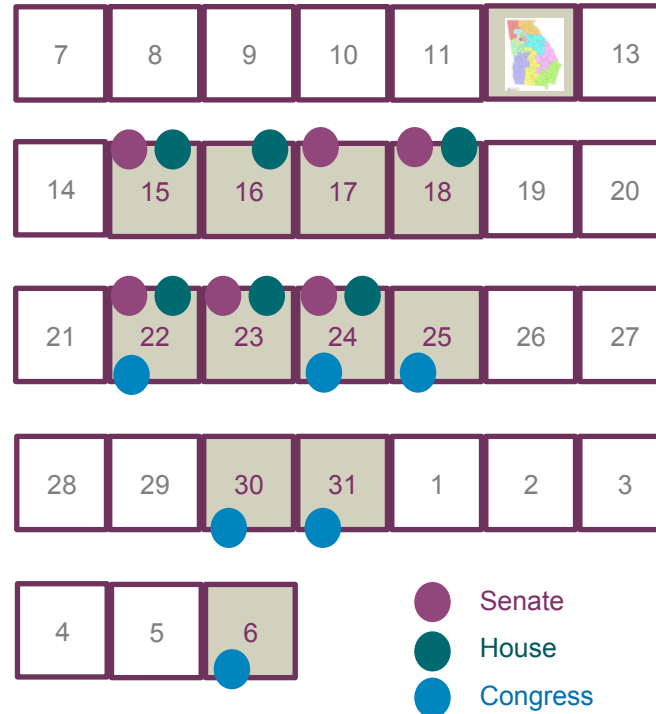
Total process from First Read of each bill to complete approval was 23 days
Steps moved very quickly through the process



PROCESS STEPS	Average Days
Maps Released to the Public	~1 day
1 First Read	~2 days
2 First Committee Vote	~1-2 days
3 First Chamber Vote	~2-3 days
4 Second Committee Vote	~1 day
5 Second Chamber Vote	~1 day
6 Signed by Governor	

Excluding weekends

August – September 2011



Special Guest: Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver

Member of the Georgia General Assembly
since 1987

- 1987 – 1992 – Representative
- 1993 – 1998 – State Senator
- 1999 – present – Representative,
HD82, Decatur/Dekalb



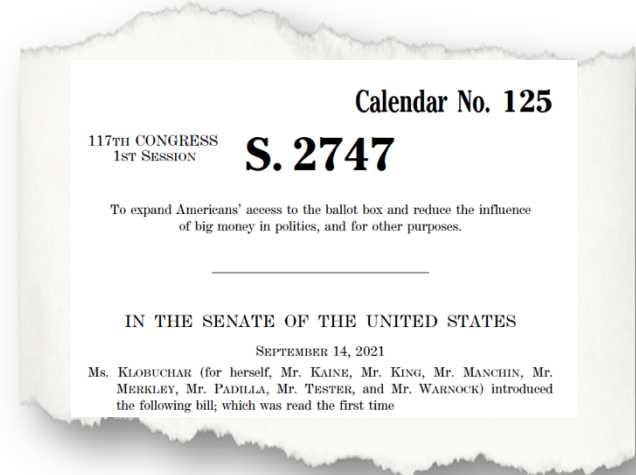
Q and A

The image features the letters 'Q' and 'A' in a bold, 3D purple font. The letter 'Q' is on the left, and the letter 'A' is on the right. Between them, the word 'and' is written in a smaller, purple, lowercase font, positioned as if it is nestled between the two larger letters. The entire graphic is set against a plain white background and casts a soft, light gray shadow on the surface below it.

U.S. Freedom To Vote Act – S.2747

For Congressional redistricting only

- Bans partisan gerrymandering
- Bans mid-decade redistricting
- Adds new protections for minority districts (VRA+)
- Codifies communities of interest
- Allows lawsuits in Federal Court (overturns Rucho)
- Applies to Georgia's 2021 Congressional plan



Call/write/tweet your Senator and Representative!





Fair Districts GA DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join the team going to the Gold Dome

bit.ly/FDGACapitolDay

The People's Public Hearing

REDISTRICTING

THE PEOPLE'S PUBLIC HEARING

The Legislature isn't asking for your input, but we are! **Come make your voice heard** and help set the stage for the next **10 years** in Georgia!

Thursday, Oct. 28 • 6 - 9 pm

bit.ly/fairdistrict

ACLU Georgia
NGA/PF
ALL ON THE LINE
ASIAN AMERICAN ADVOCACY FUND
SPLC ACTION
Common Cause Georgia

- Do you have concerns about the proposed map(s)?
- Weigh in at this hearing hosted by Georgia redistricting advocate organizations
- Thursday, October 28, 6-9pm
- Register: bit.ly/fairdistrict

Join the ACTION TEAM



Join at: fairdistrictsga.org/action-team

There is still time to submit written testimony to the redistricting committees and make your voice heard:
bit.ly/PublicCommentGA



Fair Districts GA Town Hall

December 6th

Special legislative session wrap-up

