HOW DID WE DO?

REDISTRICTING'S IMPACT ON THE
MIDTERM ELECTION IN GEORGIA

Fair Districts GA
December Town Hall
Monday, December 12, 7 p.m.
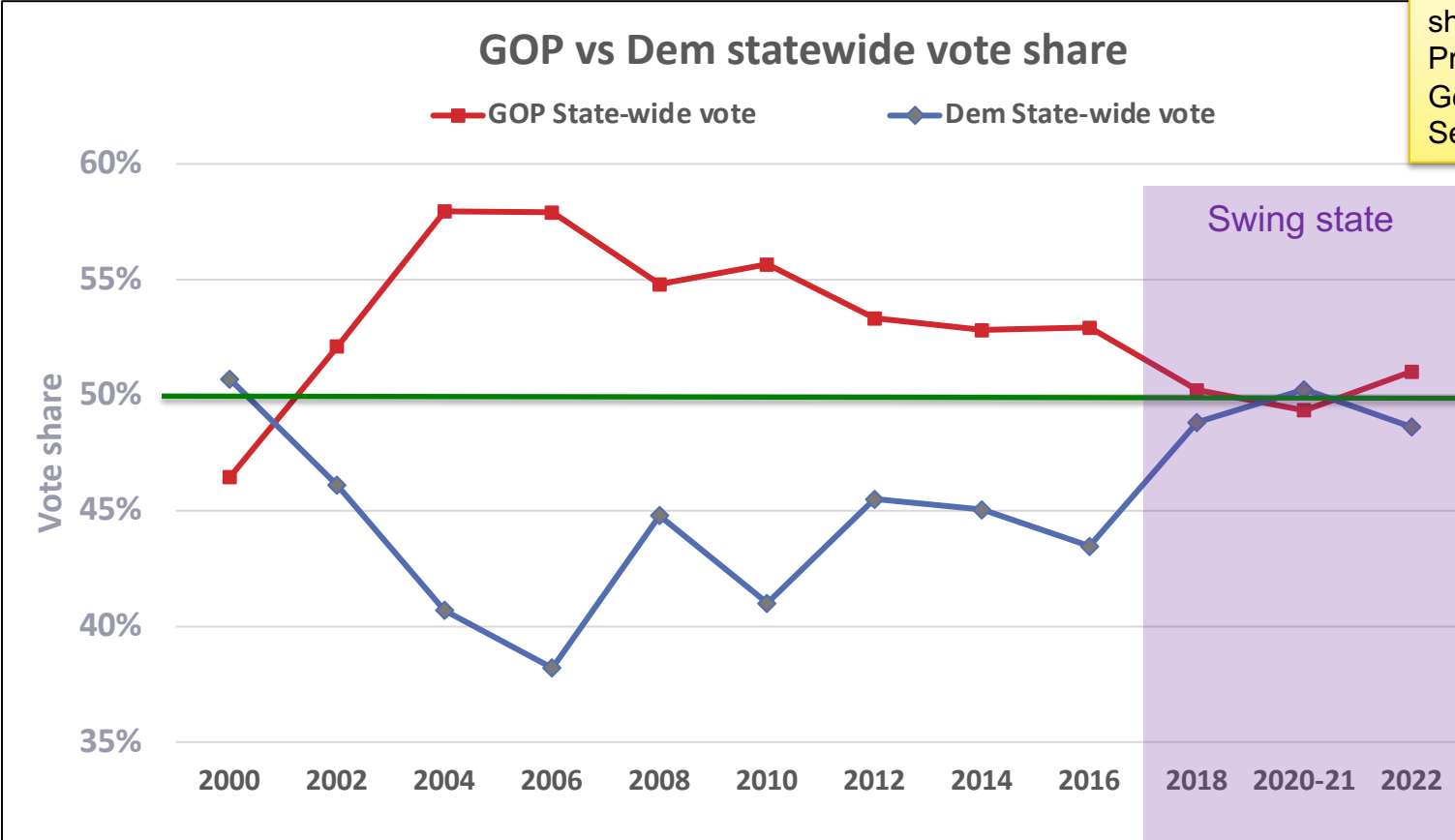
12/12/22

How did maps affect the election?

- State Senate

- State House

- Congress
  - Georgia's delegation
  - U.S. House overall

FairDistricts**GA**

Georgia is a competitive, swing state for statewide races.
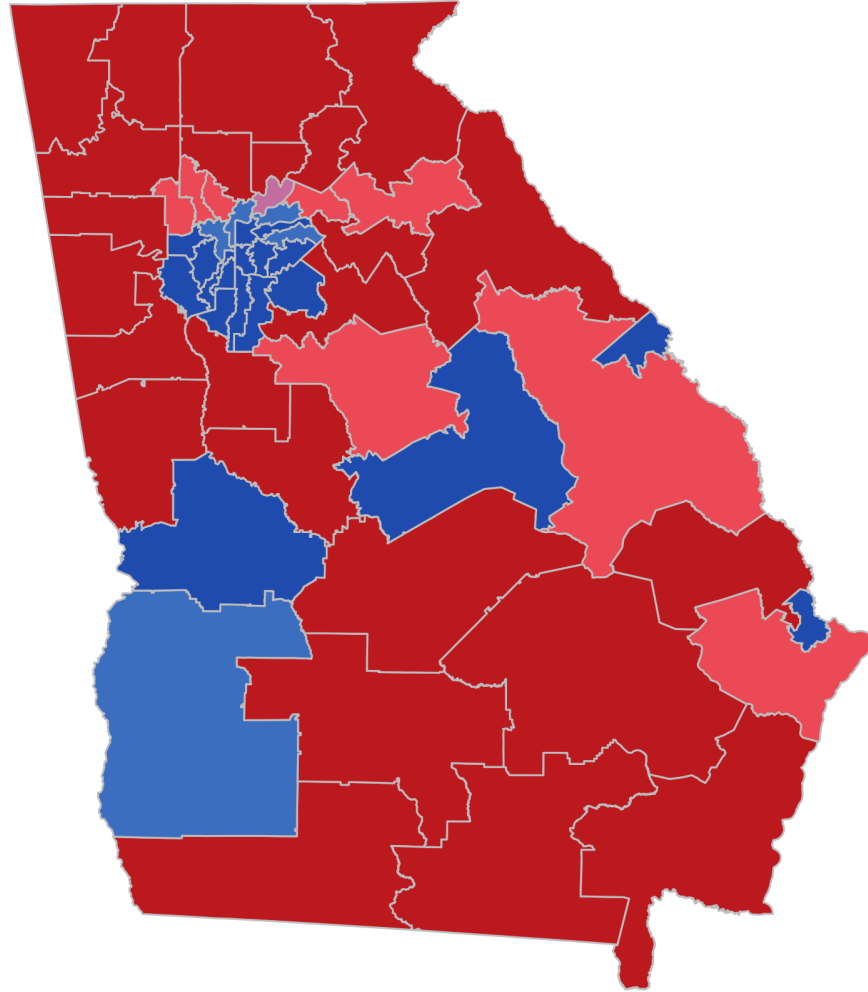

GOP vs Dem statewide vote share

Statewide vote share = avg. of President, Governor, US Senate

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

3
12/12/2

State Senate

FairDistrictsGA

Enacted Senate map cedes 1 district to Democrats; fails partisan fairness test and lacks competition

FairDistrictsGA

Metric	2020 election	PGP benchmark (98% of 1M maps)	PGP benchmark ("A" grade)	Enacted map (SB 1EX)	
				Districts	What changed?
Partisan lean	34R 22D	28 – 32 R 24 – 28 D	29 – 31 R 25 – 27 D	33R 23D	Eliminates 2 districts from retiring Republicans No other pairing
Competitive districts (46.5% - 53.5%)	3	1 - 7	2 - 6	1	Fewer competitive districts
Princeton overall partisan fairness grade				F	

Source: PGP simulation using 2020 census and 2016-18-20 SoS election data
Projected partisan lean based on 2018-20-21 statewide races.

Princeton's 1M simulated maps show the wider range of possibilities for balanced and competitive Senate maps.

Range of Democratic seats

Range of competitive seats

"A" grade

98% range

"A" grade

98% range

Source: Princeton Gerrymandering Project 1M map simulation, using 2018-20-21 statewide races as partisan index
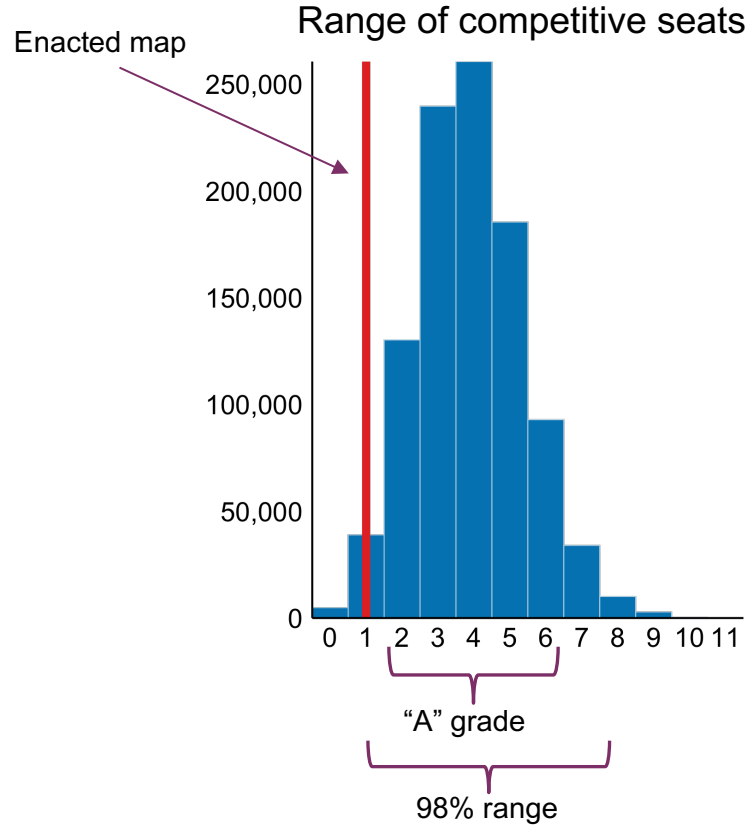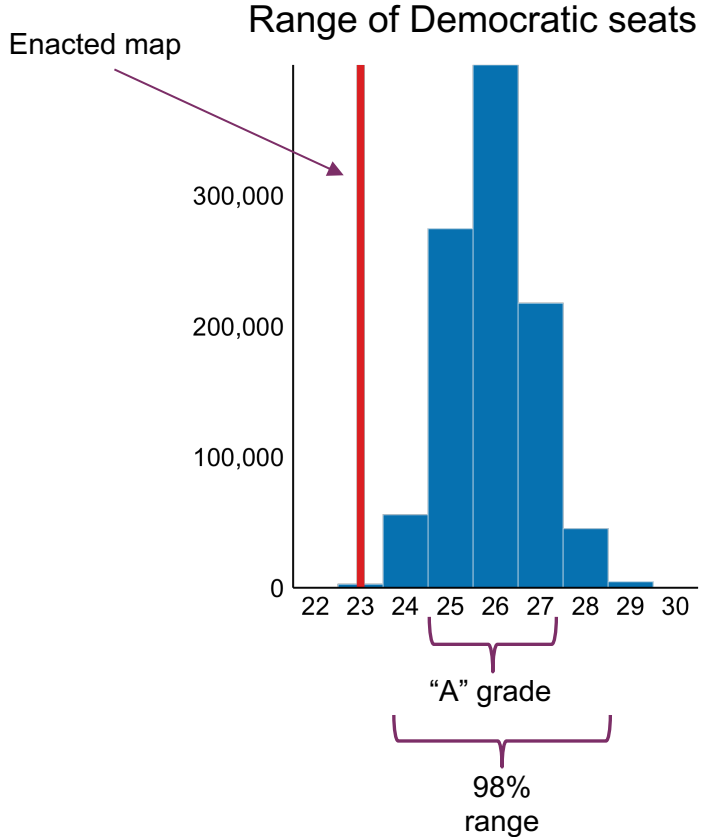
State Senate election result largely conformed to the enacted map.

	2020 Elected delegation	Fair map range (PGP)	Enacted map estimate	Election result
State Senate	34R – 22D +6 R	Partisan balance +0-4R A grade: +1-3R Competitive districts 1-7 "A" grade: 2-6	33R – 23D +5R Grade: F Competitive districts 1	33R – 23D +5R D gain 1 Competitive races 1

- Republicans and Democrats won the races as predicted by the maps.
- One district (SD7) was competitive (but map had projected SD48).

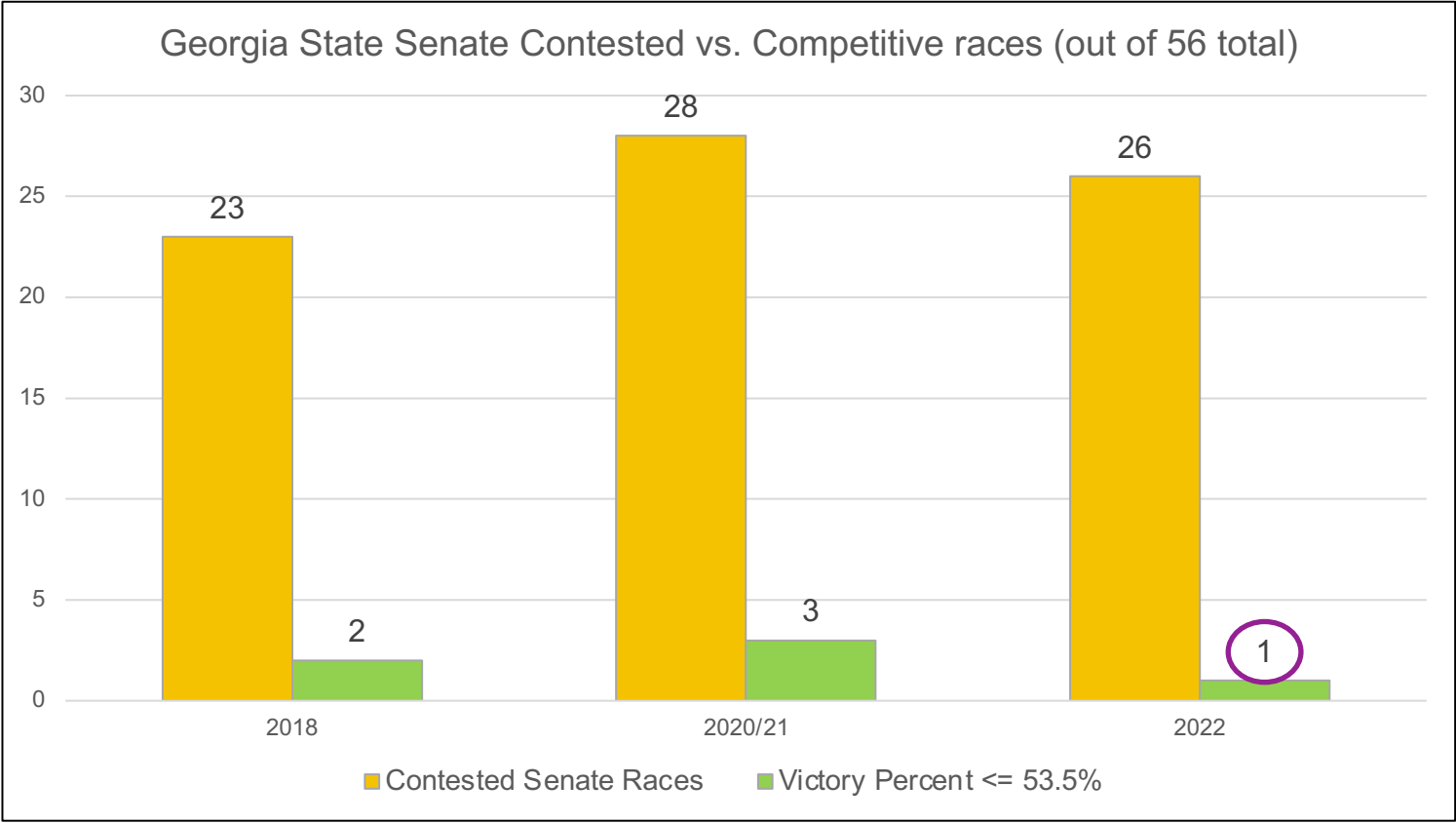Note: Competitive districts defined as <= 53.5% win

FairDistrictsGA

One State Senate race was competitive, but it was SD7, not SD48 as predicted.

District	Incumbent?	Predicted partisan lean (18-20-21)	Predicted competitive?	Competitive 2022 vote	2022 Election result (% Rep vote)	2022 Election result (% Dem vote)	2022 vote vs. predicted lean (more R / more D)	Comment
SD48	No	52.9%	Competitive		54.3%	45.7%	1.4%	
SD7	No	57.9%		Competitive	47.2%	52.8%	5.1%	

FairDistrictsGA

Fewer State Senate races were competitive in 2022 than in 2 prior elections.

Georgia State Senate Contested vs. Competitive races (out of 56 total)

- 2018: Contested Senate Races = 23, Victory Percent <= 53.5% = 2
- 2020/21: Contested Senate Races = 28, Victory Percent <= 53.5% = 3
- 2022: Contested Senate Races = 26, Victory Percent <= 53.5% = 1

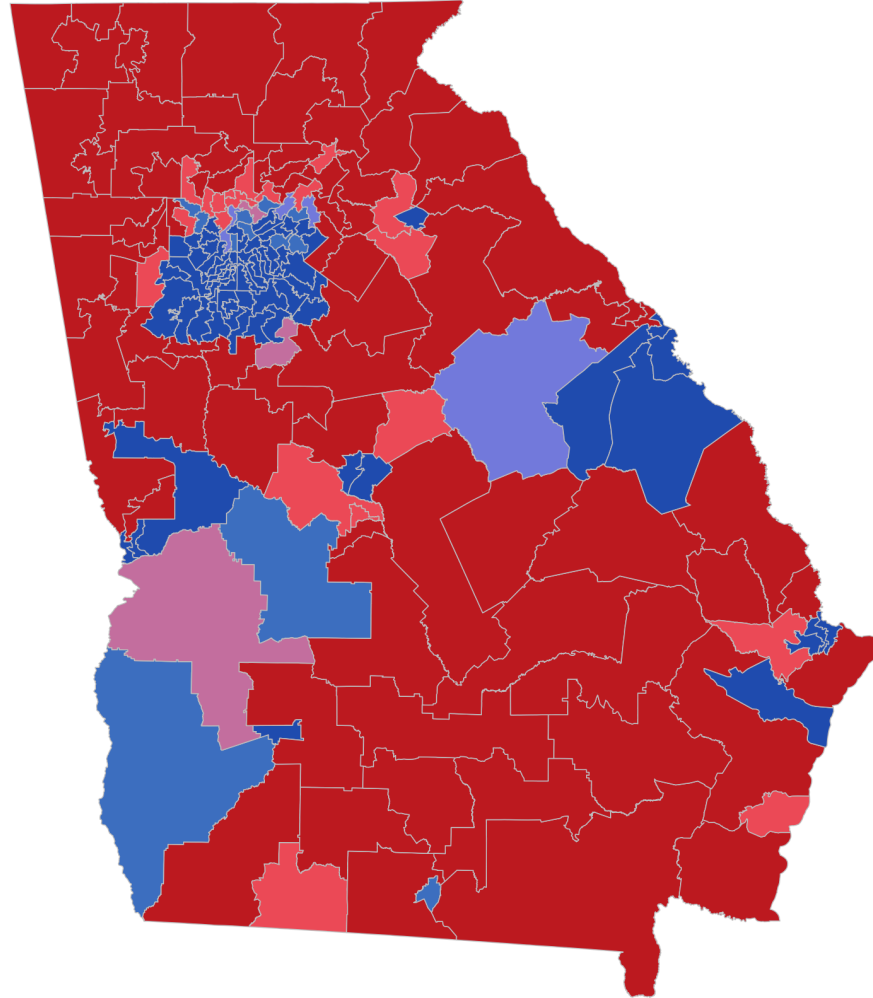Legend: ■ Contested Senate Races ■ Victory Percent <= 53.5%

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

FairDistrictsGA

More GA Senate seats are being contested in the Swing Era, but competition still lags.

Georgia State Senate Contested vs. Competitive races

— GA Senate contested — GA Senate competitive @53.5%

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

FairDistrictsGA

State House

FairDistrictsGA
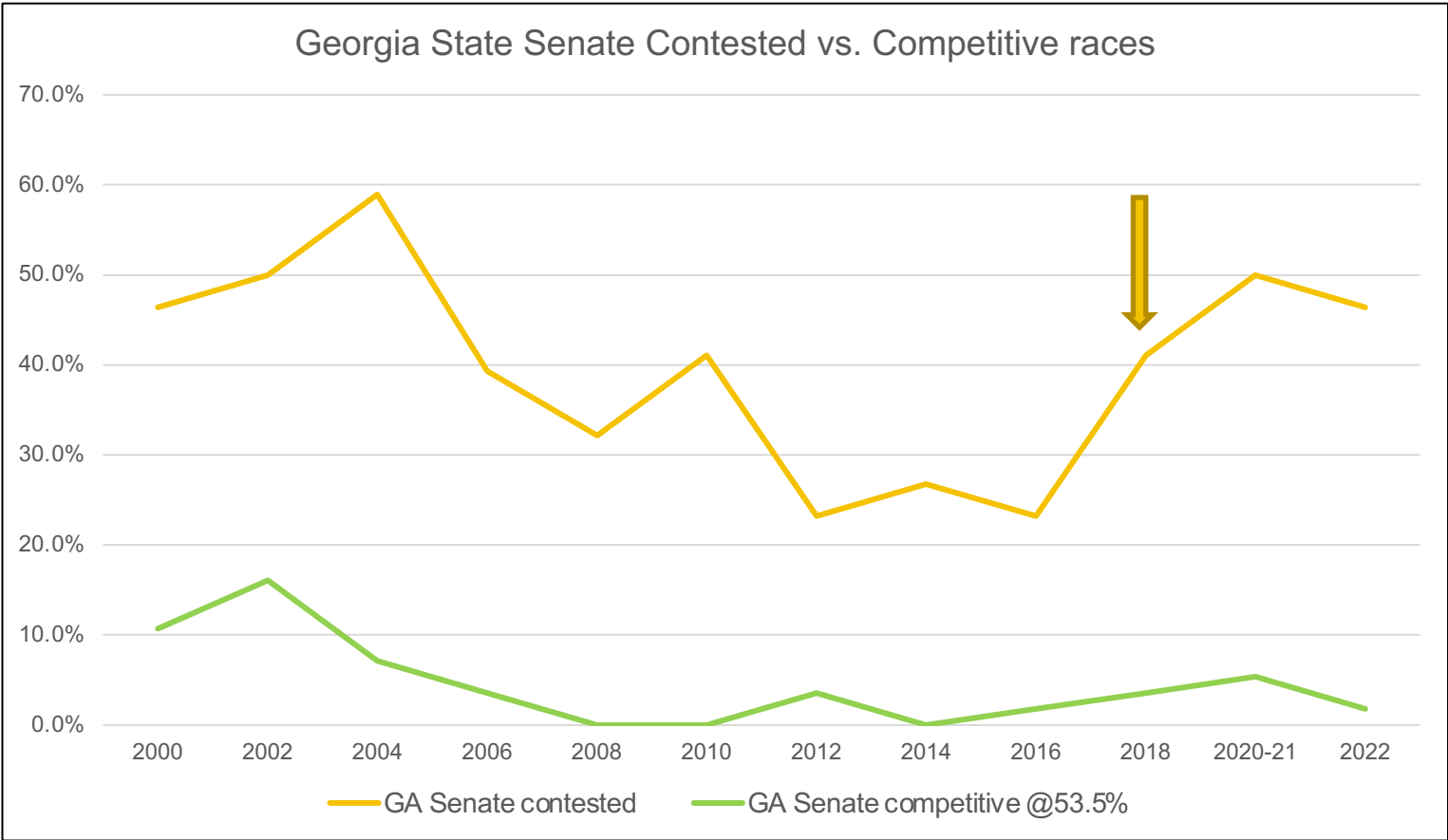
State House map falls within benchmark; slightly favors Republicans

Metric	2020 election	PGP benchmark (98% of 1M maps)	PGP benchmark (A grade)	Enacted map (HB 1EX)	
				Districts	What changed?
Partisan lean	103R 77D	92 – 99 R 81 – 88 D	94 – 96 R 84 – 86 D	98R 82D	Safe seats Many local adjustments help incumbents
Competitive districts (46.5% - 53.5%)	15	9 - 22	11 - 20	7	Below benchmark
Princeton overall partisan fairness grade				B	

Source: PGP simulation using 2020 census and 2016-18-20 SoS election data
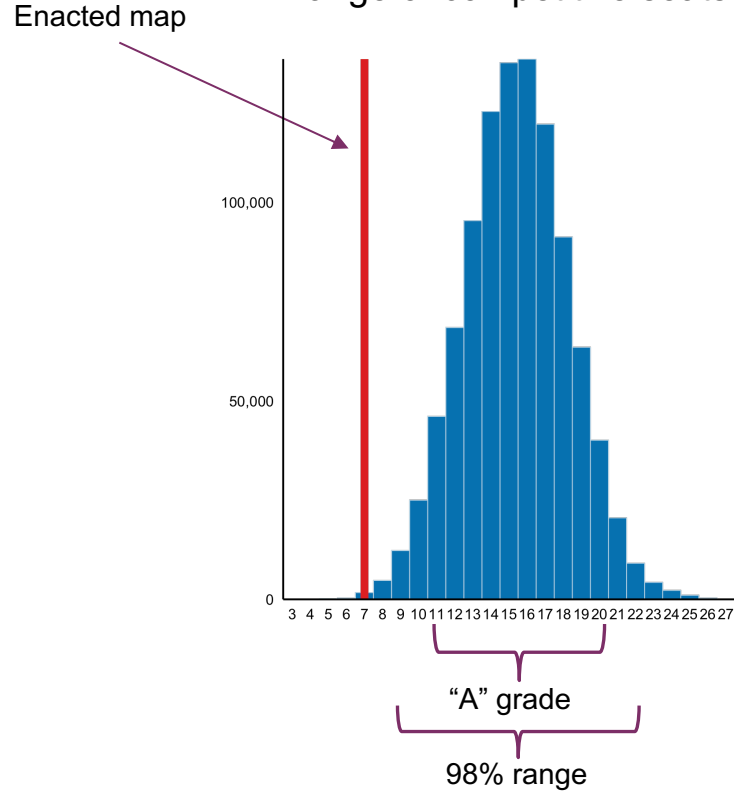Projected partisan lean based on 2018-20-21 statewide races.

Princeton's 1M simulated maps show the wider range of possibilities for balanced and competitive House maps.

Range of Democratic seats

Range of competitive seats

Enacted map

Enacted map

"A" grade

"A" grade

98% range

98% range

Source: Princeton Gerrymandering Project 1M map simulation, using 2018-20-21 statewide races as partisan index
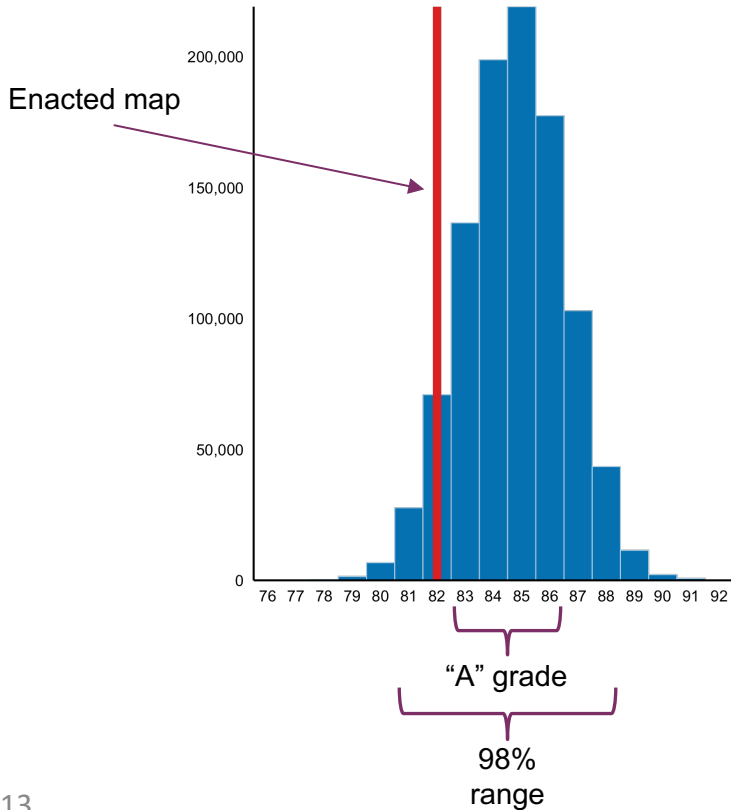
Democrats did not gain as many State House seats as projected by the map, with fewer competitive races.

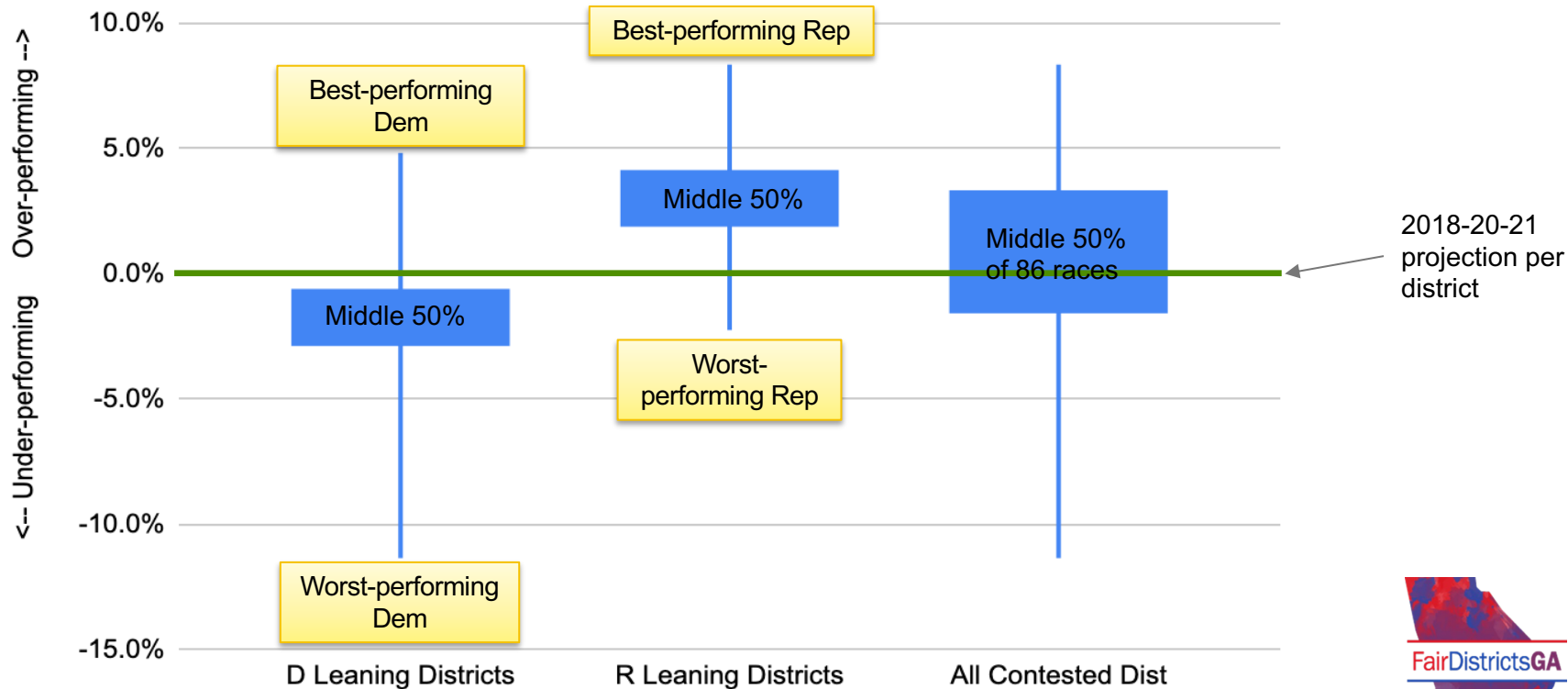|	2020 Elected delegation	Fair map range (PGP)	Enacted map estimate	Election result
State House	103R – 77D +13 R	Partisan balance +2-9R A grade: +4-6R Competitive districts 9-22 "A" grade 11-20	98R – 82D +8 R Grade: B Competitive districts 7	101R – 79D +11 R D gain 2 Competitive races 4

Note: Competitive districts defined as <= 53.5% win

FairDistrictsGA

Among contested state house races, Republicans slightly out-performed Democrats compared to map projections

Election Result compared to District's Partisan Lean Projection

86 Contested State House Districts - 2018-20-21 Index

Over-performing -->

<-- Under-performing

- Best-performing Dem
- Middle 50%
- Worst-performing Dem
- Best-performing Rep
- Middle 50%
- Worst-performing Rep
- Middle 50% of 86 races

2018-20-21 projection per district

D Leaning Districts   R Leaning Districts   All Contested Dist

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data
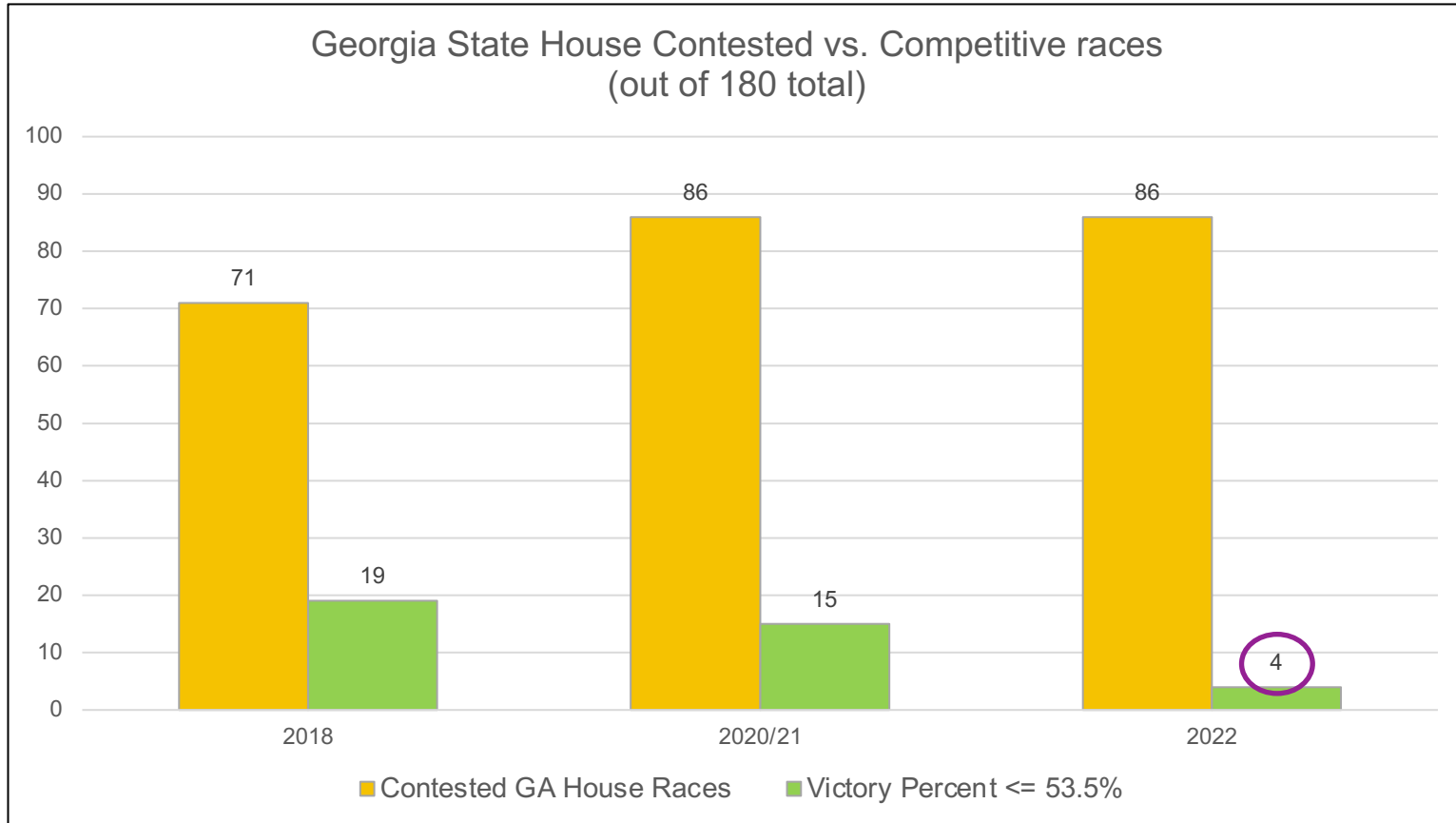
FairDistrictsGA

State House election showed a few competitive surprises and unexpected wins

District	Incumbent?	Predicted partisan lean (18-20-21)	Predicted competitive?	Competitive 2022 vote	2022 Election result (% Rep vote)	2022 Election result (% Dem vote)	2022 vote vs. predicted lean (more R / more D)	Comment
HD105	No	52.3%	Competitive	Competitive	48.3%	51.7%	0.5%	
HD53	Yes - R	51.6%	Competitive	Competitive	52.6%	47.4%	4.2%	Unexpected R win
HD99	No	51.3%	Competitive		54.8%	45.2%	6.1%	Unexpected R win
HD128	Yes - D	50.4%	Competitive		0.0%	100.0%	N/A	Uncontested
HD151	Yes - R	50.8%	Competitive		54.9%	45.1%	4.1%	
HD48	Yes - D	51.0%	Competitive		54.3%	45.7%	3.3%	
HD117	No	51.8%	Competitive	Competitive	50.7%	49.3%	1.1%	
HD154	Yes - R	54.9%			56.5%	43.6%	11.3%	Unexpected R win
HD108	Yes - D	54.0%		Competitive	47.9%	52.1%	1.9%	

FairDistrictsGA

State House competition was much lower than in 2 prior elections.

Georgia State House Contested vs. Competitive races
(out of 180 total)

2018 — Contested GA House Races: 71, Victory Percent <= 53.5%: 19
2020/21 — Contested GA House Races: 86, Victory Percent <= 53.5%: 15
2022 — Contested GA House Races: 86, Victory Percent <= 53.5%: 4

Legend: ■ Contested GA House Races ■ Victory Percent <= 53.5%

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

FairDistricts**GA**

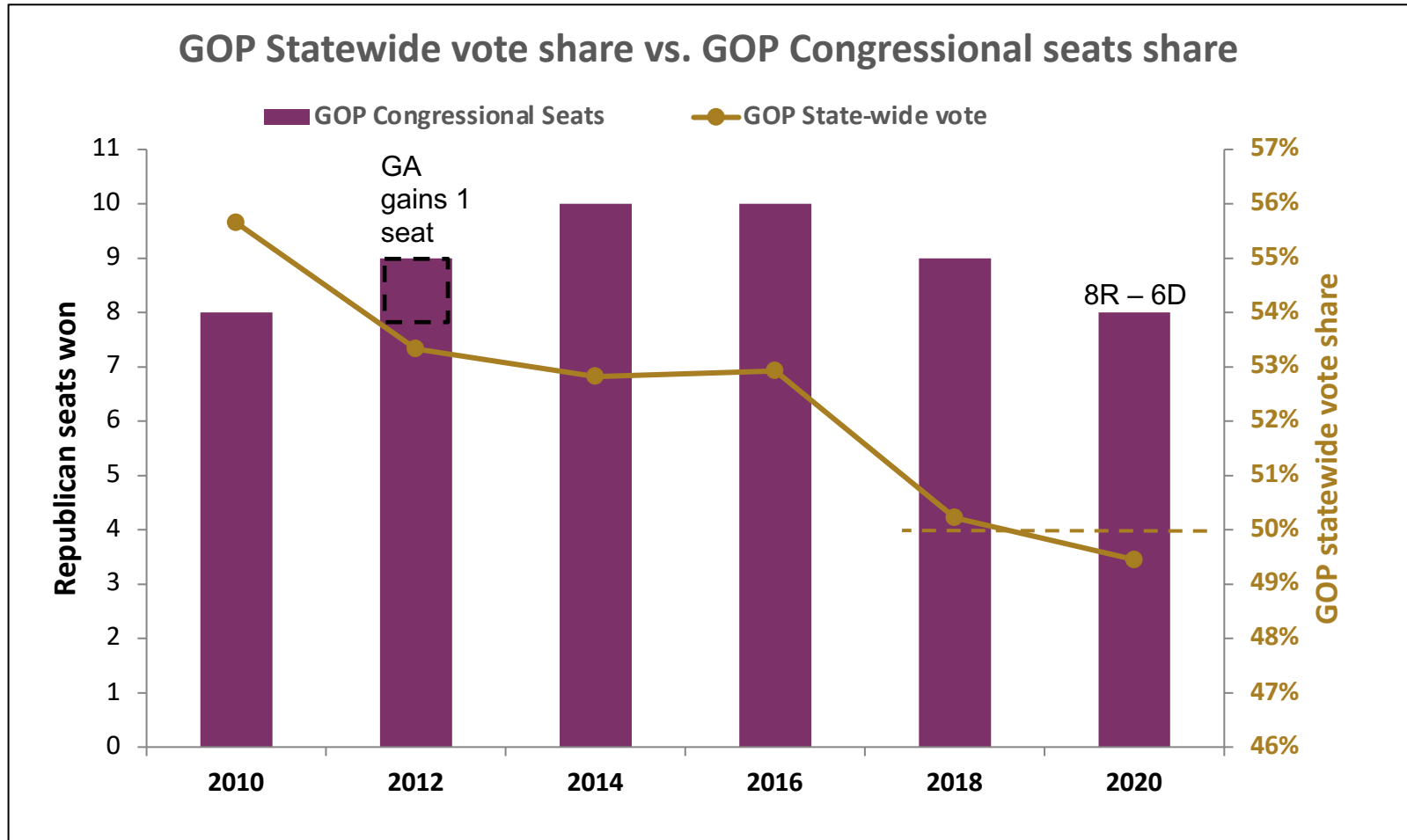# More GA House seats are being contested in the Swing Era, but competition still lags.

Georgia State House Contested vs. Competitive races

GA House contested ⸺ GA House competitive @53.5%

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

FairDistrictsGA

Congress

FairDistrictsGA
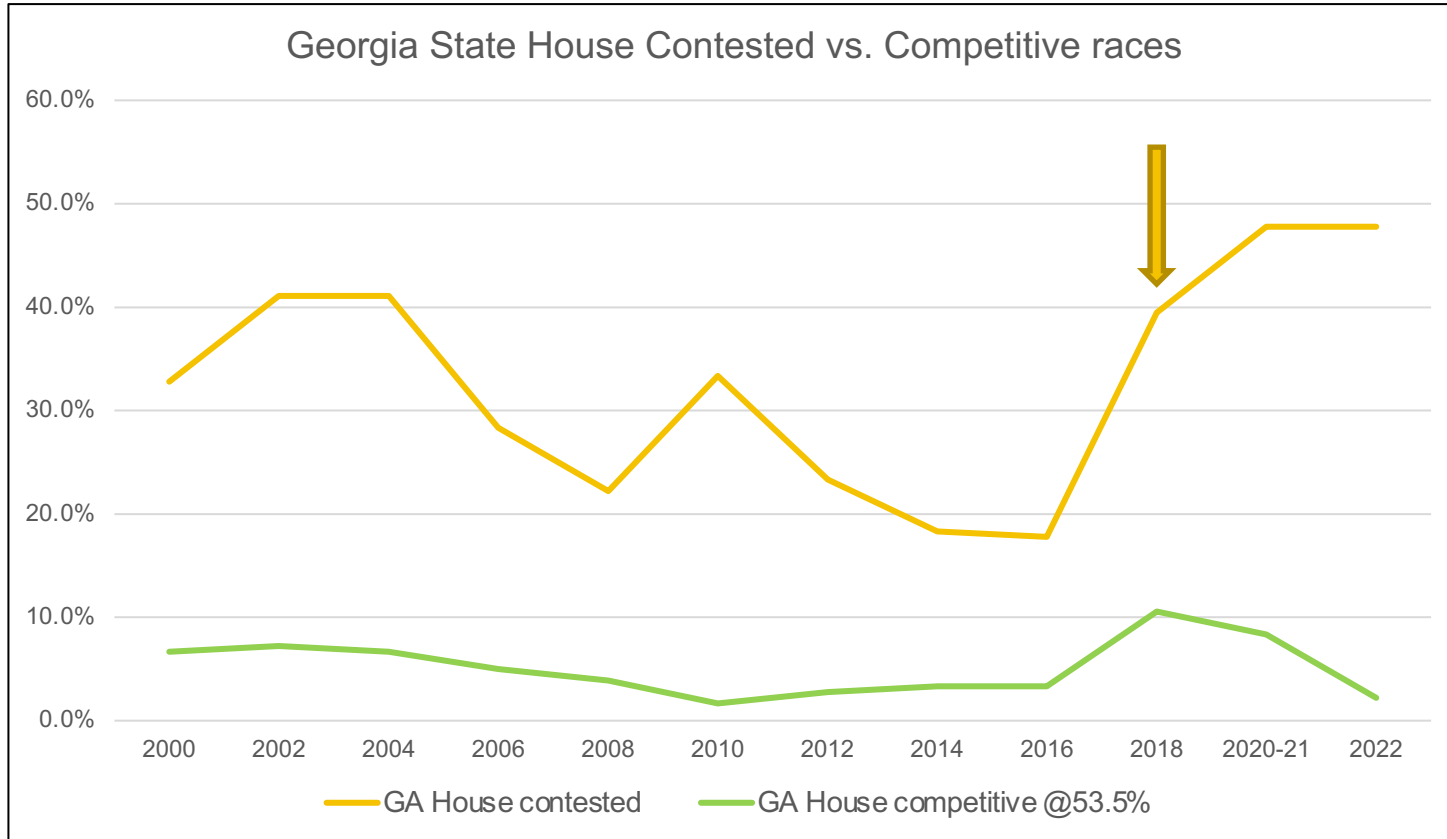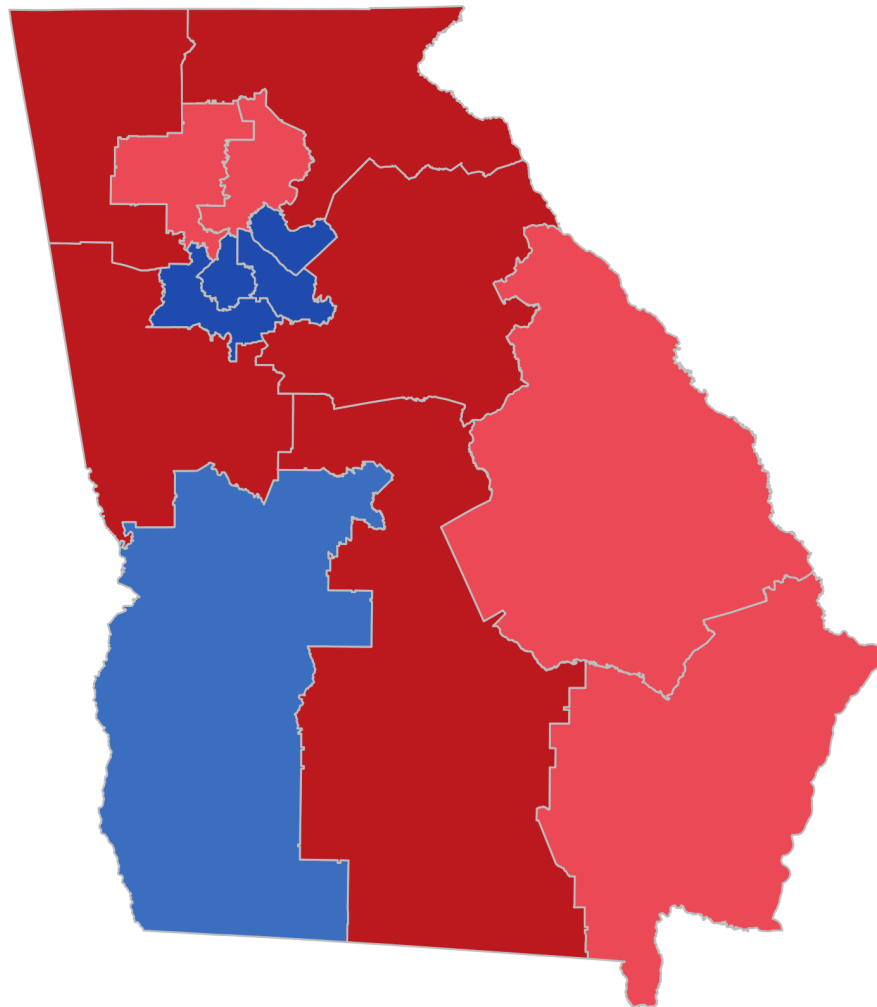
Partisan gap narrowing in Congressional races since 2010

GOP Statewide vote share vs. GOP Congressional seats share

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

Enacted **Congressional** map was designed to flip one seat back to Republican control with 100% safe seats.

FairDistricts**GA**

Metric	2020 election	PGP benchmark (98% of 1M maps)	PGP benchmark ("A" grade)	Enacted map (SB 2EX)	
				Districts	What changes?
Partisan lean	8R 6D	8R • 6D or 9R • 5D	8R • 6D +1R	9R 5D	GA06 flips 55% D → 59% R Northern suburbs of Atlanta all lean GOP
Competitive districts (46.5% - 53.5%)	1 (GA07)	0 – 3	0 - 2	0	GA07 safer 53% D → 63% D
Princeton overall partisan fairness grade				C	

Princeton's mapping corps produced 5 sample "A"-grade maps:
8R-6D and had 2-5 competitive districts.

Source: PGP simulation using 2020 census and 2016-18-20 SoS election data
Projected partisan lean based on 2018-20-21 statewide races.

Congressional election result conformed exactly to the enacted map.

	2020 Elected delegation	Fair map range (PGP)	Enacted map estimate	Election result
Congress	8R – 6D +1 R	Partisan balance +0-2R A grade: +1R Competitive districts 0 - 3 "A" grade 0 - 2	9R – 5D +2 R Grade: C Competitive districts 0	9R – 5D +2 R R gain 1 Competitive races 0

Note: Competitive districts defined as <= 53.5% win

FairDistrictsGA

Congressional races turned out as expected; races won by incumbents or party as planned.

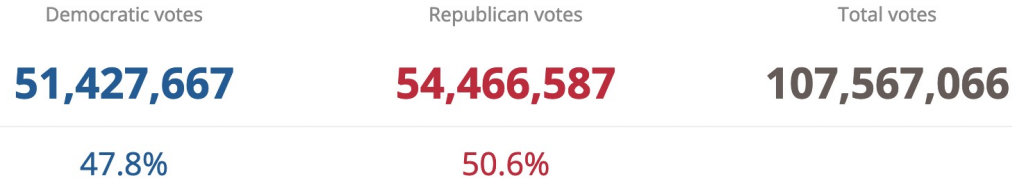| District	Incumbent?	Projected partisan lean	2022 Election result (% Rep vote)	2022 Election result (% Dem vote)	2022 vote vs. predicted lean (more R, more D)
GA1	Yes - R	56.8%	59.2%	40.9%	2.3%
GA2	Yes - D	55.5%	45.0%	54.97%	0.5%
GA3	Yes - R	65.6%	68.8%	31.3%	3.2%
GA4	Yes - D	79.3%	21.5%	78.5%	0.8%
GA5	Yes - D	83.5%	17.5%	82.5%	1.1%
GA6	No	59.1%	62.2%	37.8%	3.1%
GA7	Yes - D	62.9%	39.0%	61.1%	1.8%
GA8	Yes - R	64.3%	68.6%	31.4%	4.3%
GA9	Yes - R	69.9%	72.4%	27.7%	2.5%
GA10	No	62.2%	64.5%	35.5%	2.3%
GA11	Yes - R	58.3%	62.6%	37.4%	4.3%
GA12	Yes - R	55.6%	59.6%	40.4%	4.0%
GA13	Yes - R	81.5%	18.2%	81.8%	0.2%
GA14	Yes - R	69.2%	65.9%	34.1%	3.3%

FairDistrictsGA

Scorecard of GA redistricting maps and the 2022 mid-term election

	2020 Elected delegation	Fair map range (PGP)	Enacted map estimate	Election result
State Senate	34R – 22D +6 R	Partisan balance +0-4R A grade: +1-3R Competitive districts 1-7 "A" grade: 2-6	33R – 23D +5R Grade: F Competitive districts 1	33R – 23D +5R D gain 1 Competitive races 1
State House	103R – 77D +13 R	Partisan balance +2-9R A grade: +4-6R Competitive districts 9-22 "A" grade: 11-20	98R – 82D +8 R Grade: B Competitive districts 7	101R – 79D +11 R D gain 2 Competitive races 4
Congress	8R – 6D +1 R	Partisan balance +0-2R A grade: +1R Competitive districts 0 - 3 "A" grade: 0 - 2	9R – 5D +2 R Grade: C Competitive districts 0	9R – 5D +2 R R gain 1 Competitive races 0

Note: Competitive districts defined as <= 53.5% win

FairDistrictsGA

Did gerrymandering affect the balance of the US House?

| Democratic votes	Republican votes	Total votes
51,427,667	**54,466,587**	107,567,066
47.8%	50.6%	

| DEMOCRATS | 213 | 218 | 222 | REPUBLICANS |

- What we know:
    - Republicans gained 9 seats, will have a 5-seat majority
    - Georgia contributed (unfairly) 1 seat (GA06) to Republican gain
- What we don't know:
    - Net gain/loss from national redistricting

FairDistrictsGA

Source: Cook Political Report as of 12/11/22

Voters had very little real choice in General Assembly races

November 8, 2022 votes cast
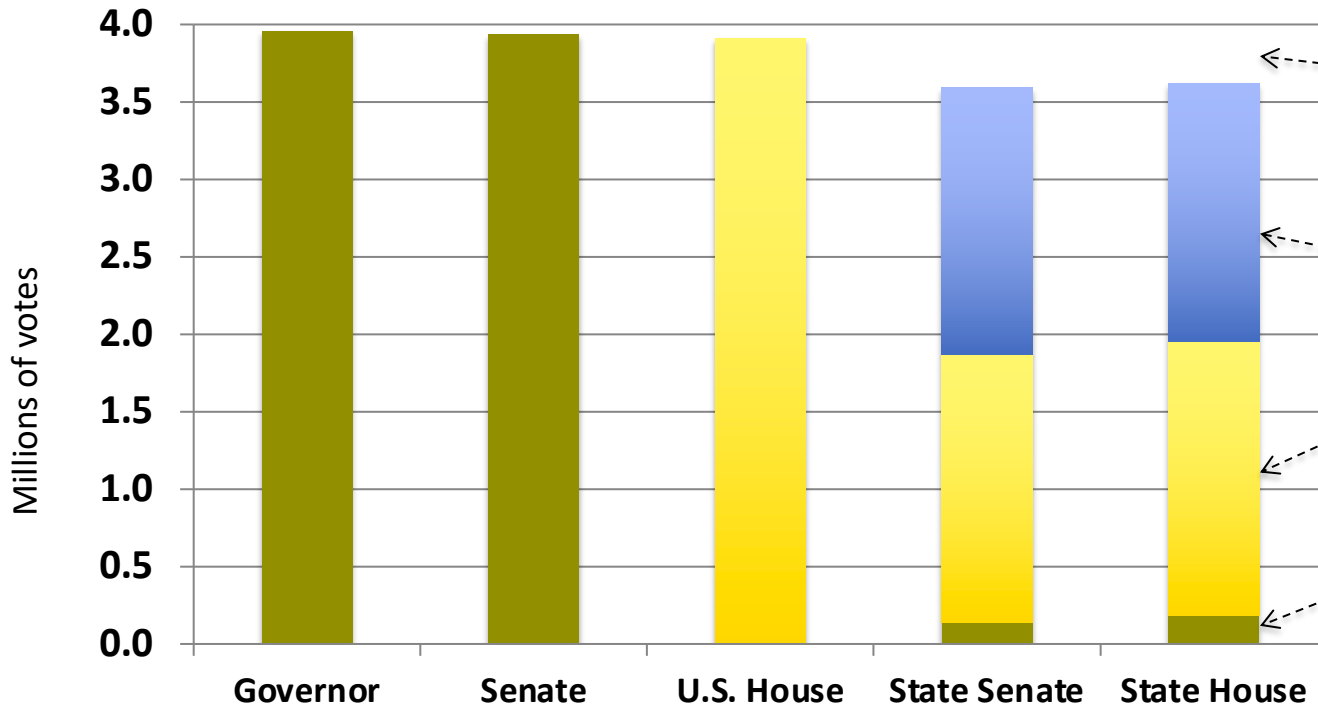
Uncontested races
GA Senate: 30 = 54%
GA House: 94 = 52%

No vote cast in state house race: 334,000 fewer than governor's race (8%)

42% of votes cast in uncontested races
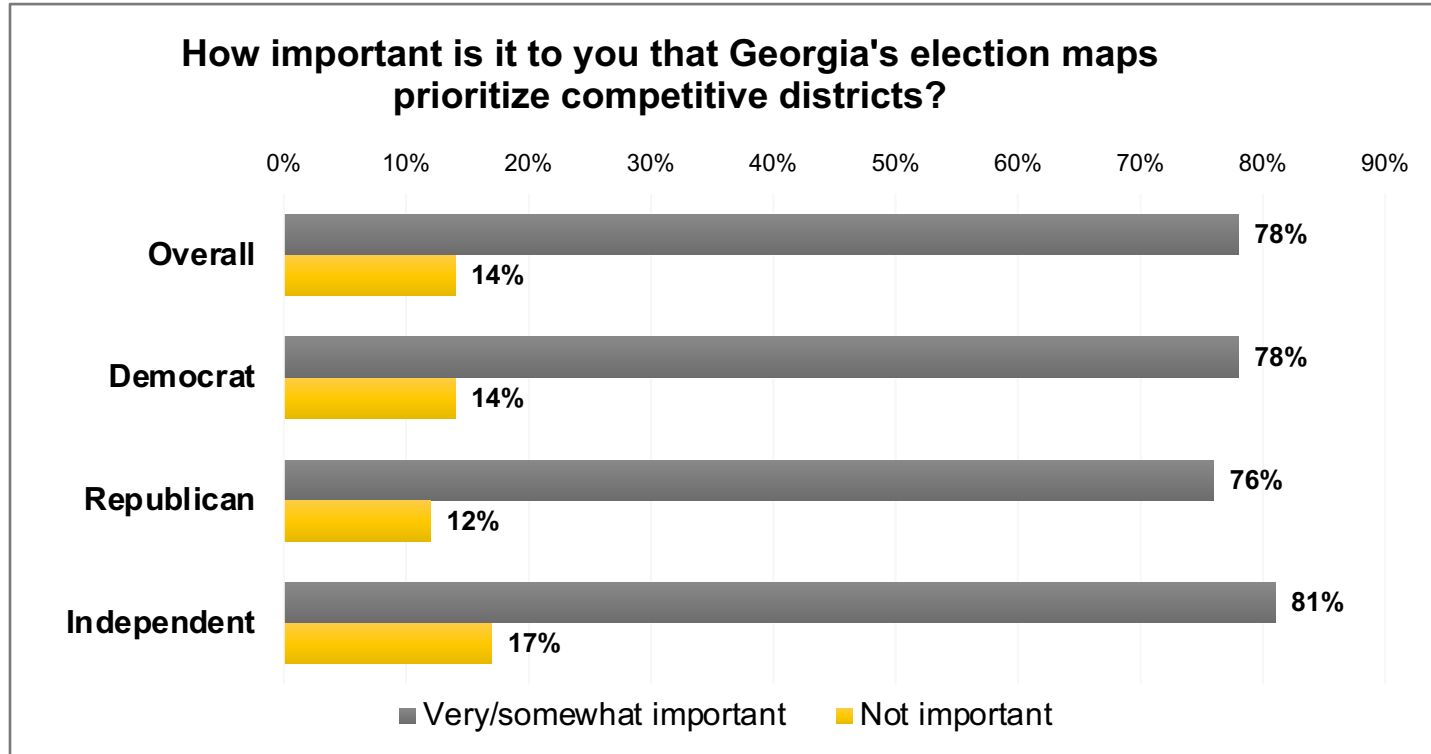
45% of votes cast in non-competitive races

5% of votes cast in competitive (<53.5%) races

Millions of votes

4.0
3.5
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0.0

Governor   Senate   U.S. House   State Senate   State House

■ Competitive (<=53.5%) races   ■ Non-competitive races
■ Uncontested races

Source: FDGA analysis of SoS election data

FairDistrictsGA

12/12/22

Voters overwhelmingly want competitive districts, but Georgia does not have them.

How important is it to you that Georgia's election maps prioritize competitive districts?

Group	Very/somewhat important	Not important
Overall	78%	14%
Democrat	78%	14%
Republican	76%	12%
Independent	81%	17%

■ Very/somewhat important ■ Not important

Sources: July 2022 GA Redistricting Poll (ACLU, LWV, CC, FDGA)

FairDistrictsGA

Conclusions

- Gerrymandering of maps was a significant contributor to the outcome of this election.

- Fair Districts GA has the tools and data to measure the real impact of maps on elections.

- We educate and empower citizens to advocate for change.

- Fair Districts GA will continue the fight to reform redistricting.

- What you can do:
  - Ask legislators to take the Fair Districts pledge
  - Spread the word: invite us to your community, post to your social networks
  - Join us in 2023 for Lobby Day at the capitol

FairDistrictsGA

Thank you

Email: info@fairdistrictsga.org

Twitter: @FairDistrictsGA

Web: fairdistrictsga.org

Facebook: @FairDistrictsGA

Instagram: @FairDistrictsGA

Next Town Hall

Jan
30

Your support made this program possible
– Thank you!

FairDistrictsGA.org/donate   @FDGAven

FairDistrictsGA