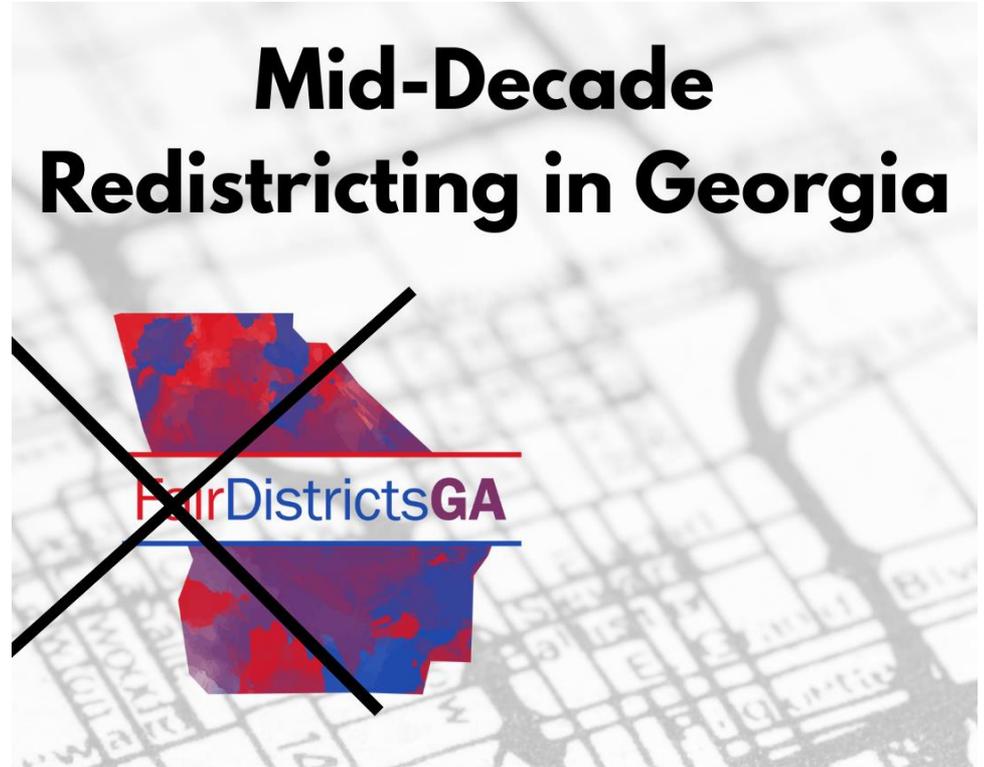


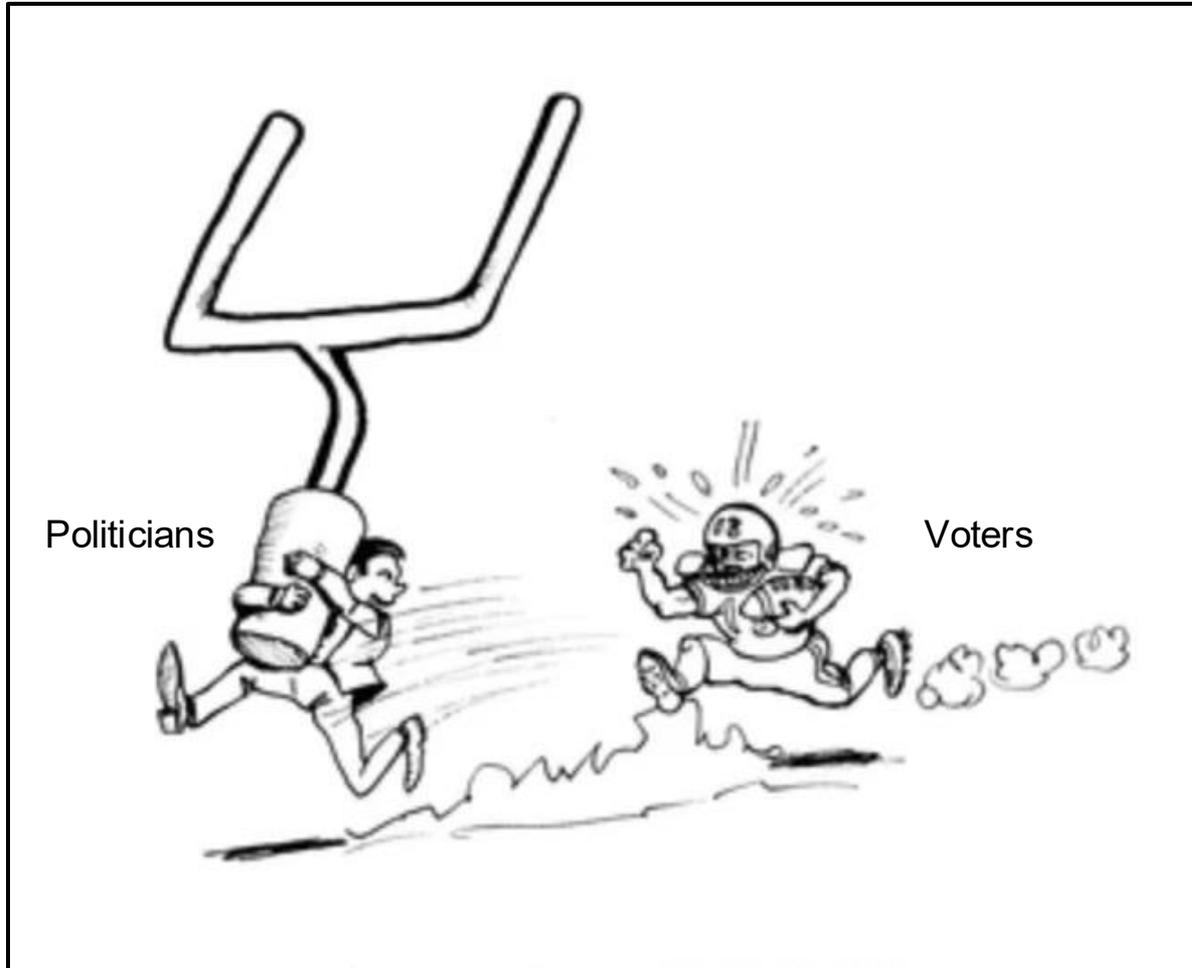
**Fair Districts
GA Town
Hall
November
10, 2025**



Mid-decade Redistricting in Georgia

- What is it?
- How is it harmful?
- How often does it happen?
- How is this allowed?
- Can it be fixed?
- Why is it important to act now?
- Fair Districts GA announcements

Mid-decade Redistricting = Changing the Rules at Halftime



Mid-decade Redistricting = Gerrymandering²

- Sustains unfair partisan advantage built into already unfair maps
- Weaponizes redistricting
- Effectively eliminates competition
- Directly attacks free and fair elections

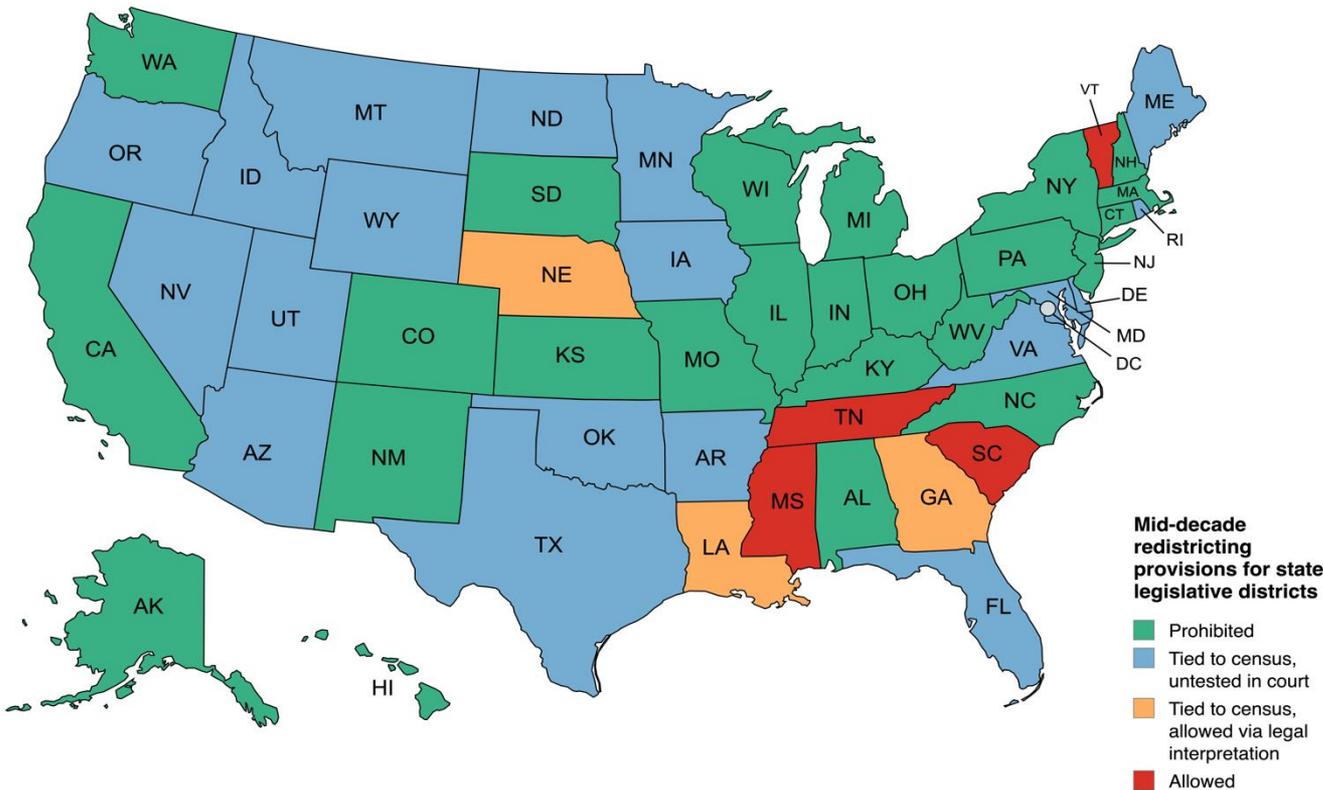
“If you only believe in democracy when your side wins, you don’t believe in democracy.”

Mid-decade Redistricting has Plagued Georgia since 2006

Date	Circumstance	Districts changed	Motivation	Election result
2006	Supreme Court overturned 2001 Democratic gerrymander, ordered court-drawn maps for 2004 election. Congressional map was ruled fair by court.	All Congressional (13) 11 Assembly Party line vote	“We’re fixing the Democratic gerrymander.”	2006: Republicans gained 10 State House seats despite virtually no increase in statewide vote share.
2012	Redistricting for 2010 census was completed in 2011. New maps drawn in 2012 anyway.	23 Assembly Party line vote	Produce super-majority in 2012 election	2012: Super-majority in Senate, 1 seat shy in House, despite 2.4% decline in statewide vote share
2015	More mid-decade adjustments	17 Assembly Both parties supporting	“Make districts better for incumbents to get reelected.”	2016: Sustained unfair partisan advantage
2023	Federal Court orders new districts for Black voters in Congress and GGA maps. Legislature evens the score through changes in unrelated districts, taking back other seats.	1 Congressional 6 Assembly Party line vote	“We’re maintaining the existing partisan balance.”	All districts altered as partisan take-backs were won as expected.

Since 2006: 71 districts altered – 33 other changes scrapped – 104 total districts attempted

Georgia is an outlier in allowing mid-decade changes for state legislative maps



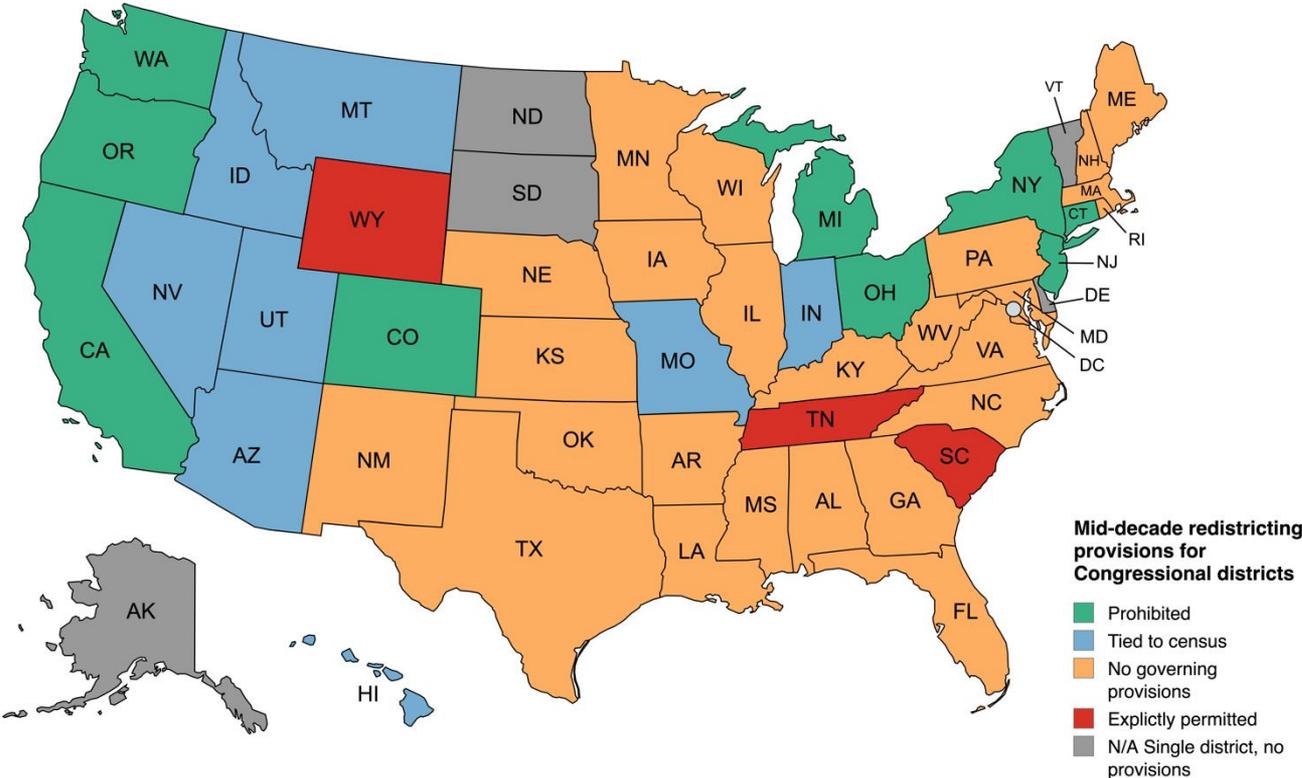
Prohibited – 24

Allowed – 4

Tied to census – 22

Tied to census but legally allowed - 3

Many states allow mid-decade changes for congressional districts



Prohibited – 9
Allowed – 3
Tied to census – 8
No rules – 25
N/A – 5 (1 district, no rules)

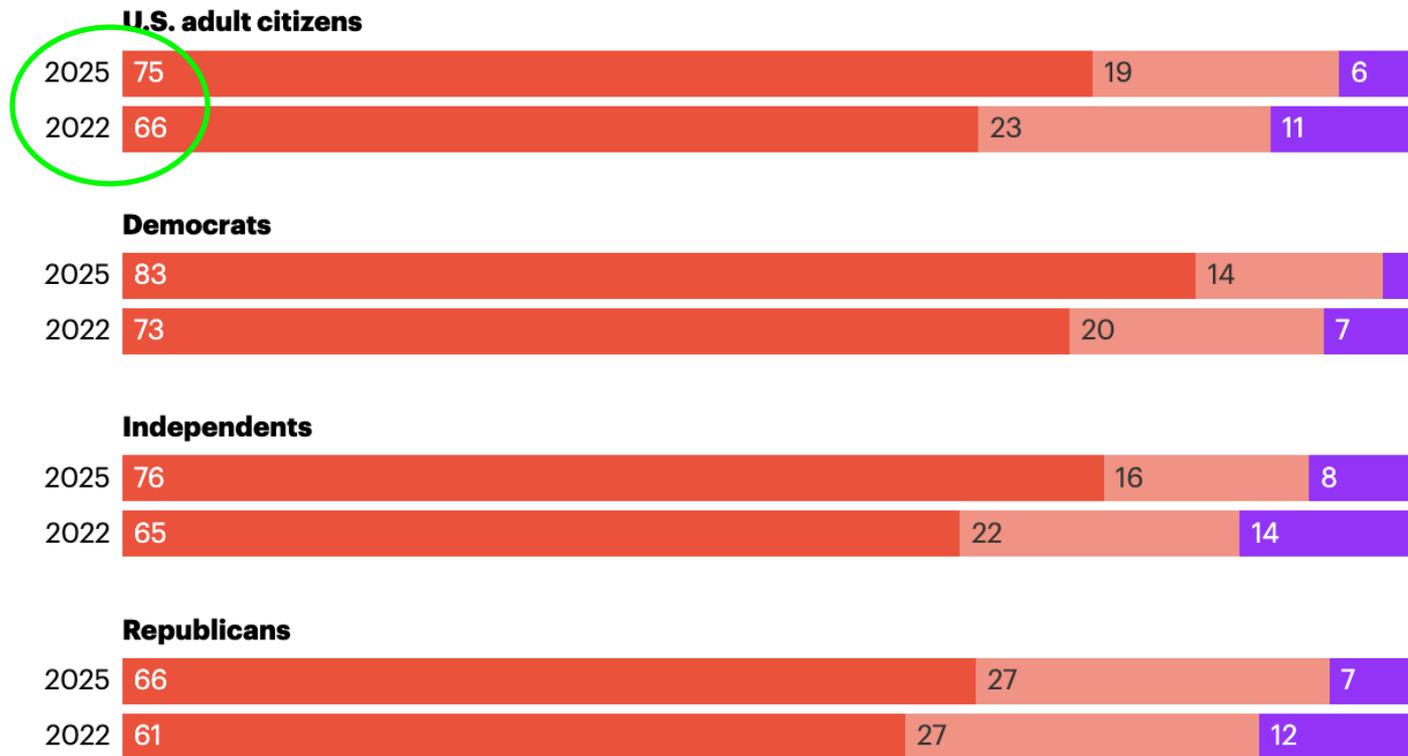
The Race To The Bottom Is On



Americans overwhelmingly see gerrymandering as a **major problem** — more so than in 2022

How big of a problem do you think it is when states draw legislative districts that intentionally favor one party? (%)

Major problem Minor problem Not a problem



Democracy #1 Issue in 2026 election

When it comes to deciding your vote for Congress next year, what is your most important issue?

	Single most important issue
Protecting constitutional rights/protecting democracy*	26%/23%
The cost of living	16%
The cost of health care premiums	10%
Immigration and border security	10%
Dealing with political violence in America	9%
Abortion	7%
The cost of electricity	4%

Notes: The poll was conducted Oct. 24-28 and surveyed 1,000 registered voters nationally. The margin of error is plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. Half of respondents were given "protecting constitutional rights" as a choice, while the other half were given "protecting democracy."

Source: NBC News poll

Graphic: NBC News



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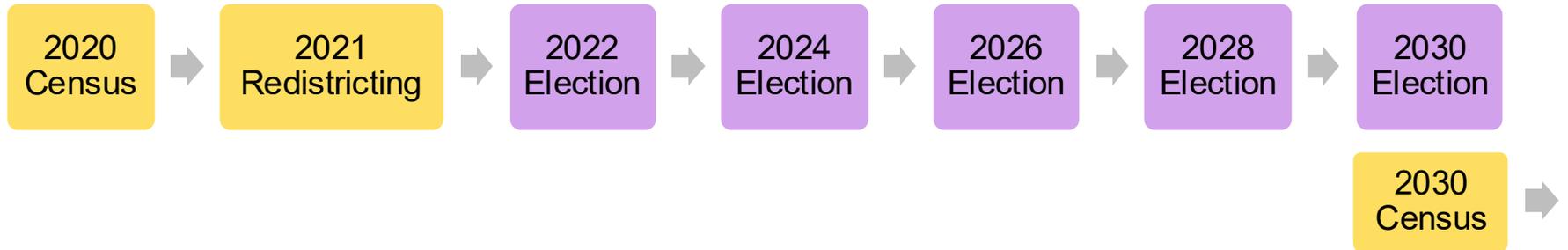


Loopholes in Georgia Law allow mid-decade redistricting

- GA law has no deadlines or timelines for congressional redistricting
- GA law has no formal requirement to use redistricting plans to conduct elections
- GA constitution and law permit any number of redistricting plans to be made per decade
 - Blum v. Schrader, 2006 (GA Supreme Court)

“Partisan gerrymandering may be perfectly legal, but it’s also perfectly wrong.”

The way redistricting should work



Corrective proposal

- One redistricting plan after census year
- Next 5 elections must use that plan
- If court orders new plan, only allow changes necessary to comply with court order. Minimize number of voters and districts changed.

2023 redistricting disrupted way too many voters – for partisan gain

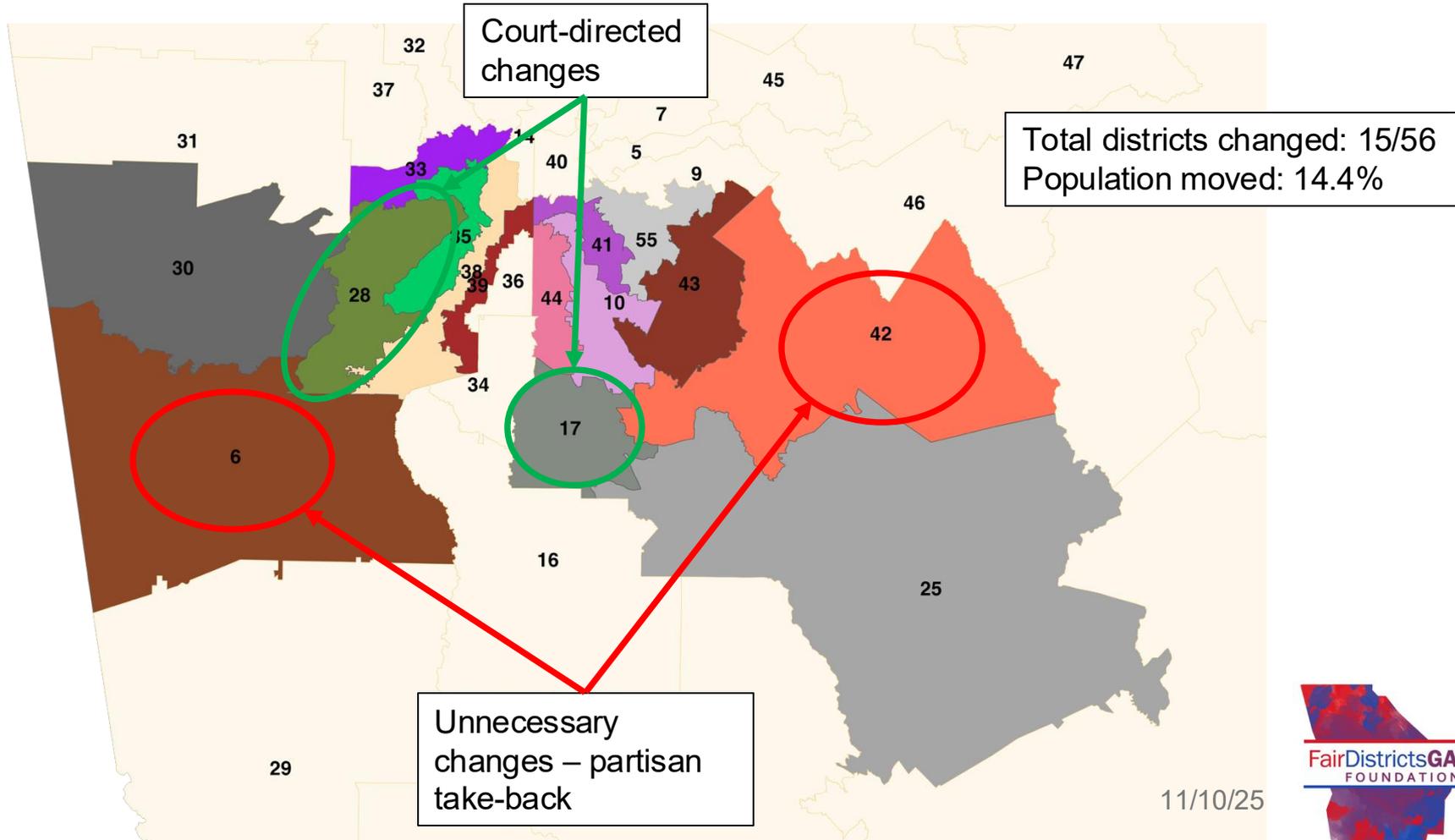
Map	Required new Black districts	Enacted map changes			Competing proposal changes		
		Districts	Voters	Partisan take-backs	Districts	Voters	Partisan take-backs
Congress	+ 1	9/14	28.8%	1	8/14	25.4%	none
State Senate	+ 2	15/56	14.4%	2	10/56	8.4%	none
State House	+ 5	57/180	15.7%	5	22/180	6%	none

Court-ordered changes improved representation for Black voters but included unnecessary partisan changes.

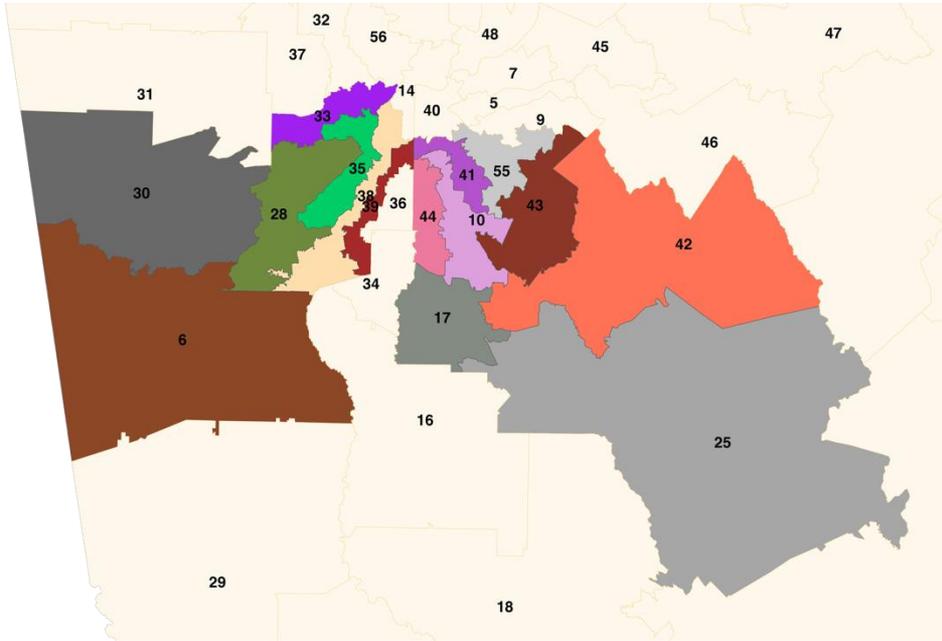


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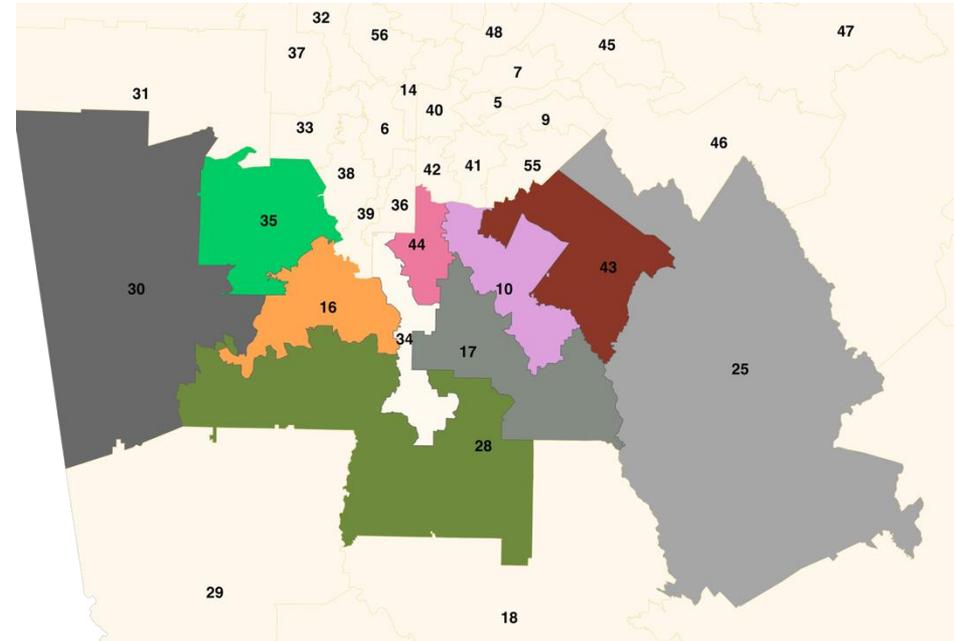
Changes in State Senate Map Enacted in 2023



Competing proposed Senate map made far fewer changes



Committee chair map
Total districts changed: $15/56=27\%$
Population moved: 14.4%



Dem Caucus map
Total districts changed: $10/56=18\%$
Population moved: 8.4%

Why Is It Important To Act Now?

Supreme Court: Louisiana v. Calais – Oct 15th

White voters allege that new Black majority congressional district, ordered by a court, discriminates against them

- How much should race matter in redistricting?
 - Allowed and confirmed in 2023 (Allen v. Milligan)
 - Cannot be the predominant factor
- Should there be a time limit on racial considerations?
 - Pre-clearance (section 5) was renewed for 25 years in 2006, but struck down in 2013 (Shelby)
 - Section 2 was never time-limited



Concern: Court is considering a sweeping change, not a state-specific ruling.

Pending Georgia appeals will be impacted by Supreme Court's decision

- Plaintiffs' appeal
 - New districts included voters from existing Black districts
 - Many Black voters were left out
 - Not good enough
- State's appeal
 - Race based redistricting no longer necessary
 - Individual voters are not allowed to sue, only DOJ (separate case)
- Worst-case scenario
 - SCOTUS Rules that race-based redistricting should stop
 - State's appeal would be granted, relieving state of burden imposed in 2023
 - State would be allowed to redraw map
- Redrawn map would be an optional, mid-decade change.

Plan of Action

- Introduce the Mid-decade Ban into state legislature
- Ask your legislator & candidates to take the Fair Districts Pledge
 - Includes a ban on mid-decade
- Ask your rep to sign onto the mid-decade bill
- Join our January Lobby Day at the capitol
- Donate to help us spread the word

Free and Fair Elections Require Fair Maps

Fair conduct of elections: registration, voting, counting, certification, ...



Fair maps that represent all Georgians and respect their political choices

Ga. voters more confident of fair, accurate election

However, there's still a big partisan gap, latest AJC poll finds.

By David Wickert
dwickert@ajc.com

Georgia voters are increasingly confident that the 2024 presidential election will be conducted fairly and accurately, an Atlanta Journal-Constitution survey shows.

Nearly two-thirds of likely general election voters surveyed said they are very confident or somewhat confident the election will be fair and accurate. But the survey shows a big partisan gap: Large majorities of Democrats and independent voters believe the election will be fair and accurate, but less than half of Republicans expressed such



A new Atlanta Journal-Constitution survey offers insights into how Georgia voters plan to cast their ballots in November. There was a modest partisan split in planned voting methods. www.ajc.com

AJC 9/19/24

Redistricting worked just as GOP designed

Most of newly drawn maps sorted voters into uncompetitive, overwhelmingly Republican districts.

By Mark Niesso
Mark.Niesso@ajc.com
and Michelle Baruchman
michelle.baruchman@ajc.com

The election played out just like Georgia Republicans intended when they redistricted the state last year.

With newly drawn districts, Republicans maintained power and held every seat in Congress and the state Senate, while losing only two seats in the state House.

The results of the election were effectively preordained because new Republican-drawn maps sorted voters into the uncompetitive dis-

tricts, making them overwhelmingly Republican or heavily Democratic, with the outcome never in doubt.

Just 10 out of 236 seats in the General Assembly were decided by a margin of 10 percentage points or less. Of those, the parties split their wins — five for Republicans and five for Democrats.

Republican legislators knew what they were doing when they crafted new district boundaries, said Ken Lawler, chair of Fair Districts GA, an organization that advocates for more neutral maps.

"These people aren't stupid. They have com-

www.ajc.com www.ajc.com

AJC 11/17/24



11/10/25

Mid-decade Redistricting Steals Voters Choices and Voices

- More uncontested races
- Under representation
- Exaggerates political polarization
- Discourages participation in democracy



Fair Districts GA needs your support

Bloomberg

11/6/25

Rich Donors Bankroll Redistricting Fights Ahead of 2026 Elections



“If you’re a rich Democratic donor, rich Republican donor, you clearly want your party to control the chamber, and also you want to invest early now and get the rules of the game biased in your favor.”

- David Schultz, professor of political science and legal studies, Hamline University

Two ways to support Fair Districts



- Fair Districts GA Foundation
 - Supports research, education, communication, & community programs
 - Tax-deductible charity 501(c)(3)



- Fair Districts GA
 - Supports legislative advocacy and lobbying
 - Not tax deductible



FairDistrictsGA.org/support

Thank you!

Thank you

Email: info@fairdistrictsga.org

Twitter: [@FairDistrictsGA](https://twitter.com/FairDistrictsGA)

Web: fairdistrictsga.org

Facebook: [@FairDistrictsGA](https://www.facebook.com/FairDistrictsGA)

Instagram: [@FairDistrictsGA](https://www.instagram.com/FairDistrictsGA)

Next Event Annual Lobby Day

January 2026



Your support made this program possible
– Thank you!



FairDistrictsGA.org/support



[@FDGAVen](https://twitter.com/FDGAVen)



11/10/25

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Appendix**

