

# Political Boundaries and Gerrymandering in Atlanta, Georgia

## Redrawing Democracy

### Driving Question

**How do political boundaries and gerrymandering shape the representation and resources of communities in Atlanta, Georgia, and how can we design a fair district map to promote equitable representation?**

### Project Overview

You will explore how political boundaries affect communities in Atlanta by:

- Investigating the history and impact of gerrymandering in Georgia.
- Analyzing current district maps and demographic data.
- Designing a new district map that ensures fair representation.
- Presenting your findings and proposed map to a broader audience.

This project will require research, critical thinking, and creativity as you address the real-world challenge of political equity.

### Project Objectives

1. Understand the concept of gerrymandering and its historical and modern-day impacts.
2. Analyze district maps using data to identify issues of fairness and representation.
3. Create an equitable district map based on demographic data and principles of fairness and equity.
4. Present your research and proposed solution effectively.

## Tasks and Timeline

### Step 1: Build Background Knowledge (Days 1-3)

- Research the history of gerrymandering in Georgia.
- Learn about key terms: gerrymandering, redistricting, representation, equity, and demographics.
- Study how district maps are drawn and used.

**Deliverable:** A summary of your initial findings in your learning journal.

### Step 2: Analyze Current District Maps (Days 4-6)

- Use tools like [Dave's Redistricting](#) to study current district maps in Atlanta.
- Compare maps with demographic data to identify possible issues.

**Deliverable:** A written analysis of one district in Atlanta, noting how its boundaries impact representation.

### Step 3: Research Community Perspectives (Days 7-9)

- Interview residents, community leaders, or stakeholders.
- Conduct surveys to understand how gerrymandering affects people in Atlanta.
- Record responses and summarize key insights.

**Deliverable:** A list of interview/survey findings in your learning journal.

### Step 4: Design a New District Map (Days 10-13)

- Use data and fairness principles to redraw boundaries.
- Justify your choices with evidence from your research and demographic analysis.

**Deliverable:** A completed district map and a written explanation of your design.

### Step 5: Create Your Presentation (Days 14-16)

- Develop a presentation or report to showcase:
  - ◆ Your findings on gerrymandering.
  - ◆ Your new district map.
  - ◆ How does your map address fairness and equity?

**Deliverable:** A polished presentation (video, infographic, or slideshow).

### Step 6: Share Your Work (Day 17)

- Present your findings to classmates, teachers, and possibly a broader audience.
- Be ready to answer questions and explain your map design.

## Resources

### → Mapping Tools:

- ◆ [Dave's Redistricting](#)
- ◆ <https://districtr.org/>
- ◆ GIS tools (e.g., Google Maps or ArcGIS).

### → Research Resources:

[Ballotpedia](#)

[NPR](#)

- ◆ Local news articles about gerrymandering in Georgia.
- ◆ Census data and demographic maps.
- ◆ Interviews with community leaders or civic organizations.

### → Reflection Tools:

- ◆ Learning journal templates (provided by your teacher).

## Assessment

You will be graded on:

1. **Research Depth:** Quality of your analysis and use of data.
2. **Map Design:** Fairness and clarity of your proposed district map.
3. **Presentation:** How well you communicate your findings and justify your map design.
4. **Collaboration:** Participation and teamwork (if working in a group).
5. **Reflection:** Insights were shared in your journal, and revisions were made in response to feedback.

You have the freedom to:

- Choose your focus within the topic (e.g., historical context, minority representation).
- Select your presentation format (video, infographic, live presentation).
- Decide whether to work independently or as part of a pair.

## Reflection Prompts

Use these prompts for your learning journal:

1. What challenges have you faced, and how are you addressing them?
2. How does your district map promote fairness and equity?
3. What did you learn from your peers or community feedback?

## Key Dates

- **Initial Research Due:** [January 30th,2026]
- **District Map Draft Due:** [February 11th,2026]
- **Final Presentation Day:** [February 26th,2026]

## Helpful Tips

- Stay organized by setting daily goals.
- Ask for help if you're stuck or need feedback.
- Use your journal to reflect on your progress regularly.

*Let's get started! Together, we can design a fairer future for Atlanta.*