

# Step 3: Researching Community Perspectives

## Guide

Here's a list of organizations, government offices, and academic institutions where you can reach out for interviews related to gerrymandering in Georgia. Also, below is a list of possible interview questions. When you find someone to interview, you do not have to use these, but they are there to guide you.

### Government & Political Experts

✓ Georgia General Assembly - Redistricting Committee

📍 Website: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/>

✉ Contact: Reach out to House Legislative & Congressional Reapportionment Committee members or the Senate Reapportionment and Redistricting Committee. (Keep in mind that they may be in session when you call!)

✓ Fulton County Board of Elections (or other county election boards)

📍 Website: <https://fultoncountyga.gov/inside-fulton-county/fulton-county-departments/registration-and-elections>

✉ Contact: Local election supervisors can provide insight into district changes and election impacts.

✓ Georgia Secretary of State's Office - Elections Division

📍 Website: <https://sos.ga.gov/>

✉ Contact: They oversee elections and voter registration and can provide insights into districting concerns.

✓ Atlanta City Council or Local City Councils

📍 Website: <https://citycouncil.atlantaga.gov/>

✉ Contact: City council members may discuss how districting affects urban planning and funding.

## Advocacy & Community Organizations

✓ League of Women Voters - Georgia

📍 Website: <https://my.lwv.org/georgia>

✉ Contact: [info@lwvga.org](mailto:info@lwvga.org)

☎ Phone: (678) 547-0755

✓ Common Cause Georgia

📍 Website: <https://www.commoncause.org/georgia/>

✉ Contact: [action@commoncause.org](mailto:action@commoncause.org)

☎ Phone: (404) 927-1088

✓ Fair Fight Action

📍 Website: <https://fairfight.com/>

✉ Contact: [info@fairfightaction.com](mailto:info@fairfightaction.com)

✓ NAACP Georgia State Conference

📍 Website: <https://naacpga.org/>

✉ Contact: [info@naacpga.org](mailto:info@naacpga.org)

✓ Georgia Public Policy Foundation (Conservative Policy Research)

📍 Website: <https://www.georgiapolicy.org/>

✉ Contact: [info@georgiapolicy.org](mailto:info@georgiapolicy.org)

☎ Phone: (404) 256-4050

## Academic Experts & Research Institutions

✓ University of Georgia (UGA) - Department of Political Science

📍 Website: <https://spia.uga.edu/>

✉ Contact: Professors in Political Science or Public Affairs (Find faculty emails on the website).

✓ Georgia State University - Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

📍 Website: <https://aysps.gsu.edu/>

✉ Contact: Public Policy faculty members often research elections and redistricting.

✓ Emory University - Center for Law and Social Science

📍 Website: <https://polisci.emory.edu/home/index.html>

✉ Contact: Professors in political science and law focusing on voting rights and gerrymandering.

✓ Census Bureau - Atlanta Regional Office

📍 Website: <https://www.census.gov/about/regions/atlanta.html>

✉ Contact: [atlanta.regional.office@census.gov](mailto:atlanta.regional.office@census.gov)

## Local News & Legal Experts

✓ Atlanta Journal-Constitution (AJC) - Politics Desk

📍 Website: <https://www.ajc.com/>

✉ Contact [politics@ajc.com](mailto:politics@ajc.com) (or contact individual reporters covering elections).

✓ Georgia Ethics Commission (State Campaign Finance and Election Laws)

📍 Website: <https://ethics.ga.gov/>

✉ Contact: [helpdesk@ethics.ga.gov](mailto:helpdesk@ethics.ga.gov)

☎ Phone: (404) 463-1980

✓ Southern Poverty Law Center - Voting Rights Division

📍 Website: <https://www.splcenter.org/>

✉ Contact: [info@splcenter.org](mailto:info@splcenter.org)

## Sample Interview Questions for the Gerrymandering Project

### General Questions (for any subject)

1. How has gerrymandering affected political representation in Georgia?
2. What challenges arise when drawing district maps, and how can they be addressed?
3. How do you think district boundaries influence voter participation and engagement?
4. In your opinion, what would a fair district map look like?

### For Election Officials & Legislators

5. How does your office handle redistricting, and what role do you play?
6. What are the biggest challenges in ensuring fair representation when redistricting?
7. Have you seen any specific cases where gerrymandering has significantly affected elections?

### For Advocacy Groups & Community Organizations

8. What reforms, if any, are needed to improve Georgia's redistricting process?
9. How does gerrymandering impact underrepresented communities in Georgia?
10. What can students and young voters do to get involved in redistricting reform?

### **For Professors, Policy Analysts, & GIS Experts**

11. What role does data analysis play in identifying unfair district maps?
12. How can GIS technology help make redistricting fairer?
13. What are some of the most effective ways to measure whether a district is gerrymandered?

### **For Journalists & Legal Experts**

14. What stories have you covered regarding redistricting in Georgia, and what trends have you noticed?
15. Are there currently legal battles in Georgia over gerrymandering?
16. What legal protections exist to prevent extreme gerrymandering?

### **For Local Community Members & Business Owners**

17. How have district changes affected your community's access to resources (schools, funding, transportation)?
18. Do you feel your voice is fairly represented in government based on how your district is drawn?
19. What changes would you like to see in how political districts are drawn?

### **For Students & Young Voters**

20. How do you think gerrymandering affects young voters and first-time voters?
21. What challenges have you faced in understanding how district maps impact elections?
22. What would make it easier for young people to get involved in redistricting issues?