

# Redistricting 2021: How to Map a Changing Georgia



**Princeton  
Gerrymandering  
Project**



# Fair Districts GA August Town Hall

September 27, 2021

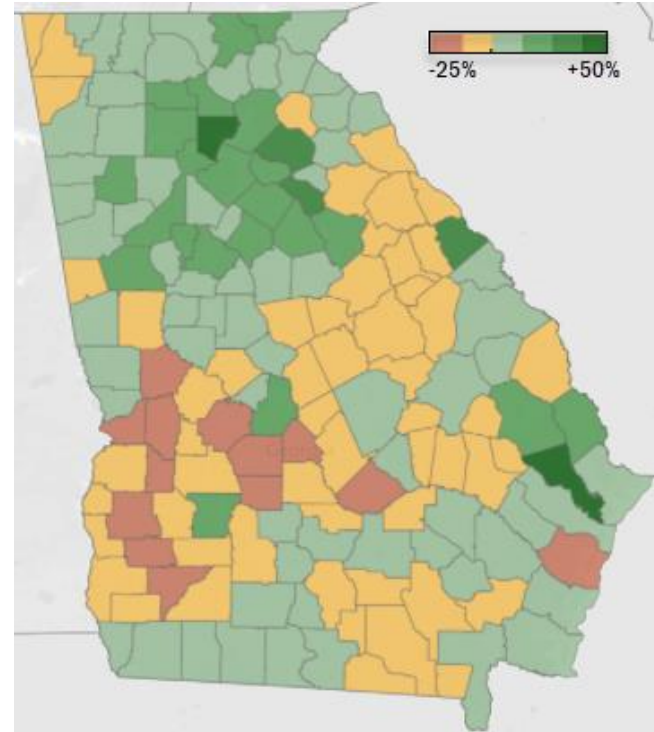


# 2020 Georgia Census: Shift from Rural to Urban



## Georgia is:

- Larger
- Urban
- Growing in new places
- Shrinking or stagnating in the rural areas



Percentage Population change from 2010

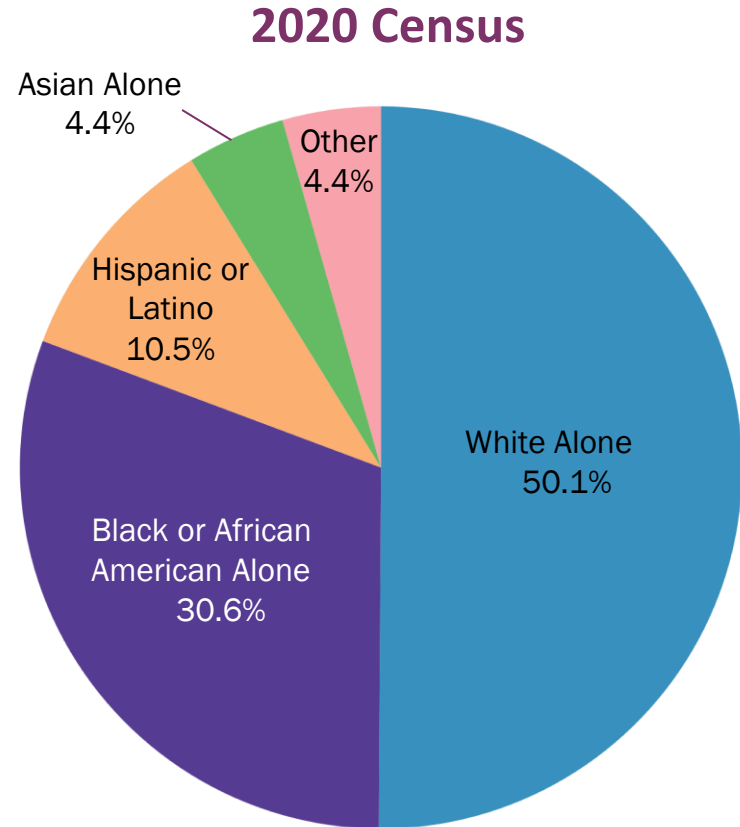
# 2020 Georgia Census: Georgia Grows More Diverse



## Georgia is:

### More Diverse:

- **White: -1%**
- **Black: +15%**
- **Hispanic: +32%**
- **Asian: +53%**
- **Multiracial: +139%**

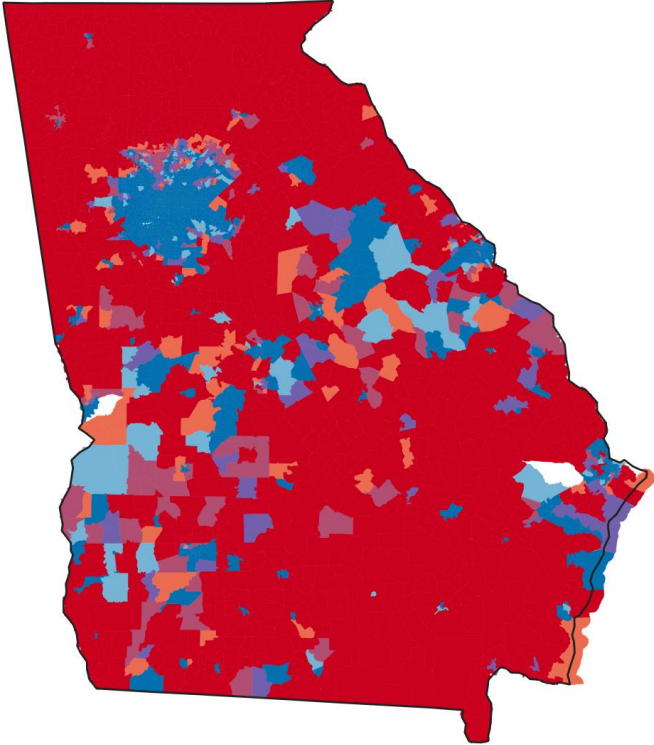
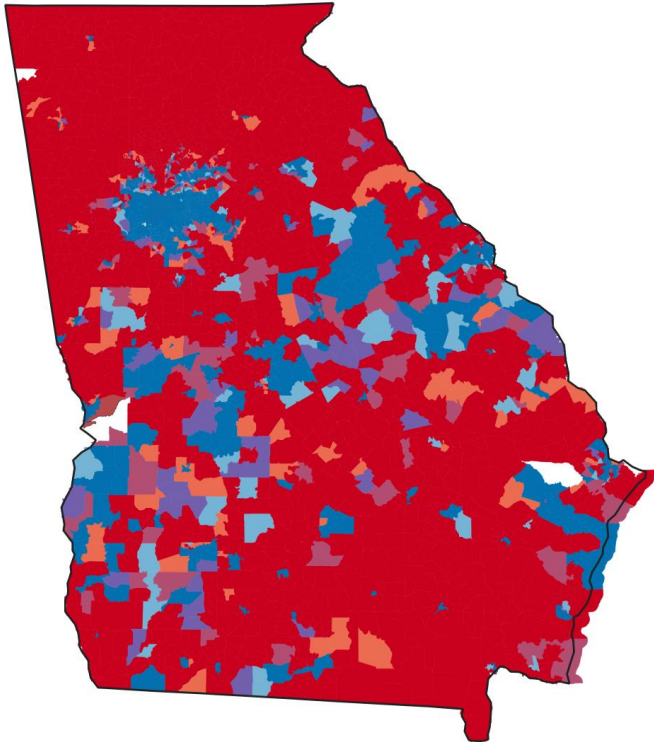


# Georgia 2011 vs. 2020: Polarized, But Now a Swing State



2012 Presidential Election (R+3.3%)

2020 Presidential Election (D+0.2%)







# 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



**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

### Benchmarks / fairness tests

- Based on 2020 census
- This fall: Evaluation of proposed maps

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





## Princeton Gerrymandering Project Analysis

**Create one million simulated maps for each chamber:  
State House, State Senate and Congress**

- Use 2020 Census redistricting data
- Comply with state law and the federal Voting Rights Act
- Incorporate Georgia General Assembly redistricting guidelines

# Fairness Benchmarks Using PGP Statistical Simulations



For each district in each simulated map, measure minority and partisan representation

## Partisan representation:

What is the *partisan lean* using the average of three recent statewide elections?

How many districts are considered competitive?

## Minority representation:

What are the demographics of the voting-age population?

How many districts are considered majority-minority?

Since the collection of **1 million simulated maps per chamber** was created using Georgia's redistricting criteria, fairly-drawn maps should fall within the range of these measurements

# State Senate 2011 vs. 2021:

## Partisan Representation, Expected Range



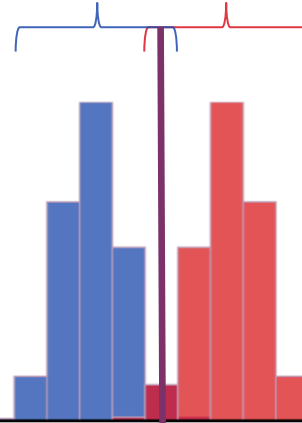
**2021**

Natural Democratic distribution:  
**0 → -4**

Natural Republican distribution:  
**0 → +4**

>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**24 - 28**  
Democratic districts in 2018-21 elections

>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**28 - 32**  
GOP districts in 2018-21 elections



**2011**

Natural Democratic distribution:  
**-7 → -11**

Natural Republican distribution:  
**+7 → +11**

>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**17 - 21**  
Democratic districts in 2012 election

>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**35 - 39**  
GOP districts in 2012 election



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

28 seats = even split

# State House 2011 vs. 2021:

## Partisan Representation, Expected Range

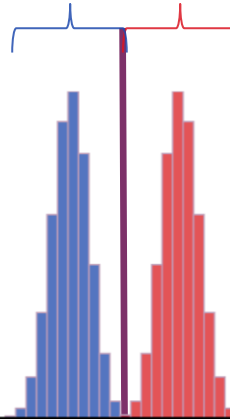


### 2021

Natural Democratic distribution:  
**-2 → -9**

Natural Republican distribution:  
**+2 → +9**

>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**81 - 88**  
Democratic districts  
in 2018-21 elections



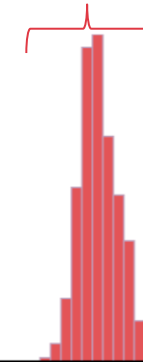
>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**92 - 99**  
GOP districts  
in 2018-21 elections

### 2011

Natural Democratic distribution:  
**-20 → -29**

Natural Republican distribution:  
**+20 → +29**

>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**61 - 70**  
Democratic districts  
in 2012 election



>98% of simulated maps would have produced  
**110 - 119**  
GOP districts  
in 2012 election

5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 150 155 160 165 170 175 180

90 seats = even split

# Congress 2011 vs. 2021:

## Partisan Representation, Expected Range



### 2021

Natural Democratic distribution:

-1 → -2



>98% of simulated maps would have produced

**5 - 6**

Democratic districts in 2018-21 elections

Natural Republican distribution:

+1 → +2



>98% of simulated maps would have produced

**8 - 9**

GOP districts in 2018-21 elections

### 2011

Natural Democratic distribution:

-2 → -3



>98% of simulated maps would have produced

**4 - 5**

Democratic districts in 2012 election

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

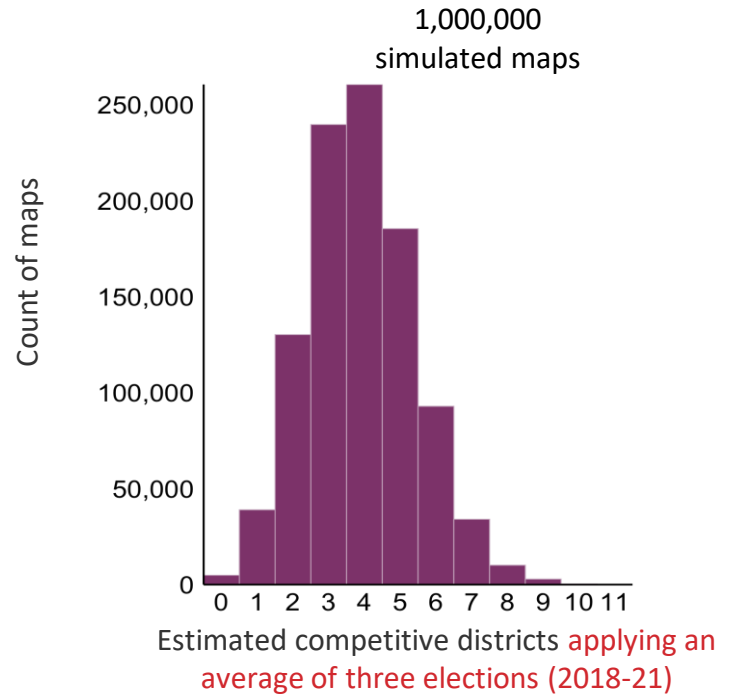
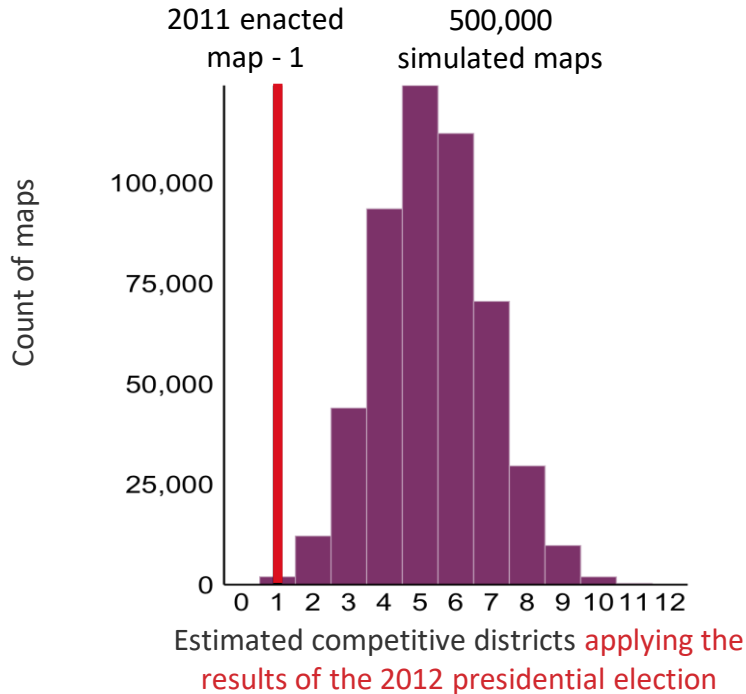
7 seats = even split

# State Senate: Competitive Districts, Expected Results



2011 competitive districts:  
>98% of simulated maps have 2-9

2021 competitive districts:  
98% of simulated maps have 1-7

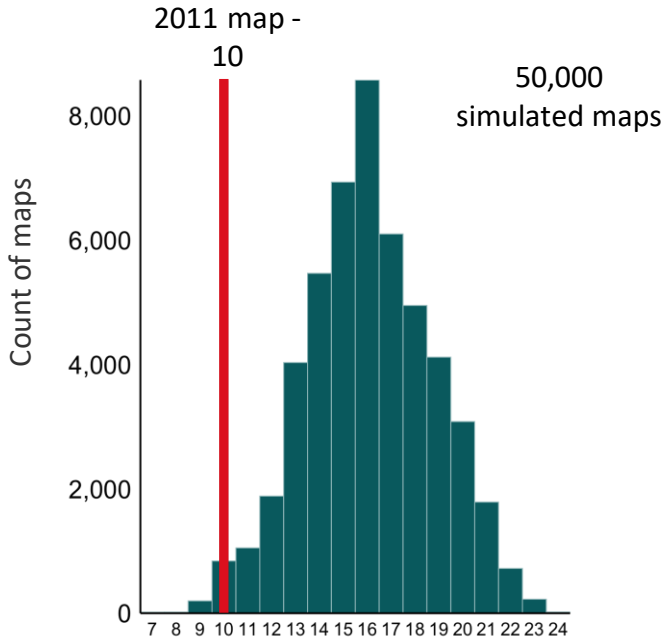


# State House: Competitive Districts, Expected Results

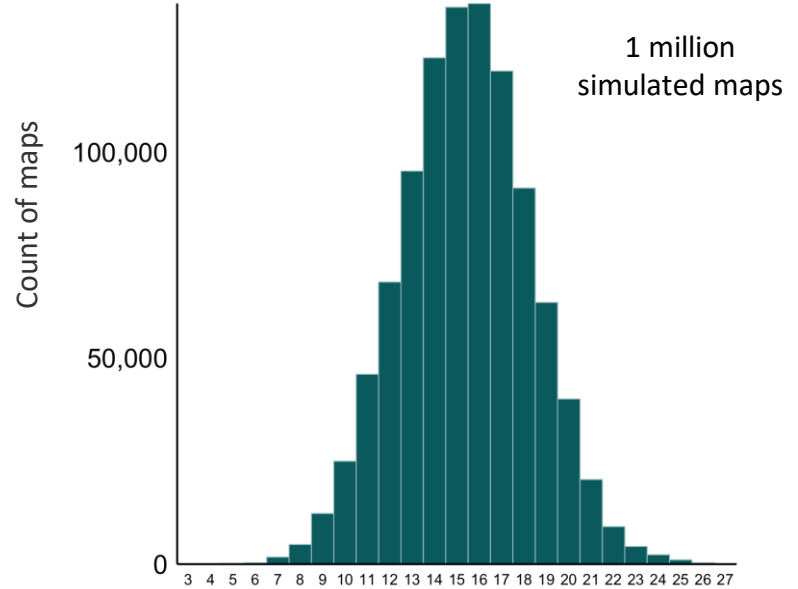


2011 competitive districts:  
>98% of simulated maps have 10-22

2021 competitive districts:  
>98% of simulated maps have 9-22



Estimated competitive districts applying the results of the 2012 presidential election



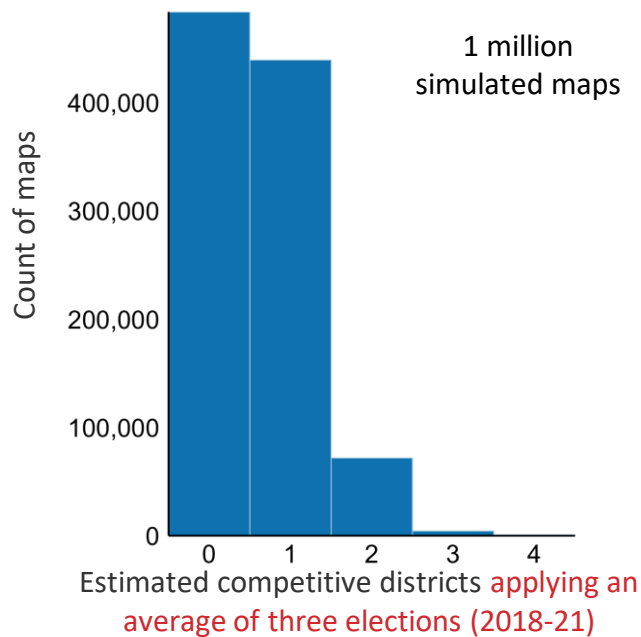
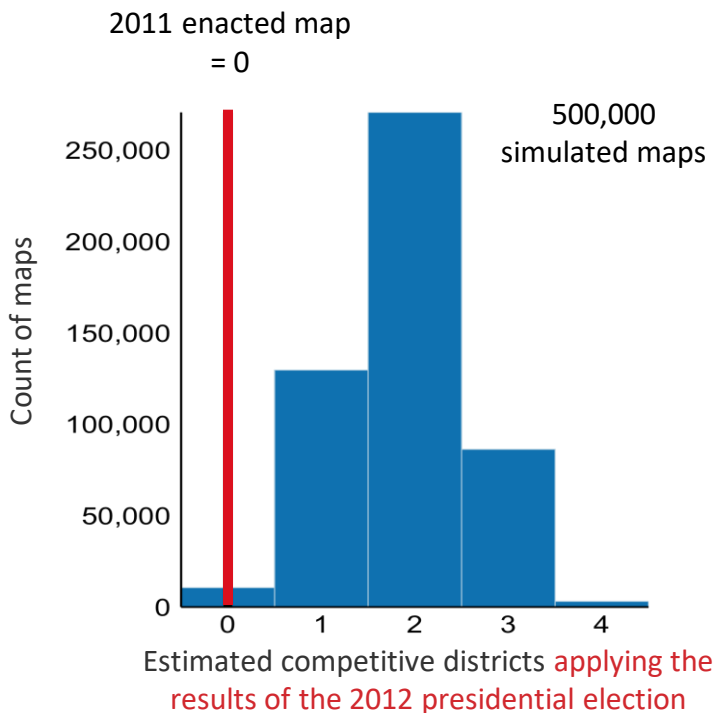
Estimated competitive districts applying an average of three elections (2018-21)

# Congress Competitive Districts, Expected Results



2011 competitive districts:  
>98% of simulated maps have 0-3

2012 competitive districts:  
>98% of simulated maps have 0-3





# State Senate: Black Representation



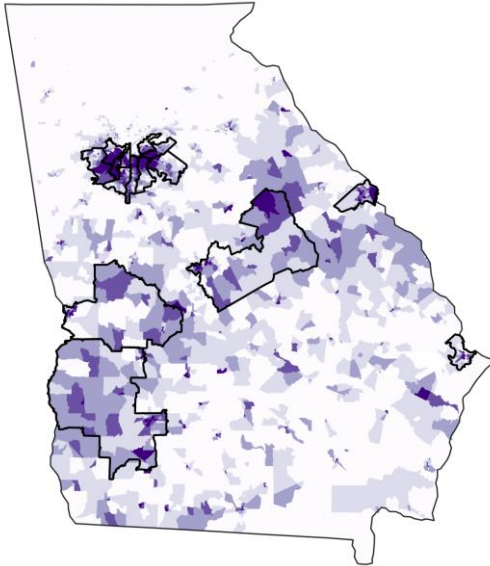
## 2011

VRA-Protected Opportunity Districts

- **15 Black-majority districts** (shown on map)

Influence Districts (37% – 50% BVAP)

- 0 Black influence districts
- >98% of simulated maps have 0 - 5



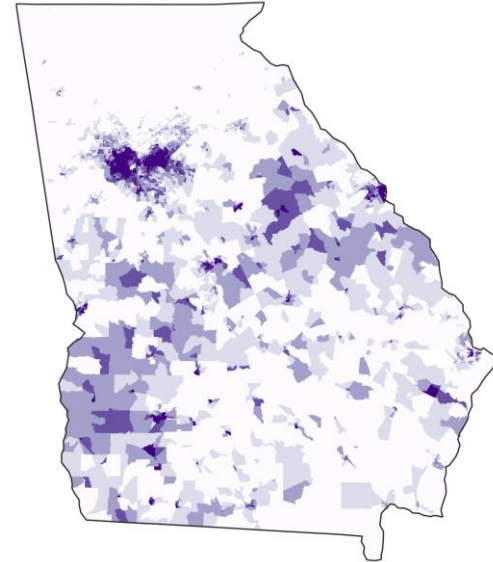
## 2021

VRA-Protected Opportunity Districts

- Simulations found maps with **16 Black-majority districts**, so at least 16 districts are indicated

Influence Districts (37% – 50% BVAP)

- >98% of simulated maps have 0 - 3

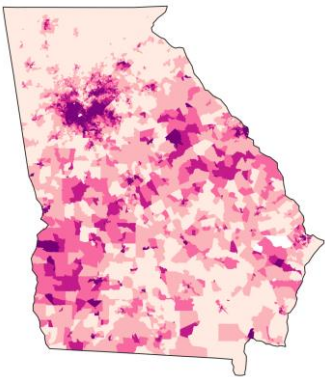


# State Senate 2021: Minority Representation



## All Minorities

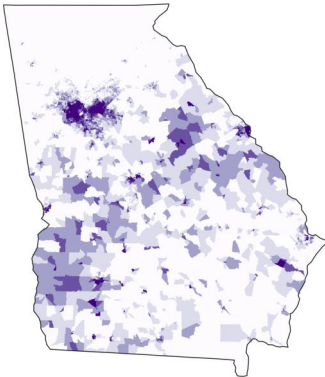
Coalition Districts



## Black

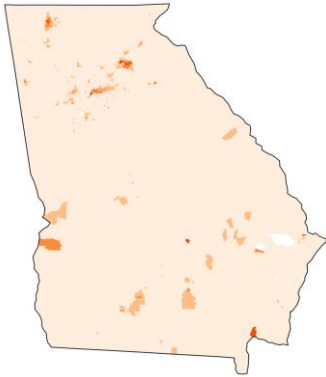
Opportunity Districts

Influence Districts



## Hispanic

Influence Districts



## Asian



We may also see:

- Significant number of districts with minority coalitions
- Districts with 37-50% Hispanic voters

# State House 2021: Black Representation



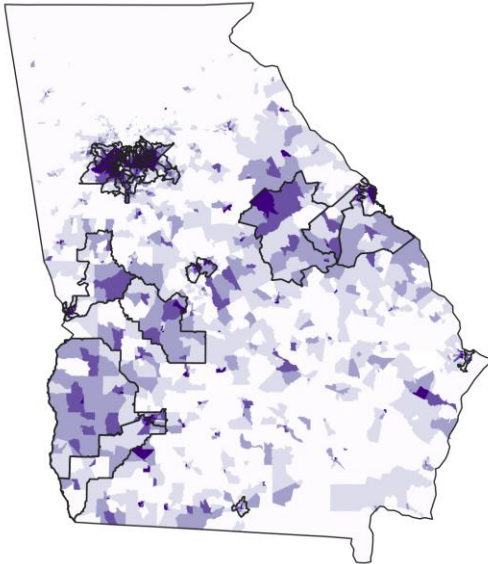
## 2011

VRA-Protected Opportunity Districts

- **47 Black-majority districts** (shown on map)

Influence Districts (37% – 50% BVAP)

- **8 Black influence districts**
- **>98% of simulated maps have 2 – 9**



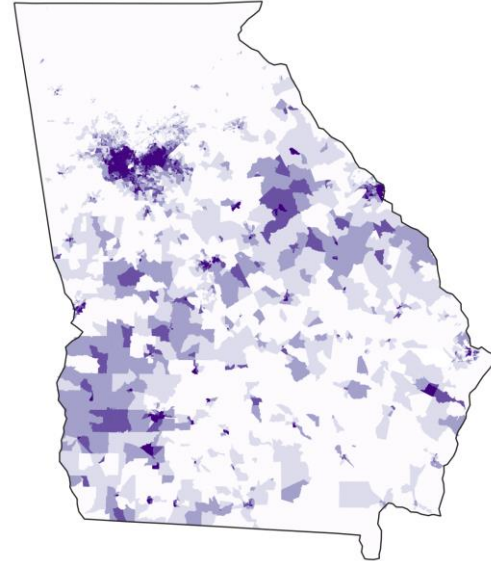
## 2021

VRA-Protected Opportunity Districts

- Simulations found maps with **48 Black-majority districts**, so at least 48 districts are indicated

Influence Districts (37% – 50% BVAP)

- **>98% of simulated maps have 3 - 11**

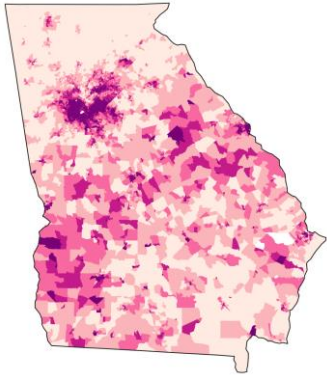


# State House 2021: Minority Representation



## All Minorities

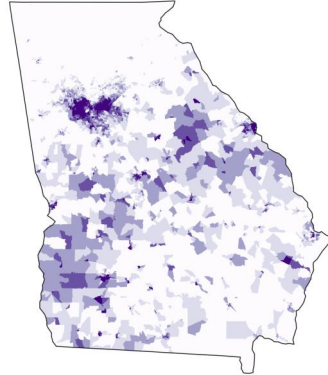
Coalition Districts



## Black

Opportunity Districts

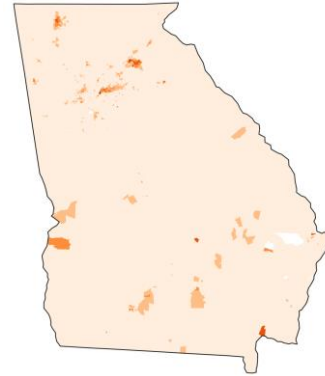
Influence Districts



## Hispanic

Opportunity Districts

Influence Districts



## Asian

Influence Districts



We may also see:

- Significant number of districts with minority coalitions
- For the first time, at least one majority-Hispanic district appears possible
- Districts with 37-50% Hispanic voters
- Districts with 37-50% Asian voters

# Congress 2021: Black Representation



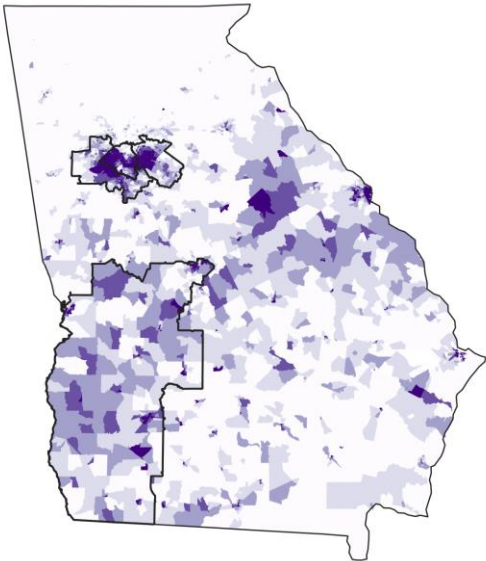
## 2011

VRA-Protected Opportunity Districts

- 4 Black-majority districts (shown on map)

Influence Districts (37% – 50% BVAP)

- 1 Black influence district
- >98% of simulated maps have 0 - 1



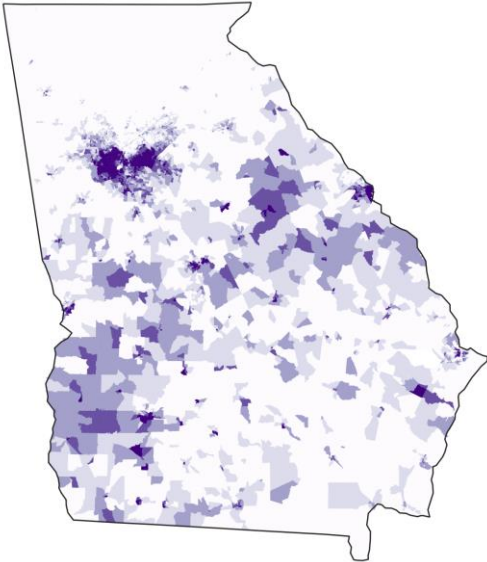
## 2021

VRA-Protected Opportunity Districts

- Simulations found maps with 4 Black-majority districts, so at least 4 districts are indicated

Influence Districts (37% – 50% BVAP)

- >98% of simulated maps have 0 - 1

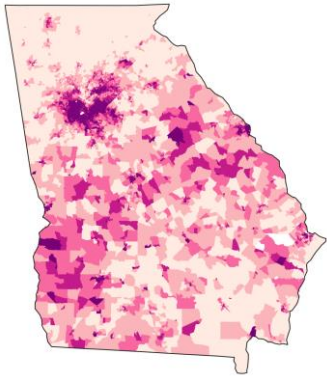


# Congress 2021: Minority Representation



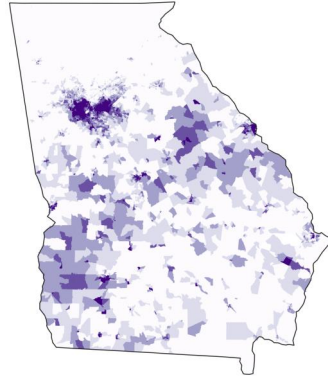
## All Minorities

Coalition Districts



## Black

Opportunity Districts  
Influence Districts



## Hispanic



## Asian



We expect to see a significant number of districts with minority coalitions

- A majority of simulated maps show 5 majority-minority districts



# Senate, House and Congressional Benchmark Comparison



## US Congress (14 Districts)

14 Total Districts

0-1

\*4 Black Majority

## Georgia State Senate (56 Districts)

56 Total Districts

0-3

\*16 Black Majority

## Georgia House (180 Districts)

180 Total Districts

3-11

\*48 Black Majority



Potential Opportunity Districts

\* = At Least



# Senate, House and Congressional Benchmark Comparison



## US Congress (14 Districts)



## Georgia State Senate (56 Districts)



## Georgia House (180 Districts)



 Expected Competitive Districts





# Thank you



Princeton  
Gerrymandering Project

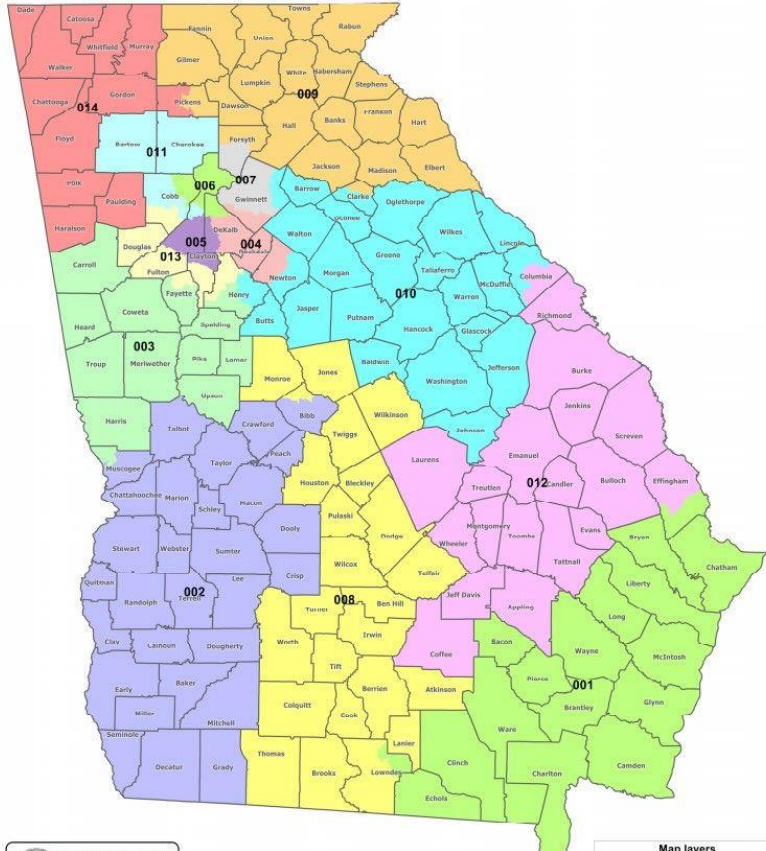


Q and A

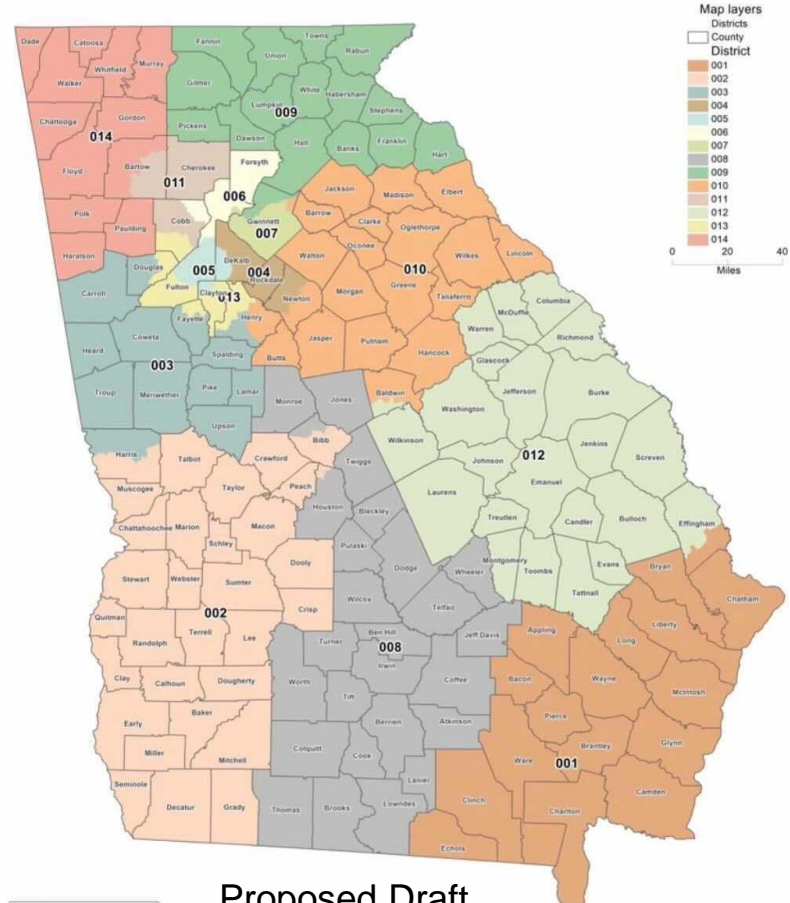
A 3D graphic featuring the letters 'Q' and 'A' in a vibrant purple color. The letters are thick and have a slight shadow underneath. Between the 'Q' and the 'A', the word 'and' is written in a smaller, lowercase, purple font, appearing to be nestled between the two large letters.

# Breaking News!!

## Draft Congressional Map



Current

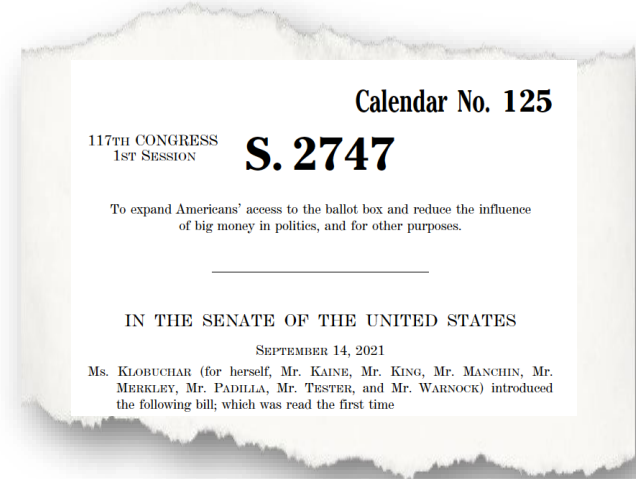


Proposed Draft

# 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!*



# Join the ACTION TEAM



*Take Action Now!*

Join at: [fairdistrictsga.org/action-team](http://fairdistrictsga.org/action-team)

There is still time to submit written testimony to the redistricting committees and make your voice heard:  
**[bit.ly/PublicCommentGA](http://bit.ly/PublicCommentGA)**



# Upcoming



**FAIR DISTRICTS GA  
OCTOBER TOWN HALL  
OCTOBER 25, 7PM**



Register at <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/400371/>