2011 REDISTRICTING AND 2012 ELECTIONS IN GEORGIA

September 2012

Final Congressional Redistricting Plan



Signed into law by Gov. Nathan Deal on Sept. 7, 2011.

2012 Projections (9R, 4D, 1?)*

In 1990, two years before Bill Clinton was elected president, Georgia's congressional delegation was comprised of nine Democrats and one Republican: Newt Gingrich. Now Republicans hold 8 of 13 seats, and are poised to defeat John Barrow, the last remaining white Democrat in the deep South, in a highly gerrymandered district.

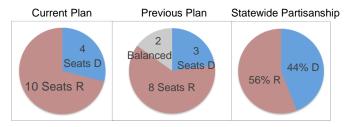
None of the eight Republican incumbents are remotely threatened in November, and the state's new district is safe for Republicans as well.

Three of the state's four black incumbents have safe districts. Sanford Bishop's district has a less pronounced Democratic lean.

* See details and the fair voting alternative on the following pages.

Georgia's Redistricting Map Compared to the Previous Lines

New Redistricting Plan Distorts Political Landscape



Partisan percentages and projections are based on an interpretation of the 2008 presidential election.

Competition and Voting Rights in Georgia

	Current Plan	Previous Plan
District Competition	0% (0/14)	15% (2/13)
African American Voting Strength*	40%	27%

^{*} Measures the percentage of African American eligible voters living in districts where they are a majority of eligible voters. Voters might not choose to vote for a candidate of their same race.

Redistricting Process in Georgia

In Georgia, the state legislature is responsible for redistricting. The 2011 process was the first time in the state's history that Republicans controlled redistricting – with a Republican governor and majorities in both houses of the state legislature.

After Republicans released their plan, Democrats decried the plan. It has ten strongly Republican seats and four strong or leaning Democratic seats. The plan passed both houses along party lines.

Although U.S. Rep. John Lewis called the plan "an affront to the spirit and the letter of the Voting Rights Act," it does preserve four seats with African American incumbents in districts with large shares of African Americans. The plan was precleared by the Department of Justice in December 2011.

U.S. House Elections in Georgia

All of Georgia's 13 incumbents won their congressional primaries on July 31, 2012. Nine of them ran unopposed.

Congressional elections in Georgia have traditionally been uncompetitive. The rate of victory for incumbents is a particularly striking example. Since 1996, incumbents have won 85 of 87 their bids for re-election. In 2002-2010, Republican incumbents ran for re-election 32 times, and won landslide victories in 31 of those races.

No woman has been elected to Georgia's congressional delegation since 2004, although Democrat Lesli Rae Messinger was nominated in the Republican-leaning 1st District. Four African Americans currently represent Georgia in the U.S. House.



2012 HOUSE ELECTIONS IN GEORGIA

September 2012

Listed below are the partisanship changes and projections for Georgia's new congressional districts. Incumbents are listed according to the districts in which they are running in 2012, with the 2010 district partisanship connected to that incumbent.

District	Incumbent	Party	Year First Elected	Last Election Winning %	2010 District Partisanship (D% / R%)	2012 District Partisanship (D% / R%)	2012 District Projection	2012 Election Projection
1	Jack Kingston	R	1992	72%	33 / 67	41 / 59	Strong R	Safe R
2	Sanford Bishop	D	1992	51%	50 / 50	55 / 45	Lean D	Likely D
3	Lynn Westmoreland	R	2004	69%	32 / 68	31 / 69	Strong R	Safe R
4	Hank Johnson	D	2006	75%	75 / 25	70 / 30	Strong D	Safe D
5	John Lewis	D	1986	74%	76 / 24	81 / 19	Strong D	Safe D
6	Tom Price	R	2004	100%	34 / 66	37 / 63	Strong R	Safe R
7	Rob Woodall	R	2010	67%	36 / 64	36 / 64	Strong R	Safe R
8	Austin Scott	R	2010	53%	40 / 60	35 / 65	Strong R	Safe R
9	OPEN*					21 / 79	Strong R	Safe R
10	Paul Broun	R	2007	67%	35 / 65	36 / 64	Strong R	Safe R
11	Phil Gingrey	R	2002	100%	30 / 70	32 / 68	Strong R	Safe R
12	John Barrow	D	2004	57%	51 / 49	41 / 59	Strong R	None
13	David Scott	D	2002	69%	68 / 32	64 / 36	Strong D	Safe D
14	Tom Graves	R	2010	100%	21 / 79	25 / 75	Strong R	Safe R

^{*}Georgia gained one U.S. House seat after reapportionment.



GEORGIA REDISTRICTING & THE FAIR VOTING ALTERNATIVE

September 2012

Georgia's Fair Voting Plan



Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisanship Projection: 8R, 4D, 1?
A (CDs – 3, 13, 14)	3	691,975	25%	41 / 59	2R, 1D
B (CDs – 4, 5, 6, 7, 11)	5	691,975	16.7%	52 / 48	2R, 2D, 1?
C (CDs – 9, 10, 12)	3	691,975	25%	33 / 67	2R, 1D
D (CDs – 1, 2, 8)	3	691,975	25%	43 / 57	2R, 1D

* plus 1 vote

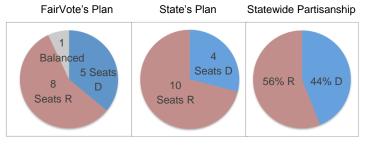
How Does Fair Voting Work?

Fair voting describes American forms of proportional representation that uphold electoral traditions and are based on voting for candidates. They ensure meaningfully contested elections and provide voters with more accurate representation.

Instead of 14 individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into four larger "super-districts" with three or five representatives. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a quarter of voters in a three-seat district will win a seat. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a sixth of voters will win in a five-seat district.

Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to Georgia's Redistricting Plan

More Accurate Political Representation*



* Partisan percentages and projections are based on an interpretation of the 2008 presidential election similar to the Partisan Voting Index. They do not account for other candidate-based factors like incumbency.

Meaningful Elections and Representation

	FairVote's Plan	State's Plan
District Competition	100% (4/4)	0% (0/14)
Shared Representation*	100% (4/4)	0% (0/14)

^{*} Shared representation indicates districts represented by both Democrats and Republicans – which enables more accurate congressional representation for most voters.

Benefits of a Fair Voting Plan

Shared representation of different views: Supporters of both major parties elect candidates everywhere, with accurate balance of that district's left, right, and center.

More voter choice: Better chance for third parties, independents and major party innovators, as there is a lower threshold for candidates to win a seat.

More competition: With voters having a range of choices, candidates must compete to win voter support.

Better representation of racial minorities: Lower threshold for racial minority candidates to earn seats, even when not geographically concentrated. More voters of all races are in a position to elect candidates.

More women: More women likely to run and win. Single-member districts often stifle potential candidacies.