# Fair Districts GA Introduction and 2021 Plan

External use Working draft – February 2021



**FairDistrictsGA** 



### About Fair Districts GA

Fair Districts GA is a <u>nonpartisan</u> organization that works to end electoral map rigging in Georgia.

Our focus is to fight gerrymandering, the practice of drawing legislative district lines to favor one group over another.

Our ultimate goal is to reform Georgia's <u>process</u> for drawing state and federal electoral maps.

Georgia is now a swing state. Our legislative and congressional districts should reflect this new reality.



# 2021 FDGA Strategy

- 1. Convince Georgia General Assembly to produce fair maps during decennial redistricting, avoiding another gerrymander
  - Balanced between political parties
  - Reflecting racial makeup of population
  - Responsive to shifts in voting patterns
  - Aligned with communities of interest



- 2. Improve transparency of redistricting process
- 3. Build support in and out of the legislature for legislation reforming redistricting in future cycles



# 2021 Tactics – Public Pressure

- Cultivate and mobilize a state-wide network of citizen activists
- Cultivate and leverage a state-wide network of media contacts
- Educate legislators, citizens, and the media on prior gerrymandering and its impact
- Provide independent, non-partisan benchmarks for fair maps based on 2020 census
- Advocate for fair maps and future legislation directly with key legislators
- Multiply our effort through a network of strategic partners



## How can I connect with Fair Districts GA?

Outreach Heather Hallett Education Nancy Watkins Legislative advocacy Janet Grant Mapping & analysis Karen McCown & Raenell Soller

Communication Vicki Krugman

- Statewide network of citizen activists
- Communities of interest
- Citizen engagement & events

- Content production
  - Multipurpose
  - Multi-format
- Education events

- Legislative relationships
- Advocate for fair maps
- Advocate for transparency
- Shape & support legislation

- Historical research
- 2021 fairness benchmarks
- Legislative map assessment
- Mapping

- Media relations
- Publicity
- Communication platforms / guidelines
- Social media oversight

Web: https://www.fairdistrictsga.org/get-involved Twitter: @FairDistrictsGA FB: https://www.facebook.com/groups/252014951933842



#### Our partner network (preview)



Georgia







PRINCETON GERRYMANDERING PROJECT

Fixing bugs in democracy







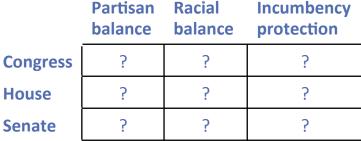






# Princeton / FDGA partnership

- Report: "20-year history of gerrymandering" case for change
- Provide independent benchmarks prior to legislative map drawing for
   Partisan Ra
  - Partisan balance
  - Racial balance
  - Degree of incumbency protection
- Measure maps drawn by the legislature against the benchmarks
- Assist in defining communities of interest in Georgia
- Educate legislators and the public on what <sub>2/3/21</sub> constitutes a fair redistricting plan







#### Upcoming events

January 11 – end of March	Regular legislative session
January 25	<ul> <li>Announce Princeton partnership</li> <li>Legislator briefings underway. Letter to Senate &amp; House committees</li> <li>Press release week of January 25</li> </ul>
Week of January 25	Democracy Act (SR 20) introduced
February	PGP/FDGA presentation and report: "Twenty-year history of gerrymandering"
February	State-wide kickoff / town hall (1600+ invitees)
Spring - Summer	Local hearings throughout state by legislative committees (assumed – awaiting plan from committees)
August? (depends on census data)	PGP/FDGA Fairness benchmarks released (census + ~2 weeks) Mapping work by legislature (depends on census data)
Fall 2021 (projected)	PGP/FDGA map fairness assessment Legislative special session

