

# Democratic Party of Georgia

## 2024 Post-Election Report



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# A letter from **Congresswoman Nikema Williams** **Chair, Democratic Party of Georgia**



Fellow Democrats,

We are still processing the disappointing results of the 2024 presidential race in Georgia, and we will continue to learn more and answer hard questions in the weeks to come. Despite difficult losses in Georgia and across the country this year, Georgia Democrats made a strong showing in the face of a national red wave that saw Donald Trump sweep every battleground state.

Over the course of the cycle, our Coordinated Campaign opened more than 30 field offices and hired more than 250 staffers all across the state to organize in every corner of every county. In an extremely difficult national political environment, we netted two State House seats, defended all our State Senate seats, grew our Democratic margins in blue counties and competitive Atlanta suburbs, and trimmed Republicans’ margins in red areas.

At the top of the ticket, **Georgia Democrats increased Kamala Harris's vote total in our state over President Biden's in 2020 by more than 70,000 votes — more than all other battleground states combined — and cemented the Peach State's status as a battleground state heading into the next election cycle.**

Georgia Democrats know that progress is not a linear path, and that movements like ours do not come and go overnight. Our movement is bigger than a single race or election cycle – it persists through both wins and losses, progress and setbacks. This year is a setback, but it is not a defeat. We entered the 2024 cycle as an undeniable battleground state, and we cemented our status as one for cycles to come. We know that there is hard work ahead to elect Democrats up and down the ballot in 2026, and we are prepared to do that work.

Sincerely,  
**Congresswoman Nikema Williams**  
**Chair, Democratic Party of GA**

Battleground Vote Change 2020-2024		
<b>GEORGIA</b>		
Harris 2024	2,548,014	<b>74,381</b>
Biden 2020	2,473,633	<b>3.0%</b>
<b>WISCONSIN</b>		
Harris 2024	1,668,082	<b>37,216</b>
Biden 2020	1,630,866	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>		
Harris 2024	2,689,490	<b>5,198</b>
Biden 2020	2,684,292	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>NEVADA</b>		
Harris 2024	703,906	<b>420</b>
Biden 2020	703,486	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>		
Harris 2024	3,400,854	<b>-57,375</b>
Biden 2020	3,458,229	<b>-1.7%</b>
<b>MICHIGAN</b>		
Harris 2024	2,733,389	<b>-70,651</b>
Biden 2020	2,804,040	<b>-2.5%</b>
<b>ARIZONA</b>		
Harris 2024	1,561,843	<b>-110,300</b>
Biden 2020	1,672,143	<b>-6.6%</b>

\*As of 11/15/24

# Peach State Progress



In the State Senate, every incumbent Democrat was re-elected this year, and House Democrats netted two seats, narrowing the Republican majority. Democrats also won hard-fought victories in down-ballot races, particularly outside the metro Atlanta area. Democrats netted two new House seats in Middle Georgia, where Floyd L. Griffin will become the first African American to represent HD 149, Tangie Herring beat Republican Noah Harbuck for the newly-created HD 145 seat, and Mack Jackson defended the HD 128 seat by a margin of fewer than 50 votes. Also in traditionally-red Middle Georgia, Richard Garrett flipped a Putnam County Commission seat from red to blue, and Adrick Ingram made history as the first African-American elected Commission Chairman of Hancock County. And despite relentless Republican attacks on Democrats as “soft on crime”, several counties across Georgia elected or retained Democratic sheriffs – including in Chatham County and Hancock County, in both of which Democrats now hold every countywide elected office.

- **Committed outreach and engagement with a wide and multiracial coalition across the state.** DPG conducted targeted outreach towards the different communities that make up Georgia, including the African American, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI), and Latino communities.
- **Strengthening voter turnout.** DPG focused on expanding its electoral coalition by engaging voters and sporadic voters, including those that typically do not see engagement from either party.





# Trimming the Margins



In Georgia, only recently recognized by the rest of the political world as a battleground state this cycle, Kamala Harris outperformed both other battleground states and the national average. Vice President Harris came within 2.2% of winning Georgia – a margin comparable to the long-recognized perennial battleground state of Pennsylvania (1.9%). Meanwhile, Democrats in Nevada (3.1%), North Carolina (3.4%), and Arizona (5.5%) all fared much worse. Overall, Georgia's 2.2% loss was smaller than the battleground states average of 3.1%, and much smaller than the national margin of 6.7%. Overall, Georgia's 2.2% margin was closer than the battleground states average of 3.1%, and much closer than the national margin of 6.7%. In the face of what we now see were insurmountable national headwinds, Georgia Democrats made this a very close race.

Despite the overall result, **we also achieved Democratic gains at the county level not just in already-blue counties, but swing and deep-red counties too.** Twenty-four counties shifted left compared to 2020, including Atlanta suburbs and exurbs like **Henry County** (a massive **+9.2 points** more Democratic), **Rockdale County** (**+6.7**), **Douglas County** (**+6.3**), **Cobb County** (**+0.6**). We also saw leftward shifts in not just traditionally red counties like **Paulding** (**+4.9** points more Democratic), **Spalding** (**+4.1**), **Walton** (**+3.3**) and **Dawson** (**+2.6**), but also deep-red, rural Republican strongholds like **Rabun** (**+0.5**), **Gilmer** (**+1.0**) and **Lee** (**+1.0**). While we have a lot of work ahead of us, we are continuing to trim Republicans' margins in red areas across the state, build Democratic power in the formerly-red suburbs, and run up the numbers in Democratic strongholds.

On a larger scale, the numbers tell the story of Georgia's blue shift over the past several cycles – a shift that continued this cycle, despite the result in the presidential race. The following shows Georgia's margin *relative to the national margin*, i.e. how much redder Georgia's vote was than the national result:

**2012: R+ 11.7**

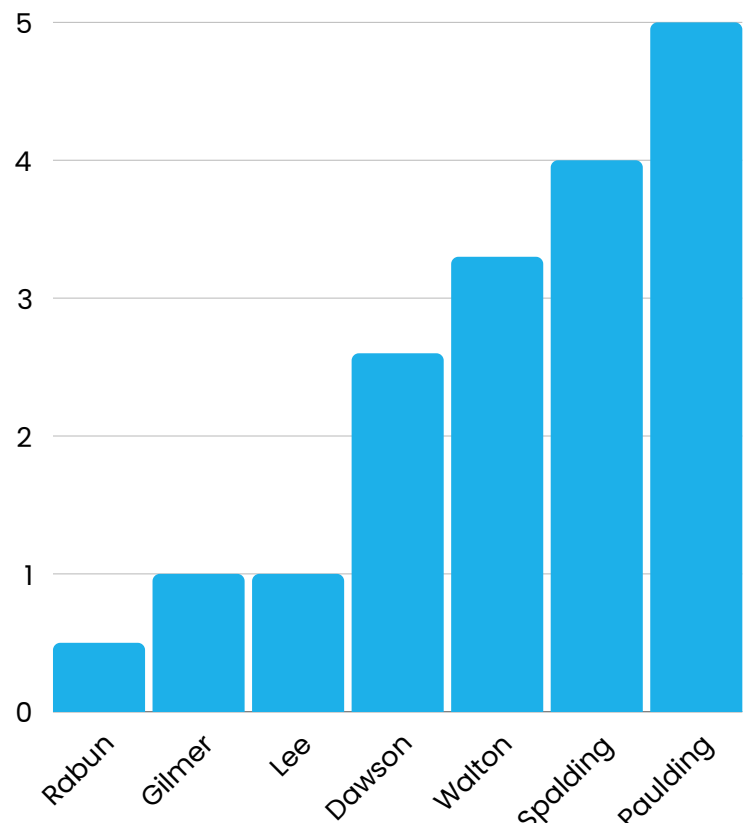
\*As of 11/15/24

**2016: R+ 7.2**

**2020: R+ 4.3**

**2024: ≈R+ 0.2**

These numbers represent steady, hard-fought progress that we will continue to build on in the coming midterm and beyond.





## Courtroom wins

Georgia Democrats also took our fight to the courtroom on behalf of Georgia voters' rights – and won. When a pro-Trump majority on the State Election Board tried to lay the groundwork to deny the results of the election in the case of Donald Trump losing, we sued and successfully overturned their last-minute rule changes. Among the election-denier-sponsored rules we successfully blocked were a rule that would have required a hand count of every single ballot on election night, creating delays, possible errors, and opportunities for Trump allies to spread conspiracies; and a rule that would have granted local election boards a new power to refuse to certify election results they didn't like. We are proud to have notched these important legal wins on behalf of Georgia voters.

### Trump and His MAGA Movement Are Actively 'Hijacking' Georgia's Elections

*Rolling Stone*, 8/14/24

### Georgia judges rebuke GOP-led state election board on certification and hand counts

*NPR*, 10/16/24

### "Democrats Sue Georgia Election Board, Warning of 'Chaos.'"

*New York Times*, 8/26/24

### A Georgia Election Official's Months-Long Push to Make It Easier to Challenge the 2024 Results

*ProPublica*, 11/04/24

GOP ATTEMPTS	DPG ACTIONS
Fulton Co. Board of Election member, who works for 2020 Stop the Steal ringleader Cleta Mitchell, filed a lawsuit in order to give her colleagues the power to refuse certifying election results they don't like.	✓ <b>SUCCESSFULLY BLOCKED</b>
Pro-Trump Republicans on the State Election Board pass a rule granting themselves a new power to refuse to certify election results they don't like.	✓ <b>SUCCESSFULLY BLOCKED</b>
Pro-Trump Republicans on the State Election Board pass a rule requiring a hand count of all ballots on election night in order to manufacture uncertainty by injecting human error into the counting process.	✓ <b>SUCCESSFULLY BLOCKED</b>
Pro-Trump Republicans helping flood Georgia's presidential ballot with alternative third-party candidates to take votes away from Vice President Harris.	✓ <b>SUCCESSFULLY BLOCKED</b>

# Voter Protection



The Democratic Party of Georgia was the first in the nation to have a full-time Voter Protection Program, and it has become a flagship of our work and essential in the fight to protect voting rights in Georgia.

During the 2024 General Election season (August 19th – November 8th), DPG’s Voter Protection Hotline received **10,295 calls** in our English call queue during open hours, plus 153 calls on our Spanish language line. We placed over 5,000 outgoing calls, responding to voicemails or following up on previous reports to address voters’ questions and concerns.

We made nearly **22,932 calls** to individual voters to help them cure their ballots – these are votes that may not have been counted without intervention. As of the day before the election, approximately 4,700 had either cured their absentee ballots and provisional by mail ballots or voted. We trained more than **5,105 poll observers** and had nearly 1,934 on-site on Election Day.

The Voter Protection program’s work helped ensure thousands of Georgians could cast their ballots and have them counted.



*Credit: Democratic Party of Georgia*



*Credit: Democratic Party of Georgia*



# Georgia Democrats



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Nikema Williams**  
Chair



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