

2018 Election Report

After a long campaign cycle in Georgia, November 6th has come and gone. There was monumental turnout for a midterm election in Georgia as well as across the Country. There were some surprises and some races that are still too close to call.

Turnout has been the most impressive factor in the election results. Each campaign knew their number one goal has to be to get their voters to the polls. In 2014, there were 2.5 million ballots cast. In 2016 (presidential year), there were 4.1 million ballots cast. Yesterday **3,886,414** voters went to the polls.

Statewide Races

Brian Kemp earned 1,962,547 votes on Tuesday night – enough for 50.5% of the vote. Stacey Abrams earned 1,887,161 for 48.6%. With only 75,386 votes separating the candidates out of almost 4 Million cast, Stacey Abrams has opted not to concede. She believes the race could be sent into a runoff with the addition of the absentee ballots. There are still uncounted provisional and absentee ballots out there.

Mathematically, it would be very hard for Abrams to win the percentage of the absentee ballots necessary to force a runoff.

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| BRIAN KEMP (REP) | 50.39% | 1,968,407 |
| STACEY ABRAMS (DEM) | 48.66% | 1,900,935 |
| TED METZ (LIB) | 0.95% | 36,918 |
| | | 3,906,260 |

Heading down the ballot, Geoff Duncan became Georgia's next Lieutenant Governor beating Democrat Sarah Amico 51.9% to 48.1%. We will continue to follow this transition as a former State House member prepares to become the head of the Senate.

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| GEOFF DUNCAN (REP) | 51.80% | 1,941,481 |
| SARAH RIGGS AMICO (DEM) | 48.20% | 1,806,382 |
| | | 3,747,863 |

Attorney General Chris Carr who was appointed by Governor Deal in 2016 won re-election over attorney Charlie Bailey 51.6% to 48.4%.

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| CHRIS CARR (I) (REP) | 51.46% | 1,971,173 |
| CHARLIE BAILEY (DEM) | 48.54% | 1,858,989 |
| | | 3,830,162 |

In the race for Secretary of State, neither Brad Raffensperger nor John Barrow received 50 +1% of the vote. The race will head to a runoff.

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| BRAD RAFFENSPERGER (REP) | 49.26% | 1,896,916 |
| JOHN BARROW (DEM) | 48.52% | 1,868,545 |
| SMYTHE DUVAL (LIB) | 2.23% | 85,723 |
| | | 3,851,184 |

Jim Beck, known in the 2018 election cycle for his clever commercials, won the race for Insurance Commissioner 50.5% to Janice Laws' 46.82%.

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| JIM BECK (REP) | 50.53% | 1,935,054 |
| JANICE LAWS (DEM) | 46.82% | 1,792,959 |
| DONNIE FOSTER (LIB) | 2.64% | 101,256 |
| | | 3,829,269 |

State Legislative Races

The State Legislature is going to look very different for the 2019 Legislative Session. With a heated primary season, judicial appointments, retirements and finally the general election, there has been unprecedented turnover. 10% of the 56-member Senate will be new and 20% of the 180-member House.

Republicans began 2018 with a 117 – 63 majority over Democrats in the House. As of today, the count is 105 Republicans, 5 still too close to call and 70 Democrat.

In the Senate, Republicans began with a 37 – 19 majority over Democrats. Today, that majority has fallen to 35 – 21.

The districts that flipped -

HD 37 – Republican Sam Teasley and Democrat Mary Frances Williams are neck and neck in a race that has not been called yet.

HD 40 – In the seat vacated by Republican Rich Golick, Democrat Erick Allen defeated Matt Bentley 54.6% to 45.4%.

HD 48 – Incumbent Republican Betty Price is losing to Mary Robichaux in a race that is too close to call.

HD 50 – Vacated by Brad Raffensperger, this seat is still too close to call. Currently, Democrat Angelika Kausche leads Republican Kelly Stewart by less than 1%.

HD 51 – This open seat, vacated by Republican Wendell Willard, was won by Democrat Josh McLaurin who defeated Alex Kaufman 51.5% to 48.5%.

HD 54 – Republican Beth Beskin lost her seat to Democrat Betsy Holland 48.4% to Holland's 51.6%.

HD 80 – In a race that was expected to be a tough one for the incumbent, Representative Megan Hanson was defeated by Democrat Matthew Wilson 47.5% to 52.5%.

HD 95 – Incumbent Republican Scott Hilton was defeated by challenger, Democrat Beth Moore. Moore won 51% to 49%.

HD 102 – With Buzz Brockway vacating this seat to run for higher office, this open seat is too close to call. Democrat Gregg Kennard is currently winning over Republican Paula Hastings 51.2% to 48.8%.

HD 105 – This open seat vacated by Republican Joyce Chandler will be filled by Democrat Donna McLeod who defeated Republican Donna Sheldon 58.3% to 41.6%.

HD 107 – Democrat Shelly Hutchinson will be replacing retiring Republican Representative Davis Casas with a 58.7% win over Janet Mihoci.

HD 108 – Incumbent Clay Cox and Democrat Jasmine Clark are still too close to call. Currently Clark leads Cox by 0.5%.

HD 111 – Republican Incumbent Geoff Cauble was defeated by El-Mahdi Holly 43.5% to 56.5%.

HD 117 – Democrat Incumbent Deborah Gonzalez was defeated by Republican Houston Gaines 54.2% to 45.5%.

HD 119 – Democrat Jonathan Wallace was defeated by Republican Marcus Wiedower 53.5% to 46.5%.

HD 138 – This seat vacated by Democrat Bill McGowan will be filled by Republican Mike Cheokas. Cheokas won with 51.8% of the vote over Bardin Hooks with 48.2%.

SD 40 – Senate veteran Fran Millar lost his seat to Democrat Sally Harrell. Harrell won 54.7% to 45.3%.

SD 48 – This seat was vacated by David Shafer when he qualified to run for Lt. Governor. Replacing Shafer will be Democrat Zahra Karinshak. Karinshak won out over Republican Matt Reeves 53.4% to 46.6%.

Constitutional Amendments

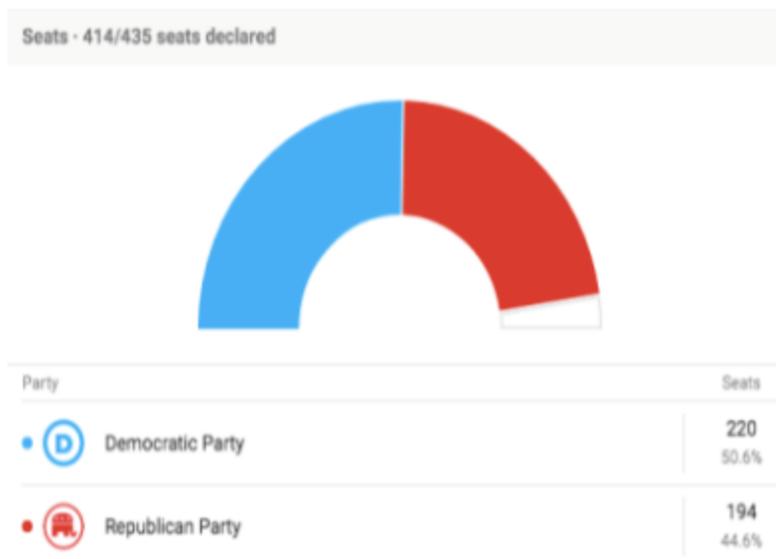
This year, there were five statewide constitutional amendments on the ballot. All the amendments passed and will be added to the Georgia constitution.

- **Amendment 1** - Creates the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund
- **Amendment 2** - Creates a state-wide business court.
- **Amendment 3** - Encourages the conservation, sustainability, and longevity of Georgia's working forests through tax subclassifications and grants.'
- **Amendment 4** - Provides rights for victims of crime in the judicial process. (Also known as Marsy's Law)
- **Amendment 5** - Authorizes fair allocation of sales tax proceeds to county and city school districts.

At the Federal Level

2018 was predicted to be a Blue Wave at the federal level. Democrats were expected to take over the House and that is exactly what happened. As of today, with 414 of 435 seats declared, Democrats have won 220 and Republicans,194.

Georgia's Congressional Delegation saw some shake ups. Republican Karen Handel was defeated by Democrat Lucy McBath 50.5% to 49.5%. Republican Congressman Rob Woodall squeaked by in defeating Carolyn Bourdeaux 50.2% to 49.8%.



While Georgia's US Senators were not on the ballot, overall Republicans solidified their majority by gaining two seats. There are also a handful of undecided races that could add to the number of Republican seats.

