Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

May 8, 2024

Looking for Hot Spots: Using Heat Maps for Data Informed Planning

Chris Wells
Executive Director
Chris.wells@gvs.ga.gov

Danielle Fluck
Director of Planning and Budget
Danielle.fluck@gvs.ga.gov

Rebecca Williamson
Strategic Initiatives Manager
Rebecca.Williamson@gvs.ga.gov

GVRA

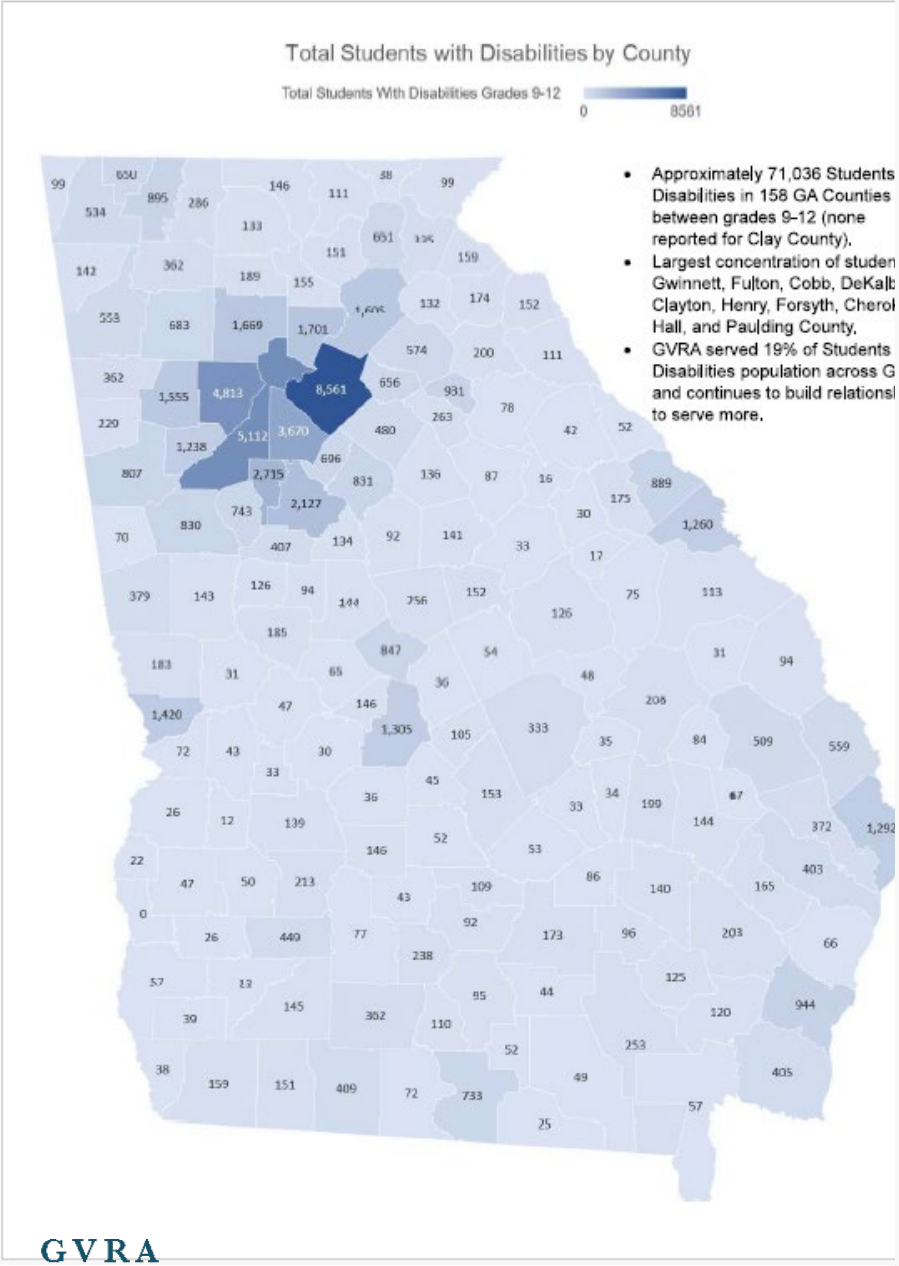
Learning Objectives

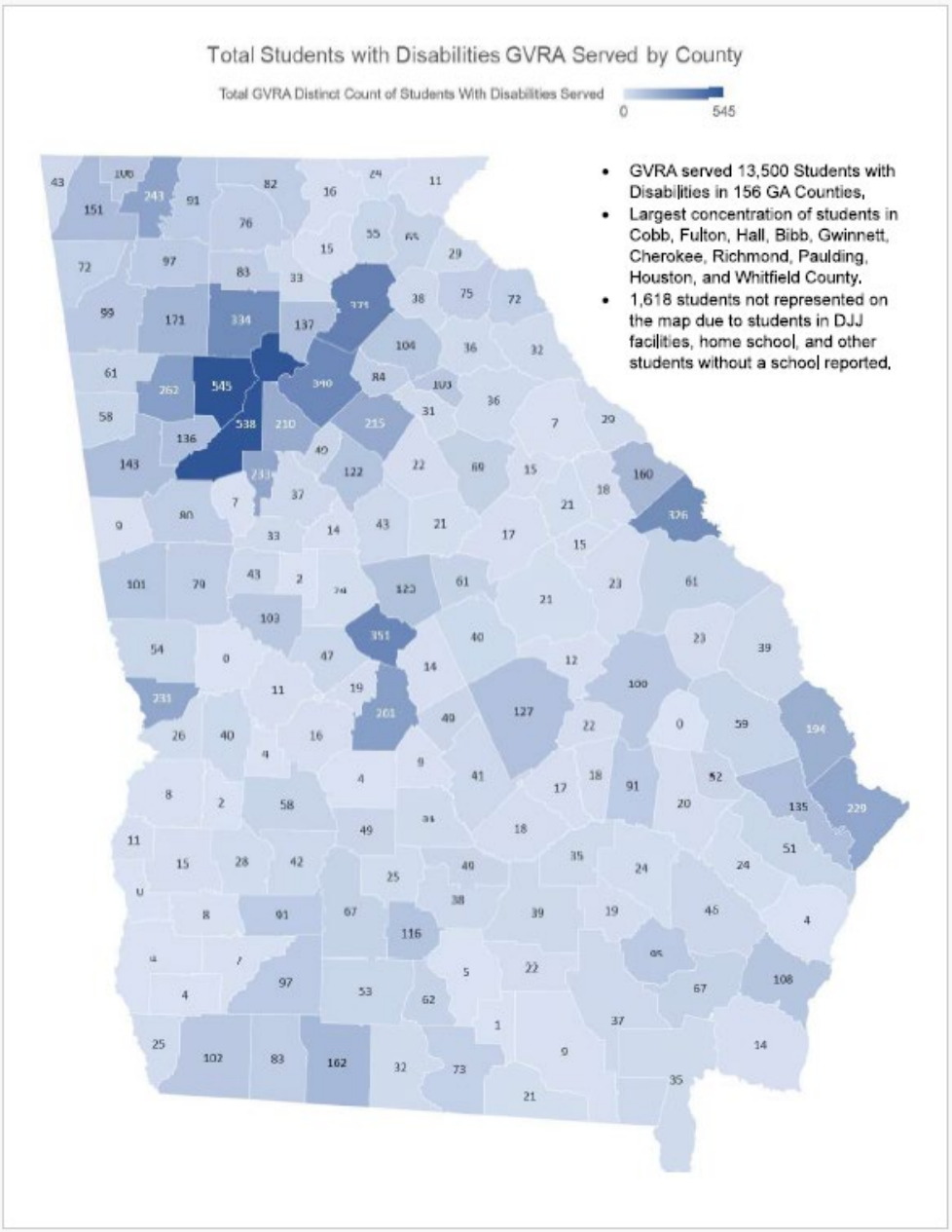
In today's training we plan to:

- Explore Georgia VR Pre-ETS and Student Data Heat Maps
- Discuss strategies used by GVRA for heat maps to inform planning
- Learn from some of GVRAs challenges and discoveries using heat maps

Heat Maps – Getting Started

- A basic idea to more easily visualize the Pre-ETS data across the state
- Identifying data points to map
- Dreaming up possibilities
- Standardizing the process
- Key staff members and their roles





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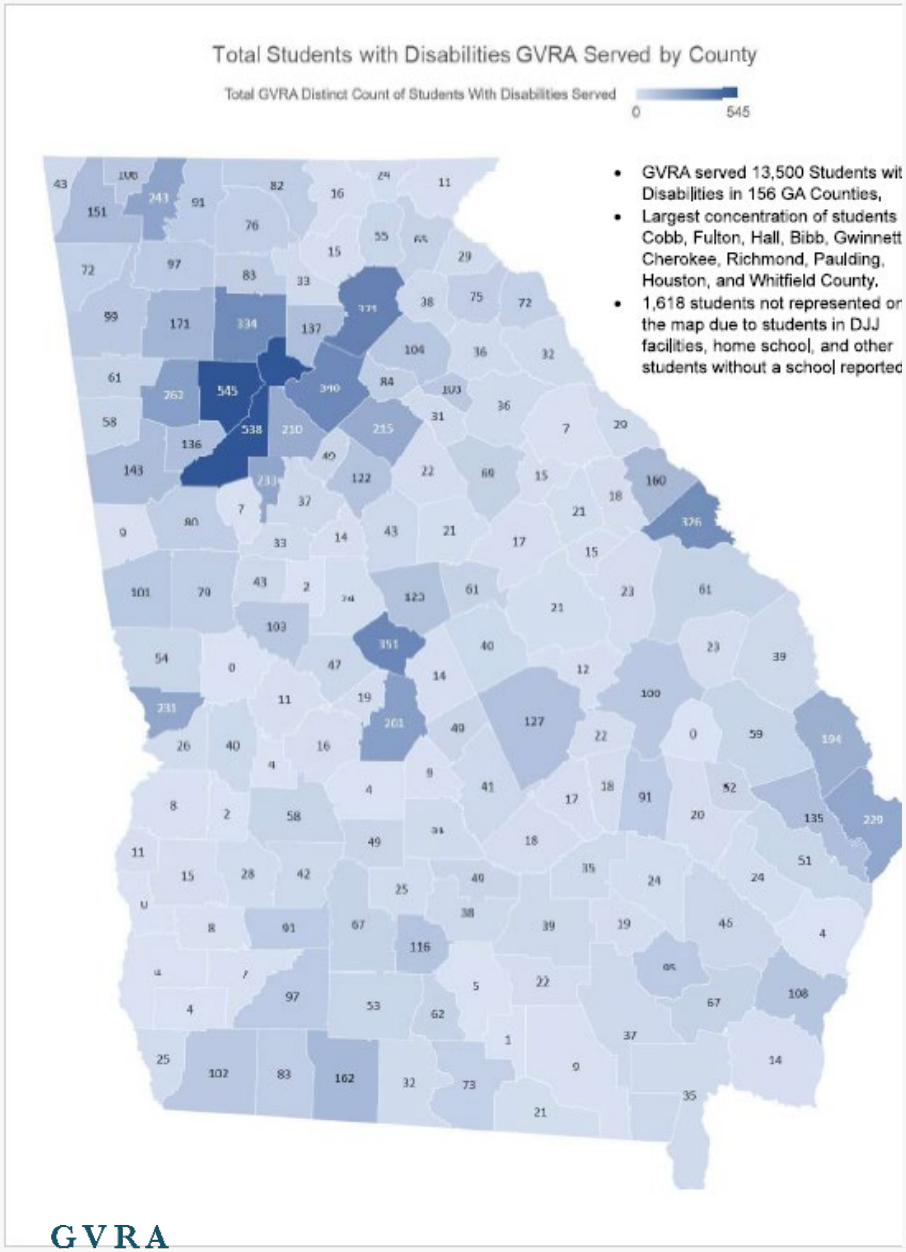
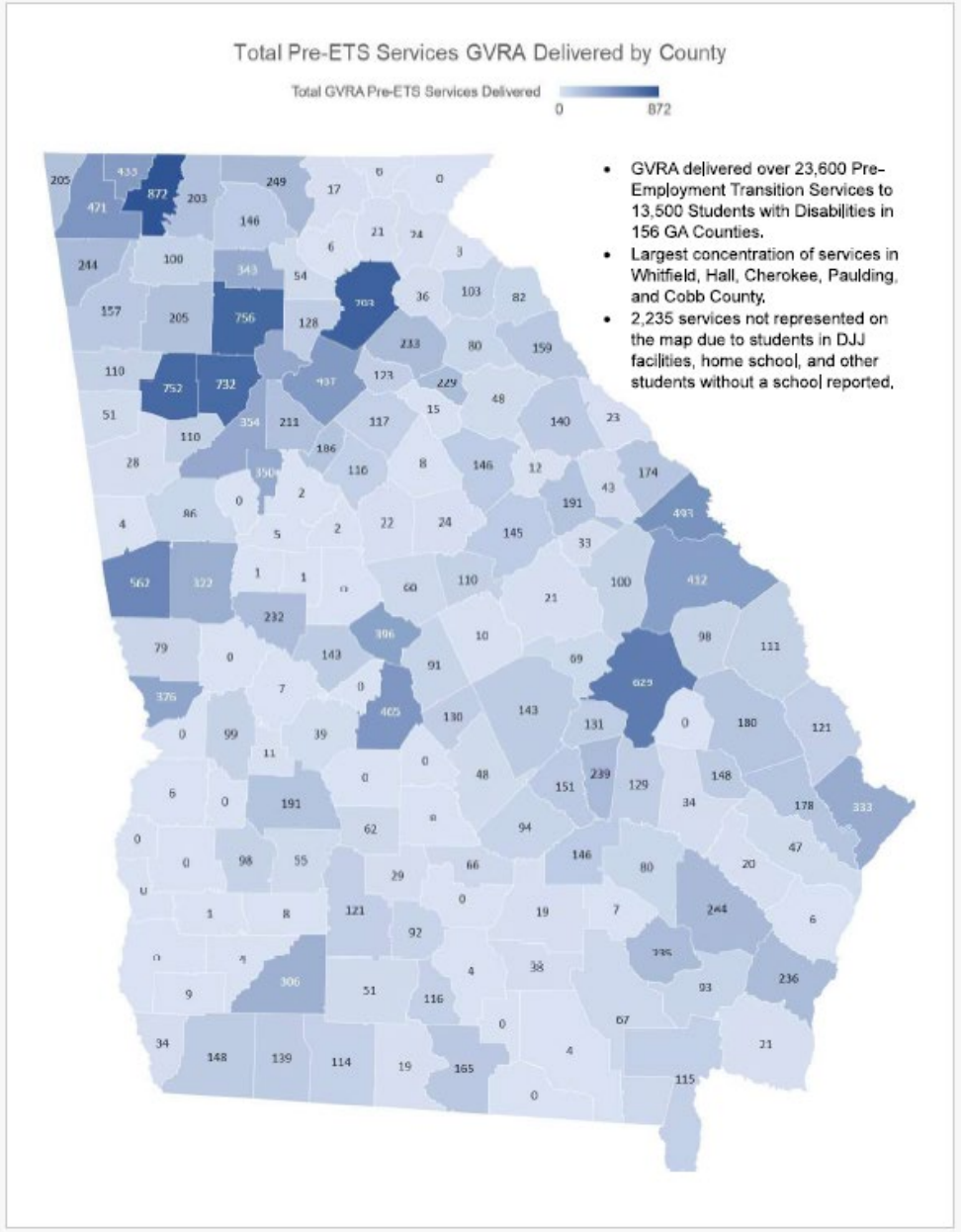
Georgia DOE
HS with IEPs

GVRA July 2023
Open Cases for SWDs.





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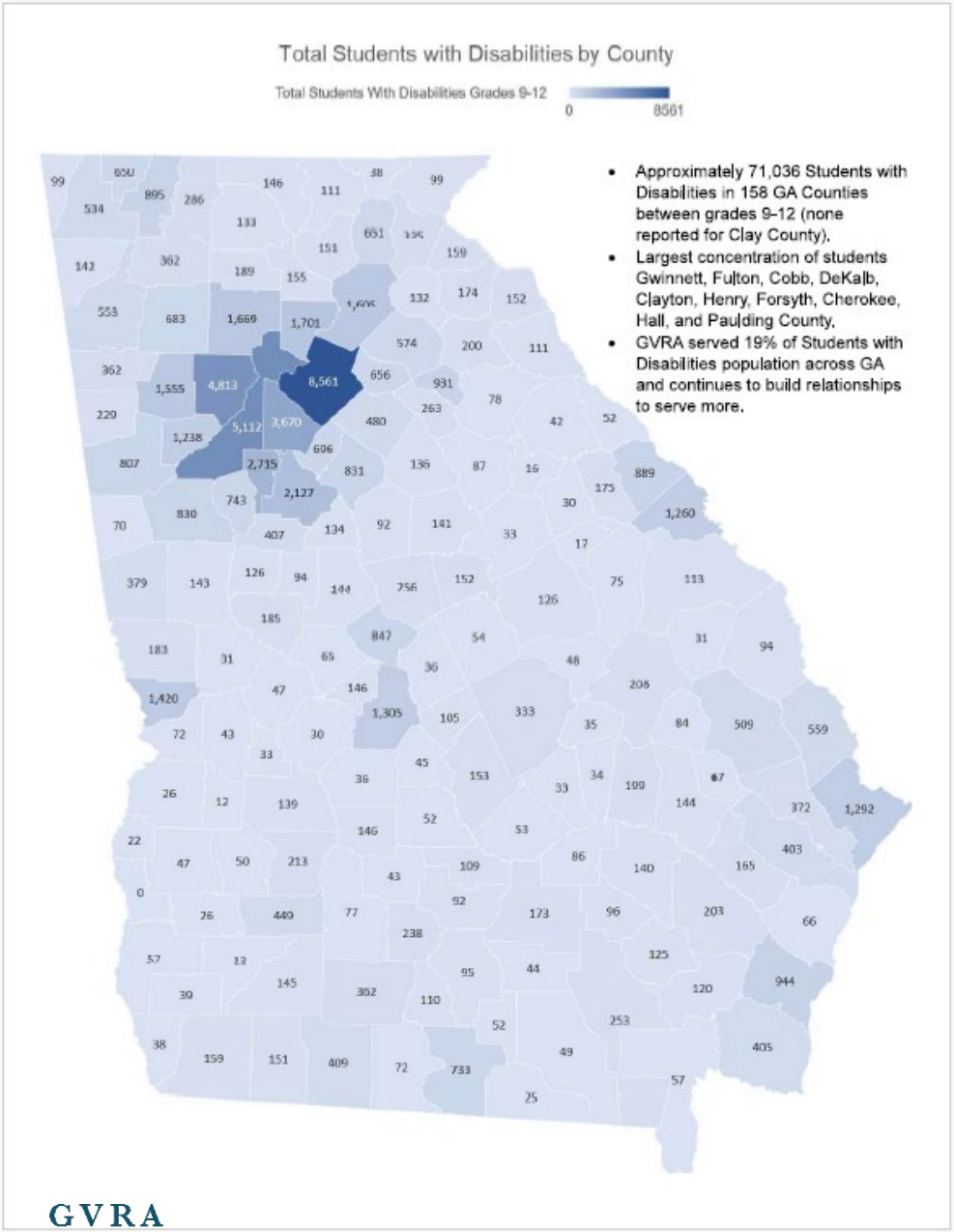
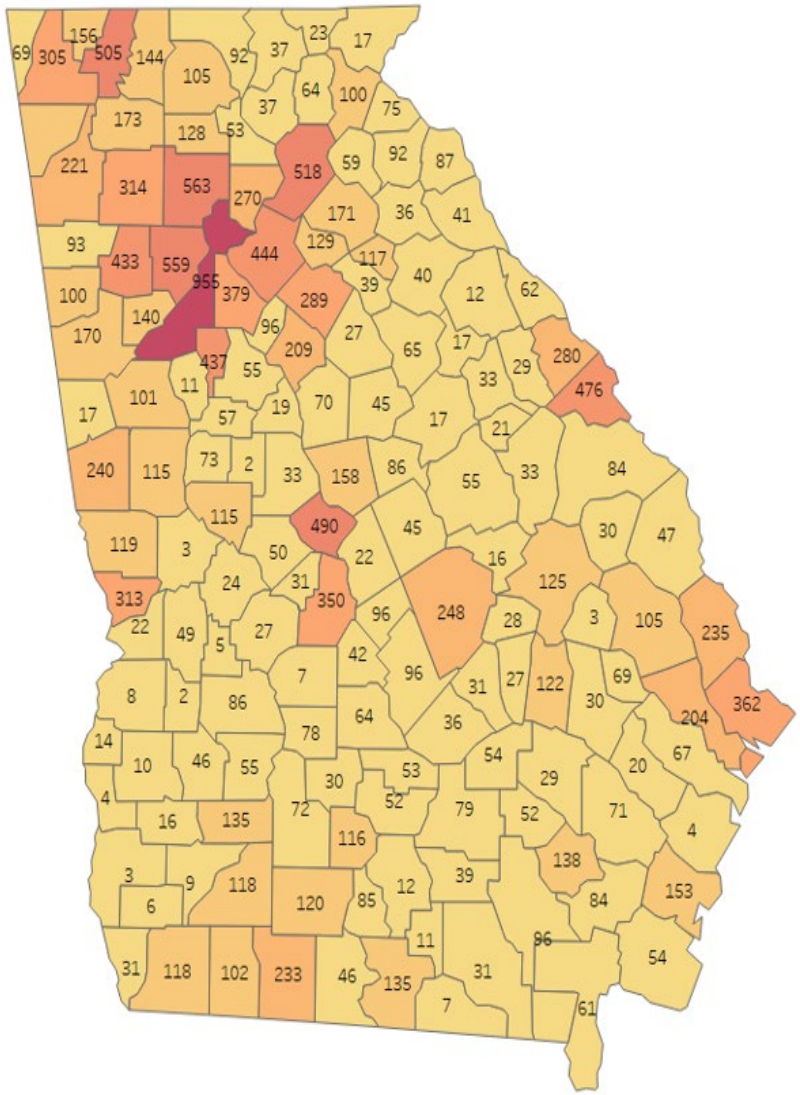
GVRA July 2023
Pre-ETS to SWDs.



- Approximately 71,036 Students with Disabilities in 158 GA Counties between grades 9-12 (none reported for Clay County).
- Largest concentration of students Gwinnett, Fulton, Cobb, DeKalb, Clayton, Henry, Forsyth, Cherokee, Hall, and Paulding County.
- GVRA served 19% of Students with Disabilities population across GA and continues to build relationships to serve more.



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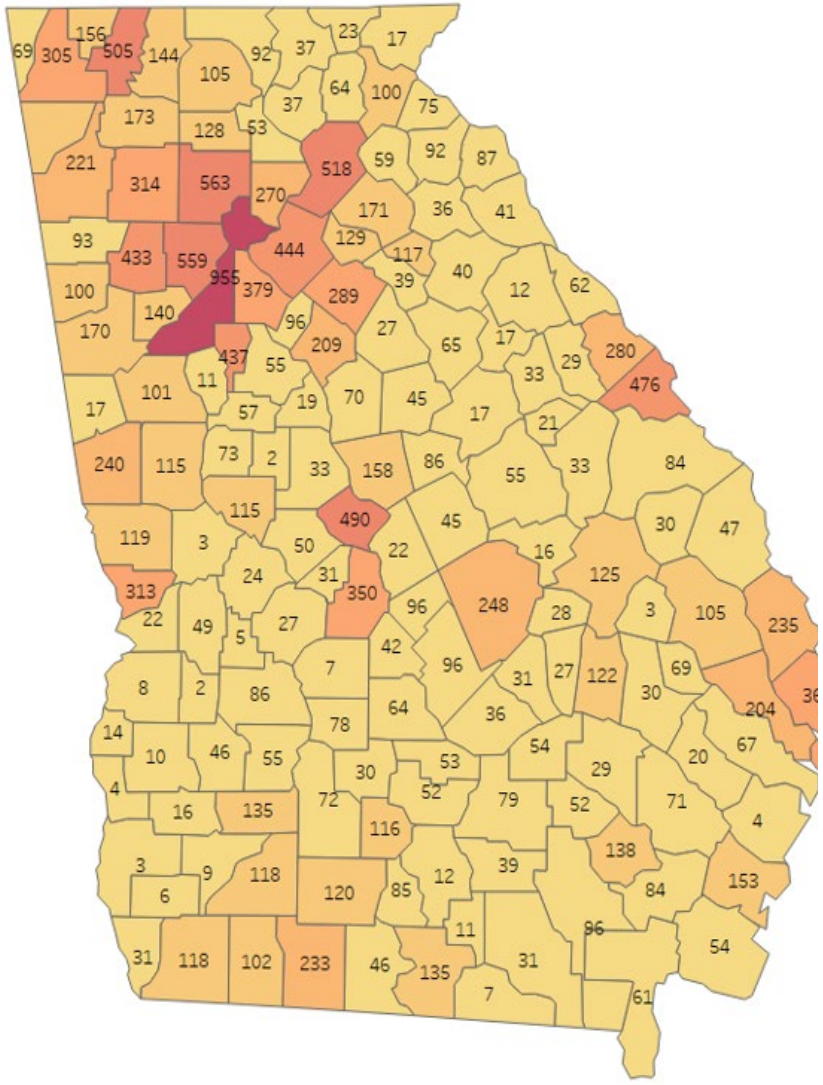

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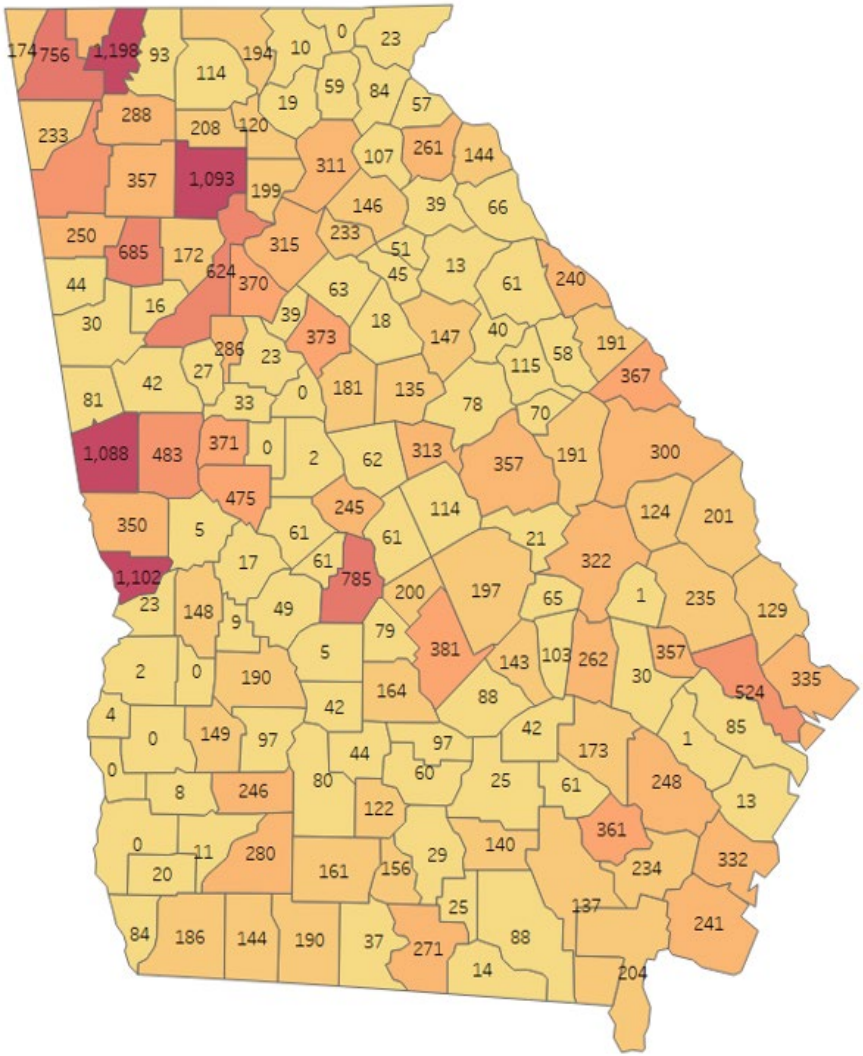

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Pre-ETS to SWDs.

How GVRA Expanded Use of Heat Maps

- Incorporated into update presentations with State Rehabilitation Council and Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Services Board
- Shared with VR Field Services Leadership
- Used in conjunction with state workforce heat maps for agency strategic planning
- Now received monthly along with SWD report to inform field office leaders and regional education groups
- Where is Technical Assistance needed?
- And more…

Bumps in the Road?

- There is no data from Georgia DOE until end of the school year for SWDs on 504 Plans
- Data doesn't include homeschool or private school secondary students
- What does a hot spot really mean?
- Assigning County to each data point wasn't exactly obvious
- Careful interpretation and review before sharing

Questions?

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