Project Ideas

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* ***Explore primary data sets available***
  + Polling Place data
    - [North Carolina](https://www.ncsbe.gov/results-data/polling-place-data)
    - [Minnesota Polling data form](https://www.sos.state.mn.us/election-administration-campaigns/data-maps/polling-place-list-requests/)
    - [Minneapolis Polling (but PDF)](https://vote.minneapolismn.gov/media/-www-content-assets/documents/Minneapolis-Polling-Place-List-and-Map.pdf)
    - [MN Polling Geospatial dataset](https://gisdata.mn.gov/dataset/bdry-electionresults-2012-2020)
    - [Voting Precincts](https://www.sos.state.mn.us/election-administration-campaigns/data-maps/voting-precincts/)
  + [Employment Data](https://mn.gov/deed/data/)
    - Minnesota specific
    - [Restaurant Employment Data for MSP Area](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/SMU27334607072251101A)
    - Grocery Prices datasets:
      * [Historic (pre 2020)](https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/nareshbhat/historic-daily-basics-dataset)
      * [Current](https://www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic/data/averageretailfoodandenergyprices_usandmidwest_table.htm)
* ***Provide 3 examples of questions you might want to answer using datasets***
  + Polling Data questions
    - How does distance to a polling station differ between Minneapolis and suburban Minnesota?
    - Do more affluent neighborhoods benefit from more polling locations? (determined by median home prices and average household income)
    - Does distance to a polling station correlate with voter turnout?
  + Restaurant Data questions:
    - Can we see trends in restaurant employment and grocery prices pre-pandemic and then more recently in the last year? (will need to ignore 2020/2021 data for obvious reasons).
    - Do employment increases in particular industries correlate with increase in restaurant staffing?
    - How much does seasonality play into restaurant employment? Does it align with retailer employment seasonality?
    - Can we see over time the increase in diversity of cuisine in the Twin Cities and potentially combine with census data to assess hot spots for particular cuisines or diversity deserts? Can also take this from an income perspective and see how many restaurants/parcel(s) and compare between neighborhoods.
* ***For each of the three examples, what are some other data sets you might want to combine with them to better answer your question?***
  + Polling Data secondary data sets
    - Population and census data about income for polling data.
    - Median home price data by neighborhood ([source: zillow](https://www.zillow.com/research/data/)).
  + Restaurant/Employment secondary data sets
    - [“Food at home” CPI](https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-price-outlook/summary-findings/) for change in grocery prices.
    - Neighborhood data (from class)
    - [New Business Filings](https://www.sos.state.mn.us/business-liens/business-liens-data/new-business-filings-summary-from-1990-to-current-year/)