

Election Forecasting using Postratification Methodology on Dalia Research's Europulse Data*

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*The R scripts and large parts of the raw data are available on our [GitHub repository](#). For the remaining raw data please contact the authors, corresponding address: m.hemmerlein@mpp.hertie-school.org.

1 Introduction

Despite pre-stratification the Dalia Europulse Survey needs further post-stratification to be a meaningful election poll. We have tested different methods of post-stratification and found that exit-polls from a prior election was the most promising approach to correct the unweighted Dalia data. Approaches only based on census data could not perform

2 Methodology

weighting method variable selection

3 Data

explain used external data: Bundeswahlleiter, Census

4 Results

display best result

Table 1: Raw, weighted and benchmark estimates

December Method	Union	SPD	FDP	Gruene	Linke	AfD	Other	RMSE
SZ Rolling Average	35.50	22.20	5.70	10.60	9.70	11.60	4.70	
GAV Exit Polls	32.50	21.10	8.70	8.60	9.60	11.70	7.80	2.17
GAR Census Data	24.60	21.60	5.50	10.60	9.50	14.00	14.20	5.55
Dalia Unweighted	23.80	20.90	6.10	10.50	10.50	13.80	14.40	5.83
March Method	Union	SPD	FDP	Gruene	Linke	AfD	Other	RMSE
SZ Rolling Average	33.10	31.40	5.80	7.60	7.70	9.30	5.10	
GAV Exit Polls	36.70	28.10	4.90	7.50	8.60	7.80	6.40	2.05
GAR Census Data	23.10	30.00	5.80	8.40	9.00	13.80	10.00	4.61
Dalia Unweighted	23.60	28.40	5.60	7.70	9.80	14.50	10.30	4.75

Notes: The benchmark is the rolling average of all German major polls as computed by *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. GAV stands for strata combined of the variables gender, age and self-reported vote at the last election. GAR indicates strata of gender, age and religion. The last row of each month represents the raw results without weighting as collected by Dalia Research.

5 Shortcomings and Potential for Improvement

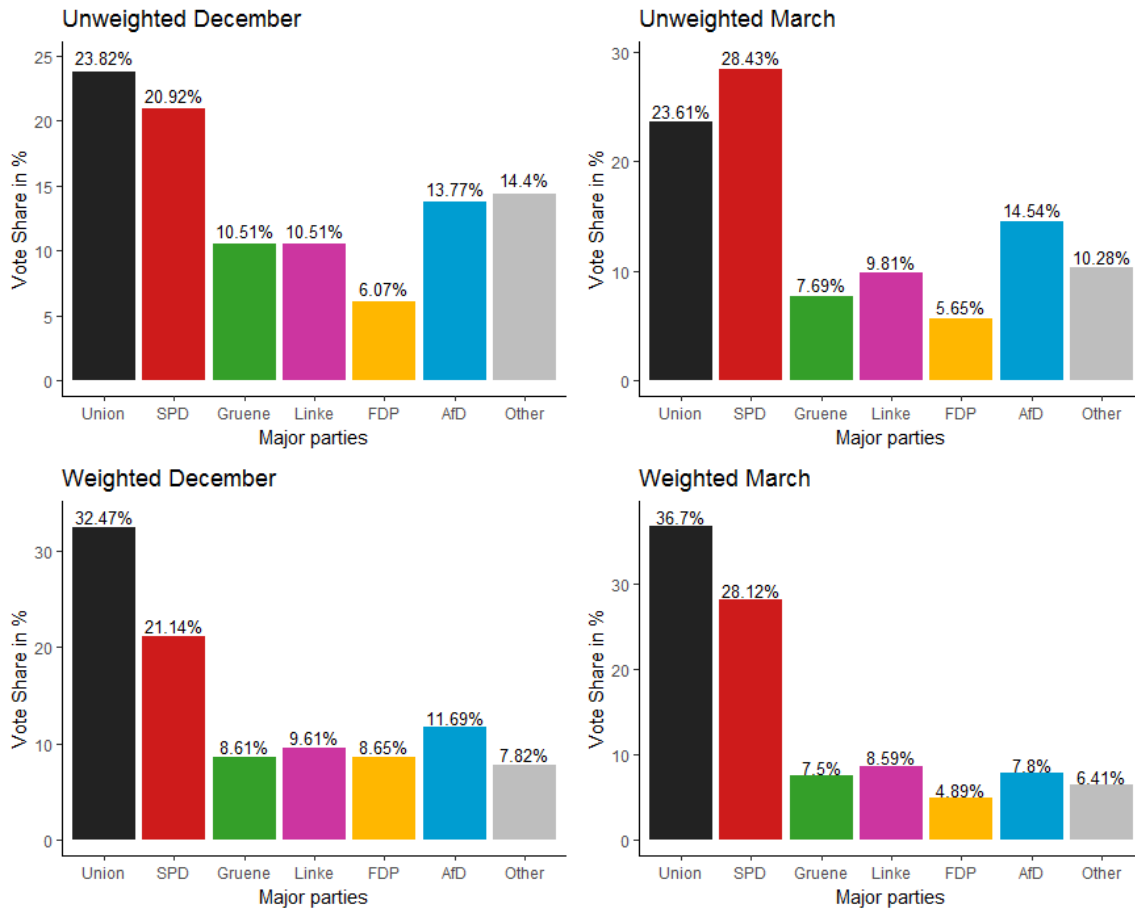


Figure 1: Weighted and unweighted polls

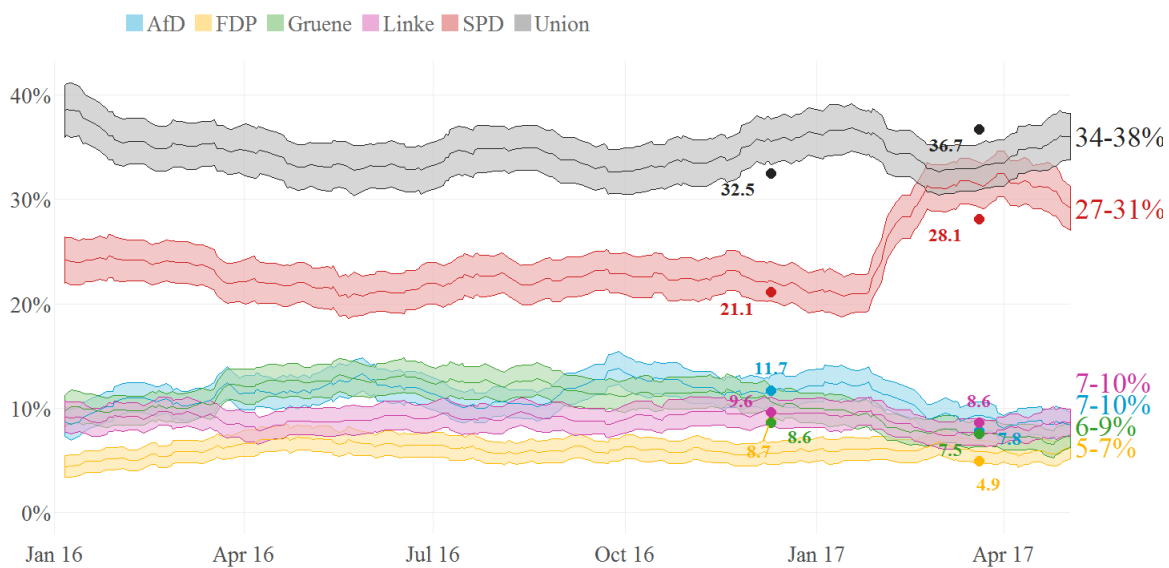


Figure 2: Weighted polls benchmarked to overall poll's rolling average