

An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely the University of Washington, featuring various academic buildings, a central green space with a pond, and surrounding hills. The image is covered with a semi-transparent green filter. The title text is centered in a white serif font.

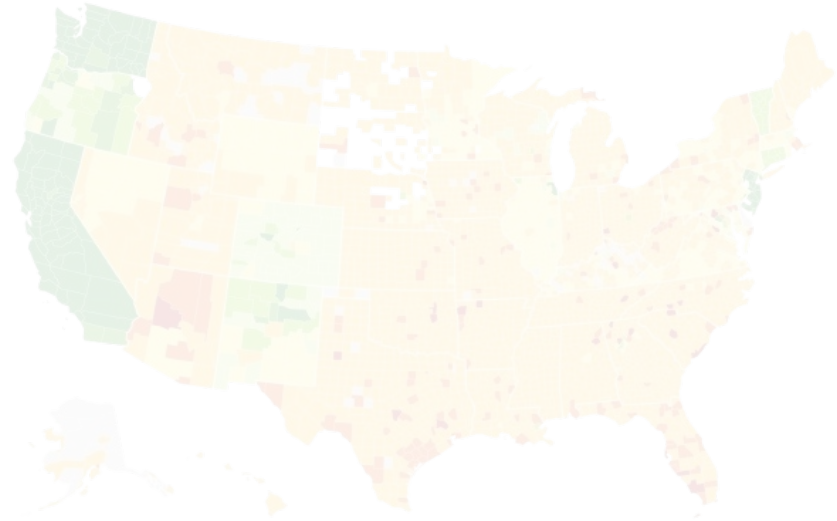
Immigration Policy & Resistance

Kim Larson, Connor Warren

Immigration & Policy

What underlying patterns are associated with counties and their immigration policies?

- ❖ Immigration Policies & the ILRC
- ❖ County Context:
 - Demographic
 - Economic
 - Political
- ❖ Policy Associations



What is the ILRC?

The **Immigration Legal Resource Center (ILRC)** provides resources for lawyers navigating immigration policies.

The ILRC has evaluated each county in the United States for what degree local resources are used to subsidize **Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE)** efforts.

This results in each county receiving a score from 0 to 8. Counties with:

- Low scores are most cooperative with ICE
- High scores are least cooperative with ICE.

What is 287(g)?

*“The **287(g)** program allows ICE through the **delegation of specified immigration officer duties** to enhance collaboration with state and local law enforcement partners to protect the homeland through the arrest and removal of aliens who undermine the safety of our nation’s communities and the integrity of U.S. immigration laws.” - ICE.gov*



Current as of May 13, 2025

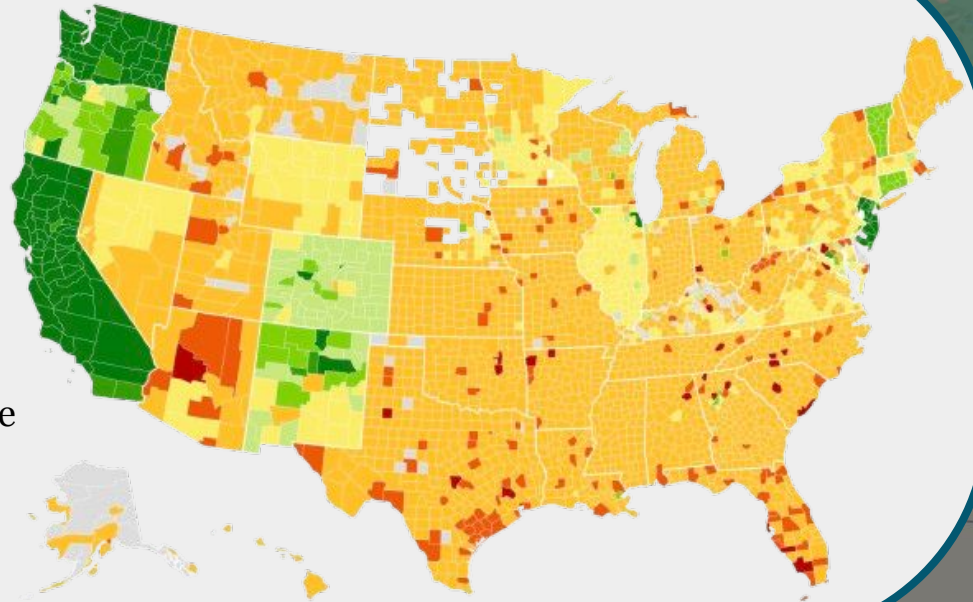
What policies are behind the ILRC Scores?

Policy Evaluation

1. *Declines 287(g)*
2. *Declines ICE Contract*
3. Limits ICE Holds
4. Limits ICE Notification
5. Limits ICE Interrogation
6. Prohibits Asking Immigration Status
7. General Prohibition on ICE Assistance

California **Green** = Least cooperative

Florida **Orange** = Most cooperative





Are policies associated with...

... where residents are from?

Population data from the US Census *American Community Survey*

... the economic conditions of the county?

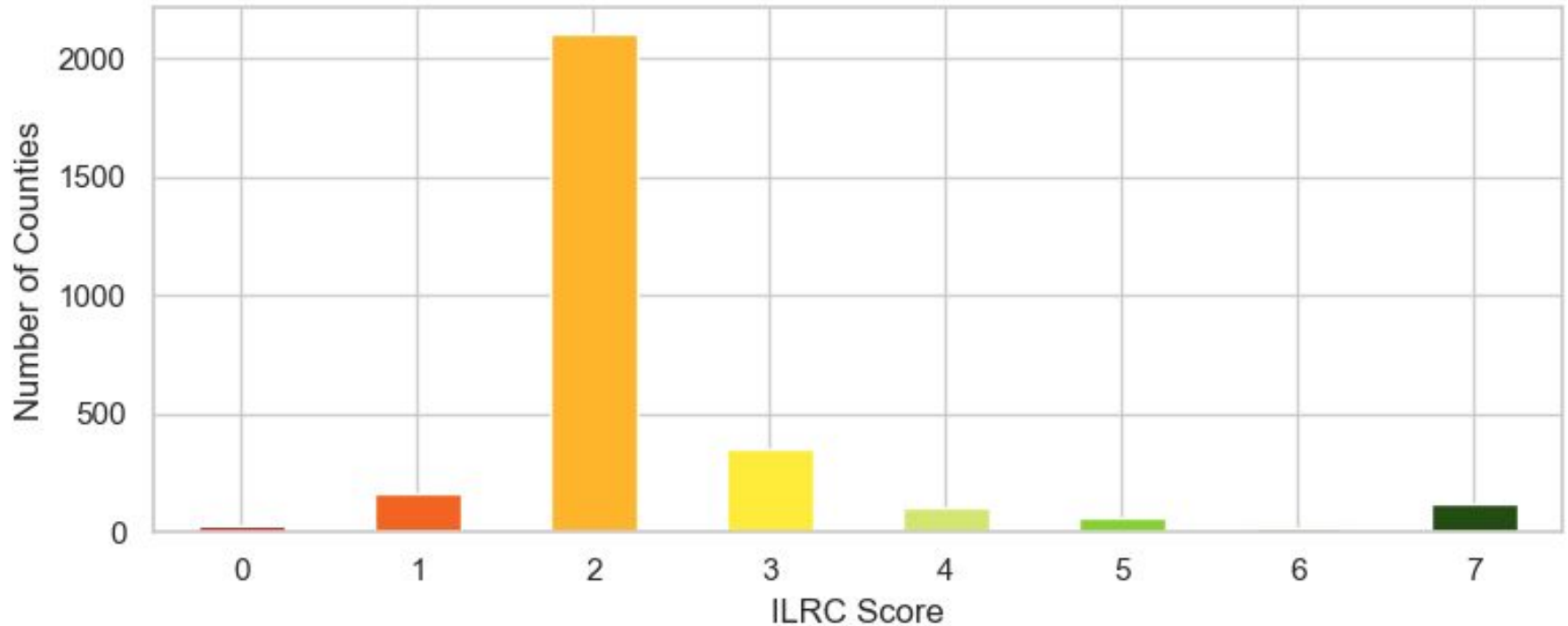
Economy data from *Bureau of Economic Analysis*

... voter behaviors and parties in elected offices?

Election data from *Federal and State levels*.

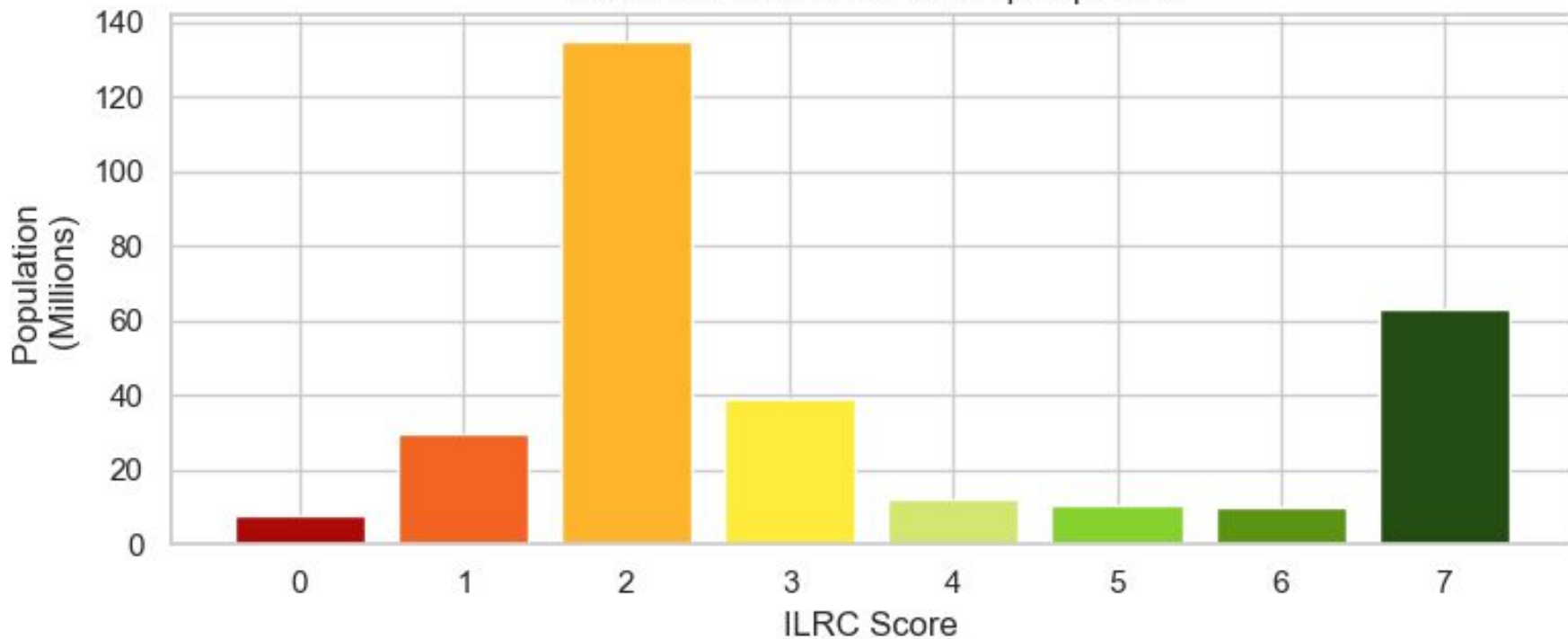
ILRC Score Distribution

Count of Counties by ILRC Score



ILRC Score Distribution

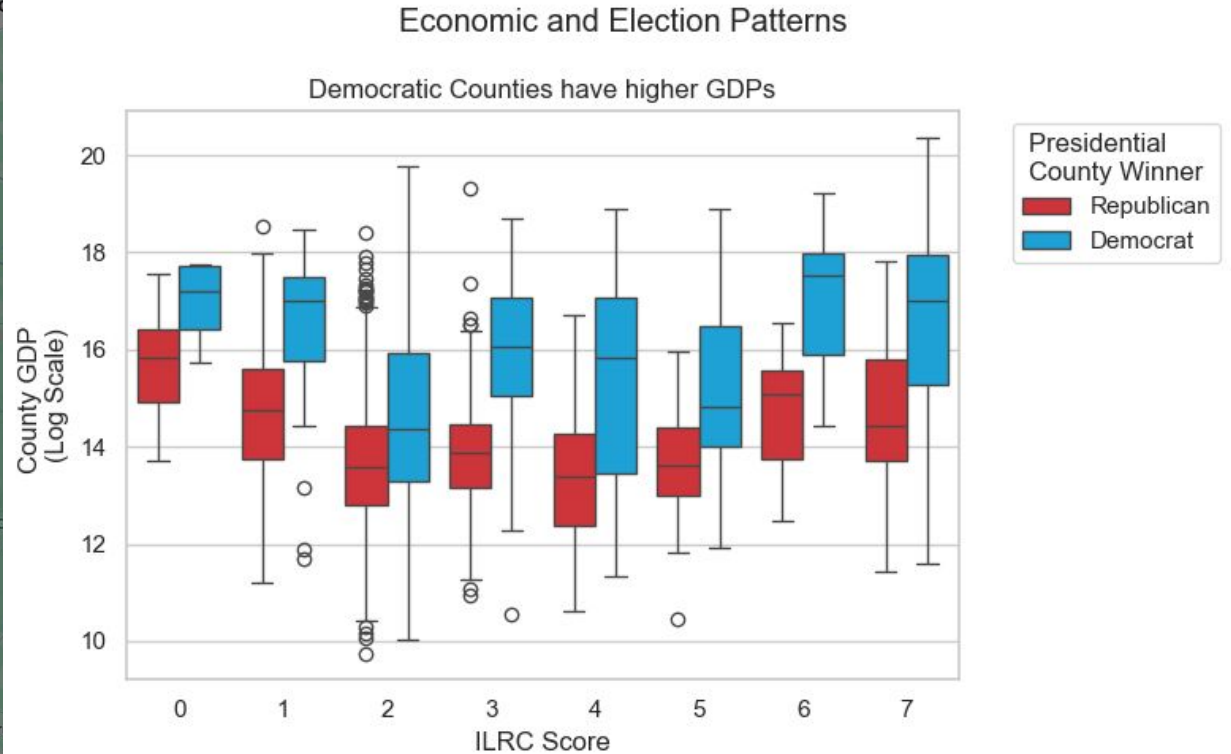
Census data adds a different perspective



ILRC Score Distribution

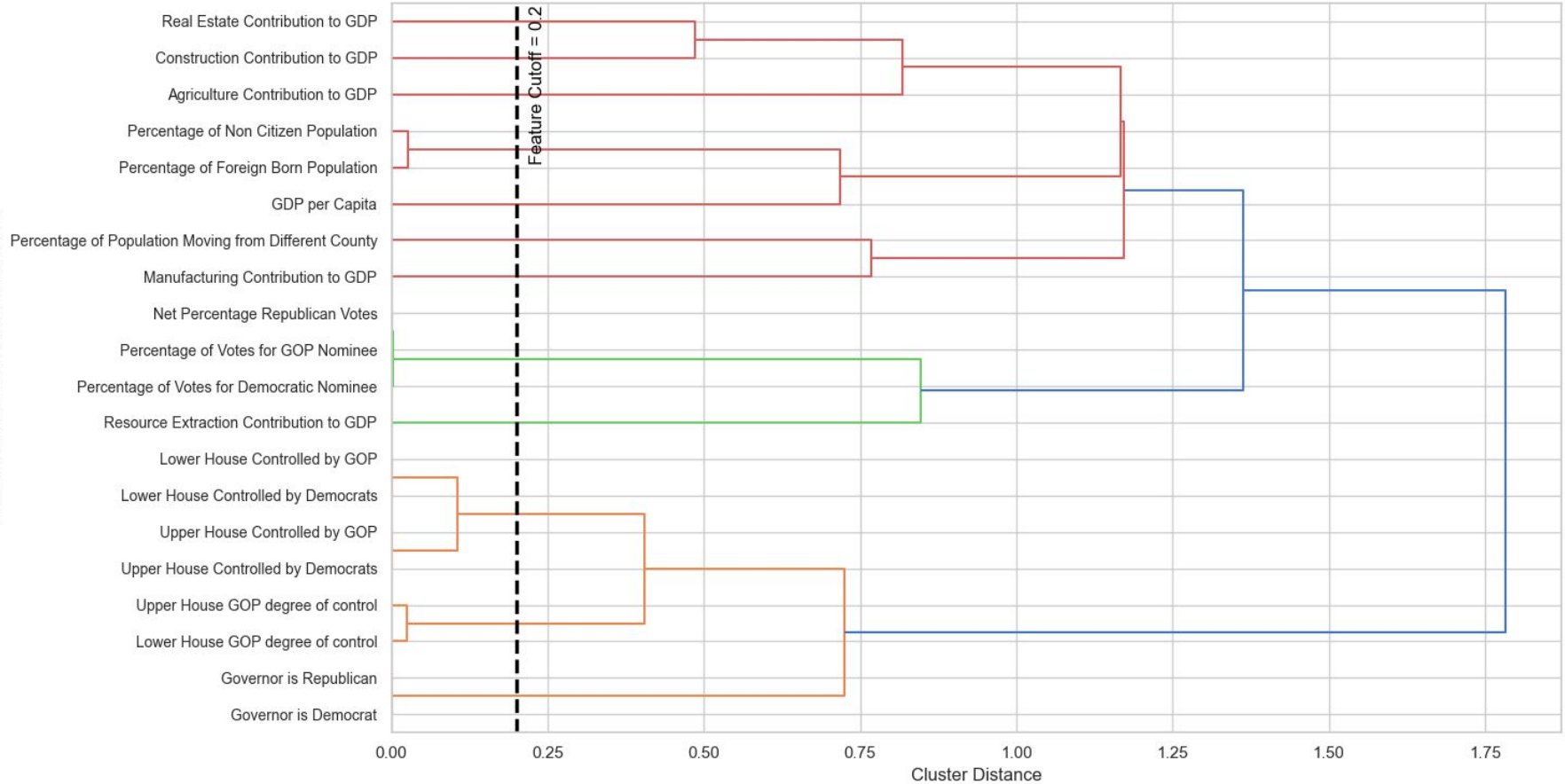
... the **economic conditions** of the county?

... voter behaviors and **political parties** of those in elected offices?



Feature Elimination Brackets

Possible Model Features for Elimination



Are policies associated with...

ACS

% of Population
foreign born

% of Population
moved from another county

BEA

% of GDP
from
construction

% of GDP
from
agriculture

% of GDP from
manufacturing

% of GDP
from
real estate

% of GDP
from
resource extraction

Voting

% voted
Dem for
President

% voted
GOP for
President

Governor
is Dem

Governor
is GOP

Control over
Legislature

Control over Legislature Matters

-100

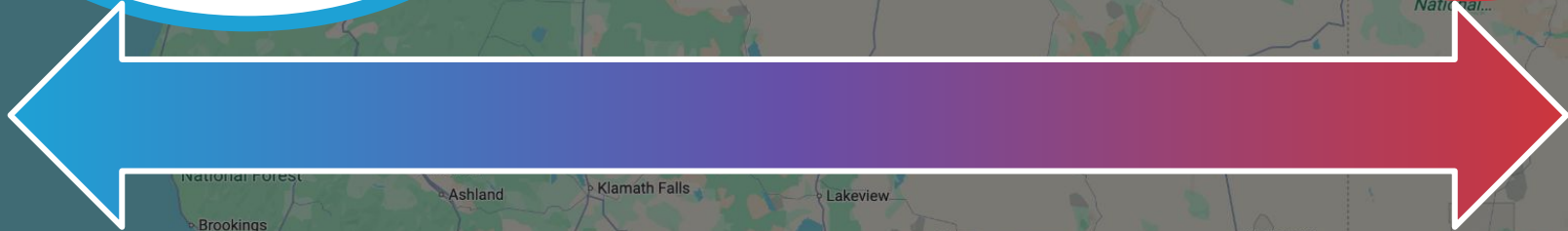
100% Democrats and
Third Party Controlled
Legislative House

0

Even split between
Republicans and
other parties

+100

100% Republican



The Data Science

A **Gradient Boosting Classifier** (GBC) is an ensemble machine learning algorithm used for classification tasks.

It builds a strong predictive model by combining multiple "weak" prediction models, typically decision trees, in a sequential manner.

Permutation Importance shuffles features to see how the model is changed. Small adjustments to the lower house has a very powerful impact on the model.

Net of the Upper House (Senate) was eliminated in the clustering because it was similar to the Net of the Lower House (House of Representatives).



County Policies and the State's Legislative Control

County Features

Predictive strength of county features with F1 scores

	Declines 287(g)	Declines ICE Contract	Limits ICE Holds	Limits ICE Notification	Limits ICE Interrogation	Prohibits Asking Immigration Status	General Prohibition on ICE Assistance
Percentage of Foreign Born Population	-0.00	0.00	0.03	-0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00
Percentage of Population Moving from Different County	-0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	-0.00	0.01	0.00
Construction Contribution to GDP	-0.00	0.00	0.01	-0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Agriculture Contribution to GDP	-0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.01
Manufacturing Contribution to GDP	-0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Real Estate Contribution to GDP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Resource Extraction Contribution to GDP	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.00	0.00
GDP per Capita	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00
Percentage of Votes for GOP Nominee	-0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.31	0.03	0.00
Percentage of Votes for Democratic Nominee	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.22	0.01	0.00
Governor is Democrat	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.00
Governor is Republican	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.00	0.00
Degree of GOP control over Lower House	-0.00	0.00	0.54	0.63	0.73	0.83	0.91
Lower House Controlled by Democrats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Least to Most Predictive Kim Larson Connor Warren

Why is control over
the Lower House
so important?



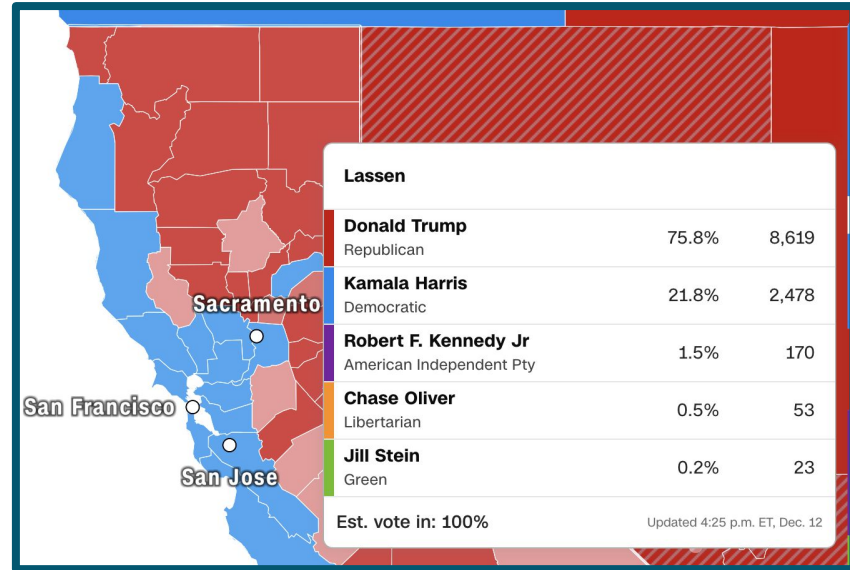
Example Counties

Lassen County, CA

Score: 7 (least cooperative)

Votes: Republican +58

In 2016, Gov. Jerry said no cooperation.



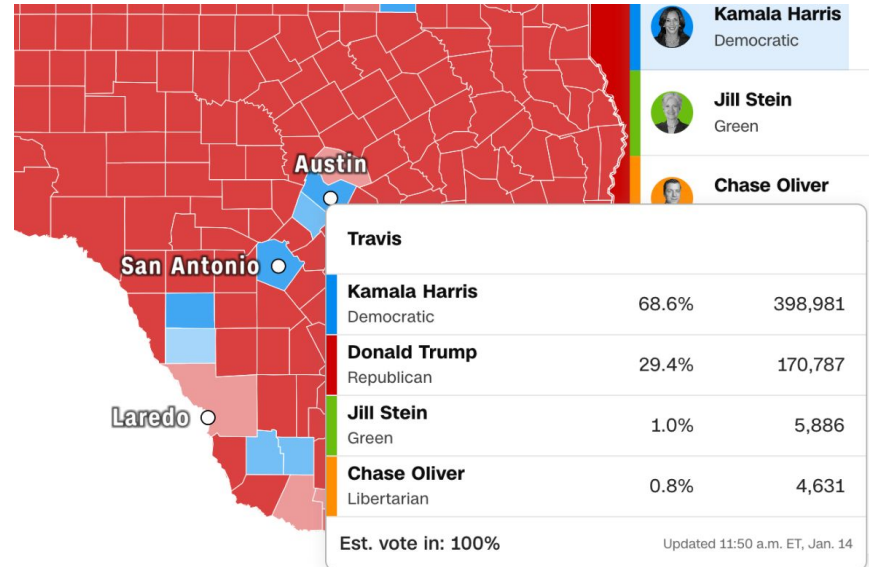
Example Counties

Travis County, TX

Score: 2 (default cooperative)

Votes: Democratic +38

Texas requires cooperation.



An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely the University of Oregon, featuring various academic buildings, a central green lawn, and surrounding trees. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green rectangle. The word "Questions?" is written in a large, white, serif font across the center of the green area. Below it, the word "Comments?" is written in a smaller, white, serif font.

Questions?

Comments?

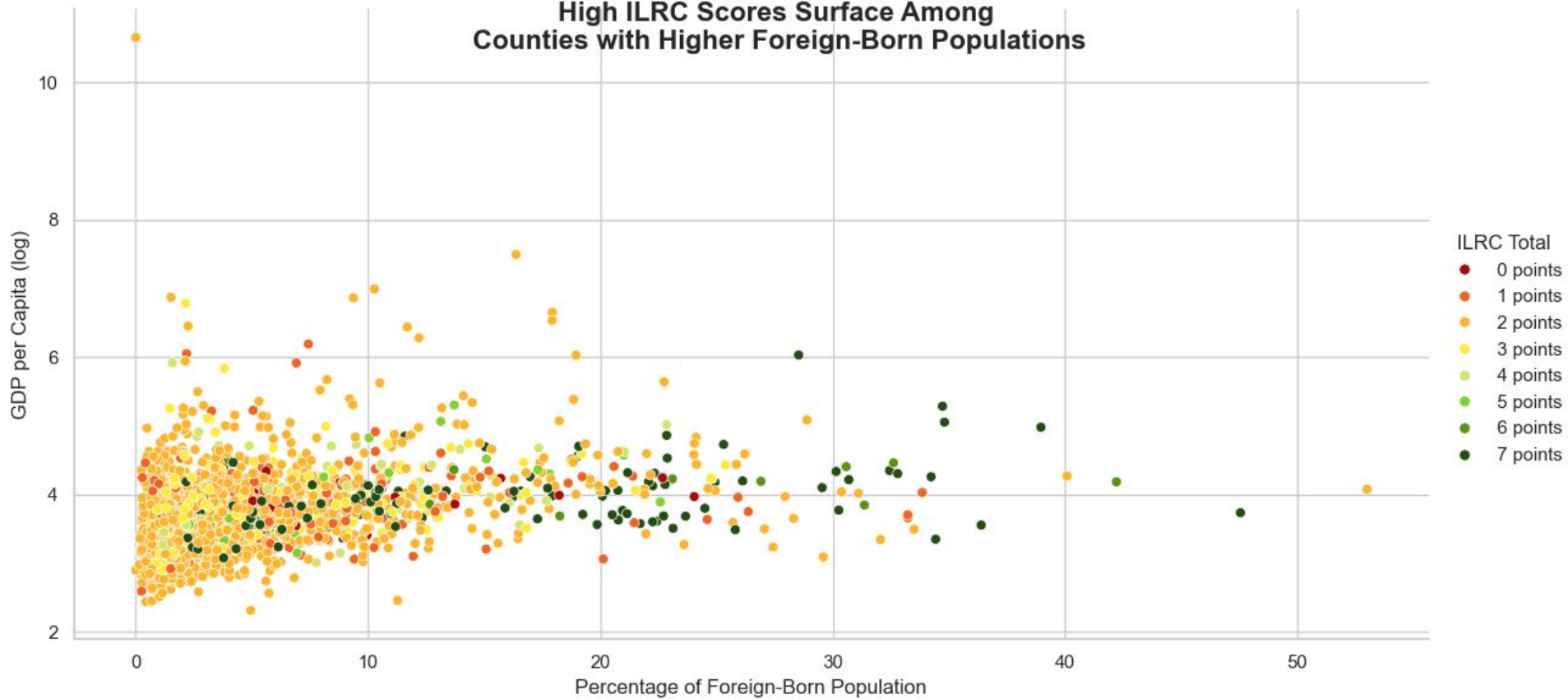
An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely the University of Washington, featuring various academic buildings, green spaces, and a prominent clock tower in the foreground. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green rectangle. The text "Ask us for one more plot." is centered in white serif font within this green area.

Ask us for one more plot.

Winner gets a cookie.



High ILRC Scores Surface Among Counties with Higher Foreign-Born Populations



An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely the University of Washington, featuring various academic buildings, a large green lawn, and surrounding trees. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green rectangle. The text "Good Job." is centered in white serif font within the green area. Below it, the text "Please Clap." is also centered in white serif font.

Good Job.

Please Clap.