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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: The Resentment Fueling the Republican Party Is Not Coming from the Suburbs

Article

Link: https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/25/opinion/rural-voters-republican-realignment.html

| Author(s) | Thomas Edsall |
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Tweet: .@Edsall argues that a "white rural red wave" is the driving force of the Republican party today and cites shifts in Wisconsin suburban and rural voting patterns between 2016 and 2022.

Summary: In 2016, Ron Johnson rode Trump's coattails and the Republican trail blazed by the former governor Scott Walker to a 3.4 point (50.2 to 46.8) victory and swept into office, in large part by running up huge margins in Milwaukee's predominantly white suburbs. That changed in 2022. Craig Gilbert, a fellow at Marquette Law School conducted a detailed analysis of Wisconsin voting patterns and found that Johnson, "performed much worse in the red and blue suburbs of Milwaukee than he did six years earlier in 2016. So again, how did Johnson win? The simple answer: white rural Wisconsin. As recently as 17 years ago, rural Wisconsin was a battleground. In 2006, Jim Doyle, the Democratic candidate for governor, won rural Wisconsin, about 30 percent of the electorate, by 5.5 points. "Then came the rural red wave," Gilbert writes. "Walker carried Wisconsin's towns by 23 points in 2010 and by 25 points in 2014." In 2016, Johnson won the rural vote by 25 points, but in 2022, he pushed his margin there to 29 points.

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