Predicting Voting Outcomes with Numerical Computation

David B. Farrow

University of Colorado Boulder

In [1]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from scipy.interpolate import interp1d
from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

Dataset df1

Dataset df1 is a spreasheet from the US Census, "Reported Registration Rates in Presidential Election Years by Selected Characteristics: November 1968 to 2024"

```
In [2]: # Load the data
file_path1 = "USCensus_a10.xlsx"
df1 = pd.read_excel(file_path1, sheet_name="hst_vote10", header=3) #
df1
```

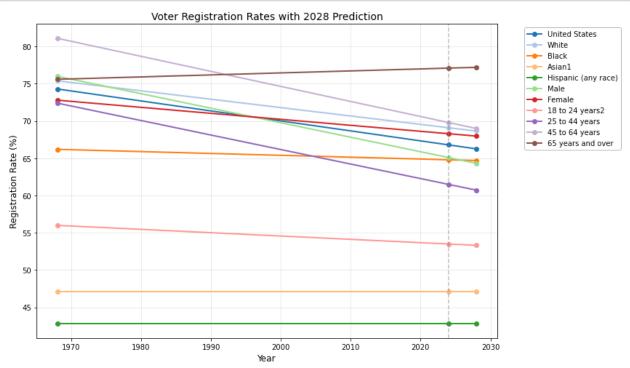
Out[2]:

	Characteristic	2024	2020	2016	2012	2008	2004	2000	1
0	United States	NaN	1						
1	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	1
2	Total, voting age	260363.0	252274.0	245502.0	235248.0	225499.0	215694.0	202609.0	1936
3	Total registered	173854.0	168308.0	157596.0	153157.0	146311.0	142070.0	129549.0	1276(
4	Percent registered	66.8	66.7	64.2	65.1	64.9	65.9	63.9	•
5	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	1
6	Race and Hispanic Origin percent registered	NaN	1						
7	White	69.1	69.1	66.3	66.7	66.6	67.9	65.6	(

Using Interpolation and Extrapolation to Predict the 2028 Voter Registration Rates

```
In [3]:
        # Load and prepare the data
        def prepare_data():
            data = {
                'Category': [
                    'United States....Percent registered',
                    '....White....Percent registered',
                    '....Black....Percent registered',
                      ....Asian1....Percent registered',
                    '....Hispanic (any race)....Percent registered',
                      ....Male....Percent registered',
                     ....Female....Percent registered',
                    '....18 to 24 years2....Percent registered',
                    '....25 to 44 years....Percent registered',
                    '....45 to 64 years....Percent registered',
                    '....65 years and over....Percent registered'
                '1968': [74.3, 75.4, 66.2, np.nan, np.nan, 76.0, 72.8, 56.0, 7
                '2024': [66.8, 69.1, 64.8, 47.1, 42.8, 65.1, 68.3, 53.5, 61.5,
                # Add more years as needed from your actual data
            return pd.DataFrame(data)
        # Get the prepared data
        df1 = prepare data()
        # Clean and organize the data
        years = [int(col) for col in df1.columns[1:] if str(col).isdigit()]
        categories = df1['Category'].tolist()
        # Create a clean DataFrame for analysis
        data = pd.DataFrame()
        for cat in categories:
            row = df1[df1['Category'] == cat].iloc[0]
            values = [row[str(year)] for year in years]
            clean_name = cat.replace("....", " ").replace("Percent registered")
            if clean_name == "": clean_name = "Total"
            data[clean name] = pd.Series(values, index=years)
        # Interpolate missing values
        data_interpolated = data.interpolate(method='linear', limit_direction=
        # Prediction function
        def predict_future(data_series, future_year=2028):
            X = np.array(data_series.index).reshape(-1, 1)
            y = data series.values
            model = LinearRegression()
            model.fit(X, y)
            future_pred = model.predict(np.array([[future_year]]))[0]
            return max(0, min(100, future_pred))
        # Make predictions
```

```
predictions 2028 = {col: predict future(data interpolated[col]) for cd
# Create full dataset with predictions
full_data = data_interpolated.copy()
full_data.loc[2028] = predictions_2028.values()
# Plotting
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 7))
colors = plt.cm.tab20.colors
for i, col in enumerate(full_data.columns):
    plt.plot(full_data.index, full_data[col],
             label=col.
             marker='o',
             color=colors[i % len(colors)],
             linewidth=2)
plt.title('Voter Registration Rates with 2028 Prediction', fontsize=14
plt.xlabel('Year', fontsize=12)
plt.ylabel('Registration Rate (%)', fontsize=12)
plt.axvline(x=max(years), color='gray', linestyle='--', alpha=0.5)
plt.grid(True, alpha=0.3)
plt.legend(bbox_to_anchor=(1.05, 1), loc='upper left')
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
# Display predictions
print("\nPredicted Voter Registration Rates for 2028:")
print(pd.DataFrame.from_dict(predictions_2028, orient='index',
                           columns=['Prediction']).sort values('Prediction')
```



65 years and over	77.2
45 to 64 years	69.0
White	68.6
Female	68.0
United States	66.3
Black	64.7
Male	64.3
25 to 44 years	60.7
18 to 24 years2	53.3
Asian1	47.1
Hispanic (any race)	42.8

Key Findings:

The overall voter registration rate in the U.S. is predicted to be approximately 66.3% in 2028 White non-Hispanic voters will have the highest predicted registration rate. More females are projected to register than males.

Dataset df2

Dataset df2 is a spreadsheet from the Pew Research Center: "2016, 2018, 2020 and 2022 Voter demographics, based on validated voters"

In [4]: # Load the file
file_path = "Pewresearch_2016-2022 Validated Voter Detailed Tables.xls
df2 = pd.read_excel(file_path, sheet_name="Sheet 1", header=3)
df2

Out[4]:

	Unnamed: 0	2022 Democratic House vote (official result 48%)	2022 Republican House vote (official result 51%)	2022 Margin (Dem- Rep)	2020 Biden vote (official result 51%)	2020 Trump vote (official result 47%)	2020 Margin (Biden- Trump)	2018 Democratic House vote (official result 53%)	Repuk F (o
0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
1	Gender	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
2	Men	44.0	54.0	-10.0	48.0	50.0	-2.0	50.0	
3	Women	51.0	48.0	3.0	55.0	44.0	11.0	58.0	
4	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
172	** Entries labeled "among White voters" are pe	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
173	Notes: Based on validated voters. White, Black	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
174	Source: Surveys of U.S. adults conducted Nov	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
175	Note: This sheet is view only. You can export	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
176	#REF!	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	

177 rows × 40 columns

Using Extrapolation to Predict 2026 Voter Trends by Demographic

```
IIC] IIT
        # Create a structured dataframe based on the visible data
        data = {
             'Category': ['Men', 'Women',
                          'White, non-Hispanic', 'Black, non-Hispanic', 'Hispan' 'Asian*, non-Hispanic', 'Other, non-Hispanic',
                          '18-29', '30-49', '50-64', '65+',
                          'Postgrad', '4-year college', 'Some college', 'HS or
            # Democratic vote percentages by year
             '2016 Dem': [41, 54, 39, 91, 66, None, None, 58, 51, 45, 44, 66, 5
             '2018_Dem': [50, 58, 46, 92, 72, 73, 63, 72, 59, 50, 46, 68, 58, 4
            '2020_Dem': [48, 55, 43, 92, 61, 70, 56, 61, 55, 46, 48, 67, 56, 4
             '2022_Dem': [44, 51, 41, 93, 60, 68, 45, 68, 52, 44, 42, 61, 51, 4
            # Republican vote percentages by year
            '2016_Rep': [52, 39, 54, 6, 28, None, None, 28, 40, 51, 53, 29, 41
             '2018_Rep': [48, 40, 52, 6, 25, 26, 33, 23, 38, 48, 52, 30, 41, 49
             '2020_Rep': [50, 44, 55, 8, 36, 30, 40, 35, 43, 53, 52, 32, 42, 50
            '2022_Rep': [54, 48, 57, 5, 39, 32, 53, 31, 45, 55, 56, 37, 48, 54
        }
        df2 = pd.DataFrame(data)
        # Clean data — replace None with NaN and forward fill for Asian/Other
        df2 = df2.fillna(method='ffill')
        # Calculate margins (Dem - Rep)
        for year in [2016, 2018, 2020, 2022]:
            df2[f'{year}_Margin'] = df2[f'{year}_Dem'] - df2[f'{year}_Rep']
        # Prepare data for modeling
        years = np.array([2016, 2018, 2020, 2022]).reshape(-1, 1)
        future_year = np.array([[2026]])
        # Function to predict values for 2026
        def predict_2026(values):
            model = LinearRegression()
            model.fit(years, values)
            return model.predict(future_year)[0]
        # Apply prediction to each category
        predictions = []
        for _, row in df2.iterrows():
            category = row['Category']
            # Predict Democratic percentage
            dem_values = np.array([row['2016_Dem'], row['2018_Dem'], row['2020]
            dem_2026 = predict_2026(dem_values)
            # Predict Republican percentage
            rep_values = np.array([row['2016_Rep'], row['2018_Rep'], row['2020
            rep_2026 = predict_2026(rep_values)
```

```
# Calculate predicted margin
    margin 2026 = \text{dem } 2026 - \text{rep } 2026
    predictions.append({
        'Category': category,
        '2026_Dem': dem_2026,
        '2026 Rep': rep 2026,
        '2026_Margin': margin_2026,
        'Trend': 'Dem+' if margin_2026 > 0 else 'Rep+'
    })
predictions_df = pd.DataFrame(predictions)
# Display key predictions
print("2026 Election Predictions:")
print(predictions_df[['Category', '2026_Dem', '2026_Rep', '2026_Margin')
# Visualization for selected categories
categories_to_plot = ['Men', 'Women', 'White, non-Hispanic', 'Black, n'
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 8))
for category in categories_to_plot:
    category_data = df2[df2['Category'] == category].iloc[0]
   years_plot = [2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2026]
    dem_plot = [category_data['2016_Dem'], category_data['2018_Dem'],
                category_data['2020_Dem'], category_data['2022_Dem'],
                predictions_df[predictions_df['Category'] == category]
    plt.plot(years_plot, dem_plot, label=f'{category} (Dem)', linestyl
    rep_plot = [category_data['2016_Rep'], category_data['2018_Rep'],
                category_data['2020_Rep'], category_data['2022_Rep'],
                predictions_df[predictions_df['Category'] == category]
    plt.plot(years_plot, rep_plot, label=f'{category} (Rep)', linestyl
plt.title('Voting Trends by Demographic (2016-2026 Prediction)')
plt.xlabel('Year')
plt.vlabel('Vote Percentage')
plt.legend(bbox_to_anchor=(1.05, 1), loc='upper left')
plt.grid(True)
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
2026 Election Predictions:
                      2026 Dem 2026 Rep 2026 Margin Trend
            Category
                 Men
                          48.2
                                     53.8
                                                  -5.6
                                                        Rep+
               Women
                          50.3
                                     53.6
                                                  -3.3
                                                        Rep+
White, non-Hispanic
                          43.3
                                     58.7
                                                 -15.4
                                                        Rep+
                          94.1
 Black, non-Hispanic
                                     5.9
                                                  88.2
                                                        Dem+
```

Hispanic

18-29

Asian*, non-Hispanic

Other, non-Hispanic

54.6

70.3

33.0

71.4

47.4

34.6

67.2

36.6

7.2

35.7

34.8

-34.2

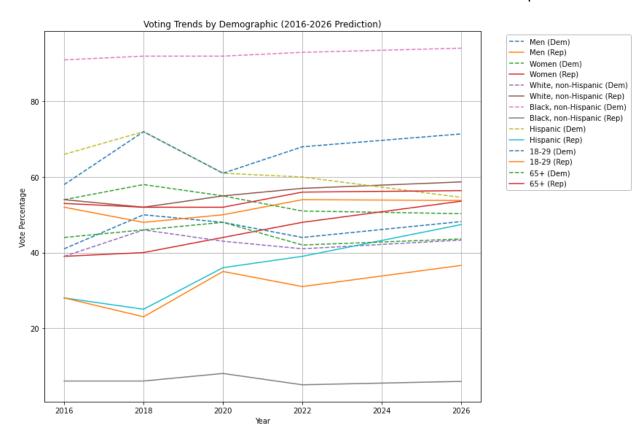
Dem+

Dem+

Rep+

Dem+

30-49	53.9	48.5	5.4	Dem+
50-64	43.8	57.7	-13.9	Rep+
65+	43.6	56.4	-12.8	Rep+
Postgrad	59.9	41.1	18.8	Dem+
4-year college	52.5	50.7	1.8	Dem+
Some college	48.2	56.1	-7.9	Rep+
HS or less	35.4	64.4	-29.0	Rep+



Key Findings:

The findings suggest that in 2026, men will favor replubicans and women will favor democrats. White, non-Hispanic, will favor republicans and Black, non-Hispanic will favor democrats. Asians will favor democrats. Ages under 49 will favor democrats. Ages 50 and up will favor republicans. Individuals will college degrees will favor democrats.