

Predicting Election Results:

2016 Primary Election

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About the Dataset

1. Kaggle dataset of 2016 primary election results
 - a. Fraction of votes received per candidate per county
 - i. primary election: vote fraction split by party
 - b. Missing Minnesota
 - c. South Dakota had limited data reported
2. County facts dataset
 - a. Population demographics (age, race, gender)
 - b. Economic conditions (median income, percent below poverty, retail sales)



PREDICTING WINNERS



RACE & ETHNICITY:

Predicting Democratic Primary Outcomes

Can you predict if Hillary Clinton
or Bernie Sanders will win in a
county based on demographic
conditions?

Input:

- ★ % Black (2014)
- ★ % Indian American (2014)
- ★ % Asian (2014)
- ★ % Hawaiian (2014)
- ★ % Biracial (2014)
- ★ % Hispanic (2014)
- ★ % Caucasian (2014)

Output:

- ★ Predict Clinton win

		Predicted	
		Won	Lost
Actual	Won	80.23%	19.77%
	Lost	21.04%	78.96%

RACE & ETHNICITY:

Predicting **Republican** Primary Outcomes

Can you predict if Donald Trump or Ted Cruz will win in a county based on demographic conditions?

Input:

- ★ % Black (2014)
- ★ % Indian American (2014)
- ★ % Asian (2014)
- ★ % Hawaiian (2014)
- ★ % Biracial (2014)
- ★ % Hispanic (2014)
- ★ % Caucasian (2014)

Output:

- ★ Predict Clinton win

		Predicted	
		Won	Lost
Actual	Won	20.92%	79.08%
	Lost	2.83%	97.17%

GENDER:

Predicting Democratic Primary Outcomes

Is Hillary Clinton more likely to win in counties with a higher proportion of women?


Input:

★ % Female (2014)

Output:

★ Predict Clinton win

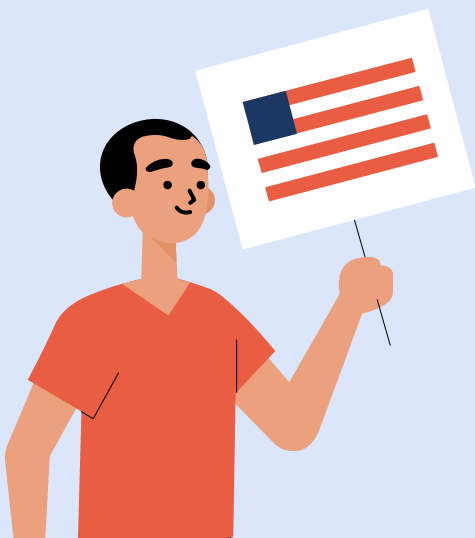
		Predicted	
		Won	Lost
Actual	Won	1.77%	98.23%
	Lost	3.62%	96.38%



PREDICTING NUMBER OF VOTES



DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS



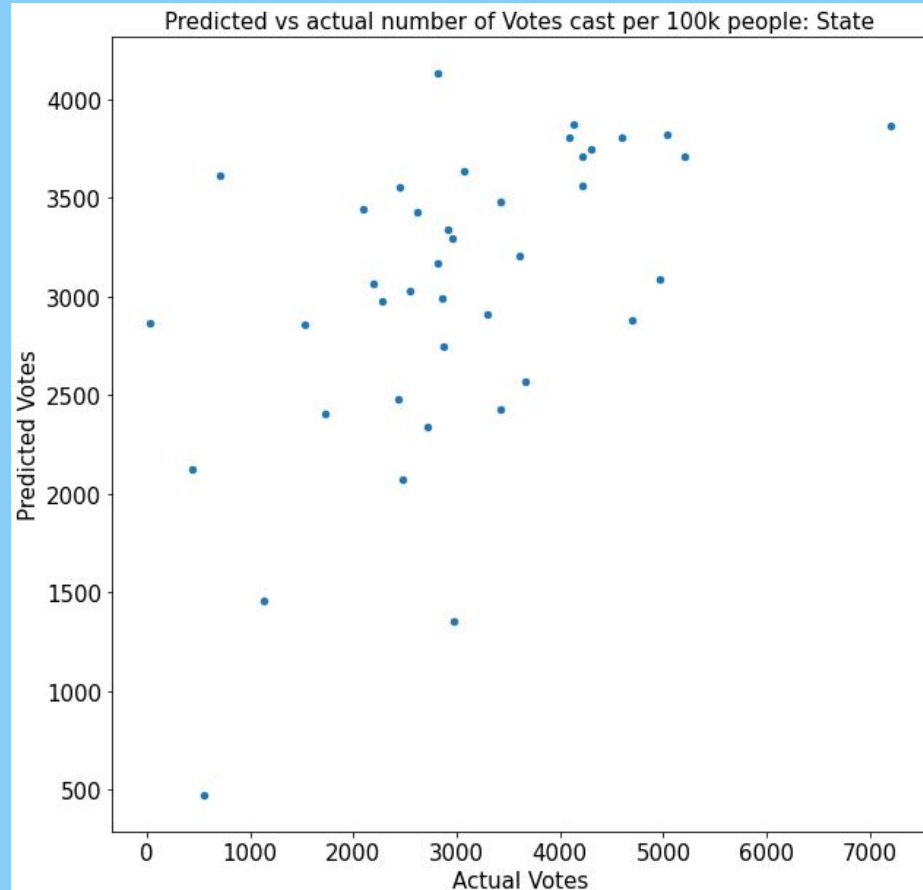
VOTE! ★



RACE & ETHNICITY:

Predicting number of votes

Can you predict the number of votes cast based on demographic conditions?

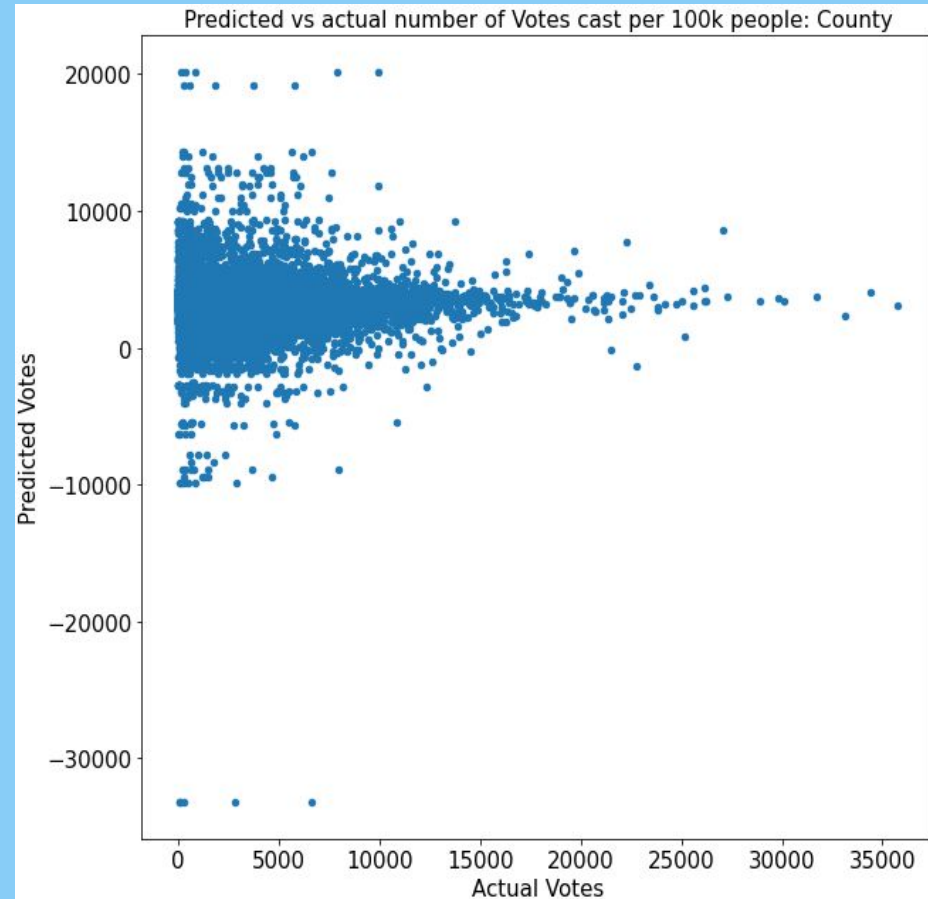


MSE = 1460084
 $R^2 = 0.2860650364766063$

RACE & ETHNICITY:

Predicting number of **votes**

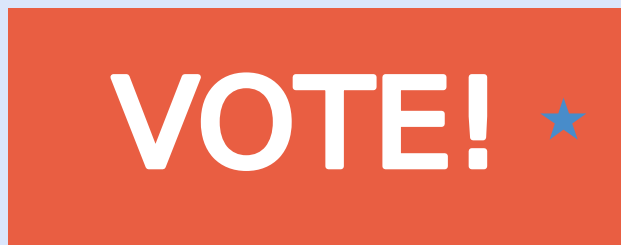
Can you predict the number of votes cast based on demographic conditions?



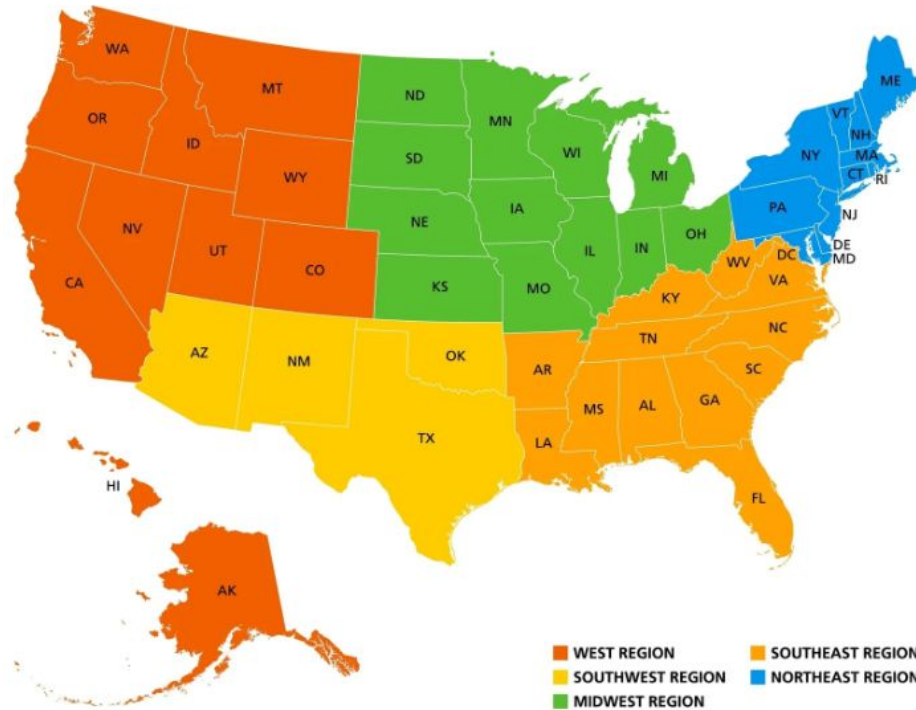
$$\text{MSE} = 12614795$$
$$R^2 = -0.24903105036492867$$



REGIONAL PREDICTIONS

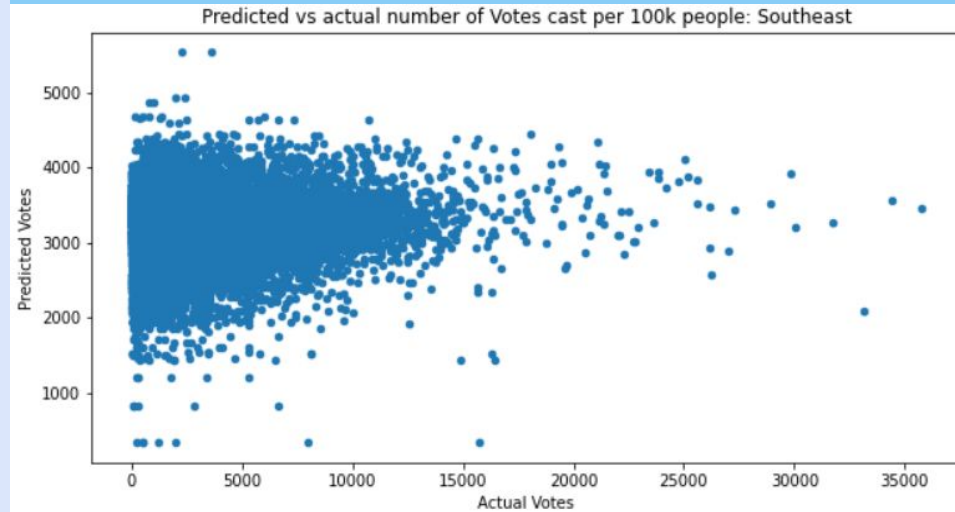


How Do Different Regions Affect Votes?



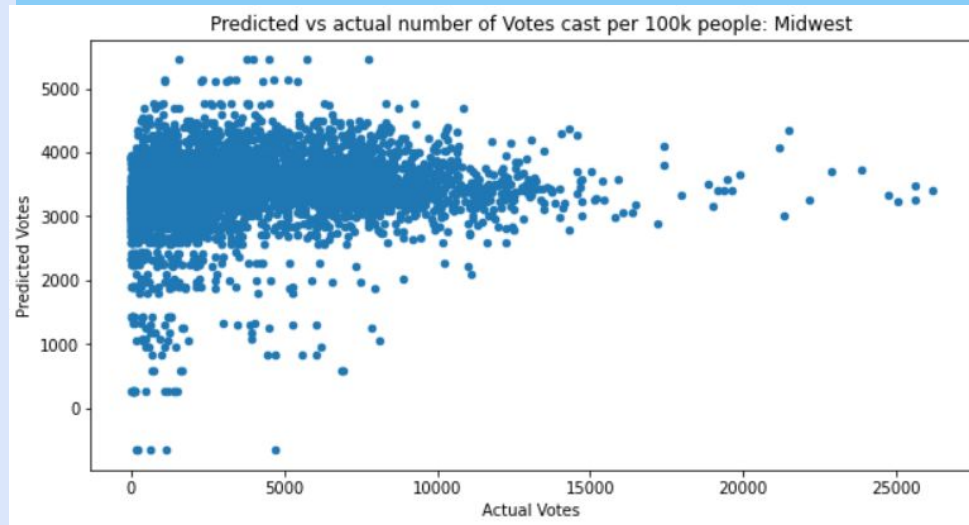
Southeast

Using demographics to predict
votes by 100k people
(points represent county)



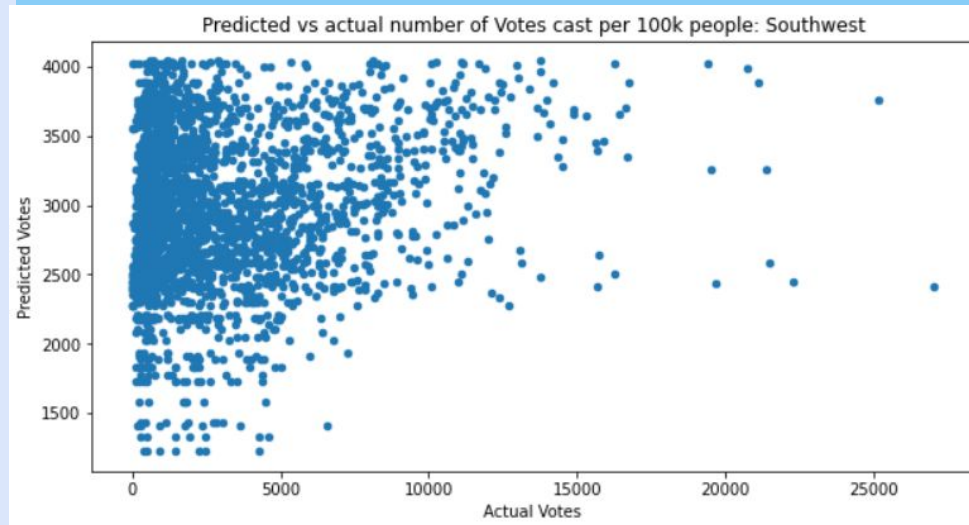
Midwest

Using demographics to predict
votes by 100k people
(points represent county)



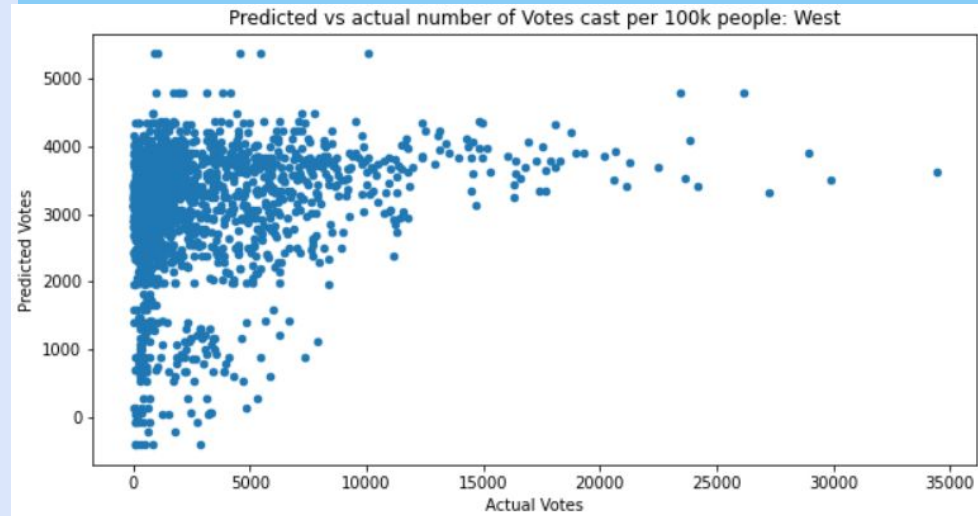
Southwest

Using demographics to predict
votes by 100k people
(points represent county)



West

Using demographics to predict
votes by 100k people
(points represent county)

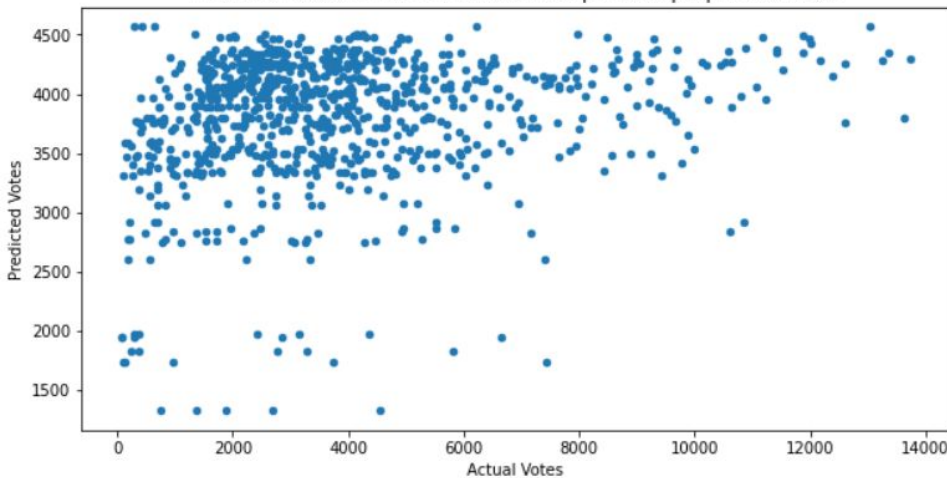


Northeast

- High Percentage of White Population
- **Highest** Median Income
- **Highest** Bachelor's Degree or Higher rate
- **Highest** by Population by Sq. Mile (Insanely High!)
- **Lowest** Poverty Level
- Many of the coefficients are **high and positive**

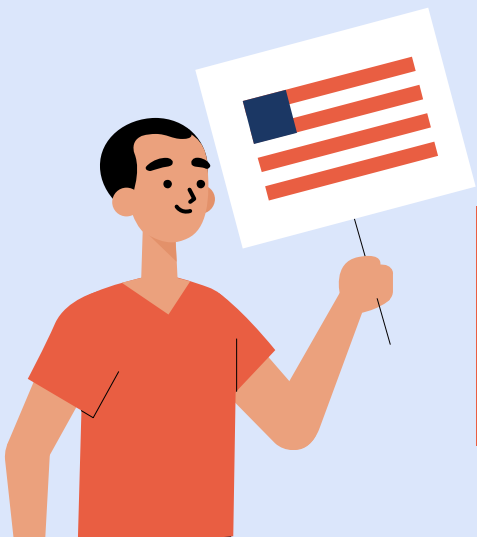
Using demographics to predict
votes by 100k people
(points represent county)

Predicted vs actual number of Votes cast per 100k people: Northeast





ECONOMIC PREDICTIONS



VOTE! ★



Sales:

Predicting number of votes

Columns Used:

- Manufacturer shipments by \$1000
- Merchant wholesaler sales by \$1000
- Retail Sales by \$1000
- Food Service Sales by \$1000

Grouped by Parties

Democrats Vs. **Republicans**

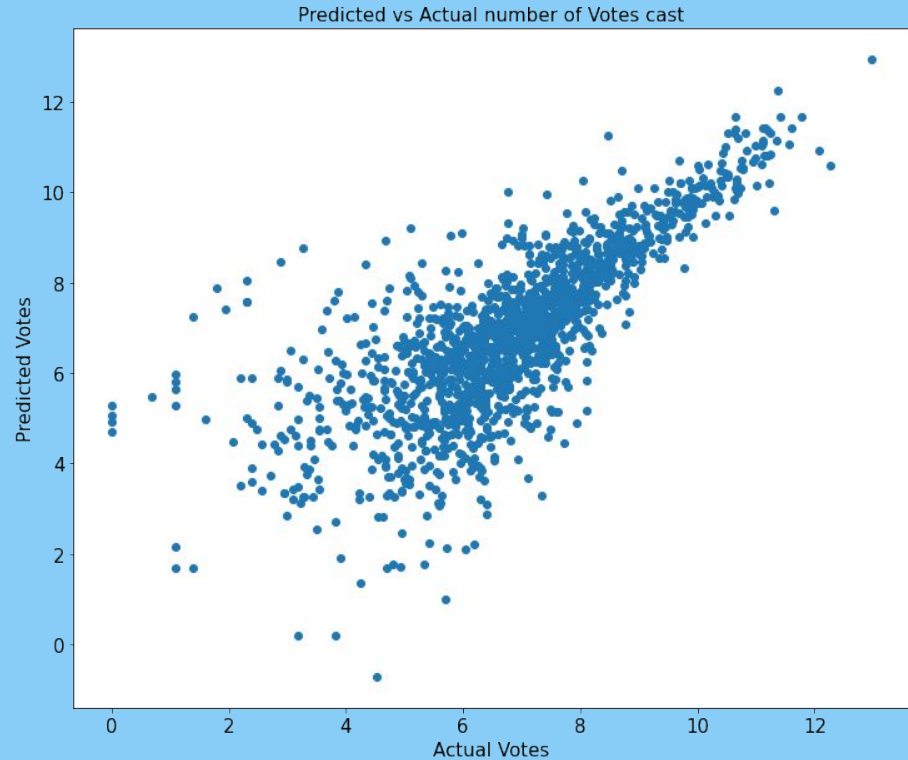


Sales:

Predicting Number of votes

Democratic

Democratic candidates see a higher level of correlation



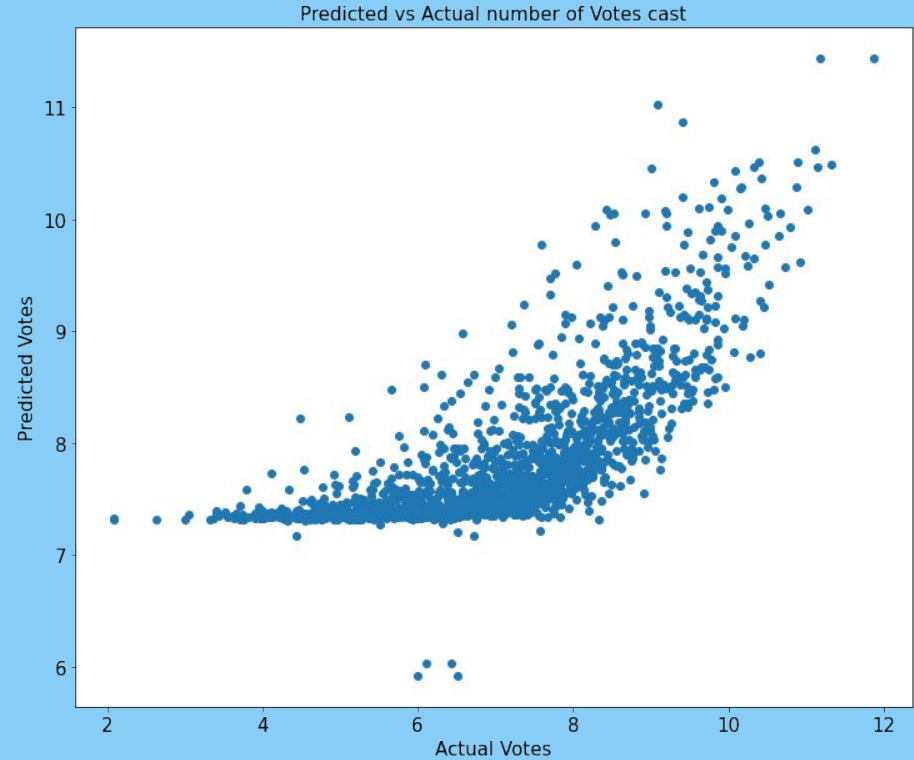
$$R^2 = 0.771$$

Sales:

Predicting Number of votes

Republican

Republican candidates see lower level of correlation than Democrats



$$R^2 = 0.612$$

Sales:

Predicting Primary Outcomes With Logistic Regression

Columns Used:

- Manufacturer shipments by \$1000
- Merchant wholesaler sales by \$1000
- Retail Sales by \$1000
- Food Service Sales by \$1000

Grouped by Parties

Democrats Vs. Republicans



Sales:

Predicting Primary Outcomes With Logistic Regression

Hillary Clinton
Democrats

Percentage of predicted primary elections won for Clinton that are correct

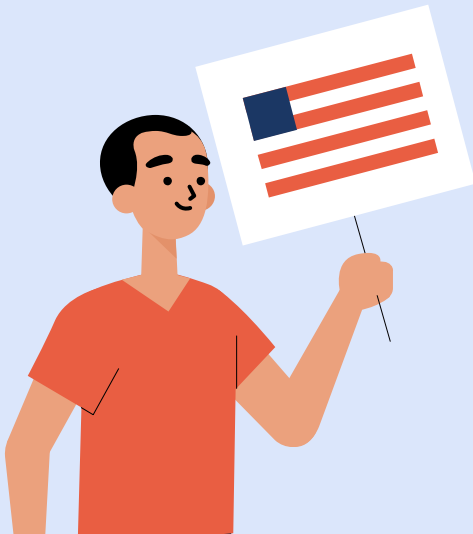
63.02%

Donald Trump
Republicans

Percentage of predicted primary elections won for Trump that are correct

78.01%

USING ALL CONDITIONS

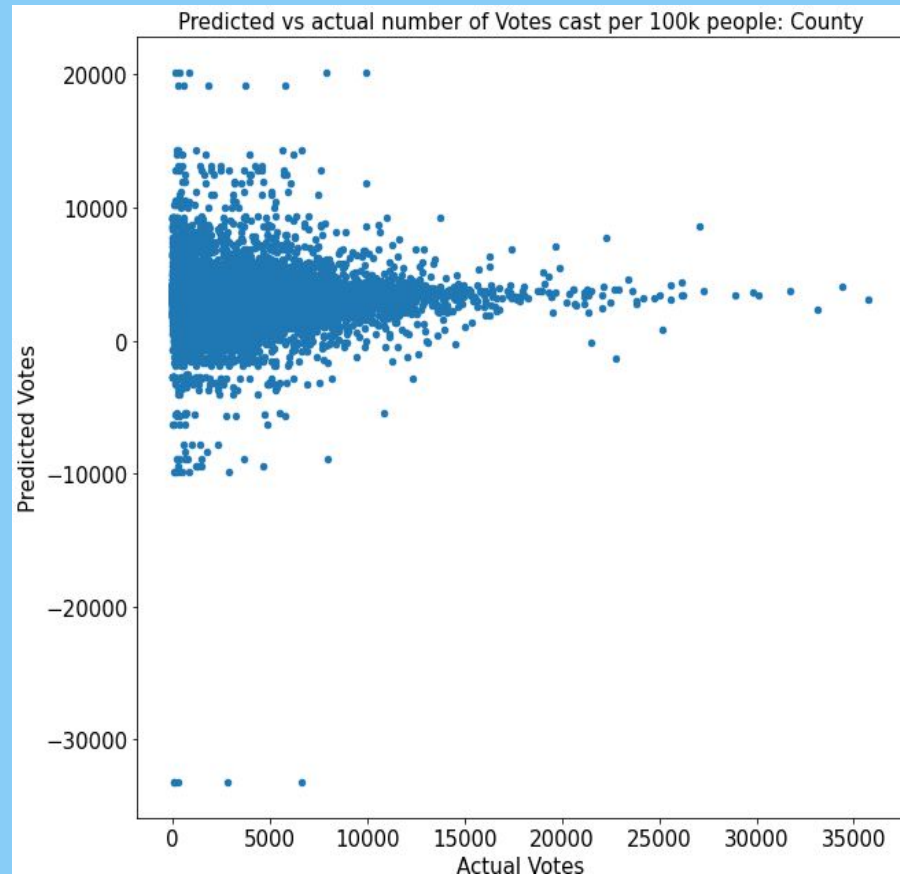


VOTE! ★



USING ALL CONDITIONS: Predicting number of votes

Can you predict the number of votes cast based on demographic conditions?



$$\text{MSE} = 12614795$$
$$R^2 = -0.24903105036492867$$

Conclusions





Conclusions

- Voting trends **vary** by state, county and region
- There are a **variety of factors** involved in election outcomes
- Using demographic and economic conditions independently **does not** make valuable predictions
- Using a combination of factors might be more useful, how do you choose **which to use**?
- The Northeast voting patterns when looking at demographic are **quite different** than the rest of the other regions of the US