PolitiFact Analysis

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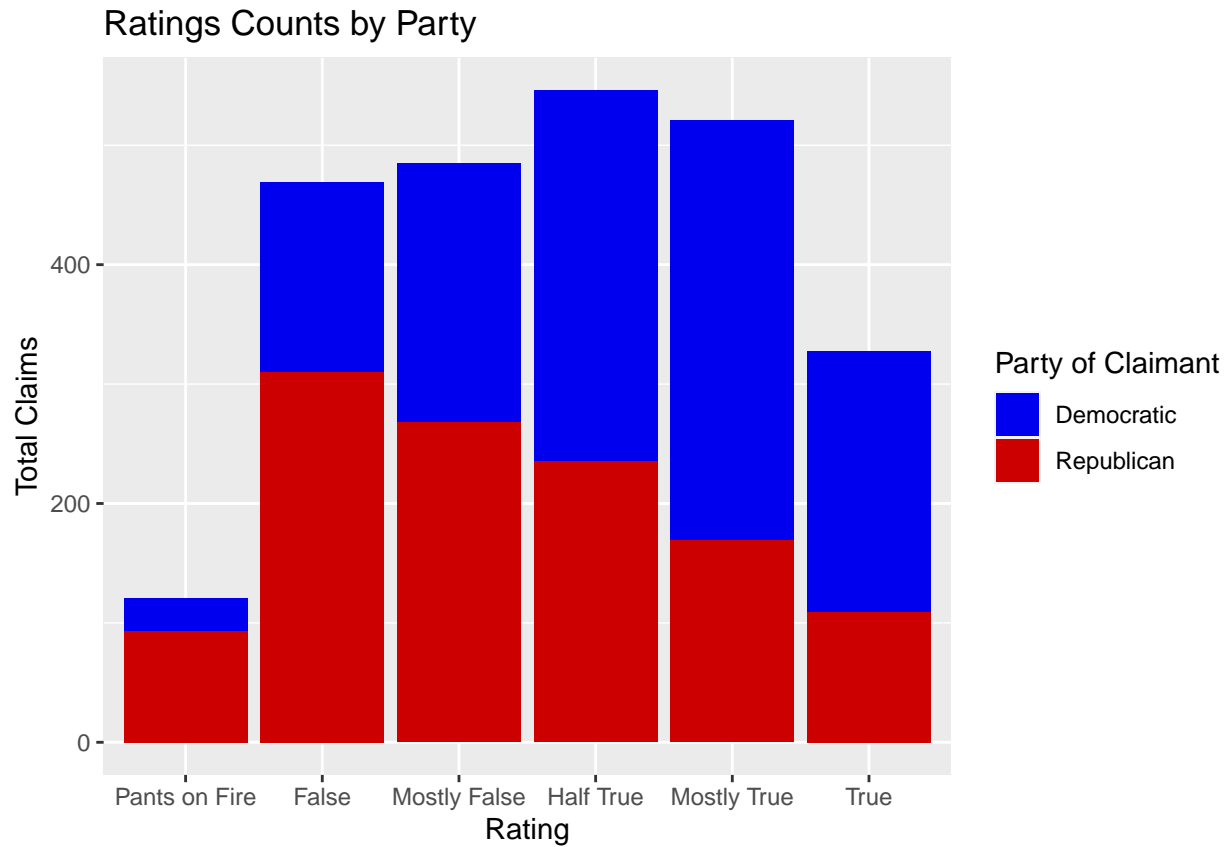
Having cleaning, sorted, and tagged all of our data, we conducted some initial data analysis to answer some of our research questions.
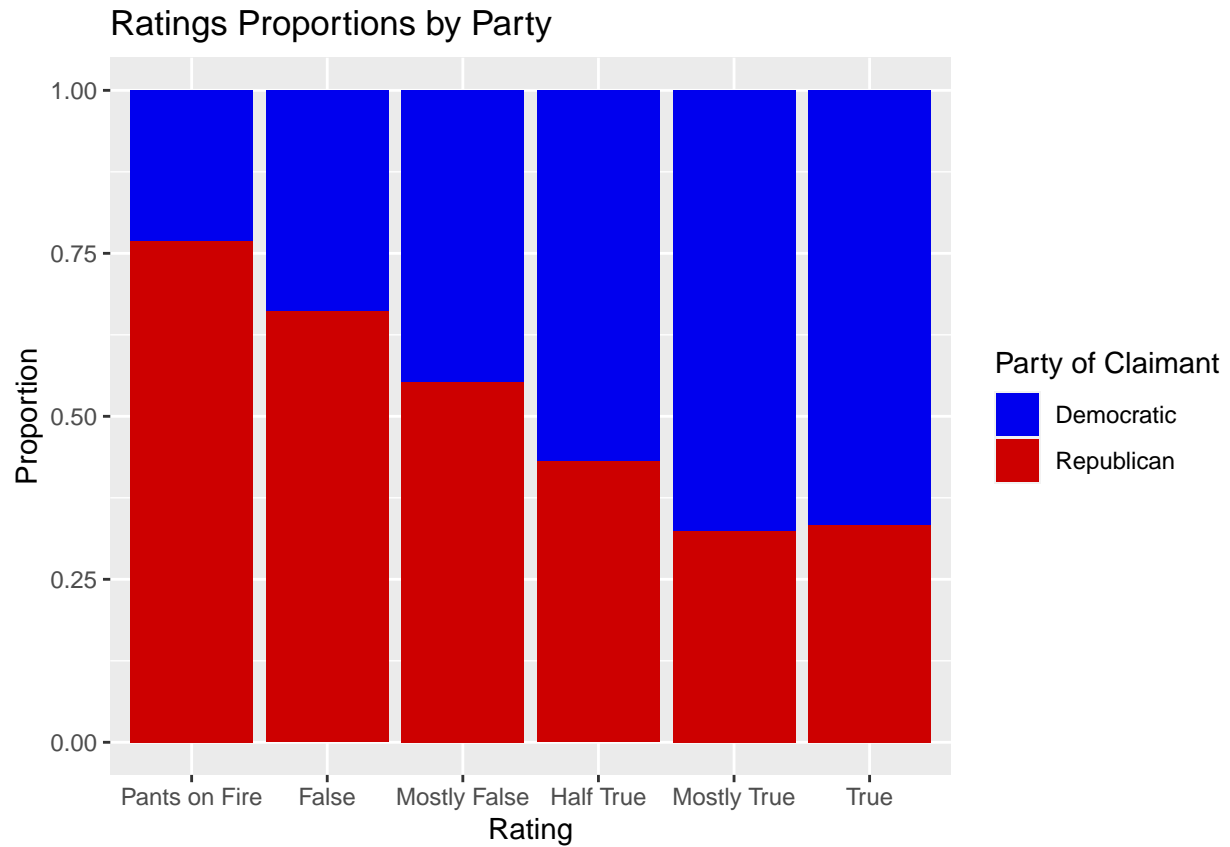
Which Party Lies More?

Our first research question was relatively simple. Which party lies more? While it is an impossible question to answer definitively, we decided to look at each rating tier and see the breakdown by party to get a sense of which party receives more false ratings.

Table 1: Claims by Party Sorted by Rating

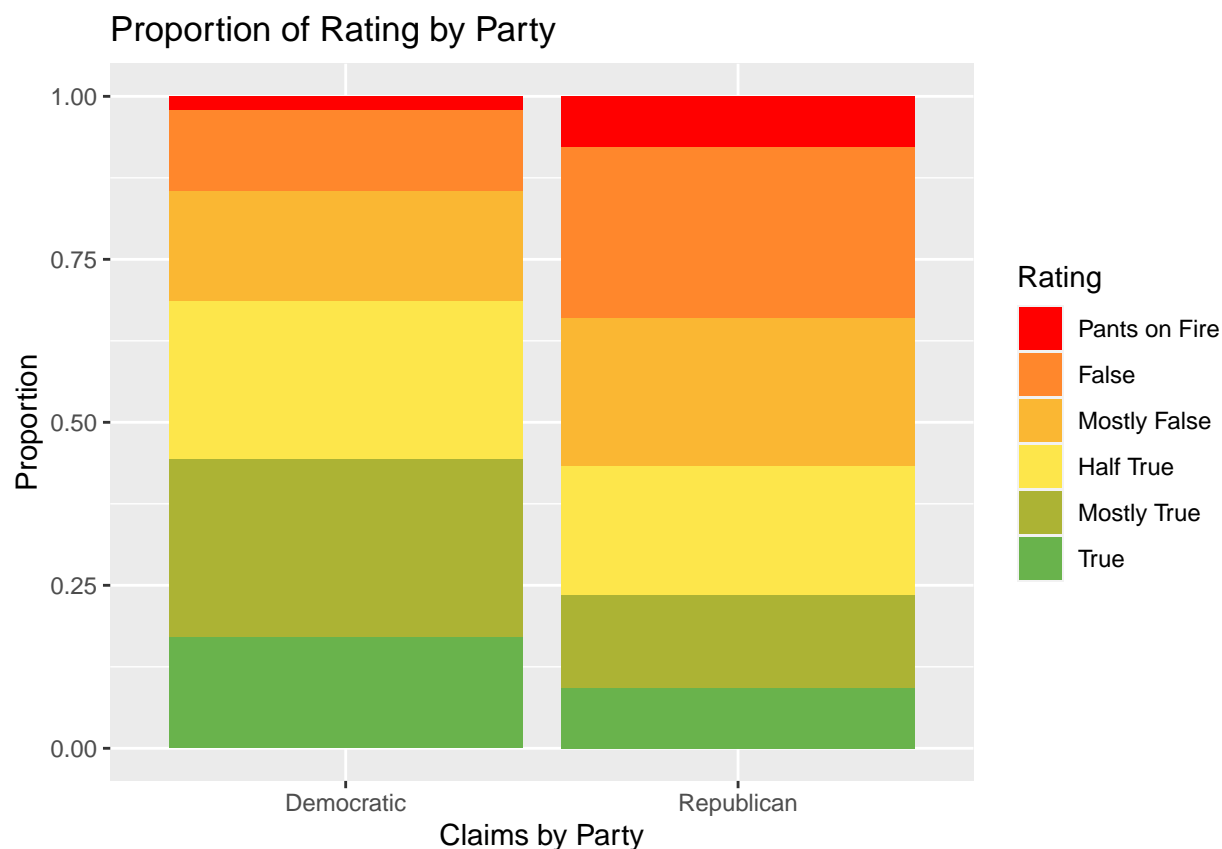| textualRating	Democratic	Republican	Total
Pants on Fire	28	93	121
False	159	310	469
Mostly False	217	268	485
Half True	311	235	546
Mostly True	352	169	521
True	218	109	327

Ratings Counts by Party

To account for the different samples sizes, we also viewed the data proportionally. Here we can see that Republican claimants are responsible for over 76.9% of the Pants on Fire claims, 66% of False claims, and 55.2% of Mostly False claims. Democrats have a majority of truthful claims responsible for 57% of the Half True claims, 67.6% of the Mostly True claims, and 66.7% of True claims.

Ratings Proportions by Party

Severity of Claims – by Party

Our second research question was, does one party lie worse. For this, we looking within each party's claims and reviewed the distribution of ratings.

Proportion of Rating by Party

Here we can see that 7.9% of all Republican claims are rated Pants on Fire as opposed to 2.2% of Democratic claims. 26.2 % and 22.6% of Republican claims are rated False and Mostly False respectively. 12.4% and 16.9% of Democratic claims are rated False and Mostly False.

Democrats also have a greater proportion of their claims rated True and Mostly True. To see a full percentage breakdown, review the table below.

Table 2: Percentage of Claims by Textual Rating

textualRating	Democratic	Republican	Total
Pants on Fire	2.2	7.9	4.9
False	12.4	26.2	19.0
Mostly False	16.9	22.6	19.6
Half True	24.2	19.8	22.1
Mostly True	27.4	14.3	21.1
True	17.0	9.2	13.2

What do they Lie About?

Next we reviewed the distribution of our subject tags.

Listed in our table below is the number of claims tagged with each macro tag, by party and in total. WRITE REST ABOUT OBSERVATIOSN

Table 3: Macro Subject Tag Counts

	Democratic	Republican	Total
Fear	90	208	298
Legislation	67	120	187
Self/Personal Record	63	69	132
Opponent/Opponent's Record	153	287	440

We did the same with our micro tags. In addition to giving raw counts, we calculated what percentage o

Table 4: Microtag Subject Counts and Percentages by Party

MicroTag	Democrat	Republican	TotalCount	DemocraticPercentage	RepublicanPercentage	PercentDisparity
Labor and Employment	48	38	86	11.88	5.66	-6.22
Economic Well-Being and Domestic Commerce	48	41	89	11.88	6.11	-5.77
Education	33	28	61	8.17	4.17	-4.00
Guns	31	25	56	7.67	3.73	-3.95
Race	20	13	33	4.95	1.94	-3.01
Taxes	38	47	85	9.41	7.00	-2.40
Foreign Trade	13	9	22	3.22	1.34	-1.88
Health (non-care)	43	59	102	10.64	8.79	-1.85
Record/Candidate Biography/ Campaigns and Personal Behavior	181	295	476	44.80	43.96	-0.84
Women	10	12	22	2.48	1.79	-0.69
Agriculture	5	7	12	1.24	1.04	-0.19
Community Development and Housing	8	13	21	1.98	1.94	-0.04
Media and Communications	11	20	31	2.72	2.98	0.26
Healthcare	32	55	87	7.92	8.20	0.28
National and State Macroeconomic Issues	12	22	34	2.97	3.28	0.31
LGBTQ	4	11	15	0.99	1.64	0.65
Civil Rights, Minority Issues, and Civil Liberties	18	35	53	4.46	5.22	0.76
Transportation	6	16	22	1.49	2.38	0.90
Defense/Military	21	41	62	5.20	6.11	0.91
Technology Science Space	9	24	33	2.23	3.58	1.35
Social Welfare	34	67	101	8.42	9.99	1.57
Energy	7	23	30	1.73	3.43	1.70
Religion	2	15	17	0.50	2.24	1.74
Abortion	3	19	22	0.74	2.83	2.09
Government Operations	66	125	191	16.34	18.63	2.29
Terrorism	11	34	45	2.72	5.07	2.34
History	20	49	69	4.95	7.30	2.35
Environment	9	32	41	2.23	4.77	2.54
International_affairs and Foreign Aid	31	75	106	7.67	11.18	3.50
Voting/Elections	27	72	99	6.68	10.73	4.05
Law and Crime and Policing	40	101	141	9.90	15.05	5.15
Immigration and Refugee Issues	22	84	106	5.45	12.52	7.07

```
## # A tibble: 15 x 33
##    claimYear 'National and St~ 'Economic Well-~ 'Labor and Empl~ 'Foreign Trade'
##        <dbl>            <dbl>            <dbl>            <dbl>            <dbl>
## 1      1992                0                0                0                0
## 2      2008                0                0                0                0
## 3      2009                0                1                0                0
## 4      2010                2                1                1                0
## 5      2011                2                1                3                0
## 6      2012                2                1                1                0
## 7      2013                0                1                0                0
## 8      2014                0                0                0                0
## 9      2015                0                0                0                0
## 10     2016                7               10               17                9
## 11     2017                5               24               12                6
## 12     2018                4               18               23                1
## 13     2019                6               22               18                3
## 14     2020                2                7                6                3
## 15     2021                4                3                5                0
## # ... with 28 more variables:
## #   Civil Rights, Minority Issues, and Civil Liberties <dbl>,
## #   Immigration and Refugee Issues <dbl>, LGBTQ <dbl>, Race <dbl>,
## #   Religion <dbl>, Women <dbl>, Health (non-care) <dbl>, Social Welfare <dbl>,
## #   Education <dbl>, Abortion <dbl>, Healthcare <dbl>,
## #   Government Operations <dbl>, Defense/Military <dbl>,
## #   International_affairs and Foreign Aid <dbl>, Voting/Elections <dbl>, ...
```