

Stats 1 Final Presentation

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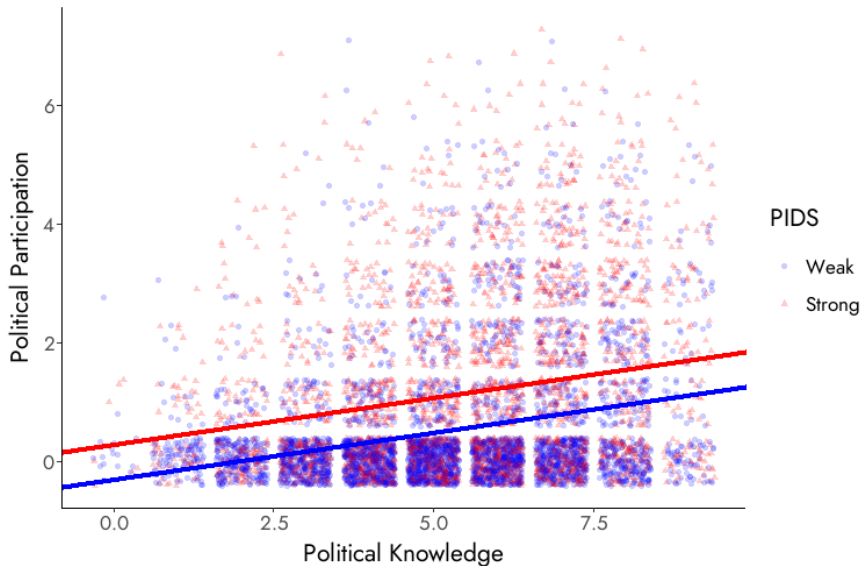
Is Political Participation Correlated with Political Knowledge?

- Hypothesis: Political knowledge is positively associated with political participation
- Political knowledge is a strong predictor of many things
- If you want to participate in politics, you need to know some stuff

The Data

- Data is from the 2020 American National Election Studies ($n=7,041$)
- Political knowledge is a 0-9 index that indicates how many political questions a respondent got right
- Political Participation is a 0-7 index that indicates how many political actions a respondent took part in
- Partisan Strength is a binary variable, with 1 indicating a respondent is a Strong Republican or Strong Democrat and 0 indicating weak partisan or independent

Scatter Plot



$$\text{PoliticalParticipation} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{PoliticalKnowledge} + \beta_2 * \text{PartisanStrength}$$

Table: The Results

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>
	Political Participation
Political Knowledge	0.157*** (0.008)
Partisan Strength	0.589*** (0.030)
Constant	-0.298*** (0.045)
Observations	7,041
R ²	0.108
Adjusted R ²	0.107
Residual Std. Error	1.261 (df = 7038)
F Statistic	424.287*** (df = 2; 7038)

Note: * p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

Reasons to be skeptical of this relationship:

- 1 Does knowing more stuff really mean you do more things?
- 2 Reverse causality: Maybe doing more stuff causes you to do more things?
- 3 Unexplained variance: R^2 of 0.108. What other variables are out there?