

# Investigating Predictors of 2016 Presidential Voting Behavior

Julia Fury, Jeffrie Chambers, Meera Swaminathan

American University

Data Science Inst 2025

2025-01-11

# Table of contents I

# Introduction

## Our Research Question and the ANES 2016 Pilot Study

- ▶ The ANES 2016 Pilot Study surveyed 1200 respondents on a wide range of topics.
- ▶ Responses were collected online from January 22th, 2016 through January 28th, 2016 by the American National Election Studies (ANES).
- ▶ Our research question investigates the relationships between survey respondents' positions on certain social/political topics and their reported candidates of choice in the 2016 Presidential election.

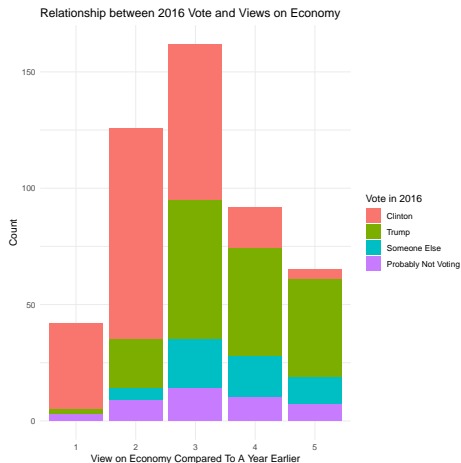
## Variables We Examined

The central variable in our analysis was the respondents' candidates of choice for the 2016 Presidential election.

Respondents' answers to this question were analyzed alongside the four other variables we tracked: - Perception of the economy at the time of the survey compared to a year prior - Opinion about the federal government's role in addressing climate change - Perception of racial advantage or disadvantage held by white people - Opinion on immigration numbers While there were many variables related to respondents' economic, environmental, racial, and immigration-related positions, we chose to graph one variable from each category that seemed the most representative.

# Respondents' Views on the Economy Compared to a Year Earlier

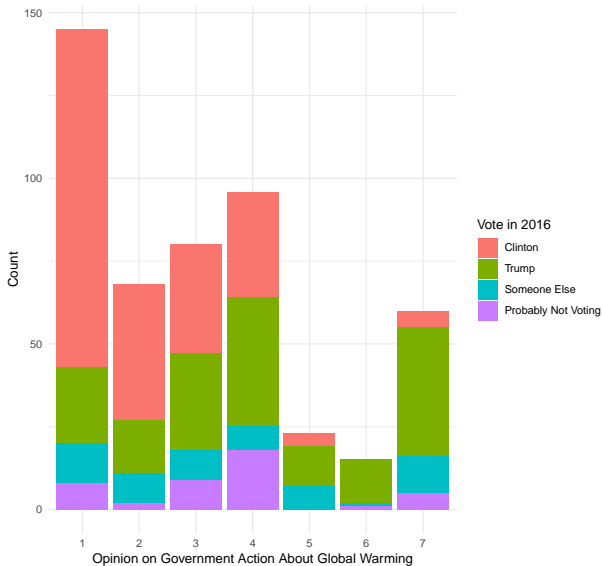
In this analysis, we sought to understand how respondents' views on the economy were related to their candidates of choice in the 2016 election.



# Respondents' Views on the Federal Government's Responsibility to Address Global Warming

In this analysis, we sought to understand how respondents' views on the federal government's responsibility to address global warming were related to their candidates of choice in the 2016 election. We generated a figure graphing voters' responses in which they were asked to describe their opinions on the issue on a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 meaning the government "should be doing a great deal more" regarding climate change, 4 meaning "is doing the right amount," and 7 meaning "should be doing a great deal less."

Relationship between 2016 Vote and Opinion on Federal Government's Role in Addressing Global Warming

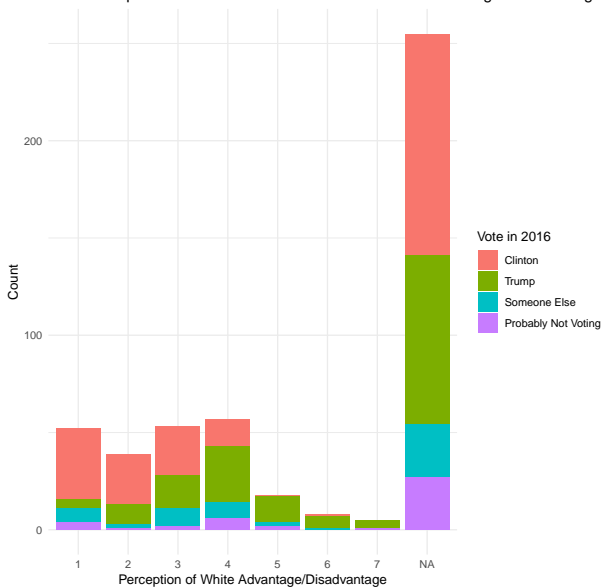


# Perception of Racial Advantages/Disadvantages Held by White People

In this analysis, we sought to understand how the perception of racial advantages or disadvantages a white voter's candidate of choice in 2016. Respondents were asked to represent their opinion using a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 meaning white people generally have a “large advantage” compared to other groups, 4 meaning “it does not make any difference,” and 7 meaning white people are at a “large disadvantage” compared to other groups.



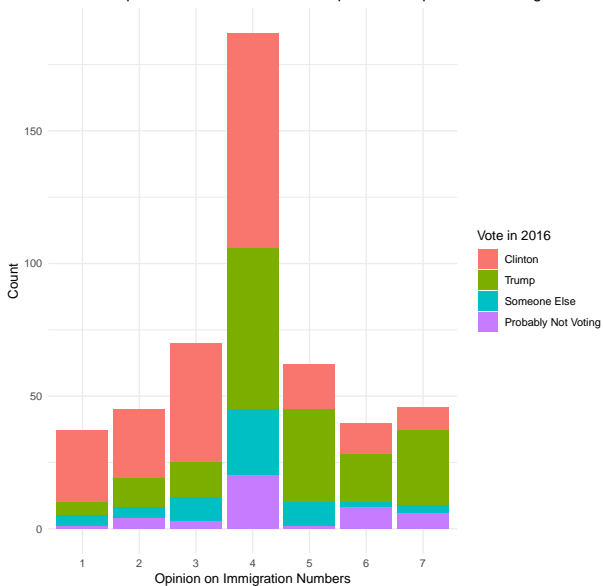
Relationship between 2016 Vote and Views on Racial Advantage/Disadvantage



# Respondents' Views on Immigration Numbers

In this analysis, we sought to understand how respondents' views on immigration numbers were linked to their candidates of choice in the 2016 election. Respondents were asked to express their opinions on a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 meaning the number of legal immigrants allowed into the United States should be “increased a lot,” 4 meaning “kept the same,” and 7 meaning “decreased a lot.”

Relationship between 2016 Vote and Respondents' Opinions on Immigration Nurr



# Thanks!

jf9785a@american.edu

ms2691a@american.edu

jc8400a@american.edu

*Journal of Public Policy*

@mooganmin22

References