

After running the program on the 2012 data, the minimum percentage of popular votes needed to win the election came out to be 21.09%, less than the NPR reported percentage. I reran the test on several election years across multiple decades, with the 2000 election reporting 22.13%, the 1992 election reporting 21.94%, the 1956 election reporting 17.46%, the 1940 election reporting 16.39%, and the 1896 election reporting 17.99%. The slight fluctuations in data could represent the larger control of votes by the third party in the selected year, however the correlation is clear that the percentage of minimum popular votes needed to win the election has increased over the course of the nation's history. This could be attributed to the fact that as the number of citizens increased, the number of electoral votes remained the same; meaning that the value of a single popular vote has inflated, and more popular votes are needed to win the election than once before.