

2016 Voting Dataset

This dataset merges 2016 data on county-level votes from various sources. The dataset includes total votes, along with votes for the Republican and Democratic Senate and presidential candidates. Each observation is a county. In addition to voting data, the dataset includes demographics, variables on voting laws, and weather data.

The dataset can be used to estimate what affects turnout or votes for specific parties. Note that while most of the variables vary at the county level, some variables vary at the state level. The following sources were used to create the dataset:

- 2016 Votes – MIT Election Lab presidential [votes](#) and senate [votes](#).
- Demographics – American Community Survey 2016 5-year estimates
- Voting laws – 2016 Election Administration and Voting [Survey](#)
- Early voting – Based on the National Conference of State Legislatures [website](#), along with a PEW Research [report](#).
- Weather – Based on the NOAA Global Historical Climatology Network daily weather dataset. The weather for each [county](#) is calculated as the mean for all stations in the county.

The dataset:

Variable	Description
FIPS	5 digit FIPS code
stateFIPS	2 digit FIPS code (state)
state	Name of state
county	Name of county
stateAbb	2-letter state abbreviation
region	Name of region
earlyVoting	2016 early voting policy
democrat	Votes for Democratic presidential candidate (Clinton)
republican	Votes for Republican presidential candidate (Trump)
medianIncome	County median income (thousands of dollars)
populationOver18	2016 population over 18 (voting age population)
medianAge	County median age
educTillHS	County share of population with high school education or below
educSomeCollege	County share of population with some college education but did not complete a 4-year degree
educCollegeUp	County share of population with college education or higher
shareWhite	County share of whites
shareBlack	County share of blacks
shareAsian	County share of Asian
shareOtherRace	County share of other races
shareHispanic	County share Hispanics (ethnicity, not race)
prcpMm	County precipitation voting day (mm)
minTempC	County minimum temperature (Celsius)
maxTempC	County maximum temperature (Celsius)
prcpMm1015	Average county Nov 8 Precipitation (mm), 2010-2015
minTempC1015	Average county Nov 8 minimum temperature (Celsius), 2010-2015

maxTempC1015	Average county Nov 8 maximum temperature (Celsius), 2010-2015
demSenate	Votes for the Democratic Senator
repSenate	Votes for the Republican Senator
totalSenate	Total Senate votes
registered	Number of registered voters
numPollWorkers	Number of poll workers
difficultToObtainPollWorkers	Number of poll workers (1 Very difficult, 2 Somewhat difficult, 3 Neither difficult nor easy, 4 Somewhat easy, 5 Very easy)
voted	Number of voters
votedPhysical	Physical polling place on Election Day voters
votedUOCAVA	Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee voters
votedAbsentee	Domestic absentee voters
votedProvisional	Provisional ballot voters
votedEarlyVoteCenter	Early Vote Center voters
votedByMail	Provisional voters
votedOther	Other voters
votedOtherExplanation	Explanation of the other voters category
allowSameDay	Allow same day vote registration