

Supplementary Information

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1 Administrative Matching Robustness Check

Our models exploring the turnout effects of traffic stops in Hillsborough County, Florida, require that we merge administrative records using the identifiers in the data. This runs the risk of identifying false positives. To test the prevalence of false positives in our administrative matching procedure, we use the test developed by Meredith and Morse (2014). By systematically permuting the birth dates in one set of records, we can see whether false positive matches are a major concern. In Table 1 we begin by merging all names and dates of birth in the traffic stop data with the names and dates of birth in the Hillsborough County registered voter file. We then add and subtract 35 days from the birth dates in the traffic stop data. If there are no false positives, these records should match with no records from the registered voter file.

Table 1: Results of Shifting Birthdates

Group	Number of Matches Between Traffic Stop and Voter File Records
Actual Birthdate	263,149
Birthdate + 35 Days	78
Birthdate - 35 Days	60

As the table makes clear, more than a quarter-million registered voters in Hillsborough County match at least one record in the traffic stop database when merging by first and last name, and date of birth. Once we permute the birth dates, however, the match rate drops dramatically—to 60 or 78, depending on how these dates of birth are permuted. This translates into a false positive rate of roughly 0.03 percent. We consider this rate of false positives too low to meaningfully impact our results.