**Key points**

* In the US election, each state has a certain number of votes that are won all-or-nothing based on the popular vote result in that state (with minor exceptions not discussed here).
* We use the left\_join() function to combine the number of electoral votes with our poll results.
* For each state, we apply a Bayesian approach to generate an Election Day d. We keep our prior simple by assuming an expected value of 0 and a standard deviation based on recent history of 0.02.
* We can run a Monte Carlo simulation that for each iteration simulates poll results in each state using that state's average and standard deviation, awards electoral votes for each state to Clinton if the spread is greater than 0, then compares the number of electoral votes won to the number of votes required to win the election (over 269).
* If we run a Monte Carlo simulation for the electoral college without accounting for general bias, we overestimate Clinton's chances of winning at over 99%.
* If we include a general bias term, the estimated probability of Clinton winning decreases significantly.



