Group 2 Project Proposal
Election and Voting Database

Group members:
- Megan Cogguillo
- Patrick Saitta
- Joshua Sohan

Description:

Our project will create a database containing data on the results of the 2016 and 2018 House, Senate, and Presidential elections as well as demographic and economic characteristics of eligible voters and their communities during those years.

There is a lot of data on elections/voting and population demographics available from official sources at varying levels of granularity (e.g. precinct/polling place level, constituency/district level, county level, state level), so we'll need to make a determination on the level we would like to use in our database before we select our final datasets.

Likely Data Sources:

Demographic data from the Census Bureau on voting and registration in past elections: https://www.census.gov/topics/public-sector/voting/data/tables.All.html
- The "Citizen Voting-Age Population and Voting Rates for Congressional Districts" tables contain data on demographics (age, sex, education, poverty, race) of the voting age population and voter turnout at the congressional district level
- Note: the demographic data is about the voting age population, *not* about who actually voted in the election

Data on past election results from MIT Election Lab: https://electionlab.mit.edu/data
- MIT's Election Lab has many datasets on election returns from 1976 to 2018. We will need to determine whether we would like to use the district-level, precinct-level, or county-level results

Unemployment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics: https://www.bls.gov/lau/#tables
- BLS provides unemployment rates by year at the state and county level

County population statistics from US Census Bureau: https://covid19.census.gov/search?collection=Dataset or https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-counties-detail.html:
- The Census Bureau provides numerous datasets on population demographics at the county level

Other Potential Data Sources:

Voter turnout data from past elections:
http://www.electproject.org/home/voter-turnout/voter-turnout-data

2020 polling data - various data sources, can download from 538, for instance:
https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/polls/president-general/national/

2020 early vote tracking: https://electproject.github.io/Early-Vote-2020G/index.html