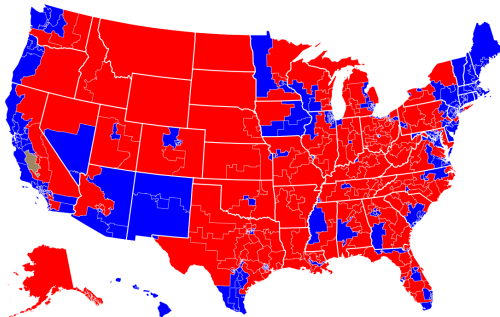# 2018 U.S. Midterm Popular Vote Estimation

Matt Klapman

11/27/2018

2018 U.S. Midterms

- Took place on Nov. 4th 2018
- House of Representatives races in every district (**main focus**)
- Some Governor and Senate races

My Data

- 309 "generic ballot" polls from Real Clear Politics

- Polls from January, 2017 - November, 2018

- Example:

Poll	Month	Year	Dates	SampSize	SampType	Dem	Rep
NBC News/Wall St. Jrnl	November	2018	2018-11-03	774	LV	50	43
CNN	November	2018	2018-11-03	1151	LV	55	42
ABC News/Wash Post	October	2018	2018-11-01	737	LV	52	44
Rasmussen Reports	October	2018	2018-11-01	2500	LV	45	46
IBD/TIPP	October	2018	2018-11-03	798	LV	50	41
Economist/YouGov	October	2018	2018-10-30	1296	RV	47	42

Initial Bootstrapping

- Estimate difference in popular vote proportion

- Naive estimate: equal weighting of polls

- Estimated difference in proportions: Dem $+7.32\%$

  95% Bootstrapped CI: (6.94%, 7.67%)

- Compare with the *current* results from The New York Times: Dem $+5.6\%$
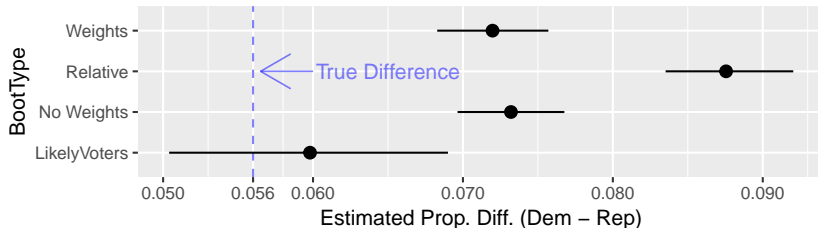
Other Attempts

- Change probability of being selected in the bootstrap
    - Higher weight for recent polls and *likely voters*
- Use "relative support" to account for undecided/independent

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- Change probability of being selected in the bootstrap

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Comparing estimations of 2018 U.S. Midterms

Thank You!

Other features of project in Github:

- Regression on difference in proportions

- Additional weightings

- Attempts at streamlining bootstrapping from surveys

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