2018 U.S. Midterm Popular Vote Estimation

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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:

Poli [‡]	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

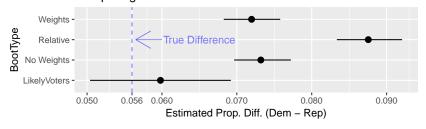
- Estimate difference in popular vote proportion
- Naive estimate: equal weighting of polls
- Estimated difference in proportions: Dem +7.32%
 95% Bootstrapped CI: (6.92%, 7.67%)
- \blacksquare Compare with the *current* results from The New York Times: Dem +5.6%

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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 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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