

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

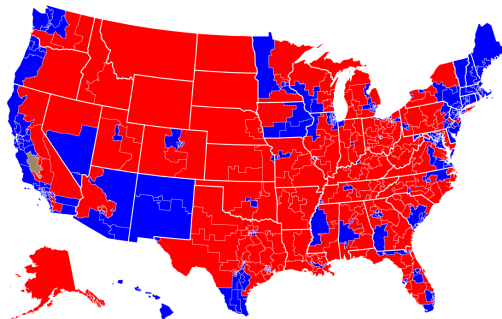


Figure 1: Current results

My Data

- ▶ 309 “generic ballot” polls from Real Clear Politics
- ▶ Polls from January, 2017 - November, 2018
- ▶ Example:

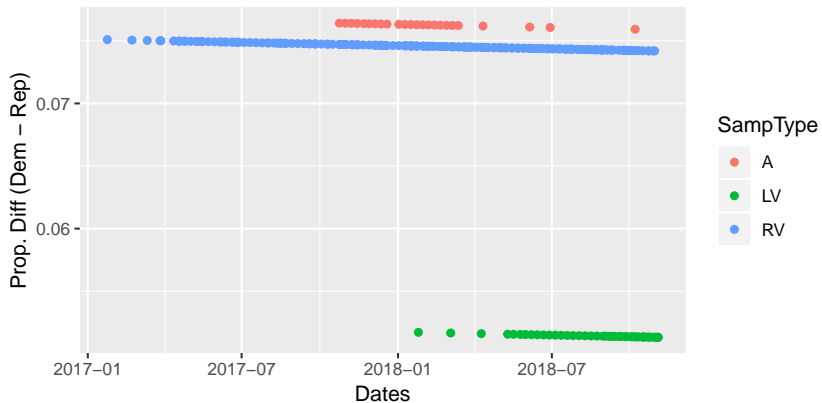
Poll	Month	Year	Dates	SampSize	SampType	Dem	Rep
NBC News/Wall St. Jrnl	November	2018	2018-11-03	774	LV	50	43
CNN	November	2018	2018-11-03	1151	LV	55	42
ABC News/Wash Post	October	2018	2018-11-01	737	LV	52	44
Rasmussen Reports	October	2018	2018-11-01	2500	LV	45	46
IBD/TIPP	October	2018	2018-11-03	798	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: 6.99, 7.7
- ▶ Compare with the *current* results from The New York Times:
Dem +5.6%

Regression

► Linear regression with sample size weights

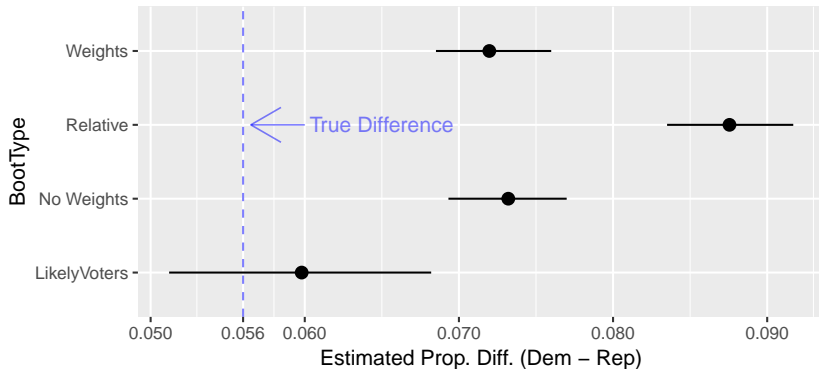


Other Attempts

- ▶ Change probability of being selected in the bootstrap
 - ▶ Higher weight for recent polls
 - ▶ Higher weight for *Likely Voters*
- ▶ Use “relative support” to account for undecided/independent

Results

Comparing estimations of 2018 U.S. Midterms



Thank You!