Data sources: 2012 election data

This file includes information on the online location of original data files used to construct the county-level measures of 2012 general election vote for Mitt Romney. It also includes the name of the file downloaded and basic information on the original data for each state.

**Alabama**:

* URL: https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/election-data
* File: 2012 General Election Results - Precinct Level
* General Description: The file includes a separate Excel workbook for each county, with results for elections distributed among several spreadsheets. The results for the Presidential election in 2012 are included on the sheet labeled “2”. While separate data for each polling place is reported, a summative measure for the county is also included – typically the last line of data. This details the total number of votes cast, as well as the number of votes for each candidate. We will need to sum the total number of votes, and total votes cast for each candidate, across county clusters and then calculate percentages.

**Arkansas**:

* URL: https://results.enr.clarityelections.com/AR/42843/113233/en/reports.html#
* File: Detail XLS
* General Description: This Excel workbook contains results, by county, for each race in the contest, by candidate and vote type. (Vote types are: election day, early vote, absentee, counted provisional, a separate category for Columbia, Ouachita & Union counties, and then a column for total votes for the candidate). Votes cast for the presidential race are included on the worksheet titled “2”. We will need to sum the total number of votes, and total votes cast for each candidate, across county clusters and then calculate percentages.

**Florida**:

* URL: https://results.elections.myflorida.com/downloadresults.asp?ElectionDate=11/6/2012&DATAMODE= [click on DOWNLOAD button]
* File: 11062012Election.txt
* General Description: This is a .txt file that contains a series of records for each county – one record for each candidate on the ballot for all federal races. It looks like the fields [meaning columns or variables] are separated by tabs. For each county, then, we need to sum all of the votes cast in the Presidential race across observations for that county. Note that each write-in candidate has a separate set of observations.

**Georgia**:

* URL: https://results.enr.clarityelections.com/GA/42277/113204/en/reports.html
* File: detail.xls
* General Description: This Excel workbook contains results, by county, for each race in the contest, by candidate and vote type. (Vote types are: election day, absentee by mail, provisional, advance in person, and then a column for total votes for the candidate). Votes cast for the presidential race are included on the worksheet titled “2”. We will need to sum the total number of votes, and total votes cast for each candidate, across county clusters and then calculate percentages.

**Kentucky**:

* URL: <https://results.enr.clarityelections.com/KY/43107/113206/en/reports.html>
* File: detail.xls
* General Description: This Excel workbook contains results, by county, for each race in the contest, by candidate. (Two identical columns are: election day and total votes for each candidate). There is also a column for each county that totals the number of votes cast. Votes cast for the presidential race are included on the worksheet titled “2”. We will need to sum the total number of votes cast for each candidate across county clusters and then calculate percentages.

**Louisiana**:

* URL: https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/graphical [and click on “Download Results”]
* File: ByParish\_46257.csv
* General Description: This .csv file includes a single worksheet, with one record per parish (the Louisiana version of a county). Each parish record includes the number of votes cast for each candidate, and does not provide a total number of votes cast. We will need to sum the total number of votes, and total votes cast for each candidate, across county clusters and then calculate percentages.

**Mississippi**:

* URL: https://sos.ms.gov/elections/electionresults\_aspx/elections\_results\_2012\_general.aspx
* File: FILES ARE BROKEN – appear to be in only .pdf format. Will ty via CSDE website
* General Description:
* QUESTION: Are we safe entering data from the NYT site, given that the state site has bad files? link is here: https://www.nytimes.com/elections/2012/results/states/mississippi.html

**North Carolina**:

* URL: https://www.ncsbe.gov/results-data/election-results/historical-election-results-data
* File: results\_pct\_20121106.txt
* General Description: This is a text file, and a beast. It includes multiple records for each precinct in the state – one for each candidate on the ticket. The fields for each record are: "county", "precinct", "contest\_type", "runoff\_status", "recount\_status", "contest", "choice", "winner\_status", "party", "Election Day", "One Stop", "Absentee by Mail", "Provisional", "total votes", "district". Each field is separated by a variable. County names are in all caps. We will want to sum up the N of votes by candidate for each county (we can use the "total votes" field for that). We also will need to sum the total votes cast in each county. Finally, we want to sum up the votes for each candidate and the total votes by county cluster.

**South Carolina**:

* URL: https://www.enr-scvotes.org/SC/42513/113010/en/reports.html
* File: detail.xls
* General Description: This Excel workbook contains results, by county, for each race in the contest, by candidate. (Two identical columns are: election day and total votes for each candidate). There is also a column for each county that totals the number of votes cast (called, quite poetically, “Total”). Votes cast for the presidential race are included on the worksheet titled “2”. We will need to sum the total number of votes cast and total number of votes for each candidate across county clusters and then calculate percentages.

**Tennessee**:

* URL: https://sos.tn.gov/elections/results#2012
* File: November2012.xlsx
* General Description: This excel spreadsheet incudes records by precinct and electoral race for each county in the states. So each county has multiple records. Column A lists the county, column C lists the precinct, and column H lists the contest (we want “United States President”). Then there are a series of columns – 3 for each candidate. They list Name, Tally & Column (not sure what that means!). I think only the name & tally are relevant to us – but check because each has a (systematically) different name. So we have to sum N votes in each county for each candidate (adding up that specific candidate’s column for all of the precinct tallies) and then the county cluster totals.

**Virginia**:

* URL: https://historical.elections.virginia.gov/elections/view/44930/
* File [created by copying data from the table on the above website into an Excel file]: VA\_Votes.xlsx
* General Description: This file includes a single spreadsheet. There is one record per county or independent city. Fields are: City/County; Barack Obama; Willard M. Romney; Virgil Hamlin Goode; Jill Stein; All Others; Total Votes. So we just have to do the geographic aggregation into county clusters.