

## Week 6, Day 2

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## Continuing on with Uncertainty

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Potential measures and ways to visualize uncertainty:

- ▶ Margin of error, confidence intervals, or standard errors are the most likely to be published in text. We can easily translate these from one to another
- ▶ Visually we are likely to encounter error bars, highlighted confidence intervals, or some other sort of visual differentiation between a given estimate and the surrounding potential range of values.

# Confidence Intervals

- ▶ We will encounter confidence intervals here (CIs for short). I'd like for us to know how to interpret this correctly, especially related to our confidence levels.
- ▶ Confidence intervals specify a potential range of values for a potential measurement of interest, given an associated confidence level.

$$CI = \text{Measurement} \pm MoE = [\text{Upper Bound}, \text{Lower Bound}]$$

- ▶ Where the **Margin of Error (MoE)** is the standard error ( $\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$ ) multiplied by the Z-or t-score relative to the chosen confidence level (typically 95%, but also 90% and 99% possible).

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- ▶ *Standard deviation* is an estimated statistical parameter about the spread of our data. Basically the expected amount of variation from observation to observation in the sample, and consequentially inferred about the population.
- ▶ *Standard error* is a measure of precision relative to the sample and its associated standard deviation.



# Formulae

Sample Standard Deviation of Mean  $s$ :

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}}$$

where the numerator is the squared sum of differences between each observation  $x_i$  of the variable of interest and the variable's mean ( $\bar{x}$ ). The denominator is the number of observations  $n$  minus 1. Easily done in R by `sd(var, na.rm = T)`.

Sample Standard Deviation of Proportion  $s$ :

$$s = \sqrt{\hat{\pi}(1 - \hat{\pi})}$$

Where  $\hat{\pi}$  is the sample proportion.

# Formulae

Standard Error ( $SE$ ):

If based on a mean:

$$SE = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Where  $s$  is the sample standard deviation.

If based on proportion:

$$SE = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\pi}(1 - \hat{\pi})}{n}}$$

## Margin of Error $\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \times z$

$$MOE = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \times z$$

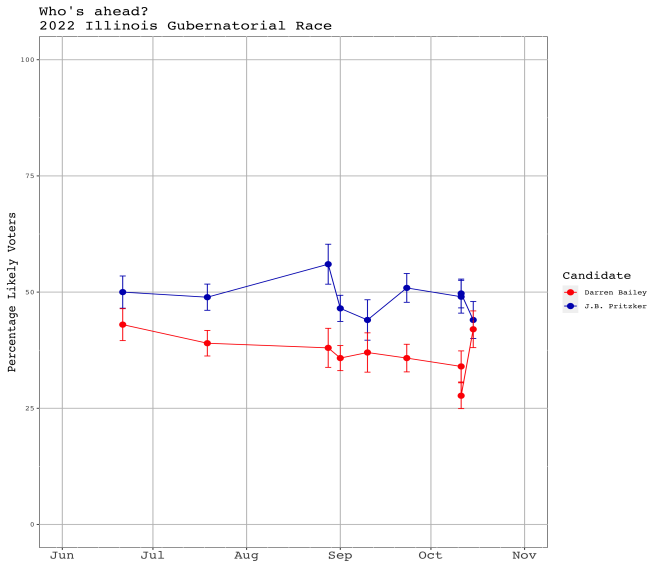
Where  $z$  is one of the following values:

Confidence Level	$z$
0.70	1.04
0.75	1.15
0.80	1.28
0.85	1.44
0.90	1.645
0.92	1.75
0.95	1.96
0.96	2.05
0.98	2.33
0.99	2.58

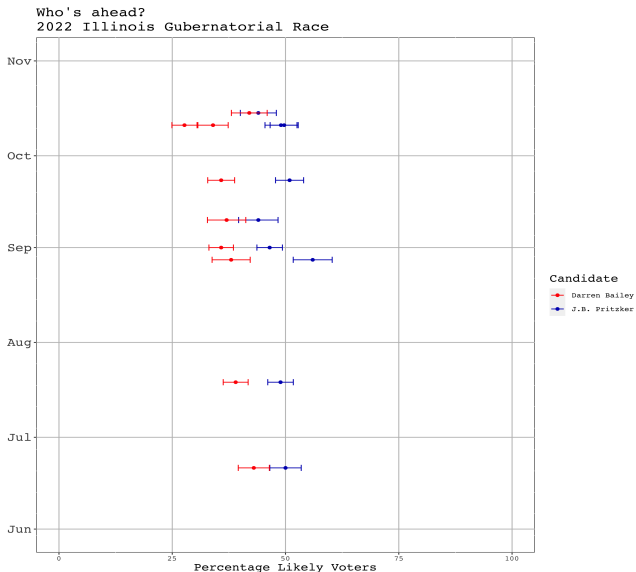
# Confidence levels

- ▶ Typically we choose 95% as our baseline. However if we visualize confidence intervals, can easily account for 90% and 99% visually also.
- ▶ The higher the confidence level, the more wider the CI and thus less precise.

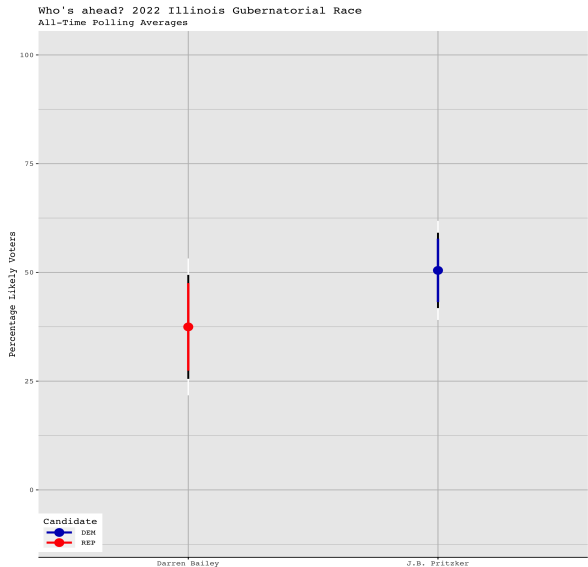
# Point Estimates and Uncertainty



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# All Time?



## Another option for uncertainty + distributions

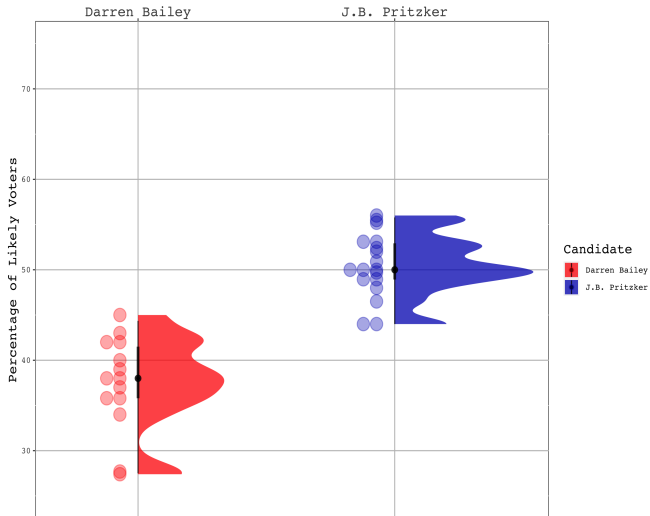
<https://www.cedricscherer.com/2021/06/06/visualizing-distributions-with-raincloud-plots-and-how-to-create-them-with-ggplot2/>



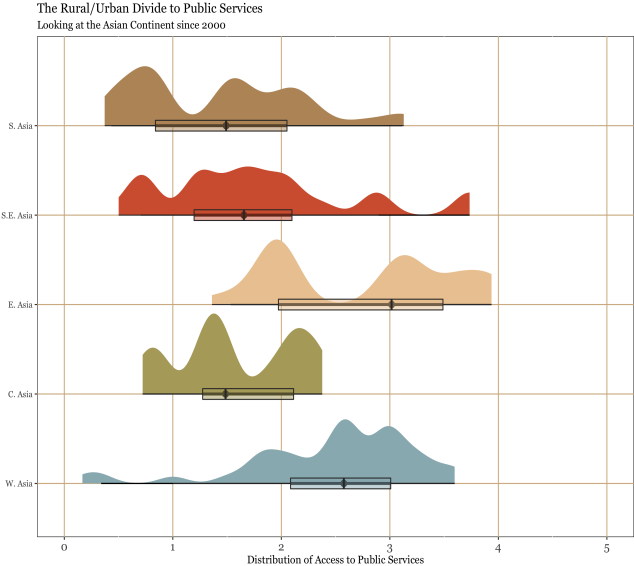
# With the IL Data

What Does the 'Mean' Mean?

All-Time Polling Trends: Illinois Gubernatorial Race 2022



# Switching Data



# Switching Region

The Rural/Urban Divide to Public Services  
Looking at the Americas and the Caribbean since 2000

