2016 US Presidential Campaign Finance Analysis

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April 11, 2016

1 Brief

Taking the 2016 US Federal Presidential Election Dataset for Bernie Sanders, located at http://fec.gov/disclosurep/PDownload.do, can you create an overview of the most significant contributors by:

1. Occupation 2. Employer 3. State 4. Rate over Time

In addition to a visualization for each, please include a brief summary of your findings.

2 Visualisations

2.1 Occupation

Summary: Almost a third of Sanders' donations are from contributors declaring themselves as not employed or retired. Clinton's top ten sources of donations by occupation show why she is the 'establishment' candidate. The third-most popular occupation amongst Clinton contributors is 'not filling in forms properly'.

CLINTON		SANDERS	
Occupation	Percentage	Occupation	Percentage
ATTORNEY	10.3	NOT EMPLOYED	27.9
RETIRED	9.5	RETIRED	4.6
NOT GIVEN	5.6	INFO REQUESTED	3.0
HOMEMAKER	3.8	ATTORNEY	2.6
CONSULTANT	2.9	PHYSICIAN	2.5
LAWYER	2.8	SOFTWARE ENGINEER	2.2
CEO	2.5	ENGINEER	1.8
INFO REQUESTED	2.4	PROFESSOR	1.6
PHYSICIAN	2.1	TEACHER	1.6
PRESIDENT	2.1	CONSULTANT	1.0

2.2 Employer

Summary: The quality of employer data is quite poor, though it is worse for Sanders (many are employed by 'Mr.' or by 'Ms.'). About 45% of contributions to Clinton don't have an identifiable employer (because the contributor is self-employed, or more commonly not in the work force) while the same quantity for Sanders is just over 50%. Excluding all these contributions, the two candidates are just as 'in the pocket' of private interests as each other: Clinton simply takes more of her total from banks, law firms and her previous employers (US Government and State Department) while Sanders derives more of his support from tech companies, public universities, and weapons manufacturers.

Top 20 employers by the size of their employees' contributions, for known organisations

CLINTON:
1. MORGAN & MORGAN
2. DLA PIPER LLP
3. MORGAN STANLEY
4. STANFORD UNIVERSITY
5. GOOGLE
6. PAUL WEISS RIFKIND WHARTON & GARRISON
7. CORNING INC.
8. AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP
9. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
10. HARVARD UNIVERSITY
11. COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
12. SKADDEN ARPS SLATE MEAGHER & FLOM LLP
13. LATHAM & WATKINS LLP
14. CANTOR FITZGERALD
15. KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP
16. GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP
17. CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY
18. JPMORGAN CHASE
19. WELLS FARGO
20. U.S. GOVERNMENT

SANDERS:

1. GOOGLE
2. MICROSOFT
3. IBM
4. GOOGLE, INC.
5. USPS
6. APPLE
7. KAISER PERMANENTE
8. AMAZON.COM
9. AT&T
10. BOEING
11. UCLA
12. US NAVY
13. GOOGLE INC.
14. UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
15. UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
16. STATE OF CALIFORNIA
17. STANFORD UNIVERSITY
18. HARVARD UNIVERSITY
19. LOCKHEED MARTIN
20. APPLE INC.

3   State

Time for a map.

4   Rates over time

Compare 'bumps' in donations to key events in the campaign so far.