# Registered Voter Participation in Union County, NC

**Max Steele** 

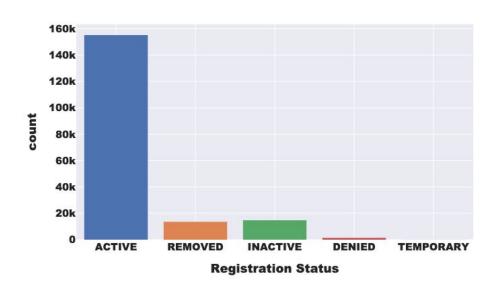
# **Purpose**

- Understand trends in voter participation in Union County
  - o 2012, 2016, 2020 general elections
- Create a dashboard for exploring trends and comparing elections
- Use ML to investigate relationships between demographics and participation
- Provide insights into increasing turnout for Democratic candidates

## Obtain & Scrub

- NCSBE
  - Voter registration records
  - Voter history records
- Data preparation and cleaning
  - Drop duplicate records
  - Drop "Removed" and "Denied"
  - Merge records on unique NCID
- Separate datasets for 2012, 2016, and 2020
  - Filter voters based on:
    - Registration date
    - Age

### **Distribution of Voter Registration Status**



# **Explore: Interactive Dashboard**



# **Modeling**

#### • Predicting Vote vs. No Vote:

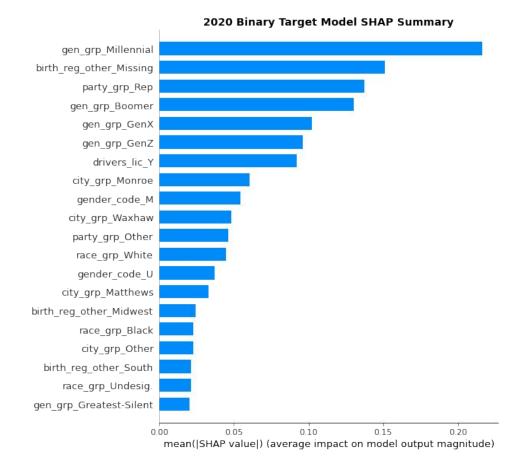
- Generation
- Political Party
- Race
- Gender
- Birth Region
- Drivers License
- City

#### Overall accuracy

o **2020:** 66%

**2016**: 69%

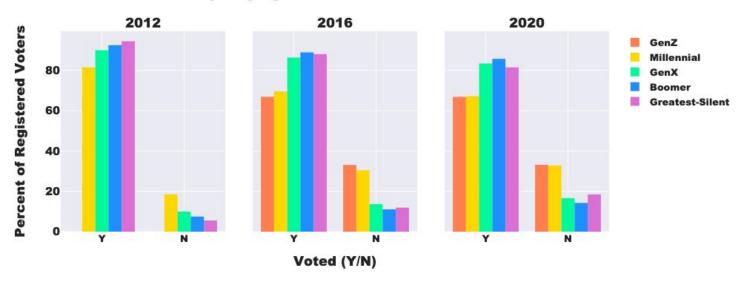
o **2012:** 66%



## Recommendations

- Voter Age:
  - Focus on getting Gen Z and Millennials to the polls

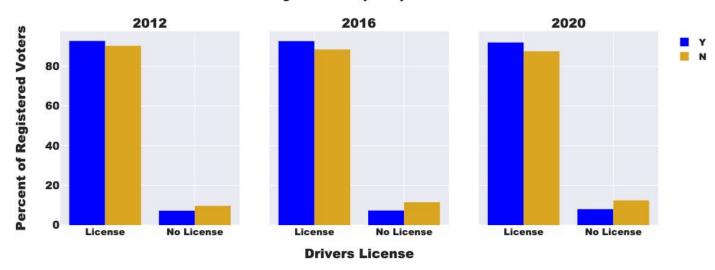
## **Voted (Y/N) by Generation in General Elections**



## Recommendations

- Drivers License:
  - Clear communication around voter ID laws
  - Transportation to and from polls

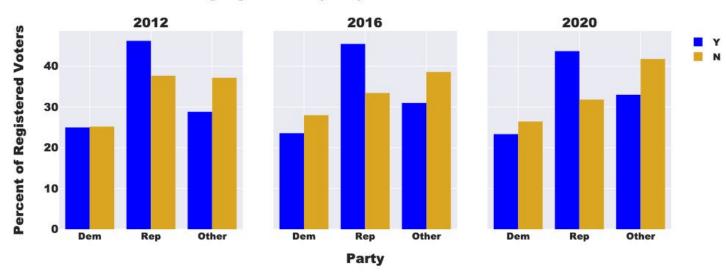
#### **Drivers License by Voted (Y/N) in General Elections**



## Recommendations

- Political Party:
  - Appeal to unaffiliated voters and members of minor political parties

## Party by Voted (Y/N) in General Elections



# Summary

- Union County Registered
   Voters dashboard as a tool for exploring:
  - Demographics
  - Participation in recent elections
- To increase voter turnout for Democratic candidates:
  - Gen Z and millennials
  - Clear communication around voter ID laws
  - Unaffiliated and minor party voters

# **Future Work**

 Investigate interaction effects among demographic features

- Scale up to statewide models
- Add to dashboard
  - Trends in voter registration status
  - Compare current registered voter population to U.S. Census data

# Thank you!

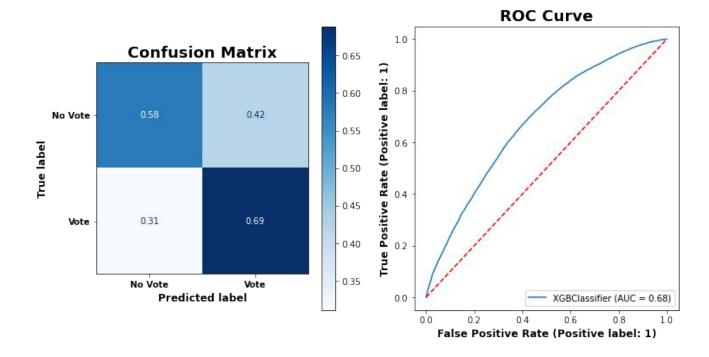
**Questions?** 

Max Steele

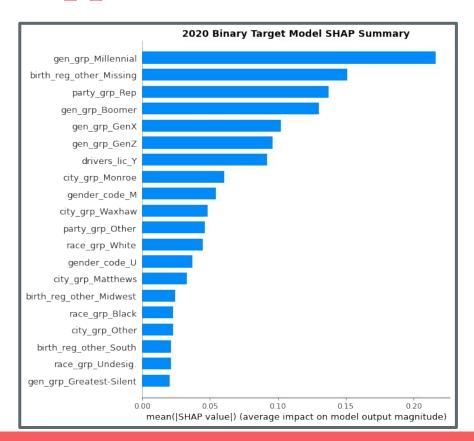
https://github.com/zero731

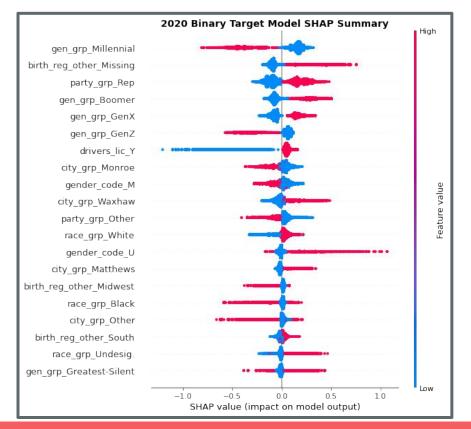
# Appendix I - Best 2020 Model

66% accuracy



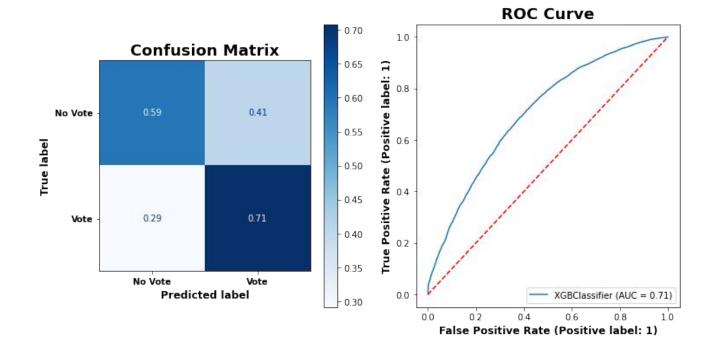
# Appendix II - Best 2020 Model



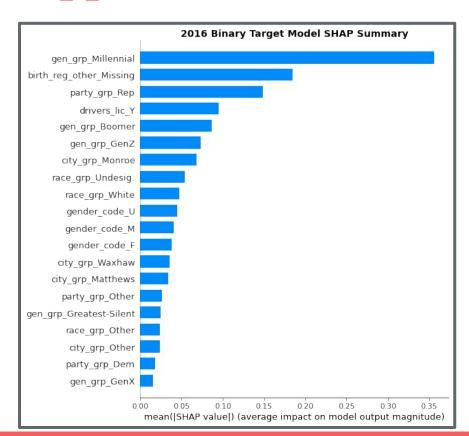


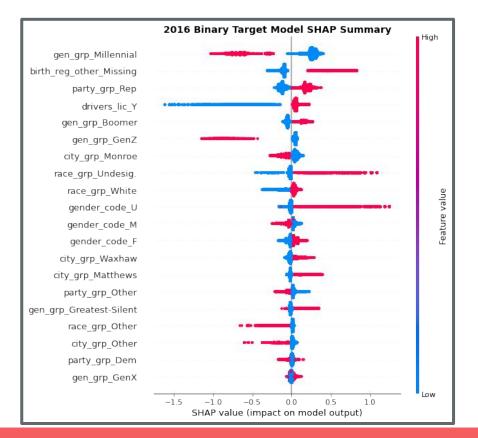
# Appendix III - Best 2016 Model

69% accuracy



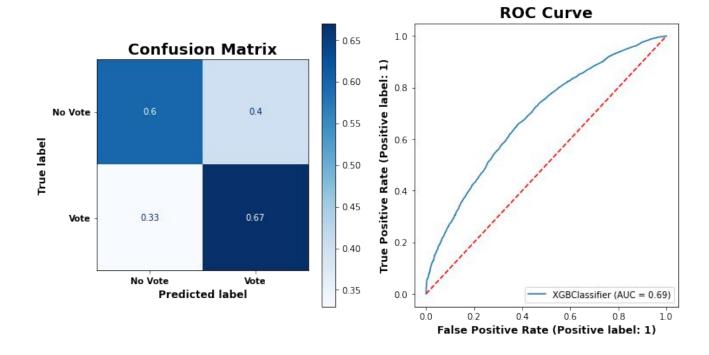
# Appendix IV - Best 2016 Model





# Appendix V - Best 2012 Model

66% accuracy



# Appendix VI - Best 2012 Model

