### Multifactorial Analysis of Demographic, Economic, and Educational Influences on U.S. Voting Patterns, 2016-2020

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### **Research Question**

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How did the relationship between county-level demographic factors, education levels, and unemployment rates and the Democratic vote share change between the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections?

### Literature Review

#### **Literature Review**

Racial composition has been a strong predictor of voting behavior, with changing demographics linked to **shifts in party allegiance** (Abrajano & Hajnal, 2015; Frey, 2018)

Economic indicators, such as unemployment rates and median household income, have historically **influenced political preferences** (Wright, 2012; Gelman et al., 2010).

Educational attainment has become increasingly **predictive of voting behavior**, giving rise to a notable "diploma divide" in recent elections (Sides et al., 2018; Tyson \& Maniam, 2016).

Interaction between race and education has gained prominence in **predicting voting behavior**, while economic factors interact with demographic characteristics to influence political preferences (Schaffner et al., 2018; Bartels, 2016).

### Hypotheses

### **Hypotheses**

**(H1)** Counties with increasing racial diversity will show a positive change in Democratic vote share from 2016 to 2020.

**(H2)** The impact of education levels on Democratic vote share will vary across income groups, with a stronger positive relationship in higher-income counties.

**(H3)** Counties experiencing higher unemployment rates in 2016 will show a negative change in Democratic vote share in 2020, reflecting dissatisfaction with economic conditions.

**{H4}** There will be significant interaction effects between education levels and racial demographics, with the impact of education on Democratic vote share differing across racial groups.

### **Datasets**

#### **Datasets**

{demographic\_data} Racial composition and median household income
{education\_data} Educational attainment for individuals 25 and older
{unemployment\_2012, unemployment\_2016} County-level unemployment rates for
2012 and 2016

**{election\_data}** Democratic vote share in the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections

### Results and Analysis

### **Hypothesis 1**

## Results Impact of Racial Diversity on Democratic Vote Share Change

Diversity index shows a very slight positive relationship with changes in Democratic vote share

Relationship is **not statistically significant** (p > 0.05)

Confidence interval crosses zero, cannot rule out the possibility of no effect or even a slight negative effect

Do not have strong evidence to support H1

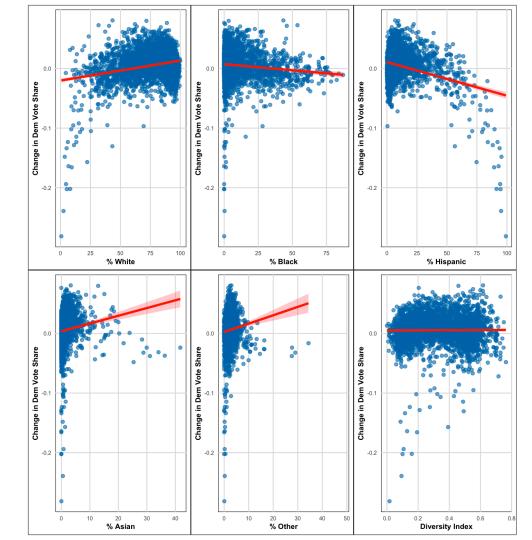
Racial diversity **alone** may **not be a reliable predictor** of changes in Democratic vote share at the county level

Coefficient	Estimate	Std. Error	CI Lower	CI Upper	P-Value
Estimate	0.001199228	0.002536833	-0.003774809	0.006173265	0.636

## Results Impact of Racial Diversity on Democratic Vote Share Change

**Nearly flat line** for the diversity index plot (bottom right)

While the overall diversity index shows little effect, the individual racial group plots reveal interesting patterns (e.g., positive trend for % White, negative for % Hispanic)



## Results Impact of Racial Diversity on Democratic Vote Share Change

X-axis: Percentage with Bachelor's Degree

Y-axis: Change in Democratic Vote Share (2020 - 2016)

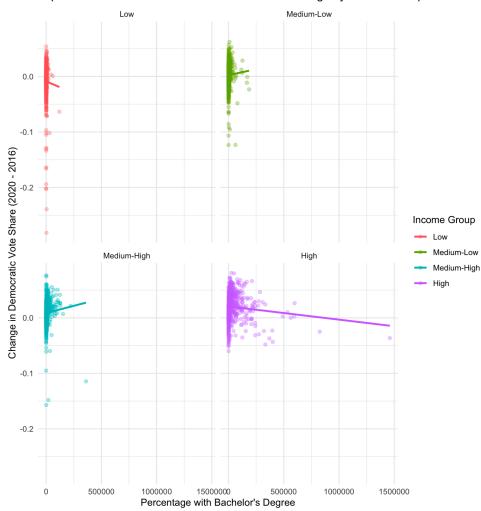
Varying relationships observed across income groups

Positive trend for Medium-Low income group

Negative trend for High income group

Mixed results for Low and Medium-High income groups

#### Impact of Education on Democratic Vote Share Change by Income Group



### **Hypothesis 2**

## Results Interactions: Diversity, Education, and Income

Significant interactions between diversity and both education and income

Model explains 19.7% of variance in Democratic vote share change (Rsquared: 0.197)

All predictors and interactions are statistically significant (p < 0.001)

Negative interaction terms suggest:

Diversity effect decreases as education/income increase Education/income effects decrease as diversity increases

Variable	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	p-value
Intercept	-0.0467	0.0038	-12.363	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
Diversity Index	0.0370	0.0088	4.217	$2.54\times10^{-5}$
Bachelor's Degree	$4.211 \times 10^{-7}$	$5.590\times10^{-8}$	7.532	$6.49\times10^{-14}$
Median Household Income	$9.479 \times 10^{-7}$	$7.075 \times 10^{-8}$	13.398	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
Diversity Index:Bachelor's Degree	$-6.996 \times 10^{-7}$	$8.680 \times 10^{-8}$	-8.060	$1.08\times10^{-15}$
Diversity Index:Median Household Income	$-6.721 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.616\times10^{-7}$	-4.160	$3.27\times10^{-5}$

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\* 0.001 '\*\* 0.01 '\* 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.0231 on 3106 degrees of freedom

Multiple  $R^2 = 0.197$ , Adjusted  $R^2 = 0.1957$ 

F-statistic: 152.4 on 5 and 3106 DF, p-value:  $< 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$ 

Low and High income groups show slight negative slopes

Medium-Low and Medium-High groups show slight positive slopes

Only the High income group shows a statistically significant relationship (p < 0.01)

Income Group	Intercept		Slope	p-value
Low	-0.00887	-8.54	$\times 10^{-8}$	0.648
Medium-Low	0.00234	4.31	$\times 10^{-8}$	0.377
Medium-High	0.00873	5.17	$\times 10^{-8}$	0.108
High	0.0206	-2.38	$\times 10^{-8}$	0.00789

**Interaction Model Summary** 

Significant differences in intercepts across income groups

Interaction terms (bachelor\_degree:income\_group) are not statistically significant

Income group itself has a significant effect on Democratic vote share change

Term	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	p-value
Intercept	$-8.866 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.948 \times 10^{-4}$	-9.908	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
bachelor_degree	$-8.545 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.537\times10^{-7}$	-0.556	0.578
$income\_groupMedium\text{-}Low$	$1.120 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.267\times10^{-3}$	8.841	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$income\_group Medium\text{-}High$	$1.759 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.275\times10^{-3}$	13.800	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$income\_groupHigh$	$2.946 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.288\times10^{-3}$	22.872	$<2\times10^{-16}$
$bachelor\_degree:income\_groupMedium-Low$	$1.285\times10^{-7}$	$1.633\times10^{-7}$	0.787	0.431
$bachelor\_degree:income\_groupMedium-High$	$1.372 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.579\times10^{-7}$	0.869	0.385
bachelor_degree:income_groupHigh	$6.166 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.539 \times 10^{-7}$	0.401	0.689

**ANOVA Results** 

Both bachelor\_degree and income\_group are significant predictors

The interaction between bachelor\_degree and income\_group is not significant (p = 0.1398)

Income group explains more variance than education level

Term	$\mathbf{Df}$	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	<b>Pr(&gt;F)</b>
bachelor_degree	1	0.01062	0.010616	19.1081	$1.276{\times}10^{-5}$
$income\_group$	3	0.32768	0.109228	196.6098	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$bachelor\_degree:income\_group$	3	0.00305	0.001016	1.8283	0.1398
Residuals	3104	1.72445	0.000556		

Correlation: Income and Education's Impact on Vote Share

Weak positive correlation between income and education's impact on Democratic vote share

Statistically significant, but small effect size

Suggests a slight tendency for education to have a stronger positive effect in higher-income areas Correlation = 0.1716,  $p < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$ , 95% CI: [0.137, 0.206]

### Hypothesis 3

2016 Unemployment Rate vs. Democratic Vote Share Change

Significant negative relationship (p < 0.001)

For every 1% increase in 2016 unemployment, Dem share decreased by 0.44%

R-squared: 0.09926 (9.93% of variance explained)

Highly significant F-statistic (p-value: 2.2e-16)

Variable	Estimate Std. Error		t value	Pı	r(> t )
Intercept	0.0284	0.0013	21.65	<2	$\times 10^{-16}$
Unemployment Rate 2016	-0.0044	0.0002	-18.51	<2	$\times 10^{-16}$

R-squared: 0.09926, Adjusted R-squared: 0.09897

F-statistic: 342.7 on 1 and 3110 DF, p-value: ; 2.2e-16

Change in Unemployment Rate (2012-2016) vs. Democratic Vote Share Change

Weak negative relationship (p < 0.05)

For every 1% increase in unemployment change, Dem share decreased by 0.05%

Model explains only 0.13% of the variance in Dem vote share change

Variable	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	$\mathbf{Pr}(> t )$
Intercept	0.0042	0.0008	5.172	$2.47\times10^{-7}$
Change in Unemployment Rate	-0.0005	0.0003	-2.036	0.0418

R-squared: 0.001331, Adjusted R-squared: 0.00101

F-statistic: 4.146 on 1 and 3110 DF, p-value: 0.04182

Correlation: 2016 Unemployment and Democratic Vote Share Change

Correlation coefficient: -0.3150572

Moderate negative correlation

Highly significant (p < 2.2e-16)

95% CI: [-0.3463595, -0.2830541]

Statistic	Value
Correlation coefficient	-0.3151
95% CI lower bound	-0.3464
95% CI upper bound	-0.2831
p-value	; 2.2e-16

## Results Unemployment Rate Changes by County (2012-2016)

County-level map of unemployment rate changes

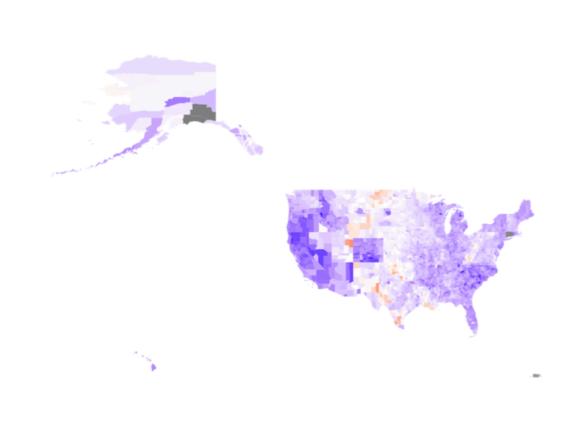
Blue areas: Decreased unemployment

Red areas: Increased unemployment

Significant regional variations evident

Midwest shows improvement

Energy-producing regions faced challenges



Regional Variations in Unemployment Impact

Significant regional differences in unemployment effect

Strongest negative effect in the Northeast

Weakest effect in the West

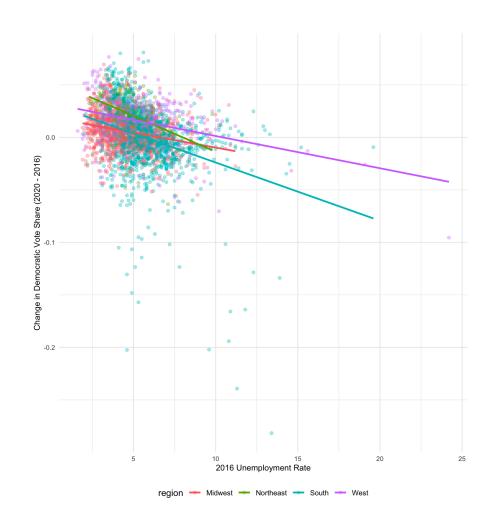
Model explains 16.28% of the variance in Dem vote share change

Variable	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	$\mathbf{Pr}(> t )$
Intercept	0.0188	0.0023	8.336	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
Unemployment Rate 2016	-0.0029	0.0005	-6.019	$1.96\times10^{-9}$
Region Northeast	0.0357	0.0070	5.076	$4.09\times10^{-7}$
Region South	0.0127	0.0031	4.149	$3.43\times10^{-5}$
Region West	0.0132	0.0037	3.615	0.000305
Unemployment: Northeast	-0.0040	0.0014	-2.896	0.003807
Unemployment: South	-0.0027	0.0006	-4.590	$4.60\times10^{-6}$
Unemployment: West	-0.0002	0.0007	-0.317	0.750940

R-squared: 0.1628, Adjusted R-squared: 0.1609

F-statistic: 86.25 on 7 and 3104 DF, p-value: ; 2.2e-16

Unemployment Rate vs.
Democratic Vote Share Change by
Region



### **Hypothesis 4**

### Results Main Interaction Model Results

All variables and interactions are statistically significant (p < 0.05)

Negative main effects for bachelor's degree and all racial/ethnic percentages

Positive interaction effects between bachelor's degree and racial/ethnic percentages

Strongest negative main effect: Hispanic percentage (-8.944 x 10^-4)

Strongest positive interaction: Bachelor's degree and Hispanic percentage (6.905 x 10^-9)

Intercept is positive and significant  $(3.870 \times 10^{4}-2)$ 

Variable	Est	imate	$\mathbf{Std}.$	Error	t value	$\mathbf{Pr}(> t )$
Intercept	3.870	$\times 10^{-2}$	5.417	$\times 10^{-3}$	7.144	$1.12 \times 10^{-12}$
$bachelor\_degree$	-7.639	$\times 10^{-7}$	9.095	$\times 10^{-8}$	-8.399	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$pct_white$	-2.965	$\times10^{-4}$	5.679	$\times10^{-5}$	-5.220	$1.90\times10^{-7}$
$pct_black$	-5.419	$\times 10^{-4}$	6.149	$\times 10^{-5}$	-8.813	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$\operatorname{pct}$ _hispanic	-8.944	$\times10^{-4}$	6.447	$\times10^{-5}$	-13.874	$<\!2~\times10^{-16}$
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_white$	1.304	$\times10^{-8}$	1.085	$\times 10^{-9}$	12.016	$<\!2~\times10^{-16}$
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_black$	5.005	$\times 10^{-9}$	1.146	$\times 10^{-9}$	4.366	$1.31\times10^{-5}$
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_hispanic$	6.905	$\times 10^{-9}$	1.195	$\times 10^{-9}$	5.779	$8.27 \times 10^{-9}$

### Results Robust Standard Errors

All variables remain statistically significant (p < 0.05)

Main effects still negative for bachelor's degree and racial/ethnic percentages

Interaction effects remain positive

Strongest negative main effect: Hispanic percentage (-8.944 x 10^-4) Strongest positive interaction:

Bachelor's degree and White percentage (1.304 x 10^-8)

Some changes in significance levels, but overall conclusions hold

Variable	Estimate		Std. Error		t value	$\mathbf{Pr}(> t )$
Intercept	3.870	$\times 10^{-2}$	6.710	$\times 10^{-3}$	5.767	$8.852 \times 10^{-9}$
$bachelor\_degree$	-7.639	$\times 10^{-7}$	1.310	$\times 10^{-7}$	-5.831	$6.061 \times 10^{-9}$
$pct_white$	-2.965	$\times 10^{-4}$	6.868	$\times 10^{-5}$	-4.316	$1.636 \times 10^{-5}$
$pct_black$	-5.419	$\times10^{-4}$	7.037	$\times 10^{-5}$	-7.701	$1.806 \times 10^{-14}$
$pct_hispanic$	-8.944	$\times 10^{-4}$	1.146	$\times 10^{-4}$	-7.807	$7.971 \times 10^{-15}$
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_white$	1.304	$\times10^{-8}$	1.560	$\times~10^{-9}$	8.358	$<$ 2 $\times 10^{-16}$
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_black$	5.005	$\times10^{-9}$	1.842	$\times 10^{-9}$	2.717	0.006621
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_hispanic$	6.905	$\times 10^{-9}$	1.914	$\times 10^{-9}$	3.608	0.000 313

### Results ANOVA Results Model Comparison

Bachelor's degree: Significant (F = 19.1081, p < 0.0001)

Income group: Highly significant (F = 196.6098, p < 2e-16)

Interaction (bachelor's degree:income group): Not significant (F = 1.8283, p = 0.1398)

Income group explains the most variance (Sum Sq = 0.32768)

Bachelor's degree contributes less (Sum Sq = 0.01062)

Interaction term adds minimal explanatory power

Term	$\mathbf{Df}$	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	$\Pr(>F)$
bachelor_degree	1	0.01062	0.010616	19.1081	$1.276 \times 10^{-5}$
$income\_group$	3	0.32768	0.109228	196.6098	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$bachelor\_degree:income\_group$	3	0.00305	0.001016	1.8283	0.1398
Residuals	3104	1.72445	0.000 556		

### Results Standardized Coefficients Model

All variables statistically significant (p < 0.05)

Bachelor's degree: Strong positive main effect (0.017140)

Racial/ethnic percentages: Negative main effects

Strongest: Hispanic (-0.011071) Followed by: Black (-0.006815), White (-0.002331)

Positive interaction effects between bachelor's degree and racial/ethnic percentages

Strongest: White (0.013283) Followed by: Hispanic (0.004824), Black (0.003639)

Variable	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	$\mathbf{Pr}(> t )$	
Intercept	0.0075592	0.0004294	17.604	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$	
$bachelor\_degree$	0.0171400	0.0009464	18.111	$<2\times 10^{-16}$	
$pct\_white$	-0.0023311	0.0011232	-2.075	0.038	
pct_black	-0.0068149	0.0008610	-7.915	$3.40 \times 10^{-15}$	
pct_hispanic	-0.0110708	0.0008630	-12.828	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$	
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_white$	0.0132831	0.0011055	12.016	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$	
bachelor_degree:pct_black	0.0036388	0.0008334	4.366	$1.31\times10^{-5}$	
$bachelor\_degree:pct\_hispanic$	0.0048239	0.0008348	5.779	$8.27\times10^{-9}$	

## Results Models for Majority White/ Black/Hispanic Counties

Majority White Counties:

Positive intercept
Positive effect of bachelor's degree
Both highly significant

Majority Black Counties:

Negative intercept
Positive effect of bachelor's degree
Both significant

Majority Hispanic Counties:

Negative intercept Positive effect of bachelor's degree Intercept significant, bachelor's degree not significant

Variable	Estimate		Std. Error		t value	$\mathbf{Pr}(> t )$			
Majority White Counties									
Intercept	6.260	$\times10^{-3}$	4.097	$\times10^{-4}$	15.28	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$			
$bachelor\_degree$	1.916	$\times 10^{-7}$	1.308	$\times 10^{-8}$	14.65	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$			
Majority Black	Counties								
Intercept	-9.135	$\times 10^{-3}$	1.822	$\times 10^{-3}$	-5.013	$2.51\times10^{-6}$			
$bachelor\_degree$	1.999	$\times10^{-7}$	7.618	$\times10^{-8}$	2.624	0.0101			
Majority Hispan	ic Count	ies							
Intercept	-4.956	$\times10^{-2}$	6.476	$\times10^{-3}$	-7.653	$1.32\times10^{-11}$			
$bachelor\_degree$	3.497	$\times 10^{-8}$	1.285	$\times 10^{-7}$	0.272	0.786			

## Results Interaction Effects of Education and Racial Demographics

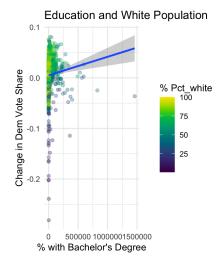
Positive relationship between education and Democratic vote share across all racial groups

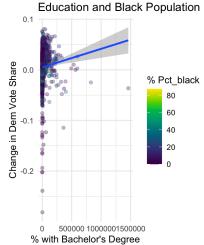
Education and White population Hispanic population shows steeper positive slope than Black population

Higher variability in vote share changes for counties with lower education levels

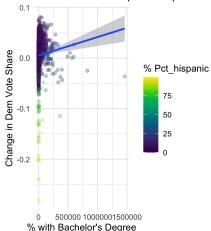
Counties with high % of White population and low education show largest negative changes

Most positive changes occur in highly educated counties across all racial groups









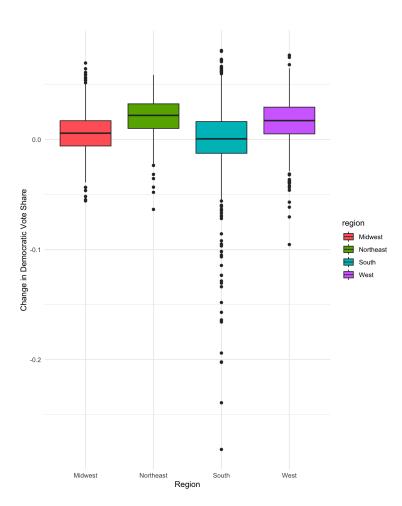
### Results Change in Democratic Vote Share by Region

West shows the largest spread in vote share changes

Northeast has the highest median increase in Democratic vote share

South shows the smallest median change

Midwest appears to have a slight negative median change



## Results Regional Differences in Key Variable Effects

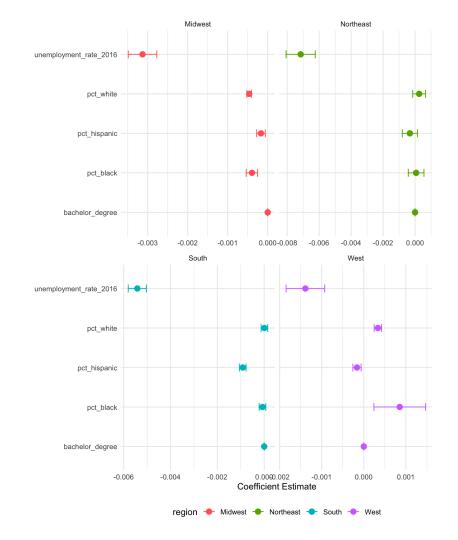
Unemployment rate consistently negative across all regions

Education (bachelor\_degree) effect varies by region: Positive in Midwest and South, Negative in Northeast and West

Racial demographics show varied effects: White percentage: negative in Midwest, positive in West

Black percentage: negative in Midwest, positive in West

Hispanic percentage: negative across all regions, strongest in South



#### Results

## Average Change in Democratic Vote Share by State

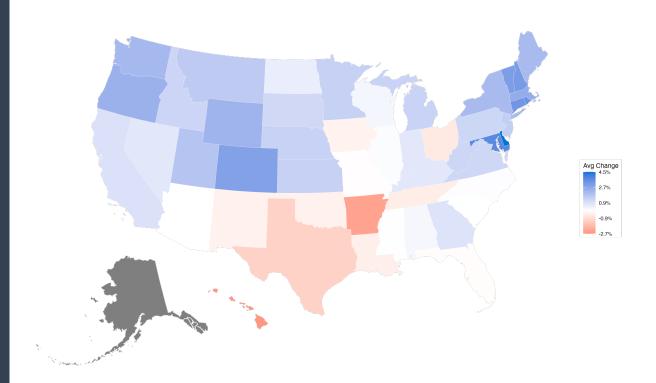
Northeastern states show mostly positive changes

Many Southern states show negative changes

Western states show a mix of positive and negative changes

Midwest states generally show small changes

Range of changes: -2.75% to +4.54%



## Results Results Results

Significant regional variations in effects of variables

Unemployment consistently negative across all regions

Education (bachelor's degree) shows mixed effects

Racial demographics have varying impacts by region

Region	Variable	Estimate	Std. Error	P-value
Midwest	$\operatorname{pct}$ -white	-0.000464	0.0000585	$5.37 \times 10^{-15}$
	$\operatorname{pct\_black}$	-0.000395	0.000143	$5.93\times10^{-3}$
	$\operatorname{pct\_hispanic}$	-0.000169	0.000107	$1.17\times10^{-1}$
	$bachelor\_degree$	5.22	1.76	$2.98\times10^{-3}$
	$unemployment\_rate\_2016$	-0.00313	0.000357	$7.89 \times 10^{-18}$
Northeast	pct_white	0.000255	0.000 402	$5.26 \times 10^{-1}$
	$\operatorname{pct\_black}$	0.0000650	0.000491	$8.95\times10^{-1}$
	$\operatorname{pct}$ _hispanic	-0.000326	0.000473	$4.91\times10^{-1}$
	$bachelor\_degree$	-4.27	2.50	$8.95\times10^{-2}$
	$unemployment\_rate\_2016$	-0.00715	0.000912	$2.10 \times 10^{-13}$
South	$\operatorname{pct\_white}$	8.81	0.000 141	$9.50 \times 10^{-1}$
	$\operatorname{pct\_black}$	-7.29	0.000142	$6.08\times10^{-1}$
	$\operatorname{pct}$ _hispanic	-0.000916	0.000143	$1.81 \times 10^{-10}$
	$bachelor\_degree$	1.66	1.99	$1.49 \times 10^{-16}$
	$unemployment\_rate\_2016$	-0.00542	0.000388	$1.33 \times 10^{-41}$
West	pct_white	0.000 335	0.000 087 7	$1.56 \times 10^{-4}$
	$\operatorname{pct\_black}$	0.000854	0.000614	$1.65\times10^{-1}$
	$\operatorname{pct}$ _hispanic	-0.000161	0.0000971	$9.72\times10^{-2}$
	$bachelor\_degree$	-1.89	1.12	$9.24\times10^{-2}$
	$unemployment\_rate\_2016$	-0.00139	0.000458	$2.60\times10^{-3}$

# Results Interaction Effects between Variables and Regions

Key variables: race/ethnicity, education, unemployment, geographic region

Statistically significant interactions found for several variable-region pairs

Largest effects seen for racial composition and unemployment across regions

Education (bachelor's degree) shows varying impact by region

Some interactions not statistically significant (e.g. Hispanic population in Northeast/West)

Variable	Est	imate	Std.	Error	P-value
Intercept	6.224	$\times 10^{-2}$	7.528	$\times 10^{-3}$	$<2 \times 10^{-16}$
$pct\_white$	-4.640	$\times 10^{-4}$	7.254	$\times 10^{-5}$	$1.82\times10^{-10}$
$pct_black$	-3.947	$\times 10^{-4}$	1.775	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.02628
$pct_hispanic$	-1.688	$\times 10^{-4}$	1.333	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.20552
$bachelor\_degree$	5.224	$\times10^{-8}$	2.177	$\times~10^{-8}$	0.01646
$unemployment\_rate\_2016$	-3.131	$\times 10^{-3}$	4.434	$\times 10^{-4}$	$2.04\times10^{-12}$
regionNortheast	-2.369	$\times 10^{-2}$	5.298	$\times 10^{-2}$	0.65487
regionSouth	-2.278	$\times10^{-2}$	1.371	$\times~10^{-2}$	0.09664
regionWest	-6.075	$\times 10^{-2}$	1.219	$\times 10^{-2}$	$6.57\times10^{-7}$
$pct\_white:regionNortheast$	7.192	$\times 10^{-4}$	5.574	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.19706
$pct\_white:regionSouth$	4.729	$\times 10^{-4}$	1.406	$\times~10^{-4}$	0.00078
$pct\_white:regionWest$	7.990	$\times 10^{-4}$	1.201	$\times 10^{-4}$	$3.38\times10^{-11}$
$pct\_black:regionNortheast$	4.596	$\times 10^{-4}$	6.976	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.51001
$pct\_black:regionSouth$	3.218	$\times 10^{-4}$	2.149	$\times~10^{-4}$	0.13443
$pct\_black:regionWest$	1.249	$\times 10^{-3}$	6.929	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.07152
$pct_hispanic:regionNortheast$	-1.576	$\times 10^{-4}$	6.643	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.81247
$pct\_hispanic:regionSouth$	-7.472	$\times 10^{-4}$	1.804	$\times~10^{-4}$	$3.54\times10^{-5}$
$pct_hispanic:regionWest$	7.330	$\times 10^{-6}$	1.703	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.96566
$bachelor\_degree: region Northeast$	-9.491	$\times 10^{-8}$	4.070	$\times 10^{-8}$	0.01976
$bachelor\_degree: region South$	1.138	$\times 10^{-7}$	2.758	$\times10^{-8}$	$3.78\times10^{-5}$
$bachelor\_degree:regionWest$	-7.113	$\times 10^{-8}$	2.496	$\times 10^{-8}$	0.00441
$unemployment\_rate\_2016: region Northeast$	-4.023	$\times 10^{-3}$	1.329	$\times 10^{-3}$	0.00249
$unemployment\_rate\_2016: region South$	-2.290	$\times10^{-3}$	5.533	$\times10^{-4}$	$3.60\times10^{-5}$
$unemployment\_rate\_2016: regionWest$	1.742	$\times 10^{-3}$	6.681	$\times 10^{-4}$	0.00915

#### **Robustness Checks**

### Results Robustness Checks

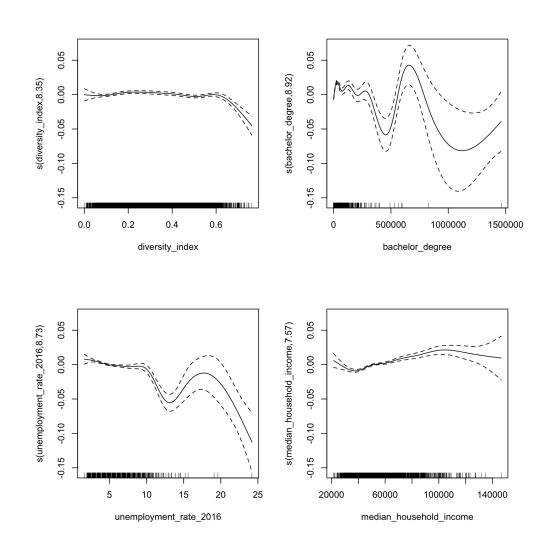
**Non-linear Effects** on Change in Democratic Vote Share

All variables show **significant non- linear relationships** (p < 0.001)
Model explains 30.6% of deviance in
Democratic vote share change
Adjusted R-squared: 0.299

#### Variable Effects:

Bachelor's Degree (edf: 8.920) Unemployment Rate 2016 (edf: 8.728) Diversity Index (edf: 8.350) Median Household Income (edf: 7.572)

Simple linear models may not capture the full complexity of voting behavior



#### Conclusion

#### H1 Assessment

Hypothesis: Counties with increasing racial diversity will show a positive change in

Democratic vote share

Overall relationship: Weak positive, not statistically significant

Diversity Index coefficient: 0.001199 (p-value: 0.636)

R-squared: 0.0001 (0.01% variance explained)

Quantile regression reveals varying effects:

Negative effect in lower quantiles

Positive effect in higher quantiles

Individual racial demographics more predictive than overall diversity

#### **H2** Assessment

H2 is **not strongly supported** by the data

The impact of education on Democratic vote share **does not significantly vary** across income groups

There is a **weak positive correlation** between income and education's impact on vote share

#### **H3** Assessment

H3 is largely supported by the data

Higher 2016 unemployment rates **are associated with** decreased Democratic vote share in 2020

The effect varies by region, local economic contexts matter

2016 unemployment level is a **stronger predictor** than change in unemployment from 2012-2016

Models explain less than 20% of variance, other factors are also important

#### **H4 Assessment**

Hypothesis: Significant interaction effects between education levels and racial demographics

Main Interaction Model Results:

Education \* White: Positive (coef: 1.304e-08, p < 0.001)

Education \* Black: Positive (coef: 5.005e-09, p < 0.001)

Education \* Hispanic: Positive (coef: 6.905e-09, p < 0.001)

#### **H4 Assessment**

Separate Models for Majority Racial Groups:

White majority: Positive effect (coef: 1.916e-07, p < 0.001)

Black majority: Positive effect (coef: 1.999e-07, p < 0.05)

Hispanic majority: Non-significant (coef: 3.497e-08, p = 0.786)

Machine Learning: Confirms complex interactions

Regional variations in interaction effects observed

#### **Notes**

Due to time constraints, I couldn't cover all our findings today.

Refer to the full slides for a comprehensive view of all the findings!

#### Links

#### Links

Code & data: https://github.com/suzzukiw/democratica

Poster: <a href="https://repo.fufoundation.co/research/po399-democratica/poster.pdf">https://repo.fufoundation.co/research/po399-democratica/poster.pdf</a>

#### Presentation:

- 1. Today's presentation: <a href="https://repo.fufoundation.co/research/po399-democratica/slides-0628.pdf">https://repo.fufoundation.co/research/po399-democratica/slides-0628.pdf</a>
- 2. Complete one: <a href="https://repo.fufoundation.co/research/po399-democratica/slides.pdf">https://repo.fufoundation.co/research/po399-democratica/slides.pdf</a>

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#### **Questions?**