Election Administration Data
Available Data

- Voter Registration
- Absentee Ballot Requests
Voter Registration
Voter Registration

Individual level records that track who is eligible to vote in general and primary elections
Voter Registration

Individual level records
- Name
- Birth date
- Address/precinct
- Registration date/transaction date
- Method of registration
- Party registration
- Vote history
- Limited demographics
  - Gender and Race/Ethnicity
Voter Registration

Used for
- Vote validation studies
  - Individual and aggregate
- Voter mobilization studies
- Racial bloc voting for voting rights litigation
- Voter identification
- Voter turnout
- Other examples
  - Partisan transmission theories, pre-registration, timing of voter registration, party id & party reg.
Voter Registration

Challenges
- Errors in records
- Matching with other databases, including non-registration based surveys, leads to false positives and negatives
- Social desirability issues with record of race
Absentee Ballot Requests
Absentee Ballot Requests

Individual level records that track the disposition of absentee ballot requests
Absente Ballot Requests

Individual level records

- Linked to voter registration
- Reason for requesting ballot
  - Military, domestic civilian, nursing home, etc.
- Address to send ballot
- Date of absentee ballot request, send and return
- Mode of ballot sent and returned
  - electronic, mail or in-person
- Reason for ballot rejected
Absente Ballot Requests

An untapped resource, used for
- Estimate United States overseas population
- Analyze patterns of vote failure
- Early voter validation
Data Availability
Statewide databases required by federal law (HAVA)

States may restrict access

Vote history or absentee ballot request file may be available only local level

Commercial List Vendors
  - Catalyst and Aristotle