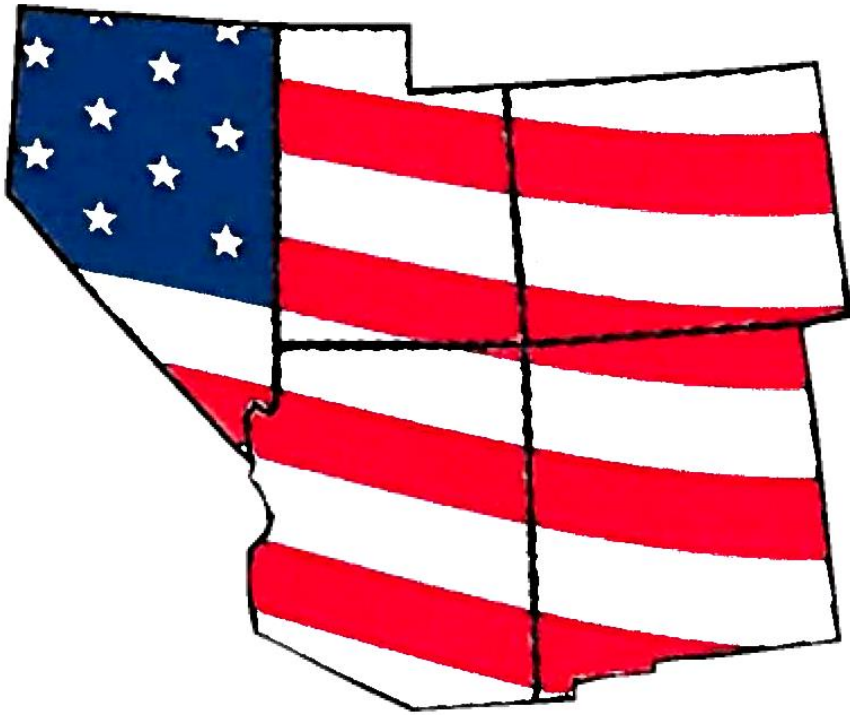
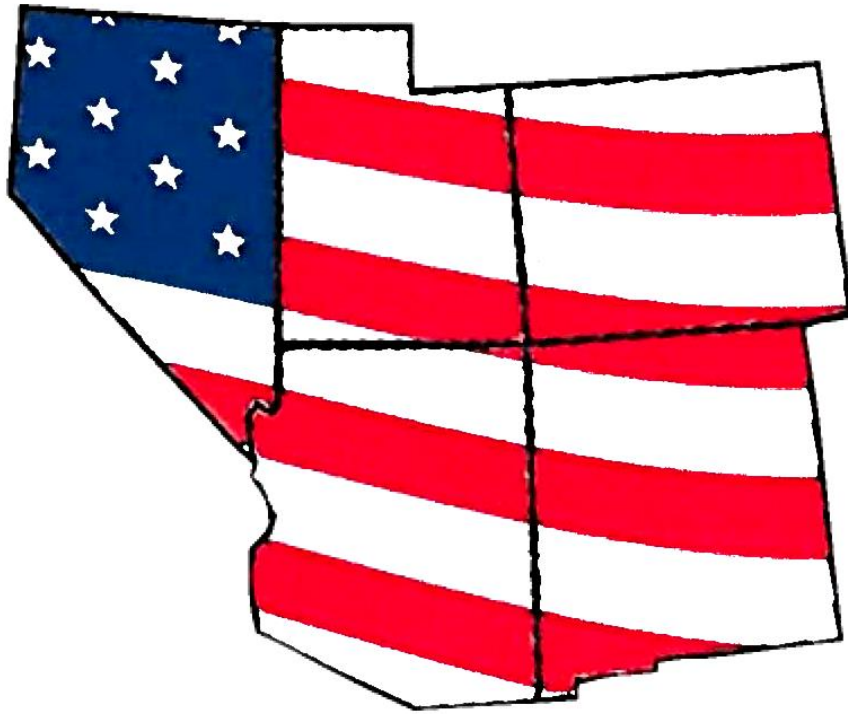


How The Mountain West States Voted in 2016:



*A Post-Election
Analysis of Trends,
Demographics,
and Politics in
America's New
Swing Region*



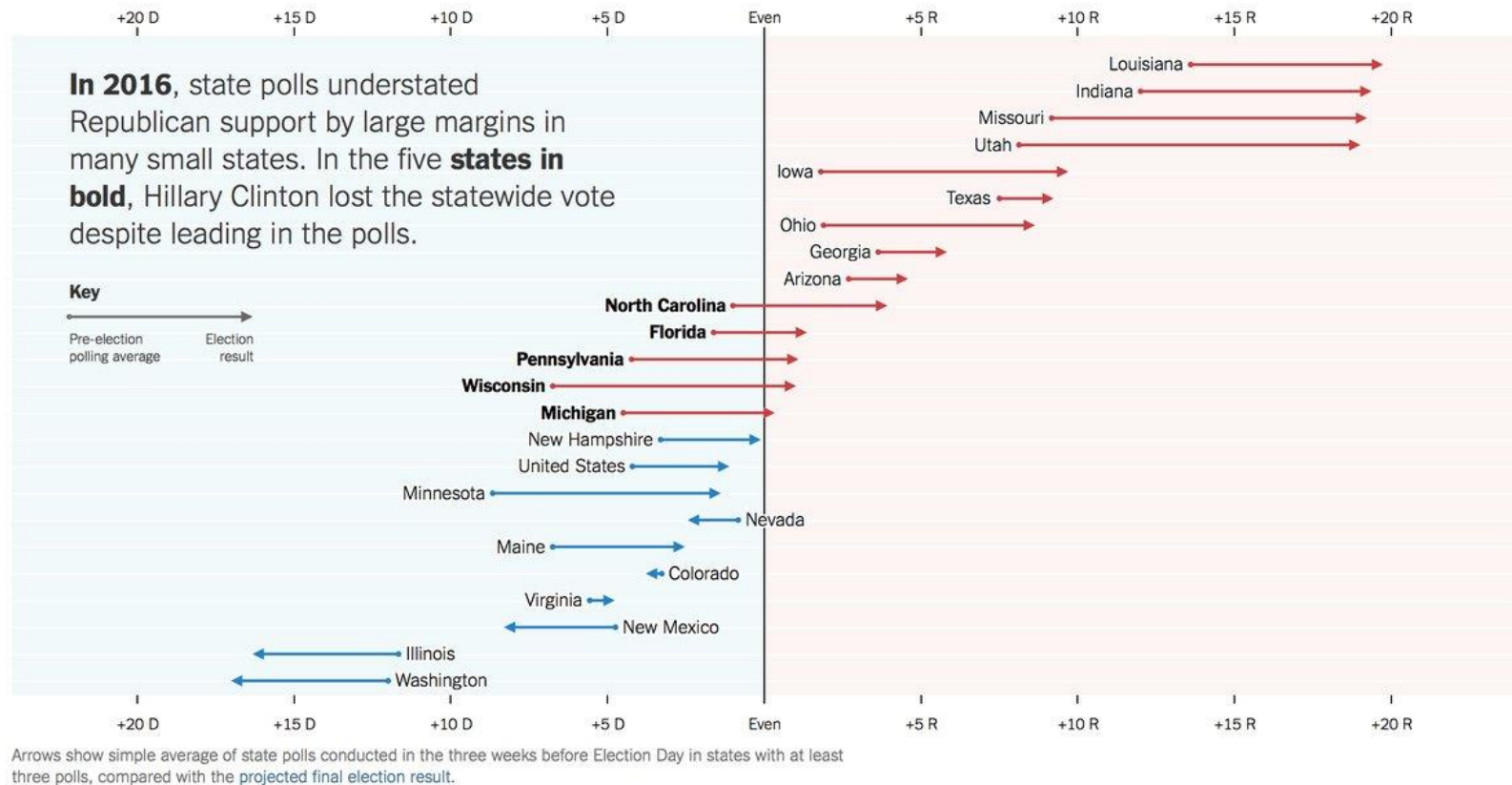
Robert Lang, Ph.D.

Professor, School of Public Policy & Leadership, UNLV
Executive Director, Brookings Mountain West

Election 2016: Polls vs. Voters

- **What the Polls Said:**
 - **Year of the Latino Voter**
 - **Year of the Woman Voter**
 - **Democratic Blue Wall Holds**
- **What the Voters Said:**
 - **Revenge of the Rural Voter**
 - **The Rustbelt State Rebellion**
 - **Brexit in the American Heartland**

Election 2016: State Are Polls Off

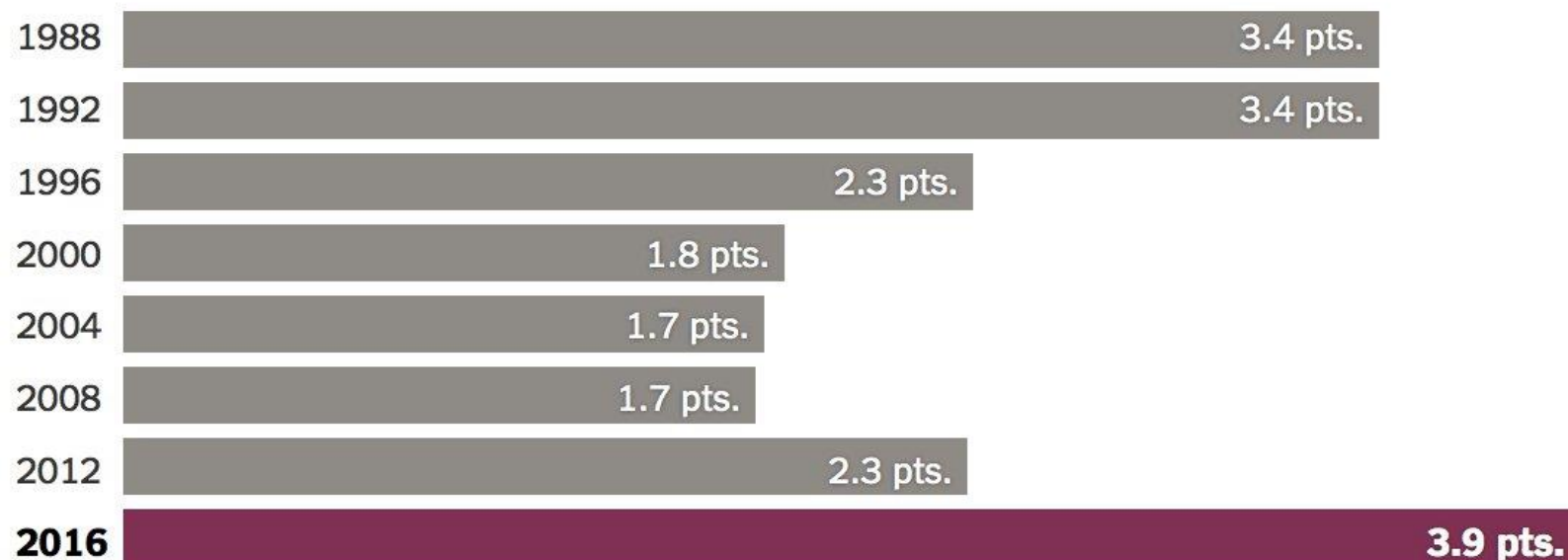


Source: New York Times—Upshot

Election 2016: State Are Polls Off

State Polling Errors in 2016 Were the Largest in Decades

Average absolute difference between polling average and final vote in the ten states closest to the national average with at least three polls.



Source: New York Times—Upshot

Election 2016: Results

- **For Trump:**
 - **Elected the 45th U.S. President**
 - **Will Win 306 Electoral Votes**
 - **Largest EV Win Since Bush in 1988**
- **For Clinton:**
 - **Wins the Popular Vote by 1.8 Million**
 - **By Wider % Kennedy (60) Nixon (68)**
 - **Dems Win 6 of Last 7 Popular Votes**

Election 2016: How Trump Won

- **Blue Rustbelt States Swing Red:**
 - Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania
 - 46 Electoral Votes & 28.5 Mil. People
 - Trump's Margin About 100,000 Votes
- **At the County Level:**
 - Reps Surge in Non-Metro Counties
 - Dems Fade in Big Metro Counties
- **Gore, Kerry, & Obama Won 3 States**

Election 2016: Mountain West

- **The Southern Mountain West:**
 - **Hold Solid for the Democrats**
 - **Closer Races than 2012 in CO and NV**
 - **But also Closer in AZ—A Red State**
- **In Nevada:**
 - **Dems Gain 2 Reps & Hold Senate Seat**
 - **Dems Gain Nevada Assembly/Senate**
- **Dem Wins Every State in Pacific Time**

Mountain West

State Populations and Voting Demographics

State	State Population 2015 in mil	Current Electoral Votes	Percent of Population in Metros	Percent of Population in Biggest Metro Area	Percent of White Voters in 2010	Percent of College Grads in 2010	Percent Born in the Same State 2010	Percent Born in California in 2010	Percent Born Abroad in 2010
Arizona	6.83	11	92%	67%	69%	25%	28%	12%	7%
Colorado	5.46	9	84%	63%	78%	35%	35%	7%	5%
Nevada	2.89	6	91%	74%	66%	20%	14%	23%	12%
New Mexico	2.09	5	68%	56%	48%	23%	47%	6%	5%
Utah	3.00	6	85%	79%	88%	26%	57%	9%	4%

Changing Electoral Vote in the Southern Mountain West, 1992-2016

Mountain West States	1992 Party	1992 Elect Vote	1996 Party	1996 Elect Vote	2000 Party	2000 Elect Vote	2004 Party	2004 Elect Vote	2008 Party	2008 Elect Vote	2012 Party	2012 Elect Vote	2016 Party	2016 Elect Vote
Arizona	R	8	D	8	R	8	R	10	R	10	R	11	R	11
Colorado	D	8	R	8	R	8	R	9	D	9	D	9	D	9
Nevada	D	4	D	4	R	4	R	5	D	5	D	6	D	6
New Mexico	D	5	D	5	D	5	R	5	D	5	D	5	D	5
Utah	R	5	R	5	R	5	R	5	R	5	R	6	R	6
Electoral Vote Total by Party	Dem = 17 Rep = 13		Dem = 17 Rep = 13		Dem = 5 Rep = 25		Dem = 0 Rep = 34		Dem = 19 Rep = 15		Dem = 20 Rep = 17		Dem = 20 Rep = 17	
Total Electoral Votes	30		30		30		34		34		37		37	
Dem/Rep Candidates	Clinton/ Bush		Clinton/ Dole		Gore/ Bush		Kerry/ Bush		Obama/ McCain		Obama/ Romney		Clinton/ Trump	

Southern Mountain West 115th Congress Net Change

State	U.S. Senate			Net Change	U.S. House			Net Change
	Party	114 th Cong.	115 th Cong.		Party	114 th Cong.	115 th Cong.	
Arizona	D	0	0	0	D	4	4	0
	R	2	2	0	R	5	5	0
Colorado	D	1	1	0	D	3	3	0
	R	1	1	0	R	4	4	0
Nevada	D	1	1	0	D	1	3	+2
	R	1	1	0	R	3	1	-2
New Mexico	D	2	2	0	D	2	2	0
	R	0	0	0	R	1	1	0
Utah	D	0	0	0	D	0	0	0
	R	2	2	0	R	4	4	0
Southern Mountain West	D	4	4	0	D	10	12	0
	R	6	6	0	R	17	15	0

The Mountain West Swing Region After 2016

Fading, Emerging, and Future “Blue Wall” States

Solid Blue Wall States: CA (55), CT (7), DC (3), DE (3), IL (20), HI (4), ME (4), MD (10), NJ (14), NY (29), RI (4), VT (3), OR (7), WA (12) = 175 EVs (All Dem Wins After 1988)

Fading Blue Wall States: MI (16), MN (10), PA (20), WI (10) = 56 EVs (All States Within 2% Spread in 2016)

Emerging Blue Wall States: CO (9), NV (6), NM (5), VA (13) = 33 EVs (All States Won by Dems Last 3 Elections)

Future Blue Wall States: AZ (11), FL (29), NC (15) = 55 EVs (All States with 5 % Spread in 2016)