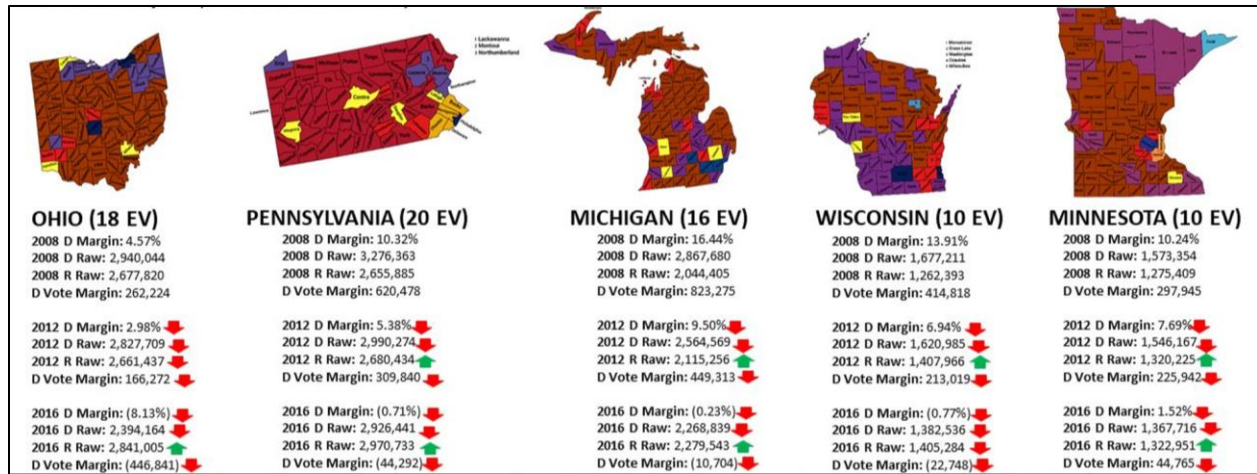


Improbable Voting Trend Reversals in Michigan

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Opening

Since President Obama swept through the Midwest (“Rust Belt”) region in 2008, winning Pennsylvania by 10 percent, Michigan by 16 percent, and Wisconsin by 14 percent, the Democratic Party has declined steadily in all successive Presidential elections in not only share of the vote, but in raw votes overall, without exception (pending the final results of the 2020 election). Pennsylvania is the only state mentioned in this paragraph which registers voters by party, and it has trended three percentage points in favor of Republicans since the 2016 election. The raw vote trends and results in these three states, plus Ohio and Minnesota, are pictured below.



These trends show the Democrats losing raw votes in every election since 2008, with the Republicans gaining in eight of 10 samples, and with the margins moving in favor of Republicans each time. This is a product of limited or stagnant population growth in these states, which given stable turnout numbers, means one party is typically going down if another is going up. In fast-growing states such as Florida, Texas, or Arizona, it should be expected for both parties to make substantial gains in a “horse race” scenario.

Michigan

President Obama’s margin of victory in Michigan from 2008 fell from 16.44% to 9.50% in his reelection campaign, and that margin moved 9.73% toward Republicans in 2016 as the working-class communities that historically favored Democrats moved to support then-candidate Donald Trump. Declining voting power from Wayne County in 2012 and 2016 was an instrumental part of this shift, as well as the shifts toward Republicans in Detroit collar counties Monroe and Macomb that began in 2012 and accelerated in 2016.

The consistent characteristic in the shift in Michigan’s political landscape is the declining Democratic Party raw vote totals, and the increasing Republican totals. Thus far, according to the Decision Desk unofficial vote tally, President Trump is substantially adding to his vote totals in every Michigan County, while his opponent adds votes at a greater percentage, often in counties that have trended steadily away from Democrats since at least 2008. The following counties, which have mostly lost Democratic votes since 2008, have now contributed more Biden votes than Obama received in 2008, when he won the state by 16.44%. Green font represents growth in raw votes. Red font represents decrease in raw votes.

| County | Rep '08 | Dem '08 | Rep '12 | Dem '12 | Rep '16 | Dem '16 | Rep '20 | Dem '20 | Dem Percentage of Obama 2008 Votes |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------------------|
| Ottawa | 83,330 | 50,828 | 88,166 | 42,737 | 88,467 | 44,973 | 100,511 | 64,566 | 127.0% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 5.8% | (15.9%) | 0.3% | 5.2% | 13.6% | 43.6% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Kent | 148,336 | 149,909 | 155,925 | 133,408 | 148,180 | 138,683 | 165,318 | 186,753 | 124.6% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 5.1% | (11.0%) | (5.0%) | 4.0% | 11.6% | 34.7% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Gd. Trav. | 24,716 | 23,258 | 26,534 | 20,875 | 27,413 | 20,965 | 30,502 | 28,632 | 123.1% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 7.4% | (10.2%) | 3.3% | 0.4% | 11.3% | 36.6% | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Washtenaw | 53,946 | 130,578 | 56,412 | 120,890 | 50,631 | 128,483 | 56,241 | 157,130 | 120.3% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 4.6% | (7.4%) | (10.2%) | 6.3% | 11.1% | 22.3% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Antrim | 7,506 | 6,079 | 7,917 | 5,107 | 8,469 | 4,448 | 9,783 | 7,289 | 119.9% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 5.5% | (16.0%) | 7.0% | (12.9%) | 15.5% | 63.9% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Leelanau | 6,938 | 7,355 | 7,483 | 6,576 | 7,239 | 6,774 | 7,915 | 8,793 | 119.6% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 7.9% | (10.6%) | (3.3%) | 3.0% | 9.3% | 29.8% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Oakland | 276,956 | 372,566 | 296,514 | 349,002 | 289,203 | 343,070 | 325,916 | 433,982 | 116.5% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 7.1% | (6.3%) | (2.5%) | (1.7%) | 12.7% | 26.5% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Livingston | 55,592 | 42,349 | 60,083 | 37,216 | 65,680 | 34,384 | 76,980 | 48,218 | 113.9% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 8.1% | (12.1%) | 9.3% | (7.6%) | 17.2% | 40.2% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Emmet | 9,314 | 8,515 | 10,253 | 7,225 | 10,616 | 6,972 | 12,135 | 9,662 | 113.5% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 10.1% | (15.1%) | 3.5% | (3.5%) | 14.3% | 38.6% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Keweenaw | 756 | 610 | 774 | 582 | 814 | 527 | 862 | 672 | 110.2% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 2.4% | (4.6%) | 5.2% | (9.5%) | 5.9% | 27.5% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Clinton | 19,726 | 20,005 | 20,650 | 18,191 | 21,636 | 16,492 | 25,095 | 21,963 | 109.8% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 4.7% | (9.1%) | 4.8% | (9.3%) | 16.0% | 33.2% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Kalamazoo | 51,554 | 77,051 | 52,662 | 69,051 | 51,034 | 67,148 | 56,283 | 83,674 | 108.6% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 2.1% | (10.4%) | (3.1%) | (2.8%) | 10.3% | 24.6% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Marquette | 12,906 | 19,635 | 13,606 | 18,115 | 14,646 | 16,042 | 16,288 | 20,465 | 104.2% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 5.4% | (7.7%) | 7.6% | (11.4%) | 11.2% | 27.6% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Houghton | 8,101 | 7,476 | 8,196 | 6,801 | 8,475 | 6,018 | 10,380 | 7,755 | 103.4% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 1.2% | (9.0%) | 3.4% | (11.5%) | 22.5% | 28.9% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Eaton | 25,900 | 30,742 | 26,197 | 27,913 | 27,609 | 24,938 | 31,798 | 31,299 | 101.8% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 1.1% | (9.2%) | 5.4% | (10.6%) | 15.2% | 25.5% | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Charlevoix | 7,306 | 6,817 | 8,000 | 5,939 | 8,674 | 5,137 | 9,841 | 6,939 | 101.8% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 9.5% | (12.9%) | 8.4% | (13.5%) | 13.5% | 35.1% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Allegan | 30,061 | 24,165 | 31,123 | 20,806 | 34,183 | 18,050 | 41,381 | 24,447 | 101.2% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 3.5% | 13.9% | 9.8% | (13.2%) | 21.1% | 35.4% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Macomb | 187,663 | 223,784 | 191,913 | 208,016 | 224,665 | 176,317 | 264,535 | 225,561 | 100.8% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 2.3% | (7.0%) | 17.1% | (15.2%) | 17.8% | 27.9% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Benzie | 4,687 | 5,451 | 5,075 | 4,685 | 5,539 | 4,108 | 6,600 | 5,480 | 100.5% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 8.3% | (14.1%) | 9.1% | (12.3%) | 19.2% | 33.4% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Ingham | 46,483 | 93,994 | 45,306 | 80,847 | 43,868 | 79,110 | 47,640 | 94,221 | 100.2% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | (2.5%) | (14.0%) | (3.2%) | (2.1%) | 8.6% | 19.1% | |
| OTHER NOTABLE COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | |
| Wayne | 228,993 | 660,085 | 213,814 | 595,846 | 228,993 | 519,444 | 264,149 | 587,074 | 88.9% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | (6.6%) | (9.7%) | 7.1% | (12.8%) | 15.4% | 13.0% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Saginaw | 42,225 | 60,276 | 42,720 | 54,381 | 45,496 | 44,396 | 50,785 | 51,088 | 84.8% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 1.1% | (9.8%) | 6.5% | (18.4%) | 11.6% | 15.1% | |
| ---- | | | | | | | | | |
| Muskegon | 29,145 | 53,821 | 30,884 | 44,436 | 36,127 | 37,304 | 44,544 | 45,508 | 84.6% |
| % Increase | N/A | N/A | 6.0% | (17.4%) | 17.0% | (16.1%) | 23.3% | 15.1% | |

Findings

The most suspicious counties are those that showed two consecutive elections trending upward for the Republican candidate and downward for the Democratic candidate. These show a similar pattern to counties in Pennsylvania trending heavily Republican in registration, with a significant increase for President Trump in raw votes in 2020, but a smaller than expected margin due to an unexpected sharp reversal of votes for Biden in counties showing inverse trends for parties in recent elections. The only counties in this list not fitting the “two cycles downward, sudden reversal” trajectory are Ottawa, Kent, Washtenaw, and Leelanau.

Washtenaw and Ingham Counties are associated with major universities, with student turnout thought to be reaching record lows due to campus shutdowns and lack of mobilization. Those counties are 20.3% and 0.2% over 2008 Obama levels, when that candidate drew record support from young voters. These counties should be audited significantly, particularly for mail and absentee ballot fraud.

In suburban counties Kent, Livingston, Ottawa, and Grand Traverse, despite President Trump’s considerable vote growth, Biden has over 34.7% vote growth in all four, despite already large populations that should make such an increase in support for one candidate in a single cycle extremely difficult. Oakland County added 90,912 votes for Biden in a single cycle (26.5%) after decreasing steadily for two consecutive elections after Obama’s first run. All these counties should be fully audited and examined for mail fraud and electronic vote theft.

Despite ranking 81st in the state in percentage increase in voter registrations, Wayne County increased its share of Democratic votes by 13.0%, even as President Trump increased by 15.4% while supposedly securing a higher share of minority votes than any Republican since 1960. This Biden total, while reduced from Obama’s initial run, is nearly equal to Obama’s 2012 re-election performance and reverses two consecutive cycles of raw vote loss, in spite of a steadily decreasing population. Strangely, Detroit’s turnout dwarfs other regional counterparts like

Cleveland, Gary, and Indianapolis. This county is reported to have had many flagrant abuses of transparency regulations and is also known to have reported its results at 4:30 a.m. without observers present.

Bay County added just 76 Democratic voters, making it the only county within five percent of its 2016 Democratic vote share (0.2% increase). It may be worthwhile to investigate why a county of substantial size failed to match the sharp increase seen in the focus group of counties shown above, which includes counties President Trump won handily, that have shown an inverse party support trend, and which greatly increased in number of Trump votes in 2020, even with the obvious data irregularities.

All counties showing two consecutive cycles of inverse party trend (Republican up twice, Democrat down twice), with Democrats substantially up this year, may be subject to counting errors, or “glitches,” like those reported in Antrim County. These voting machines and their associated software should be audited and examined by coding professionals, especially if the recent newsworthy events regarding corrupted voting software are widespread.

The entire vote in Michigan is suspect against historical trends and should be subject to recanvass and audit, not just a recount of hundreds of thousands of illegal ballots. It appears that the major case in the state is that in spite of substantially growing his vote share in strong-Trump counties, and surging in votes in urban and suburban counties, Trump’s margin is substantially limited, even after two consecutive inverse party trends. In urban or suburban areas, Democratic vote share is soaring to record numbers, even over Obama’s totals after a 16.44% win, all while Trump surges in votes in those counties as well. Urban areas have issues with transparency and should be fully audited for mail and absentee fraud.