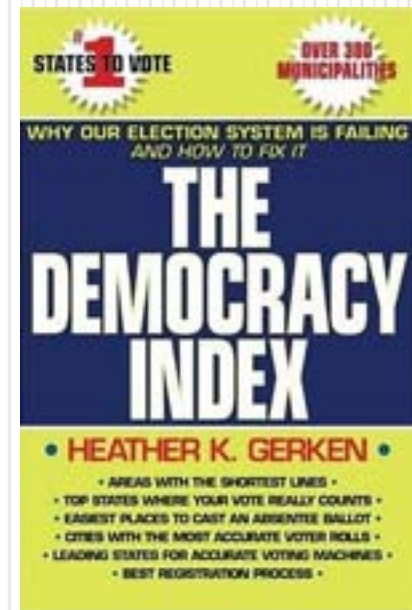


Measuring Election Administration



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Outline

- Conceptual framework
- Data sources
- Elections Performance Index (17 measures)
 - <http://www.pewstates.org/research/data-visualizations/measuring-state-elections-performance-85899446194>
 - Where Missouri ranks in 2008
- Challenges in measuring election administration
- Some measure of success
 - Impact of new voting equipment

Data Sources

- Surveys of voters
 - Survey of the Performance of American Elections (SPAЕ)
 - Current Population Survey (CPS)
- Administrative data from election offices
 - Election Administration and Voting Surveys (EAVS)
- Surveys of election officials

Conceptual Framework

Functions/ Value	Registering Voters	Casting Ballots	Counting Votes
Convenience			
Integrity			

Measurement challenge: Competing values

Source: Charles Stewart, "Elections Performance Index Methodology," Feb. 2013.

Registrations Rejected (Item 12)

- Indicates barriers to proper voter registration
- May indicate attempted fraud
- Missouri rank: ? (incomplete data)

Measurement challenge: Missing data

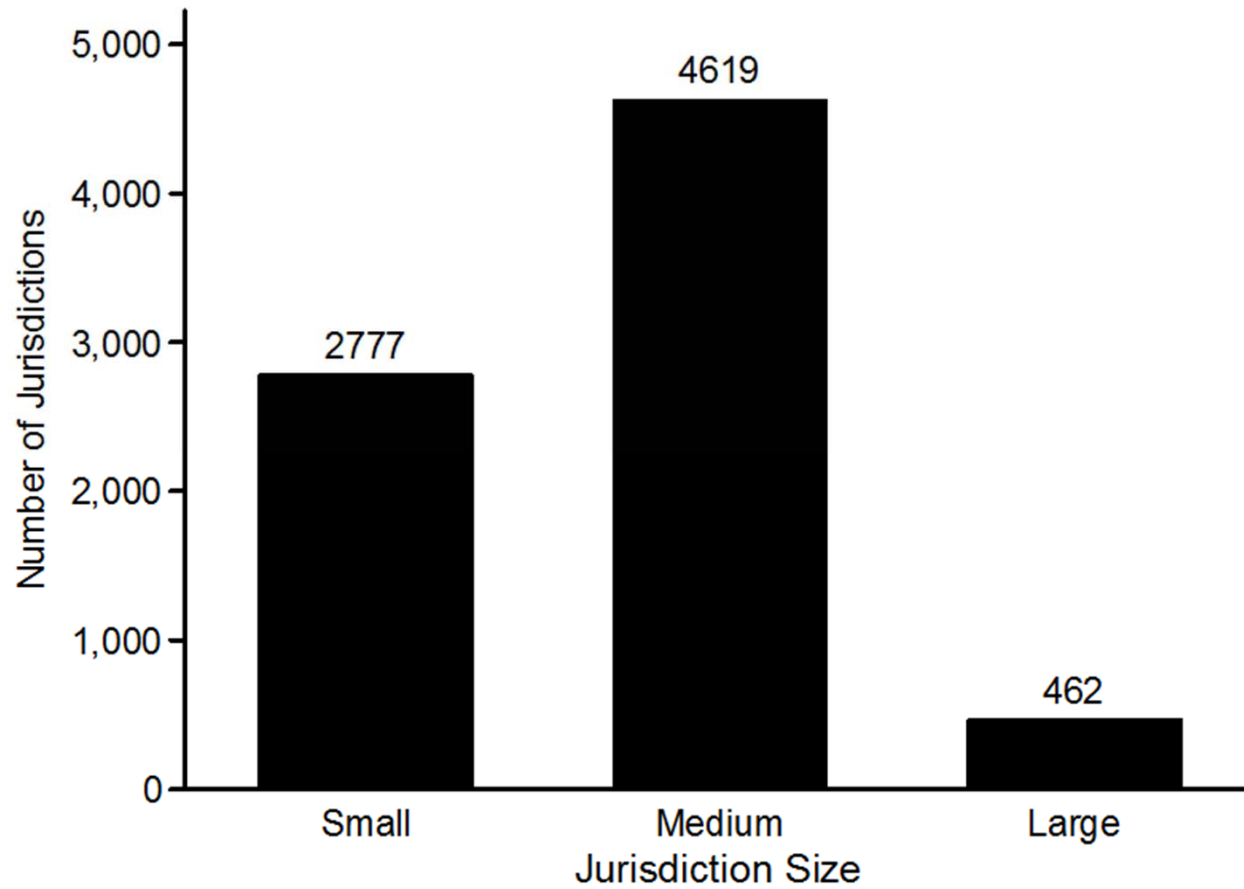
Federalism and Election Administration

- Limited role for national government
 - HAVA passed in 2002
 - Money for new voting equipment
 - Other requirements for states
 - Creation of Election Assistance Commission (EAC)
 - VRA (1965) and NVRA (1993) may be trimmed by the Supreme Court this term.
- State and local governments manage elections in the United States (over 7,000 local jurisdictions).

Jurisdiction Size Categories

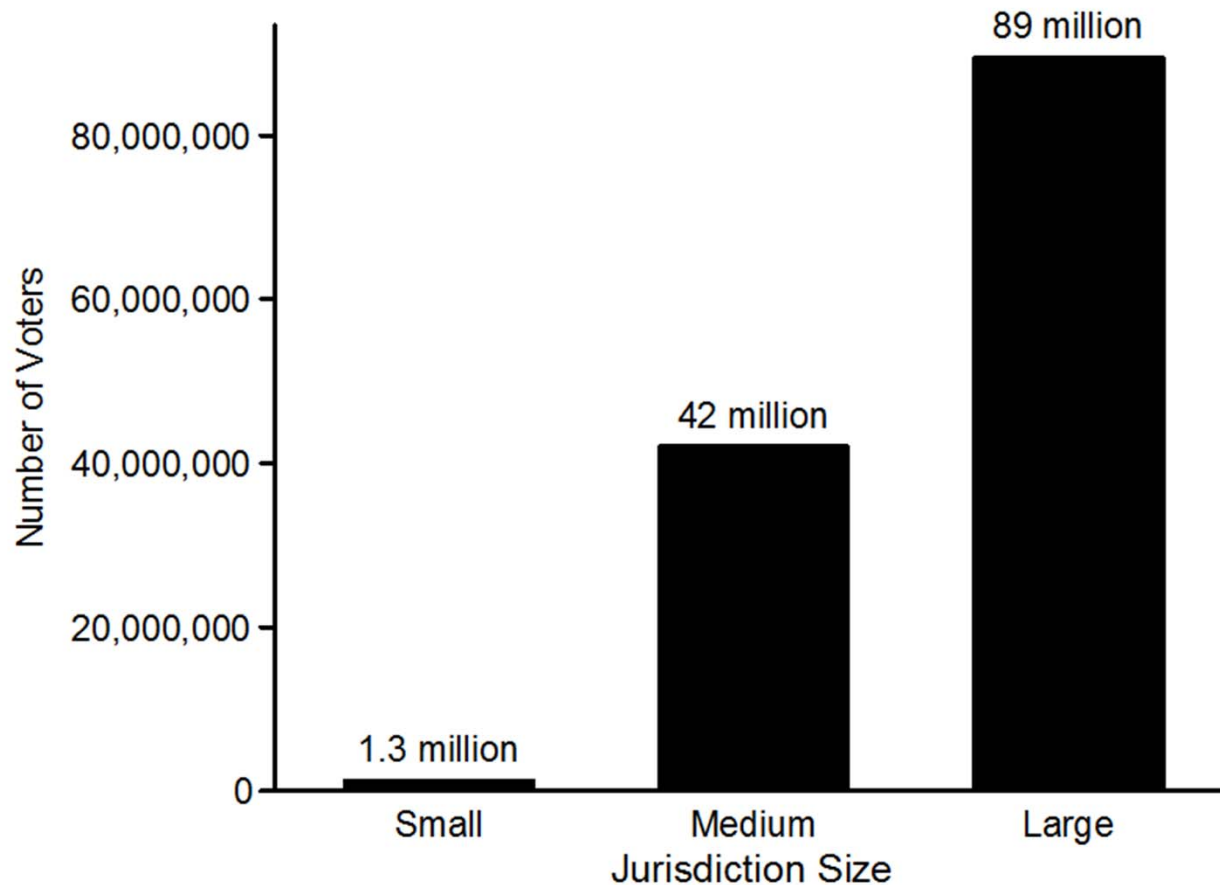
- Small: Less than 1,000 ballots cast in a presidential election
 - Official is similar to a school principal
- Medium: Between 1,000 and 50,000 voters
 - Similar to managing fast-food franchises
- Large: Over 50,000 voters
 - Official is similar to a CEO

Number of Jurisdictions (2008)



Source: Kimball & Baybeck, forthcoming

Number of Voters by Size (2008)



Source: Kimball & Baybeck, forthcoming

Share of Ballots Cast in Each Size Category: 2010 Election

Ballot Type	Small	Medium	Large
Total ballots	0.3%	29.8%	70.0%
Election Day ballots	0.3%	31.4%	68.3%

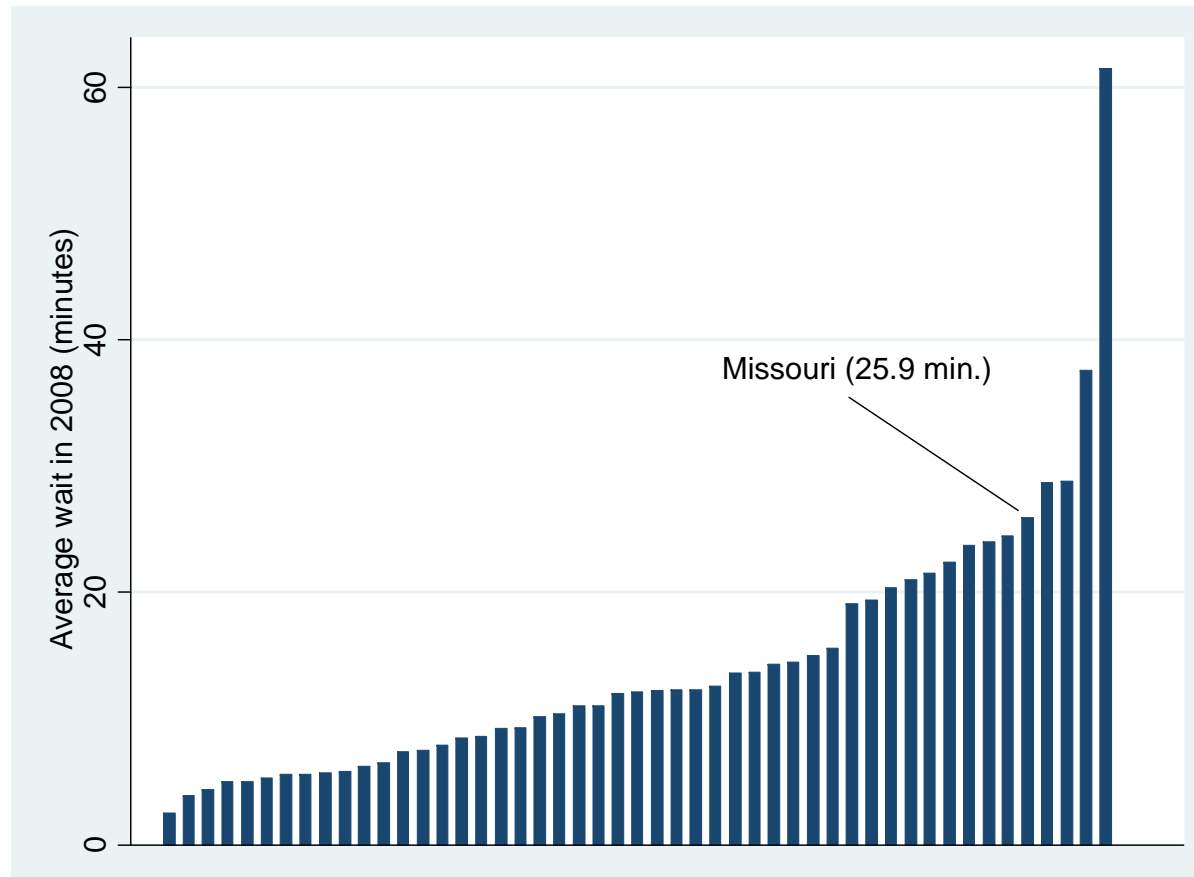
Source: 2010 Election Administration and Voting Survey

Share of Ballots Cast in Each Size Category: 2010 Election

Ballot Type	Small	Medium	Large
Total ballots	0.3%	29.8%	70.0%
Election Day ballots	0.3%	31.4%	68.3%
Provisional ballots cast	0.02%	8.9%	91.1%
Provisional ballots rejected	0.03%	13.1%	86.9%
Provisionals partly accepted	none	2.0%	98.0%
Provisionals accepted in full	0.01%	8.7%	91.3%

Source: 2010 Election Administration and Voting Survey

Voting Wait Time (Item 17)



Measurement challenge: State rankings mask huge diversity within states.

Voter turnout (Item 13)

- Missouri rank: 8th (69.1% in 2008)
- How many voters were there? What states report:
 - Voters checked in poll book
 - Total ballots cast
 - Votes cast in top contest on the ballot (MO)

Measurement challenge: Lack of common definitions

Provisional Ballots Cast (Item 9)

- Missouri rank: 15th (0.2% in 2008)
- Is it better to have many provisional ballots or few?

Measurement challenge: Lack of benchmarks

Overall EPI Rankings

- Missouri rank: 10th (73% in 2008)

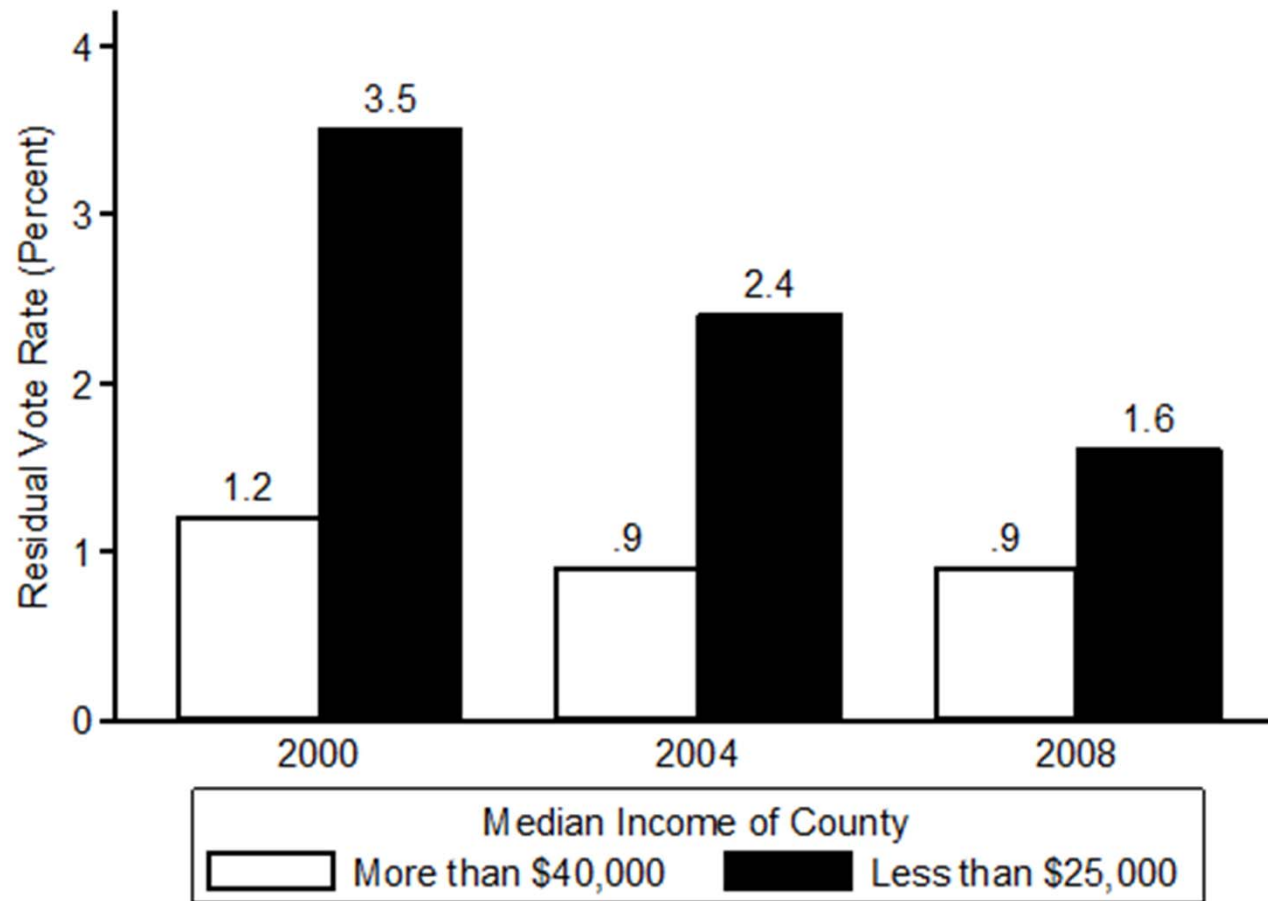
Measurement challenge:

Election administration does not equal the sum of its parts.

Measurement Success: Voting Technology Accuracy (Item 16)

- Residual vote rate
 - Difference between total ballots cast and valid votes cast for president (as % of ballots cast)
- Benchmark in presidential elections (below 1%)
- Residual vote rate in 2000 (before new equipment): 1.8%
- Residual vote rate after new equipment
 - 2004: 1.1%
 - 2008: 1.1%
- Most of the decline due to new voting equipment

Residual Votes by Median County Income



Source: Kropf and Kimball, 2012

Summary

- Questions?
- dkimball@umsl.edu
- http://www.umsl.edu/~kimballd/dk_vote.htm
- Thank you!