



## All entrants must provide:

1. Their predictions for the winning presidential candidate in each state and the District of Columbia (DC)
2. A prediction of the final percentage (rounded to tenths place—e.g., 50.4%) of the popular vote for each major candidate (as defined by receiving at least 5% of the popular vote.)
3. 200-300 hundred word description of methods for each result to show submitted work is original and to be used as tiebreakers where judging will be done on originality and creativity.
4. College category entrants will also provide
  - (a) Required: the total number of votes cast
  - (b) Optional: projection of how five demographic groups (female voters, male voters, African-American voters, Hispanic voters, and white voters) will vote for the two major party candidates (with percentages rounded to tenths place, e.g., 48.1% of white voters voted for Republican candidate and 48.1% voted for Democratic candidate)

An online submission form will be available on [ThisIsStatistics.org](http://ThisIsStatistics.org) on October 1st.

## Winner determined by most points across following categories:

- High School (102 points possible)
  - 1 pt each for state winner correctly predicted. Maximum possible score 51 pts
  - Predict the popular vote that will be won by each major candidate. With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using:

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual popular percent won by candidate  $i$ . For example, if I predict 51.0% and 47.0% for Clinton and Trump but they actually get 52.0% and 47.5%, then my score is  $51 - (1 + .5) = 49.5$ . Maximum possible score is 51 pts.

- Tiebreaker to be judged on originality and creativity described in methods statement

- College (102 points possible)
  - 1 pt each for state winner correctly predicted. Maximum possible score 51 pts
  - Predict the popular vote that will be won by each major candidate. With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using:

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual popular percent won by candidate  $i$ . For example, if I predict 51.0% and 47.0% for Clinton and Trump but they actually get 52.0% and 47.5%, then my score is  $51 - (1 + .5) = 49.5$ . Maximum possible score is 51 pts.

- Tiebreaker: closest estimate for the total number of votes cast
- Second tiebreaker (if top entrants' predictions for the total voters are within 100,000 of each other) to be judged on originality and creativity described in methods statement
- Honorable mentions will be determined by best projections of demographic groups voted (based on average of major polling organizations) by the sum of the following

- \* Female voters: With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using :

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual percent of female voters won by candidate  $i$  (as determined by average of major polling organizations' exit polls).

- \* Male voters: With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using :

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual percent of male voters won by candidate  $i$  (as determined by average of major polling organizations' exit polls).

- \* African-American voters: With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using :

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual percent of African-American voters won by candidate  $i$  (as determined by average of major polling organizations' exit polls).

- \* Hispanic voters: With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using :

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual percent of Hispanic voters won by candidate  $i$  (as determined by average of major polling organizations' exit polls).

- \* White voters: With  $k$  major candidates, the score will be calculated using :

$$51 - \sum_{i=1}^k |PP_i - AP_i|,$$

where  $PP_i$  and  $AP_i$  are the predicted and actual percent of white voters won by candidate  $i$  (as determined by average of major polling organizations' exit polls).