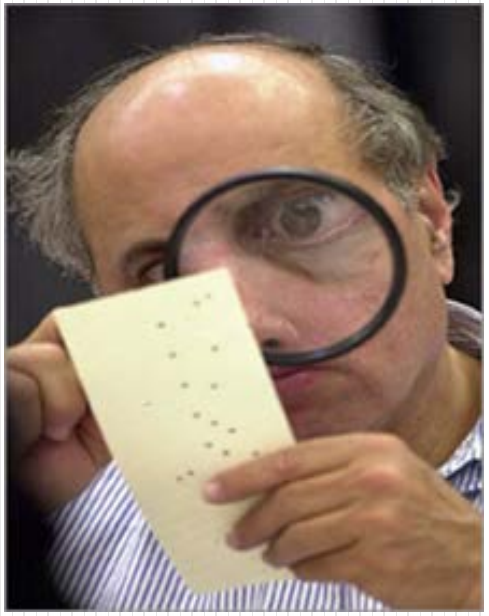
Measuring Election Performance



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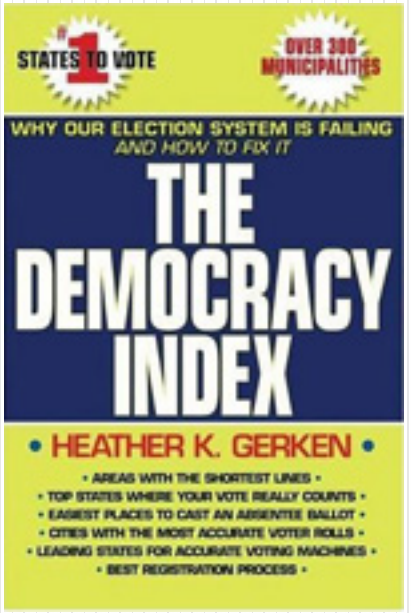
Missouri Urban Board &
County Clerks Conference



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
- One measure of success
  - Impact of new voting equipment

Conceptual Framework

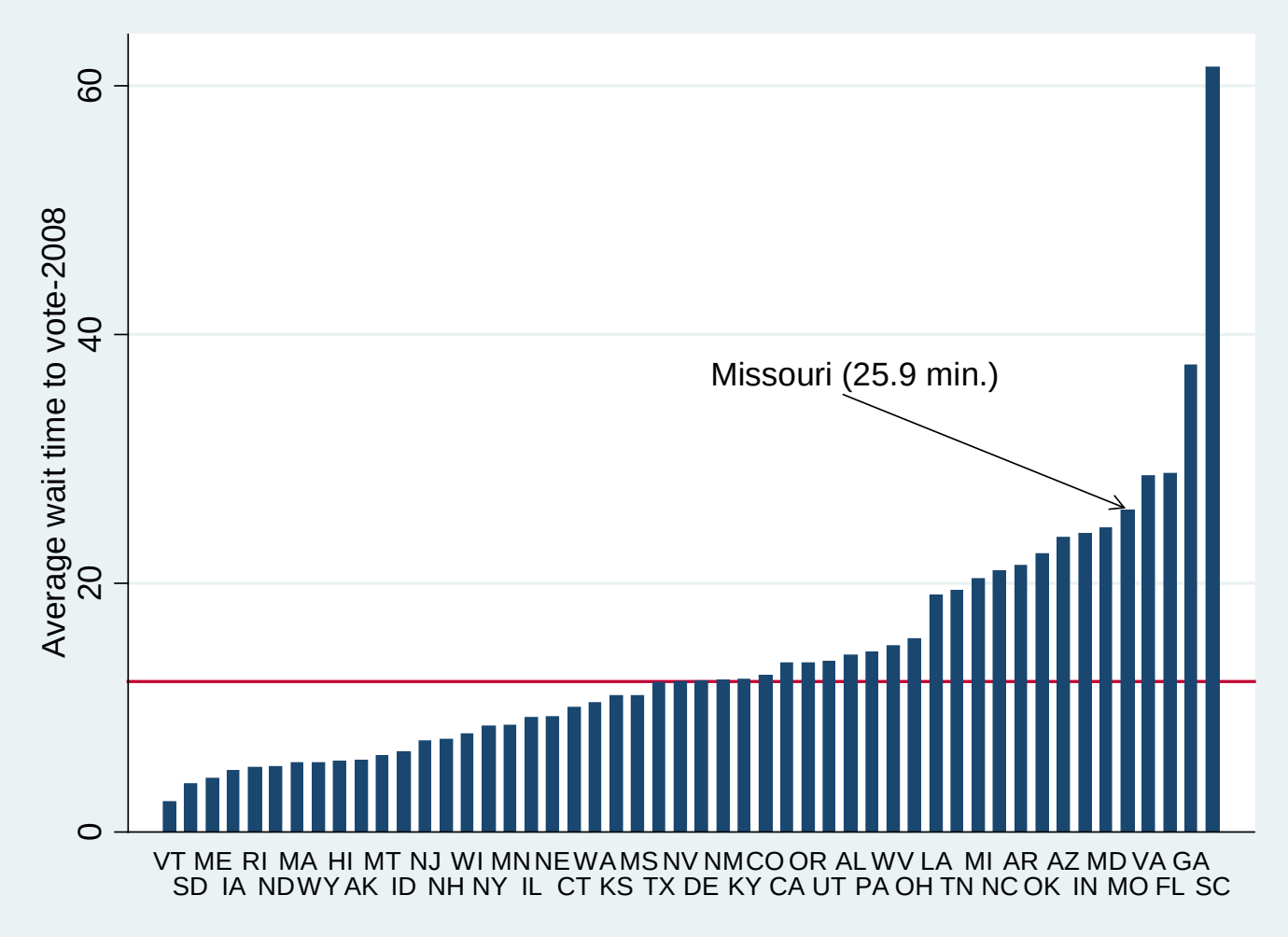
Functions/ Value	Registering Voters	Casting Ballots	Counting Votes
Convenience			
Integrity			
Transparency			

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

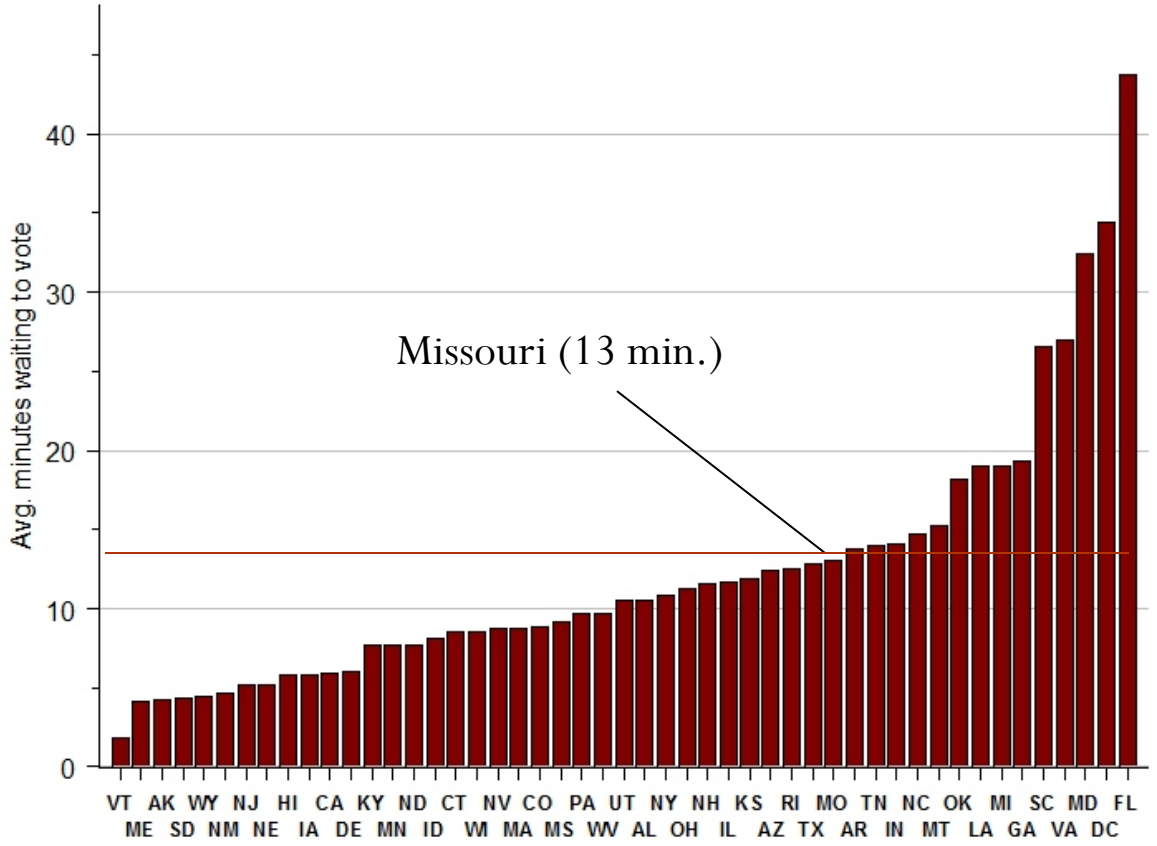
Data Sources

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

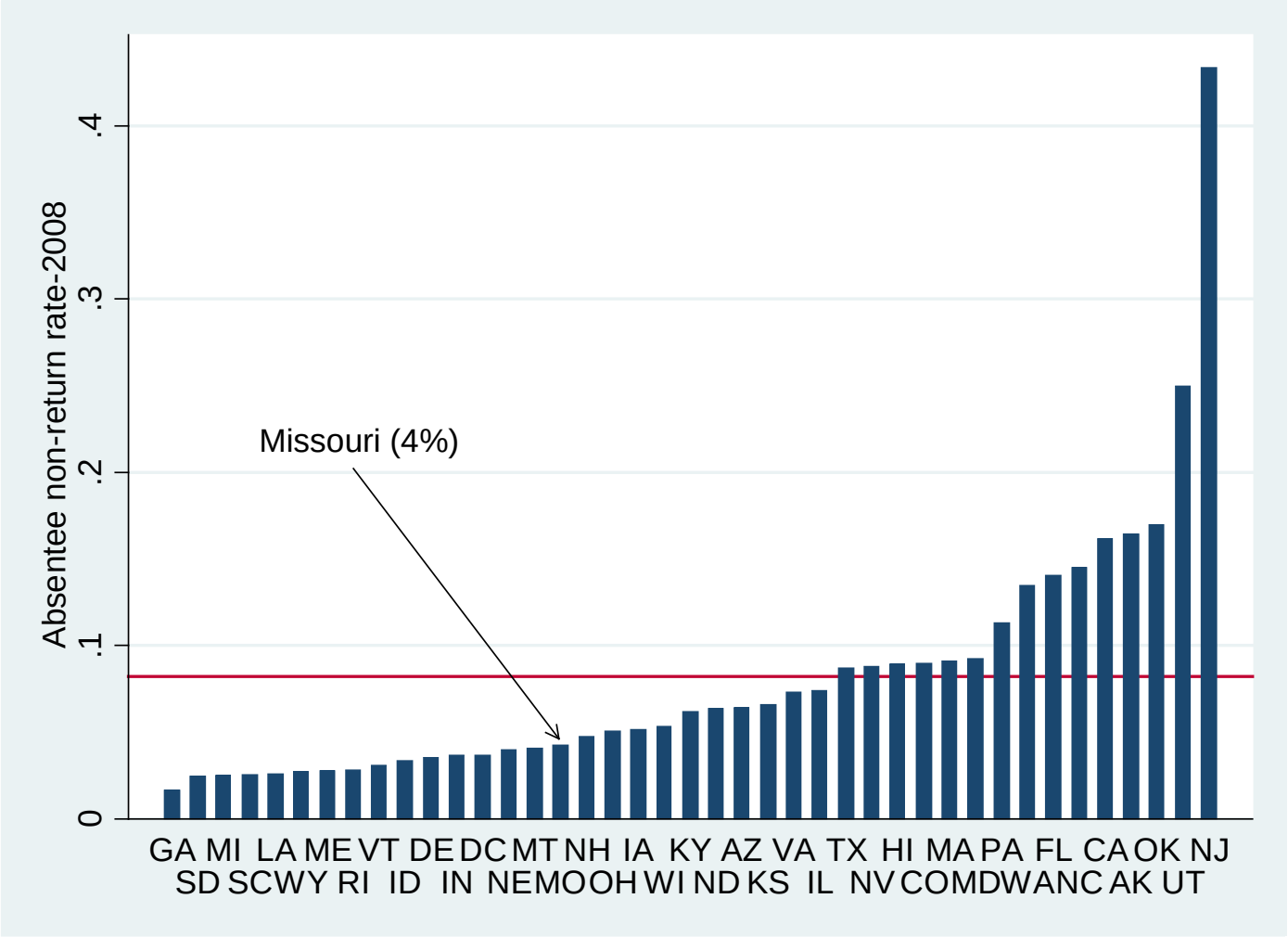
Voting Wait Time in 2008



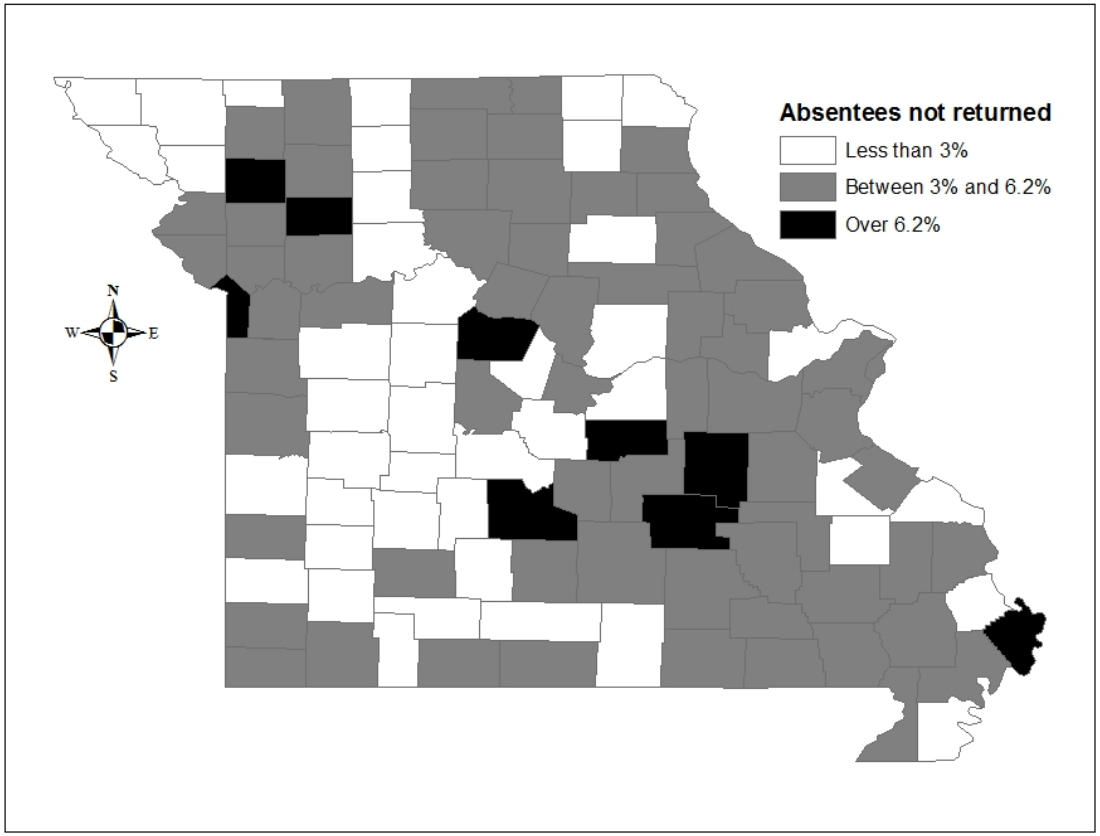
Voting Wait Time in 2012



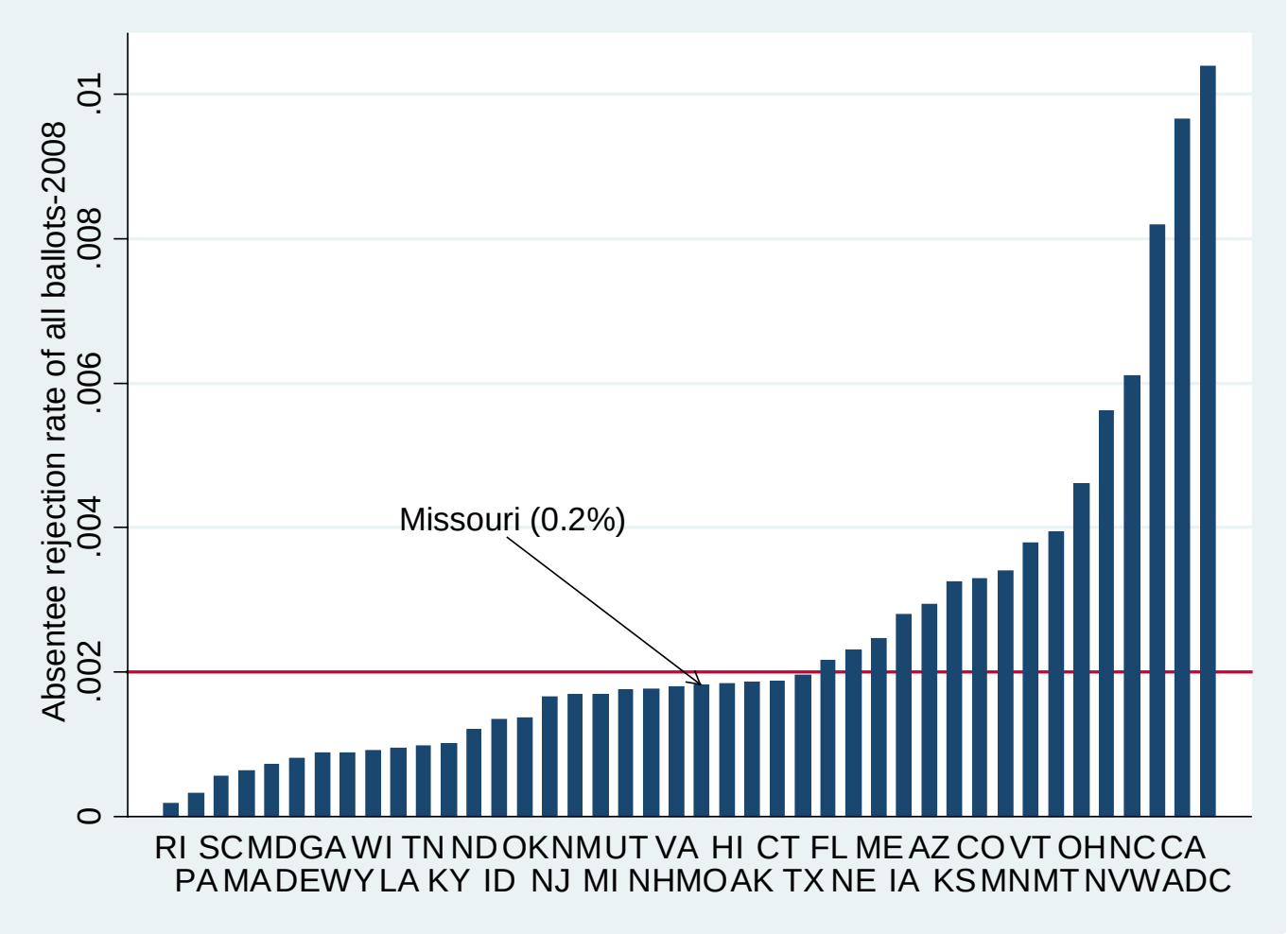
Absentee Non-Return Rate in 2008



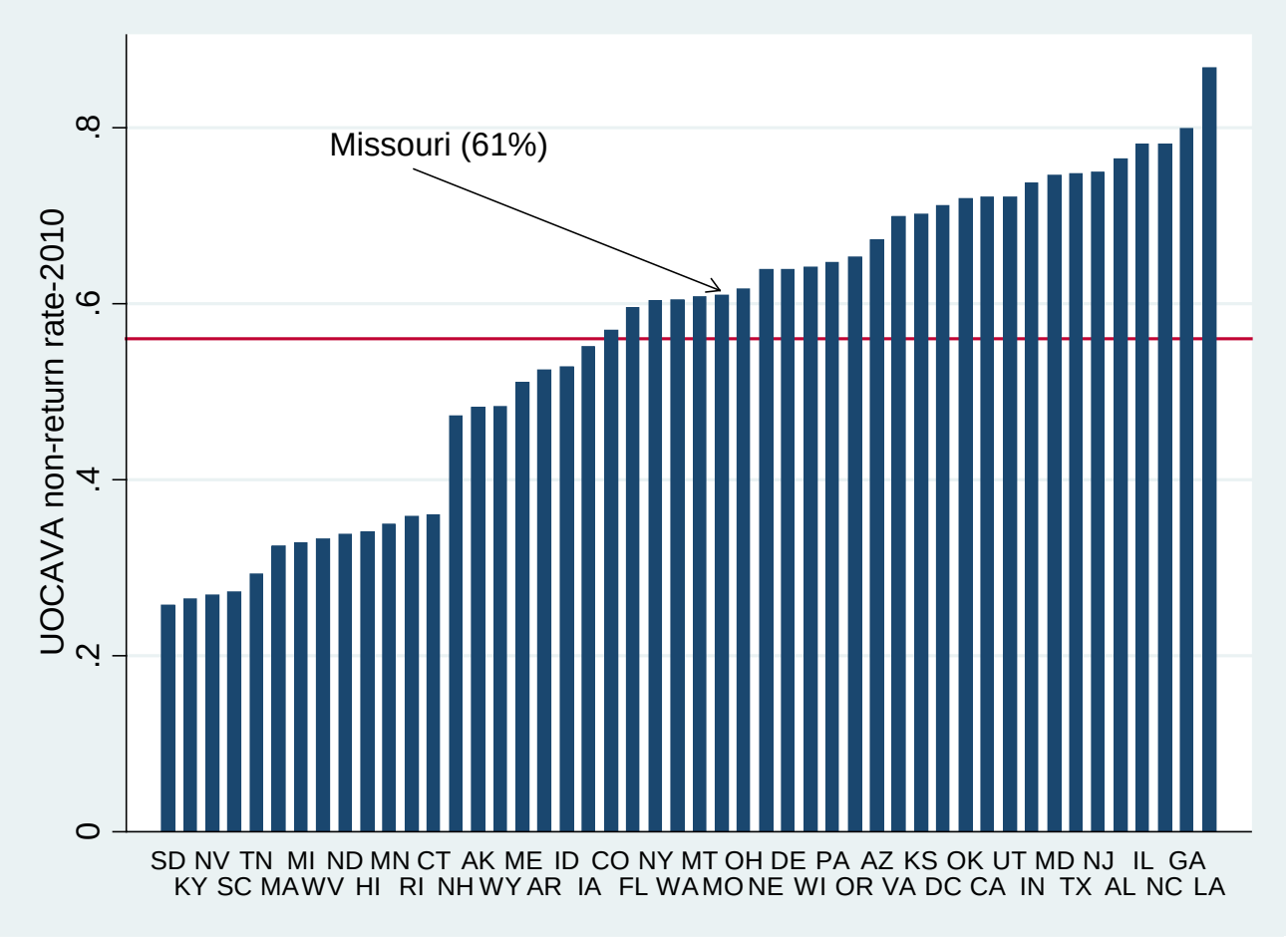
Absentee Non-Return Rate in 2008



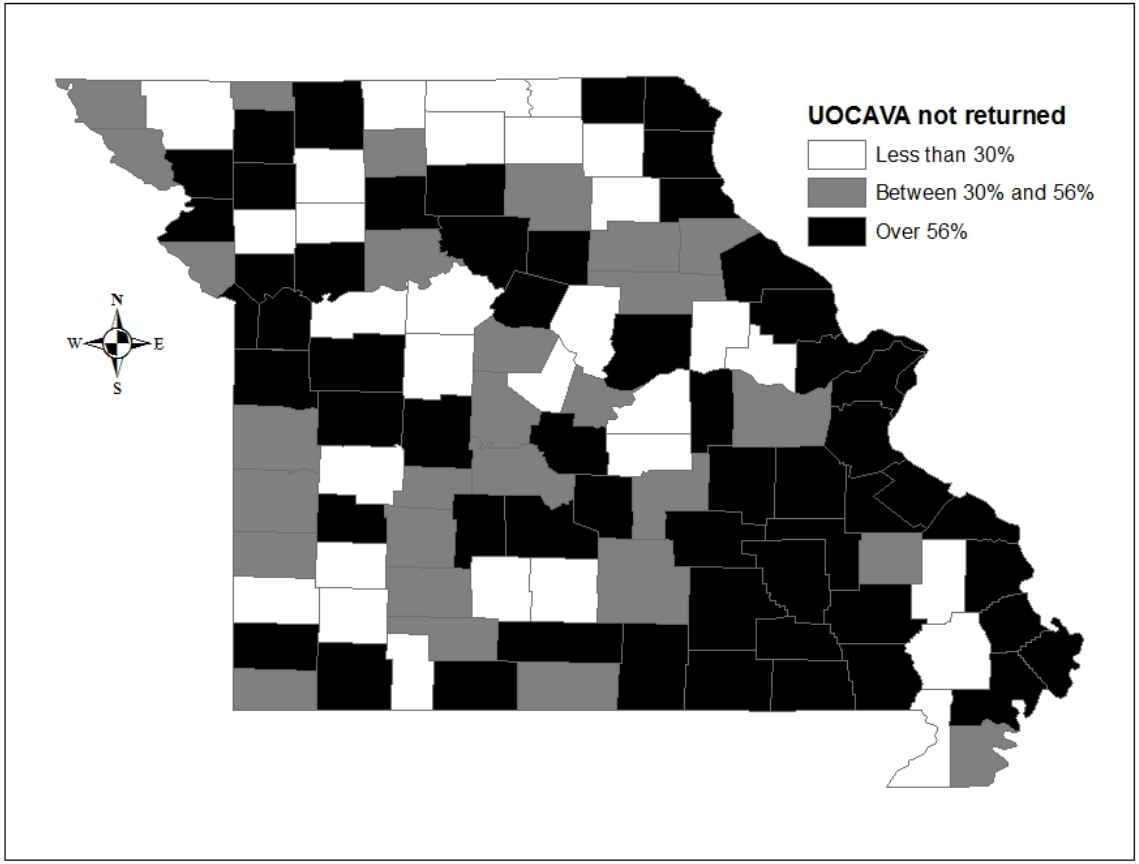
Absentee Rejection Rate in 2008



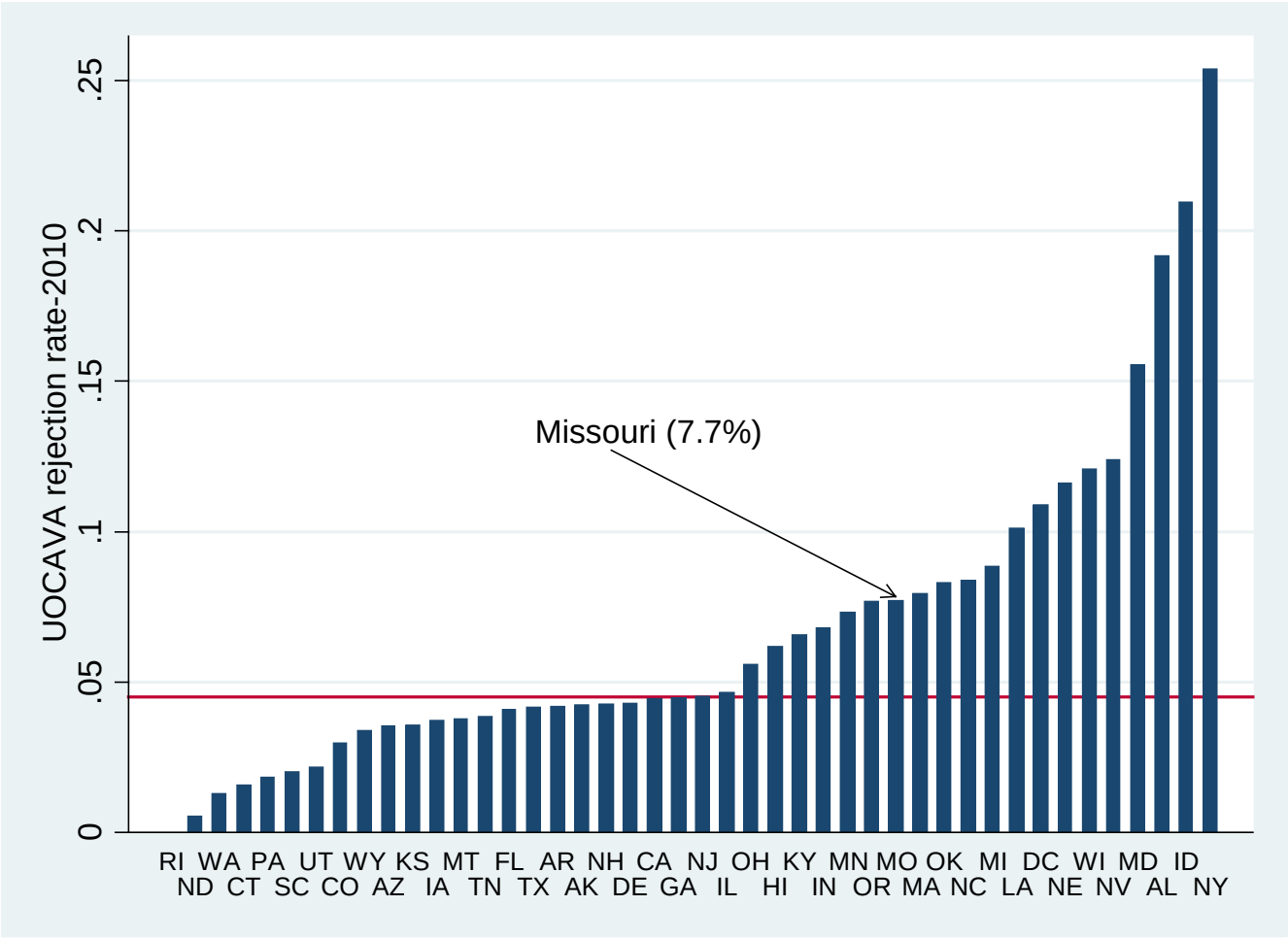
UOCAVA Non-Return Rate in 2010



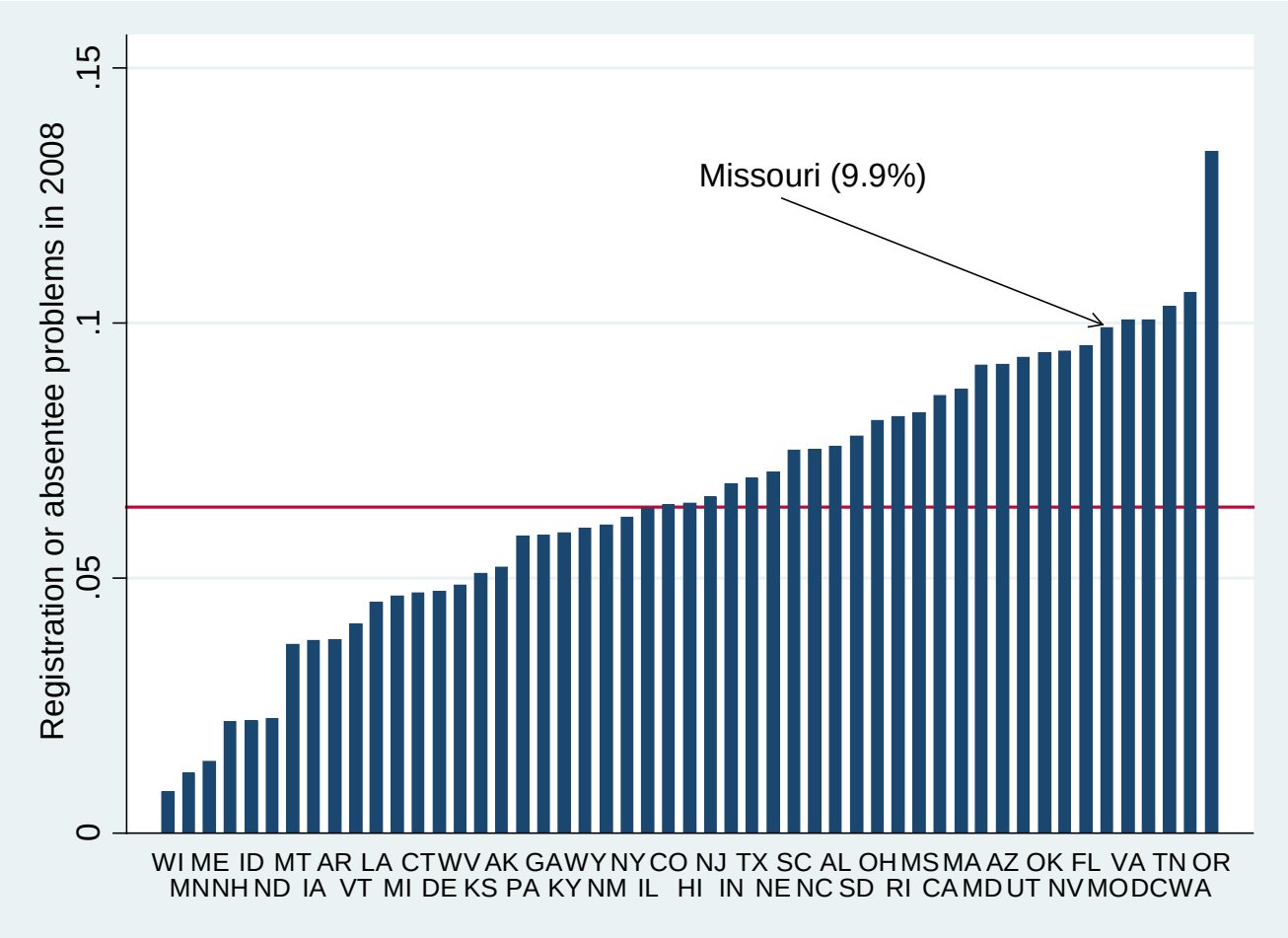
Military/Overseas Ballots Not Returned in 2010



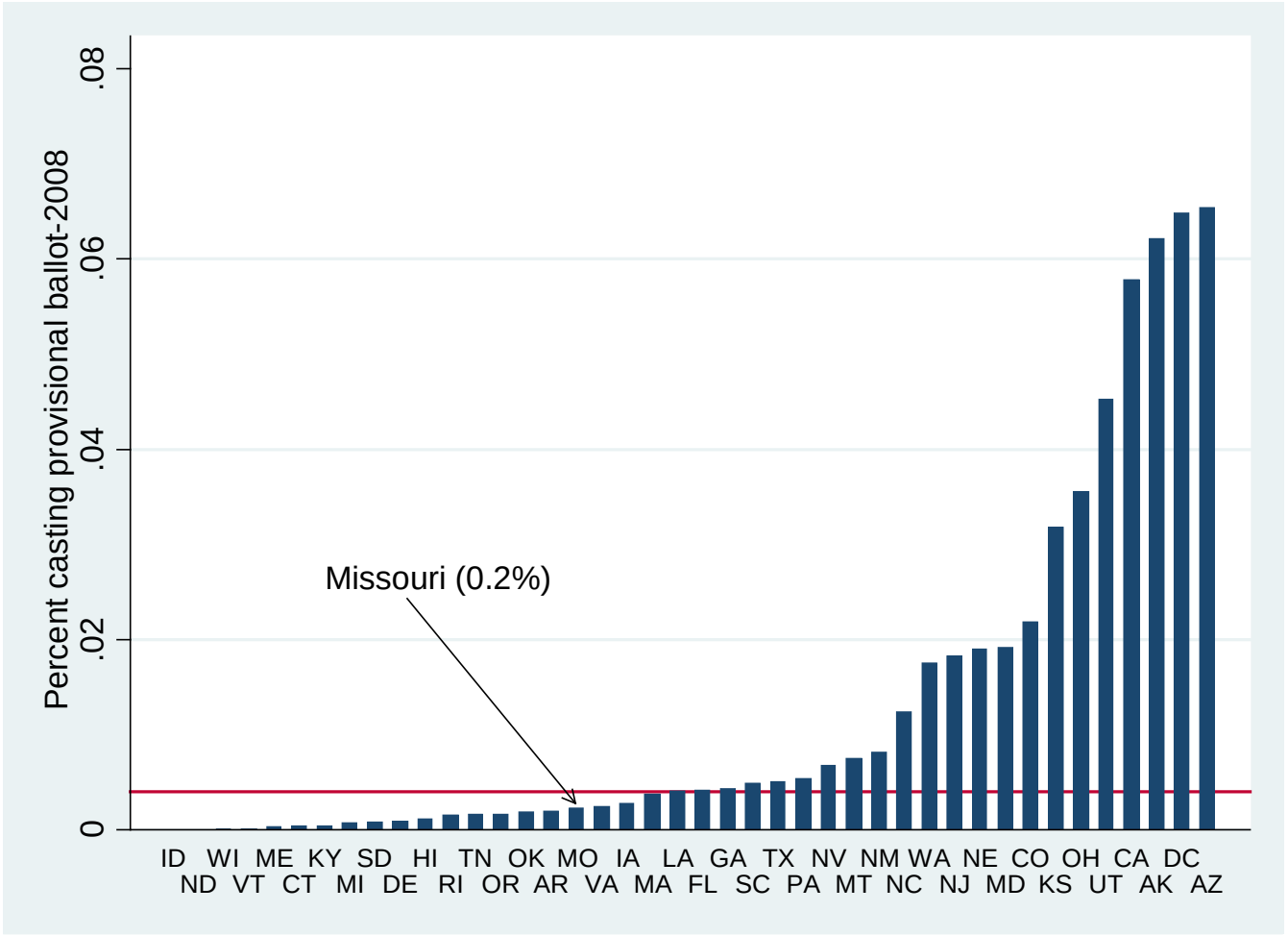
UOCAVA Rejection Rate in 2010



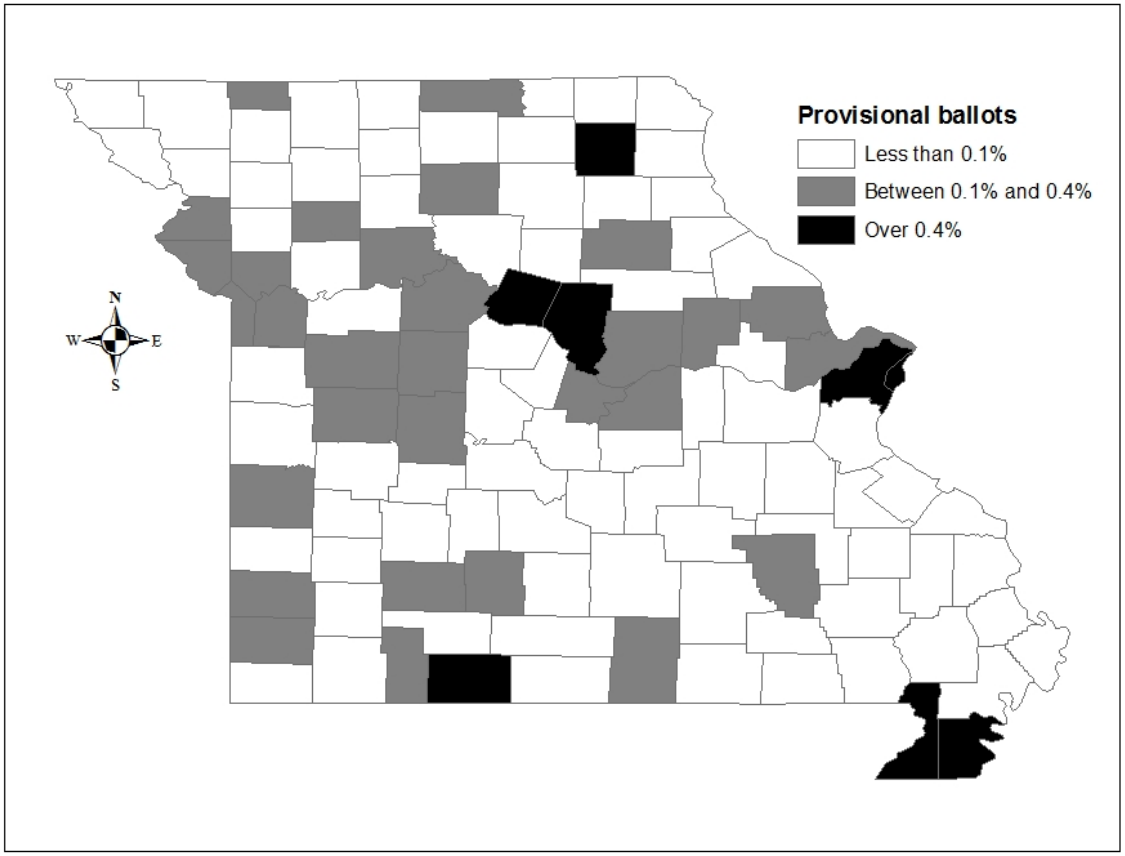
Registration or Absentee Problems in 2008



Provisional Ballots Cast in 2008



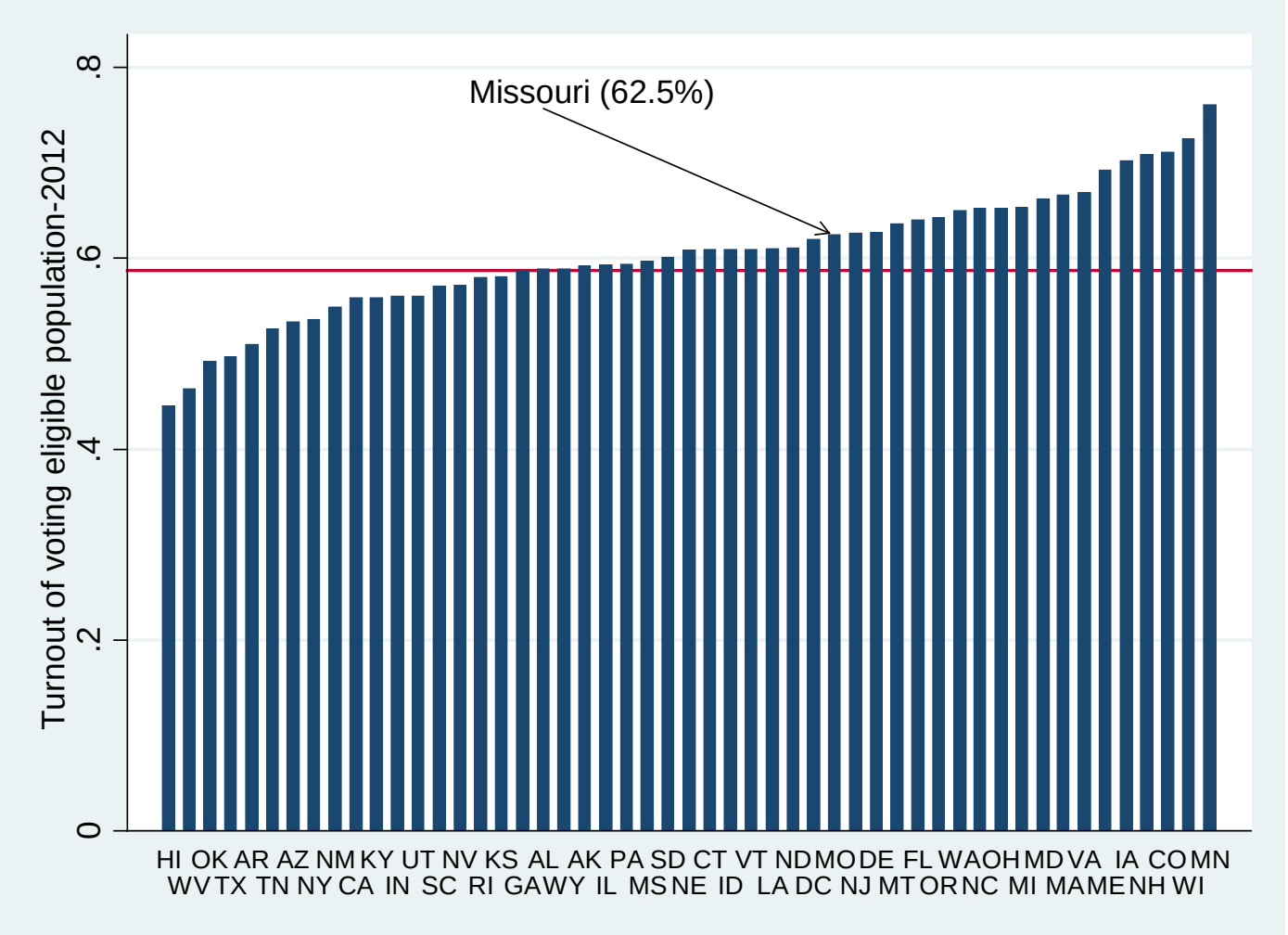
Provisional Ballots Cast in 2008



Measurement Success: Voting Technology Accuracy

- 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: 1.0%
- Most of the decline due to new voting equipment

Voter Turnout in 2012



Summary

- Overall, Missouri ranks highly on many measures.
- State rankings mask a lot of local variation.
- Most challenges/problems are concentrated in heavily populated jurisdictions.
- Some measures lack clear benchmarks, identical definitions.
- Election performance measures are not going away.

The End

- Questions?
- dkimball@umsl.edu
- Thank you!