CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1722

Project Title

Do Democrats and Republicans Recycle Their Trash at the Same Rate?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My project was to determine if Democrats and Republicans recycled their trash at the same rate. My hypothesis was that Democrats would have a higher recycling rate than Republicans.

Methods/Materials

One hundred and eleven households, 59 Republican and 52 Democratic, were surveyed. I used only those households in which all the voters in the house were of the same political party, either Democrat or Republican. On the night before trash pick-up day, I surveyed people in my large neighborhood and measured the volume of garbage in the gray bin and the volume of recycling in the blue bin. I then calculated the recycling percentage.

Results

On average, Democratic households had a higher recycling rate than Republican households. The Democratic recycling rate was 59.5% and the Republican recycling rate was 47.1%.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that the recycling rate of Democrats is higher than the recycling rate of Repubicans; therefore, my hypothesis is correct.

Summary Statement

My project is to determine if Democrats and Republicans recycle their trash at the same rate.

Help Received

My mom and dad drove me throughout the neighborhoods so I could collect data.

Ap2/02