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# Partisanship and Representation in Montana's 2018 Midterm Election

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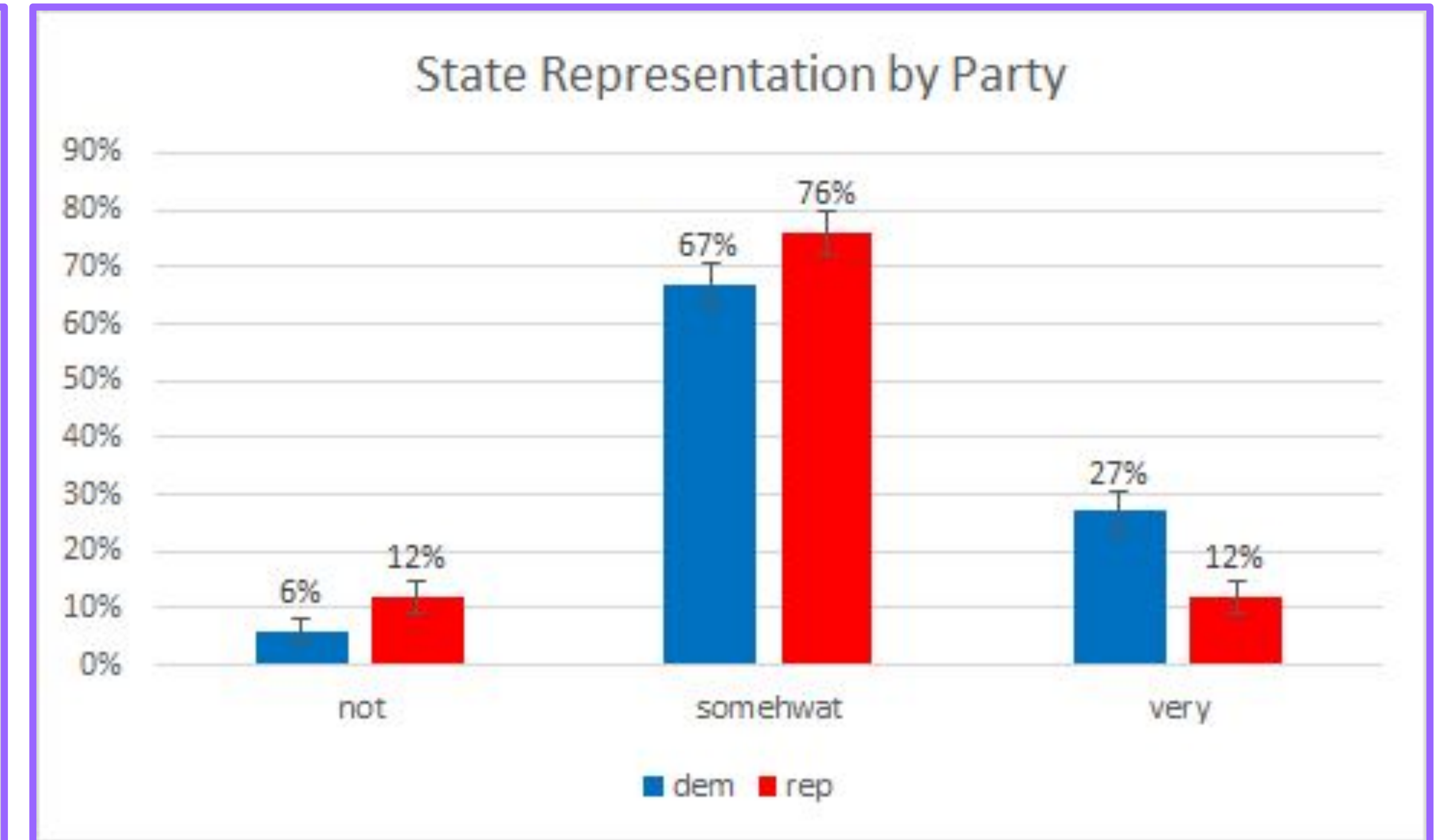
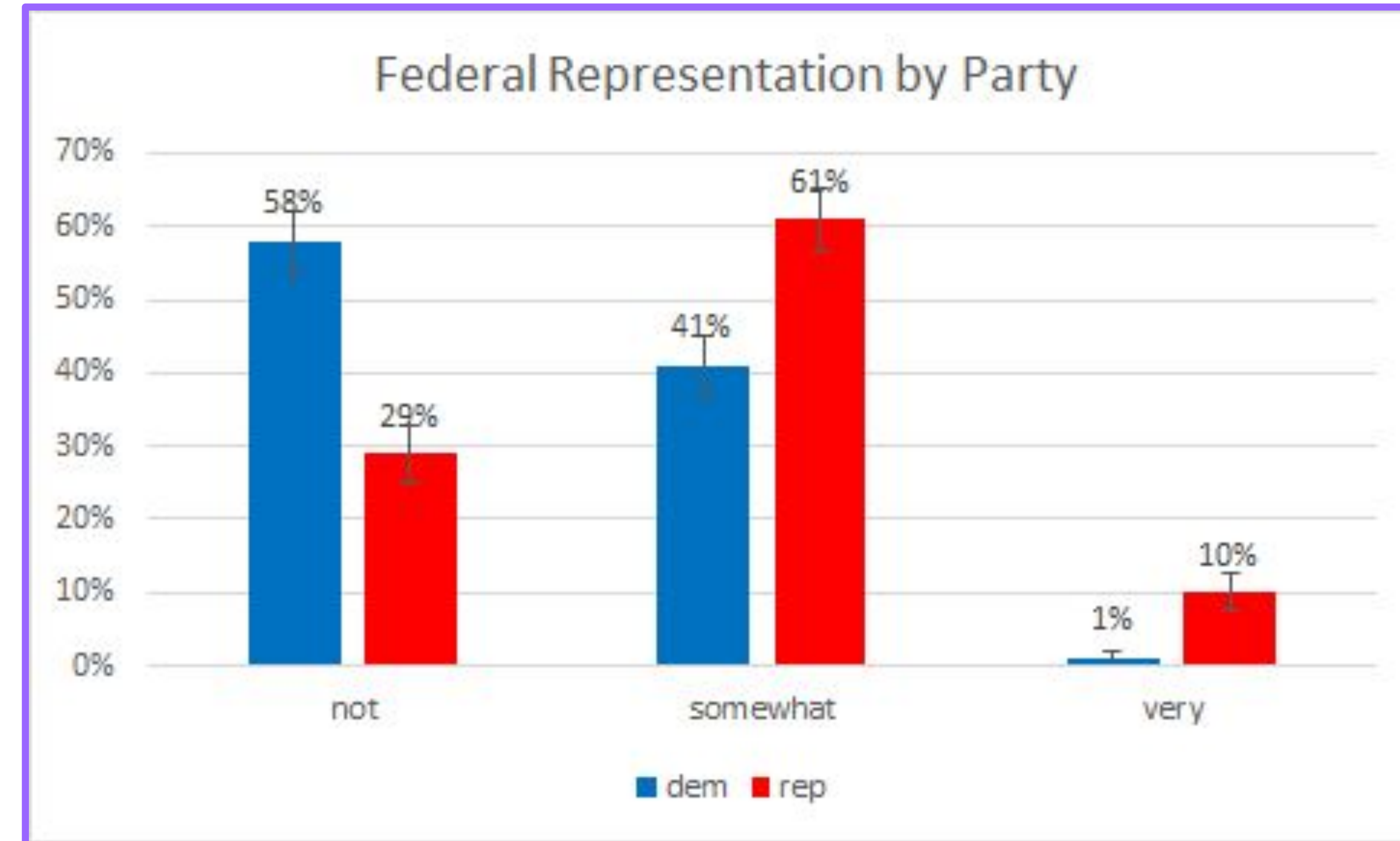
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## Research questions:

whether Montanans feel better represented by state than federal government, and whether there are big party divides on this matter.

**Findings:** Montanans feel better represented by state than the federal government, regardless of party affiliation. Partisanship is relevant for view of the federal but not for views of the state government.



## 2018 Carroll College Exit Poll Questions Utilized

5. How well does the *state* government in Helena represent the values of people in your community?

- Very well
- Somewhat well
- Not at all

6. How well does the *federal* government in Washington, D.C. represent the values of people in your community?

- Very well
- Somewhat well
- Not at all

## State vs Federal Responses

|                        | State/ Not at all | State/ Somewhat Well | State/ Very Well |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Federal/ Not at All    | 7%                | 26%                  | 10%              |
| Federal/ Somewhat Well | 2%                | 40%                  | 9%               |
| Federal/ Very Well     | 0%                | 3%                   | 3%               |

## Discussion

- Partisan Split
- Not State vs Federal, but Republican vs Democrat
- Significant differences for federal
- Results for state less split and more balanced
- Other Factors
  - Trump Administration
  - Federal House & Senate
  - State House & Senate
  - Big Government