



## DEBUNKING “FRAUD” CLAIMS BASED ON DATABASE MATCHING

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- Many voting fraud claims are frequently based on attempts to match names from voter registration databases, or from lists of actual voters, with other databases (for instance, Social Security Administration records, lists of the deceased, or voter registration rolls in other states).
- However, accurate database matching is a very complex practice; running simple procedures on large databases will produce a great many spurious matches. Data entry errors, similar-sounding names, and changing information can all produce false matches.
- Much of what is being described as voter registration fraud is actually social security number and address matching problems caused by error filled, outdated databases, data entry mistakes, and cultural differences.
- For example, the Crosscheck database matching scheme created by Trump advisor Kris Kobach compares one state's voter rolls to another's using only people's first name, last name, and date of birth. But [statistical research](#) demonstrates that many people share these three data points.
- Furthermore, databases themselves are notoriously prone to error. The Social Security Administration (SSA), for example, has [acknowledged](#) that matches between its database and voter-registration records have yielded a 28.5 percent error rate.
- The SSA has also [admitted](#) that, every year, it wrongfully declares 14,000 Americans dead.
- Voter purges based on database matching errors disproportionately impact black, Latino, and Asian-American citizens.
- In its [notorious 2000 voter purge](#), for example, Florida wrongly labeled 12,000 eligible voters as felons—41 percent of whom were African-Americans—and kicked them off the voting rolls. (This was the year George W. Bush officially won Florida, and the election, by 537 votes.)