# UNITED KINGDOM v 1.0

The **British House of Commons** Codebook

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# Introduction

The project uses text data on day-to-day legislative activity to map together bills, motions, questions, speeches, and votes. The project also includes data on members, constituencies, and committees, among other things. The project covers XX parliaments: the XX Parliament (starting XX XX, 2XXX) through most of the XX Parliament (through XX XX, 2019).

Sources of data include **Hansard** (legislative minutes), the **Order Paper**, and **CommonsVotes** (Parliament's official database of bills and votes). These sources are discussed in detail below.
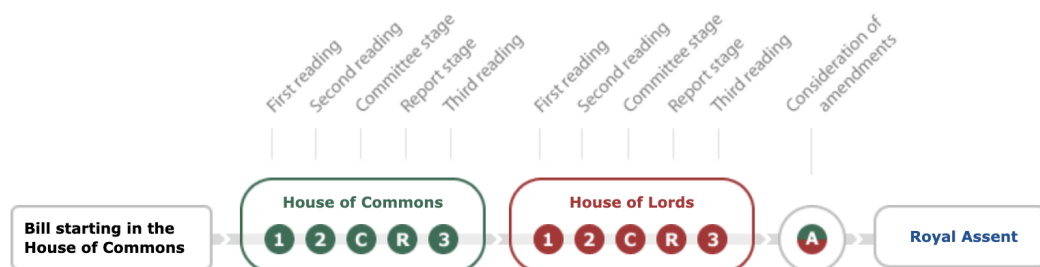
## Legislative Process

This project tracks the progression of bills through the legislative process and connects them with other legislative activity, including questions, speeches, and votes. The legislative process consists of the following steps, which are also outlined in Figure 1:

- **The introduction and first reading of a bill:** Though largely a formaility, the short title of bills are read aloud and they are ordered to be "printed" in the official journal. This indicates that the bill can proceed to the next stage, which will be the first opportunity for MPs to debate the bill's general principles and themes.

- **The second reading and referral to a committee:** The Government minister, spokesperson or MP responsible for the bill begins the debate and the official Opposition spokesperson responds. The debate continues with other Opposition parties and backbenchers giving their opinions. At the end of the debate, the House of Commons as a whole decides whether the bill should be given its second reading by voting so it can proceed to the next stage. It is possible for a bill to have a second reading with no debate, as long as MPs agree. The second reading usually takes place no sooner than two weekends after first reading.

- **The committee stage:** The committee reviews the text of the bill and each clause or amendments may be debated. Every clause in the bill is agreed to, although this may happen (particularly under a programme order) without debate. Amendments for discussion are selected by the committee chairman and only committee members can vote on amendments. Amendments proposed by MPs to the bill are then published daily, so if the bill is amended it will be reprinted before its next stage. Once committee stage is finished, the bill returns to the floor for further debate and amendment proposals.

- **The report stage:** During this stage, members can propose motions to amend the bill (called report stage motions). These motions appear in the **Report Stage of Bills** section of the Notice Paper. (See the section on the Notice Paper below.) These must be notified 48 hours in advance. Debate is on individual motion to amend the bill, not the bill as a whole. The Speaker can select and group amendments for debate to avoid a repeat of the committee stage. There is only debate at the report stage if there are motions to amend the bill.

- **The third reading and passage:** During this stage, members vote on the bill as a whole. A motion for a third reading and passage can be amended. A motion for a third reading can be amended. Possible amendments include hoist amendments, reasoned amendments, and amendments to recommit the bill to a committee. If the motion for a third reading passes, the bill is considered adopted by the House and is sent to the Senate for consideration.

- **Consideration and passage by the Senate:** During this stage, the Senate debates the bill and can vote on amendments. The House votes on any approved Senate amendments. The House and the Senate can exchange messages to resolve disagreements. The House and the Senate must both approve the same version of the bill.

- **Royal Asset and coming into force:** If the same version of a bill is passed by both the House and the Senate, it is granted Royal Assent by the Governor General and enters into force on the stated date.

Figure 1: Bill initiation and stages of completion in both upper and lower British chambers.



**Source:** www.parliament.uk.

## Order Paper

## Overview of Datasets

The project includes XX datasets organized into X sectors. Each sector focuses on a different aspect of legislative activity. Each dataset has four categories of variables: documentation variables, grouping variables, sorting variables, and substantive variables. Documentation variables include a variable that indicates the version of the dataset and a variable that indicates the location of the dataset within the project directory, which is organized by sector. Grouping variables can be used to collapse or merge datasets. Sorting variables can be used to sort observations. Substantive variables include all variables.

## Sector 1: Calendars

Sector 1 contains data related to sittings of the House of Commons and committees in the House of Commons. This sector includes two datasets that record the calendar of sittings for the House of Commons and the calendar of sittings for standing committees in the House of Commons.

- `uk_calendar.csv` records the dates of all sittings of the House of Commons. There is one observation per sitting per parliament.

## Sector 2: Official Publications

Sector 2 contains data on the day-to-day activity of the House of Commons based the **Order Paper**. The **Order Paper** are published each sitting day.

- `uk_order_papers.csv` tracks items of business on the **Order Paper**. There is one observation per item per edition of the **Order Paper**. See `uk_calendar.csv`.

## Sector 3: Members

Sector 3 includes seven datasets that contain information about members of the House of Commons.

- `uk_members.csv` records all unique members of the House of Commons. There is one observation per unique member of the House of Commons across all parliaments covered in the project (the 38th Parliament through the 42nd Parliament). This dataset includes the name, constituency, and party of each member. A unique path, `member_path`, is assigned to each

member. This path is used in a variety of other datasets to uniquely identify members. In other datasets, it is called `member_ID`.

- `uk_chamber_membership.csv` tracks the membership of the House of Commons across parliaments. There is one observation per member per parliament. This dataset includes the name, constituency, and party of each member.

- `uk_constituencies.csv` records all of the unique constituencies that members are elected by. There is one observation per constituency. The constituencies were redrawn once during the period that the project covers — in 2015, between the 41st and 42nd parliaments. The dataset includes the riding name (i.e., the name of the constituency) and province of the constituency. A unique path, `constituency_path`, is assigned to each constituency. This path used in a variety of other datasets to uniquely identify constituencies. In other datasets, it is called `constituency_ID`.

- `uk_elections.csv` records election results for all general elections and by-elections. There is one observation per candidate per race per election. There is one race per constituency (riding) in general elections. This dataset includes all general elections and all by-elections. In each election, there is one race for each constituency. The data includes the date and type of the election, name and party of each candidate, the constituency and province of the constituency, and whether the candidate was defeated, elected, or reelected.

- `uk_ministries.csv` tracks the composition of the government. There is one observation per member per ministerial portfolio per government. Each observation indicates the member associated with the portfolio. The project covers the governments of three Prime Ministers: Martin, Harper, and Trudeau. Members can hold multiple portfolios at the same time, so there can be multiple observations per member per government. Portfolios can also change hands, so there can be multiple observations per portfolio per government. The dataset includes the start and ends dates of the period of time that each member held each portfolio. The source of the data is `SOURCE`.

- `uk_committees.csv` records the standing committees in the House of Commons. There is one observation per committee per parliament. This dataset includes the committee chair and vice chair of each committee. A unique path, `committee_path`, is assigned to each committee. This path is used in `committee_speeches.csv` to uniquely identify committees. In this other dataset, it is called `committee_ID`. The source of the data is `SOURCE`.

- `uk_commtitee_membership.csv` tracks the composition of standing committees in the House of Commons. There is one observation per member per committee per parliament. This

dataset includes the name, constituency, and party of each member. It also indicates which members hold leadership positions. The source of the data is `SOURCE` .

# Bills

`uk_bills.csv`    `1.4 MB`

This dataset includes all bills introduced from the XXth Parliament through the XXth Parliament. There is one observation per bill.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1` . Identical in this dataset to `bill_ID` .

`parliament_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41` .

`session_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2` .

`chamber_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1` .

`bill_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each bill in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1` .

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`    The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number` , then by `session_number` , then by `chamber_number` , then by `bill_number` .

`parliament_number`    The number of the parliament.

`session_number`    The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`    A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2` .

`bill_number`    The number of the bill. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify bills because bill numbers repeat across chambers and sessions.

## Variables

`date_introduced`    The date the bill was introduced in the format `YYYY-MM-DD` .

`bill_type`    The type of the bill. Possible values include:

- `Government Bill (Commons)`
- `Private Members' Bill (Commons)`
- `Government Bill (Lords)`
- `Private Members' Bill (Lords)`
- `Private Bill (Lords)`

`bill_title`    The official title of the bill.

`member_name`    The full name of the member who sponsored the bill. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1` . See `canada_members.csv` .

`constituency_name`    The name of the constituency of the member who sponsored the bill.

`constituency_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1` . See `canada_constituencies.csv` .

# Bill Events

`uk_bill_events.csv`  `7.8 MB`

This dataset includes all events related to all bills from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. There is one observation per event per bill.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/event-1` . Identical in this dataset to `event_path` .

`parliament_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/event-1` .

`session_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/event-1` .

`chamber_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/event-1` .

`bill_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each bill in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/event-1` .

`event_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each event in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/event-1` .

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`   The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number` , then by `session_number` , then by `chamber_number` , then by `bill_number` , then by `event_number` .

`parliament_number`    The number of the parliament.

`session_number`    The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`    A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`bill_number`    The number of the bill. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify bills because bill numbers repeat across chambers and sessions.

`event_number`    The number of the event. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify events because event numbers repeat across items.

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## Variables

`member_name`    The full name of the member who sponsored the bill. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`. See `canada_members.csv`.

`constituency_name`    The name of the constituency of the member who sponsored the bill.

`constituency_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. See `canada_constituencies.csv`.

`event_date`    The date of the event in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`event_chamber`    The chamber in which the event took place. Possible values include:

- `House of Commons`
- `House of Lords`

`event_description`   A description of the event.

# Bill Versions

`uk_bill_versions.csv`   `2.5 MB`

This dataset includes all published versions of all bills introduced from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. There is one observation per version per bill.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/version-1` . Identical in this dataset to `version_path` .

`parliament_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41` .

`session_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2` .

`chamber_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1` .

`bill_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each bill in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1` .

`version_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each version in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1/version-1` .

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`   The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number` , then by `session_number` , then by `chamber_number` , then by `bill_number` .

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`parliament_number`     The number of the parliament.

`session_number`     The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`     A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2` .

`bill_number`     The number of the bill. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify bills because bill numbers repeat across chambers and sessions.

`version_number`     The version of the bill. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify versions because versions numbers repeat across bills.

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## Variables

`date_introduced`     The date the bill was introduced in the format `YYYY-MM-DD` .

`date_version`     The date of the version of the bill in the format `YYYY-MM-DD` .

`bill_type`     The type of the bill. Possible values include:

- `Government Bill (Commons)`
- `Private Members' Bill (Commons)`
- `Government Bill (Lords)`
- `Private Members' Bill (Lords)`
- `Private Bill (Lords)`

`bill_title`     The official title of the bill.

`version`     The version of the bill. Possible values include:

- `As amended by committee`
- `As passed by the House of Commons`

- `As passed by the House of Lords`
- `First Reading`
- `Royal Assent`

# Chamber Membership

`canada_chamber_membership.csv`    `0 MB`

This dataset indicates the members of the House of Commons in each parliament from the 38th parliament through the 41st parliament. There is one observation per member per parliament.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/chamber-1/member-1`. Identical in this dataset to `member_ID`.

`parliament_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41`.

`chamber_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each chamber per parliament in the format `/parliament-41/chamber-1`.

`member_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each member per chamber per parliament in the format `/parliament-41/chamber-1/member-1`.

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`    The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `member_number`.

`parliament_number`    The number of the parliament.

`chamber_number`    A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`member_number`    A number assigned to each member. Assigned with members sorted by last name, then by first name, then by constituency. Not comparable across groups.

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## Variables

`chamber_name`    The name of the chamber.

`full_name`    The first and last name of the member.

`first_name`    The first name of the member.

`last_name`    The last name of the member.

`member_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1` . See `canada_members.csv` .

`constituency_name`     The name of the constituency of the member.

`constituency_ID`     A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1` . See `canada_constituencies.csv` .

`party_name`    The party of the member. Members sometimes switch parties while in office. This variable indicates their party at the time they were originally elected. Possible values include:

`start_date`     The start date for each member in each parliament in the format `YYYY-MM-DD` . The start date of the parliament unless the member was elected in a by-election.

`end_date`    The end date for each member in each parliament in the format `YYYY-MM-DD` . The end date of the parliament unless the member died in office or resigned.

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# Chamber Sittings

`uk_chamber_sittings.csv`     `0 MB`

This dataset includes all sittings of the House of Commons from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. There is one observation per sitting.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1`. Identical in this dataset to `sitting_path`.

`parliament_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41`.

`session_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2`.

`chamber_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1`.

`sitting_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each sitting in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1`.

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`     The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `session_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `sitting_number`.

`parliament_number`     The number of the parliament.

`session_number`     The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`　A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2` .

`sitting_number`　The number of the sitting within a session. This variable does not uniquely identify sittings because sitting numbers repeat across chambers and sessions.

## Variables

`chamber`　The chamber of the sitting. Possible values include:

- `House of Commons`
- `House of Lords`

`sitting_date`　The date of the sitting in the format `YYYY-MM-DD` .

# Constituencies

`canada_constituencies.csv`    `0 MB`

This dataset includes all constituencies for the House of Commons from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. No constituencies were changed during this period. There is one observation per constituency. The constituency `Western Arctic` was renamed `Northwest Territories` in 2014. It is coded `Northwest Territories` in this dataset.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. Identical in this dataset to `constituency_path`.

`chamber_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each chamber in the format `/chamber-1`.

`constituency_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`.

## Sorting variables

`observation_number`    The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `chamber_number`, then by `constituency_number`.

`chamber_number`    A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`chamber_name`    The name of the chamber.

`constituency_number`     A number assigned to each chamber. Assigned with constituencies sorted by name.

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## Variables

`constituency_name`     The name of the constituency.

`province_name`     The province in which the constituency is located.

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# Divisions

`canada_divisions.csv`  `0 MB`

This dataset includes all recorded divisions from the 38th parliament through the 41st parliament. There is one observation per division.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/division-1`. Identical in this dataset to `division_path`.

`parliament_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41`.

`session_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2`.

`chamber_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1`.

`division_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each division in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/division-1`.

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`   The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `session_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `division_number`.

`parliament_number`   The number of the parliament.

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`session_number`     The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`     A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`division_number`     The number of the division. This variable does not uniquely identify divisions because division numbers repeat across sessions.

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## Variables

`division_date`     The date of the division in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`division_type`     The type of the division. Possible values include:

`bill_ID`   A path that uniquely identifies each bill in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1`. See `canada_bills.csv`.

`result`     The result of the division. Possible values include:

- `Agreed to`
- `Negatived`

`yea`     The number of members who voted yea.

`nay`     The number of members who voted nay.

`paired`     The number of paired votes.

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# Divisions: Expanded

`canada_divisions_expanded.csv`     `0 MB`

This dataset indicates how each member voted in all recorded divisions from the 38th parliament through the 41st parliament. There is one observation per voting member per division. Members who abstain are excluded.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`      A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/division-1/vote-1` . Identical in this dataset to `vote_path` .

`parliament_path`      A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41` .

`session_path`      A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2` .

`chamber_path`      A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1` .

`division_path`      A path that uniquely identifies each division in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/division-1` .

`vote_path`      A path that uniquely identifies each member who cast a vote in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/division-1/vote-1` .

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`      The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number` , then by `session_number` , then by `chamber_number` , then by `division_number` , then by `vote_number` .

`parliament_number`    The number of the parliament.

`session_number`    The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`    A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`division_number`    The number of the division. This variable does not uniquely identify divisions because division numbers repeat across sessions.

`vote_number`    The number of the individual vote. Assigned with members sorted by last name, then by first name, then by constituency. This variable does not uniquely identify individual votes because vote numbers repeat across divisions.

## Variables

`division_date`    The date of the division in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`member_name`    The full name of the member who cast the vote. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`. See `canada_members.csv`.

`constituency_name`    The name of the constituency of the member who cast the vote.

`constituency_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. See `canada_constituencies.csv`.

`yea`    A dummy variable indicating whether the member voted yea.

`nay`    A dummy variable indicating whether the member voted nay.

`paired`   A dummy variable indicating whether the vote was paired.

# Floor Speeches

`canada_floor_speeches.csv`   `1.0 GB`

This dataset includes all speeches delivered by members of the House of Commons from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament (includes speeches by the presiding officer but not speeches by non-members). There is one observation per paragraph per speech.

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## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1/speech-1/paragraph-1`. Identical in this dataset to `paragraph_path`.

`parliament_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41`.

`session_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2`.

`chamber_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1`.

`sitting_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each sitting in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1/`.

`speech_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each speech in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1/speech-1/`.

`paragraph_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each paragraph in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1/speech-1/paragraph-1`.

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## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`     The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `session_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `sitting_number`, then by `speech_number`, then by `paragraph_number`.

`parliament_number`     The number of the parliament.

`session_number`     The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`     A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`sitting_number`     The number of the sitting within a session. This variable does not uniquely identify sittings because sitting numbers repeat across chambers and sessions.

`speech_number`     The number of the speech within a sitting. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify speeches because speech numbers repeat across sittings.

`paragraph_number`     The number of the paragraph of the speech. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify paragraphs because paragraph numbers repeat across speeches.

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## Variables

`hansard_volume`     The volume of the Hansard that contains the speech. There is one volume per session.

`hansard_issue`     The issue of the Hansard that contains the speech. Note that issue numbers repeat across volumes.

`speech_date`     The date of the speech in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`speech_type`     The type of the speech. Possible values include:

- `Answer`
- `Debate`
- `Interjection`
- `Question`
- `Other`

`member_name`     The full name of the member who gave the speech. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID`     A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1` . See `canada_members.csv` .

`constituency_name`     The name of the constituency of the member who gave the speech.

`constituency_ID`     A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1` . See `canada_constituencies.csv` .

`party_name`     The name of the party of the member who gave the speech.

`paragraph_text`     The text of the paragraph.

`word_count`     The word count of the paragraph.

# Members of the House of Commons

`canada_members.csv`   `0 MB`

This dataset includes all members of the House of Commons from the 38th parliament through the 41st parliament. There is one observation per member.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`. Identical in this dataset to `member_path`.

`chamber_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each chamber in the format `/chamber-1`.

`member_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each member in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`.

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`   The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `chamber_number`, then by `member_number`.

`chamber_number`   A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`member_number`   A number assigned to each member. Assigned with members sorted by last name, then by first name, then by constituency. Not comparable across groups.

## Variables

`chamber_name`   The name of the chamber.

`full_name`   The first and last name of the member.

`first_name` The first name of the member.

`last_name` The last name of the member.

`constituency_name` The name of the constituency of the member.

`constituency_ID` A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. See `canada_constituencies.csv`.

`party_name` The party of the member. Members sometimes switch parties while in office. This variable indicates their party at the time they were originally elected. Possible values include:

- `Bloc Québécois`
- `Conservative Party of Canada`
- `Forces et Démocratie`
- `Green Party of Canada`
- `Independent`
- `Liberal Party of Canada`
- `New Democratic Party`

`start_date` The date that the member started serving in parliament in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`end_date` The date that the member stopped serving in parliament in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

# Order Papers

`canada_order_papers.csv`    `0 MB`

This dataset includes all items on the Order Paper for each sitting of the House of Commons from 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. There is one observation per item.

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## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/item-1`. Identical in this dataset to `item_path`.

`parliament_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41`.

`session_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2`.

`chamber_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1`.

`sitting_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each sitting in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1`.

`item_path`    A path that uniquely identifies each item in the format `/parl-iament-41/session-2/chamber-1/sitting-1/item-1`.

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number` The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `session_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `sitting_number`, then by `item_number`.

`parliament_number` The number of the parliament.

`session_number` The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number` A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`sitting_number` The number of the sitting within a session. This variable does not uniquely identify sittings because sitting numbers repeat across chambers and sessions.

`item_number` A number assigned to each item. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify items because item numbers repeat across parliaments.

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## Variables

`sitting_date` The date of the sitting in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`item_date` The date on which the item was first introduced in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`page_number` The number of the page on which the item is located in the Notice Paper.

`heading` The heading under which the item appears. Possible values include:

`member_name` The full name of the member who is responsible for the item. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID` A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`. See `canada_members.csv`.

`constituency_name`   The name of the constituency of the member who is responsible for the item.

`constituency_ID`   A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. See `canada_constituencies.csv`.

`bill_ID`   A path that uniquely identifies each bill in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/bill-1`. See `canada_bills.csv`.

`motion_ID`   A path that uniquely identifies each motion in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/motion-class-1/motion-1`. See `canada_motions.csv`.

`question_ID`   A path that uniquely identifies each question in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/question-1`. See `canada_questions.csv`.

`item_description`   A description of the item.

# Questions

`canada_questions.csv`   `0 MB`

This dataset includes all written questions submitted by members of the House of Commons from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. There is one observation per question.

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## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/question-1`. Identical in this dataset to `question_path`.

`parliament_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41`.

`session_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2`.

`chamber_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each chamber within a session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1`.

`question_path`   A path that uniquely identifies each question in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/question-1`.

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## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`   The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `session_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `question_number`.

`parliament_number`   The number of the parliament.

`session_number`     The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`     A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`question_number`     The number of the question. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify questions because question numbers repeat across sittings.

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## Variables

`notice_date`     The date on which the notice of the question appeared in the notice paper in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`.

`submission_date`     The date that the question was submitted in the format `YYYY-MM-DD`. Note that this is not necessarily the date that the notice appeared in the notice paper because a question can be submitted on a day on which there is not a sitting.

`member_name`     The full name of the member who submitted the question. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID`     A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`. See `canada_members.csv`.

`constituency_name`     The name of the constituency of the member who submitted the question.

`constituency_ID`     A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. See `canada_constituencies.csv`.

`question_text`     The cleaned text of the question.

`word_count`     The word count of the question.

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# Questions: Events

`canada_question_events.csv`     `0 MB`

This dataset includes all events related to all written questions submitted by members of the House of Commons from the 38th Parliament through the 41st Parliament. There is one observation per event per question.

## Grouping Variables

`observation_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each observation in the dataset in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/question-1/event-1` . Identical in this dataset to `event_path` .

`parliament_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each parliament in the format `/parliament-41` .

`session_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each session in the format `/parliament-41/session-2` .

`chamber_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each chamber in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1` .

`question_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each question in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/question-1` .

`event_path`     A path that uniquely identifies each event in the format `/parliament-41/session-2/chamber-1/question-1/event-1` .

## Sorting Variables

`observation_number`     The number of the observation. Indicates the default sorting order. Sorted by `parliament_number`, then by `session_number`, then by `chamber_number`, then by `question_number`, then by `event_number`.

`parliament_number`    The number of the parliament.

`session_number`    The number of the session within a parliament. This variable does not uniquely identify sessions because session numbers repeat across parliaments.

`chamber_number`    A number assigned to each chamber. The House of Commons is coded `1` and the Senate is coded `2`.

`question_number`    The number of the question. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify questions because question numbers repeat across sittings.

`event_number`    The number of the event. Note that this variable does not uniquely identify events because event numbers repeat across items.

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## Variables

`member_name`    The full name of the member who submitted the question. This variable does not uniquely identify members because members can have the same name.

`member_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each member of the House of Commons in the format `/chamber-1/member-1`. See `canada_members.csv`.

`constituency_name`    The name of the constituency of the member who submitted the question.

`constituency_ID`    A path segment that uniquely identifies each constituency in the format `/chamber-1/constituency-1`. See `canada_constituencies.csv`.

`event_date`    str The date of the event in the format YYYY-MM-DD.

`event_text`    str A description of the event. Possible values include:

- `Absence of a reply deemed referred to a committee`
- `Answer tabled`
- `Answered`

- `Made on Order for Return and answer tabled`
- `Made an Order for Return and revised answer tabled`
- `Made an Order for Return and supplementary answer tabled`
- `Notice`
- `Revised answer`
- `Withdrawn`