



Codebook bundeslaendeR

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Introduction

Most election results data are provided by the Bundeswahlleiter. A machine-readable version of the Bundeswahlleiter's compiled data contained in the -periodically published- pdf available here (<https://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/service/landtagswahlen.html>) was kindly provided to me. Election data outside the timeframe covered by Bundeswahlleiter's data provided to me was collected from the states' local election authorities' (Landeswahlleiter) websites. More information on parties and the continuity of parties under different labels was collected by me.

The Bundeswahlleiter's election data in many cases contains differing names for the same party. Both between states (eg. "Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands" vs. "Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands in Niedersachsen") as well as within states between elections -in many cases due to parties being renamed- ("BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN, Landesverband Hamburg, Grün-Alternative Liste" vs. "BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN, Landesverband Hamburg"). Efforts were made to reconcile both of these inconsistencies by adding two new, harmonized variables identifying parties (`partynname_short` and `partynname`). This harmonized party identifier also covers merging of parties. The partynname given to the resulting party (eg. "Linke", "Grüne") is given to the largest of the preceding parties contesting an election unless a smaller party joined a government following the election. The original names provided by the Bundeswahlleiter (and Landeswahlleiters in elections after June 2021) are still available (`partynname_short_bundeswahlleiter` and `partynname_bundeswahlleiter`).

Information on governments is mainly taken from replication data from Linhart, Pappi, and Schmitt (2008) which can be found online here: <https://www.tu-chemnitz.de/phil/politik/pspi/forschung/daten.php>. Information outside the timeframe of Linhart et al. as well as information on the names and party affiliations of the Ministerpräsidenten was collected by me, mainly from German Wikipedia.

All datasets can be accessed through the R Package `bundeslaendeR`.¹ This package further includes one function `-bundeslaendeR::de_states_geofacet_grid_4x4()`- that is documented below. Alternatively all datasets can be downloaded in a single .zip file including all six datasets as .csv, .rds and .dta files.

¹Calling `bundeslaender::ltw_elections`, `bundeslaender::ltw_governments` , `bundeslaender::ltw_combined`, `bundeslaender::ltw_elections_meta`, `bundeslaender::link_manifestos` and `bundeslaender::link_coalitionagreements`.

Table 1: Structure of ltw_elections

State Variables			Election Variables			Party Variables			Party-Election Variables		
	Name, Abbreviation, NUTS1 Code	...	Election date, Size Electorate, Turnout,	Names, Abbreviations, several IDs		...	Vote Count, -Share, Seat Count, -Share,
state	nuts1	...	election_date	turnout	...	partyname_short	ches_id	...	party_vshare	party_seat_count	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party A	001	...	0.45	46	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party B	002	...	0.30	12	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party C	003	...	0.25	18	...
NI	DE9	...	2012-12-16	0.560	...	Party A	001	...	0.17	12	...
NI	DE9	...	2012-12-16	0.560	...	Party B	002	...	0.33	27	...
NI	DE9	...	2012-12-16	0.560	...	Party D	004	...	0.50	46	...

ltw_elections

ltw_elections is a long-form dataset containing one row per contesting party per election. For a schematic version of ltw_elections's structure see table 1. The data can be accessed in R using `bundeslaendeR::ltw_elections`.

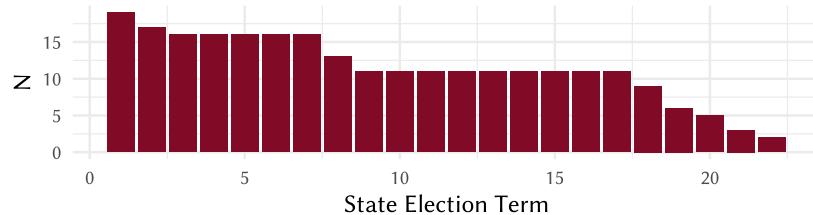
ltw_elections Variable Information

state	State Abbreviation ISO 3166-2:DE-code of the state; including BA for the former state of Baden, WH for the former state of Württemberg-Hohenzollern and WB for the former state of Württemberg-Baden.
nuts1	NUTS1 Code of State NUTS1 code of state. NA for former states Baden, Württemberg-Baden, Württemberg-Hohenzollern.
state_name_de	German Name of State German name of the state.
state_name_en	English Name of State. English name of the state.

state_election_term

Election Term of State

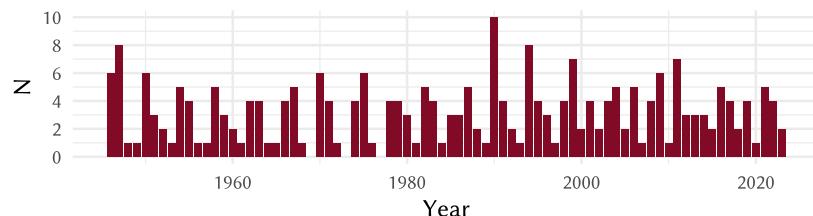
Election term in the state. Counts up from 1.



election_date

Election Date

Date of the election. ISO 8601 or R-Date format.



election_id_bundeswahlleiter

Election ID Bundeswahlleiter

Specific election_id as denoted by the Bundeswahlleiter. Note that BA, WH and WH are named as BW and the number counts down. NA for cases taken from Landeswahlleiters (i.e. elections after ST 2021).

election_remarks_wahlleiter

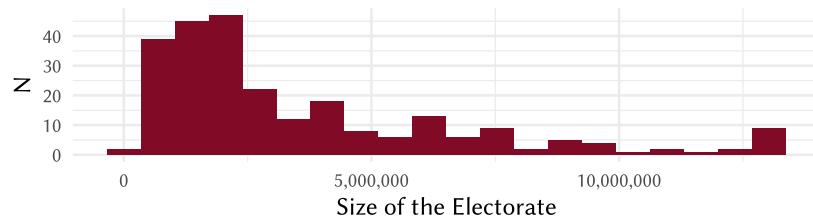
Election Remarks Bundeswahlleiter

Remarks on the election as given by the Bundeswahlleiter.

electorate

Size of the Electorate

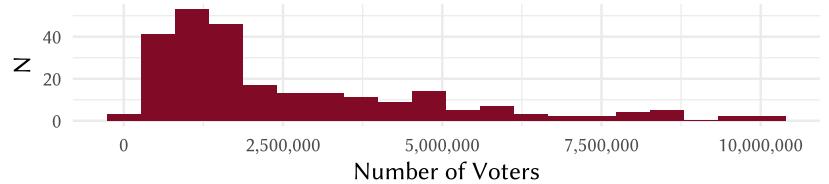
Number of eligible voters. For more totals also see the last six columns.



number_of_voters

Number of Voters

Number of voters turning out. For more totals also see the last six columns.

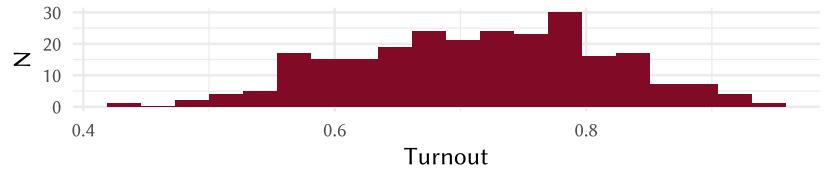


One missing observation: 1946 HB election.

turnout

Turnout

Turnout. Share of eligible voters turning out.

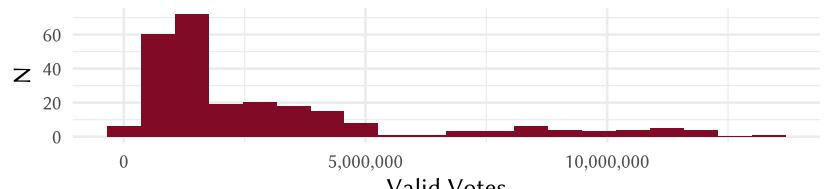


One missing observation: 1946 HB election.

valid_votes

Valid Votes

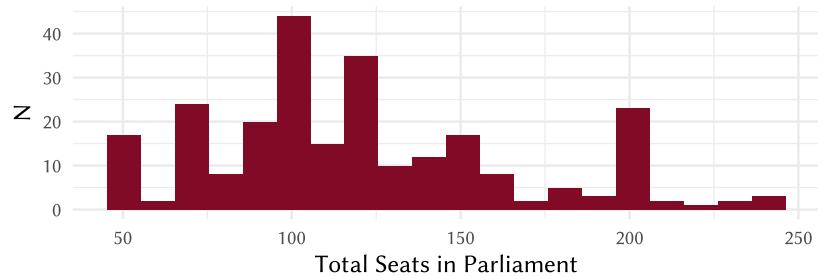
Number of valid votes. Does not have to be equal to the number of ballots cast, as sometimes a ballot contains multiple votes! For more totals also see the last six columns.



`total_seats_parliament`

Total Seats in Parliament

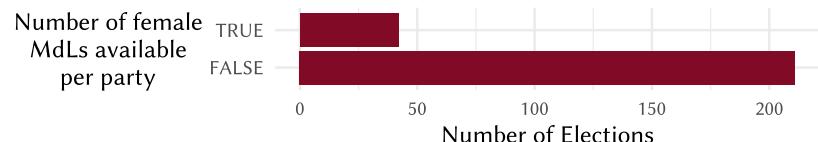
Total number of members of the newly elected Landtag.



`female_party_seats_available`

Number of female MdLs available per party

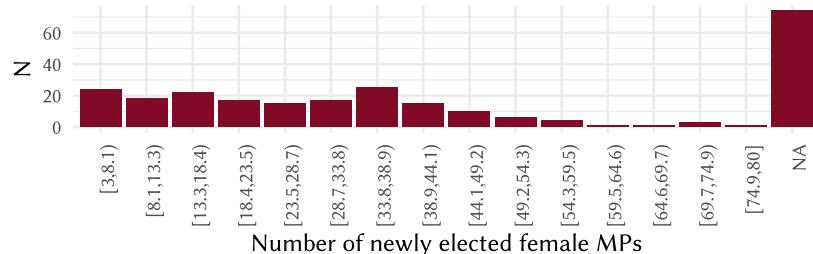
Denotes whether information on the no. of female members of the Landtag per party is available for this election. Note that for parties not elected to the new Landtag `party_female_mps` always is marked as missing.



`total_female_mps_parliament`

Number of Female MPs in Parliament

Number of newly elected female MPs.



`partyname_short`

Abbreviated Party Name

Harmonized abbreviation of the party's name. 382 unique parties.

`partyname`

Party Name

Harmonized name of the party. 382 unique parties.

partynname_short_
bundeswahlleiter

Party Name Abbreviation from Bundeswahlleiter

Partynname abbreviation as documented by the Bundeswahlleiter. 471 different abbreviations.

partynname_
bundeswahlleiter

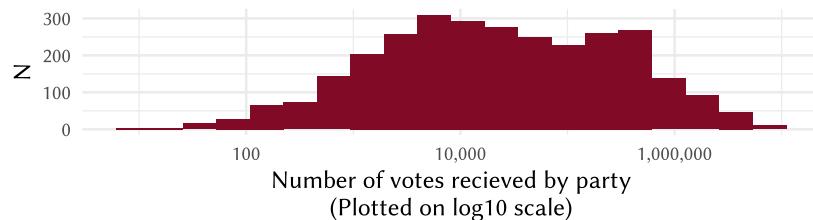
Party Name from Bundeswahlleiter

Partynname as documented by the Bundeswahlleiter. 512 different names.

party_vote_count

Party Vote Count

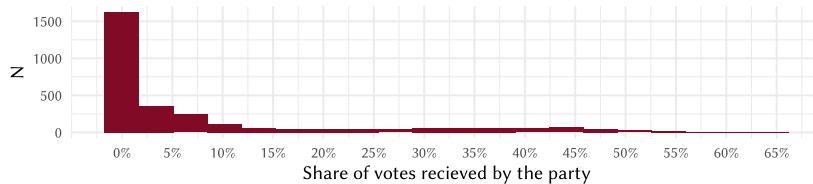
Number of votes received by the party.



party_vshare

Party Vote Share

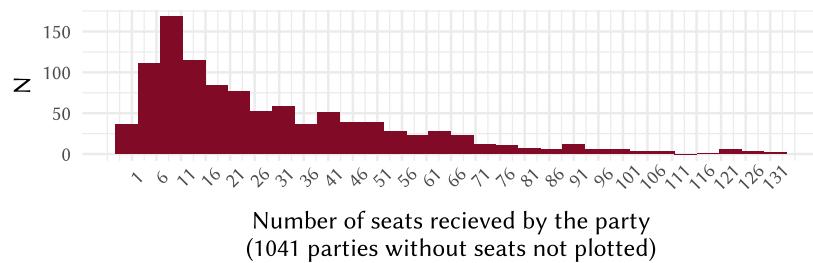
Share of votes received by the party.



party_seat_count

Party Seat Count

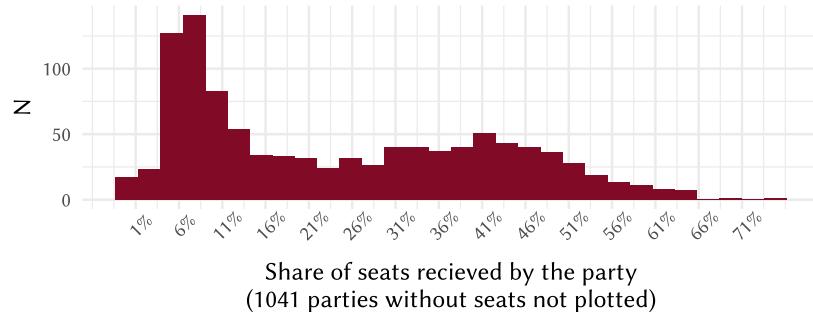
Number of seats received by the party.



party_sshare

Party Seat Share

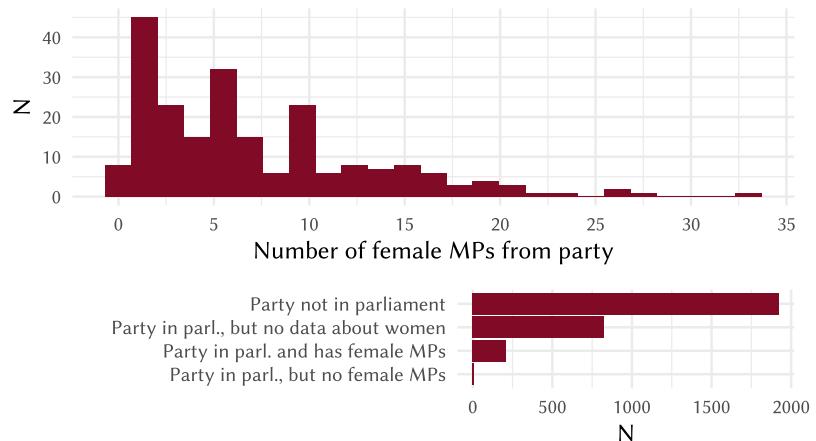
Share of seats received by the party.



party_female_mps

Number of female MPs from party

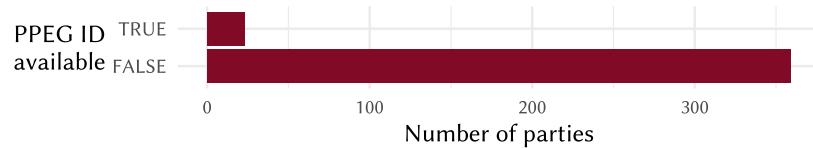
Number of female MPs elected for the party. Note that for parties not elected to the new Landtag party_female_mps always is marked as missing.

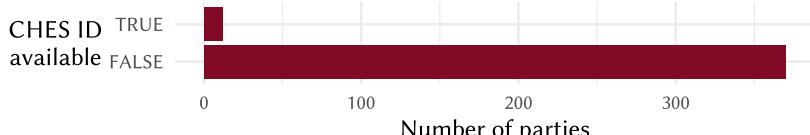
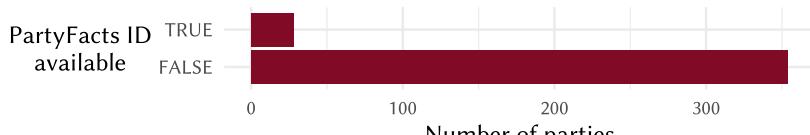
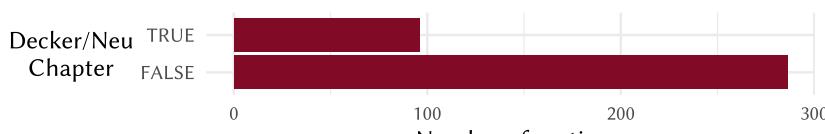


ppg_id

PPEG ID

If available, party id of the party in the PPEG database (PPEG 2022). These party IDs are chiefly based on party IDs from Mackie and Rose (1991).



ches_id	<p>CHES ID If available, ID of the party in the Chapel-Hill Expert Survey (Jolly et al. 2022).</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>available (TRUE)</td> <td>~350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>available (FALSE)</td> <td>~0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Count	available (TRUE)	~350	available (FALSE)	~0
Category	Count						
available (TRUE)	~350						
available (FALSE)	~0						
partyfacts_id	<p>PartyFacts ID If available, ID of the party in the partyfacts database (Döring and Regel 2019).</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>available (TRUE)</td> <td>~50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>available (FALSE)</td> <td>~350</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Count	available (TRUE)	~50	available (FALSE)	~350
Category	Count						
available (TRUE)	~50						
available (FALSE)	~350						
decker_neu	<p>Chapter Parteienhandbuch Denotes, whether the Handbuch der deutschen Parteien (3. ed.) by Decker and Neu (Decker and Neu 2018) has a chapter on the party.</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chapter (TRUE)</td> <td>~100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chapter (FALSE)</td> <td>~350</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Count	Chapter (TRUE)	~100	Chapter (FALSE)	~350
Category	Count						
Chapter (TRUE)	~100						
Chapter (FALSE)	~350						
url_info	<p>URL with additional info on the party URL to information on the party on the web. Can contain multiple URLs!</p>						
party_remarks_stelzle	<p>Party remarks Stelzle Remarks on the party by me.</p>						
party_remarks_bundeswahlleiter	<p>Party remarks Bundeswahlleiter Remarks on the party as listed by the Bundeswahlleiter.</p>						
gueltige_stimm-zettel_hh_hb	<p>Gültige Stimmzettel HH and HB State specific totals.</p>						

gesamtstimmnen_by	Gesamtstimmnen BY State specific totals.
ausgefallene_stimmen_be	Ausgefallene Stimmen BE State specific totals.
abgegebene_stimmen_hh	Abgegebene Stimmen HH State specific totals.
ungueltige_stimmen_except_hh_hb	Ungültige Stimmen except in HH and HB State specific totals.
ungueltige_stimmzettel_hh_hb	Ungültige Stimmzettel in HH and HB State specific totals.

ltw_governments

This section of the codebook only concerns variables specific to the ltw_governments dataset. For further variables please refer to the ltw_elections section.

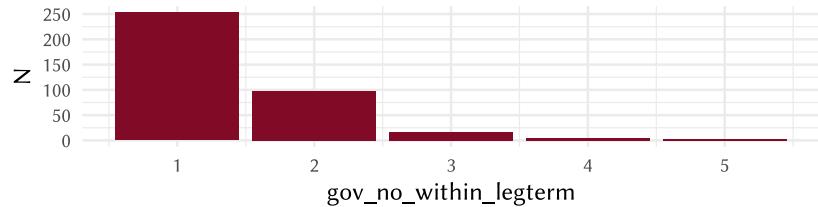
ltw_governments is a long-form dataset containing information on governments in the German states. Each row contains information on one state government. The data can be accessed in R using `bundeslaendeR::ltw_governments`.

ltw_governments Variable Information

gov_no_within_legterm

Number of cabinet within legislative term

Number of cabinet within legislative term (e.g. First/Second/Third/... cabinet in the 1990-1994 legislative term of state X).



gov_id

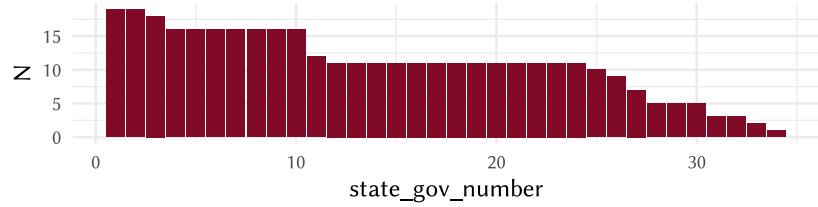
Government ID

Unique ID of government. Taken from Linhart et al. However, this ID is not counting up within state by time. In cases where Governments were missing from Linhart et al. before the timeframe covered by Linhart et al. (eg. in Berlin) these earlier governments have a higher ID than later cabinets contained in Linhart et al. data.

state_gov_number

Number of government in state.

Number of government in state.

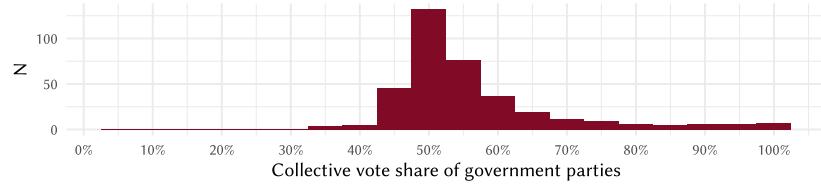


gov_start_date	Government Starting Date Starting date of the government. ISO 8601 or R-Date format.
gov_source	Government Source Source of the information on the government. Either Linhart et al. or the URL of the German Wikipedia Page containing information on the cabinet.
gov_remarks_stelzle	Governments remarks Stelzle My remarks on governments.
minister_president	Name of minister president Name of minister president.
mp_party	Minister President's Party Party of the minister president. partynname_short format used. Note: There is a single cabinet with an independent minister president: Heinrich Welsch's caretaker government in the Saarland (at the time not yet a member of the FRG) in 1955. Further note that there is a single case where the party denoted as mp_party is not part of the set of parties in gov_parties. Hamburg's mayor Kurt Sieveking (1953-1957) was a member of the CDU and is denoted as such in mp_party. However, the CDU contested the 1953 Hamburg election as part of the Hamburg-Block electoral alliance together with the FDP, the DP and the BHE. Thus, as there are no separate election results for the member-parties of the electoral alliance available, gov_parties is here just denoted as HamburgBlock/VBH.
gov_parties	Names of Government Parties String containing the names (partynname_short format) of all government parties separated by ' ~ '. The MP's party first, followed by other government parties in the order of their seatshare.

gov_vshare

Government Vote Share

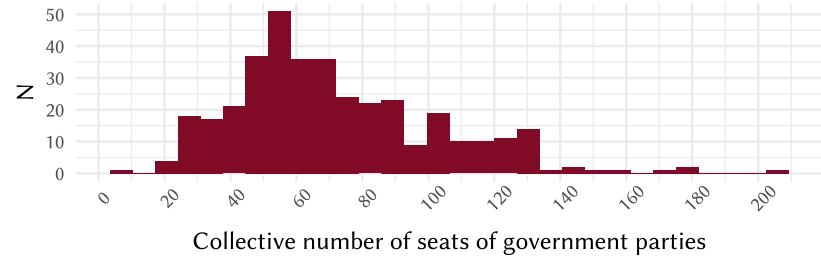
Collective vote share of government parties.



gov_seat_count

Government Seat Count

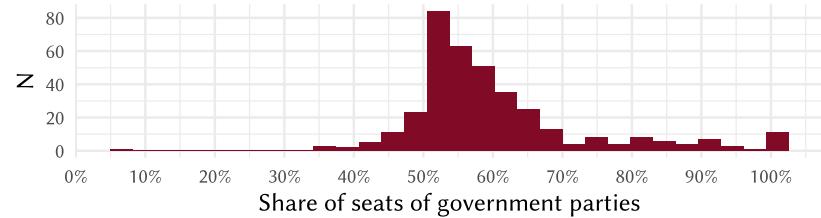
Collective number of seats of government parties.



gov_sshare

Government Seat Share

Share of seats of government parties.



gov_tog

Type of Government

Type of Government:

- Single Party Majority
- Oversized Coalition
- Minimal Winning Coalition
- Single Party Minority
- Multi Party Majority
- Caretaker.

Note that this classification is done automatically based on the number of seats of each governing party *at the beginning of the legislative term*. MPs defecting between parties and thus potentially changing the majority status of governments can thus not be incorporated!

ltw_combined

This section of the codebook only concerns variables specific to the ltw_combined dataset. For further variables please refer to the sections on ltw_elections and ltw_governments.

ltw_combined is a long-form dataset containing both election results as well as linked information on governments in the German states. Each row contains information on one party during the time in office of one cabinet. For a schematic version of ltw_combined's structure see table 2. The data can be accessed in R using `bundeslaendeR::ltw_combined`.

ltw_combined Variable Information

gov_party

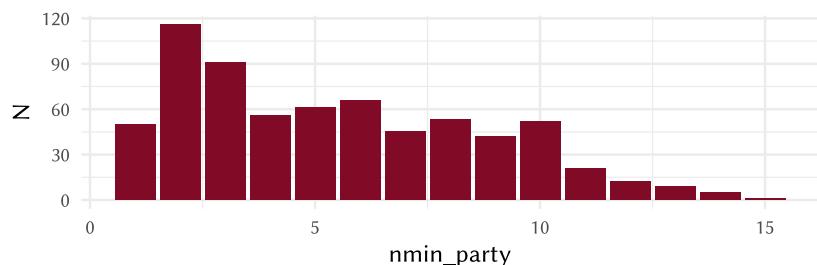
Government Party

Boolean whether the party was a cabinet party. Note: There is a single cabinet where no party is marked as part of the cabinet: Heinrich Welsch's caretaker government in the Saarland (at the time not yet a member of the FRG) in 1955.

nmin_party

Number of Ministers of Party

Number of ministers of party. Note that the number of party-independent ministers is not collected. Thus, the sum of the number of ministers of all government parties can not reliably be understood as the size of the cabinet.



is_mp_party

Is MP Party?

Is the governments minister president from this party? Note: There are two cases of cabinets where the minister president is not part of any party contesting the election: 1) Heinrich Welsch's caretaker government in the Saarland (at the time not yet a member of the FRG) in 1955. 2) Hamburg's mayor Kurt Sieveking (1953-1957) was a member of the CDU and is denoted as such in mp_party. However, the CDU contested the 1953 Hamburg election as part of the Hamburg-Block electoral alliance together with the FDP, the DP and the BHE. Thus, as there are no separate election results for the member-parties of the electoral alliance available and only the election result of the entire electoral alliance is reported, is_mp_party is set to FALSE for all parties during the cabinet's tenure, including for the Hamburg-Block.

Table 2: Structure of ltw_combined

State Variables			Election Variables			Party Variables			Party-Election Variables			Government Variables			Government-Party Variables		
Name, Abbreviation, NUTS1 Code	Election date, Size Electorate, Turnout, ...		Names, Abbreviations, several IDs several IDs	partyname_short	ches_id	...	party_vshare	party_seat_count	...	gov_start_date	minister_president	...	gov_party	nmin_party	...		
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party A	001	...	0.45	46	...	2015-10-07	Mustermann, Max	...	TRUE	7	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party B	002	...	0.30	12	...	2015-10-07	Mustermann, Max	...	TRUE	4	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party C	003	...	0.25	18	...	2015-10-07	Mustermann, Max	...	FALSE	NA	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party A	001	...	0.45	46	...	2017-02-28	Mustermann, Max	...	TRUE	11	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party B	002	...	0.30	12	...	2017-02-28	Mustermann, Max	...	FALSE	NA	...
BE	DE3	...	2015-09-18	0.765	...	Party C	003	...	0.25	18	...	2017-02-28	Mustermann, Max	...	FALSE	NA	...
NI	DE9	...	2012-12-16	0.560	...	Party A	001	...	0.17	12	...	2013-01-07	Musterfrau, Erika	...	FALSE	NA	...
NI	DE9	...	2012-12-16	0.560	...	Party B	002	...	0.33	27	...	2013-01-07	Musterfrau, Erika	...	FALSE	NA	...
NI	DE9	...	2012-12-16	0.560	...	Party D	004	...	0.50	46	...	2013-01-07	Musterfrau, Erika	...	TRUE	13	...

ltw_elections_meta

This section of the codebook only concerns variables specific to the ltw_elections_meta dataset. For further variables please refer to the sections on ltw_elections.

ltw_elections_meta is a long-format dataset containing meta information on election results. Each row contains information on one election. The data can be accessed in R using `bundeslaendeR::ltw_elections_meta`.

For a discussion of the various measures quantifying party system properties see Niedermayer (2013). For descriptions of the various measures of electoral disproportionality see Karpov (2008).

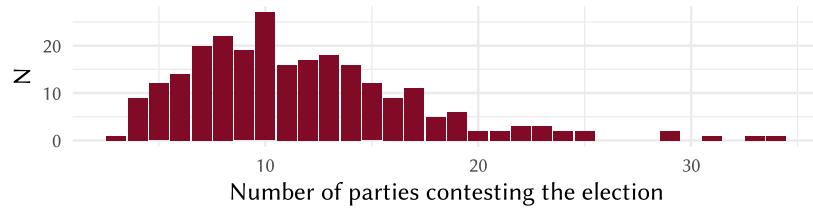
ltw_elections_meta Variable Information

Unless specified otherwise, in the following section v_i refers to party i 's vote share, s_i to party i 's seat share and n refers to the number of parties contesting a given election.

number_parties

Number of parties contesting the election

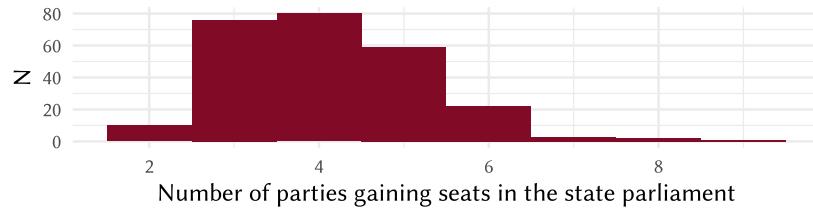
Number of parties n contesting the election.



number_parties_parliament

Number of parties gaining seats in the state parliament

Number of parties gaining seats in the state parliament.

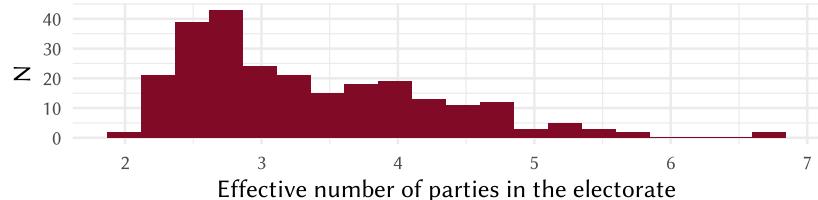


fragmentation_enep

Effective number of parties in the electorate

Effective number of parties in the electorate N_2 electorate (Laakso and Taagepera 1979):

$$N_2 \text{ electorate} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2}. \quad (1)$$

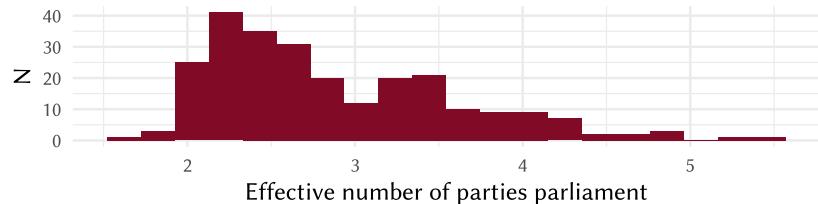


fragmentation_enpp

Effective number of parties in parliament

Effective number of parties in parliament N_2 parliament (Laakso and Taagepera 1979):

$$N_2 \text{ parliament} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n s_i^2}. \quad (2)$$

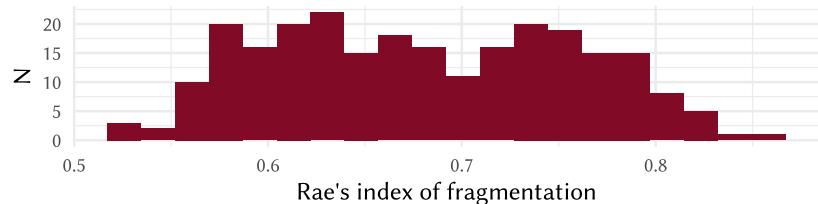


fragmentation_rae

Rae's index of fragmentation

Rae's index of fragmentation (Rae 1968):

$$F = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2. \quad (3)$$



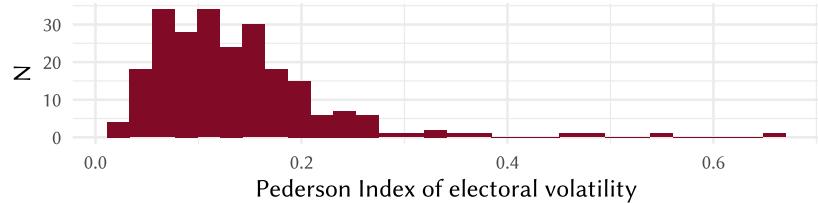
volatility_pedersen

Pederson Index of electoral volatility

Pederson Index of electoral volatility (Pedersen 1979):

$$V_t = \sum_{i=1}^{n_t \wedge n_{t-1}} |v_{i,t} - v_{i,t-1}|. \quad (4)$$

If a party did not contest an election t or $t - 1$ its voteshare for the respective election v_t or v_{t-1} is 0. Attention: These figures probably slightly overestimate the real extent of electoral volatility, as party splits/mergers are not considered: If parties A (7% at $t - 1$) and B (4% at $t - 1$) contest election $t - 1$ separately but merge before contesting election t and gaining 15% under the label of party A, they really only contribute $|(7\% + 4\%) - 15\%| = 4\%$ to the calculation of the Pedersen Index. Here, they would contribute $|7\% - 15\%| + |4\% - 0\%| = 12\%$ to the calculation as the merger is not properly accounted for.



All of the disproportionality measures presented here, their calculation and properties are presented and discussed in Karpov (2008). The distributions of these measures are presented in figure 1 below.

disprop_max_deviation

Maximum deviation index of electoral disproportionality

Maximum deviation index of electoral disproportionality:

$$MD = \max_{i=1,n} |s_i - v_i|. \quad (5)$$

disprop_rae

Rae's index of electoral disproportionality

Rae's index of electoral disproportionality (Rae 1971):

$$I_{\text{Rae}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |s_i - v_i|. \quad (6)$$

disprop_loosemore_hanby	<p>Loosemore-Hanby index of electoral disproportionality Loosemore-Hanby index of electoral disproportionality (Loosemore and Hanby 1971):</p> $I_{LH} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i - v_i . \quad (7)$
disprop_grofman	<p>Grofman index of electoral disproportionality Grofman index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $I_G = \frac{1}{N_2 \text{ electorate}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i - v_i . \quad (8)$
disprop_lijphart	<p>Lijphart index of electoral disproportionality Lijphart index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $I_L = \frac{ s_1 - v_1 + s_2 - v_2 }{2} \quad (9)$ <p>where only the two largest parties are considered.</p>
disprop_gallagher	<p>Gallagher index of electoral disproportionality Gallagher index of electoral disproportionality / least squares index (Lsq):</p> $Lsq = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (s_i - v_i)^2}. \quad (10)$
disprop_monroe	<p>Monroe index of electoral disproportionality Monroe index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $I_{Monroe} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (s_i - v_i)^2}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2}}. \quad (11)$

disprop_gatev	<p>Gatev index of electoral disproportionality Gatev index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $I_{\text{Gatev}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (s_i - v_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (s_i^2 + v_i^2)}} \quad (12)$
disprop_ryabtsev	<p>Ryabtsev index of electoral disproportionality Ryabtsev index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $I_{\text{Ryabtsev}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (s_i - v_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (s_i + v_i)^2}}. \quad (13)$
disprop_szalai	<p>Szalai index of electoral disproportionality Szalai index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $I_{\text{Szalai}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{s_i - v_i}{s_i + v_i}\right)^2}{n}}. \quad (14)$
disprop_szalai_weighted	<p>Weighted Szalai index of electoral disproportionality Weighted Szalai index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $\tilde{I}_{\text{Szalai}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(s_i - v_i)^2}{s_i + v_i}}. \quad (15)$
disprop_aleskerov_platonov	<p>Aleskerov-Platonov index of electoral disproportionality Aleskerov-Platonov index of electoral disproportionality:</p> $R = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{s_i}{v_i} \quad (16)$ <p>where only overrepresented parties are considered.</p>

disprop_dhondt

D'Hondt index of electoral disproportionality

D'Hondt index of electoral disproportionality:

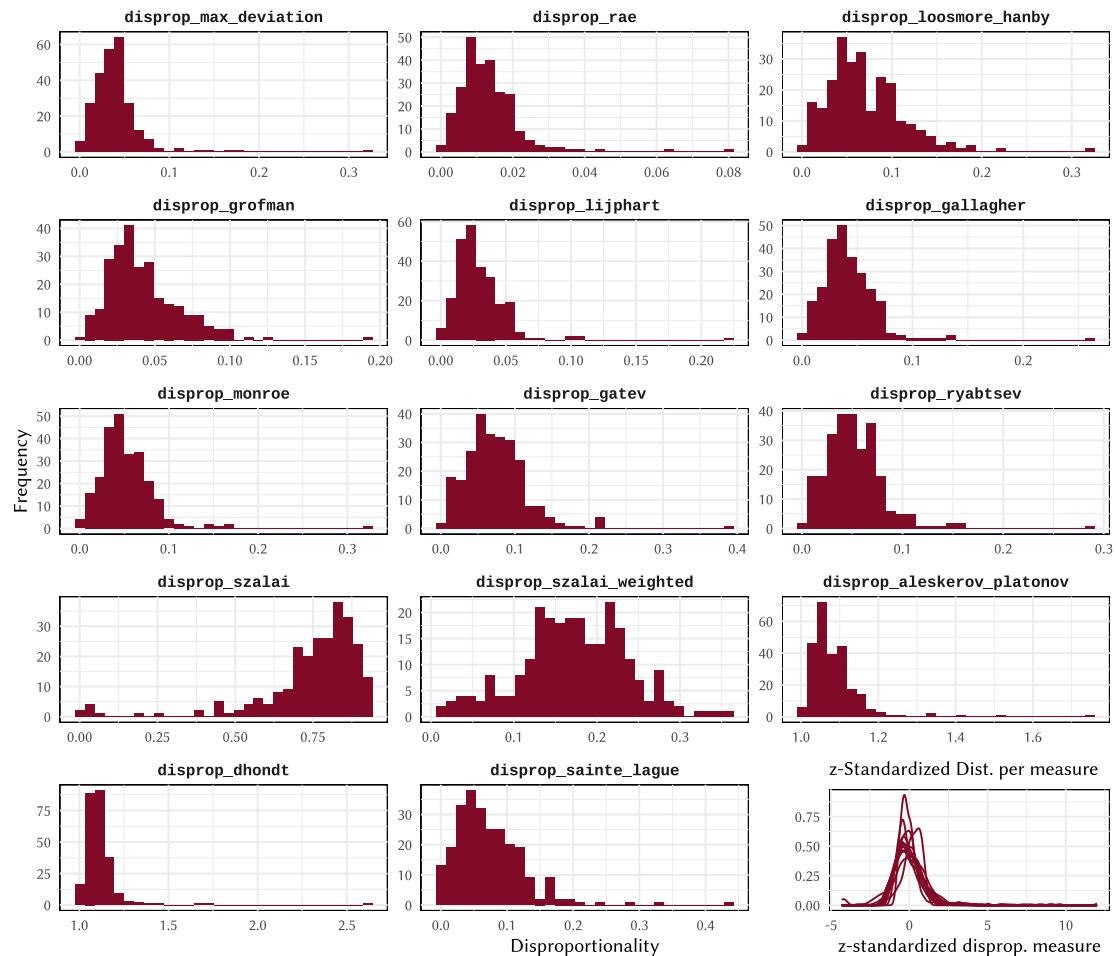
$$H = \max_{i=1,n} \frac{s_i}{v_i}. \quad (17)$$

disprop_sainte_lague

Sainte-Lague index of electoral disproportionality

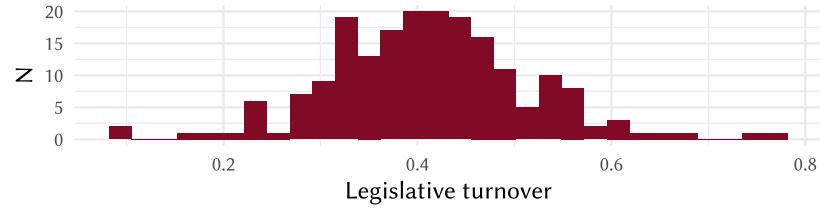
Sainte-Lague index of electoral disproportionality:

$$SL = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i \left(\frac{s_i}{v_i} - 1 \right)^2. \quad (18)$$

**Figure 1:** Distribution of Disproportionality Measures

legislative_turnover
_heinsohn

Legislative turnover (Heinsohn 2014)
Legislative turnover (Heinsohn 2014).



Linking to other datasets

Using the provided datasets `link_manifestos`, `link_coalitionagreements`, `link_positions_pwib` and `link_legcap_appeldorn_fortunato` `bundeslaendeR` data can be linked to other datasets.

`link_manifestos`

`link_manifestos` provides easy links of `bundeslaendeR` data with party manifestos made available from <http://polidoc.net> (Benoit, Bräuninger, and Debus 2009; Gross and Debus 2018; Pappi and Seher 2014, 2009; for the codebook see Bräuninger, Debus, Benoit, et al. 2018) as well as from abgeordnetenwatch.de. While file names from polidoc.net follow a naming pattern (`partyID.stateID.year.1.number of party manifesto for election`) and abgeordnetenwatch.de provides unique IDs through its API, the provided links make joining the data easier.

Note that polidoc.net provides a manifesto for the Neue Liberale in the HB 2015 election (41441.005.2015.1.1). Since the party withdrew it's candidacy before the election and is thus not included in the election results in `ltw_elections`, the manifesto id is not included in `link_manifestos`. Several party manifestos made available through abgeordnetenwatch.de's API are also not linked, as the respective parties only contested some nominal districts and not the state-wide list election and thus no election result is included in `ltw_elections`.

The variables `state`, `election_date`, and `partname_short` can be used in order to link manifestos to the `bundeslaendeR` data using `link_manifestos`. How many manifestos are available per election is plotted in figure 2.

<code>polidoc_filename</code> and <code>polidoc_filename_2</code>	Polidoc File Name of Party Manifesto File name of state party manifesto (or 2nd manifesto if available) in .txt format available in The Political Documents Archive (polidoc.net).
<code>agwatch_pdf_url</code>	URL of Manifesto on abgeordnetenwatch.de URL of the manifesto in .pdf format on abgeordnetenwatch.de.
<code>agwatch_election_manifesto</code>	Is an electoral manifesto not just a general manifesto TRUE if the linked manifesto is an electoral manifesto. FALSE if it appears to be a more general manifesto of the party (Grundsatzprogramm) independent of any specific state election.

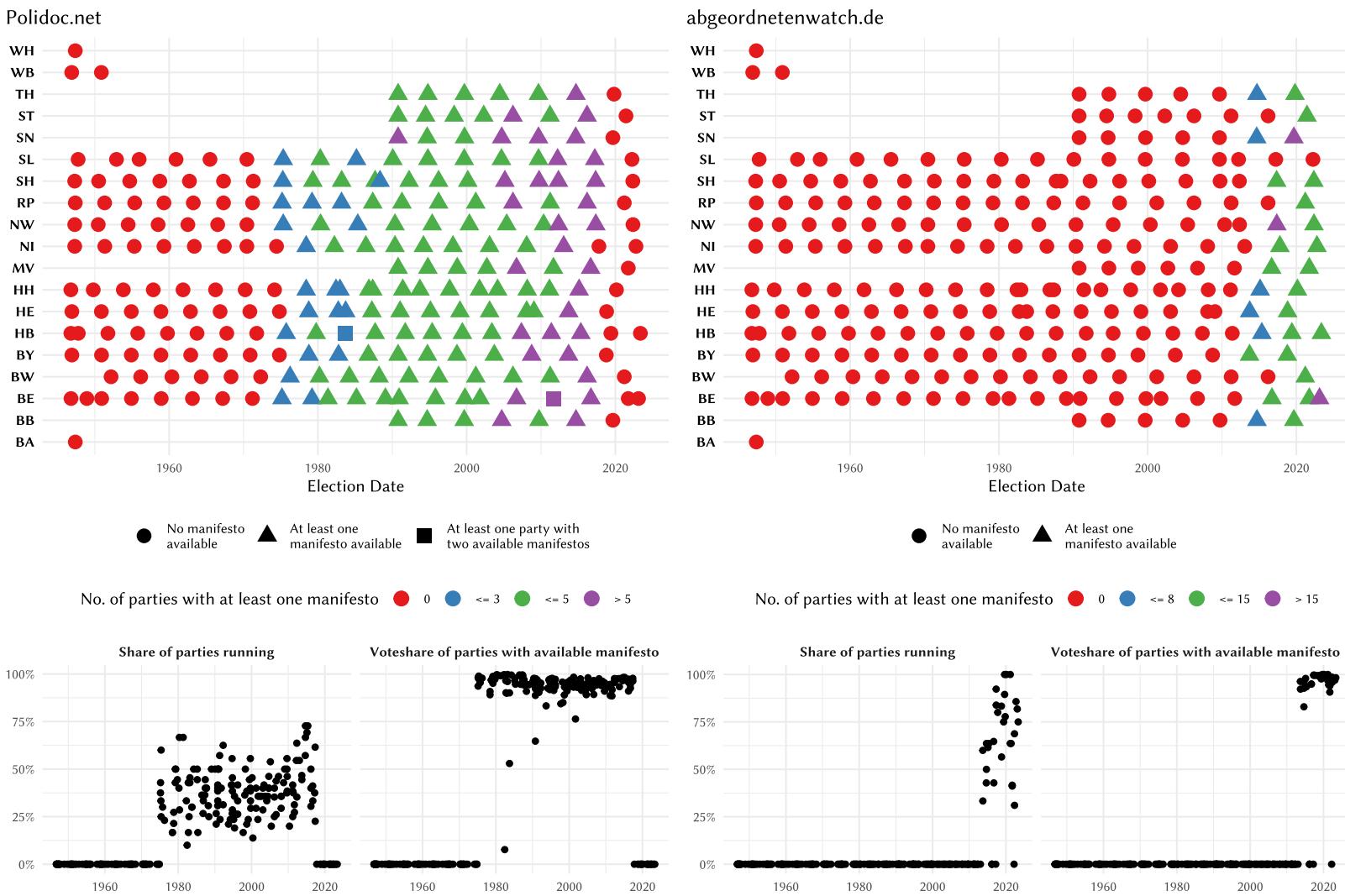


Figure 2: Availability of manifestos from polidoc.net and abgeordnetenwatch.de

link_coalitionagreements

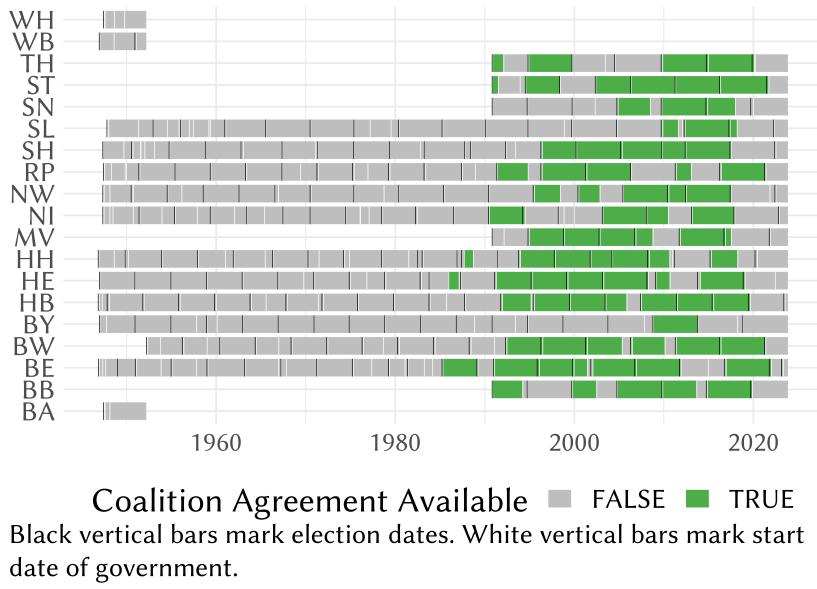
link_coalitionagreements provides easy links of bundeslaendeR data with coalition agreements made available from <http://polidoc.net>.

Note that polidoc.net provides a coalition agreement between the SPD and the Greens following the 2008 HE election (41001.006.2008.1.1). Since this potential coalition under leadership of SPD politician Andrea Ypsilanti never came to be due to several SPD MPs opposing the red-green minority cabinet being externally supported by Die Linke the coalition agreement can't be matched with a government in ltw_combined and is thus not included.

The variables state, election_date, and gov_id can be used in order to link coalition agreements to the bundeslaendeR data (ltw_governments or ltw_combined) using link_coalitionagreements.

polidoc_filename**Polidoc File Name of Coalition Agreement**

File name of coalition agreement available in The Political Documents Archive (polidoc.net).



link_positions_pwib

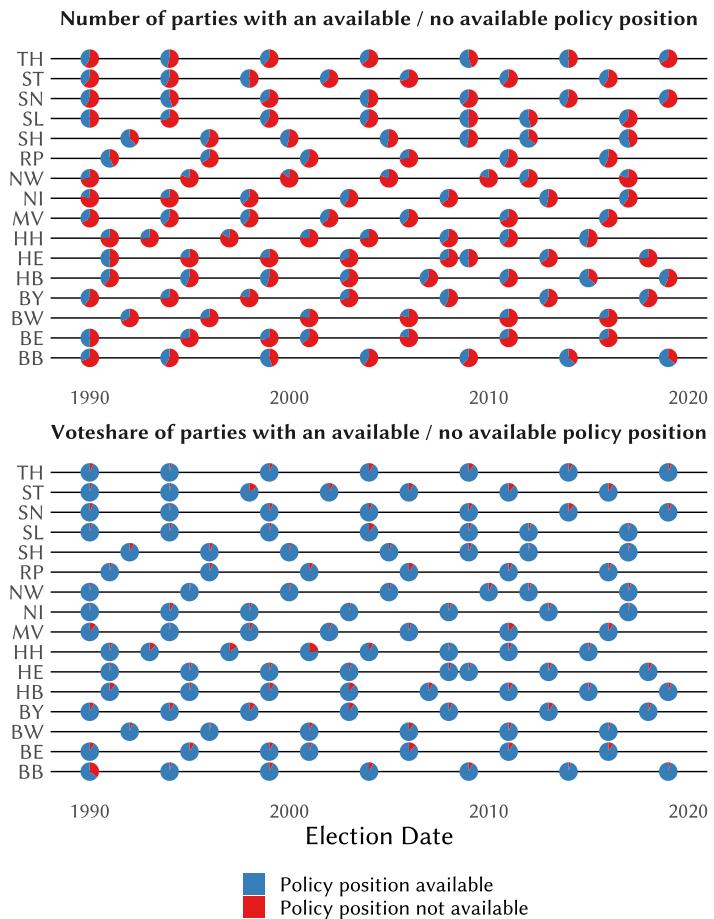
`link_positions_pwib` provides an easy link of `bundeslaendeR` data with state parties' policy positions according to measures of Bräuninger, Debus, Müller, et al. (2020) in *Parteienwettbewerb in den deutschen Bundesländern* (PWIB). The position data is available to download at <http://polidoc.net>. The measures of state parties' policy positions are based on automatic content analysis (WordScores. Reference texts: Manifestos of federal parties. Reference scores: Positions of federal parties based on expert surveys.). For more details see Bräuninger, Debus, Müller, et al. (2020, pp. 59ff.).

The variables `state`, `election_date`, and `partyname_short` can be used in order to link PWIB policy positions to the `bundeslaendeR` data using `link_coalitionagreements`. Note that the state abbreviations provided in the PWIB data file (`pwib2020_final.dta`) are not capitalized while the state abbreviation in `link_positions_pwib` are.

party_pwib

Party name in PWIB Data.

Name of the party in PWIB position data.



link_legcap_appeldorn_fortunato

link_legcap_appeldorn_fortunato provides a link between *bundeslaendeR* data and data on Legislative Capacity in Germany's Parliaments (10.7910/DVN/BA8G7H) provided by Fortunato and Appeldorn (2021) (for more details see Appeldorn and Fortunato 2022), consolidating minor differences in the spelling of state names and state abbreviations between the two datasets.

Note that Appeldorn and Fortunato provide yearly time-series data, while *bundeslaendeR* data are based on elections/governments.

Note that Appeldorn and Fortunato use the state-abbreviation "BE" twice, once for Berlin and once for the federal level.

The variables *state*, and *state_name_en* can be used in order to link Appeldorn and Fortunato's data on legislative capacity to the *bundeslaendeR* data using *link_legcap_appeldorn_fortunato*.

state_abb_	State abbreviation in Appeldorn and Fortunato's data
appeldorn_fortunato	State abbreviation in Appeldorn and Fortunato's data.

state_name_	State name in Appeldorn and Fortunato's data
appeldorn_fortunato	State name in Appeldorn and Fortunato's data.

link_integrated_state_election_surveys

Dataset providing a link between ltw_elections (or ltw_combined) and party names in vote choice in the integrated dataset of state election surveys available on GESIS (ZAZA4182) (Scheuch et al. 2015).

Note that not all parties running in an election were necessarily asked about in the election survey. Vice versa, not all parties that were asked about in the election survey did necessarily actually contested the election.

Note that for some state elections multiple surveys are available in the integrated survey dataset. See column za_nr1 for GESIS ID of original survey. The GESIS ID is the sole variable identifying a specific election in the integrated dataset.

Note that the integrated survey uses different variables for elections until 1970 (m7b) and after 1973 (m7).

The variables state, and election_date and partynameshort can be used in order to link survey data from the integrated dataset of state election surveys to bundeslaendeR data using link_integrated_state_election_surveys.

bland

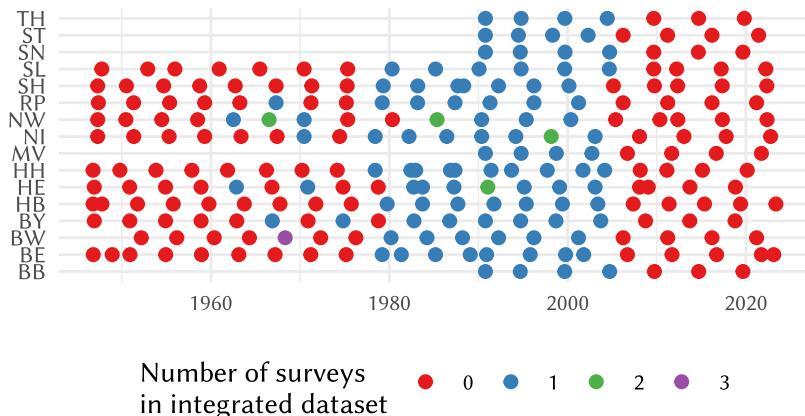
State name in integrated survey file

State name in integrated survey file.

za_nr1

GESIS ID original state election survey

GESIS ID of original state election survey. The GESIS ID is the sole variable identifying a specific election in the integrated dataset.



m7

Party name integrated survey file (after 1973)

Party names in vote choice variable in integrated survey file (after 1973).

m7b

Party name integrated survey file (before 1970)
Party names in vote choice variable in integrated survey file (before 1970).

de_states_grid_4x4()

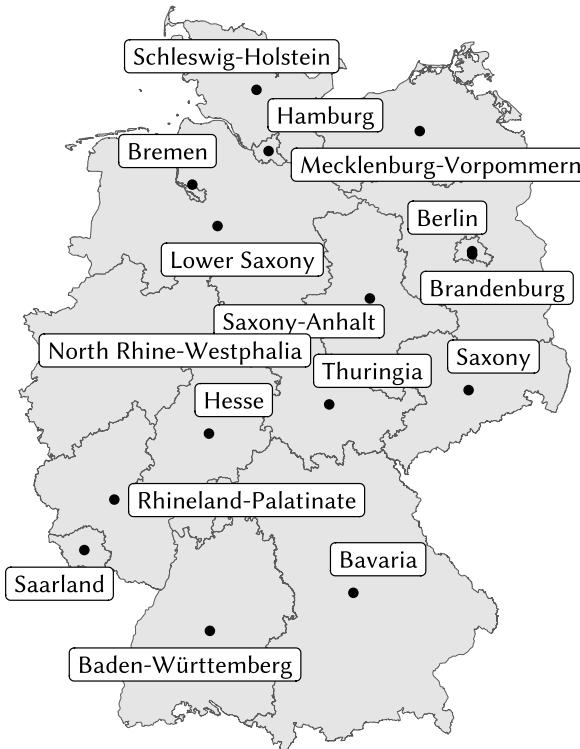
de_states_grid_4x4() exports a data frame containing state IDs, German and English state names and approximate state locations on a 4x4 grid. The exported data frame can be used to approximately plot state-facets in their approximate locations using the ggplot2 extension geofacet (Hafen and Schloerke 2020).

Please find a comparison of state locations and the grid layout as well as some example code below.

Example Code:

```
library(bundeslaendeR)
library(tidyverse)
library(geofacet)

turnout_plot <-
ltw_elections %>%
  select(state, election_date, turnout) %>%
  distinct() %>%
  filter(!(state %in% c("WB", "BA", "WH"))) %>%
  filter(!is.na(turnout)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = election_date, y = turnout)) +
  geom_line(col = "#810a26", linewidth = 1.2) +
  facet_geo(grid = de_states_geofacet_grid_4x4(linebreak = T),
            facets = ~state, label = "name") +
  scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0,1),
                     labels = scales::percent) +
  theme(strip.text = element_text(face = "bold")) +
  labs(x = NULL, y = "Turnout")
```



Map data from `geoBoundaries` (Runfola et al. 2020).

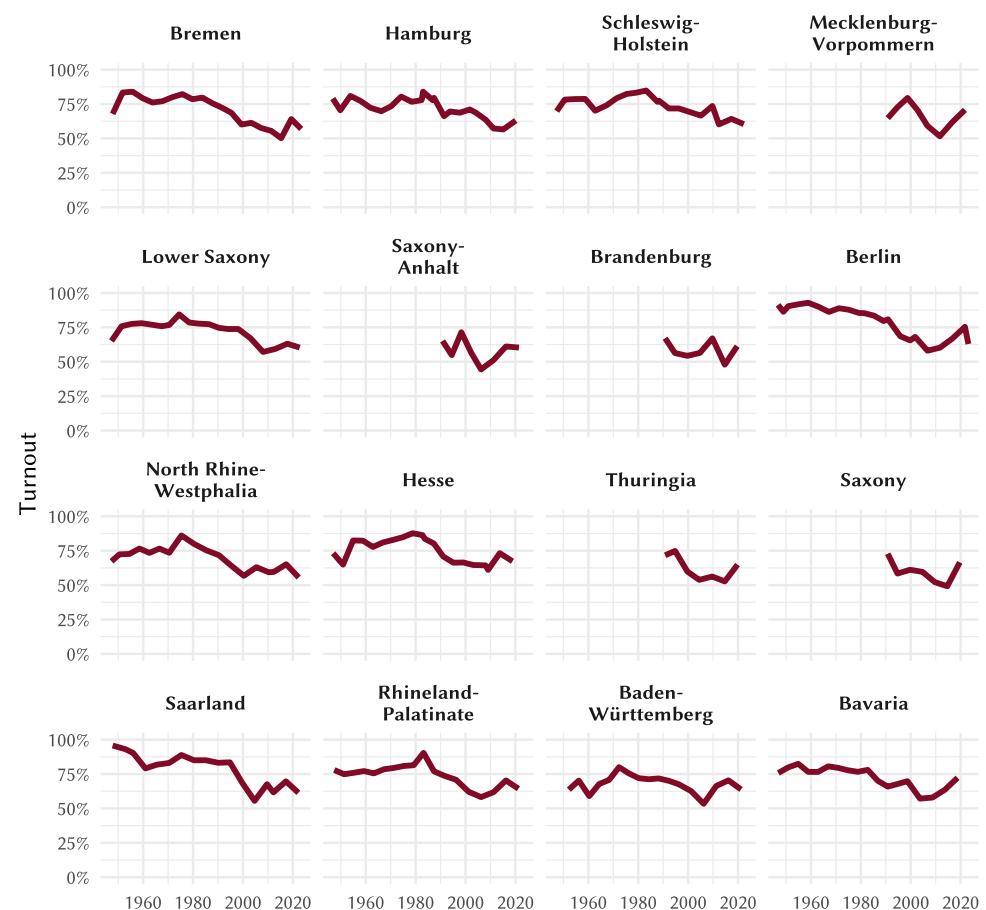


Figure 3: Comparison of state location and grid layout

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