

Dataverse

Maintenance Downtime: Tue., Oct. 10 6-7PM EDT. Harvard Dataverse Repository will be unavailable on Tuesday starting 6:00PM EDT (22:00 GMT), for an upgrade to Dataverse v.6.0. This is a serious version update that requires upgrading several important infrastructure components as well. For this reason we are announcing an unusually long downtime window, in case there are any complications. Please also note that the search engine is among the components being upgraded, which will require rebuilding the index from scratch. Because of this, search results will be incomplete for a few hours after the site is back up. (All the existing datasets will still be accessible via direct links). Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

POLITICAL ANALYSIS

Political Analysis Dataverse

(Cambridge University Press)

Harvard Dataverse > Political Analysis Dataverse >

Replication data for: Elections and the Regression-Discontinuity Design: Lessons from Close U.S. House Races, 1942-2008

Incomplete metadata

Version 2.0



Devin M. Caughey; Jasjeet S. Sekhon, 2011, "Replication data for: Elections and the Regression-Discontinuity Design: Lessons from Close U.S. House Races, 1942-2008", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/8EYYA2, Harvard Dataverse, V2, UNF:5:Al9kprv6ytPW1MxsspufoA== [fileUNF]

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Dataset Metrics **②**

2,509 Downloads ?

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Datawange David Lee's pioneering work, numerous scholars have applied the regression-discontinuity (RD) design to popular elections. Contrary to the assumptions of RD, however, we show that bare winners and bare losers in U.S. House elections (1942–2008) differ markedly on pretreatment covariates. Bare winners possess large ex ante financial, experience, and incumbency advantages over their opponents and are usually the candidates predicted to win by Congressional Quarterly's pre-election ratings. Covariate imbalance actually worsens in the closest House elections. National partisan tides help explain these patterns. Previous works have missed this imbalance because they rely excessively on model-based extrapolation. We present evidence suggesting that sorting in close House elections is due mainly to activities on or before Election Day rather than post-election recounts or other manipulation. The sorting is so strong that it is impossible to achieve covariate balance between matched treated and control observations, making covariate adjustment a dubious enterprise. Although RD is problematic for post-war House elections, this example does highlight the design's advantages over alternatives: RD's assumptions are clear and weaker than model-based alternatives, and their implications are empirically testable. (2011-07)

Collapse Description [-]

Keyword **9**

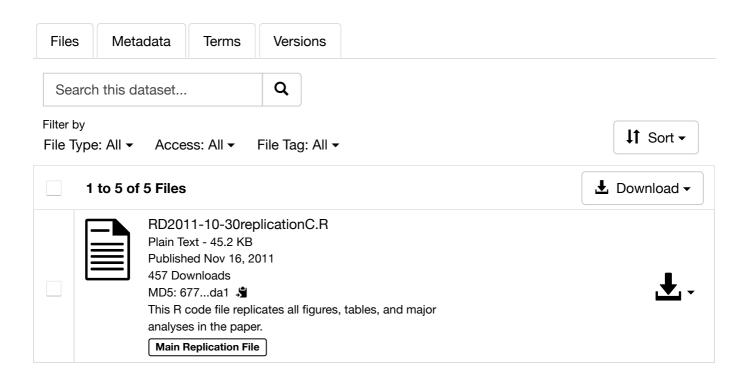
Elections

Related Publication

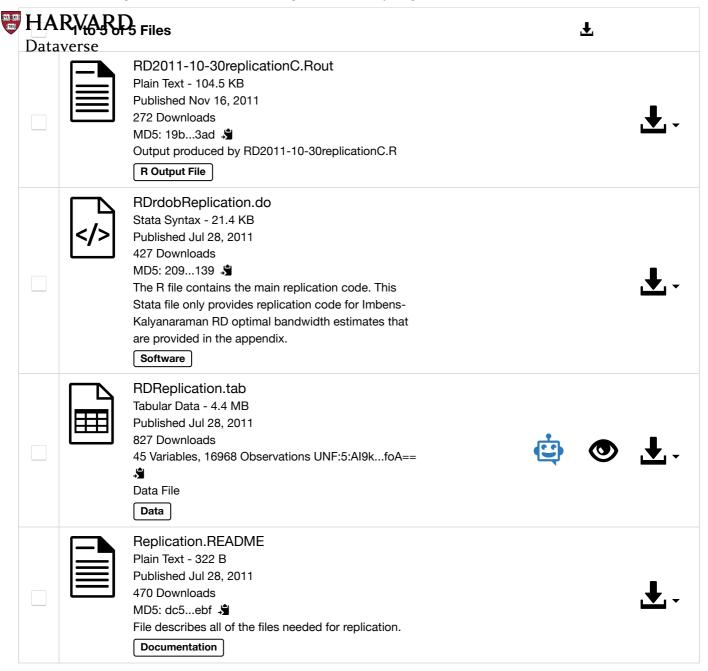
Devin M. Caughey and Jasjeet S. Sekhon. "Elections and the Regression-Discontinuity Design: Lessons from Close U.S. House Races, 1942-2008." Political Analysis, In Press.

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