

Replication Guide for Pandemic Backsliding: Violations of Democratic Standards During Covid-19*

Amanda B. Edgell *Department of Political Science, University of Alabama; V-Dem Institute*
Jean Lachapelle *V-Dem Institute, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg*
Anna Lührmann *V-Dem Institute, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg*
Seraphine F. Maerz *V-Dem Institute, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg*

Published in Social Science and Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2021.114244>

This file contains the following replication materials:

1. Dataset: “ssm_pandem.dta”
2. Code: “ssm_pandem_code.do”

All analyses are conducted using Stata 16. Below is a description of the variables contained in the replication dataset and their sources. Materials for replicating the dataset from the raw sources are available upon request.

***Corresponding author:** Amanda B. Edgell (abedgell@ua.edu), all authors contributed equally to this project. We would like to thank Sandra Grahn, Ana Flavia Good God, Martin Lundstedt, Natalia Natsika, Palina Kolvani, Shreeya Pillai, Abdalhadi Alijla, Tiago Fernandes, Staffan I. Lindberg, Hans Tung, Matthew Wilson and Nina Ilchenko as well as V-Dem country managers for their invaluable support and input. We are also grateful for helpful comments by Alexander Dukalskis and participants of the APSA and ECPR General Conferences in 2020. This research was supported by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Grant number UD2020/08217/FMR.

Country ID (cid)

Description: A unique identifier for each country in the dataset.

Source: Authors' coding using -encode- in Stata.

V-Dem country text id (country_text_id)

Description: A 3-letter identifier for each country in the dataset.

Source: Coppedge et al. (2021)

V-Dem country name (country_name)

Description: Country name as spelled in the V-Dem dataset.

Source: Coppedge et al. (2021)

Quarter (qtime)

Description: An ordinal variable denoting the quarter for 2020.

Source: Authors' Coding

Final day in quarter (date_td)

Description: The final day considered for the quarter when calculating deaths and cases.

Source: Authors' coding from Bosancianu et al. (2021)

Life expectancy (life_exp_2017)

Description: Estimated life expectancy for 2017.

Source: World Development Indicators, taken from Bosancianu et al. (2021)

Respiratory disease prevalence (resp_disease_prev)

Description: Estimated respiratory disease prevalence for 2017.

Source: Global Burden of Disease data, taken from Bosancianu et al. (2021)

Health data quality (detect_index)

Description: An index capturing the country's capacity to detect and report pandemics from 2019.

Source: Global Health Security index data, taken from Bosancianu et al. (2021)

Health expenditures (per capita) (health_exp_pc)

Description: An indicator capturing health expenditures per capita from 2019.

Source: Global Health Security index data, taken from Bosancianu et al. (2021)

65+ population (share_older)

Description: Percentage of the population that is 65+

Source: World Development Indicators, taken from Bosancianu et al. (2021)

Total deaths per million (logged) (deaths_cum_per_million_log)

Description: Total cumulative reported number of Covid-19 deaths per million through the final day in the quarter (date_td).

Source: Authors' calculations from Bosancianu et al. (2021), based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Total cases per million (logged) (cases_cum_per_million_log)

Description: Total cumulative reported number of Covid-19 cases per million through the final day in the quarter (date_td).

Source: Authors' calculations from Bosancianu et al. (2021), based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Deaths per million (deaths_cpm_qrt)

Description: Total number of Covid-19 deaths per million reported within the quarter.

Source: Authors' calculations from Bosancianu et al. (2021), based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Deaths per million (logged) (deaths_cpm_qrt_log)

Description: Total number of Covid-19 deaths per million reported within the quarter (logged).

Source: Bosancianu et al. (2021), calculations based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Cases per million (cases_cpm_qrt)

Description: Total number of Covid-19 cases per million reported within the quarter.

Source: Authors' calculations from Bosancianu et al. (2021), based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Cases per million (logged) (cases_cpm_qrt_log)

Description: Total number of Covid-19 cases per million reported within the quarter (logged).

Source: Authors' calculations from Bosancianu et al. (2021), based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Total deaths per million, prior quarter (deaths_cpm_pqrt)

Description: Total cumulative number of reported Covid-19 deaths per million prior to the quarter.

Source: Authors' calculations from Bosancianu et al. (2021), based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Total deaths per million, prior quarter (logged) (deaths_cpm_pqrt_log)

Description: Total cumulative number of reported Covid-19 deaths per million prior to the quarter (logged).

Source: Bosancianu et al. (2021), calculations based on European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Discriminatory measures (type1, summary_type1)

Description: An indicator capturing whether any of the emergency measures discriminated solely on the ground of race, color, sex, language, religion, or social origin, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

Derogations from non-derogable rights (type2, summary_type2)

Description: An indicator capturing whether any of the emergency measures derogate from non-derogable rights as defined in the ICCPR, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

Abusive enforcement (type3, summary_type3)

Description: An indicator capturing whether security agents have engaged in physical violence while enforcing any of the emergency measures, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure

reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

No time limit (type4, summary_type4)

Description: An indicator capturing whether the emergency measures have a declared time limit, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

Limitations on the legislature (type5, summary_type5)

Description: An indicator capturing the extent to which emergency measures limit the legislature's lawmaking functions, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

Official disinformation campaigns (type6, summary_type6)

Description: An indicator capturing the extent to which the government or its agents disseminates information that contradicts official guidance from the WHO, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

Media limitations (type7, summary_type7)

Description: An indicator capturing the extent to which the emergency measures and their implementation limit the media, from 0 (none) to 3 (major). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

PanDem Index (pandem, summary_pandem)

Description: An index capturing the extent to which the emergency measures violate democratic standards based on type1-type7, from 0 (none) to 1 (completely). The summary measure reflects the maximum value observed from March to December 2020.

Source: Edgell et al. (2021).

Liberal democracy index (v2x_libdem)

Description: An index capturing the level of liberal democracy in 2019, from 0 (none) to 1 (high).

Source: Coppedge et al. (2021).

Regimes of the world – the RoW measure (v2x_regime)

Description: An indicator capturing the country's regime type in 2019, 0 (closed autocracy), 1 (electoral autocracy), 2 (electoral democracy), 4 (liberal democracy).

Source: Coppedge et al. (2021).

Region (politico-geographic, 6 category) (e_regionpol_6C)

Description: An indicator capturing the country's geo-political region.

Source: Coppedge et al. (2021).

P-score (owid_pscore)

Description: The p-score for the quarter, which is calculated as the percentage change in deaths in

this quarter, as compared to the same quarter's 5-year average.

Source: Authors' calculations from Giattino et al. (2021).

Excess deaths per million (excess_deaths_per_million)

Description: Excess deaths per million, calculated as the difference in deaths reported for this quarter as compared to the 5-year average.

Source: Authors' calculations from Giattino et al. (2021).

Excess deaths per million (logged) (excess_deaths_per_million_log)

Description: Excess deaths per million logged, calculated as the difference in deaths reported for this quarter as compared to the 5-year average. Values have been re-scaled so that negative values equal 1 by adding the absolute value of the lowest observed negative excess death figure plus one to all observations.

Source: Authors' calculations from Giattino et al. (2021).

P-score (logged) (owid_pscore_log)

Description: The p-score for the quarter logged, which is calculated as the percentage change in deaths in this quarter, as compared to the same quarter's 5-year average. Values have been re-scaled so that negative values equal 1 by adding the absolute value of the lowest observed negative excess death figure plus one to all observations.

Source: Authors' calculations from Giattino et al. (2021).

References

- Bosancianu, M., Yi Dionne, K., Hilbig, H., Humphreys, M., KC, S., Lieber, N., & Scacco, A. (2021). Dashboard: Social and political correlates of COVID-19, version 12 june 2021. <https://wzb-ipi.github.io/corona/>
- Coppedge, M., Gerring, J., Knutsen, C. H., Lindberg, S. I., Teorell, J., Alizada, N., Altman, D., Bernhard, M., Cornell, A., Fish, M. S., Gastaldi, L., Gjerløw, H., Glynn, A., Hicken, A., Hindle, G., Ilchenko, N., Krusell, J., Luhrmann, A., Maerz, S. F., ... Ziblatt, D. (2021). V-Dem Dataset V11.1, Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Project. <https://www.v-dem.net/en/data/data/v-dem-dataset-v111/>
- Edgell, A. B., Lührmann, A., Maerz, S. F., Lachapelle, J., Grahn, S., Alijla, A., Boese, V. A., Fernandes, T., Gafuri, A., Hirndorf, D., Howell, C., Ilchenko, N., Yuko Kasuya, Medzihorsky, J., Khawaja, A. S., Shenga, C., Tiulegenov, M., Tung, H. H., Wilson, M. C., & Lindberg, S. I. (2021). Pandemic Backsliding: Democracy During Covid-19 (PanDem), Version 5.1. Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Institute. www.v-dem.net/en/our-work/research-projects/pandemic-backsliding/
- Giattino, C., Ritchie, H., Roser, M., Ortiz-Ospina, E., & Hasell, J. (2021). Data on excess mortality during the COVID-19 pandemic, version: 2021-06-21. Our World in Data. https://github.com/owid/covid-19-data/tree/master/public/data/excess_mortality