

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

# State Politics and the Judiciary Codebook

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Variable Number	Variable Name	Variable Description	Years Available
<b>I. State Variables</b>			
1	state	State Name	1960-2005
2	year	Year	1960-2005
3	code	State Identification Number	1960-2005
4	region	Geographic Region-4 Categories	1960-2005
5	regionsp	Geographic Region-9 Categories	1960-2005
6	stateage	Age of State	1960-2005
<b>A. Population and Vital Statistics</b>			
7	pop	State Population in 1,000's	1975-2005
8	area	Land Area in Square Miles	1960-2005
9	popdense	Population per Square Mile	1975-1999
10	blackpop	Black Population in 1000's	1976, 1980-85, 1990, 1999
11	estblackpop	Estimated Black Population in 1000's	1975-1994
12	urban	Urbanization	1965-2004
13	resmob	Percent of Population Residing in State for Less than 5 Years	1976, 1980, 1990
14	estmob	Estimated Yearly Residential Mobility	1975-1994
15	divorce	Divorce Rate per 1,000 Population	1975-1994
16	christad	Percent of Population that are Christian Adherents	1990-1994
17	abort	Abortion Rate per 1,000 Women Aged 15-44	1975-1992, 1996
<b>B. Crime Statistics</b>			
18	murder	Murders per 100,000 Population	1975-1997
19	rape	Rapes per 100,000 Population	1975-1997
20	robbery	Robbery per 100,000 Population	1975-1997
21	assault	Aggravated Assaults per 100,000 Population	1975-1997
22	burglary	Burglaries per 100,000 Population	1975-1997
23	larceny	Larcenies and Thefts per 100,000 Population	1975-1997
24	mvtheft	Motor Vehicle Theft per 100,000 Population	1975-1991, 1995-1997
25	prispop	Prison Population	1975-1994
26	police	Total Number of Police Officers in FTEs	1975-1992
27	deathst	Death Penalty State	1975-2000
28	execute	Number of Execution Performed	1996-1999
29	policeex	Police Expenditures in Millions	1992-1999
30	correct	Total Corrections Expenditures in Millions	1992-1999
<b>C. Economics and Business</b>			
31	unemp	Unemployment Rate	1975-1994, 1998
32	minuep	Unemployment Rate Among Non-Whites	1975-1992
33	gsp	Gross State Product in Millions	1977-1999

34	gpprcap	Gross State Product Per Capita	1977-1999
35	prcapinc	Per Capita Income in Current Dollars	1975-1994
36	constinc	Per Capita Income in Constant Dollars	1975-1994
37	bankrupt	Number of Bankruptcies Filed in 1,000's	1981-1993
38	taxcoll	Total Tax Revenue in Millions	1984-1999
39	produc	GSP per Worker	1980-1994
40	femlab	Participation Rate of Females in the Labor Force	1983-1994, 1999
41	defexpen	Defense Expenditures per Capita	1981-1994
42	lottasa	Lottery Ticket Sales	1992-1999
43	lottoaw	Lottery Prize Amounts Awarded	1992-1999
44	lottoad	Lottery Administrative Costs	1992-1999
45	lottopr	Lottery Proceeds	1992-1999
46	revenue	Total State Revenue in Millions	1992-1999
47	saletax	General Sales Tax in Millions	1992-1999
48	incometx	Individual Income Tax in Millions	1992-1999
49	expend	Total State Expenditures in Millions	1992-1999
50	welfare	Public Welfare Expenditures in Millions	1992-1999
<b>D. Education</b>			
51	aveeduc	Average Education	1983-1994
52	edspend	Expenditures on Secondary and Elementary Education	1975-1998
53	edcom	Educational Expenditures as Percent of Personal Income	1975-1994
54	prpup	Per Pupil Expenditures	1975-1993
55	estat	Estimated Test Scores	1981-1990
56	equity	Equity Index	1984-1996
57	hsdip	Percent of Population with High School Diploma	1975-2000
58	edcom2	Educational Spending as Percent of GSP	1980-1993
59	satperc	Percent of HS Graduates Taking SAT	1996, 1997, 1999
<b>II. Political Variables</b>			
<b>A. Elite Ideology</b>			
60	aveideol	Averag State Supreme Court Ideology	1970-2004
61	medideol	Median State Supreme Court Ideology	1970-2004
62	slideol	Ideological Deviation	1970-2004
63	maxcons	Ideology of the Most Conservative State Supreme Court Justice	1970-2004
64	maxlib	Ideology of the Most Liberal State Supreme Court Justice	1970-2004
65	citizen ideol	Citizen Ideology	1960-2004
66	eliteideol	Elite Ideology	1960-2004

67	mean_eliteideol	Mean Elite Ideology	1960-2004
68	extreme_elite	Extreme Elite Ideology	1960-2004
69	mean_citizenideol	Mean Citizen Ideology	1960-2004
70	extreme_citizen	Extreme Citizen Ideology	1960-2004
<b>B. Citizen Ideology</b>			
71	wtd_pty1	Republican Percent Weighted	1976-2003
72	wtd_pty2	Independent Percent Weighted	1976-2003
73	wtd_pty3	Democratic Percent Weighted	1976-2003
74	wtd_id1	Liberal Percent Weighted	1976-2003
75	wtd_id2	Moderate Percent Weighted	1976-2003
76	wtd_id3	Conservative Percent Weighted	1976-2003
77	wtd_kntpty	Base N for Party Percents Weighted	1976-2003
78	wtd_kntid	Base N of Ideology Percents Weighted	1976-2003
79	pty1	Republican Percent	1976-2003
80	pty2	Independent Percent	1976-2003
81	pty3	Democratic Percent	1976-2003
82	id1	Liberal Percent	1976-2003
83	id2	Moderate Percent	1976-2003
84	id3	Conservative Percent	1976-2003
85	kntpty	Base N for Party Percents	1976-2003
86	kntid	Base N for Ideology Percents	1976-2003
<b>C. Gubernatorial Power Variables</b>			
87	noexec	Elected Executive Branch Officials	1994,1998,2001,2002,2004,2005
88	govtenure	Governor's Tenure Potential	1960,1966,1968,1980,1988,1994,1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
89	govapp_power	Governor's Appointment Power	1960, 1968, 1980,1988,1994,1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
90	govbudget	Governor's Budgetary Power	1960, 1966, 1968, 1980, 1988, 1994, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
91	govveto	Governor's Veto Power	1960, 1968, 1980, 1988, 1994, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
92	govpc	Gubernatorial Power Control	1988, 1994, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
93	govorg_power	Governor's Organization Power	1980
94	govscore_inst	Governor's Institutional Powers Score	1960, 1966, 1968, 1980, 1988, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
95	govmand	Governor's Electoral Mandate	2004 and 2005
96	govamb	Governor's Position on State's Ambition Ladder	2004 and 2005
97	govpf	Personal Future of the Governor	2004 and 2005
98	govpubop	Governor's Job Performance Rating in Public Opinion Polls	2004 and 2005
99	govscore_pers	Governor's Personal Powers Index Score	2004 and 2005

100	govscore_inst_pers	Governor's Institutional and Personal Powers Index Score	2004 and 2005
<b>D. State Legislatures and Congressional Campaigns</b>			
101	womleg	Percent of State Legislators that are Women	1990-1996
102	polcomp	Political Competition Index	1960-2005, no variation over time
103	ranney	Ranney Index	1965-1988, 1995-2004
104	legprof_squire	Legislative Professionalism	1979, 1986, 1996, 2003 Extrapolated 1960-2005
105	campspnd	Congressional Campaign Expenditures	1984, 1986, 1988, 1990
106	turnout	Turnout in Congressional Elections	1978-1994
<b>E. Partisan Balance in State Government</b>			
107	updem	Number of Democrats in State Senate	1960-2005
108	uprep	Number of Republicans in State Senate	1960-2005
109	upind	Number of Non-Majority Party Legislators in State Senate	1960-2005
110	upvac	Number of Vacancies in State Senate	1960-2005
111	uptot	Number of Legislators in State Senate	1960-2005
112	lowdem	Number of Democrats in State Lower House	1960-2005
113	lowrep	Number of Republicans in State Lower House	1960-2005
114	lowind	Number of Non-Majority Party Legislators in State Lower House	1960-2005
115	lowvac	Number of Vacancies in State Lower House	1960-2005
116	lowtot	Number of Legislators in State Lower House	1960-2005
117	govparty	Party of the Governor	1960-2005
118	upcont	Party in Control of Upper House	1960-2005
119	lowcont	Party in Control of Lower House	1960-2005
120	aupcont	Alternative Party Control Measure	1960-2005
121	unifcont	Control of State Government	1985-1994
<b>F. State Constitution</b>			
122	const_age	Constitution Age	1960-2005
123	const_length	Constitutional Length	1960-2005, no variation over time
124	const_amend	Constitutional Amendments	1960-2005, no variation over time
125	amendrate	Amendment Rate	1960-2005, no variation over time
126	const_prov	Constitutional Provisions	1960-2005, no variation over time
127	const_frame	Constitutional Framework	1960-2005, no variation

			over time
<b>III. Judicial Variables</b>			
<b>A. Courts and Judges</b>			
128	size	Court Size	1965-2005
129	structure	Court Structure	1965-2005
130	no. judges	Number of Judges	1983-1994
131	lawy	Number of Lawyers	1983-1994
132	totfile	Total Filings	1983-1994
133	civfile	Civil Filings	1983-1994
134	opinions	Written Opinions per Year	Varies by state, most states 1985-2003
135	mand_file	Mandatory Cases Filed	1984-2005
136	mand_dis	Mandatory Cases Disposed	1984-2005
137	discret_file	Discretionary Cases Filed	1984-2005
138	discret_dis	Discretionary Cases Disposed	1984-2005
139	discret_file_grant	Discretionary Filed Granted	1984-2005
140	discret_file_dis	Discretionary Filed Disposed	1984-2005
141	dissent	Dissents per Year	1965-2005
142	disssrate	Dissent Rate	1965-2005
143	caldrep	Court Reputation	1975 measure Extrapolated 1960-2005
144	cbinnov	Court Innovation	1975 measure Extrapolated 1960-2005
145	ctprofps_dock	Court Professionalism	2004 measure Extrapolated 1960-2005
146	ctprofps_dock_rank	Court Professionalism Ranking	2004 measure Extrapolated 1960-2005
147	ctprofps_juris	Court Professionalism Based on Caseload Data	2004 measure Extrapolated 1960-2005
148	ctprofps_juris_rank	Court Professionalism/Caseload Data Ranking	2004 measure Extrapolated 1960-2005
<b>B. Judicial Selection and Service</b>			
149	select	Selection/Retention Method of Associate Justices	1960-2005
150	chselect	Method of Selecting the Chief Justice	1970-2004
151	term	Term Length	1960-2005
152	mandretire	Mandatory Retirement	2005
153	turnover	Rate of Turnover	1965-2005
154	chcomp	Chief Justice Compensation	1965-2005
155	asscomp	Associate Justice Compensation	1965-2005
156	CPI for years	Consumer Price Index Average	1960-2005
157	CPI for 2005	Consumer Price Index 2005	1960-2005
158	chcomp_2005	Chief Justice Compensation Adjusted by CPI	1960-2005
159	asscomp_2005	Associate Justice Compensation Adjusted by CPI	1960-2005
160	clerks_assoc	Number of Clerks Assigned to Associate Justices	1993, 1998, 2004, 2005 Extrapolated 1960-2005
161	clerks_cj	Number of Clerks Assigned to the Chief Justice	1993, 1998, 2004, 2005

<b>C. Jurisdiction and Procedures</b>			
162	cert	Method of Granting Certiorari	1993, 1998, 2004
163	juris_civ	Jurisdiction in Civil Appeals	1993, 1998, 2004
164	juris_crim	Jurisdiction in Criminal Appeals	1993, 1998, 2004
165	juris_adag	Jurisdiction in Administrative Agency Appeals	1993, 1998, 2004
166	juris_exwrit	Jurisdiction in Extraordinary Writs	1993, 1998, 2004
167	juris_gpleas	Jurisdiction in Guilty Pleas	1993, 1998, 2004
168	juris_conv	Jurisdiction in Post Conviction Relief	1993, 1998, 2004
169	juris_death	Jurisdiction in Death Penalty Cases	1993, 1998, 2004
170	juris_sentence	Jurisdiction in Cases Involving Sentencing Issues	1993, 1998, 2004
171	oralarg	Oral Argument Setting	1993, 1998, 2004, 2005
172	panelsz	Panel Size	1993, 1998, 2004, 2005
173	panelnum	Number of Panels	1993, 1998, 2004, 2005
174	opassign_hall	Opinion Assignment	1960-2005, Extrapolated from 1978,1988 measure
175	dissorder	Conference Discussion Order	1960-2005, Extrapolated from 1978,1988 measure
176	voteorder_hall	Vote Order	1960-2005, Extrapolated from 1978,1988 measure
177	oppassign	Vote Order	1960-2005, Extrapolated from 1978,1988 measure
178	confvote	Conference Voting	2005
179	opcirc	Opinion Circulation	2005
180	tenure	Average Tenure Length on Court	1970-2004
181	medtenure	Median Tenure Length	1970-2004
182	sdtenure	Standard Deviation Tenure	1970-2004
183	maxtenure	Maximum Tenure Length	1970-2004
184	mintenure	Minimum Tenure Length	1970-2004

## **I. State Variables**

1. state: State Name
2. year: Year of Analysis

### *Coding Notes:*

Years of analysis span 1960 to 2005; this variable takes the form of all four digits of the year.

3. code: State Identification Number
4. region: Geographic Region-4 Categories
  1. Northeast
  2. Midwest
  3. South
  4. West
5. regionsp: Geographic Region-9 categories
  1. New England
  2. Middle Atlantic
  3. East North Central
  4. West North Central
  5. South Atlantic
  6. East South Central
  7. West South Central
  8. Mountain
  9. Pacific
6. stateage: Age of State in Years

## **A. Population and Vital Statistics**

### *Coding notes:*

These data were found at *The State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource*:  
<http://www.ipssr.ku.edu/SPPQ/datasets.shtml>.

7. pop: State Population in 1,000's

### *Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

8. area: Land Area in Square Miles

### *Coding notes:*

Land area in square miles excluding water; *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

9. popdense: Population per Square Mile



*Coding notes:*

Calculated from variables 6 and 7.

10. blackpop: Black Population in 1,000's

*Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

11. estbkpct: Estimated Black Population in 1000's

*Coding notes:*

Variable 9 is used in a regression analysis to estimate black population in the 1000's for additional years.

12. urban: Urbanization of State Population

*Coding notes:*

Percentage of the population living in a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA). *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

13. resmob: Percent of Population Residing in State for Less than Five Years

*Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

14. estmob: Estimated Yearly Residential Mobility

*Coding notes:*

Variable 12 is used in a regression analysis to estimate residential mobility for all years.

15. divorce: Divorce Rate per 1,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Vital Statistics of the United States*

16. christad: Percent of Population that are Christian Adherents

*Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

17. abort: Abortion Rate per 1,000 Women Aged 15-44

*Coding notes:*

For an explanation of why these data are problematic after 2000/2001 see source, The Allan Guttmacher Institute.

**B. Crime Statistics**

*Coding notes:*

These data were found at *The State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource*:  
<http://www.ipsr.ku.edu/SPPQ/datasets.shtml>.

18. murder: Murders per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

19. rape: Rapes per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

20. robbery: Robberies per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

21. assault: Aggravated Assaults per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

22. burglary: Burglaries per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

23. larceny: Larcenies and Thefts per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

24. mvtheft: Motor Vehicle Thefts Per 100,000 Population

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports*, FBI.

25. prispop: Prison Population

*Coding notes:*

Total number of prisoners sentenced to 12 months or longer per 100,000 population;  
*Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

26. police: Total Number of Police Officers in FTEs

*Coding notes:*

Total number police officers employed full time.

27. deathst: Death Penalty State

0. State does not have the death penalty.
1. State has the death penalty.

28. execute: Number of Execution Performed

*Coding notes:*

*Uniform Crime Reports, FBI.*

29. policeex: Police Expenditures in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau.*

30. correct: Total Corrections Expenditures in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau.*

### **C. Economics and Business**

*Coding notes:*

These data were found at *The State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource*:  
<http://www.ipssr.ku.edu/SPPQ/datasets.shtml>.

31. unemp: State Unemployment Rate

*Coding notes:*

Percentage of the state labor force that is out of work; *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment*, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

32. minuep: State Unemployment Rate Among Non-Whites

*Coding notes:*

*Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment*, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

33. gsp: Gross State Product in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*Regional Economic Information System (REIS)*, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

34. gspprcap: Gross State Product Per Capita

*Coding notes:*

This variable is calculated by dividing variable 32 by the state population (variable 6).

35. prcapinc: Per Capita Income in Current Dollars

*Coding notes:*

*Regional Economic Information System (REIS)*, Bureau of Economic Analysis and the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*.

36. constinc: Per Capita Income in Constant (1996) Dollars

*Coding notes:*

*Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Statistical Abstract of the United States.*

37. bankrupt: Number of Bankruptcies Filed in 1,000's

*Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States*

38. taxcoll: Total Tax Revenues in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*State Government Tax Collection, Bureau of the Census.*

39. produc: GPS per Worker

*Coding notes:*

*Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Statistical Abstract of the United States.*

40. femlab: Participation Rate of Females in the Labor Force

*Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States*

41. defexpen: Defense Expenditures per Capita

*Coding notes:*

*Federal Expenditures by State, Office of Management and Budget, Bureau of the Census*

42. lottasa: Lottery Ticket Sales

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

43. lottoaw: Lottery Prize Amounts Awarded

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

44. lottoad: Lottery Administrative Costs

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

45. lottopr: Lottery Proceeds

*Coding notes:*

*Total state revenue from lottery after awarding prizes and paying administrative costs.*

46. revenue: Total State Revenue in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

47. saletax: General Sales Tax in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

48. incometx: Individual Income Tax in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

49. expend: Total State Expenditures in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

50. welfare: Public Welfare Expenditures in Millions

*Coding notes:*

*US Census Bureau*

#### **D. Education**

*Coding notes:*

These data were found at *The State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource*.

51. aveeduc: Average Education

*Coding notes:*

Average years of schooling in each state in each year. *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (various years), Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington D.C.

52. edspend: Expenditures on Secondary and Elementary Education

*Coding notes:*

Total expenditures on secondary and elementary education in the 1000s of current dollars; *Digest of Education Statistics*.

53. edcom: Educational Expenditures as Percent of Personal Income

*Coding notes:*

*Digest of Education Statistics* and *The Statistical Abstract of the United States*

54. prpup: Per Pupil Expenditures

*Coding notes:*

Per pupil expenditures in constant (1992) dollars; *State Comparisons of Education Statistics*, National Center for Education Statistics

55. estsat: Estimated Test Scores

*Coding notes:*

This variable attempts to overcome the selection bias problem with ACT/SAT scores by reporting SAT scores for SAT dominant states, and transforming ACT scores from ACT dominant states into an estimated SAT score; *Digest of Education Statistics* and the National Center of Education Statistics. Calculation of SAT for ACT dominant states is from Wainer, H. 1986. "Five Pitfalls Encountered When Trying to Compare States on Their SAT Scores." *Journal of Educational Measurement*. 23: 69-81. See also, Lehnen, R. *Policy Studies Journal*. 20: 22-40.

56. equity: Equity Index

*Coding notes:*

This variable is calculated as 0-100 index, with 100 indicating complete equity (all districts spend exactly the same per pupil). This is a cross sectional variable as measured in 1997--i.e. it does not vary over time; *Quality Counts: A Report Card on the Condition of Public Education in the 50 States*. 1997. Washington, D.C.: Education Week/Pew Charitable Trusts.

57. hsdip: Percent of Population with High School Diploma

*Coding notes:*

*State Comparisons of Education Statistics*, National Center for Education Statistics and *Regional Economic Information System (REIS)*, Bureau of Economic Analysis

58. edcom2: Educational Spending as Percent of GSP

*Coding notes:*

Total amount of primary and secondary education spending as a percent of Gross State Product; *State Comparisons of Education Statistics*, National Center for Education Statistics and *Regional Economic Information System (REIS)*, Bureau of Economic Analysis

59. satperc: Percent of HS Graduates Taking SAT

*Coding notes:*

Be aware that ACT dominant states will have very low values; *Digest of Education Statistics*.

## **II. Political Variables**

### **A. Elite Ideology**

60. aveideol: Average State Supreme Court Ideology

*Coding notes:*

Average ideology measured using the Party-Adjusted Judge Ideology ("PAJID") scores. To calculate the average ideology of a court per year, the PAJID scores for the justices on the court for that year were summed and divided by the number of justices. The variable measures the average ideology for each court-year. The variable is on a 0-100 scale with higher numbers representing increasing liberalism.

For information on how the PAJID scores are calculated, see: Brace, Paul and Laura Langer and Melinda Gann Hall. 2000. "Measuring the Preferences of State Supreme Court Judges." *Journal of Politics* 62: 387-413.

61. medideol: Median State Supreme Court Ideology

*Coding notes:*

Median ideology on the state supreme court measured using the PAJID scores.

62. stideol: State Supreme Court Ideological Deviation

*Coding notes:*

Standard deviation of the PAJID scores per year.

63. maxcons: Ideology of the Most Conservative State Supreme Court Justice

*Coding notes:*

Maximum PAJID score for each court per year.

64. maxlib: Ideology of the Most Liberal State Supreme Court Justice

*Coding notes:*

Minimum PAJID score for each court per year.

65. citizenideol: Citizen Ideology

*Coding notes:*

Berry, Ringquist, Fording, and Hansson's citizen ideology measure. The variable is measured on a 0-100 scale with higher numbers representing increasing liberalism. For information on how this variable was calculated, see: Berry, William D., Evan J. Ringquist, Richard C. Fording, and Russell L. Hanson. 1998. "Measuring Citizen and Government Ideology in the American States, 1960-93." *American Journal of Political Science* 42: 327-348.

66. eliteideol: Elite Ideology

*Coding notes:*

Berry, Ringquist, Fording, and Hansson's elite ideology measure. The variable is on a 0-100 scale with higher numbers representing increasing liberalism. For information on how this variable was calculated, see: Berry, William D., Evan J. Ringquist, Richard C. Fording, and Russell L. Hanson. 1998. "Measuring Citizen and Government Ideology in the American States, 1960-93." *American Journal of Political Science* 42: 327-348.

67. mean\_eliteideol: Mean Elite Ideology

*Coding notes:*

Mean elite ideology taken across states for each year.

68. extreme\_elite:

*Coding notes:*

Calculated as the difference between variables 66 and 67.

69. mean\_citizenideol

*Coding notes:*

Mean elite ideology taken across states for each year.

70. extreme\_citizen

*Coding notes:*

Calculated as the difference between variables 65 and 69.

**B. Citizen Ideology**

*Coding notes:*

These data were collected by Gerald C. Wright, John P. McIver and Robert S. Erikson; see [http://php.indiana.edu/~wright1/cbs7603\\_pct.zip](http://php.indiana.edu/~wright1/cbs7603_pct.zip). For additional information on how variables 66-81 are coded please see Wright, Gerald C., Robert S. Erikson, and John P. McIver. "Measuring State Partisanship and Ideology with Survey Data". *The Journal of Politics* 47: 466-489.

71. wtd\_pty1: Republican Percent Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Republicans in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

72. wtd\_pty2: Independent Percent Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Independents in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

73. wtd\_pty3: Democratic Percent Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Democrats in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

74. wtd\_id1: Liberal Percent Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Liberals in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

75. wtd\_id2: Moderate Percent Weighted



*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Moderates in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

76. wtd\_id3: Conservative Percent Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Conservatives in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

77. wtd\_kntpty: Base N for Party Percents Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Number of respondents who identified their partisanship in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups.

78. wtd\_kntid: Base N of Ideology Percents Weighted

*Coding notes:*

Number of respondents who identified their ideology in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is weighted by the CBS/NYT weights to provide accurate numerical representation of various demographic groups

79. pty1: Republican Percent

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Republicans in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is not weighted and the authors argue that it is a more accurate representation of the active electorate. For more information see Wright, Erikson, and McIver (1985).

80. pty2: Independent Percent

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Independents in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is not weighted and the authors argue that it is a more accurate representation of the active electorate. For more information see Wright, Erikson, and McIver (1985).

81. pty3: Democratic Percent

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Democrats in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is not weighted and the authors argue that it is a more accurate representation of the active electorate. For more information see Wright, Erikson, and McIver (1985).

82. id1: Liberal Percent

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Liberals in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is not weighted and the authors argue that it is a more accurate representation of the active electorate. For more information see Wright, Erikson, and McIver (1985).

83. id2: Moderate Percent

*Coding notes:*

Aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Moderates in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is not weighted and the authors argue that it is a more accurate representation of the active electorate. For more information see Wright, Erikson, and McIver (1985).

84. id3: Conservative Percent

*Coding notes:*

This variable is the aggregate percentage of respondents who identified themselves as Conservatives in national CBS News-New York Times polls. This variable is not weighted and the authors argue that it is a more accurate representation of the active electorate. For more information see Wright, Erikson, and McIver (1985).

85. kntpty: Base N for Party Percents

*Coding notes:*

Number of respondents that identified their political party in national CBS News-New York Times polls.

86. kntid: Base N of Ideology Percents

*Coding notes:*

Number of respondents that identified their ideology in national CBS News-New York Times Polls.

### **C. Gubernatorial Power Variables**

Variables 82 – 95 constitute Thad Beyle's Gubernatorial Power Dataset, available online at <http://www.unc.edu/~beyle/gubnewpwr.html>.

87. noelexec: Elected Executive Branch Officials

5. Only governor or governor/lieutenant governor team elected statewide.
4. Same team with some process officials (attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer; auditor) separately elected.
3. Same team and some process officials and a major policy official (education, public utilities) separately elected, or governor (no team) and four or more process and minor elected officials (agriculture, insurance, labor) separately elected.
2. Governor (no team) with six or fewer officials and a major policy official separately elected.

1. Governor (no team) with seven or more process and major policy officials separately elected.

88. govtenure: Governor's Tenure Potential

5. Four year term, no restraint on reelection
4. Four year term, one re-election permitted
3. Four year term, no consecutive re-election permitted
2. Two year term, no restraint on reelection
1. Two year term, one re-election permitted

89. govapp\_power: Governor's Appointment Power

*Coding notes:*

The coding scheme of this variable changes across the span of years. See details below.

1980: Appointment power in the 46 functions and offices listed on pages 195-197 in *The Book of the States, 1980-1981*.

5. Governor alone appoints.
4. Governor appoints and one body approves.
3. Governor appoints and two bodies approve.
2. Appointed by director with governor's approval, or by governor and council
1. Appointed by department director, by board, by legislature, by civil service
0. Elected by popular vote

1988: Appointment power in six major functions and offices in each state: corrections, education, health, highways, public utilities regulation, public welfare. The measure of the governor's appointive powers was assigned on a seven-point scale as follows:

7. Governor's appointment with no other approval needed
6. Governor's cabinet appointment with governor's approval
5. Governor's appointment with board, council or legislative approval
4. Governor's cabinet appointment without governor's approval
3. Board appointment with gubernatorial approval, or governor and legislative approval
2. Board appointment with no gubernatorial approval, civil service appointment or agency head appointment with board approval
1. Legislative appointment
0. Official elected by popular vote

The score for each state is the average score for the six offices. Those states with .5 to .9 scores were rounded up; those states with scores .1 to .4 were rounded down.

1994; 1998; 2001: Appointment power in six major functional areas: corrections, K-12 education, health, highways/transportation, public utilities regulation, and welfare. The six individual office scores are totaled and then averaged and rounded to the nearest .5 for the state score. That average score is then rounded to the nearest .5 between 0 and 5.

5. Governor appoints, no other approval needed
4. Governor appoints, a board, council, or legislature approves
3. Someone else appoints, governor approves or shares appointment.

2. Someone else appoints, governor and others approve
1. Someone else appoints, no approval or confirmation needed
0. Separately elected or selected by the legislature

90. govbudget: Governor's Budgetary Power

*Coding notes:*

The coding scheme of this variable changes across the span of years. See details below.

For 1960:

5. Governor has the responsibility for preparing the budget and shares it only with persons appointed by him.
4. Governor has the responsibility but shares it either with a civil service appointee or an appointee of someone other than himself.
3. Governor shares power with a committee selected by himself, but from a restricted list.
2. Governor shares authority with another official whom he does not appoint, the elected state auditor.
1. Governor prepares budget only as a member of a group, usually of other elected state officials or members of the legislature.

For 1968; 1980:

5. Governor has full responsibility.
4. Governor shares responsibility with a civil service appointee or with person appointed someone else.
3. Governor shares responsibility with legislature.
2. Governor shares responsibility with another popularly elected official.
1. Governor shares responsibility with several others with independent sources of strength.

For 1988:

5. Governor has full responsibility.
4. Governor shares responsibility with civil servants or other person appointed by someone else.
3. Governor shares responsibility with legislature.
2. Governor shares responsibility with other elected officials.
1. Governor shares responsibility with several others with independent sources of strength.

For 1994; 1998; 2001:

5. Governor has full responsibility; legislature may not increase executive budget.
4. Governor has full responsibility; legislature can increase by special majority vote or subject it to item veto.
3. Governor has full responsibility; legislature has unlimited power to change executive budget.
2. Governor shares responsibility; legislature has unlimited power to change executive budget.
1. Governor shares responsibility with other elected official(s), and legislature has unlimited power to change executive budget.

91. govveto: Governor's Veto Power

*Coding notes:*

The coding scheme for this variable changes across the span of years. See details below.

1960: [F.W. Prescott, "The Executive Veto in the American States," *Western Political Quarterly* 3 (1950): 98-112.]

4. Very strong
3. Strong
2. Medium
1. Weak
0. No veto

1968; 1980:

5. Governor has an item veto plus vote of at least 3/5 of legislature needed to override.
4. Governor has an item veto plus vote of majority of legislature needed to override.
3. Governor has item veto plus more than a majority of the members of the legislature needed to override.
2. Governor has no item veto, but a special legislative majority needed to override the veto.
1. Governor has no item veto and only a simple legislative majority is required to override.
0. Governor has no veto at all.

1988; 1994; 1998; 2001:

5. Has item veto and a special majority vote of the legislature is needed to override a veto [three-fifths of the legislators elected or two-thirds of the legislators present].
- 4.5. Has item veto, with a majority of legislators elected needed to override, except for appropriations bills when votes of two-thirds of those elected are needed to override.
4. Has item veto with a majority of legislators elected needed to override.
3. Has item veto with only a majority of legislators present needed to override.
2. No item veto, with a special legislative majority needed to override.
1. No item veto, with only a simple majority needed to override.
0. No veto of any kind

92. govpc: Gubernatorial Party Control

5. The governor's party has a substantial majority [75% or more] in both houses of the legislature.
4. The governor's party has a simple majority in both houses [less than 75%], or a substantial majority in one house and a simple majority in the other.
3. Split party control in the legislature or a non-partisan legislature
2. The governor's party has a simple majority in both houses, or a simple minority in one house and a substantial minority in the other.
1. The governor's party has a substantial minority in both houses.

93. govorg\_power: Governor's Organization Power

5. No lieutenant governor
4. Governor and lieutenant governor run as team in primary and the general election.
3. Governor and lieutenant governor run as team in general election.
2. Governor and lieutenant governor are elected at the same time.
1. Lieutenant governor has other major executive responsibilities but is elected at the same time as governor, or chosen by legislature.

94. govscore\_inst: Governor's Institutional Powers Score

*Coding notes:*

The coding scheme for this variable changes across the span of years. See details below.

1960 and 1968: The sum of the scores for variables 83, 84, 85, and 86 divided by 4 to stay within the 5-point format. Overall power score rounded to the nearest tenth of a point.

1980: The sum of the scores for variables 83, 84, 85, 86, and 87 divided by 5 to stay within the 5-point format. Overall power score rounded to the nearest tenth of a point.

1988: The sum of the scores for variables 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, and a measure of legislative budget changing authority divided by 6 to stay within 5-point format. Overall power score rounded to nearest tenth of a point.

1994; 1998; 2001: The sum of the scores for variables 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, and 88, divided by 6 to stay within the 5-point format. Overall power score rounded to nearest tenth of a point.

95. govelmand: Governor's Electoral Mandate

5. Landslide win of eleven or more points
4. Comfortable margin of six to ten points
3. Narrow majority of three to five points
2. Tight win of zero to two points or a plurality win of under 50 points
1. Succeeded to office (not elected)

96. govamb: Governor's Position on the State's Ambition Ladder

5. Steady progression from local to state legislature to statewide level offices
4. Former governor
3. Legislative leader or member of Congress
2. Sub-state position to governor
1. First elective office

97. govpf: Personal Future of the Governor

5. Early in term, can run again
4. Late in term, can run again
3. Early in term, is term limited
2. Succeeded to office, can run for election in own right
1. Late in final term

98. govpubop: Governor's Job Performance Rating in Public Opinion Polls

5. More than 60% positive job approval rating
4. 50 to 59% positive job approval rating
3. 40 to 49% positive job approval rating
2. 30 to 39% positive job approval rating
1. Less than 30% positive job approval rating

99. govscore\_pers: Governor's Personal Powers Index Score

*Coding notes:*

The coding scheme for this variable changes across the span of years. See details below.

1994: The sum of the scores for variables 90, 91, 92, and a measure of the governor's personal style divided by 4 to stay within the 5-point scale format. Overall GPP score rounded to nearest tenth of a point.

1998: The sum of the scores for variables 90, 91, 92, and 93 divided by 4 to stay within the 5-point scale format. Overall GPP score rounded to nearest tenth of a point

100. govscore\_inst\_pers: Governor's Institutional and Personal Powers Index Score

*Coding notes:*

This is a summary measure based on both the personal and institutional powers of the governor. See variables 89 and 94.

**D. State Legislatures and Congressional Campaigns**

101. womleg: Percent of State Legislators that are Women

*Coding notes:*

*Center for American Women and Politics.*

102. polcomp: Political Competition Index

*Coding notes:*

A cross sectional variable--i.e. no variation over time; for information on how this variable was calculated see Holbrook, Thomas M. and Emily Van Dunk. 1993. "Electoral Competition in the American States." *American Political Science Review* 87: 955-962.

103. ranney: Ranney Index

*Coding notes:*

A measure of inter-party competition at the state level, measured on a 0-1 scale, with 0 equal to total Republican control and 1 equal to total Democratic control. For information on how this variable was calculated, see: Ranney, Austin. 1965. "Parties in State Politics." In Herbert Jacobs and Kenneth N. Vines, eds. *Politics in the American States*. Boston, Little Brown.

104. legprof\_squire: Legislative Professionalism

*Coding notes:*

Squire's legislative professionalism index, which includes indicators of pay, session length, and staff resources. Higher scores represent greater professionalism. For additional information on how this variable was calculated, see: Squire, Peverill. 2007. "Measuring State Legislative Professionalism: The Squire Index Revisited." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, 7: 211-227.

105. campspnd: Congressional Campaign Expenditures

*Coding notes:*

Total congressional general election campaign expenditures per eligible voter; *Almanac of American Politics* and *The Book of States* (various years).

106. turnout: Turnout in Congressional Elections

*Coding notes:*

Percent of eligible voters casting ballots in races for the U.S. House of Representatives; *The Statistical Abstract of the United States*.

**E. Partisan Balance in State Government**

Variables 102 – 115 constitute Carl Klarner's Partisan Balance Dataset, available through *The State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource*. For variables 102-111 each number is Klarner's best estimate of the real score.

107. updem: Number of Democrats in State Senate

108. uprep: Number of Republicans in State Senate

109. upind: Number of Non-Majority Party Legislators in State Senate

110. upvac: Number of Vacancies in State Senate

111. uptot: Number of Legislators in State Senate

112. lowdem: Number of Democrats in State Lower House

113. lowrep: Number of Republicans in State Lower House

114. lowind: Number of Non-Majority Party Legislators in State Lower House

115. lowvac: Number of Vacancies in State Lower House

116. lowtot: Number of Legislators in State Lower House

117. govparty: Party of the Governor

- 0. Republican Governor
- .5 Non-Majority Party Governor
- 1. Democratic Governor

*Coding notes:*



Years in which a governor switched parties or was replaced by a governor of the other major party may receive fractional scores.

118. upcont: Party in Control of Upper House

- 0. Republican Control
- .5 Split Control
- 1. Democratic Control

*Coding notes:*

If one party had more than 50%, the case received its score on the basis of percent of legislators who were of the two different parties.

119. lowcont: Party in Control of Lower House

*Coding notes:*

Coding is the same as in variable 113.

120. aupcont: Alternative Party Control Measure

- 0. Republican Control
- 1. Democratic Control

*Coding notes:*

Alternative measure of party control, for the upper house, using Mark A. Smith's coding idea. Instead of giving a fraction for a legislature that switches control, party control is coded as the party in control when the budget was passed.

121. unifcont: Control of State Government

- 1. Unified partisan control of executive and legislative branches
- 0. Divided government

*Coding notes:*

*Statistical Abstract of the United States, Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, and Congressional Quarterly Politics in America.*

## **F. State Constitutions**

122. const\_age: Constitution Age measured in Years

123. const\_length: Constitution Length

*Coding notes:*

Original length in words. Lutz, Donald S. 1994. "Toward a Theory of Constitutional Amendment." *The American Political Science Review* 88: 355-370.

124. const\_amend: Constitutional Amendments

*Coding notes:*

Number of times constitution was amended before 1991. Lutz, Donald S. 1994. "Toward a Theory of Constitutional Amendment." *The American Political Science Review* 88: 355-370.

125. amendrate: Amendment Rate

*Coding notes:*

Refer to variables 124 and 125.

126. const\_prov: Constitutional Provisions

*Coding notes:*

Number of constitutional provisions. For details see: Hammons, Christopher W. 1999. "Was James Madison Wrong? Rethinking the American Preference for Short Framework-Oriented Constitutions." *The American Political Science Review* 93: 837-849.

127. const\_frame: Constitutional Framework Provisions

*Coding notes:*

Number of framework provisions in the state constitution. For details see: Hammons, Christopher W. 1999. "Was James Madison Wrong? Rethinking the American Preference for Short Framework-Oriented Constitutions." *The American Political Science Review* 93: 837-849.

### **III. Judicial Variables**

#### **A. Courts and Judges**

128. size: Court Size

*Coding notes:*

The number of associate justices plus the chief justice; the range of the variable is 3-9.

129. structure: Court Structure

1. Court of Last Resort Only
2. Court of Last Resort and One Intermediate Appellate Court
3. Court of Last Resort and Two Intermediate Appellate Court
4. Two Courts of Last Resort Only
5. Two Courts of Last Resort and One Intermediate Appellate Court

130. no. judges: Number of Judges

*Coding notes:*

Number of judges in trial courts of general jurisdiction authorized by the state. *State Caseload Statistics* (various years), Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, Washington D.C.

131. lawy: Number of Lawyers

*Coding notes:*

Number of lawyer in each state in each year. *The Lawyer Statistical Report* (various years), American Bar Foundation, Chicago, Ill.

132. totfile: Total Filings

*Coding notes:*

Total number of filing in the state supreme court in each given year, as compiled by F. Andrew Hanssen. See: Hanssen, Andrew F. 1999. "The Effect of Judicial Institutions on Uncertainty and the Rate of Litigation: The Election versus Appointment of State Judges." *The Journal of Legal Studies* 28: 205-232. See *State Caseload Statistics* (various years), Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, Washington D.C.

133. civfile: Civil Filings

*Coding notes:*

Total number of civil filing in the state supreme court in each year, as compiled by F. Andrew Hanssen. See variable 122.

134. opinion: Written Opinions per Year

*Coding notes:*

Number of cases for a given court-year in which written opinions were issued. The variable measures the number of cases in which opinions were issued, not the number of opinions issued per case and was gathered from Westlaw.

135-140 Various Caseload Variables

*Coding notes:*

These variables were collected by *The National Center for State Courts*.

135. mand\_file: Mandatory Cases Filed

136. mand\_dis: Mandatory Cases Disposed

137. discret\_file: Discretionary Cases Filed

138. discret\_dis: Discretionary Cases Disposed

139. discret\_file\_grant: Discretionary Filed Granted

140. discret\_file\_dis: Discretionary Filed Disposed

141. dissent: Dissents Per Year

*Coding notes:*

Number of written dissents in a given year. Cases in which two justices dissented were counted as two. Thus, the variable measures dissents per year, NOT cases with dissents per year.

142. dissrate: Dissent Rate

*Coding notes:*

Percentage of cases per year that contained a dissenting opinion

143. caldrep: Court Reputation

*Coding notes:*

Calderia's index of court reputation, measured as the frequency with which decisions of a given state court are cited by other courts. For additional information on how this variable was calculated, see: Calderia, Gregory A. 1983. "On the Reputation of State Supreme Courts." *Political Behavior*, 5: 83-108.

144. cbinnov: Court Innovation

*Coding notes:*

Canon and Baum's court innovation measure, which is based on the timing of the state courts' adoption of 23 tort law doctrines. The values range from .019 to .509 with higher scores representing greater innovativeness. For additional information on how this variable was calculated, see: Canon, Bradley C. and Lawrence Baum. 1981. "Patterns of Adoption of Tort Law Innovations: An Application of Diffusion Theory to Judicial Doctrines." *The American Political Science Review* 75:975-987.

145. ctprofps\_dock: Court Professionalism

*Coding notes:*

Squire's court professionalism index, which includes indicators of pay, staff resources, and docket control. Squire has conceptualized docket control two different ways. This measure uses the Court Statistics Project's listing of mandatory and discretionary cases. For additional information on how this variable was calculated see: Squire, Peverill. 2007. "Professionalism and State Courts of Last Resort." Paper presented at the *Seventh Annual Conference on State Politics and State Policy*.

146. ctprofps\_dock\_rank: Court Professionalism Ranking

*Coding notes:*

Each state's ranking according to Squire's court professionalism index conceptualizing docket control using the Court Statistics Project's listing of mandatory and discretionary cases. See variable 129.

147. ctprofps\_juris: Court Professionalism Based on Caseload Data

*Coding notes:*

Squire's court professionalism index using the Court Statistics Projects caseload data as the measure of docket control. See Variable 129.

148. ctprofs\_juris\_rank: Court Professionalism/Caseload Data Rank

*Coding notes:*

Each state's ranking according to Squire's professionalism index conceptualized using caseload data as the measure of docket control. See Variables 129 and 131.

## **B. Judicial Selection and Service**

149. select: Selection/Retention Method of Associate Justices

1. Appointed by Governor, Retained by Legislature
2. Appointed and Retained by Legislature
3. Elected via Partisan Election, Retained via Retention Election

4. Legislature Appoints from Gubernatorial Nomination and Governor Retains
5. Elected and Retained via Partisan Election
6. Elected and Retained via Non-Partisan Election
7. Appointed and Retained by Governor
8. Appointed by Governor and Retained via Retention Elections (Merit Selection)
9. Elected and Retained via Bipartisan Election

150. chselect: Method of Selecting the Chief Justice

1. Popular Election
2. Nominated by Judicial Council and approved by governor
3. Elected by Court
4. Governor Chooses then Public Elects
5. Appointed by Court
6. Nominated by Governor and Approved by Legislature
7. Appointed by Governor and Approved by Senate
8. Shortest Time to Serve
9. Appointed by Court According to Rotation
10. Seniority
11. Seniority by Rotation
12. Approved by Governor with Consent of Council
13. Joint Appointed by Governor and Judicial Council
14. Governor with Consent of Senate
15. Chosen by Superior and District Judges
16. Elected by Legislature
17. Elected by General Assembly
18. Selected by Governor
19. Oldest Commission
20. Judicial Nominating Commission

151. term: Term Length

*Coding notes:*

The length of a justice's term is coded in years.

152. mandretire: Mandatory Retirement

0. No mandatory retirement for justices
1. Mandatory retirement for justices

153. turnover: Rate of Justice Turnover (lagged)

*Coding notes:*

Turnover rate is measured as the number of new justices replacing justices who died, were impeached, resigned, retired, or were not reelected. This variable is expressed as a percentage. For example, in 1988 on a seven justice court, if two justices left the bench, and two were elected to replace them, the rate of turnover will be 2/7 or .286 in 1989. The variable is lagged one year.

154. chcomp: Chief Justice Compensation

*Coding notes:*

This variable codes the yearly annual salary of chief justices on the courts of last resort. Salary is recorded in nominal dollars. Data gathered from Book of States, various years.

155. assocomp: Associate Justice Compensation

*Coding notes:*

This variable codes the yearly annual salary of associate justices on the courts of last resort. Salary is recorded in nominal dollars. Data gathered from Book of States, various years.

156. CPI: Consumer Price Index Average

*Coding notes:*

Consumer Price Index averaged across all states for each year.

157. CPI\_2005: Consumer Price Index 2005

*Coding notes:*

Average Consumer price index across states in 2005.

158. chcomp\_2005: Chief Justice Compensation Adjusted by CPI

*Coding notes:*

Measure of chief justice compensation reflecting changes in CPI.

159. asscomp\_2005: Associate Justice Compensation Adjusted by CPI

*Coding notes:*

Measure of associate justice compensation reflecting changes in CPI.

160. clerk\_assoc: Number of Clerks Assigned to Associate Justices

161. clerks\_cj: Number of Clerks Assigned to the Chief Justice

### **C. Jurisdiction and Procedures**

162. cert: Method of Granting Certiorari

1. Single justice needed to grant cert
2. Less than a majority (but more than a single justice) needed to grant cert
3. Simple majority needed to grant cert
4. The number needed varies
5. No discretionary jurisdiction

163. juris\_civ: Jurisdiction in Civil Appeals

0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
- .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
99. No Jurisdiction

164. juris\_crim: Jurisdiction in Criminal Appeals
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
165. juris\_adag: Jurisdiction in Administrative Agency Appeals
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
166. juris\_exwrit: Jurisdiction in Extraordinary Writs
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
167. juris\_gpleas: Jurisdiction in Guilty Pleas
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
168. juris\_conv: Jurisdiction in Post Conviction Relief Cases
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
169. juris\_death: Jurisdiction in Death Penalty Cases
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
170. juris\_sentence: Jurisdiction in Cases Involving Sentencing Issues
- 0. Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - .5. Both Mandatory and Discretionary Jurisdiction
  - 1. Mandatory Jurisdiction
  - 99. No Jurisdiction
171. oralarg: Oral Argument Setting
- 1. All cases heard en banc
  - 2. Cases typically heard by smaller panels

172. panelsz: Panel Size

*Coding notes:*

Number of justices that sit on a panel if the court hears cases in panels. The value of the variable is missing for most state supreme courts.

173. panelnum: Number of Panels

*Coding notes:*

Total number of panels per state court if the court hears cases in panels.

174. opassign\_hall: Method of Opinion Assignment

*Coding notes:*

This variable comes from two different sources: McConkie, Stanford. 1976. "Decision-making in State Supreme Courts." *Judicature* 59: 337; Hall, Melinda Gann. 1989. "Opinion Assignment Procedures and Conference Practices in State Supreme Court." *Judicature* 73:209.

1. Rotation, by clerk's office.
2. Chief Justice if in the majority, else senior majority justice
3. Chief Justice
4. Random Draw, by clerk's office
5. Rotation, by Chief Justice
6. Consensus of the Majority
7. Random draw, by central staff
8. Random draw, after oral argument
9. Rotation, by commissioner's office
10. Rotation and Random draw

175. dissorter: Conference Discussion Order

*Coding notes:*

This variable comes from two different sources: McConkie, Stanford. 1976. "Decision-making in State Supreme Courts." *Judicature* 59: 337; Hall, Melinda Gann. 1989. "Opinion Assignment Procedures and Conference Practices in State Supreme Court." *Judicature* 73:209.

1. Rotation
2. Seniority
3. Reporting justice, then reverse seniority
4. Reporting justice, then open
5. No formal order
6. Reporting justice, then seniority
7. Reverse seniority
8. Seniority, Chief Justice last
9. Most junior justice, then open.

176. voteorder\_hall: Conference Vote Order

*Coding notes:*



This variable comes from two different sources: McConkie, Stanford. 1976. "Decision-making in State Supreme Courts." *Judicature* 59: 337; Hall, Melinda Gann. 1989. "Opinion Assignment Procedures and Conference Practices in State Supreme Court." *Judicature* 73:209.

1. Rotation
2. Seniority
3. Reverse Seniority
4. Reporting justice, then open
5. No formal order
6. Reporting justice, then seniority, then Chief Justice
7. Reporting justice, then reverse seniority
8. Seniority, Chief Justice last
9. Most junior justice, then open

177. opaassign: Opinion Assignment

*Coding notes:*

Alternative measure of opinion assignment collected through phone calls to the clerk's office for each state high court.

1. Chief justices always assigns.
2. Chief justice assign if in the majority, if not, senior member of majority assigns.
3. Senior member of the panel assigns.
4. Senior justice in the majority assigns.
5. Random assignment
6. Clerk or assistant clerk assigns.
7. Majority votes.

178. confvote: Conference Voting

*Coding notes:*

Alternative measure of conference voting collected through phone calls to the clerk's office for each state high court.

1. Voting in conference by reverse seniority
2. Voting in conference by seniority
3. Random voting order
4. No vote in conference. Voting is done electronically.
5. No vote in conference. Voting is done with opinion circulation

179. opcirc: Opinion Circulation

*Coding notes:*

Measure collected through phone calls to the clerk's office for each state high court.

1. Interoffice paper circulation of opinions
2. Electronic circulation of opinions
3. Opinion circulation in secondary conference

180 – 184. Various Tenure Variables

*Coding notes:*

Derived from Laura Langer, Database on PAJID scores (2005).

180. tenure: Average Tenure Length

181. medtenure: Median Tenure Length

182. sdtenure: Standard Deviatue Tenure

183. maxtenure: Maximum Tenure Length

184. mintenure: Minimum Tenure Length