

What's New in Dataset 6.2

Changes:

- All CSV files are now encoded in UTF-8. When importing CSV data on platforms where UTF-8 is not the default, ensure that the correct encoding is specified in order to properly render diacritics for text variables.
- `v2x_suffrage` and `v2elsuffrage` have been modified with small changes to their respective comprising indices.

Bug fixes:

- Superfluous variables corresponding to the means of the binary versions of the following variables have been removed: `v2exdfdshg`, `v2exdfdshs`, `v2exdjcbhg`, `v2exctlhg`, `v2exctlhs`, `v2exrmhsol`, `v2exrmhgnp`.
- Country specific coding periods were previously incorrectly set for the 6.1 country-date dataset. As a result, 279 observations falling outside of the V-Dem coding periods have been removed.
- Missing data for the variables `v2expathhg` and `v2exaphogp` for Serbia from 1900 to 1941 have been filled in.
- A bug was fixed regarding the ordinalization of indices. Previously, for the corresponding 5 category ordinal variables, observations that were meant to be 0.75 were incorrectly set as 0.5.

Comparison to Dataset 5

New indices and indicators

- Civil liberties index
- Private civil liberties index
- Physical integrity rights index
- Political civil liberties index
- Additive polyarchy index
- Multiplicative polyarchy index
- Divided party control of legislature index
- Division of power index
- HOG term length by law
- HOS term length by law
- Election voter turnout
- Primary school enrollment
- Secondary school enrollment
- Secondary tertiary enrollment
- Political equality comments

Modified indices and indicators

- Electoral democracy index has been updated with a new aggregation formula.

Other new or modified information

- Providing a standard calculation for standard deviation which is marked with the suffix “sd” (e.g., v2elmulpar_sd). The SD might be used to compute the standard frequentist confidence intervals.
- Providing uniqueness scores to the structure of aggregations – all indices and indicators. Uniqueness is the variance that is ‘unique’ to the variable and not shared with other variables. It is equal to $1 - \text{communality}$ (variance that is shared with other variables). Factor loadings are the weights and correlations between each variable and the factor. The higher the load the more relevant in defining the factor’s dimensionality. A negative value indicates an inverse impact on the factor.
- Updated lists of number of variables.
- Updated list of countries.