

Citation

Use of LobbyView data for academic purposes (presentations, working and conference papers, theses and dissertations, journal articles, software packages) requires that you cite the following paper:

Kim, In Song (2018). "LobbyView: Firm-level Lobbying & Congressional Bills Database." Working paper available from <http://web.mit.edu/insong/www/pdf/lobbyview.pdf>

Client Data Export

This CSV export contains a complete copy of all lobbying clients in our database. Clients are firms or individuals that hire registrants, who in turn employ lobbyists. We provide a series of identifiers designed to make it easier to connect these clients to external business databases.

The below table specifies the columns provided in this CSV export. The fourth column, "Linked Datasets", describes how a column can be used to link this data to external data, including our other CSV files.

Client Level Variables

Column Name	Description	Data Type	Linked Datasets
lob_id	Unique, lobbyview-constructed identifier for a lobbying client (a firm or entity that hires a registrant to lobby on their behalf). In the original LDA filings, clients are not uniquely identified or given an indicator. We disambiguate them using a novel method which produces a single ID for each entity. The disambiguation process is described here. Please refer to the Data Notes below and read more about lob_id.	TEXT UUID	Report Level Data, Network Level Data
gvkey	Unique identifier for the external S&P Compustat dataset, a database of financial information for public firms. Limited to North American firms, or global firms trading on North American exchanges.	TEXT	External Compustat Data
bvdid	Unique identifier for the external Orbis dataset, a database of financial information on public and private firms. Limited to North America firms, or global firms actively participating in North American markets.	TEXT	External Orbis Data
naics	NAICS code associated with the firm.	TEXT	—

Data and Version Notes

This data was generated on 2024-10-25. For detailed version history, please see the [version.pdf](#) file.

Versions of the data beginning with v2024.10.01 are strictly incompatible with previous versions of the data. We made improvements to the process we used to disambiguate and identify unique clients and connect clients to external datasets. The `lob_id` field contains the newest, most accurate identifier assigned to client entities. Prior versions of LobbyView data included a `client_uuid` field. This field is deprecated. We are investigating providing a mapping of `lob_id` to `client_uuid` fields, but have no ETA to report.

Reporting Data Issues

Our team has invested an enormous amount of effort to ensure that the LobbyView data is of the highest possible quality. If you detect an error in our data, we would love to hear from you. Please contact lobbydata@gmail.com and include as much information as possible so we can understand the error you are reporting.

Connecting LobbyView Data

The below diagram provides a quick guide explaining how to connect each LobbyView data download to each other, and to external datasets.

Connecting LobbyView Data

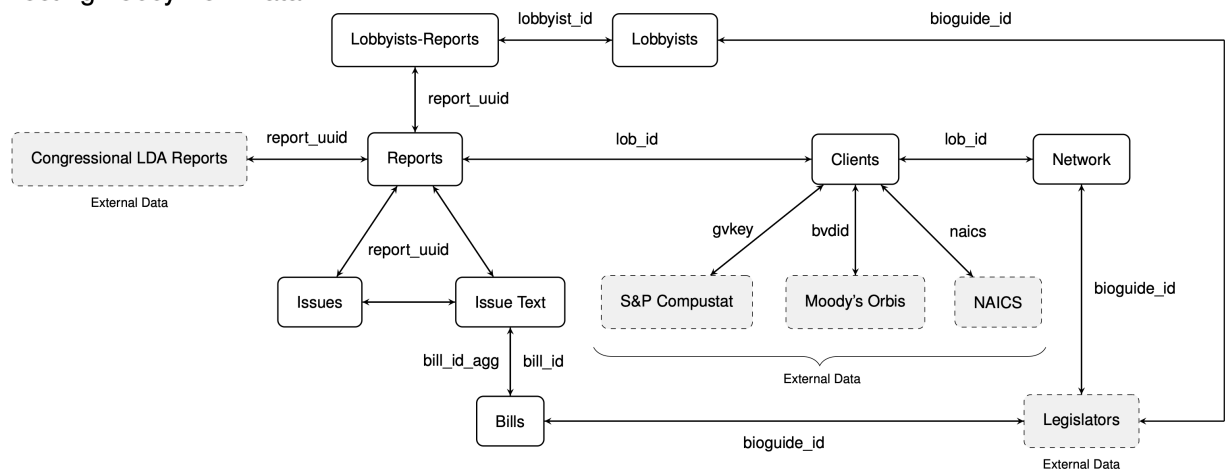


Figure 1: Connection Diagram