

The personal vote in Mexico: separating incumbency and campaign effects with survey evidence*

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Abstract

We investigate candidate name recognition in races for the state of Coahuila assembly in 2017. Name familiarity has been associated with efforts by representatives to cultivate a personal vote towards reelection. We exploit redistricting prior to the races to identify differentials in name familiarity attributable to incumbency effects—and not to campaign effects, which occur simultaneously. Even if the instrument failed to include sufficient sampling points for a full separation due to few incumbents on the ballot, we detect significant shifts in name recognition in accordance with theoretical expectations. Survey evidence of the first election held after Mexico recently dropped single-term limits suggests that the few ambitious lawmakers solidified their electoral connection.

Approximate word count: 7,150 (excluding the online appendix.)

Short title: The personal vote in Mexico

1 Introduction

Is reelection the cornerstone of responsive government, as held dear by much political theory? This is a tenet of what Riker (1978:9) calls the liberal–Madisonian democratic

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ideal: “the function of voting is to control officials, and no more.” In Schumpeter’s (1942) classic account, liberal democracy is a procedure giving voters a periodic opportunity of accepting or refusing those who are to rule them. Anticipation of voter retribution keeps rulers in check. Yet much behavioral research puts retrospective accountability in serious doubt (Achen and Bartels 2016).

We investigate voters’ familiarity with state assembly representatives in the state of Coahuila, in northern Mexico. Name familiarity is the standard approach to measure what Cain, Ferejohn and Fiorina (1987:9) call the personal vote, “that portion of a candidate’s electoral support which originates in his or her personal qualities, qualifications, activities, and record.” Recent removal of single-term limits in Mexico (see Magar 2017) offers a unique opportunity to investigate institutional change. Prior to the reform, incumbents across the board were constitutionally forced to retire. The manuscript joins the few investigations of consecutive reelection in Mexico. Such studies focus on plenary speech. Motolinia (2021) uncovers a substantial inter-term surge in plenary time devoted to particularistic legislation in post-reform state assemblies relative to the rest. In the federal Congress, Magar (2021) finds that single-member district deputies freed of single-term limits made significantly more and longer speeches than the rest, even after controlling for other correlates such as the member’s party size and majority status, seniority, and the position in the chamber hierarchy. We contribute with the first view of the reform from the perspective of public opinion.

Campaigns are another short-term force shaping district electoral outcomes (Downs 1957, Jacobson 1990, Moreno 2009, Popkin 1991). Simultaneous campaigns raise an obstacle to gauge the importance of the personal vote—unless the seat is open, which removes the incumbency effect, challengers campaign to unseat an incumbent. We propose a research design that exploits redistricting to separate these simultaneous effects. Periodic changes in district boundary delimitation, which also took place in Coahuila prior to state assembly races we study, migrate some groups from one district to another. Even if the

former incumbent ran again for office, these voters will not find her on the ballot.

We added items to tap attitudes towards reelection—including name recognition—among respondents to a pre-election survey in Coahuila’s state races in 2017, the first post-reform ballot. Identifying precincts that mapmakers moved across districts, we test expectations of differentials in the degree of name recognition in clear and distinct geographical areas. While our empirical strategy had drawbacks preventing a test of the relative sizes of campaign vs. incumbency effects, survey evidence uncovers patterns of name familiarity consistent with the personal vote. Voters in the district are more familiar with their representative than those outside. And familiarity is strongest in areas that remained inside the district after the map was redrawn, than in areas that migrated to the next district.

The paper proceeds thus. Section 1 elaborates the electoral connection and notions of static and non-static ambition among politicians. Section 2 describes the Mexican reform, highlighting institutional limitations that might render reelection meaningless. Section 3 develops the procedure to separate campaign from incumbency effects by means of re-districting. Section 4 presents the survey and a multivariate model of name recognition. Section 5 concludes.

2 Political ambition and democracy

Mayhew’s *Electoral Connection* (1974) set a research program on congressional politics in motion. At the classic book’s core is a model of purposive lawmakers. The crucial premise is motivational, stylizing members of the U.S. Congress as automatons with a unique, all-encompassing goal: reelection for another term in office. Mayhew does not deny that other worries might deny members a good night sleep—turning a priority program into law, climbing the chamber’s hierarchy, her/his legacy are just some examples. But none of that would be achieved if the member fails to reelect.

Another premise is instrumental: reelection is a function of the member’s reputation

for delivering goods to the district. Team production of legislation, where each member's effort is not immediately evident, puts obstacles for reputation building. And problems of ascription equate credit claiming for delivery to cheap talk. Hence members' preference for particularistic goods. Their distinguishing trait is that their production and/or delivery depends on the member's personal effort (Haggard and McCubbins 2001). Two instances of particularistic goods are constituency service, such as staff offering help tracking down lost federal senior citizen entitlement paychecks, and pork-barrel legislation, such as spending and jobs earmarked for the district (Cain, Ferejohn and Fiorina 1987). The 2022 U.S. federal budget offers has thousands of examples. "I'm glad and proud of them," said Senator Richard C. Shelby of Alabama, claiming credit for \$551 million covering 16 earmarks in the \$1.5 trillion spending signed by President Biden (quoted in Broadwater et al. 2022). "Mr. Shelby [is] a legendary pork-barreler who has no fewer than seven buildings named after him in Alabama. The latest spending package adds another, renaming a federal building and courthouse in Tuscaloosa for him."

Carey and Shugart (1995) generalize the argument, identifying features of electoral systems affecting incentives to campaign on personal or on a party reputation. Members in personalistic systems have good reason to direct pork where the political logic indicates, creating a responsibility link. Delivery need not involve every constituent in the district. Groups jeopardizing reelection by dropping support are much more important than others. Cox and McCubbins (1986) call them *core constituents*. Other things constant, it is rational (and less risky) to work in preserving a coalition that made you win in the past, by delivering to core constituents, rather than attempting to build a new one from scratch.

Cultivating a personal vote by nurturing a reputation for delivering breeds visibility. Survey evidence establishes this connection, measuring visibility with name familiarity (Abramowitz 1975). Compared to those who did not, and other things constant, respondents who met their representative personally were twice as likely in the U.S., and 1.5 times as likely in the U.K., to correctly recall their name (Cain, Ferejohn and Fiorina 1987:34).

The same goes for respondents who heard the member speak and those who talked to staff. We rely on name familiarity below to gauge the personal vote in the analysis.

3 A Minimal Effects Hypothesis

It is far from evident that the North American electoral connection model extends to democracies in general, and to Mexico in particular (Jones, Saiegh, Spiller and Tommasi 2002, Samuels 2003). Skeptics feed on two lines of argument, the party lock and a lack of interest for reelection.

3.1 The party lock

Mexican reformers gave the right of reelection not to the representative but to her party. Incumbents can run for reelection if, and only if, the party that elected them to office nominates them again. Pundits dubbed this the “party lock,” granting the apparatchik a veto on the representative’s renomination. More often than not in competitive systems, parties let national leaders deny candidates the use of the party label if they choose to run (Ranney 1981:85).¹ The party lock is more formidable still. Unless she jumped ship in the first half of the term, once blocked by her party against renomination, a member cannot seek refuge in another party. Mexican party leaders can therefore veto an incumbent’s renomination *even by other parties*.

As a consequence, a mayor or legislator sensing tension between core supporters’ and party leaders’ interests faces a predicament. Siding systematically with core supporters might expose her to the wrath of the leadership and, as retaliation, she may be excluded from the ballot—keeping the discipline mechanism of single-term limits (Weldon 1997) intact. In a blog article on the reform, Merino, Fierro and Zarkin (2013) warn that “we shall

¹Until the Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional, Brazil’s *candidato nato* clause imposed the reverse relationship between party and incumbent, giving the second power to override the leadership veto on renomination (Mainwaring 1991). Major parties in the United Kingdom rely on a mix, district parties selecting candidates that the national party can veto (Mikulska and Scarrow 2010).

gain no political leverage over representatives, nor shall government be more responsive... with this pseudo-reelection.” In other words, skeptics expect the incumbency effect in Mexico will be negligible, at best.²

We can also view the problem as one of shades-of-gray rather than black-or-white. Canceling the electoral connection totally requires incumbents *fully* lacking resources to fend off leadership pressure. Some politicians are, no doubt, in such a position—freshmen, personal appointees, etc. But any resource of this nature opens some room for negotiation between incumbent and party. This is the essence of legislative party theory (Aldrich and Rohde 2001, Cox and McCubbins 2007).

One resource is electoral competitiveness. Zaller (1998) models incumbents as prize fighters and the electoral arena as selection mechanism: winners demonstrate their “natural advantage” by defeating challengers. Personal electoral machines, political dynasties, or outstanding charisma are among elements feeding incumbents’ natural advantage. From this perspective, the party can stubbornly prevent a prize fighter’s attempts to be on the ballot, but does so at the peril of losing the district. The party lock may prevent the incumbent from entering the race, but she retains the option of moving her machinery and competitive resources to another campaign, ensuring that her party is beaten.

To clarify, the vote share in the district or municipality can be sketched as the sum of three components: $I + P + O = 100$. Here I is the vote that the incumbent can mobilize personally, P is the party’s expected vote percentage without the incumbent’s machine, and O is the opposition’s expected vote. Any candidate controlling $I \geq |P - O|$ votes is in a

²Draining member independence was in the minds of lawmakers. The reform bill’s summary (*exposición de motivos*) does not even mention the party lock, but leaders’ fear of losing their firm grip upon elected officeholders transpired in floor debate. The debate diary for the December 3rd, 2013 session, when the reported bill was considered and approved, registers Sen. Javier Corral’s (PAN–Chihuahua) intervention in favor of the report. He mentioned legislators’ opportunism against their party: “I would have preferred a direct reelection” he said, “but also believe that this report mitigates... political turncoats” Later on in the session, introducing a failed amendment to delete the party lock, Sen. Armando Ríos Piter (PRD–Guerrero) further elaborated: “it is important to drop [the lock]”, he argued, “[b]ecause if we wish the evaluation be made by citizens we cannot let it depend on a political party” whom, in roll calls, will be watchful that the “legislator does not escape the sheepfold.” See http://www.diputados.gob.mx/sedia/biblio/prog_leg/135_DOF_10feb14.pdf.

Case	Incumbents (%) who		
	sought reelection (a)	reelected (b)	returned (c = a × b/100)
United States 1990–2010	91	94	86
Chile 1993–2000	71	83	59
Brazil 1994–2002	75	66	50
Uruguay 1985–1999	61	56	34
Colombia 1994–2002	53	65	34
Mexico 2021–2024	47	72	34
Argentina 1983–2001	25	76	19

Table 1: The willing and the able to return to Congress in seven democracies. Column (a) reports the percentage of incumbents in the lower chamber that were renominated, column (b) the percentage of those renominated who won reelection for a consecutive term, and column (c) the return rate. Sources: Jones et al. (2002:658) for Argentina; Botero and Rennó (2007) for Brazil and Colombia; Navia (2000) for Chile; <https://emagar.github.io/2021-06-25-reeleccion-dipfed-6-jun.html> for Mexico (single-member-district deputies only); Altman and Chasqueti (2005) for Uruguay; <https://www.opensecrets.org/overview/reelect.php> for the U.S.

position to impose her re-nomination to party leaders.³ The resourceful should therefore negotiate with the party without removing the electoral connection completely.

3.2 The lack of interest

Pessimism also feeds on reelection apathy, which would further dilute incumbency effects. Disinterest by Latin American politicians for reelecting to the assembly is well-established, and leads Morgenstern (2002) to distinguish between static and non-static ambitions. A look towards reelection rates in a handful of the continent’s cases makes the need for Schlesinger’s (1966) original intuition plain.

Consider three indicators in Table 1. Column *a* reports the percentage of lawmakers who ran again for the same office at the end of their terms, capturing the notion of static ambition: politicians pursuing a congressional career by trying to repeat in office. Variation

³Alternation in many states, districts, and municipalities since 1989 has, in fact, been the result of such defections and party splits. See Garrido de Sierra (2014) and Díaz Cayeros, Estévez and Magaloni (2016).

Year	% returned
1916 (Constitutional Congress)	—
1917	18
1918	25
1920	15
1922	26
1924	25
1926	30
1928	40
1930 (Congress size nearly halved)	42
1932	27
1934 (single-term limits effective)	0

Table 2: Reelection in the post-Revolutionary Chamber of Deputies up to 1934. Source: Godoy Rueda (2014).

is notable. If 9 out of 10 U.S. incumbents regularly manifest static ambition, a bare quarter did in Argentina since the return to democracy, and about half in Mexico and Colombia. Static ambition progressively rises in Uruguay, Brazil, and Chile, none really approaching the rate of the U.S. Congress.

Desire requires ability for achievement, and columns *b* and *c* also report the conditional success rate (the percentage of renominated incumbents reelected) and the rate of return (the percentage of all members returning to the chamber in the consecutive term), respectively. The U.S. strikes the eye again, where 94 percent fulfilled their ambition, for a 20-year average return rate of 86 percent. With the exception of Uruguay, whose short sample overlaps the collapse of two-party dominance, conditional success rates are decently high. Compounding them with the low prevalence of static ambition, however, yields remarkably low rates of return south of the Río Bravo. Brazil and Chile, with rates between 50 and 60 percent, still remained distant from the U.S. Return rates drop to one-third in Mexico, Colombia, and Uruguay, and below 20 percent in Argentina (despite the second highest conditional success rate in the region).

The Mexican indicators in Table 1 are for the 2021 race only, when federal term limits were dropped (and exclude party-appointed members elected in the proportional represen-

tation tier of the mixed system from the counts). It stands second to last. Is static ambition in Mexico doomed to remain at near-Argentine levels? History suggests otherwise. Table 2 reports the return rate of federal deputies observed in the years prior to the adoption of single-term limits in 1934. At 18 percent, the return rate upon adoption of the Revolutionary constitution is almost indistinguishable from present-day Argentina. But it grew at rapid pace in the mid-1920s, doubling by 1928 to 40 percent, *en route* to meet present-day Brazil. Progress was arrested in 1930 when, setting the stage for the centralization of authority under the PRI, reformers removed 128 of the 281 seats Congress had had, 46 percent of all, cunningly targeting opponents of *Jefe Máximo* Calles (see Godoy Rueda 2014:23). A stable return rate that year despite a sharp denominator drop implies that the apportionment *blitz* was orthogonal to static ambition.

4 Redistricting as source of hypotheses

Whether or not the shades-of-gray approach is correct and whether or not static ambition crystallizes as it did in the 1920s can be resolved empirically. We examine name recognition in Coahuila for this task. If we could find a degree of name recognition among voters in the district unseen outside the district, it still would not fully answer the empirical question. Is the finding due to the personal vote, as we argue in section 1? Or are voters familiar simply because of the campaign itself, which happens simultaneously and inevitably if the incumbent is on the ballot?

We see three approaches to improve the answer.

1. Compare name familiarity in districts with an incumbent in the ballot to districts without. A systematic difference is attributable to incumbency.
2. Compare name familiarity in each district early in the campaign and then towards the end. Systematic differences are attributable to campaigns.

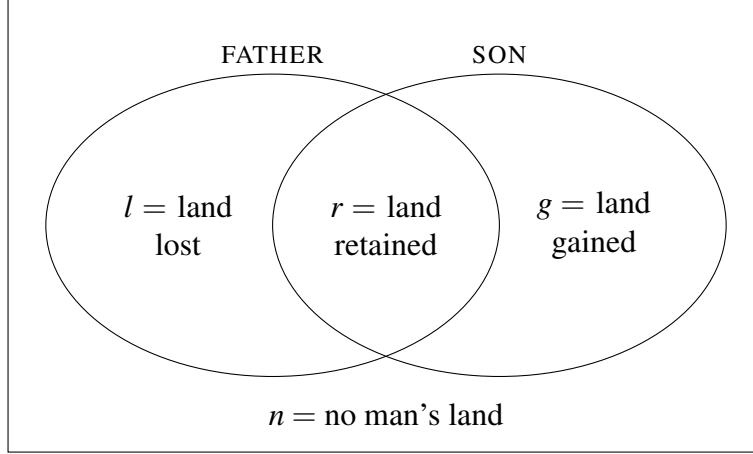


Figure 1: Four clear and distinct lands arise from redistricting. FATHER and SON represent 2014 and 2017 map districts, respectively.

3. Use redistricting to compare name familiarity among geographical groups of voters who either moved into, moved out of, or remained in the district (see McKee 2008).

We describe the third.

Coahuila state legislators had single-term limits lifted in 2017 and their legislative district boundaries redrawn prior to the race (our focus is the sixteen single-member plurality districts, leaving the proportional representation lists of the mixed electoral system at the hind).⁴ We exploit this coincidence to generate falsifiable hypotheses. The idea is simple. Incumbents who sought to return to office competed in districts more or less different from those they erstwhile represented. We expect the degree of dissimilarity in their constituents to reveal geographically differentiated patterns of name recognition.

For this purpose, we begin by identifying ‘father’ and ‘son’ districts. We construe district genealogy as Cox and Katz (2002) do. One-by-one, we compare districts in the new map (the offspring) to those in the old map, in order to identify the district it shares the most voters with. This is the district’s father. Figure 1 pictures a Venn diagram of one father

⁴The northern state of Coahuila, which shares a border with Texas in the United States, was the first instance where politicians could reelect consecutively after the 2014 electoral reform. As part of the same reform, state electoral boards were stripped of redistricting authority. The new national election board, the Instituto Nacional Electoral (INE) was put in charge of periodically redrawing state district lines, and was obliged to produce new maps for the first post-reform legislative elections. See Trelles, Altman, Magar and McDonald (2016) and Magar (2017).

(from the 2014 map) and son (from the 2017 map) pair. Ovals are simplified versions of district boundaries (minus geographic accidents typical of real-world maps). Four terrains can be distinguished. Intersection r is land (and the voters who live there) that the son has retained from its father. By construction, r is never empty (else the district would be an orphan). To the left is land l that the son has lost from the father by the redistricting, and to the right lies land g that the son has gained from one or more other old-map districts. Lands l and g represent change in the map, and one, the other, or both could be empty. Land n not belonging to any of the ovals is no man's land, with no interest whatsoever for the incumbent at hand.

The approach quantifies the degree of change in any member's electorate brought by redistricting. Comparing the land father and son share in common with land lost and won yields an index of district similarity S_i for district i . If father_i and son_i denote, respectively, voters in the father and son districts, then $S_i = \frac{\text{father}_i \cap \text{son}_i}{\text{father}_i \cup \text{son}_i} = \frac{r}{l+r+g}$. The index reaches maximum value $S_j = 1$ when father and son are identical (i.e., $l = g = \emptyset$), dropping gradually as intersection r shrinks relative to $l + g$. Index S tends to zero when father and son intersect minimally (as r is never empty, zero is not reached).

Table 3 reports Coahuila's district similarity in 2017. We operationalize S with electoral *secciones* and not voters directly.⁵ Our survey identifies *secciones* where respondents registered for voting, so this suffices for the test. The median, located between districts XVI and III, shares just 55 percent *secciones* when reunited with its father. Similarity looks scant: if the member ran for consecutive reelection and knew personally every voter she

⁵Data is from INE's official election returns and redistricting archives, available at www.ine.mx. *Secciones electorales* are analogous to U.S. census tracts (median sección population in the 2010 census was 1,280, with a maximum at 79,232; median tract population in the 2010 census was 3,995, with a maximum at 37,452). *Secciones* are the basic building blocks for district cartography. The old (called here 2014 for clarity, but inaugurated in 2011) and new (2017) maps relate 1,710 *secciones* in the state to 16 legislative districts (available at <https://github.com/emagar/mxDistritos/blob/master/mapasComparados/loc/coaLoc.csv>.) With our operationalization, S 's value is the share of *secciones* shared by father and son share vis-à-vis *secciones* in any of them. If electoral *secciones* all had identical populations, our operationalization would be identical to Cox and Katz's, who rely on shared population instead. As population heterogeneity rises, so do discrepancies between both versions of S across districts. Electoral *secciones* have relatively homogeneous populations nationwide: 99 percent had between 100 and 5,700 inhabitants in the 2010 census.

Son district (2017)	Father district (2014)	S	Incumbent deputy	Revealed ambition	Margin
XII-Ramos Arizpe	V-Ramos Arizpe	1.000	Lily Gutiérrez Burciaga	static	+14
I-Acuña	XV-Acuña	.798	Gina Cano Torralva	static	-17
II-Piedras Negras	XVI-Piedras Negras	.791	Sonia Villarreal Pérez	progressive	+12
X-Matamoros	VII-Torreón	.705	Shamir Fernández Hernández	none	
XIV-Salttillo	I-Salttillo	.700	Javier Díaz González	static	-12
IX-Torreón	VIII-Torreón	.650	Irma Castaño Orozco	none	
VII-Matamoros	VI-Torreón	.618	Verónica Martínez García	none	
XVI-Salttillo	II-Salttillo	.553	Francisco Tobías Hernández	none	
III-Sabinas	XIII-Múzquiz	.551	Antonio Nerio Maltos	none	
XIII-Salttillo	IV-Salttillo	.459	Martha Garay Cadena	none	
IV-San Pedro	X-San Pedro	.444	Ana Isabel Durán Piña	progressive	+3
V-Monclova	XII-Monclova	.408	Melchor Sánchez de la Fuente	none	
VI-Frontera	XI-Frontera	.377	Lencho Siller Linaje	progressive	+8
XIII-Salttillo	III-Salttillo	.236	José María Frausto Siller	none	
IX-Torreón	IX-Torreón	.204	Luis Gurza Jaidar	none	
III-Sabinas	XIV-Sabinas	.197	Martha Morales Iribarrén	none	

Table 3: District similarity index S in the state of Coahuila. Mexican legislative districts rely on Roman numerals for identification, hyphenated in the Table with the district’s administrative seat (*cabecera distrital*.) All members were from the PRI (opposition deputies entered via proportional representation only). The margin is the percentage difference between the winner and runner-up in the subsequent race, positive if the incumbent won, negative otherwise.

represented during the term that is expiring, she would recognize only a bit over half of her new constituents. S ’s inter-quartile range is .4–.7.

From the electoral connection’s perspective, changes this big in district geography should discourage static ambition, pushing incumbents to retirement. And so it did. We lack evidence to support that redistricting, and not something else, forced thirteen of sixteen SMD incumbents to not seek reelection. But the fact is that the three who did represented districts with much higher similarity indexes (the right-most column in the table reports incumbents’ revealed ambition), which is consistent with this interpretation. Lily Gutiérrez Burciaga’s constituents in Ramos Arizpe in fact changed nothing at all (she ran in the only district with $S = 1$). Georgina Cano Torralva from Acuña and Javier Díaz González from Saltillo retained 8 and 7 of every 10 voters, respectively.

With simple logic, we distinguish effects of campaigns and incumbency on name familiarity in lands l , r , g , and n . The more redistricting changed the son from its father, the

	Campaign effect	Incumbency effect	Total effect
1	$r = g$	$r > g$	$r > g$
2	$r > l$	$r = l$	$r > l$
3	$r > n$	$r > n$	$r > n$
4	$l < g$	$l > g$	$l ? g$
5	$l = n$	$l > n$	$l > n$
6	$g > n$	$g > n$	$g > n$

Table 4: Incumbency and campaign effects in name recognition hypotheses. Cells give expected relations in name recognition in the areas defined in Figure 1. Thus, row 1 indicates that incumbency causes higher name recognition among voters in land retained than among voters in land gained, a difference not caused by the campaign effect; combining them gives the reported total effect.

more different the “battlefield” ahead will appear to a member in office and to a candidate on the campaign trail. Election campaigns know the precise limits of the new district where effort must be focalized (the son)—billboards and wall paintings, printed flier distribution and robocalls, meetings with neighbors alone or in the company of candidates higher in the ticket, vote-buying with construction material and debit cards, and so forth (Langston n.d.). Constituency service, however, has a less distinct perspective, at least until the new district map is published. At that point, incumbents discover that mapmakers turned past constituency service in lost land l into sunk cost, as it will not pay off towards reelection. And while retained land r remains well-treaded, they also must advance into uncharted territory g that was gained.

This generates somewhat different predictions summarized in Table 4. The quantity of interest is the expected probability that a respondent picked at random among voters registered in one of the four lands is familiar with the candidate’s name. Campaign effects in name familiarity, if any, occur throughout the district (i.e., the son $r \cup g$), with negligible spillover beyond its borders. There is therefore no ground to expect a difference in name familiarity inside the district (which the table reports as $r = g$), but there is ground to expect such difference between the district and the rest. Expectations from the table’s campaign

column boil down to $l = n < r = g$.

Incumbent name familiarity, if any, takes place in the reunion of father and son district areas—with varying intensities. While retained land r experienced a full three-year term of constituency service, gained land g only received the member’s attention with knowledge that it would be part of the new district. Cultivating a personal vote requires time, so we expect higher name familiarity in land r than in land g ($r > g$ in the table). Likewise, the incumbent with finite effort stopped servicing land l when it became certain it would be lost to redistricting. But the investment made in lost land does not wear off immediately, so we expect $r = l$. And with the period between new map publication and the next election small relative to the time the incumbent spent servicing the parent district, we also expect $l > g$ in name familiarity. Expectations from the incumbency column in the table boil down to $n < g < l = r$.

Note that in table rows 3 and 6 campaign and incumbency expectations on name familiarity are identical. Comparison of land areas in those rows offers no element to separate effects: detecting a signal, it must be attributed to the total effect, reported in the third column. But expectations in rows 1, 2, 4, and 5 are contradictory, so an empirical relationship discriminates theoretical effects. Row 4 is the starkest: observing $l < g$ among respondents implies a campaign effect in name recognition larger than the incumbency effect; observing $l > g$, an incumbency larger in relative size.

Since Coahuila offered few members with static ambition, we extend exploration to members with progressive ambition too. These are three deputies who sought municipal office. The trick for analysis is to make the target municipality’s territory into a counterfactual son district. Identifying the corresponding l , r , g , and n distinct lands is trivial. But the important element of surprise in redistricting is absent: members know what “son district” (i.e., municipality) their progressive ambition points towards, and can therefore cultivate a personal vote *ex-ante* (Lucardi and Micozzi 2016). Comparability with static ambition is thus not ideal, but offers additional perspective.

5 The survey

We study the mass component of the personal vote with an original, face-to-face pre-election survey in Coahuila, two weeks ahead of polling for state deputies (concurrent with a gubernatorial and municipal races).⁶ The survey includes a battery of questions on name familiarity inspired from Cain, Ferejohn and Fiorina (1987). We coded indicators for six single-member district representatives listed in Table 3.

We instrumented name familiarity as name *recognition*. We relied on close-ended questions mentioning the state deputies' names—along those of three unanalyzed proportional-representation lawmakers running for municipal office, see questionnaire item #25 in the appendix. Interviewees were asked how much they remembered each name. We thus coded six dichotomous dependent variables, one per ambitious member. Respondents had four possible answers: the name is 'well-known' (*muy conocido*), 'somewhat known' (*algo conocido*), 'little known' (*poco conocido*), and 'unknown' (*nada conocido*). A member's name familiarity indicator $recognize_i$ takes value 1 if respondent i gave a somewhat-known or a well-known answer; 0 otherwise. (An alternative coding, indicating recognition in any degree, was also analyzed with similar results.) Cain, Ferejohn, and Fiorina also rely on name recall—the respondent's capacity to say the deputy's name correctly when prompted—which we excluded due to questionnaire size constraint. We intend explore recall too in future studies.

At about 7 to 8 out of 100 interviewees, statewide name recognition averages are both low and invariant across members (the right columns of Table 5 report dependent variables' means). But restricting attention to respondents in members' districts only brings a striking hike in name recognition, of at least 3.5 times higher than statewide for Javier Díaz

⁶The survey was commissioned to Alejandro Moreno by *El Financiero* newspaper (interviews were conducted from between May 19–21, 2017, published May 25, Moreno 2017). A sample of 1,008 registered voters was interviewed in person in households. Urban/rural electoral secciones were stratified, then a random sample taken to select 72 points throughout the state, obtaining 14 randomly-selected interviews in each. The 95-percent confidence interval of inferences has a $\pm 3.1\%$ error. The non-response rate was 32%, which is standard across public opinion studies.

Incumbent	District/ municipio	Respondents				Mean recognize		
		<i>l</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>n</i>	statewide	father	son
A. Static ambition								
Javier Díaz González	Saltillo	14	56	0	938	0.082	0.286	0.304
Lily Gutiérrez Burciaga	R. Arispe	0	56	0	952	0.076	0.393	0.393
Gina Cano Torralva	Acuña	0	70	0	938	0.085	0.729	0.729
B. Progressive ambition								
Lencho Siller	Frontera	42	28	0	938	0.066	0.300	0.500
Sonia Villarreal Pérez	P. Negras	0	56	0	952	0.082	0.518	0.518
Ana Isabel Durán Piña	San Pedro	14	42	0	952	0.068	0.589	0.738

Table 5: Incumbents and their terrain. Deputies with static ambition sought reelection to the state assembly. Deputies with progressive ambition sought election to a municipal government. Columns *l*, *r*, *g*, and *n* report the number of respondents sampled (out of 1,008) in each terrain category. Dependent variable means are for all respondents (statewide), for respondents in the pre-redistricting constituency (father) only, and for respondents in the post-redistricting constituency (son) only.

González, and as much as 11 times higher than statewide for Ana Isabel Durán Piña (in the municipality to which her progressive ambition pointed to). Is this an incumbency effect?

Since secciones electorales were used as stratified sampling points, producing geographic indicators to identify members' four redistricting areas of theoretical interest is trivial. As Table 5 reports in middle columns, no sampling took place in land areas gained by any district whose incumbent ran for reelection (column *g* reports zeroes only). This is unfortunate and an obstacle to our empirical study: excluding respondents in district areas gained by incumbent on the ballot precludes observing two of four separation scenarios in Table 4. And among unobserved scenarios is the strongest prediction divergence—predictions in row 4 point in opposite directions. The extremely low prevalence of static ambition in Coahuila 2017 constitutes this obstacle. More prevalent static ambition, as indeed happened across the board in 2018 and 2021, will overcome this limitation with more ease.

We analyze predictors of name recognition with equation

$$\begin{aligned}\text{logit}(\text{recognize}_i) = & \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{lost}_i + \beta_2 \text{retained}_i \\ & + \beta_3 \text{delivered}_i + \beta_4 \text{interested}_i + \beta_5 \text{smartphone}_i \\ & + \beta_6 \text{panista}_i + \beta_7 \text{priista}_i + \beta_8 \text{morenista}_i + \text{error}_i.\end{aligned}$$

The model includes two geographic indicators: retained_i equals 1 if respondent i is a voter registered in area r , 0 otherwise; and lost_i equals 1 if respondent i is a registered voter in area l , 0 otherwise. These dummies are mutually-exclusive but not exhaustive. With area g out of the study's empirical reach, the omitted category is respondents in area n , so for geographic regressors' coefficients are interpreted against no-man's land. The model also includes indicators for incumbent responsiveness (delivered_i equals 1 if the respondent said the deputy did something for the district, 0 otherwise), for interest in politics (interested_i equals 1 if the respondent expressed interest in politics, 0 otherwise), for socioeconomic status (smartphone_i equals 1 if the respondent said owning such device, 0 otherwise), and controls for partisanship (panista_i , priista_i , and morenista_i equal 1 if the respondent self-identified with the party in question, 0 otherwise).

We code all dichotomous variables in the model to indicate responses in the affirmative. In this way, the (few) nulls among respondents' answers are among non-indicated values, and we do not lose any subject, keeping all $N = 1,008$ interviewees in the estimation.⁷ The Appendix formally defines variables and reports frequencies for all survey questions.

Geographic controls test hypotheses. We have three expectations: that lost_i 's regression coefficient is positive ($\beta_1 > 0$, testing $l > n$); that retained_i 's is positive too ($\beta_2 > 0$, testing $r > n$); and that the latter is larger than the former ($\beta_2 > \beta_1$, testing $r > l$). Predictions $r > n$ and $r > l$, common to both effects in Table 4, test total effects. Owning to incumbency only, confirmation that lost_i gets a positive coefficient, is separating

⁷So, for instance, we interpret five non-respondents to the `smartphone` question #30 as not owning such device, coding it zero. We do likewise for dummies `delivered` (twelve non-responses to question #22) and `interested` (two to question #2). There were no non-responses to the party identification questions.

Member	Hypotheses		
	total effect $r > n$	incumbency effect $l > n$	incumbency effect $r = l$
	(one-tailed)	(one-tailed)	(two-tailed)
Static ambition			
1 Javier Díaz González	< .001	.029	.442
2 Lily Gutiérrez Burciaga	< .001	—	—
3 Gina Cano Torralva	< .001	—	—
Progressive ambition			
4 Lencho Siller	< .001	.003	.002
5 Sonia Villarreal Pérez	< .001	—	—
6 Ana Isabel Durán Piña	< .001	.036	< .001

Table 6: Hypothesis tests. Cells report p-values. Columns 1 and 2 respectively test that coefficients for `retained` and `lost` are positive, column 3 that `retained`’s coefficient equals `lost`’s (a likelihood-ratio test). Green indicates statistical evidence for incumbency effects, red lack thereof—note that column 3’s incumbency hypothesis involves equality, so the aim here is to *not* reject.

evidence. The Appendix reports full regression estimates. We here summarize relevant hypothesis tests only in Table 6.

We discuss static ambition members first. Column 1 reports total effects tests. Members clear all tests at standard levels of statistical confidence. Columns 2 and 3 report incumbency effects hypothesis tests. Only Javier Díaz González, with respondents in `lost` area, is candidate for the separating tests, clearing both at standard levels. Note that the incumbency test in column 3 involves *not* rejecting the (usually null) hypothesis that $r = l$. With a p-value of .442, it is not rejectable at standard levels of confidence. While greater in area that the district `lost` (and, per column 1, in area `retained`) compared to area that was never in the district, name familiarity is statistically indistinguishable in areas l and r , as expected by the personal vote.

Progressive ambition tests further illuminate. Tests about `retained` and `lost` land relative to no-man’s land clear the hurdle. But the expectation that name recognition in r and l be equal is not fulfilled. Keep in mind that `retained` land, in this case, is the municipality where the member eventually ran for office—which intersects the father district without exception.

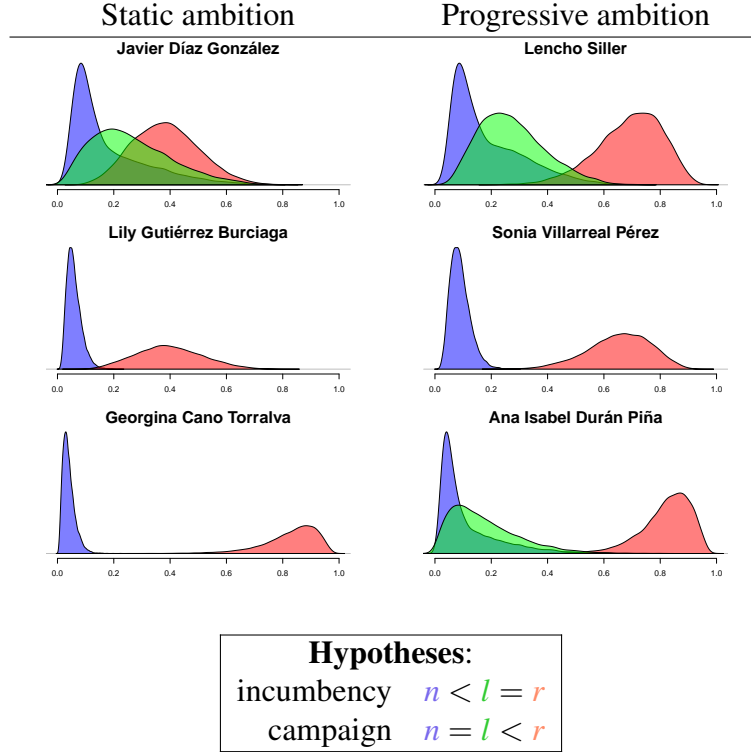


Figure 2: The probability of name recognition (x-axis). Simulations generated with Bayesian estimations of regression models. The violet density is for respondents in area n , the green (when applicable) for respondents in area l , and the pink for respondents in area r . Incumbency leads to expect the purple to lie to the left, the pink to the right, the green between them, with clear gaps between them. All other controls held constant to represent a PAN-identifier with a smartphone, who said the incumbent has delivered but is uninterested in politics.

As said, if nomination was possibly uncertain (unlike static ambition types), members who aimed at municipal office knew ex-ante where they had to cultivate a personal vote. And indeed the hypothesis that name recognition in the “retained” municipality and lost land is equal can be statistically rejected (cf. Lucardi and Micozzi 2016). These results must be taken with a grain of salt, but evidence adds favorably for incumbency effects.

Simulations reveal effects neatly in Figure 2. The curves are posterior probabilities of name recognition from a Bayesian re-estimation of the logit models. Colored densities hold predictors constant except redistricting areas dummies. A gap is expected, and observed across the board, between the violet and pink densities, corresponding respectively to voters in low-probability area n and higher-probability area r . Incumbency hypotheses expect

the green density, for voters in area l , to overlap with the right-side density, campaign hypotheses with the left-side density. Plots show how separation is not as clear cut as statistically significant results might otherwise suggest. There is substantive overlap of green and pink in Javier Díaz González’s case, but the green–violet overlap is important too. Plots also reveal that, among the progressively ambitious, green overlaps much more with violet than pink. Throughout their terms, State Deputies Lencho Siller and Ana Isabel Durán Piña seem to have devoted a good deal of effort servicing the municipalities they ran in—the “retained” parts—hence the name recognition hike relative to district “lost”.

6 Conclusion

Our investigation of name familiarity in Coahuila has achieved a number of things. We discussed how the electoral connection, by inducing politicians with static ambition to cultivate a personal vote by trading in particularistic goods, should heighten levels of name recognition among constituents. We also saw admonitions (skeptics’ warning) of minimal effects in Mexico, as reformers chose to keep parties’ firm grip on nominations in place and politicians in Latin America have proverbial lack of static ambition. So are there signs of an electoral connection in Coahuila’s 2017 state legislative races, where incumbents were allowed to seek consecutive reelection for the first time in over eight decades? On top of admonitions (warnings), differentials in name familiarity could be due to campaigns, not the personal vote.

The research design can overcome this obstacle by exploiting redistricting. Changes in the electoral geography are means to separate incumbency from campaign effects in name recognition. We set forth resolving these issues empirically with an original pre-election survey in the state. If unable to totally rule out the effect of campaigns, the public opinion evidence we produce does reveal statistically significant and substantive total effects in name recognition consistent with the personal vote. This is a noteworthy and important

finding for several reasons.

It paves the way for an in-depth study of reelection in Mexico. Patterns uncovered by our study of the first opportunity for consecutive reelection despite serious limitations announce a promising research agenda ahead. Room has opened. One out of three SMD lawmakers returned to Congress in the 2021 midterm races, nearly three-quarters of those who ran again succeeding. And the return rate in nearly 2,800 municipal races without term limits between 2018 and 2021 was 22 percent, 54 percent of those who sought reelection achieving it. It will be interesting to verify if the removal of single-term limits may have attenuated, or perhaps reverted, the negative inter-election swings that incumbent parties systematically suffered in Mexican municipal races (Lucardi and Rosas 2016). If small in scope, our study constitutes a rare attempt to measure the mass component of the personal vote outside the United States. We hope to persuade pollsters to verify patterns of recall and name recognition in races where static ambition is prevalent. Finally, the procedure to distinguish incumbency from campaign effects generalizes to systems where district lines are re-drawn periodically. It constitutes another tool for testing models of incentives to cultivate a personal vote with comparative data.

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7 Online appendix

7.1 Descriptive statistics: survey

Unlike absolute frequencies In the summaries below, relative frequencies are parenthesized (reporting percentages). All missing answers are reported (NS/NC = “No Answer/Don’t Know”), so totals add to 1,008 respondents for all survey questions. Percentages may not add to 100 exactly due to rounding. The summary for ‘Localidad’ illustrates, afterwards labels are omitted for economy. Section 7.3 includes an English translation of the survey questions about consecutive reelection.

Localidad Urbana		Rural		Mixta		Total												
N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)											
840	(83)	70	(7)	98	(10)	1008	(100)											
Municipio (% only)																		
ABASOLO				ACUÑA				ALLENDE				ARTEAGA						
(0.00)				(5.56)				(0.00)				(0.00)						
CANDELA				CASTAÑOS				CUATROCIENEGAS				ESCOBEDO						
(0.00)				(1.39)				(1.39)				(0.00)						
FRANCISCO I. MADERO				FRONTERA				GENERAL CEPEDA				GUERRERO						
(1.39)				(2.78)				(1.39)				(0.00)						
HIDALGO				JIMENEZ				JUAREZ				LAMADRID						
(0.00)				(1.39)				(0.00)				(0.00)						
MATAMOROS				MONCLOVA				MORELOS				MUZQUIZ						
(4.17)				(6.94)				(0.00)				(2.78)						
NADADORES				NAVA				OCAMPO				PARRAS						
(0.00)				(1.39)				(0.00)				(1.39)						
PIEDRAS NEGRAS				PROGRESO				RAMOS ARIZPE				SABINAS						
(5.56)				(0.00)				(2.78)				(2.78)						
SACRAMENTO				SALTILLO				SAN BUENAVENTURA		SAN JUAN DE		SABINAS						
(0.00)				(26.39)				(1.39)				(1.39)						
SAN PEDRO				SIERRA MOJADA				TORREON				VIESCA						
(4.17)				(0.00)				(23.61)				(0.00)						
VILLA UNION				ZARAGOZA				Total										
(0.00)				(0.00)				(100.00)										
Sección electoral (N only)																		
4	8	10	84	119	141	192	197	214	242	258	263	269	325	328	370			
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14			
378	411	454	473	508	550	580	586	617	627	653	661	692	712	734	737			
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14			
788	800	816	843	847	869	871	897	905	907	920	922	932	977	979	1042			
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14			
1068	1109	1145	1157	1173	1184	1214	1221	1263	1272	1303	1314	1316	1351	1377	1388			
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14			
1402	1447	1449	1464	1469	1623	1678	1703	Total										
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	1008										
Congressional district																		
1		2		3		4		5		6		7		Total				
140	(14)	154	(15)	154	(15)	154	(15)	140	(14)	154	(15)	112	(11)	1008	(100)			

State assembly district												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
70 (7)	70 (7)	70 (7)	70 (7)	56 (6)	56 (6)	56 (6)	70 (7)	84 (8)	42 (4)	42 (4)	56 (6)	84 (8)

14	15	16	Total
----	----	----	-------

56 (6)	84 (8)	42 (4)	1008 (100)
--------	--------	--------	------------

(Si tiene credencial para votar vigente) ¿Está registrada en este domicilio o en otro?

En este	En otro
---------	---------

813 (81)	195 (19)
----------	----------

Sexo

Hombre	Mujer
--------	-------

502 (50)	506 (50)
----------	----------

Edad (grouped)

[18,28)	[28,38)	[38,48)	[48,58)	[58,68)	[68,+)
---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	--------

211 (21)	205 (20)	203 (20)	180 (18)	117 (12)	92 (9)
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	--------

1 En su opinión, ¿cuál es el principal problema que hay actualmente en el Estado de Coahuila? (ANOTAR TEXTUAL) (%)

Campo	(0.2)
Corrupción	(13.7)
Desempleo	(12.4)
Economía	(6.5)
Educación	(0.8)
Falta de buenos gobernantes	(0.9)
Fenómenos naturales	(0.1)
Inflación/alza de precios/precios altos	(0.8)
Inseguridad pública	(45.0)
Narcotráfico	(1.0)
Ninguno	(1.0)
Obras públicas	(0.4)
Pobreza	(3.1)
Problemas políticos	(0.5)
Gobierno de epn	(0.3)
Problemas sociales	(1.1)
Salud	(0.9)
Servicios públicos	(9.7)
Todos	(1.0)
Otros	(0.4)
Falta de ayuda a la gente	(0.2)
Demasiados programas sociales	(0.1)

2 Por lo general, ¿cuánto le interesa la política? (LEER)

Mucho	Algo	Poco	Nada	NS/NC
-------	------	------	------	-------

122 (12.1)	259 (25.7)	324 (32.1)	301 (29.9)	2 (0.2)
------------	------------	------------	------------	---------

3 ¿Sabe cuándo son las próximas elecciones para Gobernador del estado?

(NO LEER: 4 DE JUNIO 2017)

Sabe completa	Incompleta	NS/NC
---------------	------------	-------

719 (71)	160 (16)	129 (13)
----------	----------	----------

4 Del 0 a 10, donde 0 es nada probable y 10 muy probable, ¿qué tan probable es que usted vote en las próximas elecciones para gobernador?

0	1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

64 (6.3)	37 (3.7)	21 (2.1)	25 (2.5)	14 (1.4)	90 (8.9)
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

6	7	8	9	10	NS/NC
36 (3.6)	50 (5.0)	113 (11.2)	49 (4.9)	505 (50.1)	4 (0.4)

5 (USAR BOLETA 1) Si hoy hubiera elecciones para Gobernador del estado, ¿por quién votaría

	N	(%)
Guillermo Anaya, PAN	194	(19.2)
Miguel A. Riquelme, PRI	238	(23.6)
Mary T. Guajardo, PRD	15	(1.5)
José A. Pérez, PT	15	(1.5)
Miguel A. Riquelme, PVEM	16	(1.6)
Guillermo Anaya, UDC	14	(1.4)
Miguel A. Riquelme, PANAL	8	(0.8)
Miguel A. Riquelme, PSI	4	(0.4)
Guillermo Anaya, PPC	2	(0.2)
Miguel A. Riquelme, Partido Joven	9	(0.9)
Miguel A. Riquelme, PRC	3	(0.3)
Miguel A. Riquelme, PCP	4	(0.4)
Armando Guadiana, Morena	102	(10.1)
Guillermo Anaya, Encuentro Social	7	(0.7)
Javier Guerrero, Independiente	45	(4.5)
Luis Horacio Salinas, Independiente	12	(1.2)
No registrado	5	(0.5)
Nulo	88	(8.7)
Ninguno	52	(5.2)
NS/NC	175	(17.4)
TOTAL	1008	(100.0)

6 ¿Usted ya decidió definitivamente por quién votar para gobernador, tiene idea pero podría cambiar o aún no decide su voto?

	N	(%)
Ya decidió definitivamente	558	(55)
Tiene idea, podría cambiar	150	(15)
Aún no decide	246	(24)
NS/NC	54	(5)

7 ¿Cuál es su opinión acerca de los siguientes personajes políticos: muy buena, buena, mala, muy mala,... o no lo conoce suficiente para opinar? (LEER Y ROTAR NOMBRES)

a Guillermo Anaya Llamas

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
41 (4)	260 (26)	191 (19)	106 (11)	260 (26)	100 (10)	50 (5)	1008 (100)

b Miguel Ángel Riquelme

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
45 (4)	224 (22)	225 (22)	187 (19)	195 (19)	93 (9)	39 (4)	1008 (100)

c Mary Telma Guajardo Villareal

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
3 (0)	77 (8)	96 (10)	64 (6)	162 (16)	254 (25)	352 (35)	1008 (100)

d José Ángel Pérez Hernández

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
15 (1)	95 (9)	95 (9)	76 (8)	164 (16)	274 (27)	289 (29)	1008 (100)

e Armando Guadiana Tijerina

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
-----------	-------	------	----------	------------------	-------	--------------	-------

buena	Buena	Mala	mala	ni mala	NS/NC	conoce	Total
21 (2)	159 (16)	88 (9)	71 (7)	180 (18)	210 (21)	279 (28)	1008 (100)

f Javier Guerrero García

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
16 (2)	137 (14)	74 (7)	61 (6)	180 (18)	256 (25)	284 (28)	1008 (100)

g Luis Horacio Salinas Valdez

Muy buena	Buena	Mala	Muy mala	Ni buena ni mala	NS/NC	No lo conoce	Total
6 (1)	56 (6)	71 (7)	60 (6)	138 (14)	284 (28)	393 (39)	1008 (100)

8 ¿Si la elección para gobernador solamente fuera entre Guillermo Anaya y Miguel Riquelme, ¿por quién votaría usted?

	N	(%)
Guillermo Anaya del PAN-UDC-PPC-PES	334	(33)
Miguel Ángel Riquelme del PRI-PVEM-PANAL-PSI-PJ-PRC-PCP	314	(31)
Ninguno	273	(27)
NC/NC	87	(9)

9 ¿Quién cree que gane la elección para gobernador? (LEER)

Guillermo Anaya del PAN	Miguel Ángel Riquelme del PRI	Otro	NS/NC
258 (26)	487 (48)	0 (0)	263 (26)

10 De los siguientes asuntos que le voy a leer, dígame por favor cuál es el más importante que debe atender el próximo gobernador del estado:

(LEER) N (%)

Inseguridad	319	(32)
Pobreza	193	(19)
Empleos	170	(17)
Corrupción	170	(17)
Educación	41	(4)
Medio ambiente	10	(1)
La deuda del estado	66	(7)
Otro	0	(0)
NS/NC	39	(4)

11 (USAR BOLETA 2) Si hoy hubiera elecciones para Diputados Locales, ¿por cuál partido votaría usted?

PAN	PRI	PRD	PT	PVEM	UDC	MC	PANAL	PSI	PPC
206 (20)	264 (26)	16 (2)	20 (2)	17 (2)	23 (2)	6 (1)	13 (1)	1 (0)	7 (1)

PJ	PRC	PCP	MORENA	PES	Independiente	<NA>	Total
15 (1)	3 (0)	6 (1)	88 (9)	5 (0)	35 (3)	283 (28)	1008 (100)

12 (USAR BOLETA 3) Si hoy hubiera elecciones para Presidente Municipal, ¿por cuál partido votaría usted?

PAN	PRI	PRD	PT	PVEM	UDC	MC	PANAL	PSI	PPC
218 (22)	287 (28)	17 (2)	14 (1)	11 (1)	22 (2)	8 (1)	5 (0)	1 (0)	9 (1)

PJ	PRC	PCP	MORENA	PES	Independiente	<NA>	Total
13 (1)	2 (0)	6 (1)	78 (8)	5 (0)	38 (4)	274 (27)	1008 (100)

13 ¿Votó usted en las elecciones para gobernador en julio de 2011? (Sí)

¿Por quién votó usted? (LEER OPCIONES) N (%)

Guillermo Anaya Llamas, PAN-UDC	211	(21)
Rubén Moreira, PRI-PVEM-PANAL-PPC-PSI	367	(36)

Otro	0	(0)
No registrado	22	(2)
Nulo	21	(2)
No votó	255	(25)
NS/NC	132	(13)

14 En general, ¿usted aprueba o desaprueba el trabajo que Rubén Moreira está haciendo como Gobernador del estado? (INSISTIR): ¿APRUEBA/DESAPRUEBA mucho o algo?

Aprueba mucho	Aprueba algo	Desaprueba algo	Desaprueba mucho	NS/NC
88 (9)	294 (29)	233 (23)	357 (35)	36 (4)

15 En general, ¿está satisfecho o insatisfecho con la manera en que marchan las cosas en el estado? (INSISTIR: ¿Muy o algo?) (5=NS/NC)

Muy satisfecho	Algo satisfecho	Algo satisfecho	Muy insatisfecho	NS/NC
52 (5)	329 (33)	318 (32)	297 (29)	12 (1)

16 En general, ¿usted aprueba o desaprueba el trabajo que Enrique Peña Nieto está haciendo como Presidente de la República? (INSISTIR): ¿APRUEBA/DESAPRUEBA mucho o algo?

Aprueba mucho	Aprueba algo	Desaprueba algo	Desaprueba mucho	NS/NC
72 (7)	199 (20)	184 (18)	531 (53)	22 (2)

17 ¿Cómo calificaría en estos momentos... (LEER):? muy bien, bien, mal o muy mal?

a La situación económica del estado

Muy bien	Bien	Mal	Muy mal	Ni bien ni mal	NS/NC
10 (1)	164 (16)	319 (32)	330 (33)	182 (18)	3 (0)

b Su situación económica familiar

Muy bien	Bien	Mal	Muy mal	Ni bien ni mal	NS/NC
20 (2)	344 (34)	231 (23)	130 (13)	282 (28)	1 (0)

c La seguridad pública en la comunidad donde vive

Muy bien	Bien	Mal	Muy mal	Ni bien ni mal	NS/NC
33 (3)	290 (29)	277 (27)	223 (22)	177 (18)	8 (1)

18 Generalmente, ¿usted se considera priista, panista, perredista morenista? (INSISTIR): ¿Se considera muy o algo?

Priista		Panista		Perredista		Morenista		NS/NC	Otro	Ninguno
muy	algo	muy	algo	muy	algo	muy	algo			
151 (15)	101 (10)	70 (7)	43 (4)	9 (1)	3 (0)	23 (2)	22 (2)	0 (0)	538 (53)	48 (5)

19 (TARJETA 1) En política la gente habla de "la izquierda" y "la derecha". En general, ¿cómo colocaría usted sus puntos de vista en esta escala, donde 1 es izquierda y 10 es derecha? También puede escoger un punto intermedio.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	NS/NC
115 (11)	29 (3)	52 (5)	48 (5)	214 (21)	87 (9)	49 (5)	79 (8)	32 (3)	127 (13)	176 (17)

20 ¿Está usted a favor, en contra o le es indiferente la reelección consecutiva de legisladores?

A favor	En contra	Le es indiferente	NS/NC
121 (12)	511 (51)	320 (32)	56 (6)

21 El 3 de abril iniciaron las campañas para renovar el Congreso del Estado. Si yo le preguntara los nombres de los candidatos a diputado en este distrito, ¿usted me podría decir todos los nombres, algunos nombres o no recuerda ningún nombre en este momento?

Todos	Algunos	No recuerda	No contestó
9 (1)	144 (14)	783 (78)	72 (7)

22 Ahora piense por favor en los diputados locales actuales. Si yo le preguntara las cosas que ha hecho su diputado por esta comunidad, ¿usted podría mencionarme muchas cosas, algunas, diría que no hizo nada o no recuerda en este momento?

Muchas Algunas No hizo nada No recuerda NS/NC

18 (2) 217 (22) 495 (49) 266 (26) 12 (1)

23 Si su actual diputado compitiera para buscar la reelección, ¿usted votaría por él o no votaría por él?

Sí votaría por él No votaría por él NS/NC

 156 (15) 731 (73) 121 (12)

24 Con base en el trabajo realizado por su actual diputado, ¿cree que merecería ser reelecto en su cargo o no?

 Sí No NC

158 (16) 751 (75) 99 (10)

25 Le voy a leer unos nombres, para cada uno, ¿podría decirme si le es muy conocido, algo conocido, poco o nada conocido?

a Javier Díaz González

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 17 (2) 30 (3) 36 (4) 889 (88) 36 (4)

b Lily Gutiérrez Burciaga

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 14 (1) 34 (3) 29 (3) 895 (89) 36 (4)

c Georgina Cano Torralva

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 22 (2) 40 (4) 24 (2) 884 (88) 38 (4)

d Ana Isabel Durán

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 10 (1) 34 (3) 25 (2) 901 (89) 38 (4)

e Sonia Villareal

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 20 (2) 41 (4) 22 (2) 888 (88) 37 (4)

f Lariza Montiel

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 18 (2) 33 (3) 13 (1) 906 (90) 38 (4)

g Armando Pruneda

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 6 (1) 20 (2) 10 (1) 933 (93) 39 (4)

h Leonel Contreras Pámanes

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 6 (1) 25 (2) 25 (2) 912 (90) 40 (4)

i Florencio "Lencho" Siller

Muy conocido Algo Poco Nada conocido NS/NC

 7 (1) 29 (3) 31 (3) 902 (89) 39 (4)

26 En los últimos 12 meses, ¿usted o alguien de su familia... (LEER)

a Perdió su empleo o fuente de ingresos económicos?
 Sí, usted Sí, un familiar Sí, ambos No NS/NC

 141 (14) 212 (21) 17 (2) 635 (63) 3 (0)

b Fue víctima de algún delito o un asalto?
 Sí, usted Sí, un familiar Sí, ambos No NS/NC

 97 (10) 93 (9) 20 (2) 796 (79) 2 (0)

c Tuvo que dar alguna mordida
 Sí, usted Sí, un familiar Sí, ambos No NS/NC

 99 (10) 54 (5) 12 (1) 839 (83) 4 (0)

27 Por lo general, ¿cuánto se entera de las noticias por medio de... (LEER),
 mucho, algo, poco o nada?

a Televisión
 Mucho Algo Poco Nada NS/NC

 413 (41) 242 (24) 228 (23) 123 (12) 2 (0)

b Radio
 Mucho Algo Poco Nada NS/NC

 188 (19) 222 (22) 190 (19) 404 (40) 4 (0)

c Periódico
 Mucho Algo Poco Nada NS/NC

 132 (13) 167 (17) 173 (17) 530 (53) 6 (1)

d Pláticas con gente
 Mucho Algo Poco Nada NS/NC

 190 (19) 271 (27) 183 (18) 355 (35) 9 (1)

e Internet
 Mucho Algo Poco Nada NS/NC

 274 (27) 149 (15) 99 (10) 474 (47) 12 (1)

f Redes sociales
 Mucho Algo Poco Nada NS/NC

 278 (28) 153 (15) 82 (8) 482 (48) 13 (1)

28 ¿Utiliza Facebook?
 Sí No NC

 559 (55) 444 (44) 5 (0)

29 ¿Utiliza Twitter?
 Sí No NC

 138 (14) 868 (86) 2 (0)

30 ¿Tiene Smartphone o teléfono inteligente?
 Sí No NC

 562 (56) 441 (44) 5 (0)

31 ¿Usted o alguien en su hogar es beneficiario de... (LEER)?

a Oportunidades/Prospera
 Sí, usted Sí, un familiar Sí, ambos No NS/NC

94 (9)	98 (10)	10 (1)	797 (79)	9 (1)
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b Seguro Popular

Sí, usted	Sí, un familiar	Sí, ambos	No	NS/NC
162 (16)	84 (8)	67 (7)	688 (68)	7 (1)

c Algún programa social del gobierno del estado

Sí, usted	Sí, un familiar	Sí, ambos	No	NS/NC
120 (12)	65 (6)	11 (1)	802 (80)	10 (1)

32 Durante estas campañas electorales, ¿a usted o alguien en su hogar... (LEER)?

a Le han dado algún obsequio los partidos o candidatos

Sí, usted	Sí, un familiar	Sí, ambos	No	NS/NC
110 (11)	67 (7)	25 (2)	803 (80)	3 (0)

b Ha asistido a eventos de los partidos o candidatos

Sí, usted	Sí, un familiar	Sí, ambos	No	NS/NC
135 (13)	52 (5)	22 (2)	796 (79)	3 (0)

33 Si los candidatos a la Presidencia de la República en 2018 fueran los siguientes, ¿por quién votaría usted? (LEER Y ROTAR)

[[NOT INCLUDED IN DATABASE???]]

34 ¿Cuál es su opinión acerca de los siguientes personajes políticos: muy buena, buena, mala, muy mala,... o no lo conoce suficiente para opinar? (LEER Y ROTAR NOMBRES)

a Andrés Manuel López Obrador

b Margarita Zavala

c Miguel Ángel Osorio Chong

d Humberto Moreira

[[NOT INCLUDED IN DATABASE???]]

35 Juntando el dinero que usted y otros miembros de su familia ganan al mes, ¿diría que...? (LEER)

Les alcanza bien	207	(21)
Les alcanza con algunas dificultades	459	(46)
No les alcanza	238	(24)
No les alcanza y tienen grandes dificultades	99	(10)
NS/NC	5	(0)

A ¿Hasta qué año o grado aprobó (pasó) en la escuela? ¿Cuál es su último grado de estudios? [NS/NC=9]

Ninguno	30	(3)
Hasta primaria	234	(23)
Secundaria	338	(34)
Preparatoria o bachillerato	226	(22)
Normal/Carrera técnica o comercial	59	(6)
Universidad sin terminar	36	(4)
Universidad terminada	69	(7)
Posgrado/Maestría/Doctorado	15	(1)
NS/NC	1	(0)

B ¿Cuál es su principal ocupación, a qué se dedica usted? (ANOTAR TEXTUAL)

Patrón/ Gerente/ Directivo	7	(1)
Funcionario/ Empresario	48	(5)
Profesionista	7	(1)
Trabajos de oficina con cargo de jefe o supervisor	9	(1)
Trabajador de oficina bajo supervisión (oficinistas)	67	(7)
Trabajador manual especializado	191	(19)
Trabajador manual semi-especializado	11	(1)
Trabajador manual no especializado	27	(3)
Trabajador agrícola		

Comerciante: Ventas (cuando no menciona lo que vende)				56	(6)							
Vendedor ambulante				1	(0)							
Empleado				99	(10)							
Desempleado				37	(4)							
Jubilado/ Pensionado				63	(6)							
Estudiante/ Becarios				36	(4)							
Ama de casa				343	(34)							
No tiene actividad				3	(0)							
No contestó				3	(0)							
C ¿De qué religión es usted? (LEER Y ROTAR)												
Católica	Cristiana/Evangélica/Protestante			Otra	NS/NC	Ateo						

735	(73)	119		(12)	8	(1)	99	(10)	47	(5)		
D ¿Con qué frecuencia asiste usted a servicios religiosos? (LEER)												
Más de una vez por semana		Una vez por semana		Una vez al mes		Sólo ocasiones especiales		Nunca, casi nunca		NS/NC		

93	(9)	282	(28)	159		(16)	260	(26)	140	(14)	74	(7)

7.2 Definitions and descriptive statistics: variables in the models

- The recognize variables (one for each of the six candidates analyzed) were coded with question 25 items. So recognizeJavier_i equals 1 if respondent i expressed much, some, or mild knowledge when told the name Javier Díaz González in item 25a; equals 0 otherwise. We proceeded likewise with items 25b (Lily), 25c (Gina), 25d (Ana Isabel), 25e (Sonia), and 25i (Lencho).
- delivered_i , coded with question 22, equals 1 if respondent i answered that his/her state deputy brought many or some things to the community; equals 0 otherwise.
- interested_i , coded with question 2, equals 1 if respondent i expressed much or some interest in politics; equals 0 otherwise.
- handout_i , coded with question 32a, equals 1 if respondent i answered that a party or candidate handed her/him or someone in the family a present; equals 0 if the answer was no.
- panista_i , coded with question 18, equals 1 if respondent i answered strong or weak panista; equals 0 otherwise. priista_i , perredista_i , and morenista_i coded likewise with the corresponding items. The reference category for these mutually exclusive indicators are respondents who identify with another party, with no party, or gave no answer.
- The geographic indicators were coded by mapping *sección* to the father and son district maps.

Variable	0	1	<i>N</i>											
delivered	773	235	1008											
interested	627	381	1008											
smartphone	446	562	1008											
handout	803	202	1005											
panista	895	113	1008											
priista	756	252	1008											
morenista	963	45	1008											
	Javier		Lily		Gina		Lencho		Sonia		AnaIsabel			
	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	<i>N</i>	
recognize (DV)	925	83	931	77	922	86	941	67	925	83	939	69	1008	
lost	994	14	1008		1008		966	42	1008		994	14	1008	
retained	952	56	952	56	938	70	980	28	952	56	966	42	1008	
gained (dropped)	1008		1008		1008		1008		1008		1008		1008	
nomans (dropped)	70	938	56	952	70	938	70	938	56	952	56	952	1008	

7.3 Survey questions

Thirteen items in the survey questionnaire involved reelection and name recognition (from question 20 to question 25.i) . We used questions 25.a–25.i to code our dependent variables. Responses much/some/little (*mucho/algo/poco*) coded as 1 in the incumbent’s name recognition indicator; 0 otherwise.

20 Are you in favor, against or indifferent towards the consecutive reelection of lawmakers?

- 1) In favor
- 2) Against
- 3) Indifferent
- 4) Don’t know / No answer

21 On April 3, campaigns to renew the State Congress began. If I asked you the names of the candidates for deputy in this district, could you tell me all the names, some names or do not remember any names at this moment?

- 1) All
- 2) Some
- 3) Don’t remember
- 4) No answer

22 Now please think about the current local deputies. If I asked you the things your deputy has done for this community, could you mention many things, some, would you say he did nothing or do not remember at this moment? [5=NR/NA]

- 1) Many
- 2) Some
- 3) Did nothing
- 4) Don’t remember

23 If your current deputy were running for reelection, would you vote for him or not vote for him?

- 1) Yes, I would vote for him/her
- 2) Would not vote for him/her
- 3) Don’t known / No answer (DO NOT READ)

24 Based on the work done by your current deputy, do you think he/she would deserve to be reelected in his position or not?

[1=Yes; 2=No; 3= No answer]

25 I’m going to read you some names, for each one, could you tell me if he/she is well known, somewhat known, little known or not known at all?

[1= Well known; 2=Somewhat known; 3= Little known; 4=Not known at all; 5= DK/NA].

- a Javier Díaz González
- b Lily Gutiérrez Burciaga
- c Georgina Cano Torralva
- d Ana Isabel Durán
- e Sonia Villareal
- f Lariza Montiel
- g Armando Pruneda
- h Leonel Contreras Pámanes
- i Florencio ‘‘Lencho’’ Siller

7.4 Regression results

See Table 7.

	(1) Javier	(2) Lily	(3) Gina	(4) Lencho	(5) Sonia	(6) A.Isabel	(7) Armando	(8) Lariza	(9) Leonel
retained	1.85*** (.33)	2.37*** (.33)	4.91*** (.41)	3.10*** (.43)	3.02*** (.32)	4.59*** (.44)	1.10* (.58)	-.22 (.75)	2.93*** (.38)
lost	1.29* (.68)			1.27*** (.47)		1.46* (.81)			
delivered	.86*** (.25)	.76*** (.27)	1.46*** (.34)	.51* (.30)	.93*** (.27)	.26 (.34)	.51 (.37)	.85*** (.27)	.26 (.33)
interested	.35 (.24)	1.03*** (.27)	1.34*** (.34)	.82*** (.28)	.52** (.26)	.74** (.33)	.71** (.36)	.28 (.27)	.57* (.31)
smartphone	-.27 (.24)	.37 (.27)	-.18 (.31)	-.47* (.28)	.21 (.26)	-.05 (.31)	-.43 (.35)	.26 (.27)	-.42 (.30)
panista	.15 (.39)	-.11 (.41)	-.03 (.52)	1.18*** (.35)	.02 (.41)	.80* (.44)	.78* (.47)	.34 (.39)	1.15*** (.41)
priista	.37 (.28)	.15 (.30)	-.01 (.38)	-.21 (.37)	.17 (.29)	.74** (.35)	.43 (.41)	.19 (.31)	.16 (.39)
morenista	-.07 (.63)	.59 (.51)	.26 (.74)	.76 (.55)	-1.17 (1.04)		-.26 (1.05)	-1.01 (1.03)	.88 (.56)
Intercept	-3.03*** (.25)	-3.82*** (.30)	-4.45*** (.39)	-3.48*** (.30)	-3.49*** (.28)	-3.99*** (.35)	-3.87*** (.37)	-3.29*** (.28)	-3.58*** (.30)
Observations	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,008
Log Likelihood	-262.32	-231.34	-169.84	-205.60	-235.20	-175.64	-147.10	-229.85	-182.89

*p<.1; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 7: Regression results. All models estimated with logit, standard errors in parentheses.