

Dataset	Variable Name	Description	Source (see bottom for details)
citypanel_base.dta	cityid	Administrative ID for a city	National bureau of statistics (NBS)
	cname	Name of a city	NBS
	year	Year	
	msec	Name of the city secretary	CPED
	mayor	Name of the mayor	CPED
	province	Province	NBS
	provid	Administrative ID of the province	NBS
	current_psec	Name of the provincial secretary	CPED
	current_gvn	Name of the governor	CPED
	citylevel	Administrative rank of the city	NBS
	fy_msec	City secretary's year of arrival	CPED
	fy_mayor	Mayor's year of arrival	CPED
	msec_tenure	City secretary's tenure	CPED
	mayor_tenure	Mayor's tenure	CPED
	psec_arrival	Provincial secretary's year of arrival (including governorship)	CPED
	psec_arrival_ym	Provincial secretary's year of arrival in year-month format (including governorship)	CPED
	psec_arrival_aspsec	Provincial secretary year of arrival	CPED
	psec_arrival_aspsec_y m	Provincial secretary's date of arrival (in year-month)	CPED
	psec_departure	Provincial secretary's date of departure	CPED
	psec_age	Provincial secretary's age	CPED
	gvn_arrival	Governor year of arrival	CPED
	gvn_departure	Governor year of departure	CPED

	gvn_age	Governor age	
	msec_rank	City secretary's administrative rank	CPED
	mayor_rank	Mayor's administrative rank	CPED
	msec2currentsec	City secretary connected to prov sec	CPED
	msec2currentsec2	City secretary connected to prov sec (including promotion that occurred when the provincial secretary was governor)	CPED
	msec2currentgvn	City secretary promoted under current governor	CPED
	mayor2currentsec	Mayor connected to prov sec	CPED
	mayor2currentsec2	Mayor connected to prov sec (including promotion that occurred when the provincial secretary was governor)	CPED
	mayor2currentgvn	Mayor promoted under current governor	CPED
	mayor_localtime	Number of years the mayor has served in a locality	CPED
	msec_localtime	Number of years the city secretary has served in a locality	CPED
	msec_prov_exp	City secretary has work experience in the provincial government	CPED
	mayor_prov_exp	Mayor has work experience in the provincial government	CPED
	msec_central_exp	City secretary has work experience in the central government	CPED
	mayor_central_exp	Mayor has work experience in the central government	CPED
	msec_edu	City secretary has college education	CPED
	msec_edu_year	City secretary's first year in college	CPED
	msec_soe_exp	City sec: SOE career	CPED
	msec_univ_exp	City secretary has university work experience	CPED
	msec_league	City secretary has Youth league work experience	CPED

	msec_county_exp	City secretary has county-level work experience	CPED
	msec_finance	City sec: finance/development career	CPED
	msec_firstyearml	City secretary's first year as city leader	CPED
	msec_firstymml	City secretary's first day as city leader (in year-month)	CPED
	mayor_edu	City mayor has college education	CPED
	mayor_edu_year	City mayor's first year in college	CPED
	mayor_soe_exp	City mayor: SOE career	CPED
	mayor_univ_exp	City mayor has university work experience	CPED
	mayor_league	City mayor has Youth league work experience	CPED
	mayor_county_exp	City mayor has county-level work experience	CPED
	mayor_finance	City mayor: finance/development career	CPED
	mayor_firstyearml	City mayor first year as city leader	CPED
	mayor_firstymml	City mayor first day as city leader (in year-month)	CPED
	order	Row number in the panel	
	msec_sex	City secretary's sex	CPED
	msec_ethnicity	City secretary's ethnicity	CPED
	msec_birthyear	City secretary's birth year	CPED
	msec_province	City secretary's home province	CPED
	msec_city	City secretary's home city	CPED
	msec_dob	City secretary's date of birth	CPED
	msec_highest_edu	City secretary's highest educational attainment	CPED
	msec_party	Date at which city secretary joined the CCP	CPED
	msec_status	City secretary's career status (as of June 2015)	CPED
	mayor_sex	City mayor's sex	CPED
	mayor_ethnicity	City mayor's ethnicity	CPED
	mayor_birthyear	City mayor's birth year	CPED
	mayor_province	City mayor's home province	CPED
	mayor_city	City mayor's home city	CPED

	mayor_dob	City mayor's date of birth	CPED
	mayor_highest_edu	City mayor's highest educational attainment	CPED
	mayor_party	Date at which city mayor joined the CCP	CPED
	mayor_status	City mayor's career status (as of June 2015)	CPED
	minor_region	Autonomous minority regions	NBS
	western	Western provinces	NBS
	east_region	Eastern (coastal) provinces	NBS
	auto_city	Autonomous minority prefectures	NBS
	farwest	Qinghai, Xinjiang, Tibet	NBS
econ_panel.dta			
	year	Year	NBS
	cityid	Administrative ID for a city	NBS
	gdpidx	GDP growth	Statistical Yearbook for Regional Economy (SYRE)
	gdpidx_1st	GDP growth: agriculture	SYRE
	gdpidx_2nd	GDP growth: industry	SYRE
	gdpidx_3rd	GDP growth: service	SYRE
	G20_topic0	Share of topic 0 in government work report	Jiang, Junyan, Tianguang Meng, and Qing Zhang, 2016, From Internet to Social Safety Net (JMZ)
	G20_topic1	Share of topic 1 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic2	Share of topic 2 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic3	Share of topic 3 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic4	Share of topic 4 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic5	Share of topic 5 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic6	Share of topic 6 in government work report	JMZ

	G20_topic7	Share of topic 7 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic8	Share of topic 8 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic9	Share of topic 9 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic10	Share of topic 10 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic11	Share of topic 11 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic12	Share of topic 12 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic13	Share of topic 13 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic14	Share of topic 14 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic15	Share of topic 15 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic16	Share of topic 16 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic17	Share of topic 17 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic18	Share of topic 18 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic19	Share of topic 19 in government work report	JMZ
	anysez_pv	City has provincial-level special economic zones	http://www.cadz.org.cn/kaifa/sjkaifa.php . Also see Wang, Jin, 2013, The economic impact of Special Economic Zones: Evidence from Chinese municipalities, Journal of Development Economics
	anysez_nat	City has national-level special economic zones	http://www.cadz.org.cn/kaifa/sjkaifa.php . Also see Wang, Jin, 2013, The economic impact of Special Economic Zones: Evidence from Chinese municipalities, Journal

			of Development Economics
	loggdp	Log GDP	SYRE
	logpop	Log population	SYRE
	logloan	Log loan	SYRE
	growrev	Growth in fiscal revenue	SYRE
	govsize	Fiscal expenditure as \% of GDP	SYRE
	logltavg	Log average nighttime brightness per square km	DMSP-OLS Nighttime Lights Time Series (https://ngdc.noaa.gov/eog/dmsp/downloadV4composites.html)
	log_allarea	Log total areas of land sold	SYRE
	startmsec_loggdp	Secretary: Starting year Log GDP	SYRE
	startmayor_loggdp	Mayor: Starting year Log GDP	SYRE
	startmsec_logpop	Secretary: Starting year Log population	SYRE
	startmayor_logpop	Mayor: Starting year Log population	SYRE
	startmsec_loginvest	Secretary: Starting year Log fixed asset investment	SYRE
	startmayor_loginvest	Mayor: Starting year Log fixed asset investment	SYRE
	startmsec_gdpidx	Secretary: Starting year GDP index	SYRE
	startmayor_gdpidx	Mayor: Starting year GDP index	SYRE
	f2gdpidx	GDP growth rate at t+2	SYRE
	dep	Fiscal expenditure -Fiscal revenue (t+1)	SYRE
	laws	Number of policies and laws passed	PKU Law (http://www.pkulaw.cn/)
	psec_dominant	Provincial secretary connected to general secretary	CPED
	growgap	GDP growth - (freight growth + electricity growth + nighttime brightness growth)/3	SYRE
	grow_gap_freight	GDP growth - freight growth	SYRE
	grow_gap_power	GDP growth - electricity growth	SYRE

	grow_gap_light	GDP growth - nighttime brightness growth	SYRE
	lgdpidx	GDP growth at t-1	SYRE
	mv3_gdpidx_1st	Growth in agriculture GDP (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	mv3_gdpidx_2nd	Growth in industrial GDP (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	mv3_gdpidx_3rd	Growth in service-sector GDP (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	mv3_growpop	Growth in local population (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	mv3_growexp	Growth in fiscal expenditure at $\backslash(t)$ (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
validation_data.dta			
	name	Name of the official	CPED
	year	Year	CPED
	leadertype	Leader type by beginning rank (m=municipal, vp=vice provincial, p=provincial, c=national)	CPED
	anticorruption	Investigated for corruption	CPED
	rank	Administrative rank	CPED
	job	Name of the job	CPED
	jobcat	Category of the job	CPED
	keypost	Label for key post	CPED
	province	Serving province	CPED
	city	Serving city	CPED
	firstprovince	First serving province	CPED
	expid	Count variable for duration	CPED
	pro2vp_trueprize	Promoted to vice-provincial level posts with active duty	CPED
	conn2currentpb1	Connected to Politburo member (promotion measure)	CPED
	Conn2currentpb_op	Connected to Politburo member (overlap measure)	CPED
	conn2currentsc1	Connected to Politburo Standing Committee member (promotion measure)	CPED

	conn2currentsc_op	Connected to Politburo Standing Committee member (overlap measure)	CPED
	sex	Gender	CPED
	ethnicity	Ethnicity	CPED
	dob	Date of birth	CPED
	birth_province	Birth province	CPED
	birth_city	Birth city	CPED
	birth_county	Birth county	CPED
	edu	Highest education	CPED
	party	Date joining the CCP	CPED
	status	Current status (as of July 2015)	CPED
	age	Age	CPED
	conn2targets	Patrons became target of investigation (promotion-based)	CPED
	conn2targets_op	Patrons became target of investigation (overlap-based)	CPED
performance_and_promotion.dta			
	name	Name of the official	CPED
	province	Serving province	CPED
	year	Year	CPED
	leadertype	Whether the official starts as a mayor or city secretary	CPED
	actualcollege	Full-time college	CPED
	firstbureau	Year first promoted to bureau-level	CPED
	purged	Demoted for corruption or malfeasance	CPED
	rank	Administrative rank	CPED
	city	Serving city	CPED
	firstprovince	The province in which an official's observation starts	CPED

	expid	Count variable for duration	
	pro2vp_trueprize	Promoted to vice-provincial level posts with active duty	CPED
	conn2currentpb	Connected to Politburo member	CPED
	conn2currentsc	Connected to Politburo Standing Committee (PSC) member	CPED
	conn2currenttop	Connected to Politburo or PSC member	CPED
	pf_f2gdpidx_dm1	Cumulative Relative Performance (CRP) under patron	SYRE
	pf_f2gdpidx_dm2	CRP under non-patron	SYRE
	pf_f2gdpidx_dm3	CRP (overall)	SYRE
	pf_f1logtransfer_dm3	Average relative fiscal transfer	Public Finance Statistical Materials of Prefectures, Cities, and Counties (PFSM)
	pf_gdp_dm3	Average relative city GDP	SYRE
	pf_totalpop_dm3	Average relative city population	SYRE
	id	ID in CPED	CPED
	sex	Gender	CPED
	ethnicity	Ethnicity	CPED
	dob	Date of birth	CPED
	birth_prov	Birth province	CPED
	birth_city	Birth city	CPED
	birth_county	Birth county	CPED
	highest_edu	Highest education	CPED
	status	Current status (as of July 2015)	CPED
	party	Date joining the CCP	CPED
	age	Age	CPED
	birth_year	Birth year	CPED

Source:

CPED: Jiang, Junyan, 2018, Chinese Political Elite Database (CPED), <https://www.junyanjiang.com/data.html>

DMSP-OLS Nighttime Lights Time Series <https://ngdc.noaa.gov/eog/dmsp/downloadV4composites.html>

JMZ: Jiang, Junyan, Tianguang Meng, Qing Zhang, 2017, From Internet to Social Safety Net: The Policy Consequences of Online Participation in China, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2975456

PFSM: Ministry of Finance, various years, *Public Finance Statistical Materials of Prefectures, Cities, and Counties* (地市县财政统计资料), China Financial Economics Press, <https://goo.gl/E1QkfL>

NBS: National Bureau of Statistics, Administrative Codes for Localities (统计用区划和城乡划分代码), <http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/tjbz/tjyqhdmhcxhfdm/>

PKU Law (北大法宝): <http://www.pkulaw.cn/>

SYRE: National Bureau of Statistics, various years, *Statistical Yearbooks on Regional Economy* (中国区域统计年鉴), China Statistical Press, <http://tongji.cnki.net/kns55/navi/HomePage.aspx?id=N2013010085&name=YZXDR&floor=1>