

CCES Cumulative Common Content (2006 - 2017)

Shiro Kuriwaki*

Guide last updated: 2018-04-16

Kuriwaki, Shiro, 2018, "Cumulative CCES Common Content (2006-2017)", doi:10.7910/DVN/II2DB6, Harvard Dataverse

This dataset combines twelve years (2006 - 2017) of the Cooperative Congressional Election Study (Principal Investigators: Stephen Ansolabehere, Sam Luks, Brian Schaffner).

The Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES) is an online survey conducted around November of each year, asking a range of questions on political behavior and public opinion. Questions can change from year to year; this cumulative file includes standard questions asked multiple years.

This dataset was constructed based off CCES datasets from each year. A set of R scripts formatted, merged, and standardized these datasets to generate a tibble-style data frame. In addition, the same dataset is available on Crunch, an accessible analytics interface optimized for survey datasets.

Please note that this cumulative dataset makes modifications to the original CCES datasets for comparability. These modifications are only made when differences are deemed sufficiently minor, and are documented in source code (see below). However, for details on the survey methodology and a list of all questions, readers should consult the guides for each year.

To see the source code,

report a bug, or ask a question about the data, please feel free to file an issue from the source code page: https://github.com/kuriwaki/cces_cumulative. Alternatively, please contact me by email.

To obtain the individual year's CCES datasets,

search the CCES dataverse (<https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/cces>) or access the CCES homepage (<https://cces.gov.harvard.edu/>). Sign-up to the Crunch dataset from the homepage as well.

To examine the survey methodology,

consult the Methodology section of the most recent Common Content's code-book: <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/GDF6Z0>.

*Department of Government, Harvard University. Email: kuriwaki@g.harvard.edu. Bug reports welcome. My thanks to Alexander Agadjanian, Steve Ansolabehere, Stephen DiMauro, Bernard Fraga, Nathan Kaplan, Mayya Komisarchik, Stephen Pettigrew, Joe Williams, and the Crunch Team for their help.

Getting Started

The .Rds format can be read into R. This format preserves dataset properties such as the distinction between integers and doubles, and labelled variables. Unlike a .Rdata file, an .Rds file must be assigned to an object when loading.

```
df <- readRDS("cumulative_2006_2017.Rds")
```

The dataset in R is best viewed in dplyr, although it can be analyzed as a standard data frame.

```
library(tidyverse)
df
```

```
# A tibble: 392,755 x 70
   year case_id weight weight_cumulative state st cd dist dist_up
   <int> <int> <dbl> <dbl> <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <int>
1  2006  439219  1.85      1.35 North~ NC NC-10  10    10
2  2006  439224  0.968    0.704 Ohio  OH OH-3   3     3
3  2006  439228  1.59      1.16 New J~ NJ NJ-1   1     1
4  2006  439237  1.40      1.02 Illin~ IL IL-9   9     9
5  2006  439238  0.903    0.656 New Y~ NY NY-22  22    22
6  2006  439242  0.839    0.610 Texas  TX TX-11  11    11
7  2006  439251  0.777    0.565 Minne~ MN MN-3   3     3
8  2006  439254  0.839    0.610 Nevada NV NV-2   2     2
9  2006  439255  0.331    0.241 Texas  TX TX-24  24    24
10 2006  439263  1.10      0.802 Maryl~ MD MD-2   2     2
# ... with 392,745 more rows, and 61 more variables: cong <int>,
#   cong_up <int>, zipcode <chr>, county_fips <chr>, tookpost <int+lbl>,
#   weight_post <dbl>, starttime <dtm>, pid3 <int+lbl>, pid7 <int+lbl>,
#   pid3_leaner <int+lbl>, ideo5 <fct>, gender <int+lbl>, birthyr <int>,
#   age <int>, race <int+lbl>, hispanic <int+lbl>, educ <int+lbl>,
#   faminc <fct>, economy_retro <int+lbl>, approval_pres <int+lbl>,
#   approval_rep <fct>, approval_sen1 <fct>, approval_sen2 <fct>,
#   approval_gov <int+lbl>, intent_pres_08 <fct>, intent_pres_12 <fct>,
#   intent_pres_16 <fct>, voted_pres_08 <fct>, voted_pres_12 <fct>,
#   voted_pres_16 <fct>, vv_regstatus <fct>, vv_party_gen <fct>,
#   vv_party_prm <fct>, vv_turnout_gvm <fct>, vv_turnout_pvm <fct>,
#   intent_rep <fct>, intent_sen <fct>, intent_gov <fct>, voted_rep <fct>,
#   voted_sen <fct>, voted_gov <fct>, intent_rep_chosen <chr>,
#   intent_rep_fec <chr>, intent_sen_chosen <chr>, intent_sen_fec <chr>,
#   intent_gov_chosen <chr>, intent_gov_fec <chr>, voted_rep_chosen <chr>,
#   voted_rep_fec <chr>, voted_sen_chosen <chr>, voted_sen_fec <chr>,
#   voted_gov_chosen <chr>, voted_gov_fec <chr>, rep_current <chr>,
#   rep_icpsr <int>, sen1_current <chr>, sen1_icpsr <int>,
#   sen2_current <chr>, sen2_icpsr <int>, gov_current <chr>, gov_fec <chr>
```

A Stata dta file is provided as well. cumulative_2006_2017.dta can be read by Stata, or in R by the haven package

```
library(haven)
df <- read_dta("cumulative_2006_2017.dta")
```

A note on variable types. The R dataset stores variables in numeric, character, factor, or labelled format. The first three classes are frequently are commonly used, but the labelled format is more recent. Essentially it is similar to a factor but more compatible with Stata and SPSS. It is built around R's haven package, which includes more documentation.

A labelled variable's labels are not shown immediately in the Console:

```
select(df, year, case_id, pid3)
```

```
# A tibble: 392,755 x 3
  year case_id pid3
  <int>   <int> <int+lbl>
1  2006  439219 1
2  2006  439224 4
3  2006  439228 1
4  2006  439237 1
5  2006  439238 1
6  2006  439242 3
7  2006  439251 2
8  2006  439254 1
9  2006  439255 1
10 2006  439263 1
# ... with 392,745 more rows
```

But labels can be displayed by transforming the labelled vector into a factor.

```
library(haven)
select(df, year, case_id, pid3) %>%
  mutate(pid3_fct = as_factor(pid3))
```

```
# A tibble: 392,755 x 4
  year case_id pid3 pid3_fct
  <int>   <int> <int+lbl> <fct>
1  2006  439219 1 Democrat
2  2006  439224 4 Other
3  2006  439228 1 Democrat
4  2006  439237 1 Democrat
5  2006  439238 1 Democrat
6  2006  439242 3 Independent
7  2006  439251 2 Republican
8  2006  439254 1 Democrat
9  2006  439255 1 Democrat
10 2006  439263 1 Democrat
# ... with 392,745 more rows
```

Features of the 2006 - 2017 Cumulative Dataset

Unified Variable Names

Most variables in this dataset come straight from each year's CCES. However, it renames and standardizes variable names, making them accessible in one place. Please see the rest of this guide or the Crunch dataset for a full list and description of variables.

Chosen Candidate Names and Identifiers

One addition to this cumulative dataset are variables of candidate names and identifiers that a respondent chose. In the individual year's CCES datasets, typically the response values for a vote choice question is a generic label, e.g. Candidate1 and Candidate2. Then, separate variables of names and parties correspond to each Candidate1 and Candidate2.

Instead, the cumulative dataset shows both the generic label *and* the chosen candidate's name, party, and identifier, which will vary across individuals.

```
select(df, year, case_id, st, matches("voted_sen"))
```

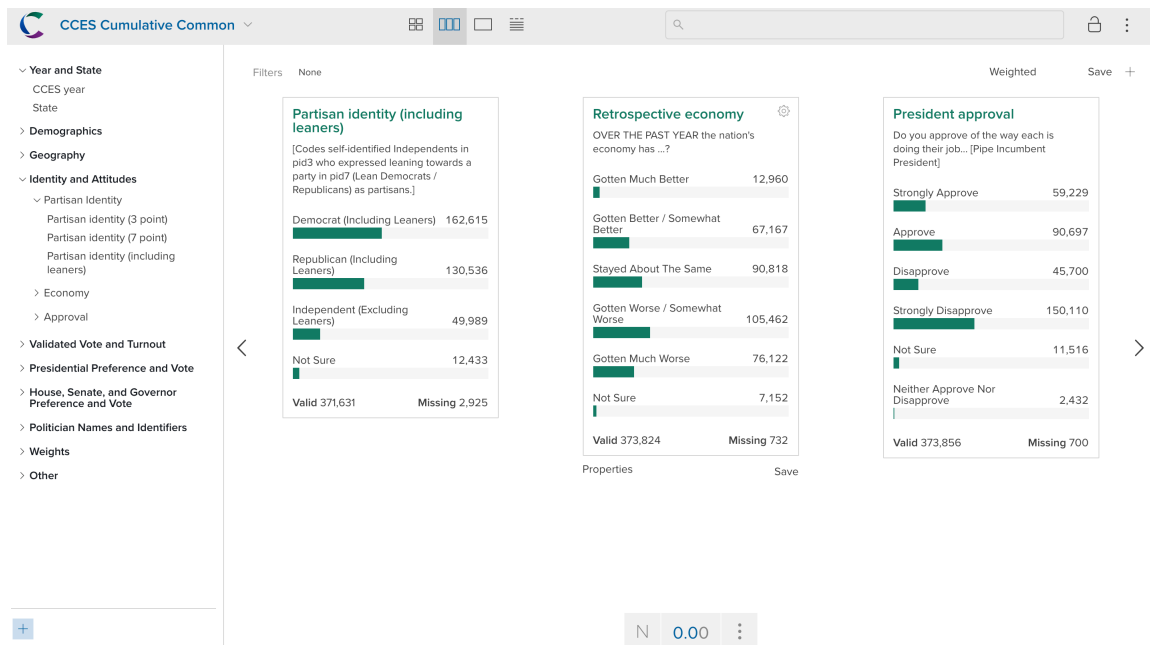
```
# A tibble: 392,755 x 6
  year case_id st      voted_sen      voted_sen_chosen voted_sen_fec
  <int>   <int> <chr>   <fct>          <chr>          <chr>
1  2006  439219 NC      <NA>          <NA>          <NA>
2  2006  439224 OH      [Democrat / Cand~ Sherrod C. Brown (~ S6OH00163
3  2006  439228 NJ      [Democrat / Cand~ Robert Menendez (D) S6NJ00289
4  2006  439237 IL      <NA>          <NA>          <NA>
5  2006  439238 NY      [Democrat / Cand~ Hillary Rodham Cli~ S0NY00188
6  2006  439242 TX      I Did Not Vote I~ <NA>          <NA>
7  2006  439251 MN      [Republican / Ca~ Mark Kennedy (R)    S6MN00275
8  2006  439254 NV      [Democrat / Cand~ Jack Carter (D)     S6NV00150
9  2006  439255 TX      [Democrat / Cand~ Barbara Ann Radnof~ S6TX00180
10 2006  439263 MD      I Did Not Vote I~ <NA>          <NA>
# ... with 392,745 more rows
```

Crunch

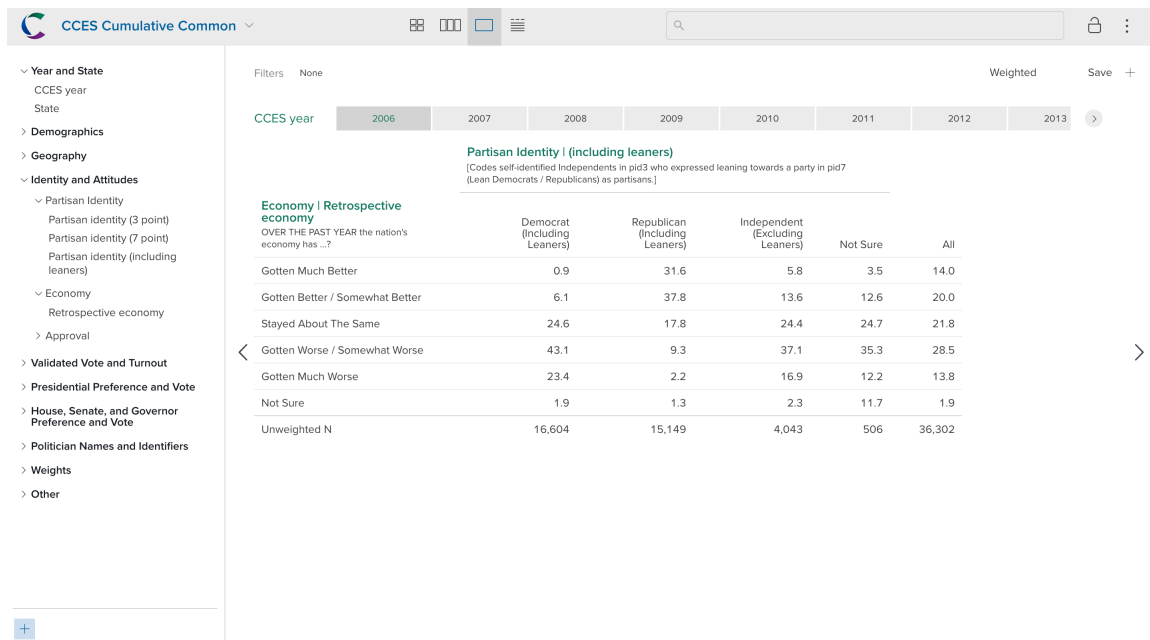
A version of the dataset is also included in Crunch, a database platform that makes it easy to view and analyze survey data either with or without any programming experience. Crunch is in beta at the time of writing.

1. Obtain Access: For View access to the dataset (free), please sign up here: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_066hQi4Eeco3Kap. For questions and more access, please contact the CCES Team.

2. Browse: Crunch offers a web GUI for quickly browsing variables:



3. Analyze: The crunch interface allows Viewers to make cross-tabs and bar graphs quickly.



Crunch datasets can also be manipulated from a R package, crunch <https://github.com/Crunch-io/rcrunch>.

Variables

The sections below provide summary more information on each variable.

- The title shows the name as used in the dataset, suitable for coding (“alias” in Crunch terminology). followed by a more descriptive. name suitable for presentation (“name” in Crunch terminology).
- Question wordings, where applicable, immediately follow. Otherwise an description is provide in square brackets ([]). All square brackets, both in the description and the response options, indicate descriptions that are summaries of what the respondent saw rather than the question verbatim.
- A tabulation of response options (or summary statistics for numeric variables) follow. Numbers are unweighted counts.
- The “Years” bullet lists the years of the CCES in which data on the variable is available at all. If a year is not listed, either the question was not asked in the year or was not incorporated in the creation of this dataset.
- Finally, the “Limitations” bullet notes some of the caveats required when interpreting this variable. As this dataset is combinations of different surveys, some year-specific details on implementation are inevitably lost. For example, for all 2016 responses “Not Asked” and “Skipped” are both coded as a NA (missing) to stay consistent with past years that did not make that finer distinction.

Administration

year: CCES year

[Year of CCES Common Content]

| year | n |
|------|-------|
| 2006 | 36421 |
| 2007 | 9999 |
| 2008 | 32800 |
| 2009 | 13800 |
| 2010 | 55400 |
| 2011 | 20150 |
| 2012 | 54535 |
| 2013 | 16400 |
| 2014 | 56200 |
| 2015 | 14250 |
| 2016 | 64600 |
| 2017 | 18200 |

starttime: Start time

[Pre-election wave start time (up to second)]

| Min. | 1st Qu. | Median |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| "2006-10-07 00:02:34" | "2010-10-06 15:30:40" | "2012-10-10 08:29:31" |
| Mean | 3rd Qu. | Max. |
| "2012-09-06 15:09:20" | "2014-10-27 12:03:25" | "2017-12-12 23:16:03" |

- Years: All of 2006-2017

tookpost: Took post-election wave

[Whether or not the respondent took the post-election wave of the survey (in even years)]

| | tookpost | n |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Did Not Take Post-Election Survey | | 50872 |
| Took Post-Election Survey | | 249084 |
| <NA> | | 92799 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 (Post-election wave only exists for even years)

Weights**weight: Survey weight (Year-Specific)**

[weights from pre-election survey of each year]

| Min. | 1st Qu. | Median | Mean | 3rd Qu. | Max. |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| 0.0000 | 0.4076 | 0.7219 | 1.0000 | 1.1887 | 15.0006 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- In even years, they are re-computed after vote validation has been computed and those re-computed weights are taken here when available. The weights applied to the sample (which is originally drawn from a matched sample) are constructed to make each year's respondents' pool representative of the national adult population. See the methodology section of the 2016 Guide for details.
- Limitations: Only specific to each year. Built off of the entire pre-election wave sample, but not necessarily to adjust post-election wave respondents. See `weight_post`

weight_cumulative: Survey weight (Cumulative)

[weight variable with simple adjustment: multiplied a constant within year to make years comparable]

| Min. | 1st Qu. | Median | Mean | 3rd Qu. | Max. |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| 0.0000 | 0.2464 | 0.4803 | 0.8089 | 0.9657 | 19.3959 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: Only a simple transformation of `weight`

weight_post: Survey weight for post-election wave

[weight for post-election wave respondents. Only available for some of the even years.]

| Min. | 1st Qu. | Median | Mean | 3rd Qu. | Max. | NA's |
|------|---------|--------|------|---------|-------|--------|
| 0.00 | 0.43 | 0.71 | 1.00 | 1.13 | 15.00 | 294978 |

- Years: 2012, 2016
- Limitations: Only available for some even years.

Geography

A series of variables for the respondent's location

- **state:** State (FIPS)ccc: [State (Imputed from input zipcode)]
- **st:** State abbreviation (FIPS): [State (Imputed from input zipcode)]
- **dist:** Congressional district number in current Congress: [Current Congressional District Number (Imputed from input zipcode)]
- **dist_up:** Congressional district number for upcoming Congress: [Upcoming Congressional District Number (Imputed from input zipcode)]
- **cd:** Congressional district in current Congress: [Current Congressional District (Imputed from input zipcode)]
- **zipcode:** Zipcode of residence: So that we can ask you about the news and events in your area, in what zip code do you currently reside?
- **county_fips:** County of residence: [County (Imputed from input zipcode)]

Observations: 392,755

Variables: 7

```
$ state      <chr> "California", "Pennsylvania", "Texas", "Texas", "T...
$ st        <chr> "CA", "PA", "TX", "TX", "TX", "NY", "NC", "NC", "M...
$ cd        <chr> "CA-2", "PA-5", "TX-16", "TX-19", "TX-6", "NY-28",...
$ dist      <int> 2, 5, 16, 19, 6, 28, 11, 7, 1, 17, 15, 1, 2, 6, 1,...
$ dist_up   <int> 1, 3, 16, 19, 6, 27, 11, 7, 2, 20, 12, 1, 2, 8, 1,...
$ zipcode   <chr> "95969", "16255", "79924", "79423", "76123", "1413...
$ county_fips <chr> "06007", "42031", "48141", "48303", "48439", "3606...
```

- **Years:** All of 2006-2017
- **Limitations:** Some years do not provide the variable relevant to **dist_up**, in which case the current district (**dist**) is assigned automatically. Thus, **dist_up** may not reflect, for example, district changes in off-cycle redistricting. Only residence (not registration) geographies included here; see individual years' for registration geographies.

Demographics

gender: Gender

Are you male or female?

```
gender      n
Male 184273
Female 208482
```

- **Years:** All of 2006-2017

birthyr: Year of birth

In what year were you born?

| Min. | 1st Qu. | Median | Mean | 3rd Qu. | Max. |
|------|---------|--------|------|---------|------|
| 1900 | 1950 | 1960 | 1962 | 1975 | 1999 |

- **Years:** All of 2006-2017

age: Age

[Approximate age computed from the year of survey minus Year of Birth]

| Min. | 1st Qu. | Median | Mean | 3rd Qu. | Max. |
|-------|---------|--------|-------|---------|--------|
| 18.00 | 37.00 | 52.00 | 49.84 | 62.00 | 109.00 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017

educ: Education

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

| educ | n |
|----------------------|--------|
| No HS | 11781 |
| High School Graduate | 108706 |
| Some College | 99659 |
| 2-Year | 37584 |
| 4-Year | 88755 |
| Post-Grad | 46203 |
| <NA> | 67 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017

race: Race

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

| race | n |
|-----------------|--------|
| White | 292782 |
| Black | 43531 |
| Hispanic | 30959 |
| Asian | 7335 |
| Native American | 3096 |
| Mixed | 7441 |
| Other | 7002 |
| Middle Eastern | 609 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: The “Hispanic” value may undercount self-identified Hispanics. See hispanic

hispanic: Hispanic

Are you of Spanish, Latino, or Hispanic origin or descent? [Asked if response to race is not Hispanic]

| hispanic | n |
|----------|--------|
| Yes | 9094 |
| No | 264014 |
| <NA> | 119647 |

- Years: 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
- In years in which this question was fielded, this question supplements the race variable by asking does who did *not* respnd “Hipsanic” in the race question.

faminc: Family Income

Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income? [Brackets coarsened]

| faminc | n |
|-------------------|-------|
| Less than 10k | 15880 |
| 10k - 20k | 28630 |
| 20k - 30k | 40176 |
| 30k - 40k | 40586 |
| 40k - 50k | 36487 |
| 50k - 60k | 35620 |
| 60k - 70k | 26004 |
| 70k - 80k | 28193 |
| 80k - 100k | 32741 |
| 100k - 120k | 23952 |
| 120k - 150k | 18936 |
| 150k+ | 21259 |
| Prefer not to say | 43063 |
| Skipped | 12 |
| <NA> | 1216 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: The income brackets provided in the question has changed slightly over time. The brackets in this cumulative dataset coarsens the brackets so that the bracket labeling are all correct, but with loss of some granularity. In particular, the brackets from 2006 - 2010 are different from those before. From 2011-2016, brackets over 150k were asked in a follow-up question when the respondent initially selected "over 150k". These are all grouped in this cumulative dataset.
- The 2009 CCES did not have an option for 60-70k.

Validations

vv_regstatus: Validated registration status

[Validation results. Missing if validation was not conducted in the year. Categories are aggregated. Both Matched-not registered and unmatched are labeled as a no record.]

| vv_regstatus | n |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Active | 178356 |
| No Record Of Registration | 61861 |
| Unregistered | 13826 |
| Dropped | 5294 |
| Inactive | 3047 |
| Multiple Appearances | 1151 |
| <NA> | 129220 |

- Years: 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: Collapses some response options

vv_party_gen: Validated registered party

[Validation results]

| vv_party_gen | n |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| No Record Of Party Registration | 60890 |
| Unknown | 51379 |
| Democratic Party | 27058 |
| Republican Party | 21522 |
| No Party Affiliation | 9835 |
| Declined To State | 1579 |
| Other | 1286 |
| Independent Party | 1176 |
| Liberatarian Party | 376 |
| Green Party | 194 |
| Constitution Party | 27 |
| Reform Party | 9 |
| Socialist Party | 3 |
| Cns | 1 |
| <NA> | 217420 |

- Years: 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: Not available for some even years

vv_party_prm: Validated registered Primary party

[Validation results. All vote methods (polling, mail, early, unknown, etc..) are aggregated as a vote.]

| vv_party_prm | n |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| No Record Of Party Registration | 157120 |
| Republican Party | 10010 |
| Democratic Party | 8202 |
| Other | 3 |
| <NA> | 217420 |

- Years: 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: Not available for some even years

Turnout

vv_turnout_gvm: Validated turnout General Election

[Validation results. All vote methods (polling, mail, early, unknown, etc..) are aggregated as a vote.]

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| vv_turnout_gvm | n |
| Voted | 169204 |
| No Record Of Voting | 129019 |
| No Voter File | 1733 |
| <NA> | 92799 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: Collapses most response options. In particular, the particular voting method is collapsed into one category, even though gvm stands for General Election voting method. Also, the result of not matching to a voter file is collapsed with the result of matching to a voter file and having no indication of turning out to vote. The distinction is unclear in earlier years, and is thus collapsed for all years here. For finer distinctions, see the individual year's CCES.

vv_turnout_pvm: Validated turnout Primary Election (Congressional)

[Validation results]

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| vv_turnout_pvm | n |
| No Record Of Voting | 185927 |
| Voted | 76245 |
| No Voter File | 1363 |
| <NA> | 129220 |

- Years: 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: See vv_turnout_gvm

Identity and Attitudes

Partisan Identity

pid3: Partisan identity (3 point)

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ... ?

| pid3 | n |
|-------------|--------|
| Democrat | 139175 |
| Republican | 102907 |
| Independent | 109594 |
| Other | 15437 |
| Not Sure | 16742 |
| <NA> | 8900 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: Response options offer slightly by year. For example, the Not Sure option is not a response option in years 2006 and 2010. Open-text responses not included. 2010 values are from the post-election wave.

pid7: Partisan identity (7 point)

[Based on branching from Partisan Identity question]

| pid7 | n |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Strong Democrat | 93511 |
| Not Very Strong Democrat | 47615 |
| Lean Democrat | 39249 |
| Independent | 52414 |
| Lean Republican | 42003 |
| Not Very Strong Republican | 37883 |
| Strong Republican | 65725 |
| Not Sure | 11430 |
| <NA> | 2925 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: See pid3

pid3_leaner: Partisan identity (including leaners)

[Codes self-identified Independents in pid3 who expressed leaning towards a party in pid7 (Lean Democrats / Republicans) as partisans.]

| pid3_leaner | n |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Democrat (Including Leaners) | 180375 |
| Republican (Including Leaners) | 145611 |
| Independent (Excluding Leaners) | 52414 |
| Not Sure | 11430 |
| <NA> | 2925 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: See pid3

ideo5: Ideology (5 point)

In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

| ideo5 | n |
|-------------------|--------|
| Very Liberal | 32708 |
| Liberal | 68662 |
| Moderate | 124331 |
| Conservative | 93216 |
| Very Conservative | 45010 |
| Not Sure | 27473 |
| <NA> | 1355 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017

Economy

economy_retro: Retrospective economy

OVER THE PAST YEAR the nation's economy has ... ?

| economy_retro | n |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Gotten Much Better | 17802 |
| Gotten Better / Somewhat Better | 85451 |
| Stayed About The Same | 101238 |
| Gotten Worse / Somewhat Worse | 105357 |
| Gotten Much Worse | 74562 |
| Not Sure | 7577 |
| <NA> | 768 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: Response options varies by year. Some are collapsed into one category (e.g. Gotten Better, presented in some years, and Gotten Somewhat Better, presented in other years, are collapsed into Gotten Better / Somewhat Better). Some are left as is. For example, Not Sure was not an option in 2009.

Approval

approval_pres: President approval

Do you approve of the way each is doing their job... [Pipe Incumbent President]

| approval_pres | n |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Strongly Approve | 77853 |
| Somewhat Approve | 95237 |
| Somewhat Disapprove | 41782 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 165996 |
| Not Sure | 10742 |
| Neither Approve Nor Disapprove | 443 |
| <NA> | 702 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: Neither approve nor disapprove only included in 2007.
- This question is asked in a grid format, along with Governors, Congress, and Courts.

approval_rep: House Representative approval

Do you approve of the way each is doing their job... [Pipe Incumbent Representative's Name]

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| approval_rep | n |
| Strongly Approve | 57429 |
| Approve / Somewhat Approve | 122307 |
| Disapprove / Somewhat Disapprove | 68245 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 61369 |
| Never Heard / Not Sure | 75301 |
| Neither Approve Nor Disapprove | 1798 |
| <NA> | 6306 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: Neither approve nor disapprove only included in 2007.
- This question is asked in a grid format, along with Senators (approval_sen1, approval_sen2).
- To see who [Representative] refers to for a particular respondent, see rep_inc (incumbent identifier in rep_icpsr)

approval_sen1: Senator 1 approval

Do you approve of the way each is doing their job... [Pipe Incumbent Senator 1's Name]

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| approval_sen1 | n |
| Strongly Approve | 51467 |
| Approve / Somewhat Approve | 124184 |
| Disapprove / Somewhat Disapprove | 78204 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 76409 |
| Never Heard / Not Sure | 56753 |
| Neither Approve Nor Disapprove | 1413 |
| <NA> | 4325 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: : Response options varies by year. Some are collapsed into one category (e.g. Approve, presented in some years, and Somewhat Approve, presented in other years, are collapsed into Approve / Somewhat Approve). Neither approve nor disapprove only included in 2007.
- To see who [Senator 1] refers to for a particular respondent, see sen1_inc (incumbent identifier in sen1_icpsr)

approval_sen2: Senator 2 approval

Do you approve of the way each is doing their job... [Pipe Incumbent Senator 2's Name]

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| approval_sen2 | n |
| Strongly Approve | 53919 |
| Approve / Somewhat Approve | 119806 |
| Disapprove / Somewhat Disapprove | 76720 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 77082 |
| Never Heard / Not Sure | 58971 |
| Neither Approve Nor Disapprove | 1158 |
| <NA> | 5099 |

- See approval_sen2

approval_gov: Governor approval

Do you approve of the way each is doing their job... Governor of [Pipe State]

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| approval_gov | n |
| Strongly Approve | 57460 |
| Somewhat Approve | 121801 |
| Somewhat Disapprove | 74177 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 101957 |
| Not Sure | 33980 |
| Neither Approve Nor Disapprove | 1414 |
| <NA> | 1966 |

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: See approval_pres
- To see who the Governor refers to for a particular respondent, see gov_inc (incumbent identifier in gov_fec, if applicable).

Presidential Vote

A note on intent and voted

In this dataset we make the distinction between "intent" / "preference" vs. "voted" / "vote choice". "Intent" (or "preference") refers to the response to the prospective question of the sort "who would you vote for?" in the *pre-election* wave. "Vote choice" refers to the response to the retrospective question of the sort "in the election this November, who did you vote for?" Response to the vote choice questions coalesces both *post-election* wave responses (the bulk of the responses) and pre-election respondents who reported having already voted early.

intent_pres_08: 2008 President preference (before voting)

For which candidate for President of the United States would you vote?

| intent_pres_08 | n |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| John McCain | 13322 |
| Barack Obama | 12897 |
| Ron Paul | 535 |
| Ralph Nader | 209 |
| Bob Barr | 258 |
| Cynthia McKinney | 74 |
| Other | 352 |
| I Won't Vote In This Election | 851 |
| I'm Not Sure | 1697 |
| <NA> | 362560 |

- Years: 2008

intent_pres_12: 2012 President preference (before voting)

In the race for President of the United States, who do you prefer?

| intent_pres_12 | n |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Mitt Romney (Republican) | 20738 |
| Barack Obama (Democratic) | 24401 |
| Other | 1781 |
| I Will Not Vote In This Election | 1467 |
| I'm Not Sure | 3856 |
| <NA> | 340512 |

- Years: 2012

intent_pres_16: 2016 President preference (before voting)

Which candidate did you prefer for President of the United States?

| intent_pres_16 | n |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Donald Trump (Republican) | 19227 |
| Hillary Clinton (Democrat) | 27502 |
| Gary Johnson (Libertarian) | 3145 |
| Jill Stein (Green) | 1400 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| | Other | 1880 |
| I Won't Vote In This Election | | 3312 |
| | I'm Not Sure | 6536 |
| | <NA> | 329753 |

- Years: 2016

voted_pres_08: 2008 President vote choice (after voting)

2008: For which candidate for President of the United States did you vote? [see guide for wording in all years]

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------|
| | voted_pres_08 | n |
| Barack Obama (Democratic) | | 73986 |
| John McCain (Republican) | | 68398 |
| | Someone Else | 4204 |
| | Did Not Vote | 18227 |
| | Don't Recall | 1787 |
| | <NA> | 226153 |

- Years: 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
- Limitations: Response options offer slightly by year; some are collapsed into one.

voted_pres_12: 2012 President vote choice (after voting)

2012: For whom did you vote for President of the United States? 2016: In 2012, who did you vote for in the election for President? [see guide for wording in all years]

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | voted_pres_12 | n |
| | Barack Obama | 82681 |
| | Mitt Romney | 64956 |
| | Other / Someone Else | 5890 |
| | Did Not Vote | 2758 |
| | Not Sure / Don't Recall | 1990 |
| I Did Not Vote In This Race | | 81 |
| | <NA> | 234399 |

- Years: 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Limitations: Response options offer slightly by year; some are collapsed into one.
- This variable coalesces two variables: Either the response to the early vote question in the pre-election wave if the respondent indicates they have already voted, or if not, the response in the post-election wave.

voted_pres_16: 2016 President vote choice (after voting)

2017: In the election for U.S. President, who did you vote for? [If reported voting] 2016: For whom did you vote for President of the United States? [Post-election]

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| | voted_pres_16 | n |
| | Donald Trump | 24578 |
| | Hilary Clinton | 29395 |
| | Other / Someone Else | 5473 |
| | Did Not Vote | 229 |
| Not Sure / Don't Recall | | 326 |
| | <NA> | 332754 |

- Years: 2016, 2017
- This variable coalesces two variables in the CCES: Either the response to the early vote question in the pre-election wave if the respondent indicates they have already voted, or if not, the response in the post-election wave.

House, Senate and Governor Voting

Preference

intent_rep: House preference (before voting)

In the general election for U.S. House of Representatives in your area, who do you prefer?

| | intent_rep | n |
|--|------------|--------|
| [Democrat / Candidate 1] | | 103873 |
| [Republican / Candidate 2] | | 97039 |
| [Other / Candidate 3] | | 4071 |
| \$HouseCand4Name (\$HouseCand4Party) | | 18 |
| Other | | 1720 |
| I'm Not Sure | | 60579 |
| No One | | 15860 |
| \$HouseCand5Name (\$HouseCand5Party) | | 20 |
| I Won't Vote In This Election | | 2269 |
| \$HouseCand6Name (\$HouseCand6Party) | | 19 |
| \$HouseCand7Name (\$HouseCand7Party) | | 15 |
| \$HouseCand8Name (\$HouseCand8Party) | | 14 |
| \$HouseCand9Name (\$HouseCand9Party) | | 1 |
| \$HouseCand10Name (\$HouseCand10Party) | | 1 |
| \$HouseCand11Name (\$HouseCand11Party) | | 3 |
| <NA> | | 107253 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: Only available for even years. The third party candidate not specified for early years. The fourth candidate and onwards not shown for most years. Response options differ by year.
- Note that it is not always the case that 1 is a Democrat and 2 is a Republican. When two Democrats are on the general ballot (e.g. in top-two primary states like California), both candidates are Democrats.
- Note that for each respondent, a name (and party affiliation) is shown in place of the square bracket values. To see the candidate chosen, see `intent_rep_chosen`. [Other / Candidate 3] refers to the third option presented, whereas Other refers to the unnamed choice after all numbered candidates.

intent_sen: Senate preference (before voting)

In the race for U.S. Senator in your state, who do you prefer?

| | intent_sen | n |
|----------------------------------|------------|-------|
| [Democrat / Candidate 1] | | 78318 |
| [Republican / Candidate 2] | | 68733 |
| [Other / Candidate 3] | | 4113 |
| \$SenCand4Name (\$SenCand4Party) | | 19 |
| Other | | 1188 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| I'm Not Sure | 31681 |
| No One | 9493 |
| I Won't Vote In This Election | 1145 |
| <NA> | 198065 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: See `intente_rep`. When both senate seats are up for re-election in the same year, only responses to the first senate seat is incorporated. For the second senate seat, see individual year's CCES.

`intent_gov`: Governor preference (before voting)

In the race for Governor in your state, who do you prefer?

| | <code>intent_gov</code> | <code>n</code> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| [Democrat / Candidate 1] | | 55600 |
| [Republican / Candidate 2] | | 50244 |
| [Other / Candidate 3] | | 3681 |
| Other | | 882 |
| I'm Not Sure | | 18342 |
| No One | | 5723 |
| I Won't Vote In This Election | | 466 |
| <NA> | | 257817 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: See `intente_rep`. For governor elections in odd years, see individual year's CCES.

Vote Choice

`voted_rep`: House vote choice (after voting)

For whom did you vote for U.S. House?

| | <code>voted_rep</code> | <code>n</code> |
|---|------------------------|----------------|
| [Democrat / Candidate 1] | | 94662 |
| [Republican / Candidate 2] | | 94122 |
| [Other / Candidate 3] | | 2571 |
| <code>\$HouseCand4Name (\$HouseCand4Party)</code> | | 15 |
| Other | | 2434 |
| I Did Not Vote In This Race | | 11591 |
| <code>\$HouseCand5Name (\$HouseCand5Party)</code> | | 22 |
| Not Sure | | 4020 |
| <code>\$HouseCand6Name (\$HouseCand6Party)</code> | | 15 |
| <code>\$HouseCand7Name (\$HouseCand7Party)</code> | | 13 |
| <code>\$HouseCand8Name (\$HouseCand8Party)</code> | | 16 |
| <code>\$HouseCand9Name (\$HouseCand9Party)</code> | | 2 |
| <code>\$HouseCand10Name (\$HouseCand10Party)</code> | | 2 |
| <code>\$HouseCand11Name (\$HouseCand11Party)</code> | | 3 |
| <NA> | | 183267 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- This variable coalesces two variables in the CCES for years 2012 and onwards: Either the response to the early vote question in the pre-election wave if the respondent indicates they have already voted, or if not, the response in the post-election wave.

voted_sen: Senate vote choice (after voting)

For whom did you vote for U.S. Senator?

| | voted_sen | n |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| [Democrat / Candidate 1] | | 68808 |
| [Republican / Candidate 2] | | 63844 |
| [Other / Candidate 3] | | 2743 |
| Other | | 1624 |
| Not Sure | | 1849 |
| \$SenCand4Name (\$SenCand4Party) | | 11 |
| I Did Not Vote In This Race | | 4108 |
| <NA> | | 249768 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- This variable coalesces two variables in the CCES for years 2012 and onwards: Either the response to the early vote question in the pre-election wave if the respondent indicates they have already voted, or if not, the response in the post-election wave.

voted_gov: Governor vote choice (after voting)

For whom did you vote for Governor?

| | voted_gov | n |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|
| [Democrat / Candidate 1] | | 46504 |
| [Republican / Candidate 2] | | 45056 |
| [Other / Candidate 3] | | 2466 |
| Other | | 1162 |
| I Did Not Vote In This Race | | 4509 |
| Not Sure | | 911 |
| <NA> | | 292147 |

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- This variable coalesces two variables in the CCES for years 2012 and onwards: Either the response to the early vote question in the pre-election wave if the respondent indicates they have already voted, or if not, the response in the post-election wave.

Text

Identifiers

The case identifier `case_id` is unique within the year and is identical to the case identifiers in the individual year's CCES. It should be used in conjunction with year for a unique identifier for the whole dataset. Some individuals across years may be the same YouGov panel respondent with different identifiers; for example the 2007 CCES draws from the 2006 CCES respondents.

Observations: 392,755

Variables: 2

```
$ year    <int> 2006, 2006, 2006, 2006, 2006, 2006, 2006, 2006, 2006, ...
$ case_id <int> 439219, 439224, 439228, 439237, 439238, 439242, 439251...
```

Current Representatives

Name and Party

The four names in the three offices that represent the respondent *at the time of the survey*. Parties are not shown if the particular year's CCES did not show party. Party names are also abbreviated down to initials (D for Democrat, R for Republican, I for Independent) in this dataset.

Observations: 392,755

Variables: 4

```
$ rep_current <chr> "Patrick T. McHenry (R)", "Michael R. Turner (R)"...
$ sen1_current <chr> "Elizabeth Dole (R)", "Mike DeWine (R)", "Robert ...
$ sen2_current <chr> "Richard Burr (R)", "George V. Voinovich (R)", "F...
$ gov_current  <chr> "Michael Easley (D)", "Bob Taft (R)", "Jon Corzin..."
```

Incumbent Identifiers

Unique identifiers (ICPSR / Nominate for Congress, FEC for Governor) for the current representatives. Identifiers are not part of the individual year's CCES but merged on for this cumulative dataset only.

The matching of identifiers to respondent occurs through matching by district, by district and last name, or both:

- For House representatives, we join on `cong`, `st`, and `dist` to a NOMINATE database that only consists of unique observations according to the key. For duplicates with regards to these three variables (e.g. in the rare case where a new representative comes into office mid-session), we match on `cong`, `st`, `dist` and last name.
- For Senators, we join entirely on `cong`, `st`, and last name
- For Governors, we join only on `st` and last name. In this period, there are no two governors in the same state that share the same last name.

Observations: 392,755

Variables: 4

```
$ rep_icpsr <int> 20522, 20342, 29132, 29911, 29380, 20531, 29126, 29...
$ sen1_icpsr <int> 40303, 15020, 29373, 15021, 14858, 49306, 40101, 15...
$ sen2_icpsr <int> 29548, 49903, 14914, 40502, 40105, 40305, 40302, 29...
$ gov_fec    <chr> "NC5998", NA, "NJ6395", "IL7", NA, "TX3156", "MN472..."
```

- Years: All of 2006-2017
- Limitations: Matching procedure may be incomplete or inaccurate.

The unique identifiers can be used to join with other databases to append additional information such as committee membership and ideology scores, such as

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke Sonnet (2017). Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database. <https://voteview.com/>

Candidates

The text responses that the respondent chose in each of the `intent_ / voted_` questions, if the respondent was a candidate. For example, respondent with `case_id = 163051575` in the 2012 CCES chose the first option in the House representative preference question. `intent_rep_chosen` shows that for this particular respondent, the first option was Maxine Waters (Democrat) who has a FEC Identifier of H4CA23011.

```
df %>%
  filter(year == 2012, st == "CA", dist_up == 43) %>%
  select(matches("intent_rep"))
```



```
# A tibble: 91 x 3
  intent_rep          intent_rep_chosen intent_rep_fec
  <fct>              <chr>          <chr>
1 [Democrat / Candidate 1] Maxine Waters (D) H4CA23011
2 I'm Not Sure        <NA>          <NA>
3 No One              <NA>          <NA>
4 [Democrat / Candidate 1] Maxine Waters (D) H4CA23011
5 [Republican / Candidate 2] Bob Flores (D)    H2CA43385
6 I'm Not Sure        <NA>          <NA>
7 Other              <NA>          <NA>
8 [Republican / Candidate 2] Bob Flores (D)    H2CA43385
9 [Republican / Candidate 2] Bob Flores (D)    H2CA43385
10 [Democrat / Candidate 1] Maxine Waters (D) H4CA23011
# ... with 81 more rows
```

The name and party are those as provided in the CCES datasets (e.g. in the form `HouseCand1Name`). The FEC ID is not part of the CCES but joined in this dataset.

For all three offices, the matching generally occurs by year, `st`, `dist_up` (not `dist`, because `dist_up` refers to the district of the upcoming session) and party. party is the party affiliation as indicated in the CCES. For years 2008 and 2010, the first option is automatically labelled as a Democrat and the second option as a Republican, although these may be inaccurate at times.

The FEC database runs up until 2014 (thus more recent candidates do *not* get a FEC ID) originates from

Bonica, Adam , 2015, "Database on Ideology, Money in Politics, and Elections (DIME)",
[doi:10.7910/DVN/05PX0B](https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/05PX0B), Harvard Dataverse, V2

which helpfully includes candidates office sought, district (for House members), party affiliation, and cycle in which the candidate filed. The variable `cycle` in Bonica's data is used to join on the CCES dataset's year variable.

Only candidates who are unique within the district and party are considered for the first join. However, many candidates are not unique within the district-party, as many co-partisans may file in the same district. The second matching process thus considers the full name of the candidate

listed in the CCES and the candidates in the FEC database. *Within* the subset of year, district, and party, a Jaro-Winker string distance (that ranges from 0 to 1) is computed for both last name and the first name - middle name. If the sum of the two string distances are more than 0.2 for all possible combinations, no match is returned. If there is a unique combination that achieves a unique minimum that is below 0.2, that combination is declared a match. If there are multiple matches with the same minimum string distance, one is randomly chosen.

Chosen

Observations: 392,755

Variables: 6

```
$ intent_rep_chosen <chr> "Richard C. Carsner (D)", "Stephanie Studeba...
$ intent_sen_chosen <chr> NA, "Sherrod C. Brown (D)", "Robert Menendez...
$ intent_gov_chosen <chr> NA, "Ted Strickland (D)", NA, "Rod Blagojevi...
$ voted_rep_chosen <chr> "Richard C. Carsner (D)", "Stephanie Studeba...
$ voted_sen_chosen <chr> NA, "Sherrod C. Brown (D)", "Robert Menendez...
$ voted_gov_chosen <chr> NA, "Ted Strickland (D)", NA, "Rod Blagojevi...
```

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Early years may mislabel the candidate's party, especially when the two candidates are of the same party (as in top-two primary states)

Candidate Identifiers

Observations: 392,755

Variables: 6

```
$ intent_rep_fec <chr> "H6NC10141", "H60H03142", "H0NJ01066", "H8IL090...
$ intent_sen_fec <chr> NA, "S60H00163", "S6NJ00289", NA, NA, NA, "S6MN...
$ intent_gov_fec <chr> NA, "OH19691", NA, "IL7", "NY19490", NA, "MN472...
$ voted_rep_fec <chr> "H6NC10141", "H60H03142", "H0NJ01066", "H8IL090...
$ voted_sen_fec <chr> NA, "S60H00163", "S6NJ00289", NA, "S0NY00188", ...
$ voted_gov_fec <chr> NA, "OH19691", NA, "IL7", "NY19490", NA, "MN472...
```

- Years: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016
- Limitations: Matching may be inaccurate (see previous section on matching methodology). In particular, a lack of a FEC ID may either indicate a failure of the matching procedure, or that the candidate in question did not file under the FEC. The match rate in the current procedure is upwards of 80 percent in the current procedure.