

CCES Cumulative Common Content (2006 - 2016)

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Kuriwaki, Shiro, 2018, "Cumulative CCES Common Content (2006-2016)", doi:10.7910/DVN/II2DB6, Harvard Dataverse

This dataset combines eleven years (2006 - 2016) of the Cooperative Congressional Election Study (Principal Investigators: Stephen Ansolabehere, Brian Schaffner, and Sam Luks).

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. While questions can change from year to year, some standard questions like the ones this cumulative file includes allow for interesting comparisons.

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/>).

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>.

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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.

```
df <- readRDS("cumulative_2006_2016.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: 374,556 x 67
  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 1.67 North~ NC NC-10 10 10
2 2006 439224 0.968 0.872 Ohio OH OH-3 3 3
3 2006 439228 1.59 1.44 New J~ NJ NJ-1 1 1
4 2006 439237 1.40 1.26 Illin~ IL IL-9 9 9
5 2006 439238 0.903 0.813 New Y~ NY NY-22 22 22
6 2006 439242 0.839 0.756 Texas TX TX-11 11 11
7 2006 439251 0.777 0.700 Minne~ MN MN-3 3 3
8 2006 439254 0.839 0.756 Nevada NV NV-2 2 2
9 2006 439255 0.331 0.299 Texas TX TX-24 24 24
10 2006 439263 1.10 0.993 Maryl~ MD MD-2 2 2
# ... with 374,546 more rows, and 58 more variables: cong <int>, cong_up
# <int>, zipcode <chr>, county_fips <chr>, tookpost <int+lbl>, weight_vv
# <dbl>, weight_vv_post <dbl>, starttime <dtm>, pid3 <int+lbl>, pid7
# <int+lbl>, gender <int+lbl>, birthyr <int>, age <int>, race <int+lbl>,
# educ <int+lbl>, 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_2016.dta can be read by Stata, or in R by the haven package

```
library(haven)
```

```
df <- read_dta("cumulative_2006_2016.dta")
```

Features of the 2006 - 2016 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"))
```

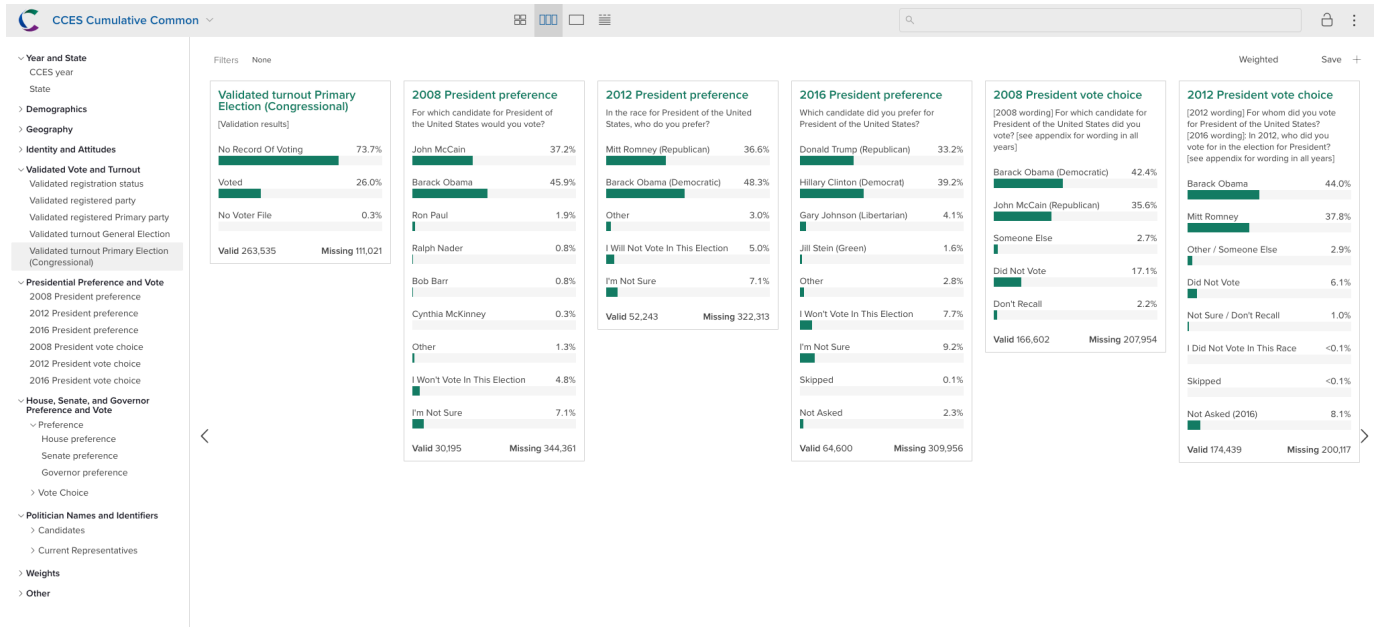
```
# A tibble: 374,556 x 6
  year case_id st      voted_sen      voted_sen_chosen      voted_sen_fec
  <int>   <int> <chr>   <fct>          <chr>              <chr>
1  2006  439219 NC      <NA>           <NA>              <NA>
2  2006  439224 OH      [Democrat / Cand~ Sherrod C. Brown (~ S60H00163
3  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 374,546 more rows
```

Crunch

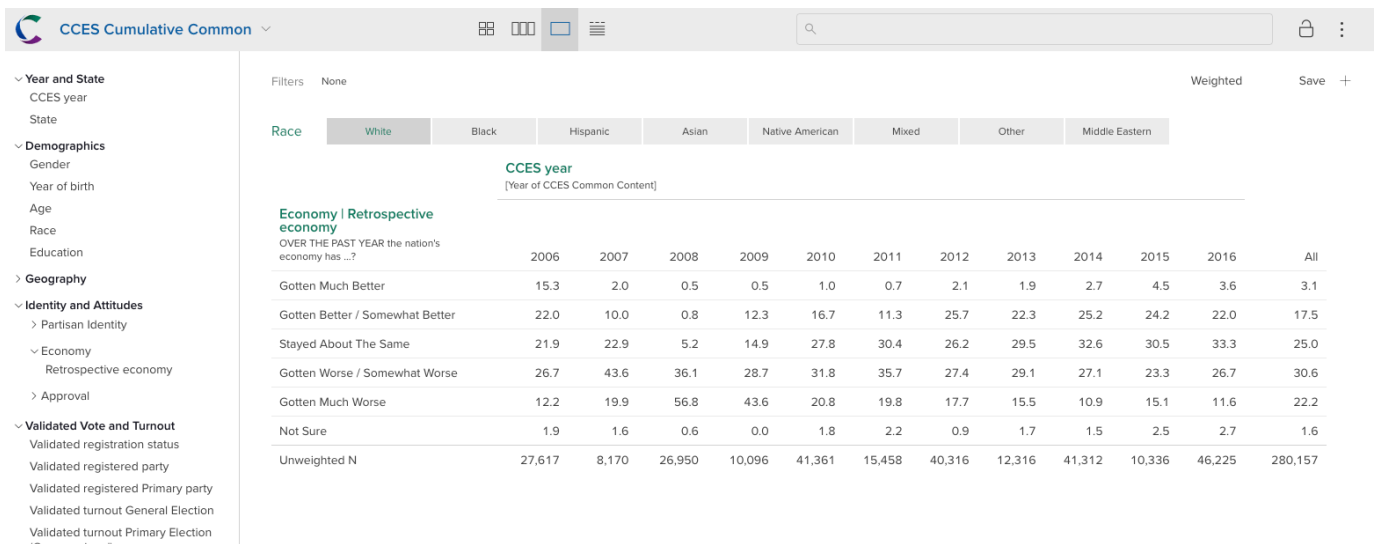
A version of the dataset is also included in Crunch, a database platform that makes it easy to view and analyze survey data either with or without any programming experience. Crunch is in beta at the time of writing.

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 is followed by the name of the variable in the dataset (“alias” in Crunch) followed by the variable label (“name” in Crunch).
- 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 verbatim response).
- A tabulation of response options (or summary statistics for numeric variables) follow. Numbers are unweighted counts. Response options are ordered by the ordering in the dataset.
- 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 incorporate 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.

Administration

year: CCES year

[Year of CCES Common Content]

year	n
2006	36421
2007	10000
2008	32800
2009	13800
2010	55400
2011	20150
2012	54535
2013	16400
2014	56200
2015	14250
2016	64600

starttime: Start time

[Pre-election wave start time]

Min.	1st Qu.	Median
"2006-10-07 00:02:34"	"2010-10-01 19:36:34"	"2012-10-07 10:30:42"
Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
"2012-06-06 07:11:46"	"2014-10-18 06:01:53"	"2016-11-07 16:46:42"

- Years: All of 2006-2016

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>	74600

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

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

[weights from pre-survey of each year]

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
0.0000	0.3859	0.6986	1.0000	1.1686	20.0004

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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.

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	0.2892	0.5687	0.9633	1.1382	24.0297

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- Limitations: Only a simple transformation of weight

weight_vv: Survey weight for validated voters

[weight among validated voters to construct a representative sample of the voters. Only available for some years.]

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.	NA's
0.00	0.43	0.74	1.00	1.19	15.00	255421

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

weight_vv_post: Survey weight for post-election wave validated voters

[weight among validated voters and post-election wave respondents to construct a representative sample of the voters. Only available for some years.]

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.	NA's
0.00	0.32	0.64	0.89	1.06	15.00	265121

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

Geography

A series of variables for the respondent's location

- state: State: [State (Imputed from input zipcode)]
- st: State abbreviation: [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: 374,556

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 2006-2016
- 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	176528
Female	198028

- Years: All of 2006-2016

birthyr: Year of birth

In what year were you born?

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
1900	1949	1960	1962	1975	1998

- Years: All of 2006-2016

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	49.92	62.00	109.00

- Years: All of 2006-2016

educ: Education

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

educ	n
No HS	11128
High School Graduate	103364
Some College	95472
2-Year	35368
4-Year	85044
Post-Grad	44113
<NA>	67

- Years: All of 2006-2016

race: Race

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

race	n
White	280670
Black	41334
Hispanic	28449
Asian	6991
Native American	2937
Mixed	6901
Other	6707
Middle Eastern	567

- Years: All of 2006-2016

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 labelled as a no record.]

vv_regstatus	n
Active	176387
No Record Of Registration	64474
Unregistered	13397
Dropped	5168
Inactive	2983
Multiple Appearances	1126
<NA>	111021

- 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	63049
Unknown	51053
Democratic Party	26323
Republican Party	21131
No Party Affiliation	9187
Declined To State	1559
Other	1275
Independent Party	1169
Liberatarian Party	366
Green Party	185
Constitution Party	27
Reform Party	9
Socialist Party	2
<NA>	199221

- 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	157651
Republican Party	9827
Democratic Party	7857
<NA>	199221

- 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	167531
No Record Of Voting	130692
No Voter File	1733
<NA>	74600

- 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	186905
Voted	75267
No Voter File	1363
<NA>	111021

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

Identity and Attitudes

Partisan Identity

pid3: Partisan identity

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

pid3	n
Democrat	132407
Republican	98672
Independent	104296
Other	14597
Not Sure	15684
Skipped	24
<NA>	8876

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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.

pid7: Partisan identity (7 point)

[based on branching from Partisan Identity question]

pid7	n
Strong Democrat	89117
Not Very Strong Democrat	45242
Lean Democrat	37432
Independent	49221
Lean Republican	40464
Not Very Strong Republican	36225
Strong Republican	63147
Not Sure	10783
Skipped	40
Not Asked	24
<NA>	2861

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- Limitations: See pid3

Economy

economy_retro: Retrospective economy

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

economy_retro	n
Gotten Much Better	15621
Gotten Better / Somewhat Better	80090
Stayed About The Same	95382
Gotten Worse / Somewhat Worse	102542

Gotten Much Worse	73450
Not Sure	6739
<NA>	732

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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	74158
Somewhat Approve	92205
Somewhat Disapprove	40113
Strongly Disapprove	156820
Not Sure	10117
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	443
Skipped	72
<NA>	628

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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	55069
Approve / Somewhat Approve	116457
Disapprove / Somewhat Disapprove	65067
Strongly Disapprove	58680
Never Heard / Not Sure	71268
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	1798
Skipped	96
Not Asked	487
<NA>	5634

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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	49354
Approve / Somewhat Approve	118550
Disapprove / Somewhat Disapprove	74192
Strongly Disapprove	72873
Never Heard / Not Sure	53904
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	1414
Skipped	243
Not Asked	230
<NA>	3796

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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	51255
Approve / Somewhat Approve	114286
Disapprove / Somewhat Disapprove	73083
Strongly Disapprove	73362
Never Heard / Not Sure	56368
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	1158
Skipped	177
Not Asked	230
<NA>	4637

- 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	54544
Somewhat Approve	116578
Somewhat Disapprove	71062
Strongly Disapprove	97473
Not Sure	31575
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	1414

Skipped	83
Not Asked	230
<NA>	1597

- Years: All of 2006-2016
- 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

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>	344361

- Years: 2008

intent_pres_12: 2012 President preference

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>	322313

- Years: 2012

intent_pres_16: 2016 President preference

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
Skipped	77
Not Asked	1521
<NA>	309956

- Years: 2016

voted_pres_08: 2008 President vote choice

[2008 wording] For which candidate for President of the United States did you vote? [see appendix 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>	207954	

- 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

[2012 wording] For whom did you vote for President of the United States? [2016 wording]: In 2012, who did you vote for in the election for President? [see appendix 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	
Skipped	105	
Not Asked (2016)	15978	
<NA>	200117	

- 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

For whom did you vote for President of the United States?

	voted_pres_16	n
Donald Trump (Republican)		18826
Hillary Clinton (Democrat)		22264
Gary Johnson (Libertarian)		1858
Jill Stein (Green)		924
Other		1144
I Didn't Vote In This Election		89
I'm Not Sure		238
Evan McMullin (Independent)		164
Skipped		27
Not Asked		7630
<NA>		321392

- Years: 2016
- 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

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>		89054

- 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 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

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>	179866

- 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

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

intent_gov	n
[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>	239618

- 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

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

	voted_rep	n
[Democrat / Candidate 1]		94644
[Republican / Candidate 2]		94109
[Other / Candidate 3]		2571
\$HouseCand4Name (\$HouseCand4Party)		15
Other		2434
I Did Not Vote In This Race		11576
\$HouseCand5Name (\$HouseCand5Party)		22
Not Sure		4015
\$HouseCand6Name (\$HouseCand6Party)		15
\$HouseCand7Name (\$HouseCand7Party)		13
\$HouseCand8Name (\$HouseCand8Party)		16
\$HouseCand9Name (\$HouseCand9Party)		2
\$HouseCand10Name (\$HouseCand10Party)		2
\$HouseCand11Name (\$HouseCand11Party)		3
<NA>		165119

- 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

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

	voted_sen	n
[Democrat / Candidate 1]		68796
[Republican / Candidate 2]		63838
[Other / Candidate 3]		2743
Other		1624
Not Sure		1845
\$SenCand4Name (\$SenCand4Party)		11
Skipped		10
I Did Not Vote In This Race		4097
<NA>		231592

- 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

For whom did you vote for Governor?

	voted_gov	n
[Democrat / Candidate 1]		46270
[Republican / Candidate 2]		44908
[Other / Candidate 3]		2451
Other		1158

I Did Not Vote In This Race 3928
 Not Sure 911
 <NA> 274930

- 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: 374,556

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: 374,556

Incumbent Identifiers

Unique identifiers (ICPSR / Nominat 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: 374,556

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 2006-2016
- 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 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: 374,556

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: 374,556

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.