Rank Choice Voting Legislator Survey Codebook

Original survey question prompts are provided in *italics.*  Variable names listed in **bold**. Coding schemes reported in smaller font.

Section A: Candidacy Information

**rid**: Unique respondent identification code found on the mailing sticker on front of return envelope.

**rid2:** Unique respondent identification code generated from online version of survey.

**city:** Location of the city-wide election respondent was a candidate in.

**state**: State where the city-wide election respondent was a candidate in.

**rcv:** Indicator variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a RCV city

**distcouncil:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that elects their city council members via district-style elections.

**atlargecouncil:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that elects their city council members via at-large-style elections.

**mixedcouncil:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that elects their city council members via mixed-style elections, some combination of both district and at-large (e.g. a city elects 8 councilmembers by district and also has 3 at-large seats).

**distschool:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that elects their school board members via district-style elections.

**atlargeschool:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that elects their school board members via at-large-style elections.

**mixedschool:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that elects their school board members via mixed-style elections, some combination of both district and at-large (e.g. a city elects 8 board members by district and also has 3 at-large seats).

**appointschool:** Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent’s recent election was in a city that appoints their school board members directly.

**candvote**: Proportion of the total vote respondent received in most recent election in which they were a candidate.

**recentwin**: Dummy variable, ‘1’ when respondent won the most recent election they were a candidate in, ‘0’ otherwise.

**primary:** Indicator variable, ‘1’ when the information provided is from a candidate who ran in a primary election, ‘0’ otherwise.

**general:** Indicator variable, ‘1’ when the information provided is from a candidate who ran in a general election, ‘0’ otherwise.

**resptype**: Whether respondent completed internet or mail version of survey.

Mail survey 1

Internet survey 2

*A1.* *Which years have you ran as a candidate for local elected office, and if you were elected, when was that? Please circle all that apply.*

Each year from 2010-2013, as well as the earlier option, are variables coded as follows:

Not a candidate 0

Candidate, not elected 1

Elected 2

**A12013**

**A12012**

**A12011**

**A12010**

**A1earlier**

*A2.* *And for how many years, if any, have you been…*

Respondents are asked to write in the number of years in a box and to leave blank if it does not apply. Each variable is the self-reported number of years.

**A2citycoun**: *A member of your city council*

**A2super**: *A member of a board of supervisors*

**A2electboard**: *A member of a school, parks, or other elected board*

**A2mayor**: *Mayor of your city*

**A2other**: *In another city wide elected office*

*A3*. *We are interested in the amount of time* ***you personally*** *spent campaigning in your most recent election. Please indicate* ***how many hours*** *you spent on each of the following activities when campaigning* ***during a typical week****:*

Respondents are asked to write in the number of hours next to each activity

**A3door**: *Doorknocking, or distributing leaflets*

**A3mail**: *Organizing direct mailing*

**A3phone**: *Speaking on the telephone*

**A3radtvinterview**: *Radio or television interviews*

**A3papinterview**: *Newspaper interviews*

**A3fundraising**: *Fundraising events*

**A3staff**: *Meeting with campaign staff*

**A3pubforum**: *Speaking at public forums*

**A3website**: *Managing a website*

**A3socnet**: *Posting on social network sites*

**A3blog**: *Blogging*

**A3twitter**: *Using Twitter*

**A3email**: *Sending emails*

**A3other**: *Other (describe)*

**A3description**: *Written description of other activity (if noted)*

*A4*. *Below is a list of things that might occur during campaigns. For each one please say how important they were for you in your most recent campaign.*

Respondents were asked to circle one response for each:

Did not occur/not at all important 1

Somewhat important 2

Fairly important 3

Very important 4

Extremely important 5

**A4web**: *Having a campaign website*

**A4party**: *Having support from a political party*

**A4allies**: *Building alliances with rival candidates*

**A4endorse**: *Having endorsements from local groups*

**A4money**: *Having money to spend on advertising*

**A4socnet**: *Making use of social networking sites (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)*

**A4local**: *Having local news media cover your campaign*

**A4vol**: *Having volunteers to help with the campaign*

**A4pubfor**: *Speaking at public candidate forums*

*A5. When campaigning, did you ask voters to:*

**A5askvoters**

Vote for you only 1

Vote for you, and support other candidates seeking the same office 2

I did not directly ask voters for support 3

*A6. Were there groups working on* ***your behalf*** *that instructed people how to vote?*

**A6suppgroups**

Yes, they told people to support me 1

Yes, some told people to support me and other candidates in my race 2

No, groups supporting me didn’t do this 3

No groups were working on my behalf 4

*A7. Were there groups working on* ***behalf of candidates opposing you*** *that instructed people how to vote?*

**A7oppgroups**

Yes, they told people to support one opponent 1

Yes, some told people to support multiple candidates in my race 2

No, groups supporting my opponent didn’t do this 3

No groups worked on behalf of my opponent(s) 4

*A8. Was your candidacy part of a slate supported by a local party or political group?*

**A8slatesupp**

Yes 1

No 0

*A9. Which of the following, if any, did your campaign spend money on? Please* ***circle any*** *that apply to your recent campaign.*

Each variable is dichotomous, 1 if circled 0 if not.

**A9paper**: *Newspaper ads*

**A9radio**: *Radio ads*

**A9mail**: *Direct mailings*

**A9tv**: *Television ads*

**A9net**: *Internet ads*

**A9signs**: *Yard signs*

**A9buttbump**: *Buttons or bumper stickers*

**A9phone**: *Phone banking, phone calls*

**A9staff**: *Hired staff*

*A10. Roughly speaking, how much money did your campaign spend in your last election?*

**A10totspend**

Dollar number spent in last election, rounded to nearest whole dollar.

Section B: Perceptions of the Election

*B1:* *Would you describe the local election in which you were a candidate as interesting, or dull?*

**B1interest**

Interesting 1

Dull 0

*B2. In general, how satisfied are you with the way other candidates conducted their campaigns in the recent local election when you were a candidate?*

**B2oppcon**

Very satisfied 1

Fairly satisfied 2

Not very satisfied 3

Not at all satisfied 4

*B3. Thinking about the recent local election, would you say other candidates provided people with:*

**B3info**

A great deal of useful information 1

Some information 2

Not too much information 3

No useful information 4

*B4. During the recent election where you were a candidate, do you remember examples of candidates praising or endorsing any of their opponents?*

**B4praise**

Yes, frequently 1

Yes, occasionally 2

Yes, but rarely 3

No, never 4

*B5. Thinking about the recent election when you were a candidate, how much would you say other candidates spent criticizing their opponents? Was it:*

**B5critic**

A great deal of time 1

Some of the time 2

Not too much 3

They weren’t doing this at all 4

*B6. Do you believe the campaigns when you ran were more negative, less negative, or about the same compared to other recent political contests?*

**B6negcamps**

A lot more negative 1

A little more negative 2

About the same 3

A little less negative 4

A lot less negative 5

*B7. Thinking about the recent election when you were a candidate, how did your main rival’s campaign describe you? Overall, would you say it was:*

**B7you**

Mostly positive 1

Somewhat positive 2

Not really positive or negative 3

Somewhat negative 4

Mostly negative 5

I had no opponent 6

*B8. Thinking about the same election, how did your own campaign describe your main rival in the race? Overall, would you say it was:*

**B8rival**

Mostly positive 1

Somewhat positive 2

Not really positive or negative 3

Somewhat negative 4

Mostly negative 5

I had no opponent 6

*B10. All things considered, do you think the outcome of the most recent election you were in was decided in a fair way?*

**B10fair**

Yes 1

No 0

*B11. If you have run in previous elections, do you believe your most recent election was:*

**B11prevelect**

I did not run before this 1

More negative than before 2

Less negative than before 3

No difference 4

Section C: Personal Background

*C1. Prior to the recent election you were in, what was your employment status?*

**C1emp**

Employed full time 1

Employed part time 2

Helping family member 3

Not employed at that time 4

Student, in school 5

Retired 6

Responsible for household 7

*C2. How would you describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired)?*

**C2occ**

Open field, write-in response

*C3. What is the last grade or level that you completed in school?*

**C3educ**

Some high school 1

High school graduate 2

Technical, trade, or vocational school after high school 3

Some college, but no 4-yr degree 4

College degree (B.S., B.A., or other 4-yr degree) 5

Post-graduate or professional training after 4 year college 6

*C4. How would you describe your race/ethnicity?*

**C4race**

White 1

Black 2

Asian 3

Mixed 4

Other (specify) 5

**C4raceoth**

Open response race from previous question

*C5. Are you of Spanish or Hispanic descent or Latina or Latino?*

**C5span**

Yes 1

No 0

*C6. Are you female or male?*

**C6female**

Female 1

Male 0

*CX. What year were you born?*

**CXyearborn**

Self-reported year of birth

*Additional comments.*

**additional**

Additional handwritten comments, if legible