Codebook:
American National Election Studies 2020 Pre-Election Survey

PS263: Data Science for Politics

1 Introduction

The American National Election Studies is an organization that contributes to explaining electoral outcomes in the US through surveys. They design and implement surveys during election years with the goal of providing a great amount of data on citizens' attitudes and feelings about politics, policies and politicians for researchers in all disciplines. These surveys have been conducted for most of the post-War era (1948)

The dataset here contains the first wave of the 2020 ANES Time Series Study. A nationally representative sample of 8,280 people was interviewed from August 2020 through November 3, 2020. They were interviewed by internet, phone, or video.

Feeling thermometers are an important feature of this survey. Survey respondents are asked to rate politicians according to how they feel about them. Ratings between 50 degrees and 100 degrees mean that the survey respondent feels favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 0 degrees and 50 degrees mean that they don't feel favorable toward the person and don't care too much for that person. 50 degrees is considered a "neutral" evaluation of the politician. This dataset includes three such thermometers: one for then president Barack Obama, one for the Republican candidate Donald Trump, and one for the Democratic candidate Joe Biden.

2 List of Variables

- **Age**: age of respondent

    ```
    VALID CODES:
    ----------------
    80. 80 years old or older
    ```

- **Biden.th**: Feeling thermometer for candidate Joe Biden

```
VALID CODES:
----------------
Range: 0-100
```

- **Income**: Household income

```
VALID CODES:
----------------

1. Under $9,999
2. $10,000-14,999
3. $15,000-19,999
4. $20,000-24,999
5. $25,000-29,999
6. $30,000-34,999
7. $35,000-39,999
8. $40,000-44,999
9. $45,000-49,999
10. $50,000-59,999
11. $60,000-64,999
12. $65,000-69,999
13. $70,000-74,999
14. $75,000-79,999
15. $80,000-89,999
16. $90,000-99,999
17. $100,000-109,999
18. $110,000-124,999
19. $125,000-149,999
20. $150,000-174,999
21. $175,000-249,999
22. $250,000 or more
```

- **Latino**: latino status

```
VALID CODES:
----------------
1. Latino
2. Not Latino
```

- **Media**: How closely respondent follows politics in media

```
VALID CODES:
----------------

1. Very closely
2. Fairly closely
3. Not very closely
4. Not at all
```

- **Obama.th**: Feeling thermometer for then president Obama.

```
VALID CODES:
----------------
Range: 0-100
```

- **Partyid**: Party identification

  ```
  VALID CODES:
  ----------------
  1. Democrat
  2. Republican
  3. Independent
  5. Other party
  ```

- **Race**: race of respondent

  ```
  VALID CODES:
  ----------------

  1. White, non-Hispanic
  2. Black, non-Hispanic
  3. Hispanic
  4. Asian or Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic alone
  5. Native American/Alaska Native or other race, non-Hispanic alone
  6. Multiple races, non-Hispanic
  ```

  - **RID:** Respondent Identification Number

  - **Trump.th**: Feeling thermometer for candidate Donald Trump

    ```
    VALID CODES:
    ----------------
    Range: 0-100
    ```

- **Vote12**: vote for President in 2012

  ```
  VALID CODES:
  ----------------

  1. Yes, voted
  2. No, didn't vote
  ```

- **Vote16**: vote for President in 2016

  ```
  VALID CODES:
  ----------------

  1. Yes, voted
  2. No, didn't vote
  ```

3 References

American National Election Studies. 2021. ANES 2020 Time Series Study Full Release [dataset and documentation]. July 19, 2021 version. www.electionstudies.org