Final Exam Supplemental: Outlook on Life Survey

1 Summary

The 2012 Outlook Surveys, conducted by GfK Knowledge Networks on behalf of the University of California Irvine, were designed to study political and social attitudes in the United States. The project included two surveys fielded between August and December 2012 using a sample from an Internet panel. A total of 2,294 respondents participated in this study during Wave 1 and 1,601 were interviewed during Wave 2.

The target population was comprised of four groups: African American/Black males aged 18 and older, African American/Black females aged 18 and older, White/other race males aged 18 and older, and White/other race females aged 18 older, all non-institutionalized and residing in the United States.

The survey considered the ways in which social class, ethnicity, marital status, feminism, religiosity, political orientation, sexual behavior, and cultural beliefs or stereotypes influence opinion and behavior. Participants were asked an array of questions pertaining to voting preference, party identification, respondent perception of opportunity for success, and views on interracial dating. These variables and questions examine political and social attitudes in the United States. Additional questions addressed issues such as common fate, nationalism, equality, discrimination, and relations with law enforcement. Demographic variables include race ethnicity, age, gender, religious involvement, sexual orientation, citizenship, annual income, and education.

Study Purpose

The purpose of the 2012 Outlook Surveys were to study political and social attitudes in the United States. The specific purpose of the survey is to consider the ways in which social class, ethnicity, marital status, feminism, religiosity, political orientation, and cultural beliefs or stereotypes influence opinion and behavior.

Sample

Participants were drawn from the GfK Knowledge Network, a web panel designed to be representative of the United States population. Panel members are randomly recruited through probability-based sampling, and households are provided with access to the Internet and hardware if needed. Random-digit dialing and address-based sampling methodologies are used. The target population were non-institutionalized adults 18 years of age and older.

Mode of Data Collection & Response Rates

Web-based survey. Wave 1: 55.3 percent response rate. Wave 2: 75.1 percent response rate.

Description of Variables

The data include variables pertaining to social class, ethnicity, marital status, feminism, religiosity, and political orientation. In addition there are variables pertaining to gender, household composition and size, household income, employment status, education, and marital status.

2 Data Management

Demographics

```
pol$gender <- factor(pol$ppgender, labels=c("Male", "Female"))
pol$ppethm[pol$ppethm==5] <- 3 #change 2+ races to Other
pol$eth <- factor(pol$ppethm, labels=c("White, Non-Hispanic", "Black, Non-Hispanic",
                                       "Other, Non-Hispanic", "Hispanic"))
pol$educat <- factor(pol$ppeducat, labels=c("Lt HS", "HS", "Some college", "BS +"))
pol$region <- factor(pol$ppreg4, labels=c("Northeast", "Midwest", "South", "West"))
```

Who did you vote for?

```
pol$w1_a5a[pol$w1_a5a %in% c(-1, 3)] <- NA # set refuset to answer and other vote to missing
pol$whovotefor <- factor(pol$w1_a5a, labels=c("McCain", "Obama"))
```

How interested are you in what's going on in government and politics?

```
pol$w1_a1[pol$w1_a1 ==-1] <- NA
pol$lvl_political_interest <- factor(pol$w1_a1,
  labels=c("Extremely Interested", "Very interested", "Moderately interested","Slightly interested", "Not i
```

How many days in the past week did you watch national news programs on television or on the Internet?

```
pol$w1_a11[pol$w1_a11 ==-1] <- NA
pol$nday_watch_news <- pol$w1_a11-1
```

Is anyone in your household currently unemployed?

```
pol$w1_p11[pol$w1_p11==-1] <- NA
pol$any_unemp <- ifelse(pol$w1_p11 == 1, "Yes", "No")
```

People talk about social classes such as the poor, the working class, the middle class, the upper-middle class, and the upper class. Which of these classes would you say you belong to?

```
pol$w1_p2[pol$w1_p2==-1] <- NA
pol$class <- factor(pol$w1_p2, labels=c("Poor", "Working", "Middle", "Upper-middle", "Upper"))
```

A basic American belief has been that if you work hard you can get ahead and reach the goals you set and more. Is this true or false today? (Scale from 1-7, 1: Extremely true, 7: Extremely false)

```
pol$w1_f3[pol$w1_f3==-1] <- NA
pol$work_hard <- pol$w1_f3 - 1
```

How well does the U.S. Congress represent you?

```
pol$w1_i2[pol$w1_i2==-1] <- NA
pol$cong_repr <- factor(pol$w1_i2, labels = c("Extremely Well", "Very well", "Moderately well",
                                              "A little well", "Not well at all"))
```

Please rate each [group/person] using the feeling thermometer (0-100, 0:Cold/unfavorable, 100:warm/favorable). Groups chosen: Obama (`rate_obama`), McCain (`rate_mccain`), Republican Party (`rate_rep`), Democrat Party (`rate_dem`), the Wealthiest 1% (`rate_onepct`), the unemployed(`rate_unemp`)

```
pol[,6:11][pol[,6:11] < 0 | pol[,6:11] > 100] <- NA
names(pol)[6:11] <- c("rate_obama", "rate_mccain", "rate_rep", "rate_dem",
                      "rate_onepct", "rate_unemp")
```

3 Univariate Descriptions

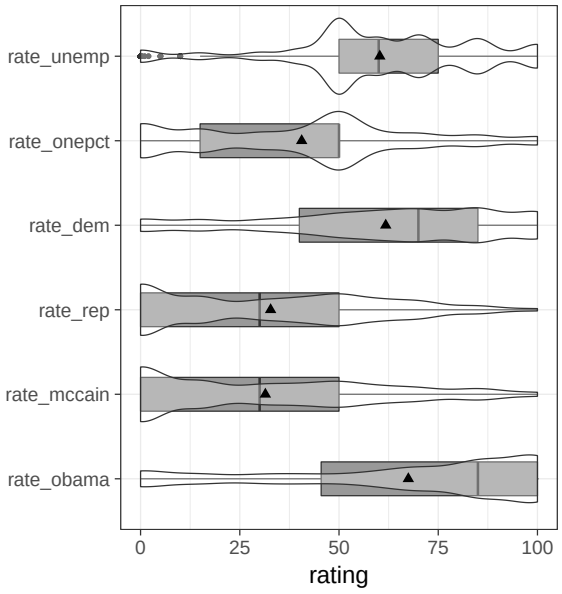
Table 1: Summary statistics for numerical (and 7-level ordinal) variables

	mean	median	sd	min	max
nday_watch_news	3.20	3.00	2.60	0.00	7.00
work_hard	2.10	2.00	1.70	0.00	6.00
rate_obama	67.50	85.00	33.40	0.00	100.00
rate_mccain	31.40	30.00	29.20	0.00	100.00
rate_rep	32.80	30.00	27.60	0.00	100.00
rate_dem	61.80	70.00	29.20	0.00	100.00
rate_onepct	40.60	50.00	27.90	0.00	100.00
rate_unemp	60.30	60.00	23.90	0.00	100.00

Table 1b. Distributions of categorical variables.

	N	%
Gender		
Male	1032	45%
Female	1262	55%
Education		
Lt HS	219	9.5%
HS	700	30.5%
Some college	682	29.7%
BS +	693	30.2%
Ethnicity		
White, Non-Hispanic	814	35.5%
Black, Non-Hispanic	1278	55.7%
Other, Non-Hispanic	79	3.4%
Hispanic	123	5.4%
Region		
Northeast	398	17.3%
Midwest	499	21.8%
South	994	43.3%
West	403	17.6%
Voted for		
McCain	389	22.5%
Obama	1338	77.5%
Level of Political Interest		
Extremely Interested	389	17.1%
Very interested	679	29.8%
Moderately interested	658	28.9%
Slightly interested	354	15.5%
Not interested at all	198	8.7%
Any unemployed in house		
No	1365	61.2%
Yes	867	38.8%
Class		
Poor	258	11.7%
Working	755	34.2%
Middle	955	43.3%
Upper-middle	214	9.7%
Upper	25	1.1%

Distribution of Temperature rating variables.



4 Analyses

Association between US Region and Gender

Table 2: Percent Female by Region

	Region			
gender	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Male	171 (43%)	223 (44.7%)	430 (43.3%)	208 (51.6%)
Female	227 (57%)	276 (55.3%)	564 (56.7%)	195 (48.4%)

```
Pearson's Chi-squared test

data:  pol$gender and pol$region
X-squared = 9.0229, df = 3, p-value = 0.02899
```

Table 3: Post hoc test: All pairwise comparisons

comparison	raw.p	adj.p
Northeast vs. Midwest	0.64	0.76
Northeast vs. South	0.95	0.95
Northeast vs. West	0.02	0.05
Midwest vs. South	0.62	0.76
Midwest vs. West	0.04	0.09
South vs. West	0.01	0.03

Association between US Region and Rating for the Democratic party

Table 4: Mean (SD) of the Democratic rating by US Region

	Region			
	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
rate_dem	59.94 (29.01)	60.38 (29.54)	64.21 (28.76)	59.26 (29.54)

Table 5: ANOVA for the mean democratic rating across regions

Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	Pr(>F)
3	10050.87	3350.29	3.95	0.0080
2141	1814562.82	847.53		

Table 6: Tukeys multiple comparisons of means

diff	lwr	upr	p adj
0.436	-4.757	5.629	0.996
4.268	-0.319	8.856	0.079
-0.686	-6.167	4.795	0.988
3.832	-0.407	8.071	0.093
-1.122	-6.315	4.071	0.945
-4.954	-9.542	-0.367	0.028

Multivariable modeling Democratic party rating

Table 7: Regression coefficients for the model of the democratic rating

	Est	CI	pvalue
Rating for the wealthiest 1%	-0.124	(-0.16,-0.08)	<0.001
Black, Non-Hispanic	31.854	(29.56,34.15)	<0.001
Other, Non-Hispanic	6.713	(0.38,13.04)	0.038
Hispanic	12.880	(7.65,18.11)	<0.001