

nominate Codebook

This data contain Keith's Poole DW-NOMINATE measure of legislator ideology. Keith worked with various coauthors through the years, but Jeff Lewis now maintains the data, which you can find [here](#).

These data contain the first dimensions of the DW-NOMINATE scores from Republican and Democrat members of the House from the 100th to the most recent Congress.

The data set is at the **member-Congress level**, so that each row of the data set represents one election in a particular Congress (e.g., Nancy Pelosi in the 110th Congress).

For details on the raw data, see the codebook for the raw data.

Load Data

```
# load packages
library(tidyverse)

# load data
nominate_df <- read_rds("nominate.rds")

# quick look at data
glimpse(nominate_df)

## Observations: 7,080
## Variables: 7
## $ congress <int> 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100...
## $ chamber <chr> "House", "House", "House", "House", "House", "House", ...
## $ state <chr> "AL", "AL", "AL", "AL", "AL", "AL", "AL", "AK", "AZ", ...
## $ district <int> 2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 1, 7, 1, 2, 3, 5, 4, 1, 3, 1, 4, 2, 36...
## $ party <fct> Republican, Democrat, Democrat, Democrat, Democrat, R...
## $ name <chr> "DICKINSON, William Louis", "BEVILL, Tom", "NICHOLS, ...
## $ ideology <dbl> 0.398, -0.213, -0.042, -0.175, -0.060, 0.373, -0.085, ...
```

Variable Descriptions

congress

- Coding: The number of the Congress
- Range: 100th to 114th
- Type: integer

state

- Coding: The two-letter abbreviation of name of the member's state.
- Type: character

congressional_district

- Coding: The number of the member's Congressional district.
- Type: integer

party

- Coding: The member's partisan affiliation. Members not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican Party are dropped from this data set.

- Type: character
- Values:
 - "Republican"
 - "Democrat"

ideology

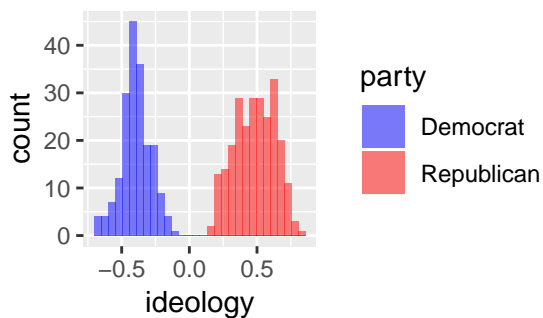
- Coding: The first dimension of the two-dimensional DW-NOMINATE score. It is static over a member's career in Congress. Values near zero indicate a moderate. More negative values indicate a more liberal representative. More positive values indicate a more conservative representative.
- Type: double

```
# create a df with only the 114th congress
nominat114_df <- filter(nominat_df, congress == 114)

# a histogram of the 114th congress
ggplot(nominat114_df, aes(x = ideology, fill = party)) +
  geom_histogram(alpha = 0.5, position = "identity") +
  scale_fill_manual(values = c("blue", "red")) +
  labs(title = "Ideology in the 114th Congress")
```

`stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.

Ideology in the 114th Congress



```
# 5 most conservative members from 114th congress
top_n(nominat114_df, 5, ideology)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 7
##   congress chamber state district party      name      ideology
##   <int> <chr>    <chr>    <int> <fct>    <chr>      <dbl>
## 1     114 House   AL         6 Republican PALMER, Gary James  0.779
## 2     114 House   CA         4 Republican McCLINTOCK, Tom    0.75
## 3     114 House   CO         4 Republican BUCK, Kenneth Robert 0.759
## 4     114 House   OH         8 Republican DAVIDSON, Warren 0.777
## 5     114 House   SC         5 Republican MULVANEY, Mick  0.75
## 6     114 House   VA         7 Republican BRAT, David A. 0.825
```

```
# 5 most liberal members from 114th congress
top_n(nominat114_df, 5, -ideology)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 x 7
##   congress chamber state district party      name      ideology
##   <int> <chr>    <chr>    <int> <fct>    <chr>      <dbl>
## 1     114 House   CA        43 Democrat WATERS, Maxine    -0.655
## 2     114 House   CA        13 Democrat LEE, Barbara      -0.687
## 3     114 House   MI        13 Democrat CONYERS, John, Jr. -0.658
## 4     114 House   NJ        12 Democrat WATSON COLEMAN, Bonnie -0.65
## 5     114 House   WA         7 Democrat McDERMOTT, James A. -0.666
```