

Gov 1006 Final Project - Milestone 4

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Milestone Exercise	1
	References	2

1 Introduction

The paper *Policy Preferences and Policy Change: Dynamic Responsiveness in the American States, 1936-2014* (Caughey and Warshaw 2018) discusses the predictors of state policy change and pinpoints what factors have the strongest impact on a state's liberalism. In particular, the authors focus on mass political consensus and state policy response to changes in this consensus. They have acquired measures of mass policy preferences through an accumulation of multiple poll responses over time and of state policy liberalism using some defined estimates.¹ Responsiveness is then measured as a relationship between the liberalism of the masses and the liberalism of the policies at each given moment in time.

2 Milestone Exercise

For the purposes of this milestone, we'll be using the dataset **countrypops** that is built into the **gt** package. All code can be found in my Github repository.²

The following table shows population growth over time in three North American countries - Canada, United States, and Mexico.

North American Population Over Time			
1960 - 2017			
Year	Canada	Mexico	United States
1960	17909009	38174112	180671000
1970	21324000	52029861	205052000
1980	24593000	69360871	227225000
1990	27791000	85357874	249623000
2000	30769700	101719673	282162411
2010	34005274	117318941	309338421
2017	36708083	129163276	325719178

¹These quantified liberalism estimates are estimated following a procedure defined by Caughey and Warshaw (2016)

²<https://github.com/sardination/gov1006-final-project>

This next table shows the linear regression fits for the populations of Canada and Mexico based on year and the population of the United States.

Regression Results		
	<i>Dependent variable:</i>	
	Canada	Mexico
	(1)	(2)
Year	385,395.600*** (63,969.200)	1,549,404.000*** (287,274.800)
‘United States’	-0.024 (0.025)	0.023 (0.111)
Constant	-733,152,581.000*** (120,980,548.000)	-3,003,712,563.000*** (543,303,018.000)
Observations	7	7
R ²	1.000	1.000
Adjusted R ²	0.999	0.999
Residual Std. Error (df = 4)	182,978.300	821,724.400
F Statistic (df = 2; 4)	4,125.891***	5,032.099***

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

References

- Caughey, Devin, and Christopher Warshaw. 2016. “The Dynamics of State Policy Liberalism, 1936–2014.” *American Journal of Political Science* 60 (4): 899–913.
- . 2018. “Policy Preferences and Policy Change: Dynamic Responsiveness in the American States, 1936–2014.”