

Pre-Cleaning Variable Summary

ANES Variable	Variable Label	Role	Type	Question	Values
V241229	Trust federal government	Dependent	Ordinal (5-point)	How often can you trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right?	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Always; 2. Most of the time; 3. About half the time; 4. Some of the time; 5. Never
V241231	Government run by big interests	Dependent	Ordinal	Would you say the government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves or that it is run for the benefit of all the people?	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Run by a few big interests; 2. For the benefit of all the people
V241232	Government wastes tax money	Dependent	Ordinal	Do you think that people in government waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much of it?	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Waste a lot; 2. Waste some; 3. Don't waste very much
V241566x	Household income (category)	Independent	Ordinal categorical	—	-9. Refused; -5. Break off; -4. Error; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Under \$5,000; 2. \$5,000–9,999; ... 28. \$250,000 or more
V241501x	Race / ethnicity (summary)	Independent	Categorical	—	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -4. Error; 1. White non-Hispanic; 2. Black non-Hispanic; 3. Hispanic; 4. Asian/NHOPI non-Hispanic; 5. Native American/other non-Hispanic; 6. Multiple races non-Hispanic
V241463	Educational attainment	Independent	Ordinal	What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Less than 1st grade; ... 16. Doctorate degree; 95. Other
V241177	Ideological self-placement	Control	Ordinal	Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought much about this?	-9. Refused; -4. Error; 1. Extremely liberal; 2. Liberal; 3. Slightly liberal; 4. Moderate; 5. Slightly conservative; 6. Conservative; 7. Extremely conservative; 99. Haven't thought much about this
V241129x	Approval of Congress	Control	Ordinal	—	-2. DK/RF; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Approve strongly; 2. Approve not strongly; 3. Disapprove not strongly; 4. Disapprove strongly
V241458x	Age	Control	Continuous	—	-2. Missing; 80. Eighty years old or older
V241550	Sex	Control	Binary	What is your sex?	-9. Refused; -4. Error; 1. Male; 2. Female
V241461x	Marital status	Control	Categorical	Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated or never married?	-9. Refused; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Married: spouse present; 2. Married: spouse absent; 3. Widowed; 4. Divorced; 5. Separated; 6. Never married
V241294x	National economy retrospective	Control	Ordinal	National economy better or worse in last year?	-4. Error; -2. DK/RF; 1. Gotten much better; 2. Gotten somewhat better; 3. Stayed about the same; 4. Gotten somewhat worse; 5. Gotten much worse
V241235	Elections make government responsive	Control	Ordinal	How much do you feel that having elections makes the government pay attention to what the people think?	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -1. Inapplicable; 1. A good deal; 2. Some; 3. Not much
V241234	Generalized social trust	Control	Ordinal	Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people?	-9. Refused; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Always; 2. Most of the time; 3. About half the time; 4. Some of the time; 5. Never

ANES Variable	Approval of Congress Label (binary)	Robustness	Type	Do you approve or disapprove Question of the way the U.S. Congress has been handling its job?	Values
V241127				—	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -1. Inapplicable; 1. Approve; 2. Disapprove
V242058x	Registered state	Control	Categorical	—	-1. Inapplicable; State numeric codes (1–56)
V241227x	Party identification (summary)	Control	Ordinal	—	-9. Refused; -8. Don't know; -4. Error; 1. Strong Democrat; 2. Not very strong Democrat; 3. Independent-Democrat; 4. Independent; 5. Independent-Republican; 6. Not very strong Republican; 7. Strong Republican

Post-Cleaning Variable Summary

Variable	Retained Values	N (Non-Missing)	Mean	Median	Mode
Dependent Variables					
trust_clean	Always; Most of the time; About half the time; Some of the time; Never	4,928	—	—	Some of the time
trust_numeric	1–5	4,928	3.56	4	4
trust_binary	1 = High Trust (Always/Most of the time); 0 = Low Trust (Some/Never)	3,557	0.21	0	0
big_interests_clean	Run by big interests; For benefit of all	4,894	—	—	Run by big interests
big_interests_numeric	1–2	4,894	1.17	1	1
waste_clean	Waste a lot; Waste some; Don't waste very much	4,919	—	—	Waste a lot
waste_numeric	1–3	4,919	1.35	1	1
Independent Variables					
income_clean	1–28 (original brackets)	4,928	17.72	20	27
income_category	Under \$25,000; \$25,000–\$49,999; \$50,000–\$99,999; \$100,000+	4,928	—	—	\$100,000+
race_clean	White non-Hispanic; Black non-Hispanic; Hispanic; Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic; Native American/Other non-Hispanic; Multiple races non-Hispanic	4,928	—	—	White, non-Hispanic
education_clean	1–16; 95	4,928	12.46	12	13
education_category	Less than high school; High school graduate; Some college/Associate; Bachelor's degree; Graduate degree	4,872	—	—	Some college/Associate
Control Variables					
ideology_clean	Extremely liberal; Liberal; Slightly liberal; Moderate; Slightly conservative; Conservative; Extremely conservative	4,263	—	—	Moderate
ideology_numeric	1–7	4,263	4.10	4	4
congress_approval_clean	Approve strongly; Approve not strongly; Disapprove not strongly; Disapprove strongly	4,831	—	—	Disapprove strongly
congress_approval_numeric	1–4	4,831	3.35	4	4

age_clean	18–80	N (Non-Missing)	52.73	53	80
Variable	Retained Values		Mean	Median	Mode
sex_clean	Male; Female	4,922	—	—	Female
marital_clean	Married: spouse present; Married: spouse absent; Widowed; Divorced; Separated; Never married	4,927	—	—	Married: spouse present
marital_simple	Married; Previously married; Never married	4,927	—	—	Married
economy_clean	Much better; Somewhat better; About the same; Somewhat worse; Much worse	4,902	—	—	Much worse
economy_numeric	1–5	4,902	3.65	4	5
elections_responsive_clean	A good deal; Some; Not much	4,928	—	—	Some
elections_responsive_numeric	1–3	4,928	1.89	2	2
social_trust_clean	Always; Most of the time; About half the time; Some of the time; Never	4,921	—	—	Most of the time
social_trust_numeric	1–5	4,921	2.84	3	2
congress_binary_clean	Approve; Disapprove	4,841	—	—	Disapprove
congress_binary	1–2	4,841	1.82	2	2
party_clean	Strong Democrat; Not very strong Democrat; Independent-Democrat; Independent; Independent-Republican; Not very strong Republican; Strong Republican	4,914	—	—	Strong Democrat
party_numeric	1–7	4,914	3.87	4	1
state_clean	Valid state codes > 0 (1–56)	4,574	28.22	27	6

Note: Mean and median are shown for numeric variables only; — indicates categorical variables where averages are not meaningful. trust_binary N is lower (3,557) because "About half the time" (value 3) was excluded from the binary recoding. All negative values and 99 were recoded as NA.