Dataset	Variable Name	Description	Source (see bottom for details)
citypanel_base.dta	cityid	Administrative ID for a city	National bureau of statistics (NBS)
	cname	Name of a city	NBS
	year	Year	
	msec	Name of the city secretary	CPED
	mayor	Name of the mayor	CPED
	province	Province	NBS
	provid	Administrative ID of the province	NBS
	current_psec	Name of the provincial secretary	CPED
	current_gvn	Name of the governor	CPED
	citylevel	Administrative rank of the city	NBS
	fy_msec	City secretary's year of arrival	CPED
	fy_mayor	Mayor's year of arrival	CPED
	msec_tenure	City secretary's tenure	CPED
	mayor_tenure	Mayor's tenure	CPED
	psec_arrival	Provincial secretary's year of arrival (including governorship)	CPED
	psec_arrival_ym	Provincial secretary's year of arrival in year-month format (including governorship)	CPED
	psec_arrival_aspsec	Provincial secretary year of arrival	CPED
	psec_arrival_aspsec_ym	Provincial secretary's date of arrival (in year-month)	CPED
	psec_departure	Provincial secretary's date of departure	CPED
	psec_age	Provincial secretary's age	CPED
	gvn_arrival	Governor year of arrival	CPED
	gvn_departure	Governor year of departure	CPED

	`gvn_age`	Governor age	
	`msec_rank`	City secretary's administrative rank	CPED
	`mayor_rank`	Mayor's administrative rank	CPED
	`msec2currentsec`	City secretary connected to prov sec	CPED
	`msec2currentsec2`	City secretary connected to prov sec (including promotion that occurred when the provincial secretary was governor)	CPED
	`msec2currentgvn`	City secretary promoted under current governor	CPED
	`mayor2currentsec`	Mayor connected to prov sec	CPED
	`mayor2currentsec2`	Mayor connected to prov sec (including promotion that occurred when the provincial secretary was governor)	CPED
	`mayor2currentgvn`	Mayor promoted under current governor	CPED
	`mayor_localtime`	Number of years the mayor has served in a locality	CPED
	`msec_localtime`	Number of years the city secretary has served in a locality	CPED
	`msec_prov_exp`	City secretary has work experience in the provincial government	CPED
	`mayor_prov_exp`	Mayor has work experience in the provincial government	CPED
	`msec_central_exp`	City secretary has work experience in the central government	CPED
	`mayor_central_exp`	Mayor has work experience in the central government	CPED
	`msec_edu`	City secretary has college education	CPED
	`msec_edu_year`	City secretary's first year in college	CPED
	`msec_soe_exp`	City sec: SOE career	CPED
	`msec_univ_exp`	City secretary has university work experience	CPED
	`msec_league`	City secretary has Youth league work experience	CPED

	`msec_county_exp`	City secretary has county-level work experience	CPED
	`msec_finance`	City sec: finance/development career	CPED
	`msec_firstyearml`	City secretary's first year as city leader	CPED
	`msec_firstymml`	City secretary's first day as city leader (in year-month)	CPED
	`mayor_edu`	City mayor has college education	CPED
	`mayor_edu_year`	City mayor's first year in college	CPED
	`mayor_soe_exp`	City mayor: SOE career	CPED
	`mayor_univ_exp`	City mayor has university work experience	CPED
	`mayor_league`	City mayor has Youth league work experience	CPED
	`mayor_county_exp`	City mayor has county-level work experience	CPED
	`mayor_finance`	City mayor: finance/development career	CPED
	`mayor_firstyearml`	City mayor first year as city leader	CPED
	`mayor_firstymml`	City mayor first day as city leader (in year-month)	CPED
	`order`	Row number in the panel	
	`msec_sex`	City secretary's sex	CPED
	`msec_ethnicity`	City secretary's ethnicity	CPED
	`msec_birthyear`	City secretary's birth year	CPED
	`msec_province`	City secretary's home province	CPED
	`msec_city`	City secretary's home city	CPED
	`msec_dob`	City secretary's date of birth	CPED
	`msec_highest_edu`	City secretary's highest educational attainment	CPED
	`msec_party`	Date at which city secretary joined the CCP	CPED
	`msec_status`	City secretary's career status (as of June 2015)	CPED
	`mayor_sex`	City mayor's sex	CPED
	`mayor_ethnicity`	City mayor's ethnicity	CPED
	`mayor_birthyear`	City mayor's birth year	CPED
	`mayor_province`	City mayor's home province	CPED
	`mayor_city`	City mayor's home city	CPED

	`mayor_dob`	City mayor's date of birth	CPED
	`mayor_highest_edu`	City mayor's highest educational attainment	CPED
	`mayor_party`	Date at which city mayor joined the CCP	CPED
	`mayor_status`	City mayor's career status (as of June 2015)	CPED
	`minor_region`	Autonomous minority regions	NBS
	`western`	Western provinces	NBS
	`east_region`	Eastern (coastal) provinces	NBS
	`auto_city`	Autonomous minority prefectures	NBS
	`farwest`	Qinghai, Xinjiang, Tibet	NBS
econ_panel.dta			
	`year`	Year	NBS
	`cityid`	Administrative ID for a city	NBS
	`gdpidx`	GDP growth	Statistical Yearbook for Regional Economy (SYRE)
	`gdpidx_1st`	GDP growth: agriculture	SYRE
	`gdpidx_2nd`	GDP growth: industry	SYRE
	`gdpidx_3rd`	GDP growth: service	SYRE
	`G20_topic0`	Share of topic 0 in government work report	Jiang, Junyan, Tianguang Meng, and Qing Zhang, 2016, From Internet to Social Safety Net (JMZ)
	`G20_topic1`	Share of topic 1 in government work report	JMZ
	`G20_topic2`	Share of topic 2 in government work report	JMZ
	`G20_topic3`	Share of topic 3 in government work report	JMZ
	`G20_topic4`	Share of topic 4 in government work report	JMZ
	`G20_topic5`	Share of topic 5 in government work report	JMZ
	`G20_topic6`	Share of topic 6 in government work report	JMZ

	G20_topic7	Share of topic 7 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic8	Share of topic 8 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic9	Share of topic 9 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic10	Share of topic 10 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic11	Share of topic 11 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic12	Share of topic 12 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic13	Share of topic 13 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic14	Share of topic 14 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic15	Share of topic 15 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic16	Share of topic 16 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic17	Share of topic 17 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic18	Share of topic 18 in government work report	JMZ
	G20_topic19	Share of topic 19 in government work report	JMZ
	anysez_pv	City has provinical-level special economic zones	http://www.cadz.org.cn/kaifa/sjkaifa.php. Also see Wang, Jin, 2013, The economic impact of Special Economic Zones: Evidence from Chinese municipalities, Journal of Development Economics
	anysez_nat	City has national-level special economic zones	http://www.cadz.org.cn/kaifa/sjkaifa.php. Also see Wang, Jin, 2013, The economic impact of Special Economic Zones: Evidence from Chinese municipalities, Journal

			of Development Economics
	`loggdp`	Log GDP	SYRE
	`logpop`	Log population	SYRE
	`logloan`	Log loan	SYRE
	`growrev`	Growth in fiscal revenue	SYRE
	`govsize`	Fiscal expenditure as \% of GDP	SYRE
	`logltavg`	Log average nighttime brightness per square km	DMSP-OLS Nighttime Lights Time Series (https://ngdc.noaa.gov/ eog/dmsp/downloadV 4composites.html)
	`log_allarea`	Log total areas of land sold	SYRE
	`startmsec_loggdp`	Secretary: Starting year Log GDP	SYRE
	`startmayor_loggdp`	Mayor: Starting year Log GDP	SYRE
	`startmsec_logpop`	Secretary: Starting year Log population	SYRE
	`startmayor_logpop`	Mayor: Starting year Log population	SYRE
	`startmsec_loginvest`	Secretary: Starting year Log fixed asset investment	SYRE
	`startmayor_loginvest`	Mayor: Starting year Log fixed asset investment	SYRE
	`startmsec_gdpidx`	Secretary: Starting year GDP index	SYRE
	`startmayor_gdpidx`	Mayor: Starting year GDP index	SYRE
	`f2gdpidx`	GDP growth rate at t+2	SYRE
	`dep`	Fiscal expenditure -Fiscal revenue (t+1)	SYRE
	`laws`	Number of policies and laws passed	PKU Law (http://www.pkulaw.c n/)
	`psec_dominant`	Provincial secretary connected to general secretary	CPED
	`growgap`	GDP growth - (freight growth + electricity growth + nighttime brightness growth)/3	SYRE
	`grow_gap_freight`	GDP growth - freight growth	SYRE
	`grow_gap_power`	GDP growth - electricity growth	SYRE

	`grow_gap_light`	GDP growth - nighttime brightness growth	SYRE
	`lgdpidx`	GDP growth at t-1	SYRE
	`mv3_gdpidx_1st`	Growth in agriculture GDP (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	`mv3_gdpidx_2nd`	Growth in industrial GDP (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	`mv3_gdpidx_3rd`	Growth in service-sector GDP (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	`mv3_growpop`	Growth in local population (3-year moving avg)	SYRE
	`mv3_growexp`	Growth in fiscal expenditure at (t)(3-year moving avg)	SYRE
validation_data.dta			
	`name`	Name of the official	CPED
	`year`	Year	CPED
	`leadertype`	Leader type by beginning rank (m=municipal, vp=vice provincial, p=provincial, c=national)	CPED
	`anticorruption`	Investigated for corruption	CPED
	`rank`	Administrative rank	CPED
	`job`	Name of the job	CPED
	`jobcat`	Category of the job	CPED
	`keypost`	Label for key post	CPED
	`province`	Serving province	CPED
	`city`	Serving city	CPED
	`firstprovince`	First serving province	CPED
	`expid`	Count variable for duration	CPED
	`pro2vp_trueprize`	Promoted to vice-provincial level posts with active duty	CPED
	`conn2currentpb1`	Connected to Politburo member (promotion measure)	CPED
	`Conn2currentpb_op`	Connected to Politburo member (overlap measure)	CPED
	`conn2currentsc1`	Connected to Politburo Standing Committee member (promotion measure)	CPED

	`conn2currentsc_op`	Connected to Politburo Standing Committee member (overlap measure)	CPED
	`sex`	Gender	CPED
	`ethnicity`	Ethnicity	CPED
	`dob`	Date of birth	CPED
	`birth_province`	Birth province	CPED
	`birth_city`	Birth city	CPED
	`birth_county`	Birth county	CPED
	`edu`	Highest education	CPED
	`party`	Date joining the CCP	CPED
	`status`	Current status (as of July 2015)	CPED
	`age`	Age	CPED
	`conn2targets`	Patrons became target of investigation (promotion-based)	CPED
	`conn2targets_op`	Patrons became target of investigation (overlap-based)	CPED
performance_and_promotion.dta			
	`name`	Name of the official	CPED
	`province`	Serving province	CPED
	`year`	Year	CPED
	`leadertype`	Whether the official starts as a mayor or city secretary	CPED
	`actualcollege`	Full-time college	CPED
	`firstbureau`	Year first promoted to bureau-level	CPED
	`purged`	Demoted for corruption or malfeasance	CPED
	`rank`	Administrative rank	CPED
	`city`	Serving city	CPED
	`firstprovince`	The province in which an official's observation starts	CPED

	`expid`	Count variable for duration	
	`pro2vp_trueprize`	Promoted to vice-provincial level posts with active duty	CPED
	`conn2currentpb`	Connected to Politburo member	CPED
	`conn2currentsc`	Connected to Politburo Standing Committee (PSC) member	CPED
	`conn2currenttop`	Connected to Politburo or PSC member	CPED
	`pf_f2gdpidx_dm1`	Cumulative Relative Performance (CRP) under patron	SYRE
	`pf_f2gdpidx_dm2`	CRP under non-patron	SYRE
	`pf_f2gdpidx_dm3`	CRP (overall)	SYRE
	`pf_f1logtransfer_dm3`	Average relative fiscal transfer	Public Finance Statistical Materials of Prefectures, Cities, and Counties (PFSM)
	`pf_gdp_dm3`	Average relative city GDP	SYRE
	`pf_totalpop_dm3`	Average relative city population	SYRE
	`id`	ID in CPED	CPED
	`sex`	Gender	CPED
	`ethnicity`	Ethnicity	CPED
	`dob`	Date of birth	CPED
	`birth_prov`	Birth province	CPED
	`birth_city`	Birth city	CPED
	`birth_county`	Birth county	CPED
	`highest_edu`	Highest education	CPED
	`status`	Current status (as of July 2015)	CPED
	`party`	Date joining the CCP	CPED
	`age`	Age	CPED
	`birth_year`	Birth year	CPED

Source:

CPED: Jiang, Junyan, 2018, Chinese Political Elite Database (CPED), https://www.junyanjiang.com/data.html

DMSP-OLS Nighttime Lights Time Series https://ngdc.noaa.gov/eog/dmsp/downloadV4composites.html

JMZ: Jiang, Junyan, Tianguang Meng, Qing Zhang, 2017, From Internet to Social Safety Net: The Policy Consequences of Online Participation in China, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2975456

PFSM: Ministry of Finance, various years, *Public Finance Statistical Materials of Prefectures, Cities, and Counties* (地市县财政统计资料), China Financial Economics Press, https://goo.gl/E1QkfL

NBS: National Bureau of Statistics, Administrative Codes for Localities (统计用区划和城乡划分代码), http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/tjbz/tjyqhdmhcxhfdm/

PKU Law (北大法宝): http://www.pkulaw.cn/

SYRE: National Bureau of Statistics, various years, *Statistical Yearbooks on Regional Economy* (中国区域统计年鉴), China Statistical Press, http://tongji.cnki.net/kns55/navi/HomePage.aspx?id=N2013010085&name=YZXDR&floor=1