**Governor Candidate Quality 1950-2008 (but also 2017) Dataset**

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| Variable Name | Description | Coding | Source | Notes | Missingness |
| year | Year the governor took office |  |  |  |  |
| state | State in which the governor holds office |  |  |  |  |
| st | State code |  |  |  |  |
| gov\_name | Governor’s name |  | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable govname1: Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Governors Dataset”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20408,  Harvard Dataverse, V1 | Some names were validated and imputed using Wikipedia |  |
| term\_in\_office | Governor’s term in office |  | Created from term\_limit, lame\_duck\_last\_term, and Wikipedia | 0 indicates years when a governor was in office, but not elected to office (example: lieutenant governor took office because governor took some other office)  999 indicates a mid-year change in governor  User discretion advised |  |
| last\_term | Governor’s last term in office | 1=last term served by governor  0= not the last term served by the govenor | Created by finding the maximum term\_in\_office for each governor | The last term is based on current data. A governor who is currently serving but is not term limited appears as 1 in the dataset |  |
| gov\_party | Governor’s political party | 0 = Republican, 1 = Democrat,  .5 = non-major party governor. When the party of the governor changes mid-year (eight cases), the fraction of the year with a Democratic governor is put in as a value. | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable govparty\_a: Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Governors Dataset”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20408, Harvard Dataverse, V1 | This is govparty from StateElections\_PartisanBalance1937to2011\_2011\_03\_22.xls. However, years are put in “government style.” For example, if a Democrat replaces a Republican in the 1988 election, “R” goes into 1988, and “D” goes into 1989. Source 1937 to 1958; Congressional Quarterly. 1998. Gubernatorial Elections, 1787-1997. Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, Inc. Source 1959 to 2009: Klarner, state partisan balance, for\_use file.Source. 2010: Directory I, 2009. Source 2011: http://www.ballotpedia.org/wiki/index.php/2010\_gubernatorial\_electoral\_resul ts |  |
| term\_length | Number of years in govern's term (means that in that year the governor is having that type of term, in length.) |  | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable term\_length: Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Governors Dataset”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20408,  Harvard Dataverse, V1 |  |  |
| limit\_type | Type of term limit | 0 = there is no term limit.  1 = there is a one term limit.  2 = there is a two term limit.  3 = there is a three term limit. This is from the data File “GovTermLimits.” | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable limit\_type:  Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Governors Dataset”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20408, Harvard Dataverse, V1  Sources for 1997 to 2002; Book of the States, used further research (noted in source file file) in the case of ID and MA because they had changes to their laws | The two term limit includes two consecutive terms, two terms with a term in between, and terms like “8 out of 12 years,” where 8 year is two terms |  |
| lame\_duck\_last\_term | Last term for governor | Governor is in the last term before his term limit, i.e. he or she is a lame duck. 1 = governor is a lame duck. 0 = governor is not a lame duck. | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable lame\_duck\_last\_term: Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Governors Dataset”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20408, Harvard Dataverse, V1 | Lame duck is based on the term limit when the governor was in office. If the law changed and a lame duck governor becomes eligible for another term, the lame duck governor is still indicated as lame duck. |  |
| gov\_pres\_same\_elect\_year | Gubernatorial and presidential election were in the same year | 1=the gubernatorial election and presidential election were the same year  0=the gubernatorial election and presidential election were not in the same year | Created by testing if the year was a gubernatorial election year and presidential election year. | Gubernatorial election year was collected from Correlates of State Policy Project, variable gub\_election, Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Governors Dataset”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20408, Harvard Dataverse, V1 |  |
| gov\_pres\_same\_party | Governor and president are of the same political party | 1= the governor and president are of the same party  0= the governor and president are not of the same party | Created by testing if gov\_party==pres\_party. See gov\_party and pres\_party for information about the variables |  |  |
| unemployment | Unemployment rate, measured as percentage of state labor force that is out of work |  | For year 1975 to 2004, without year 1995: Correlates of State Policy Project, variable unemployment: Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2012. “Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey.” Provided by Stateminder: A data visualization project from Georgetown University. <http://stateminder.org>  For year 1995 and 2005 to 2017: https://www.bls.gov/lau/ |  | Missing for years 1950 to 1974 |
| state\_cpi | Change in state consumer price index | Change between years was established with the following formula. {[State\_cpi\_bfh\_est (time t) - State\_cpi\_bfh\_est (time t-1)] / State\_cpi\_bfh\_est (time t-1)}+1 | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable state\_cpi\_bfh\_est: Klarner, Carl, 2013, “State Economic Data”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20404, Harvard Dataverse, V1 |  | Missing for years 1950-1959 and 2011-2017 |
| gross\_state\_product | Gross state produc combines in millions of current dollars | Millions of current dollars. Uses gsp\_naics\_q for 1997q2.5 to 2010. | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable gsp\_q: Klarner, Carl, 2013, “State Economic Data”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/20404, Harvard Dataverse, V1 | From Correlates of State Policy Project : Uses gsp\_sic\_q for up to 1996q2.5. For 1996q3 to 1997q2, it connects the values between 1996q2.5 and 1997q2.5 with the multiplier. For the following three states only, 2010q2.5 was put into 2010q3: AL, MI, and TX. | Missing for years 1950-1959 and 2011-2017  348 of 1068 cases missing |
| change\_gsp | Change in gross state product |  | See gross\_state\_product | Calculated using formula (gsp\_time1/gsp\_time0)-1 | Same missingness from gross\_state\_product and for years without a time0 or time 1  353 of 1068 cases missing |
| electoral\_competitiveness | Ranney Measure of Electoral Competitiveness – 4yr. Moving Average | Ranney measures of competitiveness. Four-Year Moving Average. Varies between .5 and 1, higher values representing higher levels of competitiveness. | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable folded\_ranney\_4yrs: Ranney, Austin. 1976. “Parties in State Politics.” In Politics in the American States, 3rd ed., edited by Herbert Jacob and Kenneth Vines. Boston, MA: Little, Brown & Co. Klarner, Carl, 2013, “Other Scholars’ Competitiveness Measures”, http://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/22519, Harvard Dataverse, V1 Stata Code: gen folded\_ranney\_4yrs=1-(abs(ranney\_4yrs-.5)) |  | Missing for years 2011-2017 |
| citizen\_ideology | Citizen ideology measure | Measure of Citizen Ideology from Liberal to Conservative. Higher values indicate more liberal. | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable citi6013: Berry, William D., Evan J. Ringquist, Richard C. Fording and Russell L. Hanson. 1998. “Measuring Citizen and Government Ideology in the American States, 1960-93.” American Journal of Political Science, 42:327-48. |  | Missing for years 1950-1959 and 2014-2017  234 of 1068 cases missing |
| state\_ideology | Weighted state ideology score | Weighted yearly measure yearly measure, giving the proportion of liberal identifiers minus the proportion of conservative identifiers in each state. A positive score indicates a more liberal state citizenry | From Correlates of State Policy Project, variable Wideo: Erikson, Robert S., Gerald C. Wright, and John P. McIver. Statehouse Democracy: Public Opinion, and Policy in the American States. Cambridge University Press, 1993. Link: http://php.indiana.edu/~wright1/ |  | Missing for years 1950-1975 and 2012-2017 |
| stimson\_mood | Stimson’s policy mood | An over time state–level measure of Stimson’s (1999) policy mood | From Correlates of State Policy, variable mood: Enns, P. K., & Koch, J. (2013). Public opinion in the U.S. states: 1956 to 2010. State Politics and Policy Quarterly, 13, 349-372. |  | Missing for years 1950-1955 and 2011-2017 |
| gub\_dem\_vote\_prop |  |  |  |  |  |
| votes\_for\_runnerup | Number of votes for the candidate who received the second greatest number of votes |  | From “Estimating Dynamic Games of Electoral Competition to Evaluate Term Limits in U.S. Gubernatorial Elections,” by Holger Seig and Chamma Yoon (2016) | Raw data: ~StateGovernors1950-2008\Elections\replication\Stata\election1.dta |  |
| votes\_for\_winner | Number of votes of the candidate who received the greatest number of votes |  | From “Estimating Dynamic Games of Electoral Competition to Evaluate Term Limits in U.S. Gubernatorial Elections,” by Holger Seig and Chamma Yoon (2016) |  |  |
| winner\_vote\_proportion | Proportion of all votes, including third parties, received by the candidate with the greatest number of votes |  | From “Estimating Dynamic Games of Electoral Competition to Evaluate Term Limits in U.S. Gubernatorial Elections,” by Holger Seig and Chamma Yoon (2016) |  |  |
| runnerup\_vote\_proportion | Proportion of all votes, including third parties, received by the candidate with the second greatest number of votes |  | From “Estimating Dynamic Games of Electoral Competition to Evaluate Term Limits in U.S. Gubernatorial Elections,” by Holger Seig and Chamma Yoon (2016) |  |  |
| diff\_vote\_proportion | Difference in the proportion of votes of the winning candidate and the runner up candidate | Winner\_vote\_proportion-runnerp\_vote\_proportion | From “Estimating Dynamic Games of Electoral Competition to Evaluate Term Limits in U.S. Gubernatorial Elections,” by Holger Seig and Chamma Yoon (2016) |  |  |
| mean\_gub\_approve | Approval of governor, averaged over their term |  | From JARs Database  Data acquired from https://jmj313.web.lehigh.edu/node/6 |  | 650 of 1068 missing |
| mean\_gov\_disapprove | Disapproval of governoraveraged over their term |  | From JARs Database  Data acquired from https://jmj313.web.lehigh.edu/node/6 |  | 664 of 1068 missing |
| Republican\_Popular\_Vote | Number of popular votes for the Republican presidential candidate |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 238 of 1068 missing |
| Democrat\_Popular\_Vote | Number of popular votes for the Democratic presidential candidate |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 239 of 1068 missing |
| Third\_Party\_Popular\_Vote | Number of popular votes for third party presidential candidates |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 773 of 1068 missing |
| total\_popular\_votes | Total popular votes cast in presidential election |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 238 of 1068 missing |
| Republican\_Popular\_  Vote\_Proportion | Proportion of popular votes for the Republican presidential candidate |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 238 of 1068 missing |
| Democrat Popular\_  Vote\_Proportion | Proportion of popular votes for the Democratic presidential candidate |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 238 of 1068 missing |
| Third\_Party\_Popular\_  Vote\_Proportion | Proportion of popular votes for third party presidential candidates |  | From The American Presidency Project  http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/showelection.php?year=XXXX  where XXXX is (1952 to 2016, every four years) | Data was merged from PopularVote.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PopularVote | 770 of 1068 missing |
| mean\_pres\_approve | Presidential approval averaged over a governor’s term |  | From JARs Database  Data acquired from https://jmj313.web.lehigh.edu/node/6 | Data was merged from PresJAR.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PresidentialJAR | 739 of 1068 missing |
| mean\_pres\_disapprove | Presidential disapproval averaged over a governor’s term |  | From JARs Database  Data acquired from https://jmj313.web.lehigh.edu/node/6 | Data was merged from PresJAR.csv in StateGovernors1950-2008>PresidentialJAR | 740 of 1068 missing |
| pres\_party | President’s party |  |  |  |  |