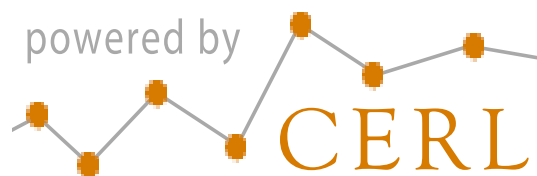

Judicial Elections Data Initiative Codebook

Version 2010.3
(Released July 2, 2010)

CENTER FOR EMPIRICAL RESEARCH IN THE LAW
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS



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Preface

Writing in 1986, Philip Dubois remarked that “[i]t is fairly certain that no single subject has consumed as many pages in law reviews and law-related publications over the past 50 years as the subject of judicial selection” (31). In recent years, the Supreme Court’s decisions in *Republican Party of Minnesota v. White*, *Caperton v. Massey*, and *Citizens United v. FEC* have recaptured and held the interest of legal scholars and social scientists alike. Additionally, recent campaigns to reexamine the methods of judicial selection in Missouri, West Virginia, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and various other states have attracted the attention of the general public across the country. With that in mind, scholars at Washington University in St. Louis are initiating a collaborative data collection project in an effort to allow scholars nationwide the opportunity to study the effects of various methods of selection. We invite social scientists and legal academics alike to join us as we embark on this project.

Though few would deny the importance of the justice system in the functioning of society and on the daily lives of citizens, not enough work has gone into understanding the influence judicial selection has upon judicial systems. We believe that part of the reason that more research has not been done in this area is the fact that data regarding state judicial elections are difficult to collect. This project attempts to remedy this problem by providing a focal point for data collection and sharing.

The ability of scholars to replicate and extend research is essential to the endeavor of social science. As King (1995) aptly wrote: “Political science is a community enterprise; the community of empirical political scientists needs access to the body of data necessary to replicate existing studies to understand, evaluate, and especially build on this work.” Furthermore, where academic research informs decision-makers regarding policy decisions, as we should hope all academic work does, the importance of verifying and furthering results is magnified. Currently, there is no publicly available dataset for some of the most significant work in the area of judicial selection (e.g., Hall and Bonneau 2009).

This document outlines the variables currently being collected by the JEDI project. Herein, you can find the coding rules for the variables, the state-years for which each variable is being collected, a partial listing of studies utilizing variables similar (or identical) to the variables being collected, and a description of the sources of the information contained in the master data set.

We welcome any contributions, comments, or questions about this project. If you have any, feel free to contact us at jedi@wustl.edu.

Project Logistics

Our Purpose

To collaborate with scholars nationwide to collect data on elections to state courts of last resort from 1990 to 2010 in an effort to facilitate replication efforts and to stimulate new research in the area of state judicial selection.

Our Plan

As we collect and receive data, we will convert, clean, and add them to the data set. Throughout the process, we will regularly release the data on the project web site. Thus, the data from this project will be publicly available throughout the entire data collection project.

If You Have Data

This is a collaborative project. Aware that scholars may have collected some of these variables previously, we are soliciting data from anyone who wishes to share what they have collected. With that said, we are flexible. If your data is in a database format, we will convert it. If it is in a word processing file, we will code it. If it is on paper, we will scan it, and if it is on tape, we will find a machine to read it. In short, we will take any data you are willing to provide in any format. Additionally, if you have information on variables that we are not collecting, just send us the data and your coding rules, and we will include them in subsequent data releases.

If You Want to Help Collect Data

Contact us, and we will help you coordinate your efforts with other scholars. We welcome contributions of any scope. Whether you want to collect one or more variables for a state, about particular race(s), or about particular candidate(s), we welcome any assistance you are willing to provide. At this early stage of the project, we would particularly welcome assistance simply identifying candidates and races that have been held between 1990 and 2010. Regardless of your contribution, we will welcome your data in any form and will promptly distribute your data to scholars nationwide.

Who We Are

Andrew D. Martin	<i>Principal Investigator</i> Professor of Political Science Professor of Law Director, Center for Empirical Research in the Law Washington University in St. Louis
Morgan L.W. Hazelton	<i>Project Coordinator</i> Ph.D. Student, Department of Political Science Graduate Student Associate, Center for Empirical Research in the Law Washington University in St. Louis
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Contributors

National Institute for Money in State Politics

Release Notes

Date	Version	Notes
07-02-2010	2010.3	This release includes information on a number of newly identified races along with candidate quality information for most contestable races and a substantial number of new state-level variables.
04-15-2010	2010.2	This release adds a substantial amount of data provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics. This provides a substantial increase in the information at both the candidate and race levels. However, the data is still in a preliminary form.
03-29-2010	2010.1	This is the initial data release from the JEDI project. The main purpose of this release is to illustrate the data model we plan to use. The data model is subject to change as needed as the project progresses. We are in the process of refining the coding rules for some variables; updated coding rules will be provided in a subsequent data release.

Race-Level Variables

id

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: This is a unique identifier for the race. The identifier has three parts separated by a hyphen: the two-letter state abbreviation, the four-digit year, and the two-digit race number identifier. For Texas and Oklahoma (the two states with multiple courts of last resort), TX and OK denote the civic court of last resort, and TC and OC denote the criminal court of last resort.

doe

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The date of the general election in MM-DD-YYYY format

year

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The year of the general election in YYYY format

seat

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The name of the seat filled by the election.

winner

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The name of the winning candidate in a partisan or nonpartisan race. The name of the candidate in a retention race.

Source: The names of the winning candidates in many races were provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics

seatprev

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The Race id of any previous elections to fill this seat.

postwhite

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election occurred after June 27, 2002 (the date of the Supreme Court's decision in *Republican Party of Minnesota v. White*).

contested

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary variable. Takes a value of 1 if there are at least two candidates in the general election. Since no retention election can be contested, all retention elections take a value of NA.

openseat

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is for an open seat. Since no retention election can be for an open seat, all retention elections take a value of NA.

Sources: A list of open races from 1990-2006 was provided by Chris W. Bonneau. Additional races were identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

electedinc

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election involves an incumbent who has previously won election.

incumbelect

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the incumbent has previously won election to the court.

appointinc

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election involves an incumbent who was initially appointed and has never won election.

ico

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Describes the candidate's position in a race. The variable takes a value of O (the letter) if the race is an open race, I if the candidate is an incumbent, C if the candidate is challenging an incumbent, IC if the race involves an incumbent challenger running against a current incumbent, and IO if the race involves an incumbent running for an open seat.

Sources: This coding scheme was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics

district

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the seat represents a district and not the entire state.

multimember

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is for a multimember district.

newsccand

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is for an open seat or an incumbent initially appointed and is facing his or her first election.

ctcontrol

We will not begin collecting this variable until Summer 2010. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if control of the court is at stake.

expdiff

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 2 if winner has prior judicial experience, but the loser does not, takes a value of 1 if both (or neither) have prior judicial experience, and takes a value of 0 if the winner does not have prior judicial experience and the loser does.

majoff

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Identifies “the presidential, gubernatorial, or U.S. senatorial contest attracting the most voters in each election” (Hall and Bonneau 2009: 23). The variable takes a value of 1 if the presidential race received the most votes, a value of 2 if the gubernatorial race attracted the most votes, a value of 3 if the senatorial race received the most votes, and a value of 0 if some other race attracted the most votes or if none of the aforementioned races were on the ballot.

majoffvote

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The number of votes cast in “the presidential, gubernatorial, or U.S. senatorial contest attracting the most voters in each election” (Hall and Bonneau 2009: 23).

vote

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total votes cast for all candidates this Supreme Court race.

winvote

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total votes for winner of seat.

losevote

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total votes for losers of seat.

incumbvote

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Number of votes received by the incumbent. For retention elections, this number is, by definition, the number of “Yes” votes.

margin

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous [0,1]. Percentage margin of victory for the winner.

previncpct

We will not begin collecting this variable until Summer 2010. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous [0,1]. Vote percentage won by incumbent in previous election.

prevvtpct

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous [0,1]. Vote percentage of winning Supreme Court candidate in previous election cycle for each seat.

prevwin

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total number of votes received by the winning candidate in most recent judicial election in that jurisdiction.

prevlose

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total number of votes received by losing candidates in the most

recent judicial election in that jurisdiction.

totalspend

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total amount of campaign spending in the election by all candidates.

totalspend90

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total amount of campaign spending in the election by all candidates in 1990 dollars.

totalfund

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total amount of campaign fundraising in the election by all candidates.

totalfund90

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total amount of campaign fundraising in the election by all candidates in 1990 dollars.

pcspend

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The total amount of campaign spending in the election by all candidates divided by voting age population (measured in 1000s).

pcspend90

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The natural log of the total amount of campaign spending in the election by all candidates in 1990 dollars divided by voting age population (measured in 1000s)

spenddiff

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The difference between the log of the incumbents spending and the log of the challengers spending.

ideodist

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The absolute value of the difference between each justice's ideology score, measured using Brace, Langer, and Hall's (2000), PAJID scores, and citizen ideology at the time of each election, as measured by Berry et al. (1998) citizen ideology scores.

Source: Where possible, the candidate's PAJID score comes from Laura Langer's natural courts database.

Candidate-Level Variables

id

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: This is a unique identifier for the race. The identifier has four parts separated by a hyphen: the two-letter state abbreviation, the four-digit year, the two-digit race number identifier, and the two-digit candidate identifier. For Texas and Oklahoma (the two states with multiple courts of last resort), TX and OK denote the civic court of last resort, and TC and OC denote the criminal court of last resort.

cid

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The Race id of previous races in which this individual has been a candidate.

fullname

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The candidate's full name in LastName Suffix, FirstName MiddleInitial form.

Source: For many races, the National Institute for Money in State Politics identified the candidates.

win

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate won the election.

Sources: For many races, the winning candidate was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics

status

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Describes the candidate's final electoral status. Takes a value of W if the candidate won a partisan or nonpartisan election, a value of L if the candidate lost a partisan or nonpartisan election in the general election, PL if the candidate lost a general or nonpartisan election in the primary. If the election is a retention election, the variable takes a value of WR if the candidate was retained and a value of LR if the candidate was not retained. The variable takes a value of WITHDREW if the candidate withdrew from the race.

Sources: The coding scheme for this variable was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics

incumb

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate is an incumbent.

ico

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Describes the candidate's position in a race. The variable takes a value of O (the letter) if the race is an open race, I if the candidate is an incumbent, C if the candidate is challenging an incumbent, IC if the race involves an incumbent challenger running against a current

incumbent, and IO if the race involves an incumbent running for an open seat.

Sources: This coding scheme was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics

female

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate is female.

Sources: For many races, this information was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics. In other cases, it was obtained by examining candidate biographies, newspaper articles, and court websites.

minority

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate is a racial minority.

Sources: For many races, this information was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics. In other cases, it was obtained by examining candidate biographies, newspaper articles, the American Bar Association's *Directory of Minority Judges*, and court websites.

pid

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 0 if the candidate is a Republican, a value of 1 if the candidate is a Democrat, and a value of 2 if the candidate is from a third-party, and a value of 3 if the candidate has no party affiliation. This variable classifies the candidate's political party, not the political party that appears on the ballot.

Sources: For many races, this information was identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics

spend

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total amount of campaign spending.

spend90

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total amount of campaign spending in 1990 U.S. dollars.

fundr

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total amount of campaign fundraising.

fundr90

We will begin releasing this variable in late July. Coding rules to follow.

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total amount of campaign fundraising in 1990 U.S. dollars.

votes

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total number of votes received by the candidate in the general election.

totalvotes

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Total number of votes received by any candidate in this race in the general election.

percent

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous [0,1]. The percentage of votes cast in the race received by the candidate.

qualc

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate currently holds, or has ever held, a judgeship. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

tcexp

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate is a current or former trial court judge. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

tcname

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The name(s) of the trial court(s) upon which the candidate has previously served. If the candidate has no previous experience of this sort, the variable takes a value of NA. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

iacexp

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate is a current or former intermediate appellate court judge. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

iacname

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The name(s) of the trial court(s) upon which the candidate has previously served. If the candidate has no previous experience of this sort, the variable takes a value of NA. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

defsc

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the candidate is a defeated supreme court justice. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

otheroffice

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The name(s) of the trial court(s) upon which the candidate has previously served. If the candidate has no previous electoral experience, the variable takes a value of NA. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

campoff

States: AL, AR, GA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, TN (1990-1994), TX, WA, WI, WV

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. Description of office(s) campaigned for; put the year of the campaign in parentheses where available. Additionally, the variable takes a value of NC if we are not currently collecting this variable for a particular race at this time; currently, we are only collecting this information for contestable elections.

totalwithoutnc

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate minus any noncontributions.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

agriculture

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the agricultural sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

construction

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the construction sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

comelect

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the communications and electronics sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

defense

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the defense sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

energynr

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the energy and natural resources sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

fireinsre

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the fire, insurance, and real estate sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

genbus

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the general business sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

health

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the health sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

retireecivserv

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the other retiree and civil servant sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

ideospint

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the other retiree and civil servant sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

lawyerlobby

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the lawyers and lobbyists sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

labor

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the labor sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

transport

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from the transportation sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

uncoded

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions whose sector was not identified by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

partycontrib

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate from sources related to the candidate's party as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

smallcontrib

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of small contributions raised by the candidate as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

candcontrib

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of candidate contributions made by the candidate as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

noncontrib

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of non-contributions received by the candidate as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

pubsub

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of public subsidy received by the candidate from the construction sector as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

instate

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of in-state contributions raised by the candidate as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

outstate

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of in-state contributions raised by the candidate as coded by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

unkstate

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The total amount of contributions raised by the candidate for which the National Institute for Money in State Politics was unable to identify a state.

Sources: This information was provided by the National Institute for Money in State Politics on March 31, 2010.

notes

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. Coding notes for the candidate.

State-Level Variables

id

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: This is a unique identifier for the state-year. The identifier has two parts separated by a hyphen: the two-letter state abbreviation and the four-digit year. For Texas and Oklahoma (the two states with multiple courts of last resort), TX and OK denote the civic court of last resort, and TC and OC denote the criminal court of last resort.

state

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Text. The name of the state.

year

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The four-digit year.

oddyear

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the year is odd-numbered.

potusyr

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is held during a presidential election year.

partisan

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the state holds partisan judicial elections to select and retain supreme court judges.

retention

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the state holds retention judicial elections to retain supreme court judges.

nonpartisan

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the state holds nonpartisan judicial elections to select and retain supreme court judges.

numavails

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Ordinal. Number of available court of last resort seats in the state that year.

numsts

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Ordinal. Number of seats on the court of last resort.

noiac

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the state has no intermediate appellate court.

term

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Length of term measured in years.

Source: For 1990-2005, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set.

ctprof

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Brace and Hall (2001) measure of state supreme court professionalism (a factor analysis of the “number of clerks available to assist the Chief Justice and all other justices in their routine tasks, the amount of remuneration received by the justices (standardized against average employee earnings of other justice system employees), the number of justices relative to population, and overall docket size”).

stringency

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Witko (2005) index of campaign finance stringency.

regulation

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Witko (2005) index of state disclosure requirements.

regulation

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Witko (2005) index of public financing.

regulation

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Witko (2005) index of state contribution limits.

chcomp

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Base salary for the chief justice, in dollars.

Source: *The Book of the States* and the National Center for State Courts's Survey of Judicial Salaries.

astcomp

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Base salary for associate justices, in dollars.

Source: *The Book of the States* and the National Center for State Courts's Survey of Judicial Salaries.

govparty

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 0 if Governor is a Republican, a value of 1 if the governor is a Democrat, and a value of .5 if there was split control of the governor's office during that year. Years in which a governor switched parties or was replaced by a governor of the other major party may receive fractional scores.

Source: For 1990-2005, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set.

uhparty

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 0 if the upper house is controlled by Republicans, a value of 1 if it is controlled by Democrats, a value of .5 if there is split control. If one party had more than 50%, the case received its score on the basis of percent of legislators who were of the two different parties.

Source: For 1990-2005, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set.

lhparty

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 0 if the upper house is controlled by Republicans, a value of 1 if it is controlled by Democrats, a value of .5 if there is split control. If one party had more than 50%, the case received its score on the basis of percent of legislators who were of the two different parties.

Source: For 1990-2005, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set.

unifiedgov

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the legislative and executive branches of state government are unified and a value of 0 if there is divided government.

Source: For 1990-2005, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set.

preswinparty

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Binary. Takes a value of 0 if the most recent presidential winner is a Democrat

or a value of 1 if the winning candidate is a Republican.

senwinparty

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 0 if the most recent senatorial winner is a Democrat, a value of 1 if the winning candidate is a Republican, and a value of two 2 if he or she is from a third party.

govwinparty

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Factor. Takes a value of 0 if the most recent gubernatorial winner is a Democrat, a value of 1 if the winning candidate is a Republican, and a value of two 2 if he or she is from a third party.

lawyers

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The number of lawyers in each state at the time of election.

Source: Statistical Reports provided by the market research department of the American Bar Association

edlevel

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous [0,1]. The percentage of the state population 25 years of age or older with a high school diploma.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

tort

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Proportion of the court docket (1995) involving tort cases

Source: State Supreme Court Database.

murder

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: The number of murders and non-negligent manslaughters per 100,000 inhabitants.

Source: The Federal Bureau of Investigation's *Uniform Crime Reports*.

vap

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Voting age population of the state/district according to the data on McDonald's website (<http://elections.gmu.edu>).

vep

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Voting eligible population of the state/district according to the data on McDonald's website (<http://elections.gmu.edu>).

berrycitid

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. Berry et al. (1998) citizen ideology score.

Source: For 1990-2004, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set which, in turn, is taken from Richard Fording's website.

distlevcomp

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The measure of district-level competition calculated in Holbrook and Van Dunk (1993).

Source: For 1995-2004, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set. For other years, the variable is calculated using the methodology outlined in Ranney, Austin. 1965. Parties in State Politics. In Herbert Jacobs and Kenneth N. Vines, eds. *Politics in the American States*. Boston, Little Brown.

foldranney

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The folded Ranney index calculated in Holbrook and Van Dunk (1993).

Source: For 1995-2004, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set. For other years, the variable is calculated using the methodology outlined in Ranney, Austin. 1965. Parties in State Politics. In Herbert Jacobs and Kenneth N. Vines, eds. *Politics in the American States*. Boston, Little Brown.

ranney

States: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Years: 1990-2010

Description: Continuous. The Ranney index

Source: For 1995-2004, the data come from Lindquist's State Politics and the Judiciary data set. For other years, the variable is calculated using the methodology outlined in Ranney, Austin. 1965. Parties in State Politics. In Herbert Jacobs and Kenneth N. Vines, eds. *Politics in the American States*. Boston, Little Brown.

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