

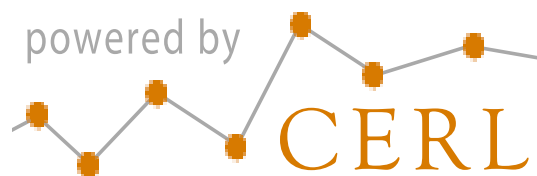
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# Judicial Elections Data Initiative Codebook

Version 2011.1  
(Released June 23, 2011)

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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](mailto: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

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Marie Millan	<i>Research Assistant</i> Undergraduate Student, University of California, Riverside
Parissa Afrand	<i>Research Assistant</i> Undergraduate Student, University of California, Riverside
Jamie Walter	<i>Research Assistant</i> Undergraduate Student, The Ohio State University

## Contributors

National Institute for Money in State Politics



## Data Readiness

In this codebook, each variable is assigned a “status” indicating its readiness for scholarly analysis. Variables in “beta” are still being collected or have not been checked for accuracy. Variables marked “Ready for Analysis” have been checked for accuracy. However, researchers should be careful to check for missing values in those variables. Some variables (particularly in the State dataset) are collected on an ongoing basis as they are released by other sources (by the U.S. Census Bureau, for example) and may have missing values even if the variable is marked ready for use. For example, many variables in the State dataset are marked “Ready for Analysis” even though we have not released any 2010 values in that dataset. If you have any questions about the data, please e-mail [jedi@wustl.edu](mailto:jedi@wustl.edu).

## Release Notes

Date	Version	Notes
6-23-2011	2011.1	This release incorporates 2010 races as well as release the first set of variables ready for analysis.
11-01-2010	2010.6	This release includes additional vote totals, updated race information as well as campaign finance information for several states.
09-02-2010	2010.5	This release includes vote totals for additional races as well as new candidate information.
07-25-2010	2010.4	This release includes vote totals for a substantial number of races with some additional state and candidate information.
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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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 civil 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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The year of the general election in YYYY format.

### 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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The two-digit state abbreviation. For Texas and Oklahoma (the two states with multiple courts of last resort), TX and OK denote the civil court of last resort, and TC and OC denote the criminal court of last resort.

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

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

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis.

*Description:* Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is a contestable, partisan election, 0 otherwise.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis.

*Description:* Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is a contestable, nonpartisan election, 0 otherwise.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis.

*Description:* Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the election is a retention election, 0 otherwise.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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 0.

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*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 0.

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* Continuous. Total votes for winner of seat in a contestable election; for retention elections, the number of “Yes” votes.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* Continuous. Total votes cast for all candidates this Supreme Court race. In retention elections, this includes “Yes” and “No” votes.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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).

## **potusvotescast**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The total number of votes cast for all candidates (including write-in candidates) in the U.S. presidential race on the general election ballot in the jurisdiction of the supreme court race. This variable takes a value of NA if there was no presidential race on the general election ballot.

## **govvotescast**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The total number of votes cast for all candidates (including write-in candidates) in the gubernatorial race on the general election ballot in the jurisdiction of the supreme court race. This variable takes a value of NA if there was no gubernatorial race on the general election ballot.

## **senvotescast**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The total number of votes cast for all candidates (including write-in candidates) in the US senatorial race on the general election ballot in the jurisdiction of the supreme court race. This variable takes a value of NA if there was no senatorial race on the general election ballot.

## **totalspend**

*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

*Status:* Beta

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

## **totalspend90**

*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

*Status:* Beta

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



## **totalfund**

*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

*Status:* Beta

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

## **totalfund90**

*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

*Status:* Beta

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

## **pcspend**

*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

*Status:* Beta

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

## **pcspend90**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Continuous. The difference between the log of the incumbent's spending and the log of the challenger's spending.

**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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Text. Coding notes for the race.

## 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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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 civil court of last resort, and TC and OC denote the criminal court of last resort.

### 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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The year of the general election in YYYY format.

### 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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The two-digit state abbreviation. For Texas and Oklahoma (the two states with multiple courts of last resort), TX and OK denote the civil court of last resort, and TC and OC denote the criminal court of last resort.

### 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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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.

## **appointed**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Binary. Takes a value of 1 if the incumbent in the race was initially appointed.

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*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.

## **party**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Text. The candidate's 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.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

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

## **majoffice**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* Continuous. The the highest vote total of the presidential, gubernatorial or U.S. Senate race on the ballot with the Supreme Court race.

## **potusvotescast**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The total number of votes cast for all candidates (including write-in candidates) in the U.S. presidential race on the general election ballot in the jurisdiction of the supreme court race. This variable takes a value of NA if there was no presidential race on the general election ballot.

## **govvotescast**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The total number of votes cast for all candidates (including write-in candidates) in the gubernatorial race on the general election ballot in the jurisdiction of the supreme court race. This variable takes a value of NA if there was no gubernatorial race on the general election ballot.

## **senvotescast**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* The total number of votes cast for all candidates (including write-in candidates) in the US senatorial race on the general election ballot in the jurisdiction of the supreme court race. This variable takes a value of NA if there was no senatorial race on the general election ballot.

## **spend**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Continuous. Total amount of campaign spending.

## **spend90**

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Continuous. Total amount of campaign fundraising.

## **fundr90**

*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

*Status:* Beta



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

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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.

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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 civil 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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

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

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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.

### **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

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

### **disclosure**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

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

### **pubfinance**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

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

### **contrilimits**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta



*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

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

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

## **censusvap**

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*Description:* Voting age population of the state/district according to data released by the U.S. Census Bureau.

## **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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Ready for Analysis

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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

*Status:* Beta

*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.

## **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

*Status:* Beta

*Description:* Text. Coding notes for the state-year.

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