Codebook for "If You Insist... Identity and Interim Appointments on Elected State Supreme Courts"

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Data format: Stata DTA file

Data file: "gleason_reyna_justice_level.dta"

Unit of analysis: Jurist

Number of observations: 535

Total variables: 51

Unless otherwise noted, data is from Goelzhauser (2016) with updates from Merriman, Isozaki, and Bannon (2024). Additional updates through 2023 by the authors following coding rules detailed by Goelzhauser (2016).

Court information

"statecode" – Court name abbreviation via USPS state codes.[1]

"state_52" – Full name of the state from statecode.

Jurist information

"justice_name – Name of jurist.

"yearenter" – Year jurist joins bench.

"yearexit" – Year jurist leaves bench[2]

"init_elected" – Jurist initially elected (0=no, 1=yes).

"init_appointed" – Jurist initially elected (0=no, 1=yes).

"prev_judge" – Jurist previously served as judge (0=no, 1=yes).

"prev_pros" – Jurist previously served as prosecutor (0=no, 1=yes).

"female" – Jurist is female (0=no, 1=yes).

[1] The exception is Texas. Texas has two state supreme courts. The Texas Supreme Court is denoted "TXSC." The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is "TXCA."

[2] Missing values denote justice is still on court as of 2023.

"male" – Jurist is male (0=no, 1=yes).

"white" – Jurist is White (0=no, 1=yes).

"whiteman" – Jurist is White man (0=no, 1=yes).

"whitewoman" – Jurist is White woman (0=no, 1=yes).

"black" – Jurist is Black (0=no, 1=yes).

"blackwoman" – Jurist is Black woman (0=no, 1=yes).

"blackmen" – Jurist is Black man (0=no, 1=yes).

"hispanic" – Jurist is Hispanic (0=no, 1=yes).

"hispanic_men" – Jurist is Hispanic man (0=no, 1=yes).

"latina" – Jurist is Latina (0=no, 1=yes).

"asian" – Jurist is Asian (0=no, 1=yes).

"native" – Jurist is Native American (0=no, 1=yes).

"intersectional" – Jurist is Intersectional (0=no, 1=yes).

Governor information

"name_gov" – Name of governor when jurist took bench (Source: Klarner, 2013).[3]

"democratic_gov" – Governor is Democrat (0=no, 1=yes) bench (Source: Klarner, 2013).

"unrestrained1" – Governor unrestrained in appointment (0=no, 1=yes).

"female_gov" – Governor is female (0=no, 1=yes) bench (Source: Klarner, 2013).

"black_gov" – Governor is Black (0=no, 1=yes) (Source: Klarner, 2013).

Court & state institutional context

"profscore" – Squire (2008) court professionalism score (Source: Squire, 2008).

"profscorerecoded" – Squire & Butcher (2021) court professionalism score (Source: Squire & Butcher, 2021).

"number_justices" – Number of seats on court (Source: original author data collection).

[3] Data updated through 2023 by authors following Klarner's (2013) coding rules.

“part_elect” – Justices selected via partisan elections (0=no, 1=yes).

“LJKE_StatePolicyMood” – Lagodny et al (2023) state policy mood score bench (Source: Lagodny et al., 2023).

Vacancy information

“vac_white_woman” – Departing jurist is White female (0=no, 1=yes).

“vac_female” – Departing jurist is female (0=no, 1=yes).

“vac_black” – Departing jurist is Black (0=no, 1=yes).

“vac_black_men” – Departing jurist is Black man (0=no, 1=yes).

“vac_intersectional” – Departing jurist is Intersectional (0=no, 1=yes).

“oconnor” – Post Sandra Day O’Connor nomination (0=no, 1=yes).

“thomas” – Post Clarence Thomas nomination (0=no, 1=yes).

“sotomayor” – Post Sonia Sotomayor nomination (0=no, 1=yes).

“firstblack” – Year of first Black jurist on court (Source: original author data collection).

“previous_black” – Black justice previously served on court (0=no, 1=yes).

“firstfemale” – Year of first female jurist on court (Source: original author data collection).

“previous_female” – Female justice previously served on court (0=no, 1=yes).

“firstwhitefemale” – Year of first White female jurist on court (Source: original author data collection).

“previous_white_female” – White female justice previously served on court (0=no, 1=yes).

“firstblackmale” – Year of first Black male jurist on court (Source: original author data collection).

“previous_black_male” – Black male justice previously served on court (0=no, 1=yes).

“firstxt” – Year of first Intersectional jurist on court (Source: original author data collection).

“previous_xt” – Intersectional justice previously served on court (0=no, 1=yes).

References

Goelzhauser, Greg. 2016. *Choosing State Supreme Court Justices: Merit Selection and the Consequences of Institutional Reform*. Temple University Press.

Klarner, Carl. 2013. “Governors Dataset.”. URL: https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/PQ0Y1N

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Merriman, Zoe, Chihiro Isozaki and Alicia Bannon. 2024. “State Supreme Court Diversity- May 2024 Update.”. URL: https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/state-supreme-court-diversity-may-2024-update

Squire, Peverill. 2008. “Measuring the Professionalism of State Courts of Last Resort.” *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 8:223–238.

Squire, Peverill and Jordan Butcher. 2021. “An Update to the Squire State Court of Last Resort Professionalization Index.” *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 21:326–333.