Documentation and Notes for African Parliamentary Constituencies Files

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This folder contains shapefiles of parliamentary constituencies for different African countries used during recent elections. Where applicable I have attempted to provide original data sources, when using this data please cite accordingly. This is a work in progress, and will additional countries will be added as time and data permit. If you notice any errors or would like to contribute to this project, please email Brian Engelsma at `BEngelsma@ucsd.edu`.

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Variable Descriptions

Every shapefile has 3 variables.

Country: The name of the country.

ISO: Three letter ISO code.

Cons_Name: Name of the electoral district or constituency.

Countries

Algeria

The Algerian National People's Assembly (Al-Majlis Al-Chaabi Al-Watani) features 462 members elected via-proportional rules through multi-member districts corresponding with the country's 48 wilaya's (first level administrative divisions).

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. `http://gadm.org/about`.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Algeria." `http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2277.htm`.

Angola

The Angolan parliament (Assembleia Nacional) consists of 220 members, 90 of which are elected in constituencies corresponding with provincial boundaries (5 per province). The remaining seats are elected from a single, national-constituency. Both the provincial and national constituencies are elected proportionally using the d'Hondt method.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files].

http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Angola." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2007.htm.

Benin

The Beninese parliament (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 84 members elected in 24 multi-member constituencies. Each department contains two constituencies, and each constituency is made up of multiple communes.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Benin." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2033.htm.

Botswana

The Botswanan National Assembly consists of 63 members, 57 elected from single-member districts, four appointed by the elected members of the National Assembly, the Botswanan President and the Attorney General. In addition to the National Assembly, Botswana has a house of chiefs which plays an advisory role.

Sources:

ArcGIS Online. 2021. Constituency Votes [data files]. https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=127f293dfef74c6ab5cf285878bf91ba.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Botswana." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2041.htm

Burkina Faso

The Burkinabe parliament (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 127 proportionally elected members. Sixteen are elected from a single nationwide constituency, while the remaining are elected in multi-member constituencies that correspond with the country's provinces.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Burkina Faso." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2047.htm.

Burundi

The Burundian parliament (Inama Nshingamateka) consists of 121 members. One hundred are elected in multi-member constituencies corresponding with the country's provinces. An additional 21 members may be appointed in order to meet constitutional requirements for the representation of disadvantaged groups.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. " Burundi." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2049.htm.

Cameroon

The Cameroonian National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale - National Assembly) consists of 180 members elected from 58 departmental districts. In single-member districts a plurality is necessary to take a seat, while in multi-member districts the list receiving a majority of votes takes all seats. If no list has a majority, half of all seats all allocated to the list with

the most votes, while the other half are allocated proportionally to runner-up lists. Map is from 1996.

Source:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Cameroon." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2053.htm.

Kollman, K., Hicken, A., Caramani, D., Backer, D., Selway, J., and Vasselai, F. 2021. GeoReferenced Electoral Districts Datasets (Beta): Zambia. Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan. http://www.electiondataarchive.org/datacenter-gred.html.

Cape Verde

The Cape Verde National Assembly (Assembleia Nacional) consists of 72 members elected from multi-member districts. These districts include 10 for the country itself, and six for overseas voters.

Source:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Cabo Verde." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2057.htm.

Kollman, K., Hicken, A., Caramani, D., Backer, D., Selway, J., and Vasselai, F. 2021. GeoReferenced Electoral Districts Datasets (Beta): Zambia. Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan. http://www.electiondataarchive.org/datacenter-gred.html.

Djibouti

The Djiboutian parliament (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 65 members elected from multi-member constituencies corresponding to the country's provinces.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files].

http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Djibouti." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2089.htm.

Egypt

The Egyptian House of Representatives consists of 596 members. Two-hundred and eighty-four are elected in 142 two-member constituencies, and 284 are elected using party lists in four multi-member constituencies based on governorates. I include a shapefile of these four constituencies. An additional 28 members are appointed by the President.

Source:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files].
http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. " Egypt." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2097.htm.

Equatorial Guinea

The Equatorial Guinean Parliament (Cámara de los Diputados) consists of 100 representatives elected from 19 multi-member constituencies corresponding with the country's 19 districts.

Source:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files].
http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. " Equatorial Guinea." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/report
2101.htm.

Ghana

The Ghanaian Parliament is a unicameral legislature consisting of 275 members elected from single member districts.

Source:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Ghana." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2123.htm.

Guinea

The parliament of Guinea (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 114 members and is elected under a mixed system. Two-thirds (76) are elected proportionally from a national constituency. The remaining 38 members are elected in single member districts. Single member districts correspond with the country's 33 sub-prefectures and the five communes of Conarky.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Guinea." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2131.htm.

Kenya

The Kenyan parliament (National Assembly) consists of 350 members. Three-hundred and thirty-seven members are elected from single member districts. The remaining members are appointed to represent certain special interests. Kenyan constituencies are made available by the Constituency-Level Elections Archive at the University of Michigan.

Sources:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Kenya." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2167.htm.

Wall, Jonathan, Walter R. Mebane, Jr., Kirill Kalinin and Allen Hicken. 2015. Election Forensics Toolkit Geographic Shapefiles Including Vote Data (Beta): Kenya 2013. Produced and distributed by Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan. http://www.electiondataarchive.org/toolkit.html.

Lesotho

The Lesotho parliament (National Assembly) consists of 120 members elected via a mixed system. Fourty members are elected nationwide from a national constituency. The remaining 80 members are elected from single-member districts. Constituency boundaries have been made available by the Southern Africa Humanitarian Information Management System (SAHIMS).

Sources:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Lesotho." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2181.htm.

Southern Africa Humanitarian Information Management System (SAHIMS). 2005. "Lesotho (Constituencies, 2005)." https://earthworks.stanford.edu/catalog/mit-ls-e25constituencies-2005

Libya

The Libyan House of Representatives (Majlis Al-Nuwaab) consists of 200 directly members. The country is divided into 13 constituencies, which are then divided into 75 different sub-constituencies. Libyan constituencies are made available by the Constituency-Level Elections Archive at the University of Michigan.

Sources:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Libya." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2359.htm.

Wall, Jonathan, Walter R. Mebane, Jr., Kirill Kalinin and Allen Hicken. 2015. Election

Forensics Toolkit Geographic Shapefiles Including Vote Data (Beta): Libya 2014. Produced and distributed by Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan. http://www.electiondataarchive.org/toolkit.html.

Malawi

The Malawian parliament (National Assembly) consists of 193 members serving five year terms elected from single member districts.

Sources:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. " Malawi." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2195.htm.

Mali

The Malian parliament (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 147 members elected from single and multi-member constituencies. These constituencies correspond with the state's cercles and the communes of Bamako.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Mali." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2201.htm.

Mozambique

The Mozambican parliament (Assembleia da Republica) consist of 250 members elected from multi-member constituencies according to the d'Hondt method. These constituencies correspond with the country's 10 provinces and the capital district of Maputo City.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Mozambique." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2223.htm.

Namibia

The Namibian parliament (National Assembly) consists of 104 members. Ninety-six are elected proportionally from a single nationwide constituency. Up to eight members may be appointed by the parliament to improve representation of certain groups or interests.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Namibia." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2225.htm.

Niger

The parliament of Niger (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 171 members. One-hundred and fifty-eight members are elected from multi-member districts corresponding with the country's seven regions and the capital district of Niamey. Additionally, five members are elected from overseas constituencies, and eight members are elected from special constituencies that insure minority representation.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Niger." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2237.htm.

Nigeria

The Nigerian parliament (House of Representatives) consists of 360 members elected from single-member districts. Information from the Nigerian House of Representatives was used to construct constituencies from administrative boundaries.

Note: Only 348 districts are contained in the files. Twelve districts are currently missing and need to be filled in.

Sources:

Federal Republic of Nigeria. 2021. "Honourable Representatives." http://www.nassnig.org/mp/house.

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Independent National Electoral Commission. 2021. "Elections Result." http://www.inecnigeria.org/?page_id=31.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Nigeria." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2363.htm.

Rwanda

The Rwandan parliament (Chambre des Députés) consists of 80 members. Fifty-three are elected proportionally from a single nationwide constituency. The remaining twenty-seven members are appointed to fill gender, age, and disability representation quotas.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Rwanda." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2265.htm.

Sao Tome and Principe

The São Toméan National Assembly (Assembleia nacional) consists of 55 members elected proportionally from seven multimember districts.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Sao Tome and Principe." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2275.htm.

Senegal

The Senegalese National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 150 members elected by a mixed-member proportional electoral system. Ninety members are elected by a simple majority from the country's 45 departments (up to five members per district), and sixty members are elected proportionally from a national list. Following the 2016 Constitutional Referendum 15 additional members will be elected by the Senegalese diaspora.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Senegal." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2277.htm.

République du Sénégal, Assemblée Nationale. 2012. Elections législatives du 1er Juillet 2012 http://www.assemblee-nationale.sn/xml-987340060-page-rub34-dep.xml?.

Seychelles

The Seychellois National Assembly consists of 25 members elected from single-member districts corresponding with the country's first level administrative divisions. An additional nine members are elected proportionally. The outer islands are not represented in the national assembly.

Sources:

Avery, Seth. 2021. *Seychelles Political History, and Governance.* Dany Beck Paper Shop: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. `http://gadm.org/about`.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Seychelles." `http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2279.htm`.

South Africa

The South African parliament (National Assembly) consists of 400 members elected via mixed rules. Two-hundred members are elected from a single nationwide constituency. Another 200 members are elected multi-member constituencies corresponding to the country's provinces.

Sources:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. `http://gadm.org/about`.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "South Africa." `http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2291.htm`.

Sudan

The Sudanese National Assembly consists of 426 members. Eighty-five seats are elected by proportional representation from a singly nationwide constituency, 128 are similarly reserved from women and elected in a single nationwide constituency, and 213 are elected in multi-member districts corresponding to the Sudan's 18 states.

Source:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Sudan." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2297.htm.

Togo

The Togolese parliament (Assemblée Nationale) consists of 91 representatives elected from 30 multi-member districts based on combinations of the country's subprefectures.

Source:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Togo." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2315.htm.

Tunisia

The Tunisian Parliament (Assembly of People's Representatives) consists of 217 directly elected members from 33 multi-member constituencies. Twenty-seven constituencies are in Tunisia and 6 for overseas voters. Tunisian constituencies largely correspond with the country's governorates.

Source:

Hijmans, Robert. 2021. GADM: Global Administrative Boundaries [data files]. http://gadm.org/about.

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Tunisia." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2392.htm.

Uganda

The Ugandan Parliament consists of 447 members. Three-hundred members are elected from single member districts. An additional 122 are elected from districts for women. An additional 25 members are indirectly elected to represent disadvantaged groups and special interests. Additionally, the Ugandan President may appoint additional members ex-officio members. Ugandan constituencies are made available by the Constituency-Level Elections Archive at the University of Michigan.

Source:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Uganda." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2359.htm.

Wall, Jonathan, Walter R. Mebane, Jr., Kirill Kalinin and Allen Hicken. 2015. Election Forensics Toolkit Geographic Shapefiles Including Vote Data (Beta): Uganda 2006. Produced and distributed by Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan. http://www.electiondataarchive.org/toolkit.html.

Zambia

The Zambian parliament (National Assembly) consists of 156 members directly elected from single member districts. Zambian constituencies are made available by the Constituency-Level Elections Archive at the University of Michigan. Additionally, the President may appoint up to eight additional members to improve the National Assembly's representation.

Source:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Zambia." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2359

.htm.

Kollman, K., Hicken, A., Caramani, D., Backer, D., Selway, J., and Vasselai, F. 2021. GeoReferenced Electoral Districts Datasets (Beta): Zambia. Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan. http://www.electiondataarchive.org/datacenter-gred.html

Zimbabwe

The Zimbabwean Parliament (National Assembly) consists of 270 directly elected representatives. Two-hundred and ten are elected from single-member districts, while the remaining 60 seats are reserved for women elected from multi-member districts corresponding to the country's provinces.

Source:

Inter-Parliamentary Union. 2021. "Zimbabwe." http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2361.htm.