Cooperative Congressional Election Study

Supplementary Data:
Race and Ethnicity of 2016 Senate and House Candidates

Codebook

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Data Sources and Description

This supplementary data set identifies incumbents in and candidates for the United States Congress (both the House of Representatives and the Senate) belonging to three major racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States: (1) Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, (2) Black/African Americans, and (3) Latino/as during the 2016 General Election.

Asian American and Pacific Islander congressional candidates were identified through the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), a non-partisan non-profit organization that supports Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) running for office at all levels of government. APAICS documents and publishes information regarding congressional candidates every election season. In 2016, APAICS published a list of AAPI candidates running at all levels of office, listing 24 AAPI candidates running for Congress: twenty-two (22) for the House, and two (2) for the Senate.[1]

Latino/a congressional candidates were identified through the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), a non-partisan non-profit organization that promotes Latino/a participation in the American political process and supports the election of Latino/a candidates. Their 2016 state-by-state summary report on "Races to Watch" lists fifty-seven (57) Latino/a candidates running for Congress: fifty-four (54) for the House, and three (3) for the Senate.[2]

Black/African American congressional candidates were identified through data generously provided by Dr. David Bositis [3] and through the Congressional Black Caucus (for retiring incumbents).[4] Combined data from these two sources identifies 82 Black candidates running for Congress: seventy-eight (78) for the House, and four (4) for the Senate.

This data set includes twenty-two (22) variables. Seven (7) variables correspond to CCES items for merging, as follows: two (2) identify states and congressional districts; two (2) identify the names of House candidates corresponding to the CCES variables `HouseCand1` and `HouseCand2`; one (1) identifies the name of the incumbent House candidate corresponding to the CCES variable `CurrentHouseName`; two (2) identify the names of Senate candidates corresponding to the CCES variables `SenCand1` and `SenCand2`.

The remaining fifteen (15) variables include the relevant race and ethnicity data for incumbents and candidates (nine (9) for the House, six (6) for the Senate), as follows: a total of six (6) variables indicate whether `HouseCand1` and `HouseCand2` are Black, Latino, or AAPI (three (3) for each candidate); three (3) variables indicate whether a **retiring** `CurrentHouseName` is Black, Latino, or AAPI; and a total of six (6) variables indicate whether `SenCand1` and `SenCand2` are Black, Latino, or AAPI (three (3) for each candidate). Please note that no retiring incumbent Senators in this election cycle are Black, Latino, or AAPI, and so this data set does not include variables for retiring Senator race.

[1] APAICS (2016). 2016 Elections.
[2] NALEO Educational Fund (2016). Election 2016 Races to Watch: The Power of Latino Candidates.
[3] Bositis (forthcoming). Some Observations on Black Voters and Candidates in the 2016 Elections.
[4] Congressional Black Caucus (2016). 114th Congress in Review.

House Candidate Race and Ethnicity Variables

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black_irh	Black House Incumbent, Retiring
-	Not Black House Incumbent Retired
1	Black House Incumbent Retired
H1_black	Black HouseCand1
-	Not Black HouseCand1
1	Black HouseCand1
H2_black	Black HouseCand2
-	Not Black HouseCand2
1	Black HouseCand2

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latino_irh	Latino/a House Incumbent, Retiring
-	Not Latino/a House Incumbent Retired
1	Latino/a House Incumbent Retired
H1_latino	Latino/a HouseCand1
-	Not Latino/a HouseCand1
1	Latino/a HouseCand1
H2_latino	Latino/a HouseCand2
-	Not Latino/a HouseCand2
1	Latino/a HouseCand2

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aapi_irh	Asian American and Pacific Islander House Incumbent, Retiring
-	Not AAPI House Incumbent Retired
1	AAPI House Incumbent Retired
H1_aapi	Asian American and Pacific Islander House Democratic Candidate
-	Not AAPI HouseCand1
1	AAPI HouseCand1
H2_aapi	Asian American and Pacific Islander House Republican Candidate
-	Not AAPI HouseCand2
1	AAPI HouseCand2

Senate Candidate Race and Ethnicity Variables

S1_black	Black SenCand1
-	Not Black SenCand1
1	Black SenCand1
S2_black	Black SenCand2
-	Not Black SenCand2
1	Black SenCand2

S1_latino	Latino/a SenCand1
-	Not Latino/a SenCand1
1	Latino/a SenCand1
S2_latino	Latino/a SenCand2
-	Not Latino/a SenCand2
1	Latino/a SenCand2

S1_aapi	Asian American and Pacific Islander SenCand1
-	Not AAPI SenCand1
1	AAPI SenCand1
S2_aapi	Asian American and Pacific Islander SenCand2
-	Not AAPI SenCand2
1	AAPI SenCand2