Degrees of Democracy

Data Codebook

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This codebook accompanies three files:

(1) DegreesOfDemocracyCA.dta.

(2) DegreesOfDemocracyUK.dta, and

(3) DegreesOfDemocracyUS.dta.

Each contains all data used in the book *Degrees Of Democracy: Politics, Public Opinion and Policy*, as well in a series of articles listed in the bibliography below. It includes, in short, variables on public preferences and policy, along with other exogenous variables, for the entire period for which they were both consistently available until 2005. (This is when these datasets were completed. An updated dataset with more recent years for the US is also available.)

Each files follows the same structure, although the policy domains for which data were gathered varies from one country to another. Even so, each dataset begins with measures of government partisanship, macroeconomic indicators and other real-world measures.

All data on govt spending begin with the prefix 'sp'. Note that in the case of the US and Canada, several spending series are included for each domain. For the US, we include both appropriations and outlays; for Canada, spending at the federal, provincial and consolidated levels.

The interpolated preference variables typically used in our analyses begin with the prefix 'int' (for interpolated), followed by 'all' (for all respondents), followed by the domain name (e.g., def for defense). Interpolated data for series broken down by income, education, party and gender replace the 'all' with one of these four terms, followed by the category, and then the domain name. For income and education, 'cat1' is the lowest category, and 'cat3' is the highest.

The raw, uninterpolated preferences series are at the end of the file, preceded by 'raw'.

In some cases, the source of the data is included in the variable description. Where this does not exist, however, the data are fully described in our published work.

Bibliography

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