Codebook

How the Geographic Clustering of Young and Highly Educated Voters Undermines Redistributive Politics

Journal of Politics

Tom O'Grady
UCL
t.o'grady@ucl.ac.uk

Andreas Wiedemann
Princeton University
awiedemann@princeton.edu

Version: September 4, 2023

A. Codebook for `bsa8320.dta`

BSAS Survey data, 1983-2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
redistrb	Response to "The government should redistribute income from the better-off to those who are less well off?"	Character
dolefidl	Response to "Most people on the dole are fiddling in one way or another"	Character
welffeet	Response to "If welfare benefits weren't so generous, people would learn to stand on their own two feet"	Character
morewelf	Response to "The government should spend more money on welfare benefits for the poor, even if it leads to higher taxes"	Character
sochelp	Response to "Many people who get social security don't really deserve any help"	Character
year		Character
hedqual	Highest educational qualification	Character
ragecat	Age, in categories	Numeric

References

British Social Attitudes Survey, available at https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=200006

B. Codebook for `isspineq19.dta`

ISSP inequality survey data, 2019

Variable	Variable definition	Values
country	Country code	Numeric
v22	Response to "it is the responsibility of the government to reduce the differences in income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes"	Numeric
DEGREE	Respondent's level of education	Numeric
AGE	Respondent's age in years	Numeric

References

International Social Survey Programme, available at https://issp.org/data-download/by-year/

C. Codebook for `isspenv20.dta`

ISSP environment survey data, 2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
country	Country code	Numeric
v22	Response to "it is the responsibility of the government to reduce the differences in income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes"	Numeric
EDULEVEL	Respondent's level of education	Numeric
AGE	Respondent's age in years	Numeric

References

International Social Survey Programme, available at https://issp.org/data-download/by-year/

D. Codebook for `bsa_harmon_final.csv`

BSAS Survey data, 1994-6

Variable	Variable definition	Values
redistrb	Response to "The government should redistribute income from the better-off to those who are less well off?"	Character
dolefidl	Response to "Most people on the dole are fiddling in one way or another"	Character
welffeet	Response to "If welfare benefits weren't so generous, people would learn to stand on their own two feet"	Character
morewelf	Response to "The government should spend more money on welfare benefits for the poor, even if it leads to higher taxes"	Character
sochelp	Response to "Many people who get social security don't really deserve any help"	Character
rsex	Sex	Character
rage	Age, in years	Numeric
hedqual	Highest educational qualification	Character
hhincome	Household income (categorized)	Character
lad_past_nm	Name of respondent's local authority area of residence, 1998 boundaries	Character
rgn19nm_no_1	Respondent's region of residence	Character

References

British Social Attitudes Survey, available at
https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=200006

E. Codebook for covars1996.csv

Local Authority Area Covariates, 1996

Variable	Variable definition	Values
lad96nm	Name of local authority area, 1998 boundaries	Character
la_claimants	Share of adult population receiving unemployment-related benefits (claimant count)	Numeric
la_pc1824	Share of population aged 18-24	Numeric
la_pc65plus	Share of population aged 65+	Numeric
la_gva	Annual change in gross value added	Numeric
la_houseprice	Average house sale price	Numeric
la_hhinc	Average disposable gross household income, £	Numeric
la_socbensrd	Average amount of benefits received per person, £	Numeric
la_popdensity	Population density (people per square mile	Numeric
la_degree	Share of population educated to degree level or higher	Numeric

References

See section B, Supplementary Information for information on data sources

F. Codebook for yougov_final.csv

YouGov Survey data, 2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
redistrb	Response to "The government should redistribute income from the better-off to those who are less well off?"	Character
dolefidl	Response to "Most people on the dole are fiddling in one way or another"	Character
welffeet	Response to "If welfare benefits weren't so generous, people would learn to stand on their own two feet"	Character
morewelf	Response to "The government should spend more money on welfare benefits for the poor, even if it leads to higher taxes"	Character
sochelp	Response to "Many people who get social security don't really deserve any help"	Character
rsex	Sex	Character
rage	Age, in years	Numeric
hedqual	Highest educational qualification	Character
hhincome	Household income (categorized)	Character
lad19nm	Name of respondent's local authority area of residence, 2019 boundaries	Character
rgn19nm	Respondent's region of residence	Character

G. Codebook for covars2020.csv

Local Authority Area Covariates, 2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
lad19nm	Name of local authority area, 2019 boundaries	Character
la_claimants	Share of adult population receiving unemployment-related benefits (claimant count)	Numeric
la_pc1824	Share of population aged 18–24	Numeric
la_pc65plus	Share of population aged 65+	Numeric
la_gva	Annual change in gross value added	Numeric
la_houseprice	Average house sale price	Numeric
la_hhinc	Average disposable gross household income, £	Numeric
la_socbensrd	Average amount of benefits received per person, £	Numeric
la_popdensity	Population density (people per square mile	Numeric
la_degree	Share of population educated to degree level or higher	Numeric

References

See section B, Supplementary Information on data sources

H. Codebook for `post96.Rda`

Pos-stratification data, 1996

Variable	Variable definition	Values
lad_past_nm_96	Name of local authority area, 1998 boundaries	Character
Variable	Demographic group	Character
Value	Proportion of local authority population accounted for by group	Numeric
Female	=1 if female	Numeric
age1819	=1 if aged 18–19	Numeric
age2029	=1 if aged 20–29	Numeric
age3039	=1 if aged 30–39	Numeric
age4049	=1 if aged 40–49	Numeric
age5050	=1 if aged 50–59	Numeric
age6069	=1 if aged 60–69	Numeric
age7079	=1 if aged 70–79	Numeric
age80pl	=1 if aged 80+	Numeric
age_cat	Age category	Numeric
rgn19nm_no_1	Region of local authority area	Numeric
la_claimants	Share of adult population receiving unemployment-related benefits (claimant count), standardised	Numeric
la_pc1824	Share of population aged 18–24, standardised	Numeric
la_pc65plus	Share of population aged 65+, standardised	Numeric
la_gva	Annual change in gross value added, standardised	Numeric
la_houseprice	Average house sale price, standardised	Numeric
la_hhinc	Average disposable gross household income (£), standardised	Numeric
la_socbensrd	Average amount of benefits received per person (£), standardised	Numeric
la_popdensity	Population density (people per square mile, standardised	Numeric
la_degree	Share of population educated to degree level or higher, standardised	Numeric

References

See section B, Supplementary Information for information on data sources

I. Codebook for `post20.Rda`

Pos-stratification data, 2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
Lad19nm	Name of local authority area, 2020 boundaries	Character
Variable	Demographic group	Character
Value	Proportion of local authority population accounted for by group	Numeric
Female	=1 if female	Numeric
age1819	=1 if aged 18–19	Numeric
age2029	=1 if aged 20–29	Numeric
age3039	=1 if aged 30–39	Numeric
age4049	=1 if aged 40–49	Numeric
age5050	=1 if aged 50–59	Numeric
age6069	=1 if aged 60–69	Numeric
age7079	=1 if aged 70–79	Numeric
age80pl	=1 if aged 80+	Numeric
age_cat	Age category	Numeric
rgn19nm	Region of local authority area	Numeric
la_claimants	Share of adult population receiving unemployment-related benefits (claimant count), standardised	Numeric
la_pc1824	Share of population aged 18–24, standardised	Numeric
la_pc65plus	Share of population aged 65+, standardised	Numeric
la_gva	Annual change in gross value added, standardised	Numeric
la_houseprice	Average house sale price, standardised	Numeric
la_hhinc	Average disposable gross household income (£), standardised	Numeric
la_socbensrd	Average amount of benefits received per person (£), standardised	Numeric
la_popdensity	Population density (people per square mile, standardised	Numeric
la_degree	Share of population educated to degree level or higher, standardised	Numeric

References

See section B, Supplementary Information for information on data sources

J. Codebook for `brexit_vote_LAD.csv`

Brexit referendum results by local authority area (2015)

Variable	Variable definition	Values
LA_name	Local authority name	Character
Pct_remain	Vote share remain in Brexit referendum (%)	Numeric
Pct_leave	Vote share leave in Brexit referendum (%)	Numeric

References

UK Electoral Commission. Available at https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/elections-and-referendums/past-elections-and-referendums/eu-referendum/results-and-turnout-eu-referendum

K. Codebook for `inflation.csv`

CPI inflation rates for UK, 1988-2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
year	Year	Numeric
inflation_index	Inflation index 2015 = 100	Numeric

References

Office for National Statistics. 2022. Consumer price inflation time series (MM23). Available at: https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/timeseries/d7bt/mm23

L. Codebook for `local_elec.Rda`

Local election results 1994, 1995, 1996, and 2018

Variable	Variable definition	Values
lad19nm	Local authority name	Character
lad19cd	Local authority code	Numeric
year	Year	Numeric
party	Party identifier	Character
votes	Number of votes	Numeric
percent_share	Vote share	Numeric

References

The Elections Centre. Year Tables. Local Election Results. Authority Level. Available at: https://www.electionscentre.co.uk/?page_id=3755

M. Codebook for `local_elec_19.Rda`

Local election results 2019

Variable	Variable definition	Values
council_name	Local authority name	Character
vote_share_CON	Vote share Labour	Numeric
vote_share_LAB	Vote share Tories	Numeric
vote_share_LD	Vote share Liberal Democrats	Numeric
vote_share_Green	Vote share Greens	Numeric
vote_share_UKIP	Vote share UKIP	Numeric
vote_share_Ind	Vote share Independent	Numeric
vote_share_Other	Vote share Ohter	Numeric

References

Rallings, Colin, and Michael Thrasher. Local Elections Handbook 2019. The 2019 Local Election Results, p. 216-233. Available at: https://www.electionscentre.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/LEH2019-complete.pdf

N. Codebook for `lookup_9619.Rda`

Crosswalk table for 1996 Local Authorities to 2020 Local Authorities

Variable	Variable definition	Values
lad96nm	Local authority name in 1996	Character
lad19nm	Local authority name in 2019	Character

References

Own creation based on boundary shapefiles supplied by Office of National Statistics.

O. Codebook for `bsa20.dta`

BSAS Survey data, 2020

Variable	Variable definition	Values
Redistrb	Response to "The government should redistribute income from the better-off to those who are less well off?"	Character
DoleFidl	Response to "Most people on the dole are fiddling in one way or another"	Character
WelfFeet	Response to "If welfare benefits weren't so generous, people would learn to stand on their own two feet"	Character
morewelf	Response to "The government should spend more money on welfare benefits for the poor, even if it leads to higher taxes"	Character
SocHelp	Response to "Many people who get social security don't really deserve any help"	Character
Ragecat	Age, in years	Numeric
HEdqQual2	Highest educational qualification	Character

References

British Social Attitudes Survey, available at
https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=200006

P. Codebook for Shapefiles

Shapefiles for local authority boundaries can be found in the folder "shapefiles".

- Councils_SCOT_1998: Council boundaries for Scotland. 1998. ONS Geography. Office for National Statistics. Via DVD.

- LAD_ENG_1998: Local Authority District boundaries for England. 1998. ONS Geography. Office for National Statistics. Via DVD.

- LAD_2020: Local Authority District boundaries, 2020. ONS Geography. Office for National Statistics. Available at: https://geoportal.statistics.gov.uk/datasets/ons::local-authority-districts-december-2020-uk-bfe/explore