Cooperative Congressional Election Study

Sumplementary Data:
Race and Ethncity of 2012 House Candidates

Codebook

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Data Sources and Description

This supplementary data set identifies incumbents in and candidates to the United States House of Representatives 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 2012 General Elections.

Asian American congressional candidates were identified through the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), a non-partisan non-profit that supports Asian American and Pacific Americans running for office at all levels of government. APAICS documents and publishes information regarding congressional candidates every election season. In 2013 APAICS published a web-article touting the record number of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) congressional candidates who ran in November of 2012. The article listed a total of 29 candidates running in US states and territories. Twenty-four of these were AAPI candidates to the US House of Representatives with 9 incumbents and 15 challengers.[1]

Similarly, the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies publishes reports on both Black voters and candidates. The Joint Center is a non-profit think tank focused on serving communities on color in the United States. In their 2012 report they identified 71 Black candidates seeking election to the United States House of Representatives, 43 of whom were incumbents at the time.[2]

Please note that one candidate in this data set is counted in two identity groups. Robert Bobby Scott from Virginias 3rd congressional district is both Asian American and Black.

Latino/a House 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 2012 report on Latino Opportunities in Congress lists 23 Latino/a incumbents and 21 Latino/a challengers.[3]

Also, note that for the congressional election to Californias 35th district two (2) Democratic Latino candidates ran against each other, incumbent Joe Baca and challenger Gloria Negrete McLeod. There was no Republican candidate in the race.

The data set includes 12 variables. Three identify the state and congressional district of each candidate. The other 9 variables identify retiring House incumbents, House Democratic candidates and House Republican candidates by the three racial and ethnic identity groups described above.

[1] APAICS. (2013). Record Breaking 29 Asian American and Pacific Islanders Run for US Congress. http://apaics.org/2013/02/21/record-breaking-29-asian-american-and-pacific-islanders-run-for-us-congress/

[2] Bositis, D. A. (2012). Blacks and the 2012 Elections: Preliminary Analysis. Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

[3] NALEO Educational Fund. (2012). 2012 Election: Latinos Opportunities in Congress.

House Congressional Candidate Race and Ethnicity Variables

aapi_inc_retired	Asian American and Pacific Islander House Incumbent Retired
0	Not AAPI House Retiring Incumbent
1	AAPI House Retiring Incumbent
aapi_d	Asian American and Pacific Islander House Democratic Candidate
0	Not AAPI House Democratic Candidate
1	AAPI House Democratic Candidate
aapi_r	Asian American and Pacific Islander House Republican Candidate
0	Not AAPI House Republican Candidate
1	AAPI House Republican Candidate
black_inc_retired	Black House Incumbent Retired
0	Not Black House Retiring Incumbent
1	Black House Retiring Incumbent
black_d	Black House Democratic Candidate
0	Not Black House Democratic Candidate
1	Black House Democratic Candidate
black_r	Black House Republican Candidate
0	Not Black House Republican Candidate
1	Black House Republican Candidate
latino_inc_retired	Latino/a House Incumbent Retired
0	Not Latino/a House Retiring Incumbent
1	Latino/a House Retiring Incumbent
latino_d	Latino/a House Democratic Candidate
0	Not Latino/a House Democratic Candidate
1	Latino/a House Democratic Candidate
latino_r	Latino/a House Republican Candidate
0	Not Latino/a House Republican Candidate
1	Latino/a House Republican Candidate