CCES 2008 – University of Missouri Team Content
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PRE-ELECTION QUESTIONS

MIZ1
Variable Name

Generalized Trust
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

1. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Most people can be trusted
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) You can't be too careful

Rows:
<No label>

MIZ2, MIZ3, MIZ4
Variable Names

Trust in Government
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

2. How much of the time do you think you can trust government? Please answer for each level of government listed below:
Question Text

Columns:

1 Just about always
2 Most of the time
3 Some of the time
4 Hardly ever
9 Don’t know

Rows:

MIZ2 Federal government
MIZ3 State government
MIZ4 Local Government

MIZ5, MIZ6, MIZ7, MIZ8
Variable Names

Trust in Branch of Government
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

3. How much of the time do you think you can trust each branch of government? Please answer for each branch of the Federal or your state government listed below:
Question Text

Columns:

1 Just about always
2 Most of the time
3 Some of the time
4 Hardly ever
9 Don't know

Rows:

MIZ5 President
MIZ6 Congress
MIZ7 State Governor
MIZ8 State Legislature

MIZ9, MIZ10, MIZ11
Variable Names

Government Job Approval
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

4. Would you say you approve or disapprove of the job that your local government, state government, and the federal government is doing?
Question Text

Columns:
1 Strongly approve
2 Somewhat approve
3 Neither approve nor disapprove
4 Somewhat disapprove
5 Strongly disapprove

Rows:
MIZ9 Local Government
MIZ10 State Government
MIZ11 Federal Government

MIZ12, MIZ13, MIZ14
Variable Names

Political Corruption
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

5. In your opinion, how serious a concern is political corruption among public officials? Please answer for each level of government; is political corruption:
Question Text

Columns:
1 An extremely serious concern
2 A serious concern
3 A somewhat serious concern
4 Not a concern at all

Rows:
MIZ12 Federal government
MIZ13 State government
MIZ14 Local government

MIZ15, MIZ16, MIZ17
Variable Names

Political Corruption Widespread
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

6. Would you say that corruption of public officials is widespread throughout government, limited to certain individuals or offices, rare, or nonexistent?
Question Text

Columns:
1 Widespread throughout government
2 Limited to certain individuals\offices
3 Rare
4 Nonexistent

Rows:
MIZ15 Federal government
MIZ16 State government
MIZ17 Local government

MIZ18
Variable Name

Political corruption policy changes
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

7. In your opinion, is it possible to address the problem of political corruption by reforming current ethics and election laws, or does politics by its very nature present the potential for corruption? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:
(1) The right package of reforms would greatly reduce my concern about public corruption
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Reforms are ineffective; politics will always present the potential for corruption

Rows:
<No label>

MIZ19, MIZ20, MIZ21, MIZ22, MIZ23, MIZ24, MIZ25, MIZ26, MIZ27
Variable Names

State Laws
Label

Dynamic Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

Now, we'd like to ask your opinion about several types of state laws and policies. Please answer regardless of whether your state has any of these laws and policies.

In general, do you approve or disapprove of:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Strongly Approve
2 Approve
3 Neither approve nor disapprove
4 Disapprove
5 Strongly disapprove

Rows:
MIZ19 8. Term limits for governor
MIZ20 9. Term limits for state legislators
MIZ21 10. Line item veto for governor
MIZ22 11. Citizen-initiated ballot measures
MIZ23 12. Elections for initial appointment to the State Supreme Court
MIZ24 13. A limit on how much an individual may contribute to a candidate for governor
MIZ25 14. A limit on how much an individual may contribute to a candidate for the state legislature
MIZ26 15. Public funding of political campaigns for state gubernatorial candidates
MIZ27 16. Public funding of political campaigns for state legislative candidates

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MIZ28, MIZ29, MIZ30, MIZ31, MIZ32
Variable Names

Donors
Label

Dynamic Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

Do you approve or disapprove of limits on the amount of money that donors may contribute to the campaigns of candidates for elective office, or should campaign contributions be unlimited?

Please answer whether you think contributions should be prohibited, limited or unlimited from each type of donor:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Prohibited
2 Limited
3 No limit
9 Don't know

Rows:
MIZ28 17. Individual contributors
MIZ29 18. Political action committees (i.e., PACs)
MIZ30 19. Non-profit groups (e.g., "527 groups")
MIZ31 20. Corporations
MIZ32 21. Unions

MIZ33
Variable Name

Campaign Finance
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

27. In general, how do you think candidates for elective office should finance their campaigns? Should candidates raise their own funds from contributors or receive public funds to pay for their campaign expenditures? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Political candidates should raise their own funds from contributors.
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Public funds should be used to pay for the campaign expenditures of political candidates.

Rows:
<No label>

MIZ34, MIZ35, MIZ36, MIZ37
Variable Names

For-Profit Corporations Contributions
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

Next, we'd like to ask you a few questions about federal and state campaign finance laws and policies. Many people do not know the answers to these questions, but please do your best to answer each question.

28. Are **for-profit corporations** allowed to make campaign contributions to candidates for each Federal or state office listed below? Please answer whether corporations are allowed to give unlimited contributions, allowed to give contributions only in limited amounts, or prohibited from making any campaign contributions?
Question Text

Columns:
1 Unlimited
2 Limited
3 Prohibited

Rows:
MIZ34 President
MIZ35 US Congress
MIZ36 Governor
MIZ37 State legislature

MIZ38, MIZ39, MIZ40, MIZ41
Variable Names

Union Contributions
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

29. Are **unions** allowed to make campaign contributions to candidates for each Federal or state office listed below? Please answer whether unions are allowed to give unlimited contributions, allowed to give contributions only in limited amounts, or prohibited from making any campaign contributions?
Question Text

Columns:
1 Unlimited
2 Limited
3 Prohibited

Rows:
MIZ38 President
MIZ39 US Congress
MIZ40 Governor
MIZ41 State legislature

MIZ42, MIZ43
Variable Names

Individual Contributions
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

30. Are **individuals** allowed to make campaign contributions to candidates for each Federal office listed below? Please answer whether individuals are allowed to give unlimited contributions, allowed to give contributions in only limited amounts, or prohibited from making any campaign contributions.
Question Text

Columns:
1 Unlimited
2 Limited
3 Prohibited

Rows:
MIZ42 President
MIZ43 US Congress

MIZ1B
Variable Name

Trustee or Delegate
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

Imagine a situation where a legislator sees a conflict between what he or she thinks is best and what the people in the district want. On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is a legislator who follows one's own conscience in making decisions and 7 is a legislator who follows what the people in the district want, where would you want your legislator to be?
Question Text

Columns:

(1) Legislator who follows one's own conscience
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Legislator who follows what the people in the district want

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MIZ2B
Variable Name

State or District
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

Some people prefer a legislator who focuses mostly on policy issues important to the whole state while others prefer a legislator who is primarily concerned with looking after the needs of your district. And, some people prefer a mix of the two. On a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is a legislator who is mostly focused on the whole state, and 7 is a legislator primarily concerned with the district, where would you want your legislator to be?
Question Text

Columns:

(1) Legislator who focuses mostly on issues important to the whole state
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Legislator who primarily looks after needs of your district

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MIZ3B
Variable Name

State Budget or District Share
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

Some people prefer a legislator who focuses mostly on big statewide budget issues (taxes, spending priorities) while others prefer a legislator who is mostly concerned with making sure the district gets its fair share of government money and projects. And, some people prefer a mix of the two. On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is a legislator who focuses mostly on statewide budget issues and 7 is a legislator who is mostly concerned with the district getting its fair share, where would you want your legislator to be?
Question Text

Columns:

(1) Legislator who focuses mostly on statewide budget issues
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Legislator who mostly is concerned that district gets fair share

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MIZ44
Variable Name

Cheney
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

Next, we'd like to ask you a few questions about the government in Washington. Many people do not know the answers to these questions, but please do your best to answer each question.

31. What job or political office is now held by Dick Cheney?
Question Text

1 President
2 Vice-President
3 Supreme Court Justice
4 Secretary of State
5 Senator

MIZ45
Variable Name

Law
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

32. Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not . . . is it the president, the Congress, or the Supreme Court?
Question Text

1 President
2 Congress
3 Supreme Court

MIZ46
Variable Name

Override Veto
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

33. How much of a majority is required for the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential veto?
Question Text

1 A simple majority
2 Two-thirds majority
3 Three-fourths majority
4 90 percent

MIZ47
Variable Name

House of Rep Majority
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

34. Which party has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington before the election this November?
Question Text

1 Republican Party
2 Democratic Party

MIZ48
Variable Name

Conservative
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

35. Would you say that one of the parties is more conservative than the other at the national level? Which party is more conservative?
Question Text

1 Democratic Party
2 Republican Party

MIZ49
Variable Name

State official
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

Now, we'd like to ask you a few questions about your state government. Many people do not know the answers to these questions, but please do your best to answer each question.

36. Most states have an official that administers the state agency responsible for education, such as a Commissioner of Education or a Superintendent of Schools. Do you happen to know whether your state elects someone to this position, or is the official appointed?
Question Text

1 Elected
2 Appointed

MIZ50
Variable Name

State Legislative Sessions
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

37. The length of state legislative sessions varies across the country from as little as 40 days to year-round. Do you happen to know for how long the legislature in your state meets in a typical session . . . is it less than 3 months, 3 to 6 months, or more than 6 months?
Question Text

1 Less than 3 months
2 From 3 to 6 months
3 More than 6 months

MIZ51
Variable Name

Capital City
Variable Label

Open Textbox
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

38. Do you know the capital city of the state in which you currently reside? _____
Question Text

MIZ52, MIZ53, MIZ54, MIZ55, MIZ56, MIZ57, MIZ58, MIZ59, MIZ60
Variable Names

State Laws and Policies
Label

Dynamic Grid
Variable Type

Randomize rows
Special instructions for programmers

Next, we'd like to ask you some questions about the laws and policies in your state.

Does your state of residence have the following:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Yes
0 No

Rows:
MIZ52 6. Term limits for governor
MIZ53 7. Term limits for state legislators
MIZ54 8. Line item veto for governor
MIZ55 9. Citizen-initiated ballot measures
MIZ56 10. Elections for initial appointment to the State Supreme Court
MIZ57 11. A limit on how much an individual may contribute to a candidate for governor
MIZ58 12. A limit on how much an individual may contribute to a candidate for the state legislature
MIZ59 13. Public funding of political campaigns for state gubernatorial candidates
MIZ60 14. Public funding of political campaigns for state legislative candidates

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MIZ1A
Variable Name

State of Residence
Label

Dropdown
Variable Type

First option should be less than a year, then 1-99.
Special instructions for programmers

For how many years have you lived in your state of current residence?
Question Text

MIZ2A
Variable Name

State Political Interest
Label

Single choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

How interested are you in politics and current affairs in your state?
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Very much interested
(2) Somewhat interested
(3) Not much interested
(4) Not sure

MIZ3A
Variable Name

Others State Political Interest
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

How often do you talk with close family and friends about politics and current affairs in your state?
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Very often
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) Rarely

MIZ4A
Variable Name

Mother's Education
Label

Single choice
Variable Type

Please use same wording for columns as in Education question included in profile.
Special instructions for programmers

What is the highest level of education your mother has completed?
Question Text

Columns:
(1) No high school degree
(2) High school graduate
(3) Some college
(4) 2—year college degree
(5) 4-year college degree
(6) Post-graduate degree

MIZ5A
Variable Name

Honesty and Integrity of Lawmaking
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

How confident are you in the honesty and integrity of the lawmaking process in your state? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:

(1) I have great confidence in the honesty and integrity of the lawmaking process in my state.
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) I have no confidence in the honesty and integrity of the lawmaking process in my state.

Rows:

<No label>

POST-ELECTION QUESTIONS

MIZ61
Variable Name

Honesty and Integrity of Elections
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

1. How confident are you in the honesty and integrity of elections in your state? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:

(8) I have great confidence in the honesty and integrity of elections in my state.
(9) <blank>
(10) <blank>
(11) <blank>
(12) <blank>
(13) <blank>
(14) I have no confidence in the honesty and integrity of elections in my state.

Rows:

<No label>

MIZ62
Variable Name

Voting State
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

2. Should your state government do more to increase the number of people that vote, or is it already easy for people to vote if they really want to do so? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:

(1) State government should do more to increase the number of people that vote.
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) It's already easy for people to vote if they really want to do so.

Rows:

<No label>

MIZ63
Variable Name

Turnout Fraud
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

3. In your opinion, what is a more important priority for your state government in conducting elections, maximizing voter turnout even if some voter fraud occurs, or minimizing voter fraud even if it reduces turnout? Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Maximizing turnout.
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Minimizing fraud.

Rows:
<No label>

MIZ64
Variable Name

Contribution Limit and Corruption
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

4. Would you say that “limits on campaign contributions are necessary to help prevent political corruption” or that “contributions limits really do not reduce political corruption.” Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Contribution limits are necessary to help prevent corruption
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Contribution limits do not reduce corruption

Rows:
<No label>

MIZ65
Variable Name

Public Financing and Corruption
Label

Scale widget
Variable Type

Reverse response options
Special instructions for programmers

5. Would you say that “public financing of political campaigns is necessary to help prevent political corruption” or that “public financing does not prevent corruption.” Please place yourself on the following scale.
Question Text

Columns:
(1) Public financing is necessary to help prevent corruption
(2) <blank>
(3) <blank>
(4) <blank>
(5) <blank>
(6) <blank>
(7) Public financing does not prevent corruption

Rows:
<No label>

MIZ66
Variable Name

Income Tax
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

15. Does the state you currently live in have a state income tax on salaries and wages (that is, an income tax in addition to the federal income tax)?
Question Text

1 Yes, my state has a state income tax
2 No, my state does not have a state income tax

MIZ67
Variable Name

Seatbelts
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

16. In some states a police officer can give an adult a ticket for not wearing a seatbelt – these states are known as primary enforcement states. In other states the police officer can only issue an adult a ticket for not wearing a seatbelt if he/she has been stopped for some other traffic violation – these states are known as secondary enforcement states.

Is the state you live in a primary enforcement state, a secondary enforcement state, or does your state have no seatbelt law?
Question Text

1 Primary enforcement state
2 Secondary enforcement state
3 No state law requiring seatbelts

MIZ68
Variable Name

Right to Work
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

17. In some states, employees have the right to decide for themselves whether or not to join or financially support a union – these states are known as right-to-work states. In other states, employees hired by a company with a union must join or contribute to the union. Is the state you live in a right-to-work state?
Question Text

1 Yes, my state is a right-to-work state
2 No, my state is not a right-to-work state

MIZ69
Variable Name

Abortion Young Women
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

18. Do the laws in the state you live in require women under the age of 17 to notify or get consent from one or more parent to have an abortion?
Question Text

1 Yes, women under the age of 17 must notify or get consent
2 No, women under the age of 17 do not need to notify or get consent

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MIZ70
Variable Name

Food Sales Tax
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

19. Does the state you live in charge a sales tax on food (grocery items)?
Question Text

1 Yes, my state charges a sales tax on food
2 No, my state does not charge a sales tax on food

MIZ71
Variable Name

Same Sex Marriage
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

20. Does the state you live in issue marriage licenses for same sex couples?
Question Text

1 Yes, my state issues marriage licenses for same sex couples
2 No, my state does not issue marriage licenses for same sex couples

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MIZ72
Variable Name

Death Penalty
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

21. Does the state you live in permit a death penalty sentence for an individual found guilty of first-degree murder?
Question Text

1 Yes, my state permits a death penalty sentence
2 No, my state does not permit a death penalty sentence

MIZ73
Variable Name

Minimum Wage
Variable Label

Single Choice
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

22. Does the state you live in have a minimum wage that exceeds the federal minimum wage of $6.55 an hour?
Question Text

1 Yes, the minimum wage in my state is more than the federal minimum wage
2 No, the minimum wage in my state is not more than the federal minimum wage

---

MIZ74, MIZ75, MIZ76, MIZ77
Variable Names

Election Day Registration
Label

Grid
Variable Type

Randomize order of Questions 22, 23, 24, 25.
Special instructions for programmers

22. Some states have what is called “Election Day Registration” or EDR, which means that people can both register to vote and cast a regular ballot at the polls on Election Day. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement below:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Strongly agree
2 Agree
3 Neither agree nor disagree
4 Disagree
5 Strongly disagree

Rows:
MIZ74 I approve of EDR
MIZ75 EDR probably increases voter turnout
MIZ76 EDR probably leads to more vote fraud
MIZ77 EDR probably helps Democratic candidates more than Republicans

---

MIZ78, MIZ79, MIZ80, MIZ81
Variable Names

Vote by Mail
Label

Grid
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

23. Some states have what is called “Vote by Mail” or VBM, which means that people can choose whether to cast their ballots by mail before Election Day. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement below:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Strongly agree
2 Agree
3 Neither agree nor disagree
4 Disagree
5 Strongly disagree

Rows:
MIZ78 I approve of VBM
MIZ79 VBM probably increases voter turnout
MIZ80 VBM probably leads to more vote fraud
MIZ81 VBM probably helps Democratic candidates more than Republicans

---

MIZ82, MIZ83, MIZ84, MIZ85
Variable Names

Early Voting
Label

Grid
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

24. Some states have what is called “Early Voting,” which means that people can cast a regular ballot at a polling place at anytime during several days leading up to Election Day. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement below:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Strongly agree
2 Agree
3 Neither agree nor disagree
4 Disagree
5 Strongly disagree

Rows:
MIZ82 I approve of Early Voting
MIZ83 Early voting probably increases voter turnout
MIZ84 Early Voting probably leads to more vote fraud
MIZ85 Early Voting probably helps Democratic candidates more than Republicans

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MIZ86, MIZ87, MIZ88, MIZ89
Variable Names

Photo ID
Label

Grid
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

25. Some states have what is called “Photo ID,” which means that photographic identification is required for people to vote at the polls. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement below:
Question Text

Columns:
1 Strongly agree
2 Agree
3 Neither agree nor disagree
4 Disagree
5 Strongly disagree

Rows:
MIZ86 I approve of Photo ID
MIZ87 Photo ID probably lowers voter turnout
MIZ88 Photo ID probably leads to less vote fraud
MIZ89 Photo ID probably helps Republican candidates more than Democrats

---

MIZ90, MIZ91, MIZ92, MIZ93
Variable Names

Election Procedures
Label

Grid
Variable Type

None
Special instructions for programmers

26. Does your state of residence have any of these election procedures in place?
Question Text

Columns
1 Yes
0 No

Rows:
MIZ90 Election Day Registration
MIZ91 Vote-by-Mail
MIZ92 Early Voting
MIZ93 Photo ID