German Bundestag Reelection Prospects Data 1957-2013

Codebook

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0. Citation Information

The data are available at https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/emppol/research/data/. They can freely be used for scientific purposes as long as it is correctly cited. When using the data in any type of publication, please cite

a. Stoffel, Michel F. and Ulrich Sieberer (2017). "German Bundestag Reelection Prospects Dataset 1957-2013", doi:10.7910/DVN/EBEDPI, Harvard Dataverse, bundestag_reelection_prospects.dta [fileName]
b. Stoffel, Michael F. and Ulrich Sieberer (2017). 'Measuring Reelection Prospects Across Electoral Systems: A General Approach applied to Germany', *West European Politics*, doi: 10.1080/01402382.2017.1400273.

1. General Description

The dataset contains estimates for the reelection prospects of all members of the Bundestag subsequent to all elections between 1957 and 2013. These prospects are derived as predicted probabilities from Bayesian multilevel logistic regressions that model success in previous elections based on systematic covariates as well as random effects. If candidates compete for the first time in a given district, the previous results of their predecessors from the same party are used to estimate their future success, i.e. our estimates are based purely on the performance of parties and neglect truly personal factors such as personal popularity. As our estimation for single member districts relies on previous election results, districts only enter the analysis from the second election onward. Thus, no estimates are available for districts in Saarland for the period following the 1957 election (EP 3) and for the former Eastern German states including Berlin for the period following the 1990 election

(EP 12). Furthermore, 83 newly created districts due to reapportionment only enter the analysis in their second election. By contrast, districts with changed boarder are included with estimation based on the results in the district that contained the largest part of the redesigned district. The details on the construction of the measures are available in Stoffel and Sieberer 2017.

In addition to the point estimates, we also provide estimates of the upper and lower bounds of the estimate based on 95 percent credibility intervals. The estimates for a given electoral period (e.g the 17th EP following the 2013 elections) refer to the chances of being reelected in the subsequent elections (in this case in 2017).

In addition to the reelection prospects, the dataset contains the raw data on which the estimation is based, the name of MPs, their party affiliation at the time of the election, and a unique ID for each MP. This variable, which was kindly provided by Philip Manow, allows linking the data to his extensive dataset on candidate characteristics (Manow 2015; Manow and Flemming 2012) and to the comprehensive dataset on roll call behavior in the German Bundestag collected by Henning Bergmann, Stefanie Bailer, Tamaki Ohmura, Thomas Saalfeld and Ulrich Sieberer (Bergmann et al. 2016; see http://www.german-roll-calls.info). There might be small discrepancies in the raw data because we collected the election context data used here independently from the official election results published by the Federal Returning Officer (Bundeswahlleiter). Detailed information on the variables is provided in the next section.

2. Detailed information on the variables

Variable name	Variable label	Value label	Notes
mp_id	Unique ID for MP		The variable was kindly provided by Philip Manow (University of Bremen) and allows linking the data to his dataset on candidate characteristics (Manow 2015; Manow and Flemming 2012) and to the German Roll Calls data collection (Bergmann et al. 2016; www.german-roll-calls.info).
firstname	First name(s) of MP		First name of MP at the time of election
lastname	Last name of MP		Last name of MP at the time of election
elecper	Electoral period		
party_elecdet	Party of MP (at the time of election)	1 SPD (Social Democratic Party of Germany); 2 CDU (Christian Democratic Union); 3 CSU (Christian Social Union); 4 FDP (Free Democratic Party); 5 Greens; 6 Left/PDS (The Left, previously Party of Democratic Socialism); 10 DP (German Party)	CDU and CSU are treated as separate parties
mandate_detailed	Type of mandate held by MP	1 district mandate; 2 list mandate (at time of election); 4 replacement mandate from list	All seats that become vacant are replaced from party list. If a district seat becomes vacant, the next candidate on the state list of the party that originally won the district serves as replacement.
dualcand	MP ran as dual candidate	0 no; 1 yes; missing: not applicable	Identifies whether an MP ran both in a single member district and on a party list.
district_id	Official number of district in which MP ran		District IDs can differ over time because new districts are created (e.g. with the accession of the Saarland and with reunification), district borders are changed and districts were renumbered in 2002. Thus the data does not form a consistent time series of electoral districts!

Variable name	Variable label	Value label	Notes
district_name	Name of district in which MP ran		See above note for variable district_id
state	State in which MP's district is located	1 Nordrhein-Westfalen; 2 Bayern; 3 Baden-Württemberg; 4 Niedersachsen; 5 Hessen; 6 Sachsen; 7 Rheinland-Pfalz; 8 Berlin; 9 Schleswig-Holstein; 10 Brandenburg; 11 Sachsen-Anhalt; 12 Thüringen; 13 Hamburg; 14 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern; 15 Saarland; 16 Bremen	
list	State list on which MP ran	1 Nordrhein-Westfalen; 2 Bayern; 3 Baden-Württemberg; 4 Niedersachsen; 5 Hessen; 6 Sachsen; 7 Rheinland-Pfalz; 8 Berlin; 9 Schleswig-Holstein; 10 Brandenburg; 11 Sachsen-Anhalt; 12 Thüringen; 13 Hamburg; 14 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern; 15 Saarland; 16 Bremen	
listpos	List position on which MP ran		
safety_district	Predicted reelection probability in district		See Stoffel and Sieberer 2017 for details
safety_district_lb95	Lower bound (95%) of predicted reelection probability in district		See Stoffel and Sieberer 2017 for details
safety_district_ub95	Upper bound (95%) of predicted reelection probability in district		See Stoffel and Sieberer 2017 for details
safety_list	Predicted reelection probability via list		See Stoffel and Sieberer 2017 for details

Variable name	Variable label	Value label	Notes
safety_list_lb95	Lower bound (95%) of predicted reelection probability via list		See Stoffel and Sieberer 2017 for details
safety_list_ub95	Upper bound (95%) of predicted reelection probability via list		See Stoffel and Sieberer 2017 for details

References

Bergmann, Henning, Stefanie Bailer, Tamaki Ohmura, Thomas Saalfeld, and Ulrich Sieberer. 2016. "Namentliche Abstimmungen im Bundestag 1949 bis 2013: Befunde aus einem neuen Datensatz." *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen* 47 (1): 26–50.

Manow, Philip. 2015. *Mixed rules, mixed strategies: Candidates and Parties in Germany's Electoral System*. Colchester: ECPR Press.

Manow, Philip, and Peter Flemming. 2012. "Der Kandidat / die Kandidatin – das gar nicht mehr so unbekannte Wesen." *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen* 43 (4): 766–84.

Stoffel, Michael F., and Ulrich Sieberer. 2017. "Measuring Reelection Prospects Across Electoral Systems: A General Approach applied to Germany." *West European Politics* doi: 10.1080/01402382.2017.1400273.