Assessing Ballot Structure and Split Ticket Voting: Evidence from a Quasi-Experiment

Dataset Codebook

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This document describes the original data used in "Assessing Ballot Structure and Split Ticket Voting: Evidence from a Quasi-Experiment."

The article's data comprises five separated data files. The following is a detail of the definition and sources of the variables of each data file.

SUGGESTED CITATION

When using this dataset, please cite:

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ELECTION RESULTS, BY ELECTORAL PRECINCT (DEPARTMENT OF SALTA: 2007, 2011 AND 2015)

General description: Election results, by electoral precinct, in provincial-level election in 2007, 2011 and 2015, for the precincts in the department of Salta. It contains information of gubernatorial and legislative elections.

File name: GovHouse_election_data_2007_2011_2015.csv

Data source: Tribunal Electoral de la Provincia de Salta.

Variables:

dept	String. Name of the department.
year	Year of the election.
mun	String. Name of the municipality.
precinct	String. Electoral precinct. Unique identifier used by the electoral authority.
gov.ticket	String. Party name, as registered by the electoral authority.
party.number	Party numeric identifier, as registered by the electoral authority. Blank votes ("VOTOS EN BLANCO") are coded as "9998."
gov.votes	Gubernatorial votes in the precinct.
dip.votes	Total votes of all the legislative tickets attached to a party, in the precinct.
split.share	Share of split voting, by party, by precinct. The difference is measured between the number of votes obtained by the gubernatorial candidate, and the number of votes his legislative lists won, divided by the total number of votes obtained by each party. Positive (negative) values indicate that the gubernatorial candidate won more (less) votes than the legislative list.

SPLIT SHARE OF MAIN PARTIES, BY PRECINCT AND YEAR (DEPARTMENT OF SALTA: 2007, 2011 AND 2015)

General description: Split share of main parties, excluding legislative tickets of party allies, by precinct and year, for the 2007, 2011 and 2015 elections, for the precincts in the department of Salta.

File name: GovHouse_mainparties_data_2007_2011_2015.csv

Data source: Tribunal Electoral de la Provincia de Salta.

Variables:

precinct	String. Electoral precinct. Unique identifier used by the electoral authority.
year	Year of the election.
matching.method	String. Matching method. cem Coarsened Exact Matching psm Propensity Score Matching
gis.method	String. Technique used to develop polygons that approximate the precinct boundaries and to attribute the demographic data to voting centers by precincts.
electronic.device	Type of voting device used in the election. The variable is coded: 0 Paper ballot 1 Electronic device
split.share	Share of split voting, by party and precinct; excluding party allies. (see above)
ballot.type	String. Type of voting device used in the election. The variable is coded: Paper Ballot Traditional paper ballots Electronic Ballot New electronic devices
weights	Matching weights.

ELECTION RESULTS, BY VOTING BOOTH (SALTA 2011)

General description: Election results, by voting booth, in provincial- and local-level election in 2011. It contains information of gubernatorial, legislative and local elections.

File name: election_data_2011_by_votingbooth.csv

Data source: Tribunal Electoral de la Provincia de Salta.

Variables:

dept	String. Name of the department.
mun	String. Name of the municipality.
voting.center	String. Name of the place (most often, a school) where the voting center was located.
voting.booth	Voting booth unique numeric identifier, used by the electoral authority.
office	String. Position at stake in the election. The variable is coded: GOBERNADOR Governor DIPUTADO State House representative INTENDENTE Mayor CONCEJAL Council member
party.id	Party numeric identifier, as registered by the electoral authority. Blank votes ("VOTOS EN BLANCO") have no numeric identifier.
party.name	String. Party name, as registered by the electoral authority. Names are written in capital letters and special characters are omitted.
votes	Number of votes.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE ELECTORAL PRECINCTS

General description: Demographics of the electoral precincts in the province, based on census data.

File name: precinct_census_data.csv

Data source: own elaboration, based on data from 2010 census data, released by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INDEC).

Variables:

precinct	String. Electoral precinct. Unique identifier used by the electoral authority.
gis.method	String. Technique used to develop polygons that approximate the precinct boundaries and to attribute the demographic data to voting centers by precincts.
total.household	Estimated total number of households in the precinct.
pop_3orMore	Estimated number of inhabitants, 3 years old or older, in the precinct.
edu.abs	Estimated number of inhabitants with elementary education or less in the precinct.
edu	Share of inhabitants with elementary education or less, over the population 3 years old or older in the precincts.
nbi.abs	Estimated number of households living in poverty in the precincts.
nbi	Share of households living in poverty, over the total number of households in the precincts.

DIRECTORY OF VOTING CENTERS

General description: List of voting centers, of provincial (state-level) election in the province of Salta in 2011. It contains addresses and information of voting booths.

File name: voting_centers_directory.csv

Data source: Tribunal Electoral de la Provincia de Salta.

Variables:

Departamento	String. Name of the department.
Municipio	String. Name of the municipality.
Circuito	String. Electoral precinct. Unique identifier used by the electoral authority.

Escuela	String. Name of the place (most often, a school) where the voting center was located.
Domicilio	String. Address of the voting center, as released by the electoral authority.
Mesas	Number of voting booths at the voting center.
Electronic	Type of voting device used in the election. The variable is coded: 0 Paper ballot 1 Electronic device