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‘“The Pandemic was a Global Exam and our Country Came in First” – Autocratic Performance Legitimacy in Saudi Arabia’

Perspectives on Politics

Files

- The *Our World in Data* COVID-19 data set “owid-covid-data.csv” (Figures 1-3)
- The Arab Opinion Index: you will find the data [here] (Figures 4-5)
- The code in R for the visualizations “Covid_visuals.R” (Figures 1-5)

The document explains which software and data sources I used for the five visualizations in the article.

Figures 1-3 build on data by the World Health Organization that served as data sources for *Our World in Data*, one of the main reference sources to study the COVID-19 pandemic. This data can be downloaded from GitHub: https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/data/timeseries/confirmed_cases.csv.

I cleaned the data in Excel to only include the country cases Saudi Arabia, China, and the US. The data can be found in the attached file “owid-covid-data.csv”.

I used the package ggplot2 in R to visualize the three graphs, adding country labels, colors, and a title.

Figures 4 and 5 build on data from the Arab Opinion Index. It is one of the few surveys in the Arab world that includes Saudi Arabia on a regular basis. The data can be viewed here: https://arabindex.dohainstitute.org/EN/Pages/Tool.aspx. Unfortunately, it was not possible to download the data for replication and my email inquiries remained unanswered. Therefore, I re-built the bar charts in R using ggplot2, excluding low values (e.g., in Figure 4, I excluded “Russia” with 0.2%). I also combined “Neighboring Arab Countries” (1.8%) with “Arab Countries (0.2%) to “Arab Countries” (2%). Further, I excluded the categories “Declined to Answer” and “Do not know” but I mentioned them in the text of the manuscript. In Figure 5, I excluded the categories “Missing” (23%), “Declined to answer” (6.3%), and “Do not know” (18.2%) from the visualization but I mentioned the values in the text.

The codes for visualization can be found in the attached R file “Covid_visuals.R”.