Codebook for Local Parties in Israel Municipalities: 2013-2023 dataset

Tal Elovits, tal.elovits@unimi.it

The following is a codebook for Local Parties in Israel Municipalities: 2013-2023 Dataset. The dataset covers all local government elected lists throughout Israel municipalities and covers 2,520 lists in 193 municipalities.

Updated: January 5th, 2024

Data Sources:

1. Official party affiliation, represented by party_list and the party's name, was retrieved by the author's freedom of information requests.
2. Electoral information was retrieved from the Israel Election Board's historical data.
3. Socioeconomic information was retrieved from the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)
4. Government coalition status is based on the actual position of party(x) at the relevant election cycle.
5. Mayoral candidacy information was retrieved from Israel State Comptroller election reports.

Usage Guidelines

The Dataset is available for scholars. Citation required. Elovits, Tal, 2024, "Local Parties in Israel Municipalities: 2013-2023", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ZUWOUI, Harvard Dataverse, V1

Dataset Variables

Local List Information

- list_name – official Hebrew name of the local list
- listed – unique identifier of the list
- list_letter – ballot letters for the local_list
- election – year of election
- list_seat – number of seats won my list_name
- list_relative_size – the calculated relative size of list (x) in city (i) council, scale from 0 to 1
- party_list – "1" if the list was submitted by a national party
- Independent – "1" if the list is an independent one
- joint_list – "1" if the list was submitted by more than one national party
- n_party – English name of the national party, if applied
- party1 – the name of the national party, if applied
- party2 - the name of the national party, if applied
- party3 - the name of the national party, if applied
- party4 - the name of the national party, if applied
- mayor_race – "1" if the list also had a mayoral candidate
- gov_coalition – "1" if the national party is part of the coalition at the time of election

Municipal Information

- cityid – official Israel CBS city-id
- city_h – official Hebrew name of the city
- city – official English name of the city
- Council – number of council members

- registered_voters – number of registered voters in the city
- city_type_des – type of city, categorical, based on the Israeli CBS data
- city_subtype_des– the subtype of the city, based on the Israeli CBS data
- Socioeconomic – the socioeconomic rank of the city, scaled from 0 to 10, based on the Israeli CBS data for the relevant election year.
- Region – the geographical region of the city, based on the Israeli CBS
- unemployment_rate – an unemployment rate of the city, scaled from 0 to 1, based on the Israeli CBS data for the relevant election year.
- olim_rate – the rate of Jewish immigrants arriving in Israel after 1990, scaled from 0 to 1, based on the Israeli CBS data for the relevant election year.
- youth_rate – the rate of residence for those aged under 18, scaled from 0 to 1, based on the Israeli CBS data for the relevant election year.
- old_rate – the rate of elderly residents aged 65 and above, scaled from 0 to 1, based on the Israeli CBS data for the relevant election year.
- minwage_rate – the rate of the population earning the minimum wage or below, scaled from 0 to 1, based on the Israeli CBS data for the relevant election year.
- Periphery – the Israeli CBS periphery index for the relevant election year.

List Type

- list_type – "0" for independent lists, "1" for a local list that is identified fully with a national party, and "2" for a local list that is only affiliated with a national party by having a different label.

Coding Scheme

List label	**Party**	**Analysis**	**Code**
Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (החזית הדמוקרטית לשלום ושוויון)	Hadash – Democratic Front for Peace and Equality	The label is identical to the party's full name	1
To give more (לתת יותר)	Likud	The label is unrelated to the party name	2
Mahal (מחל)	Likud	The label is identical to the party voting letters	1
Ophakim Our Home (אופקים ביתנו)	Yisrael Beiteinu (Israel Our Home)	The label is a local version of the party name	1
Tradition and action (מסורת ועשייה)	Shas, United Torah Judaism	A joint list of parties without any reference to any party	2
Meretz and Ha'avoda – Jerusalem Free (מרצ העבודה ירושלים החופשית)	Meretz, Ha'avoda	A joint list of parties. There is a reference to the party names	1

Examples illustrating the label coding process. 'List label' represents the list's name in local elections translated to English and the Hebrew original name in prentices. 'Party' specifies the corresponding national party. 'Analysis' elaborates on the coding rationale, and 'Code' indicates the assigned code.

National Parties

- party seats – number of seats for the national party, if applied, in the parliament
- party_size – the share of the national party in the parliament

- city_party_support – the share of the vote for the national party in the city in a recent national election