

CONSTITUENCY-LEVEL ELECTIONS ARCHIVE (CLEA)

Codebook

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INTRODUCTION

Project Description

The central aim of the Constituency-Level Elections Archive (CLEA) project is to produce a repository of detailed results – i.e., votes received by each candidate/party, total votes cast, number of eligible voters – at a constituency level for the lower house legislative elections that have been conducted around the world. Our motivation is to preserve and consolidate these valuable data in one comprehensive reference resource that is publicly available at no cost. This public good is expected to be of use to a range of audiences for purposes of research, education, and policy-making and evaluation.

Funding Support

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Bibliographic Citation

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Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in these materials are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the funding organizations.

Credits

The co-directors of the CLEA project are Professor Ken Kollman of the University of Michigan, Professor Allen Hicken of the University of Michigan, Professor Daniele Caramani of the University of St. Gallen, and Dr. David Backer of the United States Institute of Peace. The project manager is Dr. Jill Wittrock of the Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan.

Data used in this release have been contributed by Nir Atmor, David Backer, Daniele Caramani, Adam Carr, Federico Ferrara, Brian Gaines, Judy Geist, Allen Hicken, Ken Kollman, Arend Lijphart, Scott Morgenstern, Jairo Nicolau, Daniel Posner, Jae-Jae Spoon, Marcelo Leiras,

Steven Reed, Ching-hsing Yu, Matt Singer, Heather Stoll, and Jack Vowles, as well as ICPSR and The Project on Political Transformation and the Electoral Process in Post-Communist Europe program at the University of Essex.

Research assistance was provided by Rachel Augustine Potter, Su-Hyun Lee, Sang-Jung Han, Sana Jaffrey, Patrick O'Mahen and Oliver Strijbis, as well as students from the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) at the University of Michigan and from the College of William & Mary. David Howell and Dianne Paulson of the Center for Political Studies at the University of Michigan provided programming and website assistance for the latest release.

Data Procedures

In order to construct the CLEA dataset, we have collected constituency-level election results from a variety of data sources. In most cases, we were able to collect data about a specific election from multiple sources. Once collected, the election results were checked for errors both internally and through comparison against other sources. Any identified errors were corrected. The datasets were then transformed into a common format and merged into a single data set for analysis. Although great care has been taken to prepare the data and codebook as accurately as possible prior to release, we would appreciate receiving your comments, feedback and notifications of any remaining errors by email to: clea@isr.umich.edu

DOCUMENTATION OF VARIABLES

Variable List

RELEASE	Dataset release
RG	Region
CTR_N	Country Name
CTR	Country Code
YR	Election Year
MN	Election Month
SUB	Sub-National Geographical Unit
CST_N	Constituency Name
CST	Constituency Code
MAG	District Magnitude
PTY_N	Party Name
PTY	Party Code
CAN	Candidate Name
PEV1	Number Of Eligible Voters (First Round)
VOT1	Votes Cast (First Round)
VV1	Valid Votes (First Round)
IVV1	Invalid Votes (First Round)
TO1	Turnout (First Round)
CV1	Candidate Votes (First Round)
CVS1	Candidate Vote Share (First Round)
PV1	Party Votes (First Round)
PVS1	Party Vote Share (First Round)
PEV2	Number Of Eligible Voters (Second Round)
VOT2	Votes Cast (Second Round)
VV2	Valid Votes (Second Round)
IVV2	Spoilt/Invalid Votes (Second Round)
TO2	Turnout (Second Round)
CV2	Candidate Votes (Second Round)
CVS2	Candidate Vote Share (Second Round)
PV2	Party Votes (Second Round)
PVS2	Party Vote Share (Second Round)
SEAT	Seats Won
Elec	Number Of Electors (Indirect Election)
Ev	Electors Won By Party (Indirect Election)
Count2	Preferential vote counts
...	
Count13	

DOCUMENTATION OF VARIABLES

Variable Descriptions

RELEASE *Dataset release*

This variable indicates in which release the constituency-level data were added to the archive.

1. 2008 August 15
 2. 2010 February 3
 3. 2010 December 15
 4. 2011 September 14
-

RG *Region*

The following eight regions are used in the CLEA dataset and represented in the most recent release.

Africa
Asia
Western Europe
Eastern Europe
Latin America
North America
Caribbean
Oceania

CTR_N *Country Name*

Names of countries. The following countries are included in the current CLEA release.

Anguilla
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bahamas
Bangladesh
Barbados

Belgium
Bermuda
Bolivia
Botswana
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Colombia
Costa Rica
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Equatorial Guinea
Estonia
Finland
France
Gambia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Lithuania
Kenya
Korea
Luxembourg
Malawi
Mexico

Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines
Portugal
Puerto Rico
Romania
Saint Lucia
Singapore
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sweden
Switzerland
Taiwan
Thailand
UK
United States

Zambia

CTR **Country Code**

Country codes developed by the UN (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>).

660 Anguilla
028 Antigua and Barbuda
032 Argentina
036 Australia
040 Austria
044 Bahamas
050 Bangladesh
052 Barbados
056 Belgium
060 Bermuda
068 Bolivia
072 Botswana
076 Brazil
100 Bulgaria
116 Cambodia
120 Cameroon
124 Canada

132 Cape Verde
170 Colombia
188 Costa Rica
191 Croatia
203 Czech Republic
208 Denmark
212 Dominica
214 Dominican Republic
226 Equatorial Guinea
233 Estonia
246 Finland
250 France
270 Gambia
276 Germany
288 Ghana
300 Greece
308 Grenada
328 Guyana
624 Guinea-Bissau
340 Honduras
348 Hungary
352 Iceland
356 India
360 Indonesia
372 Ireland
376 Israel
380 Italy
388 Jamaica
392 Japan
404 Kenya
410 Korea
440 Lithuania
442 Luxembourg
454 Malawi
484 Mexico
524 Nepal
528 Netherlands
554 New Zealand
566 Nigeria
578 Norway
586 Pakistan
608 Philippines
620 Portugal
630 Puerto Rico

642 Romania
662 Saint Lucia
702 Singapore
724 Spain
752 Sweden
756 Switzerland
764 Thailand
826 UK
840 United States
894 Zambia

1001 Taiwan ***

*** Taiwan (the Republic of China) is not a member of the UN. This code is assigned by CLEA.

YR *Election Year*

Year of election.

MN *Election Month*

Month of election if available.

01. January
02. February
03. March
04. April
05. May
06. June
07. July
08. August
09. September
10. October
11. November
12. December

SUB *Sub-National Geographical Unit*

Sub-national geographical or administrative unit that is greater than constituency. This variable is given if the original data sets we collected contain such information.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

CST_N ***Constituency Name***

Name of geographical area that a particular elected representative or group of elected representatives represents.

CST ***Constituency Code***

A unique numeric code assigned to each constituency in each election in a country. In general, all constituencies in a country are sorted alphabetically, according to their names, and then assigned a constituency code. This code assignment is repeated in each election in the country. Thus, the same code may or may not belong to the same constituency across elections, depending upon whether redistricting occurs between elections. In the event of special districts for minority populations (e.g., the Maori districts in New Zealand prior to the electoral reform in 1996), these districts receive the first numeric code following the last alphabetically sorted geographical district.

In a case where a country uses a multi-tier or mixed electoral system, the CLEA dataset uses the following coding scheme:

- 001-900. Lower-tier electoral districts (in multi-tier PR) or electoral districts where a majoritarian formula is used (in a mixed electoral system)
- 901-999. Upper-tier electoral districts (in multi-tier PR) or electoral districts where PR is used (in a mixed electoral system)

If a country uses a single-tier system, only constituency codes for lower-tier electoral districts are used.

MAG ***District Magnitude***

Number of seats allocated in a given constituency.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

PTY_N ***Party Name***

Name of a party or electoral alliance. If possible, the official name in the original language is used. If this name is not available, the transliterated or English-translated party name is used. For more information, refer to the Appendix II: Party Codes.

In some cases where the original data sources we collected have small parties grouped under “*Others*” category, “others” is used. In several countries, special kinds of party groupings are used in reported election results. For instance, categories such as “*miscellaneous right-wing*” and “*regionalists and separatists*” are used in France. For those special categories, their names are used for this variable and unique numeric codes are assigned to each such category (see “PTY” below for more information about these categories and also refer to Appendix II: Party Codes).

Independent candidates are handled in two different ways when election results are reported. For much of the data we have collected, all independent candidates are grouped under a single category. In such cases, “*Independents*” is used. However, when each and every individual independent candidate is identified and his/her votes received are reported separately in the election returns, “*Independent*” is used instead. Different numeric codes are assigned with these different methods. See “PTY” below for more information about numeric codes and Appendix II for the labels for independent candidates.

In a few countries, there are independent candidates who are affiliated with a party, but cannot officially stand under its label. As a result, they may be labeled in a manner that reflects both their independent status and their party affiliation (e.g., “*Independent Labour*” or “*Independent Greens*”). In the CLEA dataset, we treat these candidates as independents in the coding, but keep their label under the ***PTY_N***.

For a full list of political parties, see Appendix II.

PTY ***Party Code***

A unique numeric code is assigned to each party that runs a candidate in any given election. In general, political parties in a country are sorted alphabetically according to ***PTY_N*** and then assigned party codes. To differentiate political parties and the aforementioned special and residual categories (see ***PTY_N*** above), the CLEA dataset uses the following coding scheme:

0001-3999. Political parties

3996. None of these candidates (in some countries, voters have the option to express disapproval for all the candidates on the ballot)

3997. Elected (for several early elections in Iceland and Sweden, the results for political parties are not available)

3998. No against for uncontested (in Denmark)

3999. Unknown/Unidentified

4000. "Others" (i.e., more than two small parties are grouped)

4001-. Special kinds of 'others' (see Appendix II for more information)

4998. Write-in

4999. Blank/Scattering

5001-5999. Electoral coalitions or alliances between political parties

6000. "Independents" (i.e., more than two independent candidates are grouped)

6001-. Independent 1, Independent 2, and so on (i.e., a single unaffiliated candidate), including special kinds of 'independents'.

For a full list of political parties and their codes in each country, see Appendix II.

Each party and electoral alliance is assigned a unique numeric code that remains consistent across elections. If a party changes its name, merges with other parties or splits into separate parties, a new numeric code is given to the party that emerges as a result of such changes.

Party codes for 'other' and 'independent' are assigned to parties or unaffiliated candidates in each election. This code assignment is repeated in each election in the country. Thus, the same code does not belong to the same minor party or independent candidate across elections.

Note: In India, there were more than 4,000 independent candidates in several general elections. In such cases, many independent candidates are assigned a five-digit party code.

CAN ***Candidate Name***

Name of a candidate if available.

-990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)

-992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)

-994. Suspended Election

Note: For Japan, Taiwan, and Thailand, a numeric code is given instead of the actual candidate name. Full lists of candidate names in original language from these countries are available upon request.

PEV1 *Number of Eligible Voters (First Round)*

The number of eligible voters in a given constituency. If there is a runoff election, this indicates the number of eligible voters in the first-round election.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

VOT1 *Votes Cast (First Round)*

The total number of votes cast for all candidates in a given constituency. If there is a runoff election, this indicates the number of total votes cast in the first-round election.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

VV1 *Valid Votes (First Round)*

The total number of valid votes in a constituency. If there is a runoff election, this indicates the total number of valid votes in the first-round election.

When voters have multiple votes, the total number of valid votes in a constituency may be larger than the total votes cast or even the number of eligible voters.

NOTE: In some cases, this variable was calculated from the manually added sum of party votes (PV1) or candidate votes (CV1), if the original sources we collected do not contain information on valid votes but it is confirmed that no party or candidate is missing.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
- 992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)
- 994. Suspended Election

IVVI ***Invalid Votes (First Round)***

The total number of invalid and spoiled votes in a given constituency. If there is a runoff election, it indicates the total number of invalid and spoiled votes in the first-round election.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

TO1 ***Turnout (First Round)***

The fraction of eligible voters who vote in a given constituency. If there is a runoff election, this indicates the turnout in the first round.

NOTE: This is not a turnout rate reported in an official election report. It is our own calculation from dividing *VOT1* by *PEV1*. In some instances, TO1 is greater than 1 when the official results report more votes cast (*VOT1*) than eligible votes (*PEV1*).

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e., a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

CVI ***Candidate Votes (First Round)***

Total number of votes received by the candidate in a given constituency. This variable was used only if multiple candidates from the same party run for election (for instance, in Japan under the single non-transferable vote electoral system). Otherwise, this variable was set to Missing Data. If there is a runoff election, it indicates the total number of votes received by the candidate in the first-round election.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

CVS1 ***Candidate Vote Share (First Round)***

The fraction of total votes received by the candidate in a given constituency. This variable was used only if multiple candidates from the same party run for election (for instance, in Japan under the single non-transferable vote electoral system). Otherwise, this variable was set to Missing Data. If there is a runoff election, it indicates the vote share of the candidates in the first-round election.

NOTE: In some instances, CVS1 is greater than or equal to 1, depending on the officially reported candidate vote totals (CV1).

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
- 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
- 994. Suspended Election

PV1 **Party Votes (First Round)**

Total number of votes received by the party in a given constituency. If there is a runoff election, it indicates the number of votes received by the party in the first-round election.

NOTE: If there are more than two candidates running for election from the same party in a given constituency, the sum of the votes received by all candidates from the same parties is used. Thus, ***party votes for the same party are repeated as many times in the column of Party Votes as there are candidates from that party.***

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
- 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
- 994. Suspended Election

PVS1 **Party Vote Share (First Round)**

The fraction of the total votes received by a particular party.

In some cases, this variable was calculated by dividing PV1 by VV1 (or if VV1 is not available, the sum of party votes), if the original data sources we collected do not report the party vote share (also see VV1) or if the original data sources have obvious errors in their calculation of the party vote share.

NOTE: Like with *PV1*, when there are more than two candidates from the same party in a given constituency, the ***party vote share of the same party is repeated as many times in the column of Party Vote Share as there are candidates from that party.*** Consequently, in some instances PVS1 is greater than or equal to 1.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

PEV2 *Number of Eligible Voters (Second Round)*

The number of eligible voters in a constituency in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

VOT2 *Votes Cast (Second Round)*

The total number of votes cast for all candidates in a constituency in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

VV2 *Valid Votes (Second Round)*

The total number of valid votes in a constituency in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

IVV2 *Spoilt/Invalid Votes (Second Round)*

The total number of invalid and spoilt votes in a constituency in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

TO2 ***Turnout (Second Round)***

The fraction of eligible voters who vote in a constituency in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

NOTE: This is not a turnout rate reported in an official election report. It is our own calculation from dividing *VOT2* by *PEV2*. In some instances, TO2 is greater than 1 when the official results report more votes cast (*VOT2*) than eligible voters (*PEV2*).

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

CV2 ***Candidate Votes (Second Round)***

The total number of votes received by the candidate in a constituency in the second-round election. This variable was used only if multiple candidates from the same party run for election (for instance, in Japan under the single non-transferable vote electoral system). Otherwise, this variable was set to Missing Data.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

CVS2 ***Candidate Vote Share (Second Round)***

The fraction of total votes received by the candidate in a constituency in the second-round election. This variable was used only if multiple candidates from the same party run for election (for instance, in Japan under the single non-transferable vote electoral system). Otherwise, this variable was set to Missing Data.

NOTE: In some instances, CVS2 is greater than or equal to 1 depending on the officially reported candidate vote totals (*CV2*).

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

PV2 ***Party Votes (Second Round)***

Total number of votes received by the party in a constituency in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

NOTE: If more than two candidates from the same party ran for election in a constituency, the sum of the votes received by all candidates from the same parties is used. Thus, ***party votes from the same party are repeated in the column of Party Votes as many times as there are candidates from that party.***

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

PVS2 ***Party Vote Share (Second Round)***

The fraction of the total votes received by a party in the second-round election. If there is no runoff election, this variable is set to Missing Data.

NOTE: Like with *PV2*, when there are more than two candidates from the same party in a constituency, the ***party vote share of the same party is repeated as many times in the column of Party Vote Share as there are candidates from that party.*** Consequently, in some instances *PVS2* is greater than or equal to 1.

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
 - 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
 - 994. Suspended Election
-

SEAT ***Seats Won***

Either the number of seats won by a party (under PR), or whether a party won or not (under SMP or MMP).

- 990. Missing Data (information not available / category not applicable)
- 992. Uncontested Election (i.e. a single candidate contested the election)
- 994. Suspended Election

Elec *Number of Electors*

The number of electors chosen in the indirect election. Currently, this applies only to Norway (1822-1903) and Sweden (1866-1908).

Ev *Electors Won by Party*

The number of votes for the elected candidates cast by electors in the indirect election. Currently, this applies only to Norway (1822-1903) and Sweden (1866-1908).

Count2

...

Count 13 Preferential vote counts

In Australia, votes are counted by order of preference. The candidate ranked first is coded **PV1** (i.e., party votes first round). If no candidate receives an absolute majority, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated. This counting procedure continues until a candidate receives an absolute majority. Except for Australia, this variable is coded missing (-990).
