Abstract
This is a subset of the American National Election Studies Cumulative Data File, 1948-1998, study # 8475. The codebook for the full study is available online as http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/cgi/file?comp=none&study=8475&ds=1&dsfmt=LREC&fil etype=CBLT&link=/cb8475.yr4898. All variables were given new names to make them easier for students to use; the original names are provided, for reference purposes, in parentheses after the new names.

The data provided here are a subset of the variables from the 1996 election study. As explained in the codebook for the full study, “the election studies are designed to present data on Americans’ social backgrounds, enduring political predispositions, social and political values, perceptions and evaluations of groups and candidates, opinions on questions of public policy, and participation in political life.” The subset of variables provided here include demographic information and measures of partisanship, candidate evaluation, presidential evaluation, political activity and participation, and voting behavior.

Demographic variables

age (vcf0101) age in years.

women (vcf0104)

1. Male
2. Female

0. NA

race (vcf0105)

1. White
2. Black

0. NA; "other"

hispanic (vcf0107)

In addition to being American, what do you consider

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your main ethnic group or nationality group? (IF NO HISPANIC GROUP
MENTIONED:) Are you of Spanish or Hispanic origin or descent?
(IF YES:) Please look at the booklet and tell me which category best
describes your Hispanic origin. (RESPONDENT BOOKLET SHOWN TO R).

IS R OF HISPANIC ORIGIN?

1. Yes, Mexican-American, Chicano
2. Yes, Puerto Rican
3. Yes, other Hispanic
4. Yes, Hispanic but DK/NA type
7. No, not Hispanic
8. DK if Hispanic
9. NA if Hispanic

educ (vcf0110)
What is highest grade of school or year of college you have completed?

1. Grade school or less (0-8 grades)
2. High school (12 grades or fewer, incl. non-college
   training if applicable)
3. Some College (13 grades or more but no degree; 1948 ONLY:
   college, no identification of degree status)
4. College or advanced degree (no cases 1948)
0. DK; NA

urbanism (vcf0111)
This var represents R's sampling address.

1. Central cities
2. Suburban areas
3. Rural, small towns, outlying and adjacent areas

income (vcf0114)
Please look at this card/page
and tell me the letter of the income group that includes the income of
all members of your family living here in previous year before
taxes. This figure should include salaries, wages, pensions,
dividends, interest, and all other income. (IF UNCERTAIN:) What
would be your best guess?

1. none - $11,999
2. $12,000-$21,999
3. $22,000-$49,999
4. $50,000-$104,999
5. $105,000 +

0. DK; NA; refused to answer

**Partisanship**

**partyid** (vcf0301) Party identification

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what? (IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT) Would you call yourself a strong (REP/DEM) or a not very strong (REP/DEM)? (IF INDEPENDENT, OTHER [1966 and later: OR NO PREFERENCE]:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic party?

1. Strong Democrat
2. Weak Democrat
3. Independent - Democrat
4. Independent - Independent
5. Independent - Republican
6. Weak Republican
7. Strong Republican
9. Apolitical

0. DK; NA; other; refused to answer

**Presidential Performance**

**presapp** (vcf0450) Approve presidential performance

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that <the president> is handling his job as President?

1. Approve
2. Disapprove

0. DK; NA

**regnvote** (vcf0703) Did R register and vote?

1. Not registered, and did not vote
2. Registered, but did not vote
3. Voted (registered)
0. DK/NA if voted; DK/NA whether registered; no post IW; refused to say if voted; Washington D.C. (presidential years only)

presvote (vcf0704) Party of presidential vote

(IF R VOTED:) How about the election for President? Did you vote for a candidate for President? (IF YES:) Who did you vote for?
1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Major third party candidate (Perot)

0. Did not vote; DK/NA if voted; refused to say if voted; DK/NA if voted for President; refused to say who voted for; "other" vote; INAP, no post IW

congvote (vcf0707) Party of congressional vote

With Ballot Card (registered in county of IW):

Without Ballot Card (outside county of IW):
1. Democrat
2. Republican

0. DK; NA; did not vote; refused to say if voted; DK/NA if voted; refused to say who voted for; "other" (minor/3rd party) vote; INAP, Washington D.C.; no post IW; voted, but not for House of Representatives; DK/NA if voted for House of Representatives

senvote (vcf0708) Party of vote for Senator

IF R HAS BALLOT CARD: [Still looking at the list of candidates]. WITH OR WITHOUT BALLOT CARD: How about the election for the United States Senate? Did you vote for a candidate for the U.S./United States Senate? (IF YES:) Who did you vote for?

Kansas: How about the two elections for the United States
Senate? Did you vote for candidates for the U.S. Senate?  
(In Kansas in 1996 the 
regular Senate election and a second "special" Senate election were 
held. This variable codes data for the respondent's vote in the 
regular Senate election only. )

1. Democrat  
2. Republican  

0. DK; NA; did not vote; refused to say if voted; DK/NA if 
voted; refused to say who voted for; "other" (minor/3rd 
party) vote; no race in state; INAP, no post IW; Washington D.C.  

**Respondent's political orientation**

**Resp_conserv**(vcf0803) Liberal-conservative 7 pt. scale  

We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives.  
Here is (1972,1974: I'm going to show you) a 7-point scale on which 
the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely 
liberal to extremely conservative.

Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought 
much about this? (7-POINT SCALE SHOWN TO R)

1. Extremely liberal  
2. Liberal  
3. Slightly liberal  
4. Moderate, middle of the road  
5. Slightly conservative  
6. Conservative  
7. Extremely conservative  
9. DK; haven't thought much about it  

0. NA; INAP;

**aidblack** (vcf0830) 7-pt Aid to Blacks scale  

Some people feel that the 
government in Washington should make every effort to 
 improve the social and economic position of 
blacks. Suppose these people are at one end of a scale, at 
point 1. Others feel that the government should not make any special 
effort to help blacks because they should help themselves. 
Suppose these people are at the other end, at point 7. And, of 
course, some other people have opinions somewhere in between, at
points 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6).

Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought much about it? (7-POINT SCALE SHOWN TO R)

1. Government should help minority groups/blacks
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7. Minority groups/blacks should help themselves

9. DK; haven't thought much about it
0. NA; INAP

**womequal** (vcf0834) Women’s equal role scale

Recently there has been a lot of talk about women's rights. Some people feel that women should have an equal role with men in running business, industry and government. Others feel that a women's place is in the home.

Where would you place yourself on this scale or haven't you thought much about this? (7-POINT SCALE SHOWN TO R)

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1. Women and men should have an equal role
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7. Women's place is in the home

9. DK; haven't thought much about it
0. NA/etc.

**Respondent’s economic assessments**

**Ntlecon_retro** (vcf0870) How good/bad was the economy in the last year?

Now thinking about the economy in the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same or gotten worse?
1. Better
3. Stayed same
5. Worse

0. INAP, DK; NA; question not used

**ntlecon_pro (vcf0872)** How will the economy be in the next year

What about the next 12 months?

Do you expect the economy to get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

1. Get better
3. Stay about the same
5. Get worse

8. DK; RF
9. NA; INAP, question not used

**Persfin_retro (vcf0880)** Personal financial situation in the past year

We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days.

Would you say you [and your family living here]) are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago.

1. Better Now
2. Same
3. Worse Now

9. DK; uncertain; depends
0. NA; INAP

**Persfin_pro (vcf0881)** Personal financial situation in the next year

Now looking ahead--do you think that a year from now you [and your family living here]) will be better off financially or worse off, or just about the same as now?

2. Same (1956-1960,1964: stay the way it is)

9. DK; both; uncertain
0. NA; INAP