

Republican Revolution Analysis Readme

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This readme accompanies the file “rep_revolution_analysis.do”

For models to work, the path to the file “correlatesofstatepolicyproject_v1-9.dta” must be specified in line 8.

I. Variables

The following is a description of all variables used in the do-file.

Note:

dem_legchambers_halves
rep_legchambers_halves
dem_gov
rep_gov
dem_legchambers
rep_legchambers

are all intermediate variables used to create index variables, and are not used in models.

A: Variables from COSPP

See Correlates of State Policy Project Codebook.

B: Created Variables (these variables are constructed from COSPP variables)

stated: an encoded version of st, used to set panel.

south: a dummy variable, coded 1 if state is located in the south.

dem_chambers_halves: the total number of chambers (i.e. state senate, state house, governorship) controlled by the democratic party. This variable includes “halves” if either house or senate is equally split between democrats and republicans.

rep_chambers_halves: the total number of chambers (i.e. state senate, state house, governorship) controlled by the republican party. This variable includes “halves” if either house or senate is equally split between democrats and republicans.

dem_chambers: the total number of chambers (i.e. state senate, state house, governorship) controlled by the democratic party. This variable does not include “halves.” If either house or senate is equally split between democrats and republicans, it is not included.

rep_chambers: the total number of chambers (i.e. state senate, state house, governorship) controlled by the republican party. This variable does not include “halves.” If either house or senate is equally split between democrats and republicans, it is not included.

dem_change: the change in number of chambers controlled by the democratic party. Does not include halves.

rep_change: the change in number of chambers controlled by the republican party. Does not include halves.

lib_change: the change in policy liberalism from the previous year.

rev_change: the change in State revenue from previous year.

expend_change: the change in State expenditures from previous year.

surplus_change: the change in State surplus from previous year.

dem_change_seatshare_sen: the change in democratic seat-share in the State Senate, measured in percentage-point change

dem_change_seatshare_hs: the change in democratic seat-share in the State House, measured in percentage-point change

rep_change_seatshare_sen: the change in republican seat-share in the state Senate, measured in percentage-point change

rep_change_seatshare_hs: the change in republican seat-share in the State House, measured in percentage-point change

towards_dem: a dummy variable, coded 1 if democrats control more chambers than they did in the previous year

towards_rep: a dummy variable, coded 1 if republicans control more chambers than they did in the previous year

rep_atleast_one: a dummy variable, coded 1 if republicans control at least one chamber (state house, state senate, governorship)

rep_atleast_two: a dummy variable, coded 1 if republicans control at least two chambers (state house, state senate, governorship)

rep_atleast_three: a dummy variable, coded 1 if republicans control all three chambers (state house, state senate, governorship)

dem_atleast_one: a dummy variable, coded 1 if democrats control at least one chambers (state house, state senate, governorship)

dem_atleast_two: a dummy variable, coded 1 if democrats control at least two chambers (state house, state senate, governorship)

dem_atleast_three: a dummy variable, coded 1 if democrats control all three chambers (state house, state senate, governorship)

II. Models

The following is a brief description of the categories of models run in this do-file.

Note: all models are restricted to post-1990

A. Level, fixed-effects Models

These models separately estimate the effect of number of chambers on

- (1) policy liberalism
- (2) state revenue as a percent of GSP
- (3) state expenditures as a percent of GSP
- (4) state Surplus as a percent GDP

They all include year and state fixed-effects, and panel-corrected standard errors.

B. Change Models

These models estimate the effect of changes in the number of chambers controlled by each party on

- (1) change in policy liberalism
- (2) change in state revenue as a percent of GSP
- (3) change in state expenditures as a percent of GSP
- (4) change in state Surplus as a percent GDP

They all include year fixed-effects (*not state*), and robust standard errors clustered by state.

C. Binary Models

These models estimate the effect of any change towards democrat or republican control (regardless of magnitude) on policy liberalism.

They all include year and state fixed-effects, and panel-corrected standard errors.