

# Updated Constituency Preference Estimates for Congressional Districts and State Legislative Districts

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We appreciate the research assistance of Matto Matto Mildenberger compiling updated post-redistricting census data for the MRP models.

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## Overview

This 2015 update from our paper “Measuring Constituent Policy Preferences in Congress, State Legislatures, and Cities” includes updated district ideology estimates before and after the 2012 redistricting for U.S. House districts, state house districts, and state senate districts. All of the estimates are jointly scaled and can thus be directly compared to one another.

If you use these data, please cite: Tausanovitch, Chris, and Christopher Warshaw, 2013. “Measuring Constituent Policy Preferences in Congress, State Legislatures, and Cities.” *The Journal of Politics* 75 (2): 330-342.

The methodology for all of the measurement models is identical to the approach described in our JOP paper. However, all of the new MRP-estimates are generated using the software program **Stan**, called from R.<sup>1</sup>

The pre-redistricting estimates are based on roughly 250,000 respondents from the following surveys.

- 2000 National Annenberg Election Survey (NAES)
- 2004 National Annenberg Election Survey (NAES)
- 2006 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2007 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2008 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2009 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2010 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)

The post-redistricting estimates are based on roughly 240,000 respondents from the following surveys.

- 2008 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2009 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2010 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2011 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2012 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2013 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)
- 2014 Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES)

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<sup>1</sup>Estimating the model with the Bayesian simulation program **Stan** permits easy calculation of posterior point estimates and their associated uncertainty.

# Codebook

Each file contains the following variables:

- **fips**: This variable is the fips code for each district. It is the primary unique identifier for the estimates. It is prefixed by the appropriate district level (i.e., cd, ssd, or shd)
- **mrp\_mean**: This variable contains the MRP-based estimate of the mean ideology of each district. This is the primary variable that should be used in secondary analyses.
- **mrp\_sd**: This variable contains the standard deviation of the MRP-based estimate of the mean ideology of each district. It can be used to incorporate the uncertainty in the MRP-based estimates of district ideology into subsequent analyses.
- **mrp\_lower**: This variable contains the 2.5th percentile of the credible interval of the MRP-based estimate of the mean ideology of each district. It can be used to incorporate the uncertainty in the MRP-based estimates of district ideology into subsequent analyses.
- **mrp\_upper**: This variable contains the 97.5th percentile of the credible interval of the MRP-based estimate of the mean ideology of each district. It can be used to incorporate the uncertainty in the MRP-based estimates of district ideology into subsequent analyses.
- **raw\_mean**: This variable contains the raw and unweighted, disaggregated estimate of the mean ideology of each district. In general, it has significant measurement error.
- **abb**: State abbreviation
- **state**: State name
- **state\_fips**: State fips code
- **name**: The name of the district from the raw census data.
- **pres\_2012** or **pres\_2008**: The presidential vote share in the district. For 2008, we compiled these based on precinct-level data provided by the Harvard Election Data Archive. For 2012, it is based on data compiled by DailyKos.
- **district**: District number
- **sample\_size**: Survey sample size in each district.