



2010 BES IN-PERSON PRE- ELECTION AND POST-ELECTION SURVEY DATA

Welcome to the 2010 BES in-person survey data! The compressed file 'prepostmailapr25spss.zip' contains an SPSS data file of the pre-election, post-election, and self-completion mailback survey data. The compressed file 'prepostmailapr25stata.zip' contains the same data in STATA format. This beta release of the 2010 BES in-person survey data has a corrected version of the summary religious denomination variable 'Z106_2'. The data set also contains the validated vote variables 'OUTCOMEW' and 'OUTCOMEN'. Some respondents did not give permission for their survey data to be linked to vote validation data. These respondents have imputed vote validation data in 'OUTCOMEW'. The validated vote variable without imputed data is 'OUTCOMEN'.

The data set also contains the constituency-level variables from Pippa Norris' 2010 British General Election Data Base (available with documentation at www.pippanorris.com). Note that the Press Association constituency number variable is PANUMBER and the constituency name variable for pre- and post-election respondents is TCONSTIT. We thank Pippa for making these data available. Fieldwork for the BES in-person surveys was conducted by BMRB under the direction of Project Supervisor, Nick Howat. BMRB team members include Nick Howat, Oliver Norden and Emily Pickering.

Sample sizes: pre-election cross-section, N = 1935; post-election cross-section, N = 3075; pre-election-post-election panel, N = 1498; self-completion mailback = 1843.

Weights: To improve the representative nature of the data, the following weights are available: prewgt = pre-election cross-section; prewgtc = pre-election cross-section capped; postwgt = post-election cross-section; panwgt = pre-post-election panel; panwgtc = pre-post-election panel capped; mailwgt = self-completion mailback; mailwgtc = self-completion mailback capped.

Filters: The variable 'prefilt' selects pre-election respondents; the variable 'postfilt' selects post-election respondents; the variable 'prepost' selects the pre-post-election panel respondents.

Questionnaire: The questionnaires for the pre-campaign, post-election and self-completion mailback surveys (separate versions of the mailback survey for England, Scotland and Wales) are available in pdf format on this section of the 2009-10 BES website.

Variable Names: pre-election variables have the prefix 'aq'; post-election variable names have the prefix 'bq', and the self-completion mailback variables names have the prefix 'cq'.

Summary Demographic Variables: Most demographic variables were asked only in the pre-campaign survey for pre-campaign-post-election *panel* respondents. Demographic information necessarily was asked in the post-election survey for 'top-up' survey respondents participating only in the post-election survey. Similarly, demographic questions necessarily were asked in the

pre-campaign survey for respondents participating only in the pre-campaign survey. (The variable 'PREPOST' identifies these three groups of respondents. To assist users employing demographic variables in their analyses, we have constructed a set of 25 variables that combine demographic information. These variables are at the end of the data set and their variable names begin with the letter 'z'. For example, the variable ZGOR is region and ZQ90 is marital status. These variables have requisite variable and value labels.

If you have any questions or encounter problems, please email Harold Clarke at clarke475@msn.com

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