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American National Election Study, 2000:  
Pre- and Post-Election Survey

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Nancy Burns, Donald R. Kinder, Steven J. Rosenstone,  
Virginia Sapiro, and the National Election Studies

ICPSR 3131



AMERICAN NATIONAL ELECTION STUDY, 2000:  
PRE- AND POST-ELECTION SURVEY

(ICPSR 3131)

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## DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Nancy Burns, Donald R. Kinder, Steven J. Rosenstone, Virginia Sapiro, and the National Election Studies

AMERICAN NATIONAL ELECTION STUDY, 2000: PRE- AND POST-ELECTION SURVEY (ICPSR 3131)

SUMMARY: This study is part of a time-series collection of national surveys fielded continuously since 1952. 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 2000 National Election Study (NES) entailed both a pre-election interview and a post-election reinterview. A freshly drawn cross-section of the electorate was taken to yield 1,807 cases. Because the study includes a carefully designed mode experiment, the data represent two presidential studies in 2000, side by side. The core study preserves the past commitment to probability area sampling and face-to-face interviewing: 1,000 respondents were interviewed prior to the election and 694 were reinterviewed face-to-face after the election. Supporting the core study, random-digit dial sampling and telephone interviewing were used: 803 respondents were interviewed by phone prior to the election and 862 respondents were interviewed by phone after the election. As such, the experiment examines the differences between the two modes and provides a preview of what shifting to telephone interviewing will mean for the NES time-series. The content of the 2000 election study reflects its dual purpose as a traditional presidential election year time-series data collection and as a mode study. Many of the substantive themes included in the 2000 questionnaires are a continuation of past topics. Interest in politics and the election was examined through questions regarding interest in the political campaigns, concern about the outcome, attentiveness to the media's coverage of the campaign, and information about politics. Respondents' knowledge of candidates and the political parties was ascertained through questions evaluating the presidential candidates and placement of presidential candidates on various issue dimensions, knowledge of the religious background of the major presidential and vice-presidential candidates, partisanship and evaluations of the political parties, and knowledge of and evaluation of United States House and United States Senate candidates. Respondents were also asked about their political participation (in the November general election and in other forms of electoral campaign activity), and their choice for president, the United States House, and the United States Senate, as well as second choice for president. Respondents were also queried about

the Clinton legacy and knowledge of George Bush Sr. and his administration. Additional items focused on respondents' perceptions of personal and national economic well-being, their positions on social welfare issues (including government health insurance, federal budget priorities, and the role of government in the provision of jobs and a good standard of living), campaign finance and preference for divided government, social issues (including gun control, abortion, women's roles, the rights of homosexuals, the death penalty, school vouchers, environmental policy), racial and ethnic stereotypes, affirmative action, attitudes toward immigrants, and views on the nation's most important problem. Respondents' values and political predispositions (including moral traditionalism, political efficacy, egalitarianism, humanitarianism, individualism, and trust in government), views on fairness in elections, satisfaction with democracy, and the value of voting were also assessed. Other questions addressed social altruism, social connectedness, feeling thermometers on a wide range of political figures and political groups, affinity with various social groups, and detailed demographic information and measures of religious affiliation and religiosity. Several new concepts were also addressed in the 2000 study and include measures of social trust derived from perceptions of the trustworthiness of neighbors and coworkers. Voter turnout was also investigated with expanded response categories to help respondents be more accurate in determining whether they did in fact vote in November 2000. The concept of political knowledge was also addressed with new instructions encouraging respondents to take their best guesses when answering the political knowledge questions. The 2000 study also incorporated a social network battery, based entirely on the perceptions of survey respondents regarding the characteristics of their identified discussants. Two brief but reliable measures of cognitive style, the need for cognition and the need to evaluate, were also included in this study. Another important feature of the 2000 NES is the mode experiment, which supplies the ability to compare interviews taken in person with interviews taken over the phone. This carefully designed mode experiment, driven by theoretical and practical interest, allows scholars to test the consequences of survey mode on data quality and reliability. The 2000 study incorporates numerous experiments that examine the effects of mode: 7-point scales and branching, response order, "don't know" filters, and social desirability. Demographic variables include gender, race, employment status, and length of residency in the community.

UNIVERSE: All United States citizens of voting age on or before Election Day (November 6, 2000), residing in housing units other than on military reservations in the 48 coterminous states.



SAMPLING: National multistage area probability sample.

NOTE: (1) The SAS transport file was created using the SAS CPORT procedure. (2) The codebook and data collection instrument are provided as Portable Document Format (PDF) files. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Information on how to obtain a copy of the Acrobat Reader is provided on the ICPSR Web site.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 1 data file (ASCII) + machine-readable documentation (PDF) + SAS data definition statements + SPSS data definition statements + data collection instruments (PDF)

EXTENT OF PROCESSING: CONCHK.PR/MDATA.PR/UNDOCCHK.PR/REFORM.DOC

DATA FORMAT: Logical Record Length with SAS and SPSS data definition statements with SAS transport file and SPSS export file

File Structure: rectangular

Cases: 1,807

Variables: 1,887

Record Length: 3,094

Records Per Case: 1



AMERICAN NATIONAL ELECTION STUDIES:  
2000 PRE- AND POST-ELECTION STUDY

CODEBOOK

Center for Political Studies  
Institute for Social Research  
The University of Michigan



Burns, Nancy, Donald R. Kinder, Steven J. Rosenstone, Virginia Sapiro, and the National Election Studies. NATIONAL ELECTION STUDIES, 2000: PRE-/POST-ELECTION STUDY [dataset]. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan, Center for Political Studies [producer and distributor], 2001.

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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 those of the funding agencies.



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>> 2000 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

AMERICAN NATIONAL ELECTION STUDY, 2000: PRE- AND POST-ELECTION SURVEYS

During the early spring of 2001 the National Election Studies staff prepared a comprehensive version of the 2000 American National Election Study. The number of cases in this file, 1807, includes all respondents from the 2000 Pre- and Post-Election surveys. 1881 variables are produced by default using the data definition files provided with the raw data for creation of SAS and SPSS system files.

The codebook contains documentation for variables beginning with identification variables which provide the NES VERSION NUMBER (version number of the data file), NES DATASET NUMBER (number of this dataset), and ICPSR study number.

>> 2000 STUDY DESCRIPTION FOR THE AMERICAN NATIONAL ELECTION STUDY

The 2000 American National Election Study was conducted by the Center for Political Studies of the Institute for Social Research, under the general direction of Nancy Burns and Donald R. Kinder. Ashley Grosse was the Director of Studies for the National Election Studies and oversaw the study from early planning stages through release of the 2000 data collection. She was assisted by Patricia Luevano, Laurie Pierson, and Chuck Kierpie. This is the twenty-sixth in a series of studies of American national elections produced by the Center for Political Studies and the Survey Research Center, and it is the twelfth traditional time-series study to be conducted under the auspices of National Science Foundation Grants (SBR-9317631, SES-9209410, SES-9009379, SES-8808361, SES-8341310, SES-8207580, SOC77-08885 and SES 9707741) providing long-term support for the National Election Studies. Since 1978, the National Election Studies have been designed by a national Board of Overseers, the members of which meet several times a year to plan content and administration of the major study components. Board members during the planning of the 2000 National Election Study included Larry Bartels, Chair (Princeton University), Nancy Burns, ex officio (University of Michigan), Charles Franklin (University of Wisconsin), John Mark Hansen (University of Chicago), Robert Huckfeldt, (Indiana University), Donald Kinder, ex officio (University of Michigan), Jon A. Krosnick, (Ohio State University), Arthur Lupia (University of California, San Diego), Wendy Rahn (University of Minnesota), Virginia Sapiro (University of Wisconsin), W. Phillips Shively (University of Minnesota), Laura Stoker (University of California, Berkeley). As part of the study planning process, a special planning committee was appointed, a pilot study conducted, and stimulus letters sent to members of the scholarly community soliciting input on study plans. Board member Robert Huckfeldt chaired the Planning Committee for the 2000 National Election Study which included from the Board: Larry Bartels (Princeton University), Nancy Burns (University of Michigan), Charles Franklin, (University of Wisconsin), John Mark Hansen (University of Chicago), Donald Kinder (University of Michigan), Jon A. Krosnick (Ohio State University), Arthur Lupia (University of California, San Diego), Virginia Sapiro (University of Wisconsin), Laura Stoker (University of California, Berkeley), and five other scholars from the community, Steven Ansolabehere (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Janet Box-Steffensmeier (Ohio State University), Clem Brooks (Indiana University), Darren Davis (Michigan State University), and Donald Green (Yale University), and Ashley Grosse (NES Director of Studies).

Two pilot studies were carried out prior to the 2000 Election Study for the purpose of developing new instrumentation and the methodological investigation of concepts previously measured in NES surveys. The 1998 Pilot Study, one of the most innovative pilots to date, was the first pilot to be fielded during an election season. The timing allowed NES to test instrumentation that is exclusively related to the electoral context. The pilot study focused on the three high-profile gubernatorial contests in California, Illinois, and Georgia. Several new measures that were piloted include: media usage; social context and communication; need for evaluation; group mobilization; public mood; tone of campaign; awareness of campaign issues; and whether R owns stock. Also, a significant portion of the interview was devoted to the methodological investigation of concepts previously measured in NES surveys. Among those were: campaign participation; media use; feeling thermometers as measures of awareness; vote intention; and political knowledge.

In March of 2000, NES fielded a Special Topic Pilot Study, funded by the Russell Sage Foundation, to develop and refine a series of new measures on social trust. Additionally, new items were tested in the areas of trust in elections, civic engagement, need for cognition, and social desirability. New measures were developed for domain specific trust involving neighbors and co-

workers. Results indicated that these new measures gauge trust reliably, that neighborhood and workplace trust are related to but distinct from general social trust, and they contribute independently to participation in politics. These items were included in the 2000 Election Study.

Data from the 1998 and 2000 NES pilot studies are available through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (respectively, ICPSR 2693 and ICPSR 2936).

Results from these pilot studies were used by the Planning Committee in formulating recommendations to the Board about study content for the 2000 Pre- and Post-Election Survey. Copies of the Pilot Study Reports are available on the NES Website ([www.umich.edu/~nes](http://www.umich.edu/~nes)), or may be obtained by contacting the NES project staff.

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- 8. DK --> SKIP TO B3
- 9. RF
- 0. NA; Washington D.C.

	1	5	8
Count	526	1277	4

=====

VAR 000344    B2a. #1 recalled name, House cand  
 MD1: EQ 0, MD2: GE 98  
 COLUMNS: 1109 - 1110  
 Numeric

B2a.

IF R SAYS HE/SHE RECALLS NAMES OF CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES:

Do you happen to remember the names of the candidates for Congress -- that is, for the House of Representatives in Washington -- who are running in the November election from this district? Who are they?

1ST RECALLED NAME - CANDIDATE CODE

[PROBE: ANY OTHERS?]

\*\* codes 30,38,39 used only if name appears on candidate list (if name not on candidate list, code 97 is used)

- 30. Third party or independent House candidate --nonincumbent \*\*
- 31. Democratic candidate in open House race
- 32. Republican candidate in open House race
- 33. Democratic House incumbent
- 34. Republican House incumbent
- 35. Democratic House challenger
- 36. Republican House challenger
- 38. Third party or independent House candidate--2nd nonincumbent \*\*
- 39. Third party or independent House candidate--incumbent
- 97. Name not on candidate list for this race
- 98. DK
- 99. RF
- 00. NA; Inap, R says he/she does not recall names; Washington D.C.

	0	31	32	33	34
Count	1281	6	15	104	133
	35	36	97	98	
Count	8	11	234	15	

=====

VAR 000345    B2a1. #1 recall party, House cand  
 MD1: EQ 0, MD2: GE 8  
 COLUMNS: 1111 - 1111  
 Numeric