

# LIST OF DATASETS FOR POLITICAL SCIENTIST

Very Incomprehensive Guide to Online Databases

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The following document lists datasets on several topics. I have tried to compile different datasets that can be useful for political science students. If the links are not working, email me! Also, **Please do not share without permission of the author!**

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## 1 General statistics

- **ICPSR:** <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/>

According to their website: “ICPSR maintains a data archive of more than 250,000 files of research in the social and behavioral sciences. It hosts 21 specialized collections of data in education, aging, criminal justice, substance abuse, terrorism, and other fields”.

- **World Bank:** <https://data.worldbank.org/>

DataBank is an analysis and visualisation tool that contains collections of time series data on a variety of topics.

- **IMF:** <https://www.imf.org/en/Data>

The IMF publishes a range of time series data on IMF lending, exchange rates and other economic and financial indicators. Manuals, guides, and other material on statistical practices at the IMF, in member countries, and of the statistical community at large are also available.

- **United Nations Human Development:** <http://hdr.undp.org/>

- **World Values Survey (WVS):** <http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp>

The survey, which started in 1981, seeks to use the most rigorous, high-quality research designs in each country. The WVS consists of nationally representative surveys conducted in almost 100 countries which contain almost 90 percent of the world’s population, using a common questionnaire.

- **Database for Political Institutions by World Bank:**

<https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/dataset/wps2283-database-political-institutions>

## 2 Measurements of democracy and political regimes

- **xmarquez** compiled a mega GitHub list: <https://xmarquez.github.io/democracyData/>

- **Freedom House:** <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world>

Freedom House’s report is the first and best source available on the state of political and civil rights around the world, equally useful to scholars and practitioners interested in the state of democracy and human freedom.

- **Polity IV:** <http://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html>

The Polity IV dataset covers all major, independent states in the global system over the period 1800-

2017 (i.e., states with a total population of 500,000 or more in the most recent year; currently 167 countries).

- **Democracy-Dictatorship Index:** <https://sites.google.com/site/joseantoniocheibub/datasets/democracy-and-dictatorship-revisited>  
Classification of political regimes as democracy and dictatorship. Classification of democracies as parliamentary, semi-presidential (mixed) and presidential. Classification of dictatorships as military, civilian and royal. Coverage: 202 countries, from 1946 or year of independence to 2008.
- **Svolik's Data (2012):** <https://campuspress.yale.edu/svolik/the-politics-of-authoritarian-rule/>  
From the "Politics of Authoritarian Rule". Contains three different data: Regime Data, Institutions Data, Leader and Ruling Coalition Data.
- **Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem):** <https://www.v-dem.net/en/>  
The V-Dem project distinguishes between five high-level principles of democracy: electoral, liberal, participatory, deliberative, and egalitarian, and collects data to measure these principles.
- **Autocratic Regime Data:** <https://sites.psu.edu/dictators/>  
Project by Geddes, Wright, and Frantz. Similar to Svolik's data, but extensive in terms of year coverage.
- **Authoritarian Regimes Dataset:** <https://sites.google.com/site/authoritarianregimedata/>  
Project by Wahman, Teorell, and Hadenius - comprehensive dataset on authoritarian regimes in the world between 1972-2017.

### 3 War, terrorism, and civil wars

- **Corralates of War (CoW):** <https://correlatesofwar.org/>
- **ECAV:** <https://ecavdata.org/>
- **REVMOD:** <https://www.revolutionarymilitant.org/>
- **FORGE:** <https://www.jessicamaves.com/forged.html>
- **ACLED:** <https://acleddata.com/#/dashboard>
- **MGEP:** <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/FB0R8A>
- **NELDA 5.0:** <https://nelda.co/>

- RGD: <http://www.reykohuang.com/rebel-governance-data.html>
- UCDP: <https://ucdp.uu.se/>

## 4 Elections

- African Elections: <http://africanelections.tripod.com/index.html>
- Psephos Election Archive: <http://psephos.adam-carr.net/>
- PARLINE: <http://archive.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp>
- European elections:  
<https://www.eui.eu/Research/Library/ResearchGuides/Economics/Statistics/DataPortal/EED>
- Rulers, Elections and Irregular Governance (REIGN): <https://oefdatascience.github.io/REIGN.github.io/>
- National Elections Across Democracy and Autocracy (NELDA): <https://nelda.co/>
- Party Facts: <https://partyfacts.herokuapp.com/data/>
- IDEA: <https://www.idea.int/data-tools>
- Global Elections Database: <http://www.globalelectionsdatabase.com/index.php/index>
- Electoral Legacies of War: Political Competition in Postwar Southeast Europe: <https://elwar.uni.lu/>
- Archigos - A Data Base on Leaders 1875 - 2004: <https://www.rochester.edu/college/faculty/hgoemans/data.htm>

## 5 Miscellaneous

- Dollar Street: <https://www.gapminder.org/dollar-street/matrix>
- Our World in Data: <https://ourworldindata.org/>
- Rulers of the world: <http://www.rulers.org/>
- SHELDUS: <https://cemhs.asu.edu/sheldus>

- Chinese National Survey: <https://bit.ly/2PPABg3>
- National Chinese Survey: <https://dss.princeton.edu/catalog/resource2681>
- China Data Lab: <https://chinadatalab.ucsd.edu/resources/>
- Gleditsch's list of independent states: <http://ksgleditsch.com/data-4.html>
- Executive Approval Project: <http://www.executiveapproval.org/>
- Google Books Ngram Viewer: <https://books.google.com/ngrams>
- Global Database of Events, Language, and Tone (GDELT) Project:  
<https://www.gdeltproject.org/data.html>
- Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/film-and-videos>
- Political Handbook of the World:  
<https://sk.sagepub.com/cqpress/series/political-handbook-of-the-world>
- The political settlements dataset: [https://www.effective-states.org/wp-content/uploads/esid\\_wp\\_165\\_schulz\\_kelsall.pdf](https://www.effective-states.org/wp-content/uploads/esid_wp_165_schulz_kelsall.pdf)
- Mass Mobilization Data Project: <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/MMdata>

## 6 Visual and geographical data

- Google Earth's Timelapse: <https://earthengine.google.com/timelapse/>
- NGram: <https://books.google.com/ngrams>