

Description of variables in the democracy dataset

Note: Variables denoted with an asterisk come from Herb (2005). In some cases I also list the original source.

ccode

Correlates of War country code

country

Country name

year

Four-digit year

rent*

Non-tax revenue (mainly mineral and oil exports) as a % of government revenues.

netoil*

Net oil exports as a % of GDP.

income*

Natural log of per capita income.

Source: World Development Indicators 2001.

incomenolog*

Unlogged **income** variable.

demscore*

Freedom House status: combined (rescaled and inverted) political rights and civil liberties score (0 = least free, 12 = most free)

Source: Freedom House, Freedom in the World Comparative Rankings: 1973-2005, <http://www.freedomhouse.org/>.

polity*

Combined (rescaled) polity score (0 = high autocracy, 12 = high democracy)

Source: Monty G. Marshall and Keith Jaggers, Polity IV Project: Political Regime Characteristics and Transitions, 1800-2003, <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/inscr/polity/>.

regionfh*

Average Freedom House democracy score for all other countries in the same region (lagged one year). See Herb (2005) for more details.

regionpolity*

Same as **region** but **polity** scores were used to calculate the averages (lagged one year).

muslim*

Percentage of Muslims in the population.

catholic*

Percentage of Roman Catholics in the population.

protestant*

Percentage of Protestants in the population.

population*

The natural log of population.

Source: World Development Indicators 2001.

elf85d* & elf85g*

Ethno-linguistic fractionalization. **elf85d** errs on the side of identifying more ethnic groups in the population, **elf85g** identifies fewer ethnic groups.

Source: Philip G. Roeder. (2001). Ethnolinguistic Fractionalization (ELF) Indices, 1961 and 1985 (column 9), <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~proeder/elf.htm>.

econfree

Economic freedom (1 = most free, 5 = least free)

Source: 2006 Index of Economic Freedom, <http://www.heritage.org/research/features/index/>.

gdppc

GDP per capita, constant 2000 US\$.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators 2005.

gdpppp

GDP per capita, purchasing power parity (PPP), constant 2000 international \$.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators 2005.

trade

Trade as a % of GDP.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators 2005.

geography

Geographic region: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Northern America, Oceania.

Source: United Nations' World Macro Regions and Components,
<http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/maplib/worldregions.htm>.

Suggested readings

Herb, M. (2005). No Representation without Taxation? Rents, Development and Democracy, *Comparative Politics* 37(3): 297-317.

Przeworski, A., Alvarez, M. E., Cheibub, J. A., & Limongi, F. (2000). *Democracy and development: Political institutions and well-being in the world, 1950-1990*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, ch.1.