

Why Do People Trust their State Government?

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Supplemental appendix

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|----|---|
| 2 | Table A1: Descriptive Statistics |
| 3 | Table A2: Trust in State Government, Alternate Measures of Distance to State Capital |
| 4 | Table A3: Trust in State Government, Moderating Effects of Geographical Closeness |
| 6 | Figure A1: Predicted Levels of Trust in State Government, by Closeness to Capital and Party Control of State Government |
| 7 | Table A4: Trust in State Government with Additional State Legislative Controls |
| 8 | Details of variables in Table A4 |
| 9 | Table A5: Trust in State Government with Controls for State Institutional Approval |
| 10 | Table A6: Trust in State Government with Controls for State Policy Liberalism |
| 11 | References |

Table A1: Descriptive Statistics

| | Mean | Standard deviation | Minimum | Maximum |
|---|------|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Trust in state government | 0.36 | 0.23 | 0 | 1 |
| Own party control of state government | 0.33 | 0.47 | 0 | 1 |
| Opposing party control of state government | 0.28 | 0.45 | 0 | 1 |
| State unemployment rate | 4.23 | 0.62 | 2.1 | 7.2 |
| Lives near the state capital | 0.29 | 0.45 | 0 | 1 |
| Constituency size of state legislative district | 6.36 | 5.53 | 0.25 | 20.85 |
| Respondent ideology | 3.14 | 1.84 | 0 | 6 |
| State expenditures, per capita | 6.91 | 1.65 | 4.20 | 16.83 |
| State partisan diversity | 0.65 | 0.02 | 0.60 | 0.67 |
| State racial and ethnic diversity | 0.58 | 0.16 | 0.14 | 0.84 |
| Trust in national government | 0.28 | 0.21 | 0 | 1 |
| Personal economic situation | 0.50 | 0.24 | 0 | 1 |
| Education | 0.48 | 0.31 | 0 | 1 |
| Female | 0.51 | 0.50 | 0 | 1 |
| Nonwhite | 0.28 | 0.45 | 0 | 1 |

Cooperative Congressional Election Study, 2017. n=1085.

Table A2: Trust in State Government, Alternate Measures of Distance to State Capital

| | Trust in state government | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Own party control of state government | 0.123* | 0.123* | 0.123* | 0.122* | 0.122* |
| | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) |
| Opposing party control of state government | -0.027 | -0.027 | -0.027 | -0.027 | -0.027 |
| | (0.025) | (0.025) | (0.025) | (0.025) | (0.025) |
| State unemployment rate | -0.030* | -0.030* | -0.029* | -0.031* | -0.031* |
| | (0.012) | (0.012) | (0.012) | (0.012) | (0.012) |
| Distance to state capital, in 100s of miles | -0.010 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | (0.010) | | | | |
| Distance to state capital, in quintiles | --- | -0.005 | --- | --- | --- |
| | | (0.005) | | | |
| Logged distance to state capital | --- | --- | -0.005 | --- | --- |
| | | | (0.007) | | |
| Lives within 25 miles of the state capital | --- | --- | --- | -0.005 | --- |
| | | | | (0.023) | |
| Lives within 50 miles of the state capital | --- | --- | --- | --- | 0.001 |
| | | | | | (0.018) |
| Constituency size of state legislative district | -0.003 | -0.003 | -0.003 | -0.004* | -0.003* |
| | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) |
| Respondent ideology | 0.049* | 0.048* | 0.049* | 0.048* | 0.048* |
| | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.017) |
| State expenditures, per capita | 0.019* | 0.019* | 0.019* | 0.019* | 0.019* |
| | (0.007) | (0.007) | (0.007) | (0.008) | (0.008) |
| Ideology × State expenditures | -0.009* | -0.009* | -0.009* | -0.009* | -0.009* |
| | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) |
| State partisan diversity | -1.382* | -1.404* | -1.387* | -1.392* | -1.391* |
| | (0.455) | (0.461) | (0.461) | (0.468) | (0.464) |
| State racial and ethnic diversity | -0.161* | -0.162* | -0.164* | -0.159* | -0.161* |
| | (0.053) | (0.054) | (0.054) | (0.056) | (0.056) |
| Trust in national government | 0.501* | 0.503* | 0.504* | 0.505* | 0.505* |
| | (0.045) | (0.046) | (0.045) | (0.045) | (0.045) |
| Personal economic situation | 0.097* | 0.095* | 0.096* | 0.095* | 0.095* |
| | (0.032) | (0.032) | (0.032) | (0.032) | (0.032) |
| Education | -0.019 | -0.019 | -0.019 | -0.018 | -0.018 |
| | (0.035) | (0.035) | (0.035) | (0.035) | (0.035) |
| Female | 0.020 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.019 |
| | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) |
| Nonwhite | 0.029 | 0.029 | 0.029 | 0.029 | 0.029 |
| | (0.018) | (0.018) | (0.018) | (0.018) | (0.018) |
| Constant | 1.176* | 1.201* | 1.197* | 1.185* | 1.181* |
| | (0.289) | (0.293) | (0.296) | (0.301) | (0.297) |
| <i>Variance components</i> | | | | | |
| Variance, intercept | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.003 |
| | (0.003) | (0.003) | (0.003) | (0.003) | (0.003) |
| Variance, ideology | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Covariance, ideology and intercept | -0.001 | -0.001 | -0.001 | -0.001 | -0.001 |
| | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| N (number of states) | 1085 | 1085 | 1085 | 1085 | 1085 |

2017 CCES. Multilevel regression estimates, standard errors in parentheses. *p<0.05

Table A3: Trust in State Government, Moderating Effects of Geographical Closeness

| | Trust in state government |
|--|---------------------------|
| Lives near the state capital | 0.975 (0.774) |
| Own party control of state government | 0.147* (0.019) |
| Own-party control \times Close to capital | -0.079* (0.032) |
| Opposing party control of state government | -0.024 (0.029) |
| Opposing party control \times Close to capital | -0.051 (0.040) |
| State unemployment rate | -0.018 (0.020) |
| Unemployment \times Close to capital | -0.004 (0.024) |
| Constituency size of state legislative district | -0.001 (0.003) |
| Constituency size \times Close to capital | -0.006 (0.004) |
| Respondent ideology | 0.047* (0.016) |
| Ideology \times Close to capital | -0.010 (0.044) |
| State expenditures, per capita | 0.015 (0.009) |
| State expenditures \times Close to capital | 0.006 (0.024) |
| Ideology \times State expenditures | -0.009* (0.002) |
| Ideology \times State expenditures \times Close to capital | 0.002 (0.006) |
| State partisan diversity | -0.532 (0.792) |
| Partisan diversity \times Close to capital | -1.388 (1.100) |
| State racial and ethnic diversity | -0.131 (0.080) |
| Racial diversity \times Close to capital | -0.056 (0.110) |
| Trust in national government | 0.523* (0.044) |
| Personal economic situation | 0.091* (0.030) |
| Education | -0.018 (0.032) |
| Female | 0.018 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| | (0.015) |
| Nonwhite | 0.028 |
| | (0.016) |
| Constant | 0.559 |
| | (0.510) |
| <i>Variance components</i> | |
| Variance, intercept | 0.003 |
| | (0.001) |
| Variance, close to capital | 0.005* |
| | (0.002) |
| Covariance, close to capital and intercept | -0.004* |
| | (0.002) |
| N (number of states) | 1085 (49) |

2017 CCES. Multilevel regression estimates, standard errors in parentheses.

*p<0.05

Figure A1: Predicted Levels of Trust in State Government, by Closeness to Capital and Party Control of State Government

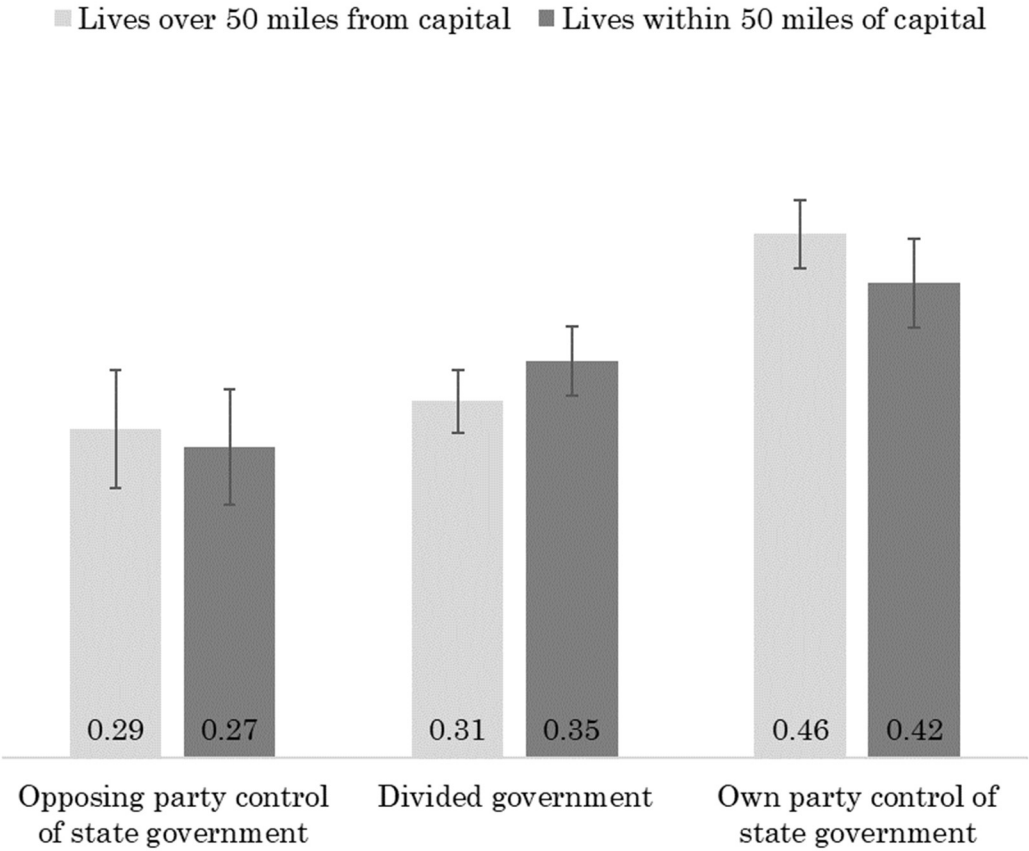


Table A4: Trust in State Government with Additional State Legislative Controls

| | Trust in state government |
|---|---------------------------|
| Own party control of state government | 0.128* (0.016) |
| Opposing party control of state government | -0.026 (0.024) |
| State unemployment rate | -0.041* (0.017) |
| Distance between party medians in state legislature | -0.007 (0.019) |
| State legislative professionalism | 0.124 (0.102) |
| Lives within 50 miles of the state capital | -0.009 (0.018) |
| Constituency size of state legislative district | -0.007* (0.003) |
| Respondent ideology | 0.041* (0.016) |
| State expenditures, per capita | 0.017* (0.007) |
| Ideology × State expenditures | -0.008* (0.002) |
| State partisan diversity | -0.817 (0.629) |
| State racial and ethnic diversity | -0.097 (0.071) |
| Trust in national government | 0.509* (0.046) |
| Personal economic situation | 0.093* (0.033) |
| Education | -0.017 (0.036) |
| Female | 0.015 (0.016) |
| Nonwhite | 0.031 (0.018) |
| Constant | 0.828* (0.404) |
| <i>Variance components</i> | |
| Variance, intercept | 0.003 (0.002) |
| Variance, ideology | 0.000 (0.000) |
| Covariance, ideology and intercept | -0.001 (0.001) |
| N (number of states) | 1049 (45) |

2017 CCES. Multilevel regression estimates, standard errors in parentheses.

*p<0.05

Details on variables in Table A4

- State legislative professionalism is measured using Squire's (2017) corrected state level measure for 2015.
- Party polarization in the state legislature is measured as the average distance between party medians in 2016 as calculated by Shor and McCarty (2011, 2018), averaged across state legislative chambers. The same pattern of null findings are found when substituting in party distance within each legislative chamber.

Table A5: Trust in State Government with Controls for State Institutional Approval

| | Trust in state government |
|---|------------------------------|
| Own party control of state government | 0.073* (0.016) |
| Opposing party control of state government | 0.003 (0.016) |
| State unemployment rate | -0.021* (0.011) |
| Lives within 50 miles of the state capital | -0.001 (0.019) |
| Constituency size of state legislative district | -0.003* (0.001) |
| Respondent ideology | 0.026* (0.012) |
| State expenditures, per capita | 0.013 (0.007) |
| Ideology \times State expenditures | -0.005* (0.002) |
| State partisan diversity | -1.235* (0.419) |
| State racial and ethnic diversity | -0.114* (0.054) |
| Approval of governor | 0.132* (0.029) |
| Approval of state legislature | 0.089* (0.014) |
| Trust in national government | 0.418* (0.040) |
| Personal economic situation | 0.058* (0.025) |
| Education | 0.028 (0.028) |
| Female | 0.009 (0.015) |
| Nonwhite | 0.009 (0.015) |
| Constant | 0.933* (0.282) |
| <i>Variance components</i> | |
| Variance, intercept | 0.001 (0.001) |
| Variance, ideology | 0.000 (0.000) |
| Covariance, ideology and intercept | 0.000 (0.000) |
| N (number of states) | 822 (49) |

2017 CCES. Multilevel regression estimates, standard errors in parentheses. *p<0.05

Table A6: Trust in State Government with Controls for State Policy Liberalism

| | Trust in state government |
|---|---------------------------|
| Own party control of state government | 0.111* (0.017) |
| Opposing party control of state government | -0.030 (0.026) |
| State unemployment rate | -0.032* (0.012) |
| Lives within 50 miles of the state capital | 0.003 (0.018) |
| Constituency size of state legislative district | -0.001 (0.003) |
| Respondent ideology | 0.028 (0.015) |
| State expenditures, per capita | 0.014* (0.006) |
| Ideology × State expenditures | -0.006* (0.002) |
| State policy liberalism | 0.001 (0.004) |
| Ideology × State policy liberalism | -0.002* (0.001) |
| State partisan diversity | -2.206* (0.739) |
| State racial and ethnic diversity | -0.136* (0.051) |
| Trust in national government | 0.503* (0.045) |
| Personal economic situation | 0.096* (0.033) |
| Education | -0.018 (0.035) |
| Female | 0.019 (0.016) |
| Nonwhite | 0.028 (0.019) |
| Constant | 1.726* (0.465) |
| <i>Variance components</i> | |
| Variance, intercept | 0.003 (0.002) |
| Variance, ideology | 0.000 (0.000) |
| Covariance, ideology and intercept | -0.001 (0.001) |
| N (number of states) | 1085 (49) |

2017 CCES. Multilevel regression estimates, standard errors in parentheses.

*p<0.05

References

- Shor, Boris, and Nolan McCarty. 2011. "The Ideological Mapping of American Legislatures." *American Political Science Review* 105: 530-551.
- Shor, Boris, and Nolan McCarty. 2018. "State Legislative Aggregate Ideology Data May 2018 Update." dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/BSLEFD
- Squire, Peeverill. 2017. "A Squire Index Update." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 17(4): 361-371.