

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Introducing the U.S. Partisanship and Presidential Approval Dataset: Rejoinder to Berry, Fording, and Crofoot

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## Abstract

This article concludes an exchange on developing and improving longitudinal estimates of state-level public opinion in the United States by introducing the U.S. Partisanship and Presidential Approval Dataset, which combines more than 1.1 million survey responses from 1948 to 2020 into a single harmonized “mega poll.”

**Keywords:** public opinion; mega poll; data; survey research; methodology; election forecasts

We thank William Berry, Richard Fording, and Justin Crofoot for their ongoing interest in and attention to our efforts to generate direct measures of state policy mood (Enns and Koch 2013; 2015; Lagodny *et al.* 2023). We also appreciate their encouragement to scholars to reflect on our measures as well as those developed by Caughey and Warshaw (2018).

To help researchers continue to understand and develop measures of state public opinion, we have recently archived a harmonized “mega poll” of more than 1.1 million survey responses from 1948 to 2020 and corresponding codebook and documentation with the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research (Enns and Lagodny 2023; Lagodny and Enns 2023). We have used these data to estimate state public opinion in our past research and we hope the data will allow scholars to further evaluate and improve upon our measures of state public opinion and our previous election analyses and forecasts (Enns and Lagodny 2021; Enns, Lagodny, and Schuldt 2017). In addition to making the data available, the documentation highlights shifting

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demographic and political patterns in the U.S. as well as increasing variance across surveys for several demographic categories. We have also included instructions in the documentation for how scholars can contribute additional data to this mega poll and receive citation for their efforts. We look forward to utilizing and citing research that builds upon and improves on our past work.

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