

Annotated Conceptual Outline of 1995 Political Culture Study

Democratic Values

Var290r Is Democracy Rules to Elect Leaders or Way To Improve One's Life

Var300r Are at least two strong competitive parties important to democracy? (not important)

Var310r Are regular elections important for democracy? (not important)

Var320r Is Complete Freedom To Criticize Govt Important for Democracy? (not important)

Var 360r Is Minority Rights Important To Democracy? (not important)

300r .61

310r .76

320r .67

Saved as fprocdem

Eigenvalue = 1.40

47% of common variance explained

Kronbach's Alpha = .72

Note: minority rights loads at .32 on a four item scale that explains 37.8% of variance and Alpha of .68.

Var330r Is Equal Access to Houses, Jobs and Decent Income Important for Democracy? (not important)

Var340r Is Majority Rule Important for Democracy (not important)

Var350r Is A Small Gap Between Rich and Poor Important for Democracy (not important)

Saved as flibdem

330r .57

340r .55

350r .66

Eigenvalue = 1.06

35% of common variance explained

Kronbach's Alpha = .60

Economic Evaluations

Var210r National Economic Conditions Over Past Year (Much Worse)

Var220r Community Economic Conditions Over Past Year (Much Worse)

Var230r Overall National Conditions Over Past Year (Much Worse)

Var1370r Conditions of Identity Group Over Past Year (Much Worse)

Var280r Expectations National Economic Conditions For Next Year (Much Worse)

Saved as fecoeval

210r . .90

220r .78

230r .89

280r .63

1370r .56

Eigenvalue 2.90

58.5% of common variance explained

Kronbach's Alpha = .87

Institutional Evaluations

Var240r Presidential Approval (disapprove)

Var250r GNU Approval (disapprove)

Var260r Parliamentary Approval (disapprove)

Var270r Provincial Government Approval (disapprove)

Var570r Approval of Government Performance On Most Important Problems (poor)

Saved as finstperf

240r .71

250r .93

260r .89

270r .49

Eigenvalue = 2.41

60.4% of common variance explained

Kronbach's Alpha = .83

Note: 570r loads on a five item factor at .42 that explains 57% variance and reliability = .80. If 270 dropped, reliability increases to .88 and variance explained to 72.4%.

Government Officials Evaluations

Var1070r Are MPs Helpful

Var1080r Do MPs Do A Good Job Keeping In Touch?

Var1090r Are Elected Officials Honest

Var1110r Do Officials Help Themselves or Help the People?

Var1120r Extent Of Official Corruption

Var1130r Is Govt More Corrupt Than In Past?

Var1230r Are MP Salaries Too High?

Saved as foffint

1070r .74

1080r .76

1090r .77

1110r .72

1120r .57
1130r .53
1230r .42

Eigenvalue = 3.00
42.9% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .80

External Efficacy/Responsiveness

Var1020r Natl Parl Has Good Idea What I Think (good idea)
Var1030r Prov Parl Has Good Idea What I Think (good idea)
Var1040r Old Town Councils Had Good Idea What I Think (good idea)
Var1050r New Town Councils Will Have Good Idea What I Think (good idea)
Var1410r GNU Represents People Like Me (agree)
Var460r Have You Had Any Contact With AN MP In the Past Year

Saved as frespons

1020r .83
1030r .93
1040r .59
1050r .69

Eigenvalue = 2.37
59.4% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .85

Note: GNU rep loads at .28 on a five item factor that explains 48.9% of variance.

Efficacy of Elections

Var470r Voting Improves Things (improve)
Var480r Whose In Power Is Important (important)
Var640r Voting For Local Councils Is Important (important)
Var650r Local Election Will Make Things Better (better)

Saved as fvoteeff

470r .57
640r .69
650r .70

Eigenvalue = 1.30
43% of common variance explained
Alpha's Kronbach = .68

Note: 480r only loads at .19 on four item scale and brings variance explained down to 33% and reliability to .61.

Internal Efficacy

Var980r Able to Influence Natl Parl (can influence)
Var990r Able to Influence Prov Parl (can influence)
Var1000r Able to Influence Old Town Councils (can influence)
Var1010r Able to Influence New Town Council (can influence)

Saved as finteff

980r .87
990r .90
1010r .72

Eigenvalue = 2.09
69.5% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .87

Note: Old councils load at .58 on a four item factor which explains 61% of variance and reliability of .85

Competence

Var950r Can Understand Natl Govt (understandable)
Var960r Can Understand Prov Govt (understandable)
Var970r Can Understand Local Govt (understandable)

950r .77
960r .94
970r .73

saved as fcitcomp

Eigenvalue = 2.00
67% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .85

Political Interest

Var140r Frequency of Political Discussion (never) RECODE
Var150r Interest In Political Campaigns (not much) RECODE
Var160r Interest In Politics (hardly at all) RECODE
Var200r People Ask My Opinions About Politics (never) RECODE

Saved as fpolint

140r .74
150r .79
160r .81
200r .69

Eigenvalue = 2.30
57.4% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .83

Media Usage

Var170r Get News About Politics From Television (never) RECODE
Var180r Get News About Politics From Radio (never) RECODE
Var190r Get News About Politics From Newspapers (never) RECODE

Saved as

170r .63
180r .34
190r .83

Saved as fmedexpo

Eigenvalue = 1.20
40% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .61

Note: Reliability increases to .68 if we exclude radio, but we kept it because it is conceptually key to news in rural areas.

Commitment to Democracy

Var490r When Democracy Does Not Work

Satisfaction With Democracy

Var370r Satisfaction With Democracy

Trust In Government

Var910r Trust National Government (never)
Var920r Trust Provincial Government (never)

Var930r Trust Old Town Councils (never)
Var940r Trust New Town Councils (never)

Saved as ftrust

910r .81
920r .74
940r .78

Eigenvalue = 1.80
60.5% of common variance explained
Kronbach's Alpha = .82

Var1060 Which Level of Govt Has Greatest Impact On Your Life (Categorical)

Partisanship

Var430 Strength of Party Identification
421r? Party ID

Demographics

Var110 Race
Var1860 Race
Var1830 Language