Comparative Study of Electoral Systems Macro-Level Data

MEXICO

Part I: Data Pertinent to the Election at which the Module was Administered

1. Variable number/name in the data set that identifies the primary electoral district for each respondent.

2. Names and party affiliation of secretaries of State (cabinet ministers) serving at the time of the dissolution of the most recent government.

Name of Cabinet Member	Name of the Office Held	Political Party
Jesús Reyes Heroles	Secretary of Energy	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Emilio Chuayfett Chemor	Secretary of Interior	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Guillermo Ortíz Martínez	Secretary of Finance	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Arsenio Farell Cubillas	Secretary of Administrative Control	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Enríque Cervantes Aguirre	Secretary of Defence	Unknown
Arturo Warman Gryi	Secretary of Agrarian Reform	Independent
José Ramón Lorenzo Franco	Secretary of the Navy	Unknown
Julia Carabias Lillo	Secretary of Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries	Independent
José Angel Gurría Treviño	Secretary of International Relations	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Javier Bonilla García	Secretary of Labor and Social Security	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Miguel Limón Rojas	Secretary of Education	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Carlos Rojas Gutiérrez	Secretary of Social Policy	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Herminio Alonso Blanco Mendoza	Secretary Trade and Industry	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Juan Ramón de la Fuente	Secretary of Health	Institutional Revolutionary Party
Jorge Madrazo Cuellar	Attorney General	Independent
Francisco Labastida Ochoa	Secretary of Agriculture	Institutional Revolutionary Party

Note: In Mexico members of the presidential cabinet are designated Secretarios de Estado (Secretary of State).

3. Political Parties (active during the election at which the module was administered)

Name of Political Party	Year Founded	Ideological Family Party is Closest to	International Organization Party Belongs to (if any)
Institutional Revolutionary Party	1929[1]	National Parties/Social Democratic Parties	Socialist International[2]
National Action Party	1939	Right Liberal Parties	-Christian Democratic International - Liberal International
Democratic Revolution Party	1989	Social Democratic Parties	Socialist International[3]
Labor Party	1990	Social Democratic Parties	Socialist International[3]
Mexican Green Ecological Party	1990	Ecology Parties	American Green Parties Federation

[1]The PRI was founded in 1929 under the name of National Revolutionary Party (PNR). It adopted its current denomination in 1946.
[2] Observer status.
[3] Full membership

4. (a) Parties position in left-right scale (in the expert judgement of the CSES Collaborator):

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Party Name      LEFT                                                      RIGHT
1.PRI           0       1       2       3       4       X       6       7       8       9       10
2.PAN           0       1       2       3       4       5       6       X       8       9       10
3.PRD           0       1       2       X       4       5       6       7       8       9       10
4.PT            0       1       X       3       4       5       6       7       8       9       10
5.PVEM          0       1       2       3       4       5       X       7       8       9       10
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4. (b) If you have asked respondents to rank political parties on a dimension other than the left-right dimension, please also provide your own rankings on this other dimension.

    Name of dimension: _____
        Label for left position: _____
        Label for right position: _____

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Party Name          LEFT                    RIGHT
1.                  0   1   2   3   4   5 6   7   8   9   10
2.                  0   1   2   3   4   5 6   7   8   9   10
3.                  0   1   2   3   4   5 6   7   8   9   10
4.                  0   1   2   3   4   5 6   7   8   9   10
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5. In your view, what are the five most salient factors that affected the outcome of the election (e.g. major scandals; economic events; the presence of an independent actor; specific issues)?

1. **1995 economic crisis.**
2. **First elections for Mexico City mayor**
3. **Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, a former presidential candidate and leader of the PRD ran for the Mexico City mayorality**

6. Electoral Alliances

a) Were electoral alliances permitted during the election campaign?
  Yes __**X**__   No ____
b) (If yes) Did any electoral alliances form?
  Yes ____   No __**X**__
c) (If yes to b) List the party alliances that formed:

7. (If a presidential election was held concurrently with the legislative elections) List presidential candidates

8. If the national team plans to collect aggregate election returns (or constituency-level returns) please
  include these returns with the study materials provided when the data are archived.

   Part II: Data on Electoral Institutions

I. QUESTIONS ABOUT ELECTORAL DISTRICTS.

1) How many segments (as just defined) are there in the electoral system?
    1 segment: **Single-Member districts (*distritos uninominales*)**
    2 segments: **Multi-Member districts (*circunscripciones plurinominales*)**

For the first segment, please answer the following questions (questions 2 through 11):

2) How many primary electoral districts are there? **300**

3) For each primary electoral district, how many members are elected from in that district?: **One**

4) How many secondary electoral districts are there? **5**

5) How many tertiary electoral districts are there? **None**

II. QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING.

6) Exactly how are votes cast by voters? **Voters are provided with a single ballot in elections for federal deputies. They vote by marking the box which contains the logo of the party and name of its candidate for deputy of the specific single-member district in which the voter is registered. The lists of 40 candidates that each party presents for the multimember district (*circunscripcion*) is provided in the voting station.**

   6a) How many votes do they or can they cast? **One**

6b) Do they vote for candidates, for lists, or for both? **Both**
(Explain) **The vote cast for the party's candidate to the single-member district also counts for the allocation of the 40 seats disputed in the larger multimember district (*circunscripcion*). Voters are not allowed to split their vote. In fact, the same vote is subject to a double counting that produces two-seat relevant vote totals. The first, vote total determines who wins the plurality in the single-member district. The second serves to allocate seats in the *circunscripcion*.**

7) Are the votes transferable? **No**

8) If more than one vote can be cast, can they be cumulated? **No**

9) Are there any other features of voting that should be noted? **No**

III. QUESTIONS ABOUT CONVERTING VOTES INTO SEATS.

10) Exactly how are votes converted into seats?
The 300 single-member districts elect deputies by plurality or first-past-the-post system. The five multimember districts or *circunscripciones* elect 40 members each through proportional representation. *Circuncripciones* and single-member districts are geographically overlapping. Each *circunscripcion* encompasses a similar number of districts. To allocate multimember seats the vote cast in single-member districts is added up to calculate new totals at the *circunscripcion* level. Two systems are employed to accord seats to political parties. Firstly, a quotient is calculated by dividing the total number of votes in the *circunscripcion* between 40. The quotient represent the number of votes a party must gather in order to gain one multimember seat in the *circunscripcion*. Secondly, once parties have been granted seats according to the quotient system, if there are any seats left they will be apportioned to the parties that have the largest remaining vote. The remaining vote is a portion of the quotient that is left after dividing the party's vote cast by the quotient.

       Parties that did not pass the electoral threshold (two percent of the national vote) are excluded from the calculations at *circunscripcion* level. This means that vote totals at the *circunscripcion* level are re-calculated without taking these parties into account. Also, the Constitution provides that the majority party's percentage of seats in the Chamber of Deputies can not exceed by more than eight percentage points its share of the national vote cast. This works in practice as a limit to the total number of proportional representation seats that the majority party can attain.

- **For those interested in Mexican legislative politics and electoral laws, check the working papers annexed:**
- **Benito Nacif. 1997. *Legislative parties in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies*. México: CIDE Working Papers.**
- **Maŕa Amparo Casar. 1998. *Executive-Legislative Relations: The Case of Mexico*. México: CIDE Working Papers.**

   10a) Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats? _**Yes**____ If so, what is the threshold? **2%**
   10b) What electoral formula or formulas are used?

1) The quotient system
2) The largest remaining vote

11) If there are lists, are they closed, open, or flexible?
closed   __**X**__
flexible, but in practice virtually closed   ____
____

IV. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF ELECTORAL ALLIANCE.

11) What are the possibilities of alliance in the system? .-
Political parties can form alliances in all Federal elections. The three possibilities are:
1. **Two or more parties can nominate the same presidential candidate only if they also agree on a single slate of legislative candidates (in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Senate, both single-member and multi-member districts candidates).**
2. **Two or more parties can produce a single list of candidates for the 200 proportional representation seats in the Chamber of Deputies and the 32 proportional seats in the Senate (5 regional multi-member districts in the case of the Chamber of Deputies and one national multi-member district in the case of the Senate), only if they agree on the same slate of candidates for the 300 simple majority deputies and the 32 three-member federal districts for the Senate.**
3. **Two or more parties can form a partial alliance to nominate candidates running for the Chamber of Deputies in single-member districts if the number of common candidates postulated is between 33 and 100, otherwise the parties must commit to a total alliance. In the case of the Senate, two or more parties can form a partial alliance to nominate candidates of simple majority if the number of common candidates postulated is between 6 and 20, otherwise the parties involved must commit to a total alliance including all the legislative formulas.**

12a) Can parties run joint lists? **Yes**

12b) Is there apparentement or linking of lists? **No**
12c) Can candidates run with the endorsement of more than one party? **Yes**

12d) Do parties withdraw their lists or candidates in some constituencies, urging their supporters there to vote for an ally s list or candidate? **No**

12e) Other?

13) If joint lists are possible, are they subject to different regulations than single-party lists? For example, higher thresholds, different numbers of candidates that may appear on the list, etc..-
No

14) If apparentement is possible, what lists can participate in such agreements
lists of the same party in the same constituency?   _____
lists of the same party from different constituencies? _____
lists of different parties in the same constituency?   _____

15) If candidates can run with the endorsement of more than one party, is this reflected on the ballot?

    Yes, candidate s name appears once, together with the names of all supporting parties ___**X**__

    Part III: Data on Regime Type

I.) Questions regarding the Head of State.

1) Who is the Head of State?
__**X**___ President
_____ Monarch
_____ Prime Minister serves as ceremonial head of state
_____ Other (please specify) _____

2) How is the head of state selected?
__**X**__ Direct election
____ Indirect election
____ Birth right
____ Divine right
____ Other (Explain) _____

a) If by direct election, by what process?
__**X**__ Plurality election
____ Run-off or two-ballot system
____ Other (Explain) _____

(i) If by run-off system, what is the

Threshold for first-round victory?   ____
Threshold to advance to second round? ____
Threshold for victory in second round? ____

b) If by indirect election, by what process?
____ Electoral college
____ Selection by the legislature
____ Other (Explain) _____

        (i) If by electoral college,

        How are electors chosen?
        Does the electoral college deliberate? ____ Yes ____ No
        What is the voting procedure used by the electoral college?

        (ii) If by the legislature,

By which chamber(s) of the legislature?
What is the voting procedure used?

3) If there is a Head of State, does the Head of State have the following powers? [Check all that apply.]

a) Introduce legislation? __**X**__Yes ____No

b) Require expedited action on specific legislation? ____Yes _**X**__No
   If yes, what is the default if the legislature takes no action?

c) Package veto? __**X**__Yes ____ No

If yes, what is the requirement to override the veto? **Two third majorities in both, the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.**

d) Partial veto? ____Yes__**X**__No
Note: The Constitution says that the president can make general observations on the whole or just part of the legislation approved by the Congress or on specific parts of it. Some authors interpret this as granting the president with a partial veto. However, the Constitution does not explicitly authorise the president to approve only the part of the legislation of and return to the Congress the parts he rejects.

If yes, what is the requirement to override the partial veto?

e) Legislate by decree? ____Yes __**X**__No

If yes, does this require that the legislature must first specifically delegate decree authority to the head of state by statute? ____Yes ____No

If yes, are there restrictions on the policy areas in which the head of state can legislate by decree? ____Yes ____ No

If yes, are there other restrictions on the head of state s authority to legislate by decree? ____Yes ____No

f) Emergency powers? __**X**__ Yes ____ No

If yes, what actions can the head of state take under emergency authority?
If yes, under what conditions can the head of state invoke emergency authority?
If yes, what restrictions are there on the head of state s authority to invoke and exercise emergency authority?

According to the article 29 of the Mexican Constitution, in the cases of invasion, grave perturbation of the public order, or crisis that puts the society in grave danger or conflict, only the President of the United States of Mexico, in agreement with Members of the Cabinet and with the approval of the Congress, or Permanent Commission of the Congress (if the Congress is in recess), can suspend, for a limited period of time, either in

the entire country, or in an specific zone, the constitutional rights of citizens hampering the resolution of the problem.

g) Negotiate treaties and international agreements?
__**X**__Yes ____No

If yes, what other requirements are there for approval of treaties and international agreements negotiated by the head of state?
In the case of international agreements and treaties the approval of the Senate is required.

h) Commander of the armed forces? ___**X**__Yes ____No

If yes, does the head of state control promotions of high-ranking officers?
__**X**__Yes ____No **(with the approval of the Congress)**

If yes, can the head of state dismiss or demote high-ranking officers?
__**X**__Yes ____ No **(with the approval of the Congress)**

If yes, can the head of state mobilize and demobilize troops?
__**X**__Yes ____No **(with the approval of the Congress)**

j) Introduce referenda? ____Yes __**X**__No

If yes, under what conditions?

k) Refer legislation to the judicial branch for review of constitutionality?
__**X**__Yes ____No

m) Convene special legislative sessions? ____Yes __**X**__No

If yes, is this the head of state s power exclusively, or can any other (s) do this
as well? ____Yes, other power ____ No other powers
(If yes, explain):

II.) Questions about the Head of Government.

1) Who is the Head of Government?

___**X**__ President
_____ Prime Minister (or equivalent)
_____ Other (please specify) _____

2) If the Head of Government is a prime minister, how is the prime minister selected?

____ Appointed by the head of state alone
____ Appointed by the legislature alone
____ Nominated by the head of state, and approved by the legislature
____ Nominated by the legislature, and approved by the head of state

_____ Other (Explain):

3)   If there is a prime minister, what authorities does the prime minister have over the composition
    of the cabinet? [Check all that apply.]

        _____ Names ministers and assigns portfolios alone
        _____ Nominates ministers for approval by the president
        _____ Reviews and approves ministerial nominations made by the president
        _____ Dismisses ministers and reassigns portfolios at own discretion
        _____ Other (Explain):

4)   If there is a prime minister, what authorities does the prime minister have over the policy making
    process? [Check all that apply.]

        _____ Chairs cabinet meetings
        _____ Determines schedule of issues to be considered by the legislature
        _____ Determines which alternatives will be voted on by the legislature, and in which order
        _____ Refers legislative proposals to party or legislative committees
        _____ Calls votes of confidence in government
        _____ Other (Explain)

III.) By what method(s) can cabinet members, or the entire cabinet, be dismissed?
    [Check all that apply.]

        _____ By the head of state alone
        _____ By the prime minister alone
        _____ By majority vote of the legislature where a majority of all legislators is required
        _____ By majority vote of the legislature where a majority of those legislators voting is required
        _____ By some combination of the above, acting in concert (Explain)
        _____ Other (Explain)

IV.) Can the legislature be dissolved prior to regularly scheduled elections? _____Yes _____No

    1) If yes, by what method?

        _____ By the head of state alone
        _____ By the prime minister alone
        _____ By majority vote of the legislature
        _____ By some combination of the above, acting in concert (Explain) _____
        _____
        _____ Other (Explain)   _____

    2) If yes, are there restrictions on when and how the legislature can be dissolved?
        [Check all that apply.]