Package ‘fec16’

August 25, 2020

Title  Data Package for the 2016 United States Federal Elections
Version  0.1.1
Maintainer  Marium Tapal <mariumtapal@gmail.com>
Description  Easily analyze relational data from the United States 2016 federal election cycle as reported by the Federal Election Commission. This package contains data about candidates, committees, and a variety of different financial expenditures. Data is from <https://www.fec.gov/data/browse-data/?tab=bulk-data>.
License  CC0
Depends  R (>= 3.5.0), dplyr, readr
Suggests  testthat (>= 2.1.0), scales, knitr, rmarkdown, fs, lubridate, vroom, ggplot2, stringr, usethis, utf8
Encoding  UTF-8
LazyData  true
URL  https://github.com/baumer-lab/fec16
BugReports  https://github.com/baumer-lab/fec16/issues
RoxygenNote  7.1.1
VignetteBuilder  knitr
NeedsCompilation  no
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Repository  CRAN
Date/Publication  2020-08-24 22:20:03 UTC

R topics documented:

campaigns ................................................................. 2
candidates ............................................................... 3
campaigns

Index

campaigns

Description
Summary financial information for each campaign.

Usage
campaigns

Format
A data frame with 1898 rows and 25 columns, providing financial information for each House/Senate campaign:

cand_id A code assigned to a candidate by the FEC
cand_name Candidate name
cand_ici Incumbent challenger status with designation: C = Challenger, I = Incumbent, O = Open Seat
pty_cd Party code
cand_pty_affiliation The political party affiliation reported by the candidate
ttl_receipts Total receipts
trans_from_auth Transfers from authorized committees
ttl_disb Total disbursements
trans_to_auth Transfers to authorized committees
coh_bop Beginning cash
coh_cop Ending cash
cand_contrib Contributions from candidate
cand_loans Loans from candidate
candidates

| other_loans | Other loans |
| cand_loan_repay | Candidate loan repayments |
| other_loan_repay | Other loan repayments |
| debts_owed_by | Debts owed by |
| ttl_indiv_contrib | Total individual contribution |
| cand_office_st | Candidate’s state |
| cand_office_district | Candidate’s district |
| other_pol_cmte_contrib | Contributions from other political committees |
| pol_pty_contrib | Contributions from party committees |
| cvg_end_dt | Coverage end date (YYYY-MM-DD) |
| indiv_refunds | Refunds to individuals |
| cmte_refunds | Refunds to committees |

Source


| candidates | Candidates Master metadata |

Description

Basic information for each candidate.

Usage

candidates

Format

A data frame with 4648 rows and 15 columns, providing information for each candidate:

cand_id | A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a candidate by the FEC, which remains the same across election cycles if running for the same office |
cand_name | Candidate name |
cand_pty_affiliation | The political party affiliation reported by the candidate |
cand_election_yr | Candidate’s Election Year |
cand_office_st | Candidate’s state |
cand_office | Candidate office with designation: H = House, P = President, S = Senate |
cand_office_district | Congressional district number: Congressional at-large 00, Senate 00, Presidential 00 |
cand_ici | Incumbent challenger status with designation: C = Challenger, I = Incumbent, O = Open Seat |
committees

**cand_status** Candidate status with designation: C = Statutory candidate, F = Statutory candidate for future election, N = Not yet a statutory candidate, P = Statutory candidate in prior cycle

**cand_pcc** ID of the candidate’s principal campaign committee assigned by FEC

**cand_st1** Candidate’s Mailing address - street 1

**cand_st2** Candidate’s Mailing address - street 2

**cand_city** Candidate’s Mailing address - city

**cand_st** Candidate’s Mailing address - state

**cand_zip** Candidate’s Mailing address - ZIP code

Source


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**committees** Committees metadata

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**Description**

Provides data pertaining to each committee registered with the Federal Election Commission.

**Usage**

committees

**Format**

A data frame with 17654 rows and 15 columns with information about FEC committees.

**cmte_id** A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission

**cmte_nm** Name of the committee

**tres_nm** The officially registered treasurer for the committee

**cmte_st1** Street 1

**cmte_st2** Street 2

**cmte_city** City

**cmte_st** State

**cmte_zip** ZIP Code

**cmte_dsgn** A = Authorized by a candidate

B = Lobbyist/Registrant PAC

D = Leadership PAC

J = Joint fundraiser

P = Principal campaign committee of a candidate

U = Unauthorized
contributions

commit_type  Committee Type, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/committee-type-code-descriptions/
committee_party  Committee Party, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/party-code-descriptions/
committee_filing_freq  Filing frequency: A = Administratively terminated,
D = Debt
M = Monthly filer
Q = Quarterly filer
T = Terminated
W = Waived
organization_type  Interest group category:
C = Corporation
L = Labor organization
M = Membership organization
T = Trade association
V = Cooperative
W = Corporation without capital stock
connected_organization_name  Connected organization’s name
candidate_id  Candidate identification: When a committee has a committee type designation of H, S, or P, the candidate’s identification number will be entered in this field.

Source
https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/committee-master-file-description/, updated 2020-03-02

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>contributions</th>
<th>Committee contributions metadata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description
Provides data pertaining to each candidate and their contributions from committees during the 2016 general election.

Usage
contributions

Format
A data frame with 1000 rows and 15 columns with information about candidate committee contributions.

cmte_id  A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission
amndt_ind  Amendment indicator: Indicates if the report being filed is new (N), an amendment (A) to a previous report or a termination (T) report

rpt_tp  Indicates the type of report filed, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/report-type-code-descriptions/

transaction_pgi  This code indicates the election for which the contribution was made. EYYYY (election Primary, General, Other plus election year)

transaction_tp  Transaction types, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/transaction-type-code-descriptions/

entity_tp  Entity Type:
- CAN = Candidate
- CCM = Candidate Committee
- COM = Committee
- IND = Individual (a person)
- ORG = Organization (not a committee and not a person)
- PAC = Political Action Committee
- PTY = Party Organization

name  Contributor/lender/transfer Name

city  City

state  State

zip_code  ZIP Code

transaction_dt  Transaction date (YYYY-MM-DD)

transaction_amt  Transaction Amount

other_id  For contributions from individuals this column is null. For contributions from candidates or other committees this column will contain that contributor’s FEC ID

cand_id  A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a candidate by the FEC, which remains the same across election cycles if running for the same office

tran_id  Only for Electronic Filings. A unique identifier associated with each itemization or transaction appearing in an FEC electronic file. A transaction ID is unique for a specific committee for a specific report.

Source

Description

Operating expenditure information for a simple random sample of 1000 entries

Usage

expenditures

Format

A data frame with 1000 rows and 20 columns:

- **cmte_id** A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission
- **amndt_ind** Amendment indicator: Indicates if the report being filed is new (N), an amendment (A) to a previous report or a termination (T) report
- **rpt_yr** Report year
- **rpt_tp** Indicates the type of report filed, listed here: [https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/report-type-code-descriptions/](https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/report-type-code-descriptions/)
- **line_num** Indicates FEC form line number
- **form_tp_cd** Indicates FEC form type
- **sched_tp_cd** Schedule type: Schedule B - Itemized disbursements
- **name** Contributor/lender/Transfer Name
- **city** City
- **state** State
- **zip_code** ZIP Code
- **transaction_dt** Transaction date (YYYY-MM-DD)
- **transaction_amt** Transaction Amount
- **transaction_pgi** Primary general indicator
- **purpose** Purpose
- **category** Disbursement category code: 001-012 and 101-107
- **entity_tp** Entity Type:
  - CAN = Candidate
  - CCM = Candidate Committee
  - COM = Committee
  - IND = Individual (a person)
  - ORG = Organization (not a committee and not a person)
  - PAC = Political Action Committee
  - PTY = Party Organization
**tran_id** Only for Electronic Filings. A unique identifier associated with each itemization or transaction appearing in an FEC electronic file. A transaction ID is unique for a specific committee for a specific report.

**back_ref_tran_id** Back reference transaction ID: Used to associate one transaction with another transaction in the same report (using file number, transaction ID and back reference transaction ID). For example, a credit card payment and the sub-itemization of specific purchases. The back reference transaction ID of the specific purchases will equal the transaction ID of the payment to the credit card company.

**Source**

https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/operating-expenditures-file-description/, updated 2020-03-02

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**Description**

The fec16 package provides the following 9 datasets from the Federal Election Commission's 2015-2016 election cycle:

**Datasets**

- Candidates: candidates
- Committees: committees
- House Results: results_house
- Senate Results: results_senate
- Presidential Results: results_president
- Individual Contributions: individuals
- Committee Contributions: contributions
- House/Senate Current Campaigns: campaigns
- Operating Expenditures: expenditures
- Transactions From One Committee To Another: transactions
- Political Action Committee (PAC) and Party Summary Financial Information: pac

The entire candidates, committees, campaigns, results_house, results_senate, results_president, and pac datasets and samples containing 1000 entries of the other datasets are available directly in the package. For the datasets containing samples, full versions can be retrieved via the following functions:

- Individual Contributions: read_all_individuals
- Committee Contributions: read_all_contributions
- Operating Expenditures: read_all_expenditures
- Transactions From One Committee To Another: read_all_transactions
**Authors**

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- Irene Ryan: https://github.com/ireneryan
- Rana Gahwagy: https://github.com/ranawg
- Ben Baumer: https://github.com/beanumber

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**individuals**

**Individual Contributions Master metadata**

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**Description**

Information for a simple random sample of transactions from individuals to candidates/committees.

**Usage**

individuals

**Format**

A data frame with 1000 rows and 16 columns providing information for each transaction:

- **cmte_id** A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission
- **amndt_ind** Amendment indicator: Indicates if the report being filed is new (N), an amendment (A) to a previous report or a termination (T) report
- **rpt_tp** Indicates the type of report filed, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/report-type-code-descriptions/
- **transaction_pgi** This code indicates the election for which the contribution was made. EYYY (election Primary, General, Other plus election year)
- **transaction_tp** Transaction types, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/transaction-type-code-descriptions/
- **entity_tp** Entity Type:
  - CAN = Candidate
  - CCM = Candidate Committee
  - COM = Committee
  - IND = Individual (a person)
  - ORG = Organization (not a committee and not a person)
  - PAC = Political Action Committee
  - PTY = Party Organization
- **name** Contributor/lender/Transfer Name
- **city** City
- **state** State
**Description**

PAC and party summary financial information

**Usage**

pac

**Format**

A data frame with 12049 rows and 27 columns:

- **cmte_id** A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission
- **cmte_nm** Name of the committee
- **cmte_tp** Committee Type, listed here: https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/committee-type-code-descriptions/
- **cmte_dsgn** A = Authorized by a candidate
  B = Lobbyist/Registrant PAC
  D = Leadership PAC
  J = Joint fundraiser
  P = Principal campaign committee of a candidate
  U = Unauthorized

Some of the columns with descriptions:

- **zip_code** ZIP Code
- **employer** Employer
- **occupation** Occupation
- **transaction_dt** Transaction date (YYYY-MM-DD)
- **transaction_amt** Transaction Amount
- **other_id** For contributions from individuals this column is null. For contributions from candidates or other committees this column will contain that contributor’s FEC ID.
- **tran_id** Only for Electronic Filings. A unique identifier associated with each itemization or transaction appearing in an FEC electronic file. A transaction ID is unique for a specific committee for a specific report.

**Source**

https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/contributions-individuals-file-description/, updated 2020-03-02
cmte_filing_freq  Filing frequency: A = Administratively terminated,
D = Debt
M = Monthly filer
Q = Quarterly filer
T = Terminated
W = Waived

ttl_receipts  Total receipts
trans_from_aff  Transfers from affiliates
indv_contrib  Contributions from individuals
other_pol_cmte_contrib  Contributions from other political committees
cand_contrib  Contributions from candidate
cand_loans  Candidate loans
ttl_loans_received  Total loans received
ttl_disb  Total disbursements
transf_to_aff  Transfers to affiliates
indv_refunds  Refunds to individuals
other_pol_cmte_refunds  Refunds to other political committees
cand_loan_repay  Candidate loan repayments
loan_repay  Loan repayments
coh_bop  Cash beginning of period
coh_cop  Cash close of period
debts_owed_by  Debts owed by
nonfed_trans_received  Non-federal transfers received
contrib_to_other_cmte  Contributions to other committees
ind_exp  Independent expenditures
pty_coord_exp  Party coordinated expenditures
nonfed_share_exp  Non-federal share expenditures
cvg_end_dt  Coverage end date (YYYY-MM-DD)

Source
read_all_contributions

Committee contributions metadata

Description
read_all_contributions returns a dataframe about contribution data

Usage
read_all_contributions(n_max = Inf, verbose = interactive())

Arguments
n_max Integer specifying the max amount of entries in the dataset. Defaults to the possible maximum.
verbose A progress bar is shown if R is running interactively. Defaults to interactive().

Value
The entire dataframe. More information about variables is at ?contributions.

Examples
read_all_contributions()
read_all_contributions(n_max = 250)

read_all_expenditures Operating Expenditures

Description
read_all_expenditures returns a dataframe about operating expenditure data

Usage
read_all_expenditures(n_max = Inf, verbose = interactive())

Arguments
n_max Integer specifying the max amount of entries in the dataset. Defaults to the possible maximum.
verbose A progress bar is shown if R is running interactively. Defaults to interactive().
read_all_individuals

Value
The entire dataframe. More information about variables is at \?expenditures.

Examples

read_all_expenditures()
read_all_expenditures(n_max = 250)

read_all_individuals Individual Contributions Master metadata

Description
read_all_individuals returns a dataframe about transactions from individuals to candidates/committees.

Usage
read_all_individuals(n_max = Inf, verbose = interactive())

Arguments

n_max Integer specifying the max amount of entries in the dataset. Defaults to the possible maximum.
verbose A progress bar is shown if R is running interactively. Defaults to interactive().

Value
The entire dataframe. More information about variables is at \?individuals.

Examples

read_all_individuals()
read_all_individuals(n_max = 250)

read_all_transactions Any Transaction From One Committee To Another

Description
read_all_transactions returns a dataframe about transaction data.

Usage
read_all_transactions(n_max = Inf, verbose = interactive())
Arguments

n_max  Integer specifying the max amount of entries in the dataset. Defaults to the possible maximum.

verbose  A progress bar is shown if R is running interactively. Defaults to interactive().

Value

The entire dataframe. More information about variables is at ?transactions.

Examples

    read_all_transactions()
    read_all_transactions(n_max = 250)

results_house  General Federal Election Results

Description

  2016 House General Election Results
  2016 Senate General Election Results
  2016 Presidential General Election Results

Usage

    results_house

    results_senate

    results_president

Format

3 data frames with information about the House, Senate, and Presidential Election results:

state  The state of the votes

district_id  District ID

cand_id  A code assigned to a candidate by the FEC

incumbent  A logical variable: TRUE if incumbent, FALSE if not

party  Party of the candidate

primary_votes  Number of votes in the primary election

primary_percent  Percentage of votes in the primary election

runoff_votes  Number of runoff votes

runoff_percent  Percentage of runoff votes
**general_votes**  Number of votes in the general election

**general_percent**  Percentage of votes in the general election

**won**  A logical variable: TRUE if candidate won, FALSE if not

**footnotes**  Footnotes

An object of class `tbl_df` (inherits from `tbl`, `data.frame`) with 377 rows and 10 columns.
An object of class `tbl_df` (inherits from `tbl`, `data.frame`) with 619 rows and 6 columns.

**Source**


---

**transactions**  *Any Transaction From One Committee To Another*

**Description**

Transaction information between committees

**Usage**

transactions

**Format**

A data frame with 1000 rows and 16 columns:

- **cmte_id**  A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission
- **amndt_ind**  Amendment indicator: Indicates if the report being filed is new (N), an amendment (A) to a previous report or a termination (T) report
- **rpt_tp**  Indicates the type of report filed, listed here: [https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/report-type-code-descriptions/](https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/report-type-code-descriptions/)
- **transaction_pgi**  Primary general indicator: This code indicates the election for which the contribution was made. EYYYY (election Primary, General, Other plus election year)
- **transaction_tp**  Transaction type, listed here: [https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/transaction-type-code-descriptions](https://www.fec.gov/campaign-finance-data/transaction-type-code-descriptions)
- **entity_tp**  Entity Type:
  - CAN = Candidate
  - CCM = Candidate Committee
  - COM = Committee
  - IND = Individual (a person)
  - ORG = Organization (not a committee and not a person)
  - PAC = Political Action Committee
  - PTY = Party Organization
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>name</td>
<td>Contributor/lender/Transfer Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>city</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zip_code</td>
<td>ZIP Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>employer</td>
<td>Employer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>occupation</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transaction_dt</td>
<td>Transaction date (YYYY-MM-DD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transaction_amt</td>
<td>Transaction Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other_id</td>
<td>For contributions from individuals this column is null. For contributions from candidates or other committees this column will contain that contributor’s FEC ID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tran_id</td>
<td>Only for Electronic Filings. A unique identifier associated with each itemization or transaction appearing in an FEC electronic file. A transaction ID is unique for a specific committee for a specific report.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source**

Index

* datasets
  campaigns, 2
  candidates, 3
  committees, 4
  contributions, 5
  expenditures, 7
  individuals, 9
  pac, 10
  results_house, 14
  transactions, 15

campaigns, 2, 8
candidates, 3, 8
committees, 4, 8
contributions, 5, 8
expenditures, 7, 8
fec16, 8
individuals, 8, 9
pac, 8, 10
read_all_contributions, 8, 12
read_all_expenditures, 8, 12
read_all_individuals, 8, 13
read_all_transactions, 8, 13
results_house, 8, 14
results_president, 8
results_president (results_house), 14
results_senate, 8
results_senate (results_house), 14
transactions, 8, 15