

Roper Center for Public Opinion Research
Application to Access the National Election Pool Exit Poll Raw Data File(s)

National Election Pool (NEP) Exit Polls Data File(s)
The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research
Policy effective 1/1/2014

NEP raw data from exit polls are part of the Roper Center's restricted data sets, and therefore, in addition to the Center's standard *Terms and Conditions* have additional limits associated with their use. Access to these data is a privilege, not a right, and will be provided only if the proposed research or teaching objectives and data protection plan are deemed to be adequate. Once applications are complete, investigators will ordinarily be informed of the Executive Director's decision within 24 hours. All applications are kept confidential.

Given the unique status of these data files and the specific interests of the NEP, special arrangements are required for their use. The Roper Center is entrusted with ensuring those arrangements are honored. If an application is approved, and in the Center's sole discretion the objectives or data protection plan is not fully followed, the Center retains the right to discontinue access to the data at any time. If it becomes necessary for the Center to obtain an injunction in order to stop violative activities, the Center retains the right to be reimbursed for all costs and expenses incurred in enforcing the application, including legal fees.

Data files requested:

1. Applicant Information

Principal Investigator or Instructor: _____

Institutional Affiliation and Title: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

2. If applicable, list the names of any co-principal investigators, and their institutional affiliations, and contact information on a separate sheet. Each authorized user must agree to the terms of this agreement and must sign it.

3. Describe the research or teaching objective (including student assignments) for which exit poll data are required.

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4. What specific exit poll data sets will your analysis require? For example, will you need final exit poll data from specific states?

5. Writing plans: If your analyses are fruitful, what do you plan to do with your results? For example, would you hope to deliver papers at conferences or publish results in refereed journals? Anything else?

6. Time period: For what time period are you applying to use the data? Access to the raw data files ends at this time, though extensions may later be requested.

DATA PROTECTION PLAN

Once the agreement is executed, all authorized users and their institutions, are contractually obligated to follow all aspects of the data protection plan, in addition to all of the Roper Center's normal terms of use. On an attached sheet, please describe how the aspects of your data protection plan listed below will be followed. Please note, however, these are general requirements of any plan. Based upon the particular features of any specific application, additional protections may be necessary. Each submitted proposal should be as complete as possible in these regards.

1. When not in use removable storage devices holding the data, and printouts derived from data analysis must be kept in a locked compartment or room.

2. All data must be stored on a secure computer or server in such a way to only allow authorized individuals access through firewalled, username/password authentication methods.

3. All original data are to be destroyed at the completion of the aforementioned research project or teaching assignment, and no backup copies of the data are to be made.

4. Beyond publication requirements (including those related to verification of the analysis), there can be no transmittal of any kind of data, analysis or output derived from the exit poll data.

Please note, the Data Protection Plan applies to all original exit poll data as well as to all data derived solely or in part from the original exit poll data.

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CERTIFICATIONS

I certify that all authorized users, regardless of their home institution, will adhere to the Data Protection Plan described on the attached pages. I further waive any claim of infringement of academic freedom in connection with this application.

Name of Principal Investigator or
Instructor

Principal Investigator's
or Instructor's Signature

Date

Collaborators: (Attach names and signatures of additional collaborators.)

Name

Signature

Date

Name

Signature

Date

Duly Authorized Signature of Institutional Official

By signing this certification, I agree that access to exit poll data will be restricted to authorized persons whose names appear on this agreement, and that the institution will be legally bound by the terms of the Data Protection Plan. Acceptable signatories for academic institutions: University/College Counsel, President, Provost or Chancellor, Vice President/Provost for University/College Research. Acceptable signatories for non-academic institutions: President, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, Vice President/Director of Research.

Name (authorized to sign on behalf of the institution)_____

Title of person _____ Signature _____ Date _____

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PERMISSION IS GRANTED FOR THE USE REQUESTED ABOVE:

_____ Date: _____

Peter Enns
Executive Director, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research

Where to submit Applications

All applications should be submitted via email at data-services@ropercenter.org or mailed to:
Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, ATTN: Data Services, Cornell University, 136 Hoy Road, Rhodes Hall, Room 651
Ithaca, NY 14853-3801.

Questions about this application may also be sent to the above address or e-mailed to data-services@ropercenter.org.