

A Multi-User Data Base on the Attributes of U.S. District Court Judges, 1789-2000

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Variable	Variable Description		Columns
<i>Appointment Information</i>			
name	Judge's name		1-39
seatno	Identification or seat number ¹		41-65
district	District	disfmt	67-85
amon	Month of confirmation	monthfmt	87-106
ayear	Year of confirmation	yearfmt	108-127
juris1	First reorganized position ²		129-158
juris1t	Time frame for that reorganized position		160-189
juris2	Second reorganized position		191-220
juris2t	Time frame for that reorganized position		222-251
pres	Appointing president	presfmt	253-268
appres	Party of appointing president ³	apresfmt	270-279
city	City of residence of judge	cityfmt	281-313
state	State of residence of judge	statefmt	315-338
dcother	If appointment to D.C. Circuit, state of residence at time of appointment if not D.C.	statefmt	340-363
circuit	Circuit	cirfmt	365-383
aba	American Bar Association rating ⁴	abafmt	385-401
abamin	American Bar Association rating, minority	abafmt	403-419
networth	Net worth (total assets less total liabilities)	netfmt	421-440
recess	Recess appointment (no, confirmed recess, or unconfirmed recess appointment)	reconfmt	442-461
reccdate	If recess appointment, date		463-492
party	Party affiliation of the judge	partyfmt	494-516
crossa	Whether judge and appointing president were of the same or different political parties	crossfmt	518-531

ageon	Age at time of commission		533-540
congresi	Congress (#) in which appointment occurred		542-553
hdem	Number of Democrats in the House in year of appointment		555-562
hrep	Number of Republicans in the House in year of appointment		564-571
hothor	Number of members of other political parties in the house in year of appointment		573-587
sdem	Number of Democrats in the Senate in year of appointment		589-596
srep	Number of Republicans in the Senate in year of appointment		598-605
sother	Number of members of other political parties in the Senate in year of appointment		607-621
unityi	Whether government (Congress and president) was unified or divided	unityfmt	623-637
pseatno	I.D. number of judge's predecessor (same numbering system as for seatno)	\$pseat	639-663
<i>Leaving Information</i>			
monl	Month of departure	monthfmt	665-684
yearl	Year of departure	yearfmt	686-705
left	Means of exiting (death, retirement, etc.)	leftfmt	707-736
pleft	President in office when judge left the bench	pleftfmt	738-753
sseatno	I.D. number of judge's successor (same numbering system as for seatno)	\$sseat	755-779
<i>Background Information</i>			
yearb	Year of birth		781-788
yeard	Year of death	yeardfmt	790-797
csb	City and state of birth	cityfmt	799-831

gender	Gender of judge	genfmt	833-840
race	Race of judge (African American, Caucasian, Asian American, Hispanic, or Native American)	racefmt	842-857
religion	Religion	relfmt	859-885
ba	B.A. degree institution	lsfmt	887-928
bast	Whether B.A. received in same state as appointment	bastfmt	930-946
bapp	Whether B.A. from public or private institution	bappfmt	948-964
ls	Law degree institution	lsfmt	966-1007
lsst	Whether law degree in same state as appointment	lsstfmt	1009-1025
jdpp	Whether law degree from public or private institution	lsppfmt	1027-1043
graddeg1	First graduate degree (other than J.D.), if attained	gradfmt	1045-1082
graddeg2	Second graduate degree (other than J.D.), if attained	gradfmt	1084-1160
<i>Prior Experience (dichotomous variables unless otherwise indicated)</i>			
pssc	State high court judge		1162-1169
pslc	State lower court judge		1171-1178
plocct	Local/municipal court judge		1180-1187
psjdget	Years of service as state/local judge		1189-1196
pausa	Assistant U.S. Attorney		1198-1205
pusa	U.S. Attorney		1207-1214
psgo	Solicitor-General's office		1216-1223
psg	The Solicitor-General		1225-1232
pago	Justice Department		1234-1241
pag	The Attorney-General		1243-1250
pcc	Congressional counsel		1252-1259
psp	Special prosecutor		1261-1268
pasatty	Assistant state attorney		1270-1277

psatty	State attorney		1279-1286
pmag	U.S. Magistrate		1288-1295
pbank	Bankruptcy judge		1297-1304
pterr	Territorial judge		1306-1313
pcab	Cabinet secretary		1315-1322
pcabdept	If cabinet secretary, which department?	cabfmt	1324-1353
pscab	Sub-cabinet secretary		1355-1362
pscabdpt	If sub-cabinet secretary, which department?	cabfmt	1364-1393
paag	Sub-cabinet secretary, Department of Justice		1395-1402
pindreg1	Other federal experience		1404-1411
preg1	If so, what?	irafmt	1413-1466
preg2	Second other federal experience	irafmt	1468-1521
preg3	Third other federal experience	irafmt	1523-1576
phouse	U.S. House of Representatives		1578-1585
psenate	U.S. Senate		1587-1594
pgov	Governor		1596-1603
statecab	State cabinet or other significant state office. Which, if any?	dumfmt	1605-1679
state2	Second state experience	dumfmt	1681-1755
pssenate	State senate		1757-1764
pshouse	State house		1766-1773
pmayor	Mayor		1775-1782
pccoun	City council		1784-1791
pccom	County commission		1793-1800
pada	Deputy or assistant district/county/city attorney		1802-1809
pda	District/County/City Attorney		1811-1818
plother	Other local experience		1820-1827
plotherl	If so, what position?	localfmt	1829-1900

plawprof	Full-time law professor		1902-1909
pprivate	Private practice		1911-1918
prevpos	Position held at time of appointment	apوسفmt	1920-1967

1. The first two digits pertain to the state, followed by two digits for the district, two for the seat, and the last two for the particular occupant. For example: NY.ED.06.04 = The fourth occupant of the sixth seat authorized for the Eastern District of New York. For single district states, ST are the third and fourth digits.

2. A number of judges have had their positions “reorganized.” This happens primarily during the earlier years of the institution’s history, and the most frequent instances of this are when a single-district state is reorganized to a multi-district state. Additionally, a judge commissioned to service on say, the eastern district of a state, will for some period of time be assigned simultaneously to one or more additional districts. The variable seatno designates the primary “home” of the judge’s position. Juris1 denotes the district(s) of the reorganized service and juris1t denotes the time period of that service. Juris2 and juris2t capture that same thing if it occurs for a second time. It is extremely difficult to capture these judicial reorganizations in this electronic format when the unit of observation is the judge rather than the seat or court. A companion volume to this data set which traces the history of each court and seat is in

preparation by the authors.

3. If not Republican or Democratic president and judge, then coded "other."
4. The Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary of the American Bar Association first published its evaluations of nominees to the lower federal courts in Volume 72 of the Proceedings of the American Bar Association (1947). From 1947 through to 1958 this information typically was part of the record of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary confirmation hearings.

While there are some indications of degree of qualifications (ranging from favorable to exceptionally well qualified) for Eisenhower's nominees, a systematic ratings system was not implemented until the last two years of the administration. The possible ratings were: exceptionally well qualified, well qualified, qualified, not qualified (for a short period of time there was a category for "not qualified because of age," that was dropped in the fall of 1981).

Minority ratings began during the Carter administration. The "exceptionally well qualified" rating was discontinued in June, 1989.