

# fec16 - An R Package Containing Relational Data From The U.S. 2016 Elections

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## Introduction

`fec16` is a data package for use in the programming language R. It contains cleaned relational data from the 2015-2016 United States federal election cycle, hosted by the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

The data includes authoritative information about candidates, committees, contributions, expenditures, and election results. Most datasets are included in full, while a small sample of the others is available with the option of retrieving the entire datasets through built-in functions.

This package is useful as there exists a demand for such data in teaching. `fec16` is a one-stop-shop for interesting and clean data suitable for introductory statistics and data science students.

## Objectives

1. Easy access to the data
2. Relational data suitable for teaching and learning
3. Data is pre-cleaned and wrangled

## Why `fec16`?

There is always demand for quality data that is both open source and easy to access in the teaching of introductory statistics and data science. Therefore we created `fec16` that provides real data in a genre not seen often. Election data is diverse: it contains important financial and geopolitical information among other sub-categories. This genre is especially relevant as we near the 2020 U.S. presidential elections in early November.

Teach and Learn  
Statistics and Data  
Science using real  
data from the 2016  
U.S. elections

All data is  
relational for easy  
joins!



## Datasets Included

Dataset Name	Full or Sample?	Description
candidates	Full	candidates registered with the FEC during the 2016 election cycle
committees	Full	committees registered with the FEC during the 2016 election cycle
campaigns	Full	House/Senate current campaigns
results_house	Full	House results of the 2016 general election
results_senate	Full	Senate results of the 2016 general election
results_president	Full	final results of the 2016 general election
pac	Full	Political Action Committee (PAC) and party summary financial information
individuals	Sample	individual contributions to candidates/committees during the 2016 election cycle
contributions	Sample	candidates and their contributions from committees during the 2016 election cycle
expenditures	Sample	operating expenditures
transactions	Sample	transactions between committees

For the datasets that are included as samples, the package includes functions called `read_all_*()`, where \* is the name of the dataset, that reads in the full dataset.

## Learn More

### CRAN

`fec16` is hosted on the Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN). You can install it by running `install.packages("fec16")`.

### GitHub Repository

The development version can be found on GitHub at <https://github.com/baumer-lab/fec16> or scan the following QR code:

