# Online Appendix to "Coordination and Bandwagon Effects: How Past Rankings Shape the Behavior of Voters and Candidates" 

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## Appendix A. Additional tables and figures

Table A1: Number of races by election type and year

| Election type | Year | Number of races | Election type | Year | Number of races |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Parliamentary elections | 1958 | 433 | Local elections | 1979 | 1,086 |
|  | 1962 | 374 |  | 1982 | 1,062 |
|  | 1967 | 405 |  | 1985 | 1,230 |
|  | 1968 | 319 |  | 1988 | 1,177 |
|  | 1973 | 430 |  | 1992 | 1,425 |
|  | 1978 | 423 |  | 1994 | 1,369 |
|  | 1981 | 334 |  | 1998 | 1,513 |
|  | 1988 | 455 | 2001 | 1,301 |  |
|  | 1993 | 497 |  | 2004 | 1,516 |
|  | 1997 | 565 |  | 2008 | 1,074 |
|  | 2002 | 519 |  | 1,564 |  |
|  | 2007 | 467 |  | 1,905 |  |
|  | 2012 | 541 |  |  |  |
|  | 2017 | 573 |  | Total | 16,222 |

Notes: Parliamentary elections take place every five years. Until a 2013 reform, local elections were held every three years. In a given election, in each département, only half of the cantons were electing their representative, for a length of six years. Since 2013, local elections are held every six years and all cantons participate in each election. Our sample excludes races with a unique candidate in the first round and those with no second round, explaining the important variations in the number of races across election years shown in the table.

Table A2: Summary statistics - Sample 1

|  | Sample $1(\mathrm{~N}=22,532)$ |  | Close races $(\mathrm{N}=2,581)$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mean | Sd | Mean | Sd |
| Panel A. $1^{\text {st }}$ round |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 28,313 | 28,161 | 28,768 | 28,268 |
| Turnout | 0.636 | 0.125 | 0.638 | 0.124 |
| Candidate votes | 0.613 | 0.122 | 0.616 | 0.122 |
| Number of candidates | 6.5 | 3.1 | 6.5 | 3.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 |  |  |  |  |
| Turnout round |  |  |  |  |
| Candidate votes | 0.628 | 0.134 | 0.647 | 0.132 |
| Number of candidates | 2.1 | 0.4 | 2.2 | 0.5 |

Notes: Sample 1 is used to measure the impact of ranking first instead of second. Compared to the full sample (see Table 2), sample 1 excludes races in which two of the top three candidates obtained an identical number of votes in the first round ( 25 races out of 22,557 ). Close races are defined as races in which the vote share difference between the first and second candidates is under 2 percentage points.

Table A3: Summary statistics - Sample 2

|  | Sample 2 $(\mathrm{N}=8,865)$ |  | Close races $(\mathrm{N}=1,874)$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mean | Sd | Mean | Sd |
| Panel A. 1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ round |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 26,349 | 27,339 | 27,798 | 27,978 |
| Turnout | 0.711 | 0.092 | 0.690 | 0.099 |
| Candidate votes | 0.688 | 0.092 | 0.667 | 0.099 |
| Number of candidates | 5.6 | 2.1 | 6.3 | 2.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ round |  |  |  |  |
| Turnout | 0.709 | 0.100 | 0.685 | 0.106 |
| Candidate votes | 0.679 | 0.103 | 0.656 | 0.107 |
| Number of candidates | 2.4 | 0.5 | 2.5 | 0.6 |

Notes: Sample 2 is used to measure the impact of ranking second instead of third. Sample 2 is restricted to races where at least three candidates compete in the first round and the third candidate qualifies for the second round, and excludes races in which two of the top four candidates obtain an identical number of votes in the first round. Close races are defined as races in which the vote share difference between the second and third candidates is under 2 percentage points.

Table A4: Summary statistics - Sample 3

|  | Sample 3 $(\mathrm{N}=1,978)$ |  | Close races (N=758) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mean | Sd | Mean | Sd |
| Panel A. $1^{\text {st }}$ round |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 40,727 | 29,148 | 36,951 | 29,852 |
| Turnout | 0.749 | 0.073 | 0.742 | 0.076 |
| Candidate votes | 0.728 | 0.074 | 0.721 | 0.077 |
| Number of candidates | 5.9 | 1.8 | 6.1 | 1.8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ round |  |  |  |  |
| Turnout | 0.752 | 0.073 | 0.743 | 0.078 |
| Candidate votes | 0.726 | 0.075 | 0.716 | 0.079 |
| Number of candidates | 2.6 | 0.7 | 2.6 | 0.7 |

Notes: Sample 3 is used to measure the impact of ranking third instead of fourth. Sample 3 is restricted to races where at least four candidates compete in the first round and the third and fourth candidates qualify for the second round, and excludes races in which two candidates among the second, third, fourth, and fifth obtain an identical number of votes in the first round. Close races are defined as races in which the vote share difference between the third and fourth candidates is under 2 percentage points.

Table A5: General balance test

|  | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | Predicted treatment |  |  |
|  | 1 vs 2 | 2 vs 3 | 3 vs 4 |
|  | (sample 1) | (sample 2) | (sample 3) |
| Treatment | -0.002 | -0.003 | 0.008 |
|  | $(0.006)$ | $(0.005)$ | $(0.007)$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.618 | 0.406 | 0.320 |
| Observations left | 12,484 | 4,996 | 1,288 |
| Observations right | 12,484 | 4,996 | 1,288 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.112 | 0.062 | 0.042 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.462 | 0.480 | 0.489 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust $p$-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The outcome is the value of the treatment predicted by the baseline variables listed in the text. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table A6: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round depending on whether the candidate has a party label

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  |  | 2vs3 |  |  | 3vs4 |  |  |
|  | Full | Party | Without | Full | Party | Without | Full | Party | Without |
| Treatment | 0.056 | 0.061 | 0.034 | 0.235 | 0.235 | 0.233 | 0.146 | 0.169 | 0.051 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.006) | (0.009) | (0.018) | (0.020) | (0.039) | (0.040) | (0.042) | (0.100) |
| R. p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.001 | 0.809 |
| Obs. left | 12,272 | 8,974 | 2,090 | 5,347 | 4,305 | 1,063 | 1,169 | 987 | 200 |
| Obs. right | 12,272 | 9,054 | 1,970 | 5,347 | 4,267 | 1,092 | 1,169 | 1,003 | 183 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.109 | 0.094 | 0.105 | 0.068 | 0.069 | 0.067 | 0.036 | 0.039 | 0.029 |
| Mean | 0.941 | 0.937 | 0.961 | 0.572 | 0.571 | 0.575 | 0.300 | 0.275 | 0.406 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 2, 5, and 8 (resp. 3, 6, and 9) the analysis is restricted to candidates running under the label of a political party (resp. without party label). The outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table A7: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round depending on whether the candidate is an incumbent

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  |  | 2vs3 |  |  |
|  | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent |
| Treatment | 0.056 | 0.045 | 0.056 | 0.235 | 0.154 | 0.239 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.010) | (0.006) | (0.018) | (0.072) | (0.020) |
| R. p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.080 | 0.000 |
| Obs. left | 12,272 | 1,822 | 8,427 | 5,347 | 268 | 4,080 |
| Obs. right | 12,272 | 2,833 | 6,208 | 5,347 | 364 | 3,899 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.109 | 0.071 | 0.111 | 0.068 | 0.048 | 0.072 |
| Mean | 0.941 | 0.953 | 0.943 | 0.572 | 0.642 | 0.582 |

Notes: In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the analysis is restricted to incumbent candidates, who won an election in the same département in the last election (resp. non-incumbent candidates). Other notes as in Table A6.

Table A8: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round depending on whether the candidate is the district incumbent

|  | $(1)$ | $(2)$ | $(3)$ |  | $(4)$ | $(5)$ | $(6)$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | 1vs2 |  |  |  |  | 2 vs 3 |  |  |
|  | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent |  | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent |  |
| Treatment | 0.056 | 0.048 | 0.062 |  | 0.235 | 0.019 | 0.273 |  |
|  | $(0.005)$ | $(0.013)$ | $(0.007)$ |  | $(0.018)$ | $(0.103)$ | $(0.021)$ |  |
| R. p-value | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.000 |  | 0.000 | 0.869 | 0.000 |  |
| Obs. left | 12,272 | 1,306 | 5,598 |  | 5,347 | 163 | 3,600 |  |
| Obs. right | 12,272 | 2,124 | 4,223 |  | 5,347 | 245 | 3,391 |  |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |
| Bdw | 0.109 | 0.073 | 0.098 |  | 0.068 | 0.045 | 0.086 |  |
| Mean | 0.941 | 0.948 | 0.936 |  | 0.572 | 0.682 | 0.548 |  |

Notes: In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the analysis is restricted to incumbent candidates, who won an election in the same district in the last election (resp. non-incumbent candidates). Other notes as in Table A6.

Table A9: Additional tests on the impact on winning and vote shares conditional on staying in

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Win | Vote share | Win | Vote share | Win | Vote share |
| Panel A. Value of $E\left(W_{0} \mid x=0, R_{1}>R_{0}\right)$ that would bring $E\left[W_{1}-W_{0} \mid x=0, R_{1}=1\right]$ to 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Point estimate | 1.038 | 0.708 | 0.420 | 0.507 | 0.152 | 0.306 |
| Boot. std error | (0.434) | (0.047) | (0.073) | (0.025) | (0.155) | (0.111) |

Panel B. Lowest value of $E\left(W_{0} \mid x=0, R_{1}>R_{0}\right)$ for which $E\left[W_{1}-W_{0} \mid x=0, R_{1}=1\right]$ is nonsignificant

| Value | 0.31 | 0.61 | 0.30 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.23 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Notes: Panel A reports the value of $E\left(W_{0} \mid x=0, R_{1}>R_{0}\right)$ for which there would be no effect on winning (columns 1, 3, and 5) or on vote shares (columns 2, 4, and 6), conditional on staying in the race. We report the point estimate and its bootstrapped standard error. Panel B reports the lowest value of $E\left(W_{0} \mid x=0, R_{1}>R_{0}\right)$ for which the impact on winning or on vote shares conditional on staying in is not statistically significant at the $5 \%$ level. See Section 3.3 for more information.

Table A10: Effects on election outcomes outside the threshold

| Outcome | (1) | $(2)$ | (3) |  | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Notes: We estimate the fraction of races in which the higher-ranked candidate finishes the second round ahead of the lower-ranked one and in which the distance between the second-round vote shares of the higher- and lower-ranked candidates is smaller than the average effect of ranking on vote share, conditional on staying in. We restrict our attention to races in which the two candidates at the threshold remained in the second round. Columns 1 to 3 (resp. 4 to 6) consider the lower bound (resp. upper bound) of rankings' effects. The second line of the results (resp. third and fourth line) only considers races in which the vote share difference between the two candidates was under 2 percentage points in the first round (resp. between 2 and 5 percentage points, and strictly higher than 5 percentage points).

Table A11: Impact of ranking 1vs2 depending on the difference between candidates' political orientations

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Probability to run 1vs2 |  |  | Probability to win 1vs2 |  |  |
|  | Full | Same | Distinct | Full | Same | Distinct |
| Treatment | 0.056 | 0.352 | 0.002 | 0.058 | 0.305 | 0.017 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.023) | (0.002) | (0.017) | (0.039) | (0.018) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.686 | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.624 |
| Observations left | 12,272 | 2,059 | 7,283 | 8,027 | 1,399 | 7,242 |
| Observations right | 12,272 | 2,059 | 7,283 | 8,027 | 1,399 | 7,242 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.109 | 0.122 | 0.072 | 0.066 | 0.076 | 0.072 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.941 | 0.647 | 0.996 | 0.458 | 0.317 | 0.482 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 1 to 3 (resp. 4 to 6 ), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the two candidates have the same orientation (resp. distinct orientations). The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table A12: Impact of ranking 2 vs 3 depending on the difference between candidates' political orientations

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Probability to run 2vs3 |  |  | Probability to win 2vs3 |  |  |
|  | Full | Same | Distinct | Full | Same | Distinct |
| Treatment | 0.235 | 0.627 | 0.052 | 0.099 | 0.223 | 0.041 |
|  | (0.018) | (0.029) | (0.021) | (0.013) | (0.027) | (0.013) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.045 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.012 |
| Observations left | 5,347 | 1,493 | 3,720 | 4,398 | 1,343 | 3,497 |
| Observations right | 5,347 | 1,493 | 3,720 | 4,398 | 1,343 | 3,497 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.068 | 0.055 | 0.073 | 0.052 | 0.048 | 0.066 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.572 | 0.286 | 0.704 | 0.048 | 0.023 | 0.060 |

Notes as in Table A11.

Table A13: Impact of ranking 3vs4 depending on the difference between candidates' political orientations

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Probability to run 3vs4 |  |  | Probability to win 3vs4 |  |  |
|  | Full | Same | Distinct | Full | Same | Distinct |
| Treatment | 0.146 | 0.401 | 0.029 | 0.022 | 0.040 | 0.014 |
|  | (0.040) | (0.065) | (0.050) | (0.011) | (0.027) | (0.009) |
| Robust p-value | 0.003 | 0.000 | 0.726 | 0.052 | 0.127 | 0.155 |
| Observations left | 1,169 | 349 | 824 | 1,116 | 325 | 847 |
| Observations right | 1,169 | 349 | 824 | 1,116 | 325 | 847 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.036 | 0.038 | 0.036 | 0.033 | 0.034 | 0.037 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.300 | 0.231 | 0.332 | 0.005 | 0.011 | 0.002 |

Notes as in Table A11.

Table A14: Impact of ranking 1 vs 2 depending on the strength of the $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ - Same orientation

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 - Same orientation and $3^{\text {rd }}$ qualifies |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Full |  | Gap $2^{\text {nd }}-3{ }^{\text {rd }}<5 \%$ |  | Gap $2^{\text {nd }}-3{ }^{\text {rd }}<2.5 \%$ |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.421 | 0.369 | 0.481 | 0.487 | 0.587 | 0.492 |
|  | $(0.036)$ | $(0.046)$ | (0.045) | (0.049) | (0.055) | (0.066) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Observations left | 880 | 840 | 452 | 495 | 277 | 283 |
| Observations right | 880 | 840 | 452 | 495 | 277 | 283 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.072 | 0.067 | 0.085 | 0.093 | 0.098 | 0.102 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.579 | 0.270 | 0.522 | 0.177 | 0.413 | 0.167 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p -value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The sample only includes the races where the third candidate qualifies for the second round and where the top-two candidates have the same orientation. In columns 3 and 4 (resp. 5 and 6), the sample is further restricted to elections where the vote share difference between the candidates ranked second and third in the first round is under 5 (resp. 2.5) percentage points. In columns 1,3 , and 5 (resp. 2, 4, and 6), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

## Table A15: Impact of ranking 1 vs 2 depending on the political orientation of the $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ - Same orientation

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 - Same orientation and $3^{\text {rd }}$ qualifies |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Full |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ same |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ different |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.420 | 0.369 | 0.128 | -0.033 | 0.480 | 0.451 |
|  | (0.036) | (0.046) | (0.049) | (0.122) | (0.042) | (0.045) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.023 | 0.514 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Observations left | 874 | 841 | 177 | 136 | 708 | 799 |
| Observations right | 874 | 841 | 177 | 136 | 708 | 799 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.072 | 0.067 | 0.088 | 0.063 | 0.070 | 0.081 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.580 | 0.270 | 0.872 | 0.506 | 0.521 | 0.220 |

Notes: The sample only includes the races where the third candidate qualifies for the second round and did not obtain an identical number of votes as the fourth candidate in the first round, and where the top-two candidates have the same political orientation. In columns 3 and 4 (resp. 5 and 6), the sample is further restricted to elections where the third candidate has the same political orientation as the top two (resp. has a different political orientation). Other notes as in Table A14.

Table A16: Impact of ranking 1 vs 2 depending on the political orientation of the $3^{\text {rd }}$ - Distinct orientations

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 - Distinct orientations and $3^{\text {rd }}$ qualifies |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Full |  | $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ same or middle |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ on the left or right |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.003 | -0.020 | -0.006 | -0.003 | 0.028 | -0.021 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.026) | (0.004) | (0.027) | (0.015) | (0.057) |
| Robust p-value | 0.743 | 0.283 | 0.140 | 0.780 | 0.120 | 0.466 |
| Observations left | 2,866 | 3,171 | 1,659 | 2,957 | 794 | 647 |
| Observations right | 2,866 | 3,171 | 1,659 | 2,957 | 794 | 647 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.069 | 0.078 | 0.050 | 0.101 | 0.096 | 0.075 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.991 | 0.488 | 1.002 | 0.489 | 0.962 | 0.457 |

Notes: The sample only includes the races where the third candidate qualifies for the second round and did not obtain an identical number of votes as the fourth candidate in the first round, and where the top-two candidates have distinct political orientations. In columns 3 and 4 (resp. 5 and 6), the sample is further restricted to elections where the third candidate has the same political orientation as one of the top two or has a different orientation and is located in the middle of the top two on the left-right axis (resp. has a different political orientation and is located either on the right or on the left of both top two). Other notes as in Table A14.

Table A17: Impact of ranking 1 vs 2 on running in races where the $3^{\text {rd }}$ does not qualify - Leftversus right-wing candidates

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Running 1vs2-3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ does not qualify |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Left candidates |  |  | Right candidates |  |  |
|  | Full | Same | Distinct | Full | Same | Distinct |
| Treatment | 0.039 | 0.381 | -0.001 | 0.001 | 0.012 | 0.000 |
|  | (0.008) | (0.056) | (0.001) | (0.003) | (0.021) | (0.001) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.264 | 0.656 | 0.650 | 0.784 |
| Observations left | 3,227 | 342 | 1,124 | 1,785 | 248 | 1,889 |
| Observations right | 3,049 | 342 | 1,111 | 1,980 | 248 | 2,119 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.114 | 0.124 | 0.041 | 0.062 | 0.071 | 0.076 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.961 | 0.619 | 1.001 | 0.998 | 0.988 | 0.999 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust $p$-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The sample only includes the races where the third candidate does not qualify for the second round. Columns 1 to 3 (resp. 4 to 6) include only left-wing candidates (resp. right-wing candidates). In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the sample is further restricted to elections where the two candidates have the same orientation (resp. distinct orientations). The outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table A18: Impact on winning depending on whether the candidate ran in the last election in the same département

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Winning 1vs2 |  |  | Winning 2vs3 |  |  | Winning 3vs4 |  |  |
|  | Full | Present | Absent | Full | Present | Absent | Full | Present | Absent |
| Panel A. Impact on winning |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment | 0.058 | 0.063 | 0.047 | 0.099 | 0.098 | 0.087 | 0.022 | 0.015 | 0.013 |
|  | (0.017) | (0.024) | (0.024) | (0.013) | (0.021) | (0.019) | (0.011) | (0.016) | (0.015) |
| R. p-value | 0.004 | 0.048 | 0.170 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.052 | 0.310 | 0.395 |
| Obs. left | 8,027 | 3,410 | 4,285 | 4,398 | 1,301 | 2,171 | 1,116 | 233 | 618 |
| Obs. right | 8,027 | 4,192 | 3,498 | 4,398 | 1,460 | 2,052 | 1,116 | 218 | 626 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.066 | 0.074 | 0.075 | 0.052 | 0.063 | 0.045 | 0.033 | 0.031 | 0.042 |
| Mean | 0.458 | 0.442 | 0.482 | 0.048 | 0.041 | 0.049 | 0.005 | -0.001 | 0.013 |
| Panel B. Bounds on the impact on winning conditional on staying in |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper bound | 0.059 | 0.063 | 0.047 | 0.122 | 0.123 | 0.105 | 0.050 | 0.037 | 0.029 |
| Boot. std error | (0.024) | (0.030) | (0.031) | (0.004) | (0.030) | (0.026) | (0.026) | (0.078) | (0.036) |
| Lower bound | 0.029 | 0.036 | 0.021 | 0.069 | 0.070 | 0.059 | 0.030 | 0.022 | 0.014 |
| Boot. std error | (0.023) | (0.029) | (0.030) | (0.015) | (0.024) | (0.021) | (0.020) | (0.070) | (0.031) |

Notes: The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 2,5 , and 8 (resp. 3, 6, and 9), the analysis is restricted to candidates who ran in the same département in the last election (resp. candidates who did not run in the same département in the last election). The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. Panel A reports the estimate obtained by taking as outcome a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate wins the second round. Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level, and we compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold. Panel B reports the lower and upper bounds of the impact on winning conditional on staying in the second round, obtained using the method described in Section 3.3. We use a bootstrapping procedure to estimate the standard errors.

Table A19: Impact on winning depending on whether the candidate ran in the last election in the same district

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Winning 1vs2 |  |  | Winning 2vs3 |  |  |
|  | Full | Present | Absent | Full | Present | Absent |
| Panel A. Impact on winning |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment | 0.058 | 0.078 | 0.068 | 0.099 | 0.099 | 0.085 |
|  | (0.017) | (0.025) | (0.026) | (0.013) | (0.024) | (0.020) |
| R. p-value | 0.004 | 0.018 | 0.049 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.001 |
| Obs. left | 8,027 | 2,929 | 3,676 | 4,398 | 896 | 1,765 |
| Obs. right | 8,027 | 3,866 | 2,909 | 4,398 | 1,043 | 1,670 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.066 | 0.094 | 0.087 | 0.052 | 0.059 | 0.046 |
| Mean | 0.458 | 0.423 | 0.480 | 0.048 | 0.024 | 0.045 |
| Panel B. Bounds on the impact on winning conditional on staying in |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper bound | 0.059 | 0.078 | 0.069 | 0.122 | 0.128 | 0.102 |
| Boot. std error | (0.024) | (0.033) | (0.035) | (0.004) | (0.033) | (0.028) |
| Lower bound | 0.029 | 0.050 | 0.037 | 0.069 | 0.079 | 0.052 |
| Boot. std error | (0.023) | (0.032) | (0.033) | (0.015) | (0.026) | (0.022) |

Notes: In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the analysis is restricted to candidates who ran in the same district in the last election (resp. candidates who did not run in the same district in the last election). Other notes as in Table 18.

Table A20: Impact on winning depending on whether the candidate is an incumbent

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Winning 1vs2 |  |  | Winning 2vs3 |  |  |
|  | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent |
| Panel A. Impact on winning |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment | 0.058 | 0.054 | 0.049 | 0.099 | 0.126 | 0.088 |
|  | (0.017) | (0.031) | (0.021) | (0.013) | (0.052) | (0.015) |
| R. p-value | 0.004 | 0.229 | 0.088 | 0.000 | 0.065 | 0.000 |
| Obs. left | 8,027 | 1,864 | 5,476 | 4,398 | 292 | 3,086 |
| Obs. right | 8,027 | 2,972 | 4,494 | 4,398 | 422 | 2,985 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.066 | 0.073 | 0.070 | 0.052 | 0.056 | 0.049 |
| Mean | 0.458 | 0.472 | 0.460 | 0.048 | 0.073 | 0.043 |
| Panel B. Bounds on the impact on winning conditional on staying in |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper bound | 0.059 | 0.054 | 0.049 | 0.122 | 0.159 | 0.107 |
| Boot. std error | (0.024) | (0.033) | (0.029) | (0.018) | (0.079) | (0.021) |
| Lower bound | 0.029 | 0.031 | 0.021 | 0.069 | 0.110 | 0.061 |
| Boot. std error | (0.023) | (0.032) | (0.027) | (0.015) | (0.069) | (0.017) |

Notes: In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the analysis is restricted to incumbent candidates, who won an election in the same département in the last election (resp. non-incumbent candidates). Other notes as in Table A18.

Table A21: Impact on winning depending on whether the candidate is the district incumbent

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Winning 1vs2 |  |  | Winning 2vs3 |  |  |
|  | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent | Full | Incumbent | Non Incumbent |
| Panel A. Impact on winning |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment | 0.058 | 0.069 | 0.071 | 0.099 | 0.108 | 0.088 |
|  | (0.017) | (0.034) | (0.023) | (0.013) | (0.054) | (0.017) |
| R. p-value | 0.004 | 0.135 | 0.017 | 0.000 | 0.126 | 0.000 |
| Obs. left | 8,027 | 1,525 | 4,735 | 4,398 | 171 | 2,444 |
| Obs. right | 8,027 | 2,777 | 3,739 | 4,398 | 251 | 2,353 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.066 | 0.093 | 0.082 | 0.052 | 0.048 | 0.049 |
| Mean | 0.458 | 0.422 | 0.467 | 0.048 | 0.010 | 0.040 |
| Panel B. Bounds on the impact on winning conditional on staying in |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper bound | 0.059 | 0.070 | 0.071 | 0.122 | 0.154 | 0.107 |
| Boot. std error | (0.024) | (0.036) | (0.032) | (0.018) | (0.084) | (0.023) |
| Lower bound | 0.029 | 0.046 | 0.038 | 0.069 | 0.149 | 0.055 |
| Boot. std error | (0.023) | (0.035) | (0.031) | (0.015) | (0.087) | (0.018) |

Notes: In columns 2 and 5 (resp. 3 and 6), the analysis is restricted to incumbent candidates, who won an election in the same district in the last election (resp. non-incumbent candidates). Other notes as in Table A18.

Table A22: Impact on campaign expenditures and contributions

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Expenditures | Contributions | Expenditures | Contributions | Expenditures | Contributions |
| Treatment | -0.009 | -0.015 | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.017 | 0.007 |
|  | (0.012) | (0.014) | (0.022) | (0.023) | (0.079) | (0.082) |
| Robust p-value | 0.367 | 0.210 | 0.128 | 0.149 | 0.782 | 0.935 |
| Observations left | 5,163 | 4,928 | 1,546 | 1,573 | 92 | 92 |
| Observations right | 5,163 | 4,928 | 1,546 | 1,573 | 92 | 92 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.085 | 0.081 | 0.053 | 0.055 | 0.018 | 0.018 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.583 | 0.611 | 0.432 | 0.446 | 0.353 | 0.364 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust $p$-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The sample only includes the elections for which campaign expenditure data are available. In columns 1 and 2 (resp. 3 and 4 , and 5 and 6 ), we further restrict the analysis to races where campaign expenditures and contributions are available both for the candidate ranked first and the candidate ranked second (resp. second and third, and third and forth). In columns 1,3 , and 5 (resp. 2, 4, and 6), the outcome is the candidate's total expenditures (resp. contributions) spent (resp. received) during the electoral campaign, divided by the number of registered citizens in the district. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

# Table A23: Impact of ranking 1 vs 2 on the presence of same-orientation lower-ranked candidates 

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dummy lower-ranked |  | Number of lower-ranked |  |
|  | Full | Subsample | Full | Subsample |
| Treatment | -0.002 | -0.011 | -0.003 | -0.017 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.013) | (0.005) | (0.014) |
| Robust p-value | 0.506 | 0.396 | 0.388 | 0.222 |
| Observations left | 11,432 | 2,787 | 11,161 | 2,662 |
| Observations right | 11,433 | 2,787 | 11,161 | 2,662 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.100 | 0.067 | 0.097 | 0.064 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.034 | 0.067 | 0.037 | 0.072 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 2 and 4, we only include races where the third candidate qualifies and the top-two candidates have distinct political orientations. In columns 1 and 2, the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if a lower-ranked candidate who has the same orientation as the candidate is running in the second round. In columns 3 and 4, the outcome is the number of lower-ranked candidates who have the same orientation as the candidate and are running in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table A24: Impact of ranking 2 vs 3 on the presence of same-orientation lower-ranked candidates

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dummy lower-ranked |  | Number of lower-ranked |  |
|  | Full | Subsample | Full | Subsample |
| Treatment | -0.004 | -0.022 | -0.005 | -0.024 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.028) | (0.006) | (0.030) |
| Robust p-value | 0.476 | 0.433 | 0.453 | 0.421 |
| Observations left | 5,097 | 700 | 4,876 | 694 |
| Observations right | 5,097 | 700 | 4,876 | 694 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.064 | 0.048 | 0.060 | 0.047 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.022 | 0.075 | 0.023 | 0.078 |

Notes: In columns 2 and 4, we only include races where the fourth candidate qualifies and the candidates ranked second and third have distinct political orientations. Other notes as in Table A23.

Table A25: Impact of ranking 3vs4 on the presence of same-orientation lower-ranked candidates

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dummy lower-ranked |  | Number of lower-ranked |  |
|  | Full | Subsample | Full | Subsample |
| Treatment | 0.013 | 0.073 | 0.011 | 0.067 |
|  | (0.009) | (0.047) | (0.008) | (0.045) |
| Robust p-value | 0.112 | 0.101 | 0.162 | 0.138 |
| Observations left | 1,204 | 219 | 1,319 | 241 |
| Observations right | 1,204 | 219 | 1,319 | 241 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.037 | 0.047 | 0.044 | 0.054 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.009 | 0.031 | 0.009 | 0.029 |

Notes: In columns 2 and 4, we only include races where the fifth candidate qualifies and the candidates ranked third and fourth have distinct political orientations. Other notes as in Table A23.

Figure A1: Turnout in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the turnout rate in the second round (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 30 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit. Since we consider the same set of races on each side of the threshold, the graphs are symmetric by construction.

Figure A2: Density of the running variable - McCrary test


Notes: This figure tests if there is is a jump at the threshold in the density of the running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round), represented by the solid line. The confidence intervals are represented by thin lines. In our setting, this test is satisfied by construction since we consider the same set of races on both sides of the threshold and, in each race, the higher- and lower-ranked candidates are equally distant to the cutoff.

## Figure A3: Vote shares in the first round



Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the candidate's vote share in the first round (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 30 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

Figure A4: Impact on $2^{\text {nd }}$ round vote shares


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the candidate's vote share in the second round (vertical axis). The vote share is set to 0 if the candidate does not run in the second round. Other notes as in Figure A3.

## Appendix B. Placebo tests on individual outcomes

We conduct placebo tests to examine whether there is a discontinuity at the threshold for any of the variables used to predict treatment. We first provide information about the construction of each variable. We then show the results in Tables B1 through B3, and visually for four of the variables in Figures B1 through B4.

Candidate's gender: dummy equal to 1 if the candidate is a woman, and 0 otherwise.

- This variable was available in the raw data for most elections. We input it manually based on candidates' first name in elections for which it was missing.
- The variable is set to 0.5 for the 2015 local elections, since each competing ticket was composed of a man and a woman.

Dummies indicating whether the candidate ran and won the previous election, in the same département.

- Constructing these variables required matching candidate names across election years. In parliamentary elections, candidates were matched with candidates in $t-1$. In local elections until 2015, candidates were matched with candidates in $\mathrm{t}-2$, since cantons elected their council members only every other election. In the 2015 local election, candidates were matched with candidates in both $\mathrm{t}-1$ and $\mathrm{t}-2$, since all cantons participated in that year's election.
- We did the matching with the Stata command "reclink", after normalizing first and last names (for instance we dropped accents, special characters, and aristocratic particles). We matched candidates on their first names, last names, and political orientations. We checked all uncertain matches manually.
- The variables are mechanically set to missing for the first elections in the sample: the 1958 parliamentary elections, and the 1979 and 1982 local elections.
- The variables are averaged over the two candidates in the ticket, for the 2015 local elections.

Dummies indicating whether the candidate ran and won the previous election, in the same district.

- These variables were constructed in a similar way as the département-level variables above.
- These variables are set to missing for districts which were created or whose boundaries changed since the last election, including all districts in the 2015 local elections (all districts changed boundaries before that election).

Dummy indicating whether the candidate runs with or without the label of a political party.

- We constructed this variable based on the political labels attributed by the Ministry of the Interior (see Appendix H).

Set of six dummies indicating the candidate's political orientation.

- These variables were constructed by mapping political labels attributed to candidates by the Ministry of the Interior to six political orientations: far-left, left, center, right, far-right, and other. Appendix H shows the mapping between labels and political orientations for each election.

Dummy indicating whether the candidate's orientation is the same as the incumbent's.

- This variable is set to missing for the first elections in the sample and for districts which were created or whose boundaries changed since the last election.
- This variable is set to 0 if the candidate's orientation or the incumbent's orientation is "other".


## Number of candidates of the candidate's orientation in the first round.

- This variable includes the candidate in the count.
- This variable is set to 1 if the candidate's orientation is "other": in that case, we consider that no other candidate has the same orientation.

Number of candidates of the candidate's orientation who did not qualify for the second round.

- This variable is set to 0 if the candidate's orientation is "other".

Strength of the candidate in the first round: sum of the first-round vote shares of all candidates of the same orientation.

- This variable includes the candidate's vote share in the sum.
- This variable is equal to the candidate's vote share if her orientation is "other".

Total vote share of non-qualified candidates of the same orientation as the candidate: sum of the first-round vote shares of candidates of the same orientation who did not qualify for the second round.

- This variable is equal to 0 if the candidate's orientation is "other".

Average strength of the candidate's orientation at the national level in the first round.

- This variable is computed using all districts in which at least one first-round candidate had this orientation.
- This variable is set to missing if the candidate's orientation is "other".

Table B1: Placebo tests - 1vs2

|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | Gender | Ran <br> t-1 <br> départe- <br> ment | Ran <br> t-1 <br> district | Won t-1 département | Won <br> t-1 district | Party | Right | Left | Far- <br> right |
| Treatment | $\begin{gathered} 0.006 \\ (0.008) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.013 \\ (0.015) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.003 \\ (0.017) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.012 \\ (0.013) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.016 \\ (0.016) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.008 \\ (0.010) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.006 \\ (0.013) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.008 \\ (0.013) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.002 \\ & (0.007) \end{aligned}$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.462 | 0.372 | 0.985 | 0.481 | 0.468 | 0.428 | 0.689 | 0.645 | 0.996 |
| Observations left | 13,351 | 9,563 | 7,549 | 9,798 | 7,522 | 13,334 | 13,112 | 12,854 | 11,083 |
| Observations right | 13,351 | 9,563 | 7,549 | 9,798 | 7,522 | 13,335 | 13,113 | 12,855 | 11,083 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.122 | 0.096 | 0.104 | 0.099 | 0.104 | 0.122 | 0.120 | 0.117 | 0.097 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.159 | 0.458 | 0.485 | 0.277 | 0.292 | 0.823 | 0.455 | 0.440 | 0.061 |

Table B1: Placebo tests - 1vs2 (continued)

| Outcome |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (10) | (11) | (12) | (13) |  | (15) |  |  |  |
|  | Far-left | Center | Other | Same <br> Incum- <br> bent | \# Same | Strength | \# Same | \% votes | National |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | not | not | strength |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | quali- | quali- |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | fied | fied |  |
| Treatment | 0.000 | -0.015 | 0.003 | 0.005 | 0.018 | -0.001 | 0.022 | 0.002 | 0.001 |
|  | (0.001) | (0.005) | (0.003) | (0.018) | (0.029) | (0.004) | (0.028) | (0.002) | (0.002) |
| Robust p-value | 0.777 | 0.003 | 0.299 | 0.936 | 0.623 | 0.819 | 0.451 | 0.380 | 0.892 |
| Obs. left | 12,265 | 10,042 | 12,801 | 6,821 | 12,445 | 12,099 | 12,325 | 12,327 | 11,242 |
| Obs. right | 12,266 | 10,042 | 12,802 | 6,821 | 12,446 | 12,100 | 12,326 | 12,328 | 11,260 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.109 | 0.086 | 0.116 | 0.092 | 0.112 | 0.108 | 0.110 | 0.110 | 0.099 |
| Mean, left | 0.002 | 0.036 | 0.008 | 0.524 | 2.187 | 0.453 | 0.865 | 0.057 | 0.416 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p -value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The outcomes are described in the text and presented in the same order in the table. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table B2: Placebo tests - 2vs3

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Ran <br> t-1 <br> départe- <br> ment | Ran <br> t-1 <br> district | Won <br> t-1 <br> départe- <br> ment | Won <br> t-1 district | Party | Right | Left | Far-right |
| Treatment | -0.022 | 0.004 | -0.008 | -0.012 | -0.011 | -0.004 | 0.023 | -0.047 | 0.014 |
|  | (0.013) | (0.021) | (0.025) | (0.012) | (0.014) | (0.018) | (0.021) | (0.023) | (0.013) |
| Robust p-value | 0.102 | 0.888 | 0.720 | 0.380 | 0.376 | 0.734 | 0.332 | 0.040 | 0.194 |
| Observations left | 4,496 | 4,150 | 3,162 | 4,289 | 3,448 | 4,564 | 4,842 | 4,391 | 4,453 |
| Observations right | 4,496 | 4,150 | 3,162 | 4,289 | 3,448 | 4,564 | 4,842 | 4,391 | 4,453 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.054 | 0.065 | 0.064 | 0.069 | 0.072 | 0.055 | 0.060 | 0.052 | 0.053 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.129 | 0.311 | 0.299 | 0.097 | 0.091 | 0.792 | 0.381 | 0.486 | 0.082 |

Table B2: Placebo tests - 2 vs 3 (continued)

|  | $(10)$ | $(11)$ | $(12)$ | $(13)$ | $(14)$ | $(15)$ | $(16)$ | $(17)$ | $(18)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | Far-left | Center | Other | Same | \# Same | Strength | \# Same | \% votes <br> not | National <br> strength |
|  |  |  |  | Incum- |  |  | not | quali- | quali- |

Notes as in Table B1.

Table B3: Placebo tests - 3vs4

|  | $(1)$ | $(2)$ | $(3)$ | $(4)$ | $(5)$ | $(6)$ | $(7)$ | $(8)$ | (9) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | Gender | Ran | Ran | Won | Won | Party | Right | Left | Far-right |
|  |  | t-1 | $\mathrm{t}-1$ | $\mathrm{t}-1$ | $\mathrm{t}-1$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | départe- | district | départe- | district |  |  |  |  |
| ment |  | ment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment | -0.026 | -0.052 | -0.048 | 0.027 | 0.020 | 0.042 | -0.052 | 0.087 | -0.013 |
|  | $(0.020)$ | $(0.039)$ | $(0.043)$ | $(0.016)$ | $(0.015)$ | $(0.033)$ | $(0.039)$ | $(0.042)$ | $(0.018)$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.158 | 0.260 | 0.355 | 0.098 | 0.215 | 0.165 | 0.208 | 0.050 | 0.420 |
| Observations left | 1,108 | 978 | 801 | 845 | 768 | 1,197 | 1,198 | 1,153 | 1,279 |
| Observations right | 1,108 | 978 | 801 | 845 | 768 | 1,197 | 1,198 | 1,153 | 1,279 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.033 | 0.049 | 0.045 | 0.037 | 0.042 | 0.037 | 0.037 | 0.035 | 0.042 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.069 | 0.327 | 0.312 | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.780 | 0.357 | 0.426 | 0.070 |

Table B3: Placebo tests - 3vs4 (continued)

|  | $(10)$ | $(11)$ | $(12)$ | $(13)$ | $(14)$ | $(15)$ | $(16)$ | $(17)$ | $(18)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | Far-left | Center | Other | Same | \# Same | Strength | \# Same | \% votes <br> not | National <br> strength |
|  |  |  |  | Incum- |  |  | not | quali- | quali- |

Notes as in Table B1.

Figure B1: Placebo tests - Candidate's gender


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the candidate's characteristic (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 30 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

Figure B2: Placebo tests - The candidate won the last election in the same district


Notes as in Figure B1.

Figure B3: Placebo tests - Left-wing candidate


Notes as in Figure B1.

Figure B4: Placebo tests - Number of candidates of the same orientation in the first round


Notes as in Figure B1.

## Appendix C. Robustness tests

Table C1: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Quadratic specification

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.055 | 0.050 | 0.220 | 0.095 | 0.144 | 0.026 |
|  | (0.006) | (0.016) | (0.023) | (0.015) | (0.047) | (0.013) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.005 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.008 | 0.041 |
| Observations left | 15,067 | 16,700 | 6,229 | 6,277 | 1,531 | 1,510 |
| Observations right | 15,067 | 16,700 | 6,229 | 6,277 | 1,531 | 1,510 |
| Polyn. order | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Bandwidth | 0.144 | 0.166 | 0.088 | 0.089 | 0.058 | 0.057 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.942 | 0.461 | 0.582 | 0.050 | 0.312 | 0.005 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 1,3 , and 5 (resp. 2, 4, and 6), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use a quadratic specification: we fit separate polynomials of order 2 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table C2: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - IK bandwidths

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.056 | 0.058 | 0.227 | 0.099 | 0.139 | 0.018 |
|  | (0.004) | (0.017) | (0.020) | (0.013) | (0.043) | (0.009) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.006 | 0.043 |
| Observations left | 13,920 | 7,911 | 4,334 | 4,873 | 1,051 | 1,553 |
| Observations right | 13,920 | 7,911 | 4,334 | 4,873 | 1,051 | 1,553 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.129 | 0.065 | 0.051 | 0.060 | 0.031 | 0.060 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.941 | 0.458 | 0.578 | 0.048 | 0.306 | 0.006 |

Notes: We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold. We compute the bandwidths according to the IK procedure. Other notes as in Table C1.

Table C3: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - MSERD bandwidths divided by 2

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 vs 2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.053 | 0.055 | 0.214 | 0.091 | 0.130 | 0.027 |
|  | (0.006) | (0.023) | (0.025) | (0.018) | (0.056) | (0.016) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.026 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.026 | 0.087 |
| Observations left | 6,775 | 4,205 | 3,065 | 2,421 | 693 | 656 |
| Observations right | 6,775 | 4,205 | 3,065 | 2,421 | 693 | 656 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.055 | 0.033 | 0.034 | 0.026 | 0.018 | 0.017 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.945 | 0.460 | 0.588 | 0.051 | 0.325 | 0.005 |

Notes: We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold. We compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure, and then divide them by 2. Other notes as in Table C1.

Figure C1: Impact on winning depending on bandwidth choices


Notes: We show the sensitivity of the impact on winning to bandwidth choice, using a linear (left-hand side graphs) or quadratic specification (right-hand side graphs). Dots represent the estimated treatment effect using different bandwidths (horizontal axis). Dotted lines represent the $95 \%$ robust confidence interval. When using a polynomial order 1 (resp. 2), we report all estimates for values of the bandwidth from 1 to 10 percentage points (resp. 20 pp ), in steps of 0.2 percentage points (resp. 0.4 pp ). The vertical red (resp. blue) line gives the value of the MSERD (resp. IK) optimal(bandwidth.

Table C4: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Including controls

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.055 | 0.053 | 0.235 | 0.101 | 0.154 | 0.022 |
|  | (0.004) | (0.016) | (0.017) | (0.013) | (0.036) | (0.011) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.006 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.049 |
| Observations left | 12,584 | 8,000 | 4,709 | 4,431 | 1,179 | 1,105 |
| Observations right | 12,584 | 8,000 | 4,709 | 4,431 | 1,179 | 1,105 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.113 | 0.066 | 0.057 | 0.052 | 0.036 | 0.033 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.941 | 0.330 | 0.576 | 0.048 | 0.299 | 0.005 |

Notes: We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. We added in the regressions the same baseline variables used to perform the placebo tests (see Appendix B): the candidate's gender; whether she ran in the previous election, in the same département and then in the same district; whether she won a race in the previous election, in the same département and then in the same district; whether she runs with or without the label of a political party; a set of six dummies indicating her political orientation; whether this orientation is the same as the incumbent's; the number of candidates of her orientation who were present in the first round; the number of candidates of her orientation who did not qualify for the second round; her strength in the first round, defined as the sum of first-round vote shares of all candidates of the same orientation; the total vote share of same-orientation candidates who did not qualify for the second round; and the average strength of her orientation at the national level in the first round. To avoid dropping observations, for each control variable, we include a dummy equal to one when the variable is missing and replace missings by 0 s. Other notes as in Table C1.

Table C5: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Using the "ivreg2" command and clustering on both sides of the threshold

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 vs 2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.058 | 0.061 | 0.242 | 0.103 | 0.162 | 0.022 |
|  | (0.004) | (0.021) | (0.019) | (0.013) | (0.033) | (0.010) |
| Observations left | 12,272 | 8,027 | 5,347 | 4,398 | 1,169 | 1,116 |
| Observations right | 12,272 | 8,027 | 5,347 | 4,398 | 1,169 | 1,116 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.109 | 0.066 | 0.068 | 0.052 | 0.036 | 0.033 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.941 | 0.458 | 0.572 | 0.048 | 0.300 | 0.005 |

Notes: We run the regressions using the "ivreg2" command, instead of "rdrobust". Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level, with each cluster encompassing observations on both sides of the threshold. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 1, 3, and 5 (resp. 2, 4, and 6), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table C6: Impact of ranking 2 vs 3 - Excluding races in which the $2^{\text {nd }}$ is close to the $1^{\text {st }}$

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Full sample 2vs3 |  | Gap $1^{\text {st }}-2^{\text {nd }}>2 \mathrm{pp}$ |  | Gap $1^{\text {st }}-2^{\text {nd }}>4 \mathrm{pp}$ |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.235 | 0.099 | 0.254 | 0.086 | 0.271 | 0.087 |
|  | $(0.018)$ | $(0.013)$ | $(0.019)$ | $(0.013)$ | $(0.020)$ | $(0.011)$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Observations left | 5,347 | 4,398 | 4,825 | 3,894 | 4,254 | 4,265 |
| Observations right | 5,347 | 4,398 | 4,825 | 3,894 | 4,254 | 4,265 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.068 | 0.052 | 0.071 | 0.052 | 0.073 | 0.074 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.572 | 0.048 | 0.555 | 0.039 | 0.533 | 0.023 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 3 and 4 (resp. 5 and 6), the sample is restricted to elections where the vote share difference between the first and the second candidates in the first round is strictly higher than 2 (resp. 4) percentage points. In columns 1, 3, and 5 (resp. 2, 4, and 6), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table C7: Impact of ranking $3 v s 4$ - Excluding races in which the $3^{\text {rd }}$ is close to the $2^{\text {nd }}$

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Full sample 3vs4 |  | Gap $2^{\text {nd }}-3^{\text {rd }}>2 \mathrm{pp}$ |  | Gap $2^{\text {nd }}-3^{\text {rd }}>4 \mathrm{pp}$ |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.146 | 0.022 | 0.142 | 0.020 | 0.138 | 0.007 |
|  | $(0.040)$ | $(0.011)$ | $(0.046)$ | (0.009) | $(0.052)$ | (0.007) |
| Robust p-value | 0.003 | 0.052 | 0.012 | 0.049 | 0.035 | 0.502 |
| Observations left | 1,169 | 1,116 | 852 | 929 | 628 | 622 |
| Observations right | 1,169 | 1,116 | 852 | 929 | 628 | 622 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.036 | 0.033 | 0.035 | 0.040 | 0.034 | 0.034 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.300 | 0.005 | 0.266 | -0.001 | 0.226 | -0.001 |

Notes: In columns 3 and 4 (resp. 5 and 6), the sample is restricted to elections where the vote share difference between the second and the third candidates in the first round is strictly higher than 2 (resp. 4) percentage points. Other notes as in Table C6.

## Appendix D. Analysis at the subdistrict level

As discussed in Section 3.3 of the paper, we use within-district variation to identify which types of voters drive the conditional effects of rankings. The finest level of aggregation of electoral results is the precinct (polling station). Results at the precinct level are available for all local elections beginning in 2001, and all parliamentary elections beginning in 2002. An intermediate level of aggregation between the precinct and the district is the municipality. We collected results at the municipality level for the 1993 and 1997 parliamentary elections, for the 1992, 1994, and 1998 local elections, and for a few districts for which precinct-level results could not be used in the 2001, 2008, and 2011 local elections. All disaggregate results were obtained from the French Ministry of the Interior. Disaggregate results at the level of the precinct or the municipality are unavailable before 1992.

We ran quality checks on the precinct- and municipality-level data, to verify their internal consistency as well as their consistency with district-level results. We dropped 2 percent of the observations which failed these checks and could not be corrected.

Overall, we have disaggregate results for 14,511 races, accounting for 64.4 percent of all races used to measure the effects of ranking 1vs2. There are 33 precinct- or municipality-level results for the average race, totaling up to 475,501 subdistrict-level results.

In each district and race, we split precincts or municipalities into terciles. Terciles are defined based on the first-round total vote share of candidates placed first and second in the district; on the total vote share of lower-ranked candidates; and on the share of non-candidate votes (encompassing non-voters and blank and null votes), respectively. These three fractions are computed using the number of registered citizens in the first round as denominator, and their sum is equal to 1 . On average, the vote share of the top-two candidates is equal to 31.3 percent, 38.3 percent, and 45.9 percent in the first, second, and third terciles, in the first set of terciles. In the second set of terciles, the average vote share of lower-ranked candidates per tercile is equal to 15.9 percent, 20.8 percent, and 27.1 percent, respectively. In the last set of terciles, the average share of non-voters and blank and null votes per tercile is equal to 34.1 percent, 40.6 percent, and 47.1 percent, respectively.

All regressions use candidates' unconditional vote shares in the precinct or in the municipality as outcome. The running variable is defined at the district race level.

# Table D1: Impact of ranking 1vs2 on vote share - Subdistrict level analysis 

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Vote share in the second round 1vs2 - subdistrict level analysis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Full Sample | Vote share top2 |  |  | Vote share other candidates |  |  | Share non-candidate votes |  |  |
|  |  | T1 | T2 | T3 | T1 | T2 | T3 | T1 | T2 | T3 |
| Treatment | 0.022 | 0.016 | 0.023 | 0.024 | 0.026 | 0.014 | 0.024 | 0.025 | 0.023 | 0.018 |
|  | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Robust p-val. | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| P-val. $T 1=T 3$ |  |  |  | 0.000 |  |  | 0.193 |  |  | 0.000 |
| Obs. left | 40,966 | 22,125 | 20,893 | 47,017 | 24,481 | 33,315 | 24,430 | 24,340 | 22,095 | 20,690 |
| Obs. right | 40,966 | 22,125 | 20,893 | 47,017 | 24,481 | 33,315 | 24,430 | 24,340 | 22,095 | 20,690 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.015 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 0.057 | 0.027 | 0.039 | 0.029 | 0.027 | 0.025 | 0.025 |
| Mean | 0.468 | 0.462 | 0.465 | 0.469 | 0.468 | 0.468 | 0.457 | 0.464 | 0.464 | 0.467 |

Notes: The outcome is defined at the subdistrict race level (precinct or municipality) and the analysis run at this level. The running variable is defined at the district race level, and standard errors are clustered at that level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The outcome is the vote share of the candidate in the second round, equal to 0 if the candidate does not stay in the second round. In each district and race, we allocate precincts to terciles. In column 2 (resp. 3 and 4), the sample is restricted to precincts for which the share of non-candidate votes in the first round falls in the first tercile (resp. second and third terciles). In column 5 (resp. 6 and 7), the sample is restricted to precincts where the vote share of the top-two candidates in the first round falls in the first tercile (resp. second and third terciles). In column 8 (resp. 9 and 10), the sample is restricted to precincts where the vote share of candidates other than the top two in the first round falls in the first tercile (resp. second and third terciles). All heterogeneity variables are expressed in terms of the number of registered citizens. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold. Below the robust p-value, we provide the result of a test of the hypothesis that the coefficients computed in the first and third terciles are equal to each other.

## Appendix E. Newspaper articles analysis

We used Factiva's research tool (Dow Jones \& Company) to collect all newspaper articles released between the two rounds of all parliamentary elections since 1997 and containing the entities élection*, électoral*, législative*, candidat*, or circonscription*, as well as all articles released between the two rounds of all local elections since 1998 and containing the entities élection*, électoral*, cantonale*, or candidat*, or the word "canton" or "cantons". ${ }^{1}$ For the 2015 local elections, we also collected articles containing the entity départementale* since these elections were called "départementales" instead of "cantonales" as the previous ones. Articles ranked by Factiva under the "sport" category were discarded. Table E1 displays the number of articles collected for each election.

Table E1: Number of newspaper articles by election type and year

| Election type | Year | Number of articles | Election type | Year | Number of articles |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Parliamentary elections | 1997 | 378 | Local elections | 1998 | 370 |
|  | 2002 | 766 |  | 2001 | 511 |
|  | 2007 | 6,396 |  | 2004 | 3,832 |
|  | 2012 | 11,789 |  | 2008 | 10,313 |
|  | 2017 | 14,434 |  | 2011 | 9,561 |
|  |  |  |  | 2015 | 18,329 |
|  | Total | 33,763 |  | Total | 42,916 |

## Quantitative analysis

To identify articles mentioning candidates' names and to count the number of mentions, we proceeded in two steps. First, we normalized the first and last names of all candidates ranked first to fourth in the first round of each race, in the election results. For instance, we dropped accents, special characters, and aristocratic particles, and we completed compound first names to the extent possible when one of the components was only indicated by its first letter. In the 2015 local

[^0]elections, where the names of both candidates in each ticket were concatenated in a single field, we separated the two names and, for each candidate, the first and last name. Second, we harmonized the text of all newspaper articles in Python. For instance, we separated words wrongly tied together and removed accents, aristocratic particles, and extra blank spaces. We then counted the total number of articles mentioning the candidate's first and last names at least once; the total number of mentions (counting twice the articles in which the candidate is mentioned twice, thrice the articles in which they are mentioned thrice, etc.); and the total number of articles mentioning the candidate in the title. For the 2015 local elections, we computed the average number of mentions of the two candidates of each ticket. The results are reported in Table E2 and shown graphically for the number of articles mentioning the candidate in Figure E1.

Table E2: Impact on press coverage

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 vs 2 |  |  | 2vs3 |  |  | 3 vs 4 |  |  |
|  | Articles | Mentions | Titles | Articles | Mentions | Titles | Articles | Mentions | Titles |
| Treatment | -0.155 | -0.013 | 0.035 | 0.055 | 0.184 | 0.048 | 0.085 | 0.111 | -0.009 |
|  | (0.558) | $(0.995)$ | (0.048) | (0.593) | (1.009) | (0.035) | (0.138) | $(0.263)$ | (0.008) |
| R. p-value | 0.793 | 0.981 | 0.472 | 0.925 | 0.921 | 0.280 | 0.620 | 0.669 | 0.266 |
| Obs left | 5,136 | 5,182 | 6,398 | 1,371 | 1,453 | 1,462 | 131 | 126 | 280 |
| Obs right | 5,136 | 5,182 | 6,398 | 1,371 | 1,453 | 1,462 | 131 | 126 | 280 |
| Polyn. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bdw | 0.085 | 0.086 | 0.113 | 0.043 | 0.046 | 0.046 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.130 |
| Mean | 4.449 | 7.296 | 0.234 | 2.037 | 3.143 | 0.041 | 0.108 | 0.186 | 0.009 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p -value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The sample only includes the elections for which newspaper articles are available. In columns 1,4 , and 7 , the outcome is the total number of articles mentioning the candidate at least once. In columns 2,5 , and 8 , the outcome is the total number of mentions. In columns 3,6 , and 9 , the outcome is the total number of articles mentioning the candidate in the title. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Figure E1: Impact on the number of articles mentioning the candidate


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the number of articles mentioning the candidate at least once (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 30 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

## Qualitative analysis

Articles read and annotated manually were chosen as follows. We identified all races with a vote share difference between the top-two candidates smaller than 2 percentage points and in which the first or second candidate was cited in at least one article collected through Factiva. We selected a random subset of 201 of these races and, out of all articles covering these races, up to two articles. Before selecting articles, we removed outliers: articles citing candidates who were cited in a total of 50 articles or more. Using the same process, we selected a random subset of 104
races for the 2 vs 3 discontinuity and 20 races for the 3 vs 4 discontinuity and again, for each of these races, up to two articles. The proportion of close races selected from each discontinuity (201, 104, and 20 races) corresponds to their proportion in the full sample of races starting with the 1997 parliamentary election ( $1,347,697$, and 134). Races and articles were drawn independently for each discontinuity, meaning that the same race or the same article could be drawn multiple times. The final dataset includes 613 entries (race*discontinuity*article). We dropped 66 entries after reading the corresponding article and realizing that it did not cover the race or did not cover the candidate but an homonym, leaving us with 547 entries, 517 unique articles, and 296 unique races.

For most of the race*discontinuities, our sample includes two articles. For 55 race*discontinuities, only one article was available. To give equal weight to each race*discontinuity, this article receives a weight of two in all statistics reported in Table E3. This table reports the fractions of articles which:

- mostly cover the higher-ranked (resp. lower-ranked) candidate,
- report speech from the higher-ranked (resp. lower-ranked) candidate,
- report the vote share of the higher-ranked (resp. lower-ranked) candidate,
- mention that a public figure supports the higher-ranked (resp. lower-ranked) candidate for the second round,
- express positive expectations from the higher-ranked (resp. lower-ranked) candidate about their likelihood to win the second round,
- express positive expectations from someone else (e.g., the journalist, a public figure, or another candidate) about the likelihood that the higher-ranked (resp. lower-ranked) candidate wins the second round,
- and mention only candidate rankings (either the ranking of one of the two candidates or both); only the vote shares of both candidates, the gap between them, or the closeness of the race; or both.

Table E3: Newspaper articles analysis

| Variables | Full Sample <br> $(\mathrm{N}=547)$ | Running variable <br> $\leq 1 p p(\mathrm{~N}=271)$ | Sample 1vs2 <br> $(\mathrm{N}=348)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Panel A. Coverage of the higher- and lower-ranked candidates |  |  |  |
| Coverage centered |  |  |  |
| On the higher-ranked | 16.0 | 15.4 | 14.1 |

Notes: The numbers reported in the table are percentages. The level of analysis is the race*discontinuity*article. For race*discontinuities for which only one article was available, this article receives a weight of two in all statistics. The first column reports the statistics on the full sample, the second column focuses on races where the vote share difference between the two candidates is smaller than 1 percentage point, and the third column focuses on races of sample 1 where we compare close first and close second candidates. Information on the sampling procedure and on the statistics reported in the table is provided in the text above.

## Appendix F. External validity within France

Table F1: Summary statistics on parliamentary versus local elections

|  | Parliamentary $(\mathrm{N}=6,335)$ |  | Local (N=16,222) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mean | Sd | Mean | Sd |
| Panel A. 1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ round |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 69,560 | 16,843 | 12,178 | 8,181 |
| Turnout | 0.682 | 0.116 | 0.617 | 0.123 |
| Candidate votes | 0.664 | 0.114 | 0.593 | 0.119 |
| Number of candidates | 9.1 | 4.3 | 5.5 | 1.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 |  |  |  |  |
| Turnout round |  |  |  |  |
| Candidate votes | 0.680 | 0.131 | 0.608 | 0.130 |
| Number of candidates | 2.2 | 0.138 | 0.573 | 0.132 |

Notes: This table presents some descriptive statistics on races with two rounds and at least two candidates in the first round, separately for parliamentary and local elections.

Table F2: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Parliamentary elections

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3 vs 4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.064 | 0.094 | 0.240 | 0.113 | 0.185 | 0.006 |
|  | (0.009) | (0.025) | (0.035) | (0.023) | (0.052) | (0.012) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.676 |
| Observations left | 3,598 | 3,434 | 1,487 | 1,696 | 633 | 682 |
| Observations right | 3,598 | 3,434 | 1,487 | 1,696 | 633 | 682 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.114 | 0.107 | 0.064 | 0.078 | 0.038 | 0.042 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.934 | 0.438 | 0.542 | 0.057 | 0.241 | 0.010 |

Notes: The sample is restricted to parliamentary elections. Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 1,3 , and 5 (resp. 2, 4, and 6 ), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table F3: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Local elections

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.053 | 0.044 | 0.231 | 0.094 | 0.105 | 0.047 |
|  | (0.005) | (0.020) | (0.021) | (0.016) | (0.059) | (0.021) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.111 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.181 | 0.033 |
| Observations left | 9,042 | 5,473 | 3,798 | 2,903 | 542 | 423 |
| Observations right | 9,042 | 5,473 | 3,798 | 2,903 | 542 | 423 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.114 | 0.063 | 0.069 | 0.048 | 0.034 | 0.024 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.944 | 0.467 | 0.586 | 0.043 | 0.360 | -0.003 |

Notes: The sample is restricted to local elections. Other notes as in Table F2.

Figure F1: Impact on winning across time


Notes: We divided the sample into four time periods (horizontal axis). Dots represent the estimated impact on winning using only elections from the given period (vertical axis). Vertical lines represent the $95 \%$ robust confidence interval. The red dotted horizontal line represents the value of the estimate on the full sample.

Table F4: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Left-wing candidates

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.091 | 0.084 | 0.298 | 0.134 | 0.203 | -0.001 |
|  | (0.008) | (0.024) | (0.025) | (0.020) | (0.053) | (0.014) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.976 |
| Observations left | 5,945 | 3,822 | 2,950 | 2,507 | 587 | 549 |
| Observations right | 5,624 | 3,711 | 2,864 | 2,453 | 634 | 589 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.118 | 0.071 | 0.080 | 0.064 | 0.037 | 0.034 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.908 | 0.588 | 0.495 | 0.058 | 0.230 | 0.013 |

Notes: The sample is restricted to left-wing candidates. Other notes as in Table F2.

Table F5: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Right-wing candidates

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3 vs 4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.030 | 0.034 | 0.202 | 0.091 | 0.116 | 0.068 |
|  | (0.006) | (0.023) | (0.035) | (0.021) | (0.073) | (0.025) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.355 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.248 | 0.008 |
| Observations left | 4,296 | 3,726 | 1,462 | 1,592 | 315 | 364 |
| Observations right | 4,729 | 4,047 | 1,620 | 1,783 | 307 | 376 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.083 | 0.070 | 0.047 | 0.053 | 0.030 | 0.038 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.967 | 0.396 | 0.601 | 0.045 | 0.331 | 0.000 |

Notes: The sample is restricted to right-wing candidates. Other notes as in Table F2.

Table F6: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Excluding local elections which took place on the same date as regional or municipal elections

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.056 | 0.073 | 0.274 | 0.121 | 0.161 | 0.024 |
|  | $(0.005)$ | (0.019) | (0.022) | $(0.015)$ | $(0.045)$ | (0.012) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.095 |
| Observations left | 8,652 | 6,048 | 3,574 | 3,756 | 912 | 926 |
| Observations right | 8,652 | 6,048 | 3,574 | 3,756 | 912 | 926 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.108 | 0.070 | 0.070 | 0.075 | 0.036 | 0.037 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.943 | 0.452 | 0.525 | 0.049 | 0.240 | 0.007 |

Notes: We exclude from the sample the 1992, 1998, 2001, 2004, and 2008 local elections, which took place on the same date as regional or municipal elections. Other notes as in Table F2.

Table F7: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning - Local elections, excluding those which took place on the same date as regional or municipal elections

| Outcome | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 vs 2 |  | 2vs3 |  | 3vs4 |  |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.051 | 0.058 | 0.300 | 0.128 | 0.057 | 0.061 |
|  | (0.007) | (0.025) | (0.031) | (0.021) | (0.083) | (0.027) |
| Robust p-value | 0.000 | 0.081 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.763 | 0.042 |
| Observations left | 5,231 | 3,457 | 1,916 | 1,756 | 208 | 301 |
| Observations right | 5,231 | 3,457 | 1,916 | 1,756 | 208 | 301 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.110 | 0.066 | 0.066 | 0.059 | 0.022 | 0.037 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.948 | 0.462 | 0.513 | 0.042 | 0.277 | 0.000 |

Notes: The sample is restricted to local elections and excludes the 1992, 1998, 2001, 2004, and 2008 local elections, which took place on the same date as regional or municipal elections. Other notes as in Table F2.

## Appendix G. External validity beyond France

## Appendix G1: Sampling frame

We systematically collected data for worldwide parliamentary elections using a two-round plurality rule and in which the set of eligible voters is identical in both rounds. In all cases, the set of candidates present in the second round are a subset of those present in the first round, with one exception. In Norway's parliamentary elections, candidates can decide to run in the second round even if they did not compete in the first round. This happened in only 24 races, accounting for 8.8 percent of Norway's races and 0.6 percent of the entire sample. We kept both single-member and multi-member constituencies in which voting was conducted at the ticket level so that candidates on the same ticket were either all elected or all defeated.

We first identified elections satisfying these criteria with the following three databases:

- The National Elections across Democracy and Autocracy (NELDA) database (Hyde and Marinov, 2012): This database provides information on all elections for a national executive figure or national legislative body in which voters directly elect the persons appearing on the ballot and mass voting takes place, from 1945 to 2010. Using this source, the following countries were identified as having held two-round parliamentary elections at some point in their history: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Brazzaville), Cote d’Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, France, Gabon, Georgia, Haiti, Hungary, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Peru, Poland, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.
- The Constituency-Level Elections Archive (CLEA) (Kollman et al., 2018): This database provides constituency-level results for lower house legislative elections around the world. This source enabled us to identify the following additional countries: Belgium, Bhutan, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, and San Marino.
- The ACE Electoral Knowledge Network (2018): This online repository includes an Encyclopedia of Elections. Using this source, four additional countries were identified: Cuba, Kiribati, Montserrat, and Tokelau.
We then used the following additional sources to make sure that all elections identified in the first step did take place under a two-round system and to record information on the specific electoral system used to elect each parliamentary body: Nohlen's Elections Data handbooks (Nohlen, 2005;

Nohlen and Stöver, 2010), the inter-parliamentary union's PARLINE database on national parliaments (Inter-Parliamentary Union Parline, 2018), the countries' election pages on Wikipedia, and Adam Carr's Election database (Carr, 1999-2022). We discovered that the following countries did not, in fact, hold two-round parliamentary elections satisfying our criteria:

- The two-round election did not occur for the upper or lower house of Parliament but for a different body of government in Bulgaria (elections for a Grand National Assembly, convened to draft a new constitution).
- The two rounds were not conducted with the same type of candidates in Bhutan and San Marino.
- The two rounds were not conducted with the same voters in Zimbabwe.
- A rerun took place due to fraud, not as part of a two-round election in Benin, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Peru, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Thailand.
- Our three initial sources incorrectly identified the electoral system, and/or a second round never occurred in Cuba, Monserrat, and Togo.
- Certain districts had multi-member constituencies in which voting did not exclusively occur at the ticket level (for example, voters could place multiple votes for multiple candidates) in Belgium, Kiribati, Cuba, Monserrat, and Togo. In these countries, we kept the singlemember constituencies but removed the multi-member constituencies.
In total we identified 44 countries which held two-round parliamentary elections at some point in their history, and a total of 201 distinct elections. We searched for election results at the constituency level using the following sources: CLEA, Adam Carr's Election Archive, David Lublin's Election Passport dataset, and electoral commissions websites.
- Electoral commissions websites: We first checked whether governments make constituencylevel electoral results available through the websites of their electoral commission. This was the case for Bahrain's 2002, 2006, 2010, and 2014 elections; the Czech Republic's 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018 elections; Georgia's 2016 election; Lithuania’s 2016 election; Mauritania’s 2013 election; New Zealand's 1908 and 1911 elections; Poland's 1989 election; and Switzerland's 1990, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011, and 2015 elections.
- Bahrain: Bahrain Directorate of Elections and Referendum (2018)
- Czech Republic: Czech Statistical Office (2018)
- Lithuania: The Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania (2018)
- Mauritania: Islamic Republic of Mauritania Independent National Electoral Commission
- New Zealand: National Library of New Zealand
- Poland: The official website of the President of the Republic of Poland (2018)
- Switzerland: Swiss Federal Statistics Office
- CLEA database (Kollman et al., 2018): We supplemented the electoral commissions websites with the CLEA dataset, which provides constituency-level voter information for Albania's 2001 election; Belgium's 28 elections between 1847 and 1898; Croatia's 1990 election; Germany's 11 elections between 1877 and 1912; Hungary's 1998, 2002, 2006, and 2010 elections; Lithuania's 2004, 2008, and 2012 elections; the Netherland's eight elections between 1888 and 1913; and Norway's 1906, 1909, 1912, and 1915 elections.
- Psephos (Carr, 1999-2022): Adam Carr's Electoral Archive: This online archive of election statistics is maintained by Adam Carr and includes detailed statistics for presidential and legislative elections from 182 countries. This source supplied information for Comoros' 2004 and 2009 elections, Kiribati's 2002, 2007, and 2016 elections, and Mali's 2013 elections.
- Election Passport (Lublin): This dataset, compiled by David Lublin of American University, comprises constituency election results in 110 countries and territories. It provided detailed information for Haiti's 2015 lower house election and 2016 upper house election.
- National Democratic Institute (NDI) website (Georgia National Democratic Institute): Georgia's data for the 2016 election were gathered from a website created by the National Democratic Institute, a nonprofit organization that supports democratic institutions.
- For countries in which some variables were missing, we supplemented our data with additional sources.
- Georgia: We retrieved blank and null vote count information from a government data file (Election Administration of Georgia).
- Kiribati: We used an additional source to retrieve blank and null vote count information (Stories from Kiribati, 2016).
Overall, we found election results for 72 elections in 19 countries, listed in Table G1.1, and corresponding to a total of 4,075 races with two rounds. ${ }^{2}$ In some elections, our sample only includes a subset of the races because we removed multi-member constituencies, as indicated above, and

[^1]results for some races were not available. ${ }^{3}$ In Table G1.2, we indicate the specific electoral rules used in each country, namely the vote share cutoff required for a candidate to win in the first round and the qualification rule for the second round if the election was not won in the first round.

After gathering these data, we conducted the seven following checks to verify the quality of the data (we focused our tests on elections where a second round took place, as they are the ones included in our analysis):

- Check that the sum of all candidates' votes is within 5 percent of the number of valid votes in the first round. This check was performed on 4,039 elections with two rounds ( 99.1 percent of the sample), due to data availability.
- Check that the sum of all candidates' votes is within 5 percent of the number of valid votes in the second round. This check was performed on 4,039 elections with two rounds (99.1 percent of the sample).
- Check that only qualified candidates participate in the second round. This check was performed on all elections with two rounds.
- Check that a second round did not occur when an absolute majority was won in the first round. This check was performed on the entire sample.
- Check that a second round did occur when the electoral law dictates it. This check was performed on the entire sample.
- Check that the first round results are consistent, i.e. turnout < registered voters, valid votes $<$ registered voters, and valid votes < turnout. This check was performed on 3,557 elections with two rounds ( 87.3 percent of the sample).
- Check that the second round results are consistent, i.e. turnout $>$ registered voters, valid votes > registered voters, and valid votes > turnout. This check was performed on 3,254 elections with two rounds ( 79.9 percent of the sample).

When inconsistencies were found, we cross-checked the results with other sources if multiple sources had been identified. For example, the original data for Lithuania's elections were collected from CLEA and were double-checked with Adam Carr's election dataset. Table G5.4 tests the robustness of the results to excluding the 4.5 percent of races failing any of these tests and whose inconsistencies could not be corrected using alternative sources.

[^2]Table G1.1: Number of races by country, election type, and year

| Country | Election Type | Year | Number of Races | Number of Races with a 2nd Round |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Albania | Lower | 2001 | 100 | 45 |
| Bahrain | Lower | 2002 | 38 | 21 |
| Bahrain | Lower | 2006 | 39 | 11 |
| Bahrain | Lower | 2010 | 35 | 9 |
| Bahrain | Lower | 2014 | 39 | 34 |
| Bahrain | Lower | 2018 | 40 | 31 |
| Belgium | Lower | 1850 | 4 | 1 |
| Comoros | Lower | 2004 | 12 | 4 |
| Comoros | Lower | 2009 | 23 | 21 |
| Comoros | Lower | 2015 | 23 | 21 |
| Croatia | Lower | 1990 | 80 | 51 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 1996 | 81 | 77 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 1998 | 27 | 27 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2000 | 27 | 26 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2002 | 29 | 28 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2004 | 29 | 28 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2006 | 29 | 29 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2008 | 27 | 26 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2010 | 28 | 28 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2012 | 27 | 27 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2014 | 29 | 29 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2016 | 27 | 27 |
| Czech Republic | Upper | 2018 | 29 | 27 |
| Georgia | Lower | 2016 | 73 | 50 |
| Germany | Lower | 1877 | 70 | 70 |
| Germany | Lower | 1878 | 67 | 67 |
| Germany | Lower | 1881 | 104 | 104 |
| Germany | Lower | 1884 | 99 | 99 |
| Germany | Lower | 1887 | 62 | 62 |
| Germany | Lower | 1890 | 151 | 151 |
| Germany | Lower | 1893 | 181 | 181 |
| Germany | Lower | 1898 | 187 | 187 |
| Germany | Lower | 1903 | 180 | 180 |
| Germany | Lower | 1907 | 159 | 159 |
| Germany | Lower | 1912 | 191 | 191 |
| Haiti | Upper | 2016 | 10 | 8 |
| Haiti | Lower | 2015 | 94 | 86 |
| Haiti | Lower | 2015 | 25 | 23 |

Table G1.1: Number of races by country, election type, and year (continued)

| Country | Election Type | Year | Number of Races | Number of Races with a 2nd Round |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hungary | Lower | 1998 | 176 | 175 |
| Hungary | Lower | 2002 | 176 | 129 |
| Hungary | Lower | 2006 | 176 | 110 |
| Hungary | Lower | 2010 | 176 | 57 |
| Kiribati | Lower | 2002 | 9 | 6 |
| Kiribati | Lower | 2007 | 7 | 1 |
| Kiribati | Lower | 2016 | 7 | 1 |
| Lithuania | Lower | 1992 | 71 | 61 |
| Lithuania | Lower | 1996 | 71 | 65 |
| Lithuania | Lower | 2004 | 71 | 66 |
| Lithuania | Lower | 2008 | 71 | 68 |
| Lithuania | Lower | 2012 | 71 | 67 |
| Lithuania | Lower | 2016 | 71 | 68 |
| Mali | Lower | 2013 | 54 | 45 |
| Mauritania | Lower | 2013 | 39 | 15 |
| Mauritania | Lower | 2018 | 49 | 12 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1888 | 83 | 25 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1891 | 80 | 24 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1894 | 67 | 27 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1897 | 92 | 50 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1901 | 89 | 42 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1905 | 94 | 40 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1909 | 89 | 36 |
| Netherlands | Lower | 1913 | 95 | 47 |
| New Zealand | Lower | 1908 | 76 | 23 |
| New Zealand | Lower | 1911 | 75 | 30 |
| Norway | Lower | 1906 | 122 | 70 |
| Norway | Lower | 1909 | 123 | 75 |
| Norway | Lower | 1912 | 123 | 63 |
| Norway | Lower | 1915 | 123 | 66 |
| Poland | Lower | 1989 | 425 | 262 |
| Switzerland | Upper | 1991 | 3 | 1 |
| Switzerland | Upper | 1999 | 4 | 1 |
| Switzerland | Upper | 2015 | 5 | 1 |
| Total |  |  | 5,538 | 4,075 |

Table G1.2: Electoral rules by country

| Country | First round vote share victory cutoff | Candidates qualified for the second round |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Albania | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Bahrain | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Belgium | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Comoros | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Croatia | $50 \%$ of at least $33.3 \%$ of registered voters | All candidates with more than 7\% of the votes in the first round |
| Czech Republic <br> (Upper and lower house) | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Georgia | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Germany | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Haiti | $50 \%$ or a lead equal to or greater than $35 \%$ | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Hungary | 50\% | Top three vote earners and any candidate who received more than $15 \%$ of the votes in the first round. If voter turnout is less than $50 \%$, all candidates qualify for the second round |
| Kiribati | 50\% | Top three vote earners in the first round |
| Lithuania | $50 \%$ or the highest vote getter if turnout is under $40 \%$ and that candidate gets more than $20 \%$ of the votes cast by registered voters. | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Mali | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Mauritania | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| The Netherlands | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| New Zealand | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Norway | 50\% | Any candidate, even those not present in the first round |
| Poland | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |
| Switzerland | 50\% | Top two vote earners in the first round |

## Appendix G2: Descriptive statistics

Table G2.1 shows descriptive statistics for the full sample of races with two rounds in countries other than France. In the average race, 6.2 candidates competed in the first round, 65.0 percent of registered citizens voted in it, and 63.9 percent cast a valid vote for one of the candidates, as opposed to casting a blank or null vote. In the second round, the number of competing candidates ranged from 1 to 9 , with an average of 2.2. Turnout and the fraction of candidate votes were both slightly lower in the second round compared to the first ( 63.6 and 62.7 percent, on average).

Tables G2.2 and G2.3 show descriptive statistics for the subsets of races used to measure the impact of ranking 1vs2 (sample 1) and 2vs3 (sample 2), defined similarly as in the French sample. Sample 1 includes all races in which at least two candidates participated in the first round of the election, there was a second round, and the top three candidates all obtained different numbers of votes in the first round. Sample 2 is further restricted to races in which at least three candidates participated in the first round and all top four candidates obtained different numbers of votes in the first round.

Table G2.1: Summary statistics beyond France - Full sample

|  | Mean | Sd | Min | Max | Observations |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Panel A. $1^{\text {st }}$ round |  |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 37,699 | 30,961 | 426 | 387,626 | 3,557 |
| Turnout | 0.650 | 0.169 | 0.109 | 0.966 | 3,535 |
| Candidate votes | 0.639 | 0.174 | 0.108 | 0.959 | 3,557 |
| Number of candidates | 6.2 | 3.3 | 2 | 50 | 4,075 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ round |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turnout | 0.636 | 0.214 | 0.087 | 0.983 | 3,250 |
| Candidate votes | 0.627 | 0.214 | 0.086 | 0.981 | 3,254 |
| Number of candidates | 2.2 | 0.5 | 1 | 9 | 4,075 |

Notes: Not all data sources provide registration, turnout, and counts of blank and null votes. Each variable is available for at least 80 percent of the races.

## Table G2.2: Summary statistics beyond France - Sample 1

|  | Mean | Sd | Min | Max | Observations |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Panel A. lst round |  |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 37,716 | 30,966 | 426 | 387,626 | 3,554 |
| Turnout | 0.650 | 0.170 | 0.109 | 0.966 | 3,532 |
| Candidate votes | 0.639 | 0.174 | 0.108 | 0.959 | 3,554 |
| Number of candidates | 6.2 | 3.3 | 2 | 50 | 4,069 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 |  |  |  |  |  |

Notes: Sample 1 is used to measure the impact of ranking first instead of second. Compared to the full sample, sample 1 excludes races in which two of the top three candidates obtained an identical number of votes in the first round. Other notes as in Table G2.1.

## Table G2.3: Summary statistics beyond France - Sample 2

|  | Mean | Sd | Min | Max | Observations |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Panel A. I $^{\text {st }}$ round |  |  |  |  |  |
| Registered voters | 32,285 | 19,660 | 426 | 74,365 | 783 |
| Turnout | 0.638 | 0.117 | 0.300 | 0.925 | 783 |
| Candidate votes | 0.628 | 0.114 | 0.265 | 0.9000 | 783 |
| Number of candidates | 5.9 | 2.5 | 3 | 13 | 790 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Panel B. 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ round |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turnout | 0.645 | 0.115 | 0.339 | 0.903 | 737 |
| Candidate votes | 0.635 | 0.115 | 0.271 | 0.898 | 738 |
| Number of candidates | 2.8 | 1.0 | 1 | 9 | 790 |

Notes: Sample 2 is used to measure the impact of ranking second instead of third. Sample 2 is restricted to races where at least three candidates competed in the first round and the third candidate qualified for the second round, and excludes races in which two of the top four candidates obtained an identical number of votes in the first round. Other notes as in Table G2.1.

## Appendix G3: Validity tests

## Construction of political orientation variables

We build a measure of candidates' political orientation on the left-right axis when information on their political party is available. For 32.1 percent of candidates, party information is either unknown or impossible to locate on the left-right axis, resulting in 64.6 percent of races in which the political orientation of one or more candidates cannot be assessed.

In order to locate political parties on the left-right axis, we used the following process. First, we collected data from the Manifesto Project, ParlGov, and Wikipedia.

- Manifesto Project (Lehmann et al., 2022): The Manifesto Project covers over 1,000 parties from 1945 until today in over 50 countries. From this source, we use party names and abbreviations, party families, and right-left party positions. Political parties are grouped into the following party families: ecological, socialist or other left parties; social democratic; liberal; Christian democracy; conservative; nationalist; agrarian; ethnic and regional; and special issue. This variable is discrete and constant over time. By contrast, the right-left position of parties is continuous and time-variant. It is based on party manifestos. Specifically, the Manifesto Project attributes a value to each of the components listed below, corresponding to the share of manifestos' quasi-sentences falling in the corresponding category. The leftright variable sums the value of the following components: military positiveness, freedom and human rights, constitutionalism positiveness, political authority, free market economy, incentives positiveness, protectionism negativeness, economic orthodoxy, welfare state limitation, national way of life positiveness, traditional morality, law and order positiveness, and civic mindedness positiveness; and subtracts anti-imperialism, military negativeness, peace, internationalism positiveness, market regulation, economic planning, protectionism positiveness, controlled economy, nationalism, welfare state expansion, education expansion, labour groups positiveness, and democracy.
- ParlGov (Döring et al., 2018): ParlGov is a dataset containing parliamentary and government information for all EU and most OECD democracies. It includes approximately 1,700 parties, 980 elections, and 1,500 cabinets. From this source, we use party names, party families, and party positions. Party positions on economic and cultural left-right dimensions are time-invariant unweighted mean values of expert responses. Eight party families are defined based on these positions: communist/socialist, green/ecologist, social democracy, liberal, Christian democracy, agrarian, conservative, and right-wing.
- Wikipedia: We supplement data from the Manifesto Project and ParlGov with information collected from Wikipedia. We use party names, ideology, and political position, that can be found in the summary box on the right side of each party's Wikipedia page. For example, Wikipedia indicates that the ideology of the Armenian Democratic Liberal Party includes Armenian nationalism, National liberalism, Classical liberalism, Pro-Europeanism, and ProNATO, and that its political position is center-right.

Using these three sources we map political parties onto party families and separate party families into left-right bins. The mapping from political parties to party families is taken from the Manifesto Project, and Parlgov if not available in the Manifesto Project. We then create the mapping from party families to bins as follows.

We averaged parties' left-right position within each party family separately for the Manifesto Project and ParlGov and placed each party family in one of seven bins accordingly: 1 (far-left), 2 (left), 3 (center-left), 4 (center), 5 (center-right), 6 (right), and 7 (other). These bins were created based on the distance between party families on the left-right axis. We placed parties whose platforms revolve around ethnic/regional issues or special issues in the "other" bin.

- For the Manifesto Project, this method results in the following six bins: $1=[$ socialist or other left parties], $2=$ [social democratic], $3=$ [ecological], $4=$ [Christian democratic], $5=[$ agrarian, liberal, nationalist], $6=$ [conservative]. The gap between the average left-right position of the right-most party family in bin 1 and left-most party family in bin 2 (resp. 2 and 3, 3 and 4, 4 and 5, and 5 and 6) is 5.6 (resp. 8.3, 7.2, 3.9, and 3.0). Overall, the Manifesto Project's left-right variable ranges from -74.3 to 91.9 .
- For ParlGov, this method results in the following six bins: $1=$ [communist/socialist], $2=$ [green/ecologist, social democracy], 4=[liberal, agrarian, Christian democracy], $5=[$ conservative], $6=[r i g h t-$ wing]. The gap between the average left-right position of the right-most party family in bin 1 and left-most party family in bin 2 (resp. 2 and 4,4 and 5, and 5 and 6) is 1.8 (resp. 2.7, 1.2 , and 1.2). Note that since Parlgov's left-right variable is measured on a $0-10$ scale and there are six bins, the 2.7 gap between bins 2 and 4 was deemed sufficiently large to create an empty bin 3 .

The two classifications agree on all party families except for conservative (placed in bin 6 in the Manifesto Project classification and 5 in the ParlGov classification), liberal (5 and 4), green/ecological (3 and 2), and agrarian (5 and 4). Since the Manifesto Project's left-right variable is time-variant and the underlying methodology is more transparent, we rely on the Manifesto Project classifica-
tion of party families. This results in the following final seven bins: $1=[$ left, socialist, communist], $2=$ [social democratic], $3=$ [ecological/green], $4=$ [Christian democratic], $5=[$ liberal, agrarian, nationalist], $6=[$ right-wing, conservative], $7=$ [ethnic and regional parties, special issue parties].

All political parties present in the ParlGov or Manifesto Project data are allocated to the seven bins based on the mapping between political parties and party families on one hand, and party families and bins on the other. Parties that belong to different party families according to the Manifesto Project and ParlGov are placed in the bin corresponding to their Manifesto Project party family (The two sources agree on party family labels for 80.6 percent of parties).

Parties for which information is only available on Wikipedia are allocated to the seven bins based on their political position, when stated, and based on their list of ideologies otherwise. For ideologies also present in the Manifesto Project and ParlGov, the mapping into bins is immediate. Furthermore, democratic socialism, Marxism-Leninism, and African socialism are allocated to bin 1 (which already includes socialism), social conservatism to bin 6 (which already includes right-wing and conservative parties), and national conservatism to bin 5 (which already includes nationalist, agrarian, and liberal). We allocate other Wikipedia ideologies into bins as follows: we consider all parties for which this ideology is listed; compute each of these parties' average bin, based on other ideologies also listed for this party which were already allocated to bins; ${ }^{4}$ and compute again the average bin, over all parties with that ideology. Finally, we take the average of all ideologies' bins in the ideology list of each party.

In some cases, the ideological information available for parties does not allow us to place them into one of the bins on the left-right axis. Examples of these are single-issue ideologies such as human rights or anti-corruption, as well as candidates running as independents. These parties and candidates are labeled as "other."

In the end, after allocating all parties to seven bins, we mapped these bins into four orientations to ensure sufficient statistical power. The bins 1 and 2 were mapped into orientation "left," 3 and 4 into "center," 5 and 6 into "right," and 7 into "other."

[^3]
## Placebo tests

We conduct placebo tests to examine whether there is a discontinuity at the threshold for any of the following variables. The variables are defined the same way as for French elections, as detailed in Appendix B.

- Set of four dummies indicating the candidate's political orientation (left, center, right, and other).
- Missing orientation: a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate's orientation is missing.
- Number of candidates of the candidate's orientation in the first round.
- Number of candidates of the candidate's orientation who did not qualify for the second round.
- Strength of the candidate in the first round: sum of the first-round vote shares of all candidates of the same orientation.
- Total vote share of non-qualified candidates of the same orientation as the candidate: sum of the first-round vote shares of candidates of the same orientation who did not qualify for the second round.
The results are shown in Tables G3.1 and G3.2. None of the 18 coefficients shown in these two tables is statistically significant.

Table G3.1: Placebo tests beyond France - 1vs2
$\left.\begin{array}{lccccccccc}\hline & (1) & (2) & (3) & (4) & (5) & (6) & (7) & (8) & (9) \\ \text { Outcome } & \text { Right } & \text { Left } & \text { Center } & \text { Other } & \begin{array}{c}\text { Missing } \\ \text { Orientation }\end{array} & & \text { \# Same } & \text { Strength } & \begin{array}{c}\text { \# Same } \\ \text { not qualified }\end{array}\end{array} \begin{array}{c}\text { \% votes } \\ \text { not qualified }\end{array}\right]$

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The outcomes are described in the text and presented in the same order in the table. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table G3.2: Placebo tests beyond France - 2vs3

| Outcome | (1) Right | (2) Left | (3) <br> Center | (4) Other | (5) <br> Missing <br> Orientation | $\begin{gathered} \text { (6) } \\ \text { \# Same } \end{gathered}$ | (7) <br> Strength | (8) <br> \# Same not qualified | (9) <br> $\%$ votes not qualified |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Treatment | $\begin{gathered} 0.100 \\ (0.119) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.056 \\ & (0.106) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.021 \\ (0.048) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline-0.032 \\ & (0.043) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.125 \\ (0.072) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.216 \\ & (0.231) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline-0.021 \\ & (0.021) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.008 \\ & (0.192) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -0.007 \\ & (0.011) \end{aligned}$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.301 | 0.478 | 0.878 | 0.541 | 0.202 | 0.557 | 0.462 | 0.787 | 0.742 |
| Observations left | 203 | 206 | 337 | 337 | 293 | 306 | 353 | 262 | 264 |
| Observations right | 165 | 169 | 278 | 278 | 293 | 251 | 292 | 215 | 217 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.095 | 0.096 | 0.162 | 0.163 | 0.119 | 0.146 | 0.170 | 0.124 | 0.127 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.524 | 0.339 | 0.053 | 0.073 | 0.170 | 2.148 | 0.328 | 0.504 | 0.029 |

Notes: Same notes as in Table G3.1.

## General balance tests

We conduct the same general test for imbalance as the one described in Section 2.4, using the nine baseline variables described above. Figure G3.1 shows the lack of any jump at the cutoff for predicted assignment to first rank (instead of second). There is an apparent small jump at the cutoff for predicted assignment to second rank (instead of third) but, as shown in Table G3.3, the coefficients are not statistically significant.

Figure G3.1: General balance test beyond France


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the predicted treatment status (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 50 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

Table G3.3: General balance test beyond France

|  | $(1)$ | $(2)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Outcome | Predicted |  |
|  | 1vs2 | 2 vs 3 |
|  | (sample 1) | (sample 2) |
| Treatment | 0.001 | 0.064 |
|  | $(0.009)$ | $(0.051)$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.996 | 0.338 |
| Observations left | 3,140 | 301 |
| Observations right | 3,140 | 301 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.156 | 0.122 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.492 | 0.428 |

Notes: The outcome is the predicted treatment status. Other notes as in Table G3.1.

## Density of the running variable - McCrary test

Figure G3.2 shows the McCrary test both for ranking 1vs2 and 2vs3. As stated in Section 2.4, this test is satisfied by construction in our setting.

Figure G3.2: Density of the running variable beyond France - McCrary test


Notes: This figure tests if there is a jump at the threshold in the density of the running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round), represented by the solid line. The confidence intervals are represented by thin lines. In our setting, this test is satisfied by construction since we consider the same set of races on both sides of the threshold and, in each race, the higher- and lower-ranked candidates are equally distant to the cutoff.

## Appendix G4: Impact on vote shares

Figure G4.1 plots the unconditional vote shares of the lower- and higher-ranked candidates against the running variable. The point estimates on the effects on unconditional vote shares are shown in Table G4.1.

Figure G4.1: Impact on $2^{\text {nd }}$ round vote shares - beyond France


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the candidate's vote share in the second round (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The vote share is set to 0 if the candidate does not run in the second round. The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 50 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

## Table G4.1: Impact on $2^{\text {nd }}$ round vote shares - beyond France

|  | $(1)$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Voteshare $2^{\text {nd }}$ round |  |
|  | 1 vs 2 | 2 vs 3 |
| Treatment | 0.017 | 0.093 |
|  | $(0.005)$ | $(0.024)$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.001 | 0.002 |
| Observations left | 2,432 | 370 |
| Observations right | 2,432 | 370 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.109 | 0.152 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.483 | 0.215 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The outcome is the unconditional vote share of the candidate, meaning that the vote share is set to 0 if the candidate does not run in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

## Appendix G5: Robustness tests

As we do in Appendix C for French elections, we conduct several robustness tests.
First, we estimate the treatment impacts using the optimal bandwidths computed according to Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012) (Table G5.1) or tighter bandwidths obtained by dividing the MSERD bandwidths by 2 (Table G5.2). All estimates obtained using these different bandwidths are very close in magnitude to the estimates obtained with the MSERD bandwidth, but the estimates on the probability to win the election are not statistically significant with the MSERD bandwidths divided by 2 and, for 2 vs 3 , with the IK bandwidth.

Second, Table G5.3 shows that the effects of ranking 2 vs 3 are robust to excluding races in which the second candidate is less than 2 or 4 percentage points behind the first in the first round. This indicates that our estimates are not driven by cases in which the 1 vs 2 and 2 vs 3 vote share discontinuities overlap.

Third, we run the analysis on the subsample excluding races which failed one of the seven checks described in Section G1. The impacts of placing 1vs2 or 2 vs 3 in the first round on winning
are robust to dropping all flagged elections (Figure G5.1 and Table G5.4).

Table G5.1: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning beyond France - IK bandwidths

|  | $(1)$ |  | (2) |  | (3) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1vs2 |  |  | 2vs3 |  |
|  | Run | Win |  | Run | Win |
| Treatment | 0.009 | 0.056 |  | 0.086 | 0.173 |
|  | $(0.005)$ | $(0.031)$ |  | $(0.047)$ | $(0.037)$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.164 | 0.096 |  | 0.250 | 0.312 |
| Observations left | 3,129 | 2,178 |  | 493 | 668 |
| Observations right | 3,129 | 2,178 |  | 493 | 668 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.155 | 0.094 |  | 0.215 | 0.331 |
| Outcome mean | 0.983 | 0.469 |  | 0.825 | 0.049 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 1 and 3 (resp. 2 and 4), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold. We compute the bandwidths according to the IK procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Table G5.2: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning beyond France - MSERD bandwidths divided by 2

|  | $(1)$ |  | (2) |  | (3) | (4) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 vs 2 |  |  | 2 vs 3 |  |  |
|  | Run | Win |  | Run | Win |  |
| Treatment | 0.006 | 0.047 |  | 0.131 | 0.175 |  |
| Robust p-value | $(0.008)$ | $(0.034)$ |  | $(0.097)$ | $(0.107)$ |  |
| Observations left | 1,472 | 1,905 |  | 140 | 149 |  |
| Observations right | 1,472 | 1,905 |  | 140 | 149 |  |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 |  |
| Bandwidth | 0.059 | 0.081 |  | 0.059 | 0.062 |  |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.985 | 0.474 |  | 0.771 | 0.113 |  |

Notes: We compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure, and then divide them by 2. Other notes as in Table G5.1.

Table G5.3: Impact of ranking 2 vs 3 beyond France - Excluding races in which the $2^{\text {nd }}$ is close to the $1^{\text {st }}$

|  | Full sample 2vs3 |  | Gap $1^{\text {st }}-2^{\text {nd }}>2 \mathrm{pp}$ |  | Gap $1^{\text {st }}-2^{\text {nd }}>4 \mathrm{pp}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Run | Win | Run | Win | Run | Win |
| Treatment | $\begin{gathered} 0.082 \\ (0.064) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.158 \\ (0.069) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.090 \\ (0.073) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.161 \\ (0.072) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.081 \\ (0.080) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.168 \\ (0.078) \end{gathered}$ |
| Robust p-value | 0.271 | 0.069 | 0.345 | 0.081 | 0.470 | 0.089 |
| Observations left | 295 | 307 | 254 | 277 | 221 | 238 |
| Observations right | 295 | 307 | 254 | 277 | 221 | 238 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.119 | 0.123 | 0.110 | 0.122 | 0.108 | 0.116 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.837 | 0.074 | 0.841 | 0.079 | 0.841 | 0.079 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 3 and 4 (resp. 5 and 6), the sample is restricted to elections where the vote share difference between the first and the second candidates in the first round is strictly higher than 2 (resp. 4) percentage points. In columns 1, 3, and 5 (resp. 2,4 , and 6 ), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

Figure G5.1: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning beyond France - non-flagged elections


Notes: The sample includes only elections that pass all seven checks described in Section G1. Triangles (resp. circles) represent the local averages of the probability that the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 50 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

## Table G5.4: Impact on running in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round and winning beyond France - non-flagged elections

|  | $(1)$ |  | (2) |  | (3) | (4) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 vs 2 |  |  | 2 vs 3 |  |  |
| Outcome | Run | Win |  | Run | Win |  |
| Treatment | 0.006 | 0.066 |  | 0.083 | 0.163 |  |
|  | $(0.006)$ | $(0.027)$ |  | $(0.066)$ | $(0.073)$ |  |
| Robust p-value | 0.346 | 0.059 |  | 0.285 | 0.078 |  |
| Observations left | 2,225 | 2,656 |  | 284 | 274 |  |
| Observations right | 2,225 | 2,656 |  | 284 | 274 |  |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 |  |
| Bandwidth | 0.098 | 0.125 |  | 0.126 | 0.121 |  |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.985 | 0.464 |  | 0.830 | 0.080 |  |

Notes: The sample includes only elections that pass all seven checks described in Section G1. Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. In columns 1 and 3 (resp. 2 and 4), the outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate runs (resp. wins) in the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

## Appendix G6: Individual country results

Of all 19 countries represented in our sample of parliamentary elections outside of France, seven count at least 250 races: the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, and Poland. The impact of placing higher in the first round on winning the second round in each of these seven countries is shown below.

Figure G6.1: Impact on winning by country


Notes: Dots represent the local averages of the probability that the candidate wins the second round (vertical axis). Averages are calculated within quantile-spaced bins of the running variable (horizontal axis). The running variable (the vote share difference between the two candidates in the first round) is measured as percentage points. The graph is truncated at 50 percentage points on the horizontal axis to accommodate for outliers. Continuous lines are a quadratic fit.

Table G6.1: Impact on winning by country

|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Probability to win $2^{\text {nd }}$ round |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Czech Republic | Germany | Hungary | Lithuania | Netherlands | Norway | Poland |
| Treatment | 0.211 | -0.005 | -0.038 | 0.086 | 0.089 | 0.160 | 0.316 |
|  | (0.095) | (0.039) | (0.092) | (0.080) | (0.096) | (0.083) | (0.104) |
| Robust p-value | 0.023 | 0.794 | 0.500 | 0.383 | 0.435 | 0.082 | 0.003 |
| Observations left | 212 | 1,191 | 223 | 258 | 211 | 191 | 184 |
| Observations right | 212 | 1,191 | 223 | 258 | 211 | 191 | 184 |
| Polyn. order | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bandwidth | 0.094 | 0.175 | 0.072 | 0.134 | 0.119 | 0.160 | 0.154 |
| Mean, left of threshold | 0.394 | 0.502 | 0.513 | 0.457 | 0.456 | 0.411 | 0.342 |

Notes: Standard errors, shown in parentheses, are clustered at the district level. We compute statistical significance based on the robust p-value. The unit of observation is the candidate. The outcome is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate wins the second round. The independent variable is a dummy equal to 1 if the candidate placed higher in the first round. We use local polynomial regressions: we fit separate polynomials of order 1 on each side of the threshold and compute the bandwidths according to the MSERD procedure. The mean, left of the threshold gives the value of the outcome for the lower-ranked candidate at the threshold.

## Appendix H. French political orientations

We allocate candidates to six political orientations (far-left, left, center, right, far-right, and other) based on labels attributed to them by the Ministry of the Interior. The following tables show our mapping between political labels and orientations, for each election. The third column also indicates whether the political label corresponds to a specific political party. We use this variable to classify candidates as "party" or "non-party" candidates. The 1978 and 1981 parliamentary elections, as well as the 1982 and 1985 local elections are shown together because the sets of political parties competing in both elections were identical.

| 1958 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Centre National des Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Centre de la Réforme Républicains | Left | 1 |
| Démocratie chrétienne de France | Right | 1 |
| Divers Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Divers Gaullistes | Right | 0 |
| Modérés | Other | 0 |
| Mouvement Républicain Populaire | Center | 1 |
| Non Classés | Other | 0 |
| Parti Communiste | Left | 1 |
| Parti Poujadiste | Far-right | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste Autonome | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux du Centre | Center | 1 |
| Radicaux Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux - Union des Forces Démocratiques | Left | 1 |
| Rassemblement des Gauches Républicaines | Center | 1 |
| Section Française de l'Internationale Ouvrière | Left | 1 |
| Union Démocratique et Socialiste de la Résistance | Left | 1 |
| Union des Forces Démocratiques | Left | 1 |
| Union de la gauche socialiste | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Nouvelle République | Right | 1 |

## 1962 parliamentary elections

| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Centre National des Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Divers Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Divers Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Divers Gaullistes | Right | 0 |
| Indépendants | Other | 0 |
| Indépendants - Vème République | Other | 0 |
| Modérés | Other | 0 |
| Mouvement Républicain Populaire | Center | 1 |
| Mouvement Républicain Populaire - Vème République | Center | 1 |
| Non Classés | Other | 0 |
| Parti Communiste | Left | 1 |
| Parti Poujadiste | Far-right | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste Unifié | Far-left | 1 |
| Radicaux du Centre | Center | 1 |
| Radicaux Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Section Française de l'Internationale Ouvrière | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Nouvelle République | Right | 1 |

## 1967 parliamentary elections

| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Alliance Républicaine | Center | 1 |
| Apparentés Parti Communiste | Left | 0 |
| Centre Démocrate | Center | 1 |
| Divers Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Divers Gaullistes | Right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Modérés | Other | 0 |
| Parti Communiste | Left | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste Unifié | Far-left | 1 |
| Radicaux de Droite | Right | 1 |
| Ralliés Gaullistes | Right | 0 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Républicains Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste et Fédération de Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Nouvelle République | Right | 1 |

## 1968 parliamentary elections

| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Alliance Républicaine | Center | 1 |
| Apparentés Parti Communiste et Parti Communiste | Left | 1 |
| Centre Démocrate | Center | 1 |
| Centre Démocrate/Centre Progrès et Démocratie Moderne | Center | 1 |
| Centre Progrès et Démocratie Moderne | Center | 1 |
| Divers Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Divers Gaullistes | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gaulliste/Union pour la Nouvelle République | Right | 1 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Indépendants | Other | 0 |
| Modérés | Other | 0 |
| Modérés/Centre Progrès et Démocratie Moderne | Center | 1 |
| Modérés/Radicaux Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Modérés/Républicains Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Mouvement pour la Réforme | Center | 1 |
| Non Classés | Other | 0 |
| Parti Communiste Français | Left | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste Unifié | Far-left | 1 |
| Radicaux de Droite | Right | 1 |
| Radicaux de Droite/Républicains Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Radicaux Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux Socialistes/Républicains Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Républicains Indépendants (RI) | Right | 1 |
| RI /Divers Gaulliste | Right | 1 |
| RI/Union des Démocrates pour la République (UDR) | Right | 1 |
| RI/UDR/Union pour la Nouvelle République | Right | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste et Fédération de Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Technique et Démocratie | Other | 1 |
| Union pour la Nouvelle République | Right | 1 |
|  |  | 1 |


| 1973 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Centre Démocratie et Progrès (CDP) | Right | 1 |
| CDP/Union des Républicains de Progrès (URP) | Right | 1 |
| Divers Gaullistes | Right | 0 |
| Groupe des Réformateurs Démocrates Sociaux | Center | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Indépendants | Other | 0 |
| Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire | Far-left | 1 |
| Lutte Ouvrière | Far-left | 1 |
| Union de la Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Non Classés | Other | 0 |
| Organisation Communiste Internationale | Far-left | 1 |
| Parti Communiste Français | Left | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste Unifié | Far-left | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste Unifié - Gauche Sociale Unifiée | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux Réformateurs | Center | 1 |
| Républicains Indépendants | Right | 1 |
| Républicains Indépendants/URP | Right | 1 |
| Union des Démocrates pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Union des Démocrates pour la République/URP | Right | 1 |
| Union des Républicains de Progrès | Right | 1 |


| 1978 and 1981 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 1 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Indépendants | Other | 0 |
| Non Classés | Other | 0 |
| Parti Communiste Français | Left | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste | Left | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |

## 1979 local elections

| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| "DMF": Divers Droite - Républicains Indépendants | Right | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 1 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |


|  | $\mathbf{1 9 8 2}$ and $\mathbf{1 9 8 5}$ local elections |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 1 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |

## 1988 parliamentary elections

| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 1 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Majorité Présidentielle | Left | 0 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |


| 1988 local elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 1 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Parti Communiste | Left | 1 |
| Parti Socialiste | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Sans Etiquette | Other | 0 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |


| 1992 local elections |  | Political orientation |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Party |  |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Génération Ecologie | Other | 1 |
| Majorité Présidentielle | Left | 0 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 1993 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Génération Ecologie | Other | 1 |
| Majorité Présidentielle | Left | 0 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 1994 local elections |  | Political orientation |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Party |  |
| Communistes | Other | 1 |
| Divers | Right | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Left | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-left | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-right | 1 |
| Front National | Other | 1 |
| Génération Ecologie | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Other | 0 |
| Régionalistes | Right | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Left | 1 |
| Socialistes | Right | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Left | 1 |
| Les Verts |  |  |

## 1997 parliamentary elections

| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 1 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Parti Radical Socialiste | Left | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |


| 1998 local elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Mouvement Des Citoyens | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Right | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 2001 local elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Chasse, Pêche, Nature et Traditions | Right | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Démocratie Libérale | Right | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Mouvement Des Citoyens | Left | 1 |
| Mouvement National Républicain | Far-right | 1 |
| Parti Radical de Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Rassemblement du Peuple Français | Right | 1 |
| Rassemblement Pour la République | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Center | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 2002 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Chasse, Pêche, Nature et Traditions | Right | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Démocratie Libérale | Right | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire | Far-left | 1 |
| Lutte Ouvrière | Far-left | 1 |
| Mouvement National Républicain | Far-right | 1 |
| Mouvement Pour la France | Right | 1 |
| Pôle Républicain | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Rassemblement Pour la France | Right | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Center | 1 |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire | Right | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 2004 local elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Chasse, Pêche, Nature et Traditions | Right | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française | Center | 1 |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire | Right | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 2007 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Chasse, Pêche, Nature et Traditions | Right | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Majorité présidentielle | Right | 0 |
| Mouvement Pour la France | Right | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie Française - Mouvement Démocrate | Center | 1 |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire | Right | 1 |
| Les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 2011 local elections |  | Political orientation |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Pther | 0 |
| Autres | Left | 1 |
| Communiste | Right | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Left | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Other | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-left | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-right | 1 |
| Front National | Right | 1 |
| Majorité présidentielle | Right | 1 |
| Nouveau Centre | Center | 1 |
| Modem | Left | 1 |
| Parti de Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Other | 0 |
| Régionalistes | Left | 1 |
| Socialistes | Right | 1 |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire | Left | 1 |
| Europe Ecologie les Verts |  |  |


| 2012 parliamentary elections |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Alliance Centriste | Center | 1 |
| Autres | Other | 0 |
| Centre pour la France | Center | 0 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Other | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| Front de Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Nouveau Centre | Right | 1 |
| Parti Radical | Right | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire | Right | 1 |
| Europe Ecologie les Verts | Left | 1 |


| 2015 local elections |  | Political orientation |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Party |  |
| Communistes | Other | 1 |
| Divers | Right | 0 |
| Debout La France | Right | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Left | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-left | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Front de Gauche | Far-right | 1 |
| Front National | Center | 1 |
| Modem | Left | 1 |
| Parti De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Socialistes | Center | 1 |
| Union Centriste | Right | 1 |
| Union pour la Démocratie | Right | 1 |
| Union des Démocrates et Indépendants | Left | 1 |
| Union de Gauche | Right | 1 |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire | Left | 1 |
| Europe Ecologie les Verts |  |  |


|  | 2017 parliamentary elections |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Political label | Political orientation | Party |
| Communistes | Left | 1 |
| Divers | Other | 0 |
| Debout La France | Right | 1 |
| Divers Droite | Right | 0 |
| Divers Gauche | Left | 0 |
| Ecologistes | Left | 0 |
| Extrême Droite | Far-right | 0 |
| Extrême Gauche | Far-left | 0 |
| France Insoumise | Left | 1 |
| Front National | Far-right | 1 |
| Les Républicains | Right | 1 |
| Modem | Center | 1 |
| Radicaux De Gauche | Left | 1 |
| Régionalistes | Other | 0 |
| Républicque En Marche | Center | 1 |
| Socialistes | Left | 1 |
| Union des Démocrates et Indépendants | Right | 1 |

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Looking for the entity canton* instead of the specific words "canton" or "cantons" would have generated false positives since several French words unrelated to cantonal elections begin with this entity, including "cantonade" and "cantonner".

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ When counting the number of elections in our sample, we disregard elections where all races had only one round, due to the first candidate winning directly in the first round. By-elections, which occur out of schedule due for instance to the death of an elected official, are not counted as separate elections.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ For instance, there were 146 seats up for election in Mauritania in 2013 but the government's website only includes the results of 39 races. Similarly, there were 147 seats up for election in Mali in 2013 but Adam Carr was only able to find results for 54 of them, based on media websites.

[^3]:    ${ }^{4}$ Specifically, when the average between the bins corresponding to the different ideologies of a party falls between bins, we choose the most extreme bin. For example, the orientation of a party with one left ideology and one center ideology would be center-left. The orientation of a party with one left ideology and one center-left ideology would be left. The orientation of a party with two center ideologies and one center-left ideology would be center-left.

