

# Package ‘pollstR’

October 30, 2014

**Title** R client for the Huffpost Pollster API

**Description** An R interface to the Huffington Post Pollster API, which provides programmatic interface to political polls.

**Version** 1.1.1

**Date** 2014-10-29

**Depends** R (>= 3.0.3)

**Imports** httr, plyr, jsonlite

**Suggests** knitr, dplyr, ggplot2, testthat

**URL** <https://github.com/rOpenGov/pollstR>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/rOpenGov/pollstR/issues>

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**License** GPL-2

**LazyLoad** yes

**LazyData** true

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**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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pollstR	<i>R client for the Huffpost Pollster API</i>
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**Description**

This package provides an R interface to the Huffington Post Pollster API. Pollster provides programmatic access to opinion polls collected by the Huffington Post.

**Details**

See <http://elections.huffingtonpost.com/pollster/api> for more details on the API.

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pollstr_chart	<i>Return a single chart</i>
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**Description**

Return a single chart. This includes both current and historical estimates by date.

**Usage**

```
pollstr_chart(slug, convert = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

slug	The slug-name of the chart to be returned.
convert	Rearrange the data returned by the API into easier to use data frames.

**Value**

If `convert=TRUE`, then a "pollstr\_chart" object with elements

- `title` Title of the chart.
- `slug` Slug (URL-friendly title) of the chart.
- `topic` Topic of the chart.
- `short_title` Short title of the chart.
- `poll_count` Number of polls in the chart.
- `last_updated` Time the chart was last updated.
- `url` URL of the chart.
- `estimates` A data frame with an observation for each choice and the current estimates.
- `estimates_by_date` A data frame with an observation for each choice at each date, with estimates.

Otherwise, a "list" in the original structure of the json returned by the API.

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
chart1 <- pollstr_chart('2012-virginia-senate-allen-vs-kaine')  
  
## End(Not run)
```

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pollstr_charts	<i>Get list of available charts</i>
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## Description

Get list of available charts

## Usage

```
pollstr_charts(topic = NULL, state = NULL, convert = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

topic	Only include charts related to a specific topic. See <a href="http://elections.huffingtonpost.com/pollster/api">http://elections.huffingtonpost.com/pollster/api</a> for examples.
state	Only include charts from a single state. Use 2-letter state abbreviations. "US" will return all national charts.
convert	Rearrange the data returned by the API into easier to use data frames.

## Value

If convert=TRUE, a "pollstr\_charts" object with elements

charts Data frame with data on charts.

estimates Data frame with current estimates from each chart. The column slug matches this data frame to charts

Otherwise, a "list" in the original structure of the json returned by the API.

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
# Get charts related to Minnesota  
mn <- pollstr_charts(state='MN')  
# Get charts in the topic '2013-governor'  
gov <- pollstr_charts(topic='2013-governor')  
# Get all charts  
allcharts <- pollstr_charts()  
  
## End(Not run)
```

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pollstr\_polls

*Get a list of polls*

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### Description

Get a list of polls

### Usage

```
pollstr_polls(page = 1, chart = NULL, state = NULL, topic = NULL,
  before = NULL, after = NULL, sort = FALSE, max_pages = 1,
  convert = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

page	Return page number
chart	List polls related to the specified chart. Chart names are the slug returned by pollstr_charts.
state	Only include charts from a single state. Use 2-letter pstate abbreviations. "US" will return all national charts.
topic	Only include charts related to a specific topic. See the <a href="http://elections.huffingtonpost.com/pollster/api">http://elections.huffingtonpost.com/pollster/api</a> for examples.
before	Only list polls that ended on or before the specified date.
after	Only list polls that ended on or after the specified date.
sort	If TRUE, then sort polls by the last updated time.
max_pages	Maximum number of pages to get.
convert	Rearrange the data returned by the API into easier to use data frames.

### Value

If convert=TRUE, a "pollstr\_polls" object with elements

polls A data.frame with entries for each poll.

questions A data.frame with entries for each question asked in the polls.

survey\_houses A data.frame with the survey houses of the polls. There can be multiple survey houses for a poll.

sponsors A data.frame with the sponsors of the polls. Not all polls have sponsors.

Otherwise, a "list" in the original structure of the json returned by the API.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
# Get polls related to a chart pulled programmatically with  
# pollstr_charts()  
a <- pollstr_charts()  
pollstr_polls(chart=a$slug[1])  
# Lookup polls related to a specific topic  
pollstr_polls(topic='2013-house')  
  
## End(Not run)
```

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