

SOME ECONOMIC RULES THAT WORK WELL

A real GDP per capita growth rule:

The incumbent party usually wins if...
The growth rate of real GDP per capita accelerates (is a higher %) in the election year than the previous year.

A Misery Index rule:

The incumbent usually wins if:
The Misery Index has not increased from the year prior to the election.

A Guaranteed Loss Rule:

The incumbent party has always lost if...

- The real GDP per capita growth decelerates (is a lower %) in the election year than the previous year.
- The Misery Index has increased from the year prior to the election to the year of the election.