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Universal Basic Income

Team 3

What is the project focus/overall goal?

The overall focus of the project is the analysis of data related to a universal basic income program in the local Boston area, such as the number of people in poverty, different levels of property, demographics of residents, and the amount of financial assistance. The goal of this project is to determine which 1000 people who fall under the poverty line would benefit most from financial assistance.

Why is this project important?

This project is important because the data directly allows politicians like Councilor Kendra Lara to assess how best to utilize money for people in need. By looking at the data gathered on the population, we can determine the various factors that contribute to a person's level of need. The aim the project hopes to accomplish is maximizing aid to members of the population who need it most.

What type of data will you collect or be analyzing?

The type of data being collected and analyzed, found from mostly government websites, is varied and mostly consists of tables. For instance, at first glance, the most important data comes from a csv file that describes the demographics of different districts in Boston. There is also data on poverty level based on income brackets and information on public assistance programs.

What are potential limitations of the project?

The potential limitations of the project obviously come down to the data available. The data seems pretty disparate, and might prove challenging to answer non-trivial questions and come up with meaningful questions because morality and subjective values are considered. It might be relatively easy to answer a question like the amount of participants in assistance programs, but much harder to answer the question of how much assistance is needed to pull the largest number

of households out of poverty. In addition, the data seems centered on income and assistance programs, and does not take into account other factors such as neighborhood and demographics.

What are your next steps?

Our next steps would be to collectively take a deeper look at the relevant data and to form a plan to tackle the questions listed in Part 1. We will create a plan around how to divide the work of data processing and determine what needs to be done individually or collectively as a group.