Code Book

The Combined Municipalities data set is being used for evaluating Wisconsin County and Municipal Revenues and Expenditures over time to assess community risks of "failure" for the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC).

Rows Represent

Each row in the data set represents a Wisconsin municipality for a year ranging from 2013 to 2021 and includes all financial expenses and revenues for that municipality.

Cleaning Steps

Originally, the data set was spread across 9 separate files, but we created a year variable to combine them into a single data set.

Feature Generation

We created a variable to indicate whether a municipality was financially failing for a year. We also created a variable to represent the net financial standing for a year which accounts for all of the variables that were desired to be used by the client.

Other Considerations

Data is added on an annual basis at https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/Report/county-municipal-revenues-expenditures.aspx. Each year the newest report is added, and the oldest report is dropped. This means that the raw data may not entirely be publicly available. Our range of years is from 2013 through 2021, but only the years 2016 through 2021 have data posted online. We are unsure if there is a method possible of obtaining older data. The data is also not entirely static since it is updated every year online. There was an additional ARPA fund given to municipalities due to the recent events of COVID. We created another data set and corresponding graphs removing these ARPA fund amounts from the original data set.

Summary Information

Synthetic Data: No

Person Data: No

Sensitive Attributes: No

Confidential Data: No

IRB or review completed: No

Data is Static: No

Data is a sample: No (Census by year)

Rows are unique: Yes

Data is cleaned: Yes

Raw Data available: Yes and No