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Abstract

For the Data Challenge, we were given the task of looking at data sets of alternative means of travel (TDM, SOV, NADMS, and AWS). While reviewing the dataset, we found that there was an abundance of information, that was not useful in our study. We also noticed things that could have been improved that would have made looking through the dataset more efficient. The method in which data was taken (survey), was not too effective. We believe there were other methods that could have been used which would have resulted in a higher response percentage. With the data that we were provided, we have decided to narrow the data down to only 2017 data in order to answer the first two questions of the prompt we were given.

Part of the reason we came to this conclusion was due to the multiple files, and how big they were. We found that the files when transported, and open in MATLAB would take a long period of time. If we chose the route of attempting to use all the data, we predicted it would cause us to potential slow our progression with analyzing the data. Choosing the 2017 was the most viable option we saw, there is plenty of information within the 2017 data which we believe to tell a good story on the different means of travel. Once we settled on the data, we were going to use we faced another challenge; what is the meaning of this data? To solve this, we used Data Dictionary file. This allowed us to identify the different variables, helping us sort the data effectively so that we could use it in our research. Those were some of the stumbling blocks we encountered, while looking over the dataset. Since then, we have made great breakthroughs in search of seeing the story the dataset conveys.