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Final Project Proposal

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In these difficult endemic times, many businesses are either starting to fail, currently failing, or downright out of business. I don’t think this is a good way to live, and neither did the federal government. They provided states with a lump sum of money to distribute amongst the businesses in their state. According to the US Treasury, “The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans provide small businesses with the resources they need to maintain their payroll, hire back employees who may have been laid off, and cover applicable overhead”[1]. Provided through data.nj.gov, I was able to export a dataset[2] (21,900 records) consisting of businesses in New Jersey who received PPP funding, how much funding the employer received & how many jobs the employer claims they saved, among other bits of information.

I will use this dataset to visualize various aspects of PPP loan distribution. For example, out of all NJ businesses who were granted PPP Loans…How many are black-owned? How many are in impoverished areas? How many are non-profits? These are just some of the questions I’d like to answer.

[1] U.S. department of the Treasury. (n.d.). Retrieved April 21, 2021, from <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-small-businesses>

[2] S. (2020, July 17). [NJ PPP Loan Distribution]. Unpublished raw data. <https://data.nj.gov/Government-Finance/PPP-Cares-Act-Loan-Totals-to-New-Jersey-Businesses/riep-z5cp>