### December 5, 2023

# 0.0.1 Packages

```
[1]: import numpy as np
  import pandas as pd
  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
  import seaborn as sns
  from scipy.stats import chi2_contingency
  %matplotlib inline
  import warnings
  warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")

# read csv/xlsx
previous_application = pd.read_csv("./data/previous_application.csv")
  application_data = pd.read_csv("./data/application_data.csv")
  description = pd.read_excel("./data/columns_description.xlsx")
```

# 0.0.2 Data Cleaning

Prior to commencing our analysis, we conducted an initial assessment of the dataframe and identified the presence of NaN values. This initial data cleaning phase serves the dual purpose of streamlining our dataset. It involves the removal of superfluous columns, addressing specific subtopics, and mitigating substantial discrepancies arising from missing data.

```
[2]: # Count the number of null values in each column of the 'application_data'

→DataFrame

application_data.isnull().sum()
```

```
0
[2]: SK_ID_CURR
     TARGET
                                        0
                                        0
     NAME_CONTRACT_TYPE
     CODE GENDER
                                        0
    FLAG_OWN_CAR
                                        0
     AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU DAY
                                    41519
     AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_WEEK
                                    41519
     AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU MON
                                    41519
     AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU QRT
                                    41519
     AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU YEAR
                                    41519
```

Length: 122, dtype: int64

```
[3]: # Count the number of null values in each column of the 'application_data'
DataFrame

null_data = application_data.isnull().sum() * 100/len(application_data)
missing_data_columns = null_data[null_data >= 40] # for greater then 40% of nanuvalues allocate them in this variable
missing_data_columns # print value
```

[3]:	OWN_CAR_AGE	65.990810
[0]	EXT_SOURCE_1	56.381073
	APARTMENTS_AVG	50.749729
	BASEMENTAREA_AVG	58.515956
	YEARS_BEGINEXPLUATATION_AVG	48.781019
	YEARS_BUILD_AVG	66.497784
	COMMONAREA_AVG	69.872297
	ELEVATORS_AVG	53.295980
	ENTRANCES_AVG	50.348768
	FLOORSMAX_AVG	49.760822
	FLOORSMIN_AVG	67.848630
	LANDAREA_AVG	59.376738
	LIVINGAPARTMENTS_AVG	68.354953
	LIVINGAREA_AVG	50.193326
	NONLIVINGAPARTMENTS_AVG	69.432963
	NONLIVINGAREA_AVG	55.179164
	APARTMENTS_MODE	50.749729
	BASEMENTAREA_MODE	58.515956
	YEARS_BEGINEXPLUATATION_MODE	48.781019
	YEARS_BUILD_MODE	66.497784
	COMMONAREA_MODE	69.872297
	ELEVATORS_MODE	53.295980
	ENTRANCES_MODE	50.348768
	FLOORSMAX_MODE	49.760822
	FLOORSMIN_MODE	67.848630
	LANDAREA_MODE	59.376738
	LIVINGAPARTMENTS_MODE	68.354953
	LIVINGAREA_MODE	50.193326
	NONLIVINGAPARTMENTS_MODE	69.432963
	NONLIVINGAREA_MODE	55.179164
	APARTMENTS_MEDI	50.749729
	BASEMENTAREA_MEDI	58.515956
	YEARS_BEGINEXPLUATATION_MEDI	48.781019
	YEARS_BUILD_MEDI	66.497784
	COMMONAREA_MEDI	69.872297
	ELEVATORS_MEDI	53.295980
	ENTRANCES_MEDI	50.348768
	FLOORSMAX_MEDI	49.760822

```
FLOORSMIN_MEDI
                                 67.848630
LANDAREA_MEDI
                                 59.376738
LIVINGAPARTMENTS_MEDI
                                 68.354953
LIVINGAREA_MEDI
                                 50.193326
NONLIVINGAPARTMENTS_MEDI
                                 69.432963
NONLIVINGAREA_MEDI
                                 55.179164
FONDKAPREMONT MODE
                                 68.386172
HOUSETYPE_MODE
                                 50.176091
TOTALAREA MODE
                                 48.268517
WALLSMATERIAL MODE
                                 50.840783
EMERGENCYSTATE MODE
                                 47.398304
dtype: float64
```

[4]: # dropping the above columns from the analysis as they contain a large

→percentage of Nan values

application\_data\_df = application\_data.drop(columns=missing\_data\_columns.index)

we see that none of the rows have more than 50% nan values. so we will proceed with further checks.

[5]: Series([], dtype: float64)

Now that we removed the values greater then 50%, now we can take care of the null values, but will try to find the values with which it can be imputed at later point in time

```
[6]: AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_HOUR
                                   13.501631
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_DAY
                                   13.501631
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_WEEK
                                   13.501631
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_MON
                                   13.501631
    AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU QRT
                                   13.501631
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_YEAR
                                   13.501631
    NAME TYPE SUITE
                                   0.420148
    OBS_30_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE
                                   0.332021
    DEF_30_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE
                                   0.332021
    OBS_60_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE
                                   0.332021
    DEF_60_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE
                                   0.332021
    EXT_SOURCE_2
                                   0.214626
    AMT_GOODS_PRICE
                                   0.090403
    AMT_ANNUITY
                                   0.003902
    CNT_FAM_MEMBERS
                                   0.000650
    DAYS_LAST_PHONE_CHANGE
                                   0.000325
    dtype: float64
[7]: # Filter columns with missing data counts greater than 13 from
     → 'minor_missing_data_col'
    tmep_columns = minor_missing_data_col[minor_missing_data_col > 13].index.values
     # Display information about the selected columns in 'application_data_df'
    application_data_df[tmep_columns].info()
    <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
    RangeIndex: 307511 entries, 0 to 307510
    Data columns (total 6 columns):
         Column
                                     Non-Null Count
                                                      Dtype
    ____
                                     _____
                                                      ____
         AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_HOUR
                                     265992 non-null float64
         AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_DAY
                                     265992 non-null float64
     1
     2
         AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_WEEK
                                     265992 non-null float64
     3
         AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU MON
                                     265992 non-null float64
         AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_QRT
                                     265992 non-null float64
         AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU YEAR 265992 non-null float64
    dtypes: float64(6)
    memory usage: 14.1 MB
[8]: # Iterate over columns in 'tmep columns' and print unique values count for each
     ⇔column
    for col in tmep_columns:
        print(f"{col} unique values: {application_data_df[col].nunique()}")
    AMT REQ CREDIT BUREAU HOUR unique values: 5
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_DAY unique values: 9
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_WEEK unique values: 9
    AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_MON unique values: 24
```

```
AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_QRT unique values: 11
AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_YEAR unique values: 25

[9]: # Display the column names of the 'application_data_df' DataFrame application_data_df.columns
```

```
[9]: Index(['SK ID CURR', 'TARGET', 'NAME CONTRACT TYPE', 'CODE GENDER',
            'FLAG_OWN_CAR', 'FLAG_OWN_REALTY', 'CNT_CHILDREN', 'AMT_INCOME_TOTAL',
            'AMT_CREDIT', 'AMT_ANNUITY', 'AMT_GOODS_PRICE', 'NAME_TYPE_SUITE',
            'NAME_INCOME_TYPE', 'NAME_EDUCATION_TYPE', 'NAME_FAMILY_STATUS',
            'NAME_HOUSING_TYPE', 'REGION_POPULATION_RELATIVE', 'DAYS_BIRTH',
            'DAYS_EMPLOYED', 'DAYS_REGISTRATION', 'DAYS_ID_PUBLISH', 'FLAG_MOBIL',
            'FLAG_EMP_PHONE', 'FLAG_WORK_PHONE', 'FLAG_CONT_MOBILE', 'FLAG_PHONE',
            'FLAG_EMAIL', 'OCCUPATION_TYPE', 'CNT_FAM_MEMBERS',
            'REGION_RATING_CLIENT', 'REGION_RATING_CLIENT_W_CITY',
            'WEEKDAY_APPR_PROCESS_START', 'HOUR_APPR_PROCESS_START',
            'REG_REGION_NOT_LIVE_REGION', 'REG_REGION_NOT_WORK_REGION',
            'LIVE_REGION_NOT_WORK_REGION', 'REG_CITY_NOT_LIVE_CITY',
            'REG_CITY_NOT_WORK_CITY', 'LIVE_CITY_NOT_WORK_CITY',
            'ORGANIZATION_TYPE', 'EXT_SOURCE_2', 'EXT_SOURCE_3',
            'OBS_30_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE', 'DEF_30_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE',
            'OBS_60_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE', 'DEF_60_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE',
            'DAYS LAST PHONE CHANGE', 'FLAG DOCUMENT 2', 'FLAG DOCUMENT 3',
            'FLAG_DOCUMENT_4', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_5', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_6',
            'FLAG_DOCUMENT_7', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_8', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_9',
            'FLAG_DOCUMENT_10', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_11', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_12',
            'FLAG_DOCUMENT_13', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_14', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_15',
            'FLAG_DOCUMENT_16', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_17', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_18',
            'FLAG_DOCUMENT_19', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_20', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_21',
            'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_HOUR', 'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_DAY',
            'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_WEEK', 'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_MON',
            'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_QRT', 'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_YEAR'],
           dtype='object')
```

```
'FLAG_DOCUMENT_19', 'FLAG_DOCUMENT_20', _
       [11]: application_data_df.columns
[11]: Index(['SK_ID_CURR', 'TARGET', 'NAME_CONTRACT_TYPE', 'CODE_GENDER',
             'FLAG_OWN_CAR', 'FLAG_OWN_REALTY', 'CNT_CHILDREN', 'AMT_INCOME_TOTAL',
             'AMT_CREDIT', 'AMT_ANNUITY', 'AMT_GOODS_PRICE', 'NAME_TYPE_SUITE',
             'NAME_INCOME_TYPE', 'NAME_EDUCATION_TYPE', 'NAME_FAMILY_STATUS',
             'NAME_HOUSING_TYPE', 'REGION_POPULATION_RELATIVE', 'DAYS_BIRTH',
             'DAYS_EMPLOYED', 'DAYS_REGISTRATION', 'DAYS_ID_PUBLISH', 'FLAG_MOBIL',
             'FLAG_EMP_PHONE', 'FLAG_WORK_PHONE', 'FLAG_CONT_MOBILE', 'FLAG_PHONE',
             'FLAG_EMAIL', 'OCCUPATION_TYPE', 'CNT_FAM_MEMBERS',
             'REGION_RATING_CLIENT', 'REGION_RATING_CLIENT_W_CITY',
             'WEEKDAY_APPR_PROCESS_START', 'HOUR_APPR_PROCESS_START',
             'REG REGION NOT LIVE REGION', 'REG REGION NOT WORK REGION',
             'LIVE_REGION_NOT_WORK_REGION', 'REG_CITY_NOT_LIVE_CITY',
             'REG_CITY_NOT_WORK_CITY', 'LIVE_CITY_NOT_WORK_CITY',
             'ORGANIZATION_TYPE', 'EXT_SOURCE_2', 'EXT_SOURCE_3',
             'OBS_30_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE', 'DEF_30_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE',
             'OBS_60_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE', 'DEF_60_CNT_SOCIAL_CIRCLE',
             'DAYS_LAST_PHONE_CHANGE', 'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_HOUR',
             'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_DAY', 'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_WEEK',
             'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_MON', 'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_QRT',
             'AMT_REQ_CREDIT_BUREAU_YEAR'],
           dtype='object')
[12]: #merging the application data with previous application data
     all_data_df = pd.merge(left=application_data,_
       Gright=previous_application,how='inner', on='SK_ID_CURR',suffixes='_x')
```

Overall Research Topic: Factors Affecting People and Risk Involved in Loaning out Money for a Financial Institution: An Analysis of Risk, And Pricing and Profitability. - Subtopic 1 family status - Subtopic 2 employment, income conditions

# 0.1 Subtopic 1.1

• Financial institutions, like banks, engage in lending activities that involve risk. So to minimize the likelihood of a default or a risky investment it is essential to understand the factors contributing to potential risks.

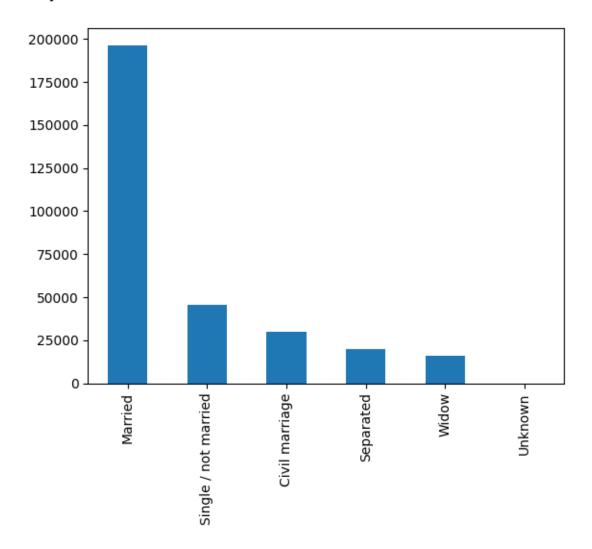
Hypothesis: People without children are greatly represented in clients with On-Time payments and people with children and providing for people other then themselves.

Background/Introduction of problem: One of the main questions we are trying to answer is whether there is a relationship between family status and loan payments, and loan application towards loan providing companies. We hypothesize that people without any children are greatly represented in clients with On-Time payments and the people with children and providing for people are greatly represented in clients with late-Time payments.

**Outlier Detection** First before we can find if this hypothesis is true we must indicate the existence of possible outliers within our data. Given if they exist. pruning them would be our course of action as we do not want skew our data analysis for unlikely configuration.

```
[13]: # application_data_df["NAME_FAMILY_STATUS"].value_counts().plot(kind="bar")
```

## [13]: <AxesSubplot: >



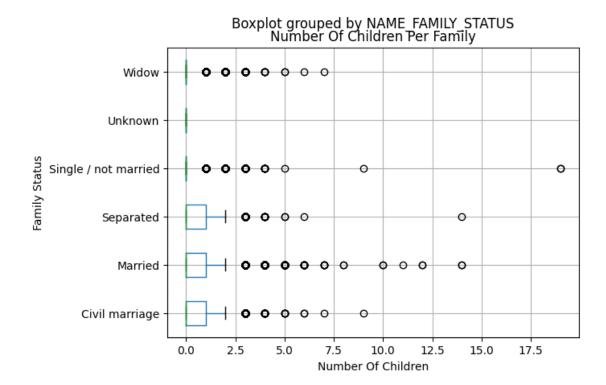
I can analysis that our data, that a majority of our data contains married clients.

```
[14]: # box plot distribution of family status
application_data_df.boxplot(column="CNT_CHILDREN", by="NAME_FAMILY_STATUS",

→vert=False)
plt.xlabel("Number Of Children")
plt.ylabel("Family Status")
```

```
plt.title("Number Of Children Per Family")
```

## [14]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Number Of Children Per Family')



Within our data we see a high level of outliers, for a number of children the median while the mean amount of children per Family Status is 0 with a max contains around 0-1 children while beyond 2 we find that there exist a large group of outliers. within all Family Statuses given there outliers as we want to focus on the central tendency.

```
[15]: # create two variables containing people with no children in the application_data_df

no_children = application_data_df[application_data_df["CNT_CHILDREN"] == 0]

with_children = application_data_df[application_data_df["CNT_CHILDREN"] > 0]

[16]: f. (ax1. ax2. ax3) = plt.subplots(3. 1)
```

```
[16]: f, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(3, 1)

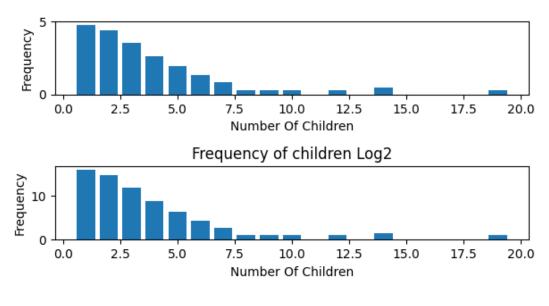
# log base 10 normalization
data = with_children["CNT_CHILDREN"].value_counts()
ax1.bar(data.index, np.log10(data))
ax1.set_xlabel("Number Of Children")
ax1.set_ylabel("Frequency")

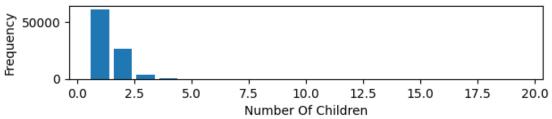
# log base 2 normalization
ax2.bar(data.index, np.log2(data))
```

```
ax2.set_xlabel("Number Of Children")
ax2.set_ylabel("Frequency")
ax2.set_title("Frequency of children Log2")

ax3.bar(data.index, data)
ax3.set_xlabel("Number Of Children")
ax3.set_ylabel("Frequency")

plt.tight_layout()
```





```
[17]: # for the sake of non generalization it is in our best interest to remove these

outliers i.e families

# with 5 children or higher

with_children = with_children[application_data_df["CNT_CHILDREN"] < 5]

assert (with_children["CNT_CHILDREN"] >= 5).sum() == 0, "Not all families with_

→5 children or over have been removed"
```

#### 0.1.1 Analysis

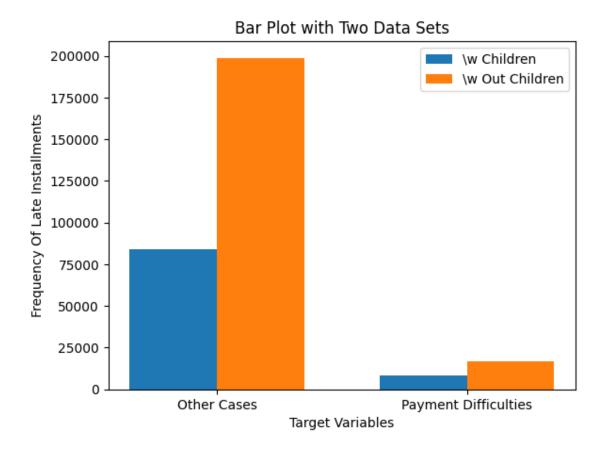
Now that we have remove possible outliers within our data we can analysis our hypothesis proposed above. using a bar graph we can see between the two groups we separated within our application

data on how they compare with payment difficulties by looking columns targets with respect to people with children, and people without.

```
[18]: # get the description of the TARGET
target = description[description["Row"] == "TARGET" ]
print("TARGET:", target["Description"][1])
```

TARGET: Target variable (1 - client with payment difficulties: he/she had late payment more than X days on at least one of the first Y installments of the loan in our sample, 0 - all other cases)

```
[19]: categories = ['Other Cases', 'Payment Difficulties']
      # count the targets within both groups
      target_child = with_children.groupby("TARGET")["TARGET"].value_counts().
       →to_list()
      target_no_child = no_children.groupby("TARGET")["TARGET"].value_counts().
       →to_list()
      bar width = 0.35
      index = np.arange(len(categories))
      # Create bar plot
      plt.bar(index, target_child, bar_width, label='\w Children')
      plt.bar(index + bar_width, target_no_child, bar_width, label='\w Out Children')
      # Customize plot
      plt.xlabel('Target Variables')
      plt.ylabel('Frequency Of Late Installments')
      plt.title('Bar Plot with Two Data Sets')
      plt.xticks(index + bar_width / 2, categories)
      plt.legend()
      # Show plot
      plt.show()
```



```
[20]: # Describe target distribution of people who have no children
      no_children["TARGET"].describe()
[20]: count
               215371.000000
     mean
                    0.077118
      std
                    0.266779
     min
                    0.000000
      25%
                    0.000000
      50%
                    0.000000
     75%
                    0.000000
                    1.000000
     max
      Name: TARGET, dtype: float64
[21]: # Describe target distribution of people who have children
      with_children["TARGET"].describe()
[21]: count
               92014.000000
                   0.089117
      mean
      std
                   0.284914
                   0.000000
      min
```

```
25% 0.000000
50% 0.000000
75% 0.000000
max 1.000000
Name: TARGET, dtype: float64
```

As observed in the graph, individuals without children appear to encounter fewer difficulties with late installments. However, asserting this with absolute certainty is challenging due to differences in the sample sizes. To rigorously examine this pattern, we will conduct a chi-squared test, framing our hypotheses as follows:

- Null Hypothesis (H\_0): The distribution of difficulties is the same in both groups.
- Alternative Hypothesis (H\_1): The distribution of difficulties is different in the two groups.

The chi-squared test will help us determine if there is a statistically significant difference in the distribution of difficulties between individuals with and without children. Should the test reject the null hypothesis, we can infer that there is indeed a significant distinction, providing evidence contrary to our initial observation. It would suggest that individuals with children tend to experience fewer difficulties with installment payments, offering valuable insights into the relationship between family status and payment challenges.

```
[22]: data = [target_child, target_no_child]
    chi2, p, _, _ = chi2_contingency(data)
# Print results
print(f"Chi-square statistic: {chi2}")
print(f"P-value: {p}")

# Make a decision based on the p-value and significance level
alpha = 0.05
if p < alpha:
    print("Reject the null hypothesis - There is a significant difference in_u
    distributions.")
else:
    print("Fail to reject the null hypothesis - No significant difference in_u
    distributions.")</pre>
```

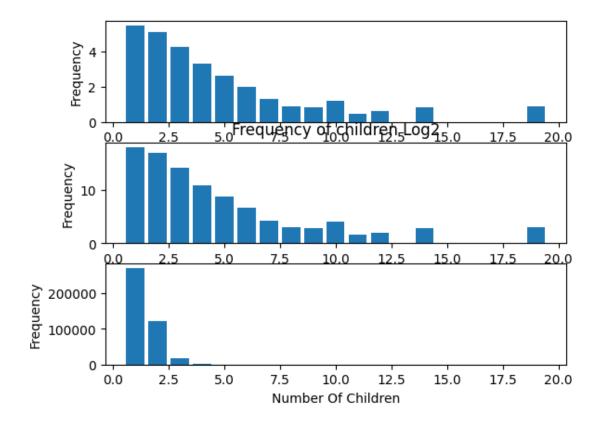
```
Chi-square statistic: 124.93731291617436
P-value: 5.252814292481338e-29
Reject the null hypothesis - There is a significant difference in distributions.
```

Given the results, you can conclude that there is a significant difference in the distribution of difficulties with installment payments between individuals with and without children. This supports your initial observation that people with children tend to have a different distribution of payment difficulties compared to those without children. As Families with children tend to find more difficulty in payments

To obtain results of non approved loan contracts we need to take our joined application with the previous application using that joint dataframe we can look how children effect the approval process of a given application and see if it may be correlated

```
[23]: # Our same logic applies to this joint dataframe
      # 1. Seperate into two groups \w children, \w out children
      no_children_joint = all_data_df[all_data_df["CNT_CHILDREN"] == 0]
      with_children_join = all_data_df[all_data_df["CNT_CHILDREN"] > 0]
      f, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(3, 1)
      data = with_children_join["CNT_CHILDREN"].value_counts()
      ax1.bar(data.index, np.log10(data))
      ax1.set_xlabel("Number Of Children")
      ax1.set ylabel("Frequency")
      ax2.bar(data.index, np.log2(data))
      ax2.set_xlabel("Number Of Children")
      ax2.set_ylabel("Frequency")
      ax2.set_title("Frequency of children Log2")
      ax3.bar(data.index, data)
      ax3.set_xlabel("Number Of Children")
      ax3.set_ylabel("Frequency")
```

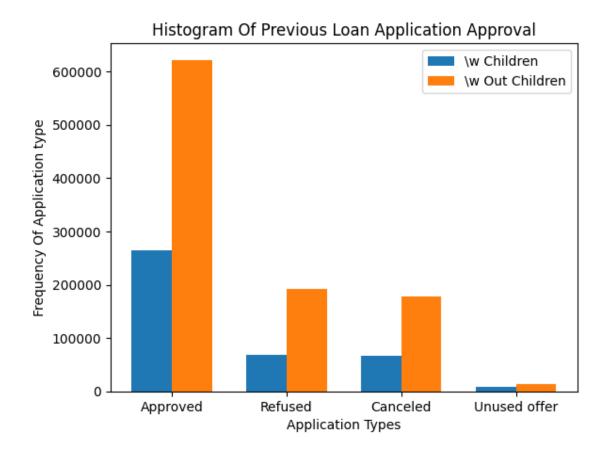
[23]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Frequency')



```
[24]: # same thing occurs so we can threshold the families greater then 5
# 2. Remove outliers within our assumption we choose 5
with_children_join = with_children_join[with_children_join["CNT_CHILDREN"] < 5]
assert (with_children_join["CNT_CHILDREN"] >= 5).sum() == 0, "Not all families_
with 5 children or over have been removed"
```

Of these Now we can plot a histogram the reason why, is due to it's useful nature for showing the frequency (or count) of values within specific intervals or bins. When you have a dataset and want to understand how values are distributed across different ranges, a histogram provides a visual summary of the data's overall shape. this same idea applies in our search for families with, and with out children on there payment difficulties.

```
with out children on there payment difficulties.
[25]: with_children_join["NAME_CONTRACT_STATUS"].value_counts()
[25]: Approved
                      263845
      Refused
                       68184
      Canceled
                       67503
      Unused offer
                        8725
      Name: NAME_CONTRACT_STATUS, dtype: int64
[26]: categories = ['Approved', 'Refused', 'Canceled', 'Unused offer']
      bar_width = 0.35
      index = np.arange(len(categories))
      target_child = with_children_join["NAME_CONTRACT_STATUS"].value_counts().
       →tolist()
      target_no_child = no_children_joint["NAME_CONTRACT_STATUS"].value_counts().
       →tolist()
      # Create bar plot
      plt.bar(index, target_child, bar_width, label='\w Children')
      plt.bar(index + bar_width, target_no_child, bar_width, label='\w Out Children')
      # Customize plot
      plt.xlabel('Application Types')
      plt.ylabel('Frequency Of Application type')
      plt.title('Histogram Of Previous Loan Application Approval')
      plt.xticks(index + bar_width / 2, categories)
      plt.legend()
      # Show plot
      plt.show()
```



```
[27]: data_with_children = [target_child, target_no_child]
    chi2_stat, p_value, _, _ = chi2_contingency(data_with_children)

# Output the results
    print(f"Chi-square statistic: {chi2_stat}")
    print(f"P-value: {p_value}")

# Make a decision based on the p-value and a significance level (e.g., 0.05)
    alpha = 0.05
    if p_value < alpha:
        print("Reject the null hypothesis: The distribution is significantly_u
        different.")
    else:
        print("Fail to reject the null hypothesis: The distribution is not_u
        significantly different.")</pre>
```

Chi-square statistic: 2438.4462486696584

P-value: 0.0

Reject the null hypothesis: The distribution is significantly different.

```
People with children average loan approval: 0.65
People with NO children average loan approval: 0.62
People with children average loan rejection: 0.17
People with NO children average loan rejection: 0.19
```

After a thorough analysis across different categories, a discernible pattern emerges, indicating that individuals without children often garner significantly less approval compared to their counterparts who are parents. This observation prompts consideration of an underlying financial risk, particularly highlighted by our initial histogram, revealing an elevated likelihood of missed payments among individuals with children, thus presenting a reversed dynamic.

### 0.1.2 Problem With Our Analysis

Sample Size Discrepancy - The sizes of the two groups (individuals with and without children) may not be balanced. A significant difference in sample sizes can impact the statistical power of the chi-squared test and affect the reliability of the results.

Confounding Variables - Other relevant factors that could influence payment difficulties may not have been considered. For example, income, employment status, or other demographic variables might confound the relationship between having children and payment difficulties.

Causation vs. Correlation - Statistical association does not imply causation. While you may observe a significant difference in distributions, it doesn't necessarily mean that having children causes payment difficulties. There could be other external factors like economic downturns, losing of ones Job, Divorce, etc influencing the observed patterns.