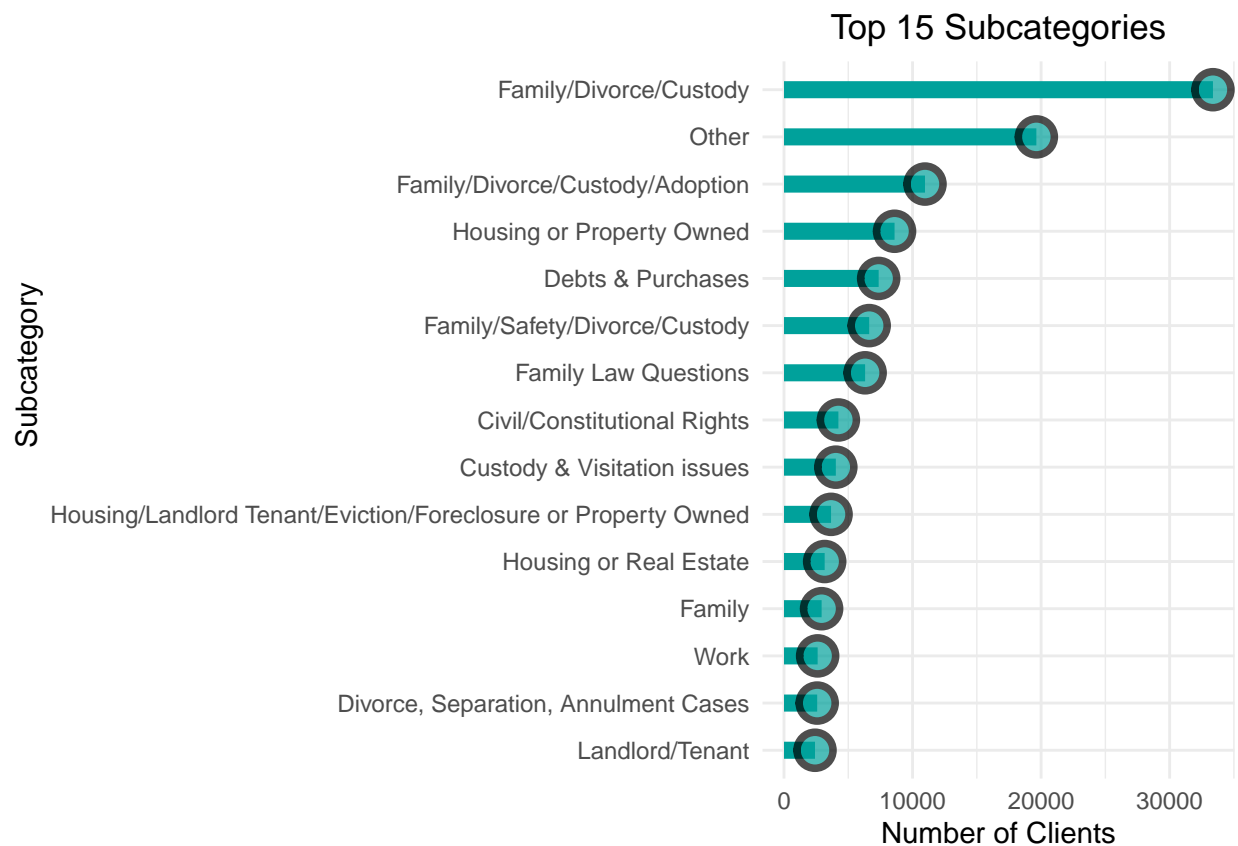


Project 1 - Analysis of American Bar Association data

Eric Chen, Junhan Li, & Daniel Fredin

Visualization 1: Investigating the Top 15 Subcategories of Asked Questions



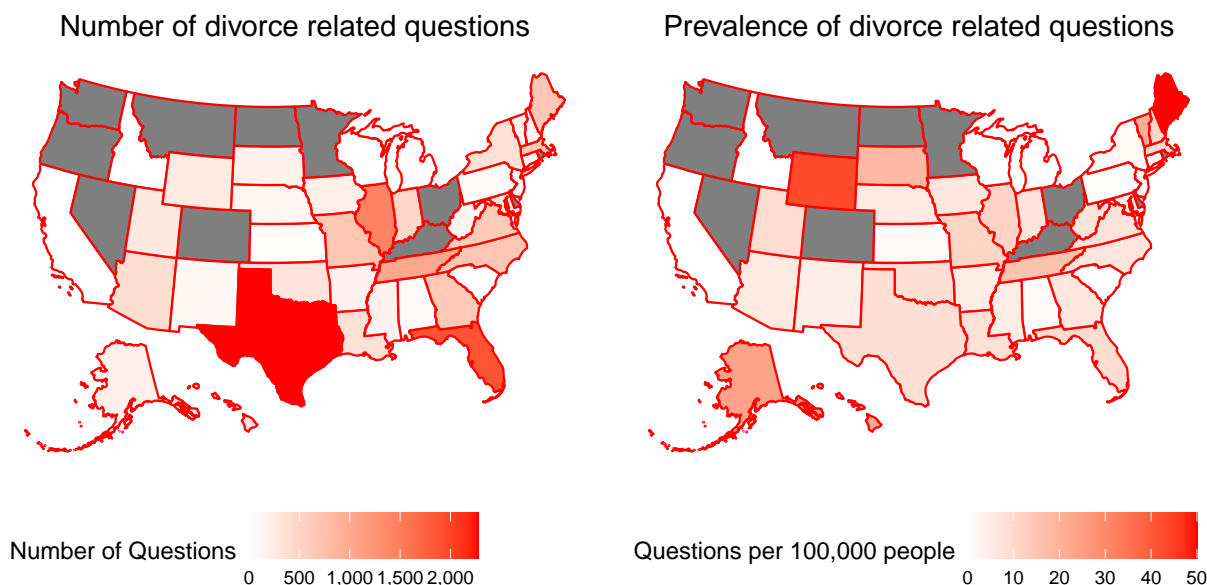
Interpretation of visualization 1:

Our project aims to begin by exploring the subcategories of legal questions that are frequently asked. This will enable us to identify the most common question type within the dataset we possess and use it as the central topic for our research inquiry.

According to our horizontal lollipop chart, it is evident that within the top 15 subcategories, two of the highest-ranking categories of inquiries made by clients on the online platform pertain to divorce. The subcategory “Family/Divorce/Custody” holds the highest occurrence among the top 15, with nearly double the number of clients asking questions compared to the second-ranking subcategory, “Other.” This highlights the importance of adequately preparing volunteers to handle divorce-related queries.

We find this situation fascinating as it prompts us to seek answers to inquiries like: “What are the key factors influencing divorce?”, “Does clients’ background influence their inclination to ask divorce-related questions on the ABA online platform?”, and, importantly, “How can we adequately train our volunteers to handle these divorce-related inquiries?”

Visualization 2: US Map of Divorce Related Questions Distribution



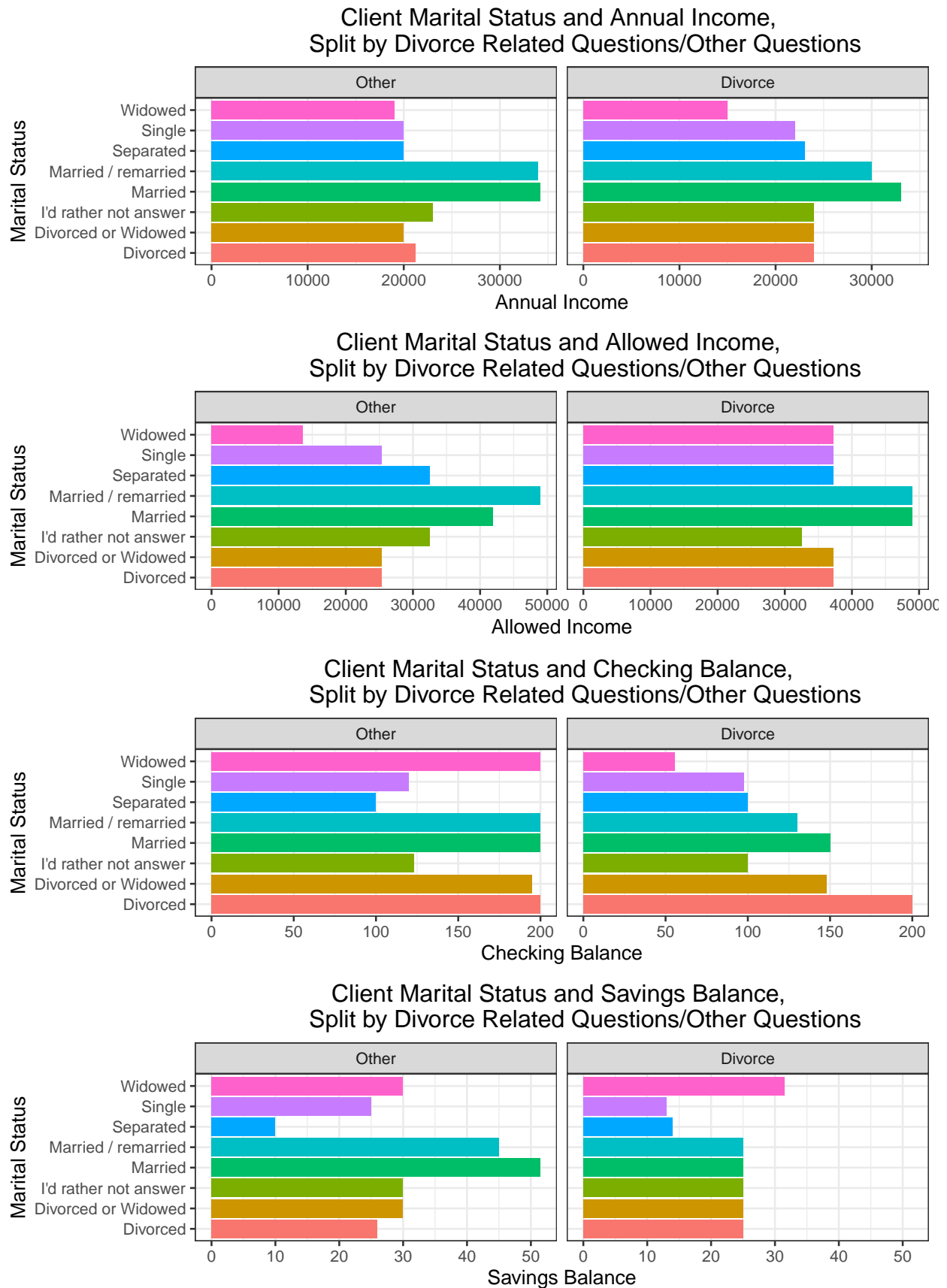
Interpretation of visualization 2:

By analyzing the quantity of divorce-related inquiries and their distribution across states, we can gain insights into the clients’ backgrounds and identify the regions with the highest occurrence of divorce-related questions.

States like Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Montana, Colorado, North Dakota, Minnesota, Ohio, and Kentucky are depicted in gray on the chart due to legal requirements and confidentiality obligations. These states are prohibited from disclosing clients’ information, including the specific category of legal questions they ask.

Among the 42 states that permit the revealing of client details, Texas and Florida demonstrate the greatest volume of inquiries concerning divorce law. Nonetheless, the prevalence of divorce-related questions takes on a distinct pattern when analyzed differently. When considering the number of queries per 100,000 residents, Texas and Florida no longer appear exceptional. Instead, it is Wyoming and Maine that emerge as prominent locations where the rate of individuals frequently seeking online guidance regarding divorce matters are the highest.

Visualization 3: Financial Status Correlation with Marital Status



Interpretation of visualization 3:

By analyzing the financial status of clients in relation to their marital status, we can gain insights into whether their likelihood of asking divorce-related questions is influenced by their financial situation and relationship status.

Based on the aforementioned visualization, it becomes apparent that clients seeking divorce-related advice generally have a higher average annual income compared to other clients. However, an exception arises within the married/remarried category, which exhibits even higher annual income than individuals in other marital statuses across both question categories. The states also acknowledge this difference and typically grant higher-income married individuals the opportunity to ask pro bono questions. In other words, the income threshold for asking questions free of charge is noticeably higher for those who are married or remarried in comparison to individuals in other marital statuses. Additionally, it is worth noting that if someone prefers not to disclose their marital status when asking a divorce-related question, their permitted income to inquire without charges decreases.

On average, clients seeking divorce-related guidance tend to have lower checking and savings balances compared to clients with different types of inquiries. Among all marital statuses seeking divorce advice, individuals who are divorced possess the highest average checking balance, while those who are widowed have the lowest. This observation is intriguing as both statuses imply that the person does not currently have a partner. Clients with similar statuses, such as single or separated, have checking balances that fall between those of widowed and divorced individuals. However, regardless of the legal advice they seek, single and separated clients generally do not maintain high balances in their savings accounts. In contrast to the data on annual/allowed income, married clients do not exhibit significantly higher checking or savings balances compared to other clients, except for the savings balance of clients seeking non-divorce-related legal advice.

Research question: Can we derive significant predictive ability by assessing clients' background, including their financial circumstances, relationship status, and state of residence, to determine whether their legal question will be related to divorce?

The objective of this research inquiry is to accurately forecast whether a client will seek legal assistance related to divorce or another area based solely on their background information, encompassing finances, relationship status, and residential location. In this study, we propose that the dependent variable is binary, representing whether the client poses a divorce-related question or not. Meanwhile, the independent or predictor variables encompass the client's age, marital status, state of residence, household size, annual income, as well as checking and savings balances.

Assumptions

Given that logistic regression was employed for our research inquiry, we assessed the presence of significant multicollinearity among the predictor variables while making the following assumptions:

- The dependent variable exhibits two distinct outcomes, namely divorce-related questions or non-divorce-related questions.
- Each observation in the dataset is independent and not a repeated measurement of the same client.
- A linear association exists between each predictor variable and the logit of the dependent variable.
- The dataset comprises a substantial number of samples.
- There are no extreme outliers or influential observations within the dataset.

Testing for Multicollinearity

During the multicollinearity assessment, it was observed that two of our independent variables, namely NumberInHousehold and AllowedIncome, exhibited a strong correlation. The GVIF values for these variables exceeded 5, indicating the need for their exclusion. This finding aligns with expectations, as the state's permitted income typically depends on the number of dependents residing in a household.

```
##              GVIF Df GVIF^(1/(2*Df))
## StateAbbr      2.420537 39      1.011398
## Age            1.311363  1      1.145148
## NumberInHousehold 27.909688  1      5.282962
## MaritalStatus   1.530729  7      1.030877
## AnnualIncome    1.166979  1      1.080268
## SavingsBalance  1.093005  1      1.045469
## CheckingBalance  1.094893  1      1.046372
## AllowedIncome   28.751815  1      5.362072
```

Fixing Multicollinearity

Upon exclusion of the independent variable "AllowedIncome," we observe a multicollinearity level of less than 5, indicating the absence of multicollinearity within our model.

```
##              GVIF Df GVIF^(1/(2*Df))
## StateAbbr      1.088084 39      1.001083
## Age            1.311192  1      1.145073
## NumberInHousehold 1.236508  1      1.111984
## MaritalStatus   1.530012  7      1.030843
## AnnualIncome    1.166916  1      1.080239
## SavingsBalance  1.092866  1      1.045402
## CheckingBalance  1.094757  1      1.046307
```

Model creation & evaluation

Comparison of Models

```
## $Models
##   Formula
## 1 "Subcategory ~ (StateAbbr + Age + NumberInHousehold + MaritalStatus + AnnualIncome + SavingsBalance)"
## 2 "Subcategory ~ MaritalStatus + SavingsBalance"
## 3 "Subcategory ~ SavingsBalance + CheckingBalance + MaritalStatus + NumberInHousehold"
## 4 "Subcategory ~ AllowedIncome"
## 5 "Subcategory ~ StateAbbr"
```

```
## $Fit.criteria
##   Rank Df.res   AIC   AICc   BIC McFadden Cox.and.Snell Nagelkerke   p.value
## 1    52  50570 49540 49540 50010 0.204400      0.221900      0.31380 0.000e+00
## 2     9  50610 58660 58660 58750 0.056150      0.066600      0.09421 0.000e+00
## 3    11  50610 58220 58220 58320 0.063350      0.074810      0.10580 0.000e+00
## 4     2  50620 61710 61710 61730 0.006917      0.008454      0.01196 9.225e-96
## 5    40  50580 55650 55650 56010 0.105600      0.121600      0.17200 0.000e+00
```

We selected model 1 as it had both the lowest AIC and BIC scores. AIC is a better indicator to use in answering our research question, as it maximizes the predictive power of the data for any future data. However, since both the AIC and BIC values agree on which model out of the five we created is the best, we can safely choose model 1 moving forward.

Summary of best model

```
##
## Call:
## glm(formula = Subcategory ~ . - AllowedIncome - Category, family = "binomial",
##      data = data_overall)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -3.0922  -0.8226  -0.4700   0.9032   2.8305
##
## Coefficients:
##                                     Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)                   2.987e-02  5.207e-02   0.574 0.566265
## StateAbbrAK                   2.502e-01  1.132e-01   2.211 0.027022 *
## StateAbbrAL                   -3.142e-01  1.576e-01  -1.993 0.046261 *
## StateAbbrAR                   2.539e-01  1.214e-01   2.092 0.036432 *
## StateAbbrAZ                   1.384e-01  7.336e-02   1.886 0.059299 .
## StateAbbrCA                   -1.792e+01  2.396e+02  -0.075 0.940379
## StateAbbrCT                   -1.233e-01  1.354e-01  -0.911 0.362487
## StateAbbrGA                   -5.654e-02  6.068e-02  -0.932 0.351437
## StateAbbrHI                   7.931e-01  9.090e-02   8.725 < 2e-16 ***
## StateAbbrIA                   3.391e-02  9.948e-02   0.341 0.733192
## StateAbbrID                   -1.599e+01  6.523e+03  -0.002 0.998045
## StateAbbrIL                   5.315e-01  4.922e-02  10.800 < 2e-16 ***
## StateAbbrIN                   -1.527e+00  6.087e-02 -25.087 < 2e-16 ***
## StateAbbrKS                   -3.974e-02  2.043e-01  -0.195 0.845765
## StateAbbrLA                   4.332e-01  8.170e-02   5.303 1.14e-07 ***
## StateAbbrMA                   -2.567e-01  5.774e-02  -4.445 8.77e-06 ***
## StateAbbrMD                   -2.719e-02  8.723e-02  -0.312 0.755218
## StateAbbrME                   7.238e-01  6.603e-02  10.961 < 2e-16 ***
## StateAbbrMI                   -9.961e-02  1.884e-01  -0.529 0.596925
## StateAbbrMO                   -5.071e-02  5.900e-02  -0.859 0.390072
## StateAbbrMS                   4.978e-01  1.300e-01   3.829 0.000128 ***
## StateAbbrNC                   -2.007e-01  5.912e-02  -3.395 0.000686 ***
## StateAbbrNE                   -1.572e+00  1.103e-01 -14.246 < 2e-16 ***
## StateAbbrNH                   -1.690e-01  1.101e-01  -1.534 0.125022
## StateAbbrNJ                   -5.940e-01  1.806e-01  -3.289 0.001005 **
## StateAbbrNM                   1.877e-01  1.410e-01   1.331 0.183125
## StateAbbrNY                   -5.238e-01  7.052e-02  -7.427 1.11e-13 ***
## StateAbbrOK                   -3.035e-01  7.828e-02  -3.877 0.000106 ***
## StateAbbrPA                   -2.878e-01  1.659e-01  -1.735 0.082713 .
## StateAbbrSC                   -1.828e+01  1.151e+02  -0.159 0.873843
## StateAbbrSD                   7.114e-01  1.288e-01   5.526 3.28e-08 ***
## StateAbbrTN                   1.549e-02  5.317e-02   0.291 0.770848
## StateAbbrTX                   2.595e-01  4.276e-02   6.070 1.28e-09 ***
## StateAbbrUS                   -1.809e+01  6.268e+02  -0.029 0.976973
## StateAbbrUT                   -1.569e-02  8.834e-02  -0.178 0.858995
```

```

## StateAbbrVA          -1.384e-01  6.251e-02  -2.215  0.026781 *
## StateAbbrVT          1.296e-01  1.207e-01   1.073  0.283199
## StateAbbrWI         -1.807e+01  1.240e+02  -0.146  0.884132
## StateAbbrWV          3.588e-02  1.210e-01   0.296  0.766888
## StateAbbrWY          5.600e-01  1.010e-01   5.543  2.98e-08 ***
## Age                  -4.103e-02  9.917e-04 -41.373  < 2e-16 ***
## NumberInHousehold    8.183e-02  7.008e-03  11.678  < 2e-16 ***
## MaritalStatusDivorced 1.002e+00  8.047e-02  12.446  < 2e-16 ***
## MaritalStatusDivorced or Widowed 1.200e+00  3.470e-02  34.578  < 2e-16 ***
## MaritalStatusI'd rather not answer 3.866e-01  6.686e-02   5.782  7.37e-09 ***
## MaritalStatusMarried  7.660e-01  6.683e-02  11.462  < 2e-16 ***
## MaritalStatusMarried / remarried 9.460e-01  3.064e-02  30.875  < 2e-16 ***
## MaritalStatusSeparated 2.561e+00  4.320e-02  59.279  < 2e-16 ***
## MaritalStatusWidowed -5.755e-01  3.352e-01  -1.717  0.085949 .
## AnnualIncome         -1.214e-07  5.323e-07  -0.228  0.819619
## SavingsBalance       -1.849e-05  4.501e-06  -4.108  4.00e-05 ***
## CheckingBalance      -3.932e-05  8.669e-06  -4.536  5.73e-06 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
##    Null deviance: 62131  on 50619  degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 49433  on 50568  degrees of freedom
## AIC: 49537
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 17

```

Odds ratio and confidence intervals for the best model

	OR	2.5 %	97.5 %
## (Intercept)	1.030316e+00	9.303528e-01	1.141021e+00
## StateAbbrAK	1.284334e+00	1.028840e+00	1.603275e+00
## StateAbbrAL	7.303766e-01	5.362360e-01	9.948044e-01
## StateAbbrAR	1.289083e+00	1.016165e+00	1.635300e+00
## StateAbbrAZ	1.148391e+00	9.945863e-01	1.325981e+00
## StateAbbrCA	1.650170e-08	1.896240e-212	1.436032e+196
## StateAbbrCT	8.839974e-01	6.779495e-01	1.152669e+00
## StateAbbrGA	9.450271e-01	8.390611e-01	1.064376e+00
## StateAbbrHI	2.210330e+00	1.849611e+00	2.641399e+00
## StateAbbrIA	1.034492e+00	8.512373e-01	1.257198e+00
## StateAbbrID	1.141528e-07	0.000000e+00	Inf
## StateAbbrIL	1.701562e+00	1.545091e+00	1.873879e+00
## StateAbbrIN	2.171746e-01	1.927503e-01	2.446938e-01
## StateAbbrKS	9.610348e-01	6.439082e-01	1.434347e+00
## StateAbbrLA	1.542253e+00	1.314041e+00	1.810099e+00
## StateAbbrMA	7.736094e-01	6.908312e-01	8.663065e-01
## StateAbbrMD	9.731721e-01	8.202423e-01	1.154615e+00
## StateAbbrME	2.062188e+00	1.811850e+00	2.347116e+00
## StateAbbrMI	9.051930e-01	6.257682e-01	1.309389e+00
## StateAbbrMO	9.505584e-01	8.467632e-01	1.067077e+00
## StateAbbrMS	1.645153e+00	1.275112e+00	2.122580e+00
## StateAbbrNC	8.181425e-01	7.286266e-01	9.186559e-01

```

## StateAbbrNE      2.076403e-01  1.672584e-01  2.577718e-01
## StateAbbrNH      8.445389e-01  6.805576e-01  1.048032e+00
## StateAbbrNJ      5.521280e-01  3.875405e-01  7.866153e-01
## StateAbbrNM      1.206439e+00  9.151711e-01  1.590406e+00
## StateAbbrNY      5.922908e-01  5.158334e-01  6.800808e-01
## StateAbbrOK      7.382254e-01  6.332205e-01  8.606429e-01
## StateAbbrPA      7.498794e-01  5.417347e-01  1.037997e+00
## StateAbbrSC      1.149773e-08  1.140259e-106  1.159367e+90
## StateAbbrSD      2.036941e+00  1.582655e+00  2.621626e+00
## StateAbbrTN      1.015606e+00  9.151021e-01  1.127149e+00
## StateAbbrTX      1.296322e+00  1.192112e+00  1.409642e+00
## StateAbbrUS      1.390564e-08  0.000000e+00  Inf
## StateAbbrUT      9.844278e-01  8.279138e-01  1.170530e+00
## StateAbbrVA      8.707229e-01  7.703267e-01  9.842037e-01
## StateAbbrVT      1.138340e+00  8.984621e-01  1.442262e+00
## StateAbbrWI      1.419826e-08  4.050958e-114  4.976369e+97
## StateAbbrWV      1.036532e+00  8.176329e-01  1.314035e+00
## StateAbbrWY      1.750609e+00  1.436142e+00  2.133933e+00
## Age              9.598004e-01  9.579366e-01  9.616678e-01
## NumberInHousehold 1.085273e+00  1.070469e+00  1.100282e+00
## MaritalStatusDivorced 2.722430e+00  2.325196e+00  3.187527e+00
## MaritalStatusDivorced or Widowed 3.319694e+00  3.101422e+00  3.553328e+00
## MaritalStatusI'd rather not answer 1.471964e+00  1.291181e+00  1.678058e+00
## MaritalStatusMarried 2.151151e+00  1.887051e+00  2.452214e+00
## MaritalStatusMarried / remarried 2.575493e+00  2.425374e+00  2.734904e+00
## MaritalStatusSeparated 1.294691e+01  1.189582e+01  1.409088e+01
## MaritalStatusWidowed 5.624067e-01  2.915808e-01  1.084781e+00
## AnnualIncome      9.999999e-01  9.999988e-01  1.000001e+00
## SavingsBalance     9.999815e-01  9.999727e-01  9.999903e-01
## CheckingBalance    9.999607e-01  9.999437e-01  9.999777e-01

```

Accuracy of Best Model

```

##
##      FALSE  TRUE
##    0 32076  3187
##    1  9593  5764

```

```
## [1] "The accuracy of our best model was: 74.75%."
```

CA, ID, SC, US, and WI have no divorce-related questions

Top shows total questions by state, bottom shows number of divorce-related questions

```

##
##  AK  AL  AR  AZ  CA  CT  FL  GA  HI  IA  ID  IL  IN  KS  LA  MA
## 386 232 350 1130 604 316 5469 1875 612 550 1 3139 3436 118 815 2450
##  MD  ME  MI  MO  MS  NC  NE  NH  NJ  NM  NY  OK  PA  SC  SD  TN
## 768 1324 156 2020 290 2113 896 465 200 263 1586 1026 212 2630 300 2603
##  TX  US  UT  VA  VT  WI  WV  WY
## 5132  91 695 1748 365 2353 352 491

```


##																
##	AK	AL	AR	AZ	CT	FL	GA	HI	IA	IL	IN	KS	LA	MA	MD	ME
##	164	65	151	389	88	1854	641	313	196	1418	480	39	369	630	253	656
##	MI	MO	MS	NC	NE	NH	NJ	NM	NY	OK	PA	SD	TN	TX	UT	VA
##	48	662	148	665	104	130	43	93	351	327	59	156	1014	2157	273	597
##	VT	WV	WY													
##	128	130	252													

Findings

Based on the odds ratios of our best model, it appears that clients from South Dakota, Maine, and Hawaii are twice as likely to ask divorce-related questions compared to our reference state of Florida. We picked Florida as our reference state for our model because it is a highly populous and has high degrees of social and economic power in the country, all the while producing a rather modest frequency of divorce-related questions. Excluding states without a single divorce-related question, Indiana and Nebraska have very low rates of divorce-related questions compared to other states. With an odds ratio of slightly higher than 0.2, a client from these two states have about one fifth the odds of asking a divorce-related question compared to a client from Florida. It should be noted that many states, even if they provide client data, do not have enough data to generate statistically significant conclusions, but none of the aforementioned states fall into that category.

Other than the state where a question originated from, age, number of people in family, and marital status are both significant predictors of whether a client will ask a divorce-related question. Based on the odds ratio, for every year a client gets older, the odds of their question being related to divorce decreases by a factor of about 0.96. Since they all have odds ratios greater than 1, all marital statuses increase the odds of questions being divorce-related compared to our reference group of “single”, with a status of “separated” increasing the odds by nearly a factor of 13. This is with the exception of the “widow” group, which itself is not a significant predictor of the dependent variable. This makes sense as clients seeking divorce advice are much more likely to be in some type of strained relationship, which suggests a separated couple, whilst single suggests no relationship at all.

Finally, both the checking and savings balances of a client significantly predict the category of question they may ask. However, we found no predictive power in a client’s annual income.

COMMENTS

WHAT WE NEED TO FINISH:

- Comment on our findings related to the research question (Finished)
- Explain why we selected the best model (using lowest AIC, BIC) (Finished)
- Explain our log odds
- Explain Confidence interval
- Discuss the positive predictor and negative predictor variables (in reference to FL and Single) (Did a little in the findings idk if that’s enough)
- Write the summary
 - Suggestion based on limitations , missing data = limitation, states didn’t provide data, also some states didn’t have Divorce as a subcategory (such as California and the states that are white in viz 2)

- SIGN THE FORM SO WE'RE GRADED!!!