Introduction

The primary research question explored in this poster is whether deforestation caused an increase in malaria among children aged 5 and under in Tanzania. Besides the paper on Nigeria (Berazneva and Byker 2017), previous research has yet to identify the relationship between deforestation and malaria. Possible linkages are that forests impact the health and size of the mosquito population as well as filter drinking water.

Data

We utilize data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) conducted in Tanzania in 2010 and 2015/16. The surveys asked mothers whether each child had a fever in the two weeks preceding the survey. In Tanzania, the term malaria and fever are used interchangeably, so we use fever as an indicator of malaria. Deforestation data originates from remote sensing conducted on Landsat imagery. We utilize a processed dataset created by Matthew Hansen at the University of Maryland.