Data_Bootcamp_Final_Project

Household Structure and Higher Education: An Analysis on The Impact of Childhood Living Arrangements on Attaining Higher Education

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Abstract

Nature vs. Nurture - our environment has long been thought to have an effect on our success in life. We decided to explore the relationship between household structures of children growing up and their likelihood to attain higher education. To clarify, by "children" we are talking about young adults who are around the ages of 18/19 who are dependents finishing their last year of high school. Later, we look at young adults/adults who have received their Bachelor's and Associate Degrees. Looking at panel data across all 50 states, in addition the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, across the years 2000-2017, we compared varying aspects of household structure with different levels of educational attainment on the state level. We were unable to draw a solid correlation between the two variables and suspect more influential ommitted variables are responsible for between-state differences in educational attainment.

Set Up

Importing Packages

```
In [14]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
```

Retrieving Data

We used the ACS Household Structure Data pulled from the Kids Count Data Center for the years 2000-2017 (with some data points omitted in this most recent year). We pulled data on both household structures and children's education levels.

Defining the Variables: Household Data

Child Population by Household Type

Definition: Percent of total child population in married-couple, father only, and mother only households.

Children living with Neither Parent

Definition: The share of children under age 18 living in households where neither parent resides.

Defining the Variables: Education Data

Educational Attainment of population ages 25-34

Definition: The share of all adults ages 25 to 34 by educational attainment.

Cleaning the child_pop_household_type and child_neither_parent datasets

```
In [16]: ## Cleaning the child pop household type data
         # making location the index
         child pop household type new = child pop household type.set index(['Lo
         cation'])
         # dropping the fields with United States with them
         child pop household type new = child pop household type new.drop(['Uni
         ted States'])
         # dropping N.A
         child pop household type new = child pop household type new[child pop
         household type new.Data != 'N.A.']
         # dropping the fields with Number in them
         child pop household type new = child pop household type new[child pop
         household type new.DataFormat != 'Number']
         # dropping the DataFormat field
         child pop household type new = child pop household type new drop(['Dat
         aFormat'], axis = 1)
```

```
In [17]: ## Cleaning the child neither parent data using the same process as th
         at of child pop household type data
         child neither parent new = child neither parent.set index(['Location']
         child neither parent new = child neither parent new.drop(['United Stat
         es'1)
         child neither parent new = child neither parent new[child neither pare
         nt new.Data != 'N.A.']
         child neither parent new = child neither parent new[child neither pare
         nt new.DataFormat != 'Number']
         child neither parent new = child neither parent new.drop(['DataFormat'
         ], axis = 1)
         #Creating a list for the child neither parent data
         Household Type = []
         for i in range (879):
             Household Type.append('Neither parent Households')
         #Adding the Household Type list to the child neither parent new data
         child neither parent new['Household Type'] = Household Type
         ##Changing the order of columns
         child neither parent new = child neither parent new[['Household Type',
         'TimeFrame', 'Data']]
```

In [19]: Household_structure

Out[19]:

	Location	Household Type	TimeFrame	Data
0	Washington	Mother only Households	2008	0.20
1	Montana	Married-couple Households	2000	0.77
2	Montana	Father only Households	2000	0.08
3	Montana	Mother only Households	2000	0.15
4	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2011	0.59
5	South Carolina	Father only Households	2011	0.07
6	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2011	0.33
7	South Carolina	Father only Households	2012	0.07
8	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2012	0.59
9	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2012	0.34
10	South Carolina	Father only Households	2009	0.08
11	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2009	0.61
12	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2009	0.31
13	South Carolina	Father only Households	2007	0.06
14	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2007	0.62
15	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2007	0.31
16	South Carolina	Father only Households	2010	0.07
17	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2010	0.60
18	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2010	0.33
19	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2000	0.64
20	South Carolina	Father only Households	2000	0.05

21	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2000	0.30
22	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2001	0.63
23	South Carolina	Married-couple Households	2006	0.61
24	South Carolina	Father only Households	2001	0.05
25	South Carolina	Father only Households	2006	0.06
26	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2001	0.31
27	South Carolina	Mother only Households	2006	0.32
28	Montana	Married-couple Households	2002	0.75
29	Montana	Married-couple Households	2003	0.72
3642	Wisconsin	Neither parent Households	2016	0.04
3643	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2016	0.06
3644	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2014	0.06
3645	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2012	0.05
3646	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2011	0.05
3647	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2015	0.05
3648	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2010	0.04
3649	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2009	0.06
3650	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2013	0.04
3651	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2008	0.06
3652	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2007	0.06
3653	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2006	0.07
3654	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2004	0.06
3655	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2005	0.05
3656	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2003	0.04
3657	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2001	0.06
3658	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2002	0.06
3659	Wyoming	Neither parent Households	2000	0.05
3660	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2005	0.09
3661	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2006	0.09
3662	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2007	0.09

3663	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2008	0.06
3664	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2013	0.05
3665	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2009	0.05
3666	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2010	0.05
3667	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2015	0.04
3668	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2011	0.04
3669	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2012	0.04
3670	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2014	0.04
3671	Puerto Rico	Neither parent Households	2016	0.04

3672 rows × 4 columns

Cleaning the edu_pop_25_to_34 dataset

```
In [20]: ## Cleaning the edu_pop_25_to_34_new
    edu_pop_25_to_34_new = edu_pop_25_to_34.set_index(['Location'])
    edu_pop_25_to_34_new = edu_pop_25_to_34_new.drop(['United States'])
    edu_pop_25_to_34_new = edu_pop_25_to_34_new[edu_pop_25_to_34_new.DataF
    ormat != 'Number']
    edu_pop_25_to_34_new = edu_pop_25_to_34_new.drop(['DataFormat'], axis
    = 1)
    edu_pop_25_to_34_new = edu_pop_25_to_34_new.reset_index()
```

```
In [21]: edu_pop_25_to_34_new
```

Out[21]:

	Location	Education	TimeFrame	Data
0	Alabama	Not a high school graduate	2000	0.17
1	Alabama	High school diploma or GED	2000	0.52
2	Alabama	Associate's Degree	2000	80.0
3	Alabama	Bachelor's Degree	2000	0.18
4	Alabama	Graduate degree	2000	0.05
5	Alabama	Not a high school graduate	2001	0.14
6	Alabama	High school diploma or GED	2001	0.56
7	Alabama	Associate's Degree	2001	0.08
8	Alabama	Bachelor's Degree	2001	0.17

9	Alabama	Graduate degree	2001	0.05
10	Alabama	Not a high school graduate	2002	0.14
11	Alabama	High school diploma or GED	2002	0.54
12	Alabama	Associate's Degree	2002	80.0
13	Alabama	Bachelor's Degree	2002	0.17
14	Alabama	Graduate degree	2002	0.06
15	Alabama	Not a high school graduate	2003	0.16
16	Alabama	High school diploma or GED	2003	0.54
17	Alabama	Associate's Degree	2003	0.07
18	Alabama	Bachelor's Degree	2003	0.17
19	Alabama	Graduate degree	2003	0.06
20	Alabama	Not a high school graduate	2004	0.15
21	Alabama	High school diploma or GED	2004	0.51
22	Alabama	Associate's Degree	2004	0.08
23	Alabama	Bachelor's Degree	2004	0.18
24	Alabama	Graduate degree	2004	0.08
25	Alabama	Not a high school graduate	2005	0.16
26	Alabama	High school diploma or GED	2005	0.52
27	Alabama	Associate's Degree	2005	80.0
28	Alabama	Bachelor's Degree	2005	0.18
29	Alabama	Graduate degree	2005	0.06
4625	Puerto Rico	Not a high school graduate	2012	0.14
4626	Puerto Rico	High school diploma or GED	2012	0.46
4627	Puerto Rico	Associate's Degree	2012	0.11
4628	Puerto Rico	Bachelor's Degree	2012	0.23
4629	Puerto Rico	Graduate degree	2012	0.07
4630	Puerto Rico	Not a high school graduate	2013	0.14
4631	Puerto Rico	High school diploma or GED	2013	0.45
4632	Puerto Rico	Associate's Degree	2013	0.12
4633	Puerto Rico	Bachelor's Degree	2013	0.22
4634	Puerto Rico	Graduate degree	2013	0.07

4635	Puerto Rico	Not a high school graduate	2014	0.12
4636	Puerto Rico	High school diploma or GED	2014	0.45
4637	Puerto Rico	Associate's Degree	2014	0.12
4638	Puerto Rico	Bachelor's Degree	2014	0.23
4639	Puerto Rico	Graduate degree	2014	0.08
4640	Puerto Rico	Not a high school graduate	2015	0.11
4641	Puerto Rico	High school diploma or GED	2015	0.47
4642	Puerto Rico	Associate's Degree	2015	0.13
4643	Puerto Rico	Bachelor's Degree	2015	0.22
4644	Puerto Rico	Graduate degree	2015	0.07
4645	Puerto Rico	Not a high school graduate	2016	0.10
4646	Puerto Rico	High school diploma or GED	2016	0.47
4647	Puerto Rico	Associate's Degree	2016	0.13
4648	Puerto Rico	Bachelor's Degree	2016	0.23
4649	Puerto Rico	Graduate degree	2016	0.07
4650	Puerto Rico	Not a high school graduate	2017	0.10
4651	Puerto Rico	High school diploma or GED	2017	0.45
4652	Puerto Rico	Associate's Degree	2017	0.13
4653	Puerto Rico	Bachelor's Degree	2017	0.25
4654	Puerto Rico	Graduate degree	2017	0.07

4655 rows × 4 columns

Merging the Household_structure and edu_pop_25_to_34_new datasets for years 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015

In [22]: ## Selecting four years - 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015 from the Household structure and edu pop 25 to 34 new ## datasets and then combining the two datasets for the year and makin q a pivot table # Selecting the years for the Household structure data House 2000 = Household structure.loc[Household structure['TimeFrame'] == 2000].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) House 2005 = Household structure.loc[Household structure['TimeFrame'] == 2005].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) House 2010 = Household structure.loc[Household structure['TimeFrame'] == 2010].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) House 2015 = Household structure.loc[Household structure['TimeFrame'] == 2015].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) # Making a pivot table for the Household structure datatsets H Pivot 2000 = House 2000.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'H ousehold Type') H Pivot 2005 = House 2005.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'H ousehold Type') H Pivot 2010 = House 2010.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'H ousehold Type') H Pivot 2015 = House 2015.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'H ousehold Type') # Selecting the years for the edu pop_25_to_34_new data Edu 2000 = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[edu pop 25 to 34 new['TimeFrame'] == 2000].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) Edu 2005 = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[edu pop 25 to 34 new['TimeFrame'] == 2005].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) Edu 2010 = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[edu pop 25 to 34 new['TimeFrame'] == 2010].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) Edu 2015 = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[edu pop 25 to 34 new['TimeFrame'] == 2015].drop(['TimeFrame'], axis = 1) # Making a pivot table for the edu pop 25 to 34 new datasets E Pivot 2000 = Edu 2000.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'Edu cation') E Pivot 2005 = Edu 2005.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'Edu cation') E Pivot 2010 = Edu 2010.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'Edu cation') E Pivot 2015 = Edu 2015.pivot table(index = 'Location', columns = 'Edu cation')

```
In [24]: ## Cleaning the pivot tables
         # removing the data field on the top
         Merge 2000.columns = Merge 2000.columns.droplevel(0)
         Merge 2000 = Merge 2000.reset index().rename axis(None, axis = 1)
         # renaming the columns
         Merge 2000.columns = Merge 2000.columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.re
         place(' ', ' ').str.replace("'", "").str.replace("-"," ")
         # Repeating the cleaning process with the datasets from the other year
         Merge 2005.columns = Merge 2005.columns.droplevel(0)
         Merge_2005 = Merge_2005.reset index().rename axis(None, axis = 1)
         Merge 2005.columns = Merge 2005.columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.re
         place(' ', '_').str.replace("'", "").str.replace("-","_")
         Merge 2010.columns = Merge 2010.columns.droplevel(0)
         Merge 2010 = Merge 2010.reset index().rename axis(None, axis = 1)
         Merge 2010.columns = Merge 2010.columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.re
         place(' ', '_').str.replace("'", "").str.replace("-","_")
         Merge 2015.columns = Merge 2015.columns.droplevel(0)
         Merge 2015 = Merge 2015.reset index().rename axis(None, axis = 1)
         Merge 2015.columns = Merge 2015.columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.re
         place(' ', ' ').str.replace("'", "").str.replace("-"," ")
```

In [25]: Merge_2000

Out[25]:

	location	father_only_households	married_couple_households	mother_only_households
0	Alabama	0.07	0.61	0.31
1	Alaska	0.07	0.69	0.22
2	Arizona	0.08	0.68	0.23
3	Arkansas	0.05	0.64	0.31

4	California	0.07	0.70	0.22
5	Colorado	0.05	0.75	0.19
6	Connecticut	0.05	0.74	0.21
7	Delaware	0.06	0.66	0.27
8	District of Columbia	0.06	0.34	0.60
9	Florida	0.07	0.63	0.2§
10	Georgia	0.06	0.63	0.30
11	Hawaii	0.05	0.71	0.22
12	Idaho	0.06	0.80	0.18
13	Illinois	0.06	0.71	0.21
14	Indiana	0.06	0.70	0.23
15	Iowa	0.06	0.76	0.18
16	Kansas	0.06	0.74	0.19
17	Kentucky	0.06	0.71	0.22
18	Louisiana	0.06	0.60	0.32
19	Maine	0.08	0.72	0.19
20	Maryland	0.05	0.64	0.30
21	Massachusetts	0.04	0.72	0.24
22	Michigan	0.07	0.68	0.24
23	Minnesota	0.04	0.78	0.18
24	Mississippi	0.06	0.59	0.32
25	Missouri	0.08	0.67	0.24
26	Montana	0.08	0.77	0.15
27	Nebraska	0.04	0.74	0.21
28	Nevada	0.09	0.67	0.22
29	New Hampshire	0.09	0.72	0.17
30	New Jersey	0.05	0.75	0.19
31	New Mexico	0.06	0.68	0.25
32	New York	0.07	0.66	0.27
33	North Carolina	0.07	0.64	0.28
34	North Dakota	0.06	0.73	0.20

35	Ohio	0.06	0.71	0.22
36	Oklahoma	0.08	0.68	0.23
37	Oregon	0.09	0.67	0.23
38	Pennsylvania	0.05	0.70	0.23
39	Rhode Island	0.04	0.65	0.31
40	South Carolina	0.05	0.64	0.30
41	South Dakota	0.06	0.77	0.16
42	Tennessee	0.05	0.66	0.27
43	Texas	0.06	0.71	0.23
44	Utah	0.06	0.76	0.18
45	Vermont	0.05	0.71	0.23
46	Virginia	0.06	0.69	0.24
47	Washington	0.06	0.75	0.19
48	West Virginia	0.04	0.72	0.23
49	Wisconsin	0.06	0.73	0.19
50	Wyoming	0.10	0.75	0.14

In [26]: Merge_2005

Out[26]:

	location	father_only_households	married_couple_households	mother_only_households
0	Alabama	0.06	0.64	0.30
1	Alaska	0.09	0.70	0.21
2	Arizona	0.08	0.68	0.24
3	Arkansas	0.07	0.66	0.27
4	California	0.08	0.71	0.22
5	Colorado	0.07	0.73	0.19
6	Connecticut	0.05	0.71	0.24
7	Delaware	0.07	0.66	0.26
8	District of Columbia	0.08	0.36	0.56
9	Florida	0.07	0.65	0.28
10	Georgia	0.06	0.65	0.28

11	Hawaii	0.06	0.74	0.20
12	Idaho	0.06	0.77	0.17
13	Illinois	0.06	0.70	0.24
14	Indiana	0.07	0.70	0.23
15	Iowa	0.06	0.74	0.20
16	Kansas	0.06	0.73	0.21
17	Kentucky	0.06	0.70	0.24
18	Louisiana	0.06	0.59	0.36
19	Maine	0.10	0.69	0.21
20	Maryland	0.06	0.68	0.2ξ
21	Massachusetts	0.06	0.71	0.23
22	Michigan	0.07	0.69	0.24
23	Minnesota	0.07	0.75	0.19
24	Mississippi	0.07	0.55	0.38
25	Missouri	0.07	0.68	0.28
26	Montana	0.07	0.72	0.21
27	Nebraska	0.05	0.75	0.20
28	Nevada	0.08	0.69	0.25
29	New Hampshire	0.06	0.76	0.18
30	New Jersey	0.06	0.72	0.22
31	New Mexico	0.08	0.64	0.28
32	New York	0.07	0.66	0.28
33	North Carolina	0.07	0.66	0.27
34	North Dakota	0.06	0.77	0.17
35	Ohio	0.07	0.68	0.25
36	Oklahoma	0.07	0.68	0.25
37	Oregon	0.07	0.71	0.22
38	Pennsylvania	0.06	0.69	0.25
39	Puerto Rico	0.06	0.57	0.37
40	Rhode Island	0.06	0.67	0.27
41	South Carolina	0.06	0.63	0.31

42	South Dakota	0.07	0.72	0.21
43	Tennessee	0.07	0.66	0.27
44	Texas	0.06	0.69	0.24
45	Utah	0.05	0.83	0.12
46	Vermont	0.09	0.69	0.22
47	Virginia	0.06	0.71	0.23
48	Washington	0.07	0.72	0.21
49	West Virginia	0.07	0.71	0.22
50	Wisconsin	0.07	0.72	0.21
51	Wyoming	0.09	0.75	0.16

In [27]: | Merge_2010

Out[27]:

	location	father_only_households	married_couple_households	mother_only_households
0	Alabama	0.07	0.61	0.32
1	Alaska	0.09	0.69	0.21
2	Arizona	0.09	0.64	0.26
3	Arkansas	0.07	0.62	0.30
4	California	0.08	0.68	0.23
5	Colorado	0.08	0.70	0.22
6	Connecticut	0.06	0.68	0.25
7	Delaware	0.08	0.64	0.27
8	District of Columbia	0.08	0.41	0.50
9	Florida	0.08	0.61	0.30
10	Georgia	0.07	0.63	0.30
11	Hawaii	0.07	0.71	0.22
12	Idaho	0.06	0.75	0.19
13	Illinois	0.07	0.68	0.25
14	Indiana	0.07	0.66	0.26
15	lowa	0.07	0.71	0.21
16	Kansas	0.07	0.70	0.22
17	Kentucky	0.07	0.65	0.2€

18	Louisiana	0.07	0.56	0.36
19	Maine	0.08	0.66	0.25
20	Maryland	0.07	0.65	0.27
21	Massachusetts	0.06	0.69	0.25
22	Michigan	0.07	0.66	0.26
23	Minnesota	0.07	0.72	0.20
24	Mississippi	0.07	0.56	0.37
25	Missouri	0.07	0.66	0.25
26	Montana	0.07	0.71	0.21
27	Nebraska	0.07	0.71	0.20
28	Nevada	0.11	0.64	0.24
29	New Hampshire	0.08	0.73	0.18
30	New Jersey	0.06	0.71	0.22
31	New Mexico	0.11	0.59	0.29
32	New York	0.07	0.65	0.27
33	North Carolina	0.07	0.64	0.28
34	North Dakota	0.06	0.74	0.19
35	Ohio	0.07	0.65	0.27
36	Oklahoma	0.07	0.66	0.26
37	Oregon	0.08	0.68	0.23
38	Pennsylvania	0.07	0.66	0.26
39	Puerto Rico	0.09	0.48	0.43
40	Rhode Island	0.06	0.64	0.29
41	South Carolina	0.07	0.60	0.30
42	South Dakota	0.07	0.71	0.22
43	Tennessee	0.07	0.63	0.29
44	Texas	0.07	0.66	0.27
45	Utah	0.05	0.82	0.18
46	Vermont	0.08	0.69	0.21
47	Virginia	0.07	0.69	0.24
48	Washington	0.07	0.71	0.21

49	West Virginia	0.08	0.68	0.23
50	Wisconsin	0.08	0.68	0.23
51	Wyoming	0.06	0.75	0.18

In [28]: Merge_2015

Out[28]:

	location	father_only_households	married_couple_households	mother_only_households
0	Alabama	0.06	0.61	0.32
1	Alaska	0.11	0.67	0.21
2	Arizona	0.10	0.63	0.27
3	Arkansas	0.08	0.64	0.27
4	California	0.09	0.68	0.23
5	Colorado	0.08	0.73	0.19
6	Connecticut	0.06	0.68	0.2
7	Delaware	0.07	0.61	0.31
8	District of Columbia	0.07	0.47	0.45
9	Florida	0.09	0.60	0.30
10	Georgia	0.07	0.62	0.30
11	Hawaii	0.08	0.71	0.20
12	Idaho	0.07	0.74	0.18
13	Illinois	0.07	0.67	0.2
14	Indiana	0.09	0.65	0.2
15	Iowa	0.09	0.70	0.21
16	Kansas	0.08	0.70	0.21
17	Kentucky	0.08	0.65	0.26
18	Louisiana	0.08	0.56	0.35
19	Maine	0.11	0.65	0.24
20	Maryland	0.08	0.66	0.26
21	Massachusetts	0.06	0.68	0.2
22	Michigan	0.08	0.65	0.2€
23	Minnesota	0.08	0.71	0.20
24	Mississippi	0.08	0.54	0.38

25	Missouri	0.08	0.66	0.25
26	Montana	0.08	0.72	0.19
27	Nebraska	0.07	0.71	0.21
28	Nevada	0.10	0.61	0.28
29	New Hampshire	0.07	0.70	0.22
30	New Jersey	0.06	0.71	0.22
31	New Mexico	0.11	0.60	0.29
32	New York	0.08	0.64	0.28
33	North Carolina	0.08	0.64	0.28
34	North Dakota	0.08	0.73	0.18
35	Ohio	0.08	0.64	0.27
36	Oklahoma	0.09	0.65	0.25
37	Oregon	0.08	0.69	0.22
38	Pennsylvania	0.08	0.65	0.26
39	Puerto Rico	0.10	0.44	0.4€
40	Rhode Island	0.07	0.61	0.31
41	South Carolina	0.07	0.60	0.32
42	South Dakota	0.09	0.68	0.22
43	Tennessee	0.08	0.63	0.28
44	Texas	0.07	0.66	0.26
45	Utah	0.05	0.81	0.14
46	Vermont	0.08	0.72	0.19
47	Virginia	0.07	0.69	0.23
48	Washington	0.08	0.70	0.20
49	West Virginia	0.10	0.63	0.2€
50	Wisconsin	0.09	0.68	0.23
51	Wyoming	0.11	0.72	0.1€

Limitations with the Data

Given that our investigating question sought to explore effects over a sustained time period, our data is not a perfect fit for our topic. However, given the sensitivity of child-related data on an individual level, we decided that exploring our question on a more aggregate level (state-specific) would be an effective way to test our hypothesis.

We also face challenges regarding inconsistencies in the data. Namely, that the data over the 17 year timespan captures the 50 most populous cities (and Puerto Rico and District of Columbia) of any given year, meaning that there is the possibility that different cities are accounted for in different years. Because the state-level data is an average, the percentages within a state do not always add up to 100%.

Regression Analysis

```
In [29]: ## Running a regression for Merge_2000
    print(smf.ols("high_school_diploma_or_ged~father_only_households+marri
    ed_couple_households+mother_only_households+neither_parent_households"
    , data = Merge_2000).fit().summary())
```

```
OLS Regression Results
______
______
              high school diploma or ged
Dep. Variable:
                                   R-squared:
0.209
Model:
                               OLS
                                   Adj. R-squared:
0.140
Method:
                       Least Squares
                                   F-statistic:
3.031
Date:
                     Fri, 21 Dec 2018
                                   Prob (F-statistic):
0.0267
Time:
                           01:08:53
                                   Log-Likelihood:
80.140
No. Observations:
                                51
                                   AIC:
-150.3
Df Residuals:
                                46
                                   BIC:
-140.6
Df Model:
Covariance Type:
                          nonrobust
______
_____
                       coef std err
                                          t
                                               P> | t
     [0.025
             0.9751
```

Intercept	3.2269	1.133	2.849	0.00	
7 0.947 5.507					
father_only_households	-2.5302	1.303	-1.942	0.05	
8 -5.153 0.093					
married_couple_households	-2.7067	1.137	-2.382	0.02	
1 -4.994 -0.419					
<u> </u>	-2.9386	1.109	-2.651	0.01	
1 -5.170 -0.707					
<pre>neither_parent_households</pre>	0.1689	0.740	0.228	0.82	
1 -1.322 1.659					
	========			======	
=======					
Omnibus:	0.609	Durbin-Wat	son:		
2.178					
Prob(Omnibus):	0.738	Jarque-Bera (JB):			
0.143					
Skew:	0.079	Prob(JB):			
0.931					
Kurtosis:	3.206	Cond. No.			
385.					
	========				
=======					

Warnings:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

From the Merge_2000 dataset, we see that the R-squared is very low, at only 20.9%. It is interesting too how the only statistically significant relationships seems to be with married and mother-only households, and those relationships are negative. Strictly looking at coefficients, the only positive coefficient belongs to the neither-parent households. This contradicts our hypothesis the most, as it indicates the least stable family structure.

```
In [30]: ## Running a regression for Merge_2005
print(smf.ols("high_school_diploma_or_ged~father_only_households+marri
ed_couple_households+mother_only_households+neither_parent_households"
, data = Merge_2005).fit().summary())
```

```
OLS Regression Results
================
                   high school diploma or ged
                                                 R-squared:
Dep. Variable:
0.442
Model:
                                           OLS
                                                 Adj. R-squared:
0.394
Method:
                                Least Squares
                                                 F-statistic:
9.303
                             Fri, 21 Dec 2018
Date:
                                                 Prob (F-statistic):
```

1.27e-05 Time: 90.143 No. Observations: -170.3 Df Residuals: -160.5	0:	52 47	Log-Likelihoo AIC: BIC:	d:
Df Model: Covariance Type:	nor	4 nrobust		
======================================	_		=========	======
[0.025 0.975]	coef	std err	t	P> t
Intercept 3 -2.821 3.270	0.2241	1.514	0.148	0.88
father_only_households 6 -2.121 4.169	1.0240	1.563	0.655	0.51
married_couple_households 4 -2.834 3.279	0.2226	1.519	0.146	0.88
mother_only_households 9 -3.511 2.576	-0.4674	1.513	-0.309	0.75
neither_parent_households 0 1.580 4.040	2.8098	0.612	4.595	0.00
=======================================	========		=========	======
======== Omnibus: 1.883	0.439	Durbin-V	Watson:	
Prob(Omnibus): 0.583	0.803	Jarque-l	Bera (JB):	
Skew: 0.747	-0.047	Prob(JB):	
Kurtosis: 598.	2.490	Cond. No	o.	
=======================================	========			======

Warnings:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

The Merge_2005 data has vastly more explaining power, with an R-squared of 44.2%; however none of the variables appear statistically significant beyond neither-parent households (which is again a positive coefficient). It appears that in the span of 5 years, this coefficient has notably strengthened.

In [31]:

Running a regression for Merge_2010
print(smf.ols("high_school_diploma_or_ged~father_only_households+marri
ed_couple_households+mother_only_households+neither_parent_households"
, data = Merge_2010).fit().summary())

	OLS Re	egression 1	Results	
=======================================	==========	=======		======
=======================================				
Dep. Variable: hi	gh_school_diploma	a_or_ged	R-squared:	
0.475				
Model:		OLS	Adj. R-square	d:
0.431				
Method:	Least	Squares	F-statistic:	
10.65				
Date:	Fri, 21 I	Dec 2018	Prob (F-stati	stic):
3.17e-06				
Time:		01:08:58	Log-Likelihoo	d:
87.535				
No. Observations:		52	AIC:	
-165.1				
Df Residuals:		47	BIC:	
-155.3				
Df Model:		4		
Covariance Type:	no	onrobust		
=======================================				======
===========	====			
	coef	std err	t	P> t
[0.025 0.	975]			·
·				
Intercept	-0.7389	1.219	-0.606	0.54
7 -3.191 1	.713			
father_only_household	s 2.2580	1.485	1.521	0.13
5 -0.729 5	.245			
married_couple_househ	olds 1.1865	1.223	0.971	0.33
7 -1.273 3	.646			
mother_only_household	s 0.4154	1.202	0.346	0.73
	.833			
neither parent househ	olds 3.5935	0.710	5.062	0.00
0 2.165 5	.022			
=======================================				======
=======				
Omnibus:	5.546	Durbin-	Watson:	
2.048				
Prob(Omnibus):	0.062	Jarque-l	Bera (JB):	
4.455				
Skew:	-0.655	Prob(JB) :	
0.108				
Kurtosis:	3.585	Cond. No	o .	

473.

=======

Warnings:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

In the Merge_2010 data, the R-squared is similarly high at 47.5%, and once again neither-parents is the only significant coefficient. It has grown since 2005 and is still positive.

```
In [32]: ## Running a regression for Merge_2015
    print(smf.ols("high_school_diploma_or_ged~father_only_households+marri
    ed_couple_households+mother_only_households+neither_parent_households"
    , data = Merge_2015).fit().summary())
```

, data - Merge_201		Summary())				
			gression D			
Dep. Variable: 0.306	high_sch	ool_diploma	_or_ged	R-squared:		
Model:			OLS	Adj. R-square	ed:	
0.247 Method:		Least	Squares	F-statistic:		
5.190 Date:		Fri, 21 D	ec 2018	Prob (F-stati	gtic).	
0.00152			2010	IIOD (I-SCACI	.BCTC) •	
Time: 81.355		01:09:01		Log-Likelihood:		
No. Observations:			52	AIC:		
-152.7 Df Residuals:			47	BIC:		
-143.0 Df Model:			4			
Covariance Type:		nonrobust				
	=======	========	=======		:=====:	
[0.025	0.975]	coef	std err	t	P>	
Tht organt		0.8109	1 715	0.473	0.6	
Intercept 9 -2.640	4.261	0.8109	1./15	0.4/3	0.6	
father_only_househ	olds 4.131	0.8440	1.634	0.517	0.6	
married_couple_hou 0 -3.971		-0.4665	1.742	-0.268	0.7	
mother_only_househ		-0.7891	1.714	-0.460	0.6	

7 -4.236 2.658 neither_parent_households 8 0.566 3.603	2.0845	0.755	2.761	0.00
=======================================	=======			======
======== Omnibus: 2.163	34.670	Durbin-Wat:	son:	
Prob(Omnibus): 114.100	0.000	Jarque-Bera	a (JB):	
Skew:	-1.735	Prob(JB):		
1.67e-25 Kurtosis:	9.374	Cond. No.		
560.				
	=======	========	========	======

Warnings:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

The Merge_2015 dataset shows a decrease in the R-squared to 30.6%. Neither-parent household is still a positive, significant coefficient.

Determining the Most and Least Educated States

In [33]: ## grouping the edu pop 25 to 34 new data by the education type for al 1 the years from 2000 to 2017 and ## then taking the average percentage of education level in different states over the years. # grouping the edu pop 25 to 34 new data by not a high school graduate education level and taking the average no highschool avg = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[(edu pop 25 to 34 new['Ed ucation'].str.contains('Not a high school graduate'))] no highschool avg = no highschool avg.groupby('Location').agg({'TimeFr ame':np.mean, 'Data':np.mean}) # repeating the grouping part for other education levels high school avg = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[(edu pop 25 to 34 new['Educ ation'l.str.contains('High school diploma or GED'))] high school avg = high school avg.groupby('Location').agg({'TimeFrame' :np.mean, 'Data':np.mean}) associate avg = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[(edu pop 25 to 34 new['Educat ion'].str.contains("Associate's Degree"))] associate avg = associate avg.groupby('Location').agg({'TimeFrame':np. mean, 'Data':np.mean}) bachelor avg = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[(edu pop 25 to 34 new['Educati on'].str.contains("Bachelor's Degree"))] bachelor avg = bachelor avg.groupby('Location').agg({'TimeFrame':np.me an, 'Data':np.mean}) grad avg = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[(edu pop 25 to 34 new['Education'] .str.contains('Graduate degree'))] grad avg = grad avg.groupby('Location').agg({'TimeFrame':np.mean, 'Dat a':np.mean})

In [34]: ## sorting the data from highest to lowest and finding the state with the highest and the lowest percentage of ## adults who are not high school graduates no highschool avg = no highschool avg.sort values('Data', ascending = False) print(no highschool avg.head(1)) ## gives us Texas print(no highschool avg.tail(1)) ## gives us North Dakota ## repeating the sorting part for other education levels high school avg = high school avg.sort values('Data', ascending = Fals e) print(high school avg.head(1)) ## gives us Alaska print(high school avg.tail(1)) ## gives us District of Columbia associate avg = associate avg.sort values('Data', ascending = False) print(associate avg.head(1)) ## gives us North Dakota print(associate avg.tail(1)) ## gives us District of Columbia bachelor avg = bachelor avg.sort values('Data', ascending = False) print(bachelor avg.head(1)) ## gives us District of Columbia print(bachelor avg.tail(1)) ## gives us New Mexico grad avg = grad avg.sort values('Data', ascending = False) print(grad avg.head(1)) ## gives us District of Columbia print(grad avg.tail(1)) ## gives us Nevada

TimeFrame Data Location Texas 2008.5 0.178333 TimeFrame Data Location North Dakota 2008.5 0.043889 TimeFrame Data Location Alaska 2008.5 0.603889 TimeFrame Data Location District of Columbia 2008.5 0.258889 TimeFrame Data Location North Dakota 2008.5 0.148889 TimeFrame Data Location District of Columbia 2008.5 0.024444 TimeFrame Data Location District of Columbia 0.328889 2008.5 TimeFrame Data Location New Mexico 2008.5 0.151111 TimeFrame Data Location

District of Columbia 2008.5 0.304444

TimeFrame Data

Location

Nevada 2008.5 0.049444

State-Specific Analyses

We sought to look more closely at states that seemed to be the top/bottom of each educational attainment standard (Not high school graduate, high school diploma, Associate's, Bachelor's, Graduate) To do this, we averaged accross the entire time period (2000-2017) and averaged the data points related to each educational attainment level on a state level.

Out[35]:

Lowest_percentage_state	Highest_percentage_state	Education Level	
North Dakota	Texas	No_highschool	0
District of Columbia	Alaska	High_school_diploma_or_GED	1
District of Columbia	North Dakota	Associates	2
New Mexico	District of Columbia	Bachelors	3
Nevada	District of Columbia	Graduate	4

As we can see with the table above, our hypothesis is essentially disproven, as the District of Columbia has the highest numbers of Bachelors/Graduate degrees and one of the lowest percentages of married-family households.

We believed that the stability of married-family househoulds would have a significant effect on influencing children to attain higher education. However, it appears that state-related factors (potentially region-specific occupations, religion, and other ommitted variables) must be responsibly for the distribution of educational attainment levels.

One important note is that our initial investigation of using High-School Diploma as a proxy for educational attainment was not effective for several reasons. Firstly, High-school Diploma did not include the percentage of people who attained education beyond a high-school diploma. A better proxy would have been the No High-school Diploma group, as this was an inclusive population of indviduals who did not finish high-school or anything beyond it.

```
In [41]:
         ## Selecting the states of Alaska, District of Columbia, Nevada, New M
         exico, North Dakota and Texas
         ## and finding out the average household structure of those states ove
         r the years
         Alaska edu = Household structure.loc[(Household structure['Location'].
         str.contains('Alaska'))]
         Alaska edu = Alaska edu.groupby('Household Type').agg({'TimeFrame':np.
         mean, 'Data':np.mean})
         Columbia edu = Household structure.loc[(Household structure['Location'
         ].str.contains('District of Columbia'))]
         Columbia edu = Columbia edu.groupby('Household Type').agg({'TimeFrame'
         :np.mean, 'Data':np.mean})
         New Mexico edu = Household structure.loc[(Household structure['Locatio
         n'].str.contains('New Mexico'))]
         New Mexico edu = New Mexico edu.groupby('Household Type').agg({'TimeFr
         ame':np.mean, 'Data':np.mean})
         Nevada edu = Household structure.loc[(Household structure['Location'].
         str.contains('Nevada'))]
         Nevada edu = Nevada edu.groupby('Household Type').agg({'TimeFrame':np.
         mean, 'Data':np.mean})
         North Dakota edu = Household structure.loc[(Household structure['Locat
         ion'].str.contains('North Dakota'))]
         North Dakota edu = North Dakota edu.groupby('Household Type').agg({'Ti
         meFrame':np.mean, 'Data':np.mean})
         Texas edu = Household structure.loc[(Household structure['Location'].s
         tr.contains('Texas'))]
         Texas edu = Texas edu.groupby('Household Type').agg({'TimeFrame':np.me
         an, 'Data':np.mean})
```

In [42]: | ## Showing the household structure of the different states

```
# Merging the state edu datasets for different states to be combined
merge1 = pd.merge(Alaska edu, Columbia edu, on = 'Household Type', how
= 'inner')
merge2 = pd.merge(New Mexico edu, Nevada edu, on = 'Household Type', how
= 'inner' )
merge3 = pd.merge(North Dakota edu, Texas edu, on = 'Household Type', ho
w = 'inner')
merge4 = pd.merge(merge1, merge2, on ='Household Type', how = 'inner')
select state household = pd.merge(merge4, merge3, on = 'Household Type',
how = 'inner')
# Cleaning the select state household dataset
select state household = select state household.drop(columns = ['TimeF
rame x x', 'TimeFrame y x', 'TimeFrame x y', 'TimeFrame y y', 'TimeFra
me x', 'TimeFrame y'], axis = 1)
select_state_household = select_state_household.rename(index = str, co
lumns = {"Data_x_x": "Alaska", "Data_y_x": "Columbia", "Data_x_y": "Ne
w Mexico", "Data y y": "Nevada", "Data x": "North Dakota", "Data y": "
Texas" })
select state household = select state household.transpose()
select state household
```

Out[42]:

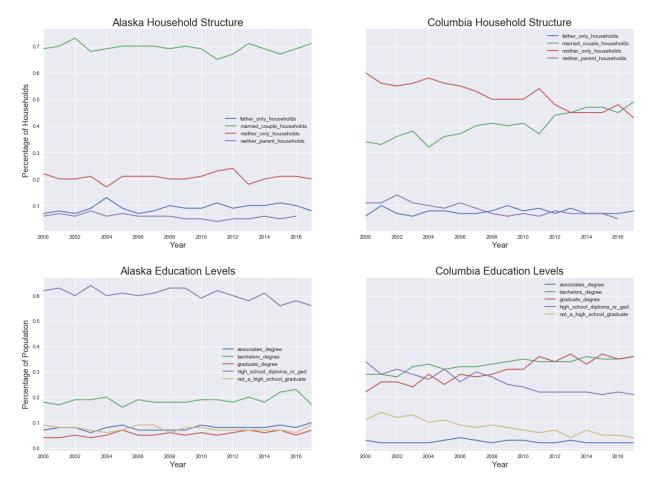
Household Type	Father only Households	Married-couple Households	Mother only Households	Neither parent Households
Alaska	0.091667	0.692222	0.206111	0.058235
Columbia	0.077222	0.401111	0.515000	0.085882
New Mexico	0.093889	0.615556	0.285556	0.062941
Nevada	0.091111	0.655000	0.244444	0.058235
North Dakota	0.069444	0.742778	0.178333	0.040588
Texas	0.062778	0.678333	0.251111	0.055882

```
In [43]:
         ## Making a dataset for Alaska and District of Columbia to understand
         the household structure trends in the two states
         ## for years from 2000 to 2017. Alaska and District of Columbia have b
         een specifically chosen because the states
         ## have the highest and the lowest percentage of high school graduates
         respectively
         # Dataset for Alaska
         Alaska household = Household structure.loc[Household structure['Locati
         on'].str.contains('Alaska')]
         # dropping location and making a pivot table
         Alaska household = Alaska household.drop(['Location'], axis = 1)
         Alaska household = Alaska household.pivot table(index = 'TimeFrame', c
         olumns = 'Household Type')
         # removing the data field on the top
         Alaska household.columns = Alaska household.columns.droplevel(0)
         Alaska household = Alaska household.reset index().rename axis(None, ax
         is = 1)
         # renaming the columns
         Alaska household.columns = Alaska household.columns.str.strip().str.lo
         wer().str.replace(' ', ' ').str.replace("-"," ")
         #assigning the year as index
         Alaska household = Alaska household.set index(['timeframe'])
         # Repeating the process for District of Columbia
         Columbia household = Household structure.loc[Household structure['Loca
         tion'].str.contains('District of Columbia')]
         Columbia household = Columbia household.drop(['Location'], axis = 1)
         Columbia household = Columbia household.pivot table(index = 'TimeFrame')
         ', columns = 'Household Type')
         Columbia household.columns = Columbia household.columns.droplevel(0)
         Columbia household = Columbia household.reset index().rename axis(None
         , axis = 1)
         Columbia household.columns = Columbia household.columns.str.strip().st
         r.lower().str.replace(' ', ' ').str.replace("-"," ")
         Columbia_household = Columbia_household.set index(['timeframe'])
```

```
In [44]:
         ## Making a dataset for Alaska and District of Columbia to understand
         the education level trends in the two states
         ## for years from 2000 to 2017. Alaska and District of Columbia have b
         een specifically chosen because the states
         ## have the highest and the lowest percentage of high school graduates
         respectively
         ## Making a dataset for Alaska and cleaning it
         Alaska education = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[edu pop 25 to 34 new['Loca
         tion'].str.contains('Alaska')]
         # dropping location and making a pivot table
         Alaska education = Alaska education.drop(['Location'], axis = 1)
         Alaska education = Alaska education.pivot table(index = 'TimeFrame', c
         olumns = 'Education')
         # reseting the index
         Alaska education.columns = Alaska education.columns.droplevel(0)
         Alaska education = Alaska education.reset index().rename axis(None, ax
         is = 1)
         # renaming the columns
         Alaska education.columns = Alaska education.columns.str.strip().str.lo
         wer().str.replace(' ', '_').str.replace("-","_").str.replace("'", "")
         # reseting the index
         Alaska education = Alaska education.set index(['timeframe'])
         # Repeating the process for District of Columbia
         Columbia education = edu pop 25 to 34 new.loc[edu pop 25 to 34 new['Lo
         cation'].str.contains('District of Columbia')]
         Columbia education = Columbia education.drop(['Location'], axis = 1)
         Columbia education = Columbia education.pivot table(index = 'TimeFrame
         ', columns = 'Education')
         Columbia education.columns = Columbia education.columns.droplevel(0)
         Columbia education = Columbia education.reset index().rename axis(None
         , axis = 1)
         Columbia education.columns = Columbia education.columns.str.strip().st
         r.lower().str.replace(' ', ' ').str.replace("-"," ").str.replace("'",
         "")
         Columbia education = Columbia education.set index(['timeframe'])
```

In [45]: ## Plotting graphs to understand the household structure and education level trends in the states of ## Alaska and District of Columbia plt.style.use('seaborn') fig, (ax, ax2) = plt.subplots(ncols=2, sharey=True) Alaska household.plot(ax = ax, figsize = (20,7)) ax.set xlim(2000,2017) ax.set title('Alaska Household Structure', fontsize = 20) ax.set_xlabel('Year', fontsize = 15) ax.set ylabel('Percentage of Households', fontsize = 15) Columbia household.plot(ax = ax2, figsize = (20,7)) ax2.set xlim(2000,2017)ax2.set title('Columbia Household Structure', fontsize = 20) ax2.set xlabel('Year', fontsize = 15) ax2.set ylabel('Percentage of Households', fontsize = 15) plt.style.use('seaborn') fig, (ax, ax2) = plt.subplots(ncols=2, sharey=True) Alaska education.plot(ax = ax, figsize = (20,6)) ax.set xlim(2000,2017) ax.set title('Alaska Education Levels', fontsize = 20) ax.set xlabel('Year', fontsize = 15) ax.set ylabel('Percentage of Population', fontsize = 15) Columbia education.plot(ax = ax2, figsize = (20,6)) ax2.set xlim(2000,2017) ax2.set title('Columbia Education Levels', fontsize = 20) ax2.set xlabel('Year', fontsize = 15) ax2.set ylabel('Percentage of Population', fontsize = 15)

Out[45]: Text(0,0.5, 'Percentage of Population')



One interesting insight from these plots are how in the District of Columbia, married couple households and mother only households have a strong inverse relationship, suggesting that shifts in household structure are largely related to these two structures— when people aren't married, the children live with the mothers.

It is also interesting how Alaska has such high levels of Associate's degrees. We believe this suggests that there is a region-specific need or educational opportunities are targetted at attaining this level of education. Similarly, the very low number of Associate's degrees in the District of Columbia suggest that this educational level is not very valuable for the area or possibly that opportunities to achieve this educational level are limited there.

Mapping Merge_2015 Data

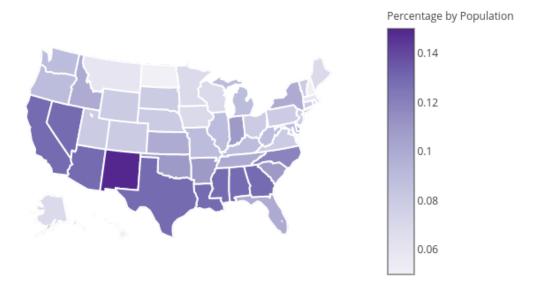
As an additional tool to understanding the analyses, we also mapped the 2015 pivot table. The manipulated data allows us to have a general overview of the percentage of population within each category we looked at. It does not include Puerto Rico or District of Columbia since the map package Basemap and Plotly were limited to the 50 states. However, because our purpose for mapping is only to see the densities of our manipulated data, it has served its purpose.

Showing Education Levels in the United States in 2015

```
In [12]: from IPython.display import Image
    url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/nothighschoolorg
    ed-1.png'
    Image(url)
```

Out[12]:

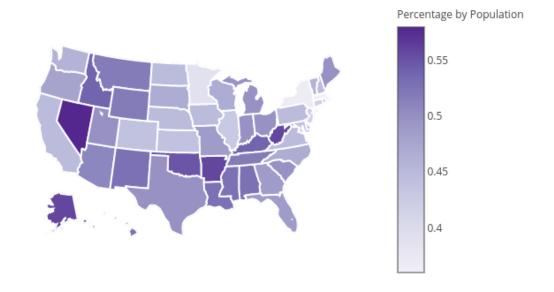
2015 Not High School Diploma/GED



```
In [6]: from IPython.display import Image
    url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/highschoolged.pn
    g'
    Image(url)
```

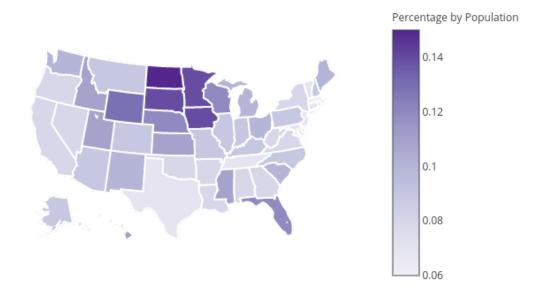
Out[6]:

2015 High School Diploma/GED



Out[1]:

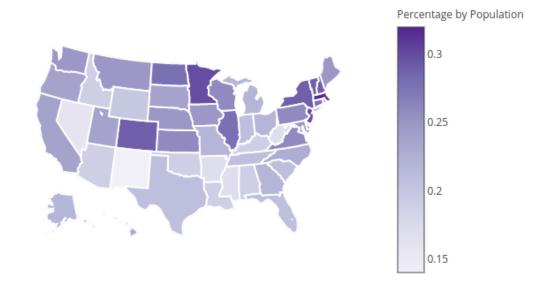
2015 Associate Degrees



```
In [2]: from IPython.display import Image
    url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/bachelor-degree.
    png'
    Image(url)
```

Out[2]:

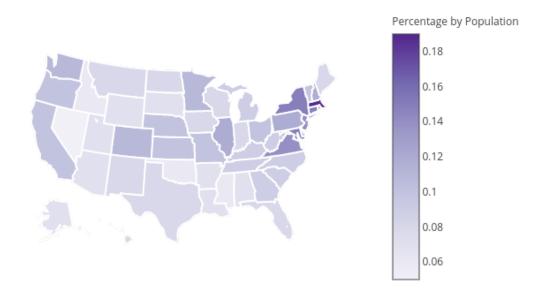
2015 Bachelor Degrees



```
In [5]: from IPython.display import Image
    url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/graduate-degree.
    png'
    Image(url)
```

Out[5]:

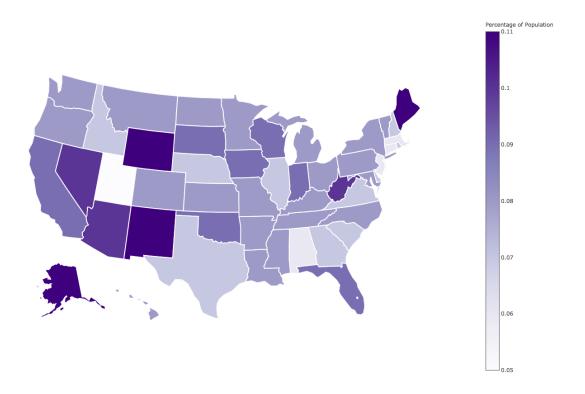
2015 Graduate Degrees



Showing Household Structure in the United States in 2015

In [4]: from IPython.display import Image
 url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/father-only.png'
 Image(url)

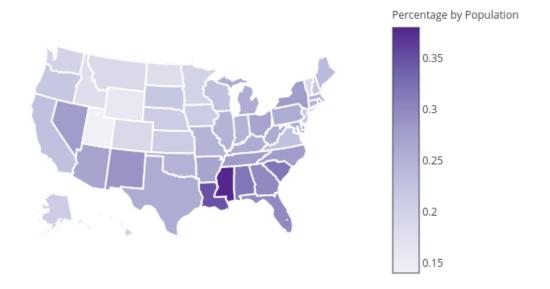
Out [4]:



In [8]: from IPython.display import Image
 url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/mother-only.png'
 Image(url)

Out[8]:

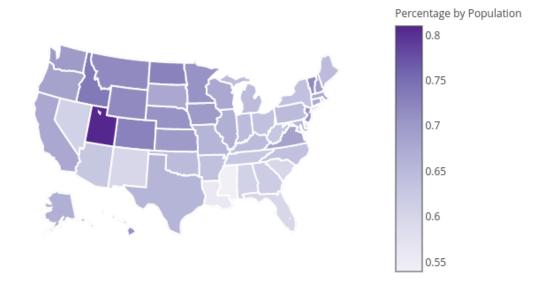
2015 Mother Only Household



```
In [7]: from IPython.display import Image
    url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/married-couple.p
    ng'
    Image(url)
```

Out[7]:

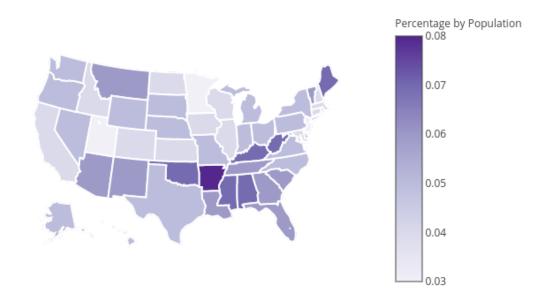
2015 Married Couple Households



```
In [9]: from IPython.display import Image
url = 'https://angelayxng.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/neither-parent.p
ng'
Image(url)
```

Out[9]:

2015 Neither Parent Household



Conclusion

The goal of this project was to understand whether growing up in a certain kind of household (father only household, mother only household, married couple household and neither parent household) has an effect on the children (who are finishing high school) and young adults' educational attainment. Specifically, we were interested in finding out whether education attainment levels of children/young adults who grew up in married couple households were higher than of those children/young adults who grew up in single parent or neither parent households because of greater emotional involvement.

We analyzed data from 50 states and District of Columbia and Puerto Rico over a period from 2000-2017. After cleaning our data and regressing percentages of children/young adults with high school diplomas or GEDs on the household structure for the years 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015, we found that the household structure and child's education attainment weren't correlated. To be specific, the coefficients of the dependent variables changed signs. For instance, while the coefficient for father-only household was

negative for 2000, it came out to be positive for 2005, 2010 and 2015. Moreover, the coefficients of married couple households fluctuated as it went from negative (2000) to positive (2005 and 2010) and then negative (2015).

The change in the signs of the coefficients along with the values of R^2 and p values suggest that there are other factors at play influencing levels of higher education beyond household structure. It is possible that factors such as occupations/job potential, incomes, and adverse life events play more significant roles in a child's potential to graduate high school and pursue college. While household structure is a good predictor of such factors, it is not the whole story.

Finding data on children was extremely challenging due to ethical concerns. We opted instead to use the ACS data, as it was the most comprehensive dataset we could find for the variables we wanted to explore. This data takes the 50 largest cities along with their states (and Puerto Rico and District of Columbia) in a given year based on survey results. The data we pulled covers the years 2000-2017. Based on the longer time frame, we believed the data would accurately portray how children made education choices as they became young adults—given that they moved from being within households as children on to higher education in this time span. Although the data did not track children individually, we believe that the aggregate data on household structures and the longitudinal horizon for education levels of young adults would be indicative of the effects of household structure on education levels of young adults. One of the obvious drawbacks to this is that we are are not able to track children over time, regarding changes in household structure that occur or direct education levels received by specific children given their household structure.

Since we were not able to find much correlation when we regressed the education level on household structure for all the states, we decided to take another approach. We decided to take 2 states - District of Columbia and Alaska - based on the criteria that these states have the highest and the lowest aggregate percentage of high school graduate young adults (respectively) over 2000-2017 to understand if there were any trends. We thought that when we used a more specific type of regression, rather than an aggregate regression, we may have better and more accurate results. Upon doing so, we found that this was not the best metric, given that it excluded individuals who received educations beyond high school diplomas. By comparing the highest/lowest education level states by degree, the insights were much more interesting. We were able to essentially see which states had the highest percentage of people attain a given degree. While the District of Columbia had the highest percentage of Bachelor's and Graduate degrees, it had the lowest percentage of High School Diplomas or Associate's Degrees. We interpreted this as possibly meaning that those individuals who are receiving higher educations are choosing to pursue these higher degrees, likely as a result of the employment opportunities made available for them. While North Dakota had the lowest number of non-high school graduates and the highest number of Associate's Degrees, we argue that it has the highest base-line for education.

Sources

https://datacenter.kidscount.org/locations (https://datacenter.kidscount.org/locations)

In []: # Link to Github
https://github.com/meetali28/Data_Bootcamp_Project