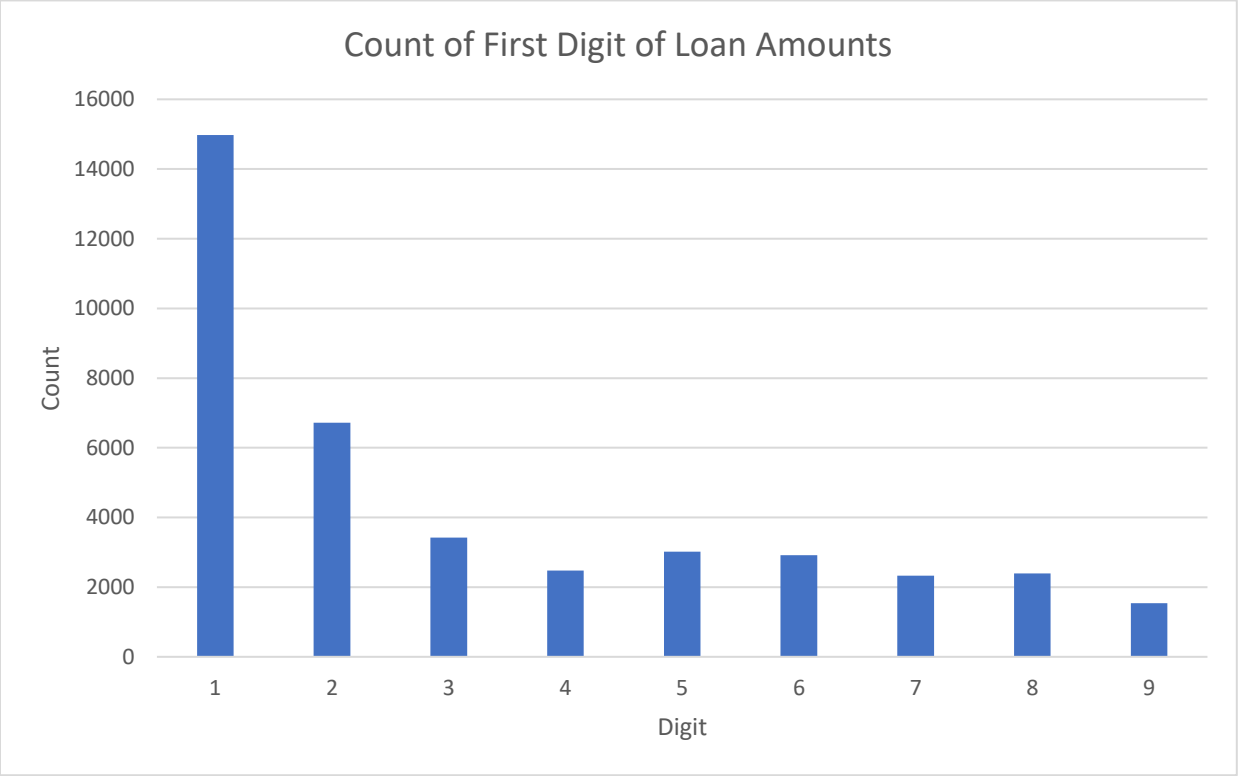
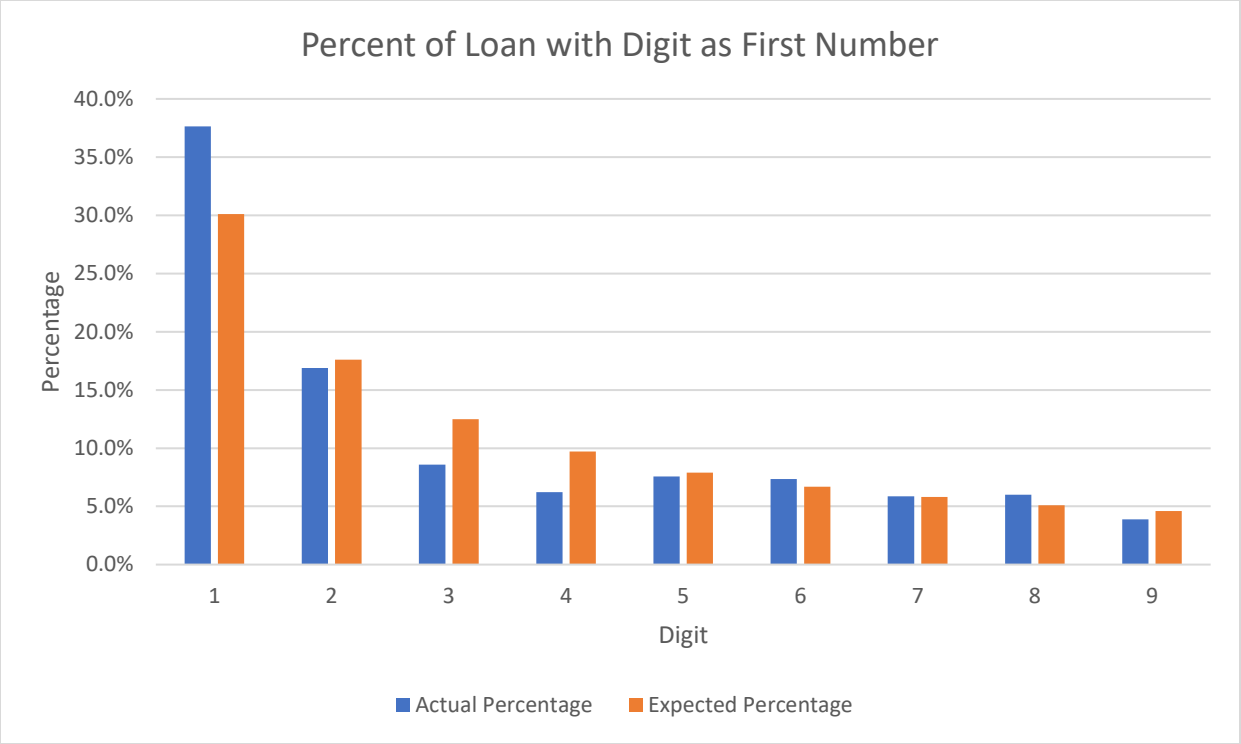
The data being investigated relates to loan amounts awarded by a financial institution, according to the institution's own records. To assess the reliability of these values, Benford's Law is applied to the data.




Visually, the count of these values may appear to hold to Benford's Law on first glance. However, upon further analysis, problems arise. While generally the count of first digits decreases as the digit number increases, the increases from "4" to "5" and from "7" to "8" should be investigated.




Additionally, the percentage of the data that is each digit varies from the expectations of Benford's Law. Given that this dataset is relatively large, with 39,787 different records, the percentages should be expected to match those prescribed by Benford's Law more closely. The percentage of the digit "1" seems particularly high (it should be about 30.1%), while the percentage of "3" seems low (it should be about 12.5%). It would be wise to investigate those records in particular.