Research Question

In this assignment, you will be developing a viable research question to answer with your data project. The question must be answerable using variables available in either the [American Community Survey](#) or the [Current Population Survey](#).

Only <u>one form</u> needs to be submitted for your whole group. Once you have completed your document, please click "Share" in the upper right corner, change the access settings to "Anyone with the link". Copy the link and paste the link in the [Canvas assignment](#) as your submission.

Basic Information

1. Names of Group Members:

   Carter Herman
   Ritik Sarraf
   Sean Eichhorn
   Jack Dratch

2. Which survey will you use in your project? American Community Survey (ACS) or Current Population Survey (CPS)?

   ACS

3. Which year (or year & month for some special CPS topics)?

   2023

4. What is the research question you will answer? This should be in the form of "how does X affect Y?"
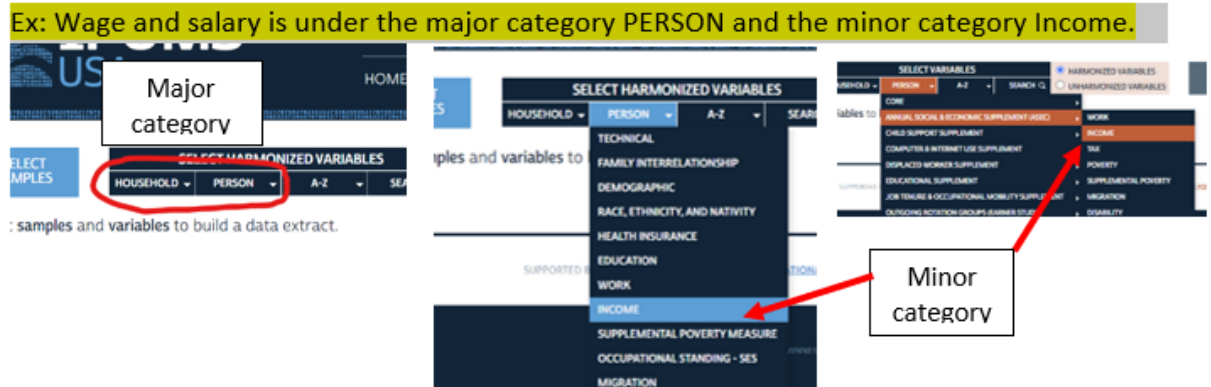
Ideas:
- How does SCHLTYPE (public or private school) affect INCTOT (total personal income)
- How does MARST (marital status) affect INCTOT (total personal income)
- How does Race/Ethnicity affect INCTOT (total personal income)
- How does EDUC (educational attainment) affect INCTOT (total personal income)

Main Variable Information

For your research question to be viable, you must have data in these surveys for both your dependent variable (the thing you are trying to explain) and the independent variable (what you think causes differences in the dependent variable). Write down the variable name of each and the major and minor categories in your chosen survey. Major category will be the *first* menu chosen (i.e. Household or Person), minor category is the *last* menu chosen.

Here is an example of the major and minor categories for Wage and Salary Income

Ex: Wage and salary is under the major category PERSON and the minor category Income.

5. Dependent Variable Name in IPUMS (i.e. incwage)

    INCTOT (total personal income)

6. Dependent Variable Major category: Household or Person?

    Person

7. Main Independent Variable Name in IPUMS (i.e. incwage)

    EDUC (educational attainment)

8. Main Independent Variable Major category: Household or Person?

    Person

Control Variable Information

In Week 6, we discussed how confounding factors can affect our estimation of the relationship between our variables of interest. Therefore, part of your job as a researcher is to include additional control variables in order to get the most accurate estimate of the relationship you are trying to identify.

9. Write down **at least four** unique control variables you plan to include in your analysis. These should be variables other than your main independent and dependent variables. These variables must be available in the *same* survey and in the *same* time period as your dependent and independent variables.

- Marital Status (MARST)
- Educational attainment (EDUC)
- Citizenship status (CITIZEN) under Race and Ethnicity
- Private or public school (SCHLTYPE)