

tanf

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This repository contains all code and data for my senior honors thesis project at Duke University, “The Diminishing Cash Safety Net: Predicting Fulfillment of TANF Goals from Unobligated Funds with Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling. This is a developing project.

Data

The document `sipp_data_cleaning.qmd` contains all code to create the final dataset `sipp_tanf.csv` included in the `\data` folder. Each variable in the dataset is at one of ____ levels to be included in the hierarchical model. The dataset contains 511497 observations of 36 variables. Each observation is an individual in a month.

Data Dictionary

`sipp_tanf.csv`

Variable	Type	Description
household_id	ID; numeric	Household identifier. Can be used to match households in different survey years. Level: Household Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
pnum	ID; numeric	Person number. Each individual in a household is given a distinct person number for that household. Level: Person Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
month	numeric	Reference month. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
year	numeric	Survey panel year (reference year). Level: Household-year Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data

Variable	Type	Description
age	numeric	Age as of last birthday Level: Person-year Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
state	character	State of residence for the interview address. Level: Household Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
education	character	Highest level of education received by December of reference year. Level: Person Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
ethnicity	character	Whether person is of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin. Level: Person Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
race	character	Race (detailed categories). Level: Person Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
sex	character	Sex assigned at birth. Level: Person Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
citizenship	numeric	Whether person is a U.S. citizen. Level: Person Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
total_children	numeric	Children ever born or fathered. Level: Household-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
in_goal1	numeric	Indicator for whether household fits criteria to be evaluated for TANF Goal 1: “Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.” $\text{in_goal1} = 1$ if at least one child lives in household during any year of the survey. Level: Household-month Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
in_goal2	numeric	Indicator for whether household fits criteria to be evaluated for TANF Goal 2: “End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage.” $\text{in_goal2} = 1$ if household is receiving any kind of government benefits in their earliest year of participation in the study (during reference time frame). Level: Household Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data

Variable	Type	Description
in_goal3	numeric	Indicator for whether household fits criteria to be evaluated for TANF Goal 3: “Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies” in_goal3 = 1 if person is a woman over the age of 14 and is unmarried in reference year. Level: Person Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
in_goal4	numeric	Indicator for whether household fits criteria to be evaluated for TANF Goal 4: “Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.” in_goal4 = 1 if household includes at least one child and at least one parent. Level: Household Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
goal1	numeric	Indicates whether TANF Goal 1 is fulfilled for the given household and month. goal1 = 1 if all children in the household have at least one relative in the household. Level: Household-month Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
goal2	numeric	Indicates whether TANF Goal 2 is fulfilled for the given household. goal2 = 1 if household members are no longer receiving government benefits by the end of the reference period. Level: Household Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
goal3	numeric	Indicates whether TANF Goal 3 is fulfilled for the given person. goal3 = 1 if the number of children of an unmarried individual does not increase during the reference period. Level: Person Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
goal4	numeric	Indicates whether TANF Goal 4 is fulfilled for the given household. If the household is a one-parent family, goal4 = 1 if the family is a two-parent family at the end of the reference period. If the household is a two-parent family, goal4 = 1 if the family is still a two-parent family at the end of the reference period. Level: Household Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
pct_unobligated	numeric	Percent of available TANF funds unobligated. Calculated by dividing unobligated balance for fiscal year by the sum of awarded yearly funds and carryover from previous year. Level: State-year Source: derived from TANF Financial Data

Variable	Type	Description
pct_program_mgmt	numeric	Percent of total expenditures allotted to program management expenses (administrative costs, assessment & service provision, systems) Level: State-year Source: derived from TANF Financial Data
pct_basic_assistance	numeric	Percent of total expenditures allotted to basic assistance (cash, payments, vouchers, and other forms of benefits designed to meet a family's ongoing basic needs). Level: State-year Source: derived from derived from TANF Financial Data
received_job_training	indicator	Indicator for whether person received any kind of job training in reference month. Level: Person-month Source: derived from TANF Financial Data
hh_married_in_ref	indicator	Indicates whether householder is married in reference month. Level: Person Source: derived from Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_beginn_month	numeric	Beginning month of TANF receipt. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_initial_year	numeric	Initial year of TANF benefit receipt. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_end_month	numeric	End month of TANF benefit receipt. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_coverage_type	numeric	Type of TANF benefit coverage. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_owner	numeric	Person number for owner of TANF benefit this month. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_continued	indicator	Continuation status of TANF benefit receipt in the last month of the reference period. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_received_month	indicator	Whether person received TANF benefits this month. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
tanf_received_year	indicator	Whether person received TANF benefits this year. Level: Person-year Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data

Variable	Type	Description
<code>tanf_amt_received</code>	numeric	Value of the TANF benefits received this month. Level: Person-month Source: Survey of Income and Program Participation Data
<code>party</code>	character	Political party affiliation of state's governor. Level: State-year Source: Wikipedia List of States' Governors