

American Opportunity Study: Technical Challenges

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Is the AOS feasible?

- Yes
- Immediate challenges
 - Coverage
 - Cost

Individuals

- Uniquely identifying people
 - Some people will not be identified
 - Some people will be identified incorrectly
 - Both problems may be bigger in 1960-90 Censuses
- Getting answers will be expensive

Family Relationships

- Intergenerational linkages
 - Decennial Census
 - Kidlink
 - Tax returns
 - Coverage, conflicts, and errors are unknown

- Getting answers probably not expensive

Unresolved Linkages

- AOS requires the following
 - Enumerated in multiple censuses
 - Present in SSA data
 - Correctly assigned PIKs in all sources
 - Correctly assigned family links in 1+ sources

Additional Issues

- Preliminary AOS data files will prompt other technical issues
 - Documentation
 - Weighting
 - Disclosure avoidance