

Analysis of Continuous Data project

Thomas Sertijn, Bart Smets, Ilja Van Bever, Lieselot Van de Putte

2025-11-09

Protocol - Univariate part

Research question

During this research, we want to investigate how socio-economic disadvantage relates to violent crime rates. More specifically we want to explore the association between poverty and violent crime rates in the USA.

In his seminal work, Becker (1968) stated that the decision to commit crime is a rational choice where people weigh the benefits and costs against each other. It could then be argued that the incentive to commit crime is higher for people who have a lower income, as the benefits are larger for this group. Following this, we would then also expect that in communities with a higher poverty rate, there will also be higher crime rates. Depending on the results of our analysis, these results could be used to inform relevant policies. It would, for example, give another argument for the implementation of redistributive policies: if an effect is found, policymakers should take this reduction in violent crime into account, next to an economic benefit. Our analysis hopes to shed further light on this issue.

For the purpose of our research question, the following predictor variables have been selected:

- **PctPopUnderPov**: percentage of people under the poverty level (main predictor).
- **perCapInc**: per capita income. While similar to pctunderpoverty, this takes the whole income distribution into account and not just the lower end. If this average is lower, then we expect more crime to happen.
- **PctEmploy**: percentage of people 16 and over who are employed. We could argue that if more people are employed less people have an incentive to commit crime.
- **PctLess9thGrade**: percentage of people 25 and over with less than a 9th grade education. Education leads to a higher socio-economic standing, which would suggest that people have less reason to commit crime. We choose this variable for now, but as an alternative we could later use one of the following two variables if we would find them better suited as predictors: **PctNotHSGrad** (percentage of people 25 or over, that have not graduated highschool) or **PctBSorMore** (percentage of people 25 or over, with at least a bachelor's degree).
- **NumImmig**: total number of people known to be foreign born. Immigrants committing more crimes is a commonly used right-wing argument against migration, and relevant as immigrants are often from a 'lower' socio-economic background.
- **racepctblac**: percentage of population that is african american. It is a common right wing argument as well that black people commit crime, because they are from a 'lower' socio-economic background.
- **agePct12t29**: percentage of population that is 12-29 in age. We include this because young people have had less time to build up their socio-economic status, as well as their brain being less developed, and might thus commit more crime.

Design of the study

Descriptive analysis

To get a first impression of the data, a descriptive analysis will be performed for the candidate predictor variables (all continuous). The datasets are checked for missing values. The most common univariate statistics are calculated: the mean, the standard deviation, the minimum, the first quartile, the median, the third quartile and the maximum.

The distributions of the variables are visualized by boxplots, QQ plots and histograms. Outliers are identified using Tukey's 1.5 x IQR rule. For the univariate descriptive statistics also the population size of the communities is considered. The population size can influence the reliability of the data points: small communities can have a higher probability to have more extreme values of the predictor and response variables by the fact that the denominator in the response variable (total number of violent crimes per 100K population) is smaller. In the regression phase this will be used to investigate the outlier values.

To find what the relationship is between the main predictor variable and the potential extra predictor variables, scatter plots with smoothers are made for the bivariate relationships and correlations are checked.

Linear regression

Before performing linear regression and building models, the dataset is split into a training set (80% of the data) and a test set (20% of the data).

To investigate the association between the main predictor variable and the response variable, a linear regression is fitted and the output is evaluated. The various statistics are calculated and discussed: estimate regression coefficients, the F-statistics (/t-statistics), the R squared, the MSE, the p-value, the confidence interval and standard error of the slope. We first present the general formula here, before we fill in the specific variables.

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + \epsilon_i$$

$$ViolentCrimesPerPop_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 pctpopUnderPov_i + \epsilon_i$$

Confidence intervals are constructed. Based on this, outliers can be identified. Subsequently, the outliers are further evaluated, e.g. are outliers linked to communities with a small population size.

Assumption checks

For linear regression, multiple assumptions, such as linearity, independence of errors, homoscedasticity (constant variance of errors), and normality of errors, are made. During this research these assumptions have to be checked by: Plotting residuals vs. fitted values for the linearity and independence of errors, squared residuals vs. fitted values for homoscedasticity checks, normality checks by qq-plot of the residuals. To also take leverage into account, the studentized residuals will be plotted.

Protocol - Multivariate part

Model building

Forward stepwise regression Evaluation of adjusted R-squared, AIC, SBC Partial regression plots? In which functional form we let a variable enter the model?

Model fit and outliers

PRESS, studentized residual plots (transformations needed?), bijv. QQ-plots to predicted value of y/log(y),
Also DFFITS, Cook's Distance, DFBETAS -> welke outliers hebben een grote invloed? Deleted residuals?

Interpretation of the parameters

Table 1: Project Schedule Overview

Deadline	Subject	Final_responsibility
3/11	Data extraction	Thomas
10/11	Descriptive analyses	Ilja
17/11	Model building	Bart
24/11	Model interpretation	Lieselot
24/11	Prediction with linear model	Ilja
1/12	Statistical discussion linear model	Bart
1/12	Fitting GLM	Lieselot
1/12	Fitting the final model	Thomas
8/12	Prediction with GLM	Ilja
8/12	Statistical discussion GLM	Thomas
8/12	Final conclusion and discussion	Lieselot

Data extraction:

```

library(readr)
library(dplyr)
library(stringr)

# The .arff header is usually inside the .names file:
url <- "https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/machine-learning-databases/communities/communities.names"

# Read the text lines
lines <- read_lines(url)
start <- grep("Additional Variable Information", lines, ignore.case = TRUE)
end   <- grep("Summary Statistics:", lines, ignore.case = TRUE)

var_lines <- lines[str_starts(str_trim(lines), "--")]
var_names <- str_extract(var_lines, "(?<==-- )[^\n]+")
var_names <- c("communityname", setdiff(var_names, "communityname"))

variable_names <- list("communityname", "state", "countyCode", "communityCode", "fold", "population", "households", "racePctBlack", "racePctWhite", "racePctAsian", "racePctHisp", "agePct12t21", "agePct65up", "numUrban", "pctUrban", "medIncome", "pctWWage", "pctWFarmSelf", "pctWPubAsst", "pctWRetire", "medFamInc", "perCapInc", "whitePerCap", "blackPerCap", "OtherPerCap", "HisPctPerCap", "NumUnderPov", "PctPopUnderPov", "PctLess9thGrade", "PctUnemployed", "PctEmploy", "PctEmplManu", "PctEmplProfServ", "PctOccupManu", "MalePctNevMarr", "FemalePctDiv", "TotalPctDiv", "PersPerFam", "PctFam2Par", "PctTeen2Par", "PctWorkMomYoungKids", "PctWorkMom", "NumKidsBornNeverMar", "PctKidsBornRecent", "PctImmigRecent", "PctImmigRec5", "PctImmigRec8", "PctImmigRec10", "PctRecentImmig")
  
```

```

"PctRecImmig10", "PctSpeakEnglOnly", "PctNotSpeakEnglWell", "PctLargHouseFam", "PctOwnOccup", "PctPerOwnOccHous", "PersPerRentOccHous", "PctPersOwnOccup", "PctPersDenseHous", "HousVacant", "PctHousOccup", "PctHousOwnOcc", "PctVacantBoarded", "PctVacMore6M", "PctHousNoPhone", "PctWOFullPlumb", "OwnOccLowQuart", "OwnOccMedVal", "OwnOccHiQ", "RentMedian", "RentHighQ", "RentQrange", "MedRent", "MedRentPctHousInc", "MedOwnOccup", "NumInShelters", "NumStreet", "PctForeignBorn", "PctBornSameState", "PctSameHouse", "PctSameState85", "LemasSwornFT", "LemasSwFTPerPop", "LemasSwFTFieldOps", "LemasPctOffic", "LemasTotReqPerPop", "PolicReqPerOffic", "PolicPerPop", "RacialMatchCommPol", "PctPolicHisp", "PctPolicAsian", "PctPolicMinor", "OfficAssgnDrugUnits", "NumKinds", "LandArea", "PopDens", "PctUsePubTrans", "PolicCars", "PolicOperBudg", "LemasPctOffic", "LemasPctOfficDrugUn", "PolicBudgPerPop", "murders", "murdPerPop", "rapes", "rape", "assaults", "assaultPerPop", "burglaries", "burglPerPop", "larcenies", "larcPerPop", "arsons", "arsonsPerPop", "ViolentCrimesPerPop", "nonViolPerPop")

```

```

library(data.table)
violent_crimes_table <- fread("curl https://archive.ics.uci.edu/static/public/211/communities+and+crimes.csv")

```

```

colnames(violent_crimes_table) <- unlist(variable_names)

```

```

crimes_table_subset <- violent_crimes_table %>%
  select(communityname, state, countyCode, communityCode, fold, population,
         PctPopUnderPov, perCapInc, PctEmploy, PctLess9thGrade, PctNotHSGrad, PctBSorMore,
         NumImmig, racepctblack, agePct12t29, ViolentCrimesPerPop
  )

```

Design (tekst gekopieerd van website)

The source datasets needed to be combined via programming. Many variables are included so that algorithms that select or learn weights for attributes could be tested. However, clearly unrelated attributes were not included; attributes were picked if there was any plausible connection to crime (N=125), plus the crime variables which are potential dependent variables. The variables included in the dataset involve the community, such as the percent of the population considered urban, and the median family income, and involving law enforcement, such as per capita number of police officers, and percent of officers assigned to drug units. The crime attributes (N=18) that could be predicted are the 8 crimes considered ‘Index Crimes’ by the FBI)(Murders, Rape, Robbery, . . .), per capita (actually per 100,000 population) versions of each, and Per Capita Violent Crimes and Per Capita Nonviolent Crimes).

A limitation was that the LEMAS survey was of the police departments with at least 100 officers, plus a random sample of smaller departments. For our purposes, communities not found in both census and crime datasets were omitted. Many communities are missing LEMAS data.

The per capita crimes variables were calculated using population values included in the 1995 FBI data (which differ from the 1990 Census values).

The per capita violent crimes variable was calculated using population and the sum of crime variables considered violent crimes in the United States: murder, rape, robbery, and assault. There was apparently some controversy in some states concerning the counting of rapes. These resulted in missing values for rape, which resulted in missing values for per capita violent crime. Many of these omitted communities were from the midwestern USA (Minnesota, Illinois, and Michigan have many of these).

The per capita nonviolent crime variable was calculated using the sum of crime variables considered non-violent crimes in the United States: burglaries, larcenies, auto thefts and arsons. (There are many other types of crimes, these only include FBI ‘Index Crimes’)

Some further pre-processing of the dataset must be done. Choose the desirable dependent variable from among the 18 possible. It would not be interesting or appropriate to predict total crime (e.g. violent crime) while including subtotals (e.g. murders) as independent variables. There are also identifying variables (community name, county code, community code) that are not predictive, and would get in the way of some algorithms. Weka's Unsupervised Attribute Remove Filter can be used to remove unwanted attributes.

The FBI notes that use of this data to evaluate communities is over-simplistic, as many relevant factors are not included. For one example, communities with large numbers of visitors will have higher per capita crime (measured by residents) than communities with fewer visitors, other things being equal.

Data preparation and descriptive analysis

Since the outcome variable *ViolentCrimesPerPop* (total number of violent crimes per 100K population) is expressed relative to the population size, the variable *NumImmig* is converted (by dividing it by the population size and multiplying by 100%).

```
crimes_table_subset$ViolentCrimesPerPop <- as.numeric(crimes_table_subset$ViolentCrimesPerPop)
crimes_table_subset$PctImmig <- crimes_table_subset$NumImmig / crimes_table_subset$population * 100
crimes_table_subset = crimes_table_subset[, -c('NumImmig', 'fold')]

sjlabelled::set_label(crimes_table_subset) <- c("communityname", "state", "countyCode", "communityCode"
or over, that have not graduated highschool (%)", "percentage of people 25 or over, with
at least a bachelor's degree (%)", "percentage of population that is african american (%)", "percentage
```

It is examined how many NA values are present in the database.

```
crimes_table_subset %>%
  pivot_longer(cols = where(is.numeric), names_to = "variable", values_to = "value") %>%
  group_by(variable) %>%
  summarise(
    NAs = sum(is.na(value))
  )

## # A tibble: 11 x 2
##   variable           NAs
##   <chr>              <int>
## 1 PctBSorMore        0
## 2 PctEmploy          0
## 3 PctImmig           0
## 4 PctLess9thGrade    0
## 5 PctNotHSGrad       0
## 6 PctPopUnderPov     0
## 7 ViolentCrimesPerPop 221
## 8 agePct12t29        0
## 9 perCapInc          0
## 10 population         0
## 11 racepctblack      0

na_subset <- crimes_table_subset %>%
  filter(is.na(ViolentCrimesPerPop)
  )
na_subset <- na_subset[, -'ViolentCrimesPerPop']
na_subset
```

```

##      communityname state countyCode communityCode population PctPopUnderPov
##                <char> <char>     <char>       <char>    <int>      <num>
## 1:   Bemidjicity   MN        7      5068    11245  29.99
## 2:   NewUlmcity   MN       15     46042   13132   6.84
## 3: Maplewoodcity   MN      123     40382   30954   6.22
## 4: Plymouthcity   MN       53     51730   50889   3.36
## 5: Pontiaccity   MI      125     65440   71166  26.67
## ---
## 217: Bristoltown   CT        3      8490    60640  4.35
## 218: Wilmettevillage IL       ?       ?    26690   2.14
## 219: EastLansingcity MI       65     24120   50677  33.77
## 220: CrystalLakecity IL       ?       ?    24512   2.15
## 221: Burtoncity   MI       49     12060   27617  14.28
##      perCapInc PctEmploy PctLess9thGrade PctNotHSGrad PctBSorMore racepctblack
##                <int>    <num>       <num>       <num>      <num>      <num>
## 1:     8483    52.44     12.15     23.06    25.28  0.53
## 2:    11907    65.62     16.28     25.41    15.31  0.06
## 3:    16459    68.12      4.40     14.64    20.28  2.52
## 4:    21908    78.05      1.57      5.56    41.39  1.61
## 5:    9847     51.07     12.04     37.61     7.95  42.20
## ---
## 217:    16909    68.24     10.04     24.97    15.39  2.08
## 218:    38465    63.90      2.78      4.88    63.69  0.49
## 219:    11212    57.45      0.93      3.38    71.23  6.93
## 220:    17681    71.89      3.53     11.00    28.50  0.20
## 221:    12940    53.67      7.56     27.32     6.68  2.57
##      agePct12t29 PctImmig
##                <num>    <num>
## 1:     40.53  1.7429969
## 2:     25.03  0.9061834
## 3:     25.43  2.6232474
## 4:     26.94  2.6135314
## 5:     32.21  2.3058764
## ---
## 217:    27.32  7.0052770
## 218:    18.30 13.0760584
## 219:    67.80 10.6872940
## 220:    25.81  4.2142624
## 221:    27.14  1.8177210

```

The only variable for which NA values are found is the outcome variable *ViolentCrimesPerPop*. The rows where the outcome variable has an NA value are removed, as these rows are not useful for the regression. It can be noted that the variables *countyCode* and *communityCode* are also frequently unknown.

```

crimes_table_subset = na.omit(crimes_table_subset)
colSums(crimes_table_subset == "?", na.rm = TRUE)

```

	communityname	state	countyCode	communityCode
##	0	0	1174	1177
##	population	PctPopUnderPov	perCapInc	PctEmploy
##	0	0	0	0
##	PctLess9thGrade	PctNotHSGrad	PctBSorMore	racepctblack
##	0	0	0	0

```

##      agePct12t29 ViolentCrimesPerPop          PctImmig
##            0                      0

```

After removing NA values from the database univariate descriptives are calculated.

```
str(crimes_table_subset)
```

```

## Classes 'data.table' and 'data.frame': 1994 obs. of 15 variables:
##   $ communityname : chr "BerkeleyHeightstownship" "Marpletownship" "Tigardcity" "Gloversvilleci"
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "communityname"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "communityname"
##   $ state         : chr "NJ" "PA" "OR" "NY" ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "state"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "state"
##   $ countyCode    : chr "39" "45" "?" "35" ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "countyCode"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "countyCode"
##   $ communityCode : chr "5320" "47616" "?" "29443" ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "communityCode"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "communityCode"
##   $ population    : int 11980 23123 29344 16656 140494 28700 59459 74111 103590 31601 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "population"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "population"
##   $ PctPopUnderPov : num 1.96 3.98 4.75 17.23 17.78 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "people under the poverty level (%)"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "PctPopUnderPov"
##   $ perCapInc     : int 29711 20148 16946 10810 11878 18193 12161 13554 10195 12929 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "per capita income ($)"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "perCapInc"
##   $ PctEmploy     : num 64.5 62 69.8 54.7 59 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of people 16 and over who are employed (%)"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "PctEmploy"
##   $ PctLess9thGrade : num 5.81 5.61 2.8 11.05 8.76 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of people 25 and over with less than a 9th grade education"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "PctLess9thGrade"
##   $ PctNotHSGrad  : num 9.9 13.72 9.09 33.68 23.03 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of people 25\nor over, that have not graduated highschool"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "PctNotHSGrad"
##   $ PctBSorMore   : num 48.2 29.9 30.1 10.8 20.7 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of people 25 or over, with\nat least a bachelor's degree"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "PctBSorMore"
##   $ racepctblack  : num 1.37 0.8 0.74 1.7 2.51 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of population that is african american (%)"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "racepctblack"
##   $ agePct12t29   : num 21.4 21.3 25.9 25.2 32.9 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of population that is 12-29 in age (%)"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "agePct12t29"
##   $ ViolentCrimesPerPop: num 41 128 219 307 443 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "total number of violent crimes per 100K population"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "ViolentCrimesPerPop"
##   $ PctImmig      : num 10.66 8.3 5 2.04 1.49 ...
##   ..- attr(*, "label")= Named chr "percentage of immigrants (%)"
##   ... ..- attr(*, "names")= chr "PctImmig"
##   - attr(*, ".internal.selfref")=<externalptr>

```

```

summary(crimes_table_subset)

##   communityname      state    countyCode  communityCode
##   Length:1994      Length:1994    Length:1994    Length:1994
##   Class :character Class :character  Class :character  Class :character
##   Mode  :character  Mode :character   Mode :character  Mode :character
##
## 
## 
##   population  PctPopUnderPov  perCapInc  PctEmploy
##   Min.    : 10005  Min.    : 0.640  Min.    : 5237  Min.    :24.82
##   1st Qu.: 14359  1st Qu.: 4.692  1st Qu.:11548  1st Qu.:56.35
##   Median  : 22681  Median  : 9.650  Median  :13977  Median  :62.27
##   Mean    : 52251  Mean    :11.796  Mean    :15522  Mean    :61.78
##   3rd Qu.: 43154  3rd Qu.:17.078  3rd Qu.:17775  3rd Qu.:67.50
##   Max.    :7322564  Max.    :48.820  Max.    :63302  Max.    :84.67
##   PctLess9thGrade  PctNotHSGrad  PctBSorMore  racepctblack
##   Min.    : 0.200  Min.    : 2.09  Min.    : 1.63  Min.    : 0.00
##   1st Qu.: 4.770  1st Qu.:14.20  1st Qu.:14.09  1st Qu.: 0.94
##   Median  : 7.920  Median  :21.66  Median  :19.62  Median  : 3.15
##   Mean    : 9.444  Mean    :22.70  Mean    :22.99  Mean    : 9.51
##   3rd Qu.:12.245  3rd Qu.:29.66  3rd Qu.:28.93  3rd Qu.:11.96
##   Max.    :49.890  Max.    :73.66  Max.    :73.63  Max.    :96.67
##   agePct12t29  ViolentCrimesPerPop  PctImmig
##   Min.    : 9.38  Min.    : 0.0  Min.    : 0.1778
##   1st Qu.:24.38  1st Qu.:161.7  1st Qu.: 2.0753
##   Median  :26.77  Median  :374.1  Median  : 4.4935
##   Mean    :27.62  Mean    :589.1  Mean    : 7.6062
##   3rd Qu.:29.18  3rd Qu.:794.4  3rd Qu.: 9.5848
##   Max.    :70.51  Max.    :4877.1  Max.    :60.4013

crimes_table_subset %>%
  pivot_longer(cols = where(is.numeric), names_to = "variable", values_to = "value") %>%
  group_by(variable) %>%
  summarise(
    min = min(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    q25 = quantile(value, 0.25, na.rm = TRUE),
    mean = mean(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    sd = sd(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    q75 = quantile(value, 0.75, na.rm = TRUE),
    max = max(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    n = n(),
    NAs = sum(is.na(value))
  )

## # A tibble: 11 x 9
##   variable      min     q25     mean     sd     q75     max     n   NAs
##   <chr>      <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl> <int> <int>
## 1 PctBSorMore  1.63  1.41e+1  2.30e1  1.25e1  2.89e1  7.36e1  1994  0
## 2 PctEmploy    24.8   5.64e+1  6.18e1  8.11e0  6.75e1  8.47e1  1994  0
## 3 PctImmig     0.178  2.08e+0  7.61e0  8.70e0  9.58e0  6.04e1  1994  0
## 4 PctLess9thGrade  0.2   4.77e+0  9.44e0  6.84e0  1.22e1  4.99e1  1994  0
## 5 PctNotHSGrad  2.09  1.42e+1  2.27e1  1.11e1  2.97e1  7.37e1  1994  0

```

```

##   6 PctPopUnderPov      0.64  4.69e+0 1.18e1 8.51e0 1.71e1 4.88e1 1994      0
##   7 ViolentCrimesPerPop    0     1.62e+2 5.89e2 6.15e2 7.94e2 4.88e3 1994      0
##   8 agePct12t29      9.38  2.44e+1 2.76e1 6.15e0 2.92e1 7.05e1 1994      0
##   9 perCapInc        5237  1.15e+4 1.55e4 6.23e3 1.78e4 6.33e4 1994      0
##  10 population       10005  1.44e+4 5.23e4 2.02e5 4.32e4 7.32e6 1994      0
##  11 racepctblack      0     9.4 e-1 9.51e0 1.41e1 1.20e1 9.67e1 1994      0

na_subset %>%
  pivot_longer(cols = where(is.numeric), names_to = "variable", values_to = "value") %>%
  group_by(variable) %>%
  summarise(
    min = min(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    q25 = quantile(value, 0.25, na.rm = TRUE),
    mean = mean(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    sd = sd(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    q75 = quantile(value, 0.75, na.rm = TRUE),
    max = max(value, na.rm = TRUE),
    n = n(),
    NAs = sum(is.na(value))
  )

## # A tibble: 10 x 9
##   variable      min     q25     mean      sd     q75     max     n     NAs
##   <chr>     <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl> <int> <int>
## 1 PctBSorMore  3.27    14.2    23.6  1.42e1  3.09e1  7.92e1  221    0
## 2 PctEmploy    33.7    57.4    64.2  9.71e0  7.04e1  8.45e1  221    0
## 3 PctImmig     0.445    1.99    4.94  4.62e0  6.27e0  2.84e1  221    0
## 4 PctLess9thGrade 0.41    3.54    6.86  4.12e0  9.64e0  2.12e1  221    0
## 5 PctNotHSGrad 1.46    11.1    18.7  9.63e0  2.54e1  5.26e1  221    0
## 6 PctPopUnderPov 1.25    3.49    10.0  9.25e0  1.33e1  5.8 e1  221    0
## 7 agePct12t29   17.4    25.0    27.9  6.48e0  2.94e1  6.78e1  221    0
## 8 perCapInc    5622   12205  16342.  6.72e3  1.81e4  6.25e4  221    0
## 9 population    10066  14903  60937.  2.26e5  4.18e4  2.78e6  221    0
## 10 racepctblack 0.03    0.49    7.76  1.54e1  6.4 e0  9.28e1  221    0

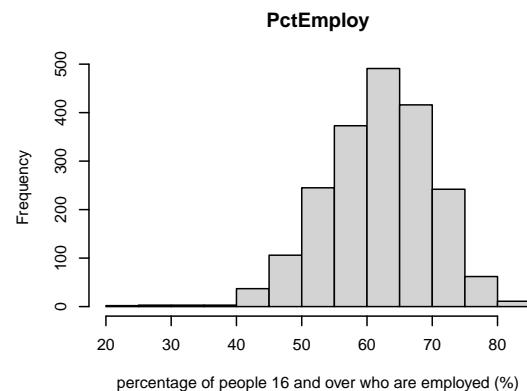
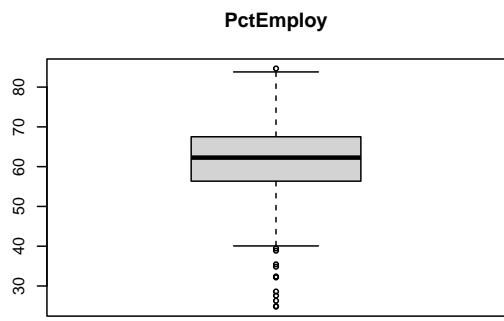
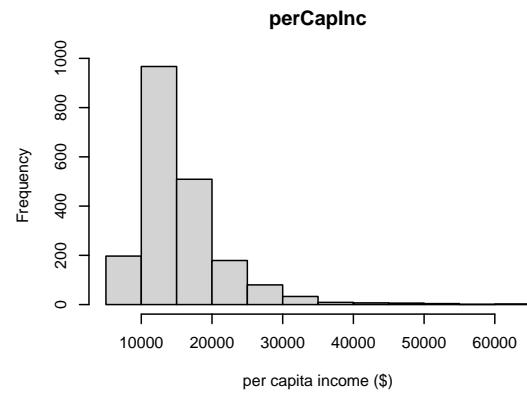
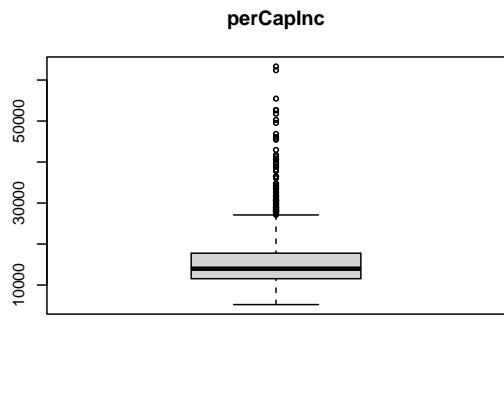
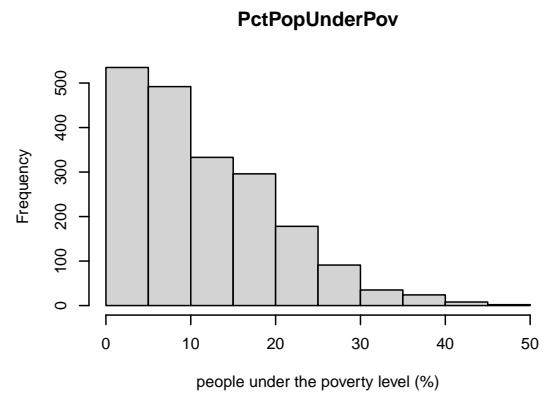
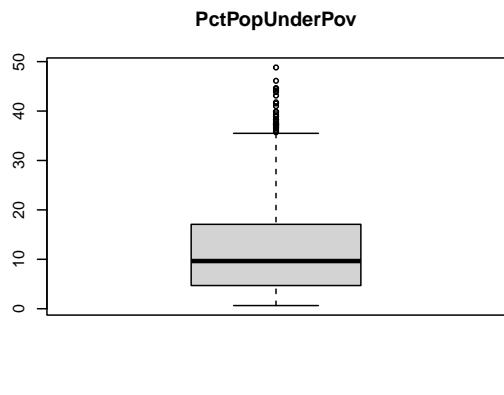
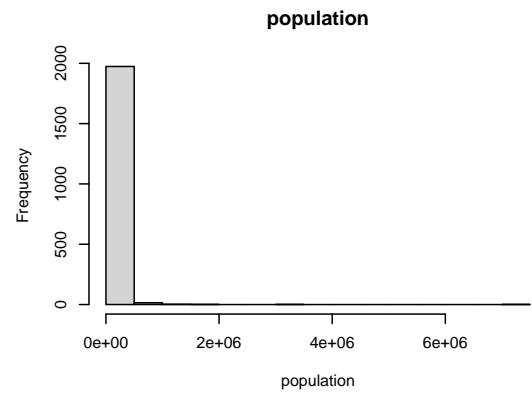
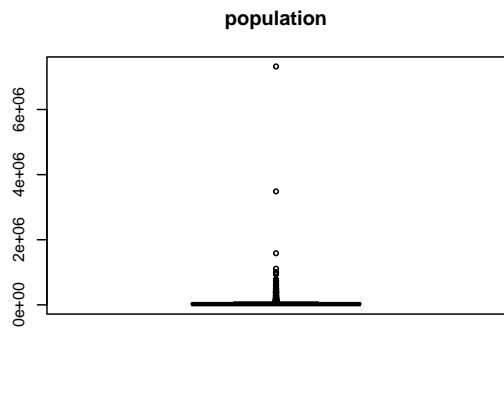
```

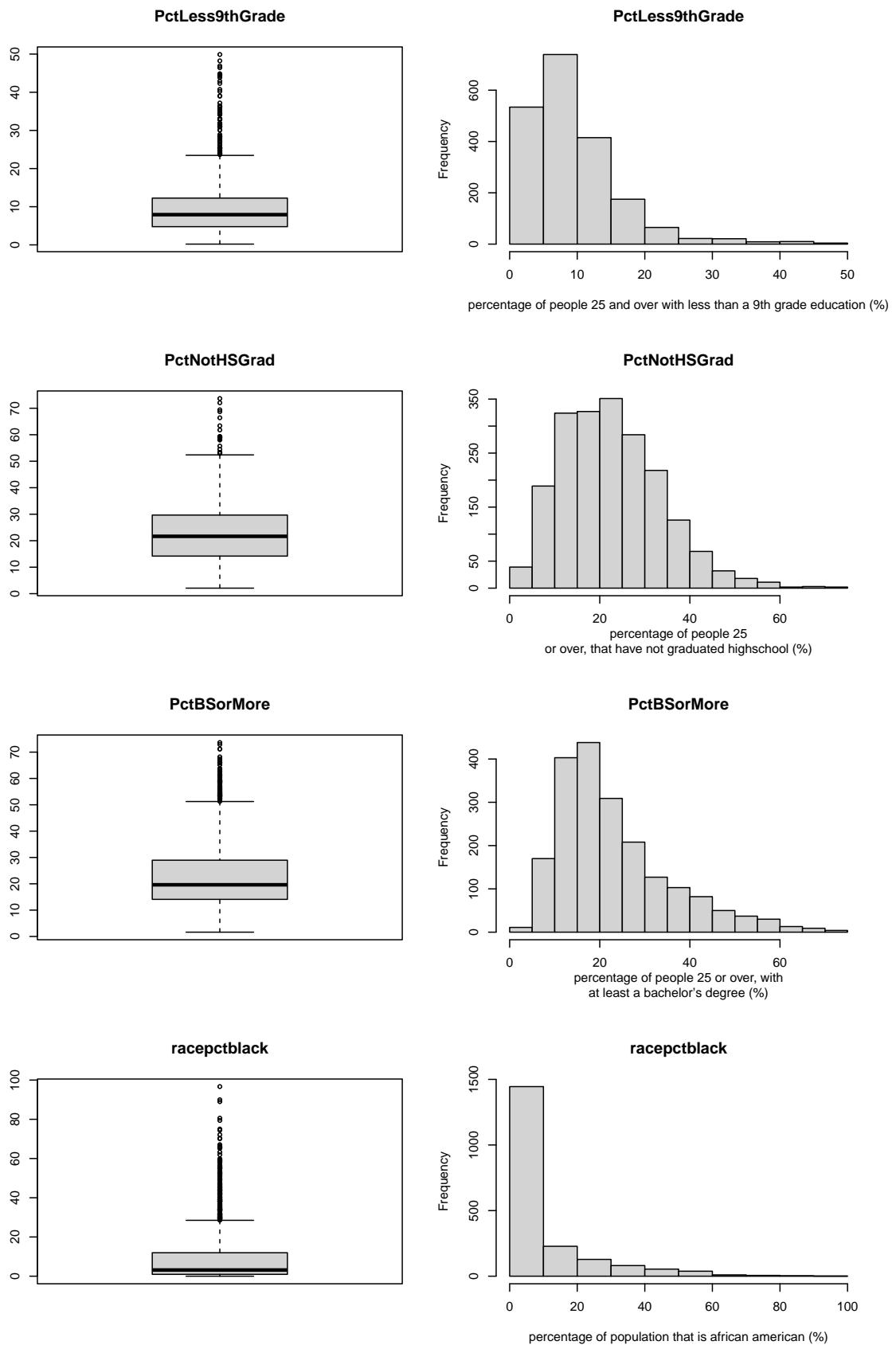
To gain insight into the univariate distributions, boxplots and histograms are generated.

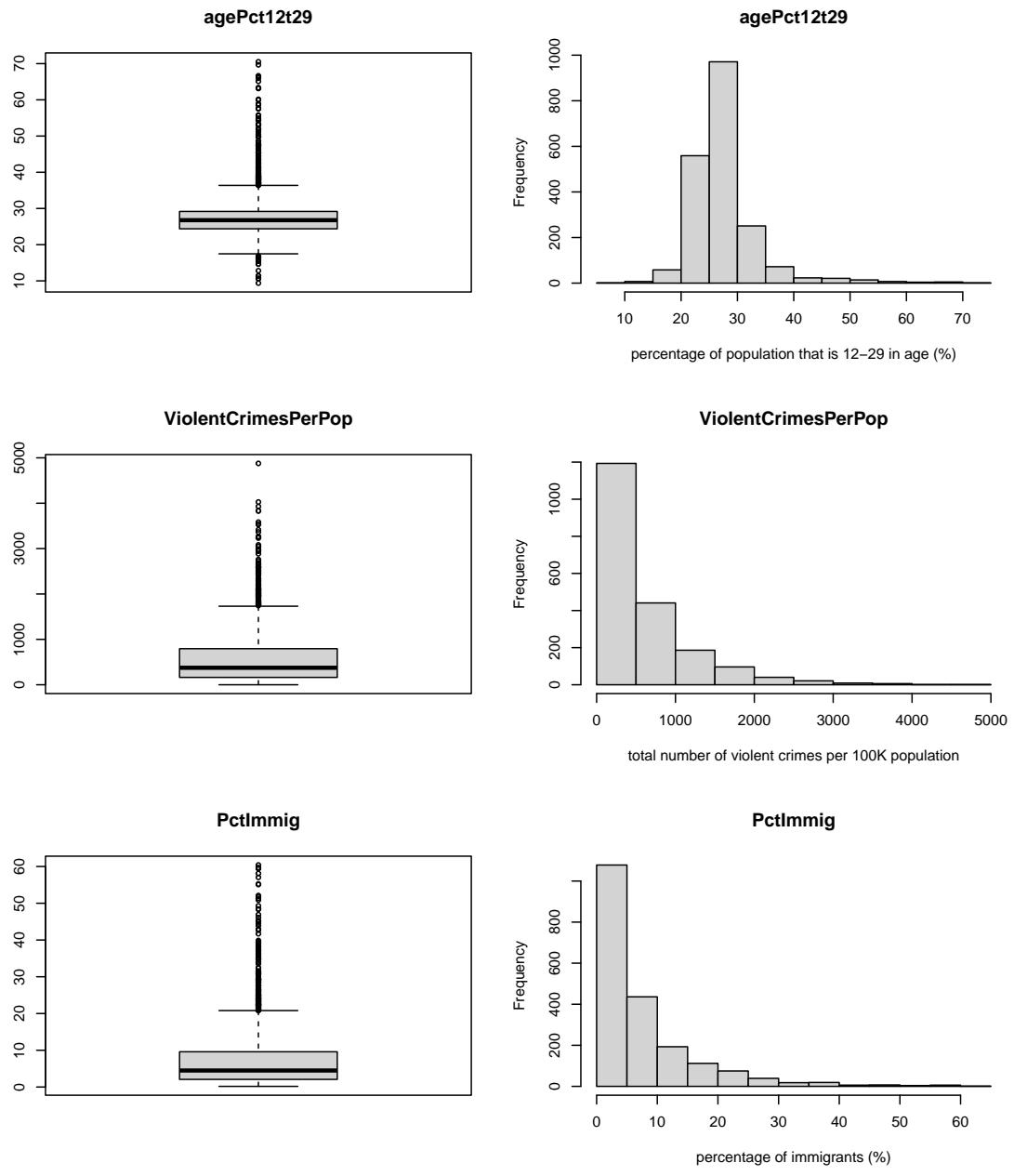
```

numeric_cols <- sapply(crimes_table_subset, is.numeric)
crimes_table_subset_num <- crimes_table_subset[, ..numeric_cols]
par(mfrow = c(4,2))
for(columnname in names(crimes_table_subset_num)){
  column <- crimes_table_subset_num[[columnname]]
  boxplot(column,
           main = columnname
           )
  hist(column,
        main = columnname,
        xlab = get_label(column)
        )
}

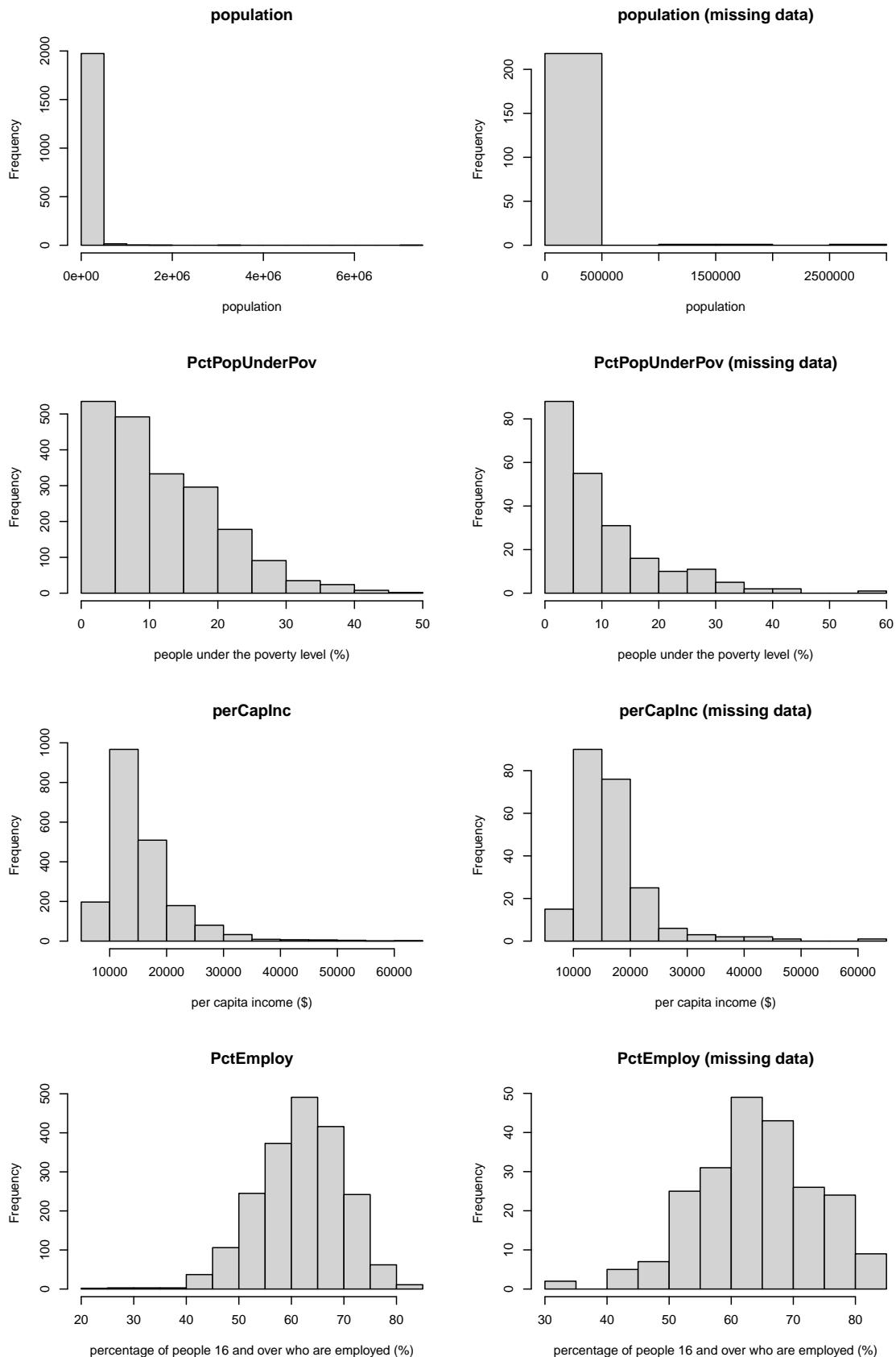
```

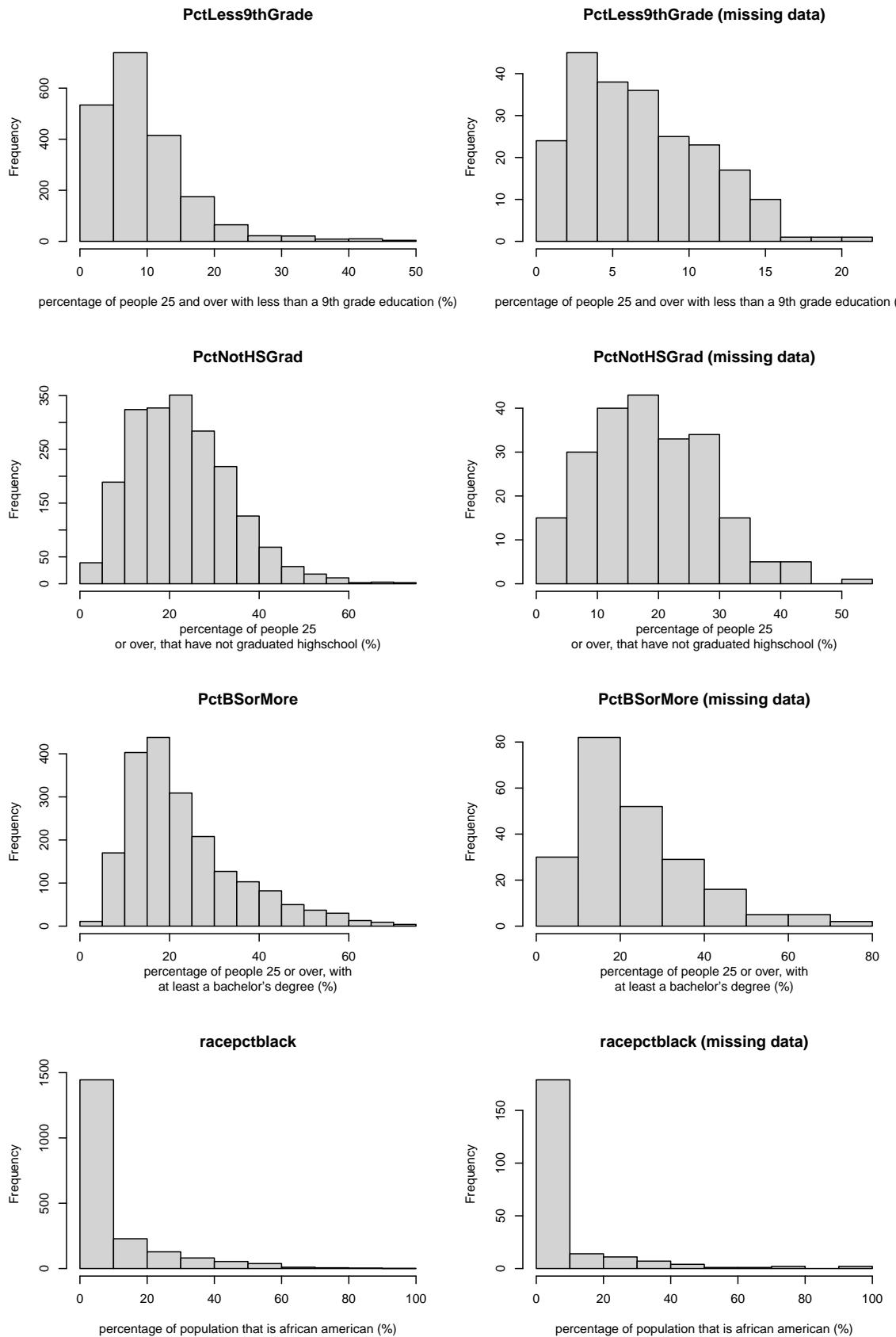


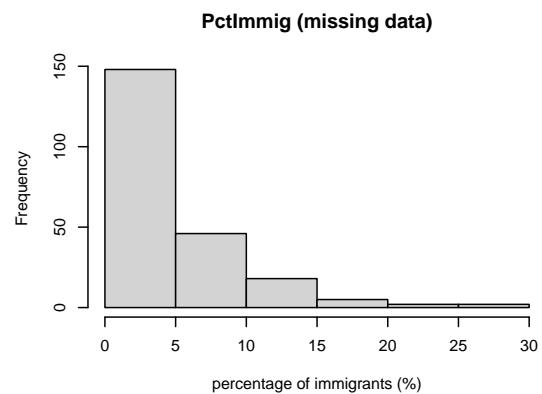
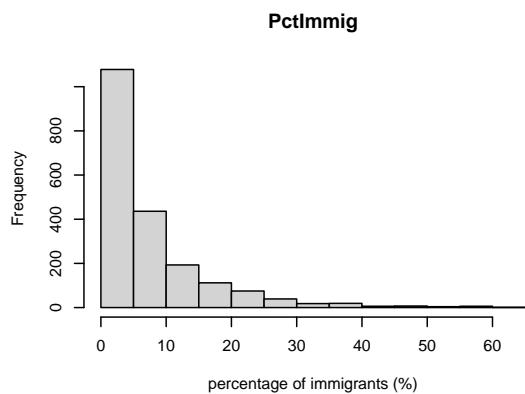
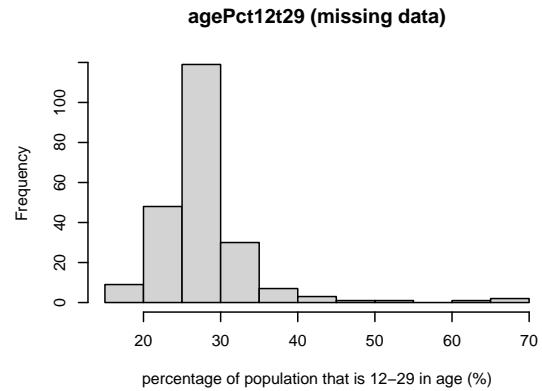
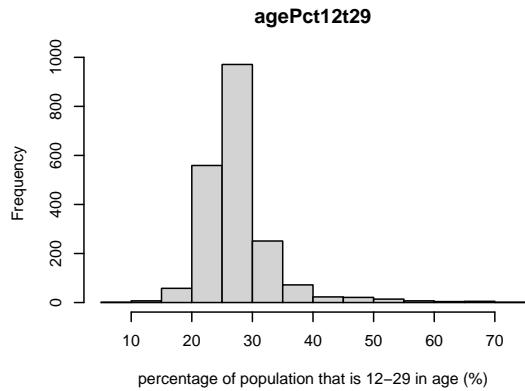




```
numeric_cols_na <- sapply(na_subset, is.numeric)
crimes_table_subset_num_na <- na_subset[, ..numeric_cols_na]
par(mfrow = c(4,2))
for(columnname in names(crimes_table_subset_num_na)){
  column <- crimes_table_subset_num_na[[columnname]]
  column_na <- crimes_table_subset_num_na[[columnname]]
  hist(column,
    main = columnname,
    xlab = get_label(column)
  )
  hist(column_na,
    main = paste(columnname, "(missing data)"),
    xlab = get_label(column)
  )
}
}
```







The correlation matrix shows the extent to which the variables in the dataset are correlated with each other. Below, all variables are listed, sorted from highest to lowest correlation with the outcome variable.

- *racepctblack* ($r = 0.63$)
- *PctPopUnderPov* ($r = 0.51$)
- *PctNotHSGrad* ($r = 0.47$)
- *PctLess9thGrade* ($r = 0.37$)
- *PctEmploy* ($r = -0.32$)
- *perCapInc* ($r = -0.32$)
- *PctBSorMore* ($r = 0.3$)
- *PctImmig* ($r = 0.19$)
- *agePct12t29* ($r = 0.11$)

It's important to mention that these correlations are indicators of an association, not of a causation.

The following predictors are highly correlated with each other. Therefore, it is best not to include them together in a model later.

- *PctNotHSGrad* and *PctLess9thGrade* ($r = 0.93$)
- *perCapInc* and *PctBSorMore* ($r = 0.77$)
- *PctNotHSGrad* and *PctBSorMore* ($r = -0.75$)

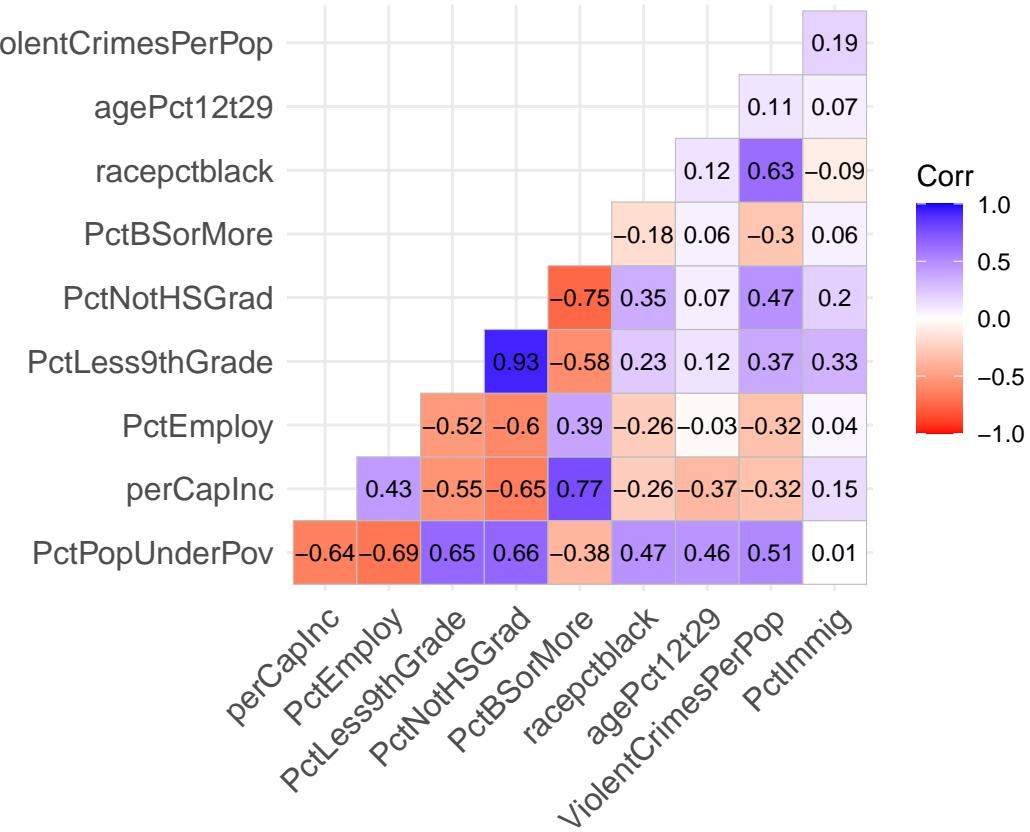
However the choice for predictors for the model will be dealt with thoroughly during the model building.

It is noticeable that the variable *racepctblack* is the one most strongly correlated with the outcome variable ($r = 0.63$), even more than *PctPopUnderPov*, the head predictor that was chosen for this research.

It is noticeable the the variables *PctImmig* and *PctImmig* have correlation coefficients tthat are really low.

```
cor_matrix <- cor(crimes_table_subset_num[,-'population'])
cor_values <- as.data.frame(as.table(cor_matrix))

library(ggcormplot)
ggcorrplot(cor_matrix, lab = TRUE, type = "lower",
           lab_size = 3, colors = c("red", "white", "blue"))
```



The following scatter plots were generated:

- for each variable, a scatter plot showing the relationship with the outcome variable *ViolentCrimesPerPop*;
- for each variable, a scatter plot showing the relationship with the main predictor variable *PctPopUnderPov*.

The first series of scatter plots indicates that not all variables have a linear relationship with *ViolentCrimesPerPop*. In particular, the following variables do not appear to exhibit a clear linear trend:

- *perCapInc*
- *agePct12t29* (which also had a very low correlation coefficient)

Other variables show a somewhat linear pattern, although this trend is often distorted in the extreme regions of the x-axis.

The second series of scatter plots suggests that some variables exhibit a linear relationship with the main predictor *PctPopUnderPov*. In particular, the following variables appear to show a fairly linear trend:

- *PctEmploy*
- *PctLess9thGrade*
- *PctNotHSGrad*

This implies that these variables are probably not suitable as additional predictors when *PctPopUnderPov* is already included in the model.

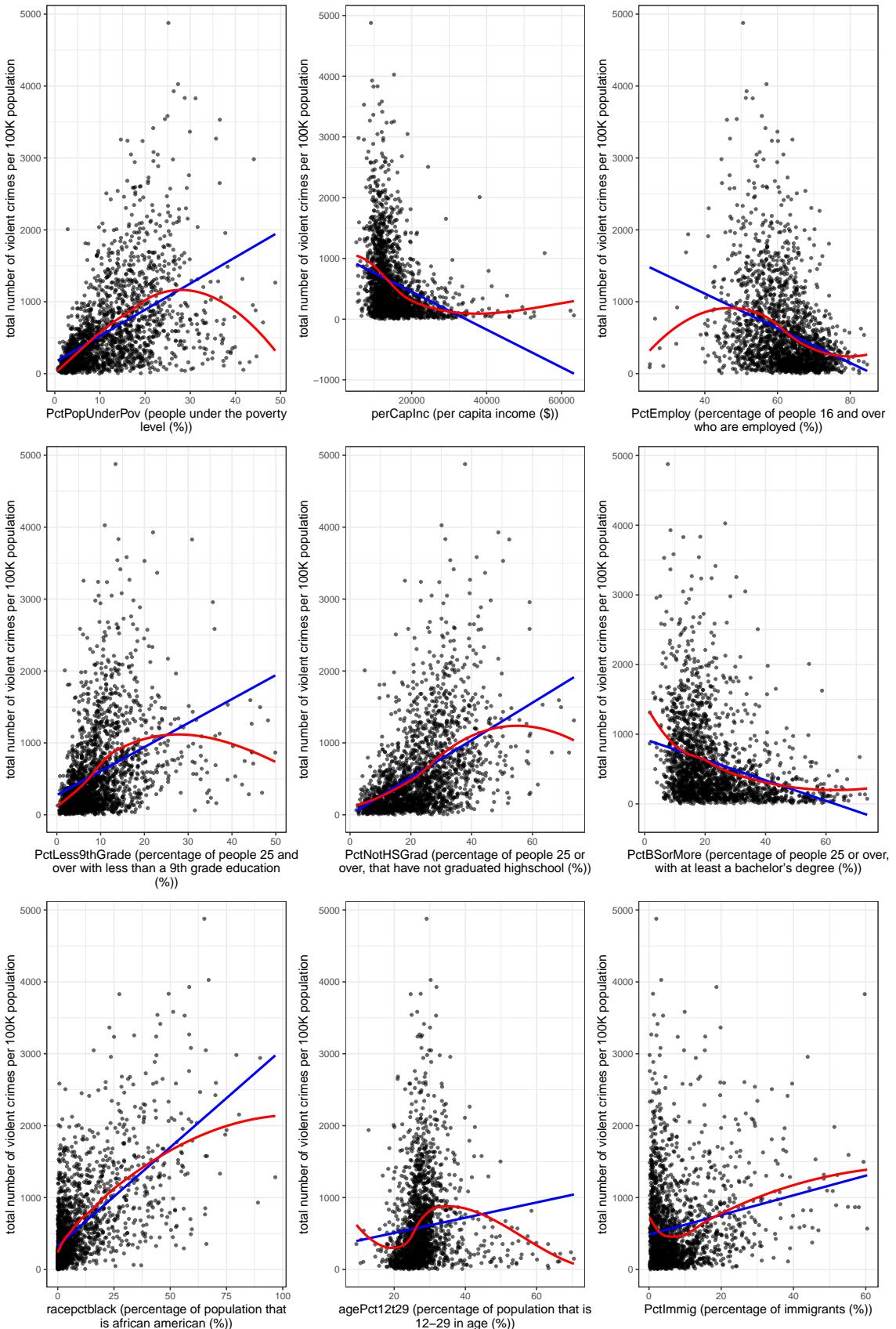
```

x_vars <- colnames(crimes_table_subset_num)
dict_labels <- setNames(sapply(x_vars, function(x_var) get_label(crimes_table_subset_num[[x_var]])), x_var)

library(ggplot2)
library(patchwork)
df <- crimes_table_subset_num[,-c("population", "fold")]
y_var <- "ViolentCrimesPerPop"
x_vars <- setdiff(colnames(df), y_var)
plots <- lapply(x_vars, function(x_var) {
  ggplot(df, aes_string(x_var,y_var)) +
  geom_point(alpha = 0.6, size = 0.7) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", color = "blue", se = FALSE) +
  geom_smooth(method = "loess", color = "red", se = FALSE) +
  theme_bw(base_size = 8) +
  labs(x = str_wrap(paste(x_var, " (", dict_labels[x_var], ")"), sep = ""), width = 45))
}
)

# Print 9 plots per pg
print(wrap_plots(plots, ncol = 3))

```

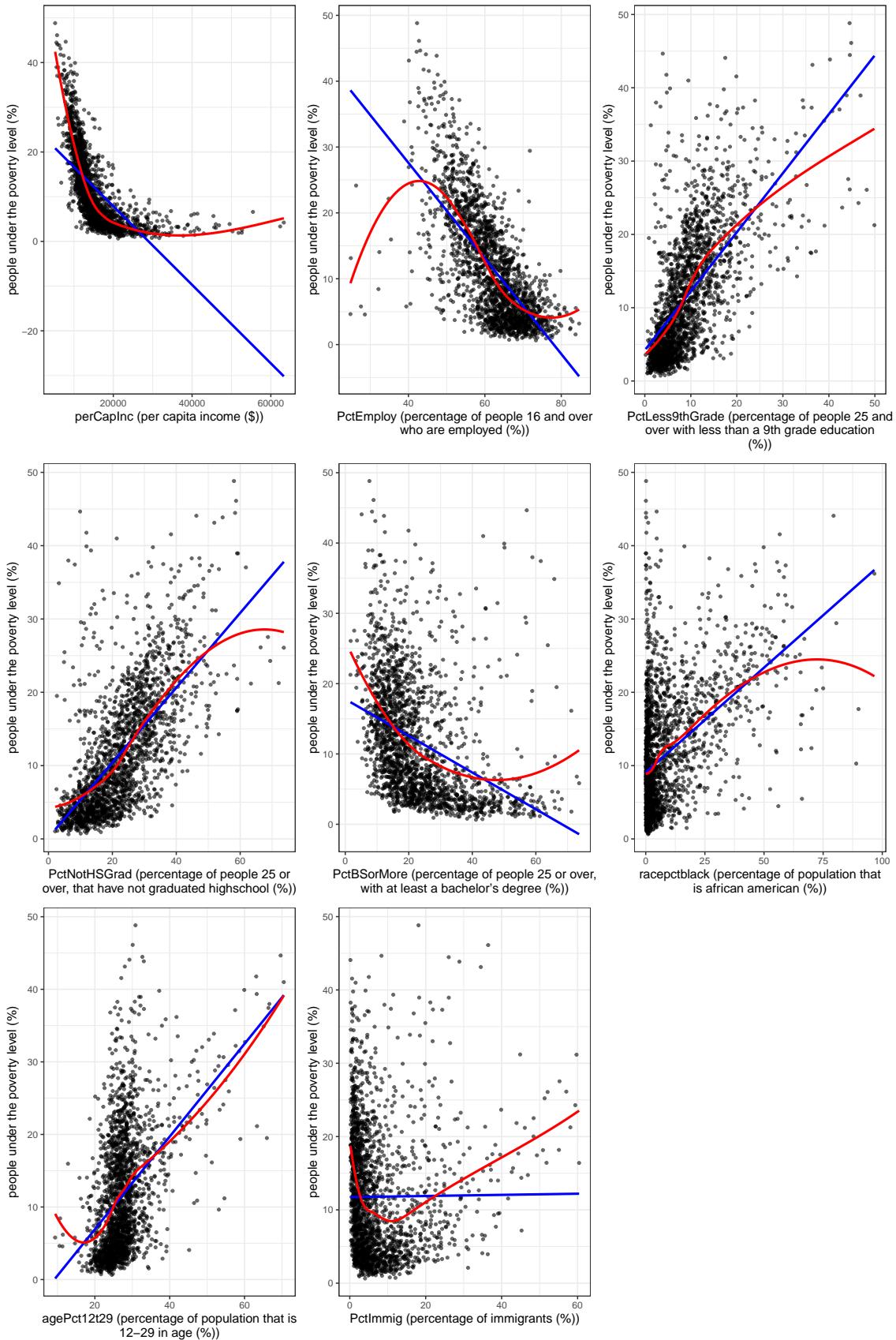


```

df <- crimes_table_subset_num[, -c("ViolentCrimesPerPop", "population", "fold")]
y_var <- "PctPopUnderPov"
x_vars <- setdiff(colnames(df), y_var)
plots <- lapply(x_vars, function(x_var) {
  ggplot(df, aes_string(x_var,y_var))+
  geom_point(alpha = 0.6, size = 0.7) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", color = "blue", se = FALSE)+
  geom_smooth(method = "loess", color = "red", se = FALSE) +
  theme_bw(base_size = 8) +
  labs(x = str_wrap(paste(x_var, " (", dict_labels[x_var], ")"), sep = ""), width = 45))
}
)

# Print 9 plots per pg
print(wrap_plots(plots, ncol = 3))

```



The scatter plots reveal one outlier for the ViolentCrimesPerPop variable. This outlier is the community Chestercity.

```
crimes_table_subset[order(crimes_table_subset$num$ViolentCrimesPerPop, decreasing=TRUE), , drop = FALSE]

##           communityname state countyCode communityCode population
##                <char> <char>     <char>        <char>      <int>
## 1:      Chestercity    PA         45       13208      41856
## 2:      Atlantacity    GA          ?          ?      394017
## 3:      Newarkcity     NJ         13       51000      275221
## 4:      Alexandriacity LA          ?          ?      49188
## 5:      Miamicity      FL          ?          ?      358548
## ---
## 1990:      Harvardtown   MA         27       28950      12329
## 1991:      Ogdensburgcity NY         89       54485      13521
## 1992:      Cranberrytownship PA         19       16920      14816
## 1993:      Oswegocity    NY         75       55574      19195
## 1994:      Spencercity   IA         41       93955      11066
##           PctPopUnderPov perCapInc PctEmploy PctLess9thGrade PctNotHSGrad
##                <num>     <int>     <num>        <num>      <num>
## 1:      25.16      9115     50.54       13.42      37.84
## 2:      27.29     15279     56.97       10.96      30.13
## 3:      26.34      9424     51.51       21.97      48.79
## 4:      28.78     10887     51.28       14.08      31.37
## 5:      31.17      9799     53.19       30.89      52.37
## ---
## 1990:      3.88     17937     82.48       0.66      2.93
## 1991:     13.97     11213     44.61      10.81      32.03
## 1992:      2.54     16494     71.33       1.97      9.51
## 1993:     19.05     11758     51.56       8.71      26.92
## 1994:      9.87     12805     66.26       6.32      14.70
##           PctBSorMore racepctblack agePct12t29 ViolentCrimesPerPop PctImmig
##                <num>     <num>     <num>        <num>      <num>
## 1:      7.68      65.17     29.11      4877.06  2.0355505
## 2:     26.65      67.07     30.26      4026.59  3.3891939
## 3:      8.55      58.46     31.88      3928.03 18.6842574
## 4:     18.40      49.29     27.45      3834.10  1.1364560
## 5:     12.79      27.39     24.63      3829.21 59.7208742
## ---
## 1990:     42.39     12.22     39.12       7.79  4.5259145
## 1991:     11.85      8.27     29.81       7.60  5.0809851
## 1992:     29.48      0.47     25.19       6.64  1.4916307
## 1993:     19.63      0.73     32.15       5.35  2.4277156
## 1994:     16.09      0.05     24.23       0.00  0.4518344
```

Model Building

Before performing linear regression and building models, the dataset is randomly split into a training set (80% of the data) and a holdout set (20% of the data). This holdout set will be used to validate the final model.

```

n <- nrow(crimes_table_subset_num)
training <- sample(1:n, size = floor(0.8 * n))
train_data <- crimes_table_subset_num[training, ]
test_data <- crimes_table_subset_num[-training, ]

cat("Training set size:", nrow(train_data), "\n")

## Training set size: 1595

cat("Test set size:", nrow(test_data), "\n")

```

Test set size: 399

Univariate linear regression

The simple univariate regression equation we estimate with the training set is given as follows:

$$ViolentCrimesPerPop_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot PctPopUnderPov_i + \epsilon_i$$

```

fit <- lm(ViolentCrimesPerPop ~ PctPopUnderPov, data = train_data)
summary(fit)

```

```

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = ViolentCrimesPerPop ~ PctPopUnderPov, data = train_data)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max 
## -1577.8  -253.4  -105.3   158.7  2903.6 
##
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
## (Intercept) 164.534    22.386   7.35 3.16e-13 ***
## PctPopUnderPov 35.120     1.533   22.91 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 526.2 on 1593 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.2478, Adjusted R-squared:  0.2473 
## F-statistic: 524.8 on 1 and 1593 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16

```

We show the relevant statistics to be discussed in this section:

```

cat("Regression equation: ViolentCrimesPerPop =",
    round(coef(fit)[1], 2), "+",
    round(coef(fit)[2], 2), "* PctPopUnderPov\n\n")

## Regression equation: ViolentCrimesPerPop = 164.53 + 35.12 * PctPopUnderPov

```

```

# R-squared
cat("R-squared:", round(summary(fit)$r.squared, 4), "\n")

## R-squared: 0.2478

cat("Adjusted R-squared:", round(summary(fit)$adj.r.squared, 4), "\n")

## Adjusted R-squared: 0.2473

# MSE
mse_simple <- mean(fit$residuals^2)
cat("MSE:", round(mse_simple, 2), "\n")

## MSE: 276550.6

# Confidence intervals for coefficients
cat("\n95% Confidence Intervals:\n")

## 
## 95% Confidence Intervals:

print(confint(fit))

##                   2.5 %    97.5 %
## (Intercept) 120.62559 208.44317
## PctPopUnderPov 32.11251 38.12673

```

PctPopUnderPov = increase in violent crimes per 100K population if poverty rate increases by one percentage point

Assumption checks

We check assumptions linearity, independence of errors, homoscedasticity, and normality of errors.

```

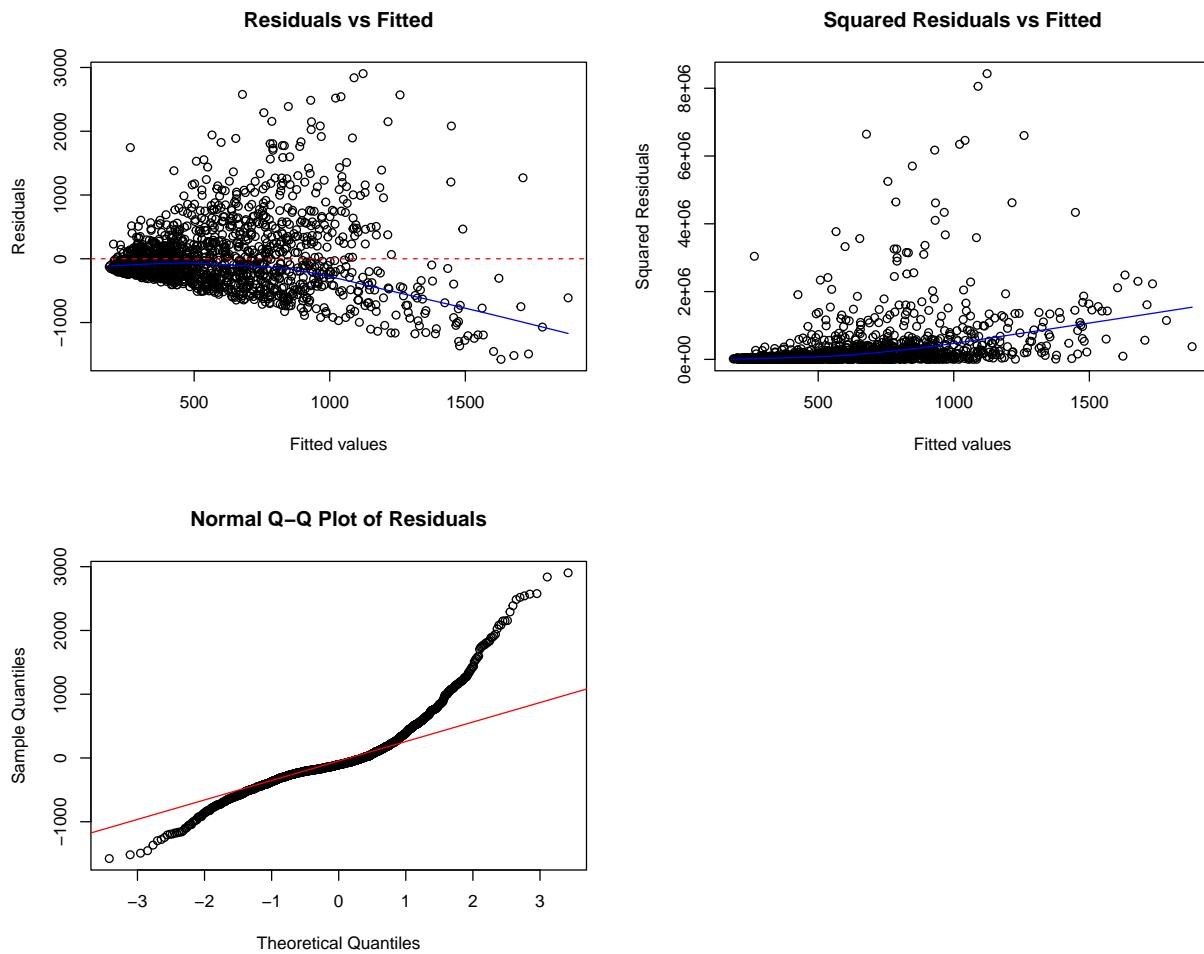
par(mfrow = c(2, 2))

#Residuals vs Fitted
plot(fit$fitted.values, fit$residuals,
      xlab = "Fitted values", ylab = "Residuals",
      main = "Residuals vs Fitted")
abline(h = 0, col = "red", lty = 2)
lines(lowess(fit$fitted.values, fit$residuals), col = "blue")

# Squared residuals vs Fitted
plot(fit$fitted.values, fit$residuals^2,
      xlab = "Fitted values", ylab = "Squared Residuals",
      main = "Squared Residuals vs Fitted")
lines(lowess(fit$fitted.values, fit$residuals^2), col = "blue")

```

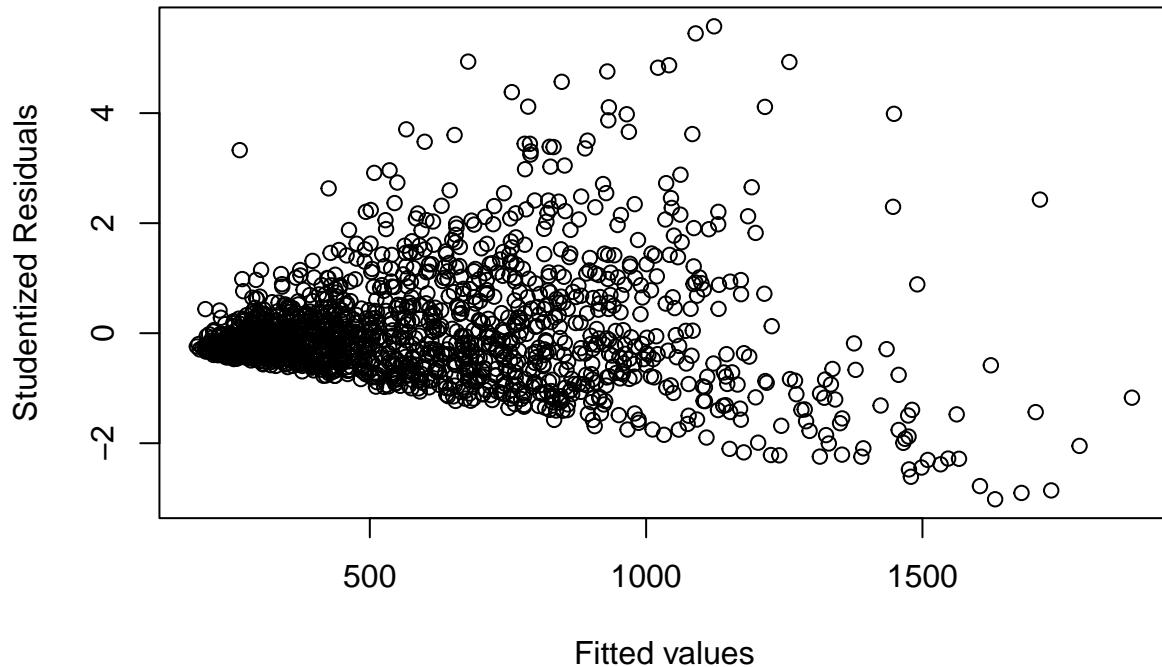
```
# QQ-plot of residuals (normality)
qqnorm(fit$residuals, main = "Normal Q-Q Plot of Residuals")
qqline(fit$residuals, col = "red")
par(mfrow = c(1, 1))
```



Studentized residuals

```
# Studentized residuals plot
stud_res <- rstudent(fit)
plot(fit$fitted.values, stud_res,
     xlab = "Fitted values", ylab = "Studentized Residuals",
     main = "Studentized Residuals vs Fitted")
```

Studentized Residuals vs Fitted



```
outliers_simple <- which(abs(stud_res) > 2)
```

Table to get a visual illustration of whether outliers are more common in small pop

```
# outliers are more present in small pop?
if(length(outliers_simple) > 0) {
  outlier_data <- train_data[outliers_simple, .(population, ViolentCrimesPerPop, PctPopUnderPov)]
  print(outlier_data)
}
```

	population	ViolentCrimesPerPop	PctPopUnderPov
## 1:	23451	2344.56	17.55
## 2:	22754	2523.46	17.84
## 3:	37986	3583.48	24.97
## 4:	26623	3540.57	24.40
## 5:	164164	3047.66	22.79
## 6:	10201	2650.26	36.51
## 7:	10005	2119.93	24.78
## 8:	16027	1730.67	12.03
## 9:	10690	295.76	34.98
## 10:	12361	196.79	33.88
## 11:	49847	2037.32	9.78
## 12:	73552	2941.62	17.71
## 13:	109602	2078.85	16.47

## 14:	61945	2956.98	21.84
## 15:	14903	2018.97	19.62
## 16:	86905	1651.73	9.35
## 17:	30996	1938.43	15.96
## 18:	42523	2186.47	20.44
## 19:	228537	2017.65	18.88
## 20:	36118	2507.51	11.43
## 21:	12135	2584.96	17.53
## 22:	34311	2982.31	44.08
## 23:	12001	2451.06	19.59
## 24:	23478	212.45	34.88
## 25:	29541	352.88	39.35
## 26:	36830	2581.96	29.23
## 27:	175795	3255.71	14.62
## 28:	12915	150.31	40.99
## 29:	10170	137.89	32.74
## 30:	18666	1678.99	11.93
## 31:	10014	47.11	28.09
## 32:	28653	178.75	37.33
## 33:	12652	284.75	38.96
## 34:	30705	302.47	38.30
## 35:	52456	219.36	37.98
## 36:	33892	2572.91	25.56
## 37:	13547	39.87	28.82
## 38:	95706	2299.87	29.04
## 39:	75695	2089.28	18.75
## 40:	16491	1964.10	20.32
## 41:	71349	2541.38	13.92
## 42:	141686	1908.96	17.07
## 43:	17406	2008.28	13.67
## 44:	20807	2885.57	22.90
## 45:	22906	2193.23	25.55
## 46:	358548	3829.21	31.17
## 47:	70218	2264.09	21.73
## 48:	50627	2493.17	17.83
## 49:	22122	2728.14	20.77
## 50:	50961	1846.45	13.25
## 51:	10034	76.24	30.65
## 52:	29925	2594.03	17.80
## 53:	736014	3081.26	21.87
## 54:	13051	63.81	30.22
## 55:	139739	2288.32	27.51
## 56:	10398	278.92	33.20
## 57:	33830	370.67	39.91
## 58:	61921	2082.86	22.49
## 59:	372242	2601.60	18.82
## 60:	17363	2210.88	23.20
## 61:	26326	1607.89	10.36
## 62:	14302	53.73	41.77
## 63:	45549	2344.68	21.57
## 64:	25158	2605.96	19.02
## 65:	87492	3530.78	36.56
## 66:	176664	1849.26	16.79
## 67:	26866	3364.91	29.91

```

## 68:    88675      2065.29     18.05
## 69:    741952      1682.47     12.47
## 70:    20651       712.74     46.12
## 71:    222103      1807.31      7.43
## 72:    10404      1759.00     14.79
## 73:    275221      3928.03     26.34
## 74:    18942       2241.85     25.11
## 75:    30326       1884.24     18.65
## 76:    34590       112.41     37.43
## 77:    672971      1681.08     12.81
## 78:    43467       3414.57     21.79
## 79:    47669      1964.89     17.60
## 80:    3485398      2414.77     18.86
## 81:    15520      2089.32     10.57
## 82:    219531      2978.69     26.17
## 83:    395934      1787.20     10.83
## 84:    7322564      2097.71     19.29
## 85:    606900      3048.38     16.87
## 86:    265968      2466.68     24.82
## 87:    15023       1987.15     10.97
## 88:    98052       2109.96     21.17
## 89:    35701       1678.08      9.60
## 90:    13024      2649.80     20.64
## 91:    12822       161.69     43.13
## 92:    49998      1818.82     15.48
## 93:    21265       239.75     44.66
## 94:    61018      2423.47     12.38
## 95:    10864      2333.62     25.07
## 96:    394017      4026.59     27.29
## 97:    280015      3235.45     19.44
## 98:    574283      1968.89     18.71
## 99:    19378      2008.66      2.85
## population ViolentCrimesPerPop PctPopUnderPov

```

Model selection

We use an all-possible regressions procedure to select predictor variables. We include models with a maximum of 5 predictor variables and only models with 0, 1, or 2 education predictor variables. The best model is chosen based on the Bayesian Information Criterion.

```

library(leaps)

# Define predictor variables for model selection
predictors <- c("PctPopUnderPov", "perCapInc", "PctEmploy",
                 "PctLess9thGrade", "PctNotHSGrad", "PctBSorMore",
                 "racepctblack", "agePct12t29", "PctImmig")

# Educ variables
educ <- c("PctLess9thGrade", "PctNotHSGrad", "PctBSorMore")

# data for model selection
data <- train_data[, c("ViolentCrimesPerPop", predictors), with = FALSE]

```

```

# Test reg with max 5 predictors
all_combos <- regsubsets(ViolentCrimesPerPop ~ ., data = data,
                           nvmax = 5, nbest = 10, method = "exhaustive")
all_combos_sum <- summary(all_combos)

# Create results dataframe
results <- data.frame(
  n_predictors = apply(all_combos_sum$which[, -1], 1, sum),
  predictors = apply(all_combos_sum$which[, -1], 1, function(x)
    paste(names(x)[x], collapse = ", ")),
  rsq = all_combos_sum$rsq,
  adjrsq = all_combos_sum$adjr2,
  cp = all_combos_sum$cp,
  bic = all_combos_sum$bic
)

# Count education variables in each model
count_edu_vars <- function(pred_string) {
  sum(sapply(educ, function(v) grep(v, pred_string)))
}
results$n_edu <- sapply(results$predictors, count_edu_vars)

# Filter: only models with 0, 1, or 2 education variables
BIC_ranking <- results[results$n_edu <= 2, ]

# Sort by BIC (lower is better)
BIC_ranking <- BIC_ranking[order(BIC_ranking$bic), ]

print(head(BIC_ranking, 10))

##      n_predictors
## 40          5
## 41          5
## 42          5
## 43          5
## 30          4
## 44          5
## 45          5
## 46          5
## 47          5
## 31          4
##                                predictors
## 40 PctPopUnderPov, PctLess9thGrade, PctNotHSGrad, racepctblack, PctImmig
## 41  PctPopUnderPov, PctLess9thGrade, PctBSorMore, racepctblack, PctImmig
## 42      PctPopUnderPov, PctBSorMore, racepctblack, agePct12t29, PctImmig
## 43          PctPopUnderPov, perCapInc, PctBSorMore, racepctblack, PctImmig
## 30              PctPopUnderPov, PctBSorMore, racepctblack, PctImmig
## 44      PctPopUnderPov, PctEmploy, PctBSorMore, racepctblack, PctImmig
## 45      PctPopUnderPov, PctNotHSGrad, PctBSorMore, racepctblack, PctImmig
## 46      PctPopUnderPov, perCapInc, racepctblack, agePct12t29, PctImmig
## 47      PctPopUnderPov, PctNotHSGrad, racepctblack, agePct12t29, PctImmig
## 31          PctLess9thGrade, PctNotHSGrad, racepctblack, PctImmig
##      rsq     adjrsq       cp       bic n_edu

```

```

## 40 0.5439255 0.5424904 54.34122 -1207.985      2
## 41 0.5316409 0.5301671 98.44391 -1165.591      2
## 42 0.5312988 0.5298240 99.67186 -1164.427      1
## 43 0.5295864 0.5281062 105.81953 -1158.610      1
## 30 0.5260723 0.5248801 116.43535 -1154.114      1
## 44 0.5263531 0.5248627 117.42728 -1147.685      1
## 45 0.5261590 0.5246680 118.12410 -1147.031      2
## 46 0.5253385 0.5238449 121.07004 -1144.272      0
## 47 0.5233031 0.5218031 128.37703 -1137.447      1
## 31 0.5198632 0.5186553 138.72673 -1133.353      2

```

We then run the multivariate regression equation

```

# Print best model
best <- which.min(BIC_ranking$bic)
best_pred <- BIC_ranking$predictors[best]
cat("\nBest model:\n")

##
## Best model:

cat("Predictors:", best_pred, "\n")

## Predictors: PctPopUnderPov, PctLess9thGrade, PctNotHSGrad, racepctblack, PctImmig

cat("BIC:", round(BIC_ranking$bic[best], 2), "\n")

## BIC: -1207.99

cat("Adjusted R2:", round(BIC_ranking$adjrsq[best], 4), "\n")

## Adjusted R2: 0.5425

# store pred
best_pred_sel <- strsplit(best_pred, " ", "")[[1]]

# multivariate regression with these predictors
formula_multi <- as.formula(paste("ViolentCrimesPerPop ~",
                                    paste(best_pred_sel, collapse = " + ")))
fit_multi <- lm(formula_multi, data = train_data)
summary(fit_multi)

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = formula_multi, data = train_data)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min        1Q    Median        3Q       Max
## -1387.36   -214.80   -46.72   138.35  2250.30
##
```

```

## Coefficients:
##                               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)           -239.5160    30.8735  -7.758 1.53e-14 ***
## PctPopUnderPov      16.0549     1.7535   9.156 < 2e-16 ***
## PctLess9thGrade     -46.5431     4.8312  -9.634 < 2e-16 ***
## PctNotHSGrad        32.1548     2.8440  11.306 < 2e-16 ***
## racepctblack        19.7877     0.8764  22.578 < 2e-16 ***
## PctImmig             20.1995     1.3387  15.089 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 410.3 on 1589 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.5439, Adjusted R-squared:  0.5425
## F-statistic: 379 on 5 and 1589 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

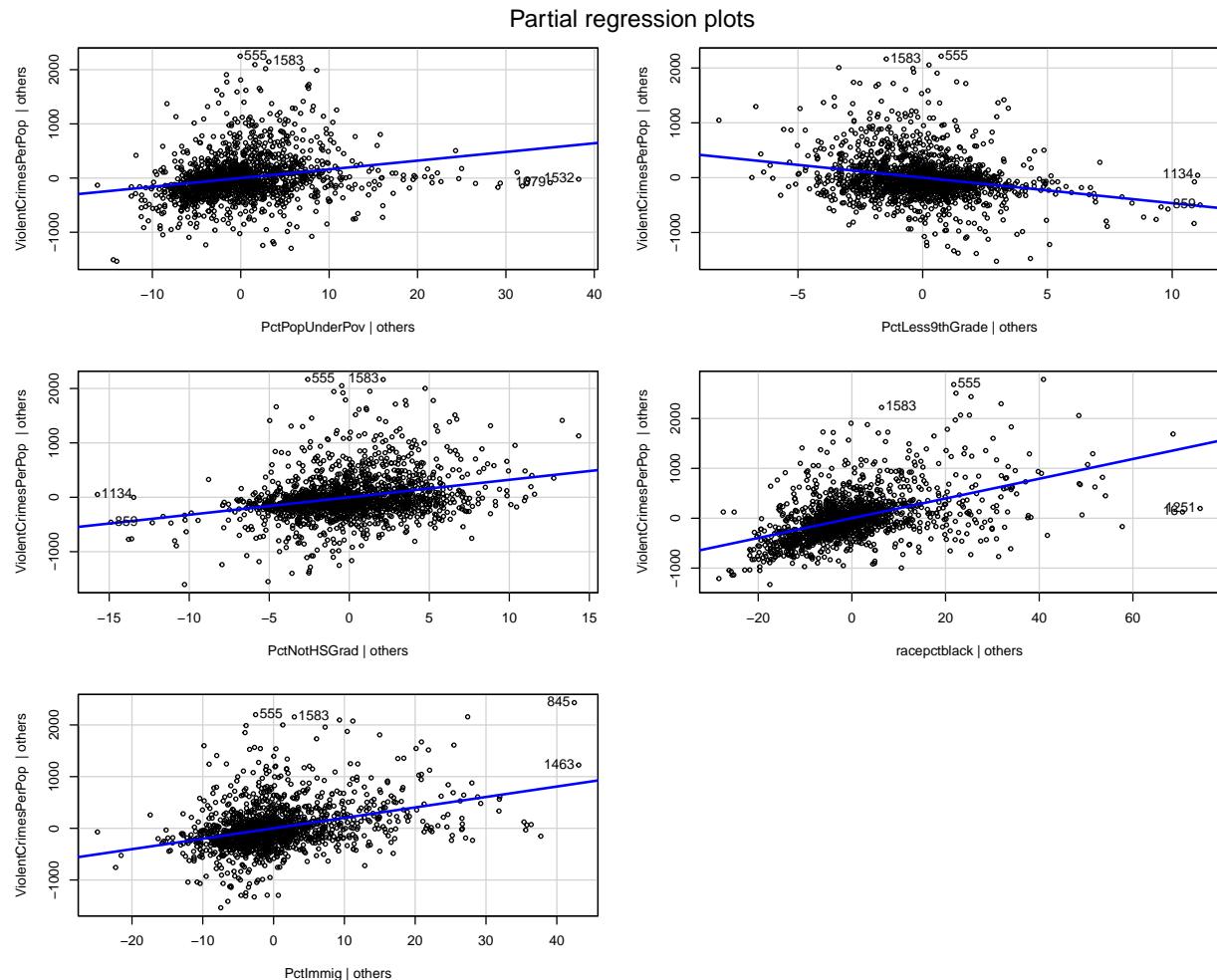
```

Partial Regression Plots

```

library(car)
avPlots(fit_multi, main = "Partial regression plots")

```



Interaction Terms Selection

Following the protocol, we add all interaction terms of the predictor variables with our main predictor variable *PctPopUnderPov* and evaluate their significance. We choose the best one.

```
# store all other pred except for main pred
other <- setdiff(best_pred_sel, "PctPopUnderPov")

# Create interaction terms
interaction_terms <- paste("PctPopUnderPov", other, sep = ":")

# Evaluate each interaction term individually
interaction_results <- data.frame(
  interaction = interaction_terms,
  t_value = NA,
  p_value = NA,
  delta_adjrsq = NA
)

for(i in seq_along(interaction_terms)) {
  formula_single_int <- as.formula(paste("ViolentCrimesPerPop ~",
                                         paste(best_pred_sel, collapse = " + "), "+",
                                         interaction_terms[i]))
  fit_single_int <- lm(formula_single_int, data = train_data)
  coef_summary <- summary(fit_single_int)$coefficients
  int_row <- nrow(coef_summary)
  interaction_results$t_value[i] <- coef_summary[int_row, "t value"]
  interaction_results$p_value[i] <- coef_summary[int_row, "Pr(>|t|)"]
  interaction_results$delta_adjrsq[i] <- summary(fit_single_int)$adj.r.squared -
    summary(fit_multi)$adj.r.squared
}

interaction_results <- interaction_results[order(interaction_results$p_value), ]
cat("Interaction terms ranked by p-value:\n")

## Interaction terms ranked by p-value:

print(interaction_results)

##          interaction      t_value      p_value  delta_adjrsq
## 4 PctPopUnderPov:PctImmig  5.4414573 6.111972e-08  0.0080916330
## 2 PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad 1.9211681 5.488936e-02  0.0007734583
## 3 PctPopUnderPov:racepctblack  0.4527597 6.507836e-01 -0.0002290158
## 1 PctPopUnderPov:PctLess9thGrade -0.1743757 8.615924e-01 -0.0002793386

# Select best interaction
best_interaction <- interaction_results$interaction[1]
cat("\nSelected interaction term:", best_interaction, "\n")

##
## Selected interaction term: PctPopUnderPov:PctImmig
```

Multivariate Model

Based on the model selection procedure, we fit the multivariate model including the selected interaction term.

```
# Estimate model with interaction
formula_final <- as.formula(paste("ViolentCrimesPerPop ~",
                                paste(best_pred_sel, collapse = " + "), "+",
                                best_interaction))

fit_final <- lm(formula_final, data = train_data)
summary(fit_final)

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = formula_final, data = train_data)
##
## Residuals:
##       Min     1Q   Median     3Q    Max 
## -1469.96 -207.36  -46.58  133.18 2216.43 
## 
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
## (Intercept) -156.7547   34.1708 -4.587 4.84e-06 ***
## PctPopUnderPov      10.6785   1.9991  5.342 1.05e-07 ***
## PctLess9thGrade     -53.5485   4.9583 -10.800 < 2e-16 ***
## PctNotHSGrad        34.3326   2.8470  12.059 < 2e-16 ***
## racepctblack        20.7291   0.8857  23.404 < 2e-16 ***
## PctImmig            9.5361   2.3665  4.030 5.85e-05 ***
## PctPopUnderPov:PctImmig  0.7696   0.1414   5.441 6.11e-08 ***
## ---                
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1 
## 
## Residual standard error: 406.6 on 1588 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.5523, Adjusted R-squared:  0.5506 
## F-statistic: 326.5 on 6 and 1588 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16

# confint
print(confint(fit_final))

##
##             2.5 %    97.5 %
## (Intercept) -223.7792737 -89.730059
## PctPopUnderPov      6.7573820  14.599712
## PctLess9thGrade     -63.2741119 -43.822938
## PctNotHSGrad        28.7483479  39.916846
## racepctblack        18.9918724  22.466427
## PctImmig            4.8942597  14.178011
## PctPopUnderPov:PctImmig  0.4921651   1.046971
```

Multicollinearity Check

Before checking model assumptions, we first assess multicollinearity using the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) and remove a variable if necessary.

```

library(car)
vif <- vif(fit_final)
print(vif)

##          PctPopUnderPov      PctLess9thGrade      PctNotHSGrad
##            2.847684           10.651389          9.405196
##          racepctblack      PctImmig PctPopUnderPov:PctImmig
##            1.508038           4.034832          5.650188

```

There is multicollinearity, as PctNotHSGrad and PctLess9thGrade are highly correlated (also already derived before from Ilja's plots). Thus, we remove the variable with the highest VIF (PctLess9thGrade). We then do our model evaluation again, and find that the most relevant interaction term to include is now PctPopUnderPov*PctLess9thGrade

```

# Highest vif variable
main_effects_vif <- vif[!grepl(":", names(vif))]
highest_vif_var <- names(which.max(main_effects_vif))

# remove
best_predictors_reduced <- setdiff(best_pred_sel, highest_vif_var)

# Re-evaluate interaction terms without the removed variable
other_predictors_reduced <- setdiff(best_predictors_reduced, "PctPopUnderPov")
interaction_terms_reduced <- paste("PctPopUnderPov", other_predictors_reduced, sep = ":")

interaction_results_reduced <- data.frame(
  interaction = interaction_terms_reduced,
  t_value = NA,
  p_value = NA
)

for(i in seq_along(interaction_terms_reduced)) {
  formula_int <- as.formula(paste("ViolentCrimesPerPop ~",
                                   paste(best_predictors_reduced, collapse = " + "), "+",
                                   interaction_terms_reduced[i]))
  fit_int <- lm(formula_int, data = train_data)
  coef_summary <- summary(fit_int)$coefficients
  int_row <- nrow(coef_summary)
  interaction_results_reduced$t_value[i] <- coef_summary[int_row, "t value"]
  interaction_results_reduced$p_value[i] <- coef_summary[int_row, "Pr(>|t|)"]
}

interaction_results_reduced <- interaction_results_reduced[order(interaction_results_reduced$p_value), ]
cat("Interaction terms ranked by p-value:\n")

## Interaction terms ranked by p-value:

print(interaction_results_reduced)

##          interaction      t_value      p_value
## 1 PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad -2.6951745 0.007109343
## 3     PctPopUnderPov:PctImmig  2.6367573 0.008451837
## 2 PctPopUnderPov:racepctblack  0.4092429 0.682416558

```

```

best_interaction_reduced <- interaction_results_reduced$interaction[1]
cat("\nSelected interaction term:", best_interaction_reduced, "\n")

##
## Selected interaction term: PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad

# fit reduced model
formula_final_reduced <- as.formula(paste("ViolentCrimesPerPop ~",
                                             paste(best_predictors_reduced, collapse = " + "), "+",
                                             best_interaction_reduced))

fit_final_reduced <- lm(formula_final_reduced, data = train_data)
summary(fit_final_reduced)

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = formula_final_reduced, data = train_data)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max 
## -1476.20  -212.54   -54.97  134.18  2199.62 
##
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
## (Intercept) -133.70670  38.56283 -3.467  0.00054 ***
## PctPopUnderPov    17.65331   2.94010   6.004 2.38e-09 ***
## PctNotHSGrad     11.38134   1.89731   5.999 2.46e-09 ***
## racepctblack    22.40867   0.85778  26.124 < 2e-16 ***
## PctImmig        15.87911   1.28951  12.314 < 2e-16 ***
## PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad -0.25780   0.09565  -2.695  0.00711 ** 
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1 

## Residual standard error: 421.1 on 1589 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.5195, Adjusted R-squared:  0.518 
## F-statistic: 343.6 on 5 and 1589 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16

cat("\n95% Confidence Intervals:\n")

##
## 95% Confidence Intervals:

print(confint(fit_final_reduced))

##
##              2.5 %      97.5 %
## (Intercept) -209.3460701 -58.06733768
## PctPopUnderPov    11.8864291  23.42018896
## PctNotHSGrad     7.6598528  15.10282500
## racepctblack    20.7261604  24.09117320
## PctImmig        13.3497821  18.40843639
## PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad -0.4454155  -0.07018133

```

```
# check vif again-->Correct
vif_adapted <- vif(fit_final_reduced)
print(vif_adapted)
```

##	PctPopUnderPov	PctNotHSGrad
	5.742771	3.894478
##	racepctblack	PctImmig
##	1.318760	1.116932
## PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad		
##	10.608979	

We see that our model performs only a little less well, but this way we did account for multicollinearity and our estimates are correct.

```
# Compare models
cat("Comparison of models:\n")

## Comparison of models:

cat("Original model adjusted R2: ", round(summary(fit_multi)$adj.r.squared, 4), "\n")

## Original model adjusted R2: 0.5425

cat("Reduced model adjusted R2: ", round(summary(fit_final_reduced)$adj.r.squared, 4), "\n")

## Reduced model adjusted R2: 0.518

# Update fit_final
fit_final <- fit_final_reduced
formula_final <- formula_final_reduced
best_predictors <- best_predictors_reduced
```

Assumption checks final model

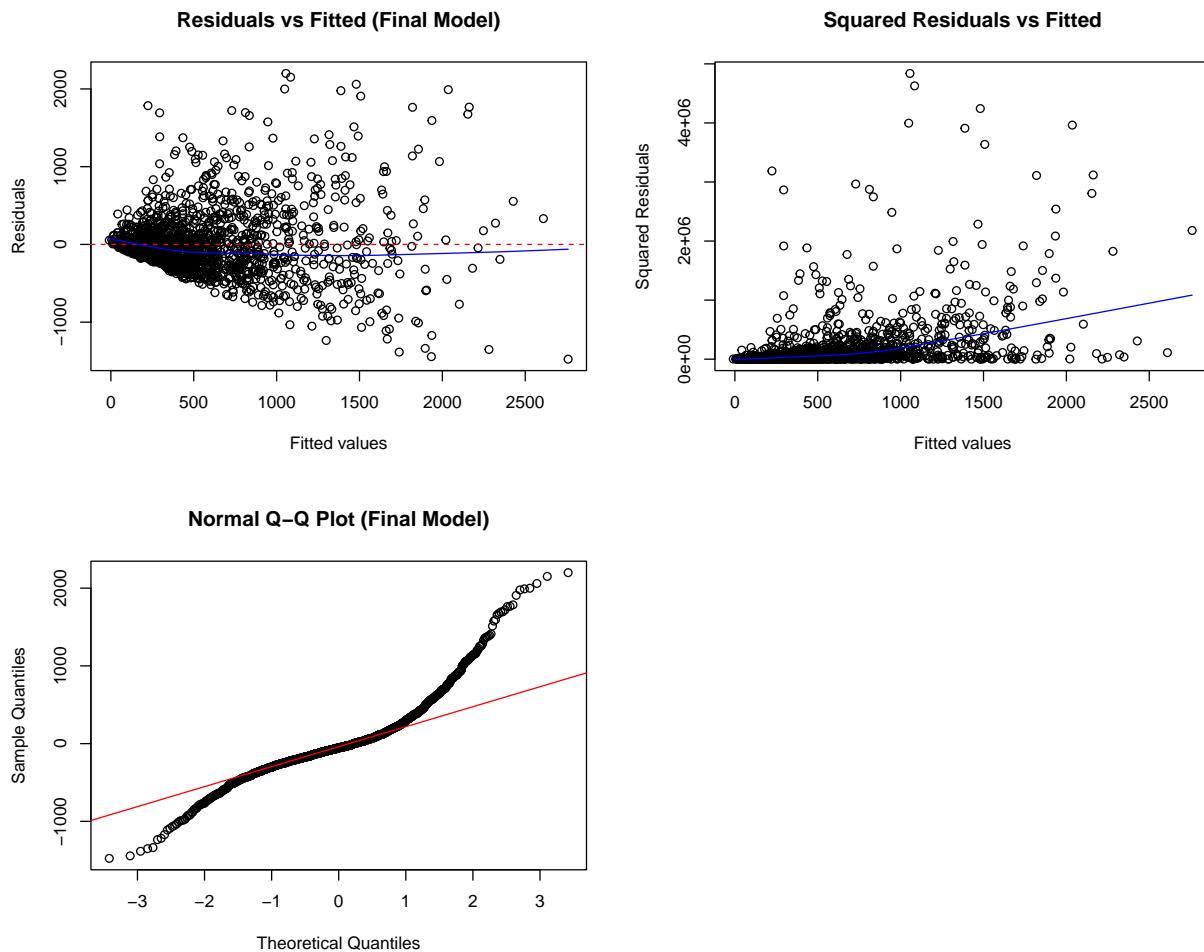
```
par(mfrow = c(2, 2))

#Residuals vs Fitted
plot(fit_final$fitted.values, fit_final$residuals,
      xlab = "Fitted values", ylab = "Residuals",
      main = "Residuals vs Fitted (Final Model)")
abline(h = 0, col = "red", lty = 2)
lines(lowess(fit_final$fitted.values, fit_final$residuals), col = "blue")

# Squared residuals vs Fitted
plot(fit_final$fitted.values, fit_final$residuals^2,
      xlab = "Fitted values", ylab = "Squared Residuals",
      main = "Squared Residuals vs Fitted")
lines(lowess(fit_final$fitted.values, fit_final$residuals^2), col = "blue")
```

```
# QQ-plot
qqnorm(fit_final$residuals, main = "Normal Q-Q Plot (Final Model)")
qqline(fit_final$residuals, col = "red")

par(mfrow = c(1, 1))
```



Robustness checks

For the final regression function, we included robust regression for outliers and heterosced-robust standard errors.

```
library(sandwich)
library(lmtest)
library(MASS)

robust <- rlm(formula_final, data = train_data)
robust_se <- coeftest(robust, vcov = vcovHC(robust, type = "HC3"))
print(robust_se)
```

##

```

## z test of coefficients:
##
##                               Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)                -85.38290   32.24328 -2.6481 0.0080949 **
## PctPopUnderPov             13.45909    3.74024  3.5985 0.0003201 ***
## PctNotHSGrad                8.55936    1.69884  5.0384 4.696e-07 ***
## racepctblack              22.06811   1.33874 16.4842 < 2.2e-16 ***
## PctImmig                   13.58370   1.61664  8.4024 < 2.2e-16 ***
## PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad -0.15022    0.12426 -1.2089 0.2267177
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

```

#idk of die robustness nodig is of er een andere methode geprefereerd is, dit is comparison maar blijft er niet in

```

# Compare OLS vs Robust coefficients
comparison <- data.frame(
  OLS = coef(fit_final),
  Robust = coef(robust),
  Difference = coef(fit_final) - coef(robust)
)
print(round(comparison, 4))

```

	OLS	Robust	Difference
## (Intercept)	-133.7067	-85.3829	-48.3238
## PctPopUnderPov	17.6533	13.4591	4.1942
## PctNotHSGrad	11.3813	8.5594	2.8220
## racepctblack	22.4087	22.0681	0.3406
## PctImmig	15.8791	13.5837	2.2954
## PctPopUnderPov:PctNotHSGrad	-0.2578	-0.1502	-0.1076

Outlier and Influence Diagnostics

We use several diagnostic measures to identify influential observations

```

# Calculate diagnostics
stud_res_final <- rstudent(fit_final)
leverage <- hatvalues(fit_final)
p <- length(coef(fit_final))
n_train <- nrow(train_data)
leverage_threshold <- 2 * p / n_train
cooks_d <- cooks.distance(fit_final)
dffits_val <- dffits(fit_final)
dffits_threshold <- 2 * sqrt(p / n_train)
dfbetas_val <- dfbetas(fit_final)
dfbetas_threshold <- 2 / sqrt(n_train)

# dataframe
diagnostics <- data.frame(
  obs = 1:n_train,
  population = train_data$population,
  stud_residual = stud_res_final,

```

```

        leverage = leverage,
        cooks_d = cooks_d,
        dffits = dffits_val
    )

# Flag observations
diagnostics$outlier_residual <- abs(diagnostics$stud_residual) > 2
diagnostics$high_leverage <- diagnostics$leverage > leverage_threshold
diagnostics$high_cooks <- diagnostics$cooks_d > 4 / n_train
diagnostics$high_dffits <- abs(diagnostics$dffits) > dffits_threshold

# summ
cat("Outliers by studentized residuals (|r*| > 2):", sum(diagnostics$outlier_residual), "\n")

## Outliers by studentized residuals (|r*| > 2): 98

cat("High leverage observations (h >", round(leverage_threshold, 4), "):",
    sum(diagnostics$high_leverage), "\n")

## High leverage observations (h > 0.0075 ): 151

cat("High Cook's distance (D >", round(4/n_train, 4), "):",
    sum(diagnostics$high_cooks), "\n")

## High Cook's distance (D > 0.0025 ): 131

cat("High DFFITS (|dffits| >", round(dffits_threshold, 4), "):",
    sum(diagnostics$high_dffits), "\n")

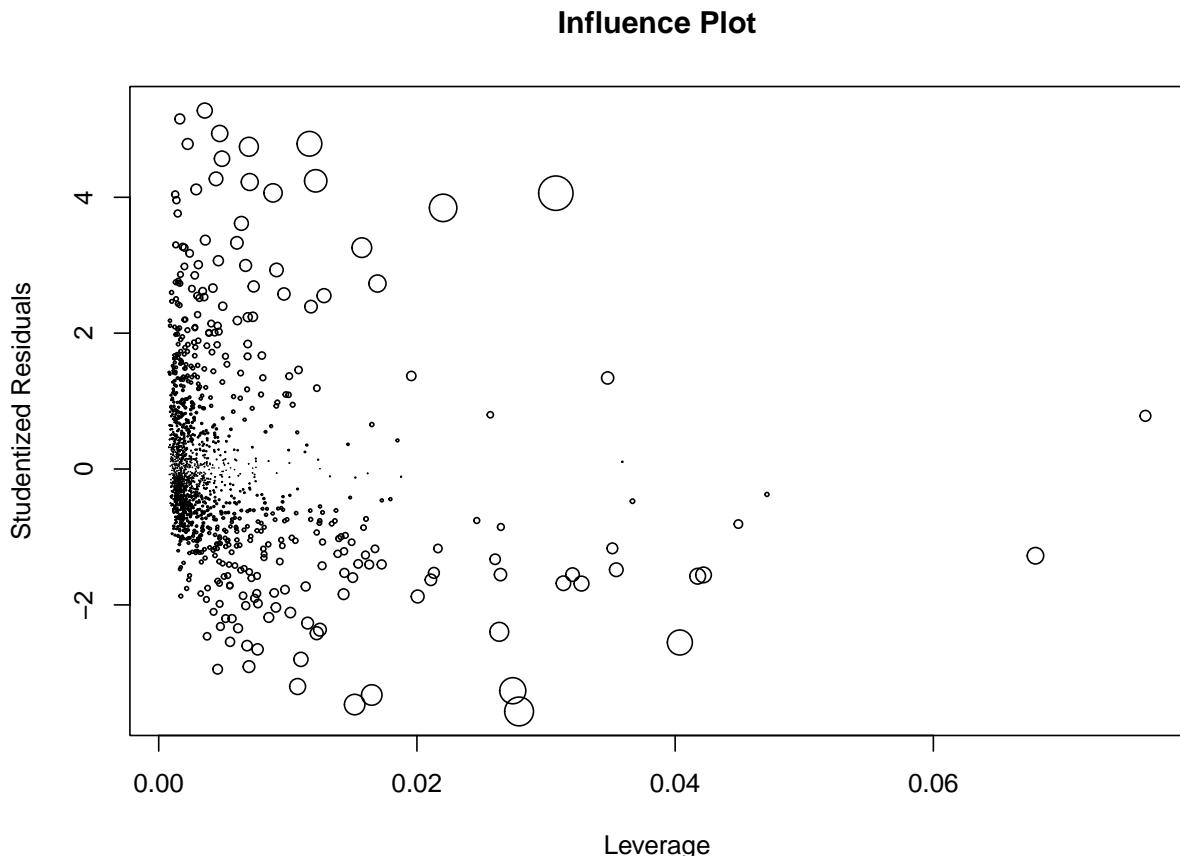
## High DFFITS (|dffits| > 0.1227 ): 131

# find influent obs
influential <- diagnostics[diagnostics$high_cooks | diagnostics$high_dffits, ]
influential <- influential[order(-influential$cooks_d), ]
print(head(influential[, c("obs", "population", "stud_residual", "leverage", "cooks_d", "dffits")], 10))

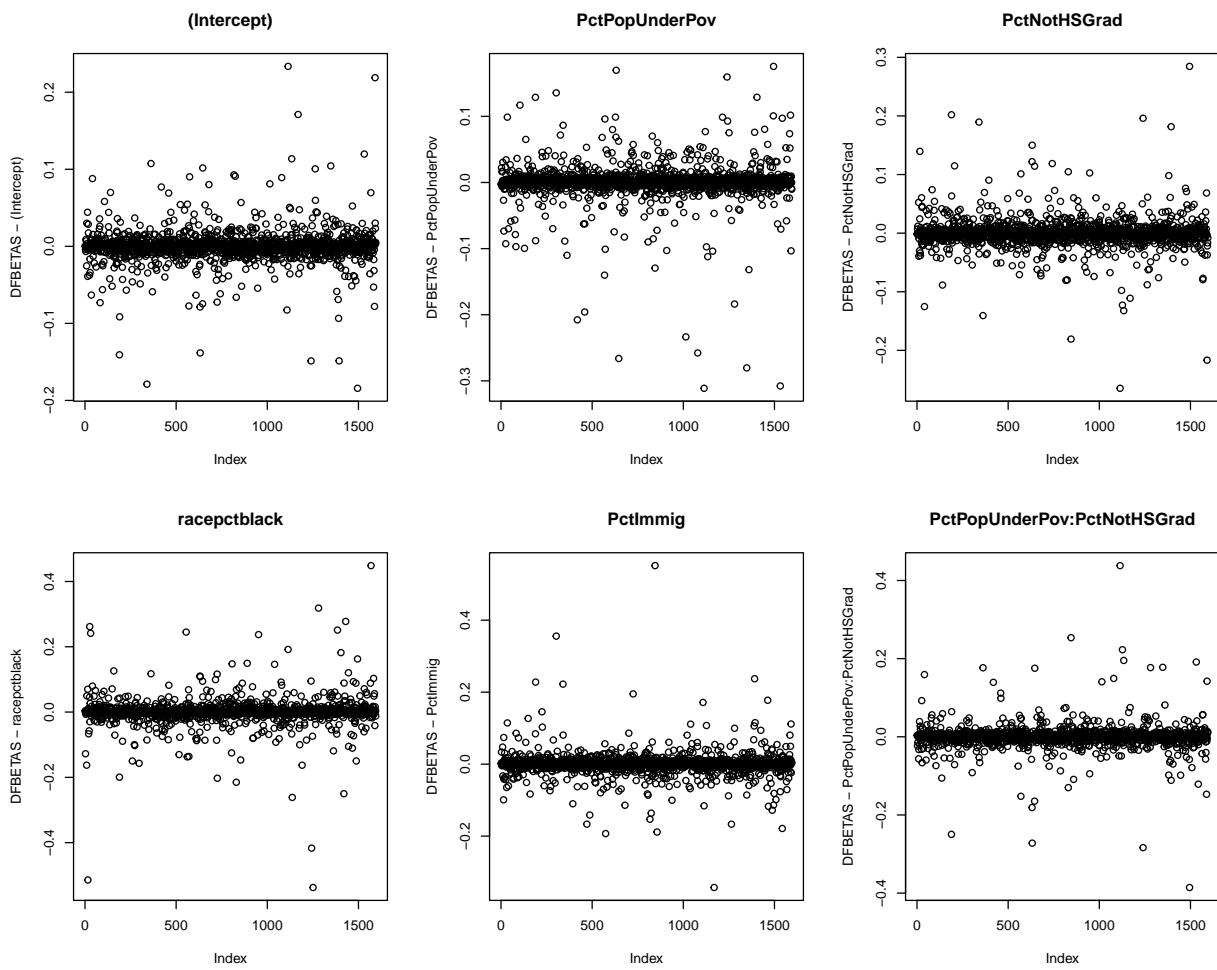
##      obs population stud_residual   leverage   cooks_d     dffits
## 845    845      358548      4.060766 0.03075769 0.08637199  0.7233836
## 16     16       12257     -3.568613 0.02791232 0.06049821 -0.6047065
## 1114   1114      87492      3.844158 0.02202982 0.05500311  0.5769576
## 1251   1251      15745     -3.263820 0.02742268 0.04975728 -0.5480486
## 1495   1495      12822     -2.553635 0.04036567 0.04555820 -0.5237356
## 1569   1569      394017      4.788167 0.01167515 0.04452441  0.5204160
## 1281   1281      275221      4.242108 0.01216030 0.03653000  0.4706637
## 1243   1243      11980     -3.326481 0.01650036 0.03074651 -0.4308685
## 189    189       18906     -3.466935 0.01517801 0.03066166 -0.4304019
## 340    340       12135      3.258989 0.01573267 0.02812434  0.4120289

```

```
# Influence plot
plot(leverage, stud_res_final,
      xlab = "Leverage", ylab = "Studentized Residuals",
      main = "Influence Plot",
      cex = sqrt(cooks_d) * 10)
```



```
# DFBETAS plots
par(mfrow = c(2, ceiling(ncol(dfbetas_val)/2)))
for(j in 1:ncol(dfbetas_val)) {
  plot(dfbetas_val[, j],
        ylab = paste("DFBETAS - ", colnames(dfbetas_val)[j]),
        main = colnames(dfbetas_val)[j])
}
```



```
par(mfrow = c(1, 1))
```

Summary

Dusja multivariate model stuk beter dan univariate model als je kijkt naar de tabel

```
# summary

mse_final <- mean(fit_final$residuals^2)
summary_results <- data.frame(
  Model = c("Simple (PctPopUnderPov only)", "Final Multivariate"),
  R_squared = c(round(summary(fit)$r.squared, 4),
                round(summary(fit_final)$r.squared, 4)),
  Adj_R_squared = c(round(summary(fit)$adj.r.squared, 4),
                    round(summary(fit_final)$adj.r.squared, 4)),
  MSE = c(round(mse_simple, 2), round(mse_final, 2))
)

kable(summary_results, caption = "Comparison of Simple and Final Multivariate Models")
```

Table 2: Comparison of Simple and Final Multivariate Models

Model	R_squared	Adj_R_squared	MSE
Simple (PctPopUnderPov only)	0.2478	0.2473	276550.6
Final Multivariate	0.5195	0.5180	176662.0

Using the holdout set, we compute the Mean Squared Prediction Error (MSPR) and comparing it to the Mean Squared Error (MSE) from the training set.

```
# Predictions on test set
pred <- predict(fit_final, newdata = test_data)

# MSPR
mspr <- mean((test_data$ViolentCrimesPerPop - pred)^2)

# MSE training
mse_final <- mean(fit_final$residuals^2)

cat("MSE (training set):", round(mse_final, 2), "\n")

## MSE (training set): 176662

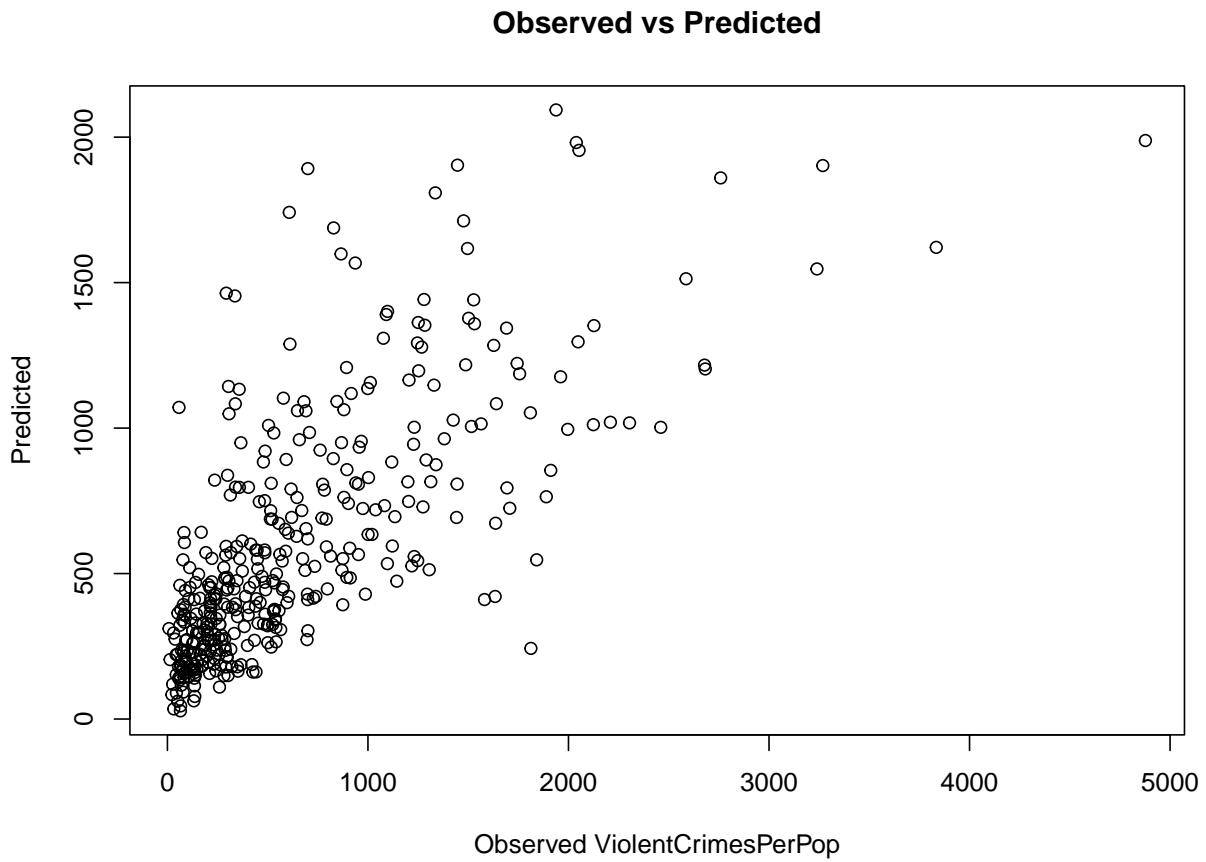
cat("MSPR (test set):", round(mspr, 2), "\n")

## MSPR (test set): 200515.3

cat("Ratio MSPR/MSE:", round(mspr/mse_final, 4), "\n")

## Ratio MSPR/MSE: 1.135

# validation
plot(test_data$ViolentCrimesPerPop, pred,
      xlab = "Observed ViolentCrimesPerPop", ylab = "Predicted",
      main = "Observed vs Predicted")
```



```

# R-squared on test set
ss_res <- sum((test_data$ViolentCrimesPerPop - pred)^2)
ss_tot <- sum((test_data$ViolentCrimesPerPop - mean(test_data$ViolentCrimesPerPop))^2)
r2_test <- 1 - ss_res/ss_tot
cat("\nR^2 on test set:", round(r2_test, 4), "\n")

##
## R^2 on test set: 0.5183

cat("R^2 on training set:", round(summary(fit_final)$r.squared, 4), "\n")

## R^2 on training set: 0.5195

```

References

Becker GS (1968) Crime and Punishment: An Economic Approach. J Polit Econ 76: 169–217

References dataset

U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census Of Population And Housing 1990 United States: Summary Tape File 1a & 3a (Computer Files),

U.S. Department Of Commerce, Bureau Of The Census Producer, Washington, DC and Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research Ann Arbor, Michigan. (1992)

U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management And Administrative Statistics (Computer File) U.S. Department Of Commerce, Bureau Of The Census Producer, Washington, DC and Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research Ann Arbor, Michigan. (1992)

U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States (Computer File) (1995)

Redmond, M. A. and A. Baveja: A Data-Driven Software Tool for Enabling Cooperative Information Sharing Among Police Departments. European Journal of Operational Research 141 (2002) 660-678.