I came across a very interesting dataset the AMCAT 2015 dataset which had the academic records and details of first job offered for 8000 students in India. A quick analysis provides some interesting aspects into what contributes to the starting salary of an individual.

**Academic Performance**:

The dataset provided with Class 10 percentage, 12percentage and the CGPA in college. Now finding the correlation between them and the marks gives the following:

Students scoring higher percentage of marks in 10th Class perform better in 12th Class(Correlation Coefficient ~0.64) and the same happens in College( Correlation Coefficient ~0.32). However the interesting aspect to note is that the correlation between marks scored and the starting salary is quite low (around 0.17) for 10th and 12t Class percentage scores and even lesser (~0.13) for College CGPA and goes against the widely accepted notation that higher grades result in higher salary.

**Board of Eduacation in Class 12** :

The boards with most students were CBSE, ICSE and UP Board in descresing order. The plot below shows students who studies in ISC boards in 12th Class have a slightly higher salary than those of CBSE students and UP board students.

**State of College and College-Tier** : Plotting the mean salary of students grouped by their State of college and tier it shows Tier-1 colleges in Rajasthan show exceptionally high performance which I believe is due to presence of BITS Pilani, Rajasthan. A clear expected result is that for all states, students of Tier 1 college have a higher starting salary than others showing college plays a important role in starting salary.

**Job Designation:**

Salaries with job titles aving word 'senior' in them are the highest. Roles suc as web developer and php developer have the lowest starting salary. One inference that can be drwan is that roles which have a language/ technology specific designation are on the lower side of salary while designations which have no specific technologies specified are not. For example PHP developer, web developer, android developer, .NET developer are all in the lower end.

**Job City**

Starting salaries in Mumbai trump closesy followed by Bangalore, the IT capital of the country. This is followed by Pune and Chandigarh. Salaries are low cities of Faridabad and Lucknow. Salaries of New Delhi, Ahamdabad and Coimbatore are approximately equal and lie in the middle of the distribution.

**Delay/ Gap Years:**

The dataset provided the details of Date of Birth of candidate and the joining date of the candidate. I created a new feature- delays which stored the difference or the age at which the student gets the job. The related correlation coeffieicnt comes out to be -0.02. ie. No correlation exists between the salary and the age of your first job.

**Specialization:**

Against the popular belief that a specialization in computer science is the highest paying field, 4 specializations have a average starting salary greater than computer engineering. However those high paying specializations have a relatively much smaller number of students as compared to computer engineering.