

HW 04 - What should I major in?

Your Name

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The first step in the process of turning information into knowledge process is to summarize and describe the raw information - the data. In this assignment we explore data on college majors and earnings, specifically the data begin the FiveThirtyEight story “The Economic Guide To Picking A College Major”.

These data originally come from the American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2012 Public Use Microdata Series. While this is outside the scope of this assignment, if you are curious about how raw data from the ACS were cleaned and prepared, see the code FiveThirtyEight authors used.

We should also note that there are many considerations that go into picking a major. Earnings potential and employment prospects are two of them, and they are important, but they don’t tell the whole story. Keep this in mind as you analyze the data.

1 Getting started

Go to the course GitHub organization and locate your homework repo, which should be named `hw-04-YOUR_GITHUB_USERNAME`. Grab the URL of the repo, and clone it in RStudio. First, open the R Markdown document `hw-04.Rmd` and Knit it. Make sure it compiles without errors. The output will be in the file markdown `.md` file with the same name.

1.1 Warm up

Before we introduce the data, let’s warm up with some simple exercises.

- Update the YAML, changing the author name to your name, and **knit** the document.
- Commit your changes with a meaningful commit message.
- Push your changes to GitHub.
- Go to your repo on GitHub and confirm that your changes are visible in your Rmd **and** md files. If anything is missing, commit and push again.

1.2 Packages

We’ll use the **tidyverse** package for much of the data wrangling and visualisation, the **scales** package for better formatting of labels on visualisations, and the data lives in the **fivethirtyeight** package. These packages are already installed for you. You can load them by running the following in your Console:

```
library(tidyverse)
library(scales)
library(fivethirtyeight)
```



Figure 1: Photo by Marleena Garris on Unsplash