

A photograph of a garment factory. In the foreground, a woman with glasses and a yellow measuring tape around her neck is operating a green industrial sewing machine. Behind her, a man in a plaid shirt is looking down at his work. In the background, another woman is working at a sewing machine. The room is filled with sewing equipment, spools of thread, and fabric.

# PREDICTING PRODUCTIVITY OF GARMENT EMPLOYEES

G R O U P 1 1



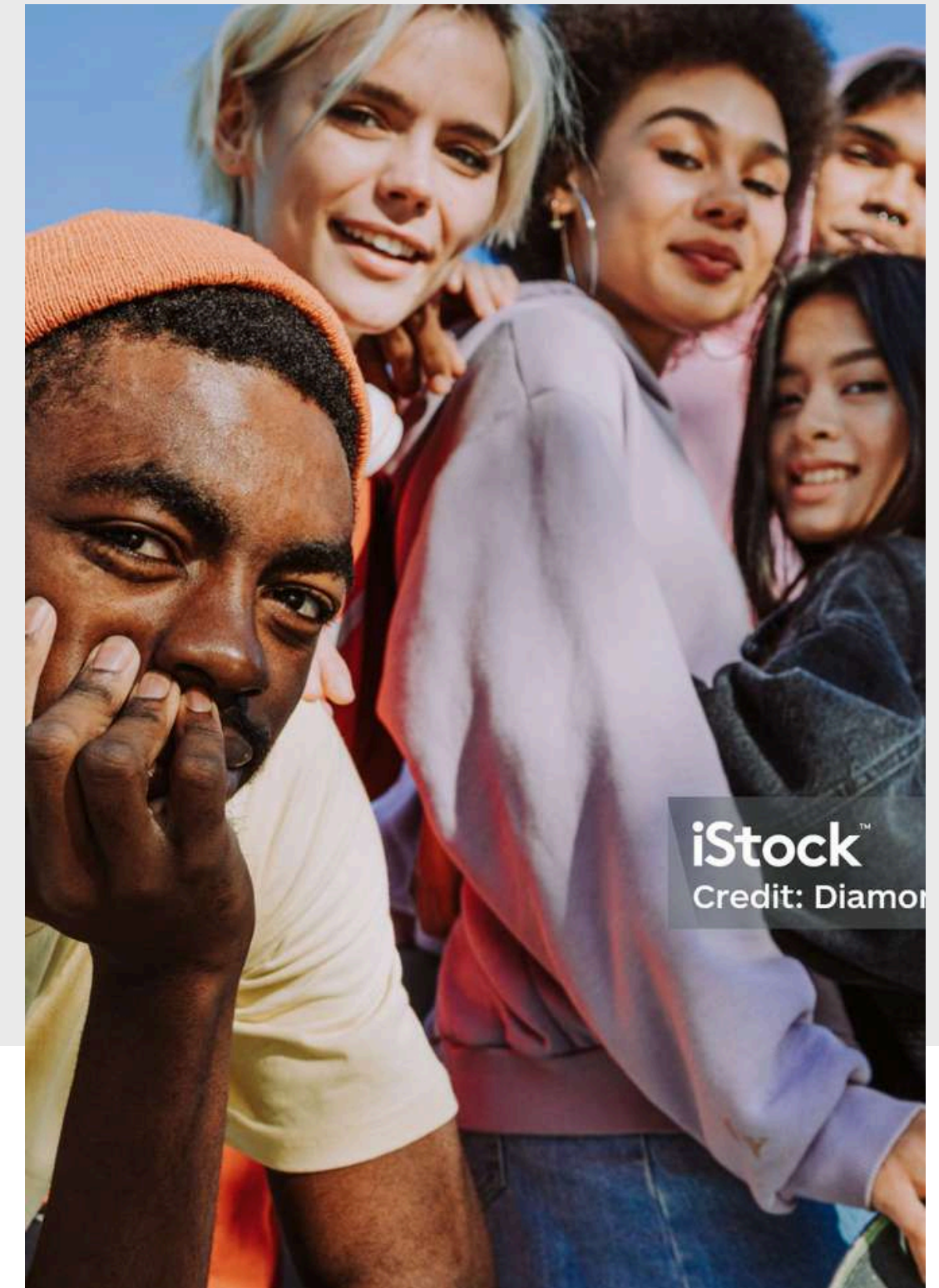
# In the Garment Industry **Productivity is a must**



**Keeping costs low**



**Global Competition**



**Fast Fashion Demand**



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# About the Dataset

**15 Variables**

**1197 Observations**

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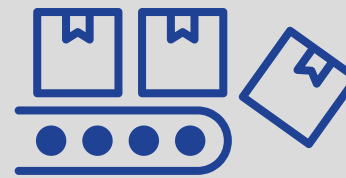
## Time Related

- date
- day
- quarter
- over time



## Work Force & Team

- Department
- Team No
- No of Workers
- Idle men
- Incentive



## Production Process

- No of style changes
- Standard Minute Value
- Work in Progress
- Idle time

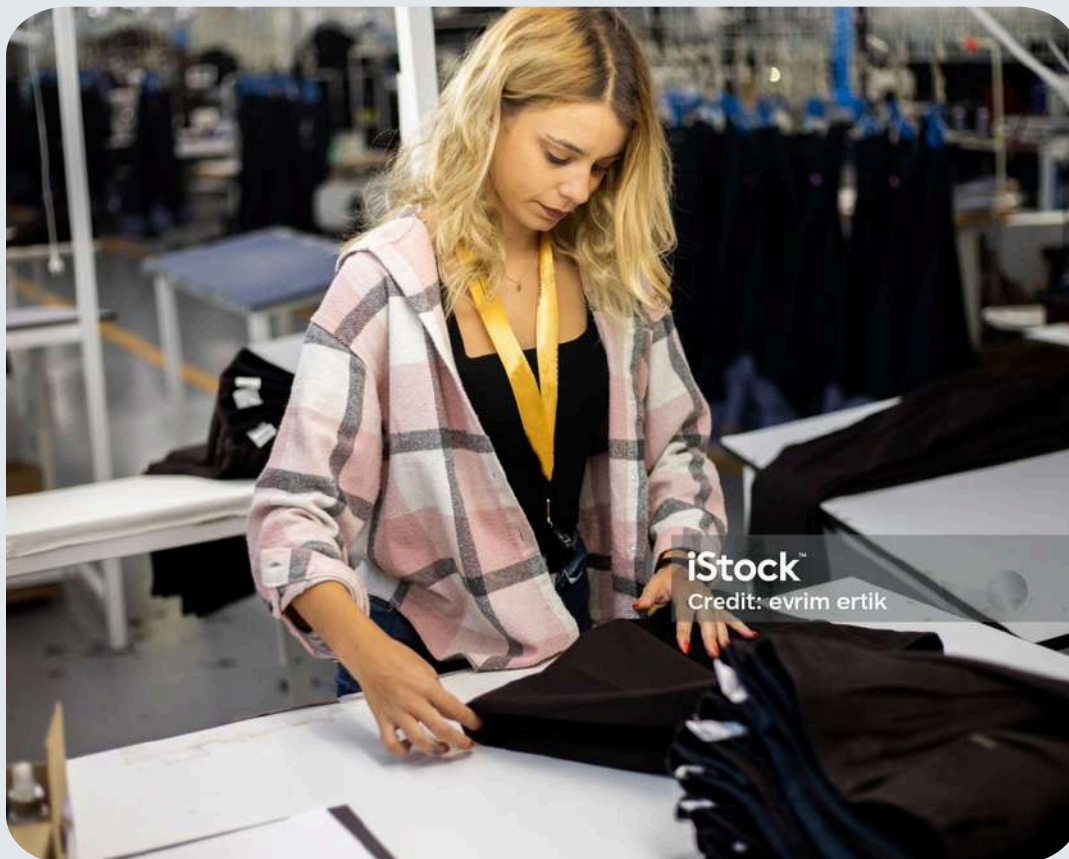


## Productivity Metrics

- Targeted Productivity
- Actual Productivity



**Sewing**



**Finishing**

# Sewing & Finishing

## Different Work Flows

01.

### Sewing

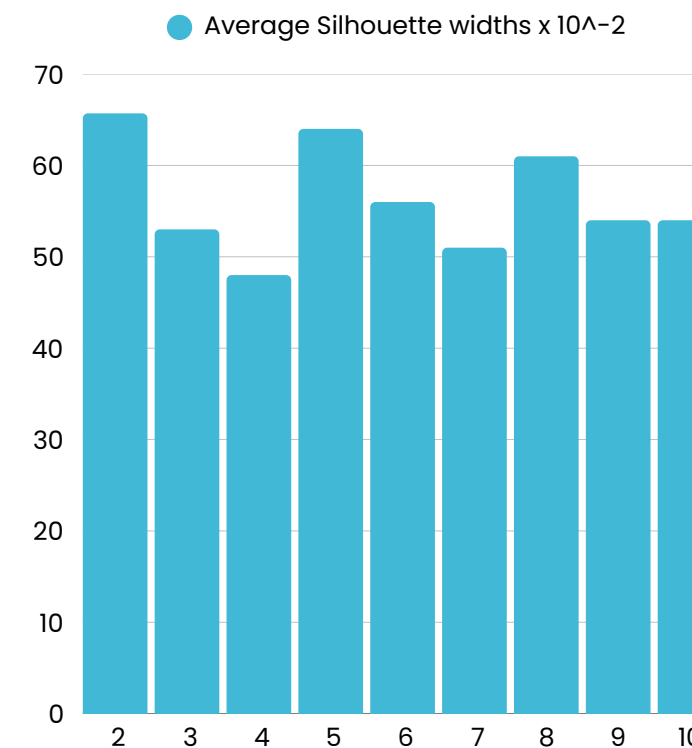
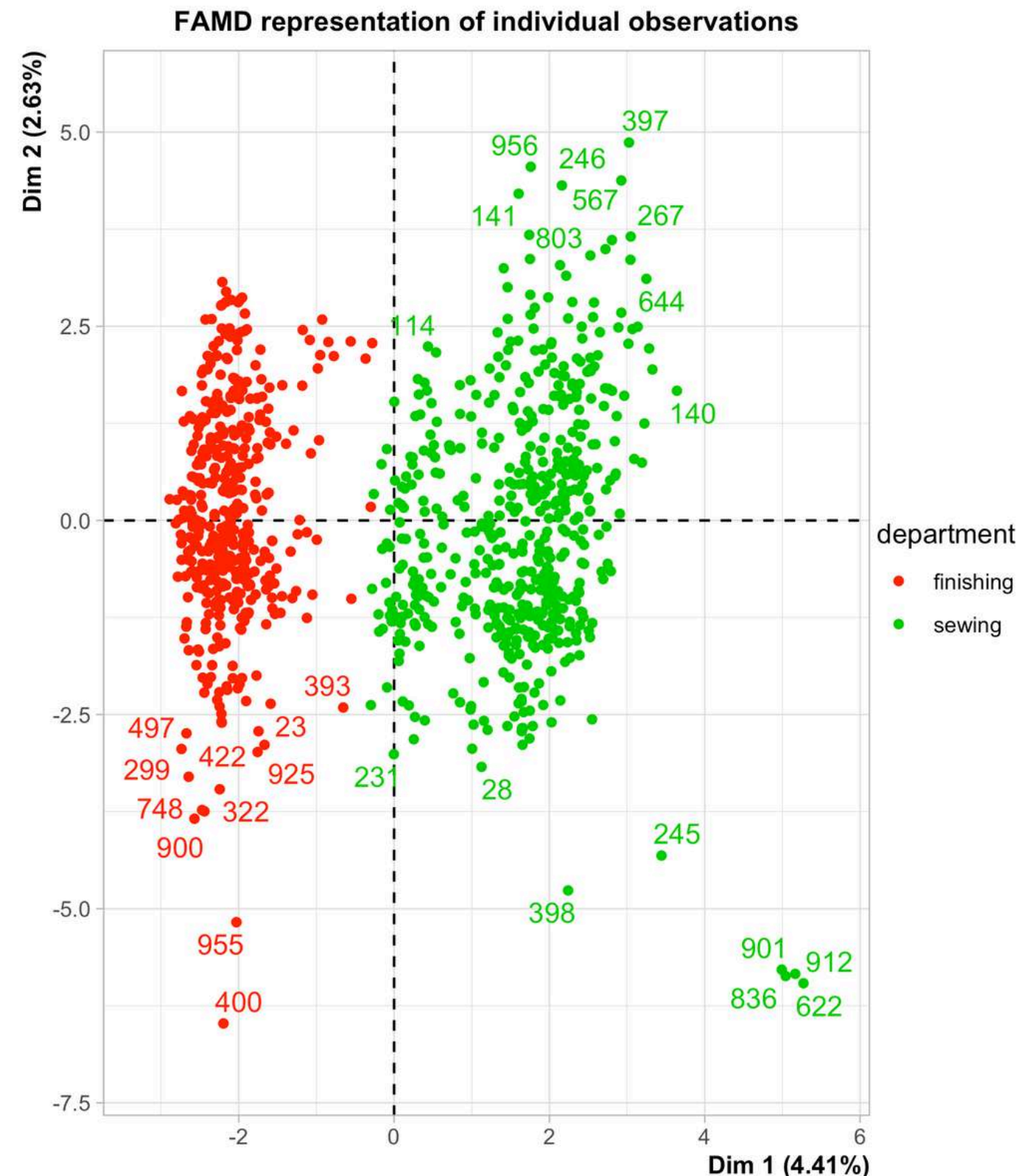
Creative , dynamic, frequent style changes

02.

### Finishing

Standardized, consistent, final touches like pressing and packaging

# SEWING AND FINISHING DEPARTMENTS ARE 2 SEPERATE CLUSTERS



**K means**  
**Clustering**

**2 Clusters**  
**Highest Avg**  
**Silhouette Width**

**P < 0.05**  
Chi Square Test

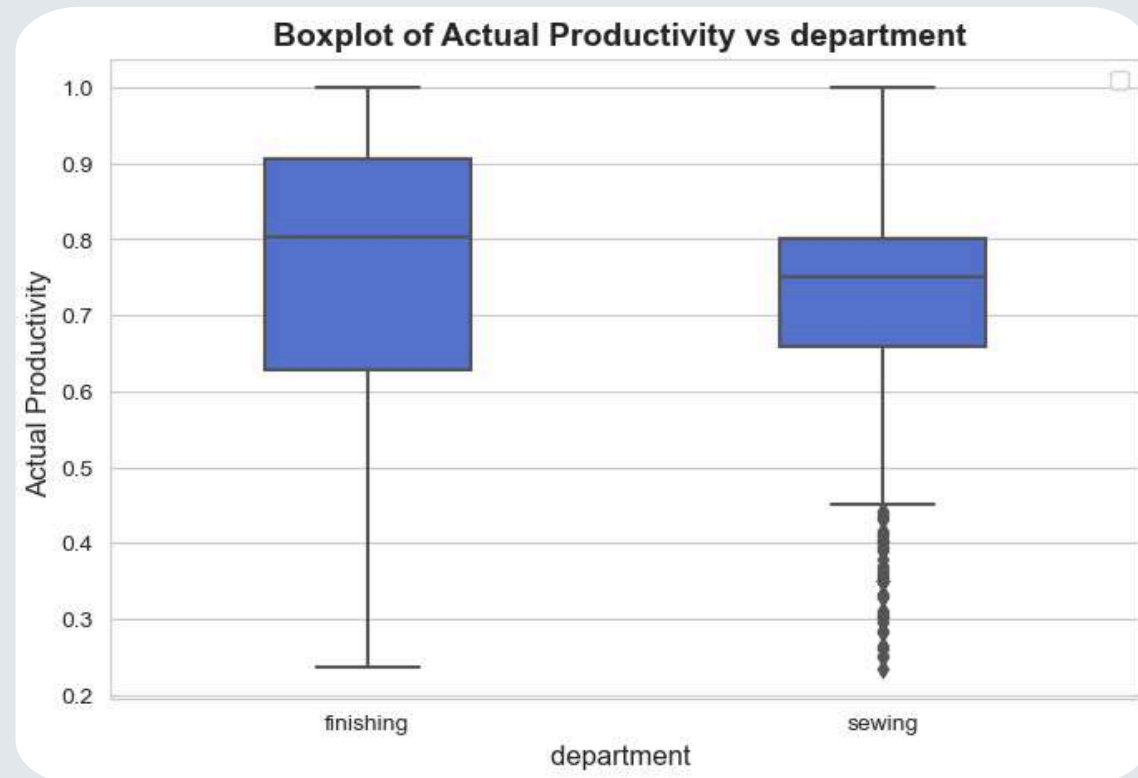
**significant** association between  
**department and cluster**

**V = 0.68**  
Cramer's V value

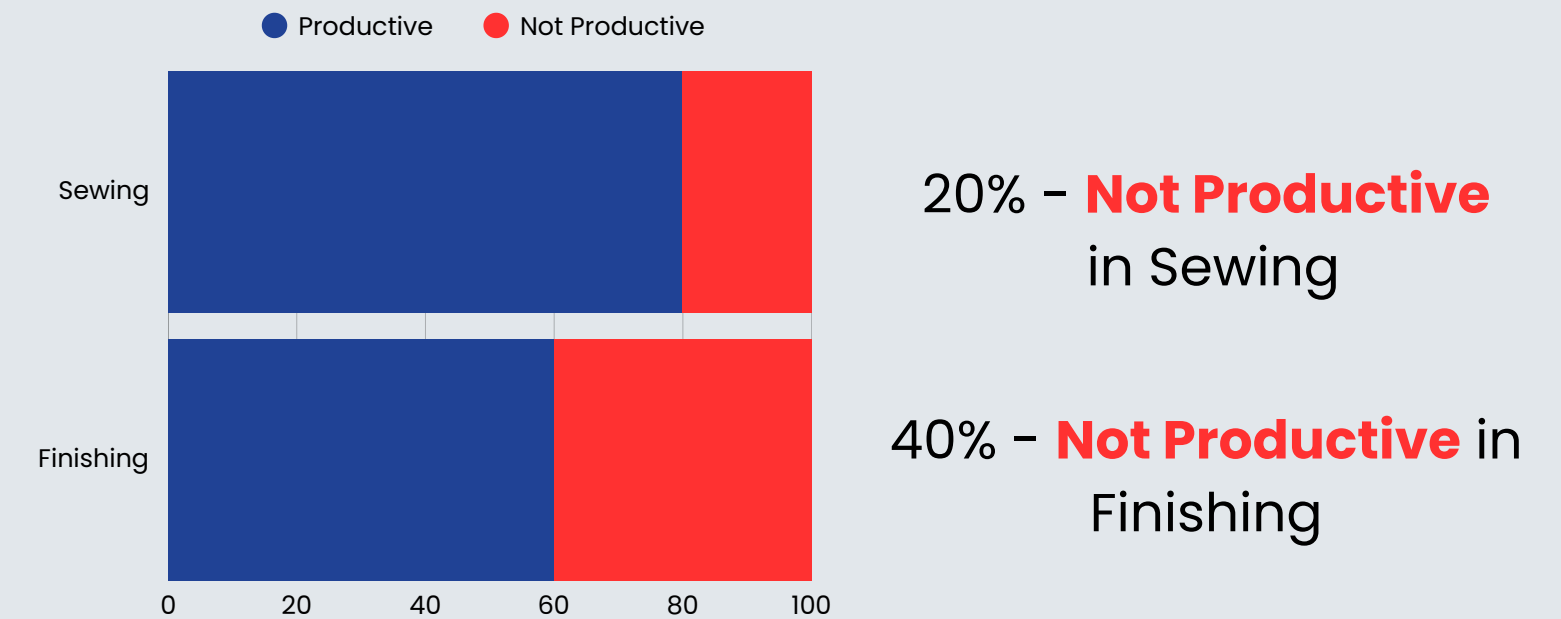
**Department** explains a substantial  
portion of the variation in **clusters**



# Key Insights



**Finishing Department  
less consistent than the  
sewing Department**



**No Incentives  
No Motivation**



**Lack of Task  
Engagement**



**Higher Pressure  
and instability**



**Introducing performance  
based rewards**



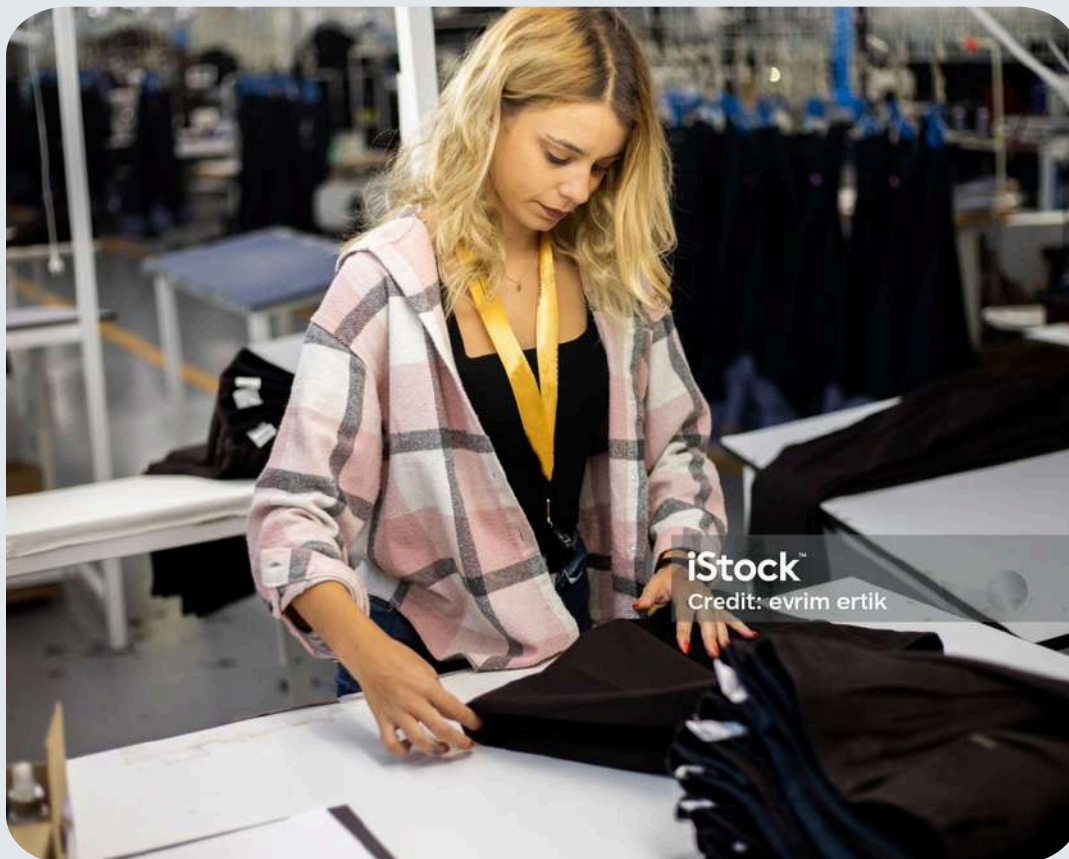
**Standardized Workflow  
& Process Optimization**



**Understand which  
teams Struggle**



**Sewing**



**Finishing**

# Recommendations for Improving **Team Productivity**

**01.**

## **Sewing**

- Team 5 - Underperforms despite Low Expectations

**02.**

## **Finishing**

- Reallocate some of Team 6, 7, and 8's workload to Team 5
- Provide training to Teams 6, 7, and 8



*Liceria & Co.*

# MODEL BUILDING

Enables Data Driven Decision Making





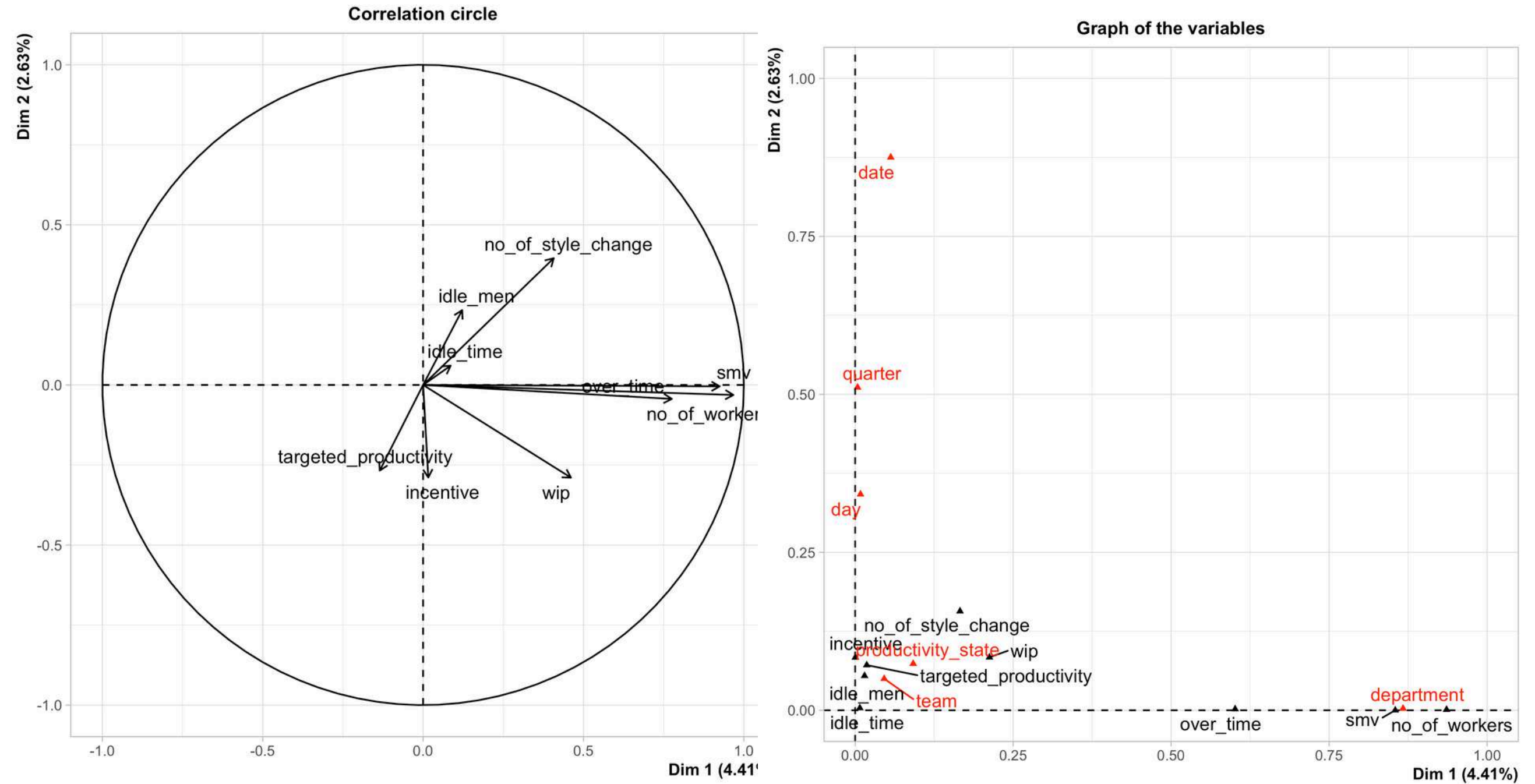
# Presence of Multi-collinearity



numerical vs numerical  
Kandels tau

Categorical vs Categorical  
Pearson's chi-square test  
fisher's exact test

## Factor Analysis For Mixed Data



## Correlated Variable Groups

idle\_time  
idle\_men  
no\_of\_style\_change

no\_of\_workers  
smv  
over\_time

targeted\_productivity  
no\_of\_style\_change

targeted\_productivity  
incentive

date  
quarter  
day



# SUGGESTIONS FOR ADVANCED ANALYSIS

01.

## Multi Collinearity & Irrelevant Features

- **Ridge Regression**
  - Good for multicollinearity
  - No feature selection
- **Lasso Regression**
  - Has feature selection properties
  - Sometimes struggles with multicollinearity
- **Elastic Net Regression**
  - Balance between Ridge and Lasso

02.

## Handle Extreme Values & Non linear relationships

- **Regression Tree**
  - Handles non-linear relationships well
  - Can be sensitive to outliers
  - When multicollinearity exists, can pick one feature & ignore others
- **Random Forest**
  - Handles multicollinearity better than a single tree
  - Reduces overfitting via bagging
- **XGBoost**
  - Reduces overfitting with regularization
  - Efficient and high-performing



# MODELS FOR PREDICTING **ACTUAL PRODUCTIVITY** OF THE GARMENT

MEASURE	RIDGE	LASSO	ELASTIC	REGRESSION TREE	RANDOM FOREST	XGBOOST
TRAIN MSE	0.0207	0.02102	0.0208	0.0153	0.0109	0.01007
TEST MSE	0.02165	0.02148	0.0215	0.0141	0.01131	0.01384
TRAIN R2	32.82%	31.96%	32.539%	50.43%	56.25%	67.40%
TEST R2	18.10%	18.73%	32.54%	46.71%	49.715%	47.61%

Shrinkage Methods

Non Linear methods

All the models show **lower accuracy** in predictions





# “Sewing is the backbone of the Garment Production”

**40 - 60 %**

**Total Time Spent**

Of the total time spent in manufacturing the garment is for sewing

International Labor Organization

**50 - 60%**

**Production Cost**

The sewing process in garment factories accounts for up to 50 - 60% of total production costs

World bank

**01.**

**Faster Production**

**02.**

**Lower Costs & Fewer Mistakes**

**03.**

**Better Quality & Happier Customers**

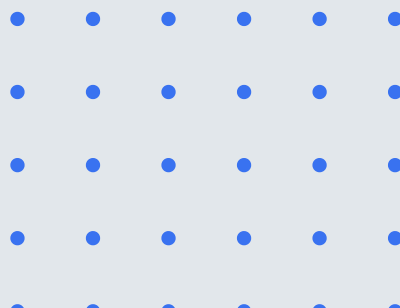


# ALL MODELS SHOW BETTER PERFORMANCE IN PREDICTING SEWING DEPARTMENT PRODUCTIVITY

Shrinkage Methods				Non Linear methods		
MEASURE	RIDGE	LASSO	ELASTIC	REGRESSION TREE	RANDOM FOREST	XGBOOST
TRAIN MSE	0.00453	0.00469	0.00449	0.00811	0.00194	0.00202
TEST MSE	0.00481	0.00486	0.00475	0.00727	0.0035	0.00415
TRAIN R2	81.57%	80.95%	82.97%	67.07%	88.434%	91.773%
TEST R2	76.67%	76.42%	76.98%	64.61%	80.70%	79.81%

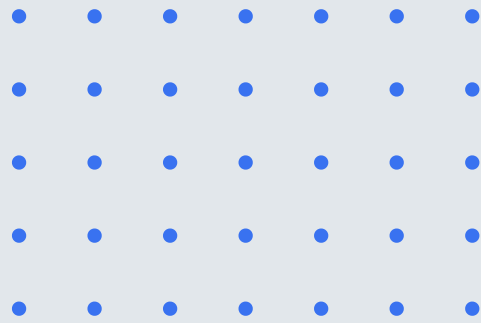
Best  
Predictive  
Model

Random  
Forest



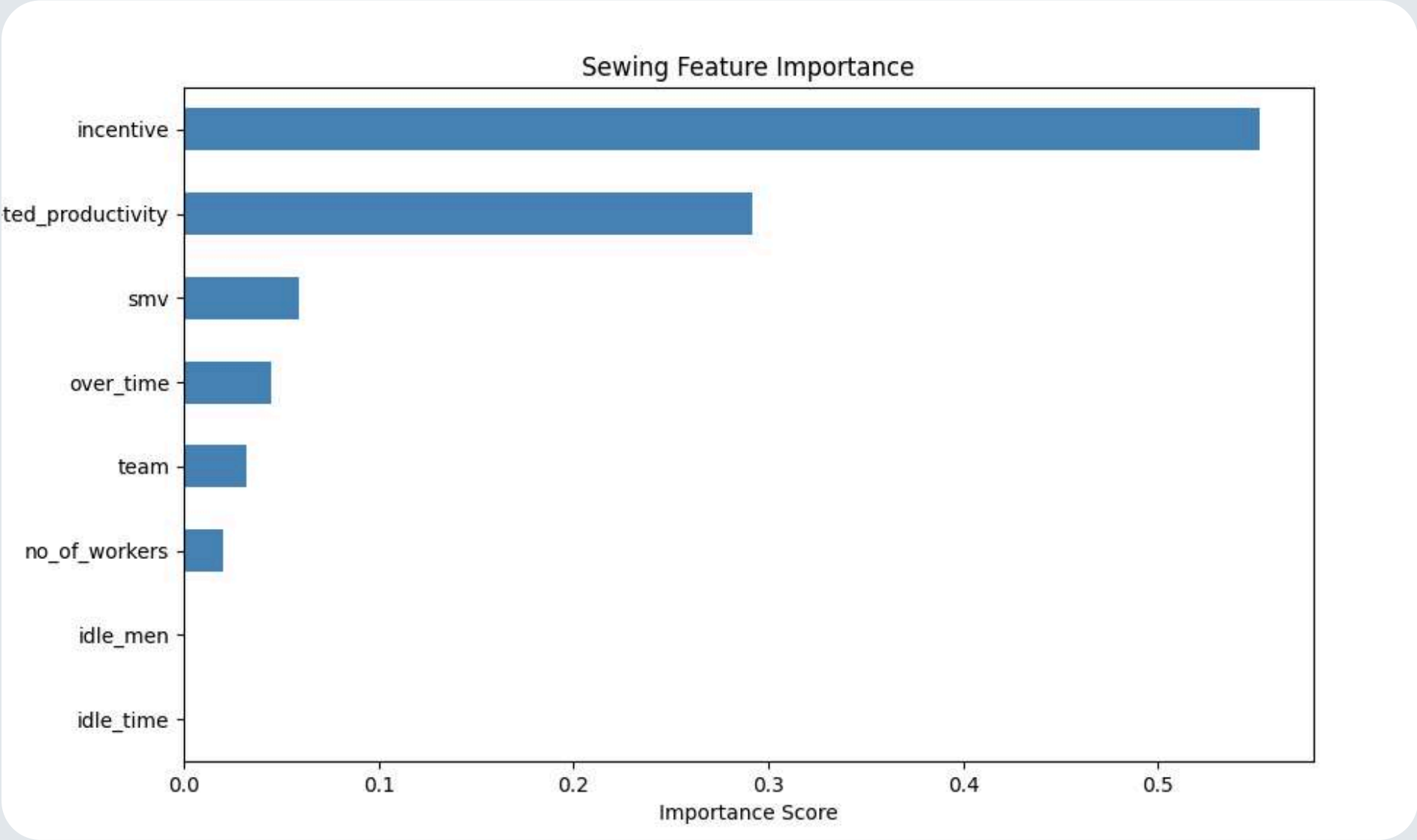


# RANDOM FOREST MODEL



01.

## Feature Importance



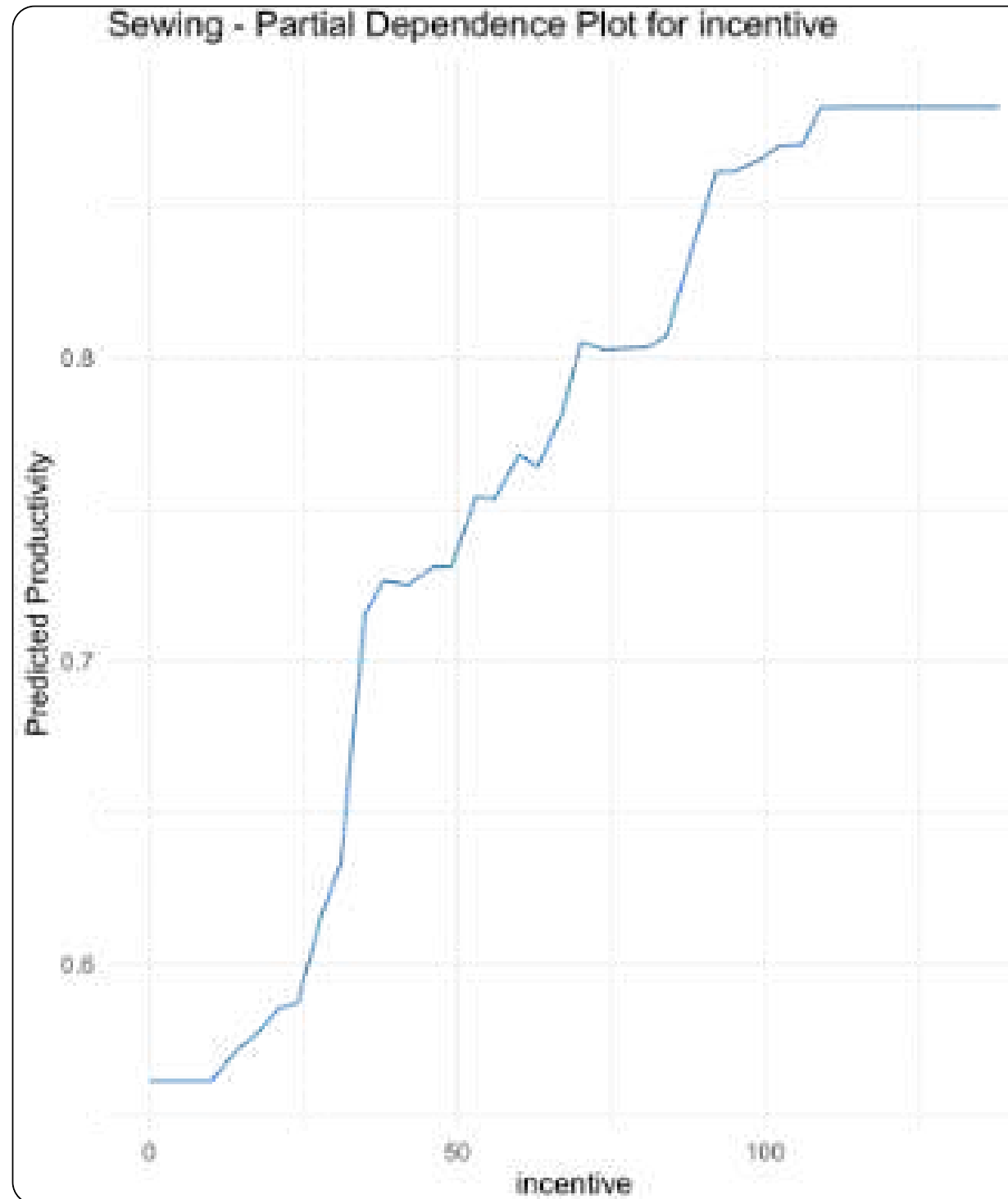
Most important Features

Incentives  
Target productivity  
SMV  
Overtime

Parameter	Value
n_estimators	500
min_samples_split	10
min_samples_leaf	6
max_leaf_nodes	100
max_features	0.5
max_depth	None
ccp_alpha	0



## Managing Incentive Allocation for peak productivity



01.

Set Effective Incentive Levels

### Low Incentive Range (1-25)

minimal improvement in productivity when incentives are increased within this range. This suggests that smaller incentives may not be strong enough to significantly motivate workers.

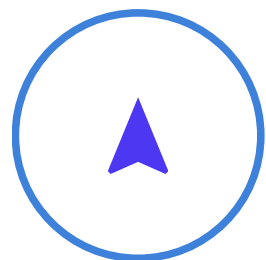
### Moderate Incentive Range (25-50)

A sharp increase in productivity is observed when incentives rise from 25 to 50. This indicates that a threshold effect exists—workers respond significantly to a higher incentive level once it crosses a certain point.

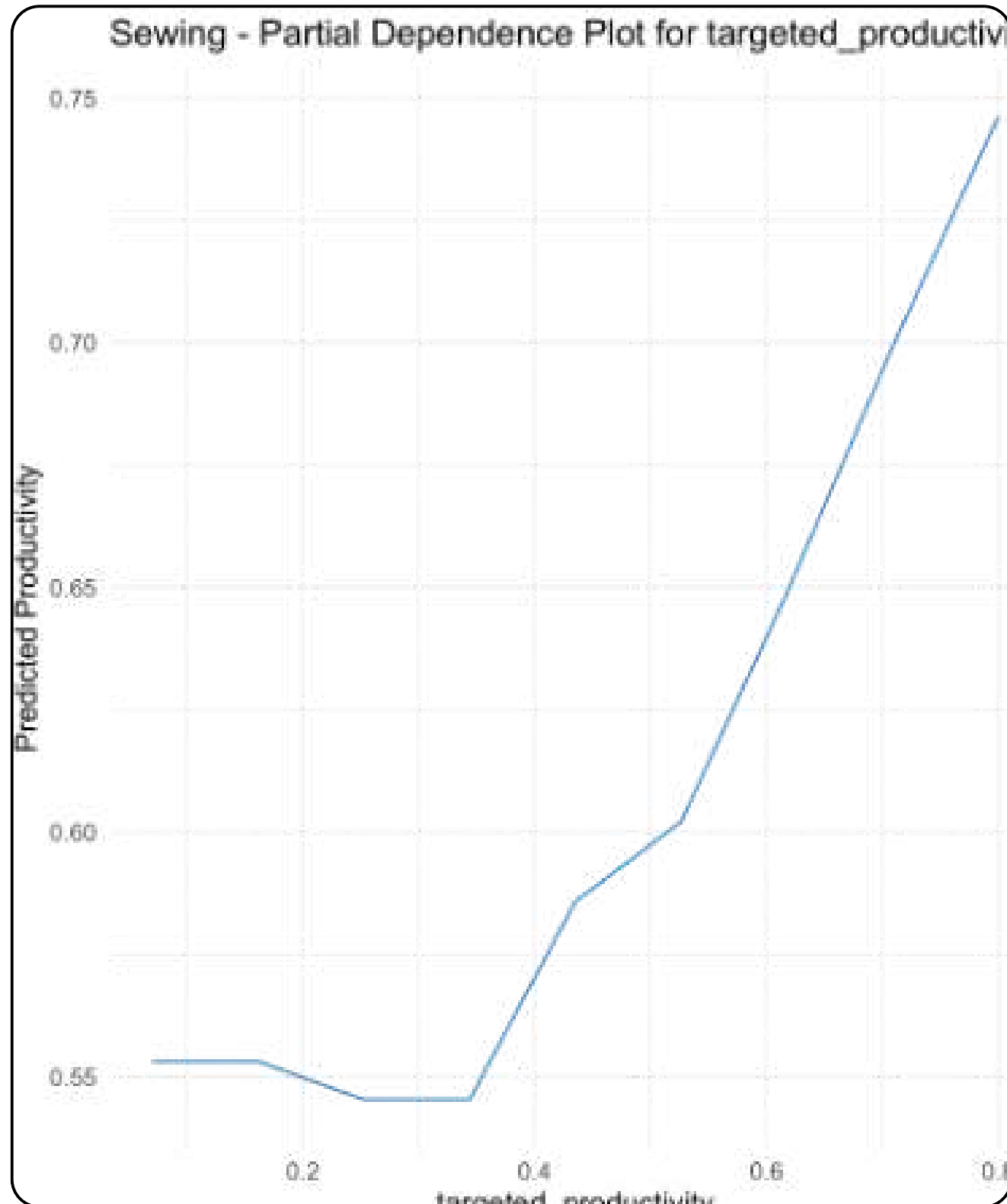
02.

Avoid Small Increments





## Setting Targets for getting peak Productivity



01.

Set a Minimum Target Benchmark

02.

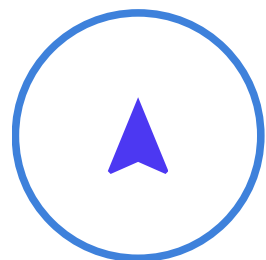
Monitor and Adjust Goals

**Lower Target Productivity  
(Below 0.4):**

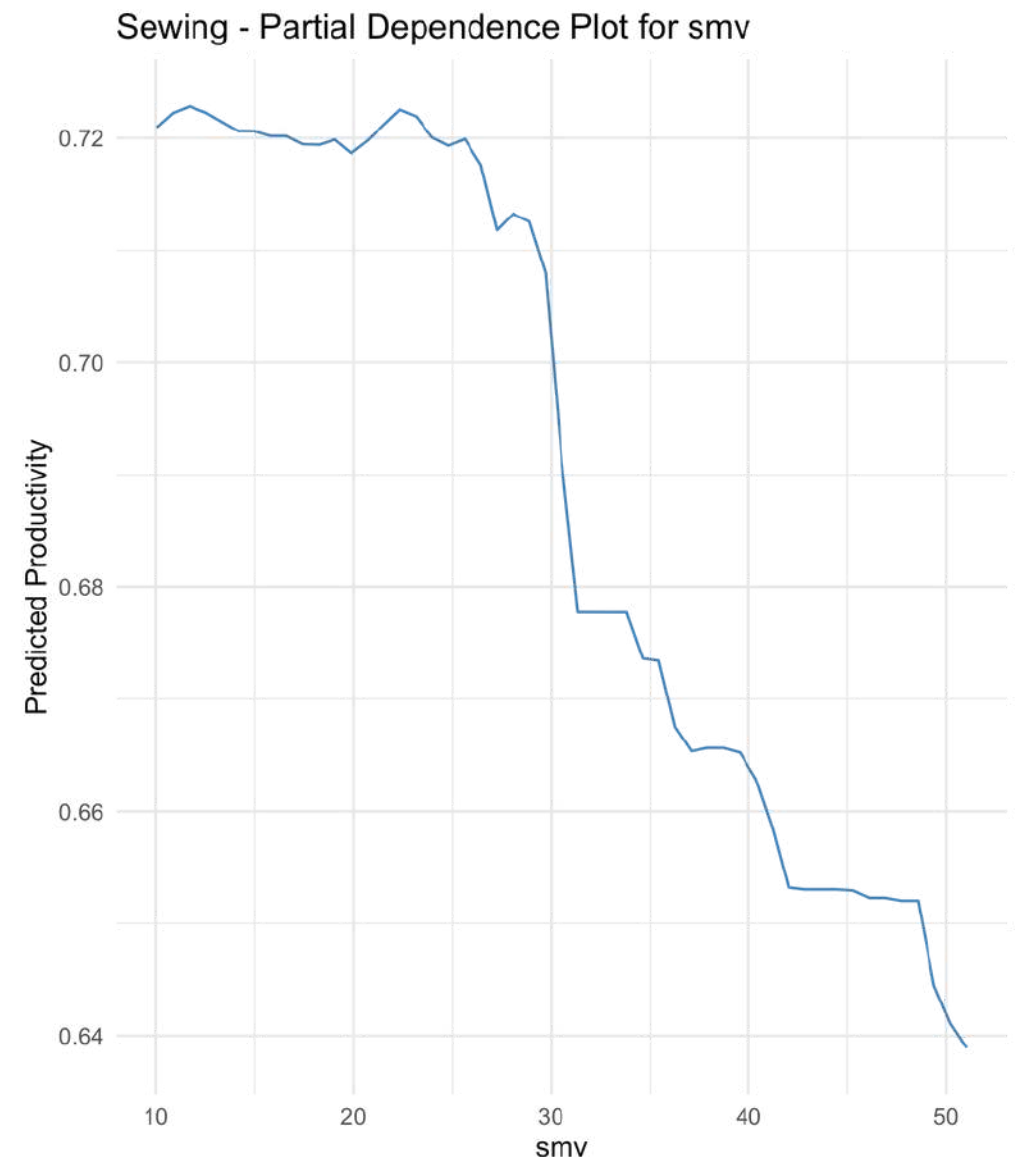
**Actual productivity stagnates,  
likely due to low motivation and  
unclear goals, resulting in minimal  
gains.**

**Higher Target Productivity  
(Above 0.4):**

**Once the target exceeds 0.4, actual  
productivity rises steadily, showing that  
higher benchmarks boost performance  
through clear goals and motivation.**



**Optimizing the SMV  
of tasks for Peak  
productivity**



**Peak performance at  
smv Range (10–20)**

**simpler tasks with lower smv values are  
generally more efficient reaching peak  
performance at smv 25**

**Exponential Drop in  
SMV beyond 30**

**Further increase in smv beyond this point  
does not yield a productivity gain**

Standard Minute Value = (Basic minute + Bundle allowances + machine allowance + personal fatigue allowances).

**01.**

**Aim to keep the SMV  
below 30**

**02.**

**Break down complex tasks  
into simpler sub tasks of smv  
around 25**

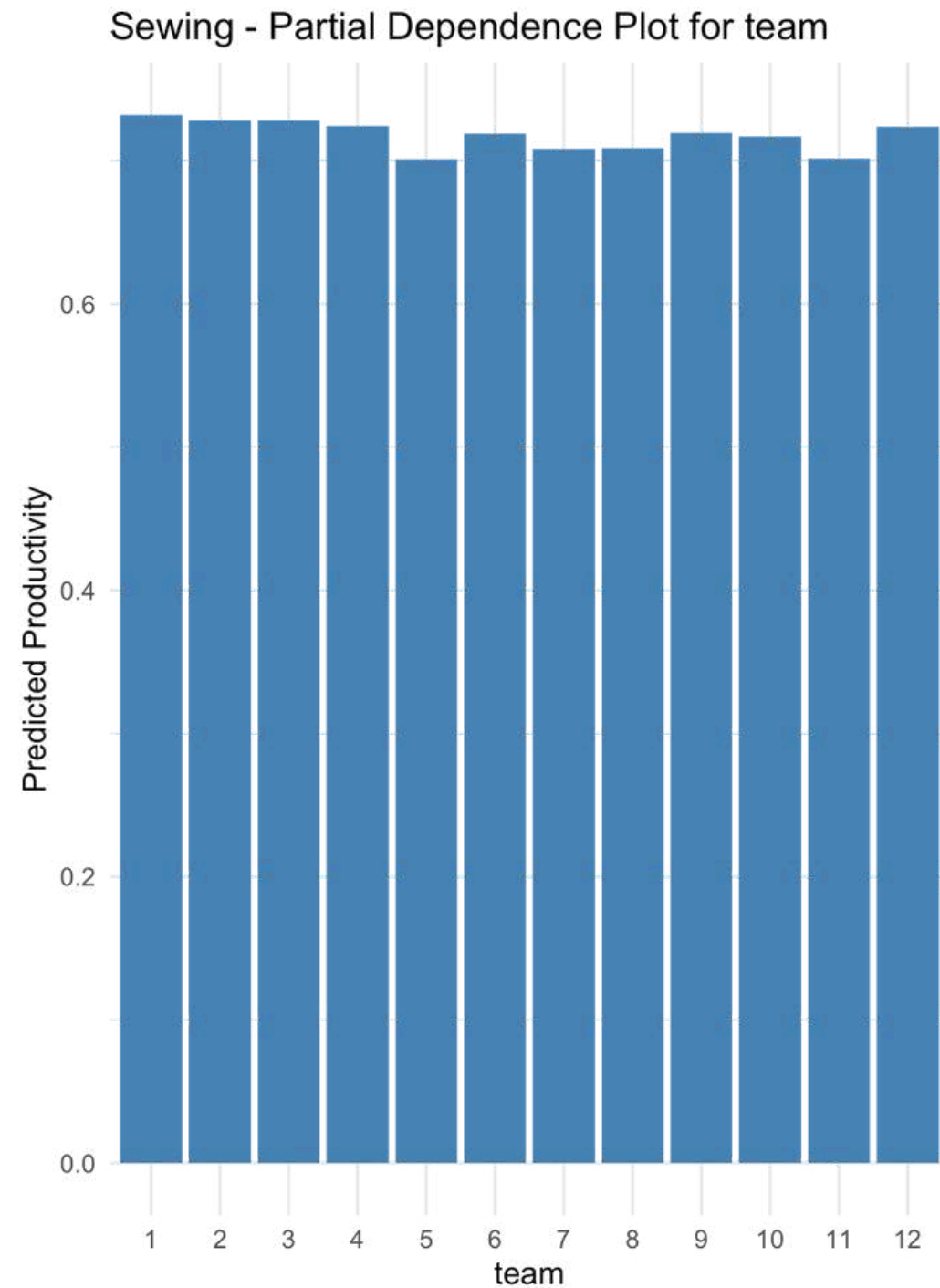
**03.**

**Targeted Training for tasks  
having high SMV**





## Investigating teams for optimizing productivity



Pairwise Comparison of target productivity - Dunn's Test

**P < 0.05**  
Dunn's Test

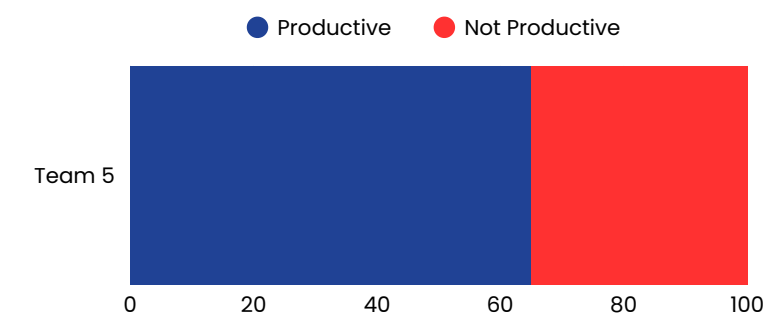
for team 5 with other teams



## Interpretation

When all other predictors are kept constant, all teams perform essentially the same

Team 5 is one of the worst performing team in sewing



35% - **Not Productive** work in Team 5

Team 5 currently has lower target productivity, but have the potential to perform as well as other teams

Gradually raising their goals and offering support, we can help them reach their full potential.

# Finishing Department



**"Efficiency in the finishing department is not just about speed; it's about precision, consistency, and delivering quality that meets the expectations of the end consumer."**

**~ Apparel Resources**



# Finishing Department - Predictors



**Zero  
Observations**

**idle\_time  
idle\_men  
wip  
no\_of\_style\_change**

**Predictors**

**Finishing  
Department**

**Target Productivity  
incentives  
SMV  
Over time  
No of Workers  
Quarter  
Day  
Team**

# MODELS FOR PREDICTING **ACTUAL PRODUCTIVITY** OF THE FINISHING DEPARTMENT

MEASURE	RIDGE	LASSO	ELASTIC	REGRESSION TREE	RANDOM FOREST	XGBOOST
TRAIN MSE	0.0308	0.0306	0.0307	0.0330	0.021	0.023
TEST MSE	0.0331	0.0326	0.0326	0.0313	0.020	0.029
TRAIN R2	20.20%	20.66%	20.52%	14.48%	43.3%	41.52%
TEST R2	5.29%	6.73%	6.78%	10.29%	26.8%	18.36%

Shrinkage Methods

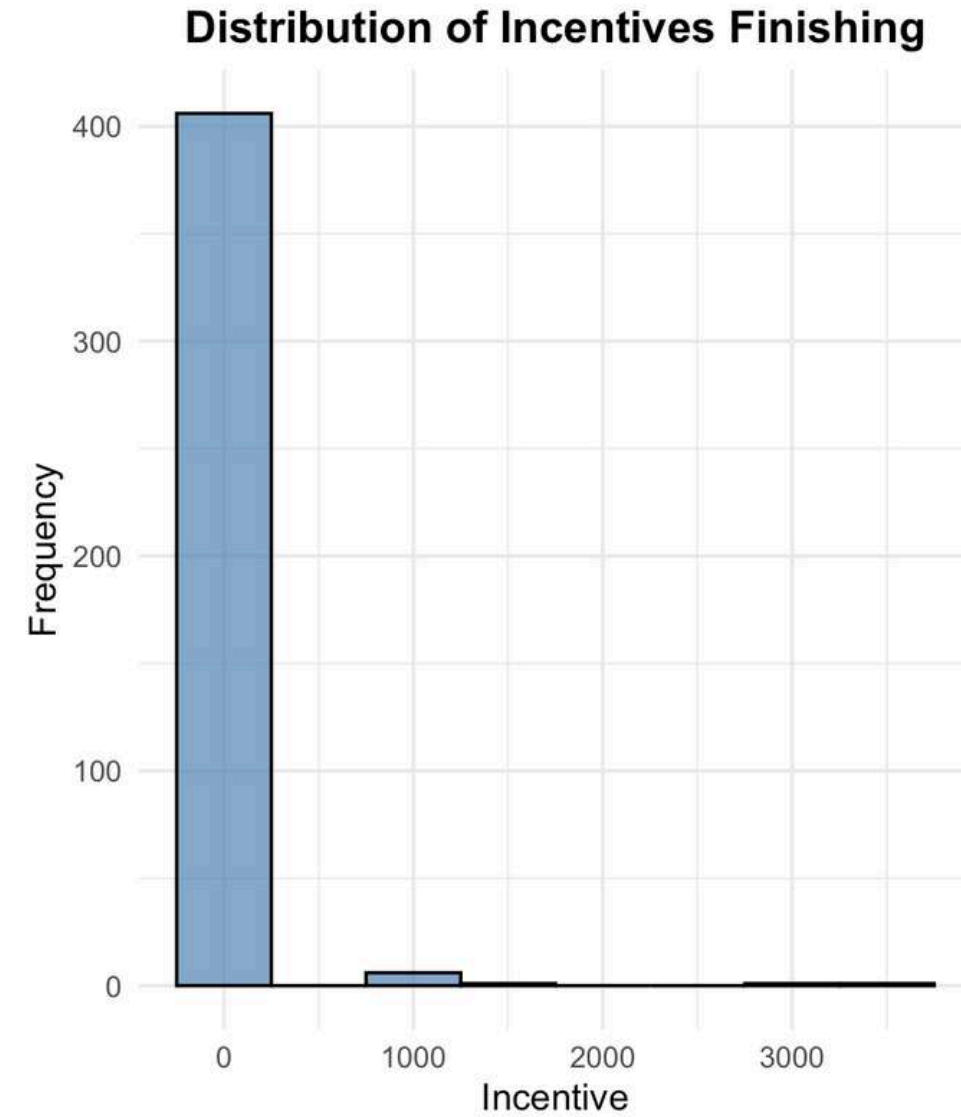
Non Linear methods

All the models show very **lower accuracy** in predictions





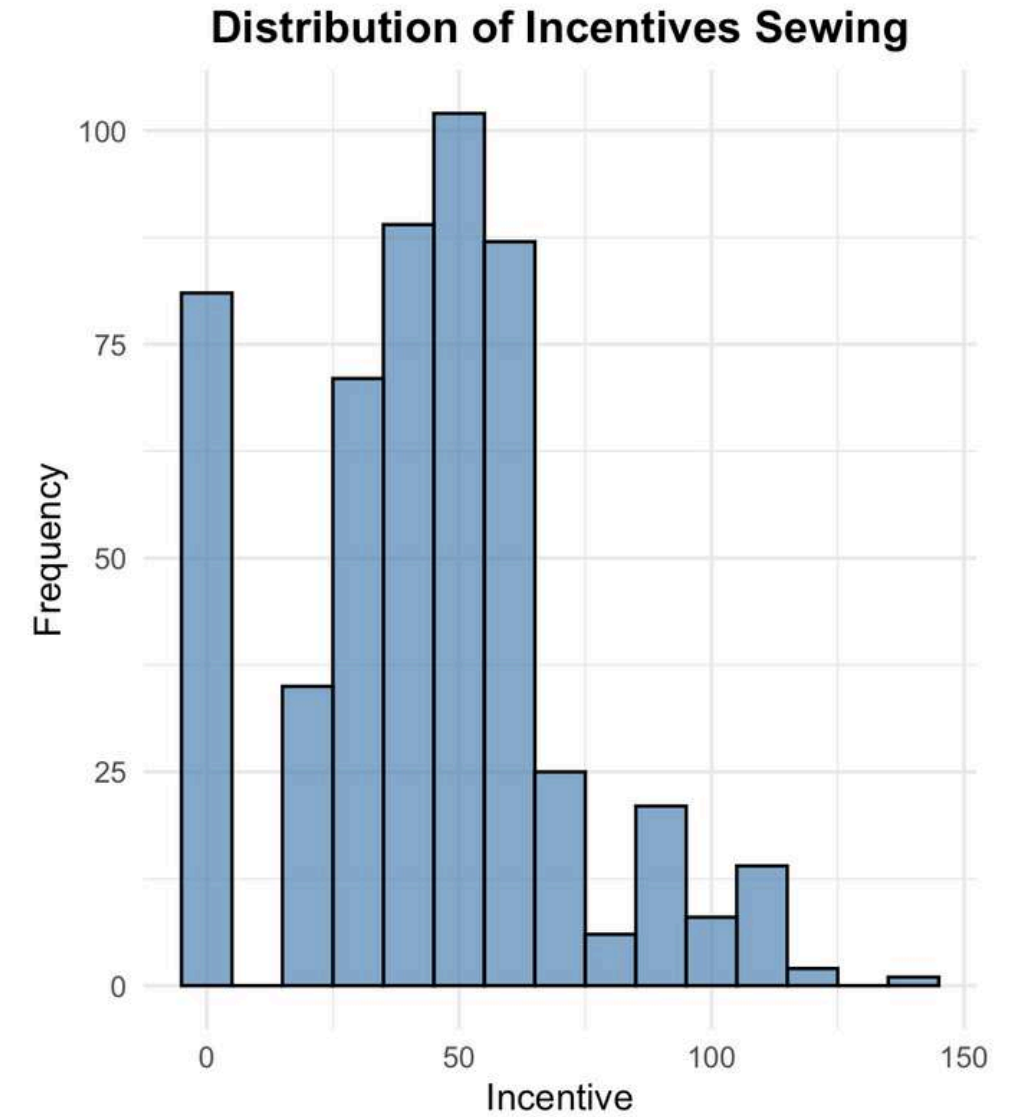
**Investigating the  
incentives for the  
finishing department**



**range of incentives:- taka 0-3600  
Total incentives :- taka 14040**



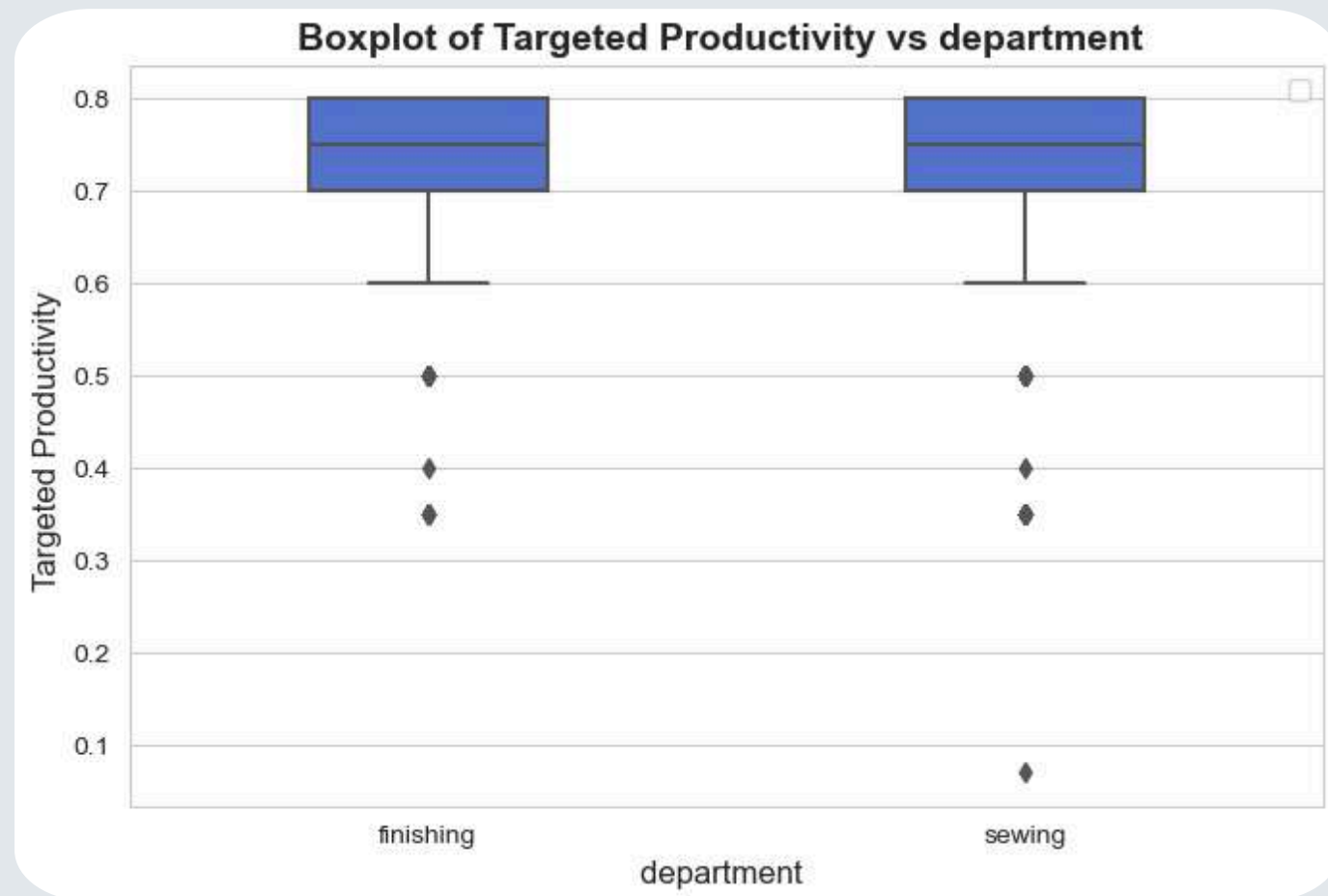
**Sewing department low  
incentives per day but high  
impact on productivity gain**



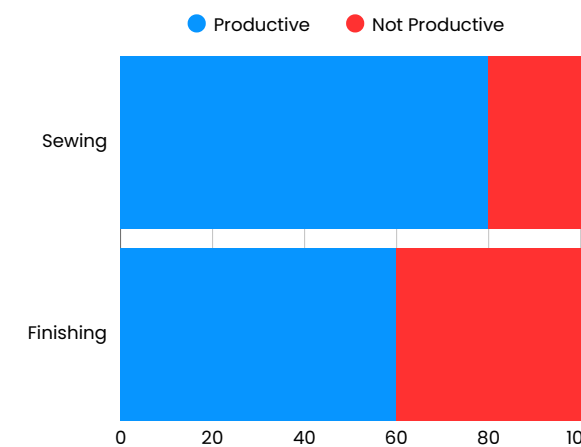
**range of incentives:- taka 0-138  
Total incentives :- taka 24128**



**In finishing department high  
incentives but  
less frequent low  
impact on productivity gain**



# Productivity goals are same for both departments



20% - **Not Productive** in Sewing

40% - **Not Productive** in Finishing

**P > 0.05**

Mann Whitney Test

**Productivity goals are same for both departments**

Target Productivity = (Total Target Output per Day × Efficiency) / (Total Working Hours × Maximum Production Rate per Hour)



**focus on calculating target productivities for departments separately**

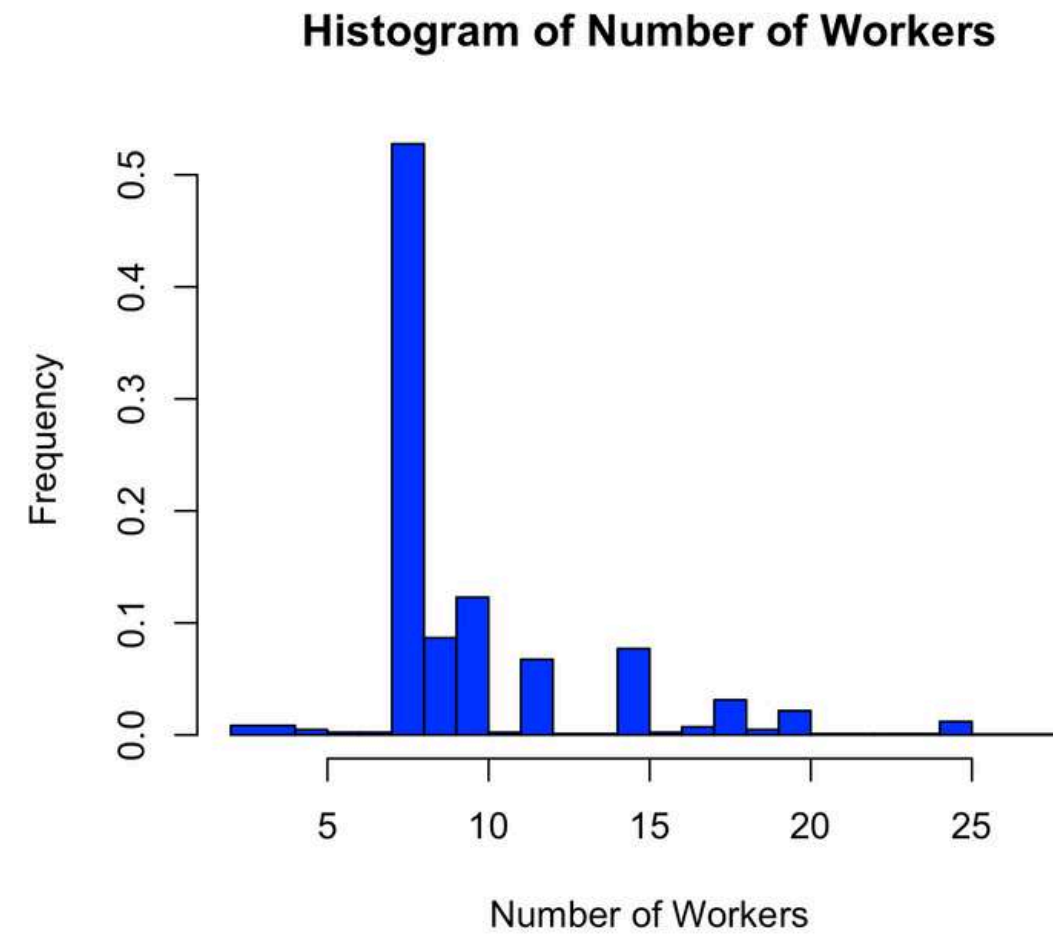




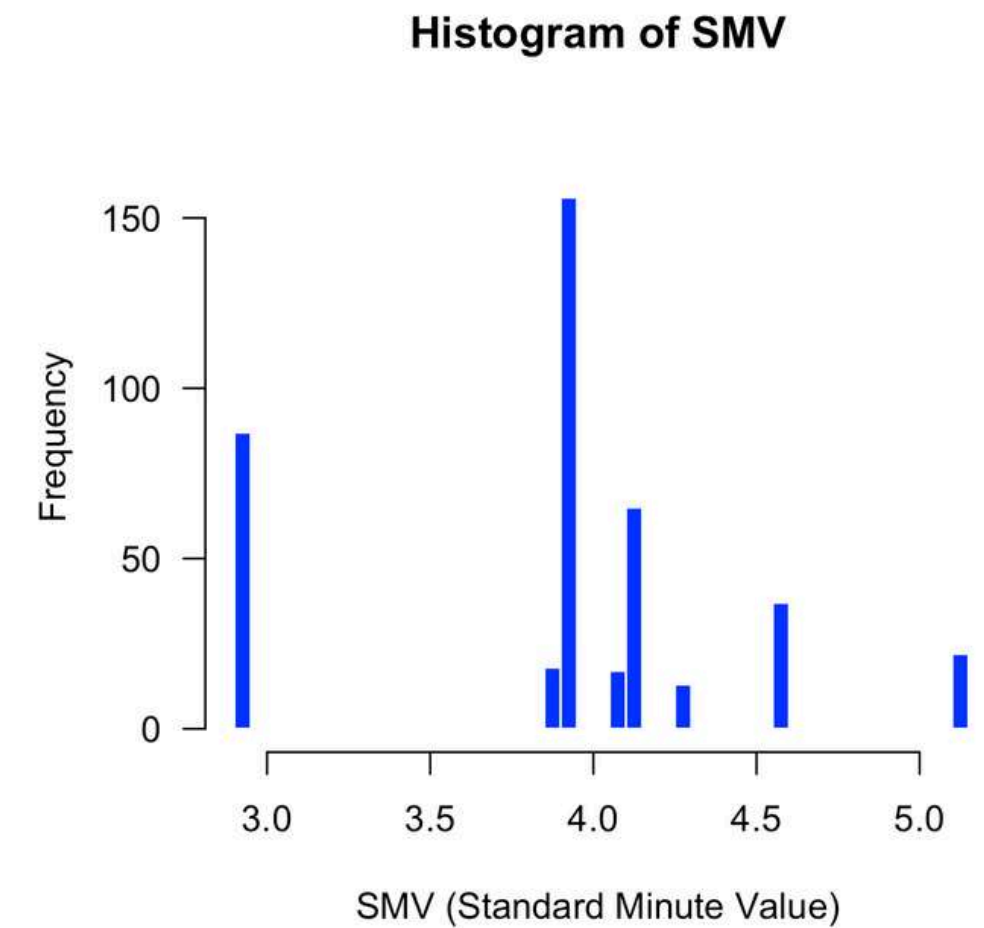
iStock  
Credit: evrim ertik



Investigating the  
number of workers  
and Standard Minute  
Value (SMV) for the  
finishing Department



50% of **number of workers** = 8  
Range = 2-28



Smaller SMV tasks are given for the  
finishing  
Range=2.90 5.13



A predictor with low variance doesn't change much, providing  
limited information about how the dependent variable behaves,  
making it harder for the model to learn a meaningful  
relationship

# References

01.

## Websites

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<https://in.apparelresources.com/business-news/manufacturing/productivity-apparel-manufacturing-back-basics/>

<https://fashion2apparel.com/working-procedure-of-sewing-department-in-garment-industry/>

02.

## Books/Articles

<http://repository.wyb.ac.lk/bitstream/handle/1/1722/ASBIRES-2009-97.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y>

[https://www2.stat.duke.edu/~rsc46/lectures\\_2017/08-trees/08-tree-regression.pdf](https://www2.stat.duke.edu/~rsc46/lectures_2017/08-trees/08-tree-regression.pdf)

03.

## Videos

- <https://www.onlineclothingstudy.com/2019/09/standard-minute-value-smv-definition.html>
- <https://garmentsdoctor.com/calculate-hourly-production-target/>
- <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/randomForest/randomForest.pdf>
- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/random-forest-approach-in-r-programming/>
- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/ml-xgboost-extreme-gradient-boosting/>
- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/random-forest-regression-in-python/>
- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/decision-tree-for-regression-in-r-programming/>