Factors That Impact
Marriage Duration
In Mexico

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Research Question

What are the factors that impact the marriage duration of divorced couples in Mexico?

Dataset

Mexican government official dataset on divorces from 01-01-2000 to 31-03-2015 in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. There are 3,430 observations.



Divorce/marriage Dataset with birthdates

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
husbandage	3412	39.125	9.978	19	78
husband_mincome	3430	10370.876	61301.332	3	3150242
wifeage	3354	36.603	9.569	18	78
wife_mincome	2468	7456.202	17259.506	3.5	708652
marriageduration	3430	11.349	9.026	1	60
children	2171	1.794	.883	1	7
husbandedu	3397	2.281	.963	0	4
divorcetype	3430	.546	.498	0	1
wifeedu	3298	2.309	.937	0	4
custody	1584	.032	.203	0	2

- **(0) Necessary:** disagreement regarding the divorce between the spouses or one of the parties does not accept the divorce
- (1) Voluntary: mutual consent or both spouses agree to the divorce(Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada)

Tentative Plan

```
\begin{aligned} \textit{marriageduration} &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{husbandage} \ + \ \beta_2 \textit{husbandmincome} \ + \ \beta_3 \textit{wifeage} \ + \ \beta_4 \textit{wifemincome} \\ &+ \ \beta_5 \textit{husbandedu} \ + \ \beta_6 \textit{wifeedu} \ + \ \beta_7 \textit{divorcetype} \ + \ \beta_8 \textit{children} \ + \ \beta_9 \textit{custody} \ + \ \epsilon \end{aligned}
```

- Ordinary Linear Regression (OLS)
- Test for multicollinearity among variables

	marriagedura	2,550	marriagedurat	101,000	marriagedur
	tion	ion	ion	ion	ion
husbandage	.224***	.226***	.199***	.224***	.251***
	(.028)	(.028)	(.024)	(.028)	(.028)
husband_mincome	0		0	0	0
	(0)		(0)	(0)	(0)
wifeage	.352***	.35***	.378***	.35***	.464***
	(.03)	(.03)	(.026)	(.029)	(.029)
wife_mincome	0	0		0	0
	(0)	(0)		(0)	(0)
children	2.197***	2.196***	1.774***	2.201***	1.753***
	(.185)	(.185)	(.153)	(.185)	(.177)
husbandedu	518***	516***	246*	521***	439***
	(.165)	(.165)	(.141)	(.165)	(.16)
divorcetype	.114	.111	.233	52000650	.902***
	(.26)	(.26)	(.232)		(.252)
wifeedu	494***	491***	521***	493***	324*
	(.179)	(.179)	(.145)	(.179)	(.173)
custody	.538	.535	.937	.56	4
(222,005)	(.749)	(.749)	(.615)	(.747)	
_cons	-11.117***	-11.133***	-10.96***	-11.029***	-15.866***
	(.761)	(.761)	(.649)	(.734)	(.69)
Observations	1078	1078	1466	1078	1480
R-squared	.603	.603	.589	.603	.681
Adj R ²	.6	.6	.586	.6	.679

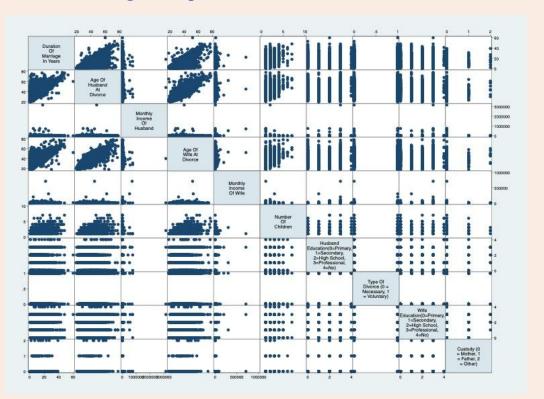
(3)

(4)

(5)

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1

Graph Matrix



Multicollinearity

Variance inflation factor	Variance	inflation	factor
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variance initiation factor				
	VIF	1/VIF		
wifeage	3.18	.314		
husbandage	3.118	.321		
wifeedu	1.454	.688		
husbandedu	1.417	.706		
children	1.234	.81		
divorcetype	1.041	.961		
custody	1.02	.98		
husband mincome	1.005	.995		
Mean VIF	1.684			

Homoskedasticity

White's test	df	P	
H0: Homoskedasticity			
Ha: Unrestricted heterosl chi2(43) = 133.69	kedasticity		
Prob > chi2 = 0.0000			
Cameron & Trivedi's			
decomposition of IM-tes	t		
chi2			
133.690	43	0.000	
30.470	8	0.000	
12.730	1	0.000	
176.900	52	0.000	

Literature Review

- Divorce is legal in Mexico.
 - Unilateral divorce
 - Mutual-agreement divorce
- Previous studies: effect of adopting unilateral divorce provision on the divorce rate in Mexico.
- Quality of marriage
- How certain factors influence the marriage duration of divorced couples



Literature Review

Age (Both Wife and Husband)

 The rate of divorce declined with the age of marriage in the US.

Monthly Income (Both Wife and Husband)

- O Higher the wife's share in the couple's income → higher the divorce risk
- Higher combined income of the Household → Lower Risk of Divorce

Education Level (Both Wife and Husband)

 College Educated women are more likely to have a long lasting relationship compared with that of women who have a high school degree or less.



Literature Review

Number of Children

 The higher the number of children, the more stable the marriage.

Child Custody

 Rarely discusses the effect of child custody on the divorce.



Thank you!