

Assignment4

Miray Hozer

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Topic

An Analysis of Socio-Demographic and Lifestyle Factors Influencing the Academic Performance of High School Students

Summary

Student success is a really important topic for all of us. It's not just about grades; it also plays a big role in students' futures and for society as a whole. It wouldn't be right to say a student's success only depends on their intelligence or the school they go to. A lot of different things like their family, environment, and social life affect their grades too. That's why understanding what helps or hurts success is really necessary to take the right steps to help both schools and students.

In this project, my main goal is to visualize the factors that affect student success using a dataset from two high schools in Portugal. I'll be using the final grade, G3, to measure success. To understand the topic better, I will focus on three main areas: the family situation, the student's own study habits, and their social life. For family factors, I'll look at the mother's and father's education levels (Medu, Fedu). For the student's own habits, I'll focus on how many hours they study per week (studytime) and whether they've failed a class before (failures). Under the social life category, I'll examine their weekday and weekend alcohol consumption (Dalc, Walc) and how often they go out with friends (goout).

There are some basic questions I'll try to answer in this study. For example, does the parents' education really affect a student's grades? Do grades always improve as study time increases? Or do habits like drinking alcohol and going out a lot have a negative impact on grades? My own guess is that students whose parents are more educated, who study regularly, and don't have harmful habits will probably have higher grades.

In the next stages of the project, I will create various visuals like box plots and scatter plots using the R programming language and the ggplot2 package to answer these questions. My goal is to turn these numbers and data into visuals that tell a story that everyone can understand.

Dataset Description

- **Dataset Name:** Student Performance Data Set
- **Description:** This dataset contains student achievement data collected from two Portuguese high schools: Gabriel Pereira and Mousinho da Silveira. The data covers the students' demographic features, family information, social habits, and academic performance in three different exams (G1, G2, and the final grade, G3).
- **Creators/Institution:** P. Cortez and A. Silva. The data was collected as part of a project at the University of Minho, Portugal.
- **Source and Access Link:** The dataset is publicly available through the Source of the Dataset, which is frequently used in the field of data science.

```
student_data <- read.csv("student_data.csv")
summary(student_data)
```

```
##      school      sex      age      address
## Length:395      Length:395      Min.   :15.0      Length:395
## Class :character Class :character 1st Qu.:16.0      Class :character
## Mode  :character Mode  :character Median :17.0      Mode  :character
##                                     Mean  :16.7
##                                     3rd Qu.:18.0
##                                     Max.   :22.0
##      famsize      Pstatus      Medu      Fedu
## Length:395      Length:395      Min.   :0.000      Min.   :0.000
## Class :character Class :character 1st Qu.:2.000      1st Qu.:2.000
## Mode  :character Mode  :character Median :3.000      Median :2.000
##                                     Mean  :2.749      Mean  :2.522
##                                     3rd Qu.:4.000      3rd Qu.:3.000
##                                     Max.   :4.000      Max.   :4.000
##      Mjob      Fjob      reason      guardian
## Length:395      Length:395      Length:395      Length:395
## Class :character Class :character Class :character Class :character
## Mode  :character Mode  :character Mode  :character Mode  :character
##
##
##      travelttime      studytime      failures      schoolsup
## Min.   :1.000      Min.   :1.000      Min.   :0.0000      Length:395
## 1st Qu.:1.000      1st Qu.:1.000      1st Qu.:0.0000      Class :character
## Median :1.000      Median :2.000      Median :0.0000      Mode  :character
## Mean   :1.448      Mean   :2.035      Mean   :0.3342
## 3rd Qu.:2.000      3rd Qu.:2.000      3rd Qu.:0.0000
## Max.   :4.000      Max.   :4.000      Max.   :3.0000
##      famsup      paid      activities      nursery
## Length:395      Length:395      Length:395      Length:395
## Class :character Class :character Class :character Class :character
## Mode  :character Mode  :character Mode  :character Mode  :character
##
##
##      higher      internet      romantic      famrel
## Length:395      Length:395      Length:395      Min.   :1.000
## Class :character Class :character Class :character 1st Qu.:4.000
## Mode  :character Mode  :character Mode  :character Median :4.000
##                                     Mean  :3.944
##                                     3rd Qu.:5.000
##                                     Max.   :5.000
##      freetime      goout      Dalc      Walc
## Min.   :1.000      Min.   :1.000      Min.   :1.000      Min.   :1.000
## 1st Qu.:3.000      1st Qu.:2.000      1st Qu.:1.000      1st Qu.:1.000
## Median :3.000      Median :3.000      Median :1.000      Median :2.000
## Mean   :3.235      Mean   :3.109      Mean   :1.481      Mean   :2.291
## 3rd Qu.:4.000      3rd Qu.:4.000      3rd Qu.:2.000      3rd Qu.:3.000
## Max.   :5.000      Max.   :5.000      Max.   :5.000      Max.   :5.000
##      health      absences      G1      G2
## Min.   :1.000      Min.   : 0.000      Min.   : 3.00      Min.   : 0.00
```

##	1st Qu.:	3.000	1st Qu.:	0.000	1st Qu.:	8.00	1st Qu.:	9.00
##	Median	:4.000	Median	: 4.000	Median	:11.00	Median	:11.00
##	Mean	:3.554	Mean	: 5.709	Mean	:10.91	Mean	:10.71
##	3rd Qu.:	5.000	3rd Qu.:	8.000	3rd Qu.:	13.00	3rd Qu.:	13.00
##	Max.	:5.000	Max.	:75.000	Max.	:19.00	Max.	:19.00
##	G3							
##	Min.	: 0.00						
##	1st Qu.:	8.00						
##	Median	:11.00						
##	Mean	:10.42						
##	3rd Qu.:	14.00						
##	Max.	:20.00						