

NLSY97 Data Paper

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1 Intro

In this paper I will be pulling data from the National Longitudinal Surveys database. I will be using data on incarceration rates during the year 2002 to decipher if there is any trend in the incarceration rate as broken down by gender and race.

2 Data

The bar plot shows the mean value of months spent incarcerated. The data is grouped by race and gender. The first thing that stands out is the black male mean incarceration rate, which is substantially larger than the Hispanic and Non-Hispanic categories. The second thing that stands out is that both black and white women are not incarcerated nearly as often as their male counterparts, but hispanic women are incarcerated nearly as often as hispanic men.

Performing a regression of months spent incarcerated on race and gender, we find that the coefficient on black male is positive, meaning that being black increases your incarceration time. Males also have a positive coefficient associated with incarceration time, which isn't surprising judging from the plot above.

3 Conclusion

The data from the NLS database shows us that in the year 2002, black males were incarcerated at a much higher rate than any other group. Males were much more likely to be incarcerated than women, and hispanic women were the most incarcerated among women.