

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood, showing a dense collection of houses with brown roofs and brick walls. The houses are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with some larger houses and some smaller ones. The overall tone is slightly muted, with a dark overlay.

Household Conditions by Geographic School District

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Week 7/8

Research Question

We know that correlations between graduation rate and household/demographic conditions vary by region.

What household conditions are the biggest indicators for graduation rates across school districts?

How does this differ across:

- Regions?
- Tiers of school district funding?

Does district-wide assessment data provide a significant improvement to a regression model?

Last Week's Steps..

Visualize predictor distributions for regression

Improve regression model predicting graduation rates using HH conditions and race

Continue to look for prior research that looks at graduation rates and indicators

Last Week's Difficulties:

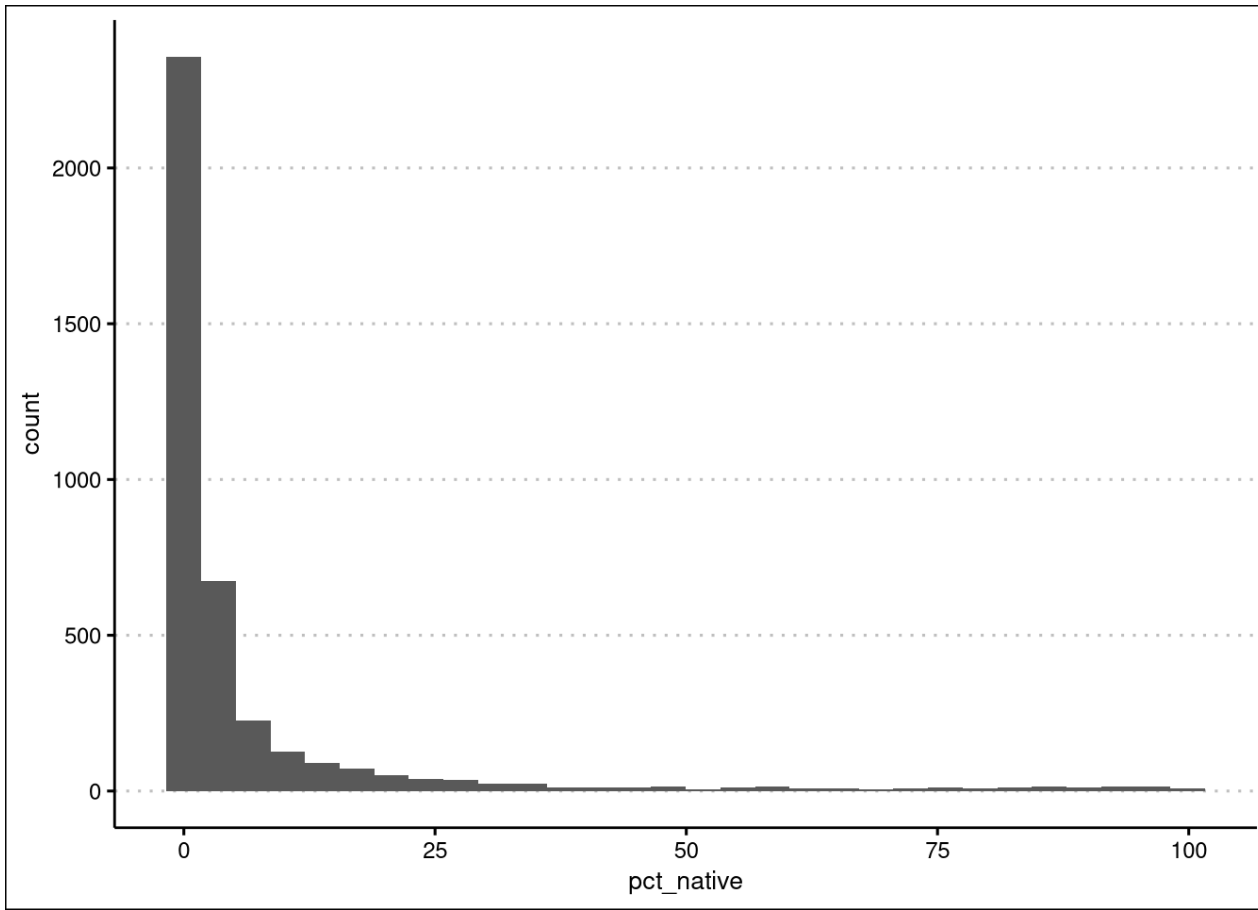
- Difficult to "group by" racial/ethnic groups
- Defining regions
- Household income group data
 - Proxy with school district funding?
 - Look not at income groups, but ranked groups of amount of funding n

Difficult to
"group by"
racial/ethnic
groups

- Got rid of PI
 - Just over 800 districts with PI students
 - Of those 800 districts, the majority have under 5 percent
- Native racial group



Native Population



- We did not want to disregard the native population, so we turned our percent native variable into a dummy variable
- If native students comprise most of the district population, we might assume that the district is on a reservation (proxy)

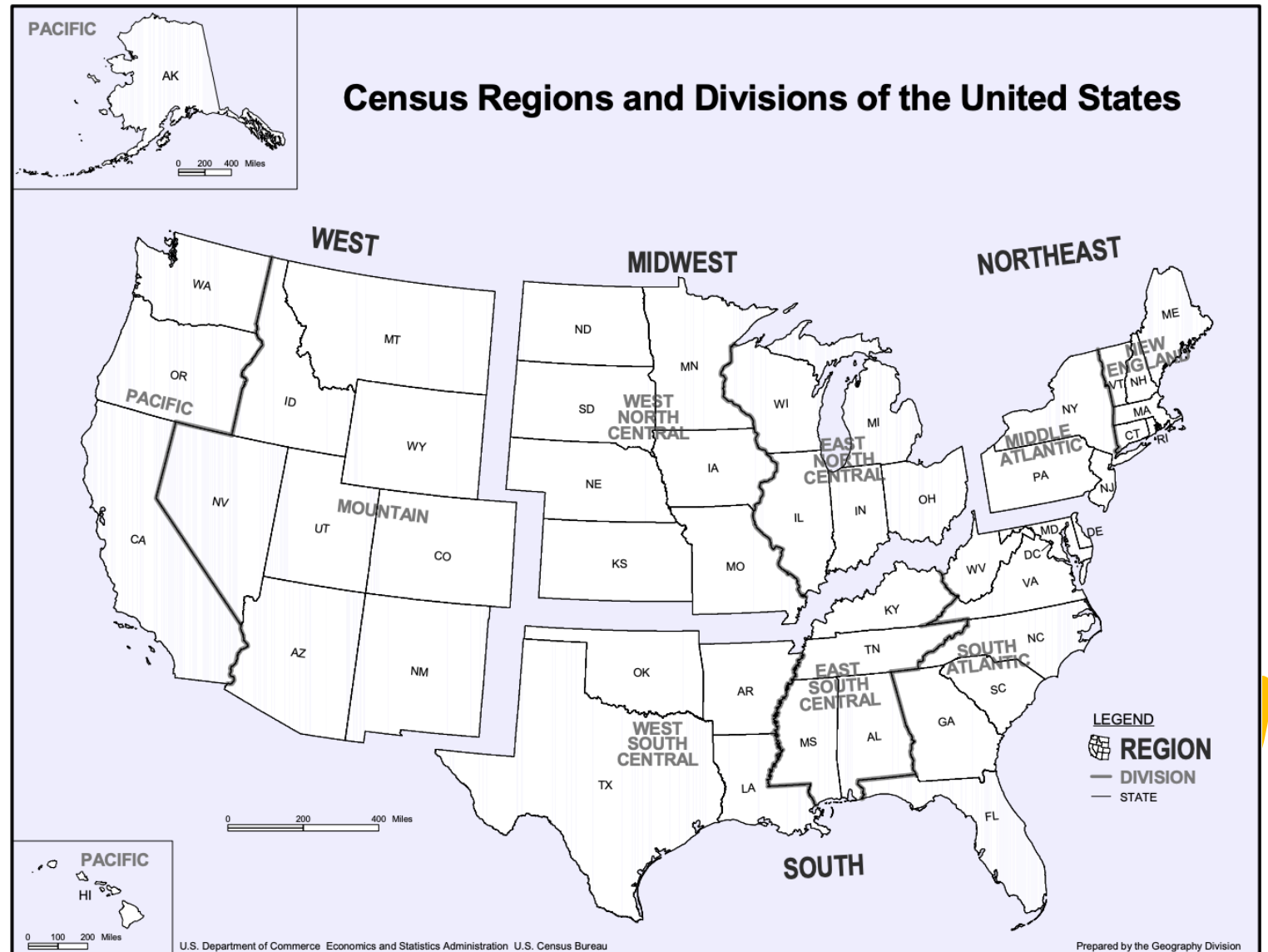
Difficult to "group by" racial/ethnic groups continued...

- Created a column for each district that indicates the majority racial group

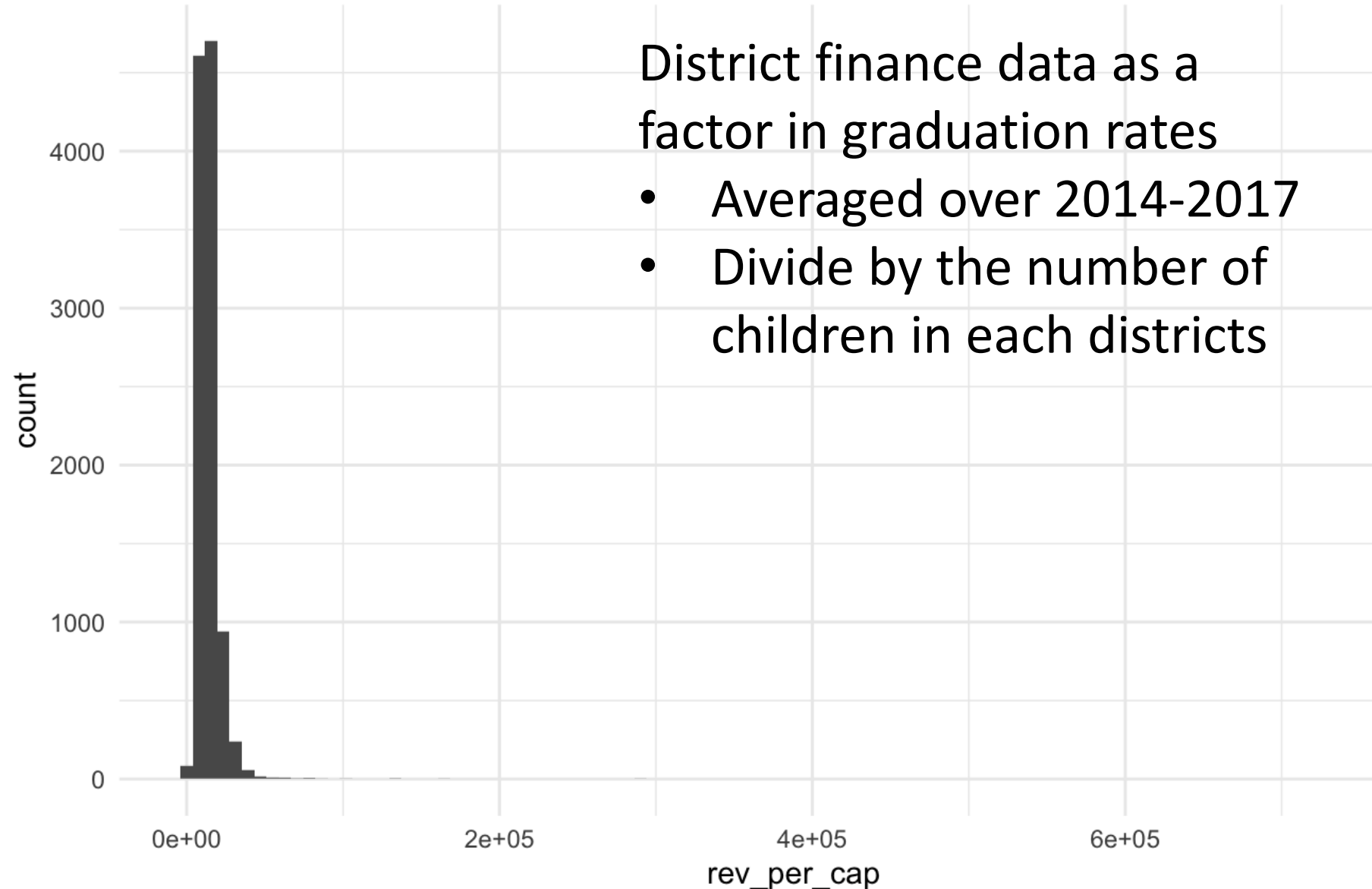
	predom_race	n
	<i><chr></i>	<i><int></i>
1	Asian	52
2	Black	531
3	Hispanic/Latino	<u>1213</u>
4	Native American	198
5	White	<u>9916</u>
6	NA	<u>1404</u>

dist	children	predom_race
Fort Rucker School District	985	White
Maxwell AFB School District	292	White
Albertville City School District	4591	White
Marshall County School District	8299	White
Hoover City School District	15397	White
Madison City School District	9416	White
Leeds City School District	2324	White
Boaz City School District	1644	White
Trussville City School District	4476	White
Alexander City City School District	3064	White
Andalusia City School District	1425	White
Arab City School District	1454	White
Athens City School District	3824	White
Attalla City School District	1144	White
Saraland City School District	2728	White
Satsuma City School District	922	White
Alabaster City School District	6469	White
Pelham City School District	4044	White
Pike Road City School District	1813	White

Defining Regions

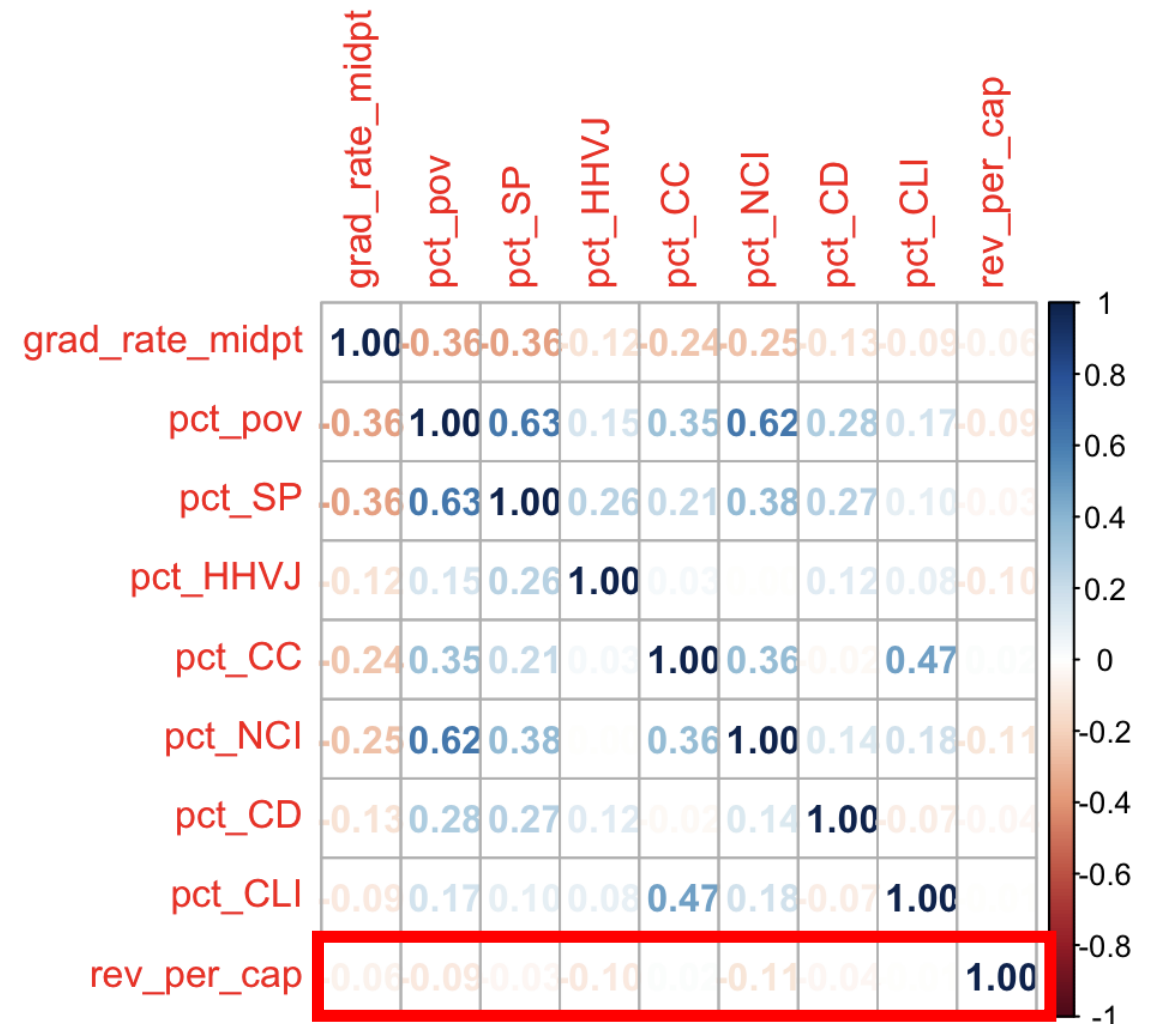
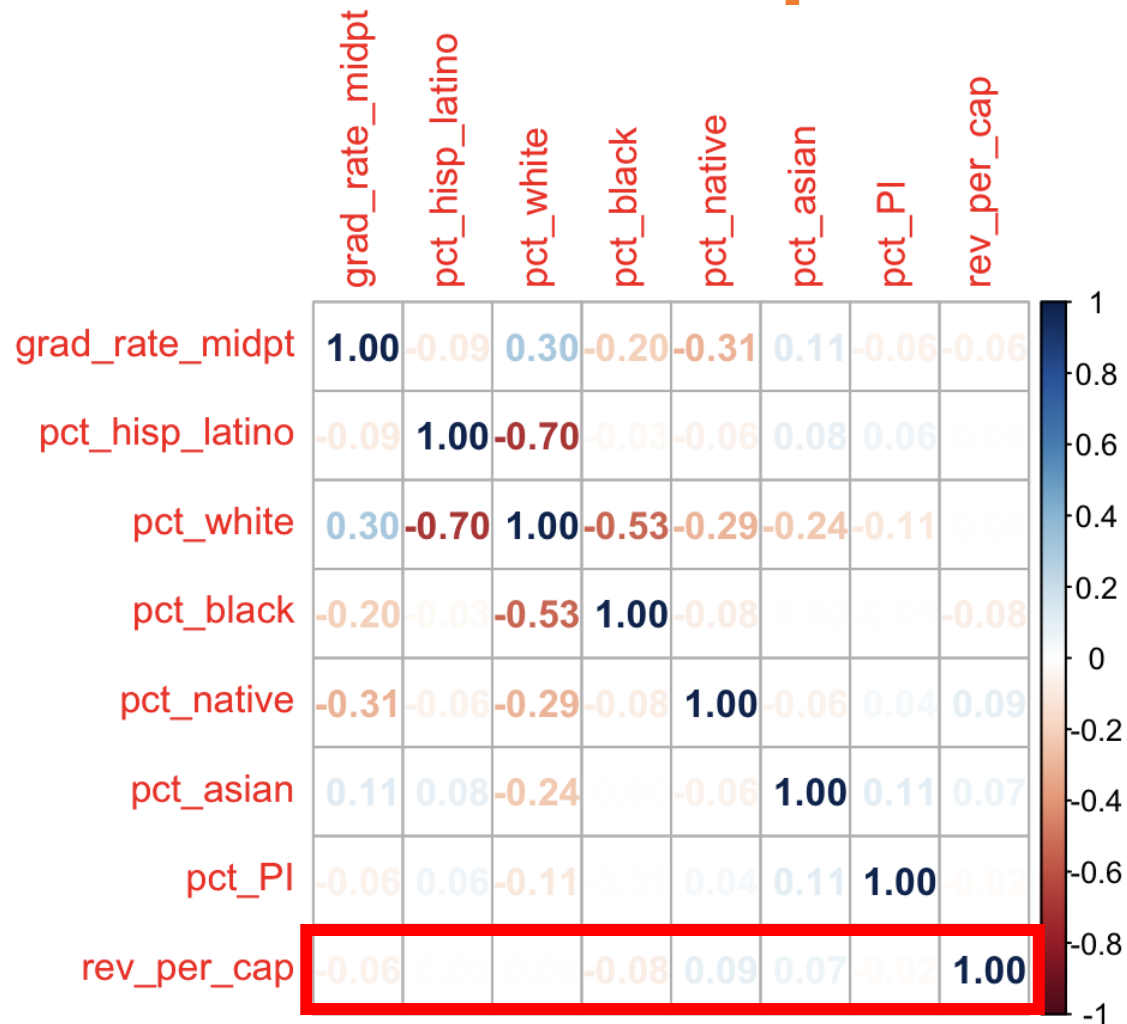


School District Funding



Correlated?

no.



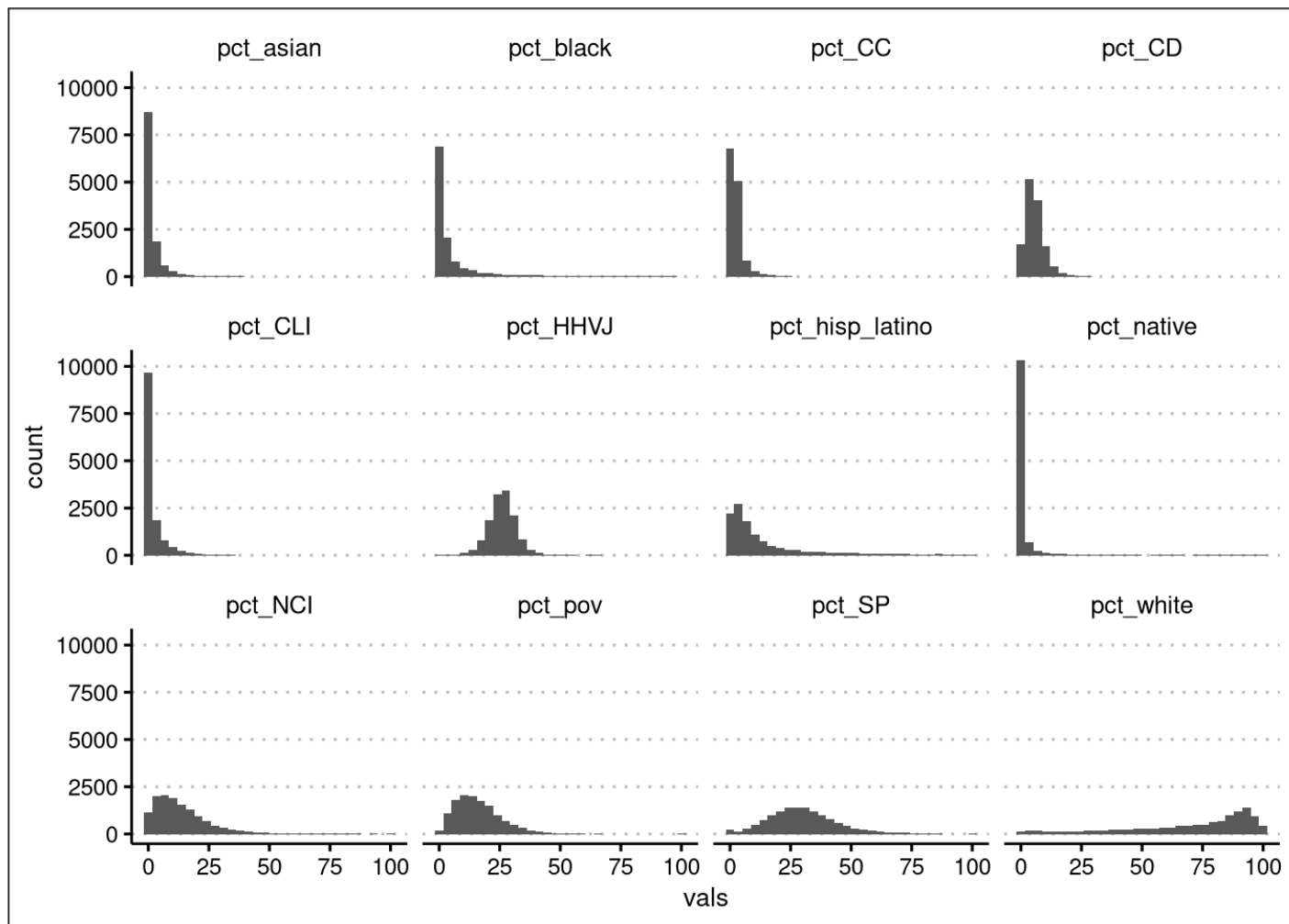
Regression!

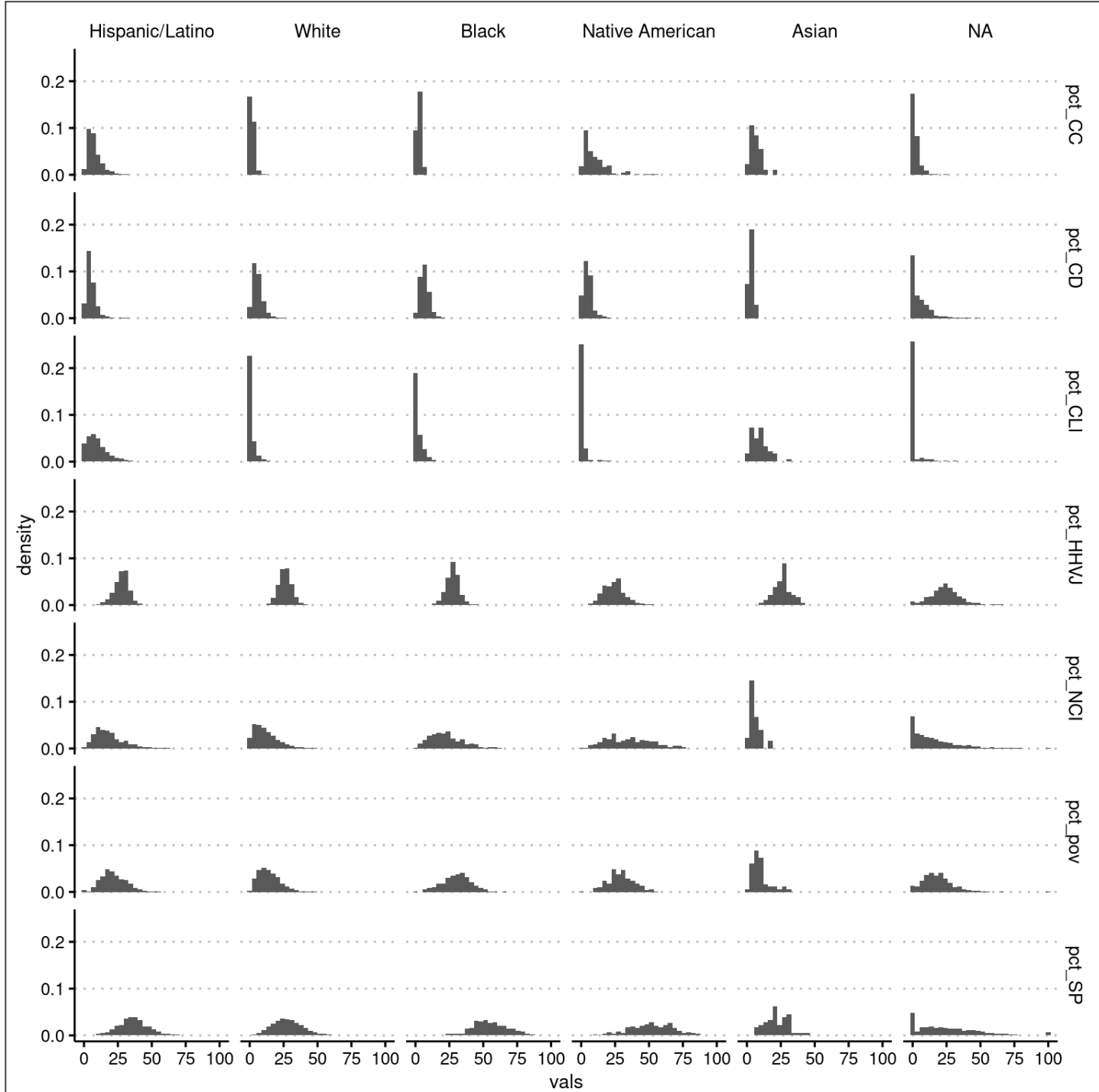
Linear Regression:

1. Household Condition Data
2. Race Data
 1. %'s of Hispanic/Latino, White, Black, Native American, Asian, and Pacific Islander
3. Combined

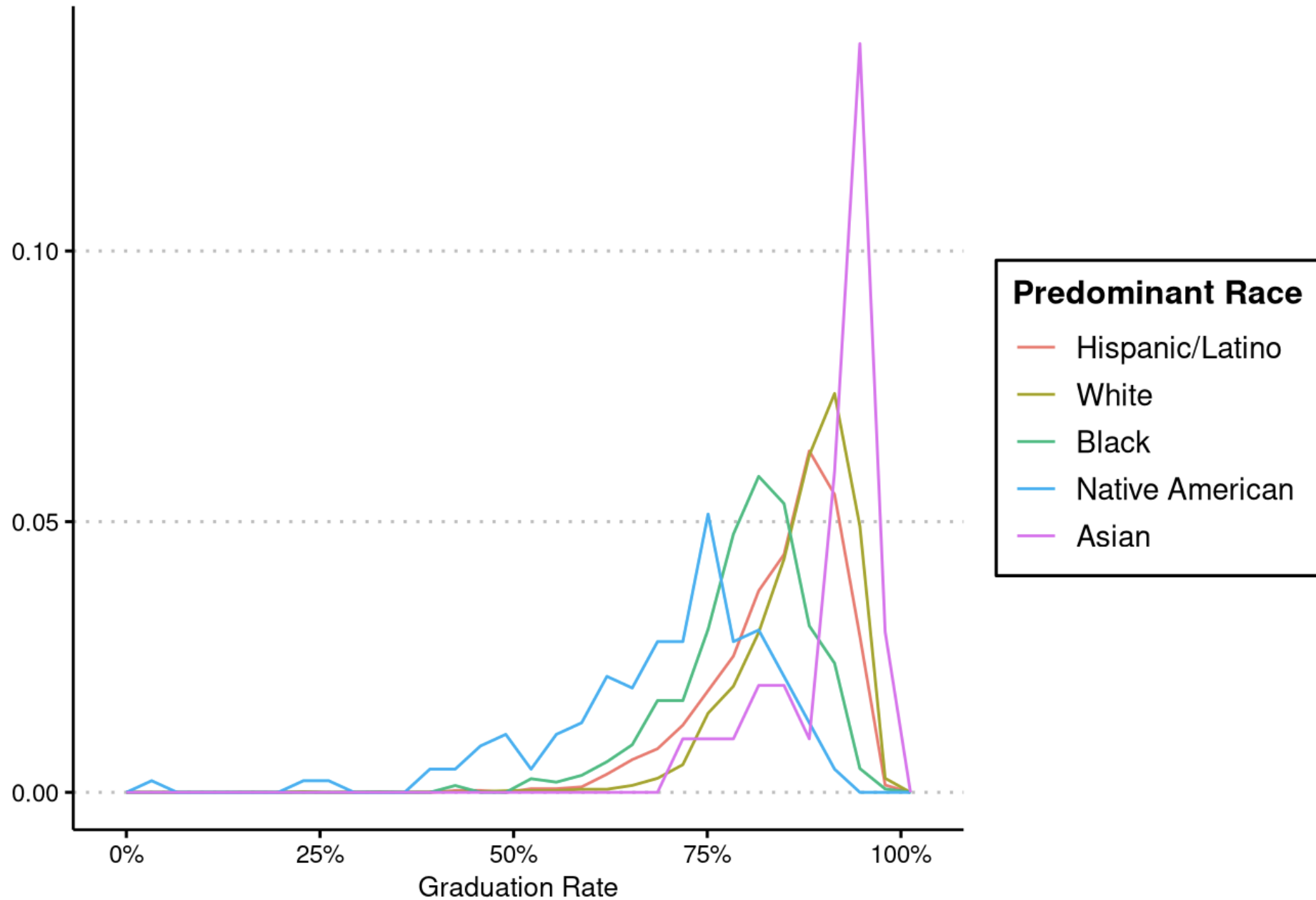
ANOVA to test whether adding race data significantly improves the RSS

Indicator distributions





Graduation Rate Distribution per Race





Regression Moving Forward

- New tool: **Tidy modeling! (tidymodels)**
 - We are trying different regression models beyond just linear models to determine which one makes the most sense.
 - Jon started running models last night which took a while to run.



Regression Moving Forward

- Preprocessing Steps:
 1. Made interaction terms between HH conditions and Racial data
 2. Made dummy variables for predominant race
 3. Centered and Scaled predictors
 4. Removed predictors with near-zero variance

Models



Tuned parameters with 10-fold cross-validation and random grid search

Linear Regression {lm}

Lasso Regression {glmnet}

Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline {earth}

Support Vector Regression {kernlab}

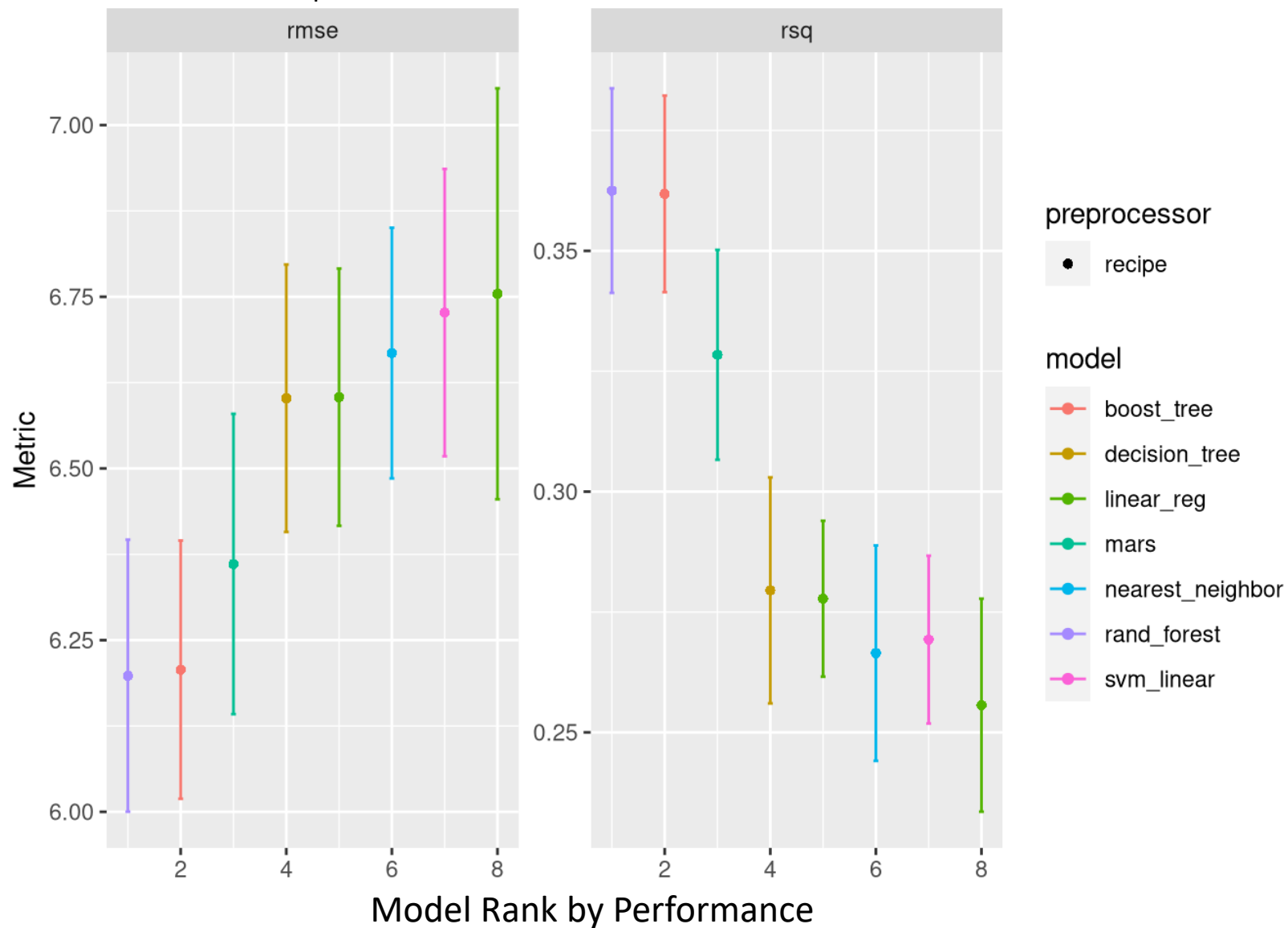
Decision Tree {rpart}

Random Forest {ranger}

Gradient Boosted Trees {xgboost}

K-Nearest Neighbors {kknn}

root mean squared error



Model Results:

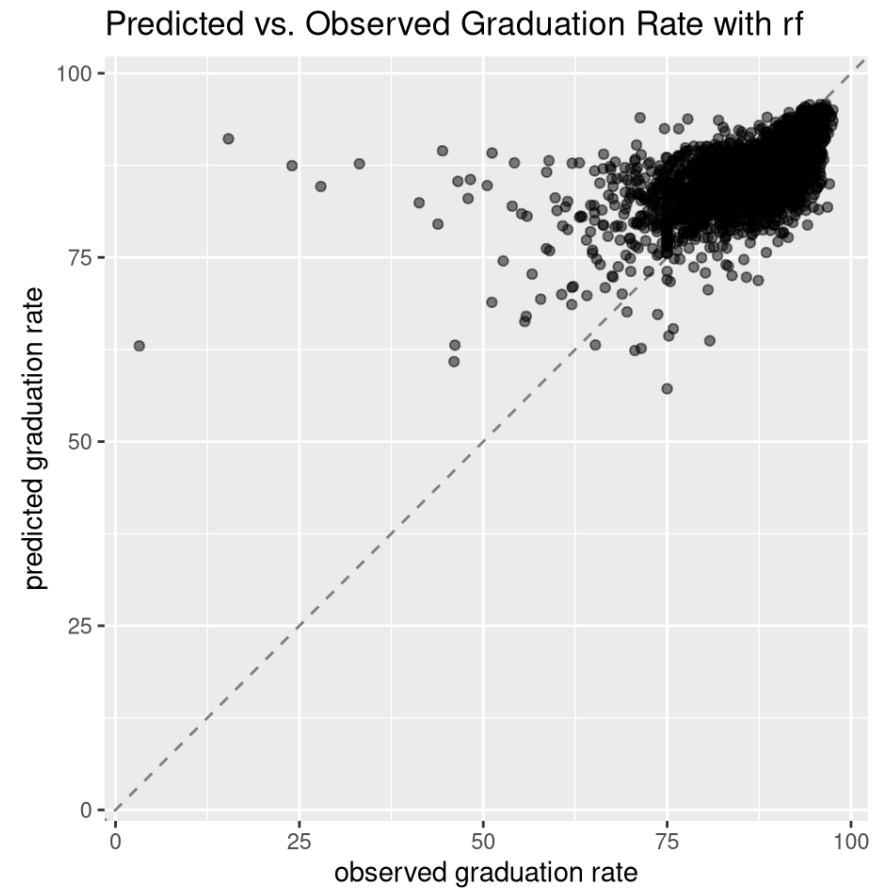
- Test RMSE: 6.77
- Test R^2 : 0.319

Model Parameters:

- `mtry*`: 16
- `min_n**`: 39

*`mtry`: The number of predictors that will be randomly sampled at each split when creating the tree models.

**`min_n`: The minimum number of data points in a node that are required for the node to be split further.



Next Steps...

Add variables to regression model
(include financial information)

Determine which type of model is most
appropriate – change by region, race

Measure most impactful variables for
regression (Societal Implications)

Assessment data