

Description of the Head Start dataset

The data are from a large study from the US, to evaluate long-term benefits of participation in the Head Start program. Head Start provides early childhood education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to children from low-income and families. The data comprise a birth cohort of children, who were enrolled around 1984 and tracked until 2004. The dataset contains both characteristics of the children and their families (mother, father, household).

The response variable of interest is `Test_Pct04` (nationally normed percentile score (from 0-99) on a battery of cognitive tests in 2004). All predictors in the dataset were assessed between 1984 to 1996.

Predictors

Variable	Description
<code>Age_Moth_Birth</code>	AGE OF MOTHER AT BIRTH OF CHILD
<code>AgeAFQT</code>	Mother's age-corrected Armed Forced Qualification Test (AFQT) score
<code>Ageat1stBirth</code>	Mother's age at first birth
<code>Allergy1</code>	CHILD HAS AN ALLERGIC CONDITION
<code>Asthma1</code>	CHILD HAS ASTHMA
<code>BirthOrder</code>	BIRTH ORDER OF CHILD
<code>BirthWeight</code>	WGT OF CHILD AT BIRTH IN OUNCES
<code>Blind1</code>	CHILD HAS SERIOUS DIFFICULTY IN SEEING
<code>Blood1</code>	CHILD HAS A BLOOD DISORDER (E.G. SICKLE CELL)
<code>BornEarlyorLate</code>	CHILD BORN EARLY OR LATE
<code>BornOnTime</code>	CHILD BORN WITHIN A WK OF DUE DATE
<code>BPI_Raw88</code>	BPI (BEHAVIOR PROBLEM INDEX) PERCENTILE SCORE in 1988
<code>BPIAS_Raw88</code>	BPI (BEHAVIOR PROBLEM INDEX) ANTISOCIAL PERCENTILE SCORE in 1988
<code>Breastfed</code>	CHILD WAS BREASTFED
<code>Crippled1</code>	CHILD IS CRIPPLED, OR HAS ORTHOPEDIC CONDITION
<code>Disturb1</code>	CHLD HAS SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE
<code>DOB_Mo_Child</code>	MONTH IN WHICH CHILD WAS BORN
<code>DOB_Yr_Child</code>	YEAR IN WHICH CHILD WAS BORN
<code>Ear1</code>	CHILD HAS CHRONIC EAR PROBLMS, INFECTIONS
<code>Epilepsy1</code>	CHILD HAS EPILEPSY/SEIZURES
<code>Ever_Daycare</code>	CHILD WAS EVER ENROLLED IN DAY CARE
<code>FamilySize79</code>	Family size in 1979
<code>Father_HH86</code>	Father living in the family household in 1986
<code>Freq_Alc_BefBirth</code>	FREQ OF ALCOHOL USE BY MOTHER DURING PREGNANCY
<code>Freq_Smoke_BefBirth</code>	FREQ OF CIGARETTE SMOKING BY MOTHER DURING PREGNANCY
<code>Grandmother86</code>	Grandmother living in the family household in 1986
<code>Heart1</code>	CHILD HAS HEART TROUBLE
<code>Height_Mom81</code>	Mother's body height in 1981
<code>HighGrade_GDad79</code>	Father's highest grade completed in 1979
<code>HOME_Pct88</code>	HOME: TOTAL PERCENTILE SCORE in 1988
<code>HOMECog_Pct88</code>	HOME: COGNITIVE STIMULATION PERCENTILE SCORE in 1988

Variable	Description
HomeEmo_Pct88	HOME: EMOTIONAL SUPPORT PERCENTILE SCORE in 1988
Hyper1	CHILD HAS HYPERKINESIS, HYPERACTIVITY
Illness_1stYr	CHILD TAKEN TO DR FOR ILLNESS 1ST YR
Insurance88	Child's health care covered by insurance in 1988
LD	CHILD HAS LEARNING DISABILITY
Medicaid88	Child's health care covered by Medicaid in 1988
MomDropout	Whether mother dropped out before finishing high school
MothED	Mother's years of completed education
NumIll88	NUMBER OF ILLNESSES CHILD HAD UNTIL 1988
PermInc	Permanent family income (avg., 2004 dollars)
PIATMT_Raw88	Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT) 1988
PIATRR_Raw88	Peabody Individual Achievement Math Subtest (PIATMT) 1988
PPVT_Raw86	Peabody Reading Recognition Subtest (PIATRR) 1988
program	Child in preschool or Head Start (HS, Pre, None)
Race_Child	1=Hispanic, 2=Black, 3=White
RepeatNone98	CHILD DID NOT REPEAT A GRADE BEFORE 1998
Resp1	CHLD HAS RESPIRATORY DISORDER/SINUS INFECTION
Retard1	CHILD HAS MENTAL RETARDATION
Sex_Child	SEX OF CHILD (1=MALE, 2=FEMALE)
Speech1	CHILD HAS SPEECH IMPAIRMENT