

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