

PRAMS Data Analysis

(Asynchronous-Online)

PRAMS Data

About PRAMS

PRAMS is the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS). According to the CDC's website for About PRAMS:

i What is PRAMS?

PRAMS is the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System. It is a joint surveillance project between state, territorial, or local health departments and CDC's Division of Reproductive Health. PRAMS was developed in 1987 to reduce infant morbidity and mortality by influencing maternal behaviors before, during, and immediately after live birth.

What is the purpose of PRAMS?

The purpose of PRAMS is to find out why some infants are born healthy and others are not. The survey asks new mothers questions about their pregnancy and their new infant. The questions give us important information about the mother and the infant and help us learn more about the impacts of health and behaviors.

Getting the PRAMS Data

- You can request the PRAMS Data from the CDC.
- Once granted access, follow the instructions from the CDC to download the data and sign the data sharing agreement.
- For the purposes of the TIDAL R training session, we will be working with PRAMS Phase 8 ARF (Automated Research File) dataset.



PRAMS Documentation and Resources

- See the details on the PRAMS Questionnaires.
- Learn more about the PRAMS Data Methodology including details on how the samples are weighted.
- Download and Read this helpful paper on PRAMS design and methodology (Shulman, D'Angelo, Harrison, Smith, and Warner, 2018).
- There are also helpful tutorial videos on working with PRAMS data by ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH OFFICIALS (ASTHO.org).



0. Prework - Before You Begin

Install R Packages

Before you begin, please go ahead and install (or make sure these are already installed) on your computer for these following packages - these are all on CRAN, so you can install them using the RStudio Menu Tools/Install Packages interface:

- haven
- dplyr
- survey

```
library(haven)
library(dplyr)
library(survey)
```

Create a NEW RStudio Project

BEFORE you being any new analysis project, it is **ALWAYS** a good idea to begin with the NEW RStudio project.

Go to the RStudio menu "File/New Project" and create your new project (ideally in a NEW directory, but it is also ok to use an exisiting directory/folder on your computer).

This new directory (or folder) will be where all of your files will "live" for your current analysis project.

See the step-by-step instructions for creating a new RStudio project in Module 1.3.2.



1. Get PRAMS Data and Select Subset for Analysis

A. Read-in the PRAMS Phase 8 2016-2021 combined dataset

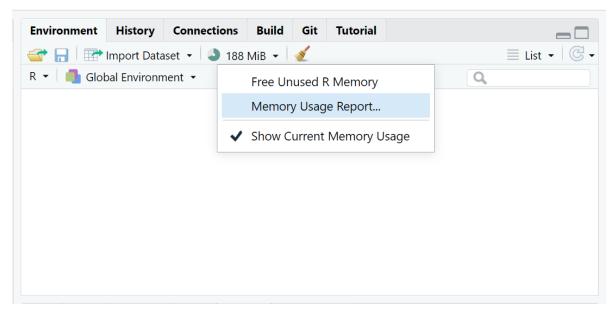
The PRAMS data provided by the CDC will be in SAS format (*.sas7bdat). We can read the native SAS file into R using the haven package and the read sas() function.



Memory Warning

The size of the phase8_arf_2016_2021.sas7bdat dataset is a little over 1GB. So, make sure your computer has enough available memory to fully load this dataset. I will provide some more details below on how we can reduce the size of the dataset and improve the memory issues below.

You can check your available memory, by checking your "Global Environment" TAB (upper right window pane) click on the down arrow next to the icon with "XX MiB" just to the left of the little broom:



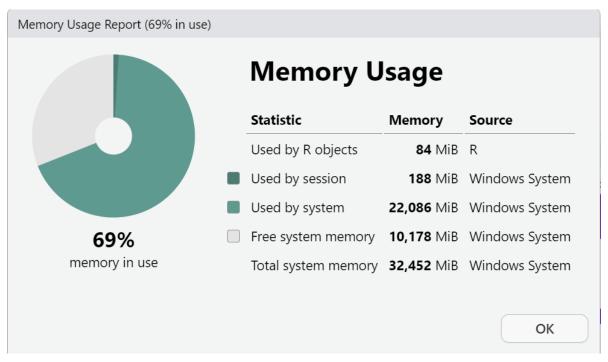
Click on the "Memory Usage Report" to see a detailed breakdown. This window will show:

- Memory used by R objects (in your "Global Environment")
- Memory used on your computer by your current R Session
- Memory currently in use for everything currently running on your computer (all apps running - active and in background) - you can compare this to your "task manager" memory viewer.



• Free System Memory - when this gets low the "XX MiB" graphic will change color from green - to yellow - to orange - to red. Once you get to red, your R session will most likely crash since there is not enough memory to perfom operations or run analyses.

This is a screen shot of my computer (yours will look different) BEFORE I load the PRAMS dataset.

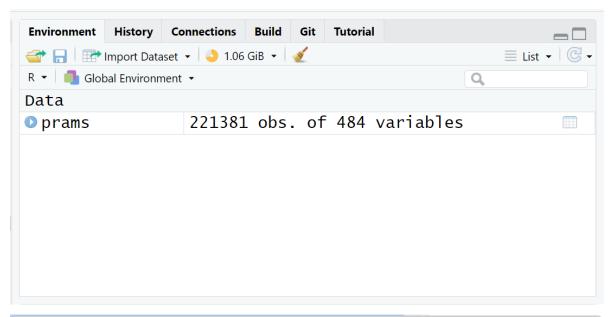


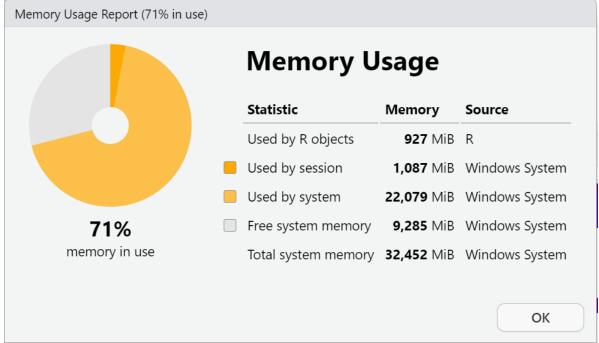
Run the following R code to load the PRAMS Phase 8 dataset into your R Session and check the "Global Environment".

```
library(haven)
prams <-
  read_sas("phase8_arf_2016_2021.sas7bdat")</pre>
```

Here is my memory AFTER loading the PRAMS dataset into my "Global Environment".







B. Save the data as a *.RData binary file for use in later analyses

One way to reduce the size of the PRAMS dataset is to save it as a native *.RData binary file format. So, let's save the PRAMS dataset in this format on your computer.

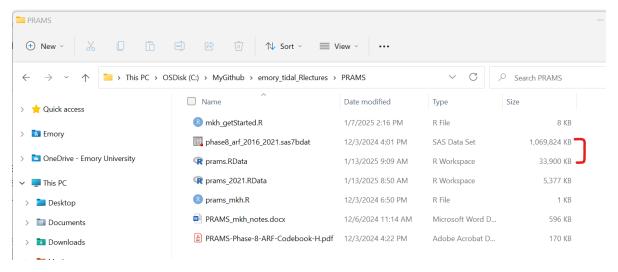


```
# save the whole dataset as *.RData format
save(prams,
    file = "prams.RData")
```

On my computer, here is a comparison of the size of these 2 files:

- phase8_arf_2016_2021.sas7bdat is 1,095,499,776 bytes (which is 1.02 GB)
- prams.RData is only $34{,}713{,}319$ (which is only 0.0323 GB)

This is a file size reduction of 96.83%!!



Now that we've reduced the file size of the dataset on your computer's hard drive (or cloud storage), let's also clear up the "Global Environment" back in your current RStudio computing session.

C. Clean up files to save memory

Now that we've saved the data, let's remove the PRAMS data object from the RStudio session.

- For now we can simply remove everything using the rm(list=ls()).
- However, if you have other objects you want to keep, you can specifically only remove the PRAMS dataset using rm(prams).



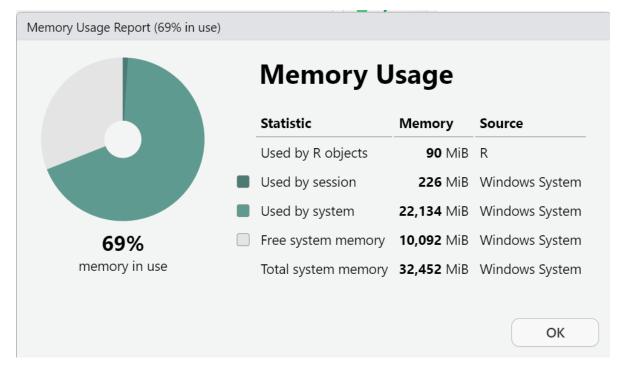
```
# remove all objects from Global Environment
rm(list=ls())
# confirm Global Environment is empty
# list all objects
ls()
```

character(0)

```
# and free any currently unused memory
gc()
```

```
used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) max used (Mb)
Ncells 2133815 114.0 4192005 223.9 4192005 223.9
Vcells 3893029 29.8 153333518 1169.9 112138869 855.6
```

After we remove everything, let's look at the session memory again.

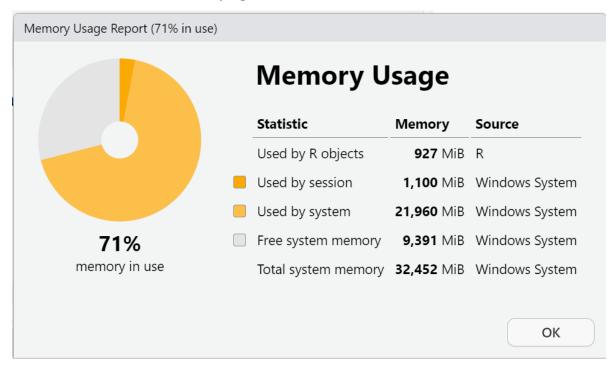


Now let's read the PRAMS data back in, but this time read in the prams.RData binary R data formatted file. We will use the built-in load() function.



```
# load back only the prams dataset
load(file = "prams.RData")
```

Let's check the R session memory again:



I know this didn't make a large difference for the R session available memory, but by doing this process:

- 1. The PRAMS dataset now takes up less memory on your computer's file storage, and
- 2. The load() function for the prams.RData file should run faster when beginning your R computing session instead of having to use the haven package to read in the SAS formatted file everytime.

As a quick comparison on my computer (Windows 11), the time to read in the SAS formatted file was about 14 sec:

```
> system.time(
+ prams <-
+ read_sas("phase8_arf_2016_2021.sas7bdat")
+ )
  user system elapsed
  13.44  0.47  13.96</pre>
```



And the time to read in the ${\tt prams.RData}$ file was only about 1.5 sec.

```
> system.time(
+ load("prams.RData")
+ )
   user system elapsed
   1.45 0.08 1.54
```



2. Getting started with PRAMS Data

Breastfeeding summary - UNWEIGHTED data

Let's look at whether the mother ever breastfed her baby - this is variable BF5EVER, where 1 = "NO" and 2 = "YES".

PRAMS Phase 8 Codebook

```
# create a factor variable
# and add labels
prams$BF5EVER.f <- factor(
  prams$BF5EVER,
  levels = c(1, 2),
  labels = c("NO", "YES")
)</pre>
```

For the UNWEIGHTED data, let's get a simple table of breastfeeding by STATE (variable STATE) and YEAR (variable NEST_YR).

As we can see below, in 2017 for the state of GA, 919 women responded to this question:

- 919 women responded
 - 170 said NO
 - 749 said YES
- 36 were missing a response (indicated by <NA>)

```
BF5EVER.f
STATE
        NO YES <NA>
        71
            927
                  47
   AK
   AL
      181
            659
                  42
   CO
       73 1037
                  18
   DE
      126
           728
                  37
      170
   GA
           749
                  36
   IA
      136 867
                  30
   IL
      140 1048
                  36
   KS
        81 856
                  58
```



```
KY
    139
          536
                 27
    285
          586
                 23
LA
MA
    115 1268
                 40
     97
          928
MD
                 35
ME
     88
          754
                 30
\mathtt{MI}
    290 1532
                 75
    166
          908
MO
                 37
MT
     66
          851
                 20
    102
          472
                 17
ND
     42
          523
                 15
NH
    125 1102
NJ
                 31
    123 1038
NM
                 19
NY
    109
          706
                 33
    164 1023
PA
                 42
          928
PR
     81
                 23
RΙ
    105
          960
                 37
SD
    150
          946
                 35
UT
     93 1305
                 49
VA
     88
          969
                 26
VT
     54
          780
                 14
WA
     69 1138
                 31
WI
    221 1051
                 74
WV
    186
          475
                 38
WY
     49
          438
                 16
YC
     99 1125
                 69
```

This aligns with the CDC PRAMS Indicators Report for GA in 2020 - scroll to the bottom to see the RAW count of 919 women who responded to "Ever Breastfed" in GA in 2017.



Breastfeeding summary - WEIGHTED data

In the CDC PRAMS Indicators Report for GA in 2020 the columns that have the 95% CI (confidence intervals) for the percentages are the population weighted percentage estimates for the Stats of GA during that year.

To get the estimated percentage of women in the stats of GA who had "ever breastfed" in 2017, we need to use the survey package and apply the proper sample weighting to get these estimates.

	NEST_YR	BF5EVER.fNO	BF5EVER.fYES	se.BF5EVER.fNO	se.BF5EVER.fYES
2017	2017	17639.96	101686.10	2045.415	2271.075
2018	2018	20187.62	98909.35	2151.496	2351.330
2019	2019	24099.04	95019.86	2273.415	2279.851
2020	2020	21827.55	94125.72	2209.745	2457.097
2021	2021	23724.68	93896.73	2266.811	2256.488

From this we can see that the population estimates for 2017 are:

- Breastfed ever = NO: 17639.96 +/- 2045.415
- Breastfed ever = YES: 101686.10 + /- 2271.075

This leads to a percentage of YES estimate of 101686.10 * 100 / (101686.10 + 17639.96) = 85.2170096% which should match pretty closely to what is in the CDC PRAMS Indicators Report for GA in 2020.



We can also get the percentage of overall breastfeeding YES for the USA for the 40 "states" (technically 38 states, Puerto Rico, and New York City) that were included in the PRAMS dataset in 2020 (see the last column in the CDC report), using the following R code. Note: 2 "states" did not have data in 2020: Connecticut and Florida.

```
NEST_YR BF5EVER.fNO BF5EVER.fYES se.BF5EVER.fNO se.BF5EVER.fYES
2016
        2016
                187666.4
                               1324171
                                              4398.541
                                                               4798.836
        2017
2017
                208863.1
                               1497127
                                              4762.339
                                                               5452.232
2018
        2018
                242991.5
                                              5220.222
                                                               5979.598
                               1716913
2019
        2019
                236841.9
                               1680987
                                              5404.761
                                                               6877.697
                                              4884.871
2020
        2020
                225560.3
                               1609464
                                                               5540.240
2021
        2021
                212618.8
                               1521303
                                              5196.234
                                                               6058.572
```

From this we can see that the population estimates for the "whole USA" for 2020 were:

- Breastfed ever = NO: 225560.3 +/- 4884.871
 Breastfed ever = YES: 1609464 +/- 5540.240
- Dieastied ever = 1 Eb. 1009404 +/- 5540.240

This leads to a percentage of YES estimate of 1609464 * 100 / (1609464 + 225560.3) = 87.7080483% which is pretty close to what is in the CDC PRAMS Indicators Report for GA in 2020 - with some numerical precision variation due to software algorithms.

Congratulations on getting started with the PRAMS Dataset



3. Data Wrangling with PRAMS

Data wrangling with the PRAMS data isn't much different from the methods already covered in Module 1.3.2.

The code below shows an example of recoding the VITAMIN variable from PRAMS.

```
# create a factor variable
# and add labels
prams$VITAMIN.f <- factor(</pre>
  prams$VITAMIN,
  levels = c(1, 2, 3, 4),
  labels = c("1 = DIDNT TAKE VITAMIN",
              "2 = 1-3 \text{ TIMES/WEEK"},
              "3 = 4-6 TIMES/WEEK",
              "4 = EVERY DAY/WEEK")
)
# create variable for anyone who
# took vitamins 4+ times a week
prams$VITAMIN_4plus <-</pre>
  ifelse(prams$VITAMIN > 2, 1, 0)
# add labels, make a factor
prams$VITAMIN_4plus.f <- factor(</pre>
  prams$VITAMIN_4plus,
  levels = c(0, 1),
  labels = c("3x/week or less",
             "4x/week or more")
)
# get stats for 2020 for GA
prams %>%
  filter(NEST_YR == 2020) %>%
  filter(STATE == "GA") %>%
  with(., table(STATE, VITAMIN_4plus.f,
                 useNA = "ifany"))
```

```
VITAMIN_4plus.f
STATE 3x/week or less 4x/week or more <NA>
GA 443 247 2
```



Get table of weighted percentages for "Taking Multivitamin 4+/week" for GA by Year.

	NEST_YR	VITAMIN_4plus.f3x/week or less	VITAMIN_4plus.f4x/week or more
2017	2017	86492.91	37312.18
2018	2018	76796.28	43028.81
2019	2019	74523.87	46236.67
2020	2020	75313.80	42263.67
2021	2021	69861.41	48766.71
	se.VITAN	$ exttt{MIN}_4 exttt{plus.f3x/week}$ or less se.V	ITAMIN_4plus.f4x/week or more
2017		2715.819	2653.349
2018		2817.611	2732.988
2019		2786.899	2666.692
2020		2779.229	2802.984
2021		2824.624	2693.566

The unweighted breakdown for GA in 2020

- NO Vitamins = < 3x/wk 443 64.2%
- YES Vitamins => 4x/wk 247 35.8%
- Total 690

Weighted Breakdown for GA in 2020

- NO Vitamins = < 3x/wk 75313.80 + /- 2779.229 (64.1%)
- YES Vitamins => 4x/wk 42263.67 +/- 2802.984 (35.9%) [33.6%, 38.3%]
- Total 117,577.47



Get Proportions and 95% Confidence Intervals

```
VITAMIN_4plus
0 1
75313.80 42263.67
```

```
2.5% 97.5% VITAMIN_4plus 0.359 0.315 0.407
```



Compare the results below to the EXCEL spreadsheet Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) MCH Indicators (standard version) - see 2020 for GA - 1st set of indicators for Vitamins taken 4x a week or more.

The code below adds custom code for computing the confidence intervals with the survey-weighted dataset.

```
NEST_YR VITAMIN_4plus.f3x/week or less VITAMIN_4plus.f4x/week or more 2020 2020 75313.8 42263.67 se.VITAMIN_4plus.f3x/week or less se.VITAMIN_4plus.f4x/week or more 2020 2779.229 2802.984
```



Characteristic	Weighted total (N)	Weighted Count ¹	95%CI
VITAMIN_4plus	117,577	42,264 (36%)	31.5-40.7
Unknown		363	

¹n (%)

```
library(gtsummary)
tbl_svysummary(
  data = prams_ga2000.svy,
  include = c(VITAMIN_4plus),
  statistic = list(everything() ~ c("{n} ({p}%)"))
 ) %>%
 add_n() %>%
  add_stat(fns = everything() ~ confidence_intervals) %>%
 modify_header(
   list(
     n ~ "**Weighted total (N)**",
     stat_0 ~ "**Weighted Count**",
     add_stat_1 ~ "**95%CI**"
    )) %>%
  as_gt() %>%
  tab_options(latex.tbl.pos = "h")
```



4. Visualizing PRAMS Data

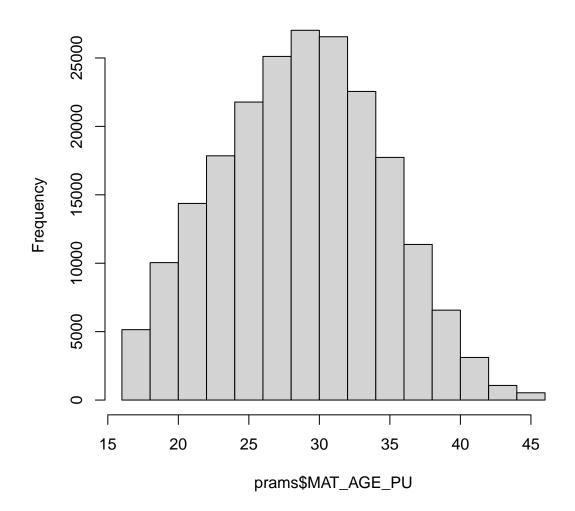
Examples will be posted here for making graphs and figures with suggestions on handling very large datasets.

let's look at maternal age variable MAT_AGE_PU, see PRAMS Codebook.

Histogram of Maternal Age - Unweighted

hist(prams\$MAT_AGE_PU)

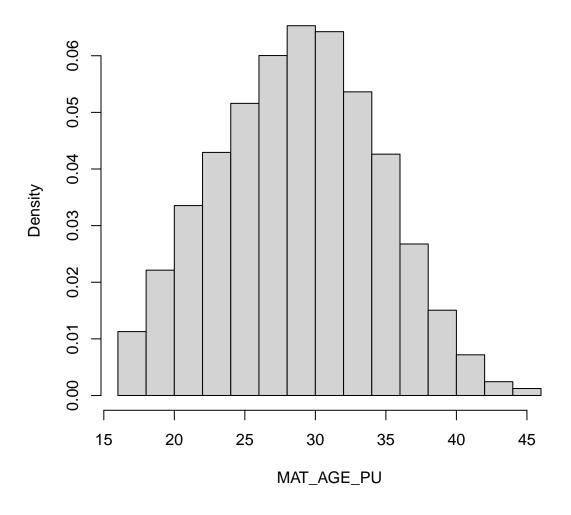
Histogram of prams\$MAT_AGE_PU





Histogram of Maternal Age - Complex Survey Weighted

Histogram of MAT_AGE_PU

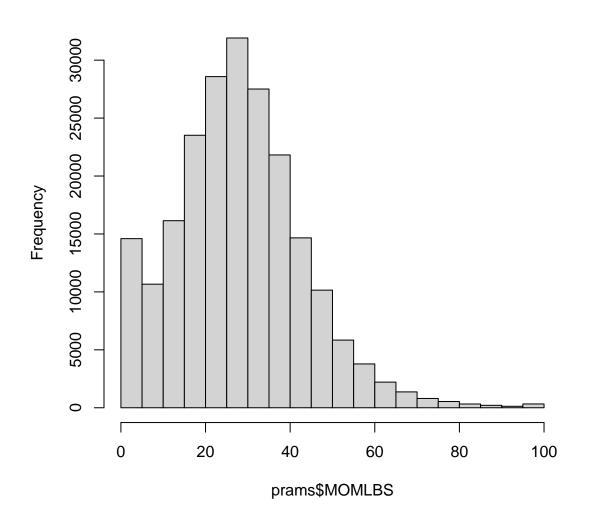




Histogram of Maternal weight gain in lbs - Unweighted Data

```
# MOMLBS
hist(prams$MOMLBS,
    main = "Histogram of Unweighted Data")
```

Histogram of Unweighted Data





Summary statistics of Unweighted Data

summary(prams\$MOMLBS)

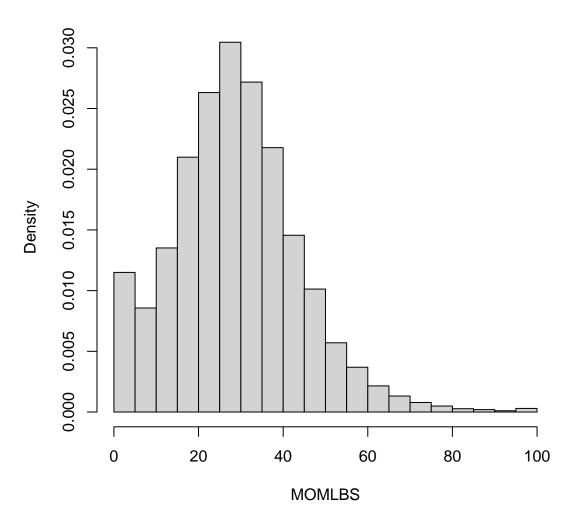
Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max. NA's 0.00 19.00 28.00 28.48 37.00 97.00 6275



Histogram of Maternal weight gain in lbs - Complex Survey Weighted Data

```
svyhist(formula = ~MOMLBS,
    design = prams.svy)
```

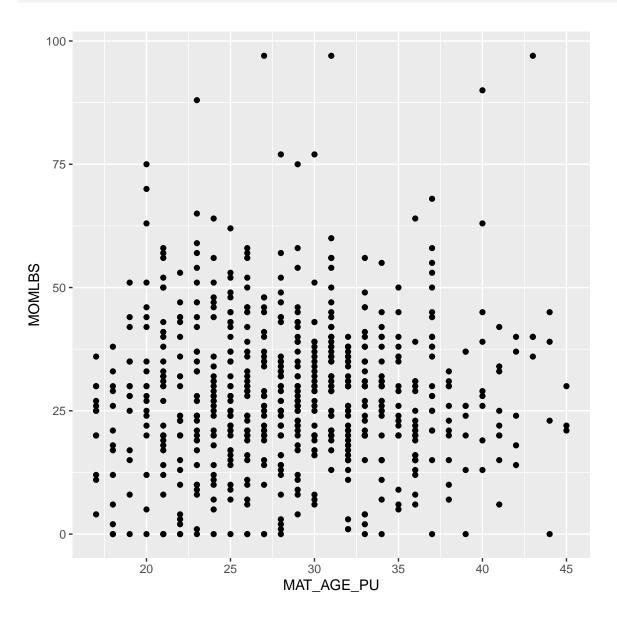
Histogram of MOMLBS





Scatterplot of Weight Gain by Age - Unweighted Data Look at GA for 2020

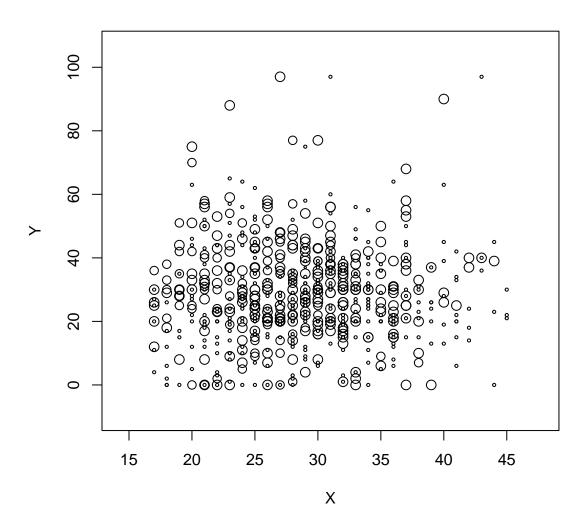
```
library(ggplot2)
ggplot(prams_ga2000, aes(x=MAT_AGE_PU, y=MOMLBS)) +
  geom_point()
```





Weighted plot - notice the varying sizes of the dots (bubbles)

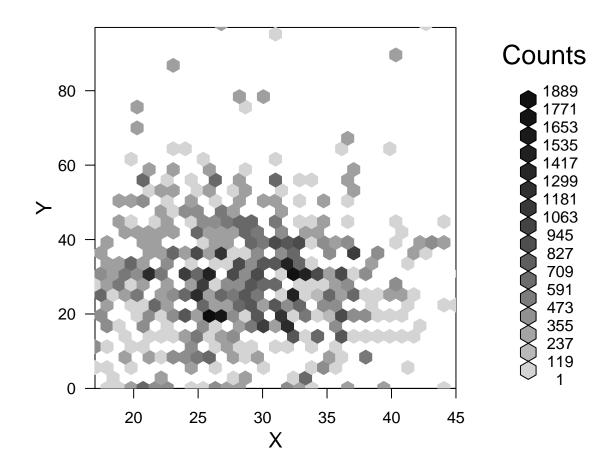
```
svyplot(MOMLBS~MAT_AGE_PU,
    prams_ga2000.svy,
    style = "bubble")
```





Another option - gray scale hex symbols - darker indicate higher counts, see help(svyplot, package = "survey").

```
svyplot(MOMLBS~MAT_AGE_PU,
    prams_ga2000.svy,
    style = "grayhex")
```





5. Missing Data in PRAMS

Let's look at the missing data for the VITAMIN variable for GA in 2020.

```
prams_ga2000 <- prams %>%
  filter(STATE == "GA") %>%
  filter(NEST_YR == 2020)

# amount of missing data for VITAMIN
# unweighted
# 1 2 3 4 <NA>
# 390 53 33 214 2
# 2/692 = 0.289%
table(prams_ga2000$VITAMIN, useNA = "ifany")
```

```
1 2 3 4 <NA> 390 53 33 214 2
```

This is areally small amount - only 2 NAs - but this is much larger in the weighted sample.



Characteristic	Weighted total (N)	Weighted Count ¹	95%CI
VITAMIN_na	117,940	363 (0.3%)	0.1-1.8
¹ n (%)			

Create a missing value indicator variable for VITAMIN and look at the amounts in the weighted sample.

The amount is still small but the range in the weighted sample shown below is informative.

```
# add missing indicator for VITAMIN
prams_ga2000$VITAMIN_na <-
   as.numeric(is.na(prams_ga2000$VITAMIN))
sum(prams_ga2000$VITAMIN_na)</pre>
```

[1] 2

```
# create the survey design file for GA
# for year 2020
prams_ga2000.svy <-
  svydesign(ids = ~0, strata = ~SUD_NEST,
            fpc = ~TOTCNT, weights = ~WTANAL,
            data = prams_ga2000)
tbl_svysummary(
  data = prams_ga2000.svy,
  include = c(VITAMIN_na),
  statistic = list(everything() ~ c("{n} ({p}%)"))
  ) %>%
  add_n() %>%
  add_stat(fns = everything() ~ confidence_intervals) %>%
  modify_header(
    list(
      n ~ "**Weighted total (N)**",
      stat_0 ~ "**Weighted Count**",
      add stat 1 ~ "**95%CI**"
    )) %>%
  as_gt() %>%
  tab_options(latex.tbl.pos = "h")
```



weighted 0.3%, CI: 0.1 to 1.8%



6. PRAMS Statistical Tests and Models

Linear Regression Example

Association of age and weight gain using linear regression - Unweighted model

```
lm1 <- lm(MOMLBS ~ MAT_AGE_PU,</pre>
           data = prams_ga2000)
summary(lm1)
Call:
```

```
lm(formula = MOMLBS ~ MAT_AGE_PU, data = prams_ga2000)
```

Residuals:

```
1Q Median
   Min
                          3Q
                                Max
-29.566 -8.733 -1.089 8.161 68.722
```

Coefficients:

```
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 26.23389 2.80325
                               9.358 <2e-16 ***
MAT_AGE_PU 0.07572
                     0.09545 0.793
                                     0.428
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Residual standard error: 15.18 on 686 degrees of freedom (4 observations deleted due to missingness)

Multiple R-squared: 0.0009166, Adjusted R-squared: -0.0005398

F-statistic: 0.6294 on 1 and 686 DF, p-value: 0.4279



Association of age and weight gain using linear regression - Weighted model



Contingency tables and Chi-square test - vitamin use by breastfeeding - Unweighted Data

```
table(prams_ga2000$VITAMIN_4plus.f,
    prams_ga2000$BF5EVER.f,
    useNA = "ifany")
```

```
NO YES <NA>
3x/week or less 95 337 11
4x/week or more 18 225 4
<NA> 1 1 0
```

```
| Cell Contents
|------|
| Count |
| Expected Values |
| Column Percent |
```

Total Observations in Table: 675

prams_ga2000\$VITAMIN_4plus.f	prams_ga2000 	_	Row Total
3x/week or less	95 72.320 84.071%	337 359.680 59.964%	432
4x/week or more	- 18 40.680 15.929%	225 202.320 40.036%	243 243



Column Total	113	562	675
	16.741%	83.259%	l I

Statistics for All Table Factors

Pearson's Chi-squared test

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 $Chi^2 = 23.72972$ d.f. = 1 p = 1.108573e-06

Pearson's Chi-squared test with Yates' continuity correction

 $Chi^2 = 22.69497$ d.f. = 1 p = 1.898642e-06

Minimum expected frequency: 40.68



Contingency tables and Chi-square test - vitamin use by breastfeeding - Unweighted Data

data: svychisq(~VITAMIN_4plus.f + BF5EVER.f, prams_ga2000.svy, statistic =

Logistic Regression Example

"Chisq")

Let's look at multi-vitamin use 4x/week by breastfeeding and maternal age.

Unweighted Logistic Regression Results

X-squared = 31.025, df = 1, p-value = 1.222e-05



Characteristic	\mathbf{OR}^1	95% CI ¹	p-value
Maternal age grouped	1.07	1.04, 1.11	< 0.001
BF5EVER.f			
NO			
YES	2.82	1.67, 4.99	< 0.001

¹OR = Odds Ratio, CI = Confidence Interval

Weighted Logistic Regression Results

```
Call:
```

```
svyglm(formula = VITAMIN_4plus ~ MAT_AGE_PU + BF5EVER.f, design =
prams_ga2000.svy,
    family = quasibinomial())
```

Survey design:

```
svydesign(ids = ~0, strata = ~SUD_NEST, fpc = ~TOTCNT, weights = ~WTANAL,
    data = prams_ga2000)
```

Coefficients:

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for quasibinomial family taken to be 1.006803)

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4

exp(coef(wtglm1))

```
(Intercept) MAT_AGE_PU BF5EVER.fYES 0.0345025 1.0644955 3.2797036
```



7. PRAMS Reproducible Research Report

Here is an example Rmarkdown analysis report provided as a template to "kick start" your research with the PRAMS dataset.

- 1. Download this Rmarkdown template PRAMS Rmarkdown Report.
- 2. Knit to HTML PRAMS Report in HTML.
- 3. Knit to DOC PRAMS Report in DOCX.
- 4. Knit to PDF (if you've installed tinytex package) PRAMS Report in PDF.
- 5. Knit with Parameters Change the year from 2020 to 2018 and re-knit the document



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Other Helpful Resources

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