Williams College Faculty

Andrew Leeser

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Introduction

The **williams** package extracts Williams College faculty information from a variety of course catalogs over the years 1965 to 2010. The catalogs we used were provided in different formats: pdf, html, and hard copies. While we developed functions to extract information from the pdf and html data, the hard copy data was entered by hand.

Examples

The Williams College faculty data can be used in many ways. Below are a few examples of simple analyses that can be performed using the data extracted in the **williams** package.
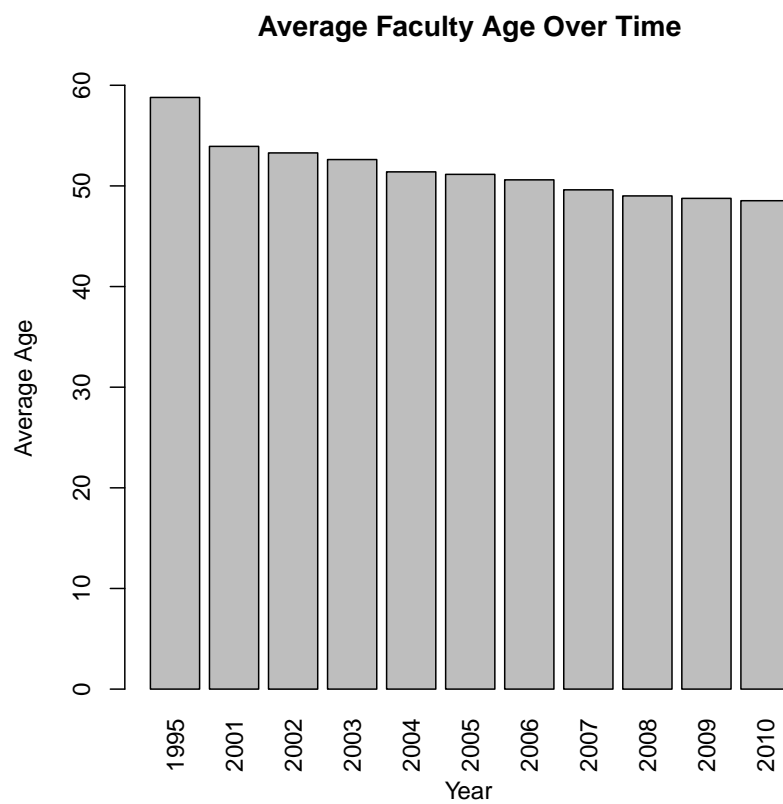
Average Faculty Age Over Time

Figure 1: The graph above plots the average age of all faculty members for each academic year. The age is estimated by calculating the number number of years since the faculty member received their undergraduate degree and assuming an age of 22 at that time (age = 2010 - undergrad.year + 22). Unfortunately, not all the years of data provide degree information, which explains the gap in the plot between 1995 and 2001. Furthermore, degree information was not provided for all faculty members, so missing values were excluded as a result.
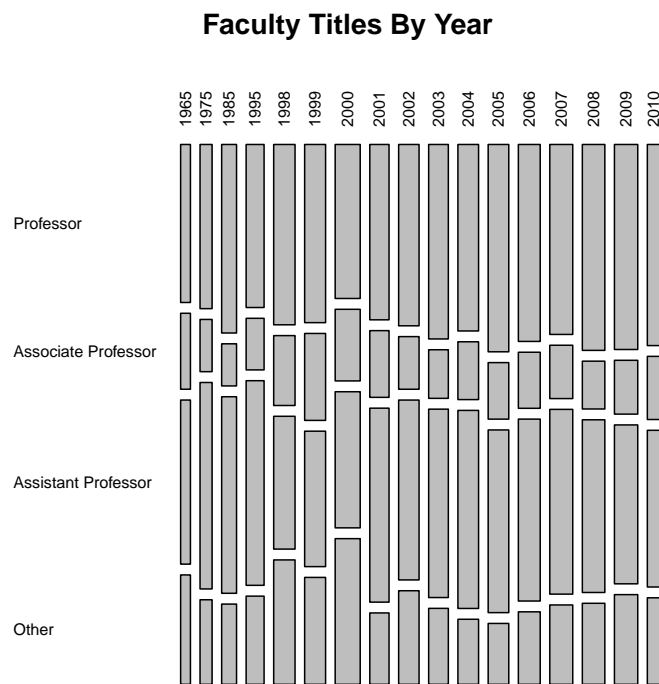
Faculty Titles By Year

Figure 2: The graph above plots the Williams College faculty titles over the different academic years. The proportion of each title as a percentage of the faculty for each academic year is easily comparable across time, by comparing the vertical lengths of each bar. Furthermore, the relative sizes of each year's faculty is represented by the width of each bar, allowing us to compare overall faculty size across time. Finally, both measures can be combined to compare the absolute number of faculty within each title by comparing the areas of each bar.