



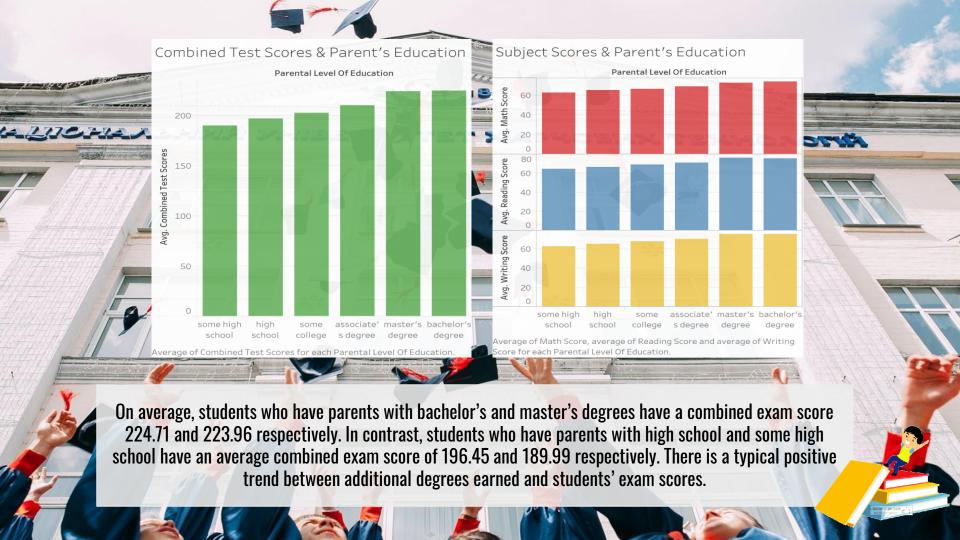
The Scenario : The Question

What is the effect of a parent's education levels and economic status on his or her child's test scores?

Parents have a large effect on their child's lives. We wanted to see just how much. Particularly, we wanted to investigate how a parent's education and economic status affects their child's academic performance in school. By looking at data sampled from public schools, we are able to gain insights into a student's home life and related it to their performance in school. Through understanding this data, professionals could make decisions to better cater to students in order to produce the best outcomes for them.

The Data

The data set, titled Students Performance in Exams, looks at test scores from public high school students in the United States. The data set included information about each students gender, race/ethnicity, parental level of education, lunch, test preparation course, math score, reading score, and writing score. Because we are looking at the parent's effects on the child's test performance, we used data about the parental level of education, lunch, and the student's math, reading, and writing scores. The parental level of education was broken down into 6 different levels of obtained degrees. The lunch data refers to whether or not the student eats a free or reduced lunch, which we used to estimate general economic status of parents, as free/reduced lunch programs aim to help low income families.





Conclusion

When examining the impact of parent's educational and economic backgrounds on students, there is evidence that with higher parental education and income status, students will typically perform better on exams. This is shown by an approximately positive trend between additional degrees earned and exam scores. Similarly, students typically will score better on exams if they have standard lunches rather than free/reduced (215.64 vs 183.69)

