Chapter 2 - Descriptive statistics

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Intro

We study how labor market participation for women and men vary across countries.

We first load the data:

We subset data for individuals of "Age=25+" and "Area=National":

```
# subset matrix according to age groups: occupations=Aggregate
data_lfp<-data_lfp[data_lfp$age == "Age (Youth, adults): 25+", ]
# subset matrix according to area groups: area=Aggregate
data_lfp<-data_lfp[data_lfp$area == "Area type: National", ]</pre>
```

We only consider the cross section in 2019:

```
# subset matrix according to time: year=2019
data_lfp<-data_lfp[data_lfp$year == "2019", ]</pre>
```

We remove useless columns:

```
# remove label
data_lfp$label <- NULL
# remove source
data_lfp$source <- NULL
# remove info on status
data_lfp$status <- NULL</pre>
```

We select and extract data for men and women:

```
# subset matrix for men
data_lfp_men<-data_lfp[data_lfp$gender == "Sex: Male",]</pre>
```

```
# subset matrix for women
data_lfp_women<-data_lfp[data_lfp$gender == "Sex: Female",]</pre>
```

Finally, we merge back the cleaned data:

```
# merge two data frames by country name and year
data_lfp_final <- merge(data_lfp_men,data_lfp_women,by=c("country","year"))</pre>
```

First, we can inspect the data using the functions head() and tails(), which will display the first and the last

```
part of the data, respectively
head(data_lfp_women, 4)
##
                                   gender
## 268
                 Afghanistan Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+
## 538
                      Angola Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+
## 808
                     Albania Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+
## 1078 United Arab Emirates Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+
                       area year participation
##
## 268 Area type: National 2019
## 538 Area type: National 2019
                                           86.2
## 808 Area type: National 2019
                                           57.3
## 1078 Area type: National 2019
                                           56.1
tail(data_lfp_women, 4)
##
                           gender
              country
                                                        age
                                                                            area
## 74788
                Yemen Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+ Area type: National
## 75058 South Africa Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+ Area type: National
               Zambia Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+ Area type: National
## 75328
## 75598
             Zimbabwe Sex: Female Age (Youth, adults): 25+ Area type: National
         year participation
##
## 74788 2019
                        6.8
## 75058 2019
                       57.4
## 75328 2019
                       80.7
## 75598 2019
                       82.9
```

Measures of centrality

To look at centrality, we can construct the following measures:

• the sample mean:

```
# Compute the mean
avg_lfp_men<-mean(data_lfp_men$participation)</pre>
avg_lfp_women<-mean(data_lfp_women$participation)</pre>
# Print result
sprintf("Average participation of women: %f", avg_lfp_women)
```

[1] "Average participation of women: 55.193571"

• the sample median:

```
# Compute the median
med_lfp_men<-median(data_lfp_men$participation)
med_lfp_women<-median(data_lfp_women$participation)
```

```
# Print result
sprintf("Median participation of women: %f", med_lfp_women)
## [1] "Median participation of women: 56.300000"
  • the sample mode:
# Compute the mode
#install.packages("modeest")
require(modeest)
## Loading required package: modeest
mode_lfp_men<-mfv(data_lfp_men$participation)</pre>
mode_lfp_women<-mfv(data_lfp_women$participation)</pre>
# Print result
sprintf("Women participation mode: %f", mode_lfp_women)
## [1] "Women participation mode: 58.000000"
Measures of dispersion
To look at dispersions, we can construct the following measures:
  • the sample standard deviation:
# Compute the st.dev.
sd_lfp_men<-sd(data_lfp_men$participation)</pre>
sd_lfp_women<-sd(data_lfp_women$participation)</pre>
# Print result
sprintf("Dispersion in participation of women: %f", sd_lfp_women)
## [1] "Dispersion in participation of women: 15.922720"
  • the coefficient of variation:
# Compute the coefficient of variation
cv_lfp_men<-sd_lfp_men/avg_lfp_men</pre>
cv_lfp_women<-sd_lfp_women/avg_lfp_women</pre>
# Print result
sprintf("Coefficient of variation for participation of women: %f", cv_lfp_women)
## [1] "Coefficient of variation for participation of women: 0.288489"
  • the range:
# Compute the range
ramge_lfp_men<-range(data_lfp_men$participation)</pre>
range_lfp_women<-range(data_lfp_women$participation)</pre>
sprintf("Lower bound participation of women: %f", range_lfp_women[1])
## [1] "Lower bound participation of women: 6.800000"
sprintf("Upper bound participation of women: %f", range_lfp_women[2])
```

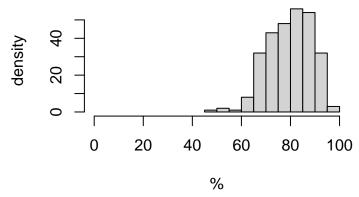
- ## [1] "Upper bound participation of women: 93.300000"
 - the interquartile range:

```
# Compute the igr range
iqr_lfp_men<-IQR(data_lfp_men$participation)</pre>
igr lfp women<-IQR(data lfp women$participation)</pre>
# Print result
sprintf("Interquartile range in participation of women: %f", iqr_lfp_women)
## [1] "Interquartile range in participation of women: 14.125000"
Notice that we can compute an overall summary of the variable using the function summary()
# summarize participation for men
summary(data_lfp_men$participation)
##
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                               Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                 Max.
     49.70
             73.38
                      80.30
                                       87.12
                                                98.20
                               79.71
and for women
# summarize participation for women
summary(data_lfp_women$participation)
##
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                                Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                 Max.
##
      6.80
             48.48
                      56.30
                               55.19
                                       62.60
                                                93.30
It is also possible to use the function stat.desc( ) to compute descriptive statisticse:
# summarize participation
#install.packages("pastecs")
library(pastecs)
res <- stat.desc(data_lfp_men$participation)</pre>
round(res, 2)
##
        nbr.val
                     nbr.null
                                     nbr.na
                                                      min
                                                                    max
                                                                                range
##
         280.00
                         0.00
                                       0.00
                                                    49.70
                                                                  98.20
                                                                                48.50
                                                  SE.mean CI.mean.0.95
##
                       median
                                       mean
            sum
                                                                                  var
##
       22318.50
                        80.30
                                      79.71
                                                     0.53
                                                                   1.05
                                                                                79.03
                     coef.var
##
        std.dev
           8.89
                         0.11
```

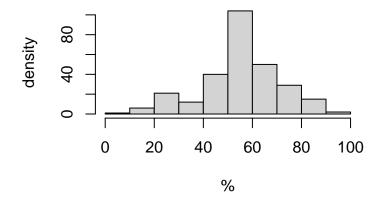
Frequency

To look at the entire distribution of participation rates for men and women, we can also plot their histograms:

labor market participation of men



labor market participation of women



Measure of correlations

To look at how participation of men and women correlate across countries, we can construct their correlation coefficient. The correlation coefficient measures the association between two variables. Its value is bounded between -1 (perfect negative correlation: when x increases, y decreases) and +1 (perfect positive correlation: when x increases, y increases). A value closer to 0 suggests a weak relationship between the variables.

```
# Correlation coefficient
cor(data_lfp_men$participation,data_lfp_women$participation)
```

[1] 0.301275

Moreover, we can relate these two variables with a scatterplot:

```
## load the package ggplot2
library(ggplot2)
# Create scatter of men and women participation
ggplot(data_lfp_final, aes(x = participation.x, y = participation.y)) +
    geom_point() +
    ggtitle("labor force participation") +
```

```
geom_abline(intercept=0, slope = 1, linetype="dashed", color = "red", size=2) +
xlab("participation men, %") + # for the x axis label
ylab("participation women, %") # for the y axis label
```

labor force participation

