When children are young they are told that it is best for them to go to school and at least complete high school, if they are not planning to continue to obtain higher education.  Obtaining the higher education has been thought to afford the individual with more earning power than a person that has only a high school diploma; but with the rising student loan debt(s), it makes a person question if it is truly worth it to do so.  Nevertheless, a good research study would be to find out if a person’s level of education measured in the amount of years a person has spent in school would have any bearing on their family income.  The null hypothesis for this study would be that there is no difference or correlation between education and income.  For this study the person’s level of education would play the part of the independent variable and the income will be the dependent variable, as this is what is actually being measure in this case.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Descriptive Statistics** | | | |
|  | Mean | Std. Deviation | N |
| FAMILY INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS | 48603.29 | 43340.886 | 2314 |
| HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED | 13.70 | 3.071 | 2537 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Correlations** | | | |
|  | | FAMILY INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS | HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED |
| FAMILY INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS | Pearson Correlation | 1 | .413\*\* |
| Sig. (2-tailed) |  | .000 |
| N | 2314 | 2314 |
| HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED | Pearson Correlation | .413\*\* | 1 |
| Sig. (2-tailed) | .000 |  |
| N | 2314 | 2537 |
| \*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variables Entered/Removeda** | | | |
| Model | Variables Entered | Variables Removed | Method |
| 1 | HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETEDb | . | Enter |
| a. Dependent Variable: FAMILY INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS | | | |
| b. All requested variables entered. | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Model Summary** | | | | |
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
| 1 | .413a | .170 | .170 | 39485.248 |
| a. Predictors: (Constant), HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ANOVAa** | | | | | | |
| Model | | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
| 1 | Regression | 740210035958.069 | 1 | 740210035958.069 | 474.772 | .000b |
| Residual | 3604604140775.311 | 2312 | 1559084835.975 |  |  |
| Total | 4344814176733.380 | 2313 |  |  |  |
| a. Dependent Variable: FAMILY INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS | | | | | | |
| b. Predictors: (Constant), HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED | | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Coefficientsa** | | | | | | |
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
| B | Std. Error | Beta |
| 1 | (Constant) | -32720.524 | 3821.483 |  | -8.562 | .000 |
| HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED | 5912.694 | 271.358 | .413 | 21.789 | .000 |
| a. Dependent Variable: FAMILY INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS | | | | | | |

The above tables were the results of a correlation and bivariate regression model test that show and illustrate the level of significance and correlations.  To interpret the results as the as tables has shown the significance in each table was 0.00 which is less than the normal p<0.05 level which tells the researcher to reject the null hypothesis.  Correlations are measured from 0 to 1 where there will be either a negative or positive, as well as, strong or weak correlation.  The closer to 1 a correlation is means that there is a strong relationship between the two variables.  To the lay person, the results are that there is a decent correlation and I say decent; because the correlation coefficient was .413 which is less than half, but not exactly too weak either.  The significance level was, again 0.00 which means that we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative, which would mean that there is a difference in a person’s level of education and their income.

References:

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