

Lifestyle and Educational Trends in Noted Composers

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to test the viability of a series of test questions in determining trends in the education and lifestyles of Western composers between the Renaissance and the 20th century. The research consisted of acquiring the answers to a series of twenty questions for each of a set of twenty-five Western composers in the classical tradition ranging from Renaissance to 20th century. The data was then compiled and assessed to determine if any trends or commonalities could be found in the data set and to ascertain if the question set was effective at delivering useful data. The research questions proved to be a time-efficient and effective way to establish data points and trends in this data set. However, many of the questions showed no discernable trends. That being said, this research methodology is viable and could be expanded to establish more concrete trends for a larger body of composers.

Research Concern

This project was designed to establish a research method for establishing basic lifestyle and educational trends in famous composers in an effort to identify trends. Knowing how various composers were raised, trained, and employed could lend insights into which of the above factors (if any) great composers share. In other words, are there common factors in the lives of these men that points to genius? Are there common trends in the lives and education of great composers that could be identified as having a major effect on their success?

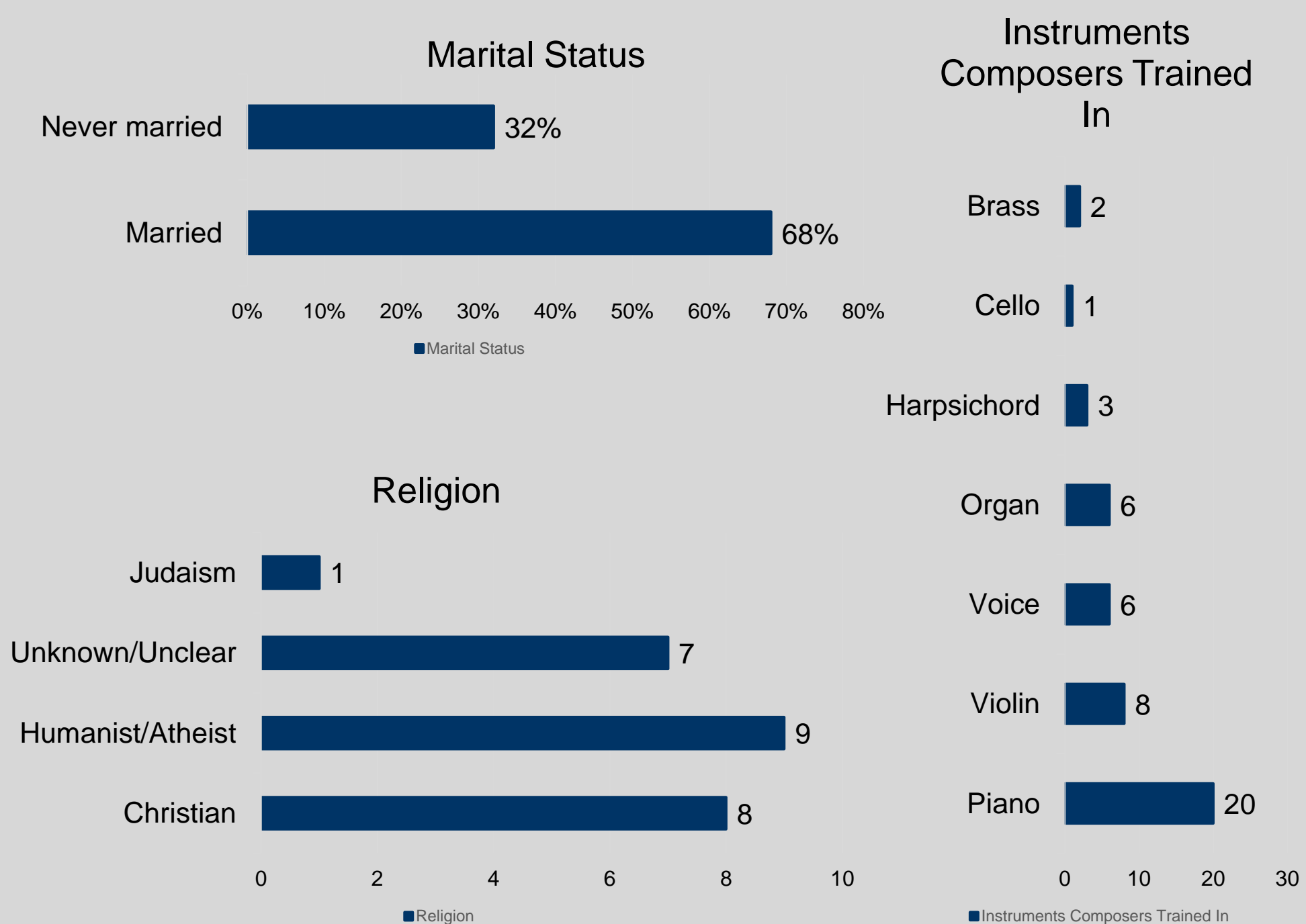
Research Questions

- Are there any common factors or trends in this data set regarding the education practices of these composers?
- Are the any common factors or trends in this data set regarding the education practices of these composers?
- Is this research methodology viable for future expansion; does it provide viable information?

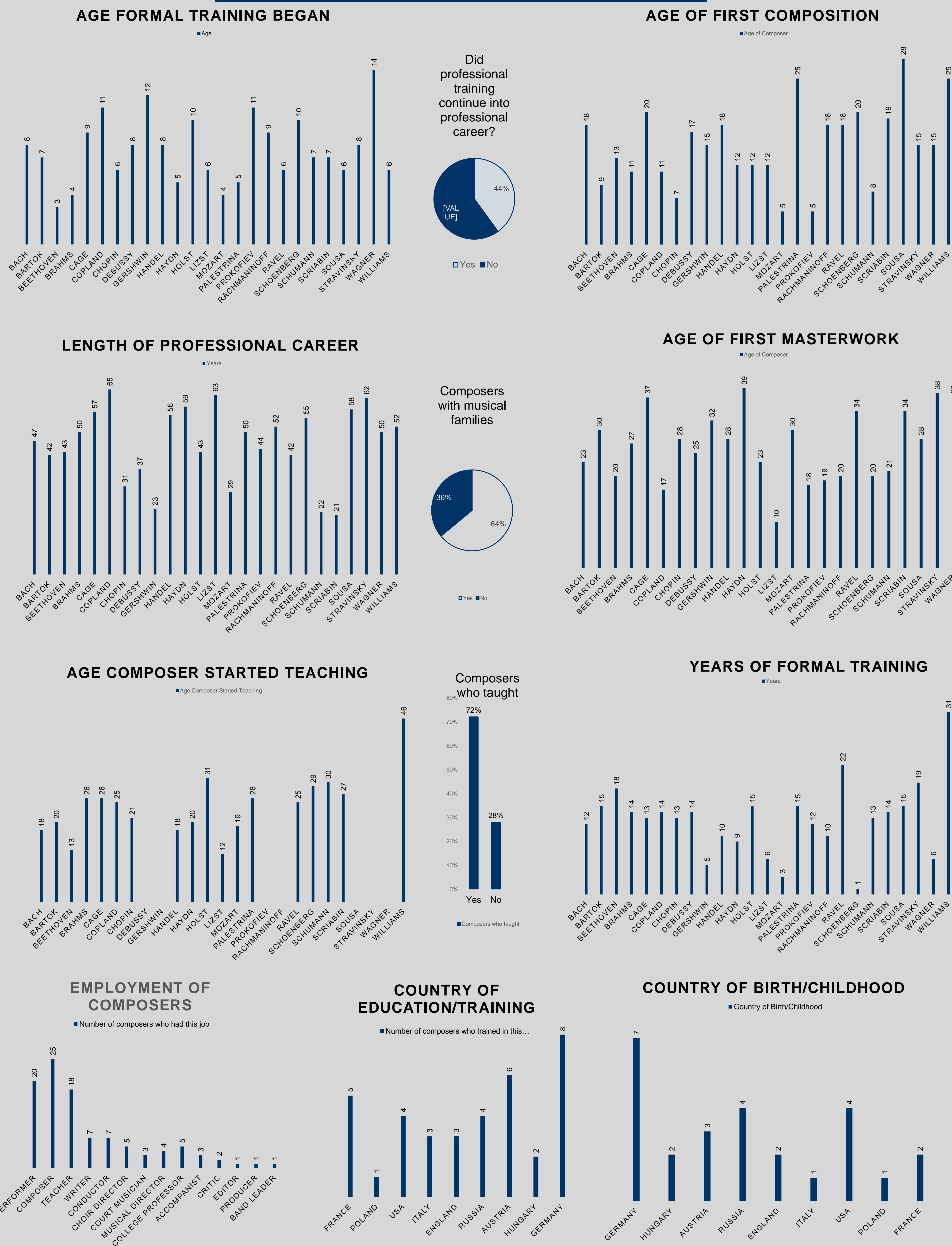
Research Procedure

1. Researcher assembled a list of twenty basic information questions in consultation with music professors. These questions pertained to biographical questions like “where was the composer born?” or “how long did they live?”
2. Researcher found the answers to the questions for each of the research subjects in biographies.
3. Researcher tallied and collated the information into graphs to determine whether or not there were discernable trends.

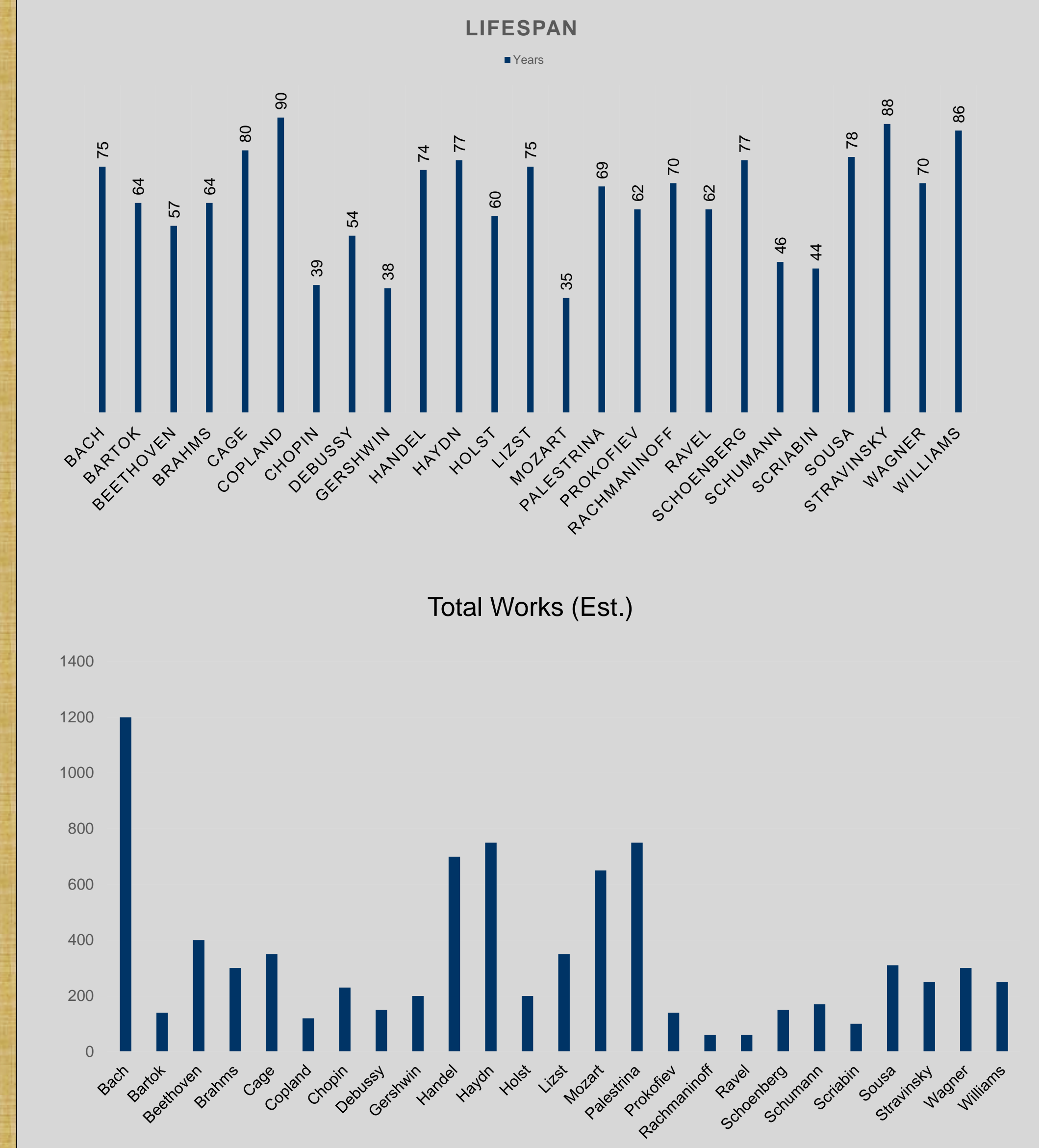
Data



Data



Data



Conclusions

- Some trends in the composers' lifestyles and education could be determined in this data set.
- The research methodology proved to be an effective way to gain baseline information and could easily be expanded into a larger study.

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