Introduction to Data Science Project

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Topic Proposal

This project examines the variation in per capita protein and fat supplies between developing countries in the global South and developed countries in the global North. Using 2022 FAO Food Balance Sheets https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FBS from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), we will measure and compare the average daily per capita supply (in grams) of protein and fat across regional groups. For 2022 this database has 15,747 observations, at the country-food item level. This dataset is publicly available, current, and suitable for analysis with R statistical software, making the project achievable within the semester. The analysis will produce quantifiable results, highlighting disparities in nutrient availability that go beyond total caloric intake. This question is highly relevant to food security research, as it underscores that nutritional quality is as important as food quantity for health outcomes and long-term development. The issue is particularly timely in the context of recent global shocks, such as inflation and the war in Ukraine, which have revealed vulnerabilities in food systems. Results will be completed by the end of the term to provide timely insight into nutritional inequalities.

Link to the team's GitHub repo:

https://github.com/AnshuReddyAshanna/DataScienceProject.git