

Jessica Becerra

Frustrations Report:

1. Challenges Faced

The difficulties I encountered when searching for a database was ensuring that I was looking thoroughly at the variables that it had to offer, in order to make sure that it aligned with the WDI database that was chosen as a group. Sifting through the different topics that encompassed them, such as finances, health, gender, population. We also then had to find databases with similar indicators to be able to relate them to each other.

The initial look at the World Bank Group DataBank was a bit confusing at first to navigate, however after understanding what it was pulling up it was much easier to navigate to find a database. When looking at a database I had to determine the countries I wanted to see, if we wanted to see all of the indicators available in the database, and what time period I wanted to use.

2. Difficulties in Formulating Research Questions

It was difficult to make sure that I was coming up with deep and insightful questions that connected the indicators to each other. I also had to make sure that the indicators I picked from the database aligned with the original one we chose as a group. I also had a hard time ensuring that questions were not just being repeated or reiterated from ones created by my other group mates and that I was creating ones that I thought would be helpful in the process. The biggest challenge was definitely trying to make sure that the questions would also fit with analytical methods since we hadn't really dived into the data yet.

3. Strategies Used to Overcome Obstacles

I feel the biggest challenge was the initial selection of our agreed on database and finding others that aligned with our selected indicators; poverty, health, and nutrition. We ended up selecting the Gender Statistics database and the Health nutrition and Population statistics, as they had

enough series items to relate to our chosen indicators. By ensuring that these indicators were in all of these databases made it easier for us to formulate the ERD.

As a team we communicated and updated each other on the work we were doing and developments. We were able to keep each other informed about the problems we were facing, and for me personally, asking clarifying questions to ensure that I was on the right track with what was expected of the assignment. We also asked each other for assistance and double checked with each other that we were happy with what we were accomplishing. We did not use outside sources for this week's assignment.

4. Reflections and Lessons Learned

If we were to do this process again, I would take some more time looking into each of the databases to determine which ones had similar indicators and if there was one that I possibly missed as a better option. I also would have wanted to spend more time looking individually at the series that were in that database to see how much data was available in each of the databases, as that could have possibly influenced my decision of which indicators to focus on. Overall though, I am happy with our selected ones.

I think that this has shaped my approach to data analysis and research in a positive way, as it has expanded my experience with combining the two and is something that I don't have a lot of practice with. By having a comprehensive understanding of what it is that we are wanting to look for and asking clarifying questions from my teammates, I feel that it has better equipped me with the next phases of this project.