DATA SUMMARY

500 Cities: Local Data for Better Health

The dataset is sourced from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Population Health, Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch. It relies on data from various sources, including the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for 2017 and 2016, Census Bureau 2010 census population data, and American Community Survey (ACS) 2013-2017 and 2012-2016 estimates.

Few key points about the 500 Cities: Local Data for Better Health, 2019 release dataset:

- It provides small area estimates for 27 measures related to health behaviors, outcomes, and preventive services for the 500 largest US cities and about 28,000 census tracts within them.
- The data is for the year 2017, with some measures from 2016 since some questions are only asked in alternate years in the BRFSS survey.
- The data comes from the CDC, RWJF, and other sources like the Census and BRFSS survey.
- The goal is to help identify emerging health issues and inform public health prevention activities in cities and neighborhoods.
- The estimates should not be used for program or policy evaluations since the small area model cannot detect local intervention effects.
- Overall, this data set provides valuable localized information on chronic disease and prevention metrics to enable better public health initiatives targeting specific city areas.

We have explored the data which have downloaded from CDC paces data website. Following are our findings.

Based on our analysis we have found following predictors:

- Location: state, city name, geographic level (city or tract)
- Category: Behaviors, outcomes, prevention
- Measure: Specific health metric like obesity, diabetes, mammograms
- Data value: Prevalence estimate for the measure.
- Population count: For city or tract

Deriving insights from the data:

 We can compare health behaviors, outcomes, and prevention services usage across cities and neighborhoods.

- We can identify cities/tracts with particularly high or low prevalence for specific health measures.
- Able to see health disparities between cities and within census tracts of the same city.
- Track year-over-year trends in health metrics for cities

We can do the following visualizations on this dataset:

- Choropleth maps showing measure prevalence by census tract within cities.
- Heatmaps of health metrics across cities
- Line charts of trends over time for specific cities
- Scatter plots comparing behaviors, outcomes, and prevention measures.

Screenshot of dataset:

