

# Retrieving and Preparing Data for Mapping in Excel

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By Vaishali Kushwaha and Yana Mommadova  
Digital Integration Teaching Initiative (DITI)

POLS 7387 Global Governance  
Professor Denise Garcia  
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**Northeastern University**  
*NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks*

*Feel free to ask questions at any point during the presentation!*

# Workshop Agenda

- Collecting and understanding data on UN Sustainable Development Goals, Targets, Indicators
- Preparing SDG data for GIS mapping using Excel



Slides, handouts, and data available at <https://bit.ly/diti-sp22-garcia-data>



# Data

- A dataset is a collection of several pieces of information called variables (usually arranged by columns and rows).
- A variable can have one or several values (information for one or several cases).
- Qualitative data is textual while quantitative data is numerical (Excel can help sort and analyze both).

Country	Year	GDP
USA	2015	19.39



# Where Can You Get SDG Data to Map?

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage> >

indicator data that needs to be processed before geospatial mapping. These data are more globally focused.

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata> > data about datasets.

Metadata is essential in order to understand what the dataset shows, and what it *does not show*



# Understanding Your Data

- Where does this data come from? Who collected it? For what purpose?
- Metadata for your data – use the metadata to understand what the particular variables represent.
  - For example, you can use metadata to understand how each column is being defined
- **Important data for mapping:**
  - *geocoordinates* (latitude and longitude) are necessary to produce any maps; just the names of countries and cities won't be sufficient.
  - *geocode/GeoAreaCode/[M49code](#)* are unique identifiers

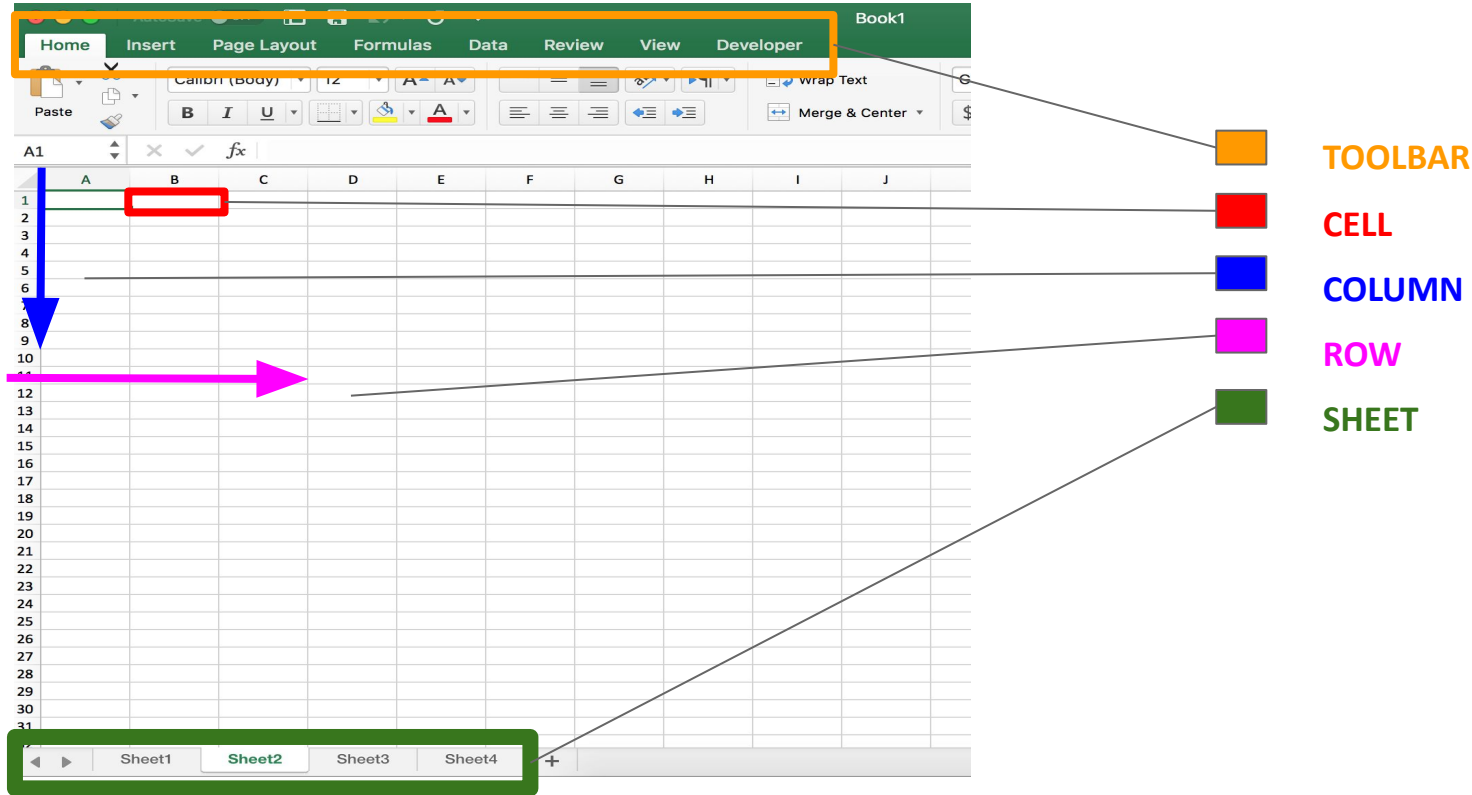


# Excel

Excel is a program that is used to create and edit tabular data (spreadsheets). In Excel, data are organized into rows and columns; data can be presented and analyzed using Excel's functions, such as pivot tables, charts, formulas, and more.



# Anatomy of Excel



# Hands on activity: Collect and Prepare SDG Data

Follow the instructions from the handout/slides to prepare your data

## 1. Objective 1: Collect data for SDG goal

Select Goal 1, Target 1.1, indicator 1.1.1 “Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural)”

## 2. Objective 2: Prepare/Sort data and save it as a .CSV file

- a. Both sexes
- b. Over 25 years of age
- c. Year 2010






# Collecting Data

Follow the instructions on handout-data\_prep\_excel:


1. Go to <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>
2. Select Data
  - a. Goal 1, Target 1.1, indicator 1.1.1, called “Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural)”
  - b. Countries: Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, and other specific countries (not regions like “West Asia” or “World”)
  - c. Year 2010
3. Download this file



# Collecting Data

**United Nations**

Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Statistics • SDG Indicators Database




HomeSDG Indicators ▼Data ▼SDG Reports ▼HLG-PCCBIAEG-SDG'sEventsResources ▼


- **Data Series** (Selected 2 of 578)  
1.1.1 ×  
+ Select
- **Geographic Areas** (260 of 211) All Groupings **Countries**  
Afghanistan × Albania × Algeria × American Samoa × Andorra × Angola × + 254 ...  
By default Regional Groupings is selected. You can select a different geographic area  
+ Select
- **Period** Range **Years**  
2010 ×  
You can select single year or multiple years


1,109 observations [Show Results](#) [Download XLS](#) [Reset Selections](#)


### Important Information

Please select parameters from each of the sections on the left, and click on '**Show Results**' to perform a search.

 Database last updated on Friday, November 12, 2021. [See History](#)

 If you need help using this site, [Read FAQs](#)

 For latest reference metadata information for the Tier I and II indicators in the global indicator framework, explore the [Metadata Repository](#)

 This new database interface has been launched on 23 September 2021. Please use the link below for questions



# Preparing Data

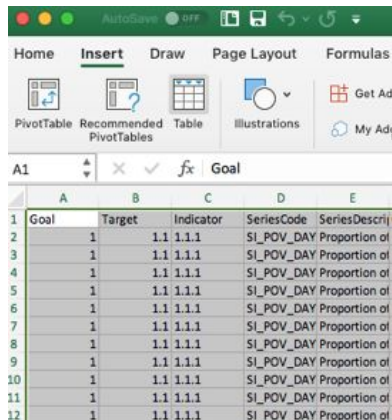
Follow the instructions on handout-data\_prep\_excel:

1. Open in Excel → Save as Excel document (.xlsx)
2. Select all cases (control + a/command + a)
3. Insert → Table
4. Clean/Filter the data:
  - a. Select series code SI\_POV\_EMP1
  - b. Select both sexes
  - c. Select age 25+
5. Delete all columns except: GeoAreaCode, GeoAreaName, Value, Year Indicator
6. If there are formatting issues with the columns → select all again (control + a/command + a) and “wrap text”
7. Copy and paste your data into a new spreadsheet and save it as a .csv

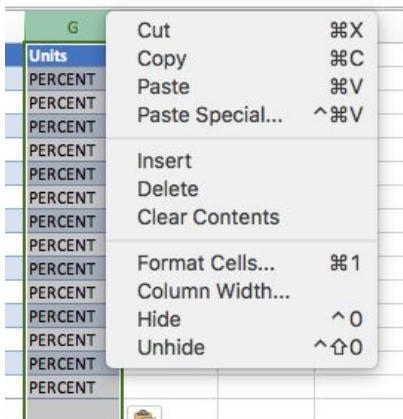


# Preparing Data

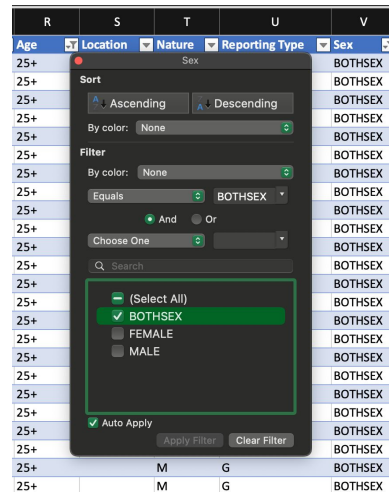
(1) Insert → Table →  
Okay



(3) Delete  
Variables  
columns not  
needed for  
Mapping



(2) Clean/Filter



(4) File → Save as → CSV  
UTF-8 (.csv)



# Next...Mapping using ArcGIS Online

- How to add geo coordinates to your dataset
- How to make a map out of a dataset



# Thank you!

If you have any questions, contact us at: [nulab.info@gmail.com](mailto:nulab.info@gmail.com)

Schedule a meeting: <https://calendly.com/diti-nu>

**Developed by Cara Messina, Milan Skobic, Vaishali Kushwaha**

Digital Integration Teaching Initiative

DITI Research Fellow

Taught by Vaishali Kushwaha and Yana Mommadova

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