Effective Programming Practices for Economists

Data management with pandas

Selecting rows and columns

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Overview

- Selecting columns
- Selecting individual rows
- Selecting rows and columns
- Selecting rows using Boolean Series
- Selecting rows with queries

Selecting columns

```
>>> df["country"]
0
      Cuba
      Cuba
     Spain
     Spain
Name: country, dtype: string
>>> df[["country", "continent"]]
  country
                         continent
  Cuba
                         Americas
  Cuba
                         Americas
  Spain
                         Europe
  Spain
                         Europe
```

- Column selection is with square brackets
- For multiple columns you need double brackets:
 - Outer: selecting columns
 - Inner: defining a list of variables

Selecting individual rows

```
>>> df.loc[1]
 country
                  Cuba
 continent
              Americas
year
                  2007
life_exp
               78.273
 Name: 1, dtype: object
 >>> df = df.set_index(["country", "year"])
 >>> df.loc["Cuba"]
         continent
                             life exp
year
2002
         Americas
                             77.16
2007
         Americas
                             78.27
```

```
>>> df.loc[("Cuba", 2002)]

continent Americas
life_exp 77.158
Name: (Cuba, 2002), dtype: object
```

- Selection of rows needs .loc[]
- Selection is label based!
- For a MultiIndex you can specify some or all levels

Selecting rows and columns

```
>>> df.loc[1, "country"]
'Cuba'

>>> df.loc[[1, 3], ["country", "year"]]

country
year

L Cuba
2007
Spain
2007
```

- Use .loc[rows, columns] to select rows and columns
- Can use everything you have seen before

Selecting rows using Boolean Series

80.94

2007

Europe

3 Spain

Comparisons of Series produce
Boolean Series!

- Complex conditions with | and &
- Boolean Series can be used for selecting rows
- Works also inside .1oc

Selecting rows with queries

```
>>> df.query("year >= 2005")
country continent year life_exp
1 Cuba Americas 2007 78.27
3 Spain Europe 2007 80.94
```

- query selects rows based on strings with conditions
- Can use index names just as column names
- Use single quotes (') for string value inside the query
- More readable than selection via Boolean Series