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"]
      Cuba
0
      Cuba
     Spain
     Spain
Name: country, dtype: string
>>> df[["country", "continent"]]
  country
                         continent
  Cuba
                         Americas
                         Americas
  Cuba
  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]
                  Cuba
 country
 continent
              Americas
                  2007
year
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
         Americas
2007
                             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

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

Selecting rows using Boolean Series

```
df["year"] >= 2005
      False
      True
      False
       True
 Name: year, dtype: bool
>>> df[df["vear"] >= 2005]
                continent
                                          life exp
  country
                                 year
1 Cuba
                Americas
                                 2007
                                          78.27
3 Spain
                                 2007
                                          80.94
                Europe
```

- Comparisons of Series produce Boolean Series!
- Complex conditions with \(\) and \(\& \)
- Boolean Series can be used for selecting rows
- Works also inside `.loc`

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