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Homework 2 (Part 2)

For part two of the project, I went ahead and used the same category of sports, specifically basketball. But, in this case, I dived into getting more numerical categories that really embraced the statistics of basketball through an API rather than only using some columns that were provided in a table on Wikipedia. I think this was a good improvement because for those who are super interested in basketball or for those who generally like studying the sport such as coaches and players, this API would be perfect to give them a better understanding of the game. Nevertheless, before I talk about how this assignment could be helpful to all stakeholders of basketball, I'd like to speak about a little bit of what I did to get the results that I did. This is one thing I knew that would solve the issue or problem of the lack of information, data, or analytics provided.

Again, parts one and two were very similar, this was most likely the case because it was related to NBA data. The slight difference for part two was having to use an API. So, regarding the 10 requests that I chose, I decided on NBA players once again but this time, it was a bit different. Instead of having a list of the top 50 NBA career scoring leaders, I took out a list of 10 of the 50 greatest basketball players in NBA history (each with their own unique player_id).

After having 10 different NBA players, I decided that for each request I wanted the five following pieces of information for each player: 'MIN' (how many minutes they played), 'FG_PCT' (their field goal percentage), 'FTM' (how many free throws made), 'PTS' (points per game), 'PLUS_MINUS' (plus/minus) for all seasons and games that they've played in the NBA. Then, I created data frames with these five columns and more than 10 rows. With that, I went on trying to get some statistics for these 10 players.

Now, as of right now, there is a bug in my code that is not showing the description statistics for each data frame. But, assuming it did so, the information would be very valuable to stakeholders of this sport. How? Well, we have information for just 10 basketball players. The .describe() method would give one thing and that is the mean or average.

Let's say I was Frank Vogel (Head Coach of the LA Lakers) and I wanted to know the average amount of points Stephen Curry has scored in his NBA career thus far. With my program, he'd easily be able to get this information which could then help him in planning accordingly for playing the Golden State Warriors. Who should guard Steph? How do we stop him? What are Steph's weak points? Most if not all of these could be answered with a bit of data and statistics. This can be applied to any team, organization, player, franchise, etc. the ultimate goal could be so many things like winning.