Case Study: Learning from Loss – A Personal Dive into Injury-Related Deaths (2000–2019)

Why I Chose This:

I didn't pick this project because it was easy. I picked it because it felt important.

We often hear about heart disease, cancer, or pandemics—but injuries take millions of lives too, quietly, globally, every year. From road accidents to violence to unsafe conditions—many of these deaths are preventable. That fact stayed with me.

As someone starting out in data analysis, I wanted to explore something that mattered. And I wanted to use this project not just to practice skills, but to tell a real story with data.

What I Set Out to Do:

I asked a simple question:

"How have injury-related deaths changed over time around the world?"

Honestly, at the beginning, I didn't expect to find much. My hypothesis was that there wouldn't be any strong trends. But I was wrong—and I'm glad I was.

This case study explores that journey. It's not just about the insights—it's also about the challenges I faced, the mistakes I made, and how I grew in the process.

Data:

Source: World Bank Data360

Data: Cause of Death by Injury (% of total deaths)

Years: 2000, 2010, 2015, 2019

Tools:

Excel for data cleaning and basic stats

Tableau for visualization

Dashboard: View it here

The Struggle Was Real:

This project nearly didn't make it.

The original version got deleted. No warning, no backup—just gone. I felt devastated. I had already spent hours on it, and seeing it vanish hit hard. I won't lie—I felt defeated. But something in me said, "Try again." So I did. And the second time, I did it better.

The data itself was also messy—full of weird spaces, hidden characters, broken formats. Cleaning it in Excel was tedious. And as I worked, I realized how limited Excel was for visualizing what I was seeing. That's when I turned to Tableau for the first time. It was frustrating at first, but powerful. I learned it by doing—and I'm proud of that.

This was one of the most intense learning experiences I've had so far. But it was worth every hour.

What I Discovered:

- *2015 had the highest injury-related death rates among the four years.*
- *Countries like Estonia, Haiti, and Syria stood out for the wrong reasons—very high injury death rates.*

- *Others like the U.S., Canada, Brazil, and Russia consistently had lower rates.*
- *Some countries improved drastically between 2000 and 2019—the percentage of deaths caused by injuries dropped, which is a hopeful sign.*
- *Malta and Jamaica were regularly among the safest in terms of injury-related deaths.*

What This Meant for Me:

I started with the belief that there'd be no trends—but there absolutely were. Patterns over time, regional differences, signs of improvement. I realized that even with simple statistics—mean, standard deviation, percent change—you can start seeing stories unfold.

This wasn't just a data project. It was a milestone.

I applied what I learned from the Google Data Analytics Certificate, and I leaned on what I studied through the Macquarie University and others. I learned to be careful with data, curious about patterns, and persistent when things fall apart.

I proved to myself that I could take real-world data and turn it into insight—even if it wasn't perfect. And even if I wasn't perfect.

What's Next:

This project was just the beginning. I'm planning more case studies—bigger, deeper, more technical. I want to explore topics like climate change, poverty, healthcare access, and inequality. But I'll never forget this first one.

More than anything, this project reminded me that data can be human. Behind every percentage, there are lives. Families. Communities. Pain and progress. And we, as analysts, are responsible for how we handle those stories.

A Note to Recruiters and Readers:

If you're reading this as a recruiter:

This is my first project—but it's honest, real, and done with care. I'm still learning, but I'm learning fast, and I'm not afraid of challenges.

If you're a fellow learner:

Never underestimate what you can do with simple tools and deep curiosity.

And if you're from one of the countries where injury-related deaths are high—please take care. I hope leaders and citizens alike see the data and take action.