

Data Collection

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Objectives:

The goal of this lab assignment is for students to distinguish between data and information using real-world examples. Through practical scenarios and observations, students will explore the transformation of raw data into meaningful information. Students will also practice gathering data and finding good sources of data.

Complete the following problems

Data Collection: Pick one of the following topics and collect some data about this topic, you need at least 100 records, you can use a text editor or spreadsheet to collect your data. You should think about what is good data to collect for your topic, and what your column and row names should be

1. Sports Statistics
2. Weather Data
3. Collectable Card Game such as Magic The Gathering, or Vampire the Masquerade
4. Video game stats for items or characters in the game
5. Collectables such as figurines for Warhammer or D&D

This can include numbers, figures, text or any relevant data points. Raw data should be unprocessed and unorganized. This means you shouldn't try and manipulate the data yet or do anything to it besides make sure it's in a table with labels. It's ok to have errors and duplications and other things like that at this stage.

You need at least 100 records (or rows) and 7 labeled columns per record. You can choose more, but don't go over 1000 records.

A sample of book data is included as a CSV separately. You may pick another topic not listed above, but it can't be books. Data was collected from <https://zenodo.org/records/4265096> there are some suggestions for where you can get data sets on the Resources page <https://www.aholdengouveia.name/IntroData/Resources.html>

References, a video, a PowerPoint and some notes are available at my website <https://www.aholdengouveia.name/IntroData/dataforeveryone.html>

Answer the Following questions about your data

1. How did you find your data?
2. Why did you decide on this type of data?
3. What trends or patterns can be observed?
4. Are there any outliers or significant data points?
5. What are at least 3 things you've noticed about your data?
6. How did you decide on your column naming?
7. What was the biggest challenge you had while collecting your data?
8. Can you see any obvious mistakes or issues with your data? If yes, what are they?

Deliverables

1. Raw Data
2. Answers to the listed questions

3. Write a brief (less than 1 page) reflection on your findings and the information derived from your data. Think about the challenges faced during the process and how you overcame them, and what you might change if you had to do this again.
4. Description of how you think your data would be best presented so that it's valuable to others
5. At least 1 visualization of your data, as a whole or parts depending on what you think is best. Make sure to explain why you chose what you did.
6. Screenshot of your visualization
7. Screenshot of your data with your name, and term in a note somewhere