

Coursera Capstone
IBM Applied Data Science Capstone
Opening a Gym in Toronto, Canada



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1. Identifying the Business Problem

Toronto is one of the most densely populated areas in Canada. Toronto is the financial center of Canada and it brings in a plethora of people from different countries. With an estimated population of over 6 million, Toronto is one of the largest cities in Canada with a diverse population. Downtown Toronto is a place where people can view the best of each culture, either while they work or just passing through.

The objective of this project is to use Foursquare location data and regional clustering of venue information to determine what might be the 'best' neighborhood in Toronto to open a Gym. Physical activity and exercises are important for everyone. Regular exercise and physical activity promote strong muscles and bones. It improves respiratory, cardiovascular health, and overall health. Staying active can also help you maintain a healthy weight, reduce your risk for type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and reduce your risk for some cancers. Through this project, we will find the most suitable location for an entrepreneur to open a new Gym in Toronto, Canada.

2. Target Audience

The project is mainly focused for Entrepreneurs or Business owners who want to open a new Gym or expand gym outlets to new locations. The analysis will provide vital information that can be used by the target audience.

3. Data

One city will be analyzed in this project: Toronto, ON. We will be using the below datasets for analyzing Toronto.

Data 1: First dataset is from Wikipedia. The Wikipedia site shown above provided almost all the information about the neighborhoods. It included the Postal code, Borough and the name of the Neighborhoods present in Toronto.

Link to the dataset: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_postal_codes_of_Canada:_M

Data 2: Second dataset is Geographical Location data using Geocoder Package which provided us with the Latitudes and Longitudes of the neighborhoods with the respective Postal Codes.

Link to the dataset: https://cocl.us/Geospatial_data

Data 3: Venue Data which was pulled using Foursquare API.

4. Methodology

4.1 —Cleaning of Data

After all the data was collected and put into data frames, cleansing and merging of the data was required to start the process of analysis. When getting the data from Wikipedia, there were Boroughs that were not assigned to any neighborhood therefore, the following assumptions were made:

1. Cells that have an assigned borough were processed. We ignored Borough's that had values 'Not assigned'.
2. More than one neighborhood for one postal code area was combined into one row separated with a comma.
3. If a cell has a Borough but neighborhood as 'Not assigned', then the neighborhood will have the same as Borough.

Postal Code	Borough	Neighborhood
M3A	North York	Parkwoods
M4A	North York	Victoria Village
M5A	Downtown Toronto	Regent Park, Harbourfront
M6A	North York	Lawrence Manor, Lawrence Heights
M7A	Downtown Toronto	Queen's Park, Ontario Provincial Government
M9A	Etobicoke	Islington Avenue, Humber Valley Village
M1B	Scarborough	Malvern, Rouge
M3B	North York	Don Mills
M4B	East York	Parkview Hill, Woodbine Gardens
M5B	Downtown Toronto	Garden District, Ryerson

We merged the two tables using the Latitude and Longitude collected from the Geocoder package, together based on Postal Code.

	Postal Code	Latitude	Longitude
0	M1B	43.806686	-79.194353
1	M1C	43.784535	-79.160497
2	M1E	43.763573	-79.188711
3	M1G	43.770992	-79.216917
4	M1H	43.773136	-79.239476
5	M1J	43.744734	-79.239476
6	M1K	43.727929	-79.262029
7	M1L	43.711112	-79.284577
8	M1M	43.716316	-79.239476
9	M1N	43.692657	-79.264848

The venue data pulled from the Foursquare API was merged with the table, providing us with the local venue within a 500-meter radius shown below.

	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	Parkwoods	43.753259	-79.329656	Brookbanks Park	43.751976	-79.332140	Park
1	Parkwoods	43.753259	-79.329656	Variety Store	43.751974	-79.333114	Food & Drink Shop
2	Parkwoods	43.753259	-79.329656	Corrosion Service Company Limited	43.752432	-79.334661	Construction & Landscaping
3	Victoria Village	43.725882	-79.315572	Victoria Village Arena	43.723481	-79.315635	Hockey Arena
4	Victoria Village	43.725882	-79.315572	Portugill	43.725619	-79.312785	Portuguese Restaurant
5	Victoria Village	43.725882	-79.315572	Tim Hortons	43.725517	-79.313103	Coffee Shop
6	Victoria Village	43.725882	-79.315572	The Fng	43.727051	-79.317418	French Restaurant
7	Victoria Village	43.725882	-79.315572	Pizza Nova	43.725824	-79.312860	Pizza Place
8	Regent Park, Harbourfront	43.654260	-79.360636	Roselle Desserts	43.653447	-79.362017	Bakery
9	Regent Park, Harbourfront	43.654260	-79.360636	Tandem Coffee	43.653559	-79.361809	Coffee Shop

4.2 —Exploration of data

Now after cleansing the data, the next step was to analyze it. We then created a map using Folium and color-coded each Neighborhood depending on what Borough it was located in. We need to register a Foursquare Developer Account in order to obtain the Foursquare ID and Foursquare secret key. We then make API calls to Foursquare passing in the geographical coordinates of the neighborhoods along with our ID and secret key. The returned venue data is in JSON format and venue name, venue category, venue latitude and longitude are ready to be extracted. We prepare our data for clustering by analyzing each neighborhood by grouping the rows by neighborhood and taking the mean of the frequency of occurrence of each venue category. Since we are analyzing the “Gym” data, we will filter the “Gym” as venue category for the neighborhoods.

4.3-- K-Means Clustering

We will perform clustering on the data by using k-means clustering. K means clustering is one of the simplest and popular unsupervised machine learning algorithms and is particularly suited to solve the problem for this project. The algorithm identifies k number of centroids, and then allocates every data point to the nearest cluster, while keeping the centroids as small as possible. We will cluster the neighborhoods into 3 clusters based on their frequency of occurrence for “Gym”. The results will allow us to identify which neighborhoods have higher concentration of Gym while which neighborhoods have fewer number of Gym. Based on the occurrence of Gym in different neighborhoods, it will help us to answer the question, to which neighborhoods are most suitable to open new Gym or to expand.

5.Results

The results from the k-means clustering show that we can categorize the neighborhoods into 4 clusters based on the frequency of occurrence for “Gym”: The information is important as we can see that the highest number of Gyms are in Neighborhood in Cluster 1, while Cluster 4 has less number Gym in the neighborhood. The second greatest number of Gyms are formed around Cluster 3 and the least number of Gyms were found in Cluster 2 with only 1 in that neighborhood. The results of the clustering are visualized in the map below with cluster 0 in red, cluster 1 in purple color, and cluster 3 in blue and cluster 4 in green color respectively.



6. Conclusion

In conclusion, I had an opportunity to work a business problem, and it was tackled in a way that it was similar to how a genuine data scientist would do. The project utilized numerous Python libraries to fetch the information, control the content and break down and visualize those datasets. Foursquare API was utilized to investigate the settings in neighborhoods of Toronto, get a great measure of data from Wikipedia which were scraped with the BeautifulSoup Web scraping Library. Different plots were also visualized using seaborn and Matplotlib libraries. Similarly, AI strategy was applied to anticipate the error given the information and utilized Folium to picture it on a map. I hope the findings of this project will definitely help the business owners and entrepreneurs to capitalize on the opportunities on high potential locations while avoiding overcrowded areas in their decisions to open a new gym.