Group Project 1 Synopsis

Mental Health:
I analyzed the effects of the pandemic on mental health. I looked at data provided by the cdc.org for a survey done by the U.S. Census and five other federal agencies during the pandemic to indicate if you have experienced symptoms of anxiety and/or depression. I specifically looked at the trend by 7 different age groups and by gender for 2020-January of 2023. What I was able to see was an increase in January 2020, when reports of the pandemic started making headlines. That was consistent in all ages and gender. What also stood out to me, was that the younger age group (18-23) and the oldest (80+) had the most extreme highs and lows. Basically what all this shows that regardless of age or gender, the pandemic had negative effects on mental health.

Financial:
I analyzed unemployment rates from 2019 to the end of 2021 to see the direct impact of COVID-19 on the financial security of households in America. The trend I found was that initially, when covid was looming as well as just starting, there was a large spike in unemployment, and then the unemployment rate steadily decreased afterwards. Based on the data gathered by Carson on the peak time of new cases, and knowing that the peak of covid was far later than the peak of unemployment rates, I believe that this spike in unemployment was based on fear and speculation rather than actual decreases and hits on many companies' profits.

In the end, fear or not, the unemployment rate increase caused by COVID was detrimental to many households and caused the government to offer assistance in many ways such as housing assistance, stimulus offerings, and healthcare assistance.

Education:
        My task was to analyze the way COVID-19 affected education in the United States. After exploring the data available, I chose to focus on enrollment through various stages of schooling from 2017 to 2021. I separated my findings into four schools (elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary) and subcategorized them by grade level. Interestingly, elementary school enrollment seemed to be entirely, negatively impacted between 2019 and 2020. Kindergarten specifically saw a 26% reduction in enrollment that year. Middle and high schools followed a similar trend with their respective entry-level grades being significantly reduced in size between 2019 and 2020. However, later grades seemed to increase in enrollment normally. It's as if parents were not entirely willing to risk putting their children in new environments, but being already in middle school or high school made them more comfortable in enrolling for 2020.

More recent data was available for schooling beyond high school. I was able to derive that 2020 saw a small negative bump in the number of undergraduate students. Maybe they had already made their arrangements to attend university and wanted to stick with it. 2021 was a different story though, with a 5% drop in enrolled undergraduates. Further research and analysis would be interesting for the sake of deducing specifics in why parents and students made these educational choices.

Deaths and Peak Infection Days: I analyzed total deaths for The United States of America and peak infection days for the ten most populated countries. My findings while i feel like were a bit obvious showed that yes covid 19 had a positive impact on mortality. While my findings for peaks cases in day showed me that 6 of the 10 most populated countries reached their peak day of infection in a 2 month time period. With this information we can't conclusively gather why they all reached their peak infection days so close together.

In conclusion it was always going to be obvious that Covid-19 effected mortality rate but what wasn't obvious was the peak spread of Covid-19 through the most populated countries nearly 2 years into the pandemic.