1. Inspecting the data



Photo by Jannis Lucas on Unsplash.

Every year, American high school students take SATs, which are standardized tests intended to measure literacy, numeracy, and writing skills. There are three sections - reading, math, and writing, each with a maximum score of 800 points. These tests are extremely important for students and colleges, as they play a pivotal role in the admissions process.

Analyzing the performance of schools is important for a variety of stakeholders, including policy and education professionals, researchers, government, and even parents considering which school their children should attend.

In this notebook, we will take a look at data on SATs across public schools in New York City. Our database contains a single table:

schools

column	type	description
school_name	varchar	Name of school
borough	varchar	Borough that the school is located in
building_code	varchar	Code for the building
average_math	int	Average math score for SATs
average_reading	int	Average reading score for SATs
average_writing	int	Average writing score for SATs
percent_tested	numeric	Percentage of students completing SATs

Let's familiarize ourselves with the data by taking a looking at the first few schools!

In [2]: **%%sql**

postgresql:///schools

- -- Select all columns from the database
- -- Display only the first ten rows

SELECT * FROM schools LIMIT 10;

10 rows affected.

New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math High School Essex Street Academy Manhattan Mushattan Mu	ent_teste	per	average_writing	average_reading	average_math	building_code	borough	school_name
Lower Manhattan Manhattan M445 395 411 387 Lower Manhattan Manhattan M445 418 428 415 High School for Dual Language and Asian Studies Henry Street School for International Studies Bard High School Early College Urban Assembly Academy of Government and Law Manhattan M445 389 395 381 Manhattan M445 389 395 381 Manhattan M445 389 395 381	Nor		601	601	657	M022	Manhattan	Explorations into Science, Technology and Math
Manhattan Arts Academy High School for Dual Language and Asian Studies Henry Street School for International Studies Bard High School Early College Urban Assembly Academy of Government and Law Marta Valle Manhattan M445 418 428 415 A18 428 415 A18 428 415 A19 406 381 A53 463 A63 A63 A64 A64 A64 A64 A641 A63 A64 A641 A63 A64 A641 A64 A64 A64	78		387	411	395	M445	Manhattan	
for Dual Language and Asian Studies Henry Street School for International Studies Bard High School Early College Urban Assembly Academy of Government and Law Marta Valle Manhattan M45 463 463 463 463 463 463 463 463	65		415	428	418	M445	Manhattan	Manhattan
School for International Studies Bard High School Early College Urban Assembly Academy of Government and Law Marta Valle Manhattan M056 410 406 381 A10 406 381 A110 406 381	95		463	453	613	M445	Manhattan	for Dual Language and
School Early Manhattan M097 634 641 639 Urban Assembly Academy of Manhattan M445 389 395 381 Government and Law Marta Valle Manhattan M025 438 413 394	59		381	406	410	M056	Manhattan	School for International
Assembly Academy of Manhattan M445 389 395 381 Government and Law Marta Valle Manhattan M035 438 413 394	70		639	641	634	M097	Manhattan	School Early
Manhattan M075 //38 //12 20/	80		381	395	389	M445	Manhattan	Assembly Academy of Government
	35		394	413	438	M025	Manhattan	
University Neighborhood Manhattan M446 437 355 352 High School	69		352	355	437	M446	Manhattan	Neighborhood
New Design High School Manhattan M445 381 396 372	73		372	396	381	M445	Manhattan	

In [3]:

%nose

last_output = _

```
def test_task1_output_type():
    assert str(type(last_output)) == "<class 'sql.run.ResultSet'>", \
    "Please ensure an SQL ResultSet is the output of the code cell."

results = last_output.DataFrame()

def test_task1_results():
    assert results.shape == (10, 7), \
    "The results should have fourteen columns and ten rows."
    assert set(results.columns) == set(['school_name', 'borough', 'building_code', 'ave 'The results should include all columns from the database, without using an alias.'
    assert last_output.DataFrame().loc[0, 'building_code'] == "M022", \
    "The building code for the first school should be M022."
```

Out[3]: 2/2 tests passed

2. Finding missing values

It looks like the first school in our database had no data in the percent_tested column!

Let's identify how many schools have missing data for this column, indicating schools that did not report the percentage of students tested.

To understand whether this missing data problem is widespread in New York, we will also calculate the total number of schools in the database.

```
assert last_output_df.iloc[0, 1] == 375, \
"""Did you correctly calculate the total number of rows in the database?"""
```

Out[5]: 2/2 tests passed

3. Schools by building code

There are 20 schools with missing data for percent_tested, which only makes up 5% of all rows in the database.

Now let's turn our attention to how many schools there are. When we displayed the first ten rows of the database, several had the same value in the building_code column, suggesting there are multiple schools based in the same location. Let's find out how many unique school locations exist in our database.

```
In [6]:
         %%sql
         -- Count the number of unique building_code values
         SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT building code) num school buildings
         FROM schools;
         * postgresql:///schools
        1 rows affected.
Out[6]: num_school_buildings
                       233
In [7]:
         %%nose
         last output =
         last_output_df = last_output.DataFrame()
         def test_task3_column_name():
             assert last output df.columns.tolist() == ["num school buildings"], \
             "Did you use the correct alias for the number of unique school buildings?"
         def test_task3_value():
             assert last output df.values.tolist() == [[233]], \
             "Did you use the correct method to calculate how many unique school buildings are i
```

Out[7]: 2/2 tests passed

4. Best schools for math

Out of 375 schools, only 233 (62%) have a unique building_code!

Now let's start our analysis of school performance. As each school reports individually, we will treat them this way rather than grouping them by building_code .

First, let's find all schools with an average math score of at least 80% (out of 800).

* postgresql:///schools 10 rows affected.

Out[8]:

school_name	average_math
Stuyvesant High School	754
Bronx High School of Science	714
Staten Island Technical High School	711
Queens High School for the Sciences at York College	701
High School for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering at City College	683
Brooklyn Technical High School	682
Townsend Harris High School	680
High School of American Studies at Lehman College	669
New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math High School	657
Eleanor Roosevelt High School	641

```
In [9]:
         %%nose
         last output =
         last_output_df = last_output.DataFrame()
         def test task4 columns():
             assert set(last_output_df.columns) == set(["school_name", "average_math"]), \
             "Did you select the correct columns?"
         def test_task4_filter():
             assert last_output_df["average_math"].min() >= 640, \
             """Did you correctly filter for "average_math" scores more than or equal to 640?"""
             assert last_output_df.shape == (10, 2), \
             """The output has the wrong number of results, did you correctly filter the "averag
         def test_task4_values():
             assert last_output_df.iloc[0,0] == "Stuyvesant High School", \
             """Did you run the correct query? Expected the first school to be "Stuyvesant High
             assert last output df.iloc[0,1] == 754.0, \
             """Did you correctly sort the values by "average_math" in descending order? Expecte
```

5. Lowest reading score

Wow, there are only ten public schools in New York City with an average math score of at least 640!

Now let's look at the other end of the spectrum and find the single lowest score for reading. We will only select the score, not the school, to avoid naming and shaming!

```
In [10]:
          %%sql
          -- Find lowest average reading
          SELECT MIN(average_reading) AS lowest_reading
          FROM schools;
          * postgresql:///schools
         1 rows affected.
Out[10]: lowest_reading
                   302
In [11]:
          %%nose
          last output =
          last_output_df = last_output.DataFrame()
          def test task5 value():
              assert last_output_df["lowest_reading"].values.tolist() == [302.0], \
              """Did you select the minimum value for the "average_reading" column?"""
          def test task5 alias():
              assert last_output_df.columns.tolist() == ["lowest_reading"], \
              """Did you use the correct alias? Expected "lowest_reading"."""
```

Out[11]: 2/2 tests passed

6. Best writing school

The lowest average score for reading across schools in New York City is less than 40% of the total available points!

Now let's find the school with the highest average writing score.

```
In [12]:  

""sql

-- Find the top score for average_writing
-- Group the results by school
-- Sort by max_writing in descending order
-- Reduce output to one school

SELECT
```

```
school_name,
              MAX(average writing) AS max writing
          FROM schools
          GROUP BY school name
          ORDER BY max writing DESC
          LIMIT 1;
          * postgresql:///schools
         1 rows affected.
Out[12]:
                 school_name max_writing
          Stuyvesant High School
                                    693
In [13]:
          %%nose
          last output =
          last_output_df = last_output.DataFrame()
          def test_task6_columns():
              assert set(last_output_df.columns) == set(["school_name", "max_writing"]), \
              """Did you select "average writing" and use an alias?"""
          def test_task6_shape():
              assert last output df.shape[0] == 1, \
              "Did you select the correct number of values? Expected one row."
          def test_task6_values():
              assert last_output_df.values.tolist() == [['Stuyvesant High School', 693.0]], \
              """Did you select the maximum value for "average_writing"? Expected a different val
```

Out[13]: 3/3 tests passed

7. Top 10 schools

An average writing score of 693 is pretty impressive!

This top writing score was at the same school that got the top math score, Stuyvesant High School. Stuyvesant is widely known as a perennial top school in New York.

What other schools are also excellent across the board? Let's look at scores across reading, writing, and math to find out.

```
LIMIT 10
            * postgresal:///schools
          10 rows affected.
Out[14]:
                                                          school_name average_sat
                                                  Stuyvesant High School
                                                                             2144
                                        Staten Island Technical High School
                                                                             2041
                                             Bronx High School of Science
                                                                             2041
                          High School of American Studies at Lehman College
                                                                             2013
                                             Townsend Harris High School
                                                                             1981
                         Queens High School for the Sciences at York College
                                                                             1947
                                                                             1914
                                           Bard High School Early College
                                           Brooklyn Technical High School
                                                                             1896
                                            Eleanor Roosevelt High School
                                                                             1889
           High School for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering at City College
                                                                             1889
In [15]:
           %%nose
           last_output =
           last_output_df = last_output.DataFrame()
           def test_task7_columns():
                assert set(last_output_df.columns) == set(["school_name", "average_sat"]), \
                """Did you select the correct columns and use an alias for the sum of the three sat
           def test task7 shape():
                assert last_output_df.shape[0] == 10, \
                "Did you limit the number of results to ten?"
                assert last_output_df.shape[1] == 2, \
                """Expected your query to return two columns: "school_name" and "average_sat"."""
```

Out[15]: 3/3 tests passed

8. Ranking boroughs

def test_task7_values():

There are four schools with average SAT scores of over 2000! Now let's analyze performance by New York City borough.

assert last_output_df.iloc[0].values.tolist() == ['Stuyvesant High School', 2144],
"""Did you correctly define your query? Expected different values for the first sch

"""Did you correctly filter the results? Expected a different lowest score for "ave

"""Did you correctly calculate the "average_sat" column? Expected a different top s

assert last_output_df["average_sat"].min() == 1889, \

assert last_output_df["average_sat"].max() == 2144, \

We will build a query that calculates the number of schools and the average SAT score per borough!

* postgresql:///schools

5 rows affected.

Out[16]: borough num_schools average_borough_sat

Staten Island	10	1439
Queens	69	1345
Manhattan	89	1340
Brooklyn	109	1230
Bronx	98	1202

```
In [17]:
          %%nose
          last output =
          last output df = last output.DataFrame()
          def test task8 columns():
              assert set(last output df.columns) == set(['borough', 'num schools', 'average borou
              """Did you select the correct columns and use aliases for the number of schools and
          def test_task8_shape():
              assert last output df.shape[0] == 5, \
              "Did you group by the correct column? Expected five rows to be returned: one for ea
              assert last_output_df.shape[1] == 3, \
              """Expected your query to return three columns: "borough", "num_schools", and "aver
          def test task8 values():
              # Each assert statement checks values per row
              assert last_output_df.iloc[0].values.tolist() == ['Staten Island', 10, 1439], \
              """Did you correctly define your query? Expected different values for Staten Island
              assert last_output_df.iloc[1].values.tolist() == ['Queens', 69, 1345], \
              """Did you correctly define your query? Expected different values for Queens."""
              assert last output df.iloc[2].values.tolist() == ['Manhattan', 89, 1340], \
              """Did you correctly define your query? Expected different values for Manhattan."""
              assert last_output_df.iloc[3].values.tolist() == ['Brooklyn', 109, 1230], \
              """Did you correctly define your query? Expected different values for Brooklyn."""
              assert last output df.iloc[4].values.tolist() == ['Bronx', 98, 1202], \
              """Did you correctly define your query? Expected different values for the Bronx."""
              # Check lowest average_reading score is in the last row
              assert last_output_df.iloc[-1, 0] == 'Bronx', \
              """Did you sort the results by "average sat" in descending order?"""
```

9. Brooklyn numbers

It appears that schools in Staten Island, on average, produce higher scores across all three categories. However, there are only 10 schools in Staten Island, compared to an average of 91 schools in the other four boroughs!

For our final query of the database, let's focus on Brooklyn, which has 109 schools. We wish to find the top five schools for math performance.

* postgresql:///schools 5 rows affected.

Out[18]:

Brooklyn Technical High School 682 Brooklyn Latin School 625 Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences 563 Millennium Brooklyn High School 553 Midwood High School 550

```
"Did you correctly filter by borough? Expected a different list of school names."

def test_task9_values():
    assert last_output_df["average_math"].max() == 682, \
    """Did you select the correct values? Expected a maximum value of 682.0 for "averag assert last_output_df["average_math"].min() == 550, \
    """Did you select the correct values? Expected a minimum value of 550.0 for "averag assert last_output_df["average_math"].values.tolist() == [682, 625, 563, 553, 550],
    """Did you sort by "average_math" in descending order? Expected different values.""
```

Out[19]: 4/4 tests passed