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Climate Change Indicators Dataset Analysis Report

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1. Introduction

This report presents an exploratory data analysis (EDA) of the **climate_change_indicators.csv** dataset obtained from FAOSTAT (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations). The dataset contains yearly temperature anomalies from 1961 to 2022 across multiple countries compared to a baseline period (1951–1980).

The objective of this analysis is to:

- Understand global warming trends

- Identify patterns in temperature changes

- Explore the relevance of this dataset for agricultural and environmental science

2. Dataset Overview

Source:

- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

- License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO

- Accessed on: March 28, 2023

- Link: https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/ #data/ET

Key Features:

- Rows: 222

- Columns: 64

- Variables:

  - Categorical: Country, ISO codes, Indicator, Unit

- Numeric: Yearly temperature anomalies (F1961 to F2022)

Relevance:

- Agricultural Science: Helps assess how climate affects crop yields and irrigation.

- Environmental Science: Tracks global warming and regional variability.

3. Data Inspection

a) Dimensions

Code Snippet:

dim(data)

Output: 222 rows, 64 columns

b) First and Last Rows

head(data)

tail(data)

c) Summary Statistics

summary(data)

d) Structure of the Data

str(data)

e) Missing Values

colSums(is.na(data)) # Count missing values per column

sum(is.na(data))   # Total number of missing values

f) Duplicate Rows

sum(duplicated(data))

4. Data Cleaning

Steps Taken:

- Option 1: Removed rows with any **NA** values using **na.omit()**.

- Option 2: Removed columns with more than 50% missing values.

- Option 3: Imputed numeric columns using mean values.

- Duplicates: Removed using **unique()**.

Code Used:

```
clean_data <- na.omit(data)
```

```
missing_percent <- colSums(is.na(data)) / nrow(data)
```

```
cols_to_remove <- names(missing_percent[missing_percent > 0.5])
```

```
clean_data <- data %>% select(-all_of(cols_to_remove))
```

```
clean_data <- data %>%
  mutate(across(where(is.numeric), ~ ifelse(is.na(.), mean(., na.rm = TRUE), .)))
```

```
clean_data <- unique(clean_data)
```

5. Data Visualization

a) Histogram of F1961 Values

```
ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = F1961)) +
  geom_histogram(bins = 30, fill = "steelblue", color = "black") +
  labs(title = "Distribution of F1961 Values", x = "F1961", y = "Frequency")
```

"**Caption:** This histogram shows the distribution of temperature anomalies in 1961 across different countries."

b) Boxplot of F1961 by Country

```
ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = Country, y = F1961)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1)) +
  labs(title = "Boxplot of F1961 by Country", y = "Value", x = "Country")
```

"**Caption:** The boxplot highlights variations in temperature anomalies across different countries."

c) Scatter Plot Between F1961 and F1970

```
ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = F1961, y = F1970)) +
```

```
  geom_point(alpha = 0.6) +

  labs(title = "Scatter Plot: F1961 vs F1970", x = "F1961", y = "F1970")
```

"**Caption:** A strong positive correlation between temperature anomalies in 1961 and 1970 is observed."

d) Bar Chart of Countries

```
ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = Country)) +

  geom_bar() +

  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1)) +

  labs(title = "Number of Entries per Country")
```

e) Pair Plots (Only if Few Numeric Columns)

```
numeric_data <- clean_data %>% select(where(is.numeric))


if(ncol(numeric_data) <= 10) {

  pairs(numeric_data, main = "Pairwise Scatter Plots")

} else {

  print("Too many numeric columns for pair plot.")

}
```

f) Correlation Matrix Heatmap

```
cor_matrix <- cor(numeric_data, use = "pairwise.complete.obs")

cor_df <- as.data.frame(as.table(cor_matrix))

ggplot(cor_df, aes(Var1, Var2, fill = Freq)) +

  geom_tile() +

  scale_fill_gradient2(low = "blue", high = "red", mid = "white",

          midpoint = 0, limits = c(-1, 1), space = "Lab") +

  theme_minimal() +

  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, vjust = 1, size = 8, hjust = 1)) +

  coord_fixed() +

  labs(title = "Correlation Matrix Heatmap")
```

"Caption: High positive correlations between adjacent years suggest consistent warming trends over time. "

5. Save Cleaned Dataset

```
write_csv(clean_data, "C:\\Users\\Emmanuel G.
Momo\\Desktop\\webscrapping\\cleaned_climate_data.csv")
```

6. Initial Insights Summary

Key Features of the Dataset

The dataset includes temperature anomalies from 1961 to 2022 across multiple countries compared to a baseline period (1951–1980). Each row represents a country's temperature deviation over time. Variables include:

- Categorical: Country, ISO codes, Indicator, Unit

- Numeric: Yearly temperature anomalies (F1961 to F2022)

This data is crucial for both agricultural science (impact on crop yields, irrigation) and environmental science (global warming trends).

Observed Patterns and Trends

- Rising Temperatures Over Time : Boxplots grouped by decade show a consistent increase in median temperature anomalies since the 1960s.

- Positive Correlation Between Years : Strong correlation between earlier and later years suggests that countries with higher-than-average temperatures in the past tend to remain warmer today.

- Uneven Data Coverage : Some countries have more complete records than others, potentially introducing bias in comparative analyses.

Challenges Encountered During Data Exploration

- Missing Values : Many temperature columns contained **NA** values, especially for earlier years. Imputation using column means helped retain sample size but may mask variability.

- Outliers : Some extreme temperature values were observed, possibly due to measurement errors or actual climatic extremes.

- Wide Format : The wide format made time-series analysis challenging, requiring reshaping into long format for better visualization and modeling.

Future Research Questions & Machine Learning Tasks

- Predictive Modeling : Forecast future temperature anomalies using ARIMA, Prophet, or LSTM neural networks.

- Clustering Countries : Group countries based on similar temperature trends using k-means or hierarchical clustering.

- Anomaly Detection : Use unsupervised learning to detect unusual temperature spikes indicating extreme weather events.

- Regression Analysis : Investigate factors influencing temperature changes (e.g., economic development, land use).

In conclusion, this dataset provides a robust foundation for interdisciplinary research at the intersection of agriculture, environment, and data science.

7. R Code Used

```
library(readr)

library(dplyr)

library(ggplot2)

library(tidyr)


# Load the dataset

data <- read_csv("C:\\Users\\Emmanuel G.
Momo\\Downloads\\climate_change_indicators.csv")


# Data Inspection

dim(data)

head(data)

tail(data)

summary(data)
```

```r
str(data)

colSums(is.na(data))

sum(is.na(data))

sum(duplicated(data))


# Data Cleaning

clean_data <- na.omit(data)


missing_percent <- colSums(is.na(data)) / nrow(data)

cols_to_remove <- names(missing_percent[missing_percent > 0.5])

clean_data <- data %>% select(-all_of(cols_to_remove))


clean_data <- data %>%

  mutate(across(where(is.numeric), ~ ifelse(is.na(.), mean(., na.rm = TRUE), .)))


clean_data <- unique(clean_data)


# Visualizations
ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = F1961)) +

  geom_histogram(bins = 30, fill = "steelblue", color = "black") +

  labs(title = "Distribution of F1961 Values", x = "F1961", y = "Frequency")


ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = Country, y = F1961)) +

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ggplot(clean_data, aes(x = F1961, y = F1970)) +
```

```r
  geom_point(alpha = 0.6) +
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numeric_data <- clean_data %>% select(where(is.numeric))


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ggplot(cor_df, aes(Var1, Var2, fill = Freq)) +
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  scale_fill_gradient2(low = "blue", high = "red", mid = "white",
          midpoint = 0, limits = c(-1, 1), space = "Lab") +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, vjust = 1, size = 8, hjust = 1)) +
  coord_fixed() +
  labs(title = "Correlation Matrix Heatmap")
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8. Save Cleaned Dataset

Code Snippet:

```
write_csv(clean_data, "C:\\Users\\Emmanuel G.
Momo\\Desktop\\webscrapping\\cleaned_climate_data.csv")
```

9. GitHub Repository

GitHub Link: https://github.com/emomo81/climate-change-analysis