

# W10-submission

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## W10 submission

### A.Diary Entry

1. What is the topic that you have finalised? (Answer in 1 or 2 sentences).

*# I have decided on the topic of "health" for my data story, namely, Substance Abuse and its Public Health Consequences.*

2. What are the data sources that you have curated so far? (Answer 1 or 2 sentences).

*# My data sources for now are mainly coming from the Global Health Observatory data repository.*

*# Some data sets I'm considering are "levels of (alcohol) consumption" and "harms and consequences" ie morbidity/mortality rates.*

3. What is the question that you are going to answer? (Answer: One sentence that ends with a question mark that could act like the title of your data story)

*# "What is the extent of substance abuse and its public health consequences in the Americas?" (Note: question is still subject to change)*

4. Why is this an important question? (Answer: 3 sentences, each of which has some evidence, e.g., "According to the United Nations..." to justify why the question you have chosen is

important)

*# Substance abuse is a significant public health concern with severe consequences. According to the United Nations, substance abuse contributes to over 350,000 preventable deaths annually. Moreover, the World Health Organization (WHO) notes that substance abuse leads to a significant economic burden, with costs related to healthcare, law enforcement, and lost productivity. This question is important as understanding the global impact of substance abuse can inform effective public health policies and interventions.*

5. Which rows and columns of the dataset will be used to answer this question? (Answer: Actual names of the variables in the dataset that you plan to use). Include the challenges and errors that you faced and how you overcame them.

*# Note: the below are still subject to change*

*# Data Sets: (Age standardised) heavy episodic drinking by country & Regional prevalence of alcohol dependence*

*# Specific Variables for heavy episodic drinking:*

*# Columns: Country, year, both sexes.*

*# Rows: those in the regions of the Americas*

*# Specific Variables for Regional prevalence of alcohol dependence:*

*# Columns: WHO region, regional prevalence of alcohol dependence*

*# Rows: all*

*# Challenges and Errors:*

*# So far, I've encountered some challenges trying to narrow down the scope of my question. It was also difficult trying to find suitable data sets for the scope of my question amidst the sea of data available.*