DSC540-Project Milestone4-Jyoti Dave

February 5, 2025

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[1]: # Weeks 9 & 10 Term project : Milestone 4
[2]: # Connecting to an API/Pulling in the Data and Cleaning/Formatting
     # Perform at least 5 data transformation and/or cleansing steps to your API,
     \hookrightarrow data.
     # Examples:
     # Replace Headers
     # Format data into a more readable format
     # Identify outliers and bad data
     # Find duplicates
     # Fix casing or inconsistent values
     # Conduct Fuzzy Matching
[3]: # API:
                Description: Covid tracking API, contains datasets such as state,
      hospitalized, positive, negative case details by state wise in USA.
               Source: Covid tracking API.
     # •
     # •
                Link: https://api.covidtracking.com/v1/states/current.json
[4]: import requests
     import pandas as pd
     # Fetch API data
     url = "https://api.covidtracking.com/v1/states/current.json"
     response = requests.get(url)
     data = response.json()
     # Convert JSON data to a DataFrame
     df = pd.DataFrame(data)
     # View raw data structure
     print(df.head())
     # Step 1. Rename columns for readability
     df.rename(columns={
         "state": "State",
         "positive": "Positive_Cases",
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"negative": "Negative_Cases",
    "pending": "Pending_Tests",
    "hospitalizedCurrently": "Currently_Hospitalized",
    "hospitalizedCumulative": "Total_Hospitalized",
    "inIcuCurrently": "Currently_in_ICU",
    "inIcuCumulative": "Total_ICU",
    "onVentilatorCurrently": "Currently_on_Ventilator",
    "onVentilatorCumulative": "Total_on_Ventilator",
    "recovered": "Recovered",
    "death": "Deaths",
    "totalTestResults": "Total Tests",
    "lastUpdateEt": "Last_Update",
    "dateModified": "Date_Modified",
    "fips": "FIPS_Code"
}, inplace=True)
# View cleaned dataset
print(df.head())
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                                             negative pending \
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    [5 rows x 56 columns]
[5]: # Renamed Columns - Made them more descriptive
[6]: # Step 2. Standardize state abbreviations to uppercase
     df["State"] = df["State"].str.upper()
     # View cleaned dataset
     print(df.head())
                        Positive_Cases probableCases
                                                        Negative_Cases
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    [5 rows x 56 columns]
[7]: # Standardized State Codes - Ensured all state abbreviations are in uppercase
[8]: # Step 3. Convert date columns to datetime format
     df["Last_Update"] = pd.to_datetime(df["Last_Update"], errors='coerce')
     df["Date_Modified"] = pd.to_datetime(df["Date_Modified"], errors='coerce')
     # View cleaned dataset
     print(df.head())
            date State
                        Positive_Cases probableCases
                                                         Negative_Cases
      20210307
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      [5 rows x 56 columns]
 [9]: # Converted Date Columns - Standardized date format for analysis
[10]: # Step 4. Remove duplicate rows (if any)
      df.drop_duplicates(inplace=True)
      # View cleaned dataset
      print(df.head())
                          Positive_Cases probableCases
                                                           Negative_Cases
             date State
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     [5 rows x 56 columns]
[11]: # Removed Duplicates - Ensured unique records
[12]: # Step 5. Handle missing values (replace NaN with 0 for numeric columns)
      numeric_cols = df.select_dtypes(include=['number']).columns
      df[numeric_cols] = df[numeric_cols].fillna(0)
      # View cleaned dataset
      print(df.head())
            date State
                         Positive_Cases probableCases
                                                         Negative_Cases \
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        Pending_Tests totalTestResultsSource Total_Tests
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        Total_Hospitalized ... dataQualityGrade
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hospitalizedIncrease

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     [5 rows x 56 columns]
[13]:
     # Handled Missing Values - Replaced NaN with O for numerical fields
                 1 paragraph of the ethical implications of data wrangling specific
[14]: # •
       →to your datasource and the steps you completed answering the following u
       ⇔questions:
      # 0
                 What changes were made to the data?
                 Are there any legal or regulatory guidelines for your data or
       ⇒project topic?
      # 0
                 What risks could be created based on the transformations done?
```

In wrangling the COVID Tracking Project data, several transformations were applied, including renaming columns for clarity, standardizing state abbreviations, converting date formats, removing duplicates, and replacing missing numerical values with zero.

How was your data sourced / verified for credibility?

Was your data acquired in an ethical way?

Did you make any assumptions in cleaning/transforming the data?

How would you mitigate any of the ethical implications you have

0

 \hookrightarrow identified?

Since COVID-19 data impacts public health policies, it is subject to regulatory guidelines such as

CDC reporting standards and HIPAA (if linked to personal health data).

A key ethical risk is data misrepresentation—treating missing values as zero may incorrectly imply no cases rather than unreported data, potentially leading to inaccurate conclusions.

This assumption was made to ensure consistency, but it may not always be valid. The dataset was sourced from a now-archived public API maintained by The COVID Tracking Project, which aggregated information from state health departments, but variations in state-level reporting could impact accuracy. While the data was ethically collected, potential biases or errors in state reporting must be considered.

To mitigate ethical concerns, transparent documentation of data transformations, acknowledgment of data limitations, and cross-referencing with authoritative sources (e.g., CDC, WHO) are essential to ensure accurate and responsible data use.