

ReadMe Economic Freedom Trend Analysis Project

Overview

This project involves a comprehensive analysis of economic freedom trends across the globe, focusing on data spanning from 1950 to 2021. The data includes economic freedom scores for various countries and regions, allowing for a detailed examination of global, regional, and country-specific trends, as well as specific areas of economic freedom.

Data Sources

The analysis is based on three key datasets:

- EFW Ratings 1970-2021: Provides detailed ratings for various countries, including the Economic Freedom Summary Index, from 1970 to 2021.
- EFW Panel Data for Researchers: Contains summarized economic freedom scores and is used for more focused analyses.
- EFW Ratings 1950-1965: Offers economic freedom ratings for the earlier period from 1950 to 1965.

Objectives

The primary goals of this project are to:

- Assess global trends in economic freedom over time.
- Analyze country-specific trends for selected major economies and regions.
- Examine regional differences in economic freedom scores.
- Investigate specific areas contributing to economic freedom, such as government size and regulatory efficiency.

Methodology

The analysis was conducted through various statistical and data visualization techniques, including:

- Trend analysis to observe changes over time.
- Comparative analysis to contrast different countries and regions.
- Correlation analysis to understand the relationships between economic freedom and other factors.
- Predictive modeling for future trend forecasting (Note: Faced challenges in this part due to model and data complexities).

Key Findings

- An overall increase in global economic freedom from 1970 to 2021.
- Significant improvements in economic freedom in countries like China and India, coinciding with economic reforms.
- Stable and high economic freedom scores in regions like Europe & Central Asia and North America.
- Regulatory efficiency (Area 5) showing a strong positive correlation with overall economic freedom.

Conclusions

The study provides valuable insights into the dynamics of economic freedom and highlights the impact of various factors like government policies, regulatory environments, and economic reforms. These findings can assist policymakers, economists, and researchers in understanding and fostering conditions that enhance economic freedom.

Visualizations

The project includes several data visualizations that illustrate the trends and findings. These are available for download and can be used for further analysis or presentation.