

FIT5147 Project Proposal

Project Title: The sea of hopelessness: An exploration of suicide statistics in India.

Name: Sandeep Sethumadhavan

Student ID: 30980283

Tutors: Muhammad (Jameel) Baig and Tam Vo

Every year thousands of people take their own lives due to a multitude of reasons which are all rooted in a general feeling of hopelessness. Focusing efforts on mental health and opening avenues for people to communicate their issues to fight this feeling of hopelessness is something that the whole world should strive towards. Being from India and having had my own experiences with depression and having close acquaintances take their own lives, understanding the data behind suicides to help the conversation is a personal mission for me. Through this project I am looking to use national suicide data provided by data.gov.in – an open government data platform – to explore this topic.

Questions that I want to answer:

1. Has the progress of India as a country over time led to a noticeable decrease in the number of people who have taken their own lives?
2. What have been the major causes of suicide in India and has it changed over time?
3. Is it possible to identify the most vulnerable demography through the lens of socio-economical/educational status?
4. Is there a generational aspect to suicides and what can be understood from the age ranges of the deceased?

Data Sources:

The data is to be sourced from multiple csv files (tabular data) available through www.data.gov.in

I have compiled data sources for each of the following aspects: professional profile, educational status, social status, means adopted, cause for each year from 2013-2018 distributed across each state and union territory of India.

Educational status: Each of these data sources carries information about the educational status (level of education) of the deceased in each year : 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

2018 : <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-educational-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2018> , 40 rows

2017: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-educational-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2017> , 40 rows

2016: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-educational-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2016> , 40 rows

2015: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-educational-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2015> , 40 rows
2014: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-educational-status-suicide-victim-during-2014> , 391 rows
2013: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-educational-status-suicide-victim-during-2013-0> , 343 rows

Professional profile: Each of these data sources carries information about the professional profile of the deceased in each year : 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

2018: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-profession-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2018> , 40 rows
2017: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-profession-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2017> , 40 rows
2016: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-profession-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2016> , 40 rows
2015: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-profession-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2015> , 40 rows
2014: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-profession-profile-suicide-victim-during-2014> , 976 rows
2013: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-profession-profile-suicide-victim-during-2013> , 571 rows

Causes: Each of these data sources carries information about the cause of the suicide in each year : 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

2018: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateutcity-and-cause-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2018> , 94 rows
2017: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateutcity-and-cause-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2017> , 94 rows
2016: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateutcity-and-causes-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2016> , 94 rows
2015: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateutcity-and-causes-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2015> , 94 rows
2014: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-distribution-suicides-causes-during-2014> , 1210 rows
2013: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-distribtion-suicides-causes-during-2013> , 1065 rows

Means adopted: Each of these data sources carries information about the means of the suicide in each year : 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

2018: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-wise-distribution-suicides-means-adopted-during-2018> , 40 rows
2017: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-wise-distribution-suicides-means-adopted-during-2017> , 40 rows
2016: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-wise-distribution-suicides-means-adopted-during-2016> , 40 rows
2015: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-wise-distribution-suicides-means-adopted-during-2015> , 40 rows

2014: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-distribution-suicides-means-adopted-during-2014> , 664 rows

2013: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-distribution-suicides-means-adopted-during-2013> , 723 rows

Social Status: Each of these data sources carries information about social status(married/unmarried etc) of the deceased in each year : 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

2018: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-social-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2018> , 40 rows

2017: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-social-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2017> , 40 rows

2016: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-and-social-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2016> , 40 rows

2015: <https://data.gov.in/resources/stateut-wise-social-status-wise-distribution-suicides-during-2015> , 40 rows

2014: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-social-status-suicide-victim-during-2014> , 313 rows

2013: <https://data.gov.in/resources/state-wise-social-status-suicide-victim-during-2013> , 229 rows