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Assignments

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Assignment 4: Creating graphs for your data

I have completed all the requirements for this assignment.

- Please check the output [here](#)
- Download my program [here](#)

Assignment 3: Making Data Management Decisions

I have completed all the requirements for this assignment.

- Please check the output [here](#)
- Download my program [here](#)

I made and implemented some data management decisions for the variables I selected. I started by coding out missing data (nan) and creating secondary variables. Since I am interested on the relation between income and suicide rate in developed countries: I decided not to run frequency distributions but creating a boolean variable to diferenciate them from other countries.

Assignment 2: Running Your First Program

I have completed all the requirements for this assignment.

- Please check the output [here](#)
 - Download my program [here](#)
-

My selected variables are:

- Country
- Incomeperperson
- Suicideper100th
- Employrate

The variable “country” takes always on different values. So, analysing the data by following the standard requirements of this lesson, I couldn’t find a meaningful pattern.

I replaced all missing values with 0 to avoid the presence of missing data.

Assignment 1: Getting Your Research Project Started

- Choose a data set that you would like to work with

I have selected GapMinder data.

- Identify a specific topic of interest

After looking at the codebook, I decided to study the relationship between unemployment rates and suicide rates in developed countries.

Intuitively, I would say that unemployment rate might correlate positively with suicide rate because unemployed people might translate their frustration into suicide - but I believe the impact varies by region or country.

My research questions are:

- 1) Does unemployment rate correlate positively with suicide rate in developed countries?

2) Are there differences in the suicide rate between developed countries in Asia and developed countries in the rest of the world?

- Codebook

I am including in my codebook the following variables:

Variable Name	Description of Indicator	Main Source
Income per person	2010 Gross Domestic Product per capita in constant 2000 US\$. The inflation but not the differences in the cost of living between countries has been taken into account.	World Bank Work Development Indicators
Employment rate	2007 total employees age 15+ (% of population) Percentage of total population, age above 15, that has been employed during the given year.	International Labour Organization
Female employment rate	2007 female employees age 15+ (% of population) Percentage of female population, age above 15, that has been employed during the given year	International Labour Organization
Suicideper100TH	2005 Suicide, age adjusted, per 100 000 Mortality due to self-inflicted injury, per 100 000 standard population, age adjusted	Combination of time series from WHO Violence and Injury Prevention (VIP) and data from WHO Global Burden of Disease 2002 and 2004.

- Identify a second topic that you would like to explore in terms of its association with your original topic.

Additionally I believe this relationship might vary between Asian developed countries and developed countries of the rest of the world.

- Perform a literature review to see what research has been previously done on this topic.

Search terms: unemployment rate / suicide / developed countries / developing countries.

Many studies have explored the relationship between unemployment and suicide rate but according to Noh (1) these studies of whether unemployment increases suicide rates gave mixed results. Noh (1) tested the hypothesis whether the relationship between unemployment rates and suicide rates vary according to the level of real per capita GDP. He found out that the implied effect of unemployment on suicide rates is positive for countries with higher income. Park (2) said that the suicide rate was closely related to the National's economic status of Korea - the unemployment and suicide rates were positively correlated. Additionally, Yang and Lester (3) said that the association between unemployment and suicide appears to be strong in the United States, but weak or non-existent in other nations. On the other hand, Neumayer (4) has provided evidence that unemployment rates in Germany are negatively related to overall suicide rates. Based on those studies mentioned above, I would say that there are still many potential on testing the hypothesis about a possible difference between suicide rates in the Asian developed countries and developed countries of the rest of the world.

References

(1) Noh, Yong-Hwan (2009). Does unemployment increase suicide rates? The OECD panel evidence. In: Journal of Economic Psychology. RePEc:eee:joepsy:v:30:y:2009:i:4:p:575-582.

(2) Park, Jong Soon (2003). A Study for Effects of Economic Growth Rate and Unemployment Rate to Suicide Rate in Korea. Korean J Prev Med. 2003; 36 (1): 85-91.

(3) Lester, Bijou Yang (2001). Learnings from Durkheim and beyond: The economy and suicide. Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, 31, 15–31

(4) Neumayer, Eric (2004). Recessions lower (some) mortality rates: Evidence from Germany. Social Science and Medicine, 58, 1037–1047.

- Hypothesis

Primary hypothesis:

- Unemployment rate correlate positively with suicide rate in developed countries.

Secondary hypothesis:

- There are differences in the suicide rate between developed countries in Asia and developed countries in the rest of the world.