Idea origin: Bangalore’s colonial street names. I grew up in a place called Wilson Garden, which is a very British-name for a small neighborhood in South India. This made me think of all the British-sounding places not just in Bangalore, but in India, and how they’ve been getting renamed by the government as I’ve been growing up. Bangalore for example is the British name, and Bengaluru is what it’s been officially renamed to.

Idea for project: Visualizing India’s renamed cities

I scraped Wikipedia (somewhat, not done yet) at this [URL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renaming_of_cities_in_India) for cities in India that have been renamed, will merge that with [this](https://github.com/Jeffkrop/Indian_Cities/blob/master/Indian_Cities.csv) csv of Iindian cities and their population to create a dataframe with the following columns: old name, new name, state/UT, year, population, political party during year of change, reason for rename, and a proxy for public opinion at the time of the name change - such as a referendum of local vote, and then I intend to make Datawrapper/ggplot charts like:

* In which government, name changes happened most
* In which states it happened the most
* Most common year of change
* Most common reason for change
* Map with bubbles per state, size of bubble depends on number of name changes for city.

I think my biggest problem will be the scale of the project, and if I can’t find more detailed datasets I will need to do a lot of this scrape manually. If I can’t find enough public opinion proxies I will drop that lens of analysis.

More context:

4 reasons that Indian cities change names

1. Political: Some cities were renamed to reflect the ideologies or political beliefs of the ruling party. For example, in 2018 the Uttar Pradesh government (political party BJP) renamed Allahabad to Prayagraj.
2. Historical: In 2019 the government of Maharashtra renamed Aurangabad to Sambhajinagar to honor the Maratha warrior king, Shivaji's son Sambhaji.
3. Administrative: Some cities were renamed to make them more reflective of the regions they are in or to make them more easily identifiable. For example, in 2001, the West Bengal government renamed the city of Calcutta to Kolkata.
4. Reclaiming the original name: Some cities have been renamed to their original name after the colonizers changed its name. In 1995, the Indian government renamed the city of Bombay to Mumbai, which is the city's original name before it was changed by the British colonizers.

Renaming cities in India is a complex and controversial topic, often politically motivated, reflecting the ideologies of the ruling party, and can be met with resistance from city-dwellers.

Initial notes:

columns for scraped dataframe: old name, new name, state/UT, rename date, reason for rename, public opinion?????? - twitter text analysis??, population, area?

datawrapper charts: when they changed names, separated by reason,

sources: wikipedia, github - list of all indian cities already in a dataframe

find a vote rather than public opinion for name change - referendum? proxy for public opinion

submitted to a vote?

won by a big margin?

lot of charts showing the following:

which government party name changes happened

which timeframe most name changes

which provinces it happened the most

year of change

map maybe with bubbles per region, size of bubble depends on number of name changes.

cities - 1950s to right-wing gov, resurgences of name changes depending on political parties, look at only cities (one geopolitical entity),

public opinion - too complex maybe?

focus on getting data itself

aggregate by sound and syllable that was changed

phonetic alphabet - which specific sound was changed ‘o’ to ‘a’ :