Using an Index: Takeaways

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Syntax

- Creating a Postgres index:

```
conn = psycopg2.connect(dbname="dq", user="hud_admin", password="abc123")
cur = conn.cursor()
cur.execute("CREATE INDEX state_idx ON homeless_by_coc(state);")
conn.commit()
```

- Deleting an index:

```
DROP INDEX state_idx;
```

OR

```
DROP INDEX IF EXISTS state_idx;
```

Concepts

- Indexes can give us tremendous speed benefits at the cost of space.
- Postgres will use an `Index Scan` instead of `Seq Scan` when filtering the table on a primary key column.
- There are several kinds of indexes. The `btree` index is good for range queries while the `hash` index is good for testing equalities.
- Postgres stores its indexes in a table named `pg_indexes`

Resources

- Indexes

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