

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 LOCKDOWN ON MENTAL HEALTH

2020 DATAFEST Team CLM

TEAM MEMBER: Russell Cummings, Denis Liu, Olivia Ma

Objective: To investigate the impact of lock-down on mental health in Canada

Dataset: (1) Kaggle, COVID-19 and Mental Health Search Terms

(2) Kaggle, COVID-19 useful features by country

Hypothesis: lock-down causes more mental health issues, which result in higher online search frequency related to mental health.

Conclusion:

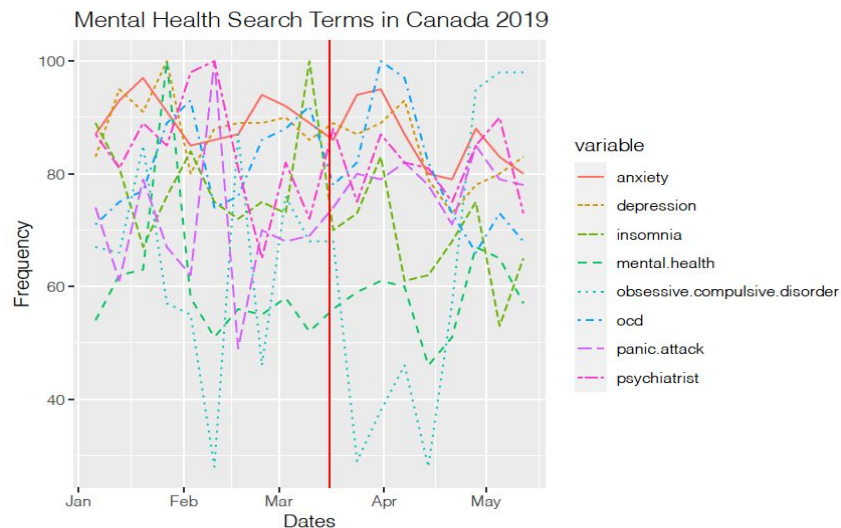
- COVID-19 lock-down in Canada results in a decrease in online mental health search frequency

Limitation:

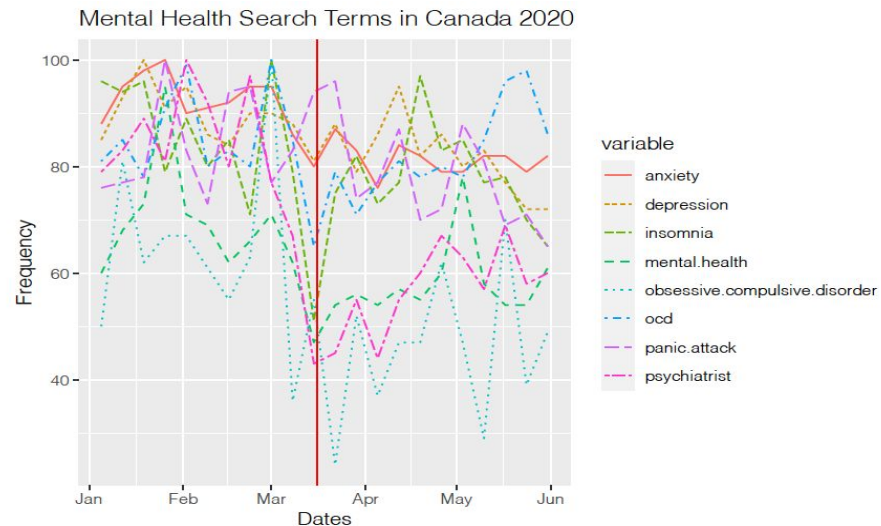
- Not representative enough (only in Canada) and relatively small sample size
- These searches about mental illness might not be affected by lock-down at all, could be a result of really good weather



Multiple Mental Health Search Terms in Canada



- 2019: search frequency for different mental illnesses overall are consistent throughout the year



- 2020: a slight downward trend after lock-down in mid march

Average Score of Mental Health Search Frequency from 2019 to 2020

- The dash line represents the lockdown date
- There is an overall increase in average search frequency at the time when COVID-19 started
- A sudden decrease of average search frequency when the lockdown begins. Maybe the lockdown makes people feel safer for not getting the virus.

