

Data cleansing in Excel

This planning document is intended to support teachers who are delivering the NPA/PDA Data Science or for students who are learning independently. It also aligns with the Data Skills for Work framework.

The lesson has been designed for learners using Microsoft Excel. Most of the information in the lesson will work for other spreadsheets tools. However, if another tool is being used by the learners (such as Google Sheets) the step-by-step instructions will need to be adjusted.

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Version Control

Version number	Purpose/Change	By	Date
1.0	Published by Effini	Emma Nylk	25 Feb 2022

Lesson Description

Lesson Overview	Introduction to the data cleansing activities as part of the analysis steps, including, Removing metadata and duplicates Dropping unrequired columns and rows Renaming variables Fixing missing and outlying values
Topic	Data Manipulation and Data Analysis
Book Chapter(s)	Analysing data

NPA level	4, 5, 6
PDA level	7, 8
Data skills for work level	Core, Analysis

Lesson Contents

This lesson consists of:

- A lesson plan (this document)
- A PowerPoint/PDF presentation, 'Data cleansing in Excel'
- Question worksheet (for learners) on 'Data cleansing in Excel' in Excel
- Answers worksheet (for teachers) on 'Data cleansing in Excel' in Excel/PDF

Learning Intentions

We will be learning about data cleansing in Excel, specifically,

- how to drop unrequired rows and columns
- what naming conventions are commonly used for variables and how to rename variables
- how to remove duplicates
- how to fix missing and outlying values that have already been identified
- how to remove metadata

Success Criteria

I can *remove* a value or variable in Excel to fix a missing or outlying value.

I can *replace* a missing or outlying value with a given value in Excel.

I can *describe* different naming conventions.

I can *change* the name of a variable to a chosen naming convention.

I can *use* filtering and selecting to drop unrequired rows and columns in Excel.

I can *use* the remove duplicates function in Excel.

Knowledge Prerequisites

Learners should know:

- what a dataset is
- data can be used to solve problems and find answers to questions
- that data understanding is part of the analysis steps
- how to identify missing and outlying values
- how to filter datasets in Excel

Lesson Requirements

	PDA	NPA	Data Skills for work
Qualification	Yes	Yes	Yes
Outcome ID(s)	WD7.2c, WD8.3e	DS4.2a, DS4.2c, DS4.3a, DS5.2c, DS5.3c, DS6.2b	C2.1, A1.2, A2.1, A2.3
Outcome description(s)	WD7.2c Data cleaning WD8.3e Data cleaning	DS4.2a Describe common data types and data formats. DS4.2c Describe simple methods of cleaning and transforming data DS4.3a Perform simple data cleaning and structuring. DS5.2c Describe methods of cleaning and transforming data DS5.3c Perform routine data cleaning and structuring. DS6.2b Perform data transformation to complete, correct and structure data	C2.1 Vocabulary used in data science and analytics A1.2 Data quality A2.1 Use of tools to analyse data A2.3 Data calculation and manipulation
Level	7, 8	4, 5, 6	Core, Analysis
Software language	N/A	N/A	N/A
Required equipment /software for student	Lesson: PowerPoint/PDF, Worksheet: Excel	Lesson: PowerPoint/PDF, Worksheet: Excel	Lesson: PowerPoint/PDF, Worksheet: Excel

Task-types

In the worksheet for this lesson, there are up to 6 task-types to that become increasingly challenging to support the students learning. Based on the student's previous knowledge it is possible to select the task-types that are relevant to their stage.

Task-type	Description
1. Recall	To be able to recognise definitions or procedures.
2. Define	To be able to define definitions or procedures.
3. Rephrase	To be able to use their own words to describe definitions or procedures.
4. Apply	To be able to apply definitions or procedures to problem-solving activities.
5. Create	To be able to apply definitions or procedures and create their own solutions to a defined problem.
6. Active	Using knowledge from the lesson which they apply to scenarios they have researched/designed themselves.

Worksheet

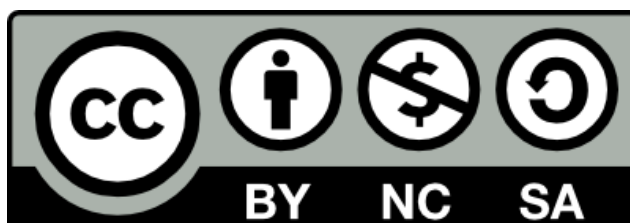
The worksheet associated with this lesson is available either in Excel or as a PDF that can be printed. The answer worksheet is available in both formats too.

Worksheet section ID	Description	Task-type	Number of questions
1.1	Dropping unrequired rows and columns	Recall	1
1.2	Dropping unrequired rows and columns	Apply	3
2.1	Renaming variable	Recall	1
2.2	Renaming variable	Define	2
2.3	Renaming variable	Apply	1
2.4	Renaming variable	Active	1
3.1	Removing duplicates	Recall	1
3.2	Removing duplicates	Apply	3
4.1	Fixing missing and outlying values	Recall	1
4.2	Fixing missing and outlying values	Apply	4
4.3	Fixing missing and outlying values	Active	1
Total			19

How you can use this lesson

This lesson has been created by Effini in partnership with Data Education in Schools, The Data Lab and Data Skills for Work, with funding from the Scottish Government.

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Alternative format

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