

# Assignment 5. Describing Data + Study Area



Directions:

Step 1. Look online for a few datasets that you can use in your capstone project. You will want to have at least 3---I expect that many of you may have 5 or more.

Step 2. In a few sentences, describe your study area:

*The study area of this study is: \_\_\_\_\_, and it is x square kilometers/miles. The population of this study area is \_\_\_\_\_.*

Step 3. Fill in the table with the following information regarding your 3 (or more) datasets and provide references below:

Data Layer	Source	Date/Year	Data Type	Data Format	Use (filled with some examples)
GDP per Capita, Global Countries	World Bank <sup>1</sup>	2015-2021	(raster/vector/ point/polygon/ line/table)	.csv table	Dependent variable?
					Input to suitability model?
					Used to calculate travel time?

References.

- 1) The World Bank (nd). GDP Per Capita: Constant 2015 US\$. Accessed online at <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD>. Last accessed 27 Feb. 2023.

To turn in:

Turn in Step 2 (your study area description) and Step 3 (your table with references) as a word document or PDF on Canvas.

Checklist:

- I wrote a few sentences about my study area that includes population and area. (In the future you will have a map here as well).
- My table has at least 3 items, all of them are referenced clearly so users know some metadata about the data and where to find it.
- My references are comprehensive, neatly formatted, and clear.

**Step 3 Alternative:** If you are really working with one dataset (or survey results, etc.), you have the option of creating a table of attributes and (also) computing summary statistics.

First: Try to create a count and tabulation of each attribute in the dataset (what attributes did the dataset have)—you can make this its own table where each row is an attribute in the dataset.

Second: Describe some summary statistics

These include:

- Number of items
- Number of unique types of items
- Demographics (gender, race, type of user, etc.)
- Average distance, std. of distance, range of distances
- Average size, std. of size, range of sizes
- Range of elevations
- Categories that things fell into and how many in each category

If you are doing a user study, I can show some of those examples as well.

If you are doing a survey, I can show some of those examples as well.