Eurostat R tools

2017-02-21

R Tools for Eurostat Open Data

This rOpenGov R package provides tools to access Eurostat database. For contact information and source code, see the README.

Installation

Release version (CRAN):

```
install.packages("eurostat")
```

Development version (Github):

```
library(devtools)
install_github("ropengov/eurostat")
```

Overall, the eurostat package includes the following functions:

clean_eurostat_cache Clean Eurostat Cache

Polishes the Labels

dic_order Order of Variable Levels from Eurostat

Dictionary.

eurotime2date Date Conversion from Eurostat Time Format eurotime2num Conversion of Eurostat Time Format to Numeric

get_eurostat Read Eurostat Data

get_eurostat_geospatial

Download Geospatial Data from CISGO
get_eurostat_json Get Data from Eurostat API in JSON
get_eurostat_raw Download Data from Eurostat Database

Sets

harmonize_country_code

 ${\tt Harmonize}\ {\tt Country}\ {\tt Code}$

label_eurostat Get Eurostat Codes

merge_eurostat_geodata

Merge Preprocessed Geospatial Data from CISGO

 $\label{lem:control_def} \mbox{with data_frame from Eurostat}$

search_eurostat Grep Datasets Titles from Eurostat

Finding data

Function get_eurostat_toc() downloads a table of contents of eurostat datasets. The values in column 'code' should be used to download a selected dataset.

```
# Load the package
library(eurostat)
library(rvest)

# Get Eurostat data listing
toc <- get_eurostat_toc()

# Check the first items
library(knitr)
kable(head(toc))</pre>
```

title	code	type	last update of data	last table structure
Database by themes	data	folder	NA	NA
General and regional statistics	general	folder	NA	NA
European and national indicators for short-term analysis	euroind	folder	NA	NA
Business and consumer surveys (source: DG ECFIN)	ei_bcs	folder	NA	NA
Consumer surveys (source: DG ECFIN)	ei_bcs_cs	folder	NA	NA
Consumers - monthly data	ei bsco m	dataset	02.02.2017	30.01.2017

With search_eurostat() you can search the table of contents for particular patterns, e.g. all datasets related to passenger transport. The kable function to produces nice markdown output. Note that with the type argument of this function you could restrict the search to for instance datasets or tables.

```
# info about passengers
kable(head(search_eurostat("passenger transport")))
```

title

Volume of passenger transport relative to GDP

Modal split of passenger transport

Railway transport - Total annual passenger transport (1 000 pass., million pkm)

International railway passenger transport from the reporting country to the country of disembarkation (1 000 passengers) International railway passenger transport from the country of embarkation to the reporting country (1 000 passengers) Air passenger transport by reporting country

Codes for the dataset can be searched also from the Eurostat database. The Eurostat database gives codes in the Data Navigation Tree after every dataset in parenthesis.

Downloading data

The package supports two of the Eurostats download methods: the bulk download facility and the Web Services' JSON API. The bulk download facility is the fastest method to download whole datasets. It is also often the only way as the JSON API has limitation of maximum 50 sub-indicators at a time and whole datasets usually exceeds that. To download only a small section of the dataset the JSON API is faster, as it allows to make a data selection before downloading.

A user does not usually have to bother with methods, as both are used via main function <code>get_eurostat()</code>. If only the table id is given, the whole table is downloaded from the bulk download facility. If also filters are defined the JSON API is used.

Here an example of indicator 'Modal split of passenger transport'. This is the percentage share of each mode of transport in total inland transport, expressed in passenger-kilometres (pkm) based on transport by

passenger cars, buses and coaches, and trains. All data should be based on movements on national territory, regardless of the nationality of the vehicle. However, the data collection is not harmonized at the EU level.

Pick and print the id of the data set to download:

[1] "tsdtr210"

Get the whole corresponding table. As the table is annual data, it is more convient to use a numeric time variable than use the default date format:

```
dat <- get_eurostat(id, time_format = "num")</pre>
```

Investigate the structure of the downloaded data set:

```
str(dat)
```

unit	vehicle	geo	time	values
$\overline{\text{PC}}$	BUS_TOT	AT	1990	11.0
PC	BUS_TOT	BE	1990	10.6
PC	BUS_TOT	CH	1990	3.7
PC	BUS_TOT	DE	1990	9.1
PC	BUS_TOT	DK	1990	11.3
PC	BUS_TOT	EL	1990	32.4

Or you can get only a part of the dataset by defining filters argument. It should be named list, where names corresponds to variable names (lower case) and values are vectors of codes corresponding desidered series (upper case). For time variable, in addition to a time, also a sinceTimePeriod and a lastTimePeriod can be used.

```
dat2 <- get_eurostat(id, filters = list(geo = c("EU28", "FI"), lastTimePeriod=1), time_format = "num")
kable(dat2)</pre>
```

unit	vehicle	geo	time	values
$\overline{\text{PC}}$	BUS_TOT	EU28	2014	9.1
PC	BUS_TOT	$_{\mathrm{FI}}$	2014	9.8
PC	CAR	EU28	2014	83.4
PC	CAR	$_{\mathrm{FI}}$	2014	85.2
PC	TRN	EU28	2014	7.6
PC	TRN	FI	2014	5.0

Replacing codes with labels

By default variables are returned as Eurostat codes, but to get human-readable labels instead, use a type = "label" argument.

Eurostat codes in the downloaded data set can be replaced with human-readable labels from the Eurostat dictionaries with the label_eurostat() function.

```
datl <- label_eurostat(dat)
kable(head(datl))</pre>
```

unit	vehicle	geo	$_{ m time}$	values
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	Austria	1990	11.0
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	Belgium	1990	10.6
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	Switzerland	1990	3.7
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	Germany (until 1990 former territory of the FRG)	1990	9.1
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	Denmark	1990	11.3
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	Greece	1990	32.4

The label_eurostat() allows conversion of individual variable vectors or variable names as well.

```
label_eurostat_vars(names(datl))
```

Vehicle information has 3 levels. You can check them now with:

```
levels(datl$vehicle)
```

Selecting and modifying data

EFTA, Eurozone, EU and EU candidate countries

To facilitate smooth visualization of standard European geographic areas, the package provides ready-made lists of the country codes used in the eurostat database for EFTA (efta_countries), Euro area (ea_countries), EU (eu_countries) and EU candidate countries (eu_candidate_countries). These can be used to select specific groups of countries for closer investigation. For conversions with other standard country coding systems, see the countrycode R package. To retrieve the country code list for EFTA, for instance, use:

```
data(efta_countries)
kable(efta_countries)
```

name
Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
Switzerland

EU data from 2012 in all vehicles:

```
dat_eu12 <- subset(datl, geo == "European Union (28 countries)" & time == 2012)
kable(dat_eu12, row.names = FALSE)</pre>
```

unit	vehicle	geo	time	values
Percentage	Motor coaches, buses and trolley buses	European Union (28 countries)	2012	9.3
Percentage	Passenger cars	European Union (28 countries)	2012	83.0
Percentage	Trains	European Union (28 countries)	2012	7.7

EU data from 2000 - 2012 with vehicle types as variables:

Reshaping the data is best done with spread() in tidyr.

```
library("tidyr")
dat_eu_0012 <- subset(dat, geo == "EU28" & time %in% 2000:2012)
dat_eu_0012_wide <- spread(dat_eu_0012, vehicle, values)
kable(subset(dat_eu_0012_wide, select = -geo), row.names = FALSE)</pre>
```

unit	$_{ m time}$	BUS_TOT	CAR	TRN
\overline{PC}	2000	10.4	82.4	7.2
PC	2001	10.2	82.7	7.1
PC	2002	9.9	83.3	6.8
PC	2003	9.9	83.5	6.7
PC	2004	9.8	83.4	6.8
PC	2005	9.9	83.2	6.9
PC	2006	9.7	83.2	7.1
PC	2007	9.8	83.1	7.2
PC	2008	9.7	83.1	7.3
PC	2009	9.2	83.7	7.1
PC	2010	9.2	83.6	7.2
PC	2011	9.2	83.4	7.3
PC	2012	9.3	83.0	7.7

Train passengers for selected EU countries in 2000 - 2012

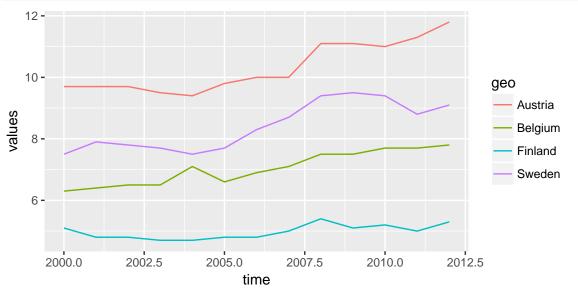
unit	time	Austria	Belgium	Finland	Sweden
Percentage	2000	9.7	6.3	5.1	7.5
Percentage	2001	9.7	6.4	4.8	7.9
Percentage	2002	9.7	6.5	4.8	7.8
Percentage	2003	9.5	6.5	4.7	7.7
Percentage	2004	9.4	7.1	4.7	7.5

unit	time	Austria	Belgium	Finland	Sweden
Percentage	2005	9.8	6.6	4.8	7.7
Percentage	2006	10.0	6.9	4.8	8.3
Percentage	2007	10.0	7.1	5.0	8.7
Percentage	2008	11.1	7.5	5.4	9.4
Percentage	2009	11.1	7.5	5.1	9.5
Percentage	2010	11.0	7.7	5.2	9.4
Percentage	2011	11.3	7.7	5.0	8.8
Percentage	2012	11.8	7.8	5.3	9.1

Visualization

Visualizing train passenger data with ggplot2:

```
library(ggplot2)
p <- ggplot(dat_trains, aes(x = time, y = values, colour = geo))
p <- p + geom_line()
print(p)</pre>
```



Triangle plot

Triangle plot is handy for visualizing data sets with three variables. For instance, the passenger transport distributions across three vehicle types in 2012 for all countries where data is available:

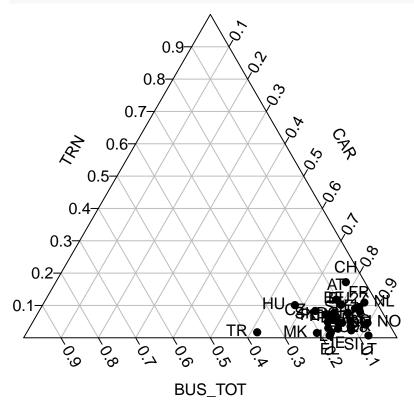
```
library(tidyr)

# Download and modify the transport data
transports <- spread(subset(dat, time == 2012, select = c(geo, vehicle, values)), vehicle, values)

# Remove countries with missing data
transports <- na.omit(transports)

# Use triangle plot to visualize vehicle distributions:
library(plotrix)
triax.plot(transports[, -1], show.grid = TRUE,</pre>
```

```
label.points = TRUE, point.labels = transports$geo,
pch = 19)
```



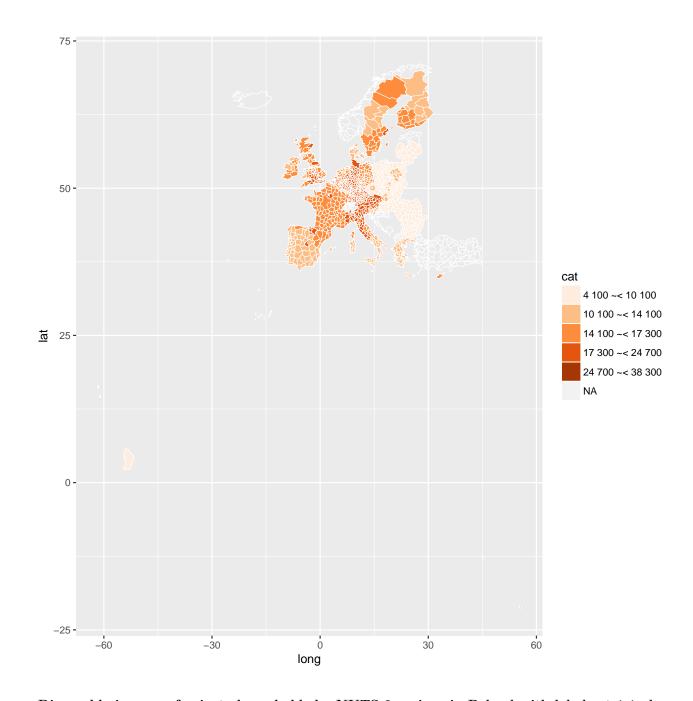
Maps

Disposable income of private households by NUTS 2 regions at 1:60mln resolution using gg-plot 2 $\,$

```
library(eurostat)
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)
# Data from Eurostat
eurostat::get_eurostat("tgs00026", time_format = "raw") %>%
  # subset to have only a single row per geo
 dplyr::filter(time == 2010, nchar(as.character(geo)) == 4) %>%
  # categorise
 dplyr::mutate(cat = cut_to_classes(values, n = 5)) %>%
  # merge with geodata
  merge_eurostat_geodata(data=.,geocolumn="geo",resolution = "60", output_class = "df", all_regions = T.
  # plot map
  ggplot(data=., aes(x=long,y=lat,group=group)) +
  geom_polygon(aes(fill=cat),color="white", size=.1) +
  scale_fill_brewer(palette ="Oranges")
## Reading cache file /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/tgs00026_raw_code_TF.rds
```

Table tgs00026 read from cache file: /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/tgs00026_raw_code_TF.rds

```
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## Reading cache file /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/df60.RData
## data_frame at resolution 1: 60 read from cache file: /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/df60.RData
```



Disposable income of private households by NUTS 2 regions in Poland with labels at 1:1mln resolution using ggplot2

```
mutate(label = label_eurostat(.)[["geo"]],
         cat = cut_to_classes(values)) %>%
  # merge with geodata
  merge_eurostat_geodata(data=.,geocolumn="geo",resolution = "01", all_regions = FALSE, output_class="d
## Reading cache file /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/tgs00026_raw_code_TF.rds
## Table tgs00026 read from cache file: /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/tgs00026_raw_code_TF.rds
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         information regarding their licence agreements.
##
## Reading cache file /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/df01.RData
## data_frame at resolution 1: 01 read from cache file: /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/df01.RData
# plot map
p <- ggplot(data=df, aes(long,lat,group=group))</pre>
p <- p + geom polygon(aes(fill = cat), colour="white", size=.8)
p <- p + scale_fill_manual(values=brewer.pal(n = 5, name = "Oranges"))</pre>
p <- p + geom_label(data=df %>% group_by(label,values,cat) %>% summarise(long = mean(long),
                                                          lat = mean(lat)),
                    aes(long, lat, label = paste(label, "\n", values, "€"), group=label, fill=cat),
                    size=3.5, color="white", fontface="bold", lineheight=.8, show.legend=FALSE)
p <- p + labs(title = paste0("Disposable household incomes in 2005"))</pre>
p <- p + guides(fill = guide_legend(title = "EUR per Year", title.position = "top", title.hjust=0))
р
## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
## conversion failure on ' 6800 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for <e2>
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## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
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## conversion failure on ' 7800 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for <ac>
## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
## conversion failure on ' 7800 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for <e2>
```

```
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## <e2>
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## <ac>
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## conversion failure on ' 5300 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for <e2>
## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
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## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
## conversion failure on ' 5300 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for <82>
```

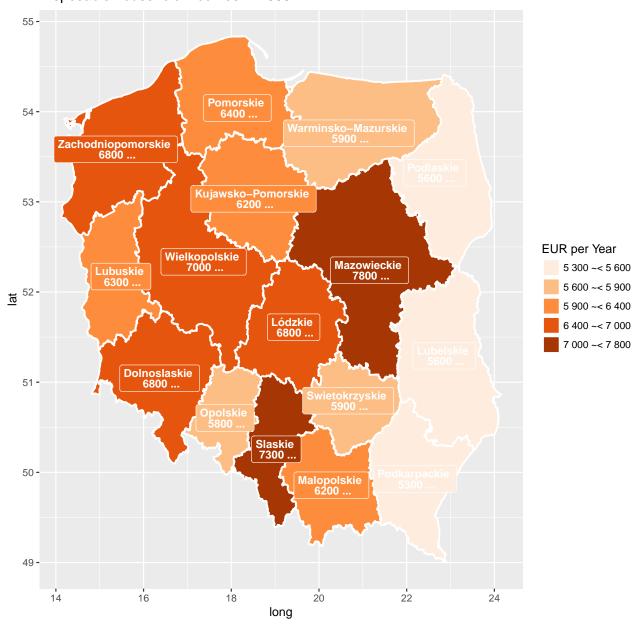
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## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
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## <e2>
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## $y, : conversion failure on ' 5600 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for
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## $y, : conversion failure on ' 5600 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for
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## $y, : conversion failure on ' 6400 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for
## Warning in grid.Call(L_textBounds, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$y, :
## conversion failure on ' 7300 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for <e2>
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## <e2>
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\verb|## Warning in grid.Call.graphics(L_text, as.graphicsAnnot(x$label), x$x, x$|
## $y, : conversion failure on ' 7000 €' in 'mbcsToSbcs': dot substituted for
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## <ac>
```

Disposable household incomes in 2005

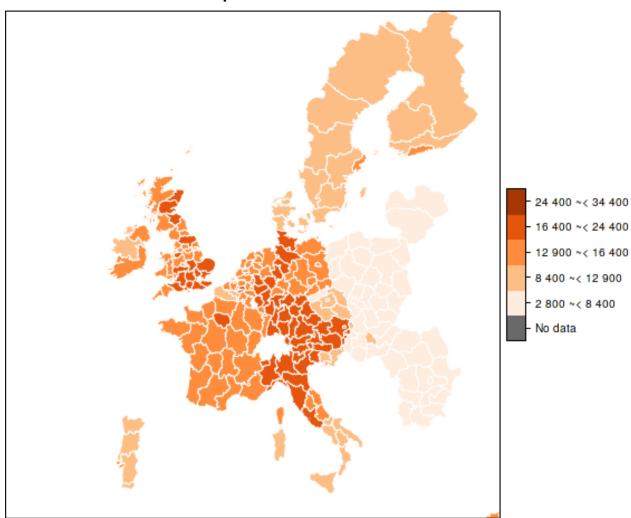


Disposable income of private households by NUTS 2 regions at $1:60 \mathrm{mln}$ resolution using spplot

```
library(sp)
library(eurostat)
library(dplyr)
dat <- get_eurostat("tgs00026", time_format = "raw") %>%
    # subsetting to year 2005 and NUTS-3 level
    dplyr::filter(time == 2005, nchar(as.character(geo)) == 4) %>%
    # classifying the values the variable
    dplyr::mutate(cat = cut_to_classes(values)) %>%
    # merge Eurostat data with geodata from Cisco
    merge_eurostat_geodata(data=.,geocolumn="geo",resolution = "10", output_class ="spdf", all_regions=FA
```

```
## Reading cache file /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/tgs00026_raw_code_TF.rds
## Table tgs00026 read from cache file: /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/tgs00026_raw_code_TF.rds
##
##
         COPYRIGHT NOTICE
##
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         When data downloaded from this page
         <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/gisco/geodata/reference-data/administrative-units-statistica</pre>
##
##
         is used in any printed or electronic publication,
##
         in addition to any other provisions
##
         applicable to the whole Eurostat website,
##
         data source will have to be acknowledged
##
         in the legend of the map and
##
         in the introductory page of the publication
##
         with the following copyright notice:
##
##
         - EN: (C) EuroGeographics for the administrative boundaries
##
         - FR: (C) EuroGeographics pour les limites administratives
##
         - DE: (C) EuroGeographics bezuglich der Verwaltungsgrenzen
##
##
         For publications in languages other than
##
         English, French or German,
##
         the translation of the copyright notice
         in the language of the publication shall be used.
##
##
##
         If you intend to use the data commercially,
##
         please contact EuroGeographics for
##
         information regarding their licence agreements.
##
## Reading cache file /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/spdf10.RData
## SpatialPolygonDataFrame at resolution 1: 10 read from cache file: /tmp/RtmpOPGVga/eurostat/spdf10.
# plot map
sp::spplot(obj = dat, "cat", main = "Disposable household income",
       xlim=c(-22,34), ylim=c(35,70),
           col.regions = c("dim grey", brewer.pal(n = 5, name = "Oranges")),
       col = "white", usePolypath = FALSE)
```

Disposable household income



Further examples

For further examples, see:

- \bullet Blog post
- Journal manuscript

Citations and related work

Citing the data sources

Eurostat data: cite Eurostat.

Administrative boundaries: cite EuroGeographics

Citing the eurostat R package

For main developers and contributors, see the README.

This work can be freely used, modified and distributed under the BSD-2-clause (modified FreeBSD) license:

```
citation("eurostat")
```

```
##
## Kindly cite the eurostat R package as follows:
##
     (C) Leo Lahti, Janne Huovari, Markus Kainu, Przemyslaw Biecek
##
##
     2014-2017. eurostat R package. R package version 2.2.22 URL:
##
     https://github.com/rOpenGov/eurostat
##
## A BibTeX entry for LaTeX users is
##
##
     @Misc{,
##
       title = {eurostat R package},
##
       author = {Leo Lahti and Janne Huovari and Markus Kainu and Przemyslaw Biecek},
##
       year = \{2014-2017\},\
##
       url = {https://github.com/rOpenGov/eurostat},
       note = {R package version 2.2.22},
##
##
```

Related work

This rOpenGov R package is based on the earlier CRAN packages statfi and smarterpoland.

The independent reurostat package develops related Eurostat tools but seems to be in an experimental stage at the time of writing this tutorial.

The more generic quandl, datamart, and pdfetch packages may provide access to some versions of eurostat data but these packages are more generic and hence, in contrast to the eurostat R package, lack tools that are specifically customized to facilitate eurostat analysis.

Contact

For contact information, see the README.

Version info

This tutorial was created with

sessionInfo()

```
## [7] LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8
                                  LC_NAME=C
## [9] LC_ADDRESS=C
                                  LC_TELEPHONE=C
## [11] LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8 LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats
                graphics grDevices utils
                                              datasets methods
                                                                   base
## other attached packages:
## [1] sp_1.2-3
                          RColorBrewer_1.1-2 dplyr_0.5.0
## [4] plotrix_3.6-3
                          ggplot2_2.2.1
                                             tidyr_0.6.0
## [7] rvest_0.3.2
                          xml2_1.0.0
                                             eurostat_2.2.22
## [10] rmarkdown_1.2.9000 knitr_1.15.1
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
## [1] Rcpp_0.12.9
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                                         plyr_1.8.4
                                                          class_7.3-14
## [5] tools_3.3.1
                        digest_0.6.12
                                          jsonlite_1.1
                                                          evaluate_0.10
## [9] tibble_1.2
                        gtable_0.2.0
                                         lattice_0.20-34
                                                          DBI_0.5-1
## [13] rgdal_1.2-4
                        curl 2.2
                                         yaml_2.1.14
                                                          e1071 1.6-7
## [17] httr_1.2.1
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