Wrangling Data

Dominguez Center for Data Science Workshop
2025-03-05

Recap from last time

- Does anyone want to share a graph they made?
- Does anyone have questions?

Plan for today

- Cover a little more ggplot2.
- Start going through data wrangling in R.
- Remember that you can either fill in the "wrangling.qmd" file or follow along with the "wrangling_key.qmd" file.

Load Packages

The packages we need for our explorations today (readr for reading in data, ggplot2 for graphing data, and dplyr for wrangling/summarizing the data) are part of a popular suite of packages called the tidyverse.

library(tidyverse)
library(ggrepel)

Data Background

We will return to the same dataset we saw last time. Here's the background and description of the variables.

In 2013, the government decided to make data about colleges more accessible so that students and parents could more easily compare schools. These data are called the "College Scorecard" data and the 2024 dataset contains 3,305 variables on 6,484 universities in the US!

I have filtered that 2024 dataset to only include schools which confer majority baccalaureate degrees and where the majority of those degrees are in the arts and sciences based on the Carnegie Classification system. In other words, I filtered the data down to the schools which are "similar" to Bucknell (including Bucknell itself) and picked out some variables for us to explore.

Data Dictionary

Below are the code names and descriptions of the variables in our dataset.

• UNITID: Unique identifier

• INSTNM: Name of institution

• CITY: City

• STABBR: State

- HIGHDEG: Highest degree awarded (0 = Non-degree grants, 1 = Certificate degree, 2 = Associate degree, 3 = Bachelor's degree, 4 = Graduate degree)
- PREDDEG: Predominant undergraduate degree awarded (0 = Not classified, 1 = Predominantly certificate-degree granting, 2 = Predominantly associate's-degree granting, 3 = Predominantly bachelor's-degree granting, 4 = Entirely graduate-degree granting)
- CONTROL: Ownership (1 = Public, 2 = Private non-profit, 3 = Private for-profit)
- HBCU: Flag for Historically Black College and University
- TUITFTE: Net tuition revenue per full-time equivalent student
- AVGFACSAL: Average faculty salary
- ADM_RATE: Admission rate
- SATVR75: 75th percentile of SAT scores at the institution (critical reading)
- SATMT75: 75th percentile of SAT scores at the institution (math)
- ACTCM75: 75th percentile of the ACT cumulative score

- COSTT4_A: The average annual total cost of attendance, including tuition and fees, books and supplies, and living expenses for all full-time, first-time, degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates who receive Title IV aid.
- NPT4_PRIV: The average annual total cost of attendance, including tuition and fees, books and supplies, and living expenses, minus the average grant/scholarship aid
- UGDS: Enrollment of undergraduate certificate/degree-seeking students
- $\bullet\,$ UG25ABV: Percentage of undergraduates aged 25 and above
- PCTFLOAN_DCS: Percentage of degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students awarded a federal loan
- PCTPELL_DCS: Percentage of degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students awarded a Pell Grant
- DEBT_MDN: The median original amount of the loan principal upon entering repayment
- C100_4: Completion rate for first-time, full-time students at four-year institutions (100% of expected time to completion)
- RET_FT4: First-time, full-time student retention rate at four-year institutions
- MD_EARN_WNE_5YR: Median earnings of graduates working and not enrolled 5 years after completing

Load the Data

Run the following code to load and inspect the data.

Graphs Recap

Guiding Principle: We will map variables from the data to the aesthetic attributes (e.g. location, size, shape, color) of **geom**etric objects (e.g. points, lines, bars).

```
ggplot(data = ---, mapping = aes(---)) +
geom_---(---)
```

What is data wrangling??



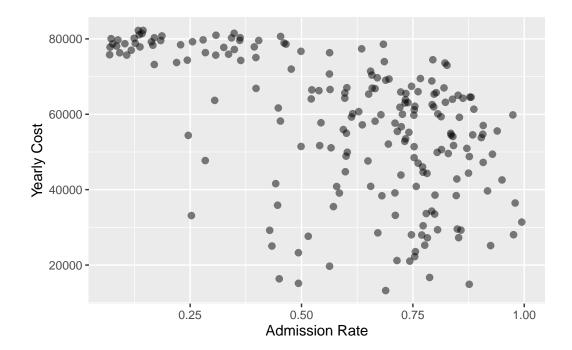
Data wrangling = any transformations done on the data.

Examples:

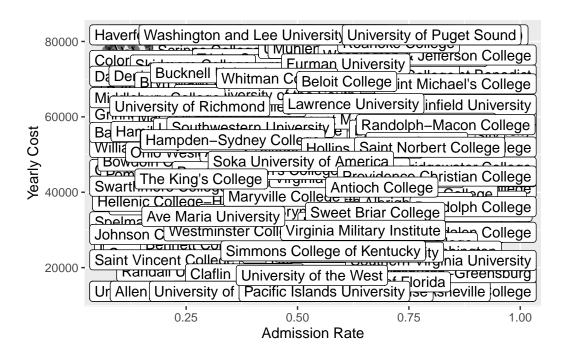
- Summarizing the data by computing the mean of a variable.
- Counting the number of observations in the categories of a set of variables. (Excel users: Think pivot tables.)
- Dropping rows of the dataset that have missing values.
- Filtering down to just a subset of the data.
- Collapsing a categorical variable into fewer categories.
- Fixing how R stores a variable.
- Sorting the data by one of the variables.
- Joining multiple datasets together.
 - Won't see joins today but can learn about them here

Motivating Examples: Sprucing up our Graphs

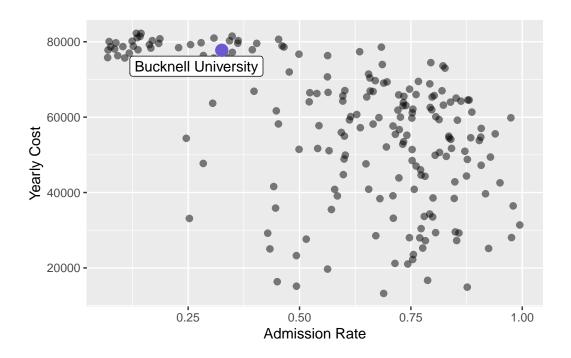
How do I add Bucknell to my graph?



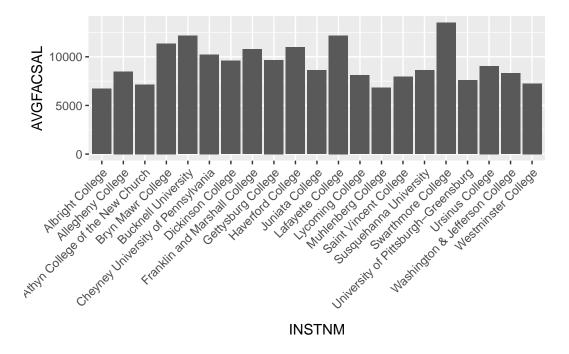
Option 1: Label all the schools.



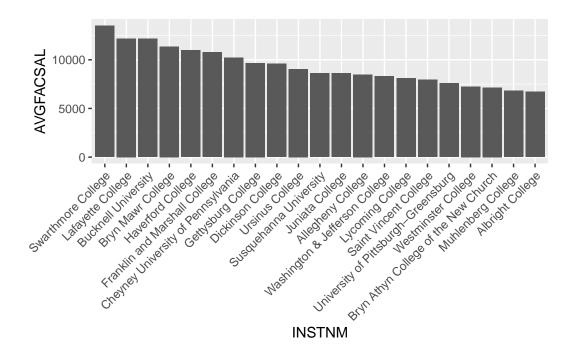
Option 2: Create a new dataset that contains only Bucknell and then add that to the graph.



How do I reorder the bars of my bar graph?

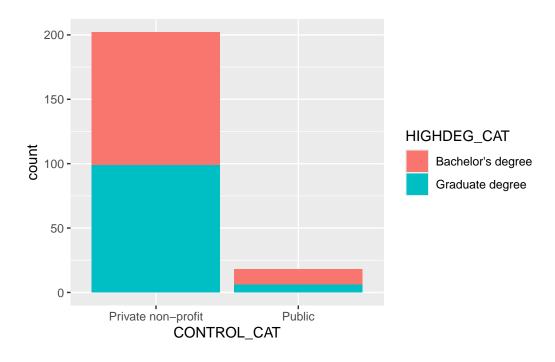


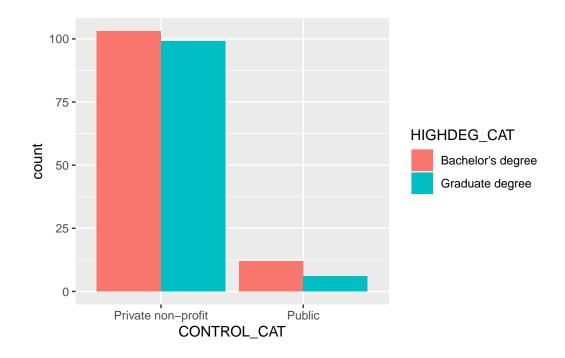
What is the current order for INSTNM? What is a better order for the bars?

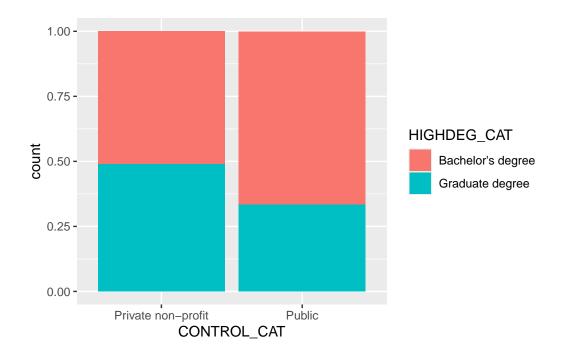


One more ggplot thing: geom_bar() versus geom_col()

Let's create bar graphs that compare the number of public and private schools by highest degree awarded.







Main Data Wrangling Operations in dplyr

summarize(): Summarize variable(s)

What is the average admission rate? What is the lowest admission rate?

```
summarize(colleges, mean_admit = mean(ADM_RATE, na.rm = TRUE),
          lowest_admit = min(ADM_RATE, na.rm = TRUE) )
# A tibble: 1 x 2
  mean_admit lowest_admit
       <dbl>
                <dbl>
       0.601
                   0.0693
1
# Save summary to new dataset
colleges_summary <- summarize(colleges,</pre>
                              mean_admit = mean(ADM_RATE, na.rm = TRUE),
                              lowest_admit = min(ADM_RATE, na.rm = TRUE) )
colleges_summary
# A tibble: 1 x 2
 mean_admit lowest_admit
       <dbl>
                   <dbl>
       0.601
                   0.0693
1
count(): Add up number of rows for each category
How many historically black colleges and universities are in the dataset? Of those, how many
award graduate degrees?
count(colleges, HBCU)
# A tibble: 2 x 2
  HBCU
         n
  <dbl> <int>
        203
     0
2
     1
           17
count(colleges, HBCU, HIGHDEG)
# A tibble: 4 x 3
  HBCU HIGHDEG
  <dbl> <dbl> <int>
            3 105
1
     0
```

4 98

3 10 4 7

2

3

4

0

1

1

mutate(): Modify an existing variable or add new variables

Let's re-create the Location variable that indicates whether or not a college is in PA. What happened to the dimensions of colleges once we made this change?

Let's fix the class of DEBT_MDN and HIGHDEG. You can use glimpse() to see the classes of each variable. What happened to the dimensions of colleges once we made these changes?

glimpse(colleges)

```
Rows: 220
Columns: 27
                <dbl> 100937, 101912, 106342, 107080, 107512, 112260, 115409~
$ UNITID
                <chr> "Birmingham-Southern College", "Oakwood University", "~
$ INSTNM
                <chr> "Birmingham", "Huntsville", "Batesville", "Conway", "A~
$ CITY
$ STABBR
                <chr> "AL", "AL", "AR", "AR", "CA", "CA", "CA", "CA", "CA", ~
$ HIGHDEG
                <dbl> 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 4, 3, 4, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4, ~
$ PREDDEG
                <dbl> 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 1, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3
$ CONTROL
                $ HBCU
                $ TUITFTE
                <dbl> 10340, 12279, 10188, 9685, 10749, 35957, 36122, 26331,~
                <dbl> 7029, 4842, 5817, 7889, 6735, 15333, 14478, 11309, 117~
$ AVGFACSAL
                <dbl> 0.5717, 0.6805, 0.5984, 0.6028, 0.7232, 0.1035, 0.1336~
$ ADM_RATE
$ SATVR75
                <dbl> 670, NA, NA, 680, 610, 760, 770, NA, 750, NA, 770, 760~
$ SATMT75
                <dbl> 610, NA, NA, 648, 590, 790, 790, NA, 760, NA, 790, 750~
$ ACTCM75
                <dbl> 29, NA, NA, 30, 28, 35, 36, NA, 34, NA, 35, 34, NA, 32~
$ COSTT4_A
                <dbl> 35495, 38377, 44749, 49928, 43878, 78723, 82236, NA, 7~
                <dbl> 19723, 19686, 25183, 22780, 23086, 19489, 39671, NA, 3~
$ NPT4 PRIV
$ UGDS
                <dbl> 968, 1378, 489, 1127, 1587, 1383, 906, 15, 1935, 1212,~
```

```
$ UG25ABV
                  <dbl> 0.0170, 0.1284, 0.0276, 0.0054, 0.0140, 0.0021, 0.0011~
                  <dbl> 0.6452, 0.6477, 0.5934, 0.4483, 0.6109, 0.1627, 0.3646~
$ PCTFLOAN_DCS
                  <dbl> 0.2277, 0.4906, 0.3702, 0.2543, 0.2486, 0.2008, 0.1293~
$ PCTPELL_DCS
$ DEBT_MDN
                  <chr> "16000", "21500", "10699", "19500", "15000", "11948", ~
                  <dbl> 0.5854, 0.3351, 0.3085, 0.6743, 0.6174, 0.8318, 0.8826~
$ C100 4
                  <dbl> 0.7746, 0.7706, 0.5072, 0.7905, 0.7897, 0.9579, 0.9733~
$ RET FT4
$ MD EARN WNE 5YR <dbl> 56625, 51429, 45744, 49579, 48168, 108186, 154095, 418~
                  <chr> "NOT PA", "NOT PA", "NOT PA", "NOT PA", "NOT PA", "NOT~
$ Location
$ CONTROL CAT
                  <chr> "Private non-profit", "Private non-profit", "Private n~
                  <chr> "Bachelor's degree", "Graduate degree", "Bachelor's de~
$ HIGHDEG_CAT
```

```
colleges <- mutate(colleges, DEBT_MDN = as.numeric(DEBT_MDN))

# Check work with glimpse()
glimpse(colleges)</pre>
```

```
Rows: 220
Columns: 27
$ UNITID
                <dbl> 100937, 101912, 106342, 107080, 107512, 112260, 115409~
$ INSTNM
                <chr> "Birmingham-Southern College", "Oakwood University", "~
                 <chr> "Birmingham", "Huntsville", "Batesville", "Conway", "A~
$ CITY
$ STABBR
                <chr> "AL", "AL", "AR", "AR", "CA", "CA", "CA", "CA", "CA", ~
$ HIGHDEG
                <dbl> 3, 4, 3, 4, 4, 4, 3, 4, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4, ~
$ PREDDEG
                 <dbl> 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 1, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3
$ CONTROL
                 $ HBCU
                 $ TUITFTE
                 <dbl> 10340, 12279, 10188, 9685, 10749, 35957, 36122, 26331,~
                 <dbl> 7029, 4842, 5817, 7889, 6735, 15333, 14478, 11309, 117~
$ AVGFACSAL
$ ADM_RATE
                 <dbl> 0.5717, 0.6805, 0.5984, 0.6028, 0.7232, 0.1035, 0.1336~
                 <dbl> 670, NA, NA, 680, 610, 760, 770, NA, 750, NA, 770, 760~
$ SATVR75
$ SATMT75
                 <dbl> 610, NA, NA, 648, 590, 790, 790, NA, 760, NA, 790, 750~
$ ACTCM75
                 <dbl> 29, NA, NA, 30, 28, 35, 36, NA, 34, NA, 35, 34, NA, 32~
$ COSTT4 A
                <dbl> 35495, 38377, 44749, 49928, 43878, 78723, 82236, NA, 7~
                 <dbl> 19723, 19686, 25183, 22780, 23086, 19489, 39671, NA, 3~
$ NPT4 PRIV
                 <dbl> 968, 1378, 489, 1127, 1587, 1383, 906, 15, 1935, 1212,~
$ UGDS
$ UG25ABV
                 <dbl> 0.0170, 0.1284, 0.0276, 0.0054, 0.0140, 0.0021, 0.0011~
$ PCTFLOAN DCS
                <dbl> 0.6452, 0.6477, 0.5934, 0.4483, 0.6109, 0.1627, 0.3646~
                 <dbl> 0.2277, 0.4906, 0.3702, 0.2543, 0.2486, 0.2008, 0.1293~
$ PCTPELL_DCS
                 <dbl> 16000, 21500, 10699, 19500, 15000, 11948, 19500, 18667~
$ DEBT_MDN
$ C100_4
                 <dbl> 0.5854, 0.3351, 0.3085, 0.6743, 0.6174, 0.8318, 0.8826~
                 <dbl> 0.7746, 0.7706, 0.5072, 0.7905, 0.7897, 0.9579, 0.9733~
$ RET FT4
$ MD_EARN_WNE_5YR <dbl> 56625, 51429, 45744, 49579, 48168, 108186, 154095, 418~
```

select(): Extract variables

Let's create a new dataset that only has the school name and location.

```
colleges2 <- select(colleges, INSTNM, Location)</pre>
```

filter(): Extract cases

Let's filter down to schools that are:

- In the mid-atlantic: PA, NJ, VA, MD, DE, WV, DC
- Have undergraduate enrollments over 1000 students
- Don't have grad students

Let's filter down to just Bucknell.

```
bucknell <- filter(colleges, INSTNM == "Bucknell University")</pre>
```

drop_na(): Remove rows that have missing values for certain variables

Let's remove rows that are missing an admissions rate.

```
drop_na(colleges, ADM_RATE)
```

```
# A tibble: 208 x 27
  UNITID INSTNM
                   CITY STABBR HIGHDEG PREDDEG CONTROL
                                                          HBCU TUITFTE AVGFACSAL
                                           <dbl>
                                                   <dbl> <dbl>
   <dbl> <chr>
                    <chr> <chr>
                                   <dbl>
                                                                 <dbl>
                                                                            <dbl>
1 100937 Birmingh~ Birm~ AL
                                       3
                                               3
                                                       2
                                                             0
                                                                 10340
                                                                            7029
2 101912 Oakwood ~ Hunt~ AL
                                       4
                                               3
                                                       2
                                                                 12279
                                                                            4842
                                                             1
3 106342 Lyon Col~ Bate~ AR
                                       3
                                               3
                                                       2
                                                                 10188
                                                                            5817
```

4	107080	Hendrix ~	Conw~	AR	4	3	2	0	9685	7889
5	107512	Ouachita~	Arka~	AR	4	3	2	0	10749	6735
6	112260	Claremon~	Clar~	CA	4	3	2	0	35957	15333
7	115409	Harvey M~	Clar~	CA	3	3	2	0	36122	14478
8	120254	${\tt Occident"}$	Los ~	CA	3	3	2	0	32778	11782
9	121257	Pitzer C~	Clar~	CA	3	3	2	0	57556	12023
10	121345	Pomona C~	Clar~	CA	3	3	2	0	23672	14220

- # i 198 more rows
- # i 17 more variables: ADM_RATE <dbl>, SATVR75 <dbl>, SATMT75 <dbl>,
- # ACTCM75 <dbl>, COSTT4_A <dbl>, NPT4_PRIV <dbl>, UGDS <dbl>, UG25ABV <dbl>,
- # PCTFLOAN_DCS <dbl>, PCTPELL_DCS <dbl>, DEBT_MDN <dbl>, C100_4 <dbl>,
- # RET_FT4 <dbl>, MD_EARN_WNE_5YR <dbl>, Location <chr>, CONTROL_CAT <chr>,
- # HIGHDEG_CAT <chr>

arrange(): Sort the cases

Let's sort rows by their admissions rate. Which schools has the lowest admissions rate? Which has the highest?

arrange(colleges, ADM_RATE)

# A tibble: 220 x 27										
	UNITID	INSTNM	CITY	${\tt STABBR}$	HIGHDEG	PREDDEG	CONTROL	HBCU	TUITFTE	AVGFACSAL
	<dbl></dbl>	<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>
1	216287	${\tt Swarthmo}{\sim}$	Swar~	PA	3	3	2	0	29620	13487
2	121345	Pomona C~	Clar~	CA	3	3	2	0	23672	14220
3	164465	Amherst ~	Amhe~	MA	3	3	2	0	30616	14046
4	161086	Colby Co~	Wate~	ME	3	3	2	0	34919	11925
5	168342	Williams~	Will~	MA	4	3	2	0	35531	14484
6	189097	Barnard ~	New ~	NY	3	3	2	0	42671	14635
7	161004	Bowdoin ~	Brun~	ME	3	3	2	0	34579	13417
8	112260	${\tt Claremon^{\sim}}$	Clar~	CA	4	3	2	0	35957	15333
9	164155	United S^{\sim}	Anna~	MD	3	3	1	0	0	12920
10	153384	${\tt Grinnell^{\sim}}$	Grin~	IA	3	3	2	0	19898	11658

- # i 210 more rows
- # i 17 more variables: ADM_RATE <dbl>, SATVR75 <dbl>, SATMT75 <dbl>,
- # ACTCM75 <dbl>, COSTT4_A <dbl>, NPT4_PRIV <dbl>, UGDS <dbl>, UG25ABV <dbl>,
- # PCTFLOAN DCS <dbl>, PCTPELL DCS <dbl>, DEBT_MDN <dbl>, C100_4 <dbl>,
- # RET_FT4 <dbl>, MD_EARN_WNE_5YR <dbl>, Location <chr>, CONTROL_CAT <chr>,
- # HIGHDEG_CAT <chr>

```
# A tibble: 220 x 27
  UNITID INSTNM
                    CITY STABBR HIGHDEG PREDDEG CONTROL HBCU TUITFTE AVGFACSAL
    <dbl> <chr>
                    <chr> <chr>
                                    <dbl>
                                            <dbl>
                                                    <dbl> <dbl>
                                                                   <dbl>
                                                                              <dbl>
1 172033 Sacred H~ Detr~ MI
                                        4
                                                         2
                                                                   16565
                                                                              6336
                                                1
                                                               0
                                                         2
2 233611 Southern~ Buen~ VA
                                        3
                                                3
                                                               0
                                                                   12302
                                                                              6313
                                        3
                                                3
                                                         2
3 182917 Magdalen~ Warn~ NH
                                                                   12194
                                                                              4361
                                                               0
4 215275 Universi~ Gree~ PA
                                        3
                                                3
                                                         1
                                                                   13107
                                                                              7602
                                        3
                                                3
                                                         2
5 154527 Wartburg~ Wave~ IA
                                                               0
                                                                   16505
                                                                              6994
6 233301 Randolph~ Lync~ VA
                                        4
                                                3
                                                         2
                                                                   12760
                                                                              8249
7 206525 Wittenbe~ Spri~ OH
                                        4
                                                3
                                                         2
                                                               0
                                                                   12968
                                                                              7836
                                                         2
8 150604 Franklin~ Fran~ IN
                                        4
                                                3
                                                               0
                                                                   12805
                                                                              6801
                                        4
                                                3
9 167288 Massachu~ Nort~ MA
                                                         1
                                                               0
                                                                              9334
                                                                    6841
                                                         2
10 165936 Gordon C~ Wenh~ MA
                                        4
                                                3
                                                               0
                                                                   14956
                                                                              6992
# i 210 more rows
# i 17 more variables: ADM_RATE <dbl>, SATVR75 <dbl>, SATMT75 <dbl>,
   ACTCM75 <dbl>, COSTT4 A <dbl>, NPT4 PRIV <dbl>, UGDS <dbl>, UG25ABV <dbl>,
   PCTFLOAN_DCS <dbl>, PCTPELL_DCS <dbl>, DEBT_MDN <dbl>, C100_4 <dbl>,
   RET_FT4 <dbl>, MD_EARN_WNE_5YR <dbl>, Location <chr>, CONTROL_CAT <chr>,
#
#
   HIGHDEG_CAT <chr>
```

The pipe: %>% or |> for chaining together multiple wranglings

If you want to do multiple operations at once, you should use the pipe.

Suppose we want to look at INSTNM, Location, ADM_RATE, UGDS, RET_FT4, and MD_EARN_WNE_5YR for schools in PA that reported an admissions rate and we want to arrange the schools from largest undergraduate class to smallest undergraduate class.

```
PA_colleges <- colleges %>%
  mutate(Location = if_else(STABBR == "PA", "PA", "Not PA")) %>%
  select(INSTNM, Location, ADM_RATE, UGDS, RET_FT4, MD_EARN_WNE_5YR) %>%
  filter(Location == "PA") %>%
  drop_na(ADM_RATE) %>%
  arrange(desc(UGDS))
PA_colleges
```

1	Bucknell University	PA	0.326	3732	0.906	90297
2	Lafayette College	PA	0.336	2725	0.899	86844
3	Gettysburg College	PA	0.563	2236	0.886	71373
4	Susquehanna University	PA	0.767	2139	0.854	59913
5	Dickinson College	PA	0.349	2083	0.888	71404
6	Franklin and Marshall College	PA	0.362	1986	0.878	68877
7	Muhlenberg College	PA	0.655	1933	0.909	67290
8	Swarthmore College	PA	0.0693	1619	0.960	73588
9	Ursinus College	PA	0.822	1505	0.824	61871
10	Haverford College	PA	0.142	1417	0.961	69576
11	Bryn Mawr College	PA	0.308	1402	0.903	57709
12	Saint Vincent College	PA	0.734	1335	0.84	56756
13	Allegheny College	PA	0.696	1324	0.789	58614
14	University of Pittsburgh-Gre~	PA	0.976	1323	0.633	69754
15	Albright College	PA	0.849	1276	0.640	59794
16	Washington & Jefferson Colle~	PA	0.881	1139	0.829	65052
17	Juniata College	PA	0.762	1116	0.807	53474
18	Lycoming College	PA	0.752	1046	0.721	53116
19	Westminster College	PA	0.753	1023	0.822	53025
20	Bryn Athyn College of the Ne~	PA	0.800	271	0.776	38029

group_by(): Perform actions by certain groups

For each of the Mid-Atlantic states, what is the average admission rate and how many schools are in each state?

```
filter(colleges, STABBR %in% c("PA", "NJ", "VA", "MD", "DE", "WV", "DC")) %>%
  drop_na(ADM_RATE) %>%
  group_by(STABBR) %>%
  summarize(mean_admit = mean(ADM_RATE), count = n())
```

```
# A tibble: 5 x 3
  STABBR mean_admit count
  <chr>
              <dbl> <int>
1 MD
              0.586
2 NJ
              0.754
                        2
              0.595
3 PA
                       20
4 VA
              0.718
                       16
5 WV
              0.649
                        1
```

Closing Thoughts on Wrangling

- Data are messy. Be prepared to wrangle.
- Before you start writing code ask yourself, what do I expect the wrangled data to look like? How many rows do I expect? How many columns?
- Don't try to wrangle all at once.
 - Write one line of code. Run it. And then keep going.
- Give the wrangled dataset a new name if you are removing rows or changing the structure drastically.

Your Optional Homework

If using your own data, do some wrangling that help answer questions of interest to you.

For the provided data, try to complete the following tasks.

a. How many schools are in each of the categories of PREDDEG?

```
count(colleges, PREDDEG)
```

b. Create a dataset that only contains schools that are predominantly bachelor's degree granting. Use this dataset for the following questions.

```
colleges_b <- filter(colleges, PREDDEG == 3)</pre>
```

c. Compute the minimum, maximum, and median values of the median earnings of graduates working and not enrolled 5 years after completing. Useful R functions here are: min(), max(), median().

d. Repeat part (c) but this time compute the summary statistics for both HBCUs and non-HBCUs.

```
# A tibble: 2 x 4
   HBCU min_earn max_earn med_earn
  <dbl>
           <dbl>
                     <dbl>
                              <dbl>
1
      0
           29334
                    154095
                              55755
2
      1
           35387
                     62234
                              44269
```

e. Ask some of your own questions of the data and then wrangle the data in order to answer them.

Resources for Learning More about Data Wrangling with dplyr

- Modern Dive's chapter on Data Wrangling
- R for Data Science's chapter on Data Transformation
- dplyr cheatsheet: https://raw.githubusercontent.com/rstudio/cheatsheets/main/data-transformation.pdf