# Unit 1 Lecture 3: Data Wrangling

### September 7, 2021

Welcome back to STAT 471! We are now in Unit 1 Lecture 2:

Unit 1: Intro to modern data mining	Lecture 1: Intro to modern data mining
Unit 2: Tuning predictive models	Lecture 2: Linear regression
Unit 3: Regression-based methods	Lecture 3: Data wrangling
Unit 4: Tree-based methods	Lecture 4: Exploratory data analysis
Unit 5: Deep learning	Lecture 5: Unit review and quiz in class
	Homework 1 due the following day.

This lecture is about *data wrangling*, "the art of getting your data into R in a useful form for visualization and modeling" (R4DS Chapter 9), drawing on Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 15 from the excellent R for Data Science book (direct quotations are presented using block quotes).

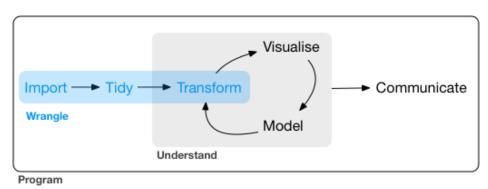


Figure 1: Image source: R4DS Chapter 9.

#### We will cover:

- Tibbles (a representation of our data matrix in R)
- Data import (getting the data into R)
- Data tidying (getting our data into a format amenable to analysis)

#### Let's load the tidyverse:

library(tidyverse)

# 1 Tibbles (R4DS Chapters 10 and 13)

A tibble is an upgraded version of R's data frame. When you read data into R using any tidyverse function it will be stored as a tibble. Here is an example of a tibble:

mpg

```
## # A tibble: 234 x 11
##
      manufacturer model
                               displ year
                                              cyl trans drv
                                                                 cty
                                                                       hwy fl
                                                                                 class
##
      <chr>
                   <chr>
                               <dbl> <int> <int> <chr> <int> <int> <chr>
                                                                                 <chr>>
##
                                 1.8 1999
                                                4 auto~ f
   1 audi
                   a4
                                                                  18
                                                                        29 p
                                                                                 comp~
                                                                        29 p
##
    2 audi
                                 1.8 1999
                                                4 manu~ f
                                                                  21
                   a4
                                                                                 comp~
##
    3 audi
                   a4
                                 2
                                      2008
                                                4 manu~ f
                                                                  20
                                                                        31 p
                                                                                 comp~
                   a4
##
    4 audi
                                 2
                                      2008
                                                                  21
                                                4 auto~ f
                                                                        30 p
                                                                                 comp~
##
    5 audi
                   a4
                                 2.8 1999
                                                6 auto~ f
                                                                  16
                                                                        26 p
                                                                                 comp~
##
                                 2.8 1999
                                                                        26 p
    6 audi
                                                6 manu~ f
                                                                  18
                   a4
                                                                                 comp~
##
    7 audi
                   a4
                                 3.1
                                      2008
                                                6 auto~ f
                                                                  18
                                                                        27 p
                                                                                 comp~
##
                   a4 quattro
                                 1.8 1999
                                                                  18
                                                                        26 p
    8 audi
                                                4 manu~ 4
                                                                                 comp~
                                                                        25 p
                                                                                 comp~
##
   9 audi
                   a4 quattro
                                 1.8 1999
                                                4 auto~ 4
                                                                  16
                                      2008
## 10 audi
                   a4 quattro
                                 2
                                                4 manu~ 4
                                                                  20
                                                                        28 p
                                                                                 comp~
## # ... with 224 more rows
```

#### 1.1 Tibble data types

Each column has a *data type*. The most common data types you will find are logical (lgl), integer (int), double (dbl), character (chr), and factor (fctr).

The factor type is a special type for handling categorical variables. Let's pull out the class variable from the data frame to explore:

```
car_classes = mpg %>% pull(class) # pull out class variable
head(car_classes) # look at first entries
```

```
## car_classes
## 2seater compact midsize minivan pickup subcompact suv
## 5 47 41 11 33 35 62
```

Let's check out the type of car\_classes:

```
typeof(car_classes)
```

```
## [1] "character"
```

We can convert a character vector to a factor vector as follows:

```
car_classes_factor = factor(car_classes)
head(car_classes_factor)
```

```
## [1] compact compact compact compact compact
## Levels: 2seater compact midsize minimum pickup subcompact suv
```

We see that a factor variable has *levels*: a list of the different categories. We can extract a factor's levels as follows:

```
levels(car_classes_factor)
```

```
## [1] "2seater" "compact" "midsize" "minivan" "pickup"
## [6] "subcompact" "suv"
```

We may want to change one or more of the levels names using fct\_recode:

```
car_classes_recoded =
  fct_recode(car_classes_factor,
             "two-seater" = "2seater",
             "SUV"
                          = "suv")
levels(car_classes_recoded)
## [1] "two-seater" "compact"
                                  "midsize"
                                                "minivan"
                                                             "pickup"
## [6] "subcompact" "SUV"
or change the order of the factor levels:
car_classes_reordered =
  factor(car_classes_factor,
         levels = c("suv",
                    "subcompact",
                    "pickup",
                    "minivan",
                    "midsize",
                    "compact",
                    "2seater"))
levels(car_classes_reordered)
## [1] "suv"
                     "subcompact" "pickup"
                                                "minivan"
                                                             "midsize"
## [6] "compact"
                    "2seater"
```

#### 1.2 Creating tibbles

Sometimes you'll need to create a tibble yourself. You can do so easily using the tibble command:

```
## # A tibble: 5 x 3
##
          X
                У
##
      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                1 2.22
## 1 1.10
## 2 0.0618
                1 1.00
## 3 -0.213
                1 1.05
## 4 0.282
                1 1.08
## 5 -0.418
                1 1.17
```

It's possible for a tibble to have column names that are not valid R variable names, aka *non-syntactic* names. For example, they might not start with a letter. To refer to these variables, you need to surround them with backticks:

```
tb <- tibble(
    `:)` = "smile",
    `2000` = "number"
)
tb</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 2
## `:)` `2000`
## <chr> <chr>
## 1 smile number
```

Another way to create a tibble is with tribble(), short for transposed tibble. tribble() is

customised for data entry in code: column headings are defined by formulas (i.e. they start with ~), and entries are separated by commas. This makes it possible to lay out small amounts of data in easy to read form.

```
tribble(
    ~x, ~y, ~z,
    #--/--/---
    "a", 2, 3.6,
    "b", 1, 8.5
)

## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## x y z
## <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 a 2 3.6
## 2 b 1 8.5
```

I often add a comment (the line starting with #), to make it really clear where the header is.

## 2 Data import (R4DS Chapter 11)

Data come in several different formats, e.g. comma-separated values (csv), tab-separated values (tsv), or Excel files. To read files in csv or tsv formats, use read\_csvand read\_tsv, respectively. These are both part of the readr package, which is part of the tidyverse. These functions are very similar to each other. To read Excel files, use the read\_excel function from the readxl package.

Let's see how read\_csv works. The simplest way of calling it is to specify just one argument (the location of the file you'd like to read):

```
heights = read_csv("../../data/heights.csv")

## Rows: 1192 Columns: 6

## -- Column specification -------

## Delimiter: ","

## chr (2): sex, race

## dbl (4): earn, height, ed, age

##

## i Use `spec()` to retrieve the full column specification for this data.

## i Specify the column types or set `show_col_types = FALSE` to quiet this message.

heights
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,192 x 6
##
       earn height sex
                              ed
                                   age race
##
      <dbl>
             <dbl> <chr>
                           <dbl> <dbl> <chr>
    1 50000
##
              74.4 male
                              16
                                    45 white
##
    2 60000
              65.5 female
                              16
                                    58 white
##
    3 30000
              63.6 female
                              16
                                    29 white
    4 50000
              63.1 female
                              16
                                    91 other
##
    5 51000
              63.4 female
                              17
                                    39 white
    6 9000
              64.4 female
                              15
##
                                    26 white
##
   7 29000
              61.7 female
                              12
                                    49 white
   8 32000
              72.7 male
                              17
                                    46 white
## 9 2000
              72.0 male
                              15
                                    21 hispanic
## 10 27000
              72.2 male
                              12
                                    26 white
## # ... with 1,182 more rows
```

The assumption read\_csv made is that the first line of the file are the column names. If column names are absent, make sure to specify this via col\_names = FALSE. Note that read\_csv has guessed the column types. Sometimes, it guesses wrong. Perhaps sex and race should be factors, and education and age should be integers. If there aren't too many columns, it's good practice to just specify the column types in the initial call to read\_csv via the col\_types argument:

```
## # A tibble: 1,192 x 6
##
       earn height sex
                               ed
                                     age race
##
      <dbl>
              <dbl> <fct>
                            <int> <int> <fct>
##
    1 50000
               74.4 male
                               16
                                      45 white
##
    2 60000
               65.5 female
                               16
                                      58 white
##
    3 30000
               63.6 female
                               16
                                      29 white
##
    4 50000
               63.1 female
                               16
                                      91 other
##
    5 51000
               63.4 female
                               17
                                      39 white
       9000
##
    6
               64.4 female
                               15
                                      26 white
    7 29000
##
               61.7 female
                               12
                                      49 white
##
    8 32000
               72.7 male
                               17
                                      46 white
##
    9
       2000
               72.0 male
                               15
                                      21 hispanic
## 10 27000
               72.2 male
                               12
                                      26 white
## # ... with 1,182 more rows
```

Sometimes the files you'd like to read contain headers, i.e. one or more lines of metadata before the actual data starts. In this case, you can either skip a fixed number of lines (e.g. the first three) via skip = 3 or skip any lines starting with a certain character (e.g. #) via comment = "#".

## 3 Tidy data (R4DS Chapter 12)

"Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." —- Leo Tolstoy

"Tidy datasets are all alike, but every messy dataset is messy in its own way." —- Hadley Wickham

In this chapter, you will learn a consistent way to organise your data in R, an organisation called tidy data. Getting your data into this format requires some upfront work, but that work pays off in the long term. Once you have tidy data and the tidy tools provided by packages in the tidyverse, you will spend much less time munging data from one representation to another, allowing you to spend more time on the analytic questions at hand.

#### 3.1 Tidy data

There are multiple ways to represent the same data:

#### table1

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                         cases population
                   year
     <chr>>
                  <int>
                         <int>
                                     <int>
                   1999
## 1 Afghanistan
                           745
                                  19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                   2000
                          2666
                                  20595360
## 3 Brazil
                   1999
                         37737
                                 172006362
                                 174504898
## 4 Brazil
                         80488
                   2000
## 5 China
                   1999 212258 1272915272
## 6 China
                   2000 213766 1280428583
```

#### table2

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 4
##
      country
                   year type
                                         count
##
      <chr>
                  <int> <chr>
                                         <int>
##
   1 Afghanistan 1999 cases
                                          745
   2 Afghanistan
                  1999 population
                                     19987071
   3 Afghanistan
                   2000 cases
##
                                          2666
##
   4 Afghanistan
                   2000 population
                                     20595360
  5 Brazil
                   1999 cases
##
                                         37737
   6 Brazil
                   1999 population
                                    172006362
   7 Brazil
##
                   2000 cases
                                         80488
##
  8 Brazil
                   2000 population
                                    174504898
                   1999 cases
## 9 China
                                        212258
## 10 China
                   1999 population 1272915272
## 11 China
                   2000 cases
                                        213766
## 12 China
                   2000 population 1280428583
table3
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
    country
                  year rate
## * <chr>
                 <int> <chr>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999 745/19987071
## 2 Afghanistan 2000 2666/20595360
## 3 Brazil
                  1999 37737/172006362
## 4 Brazil
                  2000 80488/174504898
## 5 China
                  1999 212258/1272915272
## 6 China
                  2000 213766/1280428583
```

#### table4a

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
     country
                 `1999` `2000`
## * <chr>
                  <int>
                         <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                    745
                          2666
## 2 Brazil
                  37737 80488
## 3 China
                 212258 213766
```

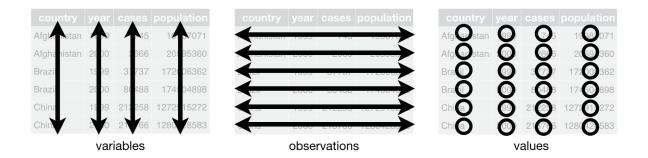
#### table4b

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
                     1999
                                 2000
     country
## * <chr>
                      <int>
                                  <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                   19987071
                              20595360
## 2 Brazil
                  172006362
                             174504898
## 3 China
                 1272915272 1280428583
```

These are all representations of the same underlying data, but they are not equally easy to use. One dataset, the tidy dataset (table1), will be much easier to work with inside the tidyverse.

There are three interrelated rules which make a dataset tidy:

- 1. Each variable must have its own column.
- 2. Each observation must have its own row.
- 3. Each value must have its own cell. The figure below shows the rules visually.



All the packages in the tidyverse are designed to work with tidy data. The tidyr package is designed to get non-tidy data into tidy format.

#### 3.1.1 Exercise

Using prose, describe how the variables and observations are organised in each of the sample tables.

#### 3.2 Pivoting

Once you get a non-tidy dataset, the first step is to figure out what the variables and observations are. Then, you want to get the variables into columns and get observations into rows.

- If one variable is spread across multiple columns, you'll need to pivot\_longer.
- If one observation is scattered across multiple rows, you'll need to pivot\_wider.

#### 3.2.1 Longer

A common problem is a dataset where some of the column names are not names of variables, but *values* of a variable. Take table4a: the column names 1999 and 2000 represent values of the year variable, the values in the 1999 and 2000 columns represent values of the cases variable, and each row represents two observations, not one.

#### table4a

To tidy a dataset like this, we need to **pivot** the offending columns into a new pair of variables. To describe that operation we need three parameters:

- The set of columns whose names are values, not variables. In this example, those are the columns 1999 and 2000.
- The name of the variable to move the column names to. Here it is year.
- The name of the variable to move the column values to. Here it's cases.

Together those parameters generate the call to pivot\_longer():

```
table4a %>%
  pivot_longer(c(`1999`, `2000`), names_to = "year", values_to = "cases")
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
## country year cases
```

```
##
     <chr>>
                  <chr>>
                         <int>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                           745
## 2 Afghanistan 2000
                          2666
## 3 Brazil
                  1999
                         37737
## 4 Brazil
                  2000
                         80488
## 5 China
                  1999
                       212258
## 6 China
                  2000
                       213766
```

Note that "1999" and "2000" are non-syntactic names (because they don't start with a letter) so we have to surround them in backticks.

In the final result, the pivoted columns are dropped, and we get new year and cases columns. Otherwise, the relationships between the original variables are preserved. Visually, this is shown in the figure below.

country	year	cases	country	1999	2000
Afghanistan	1999	745	Afgharistan	7/5	<b>-</b> 26
Afghanistan	2000	2666	Brazil	37737	804
Brazil	1999	37737	China	212258	2137
Brazil	2000	80488			
China	1999	212258			
China	2000	213766		table4	

We can use pivot\_longer() to tidy table4b in a similar fashion. The only difference is the variable stored in the cell values:

```
table4b %>%
  pivot_longer(c(`1999`, `2000`), names_to = "year", values_to = "population")
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     country
                 year population
     <chr>
##
                 <chr>>
                             <int>
                          19987071
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
## 2 Afghanistan 2000
                          20595360
## 3 Brazil
                 1999
                         172006362
## 4 Brazil
                 2000
                         174504898
## 5 China
                 1999 1272915272
## 6 China
                 2000
                       1280428583
```

To combine the tidied versions of table4a and table4b into a single tibble, we need to use dplyr::left\_join():

```
tidy4a <- table4a %>%
  pivot_longer(c(`1999`, `2000`), names_to = "year", values_to = "cases")
tidy4b <- table4b %>%
  pivot_longer(c(`1999`, `2000`), names_to = "year", values_to = "population")
left_join(tidy4a, tidy4b, by = c("country", "year"))
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                 year
                        cases population
     <chr>>
                 <chr>>
                        <int>
                                    <int>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                          745
                                 19987071
```

```
## 2 Afghanistan 2000
                          2666
                                 20595360
## 3 Brazil
                  1999
                         37737
                                172006362
## 4 Brazil
                 2000
                         80488
                                174504898
## 5 China
                  1999
                        212258 1272915272
## 6 China
                 2000
                        213766 1280428583
```

Read more about combining multiple datasets in Chapter 13 of R4DS.

#### **3.2.2** Wider

pivot\_wider() is the opposite of pivot\_longer(). You use it when an observation is scattered across multiple rows. For example, take table2: an observation is a country in a year, but each observation is spread across two rows.

#### table2

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 4
##
      country
                   year type
                                          count
##
      <chr>
                   <int> <chr>
                                          <int>
##
    1 Afghanistan
                   1999 cases
                                           745
##
    2 Afghanistan
                   1999 population
                                      19987071
    3 Afghanistan
                   2000 cases
                                          2666
    4 Afghanistan
                   2000 population
##
                                      20595360
##
    5 Brazil
                   1999 cases
                                          37737
##
   6 Brazil
                   1999 population
                                     172006362
##
   7 Brazil
                   2000 cases
                                         80488
   8 Brazil
                   2000 population
##
                                     174504898
    9 China
                   1999 cases
                                        212258
## 10 China
                   1999 population 1272915272
## 11 China
                   2000 cases
                                        213766
## 12 China
                   2000 population 1280428583
```

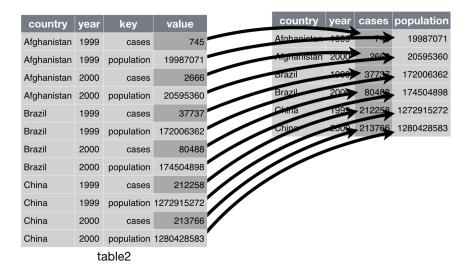
To tidy this up, we first analyse the representation in similar way to pivot\_longer(). This time, however, we only need two parameters:

- The column to take variable names from. Here, it's type.
- The column to take values from. Here it's count.

Once we've figured that out, we can use pivot\_wider().

```
table2 %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = type, values_from = count)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                         cases population
                  year
##
     <chr>
                  <int>
                         <int>
                                     <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                  1999
                           745
                                 19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                  2000
                          2666
                                 20595360
## 3 Brazil
                   1999
                         37737
                                172006362
## 4 Brazil
                  2000
                         80488
                               174504898
## 5 China
                   1999 212258 1272915272
## 6 China
                  2000 213766 1280428583
```



3.2.3 Exercises

1. Why does this code fail?

```
table4a %>%
  pivot_longer(c(1999, 2000), names_to = "year", values_to = "cases")
# Error: Can't subset columns that don't exist.
# Locations 1999 and 2000 don't exist.
# There are only 3 columns.
```

2. What would happen if you widen this table? Why? How could you add a new column to uniquely identify each value?

```
tribble(
  ~name,
                      ~names,
                                ~values,
  "Phillip Woods",
                      "age",
                                    45,
  "Phillip Woods",
                      "height",
                                   186,
  "Phillip Woods",
                      "age",
                                    50,
  "Jessica Cordero", "age",
                                    37,
  "Jessica Cordero", "height",
                                   156
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 x 3
##
     name
                      names
                             values
##
     <chr>
                      <chr>>
                              <dbl>
## 1 Phillip Woods
                                 45
                      age
## 2 Phillip Woods
                      height
                                 186
## 3 Phillip Woods
                                 50
                      age
## 4 Jessica Cordero age
                                 37
## 5 Jessica Cordero height
                                156
```

3. Tidy the simple tibble below. Do you need to make it wider or longer? What are the variables?

```
tribble(
    ~pregnant, ~male, ~female,
    "yes", NA, 10,
```

```
"no",
             20,
                     12
)
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
##
     pregnant male female
##
     <chr>>
               <dbl>
                      <dbl>
## 1 yes
                         10
                  NA
## 2 no
                  20
                         12
```

#### 3.3 Separating

So far you've learned how to tidy table2 and table4, but not table3. table3 has a different problem: we have one column (rate) that contains two variables (cases and population). To fix this problem, we'll need the separate() function.

separate() pulls apart one column into multiple columns, by splitting wherever a separator character appears. Take table3:

#### table3

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     country
                  year rate
## * <chr>
                 <int> <chr>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999 745/19987071
## 2 Afghanistan 2000 2666/20595360
## 3 Brazil
                  1999 37737/172006362
## 4 Brazil
                  2000 80488/174504898
## 5 China
                  1999 212258/1272915272
## 6 China
                  2000 213766/1280428583
```

The rate column contains both cases and population variables, and we need to split it into two variables. separate() takes the name of the column to separate, and the names of the columns to separate into, as shown below.

```
table3 %>%
  separate(rate, into = c("cases", "population"))
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                              population
                  year cases
##
     <chr>>
                 <int> <chr>
                              <chr>>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999 745
                              19987071
## 2 Afghanistan 2000 2666
                              20595360
## 3 Brazil
                  1999 37737
                              172006362
## 4 Brazil
                  2000 80488
                              174504898
## 5 China
                  1999 212258 1272915272
## 6 China
                  2000 213766 1280428583
```

country	year	rate
Afghanistan	1999	<b>745</b> / 19987071
Afghanistan	2000	<b>2666</b> / 20595360
Brazil	1999	<b>37737</b> / 172006362
Brazil	2000	<b>80488</b> / 174504898
China	1999	<b>212258</b> / 1272915272
China	2000	<b>213766</b> / 1280428583

table3

By default, separate() will split values wherever it sees a non-alphanumeric character (i.e. a character that isn't a number or letter). For example, in the code above, separate() split the values of rate at the forward slash characters. If you wish to use a specific character to separate a column, you can pass the character to the sep argument of separate(). For example, we could rewrite the code above as:

```
table3 %>%
  separate(rate, into = c("cases", "population"), sep = "/")
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                               population
                  year cases
     <chr>>
                               <chr>>
##
                  <int> <chr>
## 1 Afghanistan
                  1999 745
                               19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                  2000 2666
                               20595360
## 3 Brazil
                   1999 37737
                               172006362
## 4 Brazil
                   2000 80488
                               174504898
## 5 China
                   1999 212258 1272915272
## 6 China
                  2000 213766 1280428583
```

Look carefully at the column types: you'll notice that cases and population are character columns. This is the default behaviour in separate(): it leaves the type of the column as is. Here, however, it's not very useful as those really are numbers. We can ask separate() to try and convert to better types using convert = TRUE:

```
table3 %>%
  separate(rate, into = c("cases", "population"), convert = TRUE)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                   year
                         cases population
##
     <chr>
                  <int>
                         <int>
                                     <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                   1999
                           745
                                  19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                   2000
                          2666
                                  20595360
## 3 Brazil
                         37737
                                 172006362
                   1999
## 4 Brazil
                   2000
                         80488
                                 174504898
## 5 China
                   1999 212258 1272915272
## 6 China
                   2000 213766 1280428583
```

You can also pass a vector of integers to sep. separate() will interpret the integers as positions to split at. Positive values start at 1 on the far-left of the strings; negative value start at -1 on the far-right of the strings. When using integers to separate strings, the length of sep should be one less than the number of names in into.

You can use this arrangement to separate the last two digits of each year. This make this data less tidy, but is useful in other cases, as you'll see in a little bit.

```
table3 %>%
  separate(year, into = c("century", "year"), sep = 2)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     country
                  century year
                                rate
##
     <chr>>
                  <chr>
                          <chr> <chr>
## 1 Afghanistan 19
                          99
                                 745/19987071
## 2 Afghanistan 20
                          00
                                 2666/20595360
## 3 Brazil
                          99
                  19
                                 37737/172006362
## 4 Brazil
                  20
                          00
                                 80488/174504898
## 5 China
                  19
                          99
                                 212258/1272915272
## 6 China
                  20
                          00
                                 213766/1280428583
```

#### 3.4 Missing values

Changing the representation of a dataset brings up an important subtlety of missing values. Surprisingly, a value can be missing in one of two possible ways:

- Explicitly, i.e. flagged with NA.
- Implicitly, i.e. simply not present in the data. Let's illustrate this idea with a very simple data set:

```
stocks <- tibble(
   year = c(2015, 2015, 2015, 2016, 2016, 2016, 2016),
   qtr = c( 1,  2,  3,  4,  2,  3,  4),
   return = c(1.88, 0.59, 0.35,  NA, 0.92, 0.17, 2.66)
)</pre>
```

There are two missing values in this dataset:

- The return for the fourth quarter of 2015 is explicitly missing, because the cell where its value should be instead contains NA.
- The return for the first quarter of 2016 is implicitly missing, because it simply does not appear in the dataset.

One way to think about the difference is with this Zen-like koan: An explicit missing value is the presence of an absence; an implicit missing value is the absence of a presence.

The way that a dataset is represented can make implicit values explicit. For example, we can make the implicit missing value explicit by putting years in the columns:

```
stocks %>%
pivot_wider(names_from = year, values_from = return)
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 3
##
            `2015` `2016`
       qtr
##
     <dbl>
             <dbl>
                    <dbl>
## 1
              1.88
          1
                    NA
          2
              0.59
                      0.92
          3
              0.35
                      0.17
## 3
## 4
             NA
                      2.66
```

Because these explicit missing values may not be important in other representations of the data, you can set values\_drop\_na = TRUE in pivot\_longer() to turn explicit missing values implicit:

#### 3.5 Case study

Let's pull together everything you've learned to tackle a realistic data tidying problem. The tidyr::who dataset contains tuberculosis (TB) cases broken down by year, country, age, gender, and diagnosis method. The data comes from the 2014 World Health Organization Global Tuberculosis Report, available at http://www.who.int/tb/country/data/download/en/.

There's a wealth of epidemiological information in this dataset, but it's challenging to work with the data in the form that it's provided:

who

```
## # A tibble: 7,240 x 60
##
      country
                         iso3
                                 year new_sp_m014 new_sp_m1524 new_sp_m2534 new_sp_m3544
##
      <chr>
                   <chr> <chr>
                               <int>
                                            <int>
                                                          <int>
                                                                        <int>
                                                                                      <int>
##
    1 Afghanistan AF
                         AFG
                                 1980
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
                                               NΑ
    2 Afghanistan AF
##
                         AFG
                                 1981
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
    3 Afghanistan AF
                         AFG
##
                                 1982
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
    4 Afghanistan AF
##
                         AFG
                                 1983
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
    5 Afghanistan AF
##
                         AFG
                                 1984
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
##
    6 Afghanistan AF
                         AFG
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
                                 1985
                                               NA
   7 Afghanistan AF
##
                         AFG
                                 1986
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
    8 Afghanistan AF
##
                         AFG
                                 1987
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
    9 Afghanistan AF
##
                         AFG
                                 1988
                                               NA
                                                             NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
## 10 Afghanistan AF
                         AFG
                                 1989
                                                             NA
                                               NA
                                                                           NA
                                                                                         NA
     ... with 7,230 more rows, and 52 more variables: new_sp_m4554 <int>,
       new_sp_m5564 <int>, new_sp_m65 <int>, new_sp_f014 <int>,
## #
## #
       new_sp_f1524 <int>, new_sp_f2534 <int>, new_sp_f3544 <int>,
## #
       new_sp_f4554 <int>, new_sp_f5564 <int>, new_sp_f65 <int>,
## #
       new_sn_m014 <int>, new_sn_m1524 <int>, new_sn_m2534 <int>,
## #
       new_sn_m3544 <int>, new_sn_m4554 <int>, new_sn_m5564 <int>,
## #
       new_sn_m65 <int>, new_sn_f014 <int>, new_sn_f1524 <int>, ...
```

Let's work together to try to tidy it!!!