Loading data from CSV

- Comma-Separated-Value format is a simple data format that is easier to move around compared to Excel.
- You can export your Excel data into CSV, and you can open CSV files from within Excel, so it is easy to work with.
- R can load both CSV and Excel[1] files.
- For CSV files R can work either with downloaded data files, or directly using a URL for the file.

To load a CSV file into R:

- In the Environment Pane, use the "Import Datasets" button, then chooose "Fron CSV …".
- In the resulting window, type or copy-paste the file path or URL of the file you want to open. We will use https :// hanoverstatslabs .github.io/ resources / datasets /guns.csv.
- Click "Update" and you should see your data arranged in columns.
- In the bottom left, if needed, change:
    - the *Name* that will be given to store the data,
    - the number of lines to *skip* before reading data (for example there might have been some header/title lines),
    - whether the first row contains the names of the variables,
    - what is used as the "delimiter" between entries (if they don't seem to be vertically arranged properly),
    - and a few other options as needed.
- You should see on the right bottom a few lines of code similar to the ones below. Copy those lines and place them where they should go.
    - The `library ( readr )` line is only needed once if you load multiple files, and should only appear once in your RMarkdown document if you use one.
    - If you are using RMarkdown, the `View (…)` line needs to instead go to the console, and it is used to offers a tabular visualization of the data.

```
library ( readr )
guns <- read_csv ( " https :// hanoverstatslabs . github . io/ resources / datasets / guns . csv " )
View ( guns )              # Opens up the data for viewing
## Below lines showcase a graph , and are not part of "loading the data"
own_rate <- guns$own_rate
names ( own_rate ) <- guns$country
dotchart ( sort ( own_rate ))
```

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[1] loadingDataExcel.html