# Exploring data #1

So far we've covered three ways to get data into R:

- 1. From flat files (either on your computer or online)
- 2. From files like SAS and Excel
- 3. From R objects (i.e., using load())

Many R packages come with their own data, which is very easy to load and use.

For example, the faraway package has a dataset called worldcup that you'll use today. To load it, use the data() function once you've loaded the package with the name of the dataset as its argument:

```
library(faraway)
data("worldcup")
```

Unlike most data objects you'll work with, the data that comes with an R package will often have its own help file. You can access this using the ? operator:

?worldcup

To find out all the datasets that are available in the packages you currently have loaded, run data() without an option inside the parentheses:

#### data()

To find out all of the datasets available within a certain package, run data with the argument package:

```
data(package = "faraway")
```

As a note, you can similarly use library(), without the name of a package, to list all of the packages you have installed that you could call with library():

```
library()
```

### nepali example data

For the example plots, I'll use a dataset in the faraway package called nepali. This gives data from a study of the health of a group of Nepalese children.

```
library(faraway)
data(nepali)
```

I'll be using functions from dplyr and ggplot2 during the course, so I'll load those:

```
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)
```

### nepali example data

For the nepali dataset, each observation is a single measurement for a child; there can be multiple observations per child.

I'll limit it to the columns with the child's id, sex, weight, height, and age, and I'll limit to each child's first measurement.

### nepali example data

The first few rows of the data now looks like:

```
nepali %>%
slice(1:4)
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 5
## id sex wt ht age
## <fctr> <fctr> <dbl> <dbl> <int>
## 1 120011 Male 12.8 91.2 41
## 2 120012 Female 14.9 103.9 57
## 3 120021 Female 7.7 70.1 8
## 4 120022 Female 12.1 86.4 35
```

### **Logical statements**

Last week, you learned some about logical statements and how to use them with the filter function.

You can use *logical vectors*, created with these statements, for a lot of things. We'll review them and add some more details this week.

A logical statement outputs a *logical vector*. This logical vector will be the same length as the original vector tested by the logical statement:

```
is_male <- nepali$sex == "Male"
length(nepali$sex)

## [1] 200

length(is_male)

## [1] 200</pre>
```

Each element of the logical vector can only have one of three values (TRUE, FALSE, NA). The logical vector will have the value TRUE at any position where the original vector met the logical condition you tested, and FALSE anywhere else:

```
head(nepali$sex)
```

```
## [1] Male Female Female Female Male
## Levels: Male Female
```

```
head(is_male)
```

```
## [1] TRUE FALSE FALSE TRUE TRUE
```

Because the logical vector is the same length as the vector it's testing, you can add logical vectors to dataframes with mutate:

```
nepali <- nepali %>%
  mutate(is_male = sex == "Male") # Add column. Is obs. male?
nepali %>%
  slice(1:3)
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 6
## id sex wt ht age is_male
## <fctr> <fctr> <dbl> <dbl> <int> <lgl>
## 1 120011 Male 12.8 91.2 41 TRUE
## 2 120012 Female 14.9 103.9 57 FALSE
## 3 120021 Female 7.7 70.1 8 FALSE
```

As another example, you could add a column that is a logical vector of whether each child's first-measured height is over 100 centimeters:

```
nepali %>%
  mutate(very_tall = ht > 100) %>% # Is height over 100 cm?
  select(id, ht, very_tall) %>%
  slice(1:3)
```

You can "flip" a logical vector (i.e., change every TRUE to FALSE and vice-versa) using the bang operator (!):

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 4
## id ht very_tall not_tall
## <fctr> <dbl> <lgl> <lgl> <lgl> TRUE
## 1 120011 91.2 FALSE TRUE
## 2 120012 103.9 TRUE FALSE
## 3 120021 70.1 FALSE TRUE
```

You can do a few cool things now with this vector. For example, you can use it with the filter function to pull out just the rows where is\_male is TRUE:

```
nepali %>%
  filter(is_male) %>%
  select(id, ht, wt, sex) %>%
  slice(1:5)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 x 4
##
        id
             ht
                  wt
                         sex
##
    <fctr> <dbl> <dbl> <fctr>
  1 120011 91.2 12.8
                        Male
##
  2 120023 99.4 14.2 Male
##
  3 120031 96.4 13.9 Male
## 4 120051 69.5 8.3 Male
## 5 120053 96.0 15.8 Male
```

Or, with !, just the rows where is\_male is FALSE:

```
nepali %>%
  filter(!is_male) %>%
  select(id, ht, wt, sex) %>%
  slice(1:5)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 x 4
## id ht wt sex
## <fctr> <dbl> <dbl> <fctr>
## 1 120012 103.9 14.9 Female
## 2 120021 70.1 7.7 Female
## 3 120022 86.4 12.1 Female
## 4 120052 83.6 11.8 Female
## 5 120061 78.5 8.7 Female
```

All of the values in a logical vector are saved with a number underneath. Values of TRUE are saved as 1 and values of FALSE are saved as 0.

You can use sum() to get the sum of all values in a vector. Because logical vector values are linked with numerical values of 0 or 1, you can use sum() to find out how many males and females are in the dataset:

```
sum(nepali$is_male)

## [1] 107

sum(!nepali$is_male)

## [1] 93
```

#### In-course exercise

We'll take a break now to start the in-course exercise for this week (Sections 3.6.1 and 3.6.2).

# Simple statistics

### Simple statistics functions

We've looked at how to subset, arrange, and add to a dataframe. Next we'll look at how to summarizes a dataframe.

We'll start by looking at some simple statistics functions from base R, and then we'll look at how some of those functions can be used with the summarize function from the dplyr package to quickly get interesting summaries of data.

### **Simple statistics functions**

Here are some simple statistics functions you will likely use often:

Function	Description
range()	Range (minimum and maximum) of vector
min(), max()	Minimum or maximum of vector
<pre>mean(), median()</pre>	Mean or median of vector
table()	Number of observations per level for a factor vector
cor()	Determine correlation(s) between two or more vectors
summary()	Summary statistics, depends on class

# Simple statistic examples

All of these take, as the main argument, the vector(s) for which you want the statistic. If there are missing values in the vector, you'll need to add an option to say what to do when them (e.g., na.rm or use="complete.obs"—see help files).

```
mean(nepali$wt, na.rm = TRUE)

## [1] 10.18432

range(nepali$ht, na.rm = TRUE)

## [1] 52.4 104.1

table(nepali$sex)
```

## Male Female ## 107 93

##

### Simple statistic examples

The cor function can take two or more vectors. If you give it multiple values, it will give the correlation matrix for all the vectors.

```
cor(nepali$wt, nepali$ht, use = "complete.obs")
## [1] 0.9571535
cor(nepali[ , c("wt", "ht", "age")], use = "complete.obs")
             wt ht age
##
## wt 1.0000000 0.9571535 0.8931195
## ht 0.9571535 1.0000000 0.9287129
## age 0.8931195 0.9287129 1.0000000
```

### summary(): A bit of OOP

R supports object-oriented programming. This shows up with summary(). R looks to see what type of object it's dealing with, and then uses a method specific to that object type.

```
summary(nepali$wt)
##
     Min. 1st Qu. Median
                            Mean 3rd Qu.
                                           Max.
     3.80 7.90 10.10 10.18 12.40
                                           16.70
##
     NA's
##
##
       15
summary(nepali$sex)
##
    Male Female
##
     107
             93
```

Within a "tidy" workflow, you can use the summarize function from the dplyr package to create summary statistics for a dataframe. This function inputs a dataframe and outputs a dataframe with the specified summary measures.

The basic format for using summarize is:

The output from summarize will be a dataframe with:

- One row (later we will look at using summarize within groups of data, and that will result in more rows)
- As many columns as you have defined summaries in the summarize function (the generic code above would result in two columns)

As an example, to summarize the nepali dataset to get the mean weight, median height, and minimum and maximum ages of children, you could run:

```
summarize(nepali,
    mean_wt = mean(wt, na.rm = TRUE),
    median_ht = median(ht, na.rm = TRUE),
    youngest = min(age, na.rm = TRUE),
    oldest = max(age, na.rm = TRUE))
```

```
## mean_wt median_ht youngest oldest
## 1 10.18432 80 0 60
```

Notice that the output is one row (since the summary was on ungrouped data), with four columns (since we defined four summaries in the summarize function).

Because the first input to the summarize function is a dataframe, you can "pipe into" a summarize call. For example, we could have written the code on the previous slide as:

As another note, because the output from summarize is also a dataframe, we could also "pipe into" another tidyverse function after running summarize.

There are some special functions that you can use with summarize:

Function	Description
n()	Number of elements in a vector
n_distinct()	Number of unique elements in a vector
first()	First value in a vector
last()	Last value in a vector

For example, the following call would give you the total number of observations in the dataset, the number of distinct values of age measured across all children, the ID of the first child included in the dataset, and the weight of the last child included in the dataset:

```
## n_children n_distinct_ages first_id last_weight
## 1 200 58 120011 5
```

Often, you'll want to get summaries of the data stratified by groups within the data. For example, in the Nepali dataset, you may want to get summaries by sex or by whether the child was short or tall.

To get grouped summaries of a dataframe, you can first use the group\_by function from the dplyr package to "group" the dataset, and then when you run "summarize", it will be applied **by group** to the data.

Your final output from summarize will be a dataframe with:

- As many rows as there were unique groups in the grouping factor(s)
- As many columns as you have defined summaries in the summarize function (the generic code above would result in two columns), plus columns for each of the grouping factors

Without piping, the use of group\_by and summarize looks like this:

You can see that group\_by is nested within the summarize call, because group\_by must be applied to the dataframe before summarize is run if you want to get summaries by group.

This call tends to look much cleaner if you use piping. With piping, the generic call looks like:

For example, in the Nepali dataset, say you want to get summaries by sex. You want to get the total number of children in each group, the mean weight, and the ID of the first child.

You can run:

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
## sex n_children mean_wt first_id
## <fctr> <int> <dbl> <fctr>
## 1 Male 107 10.497980 120011
## 2 Female 93 9.823256 120012
```

# **Grouping and summarizing**

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
## sex n_children mean_wt first_id
## <fctr> <int> <dbl> <fctr>
## 1 Male 107 10.497980 120011
## 2 Female 93 9.823256 120012
```

Notice that the output is a dataframe with two rows (since there were two groups in the grouping factor) and four columns (one for the grouping factor, plus one for each of the summaries defined in the summarize function).

# **Grouping and summarizing**

You can group by more than one variable. For example, to get summaries within groups divided by both sex and whether the child is tall ( $>100~\rm cm$ ) or not, you could run:

#### In-course exercise

We'll take a break now to continue the in-course exercise for this week (Section 3.6.3).

# **Plots**

### Plots to explore data

Plots can be invaluable in exploring your data.

This week, we will focus on **useful**, rather than **attractive** graphs, since we are focusing on exploring rather than presenting data.

Next week, we will talk more about customization, to help you make more attractive plots that would go into final reports.

### ggplot conventions

Here, we'll be using functions from the ggplot2 library, so you'll need to install that package:

#### library(ggplot2)

The basic steps behind creating a plot with ggplot2 are:

- 1. Create an object of the ggplot class, typically specifying the **data** to be shown in the plot;
- Add on (using +) one or more geoms, specifying the aesthetics for each; and
- Add on (using +) other elements to create and customize the plot (e.g., add layers to customize scales or themes or to add facets).

Note: To avoid errors, end lines with +, don't start lines with it.

#### Plot data

The ggplot function requires you to input a dataframe with the data you will plot. All the columns in that dataframe can be mapped to specific aesthetics within the plot.

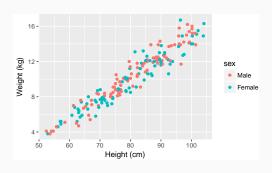
```
nepali %%
slice(1:3)
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 6
## id sex wt ht age is_male
## <fctr> <fctr> <dbl> <dbl> <int> <lgl>
## 1 120011 Male 12.8 91.2 41 TRUE
## 2 120012 Female 14.9 103.9 57 FALSE
## 3 120021 Female 7.7 70.1 8 FALSE
```

For example, if we input the nepali dataframe, we would be able to create a scatterplot that shows each child's initial height on the x-axis, weight on the y-axis, and sex by the color of the point.

**Aesthetics** are plotting elements that can show certain elements of the data.

For example, you may want to create a scatterplot where color shows gender, x-position shows height, and y-position shows weight.



In the previous graph, the mapped aesthetics are color, x, and y. In the ggplot code, all of these aesthetic mappings will be specified within an aes call, which will be nested in another call in the ggplot pipeline.

Aesthetic	ggplot abbreviation	nepali column
x-axis position	x =	ht
y-axis position	у =	wt
color	color =	sex

This is how these mappings will be specified in an aes call:

```
# Note: This code should not be run by itself.
# It will eventually be nested in a ggplot call.
aes(x = ht, y = wt, color = sex)
```

Here are some common plot aesthetics you might want to specify:

Code	Description
х	Position on x-axis
У	Position on y-axis
shape	Shape
color	Color of border of elements
fill	Color of inside of elements
size	Size
alpha	Transparency (1: opaque; 0: transparent)
linetype	Type of line (e.g., solid, dashed)

#### Geoms

You will add **geoms** that create the actual geometric objects on the plot. For example, a scatterplot has "points" geoms, since each observation is displayed as a point.

There are geom\_\* functions that can be used to add a variety of geoms. The function to add a "points" geom is geom\_point.

We just covered three plotting elements:

- Data
- Aesthetics
- Geoms

These are three elements that you will almost always specify when using ggplot, and they are sufficient to create a number of basic plots.

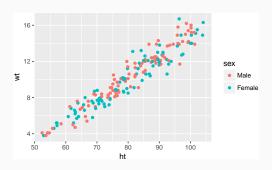
You can create a scatterplot using ggplot using the following code format:

#### Notice that:

- 1. The ggplot call specifies the **dataframe** with the data you want to plot
- A geom is added using the appropriate geom\_\* function for a scatterplot (geom\_point).
- The mappings between columns in the dataframe and aesthetics of the geom is specified within an aes call in the mapping argument of the geom\_\* function call.
- 4. The aes call includes mappings to two aesthetics that are required from the geom\_point geom (x and y) and one that is optional (color).

Let's put these ideas together to write the code to create a scatterplot for our example data:

```
ggplot(data = nepali) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = ht, y = wt, color = sex))
```



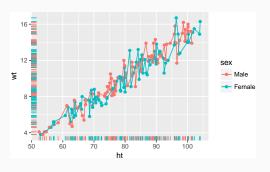
There are a number of different geom\_\* functions you can use to add geoms to a plot. They are divided between geoms that directly map the data to an aesthetic and those that show some summary or statistic of the data.

Some of the most common direct-mapping geoms are:

Geom(s)	Description
geom_point	Points in 2-D (e.g. scatterplot)
<pre>geom_line, geom_path</pre>	Connect observations with a line
geom_abline	A line with a certain intercept and slope
<pre>geom_hline, geom_vline</pre>	A horizontal or vertical line
geom_rug	A rug plot
<pre>geom_label, geom_text</pre>	Text labels
	·

You can add several geoms to the same plot as layers:

```
ggplot(data = nepali) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = ht, y = wt, color = sex)) +
geom_line(mapping = aes(x = ht, y = wt, color = sex)) +
geom_rug(mapping = aes(x = ht, y = wt, color = sex))
```



You may have noticed that all of these geoms use the same aesthetic mappings (height to x-axis position, weight to y-axis position, and sex to color). To save time, you can specify the aesthetic mappings in the first ggplot call. These mappings will then be the default for any of the added geoms.

Because the first argument of the ggplot call is a dataframe, you can also "pipe into" a ggplot call:

```
nepali %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = ht, y = wt, color = sex)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_line() +
  geom_rug()
```

#### In-course exercise

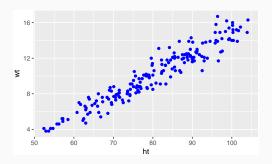
We'll take a break now to continue the in-course exercise for this week (Section 3.6.4).

Which aesthetics you must specify in the aes call depend on which geom you are adding to the plot.

You can find out the aesthetics you can use for a geom in the "Aesthetics" section of the geom's help file (e.g., ?geom\_point).

Required aesthetics are in bold in this section of the help file and optional ones are not.

Instead of mapping an aesthetic to an element of your data, you can use a constant value for the aesthetic. For example, you may want to make all the points blue, rather than having color map to gender:



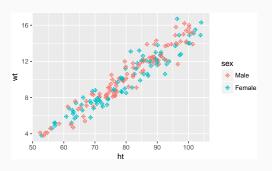
In this case, you can define that aesthetic as a constant for the geom, outside of an aes statement.

For example, you may want to change the shape of the points in a scatterplot from their default shape, but not map them to a particular element of the data.

In R, you can specify point shape with a number. Here are the shapes that correspond to the numbers  $1\ \text{to}\ 25$ :



Here is an example of mapping point shape to a constant value other than the default:

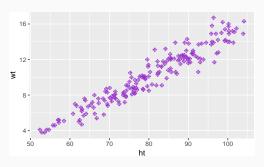


R has character names for different colors. For example:

- blue
- blue4
- darkorchid
- deepskyblue2
- steelblue1
- dodgerblue3

Google "R colors" and search the images to find links to listings of different R colors.

Here is an example of mapping point shape and color to constant values other than the defaults:



# **Useful plot additions**

There are also a number of elements that you can add onto a ggplot object using +. A few very frequently used ones are:

Element	Description
ggtitle	Plot title
xlab, ylab, labs	x- and y-axis labels
xlim, ylim	Limits of x- and y-axis

There are a number of different geom\_\* functions you can use to add geoms to a plot. They are divided between geoms that directly map the data to an aesthetic and those that show some summary or statistic of the data.

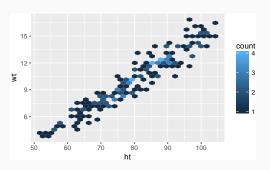
Some of the most common "statistical" geoms are:

Geom(s)	Description
geom_histogram	Show distribution in 1-D
<pre>geom_hex, geom_density</pre>	Show distribution in 2-D
<pre>geom_col, geom_bar</pre>	Create bar charts
<pre>geom_boxplot, geom_dotplot</pre>	Create boxplots and related plots
geom_smooth	Add a fitted line to a scatterplot

These "statistical" geoms all input the original data and perform some calculations on that data to determine how to plot the final geom. Often, this calculation involves some kind of summarization.

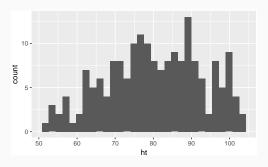
For example, the geom for a hexagonal 2-D heatmap (geom\_hex) divides the data into an evenly-sized set of hexagons and then calculates the number of points in each hexagon to provide a 2-D visualization of how the data is distributed.

```
ggplot(data = nepali) +
geom_hex(aes(x = ht, y = wt))
```



A histogram geom is a similar idea, but only gives the distribution across one variable:

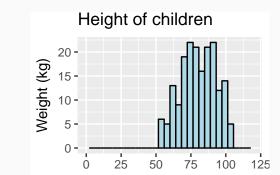
```
ggplot(data = nepali) +
  geom_histogram(aes(x = ht))
```



### Histogram example

You can add some elements to the histogram, like ggtitle, labs, and xlim:

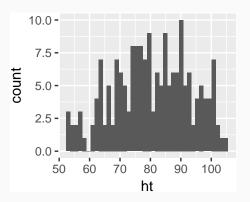
```
ggplot(nepali, aes(x = ht)) +
  geom_histogram(fill = "lightblue", color = "black") +
  ggtitle("Height of children") +
  labs(x = "Height (cm)", y = "Weight (kg)") +
  xlim(c(0, 120))
```



### Histogram example

geom\_histogram also has its own special argument, bins. You can use
this to change the number of bins that are used to make the histogram:

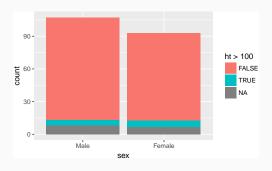
```
ggplot(nepali, aes(x = ht)) +
geom_histogram(bins = 40)
```



#### Bar chart

You can use the geom\_bar geom to create a barchart:

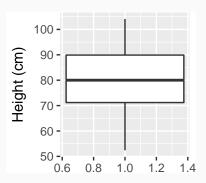
```
ggplot(nepali, aes(x = sex, fill = ht > 100)) +
  geom_bar()
```



### **Boxplot** example

To create a boxplot, you can use geom\_boxplot:

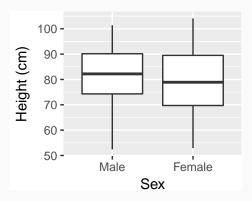
```
ggplot(nepali, aes(x = 1, y = ht)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  labs(x = "", y = "Height (cm)")
```



### **Boxplot** example

You can also do separate boxplots by a factor. In this case, you'll need to include two aesthetics (x and y) when you initialize the ggplot object.

```
ggplot(nepali, aes(x = sex, y = ht, group = sex)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  labs(x = "Sex", y = "Height (cm)")
```



#### In-course exercise

We'll take a break now to finish the in-course exercise for this week (Section 3.6.5).