

Overview. Generating summary statistics tables is an important task in exploratory data analysis, yet it has a lot of redundant jobs. The most typical approach of generating summary statistics tables in R usually incorporates two steps: calculating the numbers and crafting the table. The package `gtsummary` provides users a way to finish this task in one step and skip through many redundant steps. After reviewing the article and the package, I'm convinced that `gtsummary` will add value to the R community by helping users save some finger strokes and speed up certain summary tasks. Also, `gtsummary` provides features to summarize models. For additional customization needs, `gtsummary` provides a set of tools for customization and the output of `gtsummary` can be converted to other table engines, which might be useful in some cases.

Article. The article was well written and the examples are very clear and helpful. There are two things that I would like to see some improvement.

- The authors didn't provide any background review. Generating summary stats tables is such a common task that many people have tried to solve this problem before. I hope the authors could provide a background review of at least a few of the following packages:
 - `tables`
 - `tableone`
 - `skimr`
 - `summarytools`
 - `modelsummary`
- It seems that `gtsummary` has very limited support on generating LaTeX tables. In the package vignette, it states that "to print {`gtsummary`} tables using LaTeX, utilize one of the supporting print engines". However, since R Markdown doesn't support markdown syntax in LaTeX tables (or in any big chunk of raw LaTeX), I guess many formatting functions in this package will not work for LaTeX tables. It is okay to have limited support on some features but in terms of article writing, I would like to see the author mention it as a limitation in the discussion section.

Software Package. The package is well written with solid documentation. I only have one question here. In ``tbl_summary``, why let it have its own ``by`` argument instead of using ``dplyr``'s ``group_by``?