

MassMutual DSDP 2018:

CRASH COURSE IN ggplot2

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Outline

- ✓ Introductions
- ✓ Visualization overview
 - ✓ Flashback to early experiences in data wrangling
 - ✓ Visualization (def.)
 - ✓ Data (def.)
- ✓ Graphical primitives
- ✓ Visual dimensions
- ✓ Pre-lunch activity: mapping visual to data dimensions
- After lunch: ggplot2 crash course

10-minute crash course

“(g)rammar of (g)raphics”



What is the “Grammar of Graphics”?

- **Big idea:** independently specify plot *building blocks* and combine them to create graphical displays
- Building blocks include:
 - data (obvi.)
 - geometric objects (the literal stuff we draw)
 - aesthetic mappings (how we draw that stuff)
 - statistical transformations (underlying model)
 - scales (range of values, colors, etc.)
 - faceting (small multiples)

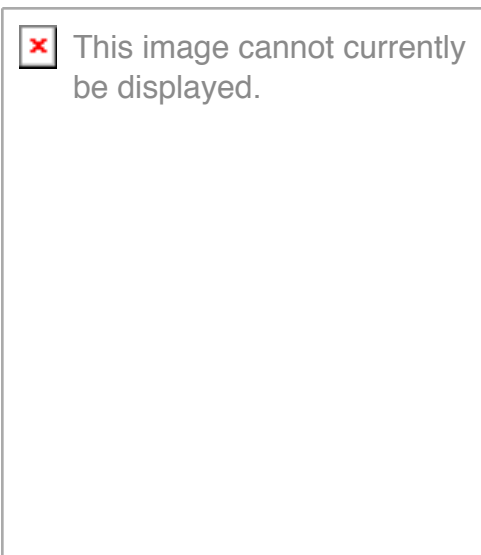
Geometric objects (geom)

- In `ggplot2`, the actual marks we put on a plot are called *geometric objects* or *geoms*
- Examples:
 - points (`geom_point`, for scatter plots, dot plots, etc.)
 - lines (`geom_line`, for time series, trend lines, etc.)
 - boxplot (`geom_boxplot`, for, well, boxplots!)
 - ... and many more!

Aesthetic mapping (aes)

- In `ggplot2`, an *aesthetic* means “something you can see”
- Aesthetic mappings are set with the `aes ()` function
- Each type of geom accepts only a subset of all aesthetics.
- Examples include:
 - position (i.e., on the x and y axes)
 - color (“outside” color)
 - fill (“inside” color)
 - shape (of points)
 - line type
 - size
 - ... and many more!

All you really need to know...



`geoms + aes ()`

Lab: ggplot2 refresher



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