# Data exploration and descriptives

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# Data exploration

This exercise will teach specific guidelines for exploring the distribution of data and the relationship of different types of variables.

## Load packages

We will need the following packages in this exercise:

```
library(gridExtra) # for grid.arrange
library(psych) # for describe
library(tidyverse) # for dplyr and ggplot2
```

#### Load data

We will work with the latest COVID dataset published by the WHO as of today. We use the **read\_csv()** to read the data. That function is the tidyverse counterpart of the previously encountered read.csv (which is a base R function). They work the same way, both read files with a .csv format. The only difference is the read\_csv() creates a **tibble** format instead of the data.frame format. tibbles are data frames but they are slightly more processed, containing a bit more structural information about the dataset than the regular data.frame

COVID\_data <- read\_csv("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/covid-19-data/master/public/data/owid-co

#### Data overview

We should always start by getting an overall look at the dataset (we can print the data object, look at the dataset with View, or get some more structural information using the functions learned in the previous exercises.)

Printing a **tibble object** shows more information than printing a simple data.frame. It basically shows the same information as if str() and head() was also run.

```
COVID_data
```

```
## # A tibble: 54,819 x 49
##
      iso code continent location date
                                               total cases new cases new cases smoot~
                                                      <dbl>
                                                                <dbl>
##
      <chr>
                <chr>
                          <chr>>
                                                                                   <dbl>
                                    <date>
##
    1 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                    2020-03-13
                                                          2
                                                                     2
##
    2 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                    2020-03-19
                                                         NA
                                                                   NA
                                                                                  0.286
   3 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                    2020-03-20
                                                          4
                                                                                   0.286
```

```
##
    4 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-21
                                                       NA
                                                                  NA
                                                                                0.286
##
    5 ABW
                                                       NΑ
                                                                  NΑ
                                                                                0.286
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-22
##
    6 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-23
                                                       NA
                                                                  NA
                                                                                0.286
##
    7 ABW
                                                       12
                                                                   8
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-24
                                                                                1.43
##
    8 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-25
                                                       17
                                                                   5
                                                                                2.14
   9 ABW
                                                       19
                                                                   2
                                                                                2.43
##
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-26
## 10 ABW
               North Am~ Aruba
                                   2020-03-27
                                                       28
                                                                                3.43
## # ... with 54,809 more rows, and 42 more variables: total deaths <dbl>,
## #
       new_deaths <dbl>, new_deaths_smoothed <dbl>, total_cases_per_million <dbl>,
## #
       new_cases_per_million <dbl>, new_cases_smoothed_per_million <dbl>,
## #
       total_deaths_per_million <dbl>, new_deaths_per_million <dbl>,
       new_deaths_smoothed_per_million <dbl>, icu_patients <lgl>,
## #
## #
       icu_patients_per_million <lgl>, hosp_patients <lgl>,
       hosp_patients_per_million <lgl>, weekly_icu_admissions <lgl>,
## #
## #
       weekly_icu_admissions_per_million <lgl>, weekly_hosp_admissions <lgl>,
## #
       weekly_hosp_admissions_per_million <lgl>, total_tests <lgl>,
       new_tests <lgl>, total_tests_per_thousand <lgl>,
## #
## #
       new tests per thousand <lgl>, new tests smoothed <lgl>,
## #
       new_tests_smoothed_per_thousand <lgl>, tests_per_case <lgl>,
## #
       positive_rate <lgl>, tests_units <lgl>, stringency_index <dbl>,
## #
       population <dbl>, population_density <dbl>, median_age <dbl>,
## #
       aged_65_older <dbl>, aged_70_older <dbl>, gdp_per_capita <dbl>,
## #
       extreme_poverty <dbl>, cardiovasc_death_rate <dbl>,
       diabetes prevalence <dbl>, female smokers <dbl>, male smokers <dbl>,
## #
## #
       handwashing_facilities <dbl>, hospital_beds_per_thousand <dbl>,
       life_expectancy <dbl>, human_development_index <dbl>
View(COVID data)
```

## Descriptive statistics

There are a number of functions dedicated to get descriptive statistics from datasets. One of the most commonly used ones is the **summary()** function, giving us information about the minimum and maximum values, the mean, the median, the kvartiles and missing data all at once.

For example we can get descriptives from the variable "total cases" by using the code below: (note that we used the **select()** function to subset the dataset to only show descriptives for this one variable)

```
COVID_data %>%
  select(total_cases) %>%
  summary()
##
     total_cases
##
    Min.
           :
                    1
##
    1st Qu.:
                  159
##
  Median :
                 1916
##
              151856
   Mean
            :
##
    3rd Qu.:
                19604
##
   Max.
            :48171563
##
   NA's
            :3632
```

Or we can get the same data for all of the variables, if we run the summary function on the whole dataset.

```
COVID_data %>%
summary()
```

One thing you might notice during this initial exploration is that there are some extremely large numbers. If we look at the dataset, it is because the last rows contain aggregated "World" and "International" data. Let's exclude these rows from our dataset. **Note that we used "!" to indicate "NOT"**.

- How many registered cases were there in total in Sweden on 2020.Nov.04 (total\_cases)?
- What was the highest value of registered new daily cases in Sweden during this pandemic (new\_cases)?

## More descriptives!

We can use the **describe()** function within the **Psych** package to get even more descriptive statistics such as skew and kurtosis which can be used to check the assumptions of some statistical tests about normality of distribution.

One limitation of the describe function is that it primarily works for numerical, continuous data, and it returns warning messages when encountering categorical/nominal variables. So we exclude these categorical variables using the select() function, and only run the function below on the numerical data.

```
COVID_data %>%
  select(-date, -iso_code, -continent, -location, -contains("tests"), -positive_rate) %>%
  describe()
```

##		vars	n	mean	sd
##	total_cases	1	50601	76780.38	462038.62
##	new_cases	2	53523	899.91	5024.67
##	new_cases_smoothed	3	52728	884.41	4879.83
##	total_deaths	4	41495	3295.51	14978.54
##	new_deaths	5	53523	22.91	124.38
##	new_deaths_smoothed	6	52728	22.81	114.34
##	total_cases_per_million	7	50601	2817.86	5542.68
##	new_cases_per_million	8	53523	34.96	123.95
##	new_cases_smoothed_per_million	9	52728	33.82	88.96
##	total_deaths_per_million	10	41495	90.48	175.41
##	new_deaths_per_million	11	53523	0.63	2.97
##	new_deaths_smoothed_per_million	12	52728	0.62	1.89
##	icu_patients	13	0	NaN	NA
##	<pre>icu_patients_per_million</pre>	14	0	NaN	NA
##	hosp_patients	15	0	NaN	NA
##	hosp_patients_per_million	16	0	NaN	NA
##	weekly_icu_admissions	17	0	NaN	NA
##	weekly_icu_admissions_per_million	18	0	NaN	NA
##	weekly_hosp_admissions	19	0	NaN	NA
	${\tt weekly\_hosp\_admissions\_per\_million}$	20	0	NaN	NA
##	stringency_index	21	45396	56.90	26.29
##	population	22	54197	41967104.00	155285858.50
	population_density	23	51641	363.06	1649.27
##	median_age	24	48472	31.22	9.07
##	aged_65_older	25	47739	9.20	6.32
##	aged_70_older	26	48218	5.82	4.31
##	gdp_per_capita	27	47829	20724.72	20401.52

##	extreme_poverty	28 31780	12.39	10	.48	,
	cardiovasc_death_rate	29 48446	252.43		7.80	
	diabetes_prevalence	30 50223	8.06		.00 1.18	
	female_smokers	31 37666	10.80		).51	
	male_smokers	32 37177	32.62		3.50	
	handwashing_facilities	33 22730	52.02		84	
		34 43628	3.10		2.53	
	hospital_beds_per_thousand	35 53498	73.97		7.41	
	life_expectancy	36 47068	0.72		.41 ).15	
##	human_development_index	median	trimmed		nad	, min
	totol gogge	1918.00	11934.29	2824.		
	total_cases					1.00
	new_cases	13.00	121.87			-8261.00
	new_cases_smoothed	18.00	125.93		69	-552.00
	total_deaths	79.00	461.83	114.		1.00
	new_deaths	0.00	2.07			-1918.00
	new_deaths_smoothed	0.29	2.25		42	-232.14
	total_cases_per_million	537.32	1477.14	785.		0.00
	new_cases_per_million	2.02	12.53			-2212.54
	new_cases_smoothed_per_million	3.64	14.26		40	-269.98
	total_deaths_per_million	19.07	45.92	26.	81	0.00
##	new_deaths_per_million	0.00	0.16	0.	.00	-67.90
##	new_deaths_smoothed_per_million	0.03	0.21	0.	04	-9.68
##	icu_patients	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	<pre>icu_patients_per_million</pre>	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	hosp_patients	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	hosp_patients_per_million	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	weekly_icu_admissions	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	weekly_icu_admissions_per_million	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	weekly_hosp_admissions	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	${\tt weekly\_hosp\_admissions\_per\_million}$	NA	NaN		NA	Inf
##	stringency_index	61.11	58.92	27.	46	0.00
##	population	7976985.00 1	4879888.05	11554429.	61	809.00
##	population_density	90.67	125.17	99.	01	0.14
##	median_age	31.10	31.23	12.	16	15.10
##	aged_65_older	6.93	8.62	5.	87	1.14
	aged_70_older	4.32	5.33	3.	82	0.53
##	gdp_per_capita	13913.84	17514.56	15805.	32	661.24
	extreme_poverty	2.00	7.94	2.	67	0.10
	cardiovasc_death_rate	240.21	241.40	122.	28	79.37
	diabetes_prevalence	7.11	7.64	3.	68	0.99
	female_smokers	6.30	9.46	7.	86	0.10
	male_smokers	31.40	31.96	14.	53	7.70
	handwashing_facilities	50.54	52.52	46.		1.19
	hospital_beds_per_thousand	2.50	2.71		93	0.10
	life_expectancy	75.40	74.65		12	53.28
	human_development_index	0.75	0.73		16	0.35
##		max				tosis
	total_cases	9.486486e+06		_		79.82
	new_cases	1.025070e+05				43.00
	new_cases_smoothed	9.319857e+04				42.87
	total_deaths	2.337290e+05				94.44
	new_deaths	4.928000e+03				15.74
	new_deaths_smoothed	2.715140e+03				.08.96
	total_cases_per_million	6.529476e+04			1	18.67
##	cocat_cases_het_million	0.0234/00704	1 0.0294700+	U± 3.10		10.01

```
## new_cases_per_million
                                      8.652660e+03 1.086520e+04 21.70 1079.44
## new_cases_smoothed_per_million
                                      2.472190e+03 2.742170e+03 7.47
                                                                          98.02
                                                                          12.60
## total deaths per million
                                      1.237550e+03 1.237550e+03 3.25
## new_deaths_per_million
                                      2.153800e+02 2.832800e+02 28.38
                                                                       1487.45
## new_deaths_smoothed_per_million
                                      6.314000e+01 7.282000e+01 8.92
                                                                         136.88
## icu patients
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                    NA
## icu patients per million
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                             NΑ
## hosp_patients
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Tnf
                                                                    NA
                                                                             NA
## hosp_patients_per_million
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                    NA
                                                                             NA
## weekly_icu_admissions
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                    NA
                                                                             NA
## weekly_icu_admissions_per_million
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                    NA
                                                                             NA
## weekly_hosp_admissions
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                    NA
                                                                             NA
## weekly_hosp_admissions_per_million
                                              -Inf
                                                            -Inf
                                                                    NA
                                                                             NA
## stringency_index
                                      1.000000e+02 1.000000e+02 -0.57
                                                                          -0.57
## population
                                      1.439324e+09 1.439323e+09 7.93
                                                                          66.39
## population_density
                                      1.934750e+04 1.934736e+04 9.88
                                                                         105.78
## median_age
                                      4.820000e+01 3.310000e+01 -0.01
                                                                          -1.24
## aged 65 older
                                      2.705000e+01 2.591000e+01 0.66
                                                                          -0.86
## aged_70_older
                                      1.849000e+01 1.797000e+01 0.80
                                                                          -0.54
## gdp_per_capita
                                      1.169356e+05 1.162744e+05 1.65
                                                                           3.45
## extreme_poverty
                                      7.760000e+01 7.750000e+01 1.76
                                                                           2.12
## cardiovasc death rate
                                      7.244200e+02 6.450500e+02 0.90
                                                                           0.83
## diabetes_prevalence
                                      3.053000e+01 2.954000e+01 1.10
                                                                           1.47
## female smokers
                                      4.400000e+01 4.390000e+01 0.89
                                                                          -0.31
## male smokers
                                      7.810000e+01 7.040000e+01 0.55
                                                                           0.30
## handwashing_facilities
                                      9.900000e+01 9.781000e+01 -0.11
                                                                          -1.48
## hospital_beds_per_thousand
                                      1.380000e+01 1.370000e+01 1.76
                                                                           3.91
## life_expectancy
                                      8.675000e+01 3.347000e+01 -0.74
                                                                          -0.15
                                      9.500000e-01 6.000000e-01 -0.48
## human_development_index
                                                                          -0.76
                                             se
                                        2053.99
## total_cases
## new_cases
                                          21.72
## new_cases_smoothed
                                          21.25
## total_deaths
                                          73.53
## new deaths
                                           0.54
## new_deaths_smoothed
                                           0.50
## total cases per million
                                          24.64
## new_cases_per_million
                                           0.54
## new_cases_smoothed_per_million
                                           0.39
## total_deaths_per_million
                                           0.86
## new deaths per million
                                           0.01
## new_deaths_smoothed_per_million
                                           0.01
## icu patients
                                             NA
## icu_patients_per_million
                                             NΑ
## hosp_patients
                                             NA
## hosp_patients_per_million
                                             NA
## weekly_icu_admissions
                                             NA
## weekly_icu_admissions_per_million
                                             NA
## weekly_hosp_admissions
                                             NA
## weekly_hosp_admissions_per_million
                                             NA
## stringency_index
                                           0.12
## population
                                      667028.34
## population_density
                                           7.26
## median age
                                           0.04
```

```
## aged 65 older
                                             0.03
                                            0.02
## aged_70_older
## gdp_per_capita
                                            93.29
## extreme_poverty
                                            0.11
## cardiovasc_death_rate
                                            0.54
## diabetes_prevalence
                                            0.02
## female smokers
                                             0.05
## male smokers
                                             0.07
## handwashing_facilities
                                             0.21
## hospital_beds_per_thousand
                                            0.01
## life_expectancy
                                             0.03
## human_development_index
                                             0.00
              Practice
```

• Check the skewness of the new\_cases\_per\_million variable. (skewness values between 1 and -1 indicate a roughly normal distribution)

• Check the number of valid cases in the dataset for the variable  $gdp\_per\_capita$ 

#### **Factors**

Lets meet a new vector class: **factor**. Factors are just like character vectors. They contain character strings as data. The main difference is that character vectors can contain any values as long as they are character values, while factors can only contain **specified values**. This means that we can set what are the valid values for a given factor, and this information can be used by certain functions.

For example the variable **continent** can be set as a factor variable, since there are only certain values that are meaningful as "continents" in this dataset: (North America, Asia, Africa, Europe, South America, Oceania).

We can use the **factor()** function to coerce a vector or variable to be a factor. R will automatically set the accepted values based on the unique values in the vector.

The levels() function displays the levels (valid values) of the factor.

When using the table() function we cen get a table of the number of cases within each level.

When we simply print a factor, we will also get information about its levels.

```
levels(COVID_data$continent)

table(COVID_data$continent)

COVID_data$continent
```

Now we create a daset that only contains the data published for the latest day (we use the max(COVID\_data\$date) code segment to determine the latest date in the dataset).

```
COVID_data_latest = COVID_data %>%
filter(date == max(COVID_data$date))
```

After designating some variables as factors, the summary() function will display more information about it: It will display the frequency of cases within each factor level.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(continent) %>%
  summary()
```

```
##
            continent
##
   Africa
                  :55
##
   Asia
                  :46
##
  Europe
                  :48
  North America:36
##
##
    Oceania
                  :11
    South America:13
```

Lets **exclude** oceania from our dataset using the **filter()** function to see how R reacts to losing all observations from one of the valid factor levels.

One thing to realize in this case is that R remembers all valid factor levels, even if all of the cases within that level are gone.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  filter(continent != "Oceania") %>%
  select(continent) %>%
  summary()
```

```
##
            continent
##
   Africa
                 :55
##
   Asia
                 :46
##
  Europe
                 :48
## North America:36
##
    Oceania
                 : 0
   South America:13
```

Sometimes, we don't want to keep remembering these factor levels. We can force R to remove factor levels that are no longer "in use" by any of the cases by using the **droplevels()** function.

```
COVID_data_latest_noOceania = COVID_data_latest %>%
  filter(continent != "Oceania") %>%
  mutate(continent = droplevels(continent))

COVID_data_latest_noOceania %>%
  select(continent) %>%
  summary()
```

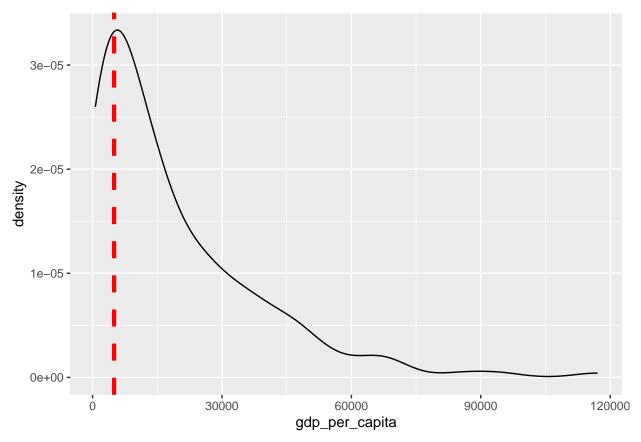
```
## continent
## Africa :55
## Asia :46
## Europe :48
## North America:36
## South America:13
```

## Relation of factor levels

So far we have worked with nominal variables, variables in which the factor levels are not ordered. However during data analysis we might encounter ordered categories, for example education level (no education < primary school < middleschool < higher education  $\ldots$ ). This dataset does not contain such categorical variables, so let's create some:

As we have seen earlier, we can use **case\_when()** to designate categories based on values on a numerical variable. For example if we want to compare COVId statistics between countries with gdp\_per\_capita below 5000 with those with medium or high gdps. If we look at the distribution of gdp\_per\_capita we can see that the mode of the distribution is somewhere around 5000, but this is a very scewed distribution.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(gdp_per_capita, continent) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  group by(continent) %>%
  summarize(mean_gdp = mean(gdp_per_capita))
## `summarise()` ungrouping output (override with `.groups` argument)
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
##
     continent
                   mean_gdp
##
     <fct>
                      <dbl>
## 1 Africa
                      5444.
## 2 Asia
                     22185.
## 3 Europe
                     32750.
## 4 North America
                     21655.
## 5 Oceania
                     16548.
## 6 South America
                     13841.
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  ggplot() +
  aes(x = gdp_per_capita) +
  geom_density() +
  geom_vline(xintercept = 5000, linetype="dashed",
                color = "red", size=1.5)
```

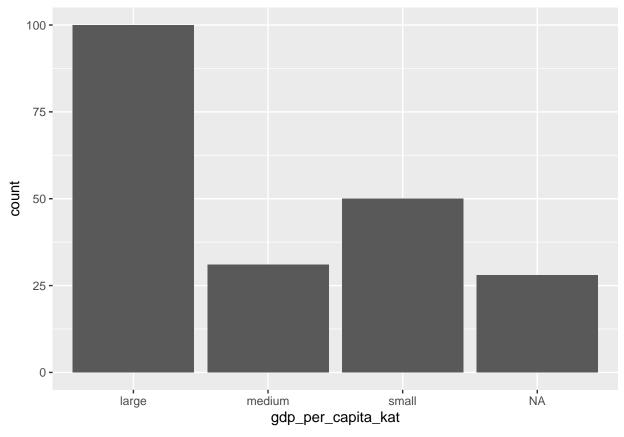


So lets create a categorical variable based on this:

Note that by using the factor() function we already designate this variable as a factor while it is being created.

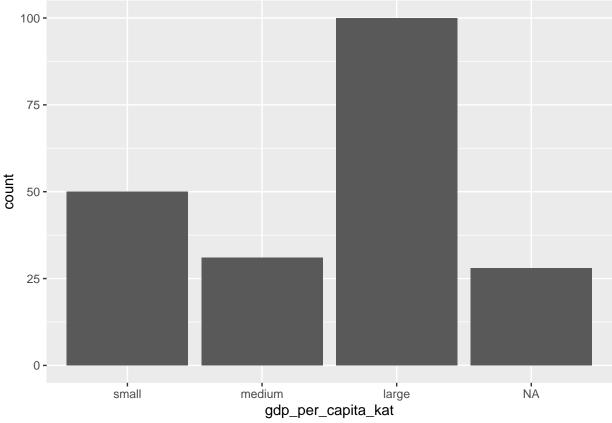
When we plot the data using ggplot (using the geom\_bar for a barchart), we can see that the factor levels are displayed as "large", "medium", and "small", from left to right.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
   ggplot() +
   aes(x = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
   geom_bar()
```



This might seem a little off at first sight, since we usually display things in an ascending order from left to right, so "small" might be expected to be displayed at the left side of the graph. The reason for R using this display sequence is that R orders the factor levels by default based on **alphabetical order**.

We can change the order in which factor levels are listed and displayed by R by forcing this order. Within the factor() we can list the levels in the desired order using the levels = c() parameter.



We can also specify to R that this factor is an ordinal (ordered) factor, in which case, R will recodnise the hierarchy/order of the factor levels, and can use this information in certain statistical tests. This can be done by using the ,  $\mathbf{ordered} = \mathbf{T}$  paramater.

If we do this, notice that when listing this vector R will put relation signs between the factor levels.

```
##
     [1] large
                small medium <NA>
                                       large
                                              <NA>
                                                             large
                                                                    medium large
                                                      large
                                              <NA>
##
    [11] large
                large
                        large small
                                       small
                                                      small
                                                             small
                                                                     large
                                                                            large
##
    [21] large
                large
                        large medium large
                                              medium large
                                                             large
                                                                     large
                                                                            medium
##
                                                      small
    [31] large
                small
                        large
                               large
                                       large
                                              large
                                                             small
                                                                     small
                                                                            small
    [41] large
                small
                        medium large
                                              <NA>
                                                                     large
                                                                            large
##
                                                      large
                                                             large
##
    [51] small
                medium large
                               large
                                       large
                                              large
                                                      large
                                                             small
                                                                     <NA>
                                                                            large
##
    [61] small
                large
                        medium <NA>
                                       large
                                              <NA>
                                                                     medium <NA>
                                                      large
                                                             large
##
    [71] small
                 <NA>
                               small
                                       small
                                                                     <NA>
                                                                            medium
                        small
                                              large
                                                      large
                                                             large
    [81] <NA>
                 medium small
                               large
                                       small
                                              large
                                                      large
                                                             <NA>
                                                                     medium large
##
    [91] large
                large
                               large
                                       large
                                              medium <NA>
                                                             medium large
                        large
                                                                            large
   [101] small
                 small
                        small
                               large
                                       large
                                              large
                                                      medium large
                                                                     small
                                                                            large
                 <NA>
                                                             medium <NA>
                                                                            medium
   [111] large
                        large
                               small
                                       large
                                              large
                                                      large
   [121] small
                large
                        large
                               small
                                       large
                                              small
                                                      large
                                                             medium large
                                                                            large
                                                     large
  [131] <NA>
                 small
                        small
                               <NA>
                                       large
                                              small
                                                             medium <NA>
                                                                            small
## [141] medium medium large
                               large
                                       small
                                              large large
                                                             medium large
                                                                            large
## [151] medium small large
                                       large
                                              medium small
                               large
                                                             <NA>
                                                                     large
                                                                            large
```

```
## [161] large
               small large small
                                     small
                                           large
                                                  small
                                                          small
                                                                 medium large
   [171] <NA>
                large
                      small
                              small
                                     large
                                           large
                                                   large medium large
   [181] <NA>
                < NA >
                       small
                              small
                                     large
                                            small
                                                   medium large
                                                                 large
  [191] <NA>
                      small
                             medium large
                                           large
                                                   medium <NA>
                small
                                                                 large
                                                                        large
  [201] <NA>
                <NA>
                       medium <NA>
                                     medium small
                                                   large
## Levels: small < medium < large
           Practice
```

• Filter the dataset so that we only work with data from 2020-09-28 and save it as a new object.

- Create a new categorical variable (called new\_cases\_per\_million\_kat) with countries with new\_cases\_per\_million under 20 coded as "small", and countries with new\_cases\_per\_million 20 or above coded as "large".
- Pay attention to designate this new variable as factor.
- Save this new variable into the data object so that we can work with this variable later.
- Create a table showing the number of observations belonging to each factor level.
- Designate the correct oder of the factor levels: small, large (make sure that this is saved into the original data object as well)
- Check whether the factor levels are displayed in the right order.

## Exploration through visualization

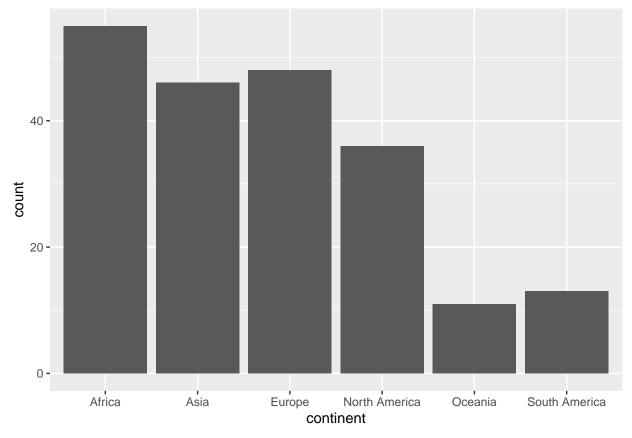
Before data analysis we should always do explorative analysis of the data to get a picture of the data we are working with, and to identify errors. One of the main tools for exploration is visualization.

#### Visualizing univariate distributions and frequencies

When visualizing variables, one of the main considerations when choosing the plot type to sue is the type of the data we are working with.

The distribution (frequencies) of categorical variables is most often visualized using barcharts (**geom\_bar**).

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = continent) +
  geom_bar()
```

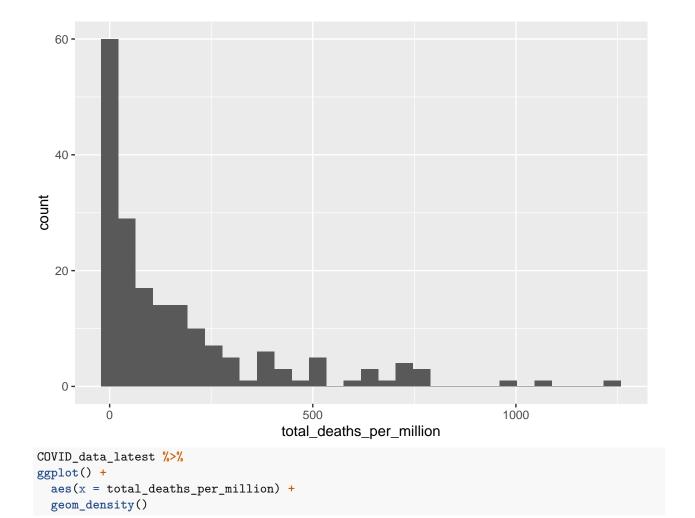


While the distribution of continuous variables are usually plotted using historgrams or density plots.

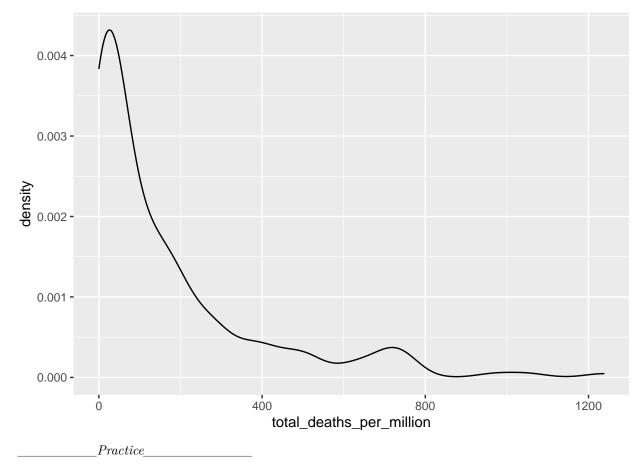
```
COVID_data_latest %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = total_deaths_per_million) +
  geom_histogram()
```

```
## `stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.
```

## Warning: Removed 22 rows containing non-finite values (stat\_bin).



## Warning: Removed 22 rows containing non-finite values (stat\_density).



- filter the COVID dataset so that we only work with data from 2020-09-07.
- Using the previously learned methods to explore the univariate distributions and identify potential errors or unexplected values in the dataset.
- Aside from visualization you can also use the View(), summary(), and descibe() functions to get data about the minimum and maximum values and number of valid cases.
- For numerical data it is a good starting point to look at the minimal and maximal values for error detection.
- For categorcial variables it is a good idea to look at the number of observations belonging to each factor level.

### Correcting errors

We can use the **mutate()** and **replace()** functions to correct incorrectly entered values.

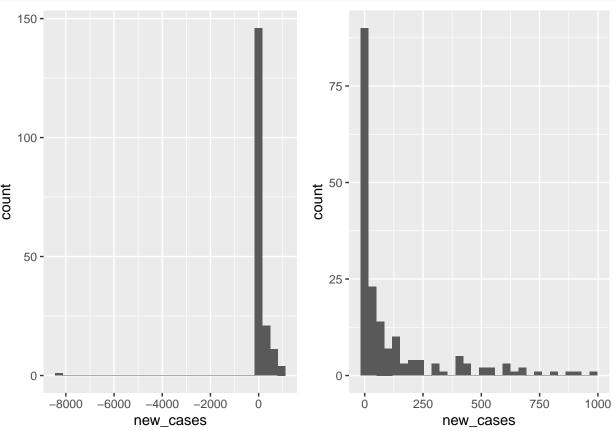
It is always a good idea to save the corrected data into a **new data object**, so the raw data is kept in an unmanipulated way. This can come in handy when you want to report the original (replaced) values in a paper or research report, or if you change your mind and want to use a different approach to handle the error.

```
COVID_data_corrected <- COVID_data %>%
  mutate(new_cases = replace(new_cases, new_cases=="-8261", NA))
```

It is important when replacing or recoding values to **double check** that the replacement/recode worked as intended. Below we check this using visualization. The raw original data is displayed on the left hand side panel, while the corrected data is shown on the right.

Notice how we use the **grid.arrange()** function from the gridExtra package to put these two plots side-by-side.

```
# hasznalhatnak meg az alabbiakat is arra,
# hogy megbizonyosodjunk abban, hogy sikeres volt a csere
# View(COVID_data_corrected)
# describe(COVID_data_corrected)
# summary(COVID_data_corrected$szocmedia_3)
\# COVID_data_corrected$szocmedia_3
old_plot <-
  COVID_data %>%
  filter(date == "2020-09-07", new_cases < 1000) %>%
  ggplot()+
    aes(x = new_cases) +
    geom_histogram()
new_plot <-
  COVID_data_corrected %>%
  filter(date == "2020-09-07", new_cases < 1000) %>%
  ggplot()+
    aes(x = new_cases) +
    geom_histogram()
grid.arrange(old_plot, new_plot, ncol=2)
```



## Exploring the relationship of multiple variables

We can use tables and plots to explore the relationship of two variables before running statistical test. Visualization and running these exploratory tables is always recommended before running the actual statistical tests.

### Exploring the relationship of two categorcial variables

#### Exploratory analysis

Now lets explore the relationship between the categorical variable we created for GDP ( $gdp\_per\_capita\_kat$ ), and the continent (continent). Lets use the data only from the latest day in the dataset.

The easiest was to get descriptive data of the relationship of two categorical variables is to produce a **crosstab** using the **table()** function.

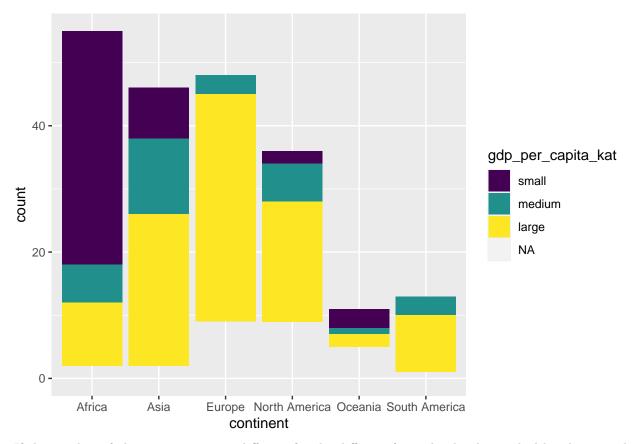
```
table(COVID_data_latest$gdp_per_capita_kat, COVID_data_latest$continent)
##
##
             Africa Asia Europe North America Oceania South America
##
     small
                 37
                       8
                               0
##
     medium
                  6
                      12
                               3
                                              6
                                                       1
                                                                      3
##
                 10
                      24
                              36
                                             19
                                                       2
                                                                      9
     large
```

This table shows that most of the small income countries are located in Africa, while most of the large income countries are located in Europe.

We can also use a barchart to visualize this relationship with **geom\_bar()**.

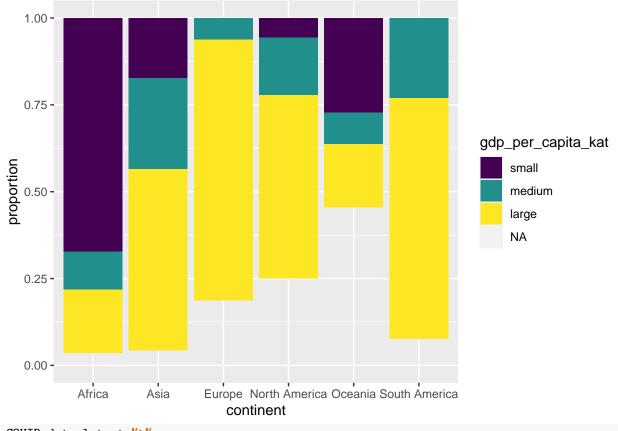
One of the methods is to use a **stacked bar chart**, which cna be created using **geom\_bar()**. Since barcharts only accept vairable on the x axis, we can use the "fill =" parameter to add another variable element in the aes() function.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = continent, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar()
```

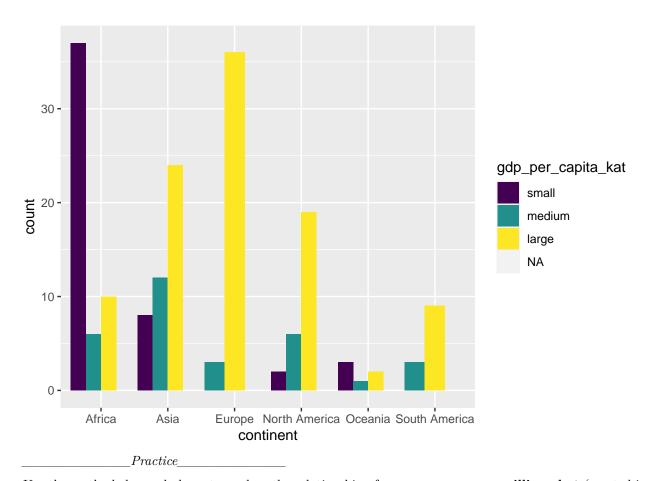


If the number of observations is very different for the different factor levels, the stacked barchart can be misleading or uninformative. So it is often useful to create different barcharts as well, for example a stacked barchart with y representing proportions instead of raw frequencies (use **position = "fill"** parameter within geom\_bar() to achieve this.), or a dodged barchart (use **position = "dodge"** parameter within geom\_bar() to achieve this).

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = continent, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar(position = "fill") +
  ylab("proportion")
```



```
COVID_data_latest %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = continent, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar(position = "dodge")
```



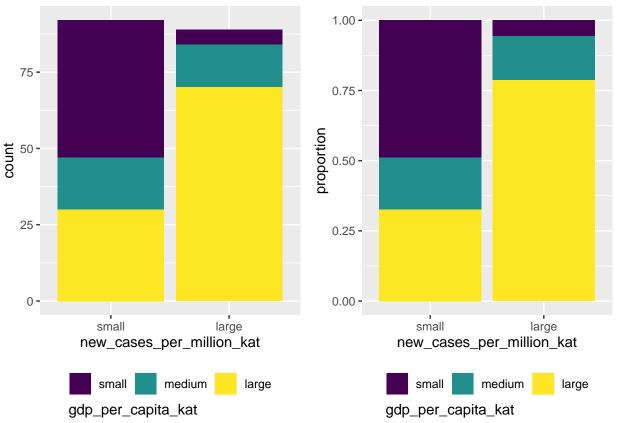
Use the methods learned above to explore the relationship of **new\_cases\_per\_million\_kat** (created in the practice exercise above) and **continent** in the COVID\_data\_latest dataset. - use the **geom\_bar()** geom for visualization - use different types of barcharts to give a more detailed picture of the relationship of the two variables. - What conclusion can we arrive at by looking at the plots?

We can control how and where the plot legend is displayed using the theme(legend.position) and the guides() functions. This can improve the interpretability of the plot.

```
barchart_plot_3 <-</pre>
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(new_cases_per_million_kat, gdp_per_capita_kat) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = new_cases_per_million_kat, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar()
barchart_plot_4 <-</pre>
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(new_cases_per_million_kat, gdp_per_capita_kat) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = new_cases_per_million_kat, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar(position = "fill") +
  ylab("proportion")
grid.arrange(barchart_plot_3, barchart_plot_4, ncol=2)
                                                   1.00 -
   75 -
                                                   0.75 -
                         gdp_per_capita_kat
                                                                         gdp_per_capita_kat
                                                proportion
  50 -
                                                                              small
                             small
                                                   0.50 -
                             medium
                                                                              medium
                                                                              large
                             large
   25 -
                                                   0.25 -
                                                   0.00 -
        small large
                                                         small large
new_cases_per_million_kat
                                                 new_cases_per_million_kat
# a theme(legend.position) es a guides() funciok
# hasznalataval kontrollalhatjuk hogy hol es hogyan
# jelenjen meg a jelmagyarazat az abran
barchart_plot_3 <-</pre>
COVID_data_latest %>%
```

select(new\_cases\_per\_million\_kat, gdp\_per\_capita\_kat) %>%

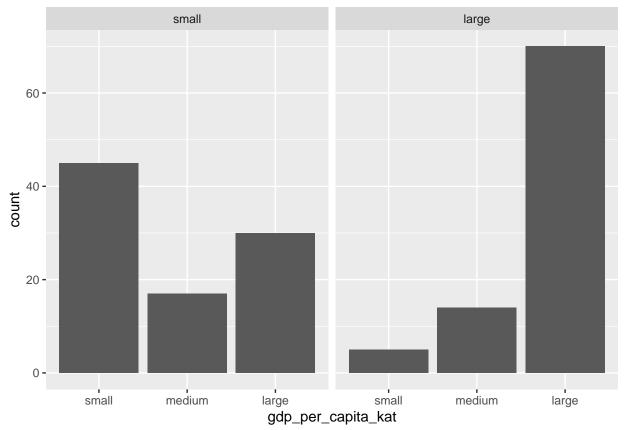
```
drop_na() %>%
ggplot() +
    aes(x = new_cases_per_million_kat, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
    geom_bar() +
    theme(legend.position="bottom") +
    guides(fill = guide_legend(title.position = "bottom"))
barchart_plot_4 <-</pre>
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(new_cases_per_million_kat, gdp_per_capita_kat) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
ggplot() +
  aes(x = new_cases_per_million_kat, fill = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar(position = "fill") +
  theme(legend.position="bottom") +
  guides(fill = guide_legend(title.position = "bottom")) +
  ylab("proportion")
grid.arrange(barchart_plot_3, barchart_plot_4, ncol=2)
```



Yet another way of displaying plots of multiple variables is to put them on separate plot panels. We can use the **facet\_wrap()** function to create this faceted (**multi-panel**) plot like in the example below:

```
barchart_plot_6 <-
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(new_cases_per_million_kat, gdp_per_capita_kat) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
```

```
ggplot() +
  aes(x = gdp_per_capita_kat) +
  geom_bar() +
  facet_wrap(~ new_cases_per_million_kat)
barchart_plot_6
```



### Exploring the relationship if a categorical and a continuous variable

Lets explore gdp\_per\_capita on the different continents. In this case we will use gdp\_per\_capita as a continuous variable, and we would like to assess its relationship with a categoricl variable: continent.

We can start the exploration by producing descriptive tables. As we have learned earlier, this ispossible by using the combination of **group\_by()** amd **summarize()** functions. There are also some countries with no data about gdp, so in order to get means and standard deviations we will need to drop these cases from the dataset using the **drop** na() function.

We can do all this within one code chain using the pipe operator.

The summary table shows that the average gdp per capita in Africa is 5444, while in Europe it is 32750.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(continent, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  group_by(continent) %>%
  summarize(mean = mean(gdp_per_capita),
        sd = sd(gdp_per_capita))
```

```
## `summarise()` ungrouping output (override with `.groups` argument)
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     continent
                    mean
                             sd
##
     <fct>
                   <dbl> <dbl>
                  5444. 6183.
## 1 Africa
## 2 Asia
                  22185. 25406.
## 3 Europe
                  32750. 18526.
## 4 North America 21655. 15404.
## 5 Oceania
                  16548. 18775.
## 6 South America 13841. 5110.
```

Lets **visualize** this same relationship now.

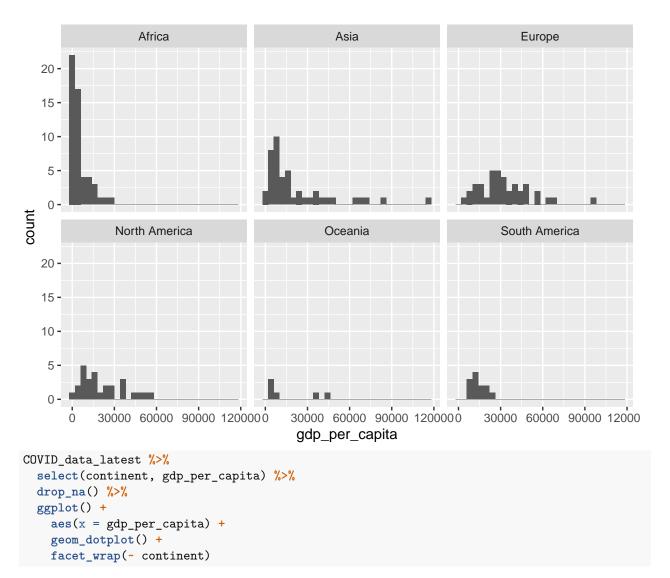
We have multipl options to choose from.

- we can us facet\_wrap() and apply geom\_histogram() or geom\_dotplot()
- one of the most common solutions is to use **geom\_boxplot()**
- we can also use **geom\_density()** with colors representing the different continents.
- my favorite solution is the **geom\_violin()**, combined with **geom\_jitter()**

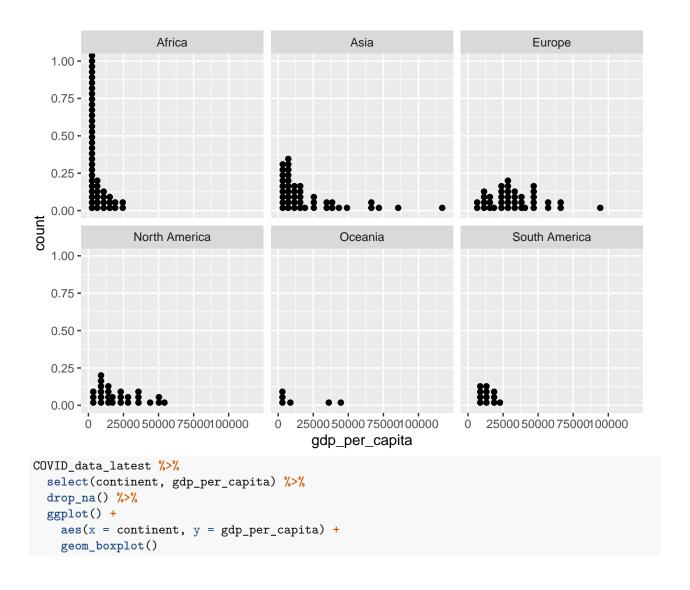
We can use multiple types of plots to get a more complex picture of the relationship.

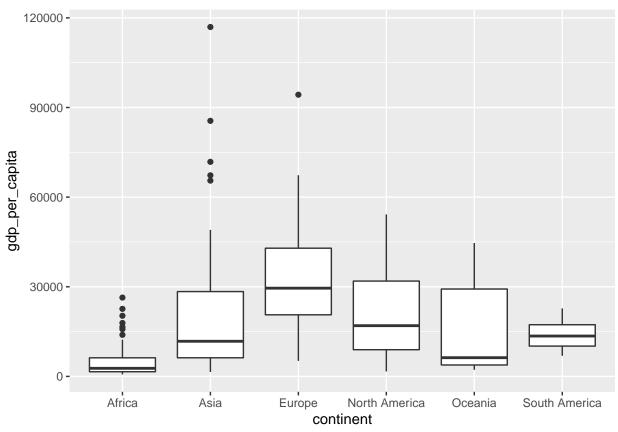
```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(continent, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  ggplot() +
   aes(x = gdp_per_capita) +
   geom_histogram() +
  facet_wrap(~ continent)
```

## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.

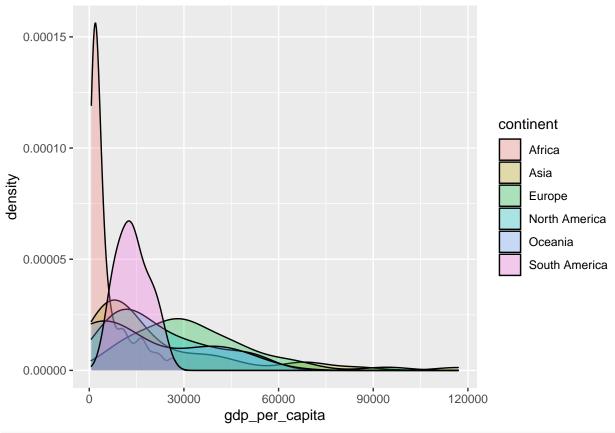


## `stat\_bindot()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.

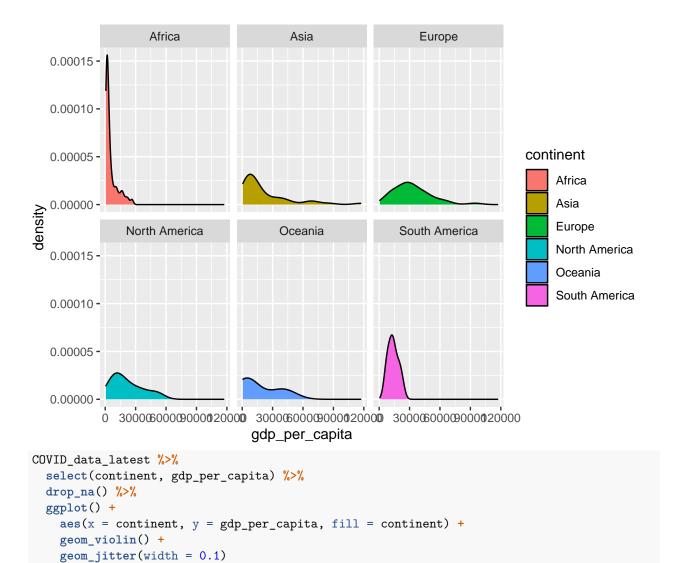


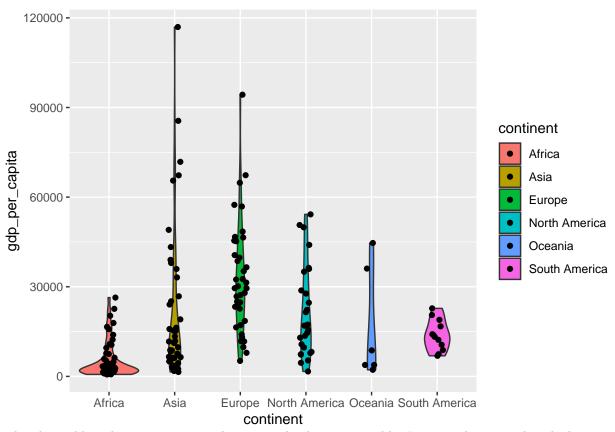


```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(continent, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  ggplot() +
   aes(x = gdp_per_capita, fill = continent) +
   geom_density(alpha = 0.3)
```



```
COVID_data_latest %>%
   select(continent, gdp_per_capita) %>%
   drop_na() %>%
   ggplot() +
   aes(x = gdp_per_capita, fill = continent) +
   geom_density()+
   facet_wrap(~continent)
```

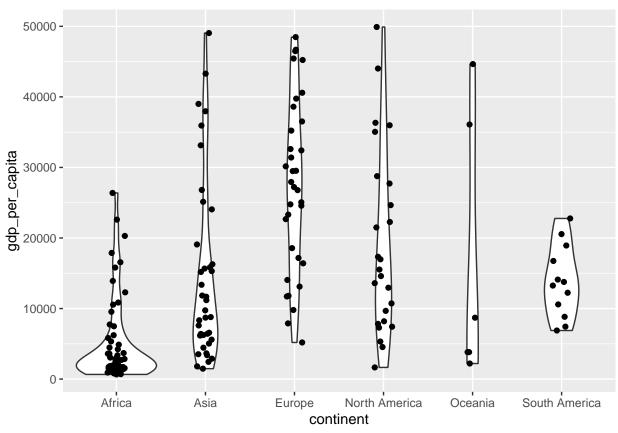




The plots add to the picture previously seen in the descriptive table. It seems that even though the average gdp in Asia is not as low as in Africa, this is partly due to a few **extreme cases** that probably have a high influence on the mean.

Due to this realization we might want to trim the cases with very high gdp values to get a more realistic picture about the descriptive statistics of each continent. We can insert the **filter()** function int hte previous code chuncks to do this trimming.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(continent, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  filter(gdp_per_capita < 50000) %>%
    ggplot() +
    aes(x = continent, y = gdp_per_capita) +
    geom_violin() +
    geom_jitter(width = 0.1)
```



```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(continent, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  filter(gdp_per_capita < 50000) %>%
    group_by(continent) %>%
    summarize(mean = mean(gdp_per_capita),
        sd = sd(gdp_per_capita))
```

## `summarise()` ungrouping output (override with `.groups` argument)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     continent
                               sd
                     mean
##
     <fct>
                    <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 Africa
                    5444. 6183.
## 2 Asia
                   14591. 12710.
                   27546. 12213.
## 3 Europe
## 4 North America 19192. 13095.
## 5 Oceania
                   16548. 18775.
## 6 South America 13841. 5110.
```

We can take more valirables into account while plotting by using the facet\_wrap() and facet\_grid() functions.

Practice

<sup>•</sup> Use the above learned techniques to explore the relationship of **total\_cases\_per\_million** and **gdp\_per\_capita\_kat** in the COVID\_data\_latest dataset.

#### Exploring the relationship of two numerical variables

## gdp\_per\_capita

## hospital beds per thousand

We ususally use the correlation coefficient to discribe the relationship between two continuous variables.

The **cor()** function is can be used to get the correlation coefficient. (note that we need to use the **drop\_na()** function again to drop cases with missing data, otherwise the cor() function will return on NAs).

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(new_cases_per_million, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
      cor()
                         new_cases_per_million gdp_per_capita
## new_cases_per_million
                                                     0.3053204
                                      1.0000000
                                      0.3053204
                                                     1.0000000
## gdp_per_capita
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(new_cases_per_million, gdp_per_capita, hospital_beds_per_thousand) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
      cor()
##
                              new_cases_per_million gdp_per_capita
                                           1.0000000
                                                          0.2990744
## new_cases_per_million
## gdp_per_capita
                                           0.2990744
                                                          1.0000000
## hospital_beds_per_thousand
                                           0.3581910
                                                          0.2985625
##
                              hospital_beds_per_thousand
## new_cases_per_million
                                                0.3581910
```

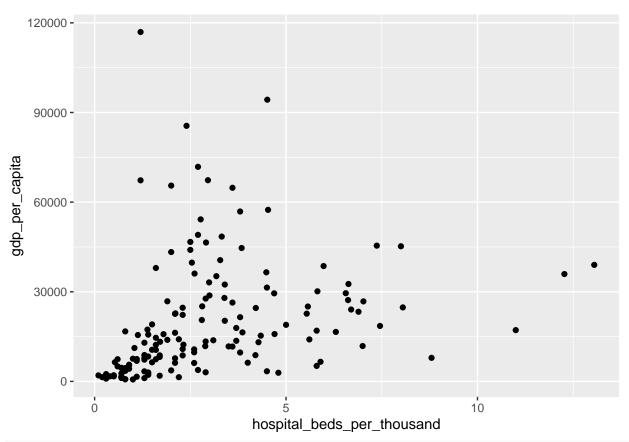
We usually use scatterplots (**geom\_point()**) to **visualize** relationship between two continuous variables.

0.2985625

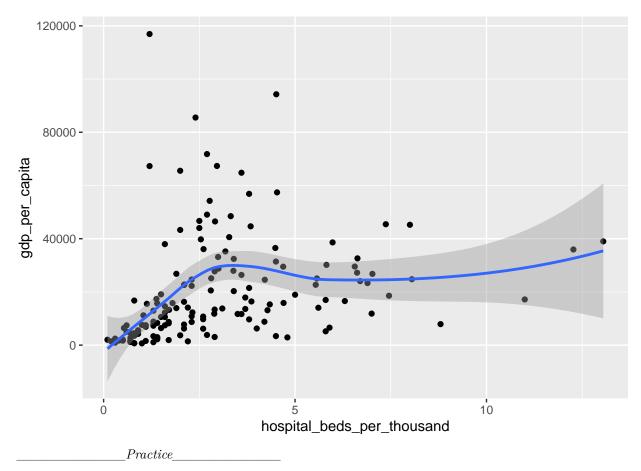
1.0000000

The **geom\_smooth()** layer can also provide additional insight about the underlying relationship between the two variables. When using geom\_smooth, the blue line represents the "trend line" or "regression line", while the grey area shows the confidence interval for this prediction line.

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(hospital_beds_per_thousand, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  ggplot() +
  aes(x = hospital_beds_per_thousand, y = gdp_per_capita) +
  geom_point()
```



```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(hospital_beds_per_thousand, gdp_per_capita) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  ggplot() +
   aes(x = hospital_beds_per_thousand, y = gdp_per_capita) +
   geom_point() +
   geom_smooth()
```



Explore the relationship between aged\_70\_older and gdp\_per\_capita in the COVID\_data\_latest.

- determine the correlation coefficient
- visualize the relationship

When exploring the relationship of three continuous variables we can use graded color as a new aesthetic for the third variable, just like in the example below:

```
COVID_data_latest %>%
  select(hospital_beds_per_thousand, gdp_per_capita, aged_70_older) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  ggplot() +
  aes(x = hospital_beds_per_thousand, y = gdp_per_capita, col = aged_70_older) +
    geom_point()+
  scale_colour_gradientn(colours=c("green","black"))
```

