# Welcome & Setup

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### **Why Tables Matter**

- Tables summarize key results.
- Tables support reproducible communication.
- Tables are central to scientific and business reports.

#### What Makes a Good Table?

- Clarity
- Clear headers
- Easy-to-scan layout
- Simplicity
- Focus on key information
- Avoid unnecessary styling
- Reproducibility
- Programmatically generated
- Easily updated with new data

#### Publication-Ready Table Checklist

- ☐ Descriptive column labels
- ☐ Minimal ink (avoid chartjunk)
- ☐ Consistent formats (decimals, currency, etc.)
- ☐ Proper alignment
- ☐ Source & footnotes included



## Setting Up Your R Environment

#### **Essential R Packages for Tables**