

Variable classes

EC 103–003

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classes

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Every column in our data sets pertains to a certain class.

```
1 library(tidyverse)
2 unemployment_rate <- read_csv("unrate.csv")
3
4 unemployment_rate
```

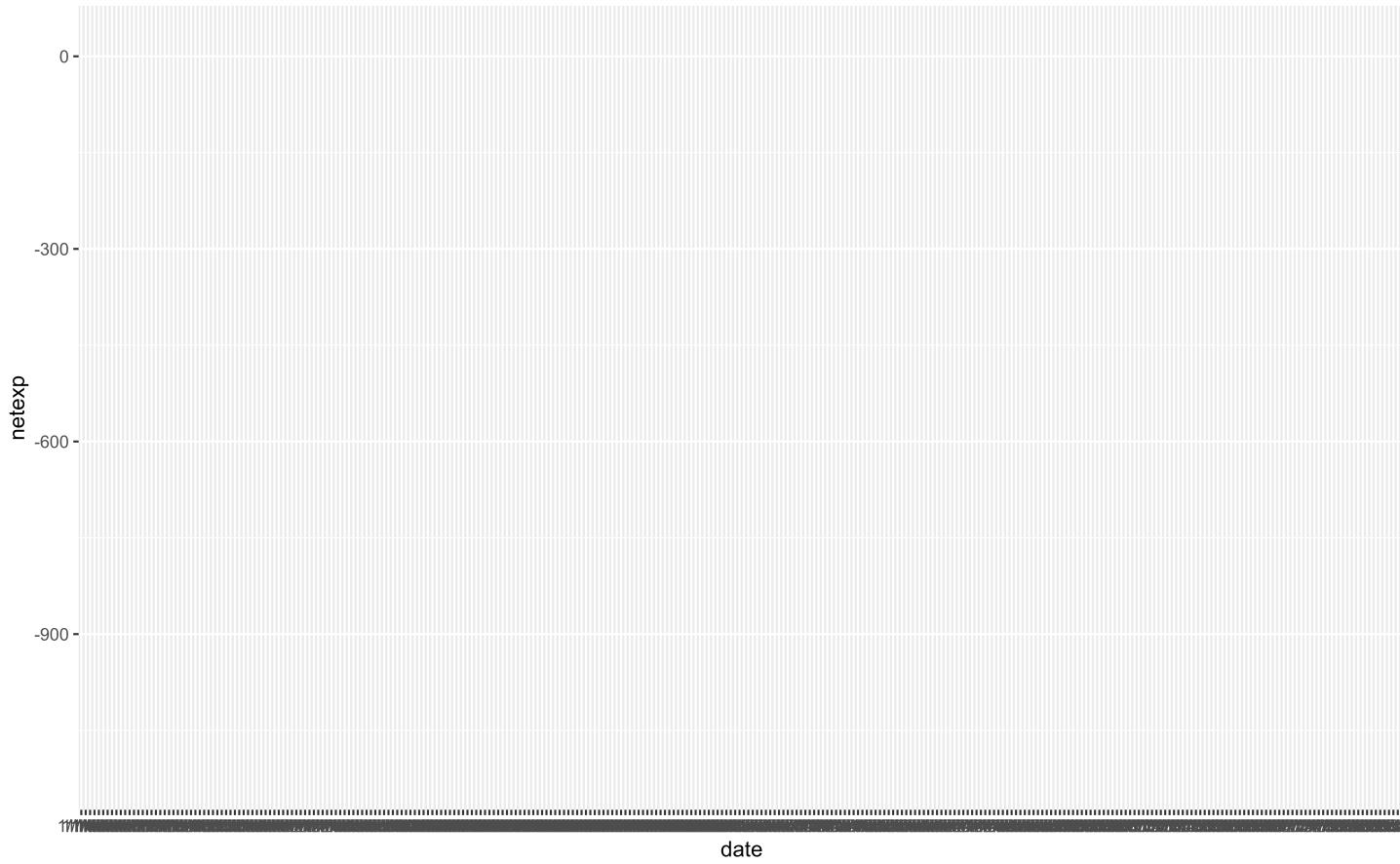
A tibble: 897 × 2

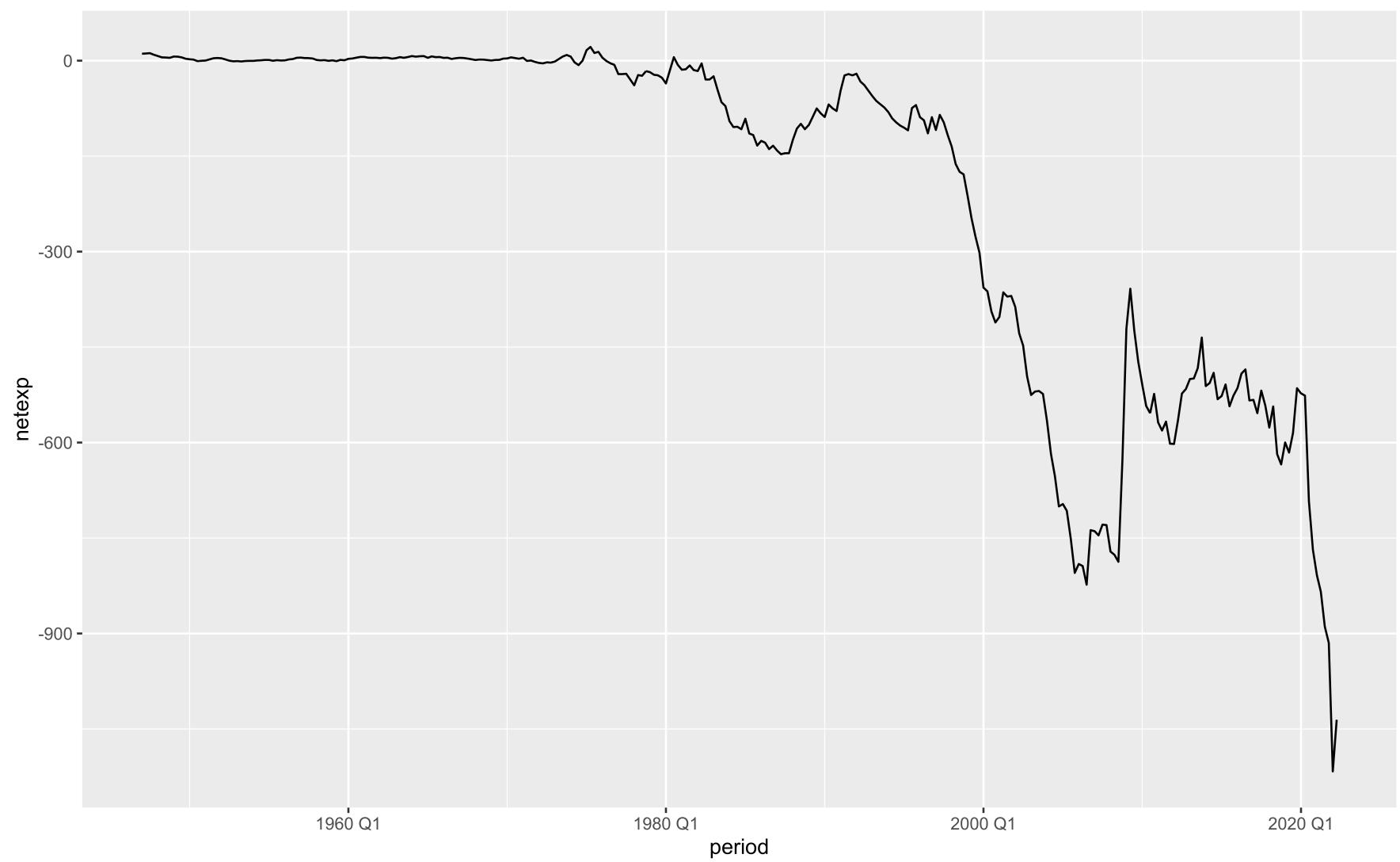
	DATE	UNRATE
	<date>	<dbl>
1	1948-01-01	3.4
2	1948-02-01	3.8
3	1948-03-01	4
4	1948-04-01	3.9
5	1948-05-01	3.5
6	1948-06-01	3.6
7	1948-07-01	3.6
8	1948-08-01	3.9
9	1948-09-01	3.8
10	1948-10-01	3.7
# ... with 887 more rows		

But sometimes our variables are imported with a **different class** than the one we desire.

```
1 net_exports <- read_csv("netexp.csv")
2
3 net_exports
# A tibble: 302 × 2
  date    netexp
  <chr>   <dbl>
1 1/1/47   10.9
2 4/1/47   11.3
3 7/1/47   11.8
4 10/1/47  9.29
5 1/1/48   7.29
6 4/1/48   5.20
7 7/1/48   4.95
8 10/1/48  4.50
9 1/1/49   6.48
10 4/1/49  6.28
# ... with 292 more rows
```

```
1 net_exports %>%
2   ggplot(aes(x = date, y = netexp)) +
3   geom_line()
```





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Let us learn how to deal with variable classes in practice.