Data Visualisation Using R Lecture-4

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Different convention:

Correct way to represent Date

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in lubridate

Creating time-series plots

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- 1. Dates: different convention of representing
- 2. Correct way to represent Dates
- 3. Dates in R
- 4. Datetime object in R
- 5. Datetime handling in lubridate
- 6. Creating time-series plots
- 7. Visualisation of spatial data

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How do we represent Date in R?

If you write 11th February of 2021 as

$$11 - 02 - 2021$$

in R, you will get

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How do we represent Date in R?

If you put quotes around 11 - 02 - 2021, it may work:

"
$$11 - 02 - 2021$$
"

But check the class of this object:

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Different convention of representing dates

Added confusion arises due to different conventions of representing the same date.

▶ In Australia, the date 11th February of 2021 may be represented either by 11-02-2021 or by 11/02/2021 or by 11/2/21, or simply '11th Feb, 2021'. We like to follow the Day-Month-Year format.

In USA, on the other hand, the same date may be written as 02 − 11 − 2021, or as 2/11/2021 or 2/11/21, or 'Feb 11, 2021'. In USA they follow the Month-Day-Year format.

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How to represent 11th Feb 2021





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Global standard - ISO 8601

It turns out that there is a global standard of presenting dates (introduced in 1988), called ISO 8601 standard.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

OUR DIFFERENT WAYS OF WRITING DATES AS NUMBERS CAN LEAD TO ONLINE CONFUSION. THAT'S WHY IN 1988 ISO SET A GLOBAL STANDARD NUMERIC DATE FORMAT.

THIS IS THE CORRECT WAY TO WRITE NUMERIC DATES:

2021-02-11

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- ► ISO 8601 states that the three components of a date should be written in the decreasing order of time units, i.e., first the year, then the month, and finally, the day.
- Each time component should have a fixed number of digits – Year should be 4 digits, Month should be 2 digits, and Day should be 2 digits.
- Because of the last point, the single digit days and months should be padded with a leading zero.
- You do not need a separator, but if you use a separator, it has to be a dash. So, the 11th Feb of 2021 will be written in ISO 8601 as

2021 - 02 - 11



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$$2021 - 02 - 11$$



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Use as.Date() to create a Date object

```
# Try direct use of ISO 8601
 ######################################
> date1 <- 2021-02-11</pre>
> date1
[1] 2008
 #####################################
> # Will quoting help?
 > date2 <- "2021-02-11"</pre>
> date2
[1] "2021-02-11"
> class(date2)
[1] "character"
 #####################################
 # Use as.Date() function
 #####################################
> date3 <- as.Date("2021-02-11")</pre>
> date3
[1] "2021-02-11"
> class(date3)
[1] "Date"
```

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Quiz: which one is correct ISO8601 format?

as.Date() will only accept ISO-8601 formatted dates.

So, which one is the correct ISO 8601 date format for 16th August of 2021?

- **1.** "16-8-2021"
- **2.** "2021-16-08"
- **3.** "2021-08-16"
- **4.** "2021-8-16"

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- ▶ Behind the scenes, Dates are stored as number of days since 1970-01-01.
- As a result, we can perform standard mathematical comparisons and computations.
- We can ask if one date comes after another date: as.Date("2021-08-16")>as.Date("2021-08-01") The answer will be TRUE.
- ► We can add days: as.Date("2021-08-16")+ 1 gives the answer "2021-08-17".
- We can find the difference between dates: as.Date("2022-08-16") − as.Date("2021-08-16") gives the answer 365 days.

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RCode: Plotting with Date objects

```
# Create three Dates
Date <-c(as.Date("2021-06-01"),
          as.Date("2021-07-01"),
          as.Date("2021-08-01"))
# Create a time-series
Price \leftarrow c(50, 200, 100)
# Create the time-series dataset
data <- data.frame(Date, Price)</pre>
# Plot the time-series
ggplot(data, aes(Date, Price)) +
  geom line() + geom point() +
  theme classic()
```

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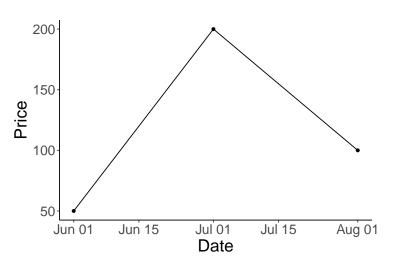
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Plot of the time-series



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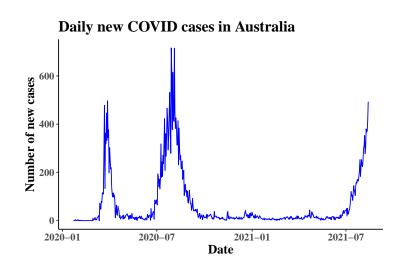
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Plot of real-life time-series



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Let's talk about Time

 ISO 8601 convention is to put time units again in the decreasing order: HH:MM:SS.

2. Each time unit should have fixed number of digits:

► Hours: 00–24

▶ Minutes: 00–59

Seconds: 00–60 (60 only for leap seconds)

3. Can use no or: as separator.

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Datetimes objects in R

- ▶ Datetimes can be stored using two objects
 - 1. POSIX1t list with named components
 - 2. POSIXct seconds since 1970-01-01 00:00:00
- POSIXct is better suited to be stored in a Data Frame column.
- as.POSIXct() turns a ISO 8601 datetime string into a POSIXct object.

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Quiz: which one is valid ISO 8601 format?

Which one is the valid ISO-8601 Datetime representation for 6:30 pm of 11th February of 2021.

- **1.** "2021-02-11 06:30:00"
- **2.** "2021-02-11 06:00:30"
- **3.** "2021-02-11 18:00:30"
- **4.** "2021-02-11 18:30:00"

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Example of using as.POSIXct()

```
# Define 6:30 pm of 11th Feb, 2021 as a
    string
dtmString <- "2021-02-11 18:30:00"
# Create the Datetime object
dtm <- as.POSIXct(dtmString)</pre>
```

```
> class(dtm)
[1] "POSIXct" "POSIXt"
> dtm
[1] "2021-02-11 18:30:00 AWST"
```



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Let's talk about Timezones

- ▶ In ISO 8601 convention, if no timezone is specified, the local timezone is assumed:
 - ► "2021-02-11T18:30:00" 6:30 pm Local Time on 11th Feb, 2021

- ► If you add a "Z" at the end of Datetime specification, then a UTC timezone is assumed:
 - "2021-02-11T18:30:00Z" 6:30 pm UTC (coordinated universal time) on 11th Feb, 2021

- ▶ In ISO 8601 convention, any other timezone is defined as the offset from the UTC timezone:
 - ► "2021-02-11T18:30:00+08:00" 6:30 pm in Perth

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Let's talk about Timezones

- ▶ In ISO 8601 convention, if no timezone is specified, the local timezone is assumed:
 - ► "2021-02-11T18:30:00" − 6:30 pm Local Time on 11th Feb, 2021

- ► If you add a "Z" at the end of Datetime specification, then a UTC timezone is assumed:
 - "2021-02-11T18:30:00Z" 6:30 pm UTC (coordinated universal time) on 11th Feb, 2021

- In ISO 8601 convention, any other timezone is defined as the offset from the UTC timezone:
 - ► "2021-02-11T18:30:00+08:00" 6:30 pm in Perth

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Timezone specification in as.POSIXct()

Unfortunately, as.POSIXct does not recognise ISO-8601 timezone specifications.

```
> as.POSIXct("2021-02-11 18:30:00Z")
[1] "2021-02-11 18:30:00 AWST"
```

Figure 1: UTC specification shows local timezone – AWST stands for Australian Western Standard Time (UTC+8).

To specify a time zone, you have to access the tz parameter in the function as .POSIXct:

```
> as.POSIXct("2021-02-11 18:30:00Z",
+ tz = "UTC")
[1] "2021-02-11 18:30:00 UTC"
```

Figure 2: tz = "UTC sets the UTC timezone.

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Operations with Datetime objects

```
> # Defining two Datetime strings
> dtmString1 <- "2021-02-11 18:00:00Z"</pre>
> dtmString2 <- "2021-02-11 17:00:00Z"</pre>
> # Create Datetime objects
> dtm1 <- as.POSIXct(dtmString1, tz = "UTC")</pre>
> dtm2 <- as.POSIXct(dtmString2, tz = "UTC")</pre>
> # Comparing Datetime
> dtm2 < dtm1
[1] TRUE
> # Difference between two Datetimes
> dtm1 - dtm2
Time difference of 1 hours
> # Difference between two Datetimes
> dtm1 - dtm2
Time difference of 1 hours
> # Add time (seconds) to Datetime
> dtm1 + 3600
[1] "2021-02-11 19:00:00 UTC"
> dtm1 + 86400
[1] "2021-02-12 18:00:00 UTC"
```

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RCode: plotting datetime objects

```
# Create three consecutive hours
Time <- c(as.POSIXct("2021-02-11
   18:00:00").
 as.POSIXct("2021-02-11 19:00:00"),
 as.POSIXct("2021-02-11 20:00:00"))
# Create price data
Price \leftarrow c(100, 250, 320)
# Create hourly timeseries
data <- data.frame(Time, Price)</pre>
# Plot hourly timeseries
ggplot(data, aes(Time, Price)) +
   geom_line() + geom_point() +
   theme classic() +
ggtitle ("Example of an hourly timeseries
   ")
```

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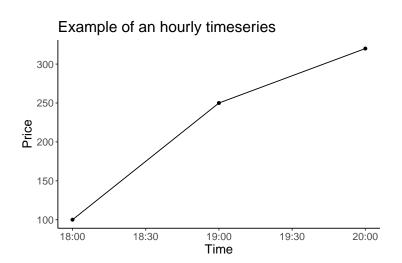
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Plot of hourly data



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lubridate makes handling Datetime easy

- ► lubridate makes it as easy as possible to work with date and time in R.
- ▶ lubridate is part of the tidyverse which means
 - it works well with built-in datetime objects;
 - it works well with other tidyverse packages;
 - function names are very intuitive and easy to work with.
- ▶ lubridate allows consistent behaviour regardless of the underlying datetime object;
- You just need to learn one lubridate function to achieve a given task for any datetime object – be it stored in a Date object, or in a POSIXct object, or in any other timeseries objects such as xts or zoo.

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Key Date functions in lubridate

Figure 3: ymd(), mdy(), and parse_date_time() are versatile functions for converting almost any legal Date specification into the universally accepted ISO 8601 format.

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RCode: key Date functions in lubridate

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Visualisation of



lubridate functions for extracting features

```
> # Define a date object
> date <- dmy("2nd Feb 2021")</pre>
> # Extract year
> year(date)
[1] 2021
> # Extract month
> month(date)
[1] 2
> # Extract day of the year
> yday(date)
Γ11 33
> # Extract day of the week
> wday(date)
[1] 3
```

Figure 4: year(), month(), yday(), and wday() are great functions to extract useful date related features.



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Example: Covid-19 data summary

We can turn the Date variable into a vector of Date elements using the dmy() function.

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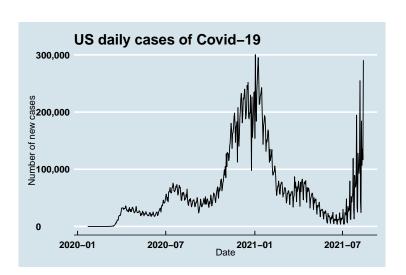
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Timeseries plot using geom_line()



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RCode: timeseries plot using geom_line()

```
# Filter USA data
Cov19USA <- Cov19Data %>%
            filter(Country == "US")
# Timeseries plot of Covid cases
ggplot(Cov19USA, aes(Date, NewCases)) +
 geom_line() +
 theme_economist() +
 scale_y_continuous(labels = scales::
    comma) +
 theme(axis.text = element_text(face="
    bold")) +
 labs(y = "Number of new cases")+
 ggtitle("US daily cases of Covid-19")
```

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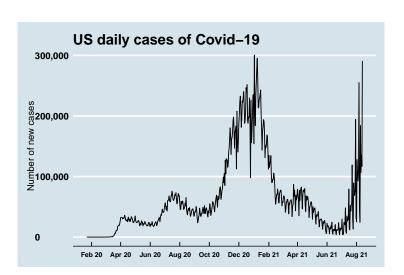
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Better labelling of Dates



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RCode: better labeling via scale_x_date()

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Visualisation of

List of Date labels

Code	Meaning
%a	day of the week, abbreviated (Mon-Sun)
%A	day of the week, full (Monday-Sunday)
%e	day of the month (1-31)
%d	day of the month (01-31)
%m	month, numeric (01-12)
%b	month, abbreviated (Jan-Dec)
%B	month, full (January-December)
%y	year, without century (00-99)
%Y	year, with century (0000-9999)

Figure 5: For date_labels argument in scale_ * _date()





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Another labelling example of dates

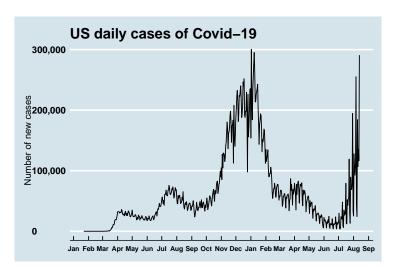


Figure 6: We have introduced monthly labels on the date axis.



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RCode: month label using scale_x_date()

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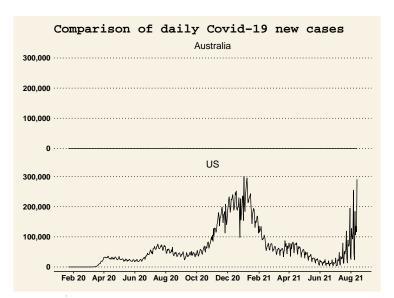
Datetime handling in lubridate

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Comparing US and Australia Covid-19 data



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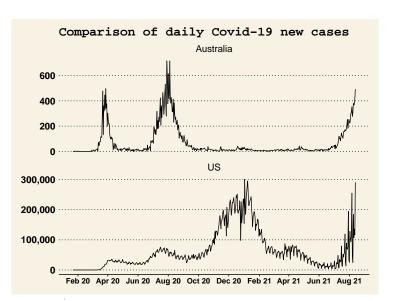
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Use scales = "free_y" in facet_wrap()



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RCode:scales = "free_y" in facet_wrap()

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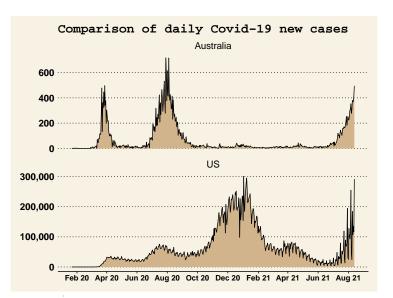
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Use geom_area() for advanced plotting



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Making maps in R

- ► To draw a map, we need mainly two things:
 - 1. The map polygons constituting a geographical region. For example, the world map with polygons given for each country or the map of USA with polygons given for 51 states in the USA.
 - The variable colors or mark to fill in the polygons based on the variable values.
- ➤ Typically for a real-life spatial data problem, you should have the shapefile corresponding to your map. Then, the variable values may come in a separate file, and you may have to merge the map and the variables so that you have a proper mapping of variables onto polygons constituting the map/study region.
- Once you map variables onto the polygons, you can create colorful maps known as Choropleths.

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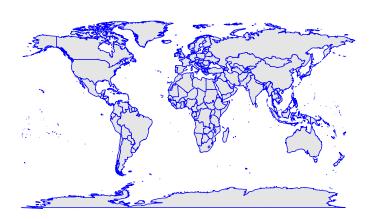
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Plotting the World map



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RCode: plotting the World map

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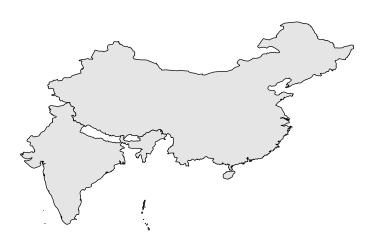
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Plotting filtered data - India and China



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RCode: plotting a subset of the World map

```
# Get the map for India and China
indoChina <- WorldMap %>%
  filter(region %in% c("India",
                         "China"))
# Plot Indo-China region using geom_
  polygon()
ggplot(indoChina, aes(long, lat)) +
  geom_polygon(aes(group = group),
               fill = "gray90",
               color = "black") +
  theme void()
```

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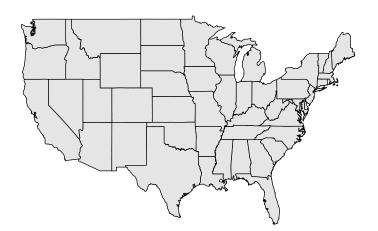
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Map of USA states



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RCode: plotting the map of USA states

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RCode: create data to fill in map polygons

```
# Get all USA states
states <- unique(usaMap$region)</pre>
# Create fake data for all states
set.seed (123)
qualVar <- sample(LETTERS[1:5], 49,
                    replace=TRUE)
set.seed(3011)
quantVar \leftarrow runif(49, 0, 25)
# Create the data frame
dataForUSMap <- data.frame(</pre>
          region = states,
          QualVar = qualVar,
          QuantVar = quantVar)
```

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RCode: merge variable data with USA map

```
Merge the data frame dataForUSMap
with the USA state map data
usaMapMerged <- usaMap %>%
          left join(dataForUSMap,
                 by = "region")
Choropleth using Qualitative variable#
ggplot(usaMapMerged, aes(long, lat,
             group = group,
             fill = QualVar)) +
 geom_polygon(color = "black") +
 theme void()
```

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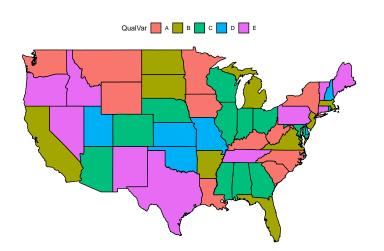
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US map: choropleth using qualitative data



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Choropleth with Spectral color palette

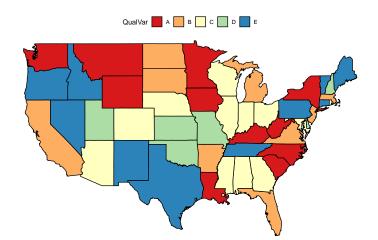


Figure 7: Added scale_fill_brewer(palette = "Spectral")
with the last plot.

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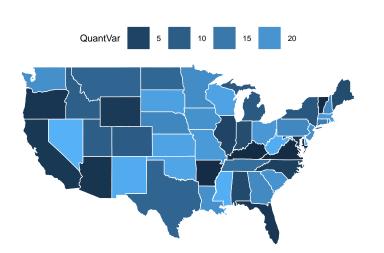
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US map: choropleth using quantitative data



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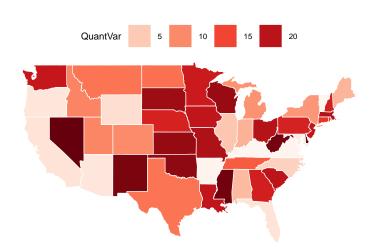
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Improved color by scale_fill_gradientn()



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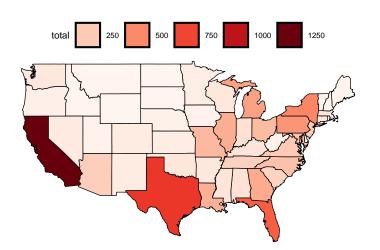
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Real-life data example: murders data



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