COVID-19 Data Analysis

Andrew Savala

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Overview

In this project I will be analyzing COVID-19 time series data from the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University. The data set contains daily time series summary tables, including confirmed, deaths and recovered.

My goal is to better understand the COVID-19 pandemic and what factors contributed to deaths in the United States.

On March 10, 2023, the Johns Hopkins Corona Virus Resource Center ceased its collecting and reporting of global COVID-19 data.

Step 1: Import COVID-19 Data

Step 2: Tidy and Transform Data

Examine Our Data

Here's our raw data:

```
# Display our raw COVID-19 data
head(us_cases)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 1,154
         UID iso2 iso3 code3 FIPS Admin2 Province_State Country_Region
##
                                                                              Lat
##
        <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <dbl> <chr>
                                              <chr>>
                                                             <chr>
                                                                            <dbl>
## 1 84001001 US
                    USA
                            840 1001 Autauga Alabama
                                                             US
                                                                             32.5
## 2 84001003 US
                    USA
                            840
                                1003 Baldwin Alabama
                                                             US
                                                                             30.7
## 3 84001005 US
                    USA
                            840
                                1005 Barbour Alabama
                                                             US
                                                                             31.9
```

```
## 4 84001007 US
                    USA
                            840 1007 Bibb
                                                             US
                                                                             33.0
                                              Alabama
                   USA
                                                             US
                                                                             34.0
## 5 84001009 US
                            840 1009 Blount Alabama
                            840 1011 Bullock Alabama
## 6 84001011 US
                   USA
                                                             US
                                                                             32.1
## # i 1,145 more variables: Long_ <dbl>, Combined_Key <chr>, '1/22/20' <dbl>,
       '1/23/20' <dbl>, '1/24/20' <dbl>, '1/25/20' <dbl>, '1/26/20' <dbl>,
      '1/27/20' <dbl>, '1/28/20' <dbl>, '1/29/20' <dbl>, '1/30/20' <dbl>,
## #
      '1/31/20' <dbl>, '2/1/20' <dbl>, '2/2/20' <dbl>, '2/3/20' <dbl>,
       '2/4/20' <dbl>, '2/5/20' <dbl>, '2/6/20' <dbl>, '2/7/20' <dbl>,
## #
       '2/8/20' <dbl>, '2/9/20' <dbl>, '2/10/20' <dbl>, '2/11/20' <dbl>,
## #
      '2/12/20' <dbl>, '2/13/20' <dbl>, '2/14/20' <dbl>, '2/15/20' <dbl>, ...
## #
head(us_deaths)
## # A tibble: 6 x 1,155
##
         UID iso2 iso3 code3 FIPS Admin2 Province_State Country_Region
                                                                              Lat
##
        <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <chr>
                                                                            <dbl>
                                              <chr>
                           840 1001 Autauga Alabama
## 1 84001001 US
                 USA
                                                             US
                                                                             32.5
## 2 84001003 US
                    USA
                            840 1003 Baldwin Alabama
                                                             US
                                                                             30.7
                                                             US
## 3 84001005 US
                   USA
                            840 1005 Barbour Alabama
                                                                             31.9
## 4 84001007 US
                   USA
                            840 1007 Bibb
                                              Alabama
                                                             US
                                                                             33.0
## 5 84001009 US
                   USA
                            840 1009 Blount Alabama
                                                             US
                                                                             34.0
## 6 84001011 US
                   USA
                            840 1011 Bullock Alabama
                                                             US
## # i 1,146 more variables: Long_ <dbl>, Combined_Key <chr>, Population <dbl>,
      '1/22/20' <dbl>, '1/23/20' <dbl>, '1/24/20' <dbl>, '1/25/20' <dbl>,
       '1/26/20' <dbl>, '1/27/20' <dbl>, '1/28/20' <dbl>, '1/29/20' <dbl>,
## #
       '1/30/20' <dbl>, '1/31/20' <dbl>, '2/1/20' <dbl>, '2/2/20' <dbl>,
## #
      '2/3/20' <dbl>, '2/4/20' <dbl>, '2/5/20' <dbl>, '2/6/20' <dbl>,
## #
      '2/7/20' <dbl>, '2/8/20' <dbl>, '2/9/20' <dbl>, '2/10/20' <dbl>,
```

'2/11/20' <dbl>, '2/12/20' <dbl>, '2/13/20' <dbl>, '2/14/20' <dbl>, ...

Lets continue with looking at our US data.

#

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
## Admin2 Province_State Country_Region Combined_Key Date Cases
## <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr>
```

```
## 1 Autauga Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Alabama, US 2020-01-22
## 2 Autauga Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Alabama, US 2020-01-23
                                                                                 0
## 3 Autauga Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Alabama, US 2020-01-24
                                                                                 0
                            US
                                            Autauga, Alabama, US 2020-01-25
                                                                                 0
## 4 Autauga Alabama
## 5 Autauga Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Alabama, US 2020-01-26
                                                                                 0
## 6 Autauga Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Alabama, US 2020-01-27
                                                                                 0
```

head(us_deaths_long)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 7
##
     Admin2 Province_State Country_Region Combined_Key Population Date
                                                                                 Deaths
##
     <chr> <chr>
                            <chr>
                                            <chr>
                                                               <dbl> <date>
                                                                                  <dbl>
## 1 Autau~ Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Al~
                                                               55869 2020-01-22
                                                                                      0
## 2 Autau~ Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Al~
                                                               55869 2020-01-23
                                                                                      0
## 3 Autau~ Alabama
                                            Autauga, Al~
                                                                                      0
                            US
                                                               55869 2020-01-24
## 4 Autau~ Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Al~
                                                               55869 2020-01-25
                                                                                      0
## 5 Autau~ Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Al~
                                                                                      0
                                                               55869 2020-01-26
## 6 Autau~ Alabama
                            US
                                            Autauga, Al~
                                                               55869 2020-01-27
                                                                                      0
```

We can combine our US data.

```
# Combine us cases and deaths data
us_data <- us_cases_long %>%
full_join(us_deaths_long)
```

```
## Joining with 'by = join_by(Admin2, Province_State, Country_Region,
## Combined_Key, Date)'
```

Lets filter our US data to only include states with cases greater than 0. This will help us with our analysis.

```
# Filter US data where the cases and population are positive
us_data <- us_data %>% filter(Cases > 0) %>% filter(Population > 0)
summary(us_data)
```

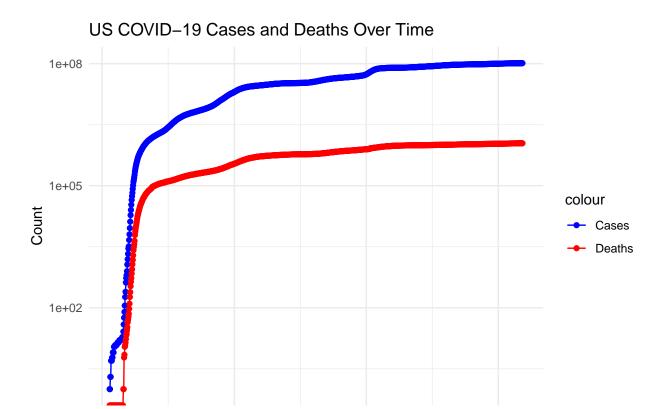
```
##
       Admin2
                        Province_State
                                            Country_Region
                                                                Combined_Key
##
    Length: 3424407
                        Length: 3424407
                                            Length: 3424407
                                                                Length: 3424407
                                                                Class : character
##
    Class :character
                        Class :character
                                            Class :character
##
    Mode :character
                        Mode :character
                                            Mode :character
                                                                Mode : character
##
##
##
##
         Date
                              Cases
                                               Population
                                                                     Deaths
##
    Min.
           :2020-01-22
                                                    :
                                                            86
                                                                              0.0
                          \mathtt{Min}.
                                         1
                                             Min.
                                                                 Min.
    1st Qu.:2020-12-27
                                             1st Qu.:
                                                                             10.0
##
                          1st Qu.:
                                       699
                                                         11710
                                                                 1st Qu.:
## Median :2021-09-20
                          Median:
                                      2865
                                             Median:
                                                         26830
                                                                 Median:
                                                                             47.0
## Mean
           :2021-09-19
                          Mean
                                 :
                                    15559
                                             Mean
                                                    :
                                                      106024
                                                                 Mean
                                                                        :
                                                                            204.2
##
    3rd Qu.:2022-06-15
                          3rd Qu.:
                                      9354
                                             3rd Qu.:
                                                         69830
                                                                 3rd Qu.: 138.0
           :2023-03-09
                                 :3710586
                                                    :10039107
                                                                         :35545.0
    Max.
                          Max.
                                             Max.
                                                                 Max.
```

Visualizations and Analysis

Lets start with some visualizations of the US data. We will create a plot to show the trends in cases and deaths over time in the US and then focus in on my home state of California.

```
# US totals by state
us by state <- us data %>%
  group_by(Province_State, Country_Region, Date) %>%
  summarise(Cases = sum(Cases), Deaths = sum(Deaths), Population = sum(Population)) %>%
  mutate(Deaths_Per_Mil = Deaths * 1000000 / Population,
         Cases_Per_Mil = Cases * 1000000 / Population) %>%
  select (Province State, Country Region, Date, Cases, Deaths, Population, Deaths Per Mil, Cases Per Mil
  ungroup()
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'Province_State', 'Country_Region'. You can
## override using the '.groups' argument.
# US totals
us totals <- us data %>%
  group_by(Country_Region, Date) %>%
  summarise(Cases = sum(Cases), Deaths = sum(Deaths), Population = sum(Population)) %>%
  mutate(Deaths_Per_Mil = Deaths * 1000000 / Population,
         Cases_Per_Mil = Cases * 1000000 / Population) %>%
  select(Country_Region, Date, Cases, Deaths, Population, Deaths_Per_Mil, Cases_Per_Mil) %>%
 ungroup()
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'Country_Region'. You can override using
## the '.groups' argument.
# Plot US totals for cases and deaths over time and filter to only show cases > 0. Lets also scale Y s
us_totals %>%
 filter(Cases > 0) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = Date, y = Cases)) +
  geom_line(aes(y = Cases, color = "Cases")) +
  geom_point(aes(y = Cases, color = "Cases")) +
  geom_line(aes(y = Deaths, color = "Deaths")) +
  geom_point(aes(y = Deaths, color = "Deaths")) +
  scale_y_log10() +
  labs(title = "US COVID-19 Cases and Deaths Over Time",
      x = "Date",
      y = "Count") +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("Cases" = "blue", "Deaths" = "red")) +
  theme minimal()
```

- ## Warning in scale_y_log10(): log-10 transformation introduced infinite values.
- ## log-10 transformation introduced infinite values.



Date

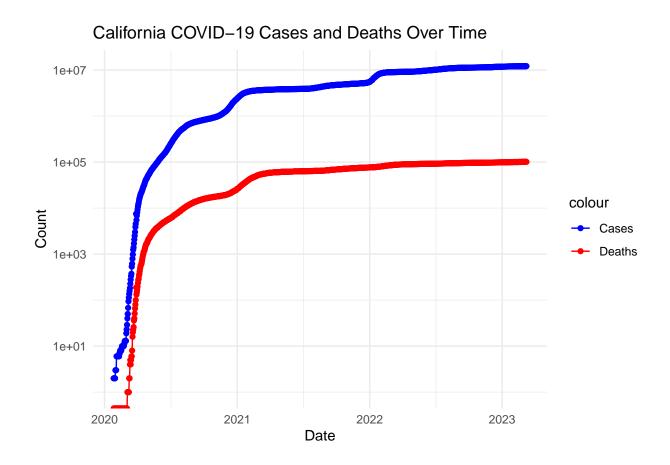
2022

2023

Warning in scale_y_log10(): log-10 transformation introduced infinite values.

2021

^{##} log-10 transformation introduced infinite values.



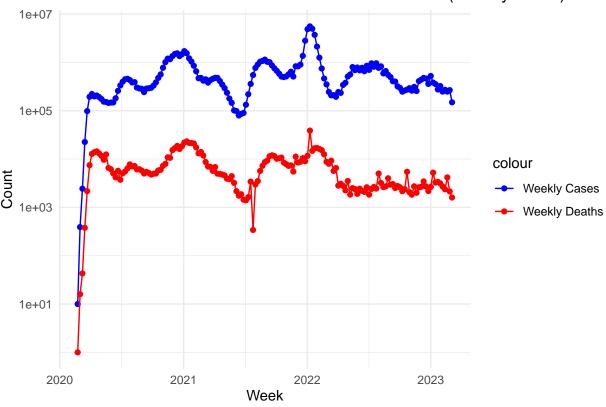
US Analysis

Now lets do some analysis. We will look at the new cases and deaths over time by week.

```
us_totals <- us_totals %>%
  mutate(New_Cases = Cases - lag(Cases, default = 0),
         New_Deaths = Deaths - lag(Deaths, default = 0))
us_totals_weekly <- us_totals %>%
  mutate(Week = floor_date(Date, "week")) %>%
  group_by(Week) %>%
  summarise(
    Weekly_Cases = sum(New_Cases, na.rm = TRUE),
    Weekly_Deaths = sum(New_Deaths, na.rm = TRUE)
  )
us_totals_weekly %>%
  filter(Weekly_Cases > 0, Weekly_Deaths > 0) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = Week, y = Weekly_Cases)) +
  geom_line(aes(color = "Weekly Cases")) +
  geom_point(aes(color = "Weekly Cases")) +
  geom_line(aes(y = Weekly_Deaths, color = "Weekly Deaths")) +
  geom_point(aes(y = Weekly_Deaths, color = "Weekly Deaths")) +
  scale_y_log10() +
  labs(
```

```
title = "US COVID-19 New Cases and Deaths Over Time (Weekly Totals)",
    x = "Week",
    y = "Count"
) +
scale_color_manual(values = c("Weekly Cases" = "blue", "Weekly Deaths" = "red")) +
theme_minimal()
```

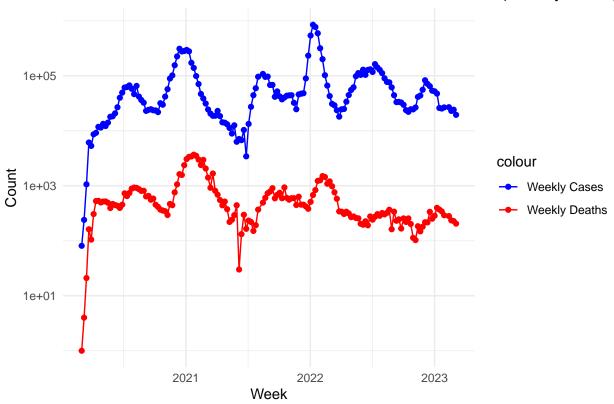
US COVID-19 New Cases and Deaths Over Time (Weekly Totals)



```
us_by_state <- us_by_state %>%
  mutate(New_Cases = Cases - lag(Cases, default = 0),
         New_Deaths = Deaths - lag(Deaths, default = 0))
ca_totals_weekly <- us_by_state %>%
  filter(Province_State == "California") %>%
  mutate(Week = floor_date(Date, "week")) %>%
  group_by(Week) %>%
  summarise(
   Weekly_Cases = sum(New_Cases, na.rm = TRUE),
    Weekly_Deaths = sum(New_Deaths, na.rm = TRUE)
  )
ca_totals_weekly %>%
 filter(Weekly_Cases > 0, Weekly_Deaths > 0) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = Week, y = Weekly_Cases)) +
 geom_line(aes(color = "Weekly Cases")) +
 geom_point(aes(color = "Weekly Cases")) +
```

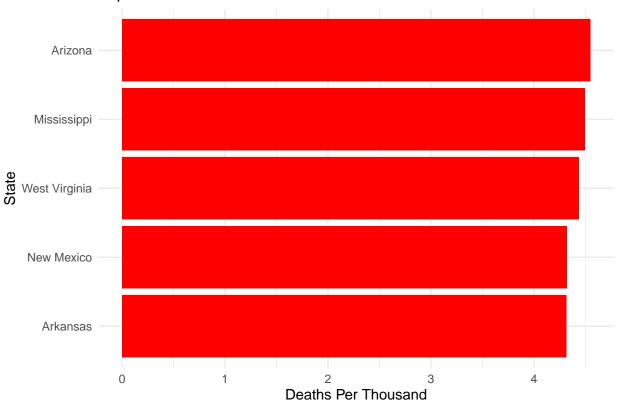
```
geom_line(aes(y = Weekly_Deaths, color = "Weekly Deaths")) +
geom_point(aes(y = Weekly_Deaths, color = "Weekly Deaths")) +
scale_y_log10() +
labs(
   title = "California COVID-19 New Cases and Deaths Over Time (Weekly Totals)",
   x = "Week",
   y = "Count"
) +
scale_color_manual(values = c("Weekly Cases" = "blue", "Weekly Deaths" = "red")) +
theme_minimal()
```

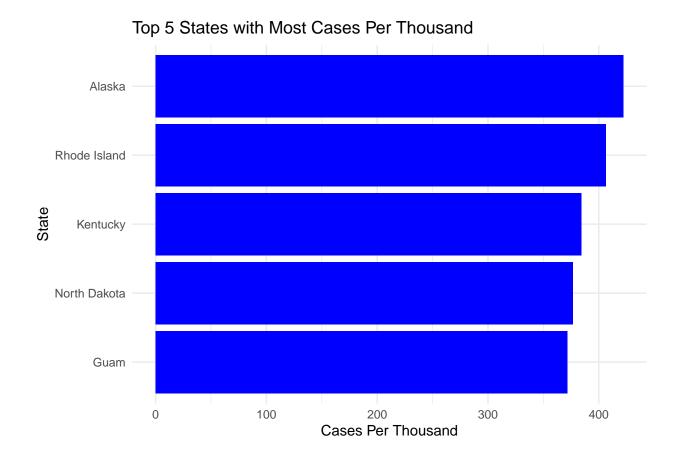
California COVID-19 New Cases and Deaths Over Time (Weekly Totals)



Now lets see which states had the most deaths and cases per thousand.

Top 5 States with Most Deaths Per Thousand





Model

Lets train a linear regression model to predict the number of deaths per thousand based on the number of cases per thousand.

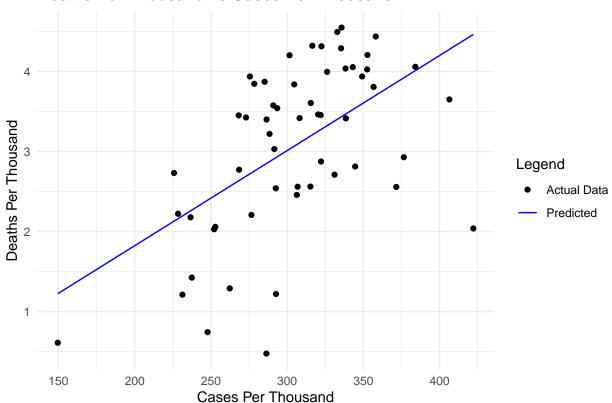
Initial Prediction

```
# Create a linear regression model to predict deaths per thousand based on cases per thousand
model <- lm(Deaths_Per_Thousand ~ Cases_Per_Thousand, data = us_state_totals)
summary(model)</pre>
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = Deaths_Per_Thousand ~ Cases_Per_Thousand, data = us_state_totals)
##
## Residuals:
##
       Min
                1Q Median
                                ЗQ
                                       Max
## -2.4231 -0.6158 0.1588 0.6722
##
## Coefficients:
##
                       Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                      -0.552774
                                  0.762354 -0.725
## Cases_Per_Thousand 0.011880
                                  0.002467
                                             4.816 1.23e-05 ***
```

```
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 0.8967 on 54 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.3004, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2875
## F-statistic: 23.19 on 1 and 54 DF, p-value: 1.226e-05
# Lets add our predicted deaths per thousand to our data as a new column
us_state_totals <- us_state_totals %>%
 mutate(Predicted_Deaths_Per_Thousand = predict(model))
us state totals %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = Cases_Per_Thousand, y = Deaths_Per_Thousand)) +
  geom_point(aes(color = "Actual Data")) +
  geom_line(aes(y = Predicted_Deaths_Per_Thousand, color = "Predicted")) +
  labs(title = "Deaths Per Thousand vs Cases Per Thousand",
      x = "Cases Per Thousand",
      y = "Deaths Per Thousand",
       color = "Legend") +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("Actual Data" = "black", "Predicted" = "blue")) +
  theme_minimal()
```

Deaths Per Thousand vs Cases Per Thousand



Based on the Multiple R-squared, we can see that our model explains about 30% of the variation in deaths per thousand. This is not a very good model. We can try to improve it by adding more features to our model.

Additional Features

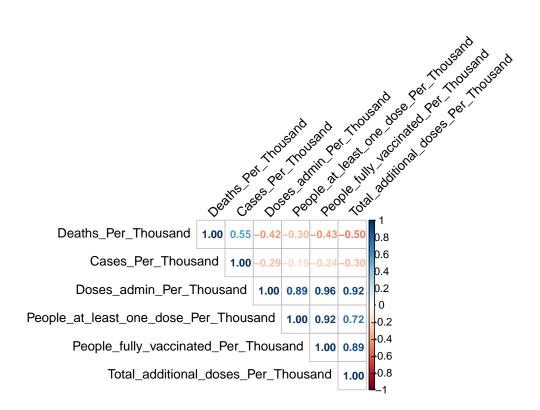
Lets try adding vaccination data to our model and see how that impacts our predictions. We will use the vaccination data from GovEx GitHub repository.

```
{\it\#Read\ vaccination\ data\ from\ GovEx\ GitHub\ repository}
vaccine_data_url <- "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/govex/COVID-19/refs/heads/master/data_tables/vac</pre>
# Lets add the columns Doses_admin, People_at_least_one_dose, People_fully_vaccinated, Total_additional_do
vaccine_data <- read_csv(vaccine_data_url, show_col_types = FALSE) %>%
  select(Date, Province_State, Country_Region, Doses_admin, People_at_least_one_dose, People_fully_vacc
# Find the latest vaccination totals
us_vaccine_totals <- vaccine_data %>%
  group_by(Province_State) %>%
  summarise(
   Doses_admin = max(Doses_admin, na.rm = TRUE),
   People_at_least_one_dose = max(People_at_least_one_dose, na.rm = TRUE),
   People_fully_vaccinated = max(People_fully_vaccinated, na.rm = TRUE),
   Total_additional_doses = max(Total_additional_doses, na.rm = TRUE)
  )
# Join vaccine data to us state totals data
us_state_totals <- us_state_totals %>%
  left_join(us_vaccine_totals, by = "Province_State")
# Make a per thousand column for the vaccine data
us_state_totals <- us_state_totals %>%
  mutate(
   Doses_admin_Per_Thousand = 1000 * Doses_admin / Population,
   People_at_least_one_dose_Per_Thousand = 1000 * People_at_least_one_dose / Population,
   People_fully_vaccinated_Per_Thousand = 1000 * People_fully_vaccinated / Population,
   Total_additional_doses_Per_Thousand = 1000 * Total_additional_doses / Population
 )
```

Looking at our new vaccination data, we have several features to choose from. They're likely highly correlated. Lets see how they see how they correlate with our deaths per thousand and one another.

```
# Correlation matrix for deaths per thousand and vaccination data
vaccine_data <- us_state_totals %>%
  select(Deaths_Per_Thousand, Cases_Per_Thousand, Doses_admin_Per_Thousand, People_at_least_one_dose_Pe
correlation_matrix <- cor(vaccine_data, use = "pairwise.complete.obs")</pre>
# Plot the correlation matrix
# corrplot(correlation_matrix, method = "circle", type = "upper", tl.col = "black", tl.srt = 45, title
corrplot(
  correlation_matrix,
  method = "number",
                         # Show correlation coefficients
  type = "upper",
                         # Only show the upper half
                        # Text label color
 tl.col = "black",
  tl.srt = 45,
                           # Rotate text labels
  title = "Correlation Matrix for Deaths Per Thousand and Vaccination Data",
 mar = c(0, 0, 1, 0), # Adjust margins (optional)
  number.cex = 0.8
                          # Control size of the correlation coefficients
```

Correlation Matrix for Deaths Per Thousand and Vaccination Data



Additional doses per thousand seems to have the strongest correlation with deaths per thousand. Lets try training a new model and add the additional doses per thousand feature.

```
# Create a linear regression model to predict deaths per thousand based on cases per thousand and addit
model_vaccine <- lm(Deaths_Per_Thousand ~ Cases_Per_Thousand + Total_additional_doses_Per_Thousand, dat
summary(model_vaccine)</pre>
```

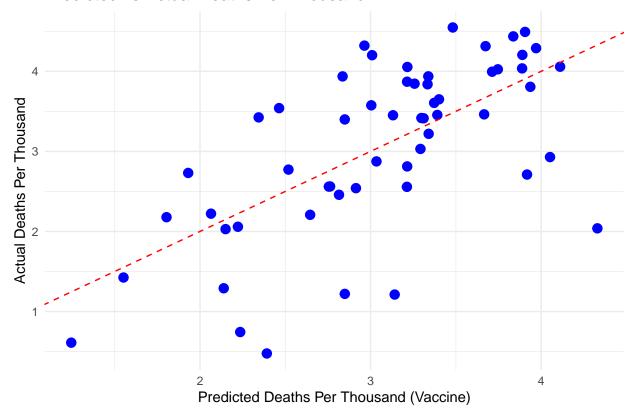
```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = Deaths_Per_Thousand ~ Cases_Per_Thousand + Total_additional_doses_Per_Thousand,
##
       data = us_state_totals)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
                1Q Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
## -2.2908 -0.2854 0.1337 0.5752 1.3575
##
## Coefficients:
##
                                        Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                                   0.968965
                                        1.661495
                                                             1.715 0.092241 .
## Cases_Per_Thousand
                                        0.009493
                                                   0.002379
                                                              3.990 0.000204 ***
## Total_additional_doses_Per_Thousand -0.004141
                                                   0.001252 -3.308 0.001693 **
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '*** 0.001 '** 0.01 '* 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' 1
##
```

```
## Residual standard error: 0.8241 on 53 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.4202, Adjusted R-squared: 0.3983
## F-statistic: 19.2 on 2 and 53 DF, p-value: 5.342e-07

# Now lets compare our predicted deaths per thousand to our actual deaths per thousand
us_state_totals <- us_state_totals %>%
    mutate(Predicted_Deaths_Per_Thousand_Vaccine = predict(model_vaccine))

# Now lets plot our Predicted_Deaths_Per_Thousand_Vaccine vs the actual Deaths_Per_Thousand
ggplot(us_state_totals, aes(x = Predicted_Deaths_Per_Thousand_Vaccine, y = Deaths_Per_Thousand)) +
    geom_point(color = "blue", size = 3) +
    geom_abline(intercept = 0, slope = 1, color = "red", linetype = "dashed") +
    labs(x = "Predicted Deaths Per Thousand (Vaccine)",
        y = "Actual Deaths Per Thousand",
        title = "Predicted vs Actual Deaths Per Thousand") +
    theme_minimal()
```

Predicted vs Actual Deaths Per Thousand



We're going in the right direction because Multiple R-squared indicates our model explains about 42% of the variation in deaths per thousand. This is a significant improvement over our previous model.

Bias Identification and Conclusion

Regarding bias, it's important to recognize that different states may have different criteria for attributing deaths to COVID-19. Some may report more conservatively, while others more liberally. This could lead to bias in our model and our predictions. Additionally, the data is not perfect and there may be missing or inaccurate data points. This could also lead to bias in our model and our predictions.

In conclusion, we were able to train a model which was able to explain roughly 42% of the variation in deaths per thousand. We were able to do this by adding additional features to our model, specifically vaccination data. This is a significant improvement over our previous model which only explained about 30% of the variation in deaths per thousand.

We can see that the model is not perfect, but it does provide some insight into the relationship between cases per thousand and deaths per thousand.

Session Info

Record our session info for reproducibility.

sessionInfo()

```
## R version 4.4.3 (2025-02-28 ucrt)
## Platform: x86_64-w64-mingw32/x64
## Running under: Windows 11 x64 (build 26100)
## Matrix products: default
##
##
## locale:
## [1] LC COLLATE=English United States.utf8
## [2] LC_CTYPE=English_United States.utf8
## [3] LC_MONETARY=English_United States.utf8
## [4] LC_NUMERIC=C
## [5] LC_TIME=English_United States.utf8
##
## time zone: America/Los_Angeles
## tzcode source: internal
##
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats
                 graphics grDevices utils
                                                datasets methods
                                                                    base
##
## other attached packages:
   [1] forcats_1.0.0
                        stringr_1.5.1
                                         dplyr_1.1.4
                                                         purrr_1.0.4
    [5] readr_2.1.5
                                         tibble_3.2.1
                                                         tidyverse_2.0.0
##
                        tidyr_1.3.1
   [9] corrplot_0.95
                        lubridate_1.9.4 ggplot2_3.5.1
##
##
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
   [1] bit_4.6.0
                          gtable 0.3.6
                                             crayon_1.5.3
                                                               compiler_4.4.3
##
                          parallel 4.4.3
                                                               yaml_2.3.10
##
   [5] tidyselect_1.2.1
                                             scales 1.3.0
  [9] fastmap_1.2.0
                          R6_2.6.1
                                             labeling_0.4.3
                                                               generics_0.1.3
## [13] curl_6.2.1
                          knitr_1.49
                                             munsell_0.5.1
                                                               pillar_1.10.1
                          rlang 1.1.5
                                             utf8 1.2.4
## [17] tzdb 0.4.0
                                                               stringi 1.8.4
## [21] xfun 0.51
                          bit64_4.6.0-1
                                             timechange_0.3.0
                                                               cli_3.6.4
## [25] withr 3.0.2
                          magrittr 2.0.3
                                             digest 0.6.37
                                                               grid 4.4.3
                          rstudioapi_0.17.1 hms_1.1.3
## [29] vroom_1.6.5
                                                               lifecycle_1.0.4
                                                               farver_2.1.2
## [33] vctrs_0.6.5
                          evaluate_1.0.3
                                             glue_1.8.0
## [37] colorspace_2.1-1
                                             tools_4.4.3
                          rmarkdown_2.29
                                                               pkgconfig_2.0.3
## [41] htmltools_0.5.8.1
```