

Instructions

Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is an ambient air pollutant for which there is strong evidence that it is harmful to human health. In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is tasked with setting national ambient air quality standards for fine PM and for tracking the emissions of this pollutant into the atmosphere. Approximately every 3 years, the EPA releases its database on emissions of PM_{2.5}. This database is known as the National Emissions Inventory (NEI). You can read more information about the NEI at the [EPA National Emissions Inventory web site](#).

For each year and for each type of PM source, the NEI records how many tons of PM_{2.5} were emitted from that source over the course of the entire year. The data that you will use for this assignment are for 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008.

Review criteria

For each question

1. Does the plot appear to address the question being asked?
2. Does the plot appear to address the question being asked?

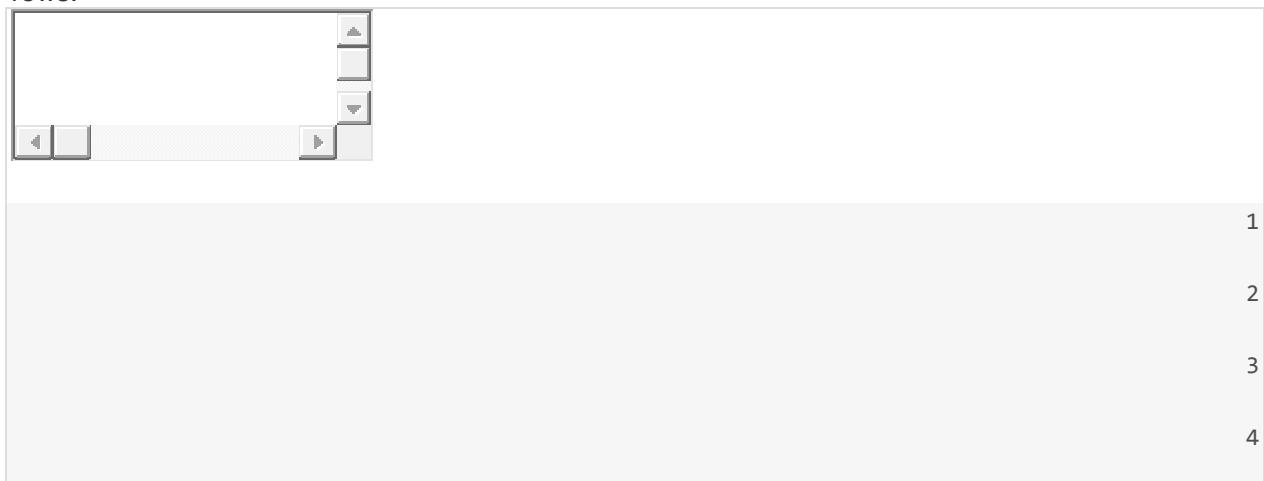
Data

The data for this assignment are available from the course web site as a single zip file:

- [Data for Peer Assessment](#) [29Mb]

The zip file contains two files:

PM_{2.5} Emissions Data (**summarySCC_PM25.rds**): This file contains a data frame with all of the PM_{2.5} emissions data for 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008. For each year, the table contains number of **tons** of PM_{2.5} emitted from a specific type of source for the entire year. Here are the first few rows.



	1
	2
	3
	4


```
## This first line will likely take a few seconds. Be patient!

NEI <- readRDS("summarySCC_PM25.rds")

SCC <- readRDS("Source_Classification_Code.rds")
```

as long as each of those files is in your current working directory (check by calling `dir()` and see if those files are in the listing).

Assignment

The overall goal of this assignment is to explore the National Emissions Inventory database and see what it says about fine particulate matter pollution in the United States over the 10-year period 1999–2008. You may use any R package you want to support your analysis.

Questions

You must address the following questions and tasks in your exploratory analysis. For each question/task you will need to make a single plot. Unless specified, you can use any plotting system in R to make your plot.

1. Have total emissions from PM2.5 decreased in the United States from 1999 to 2008? Using the **base** plotting system, make a plot showing the *total* PM2.5 emission from all sources for each of the years 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008.
2. Have total emissions from PM2.5 decreased in the **Baltimore City**, Maryland (`fips == "24510"`) from 1999 to 2008? Use the **base** plotting system to make a plot answering this question.
3. Of the four types of sources indicated by the **type** (point, nonpoint, onroad, nonroad) variable, which of these four sources have seen decreases in emissions from 1999–2008 for **Baltimore City**? Which have seen increases in emissions from 1999–2008? Use the **ggplot2** plotting system to make a plot answer this question.
4. Across the United States, how have emissions from coal combustion-related sources changed from 1999–2008?
5. How have emissions from motor vehicle sources changed from 1999–2008 in **Baltimore City**?
6. Compare emissions from motor vehicle sources in Baltimore City with emissions from motor vehicle sources in **Los Angeles County**, California (`fips == "06037"`). Which city has seen greater changes over time in motor vehicle emissions?

Making and Submitting Plotsless

For each plot you should

- Construct the plot and save it to a **PNG file**.

- Create a separate R code file (**plot1.R**, **plot2.R**, etc.) that constructs the corresponding plot, i.e. code in **plot1.R** constructs the **plot1.png** plot. Your code file should include code for reading the data so that the plot can be fully reproduced. You must also include the code that creates the PNG file. Only include the code for a single plot (i.e. **plot1.R** should only include code for producing **plot1.png**)
- Upload the PNG file on the Assignment submission page
- Copy and paste the R code from the corresponding R file into the text box at the appropriate point in the peer assessment.