The Tidy Tuesday folks decided to make this week’s topic a little spicier than usual: National Science Foundation grant terminations under the current administration. Over 1,000 grants were terminated at the end of April, impacting researchers and universities across the country.

[⚠️ This post isn’t meant to be political—just a data science student practicing coding and visualization skills.]

Given President Trump’s reputation for retaliating against political rivals, I was curious if grants were terminated at a higher rate in blue states?

To explore this, I calculated the percentage of grants terminated in each state and flagged states as “over-indexing” or “under-indexing” relative to the national average.

Result? 11 out of 20 blue states (55%) and 16 out of 31 red states (52%) had termination rates above the national average. (51 total regions, including Washington, D.C.)

Map visualizations in R are no joke—especially when layering multiple elements. I gained a new appreciation for the usmap() library this week. Plotting Alaska and Hawaii correctly was an unexpected challenge!

Check out my full notebook on GitHub: https://github.com/stevenvillalon/tidytuesday/tree/c1d17e9565a8069dfcca24950e6f89c5bb188f9d/2025-05-06-NSF.GRANT.TERMINATIONS

#DataScience #RStats #TidyTuesday