

# Gov 50: 3. Data Visualization

Matthew Blackwell

Harvard University

# Roadmap

1. Building plots by layers
2. Histograms and boxplots
3. Grouped data

# 1/ Building plots by layers

# Midwest data

```
midwest
```

```
## # A tibble: 437 x 28
##   PID county state area poppto~1 popde~2 popwh~3 popbl~4 popam~5
##   <int> <chr> <chr> <dbl> <int> <dbl> <int> <int> <int>
## 1 561 ADAMS IL 0.052 66090 1271. 63917 1702 98
## 2 562 ALEXANDER IL 0.014 10626 759 7054 3496 19
## 3 563 BOND IL 0.022 14991 681. 14477 429 35
## 4 564 BOONE IL 0.017 30806 1812. 29344 127 46
## 5 565 BROWN IL 0.018 5836 324. 5264 547 14
## 6 566 BUREAU IL 0.05 35688 714. 35157 50 65
## 7 567 CALHOUN IL 0.017 5322 313. 5298 1 8
## 8 568 CARROLL IL 0.027 16805 622. 16519 111 30
## 9 569 CASS IL 0.024 13437 560. 13384 16 8
## 10 570 CHAMPAIGN IL 0.058 173025 2983. 146506 16559 331
## # ... with 427 more rows, 19 more variables: popasian <int>,
## # popother <int>, percwhite <dbl>, percblack <dbl>,
## # percamerindan <dbl>, percasian <dbl>, percother <dbl>,
## # popadults <int>, perchsd <dbl>, percollege <dbl>, percprof <dbl>,
## # poppovertyknown <int>, percpovertyknown <dbl>,
## # percbelowpoverty <dbl>, percchildbelowpovert <dbl>,
## # percadultpoverty <dbl>, percelderlypoverty <dbl>, ...
```

# Building up a graph in pieces

Create ggplot object and direct it to the correct data:

```
p <- ggplot(data = midwest)
```

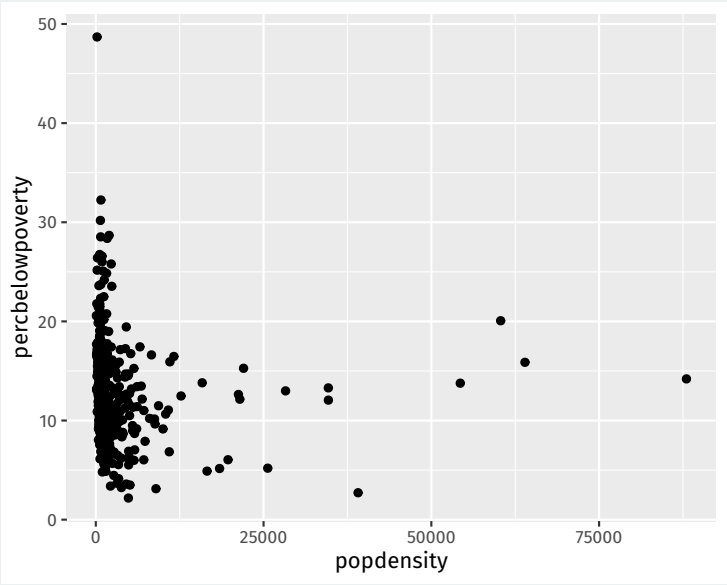
**Mapping:** tell ggplot what visual aesthetics correspond to which variables

```
p <- ggplot(data = midwest,  
            mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                          y = percbelowpoverty))
```

Other aesthetic mappings: color, shape, size, etc.

# Adding a geom layer

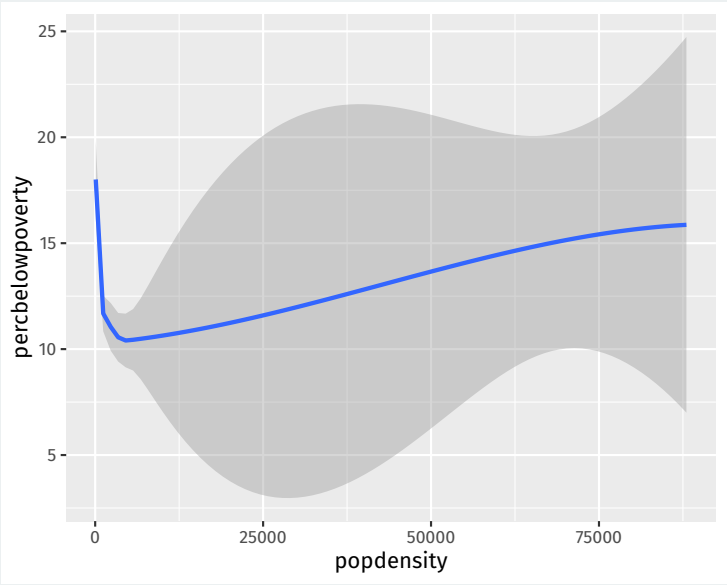
```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_point()
```



# Trying a new geom

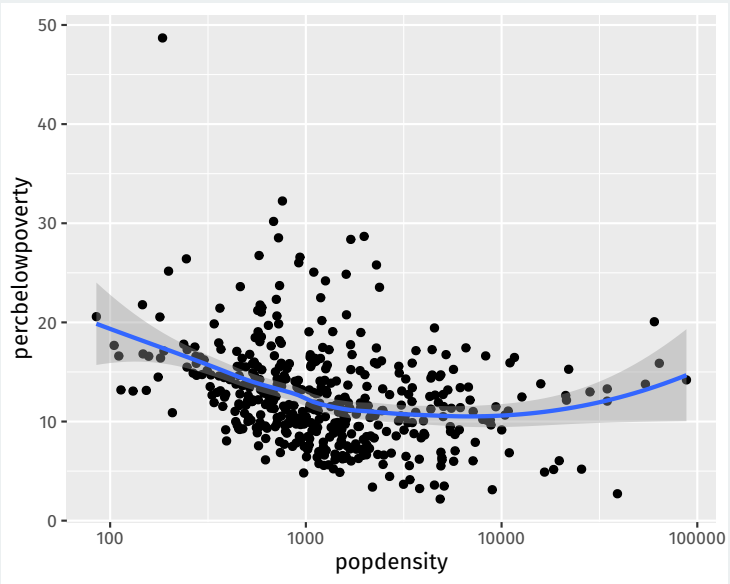
```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_smooth()
```





# Layering geoms is additive

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth() +  
  scale_x_log10()
```

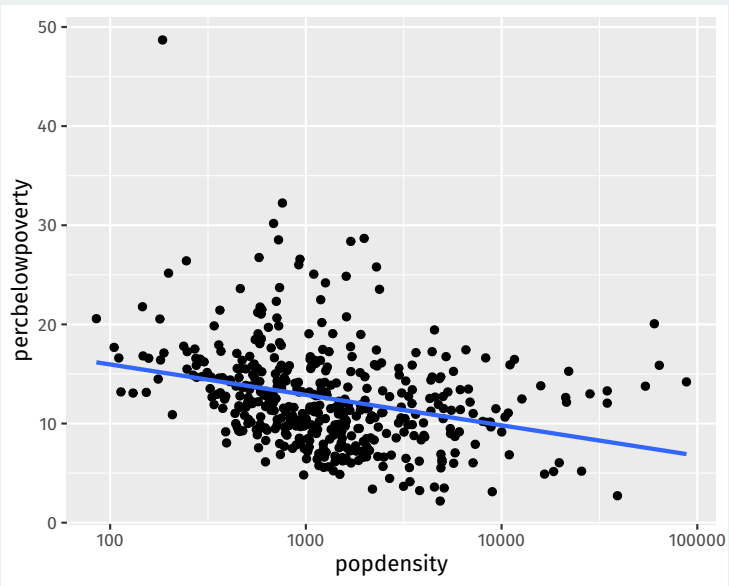


# Geoms are functions

Geoms can take arguments:

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) +  
  scale_x_log10()
```

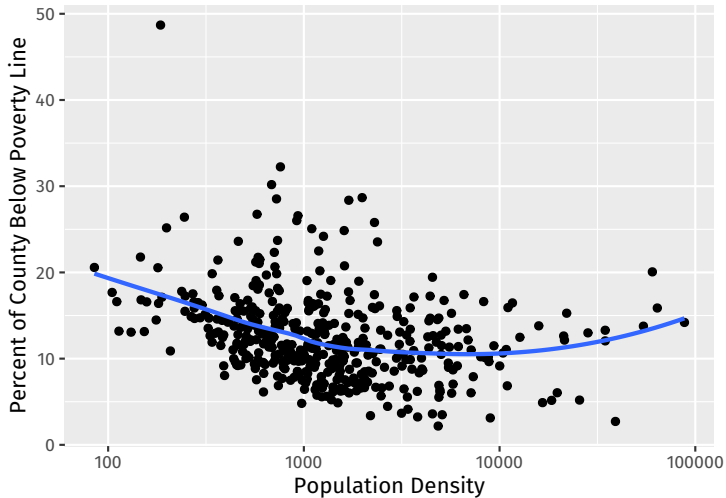
Tells `geom_smooth` to do a linear fit with no error region



# Adding informative labels

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method = "loess", se = FALSE) +  
  scale_x_log10() +  
  labs(x = "Population Density",  
       y = "Percent of County Below Poverty Line",  
       title = "Poverty and Population Density",  
       subtitle = "Among Counties in the Midwest",  
       source = "US Census, 2000")
```

## Poverty and Population Density Among Counties in the Midwest

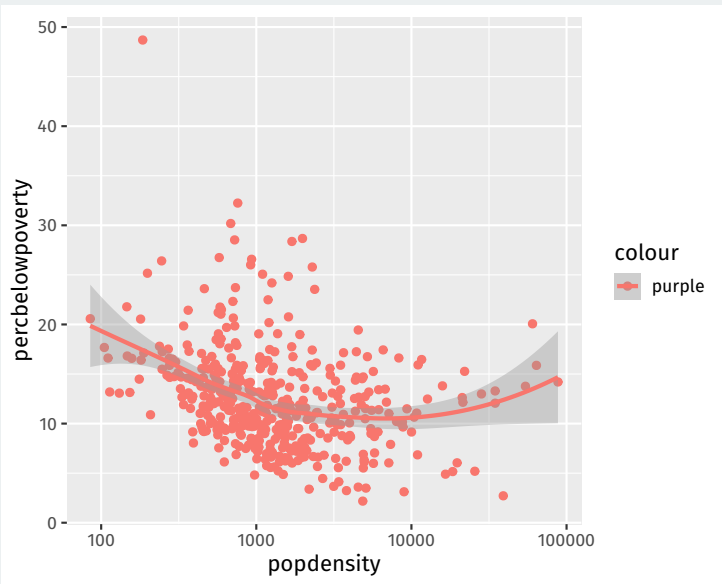


# Mapping vs setting aesthetics

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty,  
                     color = "purple")) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth() +  
  scale_x_log10()
```



# Wait what?



# Mapping always refers to variables

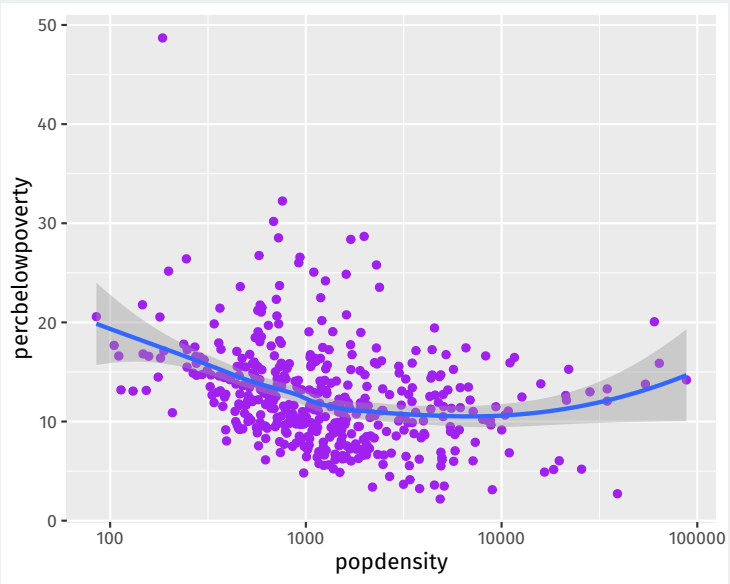
If passed a value other than a variable name, ggplot will implicitly create a variable with that value (in this case "purple" that is constant)

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty,  
                     color = "purple")) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth() +  
  scale_x_log10()
```

# Setting aesthetics

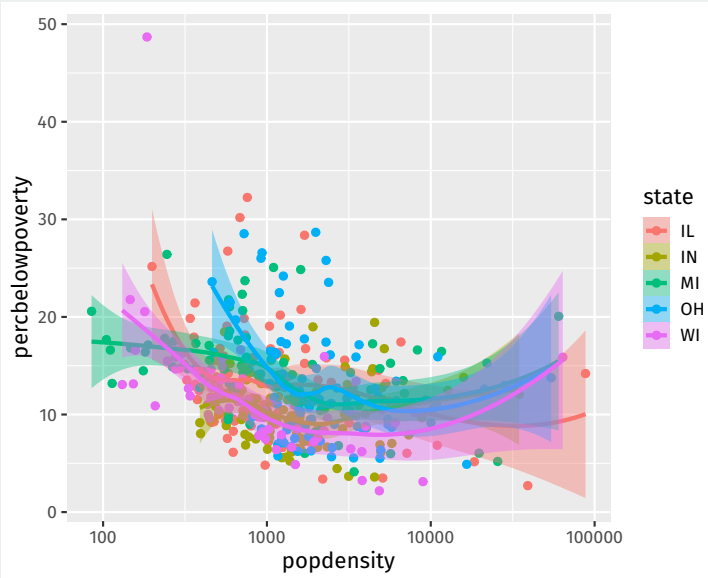
Set the color outside the `mapping = aes()` format.

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
        mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                      y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_point(color = "purple") +  
  geom_smooth() +  
  scale_x_log10()
```



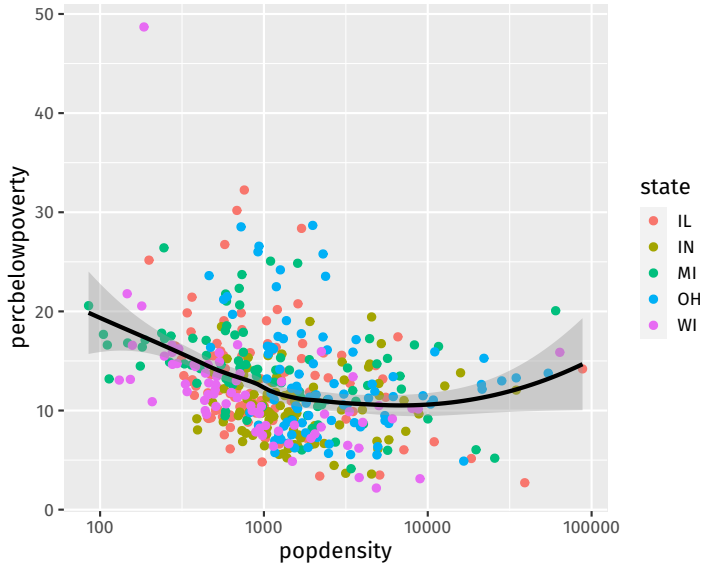
# Mapping more aesthetics

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty,  
                     color = state,  
                     fill = state)) +  
  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth() +  
  scale_x_log10()
```



# Mappings can be done on a per geom basis

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
        mapping = aes(x = popdensity,  
                       y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(color = state)) +  
  geom_smooth(color = "black") +  
  scale_x_log10()
```





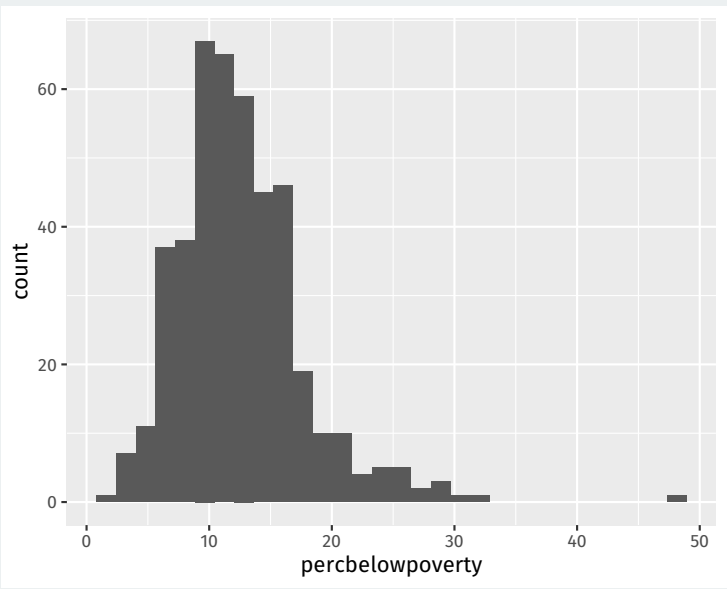
## **2/** Histograms and boxplots

# Histograms

**Histograms** show where there are more or fewer observations of a numeric variable.

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
        mapping = aes(x = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_histogram()
```

Split up range of variable into bins, count how many are in each bin.  
y aesthetic calculated automatically.

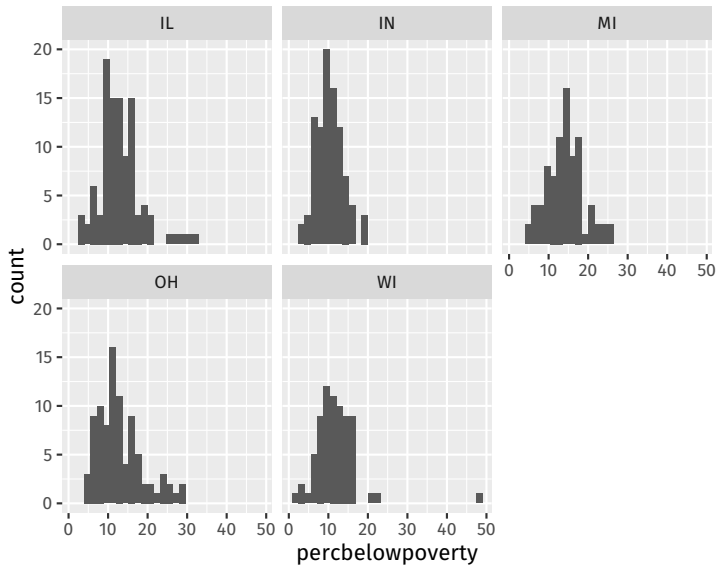


# Creating small multiples with facets

**Small multiples:** a series of similar graphs with the same scale/axes to help with comparing different partitions of a dataset.

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = percbelowpoverty)) +  
  geom_histogram() +  
  facet_wrap(~ state)
```

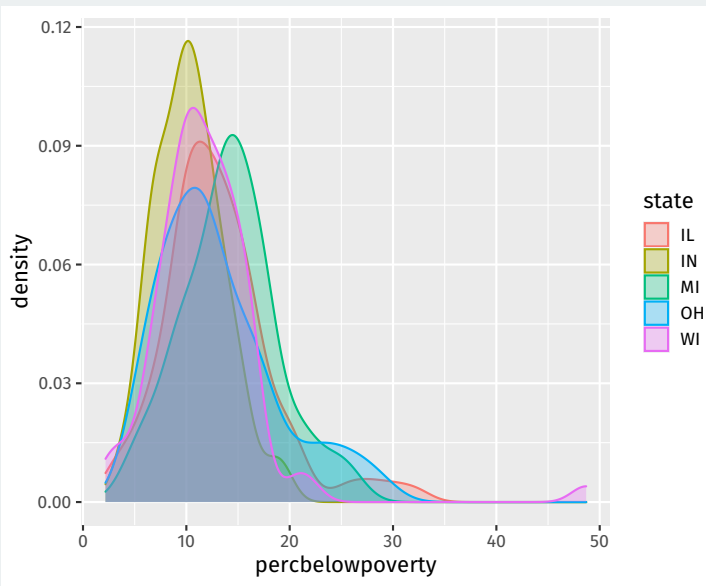
We'll see more of the ~ variable syntax (called a formula).



# Density as alternative to histograms

A **kernel density** plot is a smoothed version of a histogram and slightly easier to overlay.

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = percbelowpoverty,  
                     fill = state, color = state)) +  
  geom_density(alpha = 0.3)
```

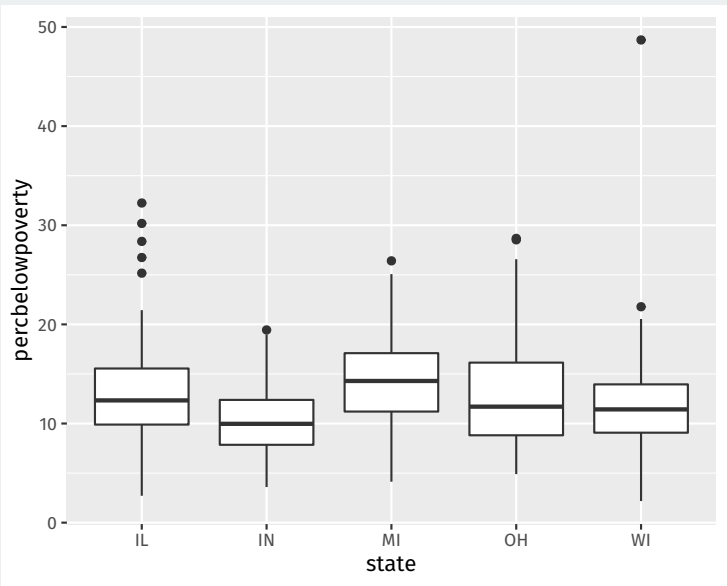


# Boxplots

Boxplots are another way to compare distributions across discrete groups.

```
ggplot(data = midwest,  
       mapping = aes(x = state,  
                     y = percbelowpoverty)) +  
geom_boxplot()
```





# Boxplots in R

- “Box” represents middle 50% of the data.
  - 25% of the data above the box, 25% below
  - Width of the box is called the inter quartile range (IQR)
- Horizontal line in the box is the median
  - 50% of the data above the median, 50% below
- “Whiskers” represents either:
  - $1.5 \times \text{IQR}$  or max/min of the data, whichever is smaller.
  - Points beyond whiskers are outliers.

## **3/** Grouped data

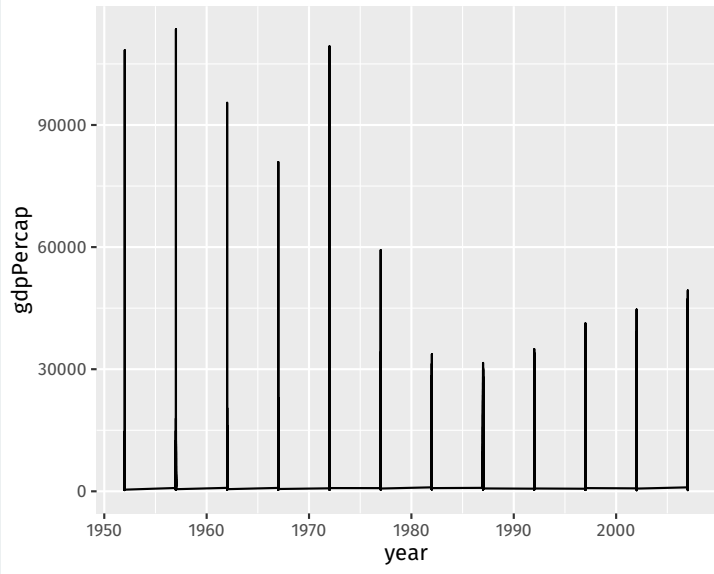
# Back to the gapminder data

```
glimpse(gapminder)
```

```
## Rows: 1,704
## Columns: 6
## $ country   <fct> "Afghanistan", "Afghanistan", "Afghanistan", "Afgh~
## $ continent <fct> Asia, Asia, Asia, Asia, Asia, Asia, Asia, Asia, As~
## $ year      <int> 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 19~
## $ lifeExp   <dbl> 28.8, 30.3, 32.0, 34.0, 36.1, 38.4, 39.9, 40.8, 41~
## $ pop       <int> 8425333, 9240934, 10267083, 11537966, 13079460, 14~
## $ gdpPercap <dbl> 779, 821, 853, 836, 740, 786, 978, 852, 649, 635, ~
```

# Let's plot the trend in income

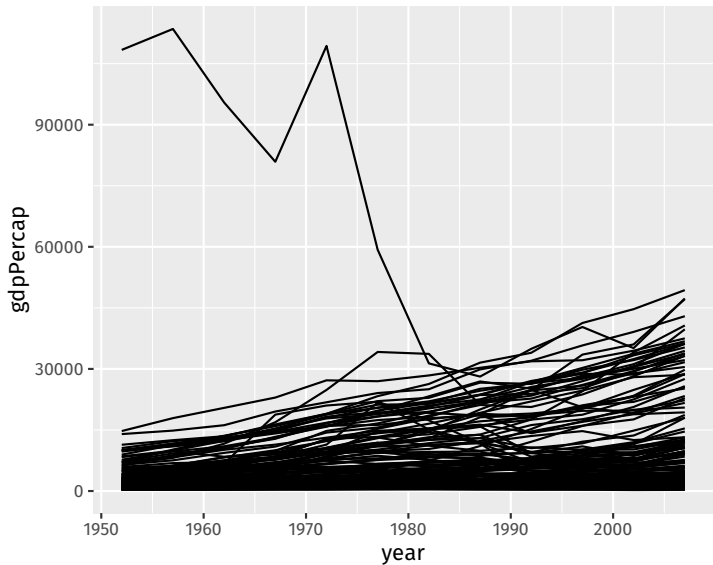
```
ggplot(data = gapminder,  
       mapping = aes(x = year,  
                     y = gdpPercap)) +  
geom_line()
```



`geom_line` connects points from different countries in the same year.

# Tell `geom_line` how to group the lines

```
ggplot(data = gapminder,  
       mapping = aes(x = year,  
                     y = gdpPercap)) +  
geom_line(mapping = aes(group = country))
```





# Scales

```
ggplot(data = gapminder,  
       mapping = aes(x = year,  
                     y = gdpPercap)) +  
  geom_line(mapping = aes(group = country), color = "grey70") +  
  geom_smooth(method = "loess") +  
  scale_y_log10(labels = scales::dollar)
```

