1. ESPN CricInfo Cities with the best batting talent
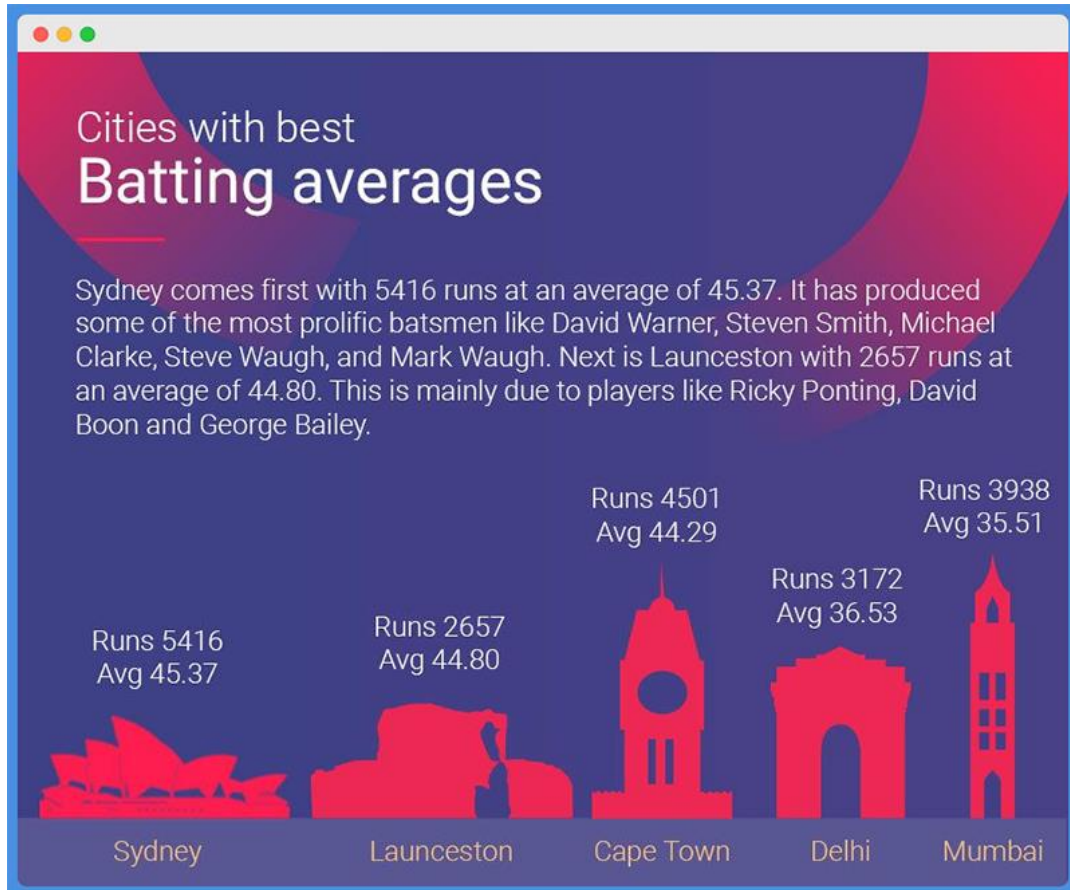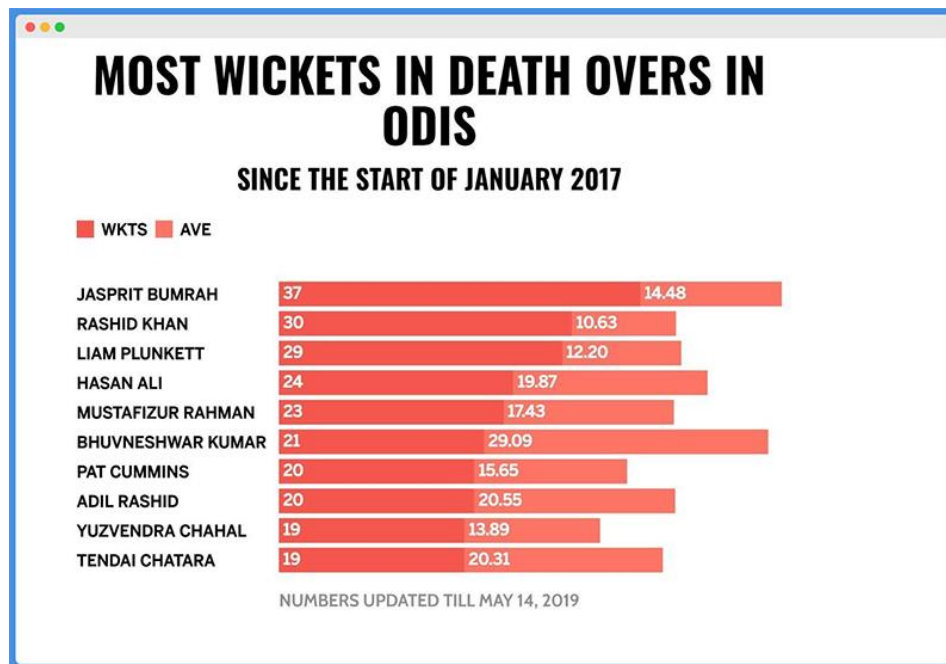

In 2019, ESPN CricInfo published an article on Which Top Cricket City Would Win the World Cup. Featured in it was the above data visualization that represented the cricket cities with the best batting averages.

Looking at the graphics, it's difficult to pick up any meaning from the data. To get an insight into what this visualization is all about, you'll have to read the written texts – before the graphics and the ones associated with it.

2. Most Wickets in Death Overs in Odis

MOST WICKETS IN DEATH OVERS IN ODIS

SINCE THE START OF JANUARY 2017

■ WKTS ■ AVE

	WKTS	AVE
JASPRIT BUMRAH	37	14.48
RASHID KHAN	30	10.63
LIAM PLUNKETT	29	12.20
HASAN ALI	24	19.87
MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN	23	17.43
BHUVNESHWAR KUMAR	21	29.09
PAT CUMMINS	20	15.65
ADIL RASHID	20	20.55
YUZVENDRA CHAHAL	19	13.89
TENDAI CHATARA	19	20.31

NUMBERS UPDATED TILL MAY 14, 2019

The above data visualization is a relatively simple one. However, it is bad because of one major thing; the color.

The bar chart represents the wickets and batting averages of cricket players. Both wicket and average are represented in orange. Although the average is of a lighter shade, you can easily miss the color differences. When making such a chart, a good color to use in contrasting orange is blue.

3. BBC Avocado Toast Index

How many avocado toasts does it take to afford a deposit on a house?

BBC capital

APARTMENT PRICE	MEXICO CITY	JOHANNESBURG
Avg price for 90m² outside city centre	$85,883	$69,364

AVOCADO TOASTS TO REACH DEPOSIT

20% of the apartment price

🟩 = 100 avocado toasts

3,123 avocado toasts

3,964 avocado toasts

AVOCADO TOAST PRICE

Avg price in restaurants

Mexico City ————————— $5.50

Johannesburg ————————— $3.50

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The above data visualization doesn't tell you anything important. There are up to 5 of them, and the interpreted data was shared between all five graphics. Therefore, to comprehend the data, you must consult all five graphics.

The visualization is about How Many Avocado Toasts Does It Take To Afford A Deposit On A House. Ten cities are used in the study – Mexico City, Johannesburg, Berlin, Tokyo, New York, Sydney, Vancouver, San Francisco, Hong Kong, and London.

Conversely, two cities are used for each graphic. Despite this, it's difficult to grasp what each of the five graphics is talking about.

4. Walt Disney's Companies Worldwide Assets
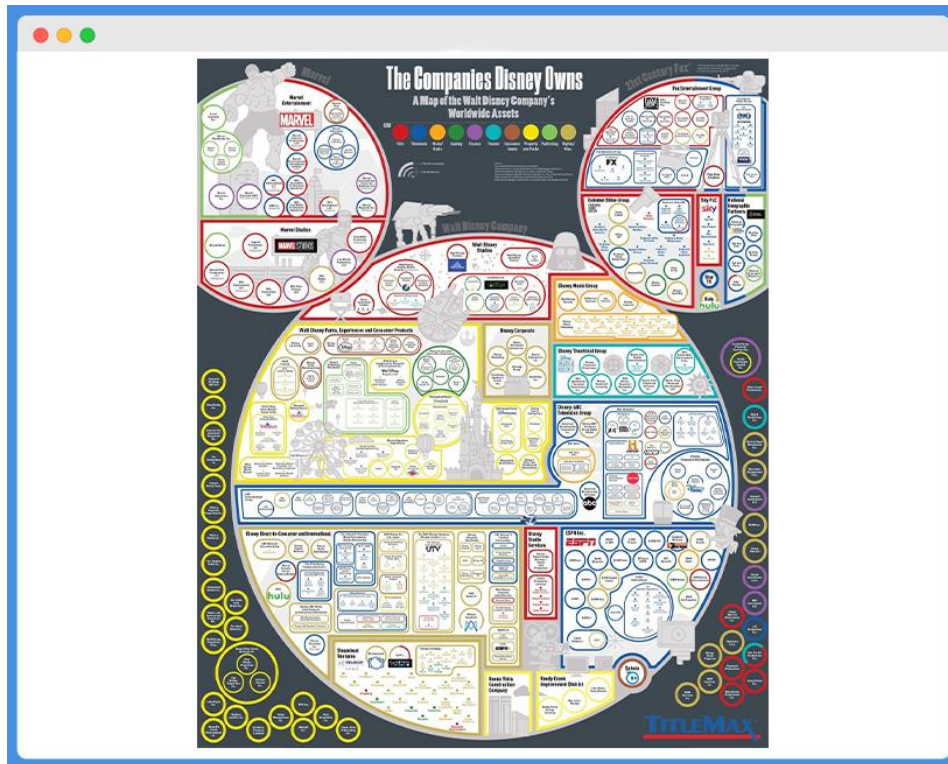
Walt Disney has worldwide assets totaling close to $200 billion. If you want to know every company Disney owns, it's easier to read about it than consulting this infographic by Titlemax. The infographic is a definition of bad data visualization.

This should be highly informative and valuable data visualization if it were not so large and complicated. There is so much information to include, and the designer didn't do so well with his choice of font size, line weight, circle sizes, etc.

Mickey Mouse's shape (one of Walt Disney's most popular characters) is featured, which brings about 3 different circle sizes. Viewers can easily discern that the companies in the larger circle are most important which isn't so true.

Also, it makes it seem the companies in smaller circles outside the Mickey Mouse frame are less important. Furthermore, the yellow on white color combination is never ideal to use.

5. The Economist, Why ticket prices on long-haul flights have plummeted
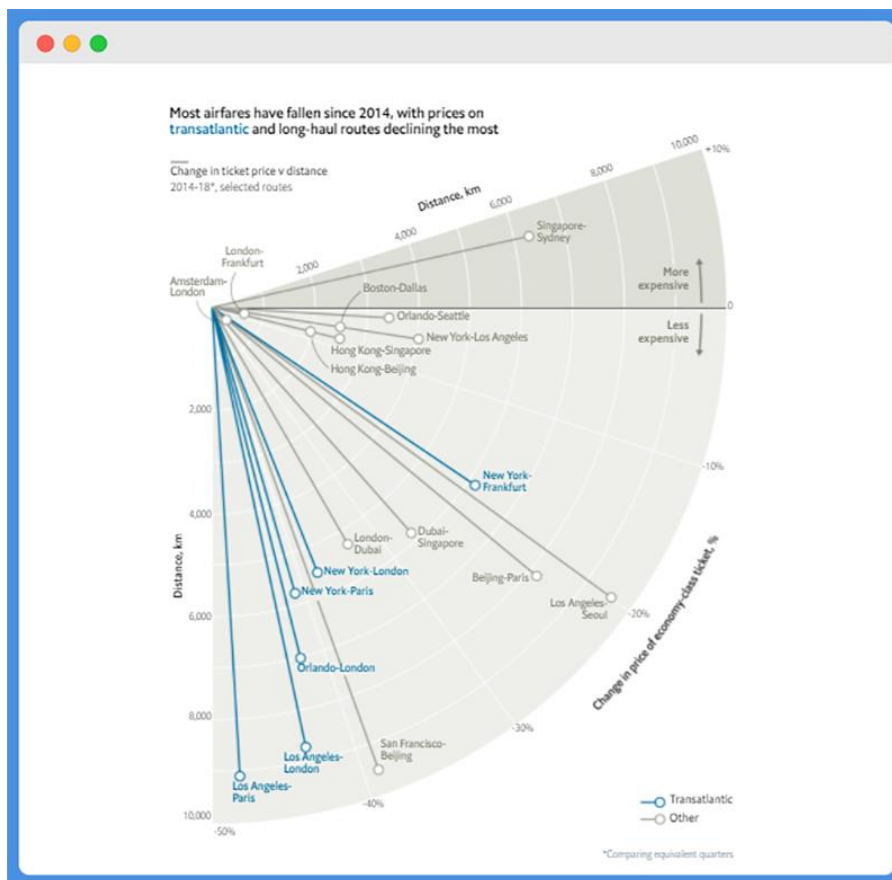
The Economist isn't a publication you would expect a bad data visualization example from but here's one. The core here is the featured protractor.

You would expect to grasp a relationship between long-haul flights and their ticket prices. However, what you get are overlapping lines such that differentiation is a problem.

The protractor features two lines. The blue-colored lines are for transatlantic flights while the ash-colored lines are for other flights. There are three axes with two being Distance in Km and the other, Change in price of economy-class tickets.

Since the length of the lines depends on the flight's distance, some lines are terse. Hence, it's difficult to trace them to grasp the percentage change in ticket prices. Furthermore, the actual prices of the flight tickets are not pointed out.