

# Analysis and Visualisation with NetworkX and Altair

## Week 2: Altair

11 December 2020

# Course Topics

Week 1: Network Analysis

**Week 2: Data Visualisation**

# Data Visualization: A Recap

Visually encoding data with:

- Shape
- Color
- Position
- Texture or pattern

Static, dynamic, or interactive

# Data Visualization: A Recap

Data can be:

- Continuous
- Discrete
- Nominal
- Ordinal
- Categorical

# Working with Data: A Recap

Data are summaries.

Data reflect power distributions in society.

Data about people represent only a select characteristic or set of characteristics about people. A person cannot be fully known through their data.

# Assignment

Watch a video by Hans Rosling, one of the creators of Gapminder and the author of Factfulness

Pick a chart from Our World In Data and answer questions about how it visually encodes information

Create your own charts in Altair

*You can start from the Notebook demoed today!*

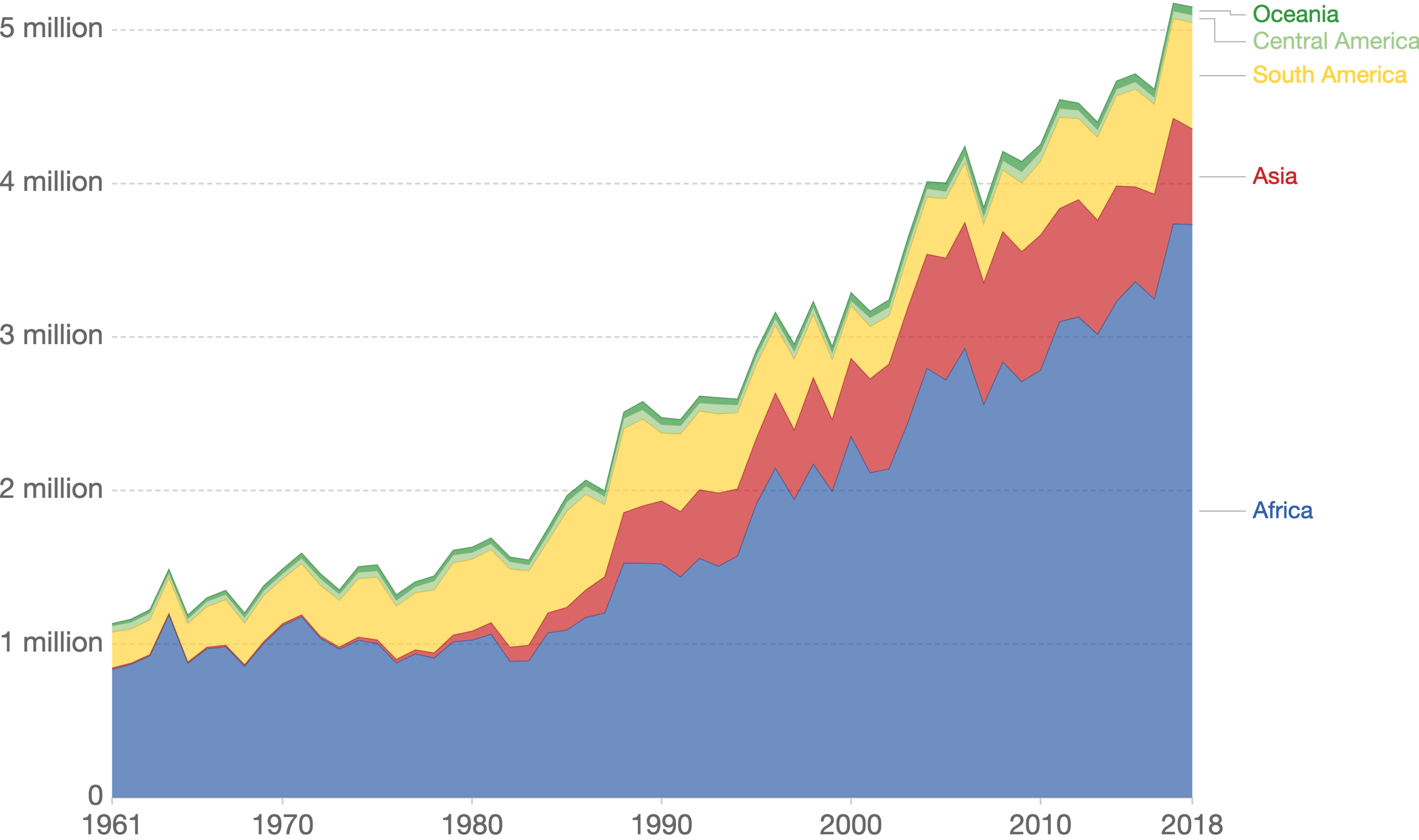
**How did it go?**

**SHARE  
BACK**



# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



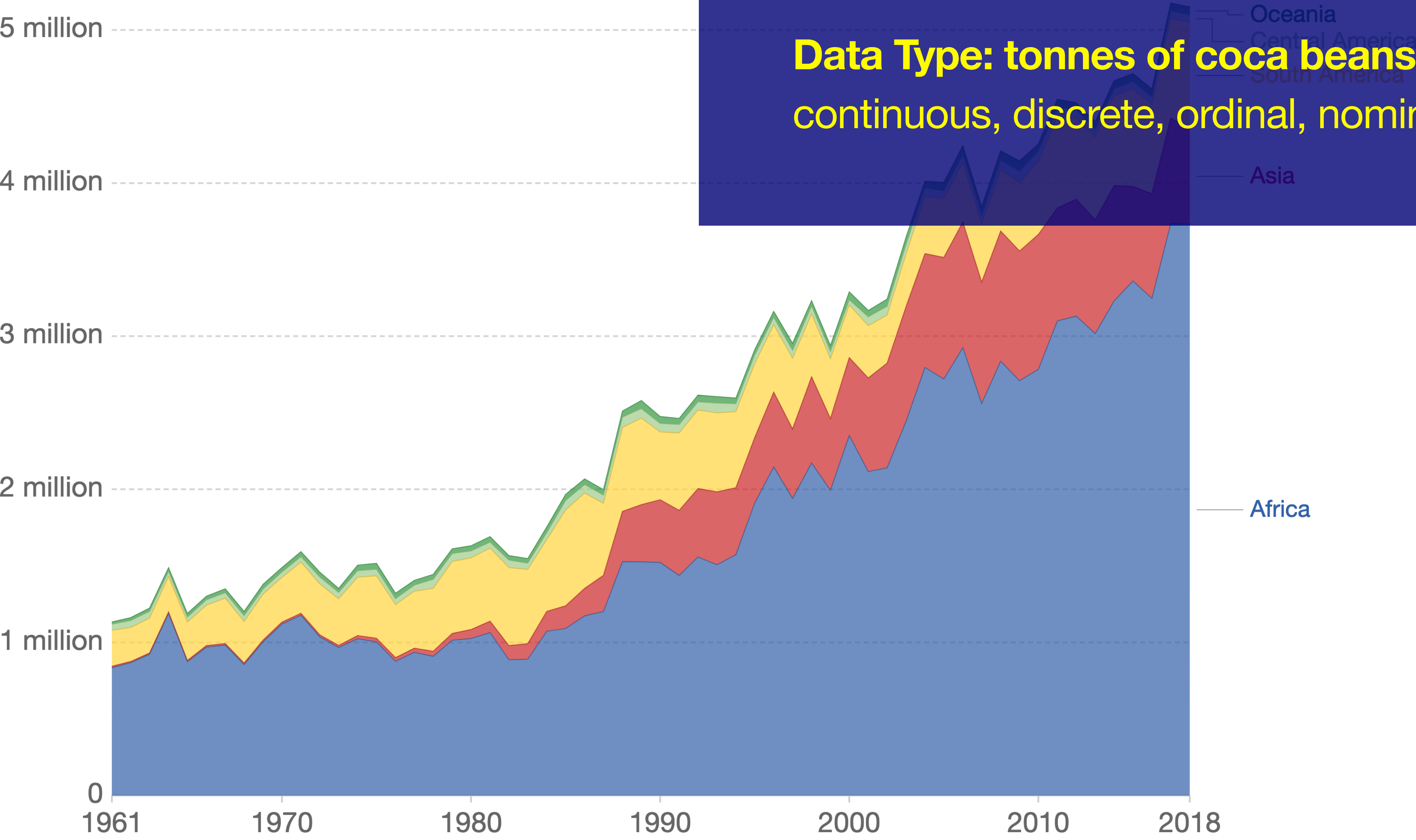
Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

CC BY

Reference:  
[ourworldindata.org/  
grapher/cocoa-beans-  
production-by-region](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cocoa-beans-production-by-region)

# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

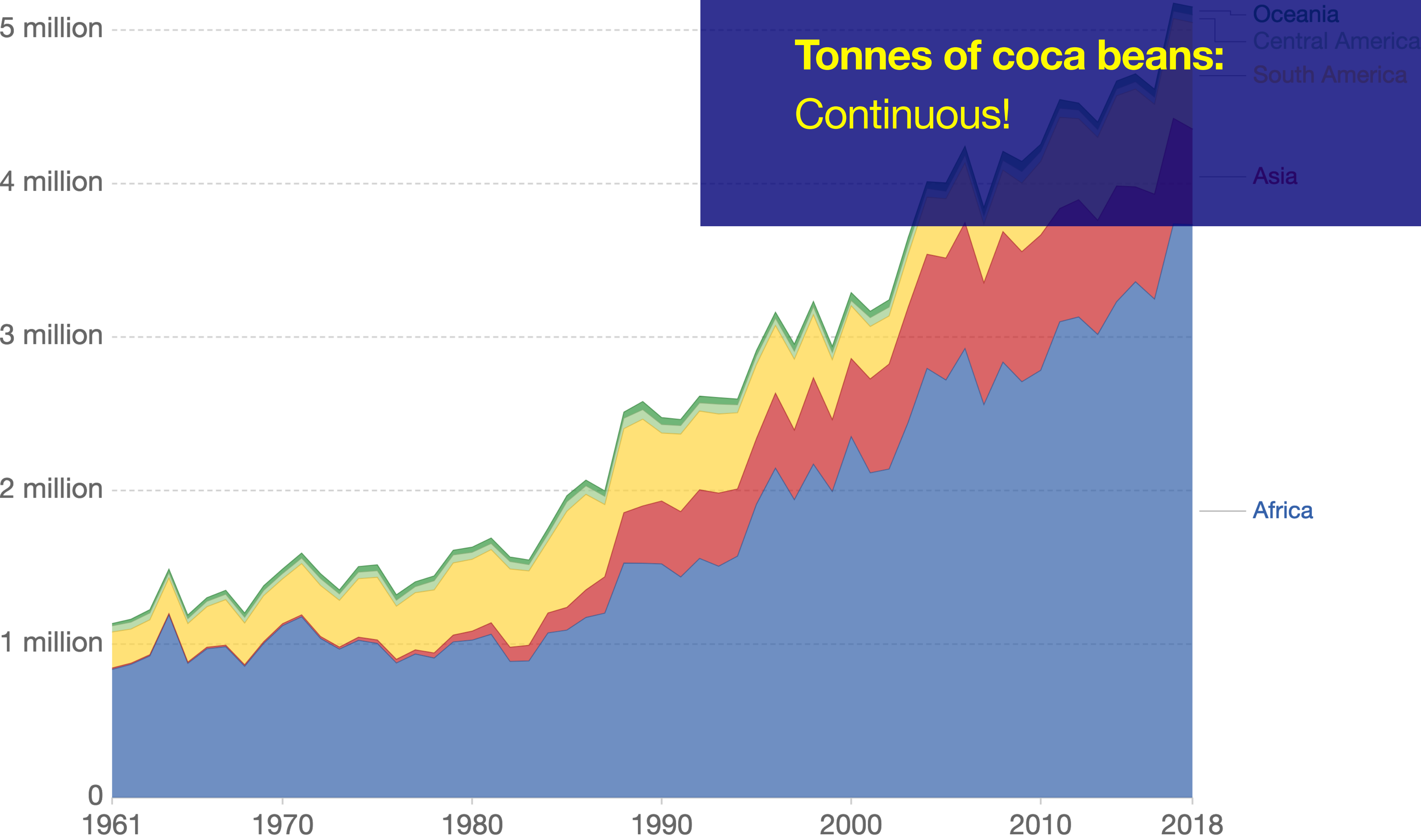
Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



**Data Type: tonnes of coca beans**  
continuous, discrete, ordinal, nominal, or categorical?

# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

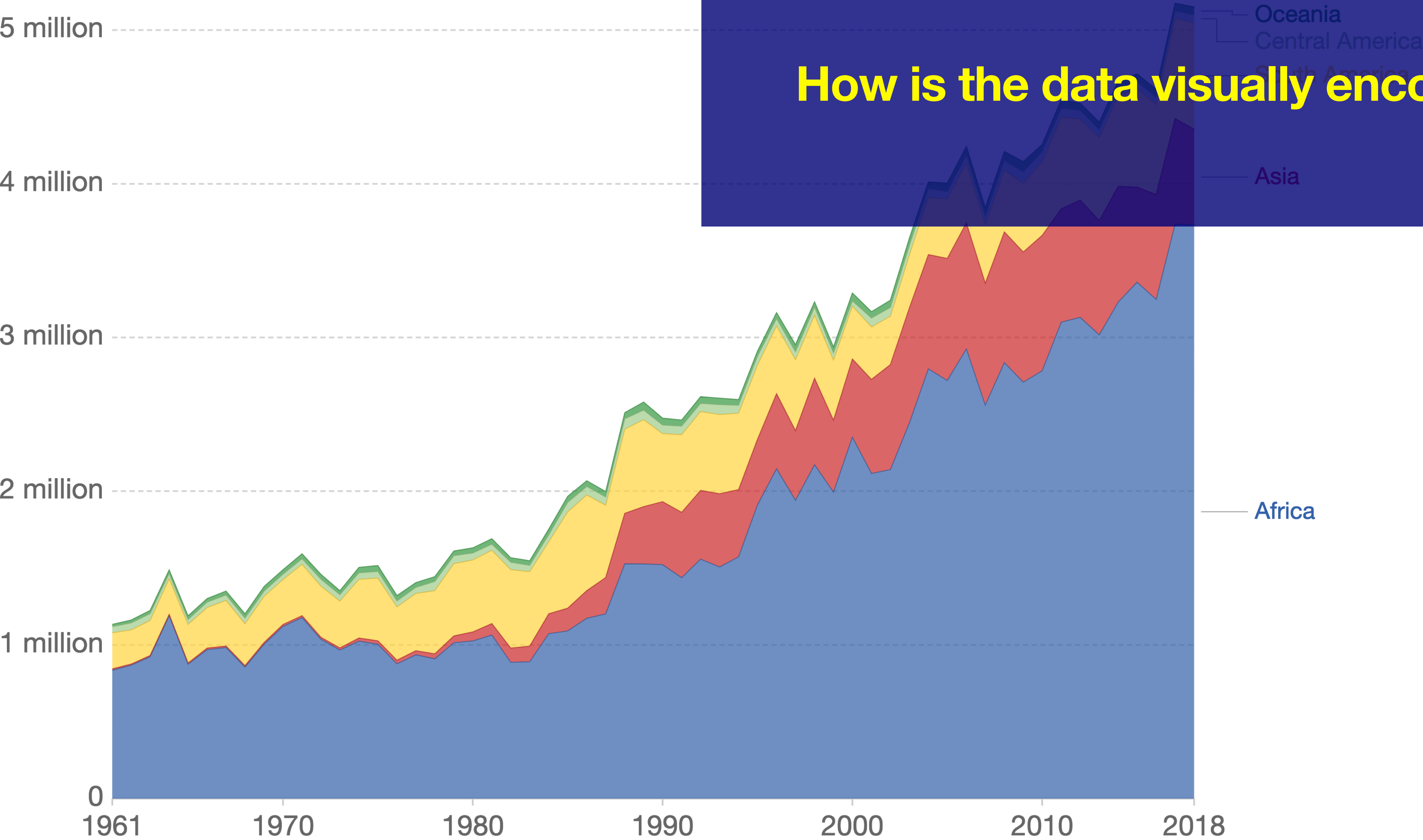
Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



**Tonnes of coca beans:  
Continuous!**

# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



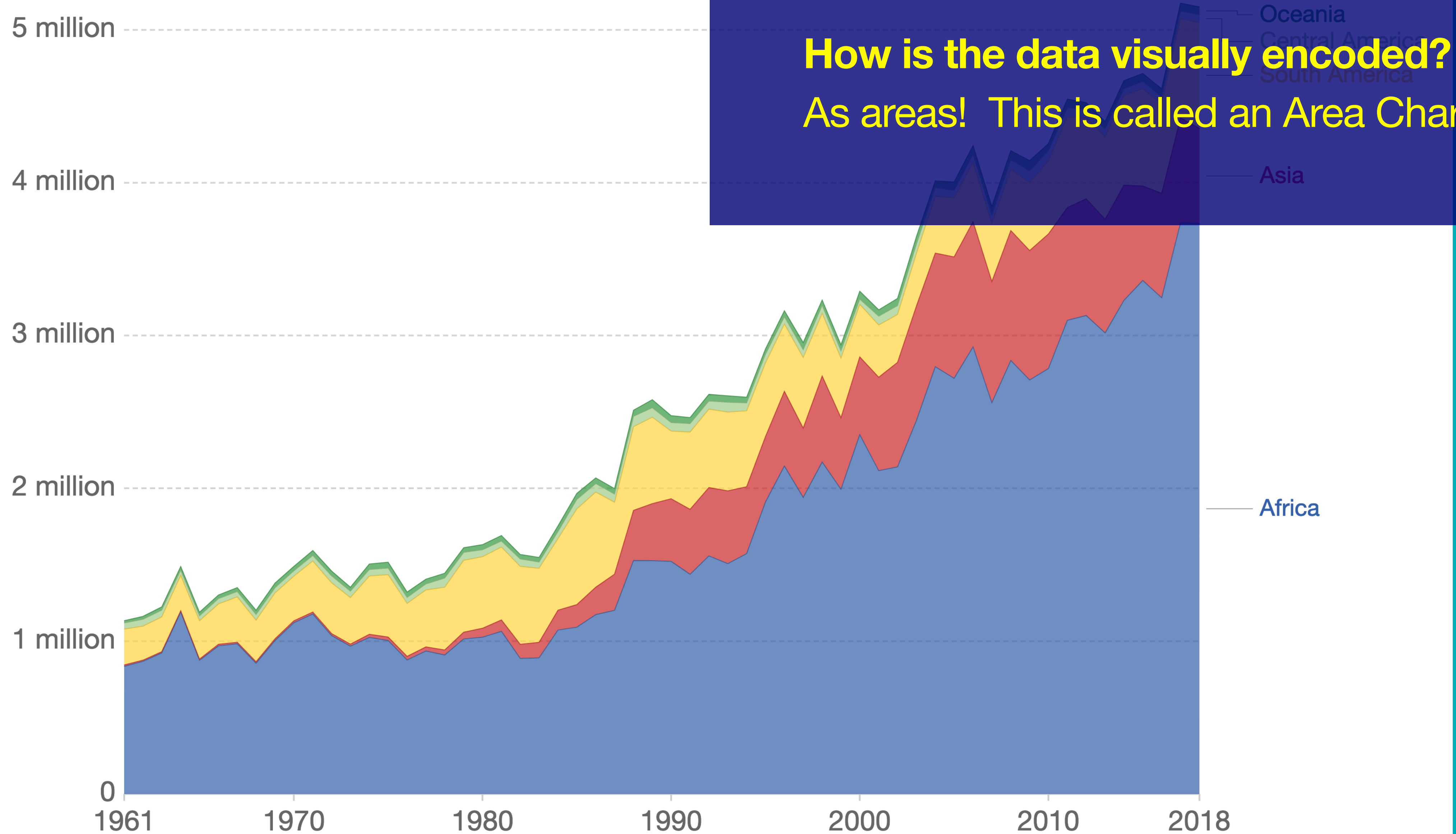
How is the data visually encoded?



# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.

Our World  
in Data



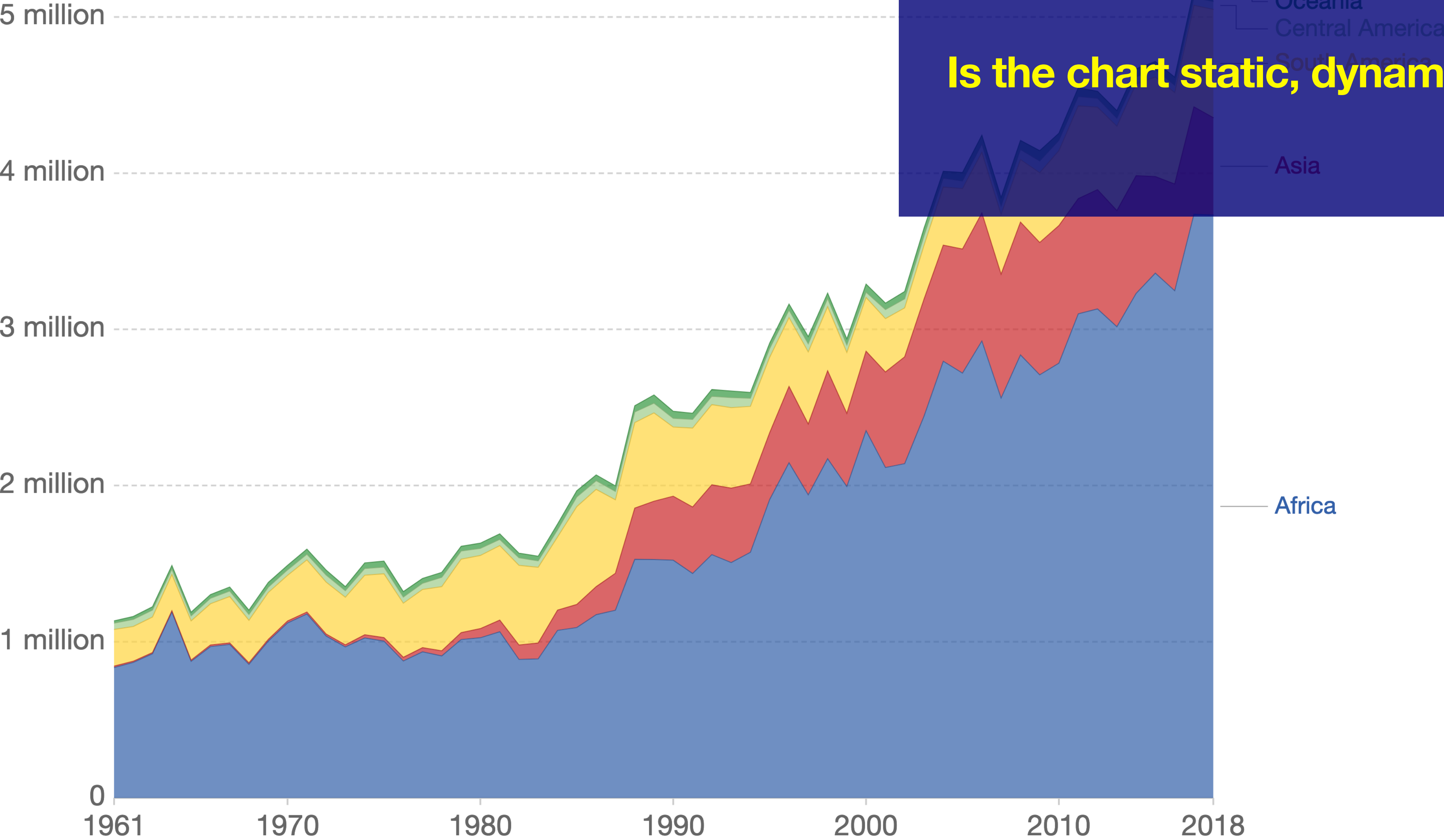
Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

CC BY

Reference:  
[ourworldindata.org/  
grapher/cocoa-beans-  
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# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

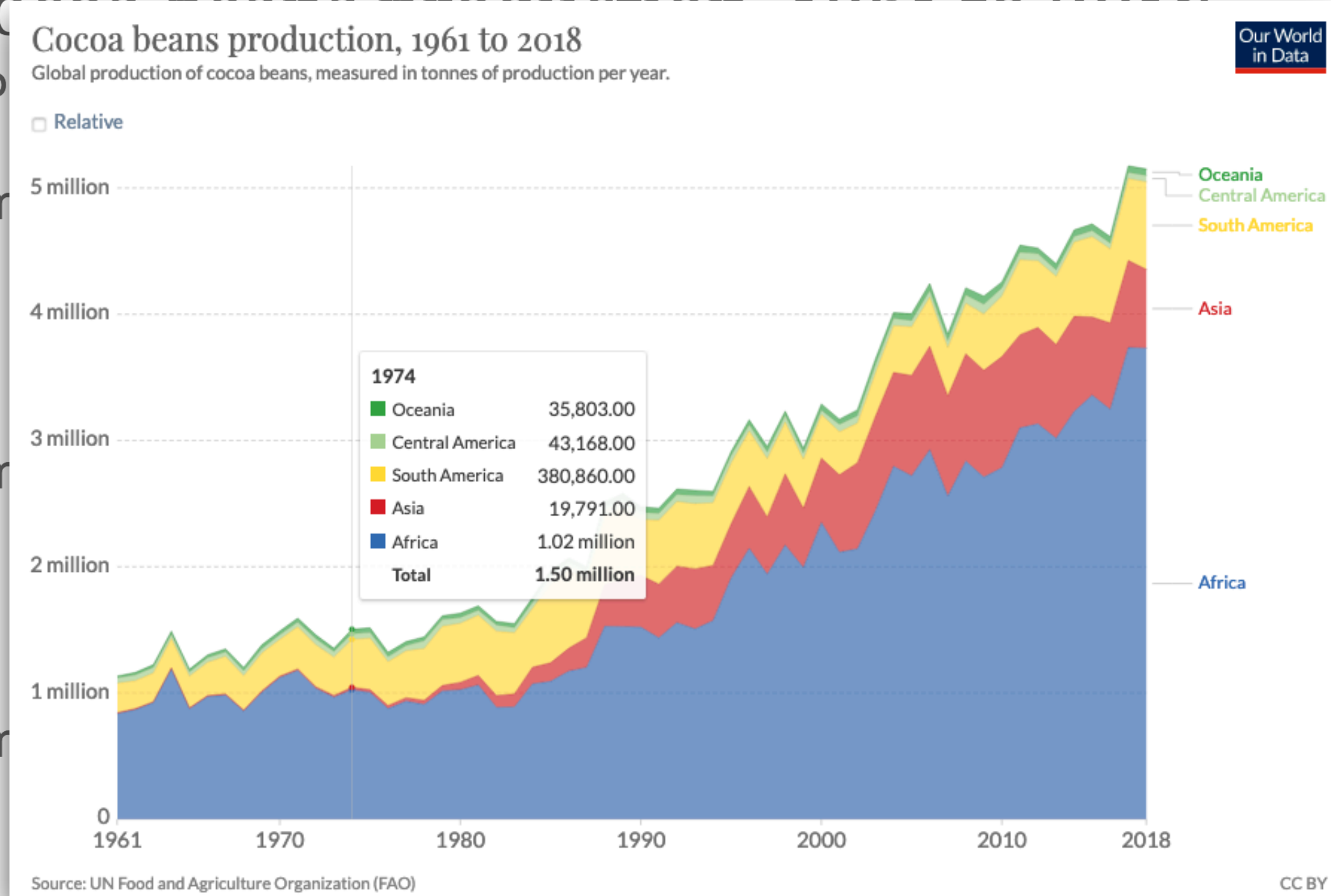
Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



Is the chart static, dynamic, or interactive?

# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



er year.

Is the chart static, dynamic, or interactive?  
Dynamic and interactive!

2 million

1 million

0

1961 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2018

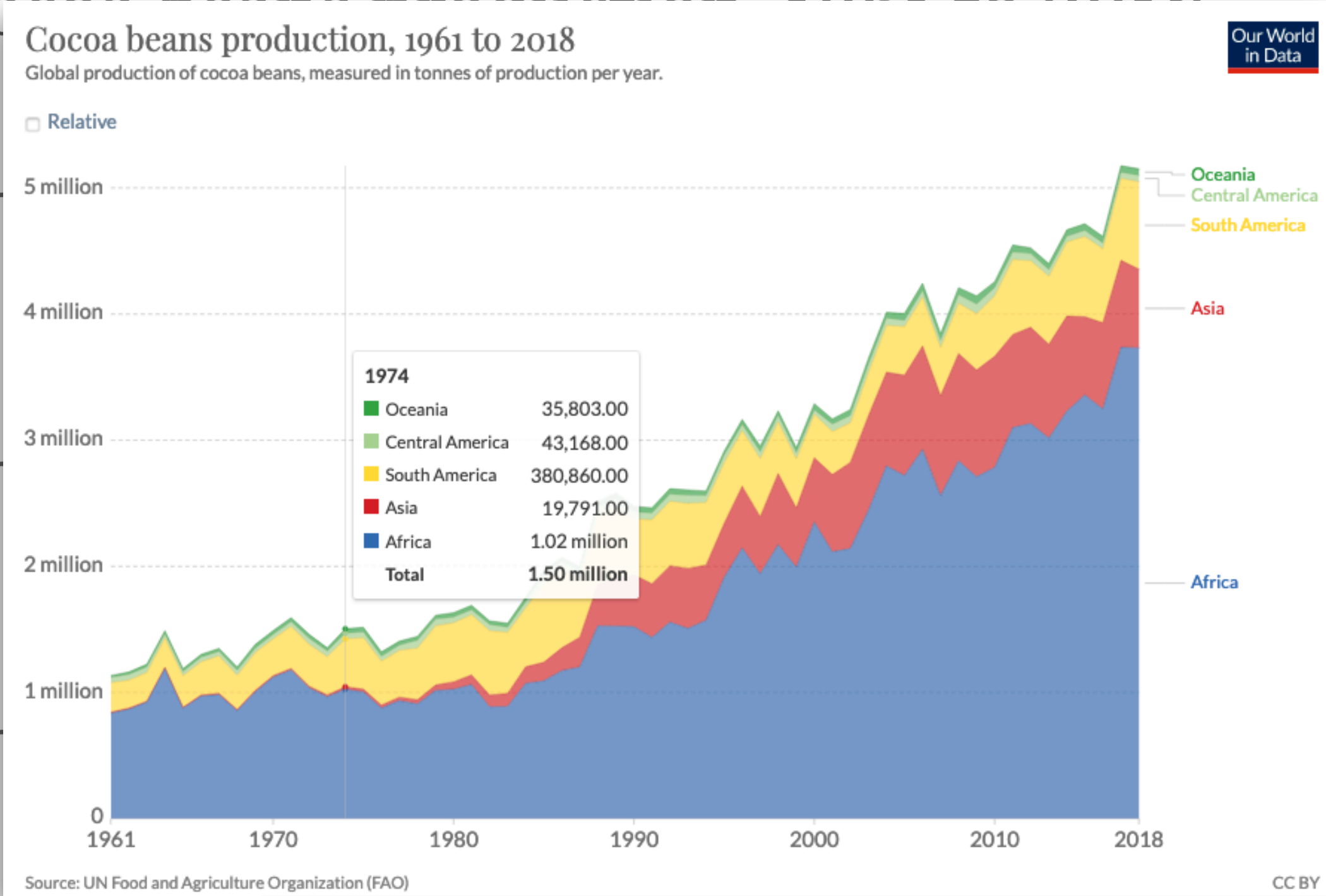
Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

CC BY

Reference:  
[ourworldindata.org/  
grapher/cocoa-beans-  
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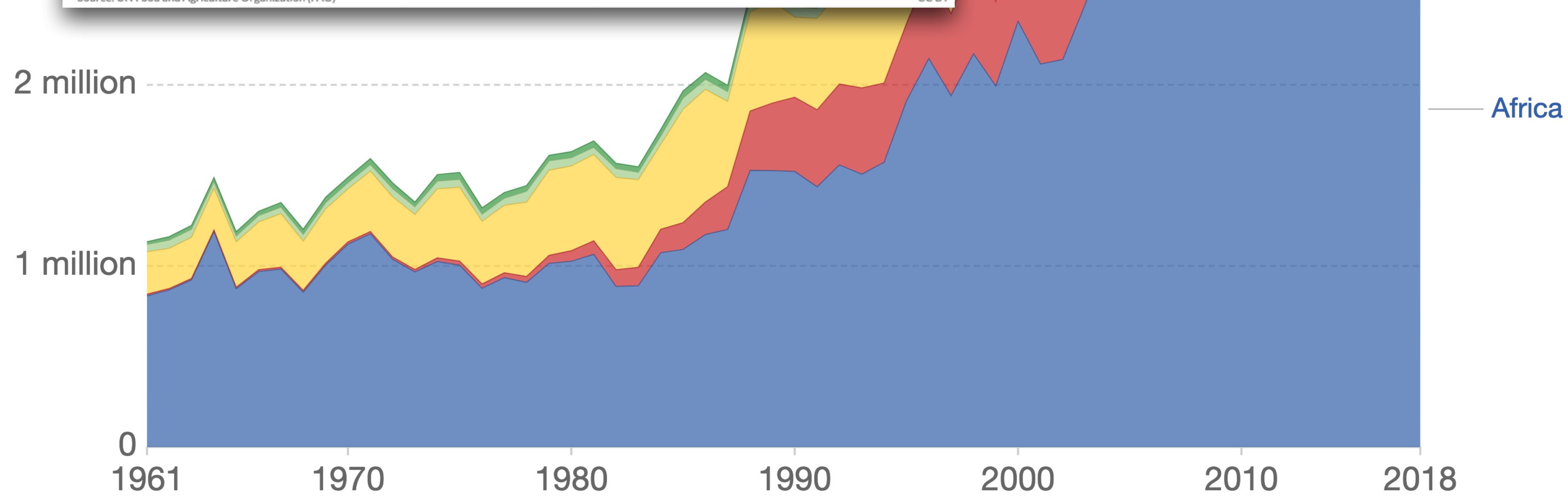
# Cocoa beans production, 1961 to 2018

Global production of cocoa beans, measured in tonnes of production per year.



er year.

What changes in the chart when you interact with it?

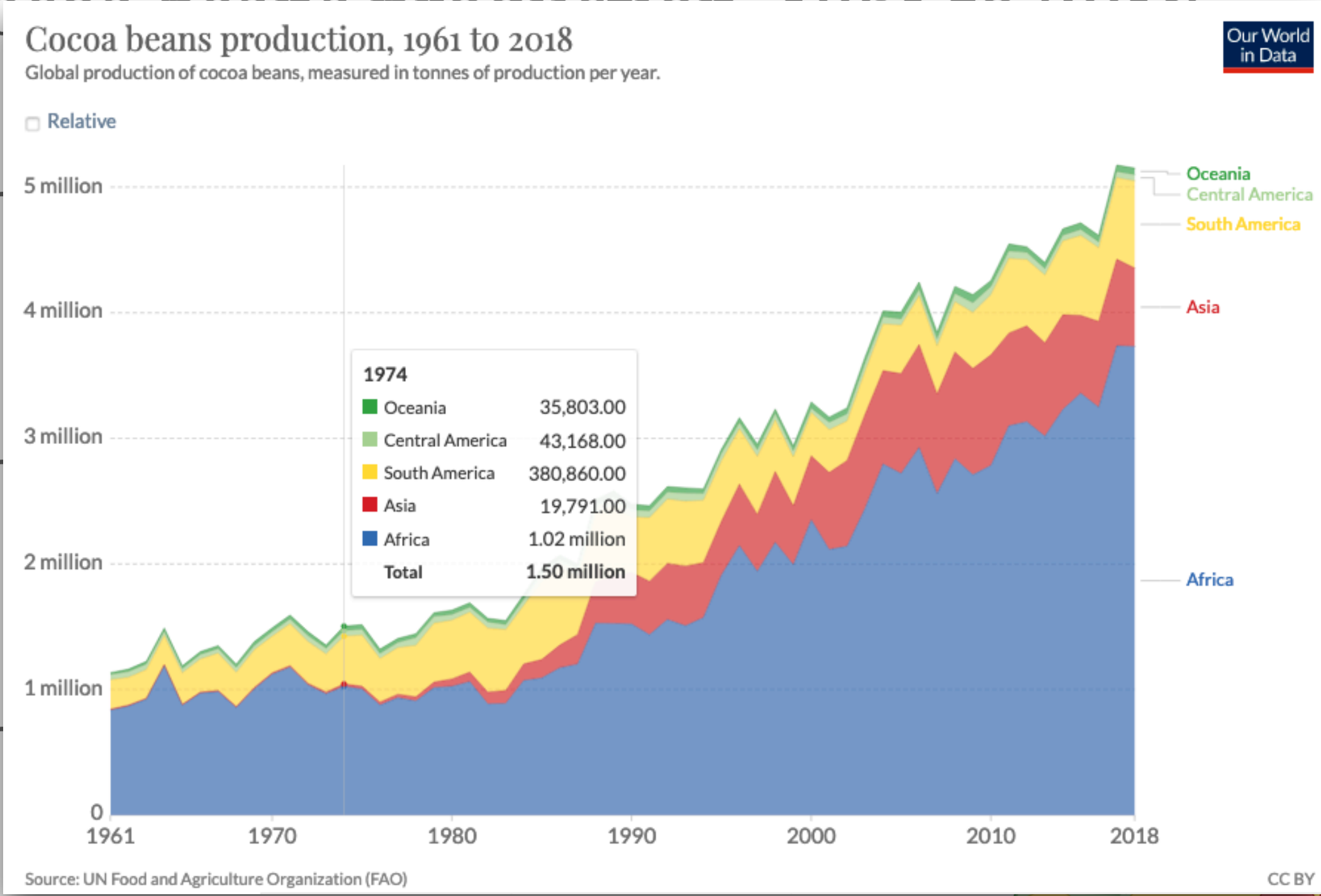




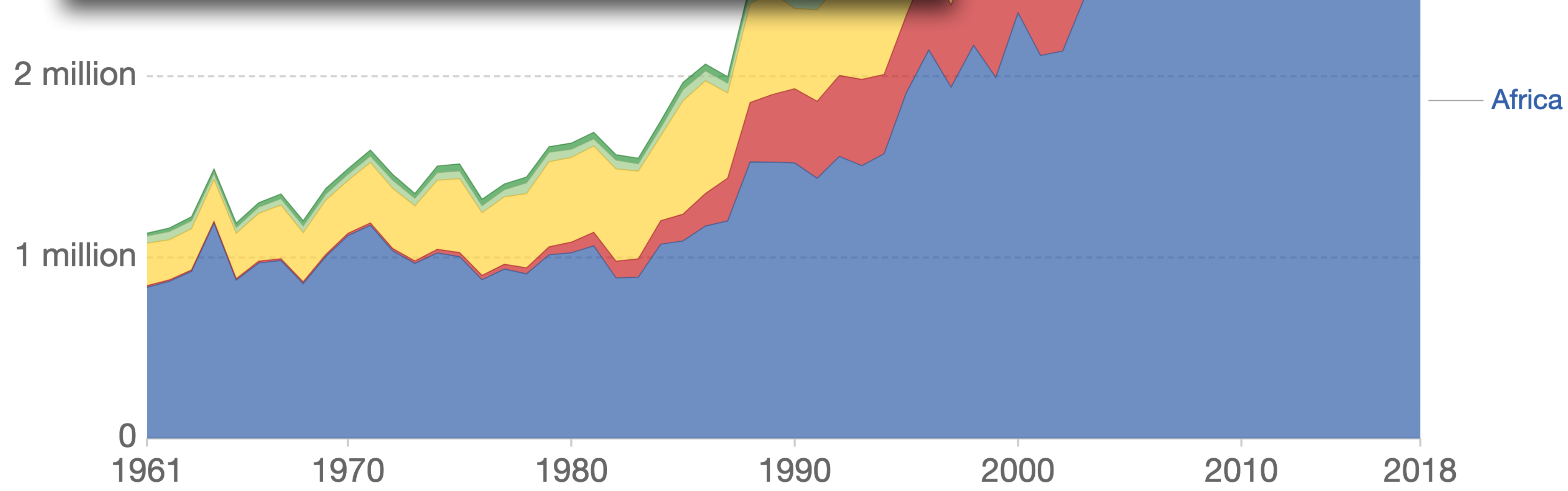
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Our World  
in Data



er year.



Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

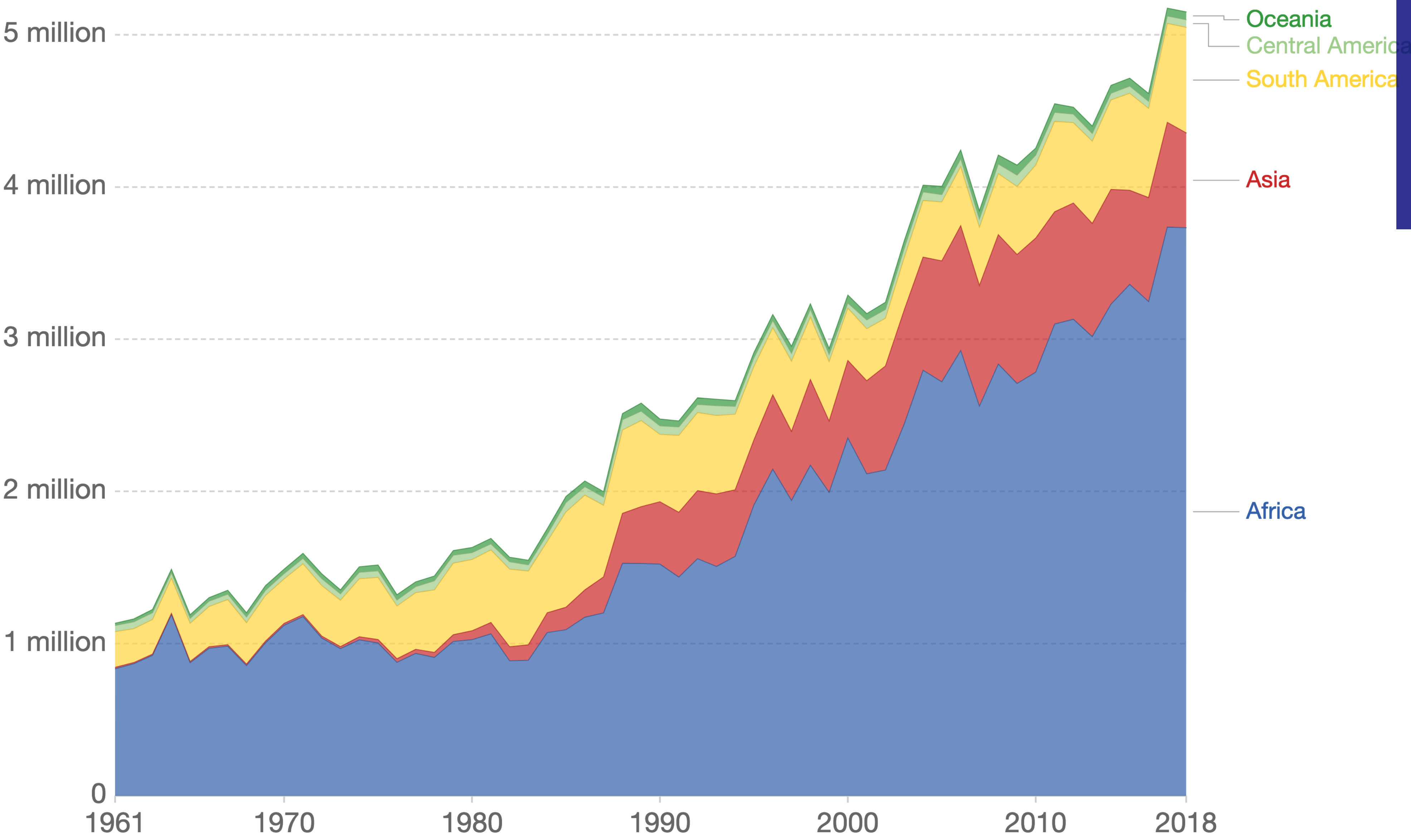
CC BY

Reference:  
[ourworldindata.org/  
grapher/cocoa-beans-  
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What does the  
chart tell you?

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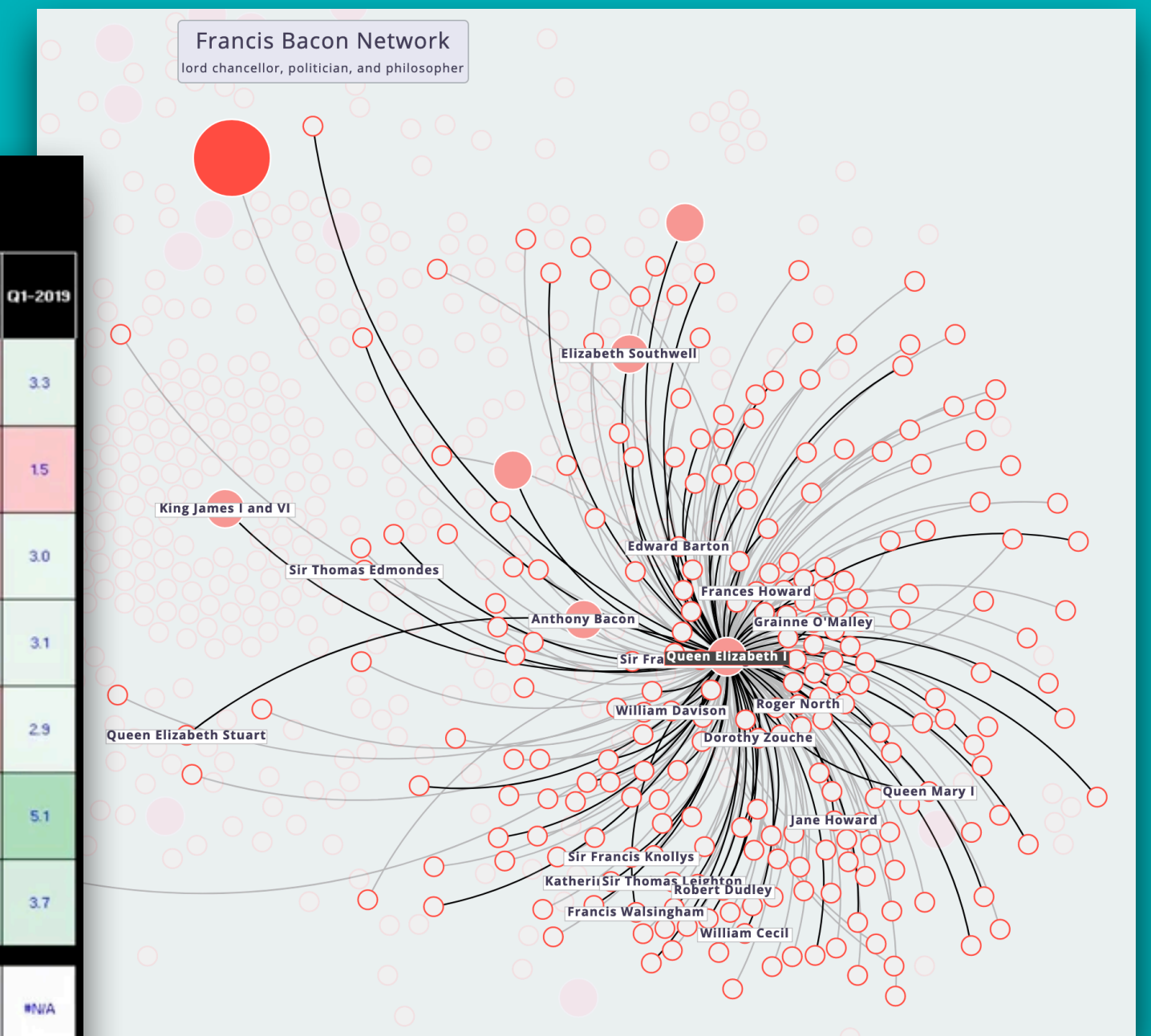
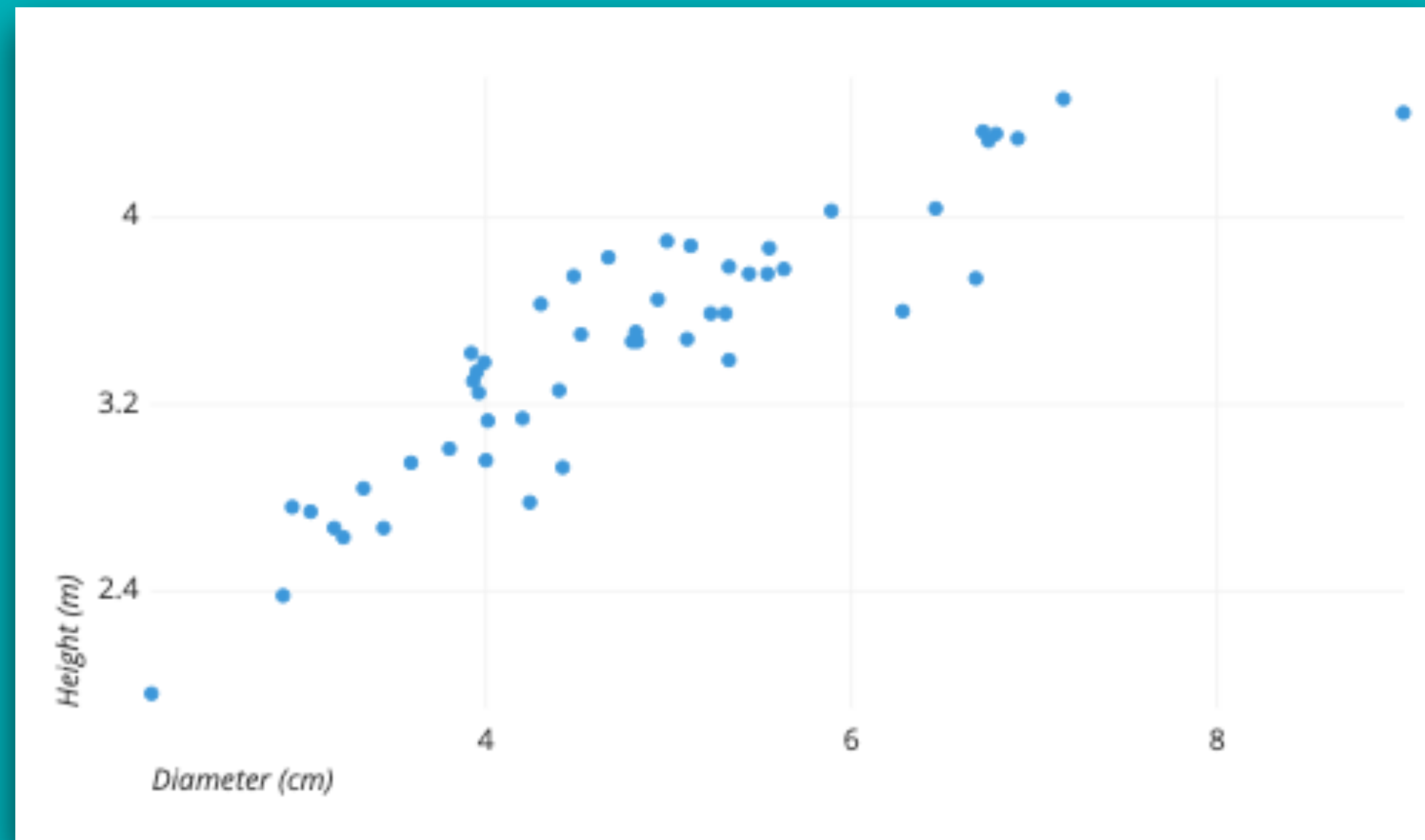
Reference:  
[ourworldindata.org/  
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production-by-region](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cocoa-beans-production-by-region)

# How to Choose the Visualization for Your Data



# Do you want to analyze relationships?

Consider scatter plots, heat maps, and networks



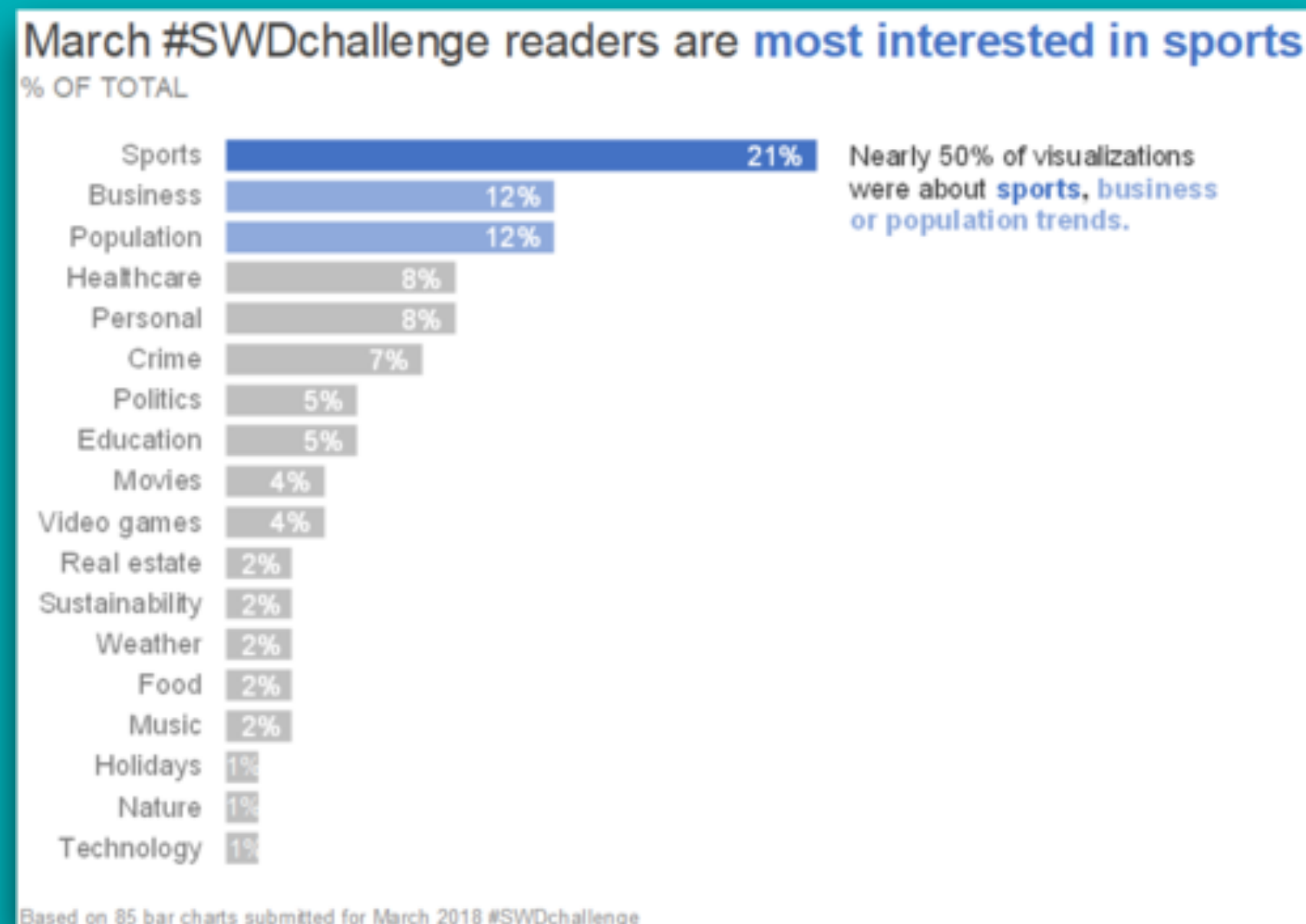
<https://chartio.com/learn/charts/what-is-a-scatter-plot/>

<https://www.bloomberg.com/professional/blog/heatmap-shows-economy-humming-pre-purge-clip/>

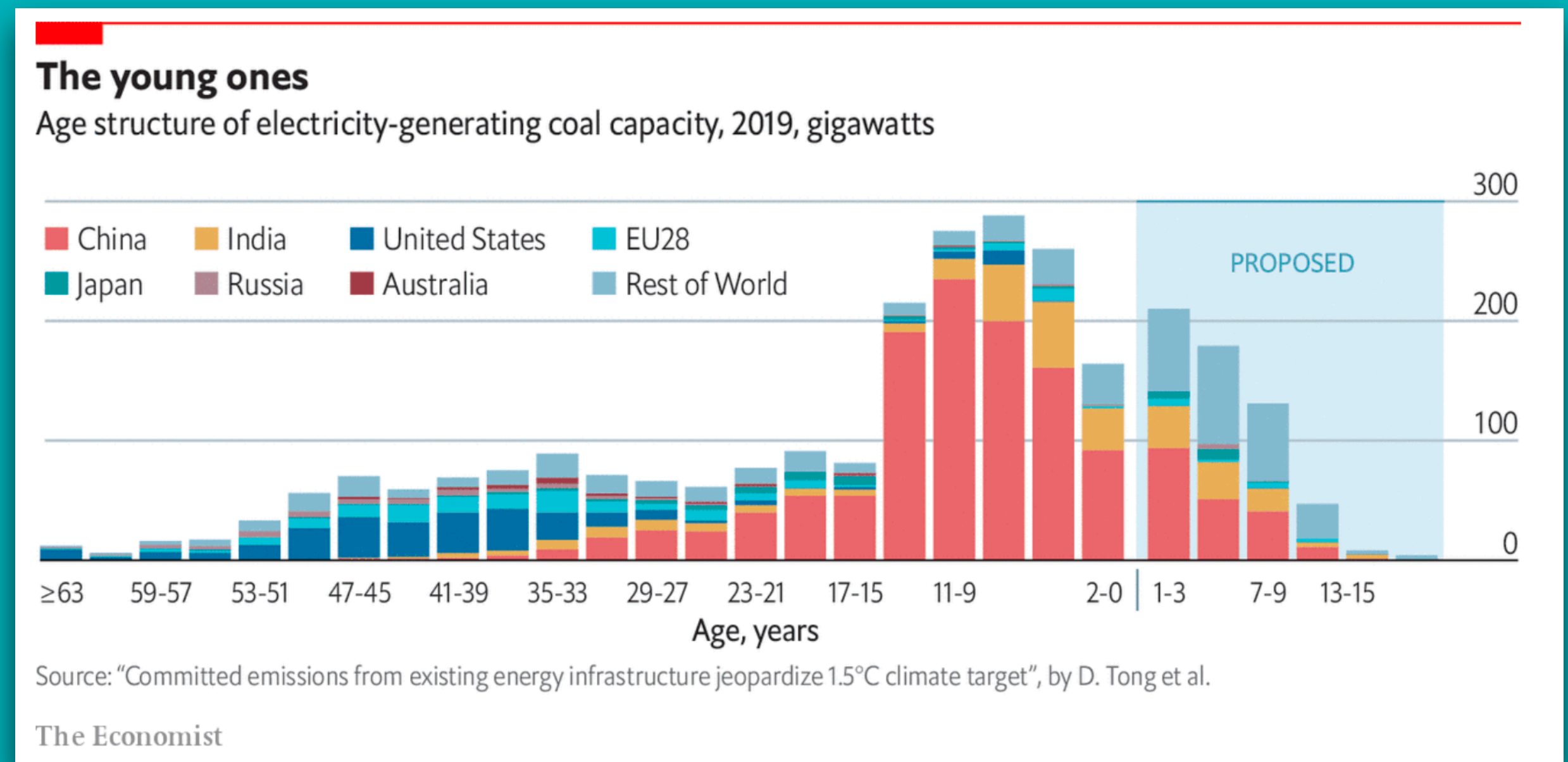
[http://www.sixdegreesoffrancisbacon.com/?ids=10000473&min\\_confidence=60&type=network](http://www.sixdegreesoffrancisbacon.com/?ids=10000473&min_confidence=60&type=network)

# Do you want to **rank** or **compare quantities**?

Consider bar charts – horizontal, vertical, and stacked!



<http://www.storytellingwithdata.com/blog/2018/3/9/bring-on-the-bar-charts>

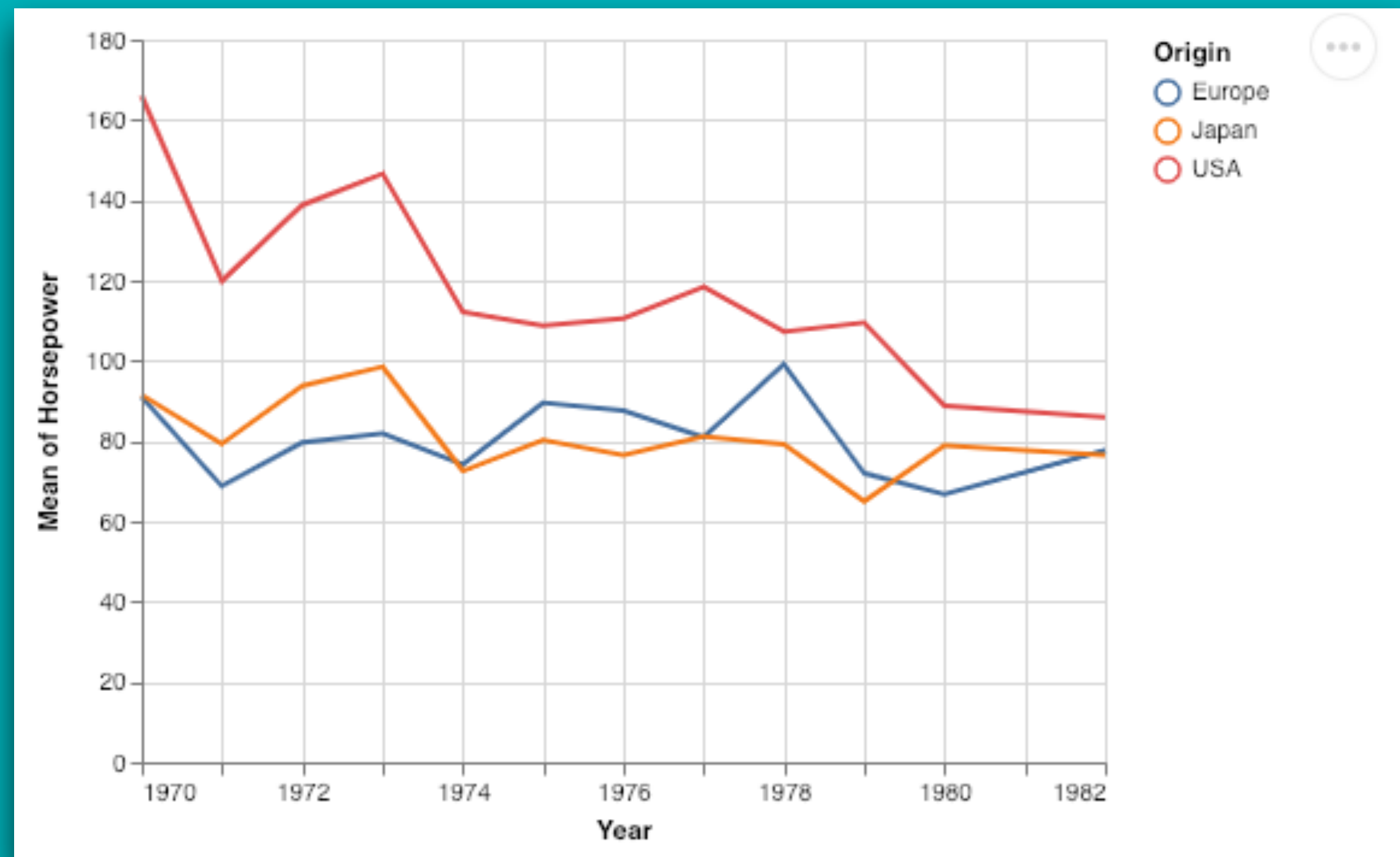


<https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/2020/12/04/dethroning-king-coal>

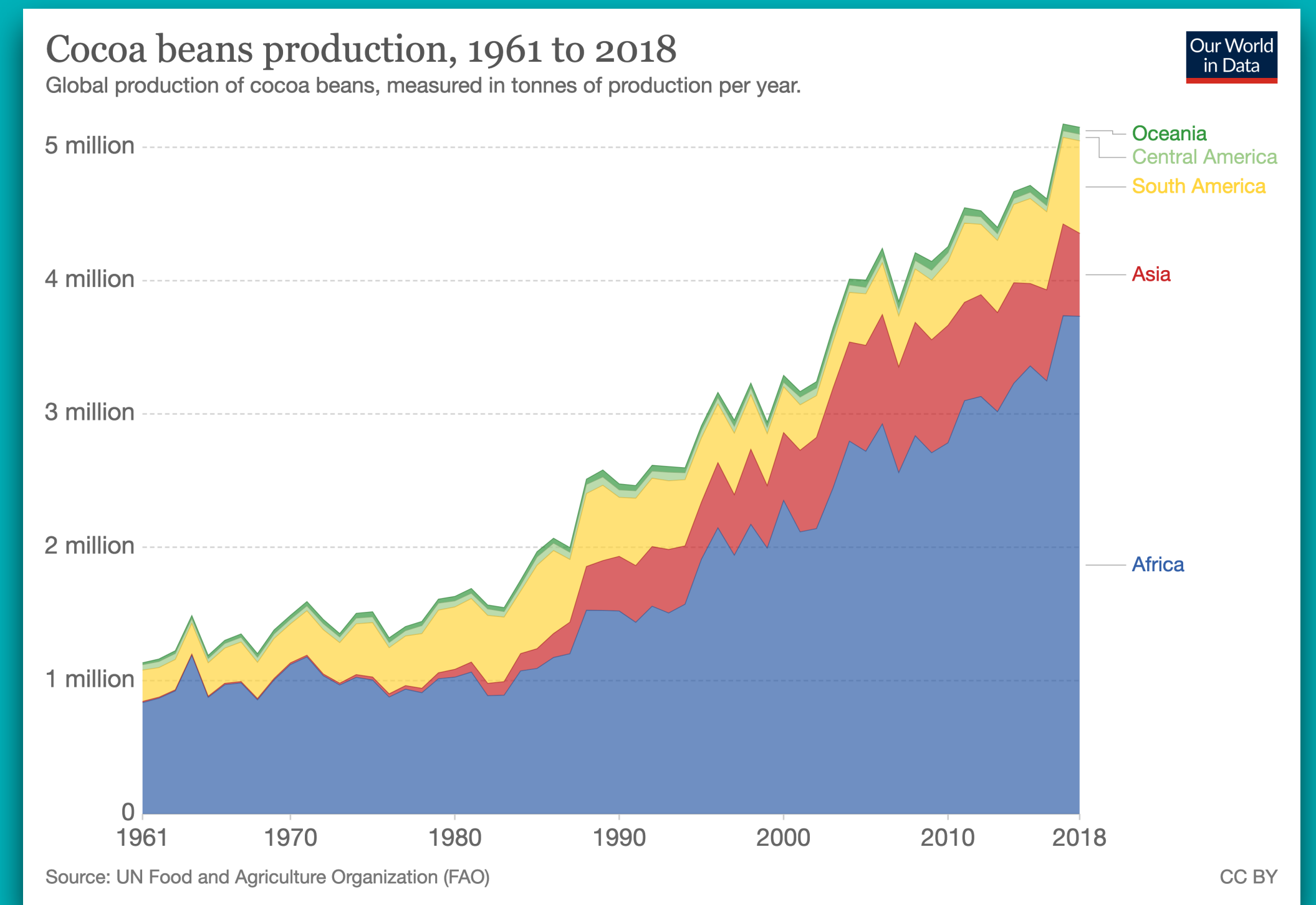


# Do you want to look at data over time?

Consider line graphs and area charts



<https://medium.com/analytics-vidhya/exploratory-data-visualisation-with-altair-b8d85494795c>



[ourworldindata.org/grapher/cocoa-beans-production-by-region](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cocoa-beans-production-by-region)

**DEMO**

*bar & line graphs*

# Choosing the Right Visualization for Your Data

For further guidance...

**Visualization Cheat Sheets**

<https://visualizationcheatsheets.github.io/relative.html>



Choosing among **30 types** of data visualizations!

<https://towardsdatascience.com/data-visualization-how-to-choose-the-right-chart-part-1-d4c550085ea7>



# Principles of Good Data Viz. Design

Meaningful chart titles, axes labels, and legends

Not visualizing more than about 5 data characteristics at once

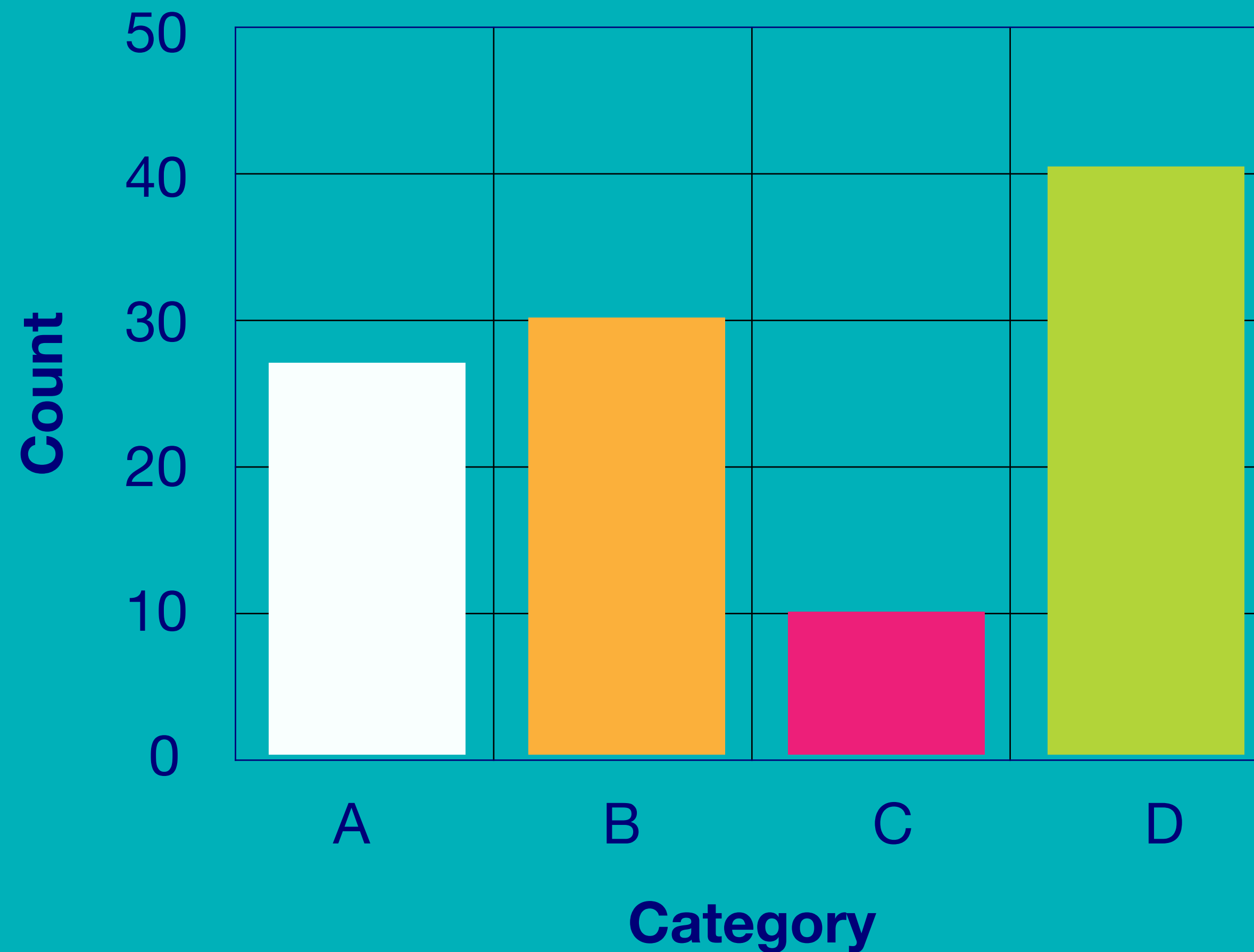
Use color-blind friendly palettes as much as possible

Traceable changes in interactive or dynamic charts

Minimize the **data:ink ratio** - removing grids and adding labels

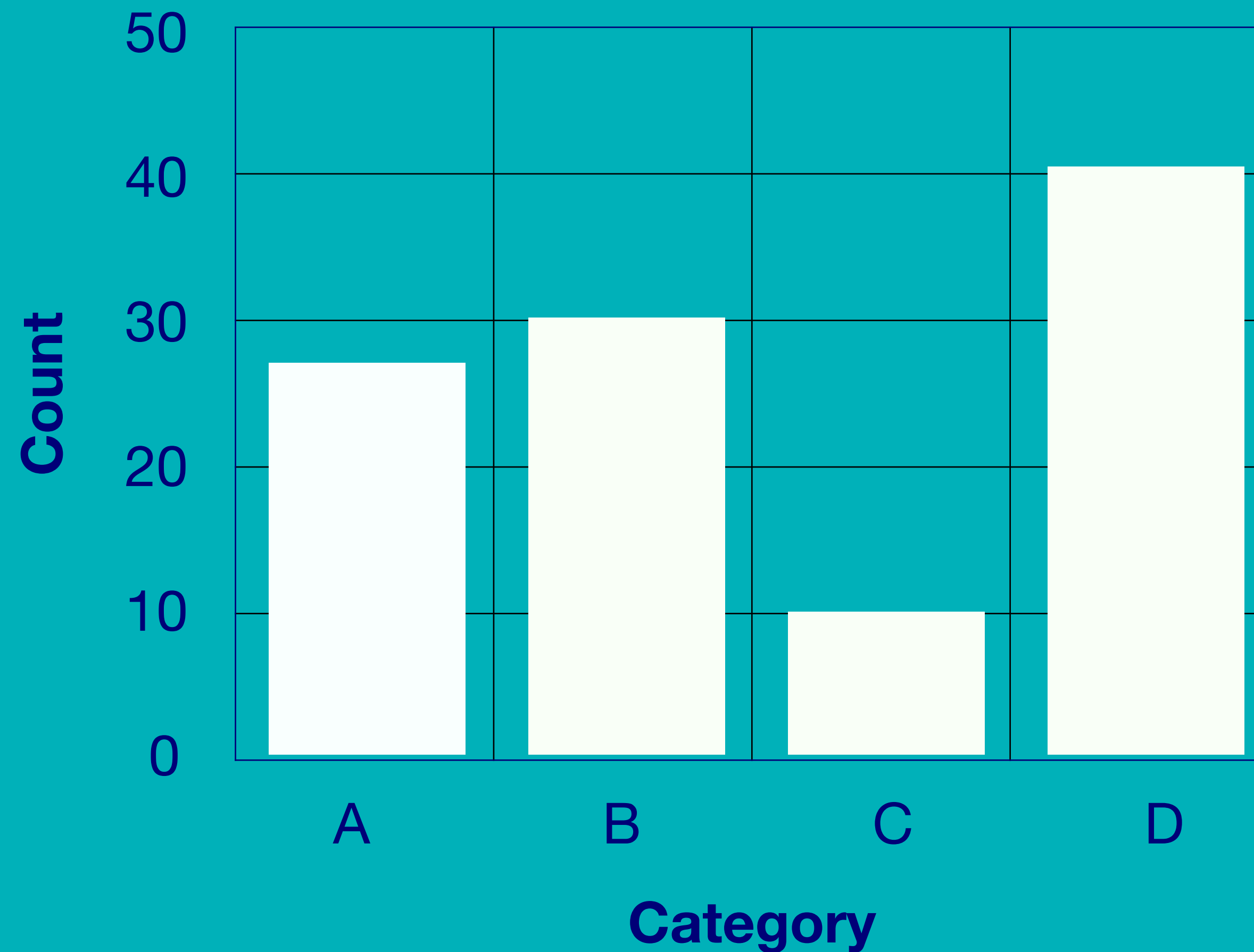
# The Data:Ink Ratio

A Sample Chart



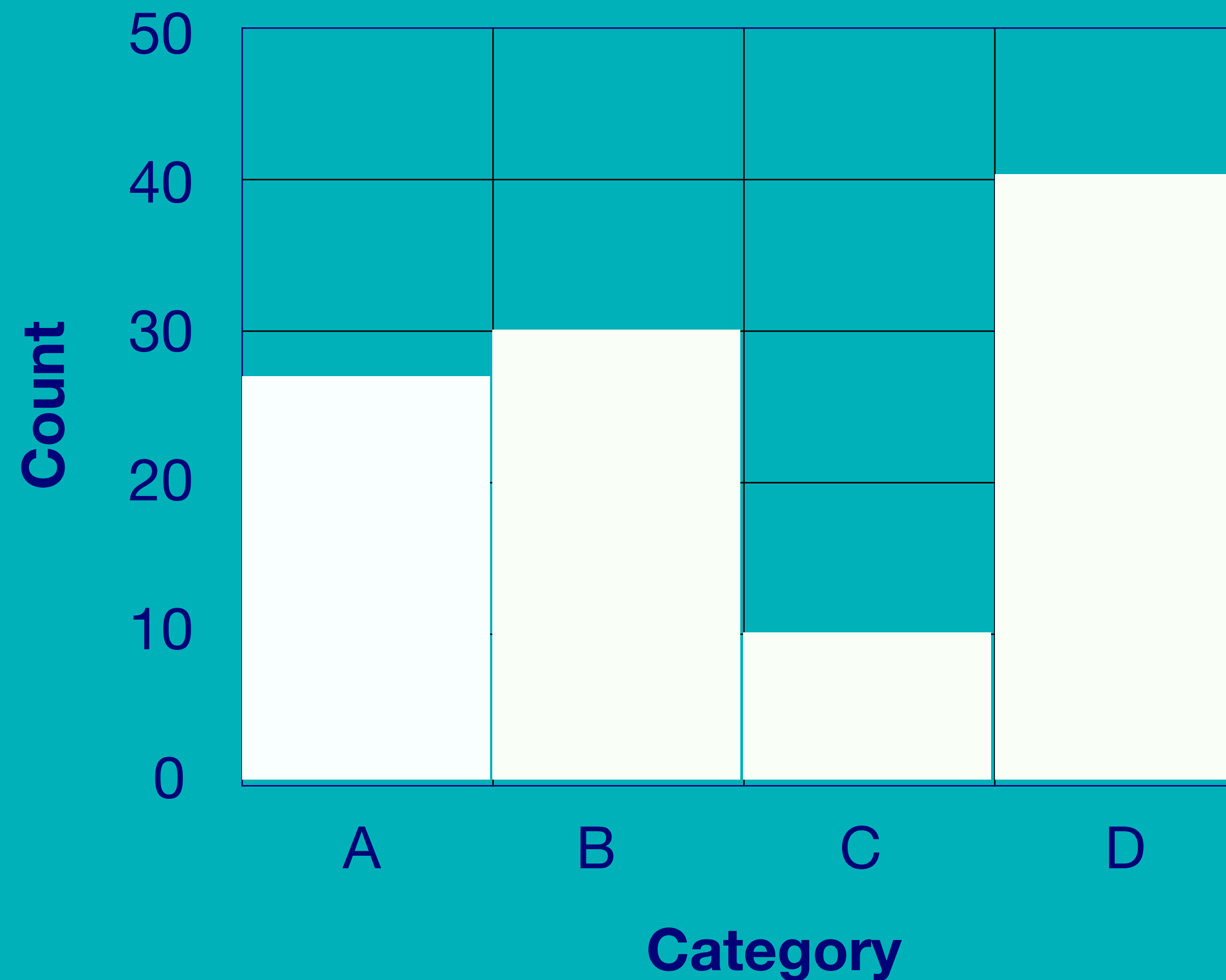
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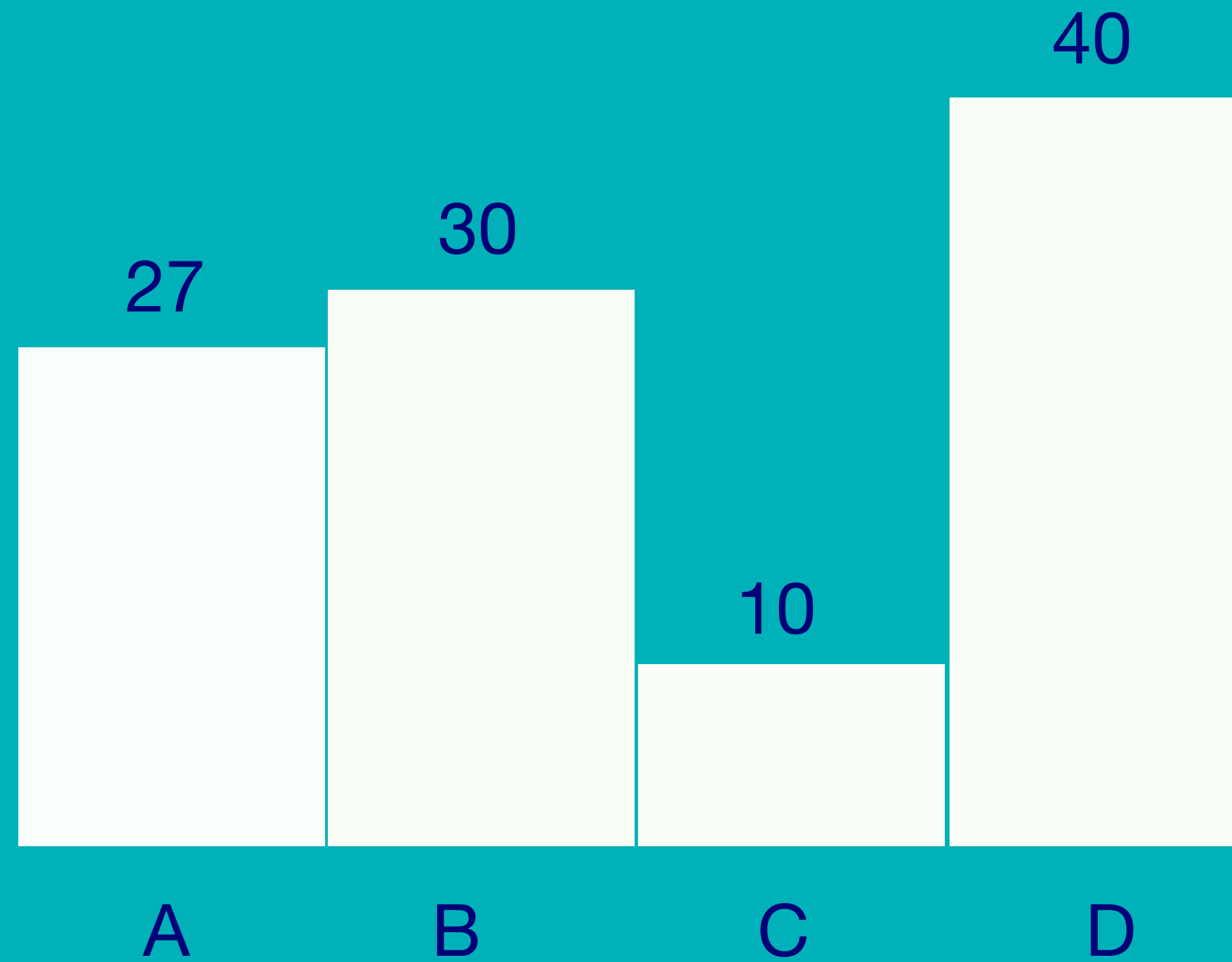
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A Sample Chart

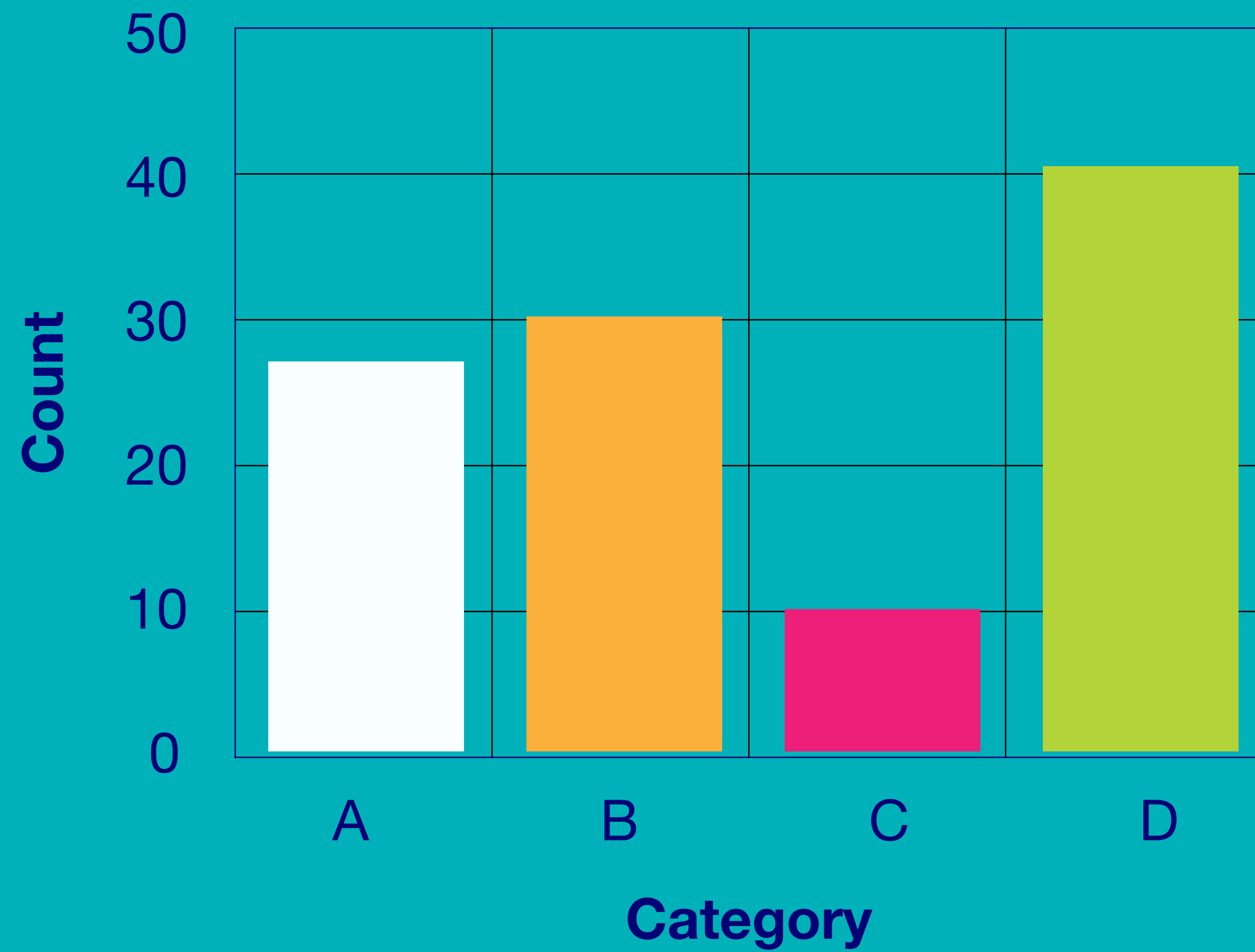


# The Data:Ink Ratio

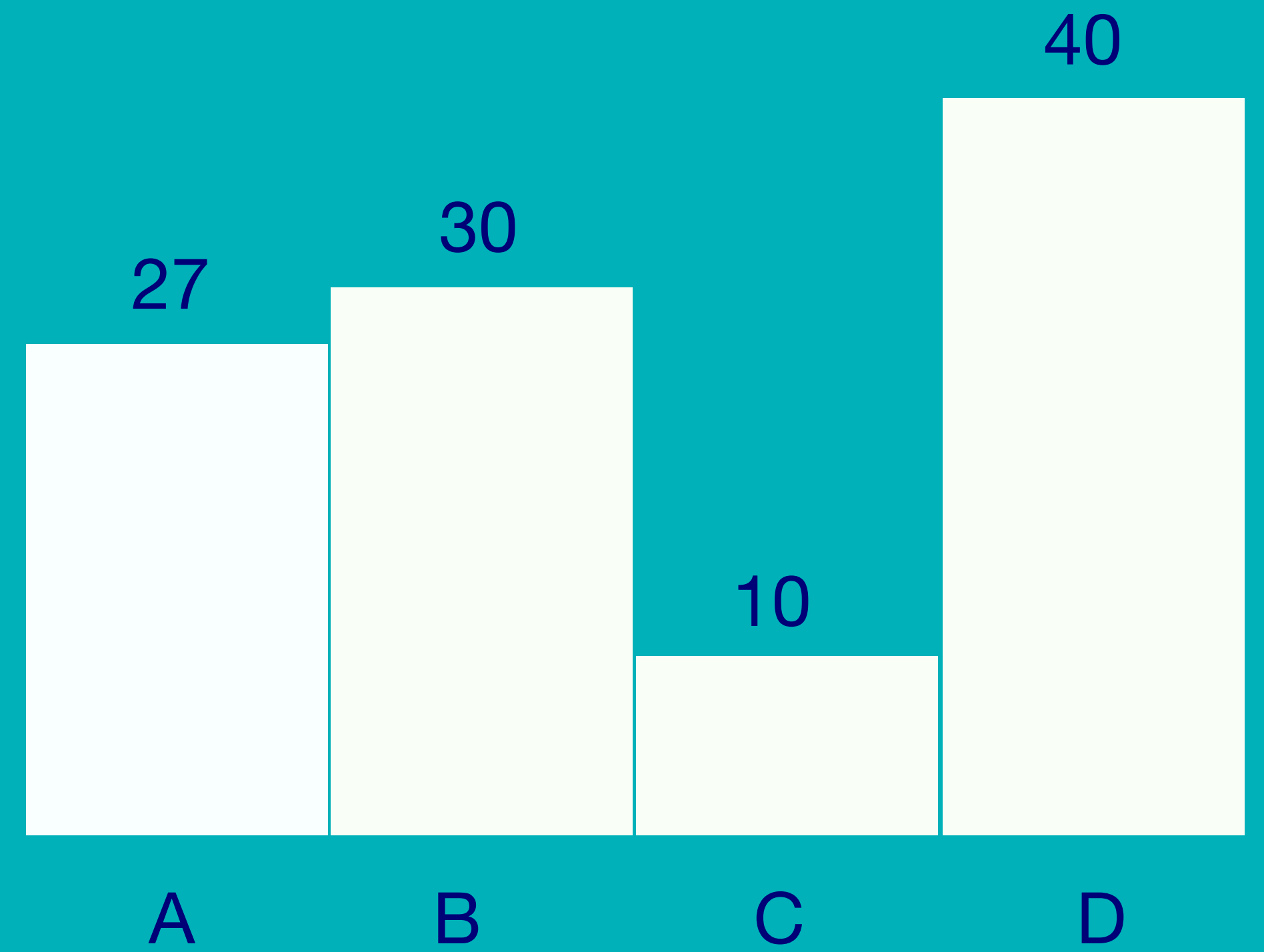
A Sample Chart



### A Sample Chart



### A Sample Chart



# Selections from the Altair Documentation

## Getting Started

[https://altair-viz.github.io/getting\\_started/starting.html#starting](https://altair-viz.github.io/getting_started/starting.html#starting)

## Customizing Visualizations

[https://altair-viz.github.io/user\\_guide/customization.html](https://altair-viz.github.io/user_guide/customization.html)

## Top-Level Chart Configuration

[https://altair-viz.github.io/user\\_guide/configuration.html](https://altair-viz.github.io/user_guide/configuration.html)

# Quickly Building Data Visualizations

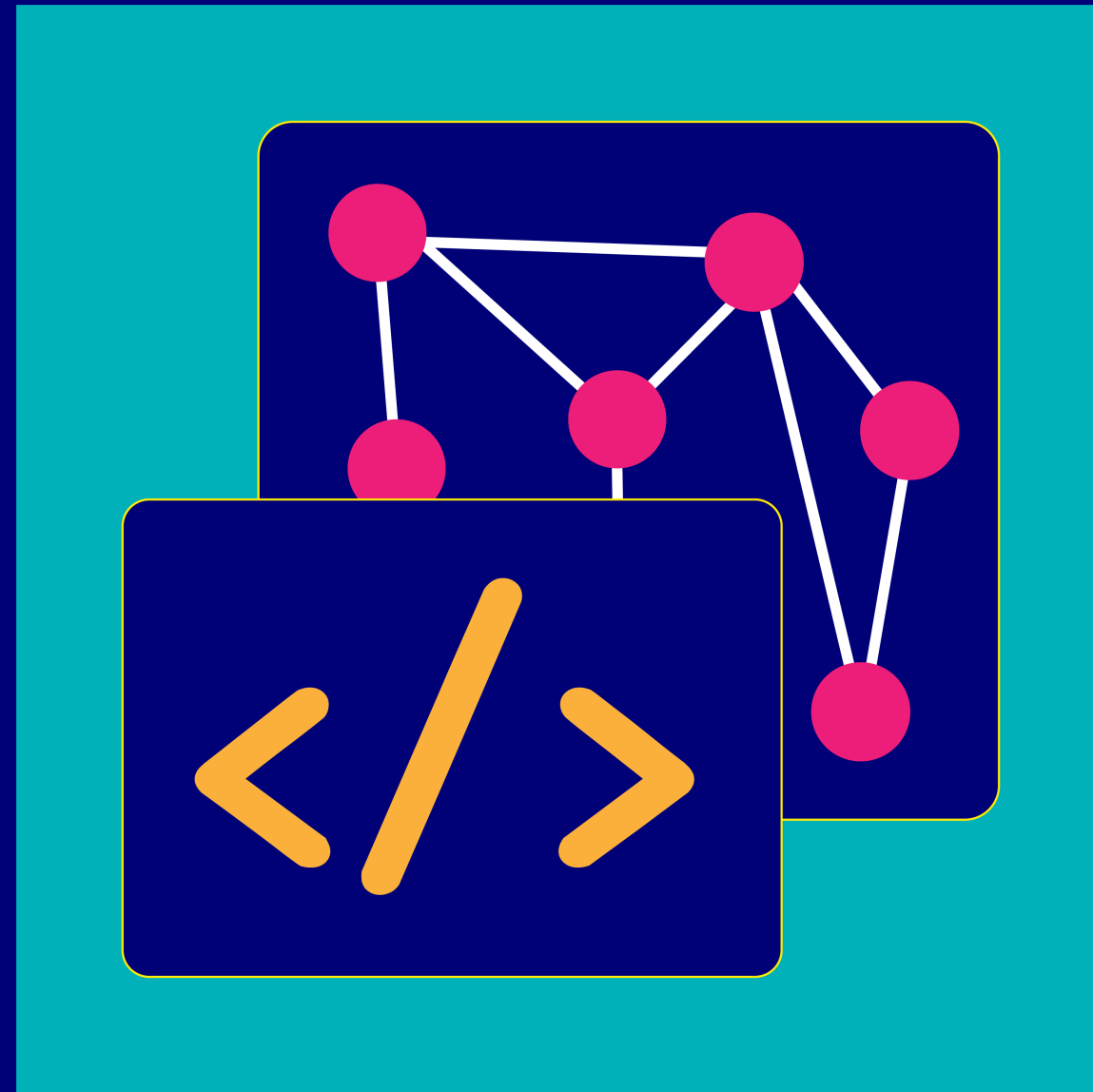
Raw Graphs - [rawgraphs.io](https://rawgraphs.io)

Tableau (student account is free!) - [www.tableau.com](https://www.tableau.com)



**DEMO**

*Tableau: World Indicators*



**Thanks everyone!**

Please provide course feedback [here](#)!

*The CDCS uses the course feedback to guide future course offerings and to ensure budget is available to run the courses.*