Improving Information Dissemination

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Children's Bureau

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

Data Sets

- **NCANDS**
  The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) is a voluntary data collection system that gathers information from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico about reports of child abuse and neglect.
- **AFCARS**
  The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) collects case-level information from state and tribal title IV-E agencies on all children in foster care and those who have been adopted with title IV-E agency involvement.
- **NYTD**
  The National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) is a federal reporting system designed to collect information on youth transitioning out of foster care who are served by state agencies

Problem

- We produce very limited number of reports. They are all at a super high level (national and state only) and currently focus on one of two things
  1) Providing summary statistics
  2) Compliance reports
- General Reaction: ¯_(ツ)_/¯
  - Of limited use to state technical liaisons whose job it is to work with the state to provide TA, and help with compliance issues
  - Of limited use to leadership make informed decision

Solution

A flexible dashboard that could take different datasets and produce informative graphics

- Initial focus will be on producing choropleth maps at the county level. While the data is submitted to us by each state, each state is usually pulling this data from offices found within each county (or similar).
- Would like to expand to other visualizations to include relevant graphs and charts as needed.

Measures

- **Focusing in order of impact**
  1) **Compliance** measures

  2) **Data quality** issues

  3) **Common** measures
     - Foster care entry and exit rates
     - Recurrence of maltreatment

Challenges

- Data is restricted use, will have to create fake but realistic data for the Colab.
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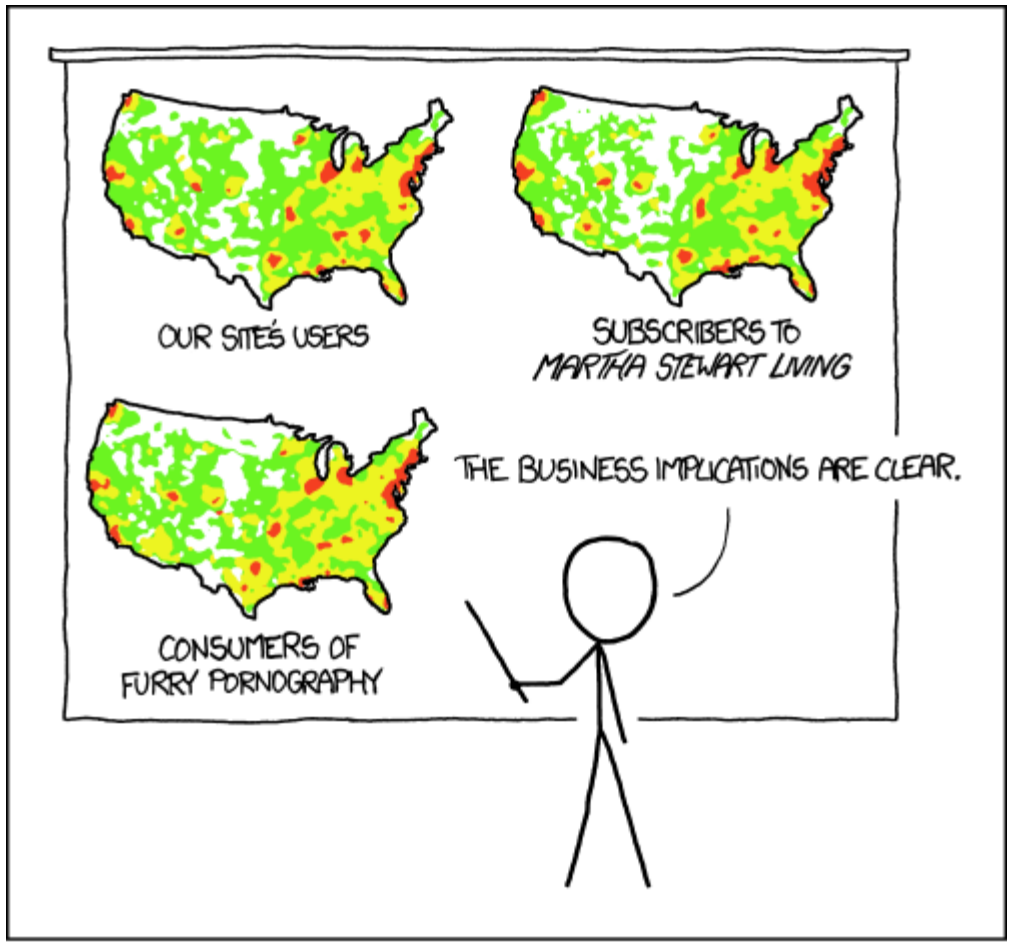
Challenges

- Making sure the choropleth maps actually provide useful information

- Datasets get large depending on number of years included



Work Flow

Task 1. Data

Create fake version of dataset
Verify dataset is roughly correct
Import into R
Merge dataset with geographic data (shape file)

Task 2. Geographic Stuff

Obtain US County Shape File
Obtain Additional Geographic regions

Task 3. Choropleth Visualization

Create initial choropleth maps
Add additional measures
Filters
Drop down selections
Drill down

Task 4. Additional visualizations

Charts (over time)
Tables

	Begin	End
Sprint 1.	**Week 2**	**Week 4**
Create fake version of dataset		
Verify dataset is roughly correct		
Import into R		
Obtain US county shape file		
Merge dataset with geographic data (shape file)		
Sprint 2.	**Week 5**	**Week 5**
Create initial choropleth maps		
Drop down selections		
Drill down		
Sprint 3.	**Week 6**	
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