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SI 206

Project 1 Reflection

a. Was there anything surprising in the data? Why or why not were you surprised?
  i. I would say the first thing that I notice in the data is the population difference in the census data file compared to the population in the AP data file. More specifically, how the indigenous people or POC have significantly less in population who took an AP exam relative to their population total. Some demographics even show 0 for the population of those who took an AP exam. This wasn't really surprising considering that resources are yet to be distributed effectively to certain neighborhoods/areas. Coming from a charter high school in Chicago, for example, we did not have access to any CS related resources, at least in that neighborhood.

b. Think about how you might attempt to convey this information visually. What sort of graph would you use and why?
  i. I believe showing this on a graph with a x-axis as demographic and a y-axis of population would be a good visualization. It would be good to plot data using distinguishable lines not just for accessibility, but to visualize data in the same chart that can include census population, AP exam takers, the difference, etc.. This would give the data a clean and understandable look.

c. Do you think the data is missing anything? Why or why not?
  i. I think it would be important to look at other test scores. For example, being able to see the population who scores other than an A. It would also be interesting to see the overall average or to see if any other patterns arise. This could potentially offer a better perspective for demographics mentioned above. For instance, they might have taken the exam, but how many were able to get A's compared to other scores? It would be worth looking at.

d. Can you tell a broader story with this data? If so, what broader story can you tell with this data? If not, what limits you?
  i. I think it goes back to what resources are available to certain communities. Maybe a level deeper could be "why aren't these communities equipped as much as other communities are?". Looking at historical events and where financial resources can be better spent could point to what causes the "side effect" of impacting communities differently. It would also be good to note how the environments differ from each demographic, which could sway scores due to outside influence.