DataViz Cheatsheet

The 7 Easiest To Make Visuals To Use In A Winning Presentation

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Text

Use it when you have no more than 1 or 2 numbers to display

Tips:

- Make it stand out
- Add few supporting words

99% Patogen Reduction With New Treatment

Table

Use it when you have a lot of data to compare, index, and with different units of measure.

Tips:

- Don't use heavy borders or shading
- Use it when you have mixed audience.
- Don't use it in live presentations.

| ld | State | Code | Population |
|----|---------|------|------------|
| 0 | Alabama | AL | 5,040,000 |
| 1 | Alaska | AK | 732,673 |
| 2 | Arizona | AZ | 7,276,000 |

Heatmap

Use it when you have to show a lot of numbers and convey their relative magnitude

Tips:

- Use color saturation to convey magnitude
- The higher the number, the higher the color saturation
- Very useful to quickly find points of interest

| Vapor Chlorine Ozone | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| E. Coli | 10% | 30% | 40% | | | |
| Listeria | 10% | 40% | 50% | | | |
| Molds | 30% | 20% | 20% | | | |

Scatter Plot

Use it when you have to show relationships between two things

Tips:

- Mostly used in scientific fields
- They seem intimidating if you're not used to it
- Less frequently used in the business world

Line Chart

Use it when you have relationships between point data (like values over time)

Tips:

- You can plot single or multiple series of data
- If you plot over time, the time axis must be in constant intervalls
- You can use it to summarize statistics (like average)

Bar Chart

Use it when you have categorical data to plot (like groups)

Tips:

- They are very common and easy to understand
- It's easy to compare between categories
- Always have a zero baseline, or they can get misleading

Area Chart

Use it when you have to visualize numbers of vastly differen magnitudes

Tips:

- You can create more compact visualizations than bar charts
- Beware that people are not good with two-dimentional space
- These charts can be tricky to do correctly, use them as last resort