

Do the Work: Explore Visualizations of Climate Change Data

Each of the visualizations below depicts the change in annual global temperatures from 1850 or 1880 to 2017. While the visualizations depict essentially the same data, each does so in a different way, using a different visualization technique. Review the visualizations below and consider the following questions:

Circle your answer

Which visualization catches your eye first?

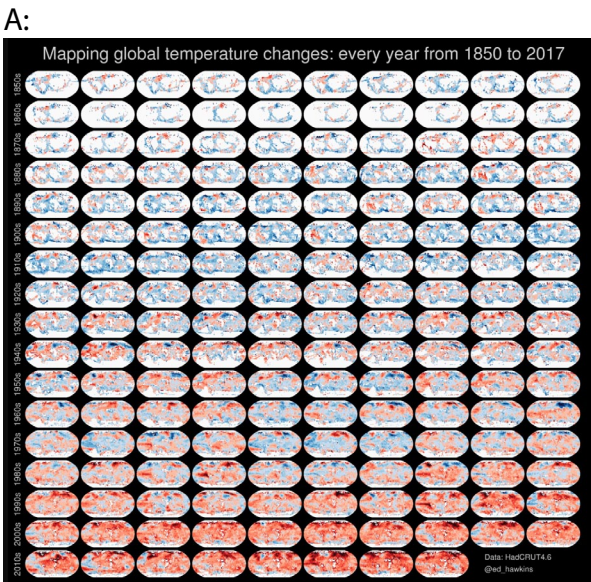
A B C D

Which visualization best conveys the information that the global temperature is warming?

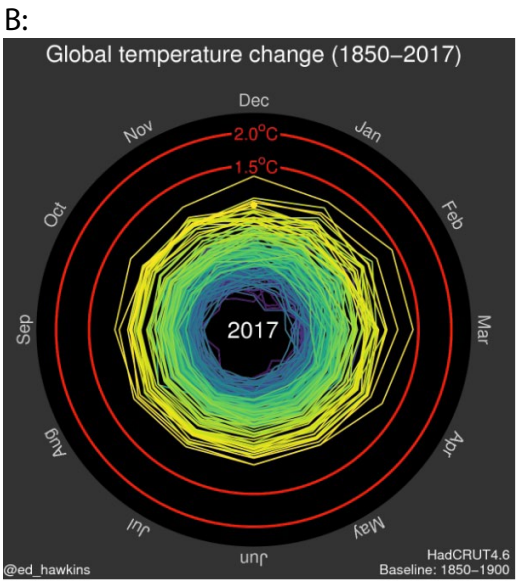
A B C D

Which makes the most effective use of color?

A B C D



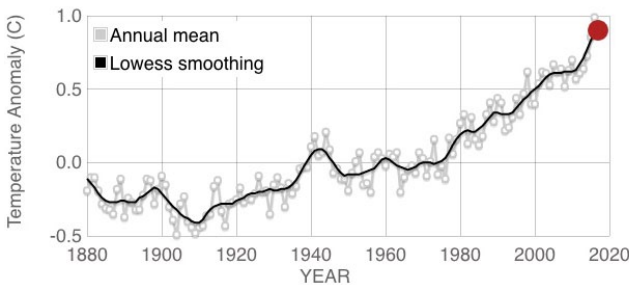
Small multiples map chart by Ed Hawkins



Spiral animation by Ed Hawkins

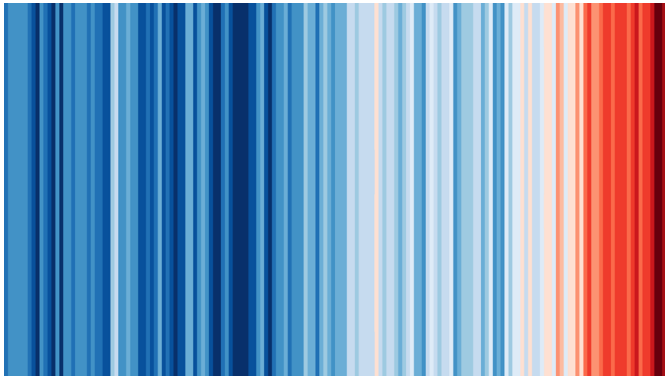
C:

Data source: NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS). Credit: NASA/GISS



Line graph by NASA

D:



Color band chart by Ed Hawkins