Data journalism — Visualisation checklist (Dec 2020)

- Have I indicated the source?

- Is the viz labelled with a title?

- Is the horizontal axis (x) labelled?

- Is the vertical axis (y) labelled?

- Am I showing amounts of money? If so, is the currency indicated?

- "When" is this data? Do I need to specify something about the time period?

- Have we labelled the country / region or can we assume the reader knows?

- Have I used only one font?

- How many different font sizes have I used?

- How many different font styles have I used (italics, bold, underlined)?

- Have I been consistent: If I've labelled something one way, have I followed through for other instances?

- Is my use of colour coherent? (any ethical or welfare questions?)

- Does my graph work as a 'standalone' (as it should) or does it depend on labels / information that are actually in the accompanying article?

- If I have information in rollover / pop-up boxes, have I got *all the relevant information* but *only the relevant information*? (No latitude, longitude data for example)?

- If I have information in rollover / pop-up boxes have I labelled the information so I don't just have '43' but have '43 cats' or '43%' or '43kg per 1,000 people'?

- On a choropleth map, are the areas showing relative or absolute values? Am I happy about this?

Above all:

Can someone looking at this viz for the first time without any preparation explain it to me?