Essay: Create a Narrative Visualization

CS416 – Data Visualization (Summer 2024)

Luana M. Benicio

Project access: https://benicio22.github.io/covid19-narrative-visualization/

Messaging

For this Narrative Visualization project, the objective was to bring together important figures related to the COVID-19 pandemic, highlighting the importance of each number raised, such as the number of cases, the number of deaths and mortality, and their applications during the pandemic up to the present moment in terms of public and health policies.

Narrative Structure

The chosen structure is the martini glass structure, composed of 6 scenes. There is no interaction in the first 3 scenes; the idea was to bring the message first, and the last 3 scenes allow the user to explore the graphics.

Visual Structure

The scenes are composed of 6 pages. It was decided to use the same structure, making it clearer and easier for users to visualize. The structure is headlines, subheadings, paragraphs, and graphs; the data is in circles. The visual structure also contains buttons used to move between the pages.

Scenes

The scenes were organized in this order: (1) number of cases, (2) deaths, (3) mortality, (4) explore graphic of cases, (5) explore graphic of death numbers, and (6) explore mortality graph.

Annotations

Annotations highlighted mean import values in each chart, containing the title and a small description of that point. To do the annotation, d3.annotation() was used.

Parameters

The parameters in the first 3 scenes are the number of cases, death, and mortality, but the last 3 scenes are the period (month) where the user can filter any part of the graphic using zooming.

Triggers

The triggers were used to let the user navigate between the six pages. For the last 3 pages, there is zooming and resetting the view after using the zooming trigger.