For this assignment, you will read Alberto Cairo's work, [Graphics Lies, Misleading Visuals](http://infovis.fh-potsdam.de/readings/Cairo2015.pdf). You will locate and identify a visual that displays misleading information. You will interpret the features of the visual in order to identify the mechanism(s) that is/are used by the "encoder" to mislead the "decoder." For each mechanism that you identify, you will explain how it was used to mislead.

**Review criterialess**

Each component of the assignment will be graded by a peer-reviewer, using a detailed rubric.

**Step-By-Step Assignment Instructionsless**

1. Read Alberto Cairo’s work, Graphics Lies, Misleading Visuals
2. Locate an example of a misleading visual that uses one or more of the mechanisms for misleading that Cairo outlines in his book chapter: hiding relevant data, displaying too much data and obscuring reality, and distorting data through graphic forms

*Hint: You may want to use google or bing image search with a parameter such as "information visualization", or "scientific poster chart" or similar in order to find visualizations to critique. You might also want to consider looking on the subreddits [dataisbeautiful](https://www.reddit.com/r/dataisbeautiful/" \t "_blank) or [dataisugly](https://www.reddit.com/r/dataisugly/" \t "_blank). Be creative in your search!*

1. Upload an image of this visual
2. Provide a link or a reference to the source of the visual (e.g., the article in which the visual appears)
3. Respond to the prompts that ask you to provide context for the visual and to identify the misleading mechanism(s) that is/are used

Download the attachment for a preview of how the assignment will be graded.

Source of the visual:   
[Ed Grabianowski](https://www.howstuffworks.com/about-author.htm#grabianowski)"How Prisons Work" 24 January 2007.  
HowStuffWorks.com. <<https://people.howstuffworks.com/prison.htm>> 31 January 2018  
  
The intended audience of the image is the general public because is howstuffworks is an educational website that provides its audience content on how many things work (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HowStuffWorks>). It uses various median to achieve public education on how stuff works: website, podcast, and TV channels.

The visual presents the recidivism rate of prisoners in a pie chart inside a handcuff. The pie chart was used to show the various percentages of recidivism rate for the various different type of offences.  
The use of pie chart is misleading for the type of data that is presented because the recidivism rates do not add up to the all released prisoners rate - which a pie chart would suggest. The graphic forms were used inappropriately (distorting the data) to suggest that the recidivism rate for different offences are somehow related to each other and can be added up, but this is an inappropriate use of pie chart. Instead, this data can be much better presented in a bar chart. If the author needed to show a pie chart which displays the prevalence of recidivism, the numbers should be the number of recidivist by offence type.

Optional:

The use of the handcuff did not contribute to better understanding of the recidivism rate and is simply a way for the author to increase visual appeal. Unfortunately, the ignorance of evidence-driven communicator misused the chart type while introducing chart junk - greatly reduce the effectiveness of the message that was intended to be delivered - large number of recidivist in our prison system.