

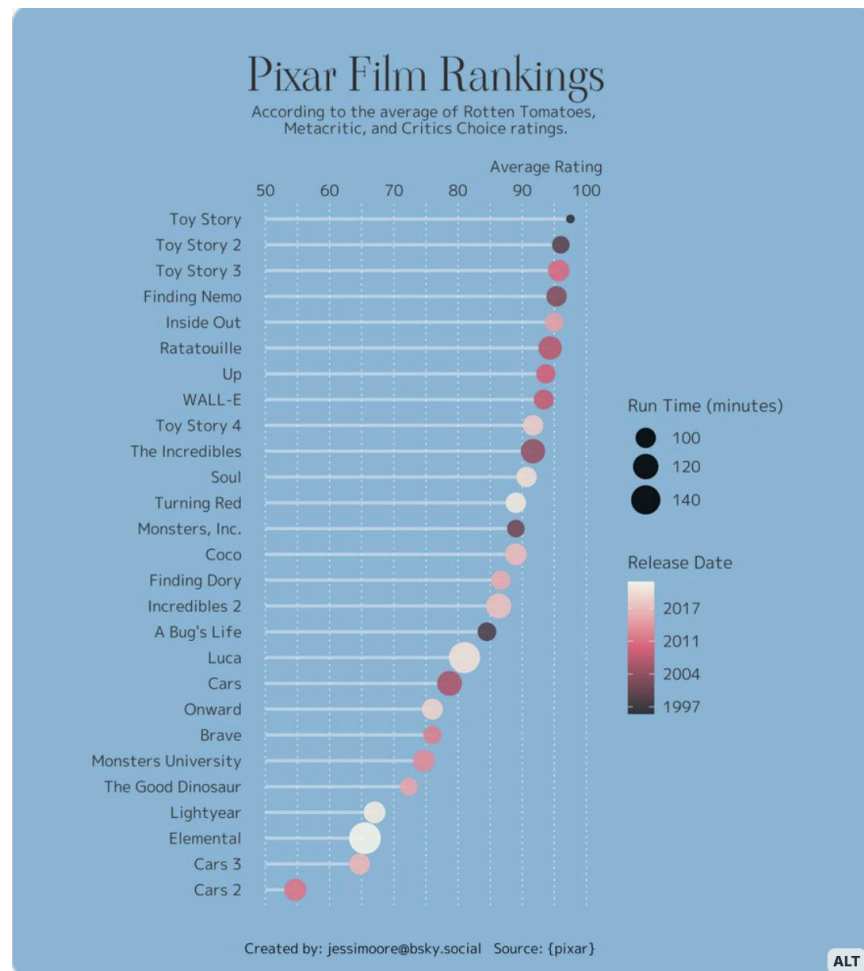
Critique of “Pixar Film Rankings” Visualization

Source Visualization: <https://bsky.app/profile/jessimoore.bsky.social/post/3lka157bzd2k>

Data Source:

https://github.com/rfordatascience/tidytuesday/blob/main/data/2025/2025-03-11/pixar_films.csv

https://github.com/rfordatascience/tidytuesday/blob/main/data/2025/2025-03-11/public_response.csv



This visualization shows how Pixar films stack up based on their average critic scores, pulling data from Rotten Tomatoes, Metacritic, and Critics Choice. It also includes some extra context like each movie's run time and release year. The main goal seems to be giving viewers a quick and easy way to see which Pixar films were the most critically successful, while still providing some background about when they were released and how long they are.

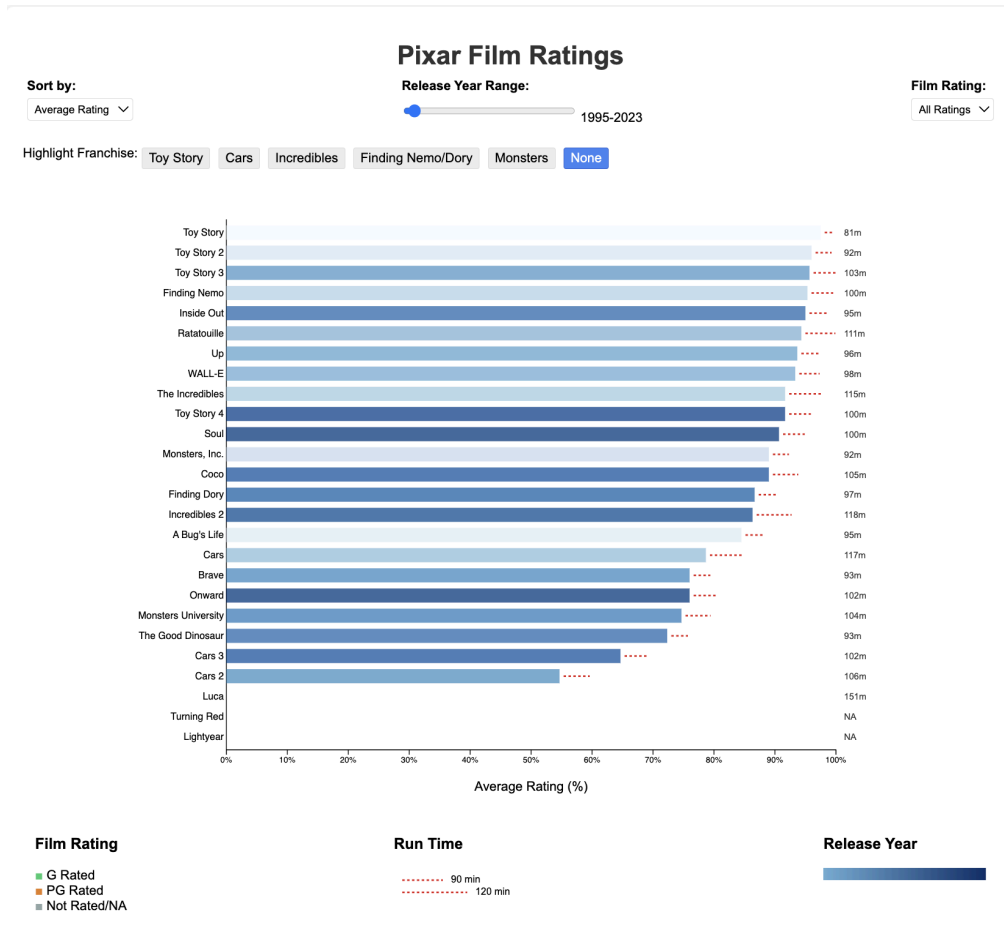
Visually, the chart is pretty clean and easy to follow. Movies are listed vertically in a way that makes scanning through them feel natural, and encoding the average rating along the x-axis makes the comparison super straightforward. It's easy to tell which movies scored higher than others just at a glance. The size of each circle is meant to represent the run time, and the color shows the release year, which adds another layer of depth. These extra dimensions let viewers

start to pick up on broader trends, for example, how some of the older movies seem to have received higher average ratings compared to more recent ones.

That said, there are definitely some areas that could be improved. Using the size of the circle to represent run time doesn't really come across that clearly. It's difficult to tell the differences in size unless you're comparing two extremes. Plus, when something is bigger visually, it can unintentionally feel more important, even when that's not the intended takeaway. The red to black gradient for release year is a nice aesthetic touch, but it's not the most intuitive way to show time. Without a clear legend mapping color to year, it's a little bit of a guessing game. A more intuitive or linear color scale, or even just a clearer legend, would help viewers understand that part of the chart faster.

One of the biggest things missing is any form of interactivity. Since it's a static image, there's no way to dive deeper into the data. You can't hover to see exact numbers, filter for specific franchises, or re-sort the chart by something like run time or release date. That's a missed opportunity, especially since Pixar has such a big fanbase and people might want to explore their favorite franchises or compare specific eras.

Overall, the design is solid and gets the job done. It's clear and visually appealing, and it communicates the key message. But there's a lot of room to take it further. In my redesign, I focused on turning it into a more interactive experience by adding tooltips, filters, sorting options, and more intuitive encodings for things like release year and run time. The goal is to let users not just observe the data, but actually engage with it, explore it from different angles, and uncover new insights on their own.



Redesign Rationale

Public Link to Visualization: <https://info-4310.onrender.com>

For my redesign of the Pixar film rankings chart, I wanted to build on the original idea but make it more interactive and user-friendly. The original visualization was clean and easy to understand, but it didn't let you do much beyond just looking at the static ratings. I felt there was a lot of potential to help people explore the data more deeply and actually interact with it in meaningful ways.

In my version, I added a bunch of features to give users more control. You can now sort the movies by different things like rating, release year, or run time. There's also a slider to filter by release year, and a dropdown to focus on specific film ratings like G or PG. I added buttons that highlight certain franchises, like Toy Story or Cars, so fans can quickly focus on a subset they care about. Instead of using circle size for run time, I switched to dashed lines and labeled each one with the exact number of minutes, which feels a lot clearer.

One of the biggest upgrades is the tooltips. When you hover over a movie, it shows you all the individual rating sources like Rotten Tomatoes, Metacritic, and Critics Choice, along with the CinemaScore if it's available. This way, you're not just seeing a single average, you can actually see where that average is coming from. Overall, I think the redesign makes the data feel more alive and gives people more ways to explore and discover patterns on their own.