Visualizing Data in Charts



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Module Goals



What is Data Visualization?

Why Visualize Data?

How Data Visualization Works

Key Concepts

Where to Find More

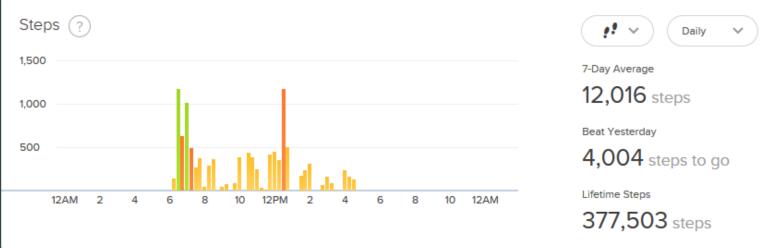
What Is Data Visualization?

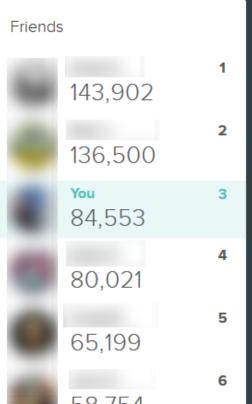


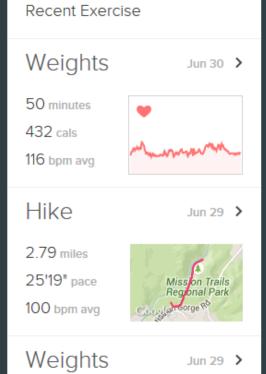
Data Visualization is the process of displaying information to more easily understand the underlying meaning.



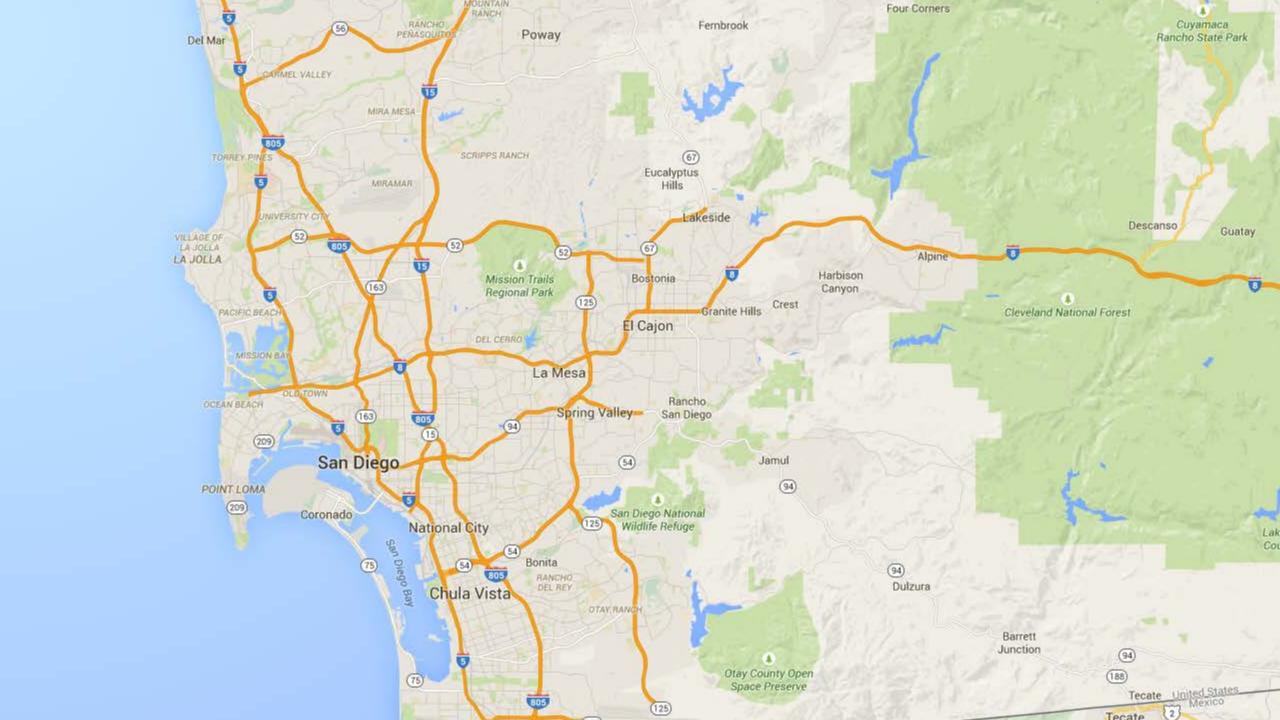


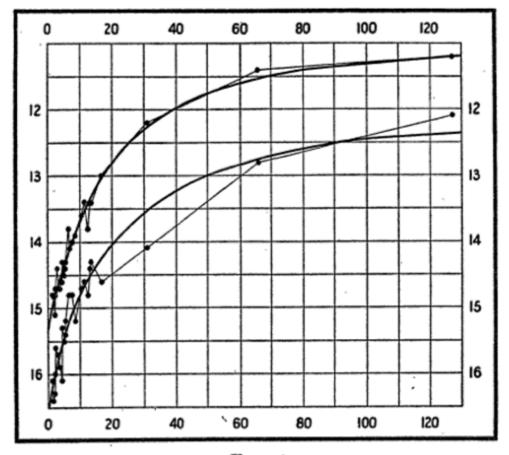












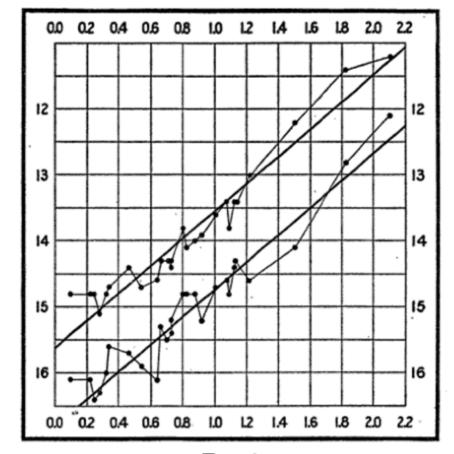


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Why Visualize Data?



Humans process visual input above all else and faster than any other method. This is the key reason for visualizing data.

Data

I		II		III		IV	
X	у	x	у	x	у	x	у
10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
12.0	10.84	12.0	9.13	12.0	8.15	8.0	5.56
7.0	4.82	7.0	7.26	7.0	6.42	8.0	7.91
5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

Stats

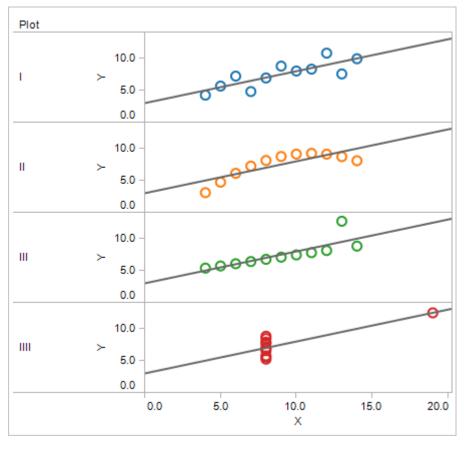
Property	Value
Mean of x in each case	9 (exact)
Variance of x in each case	11 (exact)
Mean of y in each case	7.50 (to 2 decimal places)
Variance of y in each case	4.122 or 4.127 (to 3 decimal places)
Correlation between x and y in each case	0.816 (to 3 decimal places)
Linear regression line in each case	y=3.00+0.500x (to 2 and 3 decimal places, respectively)

Anscombe's Quartet

Stats Visualized



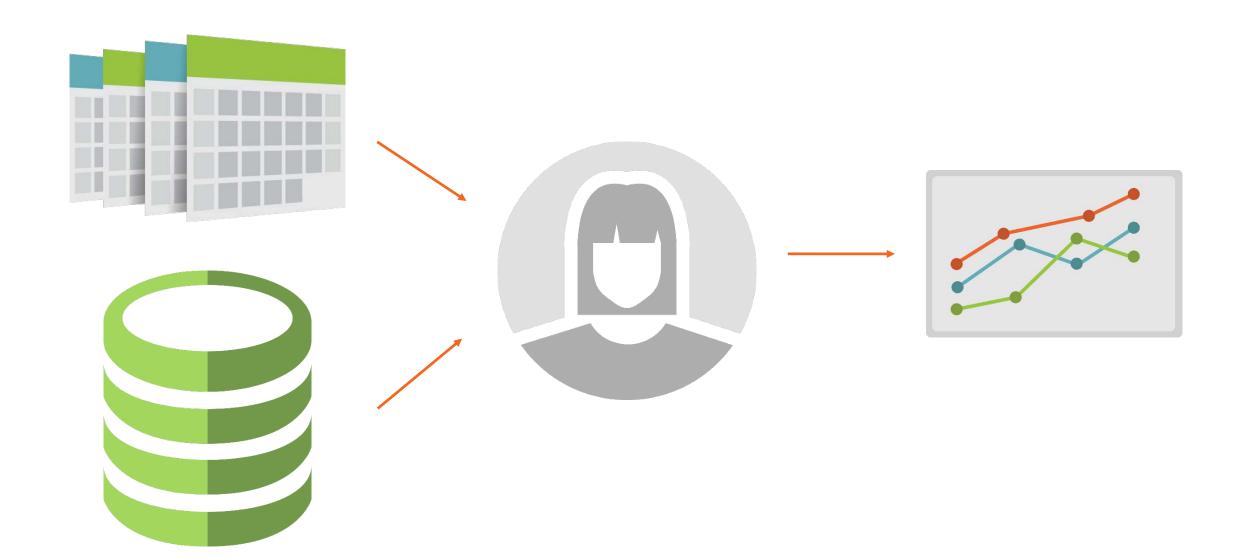
Data Visualized



How Data Visualization Works



By plotting data points on charts and graphs, now typically done with software, data takes shape for your eyes to consume.



Key Concept: Visual Perception

Count how many times the number 5 appears

Now try...

5647902894728624092406037070**5555**927**5**

Attentive

Pre-Attentive

5647902894728624092406037070**5555**927**5**

Key Concept: Color

Color in Nature

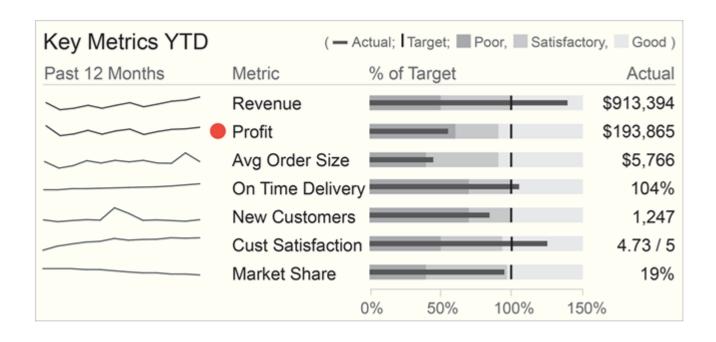


Golden Dart Frog2 micrograms can kill an adult human



Hala FruitSweet fruit

Good Use of Color



Poor Use of Color

Product Category	Product Sub-Category	Profit Ratio	
Furniture	Bookcases	-1.5%	•
	Chairs & Chairmats	14.2%	
	Office Furnishings	20.7%	
	Tables	-6.8%	•
Office Supplies	Appliances	26.6%	<u> </u>
Supplies	Binders and Binder Accessori	35.5%	<u> </u>
	Envelopes	31.2%	<u> </u>
	Labels	75.8%	
	Paper	13.9%	<u> </u>
	Pens & Art Supplies	1.2%	<u> </u>
	Rubber Bands	-32.8%	•
	Scissors, Rulers and Trimmers	-4.8%	•
	Storage & Organization	1.4%	<u> </u>
Technology	Computer Peripherals	17.9%	<u> </u>
	Copiers and Fax	19.5%	_
	Office Machines	13.8%	_
	Telephones and Communicati	26.0%	_

Key Concept: Chart Types





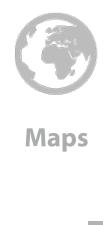






Time Series













Line



Key Concept: Dashboards

Where to Find More

Additional Resources



Pluralsight Courses:

- **Business Dashboard Fundamentals**
- Data Visualization for Developers
- **D3.js Data Visualization Fundamentals**

Books:

Information Dashboard Design v1 (Stephen Few)