Baseball Data Tableau Project

Initial: https://public.tableau.com/profile/j.t.robinson#!/vizhome/BaseballStory_7/Story1

Final: https://public.tableau.com/profile/j.t.robinson#!/vizhome/BaseballStoryv2_0/Story1

Summary: The most well known baseball hitting statistics are player batting average and homeruns hit. Many of us believe that the taller and heavier players hit the most homeruns and have the highest batting averages. In this visualization you will see that being bigger isn't necessarily better. In fact, most of the best hitting players are of average weight and height in comparison to their contemporaries.

Design: The initial thought for the design of the story centered around the height and weight variables in the dataset. These variables interested me because I assumed that taller heavier players hit the best.

For the beginning of the story I wanted to provide readers with an overview of the top 10 hitting players by batting average and the top 10 homerun hitters. I chose to use a bar graph to highlight the net difference between the top 10 players. I added custom tooltips to the bars to make finding player statistics easier rather than guesstimating the totals via the axis tick marks. I also chose different colors for the top 10 hitters by batting average and the top 10 homerun hitter to place focus on the different statistics and to provide contrast into how different the players are in each top 10 group.

Next, I wanted to create a histogram of player heights and weights. This distribution shows how many players fell into each height and weight bin. I chose the red to blue color pattern to focus attention to the longest bar in the histogram were most players fell while gradually placing less focus on the smaller bins.

Third, I chose scatterplots to show the batting average and total homeruns by each player according to height and weight. For these plots I used a blue to gold color palette to highlight the number of players that have similar heights and weights. I added the units to the plots to make interpreting the data easier for the reader. I also added trend lines to make correlating the datapoint easier.

Finally, I chose a scatterplot to show the distribution of players based on height and weight. This chart places focus on the data that indicates that most players who have high batting averages and homerun totals are typically no larger than the average baseball player.

Feedback: I shared the story with a co-worker and he provided the following feedback:

- Needs more color. Everything's blue and makes it hard to differentiate data points.
- Need to make the plots larger or zoom in on the datapoints.
- Add units of scale to the axis and tooltips to make interpreting the data easier.
- Felt it was interesting that the biggest players were not necessarily the best hitter.
- Rotate the bar charts to make reading player name easier

Resources:

https://interworks.com/blog/ccapitula/2015/02/17/tableau-essentials-formatting-tips-tooltips

https://www.tutorialspoint.com/tableau/index.htm

https://onlinehelp.tableau.com/current/pro/desktop/en-us/story_create.htm