

Milestone 1
DSC 640
Kayla Thompson

The dashboard I created is meant to lead the user to the conclusion that airline safety is safer now than has been in the past while also demonstrating the value that the airline industry provides to the global economy. I chose the visualizations that best aligned with the data types but also best told the story I needed to convey. The visualizations are displayed in groups by colors, each color telling a piece of the story that I need the interpreter to understand.

The first two visualizations highlight the number of “incidents” seen by specific airlines in two different time ranges. The first is the range 1985 to 1999 and the second is 2000 to 2014. I intentionally left the y scale the same size so that the person interpreting these graphs can compare the two and see that in the more recent time period the number of incidents across all major airlines has actually decreased. The idea with this is that it will debunk the media’s claim that airlines are becoming less safe.

The second two visualizations take the findings from the first pair of visualizations one step further. These highlight the fatalities on major airlines from the two same time periods. What we see with this visualization is that across all major airlines, fatalities have also decreased with the most recent time period. This is meant to further debunk the claim by the media that air travel is less safe now than previously.

My fourth visualization is a scatter plot which compares the number of fatalities against the available seat kilometers per week. If travelling by air were more dangerous, we should see a tie between distance that a seat travels and the number of fatalities. We do not see this, and we see a significant cluster of points at zero fatalities. This shows that the data does not support the media’s claim.

Lastly, I created a bar graph to display the customer revenue generated by each major airline. This is meant as a warning to the public that continuing down this path of attempting to end or reduce airline travel can provide very costly for the economy.

Data Sources:

Airline data project. (n.d.). Retrieved April 10, 2021, from
<http://web.mit.edu/airlinedata/www/Traffic&Capacity.html>

Fivethirtyeight. (n.d.). Fivethirtyeight/data. Retrieved April 10, 2021, from
<https://github.com/fivethirtyeight/data/tree/master/airline-safety>

GitHub Link:

<https://github.com/kaymaethomp1/Airline-Safety-DSC-640-kthompson.git>