

Summary

This group is trying to visualize the average base salary, age and education level for developers in Stackoverflow community onto a world map. The interaction will be implemented into a hovering function over each country (area) on the world map, and summary statistics will be given in a box on the side. They collected their data from a survey from Stackoverflow itself.

Strengths

1. Geography-based visualization: When visualization is designed in a way that it breaks down the information on a country level, it is easy to acquire and compare summary statistics.
2. I liked the idea of setting a box on the left to show the summary statistics when hover over a specific country. Such a design is clearer to use comparing to a pop-out box.
3. Simplicity: The design is really simple and user friendly. There is no unnecessary design at all.

Weaknesses

1. Data process: Simply take the average will result in losing a lot of information in a more detailed level. It is worthwhile to think if it is possible to break then information down.
2. Design: Though geographical visualization looks fancy and easy to use, it is not always necessary to visualize data on a map. In this case, I think a simply pie chart might be more powerful and straightforward to visualize.
3. Dataset Choice: Data is collected from a self-report survey. So it is highly possible that there exists response bias.

General Comments

Data: I think this is a very interesting topic to look at. But I think the biggest problem I am worried about is the choice of data. It would be much better if this group can use a more concrete and detailed data source, for example, the information about active users in the community instead of a self-reported survey. Also, it simply taking the average of the age and salary might not be the best solution to data computation.

Design: I appreciate the simplistic design but I am not sure if visualizing on a map is worthwhile to do because giving the amount of information, maybe a scatterplot or pie chart is more ideal. How would you color the map when nothing is chosen on the map? Would it be based on a particular variable or just left grey?

Topic: It is an interesting topic to look at since almost every coder is using Stackoverflow on a daily base, but what can we do after breaking down the information of the developers in this community. What could this answers serve and how would it help Stackoverflow to build up a better community?

