HW #16 – D3 & Data Journalism Project Documentation

Project Overview

This project required visualization of some part of a dataset containing health related demographic data.

Data and Project Description

The dataset contains demographic data representing average age, income level, poverty level status, healthcare coverage, obesity and smoker status for each of the United States and Washington DC.

The project required selection of two or more of the above data items. In this case, age and smoker status by state were chosen for graphing using a bubble chart.

Project Results

By plotting only percent smokers by age and state, this project only utilized a small percentage of the available data. If schedule had allowed, several other visualizations could have been implemented. See Future Development section below.

Future Development

- When time permits, investigation of the following relationships would be worthwhile..
    - In light of the fact that smoking is one of the highest known health risks, some questions are worth asking, such as
        - Do poorer people smoke more? (Income vs Smoking)
        - Are younger people smoking less? (Age vs Smoking)
- The information represented by this broad dataset raises some interesting possibilities in terms of relationships between health risk factors. Since increased income increases available options, it is suspected that low income correlates with less health care coverage. A graphical representation of the data would be of value to validate this hypothesis.

Conclusion

This dataset allowed for the visualization of relationships between various health risk factors. Due to the minimal time available, the data was far from being utilized to its fullest extent. However, the visualization techniques and related skills that were learned in this project established an important foundation for further exploitation of the data.