

# DASHBOARDS & VISUAL COMMUNICATION



UNIVERSITY OF  
**CALGARY**

# **PRES ENTATION AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION**

Effectively communicating your analysis findings to other people

**USEFUL WHEN PRESENTING YOUR OWN WORK AND WHEN CRITIQUING OTHERS'**

# **DASHBOAR D DESIGN**

Creating tools that allow others to use, explore, and maintain awareness of data.

# A FEW MISTAKES THAT WE ALL MAKE

Making meaningful comparisons

Inferring trends and differences from noise

Assumptions about the meaning of correlations

Claims of “significance”

# MAKING MEANINGFUL COMPARISONS

Normalized vs. Non-normalized Counts

Murders / Capita

Failing grades / 100 Students

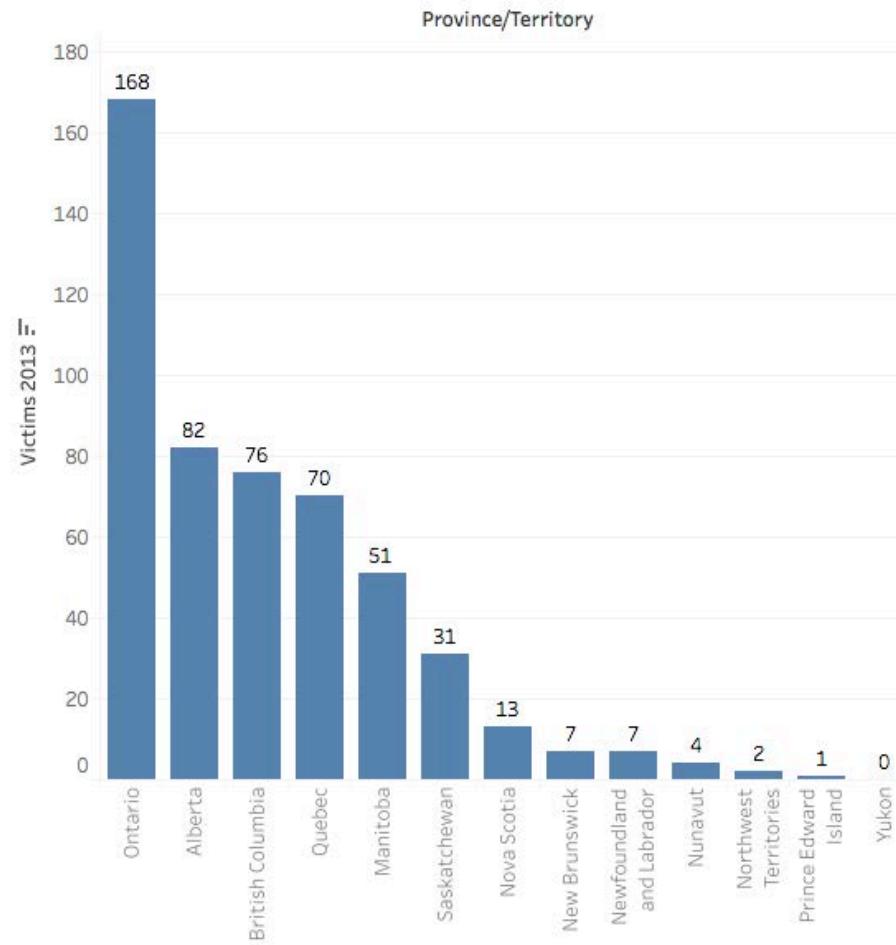
Etc.

Counts vs. Distinct Counts

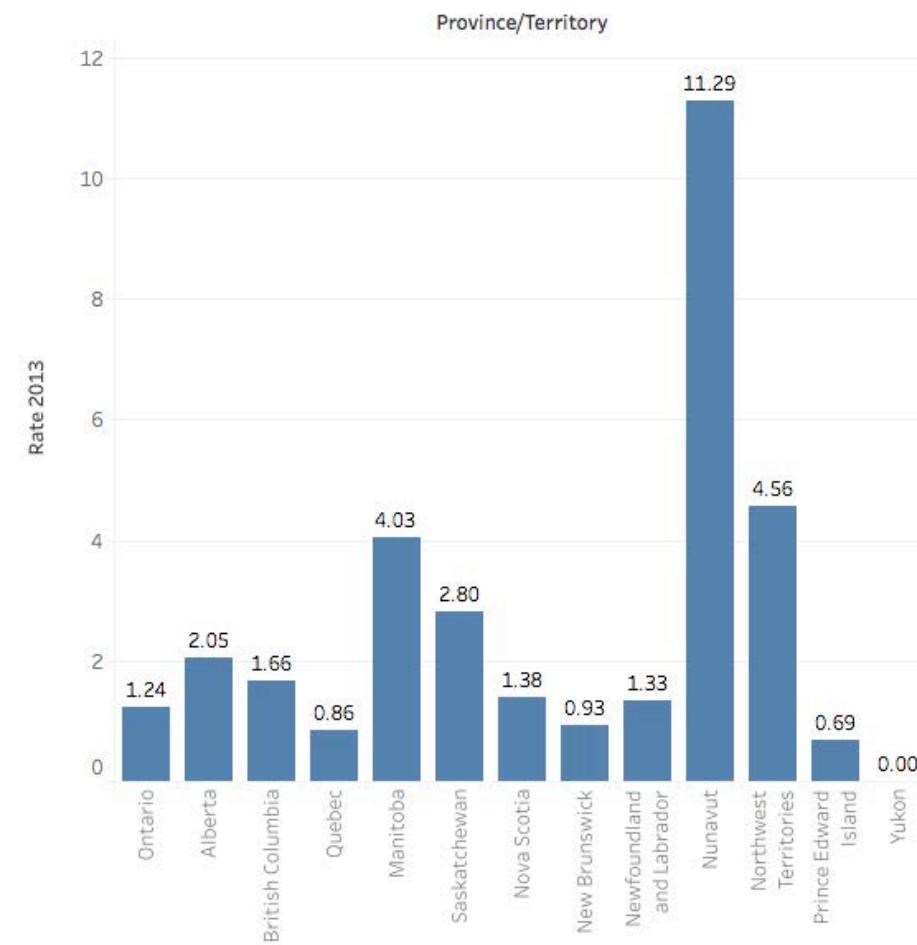
# visits vs. # of customers

# WHAT IS THE MOST DANGEROUS PROVINCE?

Victims by Province/Territory 2013



Victims per 100,000 residents by Province/Territory 2013



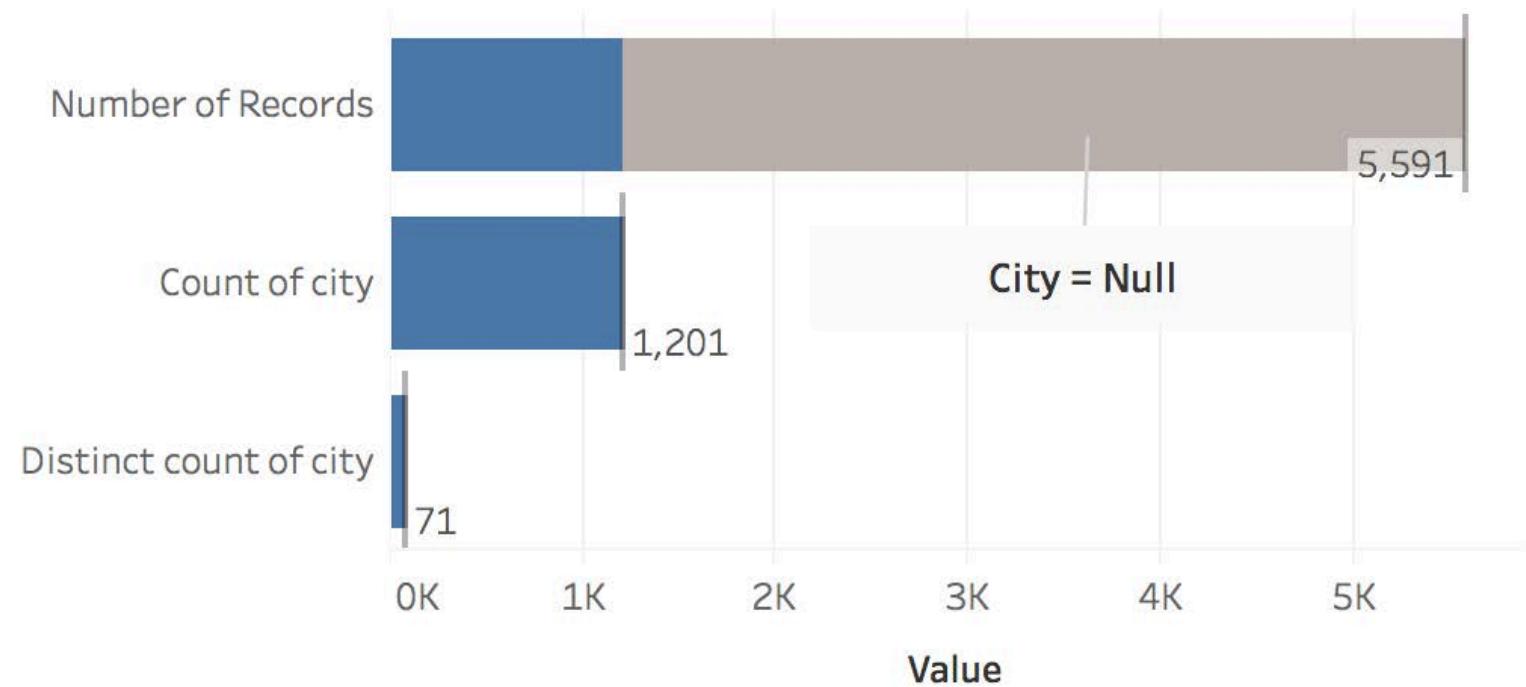
# COUNT vs COUNT DISTINCT

**Number of Records =**  
How many individual rows are there?

**Count =**  
How many rows have a value for this column?

**Count Distinct =**  
How many distinct values are there in this column?

Yelp - Businesses near Montreal



# A FEW MISTAKES THAT WE ALL MAKE

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**WE ALMOST ALWAYS  
KNOW LESS THAN WE  
THINK WE DO**

(Even after we've looked at the data.)

# LOOKING FOR PATTERNS IN STATIC

Almost all data has noise, errors, and variability.

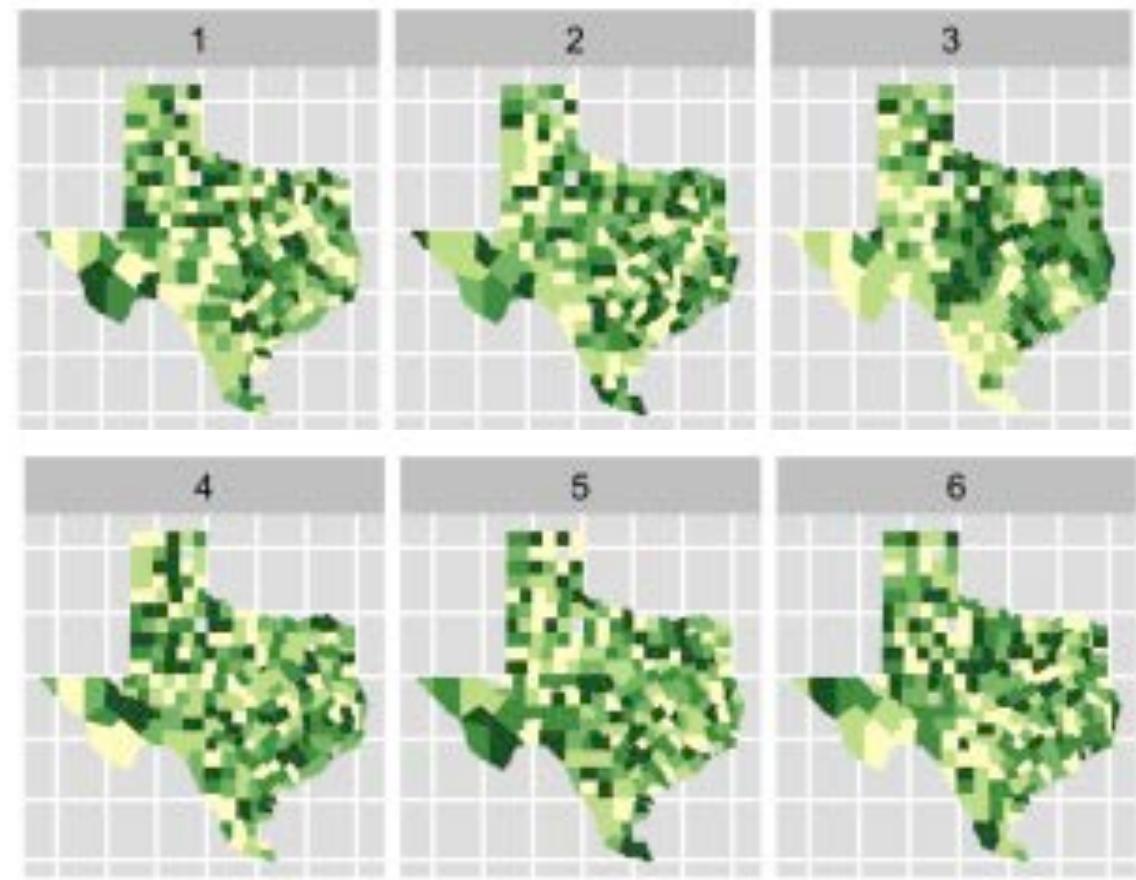
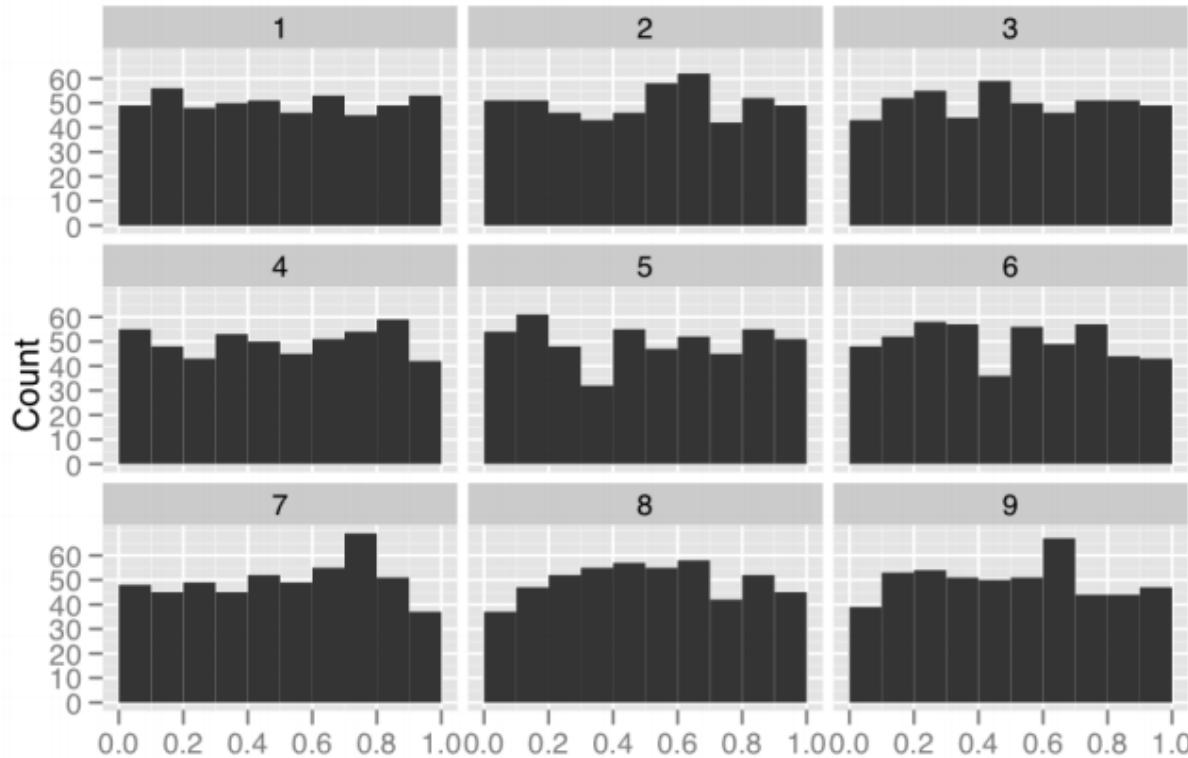
We are great at seeing patterns – even when we shouldn't.



**IT'S VERY EASY TO TELL STORIES AROUND DATA**

...but it's harder to show that those stories are robust!

# RANDOM DATA vs REAL DATA



[Wickham et al. 2010](#)

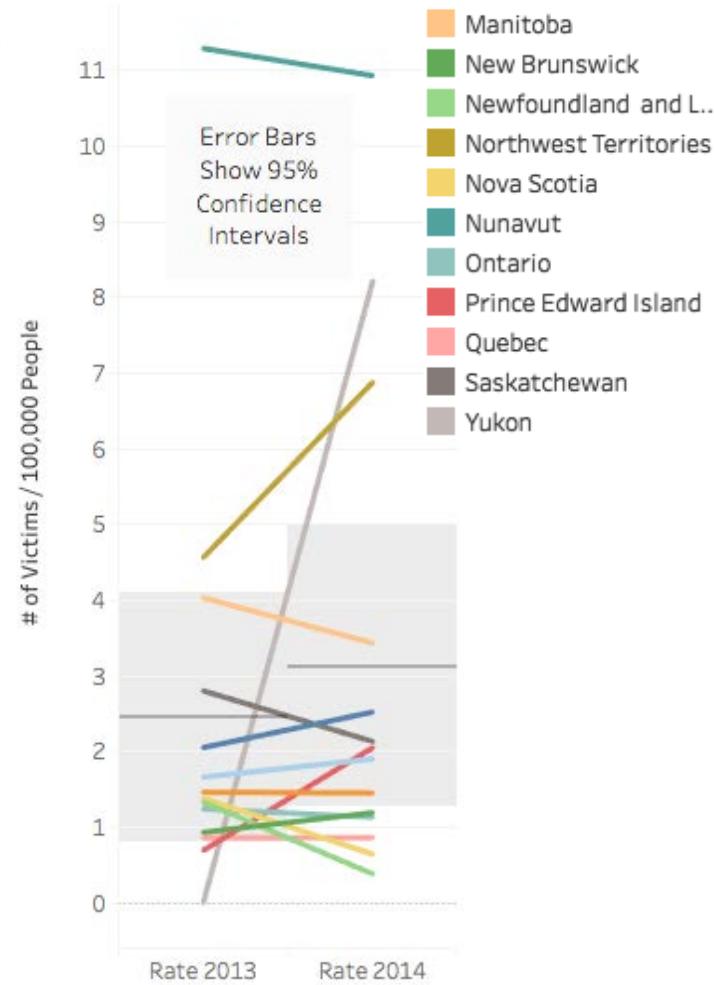
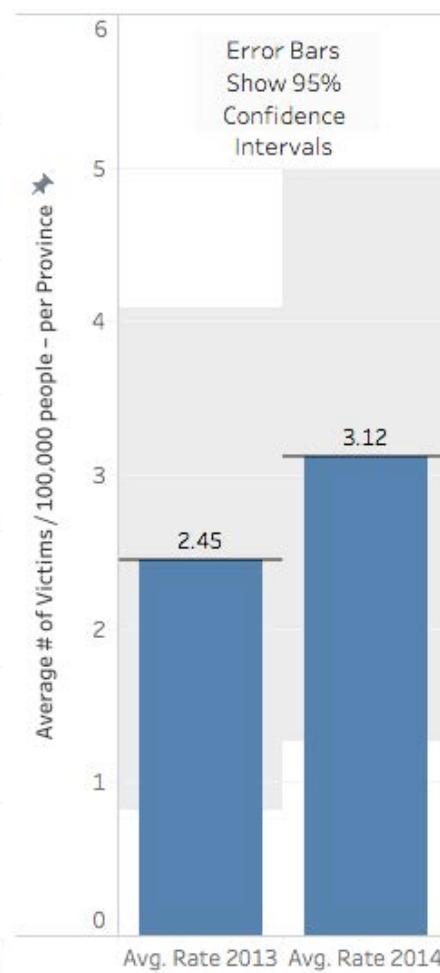
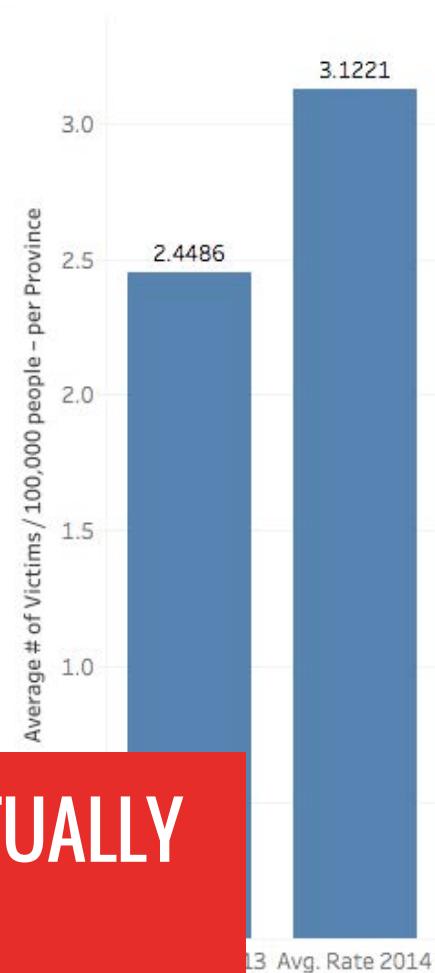
A “RORSCHACH” PROTOCOL

# IGNORING EFFECT SIZE AND VARIABILITY

Victims by Province Territory Table

Province/Territory	Rate 2013	Rate 2014
Alberta	2.05	2.52
British Columbia	1.66	1.90
Manitoba	4.03	3.43
New Brunswick	0.93	1.19
Newfoundland and Labra..	1.33	0.38
Northwest Territories	4.56	6.88
Nova Scotia	1.38	0.64
Nunavut	11.29	10.93
Ontario	1.24	1.13
Prince Edward Island	0.69	2.05
Quebec		
Saskatchewan		
Yukon		

ALTHOUGH, THIS IS ACTUALLY  
A REALLY BAD EXAMPLE!



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# CORRELATIONS

Is there **really** a correlation?

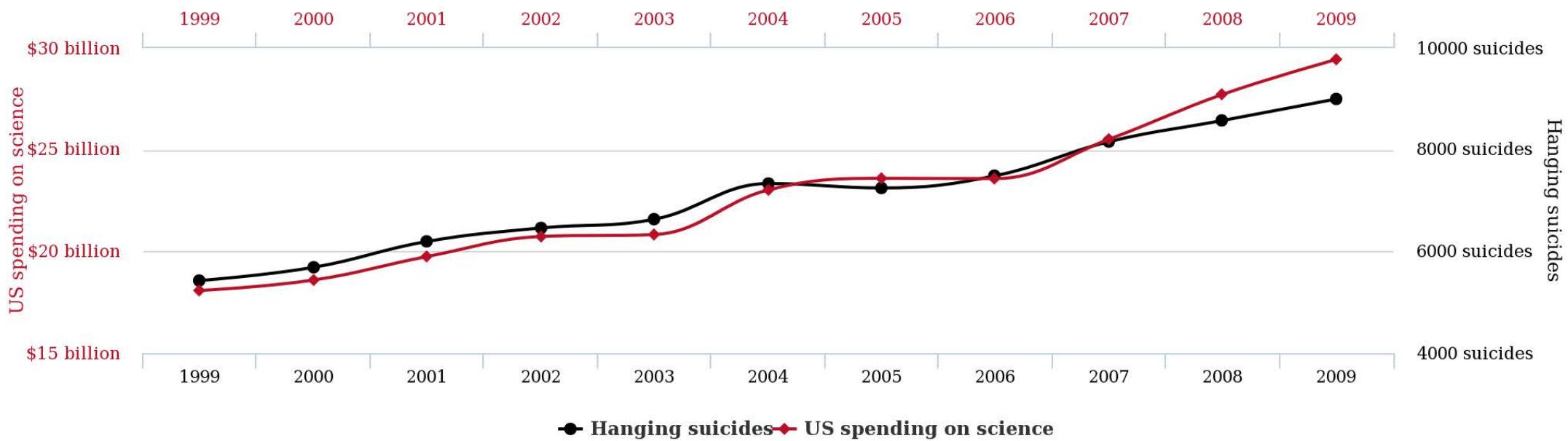
How **strong** is it?

Is it **corroborated** by other data?

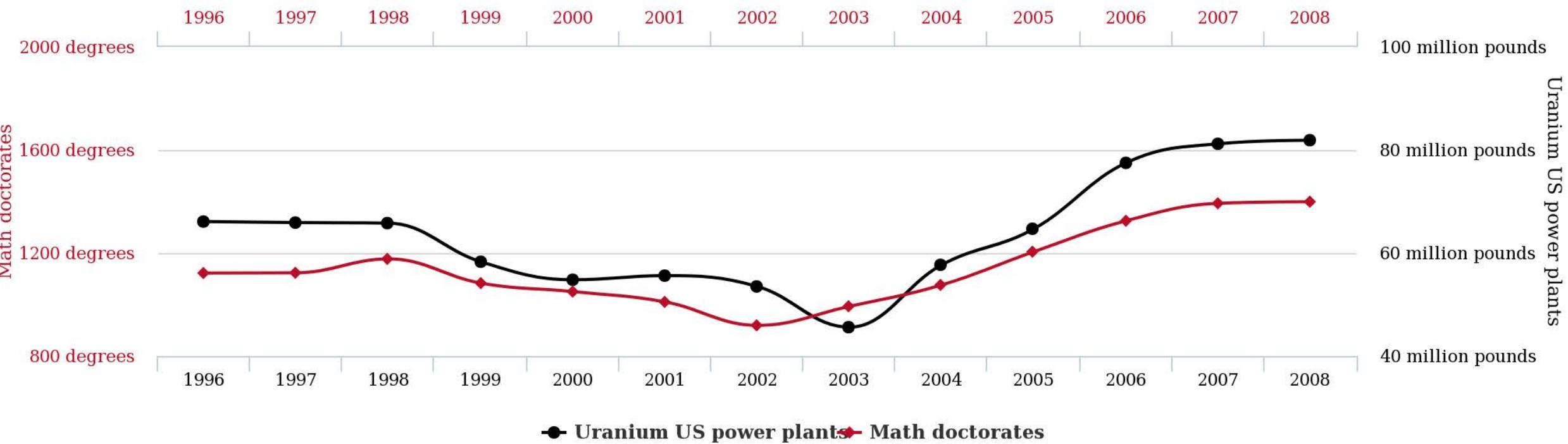
Does it **make sense**?

# EVEN STRONG CORRELATIONS MIGHT NOT MEAN ANYTHING!

**US spending on science, space, and technology**  
correlates with  
**Suicides by hanging, strangulation and suffocation**



**Math doctorates awarded**  
correlates with  
**Uranium stored at US nuclear power plants**



# A FEW MISTAKES THAT WE ALL MAKE

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# THE “LITERALLY” OF DATA ANALYSIS



**“SIGNIFICANTLY...”**

NEVER SAY THIS ...

UNLESS YOU'RE SURE THAT YOU  
HAVE PERFORMED THE CORRECT  
STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE TEST  
AND CAN REPORT P-VALUES, EFFECT  
SIZES, ETC.

DIFFERENT  
HIGHER/LOWER  
BIGGER/SMALLER  
MORE/LESS  
MORE IMPORTANT  
ETC...

# COMMUNICATING ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

A good analysis must avoid overstating claims, and be honest about what you don't or can't know!



## Edward Tufte



Tufte The Visual Display of Quantitative Information SECOND EDITION

Tufte Envisioning Information

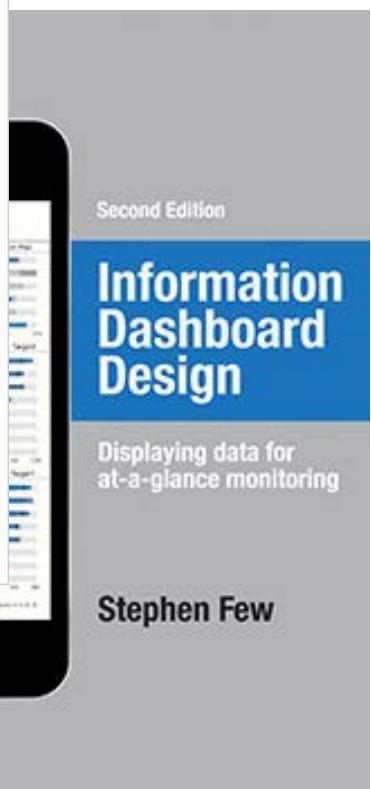
TUFTE VISUAL EXPLANATIONS



## Stephen Few



Stephen Few



Stephen Few

# GRAPHICAL INTEGRITY

Well-designed presentation of interesting data

Substance, statistics, and design

Complex ideas communicated with clarity, precision and efficiency

Gives the viewer greatest number of ideas in the shortest amount of time, with the least ink and smallest space

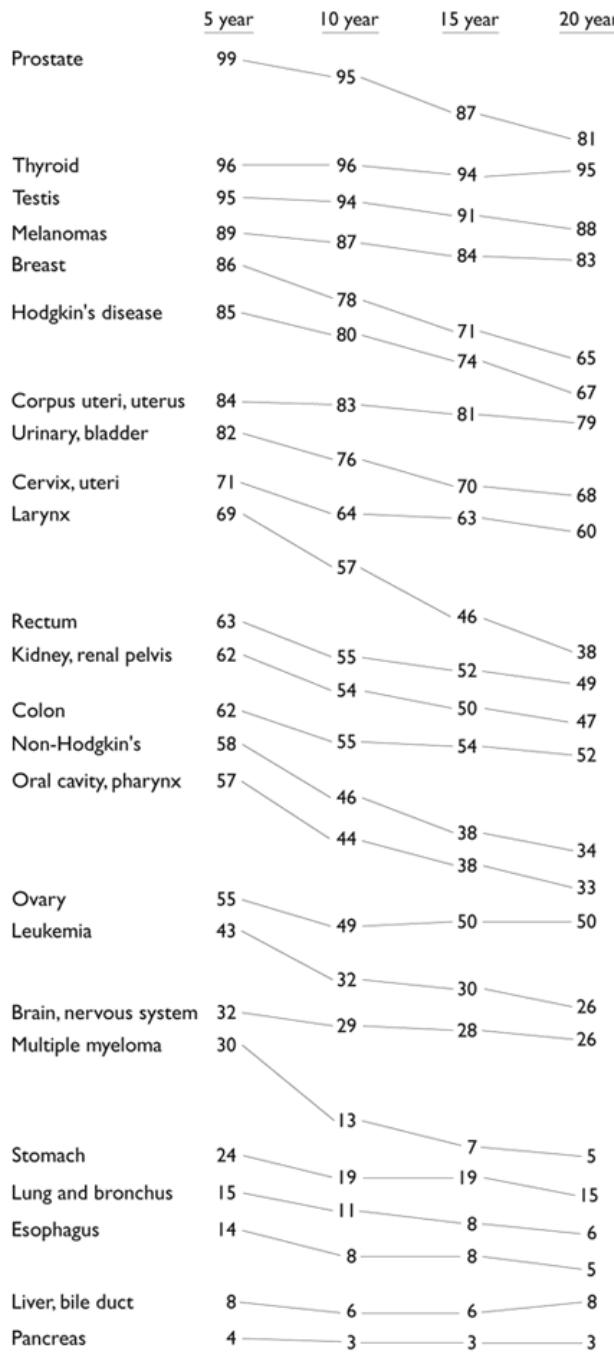
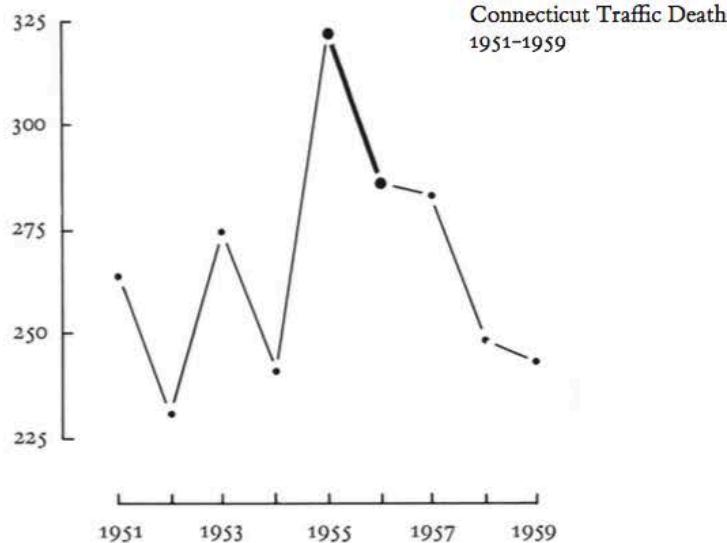
Nearly always multivariate

Requires telling the truth



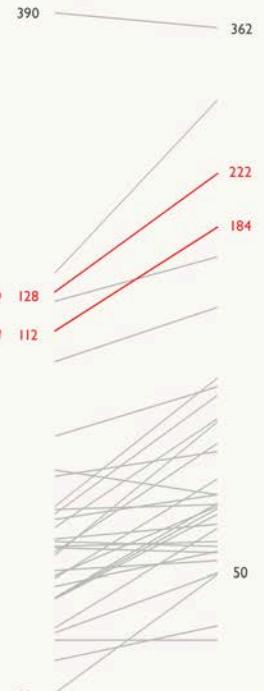
Edward Tufte

A few more data points add immensely to the account:

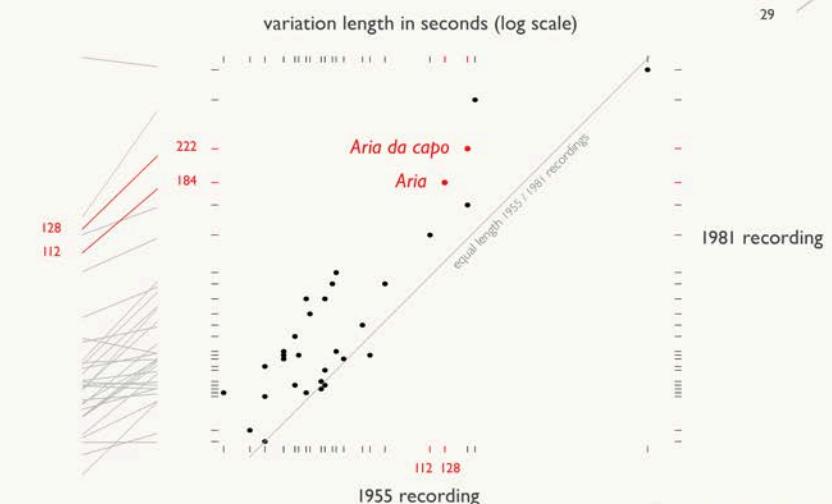


### GLENN GOULD, GOLDBERG VARIATIONS 1955 AND 1981 RECORDINGS

variation length in seconds (log scale)  
1955 recording      1981 recording



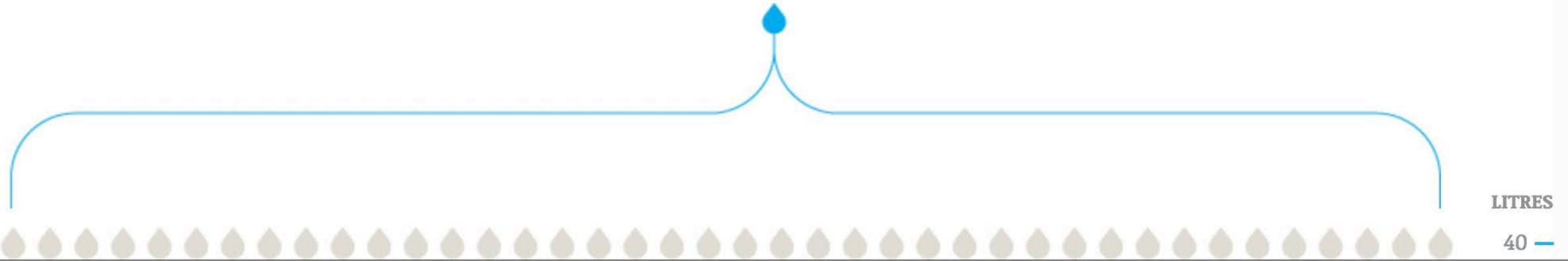
J. S. Bach's *Goldberg Variations* has 32 parts: an opening *Aria*, 30 variations, and finally an *Aria da capo*, a repeat playing of the opening *Aria*. Two major recordings are Glenn Gould's piano version, recorded in 1955 and 1981. Gould plays 4 versions of the beautiful *Aria*, each differing greatly in pace. The 1981 *Aria da capo* is very very slow—so slow that if it were any slower, the notes would fall apart.



Data from Gould, Goldberg Variations. Dotdashplot and slopegraph initially constructed with Lukasz Piwek's *Tufte in R*.

what if I told you:

**you eat 3496 litres of water**

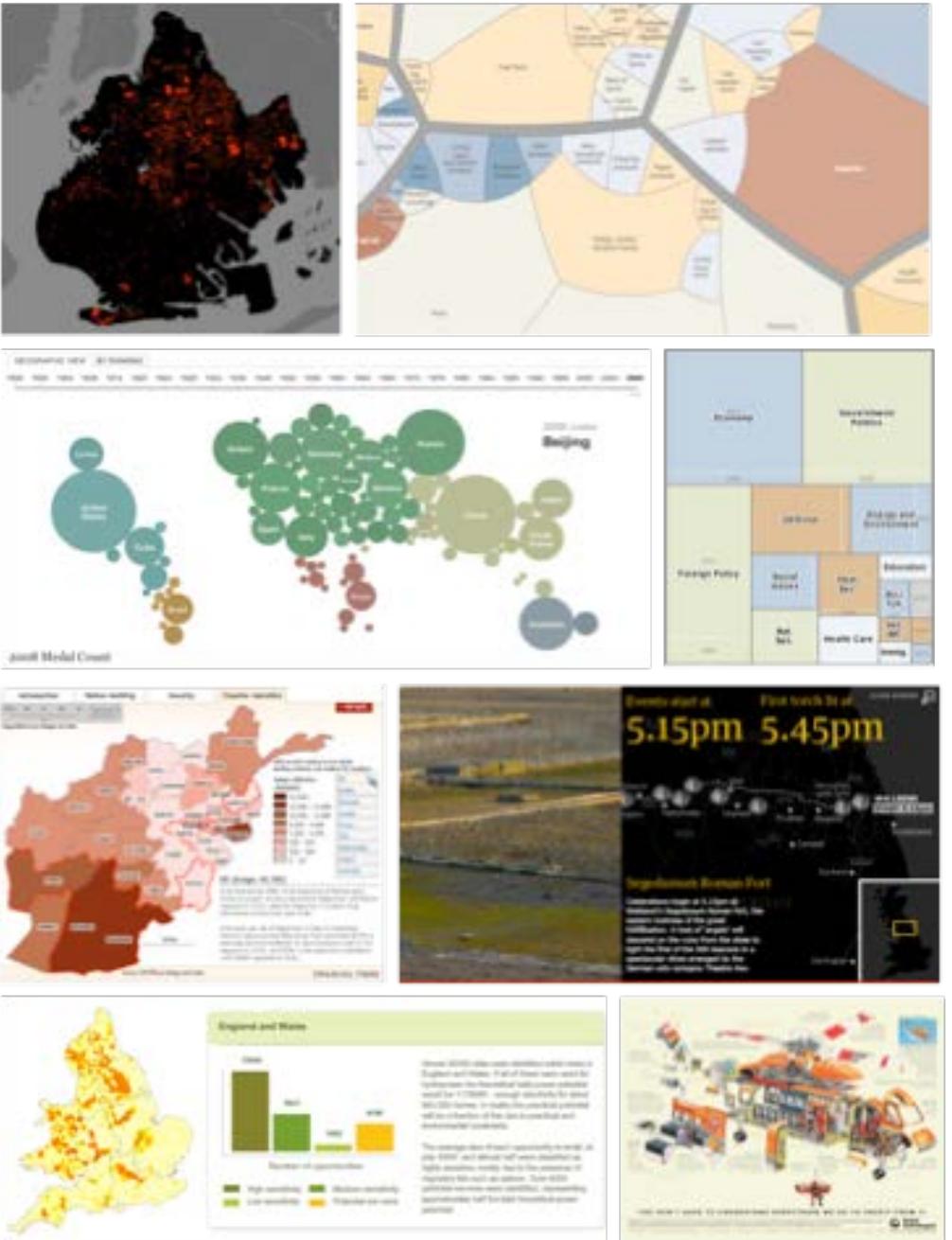


# HOW TO COMMUNICATE DATA HONESTLY TO AN AUDIENCE

(my version)

1. Be clear
2. Emphasize the important parts
3. Acknowledge assumptions and ambiguity
4. Avoid overstating results

# USEFUL PATTERNS FOR DATA STORYTELLING

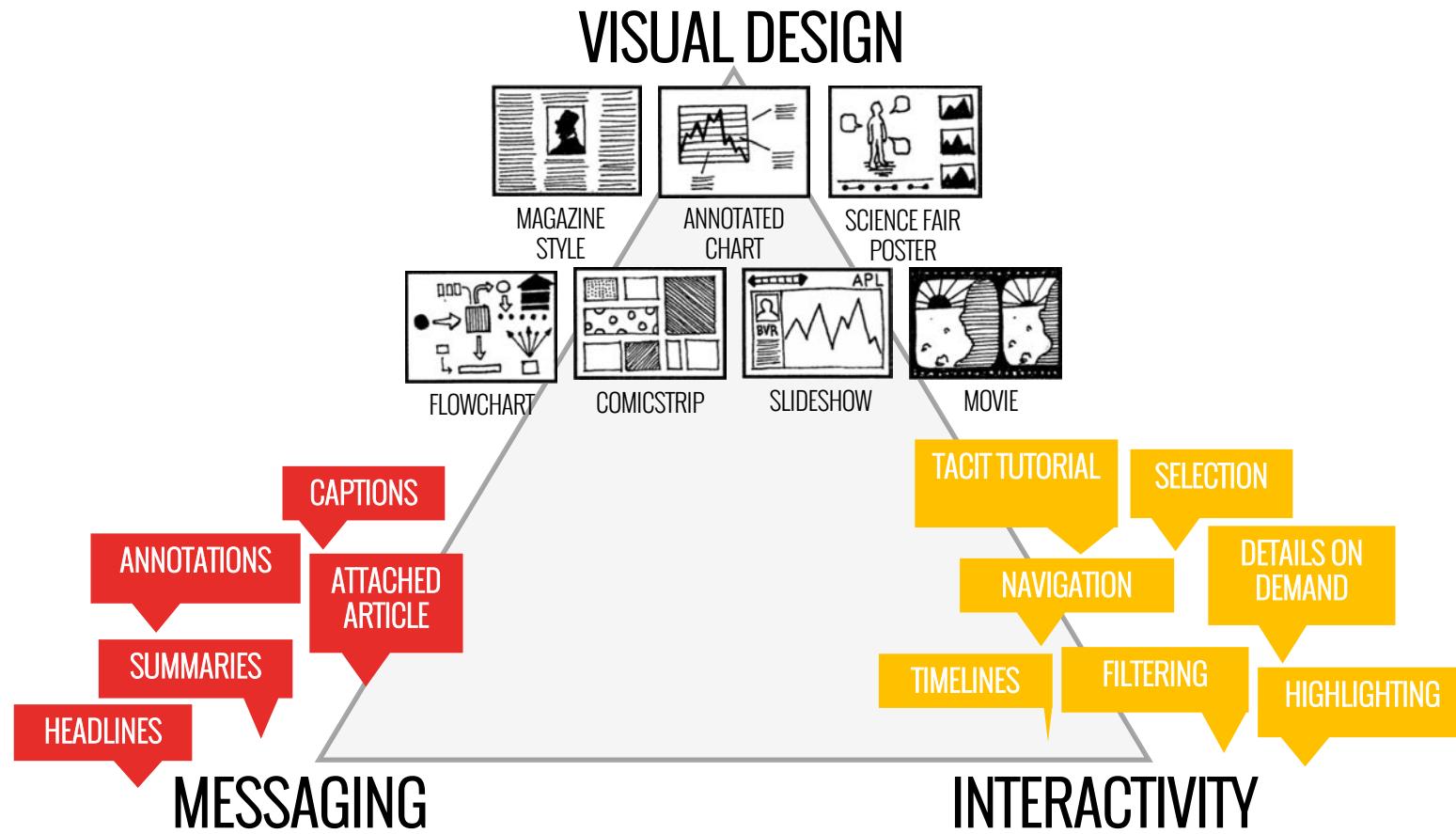


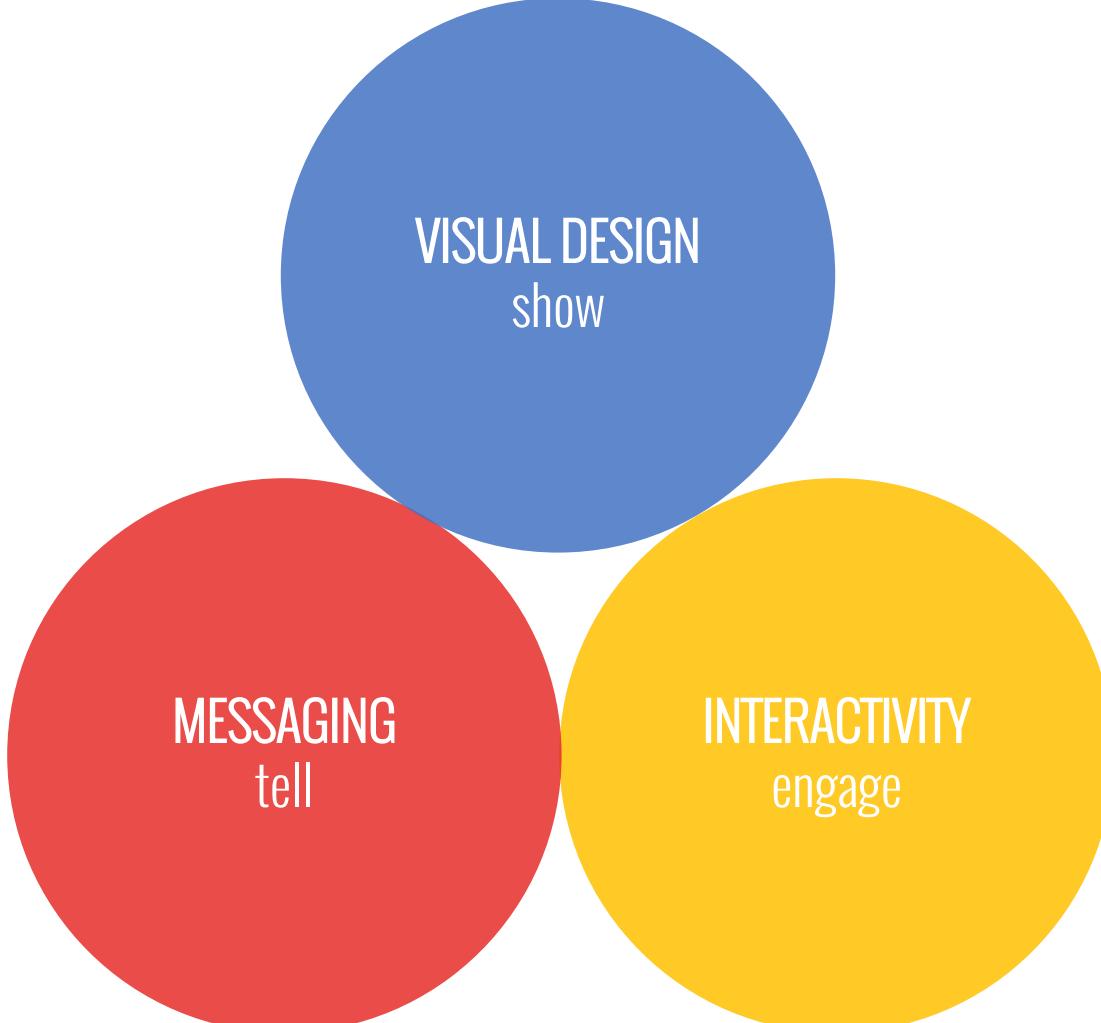
# 58 CASE STUDIES

70% JOURNALISM  
20% BUSINESS  
10% RESEARCH

EDWARD SEGEL &  
JEFFREY HEER 2010







**VISUAL DESIGN**  
show

**MESSAGING**  
tell

**INTERACTIVITY**  
engage

**VISUAL DESIGN**  
show

**MESSAGING**  
tell

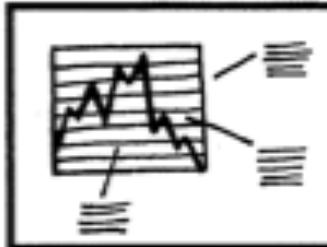
**INTERACTIVITY**  
engage

# GENRES OF NARRATIVE VISUALIZATION

Seven  
Genres



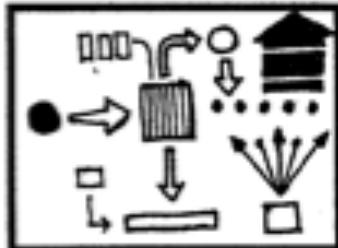
Magazine Style



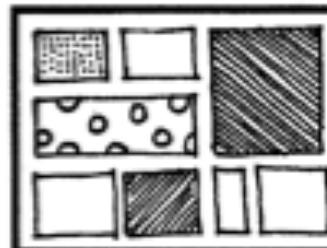
Annotated Chart



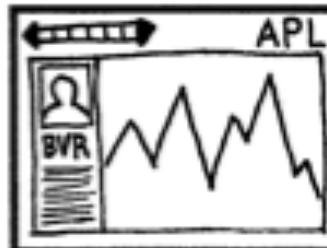
Partitioned Poster



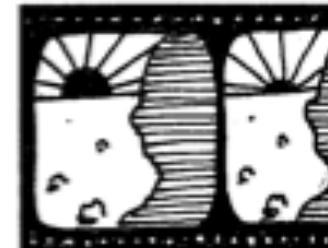
Flow Chart



Comic Strip



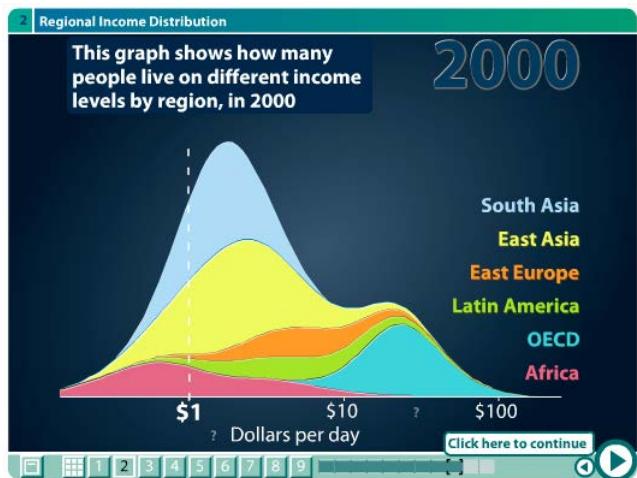
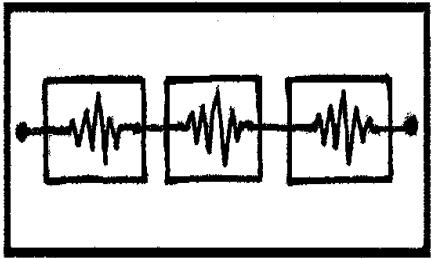
Slide Show



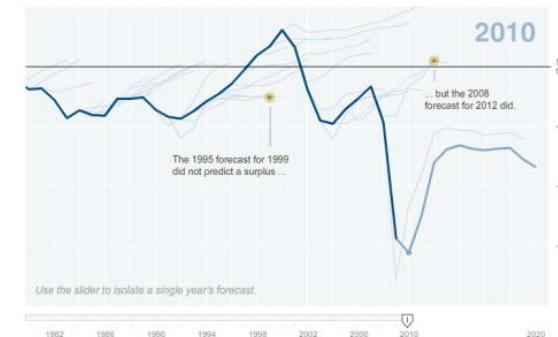
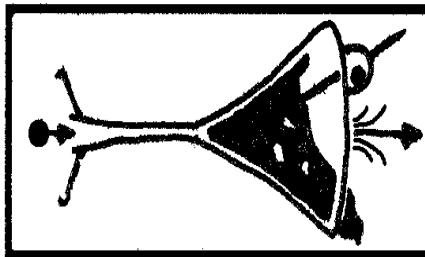
Film/Video/Animation

# BALANCING AUTHOR- & READER-DRIVEN STORIES

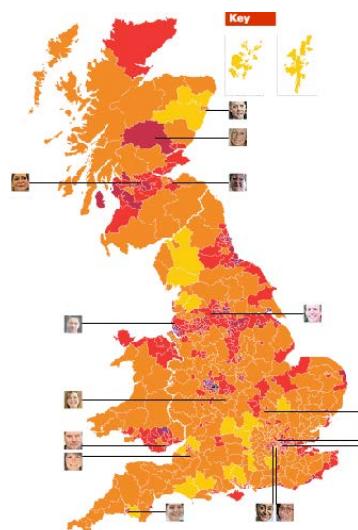
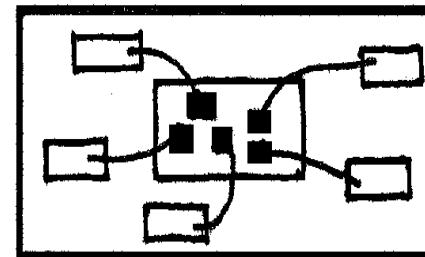
Interactive Slide Show



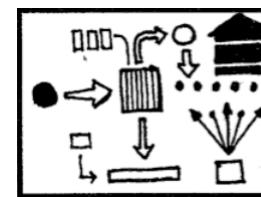
Martini Glass



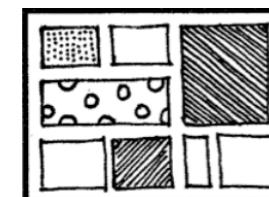
Drill-Down Story



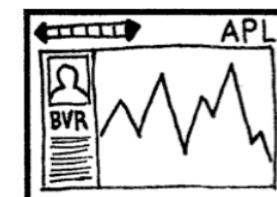
# THE MORE LINEAR, THE MORE LIKE A STORY. STORIES HAVE A BEGINNING, MIDDLE, AND END.



FLOWCHART



COMICSTRIP

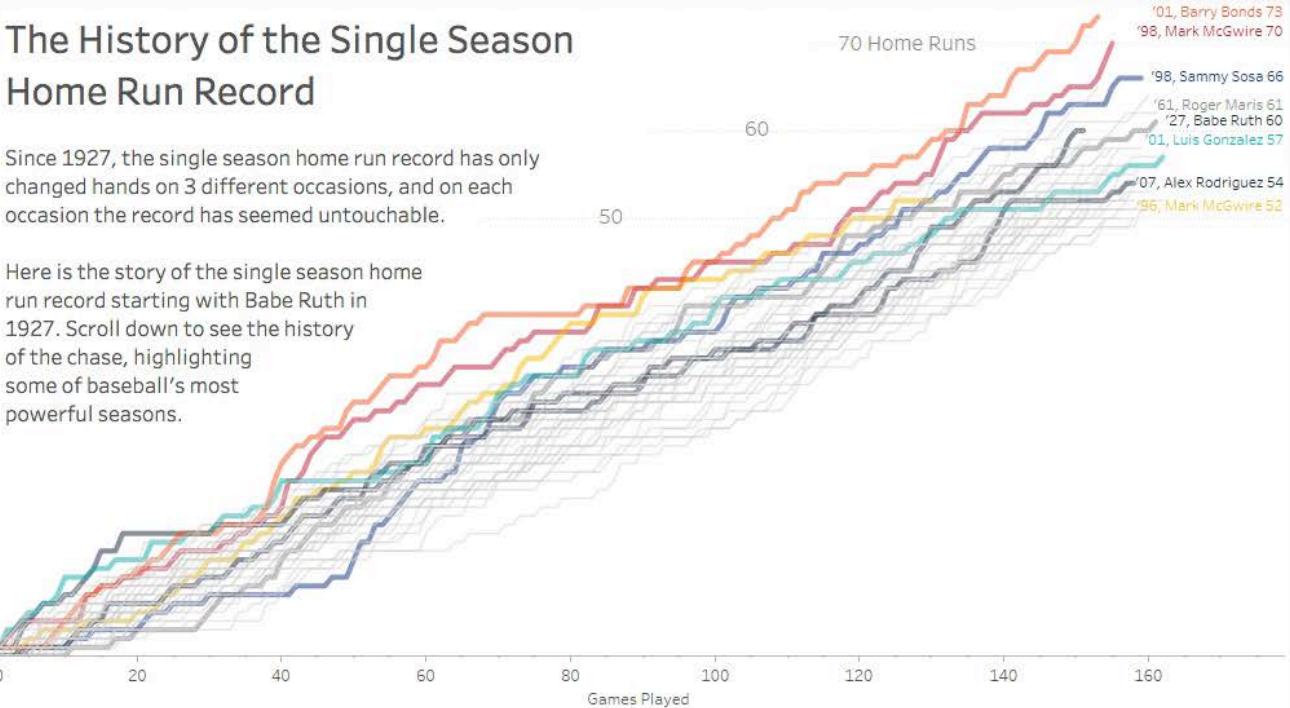


SLIDESHOW

# The History of the Single Season Home Run Record

Since 1927, the single season home run record has only changed hands on 3 different occasions, and on each occasion the record has seemed untouchable.

Here is the story of the single season home run record starting with Babe Ruth in 1927. Scroll down to see the history of the chase, highlighting some of baseball's most powerful seasons.

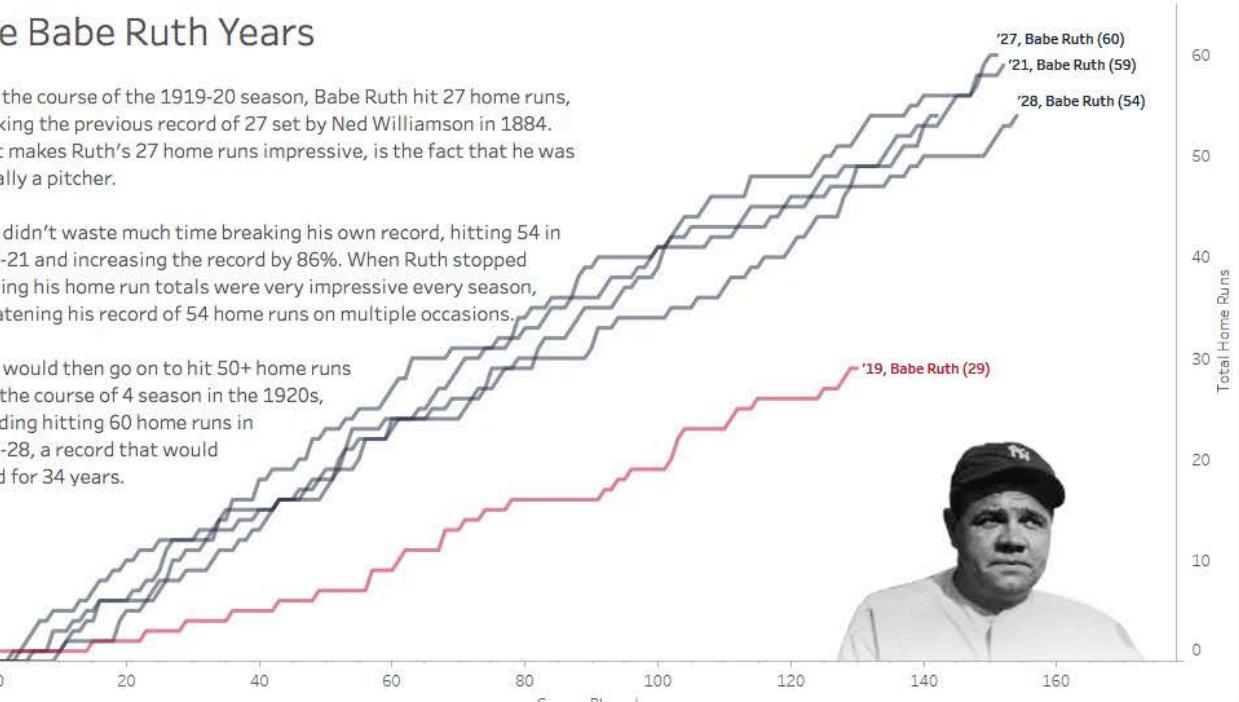


## The Babe Ruth Years

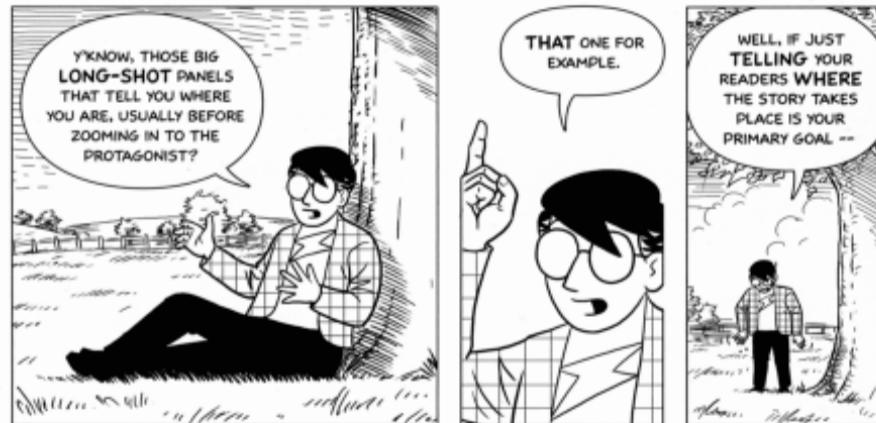
Over the course of the 1919-20 season, Babe Ruth hit 27 home runs, breaking the previous record of 27 set by Ned Williamson in 1884. What makes Ruth's 27 home runs impressive, is the fact that he was actually a pitcher.

Ruth didn't waste much time breaking his own record, hitting 54 in 1920-21 and increasing the record by 86%. When Ruth stopped pitching his home run totals were very impressive every season, threatening his record of 54 home runs on multiple occasions.

Ruth would then go on to hit 50+ home runs over the course of 4 seasons in the 1920s, including hitting 60 home runs in 1927-28, a record that would stand for 34 years.



# USE ESTABLISHING SHOTS SITUATE THE VIEWER BEFORE DIVING IN.



# 755



GRAB ATTENTION WITH IMAGE AND POSITION

Line = cumulative home runs

Hank Aaron  
755 homers  
23 seasons



Bonds takes lead  
Home runs  
after 16 seasons  
Bonds: 567  
Aaron: 554  
Ruth: 516

Babe Ruth  
714 homers  
22 seasons



Barry Bonds  
708 homers  
20 seasons



MAT CON

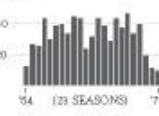
According to a book he began steroid use in 1991, a year later, he hit 40 home runs, surpassing his career peak.

REDUCED VISUAL PRIORITY

Differing Paths to the Top of the Mountain

Hank Aaron  
755

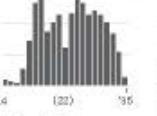
60 HR



15 times hit 30 or more (M.L. most).

Babe Ruth  
714

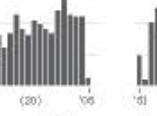
60 HR



Hit only 20 over first five seasons.

Barry Bonds  
708

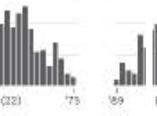
60 HR



Averaged 52 from 2000 to 2004.

Willie Mays  
660

60 HR



No one hit more from 1950-69.

Sammy Sosa  
588

60 HR



Three seasons to reach record (1990, 1992, 1993)

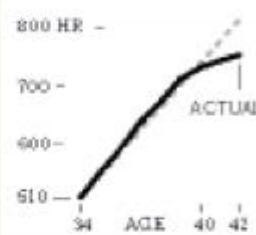
## Homer Pace After Age 34

If the accusations are correct, Bonds was 34 in his first season on steroids. Here are projected home run paces for each player after age 34.

PROJECTED PACE BASED ON AVERAGE OF PREVIOUS FIVE SEASONS

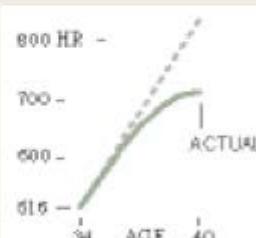
### Aaron

Actual homers slightly outpace projected homers for five seasons.



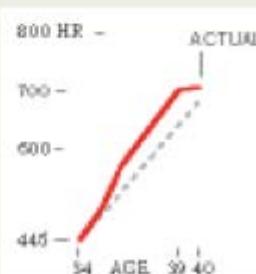
### Ruth

Averaged 46.4 homers a season from age 30 to 34. Averaged 42.5 for next four seasons.



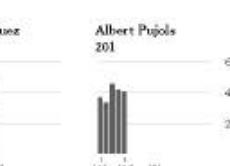
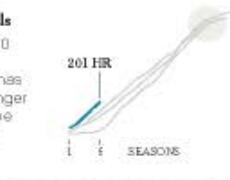
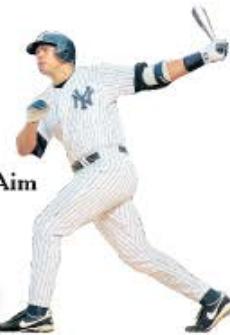
### Bonds

From age 35 to 39, he averaged 14 more homers a season than projected.



Note: Ages as of July 1 of each season.

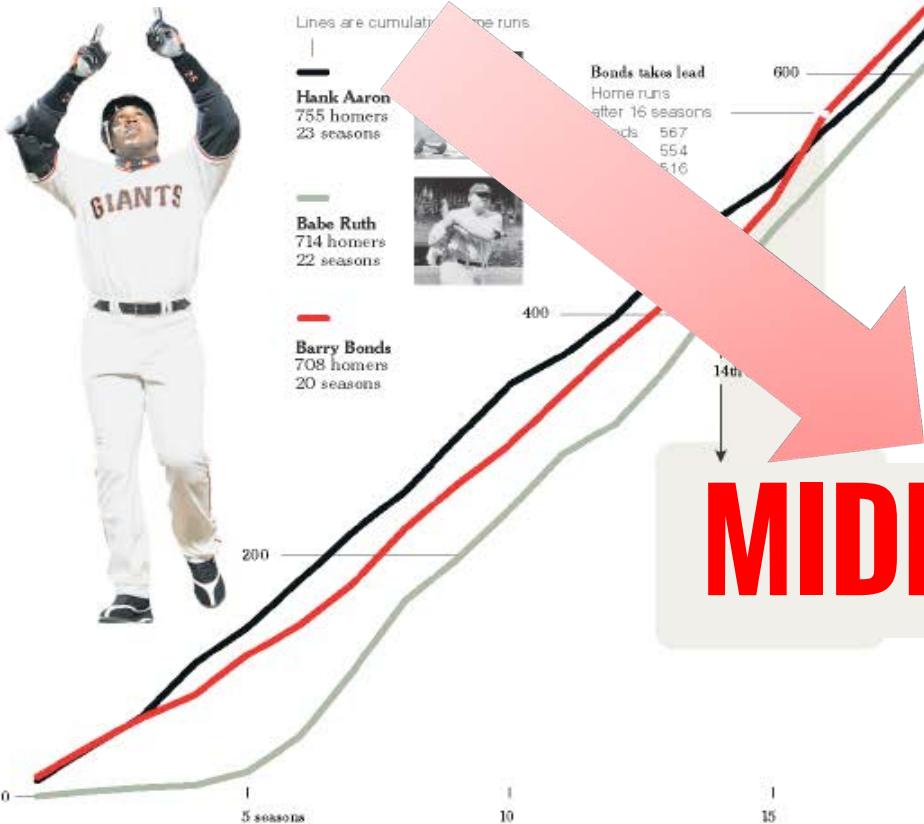
Others Taking Aim



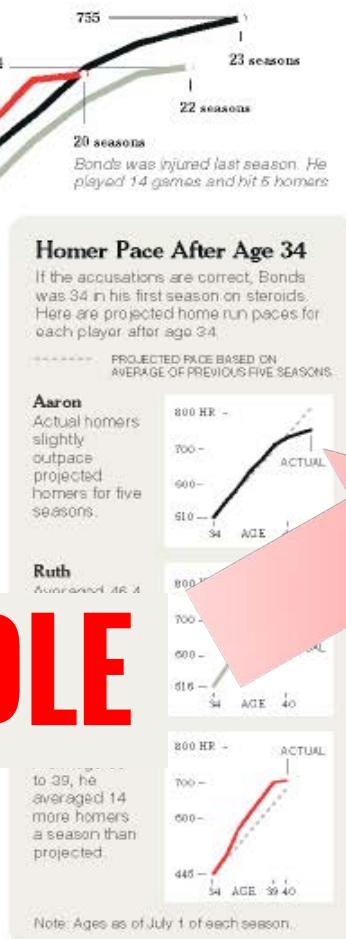
Youngest to reach 400 homers.  
Second most ever in first five seasons.

Atlanta Cox and Joe Ward/The New York Times

# BEGINNING



## MIDDLE



**Others Taking Aim**



Alex Rodriguez  
Is ahead of

## END

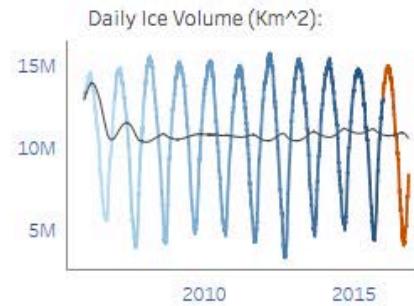


**Ken Griffey Jr.**  
Many thought he would be the next Ruth and Aaron until injuries limited his output.

## EPILOGUE

# The ice is melting.

Pick a region:



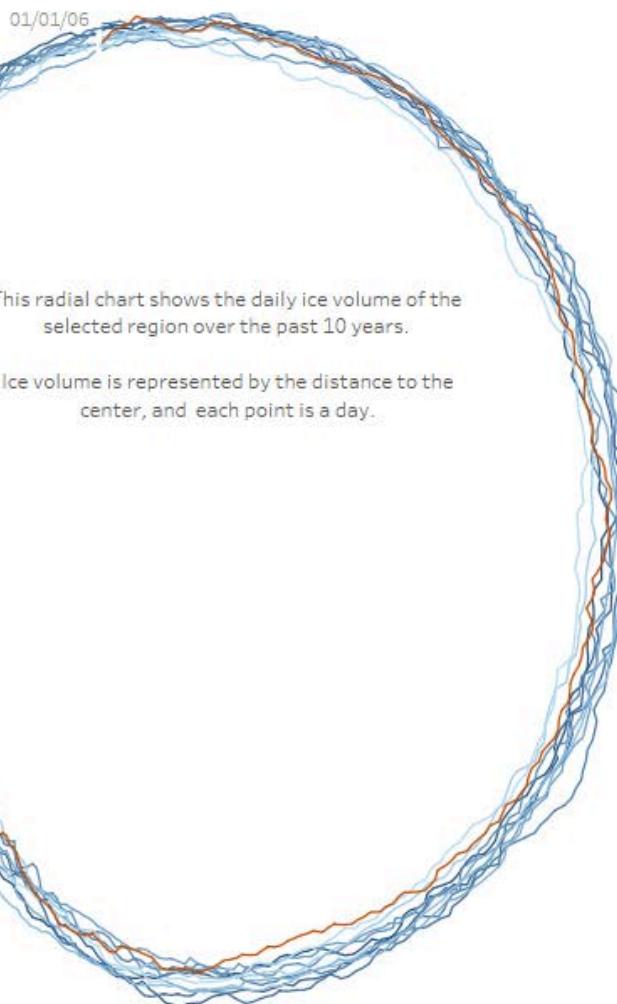
November 7, 2016  
8,424,918 km<sup>2</sup>

Same day, year on year:



-89,650 km<sup>2</sup> per year, on average.

Northern Hemisphere



Years:  
(All)

2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
2010  
2011  
2012  
2013  
2014  
2015  
2016

Source: sidads.colorado.edu

Viz: @Nicco\_Cirone

Nicco Cirone

← Undo → Redo ← Reset

ab|eau

4,309 views | more by this author

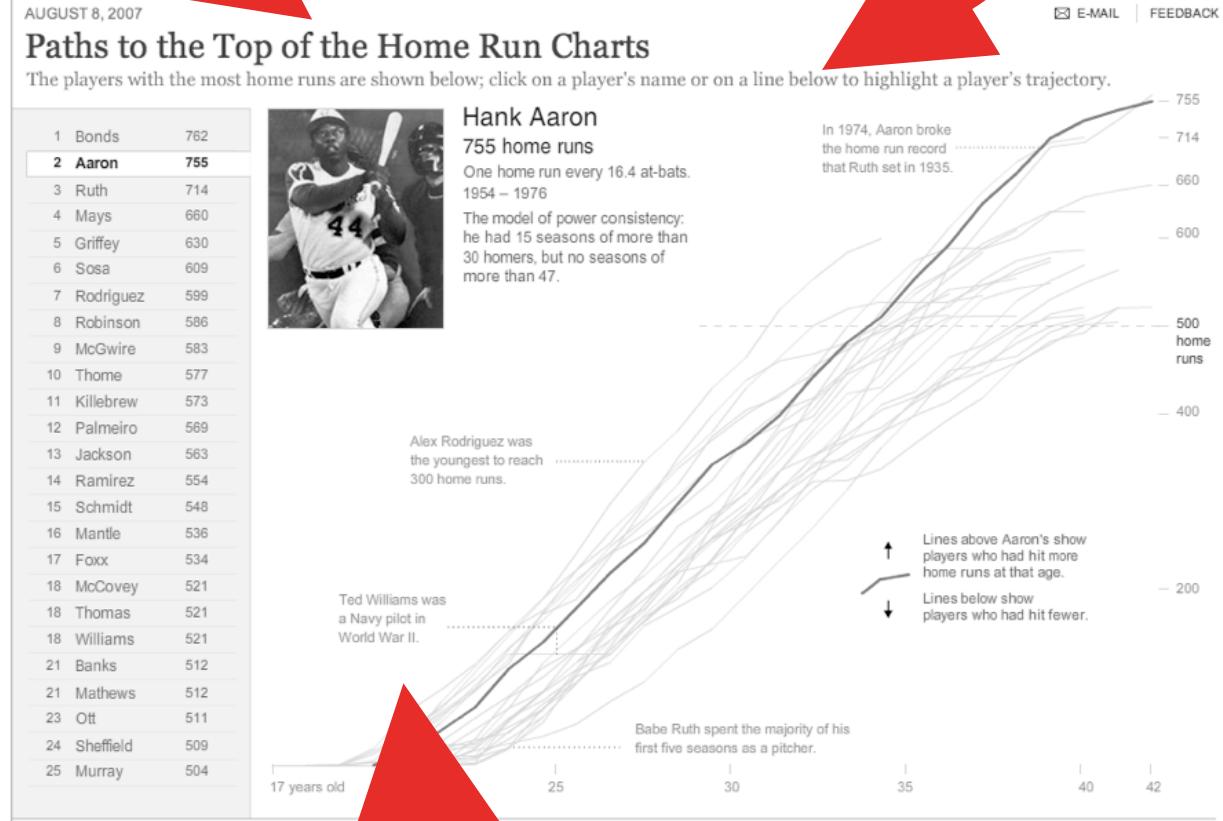
Share Download Full Screen

**VISUAL DESIGN**  
show

**MESSAGING**  
tell

**INTERACTIVITY**  
engage

## HEADLINE



## CAPTION

USE HEADLINES, CAPTIONS, & ANNOTATIONS  
QUICKLY DRAW ATTENTION TO WHAT'S IMPORTANT.

## MARK FOR EMPHASIS

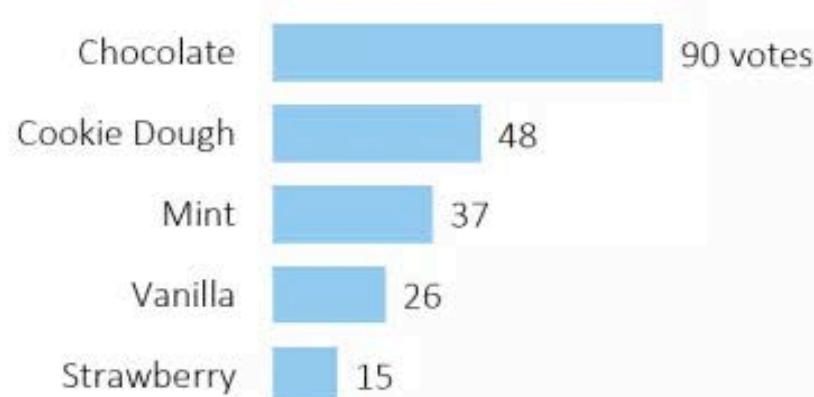


## ANNOTATION

# DESCRIPTIVE TITLES AND ANNOTATIONS

Can be the difference between  
a chart and a story.

Ice cream flavor preferences based on  
2014 survey of elementary school  
students (n=216)



or

Chocolate was most popular flavor  
among elementary students surveyed

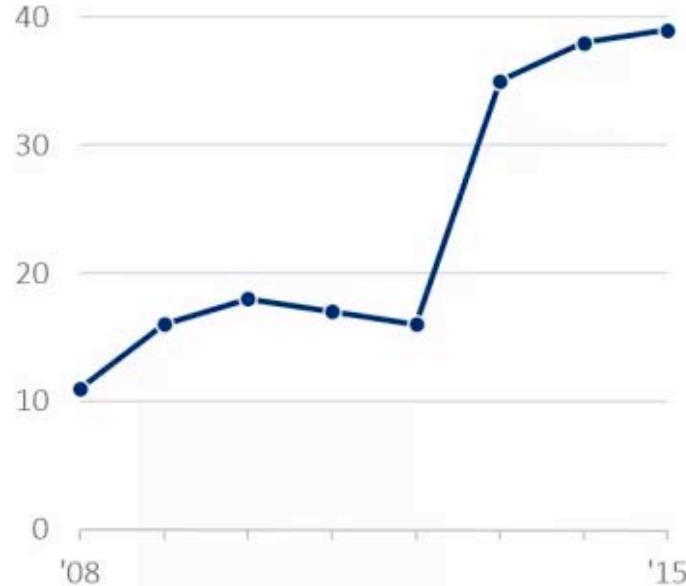


Source: 2014 survey of elementary school  
students (n=216)

# DESCRIPTIVE TITLES AND ANNOTATIONS

Can be the difference between  
a chart and a story.

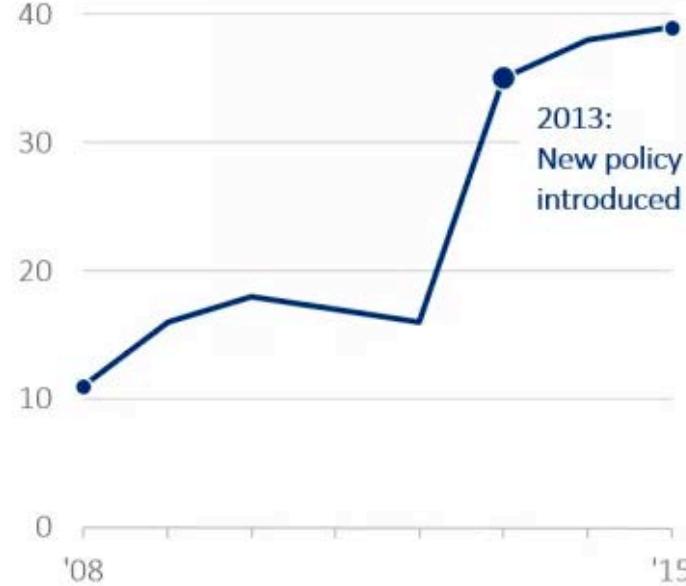
Number of studies funded each year



or

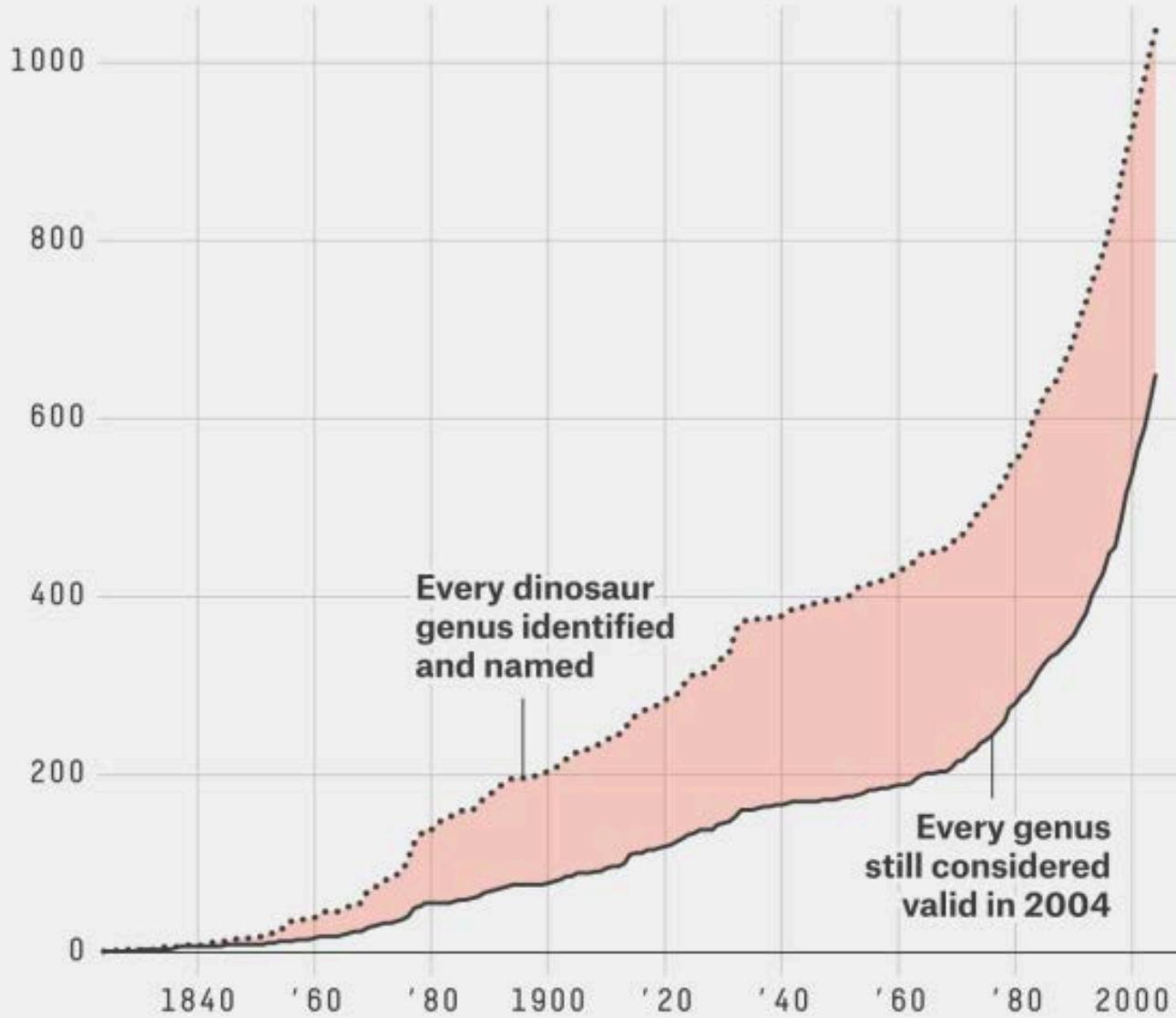
We're funding more studies each year

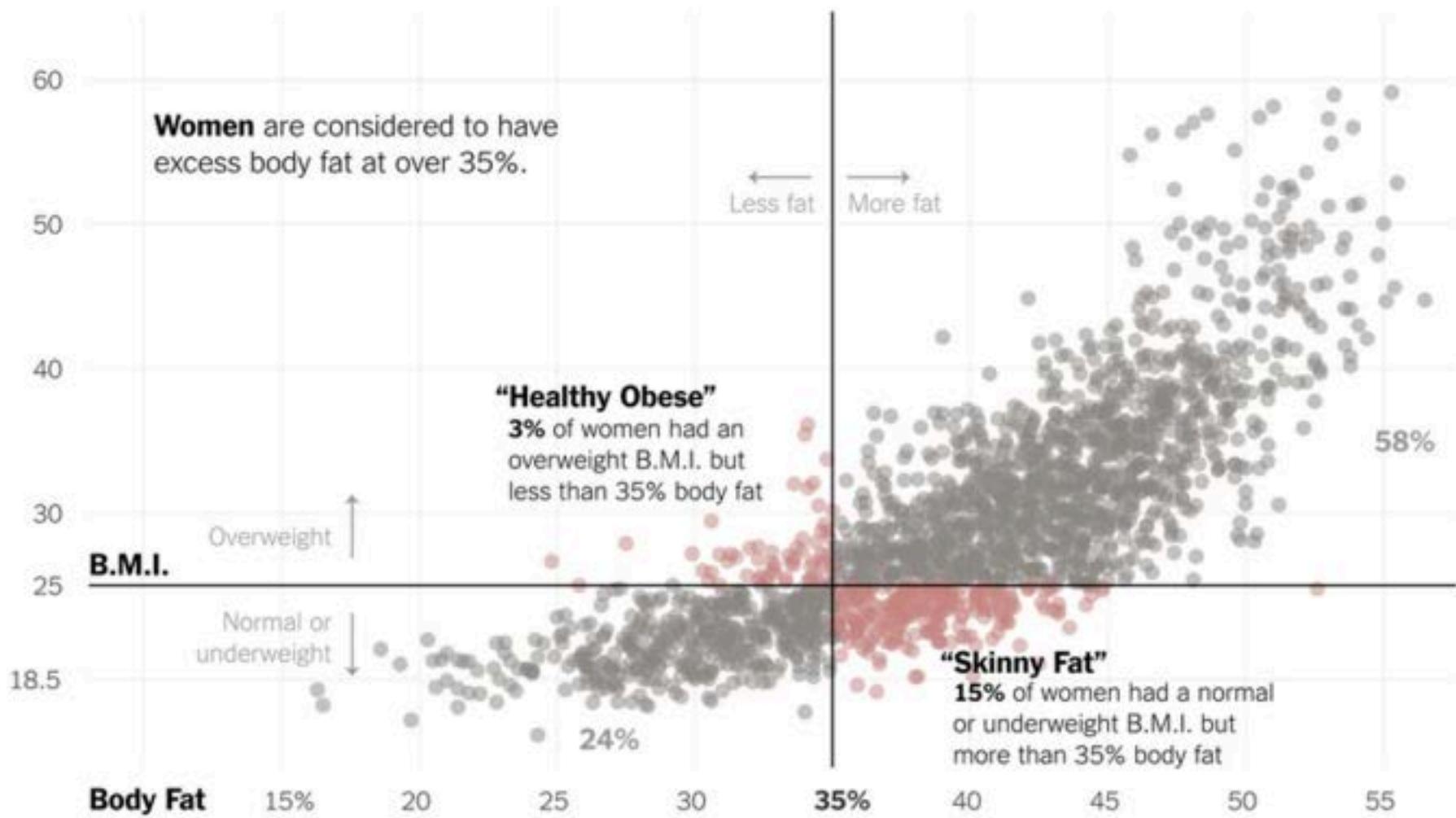
Beginning in 2013, we set aside new funding to measure the effectiveness of our initiatives – and we evaluated 39 of our programs in 2015 alone.



## Dinosaurs named, then unnamed

By 2004, about 37 percent of every dinosaur genus ever identified and named had had its genus status revoked





Data backs up the notion that many Americans are "skinny fat" and "healthy obese" — their body fat percentage tells a different story than their B.M.I.

Source: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2005–2006



ISOLATED

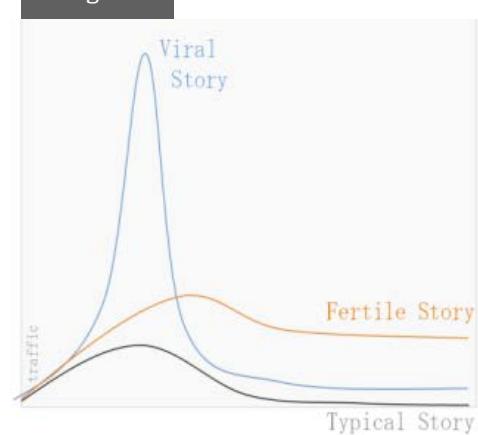
# WEAVE TEXT INTO THE GRAPHIC, NOT JUST AT THE BEGINNING.

Text and graphics work better together than apart.

CONNECT THE TEXT TO RELEVANT GRAPHICS  
“See fig. 5”

RECENTLY MORE WORK THAN TRADITIONAL  
this work economical, visualizations  
that are either *persistent* or *viral* in order  
to bring traffic. *Persistent stories* cover  
topics that maintain relevance over time  
(economics, the housing market).  
*Viral stories* “fatten and elongate”  
topics (which are already *fatter* and longer  
than this slow-burn, these visualizations  
of stories over several months and  
*Fertile stories* achieve heavy traffic  
levels of popularity. These stories tend  
to be sensational news. To get the  
best visualizations for editorial content

Fig. 5



# “SPARKLINES” & WORD-SCALE VIS

*Sparklines: Intense, Simple, Word-Sized Graphics*

THE most common data display is a noun accompanied by a number. For example, a medical patient’s current level of glucose is reported in a clinical record as a word and number:

glucose 6.6

Placed in the relevant context, a single number gains meaning. Thus the most recent measurement of glucose should be compared with earlier measurements for the patient. This data-line shows the path of the last 80 readings of glucose:

 glucose 6.6

Lacking a scale of measurement, this free-floating line is dequantified. At least we do know the value of the line’s right-most data point, which corresponds to the most recent value of glucose, the number recorded at far right. Both representations of the most recent reading are tied together with a color accent:

 glucose 6.6

Some useful context is provided by showing the *normal range* of glucose, here as a gray band. Compared to normal limits, readings above the band horizon are elevated, those below reduced:



**Edward Tufte**

# “SPARKLINES” & WORD-SCALE VIS

## Science fiction

---

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For other uses, see [Science fiction \(disambiguation\)](#).*

33k visits in last 30 days

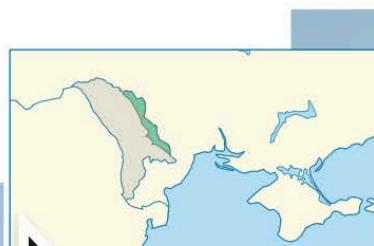
Science fiction is a genre of **fiction** dealing with imagination and futuristic settings, futuristic **science** and **technology**, **space travel**, **time travel**, **parallel universes**, and **extraterrestrial life**. It often explores the potential consequences of scientific and technological advancements.

# “SPARKLINES” & WORD-SCALE VIS

## EASTERN EUROPE

### Soviet cult and pragmatism in Transnistria

Experts worry that the next "Crimea" could be the breakaway region of Transnistria. Many locals there don't share that fear, and if the last referendum holds, a large majority would welcome a Russian annexation.



## “SPARKLINES” & WORD-SCALE VIS

Gonzalo Higuaín slides  
a cross in from the right



and Ronaldo,  
at the front post, shoots  
off target.

Future climate change and associated impacts will vary from **region to region** around the globe.<sup>[13][14]</sup> The **effects** of an increase in global temperature include a **rise in sea levels** and a change in the amount and pattern of **precipitation**, as well as a probable expansion of **subtropical deserts**.<sup>[15]</sup> Warming is expected to be **strongest** in the Arctic, with the continuing **retreat of glaciers, permafrost and sea ice**. Other likely effects of the warming include more frequent **extreme weather** events including **heat waves**, droughts, heavy rainfall, and heavy snowfall,<sup>[16]</sup> **ocean acidification**, and **species extinctions** due to shifting temperature regimes. Effects significant to humans include the threat to **food security** from decreasing crop yields and the loss of habitat from inundation.<sup>[17][18]</sup>

## Contropedia



Today are 8°C in Berlin.

## Sparkline



[...] Generation, dass neben der numerische und grafischen Darstellung der Messwerte eine automatische Regelung des Durchmessers oder der Wanddicke übernimmt. sikora

[...] sehen: Moderne Steuerungen mit benutzerfreundlicher Visualisierung und Anbindung an das Prozessleitsystem sowie moderne, [...] bma-de

[...] Flussprofile für jede einzelne Spritzenpumpe und die grafische Visualisierung des Gerätezustandes jeder einzelnen Achse. cefor

## Linguee



h źródła ciepła. Zlikwidowanie tych znie zanieczyszczenia atmosfery pyler dorami, ale także przyczyni się do zyczyszczenie atmosfery ozonem. Tlen z czas niepełnego spalania paliw. W atrakcji powstaje ozon. Głównym za wszczętości pojazdy z silnikami jest sektor hytowo-komunalny i rolnictwa (produkcja stali). Tlenek węgla rząjącym dla organizmu człowieka gospodarczy rozprzestrzenia się z otą szkodliwego działania tlenku węgla z hemoglobinem krewi, która traci podjęcie. Nie stwierdzono bezpośredniego szkodliwego

## Typo-graph



cornflower, and as clear as c steeples, piled one upon another. dwell the Sea King and his sons in yellow sand. No, indeed; the pliant, that the slightest agit between the branches, as bits of the Sea King. Its walls are built of shells, that open and close, glittering pearl, which would

## Silenc



```
i := 1; j := N;
repeat k := (i+j) div 2
  if a[k] < x then i := k else j := k
until (a[k] = k) V (i ≥ j)
```

```
i := 1; j := N;
repeat k := (i+j) div 2
  if a[k] < x then i := k else j := k
until (a[k] = k) V (i ≥ j)
```

## Semantic Highlighting



## Syntax Hightlighting



Ala.	B	C	Da.	E	Oks.
Alaska	A	Me	U	Ore.	
Ariz.	D	Md.	T	Pa.	
Ark.	C	Mass.	S	R.I.	
Calif.	E	Mich.	V	S.C.	
Colo.	F	Minn.	W	S.D.	
Conn.	G	Miss.	Y	Tenn.	
Del.	H	Mo.	X	Texas	
D.C.	I	Mont.	Z	U.S.	
Fla.	J	Neb.	c	Utah	
Ga.	K	New	g	Vt.	
Hawaii	L	N.H.	d	Wa.	
Idaho	M	N.J.	e	Wash.	
Ill.	N	N.M.	f	W.Va.	
Ind.	O	N.Y.	h	Wis.	
Iowa	P	N.C.	a	Wyo.	
Kern.	Q	N.D.	b		
Ky.	R	Ohio	i		

have sponsored covert action or "state terrorism" against other democratic states in Iran in 1953, Guatemala in 1954, and Chile in 1973 undermine the claim that democracies will not sponsor terrorism in each case, the target state had dubious democratic credentials. Uninvolvement in internal affairs, but not terrorism as it is commonly understood, was the United States had little to fear from other democracies.

The democratic world must export freedom throughout the world so that people who live under repressive regimes, but for the sake of the world's free will the world be safe.<sup>19</sup>

### Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?

George W. Bush's first term in office was initially devoted to Iraq and to establishing his own ideals and dreams, unfortunately, his eight months. On September 11, 2001, he was reborn as a war president. In 2001, the Bush administration has argued that if the world can be in the Middle East we will not have only spread American values but also security. The Bush Administration's ideology is that as democracy

## How Senator John Walsh...



## StateFace



having their proper form, whilst the marine men of the same two great powers pass through consider and often great changes in their development. Sp again, barely undergo metamorphosis. The l:

## On The Origin of Species



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 1  
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2  
2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3  
3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4  
4 4 4 4 4 5 5 5 5 5 5  
6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6  
6 6 6 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7  
7 7 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8  
8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9

## FatFonts



— 😊 😃 😄 😅 😆 😈 😉 😊 , "Mr. Downey told me phrases is like writing sentences in English – you get better the whole vocabulary."

So I took his 😊 : I sat down with the iOS emoji keyboard. Why hadn't I been using 😊 to tell people I was at the gym people out for drinks? Or 😊 to say, well, you know?

The trouble is that the characters that would best express always there. One reason is that emoji comes from 🖥 means "picture character." By my count, 🖥 % of the new emojis available to 🖥 users aren't going to be useful to the U.S., like 🚻 and 🎉.

That also means many potentially useful characters are: there are 🍏 🍐 🍑 🍒 , there is still no single emoji

## Emoji



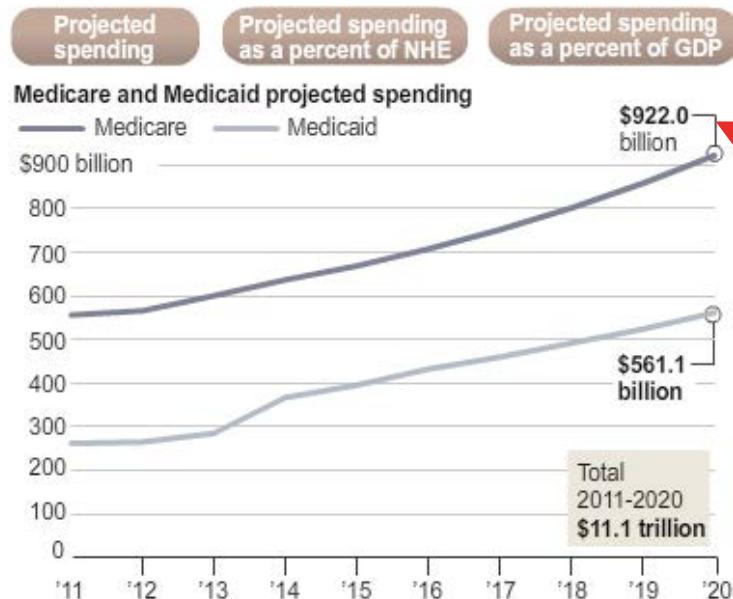
# MIND YOUR PRECISION.

Significant digits, tick marks, and labels suggest what deserves attention.



## Medicare and Medicaid Spending Show No Signs of Slowing Down

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services projects increases in spending compared to gross domestic product and national health expenditures.

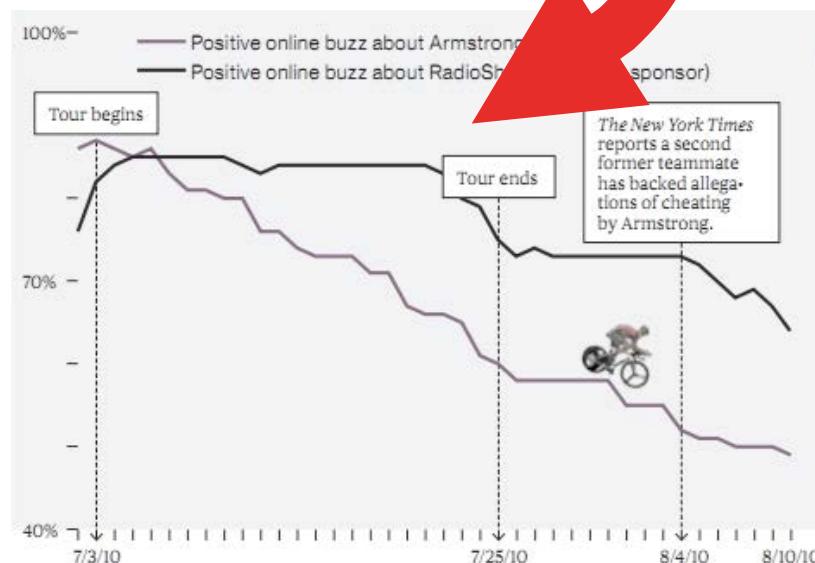


Sources: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Bloomberg Government  
Graphic: Adrienne Lewis  
BGOVgraphics@bloomberg.com

TOO PRECISE

THOUGHTFUL

FINE

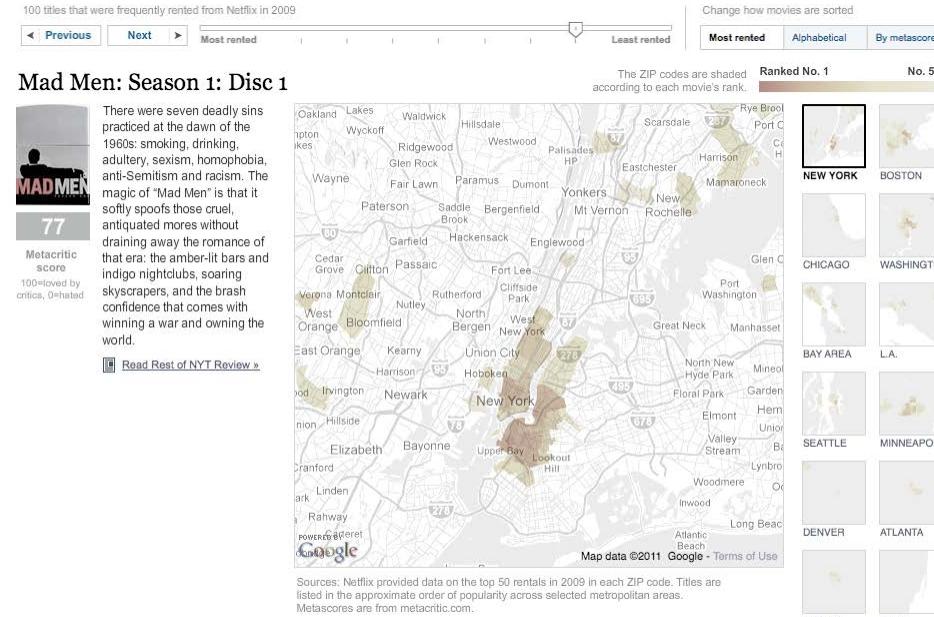


Representative	District	Fiscal 2010 contract spending
Mike Coffman	Colo. 6	\$3.26 billion
Doug Lamborn	Colo. 5	2.98 billion
Rob Bishop	Utah 1	2.76 billion
Kenny Marchant	Texas 24	2.58 billion
Jeff Duncan	S.C. 3	2.40 billion
Sandy Adams	Fla. 24	2.36 billion
Lamar Smith	Texas 21	1.65 billion
Steve Scalise	La. 1	1.49 billion
Jeff Landry	La. 3	1.47 billion
Roscoe Bartlett	Md. 6	1.44 billion
John Carter	Texas 31	1.42 billion

Published: January 8, 2010

## A Peek Into Netflix Queues

Examine Netflix rental patterns, neighborhood by neighborhood, in a dozen cities. Some titles with distinct patterns are *Mad Men*, *Obsessed* and *Last Chance Harvey*. Comments (135)



# START WITH AN INTERESTING VIEW.

## Curate the experience from the beginning.

# MAKE DATA RELATABLE & PUT NUMBERS AND FACTS IN CONTEXT.

250 thousand square miles?  
“It’s the size of Alberta!”

## Wetlands Destruction



Coastal marshes absorb fertilizer runoff from farms and buffer civilization from Gulf storms.

Losses in coastal watersheds, 1998 to 2004

Great Lakes	20,000	acres
-------------	--------	-------

Atlantic	110,000	acres
----------	---------	-------

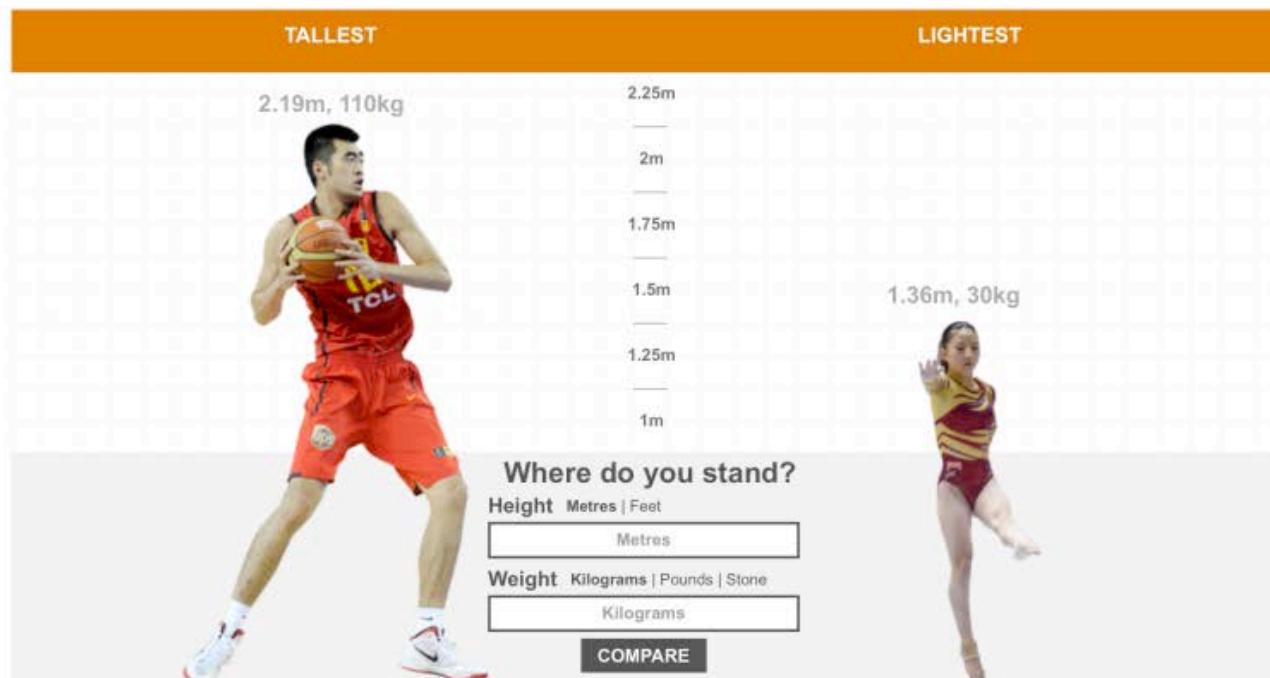
Aug 16, 2010

# MORE NARRATIVE PATTERNS

## Users find themselves

### Your Olympic athlete body match

Olympic athletes come in all shapes and sizes, from the lithe limbs of Japan's Asuka Teramoto to the gargantuan frame of China's Zhaoxu Zhang. But how do you measure up in comparison? Try our app below and find out. Why not then share your results with your friends?



HELPS ANCHOR VIEWER IN THE PIECE.  
MAKES DATA MORE PERSONALLY RELEVANT.

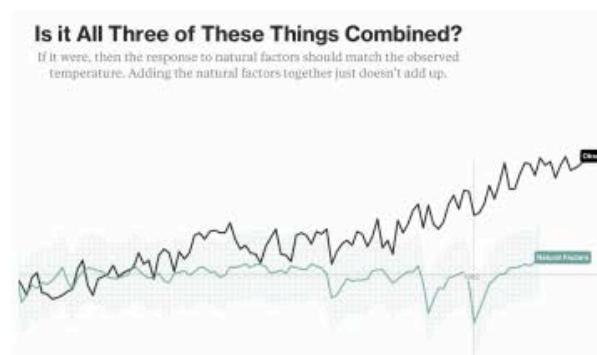
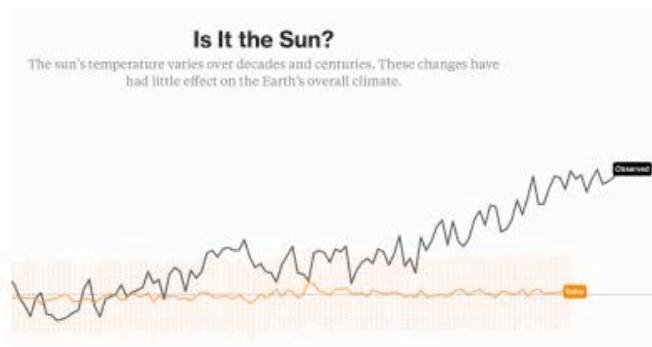
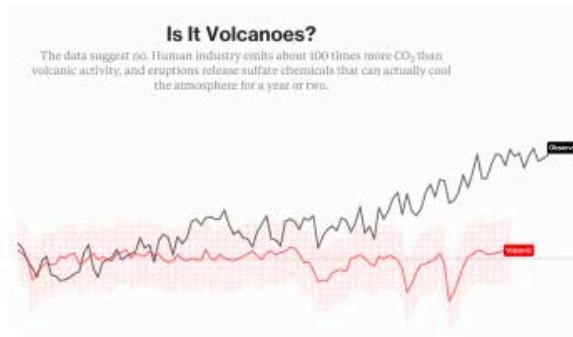
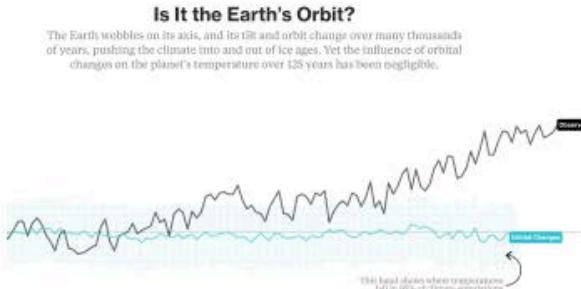
2016 LYN BARTRAM, BENJAMIN BACH, JEREMY BOY,  
PAULO CIUCCARELLI, STEVEN DRUCKER,  
YURI ENGELHARDT, ULRIKE KOEPPEN, MORITZ  
STEFANER, BARBARA TVERSKY, & JO WOOD.

# So groß ist der Eisberg im Vergleich zu Ihrer Stadt

In der Westantarktis hat sich ein gigantischer Eisberg von der knapp siebenfachen Größe Berlins vom Schelfeis gelöst. Verschieben Sie ihn auf der Karte und übertragen Sie die Dimensionen auf Ihre Gegend.



# Again, and again...

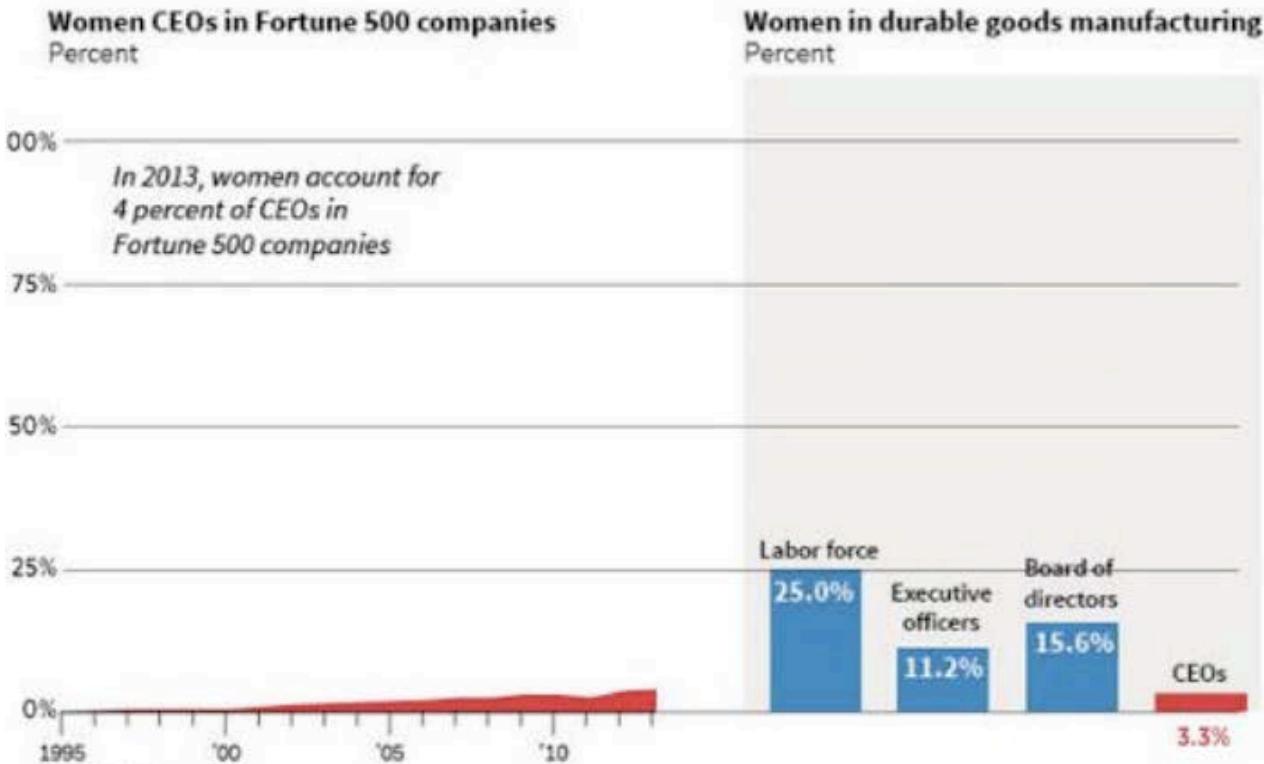


SHOW SAME PHENOMENON  
OVER AND OVER, CHANGING  
ONLY ONE VARIABLE.  
RHYTHM STRENGTHENS THE  
NARRATIVE.  
REPEATED DISAPPOINTMENT  
SETS UP THE FINAL REVEAL.

# Break conventions

## The glass ceiling persists

General Motors named Mary Barra as its next CEO, replacing Dan Akerson. Here's a look at how women are faring in their advancement to the top of Fortune 500 companies and the durable goods sector.



## PURPOSEFULLY BREAK CONVENTIONS OF CHART DESIGN.

Breaking expectations can be used to underline particular interpretations.

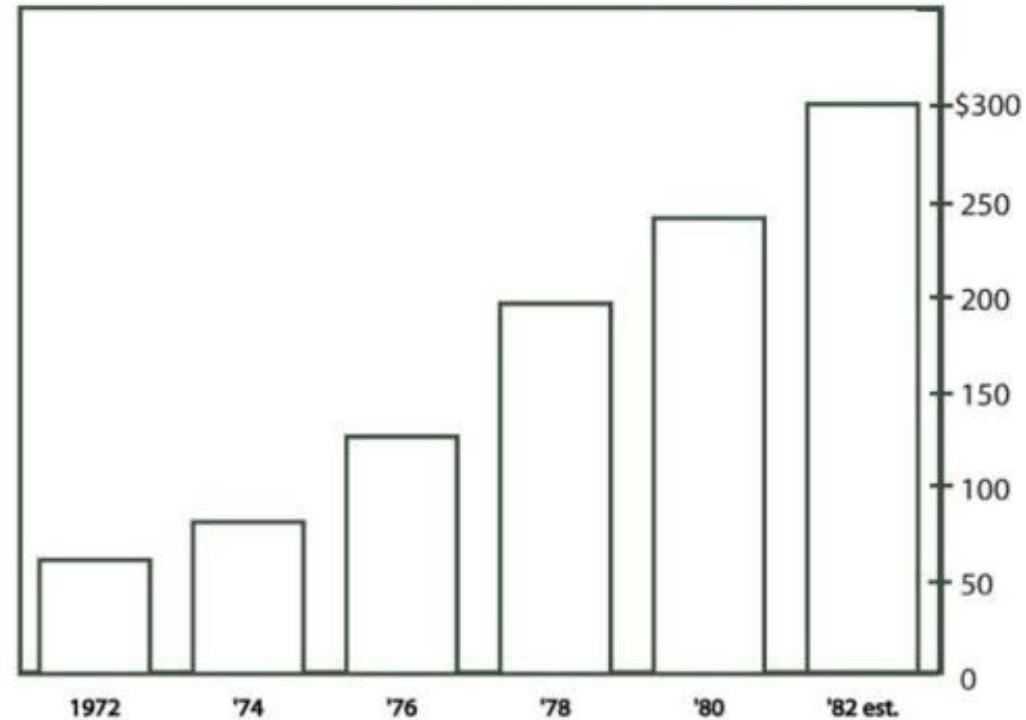
2016 LYN BARTRAM, BENJAMIN BACH, JEREMY BOY, PAULO CIUCCARELLI, STEVEN DRUCKER, YURI ENGELHARDT, ULRIKE KOEPPEN, MORITZ STEFANER, BARBARA TVERSKY, & JO WOOD.

# USE EMBELLISHMENTS SPARINGLY & CAREFULLY.

Stylised visuals can be engaging but are hard to get right.



**MONSTROUS COSTS**  
Total House and Senate campaign expenditures, in millions

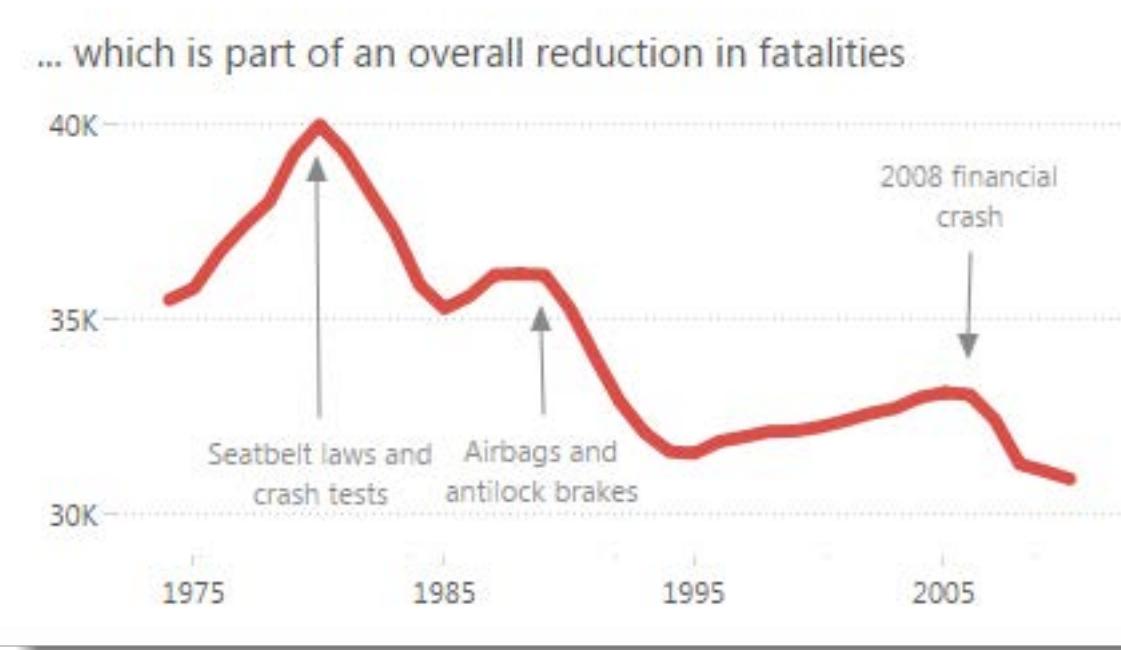


**NIGEL HOLMES**



IT'S IMPORTANT TO REALLY  
UNDERSTAND THE RULES OF GOOD  
VISUAL COMMUNICATION BEFORE YOU  
TRY TO BREAK THEM.

# ALMOST ALL OF THIS IS FAIRLY STRAIGHTFORWARD TO DO IN TOOLS LIKE TABLEAU



...and you can create some really elaborate presentations if you push the tool to its limit.

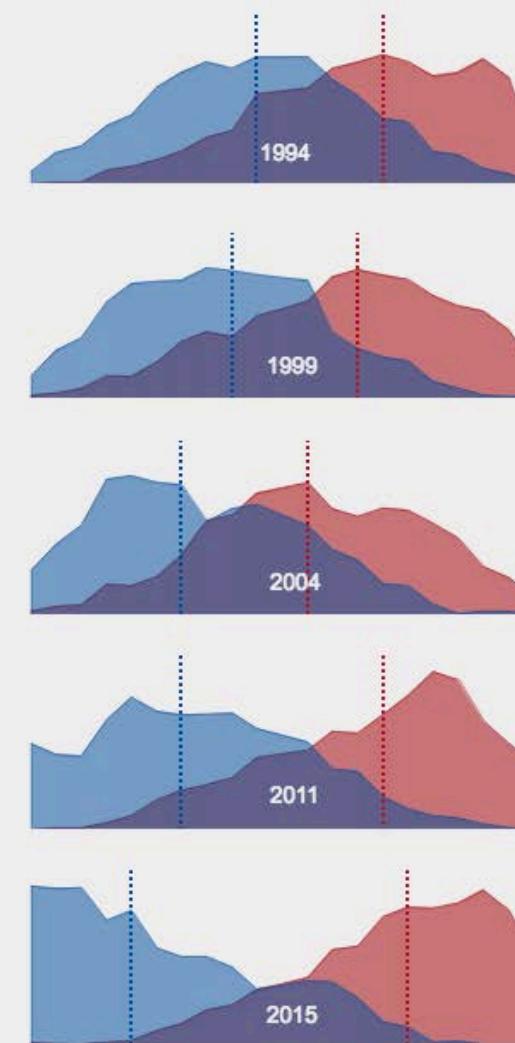
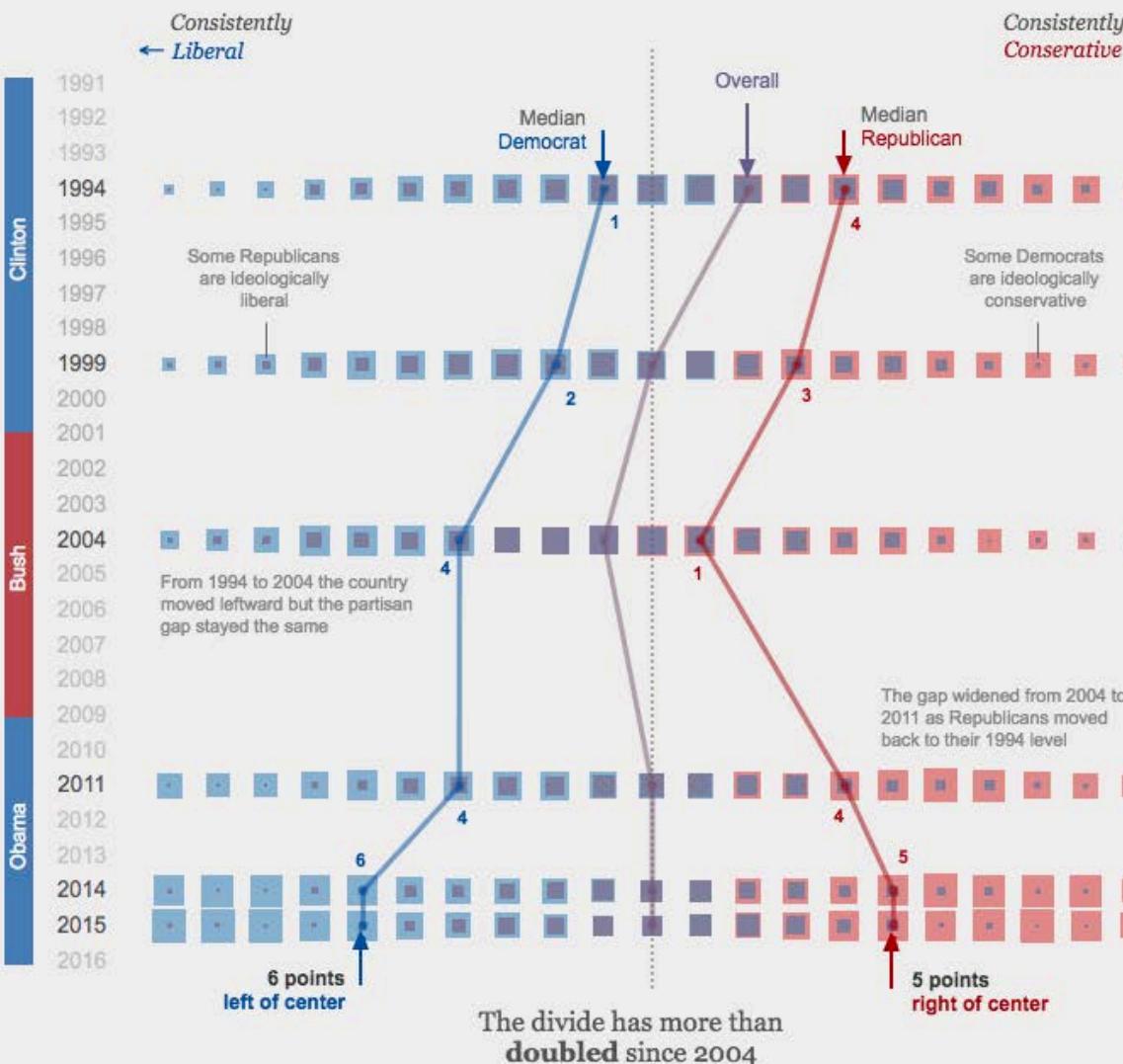
# US vs. THEM

From 1994 to 2015, Pew Research Center scored survey respondents on a 10-point ideological scale. In the past decade, members of both parties moved further away from the center.

Choose a Segment

General Population

Politically Engaged



By Robert Rouse. Source: [Pew Research Center](#)

# A COUPLE OF THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR

Make sure your charts are legible!

- Increase font sizes
- Use clear axis labels and titles
- Explain how to read the chart.  
(What data does it show, what are the axes, etc.)

# DASHBOARDS

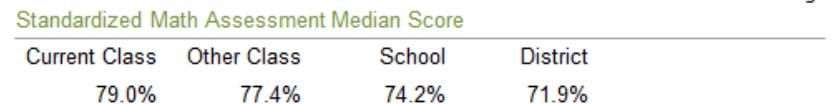
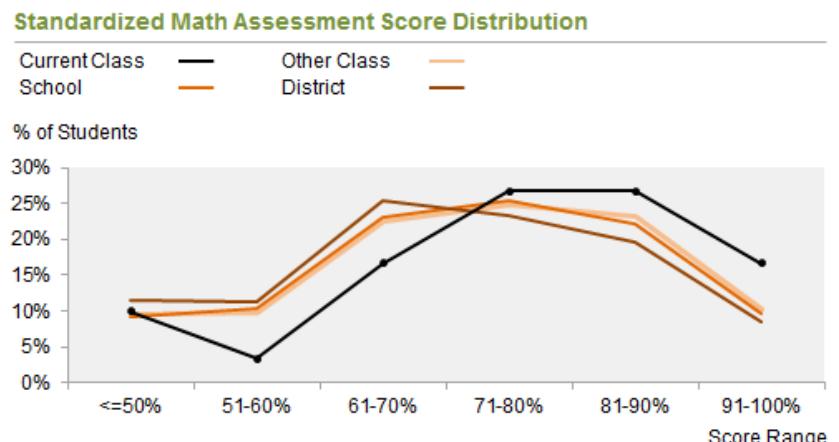
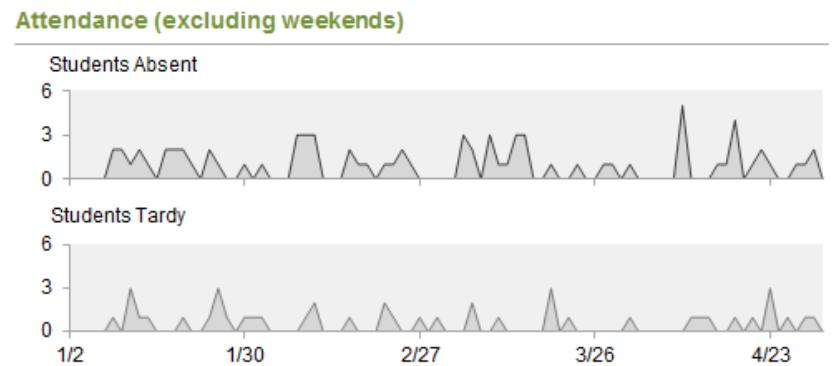
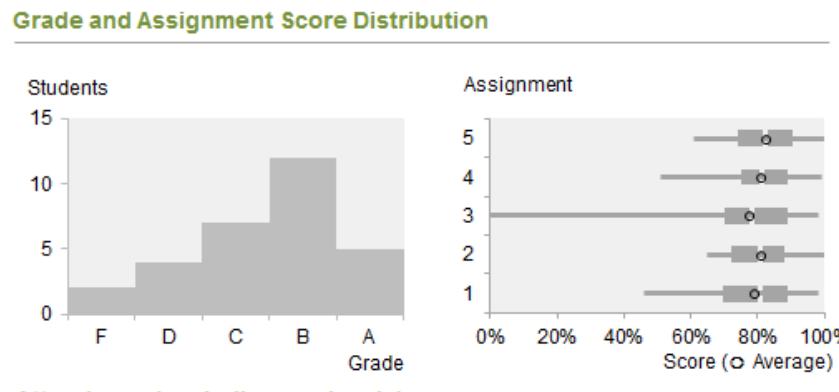
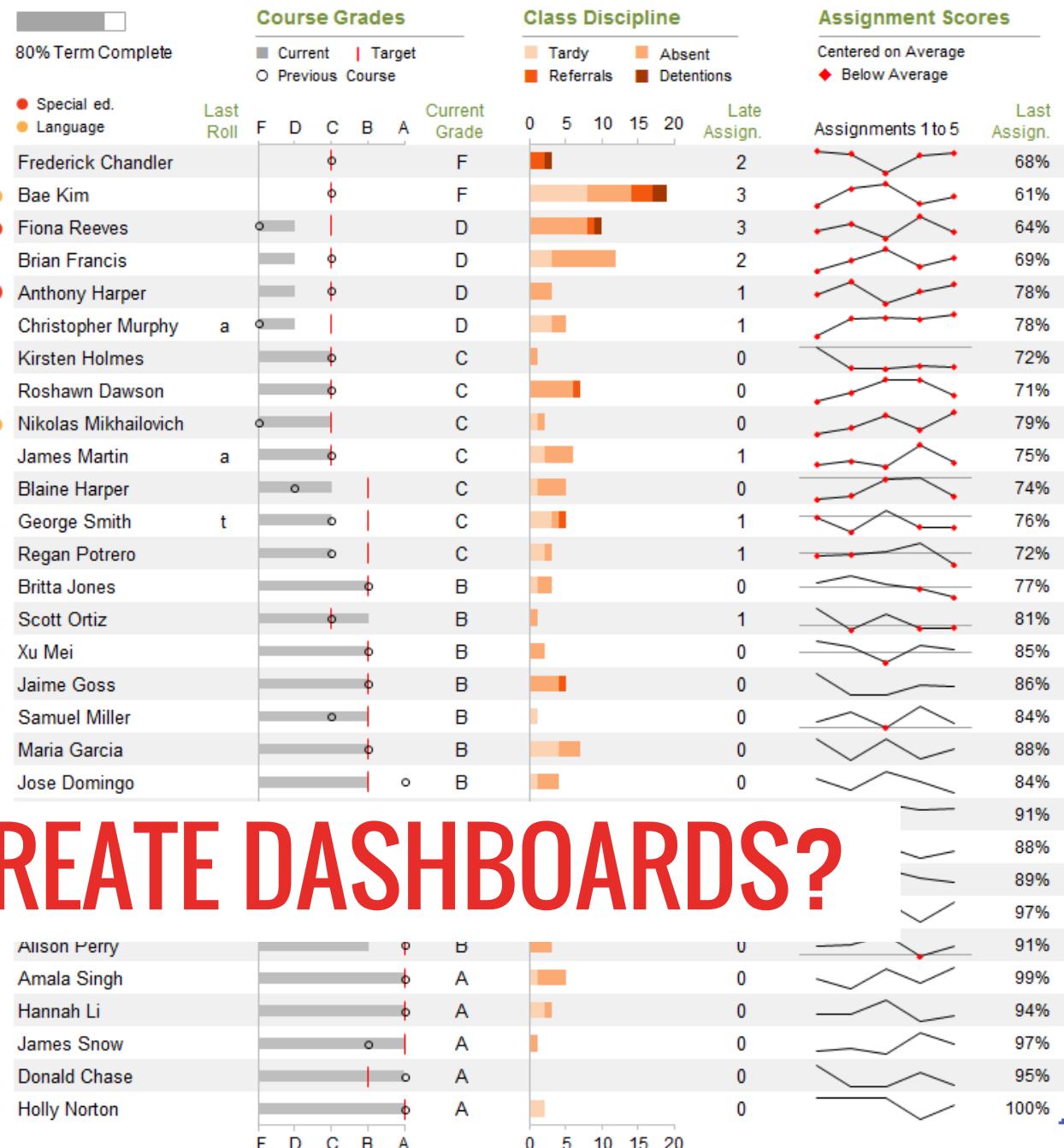
Visualization views designed to support common, repeated tasks...

May 1, 2012  
Tuesday

## Grade 10 Algebra Course

Note: All scores are expressed as percentage of points earned out of the total points possible.

HELP



## DIFFERENT CONSUMERS OR USERS OF DATA

Analysts

Managers

Readers

Etc..

## DIFFERENT TASKS AND GOALS

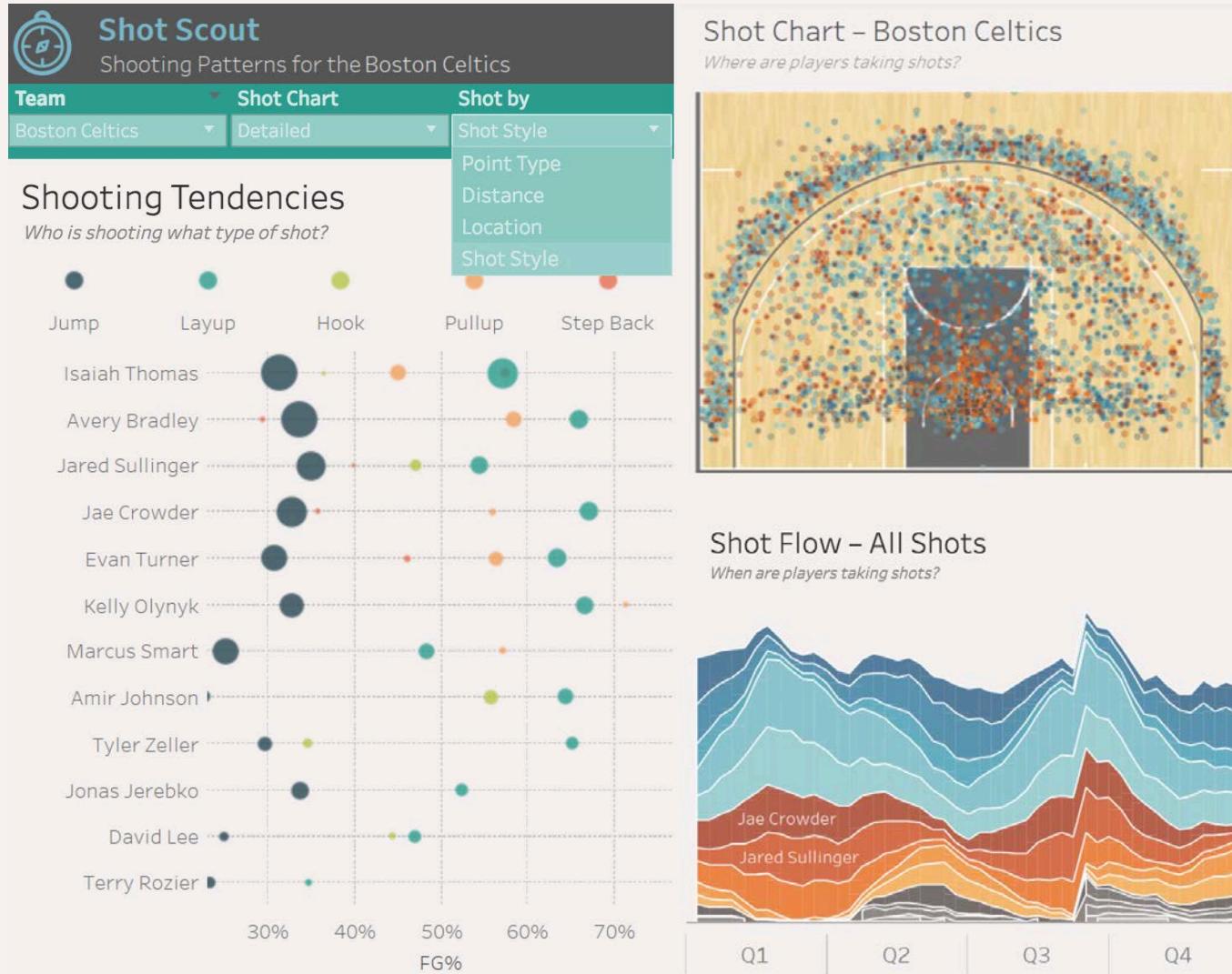
Problem-solving

Decision-making

Monitoring/Awareness

Prompting Discussion

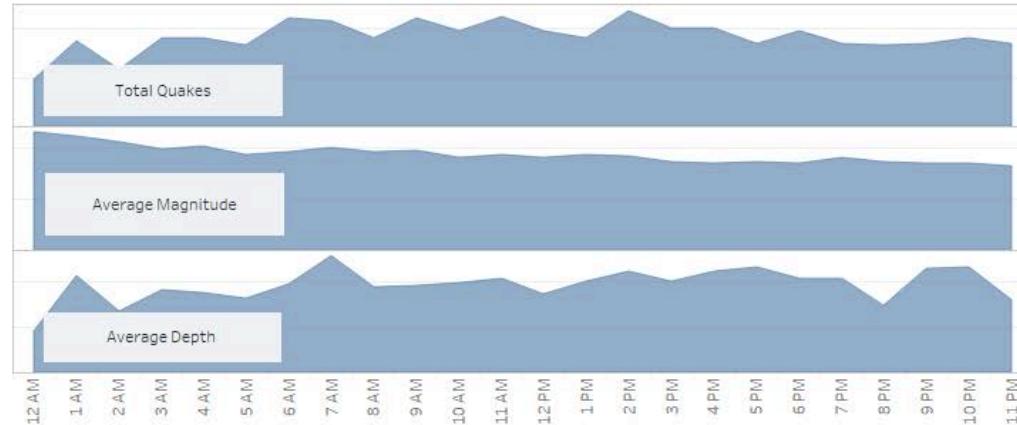
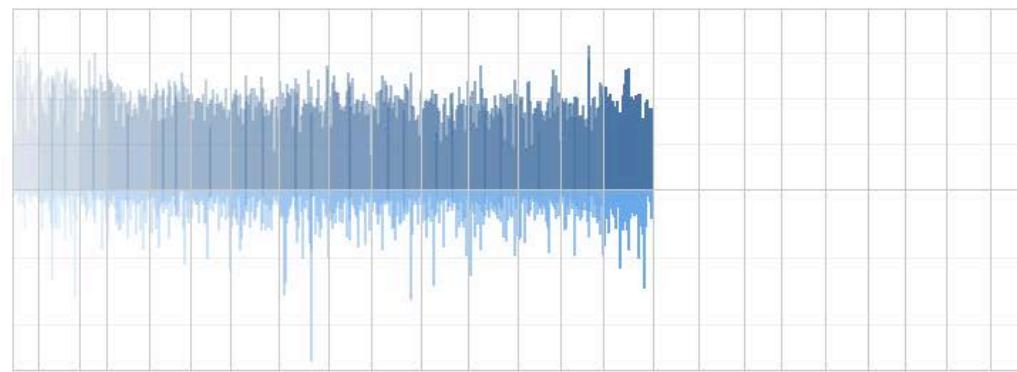
# TASKS - PROBLEM SOLVING, DECISION MAKING, & SANDBOXED EXPLORATION



# New Zealand rocked by 7.5 Quake: Close to 900 aftershocks in the first 24 hours

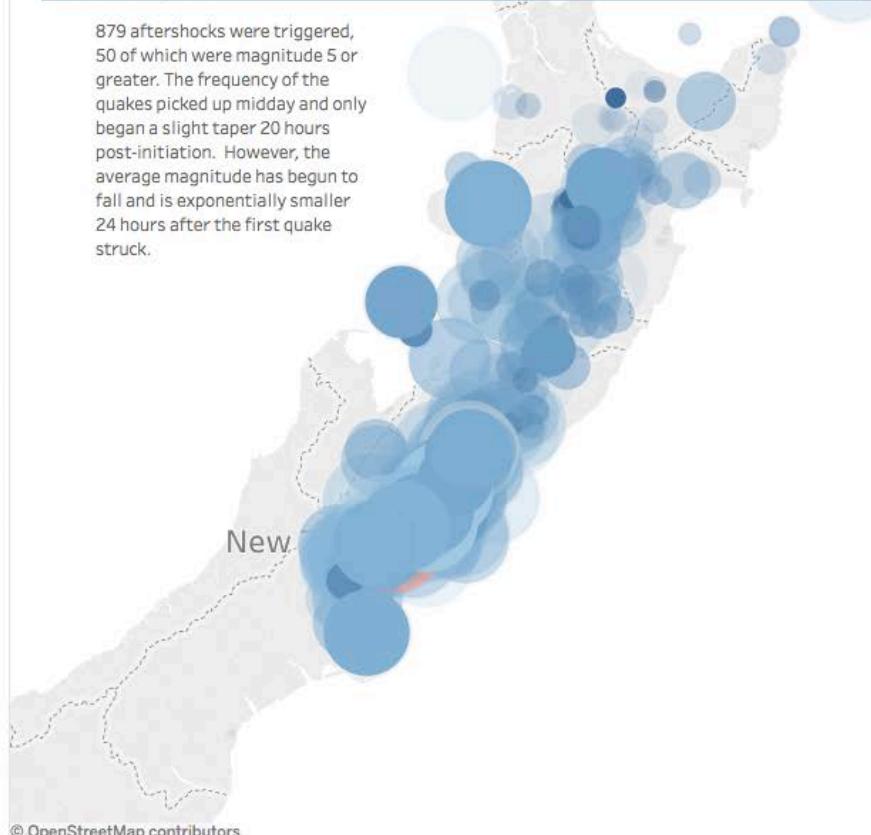
Total Quakes Felt	Max. Magnitude	Average Quakes per Hour	Average Mins between Quakes
879	7.5	36.6	1.6
47	5.31	47.00	1.28

Magnitude and Depth per Quake



November 14, 2016 2 PM
November 14, 2016 5 AM
November 14, 2016 9 AM
November 14, 2016 10 AM
November 14, 2016 11 AM
November 14, 2016 12 PM
November 14, 2016 1 PM
November 14, 2016 2 PM
November 14, 2016 3 PM
November 14, 2016 4 PM
November 14, 2016 5 PM
November 14, 2016 6 PM
November 14, 2016 7 PM
November 14, 2016 8 PM
November 14, 2016 9 PM
November 14, 2016 10 PM
November 14, 2016 11 PM

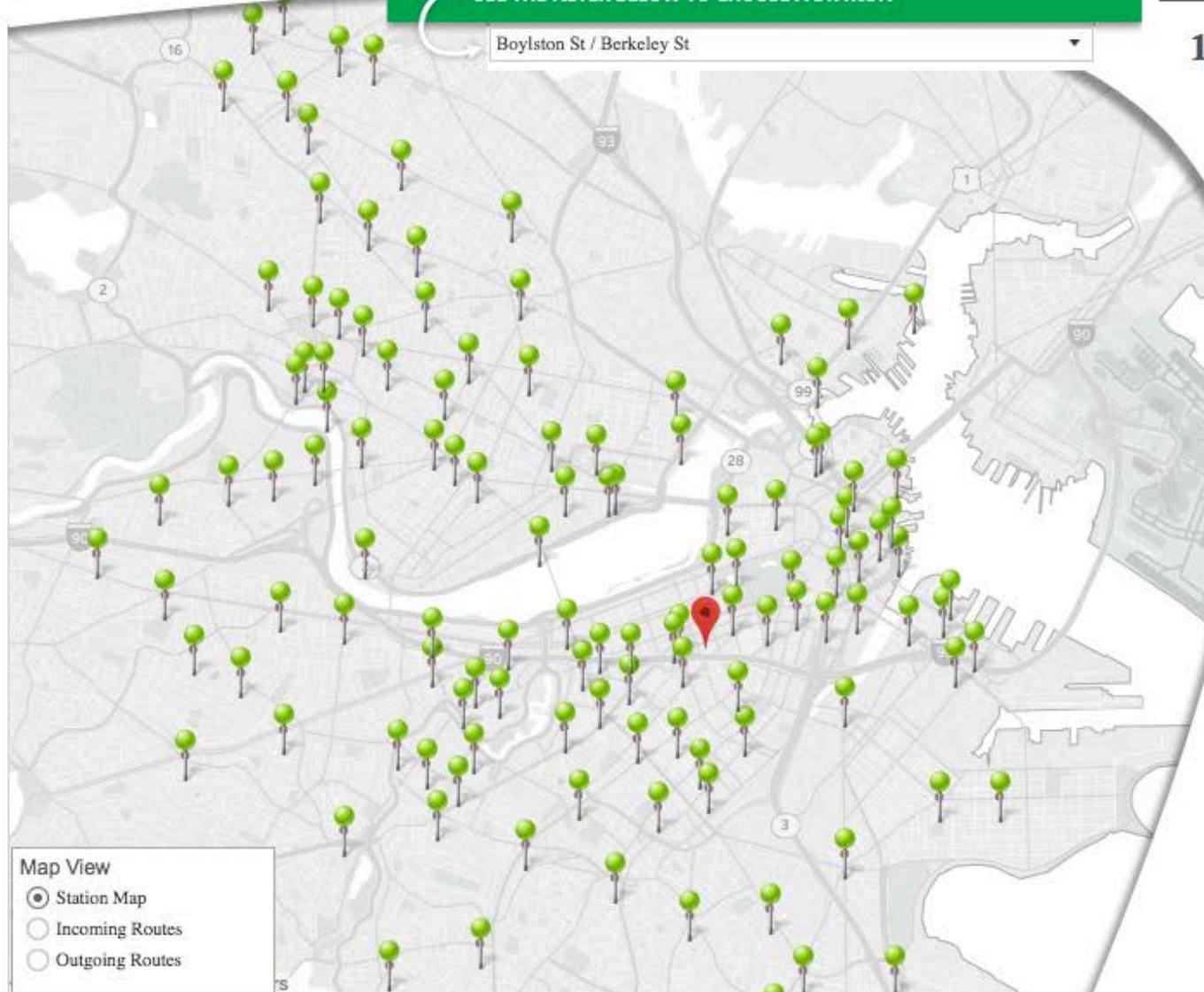
879 aftershocks were triggered, 50 of which were magnitude 5 or greater. The frequency of the quakes picked up midday and only began a slight taper 20 hours post-initiation. However, the average magnitude has begun to fall and is exponentially smaller 24 hours after the first quake struck.





# a closer look from STATION to STATION

USE THE FILTER BELOW TO CHOOSE A STATION



BOYLSTON ST / BERKELEY ST

STATION

15 BIKES

1ST  
RIDE

JULY, 2011

LAT 42.35  
LNG -71.07

MUNICIPAL  
BOSTON

TIMELINE

START END

Jun-2011 Dec-2013

TRIP

DAILY  
TRIPS

38.68  
ARRIVALS

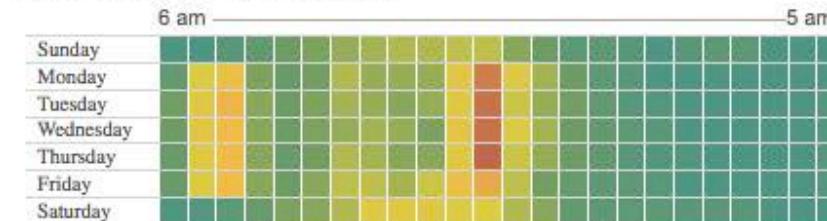
37.44

ALL  
TRIPS

21,777  
ARRIVALS

21,076

TRIP ACTIVITY BY HOUR / DAY OF



5 PM on Thursday is the busiest time of the week (967 Total Rides)

RIDER

MEMBERSHIP

Hubway Member 72.81%

Non Member 27.19%

GENDER

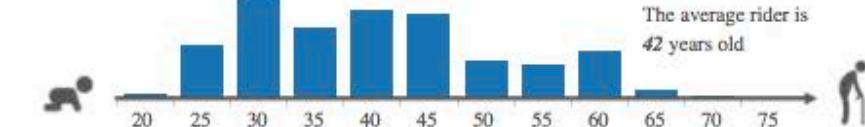


Female  
20.06%



Male  
79.94%

AGE DISTRIBUTION



Brian Halloran

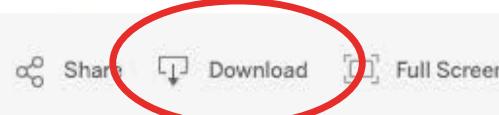
# + a b | e a u

44,937 views | more by this author



Download

Full Screen



# TASKS - MONITORING / AWARENESS

- Are we doing well or poorly?
- How well? How poorly?
- What has led to what's happening today?



Stephen Few

Compare data against targets,  
benchmarks, historical data, etc.

# BENCHMARKS

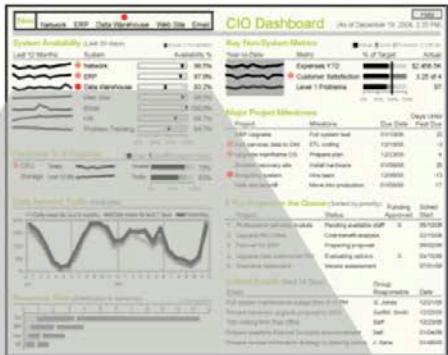
## Compared to

## Example

Plan (or budget)	Actual expenses compared to the expense budget
Forecast	Actual sales compared to the sales forecast
Standard	Number of manufacturing defects compared to a defined standard
Norm	Number of abandoned calls compared to the average number of abandoned calls
The past	Headcount today compared to headcount a month ago or a year ago
Other members of the same category	Average time to ship orders from warehouse A compared to warehouse B
Competitors	Your company's share of the market compared to your competitors' shares
Consecutive intervals of time in the past	Last month's profits compared to profits in each of the preceding 12 months

# STAGES OF DASHBOARD MONITORING

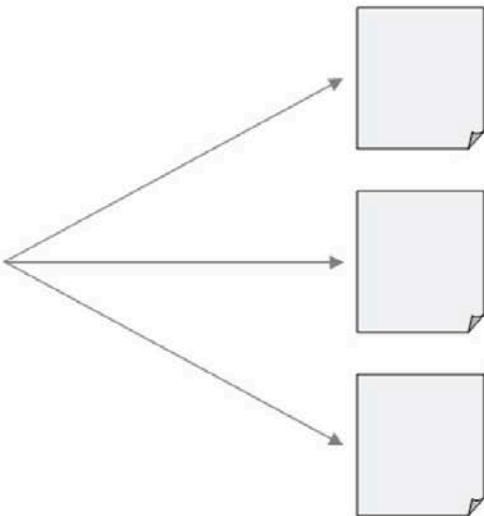
1. Scan the big picture



Last 12 Months      System      Availability %  
~~~~~ ● Data Warehouse      93.2%

2. Zoom in on important specifics

3. Link to supporting details



## STRATEGIES

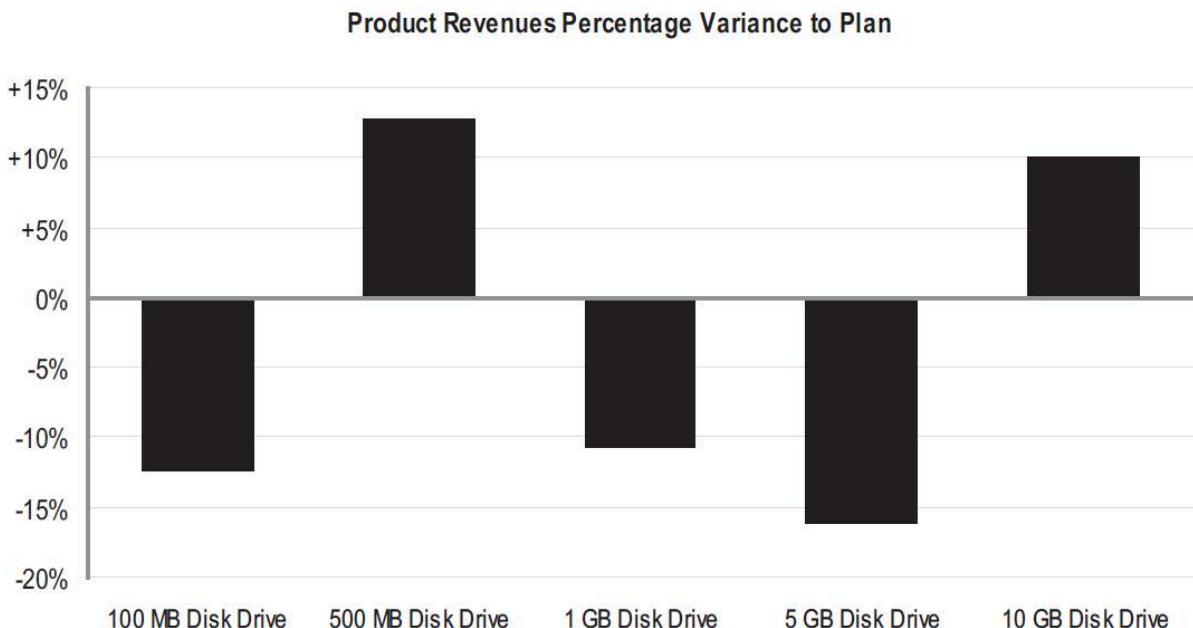
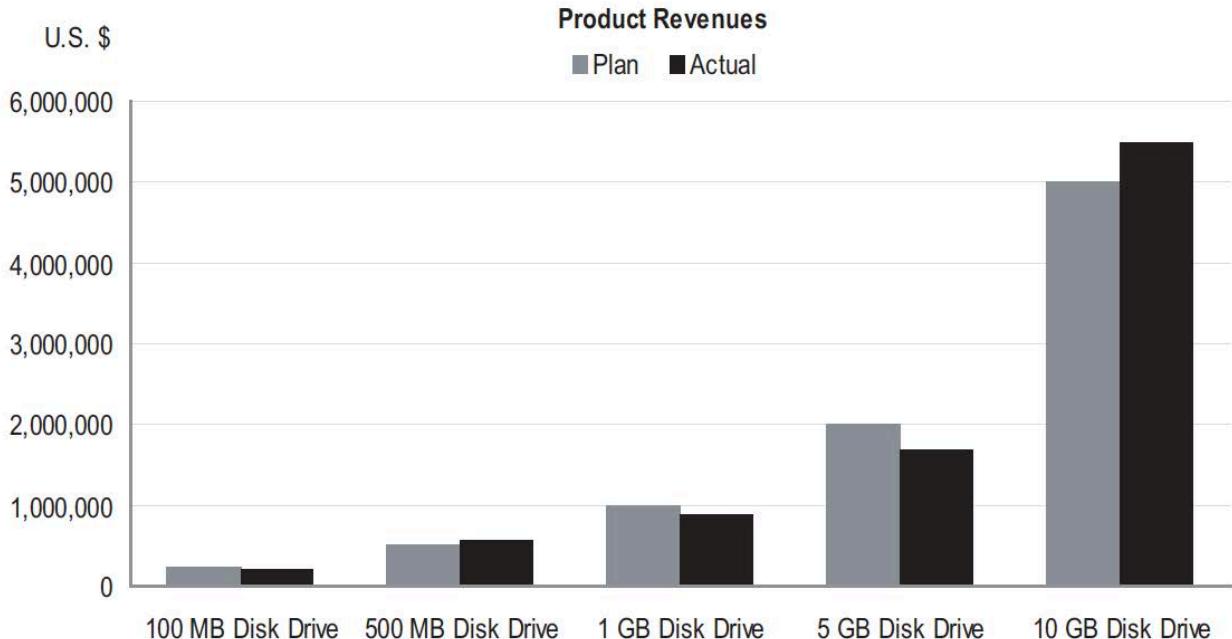
Overview + Detail  
Graphics + Tables

## TECHNIQUES

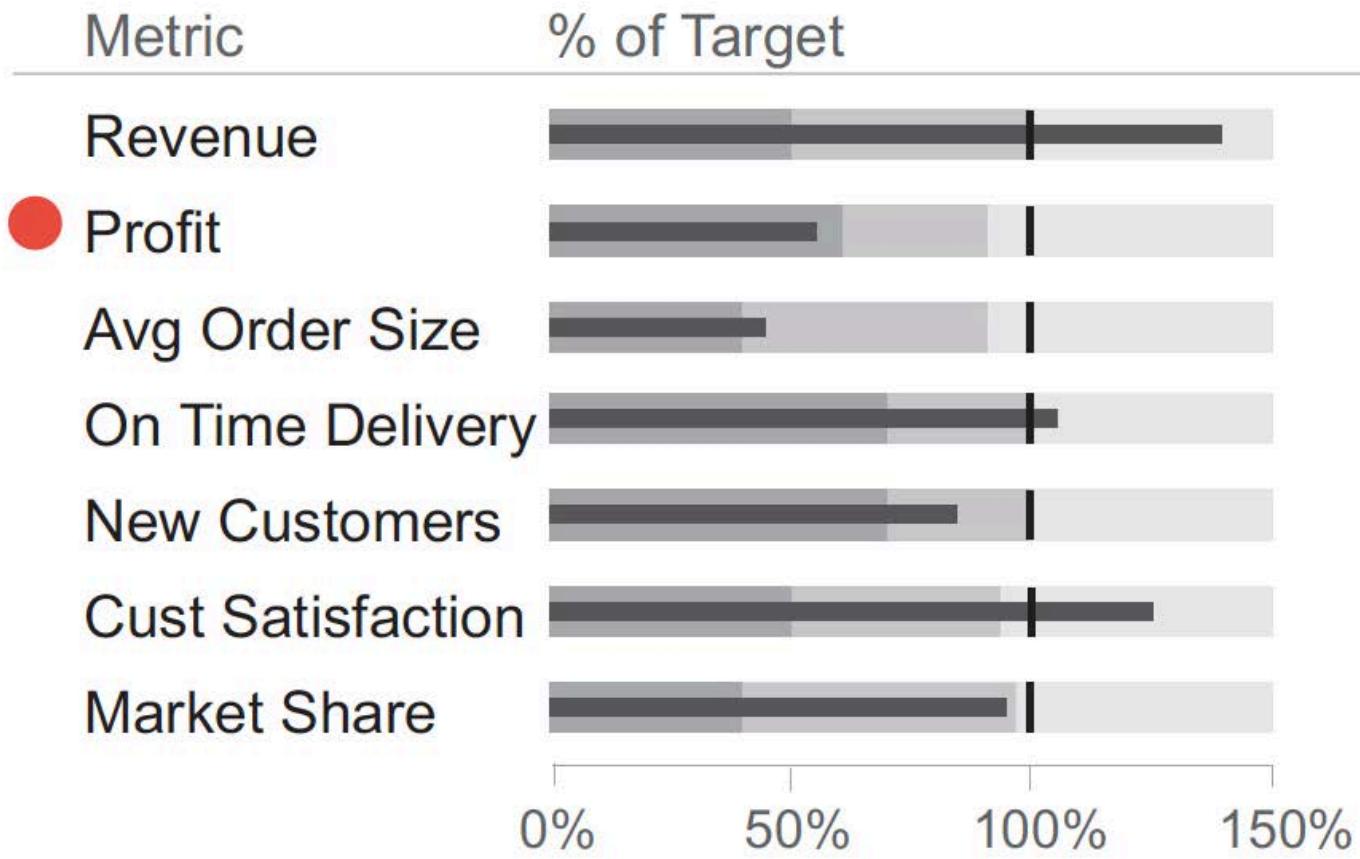
Brushing and linking  
Filtering  
Details-on-demand

# MAKING COMPARISONS MORE VISIBLE

Showing differences rather than the original values



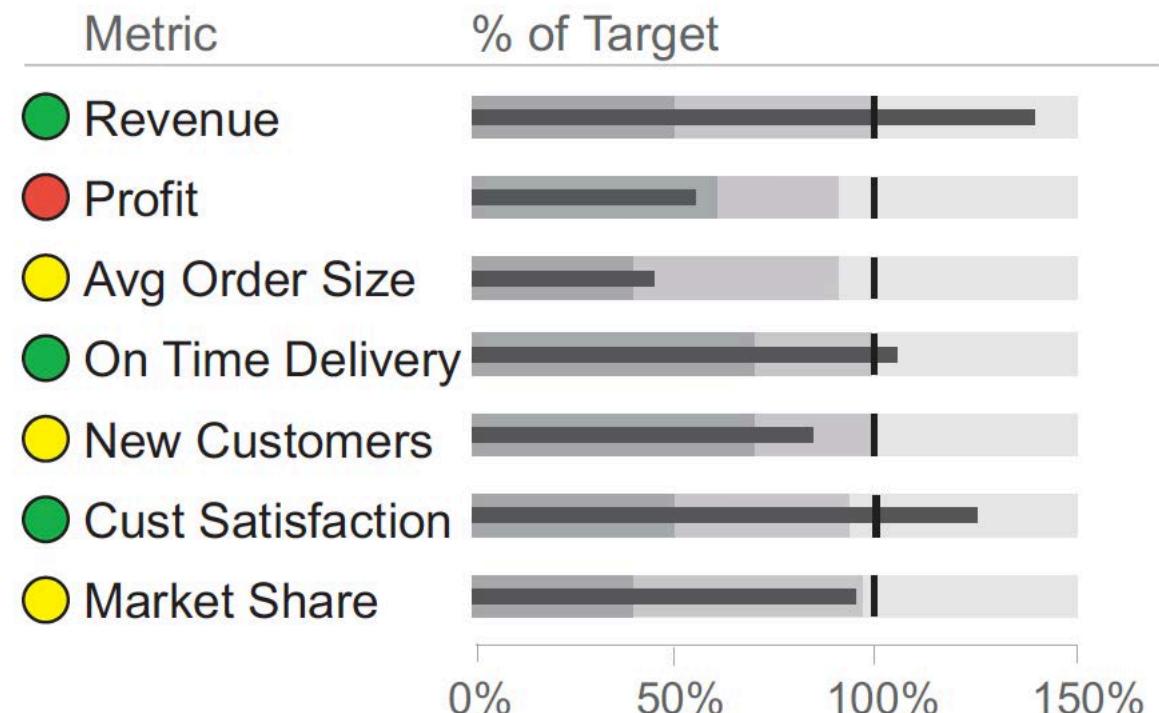
# ADDING EMPHASIS



# ADDING EMPHASIS

But not too much...

These encodings might actually make it harder to extract values.



| Metric            | Actual      | Target      | Variance   | Variance % |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Revenue           | \$8,938,884 | \$9,000,000 | -\$61,116  | -0.68%     |
| Profit            | \$2,873,646 | \$3,500,000 | -\$626,354 | -17.90%    |
| Avg Order Size    | \$3,764     | \$4,000     | -\$236     | -5.90%     |
| On Time Delivery  | 87%         | 85%         | 2%         | 2.35%      |
| New Customers     | 15,838      | 10,000      | 5,838      | 58.38%     |
| Cust Satisfaction | 79%         | 90%         | -11%       | -12.22%    |
| Market Share      | 13%         | 15%         | -2%        | -13.33%    |



## What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Dashboards?

Alper Sarikaya, Michael Correll, Lyn Bartram, Melanie Tory, and Danyel Fisher

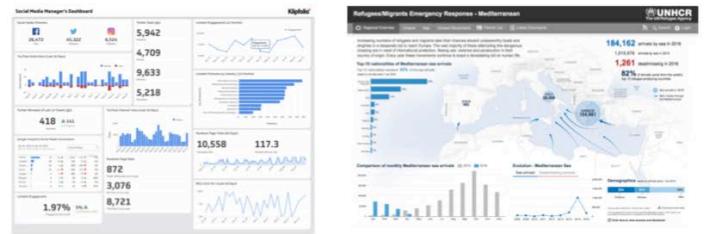


Fig. 1: Klipfolio's Social Media Manager Dashboard (DB065 from our example corpus, left) is a traditional dashboard, with large numbers representing key metrics, and tiled graphs of real-time data. The UNHCR Refugees/Migrants Emergency Response dashboard (DB117, right) also is a juxtaposition of key metrics and simple visualizations, but includes annotations and guided narrative elements. Are both dashboards? Do design principles meant for one transfer to the other?

**Abstract**—Dashboards are one of the most common use cases for data visualization, and their design and contexts of use are considerably different from exploratory visualization tools. In this paper, we look at the broad scope of how dashboards are used in practice through an analysis of dashboard examples and documentation about their use. We systematically review the literature surrounding dashboard use, construct a design space for dashboards, and identify major dashboard types. We characterize dashboards by their design goals, levels of interaction, and the practices around them. Our framework and literature review suggest a number of fruitful research directions to better support dashboard design, implementation, and use.

**Index Terms**—Dashboards, literature review, survey, design space, open coding

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Visualization dashboards are ubiquitous. They are built and employed by nearly every industry, non-profit, and service organization to support data-driven decision making. They are used by students to track learning, and by individuals to monitor energy consumption and personal health. Despite their prevalence, the visualization research community has rarely given dashboards their due consideration, with few exceptions [46]. Are dashboards simply an extension of known visualization design principles? Or is there more to their design and use?

We argue that dashboards are worthy of discussion and research in their own right. Their ubiquity alone makes them worthy of study, as the potential for impact is vast. But beyond that, they are *interesting*. Dashboards are diverse, appearing in many different contexts. They are shifting and democratizing and diversifying as their use proliferates; their contexts of use are expanding beyond simple monitoring and sin-

gle screen reports. Uniquely, compared to visualization modalities for presentation and exploration, dashboards bring together challenges of at-a-glance reading, coordinated views, tracking data and both private and shared awareness. Designers of dashboards must be mindful of literacy, contextually appropriate representations and visual language, and social framing. We identify dashboards as a distinct area of visualization that offers impactful directions for future research.

We took a two-pronged approach to understanding practices around dashboard design and use. We conducted an exploratory survey of dashboards “in-the-wild” with the goal of discovering and identifying different types of dashboard design. In parallel, we conducted a multi-domain literature review in order to understand the practices surrounding dashboard use. The domain review allowed us to build a characterization of uses and domains of dashboards and identify issues that the literature sees as urgent. These two complementary approaches mutually informed each other and allowed us to see the breadth of the ill-defined space of dashboards.

We contribute a design space for dashboards that goes beyond principles of visual encoding to include design dimensions such as functional design, purpose, audience, and data semantics. We identify diverse categories of dashboards with unique sets of characteristics across the dimensions. We also report issues and challenges surrounding dashboard use in practice, some of which emphasize the social context of dashboards as a primary interface to “big data.” Ultimately, we identify a set of interesting and critical research opportunities. We hope that our work will inspire and engage the community to embrace dashboards, study the challenges surrounding their use, and develop innovative dashboard technologies with broad-reaching impact.

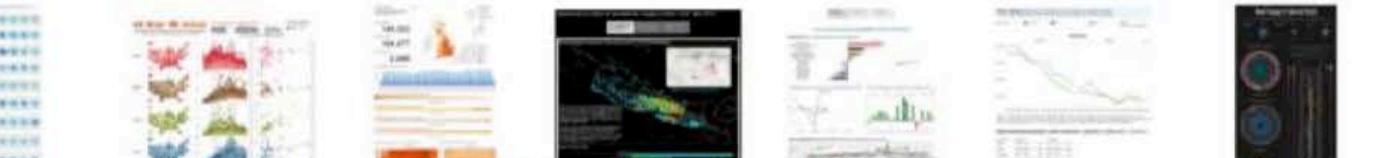
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# BONUS READING (SARIKAYA ET AL. 2019)



# BONUS READING (SARIKAYA ET AL. 2019)

# Clusters of Dashboard Designs

# A QUICK “DASHBOARD” EXERCISE

...Exploring the Tableau Public Gallery

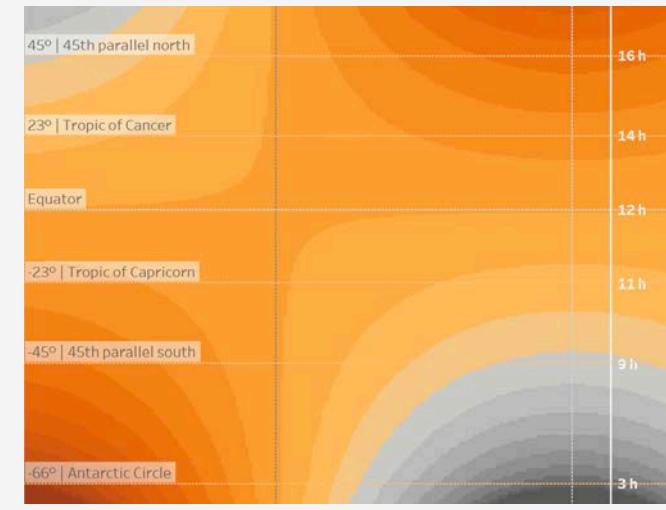
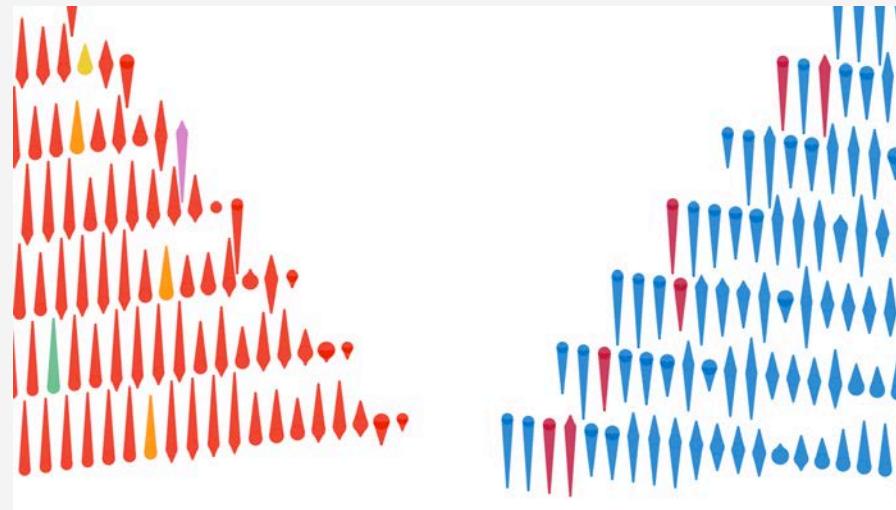
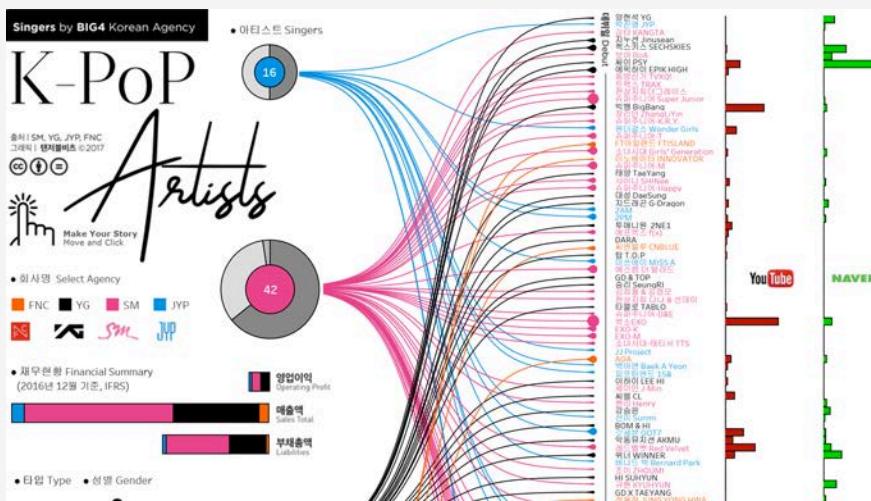
(MOST OF THESE AREN’T  
ACTUALLY DASHBOARDS  
IN THE TRADITIONAL SENSE)

# Gallery / Viz of the Day

Stunning data visualization examples from across the web created with Tableau Public.

## Viz of the Day

## Featured

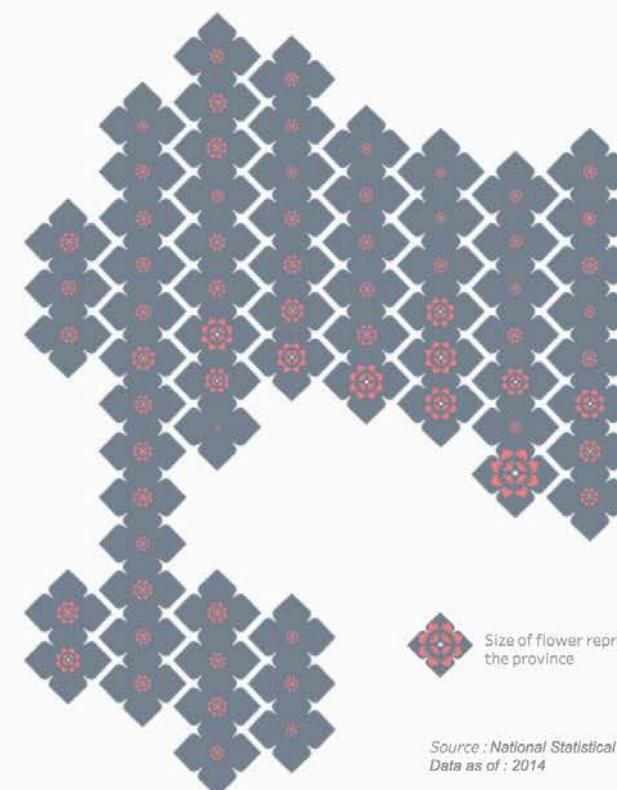


<https://public.tableau.com/s/gallery>



# GDP of Thailand

Thailand formerly known as Siam is a country at the centre of the Indochinese peninsula in Southeast Asia. With a total area of approximately 513,000 km<sup>2</sup> (198,000 sq mi), Thailand is the world's 50th-largest country. It is the 20th-most-populous country in the world, with around 66 million people. The capital and largest city is Bangkok. The Thai economy is the world's 20th largest by GDP at PPP and the 27th largest by nominal GDP. It became a newly industrialised country and a major exporter in the 1990s. Manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism are leading sectors of the economy. It is considered a middle power in the region and around the world. (Wikipedia)



Source : National Statistical Office  
Data as of : 2014

Overall  
13,132,231MB

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Select your file format:

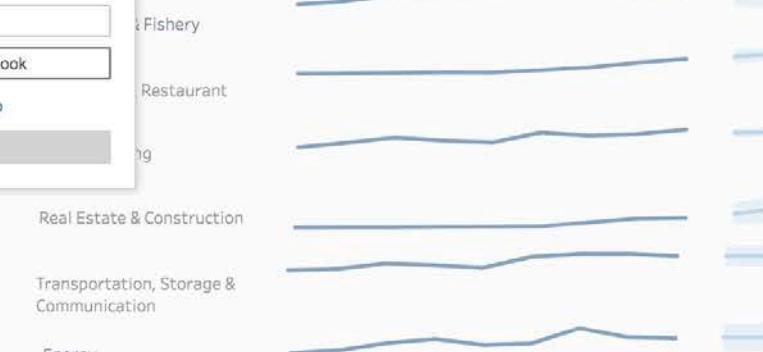
- Image
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vincial Product of

547MB



Note : Bueng Kan was the newest province since 2011



# TABLEAU DASHBOARD ARCHAEOLOGY

<https://public.tableau.com/s/gallery>

1. Find and download an interesting vis from the [gallery](#).
2. Spend 10 mins opening it up and seeing how they made it.
  - How many sheets make up the dashboard?
  - What filters or actions do they use.
  - Did the authors have to do extra work outside of Tableau (generating their own coordinates, shapes, etc.)?
  - Anything else impressive or interesting?
3. Share with your neighbors.