Open Data Dashboards & Python Web Scraping

PyData DC 2016 Marie Whittaker





A bit about me

Studied economics

here.





Worked at C for 3 years

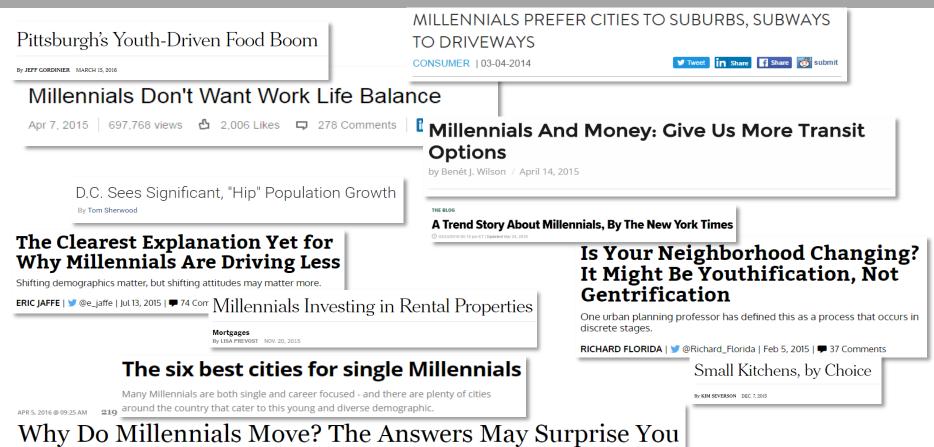
using data to prevent these

Now with

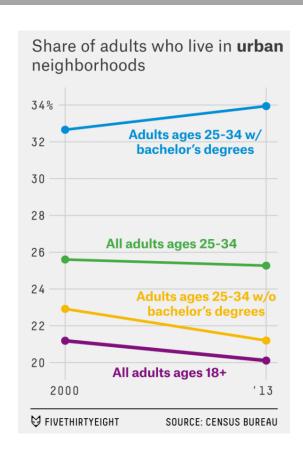


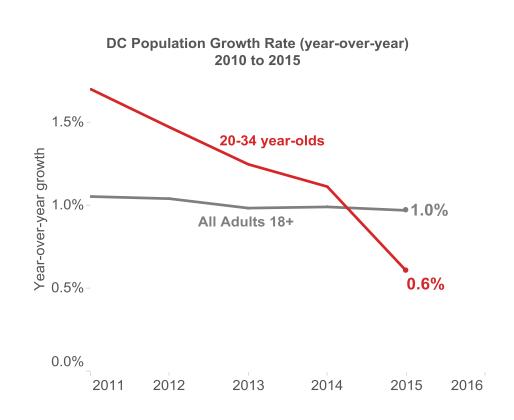
monitoring the economy of the 51st State

What is data competing with?

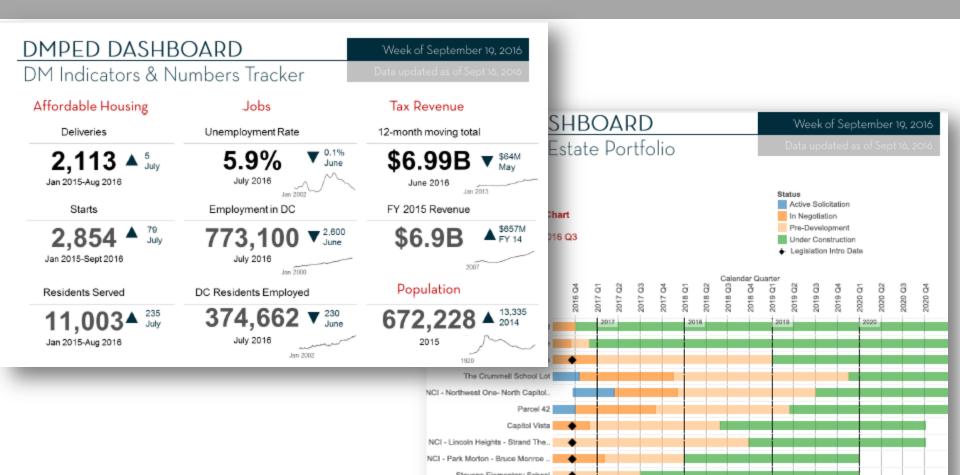


What is data competing with?





A dashboard is one answer



What makes a good dashboard?

What makes a good dashboard?

1. It's consistent.

2. It includes the right data.

What makes a good dashboard?

- 3. It answers the questions you get asked most frequently.
- 4. (Sometimes) it raises more questions for you to dive into elsewhere.

Who are dashboards for?

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- The audience
 - For initial context-setting
 - For a quick reference

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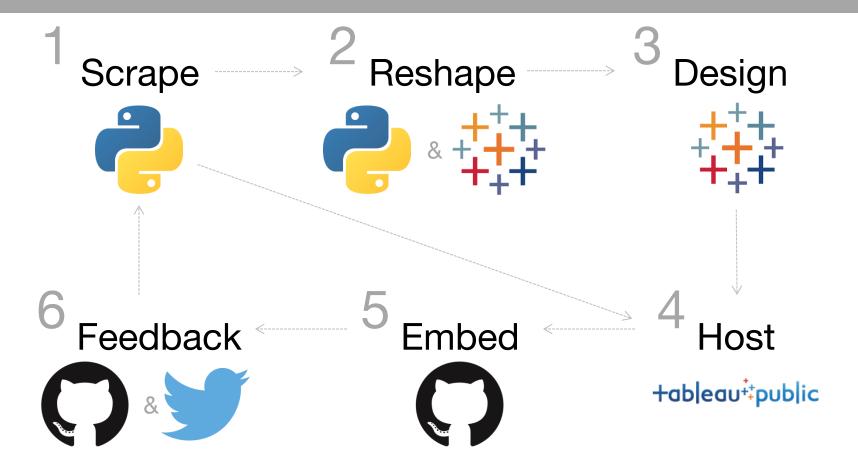
- The audience
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The creator

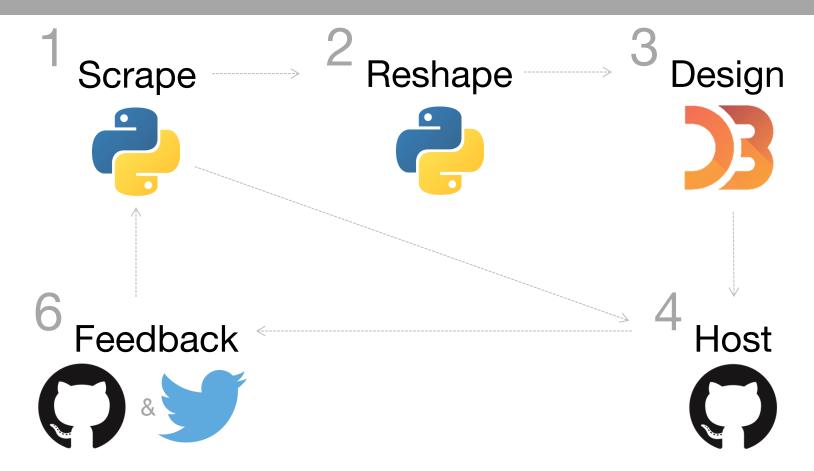
Problem?

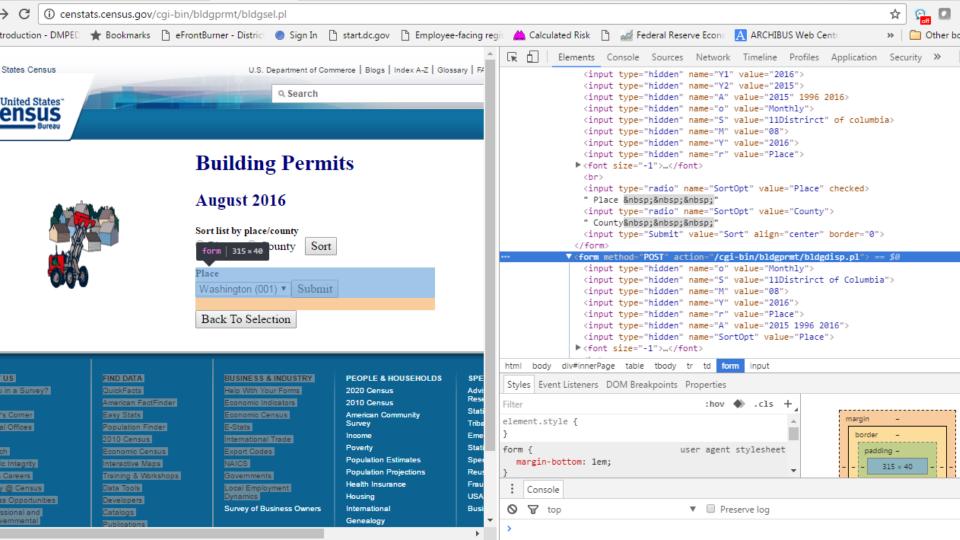


Workflow



Workflow





<input type="hidden" name="A" value="2015 1996 2016">
<input type="hidden" name="SortOpt" value="Place">

▶ ...

type="hidden"	name="S"	value=	"11Distrirct	of	Columbia'

<input

Helpful packages

requests

x/rd Reads excel files.

x/sxwriter Writes excel files.

openpyx/ Also writes excel files.

Plays well with pandas.

pandas Does everything – I use for reshaping.

ison

Various APIs

Various wrappers (Like fredapi)

configparser For calling hidden API

keys in a local config file.

BeautifulSoup For parsing HTML.

mechanize For emulating a browser.

Useful when data can only be reached via web

forms.

Helpful packages



Google Search

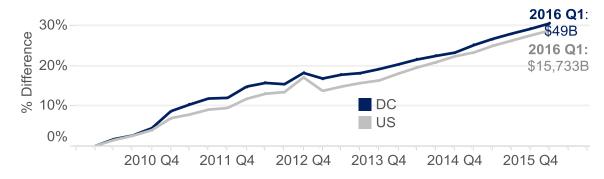
I'm Feeling Lucky

Revisions

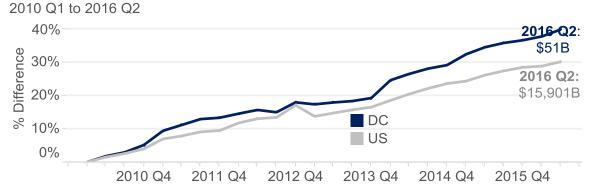
Total Personal Income | % Change, Indexed to 2010

2010 Q1 to 2016 Q1

2 weeks ago



1 week ago



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Demo

http://open.dc.gov/economic-intelligence/

THANKS!

https://Github.com/dcgov