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FINDING ADDITIONAL DATA







My first step in understanding the data was to open the .CSV file in Microsoft Excel and take note of the *dimensions* included in the dataset.

Upon inspection, there were several *dimensions* that were abbreviated or assigned an ID number with no key.

GETTING CONTEXT

By searching for Texas Department of Transportation data for the year 2013, I was able to find a reference document that included a reference guide for abbreviations.

<u>Texas Department of Transportation public extract file specification (download link)</u>

TEXAS D.O.T. PUBLIC EXTRACT (SAMPLE)

Column Header	Description	Database Data Type	a Extract File Data Type	Max Characters	s Source	Years Available	Data Values with Valid Years if Applicable		
	CR-3 Reported Data Fields					150.5			
	Crash ID – System-generated								
NAME OF THE PARTY	unique identifying number for a	1							
Crash_ID		INTEGER	Integer		CRASH_FACT.CRASH_ID	2003 forward			CrashData/CrashID
	Fatal Crash Identifier - Indicates								
O b Estal El	that the crash involved one or more fatalities		Otrino	1	COACH FACT CRASH FATAL FL	2003 forward	THE NO CHOICE LKD	4	(Creek Date/Esta Eleg
Crash_Fatal_FI Cmv Involv FI		CHAR(1) CHAR(1)	String String	1		2003 forward	YES NO CHOICE LKP	-	/CrashData/FatalFlag /CrashData/CMVFlag
SMV_INVOIV_FI	School Bus Crash Identifier -	CHAR(I)	String		CRASH_FACT.CRASH_GMV_FL	2003 IOIWaiu	YES NO CHOICE LKP		/CrashData/Civiv Flag
	Indicates whether the crash								
Schl_Bus_Fl		CHAR(1)	String	1	CRASH FACT.CRASH SCHOOL BUS FL	2003 forward	YES NO CHOICE LKP		/CrashData/SchoolBusFlag
5011	Railroad Crash Identifier -	,			GIOTE.				
	Indicates whether the crash						7		
	involved a train or railroad								
Rr_Relat_Fl		CHAR(1)	String	1		2003 forward	YES NO CHOICE LKP		/CrashData/RailroadFlag
	Medical Advisory Board (MAB)	4		1	CRASH_FACT.CRASH_MEDICAL_ADVISORY				000 0000 000 10 00000 000
Medical_Advisory_FI		CHAR(1)	String	1	= -	2003 forward	YES NO CHOICE LKP		/CrashData/MedicalAdvisoryFlag
Amend_Supp_FI		CHAR(1)	String	1	CRASH_FACT.CRASH_AMEND_SUPP_FL	2003 forward	YES NO CHOICE LKP		/CrashData/AmendmentFlag
	Active School Zone Crash Identifier - Indicates whether the				YES NO CHOICE LKP.YES NO CHOICE S				
Active School Zone FI		CHAR(1)	String	3		2003 forward	YES NO CHOICE LKP		/CrashData/ActiveSchoolZoneFlag
Crash Date		DATE	String	3		2010 forward	YES NO CHOICE ERF		/CrashData/ActiveSchoolZoneFlag /CrashData/CrashDate
UldSii Date	Olasii Date	DATE			CRASIT ROLOGOGO DATE	2010 10.112.			/OrasiiData OrasiiDate
Crash_Time	Crash Time - Time crash occurred	TIME	String	8	CRASH_FACT.CRASH_TIME	2003 forward		Format: HH:MM:SS	/CrashData/CrashTime
Case_ID		VARCHAR(20)	-	20		2003 forward			/CrashData/CaseID
Local_Use	Local Use	VARCHAR(20)	String	20	CRASH_FACT.LOCAL_USE	2003 forward			/CrashData/LocalUse
	County Name - The county in								
Rpt_CRIS_Cnty_ID		INTEGER	Integer		CRASH_FACT.RPT_CRIS_CNTY_ID	2003 forward	CNTY LKP	Lookup Column Name: CNTY_ID	/CrashData/Reported/County/@ID
	City Name - The city in which the								
Rpt_City_iD		INTEGER	Integer		CRASH_FACT.RPT_CITY_ID	2003 forward	CITY LKP	ookup Column Name: CITY_ID	/CrashData/Reported/City/@ID
	Outside City Limit - Indicates if the				COLOR SACTOR OF CHANGE				
Rpt_Outside_City_Limit_Fl	officer reported the crash location	CHAR(1)	Ctring	1	CRASH_FACT.RPT_OUTSIDE_CITY_LIMIT_F	200			/CrashData/Reported/OutsideCityLimits
Rpt_Outside_Oity_Limit_Fi	outside a city's limits \$1,000 Damage to any One	CHAR(I)	String		CRASH FACT.CRASH THOUSAND DMAG F	-			/Crashbata/Reported/OutsideOityLinits
Thousand Damage FI		CHAR(1)	String	1	L CHAST_FACT.GRAST_THOUGHRD_D.III.to				/CrashData/PropertyDamageExceed100
Rpt_Latitude		DECIMAL(11,8)			POINT_LKP.LATITUDE				/CrashData/Reported/Latitude
Rpt_Longitude		DECIMAL(11,8)			POINT_LKP.LONGITUDE	1			/CrashData/Reported/Longitude
	Roadway System (road on which	10 1007					5555555		

PRELIMINARY DATA EXPLORATION





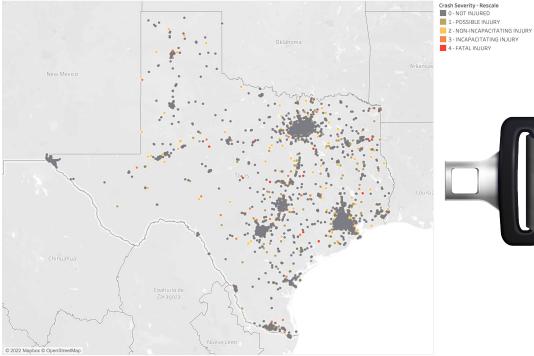


MAP

The first data visualization that made sense to create was a map of the crashes.

Here, I've also color coded by the severity of the worst injury sustained by anyone involved in the crash.

Crash Severity by Location



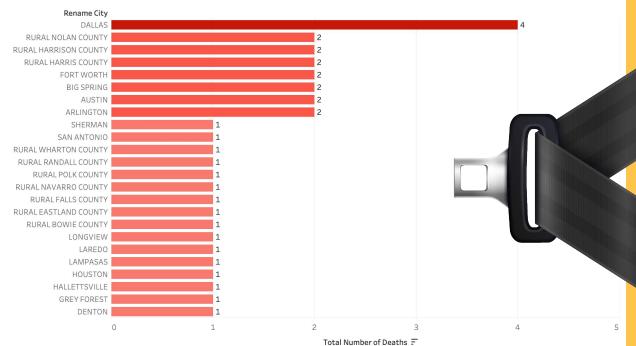
Map based on Longitude and Latitude. Color shows details about Crash Severity - Rescale. The view is filtered on Crash Severity - Rescale and Longitude. The Crash Severity - Rescale filter keeps 0 - NOT INJURED, 1 - POSSIBLE INJURY, 2 - NON-INCAPACITATING INJURY, 3 - INCAPACITATING INJURY and 4 - FATAL INJURY. The Longitude filter keeps non-Null values only.

FATALITIES BY CITY

This bar graph shows the total count of deaths per city.

I related the *City ID* dimension to the *City Id* column from the Texas DOT spreadsheet to create this visualization.

Deadliest Cities for Driving

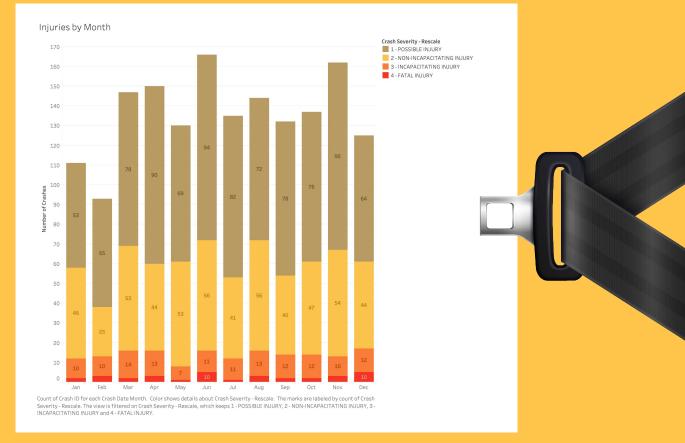


Sum of Death Cnt for each Rename City. Color shows sum of Death Cnt. The marks are labeled by sum of Death Cnt. The data is filtered on Crash Severity - Rescale, which keeps 4 - FATAL INJURY.

INJURIES BY MONTH

Question: Does time of year make a significant amount of difference in crashes or their severity?

This stacked bar graph shows the proportion of injuries sustained during crashes during certain months.



MORE IN-DEPTH DATA EXPLORATION



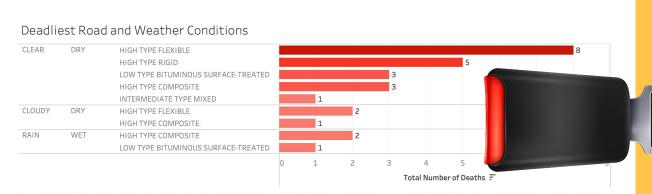




ROAD AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Question: How does Road Surface Type, Road Surface Condition, and Weather affect crashes?

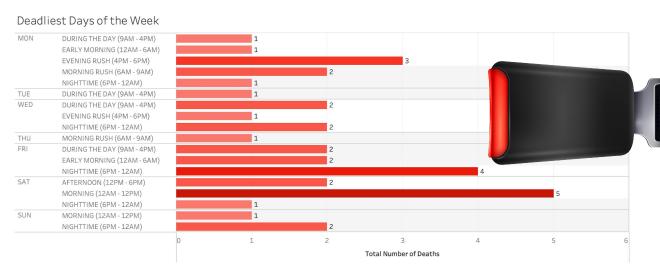
This is a more detailed grouping of the road conditions vs. weather from the dataset.



Sum of Death Cnt for each Surf Type Desc broken down by Wthr Cond Desc and Surf Cond Desc. Color shows sum of Death Cnt. The marks are labeled by sum of Death Cnt. The data is filtered on Crash Severity - Rescale, which keeps 4 - FATAL INJURY. The view is filtered on Surf Cond Desc and Surf Type Desc. The Surf Cond Desc filter keeps 9 of 9 members. The Surf Type Desc filter excludes Null.

DEADLIEST DAYS OF THE WEEK

Creating this visualization required a little more behind-the-scenes action, from converting the time from string to time format, and then grouping by time of day. The time of day groups are also different based on weekday vs. weekend.

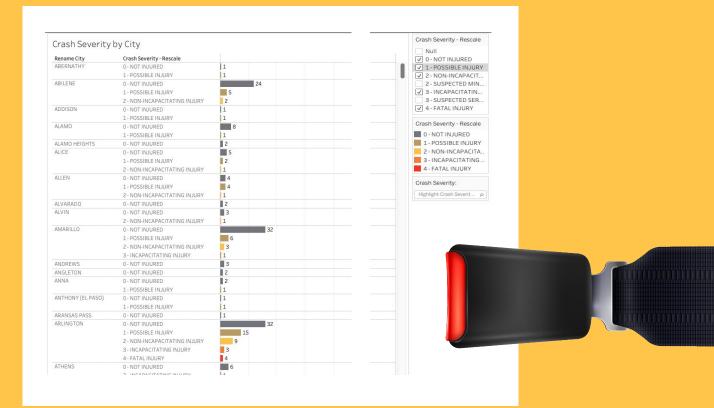


Sum of Death Cnt for each Crash Time - Groups for Day of Week broken down by Day of Week. Color shows sum of Death Cnt. The marks are labeled by sum of Death Cnt. The data is filtered on Crash Severity - Rescale, which keeps 4 - FATAL INJURY.

CRASH SEVERITY BY CITY

Here, Texas cities have a tally of the count of crashes of each severity level.

(Critique: needs more filtering / specificity, currently an unwieldy size)



FINAL THOUGHTS









I have a bad habit of getting excited about the more nuanced, detailed, or complex analyses available with such a large set of data.

An example: one of the more complex tasks I created for myself was wanting to "rescale" the crash severity numbering for color coding and filtering. I accomplished this by writing a function, after researching the correct syntax for concatenating measure names and strings.

WHAT I LEARNED:

- Creating a data extract
- Creating various relationships, joins, and aliases
- Creating custom color palettes
- Writing more complex functions in Tableau
- Using Parameters and Highlighters
- Exploring Pages as a way to add detail to a viz
- Start simple. It's easy to get off on a troubleshooting or more-detailed-visualization-option tangent!

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE INTERACTIVE PROJECT

LIVE ON TABLEAU PUBLIC!

INCLUDES:

- Filters
- Highlighters
- interactive Tooltips



