As referenced in the post, the data that was used to generate the graphics used were provided by the Aviation Safety Network and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The choices of using the bar graphs may seem a little simple, but that is what was intended for them. By using bar graphs with only two bars being shown, everyone knows that they should be comparing the bars instinctively. Pairing this with the blue coloring for the airline data throughout makes it that much easier to see what the data is telling us just at a glance. The removal of the border around the bar graphs gives a cleaner look that reduces the number of lines and clutter that are in the graphs.

Going back to the data, we strived to tell the story that was contained in the data without being deceitful. That's why all the metrics that are shown are consistent throughout the comparisons. Fatalities and fatal accidents of both airlines over time and airlines against road vehicles reduces confusion that would occur by trying to introduce new concepts. By converting all of the data to be scaled by billions of miles travelled, we can maintain this consistency of presentation through both the change in time for airlines and when comparing airlines to road vehicles; all using the same metric.

We have done our best to show how safe airlines are in the present and we hope that this explanation of our method has assured all readers of this message. We have also linked a github repository and websites used to download the data to this document, which will let you see the data for yourself.

Aviation Safety Network: https://github.com/fivethirtyeight/data/tree/master/airline-safety

NHTSA: https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Trends/TrendsGeneral.aspx

Github Repository: https://github.com/tripleee19/AirlineSafety