

Data Visua l ization

•Data visualization is the practice of translating information into a visual context, such as a map or graph, to make data easier for the human brain to understand and pull insights from.

•The main goal of data visualization is to make it easier to identif y patterns, trends and outliers in large data sets.

The term is often used interchangeably with others, •including information graphics, information visualization and statistical graphics.







Data Visua l ization

•Data visualization is one of the steps of the data science process, which states that after data has been collected, processed and modeled, it must be visualized for conclusions to be made.

•Data visualization is also an element of the broader data presentation architectu re (DPA) discipline, which aims to identif y, locate, manipulate, format and deliver data in the most efficient way possible.



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Why is data visualization important?

- Data visualization provides a quick and effective way to commu nicate information in a universal manner using visual information.
- The practice can also help businesses identif y which factors affect customer behavior;
- Pinpoint areas that need to be improved or need more attention;
- Make data more memorable for stakeholders;
- Understand when and where to place specific • products; and predict sales volumes.





Benefits of data visualization

- The ability to absorb information quickly, improve insights and make faster decisions;
- An increased understanding of the next steps that must be taken to improve the organization;
- An improved ability to maintain the audience's interest with information they <u>can</u> understand;







Benefits of data visualization

- An easy distribution of information that increases the opportunity to share insights with everyone involved;
- Eliminate the need for data scientists since data is more accessible and understandable;
- An increased ability to act on findings quickly and, therefore, achieve success with greater speed and less mistakes.





Examples of data visual ization

In the early days of visualization, the most common visualization technique was using a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet to transform the information into a table, bar

graph or <u>p</u>ie chart. While these visualization methods are still commonly used, more intricate techniques are now available, including the following:

Infographics

- •Bubble clouds
- •Bullet graphs
- •Heat maps Fver
- •charts
- •Time series charts









Some other popula r tech niques are as follows.

•Line charts.This is one of the most basic and common techniquesused. Line charts display how variables can changmvertime.

•Areacharts.Thisvisualizatiomethods a variatiom f a line chart; it displays multiplevalues in a time series or a sequence of data collected at consecutive qually spaced points in time.







Some other popula r tech niques are as follows.

•Scatter plots. This technique displays the relationship betweertwovariables A <u>s</u>catterplot takes the form of anx andyaxig, vithdots to represent: tatapoints.

TreemapsJ"hismethodshowshierarchicaUata in a nested •format.The sizeof the rectangles.1sed for each categorys proportionato its percentage of the whole. Treemapsare best used when multiplecategoriesare present, and the goaisto compandifferenpartsof a whole.







what is it?

Chart shown by Rep Jason Chaffetz during Planned Parenthood hearing Watch it here - <u>http://bit.ly/1UhTYoU</u>

what's wrong with it?

No Y axis

Multi-axis not declared and labelled

X-axis spans 8 years, but chart only includes 2 years (2006 and 2013)





Planned Parenthood - Abortions vs Cancer Screening Services



how to fix it?

Better yet, if you retrieve the data for the missing years you can use a line chart to show the change over time

here's the same data in a line chart with the missing years (2007 – 2012) included. *Note, 2008 is missing as I couldn't find the report for that year



Planned Parenthood - Abortions vs Cancer Screening Services



how to fix it?

And for good measure, here's the same data represented using a multi axis chart, and with the axis' properly labelled





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Example 2 - Lying with data



Average Global Temperature (Fahrenheit)



what is it?

national review (@NRO) chart depicting change in global average temperature over time

See it here -

what's wrong with it?

Yaxis inflated, removes reade,'s ability to see meaningful change in data

Chart does not convey context. The inc rease in globa I aver age temp of just 2 degrees ca n have significant effects on our planet, so using 120 point sc ale removes importa nt context a nd makes this chart impossible to read Example 2 - Lying with data



Figure S. Average Global Temperature (Fahrenheit) relative scale



how to fix it?

Adjust the y-axis so it shows the full context of the data.

Example 3 - Deceptive Visualization



what is it?

Chart shown by Fox News that shows Average Annual economic growth in the USA.

what's wrong with it?

- Too much non-data ink
- Poor chart labeling
- Unequal time intervals

Example 3 -Deceptive Visualization

Remove to improve (the data-lnk,

how to fix it?

Strip away all unnecessary formatting (e.g. data ink)

See more here - http://bit.ly/2eIpC18

Council Darkherse Analytics

darkhorseanalytics







Example 3 - Deceptive Visualization



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