CSE 564
Visualization & Visual Analytics

Infographics Design

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What are Infographics?

A clipped compound of "information" and "graphics"

A graphic visual representations of information, data or knowledge intended to present information

- quickly
- clearly

Can improve cognition by utilizing graphics to enhance the human visual system's ability to see patterns and trends
Graphical displays should

- show the data
- induce the viewer to think about the substance rather than about methodology, graphic design, the technology of graphic production, or something else
- avoid distorting what the data has to say
- present many numbers in a small space
- make large data sets coherent
- encourage the eye to compare different pieces of data
- reveal the data at several levels of detail, from a broad overview to the fine structure
- serve a reasonably clear purpose: description, exploration, tabulation, or decoration
- be closely integrated with the statistical and verbal descriptions of a data set.
Minard’s 1869 map of Napoleon’s campaign to Russia

Shows 6 variables in one 2D visualization:
- number of Napoleon's troops, temperature
- distance traveled, direction of travel
- latitude and longitude, location relative to specific dates
Some More Random Examples ...
The Time We Spend on the Internet

We send over 200 million emails per minute.

Almost 6 billion people are watching YouTube every single day with an average viewing time of 40 minutes.

The average adult spends more than 20 hours online a week...

...which includes time spent on the Internet at work.

Stress in the Workplace

- 70% of American workers experience stress-related illnesses.
- 34% think they'll burn out on the job in the next two years.
- 33% have more heart attacks occurring on Monday mornings.
- 45% of entrepreneurs said they were stressed.

The Average Work Week

- The average work week is closer to 50 hours than 40.
- Professionals who use mobile devices like smartphones tend to work more than 70 hours a week.
- The average commute time is 47 minutes round trip.

You get 168 hours a week.
WHAT ARE WE EATING?
What the Average American Consumes in a Year

The Average American
Age: 36.6
Height: 5'9" (m) 5'4" (f)
Weight: 190 lbs (m) 164 lbs (f)

Fats & Oils 85.5 lbs
Red Meat 110 lbs
Poultry 73.6 lbs
Fish & Shellfish 16.1 lbs
Eggs 32.7 lbs
Cheese 31.4 lbs
Dairy Products (non-cheese) 600.5 lbs
Beverage Milks 131.4 lbs
Wheat Flour 113 lbs
Caloric Sweeteners
Coffee, Cocoa & Nuts 24 lbs
Vegetables 415.4 lbs
Corn 56 lbs
Dried Fruits 8.6 lbs

EDUCATION AROUND THE WORLD

There are **1.4 Billion** students on Earth. Only **65.2 Million** educators globally.

**THE CHALLENGE:** Too many children remain out of school, and those who are in school aren’t learning the skills they need for life and work.

- **Children leaving school before completing their Primary Education**
- **Children out of primary school**
- **In the Sub-Saharan, 11.07 million children leave school before completing their primary education.**
- **In South and West Asia, that number reaches 13.54 million.**
- **61 Million** children are still out of primary school.
- **32 Million** of these children are girls.
- **1 in 5** 15 to 24 years old has not completed primary school and lacks skills for work.

An estimated **250 million** children are not able to read or write.

The poorest and most marginalized are the most affected.

In some emerging economies, **3 in 10 youths cannot do basic arithmetic.**

Fragile and conflict-affected countries account for more than **30%** of all children not completing primary school.

In some developing countries, one quarter to one-half of youth who have graduated from primary school cannot read a single sentence.

**OF THE 775 MILLION ILLITERATE ADULTS**
- **TWO-THIRDS ARE WOMEN**

www.ubuntuemail.com
STUDENT BULLYING

Bullying is a significant issue that affects both child and teenage students. It includes two key components: 1. Repeated harmful acts 2. Imbalance of power.

**Effects of Bullying**

- Physical, verbal, or psychological attacks or intimidation against a person who cannot properly defend himself or herself.
- A bullied student often suffers from anxiety, fear, withdrawal, low self-esteem, and poor concentration.
- There have been numerous reports of suicide due to bullying.

**Most Common Types of Bullying:**

- Physical: Hitting, threatening, intimidating.
- Verbal: Maliciously teasing and taunting.
- Cyber: Name-calling, making sexual remarks, and stealing or damaging belongings or more subtle, indirect attacks (such as spreading rumors or encouraging others to reject or exclude someone).

**Effects on Bullies**

- Bullying is often a warning sign that children and teens are heading for trouble and are at risk for serious violence.
- Teens (particularly boys) who bully are more likely to engage in other antisocial/inappropriate behavior (e.g., vandalism, shoplifting, truancy, and drug use) in adulthood.
- They are four times more likely than nonbullies to be convicted of crimes by age 24, with 60 percent of bullies having at least one criminal conviction.

**Sources:**

- HTTP://WWW.COPS.USDOJ.GOV
- WWW.KEEPSCOLLSAFE.ORG
- WWW.BULLYPOLICE.ORG

**Playground School Bullying Statistics:**

- 43% fear harassment in the bathroom at school.
- Every 7 minutes a child is bullied.

**States Without Bullying Laws vs. First State with Bullying Law**

- 280,000 students are physically attacked in secondary schools each month.
- 160,000 students miss school each day for fear of being bullied.
- 77% of students are bullied mentally, verbally, & physically.
- Cyber bullying statistics are rapidly approaching similar numbers.

**Worst States to Live in for Bullying K-12**

- 1 out of 4 students will be abused by another youth.
- 1 out of 5 admit to being a bully, or doing some “bullying.”

**More Youth Violence Occurs on School Grounds as Opposed to on the Way to School**

**Adult Intervention:** 11%  
**Peer Intervention:** 4%  
**No Intervention:** 85%
How To Make Effective Infographic

Five steps (from Venngage.com)

1. Outline the goals of your infographic
2. Collect data for your infographic
3. Visualize the data for your infographic
4. Layout your infographic using an infographic template
5. Add style to your infographic design
Step 1: Outline Your Goals

Use the question pyramid

1 Burning Problem
The main question the infographic will answer.

2-3 Supporting Questions
Questions to provide information (what, which).

1-2 Probing Questions
Questions to provide insight (why).

Venngage.com
EXAMPLE: FOOD – WINE PAIRING

Burning Problem
How to pair food and wine

Supporting Questions
Which food components matter?
What are the types/categories of wine?
Which category works with each component?

Probing Questions
Why do certain pairings work better?
Step 2: Collect the Data

We discussed this
Decide what are your primary goals

- what data aspect do you want to convey

The ICORE method

- Inform,
- Compare,
- Change,
- Organize,
- Reveal relationships, or
- Explore.
Convey an important message or data point that doesn’t require much context to understand.

Make a numerical stat stand out with large, bold, colorful text:

The brain makes 700 neural connections per second before the age of 5.

Demand extra attention by pairing icons with text:

4200 VACCINES ADMINISTERED

Highlight a percentage or rate with a donut chart or a pictograph:

25% WERE CHILDREN

25% WERE CHILDREN
Compare

Show similarities or differences among values or parts of a whole.

Use a pie chart, donut chart, pictograph, or tree map to compare parts of a whole.

Use a stacked bar chart or stacked column chart to compare categories and parts of a whole.

Use a stacked area chart to compare trends over time.

Venngage.com
Show trends over time or space.
Use a list to show rank or order when you want to provide extra information about each element.

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<th>LIST</th>
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<td>3</td>
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Use a table to show rank or order when you want readers to be able to look up specific values.

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<tr>
<td>Cars</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aston Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bentley</td>
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Use a flowchart to show order in a process.

Otherwise, show rank or order with a bar chart, column chart, bubble chart, or pyramid chart.
Reveal more complex relationships among things.

Use a scatter plot when you want to display two variables for a set of data.

Use a multi-series plot when you want to compare multiple sets of related data.
Add interaction

- filtering, sorting, and drilling down
- can’t do with a static chart
- but useful for online infographics displays
- will discuss later
Create a natural flow

- could use the question pyramid to guide the layout
- burning question into header
- follow with charts to address the supporting questions
- finish with the probing questions

Use a grid layout

- guides the reader’s eye
- symmetrical grid
- consider that people read
  - top to bottom
  - left to right

Venngage.com
One Column for Linear Flow
Two Columns for Comparisons
Who Said What?

Democrats

- Character: 11
- Jobs: 14
- War: 9
- Hurricane: 8
- McCain: 18
- God: 6
- Bush: 18
- Economy: 16
- Change: 24

Republican

- God: 25
- Character: 14
- Energy: 18
- War: 18
- Bush: 6
- Economy: 18
- Terror: 12
- Jobs: 8
- Iraq: 15
- Tax(es): 22

Number of times words were used

The Words They Used - Graphic - NYTimes.com
Three Column Example

CLEAN WATER SYSTEMS

2.64 Billion people around the world do not have access to adequate sanitation

780 Million people do not have access to improved water sources

Every $1 spent on water and sanitation generates at least $4 in increased productivity

SOURCE
Step 5: Add Style

Overall goal
- make your infographics aesthetically pleasing
- make it easy to consume and understand

Minimize text
- should supplement the visuals
- short paragraphs (at most) at about a grade six reading level

Use font to point out importance
- readable font for the bulk of the text,
- amp up size and style of your main header, section headers, and data highlights
- make sure that the gist of your infographic is immediately apparent
Example

Reducing Poverty
We're active in over 100 communities in Georgia alone. And we serve over 4 million Georgians each year. In 2017, the total investment amount was $152.7 million.

Find out how you can make an impact today

Reducing Poverty
We're active in over 100 communities in Georgia alone. And we serve over 4 million Georgians each year. In 2017, the total investment amount was $152.7 million.

Find out how you can make an impact today

REDUCING POVERTY
We're active in over 100 communities in Georgia alone. And we serve over 4 million Georgians each year. In 2017, the total investment amount was $152.7 million.

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY
Repeat basic shapes to reinforce the underlying grid

Venngage.com
Emphasize Using Shapes

Use basic shapes to emphasize headers and list elements

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5 Reasons to Give Blood

1/3 of us will need a blood transfusion in our lifetime.

3: Lives can be saved with the amount of blood donated in one sitting.

2nd: 2 seconds someone in India needs blood.

62: Countries get sufficient blood supplies from voluntary donations.

36: The time it takes to naturally replace blood lost from the body.

Save a life and donate.

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Venngage.com
Add icons to reinforce important concepts in the text

- keep icon color, style, and size consistent
- pull everything together with extra background shapes
BE Diligent

Make sure the repeated elements you add are aligned!
Negative (white) space is often used in advertising
- the space around and between the subject of an image
- helps to define a subject
- helps emphasizing a message
Just as important as any other element of a design
- simplest negative space are margins around the graphics
**Negative Space: Gaps**

Use gaps between unrelated elements

- makes it easier to immediately understand which elements are grouped together
Much easier to make colors play nicely with each other by adding a little whitespace
Use color to highlight important information
Color for Grouping

Use color to group related elements together

Venngage.com
Neutral Colors

Use neutrals to offset bright colors

- helps put together a composition
- can group in a more subtle way
There are Templates on the Web
Color Harmony

Non-harmonic colors

Harmonic colors

Hue wheel:
Harmonic Color Schemes

i type  V type  L type  I type

T type  Y type  X type  N type
Given arbitrary hue histogram $H(p)$ for image $X$, find the closest harmonic template $T_m$

- minimize the distance of the histogram to template coverage (delineated by template edges $E$)
- use an optimization procedure for this
- also find the orientation angle $\alpha$

$$F(\text{X}(m, \alpha)) = \sum_{p \in X} ||H(p) - E_{T_m(\alpha)}(p)|| \cdot S(p)$$

from Cohen ‘08
Given closest template and $\alpha$ has been found (user may specify other template)

- shift all hues $H(p)$ to the closest harmonic template position $H'(p)$ with width $w$
- a Gaussian $G$ controls the clustering of the hues around the sector mean $C$ of the template (greater $\sigma$ clusters more, we use $w/2$)

$$H'(p) = G(p) + \frac{w}{2}(1 - G_{\sigma}(\|H(p) - C(p)\|))$$

This may break up coherent regions into disjointly colored regions

- to avoid this, may embed a graph-cut labeling into the shifting procedure

from Cohen ‘08
Collage harmonization (from Cohen ’06):

*non-harmonic*  
*harmonized (T type)*
Collage harmonization (from Wang ‘08):