

Data Visualization Best Practices:

# Your Guide to Great Graphs

Anne Bendelow, MPH  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie  
Children's Hospital of Chicago  
Data Analytics & Reporting  
October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019



# Ann K. Emery

- Information Designer
- Speaker, host of workshops and webinars, owns a design consultancy, chair of American Evaluation Association's data interest group
- Aim of equipping organizations to visualize data more effectively



Online Courses

In-person Workshops

Virtual Webinars

Coaching

Keynotes

## Design

Want good DataViz, but don't have time to do it yourself? We design reports, one-pagers, dashboards, infographics, and slideshows.

GET STARTED



Most of our designs are private, client-facing documents. Once in a while, we work on public-facing reports. Here are a few public projects.

- [The American Evaluation Association in 2020](#)
- [Coalition Assessment: Approaches for Measuring Capacity and Impact](#)
- [Data Placemats: A Facilitative Technique Designed to Enhance Stakeholder Understanding of Data](#)
- [Epidemiological and Statistical Basics with Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital](#)
- [The Global Environment Facility's Scorecard](#)
- [Innovation Network's State of Evaluation 2012](#)



## Blog

Z Increased  
to 2019



Alaska

Calif.

Where XY  
from 2009

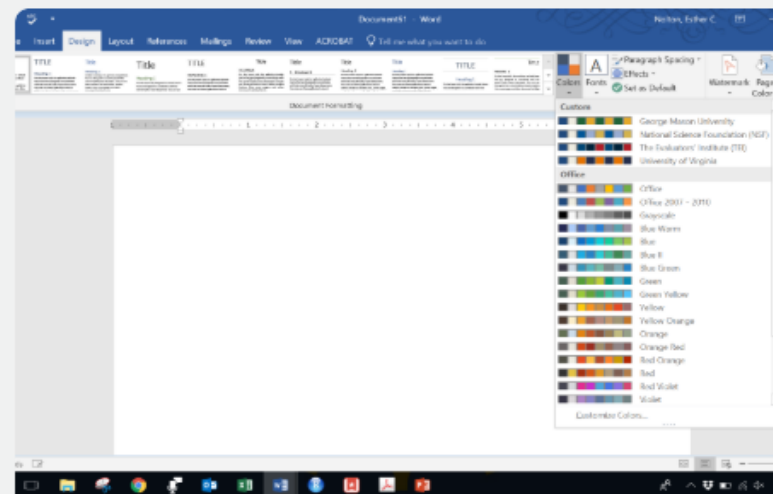


Va.

### My Favorite Source for State Icons to Use in Data Visualizations

Jun 25th, 2019 / Data Visualization

Does the first draft of your report or slideshow have way too much text? Are you looking for strategies for transforming your wall of text into an effective visual? If so, I wrote this article for you! This is one of many techniques for transforming words into visuals.



### Work Smarter, Not Harder, When Visualizing Data [Guest Post by Esther C. Noltan]

Jun 13th, 2019 / Data Visualization

Esther C. Noltan attended one of my data visualization workshops in May 2019, and almost immediately followed up with examples ...

Ann K Emery's Workshop:

Ann<sub>(e)</sub> C Bendelow 'Lite Edition!

**Same Name,  
Shorter Content**



# Overview

- Review 4 concepts from Ann's technical advising to apply here at Lurie Children's:
  - ✓ **Choose the Right Chart**
  - ✓ **De-Clutter**
  - ✓ **Clarify with Color**
  - ✓ **Clarify with Text**
- Before & After examples, Lurie Style!

*\*Focused on static visualizations\**





# PIGS IN SPACE: EFFECT OF ZERO GRAVITY AND AD LIBITUM FEEDING ON WEIGHT GAIN IN CAVIA PORCELLUS



SPACE-EXES

## ABSTRACT:

One ignored benefit of space travel is a potential elimination of obesity, a chronic problem for a growing majority in many parts of the world. In theory, when an individual is in a condition of zero gravity, weight is eliminated. Indeed, in space one could conceivably follow ad libitum feeding and never even gain an gram, and the only side effect would be the need to upgrade one's stretchy pants("exercise pants"). But because many diet schemes start as very good theories only to be found to be rather harmful, we tested our predictions with a long-term experiment in a colony of Guinea pigs (*Cavia porcellus*) maintained on the International Space Station. Individuals were housed separately and given unlimited amounts of high-calorie food pellets. Fresh fruits and vegetables were not available in space so were not offered. Every 30 days, each Guinea pig was weighed. After 5 years, we found that individuals, on average, weighed nothing. In addition to weighing nothing, no weight appeared to be gained over the duration of the protocol. If space continues to be gravity-free, and we believe that assumption is sound, we believe that sending the overweight — and those at risk for overweight — to space would be a lasting cure.

## INTRODUCTION:

The current obesity epidemic started in the early 1960s with the invention and proliferation of elastane and related stretchy fibers, which released wearers from the rigid constraints of clothes and permitted monthly weight gain without the need to buy new outfits. Indeed, exercise today for hundreds of million people involve only the act of wearing stretchy pants in public, presumably because the constrictive pressure forces fat molecules to adopt a more compact tertiary structure (Xavier 1965).

Luckily, at the same time that fabrics became stretchy, the race to the moon between the United States and Russia yielded a useful fact: gravity in outer space is minimal to nonexistent. When gravity is zero, objects cease to have weight. Indeed, early astronauts and cosmonauts had to secure themselves to their ships with seat belts and sticky boots. The potential application to weight loss was noted immediately, but at the time travel to space was prohibitively expensive and thus the issue was not seriously pursued. Now, however, multiple companies are developing cheap extra-orbital travel options for normal consumers, and potential travelers are also creating news ways to pay for products and services that they cannot actually afford. Together, these factors open the possibility that moving to space could cure overweight syndrome quickly and permanently for a large number of humans.

We studied this potential by following weight gain in Guinea pigs, known on Earth as fond of ad libitum feeding. Guinea pigs were long envisioned to be the "Guinea pigs" of space research, too, so they seemed like the obvious choice. Studies on humans are of course desirable, but we feel this current study will be critical in acquiring the attention of granting agencies.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS:

One hundred male and one hundred female Guinea pigs (*Cavia porcellus*) were transported to the International Space Laboratory in 2010. Each pig was housed separately and deprived of exercise wheels and fresh fruits and vegetables for 48 months. Each month, pigs were individually weighed by duct-taping them to an electronic balance sensitive to 0.0001 grams. Back on Earth, an identical cohort was similarly maintained and weighed. Data was analyzed by statistics.

## RESULTS:

Mean weight of pigs in space was  $0.0000 \pm 0.0002$  g. Some individuals weighed less than zero, some more, but these variations were due to reaction to the duct tape, we believe, which caused them to be alarmed push briefly against the force plate in the balance. Individuals on the Earth, the control cohort, gained about 240 g/month ( $p = 0.0002$ ). Males and females gained a similar amount of weight on Earth (no main effect of sex), and size at any point during the study was related to starting size (which was used as a covariate in the ANCOVA). Both Earth and space pigs developed substantial dewlaps (double chins) and were lethargic at the conclusion of the study.

## CONCLUSIONS:

Our view that weight and weight gain would be zero in space was confirmed. Although we have not replicated this experiment on larger animals or primates, we are confident that our result would be mirrored in other model organisms. We are currently in the process of obtaining necessary human trial permissions, and should have our planned experiment initiated within 80 years, pending expedited review by local and Federal IRBs.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

I am grateful for generous support from the National Research Foundation, Black Hole Diet Plans, and the High Fructose Sugar Association. Transport flights were funded by SPACE-EXES, the consortium of wives divorced from insanely wealthy space-flight startups. I am also grateful for comments on early drafts by Mañana Athletic Club, Corpus Christi, USA. Finally, sincere thanks to the Cuy Foundation for generously donating animal care after the conclusion of the study.

## LITERATURE CITED:

- NASA. 1982. Project STS-XX: Guinea Pigs. Leaked internal memo.  
Sekulić, S.R., D. D. Lukač, and N. M. Naumović. 2005. The Fetus Cannot Exercise Like An Astronaut: Gravity Loading Is Necessary For The Physiological Development During Second Half Of Pregnancy. *Medical Hypotheses*. 64:221-228  
Xavier, M. 1965. Elastane Purchases Accelerate Weight Gain In Case-control Study. *Journal of Obesity*. 2:23-40.





### **O<sup>6</sup>-Benzylguanine Inhibits Tamoxifen Resistant Breast Cancer Cell Growth and Resensitizes Breast Cancer Cells to Anti-Estrogen Therapy**

Josina Kordik<sup>1</sup>, George C. Schuster<sup>1</sup>, Rafael Moreno-Vidal<sup>1</sup>, Jinzuo Cui<sup>2</sup>, Beth Isley<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan Thirk<sup>3</sup>, Katherine S. Stevenson<sup>4</sup> and Nadia Kuehnel<sup>1</sup>

Current Research Institute of 100 Andrew Avenue, Colorado, New York University, World Science Press, 1999, 2000



## Abstract

**Posters rarely**

## need abstracts

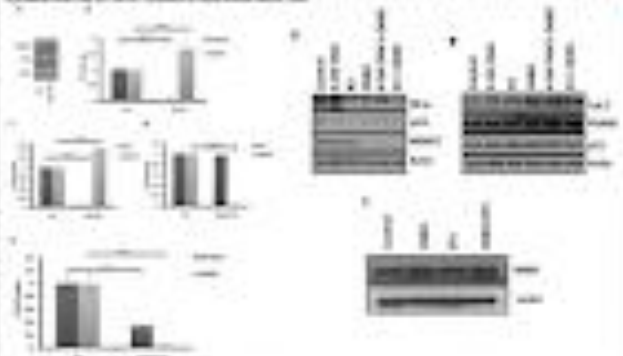
How do you do that?

**Text dissolves into intimidating,**

**Boring Gray** is a new color for the interior design world. It's a dark, moody gray that's perfect for creating a sophisticated, modern look. The color is named after the famous Boring Gray, a color that was used in the 19th century for the interior of the White House. The color is a perfect blend of black and white, creating a rich, dark gray that's perfect for creating a sophisticated, modern look. The color is named after the famous Boring Gray, a color that was used in the 19th century for the interior of the White House. The color is a perfect blend of black and white, creating a rich, dark gray that's perfect for creating a sophisticated, modern look.

Wholesale Price

**Expanded Evaluation of Vaccination Incentives (EMVI) Study:** We designed a vaccine incentive (VI) and the "no vaccine incentive" treatment is identical to the current (EMVI) study except that the EMVI study included the VI and patients' prior visits to the emergency department (ED) were used to evaluate vaccine status. The EMVI study was a randomized controlled trial.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

## Too small and too much

[illegible]

**3d. Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor-Induced Phosphorylation of Akt Is Associated with a Decrease in Akt Activity.** Because Akt is a serine/threonine kinase, it is expected that phosphorylation of Akt would be associated with a decrease in its activity. To test this hypothesis, we measured the activity of Akt in the hippocampus of naive mice and mice that had received a single injection of BDNF 1 week before sacrifice. We found that the activity of Akt was significantly lower in the hippocampus of BDNF-treated mice compared with naive mice (Fig. 3d). This result is consistent with the observation that BDNF treatment increases the phosphorylation of Akt at Ser473, which is known to be associated with inactivation of Akt (Gotoh et al., 2001).

**Caption not aligned with figure**

[illegible]

**Conservation and**



Figure 1 consists of two bar charts, (a) and (b), showing the effect of 100% O<sub>2</sub> on the growth of *E. coli* strains. The y-axis represents OD<sub>600</sub> (0 to 1.0). The x-axis represents time (0 to 12 hours). A color scale at the top indicates the growth rate (0 to 1.0).

Panel (a) shows growth in 100% O<sub>2</sub>. The bars represent the growth of strains 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. The growth rate is generally higher in 100% O<sub>2</sub> compared to 21% O<sub>2</sub>.

Panel (b) shows growth in 21% O<sub>2</sub>. The bars represent the growth of strains 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. The growth rate is generally lower in 21% O<sub>2</sub> compared to 100% O<sub>2</sub>.

**Crammed!**

**Disallowed**

1. To not attempt to pass the exam by attempting to cram your answers into your memory and regurgitate the answers for the exam without understanding the concepts. (This is a common mistake to make.)

2. Memorizing the responses to all of the questions in the exam without understanding the concepts and not being able to apply the concepts to new situations.

4. **multicollinearity**: different variables measure the same thing or are



# ACADEMIC RESEARCH POSTER TEMPLATE

Subtitle for Academic Research Poster (48x36 inches)

Your names and the names of the people who contributed to this presentation



## Introduction

Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim. Praesent ut massa nibh. Duis purus neque, facilisis cursus ultrices vel, ullamcorper ac augue. Donec semper lorem vitae urna pulvinar, in congue massa tristique. Sed in risus nibh. In nisl quam, aliquet sed nibh sit amet, faucibus.

## Methods

Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim. Praesent ut massa nibh. Duis purus neque, facilisis cursus ultrices vel, ullamcorper ac augue. Donec semper lorem vitae urna pulvinar, in congue massa tristique:

### MAURIS ORCI VARIUS ID DIAM

- Sed in risus nibh. In nisl quam, aliquet sed nibh sit amet, faucibus placerat dui.
- Fusce quis augue scelerisque, luctus rum sed, ut in pulvinar urna in eros posuere.

### EUISMODO JUSTO VITAE PURUS

- Proin semper ipsum donec semper placerat.
- Finibus quam tempor, vitae consectetur.
- Elementum orci dignissim. Proin semper ipsum.

Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim.

## Data Analysis

Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim. Praesent ut massa nibh. Duis purus neque, facilisis cursus ultrices vel, ullamcorper ac augue [See Figure A]. Donec semper lorem vitae urna pulvinar, in congue massa tristique:

- A. Sed in risus nibh. In nisl quam, aliquet sed nibh sit amet, faucibus placerat dui.
- B. Fusce quis augue scelerisque, luctus rum sed, ut dolor, pulvinar urna in eros posuere.
- C. In elementum orci dignissim. Proin semper ipsum finibus quam tempor, vitae consectetur.

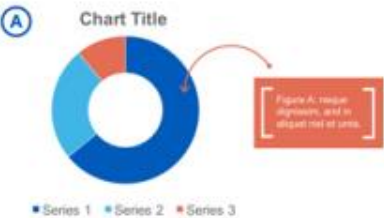
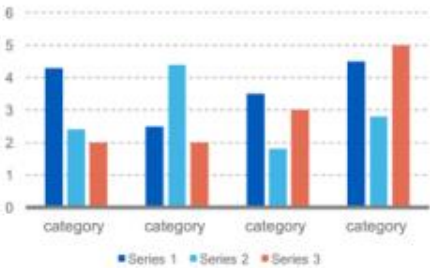


Chart Title			
8.01	7.99	5.77	6.44
4.50	3.11	9.55	1.12
6.15	6.00	6.16	5.65
8.21	2.16	3.11*	7.17
3.00	9.70	10.50	4.45

\*Ullamcorper efficitur sed in nulla.

## Chart Title



## Results

Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim. Praesent ut massa nibh. Duis purus neque, facilisis cursus ultrices vel, ullamcorper ac augue. Donec semper lorem vitae urna pulvinar, in congue massa tristique quis augue scelerisque.

Sed in risus nibh. In nisl quam, aliquet sed nibh sit amet, faucibus placerat dui. Fusce quis augue scelerisque, luctus rum sed, porta ut dolor. In pulvinar urna in eros posuere, in elementum orci dignissim.



### MAURIS ORCI MI VARIUS ID DIAM

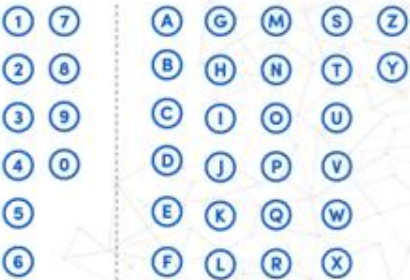
Egestas auctor enim. Praesent ut massa nibh. Duis purus neque, facilisis cursus ultrices vel, ullamcorper ac augue. Donec semper lorem.

## Conclusion

Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim. Praesent ut massa nibh. Duis purus neque, facilisis cursus ultrices vel, ullamcorper ac augue. Donec semper lorem vitae urna pulvinar, in congue massa tristique:

- Sed Risus Nibh: Citi nisl quam, aliquet sed nibh sit amet, faucibus placerat dui augue scelerisque.
- Curabitur Accumsan Nulla: Fusce quis augue urna scelerisque, luctus rum sed, ut dolor in pulvinar in eros.
- Elementum Orci Dignissim: Proin semper ipsum finibus quam tempor, vitae consectetur.
- Aenean Suscipit: Proin semper Donec semper ipsum.
- Rutrum Gravida: Ullamcorper efficitur sed in nulla.

## Graphic Elements



## References

- Phasellus nec lectus bibendum, posuere nibh id, lacinia magna
- Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim
- Duis vitae tristique tortor, vitae sollicitudin magna
- Aenean et est sem. Phasellus nec lectus bibendum, posuere
- Lacinia magna. Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor
- Mauris orci mi, varius id diam id, egestas auctor enim

[www.buffalo.edu](http://www.buffalo.edu)

# Thoughtful data visualization: Why does it matter?



**Less energy** required for reading graphs

**More energy** reserved for making  
decisions based on that data



And your data deserves to be out in the world:  
**Utilized. Actionable. Talked about**

Choose the  
**Right Chart**



# Choose the **Right Chart**

Selecting visualizations that fit  
your data and tell your story

# Choose the Right Chart

What information do you want your data to show?

**Comparison**

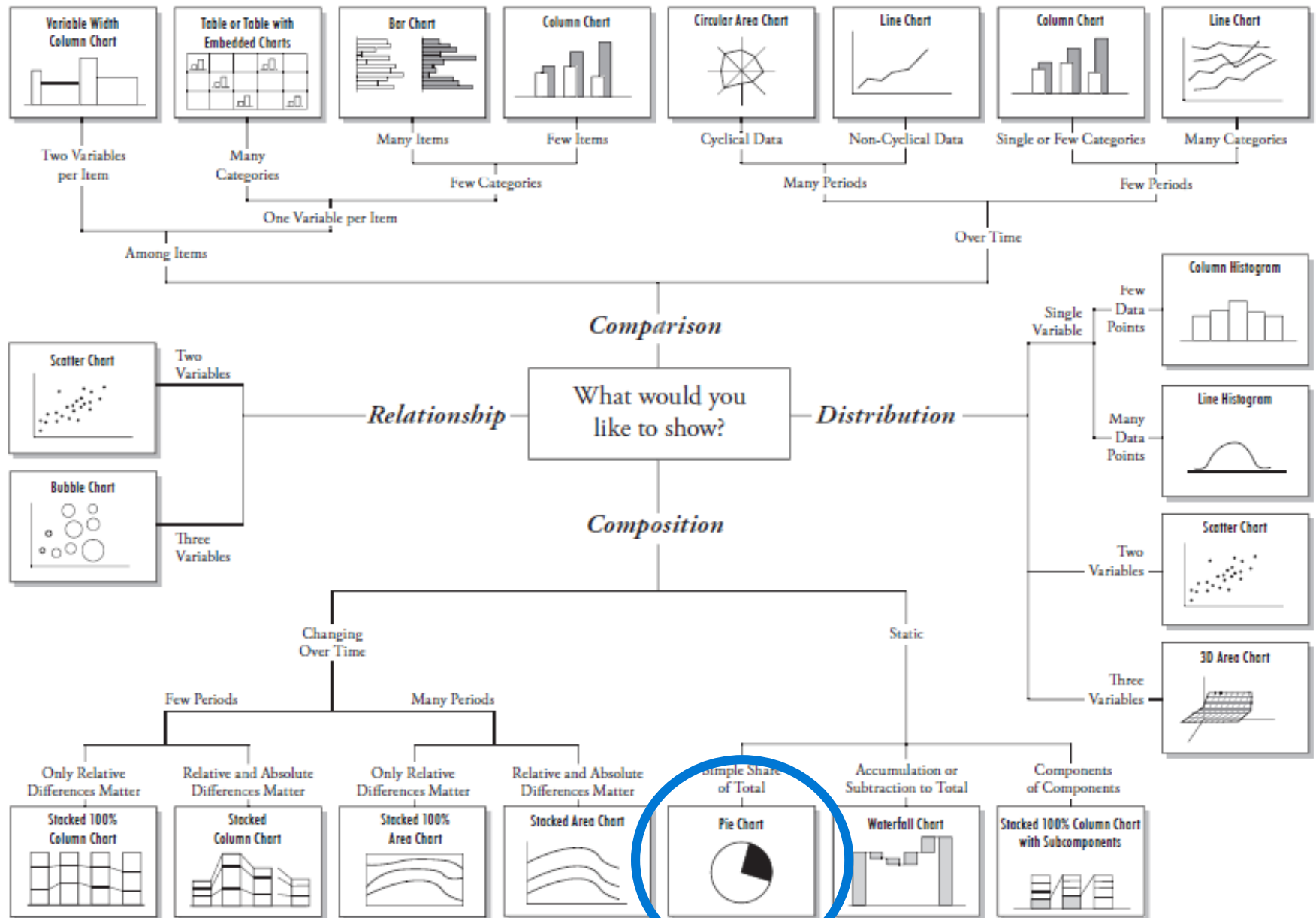
**Distribution**

**Relationship**

**Composition**

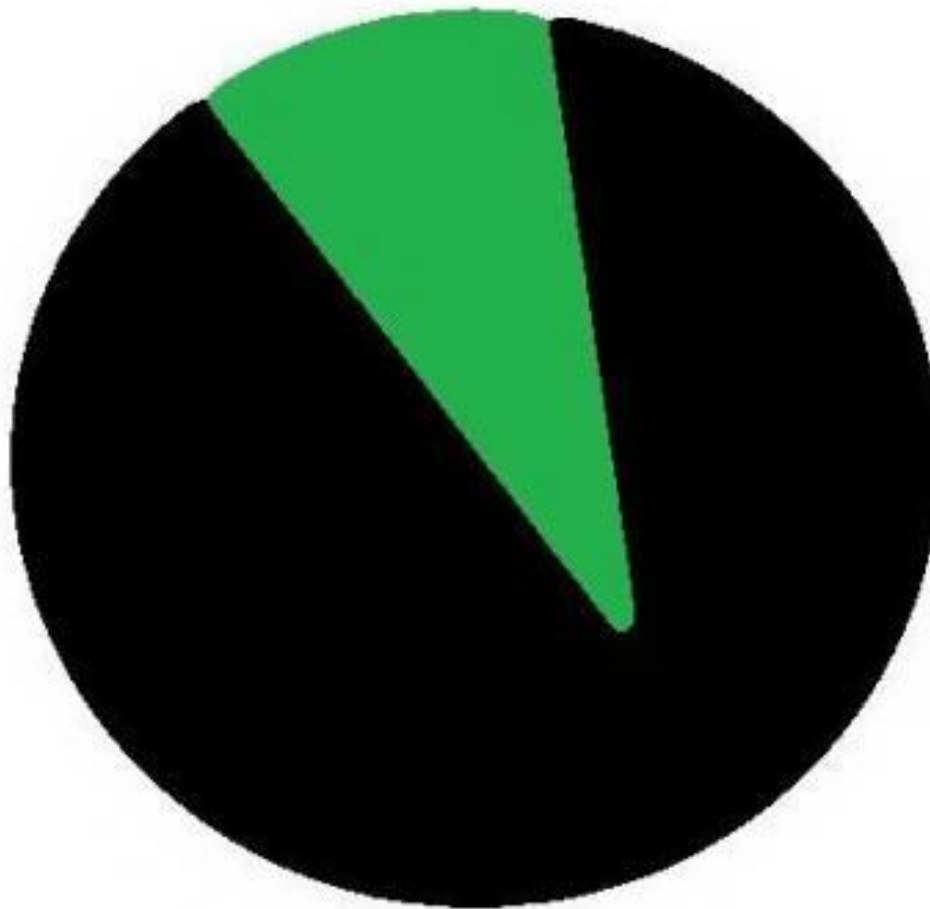
<https://depictdatastudio.com/charts/>


# Chart Suggestions—A Thought-Starter



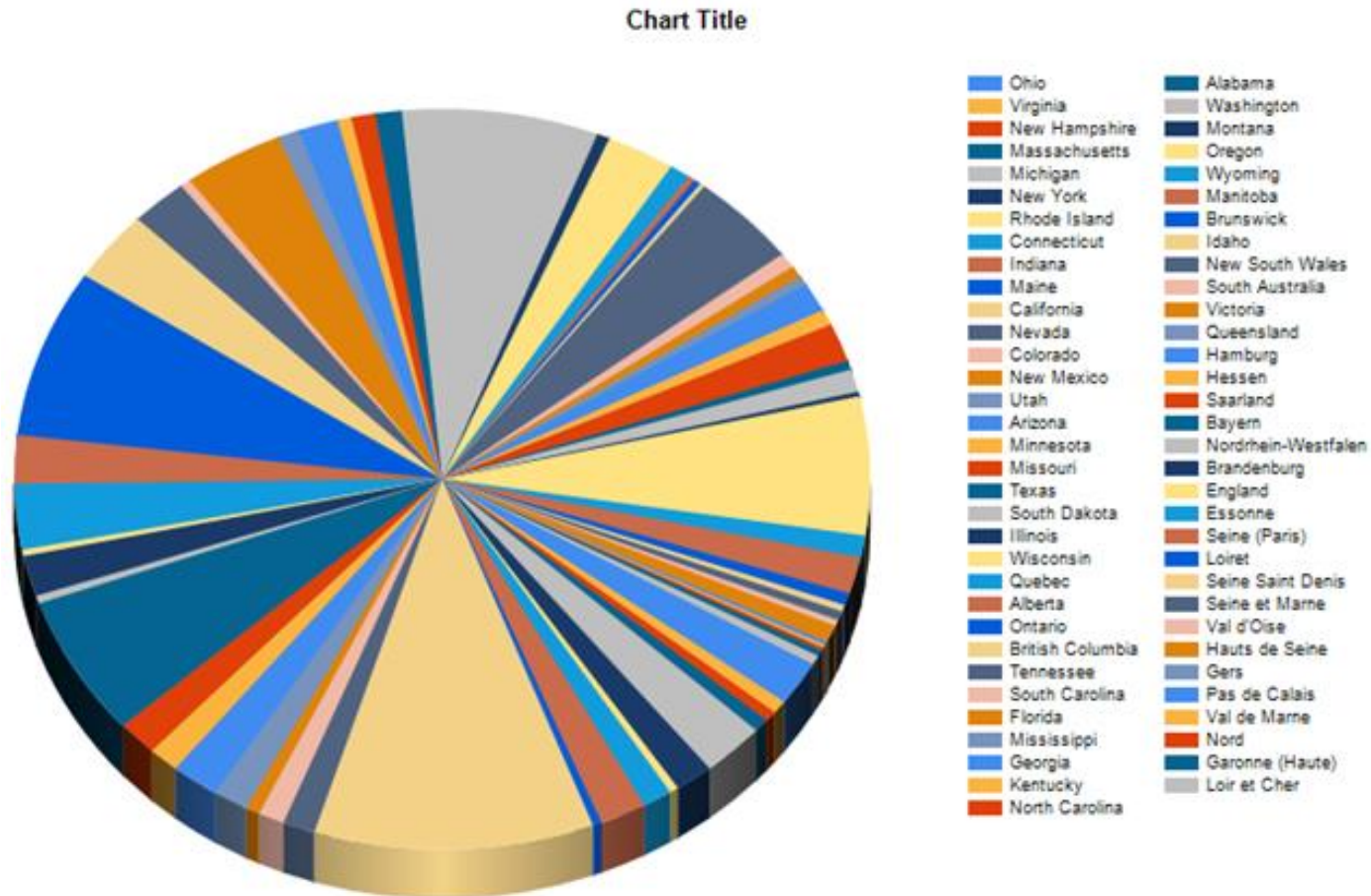


# Things I don't understand

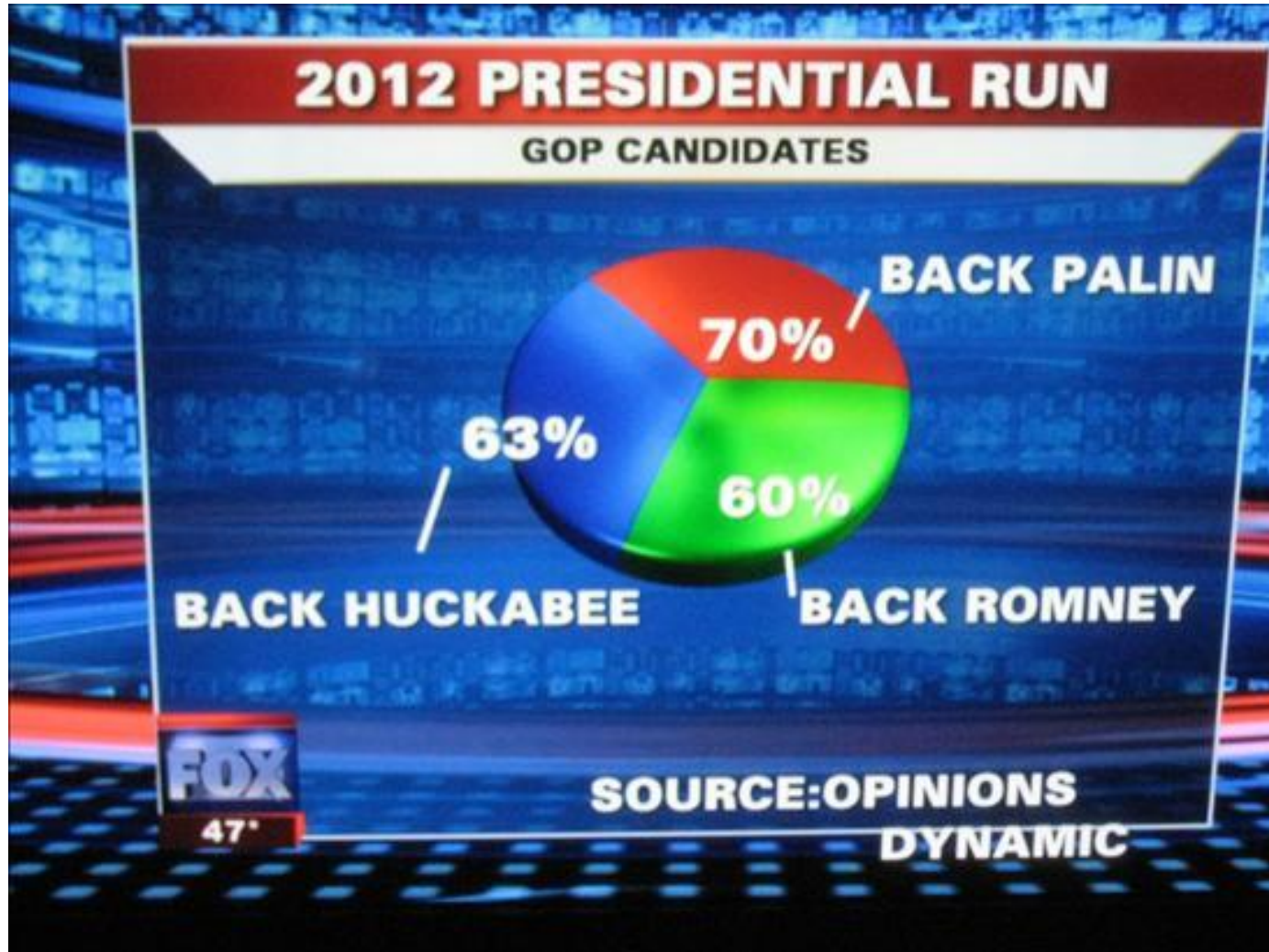


 Pie charts

# Do pie charts deserve their bad reputation?



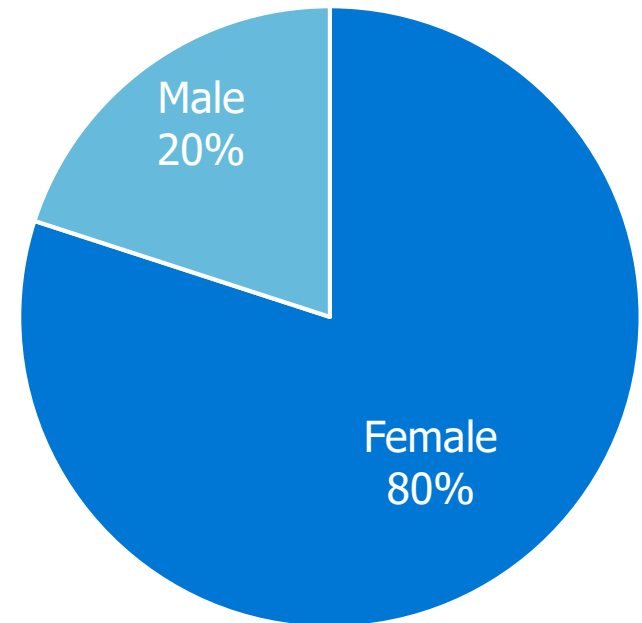
# Pie-chart Fails: Ubiquitous





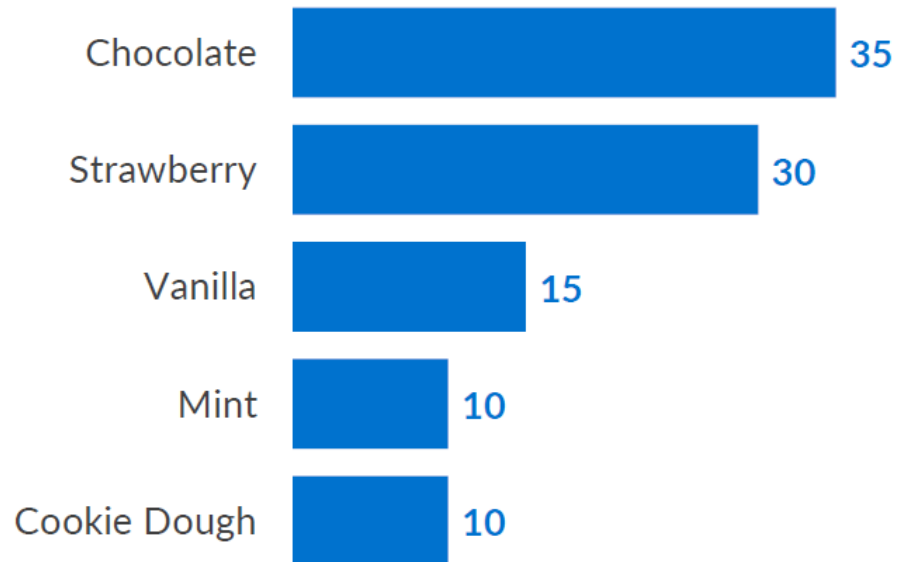
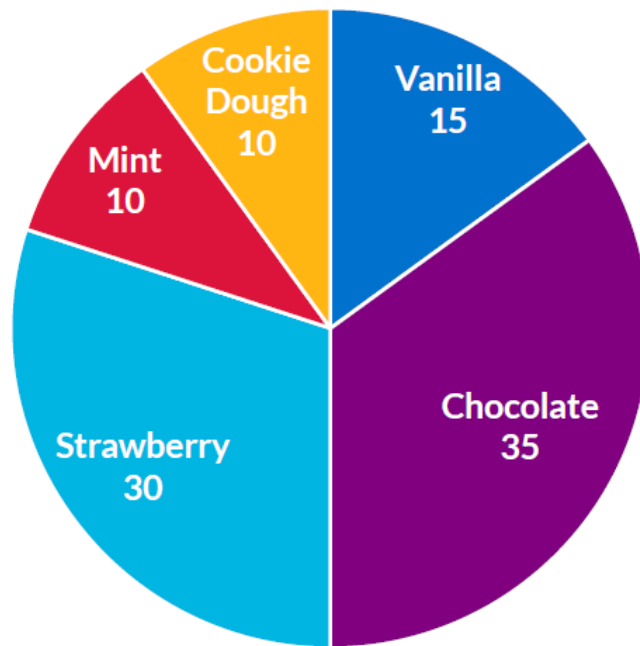
# Pies and Donut Chart Rules

- ✓ Well-formatted
  - ✓ 2-D
  - ✓ No exploding slices
  - ✓ No leader lines or legends
- ✓ Nominal/ categorical data
- ✓ Everything adds to 100%
- ✓ No negative percentages
- ✓ Displays a single point in time
- ✓ 2-3 different slices max
- ✓ 1 pie at a time



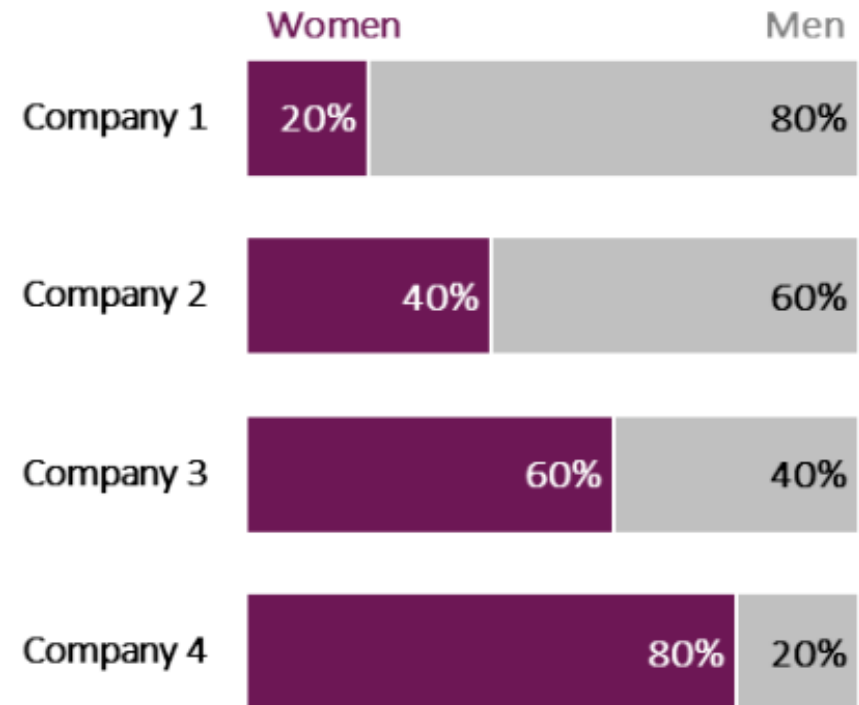
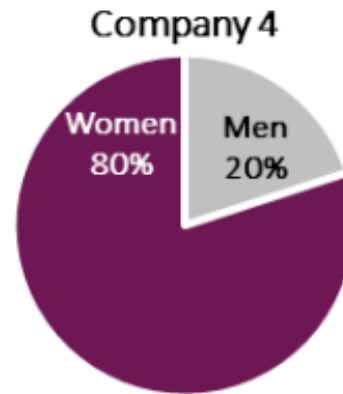
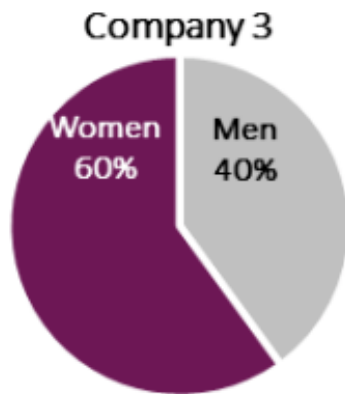
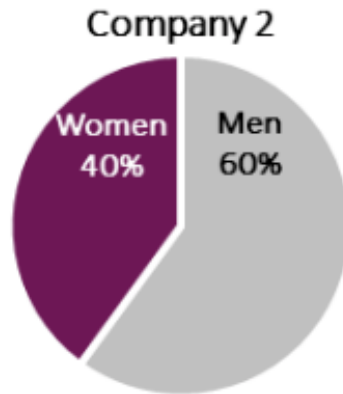
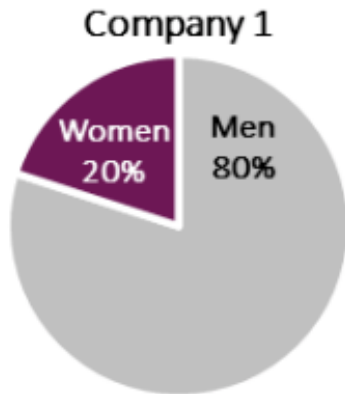
# Pie chart alternatives

If you have more than 3 slices, swap in a bar chart and order the bars from greatest to least



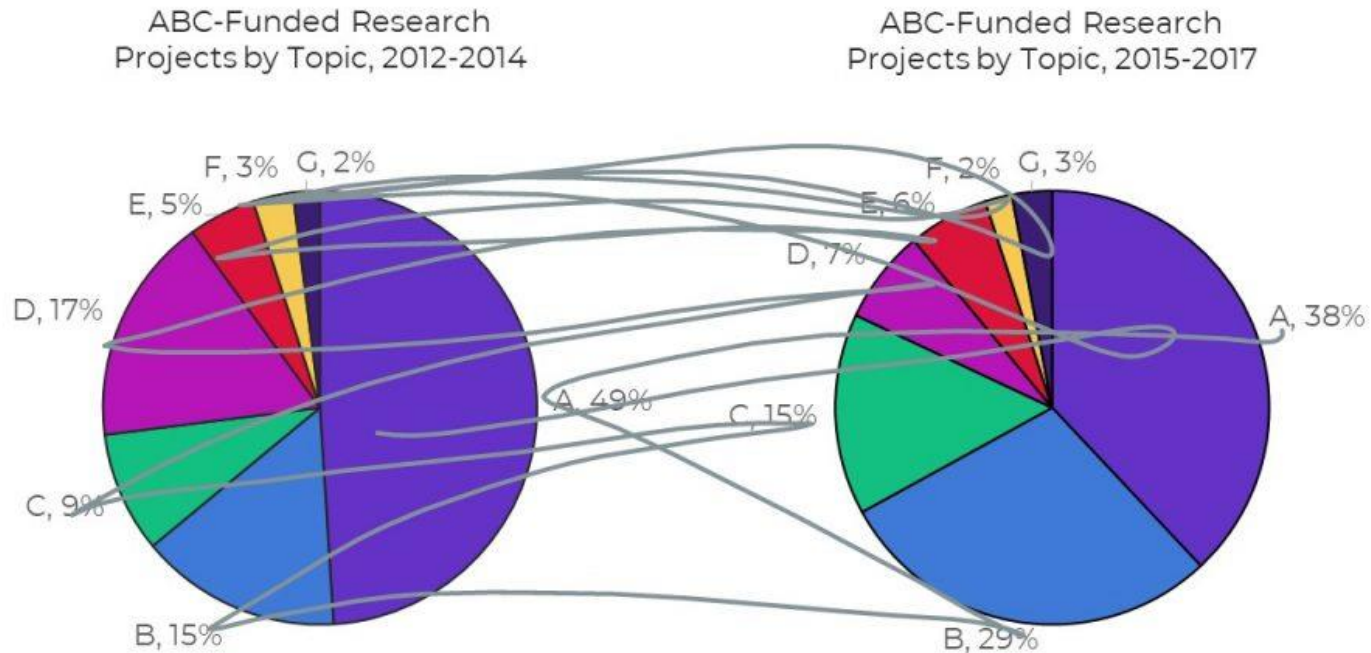
# Pie chart alternatives

Use a small multiples stacked bar chart-  
Much easier to read and compare.



# Pie chart alternatives

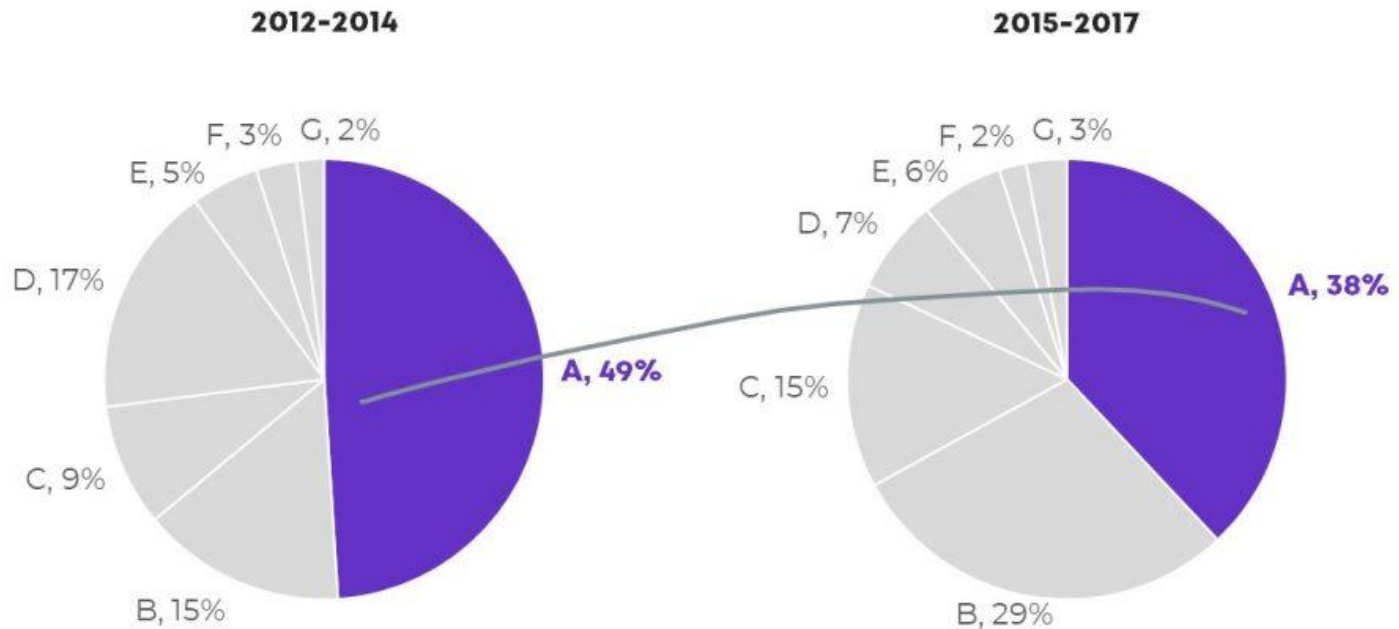
## ABC-Funded Research





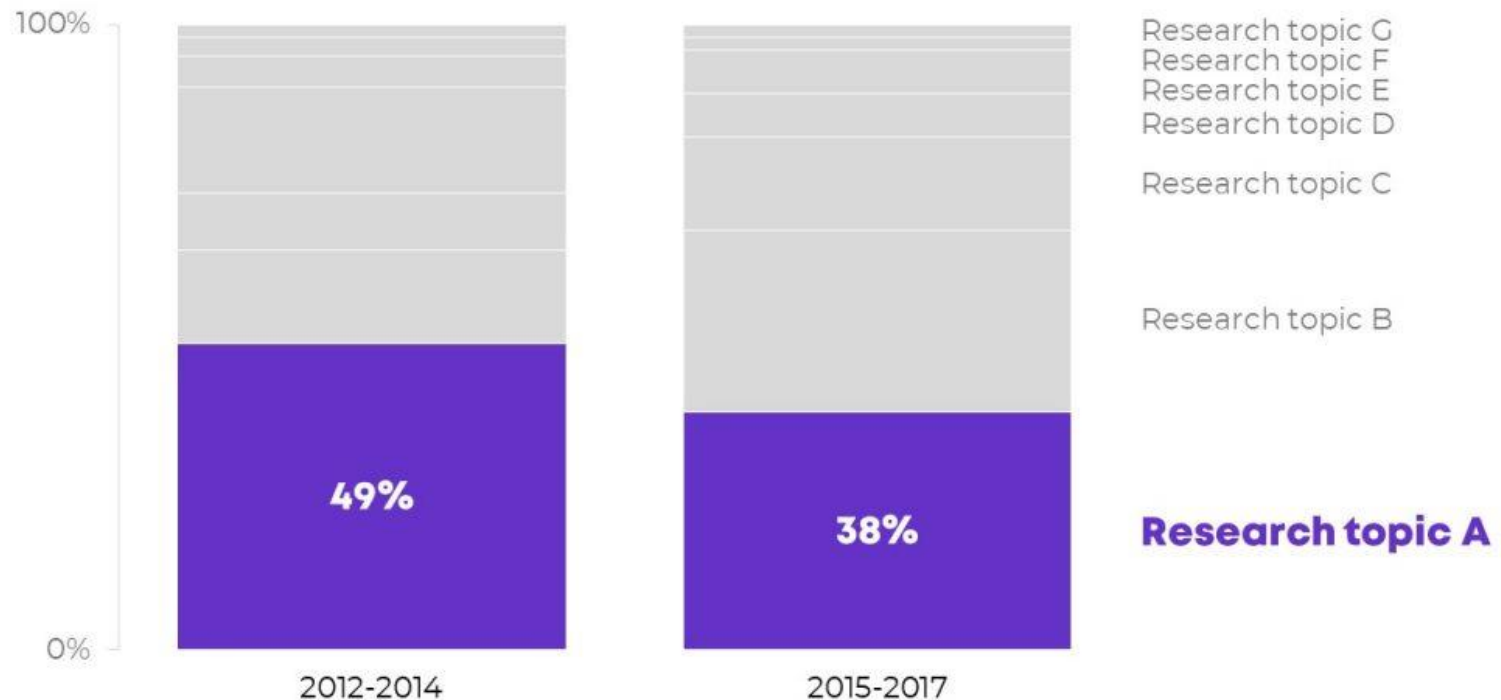
# Pie chart alternatives

## ABC-Funded Research

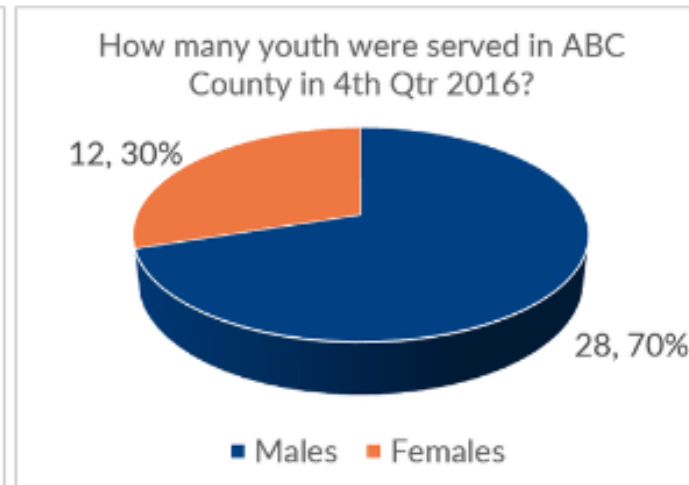
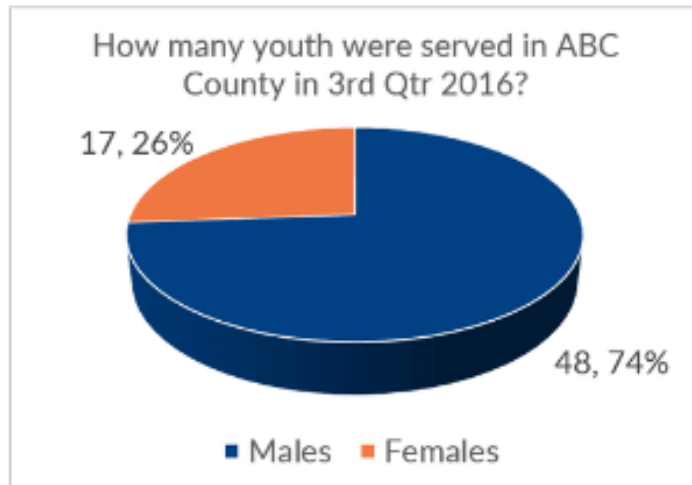
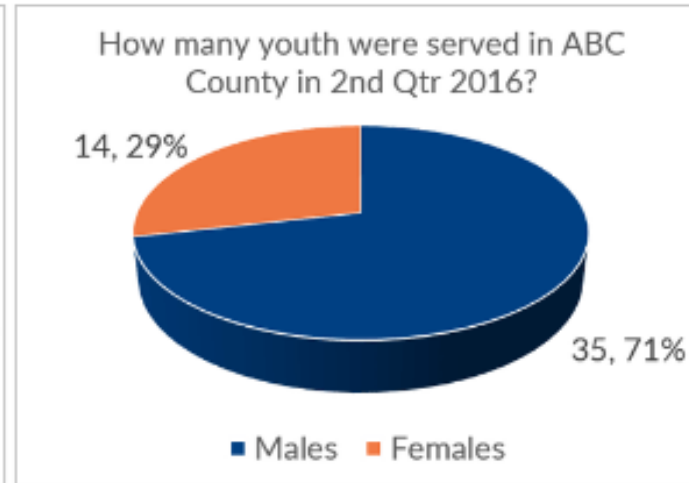
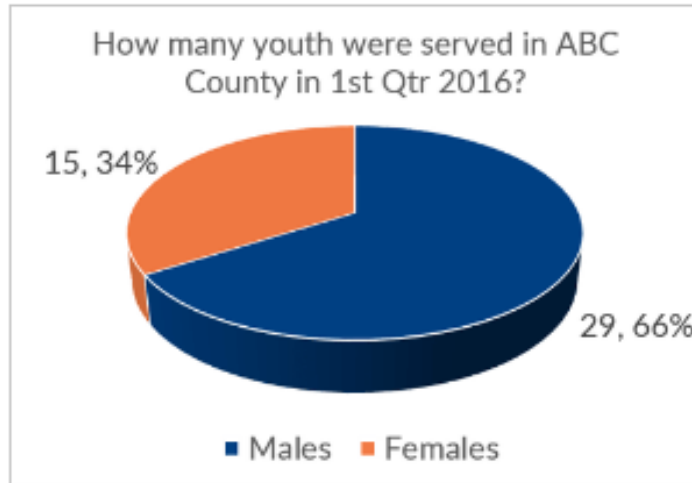


# Pie chart alternatives

## ABC-Funded Research



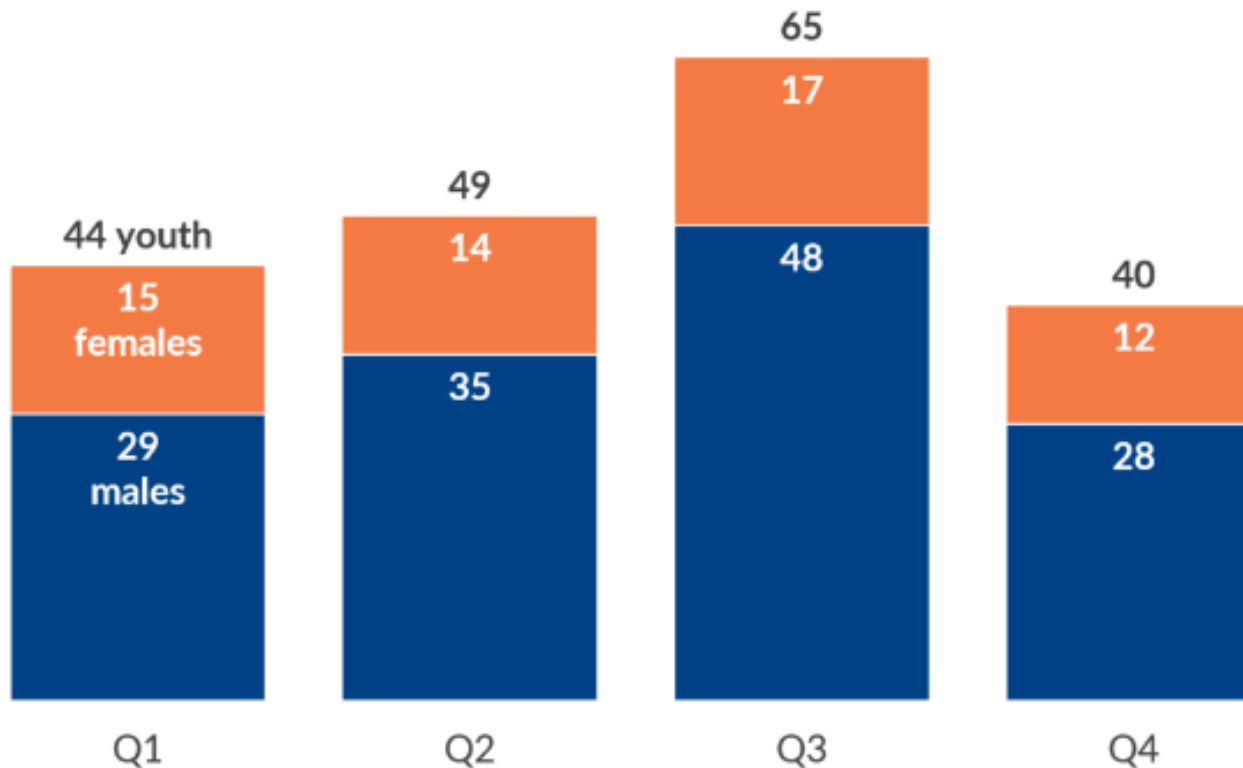
# Pie chart alternatives



# Pie chart alternatives

For displaying multiple points in time

How many youth were served in ABC County each quarter?

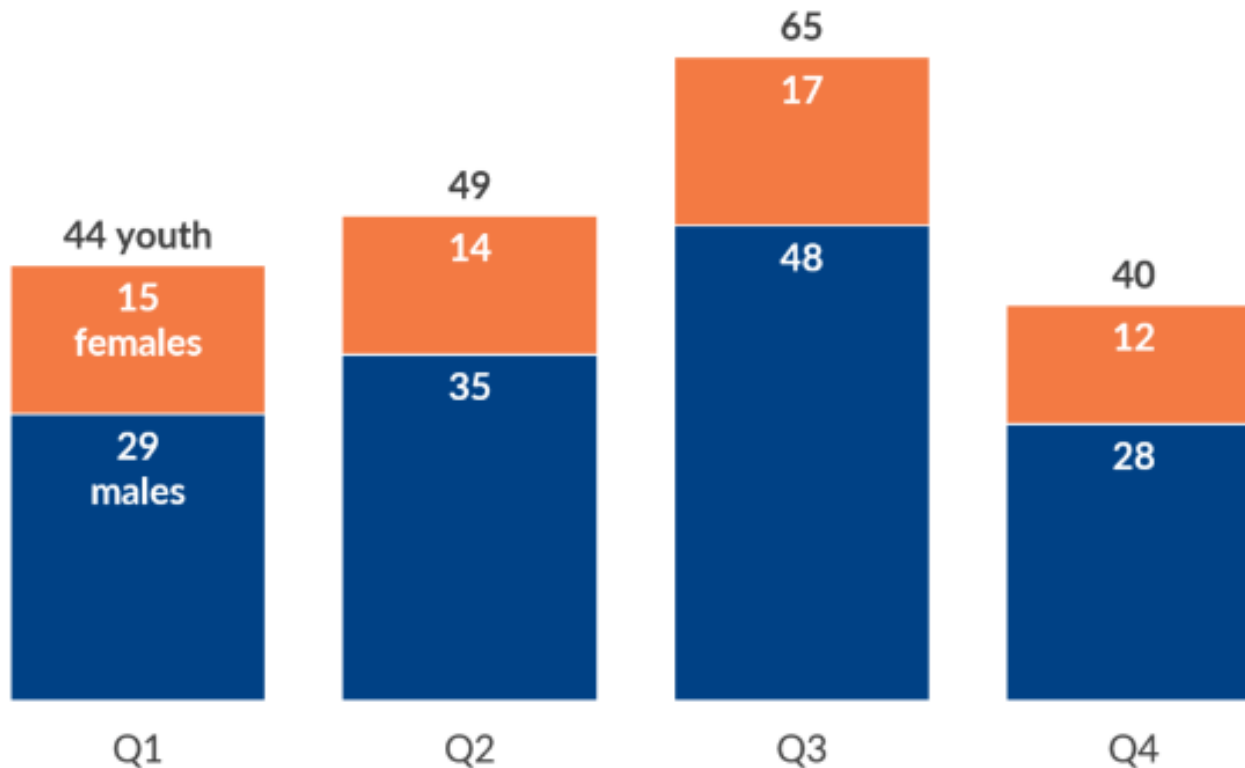




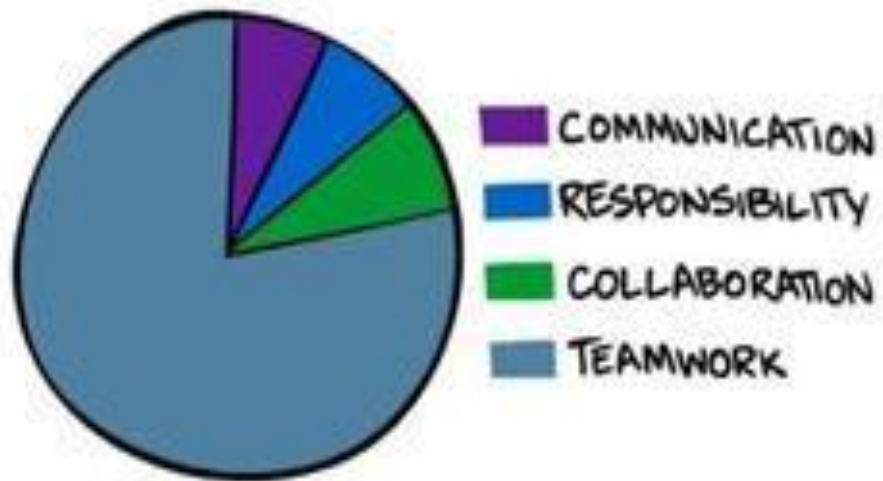
# Pie chart alternatives

For displaying multiple points in time

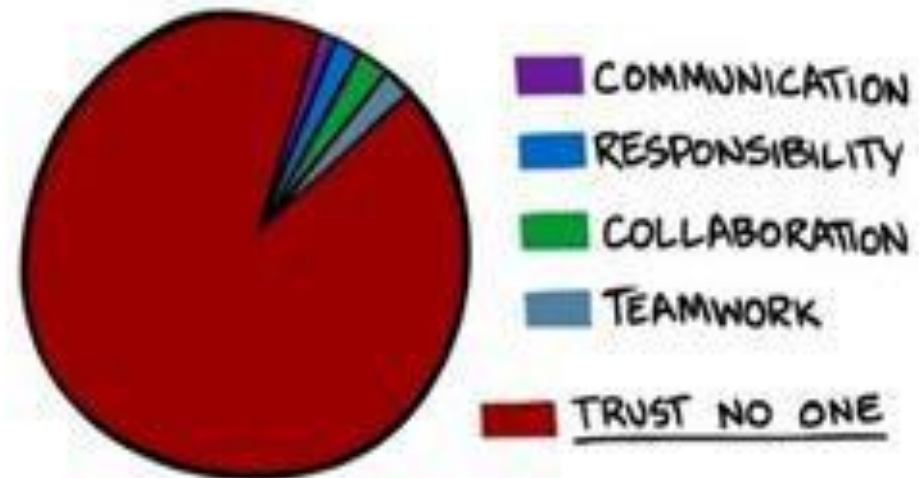
How many youth were served in ABC County each quarter?



## WHAT GROUP PROJECTS ARE SUPPOSED TO TEACH YOU



## WHAT GROUP PROJECTS TAUGHT ME



# Chose the Right Chart

- Consider your message
- Consider your audience
- Graph is not always the best option
  - Does this display my idea better than a table or words?
  - A visualization should improve your communication- not confuse
- More than 1 “correct” option to display data
  - Choosing the wrong type of chart can mislead your audience

# Improving a table: How can we better tell this data's story?

Households Served in the ABC Program			
County	County 1	County 2	Total
September	107	182	289
October	109	173	282
November	135	156	291
December	148	153	301



# Same data, many options: (a better) **Table**

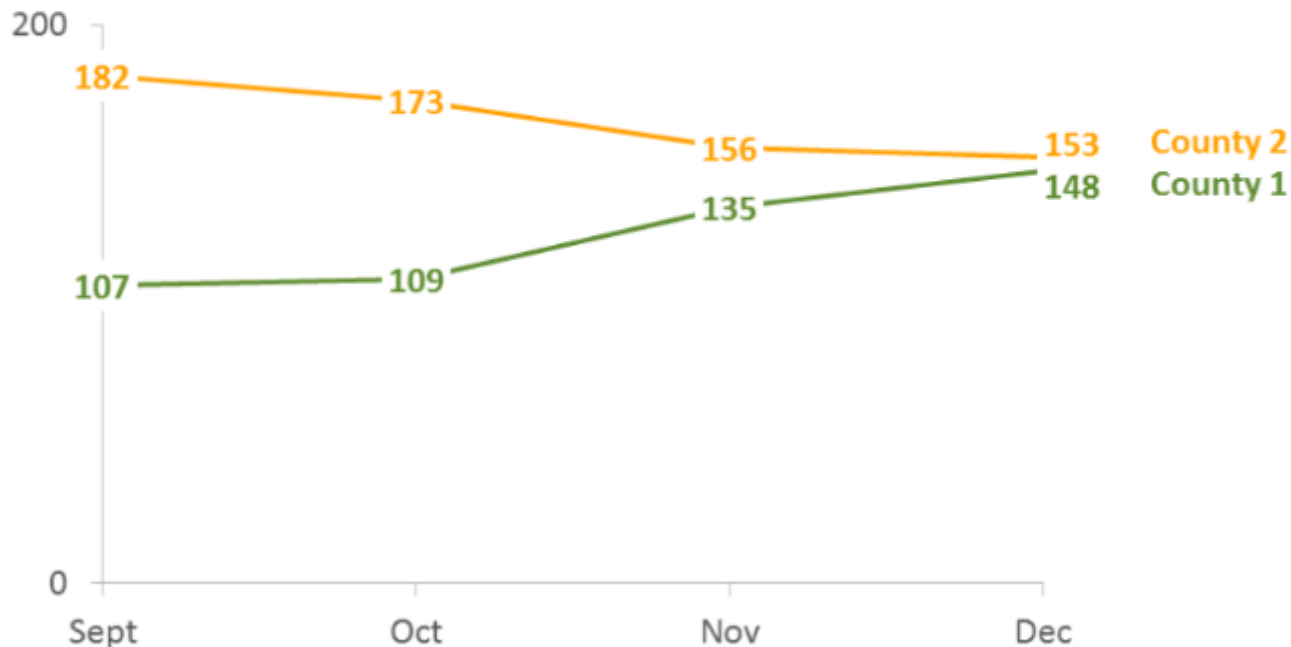
## Households served

County	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
County 1	107	109	135	148
County 2	182	173	156	153
Total	289	282	291	301

# Same data, many options: Line graph

## Households served

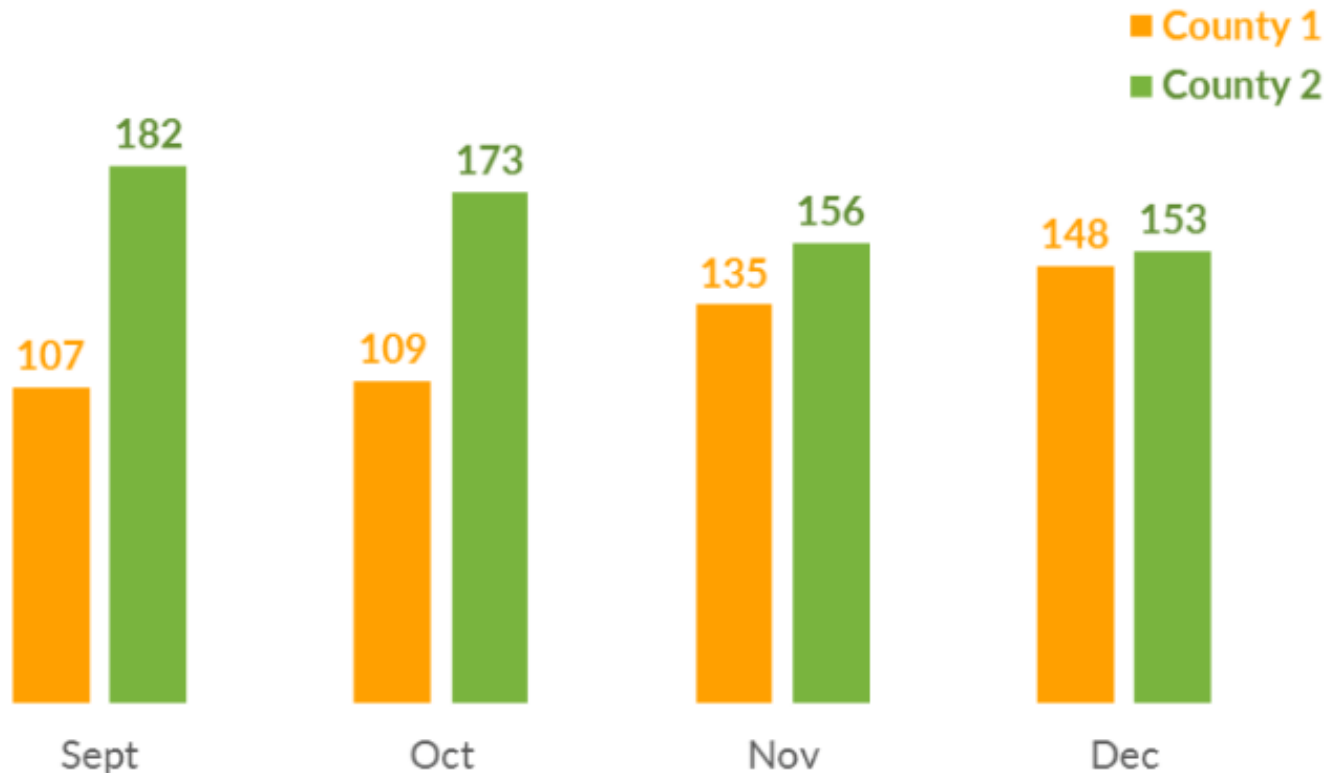
We provided services to **fewer households in County 2** (182 families in September vs. 153 by December) and **more households in County 1** (107 in September vs. 148 by December).



# Same data, many options: **Clustered column**

## Households served

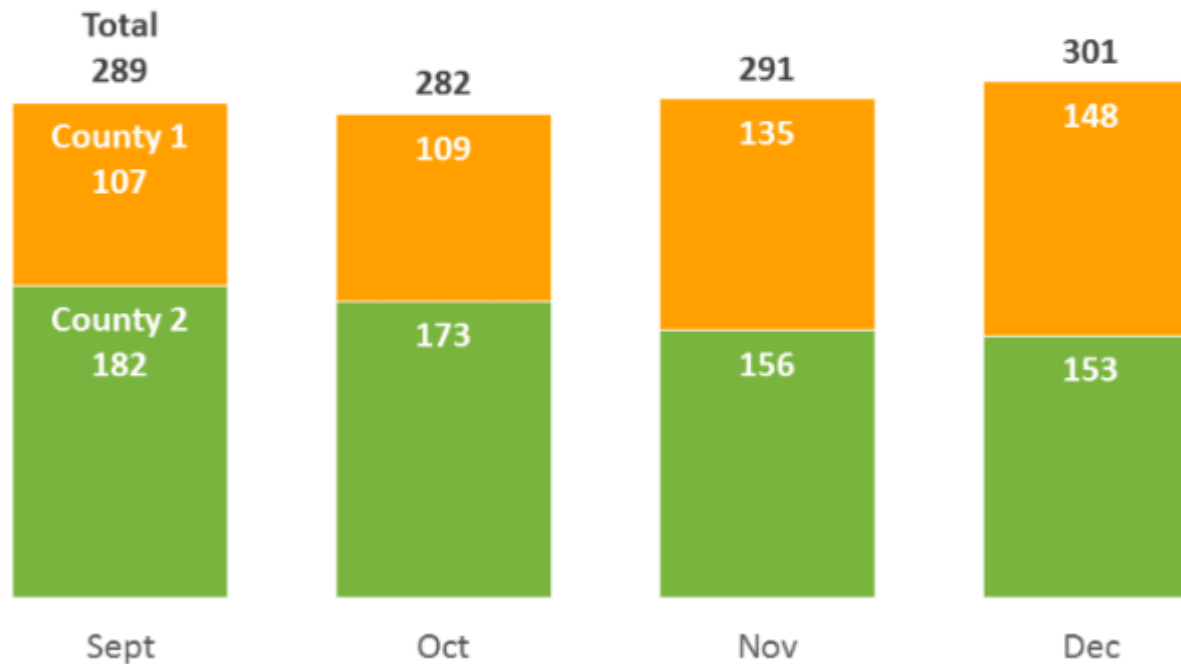
In September, we were serving more families in **County 2** than in **County 1** (182 vs. 107 households). By December, that gap had shrunk.



# Same data, many options: **Stacked column**

## Households served

The proportion of families served in **County 1 increased** while the proportion of families served in **County 2 decreased**. The total number of households increased slightly, from 289 in September to 301 in December.

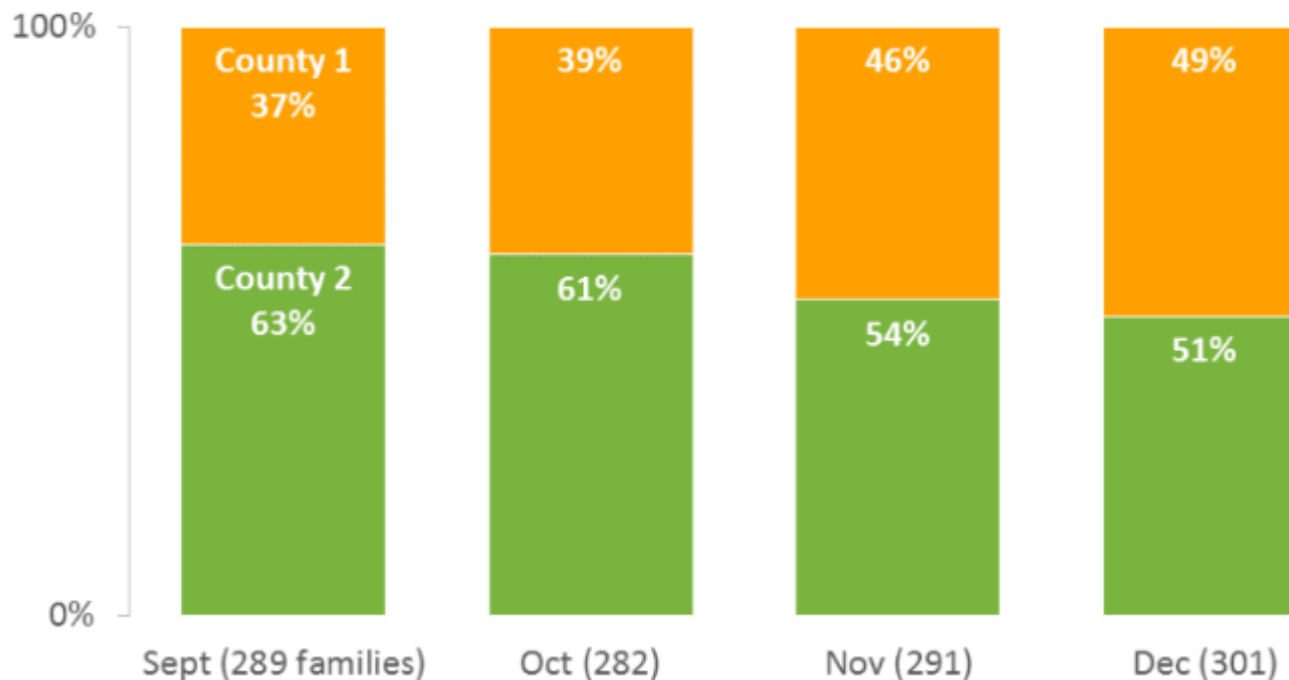




# Same data, many options: **Stacked 100% column**

## Households served

The proportion of families served in **County 1 increased** while the proportion of families served in **County 2 decreased**.



# Chose the Right Chart

## Resources

<https://depictdatastudio.com/charts/>

<https://datavizcatalogue.com/search.html>

# De-Clutter!

# De-Clutter!

Declutter your visualization so that viewers can focus on what matters- the data

**Remove**  
to improve  
(the **data-ink** ratio)

# De-Clutter Checklist:

- ✓ Remove borders
- ✓ Remove tick marks and leader lines
- ✓ Remove 3D/ special effects
- ✓ Remove background fills
- ✓ Remove decorative clip-art
- ✓ Consolidate Redundant Text
- ✓ Label Sparingly
  - Label the axis or the individual data points- but not both
- ✓ Label directly
  - Delete the legend and place labels directly beside or on top of data



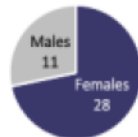
# Remove Borders

## Client Demographics: All Were Formerly Homeless and 1/3 are Victims of Domestic Violence

BAES collects background information on clients during screening interviews with clients, during screening interviews with case managers, and from Bridging Affordability's existing database.

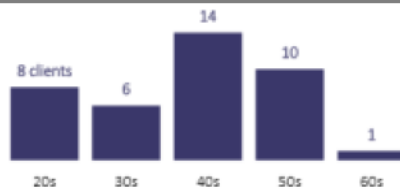
### Gender

BAES serves both men and women. Nearly three-quarters of the clients have been women.



### Age Ranges

Clients have ranged from 22 to 62 years old; the average client is in their early-40s.



### Barriers to Employment

All of the clients were previously homeless and one-third are victims of domestic violence. Some of the clients deal with physical disabilities, mental health issues, cognitive issues, past substance abuse.



### Educational Levels

Clients have a range of educational levels. Degrees come from institutions in Bangladesh, Cuba, Japan, and Sudan, as well as from Northern Virginia Community College and Strayer University, among others.



### Races and Ethnicities

Of the 39 clients served during the pilot period, 16 were African American/Black, 5 were Asian, 15 were Caucasian/White, 1 was multi-racial, and 1 identified as another race. Six of the 39 people also identified as Hispanic.

Races and Ethnicities	Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Total
African American/Black	1	15	16
Asian	-	5	5
Caucasian/White	5	10	15
Multi-racial	-	1	1
Other	1	1	2
Total	6	32	39

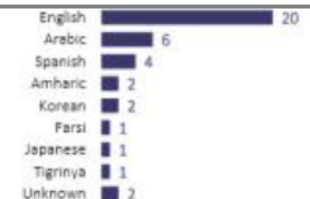
### Countries of Birth

Clients represent 17 different countries. Sixteen of the 39 clients are US-born while the remaining 23 were born outside of the United States. Clients come from Ethiopia, Sudan, Bangladesh, Korea, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, and Panama.



### Primary Languages

English is not the primary language for half the clients. Clients' primary languages include Arabic, Spanish, Amharic, and others. BAES has helped several clients enroll in English classes to improve their reading, writing, speaking, and pronunciation skills.



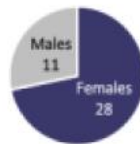
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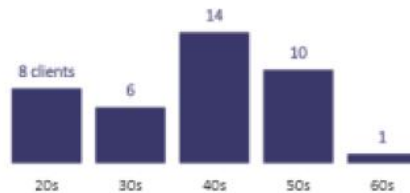
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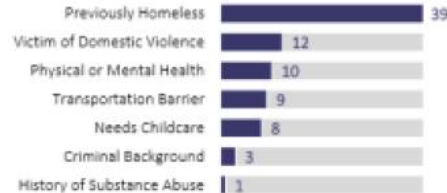
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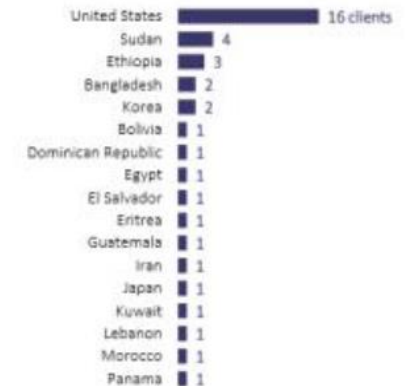
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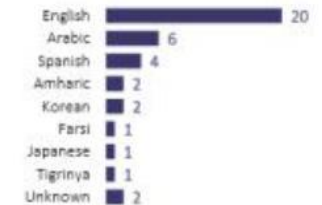
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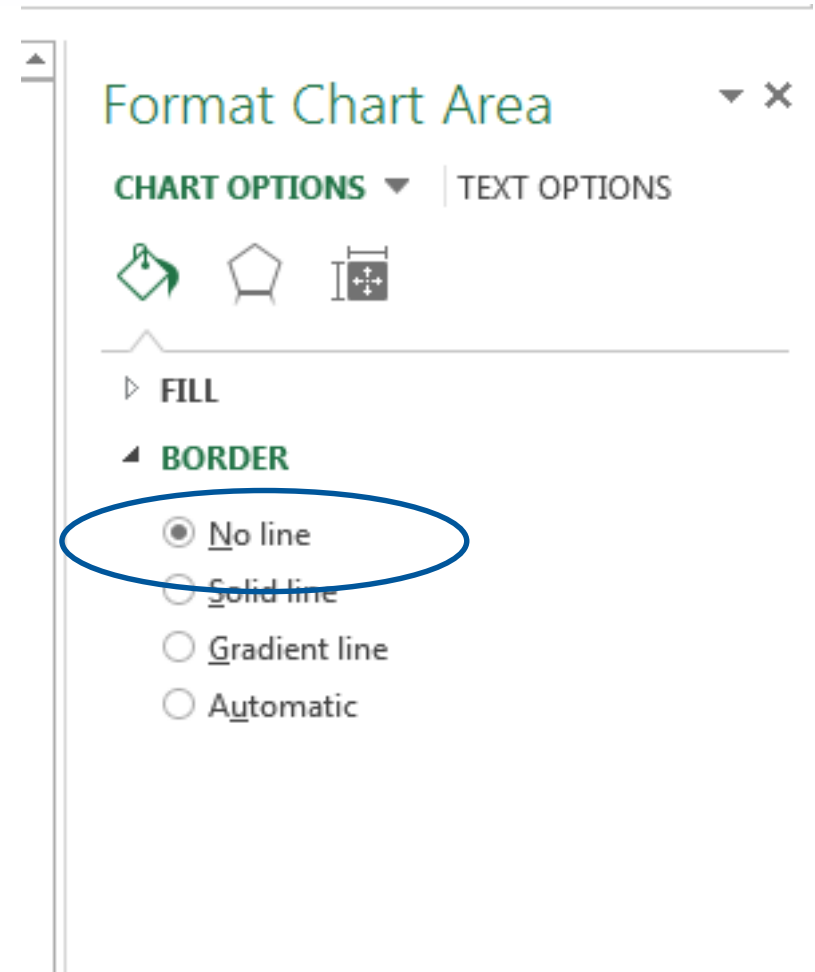
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# Remove Borders

- From the graph as a whole
- From the segments within the graph (e.g., stacked bar charts get outlined in white)
- From tables



# Remove Borders

Decluttering also applies to tables!

Households Served in the ABC Program			
County	County 1	County 2	Total
September	107	182	289
October	109	173	282
November	135	156	291
December	148	153	301

# Remove Borders

County	September	October	November	December
County 1	107	109	135	148
County 2	182	173	156	153
Total	289	282	291	301

# Remove Distractions

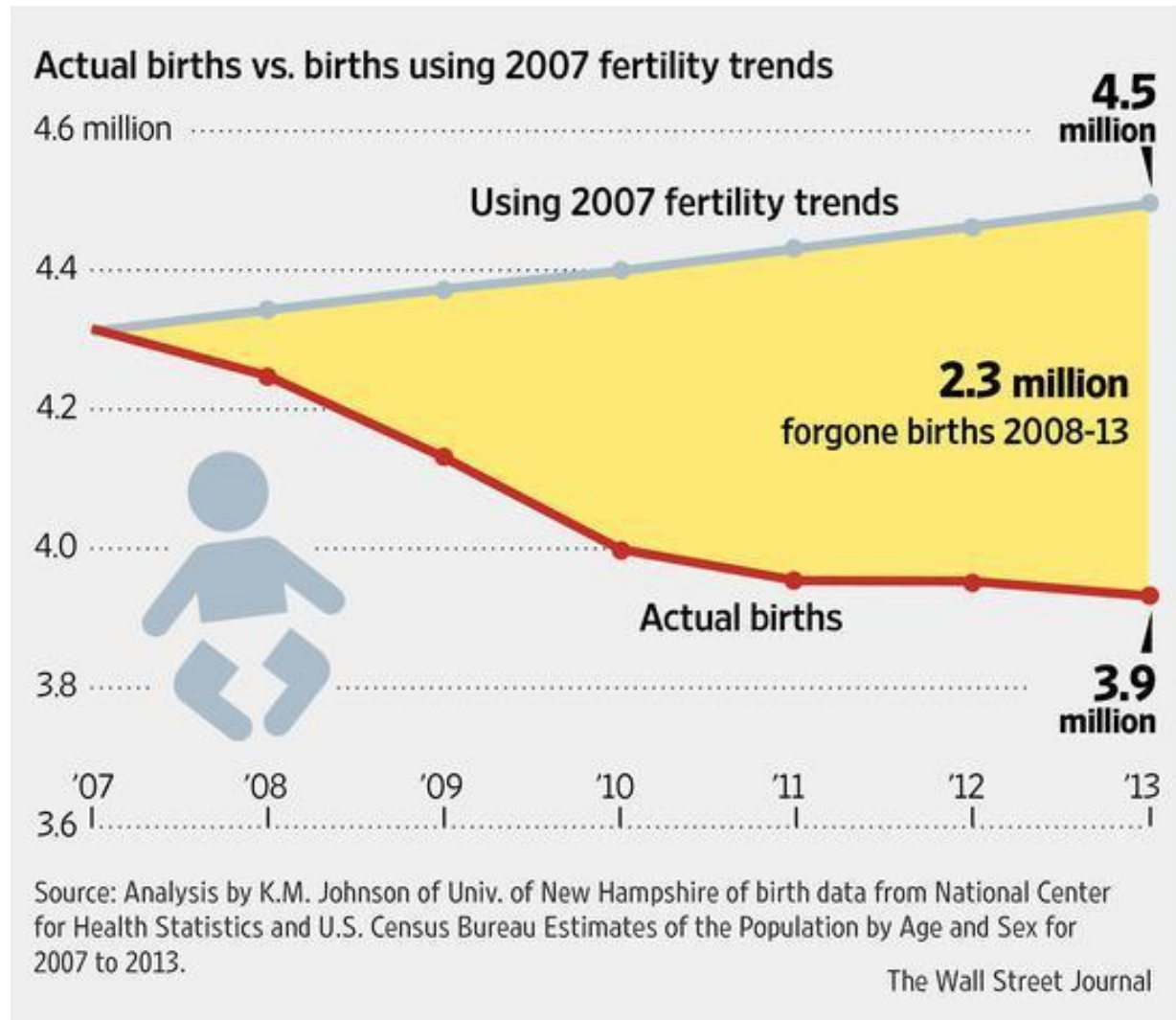
Any 3D elements or “special effects”,  
**bolded**, underline, or *italic* text





# Remove Distractions

Decorative clip-art / pictures

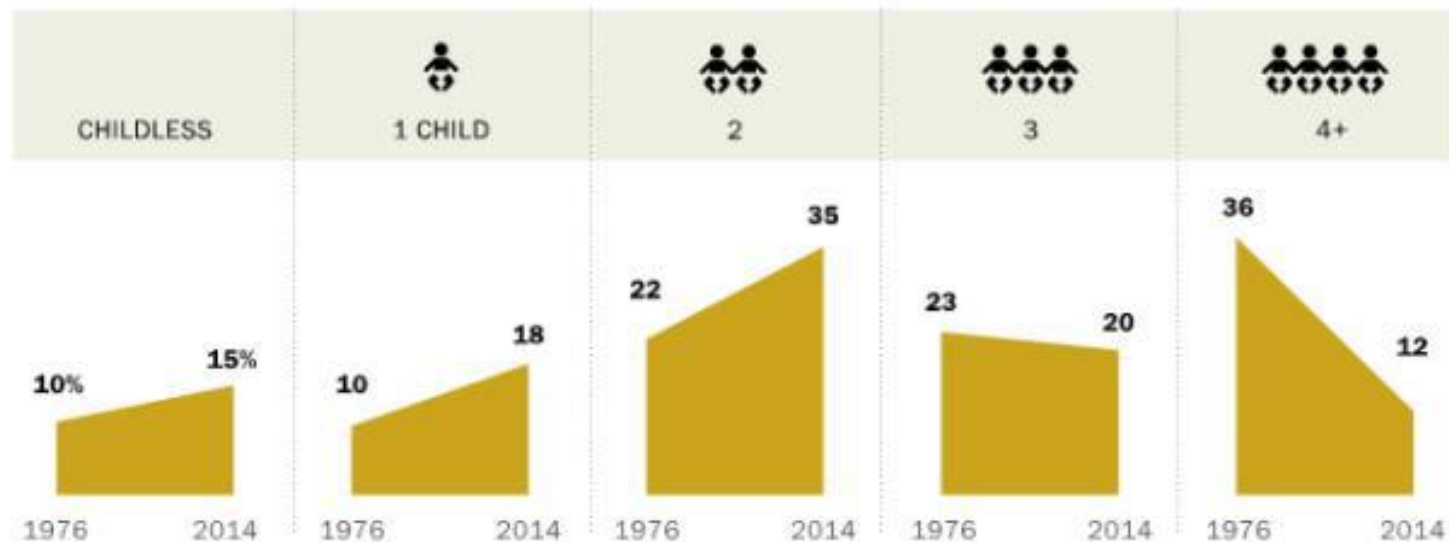


# Remove Distractions

But, you may add icons that support interpretation

## The Rise of the Two-Child Family, and the Decline of the Four-Child Family

*Share of women ages 40 to 44, by children ever born*

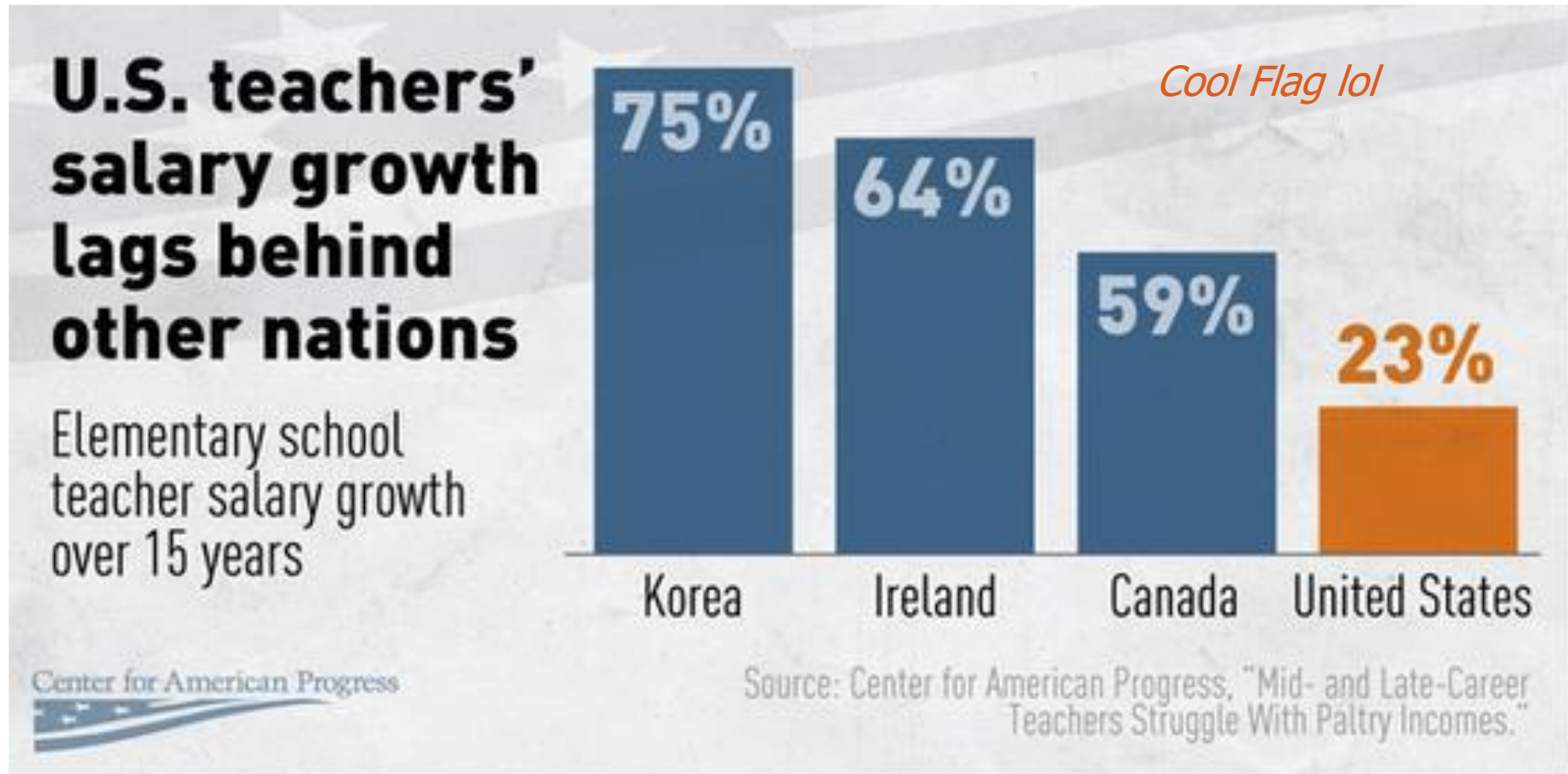


Note: A new working paper suggests that Current Population Survey estimates of childlessness may have been somewhat too large until 2012, when the Census Bureau implemented new editing rules. See "About the Data" for more details.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of Current Population Survey June Supplements

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

# Remove Distractions



# Icons that support interpretation

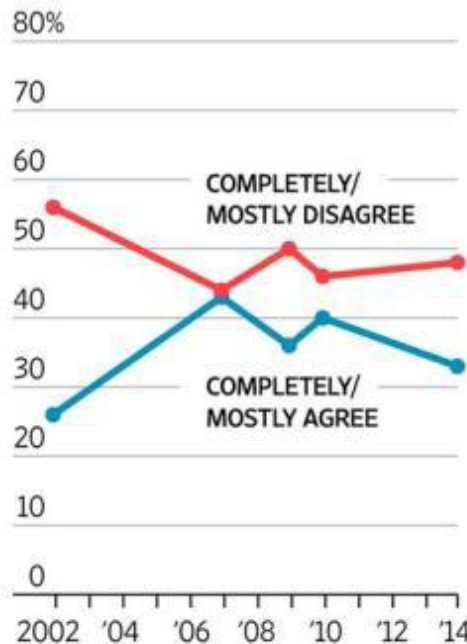
## Keeping the Faith

Despite the global financial crisis, support for free markets has changed little in most countries.

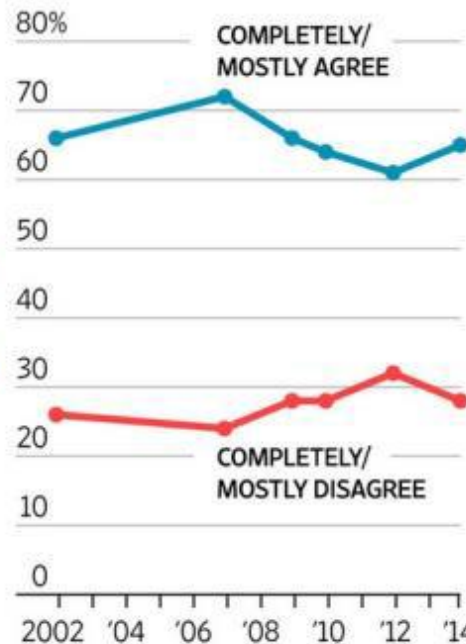
**'Most people are better off in a free-market economy, even though some people are rich and some are poor'**



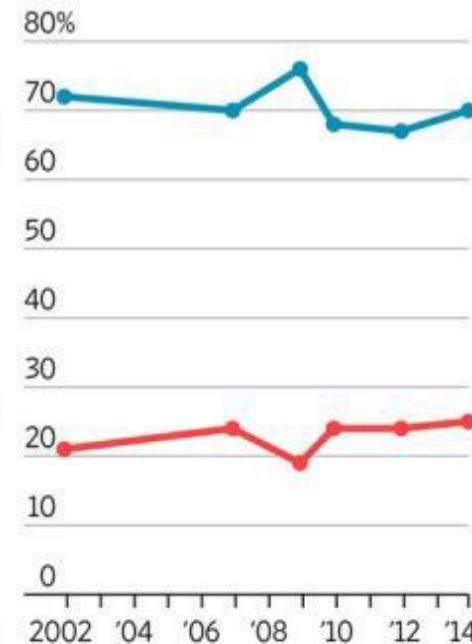
**ARGENTINA**



**U.K.**



**U.S.**



Note: All figures are for spring of each year except for 2002 which is a summer figure  
Source: Pew Research Center

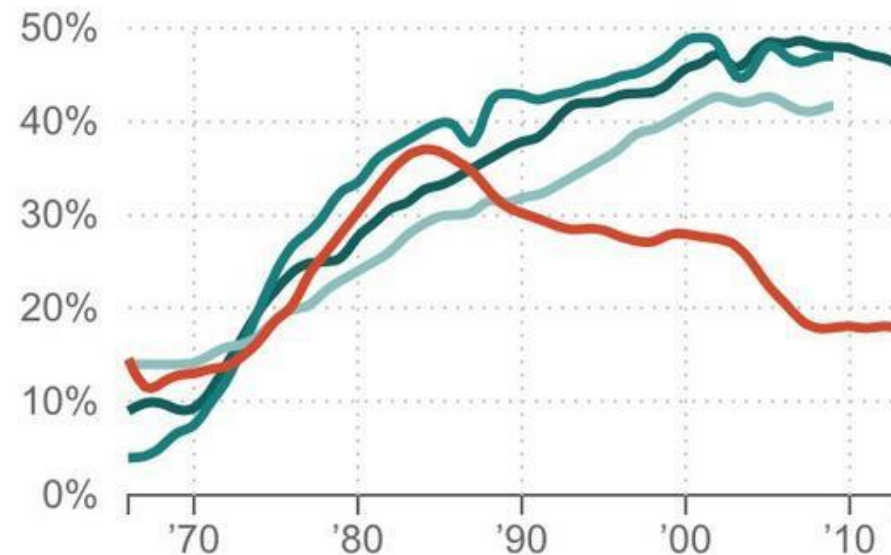
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

# Remove Legends and Label Directly

## What Happened To Women In Computer Science?

% Of Women Majors, By Field

Medical School    Law School  
Physical Sciences    Computer science



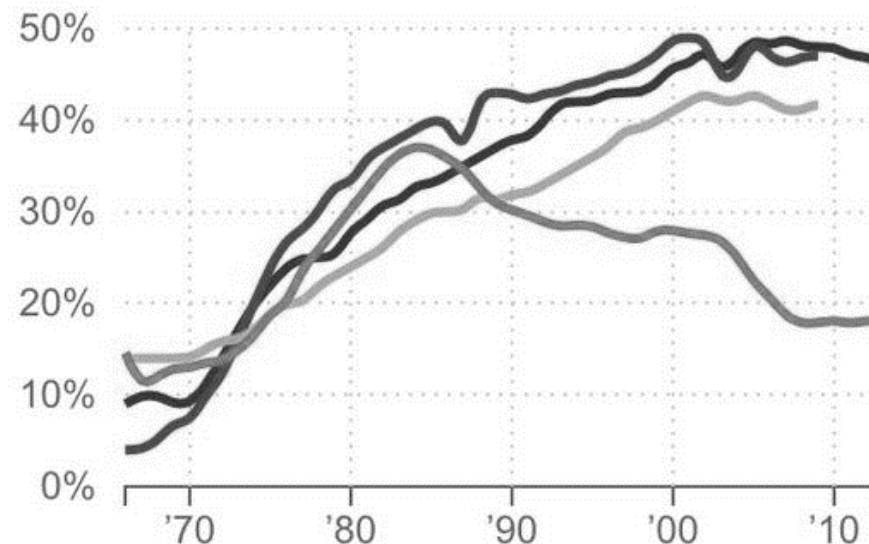
# Remove Legends and Label Directly

Legends create even more problems when printed in grayscale

## What Happened To Women In Computer Science?

% Of Women Majors, By Field

Medical School    Law School  
Physical Sciences    Computer science



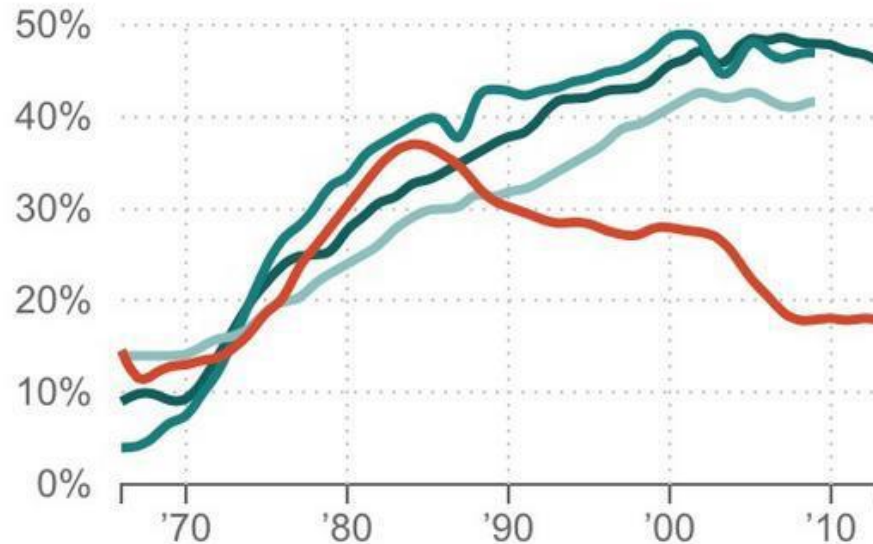


# Remove Legends and Label Directly

## What Happened To Women In Computer Science?

% Of Women Majors, By Field

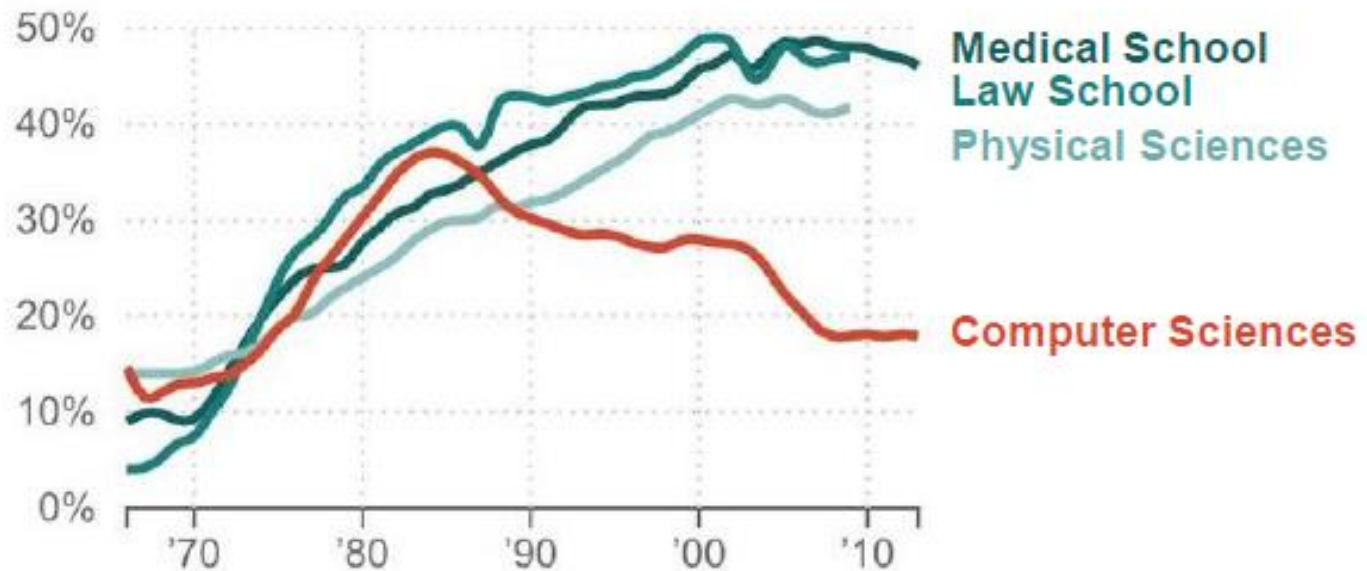
Medical School    Law School  
Physical Sciences    Computer science



# Remove Legends and Label Directly

## What Happened To Women In Computer Science?

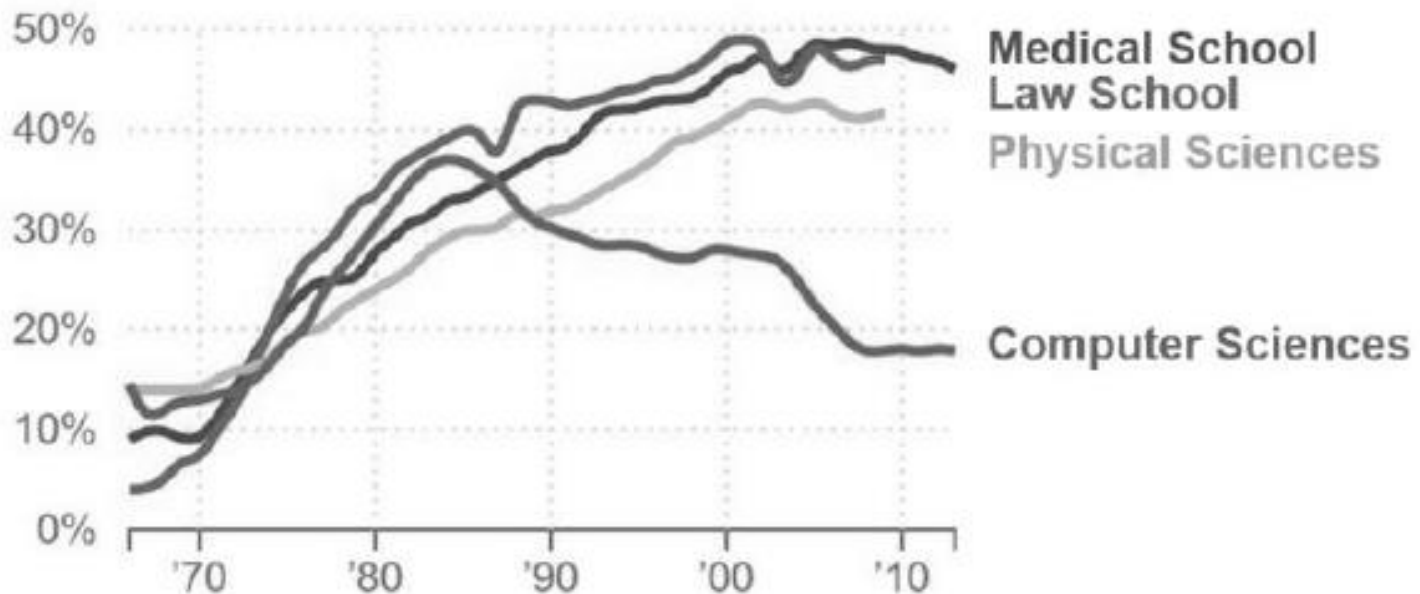
% Of Women Majors, By Field



# Remove Legends and Label Directly

## What Happened To Women In Computer Science?

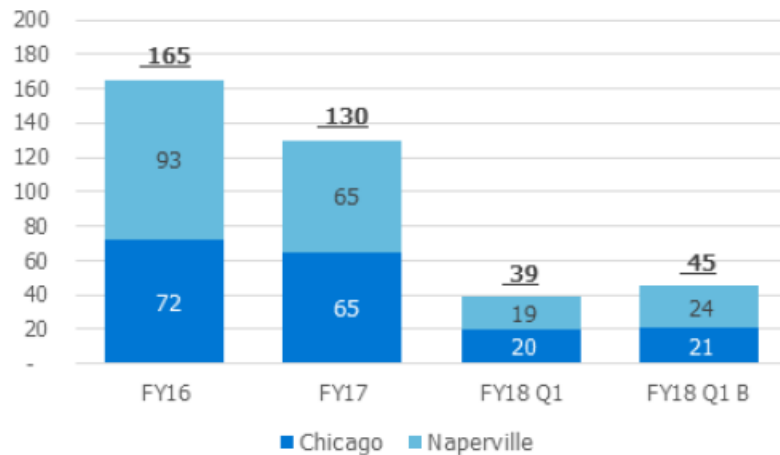
% Of Women Majors, By Field



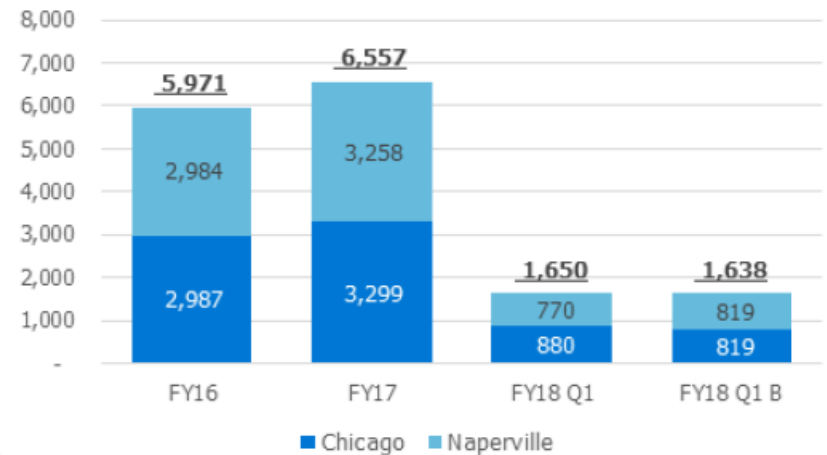
# Remove Redundant Labels

## Almost Home Kids – Key Statistics

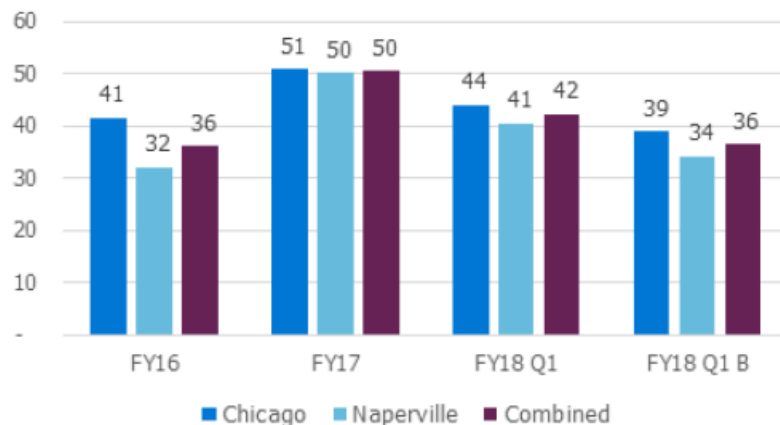
AHK Discharges



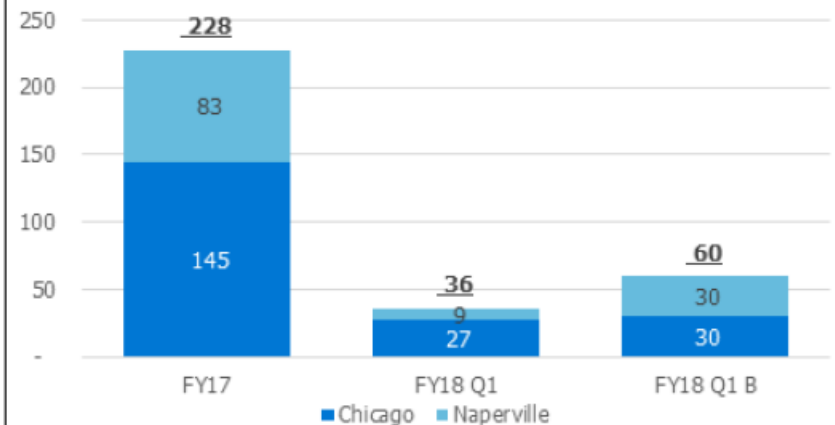
AHK Bed Days



AHK ALOS



AHK Held Bed Days



# De-Clutter Checklist:

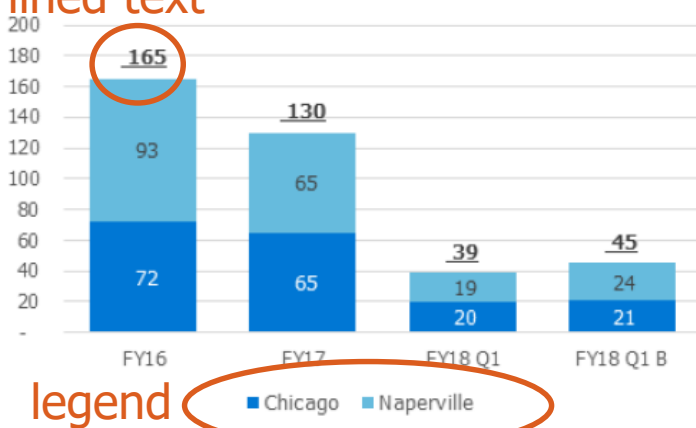
- ✓ Remove borders
- ✓ Remove tick marks and leader lines
- ✓ Remove 3D/ special effects
- ✓ Remove background fills
- ✓ Remove decorative clip-art
- ✓ Consolidate Redundant Text
- ✓ Label Sparingly
  - Label the axis or the individual data points- **but not both**
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# Remove Redundant Labels

## Almost Home Kids – Key Statistics

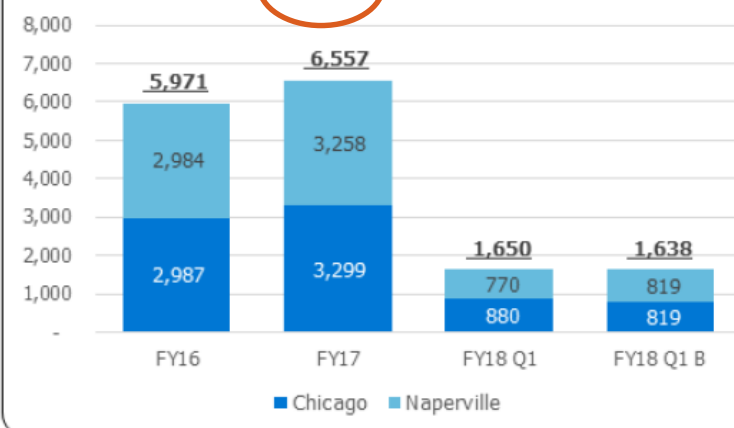
Underlined text

AHK Discharges



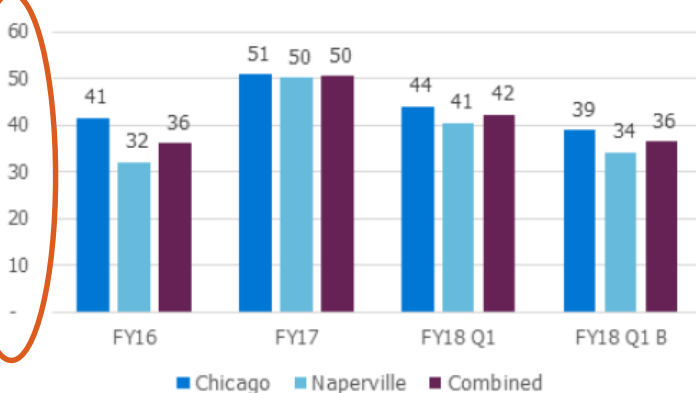
Redundant titles

AHK Bed Days

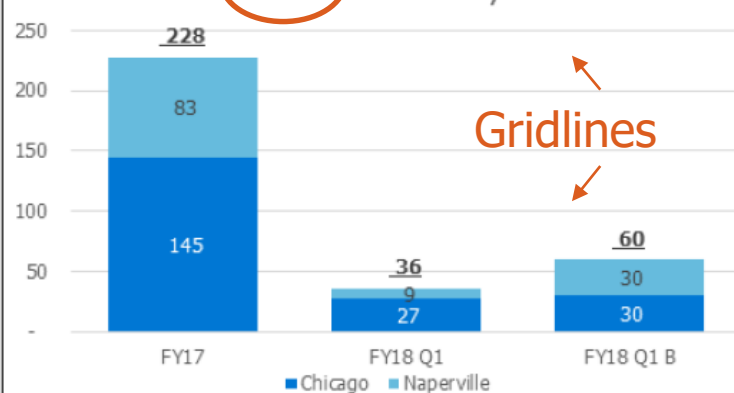


Borders

AHK ALOS



AHK Held Bed Days



Gridlines

Axis

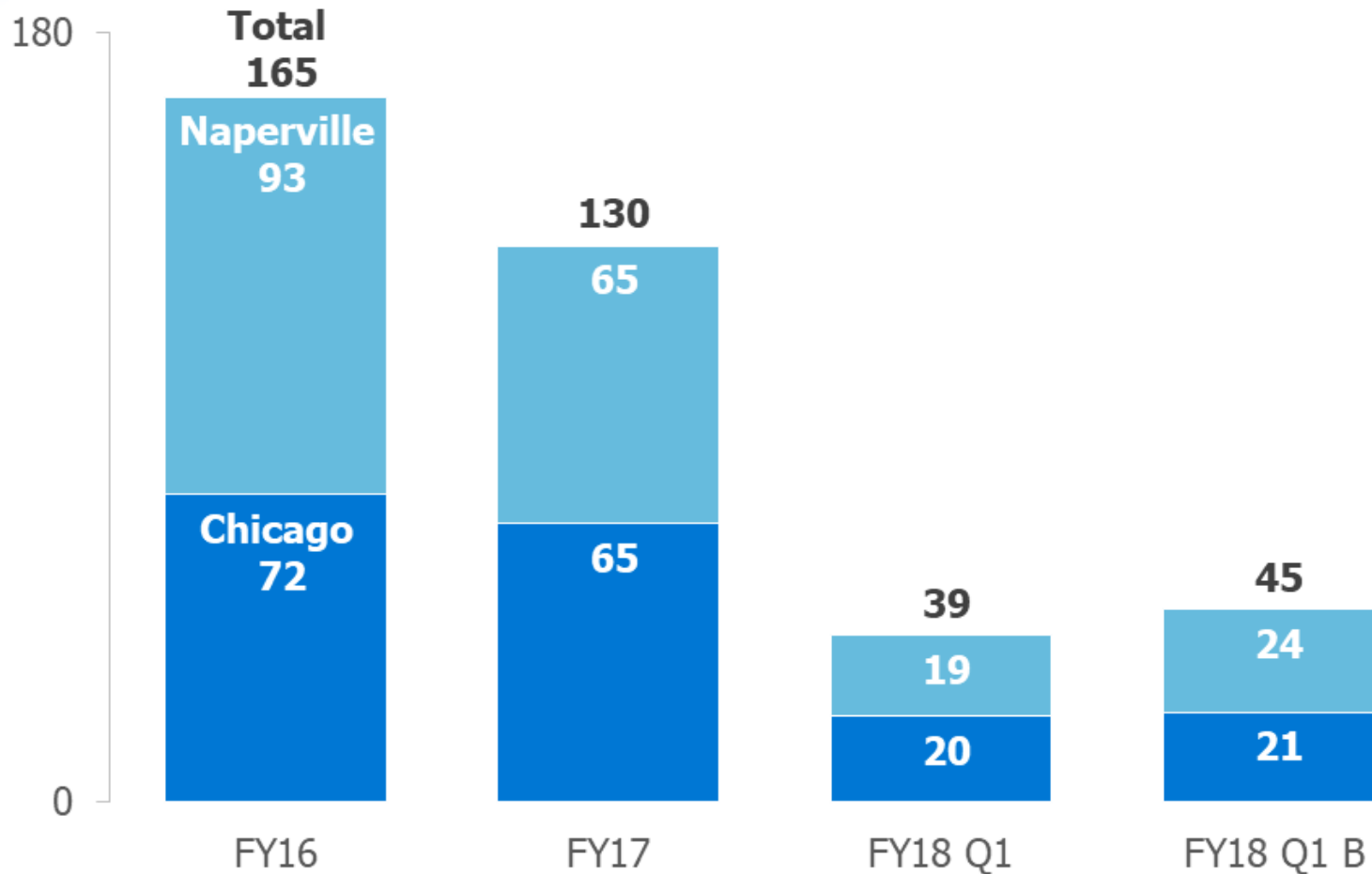


# De-Clutter Checklist:

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- ✓ Remove tick marks and leader lines
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- ✓ Consolidate Redundant Text
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# De-cluttered example

## Almost Home Kids: Discharges



Clarify  
with  
**Color**

# Clarify with Color

Color can enhance branding and understanding, & to guide viewers to the most important pieces of the graph

# Clarify with Color

- ✓ Brand visuals with custom colors, consistent color palettes
- ✓ Ensure legibility in grayscale- printer friendly
- ✓ Select distinguishable colors to people with color vision deficiencies (avoid red/green combinations!) [Link to simulator check](#)
- ✓ Ensure sufficient foreground/background contrast
- ✓ Color-code strategically and meaningfully

# Match Colors to Branding



All, for your one.

[Find A Doctor](#)

[Request An Appointment](#)

[Locations & Directions](#)

For Appointments: 1.800.KIDS.DOC®

[Donate Now](#)



Search Lurie Children's



Care & Services

Research Innovation

For Healthcare Professionals

Community

Get Involved



Top-ranked pediatric care.  
All for Luke.

See Luke's Story

I would like to...



Find a Doctor



Request an  
Appointment



Find Locations

# Match Colors to Branding

## Color: Categories

The Lurie Children's brand palette is divided into three categories of color. When designing a piece of communication, stick within one color category per piece.

Category 1



◀ Category suggestion:  
Category 1 works great for  
corporate communications.

Category 2



Category 3





# Ensure Legibility for Color Blindness

color-blindness-simulator/


**Colblinder**

[Home](#)
[CVD Essentials](#)
[Color Blindness Tests](#)
[Color Tools](#)
[Contact](#)








## Coblis — Color Blindness Simulator

If you are not suffering from a color vision deficiency it is very hard to imagine how it looks like to be colorblind. The **Color BLindness Simulator** can close this gap for you. Just play around with it and get a feeling of how it is to have a color vision handicap.

As all the calculations are made on your local machine, no images are uploaded to the server. Therefore you can use images as big as you like, there are no restrictions. Be aware, there are some issues for the "Lens feature" on Edge and Internet Explorer. All others should support everything just fine.

So go ahead, choose an image through the upload functionality or just drag and drop your image in the center of our **Color BLindness Simulator**. It is also possible to zoom and move your images around using your mouse – try it out, I hope you like it.



Drag and drop or paste your file in the area below or:  EmeryAnalyt...combos.png

<b>Trichromatic view:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Normal <input type="radio"/> Red-Weak/Protanomaly <input type="radio"/> Green-Weak/Deuteranomaly <input type="radio"/> Blue-Weak/Tritanomaly	<b>Anomalous Trichromacy:</b> <input type="radio"/> Red-Blind/Protanopia <input type="radio"/> Green-Blind/Deuteranopia <input type="radio"/> Blue-Blind/Tritanopia	<b>Dichromatic view:</b> <input type="radio"/> Monochromacy/Achromatopsia <input type="radio"/> Blue Cone Monochromacy
---	--	--

Use lens to compare with normal view. ☒ No Lens ☐ Normal Lens ☐ Inverse Lens

[Reset View](#)

No

Green

Red

Yes

Green

Orange

Blue

Red

Blue

Orange

### FREE Color Blind Check


New kind of color blindness test!  
Try **Color Blind Check** and test type and severity of your color vision deficiency. Easy and fun!  
info at [www.colorblindcheck.com](http://www.colorblindcheck.com)




### CVD Categories

[Academic](#)
[Animals](#)
[Children](#)
[News](#)
[People](#)
[Pics](#)
[Professions](#)
[Publications](#)
[Stories](#)
[Tests](#)
[Thoughts](#)
[Tools](#)
[Web](#)

# Ensure Legibility for Color Blindness



[Home](#)
[CVD Essentials](#)
[Color Blindness Tests](#)
[Color Tools](#)
[Contact](#)

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Search for:

Subscribe to News by Email:



AdChoices

Red Green Color Blindness









Vision Test

Drag and drop or paste your file in the area below or: [Choose File](#) EmeryAnalyt...combos.png

<b>Trichromatic view:</b> <input type="radio"/> Normal <input type="radio"/> Red-Weak/Protanomaly <input type="radio"/> Green-Weak/Deutanomaly <input type="radio"/> Blue-Weak/Tritanomaly	<b>Anomalous Trichromacy:</b> <input type="radio"/> Red-Weak/Protanomaly <input type="radio"/> Green-Weak/Deutanomaly <input type="radio"/> Blue-Weak/Tritanomaly	<b>Dichromatic view:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Red-Blind/Protanopia <input type="radio"/> Green-Blind/Deutanopia <input type="radio"/> Blue-Blind/Tritanopia	<b>Monochromatic view:</b> <input type="radio"/> Monochromacy/Achromatopsia <input type="radio"/> Blue Cone Monochromacy
--	--	--	--


Use lens to compare with normal view: ☒ No Lens ☐ Normal Lens ☐ Inverse Lens

[Reset View](#) [Click simulated image in new window](#)

No	Yes		
			
			

### FREE Color Blind Check

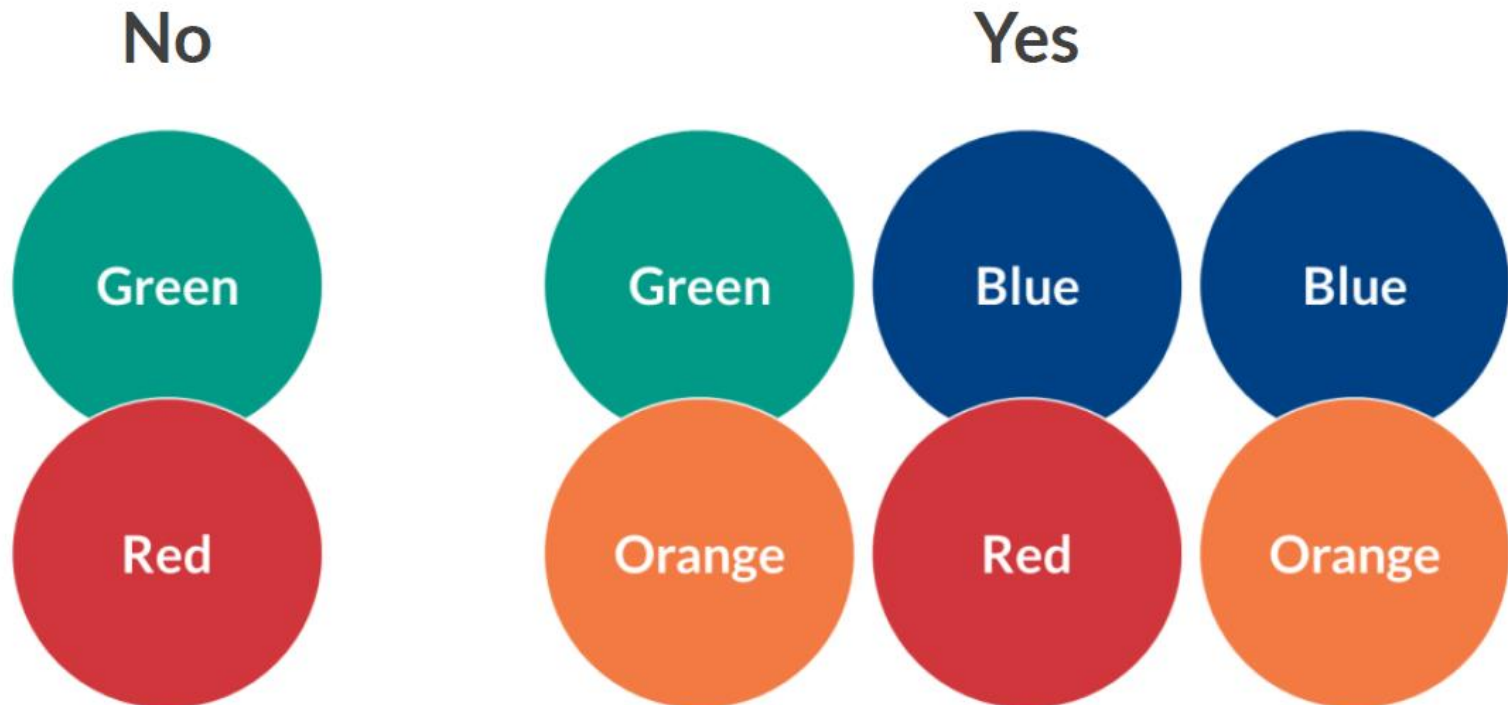
New kind of color blindness test!  
Try [Color Blind Check](#) and test type and severity of your color vision deficiency. Easy and fun!  
info at [www.colorblindcheck.com](http://www.colorblindcheck.com)

ANDROID APP ON  


### CVD Categories

[Academic](#) [Animals](#) [Children](#) [News](#) [People](#)  
[Pics](#) [Professions](#) [Publications](#) [Stories](#) [Tests](#)  
[Thoughts](#) [Tools](#) [Web](#)

# Ensure Legibility for Color Blindness



# Use Color Meaningfully & Strategically

Binary	No		Yes	
Sequential	1	2	3	4
Diverging	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Categorical	Apples	Oranges	Bananas	Pineapples
Highlight				
Warning!				

# Use Color Meaningfully & Strategically

## Stereotyping in Europe

*EU nation most likely to be named ...*

Views in:	Most Hardworking	Most Trustworthy	Least Hardworking	Least Trustworthy
Britain	Germany	Germany	Greece	France
France	Germany	Germany	Italy	Greece
Germany	Germany	Germany	Greece	Greece/Italy
Italy	Germany	Germany	Romania	Italy
Spain	Germany	Germany	Greece	Italy
Greece	Greece	Greece	Italy	Germany
Poland	Germany	Germany	Greece	Germany
Czech Rep.	Germany	Germany	Greece	Greece

Source: Spring 2012 and Spring 2013 Global Attitudes surveys.

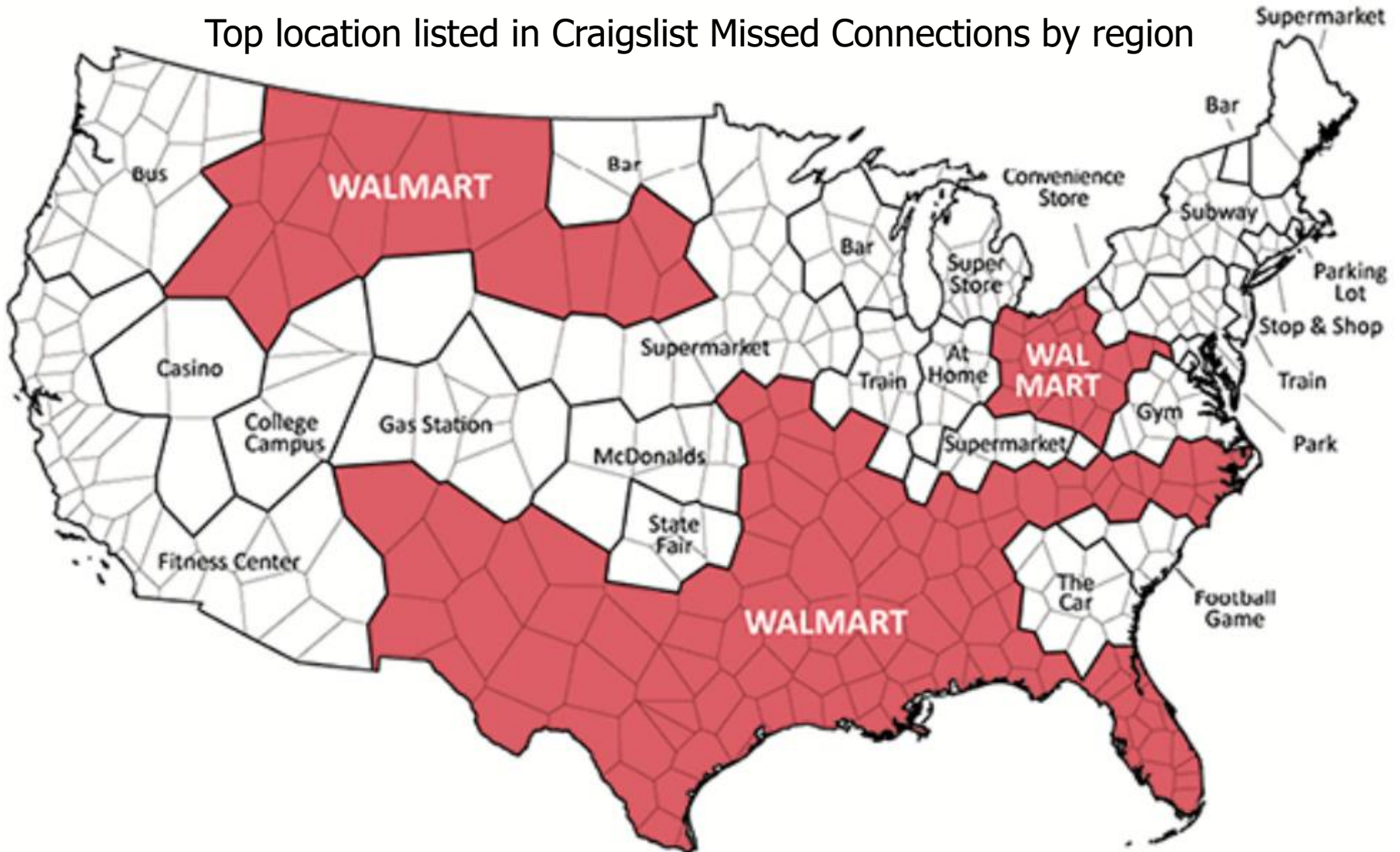
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Use color to draw attention to or highlight certain findings



# Use Color Meaningfully & Strategically

Top location listed in Craigslist Missed Connections by region



# Use Color Meaningfully & Strategically

## STATE PROFILE - VIRGINIA

### Potential Beneficiaries in 2016

In Virginia, there were 477,800 pregnant women and families with children under 6 years old not yet in kindergarten who could benefit from home visiting. These families included 601,200 children.

**601,200**  
**children**  
could benefit from  
home visiting

Of the 601,200 children who could benefit—

Infants < 1 year	Toddlers 1-2 years	Preschoolers 3-5 years
98,800 16%	203,000 34%	299,500 50%

**477,800**  
**families**  
could benefit from  
home visiting

Many home visiting services are geared toward particular subpopulations. The NHVRC estimated the percentage of families who could benefit in Virginia who met the following targeting criteria:



Of the 477,800 families who could benefit—



Notes: • Public insurance includes Medicaid, CHIP, and Tricare. • Low income is defined as family income below the federal poverty threshold. • Single mothers include single, never-married mothers or pregnant women. • EHS data may be underreported. These data include EHS programs providing home-based services only, but not programs that provide both home-based and center-based services. EHS race, ethnicity, and primary language data include children and pregnant caregivers. EHS does not report home visits or families served. The number of children served was included as a proxy for families served. • HFA reports primary language of caregivers. • HIPPY public insurance also includes Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment. • NFP includes MIECHV and non-MIECHV data for children served, families served, and home visits. All other data reflect participants receiving NFP services through MIECHV funding only. • PAT reports race and ethnicity of children. PAT does not report child insurance status.

The NHVRC is led by James Bell Associates in partnership with the Urban Institute. Support is provided by the Helms-Simons Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the foundations. For details about the methodology, see the Data Supplement to the 2017 Home Visiting Yearbook.



National Home Visiting  
Resource Center  
[www.nhvr.org](http://www.nhvr.org)



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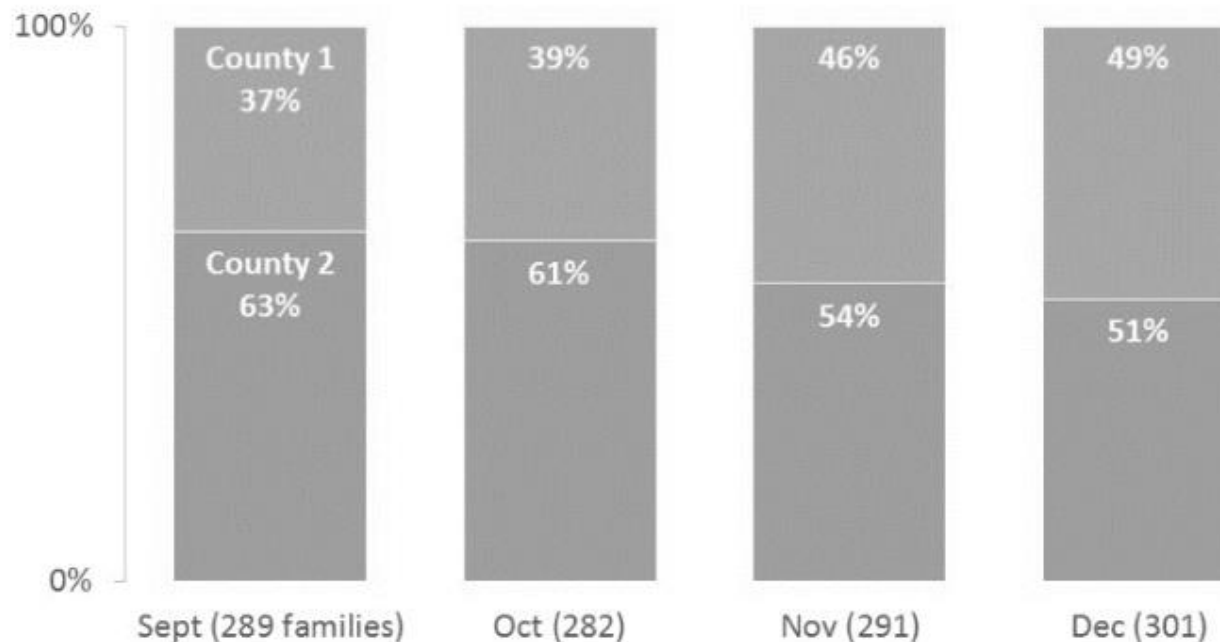


National Home Visiting  
Resource Center  
[www.nhvr.org](http://www.nhvr.org)

# Legibility in Grayscale

## Households served

The proportion of families served in **County 1** increased while the proportion of families served in **County 2** decreased.



White border lines



Clarify with  
**Text**

# Clarify with **Text**

Your graph's title, subtitle,  
and annotations can  
strengthen your message

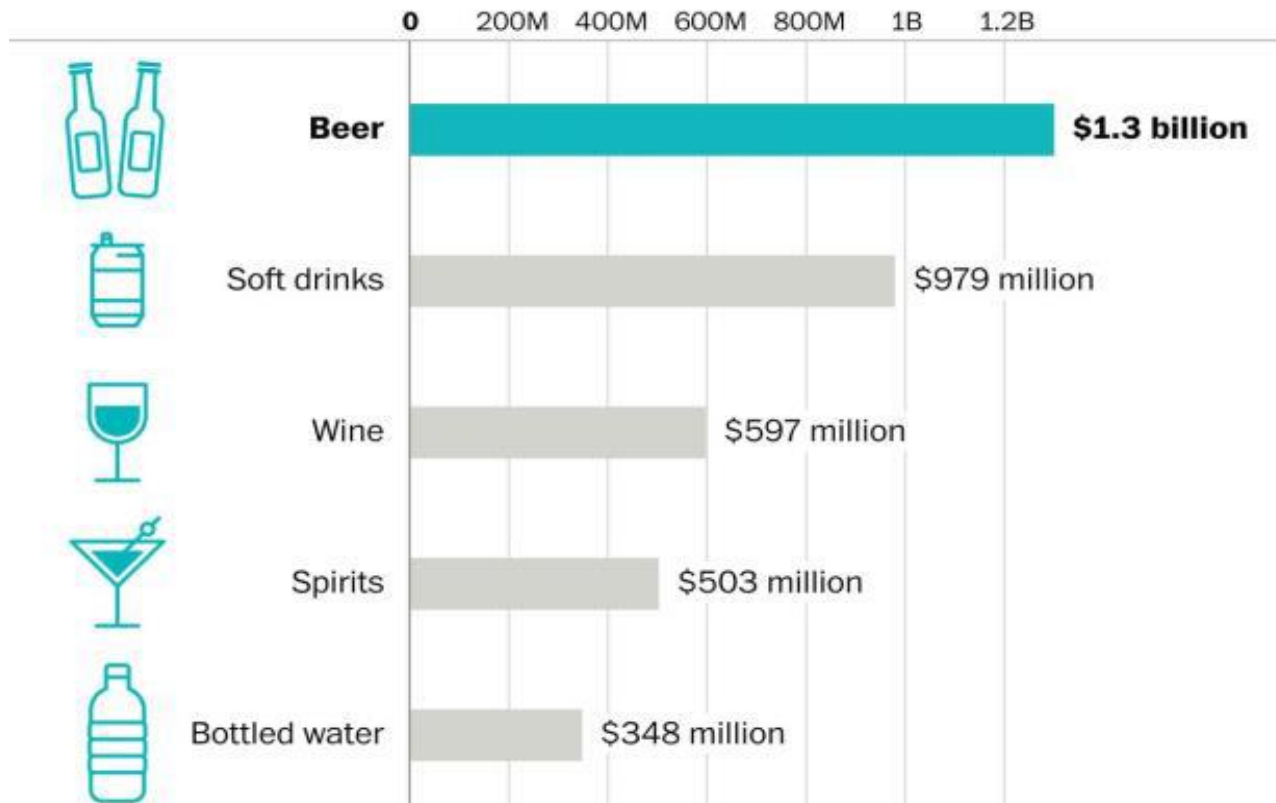
# Clarify with Text

- ✓ Brand visuals with custom fonts (Tahoma)
- ✓ State the story in the title (6-12 words)
- ✓ Annotate directly when appropriate
- ✓ Establish a text hierarchy
- ✓ Make sure all text is **h o r i z o n t a l**
- ✓ Left-align titles and subtitles
- ✓ Use ALL CAPS sparingly
- ✓ Measure text readability
- ✓ Round decimals to whole numbers (most of time)

# State the story in the title

## Americans spent over \$1 billion on beer for Super Bowl 2017

Total dollar sales for beverages in the week leading up to and the week after the Super Bowl.

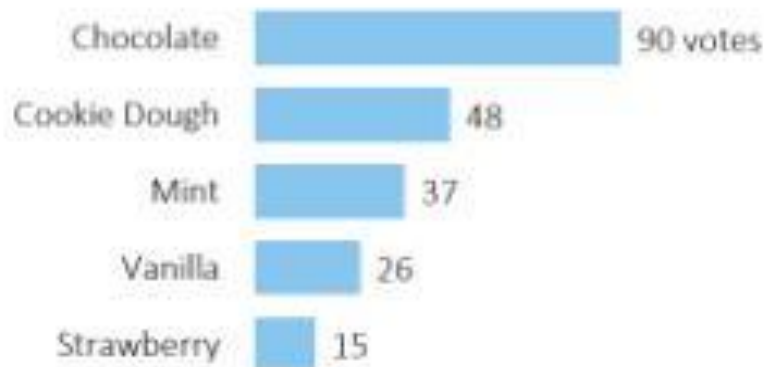


Source: Nielsen Measured Off-Premise Outlets,  
Nielsen Retail Measurement Services

The Washington Post

# State the story in the title

Ice cream flavor preferences based on  
2014 survey of elementary school  
students (n=216)



or

**Chocolate was most popular flavor**  
among elementary students surveyed

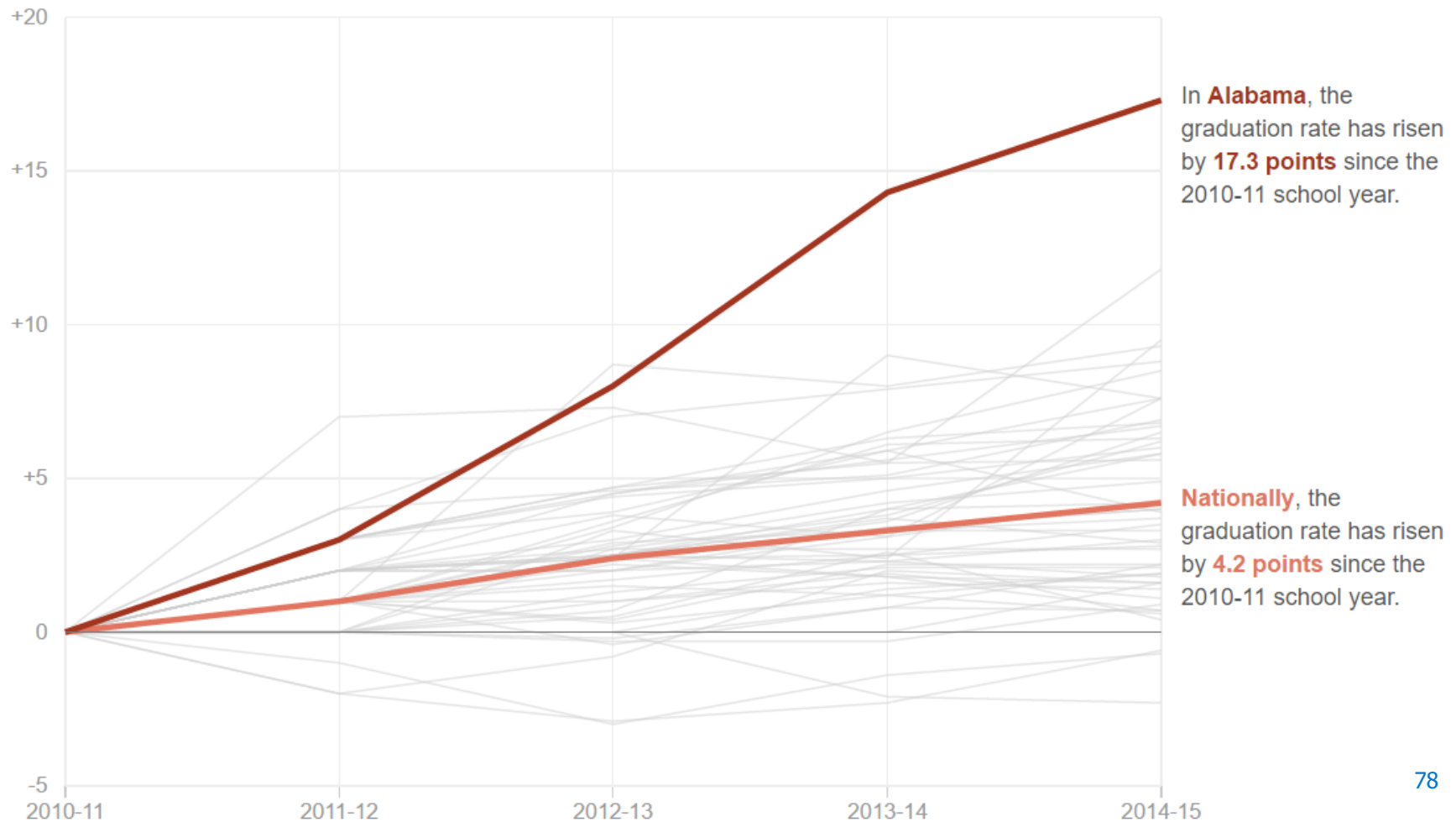


Source: 2014 survey of elementary school  
students (n=216)

# Annotate

## Alabama's Grad Rate Gains Far Outpace Those Of Other States

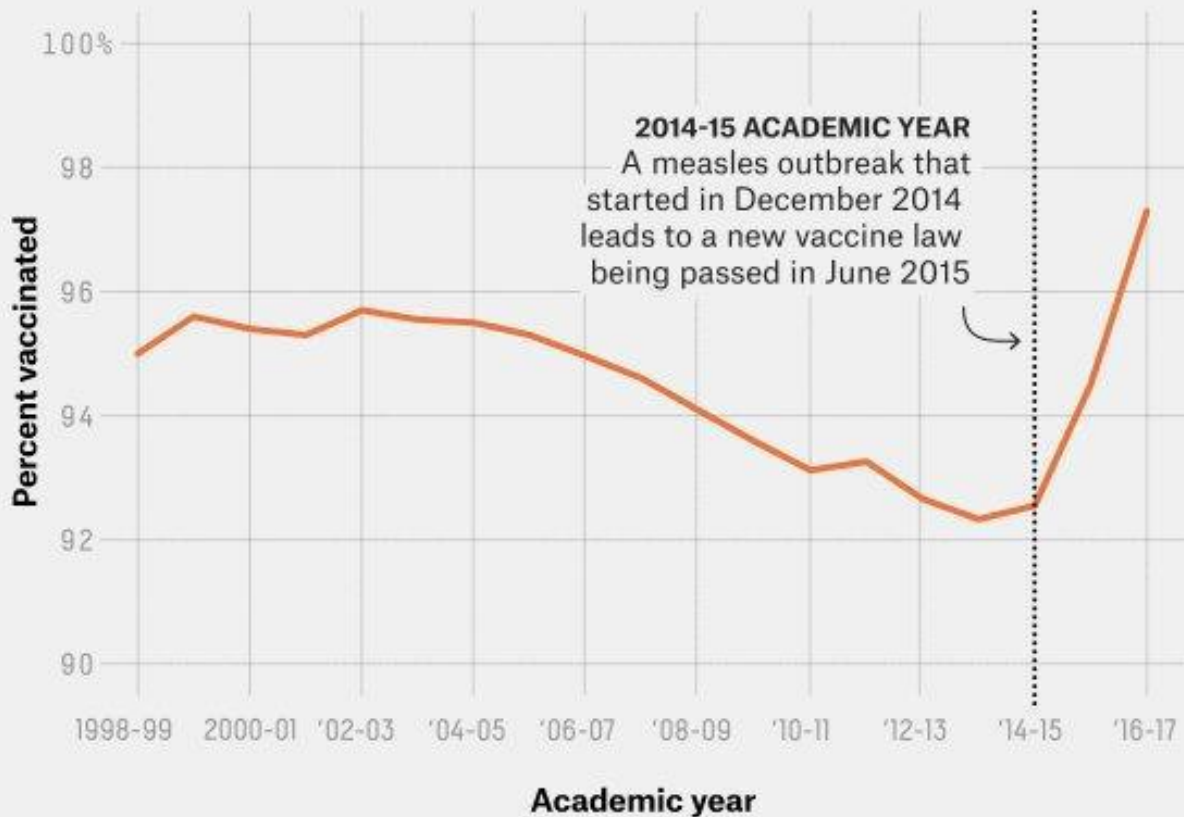
Cumulative percentage point change since the 2010-2011 school year



# Annotate

## Measles vaccination rates rebound in California

Share of California kindergartners who received a full course of the measles vaccine, by academic year



# Establish a text hierarchy

Title  
(18)

H1  
(11 bold)

Body  
(11 regular)

Footer  
(9 gray)

Sample Dashboard Displaying Progress Towards a Goal and Historical Patterns

The purpose of this dashboard is to illustrate progress towards goals by highlighting key participation indicators. This dashboard also serves as a program report to be approved at quarterly board meetings.

Section 1 header

This is where the organization would write a few sentences that describe what this first section is all about -- the type of variables included, definitions of variables, anything funny about the numbers, etc.

Progress Towards Our Year-End Goals

	Actual	Goal	% of Goal
Variable 1	1,990	2,248	89%
Variable 2	9,102	7,105	128%
Variable 3	4,003	5,365	75%
Variable 4	13,105	12,470	105%

Historical Patterns

2013	2014	2015	2016	Trend
1,178	1,832	1,832	1,990	
7,319	7,400	7,319	9,102	
4,665	4,665	4,665	4,003	
11,984	12,065	11,984	13,105	

Section 2 header

This is where the organization would write a few sentences that describe what this second section is all about -- the type of variables included, definitions of variables, anything funny about the numbers, etc.

Progress Towards Our Year-End Goals

	Actual	Goal	% of Goal
Variable 1	2,817	2,825	100%
Variable 2	3,719	2,876	129%
Variable 3	2,417	6,600	37%
Variable 4	2,357	2,125	111%

Historical Patterns

2013	2014	2015	2016	Trend
2,298	2,387	2,596	2,817	
2,599	2,785	3,243	3,719	
5,417	2,378	5,417	2,417	
1,301	5,578	2,599	2,357	

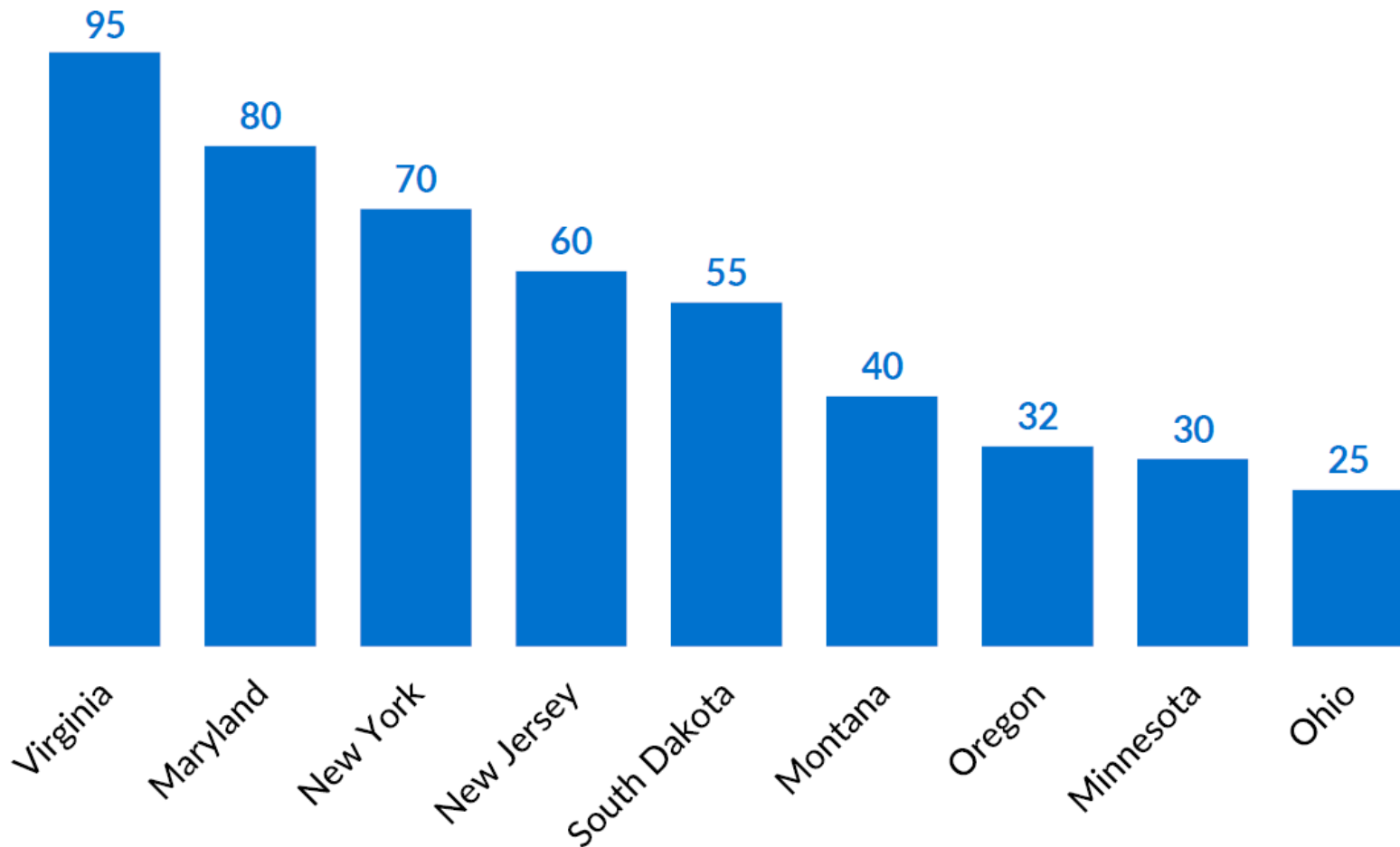
ANN K. EMERY OF EMERY ANALYTICS

PAGE 1 OF 1

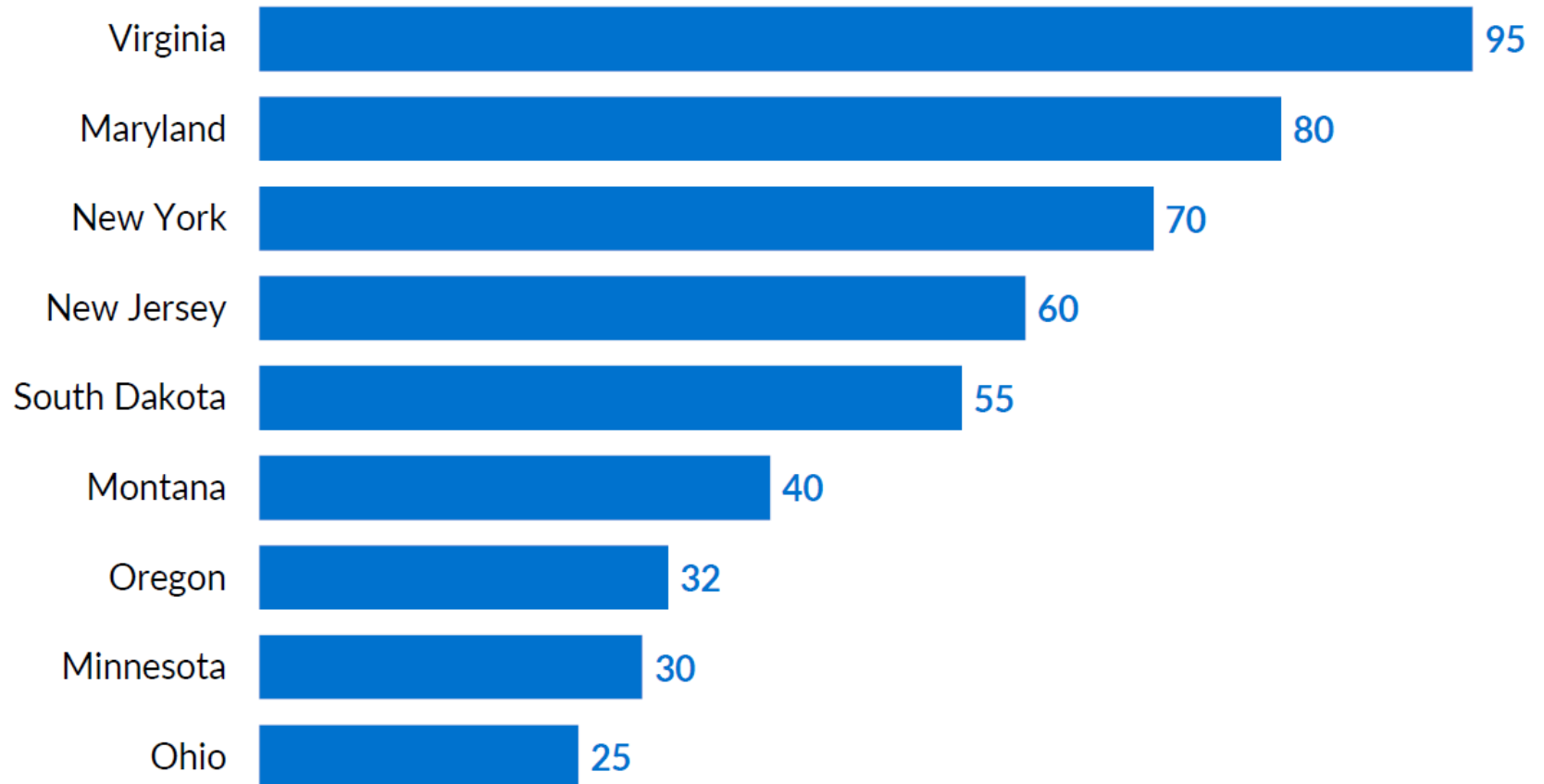
0



# Make all text horizontal

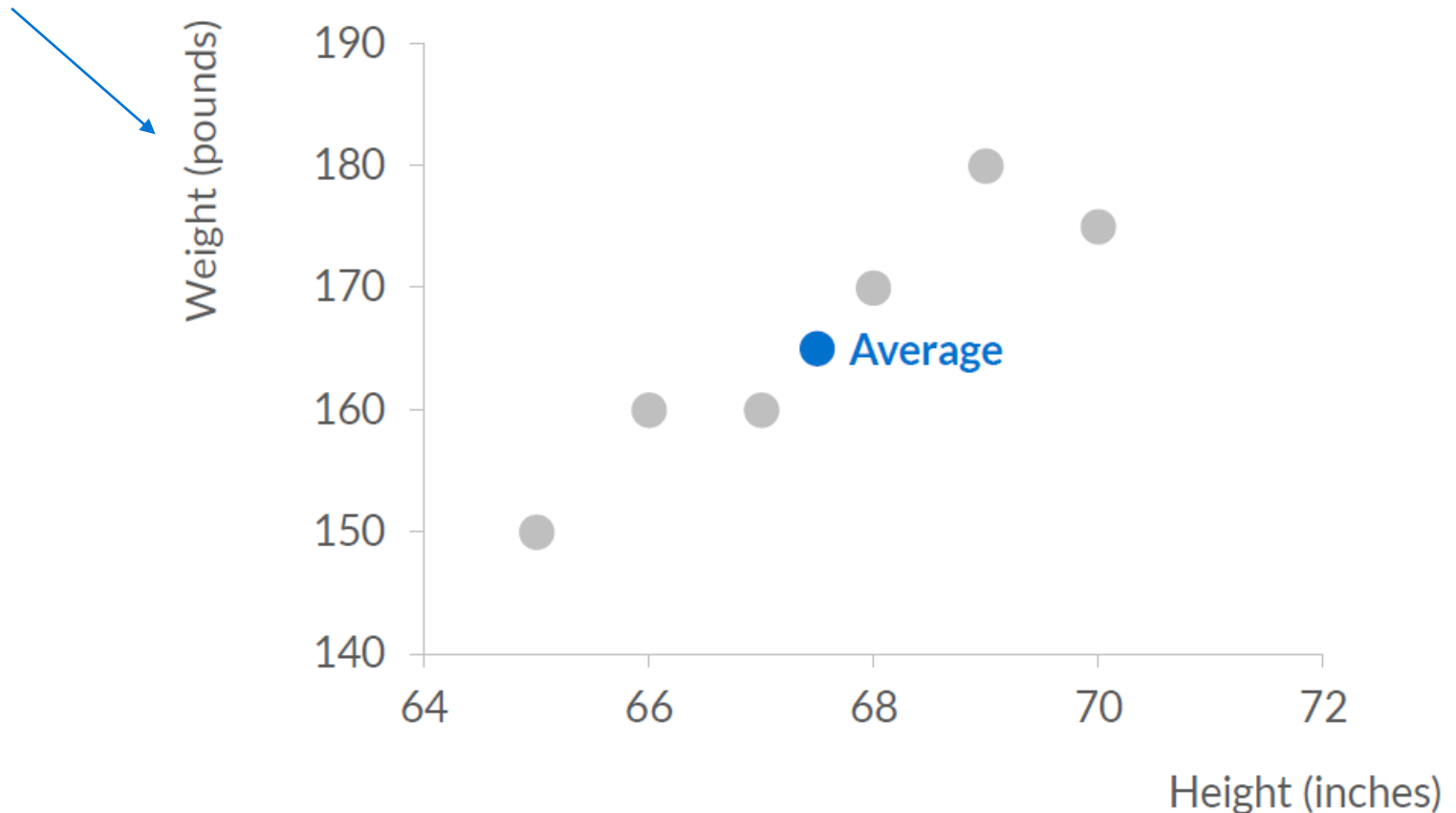


# Make all text horizontal

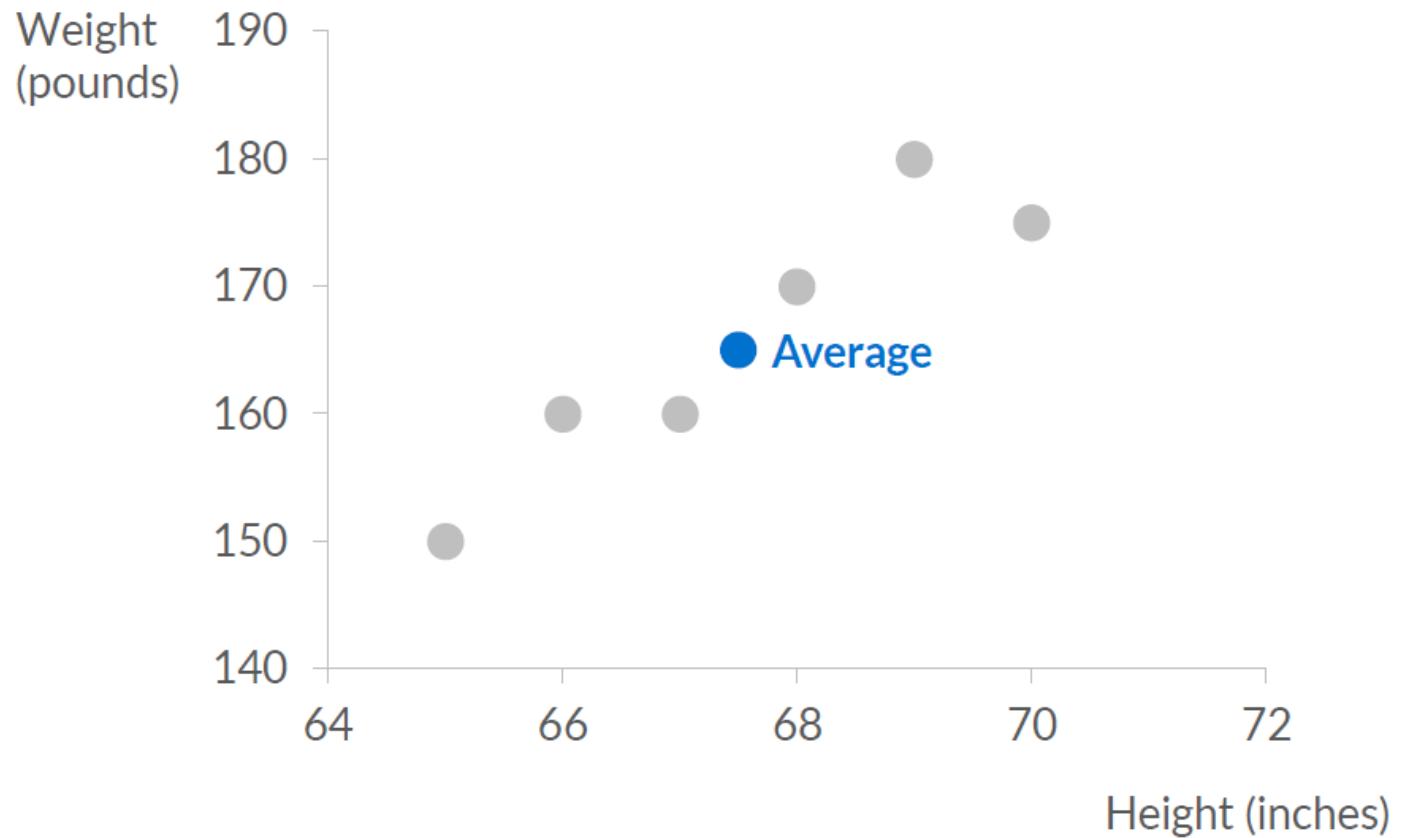


# Make all text horizontal

Don't forget about  
Axis unit labels

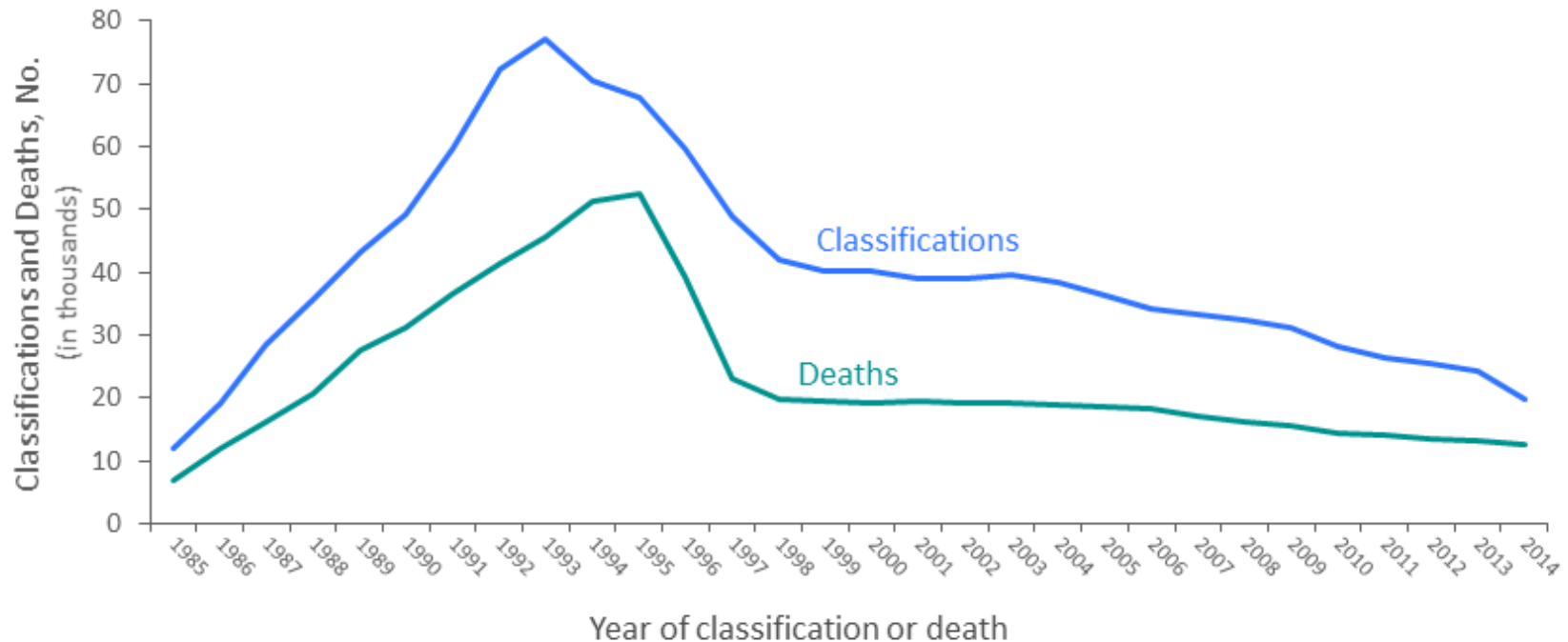


# Make all text horizontal



# Measure text readability

## Stage 3 (AIDS) Classifications and Deaths of Persons with Diagnosed HIV Infection Ever Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS), among Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2014 US and 6 Dependent Areas

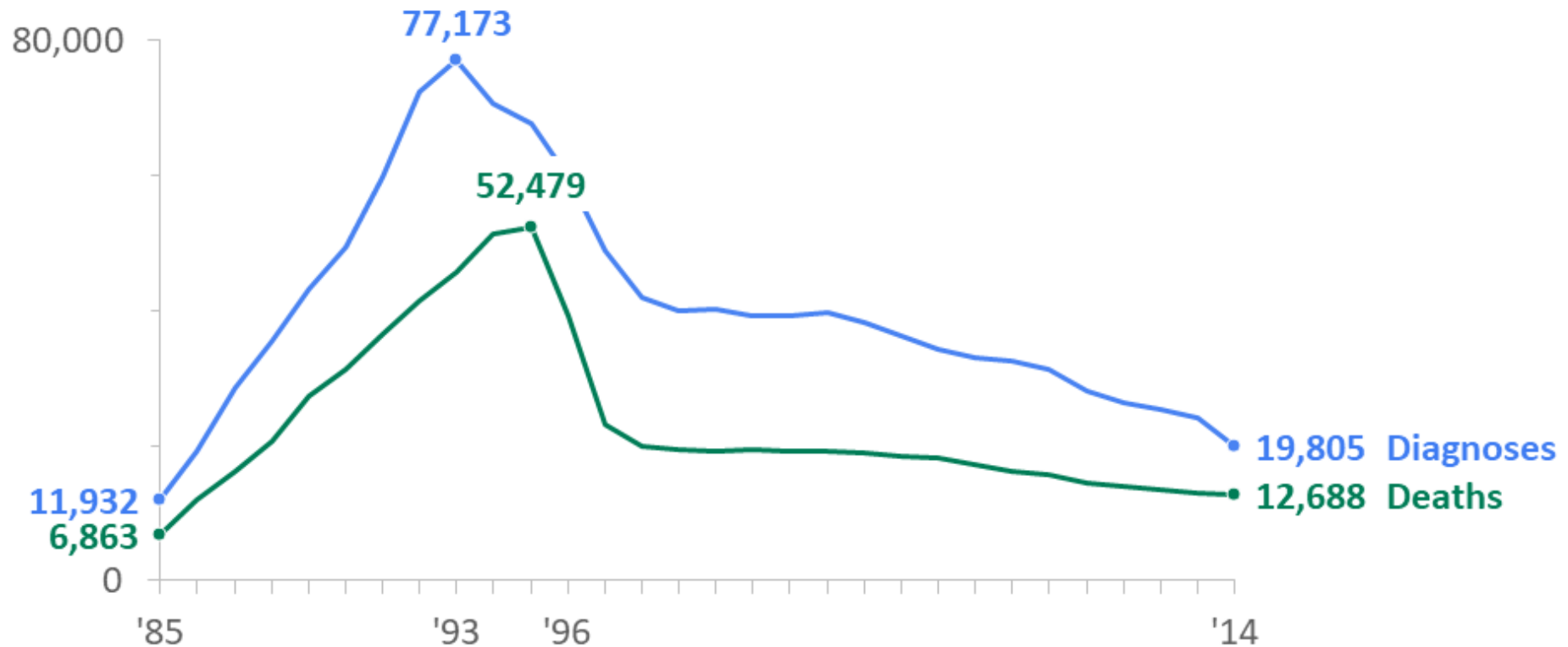


Note. Deaths of persons with HIV infection, stage 3 (AIDS) may be due to any cause.

# Measure text readability

## AIDS Diagnoses and Deaths

Stage 3 (AIDS) Classifications and Deaths of Persons with Diagnosed HIV Infection Ever Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS), among Adults and Adolescents, US and 6 Dependent Areas



# Measure text readability

Readable.io

Text To Score

Text Save Load History Help
Measure Readability

Stage 3 (AIDS) Classifications and Deaths of Persons with Diagnosed HIV Infection  
Ever Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS), among Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2014 □ US  
and 6 Dependent Area

Before Title

Readability Rating

RATING: D

You are using too many long words. Try replacing some of them with shorter alternatives.

Readability Grade Levels

Readability Formula	Grade
Flesch–Kincaid Grade Level	12.5
Gunning Fog Index	9.6
Coleman–Liau Index	16
SMOG Index	15.9
Automated Readability Index	17.1
Average Grade Level	14.2

Readability Scores

Readability Formula	Score
Flesch Reading Ease	48.5
Spache Score	7.4
New Dale–Chall Score	7.8

Text Quality

Text To Score

Text Save Load History Help
Measure Readability

AIDS Diagnoses and Deaths

After Title

Readability Rating

RATING: A

You are using too many long words. Try replacing some of them with shorter alternatives.

Readability Grade Levels

Readability Formula	Grade
Flesch–Kincaid Grade Level	6.6
Gunning Fog Index	1.6
Coleman–Liau Index	9.1
SMOG Index	8.8
Automated Readability Index	6.5
Average Grade Level	6.5

Readability Scores

Readability Formula	Score
Flesch Reading Ease	54.7
Spache Score	7.3
New Dale–Chall Score	4.1

Text Quality

## Timings

Reading Time

0:06

Speaking Time

0:11

## Timings

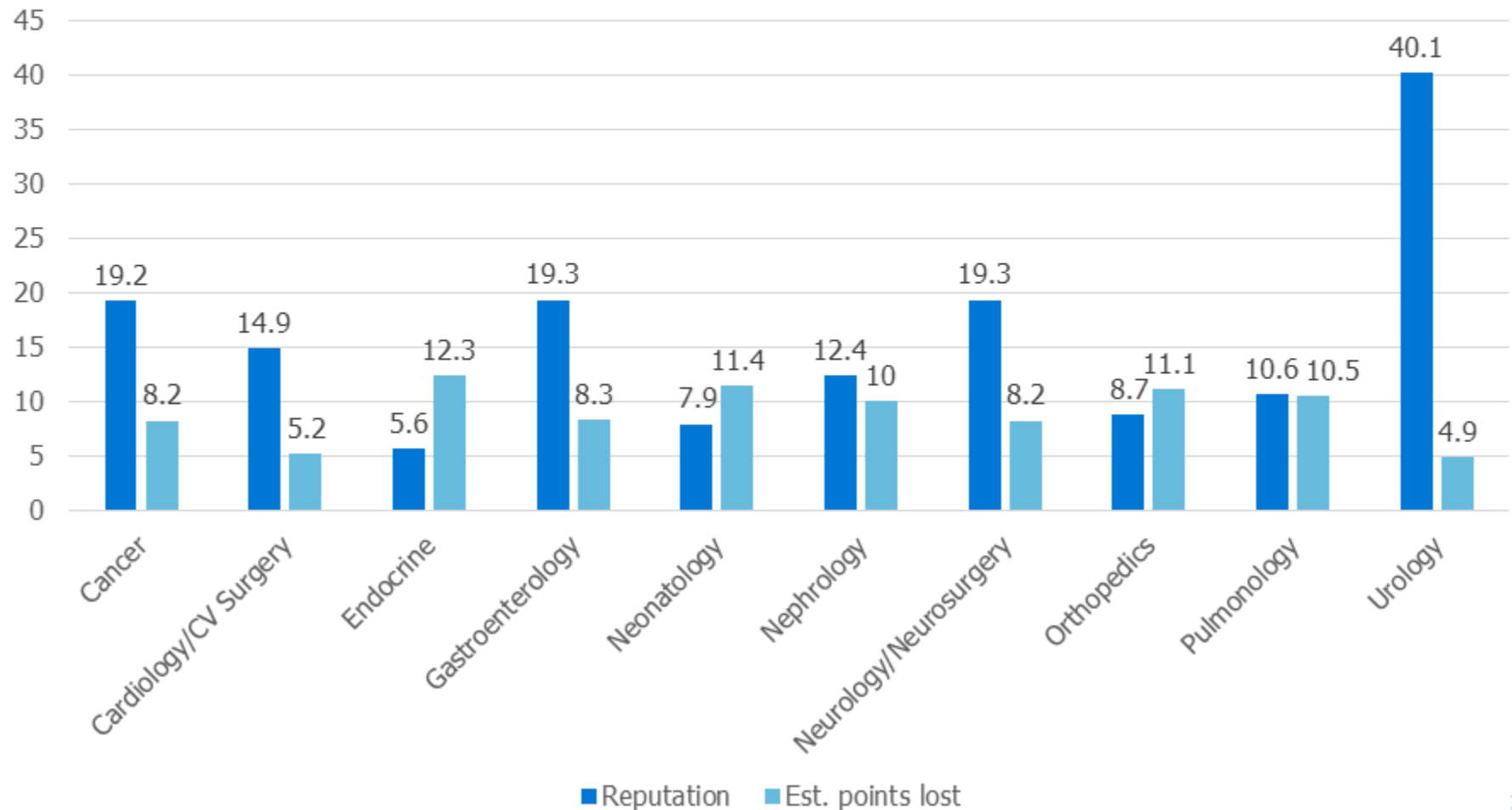
Reading Time

0:01

Speaking Time

0:01

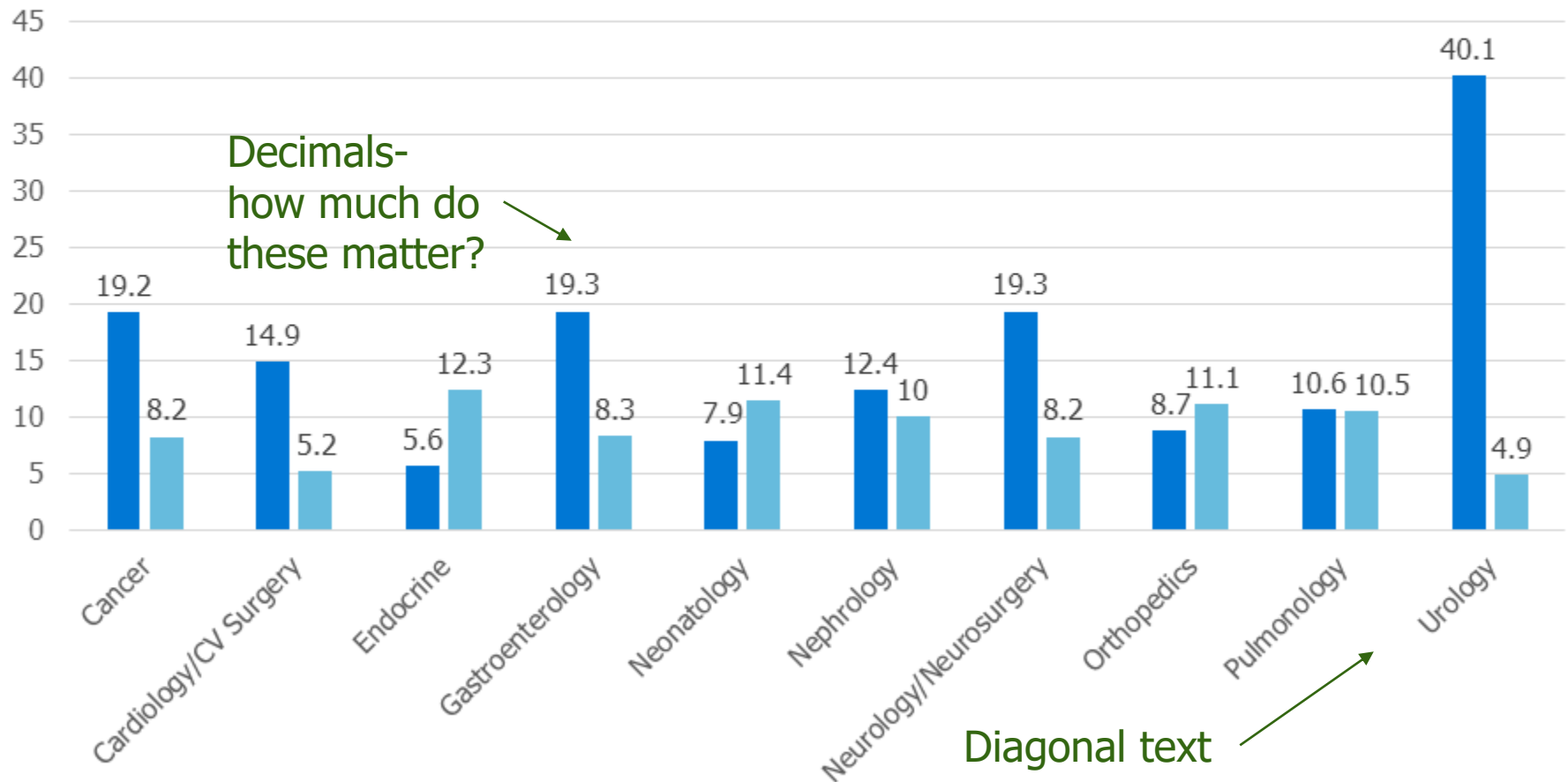
# Reputation (% of specialists) and estimated points lost from reputation (weighted % of total score)





# Reputation (% of specialists) and estimated points lost from reputation (weighted % of total score)

Long/complex title



Legend → Reputation Est. points lost

**Your Turn!**

# Your Turn!

Applying what we learned to improve  
real-life Lurie Children's examples

## Injuries to Illinois and Chicago Youth: Alcohol and Illicit Drugs in Newborns

Screening for noxious influences affecting fetuses or newborns via placenta or breast milk occurs in newborns when the newborn appears sick and/or there are suspicions that the mother used substances. In this Child Health Data Lab Data Brief, we investigate the rates in which Illinois newborns, i.e., newborns who were Illinois residents at the time of birth and born in an Illinois hospital, test positive for alcohol, narcotics, hallucinogenic agents and cocaine during the years 2008-12 using ICD-9 codes from hospital discharge data (Table 1). Positive test results are not mutually exclusive; more than one substance was detected in 8.6% of newborns (Figure 1). Of those newborns in which more than one substance was detected, 95% had two substances detected and 5% had three substances detected.

### Rates of testing positive for alcohol in newborns lower than other drugs

The rate of cocaine detected in newborns is over eight times higher than the rate of alcohol detected in newborns. It must be noted, however, that alcohol will cause a positive toxicology screen for a few hours, while cocaine and narcotics will cause positive toxicology screens for several days to a week.

It must also be noted that testing for substances occurs when an obstetrician, pediatrician or other medical professional suspects for any reason that the baby might test positive for one or more substances. Therefore, rates are assumed to be underestimates, especially for alcohol.

#### THE BOTTOM LINE

- The rate at which newborns test positive for alcohol is lower than for illicit drugs; this is likely due to the fact that alcohol is metabolized much more quickly than illicit drugs, and thus is assumed to be underestimated.
- The rate at which newborns test positive for cocaine has decreased significantly over time.
- The rates at which newborns test positive for narcotics and cocaine vary significantly by race.
- The rates at which newborns test positive for alcohol, hallucinogenics, narcotics and cocaine vary by region.

Figure 1. Percentage of substance type in Illinois newborns with positive toxicology, 2008-12

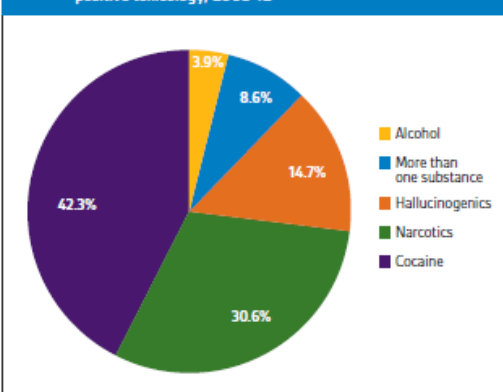


Table 1. ICD-9 codes and rates of substances

ICD-9 Code	Substance	Rate per 100,000 live hospital births in Illinois, 2008-12
760.71	Alcohol	17.7
760.72	Narcotics	108.3
760.73	Hallucinogenic agents	48.8
760.75	Cocaine	148.6

## Racial and ethnic differences in substance detection in newborns

Hispanic newborns have lower rates of substance detection for all four of the investigated substances, while black newborns have the highest rates for all substances. (Table 2)

Proportionately, the differences between black babies and both white and Hispanic babies are greatest for alcohol and hallucinogenics. For both of these substances, black babies test positive over six times more than white babies, and nearly 16 times more than Hispanic babies.

The gap between the racial/ethnic groups narrows with narcotics and cocaine, with black babies testing positive eight and five times more than Hispanic babies, respectively.

Figure 2 shows the rate at which Illinois newborns tested positive for cocaine over time, by race/ethnicity. Both white and black newborns showed significant decreases over time, although the difference between black newborns and both white and Hispanic newborns was marked.

Figure 3 shows the rate at which Illinois newborns tested positive for narcotics over time, by race/ethnicity. White newborns showed slight but statistically significant increases over time. Again, the difference between black newborns and both white and Hispanic newborns was pronounced.

## Rate of testing positive for cocaine in newborns declining over time

Figure 4 shows the rates of positive results by substance over time. Rates of alcohol, narcotics and hallucinogens did not increase or decrease steadily over time. Rates of cocaine did decrease over time; this decrease was statistically significant. In 2011 and 2012 rates of cocaine and narcotics converged, and in both years, narcotics were slightly higher.

Figure 4. Rate of Illinois newborns with positive toxicology findings by substance and year, 2008-12

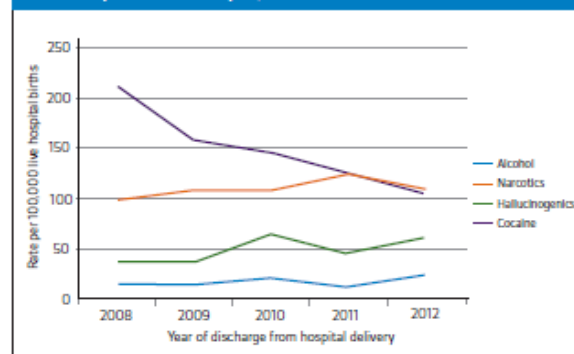


Table 2. Rate of substance detection by race/ethnicity, 2008-12

Substance	Rate per 100,000 live hospital births		
	White	Black	Hispanic
Alcohol	11.2	69.2	4.4
Narcotics	90.8	311.6	37.2
Hallucinogenic agents	32.4	197.2	12.4
Cocaine	112.6	435.9	82.4

Figure 2. Rate of Illinois newborns testing positive for cocaine by race/ethnicity and year, 2008-12

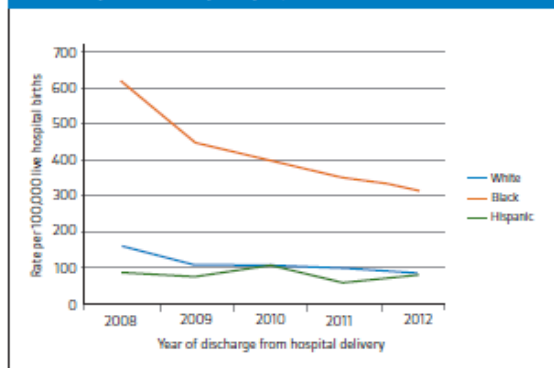
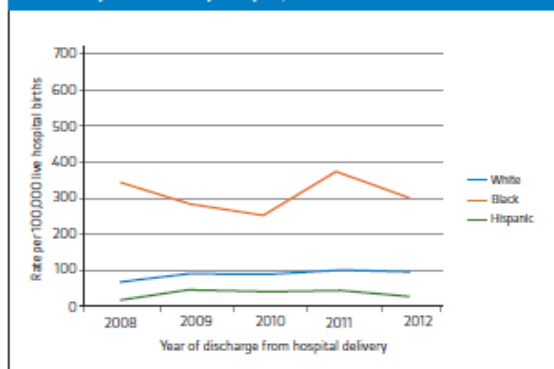


Figure 3. Rate of Illinois newborns testing positive for narcotics by race/ethnicity and year, 2008-12



Declutter this table

Declutter these borders

## Injuries to Illinois and Chicago Youth: Alcohol and Illicit Drugs in Newborns

Screening for noxious influences affecting fetuses or newborns via placenta or breast milk occurs in newborns when the newborn appears sick and/or there are suspicions that the mother used substances. In this Child Health Data Lab Data Brief, we investigate the rates in which Illinois newborns, i.e., newborns who were Illinois residents at the time of birth and born in an Illinois hospital, test positive for alcohol, narcotics, hallucinogenic agents and cocaine during the years 2008-12 using ICD-9 codes from hospital discharge data (Table 1). Positive test results are not mutually exclusive; more than one substance was detected in 8.6% of newborns (Figure 1). Of those newborns in which more than one substance was detected, 95% had two substances detected and 5% had three substances detected.

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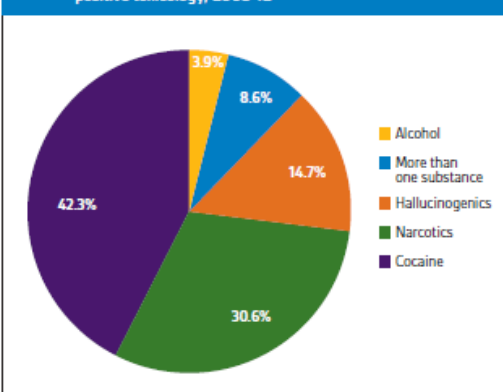
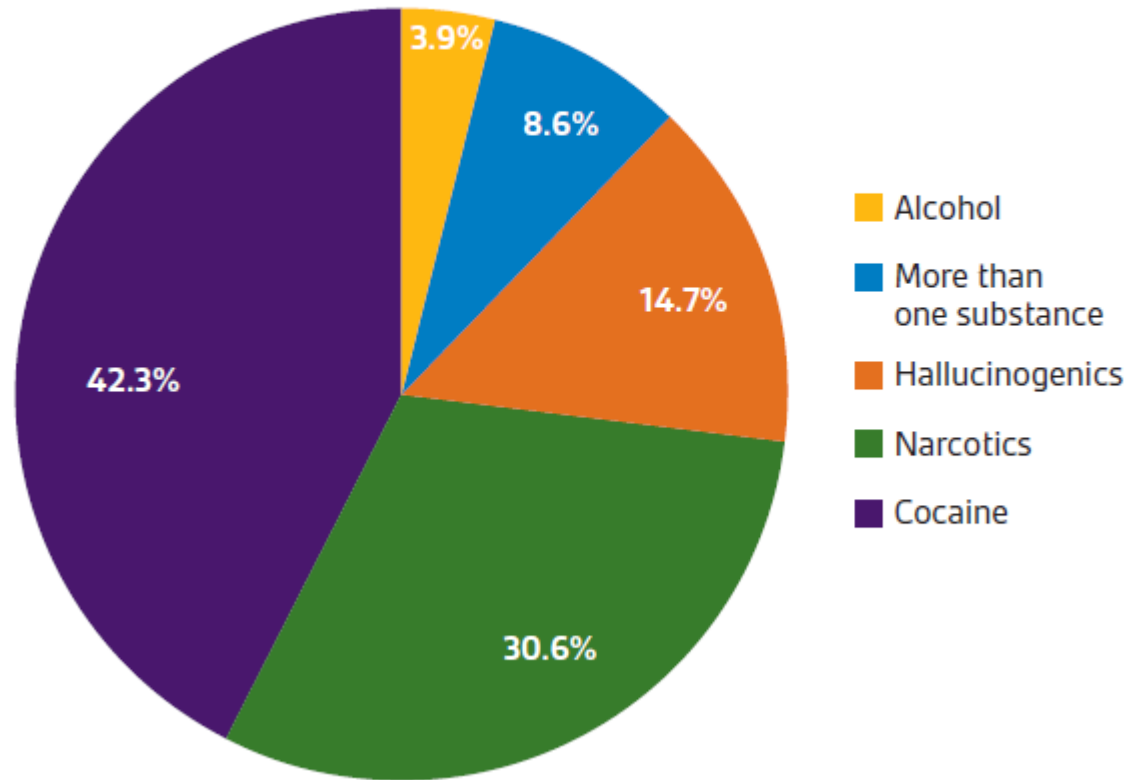


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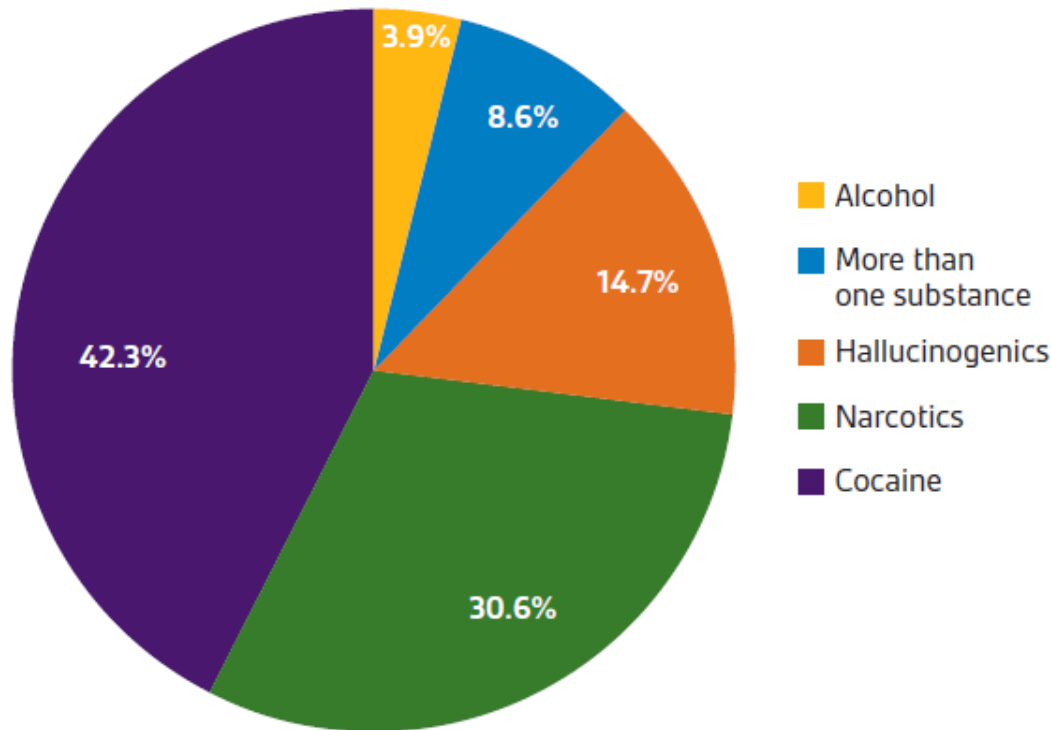
# What could we improve?

Figure 1. Percentage of substance type in Illinois newborns with positive toxicology, 2008-12



# Applying our concepts

Figure 1. Percentage of substance type in Illinois newborns with positive toxicology, 2008-12



## Rule Breakers

- More than 2/3 slices

## Rule Breakers

- Legend instead of directly labeled
- Border outline

## Rule Breakers

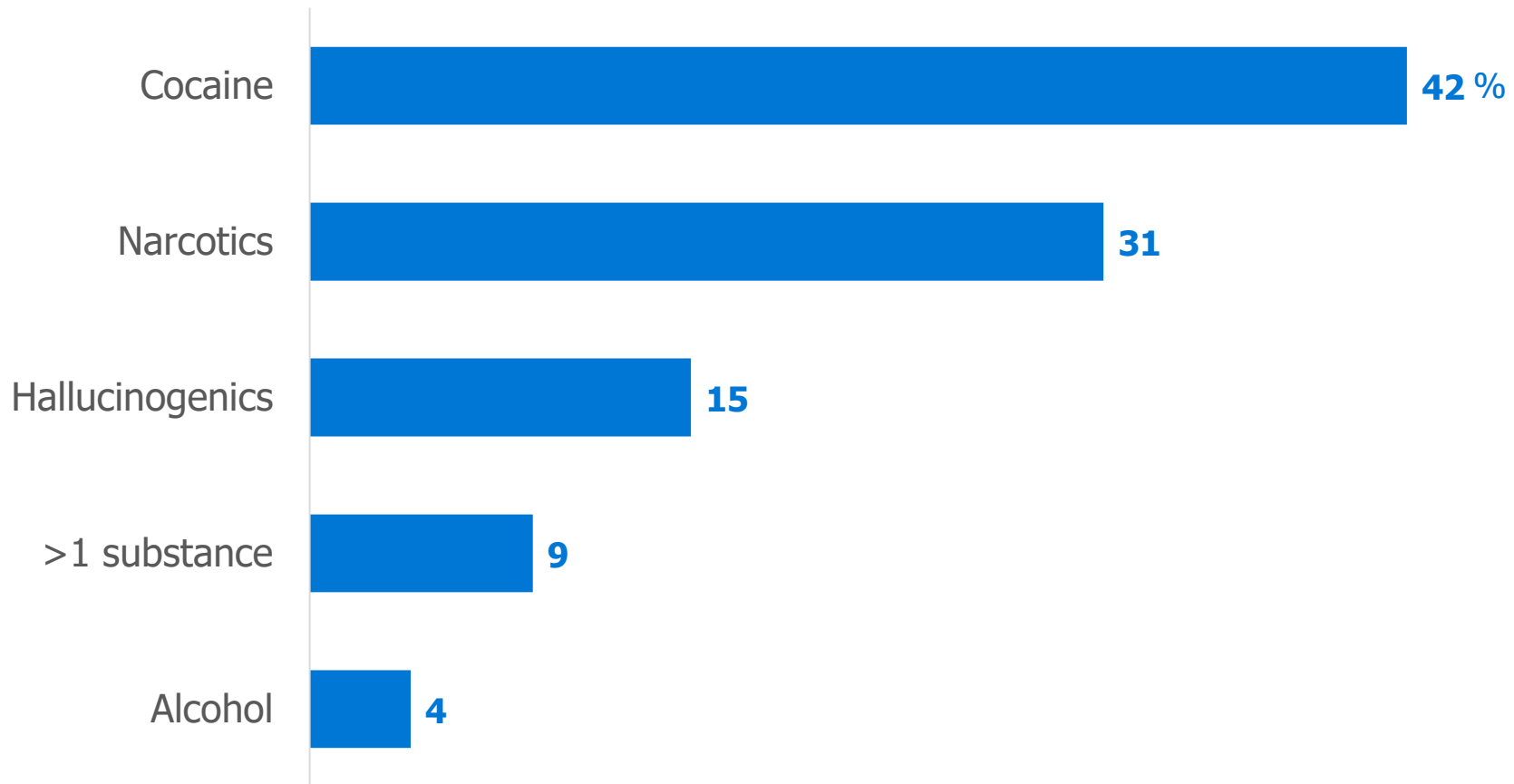
- Title text readability
- Decimals



## Example 1:

More Illinois newborns screen **positive for illicit drugs** than alcohol.

Percent of substance type in IL newborns with positive toxicology, 2008-12



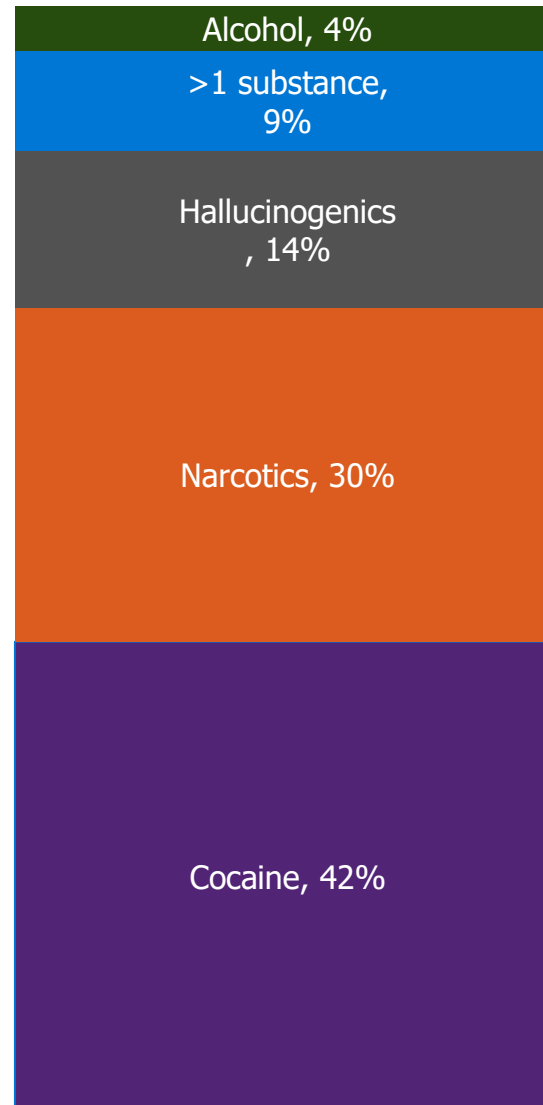
## Example 2: Retaining part to whole relationship

Majority of IL newborn positive toxicology screens are due to Illicit Drugs

Percentage of substance type among IL newborns with positive drug screenings, 08-12

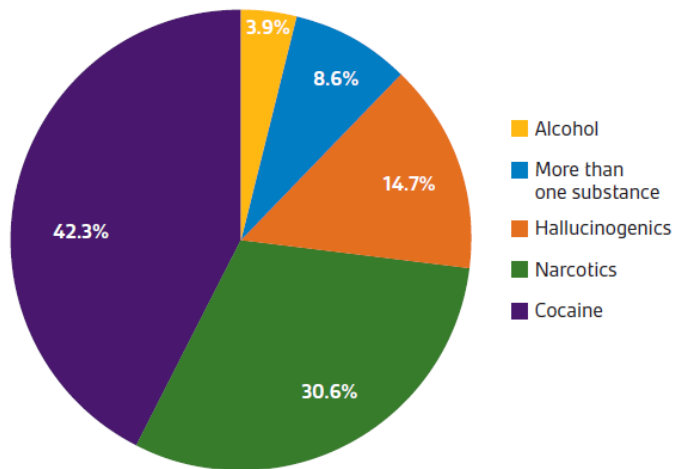
100%

0%



# Before

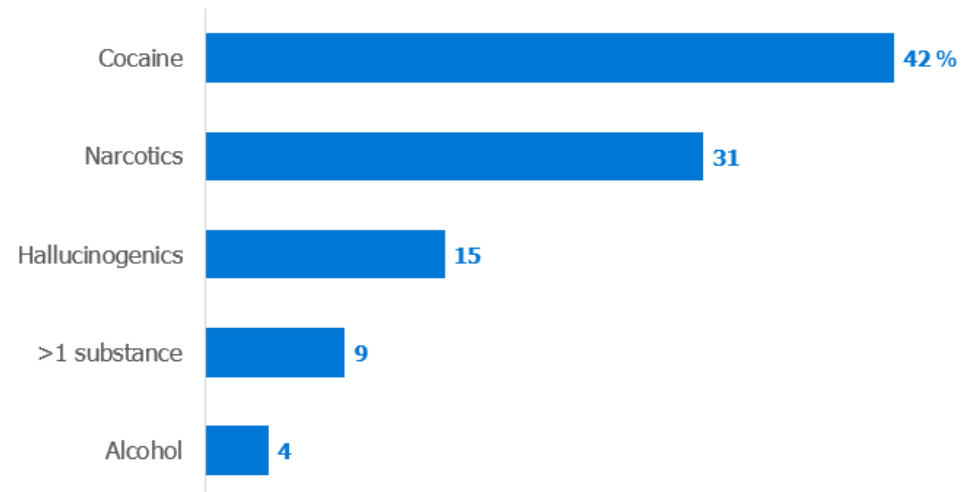
Figure 1. Percentage of substance type in Illinois newborns with positive toxicology, 2008-12



# After

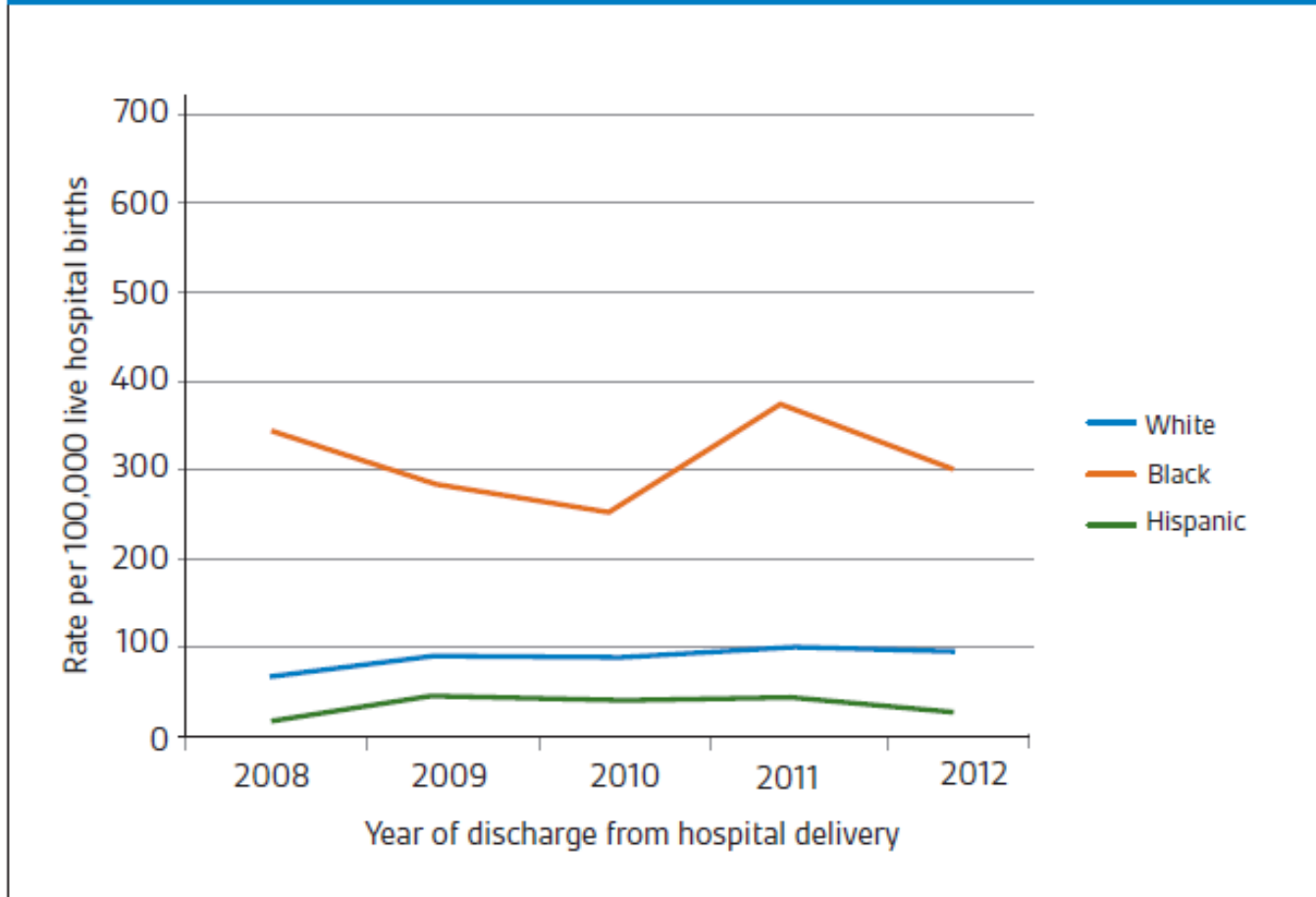
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Percent of substance type in IL newborns with positive toxicology, 2008-12



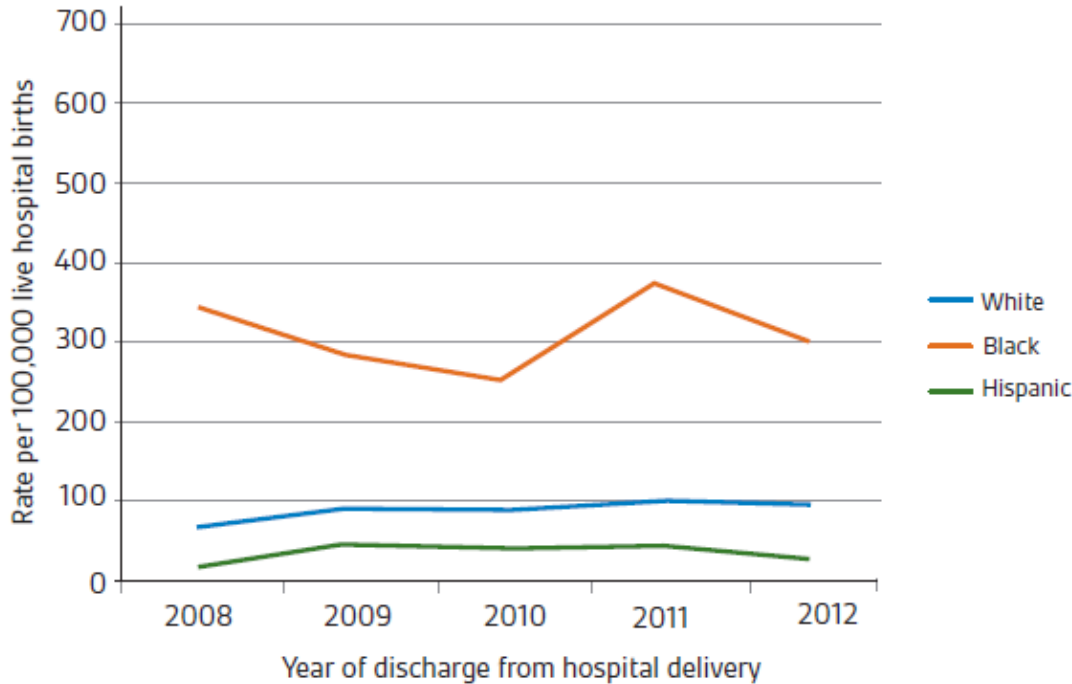
# What could we improve?

Figure 3. Rate of Illinois newborns testing positive for narcotics by race/ethnicity and year, 2008-12



# Applying our concepts

Figure 3. Rate of Illinois newborns testing positive for narcotics by race/ethnicity and year, 2008-12



## Rule Breakers

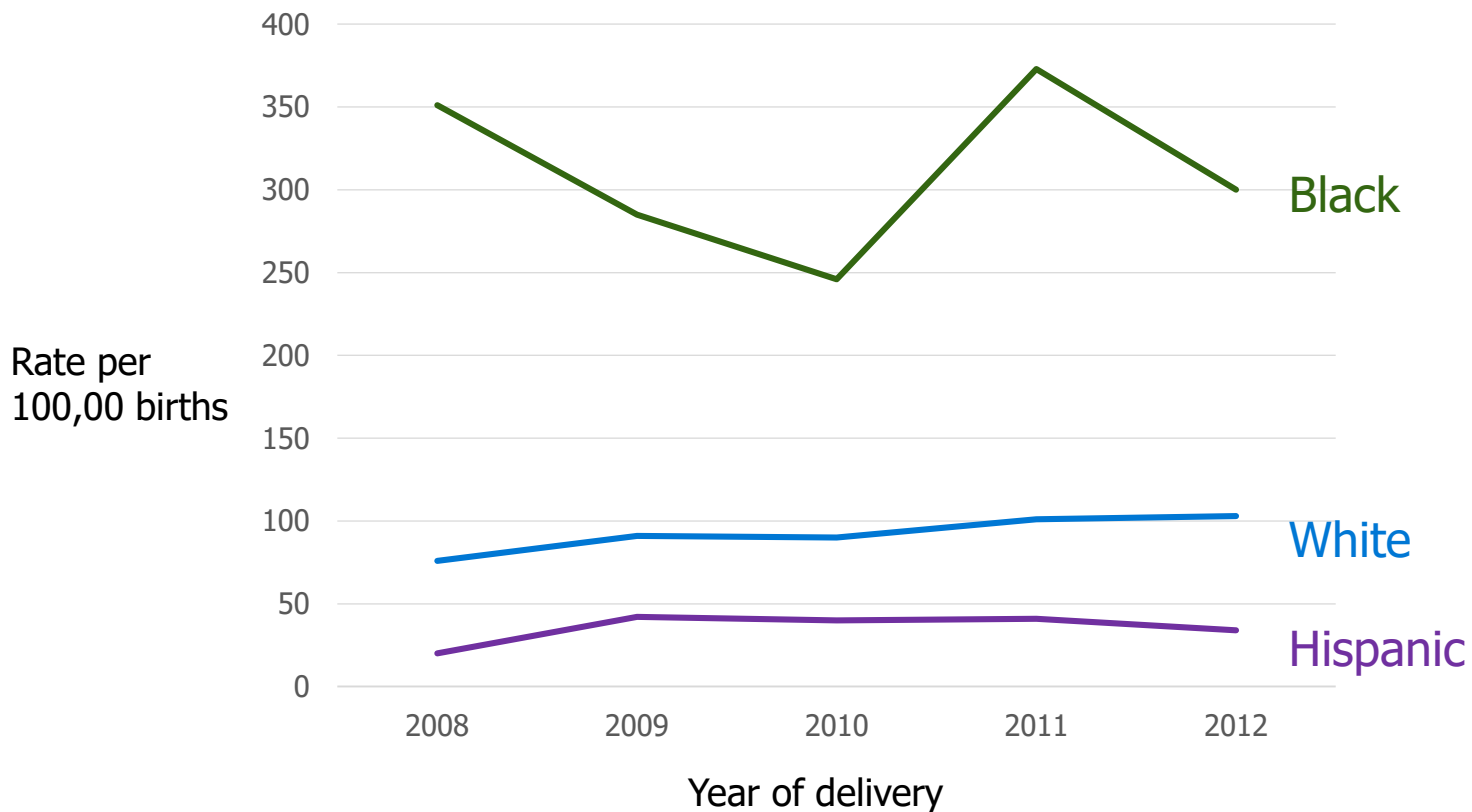
- Legend instead of directly labeled
- Border outline
- Dark gridlines

## Rule Breakers

- Vertical text
  - Title text
- readability/redundancy

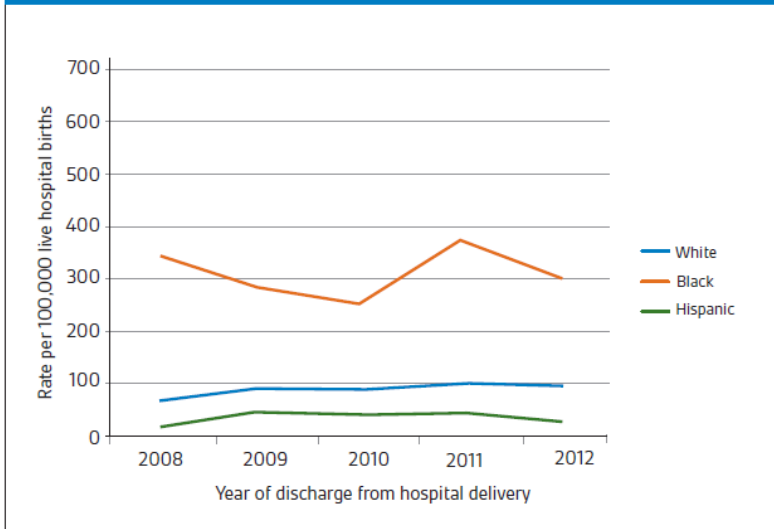
## Example 1: Direct labels make a big difference

The rate Illinois newborns test positive for Narcotics varies by race



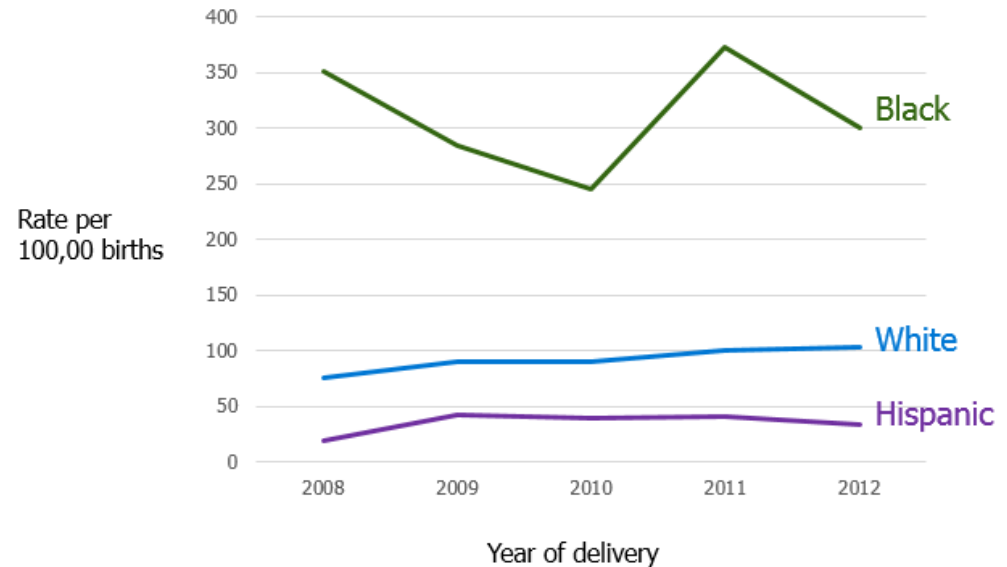
# Before

Figure 3. Rate of Illinois newborns testing positive for narcotics by race/ethnicity and year, 2008-12



# After

The rate Illinois newborns test positive for Narcotics varies by race



# What could we improve?

## Patient Family Experience

Giving families the best possible experience is the [core of our mission](#), something we strive for each and every day. To measure patient satisfaction, the hospital has worked with [NRC Picker](#), an outside survey group, since 2012. Since we transitioned to a new vendor, we changed the way our performance is reported. Using an outside survey group ensures feedback is confidential and enables us to compare results with other hospitals.

## How It Works

Surveys are routinely mailed to a sampling of families whose children have received care at Lurie Children's. All data is provided as percentages and categorized by the hospital's fiscal year (September 1 to August 31). Our performance is measured by showing the percentage of respondents who chose "Yes, definitely," which is the best possible response.

The following charts show our surveyed families' responses to the question, "Would you recommend this hospital to your family/friends?" in each of our four main services: inpatient, emergency, surgical and outpatient.

### Facts and Figures

#### Patient Family Experience

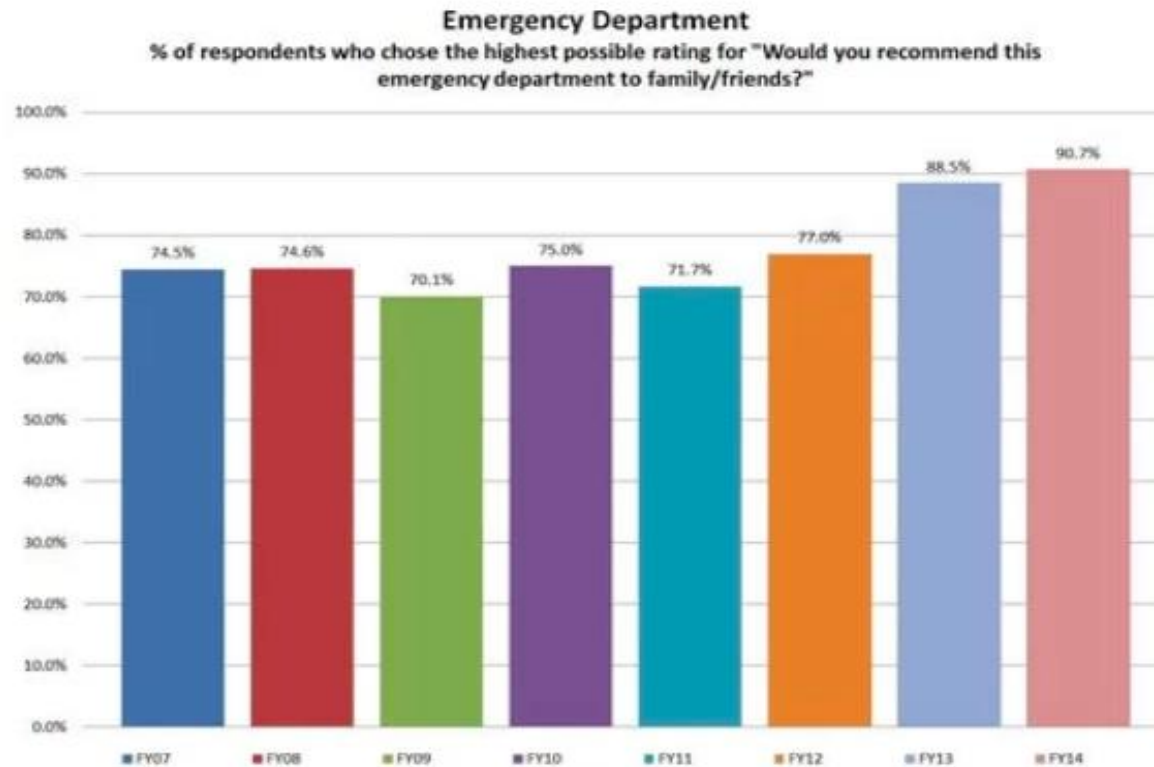
#### Awards and Accolades

#### U.S. News & World Report

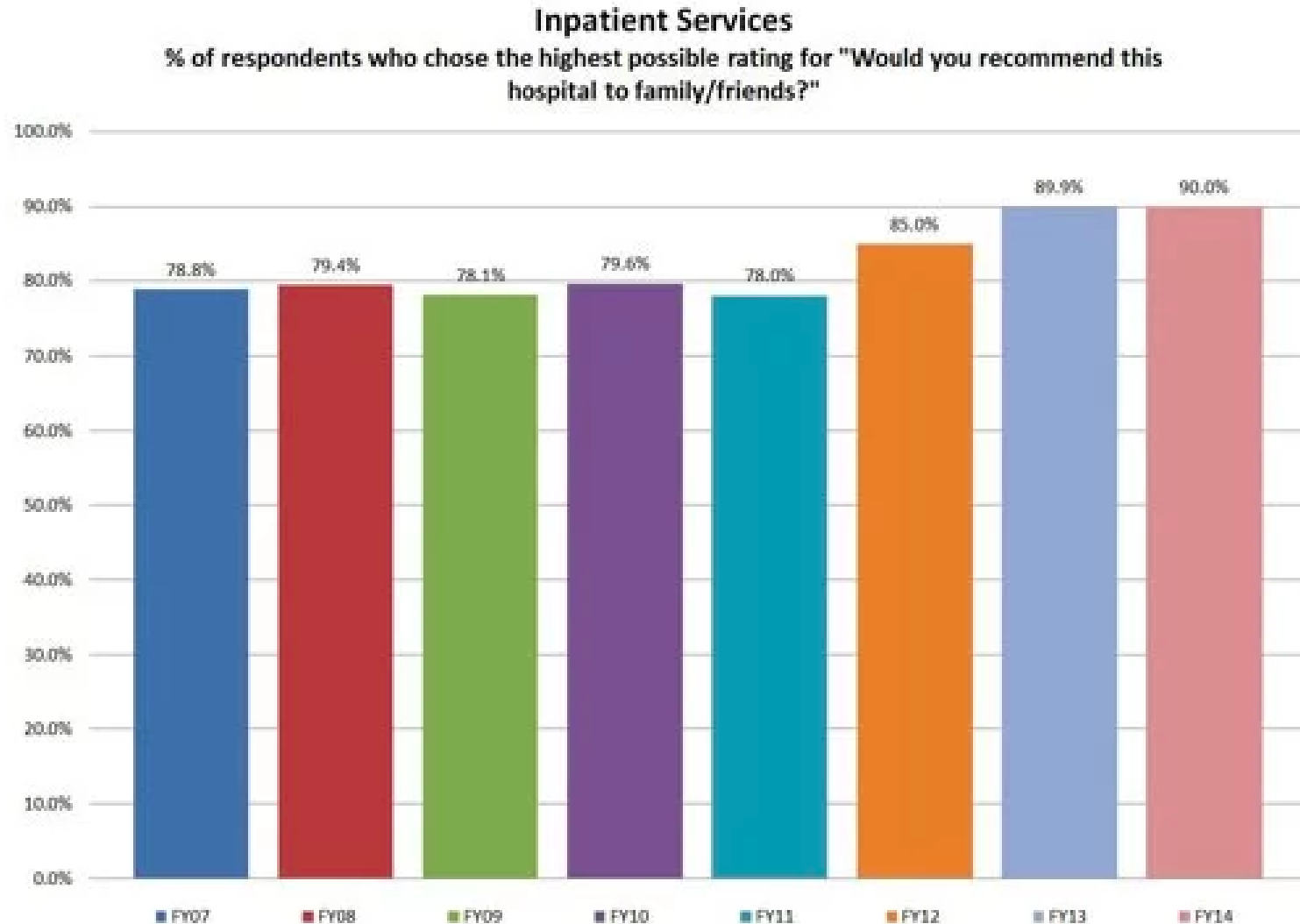


# What could we improve?

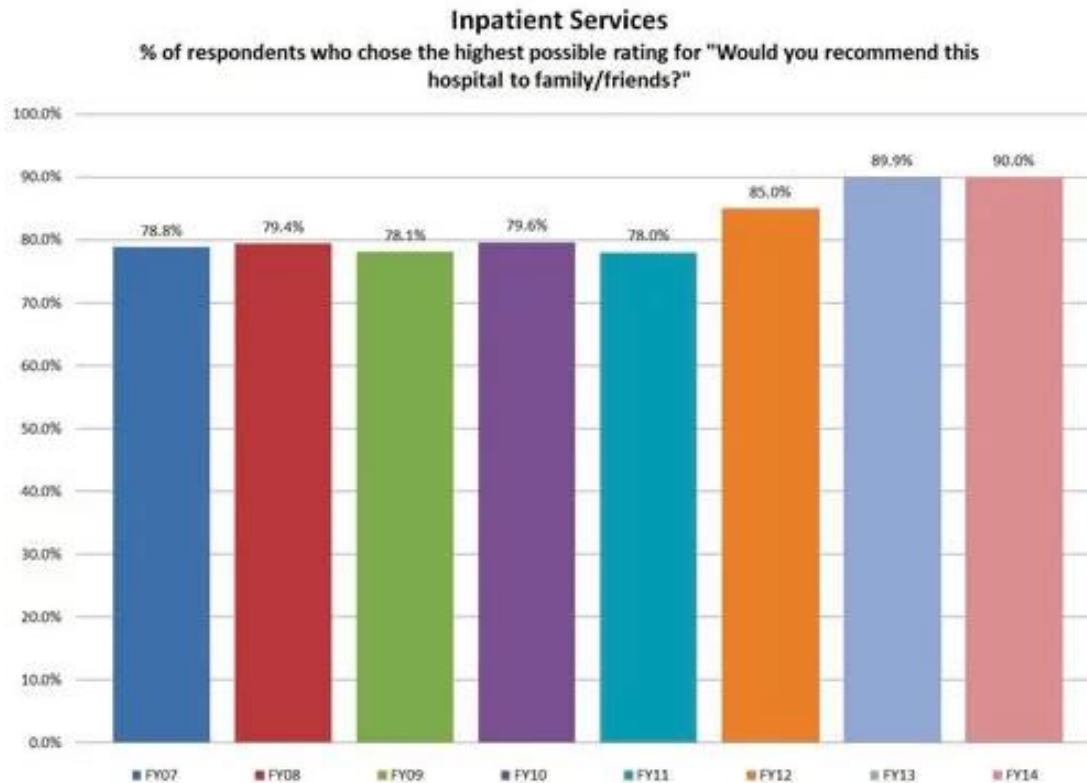
The following charts show our surveyed families' responses to the question, "Would you recommend this hospital to your family/friends?" in each of our four main services: inpatient, emergency, surgical and outpatient.



# What could we improve?



# Applying our concepts



## Rule Breakers

- Legend axis
- Redundant axis/data labels
- Gridlines

## Rule Breakers

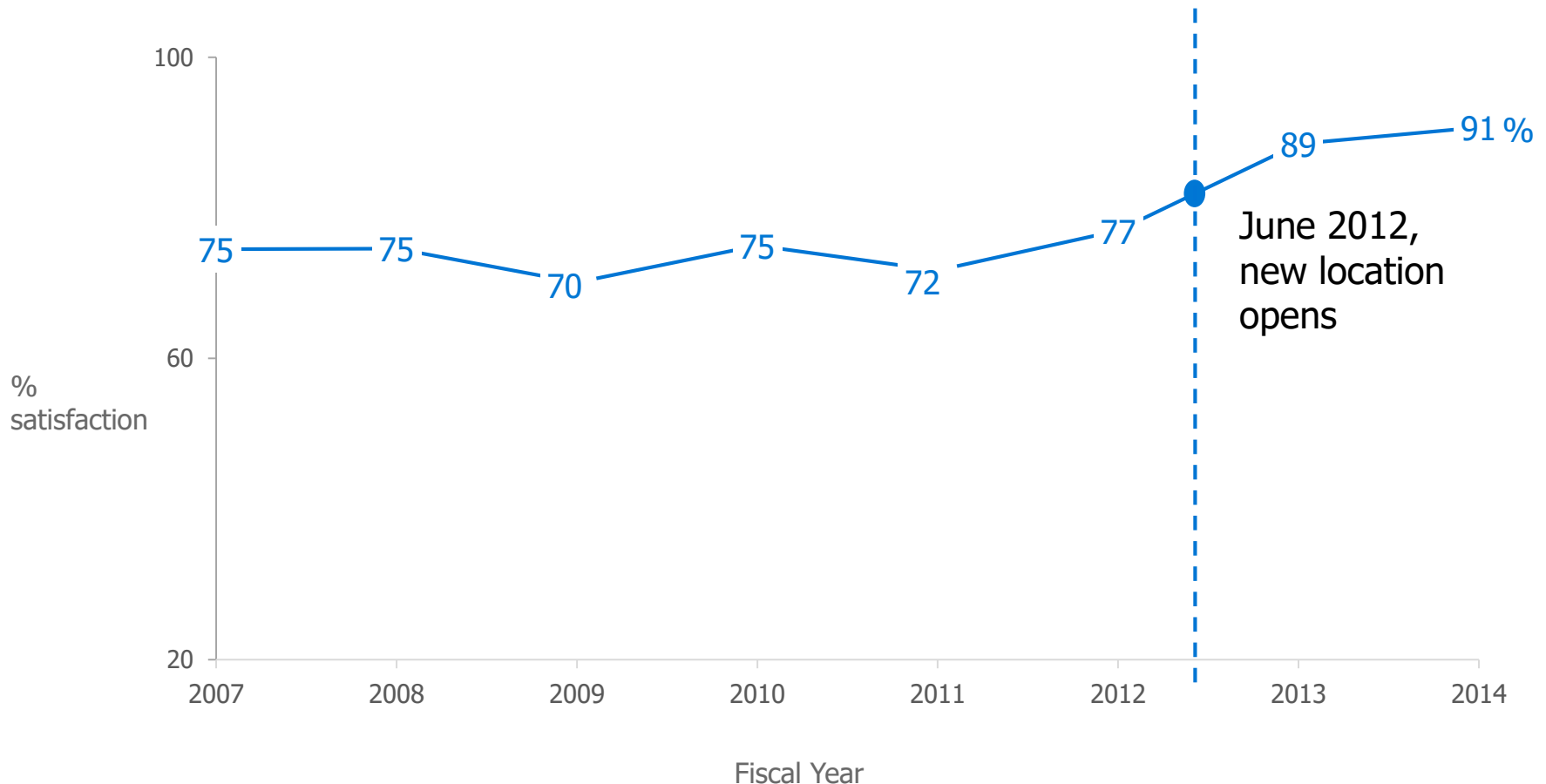
- Color isn't meaningful

## Rule Breakers

- Decimals
- No story in the title

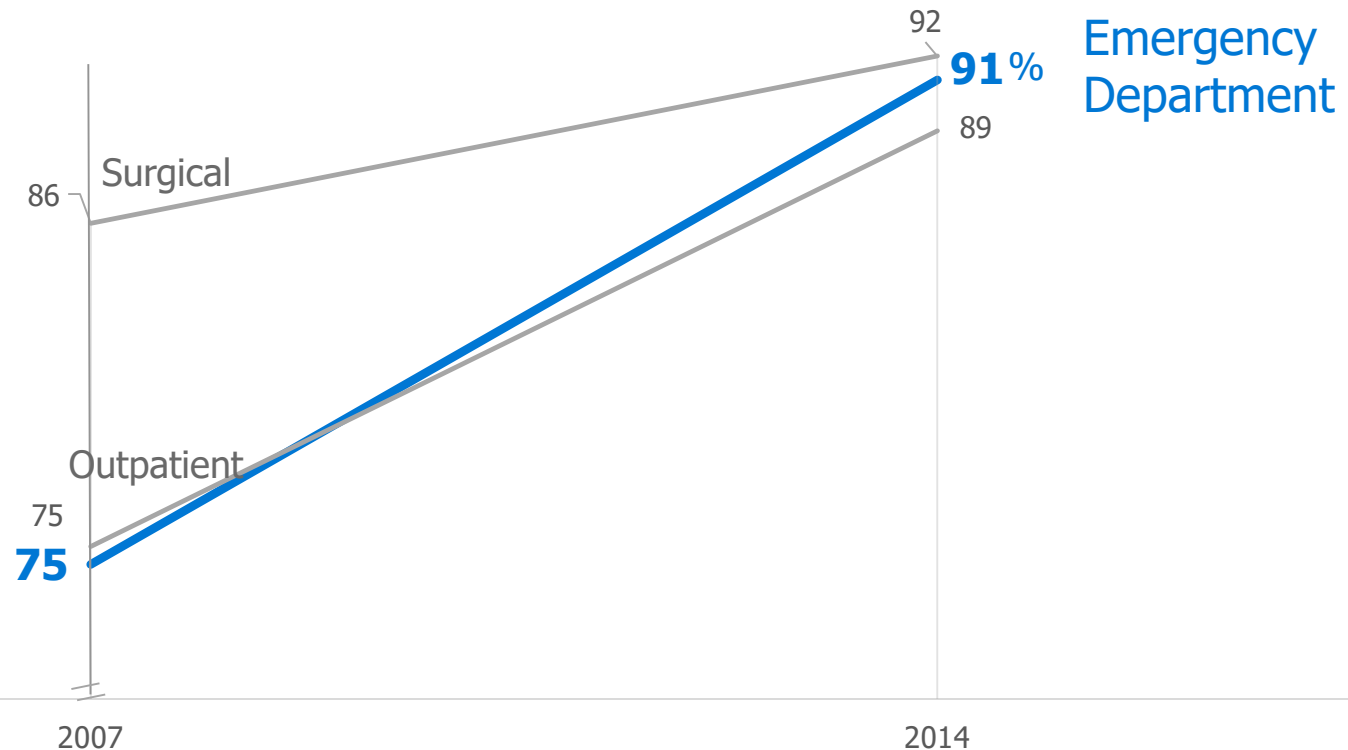
## Example 1: Tell a story

**Improved patient experience in the new hospital:** In a 5 year span, our Emergency Department patients' satisfaction scores increased over **20 points**

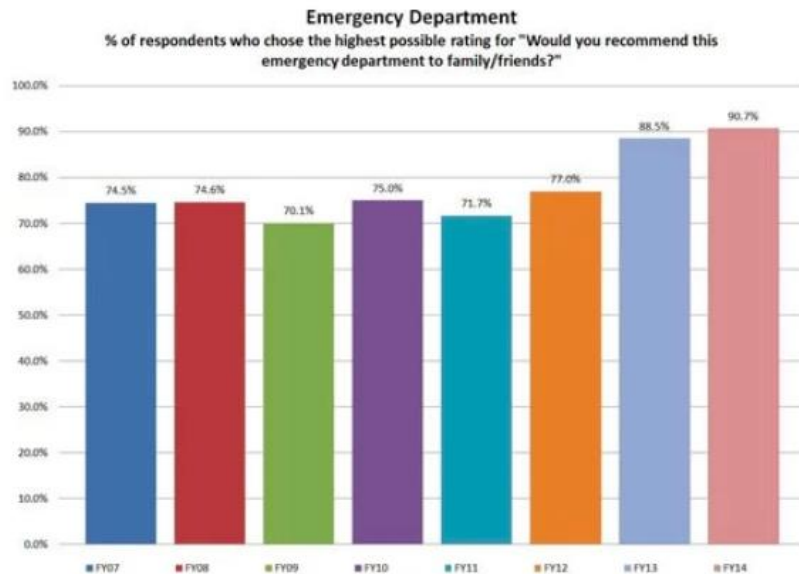


# The Emergency Department improved the most:

From FY07- '14, every division's patient satisfaction scores improved, with the ED displaying the greatest increase of over 15 points

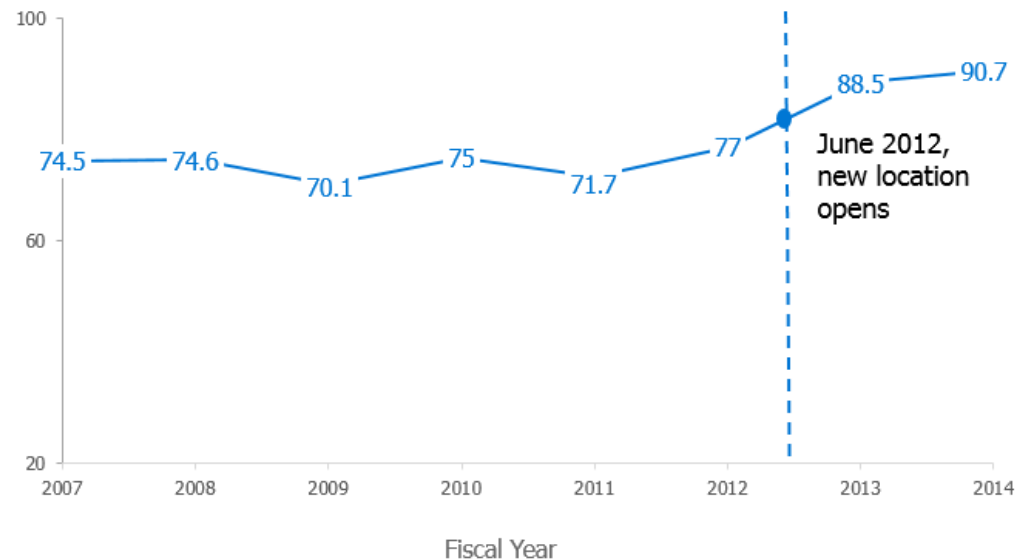


# Before



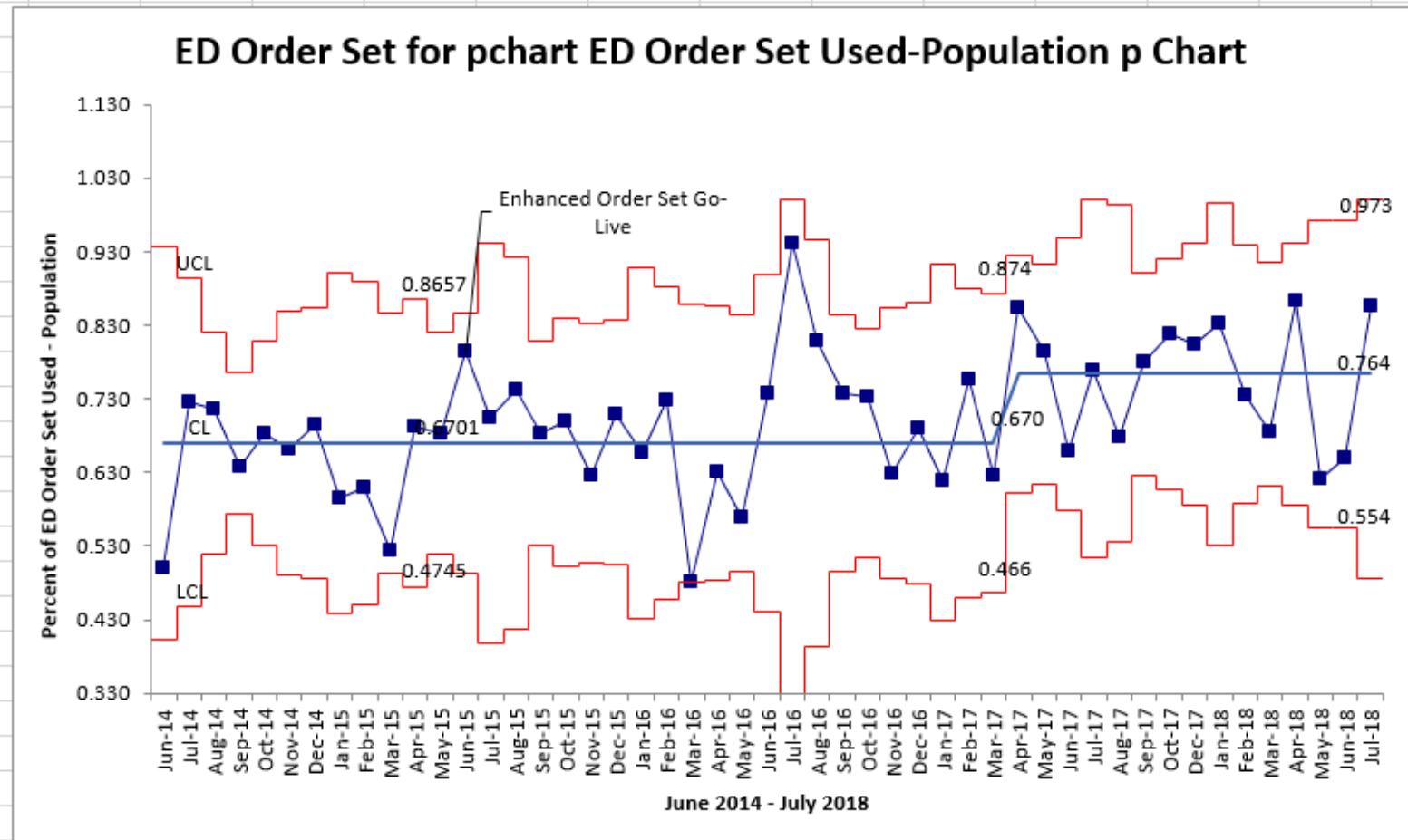
# After

**Improved patient experience in the new hospital:** In a 5 year span, our Emergency Department patients' satisfaction scores increased over **20 points**

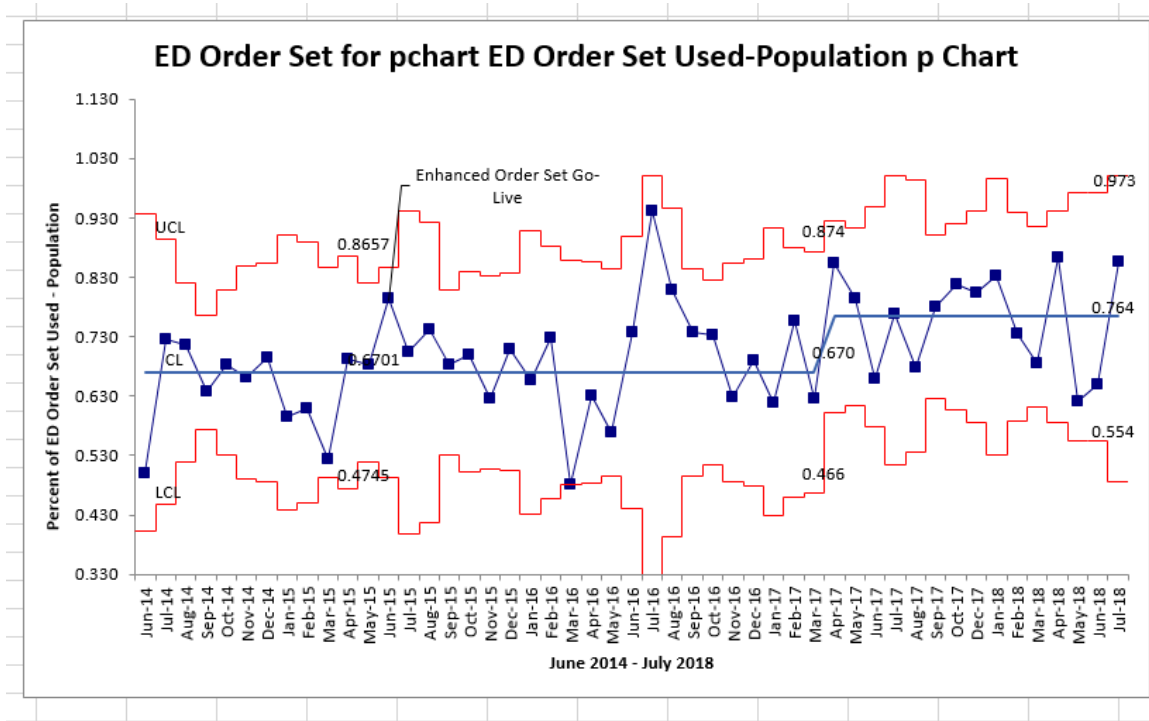


Before: Control chart/p chart

# What could we improve?



# Applying our concepts



## Rule Breakers

- Axis clutter
- Redundant axis/data labels
- Border

## Rule Breakers

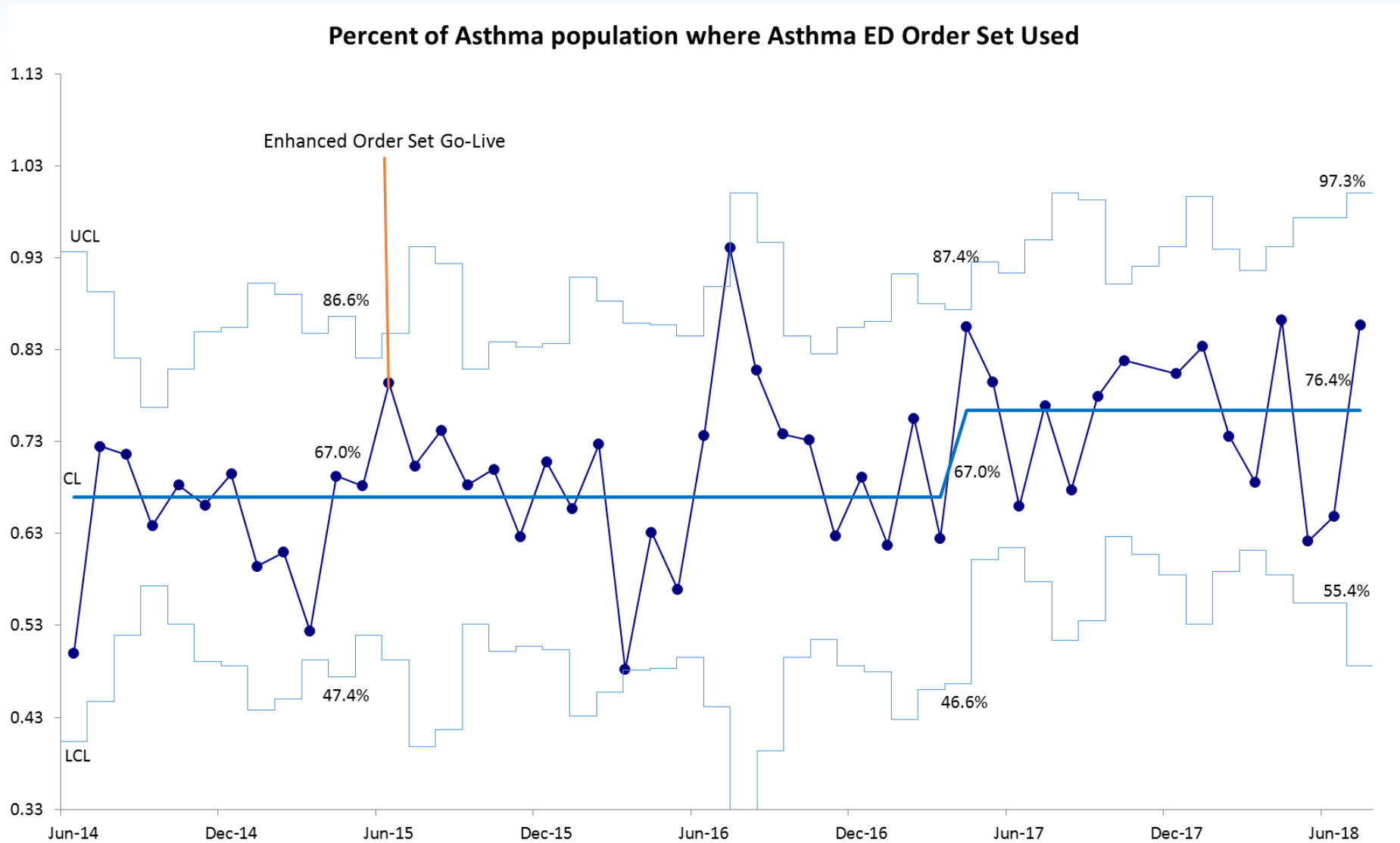
- Color meaning

## Rule Breakers

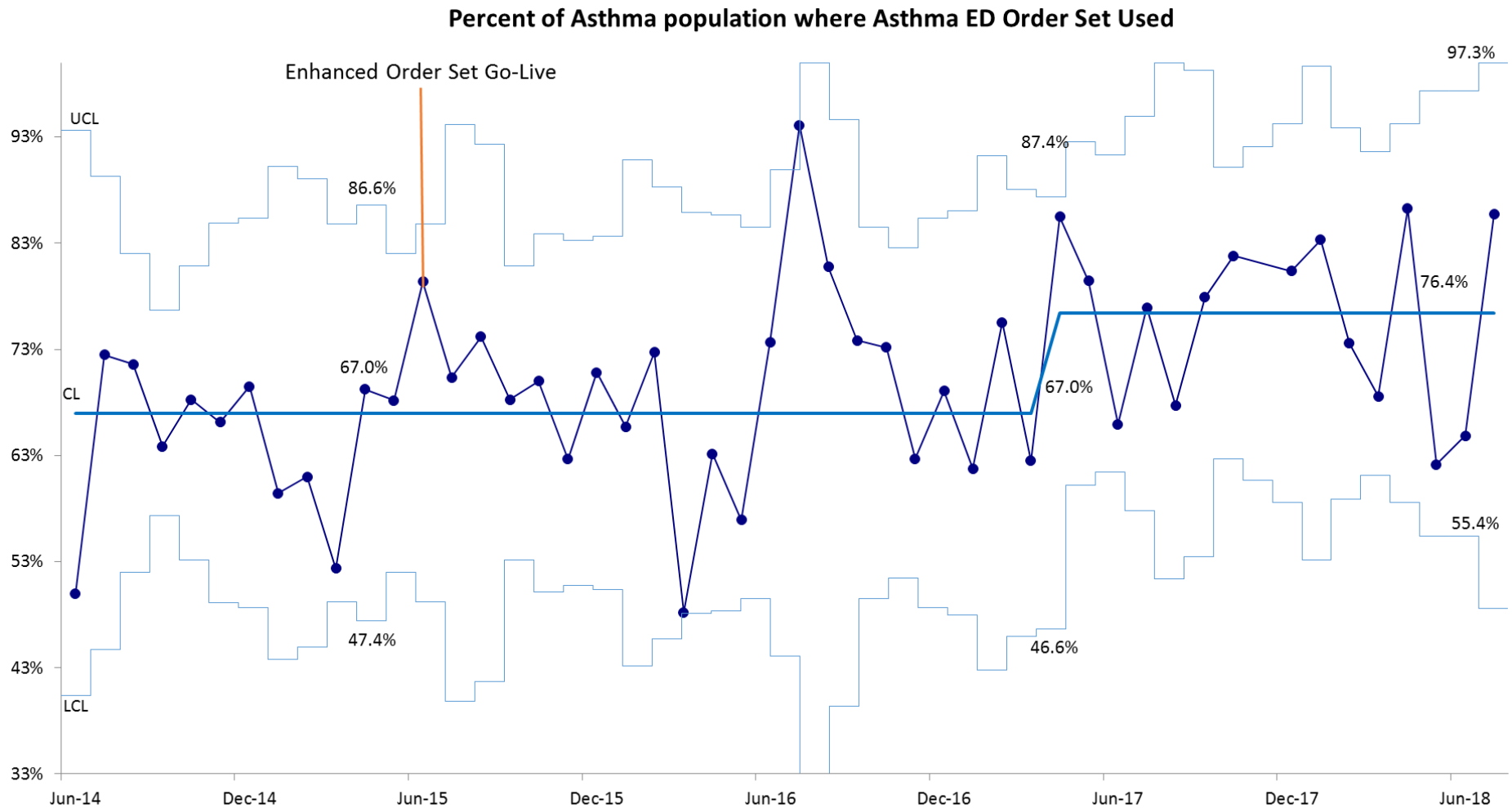
- Vertical text
- Title length



# After: Control chart/p chart



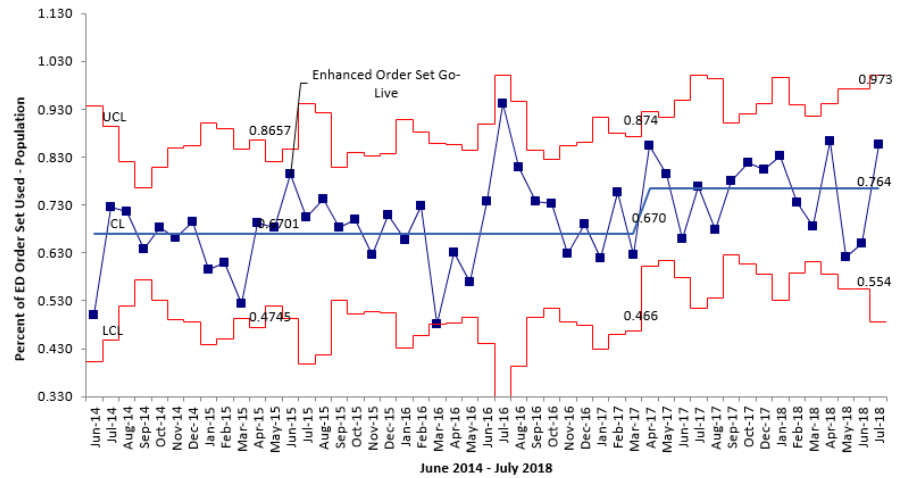
## After: Control chart/p chart



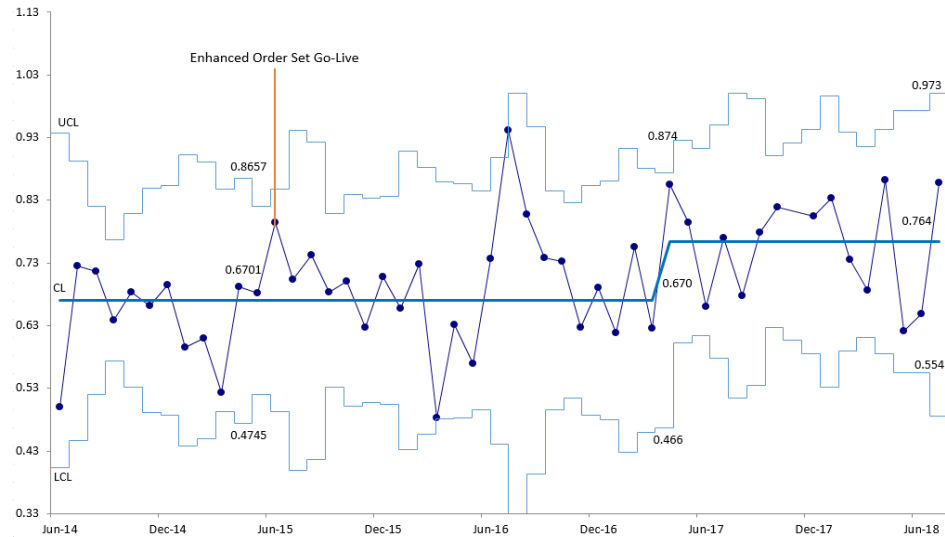
# Before

# After

ED Order Set for pchart ED Order Set Used-Population p Chart



Percent of Asthma population where Asthma ED Order Set Used



# Remember to

✓ **Choose the Right Chart**

✓ **De-Clutter**


✓ **Clarify with Color**

✓ **Clarity with Text**

# Poster Design Presentation

Scientific Poster  
Design

How to keep your poster  
from resembling an  
“abstract painting”



**CCMR** Cornell Center for Materials Research

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY <http://www.ccmr.cornell.edu>

# Thank you!!

## Questions?

[abendelow@luriechildrens.org](mailto:abendelow@luriechildrens.org)

