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# Teaching Data: Developing Data Instruction Using a Multi-Level Competency Model

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Laying the Foundation for Research Data Services: Session 2



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## PREVIOUSLY ON...

# Laying the Foundation for Research Data Services

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## SESSION 1 – Getting Started with the Texas Data Repository and Data Competencies

- This initial webinar will cover the Texas Data Repository's role as an integral part of the research data infrastructure in Texas and introduce a set of competencies for data training on your campus. This session will preview following sessions and include results from the data symposium and how these webinars address some of these needs.
- Recording: <http://hdl.handle.net/2249.1/79231>

# Teaching Data

Developing Data Instruction Using a  
Multi-Level Competency Model



Peace Ossom Williamson  
Director, Research Data Services  
University of Texas at Arlington Libraries

# What?

Data Information Literacy  
*datainfoelit.org*

- IMLS-funded research project  
(Purdue, Minnesota, Oregon, Cornell)
- Aim: develop and implement  
curriculum around data  
information literacy

# Why?

Campus data needs

- Information/data ethics
- Integration of data in assignments & data literacy
- Improved research methods
- Digital literacy

# DATA ARE MORE THAN NUMBERS

## Examples:

- Audio recordings
- Images & photographs
- Measurements
- Addresses & geocoordinates
- Text / Corpora



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data>

<https://www.lib.umn.edu/datamanagement/whatdata>

# DATA LITERACY

the ability to read,  
create, utilize,  
communicate, and  
criticize data.

# Phase 1

## *Development*

Adapting DIL competencies to meet the needs of students, faculty, and staff of UTA campus in regards to working with data for teaching, learning, and research.



# Phase 1:

## *12 Initial Competencies*

1. Intro to Datasets & Data Formats
2. Data Discovery & Acquisition
3. Data Management & Organization
4. Data Conversion & Interoperability
5. Quality Assurance
6. Metadata
7. Data Curation & Re-Use
8. Cultures of Practice
9. Data Preservation
10. Data Analysis
11. Data Visualization
12. Ethics, including citation of data

# Phase 1:

## *Data Literacy Competencies Development*

Data information literacy competencies were adjusted to include

- Levels: emerging, intermediate & expert
- Additional, removed & re-defined competencies
- Learning outcomes for each



# Phase 1:

## *D/L Competencies: QA, Metadata*

- Metadata:
  - Understands the rationale for metadata and proficiently annotates and describes data so it can be understood and used by self and others.
  - Develops the ability to read and interpret metadata from external disciplinary sources.
  - Understands the structure and purpose of ontologies in facilitating better sharing of data.
- Data description: Able to read & interpret metadata, understands structure & purpose of ontologies, etc.

# Phase 1:

## *D/L Competencies: QA, Metadata*

- Quality Assurance: Recognizes and resolves any apparent artifacts, incompleteness, or corruption of data sets. Utilizes metadata to facilitate understanding of potential problems with data sets.
- Data quality & documentation:
  - Documents data sufficiently to enable reproduction of research results & data by others
  - Recognizes, documents, and resolves any apparent, artifacts, incompleteness, or corruption of data

# Phase 1:

## *D/L Competencies: Cultures of Practice*

- Recognizes practices, values, and norms.
- Recognizes relevant data standards of field.

# Phase 1:

## *D/L Competencies: Cultures of Practice*

Instead...

- Databases & data formats: Becomes familiar w/ standard data formats and types for the discipline
- Discovery & acquisition of data: Locates and utilizes disciplinary data sources and repositories
- Data structuring & cleaning: Understands practices, values, and norms of (sub)discipline as they relate to structuring data

# Phase 1:

## *Competency Example*

### Ethics

#### Emerging

- Develops understanding of attribution and reuse
- Practices citing data
- Develops mindfulness in data ownership and privacy

#### Intermediate

- Understands the ethos of the discipline when it comes to sharing and administration of data
- Practices citing data
- Explains attribution and reuse

#### Expert

- Recognizes the role of IP, privacy, and confidentiality issues
- Creates data sharing agreements for data that cannot be shared w/o stipulations
- Applies best practices for anonymizing data & reducing risk of re-identification of personal info
- Makes own data citable

# Phase 1:

## *Competency Example*

### Data Description

#### Emerging

- Understands the rationale for descriptive metadata

#### Intermediate

- Employs basic descriptive, structural, and administrative metadata
- Knows how to capture basic metadata elements
- Develops understanding of when and where to deploy metadata

#### Expert

- Develops structures for customized descriptive, structural, and administrative metadata
- Analyzes and interprets metadata from external disciplinary sources
- Understands the structure and purpose of ontologies and metadata interoperability in facilitating better data sharing



# Phase 1:

## *Competency Example*

### Data Sharing and Preservation

#### Emerging

- Recognizes the benefits of data preservation
- Recognizes the practices, values, and norms of (sub)discipline as they relate to sharing & preserving data

#### Intermediate

- Is able to distinguish between active data and stored data
- Understands basic definitions & processes in data preservation
- Recognizes benefits & costs of preservation
- Develops understanding of which elements of a dataset are likely to have future value for self and others
- Is able to determine when and how to backup data

# Phase 1:

## *Competency Example*

Data Sharing and Preservation

Expert

- Evaluates the benefits and costs of data preservation
- Identifies potential opportunities and improvements of data curation and sharing practices in (sub)discipline
- Utilizes best practices in preparing data for its eventual preservation throughout its active lifecycle
- Articulates the potential long-term value of own data for self or for others and is able to determine an appropriate preservation timeframe
- Discusses the cost and complexity of data curation as well as its vitality to community-driven e-research and to reproducibility

# Phase 1:

## *Draft - Data Literacy Competencies 2.0*

1. Data Awareness & Knowledge
  2. Discovery & Acquisition of Data
  3. Databases & Data Formats
  4. Data Conversion & Interoperability
  5. Data Organization & Management
  6. Data Wrangling
  7. Data Processing & Analysis
  8. Data Quality & Documentation
  9. Data Description
  10. Ethics
  11. Data Visualization & Representation
  12. Data Sharing & Preservation
-

# Phase 1:

## *Draft - Data Literacy Competencies 2.0*

1. Data Awareness & Knowledge
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  9. Data Description
  10. Ethics
  11. Data Visualization & Representation
  12. Data Sharing & Preservation
-

# Phase 2

## *Implementation*

Data Literacy Sessions are taught at workshops and in a number of courses.

## Phase 2:

### *Support Services Implementation*

Instruction scaffolding in classes and workshop partnerships with graduate & faculty training groups are being coordinated for campus.

#### Courses:

- English
- Public Health
- Journalism
- Community Health Nursing

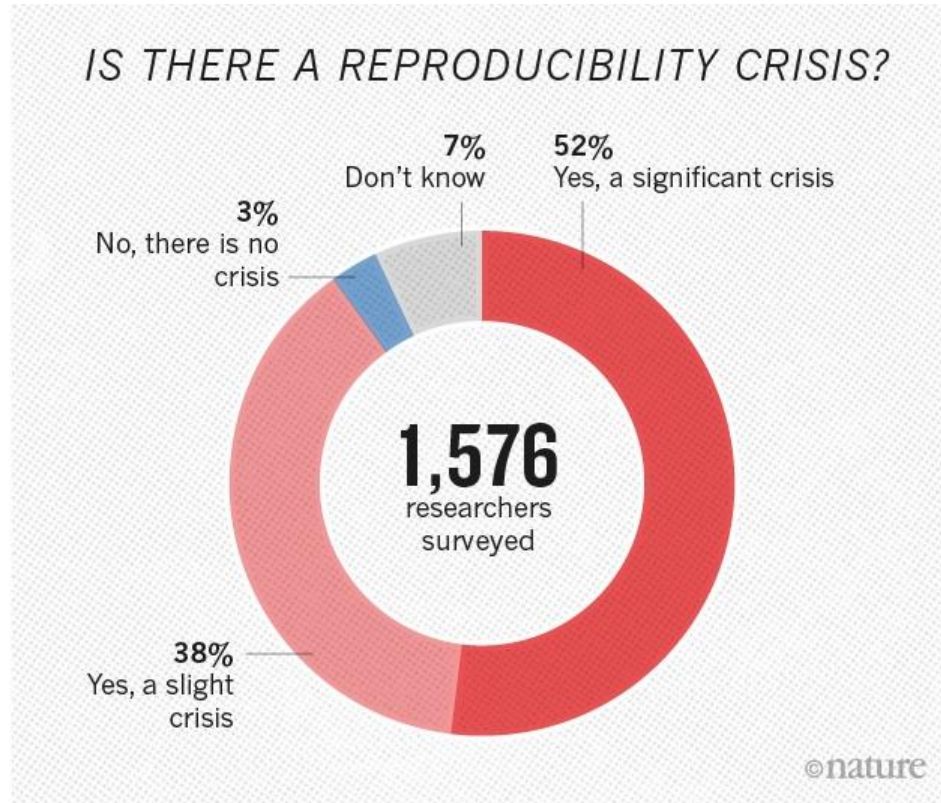


# Data Organization & Management

the development and execution of architectures, policies, practices, and procedures that properly manage the full data lifecycle needs of a project.



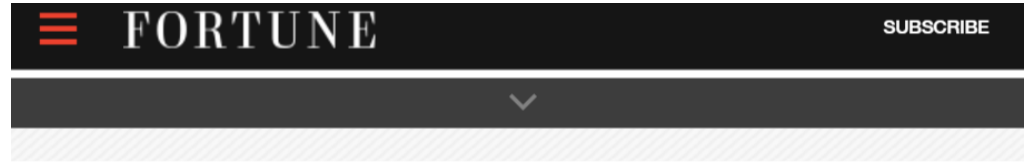
# WHY CARE?





# Ethics

Ethics - the practices centering on data ownership, confidentiality, and privacy



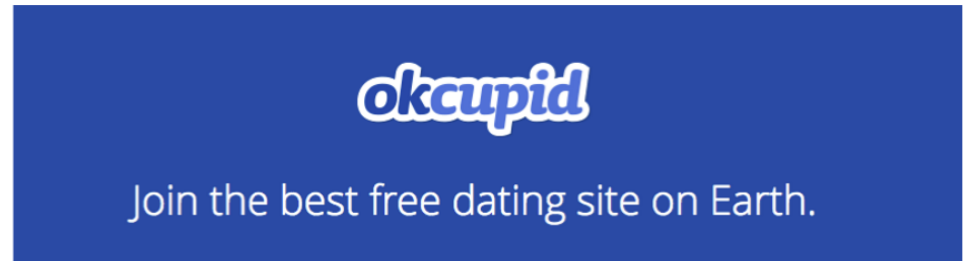
TECH OKCUPID

## Researchers Caused an Uproar By Publishing Data From 70,000 OkCupid Users

by Robert Hackett

@rhhackett

MAY 18, 2016, 3:41 PM EDT



“We thought this was an obvious case of public data scraping so that it would not be a legal problem,”

Kirkegaard wrote to *Fortune*.

**confidentiality** - protection of  
information about a person

**privacy** - protection of the person

## **QUESTIONS TO ASK**

1. How do I ensure the right to consent for individuals and communities?
2. How do I preserve privacy, security, and ownership around their data?

# Tech Moves Faster Than Laws



# Data Visualization & Representation

The development of charts, maps, infographics, and other visual displays of data using best practices and meaningful use of visualization programs.



Narrative



Structure & Flow



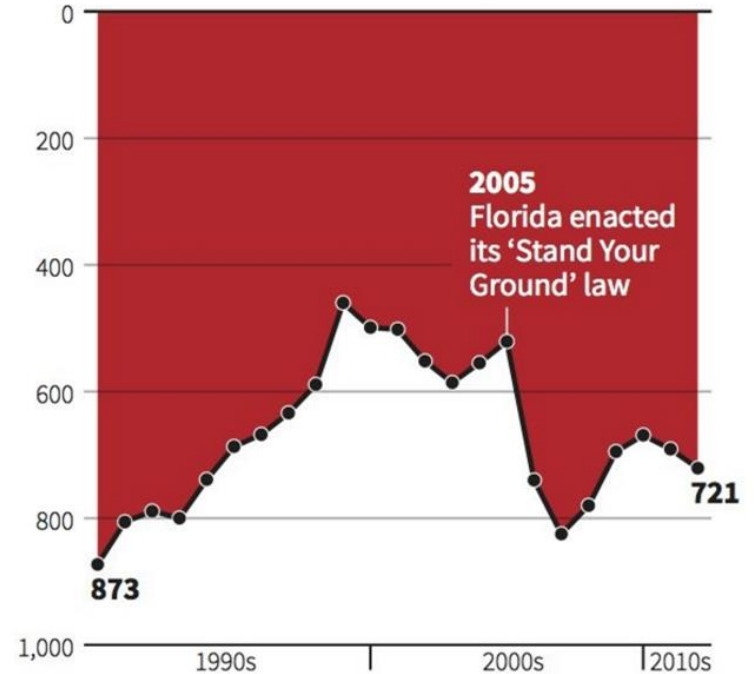
Visual Communication

# Data Visualization & Representation

The development of charts, maps, infographics, and other visual displays of data using best practices and meaningful use of visualization programs.

## Gun deaths in Florida

Number of murders committed using firearms



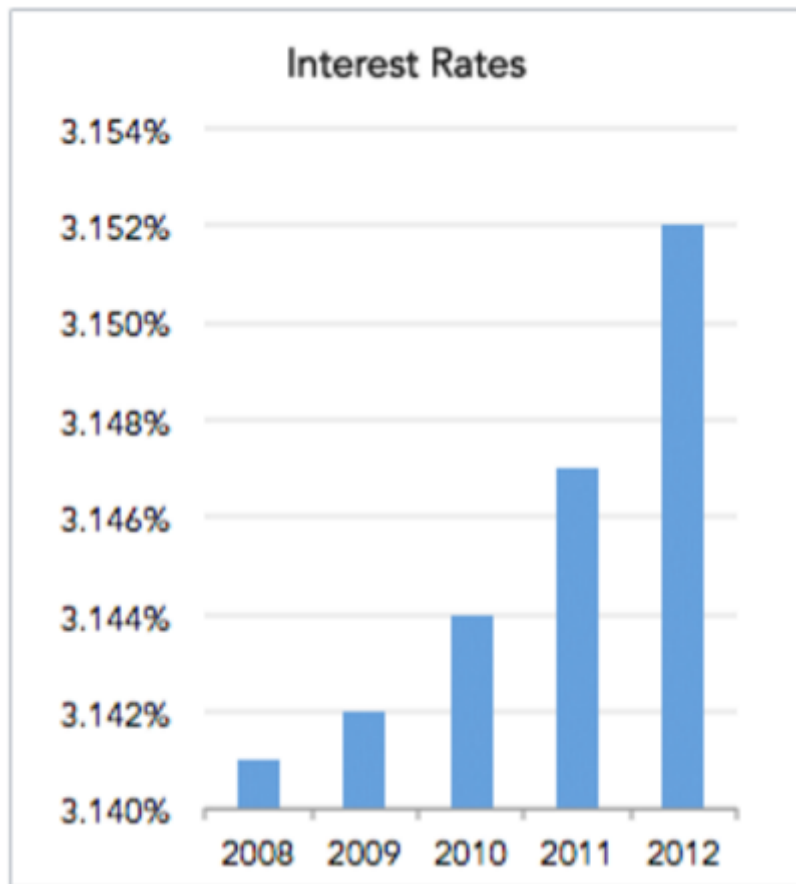
Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement



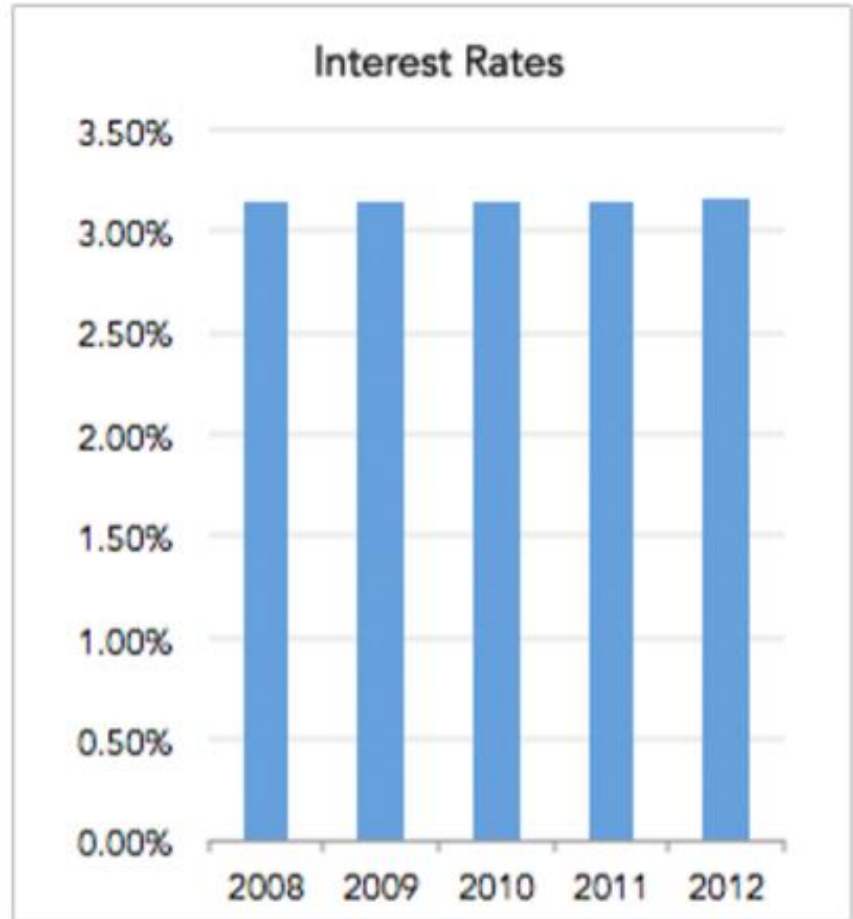
**IF YOU TORTURE DATA LONG ENOUGH,  
IT WILL CONFESS TO ANYTHING.**



**WHAT'S WRONG?**



**LESS DRAMATIC  
THAN YOU THOUGHT?**



OTHER THAN MISLEADING  
CHARTS, WHAT ARE OTHER  
REPRESENTATION PROBLEMS?

# PREATTENTIVE ATTRIBUTES



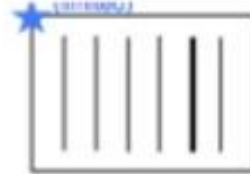
Orientation



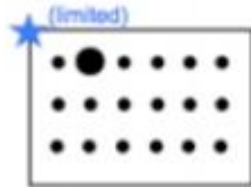
Shape



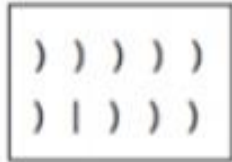
Line Length



Line Width



Size



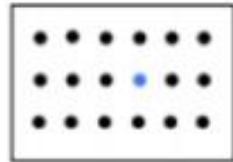
Curvature



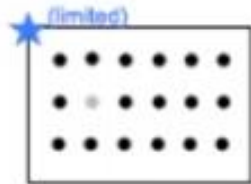
Added Marks



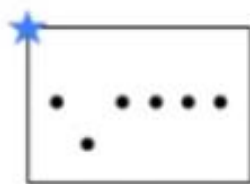
Enclosure



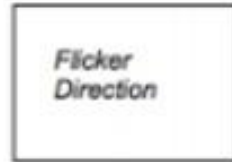
Hue



Intensity

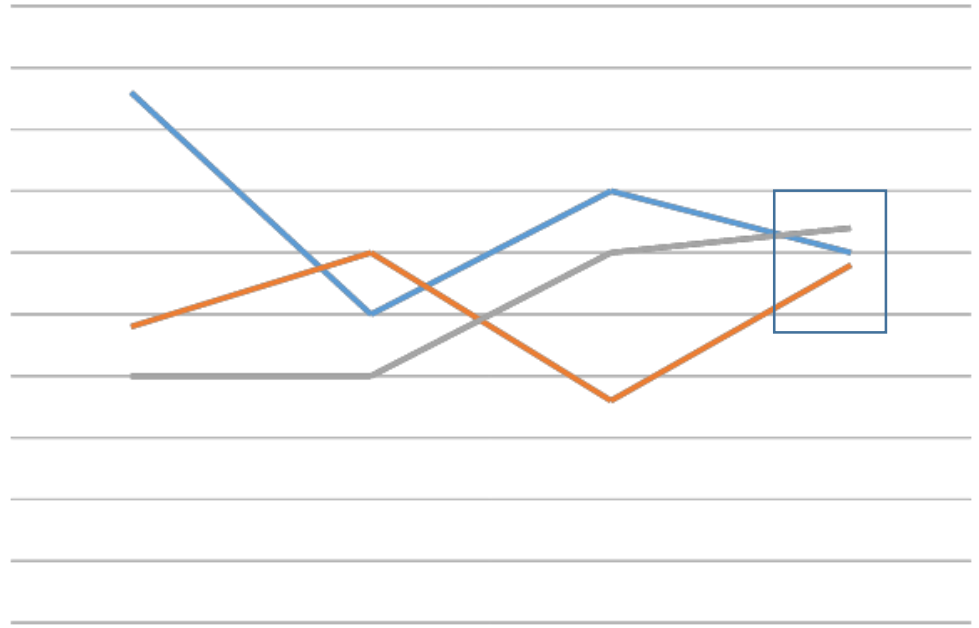
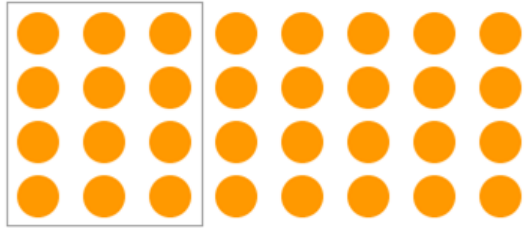


2-D Position



Motion

# GESTALT PRINCIPLES OF VISUAL PERCEPTION



# CHOOSING CHARTS

## Line

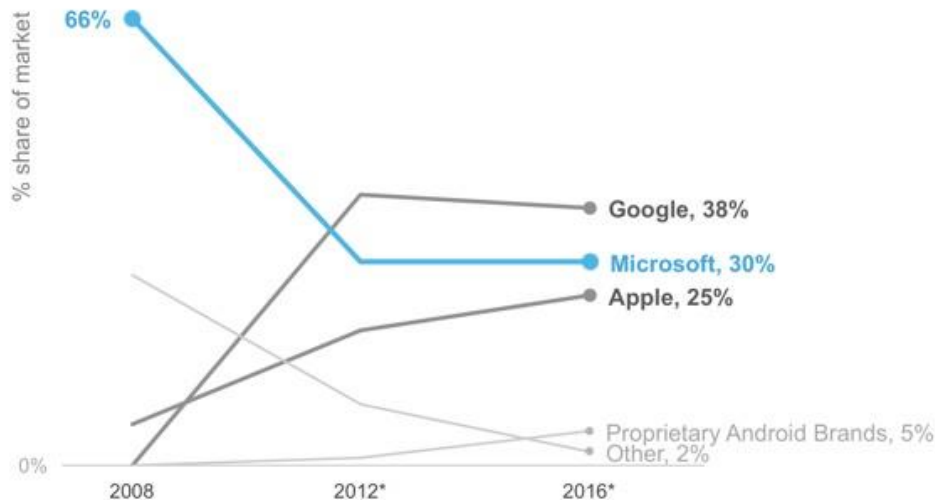
Show trends using a variable of any type with an interval or ratio variable.

### Best Practice:

- Use solid lines only
- Don't use too many lines
- Make height so that lines take up roughly 2/3 of chart height.

After spending years dominating the operating system market, **Microsoft is destined to become one of three major players**

Global personal computing device sales by operating system



\*Forecasted based on...(I don't know what it's based on, but that detail should be added!)

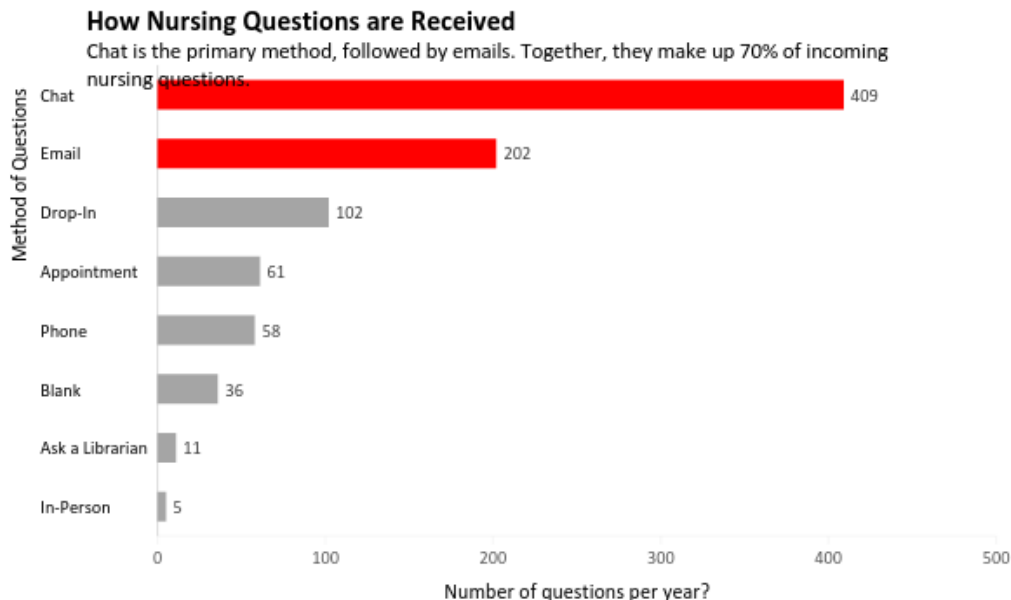
# BEST PRACTICES

## Horizontal Bar

Show comparison, using a nominal or ordinal variable and an interval or ratio variable.

Best Practice:

- Avoid clutter
- Use to show negative numbers



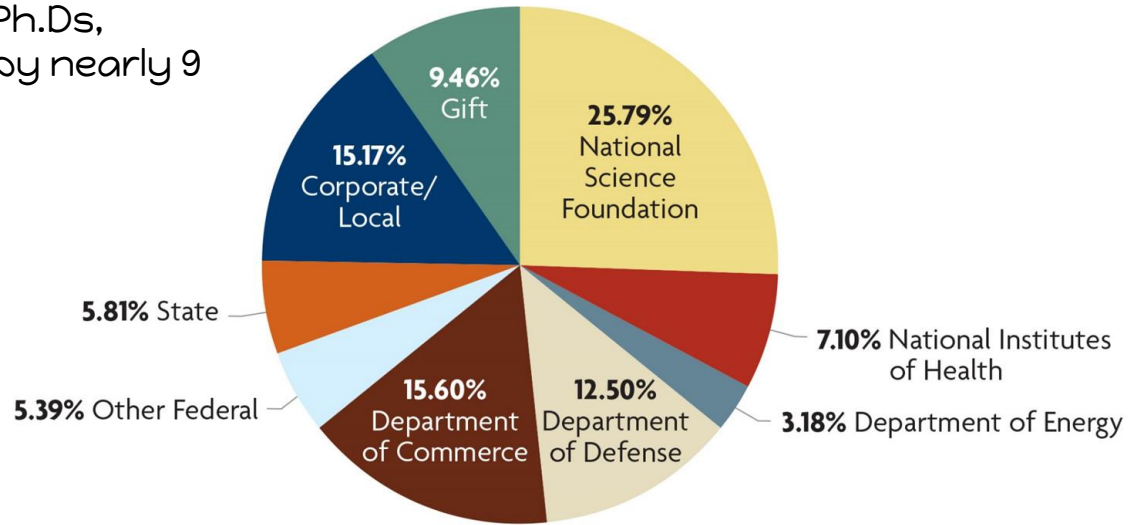
Color used sparingly **grabs attention**

# WHAT'S THE MESSAGE?

**Article Title:** UTA advances toward Tier 1 status, graduates more than 200 Ph.Ds, increases research expenditures by nearly 9 percent to \$85 million.

- Remove clutter
- Push back information that supports but isn't your story

FY 2016 RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

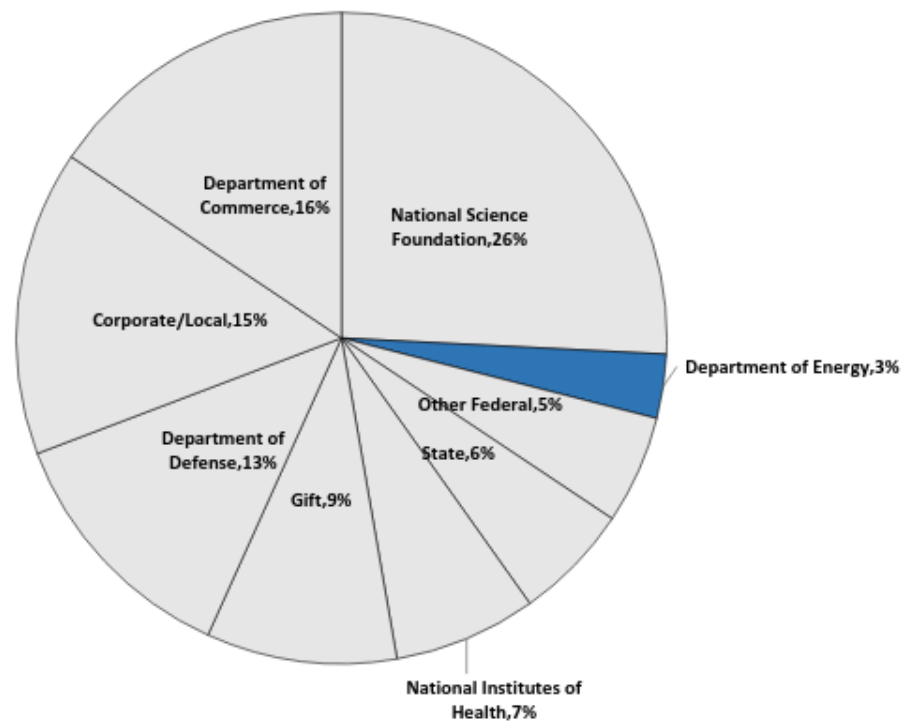


<http://www.uta.edu/news/releases/2016/09/toward-tier-1.php#sthash.K0XFYdPW.dpuf>



# SOME CHANGES

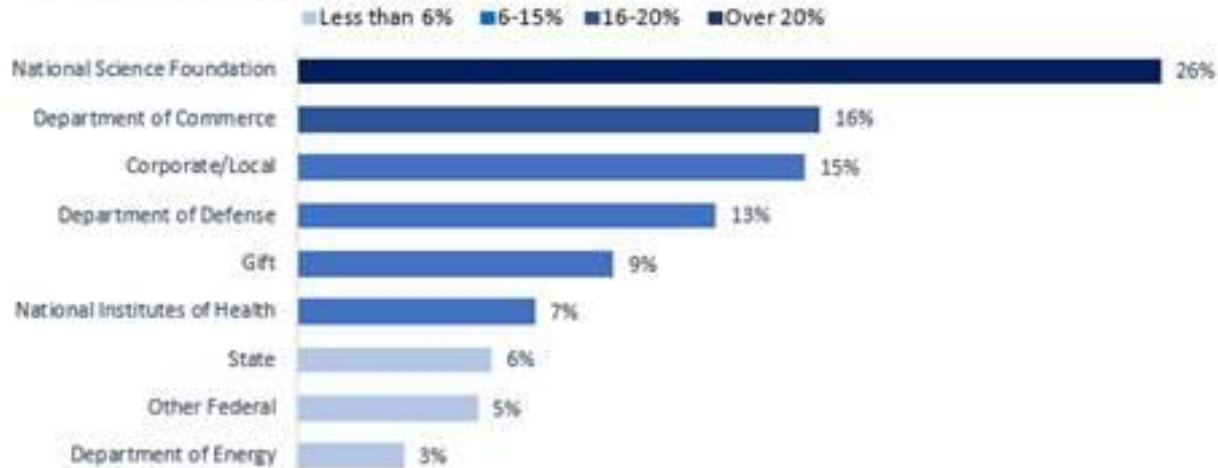
FY 2016 Expenditures



# ANOTHER OPTION

## FY 2016 - Research Expenditures by Source

UTA generated over \$85 million in research expenditures in 2016, up nearly 9% from 2015. Over a fourth of this is through NSF grants.



# OTHER DECISIONS?

Article Title: UTA advances toward Tier 1 status, graduates more than 200 PhDs, **increases research expenditures** by nearly 9 percent to \$85 million

- Display expenditures
- Display PhD graduates
- Display faculty memberships and awards
- Display UTA-developed patents
- Rate of hiring “star faculty” in comparison with other public universities

<http://www.uta.edu/news/releases/2016/09/toward-tier-1.php#sthash.K0XFYdPW.dpuf>

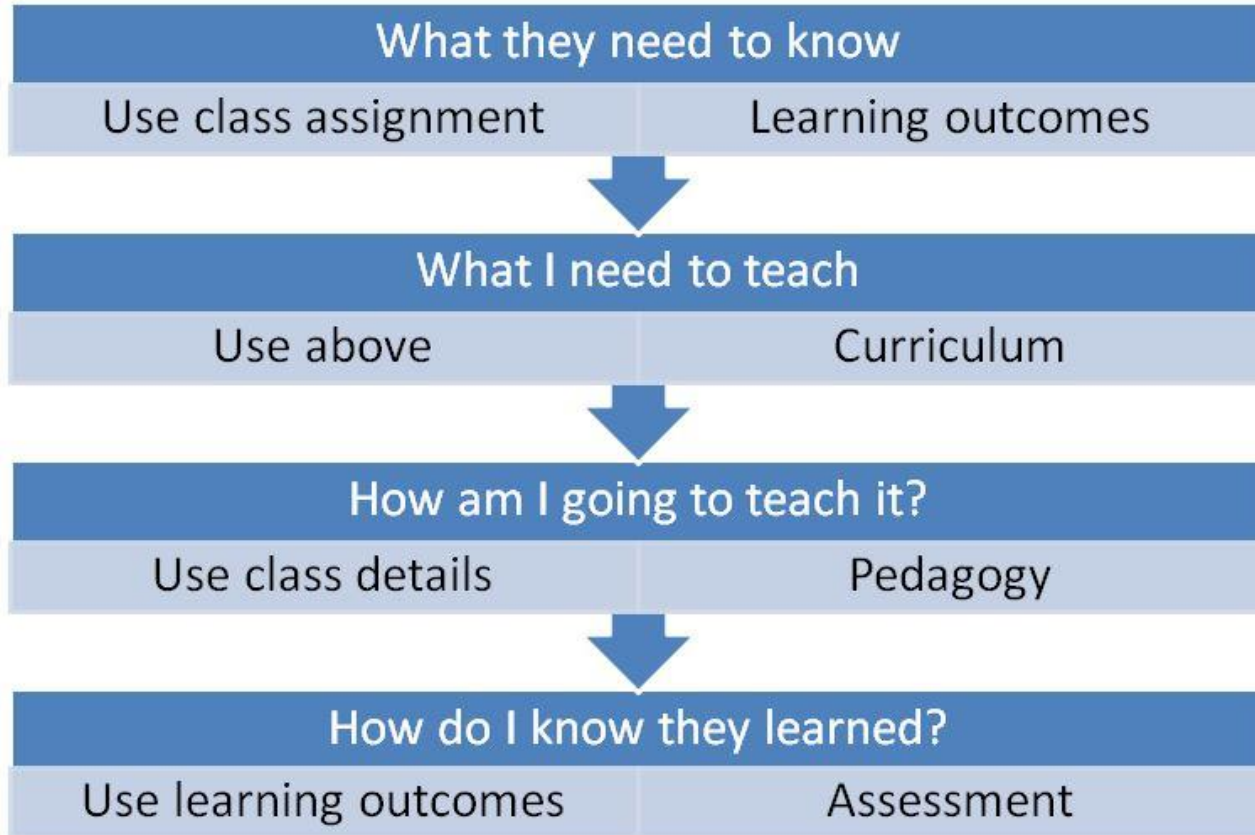
# Data Literacy in Classes

The alignment of data literacy competencies with course expectations and assignments.



Context is key!

# Data Literacy in Classes



# Phase 2:

## **SAMPLE LESSON PLANS: ENGLISH**

### Learning Goals:

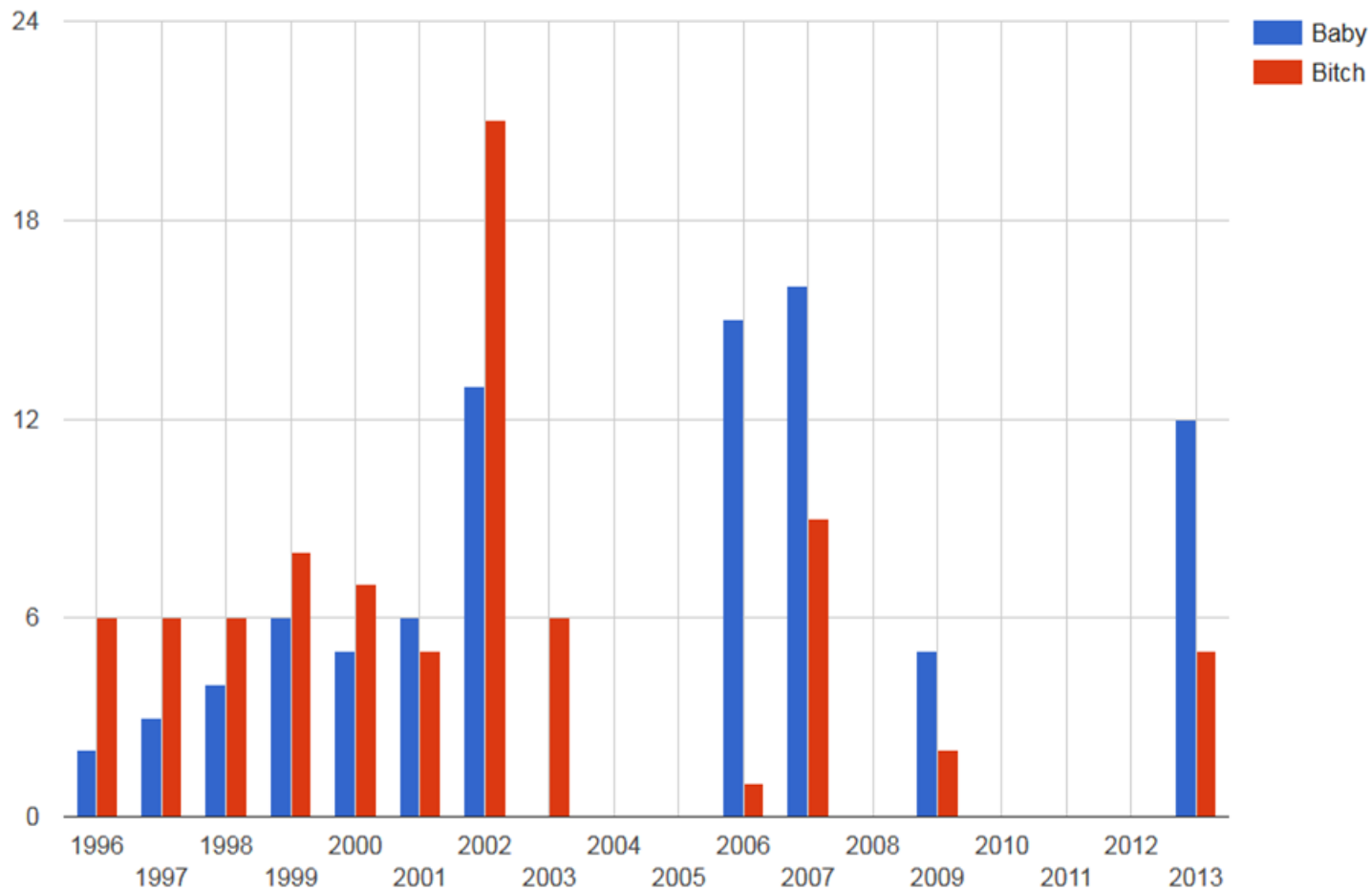
- Understand the use of data in answering research questions
- Understand the types of metadata and the use of metadata in humanities
- Understand best use of visualizations in answering research questions
- Gain proficiency in use of **Google Fusion Tables** for creating charts

### Activities:

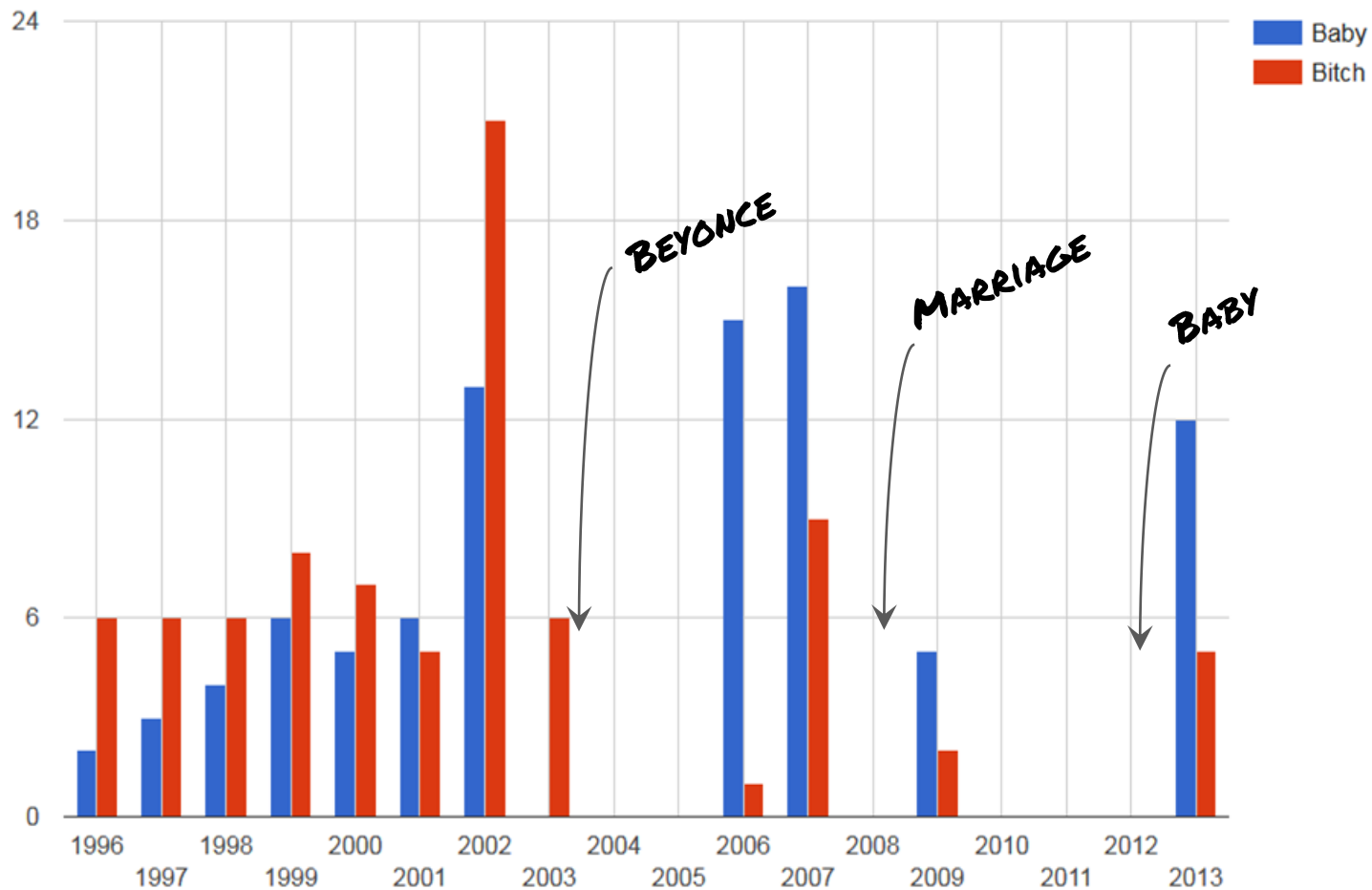
- Song Lyrics
- Visualization



Jay Z's References Toward Women



Jay Z's References Toward Women





## Phase 2: **SAMPLE LESSON PLANS: JOURNALISM**

### Learning Goals:

- Recognize the role of data in research and decision-making
- Recognize areas of potential bias and ambiguous or misleading representation in reporting
- Evaluates the quality of data description and variables available from external sources

### Activities:

- Assessing data sources & visualizations
- Discuss data sources and interpretations

# SYRIAN CONFLICT DATA

CIVILIANS KILLED

40146

OF WHICH:

WOMEN

NEARLY 4000

CHILDREN

MORE THAN 5800

REBEL FIGHTERS

21,850

REGIME ARMY SOLDIERS

27654

PRO-REGIME MILITIA

17824

HEZBOLLAH

171

UNIDENTIFIED

2726

# SYRIAN CONFLICT DATA

CIVILIANS KILLED

40146

OF WHICH:

WOMEN

A

NEARLY 4000

CHILDREN

MORE THAN 5800

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B

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UNIDENTIFIED

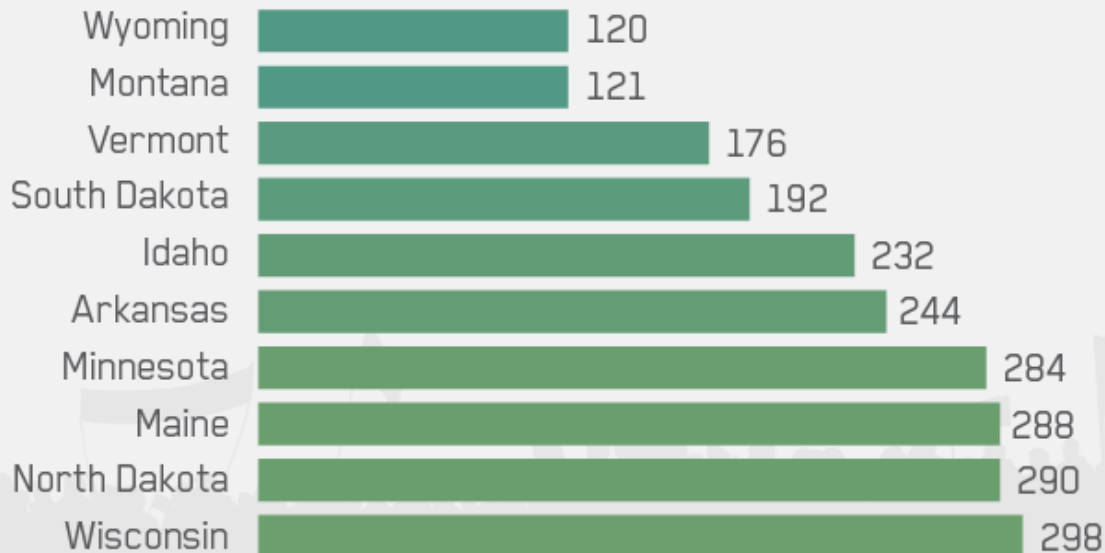
2726



## OVERALL LEAST DEROGATORY LANGUAGE, BY STATE



All least derogatory language, per 100,000 tweets



Source: Twitter

<http://fusion.net/story/277946/hate-filled-cities-and-states-by-tweets/>

<https://www.abodo.com/blog/tolerance-in-america>

## Phase 2: **SAMPLE LESSON PLANS: JOURNALISM**

- Data management & spreadsheets
  - Data management and organization
  - Data preparation
  - Data structuring and cleaning
- Best practices for visualizations
- Visualization Tools & Tableau

# Phase 2:

## **SAMPLE LESSON PLANS: PUBLIC HEALTH**

### Learning Goals:

- Data awareness & knowledge
- Data ethics
- Data responsibility
- Discovery & acquisition of data
- Data management & organization
- **Data structuring & cleaning**
- **Data visualization & representation**

### Activities:

- IRB training
- Collecting data
- Analyzing and visualizing open data

[Website Example](#)

# Website Example



(123rf.com, 2016)

In recent years, drug addiction and substance abuse have come to the forefront of America's consciousness. From popular culture touting the benefits of marijuana to frequent commercials for rehab facilities designed to look like spas, one would be lead to believe that addiction and substance abuse was common place, even normal.

However this is far from the truth. Drug addiction and substance abuse are a burgeoning epidemics within the United States.

From the over prescription of pain medications to easy availability of new synthetic drugs like "bath salts", drug abuse has most certainly become more than just a problem; it's now safe to say that it could be considered endemic in many states, if not the entirety of the U.S.

We don't intend to publicly shame people, but we do want to address the issue of what is often a damaging, risky, and harmful life style.

In this site we will begin to attempt to detail the public health issues that stem from a cycle of users, abusers, and recoverers.



(Denali Healthcare, 2014)

# Website Example

## Prescription Drugs and Addiction

When you think of drug addiction, what's the first thing that comes to mind? The majority of us would immediately say that substances like heroin, cocaine, and even to some extent marijuana are the main causes of the problem.

While these drugs are well known to contribute to the problem of addiction in the United States there are unfortunately other substances that are just as problematic. In recent years we've been constantly bombarded with tales of doctors across the nation over prescribing opioids. It's this easy access that can lead to misuse, addiction, and in some cases even the death of the patients, these deaths have reached epidemic levels within the past decade.

From 2000 to 2010, the rates of unintentional overdose on prescription opioids increased dramatically, accounting for more deaths than those attributed to all illicit drug categories combined (Washington, 2016)(CDC Vital Signs, 2011). Drug addiction is an issue that is growing with severity every day and can be attributed to over prescription of opioids, loose regulation guidelines from the U.S Food and Drug Administration agency (FDA) and miscommunication between health professionals.

In West Virginia, a place considered to be at the epicenter of the opioid epidemic, Dr. Michael Kostenko currently stands under investigation, and is threatened with loss of his license after multiple reported deaths caused by his practice of over prescribing opioids to his patients. Dr. Kostenko is estimated to have written well over 40,000 prescriptions for opioid substances like Oxycodone, Vicodin, or Oxymorphone within the past two years. When interviewed, he was asked, "Did you write 325 prescriptions the first week of January for more than 19,000 oxycodone pills?" Dr. Kostenko replied "Possibly, it may well be." (Axelrod, 2016) Unfortunately, Dr. Kostenko's case is not a unique one. In West Virginia alone, seven doctors have lost their licenses and 15 more are currently being investigated. (Axelrod, 2016) In the United States as a whole, it was estimated in 2014 that U.S doctors wrote nearly 200 million prescriptions for opioid painkillers, while roughly 19,000 deaths linked to the drugs were reported.(Ballantyne, 2015)

While these numbers are alarming to hear, the bigger question is why are we as Americans so over prescribed painkillers? A clue is that some medical professionals,

### PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLERS

Prescription painkillers often refers to opioid or narcotic pain relievers, including drugs such as Vicodin (hydrocodone), OxyContin (oxycodone), Opana (oxymorphone), and methadone. (CDC Vital Signs, 2011)

### 15,000

Nearly 15,000 people die every year of overdoses involving prescription painkillers. (CDC Vital Signs, 2011)



# Website Example

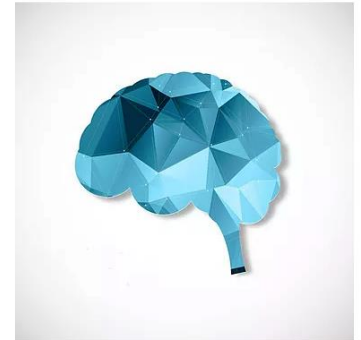
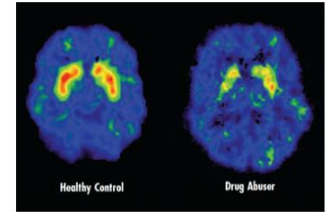
- A chronic, relapsing, brain disease known by its compulsive drug seeking and use, despite the harmful consequences to the user.
- Considered a brain disease because drugs change the brain – they change its structure and how it works.

## ADDICTION & YOUR BRAIN

Drugs effect 3 primary areas of our brain -

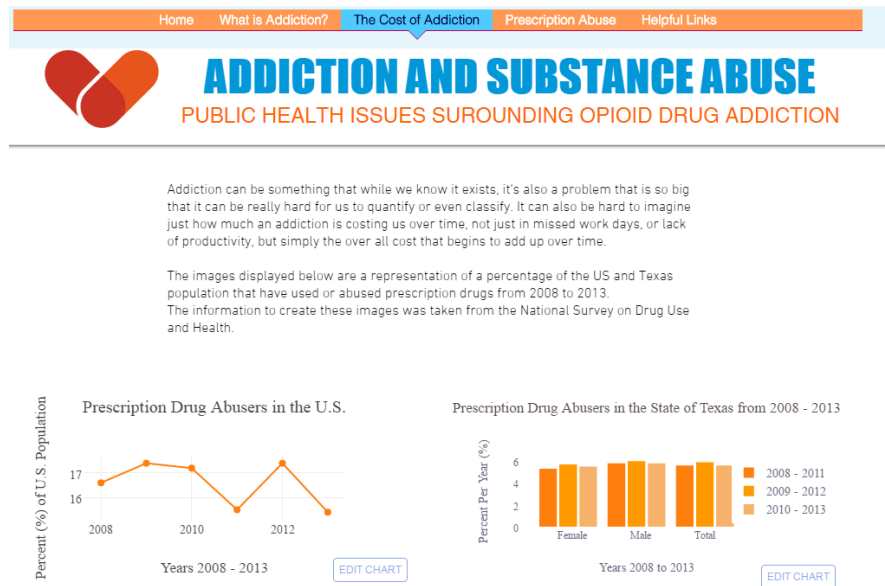
- **The brain stem**
  - In charge of all the functions we need it to stay alive—breathing, moving blood, and digesting food. It also links the brain with the spinal cord, which runs down the back and moves muscles and limbs as well. It lets the brain know what's happening to the body.
- **The limbic system**
  - It links together a bunch of brain structures that control our emotional responses, such as feeling pleasure when we eat chocolate. These good feelings motivate us to repeat the behavior, good or bad.
- **The cerebral cortex**
  - A mushroom-shaped outer part of the brain (the gray matter). In us humans, it is so big that it makes up about three-fourths of our entire brain. It's divided into four areas, which are called lobes, that control specific functions. Some areas process information from our senses; allowing us to see, feel, hear, and taste. The front part of the cortex, is known as the frontal cortex or our forebrain, it's our thinking center. It powers our ability to think, plan, solve problems, and make decisions (good or bad).

- [National Institute for Drug Abuse for Teens](#)



(Harryarts - Freepik.com)

# Website Example



• National Survey on Drug Use and Health (2013)

From the charts above it's easy to see just what part of our population has used or abused prescription drugs within the time frame of 2008 to 2013. But what exactly does this cost over time? While some individuals are habitual offenders and will end up incarcerated time after time. (Texas Department of Justice, 2016) 83% of incarcerated individuals are on direct supervision for a nonviolent offense. (Texas Department of Criminal Justice, 2010)

So for just one moment let's do the math here,

- An average stay in rehab is 90 days.  
Costing anywhere from \$111 to \$222 per day.
- An average jail stay for drug induced charges in the state of Texas is 10 days.

# DATA ANALYSIS & VISUALIZATION

UTA Libraries workshop series focused on data visualization, GIS, and statistical tools.

UTA Libraries' Division of  
Scholarly Communication  
[library.uta.edu/scholcomm](http://library.uta.edu/scholcomm)

Open Workshops  
[libguides.uta.edu/DAVis](http://libguides.uta.edu/DAVis)

Data management

Data visualization

Tools (ArcGIS, SPSS)

ABCs of DMPs

Open data & data publishing

# What's Next?

## Data Literacy Competencies

- More campus integration
- Data portal
- Research on the competencies' effectiveness at other campuses
- Data CAVE
- Data repository
- [Data training](#)

**UP NEXT...**

## Laying the Foundation for Research Data Services

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**SESSION 3** – Learning By Example: Connecting Data Competencies with the Texas Data Repository

- Thursday, March 9, 2017 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CST)
- This webinar session will connect teaching data competencies explored in Session 2 with core functionality of the Texas Data Repository. It will address data competency learning outcomes, including: using the TDR to add, describe, share, and publish data; managing data, including versioning and de-accessioning data; and downloading and using data.

# Questions and Discussion

