

CMPU 100 · Programming with Data

Introduction to Visualization

Class 9



What's the point of visualization?

Exploratory

Explanatory

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To further your own understanding of your results

Explanatory

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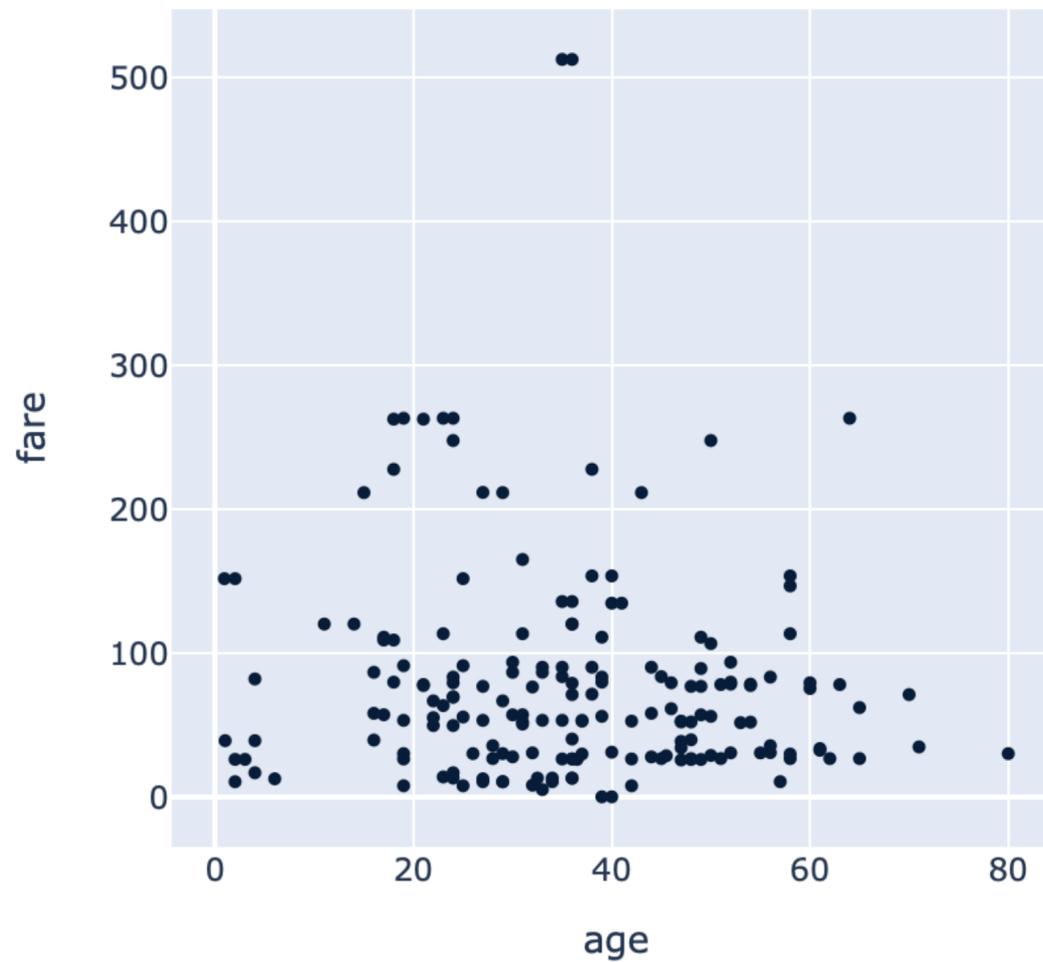
To communicate your results with others

<i>Age</i>	<i>Fare</i>
38	71.2833
35	53.1
54	51.8625
4	16.7
58	26.55
58	26.55
34	13
⋮	⋮

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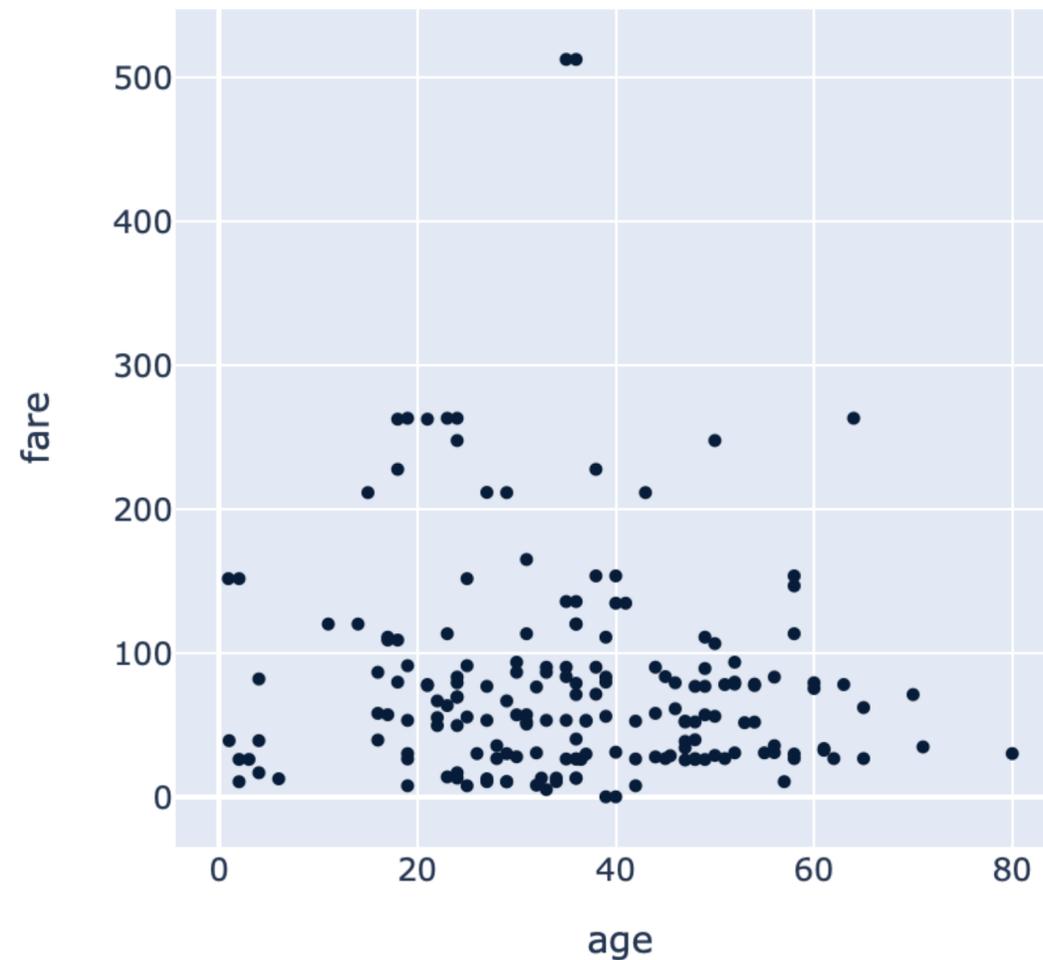
Fare vs. age for Titanic passengers



Age	Fare
38	71.2833
35	53.1
54	51.8625
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⋮	⋮



Fare vs. age for Titanic passengers



Looks like older people didn't spend more than younger people.



These datasets all have several statistical properties in common – means, standard deviations, and correlations

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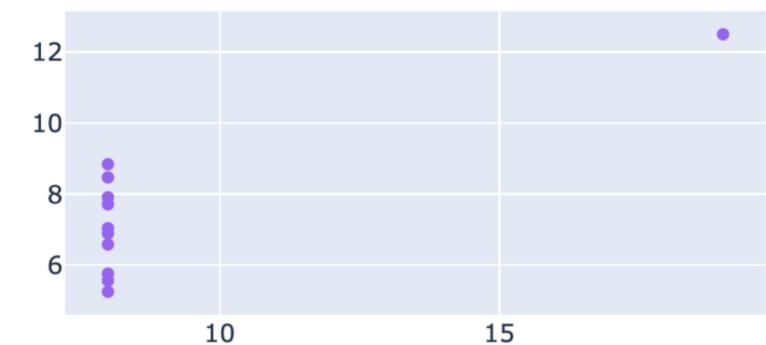
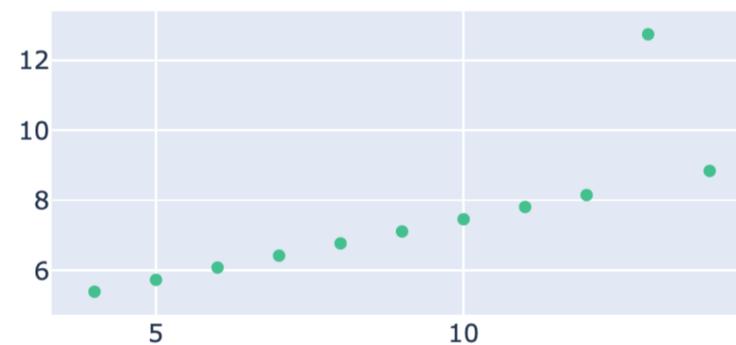
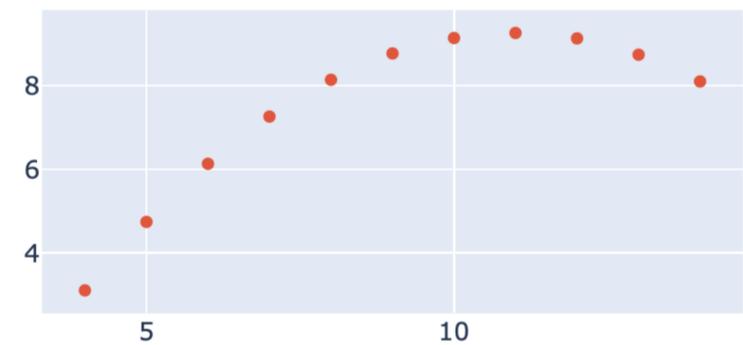
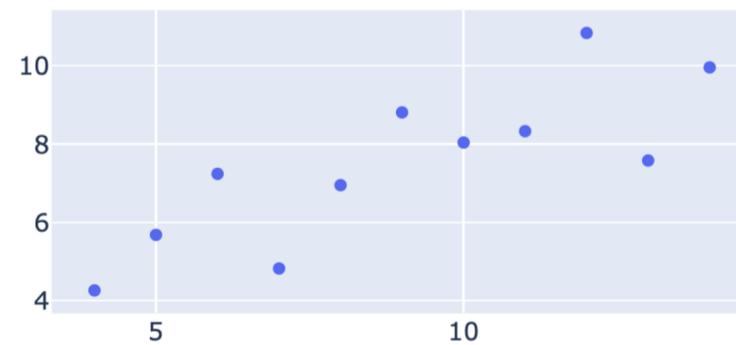
x	y	x	y	x	y	x	y
10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
12.0	10.84	12.0	9.13	12.0	8.15	8.0	5.56
7.0	4.82	7.0	7.26	7.0	6.42	8.0	7.91
5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

These datasets all have several statistical properties in common – means, standard deviations, and correlations

But they look very different when plotted!

x	y	x	y	x	y	x	y
10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
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Anscombe's Quartet



- Dataset I
- Dataset II
- Dataset III
- Dataset IV

Our ideas of what makes an effective – and honest –
visualization build on centuries of work to
communicate the information contained in data.

CHARTS THAT

CHANGED

THE WORLD

BBC



CHARTS THAT

CHANGED

THE WORLD

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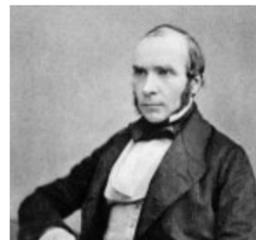
ArcGIS Pro

Dec 03, 2020

Something in the water: the mythology of Snow's map of cholera

By [Kenneth Field](#)

If there are positives to take from 2020 (a big ask I know but bear with me), the spotlight has shone brightly on the use of maps, charts, and data that help us understand COVID-19. It's quite literally been a viral moment for geography and cartography. Not that maps weren't vital visual and analytical tools beforehand, but they have taken centre stage this year. And of course, examining the role of geography, and cartography in contemporary infectious disease epidemiology has also meant looking at the past for examples. There's definitely been something in the water in 2020 as inevitably the story of Dr John Snow and his map of cholera showing the outbreak in Soho, London in 1854 has frequently been recounted. You may know the story. Or you may think you know the story. Let's see.

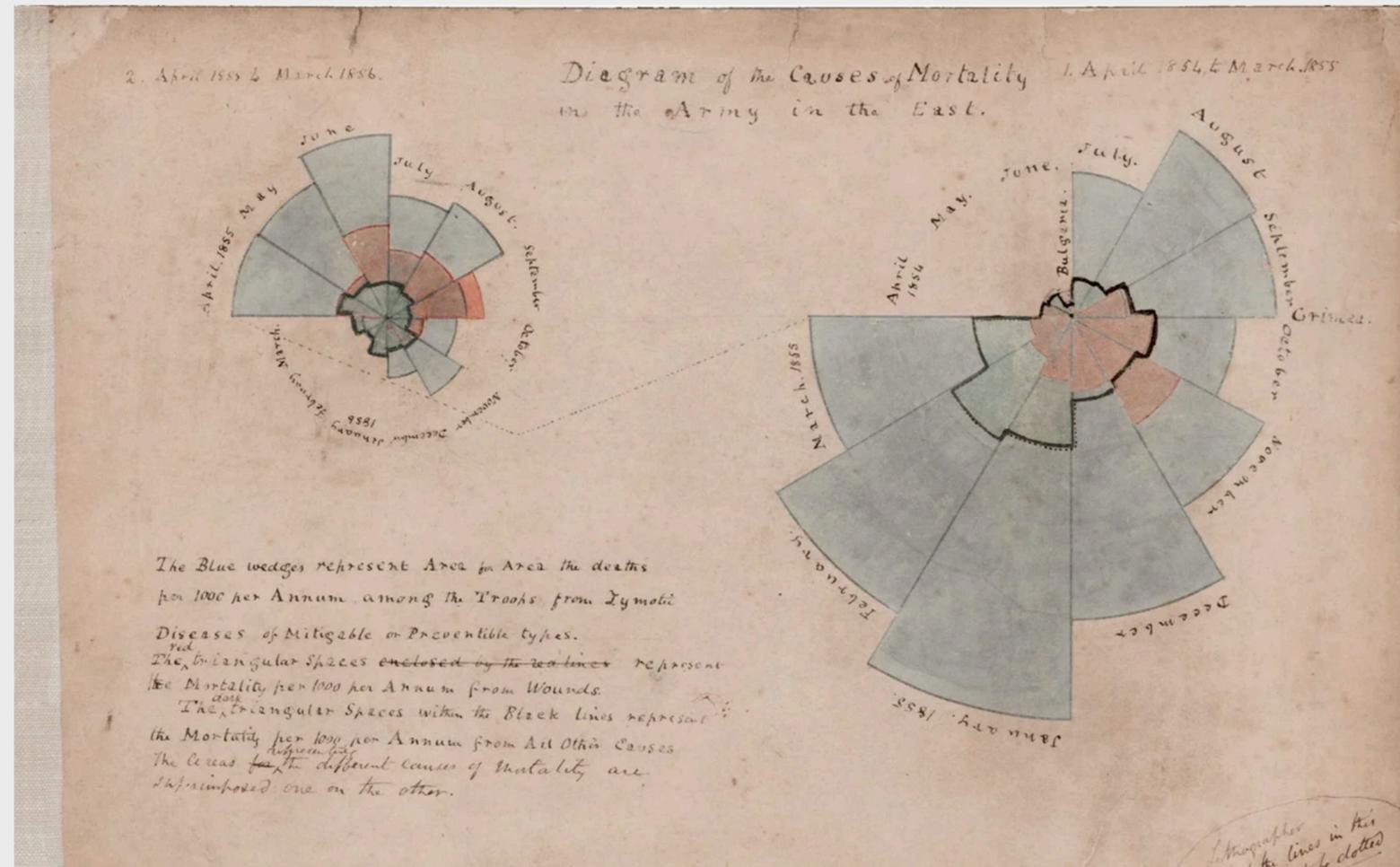


AUGUST 1, 2022 | 4 MIN READ

How Florence Nightingale Changed Data Visualization Forever

The celebrated nurse improved public health through her groundbreaking use of graphic storytelling

BY [RJ ANDREWS](#)





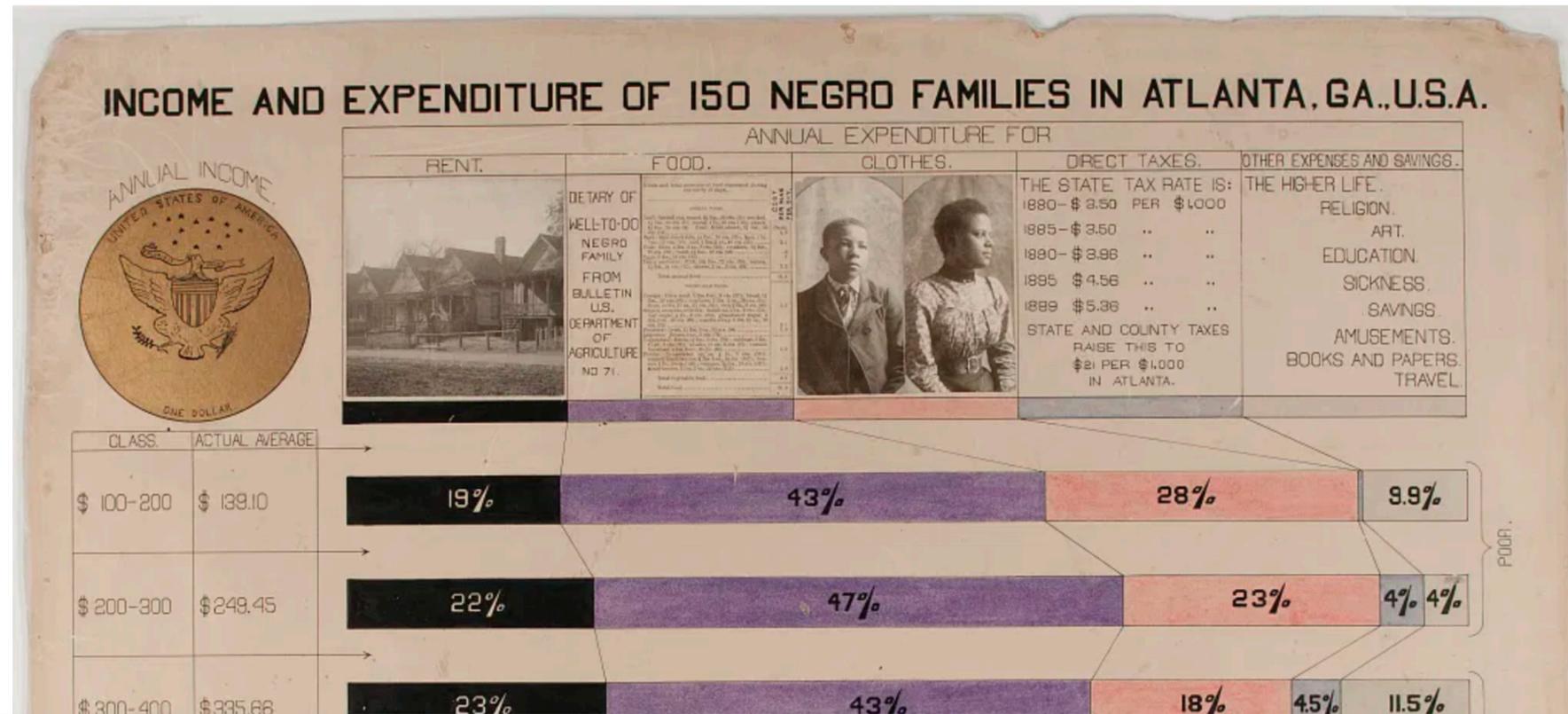
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W. E. B. Du Bois' Hand-Drawn Infographics of African-American Life (1900)



Who Was Deborah Kallikak?

J. David Smith and Michael L. Wehmeyer

Abstract

The Kallikak Family was, along with *The Jukes: A Study in Crime, Pauperism, Disease, and Heredity*, one of the most visible eugenic family narratives published in the early 20th century. Published in 1912 and authored by psychologist Henry Herbert Goddard, director of the psychological laboratory at the Vineland Training School for Feebleminded Children in Vineland, New Jersey, *The Kallikak Family* told the tale of a supposedly “degenerate” family from rural New Jersey, beginning with Deborah, one of the inmates at the Training School. Like most publications in the genre, this pseudoscientific treatise described generations of illiterate, poor, and purportedly immoral Kallikak family members who were chronically unemployed, supposedly feebleminded, criminal, and, in general, perceived as threats to “racial hygiene.” Presented as a “natural experiment” in human heredity, this text served to support eugenic activities through much of the first half of the 20th century. This article reviews the story of Deborah Kallikak, including her true identity, and provides evidence that Goddard’s treatise was incorrect.

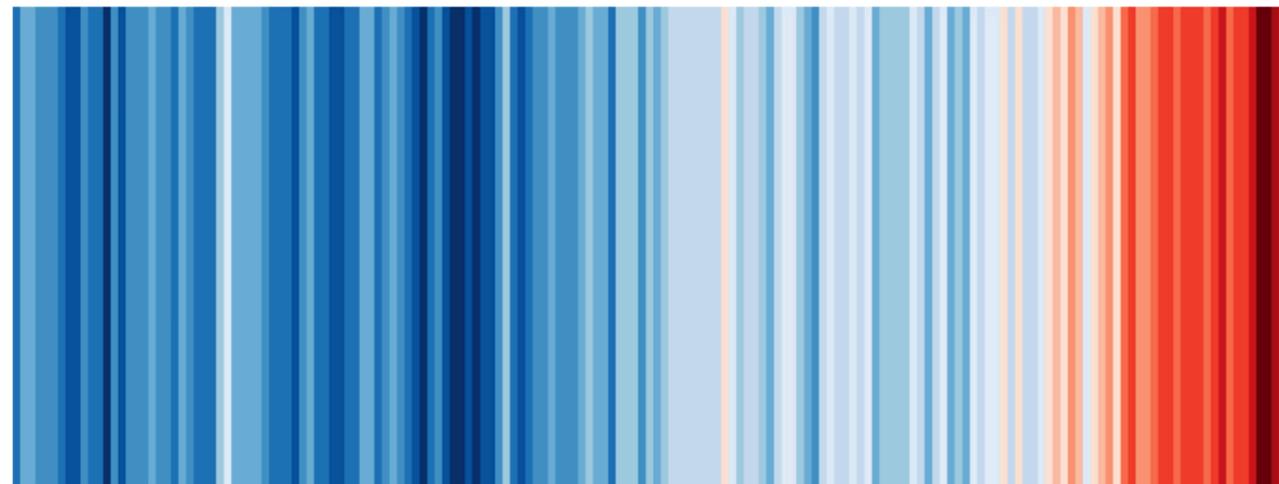
Key Words: *history of intellectual disability; Vineland Training School; Kallikak family; Deborah Kallikak; Henry Herbert Goddard*

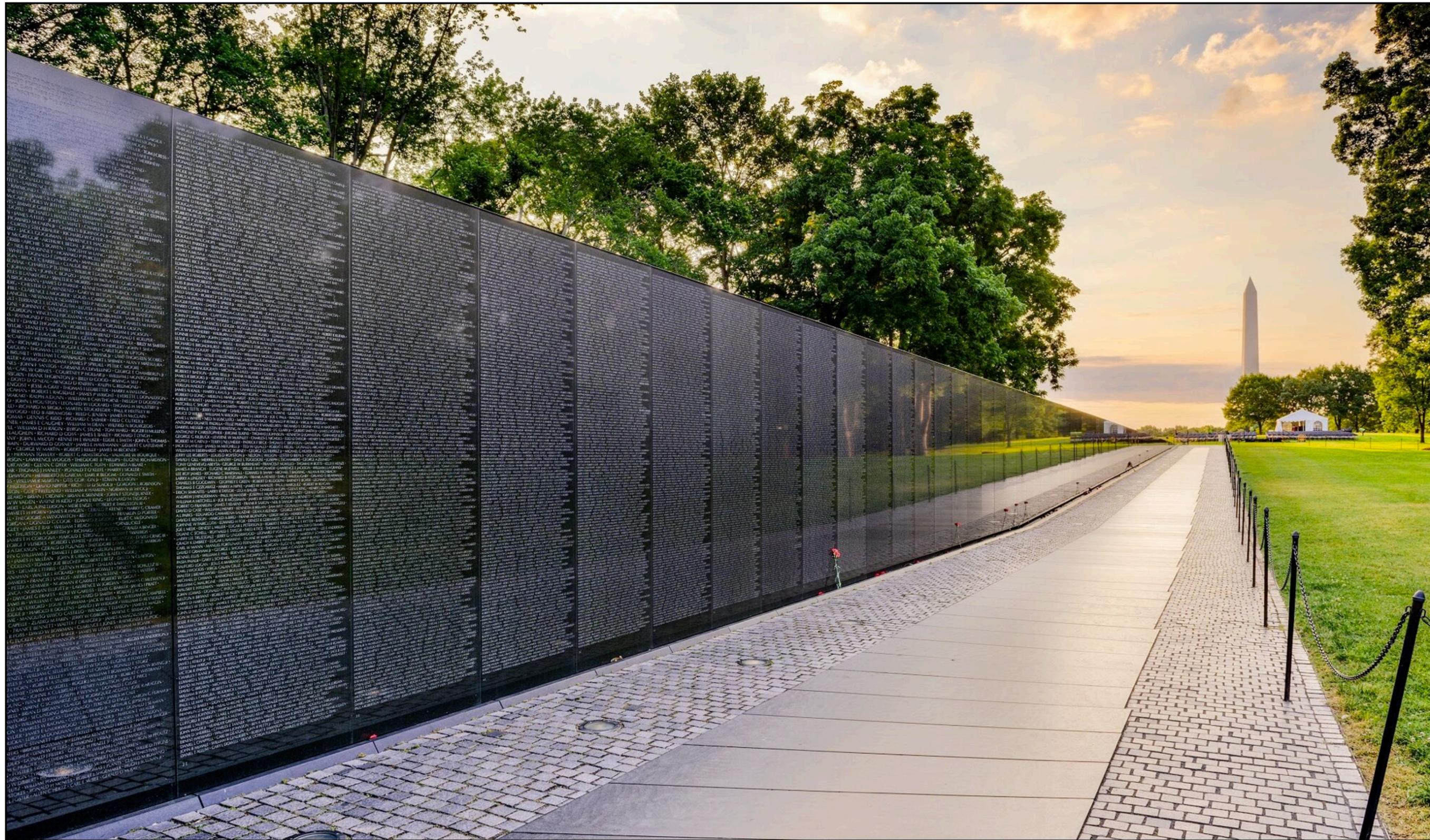


What are the stripes?

No words. No numbers. No graphs. Just a series of vertical coloured bars, showing the progressive heating of our planet in a single, striking image.

The climate stripes were **created by Professor Ed Hawkins** at the University of Reading in 2018.





Maya Lin's Vietnam War Memorial, Washington, DC, 1982

“From a distance the entire collection of names of 58,000 dead soldiers arrayed on the black granite yields a visual measure of what 58,000 means, as the letters of each name blur into a gray shape, cumulating to the final toll. When a viewer approaches, these shapes resolve into individual names. ... We focus on the tragic information; absent are the big porticoes, steps and stairs, and other marble paraphernalia usually attached to grand official monuments.”

Edward Tufte, *Envisioning Information*

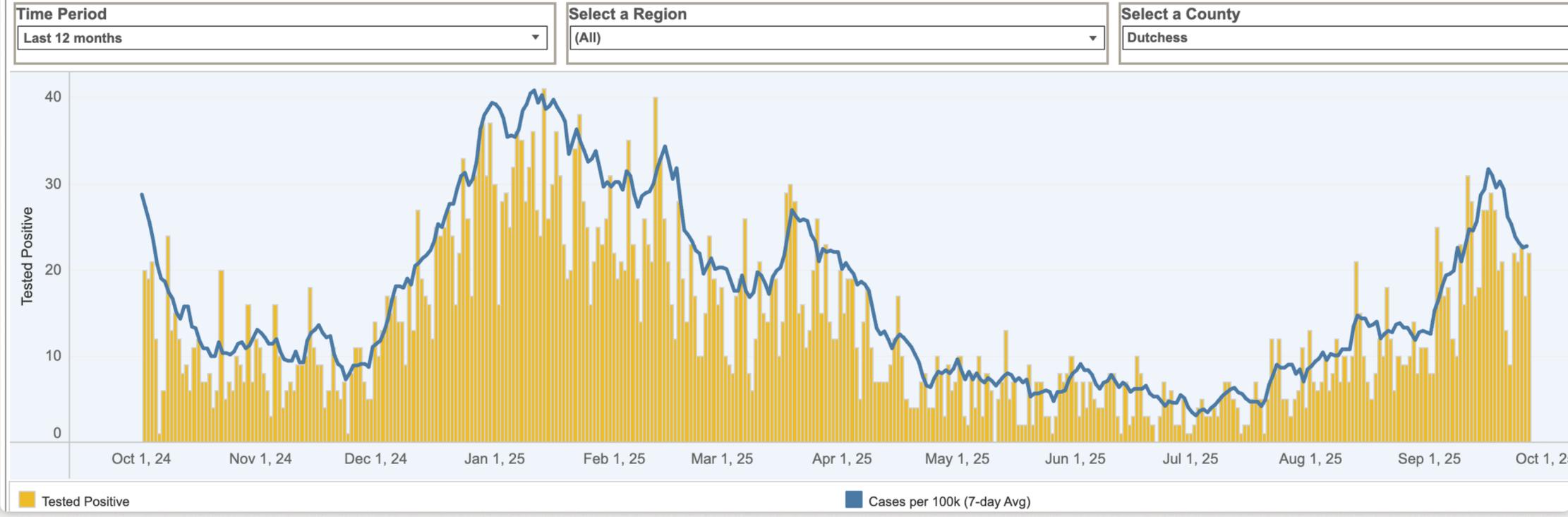


Positive Tests Over Time, by Region and County

POSITIVE TESTS OVER TIME, BY REGION AND COUNTY

Positive Tests Over Time - Dutchess

Testing data as of 10/1/25
Testing data last updated 10/1/25
Dashboard updated 10/1/25





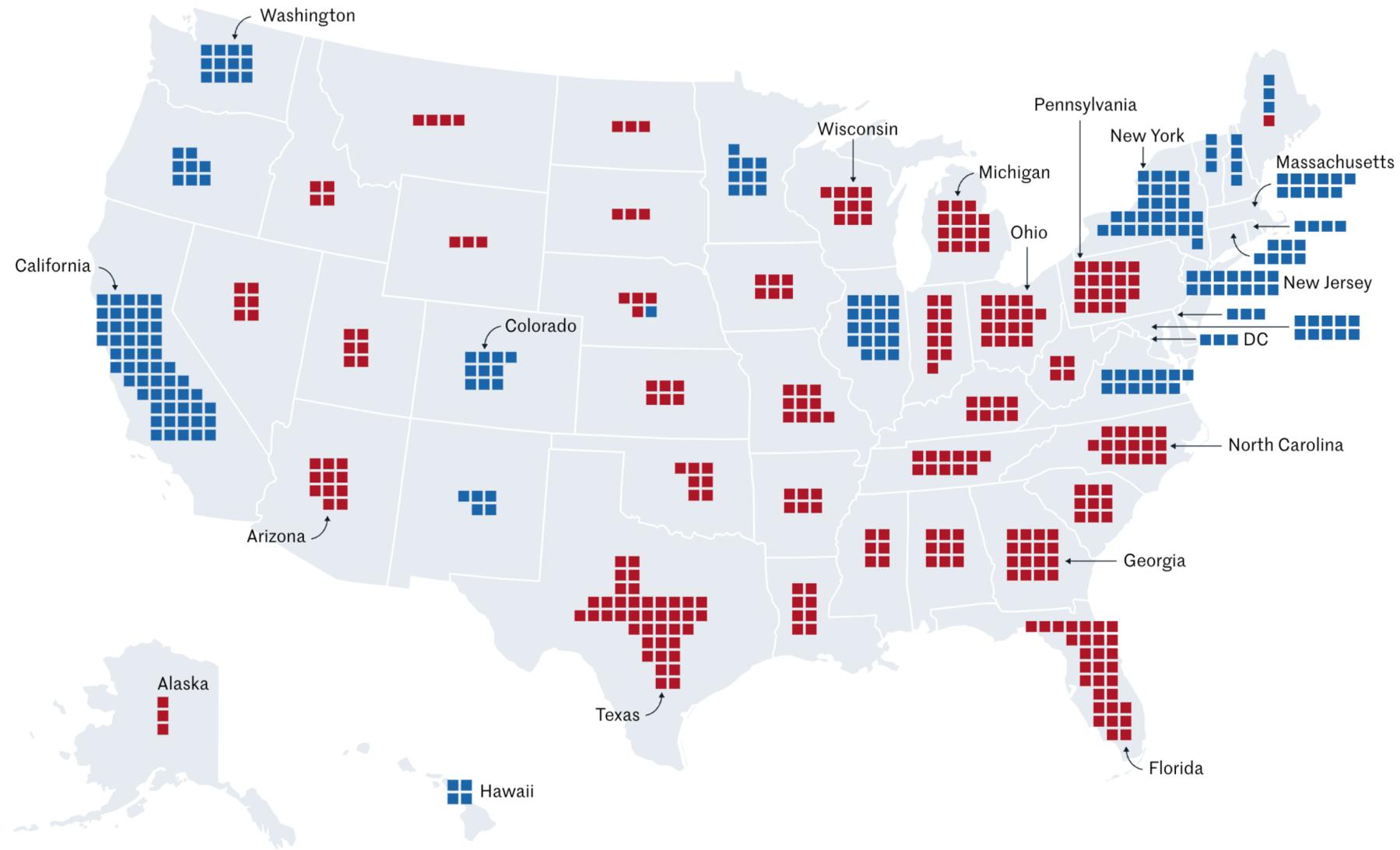
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Kamala Harris 226

270 to win

312 Donald Trump



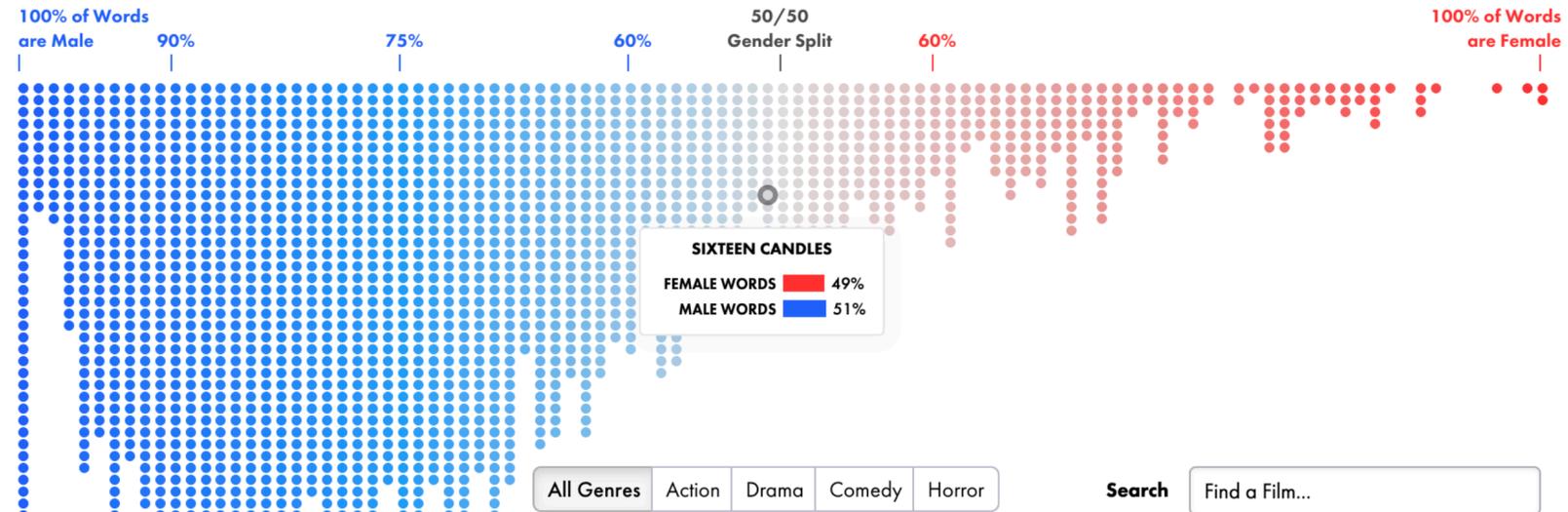
States are ranked according to the number of electors they have, and classified according to their tendency to vote more for one of the two



Screenplay Dialogue,
Broken-down by Gender

2,000 Screenplays: Dialogue
Broken-down by Gender

Only High-Grossing Films: Ranked in
the Top 2,500 by US Box Office*

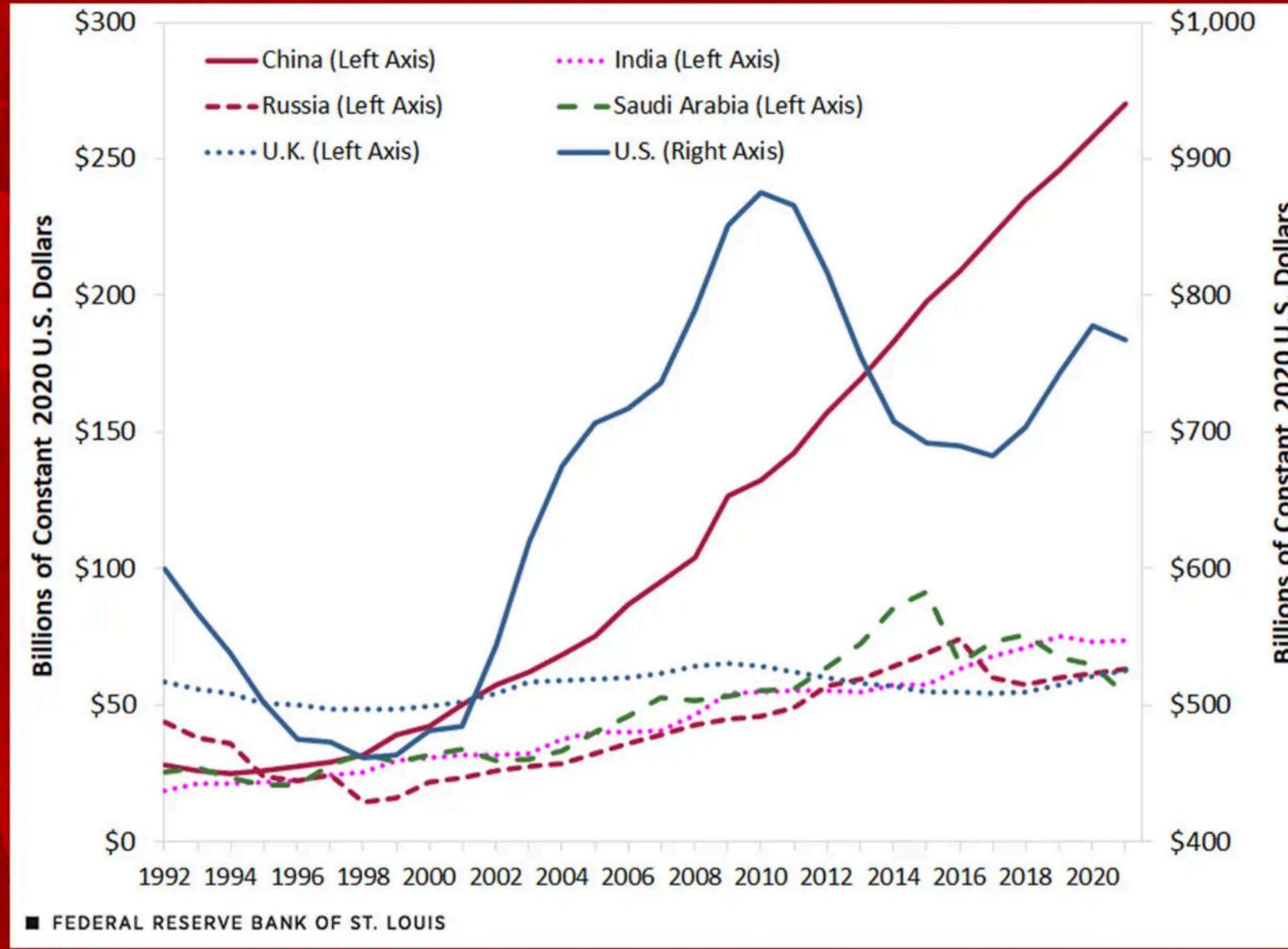


For each screenplay, we mapped characters with at least 100 words of dialogue to a person's IMDB page (which identifies people as an actor or actress). We did this because minor characters are poorly labeled on IMDB pages. This has unintended consequences: Schindler's List, for example, has women with lines, just not over this threshold. Which means a more accurate result would be 99.5% male dialogue instead of our result of 100%. There are other problems with this approach as well: films change quite a bit from script to screen. Directors cut lines. They cut characters. They add characters. They change character names. They cast a different gender for a character. We believe the results are still directionally accurate, but individual films will definitely have errors.

Each screenplay has at least 90% of its lines categorized by gender. If you notice a missing character from the analysis, their lines may be in the remaining 10%. If a character was cut from the film but is present in the screenplay, we inferred his or her gender based on the script's pronouns.



By Ben Norton Published 2023-01-23



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Richard McElreath 
@rmcelreath.bsky.social

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Several ppl sent me this extraordinary chart crime. Thank you I love it

IT IS HARDER THAN EVER TO AFFORD A HOME

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English ▾



Defense Against Dishonest Charts

Charts are a window into the world. When done right, we gain an understanding of who we are, where we are, and how we can become better versions of ourselves. However, when done wrong, in the absence of truth, charts can be harmful.

This is a guide to protect ourselves and to preserve what is good about turning data into visual things.

We start with chart anatomy; then we look at how small changes can shift a point of view; this takes us to misleading chart varieties; and we finish with reading data and next steps.

Chart Anatomy

To defend against dishonest charts, you must understand them. You must take them apart and put them back together. Data forms the foundation and the following visual elements build on that foundation.

Visualization in Python

As we saw in lab, the **datascience** module provides functions to generate plots from the data in tables.

These functions are built on top of the popular **matplotlib** module.

Let's try it out – see the notebook!

