

HELPING STUDENTS AND PATRONS NAVIGATE DATA IN A **CHAOTIC** WORLD

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LJ Facts Matter
Wed., April 11, 2018, 2:2:20pm
slides: <http://bit.ly/fontblog>

TODAY

Pragmatic approach to improving how we – and our students and patrons – can improve ability to navigate data they encounter daily

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you & me

5

Strategies to **Rapidly Improve** Your Students' /Patrons' Ability to Make Sense of Data in the News

1

What's Being Counted?

"Don't believe those **phony numbers** when you hear 4.9 and 5 percent unemployment ... the number's probably 28, 29, as high as 35. In fact, I even heard recently 42 percent." (Politifact)

https://www.bls.gov/bls/cps/cps_4sheet/tp_mock.htm

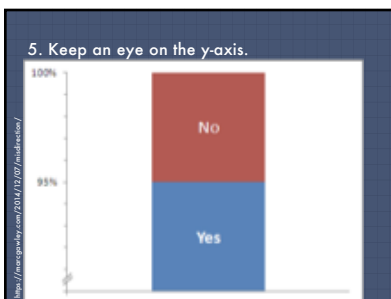
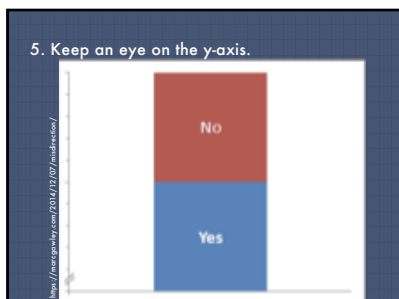
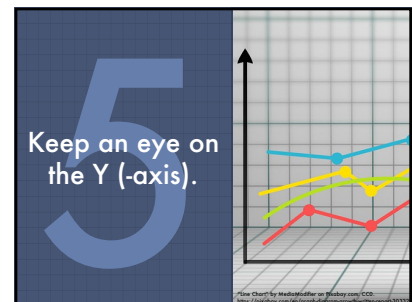
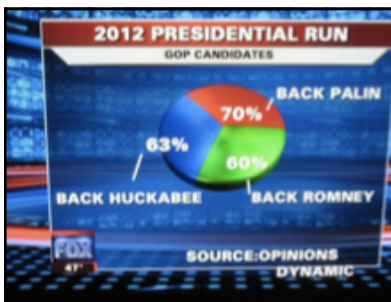
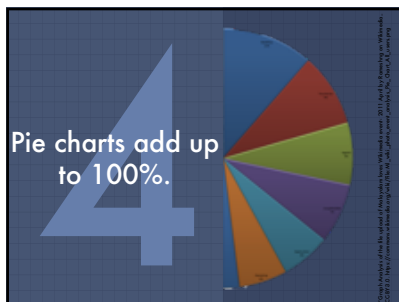
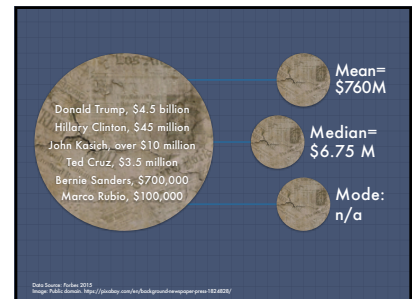
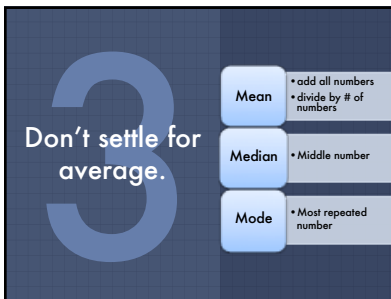
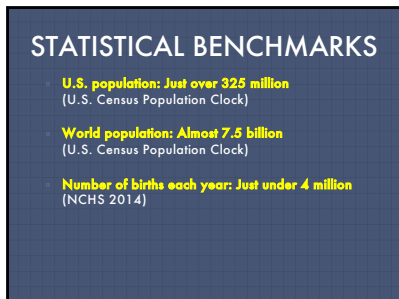
Source: <http://factfinder.census.gov> and a search for zip code 48656

Source: <http://factfinder.census.gov> and a search for zip code 48656

2

"Is that a big number? Compared to what?"

JOEL BEST
STAT-SPOTTING
A FIELD GUIDE
TO UNRAVELLING
DUBIOUS DATA
THE NUMBERS
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☐ Advance Career
☐ Gain New Skills
☐ Gain New Knowledge
☐ Gain New Experience
☐ Gain New Connections
☐ Gain New Perspectives
☐ Gain New Insights
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☐ Gain New Connections
☐ Gain New Perspectives
☐ Gain New Insights

1. "What's Being Counted?"
2. "Is That a Big Number? Compared to what?"
3. Don't settle for average.
4. Pie Charts = 100%
5. Keep an eye on the y-axis.

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